



Town of Abington

OFFICE OF
TOWN MANAGER
500 GLINIEWICZ WAY
ABINGTON, MA 02351
(781) 982-2100
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Board of Selectmen Meeting
January 25, 2016
6:30 p.m.
Cotter Room

Members present: Mike Franey, Maureen Jansen, Andy Burbine, Ken Coyle, Alex Bezanson

Public Announcements:

- Selectman Bezanson announced that there will be an adult craft night at the Library on February 11, 2016, at 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
- Selectman Coyle announced that Ron Howe will be participating in Flight for Air on February 6, 2016, for the fifth consecutive year.
- Selectman Burbine announced that Park and Recreation is holding volleyball for ages 18 and over on Wednesday evenings at the Frolio from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
- Selectman Jansen announced that the Boosters is hosting a meat raffle on January 30, 2016 at 2:00 p.m. at the Depot.

Public Appointments:

6:40 p.m. – Public Hearing – Transfer of commercial garage license, 740 Brockton Avenue – Gerard Toppa requested a transfer from Mr. Tire. Hours Monday through Friday 8am to 6pm, Saturday 8am to 5 pm, and no hours on Sunday to start, and may request Sunday hours in the future.

M/Bezanson to approve transfer commercial garage license with no operating hours on Sunday.

S/Coyle

Voted 5-0

6:45 p.m. – **Public Hearing 2016 CDBG Program Grant Application and Report on 2014 CDBG Grant Activities**

Chairman Michael Franey called the public hearing to order at 6:45 p.m. and introduced Wayne Darragh,

Mr. Darragh, Vice President of Community Opportunities Group, the Town's grant consultant, provided a summary of the Massachusetts CDBG Grant Program, and the proposed joint application with the Town of Whitman for funding through the FY 2016 Massachusetts CDBG Program.

Mr. Darragh explained that there were two pools of funding available under the grant program: CDF-I is the largest pool of funding available. CDF-II is a smaller pool of funding, at \$2.7 million. The key difference between the two is related to the Community-Wide Needs (CWN) Scores the state assigns to each community using various demographic and financial data. The highest possible CWN score is 35. Abington has a 2016 CWN score of 21 and Whitman's score is 19. These scores require that Abington and Whitman apply under the CDF-II pool.

He went on to explain why a regional application is more competitive. The state encourages regionalization and offers bonus points to regional applications. Additional bonus points are given for the Towns' investments in their target areas using non-CDBG funding.

The regional program with Whitman has been successful, he said, and there is a significant amount of remaining unmet need. Under the current regional housing rehabilitation program, a total of 20 housing units are completed or underway – 10 in each town – which meets the goal set for the program. He noted that there were still nearly 50 applications on the waiting list for assistance that the program hasn't yet reached. The Abington and Whitman Food Pantries have been able to increase the number of people served and the amount and quality of food provided to each family through the current grant. For these reasons, he said, he would recommend continuing the regional collaboration on these two activities and applying under the 2016 MCDBG CDF-II fund.

He also noted that the existing Community Development Strategies for both Abington and Whitman (CDS) were approved by the Department of Housing and Community Development in 2014 and remain in effect until January of 2017. He distributed the Abington CDS list of priority projects to the Selectmen and members of the public for review and comment.

Selectman Bezanson asked Mr. Darragh to explain the process for property owners wishing to apply for the housing rehabilitation program and to explain eligibility in regard to the existing target areas. Mr. Darragh responded by describing the North Abington and South Abington Target areas and explained that while homeowners must generally be located in one of the target areas to receive assistance through the program, that otherwise eligible applicants with anywhere in Abington could receive assistance with emergency repair needs (such as failed heating systems, badly leaking roofs, etc.). (attached)

No comments were received from members of the public.

M/Coyle to submit a 2016 CDBG CDF-II Application in conjunction with the Town of Whitman for \$800,000 to continue the Abington Whitman Housing Rehabilitation Program and to continue support for the Abington and Whitman Food Pantries

S/Bezanson

Voted 5-0

M/Burbine to authorize the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen and other Town officials to sign all necessary documents related to the 2016 Grant Application

S/Jansen

Voted 5-0

M/Burbine to designate Town Manager, Rick LaFond, Environmental Certifying Officer.

