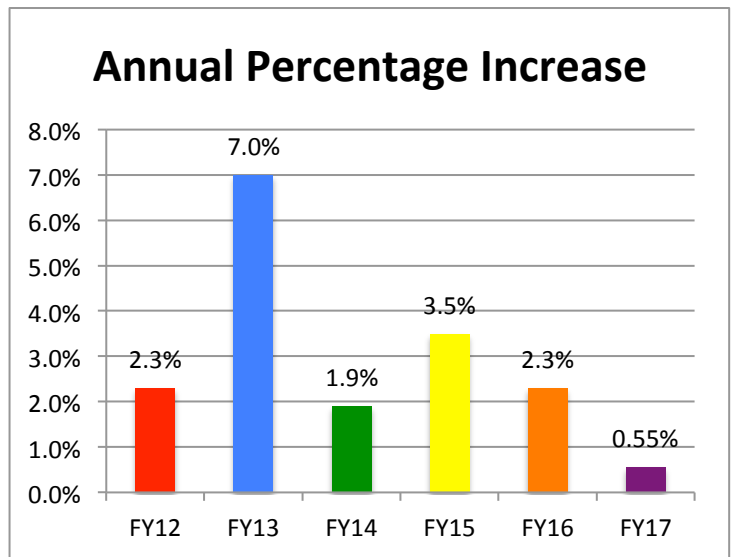


EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School is privileged to provide educational services to more than 1,400 students each year, representing each of the eighteen cities and towns in our member district. Talented faculty and staff deliver a rich, rigorous curriculum that introduces students to 21st century career opportunities and prepares them for a future that may include college or career.

On behalf of the School Committee, administration, and staff at Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School, I am pleased to submit to you our proposed budget for FY 2017, the fiscal year, which begins on July 1, 2016. Adoption of this \$26.4 million budget will enable us to continue to provide the high quality of career and technical education that you have come to expect from Monty Tech.

The proposed budget reflects the district priorities, includes operating expenses equal to the required minimum net school spending, and demonstrates a commitment to current levels of service. To achieve the budget before you, district officials have successfully mapped out a plan for cost savings that includes utilizing \$300,000 in available reserve funds, a targeted pursuit of grant funding, and increased private sector support. The result is a comprehensive annual budget that reflects a modest 0.55% increase.

