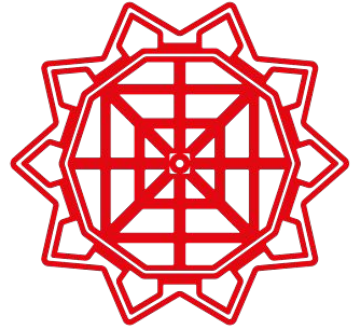




We are the voice of cities & towns in Massachusetts.

We represent 351 cities and towns and the municipal officials who run them.



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Legislative Recap August 2022



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Legislative Recap

- Reflecting on a Seismic Legislative Session
- What's Left & still on the Horizon
- Q & A



FY2023 Budget

- UGGA – won increase of 5.4%, \$31.5M more
- Chapter 70 – doubling per pupil funding for “minimum aid” districts
- Special Education Circuit Breaker
- Charter School Reimbursements – increase to meet state’s obligation (years 2&3 of SOA phase in)



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FY2023 Budget

- PILOT for State-owned land
- Rural School Aid
- Regional School Transportation (85%)
- Outside Sections



General Government Bond Bill

\$5 billion bill

- ✓ \$100 million for municipal grants to support a range of local infrastructure improvements and projects
- ✓ \$84 million to support the Massachusetts State Revolving Fund
- ✓ \$60 million for the Housing Stabilization Fund
- ✓ \$50 million for the Cultural Facilities Fund
- ✓ \$25 million for Housing Choice grants to municipalities
- X** \$30M for municipal IT grants to improve access to government meetings - NOT included in Governor's final bill



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Muni/Regional Administration

- Election Reform - VOTES Act
- Open Meeting Law - Remote Meetings extension
- Cannabis
- Public Health
- MBTA Communities Final Guidelines



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Energy & Environment

- Climate and Clean Energy bill
- Public Lands Preservation Act
- Solid Waste / Extended Producer Responsibility



Transportation/Public Works

“Chapter 90-plus”

- **\$200 million** for the Ch. 90 program
- **\$150 million** for various municipal grants

Winter Recovery Assistance Program (WRAP)

- **\$100 million** to municipalities to repair damage from winter weather



Infrastructure Bond Bill (MassTRAC)

\$11.4 billion bill includes necessary authorizations to leverage federal aid from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) & strategic capital investments in transportation infrastructure.

- **\$6.2 billion** to support core programs for Highway, Transit, and Energy and Environmental Affairs
- **\$3.5 billion** to support pursuit of BIL discretionary grant
- **\$2.8 billion** in authorization related to the increased federal formula funding in BIL



Personnel & Labor Relations

- Local Option COLA
 - Improved language moving through Legislative process
- O'Leary case
 - Payment in lieu of vacation leave (aka vacation buyback) as regular compensation
 - SJC decision affirmed, but new law prevents retroactive applicability to employees and retirees
- Unemployment Insurance

Economic Development Bill (FORWARD)

What was on the table?

Utilized state ARPA funding & state surplus funding, and bonding

- \$400 million for **MassWorks** grants for local infrastructure
- \$254 million for **Clean Water Trust Fund** grants
- \$403.5 million for various **housing development** grants
- \$100 million in **broadband** investments
- **Municipal finance** technical language
- \$500 million in one-time **tax rebates**
- \$500 million in permanent **tax cuts**

What is “62F?”

- State law that caps growth in tax collections (M.G.L. Ch. 62F)
- Passed by voters in 1986; cap only exceeded once in 1987
- Limits tax revenue growth to the three-year average growth in state wages and salaries.
- If cap is exceeded, excess revenue is provided as a proportional income tax credit to Massachusetts residents.
- Currently estimated to be between **\$2.5 - \$3 billion**
- Final figure determined by State Auditor in late September



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On the Horizon for Fall 2022

- Active Informal Sessions
 - Eco Development Bill (FORWARD)/ Tax package
 - Supplemental Budget(s)
- State ARPA funding



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Comments & Questions



Resources & Links

- [FY2023 Budget | COLA](#)
- [General Government Bond Bill](#)
- [Election Reform - VOTES Act](#)
- [Remote Meetings | OML](#)
- [Cannabis](#)
- [Public Health Reform](#)
- [MBTA Communities Zoning](#)
- [Climate Bill](#)
- [PLPA](#)
- [Solid Waste / EPR](#)
- [Ch. 90 & WRAP](#)
- [MassTRAC](#)
- [Economic Development | Ch. 62F](#)