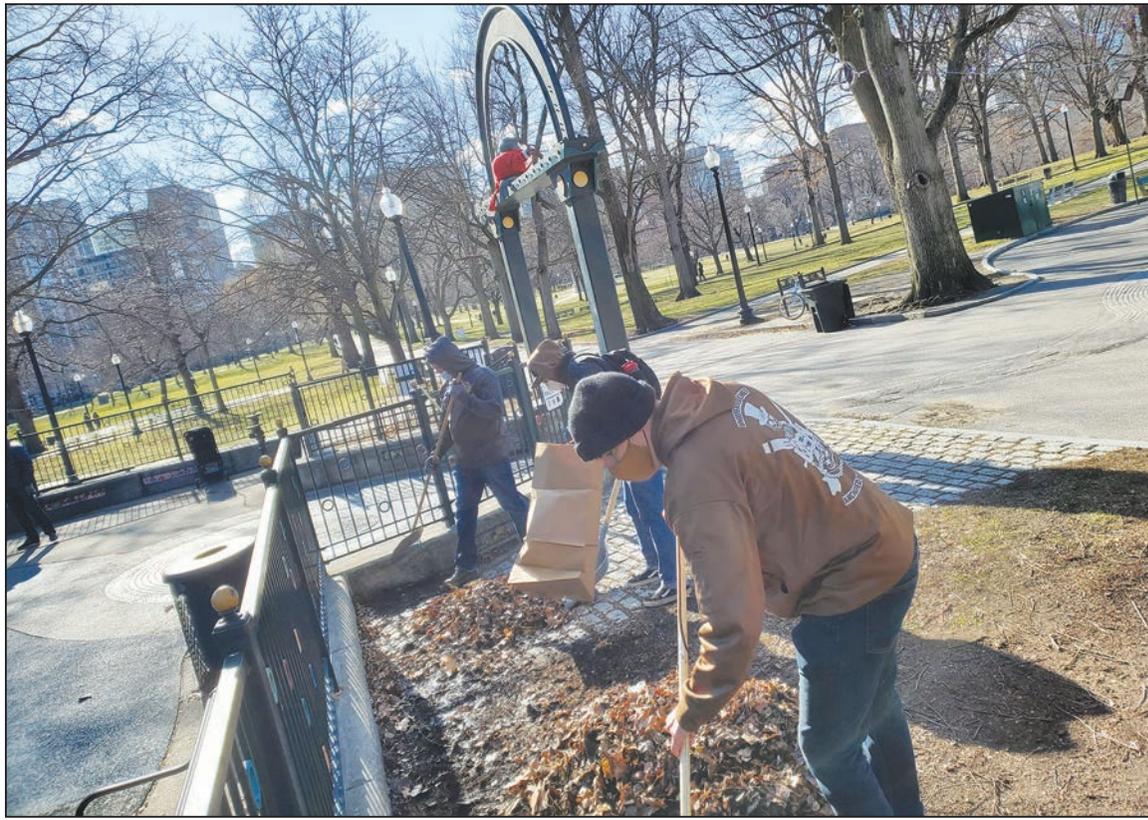




# CHARLESTOWN

PATRIOT-BRIDGE



Six USS Constitution Chiefs spent Martin Luther King Jr. Day beautifying the playground at the Boston Common on Monday, Jan. 18.

## USS Constitution Chiefs Give Back to Boston Community on MLK Day

Special to the Patriot-Bridge

USS Constitution Chief Petty Officers volunteered in the City of Boston on Martin Luther King Jr. Day supporting beautification of the Boston Commons.

Six USS Constitution Chiefs spent the morning clearing leaves and trash from tennis courts, a baseball field, and a community playground.

“We focused on the Soldiers

and Sailors Monument and the Robert Gould Shaw Memorial. They both commemorate the sacrifices of servicemembers from Massachusetts during the most divisive conflict in our history: the Civil War,” said Chief Religious Programs Specialist Jesse Kiepper. “We just want to give back to the city that has been so great to us but to also remember the struggle of those that went before us.”

The Sailors also stopped to

reflect on the meaning behind the Soldiers and Sailors Monument and the Robert Gould Shaw Memorial and remembered the sacrifices of the servicemembers from Massachusetts.

The ship is closed due to the global pandemic of Coronavirus, but the crew offers virtual tours on Facebook Live, which have received more than 3.5 million total views since they began in March.

## Charlestown would lose 17 seats under the new Exam School Admissions formula

By Seth Daniel

The Exam School Admissions Criteria Working Group has released the most accurate simulation of available seats per neighborhood under the new, one-year admissions policy and that simula-

tions shows that while some neighborhoods would gain many seats, Charlestown would lose approximately 17 seats, or 30 percent, from last year’s allotment.

The Working Group had been meeting extensively over the summer about what to do with

the Exam School admissions to Boston Latin School, Boston Latin Academy and O’Bryan School of Math & Science in the era of COVID-19. Last fall, they recommended cancelling the tradition-

(EXAM SCHOOL Pg. 9)

### CNC CORNER

The Charlestown Neighborhood Council will hold a virtual public meeting on Tuesday February 2 at 7pm. The agenda includes a presentation by City Councilor Lydia Edwards. Instructions on how to attend the meeting will be posted on our website within 72 hours of the meeting time -<https://charlestownneighborhoodcouncil.org/Calendar.html>. For questions, please send emails to [cnc02129@gmail.com](mailto:cnc02129@gmail.com).

## Three lively proposals look to liven up blighted Pier 5

By Seth Daniel

The Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) told the development community they would need to be creative with any proposals from the blighted, condemned Pier 5 in the Navy Yard, and three entities did just that proposing innovative plans for mixed-use reuses of the pier.

All three proposals will be reviewed in a public meeting on Feb. 8, and full submissions are now available on the project website.

Morgan McDaniel of the BPDA said they were excited to get three complete proposals for the pier, including two that put forward Boston’s first-ever floating residen-

tial communities.

“We were excited to get these proposals and all three are for housing on the pier,” said McDaniel. “One was for affordable housing, including a grocery store and retail space on a re-built pier. The other two are floating residential communities. We’re really excited about those and will have to take a careful look at them as we don’t usually review that kind of project.”

BPDA’s Devin Quirk said they were thrilled with the interest and the thought put into the proposals, and he noted Pier 5 and Building 108 – both in the RFP stage now – represent the final pieces of the

(PIER 5 Pg. 6)



The development team of Urbanica looks to re-build Pier 5 and develop a fully-affordable community with an Urban Farm roof, a grocery store and a large public park/ice rink on the waterfront.

## BPDA Board gives approval to Bunker Hill Redevelopment plan

By Seth Daniel

It was a mixed bag of feelings in the Town as the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) Board approved the Bunker Hill Redevelopment plan at its meeting on Jan. 14, thus paving the way for construction to potentially begin on Phase 1 of the project next summer and put to bed seven long years of planning and reviews of the project.

For some - especially residents of the housing development, City planners and a growing number of community members – there were tears of joy and relief that living conditions would improve and a

long-stalled project would get off the drawing board and into the ground.

For others – particularly members of the Impact Advisory Group (IAG), preservationists and neighbors from outside the housing development – there were huge frustrations with the approval as they continued to feel so many important questions were left unanswered. Some of those questions included how transportation to and from the site would work, confronting the density of the massive project and moving ahead with only vague plans for

(BPDA Pg. 3)

# EDITORIAL

## JOE BIDEN NEEDS OUR PRAYERS

With President Joe Biden taking the oath of office this week, America is ready to recover -- both physically and psychologically -- from the four years of "carnage" that has been left behind by the previous presidential administration.

It is fair to say that no incoming President ever has faced more challenges than those that are awaiting Joe Biden:

-- Washington, D.C. looks like a war zone for the inauguration, with 30,000 U.S. troops fortifying the city in the wake of the mob that stormed the Capitol two weeks ago. Similar threats of violence by anarchist, right-wing groups loom all across the country.

