



**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development
Media Advisory**

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**PATRICK ADMINISTRATION ANNOUNCES THIRD ANNUAL ROUND
OF MASSWORKS INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM**

BOSTON – MONDAY, AUGUST 12, 2013 –Housing and Economic Development (HED) Secretary Greg Bialecki today announced that the third round of the annual MassWorks Infrastructure Program grant program will be open to new applications online between Tuesday, September 3 and Friday, September 13, 2013.

The MassWorks Infrastructure Program provides a one-stop shop for municipalities and other eligible public entities seeking funding to support economic development and job creation. Municipalities with a population of 7,000 or less may also seek grants for road improvements to enhance safety.

“By investing in infrastructure, along with innovation and education, the Patrick Administration is focused on empowering communities and regions to create development and job-creation opportunities throughout the Commonwealth,” said Secretary Bialecki. “MassWorks helps us accomplish that goal by targeting investments that maximize growth, leverage private investments, strengthen communities, and create economic opportunity for all.”

The 2013 grant round will support housing or commercial growth opportunities that contribute to the long-term strength and sustainability of Massachusetts with a particular emphasis on projects that support the production of multi-family housing in appropriately located mixed-use districts or that support economic development in weak or distressed areas. The MassWorks Program encourages communities to apply for projects where they have planned ahead for such growth by implementing prompt and predictable permitting and zoning that supports the desired growth.

The materials for the third round of grants and the electronic application system were first put online in June, giving public entities a 12-week head start on gathering information they need to apply for these grants in September. A copy of the 2013 application, guidelines, FAQs, and other relevant materials are available on the HED website at <http://mass.gov/hed/massworks>. All data submitted during the 2011 and 2012 grant rounds will be available to applicants for updating, making reapplying easier. All decisions will be rendered within approximately eight weeks.

The first competitive MassWorks grant round was held in September 2011 and HED awarded \$63.5 million in grants to 42 communities throughout Massachusetts. In 2012,

under the second round of grants, the Administration approved 26 projects worth nearly \$38 million.

The MassWorks Program represents six capital budget programs that were consolidated by the Patrick Administration in 2011 and codified by the Jobs Bill signed by the Governor in August 2012. To learn more about the MassWorks Infrastructure Program and how it is supporting job growth and long-term, sustainable economic development, please visit: <http://mass.gov/massworks>.

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