

COMMUNICATIONS OF THE CITY MANAGER

City Council Agenda For
Tuesday, March 12, 2024

11.1 APPOINTMENTS
Non-City Council Confirmation

11.2 APPOINTMENTS
City Council Confirmation

- A. Recommend the appointment of Tina Zlody and the reappointments of Rachel Brown and Carol Stovall to the Citizen Advisory Council.

Recommend appointment

11.3 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES
William Bagley, Jr., Esq., Chief Human Resources Officer

- A. Transmitting informational communication relative to the Senior Tax Abatement Volunteer Program.

Informational Communication

- B. Recommend adoption of Amendment of Salary Ordinance - Local 170 Teamsters (DPW Clerks)

Recommend Adoption

11.4 EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
Peter Dunn, Chief Development Officer

- A. Transmitting informational communication relative to an Update on Economic Development Initiatives.

Informational Communication

- B. Transmitting informational communication relative to Housing & Neighborhood Activities.

Informational Communication

- C. Transmitting informational communication relative to the Semi-annual Tax Increment Financing / Tax Increment Exemption Report for the period ending December 31, 2023.

Informational Communication

- D. Transmitting informational communication relative to FY23 Worcester Jobs Fund Annual Report.

Informational Communication

- E. Recommend adoption of an Order Regarding the Disposition of Real Property at 23 Preston Street.

Recommend adoption

11.5 EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION
Eric D. Batista, City Manager

- 11.6 **EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION**
Division of Human Rights and Accessibility
Victor Perez, Interim Director
- 11.7 **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PARKS**
Administration Division
Jay J. Fink, P.E., Commissioner
- A. Transmitting informational communication relative to a report on the utility
 company pavement guarantees.
 Informational Communication
- 11.8 **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PARKS**
Engineering and Architectural Services Division
Jay J. Fink, P.E., Commissioner
- 11.9 **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PARKS**
Operations Division
Jay J. Fink, P.E., Commissioner
- 11.10 **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PARKS**
Parks Division
Robert C. Antonelli, Jr., Assistant Commissioner
- 11.11 **DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION & MOBILITY**
Stephen S. Rolle, P.E., Commissioner
- 11.12 **FIRE DEPARTMENT**
Martin Dyer, Fire Chief
- A. Transmitting informational communication relative to the 2023 Worcester Fire
 Department Annual Report.
 Informational Communication
- 11.13 **POLICE DEPARTMENT**
Paul B. Saucier, Interim Police Chief
- 11.14 **DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS**
Charles R. Goodwin, Director
- 11.15 **LAW DEPARTMENT**
Michael E. Traynor, Esq., City Solicitor
- A. Recommend adoption of an amendment to the Itinerant Musician Ordinance.
 Recommend Adoption
- 11.16 **DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONAL SERVICES**
Administration
Christopher P. Spencer, Commissioner
- 11.17 **DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONAL SERVICES**
Building and Zoning Division
David Horne, Deputy Building Commissioner

- 11.18 **DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONAL SERVICES**
Housing and Health Inspections Division
Lee R. Hall, Director
- 11.19 **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**
Administration
Dr. Matilde "Mattie" Castiel, M.D., Commissioner
- 11.20 **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**
Division of Public Health
Soloe M. Dennis, MS, MEP, Director
- 11.21 **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**
Division of Elder Affairs
Amy Vogel Waters, Director
- 11.22 **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**
Division of Veterans Services
Dr. Joe Robinson, Veterans' Services Officer/Director
- 11.23 **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**
Division of Youth Services
Raquel Castro-Corazzini, Director
- 11.24 **WORCESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY**
Jason L. Homer, Executive Director

- A. Transmitting informational communication relative to the services provided to and needs of the vulnerable population at the Worcester Public Library.

Informational Communication

- 11.25 **EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER**
Election Commission Division
Nikolin Vangjeli, City Clerk
- 11.26 **PUBLIC SCHOOL DEPARTMENT**
Rachel Monarrez, Superintendent
- 11.27 **DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE**
Assessing Division
Samuel E. Konieczny, City Assessor
- 11.28 **DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE**
Budget Office Division
Erin E. Taylor, Director
- 11.29 **DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE**
Purchasing Division
Christopher Gagliastro, Director

11.30 DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE
Treasury and Collections Division
Timothy J. McGourthy, Acting Treasurer and Collector of Taxes

- A. Transmitting informational communication relative to the Fiscal Year 2024 financial update, as of January 31, 2024.

Informational Communication

11.31 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC FACILITIES
Julie A. Lynch, Chief of Public Facilities

11.32 DEPARTMENT OF SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCE
John W. Odell, Chief Sustainability Officer

- A. Transmitting informational communication relative to a status update for the Green Worcester ElectriCITY aggregation program.

Informational Communication

11.33 DEPARTMENT OF INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY
Michael P. Hamel, Chief Information Officer

- A. Recommend adoption of an order to authorize the City of Worcester to enter into a four (4) year contract with Xerox Corporation to support continued operation of City-wide multi-function devices.

Recommend Adoption

11.34 FINANCE ITEMS
Capital Transfers

Grants and Donations

- A. Recommend adoption of a resolution to file, accept, and expend a grant in the amount of Eighty Four Thousand Five Hundred Dollars And No Cents (\$84,500.00) through the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (MassDEP) under their Recycling Dividends Program (RDP) for the Sustainable Materials Recovery Program (SMRP).
Votes Required
- B. Recommend adoption of a resolution to apply for, accept, and expend a grant in the amount of One Million Dollars And No Cents (\$1,000,000.00) from the Commonwealth Corporation 2024-2025 YouthWorks program cycle.
Votes Required
- C. Recommend adoption of a resolution to file, accept, and expend grant funding in the amount of Three Hundred Sixty Nine Thousand Three Hundred Eighty Two Dollars And Seventy One Cents (\$369,382.71) from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Public Health Excellence Grant program, to support shared services.
Votes Required
- D. Recommend adoption of a resolution to apply for, accept, and expend a grant in the amount of Forty Five Thousand One Hundred Eighty Seven Dollars And Twenty Cents (\$45,187.50) from the MA Probation Services to support the Pre-Arrest Diversion Program.
Votes Required
- E. Recommend adoption of a resolution to apply for, accept, and expend a grant in the amount of Seventy Four Thousand Four Hundred Thirty Eight Dollars and Thirteen Cents (\$74,438.13) from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security's Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) STOP program.
Votes Required
- F. Recommend adoption of a resolution to file, accept, and expend a grant in the amount of Forty Thousand Dollars And No Cents (\$40,000.00) from the MassMEP Program Support program.
Votes Required
- G. Recommend adoption of a resolution to file, accept, and expend a grant in the amount of Three Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$3,500,000.00) from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's, Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund Supplemental Grant program.
Votes Required
- H. Recommend adoption of a resolution to file, accept, and expend a grant in the amount of Three Million Two Hundred Seventy Six Thousand Seven Hundred Seventy One Dollars And No Cents (\$3,276,771.00) from Massachusetts State 911 Department under the FY25 Development Grant program.
Votes Required
- I. Recommend adoption of a resolution to accept with gratitude a donation in the amount of Two Hundred Dollars And No Cents (\$200.00) from the Retired Friend's Club of Greendale, Inc., for the Worcester Fire Department's Public Education Unit.
Votes Required
- J. Recommend adoption of a resolution to accept with gratitude a donation in the amount of Fifty Dollars And No Cents (\$50.00) for the Worcester Fire Department, from Kenneth and Elizabeth Fleming.

Votes Required

- K.** Recommend adoption of a resolution to accept a donation in the amount of Two Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$2,000.00) from Middlesex Savings Bank, to support the Worcester Police Department.

Votes Required

- L.** Resolution to file, accept, and expend a grant in the amount of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars And No Cents (\$25,000.00) from the Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC), Survey and Planning Grant Program.

Votes Required

- M.** Recommend adoption of a resolution to file, accept, and expend a grant in the amount of Eight Seven Thousand Four Hundred Fifty Dollars And No Cents (\$87,450.00) from the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, MassTrails Program.

Votes Required

- N.** Recommend adoption of a resolution to file, accept and expend a grant in the amount of One Hundred Forty Six Thousand Three Hundred Nineteen Dollars And No Cents (\$146,319.00) from Commonwealth of Massachusetts under the Community Compact Cabinet IT Grant Program.

Votes Required

FINANCE ITEMS**Operational Transfers**

- A. Recommend that Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$750,000.00) be transferred from and to various parking accounts to provide operating funding for the Off-Street and On-Street Parking Programs through the third quarter of Fiscal Year 2024.

Votes Required

- B. Recommend that Five Hundred Sixty Three Thousand Three Hundred Dollars And No Cents (\$563,300.00) be transferred from Fund #FD314, Reserve for Appropriation Premium on Loans, and be appropriated to Cost Center #CC1062, Treasury Ordinary Maintenance, to fund the costs associated with the issuance of the \$148,950,000.00 bond dated February 8, 2024.

Votes Required

- C. Recommend that Twenty Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty Eight Dollars And Sixty Five Cents (\$20,758.65) be transferred from Cost Center #CC1044-699399, Fire Capital Outlay, and be appropriated to Cost Center #CC1044-610100, Fire Ordinary Maintenance, to fund the purchase of recruit supplies and building repairs.

Votes Required

- D. Recommend that Five Hundred Sixty Three Thousand Four Hundred Sixty Five Dollars And Forty Nine Cents (\$563,465.49) be transferred from Cost Center #CC1072-610100, City Manager's Contingency Ordinary Maintenance, and be appropriated to various Fire Department accounts to provide funding for anticipated overtime and vehicle repairs.

Votes Required

- E. Recommend that Two Hundred Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$200,000.00) be transferred from Cost Center #CC1025-600100, Sewer Salaries, and be appropriated to Cost Center #CC1025-601100, Sewer Overtime, to cover anticipated expenditures through the remainder of Fiscal Year 2024.

Votes Required

- F. Recommend that Five Hundred Thousand Dollars And No Cents (\$500,000.00) be transferred from Cost Center #CC1055-600100, DPW Street Salaries, and be appropriated to Cost Center #CC1057-610100, DPW Fleet Ordinary Maintenance, to cover anticipated expenditures through the remainder of Fiscal Year 2024.

Votes Required

11.37

FINANCE ITEMS**Prior Year**

- A. Recommend that Sixty Six Thousand Nine Hundred Ten Dollars And Twenty Eight Cents (\$66,910.28) be authorized from Cost Center #CC1037 and #CC1012, Human Resources Ordinary Maintenance, to provide funding for the payment of prior year invoices.

Votes Required

- B. Recommend that One Hundred Forty Six Dollars and Eighty Five Cents (\$146.85) be authorized from various Fiscal Year 2024 Department of Public Works & Parks Cost Centers for the payment of prior year invoices.

Votes Required

11.38

FINANCE**Loan Orders**

- A. Recommend Adoption of an Order Transferring Jurisdiction of Four Parcels on Sunderland Road
Recommend Adoption

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



Attachment for Item # 11.2 A

March 12, 2024

TO THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

COUNCILORS:

In accordance with Article III, Section 3-4 of the Worcester Home Rule Charter, I wish to notify your Honorable Body that I have appointed and reappointed the following individuals to the Citizen Advisory Council, subject to City Council Confirmation.

APPOINTMENT

District 1 Zlody, Tina
(term to expire March 31, 2025)

RE-APPOINTMENT

District 2 BROWN, Rachel
(term to expire March 31, 2027)

District 5 STOVALL, Carol
(term to expire March 31, 2027)

WORCESTER RESIDENTS

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "E. Batista", with a large, stylized loop at the end.

Eric D. Batista
City Manager

CITIZENS ADVISORY COUNCIL**Effective 3-12-24**

FUNCTION: The Citizens Advisory Committee evaluates candidates for appointment to the various Boards and Commissions. The Committee then forwards the names of the candidates to the City Manager for his consideration.

CLASSIFICATION: Unclassified

CREATED BY: Article III, Section 3-4 of the Worcester Home Rule Charter

MEMBERSHIP: Eleven (11) members appointed by the City Manager
AND CONFIRMED BY CITY COUNCIL
Two (2) members from each district.

TERM: Three (3) years; ending on March 31st

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: None

ROSTER

Isabelo Cruz	Original Appointment:	2-7-23
	Reappointment Date:	
	Expiration Date:	3-31-26
	District:	1
Tina Zlody	Original Appointment:	3-12-24
	Reappointment Date:	
	Expiration Date:	3-31-25
	District:	1
Rachel Brown	Original Appointment:	11-13-18
Chairperson	Reappointment Date:	3-12-24
	Expiration Date:	3-31-27
	District:	2
Ammar S. Asbahi	Original Appointment:	4-11-23
	Reappointment Date:	
	Expiration Date:	3-31-26
	District:	2
Siaka Kromah	Original Appointment:	4-5-21
	Reappointment Date:	
	Expiration Date:	3-31-25
	District:	3
Michael Richard	Original Appointment:	7-18-23
	Reappointment Date:	
	Expiration Date:	3-31-26
	District:	3



Related Experience

Director The Market Pantry

2019-present

- Curated from the ground up a diverse and regional specialty food market
- Designed the retail areas, displays and the purchase and sale systems
- Researched and connected with regional food makers, farmers and non profits
- Created the operations and training guidelines for staff
- Hired, trained, supervise and scheduled all staff
- Connected with local makers to purchase their non-food goods
- Track all expiring products and donate goods to local food pantries
- All social media, Instagram, Tick Tock and Mailchimp
- Programmed special events and sampling
- Tracked all analytics, sales reports and inventory reports
- Customer service, sales and loss prevention
- Payroll and store deposits

Program and Event Coordinator Clark University

2009 - 2019

- Coordinate and supervise all Visual & Performing Arts events in a multi-faceted Department
- Guide creation of all branded event items including promotional materials, programs and tickets
- Direct students in creation of press releases, advertisements, interviews and other publicity.
- All necessary administrative work- scheduling, billing, and faculty payroll list required in the running of MUSC 180 (includes coaching) & 18 in music program
- Contact for all musical student group ensembles under direction of music program faculty
- Organize music program faculty directors and student group presidents to create accurate ensemble lists to be submitted to the registrar's office
- Oversee the department's involvement in University and Community events, such as Academic Spree Day, Family Weekend, and Commencement under the direction of Program Directors and the Department Administrator
- Planning and execution of tours, performances, exhibitions, and events under the direction of the Program Directors and Department Administrator

Co-Director, Co-Founder stART on the Street

2002 - Present

- Lead a group of 11 coordinators in the brainstorming, problem solving, growing and execution of three annual art, music and cultural festivals which attracted 90,000 people in 2014
- Build and foster key artistic and governmental relationships around Worcester
- Evaluate event successes, identify and follow up on areas for improvement
- Oversee coordinators in multiple facets of event planning including food, volunteers, non-profits, marketing, logistics, performance, and artist relations

Department Secretary Clark University

2002 -- 2009

- Managed and supported multi-departmental academic office
- Hired and supervised student proctors, who provided security for the Traina Center for the Arts
- Maintained yearly work study and non-work study budgets

Gallery Director Schiltkamp Gallery

2006 - 2007

- Planned professional and thesis art shows, including curation and creation of show concepts
- Hiring and training interns
- Coordinated all aspects of gallery openings and lectures, which included securing caterers, equipment, and artists, as well as all related advertising and promotion, both social and print

Skills

- Written and verbal communication, including public speaking and presentation
- MS Office Suite, all Social Media platforms and MAC based platforms
- Works well alone or collaboratively with many people or departments toward common goals
- Adaptive to learning new processes quickly and resourcefully
- Logistical problem solving and crisis management
- Event coordination and management
- Creative leadership and engagement

Community Activities & Awards

- 2012 – Key to the City of Worcester for stART on the Street
- 2012-ArtsWorcester Exceptional Contribution to the Arts award
- 2009-Present – Chair, Member, Worcester Arts Council
- 2008 –Present, President Central Massachusetts Arts Assembly (501C3)
- 2007 – Visions Award for Cultural Enrichment
- 2002-2007 – Board of Management, YMCA Central Branch
- 2004-2005 – Board of Directors, Bijou Community Cinema
- 2004 – John W. Lund Award for Community Achievement
- 2002-2005 – Gallery Director, Bijou Community Cinema

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



March 12, 2024

Attachment for Item # 11.3 A

TO THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

COUNCILORS:

I am pleased to submit to your Honorable Body the attached Senior Tax Abatement Volunteer Program. Pursuant to this pilot program, a maximum of 20 eligible taxpayers over 60 years of age will be selected to volunteer their services for 133 1/3 hours to the city at a rate of \$15.00 an hour for a total of \$2000.00 of real estate tax abatement.

Senior volunteers will work 133 1/3 hours within the last quarter of 2024 for reduction in taxes in 2025. Seniors may apply at the start of the fiscal year; July 1, 2024, until August 31, 2024, with work beginning October 1, 2024.

Applications will be accepted by the Human Resources Office and once approved and placed, the individual will be monitored, and hours tracked by a Program Coordinator in the Elder Affairs Department. Volunteers will be placed for one year and must re-apply for the next fiscal year. Volunteers must meet the full 133 1/3 hour requirement to be eligible for the tax abatement; partial hours will not pro-rate the tax credit.

Any sums abated pursuant to this program will be applied against the City's overlay.

The City's seniors are one of the populations hit hardest by the housing crisis. Seniors often have fixed incomes making it difficult for them to keep up with housing costs. This program is one of the ways the City is working to ensure its senior residents will be able to stay in the homes they worked so hard to create.

I appreciate your Honorable Body's consideration and look forward to collaboratively making the City of Worcester a better place to live and work. We are happy to answer any questions you may have.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric D. Batista
City Manager

Office of City Manager Eric D. Batista

City Hall, 455 Main Street, Worcester, MA 01608

P | 508-799-1175 F | 508-799-1208 | citymanager@worcesterma.gov | www.worcesterma.gov



The City of
WORCESTER

Human Resources Department
William R. Bagley Jr., CHRO
City Hall, 455 Main Street, Worcester, MA 01608
P | 508-799-1030 F | 508-799-1040
HR@worcesterma.gov

March 12, 2024

Eric Batista, City Manager
City of Worcester, Massachusetts

RE: Pilot Senior Property Tax Abatement Program

Dear Mr. Batista:

Attached are the following materials, which are related to a pilot senior property tax abatement program:

- Senior Property Tax Abatement Work-Off Program Policy for Calendar Year 2025; and
- Senior Tax Abatement Volunteer Program Executive Summary

Pursuant to this pilot program, a maximum of 20 eligible taxpayers over 60 years of age will be selected to volunteer their services for 133 1/3 hours to the city at a rate of \$15.00 an hour for a total of \$2000.00 of real estate tax abatement.

Senior volunteers will work 133 1/3 hours within the last quarter of 2024 for reduction in taxes in 2025. Seniors may apply at the start of the fiscal year; July 1, 2024, until August 31, 2024, with work beginning October 1, 2024. Volunteers may work in any department in the city, with department head approval. Successful applicants will meet designated eligibility requirements including income guidelines, proof of age and residency. They must also have the relevant skill set for a position within the City.

Applications will be accepted by the Human Resources Office and once approved and placed, the individual will be monitored and hours tracked by a Program Coordinator in the Elder Affairs Department. Volunteers will be placed for one year and must re-apply for the next fiscal year. Volunteers must meet the full 133 1/3 hour requirement to be eligible for the tax abatement; partial hours will not pro-rate the tax credit.

Any sums abated pursuant to this program will be applied against the City's overlay.

Should you require any additional information, please feel free to contact me at extension 31134.

Very truly yours,

William R. Bagley Jr.,
Chief Human Resources Officer

Cc: Timothy McGourthy, Chief Financial Officer

Senior Tax Abatement Volunteer Program Executive Summary

The City Manager has elected, through the approval of the City Council to establish a property tax work-off program for income eligible taxpayers over 60 years of age. Under this pilot program, a maximum of 20 participating taxpayers can volunteer their services for 133 1/3 hours to the city at a rate of \$15.00 an hour for a total of \$2000.00 of real estate tax abatement.

Senior volunteers will work 133 1/3 hours within the last quarter of 2024 for reduction in taxes in 2025. Seniors may apply at the start of the fiscal year; July 1, 2024, until August 31, 2024, with work beginning October 1, 2024.

Volunteers may work in any department in the city, with department head approval. Program volunteers are assigned, directed, and supervised by the Department Head or designee and are considered special employees participating in this program and must follow state laws and city policies.

Applicants must meet all eligibility requirements including income guidelines, proof of age and residency and must have relevant skill set for position. Applications will be accepted by the Human Resources Office and once approved and placed, will be monitored and hours tracked by a Program Coordinator in the Elder Affairs Department.

Work-off program expenses will be budgeted in the allowance for abatements and exemption and not through department budgets or appropriations. Volunteers are placed for one year and must re-apply for the next fiscal year. Volunteers must meet the 133 1/3 hour requirement to be eligible for the tax abatement; partial hours will not pro-rate the tax credit.

Taxpayers may earn abatements under the work-off program in addition to any property tax exemptions they may be eligible for under other statutes, such as personal exemptions under G.L. Ch. 59 §5 (22 for Veteran's, 41C for Elderly). They may also defer the balance of their taxes under G.L. Ch. 59 §5(41A) if they are eligible to do so.

The City of Worcester is fully committed to equal opportunity in its employment/volunteer/ intern decisions, programs and activities, in compliance with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations and in furtherance of appropriate affirmative action efforts. The City of Worcester prohibits discrimination and harassment against any individual on the basis of age, gender expression/identity, genetic information, marital status, color, national origin, language, physical or mental disability, pregnancy, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation or status as a U.S. veteran.

Senior Property Tax Abatement Work-Off Program Policy for Calendar Year 2025

Summary

The City Manager has elected, through the approval of the City Council to establish a property tax work-off program for income eligible taxpayers over 60 years of age. Under this pilot program, a maximum of 20 participating taxpayers can volunteer their services for 133 1/3 hours to the City, in exchange for a reduction in their property tax bill in the amount of \$2000.00, less federal income taxes to be credited toward their 2025 tax bill. Interested taxpayers must apply through the Human Resources Office, First Floor, Room 109, in City Hall.

Ownership

Taxpayers must be the assessed owner of the property on which the tax is to be abated is assessed or have acquired ownership before the work is performed and the abatement applied. If the property is subject to a trust, the applicant must have legal title, i.e., be one of the trustees, on the applicable January 1 assessment date, or at the time the work is performed. Only one qualifying owner of the parcel may earn an abatement.

Eligibility:

- **Age:** Applicants must be age 60 years of age or older
- **Income:** Gross income of \$42,000 single or \$55,000 married. Income includes:
 - All pension, social security or retirement benefits
 - Annuities
 - Wages, salaries, tips or other compensation
 - Net profit from business
 - Interest and dividends
 - Rent, royalties
 - Income from sale of real estate
- **Residency:** Applicant must be the owner and have established residence in the City. Must occupy the property as principal residence. If the property is subject to a trust, applicant must have legal title
- **Volunteer Requirements:** acceptance is contingent on successfully passing a CORI (Criminal Offense Record Check) and SORI (Sexual Offense Record Check) depending on site placement
- **Tax Status:** Applicants must be current with tax payments
- City employees are not eligible

Selection Process:

- Applicant must meet all eligibility requirements
- Applicants must have appropriate skills for position
- Both applicant and department head must agree position is an appropriate match

Required Documents:

- Proof of age through birth certificate, passport, or driver's license
- Federal and state tax returns or signed letter explaining why applicant is not required to file tax return
- Social Security or pension benefits letter
- If the property is held in trust, a copy of the trust and a schedule of beneficiaries
- Required I-9 Identification

Program Guidelines:

- Applications will be received by and approved by the Human Resources Office
- Upon approval, applicants must complete a W-4 and I-9 and submit required identification
- Volunteer hours must be completed by December 31, 2024, and will be credited toward the taxpayer's 2025 tax bill. The Human Resources Coordinator will interview program participants and volunteer placements will be based on reported skills, abilities, and work experience.
- Final acceptance into the program is contingent on matching the experience of participants and open placements of volunteer opportunities.
- Departments may provide Human Resources with a list of work tasks and projects they need to be completed for volunteer positions.
- Volunteers are required to attend complete the Conflict-of-Interest training through the Ethics Commission Learning Management Portal. This training will count toward hours worked.
- Volunteers are required to attend Harassment Prevention training and Orientation. This will count toward hours worked
- Department heads or payroll personnel for departments where the volunteers are placed must submit a weekly timesheet to the Elder Affairs Program Coordinator and signed by the Volunteers' supervisor.
- The Program Coordinator will track all hours worked and submit to the Assessors Office.
- Volunteers will be credited at the state's minimum wage of \$15.00 per hour and must work the full 133 1/3 hours equal to \$2000 to qualify for the abatement.
- Less than 133 1/3 hours worked will not be credited on a partial basis.
- Taxpayers may earn abatements under the senior work-off program in addition to any property tax exemptions under M.G.L 59 §5 (22 for Veteran's, 41C for Elderly). They may also defer the balance of the taxes under M.G.L. ch. 59 §5(41A) if they are eligible to do so.

Treatment of "Earned" Amount:

- The amount of the property tax reduction earned by the taxpayer under this program is NOT considered income or wages for purposes of state income tax withholding, unemployment compensation or workmen's compensation. The United States Internal Revenue Services (IRS) has ruled that under current federal law the abatement amount is included in the taxpayer's gross income for both federal income tax and Federal Insurance Contribution Act (FICA) tax purposes, however, in addition if the community pays the taxpayer's share of FICA taxes, that amount is also income subject to federal

income tax. Communities should verify with the IRS that their procedures comply with all applicable federal laws regarding income, social security and Medicare tax withholding on abatements earned under this program.

Job Placement:

- Available positions will be determined by Department Heads and approved by Human Resources
- Applicants will be interviewed by Department Heads before approval is complete
- There will be a two-week probationary period to assess the appropriateness of the placement
- Applicants will be placed in Municipal Departments

Terms of Program:

- Applications can be submitted between July 1, 2024 through August 31, 2024
- Volunteer work will begin on October 1, 2024 and end on December 31, 2024
- Abatement credit will be applied to 2025 tax bill
- Applicants are eligible for one year only and must re-apply for the next fiscal year
- A Certificate of Completion form must be submitted from Supervisor to the Assessor's Office

Termination:

- Volunteers may be relieved of their position at any time for:
 - 3 Unexcused absences
 - Violation of the City's policies
 - Threats or acts of violence

Insurance:

- A senior working for Tax Relief is not considered an employee pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 59, Section 5k. A person over the age to 60 years old who volunteers their service in exchange for tax relief is not entitled to benefits under Chapter 152. Should an individual be injured while participating in the Tax Work-Off Program the individuals health insurance would be primary and coverage for out-of-pocket expenses (i.e., deductibles) would be covered by the Town.

The City of Worcester is fully committed to equal opportunity in its employment/volunteer/ intern decisions, programs and activities, in compliance with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations and in furtherance of appropriate affirmative action efforts. The City of Worcester prohibits discrimination and harassment against any individual on the basis of age, gender expression/identity, genetic information, marital status, color, national origin, language, physical or mental disability, pregnancy, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation or status as a U.S. veteran.

So approved this day, _____

Eric D. Batista
City Manager

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



CITY OF WORCESTER

cm2024mar08020153

11.3 B

March 12, 2024

Attachment for Item # 11.3 B

TO THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

COUNCILORS:

I respectfully recommend adoption of a salary ordinance amendment necessary to implement the City's recently completed collective bargaining agreement with Local 170 – Teamsters DPW Clerks.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



The City of
WORCESTER

Human Resources Department
William R. Bagley Jr., CHRO
City Hall, 455 Main Street, Worcester, MA 01608
P | 508-799-1030 F | 508-799-1040
HR@worcesterma.gov

March 12, 2024

Eric Batista, City Manager
City of Worcester, Massachusetts

RE: Amendment of Salary Ordinance

Dear Mr. Batista:

Attached please find the salary ordinance amendment necessary to implement the City's recently completed collective bargaining agreement with Local 170 Teamsters (DPW Clerks), for approval by City Council. The agreement, which was recently ratified by the Local's members, provides the group with a base wage adjustment of 3% for FY24, 3% for FY25, and 2% for FY26. Should you require any additional information, please feel free to contact me at extension 31134.

Sincerely,

William R. Bagley Jr.,
Chief Human Resources Officer

Cc: Timothy McGourthy, Chief Financial Officer

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE SALARY ORDINANCE
OF AUGUST 20, 1996 RELATIVE TO MEMBERS OF
DPW CLERKS BARGAINING UNIT (LOCAL 170, TEAMSTERS)**

Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Worcester, as follows:

Section 1: Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, Appendix C of the Revised Ordinances of 2008 (Salary Ordinance of August 20, 1996) be and is hereby amended by providing the following base salary increases to those active employees in the DPW Clerks Bargaining Unit, in accordance with the attached Salary Schedule 1A General:

Effective July 1, 2023	3% base wage increase for actual service
Effective July 1, 2024	3% base wage increase for actual service
Effective July 1, 2025	2% base wage increase for actual service

Section 2: Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, Part II of Appendix C of the Revised Ordinance of 2008 (Salary Ordinance of August 20, 1996) be and is hereby amended in accordance with Section 1 above.

Section 3: Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, Part III of Appendix C of the Revised Ordinances of 2008 (Salary Ordinance of August 20, 1996) be and is hereby amended by deleting Part III, Salary Schedule 1A General effective July 1, 2022, and inserting in lieu thereof the attached salary schedules.

Section 4: This ordinance shall be effective on the dates contained herein.

SALARY SCHEDULE 1A - GENERAL, L170 (DPW Clerks)**EFFECTIVE 7/1/2023****3% Salary Increase**

PAY		MINIMUM						MAXIMUM
GRADE		STEP 1	STEP 2	STEP 3	STEP 4	STEP 5	STEP 6	STEP 7
16	HOURLY	14.94	15.35	15.92	16.22	16.81	17.45	17.80
	WEEKLY	597.60	614.00	636.80	648.80	672.40	698.00	712.00
	ANNUAL	31,181.91	32,037.64	33,227.31	33,853.46	35,084.87	36,420.64	37,151.14
17	HOURLY	15.35	15.92	16.22	16.81	17.45	17.92	18.29
	WEEKLY	614.00	636.80	648.80	672.40	698.00	716.80	731.60
	ANNUAL	32,037.64	33,227.31	33,853.46	35,084.87	36,420.64	37,401.60	38,173.84
18	HOURLY	15.92	16.22	16.81	17.45	17.92	18.55	18.92
	WEEKLY	636.80	648.80	672.40	698.00	716.80	742.00	756.80
	ANNUAL	33,227.31	33,853.46	35,084.87	36,420.64	37,401.60	38,716.50	39,488.74
19	HOURLY	16.22	16.81	17.45	17.92	18.55	19.01	19.39
	WEEKLY	648.80	672.40	698.00	716.80	742.00	760.40	775.60
	ANNUAL	33,851.70	35,083.05	36,418.76	37,399.66	38,714.50	39,674.53	40,467.60
20	HOURLY	16.81	17.45	17.92	18.55	19.01	19.84	20.25
	WEEKLY	672.40	698.00	716.80	742.00	760.40	793.60	810.00
	ANNUAL	35,084.87	36,420.64	37,401.60	38,716.50	39,676.58	41,408.91	42,264.64
21	HOURLY	17.45	17.92	18.55	19.01	19.84	20.49	20.90
	WEEKLY	698.00	716.80	742.00	760.40	793.60	819.60	836.00
	ANNUAL	36,420.64	37,401.60	38,716.50	39,676.58	41,408.91	42,765.56	43,621.28
22	HOURLY	17.92	18.55	19.01	19.84	20.49	21.18	21.60
	WEEKLY	716.80	742.00	760.40	793.60	819.60	847.20	864.00
	ANNUAL	37,401.60	38,716.50	39,676.58	41,408.91	42,765.56	44,205.68	45,082.28
23	HOURLY	18.55	19.01	19.84	20.49	21.18	21.79	22.23
	WEEKLY	742.00	760.40	793.60	819.60	847.20	871.60	889.20
	ANNUAL	38,716.50	39,676.58	41,408.91	42,765.56	44,205.68	45,478.84	46,397.18

SALARY SCHEDULE 1A - GENERAL, L170 (DPW Clerks)**EFFECTIVE 7/1/2023****3% Salary Increase**

PAY		MINIMUM						MAXIMUM
GRADE		STEP 1	STEP 2	STEP 3	STEP 4	STEP 5	STEP 6	STEP 7
24	HOURLY	19.01	19.84	20.49	21.18	21.79	22.54	22.98
	WEEKLY	760.40	793.60	819.60	847.20	871.60	901.60	919.20
	ANNUAL	39,676.58	41,408.91	42,765.56	44,205.68	45,478.84	47,044.20	47,962.54
25	HOURLY	19.84	20.49	21.18	21.79	22.54	23.33	23.79
	WEEKLY	793.60	819.60	847.20	871.60	901.60	933.20	951.60
	ANNUAL	41,408.91	42,765.56	44,205.68	45,478.84	47,044.20	48,693.04	49,653.13
26	HOURLY	20.49	21.18	21.79	22.54	23.33	24.15	24.64
	WEEKLY	819.60	847.20	871.60	901.60	933.20	966.00	985.60
	ANNUAL	42,765.56	44,205.68	45,478.84	47,044.20	48,693.04	50,404.50	51,427.20
27	HOURLY	21.18	21.79	22.54	23.33	24.15	25.02	25.51
	WEEKLY	847.20	871.60	901.60	933.20	966.00	1,000.80	1,020.40
	ANNUAL	44,205.68	45,478.84	47,044.20	48,693.04	50,404.50	52,220.31	53,243.01
28	HOURLY	21.79	22.54	23.33	24.15	25.02	25.96	26.48
	WEEKLY	871.60	901.60	933.20	966.00	1,000.80	1,038.40	1,059.20
	ANNUAL	45,478.84	47,044.20	48,693.04	50,404.50	52,220.31	54,182.23	55,267.54
29	HOURLY	22.54	23.33	24.15	25.02	25.96	26.74	27.27
	WEEKLY	901.60	933.20	966.00	1,000.80	1,038.40	1,069.60	1,090.80
	ANNUAL	47,044.20	48,693.04	50,404.50	52,220.31	54,182.23	55,810.20	56,916.38
30	HOURLY	23.33	24.15	25.02	25.96	26.74	27.68	28.22
	WEEKLY	933.20	966.00	1,000.80	1,038.40	1,069.60	1,107.20	1,128.80
	ANNUAL	48,693.04	50,404.50	52,220.31	54,182.23	55,810.20	57,772.11	58,899.17
31	HOURLY	24.15	25.02	25.96	26.74	27.68	28.69	29.26
	WEEKLY	966.00	1,000.80	1,038.40	1,069.60	1,107.20	1,147.60	1,170.40
	ANNUAL	50,404.50	52,220.31	54,182.23	55,810.20	57,772.11	59,880.13	61,069.80

SALARY SCHEDULE 1A - GENERAL, L170 (DPW Clerks)**EFFECTIVE 7/1/2023****3% Salary Increase**

PAY		MINIMUM						MAXIMUM
GRADE		STEP 1	STEP 2	STEP 3	STEP 4	STEP 5	STEP 6	STEP 7
32	HOURLY	25.02	25.96	26.74	27.68	28.69	29.59	30.18
	WEEKLY	1,000.80	1,038.40	1,069.60	1,107.20	1,147.60	1,183.60	1,207.20
	ANNUAL	52,220.31	54,182.23	55,810.20	57,772.11	59,880.13	61,758.56	62,989.97
33	HOURLY	25.96	26.74	27.68	28.69	29.59	30.71	31.33
	WEEKLY	1,038.40	1,069.60	1,107.20	1,147.60	1,183.60	1,228.40	1,253.20
	ANNUAL	54,182.23	55,810.20	57,772.11	59,880.13	61,758.56	64,096.16	65,390.18
34	HOURLY	26.74	27.68	28.69	29.59	30.71	31.81	32.43
	WEEKLY	1,069.60	1,107.20	1,147.60	1,183.60	1,228.40	1,272.40	1,297.20
	ANNUAL	55,810.20	57,772.11	59,880.13	61,758.56	64,096.16	66,392.01	67,686.04
35	HOURLY	27.68	28.69	29.59	30.71	31.81	32.89	33.56
	WEEKLY	1,107.20	1,147.60	1,183.60	1,228.40	1,272.40	1,315.60	1,342.40
	ANNUAL	57,772.11	59,880.13	61,758.56	64,096.16	66,392.01	68,646.13	70,044.51
36	HOURLY	28.69	29.59	30.71	31.81	32.89	34.18	34.86
	WEEKLY	1,147.60	1,183.60	1,228.40	1,272.40	1,315.60	1,367.20	1,394.40
	ANNUAL	59,880.13	61,758.56	64,096.16	66,392.01	68,646.13	71,338.54	72,757.80
37	HOURLY	29.59	30.71	31.81	32.89	34.18	35.37	36.08
	WEEKLY	1,183.60	1,228.40	1,272.40	1,315.60	1,367.20	1,414.80	1,443.20
	ANNUAL	61,758.56	64,096.16	66,392.01	68,646.13	71,338.54	73,822.24	75,304.11
38	HOURLY	30.71	31.81	32.89	34.18	35.37	36.72	37.46
	WEEKLY	1,228.40	1,272.40	1,315.60	1,367.20	1,414.80	1,468.80	1,498.40
	ANNUAL	64,096.16	66,392.01	68,646.13	71,338.54	73,822.24	76,639.88	78,184.37
39	HOURLY	31.81	32.89	34.18	35.37	36.72	38.00	38.75
	WEEKLY	1,272.40	1,315.60	1,367.20	1,414.80	1,468.80	1,520.00	1,550.00
	ANNUAL	66,392.01	68,646.13	71,338.54	73,822.24	76,639.88	79,311.43	80,876.78

SALARY SCHEDULE 1A - GENERAL, L170 (DPW Clerks)**EFFECTIVE 7/1/2023****3% Salary Increase**

PAY		MINIMUM						MAXIMUM
GRADE		STEP 1	STEP 2	STEP 3	STEP 4	STEP 5	STEP 6	STEP 7
40	HOURLY	32.89	34.18	35.37	36.72	38.00	39.37	40.15
	WEEKLY	1,315.60	1,367.20	1,414.80	1,468.80	1,520.00	1,574.80	1,606.00
	ANNUAL	68,646.13	71,338.54	73,822.24	76,639.88	79,311.43	82,170.81	83,798.78
41	HOURLY	34.18	35.37	36.72	38.00	39.37	40.78	41.60
	WEEKLY	1,367.20	1,414.80	1,468.80	1,520.00	1,574.80	1,631.20	1,664.00
	ANNUAL	71,338.54	73,822.24	76,639.88	79,311.43	82,170.81	85,113.68	86,825.14
42	HOURLY	35.37	36.72	38.00	39.37	40.78	42.28	43.13
	WEEKLY	1,414.80	1,468.80	1,520.00	1,574.80	1,631.20	1,691.20	1,725.20
	ANNUAL	73,822.24	76,639.88	79,311.43	82,170.81	85,113.68	88,244.40	90,018.47
43	HOURLY	36.72	38.00	39.37	40.78	42.28	43.87	44.73
	WEEKLY	1,468.80	1,520.00	1,574.80	1,631.20	1,691.20	1,754.80	1,789.20
	ANNUAL	76,639.88	79,311.43	82,170.81	85,113.68	88,244.40	91,562.95	93,357.90
44	HOURLY	38.00	39.37	40.78	42.28	43.87	45.36	46.27
	WEEKLY	1,520.00	1,574.80	1,631.20	1,691.20	1,754.80	1,814.40	1,850.80
	ANNUAL	79,311.43	82,170.81	85,113.68	88,244.40	91,562.95	94,672.80	96,572.10
45	HOURLY	39.37	40.78	42.28	43.87	45.36	47.10	48.06
	WEEKLY	1,574.80	1,631.20	1,691.20	1,754.80	1,814.40	1,884.00	1,922.40
	ANNUAL	82,170.81	85,113.68	88,244.40	91,562.95	94,672.80	98,304.43	100,308.08
46	HOURLY	40.78	42.28	43.87	45.36	47.10	48.94	49.91
	WEEKLY	1,631.20	1,691.20	1,754.80	1,814.40	1,884.00	1,957.60	1,996.40
	ANNUAL	85,113.68	88,244.40	91,562.95	94,672.80	98,304.43	102,144.77	104,169.30
47	HOURLY	42.28	43.87	45.36	47.10	48.94	50.71	51.71
	WEEKLY	1,691.20	1,754.80	1,814.40	1,884.00	1,957.60	2,028.40	2,068.40
	ANNUAL	88,244.40	91,562.95	94,672.80	98,304.43	102,144.77	105,839.01	107,926.15

SALARY SCHEDULE 1A - GENERAL, L170 (DPW Clerks)**EFFECTIVE 7/1/2023****3% Salary Increase**

PAY		MINIMUM						MAXIMUM
GRADE		STEP 1	STEP 2	STEP 3	STEP 4	STEP 5	STEP 6	STEP 7
48	HOURLY	43.87	45.36	47.10	48.94	50.71	52.61	53.65
	WEEKLY	1,754.80	1,814.40	1,884.00	1,957.60	2,028.40	2,104.40	2,146.00
	ANNUAL	91,562.95	94,672.80	98,304.43	102,144.77	105,839.01	109,804.58	111,975.21
49	HOURLY	45.36	47.10	48.94	50.71	52.61	54.83	55.92
	WEEKLY	1,814.40	1,884.00	1,957.60	2,028.40	2,104.40	2,193.20	2,236.80
	ANNUAL	94,672.80	98,304.43	102,144.77	105,839.01	109,804.58	114,438.04	116,713.03
50	HOURLY	47.10	48.94	50.71	52.61	54.83	56.62	57.74
	WEEKLY	1,884.00	1,957.60	2,028.40	2,104.40	2,193.20	2,264.80	2,309.60
	ANNUAL	98,304.43	102,144.77	105,839.01	109,804.58	114,438.04	118,174.03	120,511.63

SALARY SCHEDULE 1A - GENERAL, L170 (DPW Clerks)**EFFECTIVE 7/1/2024****3% Salary Increase**

PAY		MINIMUM						MAXIMUM
GRADE		STEP 1	STEP 2	STEP 3	STEP 4	STEP 5	STEP 6	STEP 7
16	HOURLY	15.39	15.81	16.40	16.71	17.31	17.97	18.33
	WEEKLY	615.60	632.40	656.00	668.40	692.40	718.80	733.20
	ANNUAL	32,121.13	32,997.73	34,229.14	34,876.16	36,128.44	37,505.96	38,257.33
17	HOURLY	15.81	16.40	16.71	17.31	17.97	18.46	18.84
	WEEKLY	632.40	656.00	668.40	692.40	718.80	738.40	753.60
	ANNUAL	32,997.73	34,229.14	34,876.16	36,128.44	37,505.96	38,528.66	39,321.77
18	HOURLY	16.40	16.71	17.31	17.97	18.46	19.11	19.49
	WEEKLY	656.00	668.40	692.40	718.80	738.40	764.40	779.60
	ANNUAL	34,229.14	34,876.16	36,128.44	37,505.96	38,528.66	39,885.30	40,678.41
19	HOURLY	16.71	17.31	17.97	18.46	19.11	19.58	19.97
	WEEKLY	668.40	692.40	718.80	738.40	764.40	783.20	798.80
	ANNUAL	34,876.16	36,128.44	37,505.96	38,528.66	39,885.30	40,866.26	41,680.24
20	HOURLY	17.31	17.97	18.46	19.11	19.58	20.44	20.86
	WEEKLY	692.40	718.80	738.40	764.40	783.20	817.60	834.40
	ANNUAL	36,128.44	37,505.96	38,528.66	39,885.30	40,866.26	42,661.20	43,537.80
21	HOURLY	17.97	18.46	19.11	19.58	20.44	21.10	21.53
	WEEKLY	718.80	738.40	764.40	783.20	817.60	844.00	861.20
	ANNUAL	37,505.96	38,528.66	39,885.30	40,866.26	42,661.20	44,038.71	44,936.18
22	HOURLY	18.46	19.11	19.58	20.44	21.10	21.82	22.25
	WEEKLY	738.40	764.40	783.20	817.60	844.00	872.80	890.00
	ANNUAL	38,528.66	39,885.30	40,866.26	42,661.20	44,038.71	45,541.46	46,438.93
23	HOURLY	19.11	19.58	20.44	21.10	21.82	22.44	22.90
	WEEKLY	764.40	783.20	817.60	844.00	872.80	897.60	916.00
	ANNUAL	39,885.30	40,866.26	42,661.20	44,038.71	45,541.46	46,835.48	47,795.57

