Fairhaven Select Board
Meeting Minutes
April 11, 2022

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FAIRHAVEN,
MASS.

Present: Select Board members Robert Espindola, Stasia Powers, Keith Silvia, Leon Correy, Charles Murphy Sr., Town Administrator Angie Lopes Ellison and Administrative Assistant Vicki Oliveira.

Also Present: Finance Director Wendy Graves, Veterans Services Agent Brad Fish and US Veteran George Brownell

Present via zoom: Planning Director Paul Foley

By vote of Town Meeting in June 2021, the recent Annual Town election resulted in the Select Board going from 3 to 5 members.

The meeting was videotaped by Cable Access and Zoom meeting application.

Chairman Robert Espindola opened the meeting at 6:35 pm in the Town Hall Banquet Room with a moment of silence for the people of Ukraine.

Minutes

The minutes were not ready and will be approved at the next meeting.

Town Administrator's Report

Town Administrator Angie Lopes Ellison thanked the Board and said she has enjoyed her time in Fairhaven so far and is grateful for the opportunity to be onboard.

Ms. Ellison said she met today with Labor Counsel Clifford and Kenney where they discussed the personnel policy. Ms. Ellison would like to incorporate the personnel policy with the employee handbook.

Ms. Graves and Ms. Ellison explained the budget process to the Board and all the steps it takes leading up to Town Meeting.

Ms. Ellison stateed there have been no changes in the Covid cases in Fairhaven recently.

Ms. Ellison and Town Planner Paul Foley have discussed the three Request for Proposals (RFP) for Rogers School. Ms. Ellison would like to have a community meeting with the residents of the Rogers School neighborhood and find out their opinions on the RFP's. Ms. Ellison has also spoken with the Assessor's Office in regards to the developers using Tax Increment Financing (TIF) money for the development of the Rogers property. The Assessors advised this is not feasible but Ms. Ellison will review other options.

Ms. Ellison said there has been a settlement in the Opioid litigation and all Massachusetts municipalities will be able to collectively be eligible to receive 40% of funds but the money has to be used for specific uses. (Attachment A)

Ms. Ellison discussed the Goals and Objectives the Board previously voted on and each member chose their top 5 goals they thought should be a priority. Ms. Ellison will compile the lists and start reviewing each item.

Ms. Ellison stated a last-minute request for the Board has come in for the West Island 5K, to be held on Sunday April 24, 2022. Because this is time sensitive and Ms. Ellison asked for the Board permission to grant the request and the Board will retroactively vote on this at their next meeting on April 25, 2022.

Committee Liaison Reports

Mr. Murphy reported that the Lagoa Friendship Pact Committee is preparing for the arrival of pictures of Lagoa that will be displayed in the Town Hall foyer this summer.

Mr. Silvia, Mr. Correy and Ms. Powers had no meetings to report.

Mr. Espindola stated Broadband has met and is discussing their article for the Annual Town Meeting.

Mr. Espindola said at the recent SRTA meeting the FY23 budget was discussed.

Mr. Espindola said there are 2 bills at the Legislature regarding e-bikes. Mr. Espindola spoke to Representative Bill Strauss, who is trying to open the section of the bike path in Mattapoisett that has been closed.

Memorial Day Parade

Veterans Services Agent Brad Fish and US Veteran George Brownell met with the Board to discuss the possibility of holding the annual Memorial Day Parade in May. The parade was canceled due to Covid for the past 2 years. Mr. Fish said all the proper paperwork has been filed with the State. Mr. Fish will also be placing flags on the graves of veterans at the Fairhaven cemeteries on May 21, 2022 at 10:00 am for anyone who would like to join him and participate.

> ***Motion:*** Ms. Powers motioned to approve the 2022 Memorial Day parade. Mr. Murphy seconded. Vote was unanimous. (5-0-0)

Reorganization of the Select Board and seating

Mr. Espindola turned the gavel over to Town Administrator Ellison. Ms. Ellison opened the nominations for Chairperson of the Select Board.

Ms. Ellison opened the nominations for the Chair of the Select Board

> ***Nomination:*** Mr. Silvia nominated Ms. Powers for Chairperson. Mr. Murphy seconded. There were no other nominations
>
> ***Motion:*** Mr. Correy motioned to appoint Ms. Stasia Powers, Chairperson of the Select Board. Mr. Murphy seconded. Vote was unanimous. (5-0-0)

Nominations were opened for the Vice-Chair of the Select Board.

> ***Nomination:*** Mr. Silvia made a nomination for Mr. Correy for Vice- Chairperson of the Select Board. Mr. Murphy seconded. Also, Ms. Powers motioned to nominate Mr. Espindola as Vice-Chairperson of the Select Board. Mr. Murphy seconded.
>
> The Board discussed the two nominations; and Mr. Correy and Mr. Espindola spoke their reasons for accepting the nomination.

Motion: Ms. Powers motioned to appoint Mr. Espindola as Vice-Chairperson of the Select Board. Mr. Murphy seconded. The motion failed.

Motion: Mr. Espindola made the motion to appoint Mr. Correy as the Vice-Chairperson. Mr. Murphy seconded. Vote was unanimous. (5-0-0)

Nominations were opened for the Vice-Chair of the Select Board.

Nomination: Mr. Correy nominated Mr. Espindola as Clerk of the Select Board. Mr. Silvia seconded.

Motion: Ms. Powers motioned to appoint Mr. Espindola as Clerk of the Select Board. Mr. Murphy seconded. Vote was unanimous. (5-0-0)

For the seating of the 4 board members, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Correy, Mr. Silvia and Mr. Espindola pulled numbers out of a hat to determine their seating order at the table.

Ms. Ellison handed the gavel back to Chairwoman Powers to resume the rest of the meeting.

Motion: Mr. Correy motioned to take item E3 out of order. Mr. Murphy seconded. Vote was unanimous. (5-0-0)

Approval of the Finestkind movie locations

Filmmakers Ryan Cook and Victoria Virtue met with the Board and presented an updated listing of all the locations and times for shooting the movie" Finestkind" (Attachment B) Mr. Cook has already met with Sergeant Sobral at the Fairhaven Police Department for approval and they have also reached out to each neighborhood to notify the residents of what will be happening. The filmmakers will also be working closely with the Mass Department of Transportation in regards to closing the Fairhaven-New Bedford bridge for a day in June.

Motion: Mr. Correy motioned to grant a waiver of the parking ordinance while filming the movie "Finestkind" and allow parking overnight. Mr. Murphy seconded. Vote was unanimous. (5-0-0)

Motion: Mr. Murphy motioned to approve the location plans and allow the film crew to work with the Harbormaster and Public Safety to determine any changes if needed. Mr. Correy seconded. Vote was unanimous. (5-0-0)

Reorganization of the Committee Liaison appointments

The Board reviewed the listing of each committee and discussed which ones they would like to serve on.

Motion: Mr. Silvia motioned to relinquish the Contract Compliance Officer position and the Local Emergency Planning Committee from the Committee liaison appointments. Mr. Murphy seconded. Vote was unanimous. (5-0-0)

Motion: Mr. Correy motioned for the Select Board Committee appointments to be:

- Ms. Powers: Bristol County Advisory Board, Cable Advisory Committee, Capital Improvement Planning Committee
- Mr. Correy: Belonging Committee, Economic Development Committee, Millicent Library Trustees, SRTA
- Mr. Espindola: Bikeway Committee, Broadband Study Committee, Southcoast Bikeway Alliance, SRPEDD

- Mr. Silvia: Dog Park Study Committee, Historical Commission, Marine Resources Committee, Rogers Reuse Committee
- Mr. Murphy: Fair Housing Coordinator, Lagoa Friendship Pact Committee, Sister City Committee

Mr. Murphy seconded. Vote was unanimous. (5-0-0)

Certificate of appointment/elections

Ms. Ellison told the Board this is a standard appointment and approval to certify the election of the Town Clerk. (Attachment C)

> ***Motion:*** Mr. Silvia motioned to accept and allow the Select Board chair to sign the election form on behalf of the Select Board. Mr. Murphy seconded. Vote was unanimous. (5-0-0)

FY21 CDBG project- Hedge Street Phase 3

Planning Director Paul Foley told the Board the town was awarded $686,000 for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for FY21 Hedge Street Phase III Project. The Board of Public Works (BPW) coordinated the procurement of engineering services for Fairhaven's FY21 CDBG project, Hedge Street Phase 3 Improvements, from Main to approximately #70 Hedge Street. A Request for Qualifications (RFQ) with a total value of $60,000 for Phase 3 bidding, construction administration and resident inspector services was advertised in the Goods & Services Bulletin, Standard Times and Commbuys. One bidder, GCG Associates, responded to the RFQ.

The BPW reviewed GCG's submission and recommended to award the contract to GCG. GCG was responsible for the design of Phase 3, construction administration of Hedge Street Phases 1and 2, and is familiar with CDBG requirements.

> ***Motion:*** Mr. Correy motioned to award the FY21 CDBG contract for construction administration and resident inspector services (Hedge Street Phase 3) to GCG Associates, Inc. for the amount of $60,000 and to authorize the Town Administrator to sign all contract related documents, contingent on grant start-up clearances from Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD). Mr. Murphy seconded. Vote was unanimous. (5-0-0)

Mr. Foley coordinated the procurement of the FY21 CDBG grant administration services. A Request for Proposal (RFP) with a value up to $40,500 was advertised in the Goods & Services Bulletin, Standard Times and Commbuys. One bidder, Breezeway Farm Consulting, Inc., responded to the RFP. DHCD approval of grant administrator contracts is required. Mr. Foley is recommending the award to Breezeway Farm Consulting, Inc

> ***Motion:*** Mr. Murphy motioned to award the FY21 CDBG contract for Grant Administration Services to Breezeway Farm Consulting, Inc., for the amount of $40,500 and to authorize the Town Administrator to sign all contract related documents, contingent on grant start-up clearances and contract approval by DHCD. Mr. Correy seconded. Vote was unanimous. (5-0-0)

Town Administrator appointments

Due to the hiring of a new Town Administrator, there were position appointments that needed to be reassigned. Ms. Powers read a memo from Ms. Graves resigning from her interim Town Administrator appointments as ADA Coordinator, Affirmative Action Officer and Procurement Officer. These positions are to be assigned to the present Town Administrator.

Motion: Mr. Correy motioned to accept Ms. Graves' resignation of her Interim Town Administrator appointed positions. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote was unanimous. (5-0-0)

Motion: Mr. Silvia motioned to appoint Town Administrator Angie Lopes Ellison to the positions of ADA Coordinator, Affirmative Action Officer and Procurement Officer. Mr. Murphy seconded. Vote was unanimous. (5-0-0)

Broadband Grant Application - Community Compact Cabinet Grant

Mr. Espindola reported there is a grant for Broadband geared toward municipal fiber with the deadline of Friday (Attachment D). Mr. Espindola feels the Housing Authority tenants are underserved with Cable TV. The grant proposed grant will help the Housing Authority to gain broadband access. This grant can help and educate those that may not be able to afford internet and cable. Ms. Powers suggested including a letter from the Housing Authority Director Krisanne Sheedy. Mr. Espindola feels this grant could also help get more cameras in the other parts of town that do not currently have then due to not having Wi-Fi.

Motion: Mr. Murphy motioned to allow Mr. Espindola to submit the application for the Community Compact Cabinet Grant Municipal Fiber Grant as funding is described in the grant application and not to exceed the 37,500 of (American Rescue Plan Act) ARPA matching funds. Mr. Correy seconded. Vote was unanimous. (5-0-0)

Flag/Banner policy

The Board discussed their thoughts on reinstating the flag/banner policy. Ms. Powers feels the flag/banner policy is a good idea but realizes that there is a concern over flying other flags on the flagpole and would like to see the flagpole left alone but allow the use of banners at Town Hall. The Board discussed the idea of flying banners over Town Hall, updating the rescinded flag/ banner policy; and having the Belonging Committee review the policy and make recommendations to the Select Board.