S/Jansen

Voted 5-0

6:50 p.m. – Request for a livery license, 1200 Bedford Street – passed over -- as the Building Commissioner/Zoning Enforcement Officer is requiring a Site Plan Review as allowed per 175-77 (3) in the Zoning Bylaws regarding off street parking/standing cabs and their proximity to children, as there is currently a day care at this location.

Action/Discussion items:

1. Approval of January 11, 2016 open session minutes
M/Jansen to approve
S/Bezanson
Voted 5-0
Approval of January 11, 2016 executive session minutes
M/Bezanson to approve as amended
S/Burbine
Voted 5-0
2. Setting location for upcoming elections - - After meeting with the Town Clerk and public safety officials it was determined that Emerald Hall would be the best choice to hold the upcoming elections.
M/Burbine to hold the elections at Emerald Hall, Central Street, until the Abington High School is completed, and the elections will move back to the High School.
S/Jansen
Voted 5-0
3. Police Chief Contract –
M/Coyle to approve with amended language pertaining to vacation. (attached)
S/Bezanson
Voted 5-0
4. FY2017 Budget Update – Town Manager stated that the Governor announced at the MMA Conference that there will be a 4.3% increase in local aid and that Chapter 70 will be fully funded. After February vacation, we will schedule joint meetings between the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee with department heads, and the Finance Committee will continue their meetings on Wednesday as well.

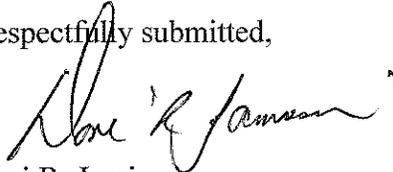
5. Town Manager Report – Town Manager stated that the Governor is supportive of local government. The bills for the recent storm are coming in now and an update will be provided. A meeting was held earlier today with Billy Ryan and Matt Barry, Town Manager, Assistant Town Manager, Chairman of the Board, with regard to the Abington land located at Southfield, and the traffic issues of Route 18. LStar will be coming before the Board with an update most likely in February.

Chairman announced that the Park and Recreation Committee is meeting with the Conservation Commission for a plan for temporary playing fields at Griffin's Dairy, and after that is accomplished, it will be placed on a Board of Selectmen Meeting.

M/Jansen to promptly adjourn
S/Burbine
Voted 5-0

Meeting adjourned: 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Dori R. Jamieson
Assistant Town Manager

TOWN OF ABINGTON

Massachusetts FY 2016 CDBG Program Joint Application with Whitman Information on Proposed Grant Application, Community Development Strategy & Sustainable Development Principles

January 25, 2016

General Information

Massachusetts Community Development Block Grant (MCDBG) Program grants are provided through Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended by the U.S. Congress. For the Federal Fiscal Year 2016 application cycle, the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) is making funding available to non-entitlement Massachusetts communities through its Community Development Fund (CDF) program. DHCD's Community Development Fund Program has two competitive pools of funding: Community Development Fund I and Community Development Fund II. Communities are assigned a Community-wide Needs Score (based on demographic information) by DHCD that determines the funding pool in which the community can compete. The Town of Abington has a Community-wide Needs Score of 21 out of 35 and must compete as a CDF II community. The Town of Whitman has a Community-wide Needs Score of 19 out of 35 and has been invited by the Town of Abington to join it in a regional application to the CDF II Fund. DHCD has announced there is approximately \$2.7 M in funding available in the CDF II pool. Communities receiving CDF II funding under the FY16 program are not eligible to apply again until the FY18 funding year.

The following are some of the types of eligible activities for which MCDBG Program funding is most frequently used:

- Planning
- Housing rehabilitation (private or public) and other housing activities
- Projects to rehabilitate and stabilize existing neighborhoods, commercial areas and downtowns
- Infrastructure
- Construction and/or rehabilitation of community facilities
- Handicapped accessibility improvements and
- Public social services

All activities using CDBG funds must meet one of the following National Objectives:

1. Provide benefit to low- and moderate-income persons;
2. Aid in the prevention or elimination of slums and blight;
3. Meet a critical community need (defined as an unanticipated event such as a disaster).

