



THE MASSACHUSETTS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
REPRESENTATIVE KATE HOGAN
THIRD MIDDLESEX DISTRICT
STATE HOUSE, ROOM 130, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02133-1053

For Immediate Release:
June 24, 2016

Contact:
Kelsey Schiller
Communications Director
Office of Representative Kate Hogan
(617) 722-2130
Kelsey.Schiller@mahouse.gov

House Passes Transportation Bill to Improve Highways, Small Bridges
Authorizes \$800 Million in Spending

(BOSTON) – Representative Kate Hogan joined her colleagues in the Massachusetts House of Representatives to pass transportation legislation focused on highways, small bridges, and a municipal grant program. The bill authorizes \$750 million for both federal-aid interstate and non-interstate highway projects, and \$50 million for a new program to repair small bridges.

“The House has reaffirmed its commitment to our cities and towns by providing them with the tools to upgrade their local infrastructure,” said Representative Kate Hogan. “These funds will supplement the \$200 million in Chapter 90 funding approved earlier this year to support transportation and infrastructure improvements across the Commonwealth.”

The Small Bridge Program will assist municipalities in repairing and replacing non-federal-aid bridges that are 20 feet or less in length. There are approximately 1,300 small bridges across the Commonwealth that are not eligible for federal financial aid for replacement or rehabilitation, many of which have fallen into disrepair.

The bill also transitions the Complete Streets initiative, currently a part of Chapter 90 funding, to a municipal grant program. This initiative aims to enhance safety and accessibility for multi-modal transportation which includes transportation geared towards pedestrians and cyclists. To qualify municipalities must:

- Attend a training program;
- Adopt a Complete Streets by-law that has been subject to a public hearing;
- Create a Complete Streets prioritization plan.

The bill now goes to the Senate for its consideration.

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