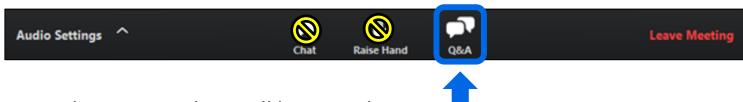


Massachusetts Dredging Program 2022 Grant Round Information Session

March 8, 2022



Webinar Format



- During webinar, attendees will be muted.
- To ask a question, click Q&A (see image above).
- Presenters will read and respond to questions verbally at the end of the presentation.
- If your video, audio, or connection fails...
 - o Try leaving the webinar and rejoining. You can click **Leave Meeting** at any time.
 - Try rejoining via telephone. Instructions are available on the program's <u>How to</u> <u>Apply</u> page. Download a copy of the slide presentation on the same page to follow along.
 - The presentation portion of the webinar will be recorded and posted to the program's <u>How to Apply</u> page within 1-2 days.



Agenda

- Overview
- Program Requirements
- Applying
- Reviews
- Other State Resources
- Q&A



Chatham Aunt Lydia's Cove Maintenance Dredging Project.

Source: Town of Chatham. Photo Credit: Spencer Kennard.



Overview: Background

- Commonwealth's first annual, competitive grant program with focused funding to support saltwater dredging.
- Successor program to the MassWorks 2018 Dredging Pilot Round (also the first of its kind).
- Authorized as a <u>standalone</u> grant program in the 2018 Economic Development Bond Bill.
- Responds to dredging needs that promote the Blue Economy...
 - FisheriesTransportation
 - TourismRecreation
 - Public Safety
 Environmental Resilience



Governor Baker, Lt. Governor Polito, HED Secretary Kennealy, and Mayor Mitchell at New Bedford-Fairhaven Harbor.

The **Blue Economy** is the sustainable use of ocean resources for economic growth and enhanced quality of life.



Overview: The Basics

- Capital grant program administered by EOHED.
- One-year construction grants for saltwater dredging in <u>public</u> tidelands.
- Supports the strength and sustainability of Massachusetts's coastal harbors.
- Focus on <u>shovel-ready</u> projects that contribute to one or more of the following...



Hingham Harbor Maintenance Dredging Project.



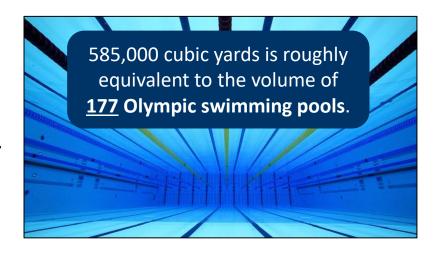


Overview: Program Impact

- Since 2019, over \$16 million awarded for 22 public projects.
- Over \$22 million leveraged in matching funds.
- +/-585,000 cubic yards estimated to be removed from public channels and berths.
- +/-37% of dredged material to be reused for beach nourishment.
- Projects have supported...
 - 600+ commercial vessels.
 - 7,000+ moorings and dockage slips.
 - 70+ harbor-dependent businesses/organizations.



Baker-Polito Administration Celebrates Polpis Harbor and Town Pier Dredging Projects in Nantucket.





Overview: What's New in 2022

- New online grant application and management platform!
- More details about recreational users and assets are encouraged.
 - Tell us about your harbor's public and private recreational boating facilities (<u>including</u> marinas and mooring fields), waterside public spaces, and downtown, commercial, and/or mixed-use waterfronts.
- Public investments tied to dredging are encouraged.
 - Replacement of public pier or dock, new moorings or slips, etc.
- Criteria for "Section 204 Projects."
 - Dredging and placement of dredged material must occur within the jurisdictional boundaries of the municipality.
 - Application must include federal feasibility report or federal interest determination letter.
 - Applicants may <u>not</u> claim federal spending on dredging to fulfill the grant request's non-state match.

Section 204 Projects refer to beneficial use of dredged material as part of a federal dredging project, requiring a benefit-cost determination and a non-federal cost share.



Program Requirements: Eligibility and Funding

Who's eligible to apply?

- Commonwealth's 78 coastal municipalities.
- Limit of one application per municipality.

What's eligible for funding?

