

City of Melrose



Community Power

October 29, 2021

Dear Melrose electricity customer,

We are writing to you to let you know that the City of Melrose will continue its electricity program, Melrose Community Power or MCP for short, for another three years to November 2024. You already participate in the program along with most Melrose residents and small businesses, and you **don't need to do anything to continue your participation.**

**Our new program rates starting in November are:**

Melrose Local Green	Melrose Local Green 100%	Melrose Basic	National Grid Basic service (residential customers)
11.537¢/kWh	14.822¢/kWh	11.172¢/kWh	14.821¢/kWh
November 2021 - November 2024			November 2021- April 2022

As you know, National Grid rates change every three or six months, thus **future savings cannot be guaranteed** because future National Grid Basic Service rates beyond April 2022 are unknown. **The City of Melrose is committed to working towards affordable and stable electricity rates through the MCP program.**

What else is changing? Most MCP participants are enrolled in Melrose Local Green, the standard product which adds 5% of additional renewable energy above Massachusetts requirements (18% in 2021). Melrose Local Green's additional renewable energy content will increase to 10% starting in November. MCP offers three electricity choices with different amounts of renewable energy, including a 100% option (Melrose Local Green 100%) and an option with no additional renewable energy (Melrose Basic). Participants can change products at any time without penalty on the program website [MCP.CityofMelrose.org](http://MCP.CityofMelrose.org).

The City was one of the first to use its electricity program and the power of thousands of participants to increase the demand for more renewable energy, sourced entirely from New England. During Earth Week this year, we set a goal of getting 100 Melrosians to sign up for the program's 100% renewable electricity option. The goal was met and exceeded thanks to the efforts of Melrose Energy Commission volunteers and there are now more than 200 residents in Melrose receiving 100% renewable electricity. See the reverse side of this letter for more information.

**Have more questions about electricity and your options? Join us at a virtual community meeting on **Wednesday, November 10, at 6:30pm** via **WebEx**.** The link is on the program website, [mcp.cityofmelrose.org](http://mcp.cityofmelrose.org) and the City Calendar. We look forward to seeing you there.

Sincerely,

Paul Brodeur  
Mayor

Martha Grover  
Sustainability Manager

# Frequently Asked Questions about the MCP program

## Why did the City of Melrose start this program?

The City of Melrose was looking for ways to reduce our combined emissions by adding more renewable energy into the electricity mix. Also, the program offers stable rates for multiple years, as compared to National Grid's rate for Basic Service Residential customers which changes every six months. MCP has produced savings for residential customers in Melrose over the last few years. While future savings cannot be guaranteed, the City is committed to working towards stable and affordable electricity rates through the MCP program.

## How can I tell what product option I have?

Take a look at your electricity bill! In the Supply Services section, you will see a line for Energy Charge. Compare the rate to the rates on the [MCP.CityOfMelrose.org](http://MCP.CityOfMelrose.org) website to determine your current product.

## My neighbor didn't get this letter. What does that mean for them?

If they didn't receive this letter, they are not participating in the MCP program. They can attend the virtual community meeting on **Wednesday, November 10, at 6:30pm** or visit the website [MCP.CityofMelrose.org](http://MCP.CityofMelrose.org) to learn more about the program and their options for participating.

## If I have solar panels, can I still participate in MCP?

Yes, and solar electricity consumers continue to receive their net metering credits while participating in the program.

## If I get a discount from the utility, do I lose it if I am a program participant?

Budget Plan or Eligible Low-Income delivery rate consumers will continue to receive those benefits from the utility.

## Who can I contact if I have questions?

Contact Martha Grover, Sustainability Manager for the City of Melrose, by email at [mgrover@cityofmelrose.org](mailto:mgrover@cityofmelrose.org) or by phone at 781-979-4195.

## Clean Energy in the MCP program

The City of Melrose seeks to support renewable energy resources that are located in Massachusetts or as close to the state as possible. The MCP program presents a unique opportunity for the City to influence the development of renewable energy resources by going above and beyond the state requirements. By switching to Melrose Local Green 100%, you support the transition from fossil fuels to sustainable sources.

### On Our Grid

All of the additional renewable energy in the Melrose Community Power program comes from sources designated as MA Class I - the same classification used to meet the Massachusetts Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS). Don't be fooled by electricity suppliers who obtain their renewable energy from national sources (e.g. the Midwest or Texas) because including them in the electricity mix does not move our region away from fossil fuels.

### Our Local Partner

Melrose Community Power sources all the additional renewable energy, above and beyond MA requirements, from Green Energy Consumers Alliance, a local non-profit that helps bring new renewable projects to New England through strategic support of development opportunities with short- and long-term contracts.

## Sign up for your clean energy!

It takes less than five minutes using our online form to switch to Melrose Local Green 100%:  
[MCP.CityofMelrose.org/enroll](http://MCP.CityofMelrose.org/enroll)