



TOWN OF WAKEFIELD

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Thursday, February 8, 2024
7:00 P.M.
Zoom Meeting

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Melissa Eusden, Chair
Tiana Veldwisch, Vice Chair
Robin Greenberg, Clerk
Lillian Guinther
Christina Olivieri
Julie Smith-Galvin, Town Council rep
Amy Leeman, School Comm. rep
Russell Jackson, Student Liaison
Eric Cohen, Student Liaison
Teagon Norton, Student Liaison
Nate Chines, Youth Council rep

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Steffin Spears
Chris Lewis
Joe Conway, DPW rep
Sharon Daly, WMGLD rep

----- TOPICS OF DISCUSSION -----

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| Call to Order | The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m by M. Eusden. The meeting is being recording and closed captioning is available. |
| Public Participation | - |
| Welcome to Student Liaisons | ESC welcomes new ESC Student Liaisons. Student Liaisons are invited to join ESC subcommittees. |
| Approval of Minutes | T. Veldwisch motioned to approve November, December, and January meeting minutes, and ESC's November Code Forum, and R. Greenberg motion second. Motion passed to approve the meeting minutes. |
| DOER Climate Leaders Program | M. Eusden presented DOER's presentation on Green Communities 2.0. Criteria to be a Climate Leader: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. A local committee to advise, coordinate and/or lead clean energy and climate activities – DOER to confirm that Wakefield's ESC meets this requirement2. Decarbonization commitment - Climate Action Plan that is under development should meet this requirement3. Municipal Decarbonization Roadmap – Wakefield would seek technical assistance grant to assist in creating the roadmap. Request needs to be accepted by Town Council |



4. Zero emission vehicle policy – requires municipal departments to establish policy
 5. Specialized Stretch Code adoption – complete
- 2024 approvals deadlines are June and fall 2024.

R. Greenberg motion for ESC to support and lead the town in its path to become a DOER Climate Leaders Program. J. Smith-Galvin second. Motion passed unanimously.

**Waste Reduction
Subcommittee**

L. Guinther shared that the food rescue and compost program has started at the Woodville leading to 500lbs composted and 337 items rescued in one week.

They are working on the plan for Wakefield Recycling event on April 6th. They are looking for alternatives to Toy Swap done last year. Ideas include textile education info and a book swap. DPW has a spare rain barrel available for raffling off. Educational committee might have seeds available that can be given away.

T. Norton is organizing a February clothing drive at the high school, started last week. Clothing going to the Boys & Girls Club.

Candy wrapper collection returns at the box at the Beebe Library youth room from 2/14 to 2/23.

**Community
Education &
Outreach
Subcommittee**

T. Veldwisch shared that the subcommittee is working on planning a booth at the March 14th STEM event at Galvin MS. E. Cohen suggested having prizes for participations as a way to encourage them attend. R. Jackson suggested getting native plants. Activities idea include "How to pack a low waste lunch," points for selection of good choices.

Group is organizing a Bee/ Pollinator education event with local beekeeper at Beebe Library. They are also organizing casual chats with a neighbor so folks can chat about their EVs, solar panels, etc.

**Climate Action
Plan (CAP)
Subcommittee**

M. Eusden shared that they are going to focus on deliverables for DOER Climate Leaders. They are starting by reviewing neighboring town's CAPs. J. Smith-Galvin going to the Town Council in April to talk about the CAP and the town's tasks.

**Green Space
Subcommittee**

No updates

**Green Business
Subcommittee**

C. Olivieri shared group talking about going from generating checklist to focusing on operations on how to be a Green Business. They hope to create a pilot program with a few local businesses. They may focus on one initiative, i.e. have business recycle cardboard.

**School
Committee
Liaison Update**

A. Leeman and the School Committee recently toured Greenwood Elementary and saw the food rescue and compost programs in action. They will host food service coordinator at an upcoming meeting to talk about their participation. Schools are going to compostable food trays.

School committee hosts the Science curriculum coordinator this week

**DPW Liaison
Update**

A. Waitt announced that 900 pounds of Christmas light strings were collected. Black Earth accounts growth has stopped. Black Earth starter kits are still available so there is support for new accounts.

Sale of rain barrel and compost bins sales are coming this spring.

Town's cardboard dumpster is closed right now but DPW is working on reopening it. Yard Pit opens April 6th.

**Town Council
Liaison Update**

J. Smith-Galvin shared that the Town Council wants a meeting with schools to talk about energy reduction plan. The town's bike/ pedestrian returns to council later this month.

ARPA funding still available and under discussion.

**WMGLD Liaison
Update**

Liaison not available

Student Liaison

N. Chines sent out survey to students to show interest in the creation and joining a Galvin MS Green Team.

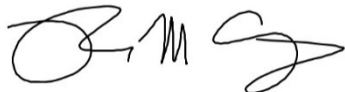
Next Meeting

The next regular Environmental Sustainability Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 14, 2024, at 7:30pm.

**Committee
Meeting
Adjournment**

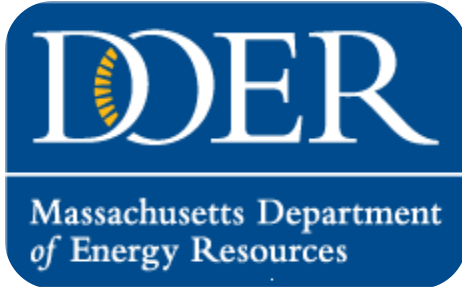
R. Greenberg motioned to adjoin J. Smith-Galvin second. Meeting adjourned at 8:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Robin Greenberg, Clerk

Attachments: DOER Green Communities 2.0 (Climate Leader Communities) dated Fall 2023



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY RESOURCES

Elizabeth Mahony, Commissioner

Green Communities 2.0 (Climate Leader Communities)

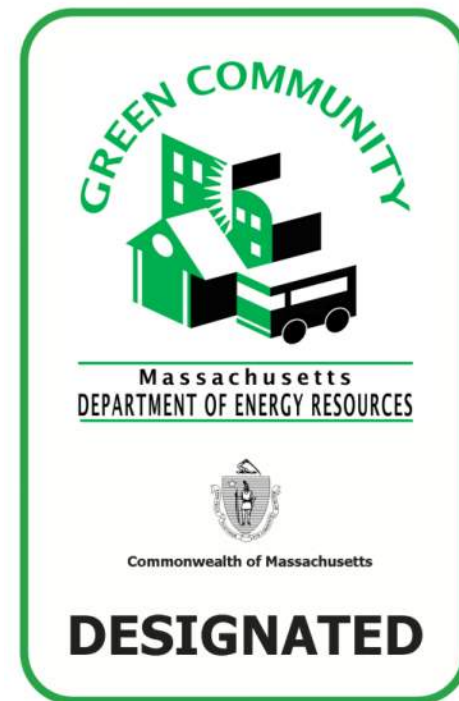
Fall 2023

Green Communities Designation and Grant Program

Established by the Green Communities Act of 2008

Designation Criteria

1. Adopt as-of-right siting for renewable/alternative energy generation, research and development, or manufacturing
2. Adopt expedited permitting process
3. Create an energy use baseline and a plan to reduce municipal energy use by 20% in 5 years
4. Purchase only fuel-efficient vehicles
5. Reduce life-cycle costs of new construction by adopting the stretch energy code

