

The background of the image is a photograph of the Town of Weymouth Town Hall, a large, multi-story brick building with a prominent clock tower. The building is set against a light sky with some bare trees in the foreground. The entire image is framed within a blue oval border.

**Town of Weymouth
2024 Town Meeting**

**Mayor Robert L. Hedlund
Ted Langill, Chief of Staff
May 20, 2024**



PROJECT UPDATES

Beals Park Improvements

Complete makeover includes walking paths, pickleball court, basketball court, skate park, sledding hill, playground, and gazebo

\$3.8 million project cost – funded with the Town’s Community Preservation Fund

Expected to be completed by the end of June 2024





PROJECT UPDATES

Columbian Square Improvements

Improve the safety of pedestrians and vehicular traffic; as well as to create a vibrant, walkable atmosphere within the historic village center.

Signalization, adjusted traffic flow, utility improvements, new sidewalks, more pedestrian friendly, improved aesthetics. Challenge with design while limiting reduction in parking for businesses.

\$10.5 million – ARPA funding

Expected Completion: September, 2024





PROJECT UPDATES

Columbian and Forest Streets Intersection Signalization and safety improvements

\$1.9 million construction cost – Applying for grant

Design work almost complete - \$275,000 from Housing Choice Grant

Final design expected in September 2024

Construction anticipated to be completed in September 2025





PROJECT UPDATES

Wessagusset Walk and Coastal Protection Project

Construct an approximately 1,000-ft stone revetment between Wessagusset Beach and George Lane Beach to reduce the risk of landslides due to coastal erosion. Reconstruction of a beach access stairway; ADA compliant improvements to the parking area; removal of debris from beach and approximately 1,000-cubic yards of beach nourishment. Areas of the coastal bank would be replanted with native vegetation following construction as part of ecological restoration efforts.

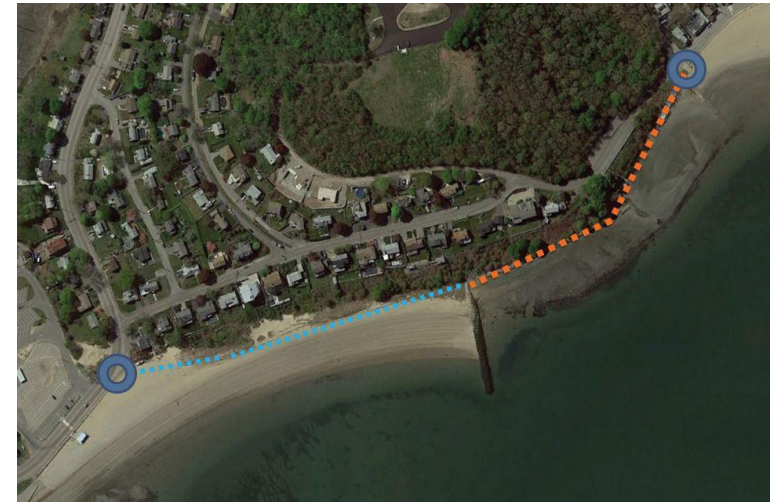
Estimated \$7.2 million Project Cost

\$4.9 million Congressional Award (Congressman Lynch)

\$1.0 million Seaport Economic Council Award

Bid Openings on May 31, 2024

Estimated Completion Date of June/July 2025





PROJECT UPDATES

Lower Central Interceptor (LCI) Sewer Improvements Tide Mill Brook, Idlewell

Addressing surcharges and overflows in the wetlands due to aging infrastructure and deteriorating manholes. Project will also help eliminate inflow & infiltration into the system.

\$8 million – potentially in two phases

First Phase - design complete; awaiting ACE permit; out to bid late summer

Second Phase – jacking under rail tracks – permit request to MBTA in July

Two Year Project



MWRA WATER – WHY NOW

Forward Thinking – Securing Weymouth’s Future – Widespread Positive Impacts

- Clean Water – Award Winning – No PFAS concerns
- A Water Supply that can Sustain Record Drought
- Environmental Benefits
 - Herring Run protection and possible expansion.
 - Decrease in evasive species.
 - Natural resource (rivers, ponds, etc.) recovery with restoration of water tables.
- Protecting Weymouth from the Unexpected – Water Use Spiked during Pandemic
- A long-sought permanent water supply for continued development of Southfield
- **We will NEVER have a more favorable time to solve Weymouth’s future water need**
 - **MWRA Entry Fee Waived - \$39 million savings**
 - **Speaker Mariano Support – Assistance in Upcoming Housing Bond Bill**
 - **FY25 Proposed Budget Increases – Weymouth Water – 5.9% / MWRA – 2.9%**



