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Representative Kane secures Chapter 90 funding for Shrewsbury, Westborough

Funding authorized as part of \$200 million bond package for local road and bridge repairs

BOSTON – In her first official vote as the new representative for the 11th Worcester District, Representative Hannah Kane (R-Shrewsbury) supported a \$200 million Chapter 90 bond authorization that will deliver critical funding for road and bridge repairs to the towns of Shrewsbury and Westborough.

The bond bill, which was enacted today by the House of Representatives, will provide \$988,959 to Shrewsbury and \$780,403 to Westborough.

"Cities and towns across Massachusetts are still dealing with the aftermath of this winter's record-setting snowfall and its impact on our transportation infrastructure," said Representative Kane. "This Chapter 90 funding is critical for repairing our local roadways and making them safe for travel. I'm pleased to have cast my first vote for legislation that will have such a positive impact on the residents of my district."

The state's Chapter 90 program allocates funding for road and bridge maintenance and repairs using a formula that is based on a weighted average of a city or town's population, employment, and total mileage of roads. The funds are paid out as reimbursements to communities for qualifying infrastructure work.

Chapter 90 funds can be used for a variety of municipal roadway projects, including resurfacing, drainage, sidewalks, traffic control and street lighting. The funding can also be used for certain road building machinery, equipment and tools.

Governor Baker previously released \$100 million in Chapter 90 bond funding in January, shortly after taking office. That money, along with the \$200 million approved by the House of Representatives, will be used by municipalities during the 2015 construction season, which runs from April to November.

Last month, the Baker Administration allocated an additional \$30 million in bond funding to reimburse cities and towns under the Winter Recovery Assistance Program (WRAP). The WRAP program is designed to assist municipalities with the cost of repairing or replacing damaged signs, guardrails, storm drains and line striping, while also helping to pay for filling potholes, repairing cracks in pavement and addressing other road surface defects. Shrewsbury is eligible for \$147,108 in reimbursements under the WRAP program, while Westborough is eligible for \$116,417.

The Chapter 90 bond bill was signed by Governor Baker yesterday.