



SMART GROWTH AND REGIONAL COLLABORATION

FY2019 SWM Budget

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On May 10, the Senate Committee on Ways and Means released their FY2019 budget proposal. Appropriations total \$41.42 billion. The Senate Ways and Means budget includes \$88.5 million transfer to the State Stabilization Fund (the Rainy Day Fund).

The Senate members are now considering the budget proposal and filing amendments which are due by Monday May 14th at noon. They will take the bill up for debate starting the week of May 21st. The bill will then go to a conference committee to reconcile differences between House and Senate proposals, and then to the Governor for his consideration, which typically occurs in late June.

Key MAPC Line Items

District Local Technical Assistance - within line item 1599-0026

FY2018:	\$2.8 million
Governor FY2019:	\$2.8 million
MAPC FY2019 Request:	\$3.4 million
House Final:	\$2.8 million
Senate Ways and Means:	No earmark included

Senator Charles Shannon Community Safety Initiative - line item 8100-0111

FY2018:	\$6 million
Governor FY2019:	\$6 million (Safe and Successful Youth Initiative: \$7.3 million)
MAPC FY2019 Request:	\$10 million
House Final:	\$7 million (Safe and Successful Youth Initiative: \$8 million)
Senate Ways and Means:	\$6 million (Safe and Successful Youth Initiative: \$7 million)

Also within line item 1599-0026:	Community Compact Grants	Efficiency and Regionalization Grant
FY2018:	\$2 million	\$2 million
Governor FY2019:	\$2 million	\$2 million
MAPC FY2019 Request:	\$2 million	\$2 million
House Final:	No earmark included	No earmark included
Senate Ways and Means:	No earmark included	No earmark included

Local Aid

- **UGGA.** Matches the Governor and House's proposed \$37.2 million increase for Unrestricted General Government Aid, UGGA , (a 3.5% increase over FY18 to \$1.1B, matching the expected growth rate in state taxes)
- **Chapter 70.** Surpasses Governor and House proposals and recommends \$4.91 billion for education local aid, or Chapter 70 (representing a \$153 million increase over FY18, 3.1%).
- **Education.** The special education circuit breaker (7061-0012) would be increased by \$37 million over FY18 to \$318.9 million. Regional school transportation reimbursements (7035-0006) would be increased to \$62.5 million, McKinney-Vento homeless student transportation (7035-0008) would be level funded at FY18's \$8.1 million, charter school reimbursements (7061-9010) would be increased by \$19.5 million over FY18 to \$100

DRAFT FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES

million, and it matches the Governor and House's proposed \$15 million districts that enrolled Puerto Rican or US Virgin Islands students displaced due to Hurricane Maria.

Transportation

- **MBTA.** The proposal commits \$127 million to the MBTA for upgrades and improvements to the Commonwealth's transportation system (1595-6369). It further allows MBTA to pay for employees, as requested by the Administration but only if supporting a capital transportation project as approved on an itemized budget approved by the board.
- **RTA.** Funding for the RTAs (1595-6370) would be raised to \$88 million, an increase of nearly \$8 million over FY18 funding. \$4 million of these funds would be distributed based on MOUs between RTAs and DOT. The proposal also requires that RTA future funding be indexed to inflation at not more than 103% of the previous year and establishes an RTA task force

Housing

- **MRVP.** This proposal doesn't meet the House's funding of \$100 million for the Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program (MRVP) but does increase by \$4.7million over FY18 to reach \$97.5 million (7004-9024). The MRVP is a highly effective tool in helping to meet housing needs of the Commonwealth's residents. MRVP helps to move homeless families and individuals out of motels, off the waiting lists and into decent homes they can afford.
- **Housing Choice.** The Senate Ways and Means Committee follows the House's lead and did not include the Governor's Housing Choice program (7004-2017) which would offer program incentives, grant funding and technical assistance to encourage municipalities to increase housing development.

Environment

- **Department of Environmental Protection.** While the House proposed a significant increase to Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) administration line, the Senate Ways and Means proposes a decrease to \$24.6 million, which is \$96,000 less than it was allocated in FY18 (2200-0100). This funding is used to ensure clean air and water, watershed planning and permitting, the safe management of toxics, enforcing environmental laws, reducing solid waste, the timely clean cleanup of hazardous waste sites and spills, and the preservation of wetlands and coastal resources.
- **Climate Adaptation and Resiliency.** The budget proposal matches the Governor's \$2.2M for climate adaptation and resiliency planning efforts to provide additional support to municipalities and accelerate statewide hazard mitigation planning (2000-0101).

Public Health

- **Opiate Prevention.** The House Ways and Means budget does not include the Governor's \$5 million to establish a new Substance use Prevention, Education and Screening Trust Fund within the Executive Office of Education (1595-0025).
- **Healthy Incentives Program.** The HIP program provides a dollar-for-dollar match for each SNAP dollar spent on fruits and vegetables at farmers markets, farm stands and Community Support Agriculture Programs. The program is funded at \$3 million within the 4400-1001 line item rather than the unique line item 4400-1004 in the House.

Other Outside Sections

- **Earned Income Tax Credit.** The Senate Ways and Means followed the House in proposing to expand the state Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) to increase the amount by which it matches the federal EITC from 23% to 30% of the federal amount.
- **Community Preservation Act Funding.** There was no funding included for the CPA program. With no funding changes the match is estimated to go down to 11%.