



# UNH Sustainability Institute

## Sustainability Fellowship Community Carbon Footprint Analysis and Communication Somerville, MA

The City of Somerville, Massachusetts, is a leader in addressing climate change and sustainability, and has committed to achieving carbon neutrality by 2050. In 2015, Somerville completed its first greenhouse gas inventories for community-wide and City government emissions, using data from 2014 to establish a baseline (see the report at [http://go.somervillema.gov/sustainaville/resources/FINAL-Somerville-GHG-Inventory-Report\\_signed\\_Jan2016.pdf](http://go.somervillema.gov/sustainaville/resources/FINAL-Somerville-GHG-Inventory-Report_signed_Jan2016.pdf)). As a result of this process, the City has a proven methodology, reporting templates, and guidance documents for GHG accounting; the goal is to update these inventories on a biannual basis, and integrate the findings into performance management and community engagement.

The Community Carbon Footprint Analysis and Communication Fellow will complete the first biennial update of Somerville's municipal and community-wide carbon footprint, and will develop outreach tools and materials to make the results accessible and relevant for citizens and decision-makers. These tools and materials will be a vital part of the City's community and stakeholder-oriented climate change planning process, which is happening this year.

Specific tasks will include the following:

- Data collection
- Data entry and reporting using Somerville's GHG Excel-based model and reporting guidelines.
- Analysis of findings, including 2014-16 comparisons
- Creation of graphics representing findings
- Creation of visual/graphical materials to communicate Somerville's GHG emissions to public (e.g., flyer, website, animated video)

This is an excellent opportunity to get a first-hand sense of the challenges and rewards of working as a sustainability professional in city government, as well as valuable experience in one fundamental aspect of the field—carbon accounting—which is relevant across sectors. In addition, the Fellow will have the satisfaction of creating very high-visibility materials that will become part of Somerville's climate change engagement and increase climate change literacy across the community. The project will also provide an opportunity to enhance the Fellow's professional network, as it will involve working closely with City staff in the Office of Sustainability and Environment, and collecting data and input from others across departments.

**Location:** Office of Sustainability and Environment, City of Somerville

**Time commitment:** 40 hours per week, June 5-August 18, 2017

**Compensation:** \$6000 stipend

**Desired Qualifications:**

- Demonstrated skill in research and quantitative analysis.
- Graphic design skills, expertise in infographics and conveying complex information in a visual format. The ideal candidate will provide a portfolio or example projects.
- Fluency in MS Excel, and experience/comfort working with large data sets (e.g., electricity bills for 30 buildings).
- Strong verbal and written communication skills
- Basic understanding of climate change science and greenhouse gasses. While this project is focused on GHG emissions, specific experience in this area is not necessary.

**UNHSI Sustainability program eligibility:**

Graduate students, exceptional undergraduate students, and recent graduates are eligible. We will encourage, but not require, an academic sponsor or reference for each fellow, and where possible we will ask that course credits are awarded.

**Supervision, Training, Mentoring and Evaluation**

This fellow will receive supervision from OSE Director Oliver Sellers-Garcia, as well as mentoring and extensive professional development offerings from UNHSI.

Fellows will be expected to participate in three MANDATORY events:

- A three-day, two-night orientation in Durham, NH, May 31<sup>st</sup>- June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Lodging and food are provided; Fellows are responsible for any associated travel costs.
- Midterm project presentations to UNHSI staff, faculty and relevant project partners (can be done remotely).
- A summative evaluation and feedback session at the end of their placement.

**Apply by February 17<sup>th</sup>** at [www.sustainableunh.unh.edu/sustainability-fellows](http://www.sustainableunh.unh.edu/sustainability-fellows)