The December 13, 2023 Board minutes were approved by the MSBA's Board of Directors at the February 28, 2024 meeting.

Massachusetts School Building Authority
Board Meeting Minutes of December 13, 2023

A meeting of the Massachusetts School Building Authority (the "Authority" or "MSBA") was held on December 13, 2023. The meeting was held remotely via Zoom.

Members Present: Deborah Goldberg, State Treasurer and Chair; Sean Cronin, Designee of the Secretary of Administration and Finance; Matt Deninger, Designee of the Commissioner of Education; Terry Kwan, appointed member; Anne Brockelman, appointed member; and Sheila Vanderhoef, appointed member.

Others Present: James MacDonald, Chief Executive Officer; Mary Pichetti, Executive Director/Deputy Chief Executive Officer; Mike McGurl; Laura Guadagno; Christine Nolan; Matt Donovan; Maria Puopolo; Brian Kelley; Colleen Smith; Siobhan Tolman; Annie Hudson; Barbara Hansberry; John Jumpe; Karl Brown; Katie DeCristofaro; Gianpiero Tirella; Miriam Vazquez; Erin Agan; municipal representatives; legislative representatives; local elected officials; and other members of the MSBA and the public.

Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:01 am and asked if anyone is recording the meeting. No one announced that they were recording the meeting.

She then explained that the meeting is being held in accordance with Chapter 30A of the Massachusetts General Laws and 940 CMR 29.03, but subject to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, which permits remote participation by all Board members and allows the MSBA to use adequate alternative means, such as a conference call line, to ensure public access to the deliberations of the Board.

Next, the Chair provided a brief overview of the items on the agenda for the meeting. She explained that the Board will be voting to: approve minutes from the October 25, 2023 Board of Directors meeting; invite nineteen 2023 Core Program Statements of Interest into Eligibility Period; invite one district into Feasibility Study; and execute a Project Funding Agreement for five projects from one district in the Accelerated Repair Program, with an Estimated Maximum Total Facilities Grant of approximately $8.2 million. The Board will also be voting to authorize three proposed projects to proceed into Preferred Schematic Design, with an estimated $340 million in total construction costs and to invite four districts to enter into Project Scope and Budget Agreements and Project Funding Agreements, with an Estimated Maximum Total Facilities Grant of approximately $352.8 million. Additionally, the Board will be voting to approve two final audits from one district with a Final Total Facilities Grant amount of approximately $1.3 million. Finally, the Board will be voting on an Eligibility Period Extension for one district.

It was noted that Ms. Kwan would be joining the meeting shortly.

Approval of the October 25, 2023 Minutes

The Chair asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the October 25, 2023 Board meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Deninger and seconded by Ms. Vanderhoef:

The December 13, 2023 Board minutes were approved by the MSBA's Board of Directors at the February 28, 2024 meeting.

Approval of the Minutes of the October 25, 2023 Board Meeting

VOTED: That the Board of Directors of the Massachusetts School Building Authority hereby approves the Minutes of the October 25, 2023 Board meeting.

There being no Board discussion, the Chair asked for a roll call vote of the Board.

Roll Call Vote:

Anne Brockelman – Yes

Sheila Vanderhoef – Yes

Sean Cronin – Yes

Matt Deninger – Yes

Deborah Goldberg – Yes

The motion passed – 5 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining.

Invitation to Eligibility Period

Ms. Kwan joined the meeting.

Mr. Cronin left the meeting for a brief period of time.

MSBA Capital Program Manager Katie DeCristofaro explained that the Board is being asked to vote to invite the following districts into Eligibility Period: the City of Boston for the Pauline Agassiz Shaw Elementary School, the Town of Chelmsford for the Colonel Moses Parker Middle School, the Dighton-Rehoboth Regional School District for the Dighton Elementary School, the City of Everett for the Everett High School, the City of Framingham for the Hemenway Elementary School, the City of Haverhill for the John G. Whittier Middle School, the Town of Leicester for the Leicester High School, the Manchester-Essex Regional School District for the Essex Elementary School, the City of Medford for the Medford High School, the Town of Milford for the Milford High School, the Town of Needham for the Pollard Middle School, the City of New Bedford for the Charles S. Ashley Elementary School, the Town of Northborough for the Marguerite E. Peaslee Elementary School, the City of Peabody for the Peabody Veterans Memorial High School, the City of Somerville for the Winter Hill Community School, the Town of South Hadley for the Mosier Elementary School, the City of Springfield for the German Gerena Elementary School, the Town of Westford for the Colonel John Robinson Elementary School, and the City of Worcester for the Burncoat Senior High School.

She explained that the MSBA received 63 Statement of Interest submissions in 2023 under the Core Program.

At the August 2, 2023 Facilities Assessment Subcommittee meeting, staff reported that the 2023 Statement of Interest due diligence process commenced when the SOI system closed on April 14, 2023. Staff recommended 32 further review recommendation SOIs, 23 of which were Senior Study candidates conducted on-site between August and October 2023. Nine of the 32 were desktop reviews.

At the November 15, 2023 Facilities Assessment Subcommittee meeting, staff recommended the following: 19 Statements of Interest for invitation into Eligibility Period, maintaining the 31 No Further Review Recommendations as established at the August 2, 2023 FAS meeting, and adding an

additional 13 SOIs post-senior study to the category of "No Further Review Recommended" for an overall outcome of 44 No Further Review Recommendations and 19 Further Review Recommendations.

She then provided a summary of the 19 SOIs that staff are recommending for the Board to invite into Eligibility Period.

The Chair asked for a motion, and the following motion was made by Mr. Deninger and seconded by Ms. Kwan:

Vote on Inviting Communities to the Eligibility Period

VOTED: That the Board approves each District and School that is listed on Exhibit A for invitation into the Eligibility Period subject to the conditions that are set forth in Exhibit A; that the Executive Director is hereby authorized to commence the Eligibility Period for each such District and School upon the date of such District's and School's separate Eligibility Period Commencement Date as set forth in Exhibit A; and that the Executive Director is hereby further authorized to do all acts and things, to execute and deliver any and all documents and agreements, and to expend funds necessary or desirable in connection with inviting each of these communities into the Eligibility Period and to commence the Eligibility Period.

Senate President Karen Spilka, who represents the City of Framingham, thanked the Chair and Board. She also thanked the CEO, Executive Director, and the staff at the MSBA. The Senate President spoke in support of the proposed project at the Hemenway Elementary School.

The Chair of the Framingham School Committee, Jessica Barnhill, thanked the Chair and the MSBA. She expressed Framingham's excitement and overwhelming support for this potential new project.

It was noted that State Representative Priscila Sousa, State Representative Jack Lewis, State Representative Kate Donaghue, and State Representative Danielle Gregoire sent a letter in support of the proposed Framingham project.

The Superintendent of Boston Public Schools, Mary Skipper, thanked the Chair, CEO, Executive Director, Board, and MSBA staff. She commented that the City of Boston is very grateful for MSBA's consideration for the Shaw Elementary School.