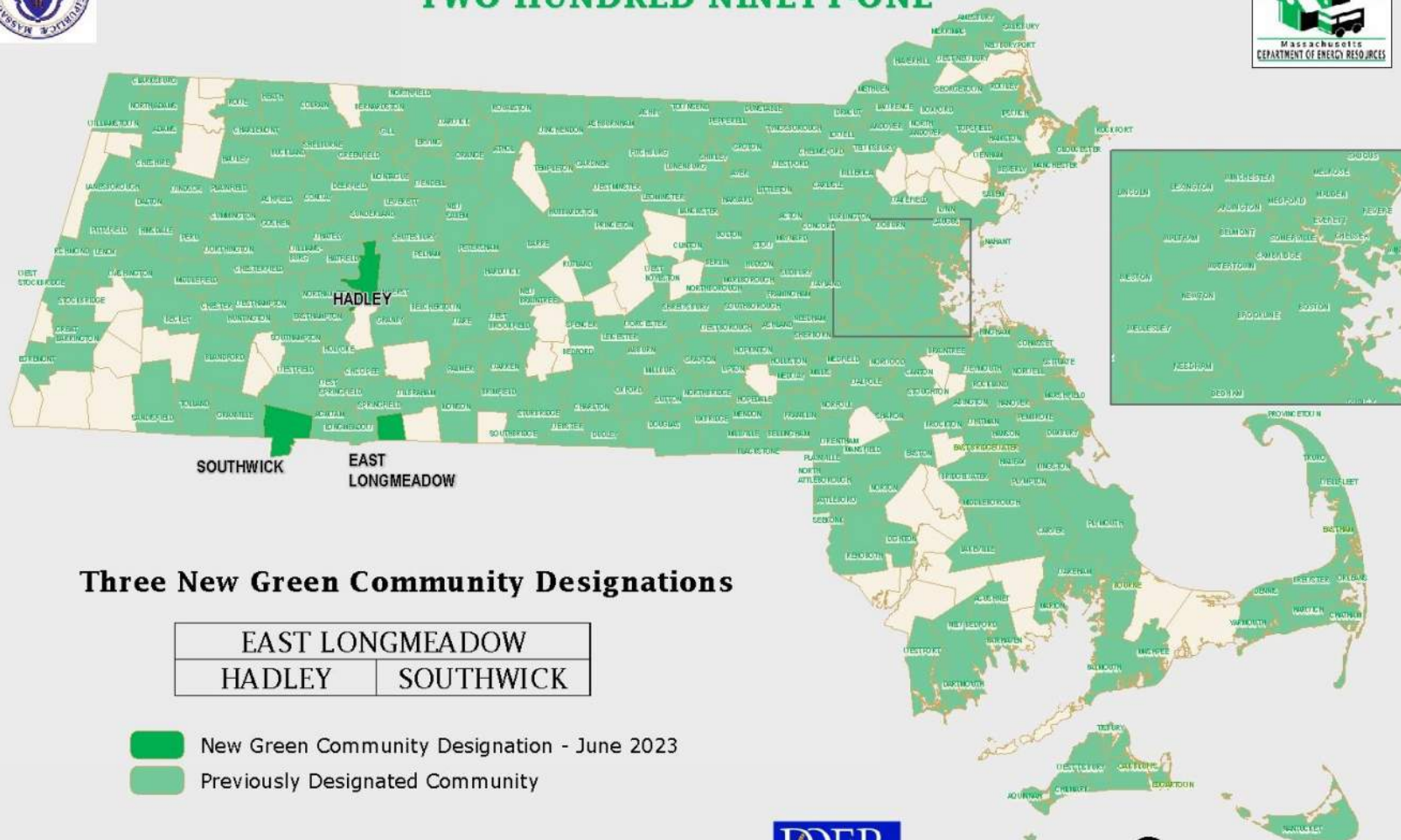


Eligible for Grants on Municipal Property

- Energy efficiency projects
- Renewable energy projects



GREEN COMMUNITY DESIGNATIONS REACH TWO HUNDRED NINETY-ONE



J. Pfister, 5-25-23



20

Miles

Climate Leader Program



Align resources for municipalities with
EEA climate and energy goals



Provide framework for municipalities
seeking higher climate ambition



Enhance engagement and forward
progress with municipalities

Program Evolution: From Green Community to Climate Leader

Green Communities Criteria

Adopt as-of-right siting for RE/AE generation, R&D, or manufacturing

Adopt expedited permitting process

Create an Energy Reduction Plan to reduce energy use by 20% in 5 years

Purchase only fuel-efficient vehicles

Minimize life cycle cost in new construction – a.k.a adopt the Stretch Code

Climate Leaders Criteria

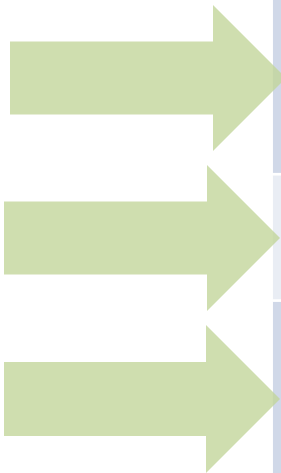
Establish/maintain local committee to advise, coordinate, and/or lead clean energy and climate activities

