

RESOURCES
AVAILABLE TO
SUPPORT CONDITIONS
FOR GROWTH
IN MASSACHUSETTS
CITIES AND TOWNS

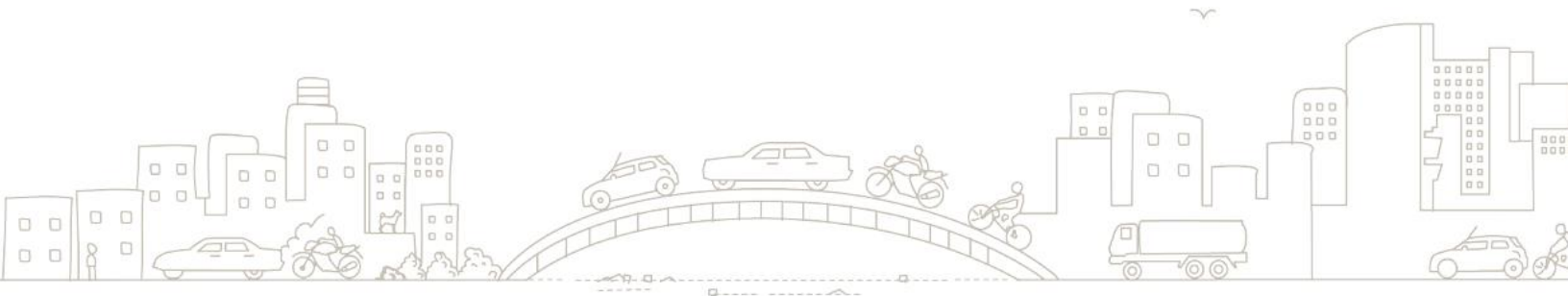


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Introduction

Massachusetts is comprised of a wonderful mix of 351 cities and towns, each with a distinctive built and natural environment, history and culture, and range of amenities. Our cities and towns are some of the best places in the country to live and work, with a true wealth of attractive attributes.

As REALTORS®, we understand just how much place and community matter when a person is deciding where to buy a home, or a business is deciding where to locate. And because of this, we are invested in making our communities even better, day by day.

Municipal improvements can be limited by constraints to local budgets. However, there are several external financial and other resources available to help cities and towns make improvements and grow — by creating housing, expanding infrastructure, or promoting resiliency, among so many other opportunities. These resources are often in the form of competitive grant funding, an external source of revenue that need not be repaid.

Given the diversity of opportunity that exists, there is a good chance that the city or town in which you live or work could benefit from one or more of these programs. The pages that follow provide a brief overview of some of the programs available at the state and federal levels, as well as additional resources. It bears noting that this is curated, rather than a comprehensive, list of opportunities that might help a city or town meet a challenge or improve existing conditions. A larger database of state grants is available [here](#), and federal grants [here](#).

If you see a program that might be a good fit in your community, you may want to bring it to the attention of city or town officials or staff to ensure that they are aware of it. If you have any questions about how cities and towns may be able to access grant funding and how you can help, please feel free to contact MAR Local Policy Manager Catherine Rollins at crollins@marealtor.com or 781-839-5503.

Massachusetts: NEW Community One Stop for Growth

Community One Stop for Growth

Unveiled in January 2021, this is a one-stop portal for development-oriented grant funding provided by three agencies: the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development, the Department of Housing and Community Development, and MassDevelopment. This portal will streamline the applicant experience and allow the state to proactively match appropriate resources to development projects, rather than only reviewing program-specific requests.

Available funding programs include:

- **MassWorks**
A MassWorks grant could fund the construction of a roadway to access a new mixed-use development.
- **Urban Agenda**
An Urban Agenda grant could support a community-based small business accelerator program.
- **43D Expedited Permitting**
The 43D Expedited Permitting program allows a city or town to designate a Priority Development Site, gaining priority consideration for related state grants and online marketing assistance.
- **Housing Choice Community Capital Grants**
A Housing Choice Community Capital grant could expand a water line, allowing connection for new homes.
- **Massachusetts Downtown Initiative**
The Massachusetts Downtown Initiative (MDI) could provide technical assistance to attract more small businesses to a downtown.
- **Community Planning Grants**
A Community Planning Grant could provide funding for technical assistance to help a community diversify its housing stock by reviewing its zoning regulations to remove language that excludes certain types of housing.
- **Rural Development Fund**
A Rural Development Fund grant could be used for the capital costs of rehabilitating an underutilized property to add housing to the market.
- **Brownfields**
A Brownfields Redevelopment Fund grant could pay for the environmental remediation of a contaminated site, making it safe for development.
- **Site Readiness**
A Site Readiness grant could fund a market analysis to inform the type of development that could succeed in a location.
- **Underutilized Properties**
An Underutilized Properties grant could pay the capital costs of bringing a building into compliance with fire code so that it can be used for housing.

Massachusetts: Community Compact Cabinet

Best Practices Grant Program

The Community Compact is a voluntary, mutual agreement entered into between the Baker-Polito Administration and individual cities and towns of the Commonwealth. Cities and towns work to adopt best practices with assistance from state agencies, and in return receive preference on certain competitive grants submissions.

- A city or town could agree to work towards enhanced environmental resiliency and receive preference for competitive state grants related to climate change.

