

# marylandclimatepartners

## **Building Emission Standards: A Critical Tool for Reducing Greenhouse Gas Pollution from Large Buildings**

**Building Emission Standards will help Maryland Meet Climate Goals:** Buildings are 40% of Maryland's greenhouse gas emissions and consume 90% of the electricity. Climate Solutions now follows the recommendation of **the Maryland Commission on Climate Change** to reduce emissions from existing buildings 100% by setting Building Emission Standards. Building Emission Standards are a critical tool that provides a flexible pathway for building owners to eliminate greenhouse gas (GHG) pollution from existing buildings by setting **greenhouse gas reduction targets**.

### **Climate Solutions Now Requires:**

- Building that are 25,000 square feet or greater must reduce their GHG emissions 50% by 2030 and 100% by 2040; state buildings must reduce emissions 100% by 2035;
- Benchmarking of buildings energy usage data to refine compliance pathways;
- Alternative compliance payments for owners who fail to comply with standards.

### **Complementary Components That Make it Work:**

- **The Climate Transition & Clean Energy Hub** – a clearinghouse for information, technical advice and financial incentives for the public and professionals (If you want to see how a similar program in D.C. works, watch here: [Retrofit Accelerator](#);
- **The Climate Catalytic Capital Fund (C3)** – provides Green Bank financing and creates green bonds program to leverage private investment. For every \$1 of public investment, the C3 Fund generates \$4 to \$10 of private capital.
- **The Building Energy Transition Implementation Task Force**- to develop recommendations for further complementary programs and incentives aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions from the building sector; and
- **The Expansion of the utilities' EMPOWER** program that will expand and increase rebates and other energy efficiency measures for consumers.
- **Maryland Commission on Environmental Justice & Sustainable Communities** to address priorities of environmental justice and vulnerable communities
- **Just Transition & Retraining Work Group**
- **Climate Justice Corps** to create career training opportunities for our youth and disadvantaged youth