

# News from the Green Communities Division



## DOER Offers Webinar on Stretch Energy Code

On September 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources (DOER) released final code language for its **Stretch Energy Code and Specialized Municipal Opt-in Code**. DOER's Final Regulations governing energy building codes (225 CMR 22.00 and 225 CMR 23.00) have been submitted to the Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities, and Energy in accordance with MGL Ch 25a Section 12. These regulations will be filed with the Secretary of State in December 2022. A summary of the proposed energy building codes is [available here](#).

DOER is offering a webinar geared for municipalities and their stakeholders explaining the final code language on **Wednesday, November 2, from 1 pm – 2 pm**. [Register](#) in advance for this webinar.

DOER will prioritize addressing **questions on either stretch energy code submitted by 5 pm, October 28** via [stretchcode@mass.gov](mailto:stretchcode@mass.gov).

## ICYMI – How Incentives and Funding in the Inflation Reduction Act Can Advance Local Climate Action

Visit the resource-rich [American Cities Climate Challenge website](#) for information and tools on how to advance clean energy and climate policies at the local level. In addition to providing a searchable list of [Federal Funding Opportunities for Local Decarbonization](#), and an [Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant \(EECBG\) calculator](#) for municipalities eligible for direct grants, the initiative offers recordings of recent webinars focusing on federal funding.

Click on the links below – the **October 4<sup>th</sup> recording of their most recent webinar decoding various opportunities resulting from the Inflation Reduction Act is a must-view**.

The access code for *each* hour-long webinar recording is: **#FFOLD2021**

- [Understanding the Opportunities for Federal Funding for Local Decarbonization](#) (November 4, 2021)
- [Strategic Preparation - Developing Ambitious Proposals & Building Local Capacity for Federal Funding Opportunities](#) (December 9, 2021)

- [Infrastructure Act & Beyond: Unlocking New 2022 Federal Funding to Advance Climate Action](#) (February 8, 2022)
- [How Unprecedented Incentives and Funding in the Inflation Reduction Act Can Advance Local Climate Action](#) (October 4, 2022)

## Fall Dates and Deadlines

Mark your calendars – the upcoming deadlines may be of interest to Massachusetts communities. Please note the following dates:

- **November 4:** Mass Save [Community First Partnership](#) applications are due
- **November 4:** FY22 Green Communities [Annual Reports](#) are due
- **November 18:** Deadline for [Municipal Energy Technical Assistance grant](#) applications

Reach out to your Green Communities [Regional Coordinator](#) for assistance.

## Candidates Sought to Represent Municipalities on the Energy Efficiency Advisory Council (EEAC)

The Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources (DOER), on behalf of the Energy Efficiency Advisory Council (EEAC), is seeking qualified individuals for the upcoming vacant EEAC Councilor seat representing Massachusetts municipalities. Candidates should work in either a professional or voluntary capacity with cities and/or towns and have demonstrated familiarity with the energy needs of this sector. The EEAC is seeking **candidates that understand the challenges that municipalities face as it relates to energy efficiency and decarbonization of buildings**, opportunities for expanding engagement with cities and towns within these programs, resource needs of municipalities, and specific needs of environmental justice communities. Additionally, the EEAC is actively seeking to foster diversity within the Council.

The EEAC was established in 2008 by the [Green Communities Act](#) in order to **oversee the development and implementation of the Massachusetts Program Administrator’s Three-Year Energy Efficiency Plans**. Information on the Council can be found on the [EEAC website](#). Councilors should expect to attend one three-hour EEAC meeting each month, typically held in Boston, with option for remote participation under extenuating circumstances. Councilors should also have availability to review meeting materials prior to each monthly meeting. During the Three-Year Planning process, Councilors may be asked to attend additional meetings as needed.

**Individuals interested in the Council seat representing cities and towns are asked to email an up-to-date resume and short statement of interest to [MA-EEAC@MASS.GOV](mailto:MA-EEAC@MASS.GOV) by November 4th.** DOER will follow-up with those interested in learning more about this position. Once a potential candidate has been identified,

DOER will recommend the individual to the Department of Public Utilities for appointment to the EEAC. This five-year appointment is expected to begin in January 2023.

### **Electric School Bus Assistance Available**

The Massachusetts Clean Energy Center (MassCEC), under the Accelerating Clean Transportation School Bus Program (“ACT School Bus”), recently released the Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Electric School Bus Advisory Services Program.

MassCEC is offering **free technical assistance and planning services** for an additional twenty to thirty bus fleets that serve public school districts. For more information on the Advisory Program, please see the Summary Section of the RFP. Those interested in participating in the Advisory Program, please fill out the [Electric School Bus Advisory Program Interest Form](#).

**School districts and bus fleets are welcome to apply for both Programs but will not be selected for both.** MassCEC anticipates that the Advisory Program will begin formal enrollment on a rolling basis for fleets in Fall 2022. If you have any questions, contact the team at [CleanTransportation@MassCEC.com](mailto:CleanTransportation@MassCEC.com).

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