Efficiency & Regionalization Grant Program

The Efficiency & Regionalization grant program provides financial support for entities interested in implementing regionalization and other efficiency initiatives.

- A city or town could use an Efficiency and Regionalization Grant to partner with other towns for shared programming around affordable housing.



Massachusetts: Community Development

Abandoned Housing Initiative Strategic Demolition Fund Grant

Grant funds are awarded to post-demolition redevelopment projects in which affordable housing is the primary end-use.

- An Abandoned Housing Initiative Strategic Demolition grant could be used to demolish an uninhabitable structure, clearing the way to redevelop affordable housing at the site.

Abandoned Housing Initiative Technology to Enrich Community Housing Grant

This program provides assistance to communities that suffer from the negative health and economic impacts of severely blighted residential properties.

- An Abandoned Housing Initiative Technology to Enrich Community Housing Grant could be used to allow a city or town to purchase technology to better understand building inspection data.

Brownfields Remediation Loan Program

The Remediation Loan Program offers flexible loans up to \$500,000 for environmental clean-up of brownfields.

- A Brownfields Remediation Loan could be used to clean up environmental contamination on a site, making it safe for new housing development.

Brownfields Site Assessment Program

The Site Assessment Program provides unsecured, interest free financing up to \$100,000 for environmental assessment of brownfields.

- The Brownfields Site Assessment can be used to determine what contamination exists on a site and what would be required to remediate it prior to its reuse.

Business Improvement Districts (BID)

Business Improvement Districts (BID) are special assessment districts in which property owners vote to initiate, manage and finance supplemental services or enhancements above and beyond the baseline of services already provided by their local city or town.

- A Business Improvement District in a city or town could allow for more frequent or specialized services within that District, like enhanced landscaping.

Collaborative Workspace Program

The goal of the Collaborative Workspace Program is to accelerate the pace of new business formation, job creation, and entrepreneurial activity in communities, by supporting infrastructure that fuels community-based innovation.

- The Collaborative Workspace Program can provide funds to create or expand such a facility.

Commonwealth Places

A collaborative initiative from MassDevelopment and the civic crowdfunding platform Patronicity, Commonwealth Places provides a funding mechanism to advance community-driven placemaking projects in downtowns and neighborhood commercial districts throughout Massachusetts.

- The Commonwealth Places initiative could allow a city or town to raise small donations to fund the cost of painting murals in an underutilized public venue.

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

Massachusetts Community Development Block Grant Program is a federally funded, competitive grant program designed to help small cities and towns meet a broad range of community development needs.

- The Community Development Block Grant could fund affordable housing rehabilitation in a city or town.

Community Preservation Act

The CPA helps communities preserve open space and historic sites, create affordable housing, and develop outdoor recreational facilities.

- The Community Preservation Act could help a town raise funds for affordable housing construction.

MA Downtown Initiative (MDI) Grant

DHCD's Massachusetts Downtown Initiative (MDI) offers a range of services and assistance to communities seeking help on how to revitalize their downtowns.

- The MA Downtown Initiative could offer technical assistance to a city or town to keep downtown safe.

Housing Choice Designation and Grants

The Housing Choice Initiative rewards municipalities that have produced certain rates or amounts of new housing units in the last five years and that adopted best practices related to housing production that will sustain a 21st century workforce and increase access to opportunity for Massachusetts residents.

- The Housing Choice designation gives a city or town access to capital funds to create affordable housing.

Last Mile Infrastructure Grant

The Last Mile Infrastructure Grant program provides funding to eligible towns for municipally-owned broadband networks.

- The Last Mile Infrastructure Grant could provide a town with funding required to expand broadband access to more residents.

MassWorks Infrastructure Program

The MassWorks Infrastructure Program provides a one-stop shop for municipalities and other eligible public entities seeking public infrastructure funding to support economic development and job creation.

- A MassWorks grant could fund the construction of a roadway to access a new mixed-use development.

Seaport Economic Council Programs and Grants

Seaport Economic Council grants help the economic growth of coastal communities.

- A Seaport Economic Council Grant could help an oceanside city or town build infrastructure for climate resiliency.

Urban Agenda Grant Program

The Urban Agenda Grant Program is focused on promoting economic vitality and cultivating safer, stronger urban neighborhoods across the state.

- An Urban Agenda grant could support a community-based small business accelerator program.

Urban Agriculture Program

Program expenditures will promote strategies to address food insecurity and to increase access to fresh, local produce in urban neighborhoods with a high concentration of low-moderate income residents.

- An Urban Agriculture grant could help a city or town procure land for farming.

Urban Renewal

DHCD's Division of Community Services administers the urban renewal program, including assisting municipalities which are establishing urban renewal agencies, and providing technical assistance to prepare and implement Urban Renewal Plans. Not really a direct funding source but may help obtain funds.

- An Urban Renewal Plan could help a city or town redevelop a blighted area.

Massachusetts: Emergency Management and Planning

Flood Mitigation Assistance Grant Program (FMA)

The goal of the FMA program is to implement cost-effective measures that reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of flood damage to buildings, manufactured homes, and other structures insured under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

- A Flood Mitigation Assistance Grant could allow a city or town to improve stormwater management infrastructure.

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program

The HMGP provides funds to States, territories, Indian Tribal governments and communities after a disaster to significantly reduce or permanently eliminate future risk to lives and property from natural hazards.

