



Watertown City Council

Administration Building
149 Main Street
Watertown, MA 02472
Phone: 617-972-6470

ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Mark S. Sideris,
Council President

Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr.,
Vice President &
District C Councilor

John M. Airasian,
Councilor At Large

Caroline Bays,
Councilor At Large

John G. Gannon,
Councilor At Large

Anthony Palomba,
Councilor At Large

Nicole Gardner,
District A Councilor

Lisa J. Feltner,
District B Councilor

Emily Izzo,
District D Councilor

CITY COUNCIL MEETING TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2023, AT 7:00 PM RICHARD E. MASTRANGELO COUNCIL CHAMBER ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 149 MAIN STREET

MINUTES

ACCESS INFORMATION:

- A. The meeting will be televised through WCATV (Watertown Cable Access Television): <http://vodwcatv.org/CablecastPublicSite/?channel=3>
- B. The Public may join the virtual meeting online: <https://watertown-ma.org.zoom.us/j/92991331344>
- C. Public may join the virtual meeting audio only by phone: (877) 853-5257 or (888) 475-4499 (Toll Free) and enter Webinar ID: 929 9133 1344
- D. Public may comment through email: vpiccirilli@watertown-ma.gov

1. Roll Call

Council President Sideris called to order a regular meeting of the City Council at 7:00 pm. in the Richard E. Mastrangelo Chamber, Administration Building.

Those present were Councilors John M. Airasian, Caroline Bays, John G. Gannon, Nicole Gardner, Lisa J. Feltner, Emily Izzo, Anthony Palomba, Vice President Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr., and Council President Mark S. Sideris. Also present were George Proakis, City Manager, and Mark Reich, City Attorney

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. PUBLIC FORUM

President Sideris opened the forum, as there were no speakers, the forum was closed.

4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Sideris noted flowers were in the chamber from an outpouring of condolences for the former City Manager Michael J. Driscoll who sadly passed on Saturday, February 11th. City Manager Driscoll's was the City Manager 29 years. President Sideris highlighted several accomplishments during his tenure: AAA bond rating; fully funded pension system; addressing OPEB; building of new elementary schools without a debt override. He said the city has a debt of gratitude for being financially responsible for getting us where we are today. He considered Manager Driscoll a professional and he was a friend and that he would be missed by the community and was a truly remarkable person. A celebration of life for Manager Driscoll would take place on Thursday, February 16th at St. Patrick's Church and a funeral mass on Friday, February 17th at 10 AM. He offered thoughts and prayers to Jane Driscoll and her entire family, and that Jane welcomed a new grandbaby on Sunday.

President Sideris read an Irish Blessing noting it was a favorite one of Mike's favorite, a traditional Irish Blessing:

May the road rise up to meet you; May the wind be always at your back

May the sunshine warmly upon your face; the rains fall softly upon your fields;

And until we meet again; May God hold you in the hollow of His hand

Thank you, Mr. Driscoll!

A. Request from the Watertown Contributory Retirement Board to Increase the Base of the Retiree Cost of Living Adjustment; and a Referral to the Committee on Budget and Fiscal Oversight for Review and Report to the Full City Council

President Sideris asked for a motion to refer the item to the noted committee; so moved by Vice President Piccirilli, the motion seconded by Councilor Feltner, and adopted unanimously on voice vote.

B. Consideration of Extending the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Submission date from April 11, 2023, to May 9, 2023

President Sideris asked for a motion, so moved by Vice President Piccirilli, the motion seconded by Councilor Feltner, and adopted unanimously on voice vote.

President Sideris wished everyone a Happy Valentines Day.

5. PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE

A. Public Hearing and Vote on a Proposed Order Authorizing the Sum of \$300,000 is appropriated to pay costs of Designing and Constructing a New Handicap Ramp at the John A. Ryan Skating Arena, including all costs incidental and related thereto; and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the City Manager, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to MG. c.44, §7(1), or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the City therefor.

City Manager Proakis summarized the need for the loan order for the John A. Ryan Skating Arena. The current handicap ramp needs significant repairs as it is pulling away from the building and has sunken in places, thereby not making the ramp ADA accessible and introduced Thomas Watkins, Director of Administration & Finance, Department of Public Works.

Mr. Watkins outlined the details, this is a major safety and accessibility matter and these funds will address these issues through the demolition of the existing ramp, as well as the design and construction of a new ramp.

President Sideris opened the Public Hearing for discussion/comments, as there were no speakers, the public hearing was closed.

President Sideris asked for a motion, so moved by Vice President Piccirilli, motion seconded by Councilor Feltner and stated as Council Representative on the Commission on Disability that she fully supposes the project.

Motion accepted unanimously by roll call vote.

6. MOTIONS, ORDINANCES, ORDER, AND RESOLUTIONS

A. First Reading on a Proposed Loan Order Authorizing the Sum of \$2,500,000 is appropriated to pay costs of Constructing, Reconstructing, Paving, Repairing or Otherwise Improving Streets and Sidewalks, Including Improving Underground Ducts and Conduits and Paying All Other Costs Incidental and Related to such Street and Sidewalk Work; and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the City Manager, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to M.G.L. c.44, §7(1), or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the City therefor.

President Sideris asked City Manager Proakis to provide background for the loan order.

Mr. Proakis provided the details and stated that the loan order was consistence with the approved work in the Capital Improve Plan (CIP).

As this was a first reading, no action shall be taken until a public hearing takes place at the February 28, 2023, City Council Meeting.

B. First Reading on a Proposed Order Authorizing the Sum of \$1,500,000 is appropriated to pay costs of Replacing the Turf at Victory Field, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto; and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the City Manager, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to M.G.L. c.44, §7(1), or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the City therefor.

As this was a first reading, the order must be published at least five days prior to the holding of a public meeting with respect to the order and its final passage and requires the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of all members of the City Council, as in the case of any other loan order for bonds.

President Sideris asked Mr. Proakis to provide background for the loan order.

City Manager Proakis provided the details and stated that the loan order was consistence with the approved project within the Capital Improve Plan (CIP) and noted that the School Committee supports the proposed project.

As this was a first reading, no action shall be taken until a public hearing takes place at the February 28, 2023, City Council Meeting.

C. First Reading and Referral to the Planning Board for a Public Hearing Regarding a Proposed Zoning Map Amendment Request 134 Templeton Parkway.

President Sideris introduced City Manager Proakis for comments.

Mr. Proakis noted that this item would be referred to the Planning Board and be brought to the full city Council at the upcoming meeting.

President Sideris stated item is referred to Planning Board for council consideration at the future council meeting.

7. REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

A. Committee on Economic Development & Planning Report Regarding the Confirmation Interviews of Two Members of the Public Arts & Culture Committee and Report Regarding the Confirmation of Six Members Historic District Commission – January 23, 2023 – Lisa Feltner, Chair

President Sideris read the item.

Councilor Feltner read the report. Motion to accept the report as written, so moved by Vice President Piccirilli, motion seconded Councilor Gannon, and accepted unanimously voice vote.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. That the City Council Confirm Dawn Evans Scaltreto for reappointment to the Public Arts & Culture Committee for a 3-year term to expire November 15, 2025

President Sideris asked for a motion on the action item, so moved by Vice President Piccirilli, seconded by Councilor Gannon, and accepted unanimously voice vote.

2. That the City Council Confirm Carole Katz for reappointment to the Public Arts & Culture Committee for a 3-year term to expire November 15, 2025.

President Sideris asked for a motion on the action item, so moved by Vice President Piccirilli, seconded by Councilor Gannon, and accepted unanimously voice vote.

ACTION ITEMS:

1 That the City Council Confirm Jae Hyoung Kim for appointment as the AIA member to the Historic District Commission for a 1-year term to expire November 15, 2023.

President Sideris asked for a motion on the action item, so moved by Vice President Piccirilli, seconded by Councilor Gannon, and accepted unanimously voice vote.

2. That the City Council Confirm Elizabeth Hayes for reappointment as the Realtor member to the Historic District Commission for a 1-year term to expire November 15, 2023.

President Sideris asked for a motion on the action item, so moved by Vice President Piccirilli, seconded by Councilor Gannon, and accepted unanimously voice vote.

3. That the City Council Confirm Robert Bloomberg for reappointment as the Historical Society member to the Historic District Commission for a 1-year term to expire November 15, 2023.

President Sideris asked for a motion on the action item, so moved by Vice President Piccirilli, seconded by Councilor Gannon, and accepted unanimously voice vote.

4. That the City Council Confirm James Bensinger for reappointment as a residential property owner member to the Historic District Commission for a 2-year term to expire November 15, 2024.

President Sideris asked for a motion on the action item, so moved by Vice President Piccirilli, seconded by Councilor Gannon, and accepted unanimously voice vote.

5. That the City Council Confirm Harvey Steiner for reappointment as a residential property owner member to the Historic District Commission for a 3-year term to expire November 15, 2025.

President Sideris asked for a motion on the action item, so moved by Vice President Piccirilli, seconded by Councilor Gannon, and accepted unanimously voice vote.

6. That the City Council Confirm Linda Sternberg for reappointment as a residential property owner member to the Historic District Commission for a 3-year term to expire November 15, 2025.

President Sideris asked for a motion on the action item, so moved by Vice President Piccirilli, seconded by Councilor Gannon, and accepted unanimously voice vote.

B. Committee of the Budget and Fiscal Oversight Reports Regarding the ARPA Funds – January 17, 2023, and February 1, 2023 - Vincent J. Piccirilli, Chair

President Sideris read the item.

Councilor Piccirilli read the report. Motion to accept the report as written, so moved by Vice President Piccirilli, motion seconded by Councilor Feltner, and accepted unanimously voice vote.

8. NEW BUSINESS

None noted.

9. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

A. Council Update on Budget and Bargaining

City Manager Proakis read a communication regarding the upcoming Budget and Bargaining status. He noted that the School Committee had reached a tentative agreement with School Educators on a new contract and more details would follow. He stated that he plans to regularly share the information with all interested parties.

B. Budget Data from the City Manager

City Manager Proakis read a communication and stated that the information will be shared with all interested parties. He noted that the new High School project was being watched closely due to the city's financial goals for the future.

C. Update on Marijuana Establishments

Mr. Proakis provided an overview and stated that the city's 2020 Census adjustment in total population would allow the city's consideration of a fourth host Marijuana establishment and that he is seeking policy direction from council as options were available.

President Sideris stated that there are host agreements in place and that he felt it best for the community that the council does not refer the item to committee as these businesses were fairly new and had not been established.

President Sideris recommended that the council does not refer item to committee and that the council could consider adding an additional host agreement if a new vendor approached the city.

Vice President Piccirilli made the suggested motion, motion seconded by Councilor Feltner.

After discussion by council members, motion accepted unanimously by voice vote.

D. Ordinance on the Timing and Process of Appointments to City/Town Boards, Commissions, and Committees -- Ordinance #46 -2007 – Additional Time

Mr. Proakis explained that he wanted to inform the council that additional time was needed for appointment/reappointments as outlined in Ordinance #46-2007 for winter and spring timeframes. He noted that the new Residents' Advisory Committee was established, meeting and was in the process of reviewing applicants resumes to make recommendations for appointments that require City Council confirmation.

President Sideris thanked Mr. Proakis for the information.

E. Flag and Delta Lighting Policy

Mr. Proakis detailed the importance of a policy for flags and that it would extend to trees in the delta given the recent ruling of the US Supreme Court case guidance related to the City of Boston flag policy. He thanked Mark Reich, KP Law for assisting with the drafting of the policy. The policy will provide the ability for governmental speech, the Administration, City Manager would make a determination, approve flag and tree lights; and city council through a adoption of a resolution/ proclamation. Mr. Proakis stated that it is a step forward and would be in effect immediately and would be published for all interested parties.

After discussion/comments, President Sideris clarified that Mr. Proakis is available to discuss the new policy and is open to comment on changes from council on the policy if needed.

Mr. Proakis wanted to share with the council that he received correspondence from the Solid Waste Committee on the new three-year contract with Republic.

President Sideris suggested the item be posted on the next council agenda.

Mr. Proakis' announcements also included that the City Hall and Senior Center would be closed on President's Day, February 20th.

Food Pantry is seeking a temporary location of 18 to 20 months as their home is undergoing restoration/renovations.

Upcoming meeting of Upper Saltonstall Park/gazebo, and welcome community feedback on February 23rd via zoom.

Comprehensive Plan draft Open House meeting on March 9th seeking to receive feedback. The meeting is available via zoom and would be recorded.

Pleasant Street shuttle announced the addition of an electric bus for the route to and from the Pleasant Street corridor to Harvard Square.

Mr. Proakis made note relative to President Sideris's remarks about Mr. Driscoll at the beginning of this meeting and stated that he knew many in city hall worked with Mr. Driscoll over his many years as a City Manager. While he had only been here for six months, he came to learn about all the work he did, with the support of our staff, to make Watertown a better place. He further stated that he shared comments online, that every day he appreciates all the work that all of you, and Mr. Driscoll, have done for Watertown. He left behind a well-run and fiscally sound government when he retired in 2022. His legacy will always be here, and his impact will never be forgotten. We all hope to continue building on that legacy for many years to come. My thoughts are with his family, and the many friends he leaves behind in Watertown, including so many who work here at City Hall every day.

10. REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION/REVIEW OF LIST OF PENDING MATTERS

None noted.

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Izzo announced that on February 15th she will be hosting her annual City Council district meeting at the Police Station Community Room.

President Sideris announced that the modulars for Moxley Park had begun to arrive and that the Project team did a great job notifying the neighborhood and an email list was created for communications.

President Sideris stated that they received emails and phone calls regarding support of the educators and that they had reached a tentative new contract and read a joint statement School Committee and the educators bargaining team WEA. He thanked the teachers and negotiators for respectfully coming to agreement for fair to everyone.

12. PUBLIC FORUM

None noted.

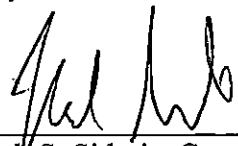
President Sideris asked for all to stand for a moment of silence to honor the passing of former City Manager Michael J. Driscoll.

13. RECESS OR ADJOURNMENT

President Sideris asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting, so moved by Vice President Piccirilli and noted that it was 8:06 PM. seconded by Councilor Feltner and adopted unanimously by voice voted.

I hereby certify that at a regular meeting of the Town Council for which a quorum was present, the above minutes were adopted by a vote of 9 for, 0 against, 0 present on ~~February 14~~, 2023.

~~February 14~~
March 16



Mark S. Sideris, Council President

City Council Meeting
Tuesday, February 14, 2023, at 7:00 PM
Richard E. Mastrangelo Council Chamber
Administration Building, 149 Main Street

List of Documents

1. Watertown Contributory Retirement Board to Increase the Base of the Retiree Cost of Living Adjustment – Mark S. Sideris, President – January 26, 2023 – Item 4A.
2. Agenda Item - Proposed Order for a New Handicap Ramp at the John A. Ryan Skating Arena – George J. Proakis, City Manager, to City Council – January 19, 2023 – Item 5A.
3. Agenda Item – Proposed Order for Streets and Sidewalks – George J. Proakis, City Manager - to City Council – February 14, 2023, and February 2, 2023 – Item 6A.
4. Agenda Item – Proposed Order for replacing the turf at Victory Field – George J. Proakis, City Manager – to City Council – February 8, 2023 – Item 6B.
5. Agenda Item – Proposed zoning map amendment request 134 Templeton Parkway – Steven Magoon, Director, Community Development and Planning/Assistant City Manager – to City Council – February 9, 2023 – Item 6C.
6. Committee on Economic Development & Planning Report regarding Public Arts & Culture Committee and Historic District Commission - Lisa Feltner, chair - January 23, 2023 – Item 7A.
7. Committee of the Budget and Fiscal Oversight Report regarding ARPA - Vincent Piccirilli, Chair – January 17, 2023, and February 1, 2023 – Item 7B.
8. An Update on Budget and Bargaining – George J. Proakis, City Manager – to City Council February 9, 2023 – Item 9A.
9. Budget Data – Five Key Points about Watertown's Fiscal Situation (from the City Manager's October 2022 Budget Presentation) – George J. Proakis, City Manager – to City Council – February 9, 2023 – Item 9B.
10. Update on Marijuana Establishments – Steven Magoon, Director, Community Development and Planning and Assistant City Manager – to George J. Proakis, City Manager and City Council - February 9, 2023 – Item 9C.
11. Ordinance on the Timing and Process of Appointments to City/Town Boards, Commissions, and Committees – Ordinance #46 -2007 – Additional Time – George J. Proakis, City Manager – to City Council – February 8, 2023 – Item 9D.
12. Flag and Delta Lighting Policy - George J. Proakis, City Manager – to City Council – February 2023 – Item 9E.

Addendum to the
Minutes of the February 14, 2023
City Council Meeting



Watertown City Council

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John G. Gannon,
Councilor At Large

Anthony Palomba,
Councilor At Large

Debbie Gardner,
District A Councilor

Lisa J. Feltner,
District B Councilor

Emily Izzo,
District D Councilor

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2023 AT 7:00 PM

RICHARD E. MASTRANGELO COUNCIL CHAMBER

AGENDA

ACCESS INFORMATION:

- A. The meeting will be televised through WCATV (Watertown Cable Access Television): <http://vodwcatv.org/CablecastPublicSite/?channel=3>
- B. The Public may join the virtual meeting online: <https://watertown-ma.zoom.us/j/92991331344>
- C. Public may join the virtual meeting audio only by phone: (877) 853-5257 or (888) 475-4499 (Toll Free) and enter Webinar ID: 929 9133 1344
- D. Public may comment through email: vpiccirilli@watertown-ma.gov

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1. ROLL CALL
 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
 3. PUBLIC FORUM
 4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT
 - A. Request from the Watertown Contributory Retirement Board to Increase the Base of the Retiree Cost of Living Adjustment; and a Referral to the Committee on Budget and Fiscal Oversight for Review and Report to the Full City Council
 - B. Consideration of Extending the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Submission date from April 11, 2023, to May 9, 2023
 5. PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE
 - A. Public Hearing and Vote on a Proposed Order Authorizing the Sum of \$300,000 is appropriated to pay costs of Designing and Constructing a New Handicap Ramp at the John A. Ryan Skating Arena, including all costs incidental and related thereto; and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the City Manager, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to MG. c.44, §7(1), or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the City therefor.
 6. MOTIONS, ORDINANCES, ORDER, AND RESOLUTIONS
 - A. First Reading on a Proposed Loan Order Authorizing the Sum of \$2,500,000 is appropriated to pay costs of Constructing, Reconstructing, Paving, Repairing or Otherwise Improving Streets and Sidewalks, Including Improving Underground

Ducts and Conduits and Paying All Other Costs Incidental and Related to such Street and Sidewalk Work; and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the City Manager, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to M.G.L. c.44, §7(1), or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the City therefor.

- B. First Reading on a Proposed Order Authorizing the Sum of \$1,500,000 is appropriated to pay costs of Replacing the Turf at Victory Field, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto; and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the City Manager, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to M.G.L. c.44, §7(1), or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the City therefor.
- C. First Reading and Referral to the Planning Board for a Public Hearing Regarding a Proposed Zoning Map Amendment Request 134 Templeton Parkway

7. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

- A. Committee on Economic Development & Planning Report Regarding the Confirmation Interviews of Two Members of the Public Arts & Culture Committee and Report Regarding the Confirmation of Six Members Historic District Commission – January 23, 2023 – Lisa Feltner, Chair

ACTION ITEM

- 1. That the City Council Confirm Dawn Evans Scaltreto for reappointment to the Public Arts & Culture Committee for a 3-year term to expire November 15, 2025
- 2. That the City Council Confirm Carole Katz for reappointment to the Public Arts & Culture Committee for a 3-year term to expire November 15, 2025

ACTION ITEM

- 1. That the City Council Confirm Jae Hyoung Kim for appointment as the AIA member to the Historic District Commission for a 1-year term to expire November 15, 2023
- 2. That the City Council Confirm Elizabeth Hayes for reappointment as the Realtor member to the Historic District Commission for a 1-year term to expire November 15, 2023
- 3. That the City Council Confirm Robert Bloomberg for reappointment as the Historical Society member to the Historic District Commission for a 1-year term to expire November 15, 2023
- 4. That the City Council Confirm James Bensinger for reappointment as a residential property owner member to the Historic District Commission for a 2-year term to expire November 15, 2024.
- 5. That the City Council Confirm Harvey Steiner for reappointment as a residential property owner member to the Historic District Commission for a 3-year term to expire November 15, 2025.
- 6. That the City Council Confirm Linda Sternberg for reappointment as a residential property owner member to the Historic District Commission for a 3-year term to expire November 15, 2025

- B. Committee of the Budget and Fiscal Oversight Reports Regarding the ARPA Funds – January 17, 2023, and February 1, 2023 - Vincent J. Piccirilli, Chair

8. NEW BUSINESS

9. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

- A. Council Update on Budget and Bargaining
 - B. Budget Data from the City Manager
 - C. Update on Marijuana Establishments
 - D. Ordinance on the Timing and Process of Appointments to City/Town Boards, Commissions, and Committees – Ordinance #46 -2007 – Additional Time
 - E. Flag and Delta Lighting Policy
- 10. REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION/REVIEW OF LIST OF PENDING MATTERS
 - 11. ANNOUNCEMENTS
 - 12. PUBLIC FORUM
 - 13. RECESS OR ADJOURNMENT

CITY COUNCIL ATTENDANCE
MEETING DATE: FEBRUARY 14, 2023

	YES	NO	PRESENT
JOHN M. AIRASIAN	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
CAROLINE BAYS	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
LISA J. FELTNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
JOHN G. GANNON	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NICOLE GARDNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
EMILY IZZO	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
ANTHONY PALOMBA	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
VINCENT J. PICCIRILLI, JR.	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
MARK S. SIDERIS, COUNCIL PRESIDENT	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

CITY COUNCIL ROLL CALL VOTE
MEETING DATE: FEBRUARY 14, 2023

	YES	NO	PRESENT
JOHN M. AIRASIAN	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
CAROLINE BAYS	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
LISA J. FELTNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
JOHN G. GANNON	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NICOLE GARDNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
EMILY IZZO	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
ANTHONY PALOMBA	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
VINCENT J. PICCIRILLI, JR.	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
MARK S. SIDERIS, COUNCIL PRESIDENT	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Motion to refer Watertown Contributory Retirement Board letter to Increase the Base of the Retiree Cost of Living Adjustment, and a Referral to the Committee on Budget and Fiscal Oversight for Review and Report to the Full City Council.



Watertown Contributory Retirement Board
Administration Building
149 MAIN STREET
WATERTOWN, MA 02472
TEL (617) 972-6456 - FAX (617) 923-3531
www.watertownretirement.com

THOMAS V. THIBAUT, JR., Chairman
THOMAS J. TRACY, Ex-Officio

DOMENIC ARONE, Elected Member
JOHN T. LOUGHRAN, Appointed Member
KATHLEEN KIELY-BECCHETTI, Fifth Member

January 20, 2022

Watertown City Council
Administration Building
Watertown, MA 02472

RE: Increase to Base of Retiree Cost of Living Adjustment

Dear Honorable Council Members:

At the most recent Watertown Retirement Board (Board) meeting held on January 18, 2022 the Board discussed the current retiree cost of living adjustment (COLA) which is currently 3% of \$13,000 (max of \$390 per year per retiree). In attendance at this meeting was all of the Board members as well as Michael J. Driscoll, City Manager and the Board's Actuary Dan Sherman. We discussed our current funding schedule, current funding status, as well as the Board's significant Return on Investments for the last three calendar years.

After discussion with the City Manager, the Watertown Retirement Board (Board) respectfully requests approval by the City Council to increase the base amount upon which a retiree's cost of living adjustment (COLA) can be calculated, from its current maximum of 3% of \$13,000, last approved in 2015, to 3% of \$14,000. After review of the social and financial impact of such action, and after consultation with its actuary, the Board unanimously supports this proposed increase.

Additionally, it was agreed that the Board would determine if certain financial indicators were met each year prior to considering or requesting future Retiree COLA base increases. The City Manager participated in this discussion and believed it to be a prudent approach in working collaboratively with the City Council, Retirement Board and City Manager in accordance with the City Council's Ongoing Budget Policy Guideline 1C.

Therefore, the Board respectfully requests that the Honorable City Council vote to allow the increase COLA base from 3% of \$13,000 (max \$390 per year per retiree) to 3% of \$14,000 (max \$420 per year per retiree).

