



#### CLIMATE ACTION AT THE LOCAL LEVEL:

# DEFINING THE CHALLENGE, FINDING THE FUNDS

August 1st, 2025

#### SPEAKING THE SAME LANGUAGE: KEY CLIMATE TERMS



Mitigation: actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions



Adaptation: actions to prepare for climate impacts



Resilience: capacity to respond and recover from climate impacts

#### THE CLIMATE MITIGATION FUNDING LANDSCAPE

Federal: boom and bust funding

State: fragmented support

Local: limited time, expertise, and capacity

### SUSTAINABLE MARYLAND PROGRAMS

- Municipal certification
  - Certification report repository
- Grants
- Trainings and webinars
- Networking and partnership opportunities





#### **SM ACTION GRANT OVERVIEW**

- \$100,000 in available funding
- Grant launch: Early Fall
- Topics:
  - Any project that relates to the <u>10 SM Action Action</u>
     <u>Categories</u>

SM Registered Communities	SM Certified Communities
<ul> <li>Eligible for up to \$5,000</li> <li>A total of \$20,000 available</li> <li>Up to 4 awards expected</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Eligible for up to \$20,000</li> <li>A total of \$80,000 available</li> <li>Up to 4 awards expected</li> </ul>



#### **EXELON SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES GRANTS**





<u>Pepco</u>	<u>Delmarva Power</u>
<ul> <li>Open to municipalities and 501(c)3's in the Pepco Territory</li> <li>\$125,000 available</li> <li>\$10,000 for Environmental Stewardship</li> <li>\$25,000 for Climate Resilience</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Open to municipalities and 501(c)3's in the DMP Territory</li> <li>\$45,000 available</li> <li>\$10,000 for Environmental Stewardship</li> <li>\$15,000 for Climate Resilience</li> </ul>

# LOCAL GOVERNMENT ENERGY MODERNIZATION GRANT (L-GEM)

- Anticipated FY26 Budget: \$64 million total:
  - \$50 million anticipated for planning activities and renewable energy projects
  - \$10 million anticipated for energy efficiency projects
  - \$4 million anticipated for electrification projects
- Application Deadline: 5:00 P.M. ET, December 5, 2025
- Eligible Applicants: Only incorporated towns, cities, and counties of Maryland may apply.

Source: MEA, 2025





## **COMMUNITY EXAMPLE**

#### CHESTERTOWN: CREATING CONNECTIONS AND FOSTERING PARTNERSHIPS







#### **CONTACT US!**

Questions about Sustainable Maryland Grants? <a href="mailto:smgrants@umd.edu">smgrants@umd.edu</a>

Questions about the SM certification or registration?

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