Motion: Mr. Espindola motioned to request the Belonging Committee to review the flag/banner policy and make recommendations or changes and to look at other town's policies and report back to the Select Board. Mr. Correy seconded. Vote was unanimous. (5-0-0)

Request to fly Pride Flag

Resident Anne Morton- Smith requested to hang the Pride flag at Town Hall. Resident Ronnie Manzone spoke to the Board in favor of flying the pride flag stating that this is an opportunity to bring people together. Ms. Manzone said the pride flag represents love and showing acceptance.

Motion: Mr. Correy motioned to approve the pride flag for the first 2 weeks in June. Mr. Murphy seconded. Vote was unanimous. (5-0-0)

The Belonging Committee will look at alternate locations to place the banner the last 2 weeks in June.

Fitness in the Park, June 21- August 25, 2022

Ms. Powers read a letter from Sue Grace and Jeff Costa requesting permission to hold the Fitness in the Park at Cushman Park for the summer.

Motion: Mr. Espindola motioned to approve the Fitness in the Park pending proof of insurance and approval of the Board of Public Works. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote was unanimous. (5-0-0)

Town Meeting Articles for June 18, 2022 Annual Town Meeting

Finance Director Wendy Graves reviewed the Town Meeting Articles with the Board and addressed any questions they had regarding the warrant. The Board would like to meet with Public Works

Superintendent Vincent Furtado at the next meeting to discuss the funds the Department of Public Works (DPW) needs for the sewer treatment plant. Ms. Ellison informed the Board; the Town meeting vote is to authorize the borrowing. The Board would also like to discuss the article relating to changing the Tree Warden from elected to appointed.

> ***Motion:*** Mr. Correy motioned to request DPW Superintendent Mr. Furtado to meet with the Select Board to share the plans for the sewer treatment plant. Mr. Murphy seconded. Vote was unanimous. (5-0-0)

Ms. Powers recused herself at 9:47 pm due to the Board discussion on the article related to Mill Road. Ms. Powers returned at 9:48 pm

Ms. Ellison and the Board discussed the town meeting articles and balancing the town's budget.

Public Comment

There were no comments, questions or concerns from the public.

Correspondence

Mr. Espindola said the MassTrails Program letter of support is a standard letter that the Town sends each year to support Mattapoisett.

Ms. Powers read a letter regarding the Fairhaven Police Grant award of $2,2012.75 for the Automated External Defibrillator Equipment Program.

Ms. Powers read a memo from Town Clerk Linda Fredette notifying the Board of vacancies on the Finance Committee.

Resignation of the Measurer of Wood and Bark

Ms. Powers read letter of resignation from the Measurer of Wood and Bark.

> ***Motion:*** Mr. Espindola motioned to accept the resignation of John Farrell as the Measurer of Wood and Bark. Mr. Silvia seconded. Vote was unanimous. (5-0-0)

Vacancy on the Housing Authority: Governor's Appointment

Ms. Powers read a letter from Housing Authority Director Krisanne Sheedy requesting volunteers for the Governor's Appointment on the Housing Authority vacated by the unexpected passing of Jean Rousseau.

Notes and Announcements

Mr. Espindola said the Tree Warden has extended an invitation to the Board to attend the Arbor Day event at Fairhaven High School.

Adjournment

> ***Motion:*** Mr. Correy motioned to adjourn at 10:15 pm. Mr. Murphy seconded. Vote was unanimous. (5-0-0)

Respectfully submitted
On behalf of the Select Board Clerk,

Vicki L. Oliveira

Vicki L. Oliveira
Administrative Assistant
(Approved 4/25/2022)

Attachments: on file with the Town Clerk's Office

A. Opioid State Settlement
B. Finestkind movie locations
C. Certificate of appointment/election
D. About the Municipal Fiber Grant Program

Attachment A

Massachusetts State-Subdivision Agreement for Statewide Opioid Settlements

A. Statewide Opioid Settlements. As used herein, the term "**Statewide Opioid Settlements**" refers to statewide opioid settlements reached by or before January 1, 2026 between the Massachusetts Attorney General and non-bankrupt opioid industry participants, pursuant to which certain Massachusetts political subdivisions ("**Massachusetts Subdivisions**") are eligible to participate and share in Global Settlement Abatement Funds ("**Abatement Funds**"), in exchange for releases. For avoidance of doubt, the July 2021 opioid settlements between the Massachusetts Attorney General and opioid distributors McKesson, Cardinal, AmerisourceBergen, and opioid-maker Johnson & Johnson ("**Settlements**") are Statewide Opioid Settlements. Unless otherwise stated, the capitalized terms herein shall have the same meaning as in the Settlements.

B. Massachusetts Abatement Terms. Abatement Funds shall be used solely to supplement and strengthen, rather than supplant, resources for prevention, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery, in accordance with the purposes and subject to the requirements in the appended Massachusetts Abatement Terms.

C. Allocation of Abatement Funds to Massachusetts Subdivisions. The Massachusetts Subdivisions shall collectively be eligible to receive 40% of each Annual Payment of Abatement Funds that come into the state, allocated among them in the percentages reflected in the Settlements, so long as they timely submit Subdivision Settlement Participation Forms in the form attached to the Statewide Opioid Settlements. Participating Subdivisions may elect to share or pool the funds they receive and collaborate on abatement efforts. Participating Subdivisions may also elect to reallocate to the statewide Opioid Recovery and Remediation Fund some or all of their allocation of any Statewide Opioid Settlement with timely notice to the Settlement Administrator.

D. Allocation of Abatement Funds to Statewide Opioid Recovery and Remediation Fund. The statewide Opioid Recovery and Remediation Fund ("**ORRF**") shall receive 60% of each Annual Payment of Abatement Funds as well as: (a) amounts voluntarily reallocated to it by Participating Subdivisions; (b) amounts allocated to Subdivisions that are Non-Participating Subdivisions as of a Payment Date; and (c) any other Abatement Funds not paid out pursuant to Section C. The ORRF is a Statutory Trust, as that term is defined in the Settlements, established by the legislature in 2021 to expand access to opioid use disorder, prevention, intervention, treatment and recovery options throughout Massachusetts. The ORRF is administered by the Executive Office of Health and Human Services in consultation with a 20-member state- and municipal-appointed advisory council with expertise and experience with opioid use disorder.[1]

E. Consent Judgments. This Agreement will be appended to proposed Consent Judgments filed in the Massachusetts Superior Court, in an action or actions filed by the Attorney General, consistent with the Statewide Opioid Settlements and any related legislation. In the event of a

[1] Current appointees include nonprofit leaders, physicians, professors, and public officials from Amherst, Boston, Brockton, Falmouth, Framingham, Lynn, New Bedford, Pittsfield, Springfield, and Worcester. The advisory council holds public meetings every quarter about priorities for addressing the opioid epidemic in Massachusetts.

conflict between this Agreement and the Statewide Opioid Settlements, the Statewide Opioid Settlements will govern.

F. State-Subdivision Agreement. This Agreement is a State-Subdivision Agreement as forth in Exhibit O to the Settlements and shall take effect subject to the approval requirements therein.

G. Authority. The undersigned officials understand and agree to be bound by this Agreement and represent that their execution of this Agreement is voluntary and authorized.

H. Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in counterparts, each of which constitutes an original and all of which constitute one and the same Agreement.

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THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS MAURA HEALEY ATTORNEY GENERAL Office of the Attorney General One Ashburton Place Boston, MA 02108 Date: March 4, 2022	Name of Participating Subdivision: Signature: Name of Signer: Robert J. ESPINDOLA Title: Chair, SELECT BOARD Address: 40 CENTER ST. FAIRHAVEN, MA 02719 Phone Number: (508) 979-4023 Email: SelectmanBobEspindola@gmail.com Date: 4-5-2022

MASSACHUSETTS ABATEMENT TERMS

I. STATEWIDE COMMITMENT TO ABATEMENT

The Commonwealth and its municipalities have a shared commitment to using abatement funds recovered from statewide opioid settlements to supplement and strengthen resources available to Massachusetts communities and families for substance use disorder prevention, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery in a matter that:

- reflects the input of our communities, of people who have personal experience with the opioid crisis, of experts in treatment and prevention, and of staff and organizations that are carrying out the abatement work;
- addresses disparities in existing services and outcomes and improves equity and the health of individuals and communities disadvantaged by race, wealth, and stigma, including through efforts to increase diversity among service providers;
- addresses mental health conditions, substance use disorders, and other behavior health needs that occur together with opioid use disorder ("OUD");
- leverages programs and services already reimbursed by state agencies and programs, including direct care reimbursed by MassHealth and the state's Bureau of Substance Addiction Services ("BSAS"); and
- encourages innovation, fills gaps and fixes shortcomings of existing approaches; supplements rather than supplants resources for prevention, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery; includes evidence-based, evidence-informed, and promising programs; and takes advantage of the flexibility that is allowed for these funds.[2]

This document sets forth: how abatement funds from these settlements must be used by the state and its municipalities (Sections II and III); how the state will support municipal abatement initiatives (Section IV); and state and municipal reporting requirements (Section V).

II. STATE USE OF ABATEMENT FUNDS

Abatement funds directed to the state shall be deposited into the statewide Opioid Recovery and Remediation Fund to supplement prevention, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery programs throughout Massachusetts. The Fund is overseen by the Commonwealth's Executive Office of Health and Human Services ("EOHHS") together with a Council comprised of 10 municipal appointees appointed by the Massachusetts Municipal Association and 10 state

[2] In this document, the words "fund" and "support" are used interchangeably and mean to create, expand, or sustain a program, service, or activity. References to persons with opioid use disorder are intended in a broad practical manner to address the public health crisis, rather than to require a clinical diagnosis, and they include, for example, persons who have suffered an opioid overdose. It is also understood that OUD is often accompanied by co-occurring substance use disorder or mental health conditions, and it is intended that the strategies in this document will support persons with OUD and any co-occurring SUD and mental health conditions.

appointees qualified by experience and expertise regarding opioid use disorder. Appointees serve for two years. The Council holds public meetings every quarter to identify priorities for addressing the opioid epidemic in Massachusetts.

III. MUNICIPAL USE OF ABATEMENT FUNDS

Abatement funds allocated to municipalities shall be used to implement the strategies set forth below. Municipalities are encouraged to pool abatement funds to increase their impact, including by utilizing the Office of Local and Regional Health's Shared Service infrastructure. Municipal abatement funds shall not be used to fund care reimbursed by the state, including through MassHealth and BSAS, although local or area agencies or programs that provide state-reimbursed services can be supported financially in other ways that help meet the needs of their participants.

1. Opioid Use Disorder Treatment

Support and promote treatment of persons with OUD, including through programs or strategies that:

a. Expand mobile intervention, treatment, telehealth treatment, and recovery services offered by qualified providers, including peer recovery coaches.

b. Support evidence-based withdrawal management services for people with OUD and any co-occurring mental health conditions.

c. Make capital expenditures to rehabilitate and expand facilities that offer treatment for OUD, in partnership with treatment providers.

d. Treat trauma for individuals with OUD (e.g., violence, sexual assault, human trafficking, or adverse childhood experiences) and family members (e.g., surviving family members after an overdose).