- A hazard mitigation grant could allow a city or town to improve drainage and culverts, reducing the risk of flooding.

Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Grant Program

The PDM grant program provides funds to States, territories, Indian Tribal governments and communities for hazard mitigation planning and the implementation of mitigation projects prior to a disaster event.

- A Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant could allow a city or town to assess its risk and formulate a plan to improve resiliency.

Massachusetts: Environment

Become a DER Priority Project

The Division of Ecological Restoration selects wetland, river and flow restoration projects through a state-wide, competitive process. We choose high-priority projects that bring significant ecological and community benefits to the Commonwealth.

- A DER Priority Project designation could expedite the restoration of an urban stream in a city.

The Boating Infrastructure Grant (BIG) Program

This program provides grants for new or upgraded boater facilities.

- A Boating Infrastructure Grant could allow a city or town to install additional moorings in its harbor.

Coastal Pollutant Remediation Grant Program

This program provides funding to municipalities located within the Massachusetts coastal watershed for planning / design and remediation including construction and implementation to reduce storm water pollution from paved surfaces, or for commercial boat waste pump out facilities.

- A Coastal Pollutant Remediation Grant could allow a city or town to design stormwater infrastructure to treat nutrients and bacteria from road runoff.

Coastal Resilience Grant Program

This program provides financial and technical support to increase awareness and understanding of climate impacts, identify and map vulnerabilities, conduct adaptation planning, redesign vulnerable public facilities and infrastructure, and implement non-structural (or green infrastructure) approaches that enhance natural resources.

- A Coastal Resilience Grant could help a seaside city or town restore shorelines to enhance natural resources and provide storm damage protection.

Community Forest Grant Program

The Community Forest Program is a US Forest Service competitive grant program whereby local governments, qualified nonprofit organizations, and Indian tribes are eligible to apply for grant funding to establish community forests.

- A Community Forest Grant could allow a city or town to establish a forest to create wildlife habitat.

Community Forest Stewardship Grants

These grants aid communities in putting forest stewardship into practice and to help connect the local citizens to their forest and the benefits these forests provide—including a local source of wood products, clean water, biodiversity, and wildlife habitat.

- A Community Forest Stewardship Grant facilitates the education of private landowners around how to protect the ecosystem values of their forest.

Conservation Appraisals and Open Space & Recreation Plans for Small Communities Grant Program

This grant program provides reimbursement funding for preparation of Open Space & Recreation Plans (OSRPs) in order to apply to DCS grant programs, and/or appraisals contracted in order to apply to the LAND or PARC grant program, and/or other plans to further land conservation.

- An Open Space & Recreation Plan for Small Communities Grant could assist a town in planning how to maximize and protect their resources for outdoor recreation.

Conservation Assistance for Small Communities Grant Program

The Conservation Assistance for Small Communities Grant Program provides funding for towns with 6,000 people or less.

- A Conservation Assistance for Small Communities Grant could help a town with a land conservation initiative.

Culvert Replacement Municipal Assistance Grant Program

This program provides grants to replace undersized, perched, and/or degraded culvert located in an area of high ecological value.

- A Culvert Replacement Grant could help a city or town replace a degraded culvert using new environmental design standards to better handle stormwater.

The Dam and Seawall Program

This program provides grants and loans for the repair or removal of dams, seawalls, and levees.

- A Dam and Seawall Program grant could allow a coastal community to repair a failing seawall, strengthening its protection against storm surge.

Department of Environmental Protection's Office of Municipal Partnerships

The Office of Municipal Partnerships was created to help municipal officials better understand MassDEP's programs and to make agency resources more easily accessible to local governments.

- A city or town could approach the Office of Municipal Partnerships to understand what resources are available to clean up a contaminated site to unlock redevelopment.

Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs Office of Grants and Technical Assistance

EEA's Office of Grants and Technical Assistance helps provide guidance to those seeking state funding assistance find the programs which are best for them.

- The EOEEA Office of Grants and Technical Assistance can help a city or town understand resources available to promote resiliency.

Gateway City Parks Program

This grant program provides reimbursement funding for appraisals completed in order to apply to the LAND grant program.

- The Gateway Cities Parks Program could fund the creation of a new park in an underserved area.

Governor's Seaport Advisory Council Seaport Improvement Grants

The Governor's Seaport Advisory Council (SAC) approves grant projects pursuant to Chapter 28 of the Acts and Resolves of 1996, the Seaport Bond Bill, for the "revitalization and development of the Commonwealth's seaports.

- A Seaport Improvement Grant could fund the rehabilitation of a city or town pier.

Landscape Partnership Program

The Landscape Partnership Program seeks to preserve large, unfragmented, high-value conservation landscapes including working forests and farms, expand state-municipal-private partnerships, increase leveraging of state dollars, enhance stewardship of conservation land, and provide public recreation opportunities.

- The Landscape Partnership Program could provide funds for a town to preserve at least 500 acres of conservation land.

Land Use Planning Grants

These grants are used to implement land use regulations that are consistent with land conservation and development objectives.

- A Land Use Planning Grant could help a city or town develop zoning consistent with the Housing Choice law, like an Accessory Dwelling Unit ordinance.

Local Acquisitions for Natural Diversity (LAND) Program

The LAND Program (formerly the Self-Help Program) was established in 1961 to assist municipal conservation commissions in acquiring land for natural resource protection and passive outdoor recreation purposes.