SALARY SCHEDULE 1A - GENERAL, L170 (DPW Clerks)**EFFECTIVE 7/1/2024****3% Salary Increase**

PAY		MINIMUM						MAXIMUM
GRADE		STEP 1	STEP 2	STEP 3	STEP 4	STEP 5	STEP 6	STEP 7
24	HOURLY	19.58	20.44	21.10	21.82	22.44	23.22	23.67
	WEEKLY	783.20	817.60	844.00	872.80	897.60	928.80	946.80
	ANNUAL	40,866.26	42,661.20	44,038.71	45,541.46	46,835.48	48,463.46	49,402.67
25	HOURLY	20.44	21.10	21.82	22.44	23.22	24.03	24.50
	WEEKLY	817.60	844.00	872.80	897.60	928.80	961.20	980.00
	ANNUAL	42,661.20	44,038.71	45,541.46	46,835.48	48,463.46	50,154.04	51,135.00
26	HOURLY	21.10	21.82	22.44	23.22	24.03	24.87	25.38
	WEEKLY	844.00	872.80	897.60	928.80	961.20	994.80	1,015.20
	ANNUAL	44,038.71	45,541.46	46,835.48	48,463.46	50,154.04	51,907.24	52,971.68
27	HOURLY	21.82	22.44	23.22	24.03	24.87	25.77	26.28
	WEEKLY	872.80	897.60	928.80	961.20	994.80	1,030.80	1,051.20
	ANNUAL	45,541.46	46,835.48	48,463.46	50,154.04	51,907.24	53,785.67	54,850.11
28	HOURLY	22.44	23.22	24.03	24.87	25.77	26.74	27.27
	WEEKLY	897.60	928.80	961.20	994.80	1,030.80	1,069.60	1,090.80
	ANNUAL	46,835.48	48,463.46	50,154.04	51,907.24	53,785.67	55,810.20	56,916.38
29	HOURLY	23.22	24.03	24.87	25.77	26.74	27.54	28.09
	WEEKLY	928.80	961.20	994.80	1,030.80	1,069.60	1,101.60	1,123.60
	ANNUAL	48,463.46	50,154.04	51,907.24	53,785.67	55,810.20	57,479.91	58,627.84
30	HOURLY	24.03	24.87	25.77	26.74	27.54	28.51	29.07
	WEEKLY	961.20	994.80	1,030.80	1,069.60	1,101.60	1,140.40	1,162.80
	ANNUAL	50,154.04	51,907.24	53,785.67	55,810.20	57,479.91	59,504.44	60,673.24
31	HOURLY	24.87	25.77	26.74	27.54	28.51	29.55	30.14
	WEEKLY	994.80	1,030.80	1,069.60	1,101.60	1,140.40	1,182.00	1,205.60
	ANNUAL	51,907.24	53,785.67	55,810.20	57,479.91	59,504.44	61,675.07	62,906.48

SALARY SCHEDULE 1A - GENERAL, L170 (DPW Clerks)**EFFECTIVE 7/1/2024****3% Salary Increase**

PAY		MINIMUM						MAXIMUM
GRADE		STEP 1	STEP 2	STEP 3	STEP 4	STEP 5	STEP 6	STEP 7
32	HOURLY	25.77	26.74	27.54	28.51	29.55	30.48	31.09
	WEEKLY	1,030.80	1,069.60	1,101.60	1,140.40	1,182.00	1,219.20	1,243.60
	ANNUAL	53,785.67	55,810.20	57,479.91	59,504.44	61,675.07	63,616.11	64,889.27
33	HOURLY	26.74	27.54	28.51	29.55	30.48	31.63	32.27
	WEEKLY	1,069.60	1,101.60	1,140.40	1,182.00	1,219.20	1,265.20	1,290.80
	ANNUAL	55,810.20	57,479.91	59,504.44	61,675.07	63,616.11	66,016.33	67,352.10
34	HOURLY	27.54	28.51	29.55	30.48	31.63	32.76	33.40
	WEEKLY	1,101.60	1,140.40	1,182.00	1,219.20	1,265.20	1,310.40	1,336.00
	ANNUAL	57,479.91	59,504.44	61,675.07	63,616.11	66,016.33	68,374.80	69,710.57
35	HOURLY	28.51	29.55	30.48	31.63	32.76	33.88	34.57
	WEEKLY	1,140.40	1,182.00	1,219.20	1,265.20	1,310.40	1,355.20	1,382.80
	ANNUAL	59,504.44	61,675.07	63,616.11	66,016.33	68,374.80	70,712.40	72,152.53
36	HOURLY	29.55	30.48	31.63	32.76	33.88	35.21	35.91
	WEEKLY	1,182.00	1,219.20	1,265.20	1,310.40	1,355.20	1,408.40	1,436.40
	ANNUAL	61,675.07	63,616.11	66,016.33	68,374.80	70,712.40	73,488.30	74,949.30
37	HOURLY	30.48	31.63	32.76	33.88	35.21	36.43	37.16
	WEEKLY	1,219.20	1,265.20	1,310.40	1,355.20	1,408.40	1,457.20	1,486.40
	ANNUAL	63,616.11	66,016.33	68,374.80	70,712.40	73,488.30	76,034.61	77,558.23
38	HOURLY	31.63	32.76	33.88	35.21	36.43	37.82	38.58
	WEEKLY	1,265.20	1,310.40	1,355.20	1,408.40	1,457.20	1,512.80	1,543.20
	ANNUAL	66,012.91	68,371.26	70,708.74	73,484.50	76,030.68	78,931.66	80,517.80
39	HOURLY	32.76	33.88	35.21	36.43	37.82	39.14	39.91
	WEEKLY	1,310.40	1,355.20	1,408.40	1,457.20	1,512.80	1,565.60	1,596.40
	ANNUAL	68,374.80	70,712.40	73,488.30	76,034.61	78,935.74	81,690.77	83,297.87

SALARY SCHEDULE 1A - GENERAL, L170 (DPW Clerks)**EFFECTIVE 7/1/2024****3% Salary Increase**

PAY		MINIMUM						MAXIMUM
GRADE		STEP 1	STEP 2	STEP 3	STEP 4	STEP 5	STEP 6	STEP 7
40	HOURLY	33.88	35.21	36.43	37.82	39.14	40.55	41.35
	WEEKLY	1,355.20	1,408.40	1,457.20	1,512.80	1,565.60	1,622.00	1,654.00
	ANNUAL	70,712.40	73,488.30	76,034.61	78,935.74	81,690.77	84,633.64	86,303.35
41	HOURLY	35.21	36.43	37.82	39.14	40.55	42.00	42.85
	WEEKLY	1,408.40	1,457.20	1,512.80	1,565.60	1,622.00	1,680.00	1,714.00
	ANNUAL	73,488.30	76,034.61	78,935.74	81,690.77	84,633.64	87,660.00	89,434.07
42	HOURLY	36.43	37.82	39.14	40.55	42.00	43.55	44.42
	WEEKLY	1,457.20	1,512.80	1,565.60	1,622.00	1,680.00	1,742.00	1,776.80
	ANNUAL	76,034.61	78,935.74	81,690.77	84,633.64	87,660.00	90,895.07	92,710.88
43	HOURLY	37.82	39.14	40.55	42.00	43.55	45.19	46.07
	WEEKLY	1,512.80	1,565.60	1,622.00	1,680.00	1,742.00	1,807.60	1,842.80
	ANNUAL	78,935.74	81,690.77	84,633.64	87,660.00	90,895.07	94,317.98	96,154.67
44	HOURLY	39.14	40.55	42.00	43.55	45.19	46.72	47.66
	WEEKLY	1,565.60	1,622.00	1,680.00	1,742.00	1,807.60	1,868.80	1,906.40
	ANNUAL	81,690.77	84,633.64	87,660.00	90,895.07	94,317.98	97,511.31	99,473.23
45	HOURLY	40.55	42.00	43.55	45.19	46.72	48.51	49.50
	WEEKLY	1,622.00	1,680.00	1,742.00	1,807.60	1,868.80	1,940.40	1,980.00
	ANNUAL	84,633.64	87,660.00	90,895.07	94,317.98	97,511.31	101,247.30	103,313.57
46	HOURLY	42.00	43.55	45.19	46.72	48.51	50.41	51.41
	WEEKLY	1,680.00	1,742.00	1,807.60	1,868.80	1,940.40	2,016.40	2,056.40
	ANNUAL	87,660.00	90,895.07	94,317.98	97,511.31	101,247.30	105,212.87	107,300.01
47	HOURLY	43.55	45.19	46.72	48.51	50.41	52.23	53.26
	WEEKLY	1,742.00	1,807.60	1,868.80	1,940.40	2,016.40	2,089.20	2,130.40
	ANNUAL	90,895.07	94,317.98	97,511.31	101,247.30	105,212.87	109,011.47	111,161.23

SALARY SCHEDULE 1A - GENERAL, L170 (DPW Clerks)**EFFECTIVE 7/1/2024****3% Salary Increase**

PAY		MINIMUM						MAXIMUM
GRADE		STEP 1	STEP 2	STEP 3	STEP 4	STEP 5	STEP 6	STEP 7
48	HOURLY	45.19	46.72	48.51	50.41	52.23	54.19	55.26
	WEEKLY	1,807.60	1,868.80	1,940.40	2,016.40	2,089.20	2,167.60	2,210.40
	ANNUAL	94,317.98	97,511.31	101,247.30	105,212.87	109,011.47	113,102.27	115,335.51
49	HOURLY	46.72	48.51	50.41	52.23	54.19	56.47	57.60
	WEEKLY	1,868.80	1,940.40	2,016.40	2,089.20	2,167.60	2,258.80	2,304.00
	ANNUAL	97,511.31	101,247.30	105,212.87	109,011.47	113,102.27	117,860.95	120,219.43
50	HOURLY	48.51	50.41	52.23	54.19	56.47	58.32	59.47
	WEEKLY	1,940.40	2,016.40	2,089.20	2,167.60	2,258.80	2,332.80	2,378.80
	ANNUAL	101,247.30	105,212.87	109,011.47	113,102.27	117,860.95	121,722.17	124,122.38

SALARY SCHEDULE 1A - GENERAL, L170 (DPW Clerks)**EFFECTIVE 7/1/2025****2% Salary Increase**

PAY		MINIMUM						MAXIMUM
GRADE		STEP 1	STEP 2	STEP 3	STEP 4	STEP 5	STEP 6	STEP 7
16	HOURLY	15.70	16.13	16.73	17.04	17.66	18.33	18.70
	WEEKLY	628.00	645.20	669.20	681.60	706.40	733.20	748.00
	ANNUAL	32,768.14	33,665.61	34,917.90	35,564.91	36,858.94	38,257.33	39,029.57
17	HOURLY	16.13	16.73	17.04	17.66	18.33	18.83	19.22
	WEEKLY	645.20	669.20	681.60	706.40	733.20	753.20	768.80
	ANNUAL	33,665.61	34,917.90	35,564.91	36,858.94	38,257.33	39,300.90	40,114.88
18	HOURLY	16.73	17.04	17.66	18.33	18.83	19.49	19.88
	WEEKLY	669.20	681.60	706.40	733.20	753.20	779.60	795.20
	ANNUAL	34,917.90	35,564.91	36,858.94	38,257.33	39,300.90	40,678.41	41,492.40
19	HOURLY	17.04	17.66	18.33	18.83	19.49	19.97	20.37
	WEEKLY	681.60	706.40	733.20	753.20	779.60	798.80	814.80
	ANNUAL	35,564.91	36,858.94	38,257.33	39,300.90	40,678.41	41,680.24	42,515.10
20	HOURLY	17.66	18.33	18.83	19.49	19.97	20.85	21.28
	WEEKLY	706.40	733.20	753.20	779.60	798.80	834.00	851.20
	ANNUAL	36,858.94	38,257.33	39,300.90	40,678.41	41,680.24	43,516.93	44,414.40
21	HOURLY	18.33	18.83	19.49	19.97	20.85	21.52	21.96
	WEEKLY	733.20	753.20	779.60	798.80	834.00	860.80	878.40
	ANNUAL	38,257.33	39,300.90	40,678.41	41,680.24	43,516.93	44,915.31	45,833.66
22	HOURLY	18.83	19.49	19.97	20.85	21.52	22.26	22.70
	WEEKLY	753.20	779.60	798.80	834.00	860.80	890.40	908.00
	ANNUAL	39,300.90	40,678.41	41,680.24	43,516.93	44,915.31	46,459.80	47,378.14
23	HOURLY	19.49	19.97	20.85	21.52	22.26	22.89	23.36
	WEEKLY	779.60	798.80	834.00	860.80	890.40	915.60	934.40
	ANNUAL	40,678.41	41,680.24	43,516.93	44,915.31	46,459.80	47,774.70	48,755.66

SALARY SCHEDULE 1A - GENERAL, L170 (DPW Clerks)**EFFECTIVE 7/1/2025****2% Salary Increase**

PAY		MINIMUM						MAXIMUM
GRADE		STEP 1	STEP 2	STEP 3	STEP 4	STEP 5	STEP 6	STEP 7
24	HOURLY	19.97	20.85	21.52	22.26	22.89	23.68	24.14
	WEEKLY	798.80	834.00	860.80	890.40	915.60	947.20	965.60
	ANNUAL	41,680.24	43,516.93	44,915.31	46,459.80	47,774.70	49,423.54	50,383.63
25	HOURLY	20.85	21.52	22.26	22.89	23.68	24.51	24.99
	WEEKLY	834.00	860.80	890.40	915.60	947.20	980.40	999.60
	ANNUAL	43,516.93	44,915.31	46,459.80	47,774.70	49,423.54	51,155.87	52,157.70
26	HOURLY	21.52	22.26	22.89	23.68	24.51	25.37	25.89
	WEEKLY	860.80	890.40	915.60	947.20	980.40	1,014.80	1,035.60
	ANNUAL	44,915.31	46,459.80	47,774.70	49,423.54	51,155.87	52,950.81	54,036.13
27	HOURLY	22.26	22.89	23.68	24.51	25.37	26.29	26.81
	WEEKLY	890.40	915.60	947.20	980.40	1,014.80	1,051.60	1,072.40
	ANNUAL	46,459.80	47,774.70	49,423.54	51,155.87	52,950.81	54,870.98	55,956.30
28	HOURLY	22.89	23.68	24.51	25.37	26.29	27.27	27.82
	WEEKLY	915.60	947.20	980.40	1,014.80	1,051.60	1,090.80	1,112.80
	ANNUAL	47,774.70	49,423.54	51,155.87	52,950.81	54,870.98	56,916.38	58,064.31
29	HOURLY	23.68	24.51	25.37	26.29	27.27	28.09	28.65
	WEEKLY	947.20	980.40	1,014.80	1,051.60	1,090.80	1,123.60	1,146.00
	ANNUAL	49,423.54	51,155.87	52,950.81	54,870.98	56,916.38	58,627.84	59,796.64
30	HOURLY	24.51	25.37	26.29	27.27	28.09	29.08	29.65
	WEEKLY	980.40	1,014.80	1,051.60	1,090.80	1,123.60	1,163.20	1,186.00
	ANNUAL	51,155.87	52,950.81	54,870.98	56,916.38	58,627.84	60,694.11	61,883.78
31	HOURLY	25.37	26.29	27.27	28.09	29.08	30.14	30.74
	WEEKLY	1,014.80	1,051.60	1,090.80	1,123.60	1,163.20	1,205.60	1,229.60
	ANNUAL	52,950.81	54,870.98	56,916.38	58,627.84	60,694.11	62,906.48	64,158.77

SALARY SCHEDULE 1A - GENERAL, L170 (DPW Clerks)**EFFECTIVE 7/1/2025****2% Salary Increase**

PAY		MINIMUM						MAXIMUM
GRADE		STEP 1	STEP 2	STEP 3	STEP 4	STEP 5	STEP 6	STEP 7
32	HOURLY	26.29	27.27	28.09	29.08	30.14	31.09	31.71
	WEEKLY	1,051.60	1,090.80	1,123.60	1,163.20	1,205.60	1,243.60	1,268.40
	ANNUAL	54,870.98	56,916.38	58,627.84	60,694.11	62,906.48	64,889.27	66,183.30
33	HOURLY	27.27	28.09	29.08	30.14	31.09	32.26	32.92
	WEEKLY	1,090.80	1,123.60	1,163.20	1,205.60	1,243.60	1,290.40	1,316.80
	ANNUAL	56,916.38	58,627.84	60,694.11	62,906.48	64,889.27	67,331.23	68,708.74
34	HOURLY	28.09	29.08	30.14	31.09	32.26	33.42	34.07
	WEEKLY	1,123.60	1,163.20	1,205.60	1,243.60	1,290.40	1,336.80	1,362.80
	ANNUAL	58,627.84	60,694.11	62,906.48	64,889.27	67,331.23	69,752.31	71,108.96
35	HOURLY	29.08	30.14	31.09	32.26	33.42	34.56	35.26
	WEEKLY	1,163.20	1,205.60	1,243.60	1,290.40	1,336.80	1,382.40	1,410.40
	ANNUAL	60,694.11	62,906.48	64,889.27	67,331.23	69,752.31	72,131.66	73,592.66
36	HOURLY	30.14	31.09	32.26	33.42	34.56	35.91	36.63
	WEEKLY	1,205.60	1,243.60	1,290.40	1,336.80	1,382.40	1,436.40	1,465.20
	ANNUAL	62,906.48	64,889.27	67,331.23	69,752.31	72,131.66	74,949.30	76,452.04
37	HOURLY	31.09	32.26	33.42	34.56	35.91	37.16	37.90
	WEEKLY	1,243.60	1,290.40	1,336.80	1,382.40	1,436.40	1,486.40	1,516.00
	ANNUAL	64,889.27	67,331.23	69,752.31	72,131.66	74,949.30	77,558.23	79,102.71
38	HOURLY	32.26	33.42	34.56	35.91	37.16	38.58	39.35
	WEEKLY	1,290.40	1,336.80	1,382.40	1,436.40	1,486.40	1,543.20	1,574.00
	ANNUAL	67,331.23	69,752.31	72,131.66	74,949.30	77,558.23	80,521.97	82,129.07
39	HOURLY	33.42	34.56	35.91	37.16	38.58	39.92	40.71
	WEEKLY	1,336.80	1,382.40	1,436.40	1,486.40	1,543.20	1,596.80	1,628.40
	ANNUAL	69,752.31	72,131.66	74,949.30	77,558.23	80,521.97	83,318.74	84,967.58

SALARY SCHEDULE 1A - GENERAL, L170 (DPW Clerks)**EFFECTIVE 7/1/2025****2% Salary Increase**

PAY		MINIMUM						MAXIMUM
GRADE		STEP 1	STEP 2	STEP 3	STEP 4	STEP 5	STEP 6	STEP 7
40	HOURLY	34.56	35.91	37.16	38.58	39.92	41.36	42.18
	WEEKLY	1,382.40	1,436.40	1,486.40	1,543.20	1,596.80	1,654.40	1,687.20
	ANNUAL	72,131.66	74,949.30	77,558.23	80,521.97	83,318.74	86,324.23	88,035.68
41	HOURLY	35.91	37.16	38.58	39.92	41.36	42.84	43.71
	WEEKLY	1,436.40	1,486.40	1,543.20	1,596.80	1,654.40	1,713.60	1,748.40
	ANNUAL	74,949.30	77,558.23	80,521.97	83,318.74	86,324.23	89,413.20	91,229.01
42	HOURLY	37.16	38.58	39.92	41.36	42.84	44.42	45.31
	WEEKLY	1,486.40	1,543.20	1,596.80	1,654.40	1,713.60	1,776.80	1,812.40
	ANNUAL	77,558.23	80,521.97	83,318.74	86,324.23	89,413.20	92,710.88	94,568.44
43	HOURLY	38.58	39.92	41.36	42.84	44.42	46.09	46.99
	WEEKLY	1,543.20	1,596.80	1,654.40	1,713.60	1,776.80	1,843.60	1,879.60
	ANNUAL	80,521.97	83,318.74	86,324.23	89,413.20	92,710.88	96,196.41	98,074.84
44	HOURLY	39.92	41.36	42.84	44.42	46.09	47.65	48.61
	WEEKLY	1,596.80	1,654.40	1,713.60	1,776.80	1,843.60	1,906.00	1,944.40
	ANNUAL	83,318.74	86,324.23	89,413.20	92,710.88	96,196.41	99,452.35	101,456.01
45	HOURLY	41.36	42.84	44.42	46.09	47.65	49.48	50.49
	WEEKLY	1,654.40	1,713.60	1,776.80	1,843.60	1,906.00	1,979.20	2,019.60
	ANNUAL	86,324.23	89,413.20	92,710.88	96,196.41	99,452.35	103,271.83	105,379.84
46	HOURLY	42.84	44.42	46.09	47.65	49.48	51.42	52.44
	WEEKLY	1,713.60	1,776.80	1,843.60	1,906.00	1,979.20	2,056.80	2,097.60
	ANNUAL	89,413.20	92,710.88	96,196.41	99,452.35	103,271.83	107,320.88	109,449.77
47	HOURLY	44.42	46.09	47.65	49.48	51.42	53.27	54.33
	WEEKLY	1,776.80	1,843.60	1,906.00	1,979.20	2,056.80	2,130.80	2,173.20
	ANNUAL	92,710.88	96,196.41	99,452.35	103,271.83	107,320.88	111,182.10	113,394.47

SALARY SCHEDULE 1A - GENERAL, L170 (DPW Clerks)**EFFECTIVE 7/1/2025****2% Salary Increase**

PAY		MINIMUM						MAXIMUM
GRADE		STEP 1	STEP 2	STEP 3	STEP 4	STEP 5	STEP 6	STEP 7
48	HOURLY	46.09	47.65	49.48	51.42	53.27	55.27	56.37
	WEEKLY	1,843.60	1,906.00	1,979.20	2,056.80	2,130.80	2,210.80	2,254.80
	ANNUAL	96,196.41	99,452.35	103,271.83	107,320.88	111,182.10	115,356.38	117,652.24
49	HOURLY	47.65	49.48	51.42	53.27	55.27	57.60	58.75
	WEEKLY	1,906.00	1,979.20	2,056.80	2,130.80	2,210.80	2,304.00	2,350.00
	ANNUAL	99,452.35	103,271.83	107,320.88	111,182.10	115,356.38	120,219.43	122,619.64
50	HOURLY	49.48	51.42	53.27	55.27	57.60	59.49	60.66
	WEEKLY	1,979.20	2,056.80	2,130.80	2,210.80	2,304.00	2,379.60	2,426.40
	ANNUAL	103,271.83	107,320.88	111,182.10	115,356.38	120,219.43	124,164.13	126,606.08

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



CITY OF WORCESTER

cm2024mar08032320

Attachment for Item #11.4 A

March 12, 2024

TO THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

COUNCILORS:

I respectfully submit the attached informational communication relative to Economic Development Initiatives, as received from Peter Dunn, Chief Development Officer, and forwarded for the information of your Honorable Body. This report complements the other Economic Development reports on the Council agenda.

Our Economic Development initiatives are shaping the city's skyline and our built environment. In particular, we have completed the final draft priority recommendations from the Worcester Now | Next Plan. This framework outlines our shared vision for the community we want to see for Worcester through 2040, that stitches together the topical plans we have crafted to date like the Green Worcester Plan and Cultural Plan. It has been nearly 40 years since the city last embarked on a comprehensive long-range plan, and we now find ourselves in a very different place, faced with new challenges and new opportunities. It is a chance to chart a collaborative path forward as our city continues to grow and be shaped by shifting demographics. It is a time to seize the moment and embrace change, and that moment deserves a new plan of this magnitude. The Planning Board has a public hearing scheduled for March 20, 2024 at 6:30pm related to the final draft plan. The executive summary is enclosed with this communication.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "E. Batista", with a large, stylized loop at the end.

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



TO: Eric D. Batista, City Manager

FROM: Peter Dunn, Chief Development Officer

DATE: March 12, 2024

RE: Transmitting Informational Update on Economic Development Initiatives

I write to provide an update on the Executive Office of Economic Development (EOED)'s initiatives over the last several months. This report complements the other reports submitted to the City Council agenda regarding Housing & Neighborhood Activities and Tax Increment Financing / Tax Increment Exemptions.

Planning Initiatives

Worcester Now | Next

Following a Request for Proposals, the consulting firm Utile was selected to assist the city with development of its first citywide master plan since 1987. The plan, termed Worcester Now | Next (or shortened to Now | Next), has assessed topics such as land use, zoning, design review, housing, transportation, economic development, the environment, and historic and cultural resources, with a specific emphasis on considering these topics through the lenses of equity and sustainability. The plan has identified needs, opportunities, and developed a prioritized list of actions for implementation. Notably, the plan also lays the groundwork for an ongoing planning program that evaluates and updates recommendations on a recurring basis. Following significant public engagement through listening sessions, surveys, visioning workshops and other channels, Utile, with the support of the Planning Division, completed the draft plan recommendations and solicited further feedback. The public comment period closed on February 25, 2024, and the Planning Board has a public hearing scheduled for March 20, 2024 at 6:30PM in the Levi Lincoln Chamber of City Hall. The full draft plan as well as an Executive Summary translated into nine (9) languages can be accessed at <https://now-next.worcesterma.gov/>. A copy of the Executive Summary is enclosed with this item.

Accessory Dwelling Units

Accessory Dwelling Units is one of the early action priorities of the Worcester Now | Next plan, and was also emphasized as a priority for the City Council in 2023. A draft Zoning Ordinance Amendment with our recommendations regarding Accessory Dwelling Units was submitted to the City Council in September. After a Planning Board hearing in November, the City Council ultimately approved the final ordinance language in December, which has enabled Accessory Dwelling Units at eligible owner-occupied properties.

MBTA Communities

Our office has submitted the preliminary compliance information to the Commonwealth relative to the MBTA Communities legislation. We have initial concurrence that the city of Worcester has sufficient land area within proximity to Union Station where multi-family housing development is allowed by-right. An economic feasibility analysis is being finalized in spring 2024 in partnership

with the Central Mass Regional Planning Commission to demonstrate whether our Inclusionary Zoning policy may inhibit housing production. The MBTA Communities guidance suggests that communities should not have affordability requirements exceeding 10% of a project at 80% Area Median Income.

Elm Park Local Historic District

Over the past two years, the Worcester Historical Commission, assisted by staff from the Planning Division, has worked to study the neighborhood and document the distinct, exemplary architecture in the Elm Park area. That research was compiled in a Final Study Report for the proposed Local Historic District, which details the properties proposed for inclusion, a history of the area, as well as the factors considered by the Historic Commission in making its recommendation of the Local Historic District boundary. The final proposed boundary includes 64.5 acres of land and 207 historic buildings, which would make it the fourth and largest district in the city. The Historic Commission followed the statutory requirements, soliciting public comments through a survey and at three public hearings. Having considered all stakeholder input received, on March 23, 2023 the Historic Commission voted unanimously to recommend adoption. The City Council adopted the Elm Park Neighborhood Local Historic District in September, which is the city's fourth and largest local historic district.

Historic District Design Guidelines

The EOED, through the Planning Division, secured a \$20,000 grant from the Massachusetts Historic Commission to hire a consultant for the development of consistent design guidelines for the city's local historic districts. These guidelines will educate residents and support decision-making by the Worcester Historical Commission during their review of work proposed for historically and architecturally significant buildings in Worcester. While tailored to review of historic properties, these guidelines would aid other boards, such as the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals, when reviewing proposed developments that involve or otherwise effect vintage structures. The development of design guidelines was recommended by the city's 2016 Historic Preservation Plan.

Conservation Commission – Urban Tree Canopy Assessment

The Planning Division also secured a \$40,000 grant from the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), Urban and Community Forestry Program. The Conservation Commission is the custodian of approximately 827 acres of land, most of which is forested, with approximately 587 acres being located within mapped Environmental Justice (EJ) areas. The grant will support an Urban Tree Canopy assessment and analysis for the Conservation Commission held properties, which would also include the development of baseline reports of existing conditions, and recommendations for potential management strategies to maintain and improve forest health going forward for a handful of selected properties within EJ areas. This assessment would be aligned with the objectives of the Urban Forestry Master Plan and furthers the goals of the Open Space and Recreation Plan as well as the Green Worcester Plan. The grant application is supported by the Conservation Commission, Greater Worcester Land Trust, and Mass Audubon.

Community Preservation Act (CPA)

In November 2022, the Worcester voters adopted the Community Preservation Act for the city. This new pool of resources will support affordable housing, historic preservation, and open space and recreation. The final members for the Community Preservation Committee have been appointed and the first meeting was held on January 30, 2024. Over the course of 2024, the Community Preservation Committee will develop the required Community Preservation Plan, which will help guide the prioritization and allocation of CPA funds. Each of the three areas for which CPA is designed to support must receive at least 10% of the CPA funds. In

addition to the local revenues generated, the FY24 state matching funds should be known in the fall of 2024. The Committee would expect to start its initial slate of distributions in early 2025.

Downtown Urban Revitalization Plan

Denholm Building

In August 2022, the Worcester Redevelopment Authority officially took ownership of the Denholm Building at 484-500 Main Street with a sale price of \$3 million. EOED staff, in partnership with a third-party relocation specialist, immediately started working with the occupants of the building following the acquisition. All of the occupants have successfully relocated from the building and received their respective relocation assistance. The last occupant vacated the property in April 2023. Many of the non-profit organizations from the Denholm Building were able to remain co-located, and within the Downtown area – accessible to their clients – at 18 Chestnut Street. One of the ancillary benefits of preparing the Denholm Building for redevelopment has been the preservation and revitalization of 18 Chestnut Street, which had sat vacant for approximately 10 years.

Concurrently, the WRA issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) to identify a development partner for the acquisition and development of the property on November 23, 2022. Proposals were due on March 24, 2023. The RFP included several criteria that reflected the priorities of the EOED related to development, including: the property reuse and economic benefit to the City; the inclusion of affordability and accessibility related to housing opportunities; the financial plan and viability; estimated schedule / expediency of the project; sustainable and resilient building design; other architectural design considerations; and commitment to compliance with the WRA's Responsible Employer and Inclusionary Participation Policy.

Four (4) proposals were received, of which, two (2) did not meet the minimum criteria. The two (2) proposals that proceeded to the comparative evaluation process were from The Menkiti Group and RMS Companies. Both proposals contemplated the demolition of the existing structure and the new construction of a mixed-use building with first-floor commercial and upper story residential uses. The comparative evaluation process included interviews with staff and WRA board members at their public meetings, as well as staff review and recommendation to the board for final consideration. Ultimately the board voted in August 2023 in favor of awarding a Land Disposition and Development Agreement to The Menkiti Group.

The proposed project consists of an approximate \$113 million to construct an 11-story building with 233 residential units and 10,000 square feet of commercial space on the first floor. The residential units are comprised of studios, one-bedroom, and two-bedroom units, including up to 20% affordable units and 10% ADA accessible units.

EOED staff are currently working with The Menkiti Group on finalizing and executing the Land Disposition and Development Agreement.

120 Washington Street

The relocation of Table Talk Pies from their legacy site adjacent to the ballpark unlocked a unique opportunity for redevelopment in the URP and DIF area. The redevelopment plan is aligned with the City's vision for a mixed-use and mixed-income project, beginning with 83-units of affordable housing at 30% AMI and 60% AMI in the first building. The City has committed \$1,250,000 in HOME funds to support the first phase of affordable housing, which is estimated at \$42 million and is now under construction. Boston Capital is also re-instituting a former public street known as Spruce Street which bisects the site from Green Street to Washington Street. Our staff in the Special Projects Division successfully secured a \$1.25 million MassWorks grant to help support the cost of re-creating that public street. Spruce Street will enhance the

pedestrian connectivity in the Canal District. Furthermore, the additional tax revenues resulting from Boston Capital's investment at the site will contribute to the District Improvement Financing area and the debt service payments on the ballpark construction costs. The first building as well as Spruce Street are expected to be complete in the second quarter of 2024.

Rossi Development

In May 2023, Rossi Development acquired a portion of the former Table Talk property (fronting Green Street) from Boston Capital. The proposed project consists of adding two (2) additional stories on top of the existing building with ground floor commercial use and 53 units of housing on the upper floors. The developer has been rebuilding the back of the property which was exposed during the demolition of the rest of Table Talk and the project is now underway.

The Cove

Construction continues with The Cove project on Green Street adjacent to Polar Park. The project consists of a mixed-use new construction project with 173-unit market-rate apartments and commercial retail on the first-floor. The project is an estimated private investment in excess of \$70 million. The Cove is situated on the full block between Plymouth and Gold Streets, and involved the assembly of multiple parcels. The Worcester Redevelopment Authority sold the surplus properties at 85 Green Street, 2 Plymouth Street, 5 Gold Street, 7 Gold Street, and 8 Gold Street in December 2021 to The Cove developer for \$3.15 million. This project is also located in the District Improvement Financing area and the proceeds from the sale of the land created the initial reserve for the DIF. The Cove is expected to be complete in the summer of 2024.

Madison Properties – The Revington

Madison Properties has completed the 228-unit market-rate residential building at 1 Green Island Boulevard and tenants are now occupying the property. The project is an estimated \$89 million investment and will include parking, commercial retail as well as a number of amenities for residents.

Other Targeted URP Properties

When the Downtown Urban Revitalization Plan was adopted in 2016, over 30 properties were targeted in the plan for investment or redevelopment. Some of those properties were owned by Wyman-Gordon Company, and have been part of the Polar Park initiative, however, some of the properties are located in the Downtown Theatre District:

Midtown Mall – Northeast Properties acquired the Midtown Mall and the adjacent building in May 2019 for \$4 million. Façade reconstruction at the Midtown Mall is complete and additional façade work has been done on the adjacent building. Significant interior improvements have also been completed. The owner has secured new tenants at the Midtown Mall which have included Concrete Collection, Que Rico Quirico restaurant, Woo Juice, and Doho Café. Additional tenants opened in the last few months including Worcester Common Fitness on the second floor and a retail beer/wine store on the first floor.

526 Main Street – MassDevelopment recently completed the sale of 526 Main Street to The Menkiti Group, who had previously been selected through MassDevelopment's Request for Proposals on the property. The Menkiti Group's vision is to keep the commercial use of the building, including first-floor retail oriented businesses and co-working space on the second floor. This project is now underway.

Theatre District / Downtown BID

The EOED, in partnership with the Downtown BID received the State's Local Rapid Recovery Planning grant to facilitate new initiatives for Downtown to recover from the pandemic. EOED was involved in the planning process that included a diagnostics phase and project recommendations phase. Recommendations include new placemaking and beautification concepts Downtown as well as Quality of Life amenities. Implementation of priority projects is ongoing. In September, the participating members of the BID voted to reauthorize the BID for another five (5) years. Executive Director Evelyn Darling recently submitted a report regarding the BID's accomplishments over its first term to the City Council, which was referred to the Council's Economic Development Committee.

Union Station

Center Platform Project

The EOED, through the Worcester Redevelopment Authority and in partnership with the MBTA, is excited to have the Center Platform Project at Union Station nearly complete. The benefits of the project will include: improving accessibility and safety; increasing station capacity; enabling two trains at the station at the same time; improving operations and schedules; and providing flexibility for future expansion. In addition, at the existing commuter rail parking lot, commuter there will be new elevators, stairways, and pedestrian bridges. A new accessible walkway will connect the parking lot and station building.

The platform project itself is estimated at \$45 million and the MBTA is also making additional investments in related track improvements. As a result of the project, the WRA has executed a 30-year lease with the MBTA. The project is expected to be complete in the second quarter of 2024.

Food Hub

The WRA has been working with the Worcester Regional Food Hub to support their plans to relocate the physical operations of the Food Hub to Union Station. The ground-level space is approximately 5,000 square feet and has a loading dock. The two primary components of the Food Hub's operations are a shared kitchen incubator and local food aggregation / distribution. The kitchen incubator has been an important asset to remove barriers for aspiring food entrepreneurs. Many of the kitchen members have been minority, immigrant, and lower-income entrepreneurs. This new space will grow the number of kitchens for the members and enable greater availability for both existing members and new members. The Food Hub also aggregates local produce supporting regional farms and distributes to institutional buyers like the Worcester Public Schools, UMass, and others. This aggregation system enables smaller farms to meet the volume required of institutional buyers and also helps get fresh local produce into important customer channels like the Worcester Public Schools. The Food Hub also works with the Regional Environmental Council and other food security organizations.

The City of Worcester has allocated \$1 million of ARPA funds towards the estimated \$4 million project. These funds are leveraged additional state and federal dollars. The Food Hub has executed its lease with the WRA and recently completed the bidding process for the construction of the space.

961 Restaurant and Eddy's Pub

The WRA also authorized two additional leases for the vacant space adjacent to the Grand Hall in Union Station (961 Restaurant & Lounge) and the retail space at the Union Station Parking Garage (Eddy's Pub). The 961 Restaurant & Lounge opened at the very end of 2023. The lease

for Eddy's Pub is in process as well as the design efforts by the business owner for the fit-out of that space.

Special Projects

Greendale Revitalization Initiative

The EOED is supporting its partners at the Worcester Business Development Corporation (WBDC) in launching the Greendale Revitalization Initiative. The goal of the initiative is to stimulate private investment, job creation, and tax base expansion by focusing on commercial / industrial development opportunities in the Higgins Industrial Park area. Before the end of 2022, the WBDC took ownership of approximate 50 acres of underutilized properties from Saint Gobain. Significant planning efforts have been underway in terms of the required site preparation and vision for the redevelopment of those acres. The WBDC successfully secured a \$2 million cleanup grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to support the remediation and demolition necessary. The City of Worcester also secured a \$2.5 million MassWorks award for infrastructure upgrades, which will be necessary to support the redevelopment. The initiative also seeks to support small business development along the West Boylston Street corridor. The WBDC has made significant progress with the remediation and demolition over the last several months.

The Reactory

The WuXi Biologics and Galaxy Life Sciences facilities are both underway at the Reactory bio-manufacturing park. Combined, the first two projects will result in over 300,000 square feet of new commercial space and lead to the creation of at least 350 jobs. The projects represent over \$350 million of private investment. Galaxy has also acquired the remaining sites available for redevelopment, so the 40+ acres of previously tax-exempt land is now contributing to the tax base of the city. The EOED and DPW helped facilitate the necessary infrastructure improvements to Reactory Drive and successfully secured a U.S. Economic Development Administration grant to support those costs. Galaxy Life Sciences continues to market the remaining parcels available to end-users.

Lincoln Square Boys Club

The City of Worcester sold the Lincoln Square Boys Club to WinnDevelopment in May 2019 for \$300,000. WinnDevelopment hosted a groundbreaking ceremony for the project in the fall of 2023. Significant construction mobilization is expected in early 2024. The project consists of the historic preservation of the existing building as well as a 5-story addition to facilitate the creation of 80 units of mixed-income housing for seniors. The project will also include other services, amenities and a community room in partnership with Preservation Worcester and Salisbury Cultural District.

Auditorium

The Architectural Heritage Foundation has diligently pursued a wide range of actions to advance the restoration and redevelopment of the Auditorium that are consistent with its obligations set forth under the Land Disposition Agreement, which was extended to October 15, 2024. These actions include committing in excess of \$2.2 million in hard and soft costs toward the project, including successfully obtaining funding to demolish and remediate severely deteriorated basement conditions in the Auditorium and paying for certain costs related to the design and upgrading of a fire suppression system; receiving Part I approval from the National Park Service for a proposed building addition that will modernize the Auditorium's entrance and address accessibility and compliance issues, which approval will provide eligibility for much needed Federal and State historic preservation tax credits for the project; and creating a project

vision and business plan to strategically advance the project, including a concept plan created by the international architecture firm HOK.

The AHF's concept plan for the Auditorium includes its rehabilitation and restoration into an innovative digital technology, arts and education center that will support eSports, interactive entertainment, emerging events, and entrepreneurs. While the plan is conceptual and exploratory at this time, my office continues to work with the team at AHF to bring this complex project to reality and restore the historic Auditorium.

Pleasant Street TDI District

The Pleasant Street Transformative Development Initiative (TDI) is a partnership model with MassDevelopment, the City of Worcester, community nonprofits, businesses, and residents. Since launching, the partnership has built a workplan focused on small business development, arts and culture, community engagement, and real estate development. The Pleasant Street TDI Partnership was recently awarded another \$125,000 in FY24 from MassDevelopment to support their workplan. Continued efforts include storefront improvements, branding, marketing, and technical assistance.

Land Disposition

The Special Projects Division oversees the Department's efforts with land disposition of real estate for economic development purposes. The Division has been focusing on the inventory of surplus city-owned land to facilitate productive reuse and returning them to taxable status. The following list includes highlighted land transactions that have been completed as well as projects underway and pending transactions in the pipeline:

DPW Central Garage Properties

The EOED, in partnership with MassDevelopment and neighborhood stakeholders, participated in the Technical Assistance Panel (TAP) program of the Urban Land Institute regarding the potential opportunity and vision for a higher and better use of the DPW properties in the Shrewsbury Street corridor. The TAP report recommended first exploring the redevelopment opportunity of the Central Garage properties. The EOED issued a Request for Proposals in August to gauge interest in potential acquisition and redevelopment scenarios. The information that will result from that will provide the City with useful information about the value of the site and new tax revenues that could be realized. That will help us understand the feasibility of relocating the current garage operations in a way that would be fiscally responsible. There are no imminent plans for relocation at this time. The EOED is currently finalizing its review of proposals received through the RFP process for acquisition and redevelopment of the existing site.

261 Clover Street a/k/a 175 James Street

The Economic Development Office issued a Request for Interest in 2015 for the redevelopment of a tax title property at 261 Clover Street, formerly the home of the Creative Paper and Packaging Company. Botany Bay Construction Co., Inc., or its nominee (175 James Street LLC), was designated preferred developer. Botany Bay was the sole interested party with a purchase price of \$52,500, due in large part to the near \$1.5 million abatement and demolition costs to prepare the site for development. The 5+ acre property will be redeveloped into approximately 90 units of market-rate, townhouse style housing. Botany Bay Construction has developed similar projects in the city. The City closed on the sale of property in early March 2020 and then the pandemic occurred. The remediation of the site was also supported by the City's Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund. The project's initial phases are complete, with the final phase nearing completion.

Former St. Vincent Nurses' Quarters

The EOED previously issued a Request for Proposals for a 90-year lease and redevelopment opportunity of a portion of the former St. Vincent Hospital Nurses' Building attached to the Worcester Senior Center at 128 Providence Street. The City of Worcester received special legislation from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to offer the 90-year lease term, which is necessary to make a redevelopment project feasible to finance. The leased premises includes approximately 54,000 square feet of building space as well as accessory land, which would likely be needed for parking. The RFP called for an adaptive reuse housing project. One proposal was received and rejected due to the conditional nature of the proposal. Economic development staff are now working on adjusting certain provisions of the RFP to put it back out to bid this spring.

36 Washington Square

The EOED, in partnership with the Worcester Redevelopment Authority, executed a Terms of Conveyance for the remaining development site at Washington Square with First Bristol Corporation. First Bristol Corporation, through Washington Square Hotel, LLC, intends to construct a new hotel on the site of approximately 96 rooms at an estimated investment of approximately \$22 million. The purchase price to be received by the WRA is \$400,000 with \$100,000 of the proceeds going to the Worcester Jobs Fund. Due to the effects of the pandemic, the project is delayed from its original schedule. The developer is currently working on due diligence and site plan drawings, with the goal of starting the project in 2024.

33 Merrick Street

Following a Request for Bids (RFB) the EOED facilitated the sale of surplus property at 33 Merrick Street to Worcester Common Ground for \$41,000. Worcester Common Ground completed the construction of an affordable duplex on the property, which was sold to a local resident. The ribbon cutting celebration was held earlier this spring. Partners on the project included Worcester Common Ground, YouthBuild, Longwood Development, Training Resources of America, Saint Gobain, Mass Housing, UMass Anchor Mission, Worcester Area Mission Society, and First Unitarian Church.

521 Sunderland Road

EOED facilitated the sale of the former City-owned property for housing development. The 21,000 square foot vacant parcel was divided into three development sites and advertised the sale and development of the land through a Request for Proposals process. Habitat for Humanity broke ground this summer on the construction of two, single-family owner-occupied homes and a neighboring property owner is constructing additional owner-occupied single-family home on the third parcel.

