



## MACDC's 2017-2018 Policy Agenda

*MACDC works toward the following goals through our policy work:*

- **Produce and Preserve More Affordable Housing** through increased funding, support for community-based housing needs, and promotion of fair and equitable housing in communities across the Commonwealth.
- **Stimulate Economic Development** by strengthening locally-owned businesses, supporting commercial & mixed-use development, and helping to sustain vibrant local business districts.
- **Support Comprehensive Community Development** to create vibrant, inclusive communities where residents help shape the future of their own community so that everyone can thrive.
- **Promote Asset Development** through policies that enable families and individuals to access economic opportunities by growing and protecting their financial assets and capabilities.

*To achieve these goals, MACDC will focus on these top priority items*

1. Extend the **Community Investment Tax Credit (CITC)** through 2025. *(This has been incorporated into the Housing Bond Bill.)* CITC increases investment in housing development, economic development, and financial education by allocating 50% refundable tax credits to state-certified Community Development Corporations (CDCs.) In its first two years CITC raised \$12.85 million with over \$5 million from individual donors.
2. Pass the **Housing Bond Bill. (H.4134)** *(This bill has passed both the House and the Senate and as of this writing is in conference Committee.)* The lack of affordable housing is hurting families, neighborhoods and contributing to homelessness. The Housing Bond ensures the continuation of the Commonwealth's affordable housing programs by authorizing \$1.7 billion for affordable housing production and preservation over the next 5 years.
3. Secure funding for the **Small Business Technical Assistance Program (SBTA)** at least \$2 million. This program gave grants to 32 non-profit organizations that provided technical assistance and training to 1,981 small businesses in FY16. This helped to create 1,056 new jobs and preserve 1,594 jobs.

***Find information on more issues that MACDC is addressing on the back of this page.***

For more information on MACDC's policy work go to [www.macdc.org](http://www.macdc.org)

## Additional Legislative and Policy Priorities for MACDC and its Members

### FY 2019 Budget

- **Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program** – We are seeking \$120 Million for MRVP in FY 2019. The Governor has proposed \$97.5 million.
- **Foreclosure Counseling and Homeownership Education:** MACDC seeks \$1.55 million for this line item as proposed by the Governor, which would enable the Division of Banks to provide grants under the MGL Chapter 206 grant program to non-profit organizations that offer foreclosure prevention and homeownership education workshops and counseling.
- **Increase the Capital Budget for Housing:** In FY18, the Governor allocated \$221 million from the capital budget and other sources for affordable housing development and preservation. We will advocate with the Administration to maintain or increase this amount for FY19.

### Housing and Planning

- **Zoning Reform:** MACDC supports several progressive bills related to zoning, including the “**Great Neighborhoods Bill**”, (H. 2420) filed by Reps. Kulik and Peake; **An Act promoting housing and sustainable development**, (SD 81) filed by Sen. Chandler (On April 11, a new draft of H.2420/S.81, H.4397 was reported favorably by the Joint Committee on Municipalities and Regional Government to the Joint Committee on Rules.); and the “**Housing Choice**” bill (H. 4290) filed by Gov. Baker **An Act relative to housing production** (H.3845).

### Justice – Families – Communities

- **Criminal Justice Reform: An Act for justice reinvestment:** *This bill was enacted by the Legislature (4/4/18) and signed by the Governor (4/13/18).*
- **Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) An Act improving the earned income credit for healthier families** (H.1504/S.1521) filed by Rep. Decker and Sen. Eldridge (now H.3852); reported favorably by Joint Revenue and referred to House Committee on Ways and Means).
- **Community Preservation Act: An Act to sustain community preservation revenue** (H.2615/S.1504 filed by Reps. Kulik & Honan and Sen. Creem (now H.3662); reported favorably by Joint Revenue and referred to House Committee on Ways and Means).
- **Safe Communities: An Act to protect the civil rights and safety of all Massachusetts residents** (H.3269/S.1305) filed by Rep. Matias and Sen. Eldridge (S.1305 accompanied a study order (S.2289), 2/5/18.)

### Transportation and Energy Equity

- **An Act relative to regional transportation ballot initiatives** ((H.1640/S.1551) filed by Rep. Walsh and Sen. Lesser (reported favorably by Joint Revenue and referred to Senate Committee on Ways and Means).
- **An Act relative to transportation infrastructure value capture** (H.1893) filed by Rep. Straus (reported favorably by the committee on Transportation and referred to House Committee on Ways and Means).
- **An Act relative to solar power and the green economy** (H.2706/S.1846) filed by Rep. Mark and Sen. Eldridge
- **An Act relative to solar power in environmental justice and urban communities** (H.3396/S.1831) filed by Reps. Holmes & Dubois and Sen. Chang-Diaz