



# Special Report

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## **The Recovery Act: Creating Jobs and Making a Difference in Massachusetts**

Earlier this year, the Democratic Congress worked with President Obama to enact the *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act* (the *Recovery Act*) in an effort to rescue, rebuild, and strengthen our struggling national economy. Eight years of failed fiscal policies and misguided economic priorities had left our national economy on the brink of disaster, and now – only nine months later – our economy is on the brink of recovery. The *Recovery Act* and the efforts of American businesses and workers, like those in Massachusetts, made this progress possible.

Despite this encouraging news, Democrats know that many Massachusettsans are still struggling, and unemployment – a lagging economic indicator – remains far too high. In response, Democrats are working to create and save millions of jobs with *Recovery Act* dollars and tax relief. Already, with more than half of the dollars yet to be spent, the recovery package has provided for more than one million jobs and the rate of job loss has slowed significantly. As we look toward the future, Democrats believe that the *Recovery Act*, combined with the American work ethic and ingenuity, will continue to make a difference for families in Massachusetts and will deliver on its promise to rebuild our economy and get Massachusettsans back to work.

### ***The Recovery Act is Creating Jobs and Making a Difference***

Last week, the White House announced that certain recipients of *Recovery Act* funds have reported the creation of 640,329 direct jobs. About 325,000 of these jobs are in education and over 80,000 are in construction. These numbers, however, represent only about 16 percent of expenditures through September 30 and do not reflect the majority of *Recovery Act* funding to date, which has gone directly to individuals and states, including:

- Tax relief for businesses and working families;
- Small business loans, which are exempt from reporting;
- The first-time homebuyer tax credit;
- Direct federal aid, including \$250 direct stimulus checks, enhanced unemployment benefits, increased food stamp benefits for vulnerable families; and
- State fiscal relief, which prevented job cuts at the state and local government level.

Moreover, the reported data does not capture indirect or induced jobs created when prime contractors hire suppliers or other companies to complete projects or when newly employed workers spend their pay checks. It is estimated that, if included, indirect jobs would add another 50 percent or more to the direct jobs numbers and induced jobs would add an additional 36 percent. [Office of the Vice President, [10/30/09](#); CBPP, [10/28/09](#)]

Taken as a whole, the reported data confirms earlier estimates that the *Recovery Act* would create or save over one million jobs by now, even though less than half of the *Recovery Act* funds have been put to work. [Office of the Vice President, [10/30/09](#)] According to Congressional Budget Office (CBO) projections, that number may be as high as 1.6 million jobs. [CBO, [11/09](#)]

Moreover, without the *Recovery Act*, economists believe that the economy and the unemployment rate would be much worse.

- According to CBO projections, “an additional 600,000 to 1.6 million people were employed in the United States, and real (inflation-adjusted) gross domestic product (GDP) was 1.2 percent to 3.2 percent higher, than would have been the case in the absence of ARRA.” [CBO, [11/09](#)]
- The Commerce Department reported that the nation’s gross domestic product grew by 2.2 percent in the third quarter of 2009, the first expansion in more than a year. Economists are projecting 4 percent growth in the fourth quarter. [Commerce Department, [12/22/09](#); testimony of Dr. Martin Baily before the Senate Democratic Policy Committee, [12/16/09](#)]
- According to economist Mark Zandi, “The research of Moody’s Economy.com suggests that a million fewer jobs would exist today, while the unemployment rate would already have risen well into double digits.” [Testimony before the Joint Economic Committee, [10/29/09](#)]

## ***The Recovery Act is Creating Jobs and Making a Difference in Massachusetts***

In Massachusetts, this partial reporting indicates that 12,374 jobs have been created or saved by funding 2,346 awards worth \$3,889,303,659, of which \$622,092,398 has already been received. [Recovery, Accountability, and Transparency Board, accessed [11/2/09](#)]

Similar to the national number, this validates the White House’s earlier estimates that the *Recovery Act* is responsible for saving or creating 27,400 jobs so far for Massachusettsans (accounting for indirect and induced jobs). [Council of Economic Advisors, [9/2009](#)] **Massachusetts is on track to benefit from a total of 79,000 *Recovery Act* jobs.** [The White House, [2/2009](#)]

These numbers alone cannot adequately convey the human impact of the jobs that are supported by the *Recovery Act* – the real-life stories of local companies that can hire new employees, workers who are no longer faced with uncertainty, and families that no longer need to struggle to pay their bills. The following is a sampling of some of the local *Recovery Act* success stories in Massachusetts:

**The Melrose Fire Department received *Recovery Act* funds to offset the cost of training five new firefighters who were hired in June.** “The Melrose Fire Department has received \$6,120 in federal stimulus funds that will be used to offset the cost of training five new firefighters hired in June, according to Patrick Dello Russo, Melrose’s chief financial officer and auditor. The additional funding comes from Gov. Deval Patrick’s recent announcement that

his administration would release \$17.8 million in federal stimulus funds to hire, rehire or retain 105 firefighters in 85 fire departments, as well as 83 police officers in 35 police departments across the state.” [*Melrose Free Press*, 12/17/09]

**A Framingham robotics company used small business *Recovery Act* grant to explore uses of technology that allows unmanned robots to inspect bridges.** “A Framingham robotics company has landed \$2.4 million in federal grants to develop small, hovering, unmanned vehicles that could be used to inspect bridges and other major infrastructure. CyPhy Works, a year-old start-up with an office on School Street, will receive the funding over the next three years via the U.S. Commerce Department’s National Institute of Standards and Technology... CyPhy is among 20 nationwide that will receive a share of \$146 million for high-risk research on new technologies through the competitive technology innovation program. In the United States, there are roughly 600,000 bridges. About a quarter of them are rated deficient, Greiner said. These spans are required to be inspected every other year, she said. Robots could work without shutting down bridge lanes or sending human inspectors high above the ground, CyPhy said in a statement. ‘We hope to make that a lot more efficient and also improve quality and also help prioritizing what needs to get fixed (and) when,’ Greiner said... For particularly critical structures, autonomous robots could be stationed on-site and make periodic flights to check for changes, according to CyPhy... CyPhy is working on the project with Georgia Institute of Technology Research Corp... It received a \$100,000 Small Business Innovation grant earlier this year to explore other uses of the same technology, Greiner said.” [*Metro West Daily News*, 12/17/09]

**After using *Recovery Act* funds to recall all 44 of its laid off firefighters, the city of Fall River will now use ARRA funding for overtime.** “Fire Chief Paul D. Ford said he planned to use the \$188,382 the state recently awarded in federal stimulus funds ‘to augment manpower through overtime. ‘This second phase of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds follows the city’s receipt of \$2.8 million — the highest figure in the state — to recall all 44 of its laid-off firefighters on Nov. 15. When the second phase of discretionary state funding was announced about a week after the first round was implemented, Ford and other chiefs inquired whether overtime pay to bolster shift complements was an eligible use. ‘I have been assured from the grant people that we will be able to use it,’ Ford said Tuesday... ‘Our overtime is running very low,’ said Ford, estimating ‘about 80 percent’ of that \$340,000 line item had been depleted through less than half the year. The combination of layoffs and summer vacations put a great burden on a department that was reduced in personnel from 216 to about 150 since mid-2008... At the same time, the layoff of the 44 firefighters in March and subsequent retirement of about 15 more firefighters through the summer and fall left the department reeling until the recent recalls. In fact, he said the reintegration of his 44 firefighters back into the department ‘has been virtually flawless.’” [*The Herald News*, 12/9/09]

***Recovery Act* funds will jump-start the “long-delayed revitalization of the Revere Waterfront.”** “Governor Deval Patrick’s administration said it will spend \$47 million in federal stimulus money and state funds to jump-start the long-delayed revitalization of the Revere waterfront, where a developer is proposing to build a complex of condominiums, offices, and a hotel on 9 acres. The public aid will finance a 1,900-space parking garage for the \$500 million Waterfront Square project, a seven-building complex near Revere Beach. About one-third of the spaces will be used for the development, the remainder for commuters who use the Wonderland MBTA station. Waterfront Square is the latest beneficiary of Patrick’s policy to target federal stimulus money at public works projects connected to large private developments, hoping to generate more jobs and larger economic gains... At Waterfront Square, the state will use \$22.7 million in federal stimulus money, and kick in another \$11.3 million that the MBTA

will borrow. The balance of the cost will be funded with state and federal grants.” [[Boston Globe](#), 12/8/09]

**Lakeville Police will use *Recovery Act* funds to replace two officers and a full-time dispatcher previously laid-off.** “Police Chief Mark Sorel and town officials have something to be thankful for. Sorel said he learned from state Rep. Stephen Canessa's office that a grant he and Lt. Frank Alvihiera applied for has been approved. Lakeville will receive \$186,659, which will be used to replace two officers and a full-time dispatcher laid off June 30... The grant, funded by federal stimulus dollars, will pay all expenses for the three returnees for one year... The chief reported there have been 21 shifts since July 1 when the town was protected by one officer on duty and that he has had to use 67 overtime shifts to keep a minimum of one officer on duty each shift. ‘There are 31 weeks left in the fiscal year and I have to cover 29 weeks of vacation time (still on the books before June 30),’ Sorel said. So far this year (since July 1), we have had 2,249 incidents and, with winter coming, if we have bad weather, there will be accidents and we could have only one car on the road to respond.’ The selectmen had planned to take \$10,027 from the wage freeze in the Police Department to fund other departmental wage shortfalls. Sorel said he needed that money for overtime shifts... To help fund that additional officer, Sorel reported that the department was given a second grant of \$6,000 to help pay for 12 vests, which cost \$800 each. Another saving for the town would be the removal of these laid-off police personnel from unemployment, which the town must pay. Sorel also reported one laid-off officer has been hired in Seekonk and another is close to being hired in another town.” [[South Coast Today](#), 12/3/09]

**Local research institutions will use *Recovery Act* funds for an explosives-detection systems and other security technology for the country’s airports.** “Of the \$232 million flowing into area communities from the \$787 billion stimulus package, at least \$29 million is for scientific or technological research, according to figures posted on the federal website tracking the program’s results, [www.recovery.gov](#). For some recipients, like Boston Biomedical Research, the grants generate just a handful of immediate jobs. But proponents say they will have a ripple effect throughout the economy and will also bolster the region’s profile as a hub of scientific innovation. ‘This is the best place in the world for early-stage innovation,’ said Bob Coughlin, president and chief executive officer of the Massachusetts Biotechnology Council. ‘This early-stage research actually creates new companies that will create jobs exponentially’... Across the region, stimulus money is flowing to nonprofit groups, municipalities, and private companies. Millions of dollars are going to road improvement projects, local police departments, housing programs, and energy-efficiency initiatives. The biggest winner in the region was Reveal Imaging Technologies Inc., a Bedford-based company that received two contracts totaling more than \$77 million for explosives-detection systems and other security technology for the country’s airports.” [[Boston Globe](#), 11/29/09]

***Recovery Act* will cover the salary of a police officer in Raynham.** “The town of Raynham has received \$54,694 in federal stimulus funds as part of a \$17.8 million award released by Gov. Deval Patrick this week. Selectman Joseph Pacheco said the money would cover the salary of one police officer... The town was one of 35 communities to receive money in the second round of public safety funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Three towns in the 8th Plymouth District received awards. ‘I am pleased to announce that my three communities have received substantial assistance to ensure public safety is allowed to be robust,’ state Rep. David L. Flynn, D-Bridgewater, said. Bridgewater will use \$66,318 for the fire department and \$260,045 for police. Easton was awarded \$168,249 to be used for fire services...Raynham did not lay off any firefighters this year.” [[Wicked Local](#), [Raynham News](#), 11/30/09]



**NSTAR Electric will use *Recovery Act* funds for two pilot projects focused on smart metering and renewable energy inter-connections in an urban network system.** “NSTAR Electric has once again been awarded matching federal stimulus funds from the U.S. Department of Energy to help support two pilot projects focused on smart metering and renewable energy inter-connections in an urban network system. The \$7.6 million grant represents half of the total cost of both projects, the maximum allowed under the program... The first project is an innovative Smart Grid program that enables customers to make real-time energy decisions to reduce energy usage and costs. The second award is for a pilot project that will test the feasibility of connecting distributed resources like solar power projects into an urban electric grid, a problematic engineering challenge for utilities in large cities across the country. NSTAR is the only Massachusetts utility to receive stimulus funds in this round of awards for a smart grid demonstration. The company’s smart meter pilot program will use advanced technology to pair existing automated meter reading equipment with broadband Internet service to provide two-way communications directly to a customer’s computer... This research will provide crucial information on the benefits and cost-effectiveness of the Smart Grid, including energy and cost savings... The results and knowledge gained from NSTAR’s pilot in Boston would be broadly applicable to other major cities including New York, Philadelphia, Chicago and Los Angeles.” [[Transmission and Distribution](#), 11/30/09]

***Recovery Act* funds will be used to prevent the City of Gloucester from having to make serious budget cuts that would impact the safety of citizens.** “Gov. Deval Patrick, State Senate Assistant Minority Leader Bruce Tarr (R-Gloucester) and Rep. Ann-Margaret Ferrante (D-Gloucester) have come to the aid of the Gloucester Fire Department by releasing \$388,125 from federal stimulus funds to prevent the city from having to make serious budget cuts that would impact the safety of Gloucester’s citizens. The funds will also be used to support additional shift staffing needs. Tuesday’s announcement marks the second round to fire departments from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). Firefighter’s grants are funded through stimulus funds the administration set aside specifically to help fire departments address staffing reductions caused by the current recession... The \$388,125 comes from the \$11.6 million that the administration set aside to fire departments across the Commonwealth. The federal Recovery Act does make \$210 million available nationally for fire departments to compete for grants to support the renovation and construction of local fire stations.” [[Wicked Local, Gloucester News](#), 11/30/09]

***Recovery Act* funding will help solar panel research, heating aid in Massachusetts.** “An unusual pair of Gloucester organizations — computer chip technology company Varian Semiconductor Equipment Associates and nonprofit social service provider Action Inc. — have been Cape Ann’s two largest recipients of federal stimulus funds. Varian, which was hit hard by the recession over the past year, received \$2.27 million from the U.S. Department of Energy for research and development of technology used in solar panels, according to the government Web site that tracks money from the \$787 billion stimulus package passed by Congress last winter... Halliday said orders for equipment had now stabilized and the company had plans to end the shutdowns next year and start hiring back workers... Meanwhile, Action Inc., whose functions include a shelter on Main Street, pulled in even more stimulus money, around \$8 million over the next two years, for its home heating assistance and weatherization project, according to executive director Tim Riley. Action Inc. conducts the Massachusetts Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program for much of the North Shore from its Gloucester office. The program includes not only heating oil assistance, but energy audits and weatherization services if an applicant’s home is inefficient enough to qualify. Riley said direct job creation from recovery spending was limited, but indirectly, through the contractors, may have produced a substantial amount of jobs.” [[Gloucester Daily Times](#), 11/27/09]

**Small towns in Massachusetts use *Recovery Act* funds for fire and police departments, improving equipment and preventing layoffs.** “Fire engines in Dudley could arrive at weekend fires sooner now that the department has enough money for a firefighter on standby at the station. Budget cuts forced the department, which runs the ambulance, to switch to an on-call format during Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings. Deep inside the \$17.8 million federal stimulus package for police and fire departments in Massachusetts — an aid package announced by the governor yesterday — is \$37,756 for the Dudley Fire Department. That money will cover the tab for weekend evening coverage, according to Fire Chief Jeffrey E. Phelps. While Worcester, Boston and other bigger municipalities received six-figure boosts in the stimulus plan, Dudley and several other towns received smaller shares that, for police and fire chiefs, will provide big relief. In Millville, the full-time roster at the police department is in line to increase from four officers to five, backed by \$55,692 included in the funding package unveiled yesterday... In Worcester, the Police Department will sidestep the layoffs of 25 police officers with a share of the \$17.8 million in stimulus money Gov. Deval L. Patrick targeted for public safety departments throughout the state.” [[Telegram & Gazette](#), 11/24/09]

**Six fire and police departments are set to receive *Recovery Act* money to fund firefighter and patrolman positions.** “Six area fire and police departments will receive \$604,676 in federal economic stimulus money to fund firefighter and patrolmen positions. Gov. Deval Patrick announced the funding Monday, saying a total of \$17.8 million is being granted statewide to hire, rehire or retain 83 police officers and 105 firefighters in the latest round of stimulus grants... The Attleboro Fire Department will be the biggest local recipient with an award of \$300,000. Fire Chief Ronald Churchill said he has not yet seen the details of the award, but the funds are for maintaining the current staffing level, rather hiring new people... Layoffs would mean possibly closing a fire station, he said... Other local grants include North Attleboro Fire Department receiving confirmation of an \$186,358 grant it was notified of in October. The North Attleboro Police Department will get another \$15,762. Deputy Fire Chief Michael Brousseau said the \$186,358 will be used to rehire three firefighters who were laid off because of budget problems.” [[The Sun Chronicle](#), 11/24/09]

**Haverhill will receive *Recovery Act* funds to hire three firefighters and to keep a fire station open.** “It's only a little more than half of what the city asked for, but it's enough to immediately hire three firefighters and keep the Bradford fire station open for at least a few months and ‘probably’ until the end of the fiscal year on June 30. Haverhill is to receive \$262,645 in federal stimulus money for the firefighter hires and \$63,786 to retain two police officers slated to be laid off this month, state Rep. Brian Dempsey, D-Haverhill, said yesterday.” [[Eagle Tribune](#), 11/24/09]

**A Wilbraham Company received a *Recovery Act* grant to continue its work developing wind turbines.** “A Wilbraham company that is developing wind turbines to be used as a renewable energy source, has received an \$8.3 million dollar federal stimulus grant. FloDesign Wind Turbine is developing turbines that could lead to breakthroughs in how we produce energy. Congressman Richard Neal announced the grant during a visit this morning. As part of the project, Western New England College students will be working with the company on the project... FloDesign currently has 15 employees and expects to double the number of workers in the next few months.” [[WWLP](#), 11/23/09]

**Firefighter recruits who had been laid off have been rehired with *Recovery Act* funds and can now start their new careers.** “City Manager Michael V. O’Brien walked

through the Fire Department's training facility yesterday and shook hands with 16 new firefighters, congratulating them as they begin their careers. It was a much different message from the one recruits heard in the spring, when they were told they were a casualty of hard times and would not be brought into the department. Federal stimulus money made available last month allowed the city to bring back the recruits. Fire Chief Gerard A. Dio said the city received \$1.18 million, more than had been expected... The Fire Department has budgeted for 384 firefighters. There were 374 firefighters working in the department and the recruits increase that to 390 positions... 'We're just a few weeks away from our Dec. 3 anniversary, which reminds us all of the enormous responsibility and burden you may be feeling in the future,' Mrs. Lukes said, noting the 10-year anniversary of the Worcester Cold Storage and Warehouse Co. fire, which took the lives of six city firefighters. 'We have always admired our Fire Department for the service they have given to the city.' The recruits all nodded their heads when asked if they recalled the fire. 'I think we all lived through it,' Sean Sullivan said. 'We remember it, every one of us.'" [*Worcester Telegram and Gazette*, 11/17/09]

**30 laid off fire fighter return to work this week in New Bedford thanks to the Recovery Act.** "After being out of work for more than eight months, 30 laid-off New Bedford firefighters are returning to duty this week because of federal stimulus money recently awarded to the city. Their return bolsters the depleted New Bedford Fire Department and may allow fire officials to stop 'rolling blackouts,' control overtime spending and reopen the two stations that had to be closed this year because of budget cuts.... Their return is made possible by \$8.1 million in federal stimulus money that Gov. Deval Patrick released last month to New Bedford and 12 other communities to rehire 127 firefighters who were laid off earlier this year because of local aid cuts. New Bedford received \$2.6 million, which will cover the 30 returning firefighters' wages and benefits for one year." [*South Coast Today*, 11/17/09]

**Plymouth County will administer the allocation of Recovery Act bonds for both public and private projects across its 27 communities.** "Plymouth- A sewer project in Carver. A new school in Rockland. A movie studio in Plymouth. Those are just a few of the major projects – both private and public – that could benefit from the latest federal stimulus project. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 created two new categories of government bonds to support local economic development. They go by long names and use the abbreviations RZEDB and RZFB, but the bottom line is they offer both public and private projects the opportunity to move forward and save money... The public bonds (RZEDB) allow municipalities to obtain financing at lower borrowing costs because the Treasury Department promises to subsidize 45 percent of the interest on the bonds... Plymouth County will administer the allocation of almost \$43 million in bonds... 'We'd like to fit in as many projects under the caps as possible,' Clarkson said, 'spread these bonds around to, if possible, every one of our 27 communities.'" [*Halifax-Plympton Reporter*, 11/10/09]

**Massachusetts will benefit from the Recovery Act-funded program to assist states in gathering and verifying state-specific data on the availability, speed, location, and technology type of broadband services.** "The Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration today announced that it has awarded grants to fund broadband mapping and planning activities in Alabama, Idaho, Maryland, Massachusetts, Washington, Wisconsin, and Wyoming under NTIA's State Broadband Data and Development Grant Program. The program, funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, will increase broadband access and adoption through better data collection and broadband planning. NTIA has awarded the Massachusetts Broadband Institute (MBI) over \$1.5 million for broadband data collection and mapping activities over a two-year period and \$500,000 for broadband planning activities over a five-year period in Massachusetts,

bringing the total grant award to approximately \$2 million... The State Broadband Data and Development Grant Program is a matching grant program that implements the joint purposes of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and the Broadband Data Improvement Act (BDIA). The program will provide grants to assist states or their designees in gathering and verifying state-specific data on the availability, speed, location, and technology type of broadband services.” [[Cape Cod Today](#), 11/6/09]

**Massachusetts will receive \$108.4 million in unemployment insurance modernization incentive funds under the Recovery Act.** “The U.S. Department of Labor today certified for release \$108,455,561 in unemployment insurance (UI) modernization incentive funds to the commonwealth of Massachusetts. Massachusetts qualified for the remaining two-thirds of its share of the funds available under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Recovery Act) by allowing unemployed workers enrolled in training to receive unemployment compensation as a result of its long standing dependents' allowance provisions, and by expanding its provisions allowing workers enrolled in approved training programs to receive unemployment compensation. ‘Massachusetts already received part of its share of UI modernization funds for its longstanding policy of helping unemployed workers who recently entered the labor force obtain the assistance they deserve,’ said Secretary of Labor Hilda L. Solis. ‘I am pleased that Massachusetts has made an additional update to its UI program to better meet the needs of modern day workers and their families by extending unemployment benefits to eligible workers enrolled in training.’... The Recovery Act made a total of \$7 billion available in UI modernization incentive payments to states that include certain eligibility provisions in their UI programs.” [[Department of Labor Press Release](#), 11/4/09]

**Two local police officers are hired thanks to Recovery Act-funded Cops Hire Program.** “Two police officers were sworn in during a brief ceremony at last night’s selectmen’s meeting. Officers Dale Mimeault and Robert Larochelle were joined by family and friends as Town Clerk Robert Craver administered the oath. The two men, both graduates of the Worcester Police Academy, were chosen from among 13 candidates, all of whom were on layoff lists from other communities. Officers Mimeault and Larochelle were originally hired by the Worcester Police Department, according to Police Chief Timothy Bent. Their salaries will come from the Cops Hire program as part of the federal stimulus package; \$1 billion from the program was distributed nationwide, with 13 communities in Massachusetts receiving money... Both officers graduated in the top five of their class, said the chief, who added the selection process was difficult because there were several outstanding candidates.” [[Worcester Telegram and Gazette](#), 11/3/09]

**23,533 individual jobs have been created or retained in Massachusetts thanks to the stimulus; in addition, 11,767 indirect jobs that have been created or retained.** “Governor Deval Patrick said this afternoon that 23,533 individual jobs had been created or retained as a direct result of \$1.9 billion in federal stimulus money that Massachusetts has spent so far. ‘In Massachusetts, the recovery act is working,’ Patrick said at a press conference in his State House office, where he was surrounded by labor union officials, state lawmakers, and cabinet members... ‘The job figures are reflected in the first of a series of quarterly reports that states are required to file to the federal government by Friday... The 23,533 individual jobs amount to 8,792 full-time positions, according to the administration’s calculations. In addition, the Patrick administration estimates that there have been 11,767 indirect jobs that have been created or retained because of stimulus spending. The positions overwhelmingly are teachers in local school districts, Patrick said, but they also include firefighters, police officers, and construction workers... They expect the federal government to provide an additional \$2 billion, to be spent over the 27-month period called for in the stimulus legislation.” [[Boston Globe](#), 10/28/09]



**Recovery Act funded \$8,000 tax credit for first-time homebuyers helped boost the real estate industry.** “Single-family home sales in Massachusetts increased for the third consecutive month in September, helping boost third-quarter sales by roughly 6 percent from a year ago and bringing further signs of stability to a sagging market, according to two organizations that track housing sales. Real estate agents say the federal \$8,000 tax credit for first-time homebuyers has helped jump-start the housing market this year; the U.S. Senate began debate on a possible extension beyond its Dec. 1 deadline... Realtors have said the tax credit helped spur sales, and are in favor of extending the deadline, and even opening it up to other buyers.” [[Worcester Telegram and Gazette](#), 10/28/09]

**Recovery Act will fund the construction of a handicapped-accessible docking facility for the Lynn-to-Boston ferry.** “The federal government gave a Lynn-to-Boston commuter ferry an \$8.4 million boost Tuesday as part of a multi-million dollar federal stimulus fund allocation announced by Gov. Deval Patrick. The money will help the city pay for the construction of a handicapped-accessible docking facility at Blossom Street extension, a side street off the Lynnway used for years as a public boat ramp...U.S. Rep. John Tierney announced the ferry money with Gov. Deval Patrick on Tuesday, crediting state Sen. Thomas M. McGee with pushing the commuter boat project through the state and federal approval and funding process... Work on the project started last December when city officials began spending \$750,000 in state money on drainage and parking improvements and construction of a new boat ramp. The project's second phase involves much more expensive work including dredging and seawall repairs. ‘This is great news for the city of Lynn, as we partner with state government to bring jobs and economic development to the city,’ said Mayor Edward J. Clancy Jr. Cowdell said the size of the federal funding allocation allows the city to do the second phase work then move right into the third phase construction work...The commuter ferry is one of 33 projects receiving funding from a \$165.6 million federal stimulus allocation. ‘It's very exciting,’ said state Rep. Lori Ehrlich, D-Marblehead. “In such a difficult economy the more public transportation options available on the North Shore, the better.” [[The Daily Item of Flynn](#), 10/28/09]

**With the help of Recovery Act funding, the Worcester Community Action Council is aiming to enroll about 100 Worcester residents in a new job center that will offer college readiness instruction, connections to training programs, help with career exploration.** “Starting with about 25 people, many of them recruited through a summer jobs program that was funded with federal stimulus money, the Worcester Community Action Council is aiming to enroll about 100 Worcester residents in the job center over a period of about a year. About 10 in the first group are East African women, a nod to the council's agenda to aid immigrants. All will go through pre-employment training... The new job center will offer college readiness instruction, connections to training programs, help with career exploration, assistance with internships, job coaching and job placements... The council expects to operate the job center with a staff of eight, including a computer instructor, a job developer and a case manager. The budget of \$616,446 for about 15 months came from a \$1.1 million grant from federal stimulus funds.” [[Worcester Telegram and Gazette](#), 10/25/09]

**A Recovery Act-funded GED program will assist unemployed residents living under the poverty line to earn their certificates.** “Citizens for Citizens Inc. and SER-Jobs for Progress have teamed up to provide additional GED classes for adults in the Fall River area who are currently unemployed and whose earnings are below the federal poverty line. With about \$900,000 of federal stimulus funds going to CFC, a \$136,000 ARRA-funded program was designed to provide 15 revolving GED class openings. This allows enrollees to obtain GED certificates and participate in state-funded job training programs, according to CFC Executive

Director Mark A. Sullivan Jr... Francisco Cabral, associate director of SER Jobs, said there are 15 students in a class that began Monday... The program will last for 15 months. Sullivan said CFC hopes to get as many people as possible to take and pass the GED test.” [[The Herald News](#), 10/24/09]

**New project in Massachusetts’ South Coast will create or save more than 90 jobs.**

“The federal and state governments already have committed more than \$163 million in grants and contracts to bolster the South Coast economy through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), according to a Standard-Times review of the various Web sites set up to track stimulus spending. In addition, more than \$4.6 million in Small Business Association loans have been facilitated by the stimulus package. By far, the biggest chunk of ARRA change coming to South Coast is for the construction of a new Route 24 interchange in Freetown. Bids on that \$70 million project are scheduled to be opened later this month. Next on the list is \$27 million for the continued cleanup of New Bedford Harbor. In one of the few recipient-filed reports to date, contractors Jacobs and Tetra Tech said their project will create or save more than 90 jobs. Public works projects aren't the only beneficiaries of stimulus funds. South Coast school systems will be receiving a total of almost \$37 million, UMass Dartmouth is the recipient of grants totaling [sic] more than \$23 million, the Southeastern Regional Transit Authority is getting \$6.5 million for new buses and vans and laid-off New Bedford police and firefighters have been returned to duty. ARRA, which authorized the spending of \$787 billion in federal funds to stimulate the economy, was enacted in February. Since that time, Massachusetts and its residents already have received more than \$4.3 million in funding, according to a report issued last week by the Massachusetts Budget and Policy Center, an independent agency that does not accept government funding. Public and private entities in Massachusetts are expected to receive a total of \$17.7 billion through the program, the report said.” [[Standard-Times](#), 10/18/09]

**According to an independent organization’s findings, the *Recovery Act* has saved or created 27,400 jobs of municipal police officers, teachers, and firefighters, while generating jobs at new building and infrastructure projects across the state.**

“Massachusetts has spent more than \$4 billion of the \$17.7 billion in stimulus funds it received from the US government to help offset budget shortfalls, provide tax reductions, and fund construction projects, saving or creating 27,400 jobs in the state according to a report by the Massachusetts Budget and Policy Center. Losses in the Bay State and across the nation would have been significantly deeper without the federal stimulus law, said Noah Berger, executive director of the Budget and Policy Center, a nonprofit research group. The group’s report, to be released this week, is one of the first attempts by an independent organization to document the effects of the stimulus on Massachusetts. It said the stimulus helped preserve the jobs of municipal police officers, teachers, and firefighters, while generating jobs at new building and infrastructure projects across the state. By extending unemployment benefits and providing tax credits, it also fueled new consumer spending... According to a city website that tracks stimulus fund spending in Boston, the money saved the jobs of 100 police officers, and 215 employees of the Boston schools. At the same time, 970 jobs were created by using funds to jumpstart a stalled housing development and to repave Boston roads, pedestrian ramps, and dedicate 4 miles of bike lanes.” [[Boston Globe](#), 10/12/09]

**127 firefighters will be rehired throughout the state thanks to \$8.1 million in *Recovery Act* funding.** “Massachusetts is using \$8.1 million in federal stimulus dollars to rehire 127 firefighters in 13 cities and towns. Gov. Deval Patrick said the vacancies were the result of layoffs and attrition forced by the ongoing budget crunch. The money is the first round of awards to fire departments from \$20 million in stimulus discretionary funds set aside by the Patrick administration to help fire departments deal with staffing reductions caused by the recession. The communities set to receive a portion of the \$8.1 million include Bridgewater,

Easton, Fall River, Hull, Lakeville, Lawrence, Methuen, Monson, New Bedford, North Attleboro, Quincy, Walpole and Worcester. Municipal police departments are set to receive \$45 million in stimulus dollars.” [[Boston Globe](#), 10/7/09]

**Local job market in Salem took an optimistic turn in August, adding 500 jobs thanks in part to *Recovery Act*-funded projects in the state.** “Peabody, Salem, Danvers, Marblehead, Swampscott, Lynn and Nahant added 500 jobs in August, according to the state's Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development. The geographic cluster of communities — measured as a single entity by the state — was the only one of 12 regions in Massachusetts that didn't lose jobs. The majority of the gain, roughly 400 jobs, was in local government.” [[The Salem News](#), 9/24/09]

***Recovery Act* fund will sustain Massachusetts's art sector and create arts jobs.** “Congressman John Olver will formally announce the release of more than \$1.3 million from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) to non-profit arts organizations across Massachusetts... Olver said, ‘These grants will help preserve jobs in this sector while also ensuring that our arts organizations continue to provide public programs that enrich our communities and educate our young people.’ Massachusetts cultural nonprofits provide nearly 37,000 jobs and have a total economic impact of over \$4.2 billion. But the economic downturn has hurt this dynamic sector: A recent MCC survey of arts organizations that receive state funding found that nearly half have laid off at least one worker since the start of the current recession. Many others are reducing salaries and work hours, and instituting hiring freezes. s” [[iBerkshires](#), 9/15/09]

**Massachusetts solar energy jobs jump nearly 100 percent thanks to *Recovery Act* support.** “Massachusetts' Energy and Environmental Affairs secretary Ian A. Bowles says that the state's solar energy jobs took a nearly 100-percent jump between 2007 and 2008, with an equal increase predicted for this year... The 414 megawatts are a good start to Governor Deval Patrick's promise to have 250 megawatts of installed solar capacity by 2017, and a nearly \$1-million infusion in the form of grants for green jobs training nicely balances more solar energy with the installers needed to deliver it to the real world. The grants are from the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center, which was formed as an outreach of the Green Jobs Act of 2008... Matt C. Rogers, who – as a senior advisor to the U.S. Department of Energy– notes that funding solar (or renewable) energy jobs is a down payment on the nation's environmental future, and that investing in a new, ‘clean energy’ economy is the only path to a sustainable future. [[Solar News](#), 9/11/09]

**Eleven New Bedford police officers return to work thanks to *Recovery Act* money.** “Nearly a dozen New Bedford police officers returned to work Wednesday after falling victim to layoffs earlier this year. ‘It was to say the least refreshing,’ said Officer Dan Nazardio. ‘You were ready to don your uniform, your energy levels were up and you were ready to hit the street do what you do best’. The city of New Bedford laid off 31 police officers in February. The officers were hired back as a result of federal stimulus money. ‘This was something they wanted to do, they worked hard for it and they achieved that goal and then the rug got pulled out from under their feet through no fault of their own,’ said Lt. Jeffrey Silva of the New Bedford Police Department.” [[NBC 10 News](#), 09/09/09]

***Recovery Act* money to create 20 jobs to protect state's trees from beetle infestation.** “The state Department of Conservation and Recreation today received \$4.5 million in stimulus funding from the US Department of Agriculture to replace trees that have been cut down in an attempt to halt the spread of the destructive Asian long-horned beetle. The invasive beetle was first discovered in Worcester a year ago, and about 20,000 trees have been removed in efforts to control the insect, which weakens and eventually kills trees. The new

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funds will be used to hire about 20 new employees who will be involved in the replanting efforts, which are expected to begin this fall. Officials have been particularly concerned about the beetle infestation because it is so close to New England's hardwood forests." [[Boston Globe](#), 09/10/09]

**Thanks to Recovery Act funds, the New Bedford Police Department was able to rehire eleven police officers who had been laid off.** "Eleven New Bedford police officers who were laid off in late February due to budget cuts will return to duty next week because of federal stimulus money recently awarded to the city. The officers — who were among 31 police layoffs — will resume patrolling the streets next Wednesday at 11 a.m. after receiving their cruiser assignments, officials said. They will be issued their equipment and undergo an orientation earlier in the week... Their return opens the possibility of the Police Department reassigning dozens of officers who were transferred from special assignment units such as Narcotics and Major Crimes to the uniformed patrol division to make up for the losses in personnel... The New Bedford Police Department was able to rehire the officers due to a \$2.41 million grant from the COPS Hiring Recovery Program, which is run through the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Community Oriented Policing Services." [[South Coast Today](#), 9/3/09]

**Thanks to Recovery Act funding, the Bridgewater Recreation Department has been able to employ 18 young people.** "Things are looking a little brighter in Bridgewater these days — buildings and greens anyway — thanks to a youth employment program that provided summer jobs for Bridgewater residents. A government stimulus program allocated a \$350,000 grant to 10 Brockton area communities at \$35,000 each. In Bridgewater, the town's Recreation Department has been able to employ 16 Bridgewater youth most between the ages of 15 and 18 from the beginning of August through the end of September... At a time when the Recreation Department budget has been slashed substantially over the last few years causing a reduction of manpower to a mere handful of employees, Simonds says he's grateful for the grant, noting 'every little bit helps.' ... Simonds said the youths are also doing work at Scotland Field doing some weeding, mowing and trimming; cleaning up at Rainbow's End playground; and taking care of buildings and greens at Legion Field." [[The Enterprise](#), 8/28/09]

**Recovery Act launched 41 construction projects in Boston area, funded initial stages of long-term projects, saved the jobs of 100 cops, 180 teachers, paid wages for 850 youths.** "A six-month tally of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding, believed to be the first report of its kind by a major city in the country, shows Boston has received \$172.6 million in federal funds, which has helped launch 41 construction and work-training projects. The city has also used that money to leverage another \$162.2 million in matching state and private grants, for a total investment of \$334.8 million citywide. 'You see a lot of public opinion on the recovery act, whether it's working, but we're six months in, and we know we've saved jobs,' said Jake Sullivan, coordinator of the city's stimulus funds... The city was able to use federal funding to save 100 police officer jobs and 231 positions within the Boston Public Schools, including 180 teacher posts. The stimulus package directly funded 850 youth jobs in the city's summer jobs program - close to 10,000 were created in all - and the city has leftover funding for the winter and next summer. Job training was offered to 232 adults. Boston has also used stimulus funding to start construction jobs, including the renovation of public housing buildings across the city. At least \$30 million has been directed toward public housing, notably the Washington Beech complex in Roslindale. Sullivan said the stimulus funding has also helped launch long-term projects that were only at the conceptual stage." [[Boston Globe](#), 8/25/09]

**Eight affordable housing projects in Massachusetts will be funded with Recovery Act funds.** "Gov. Deval Patrick announced Tuesday that \$45.5 million will be used to fund

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eight affordable housing projects across the state. The funds stem from the federal government's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act stimulus and will address projects whereby developers were unable to raise enough financing. The projects are located in Beverly, Boston, Framingham, Greenfield, Holliston and Springfield and will create more than 450 units of housing and nearly 900 jobs. The funds will be issued by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Tax Credit Assistance Program and will be implemented by the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD). [[Boston Business Journal](#), 8/18/09]

**YouthWorks has employed over 10,000 young people in Massachusetts using Recovery Act funds.** “A state initiative to create summer employment for area youths has surpassed its goal of providing 10,000 jobs, state and city officials announced at a press conference Monday. In March, the state earmarked more than \$30 million over two years in state and federal recovery funds to create 10,000 summer jobs for young people between the ages of 14 and 24 in 60 communities in Massachusetts. The program has led to jobs for 10,335 high-school and college-age kids — 2,500 in the Boston area alone — Gov. Deval Patrick said at the press conference. ‘Investing in young people in the best investment you can make,’ Boston Mayor Thomas Menino said. The funds included \$6.67 million from the state’s YouthWorks summer jobs program with \$3.1 million in public safety funds and \$21.1 million in workforce development funds provided through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Jobs were in such sectors as health care, parks and recreation, and nonprofit organizations.” [[Boston Business Journal](#), 8/10/09]

**Thanks to Recovery Act funding, 1,900 young people obtained jobs in Hampden County.** “Over the past six weeks more than 1,900 youth were placed in a variety of jobs in Hampden county with stimulus, state and private funds. Many of the jobs targeted youth between the ages of 14 and 24 from Springfield, Holyoke and Chicopee. Youth were exposed to a paid work or academic experience. In addition to state and federally funded programs, several local businesses participated by providing money and job opportunities. The Regional Employment Board of Hampden County received \$5.1million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Funds from the U.S. Department of Labor to support both disadvantaged youth in summer jobs and to help adults prepare for and connect to new jobs over the next two years. Participants earn at least \$8.00 an hour, helping to increase family income and spur local spending.” [[WWLP – TV](#), 8/10/09]

