April ‘21 MCAN Chapter Call

YOU did it!
Gov. Baker signed the climate bill!
Agenda

2. DOER Process
3. MCAN’s role
4. Goal & Resources
Net Zero Stretch Code
In MA, there are currently:

1) The base code
2) The stretch code
We have the solutions!

How do we improve the base code?

The IECC
(International Energy Conservation Code)

How do we improve the stretch code?

Net zero stretch code
Net Zero Stretch Code

➢ The Next Generation Roadmap Bill directed the Department of Energy Resources (DOER) to develop a net zero stretch code that cities and towns will have the option to adopt by 2022. This takes the responsibility away from the Board of Building Regulations and Standard (BBRS).

➢ Adding four new seats to the Board of Building Regulations and Standards for experts in building energy efficiency, advanced building technology, and the Commissioner of the Department of Energy Resources. Currently, the BBRS lacks expertise in these areas. These additions will greatly strengthen BBRS’s capacity to work with DOER.
Net Zero Stretch Code

➢ The opt-in stretch code includes, but is not limited to, net zero building performance standards and a definition of a net zero building. Standards provide the “how to” of executing the code. Including net zero building performance standards sends a strong message that the net zero stretch code must be developed!

➢ Municipalities designated as Green Communities can opt in to the net zero code and those who don't will maintain their Green Communities status and funding. This is intended to give Green Communities flexibility as municipalities adjust to the new code.

➢ Requiring DOER to hold at least 5 hearings in diverse locations, including one in an Environmental Justice community—this far exceeds the usual BBRS process for public hearing!
Net Zero Building

- Environmental Justice and Gateway City residents stand to gain the most from net zero construction
- Improve indoor air quality
- Reduce high utility bills
- Reduce GHG emissions
- Reliable, safe energy
- Safe + affordable + 0 emissions = housing is a climate solution
Net Zero Building > Efficient!!!
Energy Efficiency = Insulation

- Roof insulation
- Building Envelope
  -- insulation
  -- air sealing
Energy Efficiency = Technologies

- Roof insulation
- Building Envelope
  - insulation
  - air sealing
- Air source heat pumps
- Mechanical, filtered ventilation
- Energy efficient appliances
- LED lighting
- Double glazed windows
Electrification

- Roof insulation
- Building Envelope
  -- insulation
  -- air sealing

Air source heat pumps
Mechanical, filtered ventilation
Energy efficient appliances
LED lighting
Double glazed windows
Renewable Energy

Roof insulation
Building Envelope
--insulation
--air sealing

Air source heat pumps
Mechanical, filtered ventilation
Energy efficient appliances
LED lighting
Double glazed windows
Net Zero Building in 3 parts

- Roof insulation
- Building Envelope:
  -- insulation
  -- air sealing

- Air source heat pumps
- Mechanical, filtered ventilation
- Energy efficient appliances
- LED lighting
- Double glazed windows
Net Zero Building

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DOER Next Steps

Two phase approach:

● Phase 1: Improve current stretch code to be not quite net zero
● Phase 2: Develop net zero stretch code
● DOER will conduct 5 community meetings (beginning in Fall 2021)
MCAN’s Role

➢ Curate & create educational resources
➢ On call for technical consultation
➢ Talk with local groups and local decision-makers
➢ Coordinate local advocates to push on state level / DOER process and outcomes
➢ Refute discourse of delay and misinformation
➢ Accelerate opting-in
What do you need?

1. To build local knowledge of net zero, net zero stretch code
2. To have informed conversations and deliberations with municipal staff, opponents, supporters
3. To recognize other policy tools that can support opt-ing
Join us to make buildings more efficient, more equitable, and safer for everyone.

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