

# NET ZERO *DEFINITION*

An energy-efficient, all-electric, low embodied carbon building that achieves carbon neutral building operations through the production and/or procurement of renewable energy.

## **CARBON NEUTRALITY** *GOAL*

Achieve statewide carbon neutrality per the Global Warming Solutions Act which calls for emissions reductions from 1990 levels of at least 50% by 2030 and at least 75% by 2040, leading to “net zero” by 2050. Support municipalities in meeting or exceeding these emission reduction goals.

## **EQUITY** *GOAL*

Prioritize net zero stretch code adoption and energy-efficient affordable housing in energy-burdened communities. Ensure “No community left behind.”

## **COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL** *PRINCIPLE*

Transition all building types to 100% renewable energy. Ensure “No square foot left behind.”

## **NEW CONSTRUCTION & RENOVATION** *PRINCIPLE*

Electrify all buildings starting with new construction and major renovations.

## **ENERGY EFFICIENCY** *IMPORTANT NEW CODE PROVISION*

Set energy efficiency standards consistent with leading benchmarks to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, operational expenses, and grid load.

## **ELECTRIFICATION** *IMPORTANT NEW CODE PROVISION*

Require primary heating/cooling systems, appliances and other systems to be 100% electric to take full advantage of renewable energy and provide cost-effective heat and air-conditioning.

## **RENEWABLE ENERGY** *IMPORTANT NEW CODE PROVISION*

Require buildings to be powered by 100% renewable energy which can be on-site or off-site, generated and/or purchased from approved sources, so that building operations are carbon neutral.

## **EMBODIED CARBON** *IMPORTANT NEW CODE PROVISION*

Require Whole Building Life Cycle Assessment (WBLCA) to account for and minimize embodied carbon in the sourcing, production, and transportation of building materials.

## **BUILDING ENERGY REPORTING & COMMISSIONING** *IMPORTANT NEW CODE PROVISION*

Require building energy reporting and disclosure, together with initial and periodic commissioning, to ensure that building systems operate as designed.

## **REFRIGERANTS** *IMPORTANT NEW CODE PROVISION*

Require the selection of low-impact refrigerants and refrigerant recycling (prohibiting disposal) to limit ozone depletion and carbon emissions.

## **EXEMPTIONS & WAIVERS** *IMPORTANT NEW CODE PROVISION*

Exemptions should be narrowly defined, fully justified, and subject to review as technology changes. Waivers should only be available in limited instances through a clearly defined process. These might include emergency generation and process gases or other instances of technological infeasibility.