MWRA ADMISSION PROCESS STATUS

MEPA Process begins with April/May 2024 submittal of Environmental Notification Form

Major Milestones:

COMPLETED

Water and Wastewater Analysis Report – Jan.-Nov. 2022

MWRA Expansion Study at request of Speaker Mariano – Oct. 2022

Town Council Approval of Town’s Application

CURRENTLY

MWRA Entrance Application and MEPA filing – ahead of original schedule

EENF Published in Environmental Monitor – ahead of original schedule

WORKING TOWARD

Current Focus - Identifying Best Route (Decision in 2024)

MEPA Certificate Issued for EENF

MEPA Certificate Issued for SEIR

Final Design, Permitting and IMAs Complete

SEIR Published in Environmental Monitor

Interbasin Transfer Act Approval by WRC

Construction Complete



STRONG FISCAL RECORD

8 years putting Weymouth in a Strong Fiscal Position

- Realistic budgets based on conservative forecasting
- Averaging \$8.9 million in Free Cash (operating surplus) since FY16
- Limiting one-time revenue use toward recurring expenses
- Building Stabilization Fund from \$1.15 million to almost \$9.5 million
 - from less than 0.77% of Operating Budget to 4.66% of Operating Budget
- Strengthening Town's AA Bond Rating with lowest possible short-term rating
 - saving millions in interest cost
 - had record 15 bidders on last Weymouth bonds – earning a 3.25% result
- Aggressively Securing Grants
 - eases pressure on budget and leaves revenue for other priorities



FY25 BUDGET

FY25 Operating Budget **\$205,171,989**

FY25 Revenue Sources

Tax Levy	\$137,159,732	66.9%	of budgeted revenue
Local Receipts/Transfers	\$26,521,931	12.9%	of budgeted revenue
Cherry Sheet (State Aid)	\$41,490,326	20.2%	of budgeted revenue

Outside of Tax Levy

 FY25 Debt Exclusion **\$4,796,738**



Growing Reliance on Tax Levy

Revenue Sources as % of Total Revenue

	<u>FY17</u>	<u>FY25</u>
Tax Levy	62.6%	66.9%
Local Receipts/Transfers	13.5%	12.9%
Cherry Sheet (State Aid)	23.9%	20.2%



FY25 REVENUE COMPARISON

	<u>FY 2023</u>	<u>\$ Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>	<u>FY 2024</u>	<u>\$ Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>	<u>FY 2025</u>	<u>\$ Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>
BUDGETED REVENUE									
Tax Levy (RE/PP)	\$126,255,447	\$5,353,099	4.4%	\$131,565,506	\$5,310,059	4.2%	\$137,159,732	\$5,594,226	4.3%
Local Receipts/Transfers	\$23,460,781	\$536,100	2.3%	\$24,121,823	\$661,042	2.8%	\$26,521,931	\$2,400,108	9.9%
Cherry Sheet (State Aid)	\$40,590,432	\$840,591	2.1%	\$41,142,085	\$551,653	1.4%	\$41,490,326	\$348,241	0.8%
OPERATING REVENUE	\$190,306,660	\$6,729,790	3.7%	\$196,829,414	\$6,522,754	3.4%	\$205,171,989	\$8,342,575	4.2%
Includes Supp Budget									
Debt Exclusion Tax Levy	\$4,518,237	-\$959,663		\$4,540,602	\$22,365		\$4,796,738	\$256,136	
TOTAL REVENUE	\$194,824,897	\$5,770,127	3.1%	\$201,370,016	\$6,545,119	3.4%	\$209,968,727	\$8,598,711	4.3%



Reliance on Tax Levy/New Growth

Tax Levy Growth Since FY17 = \$39,903,787

Growth of 41%

Accounts for 80% of Revenue Growth

New Growth \$ Since FY17 = \$17,447,680 – an annual average of \$1.94 million

New Growth has been 41% of our Tax Levy Growth



Redevelopment = New Revenue = No Tax Overrides

<u>New Growth by Fiscal Year</u>			<u>Tax Levy</u>	<u>% Increase</u>	<u>Building Permit Revenue</u>
FY12	\$644,981		\$80,601,512	3.3%	\$620,140
FY13	\$707,282		\$83,323,832	3.4%	\$847,004
FY14	\$672,844		\$86,083,778	3.3%	\$774,724
FY15	\$750,314		\$88,986,186	3.4%	\$824,159
FY16	\$2,888,898	Original Southfield Development	\$94,099,739	5.7%	\$1,379,776
FY17	\$1,058,858		\$97,511,090	3.6%	\$3,420,083
FY18	\$2,100,568		\$102,157,306	4.8%	\$2,311,618
FY19	\$2,032,383		\$106,743,622	4.5%	\$2,312,540
FY20	\$2,025,052		\$111,575,293	4.5%	\$1,109,701
FY21	\$1,655,590		\$116,020,265	4.0%	\$1,756,354
FY22	\$2,151,749		\$121,256,006	4.5%	\$2,432,190
FY23	\$1,841,580		\$126,135,128	4.0%	\$3,873,541
FY24	\$2,216,900		\$131,505,406	4.3%	\$1,386,077
FY25	\$2,365,000	estimated	\$137,158,041	4.3%	

