Action Implementation Blueprints



ACTION NAME

Provide incentives for businesses and homeowners to invest in renewable energy.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTION

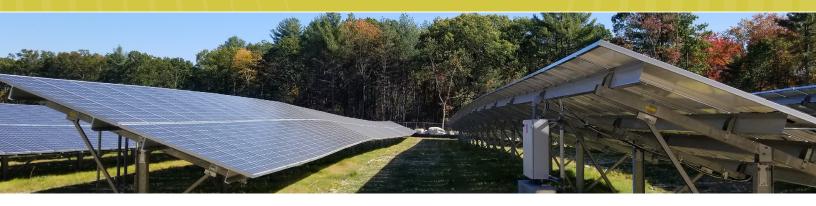
CMLP will provide rebates and incentives for solar. CMLP and the Town will also explore creative financing options that would encourage investments by residents and businesses in renewable energy and battery technology.

CHAMPION

CMLP and Sustainability Division

IMPLEMENTATION STEPS	PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS	
	TIME FRAME	KEY PARTNERS
Maintain, promote, and enhance solar incentive programs for residential and commercial customers to ensure continued adoption of renewable energy in town.	2020-2025	 CMLP Concord Municipal Light Board CSEC
 Create Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) financing program. PACE programs allow building owners to finance energy efficiency, renewable energy, and water efficiency projects through property tax assessments. Commercial PACE is available to Massachusetts municipalities and can be enacted by the Select Board. 	2020-2021	Sustainability DivisionAssessor's OfficeSelect BoardTown ManagerCMLP
Explore potential for offering incentives for customer-sited energy storage projects.	2022-2025	CMLPSustainability DivisionMA DOERInformation Technology
 Explore potential for on-bill financing, revolving loan funds, and other financing options for renewable energy and battery storage, as well as energy efficiency improvements for residential and commercial customers. 	2022-2025	CMLPSustainability Division

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FINANCING RESOURCES AND MECHANISMS

- · CMLP ratepayers
- · State incentives
- DOER
- MassDevelopment

TRADEOFFS (CHALLENGES/BARRIERS)

- · State solar rebate programs change every few years.
- Determination of how to structure financing to cover upfront cost of renewables and energy storage.
- For energy storage and PACE programs, it is critical to ensure proper consumer protection rules are in place.

EQUITY CONSIDERATIONS

- The solar and energy storage incentive programs should have a specific carveout for low-income or disadvantaged customers that provides higher incentives (up to 100% incentives in some cases).
- PACE and on-bill financing program should reduce or eliminate any fees or interest rates to low-income or disadvantaged customers.

TRACKING SUCCESS

Outputs:

- · Solar incentive programs
- PACE program
- · Design for other financing options

Outcomes:

- · Net energy bill savings to customers
- · Reduced GHG emissions
- · Increased renewable energy generation in town
- · Increased energy storage

ENGAGING THE COMMUNITY

- Marketing, education, and outreach plan will be critical to this effort and getting customers to take advantage of incentives.
- Establishing a comprehensive website with information and social media campaign.
- Town committees and community groups with sustainability missions can help to build community support.