



FY 2027 Municipal Community Mitigation Fund Grant Application

Application Instructions:

- I. All applications must be received by the Massachusetts Gaming Commission by January 31, 2026, at 11:59 p.m. to be considered for funding for the FY 2027 grant round.
- II. Each municipality may only submit **ONE** application as a Word Document.
- III. Each project must have its own form within the appropriate category. Forms can be found below as Parts A-E. If there is more than one project in a category, please copy the form. All attachments should directly follow the relevant project form.
- IV. Be sure to fill in all the information requested on the application. Applications that are left incomplete will not be accepted.
- V. All applications must submit a detailed scope of work and timeline for implementation for all projects identified in the application.
- VI. All applications must contain appropriate backup materials that support the application.
- VII. The Municipal Grant Manager will be the person responsible for compiling the information for the quarterly reports. The application must be signed by the municipal administrator or an individual with signatory authority. Submit this completed form as well as any relevant attachments to MGCCMF@Massgaming.gov or as a response to the **COMMBUYS Bid BD-26-1068-1068C-1068L-121911**.

For more detailed instructions as well as the full FY 2027 Application Guidelines visit <https://massgaming.com/about/community-mitigation-fund/>

Municipal Grant Manager Information (Person for filing all Quarterly Reports, etc.):
Applicant: City of Melrose
Vendor Code: VC6000192116
Name: Anthony Chui, MPH
Title: Director of Health and Human Services
Email Address: achui@cityofmelrose.org
Telephone: 781-979-4133
Address: 562 Main Street, Melrose, MA 02176

Grant Budget Summary

Your community’s FY 2027 proposed allocation can be found at <https://massgaming.com/about/community-mitigation-fund/>.

Use the space below to total all requests by category. Please clarify how many discreet projects your community plans to undertake per category.

Total FY 2027 Allocation:		
Application Totals by Category	# of Projects	Requested Amount
A. Community Planning	1	\$25,000
B. Public Safety	1	\$10,904
C. Transportation	0	\$0
D. Gambling Harm Reduction	1	\$13,296
E. Specific Impact	1	\$2,100
TOTAL		\$51,300

(Applicants should indicate administrative costs by project where necessary and under specific impact when the funds will be directed across multiple projects.)

Are you requesting a waiver for any program Requirement?

Yes

No

If yes, you must fill out a CMF Municipal Waiver Form. The waiver form can be found as Appendix E to the RFR on COMMBUYS or online at <https://massgaming.com/about/community-mitigation-fund/forms/>.

Applications without a completed waiver form will not be considered for a waiver.

Budget Category Summary

Use the space below to provide an overview of all projects to be covered by this funding. You may add as many items as is pertinent to your application (you can add rows by right clicking on the row and selecting “add row”). Please provide a category, name, brief description, and amount for each item.

Category	Project Name	Description	Amount
A. Community Planning	Pop Up Melrose	Economic Development	\$25,000
B. Public Safety	ICS Training	Training Overtime	\$10,904
C. Transportation	<i>N/a</i>	<i>N/a</i>	<i>\$0</i>
D. Gambling Harm Reduction	Harm Reduction	Screening/Referral, Youth Action Team, Strategy Share	\$13,296
E. Specific Impact	Council on Aging	Community Outreach	\$2,100

Applicant Certification

On behalf of the aforementioned applicant, I hereby certify that the funds that are requested in this application will be used solely for the purposes articulated in this application.



1/28/26

Signature:

Date:

Name and Title of Signatory: Jennifer
Grigoraitis, Mayor

Part A-Community Planning - The application should include sufficient backup information for the review team to fully understand the project(s). This information could include locus maps, requests for proposals, detailed scopes of work, drawings etc.

