

**CITY OF NORTHAMPTON
MASSACHUSETTS**

In the City Council,

Upon the Recommendation of Mayor Gina-Louise Sciarra and Councilors Rachel Maiore and Alex Jarrett.

**O-23.337
AN ORDER**

**TO ADOPT THE MASSACHUSETTS MUNICIPAL
OPT-IN SPECIALIZED STRETCH CODE**

Ordered, that

WHEREAS, Buildings are one of the largest sources of greenhouse gas emissions in Massachusetts. Between oil and gas heating, hot water heaters and gas stoves, they're responsible for about 27% of our annual emissions. The largest greenhouse gas emissions impact for many buildings stems from the heating loads and choice of heating fuel for the building; and

WHEREAS, The purpose of 225 CMR 22.00 and 23.00 including Appendices RC and CC, also referred to as the Specialized Energy Code, is to provide a more energy efficient and low greenhouse gas emissions alternative to the Stretch Energy Code or the baseline Massachusetts Energy Code; and

WHEREAS, The Department of Energy Resources (DOER), recommends that the communities that want to participate in the Ten Communities Program (requiring all electric heating for new construction) adopt the Specialized Code, and Northampton has filed a home rule petition to become part of that pilot program; and

WHEREAS, the Opt-in Specialized Energy Code will help us meet the carbon neutrality goals of Northampton's Climate and Regeneration Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED

That the the City of Northampton hereby adopts 225 CMR 22 and 23, including Appendices RC and CC, known as the Massachusetts Municipal Opt-In Specialized Stretch Code, to take effect in the City of Northampton as of January 2024, as required by state regulation.