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PRESS RELEASE

Baker-Polito Administration Announces Start of FY2021 Community Compact Cabinet IT Grant Program

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Executive Office for Administration and Finance

Executive Office of Technology Services and Security

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BOSTON — The Baker-Polito Administration today announced the opening of the sixth year of the Community Compact IT Grant Program which will provide a total of $3 million in grants for municipal and school district projects designed to modernize and improve technology systems. The Community Compact IT program will be accepting applications from September 15, through October 15, and will provide each municipal recipient up to $200,000 in funding.

Since its inception, the Community Compact IT Grant Program has awarded 240 grants totaling $12 million to municipalities and school districts to invest in transformative technology infrastructure and critical equipment.

"Our Administration remains committed to supporting cities and towns and modernizing and securing the Commonwealth's technological resources," **said Governor Charlie Baker.** "We continue to work closely with our partners in the legislature and in local government to improve technology systems, a need that is even more apparent due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic."

"The Community Compact IT Grant Program continues to help meet communities' technology needs and bolster technological capabilities," **said Lt. Governor Karyn Polito**. "As the Chair of the Community Compact Cabinet, I am proud of the work we have done so far and look forward to another year of important projects."

COVID-19 has greatly impacted how Commonwealth residents interact with municipalities and utilize technology services. These Community Compact IT grants will be allocated to Commonwealth cities, towns, and school districts to aid in one-time capital improvements such as technology infrastructure, upgrades, or equipment purchases. This includes records management and e-permitting systems, implementing new cybersecurity measures, and improvements to public safety systems.

"Community Compact IT grants provide important opportunities for local governments to engage in projects that may otherwise be cost-prohibitive," **said Secretary of Administration and Finance Michael J. Heffernan.** "We appreciate the support of the Legislature and municipal partners across the Commonwealth as we continue to improve the delivery of essential technology services for Massachusetts residents."

"We believe that making smart investments to modernize and secure technology assets at both the state and local level is a key component in creating a resilient and responsive government for the Commonwealth's residents and businesses," **said Secretary of Technology Services and Security Curtis M. Wood**. "The Community Compact IT Grant Program has funded many critical municipal IT projects to date, and we look forward to the continued dialogue with our partners in municipal government."

Formed in January 2015, the Community Compact Cabinet is chaired by Lt. Governor Polito and is composed of the secretaries of Housing & Economic Development, Education, Transportation, Energy & Environmental Affairs, and Technology Services and Security, and the Senior Deputy Commissioner of Local Services and the Assistant Secretary of Operational Services. The Community Compact Cabinet elevates the Administration's partnerships with cities and towns and allows the Governor's Office to work more closely with leaders from all municipalities.

The Cabinet champions municipal interests across all executive secretariats and agencies, and develops, in consultation with cities and towns, mutual standards and best practices for both the state and municipalities.

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