

OFFICE OF THE SELECT BOARD

MEMORANDUM

TO: Melvin A. Kleckner, Town Administrator
FROM: Melissa Goff, Deputy Town Administrator
RE: FY2022 Budget Amendments
DATE: 10/26/21

Article 1 of the Warrant for the Second 2021 Fall Town Meeting proposes amendments to the FY2022 budget. The article is required to address four outstanding items:

- The final State budget contained lower state aid allocations for Brookline than assumed in the budget approved by Town Meeting;
- Increased projections of Local Receipts based on final FY2021 and YTD experience;
- Appropriating annual revenue from the assessment on transportation network companies (TNCs) to fund transportation projects;
- Appropriating \$200,000 from the Host Community Stabilization fund to support the racial equity fund.

LESS NET STATE AID

The final cherry sheet resulted in \$12,342 less of Net State Aid (without Offsets¹), adjusting the total FY2022 Net State Aid (without Offsets) figure to \$15,350,689, an increase of \$290,563 (1.9%) over FY2022. The table on the following page shows how the final State budget results in \$12,342 less in Net State Aid (without Offsets):

¹ Offset Aid consists of Library aid which goes directly to the Library, without appropriation. The Library will have \$1,672 less available in FY22.

	FY21 FINAL CHERRY SHEET	FY22 MAY TM BUDGET	FY22 FINAL CHERRY SHEET	VARIANCE FROM FY22 BUDGET	% CHANGE FROM FY22 BUDGET (H1)	VARIANCE FROM FY21	% CHANGE FROM FY21
RECEIPTS							
Ch. 70	15,006,787	15,212,527	15,212,527	0	0.0%	205,740	1.4%
Unrestricted General Gov't Aid	6,741,760	6,977,722	6,977,722	0	0.0%	235,962	3.5%
Vets Benefits	66,228	72,642	72,642	0	0.0%	6,414	9.7%
Exemptions	30,028	23,633	23,633	0	0.0%	(6,395)	-21.3%
Charter School Reimbursements	25,662	11,221	2,814	(8,407)	-74.9%	(22,848)	-89.0%
TOTAL RECEIPTS	21,870,465	22,297,745	22,289,338	(8,407)	0.0%	418,873	1.9%
CHARGES							
County	1,068,712	1,116,294	1,116,294	0	0.0%	47,582	4.5%
Air Pollution Dist.	34,088	35,140	35,140	0	0.0%	1,052	3.1%
MAPC	31,837	32,571	32,571	0	0.0%	734	2.3%
RMV Surcharge	189,020	189,020	189,020	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
MBTA	5,315,442	5,357,582	5,357,582	0	0.0%	42,140	0.8%
SPED	33,614	62,598	64,770	2,172	3.5%	31,156	92.7%
School Choice Sending Tuition	66,171	66,171	76,456	10,285	15.5%	10,285	15.5%
Charter School Sending Tuition	71,455	75,338	66,816	(8,522)	-11.3%	(4,639)	-6.5%
				0			
TOTAL CHARGES	6,810,339	6,934,714	6,938,649	3,935	0.1%	115,752	1.7%
OFFSETS							
Libraries	103,231	103,231	101,559	(1,672)	-1.6%	(1,672)	-1.6%
TOTAL OFFSETS	103,231	103,231	101,559	(1,672)	-1.6%	0	0.0%
NET LOCAL AID	15,163,357	15,466,262	15,452,248	(14,014)	-0.1%	288,891	1.9%
NET LOCAL AID W/O OFFSETS	15,060,126	15,363,031	15,350,689	(12,342)	-0.1%	290,563	1.9%
GROSS LOCAL AID	21,973,696	22,400,976	22,390,897	(10,079)	0.0%	417,201	1.9%

We also examined Local Receipts at the close of FY21. Based on this experience further adjustments can be made to provide additional support for Town and School Services. The following adjustments were made to local receipts:

REVENUE SOURCE	FY2019 ACTUAL	FY2020 ACTUAL	FY2021 ACTUAL	FY2022 BUDGET	ADJUSTED FY2022 BUDGET	VARIANCE	NOTE
Motor Vehicle Excise	6,583,651	6,277,980	6,040,964	6,071,266	6,071,266	0	
Local Option Taxes	3,883,867	5,274,692	2,539,514	2,125,000	2,725,000	600,000	MJ excise, lodging
Licenses and Permits	1,270,918	1,015,703	966,958	646,108	646,108	0	
Parking and Court Fines	3,325,989	2,441,943	1,991,875	1,550,000	1,850,000	300,000	
General Government	6,364,462	9,123,443	7,496,635	3,804,458	3,804,458	0	Building Permits, HCA not in 22
Interest Income	2,109,380	1,732,705	674,690	768,251	768,251	0	
In Lieu of Tax Payments	1,029,485	1,590,248	2,023,502	1,295,200	1,795,200	500,000	
Refuse Fees	3,035,152	3,026,916	3,392,884	3,574,327	3,574,327	0	
Departmental and Other	8,122,404	6,743,670	5,352,913	4,116,776	4,416,776	600,000	Parking Meters, Parking permits
Total	35,725,309	37,227,300	30,479,935	23,951,385	25,451,385	2,000,000	

