

District Local Technical Assistance (DLTA)

1599-0026



We respectfully request an increase to **\$4.5 million** for DLTA within 1599-0026.

District Local Technical Assistance (DLTA) directly funds much-needed technical assistance for cities and towns. DLTA planning dollars help cities and towns take on necessary projects that they don't have the staff capacity to address on their own, and to partner with neighboring communities to tackle shared projects with reduced administrative burden.

DLTA is uniquely flexible. Funds can be spent on a wide variety of planning and implementation projects: zoning, housing production, economic development, conservation planning, and much more.

Equally important: DLTA also helps cities and towns improve the efficiency and effectiveness of local services, and to work with their neighbors on planning, procurement, and services.

DLTA helps municipalities unlock funding opportunities

With DLTA funding, cities and towns can plan for the long term and have the details of shovel-ready, shovel-worthy projects ready when federal competitive funding is available.

Communities can also use DLTA to unlock state funding opportunities and respond to state programs. This year, DLTA has helped municipalities:

- Work toward Roadmap Law emissions targets with climate action plans, electric vehicle strategies, and municipal aggregation plans
- Build local public health capacity in alignment with the SAPHE Act
- Develop a toolkit to support remote and hybrid meeting engagement
- Help municipalities implement economic development recommendations from Local Rapid Recovery Plans
- Revise zoning codes to comply with the Legislature's MBTA Multifamily Zoning provision and respond to priorities in the Housing Choice Law

Statewide Impact

DLTA dollars are distributed to Massachusetts' 13 regional planning agencies (RPAs). Nearly half of Massachusetts communities, including both cities and towns, don't have professional planners to help shape their future economic development, transportation, housing, green spaces, and town facilities.

RPAs help Massachusetts' 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.

State funds go even further with DLTA

Questions? Contact:

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For every DLTA project a regional planning agency works on, it provides a 10 percent funding match—meaning that funding DLTA at \$4.5 million will support at least \$4.95 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.** In FY22, MAPC secured more than five times the required match for DLTA-funded projects.

2

Franklin Regional Council of Governments

Regional Wastewater Sludge Disposal - Assisted towns with evaluating sludge disposal alternatives.

Police Regionalization - Helped assess the impact of 2021 police reform legislation by studying options for regional police services.

1

Berkshire Regional Planning Commission

Fire Services - Reviewed and advised on cost-sharing plan under the Inter-municipal Agreement between Egremont and Mt. Washington for Fire Protection services.

12

Pioneer Valley Planning Commission

Regional Economic Recovery - Complement federal EDA funded activities. Facilitate conversations centered on economic recovery from the pandemic and support creation of a diverse and equitable economy for the Pioneer Valley Region.

11

Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission

Healthy Aging - With support from Massachusetts Healthy Aging Collaborative (MHAC), coordinated an action team of local and regional stakeholders that meets monthly and is actively engaging communities through the Age Friendly Community Needs Assessment survey and sub-regional public listening sessions.

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Southeast Regional Planning and Economic Development District

Comprehensive Planning - Updated Swansea's Comprehensive, Housing Production, and Open Space and Recreation Plans through an extensive civic engagement program (in-person and online), resulting in the update of all Swansea planning documents.

3

Montachusett Regional Planning Commission

Regional COVID Dashboarding - Maintained and expanded the dashboard that collected and analyzed COVID data for other communities in the region.

4

Northern Middlesex Council of Governments

Vinal Square Planning - Aligned development, transportation & open space planning in a critical Chelmsford business square.

5

Merrimack Valley Planning Commission

MBTA Communities Compliance - Supported communities' efforts to achieve Section 3A Compliance.

6

Metropolitan Area Planning Council

Chinatown Arts and Culture Plan - Helped create a Chinatown Cultural Plan and designate Chinatown as a Cultural District.

Clean Energy Technologies at Multifamily Rentals - Worked with Framingham and Natick to conduct outreach to renters and rental property owners about clean energy opportunities.

7

Old Colony Planning Council

GIS Services for Hazard Mitigation and Climate Resiliency - Partnered with communities to provide geographic information system services.

8

Cape Cod Commission

Regional Housing Market Analysis - Prepared an update to & expanded the 2017 regional housing market analysis and forecasted supply and demand gaps through 2025.

13

Nantucket Planning & Economic Development Commission

Build-out Analysis - Prepared a built-out analysis in association with the Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan, focusing on un-sewered areas of the island to identify the location and future use of vacant parcels.

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Martha's Vineyard Commission

Water Quality Testing - Conducted water testing on island ponds to evaluate contamination of ponds and whether previous mitigation was successful.

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