

# DPW**Works**

## Climate Leader Communities Program

Shelly Dein, Sustainability Deputy Director

December 18, 2025



# Program Overview

- Certification program announced in 2023 by the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources (DOER)
- Builds upon the Green Communities Designation and Grant Program
- Provides a framework for meeting goals outlined in the Massachusetts Clean Energy and Climate Plan
- 28 Certified Climate Leader Communities designated throughout 2025

# Program Offerings

- Certified Climate Leader Communities (CLC) have access to tools, resources, and **up to \$1.15M** in grant funding to support:
  - Energy efficiency measures; heating and cooling projects
  - Energy management services
  - Local energy generation on municipally owned property (i.e. solar)
- CLC dollars are critical to Brookline meeting our climate goals

# Program Requirements

Requirement	Status
1. Be a “Green Community” in Good Standing	✓ Complete
2. Establish/Maintain a Local Committee to Advise, Coordinate, and/or Lead Clean Energy & Climate Activities	✓ Complete
3. Demonstrate a Municipal Decarbonization Commitment	✓ Complete
4. Develop a Municipal Decarbonization Roadmap	❑ Requires SC Adoption
5. Adopt a Zero-Emission-Vehicle First Policy	❑ Requires SC Adoption
6. Adopt the Specialized Stretch Energy Code	✓ Complete

# Zero-Emission-Vehicle First Policy

- Policy that prioritizes the acquisition of zero-emission vehicles over vehicles powered by internal combustion engines that utilize fossil fuels where feasible
- Emergency response vehicles are exempt from this policy
- Draft Policy has been shared/reviewed with all Department Heads
- Policy will have minimal impacts to current operations
- Town currently prioritizes acquisition of zero-emission vehicles where practicable

# EV & Hybrid Fleet Overview

- Brookline fleet includes ~390 vehicles (not including Fire Trucks)
- In 2022 – 1 fully electric vehicle in our fleet
- Today – 34 fully electric vehicles in our fleet
- Currently, ~30% of vehicles viable for electrification are all electric

	# of EVs in Fleet	# of Hybrid Vehicles in Fleet
Light-Duty Vehicles	25	45
Medium-Duty Vehicles	8	0
Heavy-Duty Vehicles	1	0

# Municipal Decarbonization Roadmap

- Outlines strategies to eliminate GHG emissions from Brookline's municipal buildings and vehicle fleet by 2050
- Produced in collaboration with our consultant (grant funded) & Building Department
- Roadmap includes:
  - Formal assessment of 22 public buildings & strategies to decarbonize
  - Analysis of 360 Town-owned internal combustion engine vehicles to identify best candidates for electric replacements
- Does not attempt to identify costs or funding sources (intended for planning purposes only)



# Public Buildings Emission Analysis (FY22)

(Listed from Greatest Emissions to Least)

Building	Total Emissions (MT CO <sub>2e</sub> )
1. Brookline High School	1,535
2. Runkle School	607
3. Pierce School	580
4. Baker School	532
5. Ridley School	518
6. Lawrence School	400
7. Municipal Service Center	338
8. Tappan Gym	337
9. Old Lincoln School	335
10. William H Lincoln School	330
11. Public Safety	322

Building	Total Emissions (MT CO <sub>2e</sub> )
12. Hayes School	306
13. Brookline Village Library	297
14. Town Hall	285
15. Unified Arts Building	260
16. Swimming Pool	227
17. 22 Tappan	145
18. Water Department Garage	127
19. Senior Center	86
20. Coolidge Corner Library	71
21. Public Health Building	67
22. Putterham Library	50
Additional Municipal Buildings*	1,373
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9,128</b>

\* 19 buildings were not individually analyzed as part of this planning effort



# Municipal Decarbonization Roadmap Findings

Decarbonization Roadmap Projections	2022 (baseline)	2027	2030	2040	2050
Emissions reductions from onsite fossil fuels	0%	16%	28%	85%	100%
Zero emission vehicles (ZEVs) in light-duty fleet adoption	0%	13%	24%	80%	100%
Zero emission vehicles (ZEVs) in heavy-duty fleet adoption	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Energy Use Intensity reduction	0%	5%	13%	46%	48%
Total Emissions Reduction Goals (% of 2022 emissions)	0%	13%	30%	76%	97%

# Actions Requested/Next Steps

## Next Steps:

- Submit Climate Leader Communities Program application by December 31, 2025

**The DPW respectfully requests that the School Committee vote to approve and adopt the Municipal Decarbonization Roadmap, and Fleet Management, Electrification, and Vehicle Replacement Policy.**