

TOWN OF BELMONT

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN 455 CONCORD AVENUE BELMONT, MASSACHUSETTS 02478

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455 CONCORD AVENUE BELMONT, MA 02478-2573 PHONE (617) 993-2610 FAX (617) 993-2611 BOARD OF SELECTMEN SAMI S. BAGHDADY, Chair MARK A. PAOLILLO, Vice-Chair JAMES R. WILLIAMS, Selectman

> TOWN ADMINISTRATOR DAVID J. KALE

ASSISTANT TOWN ADMINISTRATOR
PHYLLIS L. MARSHALL

June 3, 2015

State Senator William N. Brownsberger State House Room 504 Boston, Massachusetts 02133

Dear Senator Brownsberger,

On behalf of the Board of Selectmen, I am writing to you to express our concern that the State provide adequate funding to support major capital improvements and repairs at public housing, including those under the control of the Belmont Housing Authority.

Failure to provide adequate state formula funding for capital improvements and repairs requires Towns, such as Belmont, to use limited resources from the Community Preservation Act or other sources to fund capital projects for its Public Housing Authority.

Over the last three years Belmont has allocated approximately \$1 million to support electrical upgrades for Belmont Housing Authority units. While Town Meeting has supported these allocations, it has been noted by many Town Meeting Members that it appears that the State is shifting its fiscal responsibility to municipalities to fund capital improvement of public housing.

Therefore, we respectfully request that you focus your attention on this matter and keep these concerns in mind moving forward.

Very Truly Yours,

Sami S. Baghdady, Chair

Mark A. Paolillo, Vice-Chair

R. Williams, Selectman

Cc: Chrystal Kornegay, Undersecretary, Department of Housing and Community Development