

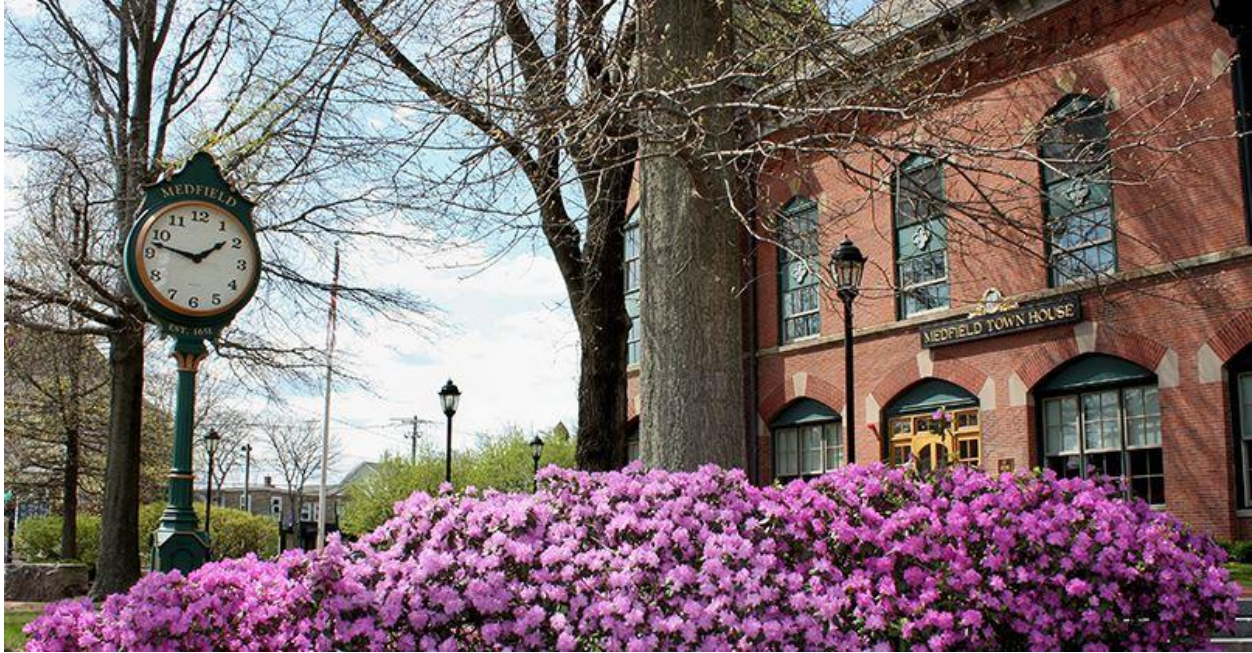


Town of Medfield

OpenCheckbook/Budget Implementation

Prepared By: The Office of Municipal & School Technology

EOTSS | Executive Office of Technology Services & Security



Medfield Town House¹

Executive Summary

In the winter of 2017, the Town of Medfield has signed a Community Compact agreement with the Baker-Polito administration. The Town selected Government Transparency best practice to implement Open Checkbook and budget for better municipal financial disclosure.

Community Profile

The Town of Medfield is located in Norfolk County, Massachusetts. The Town grounds were used for farming and pasturing in the past as a part of Dedham. First settled with eighteen people, the Town of Medfield was incorporated in 1651.² Surviving through time, the Town has a number of historical landmarks and natural amenities. Today, the Town has a population of 12,024, and the median household income is \$153,847.³

¹ Medfield Town House and Clock. Town of Medfield. <https://www.town.medfield.net/>

