

# THE WEEKLY WRAP UP

A report from Town Administrator Lisa Wong

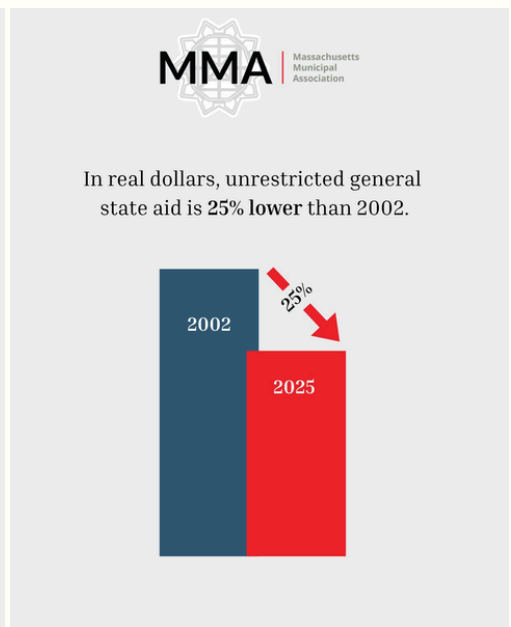
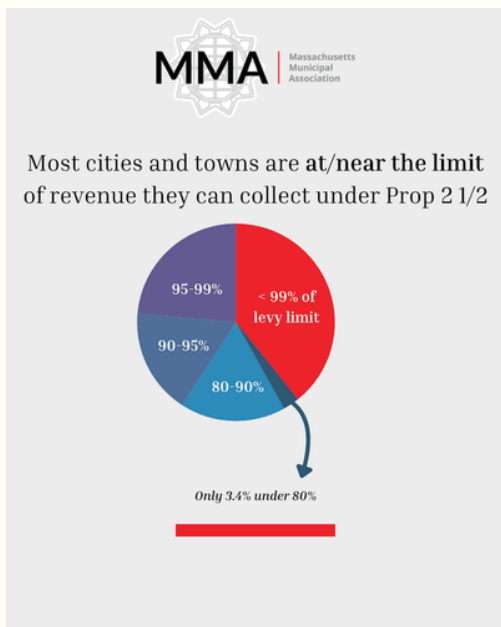
## MEETINGS

**SELECTBOARD, 7pm**  
Hybrid @ Senior Center  
**Tuesdays**  
**October 21**  
**November 4**  
**November 18**  
[www.southhadley.org/agendacenter](http://www.southhadley.org/agendacenter)

## Closed Mon

Town Hall and the Senior Center will be closed to the public on Monday, October 13 and reopen on Tuesday, October 14 for Indigenous Peoples Day!

## FISCAL CRISIS REPORT



The Massachusetts Municipal Association released a report this week: **A Perfect Storm: Cities and Towns Face Historic Fiscal Pressures.** "Municipalities have been frugal, and any cuts they're forced to make are now cutting bone," said MMA Executive Director Adam Chapdelaine. "Even with the most valiant efforts to operate efficiently, city and town leaders simply can't overcome the larger trends that are forcing them to make drastic reductions, felt by local residents and local businesses." Report link below and excerpts on page 2 of the Wrap-up: [www.mma.org/new-report-from-mma-documents-a-fiscal-crisis-in-cities-towns/](http://www.mma.org/new-report-from-mma-documents-a-fiscal-crisis-in-cities-towns/)

# NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



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## *Some Findings from the Fiscal Report (from Page 1)*

### Budgetary Pressures Vary Dramatically Among City and Town Types

Annual growth rate, 2010–2024



Division of Local Services, CSPA calculations

1. State aid in Massachusetts is less generous than the U.S. average.
2. Flexible state aid (through UGGA) has fallen for all cities and towns.
3. Given the 2.5 percent cap on local tax increases, the best tool for suburban towns is often an expensive and temporary override.
4. Rural towns and gateway cities lack the local income and wealth to respond at all.
5. While rising education aid has enabled substantial new investments across urban Massachusetts, it hasn't provided the same level of benefits to rural and suburban towns.