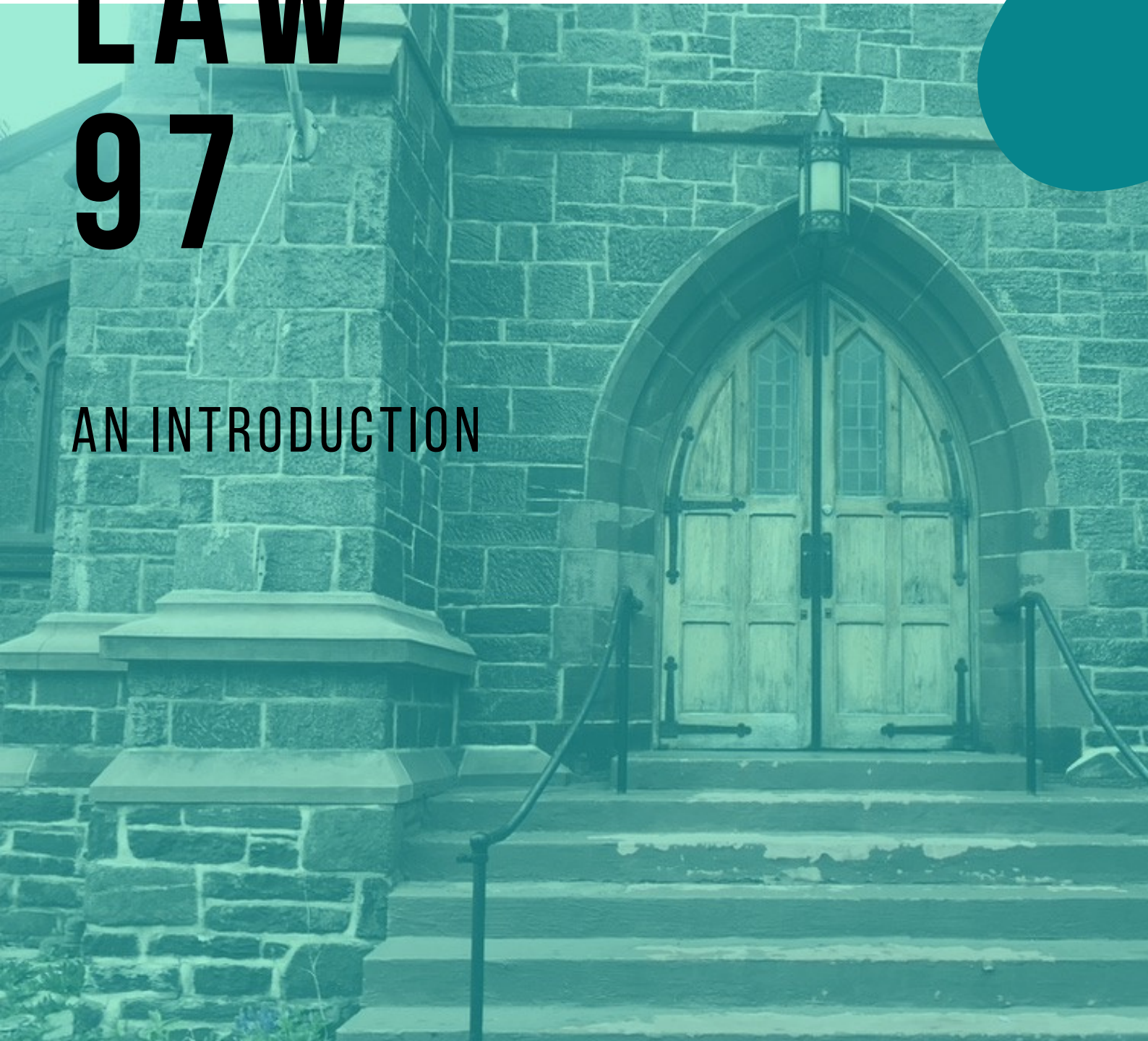


APRIL 2022

NYC LOCAL LAW 97

AN INTRODUCTION



WHAT IS LOCAL LAW 97?