- A LAND Grant could fund a city or town to purchase forest land for public access.

Massachusetts Bays Program Research and Planning Grants

This program provides grants for applied planning and research projects that protect coastal habitat, reduce stormwater pollution, protect shellfish resources, manage local land use and growth, manage municipal wastewater, manage marine invasive species, monitor marine and estuary waters and adapt to the projected impacts of climate change.

- A coastal city or town could use a Massachusetts Bays Program Research and Planning Grant to promote estuary preservation.

MassDEP Reduce, Reuse, Repair Micro-Grant

This program provides grants of up to \$5,000 to municipalities, regional authorities, and eligible organizations for short-term waste reduction projects.

- The MassDEP Reduce, Reuse, Repair Grant could fund a city or town outreach campaign to encourage recycling compliance.

Massachusetts Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant Program

The Federal Land & Water Conservation Fund provides up to 50% of the total project cost for the acquisition, development, and renovation of: Parks, Trails and Conservation areas.

- A Massachusetts Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant could enable a town to create a new trail through a forest area.

MassTrails Program

Grants are awarded for a variety of trail protection, construction, and stewardship projects throughout Massachusetts.

- A MassTrails Grant could help a city or town replace a degraded footbridge on an existing pedestrian trail.

MassWildlife Habitat Management Grant Program (MHMGP)

This program provides assistance to private and municipal owners of protected lands to support active habitat enhancement while promoting public access for hunting, fishing, and wildlife observation.

- A MassWildlife Habitat Management Grant could allow a city or town to plant trees species beneficial to wildlife.

Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) program

The Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness grant program (MVP) provides support for cities and towns in Massachusetts to begin the process of planning for climate change resiliency and implementing priority projects.

- The Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness program could fund city or town development of an action-oriented community resiliency plan to combat climate change.

Natural Resource Damages Program Restoration Funds | MassDEP

MassDEP awards grants to public and non-public entities to fund restoration projects. This funding does not follow a set schedule. Grant opportunities are announced as settlement funds become available.

- A Natural Resource Damages Program Restoration grant could allow a city or town to perform education and outreach around a contaminated site.

Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Grant Program (ORLPP)

This grant program helps connect people in urban areas to outdoor spaces, such as parks and playgrounds. It funds projects in areas that don't have many recreational resources.

- An Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Grant could allow a city or town to renovate a park in an underserved area.

Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities (PARC) Program

The PARC Program (formerly the Urban Self-Help Program) was established in 1977 to assist cities and towns in acquiring and developing land for park and outdoor recreation purposes.

- A PARC Program grant could allow a city or town to purchase land on which to establish a park.

Section 319 Nonpoint Source Competitive Grants Program

This grant program is authorized under Section 319 of the federal Clean Water Act for implementation projects that address the prevention, control, and abatement of nonpoint source (NPS) pollution.

- A Section 319 Nonpoint Source Competitive Grant could fund city or town efforts toward pollutant removal from a local waterway.

Source Reduction Assistance Grant Program (SRA)

EPA announced a grant competition to fund two-year Source Reduction Assistance (SRA) agreements that support source reduction approaches (also known as pollution prevention (P2)).

- A Source Reduction Assistance Grant could provide technical assistance to a city or town on innovative ways to keep pollutants out of a residential recycling stream.

State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loan Program (Clean Water and Drinking Water)

This program provides subsidized loans to assist municipalities and water and wastewater districts in the implementation of capital projects that protect, enhance or mitigate water quality and public health.

- A State Revolving Fund Loan for Clean Water could allow a city or town to build a new wastewater treatment facility.

Stormwater MS4 Municipal Assistance Grant Program

This program enables groups of Massachusetts municipalities to expand their efforts to meet requirements for the 2016 Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) General Permits, and to reduce stormwater pollution through coordinated partnerships that emphasize resource sharing.

- A Stormwater MS4 Municipal Assistance Grant could allow cities and towns to form a regional collaborative to share resources and acquire training around stormwater management techniques.

Urban and Community Forestry Challenge Grants

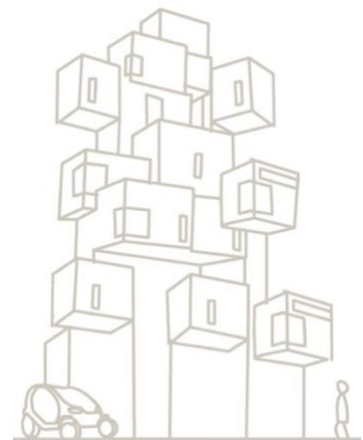
These are 50-50 matching grants offered to municipalities and non-profit groups in Massachusetts communities of all sizes for the purpose of building local capacity for excellent urban and community forestry at the local and regional level.

- An Urban and Community Forestry Challenge Grant could allow a municipality to secure a professional Tree Warden.

Water Management Act Grant Programs for Public Water Suppliers

Grants are available for projects to help public water suppliers plan and manage water use in their communities.

- A Water Management Act Grant could allow a city or town to study and plan for drought resiliency.