Without Redevelopment...

the Budget would be \$23 million (11%) lower from lack of building permit revenue and new growth



FY25 Budget – Expense Factors

PERSONNEL

2.35% non-union salary table increase

Funds all Collective Bargaining Agreements

– Fire and Police budgets reflect 2-year impacts of agreements

Final Fiscal Year of current CBAs

FY25 SEIU, Patrol Officers, DPW

FY26 Superior Officers, Library, Firefighters, Unit A Teachers

FY27 Police Telecommunicators



FY25 Budget Buster

Employee Healthcare Expense - GIC

Town pays 82.5% of employee's health insurance plan.

FY25 Employee Healthcare Budget is increasing by 11% or \$2,762,661 - previous largest increase was 6.4%

To put this in budget perspective, the average total new budget revenue the last 3 years is \$6.4 million ... this healthcare increase alone represents 43% of average new revenue.



FY25 Budget Challenge

Along with the \$2.76 million Employee Healthcare increase, the School request was \$4.87 million or 5.8%.

Those two budgets alone would equal \$7.63 million in new spending - almost \$1 million more than the most new revenue we've had in nine budgets.

Budget Requests and Initial Revenue Projections left a FY25 budget deficit of around \$7.9 million.



FY25 Budget Challenge

Started with a Budget Deficit of \$7.9 million.

And less flexibility than previous years....

\$2.76 million **fixed** health insurance cost

Increasing Property/Liability Insurance costs ~ \$290,000

Retirement/Pension Budget ~ \$470,000

Collective Bargaining Agreements



FY25 Creating Budget Solutions

Reviewed Existing Revenue Estimates.

- Good News on New Growth – Estimate increased by \$366K.
- Created \$1.7 million by increasing certain revenue estimates, still keeping within recent actual collections.
 - Increased Investment Income by \$425K.
 - Increased Motor Vehicle Excise by \$500K.

Overall, this brought revenue estimates from \$4.36 million or 2.2% to \$6.39 million or 3.2%.



FY25 Creating Budget Solutions

Reviewed Department Budget Requests.

All but ONE Department budget was decreased from original requests – Libraries (new summer Saturdays) – we did cut the materials budget and we will need to identify another source to reach state spending requirements.

We received updated Health Insurance rates that brought initial estimates down from \$3.73 million to \$2.76 million.

Overall, we reduced Department Budgets by \$4 million – some of which will be funded by other sources.



FY25 Creating Budget Solutions

FY25 BUDGET CHALLENGE	
Original Deficit	-\$7,934,832
Existing Revenue Adjustments	\$2,029,249
Department Request Reductions	\$4,016,099
Adjusted Deficit	-\$1,889,484



FY25 Creating Budget Solutions

After making revenue and department budget adjustments, we needed to find another \$1.89 million – we looked at current fees and other revenue sources.

Most current fees have not been adjusted for decades and are well short of covering the cost of providing the service.

The trash fee has been \$100 (\$60 for seniors) since 2005 (19 years).

FY25 BUDGET CHALLENGE	
Original Deficit	-\$7,934,832
Existing Revenue Adjustments	\$2,029,249
Department Request Reductions	\$4,016,099
Adjusted Deficit	-\$1,889,484



FY25 Creating Budget Solutions

Current Trash/Recycling Fee - \$100 (\$60 for Seniors)

Current Trash/Recycling Budget:
\$5.4 million (including yard waste, etc.)

Current Revenue Generated by the \$100 Fee:
\$1.8 million

A Trash/Recycling Budget Deficit of \$3.6 million



FY25 Creating Budget Solutions

Current Trash/Recycling Fee - \$100 (\$60 for Seniors)

Proposal:

New Trash Fee - \$168 - \$17 increase per quarter.

\$100 for Seniors - \$10 increase per quarter.

Increase Extra Barrel Fee from \$200/set to \$300/set.

Extra Recycling Barrel from \$50 to \$75.

Extra Trash Barrel from \$150 to \$225.