17 Lodi Street

The EOED released a Request for Proposals consistent with the objectives of the Green Island Initiative in seeking to promote affordable homeownership, for a minimum bid of \$50,000, and completed a sale to Capstone Builders for \$67,770. Renovations to the existing structure to address deferred maintenance and other improvements were completed and the property is now under agreement for sale.

30 Rodney Street

This property was donated to the City. The EOED issued a Request for Bids and facilitated a sale to Dizney Construction, LLC for \$21,000. The proposal is to construct a two-family

property, which will be owner-occupied as well as an Affordable Housing Restriction for at least one of the units.

13 Southgate Place

This property was foreclosed upon for tax title purposes in 2020. The EOED issued a Request for Proposals in the fall of 2023 with a minimum bid of \$50,000. The most advantageous proposal was received from Multiscale Systems, Inc. at a bid of \$50,010. Multiscale Systems is a Worcester-based company that develops high performing materials and advanced manufacturing solutions. They have proposed an approximately 12,000 square foot LEED-certified facility to support the company's growth. The EOED is currently working on the Terms of Conveyance with the buyer.

9 Davis Street & 33 Ripley Street

The EOED advertised both of these small, vacant lots for sale this winter for affordable homeownership development opportunities. Habitat for Humanity was the sole bidder for each property. The EOED is working with Habitat for Humanity on the Terms of Conveyance for each property. The 9 Davis Street property will be sold for \$34,100 and the 33 Ripley Street property will be sold for \$55,600.

Small Business Assistance

Despite the ongoing challenges posed by the pandemic, the entrepreneurial spirit in our City is truly inspirational. There have been multiple ribbon cutting events throughout the City recently, all small businesses with 50 employees or less. Some recent openings include: Momo Palace, 1885, Worcester Common Fitness, Odd by Worcester Brewery, Toro Loco, Positive Vibes Studio and more.

Financial Assistance Programs

The Business Development Division successfully administered over 200 Small Business Safety Net Grants through the ARPA funding totaling over \$2 million in small business support. The Division attempted to obtain as much demographic information of the business owners receiving the grants, but race, ethnicity and gender identity is a voluntary disclosure. Almost half of the businesses were women-owned; approximately 27% Hispanic/Latinx-owned; 24% White-owned; 17% Black/African American-owned; 9% AAPI-owned; 3% other; and 20% did not disclose.

The Division also continues to work with small business owners who want to open or expand their small business in Worcester. The balance of ARPA funds from the Small Business Safety Net program is being utilized to bolster the Division's Microloan, Small Business Grant, and Façade Improvement Grant Programs. Several applications are underway and in process.

Technical Assistance

The pandemic cast a light on the disproportionate access to technical assistance providers and subject matter experts for locally owned small businesses. Our community-based organization partners have been instrumental in providing culturally-competent assistance to business owners who were trying to navigate and apply for various pandemic grant programs. That need for technical assistance is not unique to the pandemic. In order for our diverse and underrepresented business owners to thrive, they need the support network to enhance their ability to succeed. We have allocated \$1,000,000 over phases to provide this critical technical assistance. This program provides grants to community-based organizations, nonprofits or community collaborations to provide targeted assistance to small businesses. The initial round

included four (4) grant awards to the Latin American Business Organization (LABO), South East Asian Coalition, the Small Business Development Center at Clark University, and WPI. The application has been reactivated until all remaining funding is committed.

Minority & Women Business Enterprise Initiative

As you know, the City has launched a Minority/Women Business Initiative. The focus of the initiative is to grow the pool of certified businesses and help those businesses be positioned for contracting opportunities with governmental entities, institutions, and other businesses. We worked with UMass Donahue Institute on a study that is guiding this initiative. Some of the recommendations have already been implemented. The EOED will be working closely with the Executive Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion as well. As recommended to City Council, we have set aside \$550,000 of ARPA funds for this initiative, which is being augmented by the \$500,000 in proceeds from the Attorney General's settlement with Gilbane-Hunt relative to M/WBE reporting on the Polar Park project.

The Business Development Division has been working with technical assistance providers and offering a series of workshops and seminars to assist eligible Minority and Women owned businesses with obtaining their official M/WBE certification. The process of getting certified requires significant time and commitment of the business owner. Businesses that participate and successfully achieve their certification will be eligible for a grant stipend from the program funds allocated to this initiative. The grant program application in connection with this initiative is being launched very soon.

Cultural Development

Special Event Permitting

The Cultural Development Division has been collaborating with the City Manager's Office, Department of Innovation & Technology, Parks Department, and Special Event Committee to streamline the permit application utilized by organizers when their events require City services and/or are located on City property. The Cultural Development Office has collected public feedback through surveys and will be offering an additional community input session, facilitated by an expert community liaison in the fall of 2023. Upon careful review of additional public feedback, implementation and beta testing with the OpenGov's digital development team has been ongoing.

Worcester Arts Council

In the fall of 2023, the Worcester Arts Council accepted applications for its FY24 grant cycle. These grants are supported through funding from the Mass Cultural Council. The following priorities were identified by the Arts Council for this cycle:

Project Categories: Projects that focus on Public Art, Musical Performances, Arts Education & Instruction and programs for all age groups from children to seniors.

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Access (DEIA): Projects that elevate the voices and experiences of historically marginalized groups to highlight the current and historical diversity of Worcester. Projects should create opportunities for artists and community members through a DEIA lens.

Locations: Projects that take place in or benefit areas of Worcester that are historically underserved.

A total of 53 grants of up to \$5,000 were awarded totaling \$246,844 in funding.

ARPA Cultural Organization Grants

On January 30, 2024, the Cultural Development Office launched the ARPA application for Cultural Organization Grants. The program provides grants to arts/cultural non-profit organizations that were negatively harmed by the pandemic. Grant amounts will be determined based on the number of eligible applications received. Total funding is \$2.95 million. Our team hosted a Technical Assistance Workshop at the Worcester Public Library on Wednesday, February 21, 2024, at 3:00pm in the Saxe Room. The session was recorded and posted with the program application form on www.worcesterma.gov/arpa. Applications are due on Tuesday, March 19th at 5:00pm.

Sincerely,



Peter Dunn
Chief Development Officer



Now | Next

Worcester's Citywide Plan

Executive Summary

Executive Summary

Worcester Now | Next is the City of Worcester's long-range citywide plan. It captures the vision and values of our community and provides a framework to guide the way that we invest and shape our city in the next 10 years, especially in terms of development and infrastructure. By working within this framework, future topic—and area-specific plans will tie together to achieve more than any one plan or initiative could on its own.

You can learn more about the plan at now-next.worcesterma.gov

Process

Over the course of two years, from early 2022 to early 2024, the Worcester Now | Next process engaged a wide variety of community members and stakeholders in the collective creation of a plan that could reflect the aspirations and needs of the Worcester community now, and in the city's next chapter. This process was grounded in the work of a part-time local community organizer and consisted of two phases: a visioning phase in which we listened and learned in order to identify issues and opportunities, and a recommendation development and prioritization phase in which we drilled down into the details of how to achieve the vision and goals that emerged from the visioning phase.

Vision

In Worcester's fourth century, we envision a creative city of neighbors who value inclusion and celebrate diversity. We will uplift our city by investing equitably in our communities, connecting our neighborhoods to opportunity, and prioritizing sustainable growth that supports improved quality of life for all.



Through the foundational work of the local organizer and partnerships with community organizations, this planning process was able to build a robust network to disseminate information and create opportunities to engage people where they were. All aspects of the public engagement effort were bilingual (English and Spanish), key information was shared in the top 6 languages in Worcester (Portuguese, Twi, Vietnamese, Arabic, Albanian, and Swahili), and public workshops were adapted to support hearing and visually impaired participants. This robust foundation enabled us to hear from Worcester community members that are often under-represented in planning processes like this one.

Engagement by the numbers

 **780+** email newsletter subscribers

Phase 1: Visioning

Citywide Online Visioning Survey

 **1,377** Participants


 **1,241** Statements Submitted

Public Visioning Workshops

 **100+** Attendees

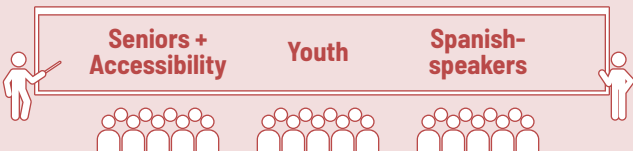
 **755** Comments Submitted

Visioning Listening Tour

 **13** Community Event Pop-ups

 **258+** Vision Cards

3 Focus Groups




Phase 2: Recommendations & Prioritization


Priority Goals Questionnaire

 **1,030** Responses

Public Draft Plan Workshops & Library Exhibit

 **113+** Attendees

 **50+** In-person Attendees

 **63** Virtual Registrations

 **150+** Written Comments

 **2,025+** Recommendation Sticky Dot Votes

Plan Headlines

Three plan headlines emerged from the extensive engagement and analysis conducted through this planning process. These headlines represent the core of what this plan is about, and what it positions the City to act on in the next few years.

A values-centered framework for growth that benefits all Worcester community members.

Equitable and sustained public investment in Worcester's neighborhoods.

A more connected and accessible city for all.

A values-centered framework for growth that benefits all Worcester community members.

Worcester is growing and changing at a rapid pace. Worcester Now | Next provides a roadmap for how to accommodate growth and manage change in a way that reflects the community's collective values and goals. We heard that people want equitable, sustainable, and resilient transit-oriented development; more diverse and affordable housing options that meaningfully address the housing crisis; and vibrant mixed-use neighborhood centers and corridors that are walkable and accessible to people of all ages and abilities. To achieve that and ensure Worcester's continued growth benefits all Worcesterites for generations to come, we need new zoning, an action plan to address mobility gaps, and assessments of what infrastructure improvements are needed to support that growth.

How we advance this:

1. Implement selective, targeted zoning updates on special issues such as (but not limited to) enabling Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs), reducing parking requirements where appropriate, and establishing tree protection and planting requirements.
2. Initiate a zoning overhaul to align the zoning map with the Growth Framework established through this plan, to address aspects of the current ordinance that perpetuate segregation and inequity or undermine the viability of desired development throughout the city, and to improve the clarity and user-friendliness of the ordinance.
3. Complete and implement the Mobility Action Plan (MAP) to identify and prioritize more specific capital, operational, and programmatic projects to advance safe, equitable, and sustainable transportation in Worcester in support of the Growth Framework.
4. Complete infrastructure capacity and needs assessments to confirm current capacity of electric, stormwater, and sewer infrastructure and identify the investments needed to support the Growth Framework and Future Land Use Vision developed through this plan.

Equitable and sustained investment in Worcester's neighborhoods.

There was widespread recognition that Downtown and the Canal District should continue to be critical areas of focus for planning, investment, programming, and creative development initiatives that support the vitality of the city's core. However, community input throughout this planning process highlighted strong interest in a renewed focus on Worcester's diverse neighborhoods through more coordinated land use and infrastructure planning and strategic investment in neighborhoods, corridors, and districts beyond the downtown core. With the support of community partners, the City is committed to pursuing coordinated, equity-centered local planning, policies, and public investment that will collectively reinforce the vitality of mixed-use neighborhood centers that support resident quality of life and small business health.

How we advance this:

1. Neighborhood and corridor planning that integrates land use, transportation, and infrastructure investment strategies to

holistically support neighborhood opportunity and quality of life.

2. Rezoning to align regulatory requirements with the vision and recommendations that emerge from neighborhood and corridor planning.
3. Prioritizing investment in infrastructure and economic development in neighborhood centers and corridors in alignment with the Growth Framework.
4. Continue and expand anti-displacement support for both residential and non-residential uses.
5. Improve and expand resources for code enforcement to proactively address accessibility, health and safety issues in both rental and owner-occupied units in order to improve housing quality without triggering displacement.
6. Implement process changes to increase community participation and accountability in development processes through technological and procedural changes that improve transparency and inclusivity.

A more connected and accessible city for all.

Worcester is rich in assets, amenities, and community anchors. However, access to those things is uneven and largely automobile dependent. Worcester's existing auto-dominant transportation infrastructure and associated investment gaps in other infrastructure, facilities, and services reinforce inequities in access and exacerbate public health and environmental justice concerns. This plan marks a turning point to begin creating a more connected city where economic opportunities, services, and amenities are accessible to all through coordinated land use and mobility planning. Specifically, through the subsequent MAP planning process, the City will identify a coordinated, multimodal approach to transportation that prioritizes safety, equity and sustainability while fostering community development and supporting the densities and land use mix envisioned in the Growth Framework (see next page).

How we advance this:

1. Standardize and enforce best management practices in City specifications and regulations that impact the design, operations, and

experience of public streets, sidewalks, and public spaces.

2. Implement a coordinated program of projects to improve walkability and accessibility, prioritizing locations such as schools, mixed-use corridors, and community gathering places.
3. Work with WRTA to expand and improve reliability, frequency, and coverage of transit service, especially along priority corridors and in underserved areas.
4. Work with MBTA to provide frequent, reliable commuter rail service in both directions, including multiple express service trains under one hour in duration between Boston and Worcester during peak periods.
5. Develop a comprehensive bicycle and micromobility network connecting all areas of the city.
6. Retrofit and reconfigure streets to operate safely and have characteristics appropriate for their urban context.
7. Link land use and transportation via zoning and coordinated neighborhood-scale planning efforts.

Growth Framework

Worcester gained over 25,000 people in the last 10 years. This represents a 14% increase and surpasses Worcester's previous peak population in the 1950s. While it cannot be known whether growth will continue at the same rate in the future, if we look ahead to 2040, the high end of projected population growth for Worcester could be 60,000 or more new residents. For Worcester to house this many people, 20,000 or more new units of multifamily housing would be needed.

The place-based Growth Framework developed through this planning process not only accommodates the growth Worcester is likely to see over the next 20 years, it steers that growth where it has the greatest potential to meet community goals. By steering growth to places that are (or have the potential to be) well served by transit and encouraging clusters of complementary amenities, services, and infrastructure in those places, we can create a more accessible, equitable, sustainable, resilient, and vibrant Worcester.

The Growth Framework, as shown in the map on the facing page, includes four categories or types of growth that will collectively help to establish a more transit-oriented and walkable development pattern that can support a high quality of life while accommodating significant growth:

Baseline Citywide Growth

Allow for incremental, gentle growth everywhere in the city.

Managed Growth Areas

Allow moderate increases in housing density within a ¼ mile walk of existing and potential future transit corridors.

Infill Growth Areas

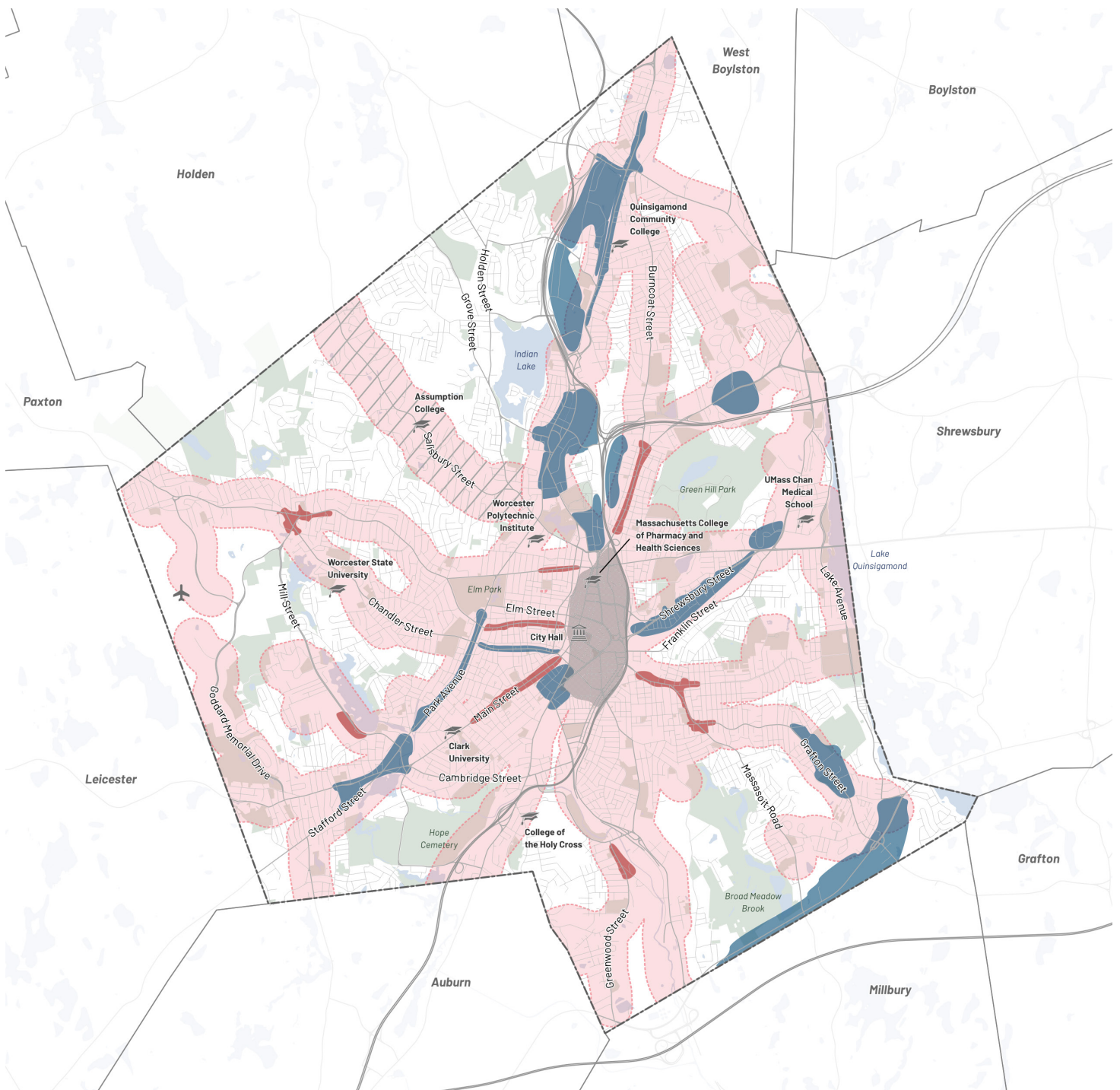
Encourage additional mixed-use development on vacant or underutilized properties in existing areas with high walkability and transit access.

Transformative Growth Areas

Facilitate significant reinvestment and physical transformation in areas with unmet potential for high walkability and transit access that can support substantial job growth and/or higher density housing with complementary commercial uses.

In order to meet their full potential as the thriving mixed-use hubs envisioned through Worcester Now | Next, Transformative Growth Areas will be prioritized for:

- District-scale planning to define more detailed goals and community needs in each area relative to land use regulations, capital investments, and programmatic or operational needs. This planning should help to articulate a strong urban design vision that is aligned with anticipated infrastructure investments and land use parameters.
- Focused investments in pedestrian safety and comfort, accessibility, multi-modal transportation infrastructure, and improved transit service as identified through MAP.
- Coordinated capital investments in infrastructure, services, and facilities, including necessary proactive private utility provider investments (e.g. National Grid/Eversource).



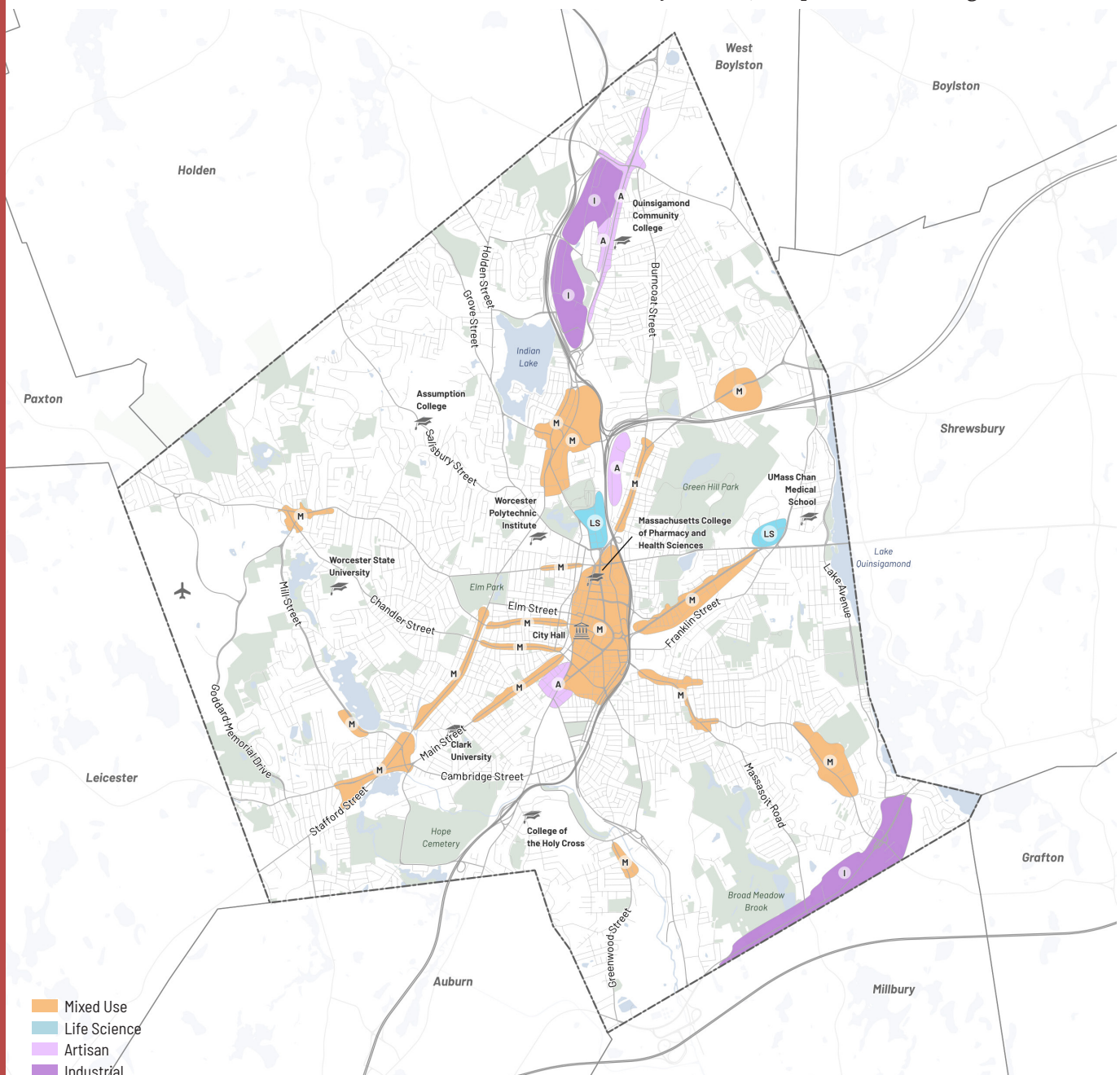
The **Growth Framework** will be the foundation for future citywide rezoning as well as focused area planning efforts, starting in the Transformative Growth Areas.

- Downtown / Canal District
- Transformative Growth Area
- Infill Growth Area
- Managed Growth Area—Existing Transit Corridor
- Managed Growth Area—Potential Future Transit Corridor

Future Land Use Vision

Not all development is the same. Some uses are compatible and complementary with one another (like housing and retail uses) and others need more distance and buffering from one another (like housing and higher impact industrial uses). By articulating what use mix each Infill and Transformative Growth Area is best suited to, Worcester can help steer development to create mutually beneficial mixes and reinforce protections and separation where it is needed.

All future land use categories allow for mixed use, but with different anchor uses and complementary uses. These categories generally describe a use mix anchored by the use highlighted in the category name and supported by a complementary mix of uses. In many cases, there is a strong existing use mix that differs from the identified land use vision; this vision is inclusive of those existing uses and envisions how that use mix can evolve over time to better take advantage of the unique patterns, adjacencies, and potential of each growth area.



- **Mixed Use:** Typically anchored by active commercial ground floors (e.g. retail, entertainment, and services like banking, barbers, or dry cleaning), with complementary residential and office upper floors.
- **Life Science:** Typically anchored by healthcare providers, scientific research, and development lab uses, with complementary retail, commercial, hotels, educational institutions, and limited residential.
- **Artisan:** Typically anchored by small, low-impact creative producers (e.g. fashion, furniture, food and beverage), with complementary retail, commercial, hotels, and residential.
- **Industrial:** Typically anchored by larger producers and distributors that are dependent on larger trucks, highways, and rail, with complementary limited retail and commercial serving area businesses and employees.

Implementation Priorities

For the next 3 – 5 years, the following six top-priority early action items will be the primary focus of the Planning & Regulatory Services Division within the City of Worcester’s Executive Office of Economic Development. These top-priority City-led early action items are listed roughly in order of the expected sequence of implementation. Most are already underway in some form:

1. Complete and implement the MAP, which will be led by the Department of Transportation & Mobility
2. Implement the following pre-overhaul zoning changes
 - a. Legalize Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) by-right citywide
 - b. Reduce or eliminate off-street minimum parking requirements for most uses
 - c. Reform tree protection requirements
3. Develop a Housing Production Plan to identify the types of housing that are most needed and should be prioritized based on demographic trends and projections
4. Advocate for and secure resources for departmental implementation capacity within the Executive Office of Economic Development and the Inspectional Services Department to lead efforts identified through this process
5. Conduct infrastructure capacity and need assessments
6. Initiate a comprehensive citywide zoning overhaul

Once these six top actions have been completed, the Now | Next plan should be revisited and the remaining recommendations should be prioritized for implementation. In the meantime,

other departments and community partners should use the plan framework, headlines, and topic-specific policy guides as a resource to ensure alignment with Now | Next for parallel and coordinated implementation efforts. Here are some of the ways that residents and partners can play a role in implementing this plan:

Support an increase in departmental capacity within both the Executive Office of Economic Development and within the Inspectional Services Department to implement changes and enforce compliance.

Stay engaged and guide others by reminding them that Now | Next recommendations are grounded in two years of analysis and community process. Help keep conversations focused and constructive as the City advances to the next level of detail and begins to grapple with trade-offs and tensions in more tangible and relatable ways.

Pick goals and recommendations you can chip in on that you are aligned with and invested in, reach out to the relevant City department, and use this plan as a guide to push that aspect of the plan forward using the perspective, skills, capacity, and leverage that you have to offer.

With the advocacy, leadership, initiative, and work of community members and partner institutions and organizations that share the vision of Worcester Now | Next, we can collectively push implementation forward from every corner of Worcester.

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



CITY OF WORCESTER

cm2024mar07033521

Attachment for Item # 11.4 B

March 12, 2024

TO THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

COUNCILORS:

I respectfully submit the attached informational communication relative to Housing & Neighborhood Development Activities, as received from Peter Dunn, Chief Development Officer, and forwarded for the information of your Honorable Body.

Addressing the housing crisis has been a top priority of my administration. Over the course of the last eighteen months, we have dedicated substantial resources, launched new programs, and initiated a number of public policy measures to respond to the crisis. These efforts are guided by the comprehensive Housing Strategy we submitted to the City Council in May 2023, which is also the framework for how we continue to measure our progress. I am pleased to share that just last week, we received four bids from consultants in response to our Request for Proposals for the Housing Production Plan. The cost is being funded through a Housing Choice Grant that we secured from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. This plan will take a deep dive into our current and forecasted demographic trends to help us prioritize the housing projects that are most aligned with those trends and needs.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



TO: Eric D. Batista, City Manager

FROM: Peter Dunn, Chief Development Officer

DATE: March 12, 2024

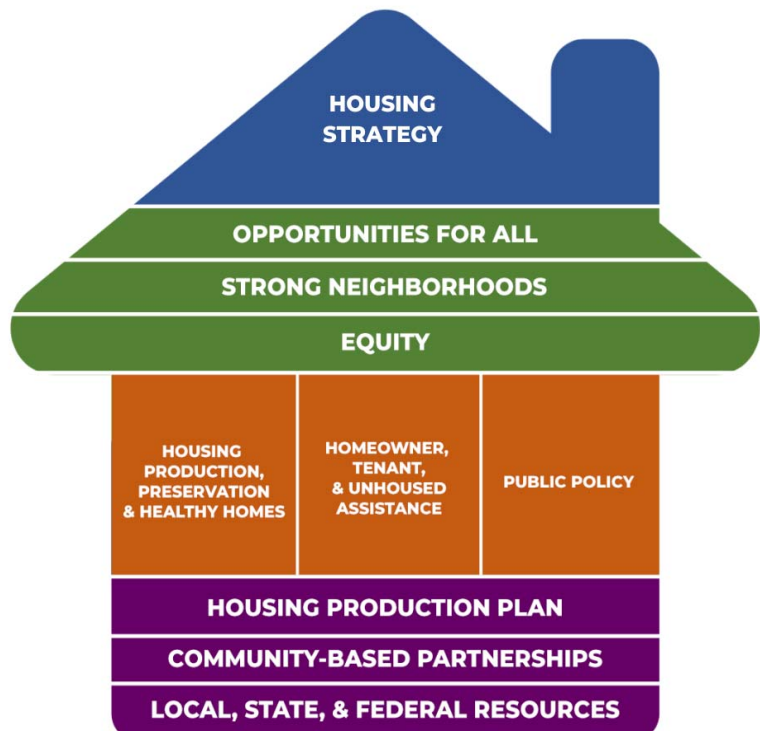
RE: Informational Communication Relative to Housing & Neighborhood Activities

I write to provide an update on Housing & Neighborhood Development programs and initiatives. As you know, these divisions play a critical role in administering the City's entitlement grant funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as well as the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. They also collaborate with our community partners to implement other initiatives benefitting our low- to moderate-income families.

HOUSING UPDATE: INTRODUCTION

Summary Statistics:

- Total of 1,300 affordable housing units created or preserved since 2015.
- Additional 2,100 affordable housing units in the pipeline to be created or preserved.
- 76 ADA accessible units recently created and in the pipeline.
- \$25.7 million invested through the Housing Division programs leveraging \$313 million of other investment.
- 10 new programs conceived and launched since 2020 to respond to emerging and persistent housing needs.
- 43 units created under the Sustaining Housing First Solutions model.



HOUSING PRODUCTION

Housing Production Plan:

The City of Worcester received a \$100,000 grant through the Commonwealth's FY2024 Housing Choice Grant Program for the development of a Housing Production Plan (HPP). This plan will guide our housing production strategies across the various types of housing and needs existing in the community based on current and project population trends. A consultant will be selected in March 2024, and the HPP planning effort is expected to begin in April 2024.

Housing Production Projects:

The following table provides a summary of housing production projects supported by the City, including recently completed projects as well as projects in the pipeline:

Significant Rental Projects – Recently Completed					
Address	Developer	# Units	AMI Level	City Funding Amount	City Program
93 Grand St.	Community Builders	94	19 at 50% 75 at 80%	\$2,365,000	HOME; NSP; Brownfields
332 Main St.	Krock Family	55	6 at 30% 2 at 50% 28 at 60% 14 at 80% 5 market-rate	\$1,250,000	HOME
2 Main St.	Trinity Financial	117	13 at 30% 43 at 60% 8 at 80% 31 at 110% 23 market-rate	N/A	Land Disposition
126 Chandler St.	Worc. Common Ground	31	9 at 30% 22 at 60%	\$625,000	HOME
92 Grand St.	Main South CDC	48	10 at 30% 2 at 50% 34 at 60% 2 market-rate	\$1,325,000	HOME
Rental Projects – Pipeline					
Address	Developer	# Units	AMI Level	City Funding Amount	City Program
153 Green St.	Boston Capital	83	14 at 30% 69 at 60%	\$1,250,000	HOME
Curtis Apts	WHA / Trinity	527 total 155 net new	129 Phase 1 90 at 30% 14 at 60% 35 at 80%	\$2,000,000	AHTF (ARPA)
Curtis Apts Phase II Rental	WHA / Trinity	116	Phase 2 79 at 30% 37 at 50%	\$750,000	ARPA
16 Salisbury St.	WinnCompanies	80	11 at 30% 69 at 60%	\$2,250,000	AHTF (ARPA); HOME
11 Sever St.	Community Builders	49	11 at 30% 38 at 60%	\$2,130,000	AHTF (ARPA); HOME
49 West St.	Black Equity Group	7	6 at 30% 1 at 60%	\$462,500	AHTF (ARPA)
24 Jackson St.	TG 24 Jackson LLC	9	1 at 60% 7 at 80% 1 market-rate	\$580,963	AHTF (ARPA)
35-50 Lagrange St.	Civico Dev.	63	9 at 30% 31 at 60% 23 market-rate	\$2,000,000	AHTF (ARPA)

Lakeside Apts	WHA / Boston Capital	335 total 133 net new	116 Phase 1 48 at 30% 68 at 60%	TBD	TBD
274 Franklin Street	GoVenture Capital	364 total 36 affordable	36 at 60%	Tax Relief	HDIP
484-500 Main St.	Menkiti Group	233 total 47 affordable	TBD	TBD	Land Disposition
485 Grove St.	Colony Retirement Homes	45 20 net new	45 Phase 1 13 at 30% 27 at 50% 5 at 80%	\$3,025,000	AHTF (ARPA); HOME
17 Hermon Street	GoVenture Capital	36 total 5 affordable	2 at 60% 3 at 80% 31 market-rate	\$750,000	AHTF (ARPA)
Homeless / Supportive Housing Projects – Recently Completed					
Address	Developer	# Units	AMI Level	City Funding Amount	City Program
YWCA	YWCA	47 total 4 net new	2 at 80% 4 at 60% 27 at 50% 14 at 30%	\$440,000	HOME; TIF
38 Lewis St.	Worc. Housing Authority	24	<30%	\$2,338,008	HOME, ARPA
6 Wyman Street	SMOC	15	<30%	None	None
Homeless / Supportive Housing Projects – Pipeline					
Address	Developer	# Units	AMI Level	City Funding Amount	City Program
Abby's House	Abby's House	18 total 3 net new	13 at 80% 5 at 30%	\$750,000	ARPA
30 Winfield	SMOC	18	7 at 50% 10 at 30%	\$1,203,828	HOME, ARPA
50 Oriol Dr.	WCHR	90	50 at 30% 40 at 60%	\$2,000,000	HOME-ARP
264 Stafford St.	Civico	21	<30%	\$825,000	HOME-ARP
237 Chandler St.	SMOC	20	19 at <30%	\$2,040,888	HOME, ARPA
Homeownership Projects – Recently Completed					
Address	Developer	# Units	AMI Level	City Funding Amount	City Program
79-81 Harrison St.	Habitat for Humanity	3	80%	\$225,000	HOME
24 Merrick St.	Worc. Common Ground	1	80%	\$84,000	Brownfields
Homeownership Projects – Pipeline					
Address	Developer	# Units	AMI Level	City Funding Amount	City Program
521 Sunderland Rd.	Habitat for Humanity	2	80%	\$276,000	AHTF (ARPA)
17 Lodi St.	Capstone Builders	1	80%	\$100,000	ARPA; Land Disposition
5 Gates Rd.	Dizney Construction	1	80%	\$100,000	ARPA; Land Disposition
30 Rodney St.	Dizney Construction	2	80%	N/A	Land Disposition
Lakeside Condos	WHA / Boston Capital	~28 units	80%	\$900,000	AHTF (ARPA)
Curtis Apts Phase II Rental	WHA / Trinity	34 units	16 at 60% 24 at 80%	See Rental	ARPA
22 Elm Street	Synergy Investments	22	80%	\$2,000,000	AHTF (ARPA)

Note: The Affordable Housing Trust Fund was allocated \$17.4 million in ARPA funding. To date, approximately \$17 million has been committed to projects with approximately \$600,000 in pending applications.

Sustaining Housing First Solutions:

The Housing First Coordinating Council established a goal in 2018 to create 103 units by 2020. The initial projects identified were:

- 38 Lewis Street (WHA/Building Futures): 24 units. This project is completed and is currently leased to eligible individuals.
- 30 Winfield Street (SMOC): 18 units. SMOC is currently finalizing design and financing of this project. It is anticipated to close on state financing this summer.
- 264 Stafford Street (Civico/East Side CDC): 18 units (has increased to 21 since). Due to the merging of East Side CDC with WCHR, Civico is currently finalizing budgeting and funding for project.
- 21-23 Crown St- The Abby's House property is currently under construction to renovate 18 non congregate shelter beds for women.
- 237 Chandler St- SMOC is currently awaiting award of funding to add 20 additional non-congregate shelter beds to the building.

HOUSING PRESERVATION & HEALTHY HOMES

In addition to the production of new housing, preserving and improving the existing housing stock is another critical effort in the overall housing strategy. In terms of affordable housing, preservation efforts can also be a more efficient use of public resources than the cost to build new if those affordable units would otherwise expire.

<i>Preservation Projects – Recently Completed</i>					
Address	Developer	# Units	AMI Level	City Funding Amount	City Program
Murray/Wellington	Homeowners Rehab	70	65 at 50% 5 at 80%	\$500,000	HOME
Wellington	Community Builders	180	<50%	\$500,000	HOME
<i>Preservation Projects – Pipeline</i>					
Address	Developer	# Units	AMI Level	City Funding Amount	City Program
Aurora	Community Builders	85	30% - 60%	\$350,000	HOME
Plumley Village	Community Builders	400	30% - 60%	\$750,000	HOME
WCG Portfolio	Worc. Common Ground	73	30% - 60%	\$580,000	HOME-CHDO

The preservation projects listed above include significant rehabilitation of existing units as well as refinancing activities to improve the quality of the housing stock and extend the affordable housing restrictions well into the future.

Affordable Housing Preservation Program:

Over the past year, as we have reflected on our current efforts related to the affordable housing stock as well as the Inclusionary Zoning initiative, we believe that additional efforts are needed to preserve the “informal” or “naturally occurring” affordable housing stock in the city. These are units that have affordable rents, but are not deed restricted, so they are not part of the official affordable housing stock that is measured by the Subsidized Housing Inventory (SHI). Because of the lack of deed restriction, these are the affordable housing units that are most vulnerable as the city grows and attracts further investment.

In response, we have created the **Affordable Housing Preservation Program**. This is a pilot program of **\$1 million**. The program launched in September and was updated in February 2024 to appeal to a greater number of property owners. Some key parameters of the program are:

- \$15,000 per unit in exchange for a 10-year deed restriction or \$25,000 per unit in exchange for a 15-year deed restriction. The deed restriction cannot be paid off by a new owner/buyer.
- Owners with a chronic history of code violations without swift resolutions are not eligible for funding.
- Units must be enrolled in the new Rental Registry.
- Units must receive a Certificate of Inspection from Inspectional Services. If they are found to have code violations then they can be referred to the Worcester Housing Now program for up to \$50,000 per unit to address the code violations and still obtain the deed restriction.
- Focused on the 60% AMI affordability.
- Annual monitoring. Violation of compliance results in the grant being repaid with potential for additional penalties.

Lead Abatement & Healthy Homes Program:

The City was notified on August 24th that the Housing Development Division was awarded a new **\$4,100,000** HUD Lead Hazard Control grant to begin in November 2023 which will remediate an additional 165 units in pre-1978 buildings. In addition, the staff oversees the regional MA DPH contract for community health workers who monitor lead poisoned children. This contract includes coverage of 80 towns in Central Massachusetts. The program also provides technical assistance to seven HUD Lead Abatement grantees in New England, and as such, the City of Worcester has one of the most well-respected Lead Abatement programs throughout the region.

CDBG Rental Housing Rehabilitation:

The Housing Division also administers a smaller program for Rental Housing Rehabilitation (Worcester Housing Now), which improves the existing housing stock and also results in an Affordable Housing Restriction for participating properties. In the past year, approximately **\$450,000** was administered to support six units, with approximately \$150,000 to support three additional units in contract.

HOMEOWNER, TENANT, & UNHOUSED ASSISTANCE

The housing ecosystem has different stakeholders, including homeowners, landlords, tenants, and the unhoused community. Each of these stakeholders have different needs and interests that may require assistance. This section provides an overview of the programs supported by the Housing Division and an update on recent activities.

Down Payment Assistance:

The City has offered a Down Payment Assistance funded through CDBG for several years. This program is capped at \$5,000 for each eligible first-time homebuyer. Rising interest rates and higher home prices have made homeownership even harder to reach. For those reasons, as well as the launch of MassHousing's MassDREAMS program, the City's traditional Down Payment Assistance Program has been less effective.

The City committed **\$1 million** in ARPA funds for Down Payment Assistance. Since ARPA has fewer restrictions than CDBG funds, this allows the program to provide a higher dollar amount (up to \$25,000) for applicants. In addition, funding through MassDREAMS program is becoming more and more limited due to the popularity of the program, so this new City-sponsored program will help fill unmet needs in the community. To date, approximately \$650,000 has been allocated to assist 26 city residents who were previously renting obtain 1st time homeownership.

Owner-Occupied Housing Rehab & Elder Rehab:

Inspectional Services responds to thousands of potential housing code violations each year at owner-occupied residential properties in the City. Many of these complaints are issued due to deferred maintenance concerns, which had been put off by owner-occupants who could not afford the necessary work. Providing the financial resources to help homeowners remain in place improves stewardship and enhances the quality of the housing stock.

The City offers financial assistance for owner-occupied housing rehab projects through CDBG as well as ARPA. Eligibility parameters vary based on the requirements of the different sources of funding. In addition, the Housing Development Division provides the technical expertise in helping homeowners navigate the rehabilitation process including developing specifications, obtaining competitive pricing, and construction management. A five-year residency restriction will be placed on the property to eliminate any flipping of the properties.

In the past year, approximately \$304,000 has been expended for owner-occupied rehabilitation supporting six homeowners in the city. In addition, approximately \$275,000 has been expended supporting 10 elderly homeowners in the city.

The City also set aside \$2.5 million in ARPA funds for Owner-Occupied housing investments. To date, **24 households** have been qualified for the program totaling approximately **\$1.2 million** in rehabilitation assistance to address critical building, health, and safety code violations.

Home Flood Insurance Assistance:

This program was designed to assist owner-occupied properties that are located in a flood zone. Grants were provided in amount of 50% of the annual flood insurance premium cost. To date, **twenty-eight (28) applications** were approved totaling approximately **\$22,495**.

Rental Assistance:

Rental Assistance was an important initiative throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. The federal government launched the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) which was administered locally by Central Mass Housing Alliance (CMHA). That program stopped accepting applications in April 2022. The City of Worcester also created a Rental Assistance Program through CARES Act funding that was administered by our local housing agency partners.

The City committed an additional \$1 million for Rental Assistance with ARPA funds to address gaps with the state's Rental Assistance for Families in Transition (RAFT) identified by our local housing partners.

The RAFT program requires the landlord to have started the eviction process to become eligible for state assistance. Having a Notice to Quit will come up on an eviction history, which most landlords obtain when considering new tenants. Evictions are costly, which influences landlords to choose a tenant that does not have an eviction history. Therefore, waiting for a Notice to Quit to obtain rental assistance can impact a tenant's ability to secure future housing opportunities.

We know that there are many tenants and landlords that would benefit from rental assistance but have either been denied eligibility or haven't applied due to not having a Notice to Quit. We also believe that an important way to preserve housing stability and possibly prevent homelessness is to increase access to rental assistance and keep families in their homes.

The City contracted with CMHA, Friendly House, and WCAC to administer the additional \$1 million in Rental Assistance, which will include the following parameters: To date, \$551,631.75 has been expended to help 133 households.

Utility Assistance:

To further assist Worcester residents during high utility costs this year, the City committed **\$1,000,000** in ARPA funds for utility assistance, which was administered by the Worcester Community Action Council. To date, the full amount has been expended to assist 578 Worcester households.

Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG):

HUD's Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program seeks to address homelessness. These funds help support critical programs to assist the homeless population through outreach services, emergency shelters, and case management. Specifically, the Housing Division has administered **\$371,989** through the ESG Program this year to seven (7) different project sponsors. The activities support individuals and families experiencing homelessness and include emergency shelter operations, street outreach through the Quality-of-Life Task Force to individuals and families living in places not meant for human habitation, rapid re-housing programs, homelessness prevention and the management of a Homeless Management Information System (HMIS).

In addition to ESG funding, the City also has approximately \$1.4 million in HOME-ARP funding to support shelters and other supportive services.

Housing Opportunities for People With AIDS (HOPWA):

The HOPWA Program is the only Federal program dedicated to the housing needs of people living with HIV/AIDS. Under the HOPWA Program, HUD makes grants to local communities, states, and nonprofit organizations for projects that benefit low-income persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families. The Housing Division will administer **\$799,793** through the HOPWA Program this fiscal year to three (3) different project sponsors. The activities supported include rental and mortgage assistance, permanent housing support, and other services.