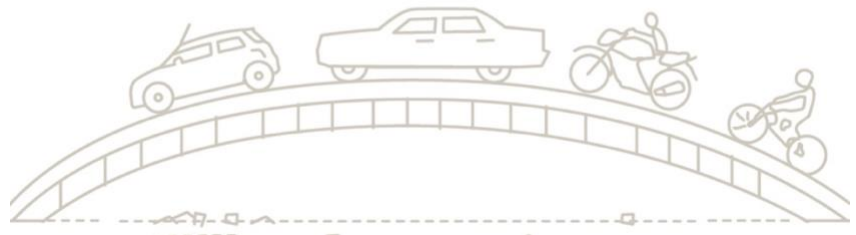


Massachusetts: Health

Mass in Motion Municipal Wellness and Leadership Initiative

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) Bureau of Community Health and Prevention funds municipalities or regional planning agencies or regional councils of government representing municipalities to lower the risk of chronic disease by addressing the community conditions that support healthy living.

- A Mass In Motion grant could allow a city or town to offer active recreational programming to residents to promote community health.



Massachusetts: Historic Preservation

Historical Commission Survey and Planning Grant Program

The Massachusetts Historical Commission Survey and Planning Grant Program is a federally funded, reimbursable, 50/50 matching grant program to support historic preservation planning activities in communities throughout the state.

- A Historical Commission Survey and Planning Grant could allow a city or town to nominate a significant property to the National Registry of Historic Properties.

Preservation Projects Fund

The Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund (MPPF) is a state-funded 50% reimbursable matching grant program established in 1984 to support the preservation of properties, landscapes, and sites (cultural resources) listed in the State Register of Historic Places.

- A Preservation Projects Fund grant could allow a city or town to bring a historic building into code compliance.

Urban Renewal

DHCD's Division of Community Services administers the urban renewal program, including assisting municipalities which are establishing urban renewal agencies, and providing technical assistance to prepare and implement Urban Renewal Plans. Not really a direct funding source but may help obtain funds.

- An Urban Renewal Plan could help a city or town redevelop a blighted area.

Massachusetts: Housing

Affordable Housing Trust Fund (AHTF)

The Affordable Housing Trust Fund has been structured to ensure that many different types of organizations are eligible to receive financing.

- The Affordable Housing Trust Fund could support the development of multiunit affordable housing.

Affordable Rental Development Capital Improvement and Preservation Fund (CIPF)

The Capital Improvement and Preservation Fund is a state bond funded program that seeks to preserve and improve existing privately owned, state or federally assisted affordable rental developments.

- The Affordable Rental Development Capital Improvement and Preservation Fund could preserve expiring affordability restrictions on an affordable housing development in a city or town.

Business Improvement Districts (BID)

Business Improvement Districts (BID) are special assessment districts in which property owners vote to initiate, manage and finance supplemental services or enhancements above and beyond the baseline of services already provided by their local city.

- A Business Improvement District in a city or town could allow for more frequent or specialized services within that District, like enhanced landscaping.

Capital Improvement and Preservation Fund (CIPF)

For-profit and non-profit developers and local housing authorities are eligible to apply for CIPF funds.

- The Capital Improvement and Preservation Fund could improve existing affordable housing managed by a Housing Authority.

Chapter 40R (Smart Growth Zoning Act)

Encourages communities to create dense residential or mixed-use smart growth zoning districts, including a high percentage of affordable housing units, to be located near transit stations, in areas of concentrated development such as existing city and town centers, and in other highly suitable locations.

- Chapter 40R could provide incentive payments to a city or town that permits additional housing units within an established overlay district.

Commercial Area Transit Node Housing Program (CATNHP)

CATNHP is a state funded bond program available to municipalities, non-profit and for-profit sponsors to support rental housing production or rehabilitation.

- CATNHP funds could be used by a city or town to produce a 25-unit rental housing development near a commercial center.

Community Development Block Grant

Massachusetts Community Development Block Grant Program is a federally funded, competitive grant program designed to help small cities and towns meet a broad range of community development needs.

- The Community Development Block Grant could fund affordable housing rehabilitation in a city or town.

Compact Neighborhoods

The state Department of Housing and Community Development offers additional incentives to municipalities that adopt zoning districts promoting the Commonwealth's strong interest in smart growth and housing for working families of all incomes.

- The Compact Neighborhoods program would give a participating town that adopted zoning to allow four or more single family homes per acre, preference for some competitive state grants.

First Time Home Buyer (FTHB)

The Housing Development Division of the Department of Housing and Community Development provides funding to developers, non-profit organizations and communities to assist first time homebuyers.

- The First Time Home Buyer initiative could provide funds to a city or town to offer educational seminars on homebuying to residents.

Gateway Cities Housing Development Incentive Program (HDIP)

The Housing Development Incentive Program (HDIP), established as M.G.L., Chapter 40V, provides Gateway Cities with a development tool to increase residential growth, expand diversity of housing stock, support economic development, and promote neighborhood stabilization in designated geographic target areas.

- The Housing Development Incentive Program could allow a Gateway City to grant a partial local tax exemption to a developer constructing multi-unit market rate homes.

HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME)

The HOME Program is a federally funded program that provides funding to non-profit or for-profit developers for affordable rental housing production and rehabilitation.

- The HOME program could grant a city or town, in partnership with a non-profit developer, funding to build new affordable housing units.

Housing Choice Designation and Grants

The Housing Choice Initiative rewards municipalities that have produced certain rates or amounts of new housing units in the last five years and that adopted best practices related to housing production that will sustain a 21st century workforce and increase access to opportunity for Massachusetts residents.

