



FY24 MetroWest Regional Collaborative Special Assessment Projects for Consideration

As of March 13, 2024, MWRC has \$21,454 of unallocated special assessment funding from previous fiscal years and FY24. Annually, the Collaborative collects approximately \$38,000 from member communities through a per population charge.

If the project below is adopted as proposed, the Collaborative would have \$11,454 in unallocated funds from past years to carry forward.

MWRC Co-Coordinator Staffing Supplement

Request Summary: With the extra efforts to “restart” the Collaborative activities post-pandemic with two co-coordinators, MAPC requests \$10,000 in special assessment funds to supplement the MWRC co-coordinator efforts. These additional funds will help the co-coordinators with planned activities in the remainder of FY24, including the April Legislative Breakfast, adoption of the FY25 Workplan in May and June, a refresh of the MWRC webpage, and a sustainability directors meeting. We anticipate that future years will not require this level of additional funding.

MWRC Request	\$10,000
Other funding secured	MAPC state subregional assessment funds and Unified Planning Work Plan subregion funds
Communities Committed (100% MWRC members)	All MetroWest Regional Collaborative Communities

In 2023, MAPC revised the subregion coordination program by bringing on a new subregional program manager and selecting several new subregional coordinators for the eight subregions. This program reboot included assigning two MAPC staff co-coordinators (Camille Jonlin and Travis Pollack) for the MetroWest Regional Collaborative. Typically, most subregions are assigned one coordinator. MAPC assigned two coordinators for MetroWest for FY24 and FY25 because the MetroWest subregion historically has had more activity than other subregions, including workshops with municipal staff and stakeholders in addition to the 10 Collaborative meetings each year. The Collaborative also sponsors projects and studies through the MWRC special assessment funds. The MWRC co-coordinators provide financial management and content oversight of these special assessment funds and the programs they support. (It should be noted that, when the MetroWest subregion was first established, MAPC and the Collaborative financed full-time staff dedicated to the subregion.)

MAPC staff funding for all the subregions is from state and federal sources approved at the MAPC level. The MWRC co-coordinators have made an effort to divide responsibilities to avoid doubling the staff time charged to the MAPC subregional coordinator budget for FY24. Aside from the Collaborative and MAPC internal meetings, coordinator efforts for this year included meeting one-on-one with Collaborative members and municipal staff to better understand how the Collaborative can be more effective, revising the MWRC bylaws (last revised in 2010), adding Sherborn as an official member of the MWRC, creating a better internal fiscal accounting



system for special assessment funds, developing a FY25 Workplan (last Workplan adopted by the Collaborative was in June 2020), and developing five new MWRC projects for FY24 (school bus electrification, equitable climate readiness, trail creative placemaking, MW Landline/trails planning assistance, and housing data).

We believe these efforts have paid off as seen through the robust participation in Collaborative meetings, successful MW Trails Workshop in Framingham and Creative Placemaking Workshop in Holliston, and various ways Collaborative members have shared ideas on meeting the requirements of the MBTA Communities Act.

Given the extra efforts to “restart” the Collaborative activities post-pandemic, MAPC requests \$10,000 in special assessment funds to supplement the MWRC co-coordinator efforts for the remainder of FY24. These additional funds will help the co-coordinators with planned activities in the remainder of FY24, including the April Legislative Breakfast, adoption of the FY25 Workplan in May and June, a refresh of the MWRC webpage, and a sustainability directors meeting. We expect that future years will not require this level of additional funding, given the revamped processes that the co-coordinators have completed this year.