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Representative Smola Announces Downtown Initiative Grant for Sturbridge

BOSTON – Representative Todd M. Smola (R-Warren, Ranking Member, Committee on Ways & Means) is pleased to announce that the Town of Sturbridge is one of thirteen communities selected to receive funds through the Massachusetts Downtown Initiative (MDI) Technical Assistance Program. Sturbridge was awarded \$10,000 to conduct a feasibility study for seasonal trolley service.

"Downtown Initiative Grants provide an incredible opportunity for local communities to plan for future development and growth," said Representative Smola. "I would like to congratulate the Town of Sturbridge for securing these funds and I look forward to reviewing their results."

MDI project awards will be used to fund a variety of downtown revitalization initiatives across the thirteen communities. In partnership with local towns and cities, the Massachusetts Downtown Initiative will also be providing technical assistance in the form of workshops, programs, and professional consultant services as part of a holistic approach to downtown revitalization. These services will provide the framework and tools to continue advancing local improvements beyond the grant program. These grants support local downtown revitalization efforts by connecting municipalities with high-impact consultant services. This year's awards, totaling \$130,000, are set aside from the Community Development Block Grant program every year, and are administered by the Department of Housing and Community Development.

For additional information please contact Representative Smola at Todd.Smola@mahouse.gov or (617)722-2100.

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