

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

CITY OF LOWELL

In City Council

VOTE

Authorizing the City Manager to accept and expend a Municipal Energy Technical Assistance (META) Grant from the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources (DOER) to implement feasibility and technical assistance for clean energy projects at the Stoklosa Middle School.

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The City of Lowell is desirous of identifying and implementing measures reducing energy costs and environmental impact of energy production; and

The Department of Energy Resources announced a 2020 grant round making available grant awards of up to \$12,500 to eligible communities and

The City of Lowell submitted a grant application for \$12,500 which did not require a City match.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT VOTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOWELL:

That the City Manager be and is hereby authorized to accept and expand a grant from the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources (DOER) for up to \$12,500 of funds available through the Municipal Energy Technical Assistance (META) Grant Program to implement feasibility and technical assistance for clean energy projects at the Stoklosa Middle School.



Eileen M. Donoghue  
City Manager

Kara Keefe Mullin  
Assistant City Manager

August 25, 2020

Mayor John Leahy  
and  
Members of the City Council

**SUBJECT:** Apply, Accept, and Expend a Municipal Energy Technical Assistance Grant from the Massachusetts Division of Energy Resources Green Communities Division

Dear Mayor Leahy and Members of the City Council:

The Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources (DOER) Green Communities Division opened the Municipal Technical Assistance (META) grant to all communities within the Commonwealth.

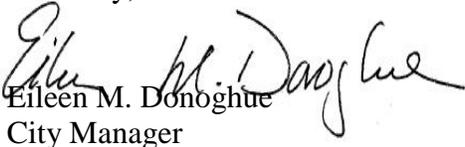
DOER plans to award over \$250,000 in the current grant round on a first-come, first-served basis, with a maximum grant amount of \$12,500 per applicant. Grant applications were due by August 20, 2020 for consideration. Eligible projects for this grant included feasibility and technical assistance for clean energy projects including: solar PV, net metering agreements, community shared solar assessments, energy savings performance contracts, microgrid systems, clean energy resiliency, energy storage opportunities, audits of high heating fuel cost buildings (propane, oil, and electric resistance, high performance buildings, heating system conversions, and retro-commissioning.

After reviewing all opportunities for this grant round, a clean energy resiliency assessment at the Stoklosa Middle School held the best opportunity for helping increase the City's resiliency in light of projected impacts from climate change. Energy resiliency was identified as a medium priority in the City's recent completion of the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness/Hazard Mitigation Planning update.

The grant requires no City match and does not obligate the City to act on recommendations from the analysis. However, completion of such an analysis could serve as a stepping stone for future grants.

Your favorable consideration of this application would be greatly appreciated. Attached please find a copy of the Vote to apply for, accept, and expend up to \$12,500 META Grant funds as described above.

Sincerely,

  
Eileen M. Donoghue  
City Manager

EMD/ns

Attachment

cc: Christine P. O'Connor, City Solicitor  
Diane N. Tradd, Assistant City Manager/DPD Director  
Katherine Moses, Energy Manager