



Draft Environmental Justice (EJ) Strategy

Listening Sessions

Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

Rishi Reddi

Director of Environmental Justice

Carline Lemoine

Deputy Director of EJ for External Stakeholder Coordination



EEA's Mission

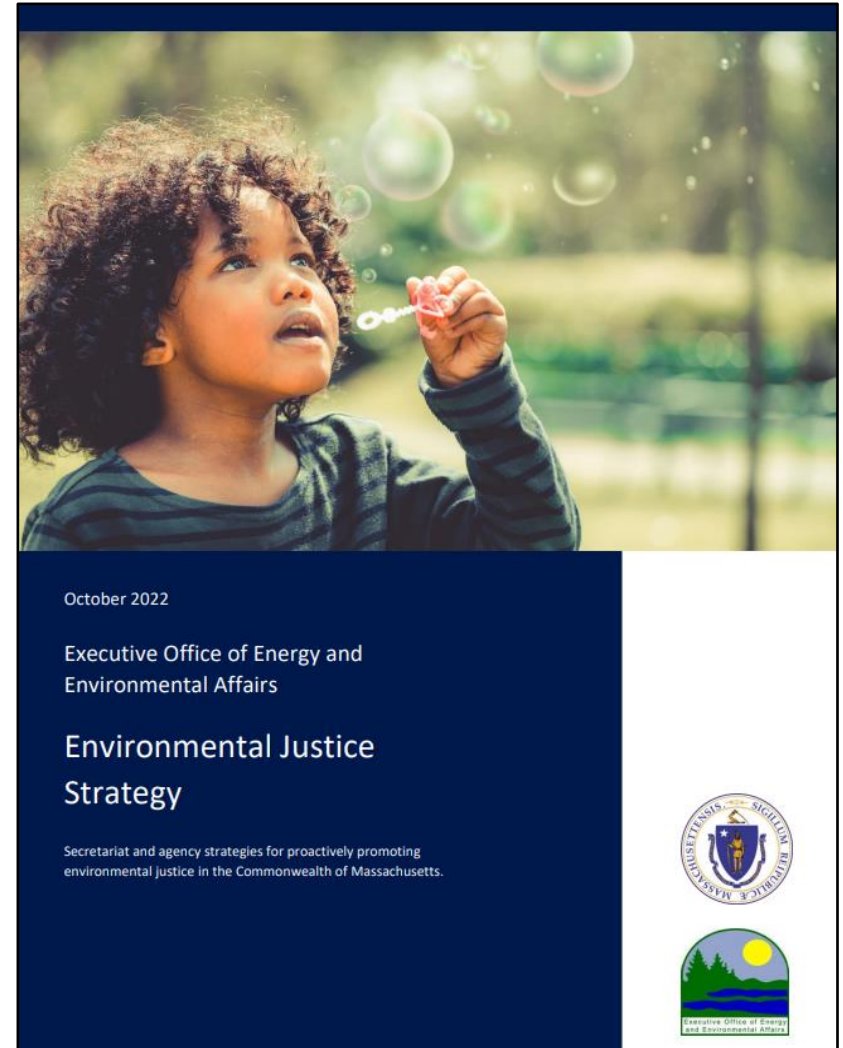
- **EEA = Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs**
 - Our Secretary is a member of the Governor's Cabinet
 - Oversees six energy and environmental agencies for Massachusetts
 - Mission:
 - Protect our land, water, air and wildlife
 - Plan for our energy needs into the future and guide MA in adopting cleaner energy supply
 - Functions:
 - Give grants to municipalities and community-based organizations for parks and green space, climate resiliency projects, clean energy, agricultural operations projects and more
 - Issue permits that protect our natural resources
 - Develop and enforce energy and environmental laws



What is the Draft EEA Environmental Justice Strategy?