- A Housing Choice grant could allow a city or town to build sewer capacity to connect new homes.

Housing Stabilization Fund (HSF)

The Housing Stabilization Fund (HSF) is a state funded bond program that assists in the production and preservation of affordable housing for low and moderate-income families and individuals.

- The Housing Stabilization Fund could be used by a city or town, in partnership with a non-profit, to rehabilitate distressed affordable housing.

I-Cubed

The Infrastructure Investment Incentive Program (“I-Cubed”) is an innovative public-private partnership created to spur economic development and job growth in the Commonwealth through support for large-scale private real estate development projects.

- The I-Cubed program allows a city or town to partner with a developer on a large-scale private development, unlocking upfront funding for major infrastructure expansion.

Local Initiative Program (LIP)

The Local Initiative Program (LIP) is a state program that encourages the creation of affordable housing by providing technical assistance to communities and developers who are working together to create affordable rental opportunities for low- and moderate-income households.

- The Local Initiative Program could provide technical assistance to a city or town to facilitate a comprehensive permit for an affordable housing project.

Massachusetts State Low Income Housing Tax Credit Program

This program assists in the production and preservation of affordable rental housing for low-income families and individuals.

- A State Low Income Housing Tax Credit could provide a financing mechanism for a developer to build new affordable housing in a city or town.

Planning for Housing Production Program

MassHousing's Planning for Housing Production Program builds on local affordable housing planning, by providing cities and towns with additional technical capacity to implement their own housing production goals and deliver new mixed-income housing.

- The Planning for Housing Production Program could provide a city or town with technical assistance to identify existing roadblocks to implementing affordable housing development plans, as well as strategies to overcome them.

Urban Center Housing Tax Increment Financing (UCH-TIF)

This program authorizes cities and towns to promote housing and commercial development, including affordable housing, in commercial centers through tax increment financing.

- The Urban UCH-TIF program could allow a city or town to grant a tax exemption to a new mixed-used development in its downtown, incentivizing its construction.



Massachusetts: Public Accessibility

Municipal Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Improvement Grant Program

This program provides both planning and project grants. Planning grants are for updating or creating a Self-Evaluation and/or Transition Plan required under the ADA. Project grants are for removal of architectural or communication barriers that are present.

- A Municipal Americans with Disabilities Act Improvement Grant could provide a city or town with funds for a comprehensive assessment of any accessibility barriers in all public buildings and spaces.

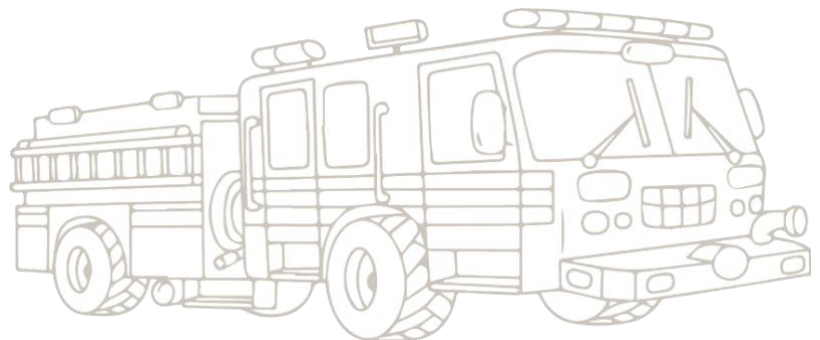


Massachusetts: Public Safety

Volunteer Fire Assistance Program

These grants are available to non-profit rural call or volunteer fire departments that primarily serve a community or city with a population of less than 10,000.

- The Volunteer Fire Assistance Program could allow a small city or town to purchase personal protective equipment for volunteer firefighters.



Massachusetts: Public Works and Transportation

Shared Streets Program

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation's Shared Streets and Spaces quick-launch/quick-build grant program will provide grants as small as \$5,000 and as large as \$300,000 for cities and towns to quickly implement or expand improvements to sidewalks, curbs, streets, on-street parking spaces and off-street parking.

- A Shared Streets grant could fund a city or town installation of public art and seating in an underutilized public alleyway to create a vibrant space.

Community Transit Grant Program

The Community Transit Grant Program awards funds to help meet the transportation and mobility needs of seniors and people with disabilities.

- The Community Transit Grant Program could enable a local transit authority to purchase a fully accessible van for on-demand ride service.

Complete Streets Funding Program

This program funds Complete Streets. A Complete Street is one that provides safe and accessible options for all travel modes - walking, biking, transit and vehicles – for people of all ages and abilities.

- A Complete Streets grant could allow a city or town to build a new bike lane on a main street.

MassWorks Infrastructure Program

The MassWorks Infrastructure Program provides a one-stop shop for municipalities and other eligible public entities seeking public infrastructure funding to support economic development and job creation.

- A MassWorks grant could fund the construction of a roadway to access a new mixed-use development.

Municipal Small Bridge Program

This program provides financial support to cities and towns for small bridge replacement, preservation and rehabilitation projects.

- The Municipal Small Bridge Program could provide funds for a city or town to rehabilitate a degraded 12' bridge.

