February 12, 2019

To: Massachusetts Energy Efficiency Advisory Council

Subject: Final Passive House Incentives Amounts

We are writing in support of Passive House Massachusetts’s initiative to the EEAC to make the Passive House Incentive program worth at least $4000 per affordable unit. We feel strongly that Passive House is the high-performance standard that the building industry must implement now to meet our collective climate goals.

WSP has a strong commitment to sustainability within the built environment and is helping to lead the implementation of Passive House across 800,000 sf of next generation office space here in downtown Boston at Winthrop Center. We would like to take the lessons learned from this project and incorporate them into other high-performance projects.

Passive House’s benefits start with carbon reduction and extend to lower operating costs, and lower energy (utility) bills. There are also vital health, comfort and resiliency benefits that extend to all occupants of Passive House buildings due to the high quality indoor air, improved thermal and acoustical comfort and a robust façade that decouples the extreme weather events from the indoor environment.

We would like to see the EEAC to do everything possible to advance the acceptance of this new technology during this current Three-Year Plan. The $4,000 per unit is needed to achieve these results. We greatly appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,

Thomas Burroughs, P.E.
Senior Vice President