Retiree COLA History

Chapter 17 of the Acts of 1997 changed the way in which COLAs were granted to retirees, which previously required an act of the Legislature. Because of the enactment of Proposition 2½, which prohibited state mandated costs upon municipalities, from 1982 to 1997 reimbursement to each retirement board from the State Retirement System was required.

The law was changed so that each retirement system would pay for the COLAs that were granted by the retirement board. The Public Employee Retirement Administration Commission (PERAC) annually reports the COLA as determined for benefit recipients by the Social Security Administration, which is based upon the Consumer Price Index (5.9% for 2022). The retiree COLA would be based upon that amount, or three percent (3%), whichever was less, as applied to the first \$12,000 of a retiree's allowance, or \$360 annually. The changes, incorporated into Section 103 of Chapter 32, were subject to local acceptance, and accepted by the City Council Meeting.

January 20, 2022

Subsequently, Section 51 of Chapter 127 of the Acts of 1999 was enacted, again subject to local acceptance, which allowed for retirement boards to grant a COLA up to 3% of the first \$12,000 of benefits.

Chapter 188 of the Acts of 2010 was enacted to allow a local option to increase the \$12,000 base amount of the retiree COLA. Section 103(j) of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 32 provides authority to municipalities and retirement boards to increase the COLA base in increments of \$1,000, for members and surviving spouses of members of the retirement system receiving retirement allowances on June 30th of the prior fiscal year.

With the approval of the Board and the City Council, the COLA base was increased to \$13,000 effective July 1, 2015, where it remains today. Acceptance of this new COLA option, as is the case with previous COLA enactments, is irrevocable.

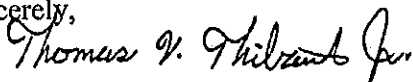
Social and Financial Impact

The Board has noted with some concern that inflation is on the rise. Costs for energy, food, housing, and medical treatment have steadily increased while the economy strives to recover from the pandemic. Inflationary increases impact our retirees significantly. As noted above, based on the CPI increase, Social Security recipients have received a 5.9% COLA as of January 2022, an increase which is based in the full amount of the Social Security. The average Social Security benefit in Massachusetts is now \$19,000 a year, and the Social Security COLA is uncapped.

The current retirement COLA has been factored into the System's funding schedule, which will be revised upon approval of 3% COLA on the first \$14,000 of benefits. Such increase will have no financial impact on the System's funding. The Board voted to reduce the System's assumed rate of investment return to 7.75%, which also will have no impact on the System's funding. The Board will continue to review all of the actuarial assumptions on an annual basis.

The System's investments have been successful in the long term; the System's funding is on solid ground and is fiscally sustainable. The Board firmly believes that under all of these circumstances, it is reasonable and appropriate to increase the retiree COLA base to \$14,000 as of July 1, 2022. It is respectfully requested that the City Council act favorably on this request.

Sincerely,



Thomas V. Thibaut, Jr., Chairman

cc: Michael J. Driscoll, City Manager

CITY COUNCIL ROLL CALL VOTE
MEETING DATE: FEBRUARY 14, 2023

	YES	NO	PRESENT
JOHN M. AIRASIAN	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
CAROLINE BAYS	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
LISA J. FELTNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
JOHN G. GANNON	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NICOLE GARDNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
EMILY IZZO	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
ANTHONY PALOMBA	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
VINCENT J. PICCIRILLI, JR.	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
MARK S. SIDERIS, COUNCIL PRESIDENT	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Motion to Extending the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Submission date from April 11, 2023,
to May 9, 2023

CITY COUNCIL ROLL CALL VOTE
MEETING DATE: FEBRUARY 14, 2023

	YES	NO	PRESENT
JOHN M. AIRASIAN	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
CAROLINE BAYS	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
LISA J. FELTNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
JOHN G. GANNON	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NICOLE GARDNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
EMILY IZZO	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
ANTHONY PALOMBA	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
VINCENT J. PICCIRILLI, JR.	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
MARK S. SIDERIS, COUNCIL PRESIDENT	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Motion to approve a Loan Order of \$300,000 is appropriated to pay the costs of Designing and Constructing a New Handicap Ramp at the John A. Ryan Skating Arena, including all costs incidental and related thereto.



Watertown City Council

Administration Building
149 Main Street
Watertown, MA 02472
Phone: 617-972-6470

ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Mark S. Sideris,
Council President

Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr.,
Vice President &
District C Councilor

John M. Airasian,
Councilor At Large

Caroline Bays,
Councilor At Large

John G. Gannon,
Councilor At Large

Anthony Palomba,
Councilor At Large

Nicole Gardner,
District A Councilor

Lisa J. Feltner,
District B Councilor

Emily Izzo,
District D Councilor

Order # 8

2023 -0- 8

ORDER TO APPROVE THE BORROWING OF FUNDS TO PAY COSTS OF HANDICAP RAMP LOCATED AT THE JOHN A. RYAN SKATING ARENA.

ORDERED: That the sum of \$300,000 is appropriated to pay costs of designing and constructing a new handicap ramp at the John A. Ryan Skating Arena, including all costs incidental and related thereto; and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the City Manager, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to M.G.L. c.44, §7(1), or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the City therefor.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED: That a copy of said Order be forwarded to the City Auditor and City Treasurer/Collector


Council Member

I hereby certify that at the regular meeting of the City Council for which a quorum was present, the above Order was adopted by a vote of 9 for, 0 against, and 0 present on February 14, 2023.


City Council Clerk


Mark S. Sideris, Council President

LEGAL NOTICE

The City Council of the City of Watertown hereby gives notice of public hearings and votes on Tuesday, February 14, 2023 at 7:00 PM, in the Richard E. Mastrangelo Chamber, Administration Building, 149 Main Street, Watertown, MA on the proposed Order as follows:

ORDERED: That the sum of \$300,000 is appropriated to pay costs of designing and constructing a new handicap ramp at the John A. Ryan Skating Arena, including all costs incidental and related thereto; and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the City Manager, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to M.G.L. c.44, §7(1), or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the City therefor.

A copy of the Loan Order is available for inspection at the Administration Building, 149 Main Street, Watertown, MA 02472 in the City Council Office, Monday through Friday, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm, and at the City Clerk's Office, Monday through Friday, 8:30 am through 5:00 pm.



Notice Content

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ORDERED: That the sum of \$300,000 is appropriated to pay costs of designing and constructing a new handicap ramp at the John A. Ryan Skating Arena, including all costs incidental and related thereto; and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the City Manager, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to M.G.L. c.44, §7(1), or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the City therefor. A copy of the Loan Order is available for inspection at the Administration Building, 149 Main Street, Watertown, MA 02472 in the City Council Office, Monday through Friday, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm, and at the City Clerk's Office, Monday th

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CITY COUNCIL ROLL CALL VOTE
MEETING DATE: FEBRUARY 14, 2023

	YES	NO	PRESENT
JOHN M. AIRASIAN	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
CAROLINE BAYS	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
LISA J. FELTNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
JOHN G. GANNON	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NICOLE GARDNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
EMILY IZZO	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
ANTHONY PALOMBA	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
VINCENT J. PICCIRILLI, JR.	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
MARK S. SIDERIS, COUNCIL PRESIDENT	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Motion to confirm Dawn Evans Scaltreto for reappointment to the Public Arts & Culture Committee for a 3-year term to expire November 15, 2025 - Committee on Economic Development & Planning Report Regarding the Confirmation Interviews of Two Members of the Public Arts & Culture Committee and Report Regarding the Confirmation of Six Members Historic District Commission.

CITY COUNCIL
MEETING DATE: FEBRUARY 14, 2023

	YES	NO	PRESENT
JOHN M. AIRASIAN	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
CAROLINE BAYS	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
LISA J. FELTNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
JOHN G. GANNON	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NICOLE GARDNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
EMILY IZZO	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
ANTHONY PALOMBA	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
VINCENT J. PICCIRILLI, JR.	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
MARK S. SIDERIS, COUNCIL PRESIDENT	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Motion to accept the Committee on Economic Development & Planning Report Regarding the Confirmation Interviews of Two Members of the Public Arts & Culture Committee and Report Regarding the Confirmation of Six Members Historic District Commission.

CITY COUNCIL ROLL CALL VOTE
MEETING DATE: FEBRUARY 14, 2023

	YES	NO	PRESENT
JOHN M. AIRASIAN	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
CAROLINE BAYS	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
LISA J. FELTNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
JOHN G. GANNON	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NICOLE GARDNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
EMILY IZZO	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
ANTHONY PALOMBA	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
VINCENT J. PICCIRILLI, JR.	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
MARK S. SIDERIS, COUNCIL PRESIDENT	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Motion to confirm Carole Katz for reappointment to the Public Arts & Culture Committee for a 3-year term to expire November 15, 2025. - Committee on Economic Development & Planning Report Regarding the Confirmation Interviews of Two Members of the Public Arts & Culture Committee and Report Regarding the Confirmation of Six Members Historic District Commission.

CITY COUNCIL ROLL CALL VOTE
MEETING DATE: FEBRUARY 14, 2023

	YES	NO	PRESENT
JOHN M. AIRASIAN	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
CAROLINE BAYS	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
LISA J. FELTNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
JOHN G. GANNON	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NICOLE GARDNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
EMILY IZZO	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
ANTHONY PALOMBA	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
VINCENT J. PICCIRILLI, JR.	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
MARK S. SIDERIS, COUNCIL PRESIDENT	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Motion to confirm Jae Hyoung Kim for appointment as the AIA member to the Historic District Commission for a 1-year term to expire November 15, 2023. - Committee on Economic Development & Planning Report Regarding the Confirmation Interviews of Two Members of the Public Arts & Culture Committee and Report Regarding the Confirmation of Six Members Historic District Commission.

CITY COUNCIL ROLL CALL VOTE
MEETING DATE: FEBRUARY 14, 2023

	YES	NO	PRESENT
JOHN M. AIRASIAN	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
CAROLINE BAYS	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
LISA J. FELTNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
JOHN G. GANNON	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NICOLE GARDNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
EMILY IZZO	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
ANTHONY PALOMBA	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
VINCENT J. PICCIRILLI, JR.	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
MARK S. SIDERIS, COUNCIL PRESIDENT	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Motion to confirm Elizabeth Hayes for reappointment as the Realtor member to the Historic District Commission for a 1-year term to expire November 15, 2023. - Committee on Economic Development & Planning Report Regarding the Confirmation Interviews of Two Members of the Public Arts & Culture Committee and Report Regarding the Confirmation of Six Members Historic District Commission.

CITY COUNCIL ROLL CALL VOTE
MEETING DATE: FEBRUARY 14, 2023

	YES	NO	PRESENT
JOHN M. AIRASIAN	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
CAROLINE BAYS	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
LISA J. FELTNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
JOHN G. GANNON	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NICOLE GARDNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
EMILY IZZO	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
ANTHONY PALOMBA	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
VINCENT J. PICCIRILLI, JR.	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
MARK S. SIDERIS, COUNCIL PRESIDENT	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Motion to confirm Robert Bloomberg for reappointment as the Historical Society member to the Historic District Commission for a 1-year term to expire November 15, 2023. - Committee on Economic Development & Planning Report Regarding the Confirmation Interviews of Two Members of the Public Arts & Culture Committee and Report Regarding the Confirmation of Six Members Historic District Commission.

**CITY COUNCIL ROLL CALL VOTE
MEETING DATE: FEBRUARY 14, 2023**

	YES	NO	PRESENT
JOHN M. AIRASIAN	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
CAROLINE BAYS	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
LISA J. FELTNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
JOHN G. GANNON	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NICOLE GARDNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
EMILY IZZO	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
ANTHONY PALOMBA	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
VINCENT J. PICCIRILLI, JR.	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
MARK S. SIDERIS, COUNCIL PRESIDENT	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Motion to confirm James Bensinger for reappointment as a residential property owner member to the Historic District Commission for a 2-year term to expire November 15, 2024. - Committee on Economic Development & Planning Report Regarding the Confirmation Interviews of Two Members of the Public Arts & Culture Committee and Report Regarding the Confirmation of Six Members Historic District Commission.

CITY COUNCIL ROLL CALL VOTE
MEETING DATE: FEBRUARY 14, 2023

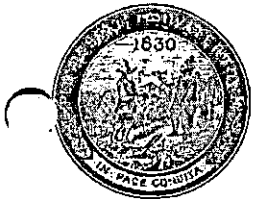
	YES	NO	PRESENT
JOHN M. AIRASIAN	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
CAROLINE BAYS	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
LISA J. FELTNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
JOHN G. GANNON	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NICOLE GARDNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
EMILY IZZO	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
ANTHONY PALOMBA	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
VINCENT J. PICCIRILLI, JR.	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
MARK S. SIDERIS, COUNCIL PRESIDENT	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Motion to confirm Harvey Steiner for reappointment as a residential property owner member to the Historic District Commission for a 3-year term to expire November 15, 2025. - Committee on Economic Development & Planning Report Regarding the Confirmation Interviews of Two Members of the Public Arts & Culture Committee and Report Regarding the Confirmation of Six Members Historic District Commission.

**CITY COUNCIL ROLL CALL VOTE
MEETING DATE: FEBRUARY 14, 2023**

	YES	NO	PRESENT
JOHN M. AIRASIAN	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
CAROLINE BAYS	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
LISA J. FELTNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
JOHN G. GANNON	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NICOLE GARDNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
EMILY IZZO	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
ANTHONY PALOMBA	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
VINCENT J. PICCIRILLI, JR.	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
MARK S. SIDERIS, COUNCIL PRESIDENT	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Motion to confirm Linda Sternberg for reappointment as a residential property owner member to the Historic District Commission for a 3-year term to expire November 15, 2025. - Committee on Economic Development & Planning Report Regarding the Confirmation Interviews of Two Members of the Public Arts & Culture Committee and Report Regarding the Confirmation of Six Members Historic District Commission.



Watertown City Council

Administration Building
149 Main Street
Watertown, MA 02472
Phone: 617-972-6470

ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Mark S. Sideris,
Council President

Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr.,
Vice President &
District C Councilor

John M. Airasian,
Councilor At Large

Caroline Bays,
Councilor At Large

John G. Gannon,
Councilor At Large

Anthony Palomba,
Councilor At Large

Nicole Gardner,
District A Councilor

Lisa J. Feltner,
District B Councilor

Emily Izzo,
District D Councilor

Report of the Committee on Economic Development & Planning Meeting Date: January 23, 2023

The Committee convened on Monday January 23, 2023 at 5:30 pm in the Richard E. Mastrangelo Council Chamber, as a hybrid meeting with remote participation for the public by Zoom. Present were Lisa Feltner, chair; John Gannon, vice chair; and Vincent Piccirilli, secretary. The purpose of the meeting was to conduct Public Arts & Culture Committee and Historic District Commission interviews.

Dawn Evans Scaltreto (by zoom) is seeking reappointment to the Public Arts & Culture Committee. She is a long-time Watertown artist, performer, and educator. She reports the new Committee is going very well, launching new projects and bringing together several community groups to collaborate. They are applying for grants, selecting pieces for the new sculpture walk, and working on a Cultural District in Watertown Square.

Carole Katz (by zoom) is seeking reappointment to the Public Arts & Culture Committee. She is the retired Marketing Officer at Watertown Savings Bank, former board member of the Arsenal Center for the Arts, and long-time community volunteer. She reports the new Committee has been very productive getting up to speed in its first year, working on a new Cultural District, Yard Art, Edible Watertown, and collaborative projects with other community groups. She wants the Committee to help perform more outreach, and celebrate the history and diversity of Watertown.

Harvey Steiner (by zoom) is seeking reappointment to the Historic District Commission. He is an artist who lives in the District and has served on the Commission since its creation in 2003, currently serving as Chair. Some of the recent challenges for the Commission has been figuring out appropriate ways to deal with solar panel and heat pump installations that do not visually detract from the buildings. He is still working on new signage and other streetscape elements identifying the District as part of the Mt. Auburn Street project, and the Committee suggested a Commission meeting with the DCDP and the DPW to see if this can be accommodated, as the project is at 75% design stage.

Linda Sternberg (by zoom) is seeking reappointment to the Historic District Commission. She is an attorney who lives in the District and has served on the Commission since its creation in 2003. While the Commission has been very successful working with property owners to provide suggestions on preserving the look of the district, she believed the guidelines in the ordinance need to be updated to reflect the new equipment to deal with climate change issues while still maintaining the visual character of the buildings. She also noted the publication requirement has become quite a problem with the loss of the local newspaper. The Committee suggested that the Commission work with the DCDP to update the ordinance and guidelines, as was recently done with the Historic Commission.

Jae Hyoun Kim is a Watertown resident and an architect and is seeking appointment to the Historic District Commission as the AIA (American Institute of Architects) appointee, recruited by the Boston Society of Architects. In his work, he is very interested in how the architectural design interacts with its social and cultural surroundings. He believes harmony of the old and new inspires creativity, and

that his background provides him with the judgement needed to preserve the feel of the District, while acknowledging the need for maintaining properties using modern materials.

Robert Bloomberg (by zoom) is seeking reappointment to the Historic District Commission as the Historical Society appointee. Trained as a historian, he has authored many articles, including a recent article on the Shick family and their dairy farm on Grove Street, and is working on an article about Jewish farmers of New England. He believes it is important to not only preserve historic buildings, but also the historic landscape surrounding them. He thinks the Mt. Auburn Street project will spur a lot of new projects for the Commission to review.

Elizabeth Hayes (by zoom) is seeking reappointment to the Historic District Commission as the Realtor appointee, nominated by the Greater Boston Realtor Board. She is a real estate broker and a former attorney. She works for clients in cities and towns such as Cambridge and Arlington who have Historic Districts, so she is very familiar with the process property owners have to go through, and takes a practical approach. Living on Mt. Auburn Street, she loves the look of the District and how it contributes to making Watertown a desirable place to live.

James Bensinger (by zoom) is seeking reappointment to the Historic District Commission. He is a retired Physics Professor who lives in the District. He feels that once property owners start discussions with the Commission, they take more pride in the District and welcome suggestions on how to improve their projects. The increasing availability of new composite materials that look as good as original wood products has been a positive trend. The issue of solar panels, which can be installed by right, has been a challenge, and more work is needed to make them fit in and look better.

➔ **Action Item:** Councilor Piccirilli made a motion, seconded by Councilor Gannon, to recommend that the City Council confirm:

Dawn Evans Scaltreto for reappointment to the Public Arts & Culture Committee for a 3-year term to expire November 15, 2025.

Carole Katz for reappointment to the Public Arts & Culture Committee for a 3-year term to expire November 15, 2025.

Voted 3-0.

➔ **Action Item:** Councilor Piccirilli made a motion, seconded by Councilor Gannon, to recommend that the City Council confirm:

Jae Hyoung Kim for appointment as the AIA member to the Historic District Commission for a 1-year term to expire November 15, 2023.

Elizabeth Hayes for reappointment as the Realtor member to the Historic District Commission for a 1-year term to expire November 15, 2023.

Robert Bloomberg for reappointment as the Historical Society member to the Historic District Commission for a 1-year term to expire November 15, 2023.

James Bensinger for reappointment as a residential property owner member to the Historic District Commission for a 2-year term to expire November 15, 2024.

Harvey Steiner for reappointment as a residential property owner member to the Historic District Commission for a 3-year term to expire November 15, 2025.

Linda Sternberg for reappointment as a residential property owner member to the Historic District Commission for a 3-year term to expire November 15, 2025.

Voted 3-0.

The meeting adjourned at 7:33 pm.
Report prepared by Vincent Piccirilli

CITY COUNCIL
MEETING DATE: FEBRUARY 14, 2023

	YES	NO	PRESENT
JOHN M. AIRASIAN	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
CAROLINE BAYS	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
LISA J. FELTNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
JOHN G. GANNON	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NICOLE GARDNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
EMILY IZZO	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
ANTHONY PALOMBA	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
VINCENT J. PICCIRILLI, JR.	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
MARK S. SIDERIS, COUNCIL PRESIDENT	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Motion to accept Committee of the Budget and Fiscal Oversight Reports Regarding the ARPA Funds - January 17, 2023, and February 1, 2023.



Watertown City Council

Administration Building

149 Main Street

Watertown, MA 02472

Phone: 617-972-6470

ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Mark S. Sideris,
Council President

Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr.,
Vice President &
District C Councilor

John M. Airasian,
Councilor At Large

Caroline Bays,
Councilor At Large

John G. Gannon,
Councilor At Large

Anthony Palomba,
Councilor At Large

Nicole Gardner,
District A Councilor

Lisa J. Feltner,
District B Councilor

Emily Izzo,
District D Councilor

Committee of the Budget and Fiscal Oversight Report of the Meeting of February 1, 2023

The Committee convened on Wednesday, February 1, 2023 at 7:00 pm in the Richard E. Mastrangelo Council Chamber. It was a hybrid meeting, with remote participation by Zoom, and was broadcast by WCATV. Present were Vincent Piccirilli, Chair; Emily Izzo, Vice Chair and Nicole Gardner, Secretary. Also present were Hannah York of Clifton/Allen/Larson, City Manager George Proakis, Councilors Caroline Bays and John Gannon in person, and Councilors Anthony Palomba, Lisa Feltner, and John Airasian on zoom. About 30 residents, City employees, and interested parties attended.

Councilor Piccirilli called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm. The purposes of the meeting was to provide a Community Forum on ARPA to the public, to help empower people and organizations to propose potential uses of the funds to the BFO Committee.

The meeting had three parts. First, Hannah York, an expert on the ARPA, gave a presentation. In it she covered the purpose of the Act, the rules governing its use, the reporting requirements, and the allowable uses. (Attachment A)

Next, City Manager Proakis gave a presentation showing how various municipalities across Massachusetts have used their funds. This included both neighboring cities and towns (none of whom are similar to Watertown in size of allocation), and towns that have received similar sized allocations. (Attachment B)

Councilor Piccirilli received one email for the meeting, from Marcy Murningham, requesting the Committee use the values and principles in the Charter Preamble for guidance. (Attachment C)

Finally, the meeting was opened up for questions and comments from Councilors and the public which fell into the following categories:

- Questions of clarification how ARPA works.
- Ideas for uses of the ARPA funds.
- The need for the Committee to publish an outline of the information it would like to receive (as much as possible) in proposals, recognizing that some may be only ideas and others may be fully fleshed out.
- The need for the Committee to publish how it will evaluate proposals -- what criteria will it look at.
- Once the information is published, the Committee will have a two month period for proposals to be submitted by the public.
- Appreciation for the open and public process that Watertown is using.

The meeting adjourned at 9:06 pm on a unanimous vote.

Report prepared by Nicole Gardner

Attachment A - Clifton/Allen/Larson presentation on ARPA

Attachment B - City Manager ARPA Overview Presentation

Attachment C - Marcy Murningham statement for the BFO Committee meeting on ARPA



Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (CSLFRF) Funded by ARPA

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Meeting Agenda

- Introduction and Background
- Eligible Expenditures:
 - 1 - Public Health
 - 2 - Responding to Negative Economic Impacts
 - 3 - Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities
 - 4 - Premium Pay
 - 5 - Water, Sewer & Broadband Infrastructure
 - 6 - Revenue Replacement
 - 7 - Administrative
- Capital expenditures
- Q&A





ARPA Introduction and Background

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Introduction

- On March 11, 2021, ARPA was signed into law and provided \$350 billion of funding to states, territories, tribal and local governments to respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency and its economic impacts.
- Interim Final Rule outlined revenue loss calculation and allowable costs under the various categories
 - [Interim Final Rule \(treasury.gov\)](https://www.treasury.gov/press-releases/Pages/pr20210311)
- Final Rule issued on January 6, 2022
 - Clarified prior guidance and enumerated additional allowable expenditures
 - [SLFRF-Final-Rule.pdf \(treasury.gov\)](https://www.treasury.gov/press-releases/Pages/pr20220106)



Introduction - continued

- Treasury provided a summary of the major changes under the Final Rule
 - [Coronavirus State & Local Fiscal Recovery Funds: Overview of the Final Rule \(treasury.gov\)](#)
- Compliance and reporting guidance & user guide
 - [SLFRF-Compliance-and-Reporting-Guidance \(treasury.gov\)](#)
 - [Project and Expenditure Report User Guide - State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds \(treasury.gov\)](#)



Introduction - continued

- General ledger implications
 - Funds, accounts, projects, budgets and more!
- ACFR and audit considerations (SEFA)
 - CFDA #21.027
- Treasury reporting
 - Recap of requirements
 - 66 different subcategories with unique requirements
 - Central repository for reporting
 - Prepare early
- Budget sustainability
 - What message are you sending to your employees or constituents?
- What other federal or state sources are available?





