



# 18th Annual Leading by Example Awards

presented by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

*Leading by Example Awards annually recognize outstanding decarbonization, clean energy, and other environmental efforts among Commonwealth agencies, public colleges/universities, municipalities and individuals.*



## MUNICIPALITIES



The **City of Malden** has been an innovative leader in municipal decarbonization since being designated a Green Community in 2016. Since then, the City has reduced its total energy use by nearly 30%, utilizing strategies such as weatherization, upgrades of energy management systems, and building decarbonization through the electrification of municipal building heating and cooling systems. The City has also deployed a solar array on their Department of Public Works building, utilizing energy from this array to supplement heating at the local high school's swimming pool.



The **Town of Warwick**, a Green Community since 2015, has cut its energy use by more than 20%. They have implemented a host of decarbonization efforts such as air sealing the town hall, heating the town hall and fire department with air source heat pumps, hosting an out-of-town solar field, and purchasing electric and hybrid vehicles for the town. Warwick's Building and Energy Committee (BEC) has also worked to communicate its sustainability and efficiency efforts to its residents through newsletters, tabling at festivals, and even entering its electric zero radius mower in its Old Home Day Parade.

## STATE ENTITIES

The **Office of Vehicle Management (OVM)** successfully led the effort to surpass the 2025 5% fleet EV goal set in Executive Order 594 (EO594) for the almost 3,000 vehicles it manages. In 2024, OVM released its Electric Vehicle Planning and Acquisition Policy, which requires agencies to develop fleet electrification plans that demonstrate how they will meet EO594 2030 fleet electrification targets. OVM also created an innovative Leased Electric Vehicle Inventory (LEVI) Program which resulted in the bulk purchase of dozens of EVs, enabling agencies to lease EVs from OVM's inventory seamlessly and quickly.



The **Massachusetts State Police (MSP)** has worked to decarbonize their Lower Basin Barracks building by installing fully electrified HVAC systems, resulting in a 90% reduction in fossil fuels. This project also included sustainable stormwater management practices and additional onsite greenspace. MSP has entered into a Power Purchase Agreement for the construction of a 374 kW solar parking canopy at its General Headquarters in Framingham. The agency has also developed an EV pilot program, deployed the first Department EV, and installed fleet EV charging stations strategically across its facilities.



## INDIVIDUALS



**Tara Gallagher, Sustainability and EH&S Coordinator at Salem State University**, has played a pivotal role in the implementation of decarbonization recommendations produced by SSU's campus decarbonization roadmap study. She has worked at SSU since 2004 but officially started in her current role in 2017. In addition, Tara has been a strong proponent in fleet electrification through the procurement of electric vehicles and associated charging infrastructure. She has also played a significant role in the ongoing deployment of solar PV on campus buildings and the planting of trees at SSU.



**Katherine Moses, Sustainability Director for the City of Lowell**, has been a thought leader and extremely effective coordinator in just her first year on the job. Katherine successfully secured over \$21.2 million in grant funding and \$1.8 million in utility incentives to implement projects related to energy efficiency, climate resilience, and decarbonization at both municipal government and community-wide levels. Katherine developed the RELIEF (Reducing Emissions in Lowell through Infrastructure and Efficiency First) program and served on the Building Electrification Accelerator Municipal Sustainability Staff Working Group and MSBA Heat Pump Study.