E+ Positive: Energy, Environment, Equity

In Boston, we are taking our green building and renewable energy efforts to the next frontier by creating ultra-efficient buildings that generate surplus clean energy. We are demonstrating that energy positive green homes and buildings can be constructed sustainably and cost-effectively, while enhancing the livability and vitality of Boston’s neighborhoods now and into the future.

The E+ Green Building Program challenges leading architects, builders, and developers to work together to design and construct high performance, green, urban homes and to demonstrate the feasibility of regenerative buildings in Boston. Five key objectives guide the program and selection process:

- **Feasibility**: Demonstrates the performance, construction, and financial potential for locally built, energy positive, deep green, urban buildings with on-site renewable energy resources.
- **Future Prototype**: Construct high performance, green buildings using “on-the-shelf” products and materials, and replicable strategies that can serve as models for future practice.
- **Housing Opportunities**: Provide new housing opportunities affordable to a range of income earners in sustainable neighborhoods that are connected to nearby transit, work, and community amenities.
- **Awareness**: Raise public and professional awareness of the importance and potential for high performance, residential, green buildings and design and construction practices.
- **Urban Design**: Reinvigorate Boston neighborhoods with new development that is both expressive of its high performance, green building features and is respectful of its context.

The E+ Green Building program requires developments to do the following:

- Generate more energy than they use annually, as indicated by a HERS Index of less than zero.
- Exceed LEED for Homes Platinum, the highest certification level.
- Use innovative strategies to minimize water use and reuse storm and waste water.
- Encourage and support non-personal vehicle means of travel including public transit, walking, and bicycling.
- Use materials and resources selected from sustainably harvested, responsibly processed sources.
- Provide for educating new and future residents about the building’s equipment, green features, and how to maximize building performance.

For more information and examples of completed projects, visit epositiveboston.org.

Program Partners

The E+ Green Building Demonstration Program is a City of Boston initiative supported by local and national sponsors who will assist with promoting the initiative and recognizing selected submissions for innovations in design and construction that advance the goals of E+ Green Program.