

States, Local Governments, and K-12 Schools: Better Buildings Champions

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

Office of
ENERGY EFFICIENCY & RENEWABLE ENERGY

Public sector partners are making it clear that Better Buildings Initiatives are a core mechanism to help them achieve their energy goals. As of March 2018, the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Weatherization and Intergovernmental Programs Office (WIP) has over 200 partnerships with 35+ states, 80+ local governments, and 25+ K-12 schools through the Better Buildings Initiative.



Over 75 public sector leaders accepted the Better Buildings Challenge to commit their organizations to 20% energy savings in 10 years or less, leading the market by sharing their replicable solutions. These partners have achieved 45 trillion Btus of energy savings, \$420 million in savings, 2.9 million tons of carbon emissions, and 1.5 billion gallons of water.



ENERGY 20% SAVINGS GOAL ACHIEVERS
Poudre School District, Colorado
Camas School District, Washington
River Trails School District 26, Illinois
State of Maryland
Hillsboro, Oregon
State of Delaware
West Palm Beach, Florida
Beaverton, Oregon
WATER 20% SAVINGS GOAL ACHIEVERS
Atlanta, Georgia
Poudre School District, Colorado

	ENERGY SAVED 45 TRILLION BTUS
	DOLLARS SAVED \$420 MILLION
	CARBON EMISSIONS AVOIDED 2.9 MILLION TONS
	WATER SAVED 1.5 BILLION GALLONS

LEADERSHIP IN ACTION



Fort Worth, Texas, [engaged their local community](#) to reduce energy consumption across 20 million square feet of buildings and has demonstrated leadership by cutting energy use in its own municipal building portfolio by 17% and counting!



Chicago, Illinois, [leveraged public-private partnerships](#) to deliver customized Energy Road Maps with technical and strategic recommendations aimed at maximizing internal rate of return and utility incentives, identifying an annual average of 22% energy savings and \$254,000 cost savings.



The State of Minnesota established a new Office of Enterprise Sustainability to make lead-by-example work a more central, state-directed, and highly visible initiative.



Xenia Community Schools (Ohio) [retrofitted an aging facility](#) in need of upgrades to lighting and building controls. The 14-month project is expected to result in an annual energy savings of 17% and annual cost savings of \$23,000.

PUBLIC SECTOR ACCELERATORS

CURRENT INITIATIVES

(Launched May 2016)

Sustainable Wastewater



30% energy savings
+
90+ wastewater facility
partners across **23 states**

Clean Energy for Low-Income

More than **30 partners** have developed action plans and joined peer exchange groups to address barriers to **lowering energy bills** for underserved communities



OUTCOMES



100% of facility partners **actively tracking** energy performance data

- Energy measure planning tool **complete**
- Energy Data Management Manual for the Wastewater Treatment Sector
- Energy Savings Performance Contracting for Water Resource Recovery Facilities

Created a Suite of Low Income Community Baseline Tools:

- Low-income Energy Affordability Data (LEAD) Tool
- Baseline Assessment Guide
- Program Funding Catalog



OTHER ACCELERATORS OF INTEREST:

CHP for Resiliency & Zero Energy Schools/Districts

ACCELERATORS

Time-limited collaborations with market leaders to overcome specific barriers to energy efficiency. Once complete, a toolkit is created to provide tools, best practices, and replicable models for other stakeholders to benefit from the value of the accelerator.

ESPC and Outdoor Lighting Toolkits

State and local leaders successfully leveraged resources to catalyze over \$2.1 billion in public sector energy efficiency investments through energy savings performance contracting (ESPC) and achieve a commitment to upgrade 1.3 million street lights with an expected annual savings of \$48 million.



BEST PRACTICES FROM
ESPC TOOLKIT

<https://betterbuildingssolutioncenter.energy.gov/espc/home>

Through the ESPC Accelerator, DOE worked with 25 partners, including 18 states, six cities, and one school district to streamline the ESPC process, empower the market with ESPC project data, resolve individual barriers to carrying out ESPC, and develop the ESPC Toolkit.

The Toolkit includes:

- Virtual Technical Assistant—An online technical assistance resource for ESPC
- ESPC Guide Series for New Markets—A series of guides that introduces performance contracting as a way to increase energy efficiency and upgrade facilities in particular market sectors. Each guide explores the ESPC process, energy efficiency potential, and case studies of ESPC projects in the sector.
- ESPC Financing Decision Tree—Enables users to select the form(s) of financing best suited to their jurisdiction's conditions.



BEST PRACTICES FROM
OUTDOOR LIGHTING TOOLKIT

<https://betterbuildingssolutioncenter.energy.gov/outdoor-lighting>

Through the Outdoor Lighting Accelerator (OLA), DOE worked with 25 partners, including three states, 16 cities, and six regional energy networks.

The Toolkit includes:

- Outdoor Lighting Decision Tree Tool—Consistently rated as a top-10 viewed resource on the Better Buildings Solution Center.
- Outdoor Lighting Challenges and Solutions Pathways Report—Examples of LED street light conversion projects.



Local Governments Partnering
with Private Sector Leaders

Public-private partnerships are improving energy usage in buildings, homes, and plants to save money and increase American competitiveness.

The Better Communities Alliance (BCA) is a national leadership program with more than 70 private companies, national organizations, and local governments that represent more than 43 million Americans across 23 states and in every region of the country. BCA partnerships are providing integrated expertise, resources, and peer-networking opportunities from across the government, nonprofit, philanthropic, and private sectors.

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For more information visit:

DOE's State and Local Solution Center:

energy.gov/eere/slsc

Better Buildings Solution Center:

betterbuildingssolutioncenter.energy.gov

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