



SMART GROWTH AND REGIONAL COLLABORATION

May 11, 2019

Kurt Gaertner
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
100 Cambridge Street, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02114

Re: EEA Planning Assistance Grant proposal from Town of Manchester-by-the-Sea

Dear Mr. Gaertner:

The Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) has reviewed the proposal from the Town of Manchester-by-the-Sea (MBTS) for a grant from the Planning Technical Assistance Grant program. The Town would use these funds to develop a Smart Growth Overlay District in compliance with MGL Chapter 40R. It is expected this effort will position the Town to attract higher density mixed-income residential and mixed-use development to a highly suitable location, expanding housing diversity and opportunity for residents.

MAPC hereby commits to provide a match of \$7,000 to the proposed \$23,00 grant, and to work with MBTS to undertake the work outlined in the grant proposal. Please note that the MAPC match amounts to 30% of the grant, and that the value of the staff time provided by MBTS personnel represents a significant additional match, together amounting to well over 25% minimum local match. In addition, MAPC has previously awarded this project \$10,000 in DLTA 2020 funds, and the Town has committed \$10,000 in local funds. These dollars will support project work undertaken this spring and summer, prior to determination of EEA grants.

We strongly support MBTS' proposal, which we believe is entirely consistent with the goals of expanding housing opportunities and advancing equity as envisioned in the *MetroFuture* regional plan and supported by the Baker Administration. MAPC hopes the proposal receives a positive response from EEA, and looks forward to working with the MBTS on advancing this effort.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Davis
Deputy Director