Local Law 97 (LL97) is part of New York City's Climate Mobilization Act of 2019 – sometimes called the NYC Green New Deal. LL97 and its amendments place strict limits on greenhouse gas emissions from all buildings larger than 25,000 square feet, including houses of worship and other non-profits.

The law requires that buildings reduce their use of fossil fuels and non-renewable electricity, and reduce the amount of carbon that the building puts into the atmosphere.

The metric of LL97 is for the city to reduce its energy use to 80% of 2005 levels by the year 2050, and lessen its contributions to climate change.

DOES LL97 IMPACT MY HOUSE OF WORSHIP?

If your house of worship is 25,000 square feet or over, or is on a tax lot with another building where the total square footage is 50,000 square feet or more, you must comply with LL97.

If your building is under 25,000 square feet, you are not required to comply with LL97, but pursuing energy efficiency in your building can help build a more sustainable city and also reduce your spending on energy bills.

Houses of worship have a lower threshold to comply with LL97 than other buildings, but still must take action to avoid hefty fines.





HOW CAN MY HOUSE OF WORSHIP PREPARE FOR LL97?

The first step for your house of worship will be to conduct an energy audit, which will inform the measures you will take to make your building more efficient overall and bring you into compliance with LL97.

The energy audit will look at a range of elements, including your building envelope (the walls and roofs that separate your building's inside from the outside), HVAC systems, electrical and lighting systems, hot water systems, and conveying systems.

After the energy audit, you will have an understanding of what steps you need to take to reduce your energy and carbon consumption – check out our events linked below to learn more!



BY WHEN DO I HAVE TO COMPLY?

By December 31, 2024, if your building is 25,000 square feet or larger, you will need to ensure that prescriptive energy conservation measures have been implemented in your building.

By May 1, 2025, you will need to submit a report to demonstrate compliance, and every year after that.

WHAT HAPPENS IF I DON'T COMPLY?

Failing to comply with LL97 can carry significant financial consequences. If you fail to file a report, penalties start at \$0.50/square foot – a minimum of \$12,500 for a property that is 25,000 square feet! There is a \$500,000 fine for making an inaccurate or falsified report.



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Link to [Bricks and Mortals Presentation about Environmental Sustainability Laws \(Including Local Law 97\) and Houses of Faith](#) (March 2022)
 - This event describes LL97 and how it applies to Houses of Faith larger than 25,000 Square Feet.
 - This includes the process and timeline for complying with the law.
 - The law does not apply to Houses of Faith smaller than 25,000 Square Feet.
 - However, green energy retrofits can lead to cost savings and increased comfort for buildings of all sizes.
- Link to [Bricks and Mortals Workshop on Financing and Implementing LL97-Related Improvements](#) (March 2022)
 - This event describes financing opportunities and strategies to bring your house of worship into compliance with LL97.
- NYC Government resources
 - [NYC Accelerator](#): provides resources and financing to help buildings come into compliance with LL97.
 - Contact information: (212) 656-9202, info@accelerator.nyc
 - [NYC Sustainable Buildings's LL97 page](#)
 - [NYC Sustainable Buildings's Houses of Worship page](#)
 - [Free Solar One Energy Feasibility Assessment](#)
 - [Low cost Green Jobs Green New York energy study](#) (if energy bill < \$100K)
- NYC PACE Financing - financing available for projects larger than \$500,000.00
 - [Explainer page](#) at NYC Accelerator's website
 - [Third-party website about PACE](#)
 - [NYCEEC](#): financing and loans for energy efficiency and clean energy technologies, also involved in administering the PACE program.
 - [List of pre-qualified lenders](#)
- Energy Systems Vendors
 - Forthcoming: Full list of vendors to be provided by the NYC Accelerator
 - [BlocPower](#): Heat pumps, heating & cooling, & Solar PV
 - [Crauderueff Solar](#): Solar Power
- Learn more about LL97
 - [Urban Green Council](#)
 - [Building Energy Exchange LL97 Building Emissions Calculator](#)