-- The COVID-19 pandemic is killing thousands of Americans each and every day, seven days a week, filling our hospitals to overflowing and overwhelming our healthcare system.

-- The nation's economy is in tatters, even more so than during the Great Depression, with record-high unemployment, hunger, and small business failures.

-- America's reputation in the world never has been lower in our entire history. Both friend and foe view us as an unreliable and unstable nation, rather than the moral and powerful leader that we have been since our founding.

-- And last but not least, the Russians have breached our national security with a massive cyberattack, the full scope of which still is to be determined.

The one saving grace for our country is this: No incoming president in the past 50 years has had more experience, and is better prepared for the job, than Joe Biden. The same too, goes for his key Cabinet members. They will be able to hit the ground running to get us back on track.

Still, the task ahead for Joe Biden is daunting -- and he will need all of the prayers we can send his way.

## LET'S GO, TAMPA BAY!

It's okay to admit it, Pats' fans -- we were rooting for Tom and Gronk in their playoff game for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers this past Sunday against the New Orleans Saints.

It has been jarring to see #12 playing in a Tampa Bay uniform this season -- it's like seeing your long-time ex- with someone else.

But with the Patriots' dismal season relegating the Pats to the bottom third of the NFL (where they are destined to remain for a while), Tom and Gronk's playoff run with the Bucs has given us something to cheer about.

True, both are only shadows of their former selves. Brady threw a lot of off-target passes and Gronk had trouble getting open. On the other hand, they connected for a key first-down deep in New Orleans territory late in the game that led to the Bucs' clinching score.

Although it was nowhere as dramatic as that amazing catch that Gronk made late in the 2019 AFC championship game in Kansas City that propelled the Pats to another Super Bowl, it still was a vintage Brady-to-Gronk clutch play that brought a smile to the face of every New England fan. (We should note too, that Gronkowski played a huge role in the Tampa Bay running game with his blocking, just as he did with the Pats for a decade.)

Tampa Bay will face a stiff challenge in Green Bay this Sunday. The Bucs smoked the Packers in their regular-season meeting earlier in the year, but Aaron Rodgers and Co. are playing at an unreal level right now.

Let's go Bucs -- we want to see Tom and Gronk in the Super Bowl!



EVERYBODY CAN USE A SHOT IN THE ARM

## GUEST OP-ED

### Thank you, Boston

By Mayor Martin J. Walsh

On January 12, I held my final State of the City, which was broadcast live from Boston's newest civic treasure, the completely rebuilt Roxbury branch of the Boston Public Library in Nubian Square.

2020 was a tough year. 2021 is a year for healing as we keep each other safe; get through this final stretch of the pandemic; and build a recovery that moves all our neighborhoods forward.

Since the COVID-19 pandemic began, we have lost 1,077 Bostonians to COVID-19. They are loved and missed and their families are in my heart. COVID has affected all of us and it has hit some harder than others. Black, Latino, and immigrant communities faced the biggest impacts. Inequities in health, housing, and work opportunities caused more illness and job loss in these communities. Older Bostonians and those with disabilities face the highest risk and the most isolation. Most students have been out of classrooms since March, and families have struggled with childcare.

While 2020 was a year of struggle, it was also a year that brought out the best in our city. We saw nurses, doctors, and medical staff gearing up and going into battle to save lives and provide comfort.

We saw EMTs on the frontlines of a pandemic, helping over 4,000 COVID-19 patients. Firefighters brought recovery coaches to calls, to help those struggling with addiction. Police officers took 800 guns off the street, keeping us safe no matter the risk. Essential workers and City employees answered the call, day after day. Residents stepped up to help each other in a thousand different ways. The heroes are all around us.

As a City, we came together. We built a field hospital in five days. We created a Health Inequities Task Force to address health disparities across race and ethnicity. We've provided over six million meals to children, families, veter-

ans, and seniors. We got 40,000 laptops to students. We got permanent rental vouchers to over 1,000 families with children at risk of homelessness. And, we created the Boston Resiliency Fund, providing over \$30 million to help 250,000 households in need. And in 2020, despite the pandemic, we approved \$8.5 billion of new investment in our city, creating a potential 35,000 new jobs.

In 2021, we will continue that work. One of our next priorities is getting students safely back into Boston Public Schools. We will also continue to support small businesses, renters and homeown-

(Op-Ed Pg. 3)



# CHARLESTOWN

PATRIOT-BRIDGE

THE CHARLESTOWN PATRIOT-BRIDGE,

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**BPDA** (from pg. 1)

the community center and public spaces.

“Receiving approval for the redevelopment’s master plan is a critical step in fulfilling our commitment to replace desperately needed affordable housing at the Bunker Hill site,” said Boston Housing Authority (BHA) Director Kate Bennett. “We are excited to arrive at this milestone alongside our partners, the Charlestown Residents Alliance and the Developer. We look forward to continuing to work with the community and all stakeholders as we move toward starting construction on the first phase.”

Members of the tenant organization, the Charlestown Resident Alliance (CRA), were ecstatic at the approval and noted that some of their members have already been relocated inside and outside the development and eagerly awaited the approval and confirmation they would be able to move back to a new development.

“On behalf of our approximately 2,500 diverse low-income Boston Housing Authority residents of the Bunker Hill Public Housing Development who have been waiting almost six years, the Charlestown Resident Alliance is thrilled to support the BPDA Board’s favorable vote,” said Nancy Martinez, president of the CRA. “We are doubly thrilled that with our developer’s voluntary commitment to the City’s historic Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing zoning amendment, we can look forward to continuing our robust public process with an explicit framework for ensuring that our historic and ambitious

redevelopment project succeeds in converting 13 blocks of the City’s oldest segregated and distressed public housing into a truly inclusive, welcoming, environmentally sustainable mixed-income community.”

The project has been epic. Seven years ago the Corcoran Companies began having meetings with residents of Bunker Hill to talk about hopes and dreams for the plan. Five years ago the first official review started, only to be stopped in 2016 for a “pause” in the official review process. That resulted in a break-up of the project and the development team. Later, Leggat McCall joined Corcoran in proposing a project change and a totally new design. That has been under review for more than two years, with the last public meeting happening on Jan. 12.

The Board took six votes officially on Jan. 14, approving all of them – including the approval of the overall campus plan and the new Urban Renewal U-District zoning tool and the community mitigation agreement. Phase 1 will include the demolition of six buildings on the eastern side of the development and the replacement of them with two new buildings, one of them being an all-affordable building on Medford Street. Those buildings will have 358 units, with 158 of them being public housing replacement units.

The approved overall project will construct a new, multi-phase, mixed-use development that will include 15 residential buildings. Once complete, the project will consist of 2,699 residential units,

1,010 of which will be deeply affordable, BHA replacement units and 1,689 of which will be market-rate. An additional 100 BHA units will be relocated off-site in Charlestown. The project site is located on an approximately 1.15 million square foot area of land with 41, three-story public housing buildings. Once complete, the project will also create approximately 2.7 acres of publicly-accessible open space, approximately 50,000 square feet of commercial space, an approximately 14,000 square foot community center, up to 1,400 vehicle parking spaces, and up to 2,699 bicycle storage spaces (a 1:1 unit to bicycle storage ratio).

The approval puts to bed the Article 80 review process, as BPDA officials said future phases will not require Article 80 review unless there is a project change. That would require a Notice of Project Change and a formal review process of that change.

BPDA’s Ted Schwartzberg said it is rare for a project with an eight to 10 year timeline not to deviate from the original plan, and many do end up having to file project changes and go through a subsequent review process.

However, if not, future phases of the project would only have to go through design review with the Boston Civic Design Commission (BCDC).