A document developed by state agencies to guide their staff in:

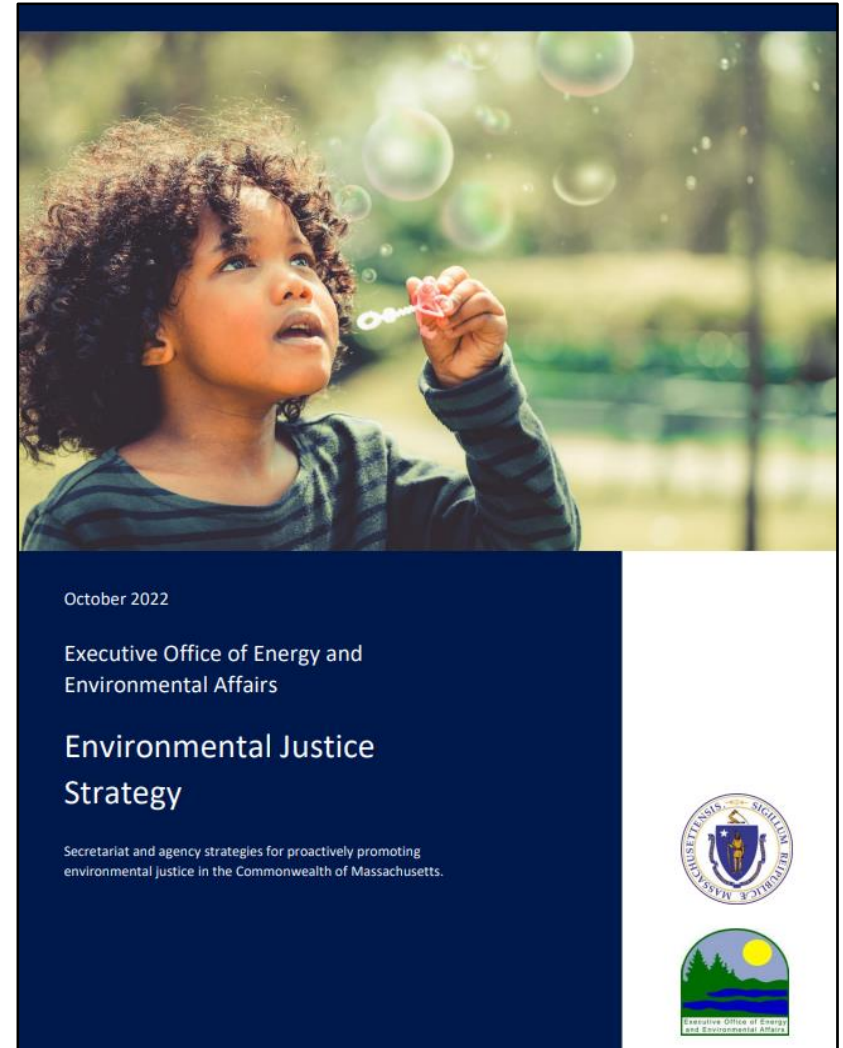
- setting policies,
- developing regulations, and
- interpreting laws in a way that makes **equity** the priority.





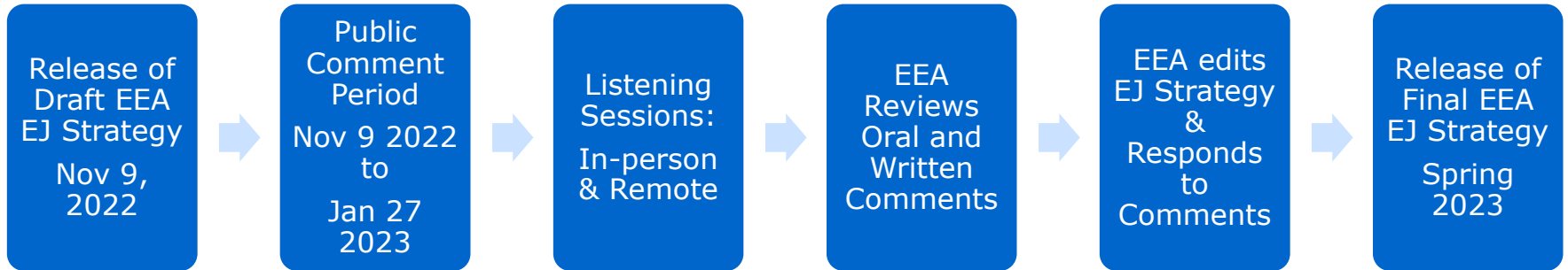
What is the Draft EEA Environmental Justice Strategy?

- We at EEA are aware that inequities exist in terms of energy and environmental burdens across MA neighborhoods
- In its final form, the EJ Strategy will guide EEA staff and agencies to fulfill our mission with equity as a primary consideration
- We are striving for Climate Justice, Environmental Justice and Energy Justice in the Commonwealth
- We need YOUR comments on this draft EJ Strategy to make the final document the best it can be.