PUBLIC POLICY

Governmental entities also play an important role in the development and implementation of public policy measures that impact the housing ecosystem directly and indirectly. These measures are often regulatory in nature. Within this pillar of Public Policy are the following **objectives:**

- Create more mixed-income environments through inclusionary zoning to increase access to housing opportunities and address issues of concentrated poverty and concentrated wealth.
- Analyze and reform existing zoning codes to enable additional multi-family development in more areas of the city.
- Proactively address substandard housing conditions through the Rental Registry and inspections process.
- Prevent housing discrimination and protect tenant's rights to improve equitable access and Fair Housing.

Inclusionary Zoning

Inclusionary Zoning was an important milestone for our community, particularly with regard to equitable development principles. This policy will result in more mixed-income housing development and help to address issues of concentrated poverty and concentrated wealth. Payments in Lieu will also provide a revenue stream to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund.

Our office, in coordination with other relevant departments, have worked to implement the ordinance immediately following its adoption by the City Council in May 2023. These steps include updates to the Zoning Determination Form, review processes for permitting, preparing deed restrictions, and structuring a compliance and monitoring process for developed units.

Worcester Now-Next Long-Range Plan

The Worcester Now-Next long-range plan has a particular focus on housing opportunities and development in response to the housing crisis and as a result of public participation. The recommendations from this plan will guide an analysis and reform of certain zoning matters. It is likely that the EOED will embark on a rewrite of the zoning ordinance and zoning maps. This could take 2-3 years but is anticipated to improve the regulatory environment for additional multi-family development and housing opportunities overall.

Accessory Dwelling Units

A Zoning Ordinance Amendment was submitted to the City Council in September. After a Planning Board hearing in November, the City Council ultimately approved the final ordinance language in December, which has enabled Accessory Dwelling Units at eligible owner-occupied properties.

MBTA Communities

Our office has submitted the preliminary compliance information to the Commonwealth relative to the MBTA Communities legislation. We have initial concurrence that the city of Worcester has sufficient land area within proximity to Union Station where multi-family housing development is allowed by-right. An economic feasibility analysis is being finalized in March 2024 to demonstrate that our Inclusionary Zoning policy does not inhibit housing production. The MBTA Communities guidance suggests that communities should not have affordability requirements exceeding 10% of a project at 80% Area Median Income.

Community Preservation Act (CPA)

In November 2022, the Worcester voters adopted the Community Preservation Act for the city. This new pool of resources will support affordable housing, historic preservation, and open space and recreation. Having the Community Preservation Fund will help to ensure consistent recapitalization of the Affordable Housing Trust Fund once the ARPA dollars are exhausted. The final members for the Community Preservation Committee have been appointed and the first meeting was held on January 30, 2024.

Rental Registry & Residential Rental Inspection Program

The Rental Registry and Residential Rental Inspection Program that was recently passed will enhance our ability to have up-to-date information on the approximately 50,000 rental dwelling units in the city. The inspection program is aimed at verifying that rental dwelling units meet the minimum housing standards – which is in place to protect the health, safety, and wellbeing of all residents. Blocked egress paths, missing or non-functioning smoke or carbon monoxide detectors, deteriorating upper porch railings, or an accumulation of flammable items near sources of heat can all result in unnecessary and tragic outcomes. Inspecting all of these units, requiring corrections, and ensuring compliance with the minimum housing standards is in the best interest of all tenants, property owners, inspectors and first responders. **The Rental Registry** program was officially rolled out at the City's **Landlord Summit on Saturday, March 9th at the DCU Center.**

Fair Housing Project / Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing

The Worcester Fair Housing Project (WFHP) - a joint project between Community Legal Aid (CLA) and the City of Worcester - provides advice and representation to anyone in Worcester County who has been the victim of housing discrimination. The WFHP has assisted clients in a range of discrimination claims, including racial harassment, refusal to rent due to family status, refusal to remove lead paint, interference with housing subsidies, and discrimination based on disability.

In addition to litigation, the WFHP conducts education workshops on fair housing laws for tenant groups, social service providers, landlords, and other community members. The WFHP also trains civil rights investigators to "test" whether housing discrimination is occurring in the county, to support litigation or promote equitable settlements for project clients.

Our office has also taken steps to affirmatively further fair housing through our programs, such as the **10% threshold for ADA units when accessing Affordable Housing Trust Fund dollars.**

NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT - INTRODUCTION

The Neighborhood Development Division is responsible for the diligent administration of Federal entitlement programs in accordance with applicable regulations, including the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding. The Division conducts community needs assessments to gather citizen feedback in the prioritization of these investments, and works to prepare required documentation relative to the planning and administration of funds such as the 5-year Consolidated Plans and Annual Action Plans.

The Division works closely with community-based organizations to address the needs of low- and moderate-income residents, the delivery of enhanced physical and human infrastructure, interdepartmental programs and initiatives, all of which contribute to the quality of life in the city's neighborhoods.

The Division has also taken on the responsibility of managing certain ARPA programs, including a significant community engagement process, RFP development, review and evaluation of applications with respective committees, technical assistance to applicants, and contract administration.

COMMUNITY PROJECTS & PROGRAMS – ARPA

\$11,623,757

Since the prior Council update on this program, the Neighborhood Division has been diligently meeting with the community-based organizations that were awarded funding to finalize grant

agreements and put these dollars to work in addressing the negative effects of the pandemic. Ultimately, 37 social and human service programs were selected for funding, along with 11 facility improvements. The awards for this program listed below are representative of the priorities identified in the community input sessions, with a particular focus on projects and programs that will benefit populations disproportionately impacted by the pandemic. These Community Projects and Programs are anticipated help and assist **38,983** City of Worcester residents that have been disproportionately impacted by the health and economic consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic. To date, 34 formal contracts are fully executed, with only two remaining for all activities to be contracted and under way.

The following are all the **Programs** to be supported:

- **Abby's House** - Advocacy & Supportive Services Program: Remove barriers to housing placement and retain permanent housing through case management and trauma informed care as well as referrals to mental health services and substance use disorder services- \$175,000 supporting an anticipated 102 clients.
- **African Community Education** - Employment Preparation Program: Provide in-house job training in particular fields; incorporate workforce development and digital literacy into their adult English classes; provide financial literacy; and make referrals for job training - \$225,000 supporting an anticipated 161 clients. To date, \$68,550.02 has been drawn against the grant to help 49 different individuals.
- **AIDS Project Worcester** - Supplemental Meals Program: Provide hot meals and care packages Monday-Friday as well as offering other services including access to medical services, syringe exchange, STI prevention, screening and treatment, and linkages to housing, government benefits, and substance use treatment - \$101,700 supporting an anticipated 173 clients. To date, \$12,906.74 has been drawn from the grant to assist 22 different individuals.
- **Boys & Girls Club** - Covid Recovery Program/Social Emotion Learning for youth: Provide intentional social emotional learning supports/activities in all programs, counseling and education focused, academic programs- \$145,000 supporting an anticipated 977 clients.
- **Boys & Girls Club / Worcester Cares 4 Kids** - Babysitting Program: Provide a babysitting course for middle-school-aged youth aimed at building childcare skills, career launch skills, and encouraging vocational exploration- \$95,000 supporting an anticipated 200 clients. To date, \$42,750 has been drawn from the grant to assist 90 individuals.
- **Central Mass Agency on Aging** - Culturally Competent Meals for Seniors: Provide culturally competent and medically tailored non-perishable and perishable food to seniors- \$50,000 supporting an anticipated 500 clients. To date there has been a draw of \$7,300 against the grant, to assist 73 individuals.
- **Central Massachusetts Area Health Education Center** - Human Service Based Trainings: Provide human service-based trainings, including Community Health Worker Core Competency, Recovery Coach Training, Mental Health overview and more - \$136,529 supporting an anticipated 149 clients. To date the grant has drawn \$27,529.50, benefitting 30 individuals.
- **Centro** - Homeownership Center: Provide pre-purchase and post-purchase home buyer classes, post purchase counseling sessions, foreclosure prevention counseling services and financial empowerment classes which include topics such as budgeting, credit, property

acquisition, and savings as well as one-on-one coaching - \$161,657.00 supporting an anticipated 400 clients.

- **Children's Friend, Inc.** – Early Learning Center Clinical Support: Observe and work directly with children to strengthen social-emotional skills development. Train and coach staff to support strategies for the development of social-emotional skills. Conduct parent/family trainings to reinforce methodologies used in the childcare setting - \$112,731.00 supporting an anticipated 50 clients.
- **Community Legal Aid, Inc.** – Elder & Immigrant Case Manager: Assess beneficiary for needs ancillary to legal assistance. Assist beneficiaries in applying for benefits, identifying resources, scheduling appointments, etc. - \$118,422 supporting an anticipated 75 clients. To date there has been \$3,157.92 drawn against the grant, which assisted two clients.
- **Dismas House of Massachusetts** - Clinical Support Program: Provide case management services and stable housing - \$126,000 supporting an anticipated 74 clients. To date \$17,027 has been drawn from the grant, benefitting 11 different individuals.
- **Edward Street Child Services** - Increase School Readiness-Pandemic Response Program: Train educators to foster positive and culturally responsive adult-child relationships, establish predictable routines, and intentionally teach social-emotional skills. Give families access to family navigators to access timely, specialized interventions- \$250,000 supporting an anticipated 125 clients.
- **El Buen Samaritano** – Food Pantry: Provide boxes of both non-perishable and perishable food, ensuring better access to nutritious foods, including fresh fruits and vegetables - \$167,004 supporting an anticipated 2,700 clients. To date, \$10,390.80 has been drawn against the grant to assist 168 different individuals.
- **Family Service Organization** - Family Services of Central MA Mediation: Provide housing mediation for tenant and landlord disputes- \$81,227 supporting an anticipated 95 clients. To date, \$14,535.14 has been drawn from the grant, and 17 individuals were assisted.
- **Friendly House** - Social Service Program: Provide case management services including assistance with housing, food, legal issues, educational resources and referrals - \$128,567 supporting an anticipated 435 clients. To date, \$46,959.06 was drawn from the grant, and 159 individuals were assisted.
- **Genesis Club** - Young Adult Mental Health Services: Engage at risk young adults in meetings and wellness activities, provide them information on resources for employment, housing, education, and social activities to assist them to reintegrate into society, reconnect with family, find and retain employment, attend school, and attain a degree - \$166,143 supporting an anticipated 75 clients.
- **Legendary Legacies** – Employment training program: Engage individuals recently returned from incarceration in CDL training, pairing that with picking up food from Food bank and delivering to local nonprofits - \$225,000 supporting an anticipated 20 clients.
- **Living in Freedom Together (LIFT)** - HARBOR Program: Provide peer-based case management, emergency housing, food, clothing, medical aid, harm reduction and referrals - \$237,500 supporting an anticipated 445 clients. To date, \$16,506.82 was drawn from the grant and 31 individuals were assisted.

- **Lovin' Spoonfuls** - Food Security: Rescue food from vendor partners, distribute rescued food composed of fresh fruits, vegetable, dairy, shelf stable food, and meat to partner nonprofits within the Qualified Census Tracts - \$136,917 supporting an anticipated 25,422 clients. To date, \$32,340 was drawn against the grant and approximately 5,509 people were assisted.
- **Multicultural Wellness Center** - Mobile Behavioral Health Outreach: Outreach to BIPOC individuals in QCTs to provide education, assess needs and deliver behavioral health and additions recovery services- \$225,000 supporting an anticipated 150 clients. The agency was forward-funded \$50,000 of the grant amount which will assist approximately 150 clients for the first quarter of the grant.
- **OurStory Edutainment** - Major Activities for the Holidays: Put on major activities for the holidays and events during the year, using music documentaries, spoken word to develop self-awareness, social awareness, and global awareness to the history, accomplishments, oppression, and rebuilding of Black people - \$50,000 supporting an anticipated 300 clients.
- **Pernet Family Health Services** - Universal Newborn Visiting program: Conduct in home visits to families with newborns to assist parents navigate infant care, including identifying risk factors, referring parents to services and providing reassurance - \$228,858 supporting an anticipated 656 clients. To date, \$54,772.59 has been drawn and 157 families assisted.
- **Revive of the USA** - Substance Use Treatment Program: Provide an exercise/mobility program at eight sober homes/rehab facilities to assist in the recovery process - \$225,000 supporting an anticipated 904 clients. To date, \$86,354.45 has been drawn from the grant, and 347 individuals were assisted.
- **Shine Initiative Inc.** - Mental Health Literacy: Provide stigma reduction and mental health literacy activities in Worcester middle and high schools located in Qualified Census Tracts - \$190,000 supporting an anticipated 700 clients. The agency was forward funded \$47,500 in anticipation that they would assist 175 individuals with that funding.
- **Southeast Asian Coalition** – Employment and Education Program: Provide outreach, classes to prepare individuals for work, and support through the employment search and interview process, helping them move towards financial security - \$105,304.00 supporting an anticipated 84 clients.
- **University of Massachusetts Medical School** – Lifeline for Kids - Mental Health Referral Program: Provide referrals for youth to evidence-based trauma treatment as well as support for caregivers - \$250,000 supporting an anticipated 850 clients.
- **The Village Afrocentric Cultural Center** – Healing Room Collective: Provide accessible space for people, especially BIPOC to begin and or continue engaging with holistic healing practices that could improve mental, physical, and spiritual health - \$50,000 supporting an anticipated 225 clients.
- **Worcester Community Action Council** – Universal Basic Income Program: Provide a guaranteed monthly income, and economic coaching to assist families - \$250,000 supporting an anticipated 52 clients.

- **Worcester Community Housing Resources-** Rental Unit Location Assistance: Educate landlords about voucher holders, assist landlords through incentive/mitigation funds as well as medication services in order to secure more rental units for voucher holders - \$185,939 supporting an anticipated 80 clients.
- **Worcester Earn-A-Bike** – Earn-A-Bike Program: Provide training on bike maintenance, free bicycles; provide a safe and healthy outlet for youth, and ability for transportation in lieu of a vehicle - \$25,000 supporting an anticipated 120 clients.
- **Worcester Evening Free Medical Services** – Free Medical Services: Provide free medical services including school, work and annual physicals, vaccinations, acute/sick care, at various free medical clinics in Worcester - \$49,230.00 supporting an anticipated 384 clients.
- **Worcester Housing Authority** – Food Matters meal Delivery Program: deliver shelf stable, culturally diverse meals to residents - 224,997 supporting an anticipated 681 clients.
- **Yes We Care** – Food Pantry: Provide both non-perishable and perishable food, addressing food insecurity and ensuring better access to nutritious foods, including fresh fruits and vegetables - \$207,306 supporting an anticipated 1,221 clients. To date all \$207,306 has been fully drawn from the grant and 1,221 individuals were helped.
- **Y.O.U. Inc.** – Bilingual System Navigator: hire two bilingual system navigators to effectively communicate with Spanish speaking clients to improve timely and effective connection to clinical services and community supports - \$108,031 supporting an anticipated 500 clients. To date, \$9,506.54 was drawn from the grant and 44 individuals were assisted.

The following are all the **Projects** to be supported:

- **AIDS Project Worcester** – Food Pantry Improvements - \$38,638. To date the agency has completed roughly 75% of the project and has drawn \$31,385.45 from the grant.
- **Community Health Link** – Queen Street Facility Upgrades - \$500,000
- **Creative HUB** - 2 Ionic Ave Renovations - \$750,000
- **Jeremiah's Inn** - 282 Highland Street Renovations - \$196,553
- **Main South CDC** – 807 Main Street - Affordable Commercial Condo Dev - \$900,000
- **Mustard Seed** – 93 Piedmont Street - Pavilion Construction - \$238,640. To date, most of the design on the project has been completed, and the grant has drawn \$13,848.75.
- **Regional Environmental Council** – 42 Lagrange Street - Facility Upgrades - \$1,000,000
- **South Middlesex Opportunity Council** – Shelter Renovations - \$1,000,000
- **The Village Afrocentric Cultural Center** – 4 King Street - Facility Renovations - \$150,000
- **Urban Missionaries of Our Lady of Hope** – Canterbury St. Facility Infrastructure - \$37,650. To date, \$34, 579.81 has been drawn against the grant, and the project is now fully completed.

- **YMCA** – Fuller Family Park Improvements - \$999,975

MENTAL HEALTH – ARPA
\$1,999,261

A very similar process to the above has been underway for the Mental Health Programs and Services, which through a total of 11 recommended program awards, are anticipated to assist **4,019** City of Worcester residents in alleviating and assisting with individual, institutional, and systematic challenges and problems related to behavioral health and mental health challenges amongst disproportionately impacted communities. To date, nine of these programs have been fully contracted, with only two remaining to be contracted. The following represents the programs to be supported through the mental health related programs and services:

- **Boys & Girls Club** – Therapeutic Youth Group: Train teens as “near-peer” mentors to recognize youth in crisis and how to intervene - \$50,000 supporting an anticipated 268 clients.
- **CASA Project Worcester** - Shine the Light: Improve the behavioral health supports for children in foster care by equipping CASA volunteers with the education, training, and community partnerships needed to provide children coping with parental substance use/mental health challenges access to specialized clinical and/or therapeutic services - \$120,000 supporting an anticipated 200 clients.
- **Catholic Charities** - Expansion of Crozier House Men’s Recovery Program: will serve additional clients with recovery supports, employment assistance, therapy, etc. - \$95,000 supporting an anticipated 56 clients.
- **Community Healthlink** - Shower Operations Program: Provide access to showers, meals, clean clothes, and referrals to mental health and housing services - \$208,870 supporting an anticipated 1,300 clients.
- **Creative Hub Worcester** - Expressive Arts After School Program: Mental health support, psycho-education groups and mental health resources - \$212,450 supporting an anticipated 268 clients.
- **Fresh Start Wellness** - Barber Therapy: Provide a health education program that provide effective and efficient means of reaching and empowering a medically underserved population; reduce the stigma of mental health, create awareness and understanding of wellness, and teaching intervention and prevention strategies to counteract negative health equity - \$250,000 supporting an anticipated 500 clients.
- **Jubilee Career Center** - Jubilee Mobile Arts and Technology School Bus: Address youth social, emotional, and intellectual well-being through the arts and technology - \$227,033 – supporting an anticipated 250 clients.
- **QCC Foundation** - Counseling & Wellness Program: Increase access to free, confidential counseling services for students in need and add new wellness activities as a prevention effort - \$250,000 supporting an anticipated 152 clients.
- **The HeartWell Institute** - Reimagining Thriving Communities: Provide mindfulness-based stress reduction skills and tools; cultivation of contemplative practices and retreats;

workshops and training for professional development; BIPOC cultural competency and trauma informed practices; and compassion training - \$250,000 supporting an anticipated 215 clients.

- **The Transformation Center** – Workforce Capacity Building for Peer-Support Workers: Additional trainings on new innovations in trauma-informed care, cultural humility, and suicide prevention; improve the competencies of existing peer workers - \$250,000 supporting an anticipated 360 clients.
- **Y.O.U. Inc.** - Brief Treatment Therapy: Equip current staff with the skills and knowledge to implement a series of evidence-based, brief or episodic treatment models, to stabilize clients in the short term - \$85,908.00 supporting an anticipated 450 clients.

FOOD SECURITY – ARPA

\$2,000,000

We are all aware of the cliff effect resulting from the expiring federal benefits for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) that occurred in March. As a result, food insecurity is on the rise and many of our families are struggling.

In response, the Center for Food Equity was launched, a collaboration of the Worcester County Food Bank, the City of Worcester Task Force on Food Security, the Worcester Food Policy Council, and the Central Mass SNAP Coalition. In May, the Community Food Assessment was launched, which will gather data on the current food landscape in Worcester through a survey that is being administered at various sites around the city, as well as online. The data will help to inventory local food resources as well as identifying the gaps, barriers, and challenges residents face when trying to feed themselves and their families. The data will also help inform policy and projects to improve access to healthy and culturally appropriate food.

We have committed \$2,000,000 in ARPA related funds to address food security, which is being administered by the United Way. That program, currently being contracted, will involve the United Way and over **19 different partnering non-profit agencies in assisting a total of 35,864 Worcester residents** with access to food, food production, and funds for purchasing their own food over a two (2) year period.

To date, the agency was forward funded \$666,842.22 for the first third of the grant timeframe, with the anticipation that 11,955 individuals would get services up through February of 2024. More is expected to be drawn in subsequent phases of the grant process.

PUBLIC SERVICES – CDBG

\$1,455,321

After the annual RFP processes during the last year, \$1,455,321 of CDBG funds have been committed or expended by the City of Worcester to assist 12,071 persons of low/moderate income through 31 programs. The types of services include:

- Food Security – food pantries and milk for children's programs
- Youth After School programs
- Youth Summer Recreation programs
- Job Training & Placement
- Healthcare for Homeless Families
- Emergency and Restorative Dental Services for uninsured/underinsured persons

- Case Management and Assistance with Basic Services at ten (10) neighborhood-based community center and non-profit organizations

PUBLIC FACILITIES – CDBG

\$6,604,300

CDBG funds for Public Facilities are typically invested in improvements to non-profit community centers and buildings as well as public infrastructure improvements. This year \$6,604,300 has been expended or

Committed to fourteen (14) Public Facility projects including:

- Seven (7) Non-Profit Building Improvement Projects.
- Streets, Sidewalks, and other Public Infrastructure Improvements in the Green Island neighborhood
- Improvements to the Senior Center including roof replacement.
- Purchase of a Worcester Fire Department Ladder Truck

GREEN ISLAND INITIATIVE

The City committed \$3,000,000 over five (5) years, beginning with fiscal year 2020, through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program to the Green Island Neighborhood. In July of 2019, the City sponsored a neighborhood input meeting with over 60 neighborhood residents and stakeholders providing input on critical needs and thoughts for the future of the Green Island neighborhood. The Initiative's activities will include: infrastructure, housing rehabilitation, economic development, and public facility improvements. All housing projects that utilize federal funding will include an affordable housing restriction.

The highest priority heard at the neighborhood meeting was public infrastructure – improvements to streets and sidewalks as well as improved drainage in the flood plain. The City began resurfacing certain roadways, and reconstructing the related sidewalks in 2020. This work continues in 2022. To date, the Neighborhood Development Division has coordinated with the Department of Public Works and Parks to provide \$300,000 in CDBG funding resulting in 3,889 square yards of road resurfacing, 1,446 square yards of reconstructed concrete sidewalks, and 338 linear feet of new granite curbing for Lamartine and Lodi streets. Some additional state roads in the neighborhood have also been improved by MassDOT.

In addition to the aforementioned, the Neighborhood Development Division, in coordination with the newly formed Department of Transportation and Mobility and the Department of Sustainability and Resilience, has coordinated on the design and concept for improvements to streets around Crompton Park, primarily Endicott and Bigelow street. This project is anticipated to include sustainability and neighborhood greening aspects as part of a Complete Streets model approach. To date there have been three (3) public meetings sponsored by the City in the Green Island neighborhood to discuss and seek input on the proposed design for the project. These meetings took place between November 2022 and May 2023. The final project is expected to utilized approximately \$2,227,556.46 in CDBG funds and address the following improvements: new granite curbing (2,891 Linear Feet), demolition and reconstruction of existing sidewalks streets, some sidewalks to increase their size by 3 feet to a total of 8 feet, making the sidewalks and all facilities ADA compliant, installation of dedicated bike lanes, installation of over twenty (20) new urban trees and associated tree pits, installation of pervious pavers and enhanced pedestrian crosswalks, including raised crosswalks, installation of 51 parallel parking spaces, drainage improvements that will include seventeen (17) new catch basements and a rain garden turret. The current design is at 75%, and will achieve 100% this Spring, with anticipated construction phase to occur in Fall of this year, 2024.

The Housing Division has been conducting outreach relative to the housing rehabilitation programs available. The first projects have been four affordable rental units on Scott Street and Washington streets. Additional projects are underway on Meade, Millbury, and Sigel streets. In addition, a new 1st time homeownership unit is being developed at 17 Lodi St.

ANNUAL ENTITLEMENT PLANNING & ADMINISTRATION

The Neighborhood Development Division continues to take the lead on the following key planning and administrative HUD procedures:

- Development of Annual Action Plans
- Development of Five Year Consolidated Plan
- Management of Annual CDBG Sub-recipient RFP process
- Annual HUD Reporting

The City of Worcester has entered its fourth fiscal year of the latest Consolidated Plan, which governs the use of federal entitlement funds for the period of July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2025, including CDBG, ESG, HOPWA, and HOME funds. The Plan was developed after conducting public participation at 11 neighborhood meetings totaling over 200 participants in each City Council District. As well as consultation with numerous stakeholders and CDBG sub-recipient organizations. The annual RFP process includes six to eight additional public meetings held each year with citizen oversight committees to review and rank funding requests, and assess progress made under the CDBG, ESG, HOPWA, and HOME programs.

Sincerely,



Peter Dunn
Chief Development Officer

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



CITY OF WORCESTER

cm2024mar07031103

Attachment for Item # 11.4 C

March 12, 2024

TO THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL
COUNCILORS:

Attached please find the Semi-annual Tax Increment Financing / Tax Increment Exemption Report for the period ending December 31, 2023, as received from Peter Dunn, Chief Development Officer, and transmitted for the information of your Honorable Body.

The term Tax Increment Financing (TIF) is used for commercial projects under the state's Economic Development Incentive Program, while the term Tax Increment Exemption (TIE) is used for residential projects under the state's Housing Development Incentive Program. My administration has also proposed a new tool – the Urban Center Housing TIF (UCH-TIF), which was recommended for approval by the Economic Development Committee of the City Council. The UCH-TIF program has similar mechanics of the other TIF/TIE programs but focused specifically on projects with a higher percentage of affordability (the HDIP/TIE tool was created by the state to assist predominantly market-rate housing projects).

There are 16 active, post-construction TIF Plans with three additional, executed TIF Agreements for projects underway or pending. The 16 active plans collectively represent approximately \$365 million in private investment which has led to the creation of 890 new, full-time jobs and the retention of over 420 full-time jobs. There are currently six active, post-construction TIE Plans in Worcester responsible for creating 246 units of market-rate housing and totaling approximately \$91 million in private investment. In addition, there are two approved projects currently under construction and two additional projects in the pre-construction phase. Upon completion, these four projects in the pipeline are

expected to create 1,052 market-rate housing units and 36 affordable housing units and generate an estimated \$360 million in total investment.

The programs continue to be a critical tool in the toolbox to stimulate economic development, catalyze private investment, expand the local tax base, create and retain jobs for Worcester residents, support new housing production, and benefit the long-term economic goals of Worcester.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "E. Batista", with a large, stylized circular flourish at the end.

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



The City of
WORCESTER

Executive Office of Economic Development
Peter Dunn, Chief Development Officer
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P | 508-799-1400 F | 508-799-1406
development@worcesterma.gov

TO: Eric D. Batista, City Manager

FROM: Peter Dunn, Chief Development Officer

DATE: March 12, 2024

RE: Semi-Annual TIF/TIE Reporting – December 31, 2023

Please find the following summary of information gathered through the semi-annual reporting for the active Tax Increment Financing (TIF) and Tax Increment Exemption (TIE) projects, including the City of Worcester's efforts to measure and implement updated policies and best practices to best serve our community and diverse workforce.

It is the policy of the City of Worcester to consider the utilization of TIF/TIE to development projects that will achieve the following criteria:

- Expansion of the City's tax base and revenues.
- Eliminate blight and/or redevelop an underutilized property.
- Create permanent, full-time, livable-wage jobs for Worcester residents (EDIP).
- Create new housing opportunities for Worcester residents (HDIP).
- Enhance the diversification of the City's housing stock and economic activities.
- Improve livability and stabilization in the City's neighborhoods and commercial districts.
- Encourage sustainable and resilient building design.
- Directly or indirectly spur additional, unsubsidized private development in Worcester.
- Benefit the long-term economic development goals of the City of Worcester

The Executive Office of Economic Development (EOED) recently submitted an updated TIF/TIE Policy to the Worcester City Council for its review that converted the Policy to a new **Responsible Development Ordinance**. Most notably, the Ordinance enhanced the language and requirements relative to apprenticeships, including applicable legal considerations. In addition to the workforce diversity goals in the previous TIF/TIE Policy, new applicants must commit to a goal of 15% workforce hours for apprentices in an apprenticeship program registered with the Massachusetts Division of Apprenticeship Standards (DAS). In furtherance of this goal, the applicant must demonstrate efforts to procure contractors and subcontractors in each trade that maintain a DAS registered apprenticeship program. The Responsible Development Ordinance was approved by City Council on November 21, 2023, with a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays and is currently being implemented in all new TIF and TIE Agreements.

Economic Development Incentive Program / Tax Increment Financing:

The Economic Development Incentive Program (EDIP) is a meaningful and helpful tool to attract new businesses to Massachusetts and to encourage existing companies to

expand in the state. The Program is a three-way partnership between the state, a municipality, and the participating job-creating business. Through the EDIP, and in partnership with the Commonwealth, the City of Worcester can provide 1) tax increment financing, 2) personal property tax exemptions, and 3) investment tax credits to businesses locating to or expanding in the city. The program provides the financial tools and incentives necessary to stimulate development in tandem with other local support programs, which strengthen the City's ability to expand its industry base, generate new tax revenue, retain existing businesses, and create permanent, full-time jobs for Worcester residents.

There are currently 16 active, post-construction TIF Plans in Worcester responsible for the following:

- Total Jobs Created: 890 full-time permanent jobs
- Total Jobs Retained: 420 full-time permanent jobs
- Of those full-time jobs, 737 have been filled by Worcester residents
- Total Private Investment: \$365.8 million in total private investment
- \$212.5 million in new taxable value
- \$26.9 million in real estate taxes

See Attachment A: Combined Semi-Annual TIF Reports for detailed information on each project. Please note that a resolution to terminate UNUM's TIF Agreement was adopted by Worcester City Council on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays on September 12, 2023 and confirmation of UNUM's decertification from the state's Economic Assistance Coordinating Council is pending.

In addition, there are three executed TIF Agreements for the following projects that are under construction or pending:

WuXi Biologics is a global bio-manufacturing company that provides worldwide clients with solutions or discovery, development, and manufacturing of biologics from concept to commercialization. The company is the first to announce a new facility at the Reactory Bio-manufacturing Park, which is the site of the former Worcester State Hospital. Work on the facility began in 2019, and currently, the project is approximately 22% complete. Due to design changes involving the expansion of the original proposed building, the interior fit out construction of the project is projected to take place in early February 2024, starting with underground plumbing, electrical, and mechanical work. The total private investment is \$115 million. The company is committed to creating at least 150 new jobs and has agreed to provide incentives to encourage its employee to reside in the city by offering up to \$5,000 for first time home buyers purchasing a home in Worcester.

The Washington Square Home2 Suites will be the second of two hotel projects in Washington Square. Once complete, the hotel will consist of approximately 105 rooms on six stories totaling approximately 74,000 square feet. Hotel amenities will include a pool, fitness center, and meeting space. The building will also include an at-grade enclosed parking garage within the first floor for approximately 30 cars. Total project investment for this project is estimated at \$21 million, and it is expected to create 35 new jobs. Prior to construction, site work was needed to clean up the site and demolish an existing structure. The Washington Square Home2 Suites has continued to be impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The initially intended schedule has been delayed, however, the developer maintains committed to the project and hopes to move forward with the project in 2024.

Madison Properties intends to invest approximately \$50 million to construct a 121,500 square foot multi-story mixed-use building comprised of ground floor level retail space, four additional floors of commercial space, and a rooftop terrace on the northerly side of Madison Street, currently known as the Left Field Building. The project already benefits from completed infrastructure including an underground parking garage and the footings to support the building. This infrastructure will reduce the delivery time for the remaining construction.

Combined, the three projects are expected to create at least 445 full-time jobs to be filled by or made available to Worcester residents. In addition, these projects are expected to generate more than \$186 million in private investment, and approximately \$31 million in tax revenue during the TIF Plans for the City of Worcester.

Madison Properties also has TIF Plans approved by the City Council for a future hotel building and a lab building along Green Island Boulevard, but the TIF Agreements have not been executed yet. The TIF Agreements will be executed when the commencement of construction for each project is more imminent.

Housing Development Incentive Program/ Tax Increment Exemptions:

In addition to the EDIP/TIF, the EOED utilizes the Housing Development Incentive Program (HDIP) Tax Increment Exemption (TIE) to attract private, market-rate residential development to the city and reduce the financial risk to ensure housing projects move forward and are successful. On behalf of the Commonwealth, the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities reviews projects and awards investment tax credits. Eligible projects must be new construction or substantial rehabilitation of a property that will result in multi-unit residential housing developments, containing a minimum of 80% market rate units.

There are currently six active, post-construction TIE Plans in Worcester responsible for creating 246 units of market-rate housing and totaling approximately \$91 million in private investment. In addition, there are two approved projects currently under construction: Madison Properties I (a/k/a The Revington) at 1 Green Island Boulevard and Mount Carmel/Alta on the Row. Finally, there are three approved projects in the pre-construction phase: GoVenture Capital Group, LLC at 274 Franklin Street, 340 Main Street and Madison Properties II.

The **Madison Properties I** project (a/k/a The Revington) at 1 Green Island Boulevard is the first of two residential buildings to be developed by Madison Properties. Located directly across from Polar Park, the project consists of 228 market-rate housing units, a parking garage, seven retail spaces, a pool, and other amenities. The total private investment is approximately \$89 million. The project is approximately 99% complete with a temporary certificate of occupancy, and the developer is currently leasing units.

The Wood Partners' Mount Carmel/Alta on the Row development will consist of 371 market-rate apartments on a 5.3-acre lot. It will include a five-story parking garage and amenities including two courtyards, a pet spa area, community center, roof deck, gym, and pool. The project is progressing with a completion rate of approximately 95%. The total private investment for this project is estimated at \$106 million. In addition, Wood Partners donated \$50,000 towards the development of East Park, the new home for the Joe DiMaggio little league. Wood Partners also added to Worcester's public art with a

large garage mural facing I-290. The project is nearly complete and the developer has started accepting lease inquiries.

GoVenture Capital Group, LLC at 274 Franklin Street will consist of 328 market-rate, 36 affordable residential units, and a multi-leveled structured parking garage. The total private investment for the development of this project is estimated at \$130 million. The anticipated construction start date is spring 2024, with the anticipated completion date in the second quarter of 2026.

The **340 Main Street** property is a proposed housing development project that contemplated the extensive rehabilitation and conversion of a downtown building to create 312 market-rate housing units and 18,000 sq. ft. of commercial space on the first floor with a total private investment of \$54.5 million. In May 2022, SilverBrick communicated that due to rising costs of construction, the project was no longer feasible under current conditions. SilverBrick is now considering selling the property.

Madison Properties II is expected to create 125 market-rate housing units with a total private investment of at least \$35 million.

Upon completion, these four projects are expected to create 1,052 market-rate housing units and 36 affordable housing units and generate an estimated \$360 million in total private investment. Similar to the EDIP projects, the EOED has implemented the same construction monitoring practices to ensure compliance with the Responsible Development Ordinance.

Recently completed TIE Certified Project: Mission Chapel is a former historically Black church located at 205 Summer Street and built in 1854. The adaptive reuse of this property consisted of a substantial restoration and rehabilitation of the approximate 8,000 square-foot historic building at a total estimated investment of \$4.1 million. The project created seven market-rate residential apartments. Site work began in August of 2022, and the project was completed on schedule on October 31, 2023.

Construction Diversity Monitoring:

Key to the continued success of these projects is the EOED's efforts to ensure program compliance on the part of developers, contractors, and employers. To that end, the Construction Diversity Monitoring Committee (CDMC) continues its work to increase diversity in the local construction workforce that is more representative of the Worcester community and helps ensure local economic development translates into community development. In addition to its oversight and advisory efforts, the Committee is working to improve public access to workforce information on each project. Enclosed please find Attachment B: Active TIF/TIE Construction Projects for a summary of current project progress toward construction goals.

The CDMC continues to meet with development project teams to provide guidance and assistance. Through the functions of the committee, the EOED is able to continue to provide resources and expand its support to current non-TIF/TIE projects, such as Doherty Memorial High School and The Cove.

Recently, the committee decided to change the meeting format of the CDMC. Beginning in November 2023, developers and respective general contractors/managers who represent active TIF/TIE certified projects that are underway are required to attend CDMC

meetings to provide project updates. The new format creates a unique learning environment that will allow participants to develop strong mutually beneficial working relationships and share best practices and resources for achieving workforce diversity goals and reporting compliance.

The EOED will continue to utilize the EDIP/TIF and HDIP/TIE programs as appropriate to stimulate economic development, catalyze private investment, expand the local tax base, create and retain jobs for Worcester residents, support new housing production, and benefit the long-term economic goals of Worcester.

Please advise if there are any questions or additional information needed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Peter Dunn", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Peter Dunn
Chief Development Officer

TAX INCREMENT FINANCING PLAN SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT: December 31, 2023

**FARGO MANAGEMENT, LLC AND COLUMBUS HOTEL II, LLC HILTON
GARDEN INN – 35 MAJOR TAYLOR BOULEVARD**

Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Plan Overview

TIF Plan Start Date:	July 1, 2004
TIF Plan Expiration Date:	June 30, 2024
Length Of TIF Plan:	20 Years
Base Value:	\$1,000,000
Estimated Incremental Value At Time Of Application:	\$9,000,000
Average Annual TIF Plan Exemption:	50%
TIF Plan Years Remaining As Of 12/31/23:	6 Months
Average Annual Exemption For Remainder Of TIF Plan:	25%

Status Report As Of December 31, 2023

Category	Estimated – Start Of TIF Plan	Actual – TIF Plan To Date
Full-Time Jobs To Be Retained:	N/A	N/A
Full-Time Jobs To Be Created:	100	66
Total Project Investment:	\$20,000,000	\$24,731,310
New Property Value:	\$10,000,000	\$24,133,000
Taxes Generated To Date During TIF Plan:	\$3,379,800	\$5,883,680
Jobs Taken By Worcester Residents:	N/A	47

Accomplishment Status As Of December 31, 2023

Category	Accomplishment
Retained Full-time Jobs:	N/A
Created Full-time Jobs:	Yes
Promoted Economic Diversity:	Yes
Increased Worcester's Commercial And / Or Industrial Base:	Yes
Increased Property Values And Tax Revenue:	Yes
Eliminated Blight And / Or Redeveloped An Underutilized Property:	Yes
Spurred Additional, Unsubsidized Private Development In Worcester:	Yes
Benefited The Long-Term Economic Goals Of Worcester:	Yes

TIF Plan Economic Impact Summary

There was a slight increase in employment levels, however, levels continue to be lower than expected due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

TAX INCREMENT FINANCING PLAN SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT: December 31, 2023

POOR FARM BROOK DEVELOPMENT, LLC AND IBS COMMODITIES, INC. 722 PLANTATION STREET

Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Plan Overview

TIF Plan Start Date:	July 1, 2006
TIF Plan Expiration Date:	June 30, 2026
Length Of TIF Plan:	20 Years
Base Value:	\$210,900
Estimated Incremental Value At Time Of Application:	\$535,400
Average Annual TIF Plan Exemption:	40%
TIF Plan Years Remaining As Of 12/31/23:	2.5 Years
Average Annual Exemption For Remainder Of TIF Plan:	40%

Status Report As Of December 31, 2023

Category	Estimated – Start Of TIF Plan	Actual – TIF Plan To Date
Full-Time Jobs To Be Retained:	3	0
Full-Time Jobs To Be Created:	5	0
Total Project Investment:	\$795,000	\$7,715,000
New Property Value:	\$746,300	\$1,826,400
Taxes Generated To Date During TIF Plan:	\$241,379	\$348,353
Jobs Taken By Worcester Residents:	N/A	0

Accomplishment Status As Of December 31, 2023

Category	Accomplishment
Retained Full-time Jobs:	No
Created Full-time Jobs:	No
Promoted Economic Diversity:	Yes
Increased Worcester's Commercial And / Or Industrial Base:	Yes
Increased Property Values And Tax Revenue:	Yes
Eliminated Blight And / Or Redeveloped An Underutilized Property:	Yes
Spurred Additional, Unsubsidized Private Development In Worcester:	Yes
Benefited The Long-Term Economic Goals Of Worcester:	Yes

TIF Plan Economic Impact Summary

On September 22, 2023, the company signed a long-term lease with Alpha Preclinical of Grafton, MA. Alpha is primarily focused in the field of biotechnology and will be employing numerous individuals at the facility. Alpha will conduct construction to ensure the facility fits their needs and is currently preparing plans for the modification. Occupancy is expected by June 2024.

TAX INCREMENT FINANCING PLAN SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT: December 31, 2023

**SAINT-GOBAIN PERFORMANCE PLASTICS CORPORATION
717 PLANTATION STREET – PHASE I**

Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Plan Overview

TIF Plan Start Date:	July 1, 2009
TIF Plan Expiration Date:	June 30, 2024
Length Of TIF Plan:	15 Years
Base Value:	\$3,135,100
Estimated Incremental Value At Time Of Application:	\$1,138,900
Average Annual TIF Plan Exemption:	61%
TIF Plan Years Remaining As Of 12/31/23:	6 months
Average Annual Exemption For Remainder Of TIF Plan:	25%

Status Report As Of December 31, 2023

Category	Estimated – Start Of TIF Plan	Actual – TIF Plan To Date
Full-Time Jobs To Be Retained:	57	57
Full-Time Jobs To Be Created:	41	10
Total Project Investment:	\$17,800,000-Phase I	\$14,200,000
New Property Value:	\$4,274,000	\$6,075,600
Taxes Generated To Date During TIF Plan:	\$1,538,679	\$1,964,757
Jobs Taken By Worcester Residents:	N/A	23

Accomplishment Status As Of December 31, 2023

Category	Accomplishment
Retained Full-time Jobs:	Yes
Created Full-time Jobs:	Yes
Promoted Economic Diversity:	Yes
Increased Worcester's Commercial And / Or Industrial Base:	Yes
Increased Property Values And Tax Revenue:	Yes
Eliminated Blight And / Or Redeveloped An Underutilized Property:	Yes
Spurred Additional, Unsubsidized Private Development In Worcester:	N/A
Benefited The Long-Term Economic Goals Of Worcester:	Yes

TIF Plan Economic Impact Summary

After the building improvements completed in 2011, the plant experienced enormous growth in the solar industry and electronics, but was followed by a crash in 2011. Business was lost in the solar market to competitors; there was also a shift in electronic technology. In 2018, the company sold one of the manufacturing lines and transferred another piece of equipment. There are no plans to complete the original Phase II at this time.

Attachment A: Combined Semi-Annual TIF Reports

TAX INCREMENT FINANCING PLAN SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT: **December 31, 2023**

GATEWAY PARK/50 PRESCOTT STREET, LLC 50 PRESCOTT STREET		
Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Plan Overview		
TIF Plan Start Date:	July 1, 2011	
TIF Plan Expiration Date:	June 30, 2027	
Length Of TIF Plan:	16 Years	
Base Value:	\$293,000	
Estimated Incremental Value At Time Of Application:	\$17,750,000	
Average Annual TIF Plan Exemption:	47%	
TIF Plan Years Remaining As Of 12/31/23:	3.5 Years	
Average Annual Exemption For Remainder Of TIF Plan:	42%	
Status Report As Of December 31, 2023		
Category	Estimated – Start Of TIF Plan	Actual – TIF Plan To Date
Full-Time Jobs Retained:	50	50
Full-Time Jobs Created:	20	20
Total Project Investment:	\$24,000,000	\$26,933,725
New Property Value:	\$18,043,000	\$24,711,400
Taxes Generated To Date During TIF Plan:	\$4,120,031	\$3,984,065
Jobs Taken By Worcester Residents:	N/A	6
Accomplishment Status As Of December 31, 2023		
Category	Accomplishment	
Retained Full-time Jobs:	Yes	
Created Full-time Jobs:	Yes	
Promoted Economic Diversity:	Yes	
Increased Worcester’s Commercial And / Or Industrial Base:	Yes	
Increased Property Values And Tax Revenue:	Yes	
Eliminated Blight And / Or Redeveloped An Underutilized Property:	Yes	
Spurred Additional, Unsubsidized Private Development In Worcester:	Yes	
Benefited The Long-Term Economic Goals Of Worcester:	Yes	
TIF Plan Economic Impact Summary		
The project has replaced a vacant city corner with an attractive, active office/lab building and expanded the occupancy of Gateway Park. Certain tenant improvements support middle and high school STEM Education.		