2. Support People In Treatment And Recovery

Support and promote programs or strategies that:

a. Provide comprehensive wrap-around services to individuals with OUD, including job placement, job training, or childcare.

b. Provide access to housing for people with OUD, including supportive housing, recovery housing, housing, rent, move-in deposits, and utilities assistance programs, training for housing providers, or recovery housing programs that integrate FDA-approved medication with other support services.

c. Rehabilitate properties appropriate for low-threshold and recovery housing, including in partnership with DHCD-funded agencies and OUD-specialized organizations.

d. Provide peer support specialists that support people in accessing OUD treatment, trauma-informed counseling and recovery support, harm reduction services, primary healthcare,

or other services, including support for long-term recovery encompassing relapse, treatment, and continued recovery.

e. Provide community support services, including social and legal services, to assist in deinstitutionalizing persons with OUD.

f. Support or expand peer-recovery centers, which may include support groups, social events, computer access, or other services for persons with OUD.

g. Provide transportation to treatment or recovery services for persons with OUD.

h. Provide employment training or educational services for persons with OUD, such as job training, job placement, interview coaching, community college or vocational school courses, transportation to these activities, or similar supports.

i. Increase the number and capacity of high-quality recovery programs to help people in recovery.

j. Engage non-profits, faith-based communities, and community coalitions to support people in treatment and recovery and to support family members in their efforts to support the person with OUD in the family.

k. Support programs for recovery in schools and/or standalone recovery high schools.

l. Support bereaved families and frontline care providers.

3. Connections To Care

Provide connections to care for people who have, or are at risk of developing, OUD through programs or strategies that:

a. Support the work of Emergency Medical Systems, including peer support specialists and post-overdose response teams, to connect individuals to trauma-informed treatment recovery support, harm reduction services, primary healthcare, or other appropriate services following an opioid overdose or other opioid-related adverse event.

b. Support school-based services related to OUD, such as school-based contacts that parents can engage with to seek immediate treatment services for their child; and support prevention, intervention, treatment, and recovery programs focused on young people. This should include alternatives to suspension or interaction with school resource officers such as restorative justice approaches.

c. Fund services or training to encourage early identification and intervention for families, children, or adolescents who may be struggling with use of drugs or mental health conditions, including peer-based programs and Youth Mental Health First Aid. Training programs may target families, caregivers, school staff, peers, neighbors, health or human services professionals, or others in contact with children or adolescents.

d. Include Fire Department partnerships such as Safe Stations.[3]

4. Harm Reduction

Support efforts to prevent overdose deaths or other opioid-related harms through strategies that:

a. Increase availability of naloxone and other drugs that treat overdoses for first responders,[4] overdose patients, individuals with OUD and their friends and family, schools, community-based organizations, community navigators and outreach workers, persons being released from jail or prison, or the public.

b. Provide training and education regarding naloxone and other drugs that treat overdoses.

c. "Naloxone Plus" strategies to ensure that individuals who receive naloxone to reverse an overdose are linked to treatment programs or other appropriate services.

d. Approve and fund syringe service programs and other programs to reduce harms associated with drug use, including supplies, staffing, space, peer support services, referrals to treatment, fentanyl checking, syringe collection and disposal, connections to care, and the full range of harm reduction and treatment services provided by these programs.

e. Support mobile units that offer or provide referrals to harm reduction services, treatment, recovery supports, primary and behavioral health care, recovery support, or other appropriate services to persons with OUD.

f. Promote efforts to train health care providers, students, peer recovery coaches, recovery outreach specialists, or other professionals that provide care to persons who use opioids or persons with OUD in crisis training and harm reduction strategies.

g. Active outreach strategies such as the Drug Abuse Response Team model or the Post Overdose Support Team model.

h. Provide outreach and services for people who use drugs and are not yet in treatment, including services that build relationships with and support for people with OUD.

5. Address The Needs Of Criminal-Justice-Involved Persons

Support diversion and deflection programs and strategies for criminal-justice-involved persons with OUD, including:

a. Programs, that connect individuals involved in the criminal justice system and upon release from jail or prison to OUD harm reduction services, treatment, recovery support, primary healthcare, prevention, legal support, or other supports, or that provide these

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[3] Safe Stations currently operate in Fall River and Revere. *See, e.g.,* https://www.mma.org/fall-river-fire-stations-become-safe-stations-for-people-seeking-addiction-treatment/.

[4] Municipalities can purchase discounted naloxone kits from the State Office of Pharmacy Services. *See* https://www.mass.gov/service-details/bulk-purchasing-of-naloxone.

services.

b. Co-responder and/or alternative responder models to address OUD-related 911 calls with greater OUD expertise.

c. Public safety-led diversion strategies such as the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion model.

d. Participate in membership organizations such as the Police Assisted Addiction Recovery Initiative for training and networking and utilize law enforcement training opportunities such as the Safety and Health Integration in the Enforcement of Laws on Drugs (SHIELD) model. [5]

6. Support Pregnant Or Parenting Women And Their Families, Including Babies With Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome

Support pregnant or parenting women with OUD and their families, including babies with neonatal abstinence syndrome, through programs or strategies that provide family supports or childcare services for parents with OUD, including supporting programs such as:

a. FIRST Steps Together, a home visiting program for parents in recovery that currently has seven sites serving cities and towns across the state;

b. Pregnant/post-partum and family residential treatment programs, including and in addition to the eight family residential treatment programs currently funded by DPH; and

c. the Moms Do Care recovery support program that has grown from two to ten programs in the state.

7. Prevent Misuse Of Opioids And Implement Prevention Education

Support efforts to prevent misuse of opioids through strategies that:

a. Support programs, policies, and practices that have demonstrated effectiveness in preventing drug misuse among youth. These strategies can be found at a number of existing evidence-based registries such as Blueprints for Health Youth Development (https://www.blueprintsprograms.org/).

b. Support community coalitions in developing and implementing a comprehensive strategic plan for substance misuse prevention. There are a number of evidence based models for strategic planning to consider including but not limited to the Strategic Prevention Framework developed by the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (https://www.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/20190620-samhsa-strategic-prevention-framework-guide.pdf) and Communities That Care developed by the University of Washington (https://www.communitiesthatcare.net/programs/ctc-plus/).

c. Engage a robust multi-sector coalition of stakeholders in both the development and implementation of the above stated strategic plan (https://www.prevention-

[5] *See https://paariusa.org*

first.org/centers/center-for-community-engagement/about-this-center/).

d. Support community-based education or intervention services for families, youth, and adolescents at risk for OUD.

e. Support greater access to mental health services and supports for young people, including services provided in school and in the community to address mental health needs in young people that (when not addressed) increase the risk of opioid or another drug misuse.

f. Initiate, enhance, and sustain local youth health assessment through the implementation of a validated survey tool to develop localized strategic plans that will inform the best ways to institute or enhance strategies to reduce and prevent youth substance misuse, including mental health services and supports for young people, intervention services for families, and youth-focused programs, policies, and practices that have demonstrated effectiveness in reducing and preventing drug misuse.

IV. STATE SUPPORT FOR MUNICIPAL ABATEMENT AND INTER-MUNICIPAL COLLABORATION

EOHHS and the Department of Public Health (DPH), including through its Office of Local and Regional Health (OLRH), will support municipal abatement initiatives by providing strategic guidance to help Massachusetts municipalities select and implement abatement strategies and effectively pool their resources through inter-municipal Shared Service Agreements, as well as other technical assistance. By pooling resources, functions, and expertise, a consortium of cities and towns can expand the public health protections and services they offer residents.

In addition, EOHHS/DPH will collect information regarding municipal abatement and publish an annual report to provide the public with information about the municipal abatement work and to highlight effective strategies, lessons learned, and opportunities for further progress. The support for municipal abatement described in this Section IV will be funded by the state abatement funds described in Section II, above.

V. REPORTING AND RECORD-KEEPING REQUIREMENTS

A. STATE REPORTING. Annually, not later than October 1, the secretary of EOHHS shall file a report on the activity, revenue and expenditures to and from the statewide Opioid Recovery and Remediation Fund in the prior fiscal year with the clerks of the senate and the house of representatives, the house and senate committees on ways and means and the joint committee on mental health, substance use and recovery and made available on the executive office of health and human services' public website. The report shall include, but not be limited to: revenue credited to the fund; expenditures attributable to the administrative costs of the executive office; an itemized list of the funds expended from the fund; data and an assessment of how well resources have been directed to vulnerable and under-served communities. EOHHS filed its first Annual Report on October 1, 2021.

B. MUNICIPAL REPORTING. Cities and towns that receive annual abatement distributions of $35,000[6] or more, whether individually or pooled through OLRH Shared Service arrangements, will be required to submit annual reports of their Municipal Abatement Fund expenditures in the prior fiscal year to EOHHS, starting in FY2023. The reports shall include, but not be limited to: municipal abatement funds received; an itemized list of the funds expended for abatement and administrative costs, if applicable; the unexpended balance; a brief description of the funded abatement strategies and efforts to direct resources to vulnerable and under-served communities. Additional reporting-related guidance shall be provided. All municipalities must: maintain, for a period of at least 5 years after funds are received, documents sufficient to reflect that Municipal Abatement Funds were utilized for the Municipal Abatement Strategies listed herein.[7]

[6] EOHHS retains the right to modify this reporting threshold.

[7] Nothing in this document reduces obligations under public records law.

Attachment B

Dear Fairhaven Selectboard,

My name is Victoria Virtue and I'm the Location Manager for a new movie being produced by Paramount Pictures that will be filming in New Bedford/Fairhaven this spring. The movie is titled Finestkind and is written by New Bedford native and academy award winner Brian Helgeland.

Synosis:

Set in New Bedford, Massachusetts — America's biggest commercial fishing port — Finestkind tells the story of two brothers (Ben Foster, Toby Wallace) from opposite sides of the track, who are reunited as adults over one fateful summer. When desperate circumstances force them to strike a deal with a dangerous Boston crime syndicate, a young woman (Jenna Ortega) finds herself caught in the middle. Along the way sacrifices must be made and bonds — between brothers, friends, and a father (Tommy Lee Jones) and his son — are put to the test.

Locations in Fairhaven (see attached maps):

Rasputin's Tavern (4 day totals. Interior and Exterior filming)

- Wednesday, April 20 (Interior Filming) 8am-6pm
- Thursday, April 21 (Exterior Filming) 8am-1pm
- Wednesday, May 18 (Interior Filming) 8am-6pm
- Thursday, May 19 (Interior/Exterior Filming) 8am-6pm

FJ Moriarty Liquors

- TBD

1 Hedge Street

- Friday, May 20 (Exterior Filming) 8am- 3pm

Church Street and Main Street

- Friday, May 20 (Exterior Filming) 4pm-6pm

28 Scott Street

- Monday, May 23 (Exterior Filming) 8am-6pm
- Tuesday, May 24 (Exterior Filming) 8am-3pm