The U-Subdistrict Urban Renewal zoning tool was also approved in the vote and will be used instead of traditional zoning. That tool will only apply to the designated project site and not to the rest of the Town. It can be

Key pieces in the Bunker Hill Redevelopment Mitigation Agreement:

- Seven acres of open space with four publicly-accessible open spaces/parks.

- Environmentally friendly, Passive House certified and LEED certified gold buildings.

- Preservation of existing trees on the proposed site to the extent possible with documentation of existing trees and regular reports of this tree-saving effort. In Phase 1, seven trees will be saved and over all, now, 81 will be saved.

- Implement a shuttle service to the Orange Line Community College stop with a \$500,000 fund managed by the BHA.

- New bike lanes on Bunker Hill Street, Medford Street, Concord Street and Tufts Street.

- Free one-month T pass and free one-year BlueBike membership for all new unit leases.

- Construct a 14,000 sq. ft. community center that will include an annual \$1.1 million operational and programming support for the 99-year lease. The Center will be constructed in Phase 4.

- Have 20 percent of the retail space offered to local retail tenants at 50 percent of triple net market rate.

- Establish a public benefit fund with \$1.5 million, and \$180,000 of that coming in Phase 1.

- Establish a \$500,000 Existing Project and Open Space Maintenance Fund for the BHA to use for maintenance upgrades to existing public housing buildings to be built-out in future phases.

- Explore reducing the number of all-affordable buildings to two buildings total.

- Explore incorporating workforce/middle-income housing into the project.

- Comply with the recently passed Fair Housing Zoning Amendment.

modified in future phases with the traditional Urban Renewal minor modification process, said Chris Breen of the BPDA.

Breen also said the approval was a bit sentimental for him. As a former Mayoral Liaison for Charlestown, the Bunker Hill Redevelopment meetings were his first in that position. Later, after joining the BPDA, he continued to work on the Urban Renewal aspect of the project. Now, seeing it approved is meaningful.

“I go back to this Thanksgiving when we were giving out turkeys at Harvest on Vine and some residents came up to me and others and said, ‘You have to get this approved for us,’” he said. “They were almost in tears. To know their living conditions, and the long history of it, and the vote the Board took, it was a special feeling.”

Schwartzberg said there is a human angle to all of the planning and discussions that have taken place over the last five years, and that cannot be ignored now.

“In the end, these are people’s lives we were talking about and they were thrilled with the vote,” he said.

The development team of Leggat McCall and Corcoran also said they wanted to thank the residents and the neighbors in Charlestown for giving so much time and attention to the planning over many years.

“We want to thank the residents of the Bunker Hill Housing

Development, our neighbors in Charlestown, the Charlestown Residents Alliance, and the Boston Housing Authority for their input and dedication that has helped get the project to this point,” said Addie Grady, the Project Executive for the Bunker Hill Housing Redevelopment. “This has been a thorough, collaborative process and we are pleased to have received BPDA Board approval for the master project, which will allow us to create safe, modern housing for the residents at the Bunker Hill Housing Development in a project that will also create new open space and local retail options. We remain committed to creating a new, mixed-income community in Charlestown and we look forward to working with residents, the community, our partners, and the City as we continue our work on design and future phases.”

Another important vote in the six-vote package was the approval of a laundry list of community benefits and mitigation measures to be taken throughout the phased project. The vote made that list of items binding on the development team, and it includes commitments to affordable housing, open space, sustainable buildings, infrastructure, transportation, Transportation Demand Management (TDM), community space, affordable commercial space, job creation, public benefit funds and future commitments in future phases.

**OP-ED** (from pg. 2)

ers, and those in recovery; push even further towards meeting our climate goals; and invest in Boston’s parks and civic spaces that give our residents more opportunities to come together, safely.

We also need to address all the ways systemic racism hurts people in our city. The urgency of this work has never been more clear. Last summer, George Floyd’s murder sparked a long-overdue reckoning with racism. I thank Black Bostonians for the way you made your voices heard. And I thank everyone who joined the movement — Black, white, Latino, Asian, and indigenous peoples standing together. I’m asking all of us to accept this responsibility as our own and commit to fighting racism. It’s our deepest moral obligation — and it’s our greatest

opportunity for growth.

We have tough days ahead of us. But we’ve been knocked down before, and we always get back up. In 2021, Boston will rise up again. We will leave no one behind, and our city will be stronger than ever.

As you might know, President-elect Joe Biden and Vice President-elect Kamala Harris have nominated me to be Labor Secretary in their administration. I have accepted this honor. If confirmed by the US Senate, I’m not going to Washington alone. I’m bringing Boston with me. This city is not just my hometown, it’s my heart. I believe in Boston. This is the city that welcomed my immigrant parents. This is the city that picked me up when I needed a second chance. This is the city where I fought side by side with you for marriage

equality, immigrant rights, addiction treatment, criminal justice reform, education funding, and good middle-class jobs.

Every minute of every day in this job, I spent listening to you, learning from you, working with you and working for you. I will never forget it, and I will forever be grateful. We may be hurting now, but the state of our city is resilient; the state of our city is united; the state of our city is hopeful; and the state of our city is deep-down Boston strong.

Boston, thank you.

*Mayor Martin Walsh is the current Mayor of Boston and has been nominated for President Joseph Biden’s cabinet as Secretary of Labor.*

# Baker expands vaccine locations, names Fenway Park as mass vaccination site

The state announced on Tuesday the expansion of more vaccine locations in each region of the Commonwealth at pharmacies, health care providers and a second mass vaccination site at Fenway Park to boost the capacity to administer vaccines per week by the thousands.

The Commonwealth will continue to add more vaccination sites throughout Massachusetts.

First, the Administration announced that Massachusetts will become one of the first states in the nation to launch the COVID-19 CDC Pharmacy Partnership - Phase 1 with CVS Health and Walgreens pharmacies located throughout the Commonwealth. Starting this week, this program will deliver a total of 10,000 doses to at least 15 CVS Health and Walgreens pharmacies a week for eligible residents in the Phase One priority groups.

Second, the Administration announced that Fenway Park will become the state's second mass vaccination site, joining Gillette Stadium. The ballpark will open on February 1 to start administering up to 500 vaccines per day to eligible residents in the Phase One priority groups.

Next, the Administration also announced that UMass Amherst will expand their vaccination

site to provide inoculations for eligible residents in Phase One priority groups. UMass Amherst has been providing vaccines to first responders, and plans to now offer vaccines to all eligible residents in Phase One priority groups immediately.

Finally, to increase vaccine access for Phase 1 eligible priority groups, the Baker-Polito Administration is launching the Hospital Depot Initiative. This new program will facilitate access to COVID-19 vaccine for independent physician practices prioritized under Phase 1.

Current eligible groups under Phase 1 include: Clinical and non-clinical health care workers doing direct and COVID-facing care; Long term care facilities, rest homes and assisted living facilities; First responders (EMS, Fire, Police); and Congregate care settings (including corrections and shelters).

CDC Pharmacy Partnership - Phase 1

Massachusetts will be among the first states to activate retail pharmacy vaccination at scale through select CVS Health and Walgreens, which will start inoculating eligible residents in Phase One priority groups by appointment.

Starting this week, at least 15

CVS Health and Walgreens, located in areas of the state where there is currently less access to convenient vaccine sites, will receive a total of 10,000 vaccines to administer this week. The first 15 locations are located in Greenfield, Fall River, Salem, South Yarmouth, Pittsfield, Lee, Holden, Gardner, Hyannis, Mashpee, Somerset, Fairhaven, Haverhill, Saugus and Danvers. Eligible residents in Phase One priority groups can view sites and book an appointment starting this week.