Status of Current MCDBG Program Grants

The Towns of Abington and Whitman successfully collaborated on a regional CDF II application in 2014 and received a grant of \$780,216. The activities funded included:

- 1) The Abington-Whitman Regional Housing Rehabilitation Program (AWHRP) operates primarily within designated target areas in the two towns, but can make emergency repairs to eligible properties anywhere in the two towns. This program has a goal of rehabilitating 18 units of housing occupied by low and moderate income households, and is currently on track to meet or exceed that goal, having completed 11 units with 7 additional units in process. Of the 18 units already completed or currently underway, 9 are located in Abington and 9 in Whitman.
- 2) Funding to the Abington and Whitman Food Pantries in order to expand these programs by both increasing the number of families served and the amount and quality of food available to eligible families in the two towns. Each food pantry was allocated \$36,000 (\$2,000 per month).

Proposed FY16 MCDBG Program Grant

Abington is proposing to submit a FY16 Community Development Fund II (CDF II) grant application containing at least two projects/programs. This would include extending the two programs funded with the 2014 grant given the success of and continuing need for these programs and considering other activities proposed by residents during the community outreach activities associated with planning for and preparing the grant application and priorities established in each town's approved Community Development Strategy.

Community Development Priorities and Needs

As part of the Massachusetts CDBG Program application process, a community must update its Community Development Strategy (CDS) every three years. Abington updated its CDS in 2014 and it remains in effect. A CDS establishes a target area or areas, describes community goals and creates a priority list of community needs. DHCD encourages communities to seek assistance for projects that have been identified through meaningful, public community based planning and priority setting processes. The Town's CDS, Master Plan and E.O 418 Community Development Plan represent community-based planning and outreach efforts that identified a series of goals and implementation strategies to address its community development needs. The areas of community development examined in those efforts included, but are not limited to, the following:

Housing needs	Public Facilities
Open space/recreation	Transportation
Economic development	Development patterns

The goal of the MCDBG program is to address goals and priorities identified by a community in its CDS. A copy of the List of Prioritized Projects/Activities from the 2014 CDS is attached to this handout for review and comment.

Sustainable Development Principles

The Massachusetts' Office of Commonwealth Development has developed sustainable development principles that it promotes as part of state policy to promote Smart Growth. Applications for many of the Commonwealth's assistance programs, including the CDBG program, are evaluated for their consistency with the ten sustainable development principles, summarized here:

1. Concentrate Development and Mix Uses
2. Advance Equity
3. Make Efficient Decisions
4. Protect Land and Ecosystems
5. Use Natural Resources Wisely
6. Expand Housing Opportunities
7. Provide Transportation Choice
8. Increase Job and Business Opportunities
9. Promote Clean Energy
10. Plan Regionally

To receive MCDBG funding, a proposed project must be consistent with at least five (5) of these principles. A copy of the Commonwealth's sustainable development principles accompanies this handout.

TOWN OF ABINGTON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES

(Excerpted from Approved 2014 Community Development Strategy)

1. Complete improvements to the North Abington and Abington Center Business Districts to make these areas more attractive and pedestrian friendly. Utilize a variety and mix of financing sources, including private funding, Urban Renewal, MassDevelopment, LISC, PWED, CDAG, CDBG, and other public grants.
2. Work with the Old Colony Planning council to identify, lay-out, and develop bicycle and pedestrian routes, including routes that will connect the town's recreational assets.
3. Address the town's facility needs, including improvements to the town's Fire Stations and construction of a new combination Middle School/High School.
4. Foster appropriate new growth in the town's retail and service sector in areas with adequate existing infrastructure to expand the town's tax and job bases.
5. Rehabilitate and preserve existing housing stock affordable to low- and moderate-income households.
6. Create a financing plan to meet the Town's unfunded pension and health care liabilities.
7. Review the town's zoning bylaw to identify potential revisions that would encourage the development of a variety of housing to be constructed in abandoned and/or vacant industrial properties.
8. Expand the outreach services of the Council on Aging to identify and assist the Town's neediest segment of the elderly and/or disabled population.
9. Increase conservation land through acquisition and conservation restrictions, including the Porhecky Property, which town meeting authorized as an open space land acquisition.
10. Prioritize neighborhoods with aging infrastructure, poor drainage, a lack of sidewalks or inaccessible sidewalks for improvements including full depth roadway construction.
11. Identify additional funding sources for local and regional agencies that provide fuel and food services to residents in need.
12. Continue to pursue opportunities to preserve the town-owned Griffin Dairy Property, a 34.4 acre property adjacent to 9.8 acres of privately-owned fields and woods to the south.

Sustainable Development Principles

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts shall care for the built and natural environment by promoting sustainable development through integrated energy and environment, housing and economic development, transportation and other policies, programs, investments, and regulations. The Commonwealth will encourage the coordination and cooperation of all agencies, invest public funds wisely in smart growth and equitable development, give priority to investments that will deliver good jobs and good wages, transit access, housing, and open space, in accordance with the following sustainable development principles. Furthermore, the Commonwealth shall seek to advance these principles in partnership with regional and municipal governments, non-profit organizations, business, and other stakeholders.



1. Concentrate Development and Mix Uses

Support the revitalization of city and town centers and neighborhoods by promoting development that is compact, conserves land, protects historic resources, and integrates uses. Encourage remediation and reuse of existing sites, structures, and infrastructure rather than new construction in undeveloped areas. Create pedestrian friendly districts and neighborhoods that mix commercial, civic, cultural, educational, and recreational activities with open spaces and homes.

2. Advance Equity

Promote equitable sharing of the benefits and burdens of development. Provide technical and strategic support for inclusive community planning and decision making to ensure social, economic, and environmental justice. Ensure that the interests of future generations are not compromised by today's decisions.

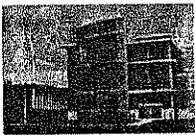
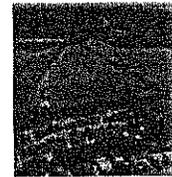


3. Make Efficient Decisions

Make regulatory and permitting processes for development clear, predictable, coordinated, and timely in accordance with smart growth and environmental stewardship.

4. Protect Land and Ecosystems

Protect and restore environmentally sensitive lands, natural resources, agricultural lands, critical habitats, wetlands and water resources, and cultural and historic landscapes. Increase the quantity, quality and accessibility of open spaces and recreational opportunities.



5. Use Natural Resources Wisely

Construct and promote developments, buildings, and infrastructure that conserve natural resources by reducing waste and pollution through efficient use of land, energy, water, and materials.

6. Expand Housing Opportunities

Support the construction and rehabilitation of homes to meet the needs of people of all abilities, income levels, and household types. Build homes near jobs, transit, and where services are available. Foster the development of housing, particularly multifamily and smaller single-family homes, in a way that is compatible with a community's character and vision and with providing new housing choices for people of all means.



7. Provide Transportation Choice

Maintain and expand transportation options that maximize mobility, reduce congestion, conserve fuel and improve air quality. Prioritize rail, bus, boat, rapid and surface transit, shared-vehicle and shared-ride services, bicycling, and walking. Invest strategically in existing and new passenger and freight transportation infrastructure that supports sound economic development consistent with smart growth objectives.

8. Increase Job and Business Opportunities

Attract businesses and jobs to locations near housing, infrastructure, and transportation options. Promote economic development in industry clusters. Expand access to education, training, and entrepreneurial opportunities. Support the growth of local businesses, including sustainable natural resource-based businesses, such as agriculture, forestry, clean energy technology, and fisheries.