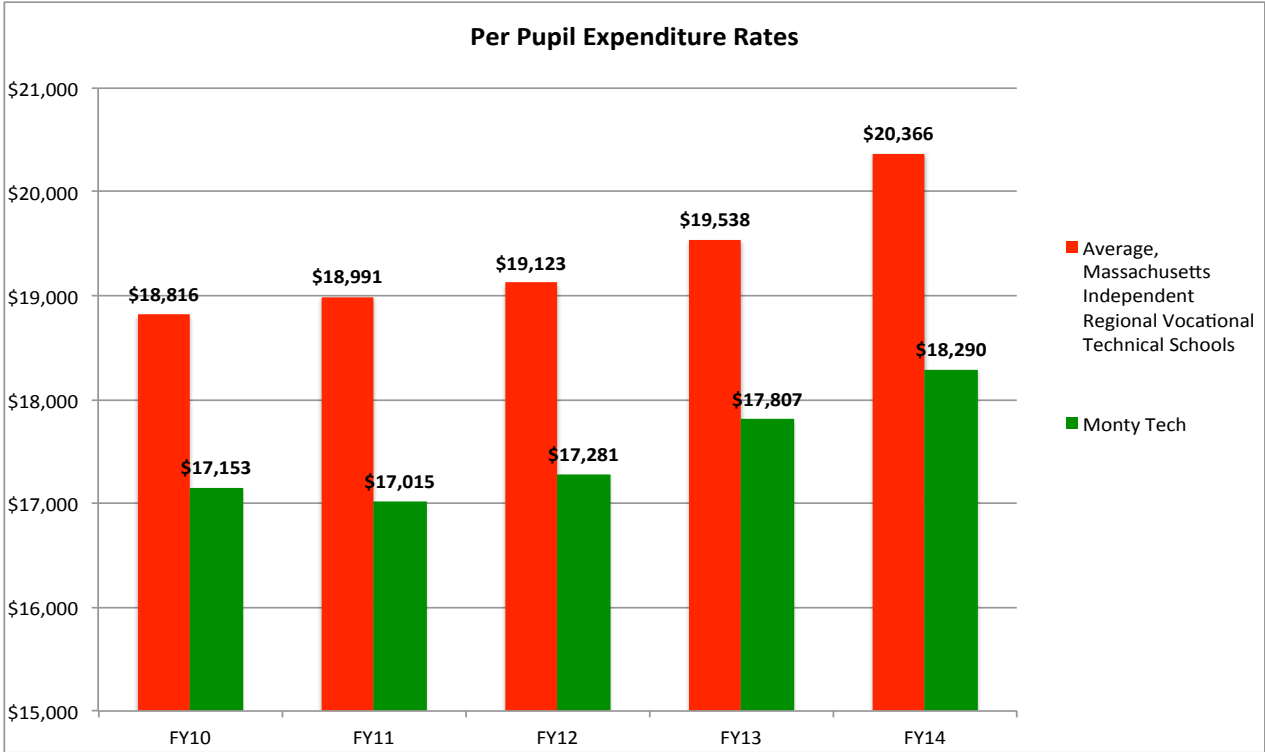


In developing the FY 2017 budget, we have kept several priorities in mind:

- Continue to provide sufficient resources to allow for professional development opportunities that build capacity within our educational community
- Invest in instructional equipment and technology that aligns with industry standards, ensuring our vocational programs are current and our students are trained in the latest technologies
- Continue to develop a robust and challenging academic program, including Advanced Placement courses and dual enrollment offerings
- Share curriculum, resources, and best practices with area colleges and universities so that our programs may align with college offerings, and our students may benefit from increased articulation agreements

We are so proud of the educational programs offered here at Monty Tech, yet we continually strive to improve upon them. Collaborating with area colleges and universities, we are ensuring our curriculum and instruction is rigorous and relevant. Sharing best practices with vocational-

technical colleagues from across the state – and nation – we give and take some of the best ideas, with one thing in mind – what is best for our students. Moreover, we do all of this with a per pupil expenditure that is consistently lower than the average rate for all independent regional vocational technical schools in the state. In FY14, the Monty Tech per pupil cost was 10% lower than the average of our counterparts. In fact, the Monty Tech per pupil expenditure currently ranks 18th out of the 26 independent regional vocational technical schools statewide.



As stated previously, and despite our continued high student enrollment, the proposed FY17 budget is equal to the “required net school spending.” Costs associated with contracted transportation and the scheduled repayment of long-term bonds, which were previously approved by our member communities, are in addition to net school spending requirements, while capital expenditures will remain internally funded. The budget you are seeing includes the lowest amounts required by law. While this budget is 0.55% larger than last year’s, that modest increase is only that which is required by law.

Please note that this budget is not like most other school budgets you may have reviewed. Because Monty Tech is an independent, regional vocational technical school district, our budget must include costs for snow removal, fuel, transportation, annual audits, legal expenses, various insurance policies, summer repair work, and many other similar expenses. These expenses are typically budgeted by a city or town – not by school districts themselves. The Monty Tech annual budget is a consolidated budget that reflects all costs associated with maintaining a high-functioning and independent educational facility.

The Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District remains committed to improving our vocational and academic programming, strengthening key partnerships, and maintaining facilities that contribute to student success and achievement. As we look ahead, there are a number of programs and initiatives that we expect will have a positive impact on our school and students for years to come.

Expand partnerships with area businesses: To support the school's popular Business Technology program, specifically addressing the financial elements found within the program's frameworks, school leaders began exploring opportunities to bring banking to Monty Tech students. In collaboration with Workers' Credit Union, school officials are pleased to announce a full-service branch is now located on the school's campus, offering students opportunities to develop authentic financial literacy skills and experience while still in high school. Additionally, students studying in the school's Business Technology program will be trained as bank tellers, effectively preparing them for entry-level jobs in banking institutions across North Central Massachusetts.

Expand partnerships with area colleges and universities: Students in Monty Tech's Health Occupations program now have access to a college-level Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) training program, in partnership with Mount Wachusett Community College. This coursework is embedded into the senior year of study, and upon successful completion will result in 8 college credits, at no charge to the student. By providing additional career pathways in the medical field, and access to college level coursework while still enrolled in high school, school administrators and teachers are confident that program graduates will not only be more qualified for entry level positions, they will be more apt to find an area of interest within the medical field, and continue to refine the technical skills they developed while at Monty Tech.