Project Name: Pop Up Melrose	
Please provide below the contact information for the individual managing this aspect of the grant.	
Project Contact	Additional Project Contact <i>(if applicable)</i>
Name: Lauren Grymek	Name:
Title: Chief of Staff	Title:
Department: Mayor’s Office	Department:
Email Address: lgrymek@cityofmelrose.org	Email Address:
Telephone: 781-979-4441	Telephone:
Address: 562 Main Street, Melrose	Address:
<p>I. Please use the space below to identify the impact of the gaming establishment on your municipality. You may use the impacts identified in the FY 2027 Guidelines relevant to this category. If you are using an impact not identified in the guidelines, please use the space below to identify the impact. Please provide documentation or evidence that supports the determination that the operation of the gaming facility caused or is causing the impact (i.e., surveys, data, reports, etc.)</p>	
<p>Projects to provide economic development opportunities for local businesses. Limited available retail spaces and high rents are barriers to entry for entrepreneurs looking to bring their goods to market. Project Pop Up provides space and exposure to these entrepreneurs with dedicated efforts made to recruit local, BIPOC and women entrepreneurs to incentivize a diverse and inclusive mix of businesses.</p>	
<p>II. Please describe the project in detail and how the proposed project will address the impact indicated above. Please include a breakdown of the proposed scope of work, the scope should be sufficiently detailed to allow the review team to understand the steps required for project completion.</p>	
<p>The City of Melrose will bring back a popular downtown holiday Pop-Up shopping experience for the Melrose community, located outside in the Melrose Family YMCA courtyard. This Pop-Up is an expansion of the City’s successful, two-year brick and mortar Project: Pop-Up program. Emerging brands, entrepreneurs, artists, and makers will take week-long turns popping up in the temporary mobile retail unit. To help ensure their success, the brands would be provided the opportunity at a subsidized rate and will receive access to a suite of resources provided by the City’s consultant and woman-owned business, Up-Next, LLC.</p>	
<p>This program allows smaller businesses without a traditional brick-and-mortar location to introduce their products to a wider audience during peak holiday shopping season in a way they would not be able to otherwise.</p>	

Proposed MGC Grant Budget			
Please use the following table to outline the project budget. Please include as an attachment any requests for proposals, quotes, or estimates that would quantify the costs associated with the mitigation.			
Description of Purchase/Work	Timeline	QTY	Budget
Consulting/Management Fee/ Project: Pop-Up Continuity Planning	October – December 2026	1	\$12,500
Mobile unit rental, buildout, design + delivery fee	October – December 2026	1	\$5,500
The Retail Playground 1-Year Membership for up to 10 brands	October 2026	1	\$1,500
Signage/Decor	October – December 2026	1	\$3,000
Marketing, Event + Influencer Support	October – December 2026	1	\$2,500
	TOTAL:		\$25,000

Part B- Transportation The application should include sufficient backup information for the review team to fully understand the project(s). This information could include locus maps, requests for proposals, detailed scopes of work, etc.

Project Name: _____ N/A _____	
Please provide below the contact information for the individual managing this aspect of the grant. If there are multiple people involved in the grants management, please add more lines to accommodate their information.	
Project Contact: N/A	Additional Project Contact <i>(if applicable)</i>
Name:	Name:
Title:	Title:
Department:	Department:
Email Address:	Email Address:
Telephone:	Telephone:
Address:	Address:
<p>I. Please use the space below to identify the impact of the gaming establishment on your municipality. You may use the impacts identified in the FY 2027 Guidelines relevant to this category. If you are using an impact not identified in the guidelines, please use the space below to identify the impact. Please provide documentation or evidence that supports the determination that the operation of the gaming facility causes or is causing the impact (i.e., surveys, data, reports, etc.)</p>	
<p>II. Please describe the project in detail and how the proposed project will address the impact indicated above. Please include a breakdown of the proposed scope of work, the scope should be sufficiently detailed to allow the review team to understand the steps required for project completion.</p>	

Proposed MGC Grant Budget			
Please use the following table to outline the project budget. Please include as an attachment any requests for proposals, quotes, or estimates that would quantify the costs associated with the mitigation.			
Description of Purchase/Work	Timeline	QTY	Budget
	TOTAL:		

Part C - Public Safety - The application should include sufficient backup information for the review team to fully understand the project(s). This information could include locus maps, catalog cuts of proposed equipment purchases, quotes, training course syllabus, etc.