- Bidding and construction expenses for public berths and channels.
- Tidelands privately held by grant, license, or lease agreement are <u>not</u> eligible for funding.



Baker-Polito Administration Announces 2021 Massachusetts Dredging Program Awards in Wellfleet.

Pre-construction costs – study, design, etc. – are <u>not</u> eligible for funding.
 Municipalities are encouraged to consult the <u>Seaport Economic Council</u> for preconstruction grant opportunities.

How much is available?

- Maximum amount that may be requested is \$2.5 million per municipality.
- Partial awards may be considered.



Program Requirements: Non-State Match

- Projects require a minimum 50% non-state match.
- Multiple non-state funding sources may be used, including...
 - Municipal funds.
 - Federal grants.
 - Funds directly distributed through the America Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).
 - Private cash contributions.



Truro Pamet Harbor – 2018 Dredging Pilot Round Project Site.

Source: State of Our Harbors Report 2015, prepared by UMass Boston Urban Harbors Institute and Apex Companies for MA DCR.

Pre-construction expenses or in-kind services are <u>not</u> eligible for match purposes but are considered in the overall assessment, if incurred in the last three (3) fiscal years.



Program Requirements: Award Management

- Payments will be disbursed for actual work completed as documented by invoices, i.e., on a <u>cost-reimbursement</u> basis.
- Deliverables include...
 - Quarterly progress reports.
 - Bid plans and bid canvases.
 - Construction contracts and change orders.
 - Post-dredging surveys.
 - Project closeout form.
- 5% of award may be held as retainage until project closeout.



Barnstable Cotuit Bay Dredging & Dead Neck-Sampson's Island Beach Nourishment – 2018 Dredging Pilot Round Project.

Source: YouTube, "Dredging of Cotuit Bay and Sampson's Island Part Three," Drone guy, published 01/01/19. Accessed 02/15/19 at youtu.be/QHxjHM47phY.



Program Requirements: Contracting

- Successful applicants must submit...
 - Match documentation.
 - All permits and drawings.
- Anticipated start date for grant contracts is July 1st.
- All grant funds must be expended by June 30, 2023, so shovel readiness is critical.



Barnstable Cotuit Bay Dredging & Dead Neck-Sampson's Island Beach Nourishment – 2018 Dredging Pilot Round Project.

Source: YouTube, "Dredging of Cotuit Bay and Sampson's Island Part Two," Drone guy, published 12/29/18. Accessed 02/15/19 at youtu.be/0VMSNrl-Ylo.



Applying: Deadline

- Applications must be submitted via online platform no later than <u>April 15</u>, <u>2022</u>, <u>11:59 PM</u>.
 - No late submissions will be accepted.
- MS Word copy of application is available on the program's <u>How to</u> <u>Apply</u> page as a <u>reference and</u> <u>preparation resource</u> only.
 - No submissions of MS Word copy will be accepted.
 - No paper submissions will be accepted.



Marshfield-Scituate South River Maintenance Dredging Project.



Applying: Application Components

Seven sections...

- 1. Project Summary Snapshot of project and grant request.
- Harbor Profile Level of harbor development and benefits provided for users, the public at-large, and <u>Environmental Justice</u> (EJ) <u>populations</u>.
- 3. <u>Project Description</u> Scope, need, shovel readiness, feasibility, and phasing.
- 4. <u>Budget and Funding Sources</u> Project cost, funding sources, match status, and recent pre-construction expenses. **Requires completion of budget table.**
- 5. Supporting the Blue Economy (includes four subsections) Existing conditions and anticipated benefits for (1) Commercial Fishing and Boating, (2) Recreation and Waterside Destinations, (3) Public Safety, and/or (4) Environmental Resilience.
- 6. <u>Preparing for Success</u> Dredging maintenance plans, harbor plans, revenues from fees, and imminent public or private investment.
- 7. <u>Certification of Authorization</u> **No signature required!**



Applying: Attachments

Required attachments...

