

Federal, state, local, and private funding join together in supporting the Food Hub



Senator Ed Markey Announcing an additional \$3.5M for the Worcester Regional Food Hub/Foundation Photo

Yesterday marked an important milestone for the Worcester Regional Food Hub, a Round 4 Synergy Initiative project started in 2015, with the announcement of an additional \$3.5 million to support the Food Hub's expansion into Union Station in downtown Worcester. U.S. Senator Ed Markey and Congressman Jim McGovern announced funding of \$3 million from the federal government, and Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito, Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Kathleen Theoharides, and Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources Commissioner John Lebeaux announced an award of \$494,085 through the Food Security Infrastructure Grant Program. In January of this year, the City of Worcester announced a \$1 million award through its municipal American Rescue Plan Act funds to support

this expansion. The Food Hub has now secured nearly \$4.5 million for the Union Station renovation, which will fully cover the construction costs.

Yesterday's announcement has been covered in [this press release](#) from the Baker-Polito Administration, the [Worcester T&G](#), [MassLive](#), and [Spectrum News](#).

Combined with previous investments of \$100,000 from MassDevelopment, \$100,000 from the Shields Family Foundation, and nearly \$3 million from the Foundation, which laid a solid foundation for this work, the Food Hub is poised to significantly and sustainably transform the local food system, address food insecurity, and promote economic opportunities throughout Central Massachusetts.

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