

MASSACHUSETTS FEDERAL FUNDS PARTNERSHIP

January Meeting

-This meeting will be recorded.

-Please mute yourself after arrival.

-Please submit your questions via the chat function. Questions will be answered during Q&A.

AGENDA

Welcome and Introduction

Recent Wins!

About FFIO

Upcoming Federal Funding Opportunities

Undersecretary Maria Belen Power: Environmental Justice and Equity; Community Change Grants

Rural Affairs Director Anne Gobi: Rural Strategy Discussion; Rural Grant Opportunities

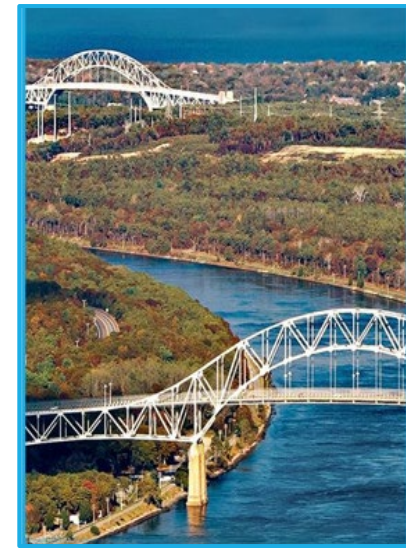
Q & A

RECENT WINS!

Cape Cod Bridge Replacement

Award of **\$372 million** from the Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant program for the phased replacement of the Cape Cod bridges, beginning with the Sagamore bridge.

An additional request of \$1.06 billion from the Bridge Investment Program (BIP) is still pending approval from USDOT.



Safe Streets and Roads for All

An additional **\$18 million** to Massachusetts communities from a second announcement of 2023 Safe Streets and Roads for All awards.

This funding includes \$14 million to the **City of Boston** for traffic signal operations design, as well as planning grants for the **Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, Central MA Regional Planning Commission, and 8 other municipalities.**

Clean School Buses

\$33 million from the EPA Clean School bus program for 85 electric buses in **Boston, Worcester, New Bedford** and **Fall River.**



ABOUT THE FEDERAL FUNDS AND INFRASTRUCTURE OFFICE

Officially created by recently signed Executive Order No. 624, and tasked with implementing a whole-of-government to compete for federal funding by:



Identifying key federal funding opportunities



Leading bi-weekly meetings of the interagency Advisory Council on Federal Funds and Infrastructure

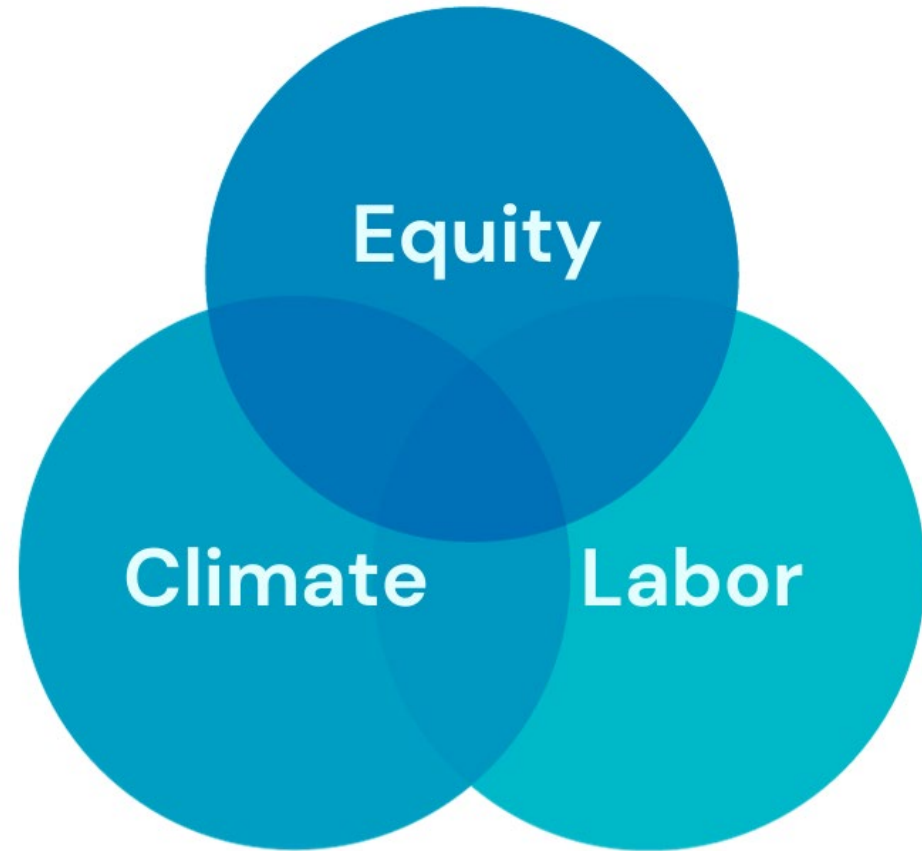


Tracking available federal grant opportunities and Massachusetts applications through the State Clearinghouse

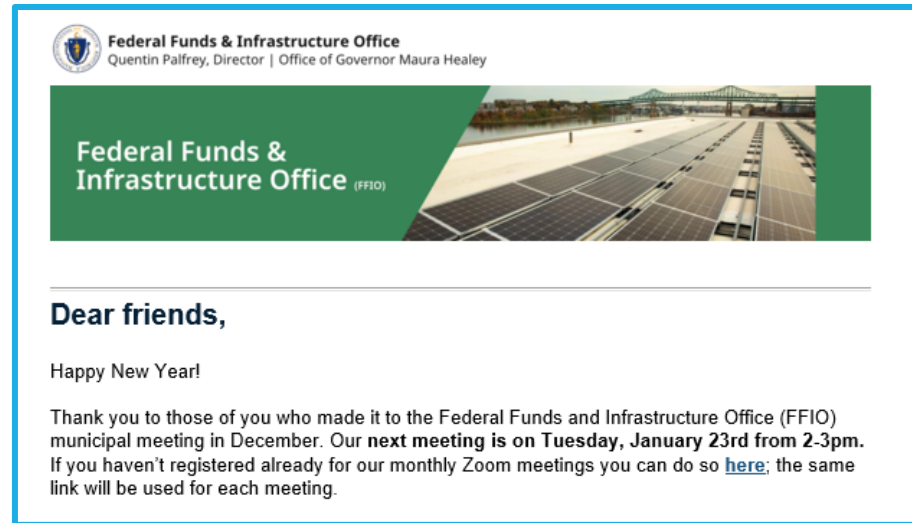


Leading the Massachusetts Federal Funds Partnership to support municipalities and tribes in their applications for federal funding

INCORPORATING ADMINISTRATION PRIORITIES AND PARTNERS



SUPPORT FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS



- **Monthly Federal Funds Partnership meetings** with targeted information on recently announced grant programs where **local governments are the eligible applicant**
 - Monthly emails in advance of and following Partnership with meeting notes, video clips, and additional info on grant opportunities and resources

SUPPORT FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Information also available on the [Federal Funds Local Governments page](#):

Upcoming Municipal-Eligible Grants

Grant Name	Policy Area	Deadline
Coastal Habitat Restoration	Environment	12/19/2023
Smart Grid Grant	Energy	Concept Paper: 1/12/2024
Farm to Schools Grant	Health	1/12/2024
Intelligent Transportation Systems Program	Transportation	1/17/2024
Clean School Bus Rebate Program	Transportation	1/31/2024
Advanced Transportation Technology and Innovation (ATTAIN)	Transportation	2/2/2024
Innovative Coordinated Access and Mobility	Transportation	2/13/2024
RAISE Discretionary Grant Program	Transportation	2/28/2024
Climate Pollution Reduction Grant	Environment	General: 4/1/2024 Tribes: 5/1/2024

Massachusetts Federal Funds Partnership

FFIO leads the monthly Massachusetts Federal Funds Partnership meeting. This forum not only delivers critical updates but also offers a platform for addressing questions related to the many funding possibilities at the disposal of cities, towns and tribal organizations.

[Register Here for Upcoming Meetings](#) →

Additional Resources

-  [November 2023 Federal Funds Partnership Slides](#) (English, PDF 4.39 MB)
-  [October 2023 Federal Funds Partnership Slides](#) (English, PDF 2.8 MB)

November 2023 Meeting

November Federal Funds Partnership Introduction



Office of Climate Innovation & Resilience - Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Presentation



SUPPORT FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

NEW! [Grant Applications Resources Page](#):

Federal Funds Grant Application Resources

See below for grant application resources sorted by policy area

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- ▼ [Climate, Sustainability, and Resiliency Technical Assistance Resources](#)
- ▼ [Economic Development/Broadband Technical Assistance Resources](#)
- ▼ [Transportation Technical Assistance Resources](#)
- ▼ [General Resources](#)
- ▼ [Contact](#)

Climate, Sustainability, and Resiliency Technical Assistance Resources

[EPA's Community Change Grants Technical Assistance](#) →

Under the Inflation Reduction Act, EPA offers technical assistance to prepare for their Community Change Grants

[MEMA Hazard Mitigation Technical Assistance](#) →

This page includes BRIC, FMA & HMGP Technical Assistance and Webinars/Briefings

[FEMA Grants Management Technical Assistance](#) →

This page includes technical assistance resources from FEMA to aid state, local, and tribal governments with grants management responsibilities

[Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations Funding Opportunities](#) →

This page provides a list of funding opportunities from the Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations

CONTACT

Executive Office for
Administration and Finance
- Federal Funds &
Infrastructure Office (A&F -
FFIO)

[Online](#)

Federal Funds &
Infrastructure Office Email
FedFundsInfra@mass.gov

[Address](#)

State House, 24 Beacon Street
Boston, MA 02133

[Directions](#) →

SUPPORT FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Use the [Grant Application Notice Form](#) to notify FFIO of in-progress or submitted federal grant applications, or projects that could be eligible for federal funds:

FFIO Federal Grant Intake Form for Local Governments

Please complete the form with accurate and detailed information about your project.

* Required

1. Municipal/Organization Name *

Enter your answer

2. Point of Contact Name *

Enter your answer

3. Point of Contact Email Address *

Enter your answer

4. Point of Contact Title *

Enter your answer

SUPPORT FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

- Access to additional resources for matching funds and technical assistance pending recently filed legislation
- Feel free to contact the FFIO (FedFundsInfra@mass.gov) email inbox for questions about federal grant applications!

STATE MATCHING FUNDS / TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE LEGISLATION

- Bill [S.2548](#) *An Act to provide for competitiveness and infrastructure investment in Massachusetts, includes:*
 - Creates a Commonwealth Federal Matching and Debt Reduction Fund that leverages interest earnings on the state's Stabilization Fund
 - Over the next three years, fund **will unlock an estimated \$800 million** in resources to pursue federal funding opportunities
 - **\$50 million matching grants and loans** for a local government infrastructure bank
 - **\$12 million** towards local government technical assistance
 - **Adds to the over \$2 billion** in existing resources Massachusetts has made available for state match to give Massachusetts a competitive edge in the pursuit of historic federal grant opportunities
- Passed unanimously by the Massachusetts Senate on Thursday, January 11th

OVERVIEW OF UPCOMING MUNICIPAL AND TRIBAL ELIGIBLE GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Program Name	Deadline	Policy Area	Eligibility
<u>Clean School Bus Rebates Program</u>	1/31/2024	Education/ Transportation	Municipal & Tribal Governments, or eligible contractors
<u>Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)</u>	2/28/2024	Transportation	State, Tribe, Local Government
<u>Funding to Address Indoor Air Pollution at Schools</u>	3/19/2024	Environment	State, Tribe, Local Government, Educational Agencies, Nonprofits
<u>Electric Drive Vehicle Battery Recycling and Second Life Applications</u>	Concept Paper: 2/7/2024 Full Deadline: 4/19/2024	Transportation/ Sustainability	Wide Eligibility
<u>Green and Resilient Retrofit Program</u>	Elements: 3/28/2024 Leading Edge: 4/30/2024 Comprehensive: 5/30/2024	Environment/ Sustainability	HUD-Assisted Multifamily Properties

CLEAN SCHOOL BUS REBATES PROGRAM

- **Eligibility:**
 - Public School Districts and Private Transportation Providers
- **Funding information:**
 - Upwards of \$500M available for this round of funding
 - 60% of awards will go to priority districts
 - There will be a minimum of 1 award per state
- **About the program:**
 - The clean school bus rebate program offers rebates to public school districts and third-party transportation providers to replace existing buses with clean, zero emission alternatives.
- **Deadline: 1/31/2024**
- **Contact:** Orly Strobel, MassCEC, ostrobel@masscec.com

[Watch explainer video from November Federal Funds Partnership meeting](#)

REBUILDING AMERICAN INFRASTRUCTURE WITH SUSTAINABILITY AND EQUITY (RAISE)

- **Eligibility:** State, Tribe, Local Government
- **Total Funding:** \$1,500,000,000
- **Cost Share:** 20%
- **About**
 - “The goal of the RAISE program is to fund eligible surface transportation projects that will have a significant local or regional impact that advance the Departmental priorities of safety, equity, climate and sustainability, and workforce development, job quality, and wealth creation”
 - 50% of funds are set aside for rural areas
- **Deadline:** 2/28/2024
- **Contact:** Andrea Jacobson, andrea.jacobson@dot.gov

[RAISE Presentation from December Partnership](#)

FUNDING TO ADDRESS INDOOR AIR POLLUTION AT SCHOOLS

- **Eligibility:** State, Tribe, Local Government, Educational Agencies, Nonprofits
- **Total Funding:** \$32,000,000
- **About**
 - The goal of this grant is to “monitor and reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other air pollutants at schools in low-income and disadvantaged communities.”
- **Deadline:** 3/19/2024
- **Contact:** iaqschools@epa.gov

ELECTRIC DRIVE VEHICLE BATTERY RECYCLING AND SECOND LIFE APPLICATIONS

- **Eligibility:** State, Tribe, Local Government, Nonprofit, Private, Institutions of Higher Education
- **Total Funding:** \$37,000,000
- **About**
 - This program provides funds to facilitate a “broader government-wide approach to strengthen domestic supply chains for critical materials to maximize the benefits of the clean energy transition as the nation works to curb the climate crisis, empower workers, and advance environmental justice.”
- **Deadline:**
 - Concept Paper - 2/7/2024
 - Full Deadline - 4/19/2024
- **Contact:** DE-FOA-0003120@netl.doe.gov

UPDATE ON DIRECT/ELECTIVE PAY

Jonathan Schrag

Deputy Climate Chief

Office of Climate Innovation and Resilience

DIRECT/ELECTIVE PAY

- **About**

- [Direct Pay](#) makes clean energy tax credits effectively refundable for states, cities, towns, tribes, and other tax-exempt organizations that otherwise do not file federal income taxes.
- Funded by the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)

- **In the coming weeks and months:**

- The Office of Climate Innovation and Resilience (OCIR) and FFIO will provide additional helpful information on Direct Pay

- **Helpful Resources:**

- Center for American Progress [Webinar](#) January 25th
- [IRS website](#) with complete list of tax credits and deductions under the Inflation Reduction Act



Environmental Justice and Equity

Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

María Belén Power

Undersecretary of Environmental Justice & Equity



Environmental Justice Principles

1. Meaningful involvement of all people with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies, including climate change policies
2. Equitable distribution of energy and environmental benefits and environmental burdens



Meaningful Community Engagement

- **Best Practices include:**

- Provide interpretation and translation services
- Hold meetings that allow for in-person and remote participation (hybrid)
- Hold meetings in accessible locations
- Provide public transit reimbursements
- Ensure meetings are held at a reasonable time
- Use plain English NOT industry jargons
- Engage in creative outreach by partnering with community-based organizations, non-profits, faith-based organizations
- Use alternative media outlets to disseminate information
- Provide reasonable accommodations, such as food and childcare services
- Compensate for knowledge
- Iterative process



Meaningful Community Engagement

- **Environmental Justice Council**
 - 15 members appointed by Governor
 - Meets every 2 months (sometimes more often)
- **Environmental Justice Table**
 - Statewide coalition external to government
 - Convened by environmental justice groups
- **Justice40 Working Group**
 - Convened last fall by the Office of EJ and Equity
 - Organizations from across the Commonwealth
 - Meets monthly



What is the Justice40 Initiative?

- Goal: at least 40 percent of the overall benefits of certain Federal investments flow to disadvantaged communities that are marginalized, underserved, and overburdened by pollution.
- The Justice40 Initiative is not a one-time investment, nor a single pot of money. It is a series of changes to improve how government ensures equitable distribution of the benefits of many programs. Agencies are changing their programs to ensure the benefits reach disadvantaged communities.
- Federal Mapping Tool: [Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool \(CEJST\)](#)



Community Change Grants

The EPA seeks to fund \$2 billion worth of projects that are **community driven** and advance **environmental justice for communities designated disadvantaged communities**.

Partnership between at least 2 CBOs or a CBO and a (local gov, tribe, higher ed institution).

Projects must be completed within 3 years

***Applications accepted on a rolling basis.**
Webinar [here](#).



Community change grant specific
technical assistance AVAILABLE:

1. For general projects
2. For resilience projects



Community Change Grants

Track I - Community-Driven Investments / Infrastructure:

- Funds infrastructure
- Award size: \$10-20 million each
- EPA expects to award approximately \$1.96 billion for approximately 150 Track I awards.
 - 150 Nationwide awards
 - 1-2 per state possible
 - 6-8 per region
 - \$10-20 M grants

Track II – Meaningful Engagement for Equitable Governance:

- Funds engagement of disadvantaged communities in governmental processes to advance environmental and climate justice
- Award size: \$1-3 million each
- EPA will award approximately \$40 million for approximately 20 awards.



Track 1

Track I - Community-Driven Investments / Infrastructure:

Must address 1+:

- 1. Green infrastructure and nature-based solutions**
- 2. Mobility and transportation options**
- 3. Energy-efficiency, healthy and resilient housing and buildings**
- 4. Microgrid installation**
- 5. Community resilience hubs**
- 6. Brownfield redevelopment**
- 7. Waste reduction and management**
- 8. Workforce development**

- **Must engage with community**
- **Must pick one :**
 - Indoor air quality and community health
 - Outdoor air quality and community health
 - Clean water infrastructure
 - Hazardous waste management



Track 1

Some project ideas:

- *Indoor filtration systems*
- *Replacing heaters that are not eco friendly*
- *Getting rid of asbestos*
- *Lead pipe replacement*

Selection Criteria:

- Community driven investments for change (80 pts)
- Program management, capacity and capability (35 pts)
- Readiness to proceed, feasibility and sustainability (40 pts)
- Oral presentations (45 pts)



Track 2

Selection criteria:

1. Program objectives
2. Project collaboration and participation (20pts)
3. Project Linkages (4pts)
4. Budget (8pts)
5. Environmental Results (6pts)
6. CBO experience and commitment (5pts)
7. Programmatic and managerial capability and resources (16pts)
8. Past performance (6pts)

Track II – Meaningful Engagement for Equitable Governance:

More flexible!

Examples:

- Educational and training programs
- Environmental advisory boards
- Collaborative governance activities
- Participating in funding and budgeting



Final Tips!

- Applications accepted on a rolling basis.
- Winning formula:
innovation + community engagement + collaboration
- Consider a regional application!
- You can re-apply.
- If you are applying, make sure to talk to us, we can help you with labor and DEI components!

Grant closes on Nov. 21, 2024.

Projects that do not
qualify:

- Super fund sites
- Scientific Research
- Community relocations



UPCOMING EVENTS:

MORE Community Change Grant ENGAGEMENT
COMING SOON!



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Housing and
Economic Development

