

District: City of Fitchburg  
School Name: Crocker Elementary School  
Recommended Category: Feasibility Study – Feasibility Study Agreement Extension Request  
Date: June 17, 2020

## **Recommendation**

That the Executive Director be authorized to extend the completion date in the Feasibility Study Agreement between the Massachusetts School Building Authority (the “MSBA”) and the City of Fitchburg (the “City”), as part of its Invitation to Feasibility Study for the Crocker Elementary School from August 15, 2020 to June 30, 2021.

## **Discussion**

The City received its first invitation to Feasibility Study at the April 12, 2018 Board meeting. Following that invitation, the City determined it would benefit from revisiting the study enrollment options that were certified during Eligibility Period. On June 26, 2019, the City was reclassified back to Eligibility Period to revisit enrollment discussions. During the course of their 270 days, the City reviewed the following:

- The updates on new housing developments in the City, including the status of the proposed and approved developments;
- The City’s class size policies;
- The marked-up floor plans of the elementary and middle schools that are expected to remain in service; and,
- An updated Study Enrollment Certification, which was executed by the City.

The completion of the aforementioned items resulted in the City being recategorized back to the Feasibility Study phase on April 15, 2020 with an updated Study Enrollment Certification.

Following the invitation back into the Feasibility Study phase on April 15, 2020, the City submitted an updated schedule that indicates the need for additional time to complete the work required to finalize its feasibility study and schematic design work. Based on this schedule, the City is targeting the MSBA Board of Directors meeting scheduled for October 28, 2020 for approval of its preferred schematic and authorization to proceed into schematic design. The City is then targeting the June 2021 Board meeting for approval of its proposed project scope and budget and Project Funding Agreement authorization.

Based upon the City’s updated schedule, MSBA staff recommends that the Board vote to authorize an extension of time through June 30, 2021 for the City of Fitchburg to complete its feasibility and schematic design work for the Crocker Elementary School.