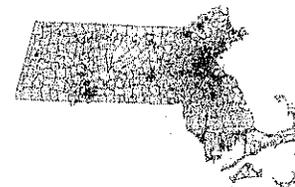


9. Promote Clean Energy

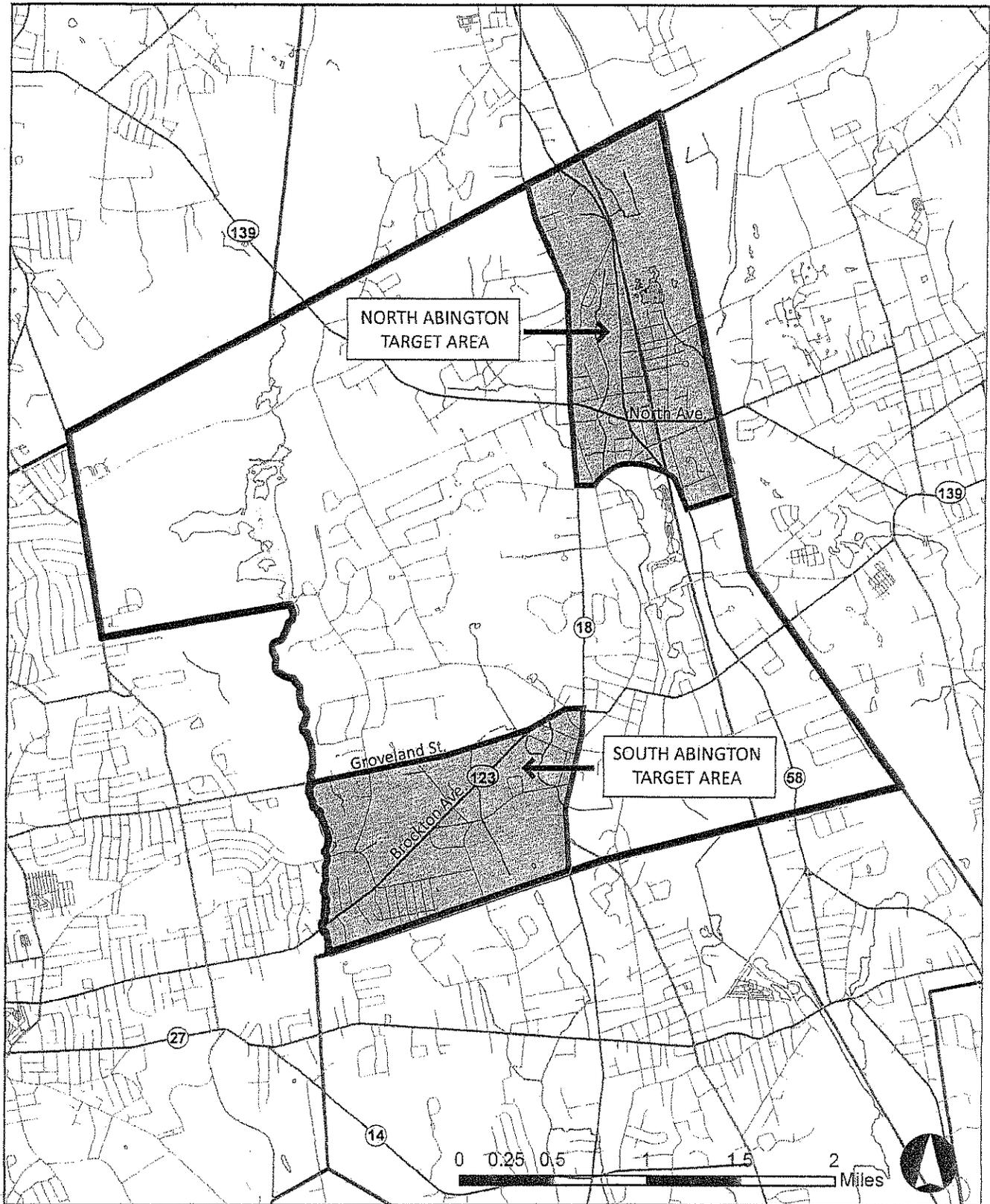
Maximize energy efficiency and renewable energy opportunities. Support energy conservation strategies, local clean power generation, distributed generation technologies, and innovative industries. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and consumption of fossil fuels.

10. Plan Regionally

Support the development and implementation of local and regional, state and interstate plans that have broad public support and are consistent with these principles. Foster development projects, land and water conservation, transportation and housing that have a regional or multi-community benefit. Consider the long-term costs and benefits to the Commonwealth.

