



City of Boston

Martin J. Walsh, Mayor

Operating Budget Fiscal Year 2016
Capital Plan Fiscal Years 2016-2020

Volume I - Overview of the Budget

Martin J. Walsh, Mayor

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GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

*Distinguished
Budget Presentation
Award*

PRESENTED TO

**City of Boston
Massachusetts**

For the Fiscal Year Beginning

July 1, 2014

Executive Director

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) presented an award of Distinguished Presentation to the City of Boston for its annual budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2014.

In order to receive this award, a governmental unit must publish a budget document that meets program criteria as a policy document, as an operations guide, as a financial plan and as a communication device.

The award is valid for a period of one year only. We believe our current budget continues to conform to program requirements, and we are submitting it to GFOA to determine its eligibility for another award.

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CITY OF BOSTON • MASSACHUSETTS

MARTIN J. WALSH
MAYOR

June 15, 2015

TO THE CITY COUNCIL

Dear Councilors:

I retransmit herewith my Fiscal Year 2016 Recommended Budget for the City of Boston. The Recommended Operating Budget totals \$2.86 billion and represents an increase of \$121.8 million, or 4.5% over FY15.

I put forth these recommendations for an FY16 budget that will advance progress toward a City that is Thriving, Healthy, and Innovative for all residents.

It invests heavily in core City services and amenities, such as Neighborhood Services, Public Works, and Parks to enhance the quality of life across the City.

It improves public safety by providing for new police and fire classes, while elevating diversity efforts through additional resources in the Fire department and the reintroduction of the Cadet program in the Police department.

It builds off of FY15's elevation of Arts and Culture to the cabinet-level by increasing the office's budget by nearly 33 percent. With this, Boston will be able to expand its major event offerings, support its artists, and enrich the lives of its citizens, while contributing to the local economy.

It fully funds operations of the City's renowned library system, including the newly renovated children's and teen spaces in the Johnson Building in Copley Square.

It advances my goal of producing 4,000 units of affordable elderly housing by 2030 with a brand-new \$1.75 million City investment.

It invests heavily in BPS, appropriating \$21 million more in weighted student funding, funding 100 additional Pre-K seats, and expanding extended learning time to 16 additional schools.

With growth in fixed costs and salaries and benefits, and the City's increasing reliance on local revenues, I was forced to make tough choices among City priorities. However, the strength of the Boston economy affords me the ability to recommend the investments referenced above and others, while maintaining Boston's path to long-term fiscal stability.

This budget is a manifestation of my vision for a Thriving, Healthy, and Innovative Boston. A thriving Boston allows each resident to prosper economically, receive a world-class education, and have access to affordable housing. In a healthy Boston, residents feel safe, and care for their environment and the well-being of all of those within it. An innovative Boston improves citizen experiences with government operations and drives optimal service delivery through data and technology driven management.

I respectfully request your favorable action on the FY16 Operating Budget and the Five Year Capital Plan for FY16 to FY20.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Martin J. Walsh', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Martin J. Walsh
Mayor of Boston



CITY OF BOSTON • MASSACHUSETTS

MARTIN J. WALSH
MAYOR

April 6, 2015

TO THE CITY COUNCIL

Dear Councilors:

I transmit herewith my Fiscal Year 2016 Recommended Budget for the City of Boston. The Recommended Operating Budget totals \$2.86 billion and represents an increase of \$119.9 million, or 4.4% over FY15.

I put forth these recommendations for an FY16 budget that will advance progress toward a City that is Thriving, Healthy, and Innovative for all residents.

It invests heavily in core City services and amenities, such as Neighborhood Services, Public Works, and Parks to enhance the quality of life across the City.

It improves public safety by providing for new police and fire classes, while elevating diversity efforts through additional resources in the Fire department and the reintroduction of the Cadet program in the Police department.

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I look forward to working with you during the budget process, and I respectfully request your favorable action on the FY16 Operating Budget and the Five Year Capital Plan for FY16 to FY20.

Sincerely,

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Martin J. Walsh
Mayor of Boston