

we are

slipstream

2024 IMPACT REPORT

»» **slipstream**



TOGETHER
we are

connecting people with the clean-energy future

Our mission: Accelerating climate solutions. For everyone.

Greetings!

At Slipstream, we believe in a future in which everyone enjoys the benefits of safe, healthy buildings powered by clean, affordable energy. We have been a trusted navigator for decades—connecting people, communities, and governments to the practical, feasible solutions that make their goals possible.

Our work at Slipstream spans the full spectrum of how energy influences people's lives. Native Nations seek a trusted supporter to undo centuries of injustice on their path to energy sovereignty. In Puerto Rico, designing a microgrid means delivering reliable power to a community used to blackouts. C-PACE financing can help a small business owner upgrade an outdated heating and cooling system or serve as a tool for a city to reduce energy demand across hundreds of buildings. In Wisconsin, a senior on a fixed income might rely on the state's energy assistance hotline to help them get through the winter, while public school officials collaborate across district lines to support each other in their energy plans, understanding that putting their heads together is better than working alone. And when we're given the time to map out how energy codes are adopted in Wisconsin, we help residents participate in a process that was designed to leave them out.

Slipstream and our partners are garnering our limited resources to successfully navigate a complex landscape to change communities for the better.

There is still much to accomplish. The communities and projects highlighted in this report bring us one step closer to accelerating climate solutions for everyone.

Sandra Henry
President & CEO



making a difference

204,037 ^{tons} _{CO₂} **avoided emissions**

In 2024, Slipstream's programs avoided emissions including **204,037 metric tons of CO₂**.*

195 ^{million} _{kWh} **electricity saved**

We helped homeowners and businesses save **over 195 million kWh** in total electricity use.*

\$67.7 ^{million} **annual utility bill savings**

Our programs resulted in **\$67,654,963 in annual utility bill savings**.*

\$110.3 ^{million} **in financing serviced through VelocityGO**

In 2024, we closed **6,777 total loans** through VelocityGO's loan origination system, connecting residential and commercial customers with fair clean energy financing.

*Total savings data for 2024 is estimated based on published 2023 data for NYSEERDA's energy efficiency programs.



TOGETHER
we are

driving innovation

Our 2024 innovations are tested, scalable solutions that have delivered added benefits for our partners and communities beyond the scope of our usual projects.

We are promoting these ideas throughout the industry and sharing them here to inspire more people to pursue integrated approaches to climate solutions.



TOGETHER we are

driving innovation

Plug-in heat pump water heaters: From research to installation!

By plugging into a standard wall outlet, 120-volt heat pump water heaters (120V HPWHs) could give a jolt to the widespread electrification of domestic water heating. Our pilot study in three Midwest states found that 120V HPWHs perform well for households of up to four people taking typical showers. This evidence should ease any concerns about 120V HPWH performance in cold climates and encourage utilities and distributors to include plug-ins in their programs.

We took the insights generated from this fieldwork and developed a free installation guide for contractors in the Midwest to ensure high-quality performance of the technology and customer satisfaction.

» [*Read about the pilot and check out the installation guidelines*](#)

Our field study showed that 120V HPWHs work in cold climates and inspired us to ensure high-quality installations by developing free guidelines.

driving innovation

From classroom to control room: Tools to motivate the next generation of building operators

Smart building technology is an emerging approach to designing and operating buildings that are more efficient, resilient, and flexible—all critical factors to managing load on the grid. As technology quickly evolves, the need grows for a systematic approach to training that helps the industry integrate smart building ideas into designing and operating buildings.

To close this knowledge gap, Slipstream led a project funded by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to develop a semester-long smart building curriculum for college students. We extended the course's reach by adapting the university course content into a series of free, online videos designed for building operators and facilities managers.

Helping building professionals keep up with ever-evolving technology is essential for a successful clean energy workforce. We tailored the technical teaching materials for easy integration by college instructors and faculty.

These training courses make new technologies relevant to current building operators and normalize smart building technology for college students seeking employment in clean energy fields.

» [Hear from our project team](#)

Integrating smart building technologies into college classrooms prepares the next generation of building operators.





