



# HEALTH IMPACT ASSESSMENT of the PROPOSED COMPRESSOR STATION, WEYMOUTH, MA

**Community Meeting**

June 21, 2018

# Agenda

- Open House
- Introductions and Orientation to Community Meeting
- Introduction to Health Impact Assessments
- Overview of HIA Focus: Decisions regarding the Proposed Compressor Station
- HIA Scoping – Open House

# HIA Project Team

- Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH)
- Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP)
- Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC)

## *Advisory Committee*

- *Representatives recommended from municipalities (Weymouth, Quincy, Braintree, and Hingham) and community organizations*

# Community Meeting Format

## Objectives:

- A. Understanding of the health impact assessment (HIA) process and the proposed change so that community feedback and discussion is based on a shared understanding of the overall project
- B. Awareness of community perspectives and questions regarding potential health effects of the proposed compressor station so that participants inform the scoping step of the HIA

## Open House Format:

- A. Poster materials to provide information and background
- B. Maps and worksheets to gather feedback to use in the scoping process

# **Introduction to Health Impact Assessment (HIA)**

*Overview of HIA and the assessment process*

# How does what you see in this photo relate to health?



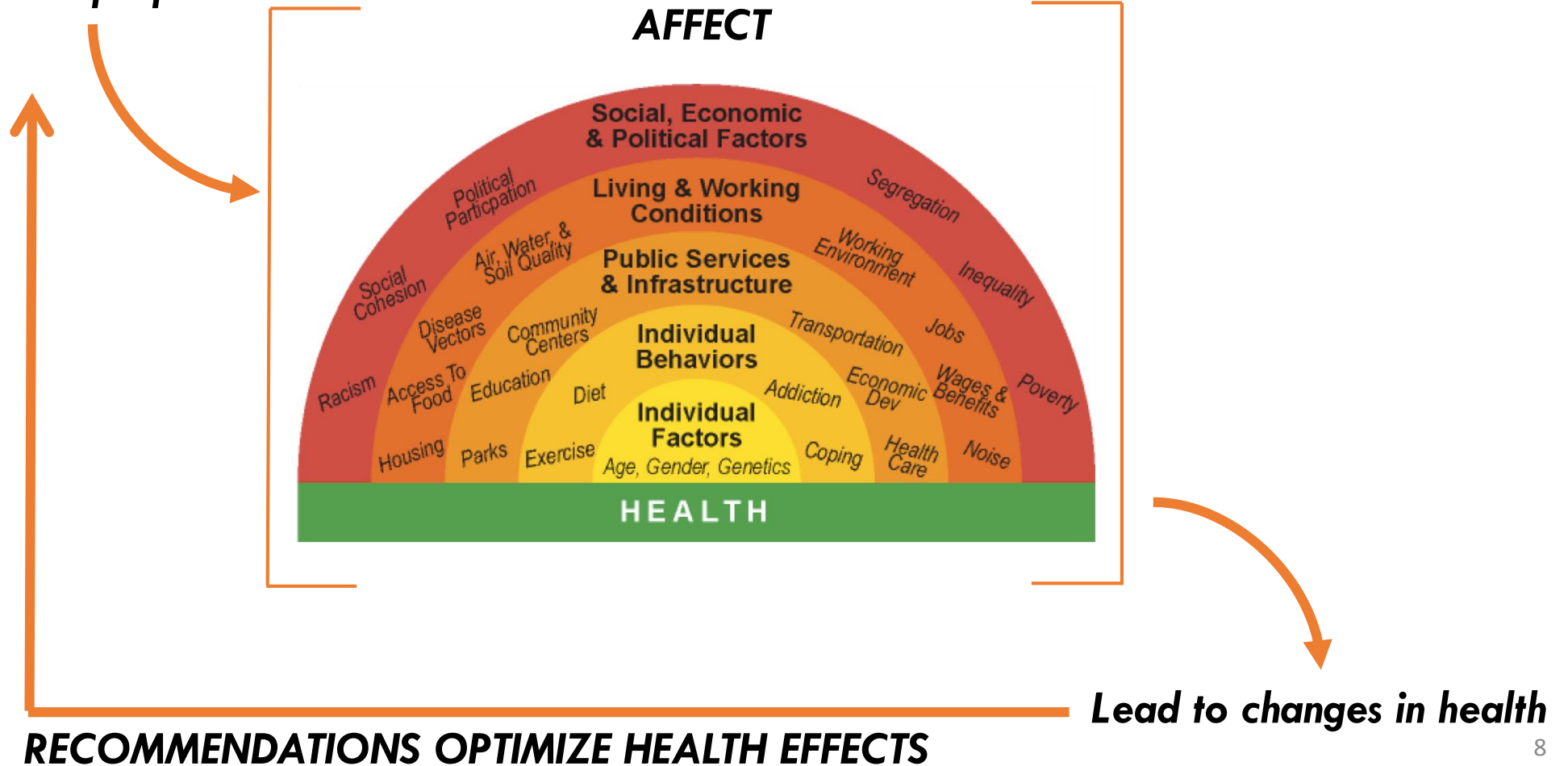
# Health Impact Assessment (HIA)

