

Sample City Council Resolution In Support of the Fair Share Amendment

WHEREAS, the best way to help working families and build a stronger economy for us all is to make sure that we have quality public schools for our children, affordable public higher education, and a reliable transportation system; and

WHEREAS, students need a well-rounded education, founded on a rich and varied curriculum that includes science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM), music, art, and athletics; and

WHEREAS, major investments in public education are needed to help students recover academically, socially, and emotionally from the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, tuitions and fees at our public colleges are among the highest in the country, and students are forced to take on enormous debt to receive a degree; and

WHEREAS, for Massachusetts to compete against other regions around the nation and the globe, we need modern, reliable transportation: safer roads and bridges, public transportation that works, and safe ways to walk and bike around town; and

WHEREAS, we have a large backlog of neglected and structurally compromised bridges, tunnels, roads, and public transportation infrastructure in need of repair¹; and

WHEREAS, new state revenue is necessary to rebuild crumbling roads and bridges, improve our public schools from Pre-K through college, invest in fast and reliable public transportation, make public higher education affordable again, and expand opportunities for healthy walking and bicycling; and

WHEREAS, Massachusetts needed new investments in our transportation and public education systems even before the COVID-19 pandemic, and now those investments are needed more than ever to lift our economy into an equitable and long-lasting recovery;

WHEREAS, our Commonwealth's highest-income residents, who have seen their collective net worth skyrocket in recent years, pay a lower percentage of their income in state and local taxes than do the rest of us, and clearly have the ability to pay a little more for the investments we all need²;

THEREFORE, let it be resolved that [Name of City Council] supports the proposed Fair Share Amendment that would create an additional tax of four percentage points on annual income above one million dollars and dedicate the funds raised by this tax to quality public education, affordable public colleges and universities, and for the repair and maintenance of roads, bridges, and public transportation.

1. Boston Globe, [Mass. still short on transportation funding, report says](#)

2. Massachusetts Budget and Policy Center, ["Who Pays? Low and Middle Earners in Massachusetts Pay Larger Shares of their Income in Taxes"](#)