Rural Strategy Discussion



Our Rural Massachusetts



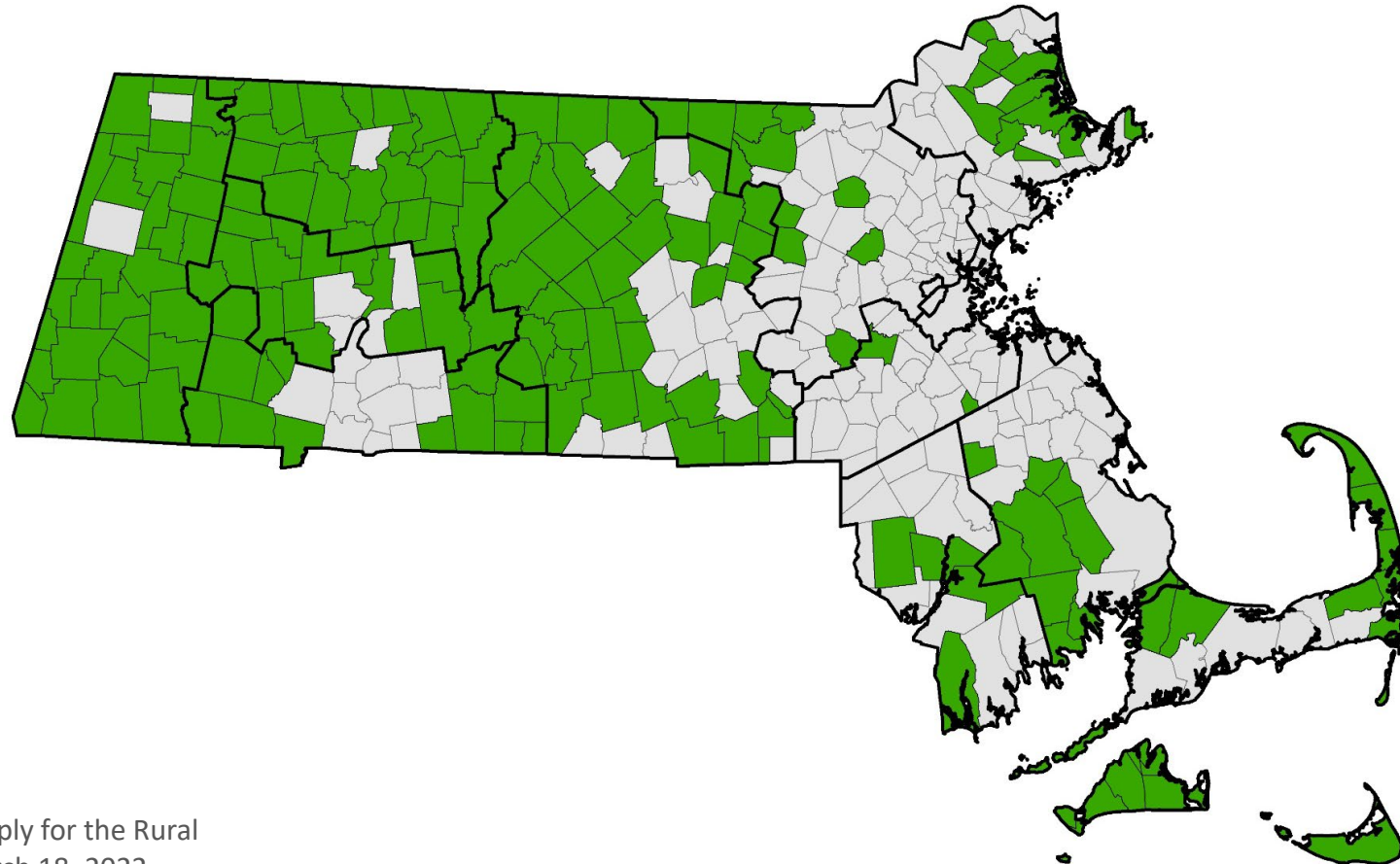
Strong rural communities in Massachusetts have **stable populations and businesses**. Rural residents have **access to jobs and income**. The assets within the community are **utilized**, in alignment with community aspirations.

Definition



There are 181 municipalities that are Rural and/or Small Towns.

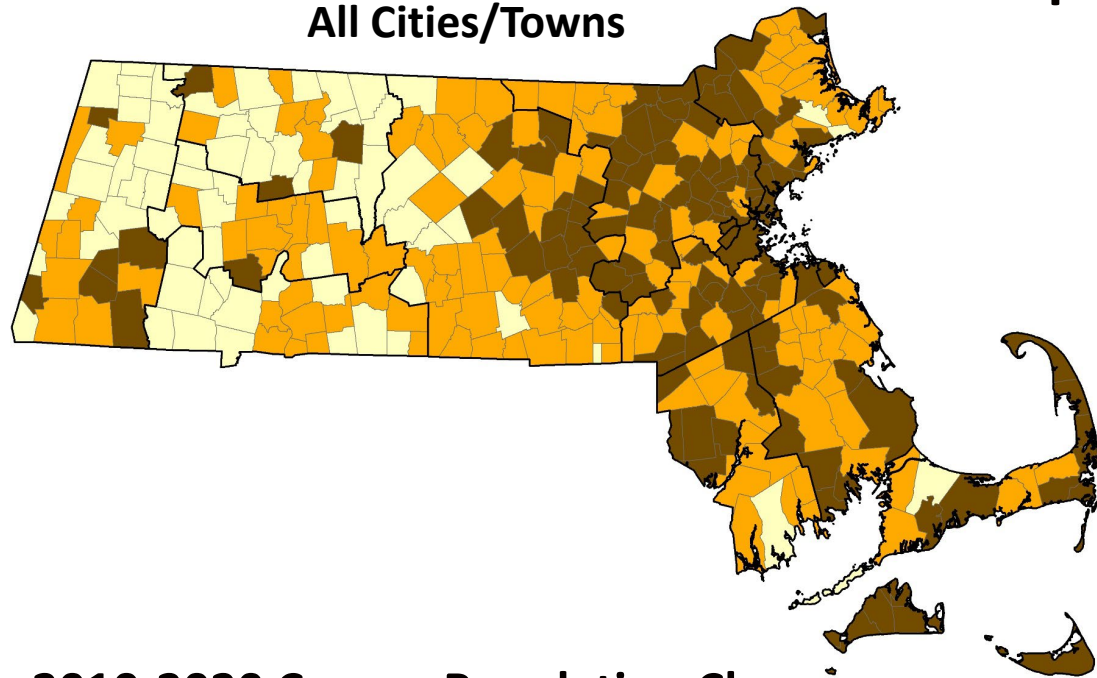
Definition: Under 7,000 populations or less than 500 people per square mile.