A systematic process that uses an array of data sources and analytic methods and considers input from stakeholders to determine the potential effects of a proposed policy, plan, program or project on the health of a population and the distribution of those effects within the population. Health impact assessment provides recommendations on monitoring and managing those effects.

- *National Research Council, 2011*

# HIA Asks...

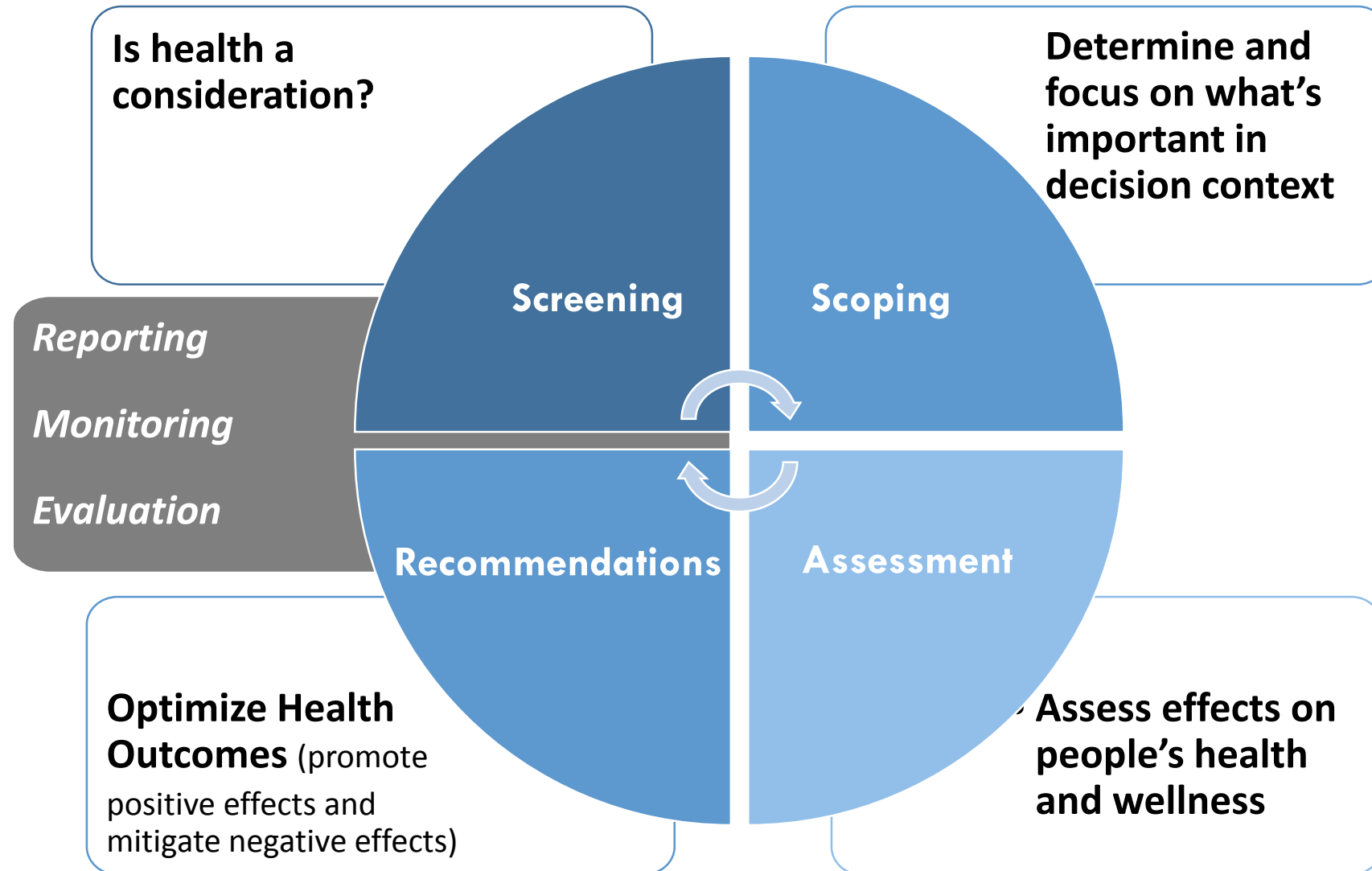
*How does the policy, plan, program  
or project*