Project Name: <u>ICS (Incident Command System) Training</u>			
Please provide below the contact information for the individual managing this aspect of the grant.			
Project Contact:		Additional Project Contact (if applicable)	
Name: Kevin Faller		Name:	
Title: Chief of Police		Title:	
Department: Police		Department:	
Email Address: kfaller@cityofmelrose.org		Email Address:	
Telephone: 781-979-4468		Telephone:	
Address: 56 West Foster Street, Melrose		Address:	
Please use the space below to identify the impact of the gaming establishment on your municipality. You may use the impacts identified in the FY 2027 Guidelines relevant to this category. If you are using an impact not identified in the guidelines, please use the space below to identify the impact. Please provide documentation or evidence that gives support for the determination that the operation of the gaming facility caused or is causing the impact (i.e., surveys, data, reports, etc.)			
The Encore Casino is a high potential target location for a critical incident and mass casualty event (2017 Las Vegas Shooting, 2017 Resorts World Manila Attack, 2025 Grand Sierra Resort Shooting, 2025 Kickapoo Lucky Eagle Casino Shooting etc.) Due to its location, the Melrose Police Department could be called for mutual aid to assist in a critical incident/mass casualty event. The City of Melrose also has the Melrose Wakefield Hospital, which could be utilized as part of the Incident Command System as a potential medical facility, and it is vital that personnel of the Melrose Police Department are trained in the ICS system.			
II. Please describe the project in detail and how the proposed project will address the impact indicated above. Please include a breakdown of the proposed scope of work, the scope should be sufficiently detailed to allow the review team to understand the steps required for project completion.			
This proposed project will allow for the training of all Melrose Police Department's Patrol supervisors and Command staff on the Incident Command System (ICS 100 and 200). The courses are offered through FEMA, and this project will pay for the cost of the overtime required to train each supervisor in eight (8) hours of training. Training will equip Melrose supervisory personnel with the skills and knowledge to understand the standardized ICS system and to work collaboratively with law enforcement agencies and other public safety personnel (FIRE/EMS) in the case of a critical incident involving the gaming establishment.			
Proposed MGC Grant Budget			
Please use the following table to outline the project budget. Please include as an attachment any requests for proposals, quotes, or estimates that would quantify the costs associated with the mitigation.			
Description of Purchase/Work	Timeline	QTY	Budget

Overtime cost to train 14 supervisors			\$10,904.00
		TOTAL:	\$10,904

Part D- Gambling Harm Reduction- The application should include sufficient backup information for the review team to fully understand the project(s). This information could include other relevant research, Requests for Proposals, etc.

Project Name: Gambling Harm Reduction	
Please provide below the contact information for the individual managing this aspect of the grant	
Project Contact:	Additional Project Contact (if applicable)
Name: Anthony Chui, MPH	Name:
Title: Director	Title:
Department: Health and Human Services (HHS)	Department:
Email Address: achui@cityofmelrose.org	Email Address:
Telephone: 781-979-4133	Telephone:
Address: 562 Main Street	Address:
<p>I. Please use the space below to identify the impact of the gaming establishment on your municipality. You may use the impacts identified in the FY 2027 Guidelines relevant to this category. If you are using an impact not identified in the guidelines, please use the space below to identify the impact. Please provide documentation or evidence that gives support for the determination that the operation of the gaming facility caused or is causing the impact (i.e., surveys, data, reports, etc.)</p>	
<p>The operation of the gaming establishment has contributed to increased exposure to gambling opportunities within Melrose, elevating the risk of gambling-related harm among residents. Consistent with impacts identified in the FY 2027 Community Mitigation Fund Guidelines, Melrose has experienced increased need for prevention, education, and early intervention related to problem gambling, financial instability, and associated behavioral health concerns. Local and regional indicators suggest heightened vulnerability among certain populations, including youth, young adults, individuals with lower incomes, and residents already engaged with behavioral health or social service systems. Increased accessibility and normalization of gambling activities have placed additional strain on municipal and regional public health, prevention, and social service infrastructure.</p>	
<p>II. Please describe the project in detail and how the proposed project will address the impact indicated above. Please include a breakdown of the proposed scope of work, the scope should be sufficiently detailed to allow the review team to understand the steps required for project completion.</p>	
<p>II. Project Description and Scope of Work</p> <p>Project Overview</p> <p>Melrose Health and Human Services (HHS), in partnership with the Melrose Recreation Department, Melrose Public Schools, and community stakeholders, proposes a comprehensive mitigation project designed to prevent and reduce gambling-related harm associated with the gaming establishment’s operation. The project emphasizes early identification, youth engagement, coordinated referral pathways, and data-informed public health planning to mitigate increased exposure to gambling and related service demands.</p> <p>Scope of Work</p>	