Municipal decarbonization commitment

Create Municipal Decarbonization Roadmap with 2030 & 2050 goals

ZEV-First vehicle policy

Specialized Stretch Code Adoption



Climate Leaders Conceptual Design

Requirements for Certification

- Must be an existing Green Community in “good standing”
- Establish/maintain a local committee to advise, coordinate, and/or lead clean energy and climate activities
- Commit to municipal decarbonization by 2050 and formulate a roadmap for implementation
- ZEV-First vehicle policy
- Specialized Stretch Code Adoption

Requirements for Recertification (every 3 years)

- Demonstrate meeting the Certification requirements
- Update Decarbonization Roadmap
- Implement one Community Engagement Climate Leader best practice

Potential grant funding opportunities

- Implementing Climate Leader Best Practices
- Municipal building electrification/decarbonization
- Seed funds for a municipal clean energy/climate coordinator
- Support for on-site solar PV + storage for existing buildings and new construction
- Support for geothermal for existing buildings and new construction
- Other innovative projects

What is a Green Community “in good standing?”

- Submitted most recent Green Communities Annual Report
- Confirming still meet 5 Criteria
- No active moratoriums on ground mounted solar and/or battery energy storage

Details on local “climate team”

- Name of committee, list and affiliation of current members
- The mission or charge of the committee
- For teams can also be a collaboration with a local community-based organization

Details on Decarbonization Commitment

- Clean energy/climate resolution
- Climate Action Plan
- An affirmation from the municipal Chief Executive Officer that the city or town remains committed to the goals articulated in the Metro Mayors Coalition Climate Mitigation Commitment

| | | |
|------------|-----------|-----------|
| Arlington | Boston | Braintree |
| Brookline | Cambridge | Chelsea |
| Everett | Malden | Melrose |
| Newton | Quincy | Revere |
| Somerville | Winthrop | |

Decarbonization Roadmap

- For municipal operations only
- Guidelines for existing buildings:
 - Include as a design option an alternative to fossil fuels for thermal energy that includes low- or zero-carbon fuels or alternative electricity technologies
 - If not practical, projects shall ensure that steps are taken to incorporate plans for the future transition to low or zero-carbon fuels
 - Incorporate building envelop upgrades when technically and fiscal feasible
 - Establish low target energy use intensity
 - Where appropriate , design and install renewable energy and energy storage, while building the infrastructure necessary to support future installations
 - Maximize resilient design to protect critical infrastructure

Decarbonization Roadmap

- For new construction or substantial renovation:
 - Strive to achieve zero net energy, where sufficient renewable energy is generated onsite to offset the building's annualized energy consumption
 - Implement energy storage wherever possible, especially when paired with onsite renewables
 - Prioritize sites that provide access to public transportation and alternative modes of transportation

Zero Over Time

Roadmaps to use the “Zero Over Time” approach highlighted in the Rocky Mountain Institute’s Guide [*Best Practices for Achieving Zero Over Time for Building Portfolios*](#) that uses **triggering events**, such as the:

- End of life of HVAC equipment
- Building renovation
- Roof replacement
- Building replacement

The roadmap should include interventions that reduce the use of fossil fuels onsite by utilizing the information provided above and identify when the interventions will take place

Focus on Eliminating on-site Fossil Fuels

| Targets | 2027 | 2030 | 2040 | 2050 |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Reduce emissions from onsite fossil fuels | -20% | -35% | -60% | -100% |
| Zero emission vehicles (ZEVs) in light-duty fleet adoption | 5% | 20% | 75% | 100% |
| Zero emission vehicles (ZEVs) in heavy-duty fleet adoption | 0% | 20% | 50% | 100% |
| Energy Use Intensity reduction (deep energy retrofits/retro commissioning) | -20% | -25% | -25% | -30% |
| Total Emissions Reduction Goals (% of 2022 emissions) | >15% | >35% | >65% | >95% |