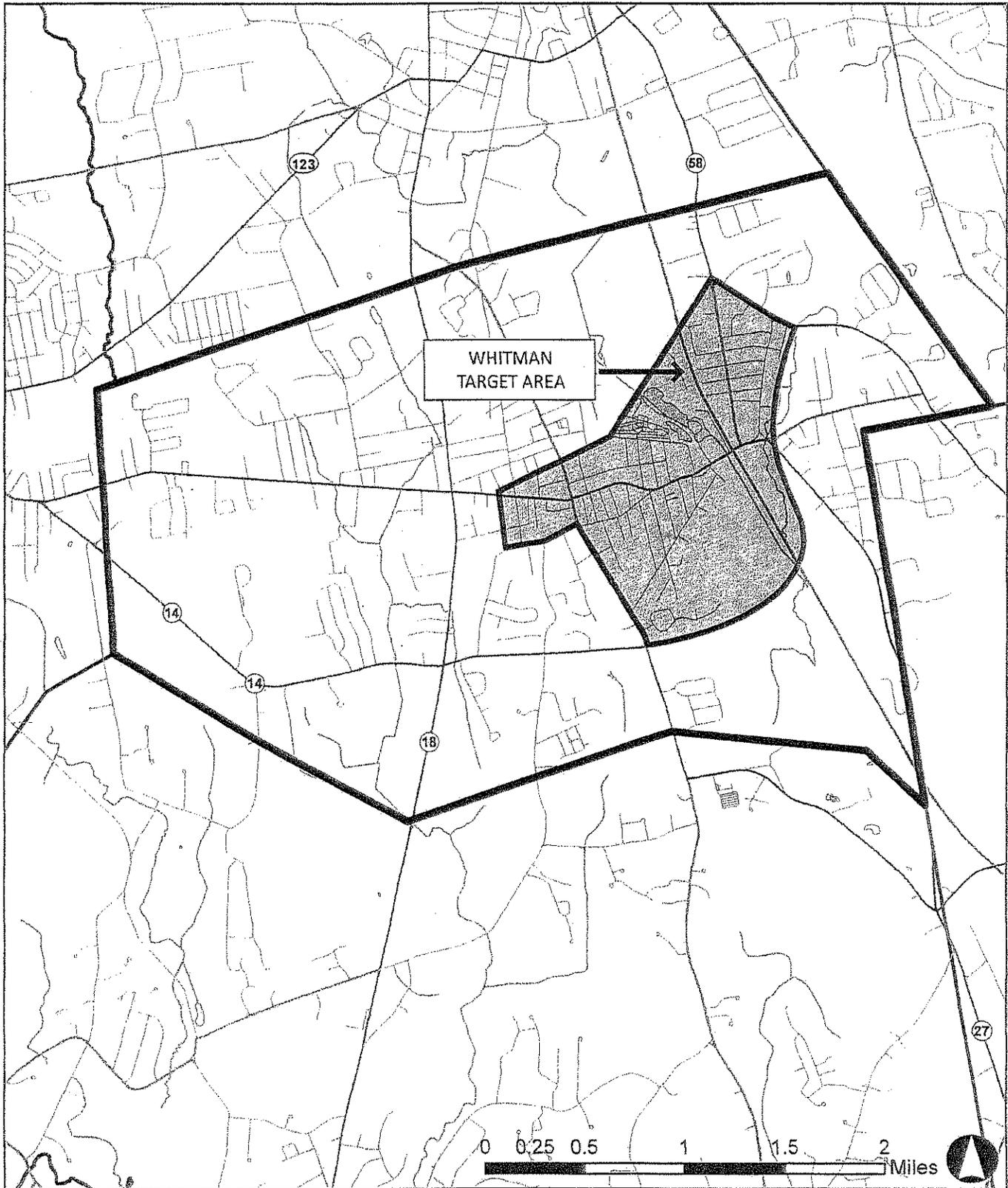


Abington Target Areas Map



Source: MassGIS, Community Opportunities Group, Inc.

Whitman Target Area Map



Source: MassGIS, Community Opportunities Group, Inc.