1. Expanded Screening and Referral Pathways

The project will expand screening and referral pathways for residents at highest risk of gambling-related harm, focusing on young adults. Activities will include:

- Integrating brief gambling-risk screening into existing municipal, school-based, and community partner service settings
- Training staff and partner organizations to recognize early indicators of gambling-related harm and financial stress
- Establishing and strengthening warm referral pathways to behavioral health, financial counseling, and support services

This component directly addresses anticipated increases in service demand and reduces barriers to early intervention by embedding screening and referral into trusted community systems.

2. Youth Action Team (YAT) Partnership and Peer-Led Outreach

The project will partner with the existing Youth Action Team (YAT) and its Advisor within Melrose Public Schools to co-design education and outreach strategies focused on gambling harm prevention.

This work will:

- Support youth-led development of prevention messaging and outreach materials
- Relaunch FY26 materials to include messaging to vulnerable populations (i.e. young adults), with dissemination through HHS and YAT social media platforms
- Expand peer-led education and community engagement efforts

Youth involvement ensures prevention messaging is relevant, credible, and responsive to emerging trends related to gambling exposure and normalization.

3. Regional Health Department Strategy Share

Our regional HHS Departments are interested in better understanding local and regional gambling-related impacts and determining what they can do to address the problem.

- Develop talking points and materials (e.g. lessons learned, what we did, etc.) that can support their own projects and data collection.
- Host a lunch and learn and invite them to come learn about what Melrose is doing.

This will help guide municipal and regional public health planning, and in turn strengthen evidence-based mitigation strategies over time.

Proposed MGC Grant Budget

Please use the following table to outline the project budget. Please include as an attachment any requests for proposals, quotes, or estimates that would quantify the costs associated with the mitigation.

Description of Purchase/Work	Timeline	QTY	Budget
Screening tool integration & staff training & consultant to organize	FY27	1	\$6,296
Youth Action Team stipends & co-design activities	FY27	1	\$5,000
Peer-led outreach events	FY27	1	\$1,500
Regional health department lunch and learn	FY27	1	\$500
	TOTAL:		\$13,296

Part E- Specific Impact (“SI”) If you are applying for a SI grant you should reach out in advance to MGC Staff to ensure project eligibility. A community may also use this Specific Impact Grant to break out administrative and staffing costs associated with the grant as a whole.