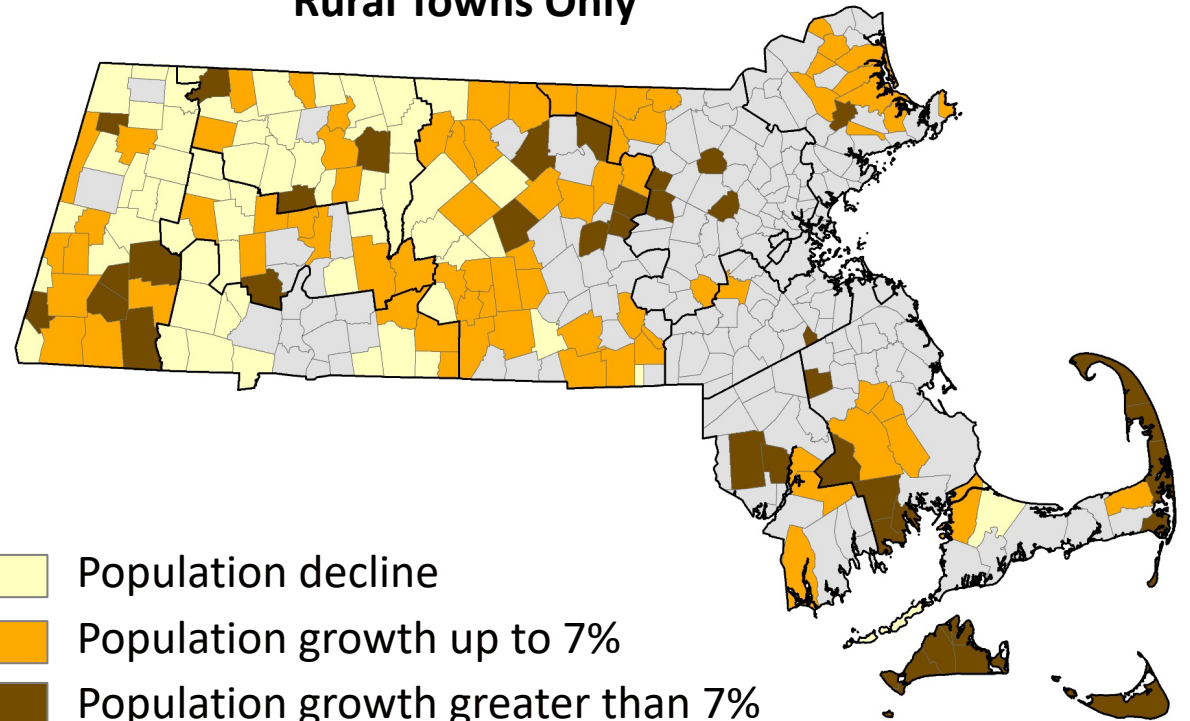


Over the last ten years, a majority of Rural and/or Small Towns have seen a decline in population or a growth rate slower than the statewide average of 7.4%.

Goal is to have a stable population over the next ten years.
All Cities/Towns Rural Towns Only



2010-2020 Census Population Change
Statewide 7.4% Population Growth



- Population decline
- Population growth up to 7%
- Population growth greater than 7%
- Not a Rural Town

Businesses

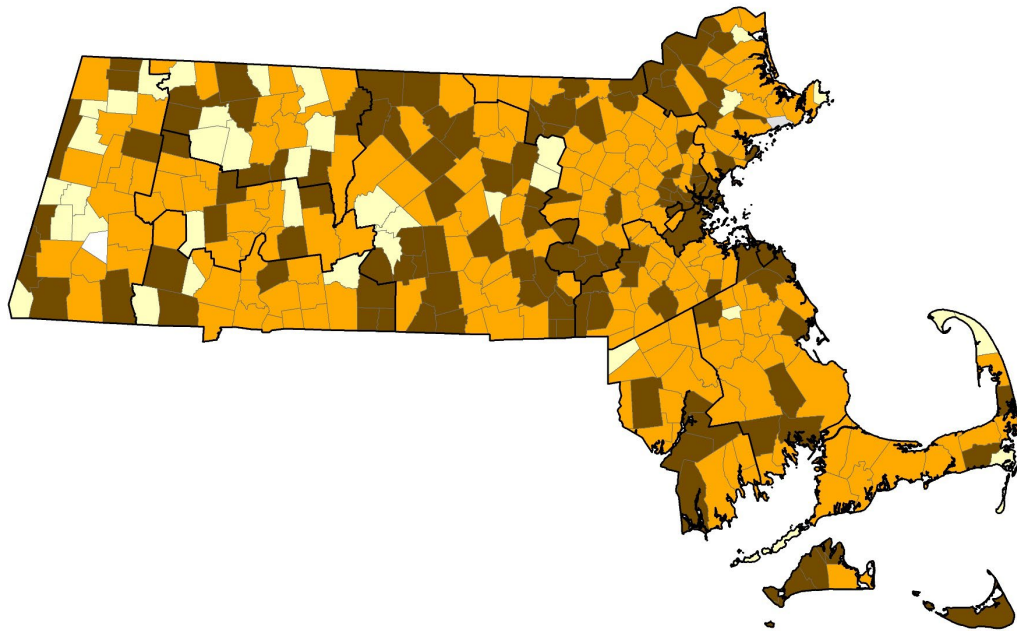


of Business and employees and change over 5 years of Rural MA.

