

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
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AUG 28 2017

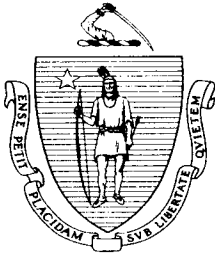
Dear Chilmark Board of Selectmen,

I hope this letter finds you well and that you are enjoying the latter half of the summer. As everyone begins to think about the last few months of 2017 and look ahead to next year, I want to personally reach out about a top-priority for Governor Baker and me: The Community Compact Cabinet. I am writing to you because your municipality has yet to take advantage of this innovative, diverse, and highly successful program. I know all too well how hectic the fall and winter can be for local officials, so I thought late August would be a prudent time to discuss this wonderful program with you.

Nearly 300 municipalities from across the Commonwealth have signed a Community Compact. As a result, the state is providing critical support to address a number of important issues across the Commonwealth, including emergency preparedness, long term planning, and fiscal responsibility. One of the strengths of the Compact program lies in its flexibility to address issues confronting every area of our diverse Commonwealth, from our quaint coastal communities, to our bustling urban centers, to our rural hill towns; the Community Compact Cabinet is as diverse as our great Commonwealth.

The Compact program draws its strength from the local officials, both elected and appointed, who know the issues facing their communities better than the folks on Beacon Hill. The Compact program gives you the flexibility to identify, address, and ultimately solve the issues facing your community. Serving as a strong and reliable partner to our cities and towns continues to be a top priority for the Baker-Polito Administration, and the Community Compact Cabinet is a prime example of how the state remains responsive to the needs of municipalities.

As alluded to above, the first two years of the program have been incredibly successful, with more than 300 cities and towns signing up for the Best Practice program, close to 130 municipalities and school districts receiving Efficiency and Regionalization grants, and nearly 115 municipalities receiving funds from the IT Grant program. Below you will find detailed information regarding Year 3 of the Community Compact Cabinet.



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### Fiscal Year 18 CCC Municipal Grant Programs

#### Best Practices Program

You can submit an application for Year 3 of the CCC Best Practice program at [www.mass.gov/ccc](http://www.mass.gov/ccc). Applications are accepted on a rolling basis and will be reviewed within one month of submission. Eligible applicants can choose up to two best practices and enter into a FY18 Compact. The Compact spells out the commitments of the state and gives the municipal leader the flexibility to choose a best practice (or practices) that make the most sense for your community.

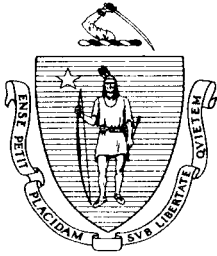
The complete set of best practices is available on the Community Compact Cabinet website ([www.mass.gov/CCC](http://www.mass.gov/CCC)). The website also includes a helpful Question and Answer section. Lastly, in a letter I sent to your municipal CEO on August 15, the passcode necessary to submit an application was provided.

#### Efficiency and Regionalization Grant Program

The purpose of the Efficiency and Regionalization *competitive* grant program is to provide financial support for governmental entities interested in implementing regionalization and other efficiency initiatives that allow for long-term sustainability. These grants will provide funds for one-time or transition costs for municipalities, regional school districts, school districts considering forming a regional school district or regionalizing services, regional planning agencies and councils of governments interested in such projects.

There will be one competitive application round for this grant program, with the online application opening on October 16 and closing on November 16.

Bonus points will be awarded to any municipality that has chosen to participate in the CCC Best Practice program. Additional bonus points will be awarded if the subject matter of the application falls within any of the FY18 Best Practices, all of which can be located at [www.mass.gov/CCC](http://www.mass.gov/CCC). Lastly, if the application is associated with a municipality's chosen best practice, bonus points will be awarded.



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For any application that involves multiple communities, all involved must have signed up for the CCC Best Practice program in order to qualify for the bonus points. In the case of a regional school district, all member municipalities must have entered into a Compact in order to qualify for the bonus points. For an application submitted by a regional planning agency or council of government, all municipalities associated with the application must have entered into a Compact in order to qualify for the bonus points.

IT Grant Program

On January 15, 2018 the application for the Community Compact IT Grant Program will open. If you apply for a Community Compact under the CCC Best Practice program on or before January 1, 2018, your community will be eligible for this *competitive* grant program that is focused on driving innovation and transformation at the local level via investments in technology. Using the transformative powers of IT, we can drive innovation, make government more efficient, save taxpayer money, and make it easier for residents to interact and transact with their local government. Grants of up to \$200,000 will support the implementation of innovative IT projects by funding related one-time capital needs such as technology infrastructure, upgrades and/or purchases of equipment or software. Incidental or one-time costs related to the capital purchase such as planning, design, installation, implementation and initial training are eligible.

It is my sincere hope that you will join the nearly 300 communities that together comprise the Community Compact Cabinet. If you have any questions on the CCC Programs, contact Sean Cronin, Senior Deputy Commissioner of Local Services, at [croninse@dor.state.ma.us](mailto:croninse@dor.state.ma.us).

Sincerely,

Karyn E. Polito  
Lieutenant Governor