



Doughnuts with Your Delegation Talking Points

2020 is one of the busiest policy years in recent memory. There is a wide array of housing and community development priorities pending at the legislature and only seven months before their session end.

These meetings offer your organization an opportunity to both talk about some of your local projects and programs as well as important policy issues currently being considered at the State House. You can structure the agenda however you see fit, but we ask that you discuss the following priorities:

1. **Major new revenue for housing and climate investments:** MACDC is a founding member of the [HERO Coalition](#) – Housing and Environmental Revenue Opportunities – which is comprised of housing, climate, faith-based, labor, and social justice groups working together to secure a major new revenue stream to support investments in affordable housing, and climate resiliency and mitigation. Our [proposal](#) is to **double the deeds excise tax and dedicate 50% (approx. \$150 million/yr.) to housing and 50% to climate.** This could be the biggest new investment in housing in decades and lay the foundation for more collaboration among housing, climate, and social justice advocates. **MACDC is also actively supporting state legislation that would empower cities and towns to adopt their own, [local transfer tax](#) to generate new revenue for affordable housing.**
2. **An increase in funding for the [Small Business Technical Assistance](#) program from \$3 million to \$4 million per year.** This program now funds 47 CDCs, CDFIs and other community-based organizations all of whom are helping underserved entrepreneurs launch and grow small businesses. The Governor’s FY 2021 budget proposal recommends \$4 million for SBTA.
3. Please choose **one additional priority** that is the most relevant to your community and your work. You can review this list: <https://www.macdc.org/2019-2020-advocacy-agenda> and or choose from one of these suggestions:
 - a. Members in Gateway Cities might want to emphasize the [Neighborhood Stabilization Legislation](#)
 - b. Members from rural communities, might want to emphasize the request to create an [Office of Rural Policy](#)
 - c. Members from Boston should focus on the two Boston Home Rule petitions related to Linkage/Inclusionary Development [H.4115](#) and the [Transfer Tax](#)
 - d. Members from Suburban communities might want to focus on [Housing Choice](#)