Safe Routes to School

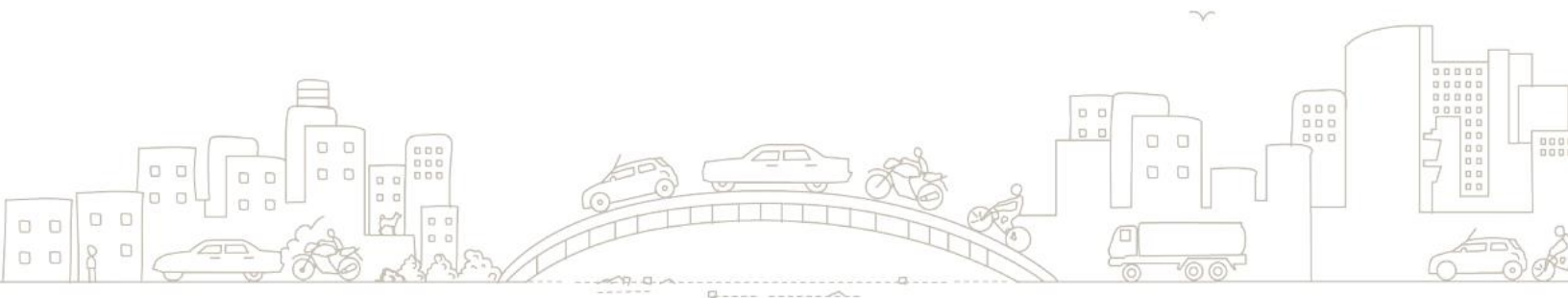
This program provides grants for safe places for children to walk and bike, starting with their trip to school.

- A Safe Routes to School grant could provide a city or town with funding to build raised crosswalks near an elementary school.

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

The State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) is a Federally mandated prioritized listing of highway, bridge, intermodal and transit projects expected to be undertaken during the next four federal fiscal years.

- The Transportation Improvement Program could provide a city or town with funds for major roadway reconstruction.



Federal: Economic Development Administration

FY 2020 Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance Programs Notice of Funding Opportunity (PWEAA NOFO).

EDA's Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance (EAA) programs provide economically distressed communities and regions with comprehensive and flexible resources to address a wide variety of economic needs. Projects funded by these programs will support work in Opportunity Zones and will support the mission of the Department by, among other things, leading to the creation and retention of jobs and increased private investment, advancing innovation, enhancing the manufacturing capacities of regions, providing workforce development opportunities, and growing ecosystems that attract foreign direct investment.

Through the PWEAA NOFO, EDA solicits applications from applicants in order to provide investments that support construction, non-construction, planning, technical assistance, and revolving loan fund projects under EDA's Public Works program and EAA programs (which includes Assistance to Coal Communities). Grants and cooperative agreements made under these programs are designed to leverage existing regional assets and support the implementation of economic development strategies that advance new ideas and creative approaches to advance economic prosperity in distressed communities.

This opportunity is offered cyclically; when one funding round closes, another generally opens soon after. The criteria and types of projects preferred may vary by round.

Federal: Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

Choice Neighborhoods and Planning Program NOFO

The Choice Neighborhoods program leverages significant public and private dollars to support locally driven strategies that address struggling neighborhoods with distressed public and/or HUD-assisted housing through a comprehensive approach to neighborhood transformation. Local leaders, residents, and other stakeholders, such as public housing agencies, cities, schools, police, business owners, nonprofits, and private developers, come together to create and implement a plan that revitalizes distressed HUD housing and addresses the challenges in the surrounding neighborhood. The program helps communities transform neighborhoods by redeveloping severely distressed public and/or HUD-assisted housing and catalyzing critical improvements in the neighborhood, including vacant property, housing, businesses, services and schools. To this end, Choice Neighborhoods is focused on three core goals:

1. **Housing:** Replace distressed public and assisted housing with high-quality mixed-income housing that is well-managed and responsive to the needs of the surrounding neighborhood;
2. **People:** Improve outcomes of households living in the target housing related to employment and income, health, and children’s education; and
3. **Neighborhood:** Create the conditions necessary for public and private reinvestment in distressed neighborhoods to offer the kinds of amenities and assets, including safety, good schools, and commercial activity, that are important to families’ choices about their community.

To achieve these core goals, successful applicants must develop and implement a comprehensive neighborhood revitalization strategy, or “Transformation Plan.” This Transformation Plan becomes the guiding document for the revitalization of the public and/or assisted housing units, while simultaneously directing the transformation of the surrounding neighborhood.

Preference Points: HUD encourages activities in Promise Zones, Opportunity Zones (OZ), or activities in collaboration with HBCUs. HUD may award two (2) points for qualified activities supporting either initiative. In no case will HUD award more than two preference points for these activities.

Funding of up to **\$5,000,000** is available through this NOFA. HUD anticipates awarding 10 Planning Grants not to exceed \$450,000 each.