Fort Phoenix State Reservation, 100 Green Street

- Tuesday, May 24 (Exterior Filming) 4pm-6pm

Union Wharf

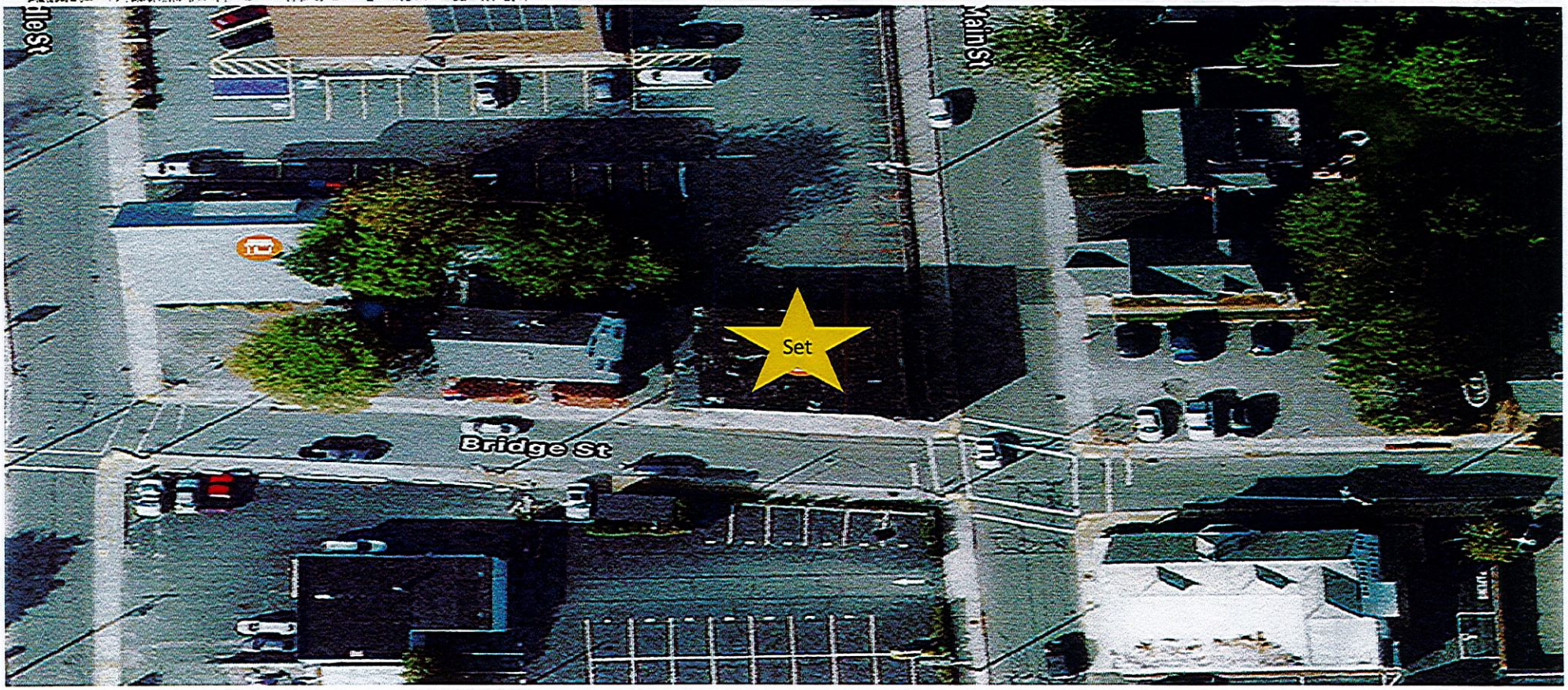
- Wednesday, May 25 (Exterior Filming) 8am-6pm

Community Impact:

Ninety-five percent of our crew members are locals like myself, so we understand and appreciate the importance of outreach to the neighboring community and including them in our plans. We will be speaking to all of the neighbors and addressing any questions or concerns they may have.

Wednesday, April 20
Thursday, April 21
Monday, May 16
Tuesday, May 17

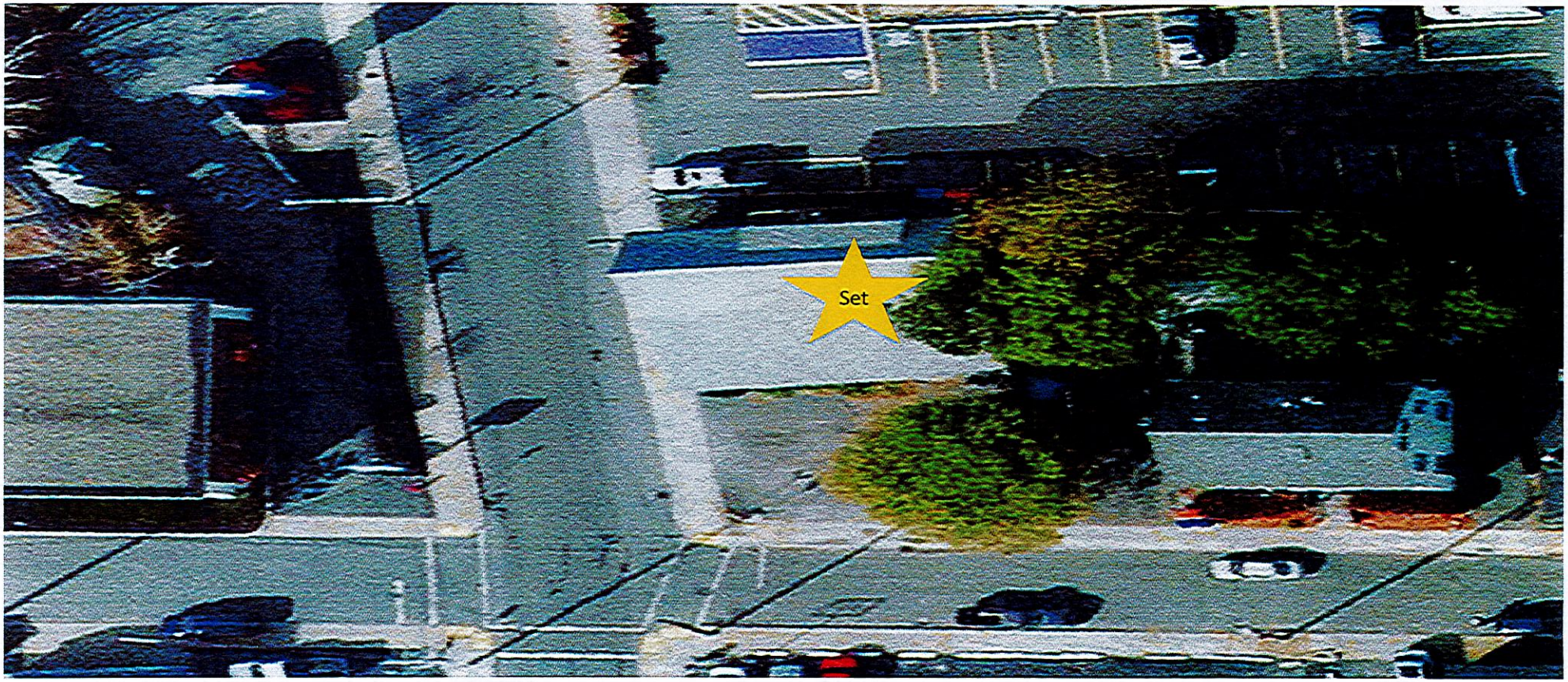
INT/EXT RASPUTIN'S TAVERN
122 Main Street



