

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE



Affordable and Supportive Housing



Renovation and New Construction



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February 21, 2019

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

RE: **Final Passive House Incentive Funding
SENT VIA EMAIL**

To Whom It May Concern

The Women's Institute for Housing and Economic Development is writing in support of Passive House Massachusetts's call for the Energy Efficiency Advisory Council (EEAC) to make the Passive House Incentive program worth at least \$4000 per unit. For Passive House to be incorporated into affordable housing design—additional financial support is critical. Our experience has been that construction costs range from 3-5% higher with Passive House. Any additional support can help to cover those added costs.

Passive House can reduce operating costs (from reduced utility costs) which benefit residents' household income. Additionally, Passive House has health, comfort and resiliency 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,

Gabrielle Geller
Senior Development Manager