



Citizens' Housing and  
Planning Association, Inc.

# Building Blocks Analysis for FY2018 Conference Budget

July 7, 2017

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## BUILDING BLOCKS PRIORITIES

Included below are details on the Building Blocks Coalition budget priorities.

Click here for the Conference budget: <https://malegislature.gov/Budget/ConferenceCommittee>

| Line Item     | Program                            | Conference Budget                                | Senate                                    | House         | Gov's FY18 Budget | FY17         |
|---------------|------------------------------------|--|---|---------------|-------------------|--------------|
| 7004-9024     | MRVP                               | <b>\$92,734,677</b>                              | \$100,000,000                             | \$100,000,000 | \$97,503,438      | \$86,547,706 |
| 7004-9030     | AHVP                               | <b>\$5,000,000</b>                               | \$5,500,000                               | \$5,000,000   | \$4,600,000       | \$4,600,000  |
| 7004-9005     | Public Housing Operating           | <b>\$64,500,000</b>                              | \$64,500,000                              | \$65,500,000  | \$64,500,000      | \$64,500,000 |
| 7004-9007     | Public Housing Reform              | <b>\$850,000</b>                                 | \$1,100,000                               | \$1,172,132   | \$1,172,132       | \$800,000    |
| 7004-9316     | RAFT                               | <b>\$15,000,000</b>                              | \$18,500,000                              | \$15,000,000  | \$13,000,000      | \$13,000,000 |
| 7004-0108     | HomeBASE                           | <b>\$30,147,305</b>                              | \$32,579,696                              | \$31,079,696  | \$31,079,696      | \$31,943,664 |
| 7006-0011     | Foreclosure Prevention             | <b>\$2,350,000</b>                               | \$2,350,000                               | \$1,650,000   | \$1,650,000       | \$2,350,000  |
| New 0336-0003 | Housing Court Expansion            | <b>\$1,000,000</b>                               | \$1,000,000                               | \$0           | \$1,000,000       | \$0          |
| 7004-3045     | Tenancy Preservation Program (TPP) | <b>\$625,000</b>                                 | \$500,000                                 | \$750,000     | \$500,000         | \$500,000    |
| 7004-3036     | HCECs                              | <b>\$2,221,992</b><br>(w/ \$180,000 in earmarks) | \$2,971,992<br>(w/ \$180,000 in earmarks) | \$2,291,992   | \$2,291,992       | \$2,291,992  |
| 7004-0104     | Home & Healthy for Good            | <b>\$2,040,000</b>                               | \$2,000,000                               | \$2,200,000   | \$2,000,000       | \$2,000,000  |
| 4120-4001     | MassAccess Registry                | <b>\$80,000</b>                                  | \$80,000                                  | \$80,000      | \$80,000          | \$80,000     |
| 4000-0007     | Unaccompanied Homeless Youth       | <b>\$675,000</b>                                 | \$2,500,000                               | \$540,000     | \$2,000,000       | \$2,000,000  |
| New 7004-0106 | New Lease                          | <b>\$125,000</b>                                 |   | \$250,000     |                   |              |

## Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program (7004-9024)

Conference: \$ 92,734,677  
FY2017: \$ 86,547,706  
Difference: **\$ 6,186,971**

### Description of Changes:

- Increases income eligibility for the program from 50% AMI to 80% AMI;
- Allows DHCD to target up to 75% of new vouchers to extremely low income households;
- If DHCD imposes certain obligations for voucher holders, those obligations are required to include job training, counseling, and household budgeting and education. Currently, those obligations are optional;
- Removes language prohibiting the compensation of state employees from MRVP
- Requires reporting on MRVP for the last 3 years. Currently, reporting is only required for the previous year; and
- Authorizes DHCD to create a voucher management system.

### Changes Not Included:

- Does not require DHCD to direct 75% of new vouchers to ELI households; and
- No mandatory distribution date.

## Alternative Housing Voucher Program (7004-9030)

Conference: \$ 5,000,000  
FY2017: \$ 4,600,000  
Difference: **\$ 400,000**

### Description of Changes:

- Removes the word “transitional” from the program language to better align the program language to its actual use.

