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### *Westborough awarded funding through the MassWorks program*

Westborough – The Town of Westborough has been awarded \$1.282 million in MassWorks grant funding. Representative Hannah Kane (R-Shrewsbury), Representative Carolyn Dykema (D-Holliston), Representative Danielle Gregoire (D-Marlborough), and Senator Jamie Eldridge (D-Acton), who make up the Westborough legislative delegation in the Massachusetts Legislature, were pleased to support and advocate for the community-driven project for which local officials sought the grant.

MassWorks is a competitive infrastructure program that provides large and flexible grants to communities to help them fund projects that contribute to initiatives such as housing, private development, and job production, all with the goal of creating a stronger and more sustainable Commonwealth. The \$1.282M in funds awarded to Westborough will be used for a new signalized intersection at West Park Drive Extension and Flanders Road, among other improvements in this priority development area. The upgrades will increase access to local businesses, address traffic flow concerns, and provide a connection for the growing network of multi-use trails in the region.

The project, which is supported by the Westborough Select Board and the Town along with a broad range of stakeholders, is expected to create a safer travel corridor near Route 9 and an additional access point to multiple nearby office parks. It will also support the continued development of the Boston-Worcester Air Line Trail (BWALT), which works to connect other multi-purpose trails in the region and will increase bicycle and pedestrian access to the office parks. The improvements are also designed to relieve congestion and improve traffic flow and safety near the Route 9/I-495 interchange by providing an additional connection in the area to relieve traffic congestion at existing intersections. The extension of the roads associated with the project creates connections that should reduce drive time for workers traveling to and within Westborough and increases access to other local businesses from the office park area.

"We are excited to receive this grant as a key part of our ongoing efforts to make our commercial and industrial zones -- located at the intersection of 9, 495, and 90 -- even more attractive as a destination for incubation, innovation, and growth for businesses of every size and type," **stated Shelby Marshall, Chair of the Westborough Board of Selectmen.** "By improving traffic flow and safety and providing a key connector for our multi-use trail system, this project makes a

great business zone even more accessible and convenient. The grant would not have happened without close collaboration across our business community, Town departments, volunteer boards, and our local and state elected officials. This collaborative effort and grant is another example of Westborough's commitment to expanding our strong, diverse business community."

"I thank the Baker-Polito Administration for awarding this funding that provides an important investment in Westborough's economic development efforts and transportation infrastructure. Town leadership prioritized this critical initiative and their strong advocacy, along with the other community partners and the support of my fellow legislative colleagues representing Westborough, has turned this project into a reality," **remarked Representative Kane.**

"The Flanders Road improvements offer a win-win for residents, with accessibility improvements benefitting walkers, bikers, and the nearby businesses," **said Representative Dykema.** "I'm proud to work with my colleagues in the legislative delegation to support the hard work happening on the state and local level to make this project happen."

"This project has been a priority of the Town's for quite some time, and I am grateful that the Administration has acknowledged how accessibility upgrades and other improvements to this vital area will not only benefit Westborough, but the Commonwealth as a whole," **remarked Representative Gregoire.** "This funding was crucial to the success of this project and I look forward to watching it progress."

"I am grateful to the Baker-Polito administration for the \$1.282 million grant to the town of Westborough," **stated Senator Jamie Eldridge.** "These road and bike lane improvements come at a prime time for potential economic development in this part of Westborough and will also enhance the quality of life for all Westborough residents. I want to praise the work of Westborough Town Manager Kristi Williams, and the Westborough Board of Selectmen."

Learn more about the MassWorks program [here](#).

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