February 26, 2019

MA Energy Efficiency Advisory Council
c/o Department of Energy Resources
100 Cambridge Street
Boston, MA  02114

VIA EMAIL

Re:       Final Passive House Incentive Funding

To Whom it May Concern:

NeighborWorks Southern Massachusetts is writing in support of Passive House Massachusetts’ call for the Energy Efficiency Advisory Council (EEAC) to make the Passive House Incentive program worth at least $4,000 per unit.  For Passive House to be incorporated into design for affordable housing – additional financial support is required. Our experience has been that construction costs range from 3-5% higher with Passive House. Any additional support can help cover those additional costs.

Passive House can reduce operating costs by lowering utility costs which benefit residents’ household income. Passive House also has health, comfort and resiliency (shelter-in-place) benefits for residents. We encourage EEAC to help advance the acceptance of this new technology beginning with creating a program equal to at least $4,000 per unit in incentives.

Sincerely,

Timothy Doherty
Real Estate Development Director