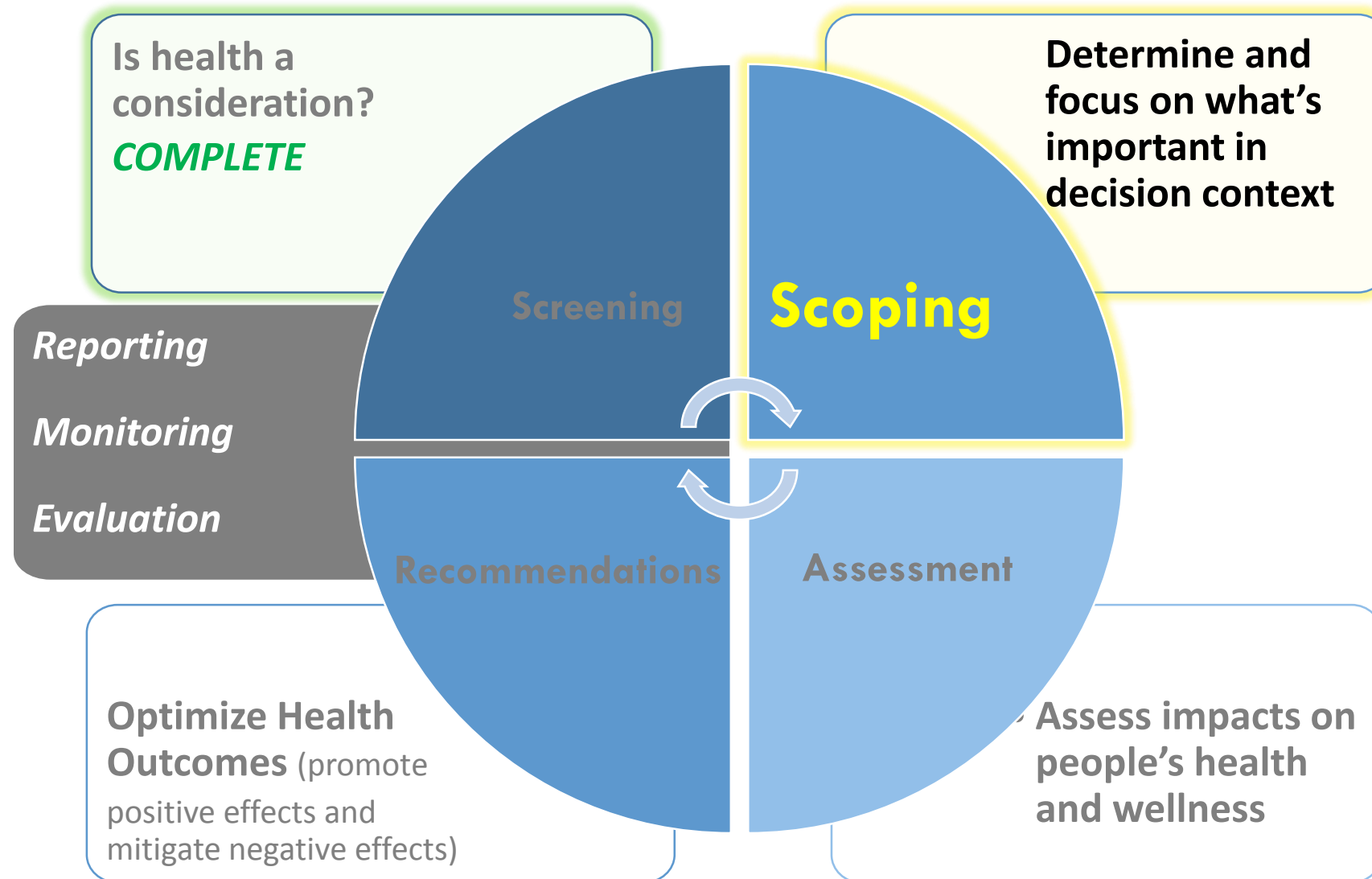
# HIA Essentials

- Purpose of HIA is to assess potential health effects of a proposed change, e.g., legislation, new regulation, proposed facility or project, plan, etc.
  - *HIA is not the decision making process*
- Systematic assessment of direct and indirect risks and benefits:
  - Sometimes quantitative, more commonly qualitative/descriptive approach
  - Broad perspective: considers how multiple factors (economy, employment, environment, etc.) affect health
- Inter-agency collaboration
- Stakeholder participation
- Offers recommendations to optimize health effects related to the proposed change

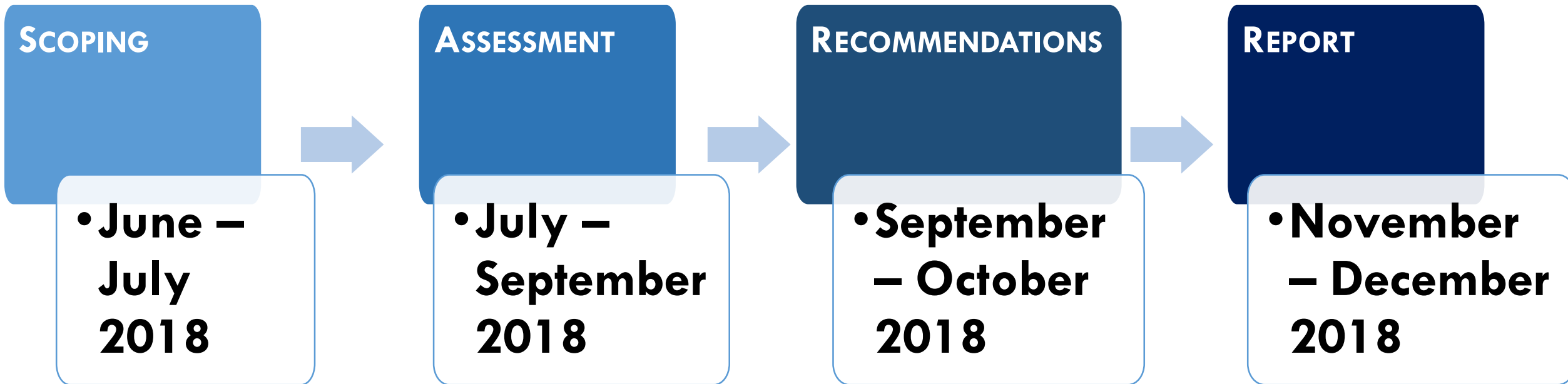
# HIA Process



# HIA Process



# HIA Timeline



# HIA Framework (*What HIA is/is not*)

- Not a regulatory or decision-making process
- Uses framework that encompasses social, physical, and mental health and wellness, including existing conditions
- Engages a broad group of stakeholders – not conducted solely by risk assessors
- Uses mix of qualitative and quantitative methods
- Provides evidence-based conclusions on how a decision will affect health
- Makes health-promoting recommendations focused on decision(s) at hand

# Decision Context

*HIA of the Proposed Natural Gas Compressor Station  
Weymouth, MA*

# HIA Directive

- In July 2017 Governor Baker directed that MassDEP and MDPH prepare a public health impacts assessment to
  - Document current background air levels at the site and current health status of the community
  - Consider future air quality impacts of the proposed project on public health
- In January 2018 Administration provided \$100k in funding
  - MassDEP has contracted with Alpha Analytical for sample analysis
  - MDPH has contracted with MAPC to facilitate focused HIA

