



Town of Marshfield

870 Moraine Street

Marshfield, Massachusetts 02050

Tel: 781-834-5563

Fax: 781-834-5527

Michael A. Maresco
Town Administrator

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 3, 2025

On behalf of the Town of Marshfield and its Select Board, on Thursday, February 27, 2025, the Town of Marshfield filed a lawsuit in Plymouth Superior Court against the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (EOHLC) challenging the State's MBTA Communities Act and emergency regulations seeking a determination consistent with the Office of the State Auditor's Division of Local Mandates that the Act constitutes an "unfunded mandate" under Gen. L. c. 29 §27C and seeking an order challenging the implementation of the act and regulations that have been used as a basis for withholding prior grant funding and treating the same as a basis for withholding future grant funds and compelling either funding as a condition of compliance with the act or an exemption from the act and its regulations.

The Select Board, by a majority vote of 2 in favor (Lynne Fidler, Chair and Stephen Darcy, Vice Chair) and 1 opposed (Clerk, Eric Kelley), seek this relief in order to adhere to the wishes of Town Meeting and challenge the MBTA Communities Act after voters rejected proposed zoning bylaws failed by majority vote to be approved in April of 2024 and December of 2024 and the Town was suspended by EOHLC from multiple grant programs effective February 14, 2025.

It is unfortunate that the Town and its Select Board was obligated to take these measures to protect the rights of its residents; however, this action was authorized in an effort to preserve the status quo, and preserve grant funding, pending the final determination of this matter.

Michael A. Maresco
Town Administrator