Timeline for Issuance of EEA EJ Strategy





Draft EEA Environmental Justice Strategy

- Available in the following languages: English, Spanish, Portuguese, Simplified Chinese, Haitian-Creole, Vietnamese, Arabic, Khmer, Russian and Cape Verdean Kriolu.
- Other languages available upon request.
- The document can be found at this website:
<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/eeas-draft-environmental-justice-ej-strategy>



EEA Agencies and EEA Offices developing EJ Strategies are:

EEA Offices	EEA Agencies	EEA Affiliated*
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Office of Coastal Zone Management (CZM)• Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA)• Massachusetts Environmental Police (OLE)• Office of Technical Assistance (OTA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR)• Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)• Department of Fish and Game (DFG)• Department of Energy Resources (DOER)• Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources (MDAR)• Energy Facilities Siting Board (EFSB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Massachusetts Clean Energy Center (MassCEC)• Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA)

* MassCEC and MWRA are not required to create an EJ Strategy, but have done so as members of our EJ Task Force (EJTF)



Strategy Requirements

- **Agency strategies must¹:**
 - proactively promote EJ in all neighborhoods,
 - appropriately integrate EJ considerations into departments through policies, programs, or other strategies,
 - identify and promote agency sponsored projects, funding decisions, rulemakings or other actions to further EJ through the Commonwealth,
 - demonstrate the fair distribution of benefits has been measured,
 - be consolidated into one Secretariat EJ Strategy, and
 - be finalized by a date set by the Secretary.

¹ As stated in EEA's Environmental Justice Policy, pg. 10: <https://www.mass.gov/doc/environmental-justice-policy6242021-update/download>

Strategy was developed with help of EJ Task Force (EJTF)



- EJTF authored EJ strategies for their respective agencies
- EJTF is comprised of points of contact for each agency, as required under “Senior level commitment” of the EJ Policy

Agency	Name	Title
EEA	Rishi Reddi	Director of Environmental Justice
EEA	Vallery Cardoso	Deputy Director of Environmental Justice
EEA	Carline Lemoine	Deputy Director of Environmental Justice
MDAR	Rebecca Davidson	Farmer's Market Nutrition Program Coordinator
DCR	Jorge J. Ayub	Coastal Ecologist
DCR	Francisco Rodriguez	AMMP Program GIS Analyst
DEP	Deneen Simpson	Director of Environmental Justice
DFG	Noah McClanan	Legislative Director
DFG	Jimmy Rossignol	Aquatic Biologist
DOER	Danilo Morales	Clean Energy Program and Outreach Manager
DPU	Wayne Wang	Energy Facilities Siting Analyst
DPU	Scott Seigal	Hearing Officer
EEA Offices	Name	Title
CZM	Tyler Soleau	Assistant CZM Director
OLE	Captain Kevin Clayton	Deputy Chief of Enforcement
GIS	Dominique Pahlavan	GIS Coordinator
HR	Cindy Montoya	Director of Outreach & Training
MEPA	Tori Kim	Assistant Secretary / MEPA Director
MEPA	Page Czepiga	Assistant MEPA Director
OTA	Tiffany Skogstrom	OTA Director
OTA	Kari Sasportas	Outreach and Policy Analyst
EEA-Affiliated	Name	Title
CEC	Beverly Craig	Sr. Program Manager, Low & Moderate Income Programs
MWRA	Tomeka Cribb-Jones	Associate Special Assistant, Affirmative Action



Development Process

- **Strategy reviews**

- EEA EJ Office reviewed several drafts from each agency through the year
- Agency Senior staff collaborated with EJTF members on strategies

- **Spring 2021 focus sessions**

- Held in March, April & May
- Public comments received were recorded and posted on EEA EJ Webpage
- Comprehensive comments from stakeholders on a variety of concerns



Strategy Structure

- **Common Aspects:**

- Metrics
- Equity in Hiring
- Communication
- Public outreach
- Training

- **Agency-specific aspects:**

- Examples include, but are not limited to:
 - Specific grants
 - Enforcement obligations
 - Cumulative impact analysis when required
 - Technical assistance opportunities