Approximately 40 vaccination sites will be added the week of Jan. 25 through current partners and collaboration with additional partners (Wegmans, Big Y, Price Chopper, Stop & Shop, Hannaford). Massachusetts expects to increase vaccine volume through retail pharmacies in the coming weeks. The Command Center will provide more details as pharmacy partners and sites come online.

Fenway Park Named as Second Mass Vaccination Site

Fenway Park will be the state's second mass vaccination site and will open on February 1. Initially, the ballpark is scheduled to administer 500 vaccines per day by appointment and will ramp up to providing 1,000 vaccines per day soon to eligible residents in

Phase One priority groups. CIC Health will operate the site, with Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, part of Beth Israel Lahey Health, as the medical director.

The site is expected to stay open through the beginning of baseball season in early April. The Command Center is also working with the City of Boston to identify and set up a longer-term vaccine site in Boston.

Last week, the Administration announced Gillette Stadium as the first mass vaccination site, which opened for eligible Phase One groups Monday. This week, the site is expected to work up to administering over 1,000 vaccinations per day, and soon after, 5,000 vaccinations per day. Eligible residents in Phase 1 priority groups can book an appointment at Gillette Stadium starting now.

The Command Center is finalizing plans for several other mass vaccination sites.

Hospital Depot Initiative

To increase vaccine access for residents in eligible Phase 1 priority groups, the Baker-Polito Administration is launching the Hospital Depot Initiative.

This new program will facilitate access to COVID-19 vaccines for independent COVID-facing

physician practices prioritized under Phase 1. The Massachusetts COVID-19 Command Center and DPH, in collaboration with the Massachusetts Medical Society (MMS) and Mass General Brigham (MGB), is managing this initiative starting with COVID-facing health care workers.

Under this initiative, hospitals serving each region of the state have been identified as a depot to assist the Commonwealth with its vaccination distribution efforts. For clinical practices that are unable, due to their staff size and storage capacity, to receive larger, direct allocations of vaccine, a depot hospital will receive doses on their behalf and redistribute vaccine and all ancillary materials for office-based vaccination. In some cases, the hospital will provide direct vaccination to health care workers. The Massachusetts Medical Society is managing communications and coordination with physician practices.

Participating hospitals include:

Mass General Brigham, Lawrence General Hospital, Signature Brockton Hospital, UMass Memorial Medical Center, Baystate Medical Center and Berkshire Medical Center.

# Zoning Commission approves fair housing zoning amendment

Staff Report

The Boston Zoning Commission on Wednesday unanimously voted to add Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing requirements to Boston's zoning code, marking the final step in the amendment's approval process prior to the Mayor's signature.

The amendment was proposed and championed by Councilor Lydia Edwards.

The zoning amendment, one part of the Walsh Administration's overall efforts to address discriminatory housing practices, will require developers in Boston to take substantial steps to stem displacement and provide further

access to housing to those historically discriminated against. The amendment was unanimously approved by both the Boston Planning & Development (BPDA) Board of Directors and the Boston City Council in December 2020, and will be sent to Mayor Walsh to sign following today's vote.

"To reverse the exclusionary housing practices of the past that have kept families of color from accessing safe and secure housing and building generational wealth, we must support aggressive new housing policies that promote equity and fairness," said Mayor Walsh.

"This zoning amendment will codify the work we are doing every day at the BPDA to create better access to safe and affordable housing for Boston's residents," said BPDA Director Brian Golden. "In Boston, we are committed to advancing real solutions to solve our most challenging problems, and I am grateful for the work of our staff and many City of Boston colleagues to help us reach this historic milestone."

With this amendment, the BPDA will require proposed devel-

opment projects and/or Planned Development Areas (PDAs) undergoing Article 80 review to consider impacts on area residents historically discriminated against so that steps can be taken to reduce those impacts, provide new housing opportunities, and address past histories of exclusion.

Developers will be required to complete both the already-approved Accessibility Checklist, which considers impacts of people with disabilities, in addition to a new AFFH Assessment, guided by a displacement analysis and historical exclusion data that will be provided by the BPDA.

In order to achieve the goals of Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing, projects in impacted areas will be required to take additional steps that could include providing an additional percentage of Inclusionary Development Policy (IDP) units than required, deepen the affordability of IDP units, provide additional accessible units, provide a higher proportion of family-sized (2+ bedroom) IDP units, provide all IDP units on-site, match the percentage of family-sized units in the surround-

ing neighborhood or any other option that meets the AFFH goals. Projects will also be required to market IDP units in accordance with an Affirmative Fair Housing Marketing plan to further access to housing.

In addition, the Boston Interagency Fair Housing Development Committee (BIFDC), comprised of representatives from the Boston Housing Authority, Office of Fair Housing and Equity, Department of Neighborhood Development, the Mayor's Commission for Persons with Disabilities, and the BPDA will be created and will meet regularly to review the submitted Assessments and develop a plan for ongoing monitoring of commitments and reporting requirements.

"For too long, zoning has played a role in causing a lot of harm," said Councilor Edwards. "With today's vote, we are taking a historic step toward zoning playing a role in healing. We have come a long way and the real test is not the signing or even passage of this amendment but its implementation."

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# School Committee Affirms Focus on Equity and Antiracism

The Boston School Committee re-elected both Alexandra Oliver-Dávila to Chairperson and Michael O’Neill to Vice Chairperson in unanimous votes during its Annual Organizational Meeting on January 4.

“I am proud to formally welcome Alexandra Oliver-Dávila to her new role as Chairperson, and Michael O’Neill to his role as Vice Chairperson, and thank them both for their service on behalf of our students,” said Mayor Walsh. “Already, they are leading the charge to sharpen the School Committee’s focus on equity and antiracism in service of the students and families of the Boston Public Schools. There is much work to do to dismantle the systemic inequities that have permeated our society, and I am glad to see it is a priority area for the Boston School Committee.”

In December, the Committee engaged in professional development training which was led pro bono by Dr. Ibram X. Kendi, author of *How to Be an Antiracist*, as part of its efforts to examine policies and more deeply understand their impact on our communities of color. The Committee held a public retreat

on December 12, featuring a discussion facilitated by A.J. Crabill, Director of Governance of the Council of Great City Schools, to develop tools and metrics to help the School Committee define its mission. Mr. Crabill spoke about the need for governing bodies to maintain a sharp focus on student outcomes and to distinguish between our desired intent and resulting impact. During the six hour retreat, members worked towards shared goals for students, including: kindergarten readiness, grade-level performance, on-time graduation, and career and college readiness.

“In the Boston Public Schools we are committed to fostering a safe, welcoming, inclusive, and antiracist learning and working environment for our students, staff and families,” said Superintendent Brenda Cassellius. “I am incredibly appreciative of the leadership of Chair Oliver-Dávila who has seized this unique opportunity for the School Committee to fully implement the Strategic Plan, and more deeply evaluate its mission to equitably promote and sharpen our accountability on student outcomes. I look forward to taking a deeper dive into this critical work

in partnership with my School Committee colleagues.”

An additional two-day public retreat is scheduled for January 21-22, 2021. Mr. Crabill will work with the Committee to strengthen its governance model over the next 12-18 months, as the Committee and the district work to implement the BPS Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan, approved by the Committee in April 2020, and informed by Superintendent Cassellius’s Fall 2019 community tour, will guide the work of the district over the next five years to improve student experiences and accelerate outcomes, close opportunity gaps, and increase instructional quality and rigor. The six commitments outlined in the plan include: (1) Eliminate Opportunity and Achievement Gaps; (2) Accelerate Learning; (3) Amplify All Voices; (4) Expand Opportunity; (5) Cultivate Trust; and (6) Activate Partnerships.

Each commitment is tied to a set of priorities and progress will be measured by clear and measurable goals. The operational plans aspire to lift up and support schools — starting with those most in need — increase academic rigor in all grades across all schools, improve

funding equity in the way resources are distributed, and provide deeper engagement with students and families.

