

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
MASSACHUSETTS SENATE
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1053

Anne M. Gobi
STATE SENATOR

Worcester, Hampden,
Hampshire & Middlesex

Tel. (617) 722-1540

Fax (617) 722-1078

E-Mail: Anne.Gobi@masenate.gov

PRESS RELEASE

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CONTACT: Brian Ferrarese
PHONE: 617-722-1540

Senator Anne Gobi Secures Funding for Local Projects in FY18 Budget

BOSTON – As the Massachusetts Senate debates their funding proposal for the Fiscal Year 2018 Budget, **Senator Anne M. Gobi (D-Spencer)** has been very active in working to secure funding for local projects in the Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire, and Middlesex District. Gobi was able to ensure that over \$365,000 was dedicated to a range of initiatives in the district.

“Advocating for local projects is a part of the budget process and making sure funds find their way west of 495 for is necessary,” said Senator Gobi. “I appreciate the support of my colleagues for these important projects.”

The projects ranged from invasive weed treatment to food pantry assistance to infrastructure investments. Below is a list of projects:

- \$15,000 to restore the historic Brimfield Windmill. Constructed in the 1800s to pump water into the Wyles-Converse House, one of the town’s most historic houses, the windmill became a landmark in Brimfield due to its prominent location on Sturbridge Road. It is listed on the National Historic Registry.
- \$12,300 for a driver to deliver food from food pantries in Wales to medically shut in seniors. The driver will deliver boxes of food to over 70 households per month.
- \$40,000 to treat invasive species in the Hardwick Pond. Invasive weeds have left much of the pond unusable for recreational use. This investment will remove about 95% of the invasive weeds, with the remaining amount being maintained by the Hardwick Pond Preservation Association.
- \$75,000 for the North Quabbin Chamber of Commerce for workforce training services. The North Quabbin Chamber of Commerce has been building a workforce training program coordination system along with training for small businesses to help them develop more robust training programs within

their companies including on-the-job training, skill sharing programs within the local business community and better hiring methods.

- \$50,000 for a water line connection in the Town of Ashby. The town has allocated over \$150,000 of municipal funds for this project to fulfill a consent order from the DEP and these funds will help meet their goal.
- \$75,000 for costs related to the study, planning, and engineering of a water line connection in the Town of Sturbridge. Residents in Sturbridge using well water have found positive results for contamination in their wells. This funding will help the Town determine the cost of a connection to a municipal water source while a determination of where the contamination is sourced from.
- \$100,000 for repairs to the rt. 101 bridge in the Town of Phillipston. This bridge does not qualify for Federal bridge funding or a small bridge grant. This funding will help the Town to make much needed repairs to an important artery.

If you have any questions, please contact Senator Gobi's office at 617-722-1540.

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