



CITY OF BOSTON - MASSACHUSETTS

MICHELLE WU
MAYOR

April 11, 2022

TO THE CITY COUNCIL

Dear Councilors:

I hereby transmit for your approval an Order authorizing the City of Boston to accept and expend the amount of THREE HUNDRED AND FORTY NINE MILLION AND FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$349,500,000) in the form of a grant, awarded by the United States Department of the Treasury, to be administered by the City of Boston's Chief Financial Officer/Collector Treasurer.

This grant payment is made from the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF) in the Treasury of the United States established by Section 9901 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA). Pursuant to the requirements of the ARPA, the grant payment would fund COVID-19 response and recovery efforts and accelerate a Green New Deal for Boston through once-in-a-generation, transformative investments that address the systemic health and economic challenges in the areas of affordable housing, economic opportunity and inclusion, behavioral health, climate and mobility, arts and culture and early childhood.

I urge your Honorable Body to adopt this Order so that the City of Boston may accept the funds expeditiously and expend them upon award for the purposes for which they are granted.

Sincerely,

Michelle Wu
Mayor of Boston

CITY OF BOSTON
IN CITY COUNCIL

AN ORDER AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF BOSTON TO ACCEPT AND EXPEND A GRANT FUNDED THROUGH THE CORONAVIRUS STATE AND LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUND (SLFRF) IN THE TREASURY OF THE UNITED STATES ESTABLISHED BY SECTION 9901 OF THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021 (ARPA), AWARDED BY THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY.

WHEREAS: the United States Department of the Treasury, is being petitioned for the issuance of funds to the City of Boston under Section 602 of the Social Security Act, as added by ARPA, Section 9901; and

WHEREAS: pursuant to Title VI of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 801 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following: “SEC. 602. CORONAVIRUS STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUND.42 and funds in the amount of THREE HUNDRED AND FORTY NINE MILLION AND FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$349,500,000) are available as a direct payment to the City; *therefore be it*

ORDERED: That the Mayor, acting on behalf of the City of Boston be, and hereby is authorized, pursuant to section 53A of chapter 44 of the Massachusetts General Laws, to accept and expend the United States Department of the Treasury, payments to State, Local, and Tribal governments not to exceed the amount of THREE HUNDRED AND FORTY NINE MILLION AND FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$349,500,000) for the following purposes:

1. *To address the City’s need for affordable housing through unprecedented funding for affordable homeownership development and financial assistance to first-generation homebuyers, strategic acquisitions to combat displacement, deeply-affordable development on City-owned land, a nation-leading pilot to advance energy efficiency in affordable housing, and upgrades to public housing units to improve air quality, energy efficiency and resident comfort, in an amount not to exceed TWO HUNDRED AND SIX MILLION DOLLARS (\$206,000,000);*
2. *To accelerate our economic recovery by investing in commercial vibrancy in our Main Streets districts and downtown neighborhoods, creating an ecosystem to grow BIPOC-owned employer firms, expanding Tuition-Free Community College, transforming the workforce for the 21st Century, and building economic resilience*


for immigrant families, in an amount not to exceed THIRTY FOUR MILLION DOLLARS (\$34,000,000); and

- 3. To jumpstart solutions to Boston's long-term climate challenges by scaling Boston's Green Youth Jobs initiative, investing in our streets infrastructure to ensure safe and accessible biking and walking, maintaining and growing Boston's tree canopy, and strengthening our local food systems, in an amount not to exceed THIRTY ONE MILLION AND FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$31,500,000); and*
- 4. To ensure an equitable response to the ongoing pandemic by supporting critical COVID-19 activities including the following: vaccination, testing, community engagement and outreach, collaboration with community-based organizations and community health centers, personal protective equipment and distribution, enhanced monitoring of COVID-19, and planning for future surges, in an amount not to exceed TWENTY MILLION DOLLARS (\$20,000,000); and*
- 5. To make transformative investments in the City's arts and culture sector that will facilitate placemaking, activate both downtown and neighborhood communities, and elevate cultural anchors in BIPOC communities, in an amount not to exceed TWENTY MILLION DOLLARS (\$20,000,000); and*
- 6. To support the behavioral health and wellbeing of our residents by investing in our public health response to the ongoing substance use crisis through harm reduction and outreach strategies, and launching a new Center for Behavioral Health that will expand the behavioral health workforce, launch capacity building and training programs, and decrease stigma around mental health and substance use disorder, in an amount not to exceed EIGHTEEN MILLION DOLLARS (\$18,000,000); and*
- 7. To invest in the City's early education and childcare system, including growing the early educator workforce, supporting the financial health of childcare centers, and streamlining access and enrollment for Boston families, in an amount not to exceed FIFTEEN MILLION DOLLARS (\$15,000,000); and*

8. *To evaluate the use of the SLFRF funds, conduct impact studies, establish an equitable framework for administration of funds, support language access, and ensure strong compliance with federal guidelines, in an amount not to exceed FIVE MILLION DOLLARS (\$5,000,000).*

**I HEREBY CERTIFY
THE FORGOING, IF PASSED IN
THE ABOVE FORM, WILL BE IN
ACCORDANCE WITH LAW.**

BY


ADAM CEDERBAUM
CORPORATION COUNSEL