“Growing up as a Latina learning English in Boston, I am intimately familiar with the hurt and pain caused by racist practices and ideologies, and I have experienced the barriers to opportunity that our young people encounter every day,” said Chairperson Oliver-Dávila. “There is much challenging work ahead to develop our competencies and closely examine our policies to improve outcomes for our students. I thank my fellow members for their support and their unwavering commitment to our students and families.”

Said O’Neill, “In her short time as Chairperson, Ms. Oliver-Dávila has already led the Committee to re-examine our priorities, as well as how we work with and for

our community. Her commitment to engagement is clear from her immediate steps to increase translation services as well as how she is planning for the Committee to focus intensely on improving student outcomes. I deeply value my years spent as a member of this Committee and thank the School Committee Nominating Panel for nominating me, and Mayor Walsh for reappointing me to continue this critical work. I look forward to working alongside Superintendent Cassellius, Chair Oliver-Dávila, and my fellow members in implementing the Strategic Plan to improve educational opportunities and outcomes for our students.”

The seven members of the School Committee are Boston residents appointed by the Mayor of Boston to serve four-year staggered terms.

## Charlestown’s cumulative positive test rate increases but weekly test rate drops

By John Lynds

Last week the cumulative COVID-19 positive test rate in Charlestown increased slightly but the weekly positive test rate dropped again according to the latest data released on Friday by the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC).

According to the BPHC report, of the 12,016 Charlestown residents tested for the virus since the pandemic began 6.8 percent were found to be positive by last Friday. This was an increase of 1.5 percent from the 6.7 percent reported two Fridays ago.

However, Last week 1,622 residents were tested and 4.7 percent were positive. This was a 7.8 percent decrease from the 5.1 that tested positive two Fridays ago,

Citywide, 50,439 residents were tested and 7.6 percent were found to be COVID positive last week.

The BPHC data released last Friday showed Charlestown’s infection rate increased 11 percent and went from 399.7 cases per 10,000 residents to 438.3 cases per 10,000 residents.

Eighty-five additional residents became infected with the virus last week bringing the total to 851 confirmed cases in the neighborhood.

The statistics released by the BPHC as part of its weekly COVID19 report breaks down the number of cases and infection rates in each neighborhood. It also breaks down the number of cases by age, gender and race.

Citywide positive cases of

coronavirus increased 3.2 percent percent last week and went from 47,607 cases to 49,137 confirmed cases in a week. Fifty more Boston residents died from the virus last week and there are now 1,102 total deaths in the city from COVID.

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		2	\$66,650
		3	\$75,000
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		5	\$90,000
		6	\$96,650

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After careful consideration and an abundance of caution, the City of Boston has decided to cancel the in-person application distribution period. If you cannot complete the application online, please call us at 781-992-5305, to request that we mail you one and to ask us for any guidance you might need to complete the application.

Fully completed + signed applications must be submitted online or postmarked no later than **Wednesday, February 10, 2021**

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Equal Housing Opportunity



**PIER 5** (from pg. 1)

Navy Yard.  
 “With this and the Building 108 RFP processes, these are the last two publicly owned blighted properties in the Navy Yard,” he said. “We’re finalizing the implementation of the Navy Yard re-development vision when it was turned over to the City in the 1970s.”

The three proposals come from Urbanica (Kamran Zahedi of Roxbury), Navy Blue LLC (by Charles Lagasse of the Charlestown Marina), and 6M Development (by William Caulder, a North End hotel developer).

In a nod to the new priorities at the BPDA, all three developers stressed heavily their commitment and plans to include minorities, women and veterans in their proposals.

•Urbanica –

The Urbanica proposal is the only one that envisions rebuilding the pier, which comes at quite an extensive cost and re-building a totally affordable project with 89 income restricted units. The project would have a public promenade around it and a public park at the end that would double as an outdoor waterfront ice rink in the winter. The roof would be publicly accessible and would have scores of community garden plots to form an Urban Farm project. The retail space would include a grocery store that would face Flagship Wharf and restaurant retail space further out on the pier.

Partnering with Urbanica is National Housing Partnership

Foundation, Ground Air Inc. and the Minority Crowd Fund. Zahedi has designed and built several of the more unique buildings in the City over the past several years, just finishing up work on residential buildings at Forest Hills in Jamaica Plain.

Urbanica wrote that the Yard was made up of working-class tradesmen up until the closure of the Yard in the 1970s. Since then, they said, it has had a dearth of affordable properties. They hope to change that.

“When the yard closed in 1974, the yard was still full of this working-class population,” read the letter. “Since then, there has been more housing built in the Navy Yard as more and more residential projects and communities have been added across the waterfront. However, not many people can actually afford to live there. We believe that Pier 5 is a unique and exciting opportunity to create housing that is affordable for a broader group of workers in Charlestown and Boston, and to maintain a healthy social fabric of mixed-income groups of the area.”

•Navy Blue LLC –

The Navy Blue proposal is headed up by Chuck Lagasse of the Charlestown Marina, who has a long history of reviving dilapidated piers in the Navy Yard – as recently as last summer in building out the Pier 6 Marina. Joining Lagasse is Parent + Diamond firm and Urban Spaces.

Navy Blue describes their approach as “aquatectural” in that they plan to raze and recycle the existing pier – which is condemned and must be rebuilt or demolished. The pier would be replaced with marina walkways that feature overhead solar canopies leading to 55 boat slips.

“The slips will be fitted with ‘green’ live- aboard vessels with independent living quarters ranging in size from 530 to 2,100 square feet,” read the submission. “In the same way that the Navy Yard has evolved from its original military purpose to become one of Boston’s most vibrant communities, NAVY BLUE will mirror this spirit of transition as we participate in the adaptation along the waterfront from industrial to other uses. Furthermore, our program supports the Climate Ready Boston initiative by planning for the impacts of climate change and building a program with a resilient future.”

The program features a year-round marina community with a floating pavilion that would be the community gathering space and a stop for water shuttles. It would be Boston’s first, fully-floating residential community and a concept the BPDA has been excited to potentially replicate if it works.

“Our approach to development execution is as innovative as our floating community concept,” read the submission. “Our commitment extends to every stage of the development cycle, including ownership, pre- development, construction, and ongoing daily marina operations.”

•6M Development LLC –

The 6M Development proposals comes from William Caulder, who is in the process of developing a hotel in the North End. The Co-Developer is Gosder Cherilus of Bastion Companies. In addition, the team also includes Charlestown known quantities Al Carrier and Gregg Nolan of the Nolan Group.

Their approach would also be



The Charlestown Marina and partners propose a floating community with live-on vessels and 55 new boat slips after the existing Pier 5 is demolished.



The proposal by 6M Development uses part of the old Pier 5 as an anchor to a new floating residential community.

a floating community, but with a partial demolition of the existing pier - using selective demolition to preserve parts that will serve as an anchor to the floating pieces. The project contemplates 138 units of housing with restaurant space and passive parks and a floating salt marsh – all built out in many phases of construction.

The design seeks to bring the canals of Amsterdam to Boston’s Inner Harbor.

“By repositioning Pier 5 in the Charlestown Navy Yard in Boston, Baca Architects and WaterStudio.NL (WaterStudio.

Blue) provide an intelligent, sustainable and adaptable solution to changing water levels,” read the letter. “By selectively demolishing and retaining parts of the pier to create four sturdy islands that become anchoring points for WaterStudio.Blue’s unique floating homes, the pier merges the canal feeling of Amsterdam with the dynamic tidal range of Boston’s Inner Harbor.”

The new floating community would only rise about 35 feet above the existing pier and thus would not block and water views from existing structures – something very important to the Flagship Wharf residents behind Pier 5.