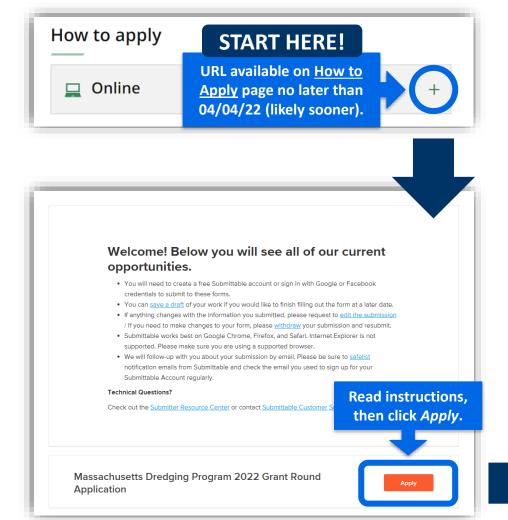
- <u>Site plan!</u> Should consists of satellite image or nautical chart that clearly identifies the project site(s).
- Copies of all <u>permits and permit modifications</u> approved to date, including associated plans or drawings.
- Statements of collaboration from joint applicant(s), <u>if applicable</u>.
- Letters of commitment from private partner(s), <u>required only if</u> the project will generate private investment in additional dredging, commercial vessels, and/or jobs.
 - <u>NOTE</u>: These are <u>not</u> letters of support. These are promises of investment.

Optional attachments...

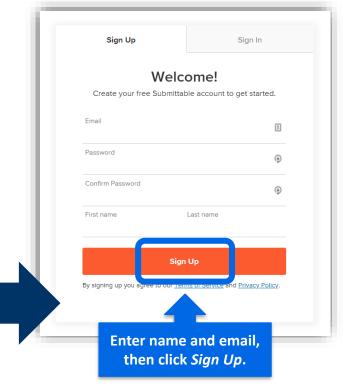
- Applicants may submit a reasonable number of graphic documents (photos, figures, etc.).
- Optional attachments are reviewed but not formally evaluated.
- No additional attachments should be submitted unless otherwise requested.



Applying: New Online Application Platform



Application is now 100% electronic and online. Every submitter (e.g., municipal employee) must sign up for a personal user account.





Applying: Prepare and Submit

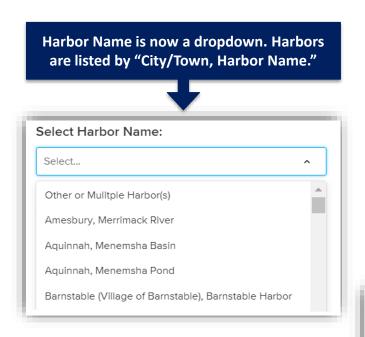
- 1. Visit the program's How to Apply page.
- Download the RFP and reference copy of the application for review.
- 3. Find the URL to the application platform and create a user account (see previous slide).
- 4. Gather and save your attachments in a common folder on your computer.
- 5. Label each attachment using the **File Naming System outlined in the RFP**.
- 6. Complete the online application form and upload attachments. **You can** save and return to the form at anytime.

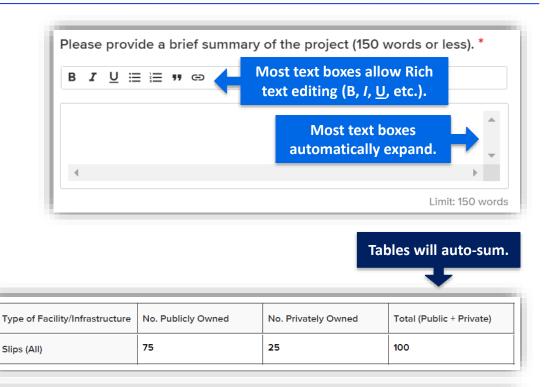


7. Submit the competed application form with attachments. A confirmation message will be sent to the email address associated with your user account.



Applying: Form Fields





Some questions are conditional. They appear only when "Yes" is answered. Read carefully.

Does the harbor support commercial fishing? (Do not include aquaculture/shellfishing in this question.)

Yes

No

If yes, please describe the harbor's commercial fishing operations. If available, please provide landing information (species, pounds, value, etc.). *

B I U := |= || GO



Applying: Helpful Tips

- Review the RFP and copy of application first.
- Complete all sections to the extent possible. We cannot evaluate what's not answered.
- Provide complete, straight forward responses. Repetition across sections can be OK.
- <u>Carefully read all questions and text.</u>
 Many questions include prompts and/or instructions to guide answers.
- Support your statements with examples, numbers, and data <u>when asked or</u> <u>available</u>. Not all statements speak for themselves.



