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Massachusetts Highway Association

Winter Meeting Legislative Update

February 2023

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Legislative Division

David Koffman
ext 122

Senior Executive and Legislative Director

Labor relations, collective bargaining, civil service, employment laws, health care and insurance, human resources, pensions and OPEB, veterans' benefits, workplace anti-discrimination, workplace safety, cannabis (workplace); staff for MMA Policy Committee on Personnel and Labor Relations

Josie Ahlberg
ext 161

Legislative Analyst

Environment, climate change, energy; staff for MMA Policy Committee on Energy and the Environment

Jackie Lavender Bird
ext 123

Senior Legislative Analyst

Budget and fiscal analysis, taxation, local aid, school finance; staff for the MMA Fiscal Policy Committee

Ali DiMatteo
ext 124

Legislative Analyst

Economic development, housing production, licensing, local government administration, planning and zoning, cannabis (zoning and regulation), procurement and construction, public health, open meeting law, public records law, licensing, telecommunications; staff for the MMA Policy Committee on Municipal and Regional Administration

Adrienne Núñez
ext 127

Legislative Analyst

Transportation, public works, utilities; staff for the MMA Policy Committee on Public Works, Transportation and Public Utilities

Daniel Yi
ext 125

Research and Project Assistant

Support for Legislative Services, Annual Meeting awards programs

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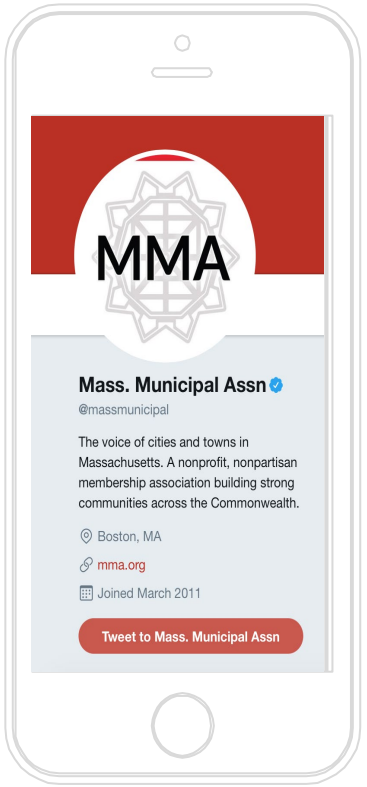

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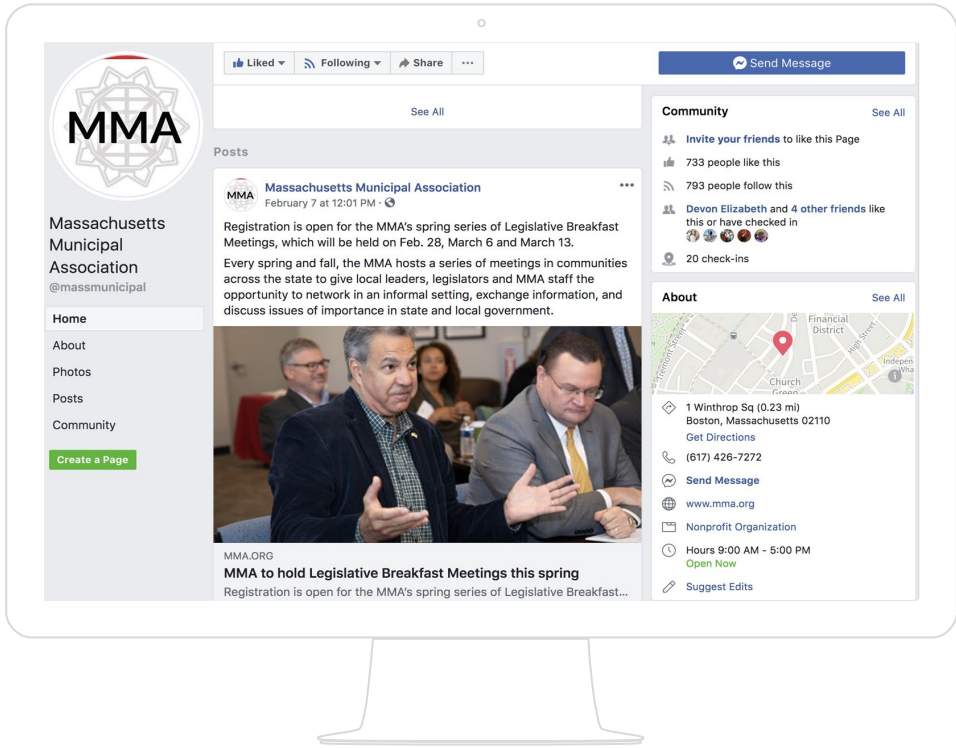