“The lowest floor is half a story below the waterline with windows above and will sit within the floatation unit that provides buoyancy to the rest of the structure,” read the submission.

All three proposals, as stated above, will be reviewed and discussed with the community at the online Feb. 8 meeting. Quirk said they hope to get extensive community input on the proposals and hope to have a developer designated by late spring.

**Charlestown On-Market Snapshot**

**Condos - 44**

**Singles - 11**

**Multis - 1**

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# Secretary of Navy awards medal to USS Constitution sailor

By Seaman Katrina Mastrolia,  
USS Constitution Public Affairs

Seaman Jaida Williams, of the USS Constitution, received a Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal presented by the Secretary of the Navy Kenneth J. Braithwaite during a ceremony aboard the ship Jan. 8.

Williams has served in the Navy for two years. She reported to Constitution in 2019 after recruit training in Great Lakes, Illinois.

Active-duty Sailors stationed aboard Constitution provide free tours and offer public visitation to more than 600,000 people each year as they support the ship's mission of promoting the Navy's history, maritime heritage, and raising awareness of the importance of a sustained naval presence.

Williams was recognized for exceptional meritorious duty while serving as a vital member of Old Ironsides' rigging team for the 22nd annual Chief Naval Operations Heritage Weeks. Williams trained 185 newly select-ed chief petty officers and 65 chief

mentors in 19th century maritime sailing techniques, ensuring the Navy's next deck plate leaders were well versed in early U.S. Navy origins.

"That's why it is so important what you do," said Braithwaite. "You have created a bridge from the past to the present. For all that those who have gone before you have done to create the honor and glory of the greatest Navy and Marine Corps the world has ever known. At this point, at this time, it is now your job. You have the watch."

The Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal is awarded to members of the Armed Forces that shows professional achievement that exceeds that which is normally required or expected, considering the individual's grade or rate, training, and experience.

"Not many Seaman receive a Navy and Marine Corps Achievement medal, let alone one from the Secretary of the Navy," said Williams. "Words can't explain how appreciative, honored and grateful I am to be able to experience this."



Seaman Williams being awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal by the Secretary of the Navy, Kenneth J. Braithwaite. Williams was awarded the medal for her exceptional performance aboard USS Constitution.



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Mayor Martin J. Walsh

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# Attorney General Healey looking at complaint against DA Rollins

By Seth Daniel

Attorney General Maura Healey's office confirmed to the newspaper this week that they are looking into a complaint filed with them against DA Rachael Rollins concerning an alleged road rage incident that happened at Dorchester's South Bay Mall on Christmas Eve.

Boston Police also confirmed they are investigating the incident based on a Citizen Complaint filed with them recently, a process that was described as working like an Internal Affairs investigation.

The situation has taken a tremendously odd series of twists and turns before landing on the desk of AG Healey's Office, and she and the BPD will likely have quite a job sorting out what in fact happened over the past two weeks.

The situation started on Christmas Eve when a Brockton woman, identified as Katie

Lawson, and a passenger were in the South Bay Mall and had a traffic altercation with another vehicle. Shortly after, that vehicle confronted them about the altercation and Rollins is accused of allegedly turning on her police lights on the vehicle and threatening to give the woman a ticket. Lawson's complaint indicates Rollins said not to "try me today." Lawson also alleges that Rollins sped off and ran a red light.

Rollins has disputed the complaint and actually went on the Howie Carr Radio Show to debate the merits of the situation two weeks ago. There, she denied Lawson's claims about how the incident happened, noting that she did turn on her police lights, but never said she would ticket them and also indicated Lawson was driving erratically. She said on the radio she was simply telling her to watch her driving and to be more careful.

However, the story took a very weird turn when Rollins

Tweeted from her official account on Jan. 8 about a scary event that took place at her home that day, writing, "Earlier today a masked white man jumped out of a truck parked in front of my home, walked quickly to me while inaudibly speaking. He opened his trunk and grabbed something, took it out and aimed it at me. I was terrified and turned away. My children were there. I thought we..."

And it ended abruptly there. A similar, second Tweet coming 45 minutes later on the same day said about the same thing, but left out the "white man" reference.

Then, the next day, on Jan. 9, she Tweeted that the strange vehicle and white man were actually members of the media – turning out to be a Boston 25 reporter and cameraman.

Not long afterward, Boston 25 ran the video of that encounter in a report on the complaint against DA Rollins. In that report, Rollins is shown accompanied by

her Police Detail launching into an expletive-filled tirade against the reporter for coming to her home. On camera, she threatened to arrest the reporter and told her that her career was finished.

Later, she released a statement concerning the on-camera events and said she had reacted as a mother and caregiver who was worried about her personal home being put on the news. She indicated the news vehicle and reporter should have confronted her at work and not at her home where her family lives.

"District Attorney Rollins ran for office, was elected, and has led with unprecedented transparency and access," read the statement to Boston 25. "She has been and remains available to her constituents, colleagues, and members of the media and has never avoided a difficult conversation. Indeed, she had an on the record telephone conversation with (Boston 25) Friday night. She will continue to lead in this manner, fully

understanding and expecting the scrutiny that comes with being an elected public official. But this past Friday was something different. Some 48 hours after our country witnessed an attack on those very same elected officials, an unknown vehicle with an unknown man approached her in front of her home where she is the mother and guardian to three young girls. And she responded not as an elected official, but as a mother, an aunt, and a caregiver who believes her primary responsibility is to love and protect her family. District Attorney Rollins has long been an advocate for the protection of the privacy and safety of the families of government officials. She deserves the same."

The matter is under investigation and both AG Healey's Office and the BPD declined to provide copies of the written complaints presented to them.

*The Independent Newspaper Group reserves the right to edit letters for space and clarity. We regret that we cannot publish unsigned letters. Please include your street and telephone number with your submission. The Independent Newspaper Group publishes columns, viewpoints and letters to the editor as a forum for readers to express their opinions and to encourage debate. Please note that the opinions expressed are not necessarily those of The Independent Newspaper Group. Text or attachments emailed to [editor@reverejournal.com](mailto:editor@reverejournal.com) are preferred.*

## Council debates Special Election Home Rule petition, moves to hearing

By Seth Daniel

City Councilor Lydia Edwards is now in the process of scheduling a hearing to review and discuss a Home Rule Petition that would be sent to the State Legislature requesting that a potential mayoral Special Election in June be waived.

On Wednesday, Jan. 13, the Council debated hotly the Home Rule presented by Councilor Ricardo Arroyo, but moved it to a hearing in Edwards's Committee.

This Wednesday, she said she hadn't scheduled that hearing and there was plenty of time.

Mayor Martin Walsh is still serving as mayor though he has accepted the nomination from President Joe Biden to be the U.S. Labor Secretary. He would need to be confirmed by the U.S. Senate before he can start the job, and his hearings have yet to begin. However, five nominees for Cabinet positions have already started their hearings this week, and it is expected Mayor Walsh would begin his confirmation hearings next week some time. He is expected to have no trouble clearing the Senate.

Were he approved on that time-

line, it would mean an exit well before the March 6 cut-off and would trigger a Special Election by order of the City Charter. Councilor Arroyo is asking that the City be allowed to ignore that part of the Charter and move on to a Preliminary in September and the Municipal Election in November to decide the next mayor.

Council President Kim Janey would become Acting Mayor when Walsh leaves his seat, and would stay until the results of the Special Election, or until next January if the Special Election were waived.

Edwards has already told the Patriot-Bridge she won't run for mayor, and also told media members she didn't know why anyone would want to run.

Her Committee will review the Home Rule request, and potentially report it out of Committee – or not. Were it to clear the Committee, it would need approval of the full Council. Then it would be sent to the State Legislature. There, both houses would need to pass the measure, and Gov. Charlie Baker would have to sign it. That process usually takes two or three months, but can be sped along if time is of the essence.



