



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

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