Wednesday, May 18

EXT PACKAGE STORE

FJ Moriarty Liquors
101 Middle Street



FINESTKIND

Wednesday, May 18

EXT. ELDRIDGE'S HOUSE

1 Hedge Street

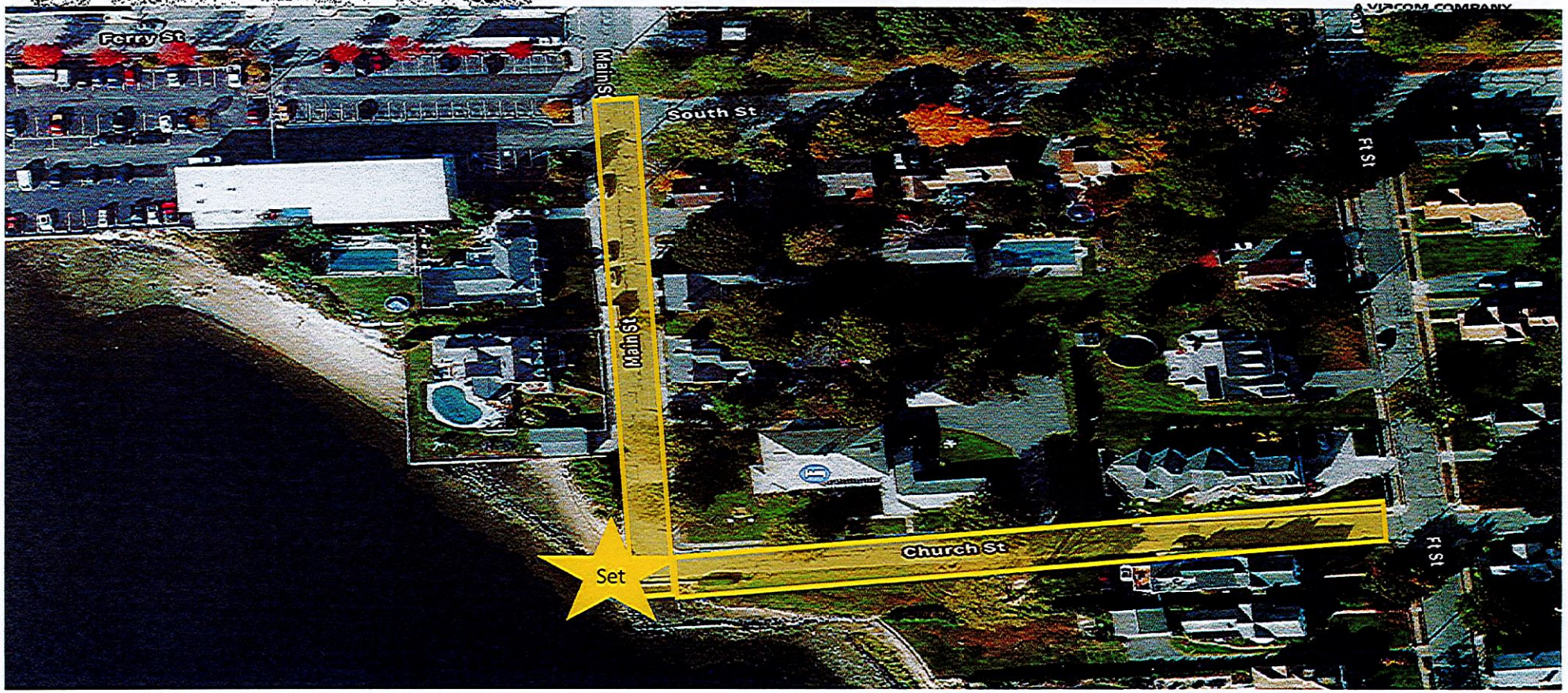
Paramount
A VIACOM COMPANY

FINESTKIND

Tuesday, May 17

EXT KELLY'S BIKE PATH

Main Street @ Church Street



Monday, May 23
Tuesday, May 24

EXT. KYLE'S TRAILER

28 Scott Street

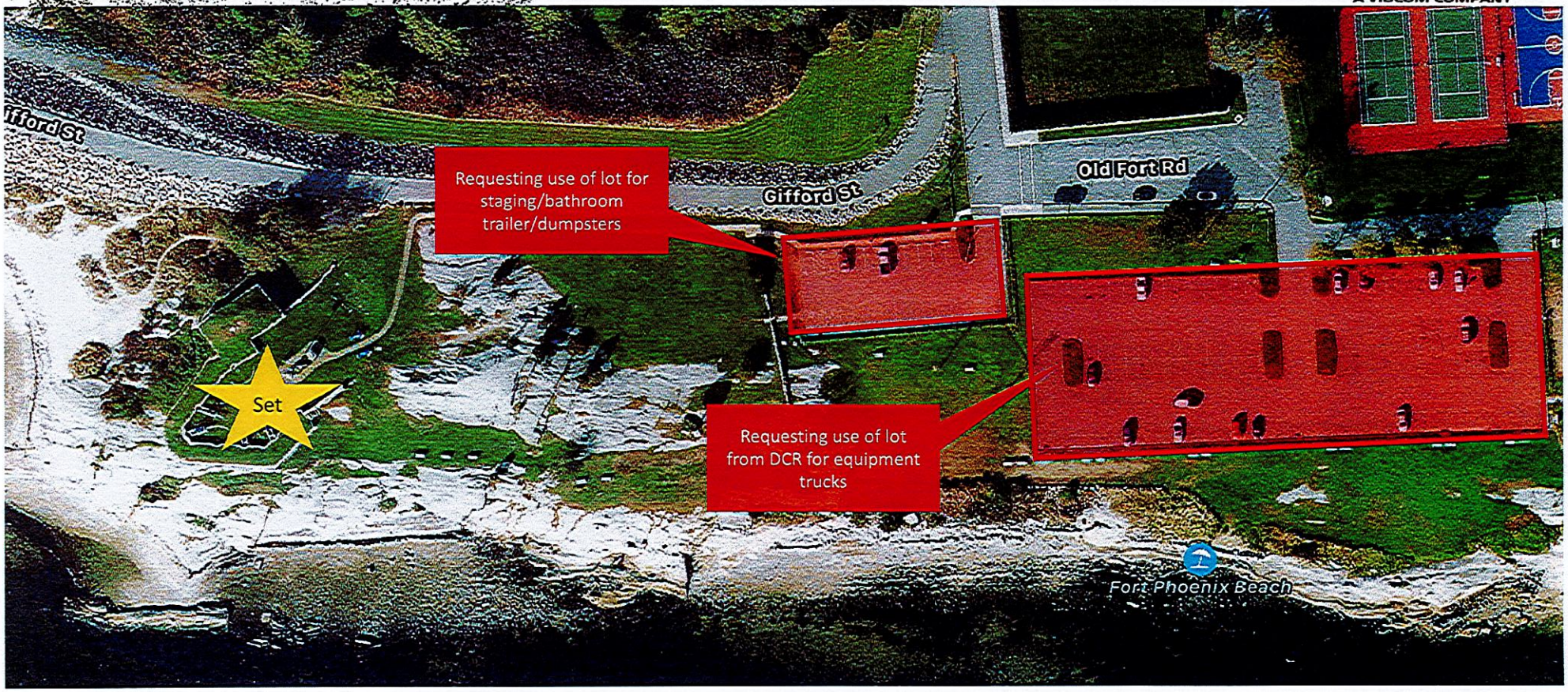
FINESTKIND

Wednesday, May 25 Fort Phoenix State Reservation

100 Green Street

Paramount

A VIACOM COMPANY



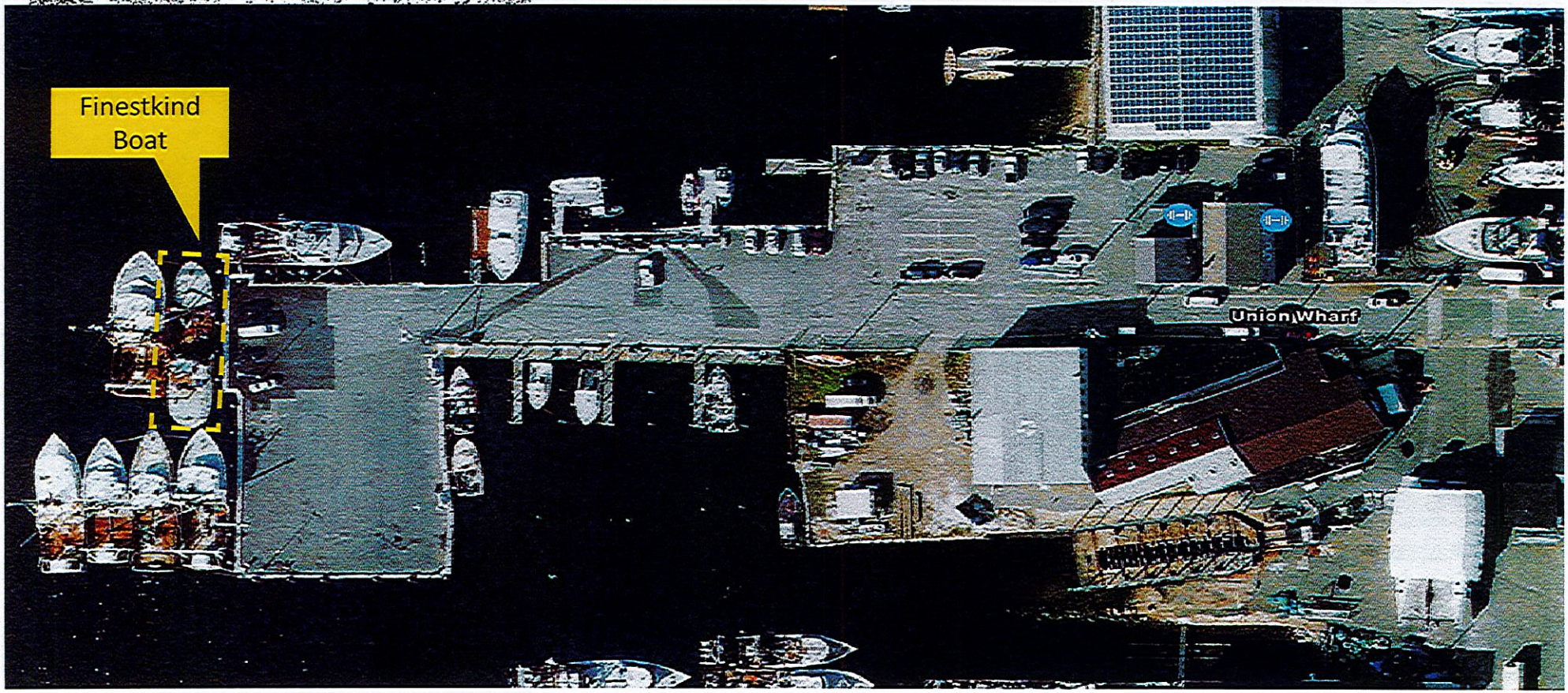
FINESTKIND

Wednesday, May 25

EXT. Finestkind

Union Wharf
12 Union Wharf, Fairhaven

Paramount
A VIACOM COMPANY

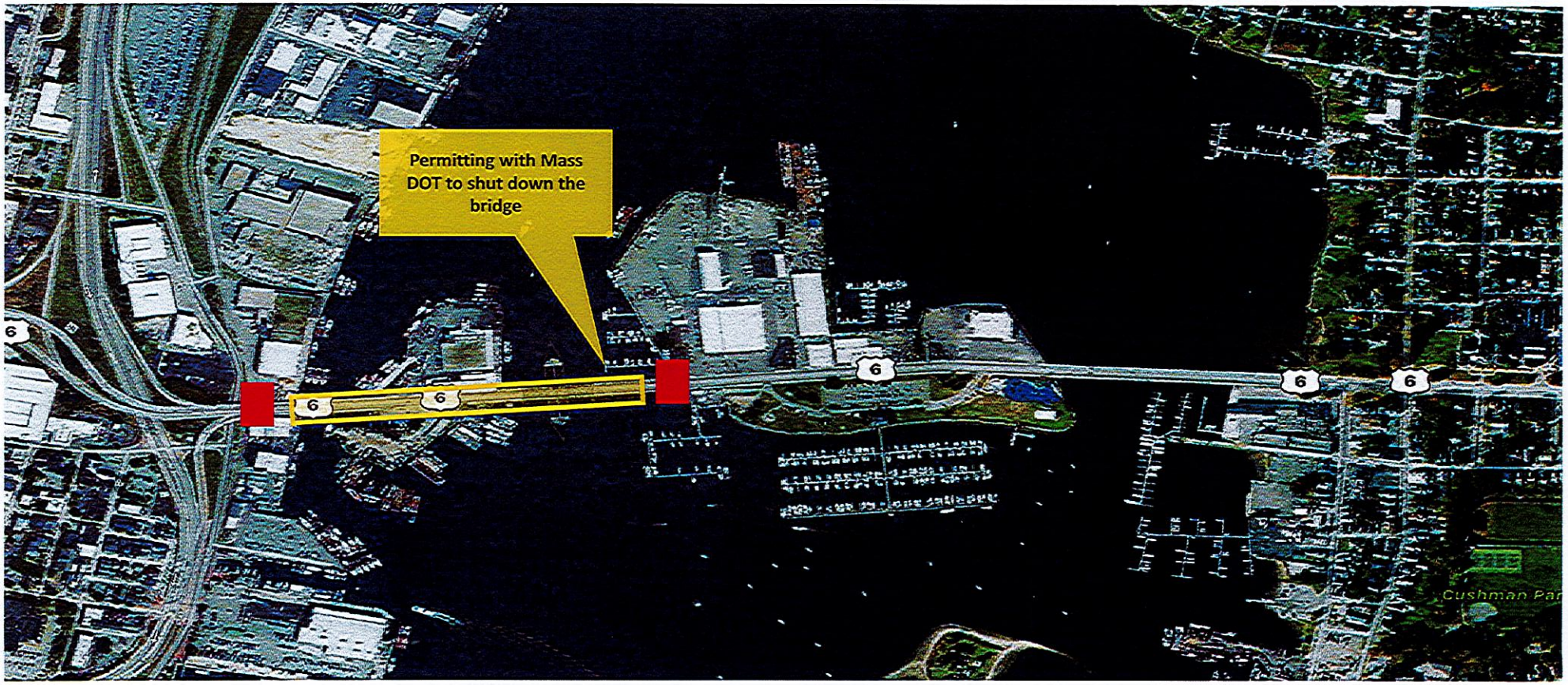


FINESTKIND

Saturday, June 4

EXT FAIRHAVEN BRIDGE
US-6

Paramount
A VIACOM COMPANY



Attachment C

CERTIFICATE OF APPOINTMENT/ELECTION

☐ City ☒ Town of Fairhaven

In accordance with the requirements of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 41, Section 19a, as most recently amended, I certify that Linda Fredette

was ☐ **APPOINTED** ☒ **ELECTED**

to the office of

☒ **TOWN CLERK**
☐ **ASSISTANT TOWN CLERK**
☐ **TEMPORARY TOWN CLERK**

for the ☐ City ☒ Town of Fairhaven effective April 5, 2022 for the term of office expiring on April 7, 2025 and that the said clerk has qualified by taking the oath of office.

Signature Printed Name
☐ President of the City Council
☐ Chairman, Select Board
☐ Appointing Officer

April 5, 2022

I hereby certify that I have entered upon the duties of:

☒ **TOWN CLERK**
☐ **ASSISTANT TOWN CLERK**
☐ **TEMPORARY TOWN CLERK**

for ☐ City ☒ Town of Fairhaven.

Linda Fredette
My official signature

Return completed form to:

Secretary of the Commonwealth
Commissions Section/Room 1719
One Ashburton Place
Boston, MA 02108

Attachment D

About the Municipal Fiber Grant Program

This new competitive grant program will assist municipalities across the Commonwealth with the construction/completion of a municipal fiber network.

What is the Municipal Fiber Grant Program?

The Municipal Fiber Grant program is a competitive grant program that supports the closing of critical gaps that exist in municipal networks. Focused on connecting municipality-owned facilities, it will assist municipalities in achieving many critical goals associated with municipal fiber networks, including the following:

- Growing risk and incidences of cyber security exploits in local government
- Significant increases in the complexity and expectations of IT infrastructure in local government
- Expectation that municipal employees should be able to collaborate regardless of physical location
- Growing need for internet bandwidth, particularly as line of business technology moves to the cloud
- Growing public expectation that online transactions are made available
- Growing need for centralized and proactive management of IT infrastructure
- Increased reliance on technology for school safety and a growing need for centralized security camera management
- Growing reliance on technology to ensure continuity of government and disaster recovery

- Growing technology dependency for public safety interoperability, radio backhaul, and emergency operations center

The provision of fiber in communities allows for centralized management of IT infrastructure, including an enterprise approach to network monitoring, cyber security, records management, and backup and recovery. A cohesive municipal network also creates opportunities to gain economies of scale by aggregating internet bandwidth purchases and the associated security infrastructure.