VHS ACQ. SUBSIDIARY NUMBER 7, INC/ST. VINCENT CANCER CENTER 1 EATON PLACE

Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Plan Overview

TIF Plan Start Date:	July 1, 2013
TIF Plan Expiration Date:	June 30, 2028
Length Of TIF Plan:	15 Years
Base Value:	\$750,000
Estimated Incremental Value At Time Of Application:	\$13,000,000
Average Annual TIF Plan Exemption:	Tax Target Payment
TIF Plan Years Remaining As Of 12/31/23:	4.5 Years
Average Annual Exemption For Remainder Of TIF Plan:	Tax Target Payment

Status Report As Of December 31, 2023

Category	Estimated – Start Of TIF Plan	Actual – TIF Plan To Date
Full-Time Jobs To Be Retained:	26	26
Full-Time Jobs To Be Created:	22	38
Total Project Investment:	\$22,000,000	\$29,642,563
New Property Value:	\$13,750,000	\$16,160,500
Taxes Generated To Date During TIF Plan:	\$2,131,017	\$2,684,008
Jobs Taken By Worcester Residents:	N/A	26

Accomplishment Status As Of December 31, 2023

Category	Accomplishment
Retained Full-time Jobs:	Yes
Created Full-time Jobs:	Yes
Promoted Economic Diversity:	Yes
Increased Worcester's Commercial And / Or Industrial Base:	Yes
Increased Property Values And Tax Revenue:	Yes
Eliminated Blight And / Or Redeveloped An Underutilized Property:	Yes
Spurred Additional, Unsubsidized Private Development In Worcester:	Yes
Benefited The Long-Term Economic Goals Of Worcester:	Yes

TIF Plan Economic Impact Summary

The Cancer Center project has been an anchor employment and healthcare service within the CitySquare area. In addition, employees who work at the cancer and wellness centers support businesses in the CitySquare area.

TAX INCREMENT FINANCING PLAN SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT: December 31, 2023

ONEMERC LLC / UNUM ONE MERCANTILE STREET		
Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Plan Overview		
TIF Plan Start Date:	July 1, 2013	
TIF Plan Expiration Date:	June 30, 2028	
Length Of TIF Plan:	15-Year Tax Target Payment Plan	
Base Value:	\$500,000	
Estimated Incremental Value At Time Of Application:	\$29,500,000	
Average Annual TIF Plan Exemption:	Tax Target Payments	
TIF Plan Years Remaining As Of 12 /31/23:	4.5 Years	
Average Annual Exemption For Remainder Of TIF Plan:	Tax Target Payments	
Status Report As Of December 31, 2023		
Category	Estimated – Start Of TIF Plan	Actual – TIF Plan To Date
Full-Time Jobs To Be Retained:	682	0
Full-Time Jobs To Be Created:	50	0
Total Project Investment:	\$25,000,000	\$31,013,900
New Property Value:	\$30,000,000	\$21,885,800
Taxes Generated To Date During TIF Plan:	\$1,163,693	\$1,502,221
Jobs Taken By Worcester Residents:	N/A	0
Accomplishment Status As Of December 31, 2023		
Category	Accomplishment	
Retained Full-time Jobs:	No	
Created Full-time Jobs:	No	
Promoted Economic Diversity:	Yes	
Increased Worcester’s Commercial And / Or Industrial Base:	Yes	
Increased Property Values And Tax Revenue:	Yes	
Eliminated Blight And / Or Redeveloped An Underutilized Property:	Yes	
Spurred Additional, Unsubsidized Private Development In Worcester:	Yes	
Benefited The Long-Term Economic Goals Of Worcester:	Yes	
TIF Plan Economic Impact Summary		
A resolution to decertify the company's TIF recipient status was adopted by Worcester City Council on a roll call vote of 11 Yeas and 0 Nays on September 12, 2023.		

TAX INCREMENT FINANCING PLAN SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT: December 31, 2023

NEW GARDEN PARK, INC./ 20 FRANKLIN QALICB CORP 18 FRANKLIN STREET		
Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Plan Overview		
TIF Plan Start Date:	July 1, 2014	
TIF Plan Expiration Date:	June 30, 2034	
Length Of TIF Plan:	20 Years	
Base Value:	\$2,500,000	
Estimated Incremental Value At Time Of Application:	\$4,755,000	
Average Annual TIF Plan Exemption:	50%	
TIF Plan Years Remaining As Of 12/31/23:	10.5 Years	
Average Annual Exemption For Remainder Of TIF Plan:	9%	
Status Report As Of December 31, 2023		
Category	Estimated – Start Of TIF Plan	Actual – TIF Plan To Date
Full-Time Jobs To Be Retained:	N/A	N/A
Full-Time Jobs To Be Created:	46	105
Total Project Investment:	\$32,000,000	\$43,325,600
New Property Value:	\$7,255,000	\$6,457,600
Taxes Generated During TIF Plan:	\$864,059	\$841,265
Jobs Taken By Worcester Residents:	N/A	25
Accomplishment Status As Of December 31, 2023		
Category	Accomplishment	
Retained Full-time Jobs:	N/A	
Created Full-time Jobs:	Yes	
Promoted Economic Diversity:	Yes	
Increased Worcester’s Commercial And / Or Industrial Base:	Yes	
Increased Property Values And Tax Revenue:	Yes	
Eliminated Blight And / Or Redeveloped An Underutilized Property:	Yes	
Spurred Additional, Unsubsidized Private Development In Worcester:	Yes	
Benefited The Long-Term Economic Goals Of Worcester:	Yes	
TIF Plan Economic Impact Summary		
The redevelopment of the 20 Franklin Street facility has placed, a once-vacant, non-contributing property back into active use within Downtown Worcester. The property includes Quinsigamond Community College, Worcester Idea Lab & Accelerator, Worcester PopUp, WGBH, the BrickBox Theatre, Shawarma Palace and JMAC Art Center.		

TAX INCREMENT FINANCING PLAN SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT: December 31, 2023

KMRN INVESTMENT, LLC AND THE OASIS AT DODGE PARK, LLC 102 RANDOLPH ROAD – PHASE I		
Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Plan Overview		
TIF Plan Start Date:	July 1, 2016	
TIF Plan Expiration Date:	June 30, 2028	
Length Of TIF Plan:	12 Years	
Base Value:	\$1,034,100	
Estimated Incremental Value At Time Of Application:	\$5,500,000	
Average Annual TIF Plan Exemption:	40%	
TIF Plan Years Remaining As Of 12/31/23 :	4.5 Years	
Average Annual Exemption For Remainder Of TIF Plan:	40%	
Status Report As Of December 31, 2023		
Category	Estimated – Start Of TIF Plan	Actual – TIF Plan To Date
Full-Time Jobs To Be Retained:	N/A	N/A
Full-Time Jobs To Be Created:	49	71
Total Project Investment:	9,021,485	\$16,810,432
New Property Value:	\$6,534,100	\$3,956,200
Taxes Generated To Date During TIF Plan:	\$1,162,897	\$564,642
Jobs Taken By Worcester Residents:	N/A	65
Accomplishment Status As Of December 31 , 2023		
Category	Accomplishment	
Retained Full-time Jobs:	N/A	
Created Full-time Jobs:	Yes	
Promoted Economic Diversity:	Yes	
Increased Worcester’s Commercial And / Or Industrial Base:	Yes	
Increased Property Values And Tax Revenue:	Yes	
Eliminated Blight And / Or Redeveloped An Underutilized Property:	Yes	
Spurred Additional, Unsubsidized Private Development In Worcester:	N/A	
Benefited The Long-Term Economic Goals Of Worcester:	Yes	
TIF Plan Economic Impact Summary		
Phase II is on hold. Development is currently halted due to labor market and interest rate concerns.		

TAX INCREMENT FINANCING PLAN SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT: December 31, 2023

**ABSOLUTE MACHINERY CORPORATION/O&S REALTY LLC
33-57 SOUTHGATE STREET**

Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Plan Overview

TIF Plan Start Date:	July 1, 2017
TIF Plan Expiration Date:	June 30, 2027
Length Of TIF Plan:	10 years
Base Value:	\$1,016,500
Estimated Incremental Value At Time Of Application:	\$358,500
Average Annual TIF Plan Exemption:	50%
TIF Plan Years Remaining As Of 12 /31/23:	3.5 Years
Average Annual Exemption For Remainder Of TIF Plan:	50%

Status Report As Of December 31, 2023

Category	Estimated – Start Of TIF Plan	Actual – TIF Plan To Date
Full-Time Jobs To Be Retained:	14	14
Full-Time Jobs To Be Created:	6	5
Total Project Investment:	\$725,000	\$2,974,519
New Property Value:	\$1,375,000	\$3,009,400
Taxes Generated To Date During TIF Plan:	\$292,954	\$382,023
Jobs Taken By Worcester Residents:	N/A	6

Accomplishment Status As Of December 31, 2023

Category	Accomplishment
Retained Full-time Jobs:	Yes
Created Full-time Jobs:	Yes
Promoted Economic Diversity:	Yes
Increased Worcester's Commercial And / Or Industrial Base: Increased	Yes
Property Values And Tax Revenue:	Yes
Eliminated Blight And / Or Redeveloped An Underutilized Property:	Yes
Spurred Additional, Unsubsidized Private Development In Worcester:	Yes
Benefited The Long-Term Economic Goals Of Worcester:	Yes

TIF Plan Economic Impact Summary

Employees of Absolute Machinery work, eat and shop in the area contributing to the local economy and supporting small businesses. At various points during the year, Absolute Machinery welcomes visitors to their facilities for training, demonstrations, and other meetings. Many visitors stay at a local hotel and dine in the local area. In 2024, Absolute Machinery has scheduled facade renovations for their Gardner Street building.

TAX INCREMENT FINANCING PLAN SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT: December 31, 2023

**WORCESTER TRUMBULL STREET HOTEL, LLC – AC MARRIOTT 125
FRONT STREET**

Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Plan Overview

TIF Plan Start Date:	July 1, 2017
TIF Plan Expiration Date:	June 30, 2027
Length Of TIF Plan:	10 Years
Base Value:	\$1,000,000
Estimated Incremental Value At Time Of Application:	\$19,000,000
Average Annual TIF Plan Exemption:	Tax Target Payment
TIF Plan Years Remaining As Of 12/31/23:	3.5 Years
Average Annual Exemption For Remainder Of TIF Plan:	Tax Target Payment

Status Report As Of December 31, 2023

Category	Estimated – Start Of TIF Plan	Actual – TIF Plan To Date
Full-Time Jobs To Be Retained:	N/A	N/A
Full-Time Jobs To Be Created:	90	48
Total Project Investment:	\$36,000,000	\$44,367,305
New Property Value:	\$20,000,000	\$18,287,800
Taxes Generated To Date During TIF Plan:	\$2,425,000	\$2,238,582
Jobs Taken By Worcester Residents:	N/A	28

Accomplishment Status As Of December 31, 2023

Category	Accomplishment
Retained Full-time Jobs:	N/A
Created Full-time Jobs:	Yes
Promoted Economic Diversity:	Yes
Increased Worcester's Commercial And / Or Industrial Base:	Yes
Increased Property Values And Tax Revenue:	Yes
Eliminated Blight And / Or Redeveloped An Underutilized Property:	Yes
Spurred Additional, Unsubsidized Private Development In Worcester:	Yes
Benefited The Long-Term Economic Goals Of Worcester:	Yes

TIF Plan Economic Impact Summary

The hotel pays quarterly fees to the Business Improvement District. In addition to the full-time jobs enumerated above, the hotel employs 34 part-time associates, 16 of which are Worcester residents.

TAX INCREMENT FINANCING PLAN SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT: December 31, 2023

150 BLACKSTONE RIVER ROAD, LLC 150 BLACKSTONE RIVER ROAD		
Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Plan Overview		
TIF Plan Start Date:	July 1, 2017	
TIF Plan Expiration Date:	June 30, 2032	
Length Of TIF Plan:	15 Years	
Base Value:	\$10,240,400	
Estimated Incremental Value At Time Of Application:	\$21,210,00	
Average Annual TIF Plan Exemption:	45%	
TIF Plan Years Remaining As Of 12/31/23:	8.5 Years	
Average Annual Exemption For Remainder Of TIF Plan:	45%	
Status Report As Of December 31, 2023		
Category	Estimated – Start Of TIF Plan	Actual – TIF Plan To Date
Full-Time Jobs Retained:	30	30
Full-Time Jobs Created:	300	369
Total Project Investment:	\$26,000,000	\$26,309,416
New Property Value:	\$31,450,400	\$58,023,300
Taxes Generated To Date During TIF Plan:	\$5,273,472	\$5,637,162
Jobs Taken By Worcester Residents:	N/A	241
Accomplishment Status As Of December 31, 2023		
Category	Accomplishment	
Retained Full-time Jobs:	Yes	
Created Full-time Jobs:	Yes	
Promoted Economic Diversity:	Yes	
Increased Worcester’s Commercial And / Or Industrial Base:	Yes	
Increased Property Values And Tax Revenue:	Yes	
Eliminated Blight And / Or Redeveloped An Underutilized Property:	Yes	
Spurred Additional, Unsubsidized Private Development In Worcester:	Yes	
Benefited The Long-Term Economic Goals Of Worcester:	Yes	
TIF Plan Economic Impact Summary		
Project and tenants continue to operate successfully. One of the tenant's lease was recently extended, which will provide the continued creation of economic stimulus and employment. Consistent growth will continue to benefit the City of Worcester and surrounding areas.		

TAX INCREMENT FINANCING PLAN SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT: December 31, 2023

**TABLE TALK / SOUTHGATE REALTY LLC
65 ARMORY STREET**

Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Plan Overview

TIF Plan Start Date:	July 1, 2017
TIF Plan Expiration Date:	June 30, 2032
Length Of TIF Plan:	15 Years
Base Value:	\$139,200
Estimated Incremental Value At Time Of Application:	\$445,800
Average Annual TIF Plan Exemption:	40%
TIF Plan Years Remaining As Of 12/31/23:	8.5 Years
Average Annual Exemption For Remainder Of TIF Plan:	40%

Status Report As Of December 31, 2023

Category	Estimated – Start Of TIF Plan	Actual – TIF Plan To Date
Full-Time Jobs Retained:	0	0
Full-Time Jobs Created:	12	9
Total Project Investment:	\$600,000	\$6,050,000
New Property Value:	\$585,000	\$3,808,100
Taxes Generated To Date During TIF Plan:	\$104,299	\$251,834
Jobs Taken By Worcester Residents:	0	4

Accomplishment Status As Of December 31, 2023

Category	Accomplishment
Retained Full-time Jobs:	N/A
Created Full-time Jobs:	Yes
Promoted Economic Diversity:	Yes
Increased Worcester's Commercial And / Or Industrial Base:	Yes
Increased Property Values And Tax Revenue:	Yes
Eliminated Blight And / Or Redeveloped An Underutilized Property:	Yes
Spurred Additional, Unsubsidized Private Development In Worcester:	Yes
Benefited The Long-Term Economic Goals Of Worcester:	Yes

TIF Plan Economic Impact Summary

Table talk continues to grow their production and production support teams at their Gardner Street Bakery as they grow their core business and work to expand their product portfolio. They are expecting their newly installed 4th line will help meet the growing demand when it becomes fully functional in the Spring of 2024. Table Talk is also breaking ground on a new Dry Warehouse Facility, a once empty lot near Southgate, thus adding value to the area. Table Talk had a successful 2023 pie season. As they enter 2024, they will be celebrating their 100-year anniversary.

TAX INCREMENT FINANCING PLAN SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT: December 31, 2023

Armory Business Center/49 Canterbury Street		
Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Plan Overview		
TIF Plan Start Date:	July 1, 2017	
TIF Plan Expiration Date:	June 30, 2037	
Length Of TIF Plan:	20 Years	
Base Value:	\$75,000	
Estimated Incremental Value At Time Of Application:	\$1,590,000	
Average Annual TIF Plan Exemption:	70%	
TIF Plan Years Remaining As Of 12/31/23:	13.5 Years	
Average Annual Exemption For Remainder Of TIF Plan:	70%	
Status Report As Of December 31, 2023		
Category	Estimated – Start Of TIF Plan	Actual – TIF Plan To Date
Full-Time Jobs Retained:	N/A	N/A
Full-Time Jobs Created:	32	55
Total Project Investment:	\$1,590,000	\$2,700,000
New Property Value:	\$1,675,000	\$2,196,700
Taxes Generated To Date During TIF Plan:	\$143, 530	\$120,104
Jobs Taken By Worcester Residents:	0	27
Compliance Status As Of December 31, 2023		
Category	Compliance	
Retained Full-time Jobs:	N/A	
Created Full-time Jobs:	Yes	
Promoted Economic Diversity:	Yes	
Increased Worcester’s Commercial And / Or Industrial Base:	Yes	
Increased Property Values And Tax Revenue:	Yes	
Eliminated Blight And / Or Redeveloped An Underutilized Property:	Yes	
Spurred Additional, Unsubsidized Private Development In Worcester:	Yes	
Benefited The Long-Term Economic Goals Of Worcester:	Yes	
TIF Plan Economic Impact Summary		
The formerly vacant brownfields site is now contributing to the vitality of the South Worcester Industrial Park.		

TABLE TALK PIES, INC./PIECO HOLDINGS/SOUTHGATE ST. REALTY LLC

25 SOUTHGATE STREET

Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Plan Overview

TIF Plan Start Date:	July 1, 2017
TIF Plan Expiration Date:	June 30, 2037
Length Of TIF Plan:	20 Years
Base Value:	\$210,800
Estimated Incremental Value At Time Of Application:	\$3,218,200
Average Annual TIF Plan Exemption:	80%
TIF Plan Years Remaining As Of 12 /31/23:	13.5 Years
Average Annual Exemption For Remainder Of TIF Plan:	80%

Status Report As Of December 31, 2023

Category	Estimated – Start Of TIF Plan	Actual – TIF Plan To Date
Full-Time Jobs To Be Retained:	30	30
Full-Time Jobs To Be Created:	50	82
Total Project Investment:	\$4,600,000	\$24,488,000
New Property Value:	\$3,429,000	\$4,633,400
Taxes Generated To Date During TIF Plan:	\$219,131	\$197,834
Jobs Taken By Worcester Residents:	N/A	97

Accomplishment Status As Of December 31, 2023

Category	Accomplishment
Retained Full-time Jobs:	Yes
Created Full-time Jobs:	Yes
Promoted Economic Diversity:	Yes
Increased Worcester's Commercial And / Or Industrial Base:	Yes
Increased Property Values And Tax Revenue:	Yes
Eliminated Blight And / Or Redeveloped An Underutilized Property:	Yes
Spurred Additional, Unsubsidized Private Development In Worcester:	Yes
Benefited The Long-Term Economic Goals Of Worcester:	Yes

TIF Plan Economic Impact Summary

Table talk continues to grow their production and production support teams at their Gardner Street Bakery as they grow their core business and work to expand their product portfolio. They are expecting their newly installed 4th line will help meet the growing demand when it becomes fully functional in the Spring of 2024. Table Talk is also breaking ground on a new Dry Warehouse Facility, a once empty lot near Southgate, thus adding value to the area. Table Talk had a successful 2023 pie season. As they enter 2024, they will be celebrating their 100-year anniversary.

TAX INCREMENT FINANCING PLAN SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT: December 31, 2023

YWCA CM QALICB LLC, INC. 1 SALEM SQUARE/2 YWCA WAY		
Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Plan Overview		
TIF Plan Start Date:	July 1, 2020	
TIF Plan Expiration Date:	June 30, 2028	
Length Of TIF Plan:	8 Years	
Base Value:	\$700,000	
Estimated Incremental Value At Time Of Application:	\$19,300,000	
Average Annual TIF Plan Exemption:	100%	
TIF Plan Years Remaining As Of 12 /31/23:	4.5 Years	
Average Annual Exemption For Remainder Of TIF Plan:	100%	
Status Report As Of December 31, 2023		
Category	Estimated – Start Of TIF Plan	Actual – TIF Plan To Date
Full-Time Jobs Retained:	68	65
Full-Time Jobs Created:	5	0
Total Project Investment:	\$26,000,000	\$27,251,421
New Property Value:	\$20,000,000	\$5,880,500
Taxes Generated To Date During TIF Plan:	\$102,201	\$56,154
Jobs Taken By Worcester Residents:	N/A	36
Accomplishment Status As Of December 31, 2023		
Category	Accomplishment	
Retained Full-time Jobs:	Yes	
Created Full-time Jobs:	No	
Promoted Economic Diversity:	Yes	
Increased Worcester’s Commercial And / Or Industrial Base:	Yes	
Increased Property Values And Tax Revenue:	Yes	
Eliminated Blight And / Or Redeveloped An Underutilized Property:	No	
Spurred Additional, Unsubsidized Private Development In Worcester:	N/A	
Benefited The Long-Term Economic Goals Of Worcester:	Yes	
TIF Plan Economic Impact Summary		
The YWCA of Central MA provides affordable childcare as well as a transitional housing program for domestic violence survivors. The renovation work has been completed.		

TAX INCREMENT FINANCING PLAN SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT: December 31, 2023

CP 58 GARDNER STREET LLC/TABLE TALK PIES 58 GARDNER STREET		
Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Plan Overview		
TIF Plan Start Date:	July 1, 2021	
TIF Plan Expiration Date:	June 30, 2041	
Length Of TIF Plan:	20 Years	
Base Value:	\$1,337,000	
Estimated Incremental Value At Time Of Application:	\$8,663,000	
Average Annual TIF Plan Exemption:	60%	
TIF Plan Years Remaining As Of 12/31/23:	17.5 Years	
Average Annual Exemption For Remainder Of TIF Plan:	59%	
Status Report As Of December 31, 2023		
Category	Estimated – Start Of TIF Plan	Actual – TIF Plan To Date
Full-Time Jobs Retained:	150	150
Full-Time Jobs Created:	30	12
Total Project Investment:	\$12,000,000	\$37,366,000
New Property Value:	\$10,000,000	\$11,484,400
Taxes Generated To Date During TIF Plan:	\$472,465	\$311,988
Jobs Taken By Worcester Residents:	N/A	106
Accomplishment Status As Of June 30, 2023		
Category	Accomplishment	
Retained Full-time Jobs:	Yes	
Created Full-time Jobs:	Yes	
Promoted Economic Diversity:	Yes	
Increased Worcester’s Commercial And / Or Industrial Base:	Yes	
Increased Property Values And Tax Revenue:	Yes	
Eliminated Blight And / Or Redeveloped An Underutilized Property:	Yes	
Spurred Additional, Unsubsidized Private Development In Worcester:	N/A	
Benefited The Long-Term Economic Goals Of Worcester:	Yes	
TIF Plan Economic Impact Summary		
Table talk continues to grow stronger after the financial difficulties experienced during the first half of 2022. The partnerships with new investors, loyalty of their existing customers, and interest of new customers secures the hope of continued success. The company will bring on additional full-time employees at all three of their bakeries. The new pie line at the Gardner Street location has been completed.		

Attachment B: Active TIF/TIE Construction Projects

SNAP SHOT

Active TIF/TIE Construction (Short-term) Projects as of December 31, 2023

							Diversity/Workforce Compliance Goals							
Project	Project Status	Project Approval	Developer	General Contractor/ Construction Manager	Anticipated Completion Date	% of Completion	Worcester Residents		People of Color		Women		Firms/Subs w/in 30 Miles	
							Goal	December	Goal	December	Goal	December	Goal	December
The Cove	Underway	9/25/2020	Churchill James	NEI General Contracting	2024	36%	25%	24%	38%	71%	10%	0%	50%	25%
Wash. Square Hotel	Not started	12/17/2019	First Bristol Corp	TBD	-	-	50%	-	38%	-	10%	-	50%	-
WuXi Biologics	Underway	2/25/2020	Owner/Company	The Cardinal Group	2024	23%	50%	10%	38%	32%	10%	4%	50%	53%
Doherty Memorial High School	Underway	9/22/2020	Fontaine-Dimeo, LLC.	Fontaine-Dimeo, LLC.	2024	68%	25%	17%	38%	28%	10%	6%	50%	20%
Mt. Carmel Redevelopment/Alta on the Row	Underway	8/10/2021	Wood Partners	Wood Partners	2024	93%	50%	11%	38%	45%	10%	4%	50%	60%
* Madison Properties/ 1 Green Island Blvd	Underway	2/25/2020	Madison WG Holdings	Plumb House	2023	99%	50%	12%	38%	48%	10%	1%	50%	30%

Meets or Exceeds Goal	Less than Goal	Below Goal
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* The data provided by Madison Properties is not verified.

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



CITY OF WORCESTER

cm2024mar08111706

Attachment for Item #11.4 D

March 12, 2024

TO THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL
COUNCILORS:

I respectfully submit the enclosed FY23 Annual Report of the Worcester Jobs Fund, as received from Peter Dunn, Chief Development Officer, for the information of your Honorable Body.

The Worcester Jobs Fund continues to be a successful and flexible workforce development program for Worcester residents. Highlights from FY23 include:

- 93 low-income residents enrolled in job trainings across 6 industries.
- 82.3% of all participants were people of color.
- Average wage of program graduates is \$22.80 per hour, an increase of approximately \$2 per hour over FY22.
- An estimated return on the City's investment of 340%.

I want to express appreciation to the MassHire Central team for their hard work and success over the last year.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



The City of
WORCESTER

Executive Office of Economic Development
Peter Dunn, Chief Development Officer
City Hall, 455 Main Street, Worcester, MA 01608
P | 508-799-1400 F | 508-799-1406
development@worcesterma.gov

TO: Eric D. Batista, City Manager

FROM: Peter Dunn, Chief Development Officer

DATE: March 12, 2024

RE: FY23 Worcester Jobs Fund Annual Report

Enclosed please find the FY23 Worcester Jobs Fund Annual Report. The Worcester Jobs Fund was created to better connect Worcester residents with good jobs made available through development projects and job expansion activities. The effort prepares residents for employment in viable long-term career pathways where there is an immediate workforce need through activities such as job training, job recruitment, and related services.

The Fund is administratively housed within the MassHire Central Region Workforce Board and is guided by a committee comprising representatives from the Executive Office of Economic Development, the MassHire Central Career Centers, Worcester Community Labor Coalition, the Worcester Regional Chamber of Commerce, and the Worcester Public Schools.

The Fund currently receives an annual City of Worcester tax levy appropriation of \$200,000. Additional funding from federal, state, local, and private sources are leveraged to enhance and support programming as well.

The Worcester Jobs Fund had another successful year in FY23 as illustrated in the enclosed report.

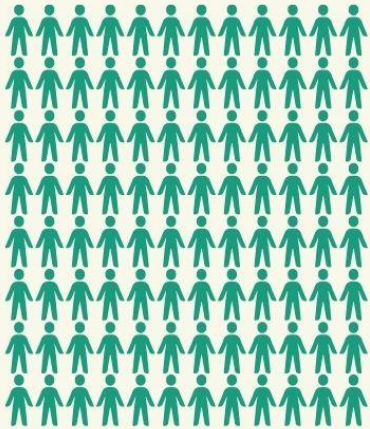
Sincerely,

Peter Dunn
Chief Development Officer

WORCESTER JOBS FUND

FY 2023 REPORT

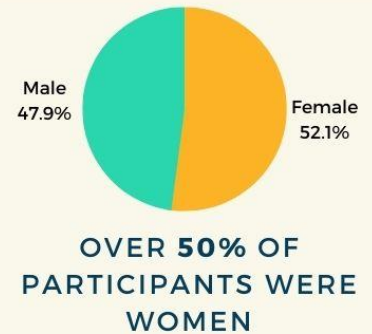
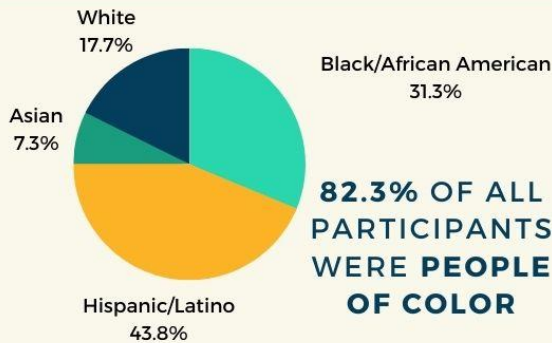
JULY 1, 2022 - JUNE 30, 2023



96 LOW INCOME RESIDENTS ENROLLED IN JOB TRAININGS ACROSS 6 INDUSTRIES

*96% OF FY 2023 ENROLLMENT GOAL OF 100 MET

20 SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS
20 CLINICAL MEDICAL ASSISTANTS
11 ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION WORKERS
17 PHLEBOTOMISTS
19 COMMERCIAL DRIVERS
10 BUILDING TRADES WORKERS



THE AVERAGE WAGE OF PROGRAM GRADUATES IS \$22.80 PER HOUR

THE AVERAGE WAGE OF PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS PRIOR TO TRAINING IS \$17.75 PER HOUR
COMPARE TO FY 22 AVERAGE PROGRAM GRADUATE WAGE OF \$20.83/HOUR

THE HIGHEST EARNING GRADUATES MAKE \$33 PER HOUR

ON AVERAGE, GRADUATES WORK **35.89 HOURS A WEEK**



ESTIMATED ANNUAL CUMULATIVE EARNINGS OF PROGRAM GRADUATES IS

OVER \$2.2 MILLION!*

THIS REPRESENTS A 340% RETURN ON INVESTMENT.

*ESTIMATE OF TOTAL GROSS EARNINGS FOR PROGRAM GRADUATES CALCULATED BASED ON EMPLOYMENT AS OF AUGUST 2023.

FY 2023 GRADUATES:



WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



Family Health Center
of Worcester



SCHNEIDER

Primary Physician Partners

 **UMass Memorial Health**

arcpoint labs

 **Stericycle®**



The City of
WORCESTER

**Milford
Regional**
Medical Center

WORCESTER
PUBLIC SCHOOLS



EDWARD M.
KENNEDY
COMMUNITY
HEALTH CENTER



LEOMINSTER
MASSACHUSETTS

abbvie



 **UMass Chan**
MEDICAL SCHOOL

DiCarlo FOOD SERVICE
Family Owned Since 1963

CareWell®
URGENT CARE



IBEW
POWER
PROFESSIONALS


QUALITAS DENTAL PARTNERS

Worcester Jobs Fund

Fiscal Year 2023 Report

July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023

Background:

The Worcester Jobs Fund was created to better connect Worcester residents with good jobs made available through development projects and job expansion activities. The effort prepares residents for employment in viable long-term career pathways where there is an immediate workforce need through activities such as job training, career counseling, and supportive services.

The Fund focuses on providing training and services to individuals with previous obstacles to employment, including veterans, single parents, people of color, people with a past felony conviction, women, people with disabilities, and low-income residents. Strong community outreach helps promote these opportunities with local residents and case management is provided throughout training to promote participant success. Applicants who are not accepted into the program are connected with local services or alternative employment opportunities as applicable.

The Fund is administratively housed within the MassHire Central Region Workforce Board and is guided by a committee comprising representatives from the Worcester Community Labor Coalition, the Worcester Regional Chamber of Commerce, MassHire Central Career Centers, MassHire Central Workforce Board, and the Worcester Public Schools.

The Fund consists of a \$200,000 annual City tax levy appropriation for each fiscal year. In addition to these funds, the Worcester Redevelopment Authority gifted \$100,000 of the proceeds of its sale of a parcel of land in Washington Square to the Fund in 2016. The committee was also able to utilize a one-year grant from the Massachusetts Department of Transportation for \$96,053.98, for use in job training. The Fund consistently leverages federal and state workforce development resources, including the services provided by the MassHire Central Career Centers, to enhance and support their programming as well.

The vision for the Worcester Jobs Fund began during 2014 when Worcester City Manager Edward M. Augustus, Jr. formed a planning team to develop recommendations for the administrative structure and programmatic uses of the Fund. The workgroup was coordinated by the City's Executive Office of Economic Development (EOED) and included leadership from the MassHire Central Region Workforce Board (MCRWB), MassHire Central Career Centers, the Worcester Public Schools, the Worcester Regional Chamber of Commerce, and several representatives from the Worcester Community Labor Coalition. The planning team met numerous times, discussed the project with area stakeholders, and researched several potential design models before developing a set of recommendations to the Worcester City Manager. Submitted recommendations were incorporated into the final framework for the Fund's administration and use. Guiding documents, including Operating Principles and a Project Summary, were developed to ensure best practices and alignment with key stakeholder groups.

FY 2023 overview:

In FY 2023, the Fund ran 6 local training programs. During Fiscal Year 2023, the Fund implemented trainings for Building Trades Workers, Class A & B Commercial Drivers, Certified Clinical Medical

Assistants, Certified Phlebotomy Technicians, School Bus Drivers, and Environmental Remediation Workers. Additionally, the Fund developed standard practices for engaging with local employers and developers, including those receiving Tax Increment Financing plans. These engagement efforts have allowed the Fund to develop stronger pathways for local residents to find quality employment through job training and job referral programs.

During Fiscal Year 2023, the Worcester Jobs Fund implemented 12 training cohorts, enrolling a total of 96 low-income individuals, including 80 individuals of color and 50 women. All participants were offered support services in concert with services available through MassHire Central Career Centers including case management, career counseling and job placement assistance both during and following training.

Completed Training Programs:

The Worcester Building Pathways Pre-Apprenticeship Training Program completed its seventh cycle of training in February 2023. A total of 10 individuals enrolled in the cohort, including 9 individuals of color and 3 women. Through the 16-week part-time training, participants received classroom instruction at MassHire Central Region Workforce Board focused on topics such as blueprint reading, construction math, and industry credentials including First Aid & CPR and OSHA 10. Participants also received hands-on instruction from a wide range of building trades apprenticeship instructors at apprenticeship training locations across the region. Instruction was provided by carpenters, electricians, elevator constructors, heat and frost insulators, laborers, operating engineers, painters, plumbers, roofers, and sheet metal workers. A total of 10 participants graduated from the program and 6 of them have found employment, including 2 graduates who were accepted into an apprenticeship in the local building trades union. Each participant receives a weekly stipend of \$100 for a total of \$1,600.

Graduate Profile: Prior to completing the training one of the graduates was working at FedEx as an Outbound Loader making \$16.50/hr. They currently work for Northeast Interior Systems of New England Inc. as a first-year carpenters' apprentice making \$20/hr.

The Commercial Driver's License Training Program enrolled 19 individuals across 3 cohorts, all trainees were individuals of color, and 1 trainee was a woman. Training focused on the necessary information related to earning a CDL Permit and License, including general knowledge, airbrakes, pre-trip, maneuvers, and road driving. The training provider is New England Tractor Trailer Training School. CDL B training was provided at the WRTA location in Worcester, eliminating the barrier of commuting for participants. A total of 15 individuals graduated from training, including 12 who completed CDL B training and 3 who are currently in CDL A training. Following training, 6 individuals earned their CDL licenses and 8 are preparing to retake the exam. Many graduates have begun working in the CDL industry. The cost per CDL A participant is \$5,195 and per CDL B participant is \$3,095. Each graduate receives a \$180 completion stipend to help cover the costs of testing.

Graduate Profile: Prior to completing the training one of the graduates was unemployed, they currently work at DiCarlo's Food Service as a CDL A Driver making \$33/hr.

The School Bus Driver Training Program has enrolled 20 individuals across 2 cohorts. 44 individuals are people of color, and 24 individuals are women. Training focused on the necessary information

related to earning a CDL permit and License, including general knowledge, airbrakes, school bus, and passenger endorsements. In 2023 trainings occurred in March and April. The training took place at the Worcester Public Schools School Bus Department. Training included permit preparation, classroom, and behind the wheel training. Out of the 20 that have completed the training 11 have a CDL and 9 are still in training. 7 individuals are currently employed by the Worcester Public Schools School Bus Department. The cost per participant is \$200. Each graduate receives a \$180 stipend to help cover the costs of testing.

Graduate Profile: Prior to completing the training one of the graduates was working for Flash Transportation as a Taxi Driver making \$10/hr. They currently work for the Worcester Public Schools School Bus Department as a School Bus Driver making \$30/hr.

The Clinical Medical Assistant Training Program enrolled 20 individuals across 2 cohorts, 19 are people of color and there were 16 women and 4 men. Training focused on the necessary information for the National Clinical Medical Assistant exam. The training included didactic, clinical, and externship experience. Training is offered through the Worcester Night Life and is located at Worcester Technical High School. Trainings occurred in September 2022 and January 2023. A total of 15 individuals graduated from training. Following training 10 passed the National Exam. Many graduates have begun working as Certified Clinical Medical Assistants for employers such as UMass Memorial Health and Reliant Medical Group. The cost per participant is \$2,700.

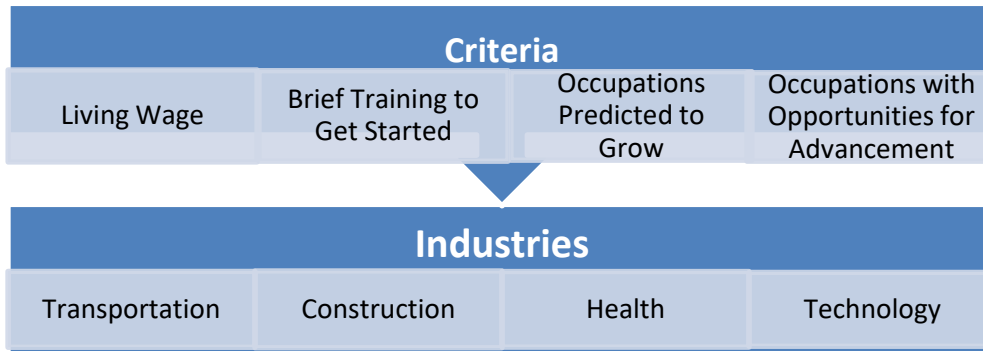
Graduate Profile: Prior to completing the training one of the graduates was working at Target as a Beauty Consultant making \$16.08/hr. They currently work at UMass Memorial Health as a Certified Medical Assistant making \$23.92/hr.

The Certified Phlebotomy Technician Training Program enrolled 16 individuals across 2 cohorts, 14 are people of color and there were 12 women and 4 men. Training focused on the necessary information for the National Phlebotomy Technician exam. The training included didactic, clinical, and externship experience. Training is offered through Worcester Night Life and is located at Worcester Technical High School. Trainings occurred September 2022 and February 2023. A total of 15 individuals graduated from the training. Following training 12 passed the National Exam. Many graduates have begun working as a Certified Pharmacy Technician for employers such as Family Health Center and ARCpoint Labs of Worcester. The cost per participant is \$1,400.

Graduate Profile: Prior to completing the training one of the graduates was working at Savers as an Associate making \$14.25/hr. They currently work at Family Health Center as a Phlebotomist making \$20/hr.

The Worcester Jobs Fund was able to leverage funding from other sources to enable us to provide increased assistance to the trainees. This assistance was in the form of weekly and or/ completion stipends for CDL B and Environmental Remediation training programs.

The Environmental Remediation Training Program enrolled 11 City of Worcester residents for 3 cohorts, 5 are people of color, 4 are women, and 7 are men. The training is 4 weeks long and ran in April, May and June of 2023. Graduates received several certifications including OSHA-10 Construction Safety, OSHA-40 Asbestos Worker, OSHA-40 Asbestos Supervisor, OSHA 40-HAZWOPER, and CPR/First Aid. The training provider for all OSHA certifications was Atlas-ATC in West Springfield, Massachusetts. All individuals across the three cohorts have completed the program. Each participant receives a weekly stipend of \$300 for a total of \$1,000.



Employer Engagement and Career Pathways Development is an integral part of the activities of the Worcester Jobs Fund. The Worcester Jobs Fund engaged in discussions with several local employers to better understand their hiring needs and connect them to well-qualified local residents. These discussions have included meetings with local developers and tenants related to potential Tax Increment Financing plan projects. Additionally, the Fund continued to work with local organizations to promote the expansion of apprenticeship programs. Discussions have included Worcester Public Schools, Local Unions, Family Health Center and UMass Memorial Health.

Initiatives for Fiscal Year 2024

The Clinical Medical Assistant Training Program is planning a cycle of training to be offered by Worcester Night Life on September 12, 2023. The training will be offered to 8 City of Worcester residents looking to start or advance in a career in healthcare.

The Phlebotomy Technician Training Program is planning a cycle of training to be offered by Worcester Night Life on September 11, 2023. The training will be offered to 6 City of Worcester residents looking to become a certified phlebotomist.

The Pharmacy Technician Training Program is planning a cycle of training to be offered by Worcester Night Life in January 2024. The training will be offered to 8 City of Worcester residents looking to become a certified pharmacy technician.

Worcester Building Pathways Pre-Apprenticeship Training Program will be conducting another cycle of training on October 2, 2023, to January 29, 2023 for up to 10 local individuals.

The Commercial Driver's License Training Program is planning additional cycles of training to be provided on the training course at the Worcester Regional Transit Authority by the New England Tractor Trailer Training School. Training is anticipated to be offered in the Fall of 2023.

Employer Engagement and Career Pathways Development will be continued through discussions with local employers regarding the needs of the local labor market, including the facilitation of connecting local employers with well-qualified local candidates whenever possible. The Fund will continue to promote the expansion of career pathways, including apprenticeship, with area employers. The Worcester Jobs Fund is also researching the viability of several new programs, including training for entry level life-science technician, hoisting/heavy equipment operator, and information technology.

Participant Highlights



Marie is a graduate of the seventh cycle of the Worcester Building Pathways Pre-Apprenticeship Training Program. Prior to starting training, Marie was working as a Personal Care Assistant with adults with disabilities. She chose Building Pathways because she received an email from unemployment with information about the apprenticeship model, earn while you learn. She saw that carpentry was an option and has always had an interest in becoming a carpenter.

During training she enjoyed visiting different trades and learning about the application process for each apprenticeship program. When asked about her experience she said, “The training helped me understand the construction industry and what I should expect on a job site. I knew what I was getting myself into and the training helped me prepare myself for my future as a carpenter”.

Currently, Marie is working as a first-year apprentice in the Carpenters’ Union. She was accepted into the Carpenters’ Union on August 23, 2023. She is currently making \$20/hr working for Northeast Interior Systems installing equipment in classrooms at schools.



Johan is a graduate of the Worcester Jobs Fund’s Commercial Driver’s License Class A Training Program. Prior to starting his training, he was a recovery specialist at the Community Healthlink Detox program. He chose the CDL A Training because it was an opportunity for a career making a better income.

During training he enjoyed meeting the other students and working with instructors. When asked about his experience he said, “The training has helped me both professionally and financially”.

Once he earned his Commercial Driver’s License Class A, he was offered a position at DiCarlo’s Food Driver as a truck driver. He currently works full time and is receiving benefits. Johan is currently making \$33/hr.

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



CITY OF WORCESTER

cm2024mar08114013

Attachment for Item #11.4 E

March 12, 2024

TO THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

COUNCILORS:

I respectfully request City Council's review, consideration, and adoption of the attached order authorizing the disposition of the City-owned property located at 23 Preston Street, Assessor's Map 06, Block 17D, Lot 00082, as received from Peter Dunn, Chief Development Officer, and forwarded for the consideration of your Honorable Body.

Following the approval of the attached order, the Executive Office of Economic Development will dispose of 274 square feet of land known as Parcel A on the attached subdivision plan through a direct sale to the abutter at 25 Preston Street and issue a Request for Bids to ensure the disposition and future of the remaining 5,008 square feet of land aligns with the goals and objectives of the City Administration to create owner-occupied, affordable housing opportunities.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



The City of
WORCESTER

Executive Office of Economic Development
Peter Dunn, Chief Development Officer
City Hall, 455 Main Street, Worcester, MA 01608
P | 508-799-1400 F | 508-799-1406
development@worcesterma.gov

TO: Eric D. Batista, City Manager

FROM: Peter Dunn, Chief Development Officer

DATE: March 12, 2024

RE: Approval of an Order Regarding the Disposition of Real Property at 23 Preston Street

I respectfully request City Council's review, consideration, and adoption of the attached order authorizing the disposition of the City-owned property located at 23 Preston Street, Assessor's Map 06, Block 17D, Lot 00082 ("Property").

The Property is a 5,282 square foot vacant parcel of land and is located in a Residential General 5.0 (RG-5.0) zoning district. The City of Worcester completed a tax taking of the Property in 2006.

Following the approval of the order, the intention of my office is to dispose of 274 square feet of land known as Parcel A on the attached subdivision plan through a direct sale in the amount of \$500 to the abutter at 25 Preston Street and issue a Request for Bids (RFB) for the remaining 5,008 square feet of land. The RFB will require the selected proposer to develop the Property into owner-occupied, affordable housing. The minimum bid, consistent with the current assessed value of the Property, will be \$73,100.