TOGETHER we are

driving innovation

With Sketchbox, young minds see how energy modeling affects the real world

Sketchbox is a fast, intuitive tool that makes energy modeling available to everyone—giving designers instant feedback on how their choices impact building performance. We offer the Basic tier free of charge because we believe the future of sustainable buildings depends on equipping today's students and emerging professionals with the tools they need. At Slipstream, we're committed to accelerating a more sustainable future by investing in the people who will shape it.

This year, we ramped up the value of Sketchbox in classrooms across the country. Educators have integrated it into physics, math, and engineering lessons, helping students visualize the connection between energy use and the buildings around them. Through a new partnership with Bronx Community College, we're co-developing curriculum that introduces students, many from historically underserved neighborhoods, to building science and energy modeling, opening doors to clean energy careers.

»» [Download free learning materials](#)

Sketchbox gives students a hands-on experience with energy modeling, helping them visualize the impact of building design on energy use.

driving innovation

Housing stability and comfort for manufactured home owners

Manufactured home owners often face a unique set of challenges—including financial insecurity, disability, and limited access to support services—that are frequently overlooked by traditional housing programs. These issues are compounded by frequent changes in park management, which can destabilize already fragile living situations and increase the risk of eviction. Without the support they need, many residents struggle to maintain safe, livable homes.

With funding from a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), the Ramsey County Manufactured Homes Critical Repair Grant program provides essential support to eligible owners of manufactured homes in suburban Ramsey County. Slipstream plays a key role by offering technical guidance to ensure repairs are energy-efficient and cost-effective. Through partnerships with local advisors, the program has helped residents avoid eviction, regain the legal title to their homes, and access additional services. These impacts reflect Slipstream's commitment to long-term housing stability for all.

» [See more of our work on manufactured homes](#)

This one-stop program empowers low-income manufactured home owners to stabilize their lives.

TOGETHER we are

driving innovation

Making fair energy financing accessible with VelocityGO

Inclusive energy financing programs are complicated. Every step of the process can require input and support from multiple people involved in the program, from the customer to the contractor to the funder. There's a lot to track to ensure programs reach the right groups of people and meet their original intent of lowering barriers to participation.

We designed VelocityGO to streamline the entire process for the programs we administer and support through Slipstream's energy financing division, Energy Finance Solutions (EFS). Along with robust reporting tools and dashboards for program managers and contractors, VelocityGO streamlines the path to fair energy financing by guiding customers through a secure, personalized application process. It asks only the questions needed for each specific loan product, protecting sensitive information while delivering relevant options. Automated income and identity verification reduces paperwork and speeds up approvals—often with pre-qualification. Built-in geolocation features automatically connect applicants in under-resourced areas to opportunities, including lower interest rates or extended repayment terms.

» [Watch our video on VelocityGO](#)

VelocityGO makes it easier for everyone, including people excluded from traditional lending structures, to participate in energy financing programs.

TOGETHER
we are

supporting communities

Across the Midwest, community leaders and local governments are taking bold steps to realize the promise of a clean energy future. Energy and climate issues intersect with nearly every aspect of civic life. Slipstream connects our partners to the technical expertise and resources needed to achieve their energy goals.

The stories that follow highlight just a few of the ways our work in 2024 helped communities uncover new opportunities, expand the impacts of programs, and deliver meaningful benefits to the people they serve.

supporting communities

Energy improvements that deliver in a crisis

In rural Onaway, Michigan, VFW Post 5857 is the place where the community hosts meals, local events, and veterans' gatherings. By 2024, the aging facility was struggling to keep up. Outdated kitchen equipment, dim lighting, and rising energy costs were making it harder for the VFW to maintain its role as a place of connection and support.

With help from Slipstream and local utility partner Presque Isle Electric & Gas, the VFW secured critical upgrades. Rebates funded new insulation, energy-efficient LED lighting, and two upright freezers which were provided at cost by a local, family-owned business. With hands-on help from VFW members, the building was revitalized. Today, Post 5857 is more efficient, more sustainable, and better equipped to serve Onaway in times of celebration and need.