All municipalities are eligible.

RELATED

Municipal Fiber Grant Program (/municipal-fiber-grant-program)

Municipal Fiber Grant Program FAQ (/info-details/municipal-fiber-grant-program-faq)

Apply for a Municipal Fiber Grant (/how-to/apply-for-a-municipal-fiber-grant)

Municipal Fiber Grant Program FAQ

Answers to your frequently asked questions about the Municipal Fiber Grant Program.

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What if my Community Compact already includes an IT best practice with tech assistance or a grant? (#what-if-my-community-compact-already-includes-an-it-best-practice-with-tech-assistance-or-a-grant?-)

What if my Community Compact didn't include a technology best practice? (#what-if-my-community-compact-didn't-include-a-technology-best-practice?-)

What kind of projects are eligible? (#what-kind-of-projects-are-eligible?-)

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What size grants will be awarded? (#what-size-grants-will-be-awarded?-)

Can communities have a joint application to the Community Compact Municipal Fiber Grant Program? (#can-communities-have-a-joint-application-to-the-community-compact-municipal-fiber-grant-program?-)

How do I access the application? (#how-do-i-access-the-application?-)

Where do I get my passcode to access the online application? (#where-do-i-get-my-passcode-to-access-the-online-application?-)

Show More

()

What is the deadline to apply for the Municipal Fiber Grant Program?

The application period runs from March 15, 2022 through noon on April 15, 2022. Projects awarded grants must be completed within 18 months of the grant being awarded.

What is a Compact Community?

Compact Communities are communities who have applied to enter into a Best Practice Community Compact with the Baker-Polito Administration. To find out more information about the Community Compact program please visit www.mass.gov/ccc (/ccc).

What if my Community Compact already includes an IT best practice with tech assistance or a grant?

You are still eligible to apply for this Municipal Fiber Grant program.

What if my Community Compact didn't include a technology best practice?

As a Compact Community, you are still eligible to apply for this Municipal Fiber Grant program.

What kind of projects are eligible?

Grants will support the implementation of fiber optic networks that connect remote municipal assets for the purpose of improving municipal operations and/or improving disaster recovery and resiliency within municipal government. Eligible costs include one-time capital needs, such as fiber optic cabling, hardware, software and implementation services necessary to support the initial implementation.

What kind of costs are NOT eligible?

Internal building networking to support end-devices is not eligible. Ongoing maintenance, operations and support are not eligible. Feasibility studies are not eligible. Software-as-a-Service and cloud subscriptions costs are not eligible.

What size grants will be awarded?

This is a competitive grant program. Grant requests of any size up to $250,000 will be considered. However, if the application is for a multi-jurisdictional project (see below), grants of up to a maximum of $500,000 may be awarded. A local match of 5% is required. In-kind services can serve as the match.

Applications will be evaluated based in large part on the impact of the proposed project on the community. For example, a small community's low-dollar funding request may support a project that would have a big impact on that community.

Applicants are encouraged to apply for the amount needed for their program and at a level of support that can be successfully implemented by the project completion deadline.

Can communities have a joint application to the Community Compact Municipal Fiber Grant Program?

Yes. The participating communities should complete a joint application. The application should be submitted by the community that will be the project lead.

How do I access the application?

The application will be found **here** (https://massgov.formstack.com/forms/fy22_municipal_fiber) on March 15, 2022. In order to fill out the application, you will need the passcode that was included in the letter from Lt. Governor Polito emailed on August 9, 2021 to your community's Chief Municipal Executive (Mayor or City Manager in a City, Selectboard Chair or Town Manager/Administrator in a Town).

Where do I get my passcode to access the online application?

In order to fill out the application, you will need the passcode that was included in the letter from Lt. Governor Polito emailed on August 9, 2021 to your community's Chief Municipal Executive (Mayor or City Manager in a City, Selectboard Chair or Town Manager/Administrator in a Town).

If you have questions not answered above or need assistance with your community's passcode, please contact the Division of Local Services by sending an email to Frank Gervasio at **gervasiof@dor.state.ma.us** (mailto:gervasiof@dor.state.ma.us).

Contact

Community Compact / Division of Local Services

Phone

Call Frank Gervasio: (617) 626-2345 (tel:+16176262345)

Online

Email Frank Gervasio: **gervasiof@dor.state.ma.us** (mailto:gervasiof@dor.state.ma.us)

RELATED

Best Practices Program (/best-practices-program)

Municipal Fiber Grant Program (/municipal-fiber-grant-program)

About the Municipal Fiber Grant Program (/info-details/about-the-municipal-fiber-grant-program)

Apply for a Municipal Fiber Grant (/how-to/apply-for-a-municipal-fiber-grant)

FY2022 Municipal Fiber Grant Program

The text below in black is from the Community Compact Cabinet Municipal Fiber Grant Program application form.

The Text in blue and the budget table are Bob Espindola's suggestions for how the Town should complete the form and apply for the Grant.

Budget numbers and timeline need to be confirmed by the Towns Broadband Consultant, Entry Point, LLC, and, if the Select Board approves moving forward with this application, all that detail will be included in the final draft. In any case, the total contribution from the Town will not be exceeded.

The Municipal Fiber Grant Program is a competitive, matching grant program created to assist municipalities with the construction of municipal fiber broadband infrastructure and related projects and expenditures.

Grant requests of any size **up to $250,000** will be considered. However, if the application is for a multi-jurisdictional project (see below), grants of up to a **maximum of $500,000** may be awarded.

All applications must be received by April 15, 2022 **at 12:00pm**.

Purpose - describe the proposed project, including purpose of the grant request, the capital asset needed, project objectives, and the challenges this project would address:

This project will build off the Municipal Fiber Loop that the Town already invested in. When the Town invested in the Municipal Fiber loop, the primary objective was to serve all municipal buildings with high speed, reliable broadband. The Town has since conducted a feasibility study regarding utilizing that backbone, that runs throughout the Town, to build a "Fiber to the Home" (FTTH) network that will connect residential and commercial subscribers, through an open access platform. This project will allow

subscribers to access a competitive market for Internet Service Providers ISP's with a goal for lower costs to the subscriber.

As part of that over-arching goal, the Town has a goal to target the "Digital Divide" within our own community and we would like to start by targeting one or more of our Fairhaven Housing Authority (FHA) properties. We know that there are significant number of tenants in FHA properties that are not currently able to access the internet because they are facing a combination of economic and technological reasons.

This project would locate a "Fiber Hut" on Fairhaven Housing Authority property and this hut will serve as the point of interconnection between the existing municipal fiber loop in the Town and the Fairhaven Housing Authority property. Internal switching within the fiber hut will allow for two types of service in the apartment complex. The project limits will be, on one end, the municipal fiber loop, and on the other end, the exterior of the FHA building. From that termination point, and with a combination of matching funds and/or in kind donations, the FHA will be responsible for wiring the internal network that will allow for the following;

1) WIFI access for common areas of the building at little or no cost to tenants
2) Connections to apartments where subscribers will be able to choose an ISP from a competitive market place at a substantially reduced rate compared to what is commercially available to them at this time.

Outreach, education problem solving will be critical components of this project. Outreach will be used, early on, to determine how many people are being underserved in the complex and the level of interest from residents in obtaining broadband service. The FHA is prepared to engage residents using the attached survey for this purpose.

Education will be required to explain to the underserved population, many of whom may not find it second nature to deal with technology. They will learn how Broadband can provide "over-the-top" programming, via the internet, and will allow them to video conference with their families, etc.

Problem Solving will come in the form of helping this population understand what type of equipment is required to be able to connect to the broadband network.

FY2022 Municipal Fiber Grant Program

The Town of Fairhaven plans to apply for grant funds available from the Massachusetts Broadband Institute (MBI) for the purpose of funding the Outreach, Education and Problem Solving components of the project.

The goal of this project is to address those needs by establishing a publicly owned core network for an open access fiber optic system, establishing a services marketplace, and connecting between 50 and 100 underserved tenants in one or more FHA properties. This pilot, once complete, will provide the FHA with a clear understanding of the costs and benefits of expanding this service to all their facilities.:

1 – Creation of an online signup portal to begin data collection to determine areas for pilot installations.

2 – Installation of open access hardware/software necessary to support automated marketplace for the initial service providers and subscribers ($33K – 90 days)

3 – Installation of the initial fiber access locations along the backbone ($110K, 120 days)

4 – Installation of network switch equipment to include provider edge, core, access top of rack, and access network equipment and out of band management ($55K – 30 days)

5 – Installation/construction of fiber to FHA Interface Point(s), $30K, 30 days.

Please describe the project purpose here, even if you are attaching supporting documentation

What is the primary impact of this project?*

There is a very significant impact to both internal operations and interactions with the public. This project will open up a new world for the underserved population.

There is a very significant impact to both internal operations and interaction with the public

FY2022 Municipal Fiber Grant Program

Benefits - identify project benefits including efficiencies, cost savings, enhanced service levels, and/or improved public access to local government services:

This project will have result in greatly enhanced internet service access, including services provided by local government, such as the library, Counsel on Aging on line programs, Public, Education and Government Access programming, etc.

How will the community sustain this investment?* Ongoing Maintenance and support costs have been identified and are included in our operating budget following initial implementation. (This answer is from the drop down menu).

Other

Sustainability - in more detail, please identify any new costs that will be incurred and how the costs will be paid for or offset, including ongoing operational costs. Describe how this new initiative will be financially viable for the long-term once established:

Once the system is installed, WIFI in common areas will continue to be provided at no cost to the tenants, via the Towns current ISP. The FHA will enter into a maintenance and repair service contract with a third party, in the same way the Town has entered into such an agreement with a third party for maintenance and repair of the existing Municipal Fiber Loop and those costs will be rolled into the operating budget for the Housing Authority.

Measures of Success - what defines success for this project? Describe how the success of the project will be evaluated. Include expected measurable improvements in service delivery or efficiency:

The measure of success for this project will be a marked increase in the number of people who are able to gain access to the internet.

FY2022 Municipal Fiber Grant Program

We look forward, also, to finding out if people will be more ouPeople who are more connected and less isolated may

Project Budget - provide a realistic project budget estimate. Include breakdown of amount requested by activity/task:

Estimated Project Costs		
Open Access Hardware / Software	$	32,000
Fiber Access Locations	$	220,000
Network switch equipment	$	55,000
Fiber between Access locations and to FHA Interface	$	30,000
Outreach, Education and Problem Solvling	$	30,000
Total Estimated Project Costs	$	367,000

Financing Plan				
Funding from CCC Municipal Fiber Grant Program	$	250,000		
Funding request from Mass. Broadband Institute	$	50,000		
Funding from Town ARPA Allocation	$	37,500	15%	Match (minim 10% required)
Funding from In Kind donations and/or FHA resourc	$	29,500		
Total Estimated Project Funds	$	367,000		

Project Timeline - provide a timeline for the proposed project

Preliminary engineering has been completed which means that procurement could take place within a short period time after funds are secured. The fiber hut delivery time is currently approximately 8-10 weeks. Once financing is secured, Engineering, Procurement and Construction are estimated to take 12-14 weeks.

