

Eileen M. Donoghue  
City Manager

April 29, 2019

Jeannine Durkin, Acting Superintendent of Schools  
Lowell Public School Central Administration  
155 Merrimack Street  
Lowell, MA 01852

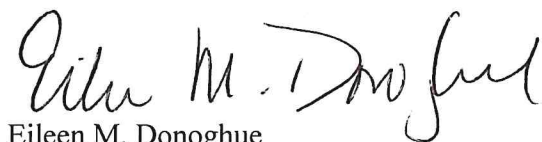
Madam Superintendent,

This communication is a follow-up to the letter sent to your attention on April 2, 2019 regarding the FY2020 budget. Since that time, the State budget process has progressed through the House Ways & Means committee and soon an amended version of the budget bill will be sent to the Senate for consideration. In the House version of the budget, the Chapter 70 apportionment for Lowell was increased again from the Governor's proposal and is currently at \$160,069,667. This amount represents an increase of \$1.44 million above the Governor's FY2020 proposal and \$9.13 million above the FY2019 funding level. This is surely good news for the public schools district. Also, I am reaffirming my commitment to raise the local cash contribution by an amount equal to the Municipal Revenue Growth Factor ("MRGF"). Therefore, the lump sum appropriation for the Lowell Public Schools ("LPS") now stands at \$176,428,868.

The next step in the budget process at the State House will be for the Senate to deliberate the funding allocations. It is possible that the Senate may increase, further, the FY2020 Chapter 70 amount, but I would advise that the LPS use the House number to be conservative with the budget estimate. There have been instances in the past where the Senate has raised the funding amount, only to see it reduced during the Conference Committee negotiations. It is unlikely, however, based on history that the amount included in the House budget will be reduced at this point in the year.

Attached to this memorandum is a copy of the preliminary "Cherry Sheet" schedule for FY2020 for Lowell from the Division of Local Services' website. Please use this as a guide for your budgetary needs.

Sincerely,



Eileen M. Donoghue  
City Manager

Cc: Mayor William J. Samaras and Members of the Lowell City Council



# MA Department of Revenue

Division of Local Services

Preliminary Municipal Cherry Sheet Estimates

Data current as of 04/16/2019

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Lowell ▼

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## FY2020 Preliminary Cherry Sheet Estimates Lowell

### Estimated Receipts Estimated Assessments & Charges

PROGRAM	FY2019 Cherry Sheet Estimate	FY2020 Governor's Budget Proposal	FY2020 HWM Budget Proposal	FY2020 Senate Budget Proposal	FY2020 Conference Committee
<b>Education Receipts:</b>					
Chapter 70	150,935,483	158,632,652	160,069,667		
School Transportation	0	0	0		
Charter Tuition Reimbursement	3,018,590	3,772,731	4,175,591		
Smart Growth School Reimbursement	0	0	0		
<b>Offset Receipts:</b>					
School Choice Receiving Tuition	75,653	79,903	79,903		
<b>Sub-Total, All Education Items:</b>	<b>154,029,726</b>	<b>162,485,286</b>	<b>164,325,161</b>		
<b>General Government:</b>					
Unrestricted Gen Gov't Aid	26,043,352	26,746,523	26,746,523		
Local Share of Racing Taxes	0	0	0		