



Global Climate Strike

March 25, 2022

Action Toolkit

Check out these action item asks of climate justice movement leaders in the area!

[Save Crane Ledge Woods Campaign](#)

[Fix the Grid Campaign: Post on Social Media](#)

[Opt up to 100% Renewable: Community Choice Electricity](#)

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Save Crane Ledge Woods Campaign

The Crane Ledge Woods Coalition's mission is:

1. "To protect and permanently conserve Crane Ledge Woods from development.
2. To care for Crane Ledge Woods as public green space, which includes repairing the ecological damage failed development projects caused in the past.
3. To catalyze further equity-oriented grassroots efforts, such as communal permaculture gardening and nature-based educational programs, that responsibly and sustainably connect our communities to Crane Ledge Woods and nurture an ethic of ecological care." -[Crane Ledge Woods Coalition](#)



OUR DEMANDS

We want Boston City Council to include in its FY23 budget a line item designated for green space infrastructure acquisition, starting with Crane Ledge Woods.

HOW TO TAKE ACTION

1. Sign the [petition](#).
2. Get a [yard sign](#).
3. Sign up for the Crane Ledge Woods Coalition [newsletter](#) to attend meetings and stay up to date on actions.

Fix the Grid Campaign: [Post on Social Media](#)

“The Fix the Grid campaign is a collaboration between organizations, community groups, and residents across the Northeast who are working to overhaul ISO-NE, our regional energy grid operator.

The way ISO-NE controls our regional electricity market keeps us hooked on polluting fossil fuels, and the result is that Black, Indigenous, and other communities of color, and poor communities bear an unjust burden of fossil fuel pollution. This is blocking state efforts to reach our mandated clean energy goals. We need an energy grid that works for all of us and moves us to a clean, local, renewable energy system.

We’re calling for ISO-NE to work with states and communities to build a just and democratic energy grid that:

- 1) Stops propping up dirty energy;
- 2) Transitions to 100% renewable energy;
- 3) Encourages small-scale and decentralized energy production and storage;
- 4) Is governed transparently and democratically with community input;
- 5) Is affordable and accessible for all.” -[Community Action Works](#)

OUR DEMANDS

“Here are the ways we want ISO-New England to #FixTheGrid:

- 1) **Lay-out a plan** to implement a transition to 100% renewable energy by 2035.
- 2) **Respond to energy goals** and policies adopted by state governments.



- 3) **Stop prolonging** the life of fossil fuel power plants for use as “peaker plants.”
- 4) **Ensure no environmental justice communities** are burdened with multiple fossil fuel energy installations or energy infrastructure (such as substations).
- 5) **Stop importing fossil fuels** from fracking and Indigenous communities.
- 6) **Encourage small scale**, decentralized energy production and storage.
- 7) **Make a commitment** to democratic governance by the people of New England.
- 8) **Ensure energy is affordable and accessible for all.** -[Community Action Works](#)

HOW TO TAKE ACTION

1. Post on social media using [Community Action Work's Social Media Toolkit!](#)

Opt up to 100% Renewable: Community Choice Electricity

By purchasing electricity for the whole city, Boston's Community Choice Electricity (CCE) is able to negotiate competitive, stable rates for electricity made from more renewable sources of energy. Excitingly, in December, all three tiers of Boston's CCE options are now cheaper than Eversource's basic rate! Some third-party commercial suppliers have used predatory practices to enroll people, particularly from low-income households and communities of color, in programs sounding like Boston's Community Choice Electricity (CCE) but without CCE's low, stable rates and green energy sources.

Individual Action:

[Switch to CCE and even opt up to 100% from renewables!](#)

Participation in CCE means stable electricity rates for 2 years (instead of 6 months from Eversource), and it helps speed our transition to clean electricity while reducing regional air pollution from fossil fuels, a win in so many ways.



Fairmount Indigo CDC Collaborative (FICC) Priority Legislative Campaign

WHAT IS FICC?