## Virtual Public Meeting

### Pier 5 RFP: Proposal Presentations

**Monday, February 8**  
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

**Zoom Link:** [bit.ly/pier5\\_meeting](https://bit.ly/pier5_meeting)  
**Toll Free:** (833) 568 - 8864  
**Meeting ID:** 160 562 4166

#### Project Description:

Join the Boston Planning & Development Agency for a presentation of the proposals in response to the RFP for redevelopment of Pier 5 in the Charlestown Navy Yard.

Review the proposals at [bit.ly/pier5](https://bit.ly/pier5)

mail to: **Morgan McDaniel**  
Boston Planning & Development Agency  
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor  
Boston, MA 02201  
phone: 617.918.6250  
email: [morgan.e.mcdaniel@boston.gov](mailto:morgan.e.mcdaniel@boston.gov)

**Close of Comment Period:**  
2/22/2021

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Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary

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**EXAM SCHOOL** (from pg. 1)

al admissions test for this year's class, and implementing a system that allocated seats on student population in that zip code.

"The continued goal of the Working Group was to identify opportunities to ensure more equitable access to the three exam schools, so each school's enrollment would more closely reflect the district's overall enrollment," read a memo from the Working Group presented last week.

"There are predicted changes in neighborhoods across the city, with some seeing an increase in enrollment, while others will see a decline," read the memo. "The Working Group made its recommendation for this model after reviewing other simulations. While there has been a discussion of adding priority for current BPS students, the School Committee ultimately decided that all Boston

students - from BPS or other schools - should be considered equally for the next round of admissions."

That round of admissions has already started and 6th graders, incoming 7th graders, to the three schools have enrolled and are now being considered if they meet the new criteria. There are no seats this year, incidentally, available for incoming 9th graders.

At issue now is how many seats will be available in the three schools for qualifying children under the new process. Many simulations were batted around over the past months, but the Working Group did decide on a simulation that was presented last week to the School Committee.

In that simulation, Charlestown would be allotted 39 seats for next year, after having had 56 seats last year. That is a reduction of

approximately 30 percent over the typical year in the past.

That seems to be about the middle of the pack for neighborhoods that have lost seats over last year. Chinatown last 58 percent of its seats, or 10 seats. West Roxbury had the biggest loss, losing 57 seats or 43 percent over last year. Jamaica Plain lost 16 seats, or 21 percent, of the seats allotted there last year.

Meanwhile, areas like Dorchester Center increased its number of seats by 39, or 46 percent. Roxbury zip code 02121 gained 51 seats, which was a 189 percent increase. Mattapan also gained 38 seats, or a 190 percent increase.

The Working Group indicated it requested multiple simulations in their review to understand the impacts of the proposal. However, there was no way to run a full

simulation due to the constraints of information. The simulations indicated the following information was available:

- Changes to SY20-21 invitations for all SY19-20 actual applicants (BPS and non-BPS) using GPA (last year spring + 1st two terms of the current year) and

- ISEE scores (the district's previous exam provider).

- Changes to SY20-21 invitations for all BPS students using other available data sources (e.g., grades prior to COVID).

- Potential invitations for SY21-22 for BPS students only.

However, what wasn't available in this simulation was the following:

- Changes to SY20-21 invitations for non-BPS students using data outside of GPA and ISEE

scores.

- Exam scores if an exam was administered in Fall 2020.

- Student preferences for SY21-22.

The memo indicated the Working Group would continue to meet to advise on any permanent changes to the admissions process beyond this year's COVID-19 accommodations.

"The Working Group recommended that they continue convening to advise on permanent efforts to expand the applicant pool, making use of the new NWEA test and other factors," read the memo. "This rationale is based on what can be learned from applying the recommendations to this year's admissions and incorporating what the working group has learned in reviewing practices from other districts."

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
**ZONING HEARING**

The Zoning Commission of the City of Boston hereby gives notice, in accordance with Chapter 665 of the Acts of 1956, as amended, that a virtual public hearing will be held on February 10, 2021, at 9:15 A.M., in connection with a petition for approval of Map Amendment Application No. 731 filed by the Boston Redevelopment Authority d/b/a the Boston Planning & Development Agency. Said map amendment would amend "Map 2E, Charlestown Neighborhood District," by adding the designation "U," indicating an Urban Renewal overlay district to the existing zoning of approximately 1.15 million square foot (26-acres) area of land, bounded by Medford Street, Decatur Street, Vine Street, Bunker Hill Street, and Polk Street in the Charlestown neighborhood of Boston. The site is currently occupied by the BHA owned Bunker Hill Public Housing development which is comprised of

1,100 federally subsidized residential rental units in forty-one (41) three (3)-story buildings, a management office, grass courtyards, playgrounds, basketball courts, and off-street vehicle parking areas. This meeting will only be held virtually and not in person. You can participate in this meeting by going to <http://bit.ly/3aAUXIK>. A copy of the petition may be obtained from the Zoning Commission electronically, and you may also submit written comments or questions to [jeffrey.hampton@boston.gov](mailto:jeffrey.hampton@boston.gov). For the Commission Jeffrey M. Hampton Executive Secretary 1/21/21 Charlestown

**LEGAL NOTICE**

Charlestown warehouse Warehouse Application Legal Notice Notice is hereby given on the application of Gentle Giant Moving Co., Inc. of 8 Bunker Hill Industrial Park

to be a public warehouse within and for the County of Suffolk of Charlestown for the purpose of conducting a General Warehouse business as provided in Chapter 105 of the Massachusetts General Laws. 1/14/21, 1/21/21 Charlestown

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT**

Suffolk Probate And Family Court 24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114 (617)788-8300 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION Docket No. SU20P1829EA Estate of: Philip E. Eatherton Also known as: Philip Edward Eatherton Date of Death: 05/08/2019

To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Philip E. Eatherton, Jr. of Tewksbury, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: Philip E. Eatherton, Jr. of Tewksbury, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in an unsupervised administration. **IMPORTANT NOTICE** You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 02/16/2021. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this pro-

ceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you. **UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)** A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration. **WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.** Date: January 05, 2021 Felix D. Arroyo Register of Probate 1/21/21 Charlestown

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# State DPD reports first confirmed case of COVID-19 variant

Officials from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health on January 17 announced that the first case of the COVID-19 variant B.1.1.7 has been detected in Massachusetts, coming from a Boston woman who had travelled to the United Kingdom.

This is the same variant initially discovered in the United Kingdom.

The individual developed symptoms in early January and tested positive for COVID-19. A genet-

ic sample was sent to an out-of-state laboratory as part of the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) established surveillance process to identify COVID-19 variants. The State Public Health Laboratory was notified last evening of the results.

The individual is a Boston resident, a female in her 20s. She had traveled to the United Kingdom and became ill the day after she returned. She had tested negative

prior to leaving the UK. The individual was interviewed by contact tracers at the time the initial positive result was received, and close contacts were identified. She is being re-interviewed by public health officials now that the variant has been identified as the cause of illness.

Surveillance testing for the B.1.1.7 variant has been ongoing at the Massachusetts State Public Health Laboratory in collabora-

tion with clinical diagnostic laboratories and academic partners. Surveillance consists of genomic sequencing on portions of COVID-19 positive specimens.

To date, the CDC has reported 88 cases from 14 states in the United States.

Given the increased transmissibility of this variant and the number of states and other countries that have found infected cases, the Department expected the variant

to arrive in Massachusetts eventually. The public health risk-reduction measures remain the same. Individuals must continue to wear masks or face coverings while out in public, maintain 6-foot social distancing, stay home when you are sick, and get tested if you have symptoms or are identified as a close contact.

