



THE GENERAL COURT OF MASSACHUSETTS
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1053

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 7, 2021

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Legislature passes \$16.5B Transportation Bond Bill, \$626M Economic Development Bill

Senator Moore and Representative Kane secure millions in local funding

(Boston – 01/07/2021) In the early hours of Wednesday morning, the Massachusetts Legislature passed a \$16.5 billion transportation bond bill (H5248), which authorizes spending over multiple years on a variety of transportation projects, as well as a \$626 million economic development bond bill (H5250) to help create job growth and support businesses.

Senator Michael Moore (D-Millbury) and Representative Hannah Kane (R-Shrewsbury) were able to allocate millions in local earmarks in the two bills. The two worked together to ensure \$2.6M in funding for transportation projects in Shrewsbury through the transportation bond bill. Senator Moore captured nearly \$9M more for transportation projects in Auburn, Grafton, Millbury, Upton, Northbridge, Leicester, and Worcester and Representative Kane helped lead the effort to secure millions in mitigation funding to support Central Massachusetts commuters during the upcoming 10-year Allston Multimodal construction project.

Senator Moore and Representative Kane also secured language in the economic development bond bill providing that not less than \$500,000 be expended equally to Worcester, Auburn, Grafton, Leicester, Millbury, Northbridge, Shrewsbury, and Upton for purposes of economic development.

“Making sure that transportation projects are properly funded is essential in maintaining and updating infrastructure throughout towns in the Commonwealth,” said **Senator Moore**. “Transportation is the means by which so much gets done, and this bill will ensure that our transportation systems are adequately looked after.”

“Investments in our transportation infrastructure and in economic development are critical to ensuring our modern economy can be vibrant again and our communities thriving, despite the deep impacts of the pandemic. I am also pleased that through the advocacy of the Central Massachusetts and MetroWest legislative delegations we were able to secure funding for mitigation efforts for our commuters during the decade long, massive construction project in Allston that will impact both the MassPike and the Worcester/Framingham Commuter Rail-line,” remarked **Representative Kane**.

The specific amount of transportation funding that will be received by each town is as follows;

- Auburn: \$1.2 million for streetscape and roadway improvements to Drury square
- Grafton: \$1.2 million for sidewalk improvements, the restoration of George Hill road and the design and construction of Westboro road
- Millbury: \$250,000 for traffic and pedestrian signalization for the Armory Village revitalization project
- Upton: \$1.2 million for the removal and relocation of a water main on Grove street, and the realignment and reconstruction of the Grove street bridge
- Northbridge: \$1.2 million for the reconstruction of the Sutton street bridge deck and School street culvert improvements
- Leicester: \$585,000 to reconstruct the River street bridge
- Shrewsbury: \$1.2 million for sidewalk improvements and for the planning, design and reconstruction of state highway route 140 from the town center to United States highway route 290; \$1.4M for the reconstruction of the Toblin Hill Bridge
- Worcester: \$3.165 million for general improvements to Union station

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