Plymouth Town Wharf - MA Dredging Program Project Site.

For ease, applicants may wish to type answers in MS Word document and copy and paste later.



Reviews: Award Decisions

- Evaluation Committee composed of staff from EOHED, Seaport Economic Council, and Office of Coastal Zone Management (CZM).
- Committee will prepare a list of recommended awards based on...
 - Evaluation criteria.
 - Amount of funding available.
 - Urgency of need.
- Broad and equitable distribution of limited funding may be considered.
- List is subject to approval by HED
 Secretary and to ratification by Governor and Lt. Governor.



Baker-Polito Administration Announces Dredging Assistance for Annisquam River in Gloucester.

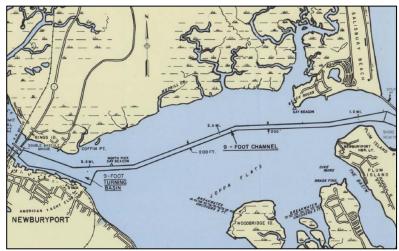
All applicants will be notified in writing of an award or non-award decision.



In assessing applications and recommending awards, the Evaluation Committee will consider and weigh...

Harbor Profile

- Characteristics consistent with a <u>developed harbor</u> (berths, boat ramps, piers, harbor-dependent businesses, etc.).
- Characteristics consistent with a <u>destination waterfront</u> (public spaces, restaurants, retail, commercial or mixed-use zoning, etc.).
- Benefits for one or more <u>EJ populations</u>.



Newburyport Harbor Federal Navigation Map.

Source: USACE. Accessed 03/04/22 at nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Navigation/Massachusetts-Projects/.

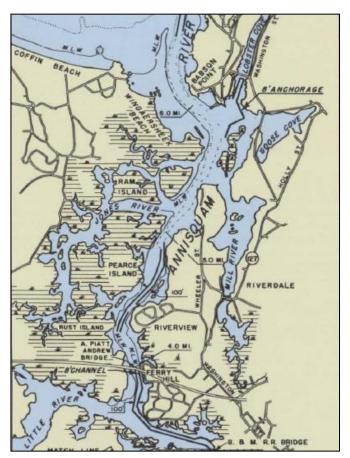


Project Description

- Project need based on extent of shoaling and users impacted.
- Feasibility of the project scope.
- Shovel readiness!
 - Are permits and match funds secured?
 - Is the construction schedule realistic?

Budget and Funding Sources

- Extent to which pre-construction costs have been funded.
- o 50% or greater non-state match.
- Evidence that all match funds have or will be secured.



Annisquam River Federal Navigation Map.

Source: USACE. Accessed 01/29/21 at nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Navigation/Massachusetts-Projects/.



 Supporting the Blue Economy — Based on the following four categories and associated criteria. While projects strong in multiple categories will generally be more competitive, projects are not required to excel in all or any set number of categories.

1. Commercial Fishing and Boating

- Presence of commercial fishing, shellfishing, and/or commercial boating.
- Project's support for the above activities.

2. Recreation and Waterfront Destinations

- Presence of a region-wide boating public, as evidenced by boat ramps, public parking, and/or transient boating accommodations.
- Project's support for a destination waterfront based on public and private recreational boating facilities, waterfront public spaces, and/or a downtown, commercial, or mixed-use waterfront.



Source: MA Division of Marine Fisheries Strategic Plan 2010-2014.



Plymouth Harbor. Source: State of Our Harbors Report 2015.



Tisbury Lake Tashmoo Channel. Source: State of Our Harbor Report 2015.



3. Public Safety

- Actual or imminent risk to public safety due to shoaling.
- Project's support for public safety based on mitigation or prevention of boating incidents and/or increased emergency responsiveness.

4. Environmental Resilience

- Project's support for preserving, protecting, restoring, and/or reinforcing coastal resources (public beaches, wetland resources, nesting habitats, water quality, etc.).
- How dredged material will be beneficially reused, if applicable.
- How the project aligns with a city or town's <u>Municipal</u>
 <u>Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Planning Report</u>, if applicable.