➤ [Read about the project in the October 2024 issue of Michigan Country Lines](#)

"When Northern Michigan was hit by a massive ice storm this spring, most of the town lost power for almost two weeks. The VFW was out for two days, but our newly insulated cooler kept our food cold during the outage, and our members worked with the local American Legion to supply 5,000 meals for the community."

– Edward J. Fesko, Jr., Post Commander, VFW Post 5857

Photo courtesy of Edward J. Fesko, Jr.



supporting communities

Rebates transform empty halls into energy-efficient homes

In 2024, Lansing's Capital Area Housing Partnership led a bold effort to repurpose the 100-year-old Walter H. French Junior High School into what the community urgently needed: affordable housing and child care spaces. Long abandoned, the beautifully restored structure now houses 76 affordable units and a welcoming space for community gatherings, breathing new life into a nationally registered historic landmark.

On behalf of the Lansing Board of Water & Light, Slipstream provided engineering guidance to help the project meet its ambitious energy efficiency goals. By blending historic preservation with modern performance standards, the project stands as a model for how communities can reimagine existing buildings as part of climate solutions. It demonstrates how energy efficiency can be a powerful catalyst for revitalizing historic structures to create healthier, more affordable places to live for the individuals and families who need it most.

» [Read more in Lansing WILX-TV's story on MSN.com](#)

"Transforming the historic Walter H. French Junior High School into quality affordable homes came with the unique challenge of adaptive reuse, especially when it came to keeping energy efficiency front and center. The Lansing Board of Water & Light's rebate program helped make the project financially feasible by offsetting construction costs. Thanks to the BWL's streamlined process and dedicated team, our residents now enjoy the lasting benefits of energy-efficient appliances, lighting, and windows in homes that honor the past while building a sustainable future."

– Emma Henry, Executive Director, Capital Area Housing Partnership



TOGETHER *we are*

supporting communities

Passive House, powerful impact

Just north of the lush greenhouses of Chicago's Garfield Park Conservatory, the new Conservatory Apartments provide safe, stable housing for formerly unhoused individuals. With 25,000 square feet of sustainably designed living space and onsite support services, the development demonstrates how housing security and resilient building practices can coexist. Led by the Interfaith Housing Development Corporation of Chicago (IHDC), the project brings together nonprofits and local networks to serve women, people with disabilities, and individuals with histories of substance abuse.

On behalf of Chicago's primary electric utility, ComEd, Slipstream designed a Passive Building Pathway to support greater sustainability in affordable housing developments such as the Conservatory Apartments. Slipstream's engineers contributed technical expertise to help the building meet the ambitious performance goals set by the architecture firm, HED. The result is Chicago's first large-scale multifamily building to achieve Phius certification. This high-performance standard reduces greenhouse gas emissions and lowers utility costs, easing financial burdens for residents. The Conservatory Apartments demonstrate the possibility of healthy, comfortable homes built with efficiency, dignity, and care at their core.



[*Read more in Block Club Chicago's October 2024 story on the ribbon-cutting ceremony*](#)

"Our residents are already seeing the benefits of the Phius certification, as utility costs for the building are at an all-time low for IHDC's portfolio, removing one of the major barriers to clean energy, air, and water faced by some of Chicago's most vulnerable citizens."

– Erin Hebert, Director of Real Estate Development, IHDC

supporting communities

Designing microgrids around people's needs

The City of Altoona, Wisconsin has been enhancing its energy resilience and sustainability as part of its long-term development strategy and adopted an Energy Action Plan in 2023. The City and other utility stakeholders hired Slipstream to assess the feasibility of developing a microgrid for a planned mixed-use development designed to accommodate diverse housing options and neighborhood-scale commercial uses.

We developed and analyzed several scenarios to guide the City toward a clear, cost-effective plan for the microgrid. All paths pointed to another essential goal for the project: clarifying ownership of each component of the microgrid, which involves identifying who is responsible for funding, operating, and maintaining each asset. This model helps avoid confusion and delays, ensures long-term accountability, and empowers all stakeholders—including future residents and business owners—to actively participate in shaping a resilient energy future.

