



Newton City Council

Committee of the Whole Report

Thursday, November 10, 2022

Present: Councilors Baker, Bowman, Crossley, Danberg, Downs, Greenberg, Grossman, Humphrey, Kalis, Kelley, Krintzman, Laredo, Leary, Lipof, Lucas, Malakie, Markiewicz, Norton, Oliver, Ryan, Wright & Albright.

Absent: Councilors Gentile and Noel

City Staff present: Jonathan Yeo, Chief Operating Officer (COO), Maureen Lemieux, Chief Financial Officer (CFO), Dr. Kathleen Smith, Interim Newton Public Schools Superintendent, and Jonah Temple, Deputy City Solicitor

Clerk's Note: The full meeting can be viewed on the following link:

<https://newtv.org/recent-video/63-newton-city-council-meetings/7774-newton-city-council-november-10-2022>

The City Council went into a Committee of the Whole with Programs & Services Committee Chair Krintzman presiding, to discuss the following docket items.

#482-22 Authorization to present the levy limit override and debt exclusion ballot questions to the voters

HER HONOR THE MAYOR requesting the following:

- To present the following levy limit override and debt exclusion ballot questions to the voters in accordance with the procedure prescribed by Massachusetts General Law Chapter 59, Section 21C(g) and (k):
- Shall the City of Newton be allowed to assess an additional \$9,175,000 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purposes of funding Public Schools for student needs, street and sidewalk paving and safety improvements, tree planting and maintenance, park and recreational facility improvements and maintenance, improvements to Horace Mann Elementary School, sustainability and climate resiliency actions, and Senior Services programming and operations for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023?

Yes _____ No _____

Action: Committee of the Whole voted to Approve as Amended 22 yeas, 0 nays, 2 absent

- Shall the City of Newton be allowed to exempt from the provisions of Proposition 2 1/2, so called, the amounts required to pay for the bonds issued in order to renovate or replace the Countryside Elementary School?

Yes _____ No _____

Action: Committee of the Whole voted to Approve 22 yeas, 0 nays, 2 absent

- Shall the City of Newton be allowed to exempt from the provisions of Proposition 2 1/2, so called, the amounts required to pay for the bonds issued in order to renovate or replace the Franklin Elementary School?

Yes _____ No _____

Action: Committee of the Whole voted to Approve 22 yeas, 0 nays, 2 absent

- A request to call a special election to present the levy limit override and debt exclusion ballot questions to the voters and set a date of March 14, 2023 for such special election.

Action: Committee of the Whole voted to Approve 22 yeas, 0 nays, 2 absent

- A request to appropriate from Budget Reserve the sum of two hundred and ten thousand dollars (\$210,000) for the purpose of funding the costs of a special election to present the levy limit override and debt exclusion ballot questions to the voters.

Action: Committee of the Whole voted to Approve 22 yeas, 0 nays, 2 absent

Note: CFO Maureen Lemieux began the presentation (attached) with an overview of the five-year financial forecast, long range financial plan, and proposed override information. Ms. Lemieux was joined by Interim Superintendent Smith, who provided a review of the Newton Public Schools since the previous Override in 2013 and their standing among neighboring communities. The presentation included the tax reliefs proposed in docket items #500-22 and #501-22.

After the presentation, Chair Krintzman opened the floor for discussion and explained that each section of the ballot question needed a separate motion.

Councilors discussed and asked questions of the presenters for a clearer picture on each item on the proposed ballot. Deputy City Attorney Jonah Temple submitted in the Friday packet the amended ballot language for question #1:

REDLINE OF OVERRIDE QUESTION #1

Shall the City of Newton be allowed to assess an additional \$9,175,000 in real estate and personal property taxes ~~for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023~~ for the purposes of funding ~~municipal and school operating and capital~~ **Public Schools for student needs,**

~~expenses to support student needs, fund~~ street and sidewalk paving and safety improvements, ~~increase street~~ tree planting and maintenance, ~~care efforts, improve~~ park and recreational facility, ~~athletic field, court and playground~~ improvements and maintenance, improvements to address the space needs of the Horace Mann Elementary School, ~~fund~~ sustainability and climate resiliency actions, and increase Senior Services programming and operations for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023?

CLEAN OVERRIDE QUESTION #1

Shall the City of Newton be allowed to assess an additional \$9,175,000 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purposes of funding Public Schools for student needs, street and sidewalk paving and safety improvements, tree planting and maintenance, park and recreational facility improvements and maintenance, improvements to Horace Mann Elementary School, sustainability and climate resiliency actions, and Senior Services programming and operations for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023?

Council President Albright made the Motion to present the Mayor's proposed Proposition 2½ Override question, as amended to the electorate.

Council President Albright made the Motion to present the Mayor's proposed Proposition 2½ Debt Exclusion question concerning the Countryside Elementary School to the electorate.

Council President Albright made the Motion to present the Mayor's proposed Proposition 2½ Debt Exclusion question concerning the Franklin Elementary School to the electorate.

Councilors discussed the feasibility of the March 14 Special Election date and whether the election could be held on March 28 or later.

Council President Albright made the Motion to set a Special Election date of March 14, 2023, for the purpose of presenting the Override and Debt Exclusion questions.

It was asked about the option to vote by mail and early voting for the Special election. City Clerk Carol Moore explained her method for calculating budget projections, using the staffing levels of the September State primaries and the printing/postage/purchases from the 2021 Special Municipal election. Chair Krintzman, explained that the Council will decide Early Voting and the option to opt out of Vote by mail at a later date, if necessary.

Council President Albright made the Motion to approve the appropriation from Budget Reserve, the sum of \$210,000 for the purpose of funding the costs of a special election to present the override and debt exclusion ballot questions to voters.

#484-22 Amendments to Sec. 27-10 to the City of Newton Ordinances

HER HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an amendment to City Ordinance Sec. 27-10 increasing the income limit of the tax deferral program to match the current maximum

allowable circuit breaker amount of \$93,000 for the local M.G.L c. 59 sec. 5cl. 41A tax deferral program.

Action: Committee of the Whole voted to Approve by Voice Vote

Note: Council President Albright made the Motion to approve the amendment to City Ordinance Sec. 27-10 increasing the income limit of the tax deferral program to match the current maximum allowable circuit breaker amount of \$93,000 for the local M.G.L c. 59 sec. 5cl. 41A tax deferral program.

#485-22 Requesting a Home Rule Petition

HER HONOR THE MAYOR requesting to seek Home Rule legislation allowing the City to increase the maximum real property tax exemptions and reductions for certain programs authorized under M.G.L c. 59 beyond that amount currently allowed by the state. The requested enhancements for the following tax assistance programs:

VETERAN - EXEMPTION - G.L. c. 59, sec. 5, cl. 22

Clause 22 authorizes an exemption for the real property taxes of qualifying veterans or spouses of veterans in the maximum amount of \$400. The maximum allowable exemption is requested to be increased to \$800.

VETERAN - EXEMPTION - G.L. c. 59, sec. 5, cl. 22

Clause 22 authorizes an exemption for the real property taxes of qualifying veterans or spouses of veterans in the maximum amount of \$500. The maximum allowable exemption is requested to be increased to \$1,000.

DISABLED VETERAN - EXEMPTION - G.L. c. 59, sec. 5, cl. 22E

Clause 22E authorizes an exemption for the real property taxes of qualifying veterans determined to have suffered total disability in the line of duty in the maximum amount of \$1,000. The maximum allowable exemption is requested to be increased to \$2,000.

BLIND PERSON - EXEMPTION - G.L. c. 59, sec. 5, cl. 37A

Clause 37A authorizes an exemption for the real property taxes of a blind person in the maximum amount of \$500. The maximum allowable exemption is requested to be increased to \$1,000.

SENIOR CITIZENS - EXEMPTION - G.L. c. 59, sec. 5, cl. 41C

Clause 41C authorizes an exemption for the real property taxes of seniors over the age of 65 in the maximum amount of \$1,000. The maximum allowable exemption is requested to be increased to \$2,000.

SENIOR CITIZENS - REDUCTION - G.L. c. 59, sec. 5K and VETERANS - REDUCTION - G.L. c. 59, sec. 5N

Section 5K and 5N, respectively, authorize a reduction for the real property taxes of seniors over the age of 60 or veterans in exchange for volunteer services to the city. The

statute permits a maximum reduction based on either 125 volunteer service hours or \$1,500. The City currently allows a reduction based on the maximum 125 volunteer service hours. It is requested that the maximum reduction in exchange for volunteer services be increased to 200 volunteer services hours or \$3,000.

ELDERLY SURVIVING SPOUSE, MINOR CHILD -EXEMPTION - G.L. c. 59, sec. 5, cl. 17D

Clause 17D authorizes an exemption for the real property taxes of a surviving spouse, a minor child whose parent is deceased, or seniors over the age of 70, in the maximum amount of \$219. It is requested that the maximum be doubled, increasing the exemption amount to \$438.

Action: Committee of the Whole voted No Action Necessary by Voice Vote

Note: Chair Krintzman reminded Councilors that this item was replaced by the items #500-22 and #501-22. Council President Albright made the Motion of No Action Necessary.

#500-22 **Accepting Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 5C1/2**

HER HONOR THE MAYOR requesting to accept Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 5C1/2, which provides for an additional real estate exemption for taxpayers who are granted personal exemptions on their domiciles under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 5, including certain blind persons, veterans, surviving spouses and seniors, and provide an additional exemption up to 100 percent of the personal exemption, to be effective for exemptions granted for any fiscal year beginning on or after July 1, 2023. This will double the current level of tax assistance that the City of Newton provides to eligible residents with these programs. A 100 percent increase is the maximum additional exemption permitted under Section 5C1/2.

Action: Committee of the Whole voted to Approve by Voice Vote

Note: Council President Albright made the Motion to accept Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 5C1/2 and provide an additional exemption up to 100 percent of the personal exemption, to be effective for exemptions granted for any fiscal year beginning on or after July 1, 2023.

#501-22 **Requesting a Home Rule Petition**

HER HONOR THE MAYOR requesting to seek Home Rule legislation allowing the City to increase the maximum real property tax reductions for certain programs authorized under M.G.L c. 59 beyond that amount currently allowed by the state. Given the high cost of living in the metro Boston area, and specifically with the City of Newton, this is requesting the enhancements for the following tax assistance programs which will double the assistance available to eligible City of Newton residents:

SENIOR CITIZENS-REDUCTION- G.L. c. 59 sec. 5K and VETERANS-REDUCTION-G.L. c. 59, sec. 5N

Section 5K and 5N, respectively, authorize a reduction for the real property taxes of seniors over the age of 60 or veterans in exchange for volunteer services to the city. The statute permits a maximum reduction based on either 125 volunteer service hours or \$1,500. The City currently allows a reduction in exchange for volunteer services be increased to 200 volunteer services hours or \$3,000

Action: **Committee of the Whole voted to Approve by Voice Vote**

Note: Council President Albright made the Motion to seek Home Rule legislation allowing the City to increase the maximum real property tax reductions for certain programs authorized under M.G.L c. 59 beyond that amount currently allowed by the state.

**Respectfully submitted,
Joshua Krintzman, Chair**

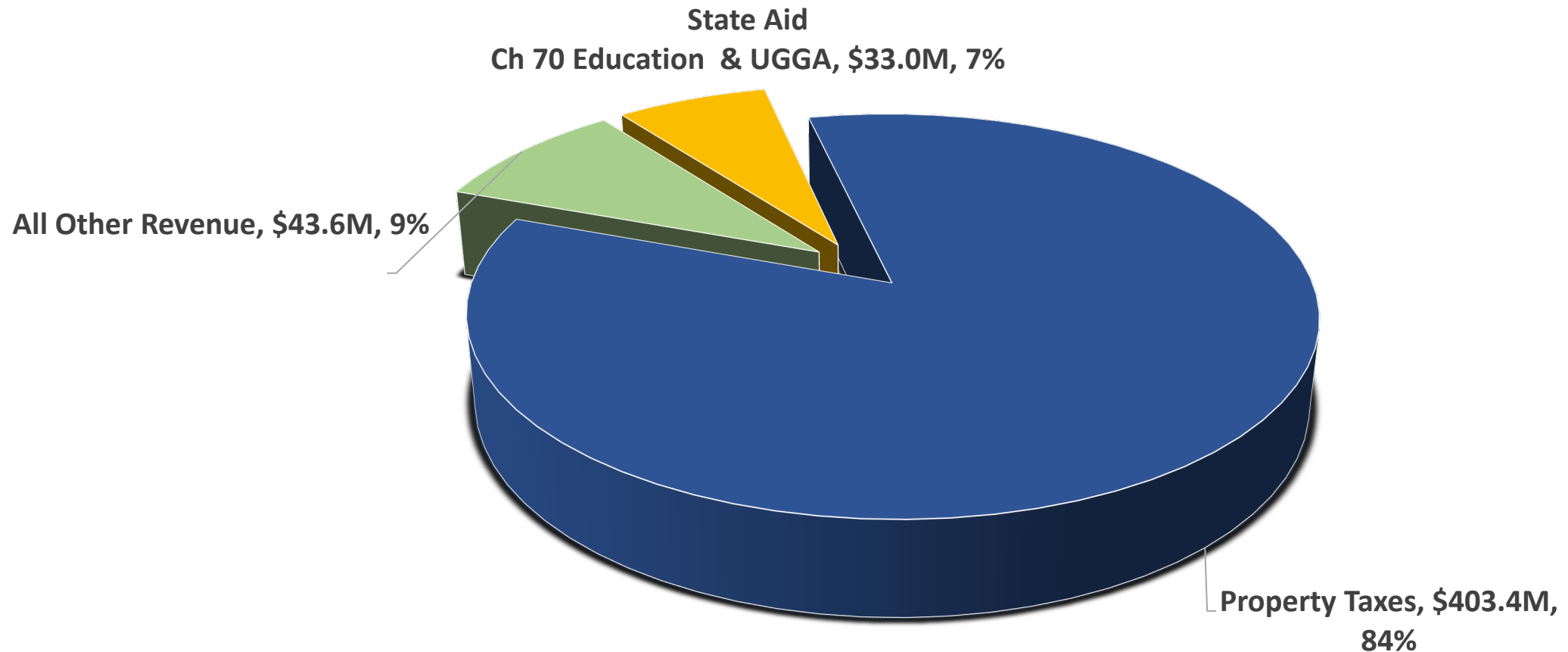
FY2024-FY2028 FIVE YEAR FINANCIAL FORECAST,
LONG RANGE FINANCIAL PLAN, AND
MARCH 2023 PROPOSED OVERRIDE INFORMATION

Mayor Ruthanne Fuller,
November 2022

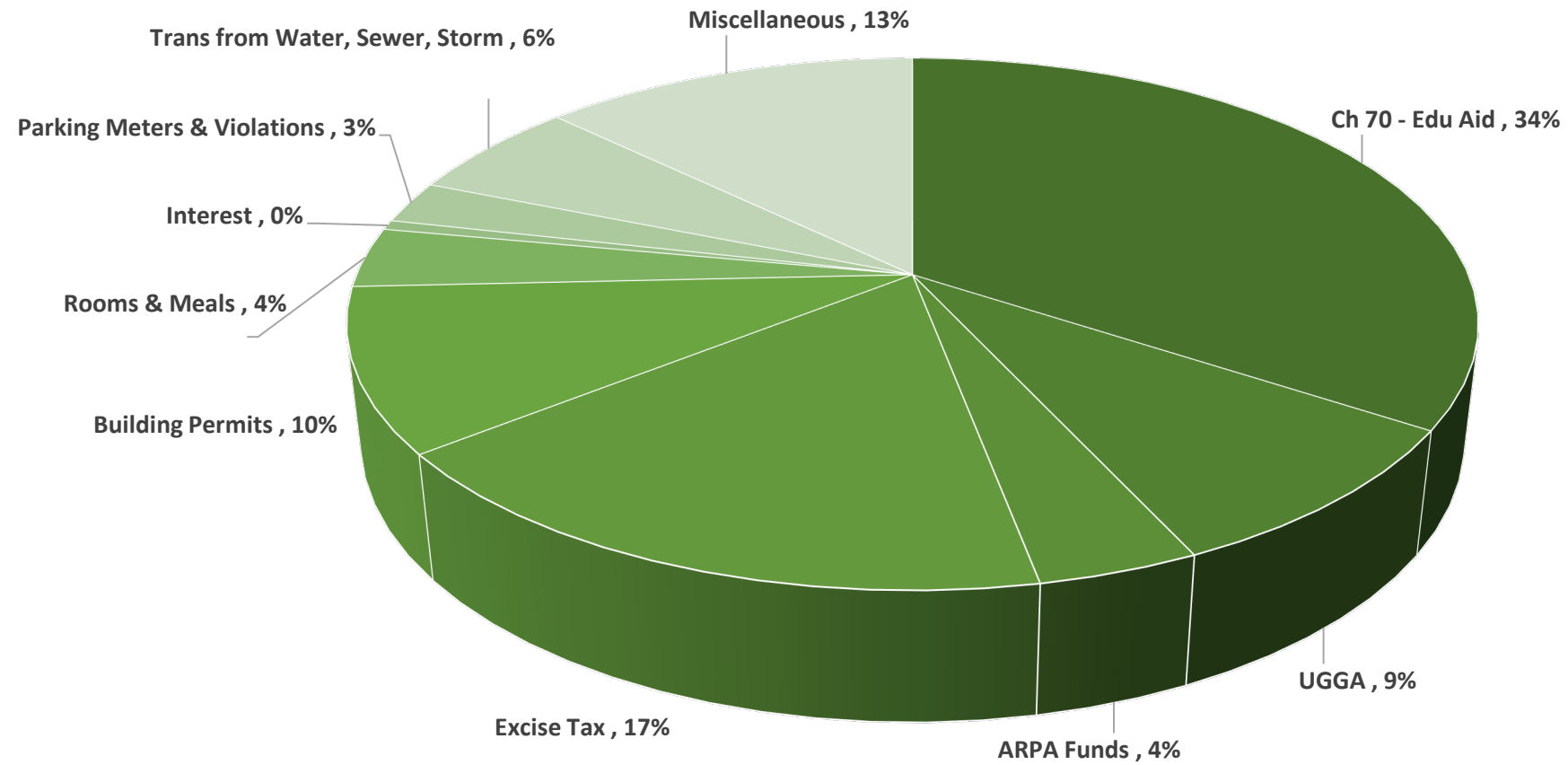
FY2024-FY2028 FIVE YEAR FINANCIAL FORECAST
and
LONG RANGE FINANCIAL PLAN

FY2023 Total Revenue - \$480 M

Property Taxes and State Aid = 91%

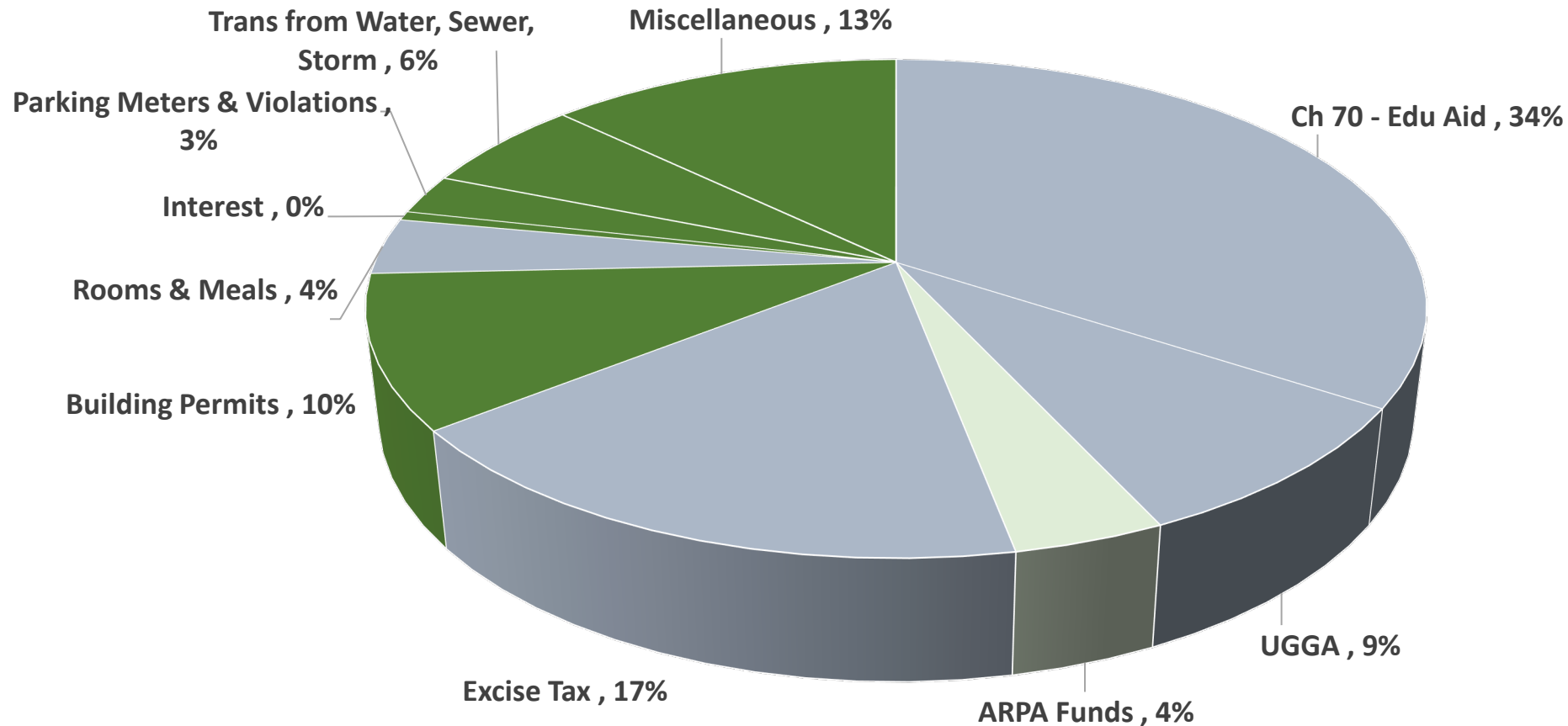


FY2023 Non-Tax Revenue - \$76 M



FY2023 Non-Tax Revenue - \$76 M

We can only impact \approx \$25 - \$30 M



Projected Revenue Growth FY2024–FY2028

Assumes NO Override

(\$ MILLIONS)

	<u>FY23</u>	<u>FY24</u>	<u>FY25</u>	<u>FY26</u>	<u>FY27</u>	<u>FY28</u>
<u>TOTAL REVENUE WITHOUT</u> <u>VERRIDE</u>	\$480	\$498	\$517	\$534	\$551	\$571
\$ Annual Increase		\$ 18	\$ 19	\$ 17	\$ 17	\$ 20
% Annual Increase		3.7%*	3.9%*	3.2%	3.2%	3.7%

* Includes ARPA

MAJOR COST DRIVERS

Major Cost Drivers – Significant Annual Increases

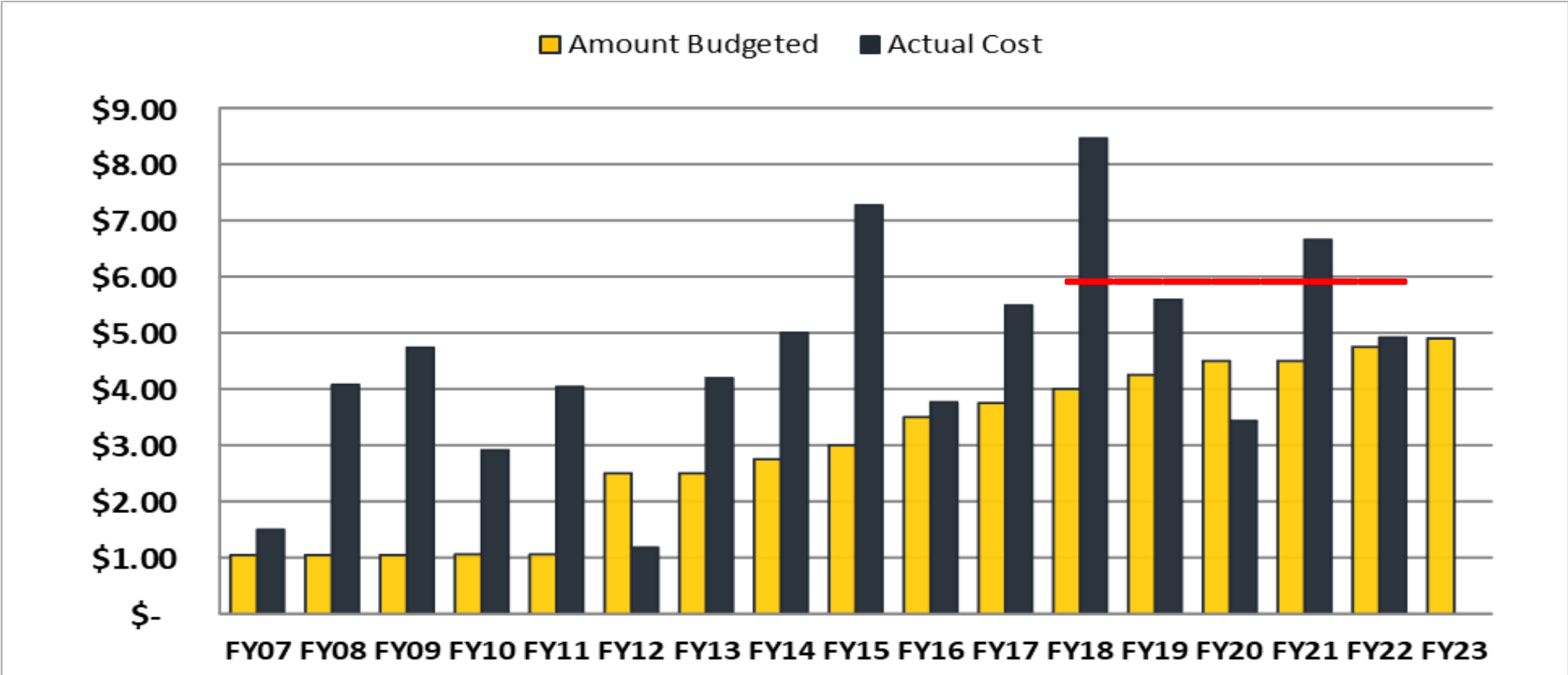
- Removal of Snow & Ice/High Wind Events
- Solid Waste & Recycling
- Health Insurance
- Long Term Liabilities – Pensions & OPEB



SNOW, ICE & HIGH WINDS

Costs for Removal of Snow & Ice, High Wind Events

5 Year Average - \$5.8 M



SOLID WASTE & RECYCLING

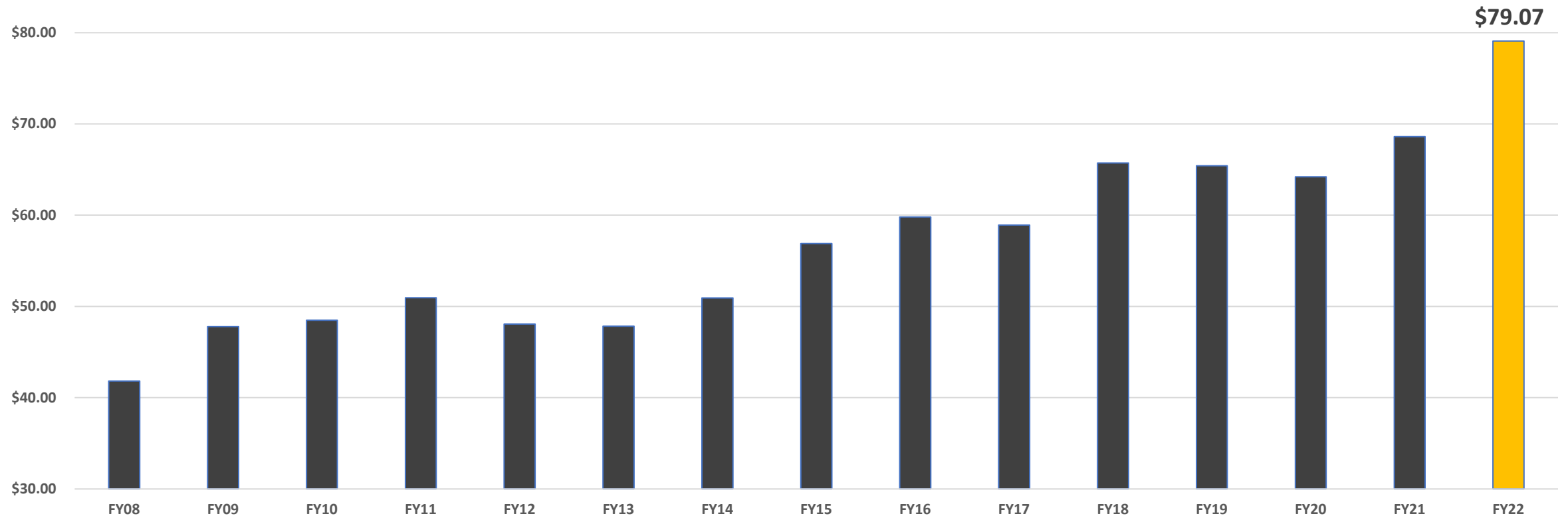
Solid Waste & Recycling Costs

Average Annual Growth: 7.2%

<u>FISCAL YEAR</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>% OF MUNICIPAL BUDGET</u>
FY2017	\$ 7.9 M	4.3%
FY2023	\$ 11.3 M	4.9%

HEALTH INSURANCE

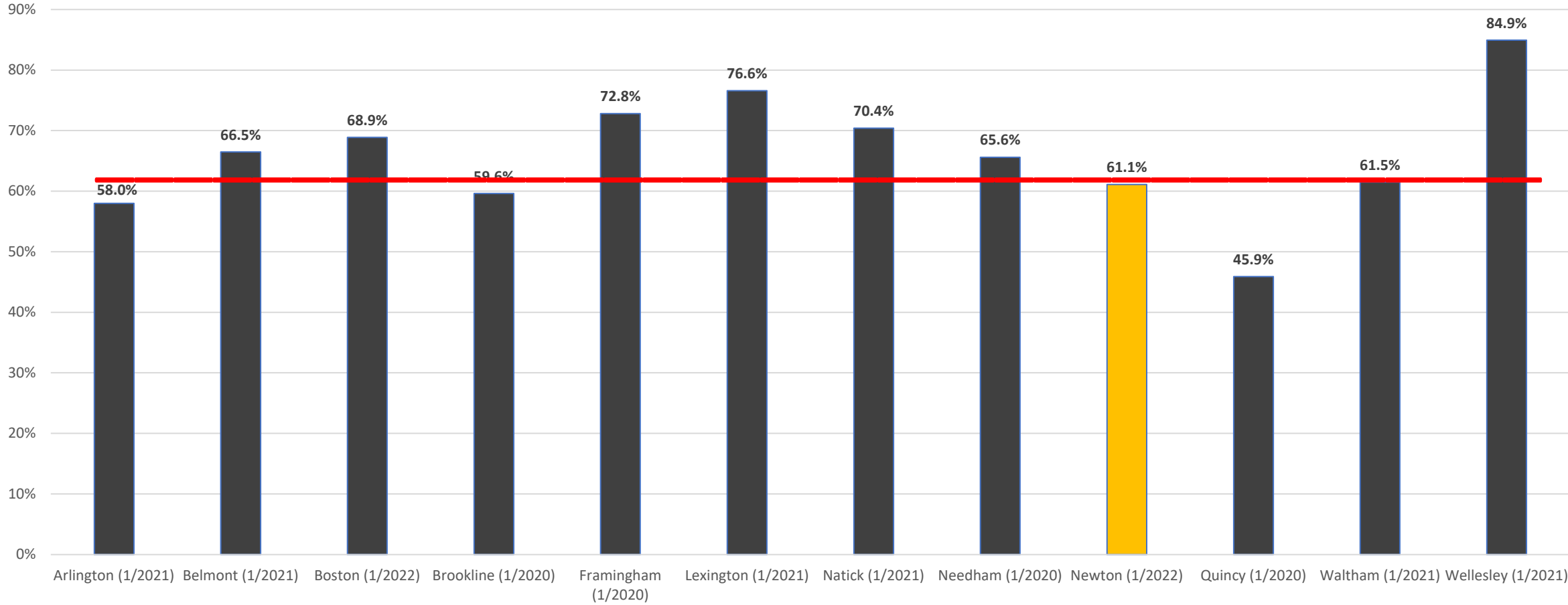
Health Insurance Totals



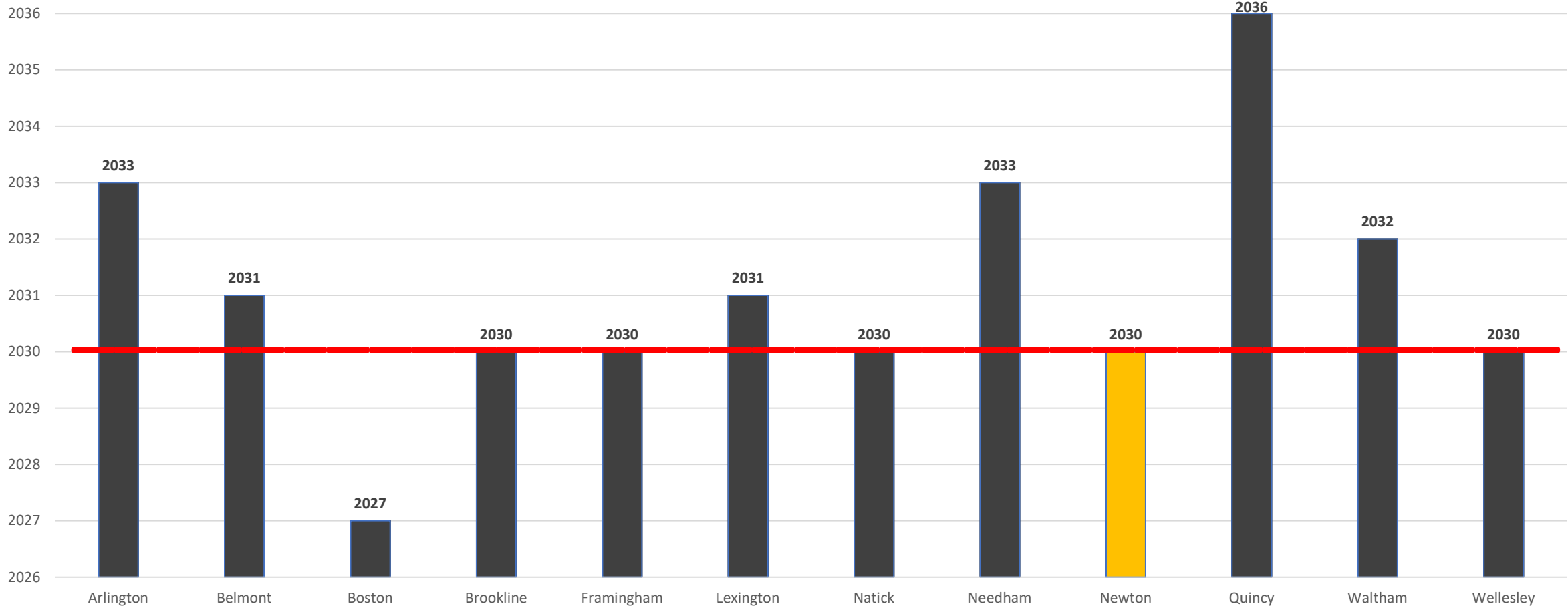


LONG TERM LIABILITIES: PENSIONS & OPEB

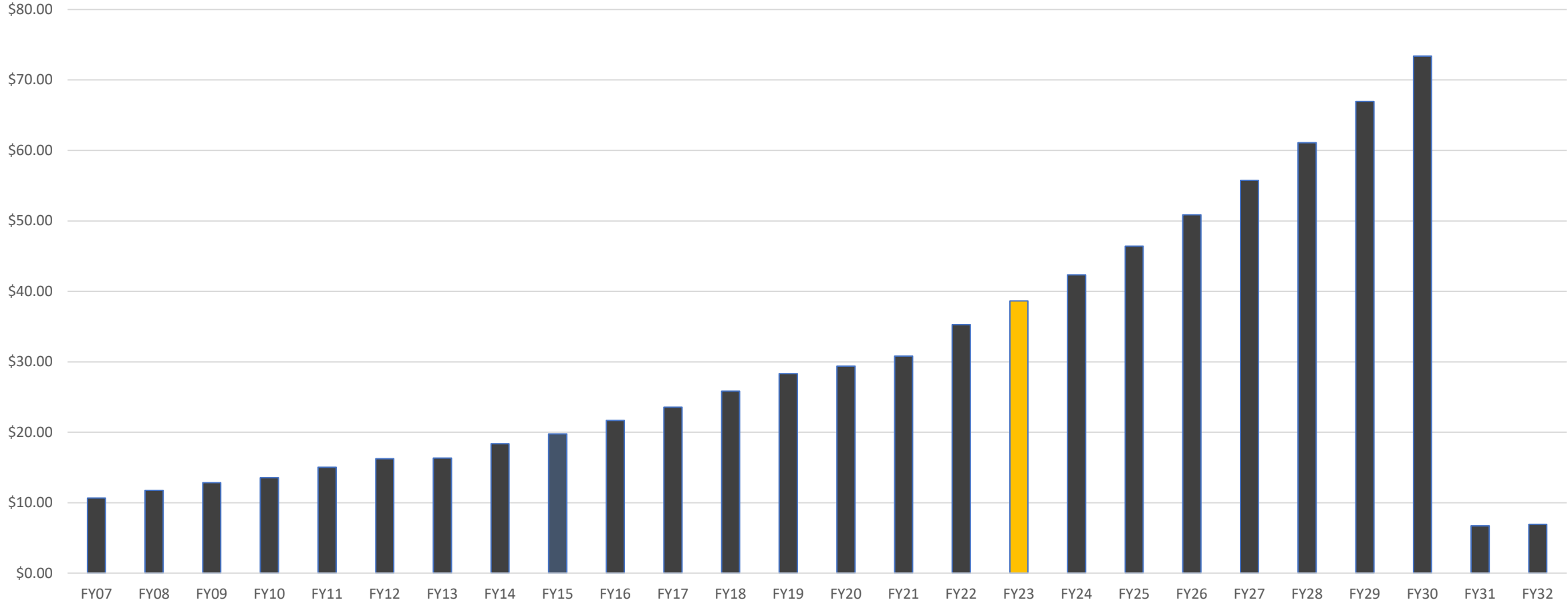
% of Pensions Funded by Community



Achievement Year of Funding Pensions by Community



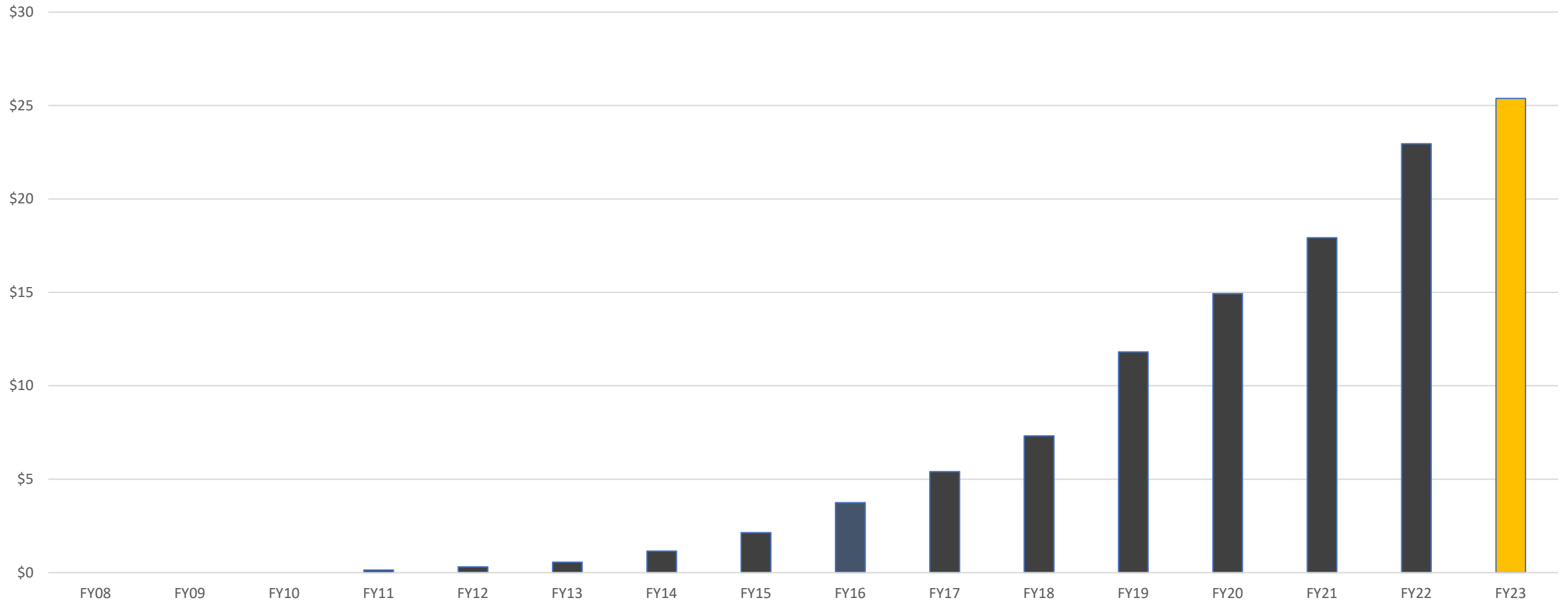
General Fund Contributions to Pension Fund



OPEB Trust Fund Value

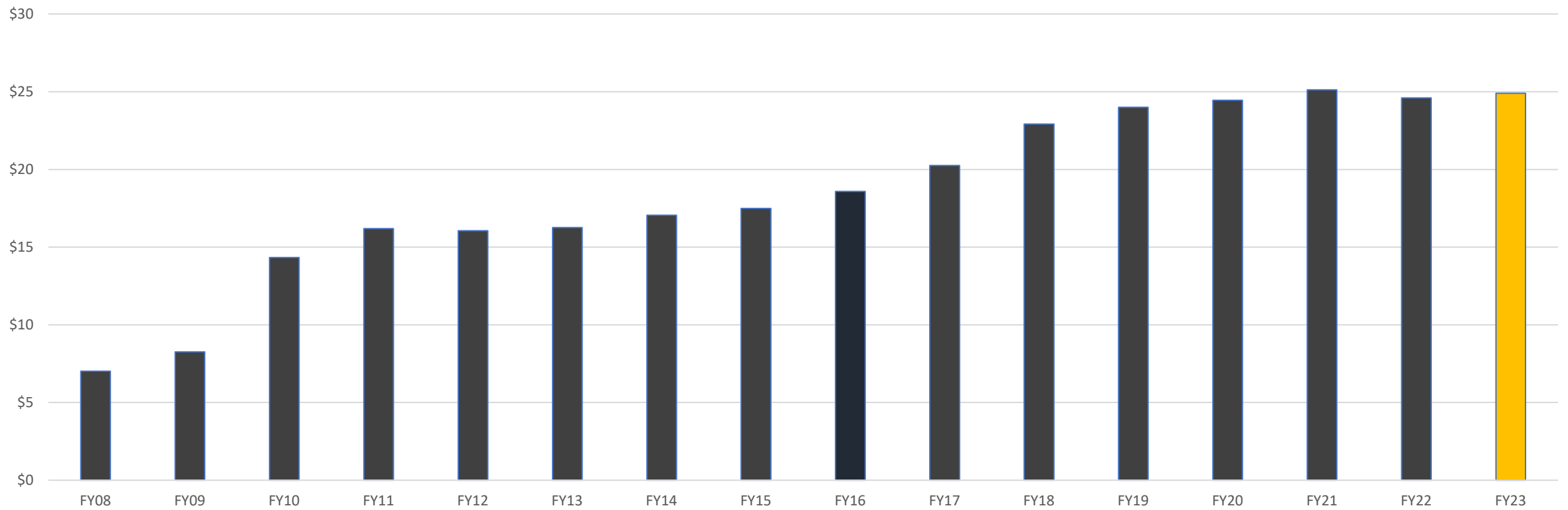
Current Value \$25 M

Current Liability \$667 M

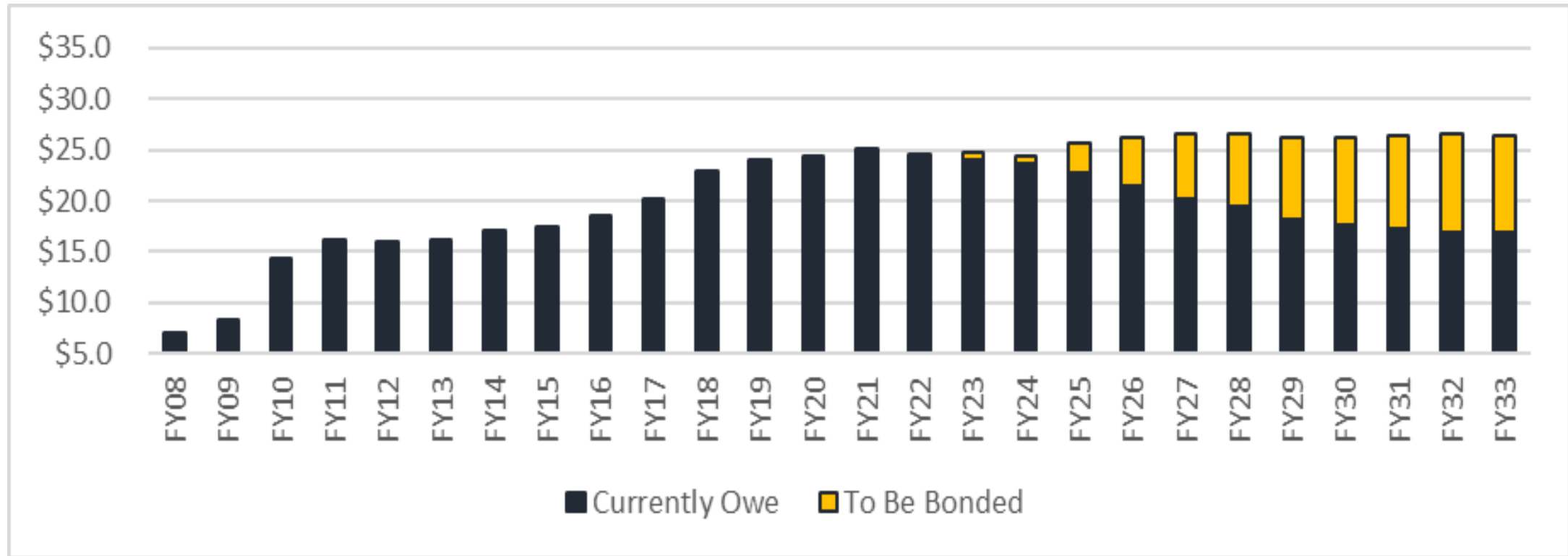


DEBT

Debt Service – Current Debt \$25 M



Projected Debt Service Costs (NECP, Lincoln-Eliot, NewCAL, Police HQ)



RECENT PROJECTS

DONE WITH GENERAL FUND DOLLARS

EXAMPLES OF DPW PROJECTS W/O OVERRIDE FUNDS

- West Newton Square
- Newtonville
- Auburndale Square
- Dedham/Nahanton/Brookline
- Library Parking Lot
- Elliott Street Bridge
- Oak & Christina Intersection
- Washington Street
- Harvard @ Washington Intersection

Paving Funding Sources- \$9.5 M

Free
Cash/Other
Appropriations
51%
\$4.8 M

General
Fund
25%
\$2.4 M



Chapter 90
24%
\$2.3 M

SCHOOL PROJECTS

W/O OVERRIDE FUNDS

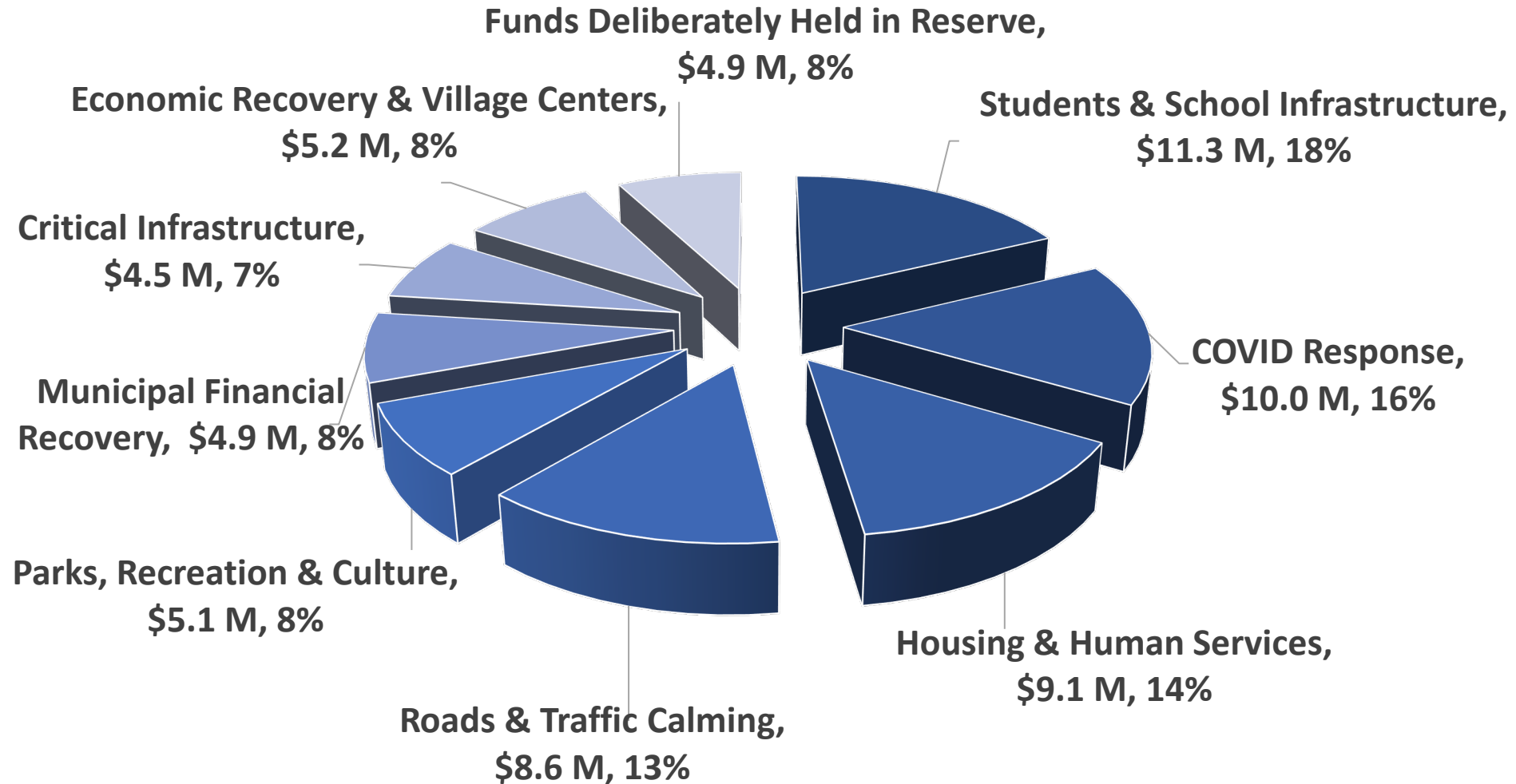
- Full Day Kindergarten
- Expanding Special Ed In-District Opportunities for Students
- Oak Hill 3 Classroom Addition
- Newton Early Childhood Program- NECP @ 687 Watertown St
- Lincoln-Eliot @ 150 Jackson

Other Major Projects W/O OVERRIDE FUNDS

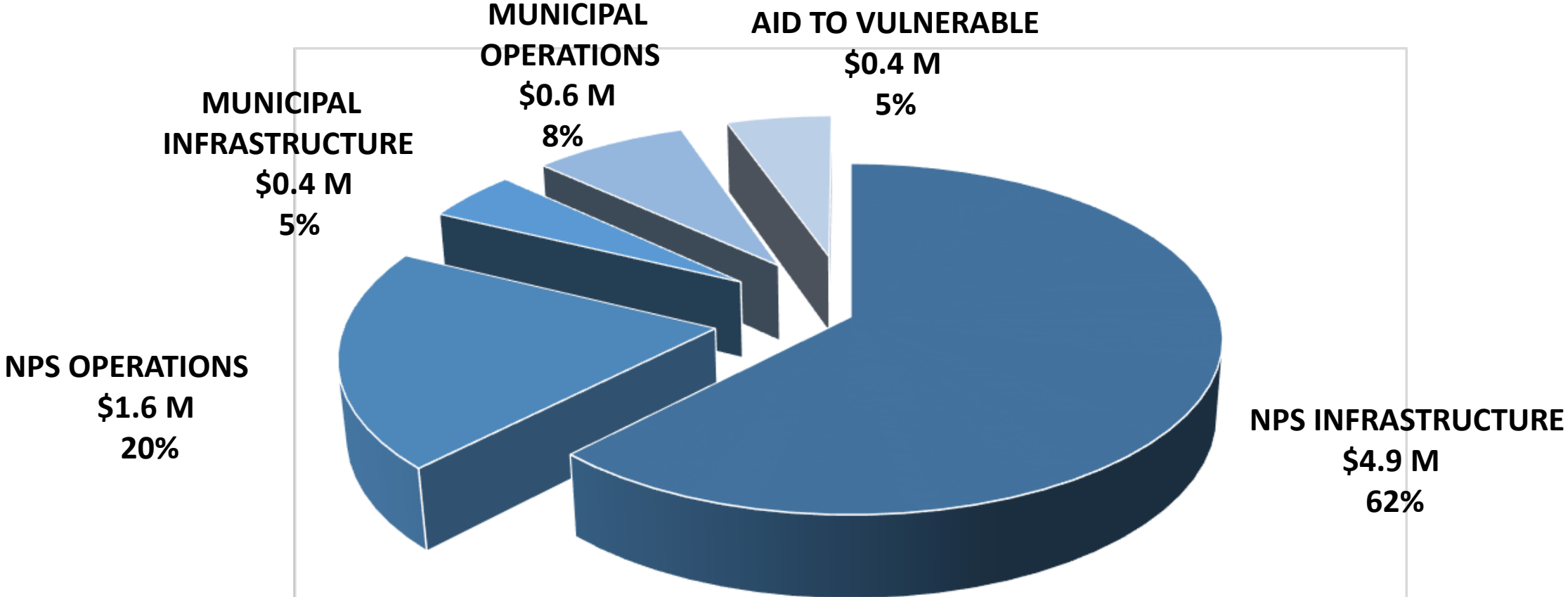
- NewCAL
- Gath Pool
- Police Headquarters Upgrades

WHAT HAPPENED TO ARPA, CARES
AND FREE CASH??

ARPA - \$63.5 M



CARES - \$7.8 M



Using FREE CASH to Lower Impact on Taxpayers

Lower Annual Debt Service Payments

Fire Engine	\$.8 M
Newton South Synthetic Turf Fields	\$ 2.1 M
DPW Fleet Replacements	\$ 2.0 M

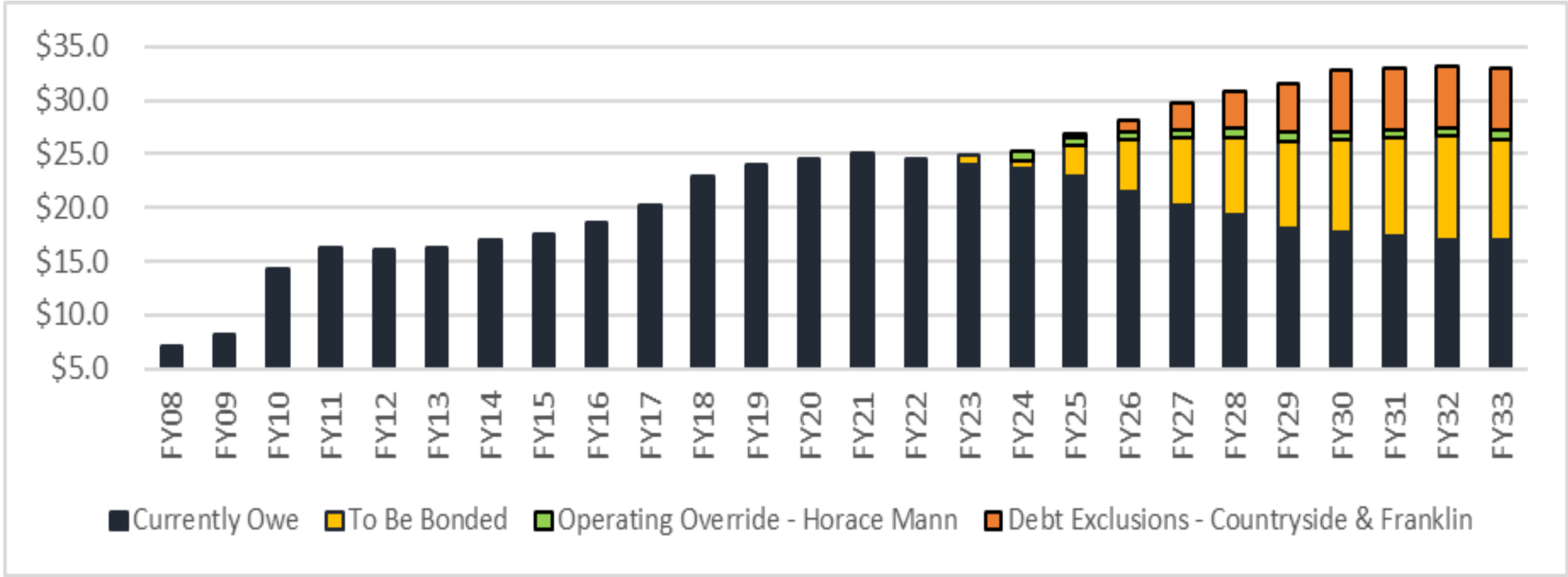
Lower Override Request

Horace Mann Addition	<u>\$ 7.5 M</u>
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\$ 12.4 M

WHY DO WE NEED AN OVERRIDE??

Projected Debt Service Costs Including Countryside, Franklin & Horace Mann WILL ADD \$6.5 M TO ANNUAL DEBT SERVICE



Newton Public Schools – FY2023 Budget

(\$ MILLIONS)

	<u>FY23</u>
NEWTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS FY23 ALLOCATION	\$262.1
NPS CARRY FORWARD	\$ 4.5
NPS DEFACTO BUDGET	\$266.6

Accelerate Investments in Our Shared Values

- Streets, Sidewalks & Traffic Safety
- Parks, Playgrounds, Athletic Fields
- Trees & Tree Canopy
- NewCAL - Seniors
- Sustainability & Climate Resiliency

OVERRIDE QUESTIONS

Voting by Newton for Newton

TWO DEBT EXCLUSION OVERRIDES

	Annual amount to service 30-year bonds
Countryside Elementary	\$2,300,000
Franklin Elementary	\$3,500,000

- *Temporary tax increase for the life of the bonds*
- *Kicks in when we start bonding*

Voting by Newton for Newton

TWO DEBT EXCLUSION OVERRIDES

	Annual amount to service 30-year bonds	Total Project Cost	
Countryside Elementary	\$2,300,000	\$61,000,000	<i>MSBA funds</i>
Franklin Elementary	\$3,500,000	\$61,000,000	

- *Temporary tax increase for the life of the bonds*
- *Kicks in when we start bonding*



COUNTRYSIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

PRESENT / FUTURE





**FRANKLIN
ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL**

PRESENT / FUTURE



Voting by Newton for Newton

ONE OPERATING OVERRIDE

Horace Mann	\$775,000
Elementary	
Streets and Sidewalks	\$1,400,000
Parks, Fields, Courts and	
Playgrounds	\$1,000,000
Plant and Nurture	\$500,000
Trees	
Sustainability and Climate	\$500,000
Resiliency	
Senior Services and	\$500,000
Programs	
Supporting Student	\$4,500,000
Needs	\$9,175,000

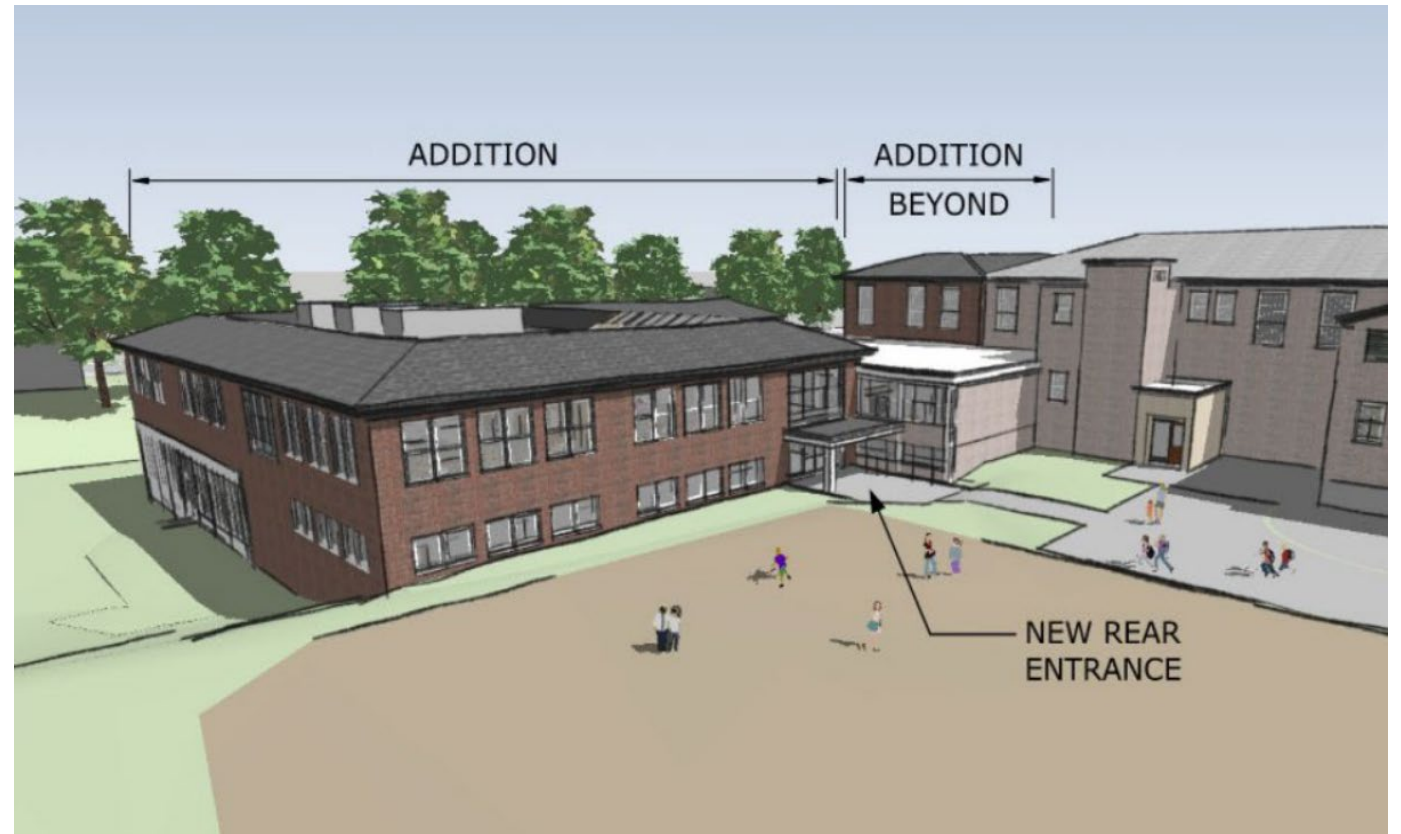
- *Permanent tax increase*
- *Starts on July 1, 2023*

Voting by Newton for Newton

ADDITIONAL SPACE FOR HORACE MANN - \$775,000

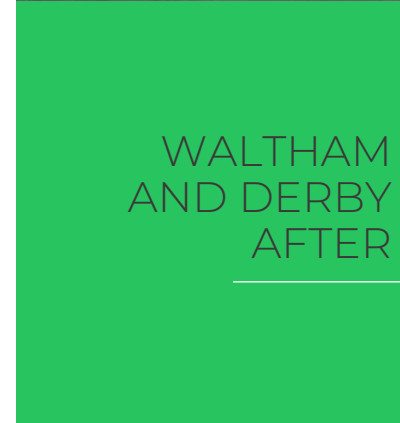
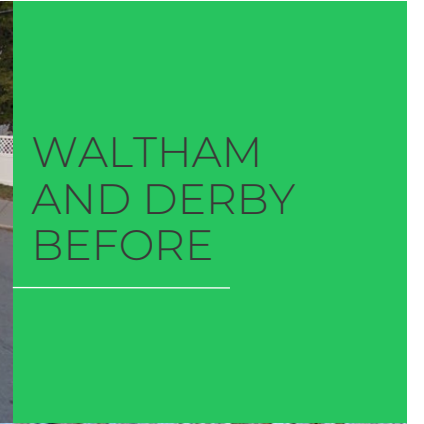
Existing Recommended

Classrooms	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Library	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Special Education Space	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Cafeteria	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>



Voting by Newton for Newton

FIXING STREETS AND SIDEWALKS AND MAKING THEM SAFER – \$1.4M



**CITY OF NEWTON PROPOSED OPERATING OVERRIDE
STREET/SIDEWALK PAVING, SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS**

ACCT DESCRIPTION	FY2017 ORIG	FY2018 ORIG	FY2019 ORIG	FY2020 ORIG	FY2021 COVID	FY2022 ORIG	FY2023 ORIG	OVERRIDE
	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	FUNDS ADDED TO FY23 BASE
ENGINEERING SERVICE-ENGINEERIN	\$ 4,000	\$ 450,000	\$ 510,000	\$ 510,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
ENGINEERING SERVICE-PAVING SUP	\$ -	\$ 750,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 710,000	\$ 1,200,000	\$ -	
STREET DIVISION-CONSTRUCTION S	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 16,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	
STREET DIVISION-EMULSION	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	
STREET DIVISION-WOOD	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000	\$ 6,237	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	
STREET DIVISION-PAVING SUPPLIE	\$ 260,000	\$ 270,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	
STREET DIVISION-ASPHALT	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 343,956	\$ 130,520	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	
STREET DIVISION-PAVING REPAIRS	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 270,306	\$ 388,685	\$ 300,000	\$ 300,000	\$ 300,000	
STREET DIVISION-WINTER POTHOLE	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 54,558	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
STREET DIVISION-CURBING SUPPLI	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
STREET DIVISION-GRANITE CURBIN	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 135,000	\$ 135,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
DPW ADMIN/SUPPT-CONSULTANTS	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50,000	
DPW ADMIN-PAVING SUPP OVERRIDE	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,150,000	
SUPL STREE/SIDEWA-PUBLIC PRO	\$ 979,450	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
TRANSPORTATION-PAVEMENT MARKIN	\$ -	\$ 225,000	\$ 275,000	\$ 275,000	\$ 225,000	\$ 300,000	\$ 300,000	
TRANSPORTATION-TRAFFIC CALMING	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 150,000	\$ 175,000	\$ 175,000	\$ 350,000	\$ 350,000	
OVERRIDE FUNDS								\$ 1,400,000
STREET/SIDEWALK PAVING, SAFETY IMPI	\$ 1,418,450	\$ 1,870,000	\$ 1,715,262	\$ 1,710,000	\$ 1,660,000	\$ 2,410,000	\$ 2,410,000	\$ 3,810,000
		31.83%	-8.27%	-0.31%	-2.92%	45.18%	0.00%	58.09%

PLEASE NOTE: ADDITIONAL NON-GENERAL FUND SOURCES INCLUDE STATE CHAPTER 90 (\$2.3M), APPROPRIATIONS FROM FREE CASH, AND YEAR-END UNEXPENDED APPROPRIATIONS WITH THE GOAL OF TOTAL ANNUAL FUNDING FROM ALL SOURCES OF \$9.5M.

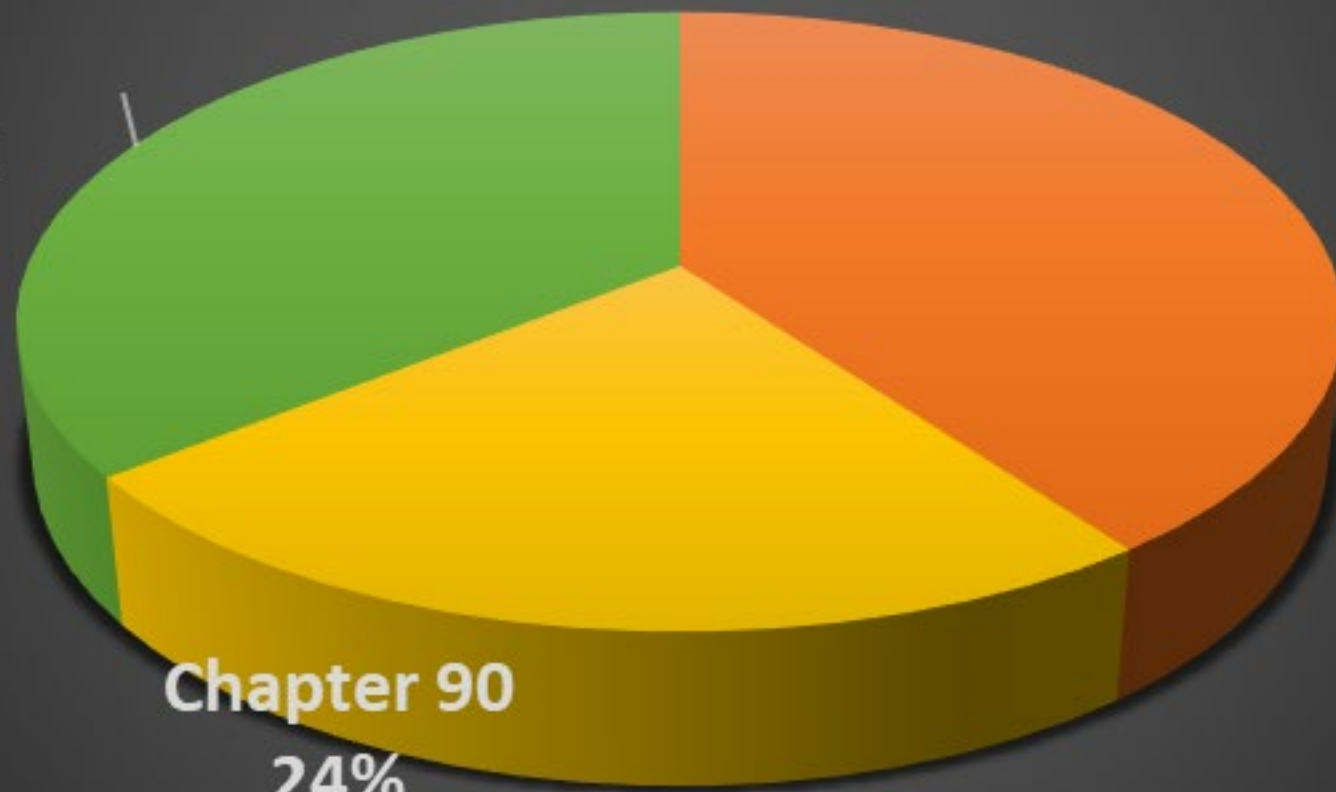
Paving Funding Sources w/Override- \$9.5 M

Free
Cash/Other
Appropriations

36%
\$3.4 M

General
Fund
40%
\$3.8 M

Chapter 90
24%
\$2.3 M



Voting by Newton for Newton

PARKS, ATHLETIC FIELDS, COURTS AND PLAYGROUNDS – \$1M



Parks and Public Grounds

- Village centers
- Community spaces
- Gardens
- Plantings
- Arts & Cultural activities
- Trails
- Swim facilities



Athletic Fields

- Mowing
- Field Prep
- Turf Maintenance
- Irrigation
- Aerification
- Topdressing



Sports Court Improvements

- Sealcoating
- Line Painting
- Hoop/Backboard Maintenance
- Tennis and Pickleball Crack Repairs



Playgrounds

- Updating out of date playground structures
- Accessible Surfacing
- Repairs

**CITY OF NEWTON PROPOSED OPERATING OVERRIDE
PARK & REC FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS AND MAINTENANCE**

ACCT DESCRIPTION	FY2017 ORIG	FY2018 ORIG	FY2019 ORIG	FY2020 ORIG	FY2021 COVID	FY2022 ORIG	FY2023 ORIG	OVERRIDE
	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	FUNDS ADDED TO FY23 BASE
PUBLIC GROUNDS MAIN-SALARIES & COM	\$ 864,304	\$ 880,780	\$ 883,111	\$ 917,551	\$ 915,754	\$ 921,781	\$ 998,264	
PUBLIC GROUNDS MAIN-OPERATING EXPE	\$ 211,654	\$ 235,960	\$ 241,960	\$ 251,450	\$ 248,950	\$ 248,950	\$ 273,950	
PUBLIC GROUNDS REPAIRS & MAINT	\$ 550,000	\$ 550,000	\$ 575,000	\$ 575,000	\$ 575,000	\$ 700,000	\$ 700,000	
PUBLIC GROUNDS - ATHLETIC FIELDS	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000	\$ 250,000	\$ 300,000	
PUBLIC GROUNDS MAIN-PLAYGROUND	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 225,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	
PUBLIC GROUNDS MAIN-BENEFITS	\$ 153,582	\$ 157,161	\$ 167,167	\$ 190,174	\$ 209,636	\$ 191,847	\$ 224,075	
OVERRIDE FUNDS								\$ 1,000,000
PARK & REC FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS A	\$ 1,959,540	\$ 2,003,901	\$ 2,047,238	\$ 2,159,475	\$ 2,024,339	\$ 2,537,578	\$ 2,646,289	\$ 3,646,289
		2.26%	2.16%	5.48%	-6.26%	25.35%	4.28%	37.79%

Voting by Newton for Newton

PLANTING AND NURTURING TREES - \$500,000



Tree Planting

Plant over 8,000
new trees by 2030



Young Tree Care

Care for improved
longevity



Tree Pruning

Prune every mature
Street tree every 5 years

TREE PLANTING & MAINTENANCE								OVERRIDE
ACCT DESCRIPTION	FY2017 ORIG	FY2018 ORIG	FY2019 ORIG	FY2020 ORIG	FY2021 COVID	FY2022 ORIG	FY2023 ORIG	FUNDS ADDED
	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	TO FY23 BASE
FORESTRY SERVICES - SALARIES & COMPEI	\$ 616,696	\$ 632,152	\$ 672,922	\$ 689,672	\$ 653,523	\$ 752,252	\$ 764,932	
FORESTRY SERVICES - OPERATING EXPENS	\$ 231,510	\$ 219,010	\$ 231,310	\$ 259,710	\$ 218,210	\$ 214,810	\$ 265,040	
FORESTRY SERVICES-FORESTRY/TREE SER\	\$ 400,000	\$ 500,000	\$ 550,000	\$ 570,000	\$ 500,000	\$ 700,000	\$ 700,000	
FORESTRY SERVICES - BENEFITS	\$ 87,291	\$ 136,463	\$ 130,041	\$ 123,624	\$ 138,065	\$ 145,596	\$ 153,153	
OVERRIDE FUNDS								\$ 500,000
TOTAL TREE PLANTING & MAINTENANCE	\$ 1,335,497	\$ 1,487,625	\$ 1,584,277	\$ 1,643,007	\$ 1,510,698	\$ 1,812,658	\$ 1,883,125	\$ 2,383,125
		11.39%	6.50%	3.71%	-8.05%	19.99%	3.89%	26.55%

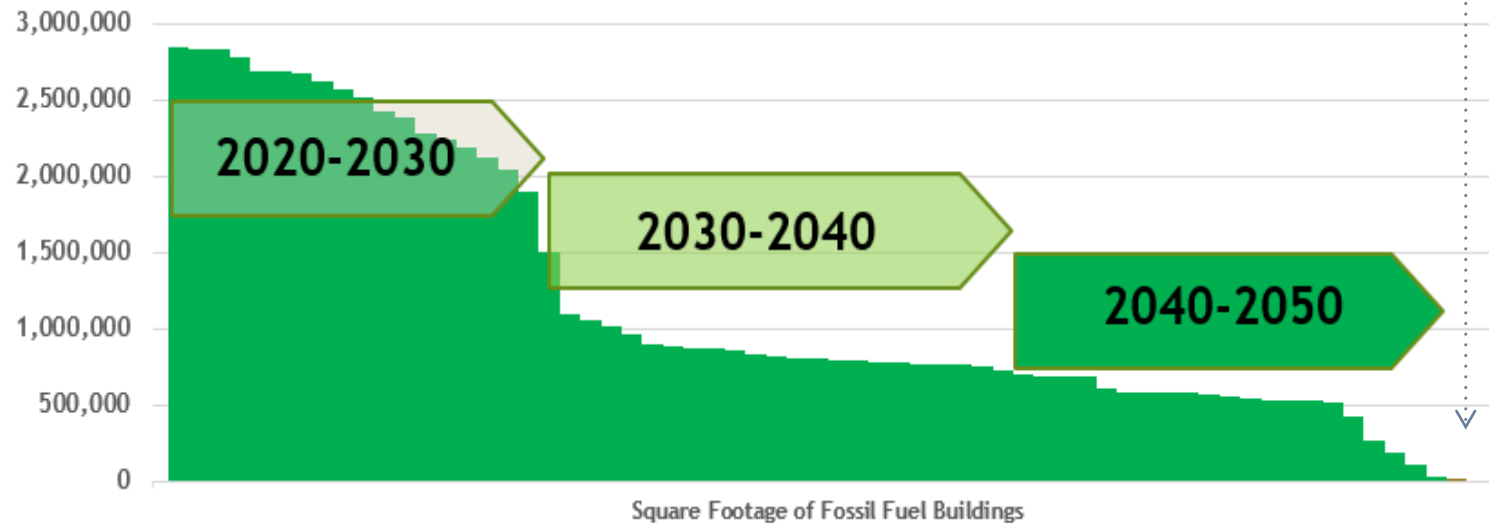
Voting by Newton for Newton

SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE RESILIENCY- \$500,000



Phase out Fossil Fuels in
Newton Municipal &
School Buildings

Carbon-neutrality
by 2050.



**Newton leading in
age-friendly
programs &
services.**

- Expanded Programs
- Increased Services
- Dedicated Resources



New Senior Center Facility (NewCAL)

**CITY OF NEWTON PROPOSED OPERATING OVERRIDE
SENIOR SERVICES PROGRAMMING & OPERATIONS**

ACCT DESCRIPTION	FY2017 ORIG	FY2018 ORIG	FY2019 ORIG	FY2020 ORIG	FY2021 COVID	FY2022 ORIG	FY2023 ORIG	OVERRIDE
	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	FUNDS ADDED TO FY23 BASE
SENIOR SERVICES SALARIES & COMPENSA	\$ 298,126	\$ 262,442	\$ 275,823	\$ 290,424	\$ 286,169	\$ 297,611	\$ 356,710	
SENIOR SERVICES - OPERATING EXPENSES	\$ 83,463	\$ 78,850	\$ 81,350	\$ 81,200	\$ 79,700	\$ 147,700	\$ 151,800	
SENIOR SERVICES-TRANSPORTATION	\$ 215,000	\$ 215,000	\$ 250,000	\$ 350,000	\$ 350,000	\$ 275,000	\$ 275,000	
SENIOR SERVICES - BENEFITS	\$ 52,904	\$ 39,481	\$ 60,656	\$ 62,249	\$ 77,751	\$ 81,287	\$ 87,810	
OVERRIDE FUNDS								\$ 500,000
SENIOR SERVICES PROGRAMMING & OPE	\$ 649,493	\$ 595,773	\$ 667,829	\$ 783,873	\$ 793,660	\$ 801,598	\$ 870,529	\$ 1,370,529
		-8.27%	12.09%	17.38%	1.25%	1.00%	8.60%	57.44%



Newton Public Schools

Building for Our Future

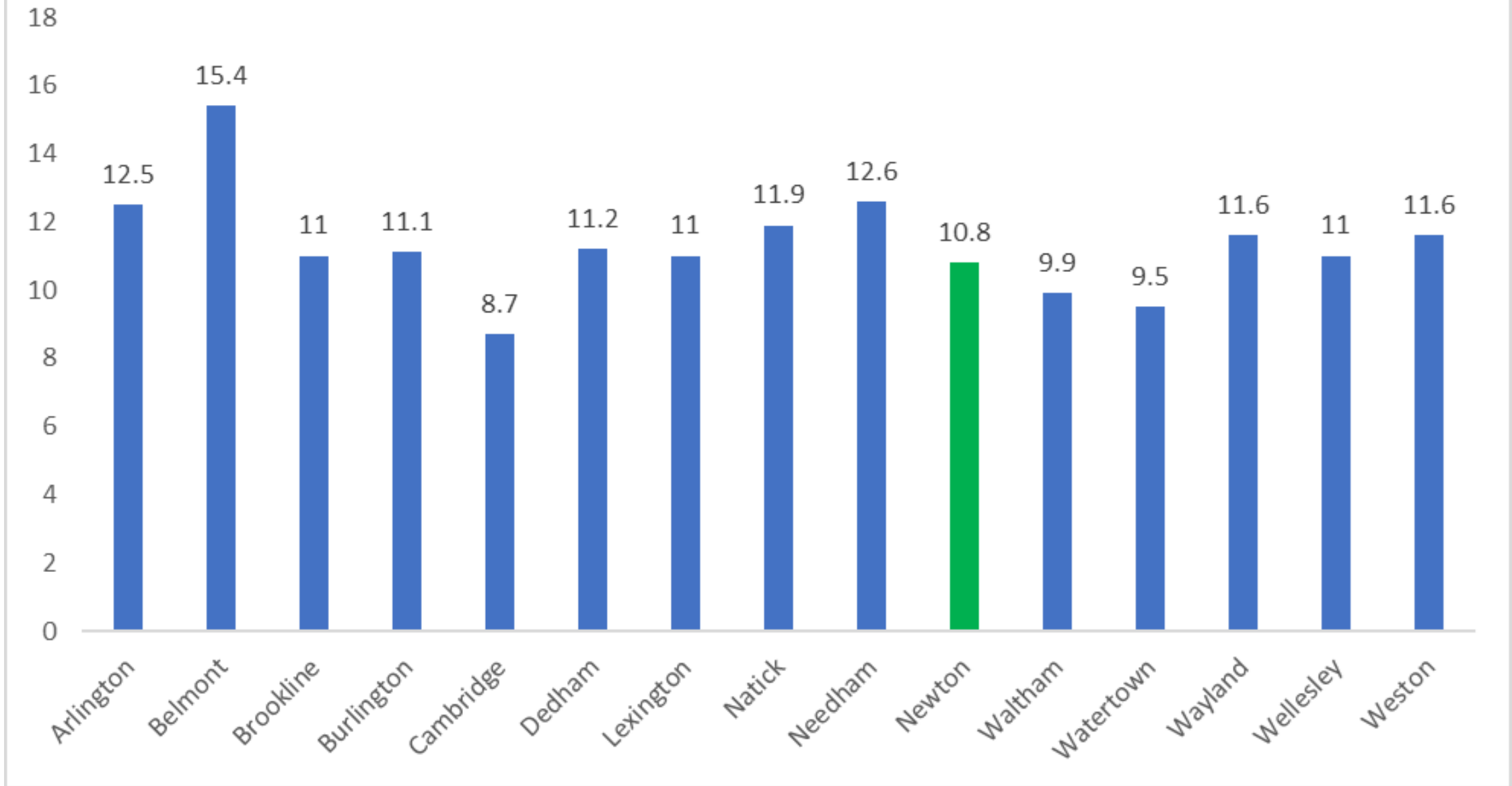
Presentation to Newton City Council
November 10, 2022

A review of NPS since 2013, the last operating override...



[Milestones Video Link](#)

Student:Teacher Ratio (FY22)



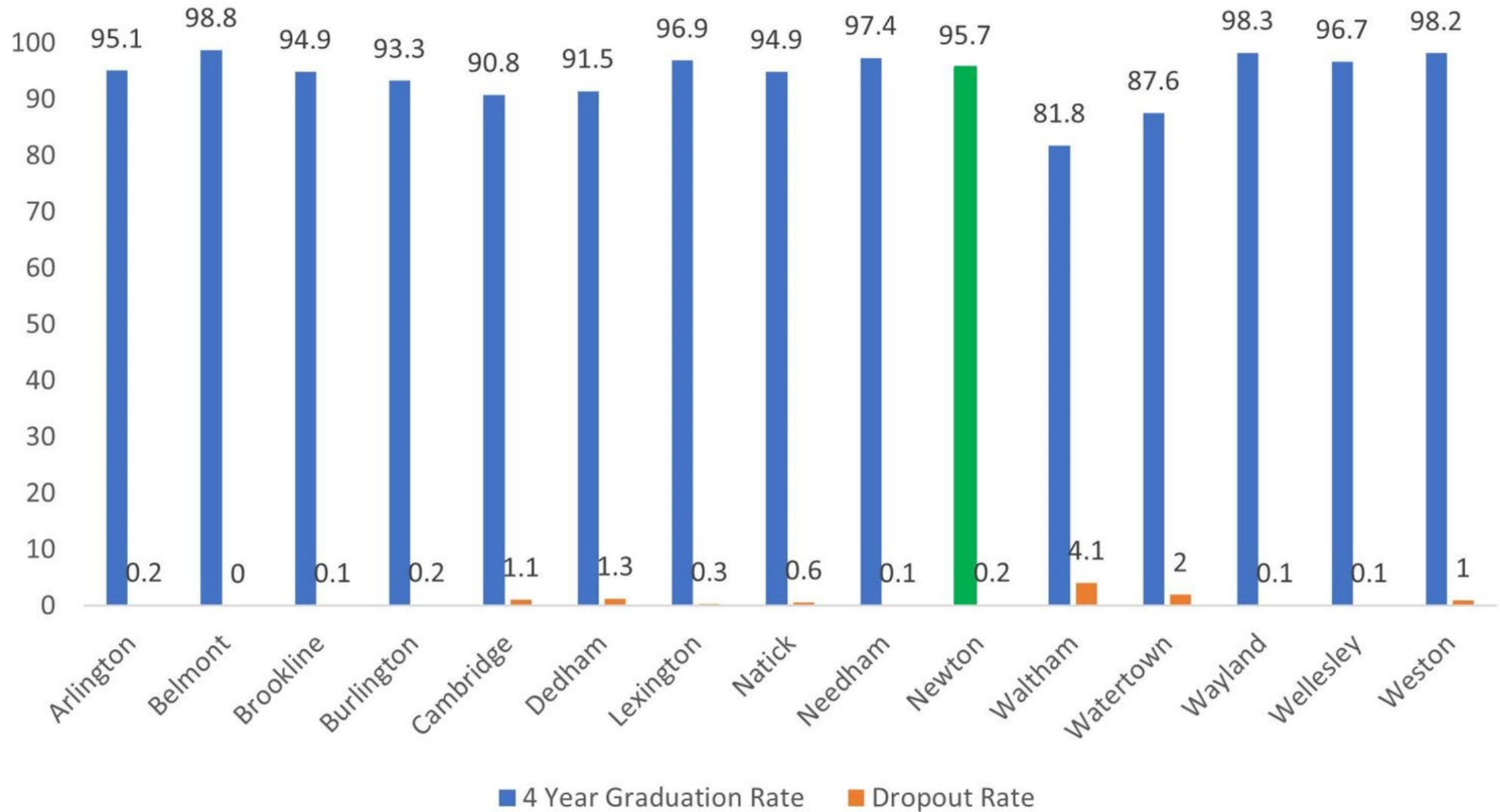
Source: DESE School and District Profiles

Per Pupil Expenditure (FY21)

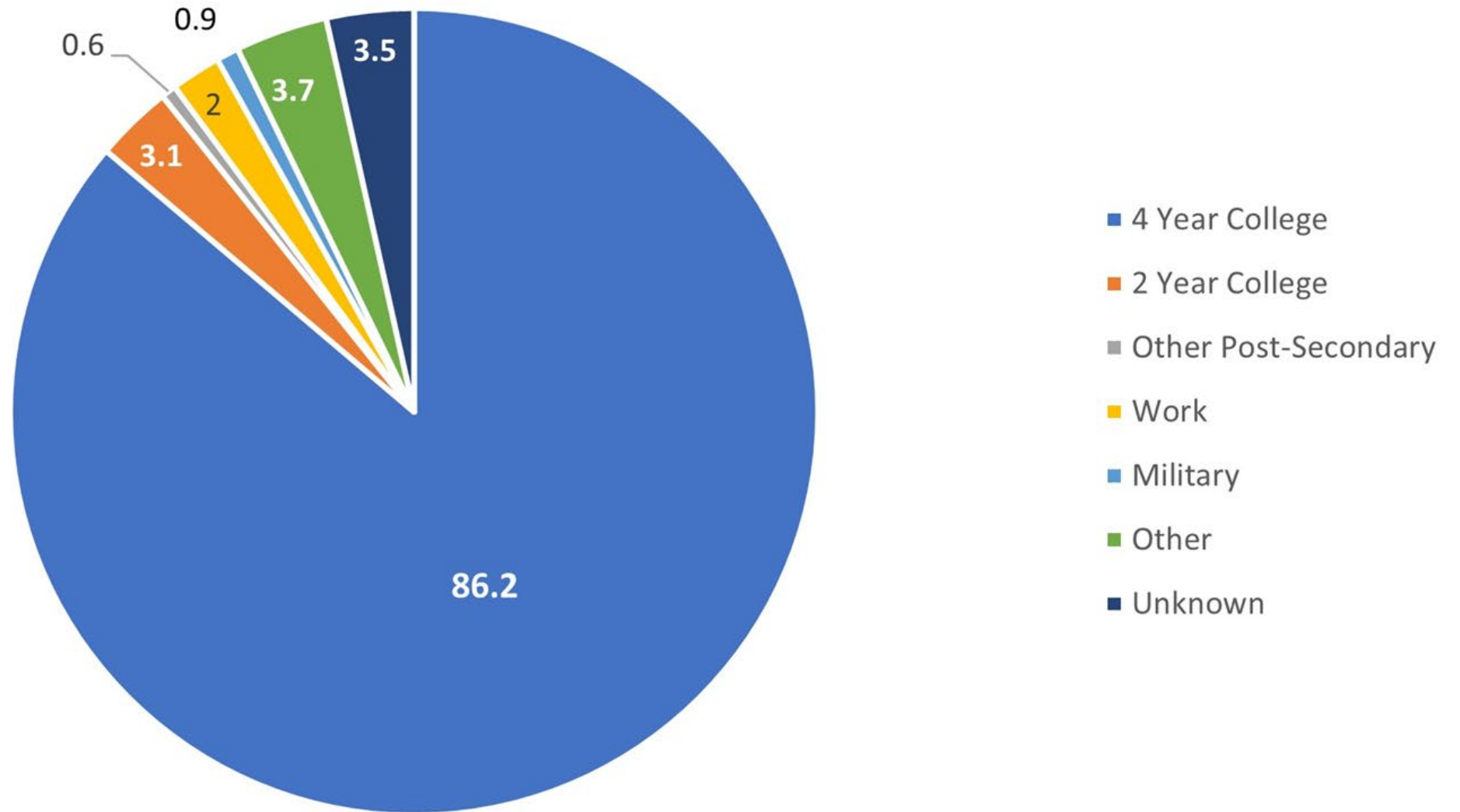


Source: <https://www.doe.mass.edu/finance/statistics/per-pupil->

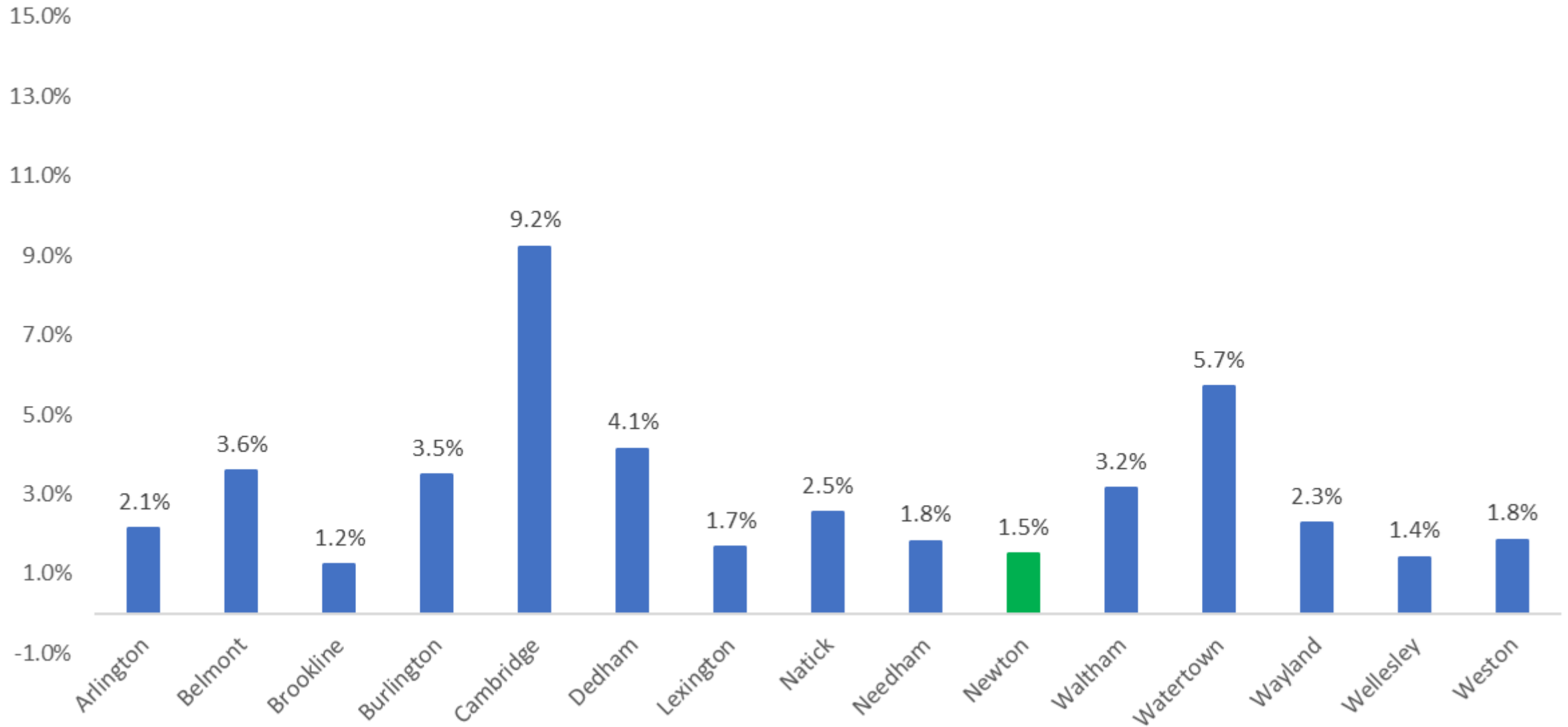
Graduation and dropout rates (FY21)



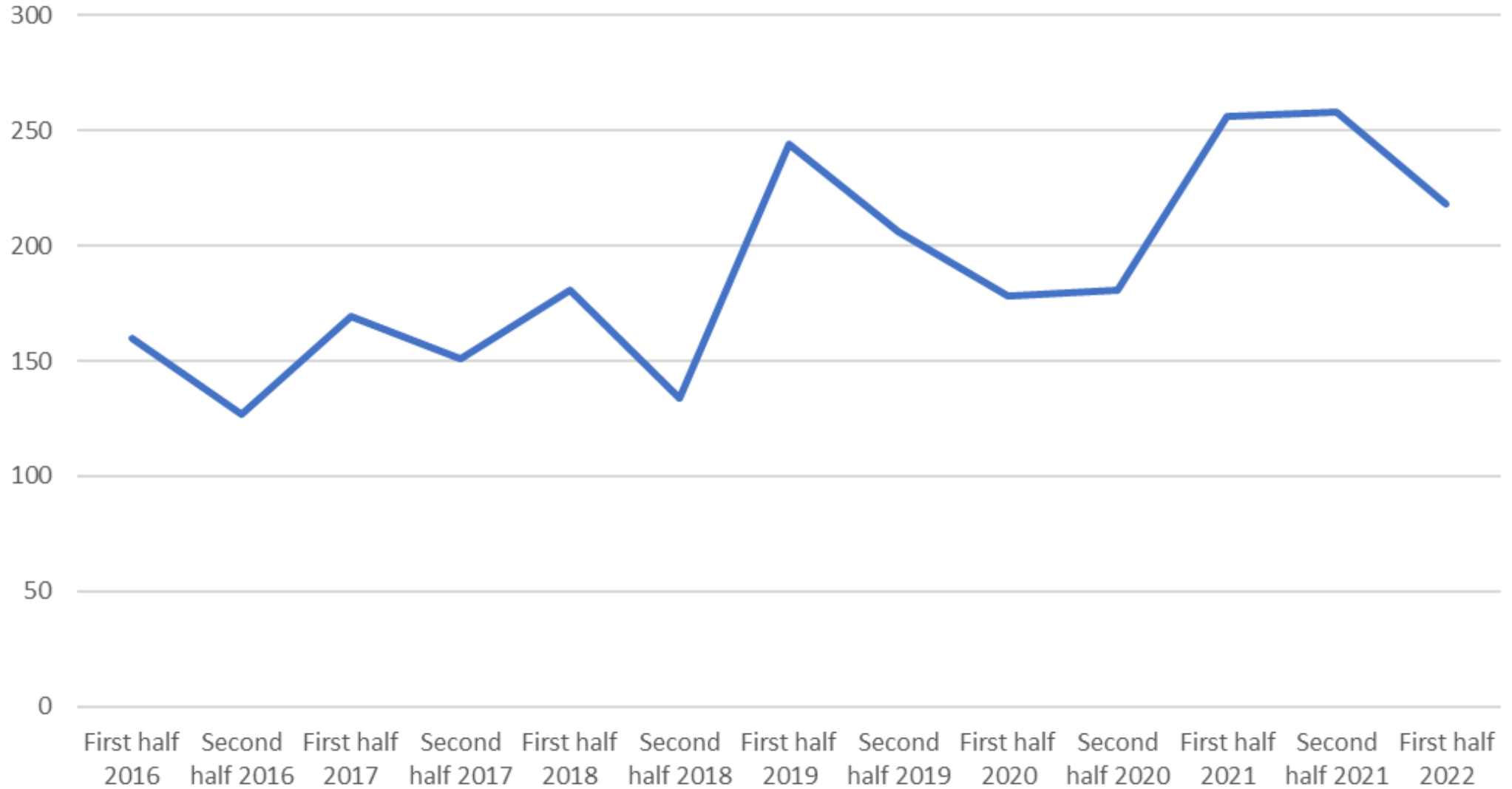
Student post-graduation plans (FY21)



Outplaced Students (FY21)



Mental health referrals 2016-2022



Referrals through William James INTERFACE Referral Service



FRANKLIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

PRESENT



FUTURE



**COUNTRYSIDE
ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL**

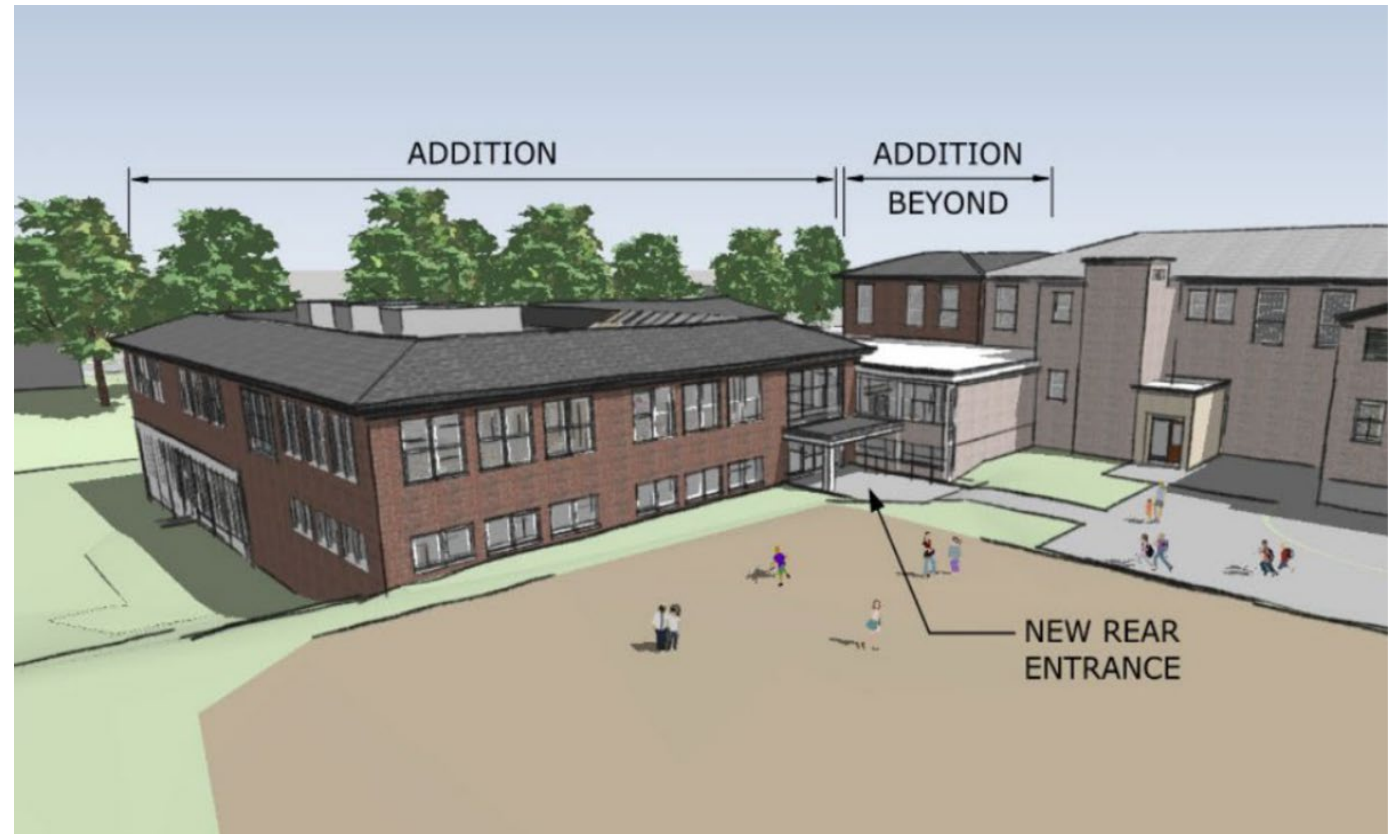
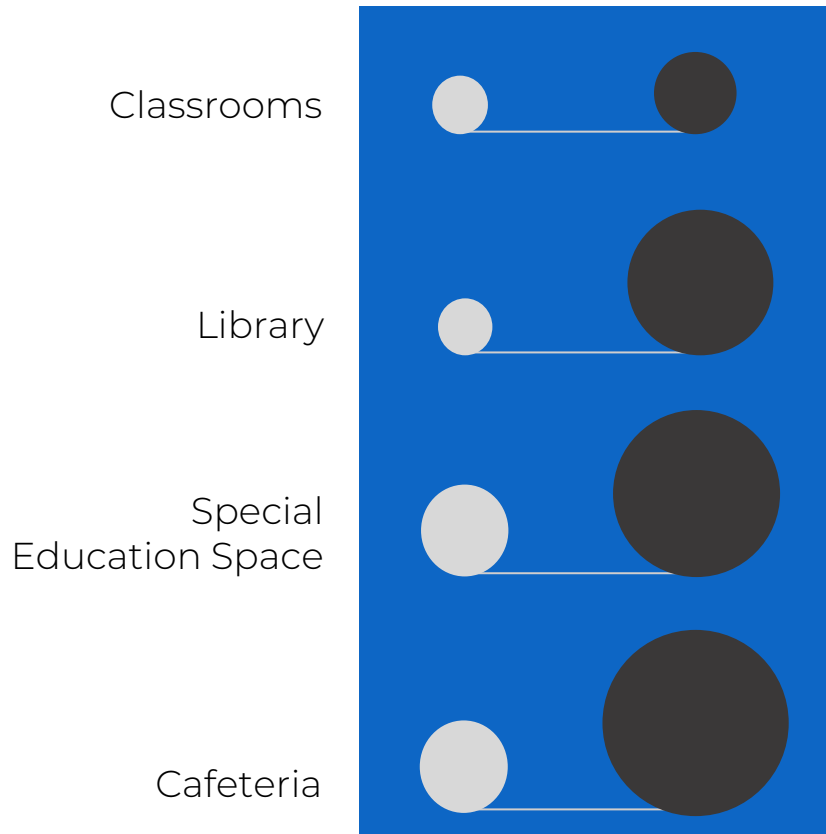
PRESENT / FUTURE



Voting by Newton for Newton

ADDITIONAL SPACE FOR HORACE MANN - \$775,000

Existing Recommended



OVERRIDE INVESTMENT FOR OPERATING BUDGET



Annual additional funding: \$4,500,000





What does this override mean for our district?

○ Maintain:

- Strong, challenging, and engaging academic program**
- Smaller elementary schools and school communities that are welcoming and inclusive**
- Robust and meaningful mental health supports**
- Modern, innovative, and readily accessible technology**

OUR COMMITMENT:

STRONG, CHALLENGING AND ENGAGING ACADEMIC PROGRAM OF STUDY



- Small class sizes with personalized learning
- Specialist teachers to support classroom instruction
- Academic coordination across district
- Multiple pathways for diverse learners (AP classes, CTE, etc.)





OUR COMMITMENT:

INCLUSIVE & WELCOMING SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL COMMUNITIES

- ● ● ● ● ●
- Smaller elementary schools
- In-district programming to serve needs of diverse learners
- ELL programs - more than 50 languages
- Athletics, fine arts, clubs, and activities beyond academia



OUR COMMITMENT:

ROBUST AND MEANINGFUL MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORTS



- Staff Specialists
 - School guidance counselors
 - Social workers
 - Adjustment counselors
 - Psychologists
 - Social emotional interventionists
- Programming
 - Social & emotional learning programs
 - Partnerships with community mental health organizations





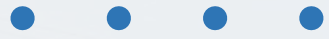
OUR COMMITMENT:

MODERN, INNOVATIVE, AND ACCESSIBLE TECHNOLOGY



- o Dedicated 1:1 device program
- o Interactive curricular material
- o Sophisticated assessment tools
- o Digital creation tools
- o Access to content by text, audio, & video

Q: Why is \$4.5 million needed for the operating budget?



A: Rising costs have or will exceed average yearly budget increase (3.5%)

- o Transportation
- o Health Insurance
- o Commitment to in-district programs and out-of-district tuition rates

A: Continued use of one-time funds (rollover, ESSER/ARPA) to fund recurring operating costs

- o Technology
- o Building Maintenance
- o Mental health supports

Q: What difference will \$4.5 million make for the district moving forward?

• • • •

A: The addition of \$4.5 million to the NPS operating budget will allow the district to maintain current programming and services and build a budget that is sustainable over time.



We are excited for today and for the future, but know that we face many challenges.

We look forward to partnering with the Newton community to build a sustainable and strong future for our schools and our community.

TAX RELIEF PROGRAMS

Voting by Newton for Newton

TAX ASSISTANCE FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE OLDER, DISABLED OR VETERANS

DOUBLING 7 PROGRAMS

EXPANDING 2 PROGRAMS

- Tax Relief
- Tax Deferral
- Tax Exemption
- Tax Work-Off (with Proxies)
- Water/Sewer Discount

Tax Relief Programs – Proposed Adoption of M.G.L. Chapter 59, Section 5C ½ - Docket Item # 500-22

DOUBLES THE EXEMPTION

- **For Older Citizens (Clause 41C)***

Mayor Fuller has proposed doubling this exemption from \$1,000 to \$2,000

- **Elderly Surviving Spouse, Minor Child (Clause 17D)***

Mayor Fuller has proposed doubling this exemption from \$219 to \$438

- **Disabled Veteran (Clause 22)**

Mayor Fuller has proposed doubling this exemption from \$400 to \$800 for partially disabled veterans, and from \$1,000 to \$2,000 for totally disabled veterans

- **Blind Persons (Clause 37A)**

Mayor Fuller has proposed doubling this exemption from \$500 to \$1,000

Tax Relief Programs – Proposed Special Act Requests

Docket Item # 501-22

- **Senior Property Tax Work-Off Program**

Mayor Fuller has proposed increasing the maximum number of hours worked from 125 hours to 200 hours and doubling this exemption from \$1,500 to \$3,000

- **Veteran Property Tax Work-Off Program**

Mayor Fuller has proposed increasing the maximum number of hours worked from 125 hours to 200 hours and doubling this exemption from \$1,500 to \$3,000

Tax Relief Programs – Proposed Ordinance Change

Docket Item # 484-22

- **For Older Citizens: Tax Deferral (Clause 41A)***

Mayor Fuller has proposed increasing the total gross income limit from \$86,000 to \$93,000

- **Newton Water and Sewer Discount Program**

Upon approval of the income limit for the Tax Deferral Program, the total gross income limit for the city Water and Sewer Discount Program will automatically be increased from \$86,000 to \$93,000

Voting by Newton for Newton

WHAT WILL THIS COST ME?

OVERRIDE CALCULATOR

City of Newton, Massachusetts

**Estimated Property Tax Increase From March 2023 Property Tax
Override**

Please enter an address below:

House Number

Street Name

Unit (if applicable)

[NEWTONMA.GOV/OVERRIDE](https://newtonma.gov/override)

Voting by Newton for Newton

WHAT WILL THIS COST ME?

MEDIAN SINGLE FAMILY HOME VALUE \$1.2 million IMPACT

Q1: OPERATING
OVERRIDE
First Year (FY24)
\$290

Q2 & 3: DEBT EXCLUSION
OVERRIDES
Seventh Year (FY30)
+\$183

~25th PERCENTILE SINGLE FAMILY HOME VALUE \$750,000 IMPACT

Q1: OPERATING
OVERRIDE
First Year (FY24)
\$173

Q2 & 3: DEBT EXCLUSION
OVERRIDES
Seventh Year (FY30)
+\$110



QUESTIONS