Please enter any additional comments you have about your application:

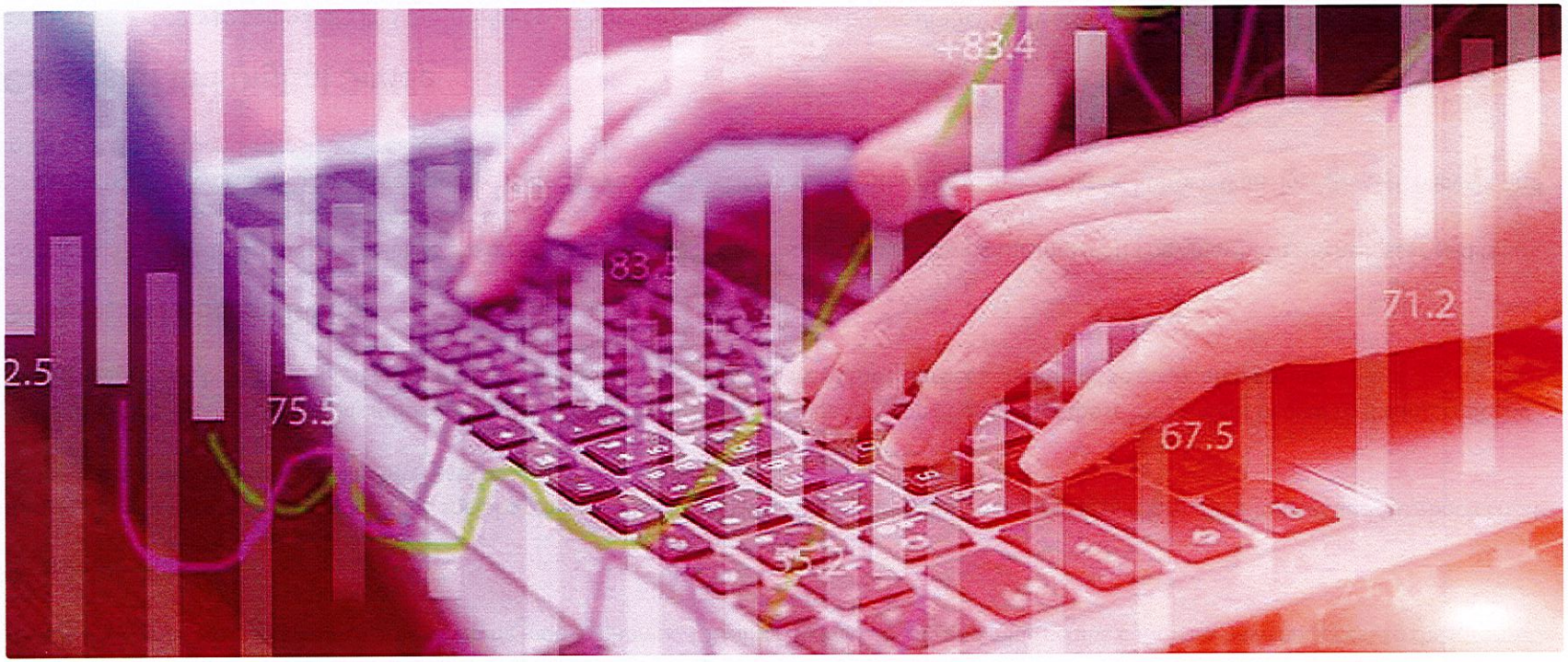
The Grant –Application allows for attached files. I would recommend the following and will work on this if the Board approves moving forward with this Grant Application:

FY2022 Municipal Fiber Grant Program

1) Power Point Presentation, illustrating what the Fiber huts look like, where they are proposed to be located relative to the FHA properties, and detailing the project scope, project costs, project funding sources, project timeline, etc. Some of this will be redundant with fields in the standard form but the presentation should provide a more appealing, easier to read overview of the project costs and benefits.

2) Example of design work completed already.

3) Broadband Feasibility Study for context regarding broadband potential in Fairhaven overall.



What is the Digital Divide?

Feb 22, 2019 | Posted by Carmen Steele | Uncategorized

The digital divide is the gap that exists between individuals who have access to modern information and communication technology and those who lack access. There are **three key stages that influence digital inequality worldwide**.

Digital inequality is evident between communities living in urban areas and those living in rural settlements; between socioeconomic groups; between less economically developed countries and more economically developed countries; between the educated and uneducated population.

Individuals with access to a broadband connection can be digitally split. How? Low-performance computers, limited broadband speeds and limited access to subscription-based content widen the gap.

3 Types of Digital Divide

There are numerous types of the digital divide that influence our efforts in accessing the internet. Some of the vivid gaps in digital inequality include:

1. Gender Divide

According to a 2013 report, the internet gender gap is striking especially in developing countries. Though mobile connectivity is spreading drastically, it is not spreading equally. Women are still lagging.

Men in low-income countries are 90% more likely to own a mobile phone than women. This translates to 184 million women who lack access to mobile connectivity. Even among women owning mobile phones, 1.2 billion women in low and mid-income countries have no access to the internet.

2. Social Divide

Internet access creates relationships and social circles among people with shared interests. Social media platforms like Twitter and Facebook create online peer groups based on similar interests.

More than ever internet usage has influenced social stratification which is evident in societies among those that are connected to the internet and those that are not. Non-connected groups are sidelined since they don't share in the internet benefits of the connected groups.

3. Universal Access Divide

Individuals living with physical disabilities are often disadvantaged when it comes to accessing the internet. They may have the necessary skills but cannot exploit the available hardware and software.
Some parts of the world will remain segregated from the internet and its vast potential due to lack of digital literacy skills, low education levels, and inadequate broadband infrastructure.

Causes of the Digital Divide

Even though access to computers and the internet continues to grow, the digital divide dramatically also continues to persist at an alarming rate due to the following:

Education

Education is a significant investment in healing the digital divide. Low literacy levels are widening the digital inequality gap. College degree holders are perceived to be 10X more likely to tap into the full potential of the internet and computers in their day to day lives compared to individuals with

high school education or lower.

Income Levels

The income gap plays a considerable role in magnifying the digital divide. High-income earners ($75,000) are 20X more likely to access the internet than low-income earners ($30,000).
Wealthy families are 10X more likely to own computers and at home high-speed internet connection than low-income families. For low-income population money is scarce. Their earnings are channeled towards basic needs. They view technology as a luxury.

Geographical Restrictions

More economically developed countries have access to a wide variety of technology and high-speed broadband connection because of the richness of their economies. Less economically developed countries lack the necessary technology and infrastructure to set up a high-speed internet connection.

In-country geographical restrictions also widen the digital divide. Urban regions are more likely to have access to 4G or fiber optic internet than rural or mountainous zones.

Motivation and General Interest

There is a portion of the global population that has the necessary income; education and computer literacy but have zero interest to learn about computers and the potential of the internet. Some view it as a luxury. Another group finds it too complicated to comprehend.

Digital Literacy

Developed nations have more comprehensive access to computers among other devices and high-speed internet connection. Students who attend schools with sufficient computers and learn the necessary digital skills have an upper advantage over students who are not exposed to these technologies at an early age.
The lack of physical access to technology especially in developing countries widens the gap between the information rich and information poor.

Impact of the Digital Divide

Digital inequality has created significant distinctions among societies worldwide. Some of the most vivid outcomes generated by the digital divide include:

Impact of Digital Divide on the Economy

Telecommunication services boost economic growth. Broad use of the internet enables an economically productive nation. People can engage in online shopping eliminating the hustle of commuter traffic. Paperless transactions are a convenient approach to creating economic empowerment.

The economic gap widens especially with developing countries which lack adequate ICT integration.

Impact of Digital Divide on Education

The internet is a rich library of information. More than ever there are numerous educational platforms where you can learn advanced skills. Access to ICT has been linked to academic success and excellent scientific research. Education empowers the mind. It is crucial to keep up with this dynamic sector for remarkable success to an individual and society.

Impact of Digital Divide on Social Spheres

Internet access drives communication. Social media platforms such as Facebook create engagement, build relationships, and connect us to family and friends. We can access information faster than relying on traditional newspapers.

Art and music have been dramatically revolutionized by technology. These are benefits that internet deprived societies lack. Elimination of the digital divide is essential to empower developing countries.

Impact of Digital Divide on Society

The digital divide has contributed to the segregation of individuals in the society including ethnicity, age, race, and gender. Technology creates new alignments among individuals with access to the internet and those without access. Those with limited access continue to lag hindering their growth and development.

Digital Divide in Education

The technology divide between students and schools is alarming. The following four categories provide insight into setbacks in our education sector that magnify the digital inequality gap even further.

Schools that the necessary technology but lack internet access

According to education superhighway, 17.6 million students require the minimum bandwidth to sustain digital learning. T**he FCC E-rate program** is helping schools to purchase affordable broadband connection and ensure schools are connected to the web.

This is made possible by providing 100 kbps to each student, Wi-Fi connected classrooms, fiber connections, and subsidized data plan packages. Schools in rural areas lack the pre-existing infrastructure because of low return on investments given the small customer base and the difficulty in installing fiber optic cables.

Lack of up to date devices

According to the U.S Department of labor, 77% of all U.S. jobs will require an individual to have computer skills by 2020. How can we better prepare the students for the future if they lack access to modern technology?

Students need modern devices such as chrome books, laptops, and tablets for advanced learning at-risk students who lack the necessary technology lag in their studies and suffer from poor grades.

Teachers lack technology-based skills

Sufficient technology and the high-speed broadband connection is not enough to bridge the digital divide in Education. Many teachers who lack training in using these devices cannot facilitate active digital learning for students.
According to Samsung Electronics Africa, 60% of teachers feel they are ill prepared to use and teach about technology to their students. For engaging, relevant and focused learning we need to invest in the professional training of our teachers.

Varying teaching styles and levels of engagement

Affluent schools combine classroom learning with real-life problem solving by integrating modern technology in their curriculum. Students are tutored on conducting online research, video creation and using tools such as Google Docs.

Students in poor schools use computers for presentations of the existing material, and there is no in-depth learning of technology. Affluent schools, on the other hand, encourage students to conduct online research and perform statistical analyses.

The digital divide in the U.S:

A quarter of the U.S population is starved of broadband connection. Most people cannot afford the expensive monthly data plan charges. A meager 56% of households in the U.S earning less than $35,000 per year have home internet connection compared to 92% of households earning $75,000 or more per year. This technology divide hurts students.

They lag behind their studies and cannot compete effectively with their peers. They miss out on improving their economic situation and repeat the poverty cycle.

Although Low-cost computers and Chromebook laptops have replaced textbooks in most schools, learning hits a dead end when students head home to no internet access. America loses over $130 million each day to the digital divide when a person does not connect to the internet according to Deloitte.

In Connoton Valley, most households access the web using a Satellite dish which is expensive and connects to the internet at snail-speed. Most of the disconnected residents lack the necessary digital literacy skills.

According to the FCC, 24.7 million U.S citizens lack broadband connection, especially in rural areas. In Ferry County, 2% of the population access broadband connection according to Microsoft. There are critical steps if properly implemented will aid in **closing America's digital divide**.

Digital Divide Projects

Various projects are being implemented to build on the knowledge gap and bridge the digital divide gap among societies. They include:

Wi-Fi Partnerships

Wi-Fi partnerships aim to bridge the internet usage gap. For example the Clark County school district partners with the Las Vegas chamber of commerce to create free quality Wi-Fi directory for students. Students can now access Wi-Fi away from school. Learning takes place anywhere, anytime.

Internet.org by Facebook

Internet.org is the brainchild of Facebook to provide a solution to access free material on the internet. Through their app, people can access web pages on health, local information and job opportunities. This initiative is currently thriving in Africa, Asia, and Latin America.

Linux4Africa

Linux4Africa works to bridge the digital divide between developed and developing nations with a focus on Africa. This is by ensuring access to information technology. Linux4Africa collects used and discarded computers in Germany, Ubuntu software and Terminal Server Project which is open sourced and supports schools and essential institutions such as hospitals with the necessary facilities.

