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TODD M. SMOLA REPRESENTATIVE **1ST HAMPDEN DISTRICT**

BRIMFIELD • HOLLAND • PALMER STURBRIDGE • WALES • WARE • WARREN

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Local Legislators Announce New Partnerships for Ware and Warren **LED Streetlight Conversion Programs**

BOSTON – Representative Todd M. Smola (R-Warren), Senator Anne M. Gobi (D-Spencer) and Representative Donald R. Berthiaume, Jr. (R-Spencer) are pleased to announce that the towns of Ware and Warren have been awarded grants to help convert a number of their traditional streetlights to LED technology. Ware will receive \$55,663 in funding and Warren will receive \$8,431. The partnerships between the municipalities, the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources (DOER), and Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) will be funded through DOER's \$11.4 million Rapid LED Streetlight Conversion Program.

LED streetlights are more energy efficient and longer-lasting than other common street lighting technologies; converting saves cities and towns money both on their electric bills and in operations and maintenance. LEDs offer a number of other advantages as well, including improved visibility, reduced light pollution, and the ability to install advanced controls such as dimming, remote control, and Wi-Fi capability. Converting streetlights to LED technology, which uses up to 60% less energy than standard streetlights, can decrease demand and lead to lower prices.

"Investing in LED streetlights will reduce energy costs for our local communities and provide improved safety for motorists and pedestrians in both Warren and Ware," said Representative Smola.

"LED technology provides incredible benefits include energy usage reduction, increased visibility, and reduced light pollution," said Senator Gobi. "Congratulations to Ware and Warren for receiving these grant awards. This conversion is a large capital cost that many small communities would otherwise be unable to afford."

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

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