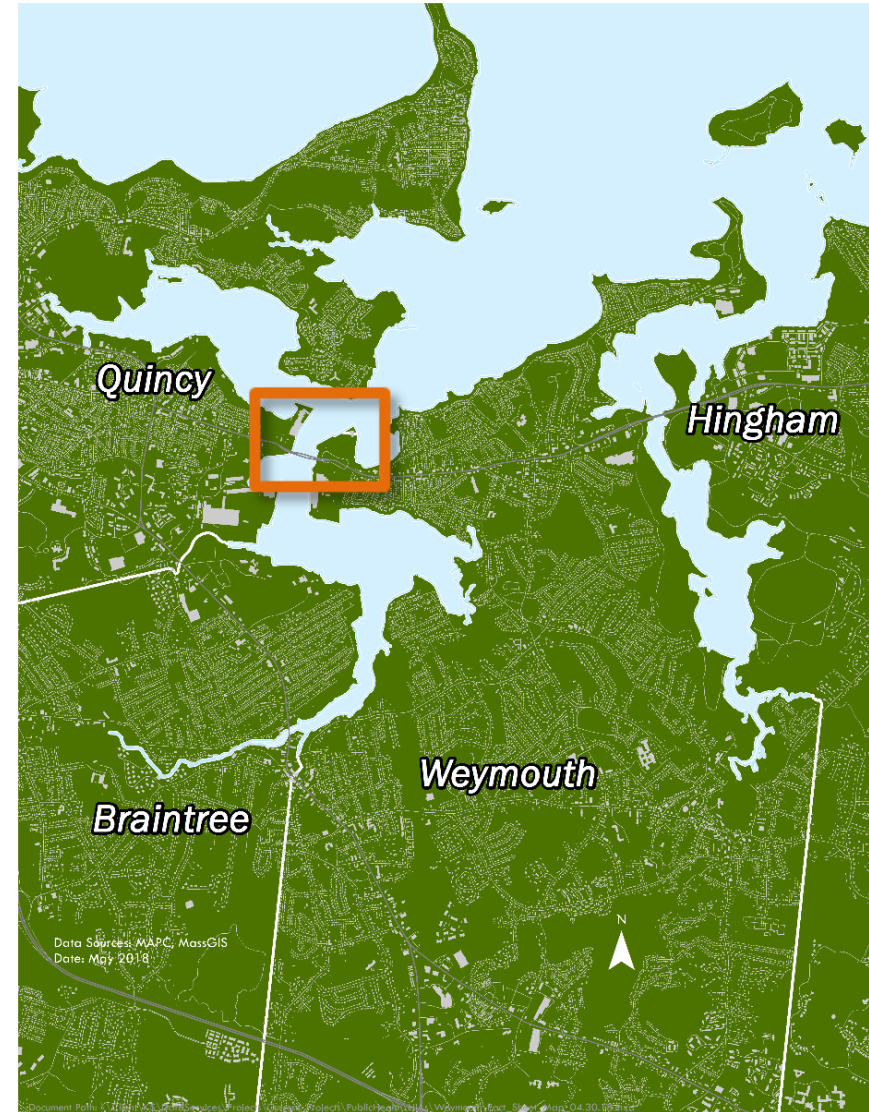
*Note: Governor also provided further opportunities for public safety and climate resilience review*

# HIA / Air Permit Decision Timeline

- HIA
  - Scoping – June -July
  - Assessment – July-September
  - Recommendations – September-October
  - Report – November-December
- January 11, 2019 – Joint Motion-set deadline for permit decision
- February 1, 2019 – Permit decision becomes final if not appealed
- June 28, 2019 – Joint Motion-set deadline to complete appeal process and issue final permit decision

# Project Background

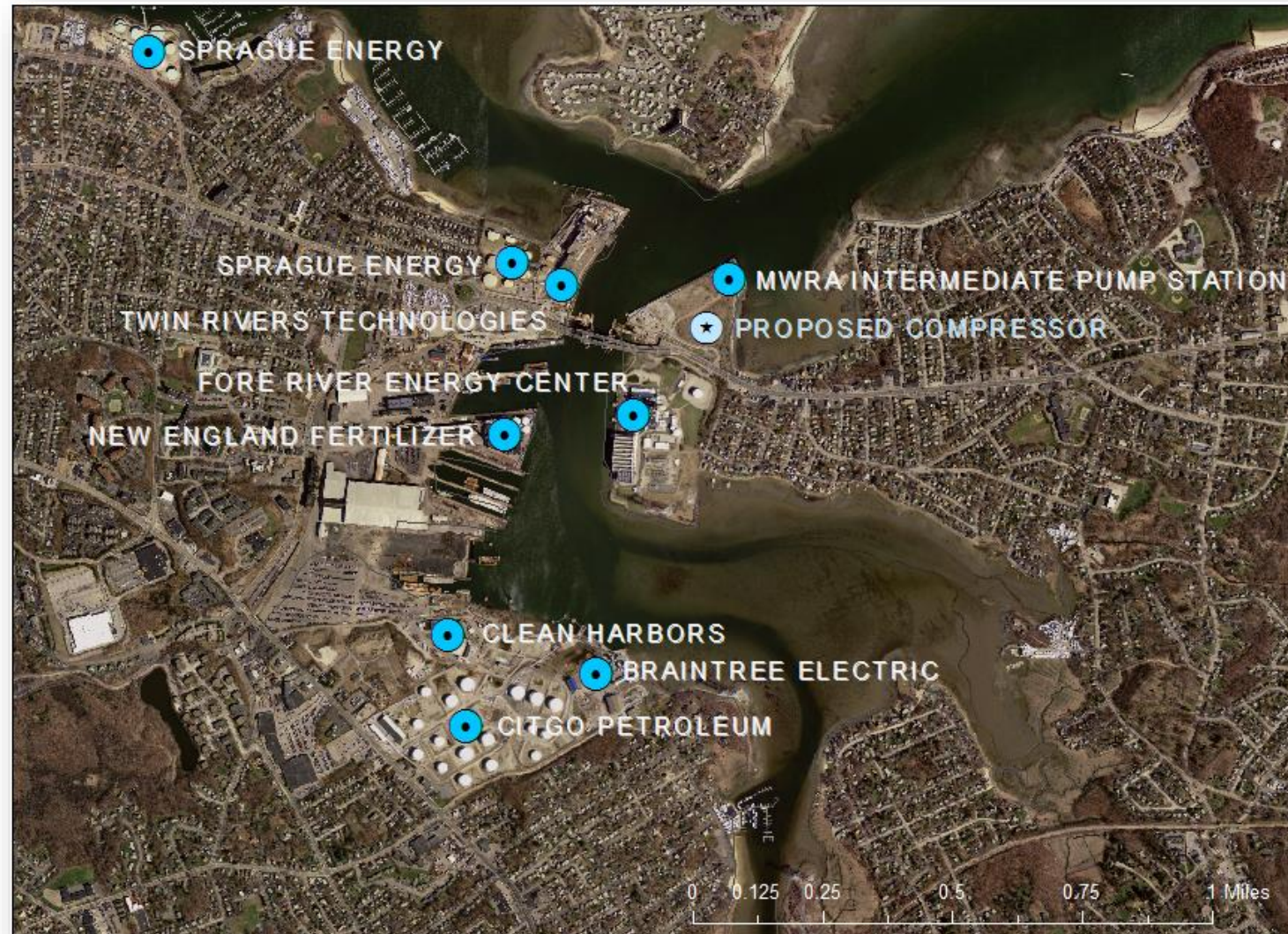
- Proposed natural gas compressor station
  - Proponent is Algonquin Gas Transmission, LLC, subsidiary of Enbridge
  - Station proposed at 50 Bridge St, Weymouth
  - Site has existing pipeline and a gas metering and regulation station



# Nearby Facilities and Activity

- MWRA Intermediate Pump Station
- Fore River Energy Center
- Twin Rivers Technologies
- Sprague Terminal
- New England Fertilizer Company
- Citgo Terminal
- Clean Harbors
- Braintree Electric Power Plant
- Fore River Bridge traffic

# Nearby Facilities



# Project Roles

<b>Siting</b>	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)
<b>Safety</b>	US Department of Transportation (US DOT) and Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA)
<b>Wetlands</b>	Weymouth Conservation Commission / MassDEP
<b>Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Federal Consistency Review</b>	MA Office of Coastal Zone Management (CZM)
<b>Chapter 91 Waterways License</b>	MassDEP
<b>Air Quality</b>	MassDEP
<b>Site cleanup</b>	MassDEP

# Draft Air Plan Approval

- Non-major Comprehensive Plan Approval
- Addresses air emissions (criteria and toxic pollutants) and noise
- Ensures
  - Best Available Control Technology
  - Emissions of criteria pollutants do not create NAAQS violation
  - Emissions of toxics from project below AAL/TEL guidelines
  - Mitigate suppressible noise
  - Compliance with federal air regulations
  - Good pollution control engineering

# Plan Application Timeline

- October 2015
  - Application for Non-major Comprehensive Plan Approval
- March 2017
  - Draft plan approval for public comment
- May 25, 2018
  - Update to Application for Non-major Plan Approval, including updated air quality modeling

# MassDEP Monitoring

## MassDEP

- Visited area several times to identify possible air monitoring locations
- Reached out to local officials to describe monitoring approach / possible locations
- Identified suitable proposed locations (see map)
- Would like to begin monitoring in early July

# Citizen and Proposed MassDEP Air Monitoring Locations



# Scoping

*HIA of the Proposed Natural Gas Compressor Station  
Weymouth, MA*

# Purpose of Scoping

To establish the scope of health determinants that will be included in the HIA, the populations affected, the sources of data, and the assessment methods to be used.

*The result of scoping is a work plan to conduct the HIA of the proposed compressor station*

# The Scoping Process Involves

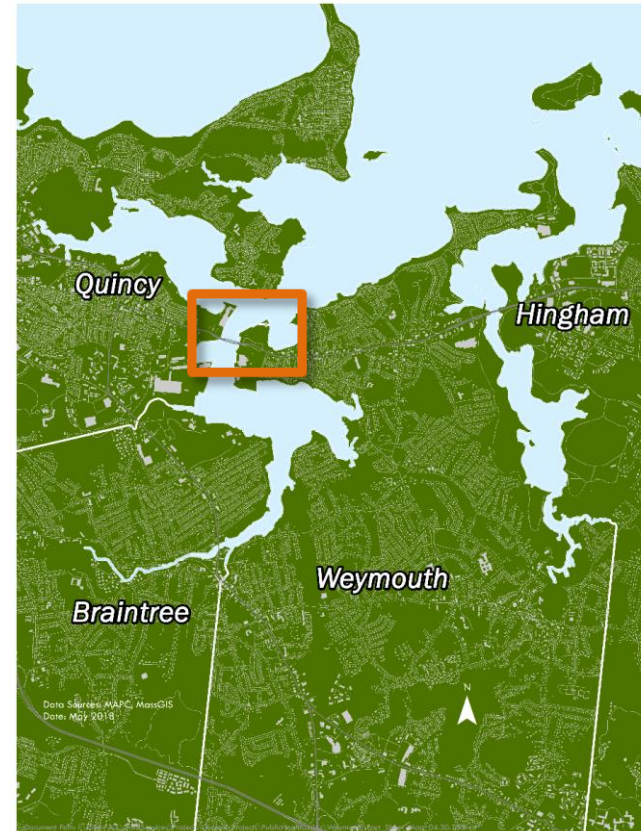
- Exploring and prioritizing **health determinants**
- Developing **causal pathways** to identify relevant health outcomes
- Identifying **indicators and data sources**
- Identifying **geographic context** and **time frame** for the assessment
- Identifying **vulnerable populations**
- Generating **research questions**
- Identifying **assessment methods**

# Pathways Related to Decision and Health

This HIA will assess health effects that could result from:

Proposed natural gas compressor station

- 50 Bridge St, Weymouth



# Open House

Upcoming meetings, action items, and meeting evaluation

**Thank you**