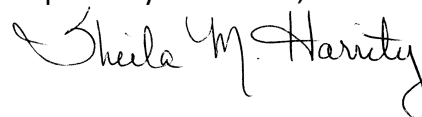
Expand access to instructional technology: A Monty Tech education is effective because efforts are made to continually access our programming, instructional equipment, and our educational resources. Through this assessment, it has become clear that while so many students have access to technology away from the school, many do not. It is important, then, to arm every student with the tools necessary to succeed not only in the workplace, but in the classroom, as well. The district is pleased to announce the roll-out of a large-scale technology initiative. In August 2016, every student at Monty Tech will be provided with a Chromebook to support his/her learning, more efficiently communicate with teachers, and to promote collaboration among student peers.

Expand vocational-technical educational opportunities: We are pleased to announce that Monty Tech is in the development stages of bringing a new program – our 21st program – to the school – Animal/Veterinary Science. The new program will respond to much-needed workforce training and community services, and will effectively prepare students to enter both college and career pathways upon graduation. Students and instructors, in collaboration with program partner, Becker College, will effectively learn concepts associated with a high school veterinary assisting program, while running a fully-functioning veterinary clinic, designed to provide care for pets in low-income families.

I am honored to serve as Superintendent-Director of Monty Tech, a school that continues to transform secondary education in North Central Massachusetts, bringing to life lessons learned in a classroom, at the workplace, and in the community – all while consistently maintaining a high standard of fiscal responsibility. I am confident that the proposed budget before you will provide the resources necessary to allow our talented faculty and staff to provide a remarkable educational experience for our students, and that, with your help, we will continue to report student and programmatic achievements like the following, that are representative of a Monty Tech education:

- Expanded co-operative education placements benefit more than one hundred students who are employed in the area
- In the spring of 2015, Monty Tech's passing rate on the MCAS English Language Arts exam was 100%, Mathematics 98%, and Biology 98%.
- A talented team of three Monty Tech Engineering students won the gold medal for Engineering Technology and Design at the SkillsUSA national competitions held in Louisville, KY. Nicolas Wicker of Fitchburg, Leon Gaulin of Winchendon and Devan Kumar, also of Winchendon, led by instructor Dennis Cormier, created a portable game console designed with retro gaming in mind. The team has developed patents on their prize-winning efforts, and continues to expand their business and engineering acumen.
- The Machine Technology program aligned curriculum to MASSMEP (Massachusetts Manufacturing Extension Partnership) standards, and as a result students are now able to earn Level 1 and Level 2 Applied Manufacturing Technology Pathway Certifications. Having these certifications will ensure program graduates stand-out when they enter the workforce upon graduation, as employers are better able to verify technical skills and expertise with this widely accepted training model.
- Outpacing more than 1,000 teams across the United States, and competing in three categories: network security, digital forensics, and Cisco networking, a team of six talented students captured first place at the CyberPatriot event, a national high school cyber defense competition, founded by the Air Force Association.
- The Dual Enrollment program continues to flourish and has saved Monty Tech students more than \$43,000 in college tuition and fees last year alone.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sheila M. Harvity". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name "Sheila M. Harvity".