Project Name: Council on Aging Community Outreach	
Please provide below the contact information for the individual managing this aspect of the grant.	
Project Contact:	Additional Project Contact (if applicable)
Name: Erica Brown	Name: James Conforti
Title: Executive Director	Title: Milano Center Manager
Department: Council on Aging	Department: Council on Aging
Email Address: ebrown@cityofmelrose.org	Email Address: jconforti@cityofmelrose.org
Telephone: 781-665-4304	Telephone: 781-662-6886
Address: 201 West Foster Street, Melrose	Address: 201 West Foster Street, Melrose
<p>I. Please use the space below to identify the impact of the gaming establishment on your municipality. This category is for projects that do not fit in any other category but may use any impacts identified in the FY 2027 Guidelines that are relevant. If you are using an impact not identified in the guidelines, please use the space below to identify the impact. Please provide documentation or evidence that gives support for the determination that the operation of the gaming facility caused or is causing the impact (i.e., surveys, data, reports, etc.)</p>	
<p>In the last calendar year, we have organized a trip by participant request to travel to the Encore Casino in Everett, MA each month for members of the Milano Center, a senior center serving residents in Melrose. In this time period, 60 individuals have attended a monthly trip with 48% of this list attending multiple trips. While we do accommodate requests and our scheduling is largely made up of events we know participants will enjoy, we also understand the financial cost associated with these casino trips in a population where a majority of individuals are on a fixed income.</p>	
<p>II. Please describe the project in detail and how the proposed project will address the impact indicated above. Please include a breakdown of the proposed scope of work, the scope should be sufficiently detailed to allow the review team to understand the steps required for project completion.</p>	
<p>The Milano Center is proposing to increase participation in activities and trips for older adults that do not encourage gambling by offering a higher quality of programming. This could include contracting with local musical performers, theatre productions, and other entertainment options that the center would not typically be able to afford. This strategy would accomplish two goals. First, it would help support local arts and culture by hiring local entertainers, artists, and instructors to provide their talents to the Milano Center. Second, by offering a more diverse range of activities and programs, Milano Center participants would have greater access to affordable entertainment and may increase the number of participants who attend these types of events. We are currently facing challenges affording quality entertainers as the cost associated with booking is ever increasing.</p>	

Course Overview

ICS 100, Introduction to the Incident Command System, introduces the Incident Command System (ICS) and provides the foundation for higher level ICS training. This course describes the history, features and principles, and organizational structure of the Incident Command System. It also explains the relationship between ICS and the National Incident Management System (NIMS). The Emergency Management Institute developed its ICS courses collaboratively with:

- National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG)
- U.S. Department of Agriculture
- United States Fire Administration's National Fire Programs Branch

Course Objectives:

At the completion of this course, you should be able to:

- Explain the principles and basic structure of the Incident Command System (ICS).
- Describe the NIMS management characteristics that are the foundation of the ICS.
- Describe the ICS functional areas and the roles of the Incident Commander and Command Staff.
- Describe the General Staff roles within ICS.
- Identify how NIMS management characteristics apply to ICS for a variety of roles and discipline areas.

Course Overview

IS200, Basic Incident Command System for Initial Response, reviews the Incident Command System (ICS), provides the context for ICS within initial response, and supports higher level ICS training. This course provides training on, and resources for, personnel who are likely to assume a supervisory position within ICS.

The Emergency Management Institute developed its ICS courses collaboratively with:

- National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG)
- U.S. Department of Agriculture
- United State Fire Administration's National Fire Programs Branch

Note: IS-200.c is an updated version of the IS-200 course. If you have successfully completed IS-200.b or IS-200.a, you may want to review the new version of the course. For credentialing purposes, the courses are equivalent.

NIMS Compliance

This course is NIMS compliant and meets the NIMS Baseline Training requirements for IS-200.

Course Objectives:

At the completion of this course, you should be able to: Describe the course objectives and summarize basic information about the Incident Command System (ICS) and National Incident Management System (NIMS):

- Describe how the NIMS Management Characteristics relate to Incident Command and Unified Command.
- Describe the delegation of authority process, implementing authorities, management by objectives, and preparedness plans and objectives.
- Identify ICS organizational components, the Command Staff, the General Staff, and ICS tools.
- Describe different types of briefings and meetings.
- Explain flexibility within the standard ICS organizational structure.
- Explain transfer of command briefings and procedures.
- Use ICS to manage an incident or event.

Primary Audience

The intended audience(s) are response personnel at the supervisory level who are involved with emergency planning, response, or recovery efforts.

Prerequisites

- IS-100.c An Introduction to the Incident Command System (ICS 100).