» [Read our summary of the project and our final report on our website](#)

“Slipstream’s work on the East Neighborhood plan went beyond technical analysis. We now have a better understanding of how to define ownership and operations of the microgrid so that if the City chose to implement the project, residents and business owners could share in the long-term cost and resilience benefits of a new, community-level asset.”

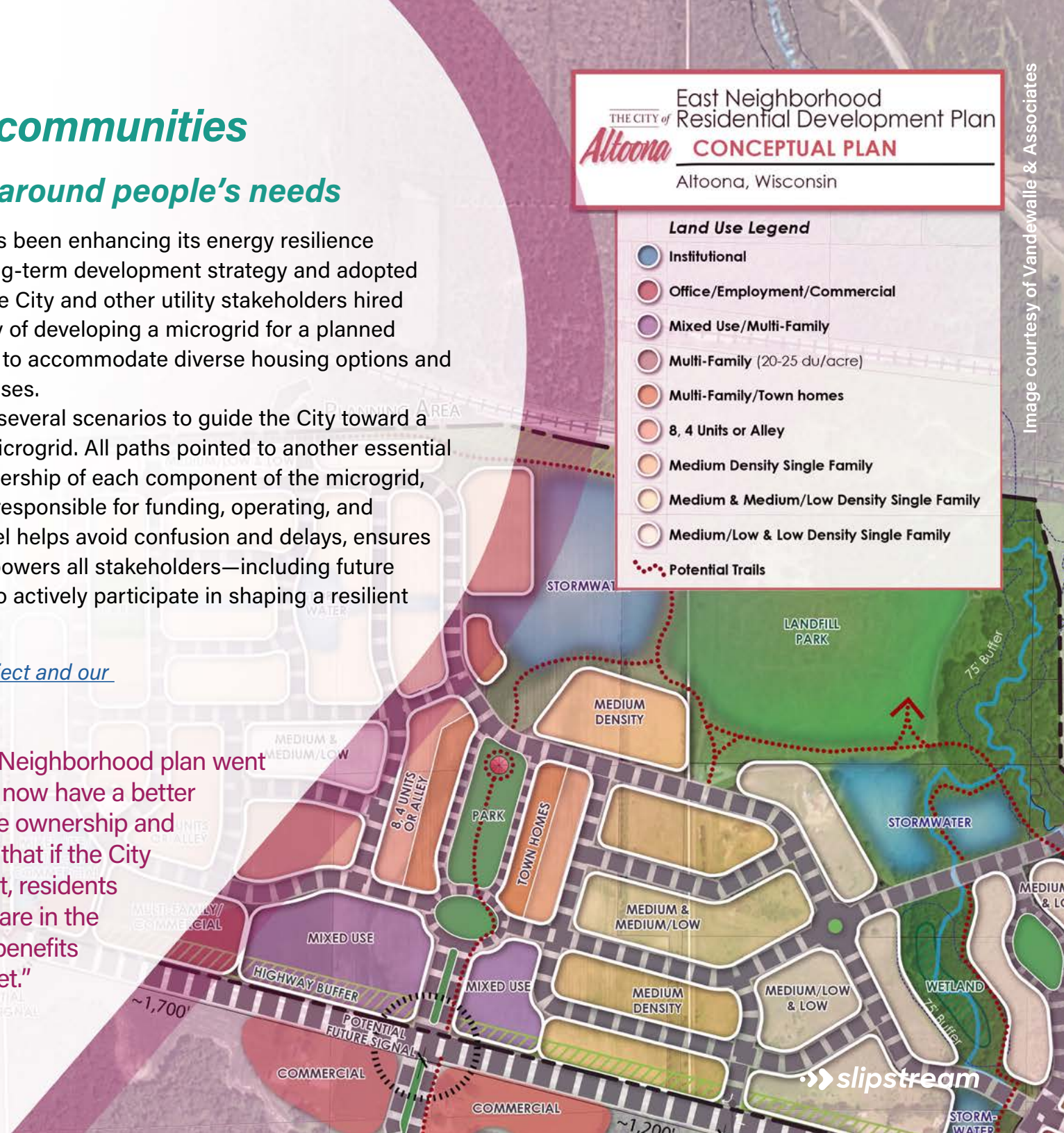
– Taylor Greenwell, Planning Director,
City of Altoona