FISCAL YEAR 2017 BUDGET SUMMARY

	<i>APPROVED FY'2016</i>	<i>PROPOSED FY'2017</i>	<i>DIFF</i>
(1) Gross Budget	\$26,229,366	\$26,374,468	\$145,102
Less: Transportation & Above NSS	(1,940,045)	(1,836,354)	103,691
Capital Budget ~ Equipment	(290,000)	(290,000)	0
Vehicles	0	(45,000)	(45,000)
BONDS (Principal & Interest)	(1,208,628)	(1,204,669)	3,959
(2) Net School Spending	\$22,790,693	\$22,998,445	\$207,752
Less Revenues: Estimated Ch. 70	(13,837,825)	(13,867,825)	(30,000)
<i>FY 17 REQUIRED MINIMUM CONTRIBUTION</i>	\$8,952,868	\$9,130,620	\$177,752
(3) Transportation & Other Operating Budget	\$1,940,045	\$1,836,354	(\$103,691)
Less: Estimated Transportation Aid	(904,000)	(1,083,693)	(179,693)
Excess & Deficiency	(210,000)	0	210,000
<i>NET TRANSPORTATION & OTHER OPERATING</i>	\$826,045	\$752,661	(\$73,384)
(4) Capital Budget ~ (Equipment & Vehicles)	\$290,000	\$335,000	\$45,000
Less: Excess & Deficiency	(290,000)	(300,000)	(10,000)
<i>NET CAPITAL ASSESSMENT</i>	\$0	\$35,000	\$35,000
(5) BONDS	\$1,208,628	\$1,204,669	(\$3,959)
Less: School Building Authority Aid	(948,213)	(948,213)	0
<i>NET BONDS</i>	\$260,415	\$256,456	(\$3,959)
TOTAL ASSESSMENT (All Budgets)	\$10,039,328	\$10,174,737	\$135,409

General Fund- Income and Expense Summary

General Fund Income	Received 12-13	Received 13-14	Received 14-15	Budgeted 15-16	Proposed 16-17	Change (Decrease)	% Change
State Aid							
Chapter 70	13,727,675	13,764,000	13,800,675	13,830,395	13,867,825	37,430	0.27%
Transportation Reimbursement	895,675	815,343	1,065,340	904,000	1,083,693	179,693	19.88%
School Building Authority Aid	948,213	948,213	948,213	948,213	948,213	0	0.00%
Local Receipts							
Community Assessments	8,063,263	8,682,724	9,441,464	10,039,328	10,174,737	135,409	1.35%
Interest Income	12,315	11,541	10,696	0	0	0	0.00%
Miscellaneous Receipts	136,681	629,815	121,214	0	0	0	0.00%
Appropriation from E&D	450,000	350,000	480,000	500,000	300,000	(200,000)	-40.00%
Fund Transfers	376,742	250,000	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Total General Fund Income	\$24,610,564	\$25,451,635	\$25,867,602	\$26,229,366	\$26,374,468	\$145,102	0.55%

General O&M Expenses	Expended 12-13	Expended 13-14	Expended 14-15	Budgeted 15-16	Budgeted 16-17	Change (Decrease)	% Change
District Leadership	940,369	964,228	978,813	939,552	926,143	(13,409)	-1.43%
Instruction	12,311,582	12,673,632	13,000,254	13,594,793	13,469,042	(125,751)	-0.92%
Student Services	2,280,222	2,424,489	2,669,694	2,777,073	2,820,370	43,297	1.56%
Operations & Maintenance	3,196,849	2,897,024	3,144,022	3,086,366	3,124,172	37,806	1.22%
Fixed Charges	3,933,481	4,055,703	4,041,062	4,055,854	4,194,972	139,118	3.43%
Fixed Assets	215,060	315,000	223,688	290,000	335,000	45,000	15.52%
Tuition	220,377	242,000	280,442	277,100	300,100	23,000	8.30%
Total Expenses	\$23,097,940	\$23,572,076	\$24,337,975	\$25,020,738	\$25,169,799	\$149,061	0.60%

Debt Service	Expended 12-13	Expended 13-14	Expended 14-15	Budgeted 15-16	Budgeted 16-17	Change (Decrease)	% Change
Principal	886,000	923,000	957,000	994,000	1,030,000	36,000	3.50%
Interest	325,821	290,204	253,099	214,628	174,669	(39,959)	-22.88%
Total Expense	\$1,211,821	\$1,213,204	\$1,210,099	\$1,208,628	\$1,204,669	(\$3,959)	-0.33%
Total General Fund Expenses	\$24,309,761	\$24,785,280	\$25,548,074	\$26,229,366	\$26,374,468	\$145,102	0.55%

	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16	16-17	Change (Decrease)	Change (Decrease)
Foundation Enrollment	1,407	1,453	1,467	1,486	1,500	14	0.94%