FAIRMOUNT
INDIGO
CDC Collaborative



Strengthening vibrant, sustainable neighborhoods united by the Fairmount/Indigo Rail Line. The Fairmount Indigo CDC Collaborative (FICC) is made up of three Boston CDCs: [Codman Square Neighborhood Development Corporation](#), [Dorchester Bay Economic Development Corporation](#), and [Southwest Boston Community Development Corporation](#). FICC seeks racial, climate, and health equity and justice in our communities through: increased affordable housing, excellent public transit, pathways to good jobs and financial resilience, sustainability innovations, protection and restoration of conservation woodlands, expanded green space and opportunities for active living, and vibrant public places. To see these objectives through, we organize local residents and businesses, and coordinate action with neighborhood partners, public agencies, and social investors.

What are our goals?

1. Support our communities to build collective political power
2. Increase economic and wealth-building opportunities through sustainable, well-paying jobs, skill-building training, and other means
3. Acquire and develop affordable housing to prevent speculative displacement and gentrification in our neighborhoods
4. Bring climate justice, health equity and resilience to our communities by activating grass roots support for policies and practices that further these goals.
5. Promote equitable public transit that is faster, cleaner, affordable, and more frequent which meets the needs of the community it serves

OUR DEMANDS

We demand the Massachusetts State Legislature act on the dual crises of climate change and the lack of affordable housing in the Commonwealth by enacting legislation filed by Sen. Jamie Eldridge and Rep. Nika Elugardo — (H.2890 / S.1853) An Act Providing for Climate Change Adaptation Infrastructure and Affordable Housing Investments in the Commonwealth, commonly known as the "HERO bill." Through a progressive tax which would double the current Deeds Excise Tax (from \$4.56 per \$1,000 to \$9.12 per \$1,000) upon the sale of real property in Massachusetts, *the HERO bill would generate more than \$600 million in new revenue each year* to be split evenly (50/50) between Affordable Housing and Climate Mitigation & Adaptation projects.

HOW TO TAKE ACTION

1. Join FICC's movement by filling out this form [here](#) (contact Kendra Beaver, Climate Justice Coordinator, at kbeaver@dbedc.org with questions)
2. Urge your representatives to support the HERO bill with the information and templates [here](#)



3. Learn more about (and join!) the HERO Coalition fighting for this legislation [here](#)

MA Indigenous Legislative Agenda

"The 2021-2022 Indigenous Legislative Agenda includes 5 priorities: Remove Racist Mascots, Honor Indigenous People's Day, Celebrate and Teach Native American Culture & History, Protect Native American Heritage, and Support the Education and Futures of Native Youth.



Join us in calling for each of these bills to move out of committee!" -[MA Indigenous Legislative Agenda](#)

The Indigenous Peoples' Day Bill has been extended in committee until April 14, so it is particularly urgent to

OUR DEMANDS

"Move our bills out of committee before the deadline!

Go to the Action Network link to support five Massachusetts Indigenous-centered bills by sending [this automated letter](#) to legislators asking that bills be reported favorably out of committee.

An Act prohibiting the use of Native American mascots by public schools in the Commonwealth. (S.2493/H.581)

An Act establishing an Indigenous Peoples Day. (S.2027/H.3191)

An act relative to celebrating Native American culture and history. (S.382/H.651)

An Act providing for the creation of a permanent commission relative to the education of American Indian and Alaska Native residents of the Commonwealth. (H.582)

An Act to protect Native American Heritage. (S.2239/H.3377 & S.2240/H.3385)

HOW TO TAKE ACTION

1. [Write a letter](#) and ask for these five bills to be moved out of committee now!