Purpose of Listening Sessions

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

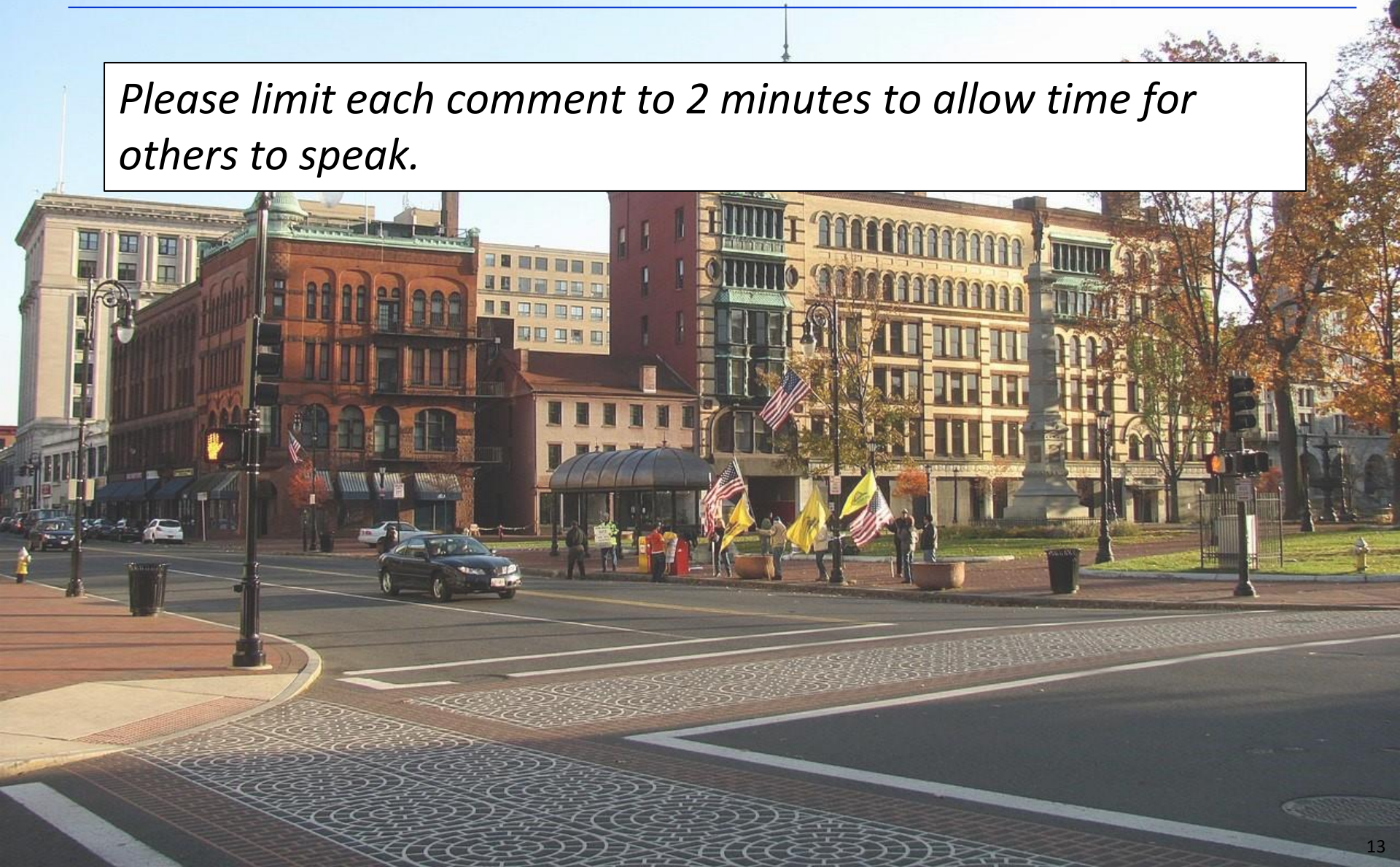
- **Please comment on**

- How can we best reach out and communicate with members of your community about environmental, energy and climate issues?
- How can we measure progress in your neighborhood for state EJ efforts?
 - For example: Environmental data in your neighborhood, grant money for EJ projects, etc.
- Anything else in the draft EJ Strategy that needs attention.



Public Comments and Questions

Please limit each comment to 2 minutes to allow time for others to speak.





EEA EJ Team

- Rishi Reddi, EEA Director of Environmental Justice, rishi.p.reddi@mass.gov
- Carline Lemoine, Deputy Director of EJ, External Stakeholder Coordination, carline.lemoine2@mass.gov