SUMMARY BY FUNCTION CODE

2013 -2017

Function Description	FY 13 Actual Expenditures	FY 14 Actual Expenditures	FY 15 Actual Expenditures	FY16 Approved Budget	FY17 Proposed Budget	Increase/ Decrease FY 16 to FY 17	Percentage Incr/Decr FY16 to FY17
FUNCTION 1000 DISTRICT LEADERSHIP	940,368	993,175	978,813	939,552	926,143	(13,409)	-1.43%
FUNCTION 2000 INSTRUCTION	12,311,582	12,801,330	13,000,254	13,594,793	13,469,042	(125,751)	-0.92%
FUNCTION 3000 STUDENT SERVICES	2,280,222	2,348,813	2,669,694	2,777,073	2,820,370	43,297	1.56%
FUNCTION 4000 OPERATIONS & MAINT	3,196,852	2,972,793	3,144,022	3,086,366	3,124,172	37,806	1.22%
FUNCTION 5000 FIXED CHARGES	3,933,480	3,940,674	4,041,062	4,055,854	4,194,972	139,118	3.43%
FUNCTION 7000 FIXED ASSETS	215,060	300,000	198,688	290,000	335,000	45,000	15.52%
FUNCTION 8000 DEBT RETIREMENT	1,211,821	1,213,204	1,210,099	1,208,628	1,204,669	(3,959)	-0.33%
FUNCTION 9000 TUITION	220,377	215,251	280,442	277,100	300,100	23,000	8.30%
Total	\$ 24,309,760	\$ 24,785,240	\$ 25,548,074	\$ 26,229,366	\$ 26,374,468	\$ 145,102	0.55%

**Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
FY17 Chapter 70 Summary**

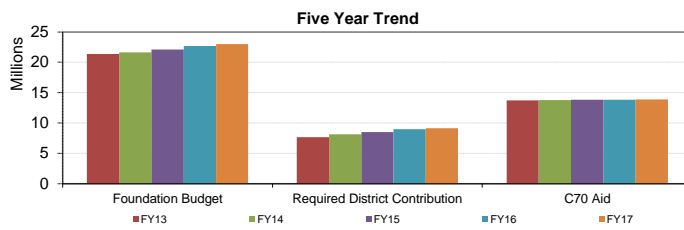
832 Montachusett

Aid Calculation FY17

Prior Year Aid	
1 Chapter 70 FY16	13,837,825
Foundation Aid	
2 Foundation budget FY17	22,983,366
3 Required district contribution FY17	9,130,620
4 Foundation aid (2 -3)	13,852,746
5 Increase over FY16 (4 - 1)	14,921
Minimum Aid	
6 Minimum \$20 per pupil increase	15,079
Non-Operating District Reduction to Foundation	
7 Reduction to foundation	0
FY17 Chapter 70 Aid	
8 sum of line 1, 5 minus 7	13,867,825

Comparison to FY16

	FY16	FY17	Change	Pct Chg
Enrollment	1,486	1,500	14	0.94%
Foundation budget	22,705,864	22,983,366	277,502	1.22%
Required district contribution	8,952,868	9,130,620	177,752	1.99%
Chapter 70 aid	13,837,825	13,867,825	30,000	0.22%
Required net school spending (NSS)	22,790,693	22,998,445	207,752	0.91%
Target aid share	59.07%	59.09%		
C70 % of foundation	60.94%	60.34%		
Required NSS % of foundation	100.37%	100.07%		



Office of School Finance
Chapter 70 Preliminary FY17
Regional District Summary

lea	district	lea	member city or town	foundation enrollment	foundation budget	minimum contribution	chapter 70 aid	required net school spending
832	Montachusett	11	Ashburnham	58	888,690	403,971		
832	Montachusett	12	Ashby	37	566,923	312,360		
832	Montachusett	15	Athol	85	1,302,391	191,478		
832	Montachusett	21	Barre	37	566,923	229,127		
832	Montachusett	97	Fitchburg	418	6,404,698	1,692,034		
832	Montachusett	103	Gardner	153	2,344,303	718,012		
832	Montachusett	125	Harvard	6	91,933	79,613		
832	Montachusett	134	Holden	65	995,946	602,600		
832	Montachusett	140	Hubbardston	71	1,087,879	567,184		
832	Montachusett	162	Lunenburg	91	1,394,324	833,619		
832	Montachusett	234	Petersham	4	61,289	50,692		
832	Montachusett	235	Phillipston	19	291,123	157,058		
832	Montachusett	241	Princeton	23	352,412	295,879		
832	Montachusett	255	Royalston	19	291,123	87,950		
832	Montachusett	282	Sterling	65	995,946	742,462		
832	Montachusett	294	Templeton	112	1,716,091	640,362		
832	Montachusett	328	Westminster	82	1,256,424	743,854		
832	Montachusett	343	Winchendon	155	2,374,948	782,365		
832	Montachusett	999	Total	1,500	22,983,366	9,130,620	13,867,825	22,998,445

STUDENT ENROLLMENT AND SCHOOL ATTENDING CHILDREN COMPARISONS

<u>COMMUNITIES</u>	FOUNDATION ENROLLMENT			SCHOOL ATTENDING CHILDREN (GR. 1-12)		
	<i>(Basis for Operational Apportionment)</i>			<i>(Basis for Capital Apportionment)</i>		
	<u>10/1/2014*</u>	<u>10-01-15**</u>	<u>DIFF</u>	<u>10/1/2014*</u>	<u>10-01-15**</u>	<u>DIFF</u>
ASHBURNHAM	60	58	(2)	1,045	1,066	21
ASHBY	40	37	(3)	482	464	(18)
ATHOL	92	85	(7)	1,551	1,570	19
BARRE	38	37	(1)	787	826	39
FITCHBURG	412	418	6	5,853	5,966	113
GARDNER	157	153	(4)	2,509	2,619	110
HARVARD	8	6	(2)	1,029	1,033	4
HOLDEN	77	65	(12)	2,672	3,117	445
HUBBARDSTON	61	71	10	617	628	11
LUNENBURG	78	91	13	1,627	1,704	77
PETERSHAM	5	4	(1)	128	124	(4)
PHILLIPSTON	19	19	0	224	213	(11)
PRINCETON	21	23	2	473	486	13
ROYALSTON	20	19	(1)	116	126	10
STERLING	64	65	1	1,226	1,205	(21)
TEMPLETON	99	112	13	963	1,049	86
WESTMINSTER	83	82	(1)	1,220	1,172	(48)
WINCHENDON	152	155	3	1,625	1,518	(107)
TOTAL IN DISTRICT	1,486	1,500	14	24,147	24,886	739
TOTAL OUT-OF-DISTRICT	26	20	(6)			
TOTAL ENROLLMENT	1,512	1,520	8			

* Enrollment figures used for 2015-2016 Assessment

** Enrollment figures used for 2016-2017 Assessment

ASSESSMENT RATIO CALCULATIONS

Each Community's assessment is made up of four parts:

- ~ Required Minimum Contribution (set by the State)
- ~ Transportation & Other Operating Expenses above Minimum Net School Spending
- ~ Capital Outlay (assessed based upon the Capital apportionment)
- ~ Bonds (assessed based upon the Capital apportionment)

TRANSPORTATION & OTHER OPERATING BUDGET - (determined by each Communities enrollment, October 1, 2015)

Formula: The number of students from each member community enrolled at Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School divided by total Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School Day school enrollment of member communities on October 1, 2015 equals the operating ratio.

Example: Fitchburg students enrolled at Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School on October 1, 2015 = 418.
Total Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School enrollment of 18 member communities on October 1, 2015 = 1,500.
Therefore, ratio is 418 divided by 1,500.

$$\frac{418}{1500} = 0.2786 = 27.86\%$$

CAPITAL BUDGET - (determined by each Communities school attending children, grades 1 - 12, October 1, 2015)

Formula: The number of students from each member community enrolled in Grades 1 through 12 divided by the total number of students enrolled in Grades 1 through 12 of 18 member communities equals the capital assessment ratio.

Example: Holden students enrolled grades 1 through 12 on October 1, 2015 = 3,117.
Total enrollment of 18 member communities in Grades 1 through 12 on October 1, 2015 = 24,886.
Therefore, ratio is 3,117 divided by 24,886.

$$\frac{3117}{24886} = 0.1253 = 12.53\%$$

ASSESSMENT RATIO PERCENTAGES

TRANSPORTATION & OTHER OPERATING PERCENTAGES

CAPITAL PERCENTAGES *

<u>COMMUNITIES</u>	<u>10/1/2014</u>	<u>10/1/2015</u>	<u>INC/DEC</u>	<u>10/1/2014</u>	<u>10/1/2015</u>	<u>INC/DEC</u>
	<u>(2015-2016)</u>	<u>(2016-2017)</u>		<u>(2015-2016)</u>	<u>(2016-2017)</u>	
Ashburnham	3.86	3.87	0.01	4.33	4.28	(0.05)
Ashby	2.47	2.47	0.00	2.00	1.86	(0.14)
Athol	5.66	5.67	0.01	6.42	6.31	(0.11)
Barre	2.47	2.47	0.00	3.26	3.32	0.06
Fitchburg	27.84	27.86	0.02	24.24	23.97	(0.27)
Gardner	10.18	10.19	0.01	10.39	10.52	0.13
Harvard	0.40	0.40	0.00	4.26	4.15	(0.11)
Holden	4.33	4.33	0.00	11.07	12.53	1.47
Hubbardston	4.73	4.73	0.00	2.56	2.52	(0.04)
Lunenburg	6.06	6.07	0.01	6.74	6.85	0.11
Petersham	0.27	0.27	0.00	0.53	0.50	(0.03)
Phillipston	1.27	1.27	0.00	0.93	0.86	(0.07)
Princeton	1.53	1.53	0.00	1.96	1.95	(0.01)
Royalston	1.27	1.27	0.00	0.48	0.51	0.03
Sterling	4.40	4.33	(0.07)	5.08	4.85	(0.23)
Templeton	7.46	7.47	0.01	3.99	4.22	0.23
Westminster	5.46	5.47	0.01	5.05	4.71	(0.34)
Winchendon	10.33	10.33	0.00	6.73	6.10	(0.63)
TOTALS	<u>100.00</u>	<u>100.00</u>	<u>(0.00)</u>	<u>100.00</u>	<u>100.00</u>	<u>(0.00)</u>

* Capital Percentages are used for Bonds and Capital cost.

FISCAL YEAR 2017									
COMMUNITIES	FOUNDATION	REQUIRED	TRANSPORT/	CAPITAL		PROPOSED	APPROVED	CHANGE	
	BUDGET	MINIMUM	OPERATING	ASSESS.	BONDS	ASSESSMENT	ASSESSMENT	FY'16 - FY'17	
		CONTRIBUTION	ASSESS.	ASSESS.		FY'2017	FY'2016		
Ashburnham	888,690	403,971	29,128	1,498	10,975	445,572	462,389	(16,817)	
Ashby	566,923	312,360	18,591	651	4,769	336,371	358,061	(21,690)	
Athol	1,302,391	191,478	42,676	2,209	16,181	252,544	262,014	(9,470)	
Barre	566,923	229,127	18,591	1,162	8,513	257,393	268,843	(11,450)	
Fitchburg	6,404,698	1,692,034	209,691	8,390	61,470	1,971,584	1,974,155	(2,571)	
Gardner	2,344,303	718,012	76,696	3,682	26,977	825,367	831,444	(6,077)	
Harvard	91,933	79,613	3,011	1,453	10,642	94,718	121,504	(26,786)	
Holden	995,946	602,600	32,590	4,386	32,133	671,709	777,978	(106,269)	
Hubbardston	1,087,879	567,184	35,601	880	6,462	610,127	513,838	96,288	
Lunenburg	1,394,324	833,619	45,687	2,396	17,566	899,267	799,478	99,789	
Petersham	61,289	50,692	2,032	175	1,281	54,180	64,094	(9,913)	
Phillipston	291,123	157,058	9,559	301	2,205	169,122	171,666	(2,544)	
Princeton	352,412	295,879	11,516	683	5,000	313,077	296,394	16,683	
Royalston	291,123	87,950	9,559	179	1,307	98,994	114,157	(15,162)	
Sterling	995,946	742,462	32,590	1,698	12,437	789,187	765,868	23,319	
Templeton	1,716,091	640,362	56,224	1,477	10,819	708,882	611,466	97,416	
Westminster	1,256,424	743,854	41,171	1,649	12,078	798,751	773,556	25,195	
Winchendon	2,374,948	782,365	77,750	2,135	15,640	877,890	872,421	5,468	
Total	22,983,366	9,130,620	752,661	35,000	256,456	10,174,737	10,039,328	135,409	