Public Health

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Treasury Reporting Eligible Uses

1: Public Health	
1.1	COVID-19 Vaccination ^
1.2	COVID-19 Testing ^
1.3	COVID-19 Contact Tracing
1.4	Prevention in Congregate Settings (Nursing Homes, Prisons/Jails, Dense Work Sites, Schools, etc.)*
1.5	Personal Protective Equipment
1.6	Medical Expenses (including Alternative Care Facilities)
1.7	Capital Investments or Physical Plant Changes to Public Facilities that respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency
1.8	Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)
1.9	Payroll Costs for Public Health, Safety, and Other Public Sector Staff Responding to COVID-19
1.10	Mental Health Services*
1.11	Substance Use Services*
1.12	Other Public Health Services



Public Health Final Rule Overview

- COVID-19 mitigation and prevention (“Cares-like”)
- Medical Expenses
- Behavioral health care, such as mental health treatment, substance use treatment, and other behavioral health services
- Preventing and responding to violence





Responding to Negative Economic Impacts and Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities

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Treasury Reporting Eligible Uses

2: Negative Economic Impacts	
2.1	Household Assistance: Food Programs* ^
2.2	Household Assistance: Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Aid* ^
2.3	Household Assistance: Cash Transfers* ^
2.4	Household Assistance: Internet Access Programs* ^
2.5	Household Assistance: Eviction Prevention* ^
2.6	Unemployment Benefits or Cash Assistance to Unemployed Workers*
2.7	Job Training Assistance (e.g., Sectoral job-training, Subsidized Employment, Employment Supports or Incentives)* ^
2.8	Contributions to UI Trust Funds
2.9	Small Business Economic Assistance (General)* ^
2.10	Aid to Nonprofit Organizations*
2.11	Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality
2.12	Aid to Other Impacted Industries
2.13	Other Economic Support* ^
2.14	Rehiring Public Sector Staff



Treasury Reporting Eligible Uses

3: Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities

3.1	Education Assistance: Early Learning* ^
3.2	Education Assistance: Aid to High-Poverty Districts ^
3.3	Education Assistance: Academic Services* ^
3.4	Education Assistance: Social, Emotional, and Mental Health Services* ^
3.5	Education Assistance: Other* ^
3.6	Healthy Childhood Environments: Child Care* ^
3.7	Healthy Childhood Environments: Home Visiting* ^
3.8	Healthy Childhood Environments: Services to Foster Youth or Families Involved in Child Welfare System* ^

Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds
Compliance and Reporting Guidance

30



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

3.9	Healthy Childhood Environments: Other* ^
3.10	Housing Support: Affordable Housing* ^
3.11	Housing Support: Services for Unhoused Persons* ^
3.12	Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance* ^
3.13	Social Determinants of Health: Other* ^
3.14	Social Determinants of Health: Community Health Workers or Benefits Navigators* ^
3.15	Social Determinants of Health: Lead Remediation ^
3.16	Social Determinants of Health: Community Violence Interventions* ^





Premium Pay for Essential Workers

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Treasury Reporting Eligible Uses

4: Premium Pay	
4.1	Public Sector Employees
4.2	Private Sector: Grants to Other Employers





Water, Sewer and Broadband Infrastructure

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Treasury Reporting Eligible Uses

5: Infrastructure²⁴

5.1	Clean Water: Centralized Wastewater Treatment
5.2	Clean Water: Centralized Wastewater Collection and Conveyance
5.3	Clean Water: Decentralized Wastewater
5.4	Clean Water: Combined Sewer Overflows
5.5	Clean Water: Other Sewer Infrastructure
5.6	Clean Water: Stormwater
5.7	Clean Water: Energy Conservation
5.8	Clean Water: Water Conservation
5.9	Clean Water: Nonpoint Source
5.10	Drinking water: Treatment
5.11	Drinking water: Transmission & Distribution
5.12	Drinking water: Transmission & Distribution: Lead Remediation
5.13	Drinking water: Source
5.14	Drinking water: Storage
5.15	Drinking water: Other water infrastructure
5.16	Broadband: "Last Mile" projects
5.17	Broadband: Other projects





Public Sector Revenue Loss (Section 6.1)

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Revenue Loss – Use of funds

- The Final Rule allows recipients to elect a standard allowance of \$10 million revenue loss instead of using the calculation.
 - Allowance covers entire period of performance
 - Allowance is not dependent on the “size” of the entitlement.
- The Interim Final Rule gave recipients broad latitude to use funds for the provision of government services to the extent of reduction in revenue.
- These expenditures do *not* have to qualify under one of the other ARPA categories, but do have the same time frame for when the costs must be obligated or expended
- More resource: <https://www.claconnect.com/events/2022/demystifying-revenue-loss-and-arpa-funds>



Spending on Government Services

- ✓ Construction of schools and hospitals
- ✓ Road building and maintenance, and other infrastructure
- ✓ Health services
- ✓ General government administration, staff, and administrative facilities
- ✓ Environmental remediation
- ✓ Provision of police, fire, and other public safety services (including purchase of fire trucks and police vehicles)

Government services generally include any service traditionally provided by a government, unless Treasury has stated otherwise.



Restriction on Uses

(A) statutory restrictions under the ARPA

- 1) offsetting a reduction in net tax revenue
- 2) deposits into pension funds

(B) other restrictions on use

- 1) debt service and replenishing reserves
- 2) settlements and judgments
- 3) general restrictions.

Restriction on Uses – Statutory Restrictions

May not “use the funds ... to either directly or indirectly offset a reduction in ... net tax revenue ... resulting from a change in law, regulation, or administrative interpretation during the covered period that reduces any tax ... or delays the imposition of any tax or tax increase.”

- Step by step processes for assessing potential “offset” of revenue

Prohibit all recipients, except Tribal governments, from using funds for deposit into any pension fund.

- Does not address OPEB



Restriction on Uses - Other

Debt service and replenishing financial reserves

- This is not considered a government service to constituents

Settlements or judgments

- If a settlement or judgment requires a government to provide governmental services that be allowable, then those services are allowable under Revenue Loss rules

Other

- Terms and Conditions
- Violations of Conflict of Interest (TC and OMB)
- Other Federal, State and Local rules and regulations





Administrative

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Treasury Reporting Eligible Uses

7: Administrative	
7.1	Administrative Expenses
7.2	Evaluation and Data Analysis
7.3	Transfers to Other Units of Government
7.4	Transfers to Non-entitlement Units (States and territories only)





Capital Expenditures

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Overview

- Excluding water, sewer and broadband infrastructure, capital expenditures can be incurred under the following eligible use categories
 - Public health and negative economic impact – requires additional reporting
 - Revenue loss (government services) – does not require additional reporting



Public Health and Negative Economic Impact

Capital Expenditure Requirements

- Except for Tribal Governments, must comply with **capital expenditure requirements**, in addition to other standards for uses of funds
- Must be related and reasonably proportional to the pandemic impact identified and reasonably designed to benefit impacted population or class
- Final Rule identifies enumerated types of capital expenditures that respond to pandemic
- Recipients may also identify other responsive capital expenditures

If a project has total capital expenditures of	and the use is enumerated by Treasury as eligible, then	and the use is beyond those enumerated by Treasury as eligible, then
Less than \$1 million	No Written Justification required	No Written Justification required
Greater than or equal to \$1 million, but less than \$10 million	Written Justification required but recipients are not required to submit as part of regular reporting to Treasury	Written Justification required and recipients must submit as part of regular reporting to Treasury
\$10 million or more	Written Justification required and recipients must submit as part of regular reporting to Treasury	



Written Justification



Description of harm or need to be addressed and why this was exacerbated or caused by the pandemic

May provide quantitative information



Explanation of why a capital expenditure is appropriate

Should include explanation why existing facilities, equipment, policy changes or additional funding to programs or services would be inadequate



Comparison of proposed capital project against **at least 2** alternative capital expenditures and demonstrate why the proposed capital expenditure is superior

Ineligible Use Presumptions

Construction of new correctional facilities as a response to increase in crime

Construction of new congregate facilities to decrease spread of COVID-19 in the facility

Construction of convention centers, stadiums, or other large capital projects intended for general economic development or to aid impacted industries





Questions and Answers

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Closing & Resources

- **CLA Resources:**
 - [Governments: Review This Checklist Before Spending COVID-19 Relief Funds : 2021 : Articles : Resources : CLA \(CliftonLarsonAllen\) \(claconnect.com\)](#)
 - [Demystifying Revenue Loss and ARPA Funds : 2022 : Events : CLA \(CliftonLarsonAllen\) \(claconnect.com\)](#)
 - [Managing Your ARPA Funds : 2021 : Events : CLA \(CliftonLarsonAllen\) \(claconnect.com\)](#)
 - [ARPA Basics for Governments and Potential Impact on Communities : 2021 : Events : CLA \(CliftonLarsonAllen\) \(claconnect.com\)](#)
 - [Overcoming Workforce Challenges : 2022 : Events : CLA \(CliftonLarsonAllen\) \(claconnect.com\)](#)
- **ARPA Treasury:**
 - [Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds | U.S. Department of the Treasury](#)
 - [WEBINAR: State & Local Fiscal Recovery Funds: An Introduction to the Final Rule - YouTube](#)
- **Revenue Loss Calculation classification:**
 - [U.S. Bureau of the Census - Government Finance and Employment](#)
- **ARPA FAQs:**
 - <https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/SLFRPFAQ.pdf>
 - [American Rescue Plan Act: Coronavirus State & Local Fiscal Recovery Fund FAQs \(naco.org\)](#)



Thank you for your participation!

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American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Overview

For The City of Watertown, MA

Presented to the Committee of the Budget and Fiscal Oversight

By: City Manager George J. Proakis

February 1, 2023

American Rescue Plan Act Overview

- Municipalities across the nation are the beneficiaries of a significant influx of federal funds via the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). ARPA is intended to address the negative health and economic impacts caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Watertown is expected to receive \$10.5 million in ARPA funding that must be encumbered by the end of 2024 and spent by the end of the 2026 calendar year.
- As the City continues through the ARPA process, and the three-year period in which to spend this funding, it is important to understand that the ARPA Framework may continue to evolve as we learn more about eligible program areas and community needs.

American Rescue Plan Act Funds

- Watertown: \$10,515,729

- Gosnold: \$7,399

- Boston: \$569,007,913

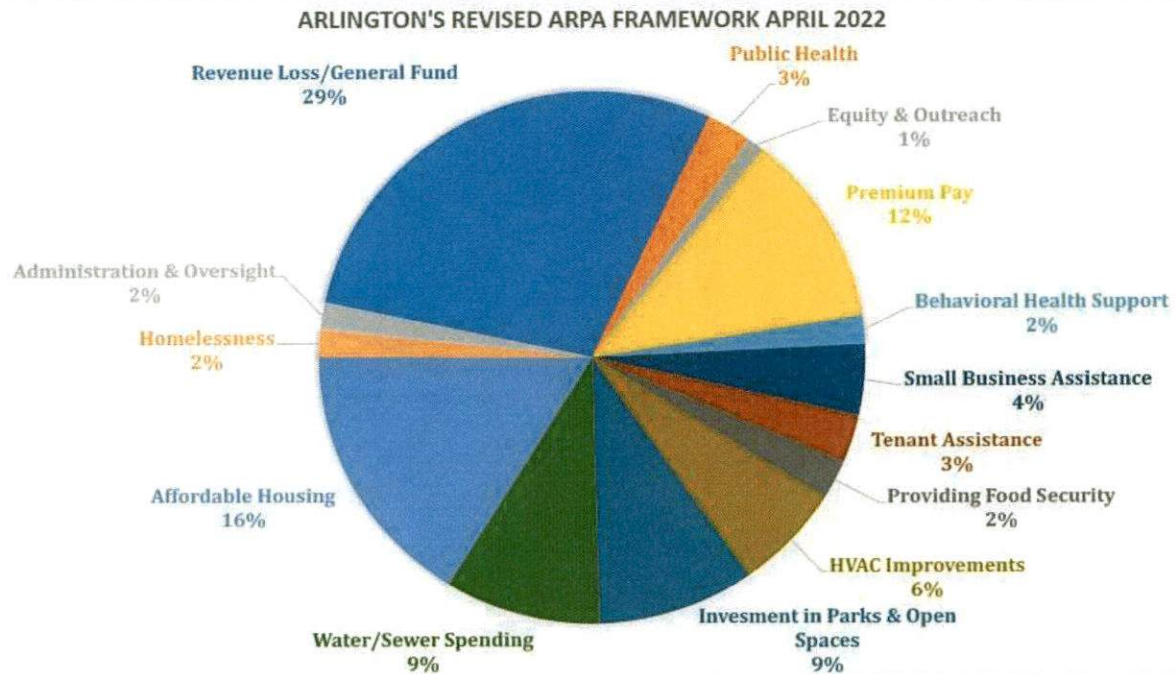
- Communities Near Us:

- Arlington: \$36,793,673
- Belmont: \$7,641,526
- Cambridge: \$87,893,020
- Newton: \$65,291,040
- Waltham: \$36,189,436

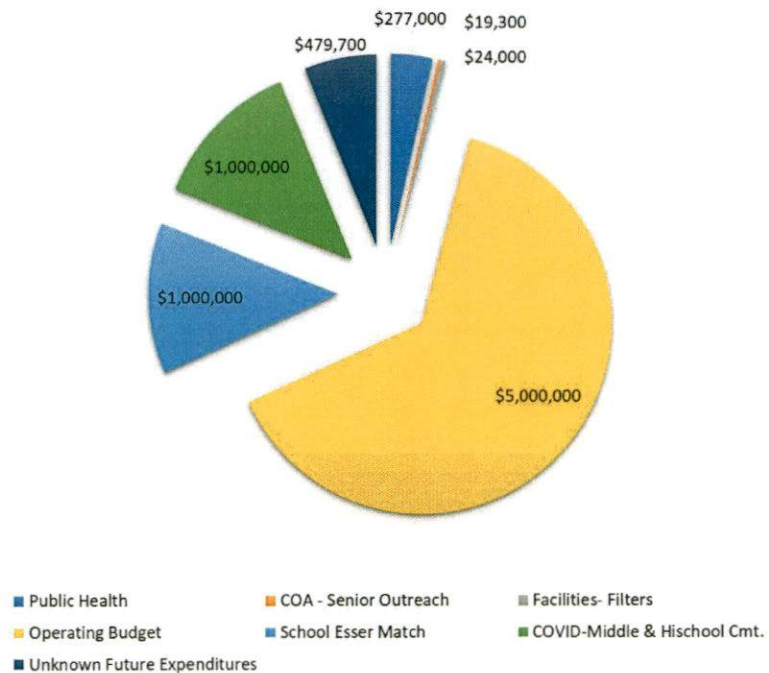
- Communities with similar funding:

- Andover: \$10,867,057
- Chelmsford: \$10,355,385
- Lexington: \$ 9,903,381
- Natick: \$10,548,208

Arlington's Revised ARPA Framework April 2022



Belmont's Proposed ARPA Distribution of Funds



Cambridge's ARPA Funded Projects as of 7/5/2022

Page 1 of 7

Line#	Department/Applicant	City Council Priority Area	Scope of Services	Non-Profit Service Provider	Committed
1	Communications Office	Broadband	CTC Technology & Energy - Broadband Consultants		465,000.00
2	Communications Office	Broadband	Provide the necessary infrastructure to support a pilot high-speed wired broadband service at three Cambridge Housing Authority sites: the Frank J. Manning elderly housing high-rise in Central Square and the Washington Elms and Newtowne Court apartment		1,100,000.00
3	Information Technology	Digital Equity	Public Internet Access (Outdoor Wi-Fi)		275,000.00
4	Dept of Human Rights	Disproportionately Impacted Communities	Language access tools and resources for City Departments, including computer-assisted translation program and related translation costs, and expanded interpretation services such as language line and other real-time interpretation.		250,000.00
5	Mayor's Office/ City Manager's Office	Disproportionately Impacted Communities	Cash Assistance Program	Y	22,000,000.00
6	Dept of Human Services	Food Insecurity	Food for Free - expansion of Just Eats Program to address food insecurity (2 years)	Y	400,000.00
7	Dept of Human Services	Food Insecurity	Food for Free - expansion of Backpack program to address food insecurity for low income students on weekends (2 years)	Y	500,000.00
8	City Manager's Office	Homeless Housing / Shelters	Transition Wellness Center - Spaulding Shelter Rent (3 years through Dec 2023)		1,641,000.00
9	City Manager's Office	Homeless Housing / Shelters	BayCove Human Services Inc- Transition Wellness Center at Spaulding Hospital 3 years	Y	5,600,000.00
10	Dept of Human Services	Homeless Housing / Shelters	First Church in Cambridge - Shelter (2 years) Meals, day, showers	Y	250,000.00
11	Dept of Human Services	Homeless Housing / Shelters	First Church in Cambridge - To fund a housing Navigator to support shelter residents in access housing (2 years) housing	Y	90,000.00
12	Dept of Human Services	Homeless Housing / Shelters	BayCove Human Services Inc - to fund three housing navigators to support individuals who are homeless to access housing and to provide stabilization services (2 years)	Y	600,000.00

Cambridge's ARPA Funded Projects as of 7/5/2022

Page 2 of 7

Line#	Department/Applicant	City Council Priority Area	Scope of Services	Non-Profit Service Provider	Committed
13	Dept of Human Services	Homeless Housing / Shelters	Housing Navigation & stabilization supports to rehouse individuals staying in shelters and unhoused in Cambridge	Y	2,300,000.00
14	Dept of Public Works	Homeless Housing / Shelters	DPW - Warming Center Repairs		32,000.00
15	Dept of Public Works	Homeless Support Programs	DPW- Rent Portable Public Toilets (funding through December 2024)		168,000.00
16	Dept of Public Works	Homeless Support Programs	DPW - Clean/sanitize portable public toilets (funding through December 2024)		949,000.00
17	Dept of Human Services	Homeless Support Programs	YMCA / Caritas- to provide site based case management at the Central House. Through FY23	Y	133,000.00
18	City Manager's Office	Homeless Support Programs	COVID-19 Food/Supplies (Various Subrecipients) Nutritional meals for unhoused persons through October 2022	Y	1,176,387.00
19	Dept of Human Services	Homeless Support Programs	Medical street outreach services for unhoused persons. Funds a medical doctor accompanying street outreach workers 3 shifts/week through a partnership with the Cambridge Health Alliance and BayCove/Caspar First Step Street Outreach project	Y	420,000.00
20	Community Development	Housing Insecurity	To provide support and case management for low-and moderate-income homeowners who are facing significant challenges to their housing, are at risk of being displaced, and/or need assistance to remain in their homes.	Y	360,000.00
21	Dept of Human Services/Housing Liaison	Housing Insecurity	Rental Assistance Program (Multi-Service Center/Housing Liaison)		500,000.00
22	Information Technology	Infrastructure	Security Operations Center cybersecurity monitoring		160,000.00
23	CDD/Dept of Human Services	Job Training	Allocate resources to training providers/vendors to offer skills training and other supports to enable residents to move into career paths, with a focus on growth industries.	Y	1,750,000.00
24	Dept of Human Services	Job Training	Job Training Assistance - provide high quality STEAM internships for low income students (3 years)	Y	450,000.00
25	Dept of Human Services	Mental Health	Margaret Fuller House - Community Advancement Program - Expanded Mental Health and other services for young adults and families who have been negatively impacted from COVID.	Y	146,300.00

Cambridge's ARPA Funded Projects as of 7/5/2022

Page 3 of 7

Line#	Department/Applicant	City Council Priority Area	Scope of Services	Non-Profit Service Provider	Committed
26	Dept of Human Services	Mental Health	Hoarding support services to provide support to residents to mitigate the chances of eviction. Three Year Estimate	Y	600,000.00
27	Dept of Human Services	Non Profit Assistance	Provide scholarship support to allow low income children attend community after school programs (3 years)	Y	1,000,000.00
28	Public Health Dept/DPW	Outreach Programs	Cambridge Community Corps - public outreach for COVID-19 testing, vaccinations, mitigation of community transmission (funding through December 2024)		675,000.00
29	Magazine Beach	Open Space	Open Space Magazine Beach		1,800,000.00
30	Dept of Public Works	Public Health	Air Purifier Filter Replacement (FY23)		200,000.00
31	Finance Office	Reporting/Compliance/Admin	KPMG - To consult on Funding reporting and compliance requirements		609,500.00
32	Finance Dept.	Reporting/Compliance/Admin	Admin support Current-Dec 31, 2024 (3 years)		445,300.00
33	Community Development	Disproportionately Impacted Communities	Uplifting Financial Health - programs for the unbanked and under banked		150,000.00
34	Community Development	Small Business Support	Small Business Consulting Services		125,000.00
35	Community Development	Small Business Support	Grants for business associations events (i.e. October Fest/Inman Eats/Central Flea, etc.).	Y	100,000.00
36	Community Development	Small Business Support	Pop up Program for vacant storefronts, targeting BIPOC entrepreneurs		700,000.00
37	Community Development	Small Business Support	Restaurant & Entertainment/Nightlife Relief Grants		2,500,000.00
38	Community Development	Small Business Support	Cambridge Small Business Relief Grants in the amount of \$10K each. (Personal Services - salons, gyms, etc. and childcare)		1,075,000.00
39	Community Development	Small Business Support	Cambridge Small Business Relief Grants in the amount of up to \$5K each. (E-Commerce)		300,000.00

Cambridge's ARPA Funded Projects as of 7/5/2022

Page 4 of 7

Line#	Department/Applicant	City Council Priority Area	Scope of Services	Non-Profit Service Provider	Committed
40	Community Development	Small Business Support	COVID Relief grants (CDBG/CARES Act) and MDRF were all oversubscribed. Additional funds for businesses to support a variety of rent, employee pay, utilities, documented revenue loss, etc.		1,125,000.00
41	Community Development	Small Business Support	Outdoor dining infrastructure support and grants because the cost is very high and the city should support infrastructure that not only supports businesses, but also DPW operations, ADA accessibility, TPT efforts, etc. Offering the grant will allow the City more		250,000.00
42	Community Development	Small Business Support	The hotel/tourism industry in the Greater Boston Area is not expected to recover for several years to prepandemic levels. Grants to provide daycare and/or training pay to employees, grants to support small tourism-based businesses and other grants to support		425,000.00
	Dept of Public Works	Sustainability	Energy Efficiency Projects - FY23 (DPW)		500,000.00
44	City Manager's Office	Testing Services/Public Health	COVID-19 Testing/Test Kits - includes Fire Dept Support, Pro-Ambulance, CIC Health, Broad Institute Test Kits, St Johns Church rental		9,856,250.00
45	Neville Communities Inc	Testing Services/Public Health	Neville Communities, Inc.-The project is to provide funding for COVID-19 testing and PPE as the facility has had declining revenues due to loss of patients and decrease in new residence during the COVID pandemic stretching their resources thin.	Y	126,100.00
46	Dept of Public Works	Testing Services/Public Health	DPW - Biobot Analytics, Inc - to continue sewer testing program through FY23		477,535.00
47	Finance	Translation	Language Connections - translation of COVID documents: Omicron Flyer, At-home test information, quick start guide for iHealth COVID Antigen test instructions		7,015.00
48	Water Dept	Water/Sewer Infrastructure	Replace GAC (granular activated carbon) Filters for PFAS Removal		1,700,000.00
49	Cambridge Non Profit Coalition (64)	Non Profit Assistance	Cambridge Non-profit Recovery Fund Program	Y	6,000,000.00
50	Transit	Disproportionately Impacted Communities	To support recommendations from the Mayor's Task (e.g. Free bus fares/CRLS MBTA Pass Pilot Program)		2,000,000.00
51	Cambridge Housing Authority (15)	Food Insecurity	Cambridge Housing Authority -Free meals program at CHA developments		750,000.00
52	Green Cambridge (18)	Food Insecurity/Mental Health	Green Cambridge - Urban Farm at CRLS		75,000.00

