

The Commonwealth of Massachus::tts House of Representatives Late House, Boston 02133-1054

TODD M. SMOLA REPRESENTATIVE

1ST HAMPDEN DISTRICT

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House approves road and bridge funding for local towns

BOSTON – Representative Todd M. Smola (R-Warren, Ranking Member, Committee on Ways & Means) is pleased to announce that all seven towns in the First Hampden District are scheduled to receive road and bridge funding for Fiscal Year 2021 under the state's Chapter 90 program. Brimfield will receive \$280,152; Holland will receive \$158,507; Palmer will receive \$472,998; Sturbridge will receive 430,518; Wales will receive \$105,226; Ware will receive \$424,054; and Warren will receive \$287,836.

The funding was included as part of a \$200 million statewide bond authorization approved by the House of Representatives on a vote of 159-0 on June 30. House Bill 4803, *An Act financing improvements to municipal roads and bridges*, is expected to reach Governor Baker's desk following a final enactment vote in the Senate on July 2.

Established by the Legislature in 1973, the Chapter 90 program allocates funding to cities and towns on an annual basis, using a formula that is based on a weighted average of a community's population, employment and total road miles. It is a 100 percent reimbursable program that provides funding assistance for municipalities to carry out roadway construction, renovation and improvement projects.

According to Representative Smola, Chapter 90 funding can be used for a variety of purposes, including road resurfacing, sidewalks, street lighting, traffic control measures, and roadside drainage. Municipalities can also use the money for the purchase, replacement and long-term lease of road building machinery, equipment and tools. For additional information please contact Representative Smola at <u>Todd.Smola@mahouse.gov</u> or (617)722-2100.