

*City of Taunton
Office of the Mayor*



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Contact Person: Ligia Madeira, 508-821-1000

O’Connell Administration Achieves 500% Increase in Grant Money for Taunton

Taunton, MA... Today Mayor Shaunna O’Connell announced that the City’s grant funds have increased 500 percent since she was sworn into office. The City of Taunton has achieved yet another milestone this Fiscal Year by receiving the highest number of competitive grants in the City’s history.

Year	Total Grant Funding Received by City
2020	\$352,662
2021	\$477,000
2022	\$1,112,307
2023	\$2,173,086

“I inherited a vast array of necessary infrastructure repairs city wide. To address the needs of the City while keeping Taunton affordable, our team at City Hall aggressively pursued federal and state funding. I am pleased with our results. This grant money funds important projects while keeping the financial burden off of Taunton residents,” said O’Connell. “Every part of our City has been helped in some way by the grant projects.”

Some highlights of the grant projects include:

- TDI Quick Win – MassDevelopment - \$10,000
 - Whittenton Community Day to kick off TDI program
- Municipal Fiber– Division of Local Services - \$190,000
 - Fiber connection for Lakeville Water Tower in Taunton Water District
- SAFER (Yr. 2) – FEMA - \$779,711
 - Full salary and benefits for 7 new firefighters
- Firefighter Safety Equipment – Division of Fire Services - \$35,000
 - Active shooter kits for Fire Department
- Real Estate Technical Assistance – MassDevelopment - \$50,000
 - Study of former Taunton Nursing Home Property
- Shared Streets and Spaces – MassDOT - \$50,000

- Purchase of Ventrac machine for snow clearing on sidewalks
- Shared Streets and Spaces – MassDOT - \$99,000
 - Crosswalk enhancements on Main Street
- Safe Routes to School– MassDOT - \$17,500
 - Speed feedback signs for Parker Middle School zone
- Housing Choice Initiative – DHCD - \$100,000
 - Urban Renewal Plan for Whittenton
- District Local Tech. Assistance – SRPEDD - \$25,000
 - Route 140 Corridor Study
- Housing Choice Initiative – DHCD - \$31,875
 - Technical assistance for completing MBTA Zoning compliance model
- Transformative Development Initiative (Yr. 1) – MassDev - \$125,000
 - Operating TDI program for part of year
- Greening the Gateway Cities – EOEEA - \$60,000
 - Water tank, trees, and tree planting supplies for citywide planting.
- Complete Streets – MassDOT - \$400,000
 - Reconstruction of Weir Street from High St. to First St.
- FY2024 Committed Funds
 - MassDevelopment Brownfields assessment and remediation at Nickerson Ave - \$200,000
 - IT Community Compact – Surveillance system for Water Dept. - \$200,000
 - Continuation of TDI Program in Whittenton - \$500,000
 - Community Compact – Bridge Inventory - \$30,000
 - Community Compact – Opioid Prevention Strategic Planning - \$30,000
 - MassDEP EVIP – Purchase of electric vehicle for City use - \$7,500
- SAFER (Yr. 2) – FEMA - \$779,711
 - Full salary and benefits for 7 new firefighters
- COVID-19 Contact Tracing \$200,000
 - Funding to hire extra staff for contact tracing at Board of Health.

ARPA Funding for Community and Park Programs Highlights:

- T.O.G.E.T.H.E.R. Summer Program \$558,335
- Youth Mental Health Collaborative \$166,000
- Local small business grant program \$135,000
- Human Services Community Health and Wellness Initiatives \$645,160
- Home Wellness Visit Program \$132,000
- Board of Health Nurse \$90,000
- New Hope (shelter, clothing, counseling to women and children in need) \$70,000
- Sign and Façade program (small business grant program) \$550,000
- Downtown Development Initiative \$500,000
- Community Center on Ingell Street \$1,000,000
- Local Non-Profit assistance \$400,000.00, including:
 - PRIDE Inc.

- Triumph, Inc.
- Old Colony YMCA
- Boys & Girls Club Metro South
- Cory's Cause
- Citizens for Citizens
- Local Food Pantries
- Youth Athletics
- Summer Youth Camps/Programs
- Splash Pad \$500,000.00
- Extended Hopewell Pool Hours \$45,000
- Memorial Park Restoration \$2,500,000.00
- Security Cameras Citywide \$155,000.00
- Citywide Safety Management Program \$250,000.00
- Caregiver Support Specialist \$54,600.00
- Senior Activities and Supplies \$61,000.00
- Taunton Emergency Task Force \$200,000.00

ARPA Funding for Infrastructure Highlights:

- Assawompsett Pump Station Improvements \$2,500,000
- Prospect Hill Reservoir \$2,500,000
- Water Dept Emergency Containment Insertion Valves \$600,000
- Fire Department Ladder Truck \$1,289,990
- Fire Department Fire Engine \$650,000.00
- Police Vehicles \$1,099,331
- Police Radio Site Maintenance/System Upgrades \$645,333
- Police Radio Equipment (Fixed & Portable) \$220,000
- Police Active Shooter Training Equipment \$37,600
- Police Traffic Technology \$47,750
- Police Drone Program \$48,000
- Police Shooting Range \$500,000
- Police Department Detail Tracking System \$40,000
- Public Safety Building Site \$1,900,000

“We are tackling the needs of our community while being fiscally prudent. These grants allow us to address the important needs of ailing infrastructure while keeping taxes low. I would like to thank our Office of Economic and Community Development, and all of the individual departments, for their help in obtaining these grants that help the people of Taunton,” said O’Connell.

The City is on track for the next fiscal year to obtain even more grant funding.###