Cambridge's ARPA Funded Projects as of 7/5/2022

Page 5 of 7

Line#	Department/Applicant	City Council Priority Area	Scope of Services	Non-Profit Service Provider	Committed
53	Community Servings (25)	Food Insecurity	Community Servings - Provide Medically Tailored Meals customized to meet the individual health needs		75,000.00
54	Daily Table (33)	Food Insecurity	Daily Table - Affordable nutrition for the food insecure		150,000.00
55	The Outdoor Church (19)	Homeless Support Programs	The Outdoor Church - Outdoor care for the unhoused		10,000.00
56	Cambridge/Somerville Healthcare for the Homeless (34)	Homeless Support Programs	Cambridge/Somerville Health Care for the Homeless - Expand Healthcare services to homeless population		125,000.00
57	On The Rise (47)	Homeless Support Programs	On the Rise - Safe Haven - Provides safety, community, and advocacy to woman and trans/non-binary individuals moving through and recovering from homelessness	Y	125,000.00
58	Project Right to Housing (55)	Homeless Support Programs	Project Right to Housing Program to alleviate homelessness		250,000.00
59	CASPAR/Bay Cove (56)	Homeless Support Programs	Caspar/BayCove Unhoused support using a four point phased program/investments	Y	77,000.00
60	DeNovo Center for Justice and Healing (59)	Homeless Support Programs	DeNovo - Homeless Prevention Project-free legal to low-income individuals facing homelessness or displacement	Y	300,000.00
61	Breakthrough Greater Boston (11)	Job Training/Non-Profit Assistance	Breakthrough Greater Boston - College Success Program	Y	200,000.00
62	Cambridge Community Center (38)	Mental Health	Cambridge Community Center - Youth and Family Mental/Behavioral Health Programming	Y	500,000.00
63	Green St Shelter (63)	Mental Health/Homeless Support Programs	Green St Shelter/Solutions at Work - Expand Mental Health Services for homeless individuals		200,000.00
64	Reservoir Church (5)	Non Profit Assistance	Reservoir Church - Soccer nights program for elementary age children to bring neighborhood together	Y	10,000.00
65	Transition House (46)	Non Profit Assistance	Transition House - Providing services for domestic violence victims	Y	750,000.00
66	CIRC/DeNovo	Non Profit Assistance	CIRC/DeNovo - Provide legal service resources for Cambridge's immigrant communities	Y	600,000.00

Cambridge's ARPA Funded Projects as of 7/5/2022

Page 6 of 7

Line#	Department/Applicant	City Council Priority Area	Scope of Services	Non Profit/Service Provider	Committed
67	Cambridge NAACP (65)	Non Profit Assistance	Cambridge NAACP - Excellence lab for K-8 Cambridge students	Y	300,000.00
68	My Brother's Keeper	Non Profit Assistance	MBK - Empowerment program for high school aged youth	Y	375,000.00
69	Boston Area Rape Crisis Center (42)	Non Profit Assistance	BARCC - Support services for sexual violence survivors	Y	450,000.00
	Create Cambridge Coalition (60)	Non Profit Assistance/Arts	Create Cambridge Coalition - To invest in Arts, Culture, and Creative economy sector	Y	500,000.00
	Global Arts Live (62)	Non Profit Assistance/Arts	Global Arts Live - Performing Arts Collaboration to support a series of events	Y	300,000.00
72	Friends of Jerry's Pond (8)	Open Space/Non-Profit Assistance	Jerry's Pond improvements for sustainable infrastructure	Y	600,000.00
73	Alewife Neighbors (48)	Open Space/Non-Profit Assistance	Alewife Neighbors Inc - Environmental Consultant for Russell Field and Jerry's Pond areas	Y	20,000.00
74	Cambridge Local First (9)	Small Business Support	CLF - One on One technical assistance and implementation support for locally owned businesses		60,000.00
75	Popportunity (10)	Small Business Support/Non-profit Assistance	Popportunity - Expand opportunities for low cost pop-up stores	Y	150,000.00
76	Sustainable Business Network (21)	Small Business Support	Sustainable Business Network - Support for Local Business Fair		30,000.00
77	Sustainable Business Network (23)	Small Business Support	Sustainable Business Network - Black/Brown Business equity support for new food businesses		1,000,000.00
78	Cambridge Local First (52/53)	Small Business Support	CLF - Support to increase local procurement and investment in business accelerator spaces		100,000.00
79	Cambridge Local First (54)	Small Business Support	CLF - Support development of programs to drive spending to Cambridge businesses. (e.g. Buy One-Get One Free gift card program)		25,000.00

Cambridge's ARPA Funded Projects as of 7/5/2022

Page 7 of 7

Line#	Department/Applicant	City Council Priority Area	Scope of Services	Non Profit Service Provider	Committed
80	Green Cambridge (58)	Sustainability	Green Cambridge -To support Canopy (Tree) Crew Program involving teens and young adults		125,000.00
	Climate Crisis Response	Sustainability	Climate Crisis Response based on Task Force response		2,500,000.00
	Starlight Square	Public Health	To create a civic space modeled on Starlight Square initiative		500,000.00
83	Just A Start (29/30/32)	Disproportionately Impacted Communities	JAS - Economic Opportunities Programming	Y	100,000.00
84	Homeowner's Rehab Inc, (43)	Non-Profit Assistance	HRI - Support to non-profit housing providers to ensure affordable housing providers can provide critical services	Y	125,000.00
85	Joyful Destinations (57)	Arts	Joyful Destinations - Citywide cultural arts special events		100,000.00
			Unallocated		2,100,000.00
					88,119,387.00

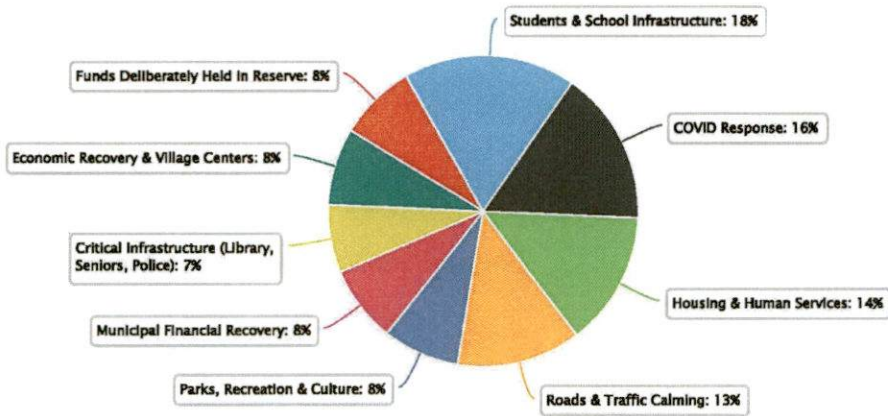
Cambridge Highlights

- Cash Assistance: \$22 million
- Non-profit Relief Fund: \$6 million
- Transitional Wellness Center: \$5.6 million
- Restaurant and Nightlife fund: \$2.5 million
- Climate Crisis Response (based on task force): \$2.5 million

Newton's ARPA Investments

(as of September 15, 2022)

CITY OF NEWTON'S ARPA INVESTMENTS



Communities with Similar Funding

Andover

Page 1 of 4

ARPA Category: Capital Improvements/Infrastructure

Project	Total Budget
Conservation Land Management Policy Development	\$9,500
Emergency Management Capacity and Initiatives	\$75,000
Ledge Road Landfill	\$2,250,000
Old Town Hall Parking Lot Infrastructure	\$300,000
Park Property Phased Implementation	\$950,000
Town Building Improvements	\$1,510,000
Water Main Transmission Lines	\$2,800,000
Water Treatment Plant Security Enhancements	\$100,000

Total Capital Improvements/Infrastructure \$7,994,500

Communities with Similar Funding Andover

Page 2 of 4

ARPA Category: Public Health and Pandemic Response

Project	Total Budget
Behavioral Health Contracted Services/Staffing	\$400,000
Board of Health Regulation & Policy Review	\$22,500
Expanded Elder Home Visits	\$64,385
Pandemic Response	\$550,000
Reserve/Contingency	\$700,000

Public Health and Pandemic Response \$1,736,885

Communities with Similar Funding

Andover

Page 3 of 4

ARPA Category: Community Assistance and Partnerships

Project	Total Budget
Expansion of Public Cable Access	\$20,000
Rental and Home Buying Assistance	\$200,000
Small Business Assistance - Economic Development	\$300,000
Community Assistance and Partnerships	\$520,000

Communities with Similar Funding Andover

Page 4 of 4

ARPA Category: Community Engagement & Administration

Project	Total Budget
Administration and Oversight	\$255,672
General Allocation for CARES/FEMA Non-Reimbursed	\$60,000
Participatory/Community Driven Programs	\$300,000

Community Engagement & Administration \$615,672

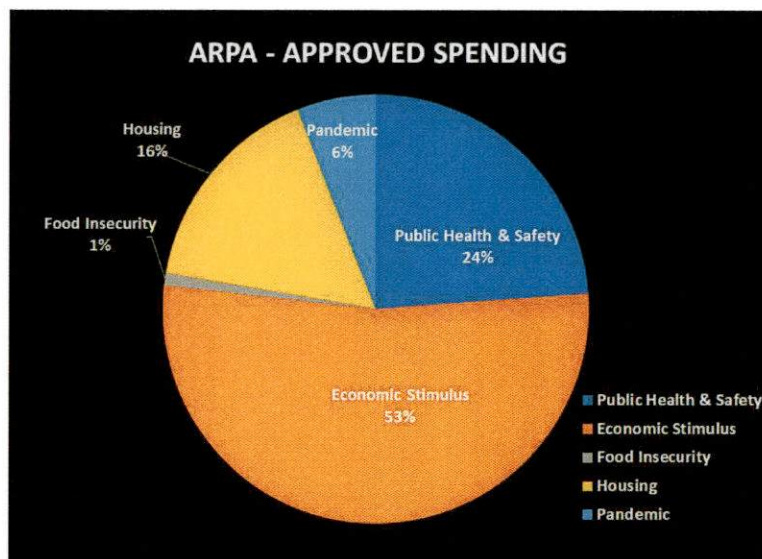
Total: \$10,867,057

Communities with Similar Funding Chelmsford

- More information forthcoming
- Projects approved and considered include substantial HVAC and indoor air quality improvements to buildings

Communities with Similar Funding Lexington

As of December 5, 2022, the Select Board has approved for use \$5,418,229 of Lexington's \$9.9 million in ARPA funds. Additionally, \$1,100,000 of the Town's ARPA funds are set aside for Participatory Budgeting and food insecurity. The current balance of the Town's ARPA funds is \$3,385,152.



Communities with Similar Funding Natick

Item	Estimate 12/2021	Estimate	Notes - July 2022
Communications/Website Upgrades	\$ 200,000	\$ -	\$200k funded through State ARPA earmark
Contact Tracing Contingency Funds	\$ 100,000	\$ 50,000	FEMA Reimbursement Available, reduced by \$50k
DEI Coordinator / Manager	\$ 300,000	\$ 300,000	No Change
Facilities upgrades to HVAC Systems	\$ 2,500,000	\$ 325,250	Adjusted - cover costs for Morse Library system
Golden Triangle Economic Recovery	\$ 300,000	\$ -	\$200k funded through State ARPA earmark, \$50k funded through State One-Stop grant
Senior/Family Resources - Study	\$ 150,000	\$ -	\$150k funded through State ARPA Earmark
Natick Housing Authority Upgrades	\$ 2,500,000	\$ -	Funding through State ARPA Earmark & other resources
PPE for Schools/Public Safety/Town	\$ 100,000	\$ -	FEMA Reimbursement Available
Public Safety - Advocate Clinician (NEW)	\$ -	\$ 50,000	NEW - Adding second clinician to existing program in Police Dept.
Town Revenue Recovery (NEW)	\$ -	\$ 6,600,000	NEW - based on updated guidance
School Educational Response	\$ 2,500,000	\$ 1,624,750	Adjustment of funds based on updated expected needs
Water/Sewer PFAS Upgrades	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 1,700,000	Reduced to cover already funds already appropriated for ongoing projects
ARPA TOTAL	\$10,650,000	\$10,650,000	

Strategies to Approach ARPA

- Wat programs were most impacted by COVID?
- How do expenditures meet city goals and budget priorities?
- How can we use funds to provide the most lasting impact?
- How can we make sure expenditures are sustainable?
- How do we avoid a funding "cliff" in 2026?
- How do we ensure that all funds are spent by 12/31/2026?

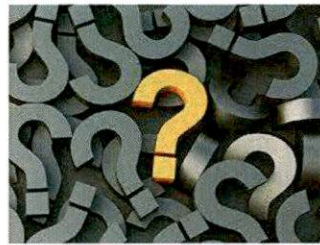
ARPA Topics of Interest

- Infrastructure:
 - Water/Sewer
 - High School Cost Overruns
- Affordability:
 - Improvements to affordable housing
 - New affordable housing development
 - Housing assistance payments to individuals and families
- Climate Impacts
 - Planting of additional trees / rain gardens / etc.
 - Additional investments in climate infrastructure

ARPA Topics of Interest

- Business Impacts:
 - Small business direct assistance
 - Small business marketing programs
- Municipal Workforce:
 - Payments to individual staff that worked through COVID-19
 - Ramp up staffing in key areas:
 - Grant writer
 - Small business assistance
 - Others
- Other:
 - General grants to community organization for COVID impacts, recovery, resiliency

QUESTIONS



Marcy Murningham

To: Members of the Budget and Fiscal Oversight Committee, Watertown City Council
From: Marcy Murningham
Re: A normative framework for ARPA funding
Date: 1 February 2023

Good evening, BFOC members. I hope to be joining you in person tonight, but am helping my Irish friend prepare for a trip to Ukraine tomorrow, where he and others will be distributing power generators to kindergarteners in Lviv.

That said, here is the statement I've asked Councilor Piccirilli to distribute and enter into the committee record:

Good evening, Councilors.

My name is Marcy Murningham, and I've lived in Watertown at 134 Fayette Street for more than 21 years. I write to make an appeal.

As Watertown considers how best to both elicit and evaluate proposals for one-time ARPA funding, I respectfully ask that you consider incorporating the values and principles expressed in the voter-approved [Preamble to Watertown's revised Home Rule Charter](#). While I realize there are government stipulations regarding purpose, possibility, and program, I also know that there is room for a civic moral framework helping to help shape and enact the process. As one who participated heavily in the *Preamble's* construction, and as one who pays close attention to the evolution of constitutional law, I can say with absolute certainty that this conforms to emerging practice. It also establishes Watertown as a leader in municipal self-governance and accountability at a time when the structure of democracy is under attack.

There are many ways that this can be done, which can be determined at some future time. I offer my assistance in this task, as I am well familiar with how best to assure that agreed-to values in public life find their way into institutional governance and accountability. Put simply, it's a way of assuring the public that the truths held to be self evident, which lie at the heart of the Preamble, are enacted in contemporary governmental behavior. Both the "Ethic of Civic and Environmental Stewardship" and its set of Guiding Principles — Safety & Tranquility; Learning & Excellence; Equity & Diversity; Health & Well-Being; Creativity & Innovation; Accountability & Transparency — can find expression in the ARPA rubric, not to mention other places in city government where evidence-based performance indicators are used. The latter, of course, is another theme that runs throughout the revised Charter.

The idea is to root Watertown's decision making, be it via the City Council or City Hall, in the conditions that Watertown voters approved. The *Preamble* serves as the soil in which those roots exist and thrive, enabling the "trunk" and "branches" of self-governance to remain vibrant and healthy. Doing so is consistent with the ideals that lie at the heart of America's covenant, going back to 1776. As we approach the nation's 250th birthday in 2026, with Watertown's 400th birthday in 2030, I can think of no better way to celebrate. Thus does Watertown stand at the front of the line, showing how the process of its self-governance can be both pragmatic and prophetic.

Thank you for your consideration.

CITY COUNCIL ROLL CALL VOTE
MEETING DATE: FEBRUARY 14, 2023

	YES	NO	PRESENT
JOHN M. AIRASIAN	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
CAROLINE BAYS	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
LISA J. FELTNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
JOHN G. GANNON	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NICOLE GARDNER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
EMILY IZZO	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
ANTHONY PALOMBA	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
VINCENT J. PICCIRILLI, JR.	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
MARK S. SIDERIS, COUNCIL PRESIDENT	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Motion to Adjourn.



George J. Proakis
City Manager

CITY OF
WATERTOWN
Office of the City Manager

Administration Building
149 Main Street
Watertown, MA 02472
Phone: 617-972-6465
www.watertown-ma.gov
citymgr@watertown-ma.gov

TO: Honorable City Council

FROM: George J. Proakis, City Manager 

DATE: February 14, 2023

RE: Agenda Item – Proposed Loan Order – REVISED

As a follow up to the submitted request for the proposed loan order on tonight's City Council Agenda, item 6A Streets & Sidewalks Loan Order, attached please find the revised minutes from the November 1, 2022, Committee on Public Works report with recommendations on the 2023 Local Road Construction. The Honorable City Council adopted the recommendations at the December 13, 2022, Council Meeting.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

cc: Gregory M. St. Louis, Superintendent of Public Works
Thomas P. Watkins, Director of Administration and Finance, Public Works
Matthew Shuman, City Engineer
Steven Magoon, Director of Community Development and Planning/Assistant City Manager
Melissa Morrissey, City Treasurer/Collector

Watertown City Council
Committee on Public Works
Councilor Piccirilli, Chair, Councilor Feltner, Vice Chair, Councilor Palomba, Secretary
Committee Report of November 1, 2022 Meeting

The Committee on Public Works met on Monday, November 1 in the City Council Chambers at 6:30 PM. It was a hybrid meeting so residents could attend the meeting on Zoom. Also, comments could be directed through email to vpiccirilli@watertown-ma.gov.

The purpose of the meeting was to review and make recommendations on the **2023 Local Road Construction Program**.

Present at the meeting were the three members of the Committee, Councilors Piccirilli, Chair, Councilor Feltner, Vice Chair, Councilor Palomba, Secretary as well as Councilor Gardner and Councilor Bays. Also present were the following employees of the Department of Public Works (DPW), Greg St. Louis, Superintendent, Tom Watkins, Director of Administration and Finance, and Matt Shuman, City Engineer. Members from the Bicycle/Pedestrian Committee included Maria Saiz, Hanna Rokoff, and Andy Campagna. Resident Ed Marcus was also present.

Councilor Piccirilli began that meeting at 6:30 PM and introduced himself and the members of the Committee. He invited Mr. Shuman to give the 2023 Road Program slide presentation. This is available on the DPW website at <https://www.watertowndpw.org/977/Annual-Road-Program>. Additional information on the 2022 sidewalk and street repairs can be found at <https://portal.laserfiche.com/Portal/DocView.aspx?id=17429&repo=r-5ece5628>. Given the length of the presentation, the Secretary chose to list the highlights and related discussions by the Committee.

1) The City borrows annually for the Road Program, including \$2 million for road reclamation and \$500,000 for sidewalk repairs. Also, starting in FY 21 the City borrows \$1.5 million annually for the long streets and connector program.

2) Boylston, Chester, and Locke Streets, the roads selected in the 2022 Local Road Construction Program, have been or will be completed by the end of the 2022 construction season (April 2022 through November 2022).

3) However the long streets and connector program for the reconstruction of Highland Avenue was delayed and is anticipated to begin in the spring of 2023. Funding for this project is from FY 21. The borrowing for FY 22 and FY 23 for the long streets and connector program has not happened at this time.

4) The anticipated future long streets and connector program include:

Morse Street- FY 22 borrowing – construction spring of 2023

Fifth and Watertown Streets – FY 23 borrowing- construction spring of 2024

Forest and Springfield Streets – FY 24 borrowing – construction spring of 2025

Riverside Street – FY 25 borrowing – construction spring of 2026

5) DPW's priority is to maintain the pavement on all Watertown streets and roads. To that end they employ pavement management techniques including deferred maintenance, crack sealing, mill and overlay, and reclamation. Reclamation is the most expensive and involves the complete excavation of the road, granite curbing, concrete sidewalks, driveway aprons, handicap ramps, and rehabilitation or additions of planting strips.

6) DPW also employs a Pavement Management Index or PCI which is a snap shot of the road conditions throughout the City. Our PCI has declined since 2016 dropping from a PCI of 65 to a PCI of 61 in 2021. The decline is attributed to the significant number of excavation permits. There were 1,700 permits issued between 2016 and 2021 for gas main installations and gas, water, and sewer main replacements. In part this is related to the many new developments being built, all of which access these services.

7) After considering a number of factors including whether upgraded utility services are or will be completed, what streets are in the greatest state of disrepair, the funding that is available, and other factors, DPW has selected the following streets for reclamation in the spring of 2023 – **Bates Road, Bates Road East, Essex Street, Nash Street, Francis Street and Bradshaw Street.**

8) Council Feltner raised the concern that the lack of curbing on streets can lead to the erosion of planting strips and hoped that every effort can be made to install curbing when streets that are not scheduled for reclamation are repaired. Councilor Piccirilli noted the City's ordinance addressing curbing does provide for DPW to install asphalt curbing as well as granite curbing.

9) DPW has funds for sidewalk repairs separate from the funds in the road programs. It also is in the process of developing a sidewalk index. Though it has not been completed, it is used to determine what sections of sidewalks are repaired during a construction season by contractors hired by the DPW.

The following four motions were made by Councilor Feltner, seconded by Councilor Palomba and approved by a 3 – 0 votes.

The Committee recommends that the City Council approve that the Department of Public Works recommendation for the 2023 Road Program as presented using the FY 23 \$2.5 million loan order for Bates Road, Bates Road East, Essex Street, Francis Street, and Bradshaw Street.

The Committee recommends that the City Council approve that the Department of Public Works recommendation to remove Fifth Avenue from the FY 22 long streets and connector program (which includes Morse Street), and use the FY 23 \$1.5 million loan order for the long streets and connector program for the repair of Fifth Avenue and related work on Watertown Street.

The Committee recommends that the City Council approve that the Department of Public Works use of the FY 24 funding for the long streets and connector program for the repair of Forest and Springfield Streets, and to use the FY 25 funding for the long streets and connector program for the repair of Riverside Street.

The Committee recommends that the City Council ask the Administration to increase annual funding for the long streets and connector program in the CIP from \$1.5 million to \$2 million.

Councilor Palomba made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Councilor Feltner and passed by a 3-0 vote.

The minutes were prepared by Councilor Palomba



George J. Proakis
City Manager

CITY OF
WATERTOWN
Office of the City Manager

Administration Building
149 Main Street
Watertown, MA 02472
Phone: 617-972-6465
www.watertown-ma.gov
citymgr@watertown-ma.gov

TO: Honorable City Council

FROM: George J. Proakis, City Manager 

DATE: February 2, 2023

RE: Agenda Item – Proposed Loan Order

On March 22, 2022 the Honorable City Council adopted 34 conceptual recommendations on the Fiscal Year 2023-2027 Capital Improvement Program.

Conceptual recommendation #25 reads in part as follows:

Refer to the Public Works Committee, for policy guidance, plans for the FY23 \$2,500,000 proposed loan order (FY23 CIP Lines 270 & 276) for local road construction projects in the summer of 2023.

On November 22, 2022, the Honorable City Council approved the list of streets to be included in the Fiscal Year 2023 Road Program (see attached excerpt from the November 22, 2022 City Council Minutes and Committee on Public Works Report).

As a follow up to the above, enclosed please find correspondence from Gregory M. St. Louis, Superintendent of Public Works requesting action be taken to authorize the Treasurer to borrow \$2,000,000 as outlined and approved in the Fiscal Year 2023- 2027 Capital Improvement Program for Highway Reconstruction (Bonds), as well as another \$500,000 for Sidewalk Reconstruction (Bonds), for the total of \$2,500,000.

Therefore, given all of the above, I respectfully request the attached Proposed Loan Order of \$2,500,000 be placed on the February 14, 2023 City Council Agenda as a first reading.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

cc: Steve Magoon, Assistant City Manager
Greg St. Louis, DPW Superintendent
Matt Shuman, City Engineer
Melissa Morrissey, Treasurer/Collector



28 State Street
Boston, MA 02109-1775
p: 617-345-9000 f: 617-345-9020
hinckleyallen.com

Jay Gonzalez
(617) 378-4256
jgonzalez@hinckleyallen.com

February 1, 2023

George J. Proakis
City Manager
Administration Building
149 Main Street
Watertown, Massachusetts 02472

RE: Draft Loan Order – Street and Sidewalk Bonds

Dear George:

As requested, I suggest the following form of loan order to approve the borrowing of funds to pay costs of street and sidewalk improvements:

ORDERED: That the sum of \$2,500,000 is appropriated to pay costs of constructing, reconstructing, paving, repairing or otherwise improving streets and sidewalks, including improving underground ducts and conduits and paying all other costs incidental and related to such street and sidewalk work; and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the City Manager, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to M.G.L. c.44, §7(1), or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the City therefor.

