

SHELD ACTION ITEMS

Priorities: Immediate (I)=within 1 year; Short-Term (ST)=1-3 years; Mid-Term(MT)=3-5 years; Long-Term(LT)=5-10 years

NOTE: Priorities may have two time frames and they may start in the shorter time frame, but take longer to complete.

#	Goal Actions	Primary Entity	Subentity(ies)	Evaluation Metrics	Priority	Status
G1-25	Promote low cost reliable electricity and availability of fiber; consider offering or expanding incentives for business or industry to locate or expand in South Hadley.	SHELD	Administration, Redevelopment Authority	Number of inquiries from businesses. Number of new businesses. Number of existing businesses that have expanded. Number of new jobs created. Change in tax revenues received.	ST	SHELD Electric Rates remain below state average for decades. SHELD provides an economic incentive rate for new business. SHELD is 70% Fiber deployed and will be fully deployed in 2024
G1-26	Identify and encourage conditions that attract and support Black, Indigenous, and People of Color population.	Selectboard	Administration, All entities	Process for identifying issues concerning BIPOC population and for monitoring the experience of Town services across all demographics. Process for identifying challenges and addressing them. Change in Town demographics. Change in diversity of people participating in civic life.	ST/MT	SHELD encourages diverse candidates to apply through diversity web sites and is training on how to become more diverse
G1-29	Investigate offering town-wide Wi-Fi and/or Wi-Fi hot spots.	Administration	SHELD Town Of SH	Date plan approved. Date equipment installed.	ST	SHELD has met with Town Administration and IT Dept on Wi-Fi hot Spots. SHELD will provide fiber connectivity and technical assistance where feasible. SH Town Admin dept has applied for Wi-Fi equipment grants and will be the Wi-Fi provider.
G1-30	Facilitate public outreach events and forums around sustainability, such as public access TV, Know Your Town, mailed resource advertisements, and social media.	Sustainability and Energy Commission	SHCTV, SHELD	Number of events. Number of attendees. Number and type of other outreach attempts. Change as a result of increased awareness.	ST	SHELD participates in many public events, maintains a robust social media presence and marketing campaigns.
G1-31	Foster Town engagement with college/university personnel and consultants to provide special expertise.	Administration	Other entities as appropriate	Number of personnel used. Type and effectiveness of services provided.	ST, MT, LT	SHELD works very closely with key college personnel on a number of initiatives including renewable energy initiatives i.e.- 500kW of solar PPA in place and EV charging projects on going
G2-22	If SHELD moves, consider redevelopment of site on Main Street.	Redevelopment Authority	SHELD	Date of move. Date building or site redeveloped.	ST/MT	On going collaboration i.e.- provided support letter for town grant initiative
G3-14	Incorporate addressing climate change/resiliency into routine permitting and operations.	All boards and committees		Date new mandate adopted. Changes to Zoning or subdivision regulations adopted. Impact on projects.	ST	SHELD has 99% carbon free power supply emissions. Instituted multiple programs targeting carbon reduction i.e. Solar rebates, zero % loans, EV rebates and more

