

Advancing Local Climate Leadership
Through a Community of Practice

building performance par+nership

September 25, 2025
Building Energy Exchange
1.5 LU

The Building Policy Landscape



Marla Thalheimer, IMT
September 25, 2025

About the Institute for Market Transformation (IMT)



Mission

Catalyze widespread and sustained demand for high-performing buildings.



Vision

A world where buildings dramatically lower greenhouse gas emissions and support our physical, social, and economic well-being.



How we work

Advancing policies and business practices that enable people to build and operate healthy, high-performing buildings.

Why must we continue to drive building decarbonization policies?



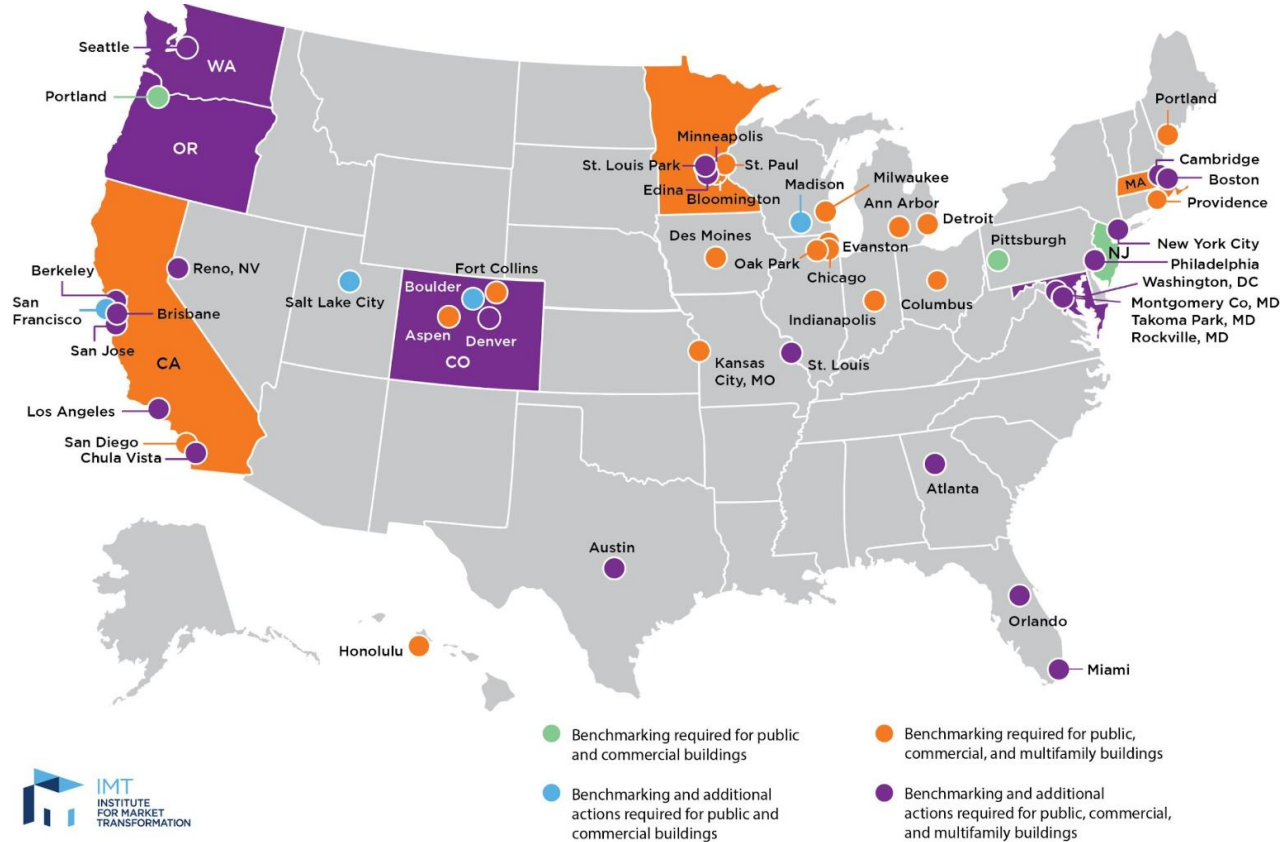
- (Most) buildings (still) use an enormous amount of energy
- 80% of the buildings that will exist in 2050 are already built
- Fewer than 2% of commercial buildings invest in efficiency each year