RECEIVED

JAN 25 2016

BOARD OF
TOWN OF ABINGTON

Abington Council on Aging

441 Summer Street • Abington, MA 02351
781-982-2145 • Fax: 781-982-0063

January 19, 2016

Rick LaFond, Town Manager
Town of Abington
500 Gliniewicz Way
Abington, MA 02351

Dear Mr. LaFond:

I am writing to express my strongest support on behalf of the Town of Abington's 2016 Massachusetts Community Development Block Grant Application to continue the Abington-Whitman Housing Rehabilitation Program and to continue support to the Abington Food Pantry. I have come to appreciate the value of having such programs for disadvantaged residents and for seniors in particular.

The Housing Rehabilitation Program is an important resource for our residents. As you know, many low and moderate income elderly homeowners simply do not have the ability to finance much-needed repairs to their homes. This is particularly true of the emergency situations we are able to refer to the Program, such as leaking roofs and failing heating systems, as well as accessibility improvements, without which some seniors would be unable to maintain their independence or remain safe in their own homes. Given the recent economic recession and the strains it is placing on all of our most needy residents, this is not the time to be without such a valuable program.

The Abington Food Pantry is also providing essential services to our lower income seniors. With the escalating costs of health care, heating, and other basic needs, too often our seniors are making decisions whether to buy food or pay for medicines or fuel oil. The additional funding provided by the CDBG grant has allowed the Abington Food Pantry to increase both the amount of food available to our needy families and the quality and nutritional value of the meals provided. This resource allows the Town's low and moderate income households to stretch their limited budgets further to cover basic living expenses.

Taken together, the two proposed activities included in this year's MCDBG grant application will serve the Town's neediest residents by ensuring that they will have safe, decent and affordable housing and access to nutritious and affordable food. I wish you the best of luck in your efforts to obtain additional funding for these programs.

Please let me know if there is anything I can do to be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Djusberg
Director

cc COA Board

AGREEMENT BETWEEN
POLICE CHIEF DAVID G. MAJENSKI
AND
THE TOWN OF ABINGTON
July 1, 2015 THROUGH June 30, 2018

Agreement made by and between the Town of Abington, Plymouth County, Massachusetts and David G. Majenski, Chief of Police.

Whereas the parties desire to ensure the continuing efficient operation of the Police Department in the Town of Abington and the harmonious and complete communication between the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Abington and the Chief of Police of the Town of Abington.

Contract Period:

The Town of Abington hereby acknowledges that David G. Majenski has been appointed Chief of Police in accordance with the provisions of Article 3-12 of the Town Charter.

Now in consideration for definition of a financial package it is hereby agreed to the following terms and conditions to be incorporated as an agreement considered a Massachusetts contract and shall be governed by and construed under MGL C.41 S.108O, for the period of July 1, 2015- June 30, 2018.

Compensation:

Subject to appropriation the annual base salary of the Chief of Police shall increase as follows:

July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016	1%
July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017	2%
July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018	2%

Annual Review:

The Town Manager shall annually review the performance of the Police Chief in a format agreeable to both parties.

In the event that the Board of Selectmen vote to increase the salary or provide additional benefits to the Chief of Police, such vote shall become part of this agreement and shall supersede the amounts and benefits listed.

Management Rights

The management rights of the Police Chief shall be governed by applicable state statute, the Abington Town Charter, and applicable town by-laws.

Work Week:

The Chief of Police shall work Monday through Friday. He shall be off on Saturday and Sunday and Holidays. He will be available for duty in cases of emergency. A cellular phone will be available for the Chief's use at the Town of Abington's expense. Due to the twenty four (24) hour call status of the Chief, he shall be assigned an unmarked town vehicle. The Chief shall be able to use this vehicle at his own discretion.

Vacation:

The Chief of Police shall receive 25 days of vacation per contract year.

- The Chief shall not lose his vacation if incapacitated because of injury in the line of duty. In such cases, his vacation pay shall be transmitted to him or his estate with his last pay check due in any calendar year.
- Vacation accrued in one fiscal year may be carried over to a subsequent fiscal year up to 15 days.
- The Town will buy back all accrued vacation at time of separation from town service, for any cause. Vacation time will be bought back at the Chief's then current rate of pay.

