

# District Local Technical Assistance (DLTA)

1599-0026

Photo by Chris Lovett



We respectfully request dedicated level funding of **\$3 million** for DLTA within 1599-0026.



As Massachusetts responds to the COVID-19 pandemic and works toward an equitable recovery, municipalities are taking on more work than ever to support their residents. DLTA can help: the funding helps cities and towns throughout the state take on projects they don't have the capacity to complete on their own.

At least half of Massachusetts communities don't have professional planners to help shape their future economic development, transportation, housing, green spaces, and town facilities.

Thirteen regional planning agencies (RPAs) in Massachusetts help the Commonwealth's 351 cities and towns with these essential tasks, providing technical assistance on everything from updating stormwater guidelines to managing data to preparing economic development plans. **The technical assistance work of most of these RPAs is funded almost entirely by DLTA.**

**DLTA funding is incredibly in demand - every year, RPAs have to turn away worthy project proposals.**

## A Little Goes a Long Way

For every DLTA project a regional planning agency works on, it provides a 10 percent funding match - meaning that funding DLTA at \$3.4 million will support at least \$3.74 million of technical assistance work.

Many of the 13 regional planning agencies leverage this funding even more with outside funding and grant assistance, **as much as doubling the amount of money the state provides.**

## DLTA helps cities and towns plan and take action:

### Project Examples:

- |   |                                      |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| Housing production plans                        | Data collection and analysis         |
| Rewrite zoning codes                            | Economic development plans           |
| Expedite permitting                             | Public health planning               |
| Establish development or conservation districts | Public safety and emergency response |
| Develop design guidelines                       | Energy & climate resiliency plans    |
| Regional service delivery                       | Stormwater planning and guidelines   |
| Regional procurement of goods and services      | Open space and recreation plans      |

**DLTA is unique in that it directly funds much-needed technical assistance for cities and towns. While it's often used in conjunction with other state programs, it is uniquely flexible, providing municipalities with support to solve challenges related to the pandemic response, drought coordination, and more.**

### Questions? Contact:

Leah Robins  
617.933.0710  
lrobins@mapc.org