Efficient Buildings Benefit Everyone

- Lower utility bills for individuals and businesses
- Higher net operating income for the building
- Healthier air quality for occupants
- Lower GHG emissions



Where We Are Now: Benchmarking, Transparency, and Beyond



Members of the National BPS Coalition

Passed BPS

Committed to passage of BPS



15 BPS Policies Passed

- Evanston, IL - 2025
- Newton, MA - 2024
- Oregon – 2023
- Cambridge, MA - 2023
- Maryland – 2022
- Montgomery County, MD - 2022
- Boston, MA – 2021
- Chula Vista, CA – 2021
- Colorado – 2021
- Denver, CO – 2021
- Seattle, WA - 2022
- St. Louis, MO – 2020
- New York City, NY – 2019
- Washington State – 2019
- Washington, DC - 2018

49 Jurisdictions in the National BPS Coalition

Why High-Performance Building Hubs?

The Problem:

- Lack of resources for local markets to meet Building Performance Standards (BPS) and/or healthy and high-performance building goals
- Need for technical assistance, education, financing connections, workforce development

The Solution – Local Hubs who can provide:

- Training & education
- Case studies & playbooks
- Connections to financing
- Technical assistance
- Toolkits & calculators
- Workforce development opportunities
- Vendor connections
- Community engagement
- Outreach campaigns

Why High-Performance Building Hubs?

Desired Outcomes:

- Increased BPS compliance and implementation
- Expansion of jobs and workforce opportunities
- Stronger local capacity for creating healthy and thriving communities



The History

An innovative model for tackling NYC's emissions



The challenge

Buildings are responsible for 70% of NYC GHG emissions



2009: Greener Greater Buildings Plan



2019: NYC Climate Mobilization Act



2021: NYC All-Electric Building Law

The solution

Connecting decision makers with actionable information

Founded in 2010, BE-Ex is a global, non-profit center of excellence dedicated to providing building energy efficiency solutions and education to the 100,000+ building decision makers across New York City



The Partnership

Building Performance Partnership

A collaboration between BE-Ex and IMT

building
performance
par+nership

+



IMT
INSTITUTE
FOR MARKET
TRANSFORMATION

+

be
ex
building
energy
exchange

Building Performance Partnership Network to date

Founders



New York City | Washington, D.C.