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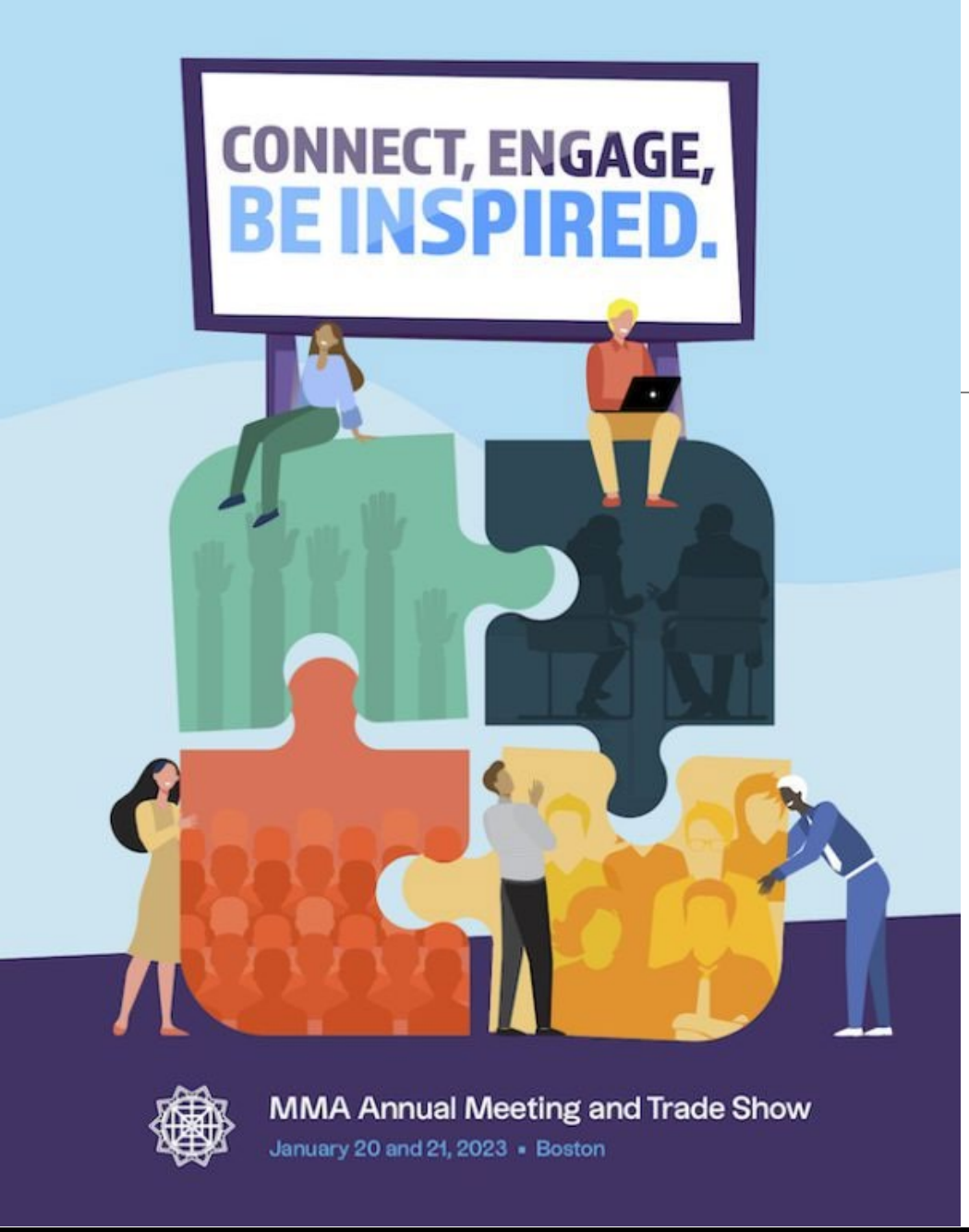

MMA Annual Meeting and Trade Show

- In person on **Jan. 20-21,** 2023, at the Hynes Convention Center and Sheraton Hotel in Boston.
- The largest conference for municipal officials in the state features Workshops, Speakers, Trade Show, & more!
- Please visit for resources and info: https://www.mma.org/annual-meeting