Zero Emission-First Vehicle Policy

- When a vehicle is identified for replacement, acquisitions of ZEVs must be prioritized
- Acquisitions must adhere to the following vehicle efficiency hierarchy:
 - Priority 1: BEVs (and FCEVs)
 - Priority 2: PHEVs
 - Priority 3: HEVs
 - Priority 4: Most fuel-efficient internal combustion or vehicles that run on alternative fuels in accordance with requirements of the Green Communities Fuel Efficient Policy

Adopt the Opt-In Specialized Code

Specialized Code: Adoption process & Timeline

Specialized code adoption at the local level, similar to prior stretch code process:

- Warrant article
- Town Meeting bylaw or City Council ordinance vote
- Effective date: Jan 1, or July 1
- Recommend 6-12 months after adoption



ANNUAL TOWN MEETING 2020 Warrant Article Guide

ARTICLE 1: TOWN REPORTS

Through this article, the Town accepts the reports of every department and committee in town for the previous calendar year.

ARTICLE 2: OPERATING BUDGET

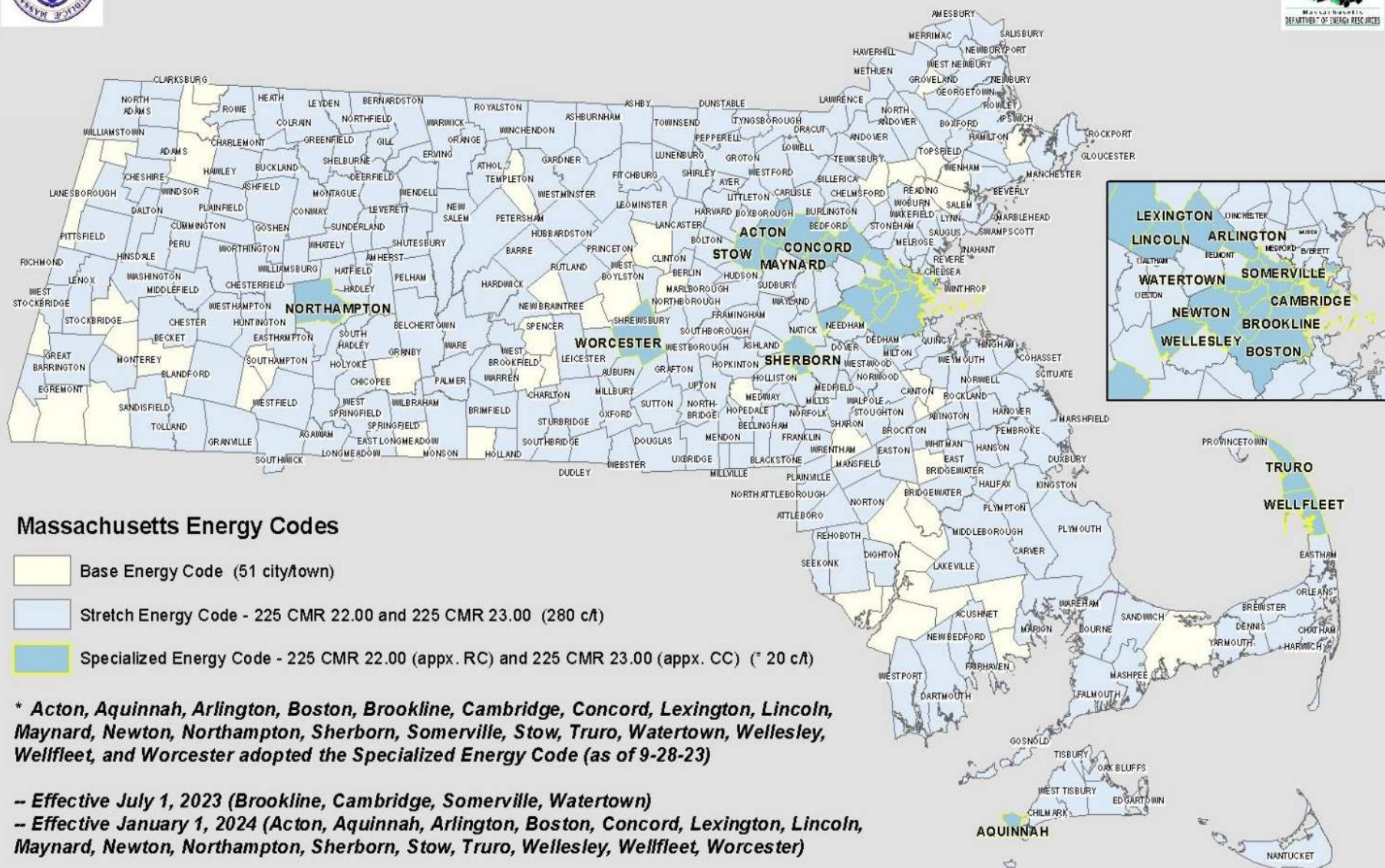
This article approves the operating budgets for the Town, Hullbury Public Schools and Middlebury Regional High School for the year starting on July 1, 2020. The budget includes all personnel, contractual services, goods and state payments. For additional information on the budget in the warrant visit Town Manager's Proposed FY20 Budget: <https://www.townmanager.org/budget>

