



THE MASSACHUSETTS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
REPRESENTATIVE KATE HOGAN  
THIRD MIDDLESEX DISTRICT  
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### **Hudson Signs Contract for Pilot Shuttle Program**

On Monday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, the Hudson Board of Selectmen signed a contract with the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT), releasing \$50,000 in funding for the Hudson Pilot Shuttle Program. The program is a new initiative that will allow the MetroWest Regional Transit Authority (MWRTA) to provide van service to the Town of Hudson.

While Hudson falls within the jurisdiction of the MWRTA, it receives no public transportation services at present. Extending van service to Hudson will ensure many reverse commuters, local commuters and low-income families have access to public transportation in MetroWest for the first time. The service will begin on October 31<sup>st</sup>; schedule and route information are available online at the Hudson town website and Facebook page. Printed copies will be available at Town Hall and the Council on Aging.

Representative Kate Hogan and Senator Jamie Eldridge secured the initial \$50,000 for the shuttle program in the FY17 state budget and the MWRTA has agreed to match this investment, bringing total first year funding for the program to \$100,000.

“Creating a pilot program for Hudson, in collaboration with the MWRTA, will make it easier for residents and commuters to get to, out of, and around Hudson, and is a necessary and positive first step to addressing the town’s transportation infrastructure needs,” said Representative Kate Hogan. “Your legislative delegation knows it is critically important to secure state resources, such as this van initiative, to fund local projects that can help us strengthen our communities for a better tomorrow.”

“I was pleased to work with Rep. Kate Hogan in securing this earmark in the FY17 budget for building upon the shuttle services currently available to Hudson residents, therefore allowing the Metrowest Regional Transit Authority (MWRTA) to provide for the first time ever transportation to Hudson,” said State Senator Jamie Eldridge (D-Acton). “I’m grateful to the Mass Department of Transportation for releasing this funding quickly, to get the pilot project started.”

“Representative Hogan and Senator Eldridge gave the Hudson Board of Selectmen a historic opportunity by working with the Legislature and the Administration to fund the Hudson Pilot Shuttle Program,” said Ed Carr, Administrator of the MetroWest Regional Transit Authority. “We are looking forward to serving the people of Hudson.”

“The Town of Hudson is excited about the return of public transit services to Hudson and is grateful to Representative Kate Hogan, Senator Jamie Eldridge, and Edward Carr of the MWRTA for securing the necessary funding amid this difficult financial landscape,” said Scott Duplisea, Chair of the Hudson Board of Selectmen. “Flexible route service will have an immediate and positive impact on our residents by providing direct transportation to Marlborough and back, enabling seamless connections to public transportation in the rest of this region and beyond. In addition to providing access to transportation services for our residents, it will enhance Hudson’s own robust downtown revitalization initiative and the strength of the entire regional economy.”

“I think it’s long overdue for us to have transit services in the Town of Hudson,” said Jack Hunter, Hudson Town Planner. “The Shuttle will allow residents to access Walmart; Highland Commons, Marlborough Hospital and both the Hudson and Marlborough Councils on Aging free of charge. We are looking forward to seeing the positive impact this service will have on our residents’ quality of life.”