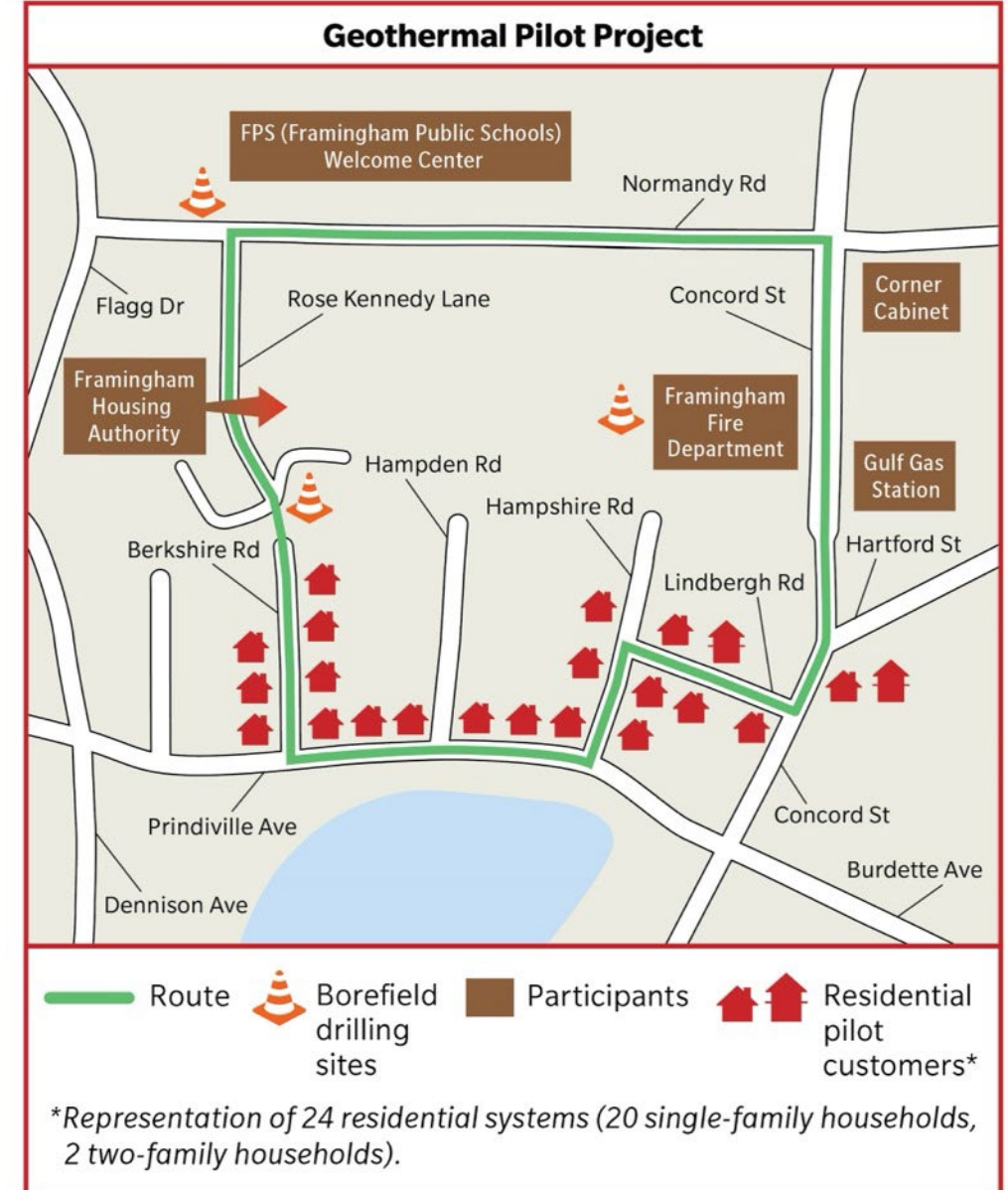


# ***Networked Geothermal Pilot***

***Liam Needham***  
***Director Customer Thermal Solutions***

# Framingham Pilot

- **Initial pilot proposed in a 2019 gas rate case**
  - Approved by Department of Public Utilities (DPU) in 2020
  - DPU approved a mixed-use project case with approximate total load of 375 tons of heating / cooling
- **Feasibility and site selection work took place in 2021 to establish Framingham, MA as host community**
  - Specific neighborhoods were identified with balanced loads that met the proposal requirements
  - Detailed design work was performed to determine loads, pipe routing, and bore field requirements
- **Customers connected to networked system as of April 2025:**
  - Framingham Housing Authority (FHA) apartment conversions (96/96 apartments online)
  - FHA Community Center (admin. building), Farley building, Corner Cabinet Shop, and Gulf Gas Station
  - 19 residential customers
  - Frontier monitoring equipment installed at 4 of 4 residential homes and 5 of 5 commercial



# Community Engagement

EVERSOURCE

- Engaged extended groups (internal and external) in educational project (Introduce A Girl To Engineering and Science)
- Strengthened relationships with stakeholders through events, webinars and newsletter
- Equity and environmental justice considerations as a central component of communications strategy
- Created a successful, repeatable template for future decarbonization projects





# Customer Communication



### Networked Geothermal Systems INSTALLATION PROCESS

1

Eversource team surveys each building and identifies changes needed to install networked geothermal system.

2

Team prepares installation plans and permits for property owner and city review.

3

Team constructs vertical ground loops and distribution mains.

4

Service lines brought into customer's property with valves at the curb to isolate property from distribution mains.

5

Team restores disturbed areas outside of building by leveling the work area to the existing property and placing lawn and seed.

6

Team installs the system (ductwork, heat exchanger, circulators, and geothermal heat pump) inside building.

7

Eversource starts up the system and confirms functionality.

8

Eversource supports building owner with monitoring and maintenance of all in-home geothermal equipment.

9

Property owner provides periodic feedback on in-home geothermal equipment operation.

#### Illustrative Example

Actual geothermal system layout is currently in progress.



## We're building a green neighborhood.

#### Join us!

Be a part of this innovative, community-minded, environmentally friendly pilot project that is happening in your neighborhood. Eversource is working with the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities to build a geothermal project that is the first of its kind in New England using networked geothermal technology. You'll be part of a group sharing a geothermal network in your neighborhood.

Learn more about this three-year pilot that uses geothermal technology, which works by transferring heat to and from underground wells into your home using heat pumps. A geothermal system is very efficient, cost effective, and is the most environmentally friendly way to heat and cool your home.

**Can't wait to hear more?**  
Contact Marisol Burgos at 860-645-6255. Call today!

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Eversource.com

See length on back

### How does Geothermal work?

Geothermal systems work by transferring heat to and from underground wells into your home or business using ground source heat pumps. A geothermal system is cost-effective, efficient, and is the most environmentally friendly way to heat and cool residential and commercial buildings.

Source: Environmental Protection Agency

#### Cooling

#### Heating

**You're in good company!** You'll be sharing wells with your neighbors and, as a group, helping the environment. Approximately 80 percent of the residential homeowners along the route decided to participate in the pilot.

**Our Commitment to Communication.**  
Eversource will maintain open communication with customers throughout the pilot project. If customers are experiencing issues with their geothermal equipment, Eversource will be available to address them. We will reach out to you through mailers, emails and doorhangers to provide meaningful updates during the pilot project.

**Questions or Concerns?**  
Call us at 1-855-645-2427, M-F, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (ask for Morgan Rutkowski)  
email us at [geothermal@eversource.com](mailto:geothermal@eversource.com), or visit [Eversource.com/geothermal](http://Eversource.com/geothermal)

Geothermal Pilot Project

EVERSOURCE

## Eversource is building a geothermal neighborhood in Framingham, MA.

Eversource is building a first-in-the-nation, utility-scale renewable energy project using networked geothermal technology.

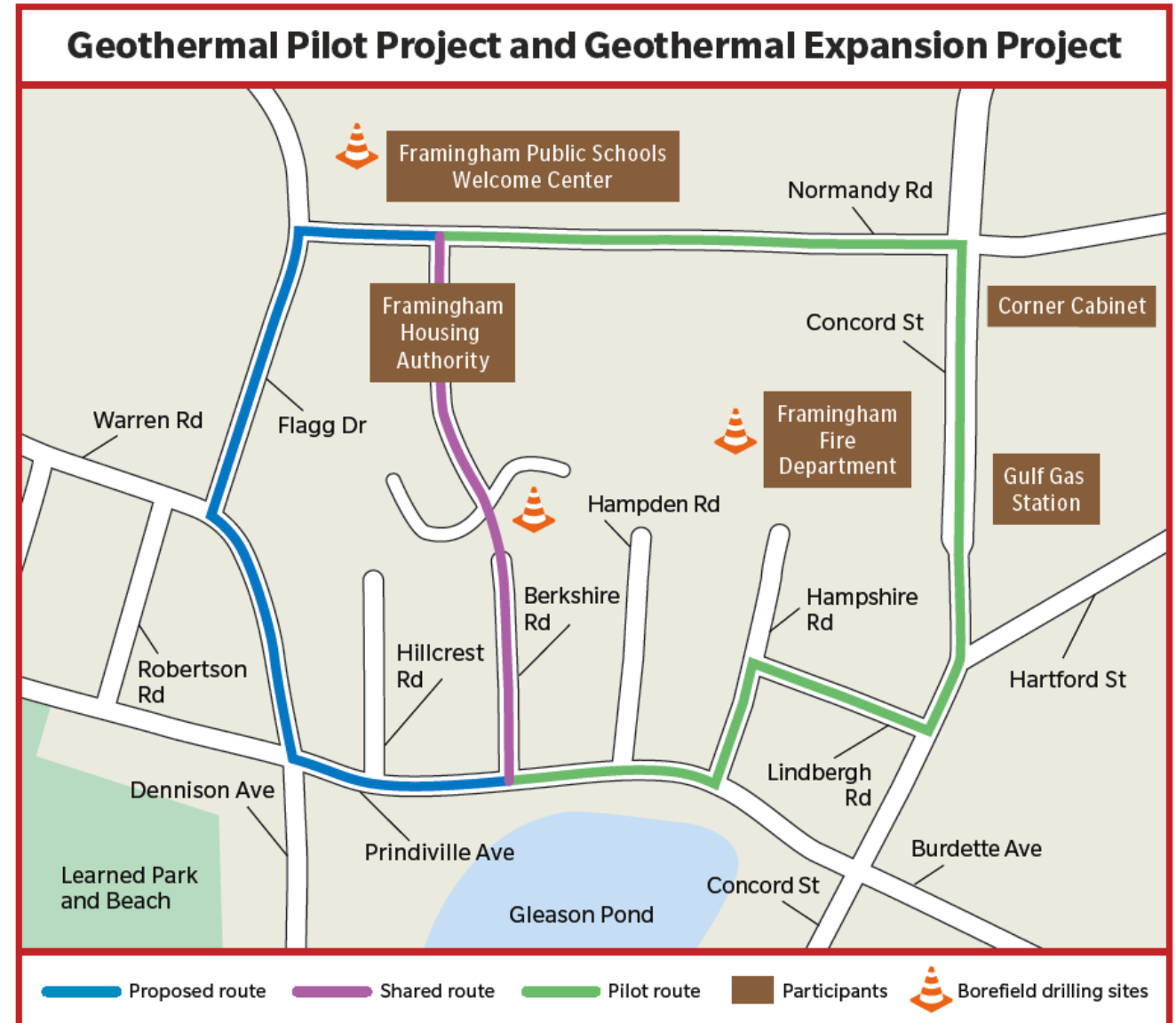
Geothermal Pilot Project

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# Framingham Geothermal Expansion

## DOE Funding for Framingham Expansion:

- **2024:** Completed design phase and received DOE award for implementation funding
- **2025**
  - Continue implementation negotiation and await further communication from DOE
  - Submit project to DPU for approval upon final funding decision
- **Capacity:** 400 tons of load; approx. 180 mix of 23 residential, 13 FHA and 1 commercial building
- **Estimated Capex:** ~\$14MM (with potentially \$8MM covered by DOE funding)
- **Estimated In-Service:** 2027
- **Assets:** 2000 feet of main, up to 50 boreholes, pump vault and instrumentation





# The Opportunity for the New Construction Market

- MA 2024 Climate Bill legislation authorizes networked geothermal expansion as gas company service
- Affordable housing is in short supply, but expansion is occurring with over 14,000 units permitted in Massachusetts over last 12 months
- MA's Affordable Homes Act commits \$5.16B for low to moderate-income housing over next five years, with some funds earmarked for sustainable and climate resilient affordable housing
- Specialized building code adoption in municipalities prohibits new gas service for new construction
- Infrastructure Reduction Act (IRA) incentives available to help lower installation costs
- Networked geothermal technology can provide a safe and reliable option to all electric homes with air source heat pumps as it becomes an increasingly cost-competitive alternative



# Geothermal for New Construction



New construction and major renovations provide a unique opportunity to reduce and/or eliminate customer-facing capital costs as the ground source heat pump systems are built upfront rather than retrofitting existing buildings.

*Reducing the  
customer side  
costs*

*Reducing the  
geothermal  
network side  
installation costs*

*Reducing the  
electric  
distribution  
buildout costs*

*Providing an  
alternate option  
to electrify new  
building stock*

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