



## CITY OF NEW BEDFORD

JONATHAN F. MITCHELL, MAYOR

March 18, 2021

City Council President Joseph P. Lopes and  
Honorable Members of the City Council  
133 William St.  
New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Council President Lopes and Honorable Members:

I respectfully submit for the Council's consideration the enclosed four (4) ordinances amending Chapters 2, 10, and 19 as they pertain to the Departments of Public Infrastructure and Environmental Stewardship, and to the New Bedford Energy Now revolving fund. These amendments will change the name of the Environmental Stewardship department and department head to the Department of Resilience and Environmental Stewardship and to the Director of Resilience and Environmental Stewardship respectively, and transfer oversight of the City's energy management program and its associated revolving fund from the Department of Public Infrastructure to the renamed Department of Resilience and Environmental Stewardship.

These changes reflect the centrality of resilience planning and implementation in the recent work of the Environmental Stewardship department, the centerpiece of which is the recently released climate resilience plan *NB Resilient*. A major focus of the City's climate resilience strategy is and will continue to be energy efficiency and alternative energy development and promotion, so we thought it made great sense to bring the energy management program under the Resilience and Environmental Stewardship umbrella. We believe this change will result in better alignment and coordination of goals, activities, and outcomes, using *NB Resilient* as the guiding document. These proposed changes will have no overall budgetary impact. While there will be an increase in the DES budget with the addition of the energy management positions and associated expenses, there will be a commensurate decrease in DPI's general fund budget.

Given the City's nationally recognized leadership in climate, energy, and resilience; the likelihood of increased focus and resources for this work at the state and federal levels in the coming months and years; and the development of a comprehensive local resilience plan, I believe the time is right for this change in alignment and management. The change has the full support of Environmental Stewardship Director Michele Paul, DPI Commissioner Jamie Ponte, and Energy Manager Scott Durkee, all of whom will be available to answer any questions you may have.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jonathan F. Mitchell  
JFM/crc

cc: Michele Paul, Jamie Ponte, Scott Durkee, Personnel



# CITY OF NEW BEDFORD

In the Year Two Thousand and Twenty One

## AN ORDINANCE

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### DEPARTMENT OF RESILIENCE AND ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

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31- 509

Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of New Bedford as follows:—

#### SECTION 1.

Chapter 2, Article XVIII Title and Section 2-213 are hereby amended by inserting "resilience and" after "department of," and inserting "the City's energy management program" after "responsible for," so the section reads as follows:

#### ARTICLE XVIII. – DEPARTMENT OF RESILIENCE AND ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

##### Sec. 2-213 Established.

Pursuant to G.L. c. 43, § 5 there is hereby established within the municipal government a department of resilience and environmental stewardship, which shall be responsible for overseeing the City's energy management program, brownfield and other environmental planning projects for the City and for providing assistance to the conservation commission.

**SECTION 2.** Chapter 2, Sections 2-214 through 2-217 are hereby amended by inserting "resilience and" before every "environmental stewardship," and adding "The director of resilience and environmental stewardship shall exercise general control over the City's energy management program" to "Powers and duties," so the section reads as follows:

##### Sec. 2-214 Appointment of Director.

The department of resilience and environmental stewardship shall be under the charge of an officer known as the director of resilience and environmental stewardship, who shall be appointed by the Mayor for a term to be determined by the mayor, subject to confirmation by the city council and shall qualify by oath before entrance upon the duties of the office. The director of resilience and environmental stewardship shall perform such duties and receive such

compensation as may be determined by the mayor and city council.

**Sec. 2-215 Director – Powers and duties**

- (a) The director of resilience and environmental stewardship shall serve as the executive head of the department of resilience and environmental stewardship and shall be responsible for supervising all departmental staff.
- (b) The director of resilience and environmental stewardship shall exercise general control over the City's energy management program.
- (c) Except as otherwise provided by law, the director of resilience and environmental stewardship shall employ such persons as may be necessary and approved by the mayor to carry out the duties of the department.
- (d) The director of resilience and environmental stewardship shall maintain records of all projects pertaining to the resilience and environmental stewardship department.
- (e) Perform such other duties as are incidental to the office.

**Sec. 2-216 Other inspectional duties**

The director of resilience and environmental stewardship, under the direction of the mayor, shall oversee the performance of such duties as may be lawfully delegated to him by the conservation commission. The duties shall be performed in accordance with the requirements of the delegating authority and the applicable code or law.

**Sec. 2-217. Record and report of departmental business.**

The director of resilience and environmental stewardship shall annually make a report of the activities of the department pursuant to section 2-6 of this code.

**SECTION 3.**

This ordinance shall take effect in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 43 of the General Laws.



# CITY OF NEW BEDFORD

In the Year Two Thousand and Twenty One

## AN ORDINANCE

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### AMENDING PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE DEPARTMENT

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31- 509

Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of New Bedford as follows:—

#### SECTION 1.

Chapter 2, Article XXI, Section 2-231 is hereby amended by removing “energy management program and” from subsection (h),” so the subsection reads as follows:

- (h) The commissioner of public infrastructure shall exercise general control over the City's engineering division.

#### SECTION 2.

This ordinance shall take effect in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 43 of the General Laws.



# CITY OF NEW BEDFORD

In the Year Two Thousand and Twenty One

## AN ORDINANCE

### AMENDING DEPARTMENTAL REVOLVING FUNDS

31- 509

Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of New Bedford as follows:—

**SECTION 1.** Chapter 10, Article I, Section 10-47 table is hereby amended by removing “Department of Public infrastructure” from the New Bedford Energy Now Revolving Fund section of the table and replacing it with “Department of Resilience and Environmental Stewardship,” so the section of the table reads as follows:

New Bedford Energy Now Revolving Fund	Department of Resilience and Environmental Stewardship	Revenue paid to the City by energy sub-contractors for all leads generated by the City that resulted in home energy audits	Incidental costs of the New Bedford Energy Now Program and program development costs, including event sponsorships, banners, printing costs, translation services, computers, and office supplies	Fiscal Year 2018 and subsequent years
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### **SECTION 2.**

This ordinance shall take effect in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 43 of the General Laws.



# CITY OF NEW BEDFORD

In the Year Two Thousand and Twenty One

## AN ORDINANCE

Amending Chapter 19, Personnel

31- 509

Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of New Bedford as follows:—

### SECTION 1.

Chapter 19, Section 19-7(c) is hereby amended by inserting "Resilience and" to the title of "Director of Environmental Stewardship" at pay grade "M-14." The amended portions of the salary schedule shall read as follows:

Title	Grade
Director of Resilience and Environmental Stewardship	M-14

Section 2. This ordinance shall take effect in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 43 of the General Laws.