

*June 2015*

## City Council Approves Fiscal 2016 Budget

After nearly three months and an extensive series of hearings, on Wednesday June 23<sup>rd</sup> the City Council approved the \$2.86 billion fiscal 2016 budget. As explained in the Research Bureau's [previous statement](#), this budget of \$2.86 billion is the first complete budget prepared by the Walsh Administration and represents an increase of \$121.8 million or 4.5% over fiscal 2015. The approved budget increased by \$1.8 million from the original submission in April. Projected revenues increased by \$1.8 million due to a more accurate prediction of state aid. The City relies heavily on the property tax for \$1.916 billion or 67.1% of total revenue and 69.3% of the total revenue increase.

Expenditures increased accordingly, growing by \$1.8 million to fund:

- An increase in the charter school tuition assessment of \$1.6 million
- A projected increase in salaries for members of the reinstated Police Cadet Program
- An additional 200 summer jobs for Boston teens
- MBTA pass reimbursements for some management positions

The School Department restored four Supervisor of Attendance positions and the cost will be absorbed without an increase to the BPS's \$1.014 billion appropriation.

The Council also has approved the Mayor's \$1.78 billion five-year capital plan (FY16-FY20) which includes 333 new and continuing projects and proposes \$151.3 million in new project authorization. The Mayor's recommended fiscal 2016 operating budget is tightly balanced and will require careful management to ensure that planned savings are achieved and spending is controlled.