Sincerely,

Peter Dunn
Chief Development Officer

CITY OF WORCESTER

WHEREAS, the City is the owner of real property located at 23 Preston Street (MBL 06-17D-00082) consisting of 5,282 square feet of vacant land; and

WHEREAS, the surplus property is under the care, custody, management, and control of the city manager and held for disposition purposes; and

WHEREAS, said property has an assessed value of \$73,100.00.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED, that

1. in accordance with the subdivision of 23 Preston Street into two lots as depicted on the attached 23 Preston Street ANR Plan dated October 18, 2023, the city manager be and is hereby authorized to dispose of 274 square feet of land known as Parcel A to Thanh Nusong Du for \$500.00 and the remaining 5,008 square feet of land through a Request for Bids with a minimum bid of \$73,100.00; and
2. the city manager be and is hereby authorized to execute deeds conveying said land on such terms and conditions as the city manager shall determine are in the best interest of the City of Worcester.

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



CITY OF WORCESTER

cm2024mar08011550

Attachment for Item # 11.7 A

March 12, 2024

TO THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

COUNCILORS:

The attached communication relative to the finalized policy related to the period of time for utility companies to guarantee the quality of construction work completed, as received from Jay J. Fink, Commissioner of Public Works and Parks, is forwarded for the information of your Honorable Body.

This new policy is a way to hold utility companies accountable for the construction and repair work they perform on City roads. The updated standards will require utility companies to guarantee their permanent asphalt patches for five years. The patches will also need to be a minimum of 4 feet in length and the entirety of any impacted travel lane in width and no permanent patches may be installed from Nov. 16 to March 31. The residents of Worcester deserve good roads.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



To: Eric D. Batista, City Manager
From: Jay J. Fink, P.E., Commissioner
Date: March 12, 2024
Re: Report on Utility Company Pavement Guarantees

STATUS

The City of Worcester Department of Public Works and Parks (DPWP) is aligning its various standards to require that utility companies working in the City right-of-way guarantee their permanent asphalt patches for five years. This five-year guarantee begins upon notification by a utility to DPWP of completion of its work provided that the work is accepted once inspected by DPWP. Should a private utility fail to provide notification, the guarantee would begin on the date DPWP inspects the work.

Further, DPWP has revised its standards for patches. Permanent patches are now required to be a minimum of 4 feet in length and the entirety of any impacted travel lane in width, patches that are less than 15 feet apart need to be combined, and cuts must be made parallel and perpendicular to the direction of travel not diagonally. Utilities must install permanent patches between April 1st and November 15th. There is a winter moratorium on permanent patches from November 16th through March 31st.

RATIONALE

Private utility companies including National Grid, Eversource, Verizon, and others have the right to construct and repair their infrastructure beneath City streets. Further, Eversource is required to replace leak prone gas pipelines by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The pace of private utility company work for both new construction and repairs has increased significantly in the past several years. This calendar year, Eversource plans to install 17 miles of new pipe in the City. DPWP does not have the staff or resources to comprehensively inspect all the private utility work while it is being done. Inspections often occur only after the work has been completed. While these inspections identify most patches that do not meet standards, multiple seasons of severe winter weather should reveal the remaining improperly compacted trenches that might not have been seen by DPWP inspectors.

Typically, pavement will require some form of rehabilitation by the fifth year after it was installed, and patches are usually installed in pavement that is several years old. Therefore, it would not be practical to require a guarantee period longer than five years as the entire road is likely to need some form of rehabilitation.

The other changes regarding the extent and shape of the cuts have multiple purposes. Combining patches that are less than 15 feet apart reduces the number of edges where there is the greatest likelihood of differential settlement. The requirement for the restoration of the entirety of every impacted travel lane and to avoid diagonal cuts reduces the chance of driver error during times of low visibility. It also incentivizes the utility contractors to minimize the limits of their work.

AFFECTED DOCUMENTS

The City has three documents that need to be aligned.

1. DPWP Standard Specifications
2. DPWP Permit Manual
3. City Ordinances

Section 4.53 of the DPWP Standard Specifications state, “The contractor shall be required to correct any trench settlements and/or faulty pavement patches for a period of five (5) years after the pavement patch is placed...” and will not change. Section XXI D.6 of the Permit Manual has been revised from two years to five years, now stating, “The Permittee shall be required to correct any trench settlements and/or faulty patches for a period of two

(2) years after the permanent patch is placed.” DPWP recommends that City Ordinance Chapter 12 Section 18(b). be changed from, “The person or department so digging or disturbing any portion of a street, way, pavement or sidewalk shall be responsible for any settlement or imperfect condition of the same for twenty-four months after the same has been replaced as aforesaid...” to also reflect a five-year guarantee period.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jay J. Fink', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jay J. Fink, P.E.
Commissioner, Department of Public Works & Parks



Eric D. Batista
City Manager

CITY OF WORCESTER

cm2024mar08084234

Attachment for Item # 11.12 A

March 12, 2024

TO THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

COUNCILORS:

The attached communication relative to the 2023 Annual Report of the Worcester Fire Department, as received from Martin Dyer, Fire Chief, is forwarded for the information of your Honorable Body.

This report illustrates the strategic steps the department is taking to reach a full complement of uniformed officers. With the addition of 18 recruits last year and 30 starting the academy this March, the department will have filled 440 of the 452 positions in its budget. The addition of three new ladder trucks and two new engines in 2023 also lowered the average age of the department's front-line apparatus to six years and helped ensure that most first-alarm structure fires will have at least one aerial platform assigned. Those efforts, along with trainings, drills, and the reinstatement of deputy chiefs as shift commanders were all made to best position the department to protect both the residents of Worcester and its own members.

This is the second annual report provided by the department, with the intent of identifying the goals and objectives of each division and the progress made towards meeting them. It serves as a showcase of the Fire Department's hard work and dedication to the community it serves and its commitment to continuous improvement.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'E. Batista', with a large circular flourish at the end.

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



CITY OF WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Fire Department

Martin W. Dyer
Fire Chief

To: Eric D. Batista, City Manager
From: Martin W. Dyer, Fire Chief
Date: March 12, 2024
Re: Worcester Fire Department 2023 Annual Report

It is with great honor and pride I present the 2023 Annual Report for the Worcester Fire Department. Last year, the department made great strides with regards to staffing: the department reinstated deputy chiefs as shift commanders, welcomed eighteen recruits, and completed Phase II of the staffing plan, ensuring one officer and three firefighters are on each engine.

The graduation of a drill school and the delivery of five new apparatus (three ladder trucks and two engines) better positions the department to serve the growing needs of the City. A commitment to training, with a focus on multi-company drills, further emphasizes the department's dedication to the residents and visitors of Worcester.

I look forward to what 2024 will bring, and am sure the department will continue to exemplify our core values of professionalism, integrity, compassion, and dedication each and every day.

Sincerely,

Martin W. Dyer
Fire Chief



City of Worcester
FIRE
Department



2023
ANNUAL REPORT

Worcester Fire Headquarters
141 Grove St
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CONTENTS

A Message from the Chief.....	1
Mission, Vision, and Values	2
Operations	3
Training.....	5
Special Ops	6
Administration and Support	7
Fire Prevention	9
Maintenance	10
Administrative Office	11
Safety	12
Looking Forward to 2024	13

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF'S OFFICE

Welcome to the City of Worcester Fire Department's 2023 Annual Report

The Worcester Fire Department implemented significant changes in 2023 to promote safer and more effective deployment of department resources. Changes included leadership, increased staffing, operational enhancements, and the delivery of new fire apparatus.

The department reinstated the rank of deputy fire chief, serving as shift commanders with overall administrative and operational responsibility for their group. Permanent promotions were conferred for the Fire Chief and Assistant Fire Chief. Notable progress was made in executing the department's strategic plan, including the implementation of Phase II of the staffing plan. This ensures consistent staffing levels of one officer and three firefighters for all engine companies, providing efficient, effective, and safe emergency operations and a high level of service to the community. The department was able to accomplish this staffing level in part due to members' willingness to work overtime shifts and the graduation of 18 firefighters from the recruit academy. For the second consecutive year, the department wrote and was awarded the AFG Safer Grant, funding 30 new firefighter salaries for three years.

Five new fire apparatus were delivered this fall! Engines 11 and 13 were replaced with 2023 E-One pumpers. Engine 11 serves Greendale and Engine 13 serves Main South and Downtown. Ladders 1, 3, and 7 were all replaced with 2023 Seagrave 95-foot aerial platforms known as Aerialscopes. Ladder 1 serves the Canal District, East Side, and Downtown, Ladder 3 serves Main South and Downtown, and Ladder 7 serves the Park Ave., Main South, and West Side sections of the City. Together, they will ensure most first-alarm structure fires have at least one aerial platform assigned, increasing operational effectiveness and safety. These new fire apparatus lower the average age of the department's front-line apparatus to six years old. This is a remarkable improvement over the last decade that improves protection to the community and firefighter safety.

The department continued its focus on training in 2023. All companies participated in a live burn program to practice operational skills and reinforce the Worcester Fire Department Command System. Deputy and District Chiefs focused on multi-company drills all year long, fully integrating the command system into all trainings. The Training Division has completed candidate investigations for another recruit academy set to commence this spring with 30 recruits.

It cannot go without saying that change is difficult. We are very proud of the members of this department who have endured many challenges over the last several years and are working hard to adapt to the new initiatives, procedures, and leadership. One thing that will never change is our members' commitment to fulfilling their mission and protecting the members of this community with dedication, professionalism, and honor.

Gary Arpin
Assistant Chief

Martin W. Dyer
Fire Chief

Adam Roche
Assistant Chief



MISSION

The Worcester Fire Department is dedicated to professionally serving the citizens and protecting lives and property in our community. We accomplish this mission through fire suppression, emergency response, prevention, and community risk reduction.

VISION

The Worcester Fire Department aspires to be the premier provider of fire and rescue services in the country.

VALUES

Professionalism - Worcester Firefighters shall be competent, accountable, safe, committed, and respectful.

Integrity - Worcester Firefighters shall conduct themselves ethically and morally and have the courage to do the right thing.

Compassion - Worcester Firefighters shall treat everyone with respect, kindness, and empathy.

Dedication - Worcester Firefighters shall serve the Worcester Community with enthusiasm and devotion.

OPERATIONS

Assistant Chief Gary Arpin

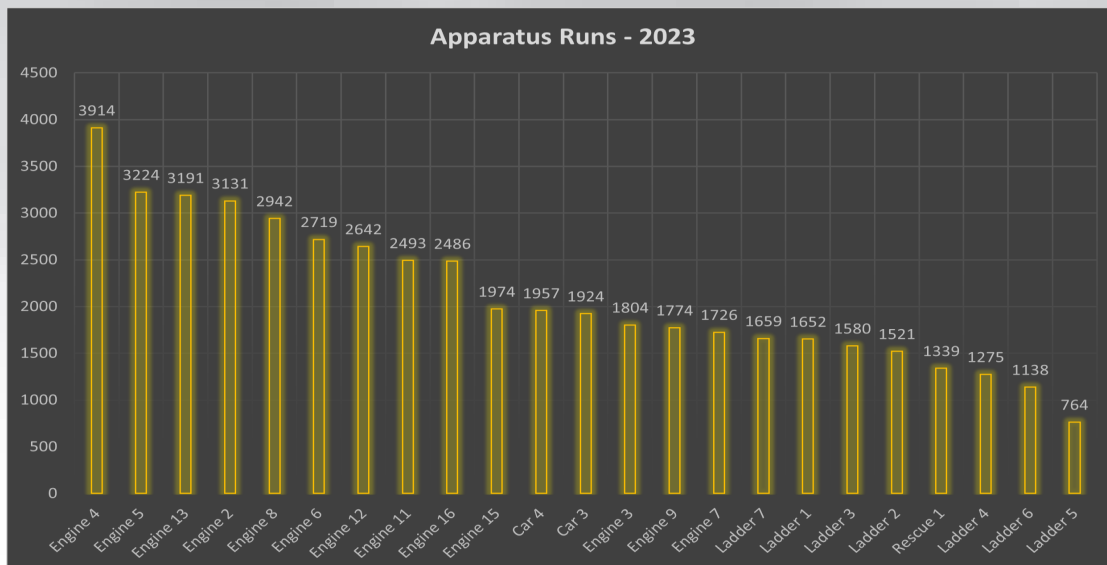
The Operations Division is charged with protecting the City's residents and their property during emergencies by extinguishing fires, responding to emergency calls for service and mitigating hazardous conditions. This Division has four Deputy Chiefs, eight District Chiefs, 21 Captains, 63 Lieutenants, and 282 Firefighters. Working a 24 hour, 8-day rotating schedule, the members of the Operations Division's four groups stand at the ready to respond to calls for emergency service at all times.

The Worcester Fire Department serves the City of Worcester's population of over 206,000 and covers 38.6 square miles with 21 fire apparatus running out of 10 stations strategically placed throughout the city. The Operations Division responded to 33,927 calls in 2023, a 1% increase from 2022.

INCIDENTS BY TYPE



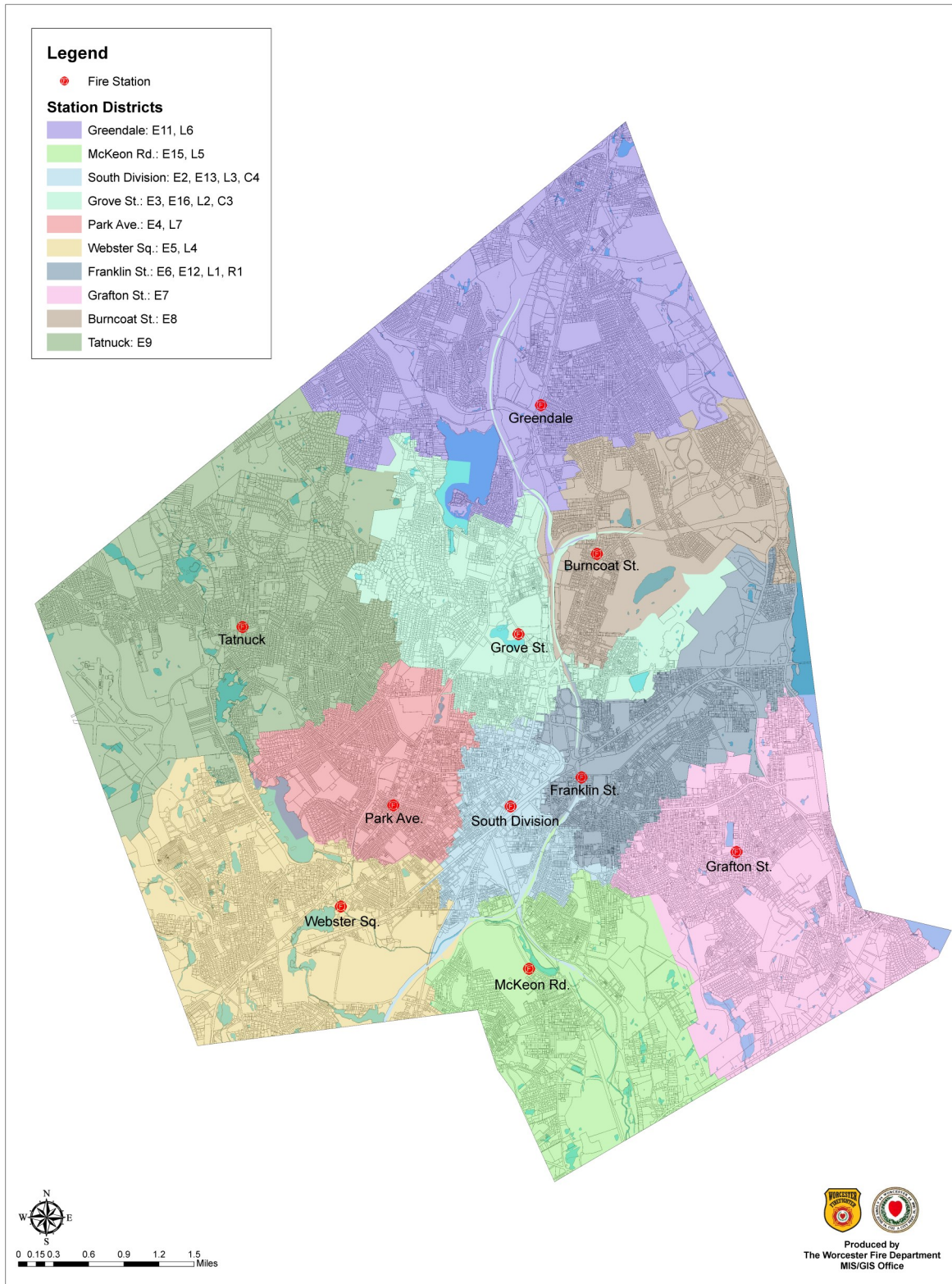
Apparatus Runs - 2023



Total number of Incidents in 2023 for each Apparatus

OPERATIONS

FIRE STATIONS & RESPONSE AREAS



TRAINING

District Chief Terrence Baudin

The Training Division provides educational resources and hands-on training for members of the department. The Division is staffed by one District Chief, two Captains, and two Lieutenants.

Training by the Numbers

- Performed 67 Recruit Candidate Investigations
- Conducted one 13-week Fire Academy, graduating 18 recruits
- Conducted 72 live burn evolutions

Major Accomplishments

- Weekly IDLH (Immediately Dangerous to Life or Health) Training for Operations Personnel to strengthen skill proficiency, including Mayday, RIT (Rapid Intervention Team), and fire suppression activities; trainings were tailored to the needs of each group
- Partnered with Worcester EMS to deliver a First Responder Refresher to 346 members
- Partnered with Eversource to deliver Hazardous Materials Refresher to 351 members
- Conducted a 22 member, three-day officer school and a three-day Blue Card Training



SPECIAL OPERATIONS

District Chief Thomas Coyle

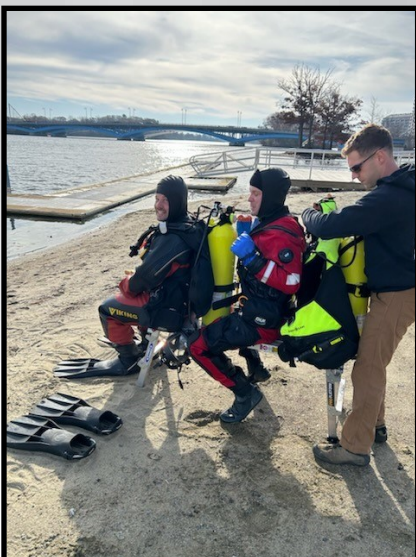
The Special Operations Division (SpOps) manages specialized teams and equipment. SpOps include the following incident types: hazardous materials, water rescue, confined space, structural collapse, trench, high angle rope and heavy truck and equipment rescue. These incidents require specialized equipment and training. Members of Rescue 1, Engine 5, Ladder 4, and select members throughout the department are assigned to special operations teams and maintain a regional special operations response vehicle. These teams respond outside of the City to support regional technical rescue teams. The Special Operations Division is staffed by one District Chief.



Heavy Rescue Training at Drenzo's Towing

Dive Team Highlights

SpOps conducted 10 training dives at different bodies of water in the City and recovered two victims in 2023.



*Backup divers prepping
for an exercise*

Meters

WFD responded to 321 reported natural gas problems, 458 carbon monoxide (CO) alarm activations, and at least 6 HazMat incidents. The WFD currently has an assortment of meters assigned to all ladder companies and Rescue 1 to identify and mitigate the materials present. All ladders have Sensit natural gas meters and MSA 5-gas meters which identify combustible gases, CO, hydrogen sulfide (sewer gas), and monitor oxygen levels. Each ladder also has the capability to identify cyanide, chlorine, or ammonia based on the hazards in their response area. The Rescue company has two Sensit meters and five 5-gas meters which include the same features as the ladders, with some expanded capabilities. All engines are equipped with CO meters placed on their medical bags to identify CO at the location of any medical call.

The varying meters the department has provide the capability to find a small gas leak ranging in parts per million to a major leak measured in percent to lower explosive limit (LEL). The department maintains the ability to identify, assess severity, and in most cases mitigate most commonly found chemical hazards such as CO and fossil fuel leaks.

ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT

Assistant Chief Adam Roche

The Administration and Support Division is responsible for the Fire Prevention Division, Maintenance Division, and the Administrative Office. The Assistant Chief of Administration and Support leads all budget, personnel, and grant responsibilities.



All five new apparatus acquired in 2023 at their blessing on November 14, 2023.

Major Accomplishments

- During the 2023 Calendar Year, the Department applied for and received three grants:
 - FEMA SAFER Grant: \$9,000,000 covering recruit salaries for three years
 - Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety's SAFE (Student Awareness of Fire Education)/Senior SAFE Grant: \$13,358 for school-based and Senior Fire Education and Prevention programs
 - Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety's Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant: \$49,000 allowing the department to purchase necessary equipment
- Delivery of five new fire apparatus: two engines and three aerial platforms
- Implemented Phase II of the Department's Staffing Plan: all engines are staffed with four crew members (one officer, three firefighters)

ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT

2023 Initiatives

There were several major programs that administrative staff have been working on in 2023 to help make the Worcester Fire Department the premier provider of fire services in the country.

- New computers: With the assistance of the Department of Innovation and Technology, every computer in every station has been upgraded.
- SharePoint: Over the summer, administrative staff worked with the Department of Innovation and Technology to prepare the department's Shared Drive for migration to the cloud-based SharePoint platform. Since cutover, the site has been the one-stop shop for department news, forms, and useful information. Constant improvements and updates are being made to the WFD Homepage; thank you to department members for your suggestions on how to improve site functionality.
- CAD/RMS: The CAD/RMS (Computer-Aided Dispatch/Records Management System) project configuration and implementation was postponed until a later date. However, that didn't mean the work stopped! Another opportunity revealed itself in a possible partnership with other Regional Emergency Communication Centers to acquire a state-of-the-art CAD system with a popular and best-in-class Fire RMS. Discussions are ongoing; please stay tuned!
- Workday: The rollout of Phase I of Workday was a monumental shift in how the department (and the City) interacts with vendors, pays bills, and tracks data. The cloud-based system moves us away from our paper processes, streamlining workflows and bringing transparency to processes with the ability to see who has the next responsibility in the chain.

FIRE PREVENTION

District Chief Scott Armstrong

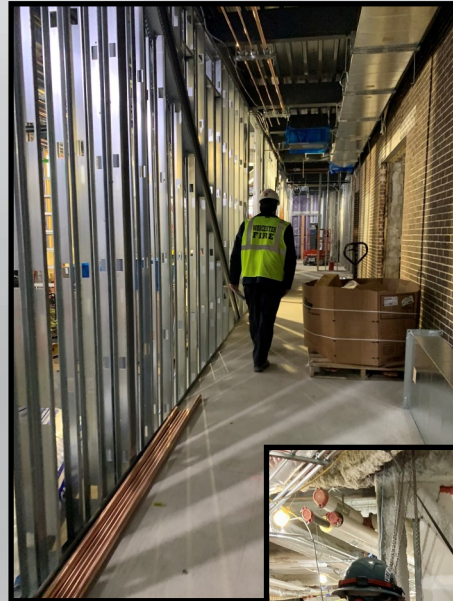
The Fire Prevention Division has four main responsibilities: engineering, education, enforcement and fire investigation. The Division is run by one District Chief, one Captain, six Lieutenants, 11 Firefighters, one Fire Protection Engineer, one Radio Systems Technician and 1 Principal Clerk.

Fire Prevention by the Numbers

- Issued 5,252 Permits
- Conducted 4,414 Inspections
- Resolved 1,115 Complaints
- Investigated 138 Fires
- Engaged with over 4,000 students
- Visited 39 Senior/Assisted Living Homes
- Conducted 33 Senior Home Smoke/CO visits

Major Accomplishments

- The Public Education Unit updated all members of the department about the Hub-Cor program. As a result, many members of our community at imminent risk have been connected to services.
- The Public Education Unit implemented a Narcan awareness program with high school students. This was very well received and the feedback from students and teachers was remarkable. Narcan is a life-saving medication used to reverse an opioid overdose, including heroin, fentanyl, and prescription opioid medications.
- The Sound-Off curriculum reached out to 80% of the City's second graders, totaling almost 1,750 students.
- The Smart Burner Program continues to have zero recorded stove fires in 10 years of installations.
- Members of the Fire Investigation Unit utilized several training opportunities. These trainings were provided by the International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI), Massachusetts Firefighting Academy (MFA), National Fire Academy (NFA), and Fire Prevention Association of Massachusetts (FPAM). Courses included a 40-hour Electrical Systems course and a 40-hour Forensic Interviewing and Evidence course, with that member receiving the IAAI—Evidence Collection Technician (ECT) credential following testing at completion of the course.



MAINTENANCE

Chief Mechanic Anthony Gerardi

The Worcester Fire Department's Maintenance Division is responsible for all WFD apparatus and equipment acquisition, maintenance and repair, as well as the maintenance of all 11 WFD facilities. The Maintenance Division is run by one Chief Mechanic, one Working Foreman, one Senior Apparatus Repairman, and one Plant Engineer.



Maintenance Highlights

- Anthony Gerardi promoted to Chief Mechanic with the retirement of long-time Chief Mechanic Jack Santimaw
- Jake Gallagher promoted to Working Foreman
- Preventive maintenance performed on all vehicles and emergency generators
- Maintains 60 pieces of apparatus across front-line, spare, reserve, and staff vehicles

Testing

In October, NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) Ladder Testing and certification was conducted by NETS (National Engineering and Testing Services) on 9 aerial ladders and 110 ground ladders.

Emergency Service

One of the three fire apparatus mechanics is always on call to respond when an apparatus breaks down. Mechanics responded to all four (4) third alarm fires to ensure all emergency equipment functioned properly during and after the incident.



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

Supervisor of Administration Joshua Martunas

The administrative office provides administrative support to the department. This division is staffed by four civilians: one Supervisor of Administration, one Accountant, one Supervisor of Payroll, and one Data Analyst.

Project Management

The department has several long-term projects in process including: the ever-evolving CAD/RMS, the South Division Fire Station project, and accreditation. The Supervisor of Administration manages these projects throughout their life spans as well as providing support to Chief officers and other administrative office employees.

Accounts Payable

The operation of the fire department requires the purchase of a large amount of consumable products, utilities, and fuel. The department processed over 1,500 invoices from over 200 purchase orders in 2023.

Payroll

With over 400 members, multiple bargaining units, and a non-traditional work schedule, payroll is a monumental task. The department processes payroll for each employee every week, including transfers, promotions, out-of-grade documentation, and leaves of absence.

Data Analysis and IT Support

Over the last decade, the technical needs of the department have grown tremendously. Tech support is available to all members, and a large inventory of technology devices are managed by the Data analyst. In addition, large amounts of data are compiled, analyzed and distributed. The division manages over 150 devices across desktops, laptops, iPads, and phones and maintains the current legacy database containing over 25 years of data.

SAFETY

District Chief Evan Jones

The Safety Division is dedicated to the health and safety of all members on and off the incident scene. Incident Safety Officers (ISO) are assigned to each group and respond to hazardous incidents with the singular focus of firefighter safety. The division is also responsible for wellness programs and the testing and maintenance of all the department's self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA). This division is staffed by one District Chief, four Captains, and one Firefighter.

Safety by the Numbers

- Repaired 137 SCBA
- SRU Responded to all 3rd Alarm Fires
- Replaced 240 regulator valves as mandated by MSA due to a major recall
- Responded to 250 odor of natural gas incidents
- Responded to 195 Motor Vehicle Accidents
- Responded to 150 rescue and entrapment incidents
- Maintained two sets of turnout gear, allowing members to wash a set while having another ready for response



Major Accomplishments

- Provided Incident Safety Assistance by responding to all First Alarm Emergencies
- Three new Safety Captains received NFPA 1851 Certification in personal protective equipment inspection cleaning and repair
- Collaborated with Training Division to develop a Safety checklist for live burn training
- Safety Coverage was provided for all Technical Rescue, Dive Rescue, and Live Burn training

LOOKING FORWARD TO 2024

In 2024, the Worcester Fire Department is looking forward to...

- A new 30 Member Recruit Academy is scheduled to begin in March 2024: The Department is continuing to increase staffing to the budgeted complement of 452 uniformed members. This class will bring us to approximately 440.
- South Division Fire Station progress: With the Department of Public Facilities leading the project, designers for the new station have been selected (Perkins & Will). The Department had a kickoff meeting in late 2023, and is working on programming (what will go in the building and where). A small working group of members are at the table with the design team on programming decisions.
- Configuration of new CAD/RMS (dispatch and records management system): A replacement for PAMET/FireServer is desperately needed. A dedicated Fire RMS catered to the department's needs is soon to be procured: First Due, a configurable product with a dedicated, professional team.
- HVAC installation: A brand new HVAC system is being installed in six fire stations and the Administrative Office. This will improve air quality, member comfort, and energy efficiency.
- Progress towards departmental accreditation: Current in Registered agency status with CPSE (Center for Public Safety Excellence), the department is attending the upcoming Excellence Conference to gather more information and seek guidance on completing the rigorous Self-Assessment Manual (including writing detailed responses regarding the department's core competencies across 257 metrics, 46 criteria, and 11 categories).



Eric D. Batista
City Manager



Attachment for Item # 11.15 A

March 12, 2024

TO THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

COUNCILORS:

The enclosed proposed amendment to the itinerant musician ordinance, Chapter 12, § 26(h), as received from Michael E. Traynor, City Solicitor, is forwarded for the consideration of your Honorable Body.

In recent weeks, an updated permit application was uploaded to the City's website restricting busking in public parks to three parks and requiring itinerant musicians, also known as buskers, to obtain a \$50 permit to perform that would be good for two weeks.

The application caught people's attention, and the incorrect impression that all buskers needed a \$50 permit every two weeks to busk anywhere in the City spread. The updated permit was subsequently put on hold and my office considered what the regulations around busking should be.

Coming from a family of musicians and being a drummer myself, I know firsthand the value the arts bring to a community. I understand buskers contribute to the vibrancy and culture of the city. We should be doing everything we can – within reason – to embrace and uplift the arts in our community.

As such, I am proposing an amendment to the itinerant musician ordinance to provide buskers greater, less regulated access to the city's parks, playgrounds, and the Worcester Common, while also providing reasonable protection to other users of those spaces during their permitted activities.

Office of City Manager Eric D. Batista

City Hall, 455 Main Street, Worcester, MA 01608

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Eric D. Batista
City Manager



Specifically, as proposed, buskers will no longer need to obtain the written permission of the Parks & Recreation Commission to busk in a public park, playground, or the Worcester Common. They will, however, need to perform their activity at a distance of over one hundred (100) feet from another entity's permitted activity in those spaces.

The proposed ordinance also deletes the requirement that a street performer's sign can be no larger than twelve inches by eighteen inches.

Accompanying the proposed ordinance, the solicitor also included the red line version of the current ordinance showing the changes.

Community members shouldn't have to jump through hoops to do something to *contribute to the community*. It is my hope that amending this ordinance will remove some of those hoops.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric D. Batista
City Manager

Office of City Manager Eric D. Batista

City Hall, 455 Main Street, Worcester, MA 01608

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To: Eric D. Batista, City Manager
From: Michael E. Traynor, City Solicitor
Date: March 12, 2024
Re: Itinerant Musician Ordinance

Per your request, I enclose a proposed ordinance to amend Chapter 12, § 26(h) regulating itinerant musicians.

The proposed ordinance removes the requirement that an itinerant musician must receive the written approval of the Parks & Recreation Commission to busk in a public park, playground, or the Worcester Common. In its place is a restriction that such activity may not take place within one hundred feet of a permitted activity in any public park, playground, or the Worcester Common.

The amended ordinance also deletes the provision that a street performer could not have a sign exceeding twelve inches by eighteen inches.

Also enclosed is a redline copy of the changes described above.

Sincerely,

Michael E. Traynor
City Solicitor

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 12, SECTION 26(h) OF THE REVISED
ORDINANCES OF 2008 RELATIVE TO ITINERANT MUSICIANS**

Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Worcester as follows:

Section 1. Chapter 12 of the Revised Ordinances of 2008 be and is hereby amended by deleting section 26(h) in its entirety and inserting a new section 26(h) as follows:

(h) No person shall act or perform as an itinerant musician on any public street or private way shown on the official map of the city, or in any public park, playground, or the Worcester Common, where such person conducts such activity:

(1) within one hundred feet of any:

(A) elementary or secondary school;

(B) library;

(C) church while in session;

(D) hospital or nursing home;

(E) a permitted activity in any public park, playground or the Worcester Common; or

(F) other street performer or group of street performers; or,

(2) in such a manner as to block roadways, sidewalks, crosswalks, driveways, stairways, curb cuts, handicapped access ramps nor block access to buildings, parks, public conveyances, businesses, crosswalks, traffic control poles containing pedestrian crosswalk button(s), or within twenty feet of a fire hydrant or within five feet of any fire alarm or other emergency communication devise, including public telephones, either by the performer's location, or by the location of any crowd that the performer may draw (for purposes of this ordinance "block" shall mean to reduce the width of an area for pedestrian passage or access to less than thirty-six inches or, in the case of motor vehicles, to an area less than twelve feet); or,

(3) on any portion of a public street which has been closed to usual vehicular or pedestrian traffic for any reason, except that where an authorized street fair or public festival is being conducted, such activities may be conducted only with the permission of the sponsor of such fair or festival; or,

(4) at any time outside of the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.; or,

(5) so as to generate noise exceeding a median sound level of eighty decibels measured at a distance of fifty feet from the performer or group of performers.

Nothing in this subsection (h) shall prevent any street performer from requesting contributions of money or property at a performance.

(h) No person shall act or perform as an itinerant musician on any public street or private way shown on the official map of the city, or in any public park, playground, or the Worcester Common, where such person conducts such activity:

(1) within one hundred feet of any:

(A) elementary or secondary school;

(B) library;

(C) church while in session;

(D) hospital or nursing home; ~~or,~~

(E) a permitted activity in a public park, playground or the Worcester Common; or

~~(F)~~ other street performer or group of street performers; or,

(2) in such a manner as to block roadways, sidewalks, crosswalks, driveways, stairways, curb cuts, handicapped access ramps nor block access to buildings, parks, public conveyances, businesses, crosswalks, traffic control poles containing pedestrian crosswalk button(s), or within twenty feet of a fire hydrant or within five feet of any fire alarm or other emergency communication device, including public telephones, either by the performer's location, or by the location of any crowd that the performer may draw (for purposes of this ordinance "block" shall mean to reduce the width of an area for pedestrian passage or access to less than thirty-six inches or, in the case of motor vehicles, to an area less than twelve feet); or,

(3) on any portion of a public street which has been closed to usual vehicular or pedestrian traffic for any reason, except that where an authorized street fair or public festival is being conducted, such activities may be conducted only with the permission of the sponsor of such fair or festival; or,

(4) at any time outside of the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.; or,

(5) so as to generate noise exceeding a median sound level of eighty decibels measured at a distance of fifty feet from the performer or group of performers; or,

~~(6) where such activity is conducted within any public park, playground, or the Worcester Common, without the written permission of the Parks & Recreation Commission.~~

Nothing in this subsection (h) shall prevent any street performer from requesting contributions of money or property at a performance, ~~provided that no sign requesting contributions shall exceed twelve inches by eighteen inches.~~

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



Attachment for Item # 11.24 A

March 12, 2024

TO THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL:

I am pleased to report on the work being done at the Worcester Public Library to meet the needs of the city's population, including its unhoused. In the over century and a half that the library has existed, it has served as a meeting place for residents to check out books, learn new skills, and pursue their interests. The library also works to meet the needs of the city's residents, needs which have evolved over the last several years. My office has worked closely with the library to make changes to the services it provides to meet those needs. Those changes have included hiring a Social Services Specialist who started this year; establishing a Community Resources Department with an Information Supervisor and Community Liaison, a New Americans Librarian, and a Security Compliance Officer; and providing trainings to staff on de-escalation techniques and handling mental health and trauma, among other things. In addition, we have placed an increased importance on partnerships needed to make sure the library is appropriately managing its response to the changes within our community.

As stated in the attached memo, the restructuring of the library was meant to create a strong foundation of support for the changes in our vibrant community. For several months, my administration, alongside the leadership of Executive Director Jason Homer, and all the staff of the Worcester Public Library and its Board of Directors, has built a thoughtful and equitable response to the increased needs of our library visitors. In one year alone, the Worcester Public Library has seen an almost 30% increase in usage and the needs are growing. The changes outlined in the memo reflect the work being accomplished and I look forward to the library continuing to share how they positively impact our community.

Respectfully submitted,



Eric D. Batista
City Manager

Office of City Manager Eric D. Batista

City Hall, 455 Main Street, Worcester, MA 01608

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www.worcesterma.gov



TO: Eric D. Batista, City Manager

FROM: Jason Homer, Executive Director, Worcester Public Library

DATE: March 12, 2024

RE: Report Concerning Services to Vulnerable Populations at the Library

The Library in Context to City Challenges: The Worcester Public Library has been an important respite for many members of our community since its establishment 165 years ago. The library has served not only as a place for residents to check out books, but also as a place for them to learn new skills, pursue their interests, and engage with other members of their community. As the community has changed, the library has worked to adapt to meet the needs of its members, particularly its most vulnerable. This has meant offering classes to help patrons prepare for American Citizenship, providing help to patrons looking for employment, and connecting patrons to social services.

The dynamics of life in a large public library have also required librarians to perform security, work toward harm reduction, create safe spaces, and perform social work services and crisis management. As Executive Director, I am deeply proud of the WPL staff for continuing to create the world we want to live in, but I do acknowledge the complexities their jobs as librarians have taken on.

While we were intimately aware of the issues around housing insecurity and substance use within our community prior to the start of pandemic, we have seen a marked increase over the past few years regarding issues of substance use and those in mental health crisis. In 2023, we saw a 44% increase in incidents at the library from the previous year. Of those totals, 22% involved substance use, 18% threats of violence, and 7% incidents of assault (usually these issues are interpersonal between known groups of individuals). It is important to contextualize this all within the concept that the public library is one of the few spaces people can enter freely. While the number of incidents is increasing, it represents a small portion of the people who visit the library every day. On an average day, the WPL sees around 1,400 visitors. Individuals in crisis often represent fewer than 1% of the daily visitors, but often take a disproportionate number of resources to handle. For every incident, there are normally multiple staff impacted. In cases of overdoses or assault, there is also significant trauma endured by the staff without an easy resolution, and all the while other library visitors still have the same level of expectation of service from the staff. The demands on your librarians have changed greatly and the quantity of incidents rise as we continue to welcome more people into our doors.

To meet this demand, over the past few years, the Worcester Public Library (WPL) has partnered with the City Manager's Office and numerous external organizations to ensure we provide the best quality access to education and resources outside of traditional education avenues. The WPL strives to provide strong learning and educational outcomes for all residents of our community, from birth until the end of life. As a large, people-focused organization, the WPL has to balance the varied needs of the community





in a time when needs are so abundant. This includes the needs of members of our community who may feel unsafe visiting their public library because of the incidents that I previously mentioned. Below outlines our efforts to realign the work of the library while balancing the needs of some of the vulnerable populations we serve.

I. Preparing the Library for Changes Ahead

In FY2024, the WPL made a significant stride towards addressing the issues facing our community with a reorganization, which was accomplished within the existing budget. This reorganization was designed to clear up workflows and to strategically group staff with similar goals. The shining star of that reorganization has been the Community Resources Department. This department includes three key positions: the Information Supervisor and Community Liaison, who addresses information inequality among under-represented populations; the New Americans Librarian, who works to provide educational assistance to the new members of our community; and our Security Compliance Officer (SCO), trained in de-escalation and safety in public spaces. Working together, this team has been able to leverage the resources within our community with their expertise in information to create a robust program that, in fewer than nine months, has made a considerable and lasting impact on the community. A recent addition to this dynamic team has been the Social Services Specialist. The Social Services Specialist will play a crucial role in bridging the needs of our vulnerable community members with the available resources and outside organizations that can provide assistance.

II. Additional Staffing Support

Our Social Services Specialist, who started on January 16, 2024, will be paid through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding, which will last through the end of 2025. Throughout the process of hiring for this position, we posted the vacancy three times on the City of Worcester employment page, and through numerous other outlets with the assistance of professional social-worker organizations and local higher education institutions. The first two postings asked for a Masters-level, licensed social worker, but those two searches did not produce any viable candidates with experience pertinent to homelessness. The third time we posted the job listing, we dropped the Master's degree and licensure requirement in lieu of a Bachelor's degree in human service and experience working with adults. This adjustment allowed the library to attract a qualified candidate with valuable experience in working with individuals facing complex social issues. The Social Service Specialist reports to the Community Resources Manager, who in turn reports to the Director for Administration and Operations and ultimately, the Executive Director.

In October 2023, with approval from the City Manager, the Library added a part-time SCO using pool payroll, a cost incurred by the City. Much like our Social Services Specialist, that role took more than one vacancy posting to yield a viable candidate. During this process, the need continued to expand, and in January 2024, WPL Administration met with the City Manager to seek approval to create a permanent full-time SCO, the second for the library. Originally, this request was made as part of the FY25 budget, but through working with the City Manager's Office, we were able to work to come up with a solution immediately. The addition of another full-time SCO is not only crucial for security but will also enable graduate librarians to concentrate on building our information resources for the community and focus on





the principles of librarianship. We are deeply grateful for the responsive partnership and look forward to completing all steps of the process through the City Council.

III. Highlights from the Work Accomplished by Staff

Highlights of the Community Resources Department's accomplishments in its first nine months of existence include, but are not limited to:

- Hosted a Community Resources Fair on 11/14/23. This fair will now be a regular event with 120 attendees talking to 23 agencies during this initial event. Staff are confident that additional fairs will attract even more individuals in need, and resources to support them.
- Hosted spaces for outside agencies weekly allowing those agencies to embed themselves within the individuals' seeking needs, which included a total of 381 hours. Agencies include: New Start Brain Injury Community Center, Open Sky Community Services, Tri-Valley Services, SMOC, LUK, Inc., Sheriff's Office, Health and Human Services, and many more organizations, rooted in providing resources to our most vulnerable.
- A free immigration clinic, supported by the work of pro-bono lawyers and agencies with a specialty in addressing the barriers to asylum and citizenship.
- Our New Americans Librarian and state grant-funded ESOL Navigator held 2,641 consultations with people seeking support in language learning in nine months.
- UMass Mobile Medical Clinic's Road to Care Van treated 312 patients at the library stop since our partnership began.
- We have documented 34 cases where people came into the library with a desire to find housing and staff were able to partner with relevant support services to secure housing.

IV. Staff Development & Training

As we continue to make the library a better place, with staff that are informed about the tough realities of our community, we have worked to develop a holistic response. The WPL regularly hosts external organizations for staff trainings regarding vulnerable populations. Topics in the last three years include: de-escalation with LUK, Inc., disability etiquette training with the Accessibility Division, and Mental Health and Trauma training with the Shine Initiative, to name a few. In addition, all WPL staff are enrolled in the Niche Academy trainings centered around mental health issues, substance use, and the various issues faced by public librarians in 2024. These are assigned and time is given off-desk, during in-work hours, to accomplish these trainings. In addition to this mandatory staff development, they are encouraged to go to workshops, conferences, and webinars to form a better understanding of how to address these problems. Niche Academy also has many additional trainings outside of the required trainings. Staff have attended programs centered around trauma-informed librarianship, de-escalation, and how to be an active bystander.

V. A Multi-Faceted Response to the Issue at Hand

The Worcester Public Library is proud of balancing all these additions, within an organization that has experienced sustainable growth, to address the information needs of the entire community. FY2024 marked a pivotal moment with a budget-conscious reorganization, resulting in the creation of the





impactful Community Resources Department. Outside of the work of the Community Resources Department, we have rebounded and continually outperform the work of the library pre-pandemic. Year after year, we have seen a significant increase in those visiting the library, participating in our programs, and checking out library materials. In 2023, we saw 29.3% more visitors to the library than the previous year. In addition, 17% more items were checked out and eBook usage increased by 22%. Worcester's investment in its public library enables its residents to enrich their lives and build themselves better opportunities for tomorrow. We will continue to introduce new innovative solutions to issues within our City, strive to drive smart change that is rooted in equity and belonging, and empower our staff to help solve problems as we work together to make the City of Worcester the best run City, served by the best people-first library, in the country.





