

***Town of Weymouth
Massachusetts***

Robert L. Hedlund
Mayor

75 Middle Street
Weymouth, MA 02189



Office: 781.340.5012
Fax: 781.335.8184

TTY: 781.331.5124

Press Release

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Weymouth Receives a total of \$375,050 in Housing Choice Grants

Contact(s): Robert Hedlund, Mayor
rhedlund@weymouth.ma.us, 781-340-5012

Casey Tocchio, Community Information Officer
ctocchio@weymouth.ma.us, 781-682-3615

Weymouth, MA – Mayor Hedlund and the Weymouth Planning and Community Development Department are pleased to announce the Town of Weymouth has received a total of \$375,050 in Housing Choice Grants from the Healy-Driscoll administration's new Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (EOHLC).

The first grant, totaling \$275,050, will improve the intersection of Columbian Street at Forest Street through design/bid documents for installation of a traffic signal, traffic signal controllers, signal heads and support structures, emergency pre-emption, pavement markings and signage, vehicle detection systems, ADA upgrades and minor incidental geometric improvements.

The second grant, totaling \$100,000, will allow the town study existing land uses which will result in recommendations for zoning revisions and transportation improvements which will encourage business and mixed-use development using guidelines for climate resiliency, improved traffic flow, pedestrian and bike safety, parking and public transportation near Route 3A – Bridge Street.

"These Housing Choice Grants will allow us to make much needed progress in two key sectors of Weymouth," **said Mayor Robert Hedlund.** "It's critical to my administration that we address the existing traffic issues on Columbian and Forest Streets proactively, with the new, potentially high-traffic Banner Park development slated for Braintree. Making this intersection safer and more efficient will also make the area more attractive for businesses and stimulate economic growth in the area."

"The \$100,00 grant towards the study of the 3A - Bridge Street will be used to encourage sustainable economic growth and development in the area," **Mayor Hedlund continued.** "We've already begun investing in the area with projects like the revitalization of Beals Park, and we aim to cultivate an atmosphere that is conducive to commercial and communal activities with design guidelines and zoning recommendations."

The Housing Choice Grant Program is a competitive grant program out of the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (EOHLC) that rewards municipalities that have produced a significant number of housing units in the last five years and that have adopted or established Best Practices that encourage housing production. This competitive grant program awards funds based on the project's nexus with housing, transportation, infrastructure, economic development, and community development.

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