

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



City of Worcester

October 21, 2025

Attachment for Item #10.35 A

TO THE WORCESTER CITY COUNCIL

COUNCILORS:

I respectfully recommend adoption of a resolution to file, accept, and expend a grant in the amount of Eight Hundred Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$800,000.00) from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

These funds will be used to build capacity in local boards of health to meet established public health performance standards, particularly in the areas of public health nursing, epidemiology and surveillance, and inspectional services that must be reported to the state on an annual basis. This grant is for \$400,000.00 annually for two years, through June 30, 2027, and there is no required match from the municipality.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric D. Batista
City Manager



The City of Worcester

Department of Health & Human Services

Alex R. Arriaga, Interim Commissioner
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To: Eric D. Batista, City Manager
From: Alex R. Arriaga, Interim Commissioner
Date: October 21, 2025
Re: Recommend adoption of a resolution to file, accept, and expend a grant in the amount of Eight Hundred Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$800,000.00) from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

The Worcester Division of Public Health has received new grant funding from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH). This funding is designed to align the State Commission's recommendations to improve effectiveness and efficiency of local and regional public health and to increase capacity to meet established state-wide public health standards particularly for public health nursing, epidemiological surveillance, and inspectional services. The passing of the State Action for Public Health Excellence (SAPHE 2.0) legislation in Massachusetts requires all health departments to meet the performance standards by statute and will be required to report to MDPH their ability to meet these standards annually. This funding opportunity enhances resources and capacity to meet these standards.

As a recipient of this capacity building grant, WDPH will receive streamlined technical support including racial equity training, sustainability planning, networking opportunities, and connections to state and federal resources to facilitate the achievement of divisional goals and support the needs of our community. The multi-year contract will be in effect from Sept. 15, 2025 through June 30, 2027, and the City of Worcester is eligible to receive \$400,000.00 in grant funding annually for FY26 and FY27 totaling \$800,000.00.

I respectfully recommend that Eight Hundred Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$800,000.00) be accepted by the City Council for the purpose of enhancing public health standards and delivery.

Sincerely,

Alex R. Arriaga
Interim Commissioner
Department of Health & Human Services

**RESOLUTION TO FILE, ACCEPT, AND EXPEND A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF
EIGHT HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$800,000.00) FROM THE
MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH TO SUPPORT
ENHANCMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH DELIVERY**

- WHEREAS:** The City of Worcester is the second largest city in Massachusetts serving a diverse population; and
- WHEREAS:** The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) has made funding available to build capacity in local boards of health to meet established public health performance standards that must be reported to the state on an annual basis; and
- WHEREAS:** The City of Worcester is eligible to receive approximately \$400,000 in grant funding annually for two (2) years to enhance public health nursing, epidemiology and surveillance, and inspectional services capacity; and
- WHEREAS:** No matching funds are required by the City of Worcester.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the City Manager be and is hereby authorized to file information required by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.
2. That the City Manager be and is hereby authorized to accept funds and execute contracts, and any amendments thereto, in order to carry out the terms, purposes, and conditions of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.
3. That the City Manager be and is hereby authorized to take other such actions as are necessary to carry out the terms, purposes and conditions of the contract administered by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.
4. That this resolution shall take effect upon passage.