ARTICLE 3: CAPITAL BUDGET

This article includes capital needs for the town that are under \$500,000. For more information on the capital budget, visit the Town Manager's Proposed FY20 Capital Budget: <https://www.townmanager.org/capital-budget>



Massachusetts Building Energy Code Adoption by Municipality



Proposed Climate Leaders– Best Practices Recommended

Communities must implement one Community Engagement Activity for 1st recertification cycle

| Clean energy and climate policy/planning | Community Engagement – Equity Consideration Required | Clean transportation & mobility |
|--|--|---|
| Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) | Community Climate Action/Net Zero Plan | Incorporate EV charging stations in parking and/or zoning regulations |
| Tree City USA Certification | Community Choice Aggregation with 100% Class 1 renewable option | Deploy and/or actively promote the use of publicly accessible EV charging stations within community. |
| Building benchmarking/performance ordinance | Community Clean Energy Campaign (Solarize, HeatSmart, EV promotion, etc.) | Tier 3 Complete Streets certification PLUS implementation one policy/plan addressing bike/pedestrian safety and access |
| Streamline permitting for renewables | Youth outreach/education | Fleet electrification plan |
| Additional "Green Zoning" to promote smart growth, including walkability, reduce heat island effect, and reduction in water runoff | Targeted clean energy for historically marginalized and over-burdened populations. Can be in conjunction with MassSave Community First Partnership and/or Mass CEC's EmPower program | Deploy and/or actively promote EV/E-Bike or "regular" bike share * |
| Land Policies promoting carbon sequestration | Climate/clean energy event | School bus electrification plan |
| Electricity for municipal use purchased via competitive supply at least double the minimum RPS Class 1 requirements | Participating in MVP 2.0 | Development and promotion of local mobility hub OR micro-mobility |

Funding for Implementation

- Estimated \$200,000 Year 1 Roadmap assistance
- Estimated \$250,000 Year 1 Deep Energy Retrofit Studies match (*\$25k per study x 10*)
- MassEnergyInsight enhancement to estimate emissions reductions due to clean energy interventions

Why Be a Climate Leader



Access to Enhanced Grants

- Climate Leader Grants – under consideration:
 - On-site solar + storage on fully electrified buildings
 - On-site solar + storage on new construction
 - Support for ground source heat pumps for existing and new construction
 - Seed funds for energy/sustainability manager (can be shared)
 - Activities on best practices list
 - Other innovative projects
- Part of Competitive Grant application

Timeline

| Fall 2023 | Winter 23-24 | Spring 2024 |
|-------------------------------|---|---|
| Finalize guidance docs | Award TA | Continue working with communities |
| Issue EOI | MassEnergyInsight updates | Support Specialized Code votes |
| Issue RFQ and contract for TA | If interest, organize cohorts of communities to work together | Start accepting applications: deadline 6/30 |
| Issue PON for TA | Draft and Issue Green Communities PON to include Climate Leader section | |

Green Communities Contacts

Regional Coordinators act as direct liaisons with cities and towns

Northeastern MA: Dillan Patel

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Southeastern MA: Lisa Sullivan

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