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Legislative Update

- New Administration, New Session
- MMA Legislative Package Highlights
- The Road Ahead

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New Administration, New Session

- Governor Healey, Lt. Governor Driscoll
- Timeline:
  - **January 20** - Bill filing deadline
  - **January 31** - <u>Consensus Revenue deadline</u>
    - state tax collections are expected to grow by 1.6% in fiscal 2024
  - **Now** - Rules & Committee Appointments
  - **March 1** - New Governor's Budget must be filed

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MMA Legislative Package

- 23 local government bills + Chapter 90 position
  - Reviewed and recommended by MMA's five policy committees
  - All bills have been filed
  - mma.org/advocacy/mma-legislative-package/
- More will come!

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MMA Legislative Package Highlights—Fiscal Policy

An Act creating a Municipal and Public Safety Building Authority (New)

Create a new independent state authority, the Massachusetts municipal and public safety building authority, that would assist municipalities with the construction of or improvements on municipal buildings and facilities.

Sponsors: *Rep. Blais HD3675 & Sen. Comerford SD2257*

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MMA Legislative Package Highlights—Energy and Environment

An Act providing for the establishment of sustainable water resource funds (refile)

This would clarify and strengthen the authority of cities and towns to establish water, stormwater, and wastewater utility fees.

Sponsors: *Rep. Phillips HD933 & Sen. Eldridge SD140*

An Act relative to paint recycling (new)

Requires paint produces to submit a plan for a post-consumer paint collection and directs DEP to create regulations related to enforcement.

Sponsors: *Rep. Haddad HD1156 & Sen. O'Connor SD1482*

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MMA Legislative Package Highlights—Energy and Environment

An Act protecting wastewater and sewerage systems through the labeling of non-flushable wipes (new)

Requires manufacturers of disposable wipes to label wipes that do not meet performance standards for flushing as non-flushable.

Sponsors: *Rep. Garballey + Owens HD2639 & Sen. Eldridge SD1252*

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MMA Legislative Package Highlights—Municipal & Regional

An Act relative to chapter 30B procurement parity (House-new)
An Act relative to chapter 30B procurement (Senate-new)

This bill raises the floor required for competitive sealed bids from $50,000 to $100,000 for all municipal departments. This is in line with the changes made in the recently passed School Operational Efficiency bill. It would also close an RFP loophole by allowing RFP or qualifications-based selection for purchases made between $10,000 and $100,000.

Sponsors: *Sen. Lewis SD1028 & Rep. Vitolo HD2918*

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MMA Legislative Package Highlights—Municipal & Regional

An Act providing for alternative delivery of infrastructure projects (refile)

This bill would provide an alternative process to enter into public private partnerships to deliver infrastructure projects. Exempts public private partnerships from various provisions regulating public construction projects.

Sponsors: *Sen. Tarr SD122*

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MMA Legislative Package Highlights—Public Works + Transpo.

An Act to assist municipal and district ratepayers (refile)

This bill would require the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs to provide a cost analysis of any proposed regulations prior to going into effect.

Sponsors: *Sen. Velis + Mark SD962 & Rep. Roy HD3787*

An Act relative to municipal authority in public rights of way (refile)

If utilities delay in relocating poles and wires, municipalities would have the authority to move them, charge for removal, and charge fees to utility companies for non performance.

Sponsors: *Rep. Ciccolo HD2080 & Sen. Crighton SD919*

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MMA Legislative Package Highlights—Public Works + Transpo.

Chapter 90 — MMA Position

Fund the Chapter 90 local road program for at least $300 million per year for two years (FY24 and FY25), with increase indexed to inflation, and timely disbursement to ensure that money is available April 1st.

Governor's Chapter 90 Bill —
H.52: An act financing municipal roads and bridges

Authorizes funding for Ch. 90 at $200 million per year for two years.

Referred to Joint Committee on Transportation.

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The Road Ahead

- Ch. 90 & Transportation Funding (WRAP or other supplemental)
  - Fair Share Surtax Revenue
- Municipal Capital Needs
- PFAS / Recycling / EPR
- Revenue Sharing - UGGA
- Climate/Environmental - Possible Bond Bill
- Housing

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Questions?

Adrienne Núñez — ANunez@mma.org — 413-522-6522