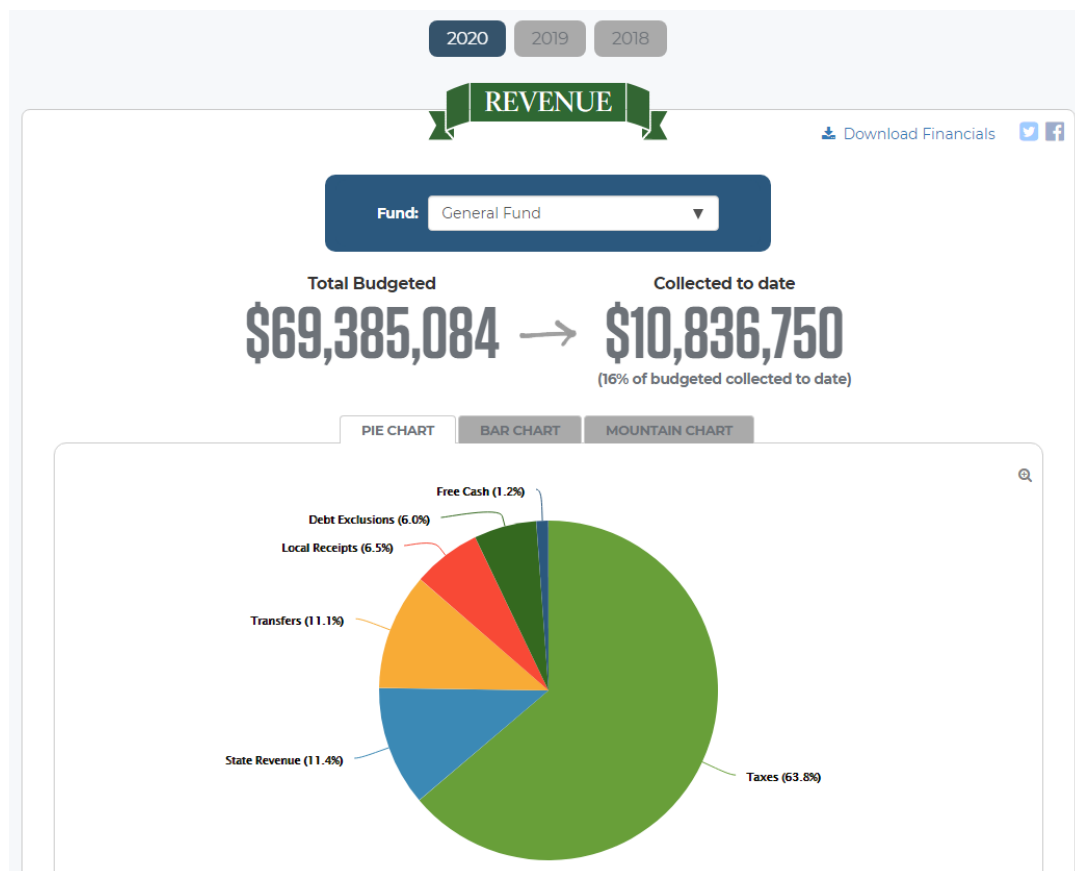
² History of Medfield. Town of Medfield. <https://www.town.medfield.net/DocumentCenter/View/272/History-of-Medfield-PDF?bidId=>

³ Medfield town, Norfolk County, Massachusetts. American Fact Finder. U.S. Census Bureau. https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community_facts.xhtml