The order must be published at least five days prior to the holding of a public hearing with respect to the order and its final passage and requires the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of all members of the City Council, as in the case of any other loan order for bonds.

Please call me if there are any questions about the suggested proceedings.

Sincerely,

Jay Gonzalez

Committee on Public Works Report Regarding the 2023 Local Road Construction Program - Vincent J. Piccirilli, Chair

ACTION ITEMS:

1. That the City Council Approve the Department of Public Works Recommendation for the 2023 Road Program as presented using the FY2023 \$2,500,000 Loan Order for Bates Road, Bates Road East, Essex Street, Francis Street, and Bradshaw Street

Watertown City Council
Committee on Public Works
Councilor Piccirilli, Chair, Councilor Feltner, Vice Chair, Councilor Palomba, Secretary
Committee Report of November 1, 2022 Meeting

The Committee on Public Works met on Monday, November 1 in the City Council Chambers at 6:30 PM. It was a hybrid meeting so residents could attend the meeting on Zoom. Also, comments could be directed through email to vpiccirilli@watertown-ma.gov.

The purpose of the meeting was to review and make recommendations on the **2023 Local Road Construction Program**.

Present at the meeting were the three members of the Committee, Councilors Piccirilli, Chair, Councilor Feltner, Vice Chair, Councilor Palomba, Secretary as well as Councilor Gardner and Councilor Bays. Also present were the following employees of the Department of Public Works (DPW), Greg St. Louis, Superintendent, Tom Watkins, Director of Administration and Finance, and Matt Shuman, City Engineer. Members from the Bicycle/Pedestrian Committee included Maria Saiz, Hanna Rokoff, and Andy Campagna. Resident Ed Marcus was also present.

Councilor Piccirilli began that meeting at 6:30 PM and introduced himself and the members of the Committee. He invited Mr. Shuman to give the 2023 Road Program slide presentation. This is available on the DPW website at <http://www.watertowndpw.org/191/Annual-Road-Program>. Additional information on the 2022 sidewalk and street repairs can be found at <https://www.watertowndpw.org/DocumentCenter/View/1774/2022-Work-Completed-To-date?bidId=>. Given the length of the presentation, the Secretary has chosen to list the highlights and related discussions by the Committee.

1) The City borrows annually for the Road Program, including \$2 million for the road reconstruction and \$500,000 for sidewalk reconstruction. Also, starting in FY 21 the City borrows \$1.5 million for the long streets and connector program.

2) Boylston, Chester, and Locke Streets, the roads selected in the 2022 Local Road Construction Program, have been or will be completed by the end of the 2022 construction season (April 2022 through November 2022).

3) However the long street and connector program for the reconstruction of Highland Avenue was delayed and is anticipated to begin in the spring of 2023. Funding for this project is from FY 21. While the borrowing for FY 22 and FY 23 monies for the long streets and connector program has not happened at this time.

4) The anticipated future long streets and connector program include:

Morse Street- FY 22 borrowing – construction spring of 2023

Fifth and Watertown Streets – FY 23 borrowing- construction spring of 2024

Forest and Springfield Streets – FY 24 borrowing – construction spring of 2025

Riverside Street – FY 25 borrowing – construction spring of 2026

5) DPW's priority is to maintain pavement on all Watertown streets and roads. To that end they employ pavement management techniques including deferred maintenance, crack sealing, mill and overlay, and reclamation. Reclamation is the most expensive and involves the complete excavation of the road, granite curbing, concrete sidewalks, driveway aprons, handicap ramps, and rehabilitation or additions of planting strips.

6) DPW also employs a Pavement Management Index or PCI which is a snap shot of the road conditions throughout the City. Our PCI has declined since 2016 dropping from a PCI of 65 to a PCI of 61 in 2021. The decline is attributed to the significant number of excavation permits, 1,700, issued between 2016 and 2021 for gas main installations and gas, water, and sewer main replacements. In part this is related to the many new developments being built, all of which access these services.

7) After considering a number of factors including whether upgraded utility services are or will be completed, what streets are in the greatest stay of repair, the funding that is available, and other factors, DPW has selected the following streets for reclamation in the spring of 2023 – **Bates Road, Bates Road East, Essex Street, Nash Street, Francis Street and Bradshaw Street.**

8) It should be noted that during the presentation, Council Feltner twice raised the concern that when DPW does mill and overlay on roads and streets they do not repair or install curbing, even asphalt curbing, which results in deteriorating and unsafe planting stripes. Councilor Piccirilli noted the City's ordinance addressing curbing does provide for DPW to install asphalt curbing as well as granite curbing.

9) There was quite a bit of discussion regarding sidewalk repairs. Key points included:

a) DPW does have funds for sidewalk repairs separate from the funds in the road programs. It also is in the process of developing a sidewalk index. Though it has not been completed, it is used to determine what sections of sidewalks are repaired during a construction season by contractors hired by the DPW.

b) Contractors provide a one year guarantee on their work. Unfortunately if the sidewalk begins to spall, that is, begins to crumble, after a year, the City is required to repair the sidewalk.

c) DPW does temporary repairs where sidewalks have been lifted due to tree roots. When repairing these sections they use flexi-pave that expands. However these temporary repairs only marginally prevent tripping and do not allow access to individuals using wheelchairs or canes.

The following four motions were made by Councilor Feltner, seconded by Councilor Palomba and approved by a 3 – 0 votes.

The Committee recommends that the City Council approve the Department of Public Works recommendation for the 2023 Road Program as presented using the FY 23 \$2.5 million load order for Bates Road, Bates Road East, Essex Street, Francis Street, and Bradshaw Street.

The Committee recommends that the City Council approve the Department of Public Works recommendation to remove Fifth Avenue from the FY 22 long street and connector program (which includes Morse Street), and use the FY 23 \$1.5 million load order for the long street and connector program for the repair of Fifth Avenue and related work on Watertown Street.

The Committee recommends that the City Council approve the Department of Public Works use the FY 24 funding for the long street and connector program for the repair of Forest and Springfield Streets, and to use the FY 25 funding for the long street and connector program for the repair of Riverside Street.

The Committee recommends that the City Council ask the Administration to increase annual funding for the long street and connector program in the CIP from \$1.5 million to \$2 million.

Councilor Palomba made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Councilor Feltner and passed by a 3-0 vote.

The minutes were written by Councilor Palomba



CITY OF WATERTOWN
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
124 ORCHARD STREET

Gregory M. St. Louis, PE
Superintendent

(P) 617-972-6420
(F) 617-972-6402

TO: Mr. George Proakis, City Manager
FROM: Mr. Greg St. Louis, Superintendent, Department of Public Works
DATE: January 31, 2023
RE: Loan Order Request: Highway & Sidewalk Reconstruction

The Department of Public Works respectfully requests that the necessary actions be taken to authorize the Treasurer to borrow \$2,000,000.00 as outlined and approved in the Fiscal Year 2023 - 2027 Capital Improvement Program budget for Highway Reconstruction (Bonds), as well as another \$500,000.00 for Sidewalk Reconstruction (Bonds), for the total of \$2,500,000.00. This recommendation is in accordance with the City Council Committee on Public Works report that was reviewed and approved by the City Council on November 22, 2022.

The work will consist of the reconstruction of various streets and sidewalks which include Bates Road, Bates Road East, Essex Street, Nash Street, Francis Street and Bradshaw Street. These funds will be utilized for the design, engineering, construction and construction administration services associated with the full reconstruction efforts of the aforementioned roadways and sidewalk. Work will also include the installation of curbing, bicycle lanes, tree plantings and other appurtenant work, as appropriate.

This work is also in accordance with the 2023 Road Program presentation to the City Council Committee on Public Works provided on November 1, 2022. The 2023 Road Program presentation can be found on the DPW website:

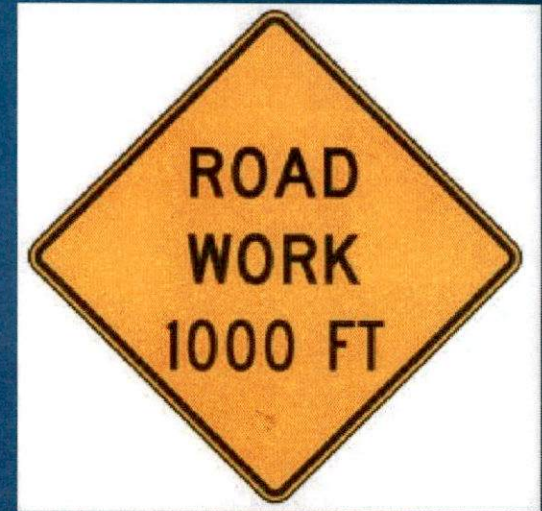
<https://www.watertowndpw.org/977/Annual-Road-Program>

If borrowing is approved as outlined in the FY2023 Capital Improvement Plan, construction is anticipated to begin later this Spring.

We thank you in advance for your consideration.

CC: T. Tracy
S. Magoon
J. Gonzalez
M. Shuman
T. Glode
E. Baptista
T. Watkins

2023 Road Program



Public Works Subcommittee Presentation
November 1, 2022

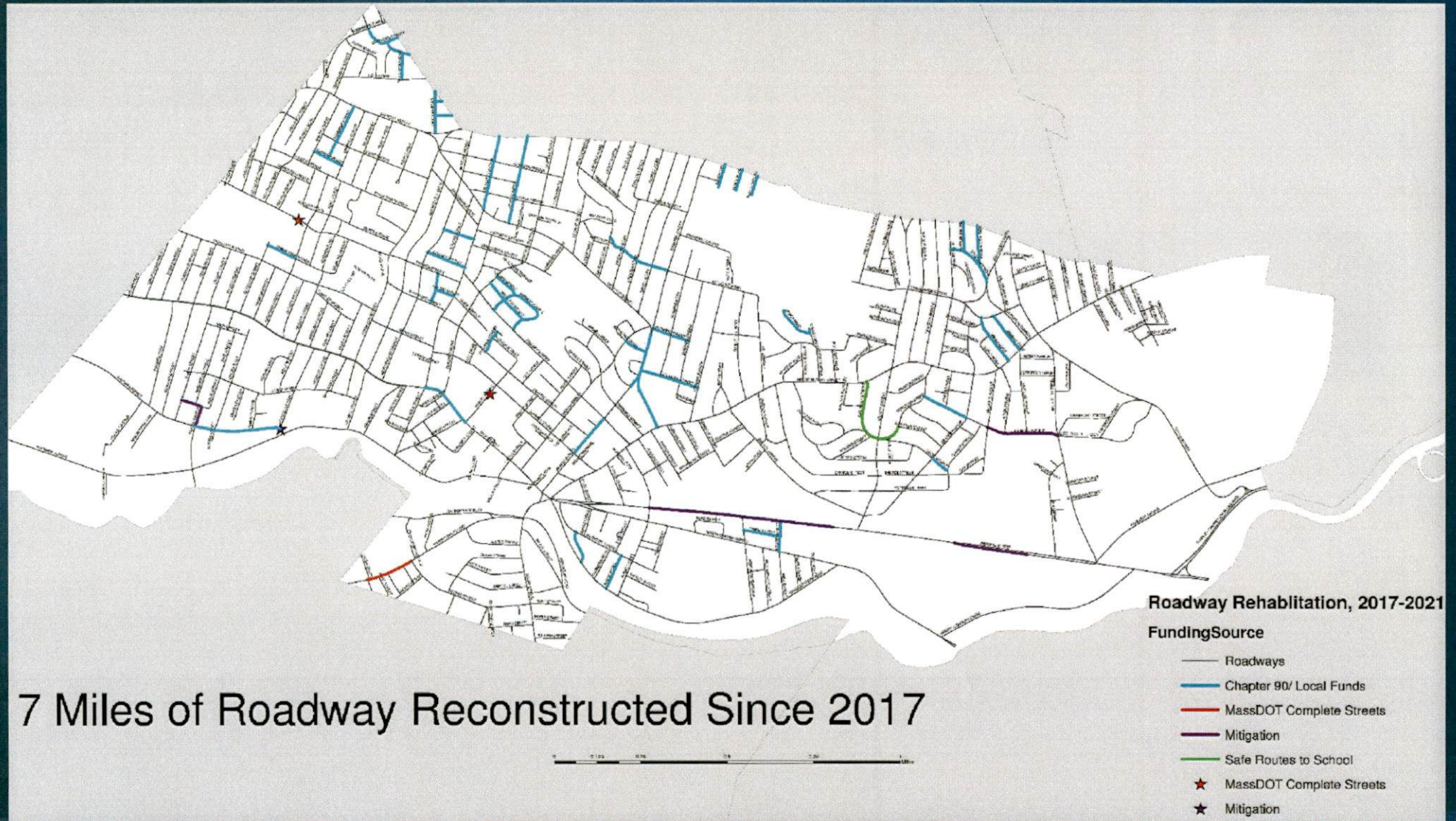
Agenda

- Road Program Updates
- Pavement Management Update
- 2023 Road Reconstruction Program
- Long Streets & Connector Program
- Recommendations
- Questions



Road Program Updates

Road Reconstruction Progress



Road Program Updates

Funding History

- \$2.5 million road program began in FY'13 and has remained constant
 - Budgeted increases to begin in FY'24 through FY'27
- Starting in FY'21, an additional \$1.5 million per year for long streets and connector program
 - FY'21 money borrowed for Highland Ave. (increased to \$2 million)
 - FY'22 and FY'23 monies have not been borrowed yet

Excerpts from FY 2023- FY 2027 CIP

	FY '23	FY '24	FY '25	FY '26	FY '27
Highway Recon.	\$2,000.0	\$2,100.0	\$2,200.0	\$2,300.0	\$2,400.0
Sidewalk Recon.	\$500.0	\$525.00	\$550.0	\$575.0	\$600.0
Long Streets/Connectors	\$1,500.0	\$1,575.0	\$1,650.0	\$1,725.0	\$1,800.0

Road Program Updates

2023 Construction Updates

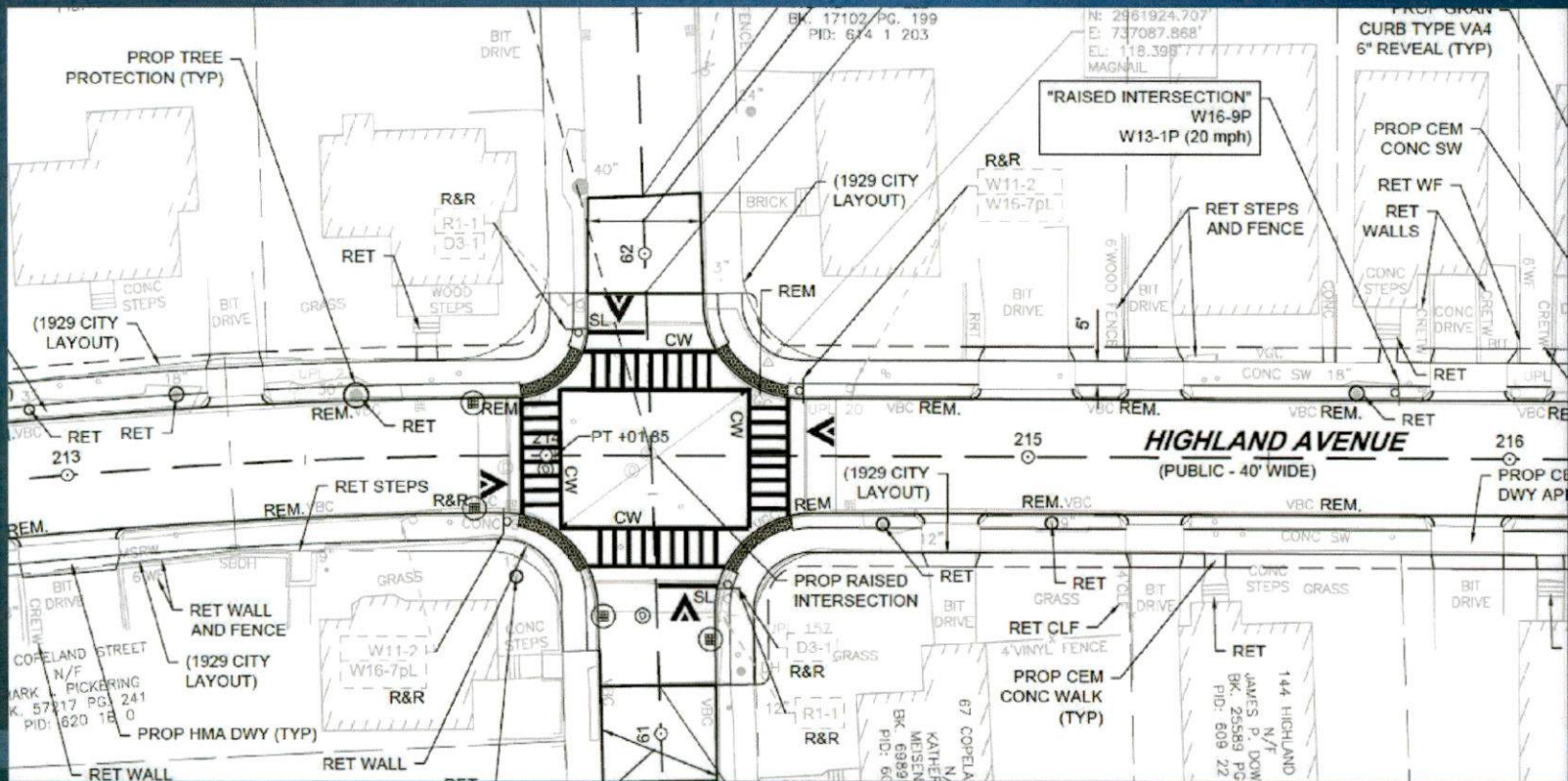
- Boylston Street (Fairfield Street to Porter Street)
- Chester Street
- Locke Street
- Chapman Street—bid with Highland Ave.



Road Program Update

Highland Ave. and Chapman St

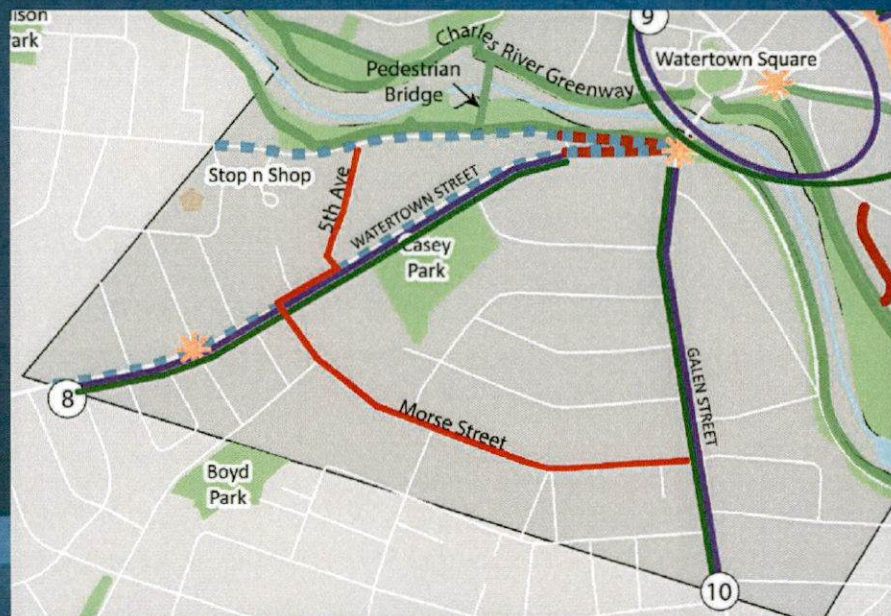
- Joint project bid out in August 2022
- Contract awarded to Newport Construction
- Anticipate construction to begin in Spring



Road Program Update

Morse Street & Fifth Ave.

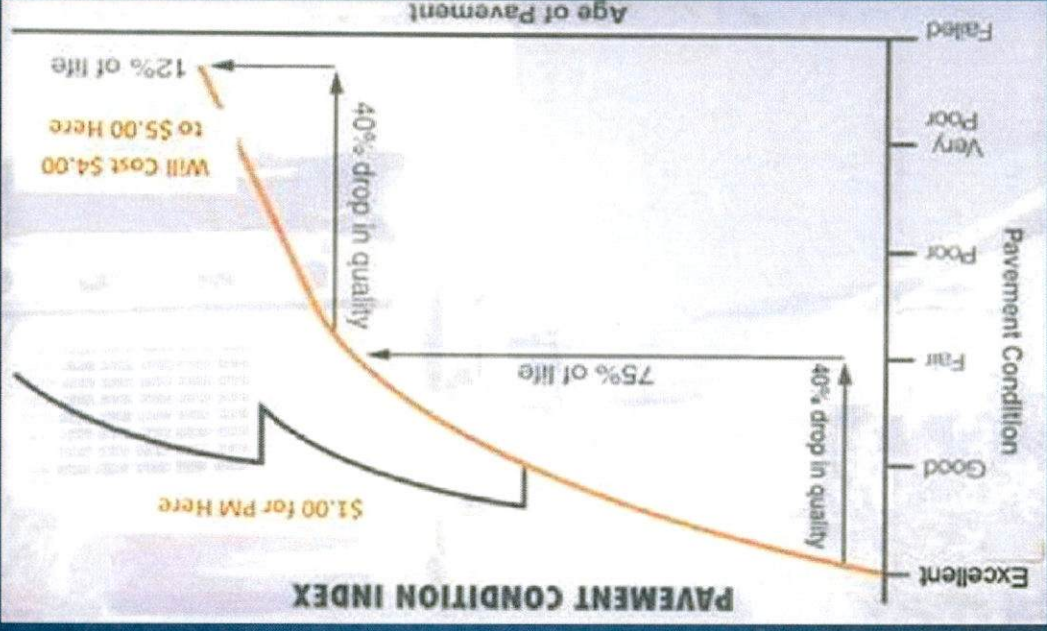
- Project recommended in 2021 for 2023 construction
- Morse Street concept plan being finalized
- Additional evaluation and funding required for Fifth Ave. and Watertown Street



Pavement Management Update

Pavement Preservation Techniques

- Pavement deteriorates more quickly as it ages
- Use a variety of methods to prolong the useful life of road surfaces
- Cost-effective versus complete reconstruction



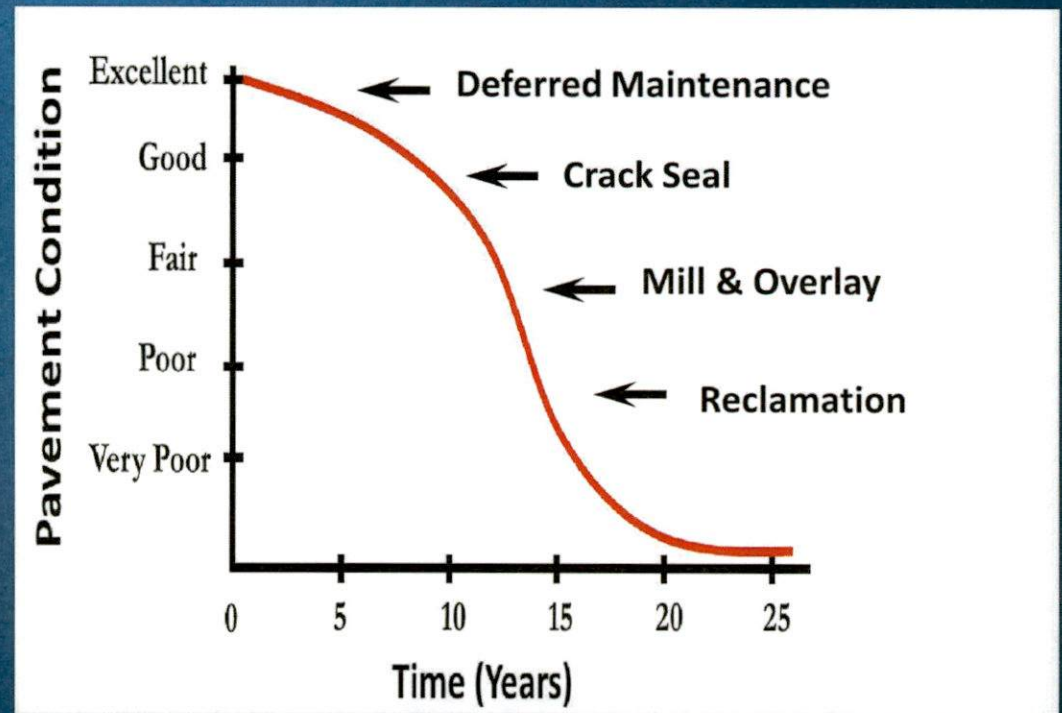
Pavement Preservation | Missouri Petroleum