## Public Housing Authority Operating Subsidy (7004-9005)

Conference: \$ 64,500,000  
FY2017: \$ 64,500,000  
Difference: \$ 0

## Public Housing Reform (7004-9007)

Conference: \$ 950,000  
FY2017: \$ 800,000  
Difference: **\$ 150,000**

### Description of Changes:

- Authorizes funds to be used for a centralized waitlist for state-aided public housing

## **Residential Assistance for Families in Transition (7004-9316)**

Conference: \$ 15,000,000

FY2017: \$ 13,000,000

Difference: **\$ 2,000,000**

### **Description of Changes:**

- Removes the requirement that the same amount of funding from FY17 serve families with children in FY18;
- Removes language requiring an administering agency to make a finding that RAFT assistance will enable a family to retain or find new housing; and
- Provides \$2 million to serve households who qualify under the expanded eligibility to include elders, persons with disabilities, and unaccompanied youth.

## **HomeBASE (7004-0108)**

Conference: \$ 30,147,305

FY2017: \$ 31,943,664

Difference: **\$ 1,796,359**

### **Description of Changes:**

- Lowers the 24-month bar to a 12-month bar for families who have been terminated from HomeBASE;
- Removes language that would protect a disabled or elderly housing family from losing eligibility if they are in compliance with a housing stabilization plan;
- For the program allowing families in DV and substance abuse shelter to access HomeBASE:
  - Removes language referring to this program as a “pilot”
  - Allows families living in sober living programs to access HomeBASE, if otherwise eligible for the program;
  - Removes eligibility for families staying at DCF shelters (4800-0038) to access HomeBASE; and
  - Removes the requirement that spaces vacated in DV and substance abuse shelters because of HomeBASE would be filled by dually eligible families referred by DHCD but directs DHCD and DPH to develop guidelines to provide for this

### **Changes Not Included:**

- Conference budget did not include raising the benefit cap to \$10,000, as proposed by the Senate budget
  - For the program allowing families in DV and substance abuse shelter to access HomeBASE, the conference budget did not include removing the \$300,000 cap on the program as proposed by the Senate.

## Foreclosure Prevention Counseling (7006-0011) – Retained Revenue

Conference: \$ 2,350,000  
FY2017: \$ 2,350,000  
Difference: \$ 0

### Description of Changes:

- Directs DOB to expend at least \$800,000 for HCECs.

### Changes Not Included:

- Conference budget does not include the guarantee that at least \$1.3 million be spent on Ch.206 Foreclosure/Housing Counseling grants, as contained in the Senate budget.

## Housing Court Expansion (0336-0003)

Conference: \$ 1,000,000  
FY2017: \$ 0  
Difference: **\$ 1,000,000**

## Tenancy Preservation Program (TPP) (7004-3045)

Conference: \$ 625,000  
FY2017: \$ 500,000  
Difference: **\$ 125,000**

## Housing Consumer Education Centers (7004-3036)

Conference: \$ 2,221,992 (w/ \$180,000 in earmarks)  
FY2017: \$ 2,291,992 (w/ \$150,000 in earmarks)  
Difference: **\$ 70,000**

### Description of Changes:

- Includes \$180,000 in earmarks.

### Note:

- The Conference budget requires the Division of Banks to provide \$800,000 to HCECs through the Foreclosure/Housing Counseling line-item (7006-0011). Taking into account this as well as the earmarks, total operating funding available for HCECs in FY18 will be \$2,841,992.

## Home and Healthy for Good (7004-0104)

Conference: \$ 2,040,000  
FY2017: \$ 2,000,000  
Difference: **\$ 40,000**

**Mass. Access Affordable Housing Registry (4120-4001)**

Conference: \$ 80,000  
FY2017: \$ 80,000  
Difference: \$ 0

**Unaccompanied Homeless Youth (4000-0007)**

Conference: \$ 675,000  
FY2017: \$ 2,000,000  
Difference: **\$ 1,325,000**