Total New Revenue Generated ~ \$1.2 million.



FY25 Creating Budget Solutions

A full review of other town wide fees was done as well.

Fees were adjusted in the following departments:

Building/Electrical/Gas/Plumbing; Licensing
Health; Fire; DPW; Town Clerk.

The purpose of any fee is to offset the expense of providing the service, NOT to make a “profit.”

A careful review was done to make any impact minimal – most fees are still at or below other communities.



FY25 Creating Budget Solutions

FY25 BUDGET CHALLENGE	
Original Deficit	-\$7,934,832
Existing Revenue Adjustments	\$2,029,249
Department Request Reductions	\$4,016,099
Adjusted Deficit	-\$1,889,484
Adjusted Trash/Recycling Fee	\$1,200,000
Other Fee Adjustments	346,000
Other Revenue Sources/Transfers	343,484
	Balanced Budget



FY25 Budget - Expenses

Total FY25 Operating Budget Growth	\$8,342,575	
		% of Growth
Schools*	\$3,198,405	38.3%
Employee Health Insurance	\$2,762,661	33.1%
Other Fixed Costs	\$766,058	9.2%
Town Department Budgets	\$1,740,451	20.9%
Reserve Fund	-\$125,000	
	\$8,342,575	



FY25 Budget - Expenses

	FY 2024	FY 2025	\$ INCREASE	% INCREASE
FIXED COSTS	\$60,891,154	\$64,419,873	\$3,528,719	5.8%
TOWN DEPARTMENT BUDGETS	\$50,464,425	\$52,204,876	\$1,740,451	3.4%
WEYMOUTH PUBLIC SCHOOLS	\$84,273,835	\$87,472,240	\$3,198,405	3.8%
FIXED COSTS as % of Budget	31.1%	31.5%		
TOWN DEPARTMENTS as % of Budget	25.6%	25.4%		
WEYMOUTH PUBLIC SCHOOLS as % of Budget	43.0%	42.8%		



WATER/SEWER BUDGET

WATER ENTERPRISE BUDGET			
	FY24	FY25	% Change
WATER ADMINISTRATION	492,312.00	540,213.00	9.7%
WATER TREATMENT EXPENSE	3,941,754.00	4,477,487.00	13.6%
WATER DISTRIBUTION EXPENSE	1,785,148.00	1,887,984.00	5.8%
BENEFITS & INDIRECTS	4,418,229.00	4,371,005.00	-1.1%
RESERVE FUND	200,000.00	200,000.00	0.0%
	\$ 10,837,443.00	\$ 11,476,689.00	5.90%
SEWER ENTERPRISE BUDGET			
	FY24	FY25	% Change
SEWER ADMINISTRATION	433,484.00	467,426.00	7.8%
SEWER COLLECTION EXPENSE	1,391,505.00	1,513,626.00	8.8%
BENEFITS & INDIRECTS	2,229,625.00	2,280,348.00	2.3%
RESERVE FUND	50,000.00	50,000.00	0.0%
MWRA SEWER CHARGE	14,428,642.00	14,260,728.00	-1.2%
	\$ 18,533,256.00	\$ 18,572,128.00	0.21%
Water/Sewer rate increase anticipated to be around 3%			



CPC BUDGET

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FY25 BUDGET PROPOSAL		
REVENUE	FY24	FY25
1% RE TAX SURCHARGE	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
STATE MATCH	\$300,000	\$200,000
INVESTMENT INCOME	\$2,000	\$2,000
INTEREST/PENALTIES	\$2,000	\$2,000
	\$1,304,000	\$1,204,000
EXPENSES		
ADMIN - 5%	\$65,200	\$60,200
OPEN SPACE & RECREATION	\$130,400	\$120,400
HISTORIC RESOURCES	\$130,400	\$120,400
COMMUNITY HOUSING	\$130,400	\$120,400
DEBT SERVICE	\$0	\$0
GENERAL RESERVE	\$847,600	\$782,600
	\$1,304,000	\$1,204,000



Facilities and Fields Enterprise Fund

<u>FIELD ENTERPRISE FUND (6705)</u>		
	FY24	FY25
REVENUE (FEES)	\$378,300.00	\$378,300.00
SALARIES	\$125,973.00	\$165,973.00
ELECTRICITY	\$76,000.00	\$76,000.00
MISC SUPPLIES	\$11,000.00	\$11,000.00
CONTRACT SERVICES	\$32,000.00	\$32,000.00
MISC EXPENDITURES	\$123,327.00	\$83,327.00
FIELD EQUIPMENT	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
EXPENSES	\$378,300.00	\$378,300.00