City Manager

CITY OF WORCESTER

cm2024mar08084418

Attachment for Item # 11.30 A

March 12, 2024

TO THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

COUNCILORS:

The attached communication relative to the financial update for the period ending January 31, 2024, as received from Timothy J. McGourthy, Chief Financial Officer, is forwarded for the information of your Honorable Body.

This report represents the first seven months of financial activity for FY24. Recognizing we are over halfway through the fiscal year, property tax collections, and local receipts are stable, with no cause for concern at this time. Certain local receipts, such as investment income, are proving strong this year and exceeding expectations. Based on the Commonwealth's final FY24 Budget, there was a slight decrease of approximately \$0.25M in budgeted State Aid revenues, primarily in the area of school aid. Revenues received as of January 31, 2024 are at 54% of the FY24 City budget.

As with revenues, we do not foresee any issues with expenditures at this time. Expenditures as of January 31, 2024 are at 63% of the FY24 City budget, which is higher than this same time last fiscal year, primarily due to the timing of financial transactions. We expect fixed costs to decrease throughout the remainder of the fiscal year as inter-departmental transactions are processed.

We do not see any issues in our enterprise funds. Green Hill Golf Course revenues are slightly lower than this same time last fiscal year, as are expenditures, while Water and Sewer enterprises appear generally stable.

We remain vigilant in monitoring the finances of the City and continue to request that departments be thoughtful with their budgets as we navigate the financial needs of the City throughout the fiscal year. I will provide City Council with monthly updates so that we can identify solutions to financial issues as they arise.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a series of loops and a final horizontal stroke.

City Manager



TO: Eric D. Batista, City Manager
FROM: Timothy J. McGourthy, Chief Financial Officer
DATE: March 12, 2024
RE: January 2024 Financial Update

Enclosed for your review and transmission to City Council is a financial update covering Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24) as of January 31, 2024. As done in the past, this format is designed to closely match the City's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) for ease of comparison. It contains a *Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and Change in Fund Balance*, a *Schedule of Revenues*, and a *Schedule of Expenses*. For comparative purposes, the respective periods of the prior fiscal year are also provided.

The attached financial reports represent revenues and expenditures for first seven months of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, or 58% of the total fiscal year. While there are items to note, certain revenues and expenses are realized at different points in the fiscal year.

Property Tax Collections: Property tax collections are stable and have a collection rate of 57% of the FY24 budget as of January 31, 2024. It is important to note that property tax collections are billed quarterly, and are generally weighted toward the second half of the fiscal year after actual real estate and personal property tax bills are issued.

Intergovernmental (State Aid): When developing the FY24 operating budget, the Governor's Budget Proposal amounts were used to estimate State Aid receipts. Since the time the City's budget was developed, State Aid figures have increased based on the House, Senate, and Conference Committee proposals. The Commonwealth's final FY24 Budget amounts are approximately \$0.3M lower than budgeted, primarily in the school aid category. These final adjustments to the FY24 Budget are reflected in the attached financial reports.

Local Receipts: The FY24 budget assumed conservative estimates in local receipts. As of January 31, 2024, local receipts are \$33.2M or 63% of the budgeted amounts, which is approximately \$5.1M less than the same time last fiscal year. This increase is primarily due to interest income receipts, which are exceptionally strong this fiscal year. Local receipt categories will be monitored throughout the fiscal year so that areas of concern can be identified in a timely manner.

Expenses: As of January 31, 2024, expenditures are at 63% of the budgeted amounts. Expenditures are trending higher than revenues at this point in the fiscal year. Compared to this same time last year, expenditures are trending higher, but this is primarily due to timing and there is no cause for concern at this time. Fixed costs are at a higher expenditure percentage, which is to be expected at this time of the fiscal year. Certain fixed costs, such as contributory pensions, are fully expended at the beginning of the fiscal year and will be offset with future departmental credits. As always, departmental expenditures are being closely monitored to ensure that they are necessary and appropriate.

Administration & Finance will continue to keep you apprised of financial updates on a monthly basis.

Sincerely,



Timothy J. McGourthy
Chief Financial Officer

GENERAL FUND
Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and
Change in Fund Balance
Budgetary Basis

	FY 24	FY 24	FY 23	FY 23
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
		(as of 1/31/24)		(as of 1/31/23)
REVENUES				
Property Taxes	377,780,173	216,058,331	354,256,671	210,624,271
Intergovernmental (State Aid)				
Education	367,359,158	183,741,273	322,389,368	188,083,700
Municipal	51,338,904	25,076,638	49,979,352	28,738,343
Municipal-Other	-	-	-	-
Total-State Aid	418,698,062	208,817,911	372,368,720	216,822,043
Local Receipts	52,827,468	33,226,590	52,993,193	28,101,979
Total Revenue	849,305,703	458,102,832	779,618,584	455,548,293
EXPENDITURES				
General Government	33,462,412	17,374,463	27,569,219	15,864,527
Public Safety	109,157,585	61,610,429	108,800,104	63,088,630
Health and Human Services	5,558,794	2,506,713	5,796,443	2,818,657
Education	461,862,571	223,289,053	417,802,152	214,118,064
Intergovernmental Ed. Assessments	44,036,028	21,971,580	30,861,495	22,916,747
Public Works	27,363,878	11,190,604	26,061,876	7,156,102
Culture and Recreation	14,642,235	7,288,597	13,605,939	7,818,503
Debt-Capital	42,333,297	66,433,246	40,882,510	20,270,942
POB	10,369,848	16,640,938	10,575,565	11,757,138
Fringe Benefits	72,305,794	91,294,059	68,753,055	57,637,342
Contingency	4,186,285	-	4,910,000	-
Intergovernmental Muni. Assessments	4,705,146	2,384,422	4,463,987	2,602,103
Total Expenditures and Assessments	829,983,873	521,984,103	760,082,345	426,048,756
Excess (Deficit) of revenues over expenditures	19,321,830	(63,881,271)	19,536,239	29,499,537
Other Financing Sources/Transfers In (1)	19,113,403	11,149,485	699,930	408,293
Other Financing Sources/Transfers Out (1)	38,435,233	22,420,553	17,969,720	10,482,337
Premiums on Loan				
Total other financing sources (use)	(19,321,830)	(11,271,068)	(17,269,790)	(10,074,044)
Excess of revenues over expenditures	0	(75,152,338)	2,266,449	19,425,493

(1) Budgeted Other Finance Sources (Transfers in) and Uses (Transfers Out) prorated over 12 months

Subsequent Transfers In and Transfers Out recognized upon City Council approval

GENERAL FUND
Schedule of Revenues

	FY 24 Budget	FY 24 Actual (as of 1/31/24)	FY 23 Budget	FY 23 Actual (as of 1/31/23)
Property Taxes				
Personal Property	37,506,192	12,727,843	35,843,613	16,801,902
Real Estate	340,273,981	202,848,238	318,413,058	193,081,256
Tax Title		482,249		741,113
Property Taxes	377,780,173	216,058,331	354,256,671	210,624,271
Motor Vehicle Excise	15,750,000	2,957,604	15,750,000	2,876,036
Penalties & Interest on Taxes	2,102,500	1,440,846	2,102,500	1,441,922
Other Taxes and in lieu payment				
In Lieu of Taxes		2,080	80,000	891
Hotel/Motel Meals Tax	6,345,290	3,585,163	5,600,000	3,463,623
Special Assessments	300,000	146,450	400,000	152,306
Other Taxes and in lieu payment	6,645,290	3,733,693	6,080,000	3,616,820
Licenses & Permits				
Liquor Licenses	766,800	758,790	766,800	780,912
Licenses & Permits	6,644,650	4,776,891	6,144,650	4,910,149
Licenses and Permits	7,411,450	5,535,681	6,911,450	5,691,061
Intergovernmental				
Federal Reimbursement	6,050,000	4,408,634	4,850,000	2,893,006
Loss of Taxes State Land	308,772	154,224	248,071	142,624
Abatements	442,129	(376,270)	464,083	61,782
Urban Renewal				
Veteran's Benefits	907,853	455,612	1,127,518	499,170
Unrestricted General Government Aid	49,680,150	24,843,072	48,139,680	28,034,767
	51,338,904	25,076,638	49,979,352	28,738,343
Transportation of Pupils				
Public School Aid (Chapter 70)	357,541,905	178,770,948	316,240,166	184,473,429
Public School Aid (Charter)	9,817,253	4,970,325	6,149,202	3,610,271
	367,359,158	183,741,273	322,389,368	188,083,700
Intergovernmental	424,748,062	213,226,545	377,218,720	219,715,049
Fines and Forfeitures				
Court Fines	500,000	284,166	500,000	219,245
Fines	1,658,000	1,570,942	1,658,000	1,135,642
Fines and Forfeitures	2,158,000	1,855,108	2,158,000	1,354,887
Interest Income	2,600,000	7,747,100	750,000	1,969,554
Premium on Bonds				
Investment Earnings	2,600,000	7,747,100	750,000	1,969,554
Charges for Service				
Airport	110,000	58,333	110,000	58,333
Park Charges	59,500	28,915	59,500	29,072
Trash Collection Fees	4,250,000	2,665,747	3,750,000	2,817,164
Fees	2,091,350	1,103,516	2,091,350	1,446,529
Hope Cemetery Fees	460,000	398,998	460,000	266,851
Towing Contract Fee	271,000	167,172	275,000	81,642
Charges for Service	7,241,850	4,422,680	6,745,850	4,699,591
Miscellaneous				
Sale of Inventory	50,000	(15)	50,000	25,891
Miscellaneous	2,818,378	1,125,258	7,595,393	3,533,212
Miscellaneous	2,868,378	1,125,243	7,645,393	3,559,102
Total	849,305,703	458,102,832	779,618,584	455,548,293

GENERAL FUND
Schedule of Expenses

	FY 24 Budget	FY 24 Actual (as of 1/31/24)	FY 23 Budget	FY 23 Actual (as of 1/31/23)
General Government				
Council				
Salaries	469,537	219,561	458,895	221,326
Ordinary Maintenance	32,231	22,948	32,231	16,181
	501,768	242,509	491,126	237,507
Mayor				
Salaries	169,208	99,955	163,310	88,383
Ordinary Maintenance	8,000	8,939	10,100	5,186
	177,208	108,893	173,410	93,568
Manager				
Salaries				
Executive office	1,211,868	687,495	1,369,837	687,869
Planning and Development	2,083,769	1,040,564	1,686,560	991,636
Ordinary Maintenance				
Executive office	131,252	74,859	257,352	63,926
Planning and Development	558,509	221,390	399,794	206,379
Tourism Promotion				
Capital				
Overtime				1,571
	3,985,398	2,024,307	3,713,543	1,951,382
Auditor				
Salaries	639,569	326,981	572,759	321,605
Ordinary Maintenance	91,873	43,510	93,937	72,557
Capital				
Overtime	5,000	2,294	5,000	1,641
	736,442	372,785	671,696	395,804
Administration and Finance				
Salaries	734,047	219,779	631,630	325,388
Ordinary Maintenance	123,490	18,146	136,900	35,136
Capital				
Overtime				
	857,537	237,925	768,530	360,524
Treasurer and Collector				
Salaries	1,336,373	394,282	1,251,980	382,878
Ordinary Maintenance	690,317	498,813	719,605	421,545
Capital				
Overtime	25,500	8,147	30,500	14,222
	2,052,190	901,242	2,002,085	818,645
Public Facilities				
Salaries	1,429,883	709,663	1,238,130	561,015
Ordinary Maintenance	1,963,467	962,568	1,564,667	518,102
Capital	100,000	63,640	100,000	42,863
Overtime	17,100	22,997	37,100	33,108
	3,510,450	1,758,869	2,939,897	1,155,089

GENERAL FUND
Schedule of Expenses

	FY 24 Budget	FY 24 Actual (as of 1/31/24)	FY 23 Budget	FY 23 Actual (as of 1/31/23)
Sustainability & Resilience				
Salaries	278,867	138,584	219,382	109,373
Ordinary Maintenance	235,847	127,098	288,121	125,345
Capital	-		-	
Overtime	12,500	3,928	12,500	2,235
	527,214	269,610	520,003	236,953
Assessor				
Salaries	717,465	302,770	655,894	266,208
Ordinary Maintenance	451,240	226,296	553,340	213,883
Overtime	500		1,000	
	1,169,205	529,065	1,210,234	480,091
Law				
Salaries	1,454,456	535,730	1,273,760	471,911
Ordinary Maintenance	405,298	404,927	170,290	207,540
Casualty Insurance	353,665	30,234	336,824	9,300
Court Judgments	2,000,000	213,247	2,500,000	827,561
	4,213,419	1,184,137	4,280,874	1,516,311
Clerk				
Salaries	981,640	578,258	792,127	431,621
Ordinary Maintenance	74,518	34,879	76,900	39,234
Overtime	1,000	293	1,000	1,754
	1,057,158	613,430	870,027	472,609
Election Commission				
Salaries	940,913	280,975	655,984	595,564
Ordinary Maintenance	284,829	197,034	186,925	127,840
Capital Outlay				
Overtime	10,000	141,163	10,000	24,419
	1,235,742	619,172	852,909	747,823
Purchasing				
Salaries	328,160	112,890	242,020	125,030
Ordinary Maintenance	21,088	4,310	21,088	3,616
	349,248	117,200	263,108	128,647
Innovation & Technology				
Salaries	3,094,877	1,537,972	3,083,778	1,377,078
Ordinary Maintenance	7,031,247	5,673,234	3,301,169	4,905,221
Capital				
Overtime	20,000	4,679	20,000	12,460
	10,146,124	7,215,886	6,404,947	6,294,759
Human Resources				
Salaries	1,480,995	626,077	1,456,419	492,799
Ordinary Maintenance	712,891	332,423	499,807	195,054
Overtime	5,000	847	5,000	10,814
	2,198,886	959,347	1,961,226	698,667
Diversity & Inclusion				
Salaries	491,978	109,811	121,804	76,699
Ordinary Maintenance	252,445	110,274	323,800	199,449
Overtime	-		-	
	744,423	220,086	445,604	276,149
Total General Government	33,462,412	17,374,463	27,569,219	15,864,527

GENERAL FUND
Schedule of Expenses

	FY 24 Budget	FY 24 Actual (as of 1/31/24)	FY 23 Budget	FY 23 Actual (as of 1/31/23)
Public Safety				
Police				
Salaries	47,119,850	26,471,663	47,045,732	25,624,854
Ordinary Maintenance	3,743,191	1,574,235	3,513,405	1,232,530
Capital	30,000	4,140	30,000	14,202
Overtime	4,600,000	2,753,866	4,600,000	4,225,287
	<u>55,493,041</u>	<u>30,803,905</u>	<u>55,189,137</u>	<u>31,096,873</u>
Fire				
Salaries	40,592,756	22,448,054	41,162,323	22,968,753
Ordinary Maintenance	1,895,019	758,119	2,254,632	696,901
Capital	113,453		107,864	96,879
Overtime	2,359,192	2,734,472	2,010,856	3,090,756
	<u>44,960,420</u>	<u>25,940,645</u>	<u>45,535,675</u>	<u>26,853,288</u>
Inspectional Services				
Salaries	4,628,210	2,356,825	4,254,525	2,152,089
Ordinary Maintenance	278,152	157,854	281,906	139,668
Capital				
Overtime	28,000	5,736	73,000	21,072
	<u>4,934,362</u>	<u>2,520,416</u>	<u>4,609,431</u>	<u>2,312,830</u>
Communications				
Salaries	1,865,797	1,004,320	2,129,125	1,502,442
Ordinary Maintenance	1,189,647	947,391	1,084,418	903,883
Capital				
Overtime	714,318	393,753	252,318	419,315
	<u>3,769,762</u>	<u>2,345,464</u>	<u>3,465,861</u>	<u>2,825,639</u>
Total Public Safety	<u>109,157,585</u>	<u>61,610,429</u>	<u>108,800,104</u>	<u>63,088,630</u>
Health and Human Services:				
Health and Human Services				
Salaries	1,392,926	642,245	1,188,410	842,817
Ordinary Maintenance	1,959,030	708,573	2,422,156	784,056
Overtime				
	<u>3,351,956</u>	<u>1,350,818</u>	<u>3,610,566</u>	<u>1,626,873</u>
Health				
Salaries	914,217	456,213	823,469	528,360
Ordinary Maintenance	36,417	13,728	105,300	31,345
Overtime	500	229	500	1,130
	<u>951,134</u>	<u>470,171</u>	<u>929,269</u>	<u>560,835</u>
Elder Affairs				
Salaries	557,414	306,922	554,551	289,866
Ordinary Maintenance	498,290	293,817	502,057	274,896
Capital				
Overtime				
	<u>1,055,704</u>	<u>600,739</u>	<u>1,056,608</u>	<u>564,763</u>
Workforce Investment Board				
Salaries	109,000	63,922	109,000	59,564
Ordinary Maintenance	91,000	21,063	91,000	6,622
	<u>200,000</u>	<u>84,986</u>	<u>200,000</u>	<u>66,187</u>
Total Health and Human Services	<u>5,558,794</u>	<u>2,506,713</u>	<u>5,796,443</u>	<u>2,818,657</u>

GENERAL FUND
Schedule of Expenses

	FY 24 Budget	FY 24 Actual (as of 1/31/24)	FY 23 Budget	FY 23 Actual (as of 1/31/23)
Education:				
Public Schools				
Salaries	314,206,865	152,141,186	270,834,387	131,323,141
Ordinary Maintenance	60,099,201	34,620,265	43,998,107	26,552,312
Capital	512,581	327,105	603,428	37,097
Fringe Benefits	84,440,283	33,892,281	80,215,738	53,935,346
Overtime	2,603,641	2,308,216	1,600,000	2,270,168
Total Education	461,862,571	223,289,053	417,802,152	214,118,064
Public Works				
Department of Public Works				
Salaries	6,016,813	622,339	5,298,298	1,283,822
Ordinary Maintenance	8,631,162	5,026,695	8,579,040	3,367,686
Capital				
Overtime	916,529	734,073	916,529	607,808
Snow and ice removal	6,000,000	1,884,224	6,000,000	655,897
Street Lighting	1,495,490	801,378	1,495,490	487,735
	23,059,994	9,068,709	22,289,357	6,402,948
Transportation & Mobility				
Salaries	1,593,779	741,504	1,420,414	199,629
Ordinary Maintenance	1,631,800	700,673	1,548,800	289,484
Capital	250,000	128,519	250,000	
Overtime	25,000	22,893	25,000	(112)
	3,500,579	1,593,589	3,244,214	489,001
Union Station				
Ordinary Maintenance	803,305	528,305	528,305	264,153
	803,305	528,305	528,305	264,153
Total Public Works	27,363,878	11,190,604	26,061,876	7,156,102
Culture and Recreation:				
Parks and Cemetery				
Salaries	5,196,623	2,381,041	4,388,367	2,714,175
Ordinary Maintenance	2,202,155	1,106,900	2,174,975	1,369,529
Capital			32,026	32,026
Overtime	529,062	405,715	529,062	342,957
	7,927,840	3,893,656	7,124,429	4,458,687
Public Library				
Salaries	4,729,804	2,404,901	4,494,976	2,427,459
Ordinary Maintenance	1,770,596	911,751	1,772,539	854,752
Capital				
Overtime	123,795	53,703	123,795	41,316
	6,624,195	3,370,356	6,391,310	3,323,526
Auditorium:				
Ordinary Maintenance	90,200	24,585	90,200	36,290
	90,200	24,585	90,200	36,290

GENERAL FUND
Schedule of Expenses

	FY 24	FY 24	FY 23	FY 23
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
		(as of 1/31/24)		(as of 1/31/23)
Civic Center				
Ordinary Maintenance				
Debt Service				
	-	-	-	-
Total Culture and Recreation	14,642,235	7,288,597	13,605,939	7,818,503
Intergovernmental:				
Health Insurance-retirees				
Mosquito Control	185,108	92,550	179,233	104,587
Regional Planning	63,688	63,688		-
Regional Transit Authority	4,062,816	2,031,408	3,887,136	2,267,496
Air pollution control	53,714	26,862	51,038	29,778
Registry Parking Ticket Surcharge	339,820	169,914	346,580	200,242
	4,705,146	2,384,422	4,463,987	2,602,103
Charter Schools	39,930,237	19,929,427	27,148,080	20,584,954
School Choice	3,889,162	1,933,835	3,495,419	2,201,425
Special Education-Chapter 766	216,629	108,318	217,996	130,368
	44,036,028	21,971,580	30,861,495	22,916,747
Total Intergovernmental	48,741,174	24,356,002	35,325,482	25,518,850
Debt Service:				
Principal	31,391,367	58,826,259	30,018,937	13,219,329
Interest	10,941,930	7,606,987	10,863,573	7,051,613
Debt Service Capital Total	42,333,297	66,433,246	40,882,510	20,270,942
Pension obligation bond City	10,369,848	16,640,938	10,575,565	11,757,138
Pension obligation bond Enterprise				
Pension obligation bond School				
	10,369,848	16,640,938	10,575,565	11,757,138
Total Debt Service	52,703,145	83,074,184	51,458,075	32,028,080
Fringe Benefit:				
Retirement				
Contributory pensions: City	37,713,980	63,063,692	36,108,457	36,325,162
Contributory pensions: Schools				
Noncontributory pensions: City				
Noncontributory pensions: Schools				
	37,713,980	63,063,692	36,108,457	36,325,162
Workers' and Unemployment: comp				
Workers' compensation: City	1,335,759	785,403	1,197,000	576,686
Workers' compensation: Schools				
Injured on Duty	1,331,371	413,025	1,001,936	981,899
Unemployment Compensation: City	119,840	(34,950)	119,840	57,825
Unemployment Compensation: School				
	2,786,970	1,163,479	2,318,776	1,616,411
Group Insurance				
Municipal Departments	31,804,844	27,066,888	30,325,822	19,695,769
Public Schools (2)				
	31,804,844	27,066,888	30,325,822	19,695,769
Total Fringe Benefits	72,305,794	91,294,059	68,753,055	57,637,342
Contingency	4,186,285		4,910,000	
Total Expenditures	829,983,873	521,984,103	760,082,345	426,048,756

GOLF ENTERPRISE FUND
Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and
Changes in Fund Balance
Budgetary Basis

	FY 24	FY 24	FY 23	FY 23
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
		(as of 1/31/24)		(as of 1/31/23)
Revenues				
-Fees	1,807,555	776,820	2,028,650	842,597
-Miscellaneous				
Total revenues	1,807,555	776,820	2,028,650	842,597
Expenditures				
-Salaries and benefits	522,285	216,250	493,747	301,725
-Ordinary Maintenance	1,015,820	586,111	1,025,852	530,694
-Debt service	226,923	60,203	410,555	216,488
-Indirect Costs	42,527	42,527	198,496	
Total Expenditures	1,807,555	905,091	2,128,650	1,048,907
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditure	-	(128,271)	(100,000)	(206,311)
Other financing sources (uses)				
-Transfers In			100,000	
-Transfers (out) for pension bond				
Total other financing sources/uses	-	-	100,000	-
Net changes in fund balance	-	(128,271)	-	(206,311)

SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND
Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and
Changes in Fund Balance
Budgetary Basis

	FY 24	FY 24	FY 23	FY 23
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
		(as of 1/31/24)		(as of 1/31/23)
Revenues				
-Fees	51,090,721	26,861,163	50,472,347	27,911,286
-Miscellaneous				
Total revenues	51,090,721	26,861,163	50,472,347	27,911,286
Expenditures				
-Salaries and benefits	8,590,217	2,586,260	8,561,474	4,630,809
-Ordinary Maintenance	26,529,515	19,049,309	25,439,048	21,391,732
-Capital	24,500	11,667	24,500	
-Debt service	12,045,907	4,099,169	11,984,503	6,841,636
-Indirect Costs	3,900,582	3,900,582	3,827,698	
Total Expenditures	51,090,721	29,646,986	49,837,223	32,864,177
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditure	-	(2,785,823)	635,124	(4,952,891)
Other financing sources (uses)				
-Transfers In				
-Transfers (out) for pension bond			635,124	
Total other financing sources/uses	-	-	635,124	-
Net changes in fund balance	-	(2,785,823)	-	(4,952,891)

WATER ENTERPRISE FUND
Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and
Changes in Fund Balance
Budgetary Basis

	FY 24	FY 24	FY 23	FY 23
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
		(as of 1/31/24)		(as of 1/31/23)
Revenues				
-Fees	29,425,128	17,598,189	28,489,135	18,540,109
-Miscellaneous				
Total revenues	29,425,128	17,598,189	28,489,135	18,540,109
Expenditures				
-Salaries and benefits	14,146,752	4,410,842	13,666,234	7,207,909
-Ordinary Maintenance	4,751,129	2,838,272	4,466,129	5,218,846
-Capital	25,000		25,000	9,100
-Debt service	7,348,374	2,025,020	7,516,395	4,460,619
-Indirect Costs	3,153,873	3,153,873	2,815,377	
Total Expenditures	29,425,128	12,428,006	28,489,135	16,896,474
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditure	-	5,170,183	-	1,643,635
Other financing sources (uses)				
-Transfers In				
-Transfers (out) for pension bond				
Total other financing sources/uses	-	-	-	-
Net changes in fund balance	-	5,170,183	-	1,643,635

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



Attachment for Item # 11.32 A

March 12, 2024

TO THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

COUNCILORS:

Attached, please find a memo providing a status update for the City's Green Worcester ElectriCITY aggregation program as forwarded by the Department of Sustainability and Resilience.

Since the program was implemented in December 2019, it has seen success in its three goals of price stability, consumer protection, and GHG reductions. Ratepayers that opted in have saved \$12 million compared to what they would have paid at National Grid rates, and while savings aren't guaranteed ratepayers have been saving on average approximately \$26.76 per month over the life of the program. The number of complaints from customers related to electricity suppliers has also fallen and the program has avoided the release of over 165 million pounds of CO2 emissions into the atmosphere – which equates to taking 16,850 gasoline-powered cars off the road for a year.

The program is also increasing the percentage of electricity it's using from local renewable sources, meaning nearly two-thirds of the electricity used by the program this year will be generated by renewable energy from the New England region. The increase in renewable energy content advances Green Worcester Plan goals to decrease greenhouse gas emissions associated with the community's electricity use.

ElectriCITY has a track record of providing measurable value to the community and is part of a suite of projects and programs found in the Green Worcester Plan to make the city more resilient, sustainable, and equitable.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric D. Batista
City Manager

Office of City Manager Eric D. Batista

City Hall, 455 Main Street, Worcester, MA 01608

P | 508-799-1175 F | 508-799-1208 | citymanager@worcesterma.gov | www.worcesterma.gov



To: Eric D. Batista, City Manager
From: John Odell, Chief of Department of Sustainability & Resilience
Date: March 12, 2024
Re: **Worcester's ElectriCITY Aggregation Program – Status Update**

Worcester implemented its ElectriCITY Aggregation program in December of 2019 with three goals: Price Stability, Consumer Protection, and Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Reductions. To date, we are pleased to report success in all three goals.

Price Stability: Since the program inception a little over four years ago ratepayers have cumulatively saved approximately \$12 million vs if they had been on National Grid's rates. In addition, they have benefitted from more consistent pricing as National Grid is required to update their supply costs every six months. Under the city's ElectriCITY Aggregation program, supply costs stay the same over the term of the contract, which have varied between one and three years, depending on market conditions. The program does not guarantee savings, and indeed, for some months of the program the city's pricing has been higher than National Grid's, but on average residential ratepayers have saved approximately \$26.76 per month over the life of the program.

Consumer Protection: While hard data is challenging to obtain, the overall number of complaints from customers regarding electricity supplier switching has fallen significantly. This was a major reason for concern as many customers felt cheated after they switched, sometimes without their understanding or consent. According to the MA Attorney General's office, supplier switching cost MA ratepayers \$426 million between July 2015 and June 2020.¹

GHG Reductions: In this category the city has exceeded expectations. To date the program has resulted in the avoidance of 166,934,736 lbs of CO₂e being released due to the procurement of green energy as part of the supply mix. This is equivalent to the total energy use of 9,543 homes for a year or taking off the road 16,850 gasoline-powered cars off the road for a year.

Under our most recent two-year contract, which took effect in December of 2023, the percentage of electricity coming from local renewable sources rose an additional 10% from the prior contract, resulting in nearly two-thirds of the electricity used by ElectriCITY aggregation customers being generated by renewable energy from the New England region - 64% in 2024 and 66% in 2025.

Anyone living in Worcester and not yet in the program, can opt-in at any time as well. As always, program participants retain the right to opt out of the program at any time with no fee or penalty.

Opting in, opting out, or opting up (to 100% green content) can be done by either calling the aggregation consultants working for the city (833-926-1207) or doing it online at GreenWorcesterElectricity.com. (A National Grid electrical account number is needed to process these requests.)

More information regarding the Green Worcester ElectriCITY's Municipal Aggregation Program can be found here: **GreenWorcesterElectricity.com**.

¹ [Competitive Electric Supply | Mass.gov](https://www.mass.gov/info-details/competitive-electric-supply)

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



CITY OF WORCESTER

cm2024mar08102300

Attachment for Item # 11.33 A

March 12, 2024

TO THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

COUNCILORS:

I respectfully recommend adoption of an Order to authorize the City of Worcester to enter into a four (4) year contract with Xerox Corporation, as recommended by Michael P. Hamel, Chief Information Officer, and forwarded for the consideration of your Honorable Body.

The Department of Innovation and Technology has followed the guidelines of State Blanket Contract ITC80 and seeks to enter into a contract that will reduce monthly recurring cost to the City.

Chapter 30B of M.G.L. requires the approval of City Council for any contract in excess of three years. Given that the City can see monthly recurring cost saving by entering into a four-year agreement under state contract, I respectfully request your consideration and approval to award a four-year contract.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



CITY OF WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Department of Innovation and Technology

Michael P. Hamel
Chief Information Officer

To: Eric D. Batista, City Manager

From: Michael P. Hamel, Chief Information Officer

Date: March 12, 2024

Re: Recommend adoption of an Order to authorize the City of Worcester to enter into a four (4) year contract with Xerox Corporation to support continued operation of City-wide multi-function devices.

The City of Worcester, Department of Innovation and Technology, is looking to ensure city-wide continuity of operations and that the City has current and secure technology. The Department has followed the guidelines of State Blanket Contract ITC80 and seeks to enter into a contract that will reduce monthly recurring cost to the City.

Chapter 30B of M.G.L. requires the approval of City Council for any contract in excess of three years. Given that the City can see monthly recurring cost saving by entering into a four-year agreement under state contract, I respectfully request your consideration and approval to forward this to City Council for their deliberation and approval to award a four-year contract.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael P. Hamel".

Michael P. Hamel
Chief Information Officer



Eric D. Batista
City Manager

CITY OF WORCESTER

cm2024mar06121048

Attachment for Item # 11.35 A

March 12, 2024

TO THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

COUNCILORS:

I respectfully recommend adoption of a resolution to file, accept, and expend a grant in the amount of Eighty Four Thousand Five Hundred Dollars And No Cents (\$84,500.00) through the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (MassDEP) under their Recycling Dividends Program (RDP) for the Sustainable Materials Recovery Program (SMRP).

Respectfully submitted,

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



To: Eric Batista, City Manager

From: John Odell, Chief of Department of Sustainability & Resilience

Date: March 12, 2024

Re: Sustainable Materials Recovery Program funding

The City of Worcester Recycling Dividends Program (RDP) has received funding in the amount of eighty-four thousand five hundred dollars (\$84,500.00) through the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (MassDEP) under their Recycling Dividends Program (RDP) for the Sustainable Materials Recovery Program (SMRP).

The SMRP funding will be used to advance the city's goals of zero waste as defined in the Green Worcester Plan. The Department of Sustainability and Resilience has continued to work in collaboration with the Department of Public Works and Parks to identify priority needs for spending based on the RDP Approved Expenses List provided by MassDEP.

A primary use of the funding will be for outreach and education within our community. We seek to purchase flyers, brochures, and engagement materials for tabling at community events throughout the year. Other outreach media may also be used.

A portion of the funding will also be used in collaboration with Inspectional Services and the Worcester Police Department to purchase cameras for surveillance and enforcement at illegal dumpsites across the City. Inspectional Services has identified areas of repeated illegal dumping and will regularly monitor the cameras to identify offenders. These cameras will also be able to be moved to different locations as needed, so their impact will be widespread.

We also would like to purchase signage for messaging within our municipal buildings to help employees understand good recycling practices and improve our own contamination rates. The Zero Waste Coordinator has worked with maintenance staff to identify needs and potential pathways for improvement. This is an ongoing project, which will require further inquiry into the municipal building recycling efficiency before purchases are made.

Sincerely,

John W. Odell

Chief Sustainability Officer

**A RESOLUTION TO FILE, ACCEPT, AND EXPEND A GRANT UP TO EIGHTY
FOUR THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$84,500.00) FROM THE
MASSACHUSETTS EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL
AFFAIRS UNDER THEIR SUSTAINABLE MATERIALS RECOVERY PROGRAM**

WHEREAS: The City of Worcester is committed to a zero-waste future and enhancing our community's knowledge and accessibility to a circular economy (as stated in the Green Worcester Plan); and

WHEREAS: The Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs is offering Sustainable Materials Recovery Program funding through the Recycling Dividends Program, which provides support for cities and towns in Massachusetts to enhance their local recycling efforts; and

WHEREAS: The City of Worcester has been awarded \$84,500.00 in funds from the FY 23 Sustainable Materials Recovery Program through the Recycling Dividends Program to foster investment in local programs including recycling equipment, organics diversion, outreach and education, pilot programs, school recycling, toxics reduction, and more;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the City Manager be and is hereby authorized to accept grant funds and execute contracts and any amendment thereto, in order to carry out the terms, purposes, and conditions of the grant; and
2. That the City Manager be and is hereby authorized to take such other actions as are necessary to carry out the terms, purposes, and conditions of the grant.
3. That this resolution shall take effect upon passage.

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



CITY OF WORCESTER

cm2024mar06121107

Attachment for Item # 11.35 B

March 12, 2024

TO THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

COUNCILORS:

I respectfully request City Council authorization to apply for, accept, and expend a grant in the amount of One Million Dollars and No Cents (\$1,000,000.00) from the 2024-2025 YouthWorks program cycle, anticipated to begin May 15, 2024 and end June 30, 2025.

Funds are made available through the Commonwealth Corporation to support subsidized work-based learning experiences and career training, readiness, education, and planning for low-income youth in the Central MA Workforce Development Area (WDA). Anticipated partners for this project include the Blackstone Valley Hub for Workforce Development, Worcester Public Schools, Worcester Community Action Council (WCAC), Milford Youth Center, and Center of Hope. All partners will assist with engaging past and potential employer partners as well as with youth recruitment, placement, and case management.

This new funding will not require new staff and has a match requirement from private employers identified through the MCRWB.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER, CITY HALL, WORCESTER, MA 01608
TELEPHONE (508) 799-1175 | FAX (508) 799-1208
EMAIL: citymanager@worcesterma.gov





The City of
WORCESTER

Executive Office of Economic Development
MassHire Central Region Workforce Board
Jeffrey Turgeon, Executive Director
City Hall, 455 Main Street, Worcester, MA 01608
P | 508-799-1400 F | 508-799-1406
development@worcesterma.gov

TO: Eric D. Batista, City Manager
FROM: Peter Dunn, Chief Development Officer
DATE: March 12, 2024
RE: Finance Item

I respectfully request City Council authorization to file, accept, and expend a grant in the amount of One Million Dollars and No Cents (\$1,000,000.00) from the 2024-2025 YouthWorks program cycle, anticipated to begin May 15, 2024 and end June 30, 2025.

Funds are made available through the Commonwealth Corporation to support subsidized work-based learning experiences and career readiness training, education, and planning for low-income youth in the Central MA Workforce Development Area (WDA). The MCRWB will partner with organizations that serve youth, including the Blackstone Valley Hub for Workforce Development, Worcester Public Schools, Worcester Community Action Council (WCAC), Milford Youth Center, and Center of Hope. Partners will assist with engaging past and potential employers as well as with youth recruitment, placement, and case management.

The new funding will not require new staff and has a match requirement from private employers identified through the MCRWB.

Sincerely,

Peter Dunn
Chief Development Officer

A RESOLUTION TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT, AND EXPEND ONE MILLION DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$1,000,000.00) FROM THE YOUTHWORKS FY25 ALLOCATION.

WHEREAS: The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has made funding available to support youth employment and readiness programming for low-income youth ages 16-24;

WHEREAS: This funding will help youth gain employment-related training, education, skills, and experiences;

WHEREAS: The City of Worcester and the MCRWB strongly support the operational activities of this grant; and

WHEREAS: The City of Worcester and the MCRWB are committed to leveraging and aligning public and private resources for the purpose of workforce development.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, *that*:

1. The City Manager be and is hereby authorized and requested to file information as required by the grant program;
2. The City Manager be and is hereby authorized to accept grant funds and execute contracts, and any amendments thereto, in order to carry out the terms, purposes, and conditions of the grant program; and
3. The City Manager be and is hereby authorized to take such other actions as are necessary to carry out the terms, purposes, and conditions of the grant program.

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



CITY OF WORCESTER

cm2024mar06121129

Attachment for Item # 11.35 C

March 12, 2024

TO THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

COUNCILORS:

I respectfully recommend adoption of a resolution to file and accept additional Public Health Excellence (PHE) Grant funding in the amount of Three Hundred Sixty Nine Thousand Three Hundred Eighty Two Dollars and Seventy One Cents (\$369,382.71) from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, to support shared services for Fiscal Year 2024 for programs and operations of the Division of Public Health.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



CITY OF WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Department of Health and Human Services

Matilde Castiel, MD
Commissioner of Health &
Human Services

To: Eric D. Batista, City Manager
From: Matilde Castiel, MD, Commissioner of Health & Human Services
Date: March 12, 2024
Re: Finance Request Grant Funds Public Health Excellence Grant (PHE)

In FY22, the Worcester Division of Public Health secured a three-year Public Health Excellence Grant (PHE) from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, amounting to Two Hundred Forty-Five Thousand One Hundred Sixty Dollars and Forty-Seven Cents (\$245,160.47). These funds are dedicated to fortifying the regional public health model. During the inaugural year, significant milestones were achieved, including the completion of a comprehensive business plan, a thorough cost analysis of public health services delivery, the formulation of a strategic plan, and preparations for national public health re-accreditation.

In the subsequent year, the grant facilitated the recruitment of a regional coordinator, Public Health Nurse, and staff epidemiologist, enhancing operations within the Central MA Regional Public Health Alliance. The City of Worcester, responsible for delivering public health services to four contiguous communities, benefits from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health's financial support for cross-jurisdictional shared service arrangements. The funds allocated for this year will further strengthen regional capacity, supporting initiatives such as trainings, staff development, program assistance, and the implementation of key recommendations from the Public Health Blueprint. Notably, the grant played a pivotal role in the continuous modernization of public systems and addressing critical needs in the Central MA region.

The initially estimated allocation of \$245,160.47 (Two Hundred Forty-Five Thousand One Hundred Sixty Dollars and Forty-Seven Cents) has been supplemented by an additional \$369,382.71 (Three Hundred Sixty-Nine Thousand Three Hundred Eighty-Two Dollars and Seventy-One Cents), resulting in a total grant amount of \$614,382.71 (Six Hundred Fourteen Thousand Three Hundred Eighty-Two Dollars and Seventy-One Cent). These additional funds are designated to enhance the existing regional model that has effectively operated for the past decade. The funding is specifically earmarked for analyzing the current intermunicipal agreement structure, conducting a cost analysis, and developing a business plan. Importantly, there are no mandated matching funds or additional staffing requirements for the City of Worcester in connection with this grant.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Matilde Castiel MD". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Matilde" being more prominent than the last name "Castiel".

Matilde Castiel, MD
Commissioner of Health & Human Services
City of Worcester

A Resolution to File and Accept Grant Funding in the Amount of Three Hundred Sixty Nine Thousand Three Hundred Eighty Two Dollars and Seventy One Cents (\$369,382.71) from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Public Health Excellence Grant Program

WHEREAS: The City of Worcester provides public health services to four contiguous communities to the City; and

WHEREAS: The Massachusetts Department of Public Health has made funding available to support public health cross-jurisdictional shared service arrangements; and

WHEREAS: The City of Worcester is eligible to receive Three Hundred Sixty Nine Thousand Three Hundred Eighty Two Dollars and Seventy One Cents (\$369,382.71) in additional grant funding to enhance the current regional model that has been in place for the past 10 years; and

WHEREAS: The grant funding is intended to analyze the current inter-municipal agreement structure, conduct a cost analysis and develop a business plan; and

WHEREAS: No matching funds or new staffing are required by the City of Worcester.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the City Manager be and is hereby authorized to file information required by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.
2. That the City Manager be and is hereby authorized to accept funds and execute contracts, and any amendments thereto, in order to carry out the terms, purposes, and conditions of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.
3. That the City Manager be and is hereby authorized to take other such actions as are necessary to carry out the terms, purposes and conditions of the contract administered by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.
4. That this resolution shall take effect upon passage.

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



CITY OF WORCESTER

cm2024mar06121149

Attachment for Item # 11.35 D

March 12, 2024

TO THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

COUNCILORS:

I respectfully recommend adoption of a resolution to apply for, accept, and expend a grant in the amount of Forty Five Thousand One Hundred Eighty Seven Dollars and Twenty Cents (\$45,187.20) from the MA Probation Service to fund the Pre-Arrest Diversion Program, to be used for diverting juveniles from criminal justice system involvement..

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "E. Batista", is written over a light blue circular stamp.

Eric D. Batista
City Manager

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER, CITY HALL, WORCESTER, MA 01608

TELEPHONE (508) 799-1175 | FAX (508) 799-1208

EMAIL: citymanager@worcesterma.gov



CITY OF WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Department of Health and Human Services

Matilde Castiel, MD
Commissioner of Health &
Human Services

To: Eric D. Batista, City Manager
From: Matilde Castiel, MD, Commissioner of Health & Human Services
Date: March 12, 2024
Re: Finance Request

I respectfully recommend adoption of a resolution to apply, accept, and expend a grant in the amount of Forty Five Thousand One Hundred Eighty Seven Dollars and Twenty Cents (\$45,187.20) from the MA Probation Service to fund the Pre-Arrest Diversion Program to be used for diverting juveniles from criminal justice system involvement in partnership with You, Inc. and Worcester Health and Human Services Department.

The diversion program is an integral part of the Worcester Youth Violence Prevention Initiative and has been a resource in our community since 2017. It was developed in response to the number of youth coming into contact with the criminal justice system as a result of domestic issues in the home. The program aims to break the cycle of crime and incarceration affecting youth in the greater Worcester area. Our multidisciplinary approach in partnership with You, Inc. helps divert youth from the court system by connecting them to wrap-around services leading to positive health outcomes.

The Manager of Community Initiatives in Worcester's Health and Human Services Department will support the continued efforts of this important initiative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Matilde Castiel MD".

Matilde Castiel, MD
Commissioner of Health & Human Services

A RESOLUTION TO FILE, ACCEPT, AND EXPEND A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF FORTY FIVE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY SEVEN DOLLARS AND TWENTY CENTS (\$45,187.20) FROM THE MA PROBATION SERVICE TO FUND DIVERTING JUVENILES AND EMERGING ADULTS FROM CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM INVOLVEMENT

WHEREAS: The City of Worcester's Health and Human Services Department anticipates receiving a donation in the amount of Forty Five Thousand One Hundred Eighty Seven Dollars and Twenty Cents from the MA Probation Service grant; and

WHEREAS: The City of Worcester acknowledges that the intended purpose of this donation is to support funding the Pre-Arrest Diversion Program in partnership with You, Inc.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the City Manager be and is hereby authorized to accept said donation from MA Probation Service
2. That these funds will be used to assist You, Inc. in running their Pre-Arrest Diversion Program
3. That the City Manager be and is hereby authorized to take such other actions as are necessary to carry out the purpose of the donation.
4. That this resolution shall take effect upon passage.

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



CITY OF WORCESTER

cm2024mar06121205

Attachment for Item # 11.35 E

March 12, 2024

TO THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

COUNCILORS:

I respectfully request City Council's review, deliberation, and adoption of the attached resolution to file and accept a grant not to exceed Seventy-Four Thousand Four Hundred Thirty Eight Dollars and Thirteen Cents (\$74,438.13) from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security's Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) STOP program as received from Paul B. Saucier, Interim Police Chief, and forwarded for the consideration of your Honorable Body.

Under this funding, the Worcester Police Department will receive continued assistance to operate the longstanding WIN (Worcester Intervention Network) Program, a shared effort among the YWCA of Central Massachusetts, the Worcester Police Department's Domestic Violence Unit (DVU), and the District Attorney's office. The majority of grant dollars will be used to fund YWCA staff who are housed within the WPD. Domestic violence victims and their children are provided shelter, transportation, counseling, family support services, and legal advocacy with assistance from these WIN personnel. This partnership also results in enhanced identification of domestic violence incidents and suspects, enabling effective arrests and prosecutions.

This grant offers the opportunity to continue to provide vital services to victims of domestic violence and related crimes. An in-kind match of Worcester Police staff time and office space is provided through existing appropriations. No hiring of additional personnel is required.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "E. Batista", with a large, stylized loop at the end.

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



The City of
WORCESTER

Police Department
Paul B. Saucier, Interim Chief of Police
9-11 Lincoln Square, Worcester, MA 01608
P | 508-799-8600 F | 508-799-8680
WPD@worcesterma.gov
www.worcesterma.gov

To: Eric D. Batista, City Manager
From: Paul B. Saucier, Interim Chief of Police
Date: March 12, 2024
Re: VAWA STOP Grant

The Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, Office of Grants and Research recently announced the availability of funds under the City's current Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) STOP grant, funded initially in FFY 2017. The intent of this program is to provide continued financial assistance to develop and strengthen law enforcement, prosecution strategies and victims' services in cases of violent crimes against women. As in the past, our application will support the *WIN* (Worcester Intervention Network) *Program*, which began in 1996 when the YWCA of Central Massachusetts' Daybreak Program, the City's Grants Office, Worcester Police Department's Domestic Violence Unit (DVU), and the District Attorney's Victim Witness Program collaborated to secure funding from the US Department of Justice to hire a *WIN* Coordinator and part-time Domestic Violence Interventionist to be housed at the WPD, and to assist victims and their children on a 24-hour basis. In this safe and supportive environment, victims are provided shelter, transportation, counseling, family support services, and legal advocacy through the *WIN* staff. Through this strong partnership with *WIN*, WPD is able to better obtain more detailed information on domestic violence incidents and to make accurate arrests. The majority of grant funds will be used to fund YWCA *WIN* staff.

I therefore respectfully request that you seek City Council consideration and approval for the attached resolution to file and accept a grant from the MA Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, Office of Grants and Research, VAWA STOP program, in an amount not to exceed \$74,438.13. An in-kind match of Worcester Police staff time and office space is provided through existing appropriations. No hiring of additional personnel is required.

I appreciate your support of my request for authorization to apply for this important funding opportunity and to refer this item for City Council consideration and adoption. Should you have any additional questions, please let me know.



The City of
WORCESTER

Police Department
Paul B. Saucier, Interim Chief of Police
9-11 Lincoln Square, Worcester, MA 01608
P | 508-799-8600 F | 508-799-8680
WPD@worcesterma.gov
www.worcesterma.gov

Very truly yours,

Paul B. Saucier
Interim Chief of Police

**RESOLUTION TO FILE AND ACCEPT A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF SEVENTY FOUR THOUSAND
FOUR HUNDRED THIRTY EIGHT DOLLARS AND THIRTEEN CENTS (\$74,438.13) FROM THE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY
OFFICE OF GRANTS AND RESEARCH
VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT STOP GRANT PROGRAM**

- WHEREAS:** The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety & Security, Office of Grants and Research, is making Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) STOP grant funding available; and
- WHEREAS:** The goal of the STOP program is to “provide financial assistance to develop and strengthen effective law enforcement, prosecution strategies and victims’ services in cases of violent domestic crimes against women”; and
- WHEREAS:** The *WIN* (Worcester Intervention Network) Program has been a state-wide model of civilians and law enforcement officers working together to support victims and arrest and prosecute perpetrators for over three decades; and
- WHEREAS:** Since 1996, the YWCA of Central Massachusetts’ Daybreak Program, the Worcester Police Department, District Attorney’s Victim Witness Program, and the City’s Grants Office have secured funding to maintain this important domestic violence program; and
- WHEREAS:** There is a required 25% match that will be met through various in-kind services that are funded under existing appropriations.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the City Manager be and is hereby authorized to file a grant application with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, for the purpose of the Violence Against Women Act grant program;
 2. That the City Manager be and is hereby authorized to file information as required by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security;
 3. That the City Manager be and is hereby authorized to accept grant funds, execute contracts, and any amendments thereto, to carry out the terms, purposes and conditions of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security,
 4. That the City Manager be and is hereby authorized to take other such actions as are necessary to carry out the terms, purposes and conditions of the grant administered by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security;
 5. That this resolution shall take effect upon passage.
-



Eric D. Batista
City Manager

CITY OF WORCESTER

cm2024mar06121223

Attachment for Item # 11.35 F

March 12, 2024

TO THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

COUNCILORS:

I respectfully recommend adoption of a resolution to file, accept and expend a grant in the amount of Forty Thousand Dollars And No Cents (\$40,000.00) from the MassMEP Program Support program.

The MassMEP Staff Support program will offset approximately 15 MCRWB staff hours per week to assist with the development and delivery of MassMEP led manufacturing workforce initiatives and programs throughout Worcester and the 37 surrounding communities in the MCRWB Workforce Development Area, and other areas in Commonwealth as appropriate. The total funding amount is anticipated at \$40,000.00 over the length of the initial agreement, beginning March 2024 and ending June 2025.

This grant opportunity neither requires matching funds nor in-kind contributions, and no additional staff will be required.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



The City of
WORCESTER

Executive Office of Economic Development
MassHire Central Region Workforce Board
Jeffrey Turgeon, Executive Director
City Hall, 455 Main Street, Worcester, MA 01608
P | 508-799-1400 F | 508-799-1406
development@worcesterma.gov

TO: Eric D. Batista, City Manager
FROM: Peter Dunn, Chief Development Officer
DATE: March 12, 2024
RE: Finance Item

I respectfully recommend adoption of a resolution to file, accept, and expend a grant in the amount of Forty Thousand Dollars And No Cents (\$40,000.00) from the MassMEP Program Support program.

The MassMEP Staff Support program will offset approximately 15 MCRWB staff hours per week to assist with the development and delivery of MassMEP led manufacturing workforce initiatives and programs throughout Worcester and the 37 surrounding communities in the MCRWB Workforce Development Area, and other areas in Commonwealth as appropriate. The total funding amount is anticipated at \$40,000.00 over the length of the initial agreement (beginning march, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025)

This grant opportunity neither requires matching funds nor in-kind contributions, and no additional staff will be required.

Sincerely,

Peter Dunn
Chief Development Officer

**RECOMMEND ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION TO FILE, ACCEPT AND
EXPEND A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF FORTY THOUSAND DOLLARS
AND NO CENTS (\$40,000.00) FROM THE MASSMEP PROGRAM SUPPORT
PROGRAM.**

WHEREAS: The Massachusetts manufacturing Extension Partnership (MassMEP) has made funding available to the MassHire Central Region Workforce Board to assist with their workforce program management;

WHEREAS: This funding will provide support for MCRWB staff to advance the manufacturing workforce in the Central MA workforce area and beyond;

WHEREAS: The City of Worcester and the MCRWB strongly support efforts to strengthen our region's workforce; and

WHEREAS: The City of Worcester and the MCRWB are committed to leveraging and aligning public and private resources for the purpose of workforce development.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, *that*:

1. The City Manager be and is hereby authorized and requested to file information as required by the grant program;
2. The City Manager be and is hereby authorized to accept grant funds and execute contracts, and any amendments thereto, in order to carry out the terms, purposes, and conditions of the grant program; and
3. The City Manager be and is hereby authorized to take such other actions as are necessary to carry out the terms, purposes, and conditions of the grant program.

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



CITY OF WORCESTER

cm2024mar06121432

Attachment for Item # 11.35 G

March 12, 2024

TO THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

COUNCILORS:

I respectfully recommend the City Council's review, deliberation, and adoption of the attached resolution to file, accept, and expend a Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund Supplemental Grant Award in the amount of Three Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$3,500,000.00) from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, as received from Peter Dunn, Chief Development Officer.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "E. Batista", is written over a light blue circular stamp.

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



The City of
WORCESTER

Executive Office of Economic Development
Peter Dunn, Chief Development Officer
City Hall, 455 Main Street, Worcester, MA 01608
P | 508-799-1400 F | 508-799-1406
development@worcesterma.gov

TO: Eric D. Batista, City Manager

FROM: Peter Dunn, Chief Development Officer

DATE: March 12, 2024

RE: Resolution to File, Accept, and Expend a Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund Supplemental Grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Brownfields Program

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has announced the availability of Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund Supplemental Grants through its competitive, nationwide Brownfields Program. Funds may be used to address sites contaminated by petroleum and/or hazardous substances.

The City recently applied for and received a Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund Grant from the EPA in 2023 in the amount of \$2,700,000 to administer its Brownfield Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund (BCRLF) Program. The City's BCRLF has been instrumental in the redevelopment and reuse of brownfield sites, leading to job creation, new tax revenues, and the elimination of blighted, vacant, and underutilized properties. Funding can be provided in the form of grants to nonprofits and loans to for-profit entities for environmental remediation at brownfield sites throughout the city.

The Executive Office of Economic Development is applying for \$3,500,000 in supplemental funding to increase the program's capitalization, which will allow the City to provide additional grants and loans to property owners for the reclamation of underutilized brownfield sites. The City is required to contribute a 20 percent cost-share. This requirement can include in-kind services or a financial match that is passed through to borrowers and sub-grant recipients. The City has exceeded this requirement in the past.

I therefore respectfully request that you seek City Council consideration and approval of the attached resolution to file, accept, and expend a \$3,500,000 Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund Grant. I appreciate your consideration of this request for authorization to receive additional EPA funding to further the City's efforts in putting underutilized properties back to productive use.

Sincerely,

Peter Dunn
Chief Development Officer

**A RESOLUTION TO FILE, ACCEPT, AND EXPEND A SUPPLEMENTAL
BROWNFIELDS REVOLVING LOAN FUND GRANT FROM THE U.S.
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY'S BROWNFIELDS PROGRAM**

WHEREAS: The City of Worcester is requesting a \$3,500,000 Supplemental Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund Grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) FFY 2024 Brownfields Program to fund the Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund (BCRLF) Program; and

WHEREAS: The City of Worcester originally applied for and received a Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund Grant from the EPA in 2023 under Cooperative Agreement 4B – 00A01133; and

WHEREAS: This Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund Grant will allow the City to reclaim additional underutilized brownfield sites for productive reuse by providing environmental remediation funding in the form of grants and loans; and

WHEREAS: The City of Worcester has many underutilized, vacant, and abandoned properties where the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse is complicated by the presence of environmental contaminants; and

WHEREAS: The City of Worcester is required to achieve a 20 percent cost share contribution; and

WHEREAS: The redevelopment and reuse of brownfield sites promotes economic vitality, expands the tax base, creates new employment opportunities, and improves neighborhood quality of life.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, *that*:

1. The City Manager be and is hereby authorized and requested to file, accept, and expend a grant application and any additional information as required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; and
2. The City Manager be and is hereby authorized to execute contracts or memoranda, and any amendments thereto, in order to carry out the terms, purposes, and conditions of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Brownfields Program; and
3. The City Manager be and is hereby authorized to take such other actions as are necessary to carry out the terms, purposes, and conditions of the program.

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



CITY OF WORCESTER

cm2024mar06121453

Attachment for Item # 11.35 H

March 12, 2024

TO THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

COUNCILORS:

I respectfully recommend adoption of a resolution to file, accept, and expend a grant in the amount of Three Million Two Hundred Seventy Six Thousand Seven Hundred Seventy One Dollars And No Cents (\$3,276,771.00) from Massachusetts State 911 Department under the FY25 Development Grant program.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "E. Batista", is written over a faint, light blue circular watermark or background.

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



The City of
WORCESTER

Department of Emergency Communications & Management
Charles R. Goodwin, Commissioner
2 Coppage Drive, Worcester, MA 01603
P | 508-799-8606 F | 508-799-1389
communications@worcesterma.gov

To: Eric D. Batista, City Manager
From: Charles R. Goodwin, Commissioner
Date: March 12, 2024
Re: Finance Request: FY25 State 911 Development Grant Application

The Massachusetts State 911 Department, a division of the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, has announced funding availability through the FY2025 Development Grant. The goal of the Development Grant is to assist Regional Emergency Communications Centers and other Regional PSAPs to fund projects that will further develop and enhance 9-1-1 services being provided. Development Grants are competitive grants, issued and approved upon evaluation of projects and available funding as provided through 9-1-1 surcharge fees that are approved for distribution under regulations and guidance provided by the Department of Telecommunications and Cable.

The City of Worcester is eligible to apply for up to three million, two hundred seventy-six thousand, seven hundred and seventy one dollars and zero cents (\$3,276,771.00). There is no match requirements for this award and no requirement to hire new employees as a condition of this acceptance.

I have attached a resolution to file and accept this grant for Council consideration. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Respectfully,

Charles R. Goodwin, Commissioner

**A RESOLUTION TO FILE AND ACCEPT AN FY 2025 STATE 911 DEPARTMENT
DEVELOPMENT GRANT APPLICATION WITH THE MASSACHUSETTS
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY**

WHEREAS: The Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security's State 911 Department is making development funds available statewide to cities and towns having at least (2) two municipalities participating in a Regional Emergency Communications Center; and,

WHEREAS: The goal of the Development Grant is to reimburse cities and towns transitioning into or further developing a Regional Emergency Communications Center; and,

WHEREAS: Funding amounts are competitive and awarded on the basis of grant guidelines that are set forth in the Development Grant application package, and the City of Worcester is eligible to receive up to \$3,276,771.00; and,

WHEREAS: There are no match requirements for this development grant.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the City Manager be and is hereby authorized to file a grant application with the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety, State 911 Department;
2. That the City Manager be and is hereby authorized to file information as required by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety, State 911 Department;
3. That the City Manager be and is hereby authorized to accept grant funds, execute contracts, and any amendments thereto, to carry out the terms, purposes, and conditions of the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety, State 911 Department;
4. That the City Manager be and is hereby authorized to take such other actions as are necessary to carry out the terms, purposes, and conditions of the grant administered by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety, State 911 Department;
5. That this resolution shall take effect upon passage.

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



CITY OF WORCESTER

cm2024mar06121612

Attachment for Item # 11.35 I

March 12, 2024

TO THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

COUNCILORS:

I respectfully recommend adoption of a resolution to accept with gratitude a donation in the amount of Two Hundred Dollars And No Cents (\$200.00) from the Retired Friend's Club of Greendale, Inc. for the Public Education Unit of the Worcester Fire Department.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "E. Batista", is written over a faint, circular blue stamp.

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



CITY OF WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Fire Department

Martin W. Dyer
Fire Chief

To: Eric D. Batista, City Manager

From: Martin W. Dyer, Fire Chief

Date: March 12, 2024

Re: Finance Request

I respectfully recommend adoption of a resolution to accept with gratitude a donation in the amount of Two Hundred Dollars And No Cents (\$200.00) from the Retired Friend's Club of Greendale, Inc. for the Public Education Unit of the Worcester Fire Department.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Martin W. Dyer", is written over a light gray rectangular background.

Martin W. Dyer
Fire Chief

A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT A DONATION IN THE AMOUNT OF TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$200.00) RECEIVED FROM THE RETIRED FRIEND'S CLUB OF GREENDALE, INC

WHEREAS: The City of Worcester received a generous donation in the amount of Two Hundred Dollars and No Cents (\$200.00) from the Retired Friend's Club of Greendale, Inc.; and

WHEREAS: The City of Worcester acknowledges that the intended purpose of this donation is to support the Public Education Division of the Worcester Fire Department.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the City Manager be and is hereby authorized to accept said donation from the Retired Friend's Club of Greendale, Inc.
2. That the City Manager be and is hereby authorized to take such other actions as are necessary to carry out the terms, purposes, and conditions of the donation.
3. That this resolution shall take effect upon passage.

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



CITY OF WORCESTER

cm2024mar06121624

Attachment for Item # 11.35 J

March 12, 2024

TO THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

COUNCILORS:

I respectfully recommend adoption of a resolution to accept with gratitude a donation in the amount of Fifty Dollars And No Cents (\$50.00) with no restrictions or specified purpose from Kenneth and Elizabeth Fleming.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



CITY OF WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Fire Department

Martin W. Dyer
Fire Chief

To: Eric D. Batista, City Manager

From: Martin W. Dyer, Fire Chief

Date: March 12, 2024

Re: Finance Request

I respectfully recommend adoption of a resolution to accept with gratitude a donation in the amount of Fifty Dollars And No Cents (\$50.00) with no restrictions or specified purpose from Kenneth and Elizabeth Fleming.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Martin W. Dyer", is written over a light gray rectangular background.

Martin W. Dyer
Fire Chief

**A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT A DONATION IN THE AMOUNT OF FIFTY DOLLARS
AND NO CENTS (\$50.00) RECEIVED FROM KENNETH AND ELIZABETH FLEMING**

WHEREAS: The City of Worcester received a generous donation in the amount of Fifty Dollars and No Cents (\$50.00) from Kenneth and Elizabeth Fleming; and

WHEREAS: The City of Worcester acknowledges that the donation was made without restrictions or a specified purpose.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the City Manager be and is hereby authorized to accept said donation from Kenneth and Elizabeth Fleming.
2. That the City Manager be and is hereby authorized to take such other actions as are necessary to carry out the terms, purposes, and conditions of the donation.
3. This resolution shall take effect upon passage.

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



CITY OF WORCESTER

cm2024mar06121639

Attachment for Item # 11.35 K

March 12, 2024

TO THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

COUNCILORS:

I respectfully request City Council's consideration and adoption of the attached resolution to accept with gratitude a donation to the Worcester Police Department in the amount of Two Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$2,000.00) from Middlesex Savings Bank, as received from Paul B. Saucier, Interim Chief of Police, and forwarded for the consideration of your Honorable Body.

This generous donation will be used to support the Worcester Police Department's efforts to provide programs to children and their families in the Worcester community. For example, funds may be used towards the Summer Gang Camp cookout or athletic equipment for WPD/youth sports programs.

The City of Worcester is extremely grateful for these generous donations.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER, CITY HALL, WORCESTER, MA 01608
TELEPHONE (508) 799-1175 | FAX (508) 799-1208
EMAIL: citymanager@worcesterma.gov





The City of **WORCESTER**

Police Department

Paul B. Saucier, Interim Chief of Police

9-11 Lincoln Square, Worcester, MA 01608

P | 508-799-8600 F | 508-799-8680

WPD@worcesterma.gov

Date: March 12, 2024
To: Eric D. Batista, City Manager
From: Paul B. Saucier, Interim Chief of Police
Subject: Finance Item

I respectfully request that the City Council accept with gratitude a donation to the Worcester Police Department in the amount of Two Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$2,000.00) from the Middlesex Savings Bank. This generous donation will be used to support the Worcester Police Department's efforts to provide programs to children and their families in the Worcester community. For example, funds may be used towards the Summer Gang Camp cookout or athletic equipment for WPD/youth sports programs.

PAUL B. SAUCIER
Interim Chief of Police

A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT WITH GRATITUDE A DONATION OF TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$2,000.00) FROM MIDDLESEX SAVINGS BANK

WHEREAS: The Worcester Police Department received a generous donation in the amount of Two Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$2,000.00) from Middlesex Savings Bank; and

WHEREAS: The Worcester Police Department will use these donations to support programs that will make a difference in the Worcester community and will use these funds for the intended purpose.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the City Manager be and is hereby authorized to accept said donations;
2. That the City Manager be and is hereby authorized to take other such actions as are necessary to carry out the terms, purposes, and conditions of the donation;
3. That this resolution shall take effect upon passage.



Eric D. Batista
City Manager



CITY OF WORCESTER

cm2024mar06121729

Attachment for Item #

11.35 L

March 12, 2024

TO THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL
COUNCILORS:

I respectfully request City Council's consideration and approval of the attached resolution to apply for, accept, and expend a grant in the amount of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$25,000.00) from the Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC), Survey and Planning Grant Program. The Survey and Planning Grant Program serves to support historic preservation planning activities in communities throughout the state.

If funded, the grant will be used to conduct additional historic survey and develop new inventory of historic structures in some of Worcester's historically redlined neighborhoods. New inventory will provide an invaluable tool to better understand the diverse history of Worcester's neighborhoods and create opportunities for existing property owners to access financial incentives for rehabilitation through historic tax credits. This project is in line with recommendations of the City's 2016 Preservation Plan and will help tell the untold stories of Worcester's past, in line with the values of the City's 2019 Cultural Plan.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



The City of
WORCESTER

Executive Office of Economic Development
Peter Dunn, Chief Development Officer
City Hall, 455 Main Street, Worcester, MA 01608
P | 508-799-1400 F | 508-799-1406
development@worcesterma.gov

TO: Eric D. Batista City Manager

FROM: Peter Dunn, Chief Development Officer

DATE: March 12, 2024

RE: Resolution to File, Accept, and Expend a Grant from the Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC), Survey and Planning Grant Program

The Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) has invited the City of Worcester to apply for \$25,000 in grant funding through the MHC Survey and Planning Grant Program, in response to a letter of interest submitted by the Planning & Regulatory Services Division, for a project that would undertake historic survey of properties located in historically redlined neighborhoods of Worcester. The Survey and Planning Grant Program serves to support historic preservation planning activities in communities throughout the state.

The proposed project would engage the professional services of a consultant experienced in historic preservation and architecture to conduct both historic survey and inventory in historically redlined areas of the city (as shown on the 1936 Homeowners' Loan Corporation Redlining Maps), predominantly located in East Worcester (i.e., Zone 15 on said Maps).

This project is consistent with the recommendations put forth in the City's 2016 Preservation Plan, aiming to produce additional historic inventory for Worcester as well as the values of the City's 2019 Cultural Plan. Additional historic survey will serve to better inform residents, property and business owners, and decision makers, of the diverse history of their neighborhoods and by generating new historic inventory will improve access to state historic tax credit programs for property owners of National Register eligible properties.

The \$25,000 grant would be reimbursement based and requires a 50% match (or \$25,000), which can be satisfied through in-kind and/or cash contributions, for a total project cost of \$50,000. If awarded, the grant would begin in FY25, and the intention would be to satisfy the match requirement with in-kind staff time to the maximum extent possible, while some level of cash match is also expected.

Sincerely,

Peter Dunn
Chief Development Officer

**A RESOLUTION TO FILE, ACCEPT, AND EXPEND A SURVEY AND PLANNING GRANT IN
THE AMOUNT OF TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$25,000.00)
FROM THE MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION SURVEY AND PLANNING
GRANT PROGRAM**

WHEREAS: The Massachusetts Historical Commission's Survey and Planning Grant Program was established to provide funding resources to municipalities and other eligible entities to further historic preservation; and

WHEREAS: The City of Worcester is requesting Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$25,000.00) in grant funding from the Massachusetts Historical Commission, Survey and Planning Grant Program; and

WHEREAS: The grant funding will be used to conduct historic survey and develop new inventory in historically underserved portions of the city to improve the effectiveness and inclusiveness of its historic preservation programs; and

WHEREAS: There is a Twenty Thousand Five Hundred Dollard and No Cents (\$25,000.00) match required from the City, which can be satisfied through a combination of in-kind contributions and cash.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the City Manager be and is hereby authorized and requested to submit information as required by the Massachusetts Historical Commission; and
2. That the City Manager be and is hereby authorized to accept and expend grant funds and execute contracts, and any amendments thereto, in order to carry out the terms, purposes, and conditions of the grant program; and
3. That the City Manager be and is hereby authorized to take such other actions as are necessary to carry out the terms, purposes, and conditions of the grant program.

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



CITY OF WORCESTER

cm2024mar06121808

Attachment for Item #

11.35 M

March 12, 2024

TO THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL
COUNCILORS:

I respectfully request City Council's consideration and approval of the attached resolution authorizing the City to apply for, accept, and expend a grant in the amount of Eighty Seven Thousand Four Hundred Fifty Dollars and No Cents (\$87,450.00) from the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), MassTrails Program as received from Peter Dunn, Chief Development Officer, and forwarded for the consideration of your Honorable Body. The MassTrails Program seeks to expand and connect the Commonwealth's networks of pathways and trails for all users by providing resources to design, construct, and maintain high quality trails in the state.

If awarded, the proposed grant would fund the design of engineered plans for a new accessible pedestrian bridge on Sprague Trail, located on City-owned property within the Mass Audubon Broad Meadow Brook Wildlife Sanctuary, which is now impassible most of the year due to increased flooding from the river. The project is a critical step in improving equitable access to nature in both the sanctuary and the city, being located in a state designated environmental justice area, and furthers the City's Open Space and Recreation Plan.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



The City of
WORCESTER

Executive Office of Economic Development
Peter Dunn, Chief Development Officer
City Hall, 455 Main Street, Worcester, MA 01608
P | 508-799-1400 F | 508-799-1406
development@worcesterma.gov

TO: Eric D. Batista City Manager

FROM: Peter Dunn, Chief Development Officer

DATE: March 12, 2024

RE: Resolution to File and Accept a Grant from the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, MassTrails Program

The City of Worcester, on behalf of the Worcester Conservation Commission, seeks to apply for, and expend, an \$87,450 grant from the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) MassTrails Program. The MassTrails Program seeks to expand and connect the Commonwealth's networks of off-road and shared-use pathways and recreational trails for all users by providing resources to design, construct, and maintain high quality trails in the state.

The Broad Meadow Brook Wildlife Sanctuary - New England's largest urban wildlife sanctuary - is comprised of over 450 acres of property owned and made available for public recreation and enjoyment by the City of Worcester, Mass Audubon, National Grid, and the Greater Worcester Land Trust. Sprague Trail, located in the southeastern part of the Sanctuary, primarily on a City-owned parcel held in the custody of the Conservation Commission, is a short ± 0.3 mile trail, but serves as a critical link in the Sanctuary's ± 5 mile trail network - crossing Broad Meadow Brook. Historically, large stones have been used to cross the river; however, increasing frequency and intensity of flooding now renders this trail crossing impassible most of the year.

The City of Worcester and Mass Audubon seek to partner to fund, through a MassTrails grant, the design of a new accessible pedestrian bridge on Sprague Trail, also located within a state designated environmental justice area. If awarded funding, the City's Planning Division would hire engineering consultants to design civil and structural engineering plans for a pedestrian bridge that meets state and federal accessibility standards and minimizes environmental impacts. Funding this design project would be a critical next step in providing equitable access to nature in the City, offering a future opportunity to extend the Sanctuary's "All Persons Trail" by ± 0.25 miles, in one of the City's most ecologically important and largest conservation areas.

The \$87,420 grant would be reimbursement based and requires a 20% match (or \$22,480), which can be satisfied through in-kind and/or cash contributions, for a total project cost of \$109,900. If awarded, the grant would begin in FY25, and the intention would be to satisfy the match requirement with in-kind staff time to the maximum extent possible, while some level of cash match is expected. This project would result only in the *design* of plans for the bridge, construction and permitting would be separate expenses and require additional funding in a future fiscal year or additional grant opportunities.

Sincerely,

Peter Dunn
Chief Development Officer

**A RESOLUTION TO FILE, ACCEPT, AND EXPEND A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF
EIGHTY SEVEN THOUSAND, FOUR HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS AND NO CENTS
(\$87,450.00) FROM THE MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND
RECREATION MASSTRAILS PROGRAM**

- WHEREAS:** The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation's MassTrails Program seeks to expand and connect the Commonwealth's networks of recreational trails for all users by providing resources to design high quality trails in the state; and
- WHEREAS:** The City of Worcester, in partnership with the Worcester Conservation Commission and Mass Audubon, is requesting eighty-seven thousand four hundred and fifty dollars and no cents (\$87,450.00) in grant funding from the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, MassTrails Program; and
- WHEREAS:** The grant funding will be used for the design phase of a project to develop plans for a new accessible pedestrian bridge at Sprague Trail within the Broad Meadow Brook Wildlife Sanctuary; and
- WHEREAS:** The construction of an accessible pedestrian bridge is aligned with the goals and objectives of the Open Space and Recreation Plan; and
- WHEREAS:** On January 29, 2024, the Worcester Conservation Commission voted to support of the design project and request for MassTrails funding; and
- WHEREAS:** There is an anticipated \$21,980.00 match required from the City, which can be satisfied through a combination of in-kind contributions and cash.

Now, therefore be it resolved, that:

1. The City Manager be and is hereby authorized and requested to file information as required by the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation; and
2. The City Manager be and is hereby authorized to accept grant funds and execute contracts, and any amendments thereto, in order to carry out the terms, purposes, and conditions of the grant program; and
3. That the City Manager be and is hereby authorized to take such other actions as are necessary to carry out the terms, purposes, and conditions of the grant program.

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



CITY OF WORCESTER

cm2024mar07012304

Attachment for Item # 11.35 N

March 12, 2024

TO THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

COUNCILORS:

I respectfully recommend adoption of a resolution to file, accept and expend a grant in the amount of One Hundred Forty Six Thousand Three Hundred Nineteen Dollars and No Cents (\$146,319.00) from Commonwealth of Massachusetts under the Community Compact Cabinet IT Grant Program, to support the City's cybersecurity posture and end-user device management.

Match funding will be provided through the Department of Innovation & Technology's current operating budget.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



CITY OF WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Department of Innovation and Technology

Michael P. Hamel
Chief Information Officer

To: Eric D. Batista, City Manager
From: Michael P. Hamel, Chief Information Officer
Date: March 12, 2024
Re: Finance Request

I respectfully recommend adoption of a resolution to file, accept and expend a grant in the amount of One Hundred Forty Six Thousand Three Hundred Nineteen Dollars And No Cents (\$146,319.00) from Commonwealth of Massachusetts under the Community Compact Cabinet IT Grant Program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael P. Hamel".

Michael P. Hamel
Chief Information Officer

A RESOLUTION TO FILE, ACCEPT, AND EXPEND A GRANT UP TO ONE HUNDRED FORTY SIX THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED NINETEEN DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$146,319.00) FROM THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS UNDER THEIR COMMUNITY COMPACT CABINET IT GRANT PROGRAM

WHEREAS: The City of Worcester is committed to securing technology assets and providing technology that enables the City workforce to perform their business functions; and

WHEREAS: The Commonwealth of Massachusetts is offering IT Grant funding through the Community Compact Cabinet, which provides support for cities and town to implement good practice around technology practices and infrastructure; and

WHEREAS: The City of Worcester has been awarded \$146,319.00 in funds from the FY24 Community Compact Cabinet IT Grant Program to implement technologies that will improve the City's cybersecurity posture and enable modern end-user device management;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the City Manager be and is hereby authorized to accept grant funds and execute contracts and any amendment thereto; in order to carry out the terms, purposes, and conditions of the grant; and
2. That the City Manager be and is hereby authorized to take such other actions as are necessary to carry out the terms, purposes, and conditions of the grant.
3. That this resolution shall take effect upon passage.



Eric D. Batista
City Manager

CITY OF WORCESTER

cm2024mar06121250

Attachment for Item # 11.36 A

March 12, 2024

TO THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

COUNCILORS:

I respectfully recommend that Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars And No Cents (\$750,000.00) be transferred from the following accounts:

Fund	Description	Amount
FD377	Major Taylor Garage Fund	400,000.00
FD373	Off Street Parking Lot Funds	<u>350,000.00</u>
	Total	\$750,000.00

and be appropriated to the following accounts:

Fund	Description	Amount
FD374	On Street Meters	485,000.00
FD379	Worcester Common Garage Fund	<u>265,000.00</u>
	Total	\$750,000.00

to provide sufficient funding for the Off-Street and On-street parking programs through the third quarter of Fiscal Year 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



The City of
WORCESTER

Transportation & Mobility
Stephen S. Rolle, P.E., Commissioner
76 East Worcester Street, Worcester, MA 01604
P | 508-799-1300 x49500
mobility@worcesterma.gov

TO: Eric D. Batista, City Manager
FROM: Stephen S. Rolle, P.E., Commissioner of Transportation & Mobility
DATE: March 12, 2024
RE: Finance Request to Cover Anticipated OT costs

I respectfully recommend that Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars And No Cents (\$750,000.00) be transferred from the following accounts:

Fund	Description	Amount
FD377	Major Taylor Garage Fund	400,000.00
FD373	Off Street Parking Lot Funds	<u>350,000.00</u>
	Total	\$750,000.00

and be appropriated to the following accounts:

Fund	Description	Amount
FD374	On Street Meters	485,000.00
FD379	Worcester Common Garage Fund	<u>265,000.00</u>
	Total	\$750,000.00

to provide sufficient funding for the Off-Street and On-street parking programs through the third quarter of Fiscal Year 2024.

Sincerely,

Stephen S. Rolle, P.E.
Commissioner of Transportation & Mobility

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



CITY OF WORCESTER

cm2024mar06121513

Attachment for Item # 11.36 B

March 12, 2024

TO THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

COUNCILORS:

I respectfully recommend that Five Hundred Sixty Three Thousand Three Hundred Dollars And No Cents (\$563,300.00) be transferred from Fund #FD314, Reserve for Appropriation Premium on Loans, and be appropriated to Cost Center #CC1062, Treasury Office Ordinary Maintenance, to fund the costs associated with the issuance of the \$148,950,000.00 bond dated February 8, 2024, per the request of Timothy J. McGourthy, Chief Financial Officer and Acting City Treasurer.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



The City of
WORCESTER

Administration & Finance
Timothy J. McGourthy, Chief Financial Officer
City Hall, 455 Main Street, Worcester, MA 01608
P | 508-799-1225 F | 508-799-1097
treasurer@worcesterma.gov

To: Eric D. Batista, City Manager
From: Timothy J. McGourthy, Chief Financial Officer
Date: March 12, 2024
Re: Finance Request

Since fiscal year 2004, the City's budget has been predicated on capitalizing bond and BAN issuance costs to the specific bond offering by requiring a premium to provide a revenue source to pay for the related issuance expenses of the nature of bond ratings, official statement, and distribution, etc. The premium is paid to the City with the settlement of the bond offering and receipted into a reserve account. To pay for these obligations which arose from the City's recent \$148,950,000.00 bond dated February 8, 2024, a transfer in the amount of \$563,300.00 is required from the Reserve for Appropriation account, Premium on Bonds, to this office's appropriation account.

Therefore, I respectfully recommend that Five Hundred Sixty Three Thousand Three Hundred Dollars And No Cents (\$563,300.00) be transferred from Fund #FD314, Reserve for Appropriation Premium on Loans, and be appropriated to Cost Center #CC1062, Treasurer Ordinary Maintenance.

Sincerely,

Timothy J. McGourthy
Chief Financial Officer

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



CITY OF WORCESTER

cm2024mar06121531

Attachment for Item # 11.36 C

March 12, 2024

TO THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

COUNCILORS:

I respectfully recommend that Twenty Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty Eight Dollars And Sixty Five Cents (\$20,758.65) be transferred from Cost Center #CC1044-699399, Fire Capital Outlay, and be appropriated to Cost Center #CC1044-610100, Fire Ordinary Maintenance, for the purchase of flashlights for the recruit class and to repair damaged high-temperature paneling in the burn building.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



CITY OF WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Fire Department

Martin W. Dyer
Fire Chief

To: Eric D. Batista, City Manager

From: Martin W. Dyer, Fire Chief

Date: March 12, 2024

Re: Finance Request

I respectfully recommend that Twenty Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty Eight Dollars And Sixty Five Cents (\$20,758.65) be transferred from #Cost Center #CC1044-699399, Fire Capital Outlay, to Cost Center #CC1044-610100, Fire Ordinary Maintenance, for the purchase of flashlights for the recruit class and to repair damaged high-temperature paneling in the burn building.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Martin W. Dyer", is written over a light gray rectangular background.

Martin W. Dyer
Fire Chief



Eric D. Batista
City Manager

CITY OF WORCESTER

cm2024mar06121544

Attachment for Item # 11.36 D

March 12, 2024

TO THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

COUNCILORS:

I respectfully recommend that Five Hundred Sixty Three Thousand Four Hundred Sixty Five Dollars And Forty Nine Cents (\$563,465.49) be transferred from Cost Center #CC1072-610100, City Manager's Contingency Ordinary Maintenance, and be appropriated to:

Cost Center	Description	Amount
CC1044-601100	Fire Overtime	\$500,000.00
CC1044-610100	Fire Ordinary Maintenance	<u>63,765.49</u>
	Total	\$563,765.49

to provide additional funding for overtime maintain daily staffing levels in accordance with department policy, and to fund repairs on Engine 8.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



CITY OF WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Fire Department

Martin W. Dyer
Fire Chief

To: Eric D. Batista, City Manager

From: Martin W. Dyer, Fire Chief

Date: March 12, 2024

Re: Finance Request

I respectfully recommend that Five Hundred Sixty Three Thousand Four Hundred Sixty Five Dollars And Forty Nine Cents (\$563,465.49) be transferred from Cost Center #1072-610100, City Manager's Contingency, and be appropriated to the following accounts to maintain daily staffing levels in accordance with department policy and to perform repairs on Engine 8.

Amount:
\$500,000.00
\$63,765.49

To:
Cost Center #CC1044-601100, Fire Overtime
Cost Center #CC1044-610100, Fire Ordinary Maintenance

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Martin W. Dyer", is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Martin W. Dyer
Fire Chief

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



CITY OF WORCESTER

cm2024mar06121703

Attachment for Item # 11.36 E

March 12, 2024

TO THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

COUNCILORS:

I respectfully recommend that Two Hundred Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$200,000.00) be transferred from Cost Center #CC1025-600100, Sewer Salaries, and be appropriated Cost Center #CC1025-601100, Sewer Overtime, to cover anticipated expenditures through the remainder of Fiscal Year 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



CITY OF WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Department of Public Works and Parks

Jay J. Fink, P.E.
Commissioner of Public
Works and Parks

To: Eric D. Batista, City Manager

From: Jay J. Fink, P.E., Commissioner of Public Works and Parks

Date: March 12, 2024

Re: Finance Request

I respectfully recommend that Two Hundred Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$200,000.00) be transferred from Cost Center CC1025 DPW Sewer Salaries - Spend Category SC10045 Regular Salaries to Cost Center CC1025 DPW Sewer Overtime - Spend Category SC10334 Regular Salaries.

To cover anticipated expenditures through FY24 year end.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jay J. Fink", is written over a horizontal line.

Jay J. Fink, P.E.
Commissioner of Public Works and Parks

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



CITY OF WORCESTER

cm2024mar06121745

Attachment for Item # 11.36 F

March 12, 2024

TO THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

COUNCILORS:

I respectfully recommend that Five Hundred Thousand Dollars And No Cents (\$500,000.00) be transferred from Cost Center #CC1055-600100, DPW Street Salaries, and be appropriated to Cost Center #CC1057-610100, DPW Fleet Ordinary Maintenance, to cover anticipated expenditures through the remainder of Fiscal Year 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



CITY OF WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Department of Public Works and Parks

Jay J. Fink, P.E.
Commissioner of Public
Works and Parks

To: Eric D. Batista, City Manager
From: Jay J. Fink, P.E., Commissioner of Public Works and Parks
Date: March 12, 2024
Re: Finance Request

I respectfully recommend that Five Hundred Thousand Dollars And No Cents (\$500,000.00) be transferred from Cost Center # CC1055 DPW Street Salaries - Spend Category SC10045 Regular Salaries to Cost Center # CC1057 DPW Fleet Ordinary Maintenance – Spend Category SC10537 Transfer In.

To cover anticipated expenditures through FY24 year end.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jay J. Fink", is written over a horizontal line.

Jay J. Fink, P.E.
Commissioner of Public Works and Parks

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



CITY OF WORCESTER

cm2024mar06121849

Attachment for Item # 11.37 A

March 12, 2024

TO THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

COUNCILORS:

I respectfully recommend that Sixty Six Thousand Nine Hundred Ten Dollars And Twenty Eight Cents (\$66,910.28) be authorized from Cost Center #CC1037 and #CC1012, Human Resources Ordinary Maintenance, to provide funding for the payment of prior year invoices.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



MEMORANDUM

TO: Eric D. Batista, City Manager

FROM: William R. Bagley Jr., Chief Human Resources Officer

DATE: March 12, 2024

RE: Finance Transfer Request

I respectfully recommend that Sixty-Six Thousand Nine Hundred Ten Dollars with Twenty-Eight Cents (\$66,910.28) be authorized from multiple fiscal year 2024 Human Resources Cost Centers for payment of prior year invoices.

Listed below are 4 prior fiscal year 2023 invoices that were received in our office after the start of the new fiscal year 2024 and as a result remain unpaid.

Supplier (SU-Number)	Invoice Number	Invoice Date	Amount	Spend Category
Cost Center: CC1037 HR - Professional Development				
Massachusetts Municipal Managers Association (SU-11082)	126608	03/14/2023	\$55.00	SC10133 – Registration Fees
Cost Center: CC1012 HR – Administration				
UMass Memorial Healthcare (SU-11714)	JUL21-MAY22	11/13/2023	\$59,745.00	SC10186 – Consultants
	JUNE22	11/13/2023	\$7,035.00	SC10186 – Consultants
W.B. Mason Co., Inc. (SU-11158)	239339867	06/26/2023	\$75.28	SC10201 – Office
TOTAL:			\$66,910.28	

Please let me know if you require any additional information.

Sincerely,

William R. Bagley Jr.

Chief Human Resources Officer

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



CITY OF WORCESTER

cm2024mar06121909

Attachment for Item # 11.37 B

March 12, 2024

TO THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

COUNCILORS:

I respectfully recommend that One Hundred Forty Six Dollars and Eighty Five Cents (\$146.85) be authorized from various Fiscal Year 2024 Department of Public Works & Parks Cost Centers, for the payment of prior year invoices.

Respectfully,

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



CITY OF WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Department of Public Works and Parks

Jay J. Fink, P.E.
Commissioner of Public
Works and Parks

To: Eric D. Batista, City Manager
From: Jay J. Fink, P.E., Commissioner of Public Works and Parks
Date: March 12, 2024
Re: Finance Request

I respectfully recommend that One hundred Forty Six dollars and Eighty Five Cents (\$146.85) be authorized from various Fiscal Year 2024 Department of Public Works & Parks Cost Centers for the payment of prior year invoices.

Listed below are prior Fiscal Year 2023 invoices that need to be paid with funding from Fiscal Year 2024.

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Cost Center</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Lowes	PG10005	CC1026	\$15.73
Wachusett Survey Solutions	PG10021	CC1054	\$131.12

These invoices are FY23 invoice that were not received until this Fiscal Year 24.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jay J. Fink", is written over a horizontal line.

Jay J. Fink, P.E.
Commissioner of Public Works and Parks

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



CITY OF WORCESTER

Attachment for Item # 11.39 A

March 12, 2024

TO THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

COUNCILORS:

I respectfully request City Council's review, consideration, and adoption of the attached order authorizing the transfer of care, custody, management and control of four (4) parcels to the Worcester Public Schools, as received from Peter Dunn, Chief Development Officer.

The four (4) parcels known as "Lots 5, 6, 7 and 8" along Sunderland Road are each approximately 9,800 square feet and adjacent to Roosevelt School. On April 28, 2020, the City Council adopted an Order of Taking to acquire the parcels at a negotiated price of \$450,000. The intent of the acquisition was to facilitate improved circulation and student drop off / pick up at Roosevelt School. The properties are currently under my jurisdiction and this order will enable the final transfer to the Worcester Public Schools.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric D. Batista
City Manager

CITY OF WORCESTER

WHEREAS, on April 28, 2020, the Worcester City Council adopted an order of taking to acquire parcels 5 (MBL 34-025-025-5), 6 (MBL 34-025-025-6), 7 (MBL34-025-025-7), & 8 (MBL 34-025-025-8) (collectively, “the Parcels”) shown on a plan entitled, “Plan of Property Surveyed for Howard J. Shear and Francine T. Shear, 1120 Grafton Street, Worcester, Massachusetts,” prepared by Jarvis Land Survey, Inc., dated August 21, 2019, and recorded in the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 948, Plan No. 7; and

WHEREAS, the Parcels were taken for municipal purposes and are held under the care, custody, management and control of the city manager; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to M.G.L. c. 40, § 15A, the city manager has determined that the care, custody, management and control of the Parcels should be transferred to the Worcester School Committee for school purposes, specifically, for the construction of a parking lot to facilitate improved circulation and student drop off/pick up at Roosevelt School;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED, *that*

the Parcels are hereby transferred from the care, custody, management, and control of the city manager to the care, custody, management, and control of the Worcester School Committee.