Sick Leave

The Chief of Police shall be entitled to earn sick leave at the rate of one and one quarter (1-1/4) days for each month worked, for a total of fifteen (15) days per year. Sick leave shall be accumulated from year to year with unlimited accumulation. The Chief of Police shall not be allowed to accumulate sick leave if he is out on a line of duty injury.

Deferred Compensation

For each year of the contract, the town shall contribute an additional \$100.00 per week to the deferred compensation plan of the Chief of Police.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE AND SPECIAL LEAVE:

A Leave of Absence without pay may be granted at the sole discretion of the Town Manager for up to three (3) months.

Injured on Duty: If the Chief sustains an injury in the performance of his official duties, he shall be placed under the provisions of M.G.L. C.41 s.111F

Infectious Disease:

In recognition of the on the job exposure of the Chief of Police to members of the public who may have certain medical conditions, the Town of Abington agrees that any condition or impairment of health caused by the contraction of Hepatitis or AIDS shall be presumed to have been a "line of duty" injury within the meaning of M.G.L Chapter 41 section 111f, unless it can be absolutely shown that non-service connected risk factors or non-service incidents caused the disease.

Holiday Pay:

Holiday pay will be paid to the Chief of Police on the following holidays:

New years Day

Labor Day

Martin Luther King Day
Washington's Birthday
Patriots Day
Thanksgiving Day
Christmas Day

Columbus Day
Veterans Day
One Half Day before Thanksgiving
Memorial Day
Independence Day

Severance Pay

Upon the retirement or death of the Chief of Police or his estate will receive twenty five percent (25%) pay at the rate of compensation which he was receiving at the time of retirement or death, for all unused accumulated sick leave up to a maximum of one hundred and twenty days (120).

Insurance:

The Town of Abington shall provide the Chief of Police a continuation of its present contributory group insurance plan.

Professional Development:

The Town of Abington recognizes its obligation to the professional development of the Chief of Police. The Town agrees that he shall be given adequate opportunities to develop his skills and abilities as a Law Enforcement Administrator. He will be allowed to attend such conferences and courses with pay without loss of vacation or other leave. The Town will reimburse the Chief for all proper expenses incurred while attending said conferences and courses.

Subject to approval of the Town Manager the Town agrees to pay for professional dues and subscriptions reasonably related to the professional growth, development, education and training of the Chief of Police.

Removal and Suspension:

It is agreed that the Chief of Police can be removed or suspended only for just cause in accordance with applicable requirements of the Abington Town Charter as amended

Legal Counsel:

In the event that any person or persons bring charges against the Chief of Police for an incident(s) or action(s) reasonably related to his official duty or authority as Chief, whether public or private, civil or criminal in nature, not otherwise eligible for defense by the town's insurer, the Town of Abington will provide the Chief use of Town Counsel. This provision will be in effect whether the Chief is on or off duty at the time of the incident(s) or action(s).

Modifications:

No changes or modifications of this agreement shall be valid unless same are in writing and signed by both parties. This contract embodies the whole agreement of the parties. There are no

inducements, promises, terms, conditions or obligations made or entered into by either party other than those contained herein.

Stability of Agreement:

If any of the provisions of this Agreement shall in any manner conflict with any Federal Law or Statute, or Statutes of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, such provisions shall be considered null and void and shall not be binding on the parties hereto; and in such an event, the remaining provisions of this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.

Either party may, at any time, make demands and propose specific amendments to this Agreement and the parties may mutually agree on amendments and proposals and the effective date, thereof; but neither party shall be obligated to consider or negotiate such proposed demands or amendments, which shall be signed by representative of the parties duly authorized by the Town and the Chief.

General Provisions:

This agreement recognizes that pursuant to the Abington Town Charter the appointment of the Police Chief is for an indefinite term. Therefore, the provision of this agreement shall remain in full force and effect until such time that a new agreement becomes effective.

Agreed to this ____th Day of _____, 2016

TOWN OF ABINGTON

By:

David R. Majenski, Police Chief

Richard J. LaFond, Town Manager