

Municipal Energy Opportunities for Local Energy Action Planning

Municipal Staffing & Volunteer Time

- Establish Energy Committee, Task Force or Working Group
- Hire Energy Manager
- Hire Energy Coordinator
- Create Energy-Related Department

Baselining & Strategy Development

- Create Municipal Energy Use Baseline Report
- Streamline Municipal Energy Data Collection
- Inventory Past Municipal Energy Activities
- Develop Residential, Commercial & Industrial Baseline Report
- Hold Community Visioning Meetings to Establish Goals
- Create Energy Action Plan Working Group
- Draft Energy Action Plan
- Adopt Energy Action Plan
- Conduct Gap Analysis of Codes and Bylaws for Clean Energy Goals

Policies and Bylaws

- Adopt a Municipal Energy Reduction Plan
- Adopt a Municipal Vehicle Replacement Policy
- Adopt As-of-Right Siting Provisions
- Adopt Expedited Permitting
- Adopt a Municipal Green Product Purchasing Policy
- Adopt an Anti-Idling Policy
- Create Renewable Energy Priority Development Areas
- Adopt the MA “Stretch Code”
- Adopt Sustainability Requirements/Design Guidelines for New Construction
- Establish Energy Conservation Ordinance (Residential and Commercial)
- Establish Energy Performance Ordinance (Commercial)
- Establish Energy Disclosure/Benchmarking Ordinance (Commercial)
- Establish Energy Efficiency TIF Districts
- Pursue Municipal Aggregation

Funding Opportunities for Municipal Projects

- Apply for the Commonwealth’s Green Communities Designation
- Apply for a Massachusetts Clean Energy Center (MassCEC) Grant
- Issue Bonds
- Implement Performance Contracting
- Apply for Foundation Grants
- Apply for Federal Grants

Municipal Buildings

- Perform Energy Audits
- Hire an Energy Services Company (ESCO) for Performance Contracting
- Implement Energy Conservation Measures (ECMs)
- Build Cool or Green Roofs
- Determine EnergyStar Ratings
- Obtain LEED Certification
- Train Municipal Staff for Optimal Operation and Management of Municipal Buildings

Streetlights, Water Pumping and Wastewater Facilities

- Buy Back Streetlights from Utilities
- Conduct LED Streetlight Pilots
- Conduct Comprehensive LED Streetlight Retrofits
- Perform Audits of Drinking Water/Wastewater Facilities
- Build Anaerobic Digesters at Wastewater Facilities
- Implement Energy Conservation Measures

Municipal Renewable & Alternative Energy Projects

- Identify Possible Sites for Renewable Energy Development
- Conduct “Fatal Flaws” Studies
- Develop Renewable Energy Projects
- Identify Options for District Heating Systems
- Integrate Solar Energy Applications into Emergency Response Infrastructure
- Integrate Renewable Energy into Long-Term Infrastructure Planning

Alternative-Fuel Vehicles & Electric Vehicle Readiness

- Include EVs, Hybrids and Alternative-Fuel Vehicles in Vehicle Replacement Policy
- Install Charging Stations for Public Employees
- Provide for “Garage Orphans”
- Adopt Standardized Permitting Process for Home EV Chargers
- Retrofit Municipal Fueling Stations for Alternative Fuels

Education & Jobs Training

- Develop Education & Demonstration Centers
- Establish Training Program for At-Risk Youth
- Establish Mentorship Program
- Facilitate Hands-On Training Opportunities

Residential Programs

- Establish Community Outreach Program
- Implement a Streamlined Home Energy Retrofit Program
- Establish Tree Planting Program
- Establish Rooftop PV Volume Purchasing Program
- Develop Community-Financed Renewable Energy Projects
- Develop Educational Program for Multi-Family Housing Developers

Small Business Programs

- Establish or Join Green Business Program

Commercial (Large Business) and Industrial Programs

- Establish C&I Taskforce
- Establish Volume Purchasing Program for Rooftop PV
- Create a Dairy Farm Methane Digestion Program
- Establish Lighting Retrofit & Electric-Powered Storage Containers Initiatives in Food Storage Facilities
- Identify District Energy Opportunities in Office/Industrial Parks

Creative Financing Mechanisms

- Establish Revolving Loan Fund for Residential Energy Upgrades
- Establish Revolving Loan Fund for Distributed Generation
- Establish Pre-Weatherization Loan Fund
- Develop Local Bank Partnerships
- Create a Solar Hot Water Retrofit Program for Affordable Housing
- Partner with Other Municipal Departments
- Establish Commercial PACE Program
- Plan for Residential PACE Program
- Establish a Benefit Assessment Measure

Municipal Light Plants

- Create Interdepartmental Task Force
- Enable Net Metering
- Set up Local System Benefits Charge (SBC)
- Develop Renewable Generation Systems
- Develop Strategic Energy Independence Plan

Regional Collaboration

- Hire Shared Municipal Energy Manager
- Hire Shared Owner’s Agent
- Participate in Joint Procurements
- Create Compacts for Renewable Energy Development
- Pursue Municipal Aggregation