Background & Implementation

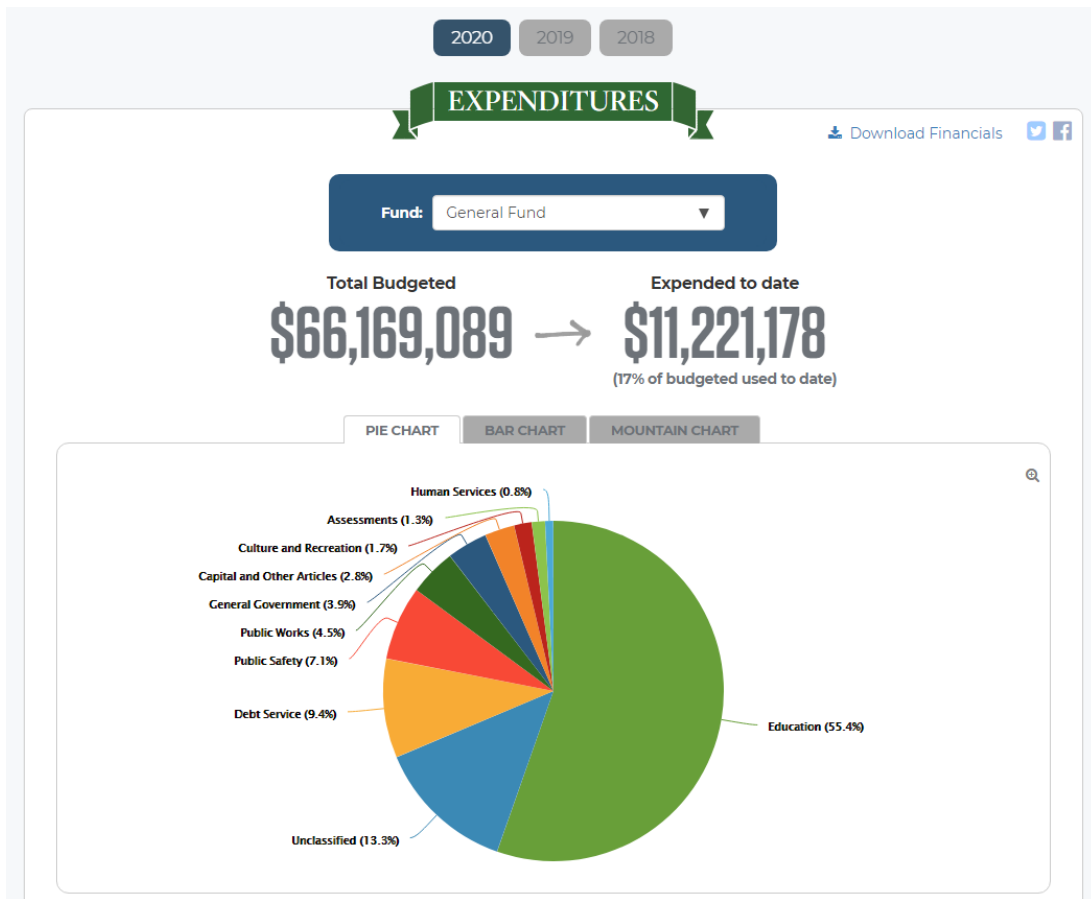
For better financial transparency, the Town sought a way to provide financial data for public consumption, helping constituents understand complex financial data. To achieve this, the Town leveraged the Community Compact funding, hiring ClearGov to deploy a financial transparency platform.

The platform can display high-level municipal revenue and expenditure information and allowing site visitors to look at more detailed financial data by spending categories. This also allows residents to enter the amount of their annual property tax to get a sense of how their contribution is allocated. ClearGov now displays the financial data of the Town in three different fiscal years: 2018, 2019, and 2020.



Town of Medfield Revenue for FY2020 and two past Fiscal Years⁴

⁴ Town of Medfield Revenue. ClearGov.
<https://www.cleargov.com/massachusetts/norfolk/town/medfield/2020/native/revenue>



Town of Medfield Expenditure for FY2020 and two past Fiscal Years⁵

Furthermore, the Town incorporated an internal budget planning tool with ClearGov, which will be used in making future budgetary decisions. The goal of the Town is to implement better fiscal responsibility and transparency by providing financial data for public consumption and controlling certain areas of spending based on the spending pattern over past fiscal years.

Conclusion

With ClearGov's services, the Town successfully completed the Community Compact transparency best practice. The tool Town has made municipal finance easier for the public to understand and supports sound decision-making for staff. Going forward, the tool will continue to provide updated financial data for constituents and streamline government budgetary process.

⁵ Town of Medfield Expenditure. ClearGov.
<https://www.cleargov.com/massachusetts/norfolk/town/medfield/2020/native/expensures>