



**SRPEDD**  
Southeastern Regional Planning  
& Economic Development District

March 30, 2024

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Somerset  
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Taunton  
Wareham  
Westport

Michele Paul  
Director of Resilience and Environmental Stewardship  
City of New Bedford  
133 William Street, Room 304, New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Michele Paul,

We, at SRPEDD, are writing to express our wholehearted support for the City of New Bedford's application for the US EPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (CPRG) Program's Implementation Grants General Competition to establish a One-Stop-Shop for home energy and building improvements.

SRPEDD is the regional planning agency that serves the 27 municipalities within Southeastern Massachusetts, assisting them to formulate and implement plans that will achieve quality of life improvements, while ensuring these plans reflect the needs of their local communities. SRPEDD, with input from the City of New Bedford and other municipal stakeholders from Rhode Island and Southeastern Massachusetts, prepared the Providence-Warwick MSA's Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP). Supporting residential consumers to adopt energy efficiency and decarbonization building improvements and access existing incentive programs was a high priority among the stakeholders engaged during the PCAP planning process.

New Bedford's proposed One-Stop-Shop aligns with the region's PCAP Action B1: "*Fund and streamline incentive programs for building decarbonization*", and Action B2: "*Fund and streamline energy efficiency incentive programs*". By providing a comprehensive program to enhance indoor air quality, increase energy and water efficiency, and reduce utility bills, the program will address specific challenges that were identified in the PCAP process. The limited availability of existing programs and incentives for homes and businesses in our area make the one-stop-shop model crucial. It will ensure that residents have easy access to technical assistance, financial resources, and qualified contractors necessary for successful project implementation.

Moreover, we appreciate One-Stop-Shop's commitment to prioritizing low-income and disadvantaged communities in outreach, engagement, and project selection. This will ensure that the benefits of comprehensive whole-building retrofits are distributed equitably across our community.

In summary, we fully endorse the City of New Bedford's pursuit of funding for the One-Stop-Shop for home energy improvements. We believe this initiative will have a positive and lasting impact in New Bedford and a model for the program delivery in the wider region.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Walker, AICP  
Executive Director