

District: City of Boston  
School Name: Josiah Quincy Upper School  
Recommended Category: Feasibility Study - Feasibility Study Agreement Extension Request  
Date: November 2, 2016

## **Recommendation**

That the Executive Director be authorized to extend the completion date in the Feasibility Study Agreement between the MSBA and the City of Boston, as part of its Invitation to Feasibility Study for the Josiah Quincy Upper School (“JQUS”), from September 29, 2016 to December 31, 2017.

## **Discussion**

The City received an invitation to Feasibility Study at the November 18, 2009 Board meeting. The City conducted an initial Feasibility Study that concluded with a recommendation to combine the Josiah Quincy Upper School (“JQUS”) and the Boston Arts Academy into a co-located facility. After further investigation, the City discovered that because of the configuration of the proposed site, construction would be significantly more costly than initially estimated and would not be the best solution for the City. Consequently, the City and the MSBA agreed to study a project for the JQUS on an alternate site, without a co-located school option. The City then conducted a second Feasibility Study, at its expense, and concluded that the best option is to replace the existing JQUS with a new facility on the site of the McKinley School in the South End of Boston.

The City presented this option as its preferred solution to the MSBA Facilities Assessment Subcommittee (“FAS”) on May 4, 2016. During this FAS meeting, members of the FAS met with City officials to discuss the status of the City’s master planning efforts and the City’s reported capacity within the existing high school facilities, future plans for the current McKinley School students, anticipated use of the former Abraham Lincoln School upon completion of the proposed project, and specific items related to the City’s preferred solution and how it meets the City’s educational needs. On May 25, 2016, the Board approved the City’s preferred solution and notified the City that the relocation plans for the McKinley School students must be provided in order for the MSBA Board to approve the City’s proposed project scope and budget.

The City has advised the MSBA that the City needs additional time to evaluate how this project will align with the City’s overall plan and educational vision. Concomitantly, the City is requesting an extension of time to the Feasibility Study.

Today, MSBA staff recommends that the Board vote to authorize an extension of time through December 31, 2017 for the City of Boston to complete feasibility and schematic design work for the Josiah Quincy Upper School.