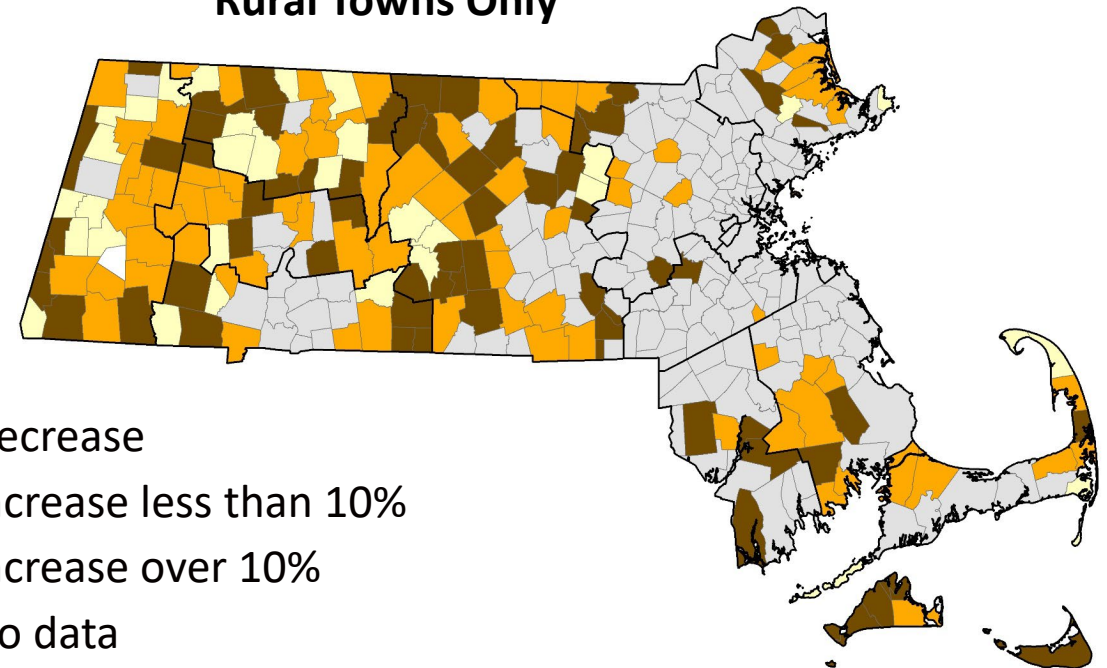
Change in the Number of Establishments from 2017 to 2021

Statewide 10.9% increase in establishments

All Cities/Towns



Rural Towns Only



- Decrease
- Increase less than 10%
- Increase over 10%
- No data
- Not a Rural Town

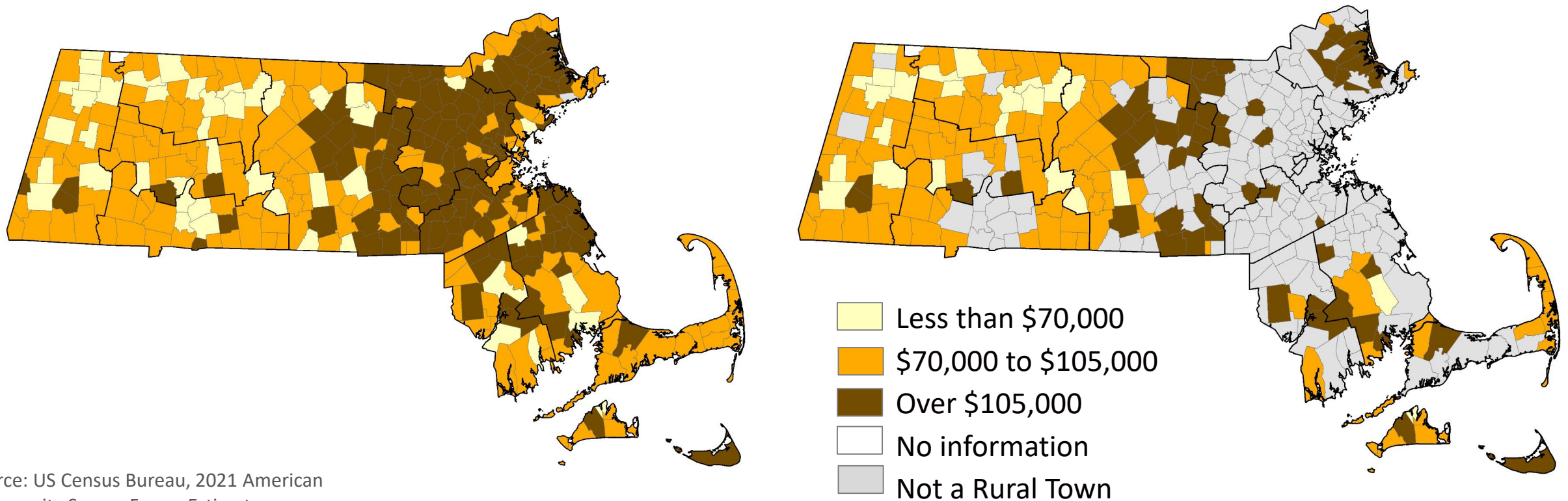
Income



Income in Rural MA, compared to state average, change over 5 years.