One Laptop per Child Project (OLPC)

OLPC was introduced in Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in 2005 and rolled out as a nationwide policy in 2007. The aim was to fund every public school student from grade 1-6 with a laptop or "green machine" operating on Linux based OS.

By 2010 this project was extended to high school students and has dramatically reduced lack of access to learning material by students. Tremendous progress has been made by countries implementing **strategies to ensure equal digital access** across societies.

Bottom line

Our lives rotate around digital platforms. We live, learn, work and play technology. A computer-savvy workforce is crucial for the achievement of a country's economic and development blueprint.

Share 398

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Gmail

Bob Espindola <selectmanbobespindola@gmail.com>

RE: CCC Municipal Fiber Grant program - Eligibility question - Housing Authority **EXTERNAL EMAIL**

1 message

Gervasio, Frank H. (DOR) <gervasiof@dor.state.ma.us> Thu, Apr 7, 2022 at 4:12 PM
To: Krisanne <krisannemsheedy@comcast.net>, Bob Espindola <selectmanbobespindola@gmail.com>
Cc: Sean Poweres <seanmpowers@yahoo.com>, Sean Daly <seanxdaly@gmail.com>, Jeff Christensen <jchristensen@entpnt.com>, Bruce Patterson <bpatterson@entpnt.com>, Devin Cox <dcox@entpnt.com>

Good afternoon Krisanne,

Thank you for this clarification. After additional discussion, this project would be eligible. Please let me know if you need any additional information.

Thank you!

Frank

From: Krisanne <krisannemsheedy@comcast.net>
Sent: Thursday, April 7, 2022 11:54 AM
To: Gervasio, Frank H. (DOR) <gervasiof@dor.state.ma.us>; 'Bob Espindola' <selectmanbobespindola@gmail.com>
Cc: 'Sean Poweres' <seanmpowers@yahoo.com>; 'Sean Daly' <seanxdaly@gmail.com>; 'Jeff Christensen' <jchristensen@entpnt.com>; 'Bruce Patterson' <bpatterson@entpnt.com>; 'Devin Cox' <dcox@entpnt.com>
Subject: RE: CCC Municipal Fiber Grant program - Eligibility question - Housing Authority **EXTERNAL EMAIL**

This Message Is From an External Sender

This message came from outside your organization.

Hi,

I will just offer a little extra detail.

The Housing Authority is not a technical State agency, we are regulated by the State.

Our Authority is not "subsidized" by the State for regular operating costs, we do receive some funding for major modernization work.

The actual definition of a Housing Authority is a Municipal Corporation.

Not sure if that changes anything but I thought I would elaborate.

Thank you,

Kris Sheedy

Krisanne Sheedy, PHM, MPHA, MCPPO

Executive Director

Fairhaven Housing Authority

275 Main St.

Fairhaven, MA 02719

508-993-1144

FAX 508-717-0623

From: Gervasio, Frank H. (DOR) [mailto:gervasiof@dor.state.ma.us]
Sent: Thursday, April 7, 2022 11:47 AM
To: 'Bob Espindola' <selectmanbobespindola@gmail.com>; Krisanne Sheedy <krisannemsheedy@comcast.net>
Cc: Sean Poweres <seanmpowers@yahoo.com>; Sean Daly <seanxdaly@gmail.com>; Jeff Christensen <jchristensen@entpnt.com>; Bruce Patterson <bpatterson@entpnt.com>; Devin Cox <dcox@entpnt.com>
Subject: RE: CCC Municipal Fiber Grant program - Eligibility question - Housing Authority **EXTERNAL EMAIL**

Good morning Bob,

I hope this message finds you well. As these are not municipally owned assets, the project would not be eligible. Please let me know if you need any additional information or if you would like to discuss further.

Thank you!

Frank

From: Bob Espindola <selectmanbobespindola@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 7, 2022 11:32 AM
To: Gervasio, Frank H. (DOR) <gervasiof@dor.state.ma.us>; Krisanne Sheedy <krisannemsheedy@comcast.net>
Cc: Sean Poweres <seanmpowers@yahoo.com>; Sean Daly <seanxdaly@gmail.com>; Jeff Christensen <jchristensen@entpnt.com>; Bruce Patterson <bpatterson@entpnt.com>; Devin Cox <dcox@entpnt.com>
Subject: CCC Municipal Fiber Grant program - Eligibility question - Housing Authority **EXTERNAL EMAIL**

This Message Is From an External Sender

This message came from outside your organization.

Mr. Gervasio,

I am working on a grant application for the Municipal Fiber Grant program in the Community Compact Cabinet program for the Town of Fairhaven and have an eligibility question.

Fairhaven already invested in a municipal fiber loop that serves most of our major facilities, so it appears we would not be eligible for the primary target area of the grant.

We would be interested in providing connectivity, however, to an underserved population in our Fairhaven Housing Authority Apartments, in the form of a Pilot program that would tap into our existing municipal fiber loop.

The Fairhaven Housing Authority is Funded by the State so, I am not sure it would be considered a "Municipal Building" from an eligibility standpoint.

http://fairhavenhousing.org/default.aspx

In an effort not to burden anyone on our end putting together an application that would be rejected on that basis and on your end having to review one that would not be eligible, I am wondering if you can tell me weather this unique application would actually be eligible in advance of pulling our application together and gaining approval from our Select Board at next Monday nights meeting prior to submitting.

Thank you.

Bob

CAUTION: This is an EXTERNAL email. Do not open attachments or click on links unless you have confirmed the identity of the sender.

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OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
STATE HOUSE • BOSTON, MA 02133
(617) 725-4000

CHARLES D. BAKER
GOVERNOR

KARYN E. POLITO
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

August 9, 2021

Dear Municipal Executive:

The Baker-Polito Administration is pleased to announce that the seventh year of the **Community Compact Cabinet (CCC) program is set to begin on August 15**. Our Administration thanks our partners in the Legislature for providing funding for the CCC programs. In FY22, we will offer the following programs, the last of which is new:

- **Best Practices**
- **IT Grant**
- **Efficiency & Regionalization (E&R)**
- **Municipal Fiber** (new in FY22)

Detailed information on each of these CCC programs is provided below.

Fostering a strong partnership with our municipalities continues to be a top priority for the Baker-Polito Administration, and **the Community Compact Cabinet is a prime example of how the state remains responsive to the needs of municipalities**. Together we have worked collaboratively to address many municipal issues and, as Chair of the Cabinet, I thank all of you for your efforts on behalf of your communities and the Commonwealth as a whole.

The first six years of the program have been incredibly successful, with all 351 cities and towns signing up for the Best Practices program, close to 230 municipalities and school districts partnering in Efficiency and Regionalization projects, and nearly 300 IT grants awarded.

Fiscal Year 2022 CCC Municipal Grant Programs

Best Practices Program

Beginning **August 15**, applications for Year 7 of the CCC Best Practices program can be submitted by those municipalities *who did not apply in FY21 for a Compact,* at www.mass.gov/ccc. **Applications are accepted on a rolling basis** and will be reviewed within one month of submission. Eligible applicants can choose up to two best practices. The complete set of best practices is available on the Community Compact Cabinet website.

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

You may access the application page, however, to begin the application you will need a password. The password for your community is NcjGm4A51Z7w. Applications cannot be saved once they are started and should be completed all at once. Your community can only submit one application in FY22.

IT Grant Program

The Community Compact IT Grant Program is a competitive grant program focused on driving innovation and transformation at the local level via investments in technology. Using the transformative powers of IT, we can drive innovation, make government more efficient, save taxpayer money, and make it easier for residents to interact and transact with their local government.

The application period will run from **September 15, 2021 to noon on October 1, 2021.** *Cities and towns that were awarded an IT Grant Program grant in FY21 will not be eligible in FY22.* You may access the application page, however, to begin the application you will need a password. The password for your community is t9Hr3kzYi8kt. Applications cannot be saved once they are started and should be completed all at once.

Efficiency and Regionalization Grant Program

The purpose of the Efficiency and Regionalization (E&R) competitive grant program is to provide financial support for governmental entities interested in implementing regionalization and other efficiency initiatives that allow for long-term sustainability. These grants will provide funds for one-time or transition costs for municipalities, regional school districts, school districts considering forming a regional school district or regionalizing services, regional planning agencies and councils of governments interested in such projects.

The application period will run from **January 10, 2022 to noon on February 10, 2022**. You may access the application page, however, to begin the application you will need a password. The password for your community is NTdf9TTYW16n. Applications cannot be saved once they are started and should be completed all at once.

Municipal Fiber Grant Program

New to the CCC suite of programs in FY22 is the Municipal Fiber Grant program. Authorized as part of the General Government Bond Bill (Chapter 151 of the Acts of 2020) signed into law by the Governor in August 2020, this competitive, matching grant program was created to assist municipalities with the construction of municipal fiber broadband infrastructure and related projects and expenditures.

The application period will run from **March 15, 2022 to noon on April 15, 2022**. You may access the application page, however, to begin the application you will need a password. The password for your community is YFW7d7zmaoh5. Applications cannot be saved once they are started and should be completed all at once.

As a reminder, additional tools such as the Community Compact Connector and Municipal Grants Calendar are available to help position your community for long term success. The Connector offers a centralized location to identify municipal grants, access the Municipal

Grants Calendar, and other resources which support strong municipal governance and state and local collaboration.

It is exciting to have the Community Compact Cabinet programs available again for our partners in local government. As Chair of the Community Compact Cabinet, I look forward to working with you in the near future. If you have any questions, contact Sean Cronin, Senior Deputy Commissioner of Local Services, at croninse@dor.state.ma.us.

Sincerely,

Karyn E. Polito
Lieutenant Governor

Internet Access at Fairhaven Housing Authority

LET'S CONNECT!

Fairhaven Housing Authority has been identified as a possible location where increased Internet access could help residents be in touch with family, access health resources, and register for other services available online.

The Authority and the Town of Fairhaven would like to hear from you on how having low or no cost internet access in the building would benefit you. In order to bring this project to possibly all of the properties within the Housing Authority portfolio your input is needed.

Please complete the following survey (on the back of this flyer) to be entered into a drawing for a **$50 Visa gift card.**

Surveys must be completed and returned to Kendra Rebello & Diane Rocha, RSC to the Main Office @ 275 Main St. Fairhaven to be entered.
A mailbox will be posted outside the office for easy drop off.

Surveys are due by Friday April 28th The winner will be announced by a post on the Building Bulletin Boards & in the May newsletter **Monday, May 2nd.**

Thank you for being a part of this project!

Town Seal here

Fairhaven Housing Authority

Name: _____ **Apt #:** _____

Do you currently have internet access in your apartment?
☐ Yes ☐No

If No, why not?
☐ I don't need it
☐ It's too expensive
☐ I don't know how to subscribe
☐ I don't know how to use the internet
☐ I don't have a device to use the internet on
☐ I'm concerned about privacy
☐ Language barrier
☐ Other: _____

If Yes:
What device do you use?
☐ Phone ☐Computer ☐Tablet (Ipad)
Do you pay for the connection? ☐ Yes ☐No
Is it expensive? ☐Yes ☐No
What do you use it for?
☐ Pay bills
☐ Talk to friends/family
☐ Shop
☐ Doctor visits or other health information
☐ Register/manage other resources (SNAP, Social Security, other benefits)
☐ Other:_____

If Fairhaven Housing had free internet access, would you use it?
☐ Yes ☐No
What supports could be provided to help you get online?
_____

Do you have issues or concerns about a public WIFI network being installed in Fairhaven Housing lobbies and hallways?
☐ Yes Why?_____
☐ No

Should there be access in the apartments, or just the lobby ?
☐ Apartments ☐ Lobby ☐Apartments & Lobby