

New Bedford Receives \$1.2M for Energy Improvement Measures



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The City of New Bedford announced that it has received \$1,160,441 in utility incentives for the first two phases of its streetlight conversion project. In September, the City announced a partnership with Siemens to replace nearly 10,000 City-owned streetlights, traffic and crossing signals and other exterior lights with LED fixtures. The first two phases of the project completed about 90% of the project, while the final phase is currently underway.

The \$1.2 million utility incentive payment was provided by NStar as an incentive for the implementation of energy

reduction measures. NStar incentives are anticipated to provide approximately 25% of funding for the \$5.6 million project. When complete, the entire project will reduce electricity expenditures by approximately \$600,000 per year. However, savings from the program are already being realized, with billed streetlight electricity consumption declining by 54% from November to December. As part of its contract with the City, Siemens is required to guarantee energy savings, which New Bedford has utilized to finance the cost of the conversions and ongoing improvements to the City's infrastructure.

"This utility incentive payment is an example of our efforts to find ways to deliver better services, save taxpayer dollars, and be good to the environment. I made a commitment to modernize city government and bring it into the 21st Century and we are making good on that promise by replacing an expensive, outdated lighting system with cutting edge technology," said Mayor Jon Mitchell.
