

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 4013

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two branches with reference to the Senate amendment (striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text contained in Senate document numbered 2375) of the House Bill financing improvements to municipal roads and bridges (House, No. 3547), reports recommending passage of the accompanying bill (House, No. 4013) [Total Appropriation: \$375,000,000.00]. July 26, 2023.

|                   |                     |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| William M. Straus | Brendan P. Crighton |
| Brian W. Murray   | Paul W. Mark        |
| Steven S. Howitt  | Patrick M. O'Connor |

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 4013**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court  
(2023-2024)**

An Act financing improvements to municipal roads and bridges.

*Whereas*, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to finance improvements to the commonwealth’s transportation system, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1           SECTION 1. To provide for a program of transportation development and improvements,  
2 the sums set forth in section 2 for the several purposes, and subject to the conditions specified in  
3 this act, are hereby made available, subject to the laws regulating the disbursement of public  
4 funds. The sums made available in this act shall be in addition to any amounts previously  
5 appropriated or made available for these purposes.

6           SECTION 2.

7                           **MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

8   *Highway Division*

9           6122-2127 For the construction and reconstruction of municipal ways as described in  
10 clause (b) of the second paragraph of section 4 of chapter 6C of the General Laws; provided, that

11 a city or town shall comply with the procedures established by the Massachusetts Department of  
12 Transportation; provided further, that a city or town may expend, without further appropriation,  
13 for these projects amounts not in excess of the amount provided to the city or town under this  
14 item upon preliminary notice of such amount, which shall be provided by the department to the  
15 city or town not later than March 1 of each year; and provided further, that the commonwealth  
16 shall reimburse a city or town under this item, subject to the availability of funds as provided in  
17 section 9G of chapter 29 of the General Laws, within 30 days after receipt by the department of a  
18 request for reimbursement from the city or town, which request shall include certification by the  
19 city or town that actual expenses have been incurred on projects eligible for reimbursement  
20 under this item and that the work has been completed to the satisfaction of the city or town  
21 according to the specifications of the project and in compliance with applicable laws and  
22 procedures established by the department.....\$200,000,000

23 6122-2128 For a program to support the construction and reconstruction of municipal  
24 ways; provided, that funds shall be distributed to municipalities based on a formula established  
25 by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation; provided further, that said formula shall  
26 provide funding to all municipalities and shall be based on local road mileage, population and  
27 whether the municipality is considered rural; provided further, that a municipality shall be  
28 considered rural for purposes of this item if it has a population of less than 10,000 and a  
29 population density under 500 people per square mile; provided further, that not less than 45 days  
30 after the effective date of this act, the department shall submit a proposed distribution formula to  
31 the chairs of the joint committee on transportation who, within 30 days of such referral, may hold  
32 a public hearing and issue a report to the department on the proposed formula; provided further,  
33 that if the joint committee provides a report within the 30-day period, the department shall not

34 finalize a formula until it has considered any revisions or other information contained in the  
35 report from the joint committee; and provided further, that funds from this item shall not be  
36 distributed earlier than 90 days after the effective date of this act.....\$25,000,000

37 SECTION 3. Item 6121-2157 of section 2A of chapter 383 of the acts of 2020, as  
38 amended by section 3 of chapter 89 of the acts of 2022, is hereby further amended by striking out  
39 the figure “\$140,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- \$165,000,000.

40 SECTION 4. Item 6121-2118 of section 2B of said chapter 383, as most recently  
41 amended by section 4 of said chapter 89, is hereby further amended by striking out the figure  
42 “\$125,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- \$150,000,000.

43 SECTION 5. Item 6121-2138 of said section 2B of said chapter 383, as amended by  
44 section 5 of said chapter 89, is hereby further amended by striking out the figure “\$80,000,000”  
45 and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- \$105,000,000.

46 SECTION 6. Item 6921-2111 of section 2I of said chapter 383, as most recently amended  
47 by section 6 of said chapter 89, is hereby further amended by striking out the figure  
48 “\$75,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- \$100,000,000.

49 SECTION 7. Item 6921-2112 of said section 2I of said chapter 383, as most recently  
50 amended by section 7 of said chapter 89, is hereby further amended by striking out the figure  
51 “\$75,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- \$100,000,000.

52 SECTION 8. Item 6921-2114 of said section 2I of said chapter 383, as amended by  
53 section 8 of chapter 25 of the acts of 2021, is hereby further amended by striking out the figure  
54 “\$50,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- \$75,000,000.

55 SECTION 9. Section 33 of said chapter 383, as most recently amended by section 8 of  
56 chapter 89 of the acts of 2022, is hereby further amended by striking out the figure  
57 “\$2,145,000,000” and inserting in place thereof the following figure:- \$2,220,000,000.

58 SECTION 10. Section 40 of said chapter 383, as most recently amended by section 9 of  
59 said chapter 89, is hereby further amended by striking out the figure “\$2,315,698,500” and  
60 inserting in place thereof the following figure:- \$2,390,698,500.

61 SECTION 11. To meet the expenditures necessary in carrying out section 2, the state  
62 treasurer shall, upon request of the governor, issue and sell bonds of the commonwealth in an  
63 amount to be specified by the governor from time to time but not exceeding, in the aggregate,  
64 \$225,000,000. All bonds issued by the commonwealth as aforesaid shall be designated on their  
65 face, Commonwealth Transportation Improvement Act of 2023, and shall be issued for a  
66 maximum term of years, not exceeding 30 years, as the governor may recommend to the general  
67 court under section 3 of Article LXII of the Amendments to the Constitution. All such bonds  
68 shall be payable not later than June 30, 2058, pursuant to said section 3 of said Article LXII. All  
69 interest and payments on account of principal on these obligations shall be payable from the  
70 General Fund. Notwithstanding any other general or special law to the contrary, bonds issued  
71 under this section and interest thereon shall be general obligations of the commonwealth.