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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**PATRICK-MURRAY ADMINISTRATION ANNOUNCES \$1M FOR
MASSWORKS INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT PROJECTS
IN ASHBY AND HOLLAND**

MassWorks Grants Create 31 Local Jobs, Boosts Economic Recovery Statewide

BOSTON—Monday, January 10, 2011—With a continued focus on job creation and economic development, the Patrick-Murray Administration today announced that \$1 million in MassWorks Infrastructure Program grants will be used to support roadway improvement projects in the Towns of Ashby and Holland that will create 31 new construction jobs, provide added economic benefits and enhance public safety.

"From day one we have been focused on managing state funds efficiently, and the consolidation of these infrastructure grants allows us to make timely investments in communities, putting people to work and continuing to improve our economy," said Governor Deval Patrick.

"MassWorks grants have added thousands of jobs and supported business growth throughout the Commonwealth by providing public infrastructure grants for such improvements as sewers, roadways, pedestrian walkways, and water treatment systems," said Lieutenant Governor Timothy Murray. "These investments in Ashby and Holland will improve safety, reduce roadway flooding, and enhance economic development."

Ashby will use \$500,000 in state funds to make improvements along Rindge Road. The MassWorks Infrastructure grant will facilitate surface reclamation, paving, graveling of road shoulders and guardrail installation to restore safe traveling conditions to a primary collector road that has largely fallen into disrepair. These upgrades, coupled with recently completed improvements in Ashburnham and proposed plans for similar work in Fitchburg, will create an improved corridor that will benefit the region. The project is expected to create 21 new construction jobs. Restoring Rindge Road to its original condition

will also allow the Town to capture potential revenues previously lost after the Longiso bicycling event had to be rerouted due to poor road conditions, and will help reduce response times for ambulances that depend on the road for access to area hospitals.

"I am very grateful that the Mass Works Infrastructure program has awarded Ashby this substantial grant award. Although Ashby is small population wise, there is a vast amount of roadway that the Town is responsible for. I am sure that these funds will go a long way in assisting Ashby with the Rindge Road project," said Senator Jennifer L. Flanagan.

The Town of Holland will also receive \$500,000 to make improvements to Sturbridge Road at the intersection of East Brimfield Road and Sand Hill Road. These funds will support the installation of a subsurface drainage system and make roadway resurfacing improvements, including guardrail, traffic signing and pavement markings, and roadside landscaping. Ten new jobs will be created in the process. Investing in these infrastructure improvements will address the issues of property damage and impaired access to recreational facilities associated with severe flooding in the area.

"Sturbridge Road serves as the main thruway for the residents of Holland and this funding will assist the Town in making much needed improvements to the road," said Senator Stephen Brewer. "I commend the town for its tireless effort to ensure that its application was competitive. While Chapter 90 funding received by municipalities each year for road improvements assists with day-to-day maintenance, it would not even begin to cover the major expense of this project. I applaud town officials for pursuing this grant."

"I'm extremely pleased that the Town of Holland has been selected to receive these well deserved funds. Grant applications are always a highly competitive process and this award is a testament to the Town's commitment to making infrastructure improvements," said Representative Todd Smola. "I have no doubt that residents and visitors alike will enjoy the benefits of improved travel conditions, thanks to the receipt of the New MassWorks Infrastructure Grant."

The Patrick-Murray Administration last year launched the MassWorks Infrastructure Program as a one-stop shop for municipalities seeking public infrastructure funding. The program consolidates six existing infrastructure programs, each aimed at supporting job creation and economic development, to provide increased efficiency, service, and communication when cities and towns apply for infrastructure grants and resources. This approach has reduced duplication, improved accountability, and provided for the most effective management of state resources.

"The MassWorks Infrastructure Program allows us to put people to work immediately while fostering long-term growth for the Commonwealth," said Secretary of Housing and Economic Development Gregory Bialecki. "Through investments like these grants to Ashby and Holland, Governor Patrick and Lieutenant Governor Murray are creating the conditions for business growth and community advancement for years to come."

"The Governor and Lieutenant Governor are committed to investing in transportation infrastructure as a key strategy in boosting the local economy in communities across the Commonwealth, and these MassWorks grants for roadways, public transit, and improvements for pedestrians and bicyclists are a successful part of that effort," said MassDOT Transportation Secretary and CEO Jeffrey Mullan.

The MassWorks Infrastructure Program consolidates six grant programs: Public Works Economic Development Grant (PWED), Community Development Action Grant (CDAG), Growth District Initiative (GDI) Grant, Massachusetts Opportunity Relocation and Expansion Program (MORE), Small

Town Rural Assistance Program (STRAP) and the Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Grant Program.

Learn more about the MassWorks Infrastructure Program, a one-stop shop for municipalities seeking public infrastructure funding to support job growth and long term, sustainable economic development at www.mass.gov/eohed/infrastructure.

Learn more about how the Patrick-Murray Administration's agenda has led Massachusetts out of a global recession faster and stronger than the rest of the nation [here](#).

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The Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development is one of eight Secretariats that make up the Governor's Cabinet. Under the leadership of Secretary Gregory Bialecki, the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development oversees the following undersecretariats: the Departments of Business Development, Housing and Community Development, and Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation.