

For Immediate Release  
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**ROCKLAND RECIEVES A \$999,900 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT**

***\$40 million in Federal Grants and Recovery Funds Announced for Statewide Improvement Projects***

**BOSTON (August 13, 2009)** – State Senator Michael W. Morrissey (D-Quincy) and State Representative Robert Nyman (D-Hanover) today announced the Town of Rockland will receive \$999,900 in federal funds for polling place accessibility and sidewalk improvements.

The funding comes as Governor Deval Patrick announced today that Massachusetts will receive \$40.36 million in federal Community Development Block Grants to fund infrastructure upgrade projects, boost social services and increase housing, business and economic development opportunities in 75 communities across the state.

“Thanks to the hard work of dedicated local officials, these funds should go a long way in improving the quality of life for residents of Rockland, as well as continuing to spur economic development,” said Senator Morrissey. “With limited resources and stiff competition this year, we are pleased to see Rockland’s vital project looked upon favorably for this vital funding,” added Representative Nyman.

More than \$31 million of the state’s award comes from annual CDBG program funding with the remaining \$9 million coming to Massachusetts through the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act.

The CDBG program is administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and funds are distributed by the state Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) to cities and towns in Massachusetts with populations of less than 50,000. Funds are awarded competitively and are targeted to support community revitalization, meet the housing and social service needs of low- and moderate-income people and build and repair infrastructure vital to the health and safety of all residents. Eligible communities with populations greater than 50,000 receive funding directly from HUD. The maximum grant for a single community is \$750,000 or \$900,000 for a single community undertaking multiple, geographically targeted activities. Regional applications are accepted.

65 Massachusetts cities and towns will receive regular CDBG program funding from DHCD. With the addition of recovery funds, 9 of those communities, and another 10 towns, will also receive support for projects that were not successful in getting funded in Fiscal Year 2008.

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