



Community Pathways and Resources

Efficient and Resilient Buildings and Communities

MISSION

Best practice guidance, peer information exchange, and technical assistance to advance resilient, energy efficient, low-carbon public buildings and communities

ABOUT THIS PROJECT

The Pathways for Efficient and Resilient Communities project supports the rapid expansion of community initiatives across the region to significantly increase energy efficiency. In partnership with community leaders, associations, state and federal agencies, utilities, industry, non-profits, and other stakeholders, the project supports communities and states to lead-by-example by improving the efficiency of public buildings and facilities while paving the way for the proliferation of high performance and zero energy public schools and buildings, LED streetlights, high performance water and waste-water treatment plants, and efficient, clean energy transportation solutions. The project also supports community leaders to promote high levels of efficiency and its related benefits such as health and resiliency improvements, in the homes, businesses, and institutions they serve through advanced building energy codes, building energy benchmarking and home energy labeling, and financing.

LONG-TERM MARKET TRANSFORMATION GOALS

2022

All Northeast states adopt policies to assist in reaching their goal to reduce building sector energy consumption 3% per year and carbon emissions 40% by 2030.

2025

60% of Northeast communities reduce municipal building energy consumption by 20% or more.

2030

60% of Northeast communities have programs to reduce carbon emissions 50% across their residential and commercial sectors.

2019 PROJECT OUTCOMES

1. Twenty-two new Northeast communities commit to energy and carbon reduction goals.
2. At least nine Northeast states have policies, plans, or programs that encourage the development of high performance and/or zero energy buildings at the local level.
3. At least three Northeast states (CT, MA, NY and/or RI) and ten communities implement strategic electrification policies or programs to improve efficiency and decarbonize energy use in public existing buildings.

REGIONAL TRENDS & LEADERS

- Several states within the region, including DC, MA, NY, and RI, have developed or modified zero energy policies and programs.
- Smaller communities (e.g., Providence, RI, Ithaca, NY, and Amherst, MA) are following the lead of cities like Boston, MA, Cambridge, MA, and New York, NY to implement zero energy and carbon reduction policies.
- Northeast K-12 schools continue to lead by example; demonstrating successful approaches to achieve high performance and zero energy buildings, with over 120 schools designed, built, and renovated to CHPS standards.
- Northeast states, and local and regional organizations, are responding to resource constraints through collaboration. Organizations such as the NH Local Energy Solutions Work Group and the Maine Climate Table help increase capacity, reduce market confusion and provide a replicable approach to achieve energy and carbon reduction goals.

2019 Strategies with Associated Products, Services and Technical Assistance

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

NEEP brings together key stakeholders, resources, and analyses in 2019 to assist communities to set and achieve efficiency and carbon reduction goals through:

- Public Buildings, Schools and Communities Working Group
- State-specific Schools Working Groups in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island
- Three webinars with topics based on stakeholder interest and needs
- An in-person stakeholder forum on the latest strategies, challenges, and opportunities to attain multiple benefits and reduce carbon emissions by improving public building energy efficiency.
- Regional and national presentations and briefings as requested
- Two high performance school tours in conjunction with Healthy School Day 2019
- **New** Planning for a 2020 Regional Efficient, Resilient Low Carbon Schools Summit

TOOLS & GUIDELINES

NEEP advances the development of strategies, tools and best practices to move communities forward with their efficiency planning by providing best practice tools and resources developed by NEEP and others (e.g., U.S. DOE, U.S. EPA, Collaborative for High Performance Schools (CHPS), Institute for Market Transformation (IMT), National Business Institute (NBI), and others).

- Four Northeast High Performance Schools and Community Exemplars
- Maintain and update [CAPEE](#) with three new modules (financing, wastewater, transportation)
- **New** Fact sheets on the benefits of energy efficiency/indoor air quality and strategic electrification for communities
- **New** Create and disseminate video exemplars on the benefits of Energy Efficient Schools/Public Buildings, Strategic Electrification
- Maintain [Online Resource center](#)
- Technical Assistance as requested

TRACKING & ANALYSIS

NEEP will track and analyze the progress being made at the regional, state and local level and provide an assessment of regional trends.

- **New** Web-based dashboard to track state and communities zero energy and carbon policies
- [Tracking of high performance schools by state](#)

RESEARCH & REPORTS

NEEP will maintain, update, and support the use of NEEP's regional reports.

- Update and maintain NEEP's [Regional Operations and Maintenance Guide for High Performance Schools and Public Buildings](#)
- Maintain and disseminate NEEP's [Northeast Collaborative for High Performance Schools Criteria](#) for school construction and design (NE-CHPS V3.1 2015)

NATIONAL/REGIONAL COLLABORATION

NEEP will contribute to and leverage state and national resources to inform community resources and planning.

- Monitor, communicate, present, and coordinate with national and regional organizations (e.g., Massachusetts Facilities Administrators Association (MFAA), NH Local Energy Solutions, Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC), Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC), etc.)
- Disseminate U.S. DOE best practices and link states to federal programs and resources
- Engage with stakeholders to contribute to the development of national programs such as SEE Action Network and DOE's Zero Energy Schools Accelerator
- Participate as members of the CHPS Board of Directors
- State and Local Energy Efficiency Action Network (SEE Action - Existing Commercial Buildings Working Group)