Pavement Management Update

Typical Management Techniques

- Provide a variety of maintenance treatments to **prolong the useful life** of less deteriorated roadways

- Deferred Maintenance
\$ Crack Seal
\$\$\$ Mill & Overlay
\$\$\$\$\$ Reclamation



Pavement Management Update

Typical Management Techniques

- Deferred Maintenance

\$ Crack Seal

\$\$\$ Mill & Overlay

\$\$\$\$\$ Reclamation



Pavement Management Update

Typical Management Techniques

- Deferred Maintenance

\$ Crack Seal

\$\$\$ Mill & Overlay

\$\$\$\$\$ Reclamation



Pavement Management Update

Typical Management Techniques

- Deferred Maintenance
- \$ Crack Seal
- \$\$\$ Mill & Overlay
- \$\$\$\$\$ Reclamation



Pavement Management Update

Typical Management Techniques

- Deferred Maintenance
- \$ Crack Seal
- \$\$\$ Mill & Overlay
- \$\$\$\$\$ Reclamation



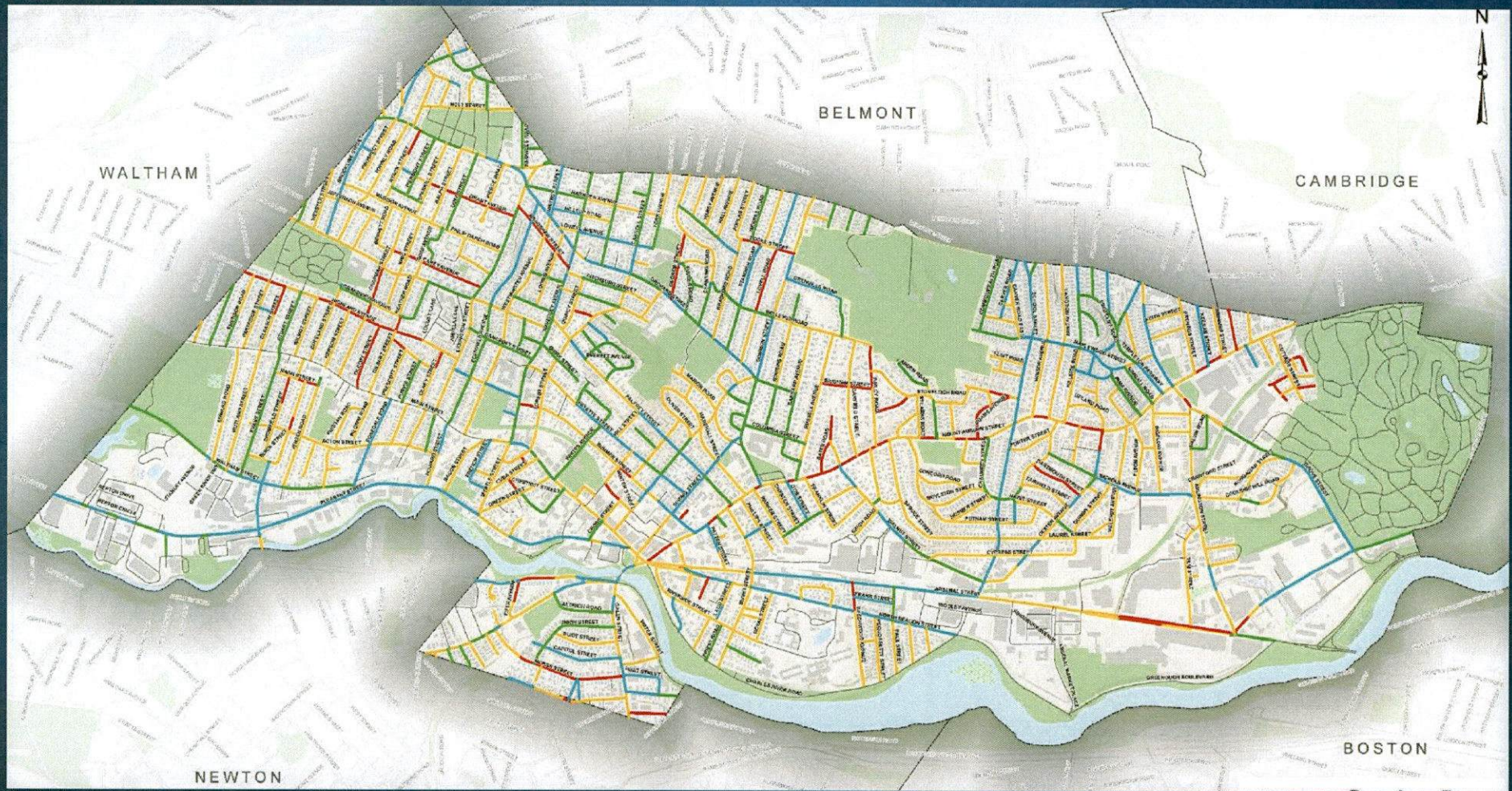
Pavement Management Update

Pavement Management Index (PCI)

- Snapshot of road conditions throughout City
- Street survey performed in 2021, evaluates many factors that contribute to road deterioration
- Develop a “Pavement Condition Index” (PCI) for all streets
 - Industry standard practice developed by Army Corps of Engineers, adopted by APWA
 - Numerical measure (0-100) of roadway condition based on observed surface distresses (cracking, patching, potholes, utility cuts, etc.)
- Planning level repair recommendations and cost estimates

Pavement Management Update

2021 Pavement Condition Index Map



<https://www.waltham.org/DocumentCenter/View/1716/Pavement-Condition-Index-PCI?bidId=>

Pavement Management Update

Pavement Management Index (PCI)

	2012	2016	2021
Average PCI	59	65	61
Backlog	\$92 M	\$88 M	\$106 M

- Between 2016 and 2021:

- Almost 1,700 excavation permits issued
- Over 750 municipal utility repairs
- About 11.5 miles of gas main installed
- Almost 3 miles of water main replaced
- Almost 3/4 mile of sewer main replaced
- Almost 1/3 mile of drain main replaced

VS.

- 5.6 miles of road reclaimed
- 10 miles of road milled and overlaid

Pavement Management Update

Challenges Affecting PCI

- Increased road repair needs as utility improvements are completed
 - National Grid gas main replacements
 - Water and sewer main rehabilitation and replacements
 - City-wide lead service replacement program
- Private development
 - Utility extensions/upgrades
- Severe weather conditions can lead to higher than expected levels of deterioration on streets

Pavement Management Update

Challenges Affecting Cost

- Contractor availability and bidding environment
- Materials cost escalations
- Roadway reconstruction includes curbing, sidewalks, and drainage improvements

Full Road Reconstruction Costs

	2018	2020	2021	2022
Price per linear foot of road	\$360	\$575	\$910	\$865

Pavement Management Goals

Pavement Reconstruction Techniques

- Roadway reclamation
 - Addresses the structural integrity of the roadway
 - Fully replaces the pavement surface (4-inch thickness)
 - Per City Ordinance, scope of work also includes:
 - Installation of granite curbing, concrete sidewalks, driveway aprons and handicap ramps
 - Rehabilitation or addition of a planting strip
 - Review of driveway openings for compliance with Zoning
 - Drainage and stormwater management improvements
 - Tree plantings
 - Streets proposed for road reconstruction are submitted to City Council for review

2023 Road Reconstruction Program

Developing a “Universe of Projects”

- City staff evaluate roadway conditions each year
 - Pavement Management Plan
 - Field reconnaissance
 - Status of utility work
 - Work order/maintenance requests
- Streets may be categorized for maintenance or reconstruction

2023 Road Reconstruction List

Developing the List

- Streets considered for full reconstruction based on a variety of factors:
 - Only streets with upgraded utilities will be completely reconstructed
 - Priority to streets in greatest state of disrepair
 - Program must fit within funding constraints
 - FY'23 CIP is level funded at \$2.5 Million
 - Secondary considerations include traffic volumes, the pedestrian network and geographic equity

2023 Road Reconstruction

Utility Coordination & Capital Planning

- Water main replacement program
 - Highland Ave. (Emerson Rd. to Partridge St.)
- Sewer and drain repairs and replacements
- Substandard water service replacements—110 locations
- National Grid gas main replacements

2023 Road Reconstruction List

Proposed Streets

- Bates Road
- Bates Road East
- Essex Street
- Nash Street
- Francis Street
- Bradshaw Street



2023 Road Reconstruction List

Bates Road & Bates Road East



Bates Road & Bates Road East

- Gas main replacement in 2016
- Water main replacement in 2013
- Sewer replacements in 2020
- Alligator cracking, trench patches

1,220 feet long – 24 feet wide

2023 Road Reconstruction List

Essex Street



Essex Street

- Gas main replacement in 2021
- Water and sewer main replacement in 2020
- Alligator cracking, trench repairs
- Asphalt sidewalks in poor condition
- Portions lack curb, no complete sidewalk

290 feet long – 24 feet wide

2023 Road Reconstruction List

Nash Street



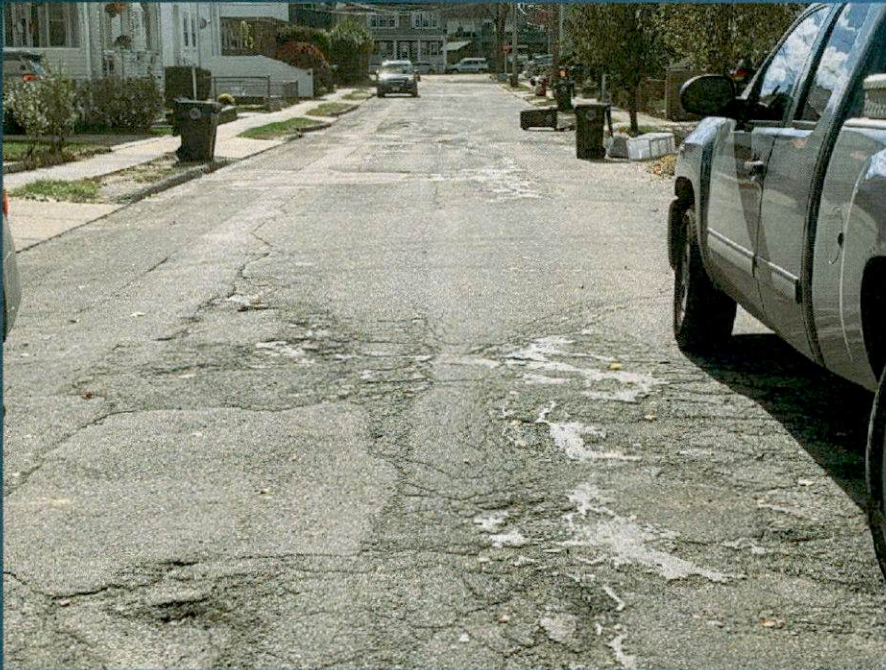
Nash Street

- Gas main replaced in 2015 & 2021
- Water main replaced in 2020
- Gaps in sidewalk network, mixture of curb and berm with gaps

630 feet long – 24 – 35 feet wide

2023 Road Reconstruction List

Francis Street



Francis Street

- Gas main replacement in 2021
- Potholes, trenches
- Concrete sidewalks with asphalt berm

610 feet long – 24 feet wide

2023 Road Reconstruction List

Francis Street

- Evaluated as part of Watertown Green Streets program
- Residents reported street flooding during high intensity rain events

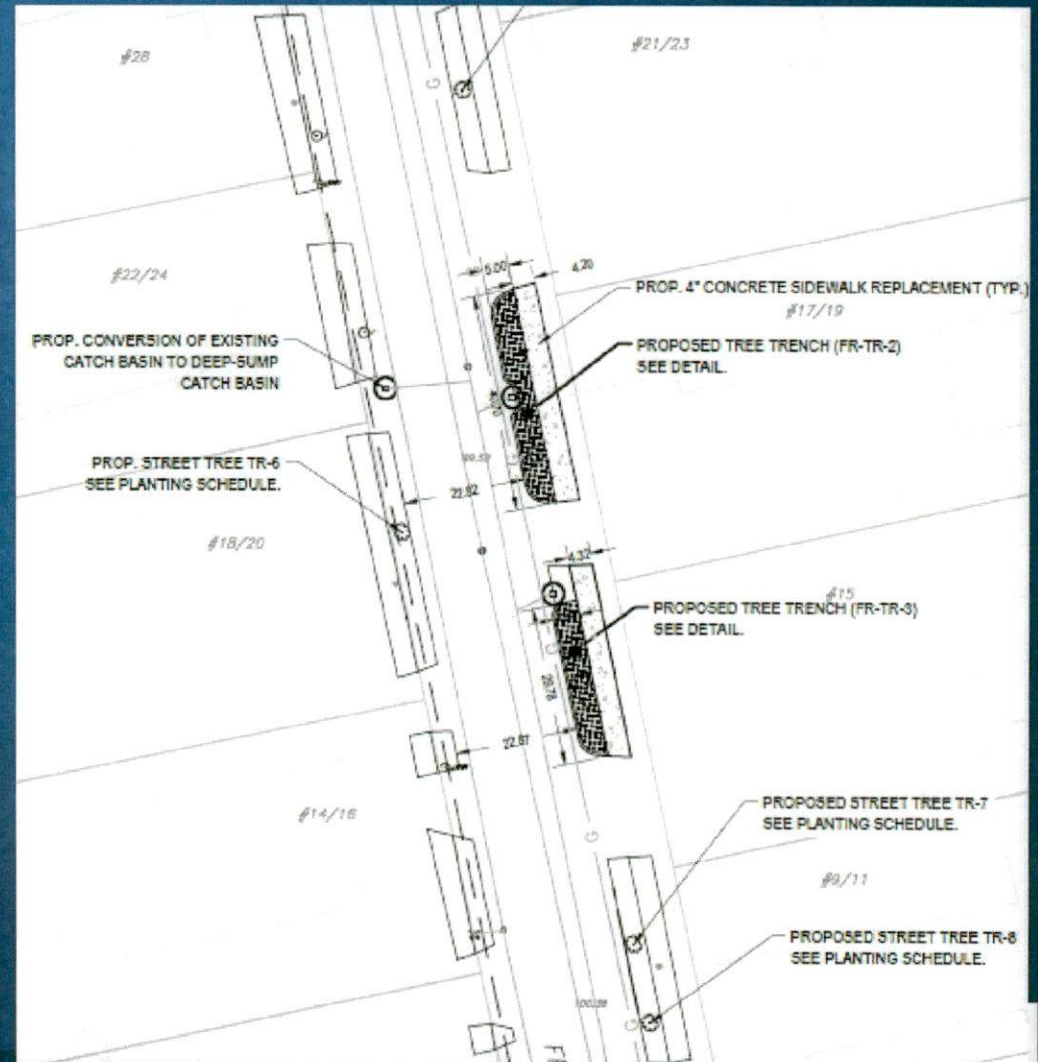


[Resilient Watertown \(watertown-ma.gov\)](http://watertown-ma.gov)

2023 Road Reconstruction List

Francis Street

- City cleaned and inspected drains in street
- Consultant developed 75% design plans to install 4 stormwater tree trenches and 1 drywell
- 25 to 75% reduction in runoff rates anticipated
- Identified locations for 7 additional street trees



2023 Road Reconstruction List

Bradshaw Street



Bradshaw Street

- Gas main replacement in 2021
- Alligator cracking, cross trenching
- Concrete and asphalt sidewalks
- Sections with no curb, concrete curb, or granite curb

1,035 feet long – 23.5-24' feet wide

2023 Road Reconstruction List

Next Steps

- Review driveways with DCDP
- Review street trees with Tree Warden
- Review water services and fire hydrants
- Green infrastructure review
- Finalize concepts, where applicable
- Complete Streets working group review
- Supplemental survey, where necessary
- Notify residents of future work
- Maintain schedule for January bid

Long Streets & Connector Program

Description

- \$1.5 million supplemental funding longer streets & connectors
- Short list streets
 - Forest Street (Springfield Street to Path) & Springfield Street (Fitchburg St. to Forest St.)
 - Riverside Ave.
- Considerations
 - Future utility needs
 - Traffic volumes
 - Connection to existing bike and pedestrian facilities, and important destinations

Long Streets & Connector Program

Forest Street & Springfield Street



Forest St. & Springfield St. Corridor

- Gas main replacement in 2015 and 2020
- Water main replacement in 2016
- Alligator cracking, cross trenching
- Concrete and asphalt sidewalks with some gaps
- Sections with no curb, concrete curb, or granite curb

2,400 feet long – 24' feet wide

Long Streets & Connector Program

Forest Street & Springfield Street

- Corridor included in City's *Complete Streets Prioritization Plan* (#20)
 - Install granite curbing, install and/or replace sidewalks
 - Provide ADA compliant accessible ramps at intersections
 - Stripe crosswalks

<http://www.watertowndpw.org/DocumentCenter/View/303/Watertown-Complete-Streets-Plan-Final>

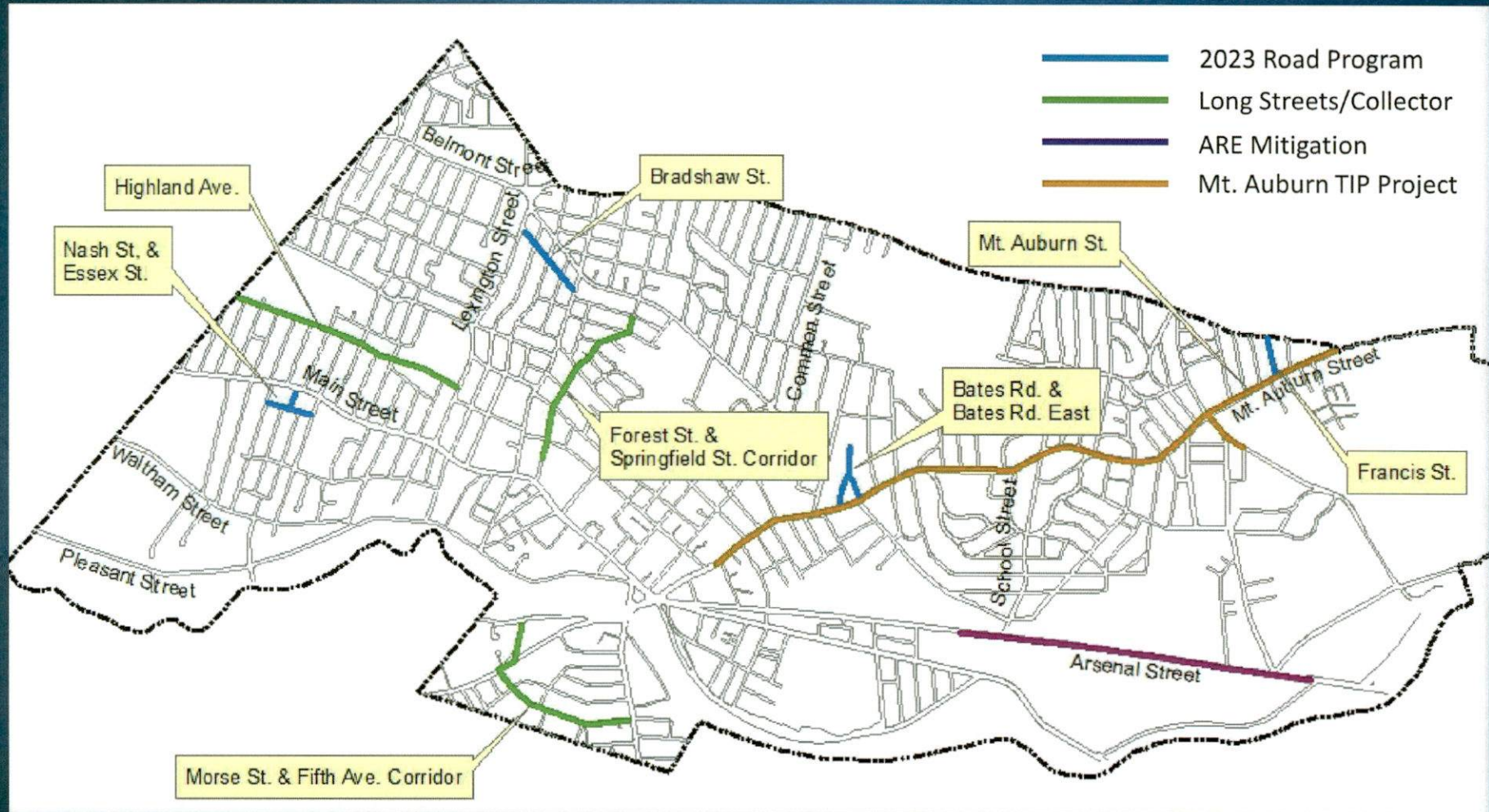
Long Streets & Connector Program

Forest Street & Springfield Street

- Next steps
 - Design during 2023
 - Complete Streets review
 - Develop concept plans
 - Bid for 2024 construction season

2023 Road Reconstruction List

Proposed Streets



Recommendations

Proposed Streets

- 2023 Road Program Streets
 - Bates Road
 - Bates Road East
 - Essex Street
 - Nash Street
 - Francis Street
 - Bradshaw Street
- Long Streets/Collector Program
 - Forest Street—Springfield Street to Linear Path & Springfield Street—Fitchburg Street to Forest Street

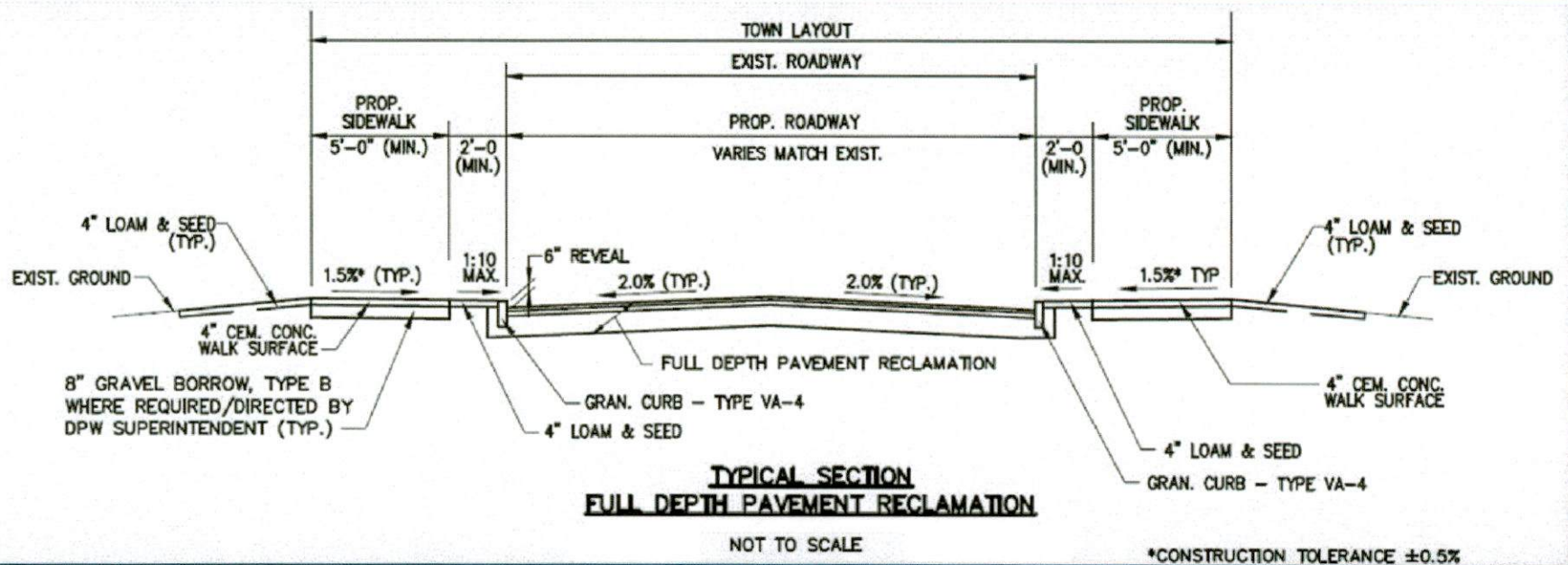
Recommendations

For Further Consideration

- Fund Fifth Ave. and Watertown St. road reconstruction through FY'23 long streets/connectors program
- Accelerate planned increases in CIP funding
- Increase long streets/connectors allocation to \$2 million
- Accelerate mill and overlay program to prolong roadway life

Excerpts from FY 2023- FY 2027 CIP

	FY '23	FY '24	FY '25	FY '26	FY '27
Highway Recon.	\$2,000.0	\$2,100.0	\$2,200.0	\$2,300.0	\$2,400.0
Sidewalk Recon.	\$500.0	\$525.00	\$550.0	\$575.0	\$600.0
Long Streets/Connectors	\$1,500.0	\$1,575.0	\$1,650.0	\$1,725.0	\$1,800.0



Questions?

