

# Gloucester Clean Energy Commission (CEC) Strategy and Goals for Fiscal Years 2020 through 2022

Established in 2009, the CEC's work includes municipal achievements measured against Green Community goals set forth in the Green Communities Act of 2008; climate change and coastal resilience; the transitioning to cleaner energy sources and greater energy efficiency; and increasing awareness of viable opportunities. Led by the City Administration, including the departments of Community Development, Public Works and Inspectional Services, many of these activities are now fully integrated into municipal operations and benefit the community as a whole. (See attached CEC ordinance, Section 2-543, Duties.)

**During the next 3 years, the CEC will augment City efforts by focusing on the following goals:**

- 1) Energy Conservation/ Energy Efficiency**
- 2) Renewable Energy/Alternatives to Fossil Fuel**
- 3) Climate Change Resiliency/ Mitigation and Adaptation**
- 4) Community Outreach and Education**

<b>GOAL 1: Energy Conservation/Energy Efficiency</b>	
<b>Tasks</b>	<b>Priority / Projected Date</b>
Work with city departments--particularly the Department of Public Works and Community Development - to expand Gloucester's access to and use of Green Communities funds and other grant programs as well as legislative opportunities to increase energy efficiency.	High/Ongoing
Continue to assist in the MassSave/Gloucester Green challenge to encourage homeowners to complete energy audits and adopt energy-saving strategies and practices.	Medium/Ongoing
Participate in planning as needed to ensure that the renovation of the Sawyer Free Library meets the highest standards for energy efficiency.	Medium/Ongoing
Work to help implement electrical Demand Response conservation measures for municipal users at times of peak usage (peak shaving program.)	Medium/Ongoing
In conjunction with City staff, use performance analytics and data to influence the broader community engagement in energy efficiency, stimulate new ideas and innovation, and seek innovations that could be usefully scaled.	Medium/Ongoing

Monitor potential for implementing CPACE (Commercial Property-Assessed Clean Energy financing) for energy improvements for businesses.	Low/Ongoing
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**GOAL 2: Renewable Energy/Alternatives to Fossil Fuel.**

Tasks	Priority / Projected Date
Using resources from the Metropolitan Area Planning Council and the SolSmart program, assist the City in developing a solar ordinance to encourage generation of electric power by solar energy.	High/FY2020
Work with Good Energy LLC to continue to implement and expand energy aggregation programs for residential energy users.	High/Ongoing
Explore potential for community solar initiatives including assessing the impact of the Solar Massachusetts Renewable Target (SMART) program's caps on development of community solar, monitoring opportunities and conducting public education on solar energy.	Low/ after solar ordinance passes
Study the use of energy storage devices (batteries and fuel cells) in municipal buildings and infrastructure (micro-grids) in light of Gloucester's particular vulnerability, including possible isolation, due to extreme weather conditions, sea level rise, and other disasters.	High/Ongoing.
Explore the feasibility of electrically-powered school buses.	Low/Ongoing

**GOAL 3: Climate Change Resiliency/ Mitigation and Adaptation**

Tasks	Priority / Projected Date
Participate in Municipal Vulnerability Planning (MVP) and other Resiliency Planning projects.	Medium/Ongoing
Monitor efforts and current legislation promoting reforestation, particularly in the tropics as a method of sequestering atmospheric carbon dioxide.	Low/Ongoing

**GOAL 4: Community Outreach and Education**

Tasks	Priority / Projected Date
Network with City boards, commissions, committees and community/economic development corporations, non-profits and other organizations as appropriate to encourage energy efficiency and clean energy.	Medium/ongoing.
Improve the CEC web site to make it more informative for citizens and easier to navigate and enhance our social media presence.	Medium/Ongoing

Review and evaluate legislative and funding opportunities as they arise in order to support Goals 1 - 4.	Medium/Ongoing
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2019 COMMISSION MEMBERS

Candace Wheeler, Chair

Debra Darby

Paul McGear, Vice Chair

John Moskal

Linda Brayton

Linda Stout-Saunders

CODE OF ORDINANCES

DIVISION 13. - CLEAN ENERGY COMMISSION

Sec. 2-542. - Created.

The city clean energy commission is created to promote clean energy options in the city, including energy efficiency, conservation and the development of clean and renewable energy.

(Ord. of 5-19-2009, § 2-514)

Sec. 2-543. - Duties.

The commission shall pursue the following tasks:

- (1) Propose and develop strategies to reduce energy costs of city-owned facilities and vehicles through energy conservation, efficiency and renewable energy measures. The strategies may include electricity, vehicle fuel, natural gas and oil conservation and may identify innovative cost-saving measures.
- (2) Recommend citywide programs including participation in federal or statewide energy initiatives, such as the green communities program, to promote and facilitate smart energy strategies for city citizens on both public and private real property.
- (3) Work with appropriate city departments to track energy usage and costs associated with key assets and operations of the city.
- (4) Identify climate adaptation and mitigation issues and strategies to safeguard the long term economic and cultural vitality of the city.
- (5) Follow emerging federal and state mandates, as well as initiatives and funding opportunities for energy conservation, renewable energy, or climate adaptation and mitigation strategies. Recommend strategies to comply with applicable mandatory or voluntary standards.
- (6) Provide guidance, in the form of education or information, to the mayor, city council and key city departments and personnel, to support their decision-making on recommended strategies and clean energy opportunities.
- (7) Serve as a communications and information resource on clean energy issues and city initiatives for the public through:
  - a. Meetings and sponsored events;
  - b. Maintenance of an active web site;
  - c. Regular communications to interested parties; and
  - d. Public/private partnerships.

(Ord. of 5-19-2009, § 2-515)

Sec. 2-544. - Membership.

- (a) The commission shall consist of seven members. Members shall be appointed by the mayor and approved by the city council, subject to the provisions of the city Charter. Appointees shall serve staggered terms of two years beginning at the date of appointment and ending on February 14 as required by the city Charter. Commission members shall be city residents and may include representation by appropriate city employees as determined by the mayor. Members will be selected based on relevant experience and knowledge in energy management strategies, renewable and alternate energies, energy efficiency and/or community sustainability. A vacancy occurring other than by expiration of a term shall be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner as an original appointment.
- (b) The terms of the members shall be staggered, as such, the initial members shall be for the following terms:
  - (1) Three members for one year;
  - (2) Four members for two years.
- (c) The commission shall:
  - (1) Meet on a monthly basis and retain meeting minutes;
  - (2) Report to the mayor on a quarterly basis; and
  - (3) Beginning six months after its initial formation, the commission shall submit to the council on a semiannual basis a report of its activities and its progress in achieving its mission.

(Ord. of 5-19-2009, § 2-516)