G3-15	Work with Town administration and neighboring towns to consider adoption of Zero Net Carbon goals, tree planting, requiring energy efficiency standards with new construction (particularly municipal) electric charging stations, solar on existing structures, etc.	Planning Board	Administration, SHELD, Sustainability & Energy Commission, Tree Committee, Tree Warden	Date goals adopted. Number of projects affected.	ST	SHELD has 99% carbon free power supply and meets state net zero goals for 2040. SHELD has existing efficiency and electrification rebate programs which further exceed this goal standard
G3-24	Work with boards and committees to produce videos to welcome new members and give them a brief overview of responsibilities.	SHCTV	All boards and committees	Number of videos. Number of boards and committees participating. Feedback from viewers.	ST	SHELD broadcasts and publishes all open meetings on SHCTV. SHELD includes public participation as a standing agenda item.
G3-25	Encourage people of diverse backgrounds to run for boards and/or apply for committees to ensure broad representation of all residents in government functions.	All boards		Number of candidates identified. Number of candidates elected. Change in demographics of candidates.	ST/MT	SHELD encourages diverse candidates to apply through diversity web sites and is training on how to become more diverse
G3-26	Incorporate renewable energy into our portfolio over time as load permits either through Department owned assets or other large-scale installations.	SHELD, All Town Departments		Change in amount of renewable energy incorporated into portfolio.	MT	SHELD is already 99% carbon free however we are still evaluating renewable projects which will further incorporate renewable projects such as battery storage and wind opportunities. Town Departments need to look and see what they can do to help.
G3-27	Provide internet connectivity to every household and business in South Hadley with a combination of broadband, fiber and Wi-Fi.	SHELD	Administration	Number of households connected. Number of businesses connected. Types of connections.	MT	SHELD is in year 3 of a five year construction plan to make fiber available to every household with 65% of SH constructed.
G3-28	Establish a grant program to provide internet-enabled devices to low-income households.	SHELD	Council on Aging, School Department, Library	Date grant program established. Number of devices provided.	ST/MT	SHELD has been providing low income internet grant funds thru the Emergency Broadband Benefit program and new Affordable Connectivity program since July of 2021. SHELD ensures qualifying households receive opportunity notifications and have 44 participating customers. If SHELD supplied devices - all ratepayers would have to cover the costs.
G3-29	Work with Council on Aging and Library to provide training for those unfamiliar with connecting to online resources.	Council on Aging, School Department, Library	SHELD	Number of requests for help. Number receiving training. Primary will depend on population to be served.	ST	SHELD has conducted several streaming educational events throughout the community and seniors electric hazards safety training. SHELD will continue to offer events and also maintains an on premise streaming education center at SHELD available to all customers on those topics.

G3-32	Discuss with SHELD the long-term changeover away from nuclear power to renewables (planned for 2045).	Sustainability & Energy Commission	-----	Date discussion held. Identified next steps.	MT/LT	Municipal Light Board strategic discussions which include complex legal Power Purchase Agreement (PSA) commitments, rate setting authority and power supply strategy are governance responsibilities in accordance with MGL Ch164. SHELD power supply decisions are administered by SHELD under the direction and control of the MLB. Remove from MPIC SHELD Action item to comply with MGL Ch 164 Governance.
G4-1	Create working groups of staff and committee and board members to meet regularly around common priorities to identify and work together toward shared objectives.	All boards, committees, and departments	Administration, Selectboard	Date working group created. Number of shared priorities identified. Number of group actions being pursued. Number of actions completed.	ST	SHELD has a strategic planning process which is open and posted to the public. This planning process produces a strategic plan for five year periods which sets SHELD initiatives and priorities.
G4-8	Create a central resource directory on the Town website for all listing and linking to all current plans, reports and key data.	Administration	All boards, committees, and departments	Date resource created. Relevance of information provided. Use of information.	ST/MT	
G4-13	Prior to Town Meeting, review proposed bylaws as to legality, consistency with other bylaws, and alignment with the goals of this Master Plan Update and make recommendations for action (recommend or not recommend) to the Selectboard and Town Meeting.	Bylaw Review	All other boards and committees	Date(s) bylaws reviewed. Number of committees and/or proposers consulted. Recommendations made. Votes by Town Meeting.	ST/MT	
G4-22	Post articles in area newspapers, Town's website and social media.	All boards and committees		Number of articles posted. Number of responses or other feedback.	ST/MT	
G4-27	Work with boards, committees and departments to identify baseline data for impact evaluation and standard metrics, as appropriate.	Master Plan Implementation Committee	All boards, committees, and departments	Date baseline data identified. Schedule for collection of baseline data. Date(s) data collected.	MT	
G4-28	Work with boards, committees, and departments to monitor progress towards goals using metrics recommended in this Master Plan Update, as appropriate.	Master Plan Implementation Committee	All boards, committees, and departments	Identify schedule and process for monitoring. Feedback from boards etc. as to usefulness. Dates of progress updates to Selectboard, Planning Board, and Town Meeting.	MT/LT	