

NOTICE OF LISTENING SESSION AND OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT FOR EEA DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE STRATEGY

This public notice is also available in these languages (<u>Español</u>, <u>Português</u>, <u>中国人</u>, <u>Kreyòl ayisyen</u>, <u>Tiếng</u> <u>Việt</u>, <u>عربي</u>, <u>١٤٤١</u>, <u>Русский</u>, <u>Kriolu</u>). Please click on the language for information.

The Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) seeks to protect, preserve, and enhance the Commonwealth's environmental resources while ensuring a clean energy future for the state's residents. Through the stewardship of open space, protection of environmental resources, and enhancement of clean energy, EEA works tirelessly to make Massachusetts a wonderful place to live, work, and raise a family.

EEA's Environmental Justice Policy directs all EEA agencies to develop their own EJ strategies to "proactively promote environmental justice in all neighborhoods in ways that are tailored to the agencies' missions." As such, EEA has developed a secretariat-wide document with support from our Environmental Justice Task Force that was convened in September 2020. Together, this group has put forth a continuing vision for ensuring that all residents of the Commonwealth can benefit in an equitable and just manner from the laws and policies addressing environmental, energy and climate issues in Massachusetts.

EEA is seeking public input and comments on this <u>Draft Environmental Justice Strategy</u>, which is available in ten languages at the link above and on EEA's environmental justice webpage.

There will be four public comment listening sessions hosted during the public comment period running from November 9, 2022, to January 27, 2023. This includes two virtual sessions and two in-person sessions, with translation options detailed below. Listening sessions are open to all residents in the Commonwealth and there is no fee for attendance. If unable to attend or if submission of written comment is preferred, please see below for information about how to submit written comments. We look forward to input on our proposed strategies to advance environmental and energy justice in the commonwealth.

December 15, 2022, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

In-person listening session UMass Amherst Center, 1500 Main Street, Springfield, MA 01115.

January 10, 2023, 10:00 am -12:00 pm

Remote only, register in advance at:

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN pzGFvrsBRoycdZ8pRZKpWg



January 10, 2023, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Remote only, register in advance at:

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN h3pSqAeRQh--b50JnMccfA

January 19, 2023, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

In-person listening session

Bruce C. Bolling Municipal Building, 2300 Washington Street, Roxbury, MA 02119.

Remote sessions: After registration for the remote sessions, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. You have the option to join on zoom or use the dial-in number.

In-person sessions: You do not need to register in advance to attend the in-person sessions.

Reasonable accommodations are available upon request for the in-person sessions. Please send an email to carline.lemoine2@mass.gov with a request for the required accommodations.

Written comments will be accepted until 5:00 pm on January 27, 2023. Please submit comments by email to ej.inquiries@mass.gov or at this portal. Written comments may also be submitted by postal mail to Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, 100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900, Boston, MA 02114, Attn: Carline Lemoine, Deputy Director of EJ for External Stakeholder Coordination.

Interpretations for in-person (Roxbury): EEA will provide interpretation services at the Boston public listening session in Spanish, Mandarin, Vietnamese, Portuguese, Haitian Creole, Arabic, Khmer, Russian, and Cape Verdean Creole, including American Sign Language.

Interpretations for in-person (Springfield): EEA will provide interpretation services at the Springfield public listening session in Spanish, including American Sign Language.

Interpretations for both virtual listening sessions. EEA will provide interpretation services at the Roxbury public listening session in Spanish, Mandarin, Vietnamese, Portuguese, Haitian Creole, Arabic, Khmer, Russian, and Cape Verdean Creole, including American Sign Language.

Additional translation or interpretation services may be requested by sending your request by email to <u>carline.lemoine2@mass.gov</u> at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting.