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Governor
Deval Patrick in Governor's Office

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For Immediate release - July 24, 2008

Governor Patrick Announces \$26.7 Million for Community Improvement Projects Throughout Massachusetts**55 Massachusetts cities and towns to receive federal Community Development Block Grants**

BOSTON - Thursday, July 24, 2008 - Governor Deval Patrick today announced 55 communities will receive \$26.7 million in federal Community Development Block Grants to help fund a variety of improvement projects, boost business and economic development opportunities, and upgrade social services.

Repair and improvements to infrastructure and housing rehabilitation for low- and middle-income families are the two largest spending categories. Some 256 private housing units will be rehabilitated using these grant funds, and almost all of them will be single family homes occupied by low or moderate income households.

"Whether it's through support service upgrades, renovated housing, or new roadways and sidewalks, the investment made by these grants will help create jobs and produce long-term benefits for all Massachusetts residents," said Governor Patrick.

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program is the Commonwealth's largest available resource to provide municipalities with resources to implement community and economic development projects, and funds are distributed by the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development to cities and towns with populations of less than 50,000.

The federal funds are targeted to support community revitalization, meet the housing and service needs of low- and moderate-income people and build and repair infrastructure vital to the health and safety of all residents. Eligible communities with populations greater than 50,000 receive CDBG funding directly from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The maximum grant for a single community is \$800,000 or \$1 million for a single community undertaking multiple, geographically targeted activities. Regional applications are accepted.

Of the \$26.7 million awarded, 15 communities along the Route 2 corridor from Gardner to North Adams will receive approximately \$6.6 million while another 21 towns clustered throughout Berkshire, Hampden, Hampshire, Franklin and western Worcester County will receive nearly \$7.6 million. Central Massachusetts communities will receive \$3.8 million while southeast Massachusetts, the Cape and Islands receive \$4.6 million. A balance of \$4.1 million will go to cities and towns in the eastern part of the state (*complete award list attached*).

"These popular grants are extremely flexible and can be used any number of ways to improve our quality of life and help keep our state economically competitive while creating a culture of opportunity for those who earn across a wide variety of incomes," said Housing and Community Development Undersecretary Tina Brooks.

[Community Development Block Grant Awards](#)

<u>Communities</u>	<u>Summary</u>	<u>Award</u>
AMHERST	Public Facilities Improvements-Head Start and "Survival" Center; Public Services	\$799,957
ATHOL	Infrastructure Improvements; Public Services	\$570,850

ATHOL, Petersham, Phillipston, Royalston	Housing Rehabilitation (11 units); Public Services	\$659,987
CHELSEA	Code Enforcement, Housing Other, Planning Infrastructure Improvements; Public Services	\$800,000
CHESTERFIELD , Cummington, Goshen, Plainfield, Westhampton, Williamsburg, Worthington	Architectural Barrier Removal; Housing Rehabilitation (14 units); First Time Homebuyer Downpayment Assistance; Planning: Public Services	\$1,126,844
DARTMOUTH	Architectural Barrier Removal: Housing Rehabilitation (10 units)	\$505,337
DENNIS, Harwich	Housing Rehabilitation (27 units)	\$999,765
ERVING, Bernardston, Colrain, Gill, Northfield, Rowe, Whately	Design; Housing Rehabilitation (17 units)	\$969,024
EVERETT	Infrastructure Improvements; Public Services	\$800,000
FAIRHAVEN	Housing Rehabilitation (4 units); Infrastructure Improvements	\$965,098
GARDNER	Demolition; Housing Rehabilitation (5units);Public Facilities Improvements -Senior Center; Public Services	\$800,000
GREAT BARRINGTON	Design, Infrastructure Improvements	\$647,478
GREENFIELD	Commercial Rehabilitation (3 units); First Time Homebuyer Downpayment Assistance; Public Facilities Improvements - Park; Public Services	\$800,000
HUDSON	Public Facilities Improvements -Senior Center	\$540,000
MILFORD	Housing Rehabilitation (8 units); Infrastructure Improvements	\$905,874
NORTH ADAMS	Infrastructure Improvements; Public Facilities	\$800,000
NORWOOD	Housing Rehabilitation (12 units); Infrastructure Improvements	\$987,690
OAK BLUFFS, Tisbury	Housing Rehabilitation (18 units)	\$615,909
ORANGE	Housing Rehabilitation (3 units); Infrastructure Improvements; Planning; Public Services	\$1,000,000
REVERE	Housing Rehabilitation (10 units); Infrastructure Improvements	\$800,000
RUSSELL, Chester, Huntington, Middlefield	Housing Rehabilitation (6 units); Infrastructure Improvements; Public Social Services	\$999,009
SALISBURY	Housing Rehabilitation (3 units); Infrastructure;	\$724,275

	Public Social Services	
SPENCER	Housing Rehabilitation (20 units); Planning	\$758,790
SOUTHBRIDGE	Commercial Rehabilitation (12 units); Housing Rehabilitation (7 units); Infrastructure Improvements	\$800,000
SOUTHWICK, Granville	Design; Housing Rehabilitation (12 units); Infrastructure Improvements	\$978,300
TEMPLETON	Housing Rehabilitation (9 units); Infrastructure	\$966,400
WARE	Infrastructure Improvements; Planning Public Services	\$800,000
WARE, Brookfield, Hardwick, Warren	Housing Rehabilitation (16 units); Public Services	\$661,597
WAREHAM	Design; Housing Rehabilitation (15 units); Code Enforcement; Public Services	\$800,000
WARREN	Design; Infrastructure Improvements; Public Services	\$787,623
WEBSTER	Infrastructure Improvements	\$800,000
WELLFLEET, Provincetown	Housing Rehabilitation (18 units)	\$718,656
WEST SPRINGFIELD	Housing Rehabilitation (11 units); Housing Code Enforcement; Infrastructure Improvements; Public Services	\$800,000

Note: For multi-community awards listed, towns in capital/bold letters are acting as lead agencies administering grants for the communities listed in non-bold/lower case.

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