Zero Carbon Renovation Fund Campaign

“In March 2021, Congress passed the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), which provided \$5.286 Billion to Massachusetts to be allocated by the State Legislature. Let's ask the State Legislature to **allocate \$250 Million of ARPA funds to create the Zero Carbon Renovation Fund** that will decarbonize **existing** buildings in Massachusetts. This Zero Carbon Renovation Fund would result in deep carbon savings by transforming existing buildings to be super energy efficient, all electric, powered by clean renewable energy, and renovated with low-embodied carbon materials. The Zero Carbon Renovation Fund would help ensure that the Commonwealth has healthier and more affordable places for people to live and work.

It's especially important that we reach out now to our legislators!

In December, the legislators allocated the first round of ARPA funds, a total of \$2.55 Billion. To the dismay of those of us concerned about climate, health, and affordability, they allocated only \$6.5 Million for zero carbon retrofits (.1% of total ARPA funds!). This will only decarbonize 250 of the 1 million homes that need to be renovated by 2030! By comparison, Maine allocated 5% of their total ARPA funds to accelerate weatherization, electrification and ventilation improvements.” -[Massachusetts Climate Action Network](#)

OUR DEMANDS

We want the Massachusetts State Legislature to allocate \$250 million of the American Rescue Plan Act funds to create the Zero Carbon Renovation Fund, which would decarbonize existing buildings in Massachusetts. -[Massachusetts Climate Action Network](#)

HOW TO TAKE ACTION

1. [Read the American Rescue Plan Act Proposal for a Zero Carbon Renovation Fund in MA.](#)
 2. [Read the sign-on letter supporting the ARPA Proposal to the Joint Ways and Means Committee.](#)
 3. [Add your name to the letter.](#)
 4. Email your Legislator using this [template](#).
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**PUBLIC TRANSIT
PUBLIC GOOD**
Riders, Workers and Communities
United For Transit Justice

Transit Justice: Sign the Petition for Public Transit Public Good

Demand that the MA Legislature Make Our Public Transit Systems Equitable and Accessible!

Riders and workers are the lifeblood of our public transit systems. We must ensure that Massachusetts' public transit systems are affordable, equitable and accessible, and meet the needs of communities of color and working families. [Learn more and sign the petition!](#)



**CITY LIFE
VIDA URBANA**

Stand Up, Fight Back.

Housing Justice: Take action for rental assistance in the state budget with City Life/ Vida Urbana

Take action! Please reach out to your State Senators and ask them to cosponsor and actively support key rental assistance and housing stability amendments to the fiscal year 2022 supplemental budget.

The Senate Committee on Ways and Means (SWM) released its version of the FY22 supplemental budget on Thursday, [Senate Bill 2776 \(a.k.a. Amendment S.2776\)](#). In the \$1.6 billion proposals, SWM recommended \$100 million in additional funds for the Residential Assistance for Families in Transition homelessness prevention program (RAFT, line item 7004-9316) and \$10 million in additional funds for the Emergency Aid to the Elderly, Disabled, and Children program (EAEDC, line item 4408-1000), as well as extensions of Chapter 257 eviction protections until March 21, 2023. Now we are working to build upon these important components through the amendment process.

Senators had until yesterday afternoon to file amendments. The full Senate is scheduled to debate the supplemental budget this Thursday, so we have just two days to secure as many Senate cosponsors and as much support as possible for key amendments related



to rental assistance and housing stability.