Phase 2: Start-up



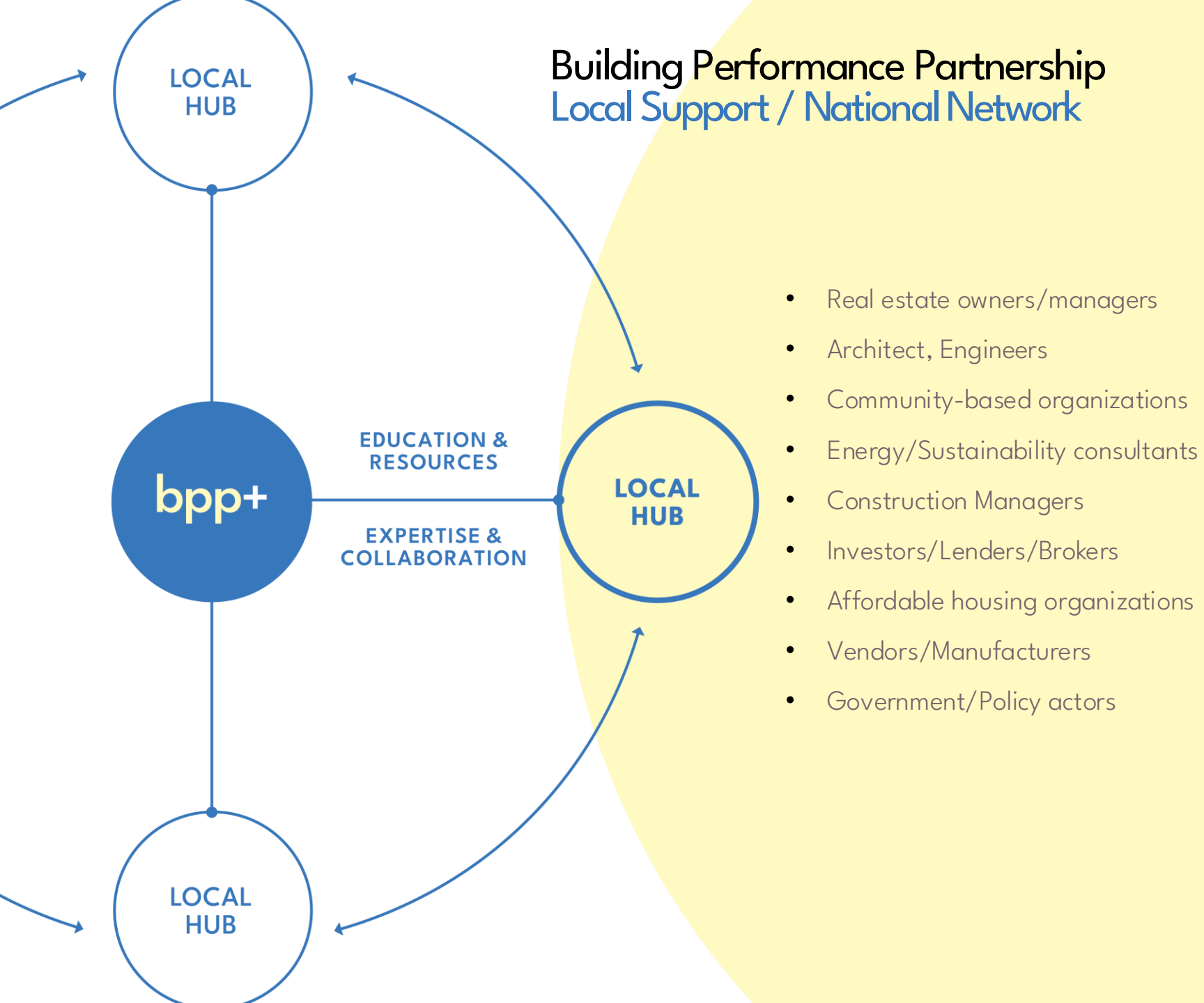
Kansas City | St. Louis | Illinois

Phase 3: Expansion



Massachusetts | Philadelphia | Aspen

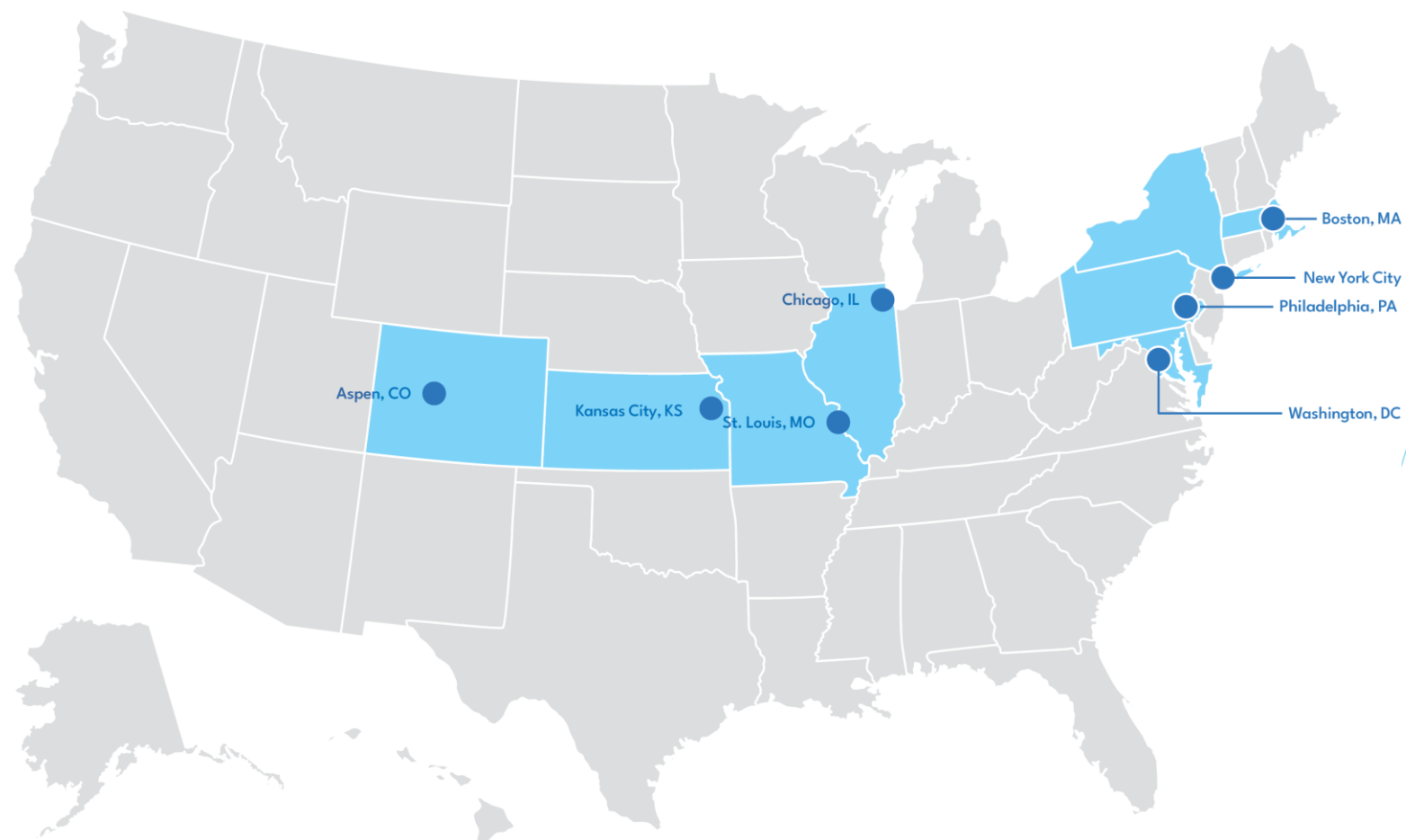
Building Performance Partnership Local Support / National Network



Impact

Building Performance Partnership Impact to date

- Sharing critical resources and trainings
- Collaborating on joint programming and podcasts
- Developing compliance pathways and resources for local building policies
- Teaming on joint funding awards



Current Partner Hub locales

Why Now?

- Demonstrated success and momentum with existing hubs
- Absence of federal action or funding

Why This?

- Need to engage local community stakeholders to collaborate on solutions
- Need a national network to share success stories, strategies, and leverage experience from established hubs

What Next?

- Establish more hubs nationally
- Scale impact through increased funding and support

Inquiries?

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building performance
par+nership

Building Energy
Exchange

31 Chambers Street
New York, NY

September 25, 2025
10:30am to 12:00pm

1.5 AIA
LU | HSW

Advancing Local Climate Leadership Through a Community of Practice

The Building Performance Partnership (BPP), a project of Building Energy Exchange and the Institute for Market Transformation, has created an industry-wide network of hubs that brings together industry leaders to tackle these challenges. Each hub offers best practices, success stories, and trustworthy information and resources. Join BPP for a topical discussion about local action to scale building decarbonization in the U.S.

Opening remarks:

Joe Chavez, Deputy Director, Sustainable Buildings, NYC Mayor's Office of Climate and Environmental Justice

Presenters:

Alex Dews, Chief Executive Officer, Institute for Market Transformation

Hailey Moll, Manager of Educational Resources, Building Energy Exchange

Moderator:

Wanjiku Ngare, Senior Manager, City Finance Programme, C40 Cities

Panelists:

Theresa Backhus, Director, Building Innovation Hub

Brian Geller, Sustainability Director, The Durst Organization

Linda Toth, Associate, Arup

Richard Yancey, Chief Executive Officer, Building Energy Exchange