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

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.