

**February 11, 2025**

**MSBA - ARP Heat Pump Designer Procurement Overview Meeting Q&A**

- 1. Question:** If a district is working through preliminary development for a heat pump conversion project at one of its schools, would there be an opportunity to have the school invited early and the district use their preliminary findings in the final design?

**Answer:** No. The district would be required to submit a Statement of Interest ("SOI") and receive an invitation to the Accelerated Repair Program ("ARP") following the 2025 SOI Process Overview. Any information available from studies prior to invitation may help inform the project design, but the district and its assigned consultants will be required to submit a Schematic Design to be considered for project scope and budget approval by the MSBA Board of Directors.

- 2. Question:** Will the MSBA Heat Pump Study report be issued prior to the RFR issuance for heat pump designers?

**Answer:** No. The MSBA anticipates issuing the RFR for 2025 Heat Pump Designers in late February or early March 2025. The MSBA anticipates publishing the Heat Pump Study report in June 2025.

- 3. Question:** Will the technical eligibility for heat pump conversion projects be broad including both air source heat pumps and geothermal heat pumps?

**Answer:** Yes. Designers will be required to provide heat pump options along with cost breakdowns, life cycle cost analysis, and constructability constraints for districts to assess for feasibility.

- 4. Question:** For heat pump projects invited into the program in 2025, will the Owner's Project Managers be assigned from the same pool selected to work with 2024 ARP projects?

**Answer:** Yes.

- 5. Question:** Are districts able to apply for a heat pump conversion project on part of a building or does it have to be a full building conversion?

**Answer:** The 2025 ARP SOI Process Overview states that the MSBA will require each heat pump conversion project to result in mechanical heating, cooling and ventilation in all classrooms at minimum. The MSBA will participate in spaces beyond the classrooms as well, but it is not required.

**6. Question:** Is there a time frame for how long the MSBA expects a building to remain open if it receives funding for a heat pump conversion project?

**Answer:** The 2025 ARP SOI Process Overview does not specify the anticipated useful life of a school following a heat pump conversion project; however, it does state that a district should not file a SOI for the ARP if the district is reviewing facility deficiencies to further identify its needs and priorities.