**Recovery Act resources will be provided to Massachusetts fire and police departments to counteract budget insolvency that has caused layoffs.** “Fire departments throughout Massachusetts are getting \$20 million in federal stimulus funding to help stem budget shortfalls and rehire firefighters. The state will receive \$26 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding on top of the \$45 million already awarded to police and fire departments across the commonwealth. ‘These funds will help local police and fire departments keep professionals on the job, and the public’s safety preserved,’ said Gov. Deval Patrick, in a prepared written statement.” [[Boston Business Journal](#), 8/6/09]

**80 young people in Hyannis gained employment as part of a Recovery Act-backed summer youth employment program.** “If you’ve noticed that various locations around Hyannis have been given a bit of sprucing up this summer, thank the kids taking part in the Summer Youth Employment Program. Implemented through the Job Training and Employment Corporation (JTEC) with funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, the local Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) has provided kids from the local area with paying jobs for the summer. Since the program began July 6, 80 youths aged 14-24 have been taught valuable employment skills aimed at helping them obtain and keep jobs. They

have put those skills to work on various jobs throughout the community. According to Base Coordinator Steve Moynihan, who works with the program through Barnstable High School, jobs have included working with the Town of Barnstable's Department of Public Works on a number of projects (mulching, landscaping, trash pickup), as well as the Barnstable Senior Center and the Barnstable Schools, where youth employees helped with moving schools and building a new wall in the Cobb Astro Park at BHS." [[Barnstable Patriot](#), 8/6/09]

**Berkshire County Youth Council sourced *Recovery Act* money to several organizations to create jobs for young people.** "The Berkshire County Regional Employment Board's Youth Council has chosen six program operators to receive \$118,267 for youth programs this summer. The money, part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, will be used to provide services to more than 70 youths through this fall, according to a press statement from the Employment Board...The goal is to help them explore all aspects of a particular industry, and to formulate career goals. They range from 14 to 24 years and work an average of 100 hours." [[Berkshire Eagle](#), 7/25/09]

**Salem schools plans to use *Recovery Act* allotment to hire new ESL teachers, make IT changes, and reduce debt.** "The school administration is making plans to spend an anticipated \$3 million in federal stimulus money, including hiring more ESL teachers, buying new computers and paying down debt. Officials said the state Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has yet to set guidelines for how districts can spend the money, which was announced in March. Despite the uncertainty, Superintendent William Cameron drafted a list of suggested expenditures of the \$3,024,804. [[Salem News](#), 7/20/09]

**Brewster gained *Recovery Act* award for completion of Stony Brook Salt Marsh and Fish Passage Restoration Project, creating or retaining 46 jobs.** "Monday, Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) Secretary Ian Bowles announced that the town of Brewster has received a \$1.3 million American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) grant to complete the Stony Brook Salt Marsh and Fish Passage Restoration Project in Brewster. The habitat restoration project is estimated to maintain or create 46 jobs." Secretary Brewster: "I am pleased that the town of Brewster will receive this federal stimulus funding to work with our Department of Fish and Game (DFG) and other partners to restore these important coastal wetland and fisheries habitats." [[Cape Cod Today](#), 7/20/09]

***Recovery Act* monies budgeted to Chelsea Collaborative for significant reduction in diesel emissions, creating jobs and improving air quality.** "In a move that stands to create jobs, boost local economies, reduce diesel emissions and protect human health and the environment for people across New England, EPA has awarded \$1,921,426 to the Chelsea Collaborative for two projects that will significantly reduce diesel emission from diesel engines operating at the New England Produce Market, and elsewhere in the city of Chelsea. This clean diesel project will create jobs while protecting air quality in Massachusetts." [[Press Release – Environmental Protection Agency](#), 7/13/09]

***Recovery Act* monies have been essential to avoiding layoffs concerning public employees of every stripe in Massachusetts.** "Nearly \$2.6 billion in federal stimulus funds has helped Massachusetts stave off thousands of layoffs of teachers, public safety workers, human service providers and other public employees, Gov. Deval Patrick told a Congressional committee Wednesday. In addition, increased health care funding provided through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act had enabled the state to maintain eligibility for 'hundreds of thousands' of low-income residents receiving state-subsidized health insurance, according Patrick's prepared remarks." [[Burlington Union](#), 7/11/09]

**New *Recovery Act* grant will bolster Massachusetts commuter rail; Governor Patrick remarks that funds will “create jobs” and “improve infrastructure.”** “More than \$43 million in federal stimulus money will flow into the state for commuter rail improvements, including projects to improve service on the Haverhill and Fitchburg commuter lines.” Governor Patrick: “These recovery investments will help create jobs, improve our infrastructure and strengthen our long-term economy.” [[Boston Globe](#), 7/9/09]

**10 Berkshire County young people received stimulus-backed employment through Youth Center Inc.** “Youth Center Inc. has received funding through the Berkshire County Regional Employment Board to run a summer youth employment program for young people who meet the Workforce Investment Act eligibility. Funding is provided through the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.” [[Berkshire Eagle](#), 6/29/09]

***Recovery Act* monies play crucial role in creation of research lab dedicated to environmentally friendly lithium-ion batteries, creating 600 new jobs.** “Today Boston-Power will announce its plans to establish a 455,000-square-foot battery manufacturing facility in the former Filene’s Basement warehouse and distribution facility at 26 Millbury St. The manufacturing plant, contingent on \$100 million in federal stimulus funds, would create 600 new jobs. ‘We’ve said for a long time that we want to bring manufacturing back to the U.S. This is an opportunity to do this with the help of the federal government and the state.’” [[Worcester Telegram & Gazette](#), 6/1/09]

**Massachusetts will receive \$25 million in *Recovery Act* funds to jumpstart construction of a wind blasting testing center in Charlestown; project is expected to create hundreds of new jobs.** U.S. Energy Secretary Steven Chu said the project will help create hundreds of new jobs while speeding the next generation of turbine blades to the marketplace. [[Boston Herald](#), 5/12/09]

**Brockton mayor hopes to rehire seven cops with *Recovery Act* funds.** [[The Boston Globe](#), 5/7/09]