<http://www.watertowndpw.org/191/Annual-Road-Program>



George J. Proakis
City Manager

CITY OF
WATERTOWN
Office of the City Manager

Administration Building
149 Main Street
Watertown, MA 02472
Phone: 617-972-6465
www.watertown-ma.gov
citymgr@watertown-ma.gov

To: Honorable City Council

From: George J. Proakis, City Manager *GJP*

Date: February 8, 2023

RE: Agenda Item – Proposed Loan Order

Attached please find correspondence from Gregory M. St. Louis, Superintendent of Public Works requesting that the necessary actions be taken to authorize the Treasurer to borrow the \$1,500,000 as outlined and approved in the FY 2023-2027 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) budget for the Victory Field Turf Replacement project listed within Line 147 under Recreation & Parks of the CIP.

I respectfully request the attached proposed Loan Order of \$1,500,000 be placed on the February 14, 2023 City Council Agenda as a First Reading.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

cc: Gregory M. St. Louis, Superintendent of Public Works
Thomas P. Watkins, Director of Administration and Finance, Department of Public Works
Matthew I. Shuman, City Engineer
Steven T. Magoon, Director, Community Development and Planning/Assistant City Manager
Thomas J. Tracy, City Auditor/Assistant City Manager for Finance
Melissa A. Morrissey, City Treasurer/Collector
Peter Centola, Recreation Director



28 State Street
Boston, MA 02109-1775
p: 617-345-9000 f: 617-345-9020
hinckleyallen.com

Jay Gonzalez
(617) 378-4256
jgonzalez@hinckleyallen.com

February 9, 2023

George J. Proakis
City Manager
Administration Building
149 Main Street
Watertown, Massachusetts 02472

RE: Draft Loan Order – Victory Field Turf Replacement Bonds

Dear George:

As requested, I suggest the following form of loan order to approve the borrowing of funds to pay costs of replacing the turf at Victory Field:

ORDERED: That the sum of \$1,500,000 is appropriated to pay costs of replacing the turf at Victory Field, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto; and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the City Manager, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to M.G.L. c.44, §7(1), or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the City therefor.

The order must be published at least five days prior to the holding of a public hearing with respect to the order and its final passage and requires the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of all members of the City Council, as in the case of any other loan order for bonds.

Please call me if there are any questions about the suggested proceedings.

Sincerely,

Jay Gonzalez



CITY OF WATERTOWN
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
124 ORCHARD STREET

Gregory M. St. Louis, PE
Superintendent

(P) 617-972-6420
(F) 617-972-6402

TO: Mr. George Proakis, City Manager

FROM: Mr. Gregory St. Louis, Superintendent of Public Works

DATE: February 1, 2023

RE: Department of Public Works - Loan Order Request: Victory Field Turf Replacement

The Department of Public Works respectfully requests that the necessary actions be taken to authorize the Treasurer to borrow the \$1,500,000.00 as outlined and approved in the FY 2023-2027 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) budget for the Victory Field Turf Replacement project listed within Line 147 under Recreation & Parks of the CIP.

These funds will be utilized for the design, engineering, construction and construction administration services associated with the removal of the existing turf and installation of new turf, as well as any and all associated costs.

Recently, the Department of Public Works engaged the services of design consultant, Tighe & Bond, to assist with the necessary design and engineering of the turf replacement at Victory Field. The existing turf was installed in the Fall of 2011 and has thus been in service for over 12 years. As such, the useable life of the turf has reached its end. The fibers of the turf are worn, leaving the surface with less height to provide infill, resulting in a harder field and impact for the City's student-athletes.

The infill of the proposed new turf will be of organic material (currently there is a crumb rubber application) and a shock pad will be installed underneath to further reduce the impact to student-athletes and restoring the required GMAX ratings.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
1		TOTALS	FY '23		FY '24		FY '25		FY '26		FY '27	
117												
118	Property/Building											
119	Boiler Replacement (2)	200.0	200.0	BR								
120	Heavy Duty 4x4 Forklift (Lull)	100.0			100.0	BE						
121	Rough Terrain Forklift	95.0							95.0	BE		
122	PROPERTY/BUILDING SUBTOTAL	395.0	200.0		100.0		-		95.0		-	
123												
124	Parks & Forestry											
125	Gazebo at Saltonstall Park	150.0	150.0	BR								
126	Swap Loader	200.0	200.0	BE								
127	Tree Chipper	75.0			75.0	BE						
128	Utility Truck	65.0			65.0	BE						
129	Farm Tractor	80.0									80.0	BE
130	Backhoe	140.0									140.0	BE
131	4x4 Landscape Dump Truck	160.0									160.0	BE
132	PARKS & FORESTRY SUBTOTAL	870.0	350.0		140.0		-		-		380.0	
133												
134	TOTAL DPW - TR	825.0	225.0	TR	150.0	TR	150.0	TR	150.0	TR	150.0	TR
135	TOTAL DPW - BE	3,177.0	230.0	BE	870.0	BE	202.0	BE	465.0	BE	1,410.0	BE
136	TOTAL DPW - BR	5,600.0	2,350.0	BR	1,250.0	BR	2,000.0	BR	0.0	BR	0.0	BR
137	PUBLIC WORKS SUBTOTAL	9,602.0	2,805.0		2,270.0		2,352.0		615.0		1,560.0	
138												
139	RECREATION & PARKS											
140	Tot Lot/Court Resurfacing as needed	550.0			100.0	TR	150.0	TR	150.0	TR	150.0	TR
141	Victory Field (Phase III) Field House Addition	4,000.0	4,000.0	BR								
142	Filippello Park (Grove) Batting Tunnel	0.0	0.0	TR								
143	Resurface Basketball Courts/ Lowell & Saltonstall	50.0	50.0	TR								
144	Victory Field: Lacrosse Wall Ball	50.0	50.0	TR								
145	Howe PK: Design, Plygrd Equip, and resurface	100.0	100.0	TR								
146	Howe PK: Install Plygrd Equip, and resurface	500.0	500.0	BR								
147	Victory Field Turf Replacement	1,500.0	1,500.0	BR								
148	Bemis: Design, Plygrd Equip, new surf. & spray park	125.0			125.0	TR						
149	Bemis: Install Plygrd Equip, new surf. & spray park	800.0			800.0	BR						
150	Special Needs baseball/softball diamond	600.0			600.0	BR						
151	Filippello (Grove) Design, plygrnd equip and resurface	100.0					100.0	TR				
152	Filippello (Grove) Install plygrnd equip and resurface	600.0					600.0	BR				
153	Lowell Design Playground Equip & resurface	100.0							100.0	TR		
154	Lowell Install Playground Equip. & resurface	600.0							600.0	BR		
155	Filippello (Arlington) Design, plygrnd equip & resurface	100.0									100.0	TR
156	Filippello (Arlington) Install plygrnd equip & resurface	700.0									700.0	BR
157	RECREATION & PARKS SUBTOTAL	10,475.0	6,200.0		1,625.0		850.0		850.0		950.0	

Victory Field Turf Replacement Questions and Answers

What is the current status of Victory Field?

Victory Field, Watertown's most well used recreation area and open space, is a 14.2 acre park and athletic complex that is situated in the center of Watertown. Victory field is home to Watertown high School varsity sports, activities and graduation ceremonies.

Victory Field has been a topic of conversation and community process in recent years, focused on necessary upgrades to the facilities. The most significant forthcoming upgrade, called Victory Phase II, is completing design, based upon an extensive community process a few years ago. This work will be completed in the spring and summer of 2024. Victory Phase II includes the replacement of the Victory track and the grass inside of the oval, amongst other upgrades. The oval grass will be replaced with new natural grass. Upon completion of the design documents for construction, the City will hold one more community meeting on Phase II, to review the status of the project, design details based on the original plan, and the schedule for construction. A planned Victory Phase III, with upgrades to the field house and press box is now scheduled for 2026. Design and community meetings on this phase will begin in 2024.

In addition to this larger park overhaul program, there has been an item on the City's capital plan for the replacement of the artificial turf field that is used by Watertown's football, field hockey, lacrosse, soccer and baseball teams. This is a scheduled maintenance upgrade, to replace the current artificial turf on the playing field. This maintenance project, limited to the existing artificial turf area, is scheduled for June of 2023.

The information below is focused on the turf field replacement project.

Why do we need to replace the artificial turf field in 2023?

Victory Field was originally installed in the fall of 2011. The field consists of a 14" section and includes 10" of base stone, 2" of top stone and 2" of crumb rubber infill and a turf pile height (pile height is the length of each "Blade" of grass in the field) of 2 ½". The field is drained by perforated piping within the base stone which discharges to the municipal drainage system.

The field has been in service for twelve years and has provided the Town with years of service. The useable life of the synthetic turf surface has reached its end. The fibers of the synthetic turf are worn and are brittle and breaking. This leaves the surface with less height to provide infill, which in turn makes the field harder and increases the impact to athletes. GMAX Test scoring, a standardized test for impact attenuation (*aka* fall protection), has started to decline along with the wear of the synthetic turf, requiring additional maintenance and application of infill.

What is being proposed?

To address the aging field and take corrective measures to address fall protection, the proposed improvements to the field begin by removing the existing synthetic turf and infill.

The proposal is to install a new synthetic surface that will be a hybrid turf suitable for a multi-use field with an organic infill. We will also be installing a shock pad underneath the synthetic turf to reduce the potential impact to athletes and to restore required GMAX ratings. The infill and shock pad that we are specifying includes a top-of-the-line shock pad with a 25-year warrantee.

What is this infill?

The new infill is an organic/sand infill made from southern yellow pine. The new infill is an upgrade over the current crumb rubber, which is made of recycled tires. The infill is designed to improve traction, reduce artificial turf heat compared to the existing crumb rubber, and provide a lasting surface for the City that can accommodate the numerous competitive high level athletic sports per season. It also replaces an inorganic rubber substance that is often tracked away from the field, and often requires additional investment to continually replace the infill with additional rubber material. With a yellow pine infill, the regular replacement of infill will be sourced from a renewable organic source and will break down naturally when an athlete inadvertently takes some home on the bottom of their shoes.

What will happen to the old field?

The old synthetic turf will be rolled and delivered to a recycling facility. We have mandated as part of the specifications that full documentation of the turf removal, trucking and delivery to a recycling plant be provided by the contractor. Crumb rubber will similarly be brought to a facility for reuse as applicable.

Will this really be more environmentally sustainable than the existing field?

While there is no definitive opinion on the environmental risks and benefits of an artificial turf field, the City is making decisions to balance the use of the field as a high-intensity athletic facility with the need for sustainable and resilient solutions. Existing field elements will be recycled to the extent possible, and the new field will have organic infill that is renewable and reduces heat impacts.

Will this really reduce heat compared to the existing field?

Yes. Natural infills lower the surface temperature. Although we have not had to suspend play on our existing field due to heat, this new field will be cooler. We anticipate that the new infill will drop field temperatures by 20 degrees during summer heat waves, versus the current crumb rubber field infill.

Are there other benefits to organic infill?

With the new base pad, the field will be better designed to address impact injuries from a fall.

Why can't we replace this field with natural grass?

The Victory Field turf is used for high school football, lacrosse, field hockey, soccer and baseball. In addition, the field is used by many other youth organizations and leagues. Even with the new BBN fields, there is still limited practice and play space in Watertown.

Even the most well-designed and well-maintained natural grass fields need time to rest and recover from use. Watertown has limited field space to operate very popular sports. For example, this year the football team (that typically will play in wet weather) played on the Victory Field turf on Friday September 30th. The next morning (10/1) teams are practicing on the field. Then, youth football uses the field on Sunday. The following day, the field hockey team played a home game on the same surface. In a circumstance like this, a rainstorm on Friday night could turn a grass field into mud, with weekend practices further damaging the field. But Monday, the field hockey game would be on a surface with muddy grass or cancelled all together. A turf field does not have this challenge.

Recently, community members have noted that some major league sports teams are advocating to play their sports on natural grass. But, these teams have multiple practice fields, allowing them to rest their primary grass field for game day. Watertown cannot do this. Teams need both practice and play time on this field on a daily basis.

Is the artificial turf area expanding? Are any trees being removed?

No. This project simply replaces the existing turf in the same location as the current turf.

Will there be any other changes?

City staff is currently reviewing the design to determine if there should be changes to the sewed-in permanent lines and logos on the field and/or the design of the pitching mound. Otherwise, the field will operate as it has in past years.

Is the city planning to install any more artificial turf fields?

The grass inside the Victory oval will remain as grass. There is no other plan to build an artificial turf surface in Watertown at this time. Any new open space reconstruction projects will undergo a substantial community process. We are planning in the coming year to improve Irving Park, Moxley Court, Filippello Splash Pad and Upper Saltonstall Park. None of these projects introduces any new artificial turf. We will also be kicking off a process later in 2023 to design the newly purchased Walker Pond area. With extensive community input, there may be the opportunity for additional recreation use at this site. Any decision about field surfaces will be determined as a part of the community conversations about this new resource.

Currently, the only artificial turf project in front of the city is this maintenance proposal to replace and upgrade the existing turf at Victory Field.



CITY OF WATERTOWN

Department of
Community Development and
Planning

Administration Building
149 Main Street
Watertown, MA 02472
Phone: 617 972 6417
Fax: 617 972 6484
www.watertown-ma.gov

To: George Proakis, City Manager
From: Steve Magoon, *[Signature]* Director of Community Development and Planning/Assistant
City Manager
CC: Mark Sideris, City Council President
Date: February 9, 2023
Re: **Proposed zoning amendment relating to 126-134 Templeton Parkway**

Eaglebrook Capitol LLC, with the consent of current owner First Belmont Street Shalom International Baptist Church, has requested that the zoning map be amended to apply the Religious/School Building Overlay District (R/SOD) to 126-134 Templeton Parkway.

The site is occupied by the church, built around 1900, and adjoining parking lot. The underlying zone is Two-Family. The R/SOD overlay district was designed to facilitate the re-use of religious and school buildings throughout the city by applying its use and dimensional regulations to eligible sites as needed.

Attached to this memo are a January 30, 2023 letter from counsel of Eaglebrook Capitol LLC requesting the zoning amendment, along with a zoning amendment map.

I would respectfully request that this request be placed on the February 14, 2023 City Council agenda for first reading and referral to the Planning Board for public hearing.

BLATMAN, BOBROWSKI, HAVERTY & SILVERSTEIN, LLC
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

9 DAMONMILL SQUARE, SUITE 4A4
CONCORD, MA 01742
PHONE 978.371.2226
FAX 978.371.2296

JONATHAN M. SILVERSTEIN
JMS@bbhslaw.net

February 9, 2023

Hon. Mark Sideris, President and
Members of the City Council
Administration Building
149 Main Street
Watertown, MA 02472

Re: 126-134 Templeton Parkway— Parcel ID No. 1133 1A 0
Request to Rezone to Religious/School Building Overlay District (R/SOD)

Dear Members of the City Council,

This office represents Eaglebrook Capital, LLC (Eaglebrook), the purchaser of the property located at 126-134 Templeton Parkway (Property). On behalf of Eaglebrook, and with the written assent of the current property owner First Belmont Street Shalom International Baptist Church, Eaglebrook respectfully requests that the City Council vote to approve a zoning map change to place the Property in the Religious/School Building Overlay District (R/SOD). The underlying zoning of the Property is T (Two Family). A Zoning Amendment Request Map is enclosed for your reference.

The Property, located on the corner of Belmont Street and Templeton Parkway, is comprised of approximately 0.714 acres; it is improved by a church structure built in or before 1900 and a parking lot with approximately 15 spaces, which is accessed from the Property's frontage on Templeton Parkway. The existing structure is three stories and contains approximately 9,318 feet in finished area.

Eaglebrook is under agreement to purchase the Property and has spent several months investigating potential uses and redevelopment. Redevelopment of the Property is complicated by its unusual triangular shape, the location and orientation of the existing building, and Eaglebrook's desire to preserve and incorporate the existing building in the redevelopment of the Property. Designating R/SOD Overlay to the Property affords the flexibility necessary to allow Eaglebrook to renovate and reuse the existing structure while developing a modest infill project on the Property.

Pursuant to Section 5.14(a), the stated purpose of the R/SOD is:

to guide and encourage the reuse and redevelopment of both religious and school buildings as defined in accordance with M.G.L. c. 40A, § 3, throughout the

community and further protecting the historic building structures and preserving architectural features and character along with its associated tracts of land in a manner that is beneficial to the City.

Placing the Property in the R/SOD will directly further this stated purpose by allowing beneficial reuse of the Property without requiring demolition of the existing church building. Although very preliminary at this stage, Eaglebrook's plan for the Property is to renovate and reuse the existing building for educational, daycare use or other non-profit use and to construct townhouse-style homes along the Property's Belmont Street frontage.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide any further information to facilitate the Council's review of this matter.

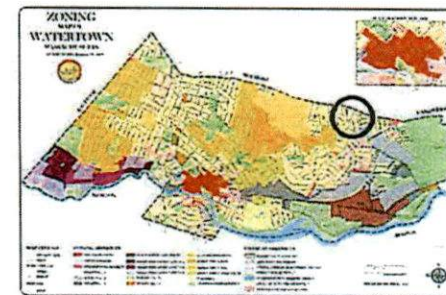
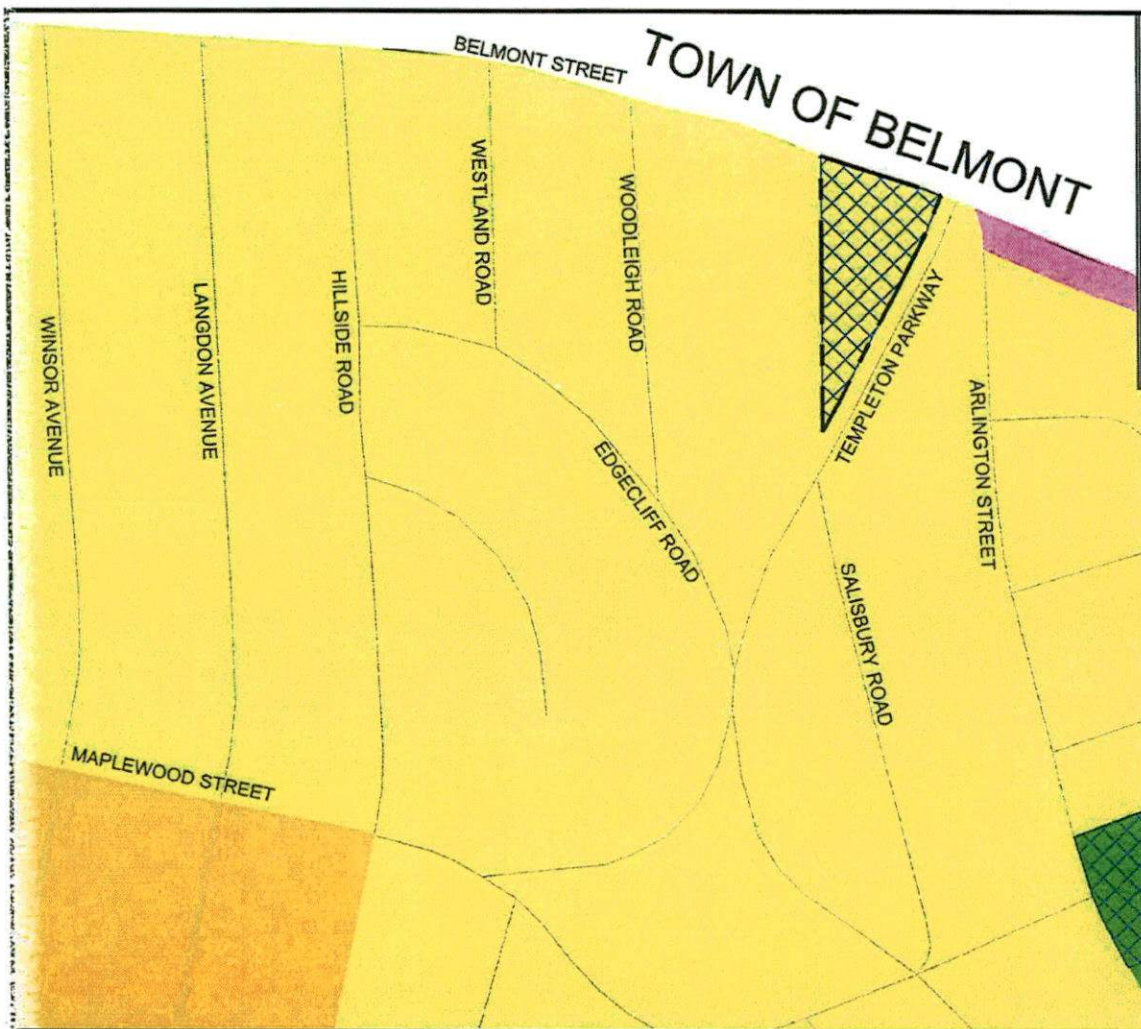
Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jonathan M. Silverstein', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jonathan M. Silverstein

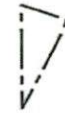
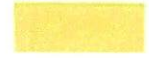
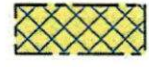
cc: Clients

Enclosure



LOCUS MAP

LEGEND

-  134 TEMPLETON PARKWAY SITE
-  RELIGIOUS/SCHOOL BUILDING OVERLAY
-  TWO FAMILY
-  AREA REQUESTED FOR AMENDMENT TO INCLUDE A RELIGIOUS/SCHOOL BUILDING OVERLAY

PREPARED FOR:

EAGLEBROOK CAPITAL
307 CAMBRIDGE STREET
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02141

ZONING AMENDMENT REQUEST MAP

134 TEMPLETON PARKWAY, WATERTOWN

BSC GROUP
803 Summer Street
Boston, Massachusetts
02127
617 896 4300

Job No.: 28491.00 Date: 01/30/2023
Scale: _____ Revised: _____
Dwg. No: _____ Figure: _____



George J. Proakis
City Manager

CITY OF WATERTOWN

Office of the City Manager

Administration Building
149 Main Street
Watertown, MA 02472
Phone: 617-972-6465
www.watertown-ma.gov
citymgr@watertown-ma.gov

To: Honorable City Council

From: George J. Proakis, City Manager *GP*

Date: February 9, 2023

RE: An update on budget and bargaining

This memo provides an update on our budget and our work on collective bargaining. While I cannot share every detail of the bargaining process, I can share that all the City's six unions need contract renewals, and that we are underway in negotiating with most of those unions at this time. The School Committee's negotiating team is also working on a new agreement with the teachers.

I first want to be clear about the philosophy around compensation that I have established on the City side, which is focused on ensuring that we provide competitive wages for all our employees. This strategy requires fair and straightforward cost-of-living increases for all employees combined with market-based salary adjustments focused on the aspects of our compensation and classification system that are out of sync with our peer communities. To date, the school committee's bargaining team has been aligned with this philosophy.

Recently, we've seen bargaining units compare our proposed cost-of-living increases to contracts that have been settled in other communities where the average salaries, prior to signing a new agreement, were much lower than our current salaries in Watertown. For example, while the teachers in Melrose recently settled their contract with 10% across-the-board cost-of-living wage increases over three years, their average teacher salaries prior to settling were \$14,800 per year less than our current salaries in Watertown. A suggestion that we need to provide a similar cost-of-living wage increase is not based upon a fair comparison. We will continue to focus on total wage packages at each year in the contract term and will not accept simplistic comparisons of wage increase to communities that are not currently competitive with Watertown.

