Seaport Economic Council Update
Massachusetts Bay Harbor Safety Committee Annual Spring Meeting
April 4, 2019

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Deputy Secretary
Executive Office of Housing & Economic Development
Establishment of the Seaport Economic Council

• Originally Seaport Advisory Council
• Re-launched by the Baker-Polito Administration in August 2015
• Mission to:
  • deepen the maritime economy
  • promote economic development
  • support resilient infrastructure in all 78 of Massachusetts’ coastal communities while preparing them to engage with the challenges posed by sea level rise and increasingly powerful coastal storms.
• Capital grant program supports working waterfronts, local tourism, coastal resiliency, and maritime innovation

Since August 2015:

• $39.6 million in grants awarded for 83 projects
• $33.9 million leveraged in federal, local and private matching funds
• $73.5 million of strategic investments to our maritime economy

BOSTON — On February 27, 2019 the Baker-Polito Administration announced more than $6.4 million in Seaport Economic Council Grants to support projects in 6 communities and 4 educational institutions.
Innovation Grants

• A resource to invest in innovative ideas and projects that promote job creation and economic growth in the maritime sector.

• Includes: shipping and trade, marine science and technology, coastal recreation and tourism, ocean-based clean energy initiatives, and the seafood industry.

• Administered by the John Adams Innovation Institute at Massachusetts Technology Collaborative

• $2.4 million in grants awarded for 10 innovation projects.

*ePod prototype and placement in lobster pot*
Grants to Public Education Institutions

- Grants range from fostering awareness of coastal assets and maritime traditions of the Commonwealth to investing in transformative public/private collaborations.

- $1.6 million awarded for 4 Education projects

With its emphasis on boat building, and the math and science that entails, along with vocational skill-building, this program puts students on a path to the maritime or other trades.
Local Maritime Economic Development Planning Grants

- Coastal communities vary in size and scope from deep-water port cities to small beach towns.
- Provide capacity for coastal communities to explore their unique advantages and generate economic development plans to help them realize their full potential, grow jobs, and maximize the maritime economic sector for their community.
- $1.7 million awarded for 15 planning grants

Lt. Governor Karyn Polito on June 8, 2018 joined members of the Seaport Economic Council, local elected officials and community members in a series of visits to economic development zones in the towns of Scituate, Cohasset and Hull.
Maritime Economic Sector Strategy Grants

- Supported *Navigating the Global Economy: A Comprehensive Analysis of the Massachusetts Maritime Economy* by UMass Dartmouth Public Policy Center
  - Living Resources
  - Marine Construction
  - Offshore Minerals
  - Ship & Boat Building & Repair
  - Coastal Tourism & Recreation
  - Marine Transportation & Technology
- Included survey of marine businesses highlighting challenges and opportunities
- $600,000 in sector strategy grants awarded for 5 projects
Supportive Coastal Infrastructure Project Grants

- Available for investments in coastal infrastructure in order to fulfill the job or economic growth potential within a coastal community
- Captures best available science and information regarding potential threats to coastal communities from sea level rise and extreme weather events
- Up to $1 million in funding per project.
- $33 million in infrastructure grants for 50 projects

In the town of Gosnold, the passenger dock is the vital link with the mainland and is the foundation for the economic vitality of the town.

In Chatham, the Old Mill Boat Yard provides a second viable commercial port for local and commercial fishers. Funded improvements will help mitigate the effects of sea level rise and barrier beach movement on Chatham’s primary commercial port infrastructure and economy and support the installation of an environmentally responsible vessel washdown facility, and improvements to Chatham’s shellfish seeding facility.
# Seaport Economic Council – 2019 Grant Rounds

## Timetable 2019

- For consideration at the August 2019 Investment meeting of the Seaport Economic Council, applications must be received by May 1, 2019.

- For consideration at the February 2020 Investment meeting of the Seaport Economic Council, applications must be received by Nov. 1, 2019.

## Who’s eligible to apply?

- Commonwealth’s 78 coastal municipalities.

- Other qualified public entities.

## How much is available?

- Maximum awards of $1 million.

- Anticipate awarding up to $9 million in 2019.

## What’s eligible for funding?

- Grant funds are to be used for capital expenses.

- Preference will be given to those applications that demonstrate collaboration and entities with a proven track record in maritime sector strategy, maritime economic development, and the development of economically supportive and resilient coastal assets in a sustainable fashion.

- Matching funds of 20 percent of overall project funding request is necessary. Acceptable sources include the municipality, federal grants, private funds, or contributions by partner organizations.
• First program in the Commonwealth with focused funding for saltwater dredging.

• Goal of preparing coastal communities for success in the Blue Economy.

• Regular, annual, and competitive funding rounds.

• Focus on shovel-ready projects that contribute to the long-term strength and sustainability of the Blue Economy.

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Lt. Governor Karyn Polito cuts ribbon to celebrate completion of Manchester Harbor Dredging Project – first dredging project to receive funding through an EOHED grant program (MassWorks).
Mass. Dredging Program – Building on Success

• Builds upon the success of the 2018 Navigational Dredging Pilot Program, launched by the Baker-Polito Administration in July 2018.

• $3.6 million in pilot grants awarded for 10 fully permitted dredging projects in August 2018.

• $3.9 million leveraged in municipal funds and pre-construction costs.

• Projects will remove an estimated 187,000 cubic yards of sand and sediment from harbor floors across Southeastern Massachusetts and the Cape and Islands.

Lt. Governor Karyn Polito announces $3.6 million in grants for 10 dredging projects through the 2018 Navigational Dredging Pilot Program.

187,000 cubic yards is roughly equivalent to 57 Olympic Swimming Pools.
Applications due May 1, 2019.

Who’s eligible to apply?

• Commonwealth’s 78 coastal municipalities.
• Limit of one application per municipality.

How much is available?

• Maximum amount that may be requested is $2.5 million per municipality.
• Anticipate awarding up to $4 million for multiple projects.

What’s eligible for funding?

• Dredging of public tidelands and associated disposal of dredge materials.
• Cost-reimbursement grant program.
• Eligible reimbursement costs include expenses for bidding and construction.
• “Pre-construction costs” – study, design, engineering, permitting, and/or real property transactions – are not eligible for reimbursement.
• Grants require a minimum 50% non-state match.
• Multiple non-state funding sources may be used, including pre-construction costs paid in the last three fiscal years.
• **All grant funds must be expended by June 30, 2020.**
• Grants will be competitively awarded with a focus on shovel-ready projects that contribute to one or more of the following...
  o Economic significance
  o Recreational value
  o Public safety
  o Coastal resiliency

Dredging of Cotuit Bay and Sampson’s Island in Barnstable – 2018 Navigational Dredging Pilot Program Project.
• RFP and all other 2019 Grant Round information is available at Mass.gov.
  • Search “Massachusetts Dredging Program” using Mass.gov search bar.
• General questions will be accepted via email through April 18, 2019, 12:00 PM at eohedgrants@mass.gov.
• Information Session will be held Wednesday, April 17, 11:00 am at One Ashburton Place in Boston.
  • See RFP for complete details.
  • RSVP to eohedgrants@mass.gov.
  • All materials from this session will be posted online.
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