It was noted that the Mayor of Boston, Michelle Wu, sent a letter of support for the Shaw Elementary School project.

Representative Simon Cataldo, who represents the Town of Chelmsford, thanked the MSBA for its support and spoke in support of the proposed Chelmsford project.

The Superintendent for Chelmsford Public Schools, Dr. Jay Lang, thanked the Chair, the Board, and the entire staff at the MSBA. He commented that Chelmsford is excited about this potential project, and it is widely supported by the School Committee, parents, and students.

It was noted that Chelmsford received a joint letter of support from State Representative James Arciero, State Representative Simon Cataldo, and State Representative Rodney Elliott.

It was announced that the meeting was being recorded by WHAV in Haverhill.

Bill Runey, the Superintendent of Dighton-Rehoboth, expressed his thanks towards the MSBA. He also thanked members of the Dighton-Rehoboth community. The Superintendent commented that

Dighton-Rehoboth is very invested in the educational experience of its students and a new school would be transformative in the community.

State Senator Mark Pacheco and State Representative Patricia Haddad both sent letters of support for the Dighton-Rehoboth project.

The Mayor of Everett, Carlo DeMaria, thanked the MSBA staff for considering Everett High School as a potential new project. He explained that the City of Everett supports this project and looks forward to expanding the opportunities for students entering the workforce through vocational trades.

Christie Getto Young, Chief of Staff to Senator Sal DiDomenico, expressed her thanks to the MSBA on behalf of Senator DiDomenico in regards to the potential project at Everett High School.

It was noted that Everett also received letters of support from State Representative Joseph McGonagle and State Senator Sal DiDomenico.

The Mayor of Haverhill, James Fiorentini, thanked the Chair and MSBA staff for their assistance. He commented that it has been wonderful working with the MSBA and this proposed project will help address an overcrowded school.

Mayor Elect of Haverhill, Melinda Barrett, thanked the MSBA for its time and consideration.

It was noted that Haverhill received a letter of support from State Senator Barry Finegold.

Brett Kustigian, the Superintendent of Leicester Public Schools, thanked the Chair and the MSBA staff. He commented that this project would be beneficial for students hoping to enter the workforce through a vocational trade.

It was noted that Leicester also received a joint letter of support from State Senator Peter Durant, State Representative David LeBoeuf, State Representative Donald Berthiaume, and State Representative Paul Frost.

The Manchester-Essex Superintendent, Pamela Beaudoin, shared her excitement about the Manchester-Essex Regional School District being invited into the Eligibility Period. She explained the need for a new Essex Elementary School.

Dr. Marice Edouard-Vincent, the Superintendent of Medford Public Schools, thanked the Chair, Board, and staff at MSBA. She commented that this proposed project is widely supported throughout the Medford community.

Kevin McIntyre, the Superintendent of Milford, thanked everyone for their support. He commented on the need in Milford for a new school. The Superintendent encouraged the Board to support this project and thanked them for their consideration.

It was noted that Milford also received a joint letter of support from State Senator Rebecca Rausch and State Representative Brian Murray.

The Chair of the Needham School Committee, Andrea Longo Carter, commented on the Town of Needham's excitement in partnering with the MSBA to address the community's needs in a potential project at the Pollard Middle School. She thanked the MSBA for its support.

It was noted that the Town of Needham received a letter of support from State Senator Rebecca Rausch.

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Interim Superintendent of New Bedford, Andrew O'Leary, expressed his gratitude to the MSBA and Board for their time and consideration.

An aide to State Representative Christopher Hendricks, who represents the City of New Bedford, thanked the Chair, MSBA, and Board on his behalf.

Superintendent of Northborough, Gregory Martineau, thanked the Town's delegation, and members of the Northborough community. He thanked the MSBA for its support.

It was noted that Northborough also received a joint letter of support from State Senator Robyn Kennedy, State Representative Meghan Kilcoyne, and State Representative Kate Donaghue.

Ted Bettencourt, the Mayor of Peabody, expressed his gratitude for the City of Peabody's opportunity to be welcomed into the Eligibility Period. He thanked everyone for their support through this process.

State Senator Joan Lovely, who represents the City of Peabody, thanked the Chair and the Board for being able to speak and express her gratitude. She thanked her colleagues for their partnership and support for Peabody as well. The Senator also provided a letter of support for Peabody.

Representative Thomas Walsh, who represents the City of Peabody, commented on how important this project is to the City of Peabody and thanked the MSBA for their consideration. The Representative also provided a letter of support for Peabody.

It was noted that Peabody also received a letter of support from State Representative Sally Kerans.

Katjana Ballantyne, the Mayor of Somerville, commented on the vital need for a new Winter Hill Community School. She explained that Somerville is eager and excited to move forward with this project.

It was noted that Somerville also received a joint letter of support from State Senator Patricia Jehlen, State Representative Christine Barber, State Representative Mike Connolly, and State Representative Erika Uytenhoven.

The Interim Superintendent of South Hadley Public Schools, Mark McLaughlin, expressed his gratitude for the team in South Hadley as well as members of the Delegation. He explained that the Town is ready and excited to partner with the MSBA. The Interim Superintendent thanked the Chair and the entire staff at the MSBA.

An aide to State Senator Jake Oliveira spoke in favor of the proposed South Hadley project on behalf of the Senator.

It was noted that South Hadley also received letters of support from State Senator Jake Oliveira and State Representative Daniel Carey.

Domenic Sarno, the Mayor of Springfield, thanked the Chair, CEO, Executive Director, Diane Sullivan, and the entire staff at the MSBA. He also thanked the MSBA team that came out to Springfield to provide a thorough evaluation of the current school. He explained that Springfield is excited and ready for this potential project.

Christopher Chew, the Superintendent of Westford, thanked the Chair, the Board, and the staff at the MSBA. He also thanked the Senior Study team for their care in their evaluation and visit at the Robinson Elementary School. The Superintendent explained that this project would be beneficial across the District.

Anita Tonakarn-Nguyen, the District Director for State Representative James Arciero, spoke in support of the proposed Westford project on behalf of the Representative.

It was noted that Westford also received a joint letter of support from State Senator John Cronin and State Representative James Arciero.

Joseph Petty, the Mayor of Worcester, thanked the MSBA for its continued partnership with the City of Worcester. He also thanked the Chair for her continued support. The Mayor thanked the legislative delegation, the School Committee, and the City Council.

State Representative James O'Day thanked the Chair, Board, and MSBA staff on behalf of the City of Worcester. He expressed his support for the Worcester project.

It was noted that Worcester also received a joint letter of support from State Senator Robyn Kennedy and State Representative James O'Day.

Ms. Kwan commented that she wants to emphasize how important the educational plan is to the potential success of the project. Ms. Kwan advised districts to include various individuals who use the building and can provide beneficial insight, such as educators and maintenance staff, when drafting the educational plan.

Ms. Brockelman commented that she looks forward to supporting all nineteen districts in this process.

Mr. Deninger congratulated the districts on being invited into the MSBA grant process and commented that the districts should be mindful of the spaces being planned. He noted that MSBA staff are experienced and it will be a great partnership between the districts and the MSBA.

There being no more discussion, the Chair asked for a roll call vote of the Board.

Roll Call Vote:

Anne Brockelman – Abstained

Terry Kwan – Yes

Sheila Vanderhoef – Yes

Matt Deninger – Yes

Deborah Goldberg – Yes

The motion passed – 4 in favor, 0 against, 1 abstaining

Next, the MSBA's Chief Executive Officer, Jim MacDonald, presented a PowerPoint presentation that showed photos of building deficiencies from the 2023 SOI site visits.

He explained that the Commonwealth's FY24 budget provided the MSBA with greater flexibility and allowed the MSBA to reopen the Accelerated Repair Program with an increased budget after taking a one year pause. The Budget also increased the Annual Cap to $1.2 billion, provided for supplemental grants for certain districts, and allowed the MSBA to increase the Cap on an annual basis up to 6.5% or the sales tax growth, whichever is lower.

With this legislation, the MSBA increased its funding limit by 34% and 19 districts were invited into Eligibility Period today. Although still challenging to only be able to invite 19 of the 63 applicants,

we are pleased to have restored the level of invitations into the Core Program to that seen in previous years.

The CEO shared photos of school challenges that are faced by many districts. The challenges were a combination of ADA issues, mechanical issues and failures, leaking roofs, water infiltration issues, air quality issues, outdated main entrances, lack of spaces for Special Education, outdated science labs, and schools lacking gymnasiums, libraries, and cafeterias.

Recognizing the evolving state goals toward resiliency and decarbonization, the MSBA will continue to partner with state agencies and look for opportunities to do more within the limits of the existing competitive grant program. Even with the expanded program approved this year, it will be key that districts continue to maintain their facilities and address issues before they become catastrophic.

Invitation to Feasibility Study

MSBA Capital Program Manager Katie DeCristofaro explained that staff are recommending that the Board vote to invite the Town of West Bridgewater into Feasibility Study. The District was invited into Eligibility Period on December 21, 2022 and has completed all the necessary prerequisites including: the filing of their educational profile questionnaire, finalizing enrollment, and securing feasibility study/schematic design funds to proceed for the Rose L. MacDonald Elementary School.

The MSBA will be working with the District to study the following four options: 455 students in the facility's current configuration of grades 1-3; 750 students in grades K-4, including pre-K, representing a consolidation with the Spring Street School and the Howard Elementary School; 930 students in grades 1-6, including pre-K, representing a consolidation with the Spring Street School and the Howard Elementary School; and 1,075 students in grades K-6, including pre-K, representing a consolidation with the Spring Street School and the Howard Elementary School.

Based on the completion of the Eligibility Period requirements, staff are recommending that the Board vote to authorize the Town of West Bridgewater to proceed into Feasibility Study.

The Chair asked for a motion, and the following motion was made by Ms. Vanderhoef and seconded by Ms. Kwan:

Vote on Inviting Communities to Collaborate with the MSBA to Conduct a Feasibility Study

VOTED: That the Executive Director is hereby authorized to invite certain communities to collaborate with the MSBA to conduct and/or review a Feasibility Study, as described in 963 CMR 2.00 *et seq*., and subject to any conditions set forth in Exhibit B, for each of the schools listed in Exhibit B attached hereto.

VOTED: That the Executive Director is hereby authorized to do all acts, to execute and deliver any and all documents and agreements, and to expend all funds necessary or desirable in connection with conducting and/or reviewing a Feasibility Study for each of the schools listed in Exhibit B.

The Superintendent of West Bridgewater, Mark Bodwell, commented that the Town of West Bridgewater is very excited to move to the next step of this process. He thanked the Chair, Board, and all MSBA staff.

The December 13, 2023 Board minutes were approved by the MSBA's Board of Directors at the February 28, 2024 meeting.

The Legislative Director for State Senator Walter Timilty, Ryann Mitchell, shared the Senator's support for this project on his behalf.

It was noted that West Bridgewater also received a letter of support from State Senator Walter Timilty.

There being no more discussion, the Chair asked for a roll call vote of the Board.

Roll Call Vote:

Anne Brockelman – Yes

Terry Kwan – Yes

Sheila Vanderhoef – Yes

Matt Deninger – Yes

Deborah Goldberg – Yes

The motion passed – 5 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining

Authorization to Execute Project Funding Agreement – Accelerated Repair Program

Next, the Director of Capital Planning, Mike McGurl, explained that prior to today's Board meeting, MSBA staff received Schematic Design submissions from one district, the City of Lowell, representing five schools. The school projects combine one roof replacement project and four boiler replacement projects. MSBA staff has reviewed the existing conditions analysis and proposed schedule provided by the District and have discussed the scope and budgets with the District and their consultants. The District has provided combined Total Project Budgets of approximately $13.6 million, which include total construction estimates of approximately $10.3 million. The combined Estimated Maximum Total Facilities Grants for these projects are $8,287,640. Including potentially eligible project contingencies, the combined Maximum Facilities Grants are $8,631,235.

In conclusion, staff recommend that one district, representing five schools receive authorization to enter into a Project Funding Agreement with the MSBA.

The Chair asked for a motion, and the following motion was made by Ms. Vanderhoef and seconded by Ms. Kwan:

Vote to Authorize the Executive Director to Execute Project Funding Agreements for the Proposed Accelerated Repair Projects

VOTED: That the Board of Directors hereby approves the Proposed Accelerated Repair Projects, as set forth below and as further described in the materials presented to the Board and attached hereto, and as such the Proposed Projects shall be further defined in Project Funding Agreements, and authorizes the Executive Director to take all steps necessary to execute and deliver Project Funding Agreements with the District set forth below, in such forms as the Executive Director may determine to be acceptable, and expend funds in accordance with such Project Funding Agreements, in accordance with the following:

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District	School	Scope	Total Project Budget	Estimated Maximum Total Facilities Grant	Maximum Total Facilities Grant
Lowell	B.F. Butler Middle School	Boiler	$1,715,271	$1,087,419	$1,131,842
	Bartlett Community Partnership School	Boiler	$2,510,266	$1,758,617	$1,831,893
	Henry J. Robinson Middle School	Boiler	$2,289,056	$1,576,125	$1,641,797
	John J. Shaughnessy Elementary School	Roof	$5,407,893	$2,772,293	$2,887,805
	Joseph McAvinnue School	Boiler	$1,724,916	$1,093,186	$1,137,898
		Total	$13,647,402	$8,287,640	$8,631,235

The Commissioner of Public Works for the City of Lowell, Paul St. Cyr, expressed his thanks on behalf of the City of Lowell. He commented that the District is excited and eager for the next steps.

It was noted that Lowell also received a letter of support from Thomas Golden, City Manager of Lowell.

There being no more discussion, the Chair asked for a roll call vote of the Board.

Roll Call Vote:

Anne Brockelman – Yes

Terry Kwan – Yes

Sheila Vanderhoef – Yes

Matt Deninger – Yes

Deborah Goldberg – Yes

The motion passed – 5 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining

The December 13, 2023 Board minutes were approved by the MSBA's Board of Directors at the February 28, 2024 meeting.

Recommendation for Preferred Schematic Design

The Director of Project Management, John Jumpe, explained that the Board is being asked to approve the Preferred Schematic Design for the addition and renovation of the existing Agawam High School in the Town of Agawam. The proposed project is designed to serve 955 students in grades 9 through 12 and includes a stand-alone Pre-kindergarten facility. The proposed project has an estimated total project budget of approximately $231 million dollars and an estimated total construction budget of approximately $187 million dollars.

The Chair asked for a motion, and the following motion was made by Ms. Vanderhoef and seconded by Ms. Kwan:

Vote on Moving the Town of Agawam to Schematic Design

VOTED: That the Board of Directors hereby authorizes the Executive Director to do all acts necessary, execute and deliver any and all documents and agreements, and expend funds as deemed appropriate by the Executive Director to assist the Town of Agawam with, in concept, an addition and renovation of the existing Agawam High School facility serving grades 9-12, which includes a stand-alone Pre-Kindergarten facility, as further described in the materials presented to the Board and attached hereto, in accordance with G.L. c. 70B and 963 CMR 2.00 *et seq*. and all other guidelines and policies of the Authority.

District Director Mark Messer thanked the entire MSBA for their support on behalf of State Senator John Velis, who represents Agawam.

The Superintendent of Agawam Public Schools, Sheila Hoffman, commented that the entire Agawam team is excited for this project and appreciate the MSBA's consideration.

It was noted that Agawam received a letter of support from State Senator John Velis.

There being no more discussion, the Chair asked for a roll call vote of the Board.

Roll Call Vote:

Anne Brockelman – Yes

Terry Kwan – Yes

Sheila Vanderhoef – Yes

Matt Deninger – Yes

Deborah Goldberg – Yes

The motion passed – 5 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining

The Director of Project Management explained that the Board is now being asked to approve the Preferred Schematic Design for the Jabish Brook Middle School in the Town of Belchertown. The recommendation is to replace the existing Jabish Brook Middle School with a new facility serving grades 6-8 on the existing school site.

The proposed project is designed to serve 475 students in grades 6 through 8, expanding the existing school by one grade. The proposed project includes an estimated total project budget of approximately $122 million dollars, and an estimated total construction budget of approximately $102 million dollars.

The Chair asked for a motion, and the following motion was made by Ms. Kwan and seconded by Mr. Deninger:

Vote on Moving the Town of Belchertown to Schematic Design

VOTED: That the Board of Directors hereby authorizes the Executive Director to do all acts necessary, execute and deliver any and all documents and agreements, and expend funds as deemed appropriate by the Executive Director to assist the Town of Belchertown with, in concept, to replace the existing Jabish Brook Middle School with a new facility serving grades 6-8 on the existing school site, as further described in the materials presented to the Board and attached hereto, in accordance with G.L. c. 70B and 963 CMR 2.00 *et seq*. and all other guidelines and policies of the Authority.

Superintendent Brian Cameron shared that the Town of Belchertown is very pleased to be moving onto the next steps with the Jabish Brook Middle School. He noted that the design aligns with the educational plan. The Superintendent thanked State Senator Jake Oliveira for his support.

It was noted that Belchertown received a letter of support from State Senator Jake Oliveira.

There being no more discussion, the Chair asked for a roll call vote of the Board.

Roll Call Vote:

Anne Brockelman – Yes

Terry Kwan – Yes

Sheila Vanderhoef – Yes

Matt Deninger – Yes

Deborah Goldberg – Yes

The motion passed – 5 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining

Mr. Cronin returned to the meeting.

The Director of Project Management explained that the Board is now being asked to approve the Preferred Schematic Design for the Greylock Elementary School in the Town of North Adams. The recommendation is to replace two schools, the existing Greylock Elementary School and Brayton Elementary School with a new Prekindergarten - grade 2 facility on the side of the Greylock Elementary School. This project will enable the District to transition from three K-6 schools to two district-wide grade-span schools.

The proposed school is designed to serve 240 students in grades K through 2 plus Pre-K students and includes an estimated total project budget of approximately $61.4 million dollars, and an estimated total construction budget of approximately $51 million dollars.

The December 13, 2023 Board minutes were approved by the MSBA's Board of Directors at the February 28, 2024 meeting.

The Chair asked for a motion, and the following motion was made by Ms. Kwan and seconded by Ms. Vanderhoef:

Vote on Moving the City of North Adams to Schematic Design

VOTED: That the Board of Directors hereby authorizes the Executive Director to do all acts necessary, execute and deliver any and all documents and agreements, and expend funds as deemed appropriate by the Executive Director to assist the City of North Adams with, in concept, to replace the existing Greylock Elementary School and Brayton Elementary School with a new consolidated facility for 240 students in Kindergarten through Grade 2, plus Pre-kindergarten, at the existing Greylock Elementary School site, as further described in the materials presented to the Board and attached hereto, in accordance with G.L. c. 70B and 963 CMR 2.00 *et seq*. and all other guidelines and policies of the Authority.

Ms. Kwan spoke positively about the educational plan that North Adams submitted, noting that it is forward thinking.

Jennifer Macksey, the Mayor of North Adams, commented that the District is very excited to submit designs for the new Greylock Elementary School. She commented that this new school is vital for the future of North Adams.

There being no more discussion, the Chair asked for a roll call vote of the Board.

Roll Call Vote:

Anne Brockelman – Yes

Terry Kwan – Yes

Sheila Vanderhoef – Yes

Sean Cronin – Yes

Matt Deninger – Yes

Deborah Goldberg – Yes

The motion passed – 6 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining

Approval of Project Scope and Budget Agreement and Authorization for Project Funding Agreement

Next, the MSBA's Design Director, Karl Brown, explained that the Board is now being asked to approve a Project Scope and Budget Agreement and to authorize the MSBA to enter into a Project Funding Agreement for a project at the Pickering Middle School in the City of Lynn. The recommendation is to construct a new five-story 183,084 square foot facility on the site of the existing Pickering Middle School, Sisson Elementary School, and adjacent Magnolia Park.

The District provided a Total Project Budget of approximately $168.3 million dollars, which includes a total construction budget of approximately $134.0 million dollars.

The District's proposed site is partially located on the adjacent Magnolia Park, which is subject to the protections of Article 97 of the Amendments to the Massachusetts Constitution. Therefore, the

MSBA Board's authorization to enter a Project Scope and Budget Agreement and a Project Funding Agreement, will be conditioned upon the District meeting the MSBA requirements for ownership, control, and use of the proposed project site.

Additionally, the District's proposed project is subject to the review of the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act Office (or "MEPA"). Therefore, the MSBA Board's authorization to enter a Project Scope and Budget Agreement and a Project Funding Agreement will be conditioned upon the District fulfilling the applicable requirements associated with the MEPA Review.

The Chair asked for a motion, and the following motion was made by Ms. Kwan and seconded by Ms. Vanderhoef:

Vote to Authorize the Executive Director to Execute a Project Scope and Budget Agreement and Project Funding Agreement with the City of Lynn

VOTED: That the Board of Directors of the Massachusetts School Building Authority hereby approves the Potential Project to replace the existing Pickering Middle School with a new facility serving grades 6-8 on the site of the existing Pickering Middle School, Sisson Elementary School, and adjacent Magnolia Park, contingent upon the City fulfilling (1) any applicable Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act Office ("MEPA") requirements associated with a MEPA review and (2) meeting the MSBA requirements for ownership, control, and use of the proposed site, as further described in the materials presented to the Board and attached hereto and as such Proposed Project shall be further defined in the Project Scope and Budget Agreement, and authorizes the Executive Director to take all steps necessary to execute and deliver a Project Scope and Budget Agreement and Project Funding Agreement with the City of Lynn, in such forms as she may determine to be acceptable, for the Pickering Middle School project at a reimbursement rate of eighty percent (80.0%) of approved, eligible costs, up to an Estimated Maximum Total Facilities Grant of $102,922,982, which shall not include any funds for owner's or construction contingency expenditures; that the Board of Directors hereby further authorizes the Executive Director to increase the Estimated Maximum Total Facilities Grant up to a Maximum Total Facilities Grant of $104,530,907, in the event that the MSBA determines, in its sole discretion, that any owner's and/or construction contingency expenditures are eligible for reimbursement pursuant to MSBA regulations, guidelines, or policies; that the Board of Directors hereby further authorizes the Executive Director to expend funds in accordance with such Project Funding Agreement.

Ms. Kwan explained the MSBA has worked with Lynn over the years. She commented that the District's staffing ratios are higher than other districts and she supports anything they can do to increase the operational budget.

Ms. Vanderhoef asked how Lynn is funding the MEPA review and what the time frame will be.

The Design Director explained that MEPA funding is included in the budget. He commented that the time frame for MEPA review depends on the timing of when the design team and the District provide information to MEPA.

Mr. Cronin commented that the vote that the Board took at the last Board Meeting played a huge role in making this project more affordable for Lynn. He noted that this is an example of the positive impact of that vote.

The Chair commented that school project costs have been very high but she is hoping to see this stabilize soon.

Jared Nicholson, the Mayor of Lynn, thanked the Chair and Board. He also thanked the legislative delegation, School Committee, project team, Lynn staff, and the staff at the MSBA. He commented that this project is a huge effort and a huge step forward for the City of Lynn.

It was noted that Lynn received a joint letter of support from State Senator Brendan Crighton, State Representative Daniel Cahill, State Representative Peter Capano, State Representative Jennifer Armini, and State Representative Donald Wong.

The Chair commented that she is very pleased to see this project move forward.

There being no more discussion, the Chair asked for a roll call vote of the Board.

Roll Call Vote:

Anne Brockelman – Yes

Terry Kwan – Yes

Sheila Vanderhoef – Yes

Sean Cronin – Yes

Matt Deninger – Yes

Deborah Goldberg – Yes

The motion passed – 6 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining

Mr. Deninger left the meeting.

Next, the Design Director explained that the Board is now being asked to approve a Project Scope and Budget Agreement and to authorize the MSBA to enter into a Project Funding Agreement for a project at the John B. DeValles Elementary School in the City of New Bedford. The recommendation is to construct a new three-story 124,160 square foot facility on an alternative site referred to as the Goodyear site.

The proposed project has a design enrollment of 760 students in kindergarten through grade 5.

The District provided a Total Project Budget of approximately $119.69 million dollars, which includes a total construction budget of approximately $96.58 million dollars.

The District's proposed project is located on the Goodyear site which is subject to the review of the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act Office (or "MEPA") and requires land acquisition via eminent domain. The MSBA Board's authorization to enter a Project Scope and Budget Agreement and a Project Funding Agreement is noted in the board memo as conditioned upon the District fulfilling the applicable requirements associated with the MEPA Review and approval as well as the District meeting the MSBA requirements for ownership, control, and use of the proposed project site.

The Chair asked for a motion, and the following motion was made by Ms. Kwan and seconded by Ms. Vanderhoef:

The December 13, 2023 Board minutes were approved by the MSBA's Board of Directors at the February 28, 2024 meeting.

Vote to Authorize the Executive Director to Execute a Project Scope and Budget Agreement and Project Funding Agreement with the City of New Bedford

VOTED: That the Board of Directors of the Massachusetts School Building Authority hereby approves the Potential Project to consolidate the student population of the existing John B. DeValles Elementary School and the James B. Congdon Elementary School and construct a new facility serving grades K-5 on an alternative site referred to as the Goodyear site contingent upon the City fulfilling (1) any applicable Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act Office ("MEPA") requirements associated with a MEPA review and (2) meeting the MSBA requirements for ownership, control, and use of the proposed site, as further described in the materials presented to the Board and attached hereto and as such Proposed Project shall be further defined in the Project Scope and Budget Agreement, and authorizes the Executive Director to take all steps necessary to execute and deliver a Project Scope and Budget Agreement and Project Funding Agreement with the City of New Bedford, in such forms as she may determine to be acceptable, for the John B. DeValles School project at a reimbursement rate of eighty percent (80.0%) of approved, eligible costs, up to an Estimated Maximum Total Facilities Grant of $70,053,514, which shall not include any funds for owner's or construction contingency expenditures; that the Board of Directors hereby further authorizes the Executive Director to increase the Estimated Maximum Total Facilities Grant up to a Maximum Total Facilities Grant of $71,212,460, in the event that the MSBA determines, in its sole discretion, that any owner's and/or construction contingency expenditures are eligible for reimbursement pursuant to MSBA regulations, guidelines, or policies; that the Board of Directors hereby further authorizes the Executive Director to expend funds in accordance with such Project Funding Agreement.

Ms. Kwan commented that New Bedford once had significant educational issues but now, the community has done a turnaround and is invested in improving school programs. Ms. Kwan commented that the school has a wonderful educational plan, and she would like to be able to see the school in operation with students in the school.

There being no more discussion, the Chair asked for a roll call vote of the Board.

Roll Call Vote:

Anne Brockelman – Yes

Terry Kwan – Yes

Sheila Vanderhoef – Yes

Sean Cronin – Yes

Deborah Goldberg – Yes

The motion passed – 5 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining

Next, the Design Director explained that the Board is now being asked to approve a Project Scope and Budget Agreement and to authorize the MSBA to enter into a Project Funding Agreement for a project at the Countryside Elementary School in the City of Newton. The recommendation is to

construct a new three-story 76,000 square foot facility on the site of the existing Countryside Elementary School.

The proposed project has a design enrollment of 465 students in kindergarten through grade 5.

The District provided a Total Project Budget of approximately $76 million dollars, which includes a total construction budget of approximately $60.3 million dollars.

The Chair asked for a motion, and the following motion was made by Ms. Kwan and seconded by Ms. Vanderhoef:

Vote to Authorize the Executive Director to Execute a Project Scope and Budget Agreement and Project Funding Agreement with the City of Newton

VOTED: That the Board of Directors of the Massachusetts School Building Authority hereby approves the Potential Project to replace the existing Countryside Elementary School with a new facility serving kindergarten through grade 5 on the existing site, as further described in the materials presented to the Board and attached hereto and as such Proposed Project shall be further defined in the Project Scope and Budget Agreement, and authorizes the Executive Director to take all steps necessary to execute and deliver a Project Scope and Budget Agreement and Project Funding Agreement with the City of Newton, in such forms as she may determine to be acceptable, for the Countryside Elementary School project at a reimbursement rate of thirty-six and seventy-nine hundredths percent (36.79%) of approved, eligible costs, up to an Estimated Maximum Total Facilities Grant of $20,214,455, which shall not include any funds for owner's or construction contingency expenditures; that the Board of Directors hereby further authorizes the Executive Director to increase the Estimated Maximum Total Facilities Grant up to a Maximum Total Facilities Grant of $20,547,304, in the event that the MSBA determines, in its sole discretion, that any owner's and/or construction contingency expenditures are eligible for reimbursement pursuant to MSBA regulations, guidelines, or policies; that the Board of Directors hereby further authorizes the Executive Director to expend funds in accordance with such Project Funding Agreement.

The Mayor of Newton, Ruthanne Fuller, thanked the Chair, CEO, Board, Karl Brown, and all staff at the MSBA. She noted that this is the third school to go through the MSBA in Newton. She commented that the Newton community is very excited about the Countryside Elementary project.

There being no more discussion, the Chair asked for a roll call vote of the Board.

Roll Call Vote:

Anne Brockelman – Yes

Terry Kwan – Yes

Sheila Vanderhoef – Yes

Sean Cronin – Yes

Deborah Goldberg – Yes

The December 13, 2023 Board minutes were approved by the MSBA's Board of Directors at the February 28, 2024 meeting.

The motion passed – 5 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining

Next, the Design Director explained that the Board is now being asked to approve a Project Scope and Budget Agreement and to authorize the MSBA to enter into a Project Funding Agreement for a project at the Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School in the Whittier Regional Vocational Technical School District. The recommendation is to construct a new three-story 380,758 square foot facility on the site of the existing Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School.

The proposed project has a design enrollment of 1,280 students in grade 9 through 12.

The District provided a Total Project Budget of approximately $446.41 million dollars, which includes a total construction budget of approximately $359.97 million dollars.

The proposed project is subject to the review of the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act Office (or "MEPA"). The MSBA Board's authorization to enter a Project Scope and Budget Agreement and a Project Funding Agreement is noted in the board memo as conditioned upon the District fulfilling the applicable requirements associated with the MEPA Review and approval.

The Chair asked for a motion, and the following motion was made by Ms. Kwan and seconded by Ms. Vanderhoef:

Vote to Authorize the Executive Director to Execute a Project Scope and Budget Agreement and Project Funding Agreement with the Whittier Regional Vocational Technical School District

VOTED: That the Board of Directors of the Massachusetts School Building Authority hereby approves the Potential Project to replace the existing Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School with a new facility serving grades 9-12 on the existing site, contingent upon the District fulfilling the applicable Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act Office ("MEPA") requirements associated with a MEPA review, as further described in the materials presented to the Board and attached hereto and as such Proposed Project shall be further defined in the Project Scope and Budget Agreement, and authorizes the Executive Director to take all steps necessary to execute and deliver a Project Scope and Budget Agreement and Project Funding Agreement with the Whittier Regional Vocational Technical School District, in such forms as she may determine to be acceptable, for the Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School project at a reimbursement rate of sixty-one and thirty-nine hundredths percent (61.39%) of approved, eligible costs, up to an Estimated Maximum Total Facilities Grant of $159,675,637, which shall not include any funds for owner's or construction contingency expenditures; that the Board of Directors hereby further authorizes the Executive Director to increase the Estimated Maximum Total Facilities Grant up to a Maximum Total Facilities Grant of $162,719,075, in the event that the MSBA determines, in its sole discretion, that any owner's and/or construction contingency expenditures are eligible for reimbursement pursuant to MSBA regulations, guidelines, or policies; that the Board of Directors hereby further authorizes the Executive Director to expend funds in accordance with such Project Funding Agreement.

State Senator Bruce Tarr, who represents the Whittier Regional Vocational Technical School District, thanked the Chair, members of the Board, and MSBA staff. He commented that a new vocational school would be beneficial for expanding the workforce. He noted that it is crucial for the

communities to vote for this school. He asked the MSBA to consider extending the 120 day voting period to allow the District to have sufficient time voting, informing, and equipping communities with achieving this objective. He noted that it is important to signal to communities that there will be a full collaboration to maximize efforts to fund this school. He commented that the MSBA should consider collaborating with the District to find other funding sources and/or grants for the project. Senator Tarr commented that he appreciates the work of the Chair, Board, and District.

The Superintendent of the Whittier Regional Vocational Technical School District, Maureen Lynch, thanked Senator Tarr for his comments. She explained that each community will fund the project differently, but most will need a debt exclusion. She commented that delaying this project will not be helpful in moving forward. She noted that the school is eager and excited to move ahead. She thanked the MSBA for its support.

Mary Pichetti, the Executive Director at the MSBA, commented that she appreciates the comments from Senator Tarr and the letters that the MSBA has received from the communities with their concerns about this project. She commented that the MSBA's process is to work directly with districts and it is up to the district to provide outreach and communication to the community. She noted that there will be a School Committee vote this evening and, if successful, there will be a District wide vote on January 23rd. She explained that the MSBA has provided additional time to districts in the past for a local vote when needed and, if the January vote does not occur, additional time could be provided. The Executive Director commented that she understands that this is a difficult situation and she looks forward to the District taking the lead and working towards a successful vote to support the project.

Haverhill's Mayor-elect, Melinda Barrett commented that she has concerns about the ask for a delayed vote and urged the Board to continue with the vote on the agenda today. She thanked the Board for their support and vote.

Sean Reardon, the Mayor of Newburyport, commented that this project would be very difficult for Newburyport and he wants to echo Senator Tarr's comments. He thanked the MSBA for all of their work but noted the high cost of this project and that Newburyport does not have a way to pay, adding that Newburyport only has 29 students at the school. Mayor Reardon voiced his concern that Whittier entered this process without collaborating with the surrounding towns. He asked the MSBA to reconsider this vote for the project so they can go back to the drawing board and look to each community for more involvement.

State Representative Kristin Kassner explained that she represents four communities in the District and noted that she sent a letter of support for this project but also pointed out funding concerns among the involved communities. She commented that very few of the communities have space in their levy limit for the project. Representative Kassner thanked the MSBA for their attention to this project. She explained that the legislative delegation is working hard to find solutions and continue forward.

Mr. Cronin commented that this is the third vocational technical project recently where communities have said they did not hear about the project until late in the process. He suggested that the MSBA and the legislature put their heads together to see if there is a solution in order to make sure communities are informed earlier on.

The Chair explained that Minuteman Regional Vocational Technical High School faced a similar issue. She noted that, at the time, she spoke with Governor Baker on this issue. The Chair

commented that these projects are district driven and therefore the district has a responsibility to engage the community members from the time that they are coming into the process.

The Executive Director explained that regional school districts have a school committee with representation from member communities. Additionally, the MSBA asks for Local Actions and Approval certifications to ensure districts are doing outreach and informing communities.

The Chair commented that this can be confusing for those unfamiliar with the MSBA process and without an understanding of the MSBA's role and the district's role.

The Executive Director explained that, after the Board votes today, there are 120 days for the district to vote. Sometimes, the district will reach out to the MSBA stating that they need more time beyond the initial 120 days. She noted that, to be clear, when the Board votes today, they vote for this project as it currently is planned. The Executive Director noted that she appreciates how hard this issue is and she hopes members of the communities can rally together and come to a solution.

The Chair wished the District good luck.

The Superintendent thanked Veatriki Dagkalakou and Allison Sullivan. She also thanked MSBA staff, the Chair, and the Board.

It was noted that the Whittier Regional Vocational Technical School District received a joint letter of support from State Representative Andy Vargas, State Representative Ryan Hamilton, State Representative Kristin Kassner, State Representative Adrianne Ramos, State Senator Barry Finegold, and State Senator Pavel Payano. State Senator Barry Finegold also sent another letter of support.

It was also noted that the Whittier Regional Vocational Technical School District received letters noting concerns with the project, the voting process, and cost from the Town of Amesbury, the Town of Rowley, the Town of Georgetown, the Town of Newburyport, the Town of Salisbury, and the Town of West Newbury.

There being no more discussion, the Chair asked for a roll call vote of the Board.

Roll Call Vote:

Anne Brockelman – Yes

Terry Kwan – Yes

Sheila Vanderhoef – Yes

Sean Cronin – Yes

Deborah Goldberg – Yes

The motion passed – 5 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining

Audit

The MSBA's Director of Audit, Miriam Vazquez, began her audit update by explaining that the MSBA has completed final audits for 655 Capital Pipeline Program Projects plus the two projects subject to vote today, all together representing approximately $8.2 billion in submitted and audited costs.

The December 13, 2023 Board minutes were approved by the MSBA's Board of Directors at the February 28, 2024 meeting.

She continued, explaining that the MSBA has also audited approximately $7.3 billion in submitted costs for the 253 projects currently submitting monthly requests for reimbursements. Based on the Total Project Budget information and submitted costs to date of approved projects, the MSBA estimates that approximately $4.1 billion in additional costs will be submitted for audit for these projects.

The Director of Audit then explained that monthly submitted costs have averaged over $126.7 million over the 12 months preceding this Board meeting, and the total amount submitted and audited in this 12-month period equals approximately $1.52 billion.

Approval of Audits, Capital Pipeline Program

The Director of Audit explained that the Board is being asked to approve two Capital Pipeline Program audits listed on Exhibit C. She explained that the total combined grant amount for these two projects is $1,372,673.

The Chair asked for a motion and the following motion was made by Ms. Kwan and seconded by Ms. Vanderhoef:

Approval of Audit Costs for Several Projects

VOTED: That the Board of Directors of the Massachusetts School Building Authority hereby approves the final audited approved grant amounts for the projects listed in the spreadsheet attached hereto as Exhibit C and authorizes the Executive Director to make payments consistent with this vote.

There being no discussion, the Chair asked for a roll call vote of the Board.

Roll Call Vote:

Anne Brockelman – Yes

Terry Kwan – Yes

Sheila Vanderhoef – Yes

Sean Cronin – Yes

Deborah Goldberg – Yes

The motion passed – 5 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining

Eligibility Period Extension

Next, Diane Sullivan, the Director of Program Development, explained that the Board is now being asked to approve an extension of the Eligibility Period for the City of Brockton. The City received its invitation into the Eligibility Period for the Brockton High School Statement of Interest at the December 21, 2022 Board of Directors Meeting. On March 1, 2023, the City's 270-day Eligibility Period commenced with November 27, 2023 representing the end date of the Eligibility Period. Eligibility Requirements have been completed with the final item outstanding, Feasibility Study funding.

The December 13, 2023 Board minutes were approved by the MSBA's Board of Directors at the February 28, 2024 meeting.

To allow time for additional discussion with the City, the Executive Director approved a 30-day extension to the Eligibility Period extending the completion date from November 27, 2023 to December 27, 2023.

In a letter to the MSBA, dated November 20, 2023, the City cited that in order to fulfill the local process associated with securing their Feasibility Study and Schematic Design funding authorization, a 120-day extension of time is needed. The City noted, in the letter, a Plan B form of government, with a two-year cycle of elections for Mayor, City Council Members and School Committee Members. The City has proposed to seek approval for the Feasibility Study and Schematic Design funds from the new City Council members who will be sworn in on Monday, January 1, 2024. The proposed timeline to secure funds commences January 22, 2024 and concludes March 11, 2024.

In addition, the City identified issues associated with a deficit in their FY 24 school budget. The City is currently working with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education as well as the Division of Local Services to review the FY 24 budget and implement financial controls. Recognizing the urgency and need to address issues at this high school that houses the largest Grade 9 to 12 student enrollment in the state and to ensure that the City has sufficient time to resolve the budget issues, staff are recommending an extension beyond the initial 30-day extension, up to 161 days beyond December 27, 2023 to June 5, 2024. With this extension, the MSBA requests that the City provide updates, every other month starting at the end of January, on the progress of the City Council meetings and votes as well as the progress on the financial systems and evaluation of FY24 and 25 budgets.

The Director of Program Development explained that staff is recommending that the Executive Director be authorized to extend the expiration date of the Eligibility Period for the Brockton High School Statement of Interest, beyond the initial 30-day extension, up to 161 days from December 27, 2023, to June 5, 2024 for a total of 191 days in order to finalize actions related to the local Feasibility Study and Schematic Design funding authorization. Pending a successful vote by the Brockton City Council and the progress of the review of the FY24 budget, the City would then be positioned for an invitation into Feasibility Study at the MSBA June 26, 2024 Board of Directors meeting.

The Chair asked for a motion and the following motion was made by Ms. Vanderhoef and seconded by Ms. Kwan:

Approval of Eligibility Period Extended Extension Request for the City of Brockton

VOTED: That the Board of Directors of the Massachusetts School Building Authority hereby approves that the Executive Director be authorized to further extend the expiration date of the Eligibility Period for the City of Brockton (the "City"), from December 27, 2023, to June 5, 2024.

Mayor Robert Sullivan of Brockton thanked the Chair, Board, MSBA staff, Allison Sullivan, and Diane Sullivan. He introduced other Brockton officials on the call who were there to show support. He commented that Brockton is very thankful for this extension and that the MSBA does phenomenal work for the students in the Commonwealth.

It was noted that Brockton received three letters of support from State Representative Michelle DuBois, State Senator Michael Brady, and State Representative Rita Mendes.

The December 13, 2023 Board minutes were approved by the MSBA's Board of Directors at the February 28, 2024 meeting.

There being no more discussion, the Chair asked for a roll call vote of the Board.

Roll Call Vote:

Anne Brockelman – Yes

Terry Kwan – Yes

Sheila Vanderhoef – Yes

Sean Cronin – Yes

Deborah Goldberg – Yes

The motion passed – 5 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining

MSBA Updates

Project Status

Supplemental Grant Update

Next, the Director of Capital Planning provided an update for the Supplemental Grants.

He explained that in October, the Board was presented with 39 projects across two categories. The first category of projects received Project Scope and Budget approval by the Board prior to October 1, 2022 and have accepted or will accept bids on or after January 1, 2022. These parameters were identified within the approved legislation in the Commonwealth's Fiscal Year 2024 Budget. Staff recommended and the Board approved adjustments commensurate with the positive funding limits approved by the Board of Directors on December 21, 2022 for projects receiving Project Scope and Budget approval after October 1, 2022.

For the 30 eligible projects, identified as Category 1 in the memorandum for today's Board meeting, we have further subdivided the projects into a Group 1 and a Group 2.

Group 1 has a total of thirteen projects that have or have nearly completed a Bid Amendment for their Project Funding Agreements. For these projects, staff will issue updated budgets with new grants based on the updated funding limits. Staff issued the first two of these budgets this week and will continue to do so. Following review by the district, the updated budget will be processed within a Project Funding Agreement Amendment. Districts will be able to seek reimbursement using the higher funding limits upon execution of the Amendment. Staff are reviewing completed reimbursement requests to define the methodology for seeking retroactive reimbursements for those projects that have already incurred previously un-reimbursable costs.

Group 2 has the remaining seventeen projects. Eleven have received bids, and as they continue to submit the required bid information, staff will update their Project Funding Agreements within a Project Funding Agreement Bid Amendment utilizing the new funding limits. Staff plan to begin issuing revised budgets to these eleven districts commencing in January 2024 and continuing through June 2024, dependent on the timing of the bid information submitted by each district.

For the six projects still finalizing their bids, staff anticipate incorporating the new funding limits into revised Project Funding Agreements once the bids have been received and the districts have

submitted the required bid information; however, staff are also looking at alternative steps to accelerate the process of incorporating the new funding limits. An update including an estimated schedule for these six projects will be provided in a future Memorandum.

The second category of projects received Project Scope and Budget approval by the MSBA's Board of Directors after October 1, 2022 and prior to October 1, 2023. For the nine eligible projects, staff recommended, and the Board approved, project funding limit adjustments based on the FY2024 legislation increasing the MSBA's Annual Cap in fiscal year 2023 to $1.2 billion.

Staff began issuing revised budgets with updated funding limits to these projects last week. Updated budgets for all nine projects can be anticipated by the end of this week.

MSBA staff will continue to provide informational updates each Board meeting until all project adjustments have been finalized. In the meantime, staff continue to work with each district to take the steps necessary to process Project Funding Agreement Amendments.

The Treasurer thanked the MSBA for all the work that has gone into providing the supplemental grants. She commented that she is grateful for the work that everyone at the MSBA does and that it is a great group of nineteen districts that were invited into the Eligibility Period today.

Executive Director's Report

The Executive Director shared a lookahead for the next few months. She shared that the SOI period will be opening for both ARP and Core projects in January. MSBA staff will also be working on the Amendments for the 39 Districts that will be receiving the Supplemental Grants and will be issuing a Request for Responses for a Heat Pump Conversion procurement. The Public Comment Period for the Updates to the MSBA Regulations will be continuing through the end of January. MSBA staff will also be working on launching the next School Survey.

Next, Associate General Counsel, Colleen Smith, provided an update regarding the MSBA regulations hearings. She commented that so far, ten public hearings have been held. Eight hearings have been in-person in various locations across the state and two have been virtual. There will be another in-person hearing tomorrow. After tomorrow, there will be a break for the holidays. Hearings will resume in January. The MSBA is accepting public comments through the end of January. After the close of the public comment period, and after reviewing the comments, the MSBA will present a final draft to the Board for approval to promulgate the regulations.

Next, the Executive Director presented a PowerPoint of outreach events that staff from the MSBA had participated in the last few weeks. Staff have attended a variety of events such as Supplier Diversity Office Outreach and the Massachusetts Association of School Committees/Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents Joint Conference. The MSBA also hosted an information session regarding the SOI process and a Webinar with Holyoke Superintendent Anthony Soto for the Superintendents Association regarding MSBA Current School Building Updates, Policies, and Practices. The Executive Director shared photos from Groundbreaking events at Diman Regional Technical Vocational High School in Fall River, Watertown High School, and the Dr. Albert B. Consentino Middle School in Haverhill. Photos were shared of Topping Off Ceremonies at the Oliver Partnership School in Lawrence. Finally, the Executive Director shared photos from a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at the Fisher Hill Elementary School in Orange.

Next, the Executive Director shared staff updates. She welcomed four new hires at the MSBA: Peter Sun, Derek Smith, Claire Ackerman, and Maria Caprigno. She congratulated Elizabeth Corrielus for

completing her Master's Degree in Accounting. Finally, the Executive Director congratulated the MSBA Bake-off winners: Allison Sullivan, Melanie Soter, Ashley Smith, and Stacy Patino.

At the end of her presentation, the Executive Director thanked the entire MSBA staff and Board of Directors for all their hard work.

The Chair asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was made by Ms. Kwan and seconded by Ms. Vanderhoef.

Roll Call Vote:

Anne Brockelman – Yes

Terry Kwan – Yes

Sheila Vanderhoef – Yes

Sean Cronin – Yes

Deborah Goldberg – Yes

The motion passed – 5 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining

The meeting was adjourned at 1:01 pm.

List of documents and exhibits used at the meeting:

- PowerPoint Presentation
- October 25, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes
- Invitations to Eligibility Period
- Authorization to Execute Project Funding Agreement – Accelerated Repair Program
- Invitation to Feasibility Study
- Recommendation for Preferred Schematic Design
- Invitations to Project Scope and Budget
- Audit Status Report
- Recommendation for Approval of Final Audits, Capital Pipeline Program
- Approval of Eligibility Period Extension
- Project Overview Report (materials provided to the Board but not presented due to time constraints)
- Sales Tax Collections Update (materials provided to the Board but not presented due to time constraints)
- Grant Payments Update (materials provided to the Board but not presented due to time constraints)
- FY2024 Budget Update (materials provided to the Board but not presented due to time constraints)