THE CITY of
Altoona

East Neighborhood
Residential Development Plan
CONCEPTUAL PLAN
Altoona, Wisconsin

Land Use Legend

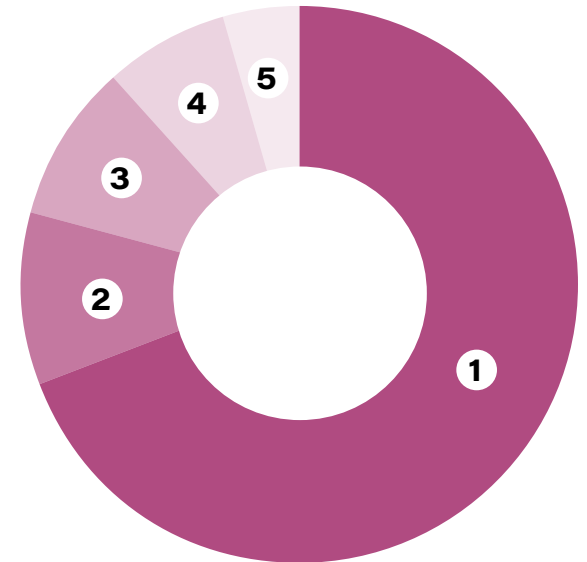
- Institutional
- Office/Employment/Commercial
- Mixed Use/Multi-Family
- Multi-Family (20-25 du/acre)
- Multi-Family/Town homes
- 8, 4 Units or Alley
- Medium Density Single Family
- Medium & Medium/Low Density Single Family
- Medium/Low & Low Density Single Family
- Potential Trails



Financial Results

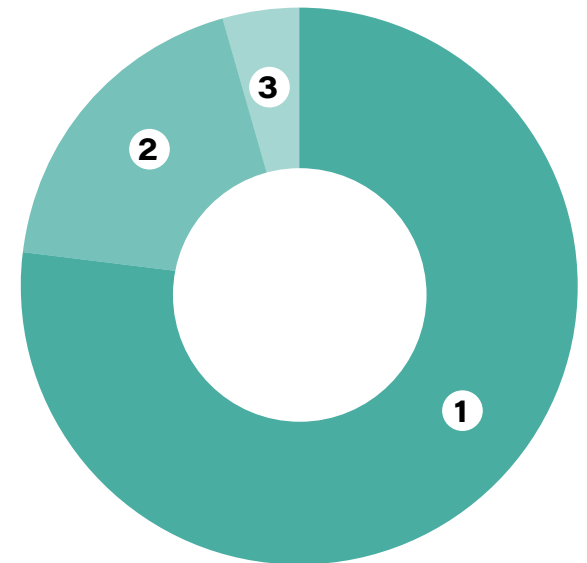
Sources of Revenue (Rounded)

1	Efficiency at Scale	\$23,700,000
2	Grants & Other Revenue	\$5,900,000
3	Financing for a Low-Carbon Future	\$6,100,000
4	Training and Education	\$3,500,000
5	<u>Emerging Technology & Human Factors.</u>	<u>\$1,900,000</u>
	Total Revenue	\$41,100,000



Allocation of Expenses (Rounded)

1	Programs.	\$31,200,000
2	Management and General.	\$9,800,000
3	<u>Fundraising and Business Development</u>	<u>\$1,800,000</u>
	Total Expenses	\$42,800,000



TOGETHER
we are

looking ahead

Stay in touch.

» Visit us at slipstreaminc.org

***Stay ahead of the curve with our monthly newsletter, The Accelerator,
as well as quarterly newsletters and updates.***

» [Subscribe here](#)

Follow us on social media.



Slipstream



@slipstreaminc



@slipstreaminc.org



Slipstream



@slipstreaminc

» ***slipstream***