



RIEC⁴

FY2027 EC4 Spending Plan

September 2026

FY2027 EC4 Budget Process

- EC4 was provided with a **\$1.5M budget** for FY2027 (set by statute).
- Funding continues to come from **Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI)** auction proceeds.
- Agencies submitted project proposals late July/early August – **30 proposals were received in excess of \$4.1M.**
- Public input was solicited on all project proposals in late August/early-September. Over **30 people/organizations provided feedback** on the project proposals. Thank you!
- 9/24/26: EC4 votes to approve a final FY2027 EC4 Spending Plan.



Ocean Hour Farm (Newport, RI)

Demand for EC4 Funds

EC4 Funding Cycle	# of Project Proposals Received	Total \$\$ of Requests/Applications for Funding
FY2025 (awarded Oct. 2024)	19	Over \$2.2M
FY2026 (awarded Sept. 2025)	21	Over \$3.1M
FY2027 (to be awarded Sept. 2026)	30	Over \$4.1M

- Demand is growing – has nearly doubled in just two years
- A growing number of agencies/higher education programs are seeking funding

Summary of Public Input

- Projects with the largest number of comments in support were shoreline structure mapping, RIDE energy efficient schools, supporting RIPTA, regenerative agriculture, and heat pump workforce training.
- Other proposals with significant support included Sea Grant's energy resilience efforts with municipalities, the energy navigator program with URI Extension, and the municipal resilience toolkit.
- The PUC analyst position was highlighted as a key role in the energy transition by several commenters.
- Agencies should be doing Lead by Example work through their capital budgets.
- Agencies who are asking for additional funding for projects should clearly demonstrate how the ongoing work is supporting the Act on Climate and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
- There should be public facing reporting on actions and lessons learned.
- State agencies should demonstrate how they are using existing agency funding to support goals in the Act on Climate, Resilient Rhody 2025 and the 2025 Climate Action Strategy when requesting funds through EC4.

Notes on 2027 Projects

Selected projects represent a cross-section of efforts to help a broad range of constituents. The projects support:

- **Municipalities** through energy resilience support and municipal ordinance toolkits
- **Communities** through the energy navigator program
- **Students and Educators** with environmental education internships and curricula
- **Energy Efficient Schools** with guidance on LEED certification
- **Public Transit** with support of RIPTA programs
- **Businesses** through support of the Commerce resilience position and workforce training

We focused on the broadest reaching projects that will support the most people and catalyze future work.

Four projects will be completed with funding from other sources:

- Heat pump training – CCRI
- Weatherization of DEM facilities
- LiDAR data for forest carbon monitoring
- OER Energy Fellows

FY 2027 EC4 Budget Table

RI Commerce	\$100,000	Resiliency Manager Position
Coastal Resources Management Council	\$68,000	Structural Shoreline Inventory & Climate Readiness Assessment
Public Utilities Commission	\$35,000	Energy Policy Analyst Position
Department of Education	\$165,000	Learning Environments Advancing Decarbonization (LEAD)
Department of Environmental Management (Land Conservation Program)	\$30,000	Habitat Resilience Hub Implementation Phase 2
EC4 Science & Technical Advisory Board (STAB)	\$80,000	Contractual Support for EC4 STAB Activities
Department of Environmental Management (Agriculture)	\$50,000	Expanding Regenerative Agriculture through LASA Grant Program
RI Public Transit Authority	\$100,000	Drive Less RI
RI Public Transit Authority	\$100,000	Wave Cards for Cash Riders
RI Public Transit Authority	\$100,000	Wave Card Incentives
Division of Statewide Planning	\$95,000	Statewide Municipal Climate Resilience Ordinance Toolkit
Department of Transportation	\$100,000	Low Carbon Materials Program for Transportation
University of Rhode Island (Sea Grant)	\$165,000	Accelerate Energy Resilience in Rhode Island Municipalities
University of Rhode Island (Cooperative Extension)	\$136,312	Energy Navigator Program Expansion
University of Rhode Island (Environmental Education)	\$175,000	Advancing Climate Education Across Rhode Island

Trends in Spending EC4 Funding

Reporting as of Spring 2026 (Next reporting date is Nov. 2026)

Year	Amount Available	Amount Spent	Remaining	Percent Spent
FY2024	\$2,840,000 *	\$2,358,544.91	\$481,455.09	83%
FY2025	\$1,660,000 **	\$840,844.16	\$819,155.84	51%
FY2026	\$1,500,00	\$621,638.46	\$878,361.54	41%

Total of 32 Projects (FY24, FY25 & FY26)

- 7 projects are fully completed
- 10 projects are more than 50% spent down

* \$1.5M from the FY 2024 EC4 Budget was set aside by law for state EV rebates

** A small sum of unallocated funds from FY2024 was included in the FY2025 EC4 Spending Plan