



Town of Lexington

Town Manager's Office

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February 9, 2023

Maggie McCarey, Energy Efficiency Director
Department of Energy Resources
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 1020
Boston, MA 02144

Re: 10 Communities Demonstration Program Comments

Dear Director McCarey:

Thank you for your role in defining the 10 Communities Demonstration Program. On behalf of the Town of Lexington, we would also like to thank the Department of Energy Resources (DOER) for providing an opportunity to comment on the implementation plans for the 10 Communities Demonstration Program. The Town of Lexington applauds this step towards a cleaner energy future and looks forward to participating in the 10 Communities Demonstration Program as soon as possible.

Lexington fully supports the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (the "Commonwealth") Net Zero by 2050 goals as legally mandated in the Global Warming Solutions Act ("GWSA") including the interim limits established by An Act Creating a Next-Generation Roadmap for Massachusetts Climate Policy. Since the Select Board's adoption of Lexington's Sustainable Action Plan and Getting to Net Zero Emissions Plan that call for a transition of all residential, commercial, and municipal buildings to 100% renewable energy, Lexington has begun its own transition toward all-electric buildings, including the integration of efficient electric heating systems at Hastings Elementary School, Lexington Children's Place, Lexington Fire Station, Police Station and the Visitor's Center. In addition, Lexington Town Meeting overwhelmingly passed a Climate Emergency warrant article calling on the Town to achieve the transition to zero emissions by 2035.

2021 Annual Town Meeting passed a Home Rule Petition asking the state legislature to allow the Town of Lexington to regulate fossil fuel infrastructure in new buildings and major renovations. In addition, Lexington has exceeded the 10% housing affordability threshold for participation in the program. As of December 21, 2020, 11.2% of Lexington units are Subsidized Housing Inventory (SHI) units. 2022-3 Special Town Meeting passed Warrant Article 13 making technical corrections to better conform to DOER's program definitions to streamline Lexington's application to participate in the program.

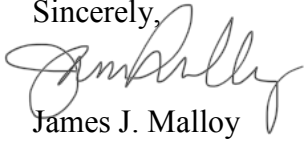
2023 Annual Town Meeting will begin on March 20, 2023 and will consider adopting the Specialized Energy Code with an Effective Date of January 1, 2024. It would be ideal if 2023 Annual Town

Meeting had an opportunity to consider adopting DOER's 10 Communities model code language at the same time, so that the Specialized Energy Code and the 10 Communities Demonstration program could have the same Effective Date. This would greatly improve the efficiency of rolling out these programs for Lexington Town staff, local builders, developers and Lexington Town Meeting members.

On behalf of the Select Board for the Town of Lexington, we ask DOER to provide amended model code language to the Town addressing the comments made by Lexington's Town Counsel prior to the start of Lexington's 2023 Annual Town Meeting.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J. Malloy", written over the word "Sincerely,".

James J. Malloy
Town Manager

CC: Rebecca Tepper - Secretary, Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
Lexington Select Board
Patrick Woodcock - Commissioner, DOER
Senator Michael J. Barrett
Senator Cindy F. Friedman
Representative Michelle L. Ciccolo
Representative Kenneth I. Gordon