



# KEY TAKEAWAYS • PUBLIC SERVICES & FACILITIES.

## WHY PUBLIC SERVICES & FACILITIES MATTER

The City of Chicopee provides a broad range of services to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the community. The level at which these services are delivered is influenced by changes in population, development, environmental factors, and economic conditions. Evaluating service capacity in conjunction with an anticipated change in community needs can help the City determine strategic infrastructure and program investments in the near and long-term.



### SCHOOLS

#### Public Schools

The Chicopee Public School District has 15 public schools, including one pre-kindergarten, nine elementary schools, two middle schools, and three high schools. School enrollment has been decreasing for the past several years. In the 2018-2019 school year, the total enrollment was 7,392, which is the lowest school enrollment since 1995. There are also three publicly funded but privately-operated charter schools, two of which provide a college preparatory-focused education to grades 6 to 12 and one of which focuses on academic excellence and social justice awareness for grades 9 to 12.

#### Parochial Schools

While not a direct responsibility of the City, Chicopee benefits from the service of several parochial (Roman Catholic) schools, with options from pre-school to high school.



### PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Chicopee Public Library was founded in 1853 and offers a wide range of materials and services to the community in two branch locations and a bookmobile, which provides access to library resources and services across the City. The Library also collaborates with local entities in the City on various activities. For example, it is partnering with public schools and the Chicopee Fresh initiative to host programs related to making better eating choices.

### CHICOPEE ELECTRIC LIGHT

The Chicopee Electric Light (CEL) was established as a municipal utility in 1896. Its aim is to provide reliable and high-quality services to the community at the lowest cost. CEL is in the process of adding fast and reliable internet service to residents through a program called Crossroads Fiber.

# BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Within the Building Department are five divisions: Buildings, Electrical, Gas, Plumbing, and Weights & Measures. Inspectors in the Department oversee all construction and renovations to ensure the project meets all current applicable building, electrical, gas, and plumbing codes. The City recently installed a new Digital Permitting system to allow residents to apply and pay online for permits, and view signoffs. The system is also used to send alerts to other department heads when a joint review is needed.



# DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Within the Department of Public Works (DPW), there are six divisions: Administrative, Engineering, Parks and Recreation, Public Services (like Highway, Recycling, Forestry, Sanitation, etc.) Public Utilities (Water Pollution Control, Stormwater, Flood Control, etc.), and Central Maintenance. DPW preserves, maintains, and improves the City's infrastructure and oversees the City's curbside trash and recycling program. Within the Public Utilities Division includes Water Pollution Control the Water Department, which provides the residents and businesses of Chicopee with safe drinking water and fire protection, maintaining the City's water distribution system, including fire hydrants, pumping stations, storage tanks, treatment/monitoring facilities, and underground piping.



# EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Emergency preparedness and response services in Chicopee are provided by the Chicopee Fire Department, Police Department, and the Emergency Management Department.