Source: MA Environmental Police Facebook Page, accessed 02/19/19.



Barnstable Dead Neck Island, before beach nourishment (2018). Source: Barnstable Clean Water Coalition.

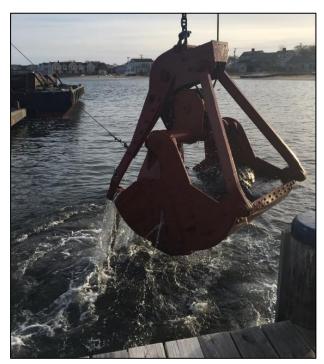


Barnstable Dead Neck Island, after beach nourishment (2019). Source: Barnstable Clean Water Coalition.



Preparing for Success

- How the municipality will sustain the benefits of the project, as evidenced by a dredging maintenance plan, local planning documents, and/or revenues from fees.
- Demonstration that the project will activate or enable implementation of public improvements to harbor facilities or infrastructure (e.g., expansion or replacement of public pier or dock).
- Demonstration that project will generate private investment in successive dredging projects (e.g., piggyback dredging), commercial vessels, and/or harbor-dependent jobs, as evidenced by letters of commitment, if applicable



Nantucket Pier Dredging Project.

Source: Twitter, @ackharbormaster, published 12/13/19.

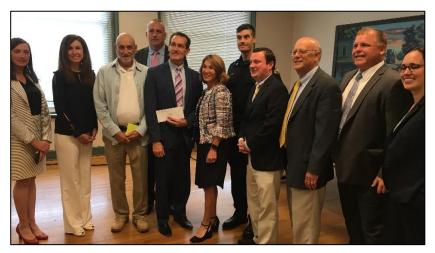
Accessed 02/27/20 at twitter.com/ackharbormaster.



Reviews: Additional Considerations

Additional considerations include...

- Time since last dredging.
- Time since last award.
- Need for phasing.
- Match greater than 50%.
- Project life expectancy.
- Expiration of permits.



Baker-Polito Administration Announces 2019 Massachusetts Dredging Program Awards in Hingham.



Other State Resources: Seaport Economic Council

- Consult <u>Seaport Economic Council</u> (<u>SEC</u>) for potential grant opportunities to support...
 - <u>Dredging design and permitting!</u>
 - Municipal Harbor Plans or Designated Port Area (DPA) Master Plans.
 - Design and construction of public harbor infrastructure (docks, piers, boardwalks, maritime centers, beach facilities, etc.).
- 20% match required for SEC awards.



Baker-Polito Administration Celebrates Completion of Maritime Center in Marshfield.

Next deadline for SEC grant applications is May 1, 2022.

Questions? Send email to ellen.cebula@mass.gov.



Other State Resources: Studies and Reports

- For general information on Massachusetts's coastal harbors and blue economy, the following reports are publicly available on Mass.gov:
 - Port by Port: Profiles and Analysis of the MA Commercial Fishery (2021).
 - MA Ocean Management Plan (2021).
 - Navigating the Global Economy: A
 Comprehensive Analysis of the MA
 Maritime Economy (2017).
 - Building the MA Seafood System (2017).



Commercial Offloading at Chatham Fish Pier – MA Division of Marine Fisheries 2021 Port by Port Report.

Source: Port by Port Report 2021, prepared by UMass Boston Urban Harbors Institute and Apex Companies for MA DMF.

Consultation of these reports is **not** a requirement or evaluation criterion.

Reports are referenced for informational purposes only.



Q&A

- General questions regarding the RFP will be accepted via electronic mail through March 11, 2022, 11:59 PM.
- Send questions to <u>eohedgrants@mass.gov</u>
 with subject line "Dredging RFP."
- EOHED will respond only to general questions and reserves the right not to respond to any or all questions.



- Similar questions may be aggregated and answered via a single response.
- Answers will be posted on the program's How to Apply page by March 18, 2022.
- Technical support will be available up to 5:00 pm on the application due date.



Q&A

Thank you for attending!

Massachusetts Dredging Program

The Massachusetts Dredging Program is the Commonwealth's first grant program with focused funding to support saltwater dredging. This program promotes the strength and sustainability of the Commonwealth's coastal harbor.

Mass.gov/massachusetts-dredging-program