FY 2020 Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grant Program

The Choice Neighborhoods program leverages significant public and private dollars to support locally driven strategies that address struggling neighborhoods with severely distressed public and/or HUD-assisted housing through a comprehensive approach to neighborhood transformation. Local leaders, residents, and other stakeholders, such as public housing authorities, cities, schools, police, business owners, nonprofits, and private developers, come

together to create and implement a plan that revitalizes distressed HUD housing and addresses the challenges in the surrounding neighborhood. The program helps communities transform neighborhoods by redeveloping severely distressed public and/or HUD-assisted housing and catalyzing critical improvements in the neighborhood. To this end, Choice Neighborhoods is focused on three core goals:

1. **Housing:** Replace severely distressed public and assisted housing with high-quality mixed-income housing that is well-managed and responsive to the needs of the surrounding neighborhood;
2. **People:** Improve outcomes of households living in the target housing related to employment and income, health, and children’s education; and
3. **Neighborhood:** Create the conditions necessary for public and private reinvestment in distressed neighborhoods to offer the kinds of amenities and assets, including safety, good schools, and commercial activity, that are important to families’ choices about their community.

To achieve these core goals, successful applicants have in place a comprehensive neighborhood revitalization strategy, or “Transformation Plan.” This Transformation Plan is the guiding document for the revitalization of the public and/or assisted housing units, while simultaneously directing the transformation of the surrounding neighborhood and creating positive outcomes for families.

Experience shows that to successfully develop and implement the Transformation Plan, broad civic engagement is needed. Successful applicants need to work with public and private agencies, organizations (including philanthropic and civic organizations), and individuals to gather and leverage the financial and human capital resources needed to support the sustainability of the plan. These efforts should build community support for and involvement in the development and implementation of the plan.

Preference Points: Preference points Opportunity Zones Promise Zones are available under this Notice.

Lead Hazard Reduction Grant Program

The purpose of the Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction (LHR) grant program is to maximize the number of children under the age of six protected from lead poisoning by assisting states, cities, counties/parishes, Native American Tribes or other units of local government in undertaking comprehensive programs to identify and control lead-based paint hazards in eligible privately-owned rental or owner-occupied housing populations.

Program funds will be awarded to applicants to accomplish the following objectives:

- a. (Targeted Units) Target lead hazard control efforts in housing units where children less than six years of age are at greatest risk of lead poisoning (pre-1960, and, especially, pre-1940 construction), which has historically included children in low-income and minority neighborhoods, to reduce the likelihood of elevated blood lead levels in these children.

- b. (Cost Effectiveness) Utilize cost-effective lead hazard control methods and approaches that ensures the long-term safety of the building occupants.
- c. (Capacity) Build local capacity of trained and certified individuals and firms to safely and effectively address lead hazards during lead hazard control, and renovation, remodeling, and maintenance activities. Another core element for capacity includes the development of comprehensive, community-based approaches to integrating this grant program within other local initiatives through public and private partnerships that address housing related health and safety hazards and or serve low-income families with children under the age of six (6).
- d. (Affirmative Marketing) Establish and implement a detailed process of monitoring and ensuring that units made lead-safe units are affirmatively marketed, and priority given, to families with children under age 6 years for not less than three years.
- e. (Data Collection) Gather pre- and post-treatment data that supports and validates lead hazard control investments. Program data collected should support the evaluation of grant program activities and outcomes.
- f. (Targeted Outreach and Education) Conducting targeted outreach, affirmative marketing, education or outreach programs on lead hazard control and lead poisoning prevention designed to increase the ability of the applicant to deliver the specified lead hazard control services through this program; including educating owners of eligible rental properties, tenants, and others on the benefits and expectations of participating in this program provided by Title X of the Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act.

Preference Points

This NOFA is offering preference points for Opportunity Zones (OZ) or Promise Zones (PZ).

Funding of approximately \$275,000,000 is available through this NOFA. Approximately \$38,000,000 of the amount listed is available for the Healthy Homes Supplemental funding and is available only to applicants who are awarded an LHR grant.

HUD expects to make approximately 70 awards from the funds available under this NOFA.

Funding Opportunity Number: FR-6400-N-13

Additional Resources

[National League of Cities](#)

The National League of Cities is a voluntary association of cities and towns that focuses on improving quality of life for existing and future constituents. It offers a range of policy research, best practices, education, and grant opportunities for its membership.

[United States Conference of Mayors](#)

Open to cities with populations of 30,000 or more, the United States Conference of Mayors is a voluntary association that offers programming, policy reports, and resources- including grant funding- to its membership.

[Urban Land Institute – Technical Assistance Panels](#)

Urban Land Institute – Technical Assistance Panels offer communities expert advice to vexing land-use challenges.

Downtown revitalization and economic development, river walks, hundreds of housing units, hidden parking and improved transportation stations — these are just a few of the recommendations resulting from ULI Boston/New England Technical Assistance Panels.

Charged with moving specific projects forward, a group of ULI real estate professionals bring their expertise into local communities through a one-day, low-cost consultation service. TAPs are organized for qualifying non-profits and local governments that may not have the resources to find solutions to development roadblocks.

During this one-day program, a panel of six to twelve ULI members provide local stakeholders with the information and tools needed to move projects from the backburner to full steam ahead. Master plans, placemaking, achieving a broader tax base, market feasibility, and financial structuring are just a few examples of how a TAP can help a community tackle land use issues.

[Lincoln Land Institute, Legacy Cities Initiative](#)

The Legacy Cities Initiative is a national network of community and government leaders working to create shared prosperity and bring attention to the common needs and collective importance of these older industrial centers. The initiative seeks to promote sustainable and equitable revitalization of legacy cities by convening leaders, stakeholders, and scholars; facilitating the exchange of ideas and practices; and researching and advancing new policy approaches.