It is also important to note that many union staff receive both step increases and cost-of-living adjustments. For those unfamiliar with these two concepts, here's the basic information:

1. Compensation structures traditionally include step increases so that employees receive a set salary increase on a regular basis. Step increases are intended to increase employees' salaries to reflect additional experience, commitment to the organization, growing institutional knowledge, and, in some cases, merit-based performance evaluations. Step increases are granted even after the expiration date of a contract, so many of our union employees are still receiving step increases despite being past the end of the current contract term.
2. Cost-of-living adjustments, or COLAs, increase the values of all of the salaries associated with each step. COLAs are intended to go on top of those step increases and offset any effects of inflation, although, in most of the 2010-2020 period, when inflation was low, COLAs have generally exceeded increases in consumer prices.

Both are important but distinct components of a compensation system, and one shouldn't be used to address an issue with the other. Therefore, describing the value of a collective bargaining agreement based solely on the annual COLA increases ignores the financial benefit provided to employees through step increases. For example, a contract with three years of 2.25% step increases may be described as providing 6.75% over three years. But, for starters, the compounding growth of these increases reaches 6.9%. Furthermore, steps must be reviewed in addition to a COLA. For example, in our teacher's contract, an average teacher salary under this example is increased 15%, and a mid-career teacher with a master's degree who is advancing through steps will actually receive a total increase in salary that exceeds 18% over those three years.

Most importantly, I want to address the budgetary impacts of collective bargaining negotiations. I have become aware of a recent perception amongst some community members and union members that the City has more financial resources available to settle contracts than we do. In the case of the teacher contract, there is a theory that the City can easily provide more funds for the schools, which would allow the School Department to offer higher cost-of-living increases for the teachers. Specifically, there is a suggestion that we increase our commitment to the School Department beyond the 3.5% annual increase that we have pledged for coming years.

The reality is that an increase beyond 3.5% for schools would put significant pressure on our fiscal resources and exacerbate the pressures we already face. It is important to keep in mind that by FY26 our annual debt service and capital expense payments will increase by over \$18 million compared to FY23 as we begin to pay back the cost of the City's new schools. Meanwhile, our projected growth – which assumes a continuing strong economy – will increase revenues by \$25 million compared to FY24, meaning an estimated 74% of our revenue growth over the next three years must go towards paying for debt service and capital expenses. Approximately 2/3 of that growth in debt is paying for the new schools.

In the short term, the proposed FY24 budget needs to close a \$700,000 deficit prior to being presented to the Council. This projection is based on \$6 million in new growth, no additional

positions, a 3.5% increase to the school budget, a 2.5% increase to all other City department budgets, and fully funding the FY24 capital projects laid out in the FY24 to FY28 Capital Improvement Plan submitted to the Council in January. Similarly, the school department is seeking to close about a \$1 million FY24 shortfall, prior to settling contracts.

FY25 looks even more complex given increasing interest rates and the uncertainty around a possible recession. Any significant downturn in the construction of biotechnology lab buildings will greatly impact the ability to reach the \$4.5 million in new growth we are currently projecting for FY25 and FY26. And while we've seen slower growth in construction costs, we have not seen a reversal of the inflation in the construction industry. The high school project currently stands to go to bid with an estimate that is \$9 million over budget. Any further value engineering will significantly impact the student programming and/or the sustainable features of the building. We've taken some strategic moves to ensure that we can meet the \$9 million shortfall, but we will need to reassess future year budgets if bids come in even higher, or if interest rates rise to a level that makes our borrowing more expensive. (As I've previously noted, we are working along with communities in similar circumstances to secure more funds from MSBA, and we are also seeking additional grants where we can find them.)

Putting this all together, there is a distinct possibility that we face a perfect storm of growing costs and slowing of revenue growth in forthcoming years.

Some have proposed that we dip into one-time revenue sources like free cash and stabilization funds to negotiate more generous contracts with our collective bargaining units. In general, this is not a good idea. A fiscally prudent strategy requires us not to increase our annual expenses faster than we are increasing our annual income. And, given the uncertain budgetary circumstances we face in the next several fiscal years, it is more important than ever to maintain our reserves, per the City Council's guidelines, at 7% to 15% of annual operating budgets. Currently, the total of our general stabilization fund and our free cash account is about 11% of our annual operating budget. We've typically rolled \$2 million of free cash into the operating budget every year. The rest of that fund is reserved to make one-time investments or to be used as emergency funds. Funding annual salary increases meets neither of these standards.

Meanwhile, all six unions on the city side are seeking new contracts, and we are undertaking a comprehensive compensation study for almost all City positions. If we implement this study, provide additional funds to the School Department to support higher cost-of-living increases for teachers, and provide similar salary adjustments to the City unions, we may find ourselves left with only two options to pay the bills:

1. hope that new growth exceeds our expectations significantly (in the middle of a possible recession); or,
2. reduce services, and total staff size (which runs contrary to the Council's budget priorities).

I am following the Council's budget priorities and trying to work with a growth mentality – to invest in new programs, better infrastructure, green vehicles, walkable neighborhoods, small business programs, and new parks and playgrounds, just to name a few. For these efforts to be successful, we need a staff that can deliver these investments and to have fair and competitive wage and benefits packages for our employees. But I will not be able to deliver on these goals if we provide significant new adjustments to wages that put our total salaries in excess of surrounding competitive communities.

If you are asked by our residents why we don't just put more funds into schools or into other departments so that they can pay higher salaries, I hope you will share this information. Meanwhile, I assure you that both the City and School administrations will continue to negotiate in good faith with the collective bargaining units that represent our hard-working staff. We look forward to continuing fruitful discussions and eventual completion of these bargaining processes.

Thank you.

Five Key Points about Watertown's Fiscal Situation **(from the City Manager's October 2022 Budget Presentation)**



1. City goals are focused on staff AND physical plant priorities.

The city seeks to use new growth in tax revenue to:

- implement the City Council's budget priorities
- fill key roles in City staff to meet the Council and community's needs and expectations of our local government;
- invest in buildings and infrastructure projects, including the construction of new schools and the acquisition of adequate space for City offices; and,
- continue to provide cost-of-living and market adjustments to annual staff salaries to ensure competitive compensation for our workforce.

2. Schools receive a greater portion of the increase in the annual budget than other City departments:

- The City has committed to increasing the operational budget for schools by .35% each fiscal year.
- Projected growth in all other City departments is set at 2.5% per year from FY23 to FY26.

3. The City is investing in important building priorities, mostly schools, but that investment does impact year-to-year budget growth:

- The City is financing the three elementary schools and the forthcoming new high school without debt exclusions (votes which would require voters to increase taxes to pay debt).
- Due to these school financing investments, and other infrastructure investments (like sidewalk repair and street improvements):
 - Projected growth in debt service and capital project costs from FY23 to FY26 is increasing on average 20% per year, with total debt service going from \$25.6 million to \$44.2 million by FY26.
 - While revenue increases by \$25 million in FY26 compared to FY23, debt service and capital costs are projected to increase by \$18.6 million in the same time period, using 74% of the projected new revenue growth.

4. The FY24 annual budget is close to being balanced, but current projections show limited funds to implement new priorities:

At the October budget presentation, the preliminary FY24 budget anticipates revenue of \$186.8 million and expenses of \$186.9 million, leaving a small gap to be closed in the forthcoming fiscal year.

- Since that time, the draft capital plan has increased that FY24 operating deficit to approximately \$700k.
- The school department has a similar operating deficit for FY24.

A balanced budget for FY25 and FY26 depends upon \$4.5 million in revenue from new development in Watertown. Therefore any recession in the real estate market or escalating costs of new construction could impact the ability to balance the budget in these years.

5. Use of one-time revenues follows best practices and are invested in one-time expenses for key investments and/or emergency needs.

- For many years, the City Council set aside funds in an Open Space Acquisition Fund to buy more open space. In 2022, the Council emptied that fund to purchase Walker Pond. This one-time purchase was based on the Council's budget priorities and took many years of savings to accomplish.
- Watertown currently has \$18.5 million in "free cash" after making the purchase of the Parker School (now referred to as the Parker Annex Building).
- "Free cash" has always been an odd term to describe these funds. The funds are generated when money is not allocated or spent on a year-to-year basis or when actual revenue exceeds estimated revenue. Watertown uses \$2 million of these funds to pay for operating costs each year. The rest should be used for responding to emergencies, preserving financial flexibility, and maintaining favorable bond ratings. The City Council has indicated that the general stabilization fund plus free cash should equal 8% to 15% of the annual operating budget. Right now, we have a general stabilization fund of just under \$1.3 million, which serves as funds of last resort for an emergency. This fund plus our free cash totals \$19.8 million, which equates to just under 11% of this fiscal year's operating budget, or right in the middle of the Council's goal.
- Successful sound fiscal management requires that the growth in our annual expenses should not exceed the growth in our annual income. Therefore, we should not be using additional one-time revenue streams to pay ongoing costs.

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Phone: 617 972 6417
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www.watertown-ma.gov

To: George Proakis, City Manager
From: Steve Magoon, Director of Community Development and Planning and Assistant City Manager
Date: February 9, 2023

RE: Marijuana Establishments

In 2018 Watertown adopted an amendment to our Zoning Ordinance in order to regulate the marijuana industry. At that time the City Council decided to follow the State guidance regarding the number of marijuana establishments we would allow. This was a derivative of the number of alcohol package stores, which are determined through total population. At the time, that allowed for 3 marijuana establishments.

With the 2020 census, Watertown's population increased such that we automatically were authorized to allow additional package stores, now 16 total, and 20% of that number for marijuana establishments, which equate to 3.2. The rule for marijuana establishments assumes that you round up. Therefore, if so desired, Watertown is able to add 1 additional marijuana establishment. The question is whether the City is interested in authorizing an additional Host Community Agreement for an additional marijuana establishment.

Therefore, I am writing to request further policy direction from the City Council on this matter.

Cc
Mark Reich, KP Law
Janet Murphy, City Clerk



George J. Proakis
City Manager

CITY OF
WATERTOWN
Office of the City Manager

Administration Building
149 Main Street
Watertown, MA 02472
Phone: 617-972-6465
www.watertown-ma.gov
citymgr@watertown-ma.gov

To: Honorable City Council

From: George J. Proakis, City Manager

Date: February 8, 2023

RE: An Ordinance on the Timing and Process of Appointments to City/Town Boards,
Commissions, and Committees – Ordinance #46 -2007 (Ordinance)

As you know, the Residents' Advisory Committee (Committee) has begun the extensive process to assist with the recruitment, evaluation, scheduling interviews and selection of candidates for appointment/reappointment to multiple-member city boards and commissions.

To allow the Committee sufficient time and to be following the Ordinance, please be advised that additional time will be needed to fill board/commission vacancies scheduled to be filled in the winter/spring of 2023 noted in the Ordinance.

Thank you for your favorable consideration in this matter.

cc: Residents' Advisory Committee



Town Council

TOWN OF WATERTOWN

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING • WATERTOWN, MA 02472-4410
(617)972-6470 • FAX (617)972-6485

ORDINANCE # 46

O-2007- 46

AN ORDINANCE ON THE TIMING AND PROCESS OF APPOINTMENTS TO TOWN BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES

WHEREAS, appointed boards, commissions, and committees (hereafter, "Town Boards") are an integral part of our system of local government; and

WHEREAS, under Massachusetts law, the Watertown Home Rule Charter, and Town Council ordinances and resolutions, the Town Manager has the power to appoint the members of Town Boards, subject in some cases to Town Council confirmation; and

WHEREAS, a timely, predictable appointment process will attract more candidates for positions on Town Boards and ensure that Town Boards have qualified, committed members to carry out their important functions;

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE Town Council of the City Known as the Town of Watertown, that Chapter II of the Watertown Ordinances is amended to add a new section 7, as follows:

Section 7. Timing and Process of Appointments to Town Boards

A. Expiration of terms

1. The terms of appointments to Town Boards, Commissions, and Committees (hereafter, "Town Boards") expire as follows:

Residents' Advisory Committee: January 1
Board of Health: 1st Monday in February
Community Preservation Committee: February 1
Zoning Board of Appeals: February 15
Planning Board: February 15
Conservation Commission: February 15
Licensing Board: February 15
Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee: February 15
Election Commission: April 1
Traffic Commission: May 15
Board of Assessors: May 15
Watertown Housing Authority: May 15
Council on Aging: May 15
Cultural Council: May 15
Solid Waste & Recycling Advisory Committee: May 15
Affordable Housing Trust: June 30
Stormwater Advisory Committee: July 15
Cable Access Corporation: September 15

Historical Commission: October 1
Commission on Disability: November 1
Environment and Energy Efficiency Committee: November 15
Historic District Commission: November 15
Public Arts & Culture Committee: November 15

2. All persons serving on a Town Board for a term of years at the time of enactment of this ordinance shall continue to serve on that Town Board until their terms would otherwise expire, and until their successors are qualified, unless otherwise terminated.

B. Timing of appointments

1. Appointments upon expiration of term
 - a. At least 90 days before the expiration of a Town Board member's term, the Town Manager will notify the member in writing of the expiration date of his/her term and determine whether the member wishes, at the Town Manager's discretion, to serve another term.
 - b. Within 7 business days of giving the notice required in paragraph B.1.a., the Town Manager will post the position. If the Town Manager has determined that the current member wishes to serve another term, the posting will include that information.
 - c. If the appointment requires confirmation by the Town Council, the Town Manager will transmit his/her appointment to the Town Council at least 30 days prior to the expiration of the term.
 - d. If the appointment does not require confirmation by the Town Council, the Town Manager will transmit to the Town Council notice of his/her appointment prior to the expiration of the term.
2. Appointments other than upon expiration of term
 - a. Vacancies on Town Boards occurring other than upon expiration of term, whether due to resignation, removal, or other cause, shall be filled by appointment by the Town Manager for the unexpired term.
 - b. Upon learning of a vacancy occurring other than upon expiration of term, the Town Manager may either (i) appoint a new member from among people who have previously applied and been interviewed for a position on a Town Board; or (ii) post the position.
 - c. Preferably within 60 days, but not more than 90 days, after learning of a vacancy, the Town Manager shall transmit to the Town Council his/her

appointment (if Town Council confirmation is required) or notice of his/her appointment (if Town Council confirmation is not required).

3. Failure to make timely appointments

- a. If, for any reason, the Town Manager is unable to make an appointment within the time periods provided in this Section, he/she will make a report to the Town Council explaining the reasons for the delay and indicating the date by which he/she expects to make the appointment.
- b. Members of Town Boards who are willing to continue to serve after the expiration of their terms will serve until they are reappointed and qualified or their successors are appointed and qualified.

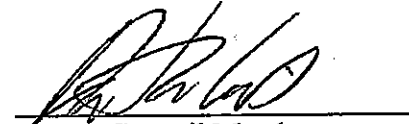
C. Appointment process

1. Annual listing: Not later than January 15 of each year, the Town Clerk will prepare a list of all Town Board terms due to expire during that calendar year. The list will be transmitted to the Town Council and Town Manager, posted on the Town bulletin board and Town website, and published at least twice in the local newspaper.
2. Posting of positions: All positions on Town Boards posted in accordance with this ordinance shall be posted for not less than 14 days on the Town bulletin board and Town website and published at least twice in the local newspaper. The posting shall contain a description of the position and duties and a list of necessary and desirable qualifications, and shall indicate whether the person currently holding the position wishes to serve another term. No appointment shall be made until at least 21 days have elapsed following the initial posting.
3. Interviews: Except where the Town Manager appoints a prior applicant under para. B.2.(b), the Town Manager or his/her designee shall interview no less than three candidates for each position on a Town Board. If there are fewer than three applicants, the Town Manager or his/her designee shall interview all of the applicants.
4. Confirmation by the Town Council
 - a. For appointments requiring confirmation by the Town Council, the Town Council or a committee thereof must interview the appointee at a public meeting for which the posted agenda contains notice of the interview.
 - b. A vote by the Town Council on confirmation of an appointment must take place at a meeting for which the posted agenda contains notice of the vote.

- c. If the Town Council fails to take any action on an appointment within 30 days following the date notice of the appointment is filed by the Town Manager with the Town Council, such appointment shall be deemed to have been confirmed.

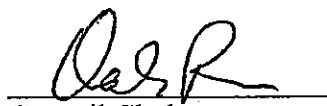
D. Effective date

This ordinance shall apply to all appointments upon expiration of term and other vacancies occurring after January 1, 2008.

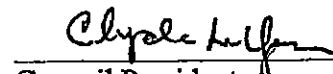


Council Member

I hereby certify that at a regular meeting of the Town Council for which a quorum was present, the above Ordinance was adopted, after public hearing, by a vote of 7 for, 0 against and 0 present on October 23, 2007.



Council Clerk



Council President

**Flag and Delta Lighting Policy
for the
City of Watertown
February 2023**

PURPOSE:

This policy regulates: (1) the exhibition of the flag of the United States of America, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts flag, the City of Watertown flag, and the National League of Families POW/MIA flag from all City of Watertown properties and assets, as those specific properties and flagpoles are defined below; (2) the display of street flags for parades and holidays; (3) the display of ceremonial flags; and (4) the display of City lighting at the delta in Watertown Square.

POLICY:

The following policy shall be followed with respect to the locations and days on which the United States of America, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and City of Watertown flags should be displayed, as well as any approved ceremonial flags or street flags, or ceremonial City light displays at the delta in Watertown Square:

1. The City Manager of Watertown, with review and comment from the Superintendent of the Department of Public Works, shall be responsible for approving all flags erected on flagpoles owned or operated by the City of Watertown and its Departments (the "municipal flagpoles"), or on buildings owned or operated by the City of Watertown and its Departments (the "municipal buildings"). Specifically, the municipal flagpoles include the flagpoles at City Hall (Watertown Administration Building), Parker Annex Building, Watertown Public Library, the Police Station, all three Fire Stations, the Public Works Department and the John A. Ryan Arena, as well as streetlights owned and operated by the City, and signage, poles, fences, and other structures located at 552 Main Street Playground, Arsenal Park, Bemis Park, Casey Park, Filippello Park, How Park, Moxley Park, O'Connell Park, Farren Playground, Saltonstall Park, Sullivan Playground, Victory Field and Walker Pond, and on the sites of municipal buildings, as listed above, to which flags may be affixed. Municipal Buildings include City Hall (Watertown Administration Building), Parker Annex Building, Watertown Public Library, the Police Station, all three Fire Stations, the Public Works Department and the John A. Ryan Arena. In addition, the City Manager, with review and comment from the Superintendent of Public Works, shall be responsible for approving all public light displays at the Delta in Watertown Square. **The aforementioned municipal flagpoles, the municipal buildings, and Delta in Watertown Square shall not be considered public fora, but rather, serve only a vehicle for the City of Watertown's governmental speech and expression of official policy sentiments of the City.**
2. The adoption and implementation of this policy is not intended to create or authorize a forum for free expression by the public, and any ceremonial or street parade flags or lighting displays at the delta in Watertown Square must first be approved by the City Manager as an expression of the City's official sentiments and policies, subject to non-binding review and comment by the Superintendent of Public Works for a determination of compliance with relevant traffic and signage standards.

3. Flags exhibited from the municipal flagpoles and municipal buildings shall be displayed in conformance with applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and policies, as stated in the Federal "Our Flag" publication of the Congress, House Document No. 96-144, and the Massachusetts statutes and regulations for flags, including without limitation G.L. c. 2, §§ 6-6A, G.L. c. 264, § 5, 950 CMR 34.00 et seq., and this policy.
4. The City Manager is responsible for ensuring the proper execution of this policy at all City properties and assets.

STANDARDS:

A. Federal, State, and City Flags

1. Outdoor flags will be flown at municipal flagpoles and municipal buildings in the following order of precedence: first, the United States flag; second, the Massachusetts State flag; third, the Watertown City flag; and fourth, ceremonial flags that have been approved by the City Manager, in accordance with Section B of these standards.
2. Weather permitting, flags should be displayed daily in front of or at a location near the Watertown Administration Building and all Fire and Police facilities during business hours.
3. Flags should not be displayed in inclement weather; provided, however, that an all-weather flag may be flown on a 24-hour basis if illuminated during the night.
4. The Watertown City flag may be flown wherever there are sufficient poles to do so in accordance with Standard 2 above. The City flag may be displayed on the same pole with, and underneath, the State flag, whenever the pole is of sufficient height. The Federal, State, and City flags shall not be flown on a single pole.
5. No other flag or pennant shall be placed or flown above, or, if on the same level, to the right of the United States Flag.
6. In accordance with 36 U.S.C. § 902, The National League of Families POW/MIA flag may be displayed below the United States Flag.
7. An indoor U.S. Flag, State flag, and City flag shall be displayed in the City Council Chambers. These flags may be displayed in other municipal buildings with approval of the City Manager.
8. On recognized Federal and/or State holidays, and on other special occasions as determined by the City Manager, the U.S. flag, State flag, and City flag should be flown from all locations available. Per the U.S. Flag Code, these holidays include: New Year's Day, January 1; Inauguration Day, January 20; Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday, the third Monday in January; Lincoln's Birthday, February 12; Washington's Birthday, third Monday in February; National Vietnam War Veterans Day, March 29, Easter Sunday (variable); Mother's Day, second Sunday in May; Armed Forces Day, third Saturday in May; Memorial Day (half-staff until noon), the last Monday in May; Flag Day, June 14; Father's Day, third Sunday in June; Independence Day, July 4;

National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day, July 27; Labor Day, first Monday in September; Constitution Day, September 17; Columbus Day / Indigenous People's Day, second Monday in October; Navy Day, October 27; Veterans Day, November 11; Thanksgiving Day, fourth Thursday in November; Christmas Day, December 25; and such other days as may be proclaimed by the President of the United States; the birthdays of States (for Massachusetts, February 6); and on State holidays (including Patriots' Day, third Monday in April).

9. If the President of the United States, Governor of the Commonwealth, or other authority of competent jurisdiction orders that the United States or Commonwealth flag be flown at half-staff, no other flag shall be flown higher.
10. Flags shall be constructed of an appropriate material and size per location and will generally be restricted to 3 foot by 5 foot, or, 4 foot by 6 foot

B. Parades/Holidays/Ceremonial Flags and Lighting Displays at the Delta at Watertown Square

1. The City's flagpoles or lighting displays at the Delta at Watertown Square are not intended to serve as a forum for free expression by the public and flags on the municipal flagpoles and lighting displays at the delta are subject to review and approval by the City Manager. In addition to the flags identified in Section A, above, ceremonial flags or ceremonial lighting displays at the delta at Watertown Square may only be displayed by the City as an expression of the City's official sentiments as outlined in this section.
2. Ceremonial flags will be restricted to the flagpoles located at the Library and City Hall, unless specific events are authorized and permitted, as appropriate.
3. Ceremonial flags must be flown and ceremonial lighting displays at the Delta may be placed only with a formal declaration or official action from the City Manager or, consistent with the Charter, after a proclamation or resolution is issued by the City Council, thereby indicating such approval as a formal policy statement of the City.
4. Ceremonial lighting at the Delta will only be displayed with the review and approval by the City Manager to reflect matters of City-wide significance and relevancy to Watertown, including the following:
 - a. Memorializing special or exemplary events or days, including certain times of celebration, recognition, or mourning.
 - b. Supporting local arts and cultural celebrations.
 - c. Recognizing unique or especially successful local activities, including without limitation, those for academics, athletics, or music.
 - d. Supporting public awareness campaigns that have the potential to enhance public health, safety, or wellness.
 - e. Recognizing other exceptional events, activities, and/or people.

5. Ceremonial flags are limited to:
 - a. Flags of Governments Recognized by the United States: Flags of the governments recognized by the United States may be displayed by the City Manager, provided that no other governmental flag may be displayed higher than the United States Flag.
 - b. Flags Displayed in Conjunction with City Official Ceremonial Items: Other flags may be displayed by the City Manager, in conjunction with official actions, ceremonial items, or proclamations of the City Council.
 - c. Flags of Professional Sports Teams: The City Manager may display the flag of a local professional sports team in commemoration of a significant achievement.
 - d. Pride Flag, being inclusive of all members of the community by symbolizing acceptance, understanding, and support.
6. If a particular flag is approved to be raised by the City Manager that is not owned by the City of Watertown, a donated flag or funding for such may be provided by an outside agency or non-governmental party, or at the City's expense and its discretion, provided that the flag complies with these standards and provided that the City shall not be liable for any damage whatsoever to a donated flag.
7. Ceremonial flags shall be constructed of an appropriate material and be of a size appropriate for the location, generally restricted to 3 foot by 5 foot, or, 4 foot by 6 foot. Flags of other countries, when approved for display by the City Manager, should be displayed in accordance with best practices of their jurisdictions, where approved.