2021 Median Household Income

\$89,026 Statewide



Initial Steps to Achieving Vision



Championing Key Rural Projects & Targeted Funding to Rural Towns

Unlocking funding for space utilization and mill demolition or redevelopment

One Stop funding

Create a workable rural economic factor, similar to Gateway Communities, in order to direct funding and increase opportunities for private funding and raise the profile of our rural communities.

Cross secretariate – go after issues that are in the way of key projects.

Make Rural MA livable and workable

Who is working to do economic development in a town? With limited staff capacity. Planning staff.

Rural infrastructure is lacking – roads and water sewer capacity need to be addressed in order to grow.

Reducing burden to make funding easier to access.

Achieve some quick wins, example partnering with DOT to change the way Ch 90 funds are distributed (changing the formula is a longer goal) more immediate is a simple accounting change, send the communities the funds upfront and then get an accounting after the funds have been used-this benefits all communities not just rural.

Roads are not usable Ambulance services strains

To assist communities in their economic sustainability by facilitating connections among parties. Use the community's assets and actors to double down on strengths. Example by crossing traditional boundaries to share info with businesses, non-profits, community based organizations, state and federal partners.

Anne's Goals



- 1) Visit all 181 Rural Communities and create and maintain open lines of communication with the Town Administrators/Managers/Executive Secretary's so they know they are being heard. A dedicated "tab" on the Ec Dev website to make that communication easier.
- 2) Create a workable rural economic factor, similar to Gateway Communities, in order to direct funding and increase opportunities for private funding and raise the profile of our rural communities.
- 3) Achieve some quick wins, example partnering with DOT to change the way Ch 90 funds are distributed (changing the formula is a longer goal) more immediate is a simple accounting change, send the communities the funds upfront and then get an accounting after the funds have been used-this benefits all communities not just rural.
- 4) To assist communities in their economic sustainability example by crossing traditional boundaries to share info with non-profits, for profits, community based organizations, state and federal partners, create career pipelines for municipal jobs working with traditional and vocational high schools and community colleges.
- 5) To help preserve rural character while working on community legacy projects and listening to what the towns want and how the state can assist in getting them there.



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Housing and
Economic Development

Rural Development Fund (RDF)

One Stop for Growth
FY 25 grant cycle



Rural Development Fund (RDF)



- RDF awards funds based on the project's nexus with housing, transportation, infrastructure, economic development, community development, and priorities identified by the Commonwealth's Rural Policy Advisory Commission. Grants are offered for a variety of project types, including community planning efforts, predevelopment activities, and/or construction

Rural Development Fund (RDF)



Key Information:

- Grant awards will be in the \$50,000-\$500,000 range
- **Matching funds NOT REQUIRED**
- Contact: Mallory.Sullivan@mass.gov
- Website: <https://www.mass.gov/how-to/rural-development-fund>

Important Dates:

- Application open – **January 19, 2024**
- Expression of Interest open – **February 9-April 30, 2024**
- Webinars begin – **February 5, 2024**
- Rural Development webinar – **March 18, 2024**
- Full Application submission open – **May 6, 2024**
- Full Application Submission Closes – **June 5, 2024**
- Notification of Awards – **September 2024**

RURAL FEDERAL GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Advanced Transportation Technologies and Innovative Mobility Deployment (ATTAIN)

- To deploy, install, and operate advanced transportation technologies to improve safety, mobility, efficiency, system performance, intermodal connectivity, and infrastructure return on investment.
- 20% of total funding is set aside for rural projects
- **Deadline: February 2, 2024**

RAISE (Rural) (See slide 14 for more information)

- A project is designated as rural if it is located outside a Census-designated urban area that had a population greater than 200,000 in the 2020 Census
- **Deadline: February 28th**

Rural Business Development Grant

- This USDA program promotes economic development and job creation projects
- Eligibility: Government Entity, an Indian Tribe, or a Nonprofit entity primarily serving rural areas.
- **Deadline: April 1, 2024**

Rural Surface Transportation Program (RURAL)

- For rural surface transportation projects to increase connectivity, improve the safety and transit reliability, and generate regional economic growth and improve quality of life
- **Expected to open in the late Spring per USDOT**

FFIO POLL

Please take a minute to respond to a few questions about the next Partnership meeting in the pop-up window.

FEDERAL FUNDS PARTNERSHIP MEETING SCHEDULE

Upcoming Meetings

4th Tuesday of each month starting in January

- Tuesday, February 27th 2-3pm
- Tuesday, March 26th 2-3pm
- Tuesday, April 23rd 2-3pm
- Tuesday, May 28th 2-3pm

Q&A

*Put questions in the chat you would like
our speakers to answer!*

If we are unable to get to your question today, please
send it to us at FedFundsInfra@mass.gov.