The net result is additional revenue of \$1,987,658 available for appropriation. Pursuant to the Town/School Partnership, this translates to \$791,587 available for the Town budget and \$1,196,071 available for the School budget.

Recommendation for the Town appropriation is as follows

Collective Bargaining: \$791,587 The FY 2022 Budget has revenue assumptions based upon uncertain impacts from the continuing COVID pandemic. This led to reductions in certain departmental staffing and programs, and contributed to a very restrictive collective bargaining environment. As revenue recovery from the pandemic has improved, I recommend that we dedicate all of these enhanced revenue to the Collective Bargaining Reserve account.

APPROPRIATION OF RIDE SHARE REVENUE

The Town has received \$81,753.60 in funds from the State assessment on transportation network companies (TNCs), such as Uber and Lyft. One half of the \$0.20 per ride assessment was distributed to the Town and can be appropriated “to address the impact of transportation network services on municipal roads, bridges and other transportation infrastructure or any other public purpose substantially related to the operation of transportation network services in the city or town including, but not limited to, the complete streets program established in [G.L. c. 90I, § 1] and other programs that support alternative modes of transportation.” St. 2016, c. 187, § 8(c)(i). In addition, the Police Department was unable to fully expend FY2019 funds which means \$18,101.15 is available for reallocation.

The attached memo outlines the recommendations for \$99,854.75 voted by the Transportation Board.

APPROPRIATION OF HOST COMMUNITY FUNDS

At the end of FY21 the Town was able to execute a MOA with the Brookline Community Foundation (BCF) for a Racial Equity Fund as contemplated by Town Meeting. At the time there was \$300,000 of Host Community Agreement funding available to transmit to BCF. The stabilization fund has since accrued enough funding for \$200,000 to be appropriated in order to meet the \$500,000 commitment recommended by the Town Administrator.

A formal vote on Article 1 will be presented to the Board on the scheduled vote date of 11/2/2021.

TNC Funding as recommended by the Transportation Board:

In addition to the \$81,753.60 received from this year's TNC funds, the Police notified the Board that they were returning the unused portion of the FY2019 funds allocated toward distracted driver and hands free enforcement because they have been unable to fill the overtime shift. This brings the total to be allocated to \$99,854.75 for this November. The Transportation Board unanimously approved the following allocation recommendations:

Brookline Elder Transportation (Council on Aging): Normally the TNC funds are used to support 3 different programs geared toward increasing access to transportation services for Brookline seniors in support of the Town's goal of Aging in Place and our designation as a World Health Organization Age Friendly Community. However, based on the fact that there is 2019 funds remaining to support several of the Senior Transportation subsidy programs, the Council on Aging has reduced their request for the 2020 funds, for this year only, to just cover the staffing costs. TOTAL FUNDING \$48,898

Brookline Friendly Community Public Bench Project (BCAN): Purchase and install up to 10 benches at designated locations identified by Brookline Community Aging Network and the Pedestrian Advisory Committee to continue to promote walkability for all ages by providing locations of rest along main sidewalk walking routes. TOTAL FUNDING \$22,000

Town Hall Sheltered Bike Rack with Green Roof: The DPW has recently reconstructed the Town Hall plaza to provide a welcoming space for residents to interact. Unfortunately, there was no budget to provide the long requested sheltered bike rack from the Green Routes Master Network Plan. The idea is combine this structure with a green roof to help meet the Town's Climate Action & Urban Forestry Master Plan goals. TOTAL FUNDING \$15,000

Gateway East Bus Shelter: In order to improve service and maximize usage, as part of the Gateway East Project, the bus stops on the inbound and outbound sides of Washington Street were combined and constructed as floating bus stops. As part of the 2021 MassDOT Shared Streets & Spaces grant program the Town was a secondary applicant with the MBTA to purchase and install a shelter at the combined eastbound stop for the 60, 65, and 66 buses. However, there was no funds allocated in neither the project nor the grant to purchase and install a bus shelter on the outbound stop for the 65 & 66 buses. Staff is proposing the use of the remaining fund balance to cover a large percentage of the cost to purchase and install a bus shelter at this priority location. TOTAL FUNDING \$13,956.75