Overview of Key Amendments

- Increase and strengthen emergency rental assistance resources under the Residential Assistance for Families in Transition program (RAFT, line item 7004-9316)
- [Amendment #16](#) from Senator Keenan and [Amendment #10](#) from Senator Gomez both would increase supplemental funding for the Residential Assistance for Families in Transition program (RAFT) by \$100 million to \$200 million.
- [Amendment #15](#) from Senator Keenan would restore the RAFT cap to \$10,000/household/year from \$7,000/household/year.
- [Amendment #17](#) from Senator Keenan would carry over any unspent RAFT funds from FY22 into FY23, to make them available to eligible families and individuals next fiscal year.
- [Amendment #18](#) from Senator Keenan would improve tracking and reporting of rental assistance application data, outcomes, and demographics.
- Further, extend and strengthen eviction protections under [Chapter 257 of the Acts of 2020](#)
- [Amendment #50](#) from Senator DiDomenico would move Chapter 257 protections upstream and prevent unnecessary eviction filings.
- [Amendment #9](#) from Senator Jehlen would close "non-payment" loopholes in Chapter 257 so that more households can benefit from Chapter 257 protection.
- [Amendment #8](#) from Senator Jehlen would extend Chapter 257 protections until a household's pending rental assistance application is approved or denied, instead of leaving the length of the continuance at the discretion of the court.
- Limit Housing Court defaults
- [Amendment #35](#) from Senator Eldridge would continue the current two-tier system for summary process cases through March 31, 2023 and prohibit defaults during Tier 1 Housing Court events.
- Expand resources and supports for low-income homeowners at risk of foreclosure
- [Amendment #33](#) from Senator Gomez would provide \$50 million in supplemental funds to cure arrearages that the federal Homeowner Assistance Fund ("HAF") will not cover and that threaten the displacement of lower-income homeowners in Massachusetts. The funds would be administered by Massachusetts Housing Partnership in conjunction with, and consistent with, the income eligibility requirements of the HAF program, and require notice to at-risk Massachusetts homeowners about the benefits available to help maintain their



housing stability. The amendment also would provide a pause on foreclosure activities for homeowners with pending applications for benefits authorized under this provision.

See our Senate amendment chart for more details and links [HERE](#).

Take Action!

**** Please [reach out to your State Senators](#) to ask for their strong and active support for the key amendments listed above.**

You can find out who your Senator is and how to contact them by going to www.wheredoivotema.com or calling the State House switchboard at 617-722-2000.

Here is a sample script:

"My name is {name}. I live at {address} in {city/town}. As a constituent, I am asking the Senator to cosponsor and actively support key amendments to the supplemental budget to strengthen and expand access to emergency rental assistance and strengthen homelessness prevention efforts, including:

- Amendments #16, 10, 15, 17, and 18 on the Residential Assistance for Families in Transition (RAFT) program;
- Amendments #50, 9, and 8 on Chapter 257 eviction protections;
- Amendment #35 to limit Housing Court defaults; and
- Amendment #33 to provide homeowner protections and resources to supplement the Homeowner Assistance Fund.

These policies and investments will help ensure that families and individuals in our community and across the Commonwealth can obtain housing stability. Thank you!"

Why Is Your Advocacy Vital?

As we noted last week, swift action is especially vital as the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) has formally announced that they intend to stop taking applications for the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) on/around April 15th, less than one month away. The ERAP program has been a lifeline for tens of thousands of renters across the state since March 2021. See the [Baker Administration's press release on suspending ERAP application access](#), as well as State House News Service/Channel 7 coverage of our advocacy efforts to protect access to ERAP and RAFT: ["Window to seek enhanced rental assistance closing as fed funds dry up"](#)



See our list of [housing equity-related requests](#) for the Legislature, as well as [our earlier summary of Governor Baker's recommendations for the supp budget](#).

Thanks for your collaboration and your work to prevent and end homelessness



<http://www.clvu.org/>



Housing Justice: [Sign and share petition](#) with Dot Not For Sale

Send emails to Mayor Wu and the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) now! “We are fighting back together and to demand Mayor Wu and the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) take immediate action to slow down the BPDA development process by 6 months so that residents most impacted by displacement are engaged and able to provide meaningful input on a development that will impact our neighborhood for generations.” -

[Dorchester Not For Sale](#)

[Sign the petition](#) and you can also submit more extensive comments via [BPDA website here](#).



Please join us to make your voice heard about the [Dorchester Bay City development](#)

Dorchester Bay City Should Be For Us!

Join us in making your voice heard about Dorchester Bay City, a multi-billion dollar private development project on public land.

Not Another Seaport!
Public Land for Public Good

DORCHESTER NOT FOR SALE

bit.ly/DBCpetition