

Baker-Polito Administration Awards Nearly \$1 Million In Data-Driven Road Safety Grant Funding

Boston – Today, Governor Charles Baker, Lt. Governor Karyn Polito, and Secretary Thomas Turco III of the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS) announced nearly **\$1,000,000** in federal highway safety grant funding to Massachusetts municipal public safety departments in a data-driven effort to reduce vehicle crashes, injuries, and losses of life.

The Office of Grants and Research (OGR) allocated the Sustained Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) grant awards using data from the the Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles and the national Fatality Analysis Reporting System, which illustrate trends in fatal and non-fatal crashes statewide.

“Keeping all road users safe on Massachusetts roads is a priority,” **said Governor Baker**. “These evidence-based grants will help deliver funding for roadway safety resources when and where they’re needed most.”

“The STEP grants allow local police departments to address crash trends with dedicated patrols and enforcement,” **said Lt. Governor Polito**. “Whether they’re driving, riding, or walking, Massachusetts road users will be safer as a result of the programs supported by these funds.”

A total of \$977,515 in STEP grant funding will assist local police departments in focusing their roadway safety efforts at the specific times and locations in their communities with the highest rates of serious crashes. These dedicated patrols also target specific traffic safety hazards such as impaired and distracted driving, speeding and aggressive driving, and seat belt violations. They also serve as a public awareness and deterrence strategy designed to educate the public and promote compliance with all traffic laws.

“These funds for training and enforcement, along with the other critical highway safety initiatives, will go a long way to reducing injuries and fatalities on our roads,” **said Secretary Turco**.

The OGR serves at the State Administering Agency for funding received from the Department of Homeland Security, Department of Justice, and the source funds of these grant awards, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

“Funding being awarded today will assist our local police to enforce our traffic safety laws and hopefully help to reduce traffic fatalities ,” **said Kevin Stanton, Executive Director of OGR**.

The 16 departments receiving an award from the OGR are:

<u>Department</u>	<u>Award Amount</u>
• Barnstable	\$ 44,000
• Boston	\$ 90,000
• Brockton	\$ 60,000

- Cambridge \$ 59,875
- Chicopee \$ 45,000
- Fall River \$ 54,000
- Framingham \$ 54,000
- Holyoke \$ 54,000
- Lowell \$ 60,000
- Lynn \$ 60,000
- New Bedford \$ 45,000
- Newton \$ 43,943
- Quincy \$ 60,000
- Springfield \$ 97,709
- Taunton \$ 60,000
- Worcester \$ 89,988

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