## For the Record

### WARREN PRESCOTT SCHOOL DATES

- January 20 - School Preview @ 6:00pm
- February 1 - WPPA Meeting @ 7:00 PM
- February 10 - Site Council Meeting
- February 15 - February 19 - February School Recess
- February 22 - Students Return from February Recess

SCHOOL MEAL SUPER SITES/CHARLESTOWN  
Every Monday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

- Edwards Middle School - 28 Walker St.
- Harvard/Kent Elementary - 50 Bunker Hill St.

### STATE OF THE STATE

Governor Charlie Baker announced he will deliver his annual State of the Commonwealth address virtually, live from the Massachusetts State House on Tuesday, January 26, at 7 p.m.

From the Jan. 20 Boston Public Health Commission Board meeting, 4 p.m., online:

- COVID-19 Vaccine Update: Dr. Jennifer Lo, Medical Director and Trinieste Polk, director of the Office of Racial Equality and Community Engagement.

- Racism as a Public Health Crisis Update and Discussion: Margaret Reid, interim chief of staff.

From the Jan. 20 School Committee Retreat, 4 p.m., online via Zoom:

Priority Setting Discussion - AJ Crabill, Director of Governance, Council of Great City Schools.

- Selecting Goals Regarding Student Outcomes
- Selecting Guardrails Regarding Adult Inputs

From the Jan. 20 Boston Finance Commission meeting, 5 p.m., online via Zoom:

- Discussion with Councilor Edwards regarding City of Boston FY21 Budget.

From the Jan. 21 Community Preservation Committee meeting, noon, remote:

- Discussion of FY21 Historic Preservation and Open Space and Recreation Applications.

### COVID-19 VACCINE INFO SESSION

Join the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) for a COVID-19 information session to answer questions about the safety of the vaccine and the timetable for when it will be available. It will be hosted by Gerry Thomas, MPH, Interim Director of the BPHC. The meeting will be Thursday, Jan. 21, at 5 p.m. Register online at [bit.ly/bphcvaxinfo1](https://bit.ly/bphcvaxinfo1).

From the Jan. 21 School Committee Retreat, 4 p.m., online via Zoom:

Priority Setting Discussion - AJ Crabill, Director of Governance, Council of Great City Schools.

- Evaluating School Committee Meeting Design.
- Evaluating Task Force/Committee Design.
- Evaluating Committee Effectiveness and Superintendent Effectiveness.

### KENNEDY CENTER ANNUAL MEETING

The John F. Kennedy Family Services Center will hold its annual meeting on

January 25, 2021 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. via Zoom teleconference.

The agenda includes annual election of directors of the board as well as other necessary business. Members of the public are welcome to attend using a phone or computer. A link to the meeting will be sent to those who register in advance. To register or to ask questions about this meeting, contact Thara Fuller [tfuller@kennedycenter.org](mailto:tfuller@kennedycenter.org) 617-241-8866 x1312.

From the Jan. 26 State Dept. of Public Utilities hearing, 6 p.m. (and Jan. 28 at 10 a.m.), online:

- On November 13, 2020, National Grid filed a petition with the Department of Public Utilities for an increase in gas distribution rates. The Department has suspended the effective date of the proposed rate increase until October 1, 2021, to investigate the propriety of the Company's request. The Company represents that it will implement any change in rates beginning November 1, 2021. The Company was last granted an increase in distribution rates in 2018. There are several other proposals also attached to the rate increase that will be heard as well.

### SCHOOL RE-OPENING COMMUNITY MEETING

On Jan. 28, from 5:30 - 7 p.m., Supt. Brenda Cassellius will hold an online discussion for all Boston Public Schools families and the community regarding re-opening of schools. The meeting will be held on Zoom.

### SCHOOLS INFO

- School Return Timetables - Monday, Feb. 1 - Students with high in-person priority; March 1-4 - Students in K0-Grade 3 (Groups A and B); March 15-18 - Students in Grades 4-8 (Groups A & B); and March 29-April 1 - Students in grades 9-12 (Groups A & B).

- BPS Priority Registration - Priority registration for school year 2021-22 began on Jan. 5 for students entering grades K0, K1, 6th, 7th and 9th grades. Priority

Registration for those grades ends on Jan. 29. Assignment notifications are on March 31. Students entering K2 and all other grades have priority registration on Feb. 8 and ends on April 5. Assignment notifications for those grades is on May 28. There are informational Zoom sessions about registration on Weds. Jan 20, 4 p.m.; and Sat., Feb. 27, at 10 a.m. BPS Welcome Centers are temporarily closed to the public, but registration can be done online and via phone. Call (617) 635-9010 to schedule a phone appointment with a specialist.

- P-EBT Cards - All BPS students will have more P-EBT funds for this school year. If you received P-EBT funds in the past, look for funds to be allocated the last week of December. New to P-EBT? You will get a P-EBT card in January or check your existing EBT card for funds. Learn more at [www.MAp-EBT.org](http://www.MAp-EBT.org) or call the Assistance Line at 877-382-2363.

### HOLIDAY DECORATIONS

All wreaths, lighting fixtures, wires, and other related items must be removed from City property no later than February 2, 2021. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Please contact Eric Prentis at [Eric.Prentis@boston.gov](mailto:Eric.Prentis@boston.gov), or Rob Lewis Robert.LewisA@boston.gov, if you have any questions.

### REPORTING WORKPLACE SAFETY CONCERNS

Workers in any size organization have options if they feel they are being pressured into an unsafe situation. Attorney General Maura Healey has created resources for workers to report safety concerns during reopening. They include an online form at the Attorney General's website and a dedicated Fair Labor hotline at 617-727-3465. People can also find those resources by calling 311.

### HOW TO REPORT A PROBLEM PROPERTY

Since taking office in 2014, Mayor Walsh has made fixing quality of life issues a priority in his administration. From investing in Public Works to making sure community policing is a staple in every neighborhood, we are making sure every neighborhood is clean, safe and a great place to live and work in. Unfortunately some properties in Boston need more help than others, and that's why we are here. If you know of a property that fits one of the following criteria: multiple calls to 911, one that's blighted or just a general concern, we encourage you to reach out to your neighborhood liaison.

## LOCAL STUDENTS EARN ACADEMIC HONORS

### O'NEIL NAMED TO THE CURRY COLLEGE FALL 2020 DEAN'S LIST

Curry College is proud to announce that Grace O'Neil of Charlestown has been named to the Dean's List for the Fall 2020 semester. O'Neil majoring in Nursing, is among the roughly 1,000 students that have received the distinction, a marker of academic excellence and high achievement.

To earn a place on the list, full-time undergraduate students - those who carry 12 or more graded credits per semester - must earn a 3.3 grade-point-average (GPA) or higher.

About Curry College  
Founded in 1879, Curry College is a private, four-year, liberal arts-based institution located on 131 acres in Milton, Mass. Curry extends its educational programs to a continuing education branch campus in Plymouth, Mass. Curry offers 28 undergraduate majors, as well as graduate degrees in business, accounting, education, criminal justice, and nursing, with a combined enrollment of over 3,700 students. The student body consists of approximately 2,000 traditional undergraduate students, and 1,700 continuing education and graduate students. Approximately 1,575 of its students reside on the Curry campus. The largest majors are business management, communication, nursing, criminal justice,

and education, and the college is also internationally known for its Program for the Advancement of Learning (PAL). The College offers a wide array of extra-curricular activities ranging from 15 NCAA Division III athletic teams to an outstanding theatre program. Visit us on the web at [www.curry.edu](http://www.curry.edu).

### MERCER UNIVERSITY ANNOUNCES FALL 2020 PRESIDENT'S, DEAN'S LISTS

Mercer University recently announced the Dean's List for the fall 2020 semester. Inclusion on these lists requires students to meet rigorous grade-point-average standards specific to the college or school within the University.

Local resident Emily Hoffman, with a special non-degree undergrad, College of Professional Advancement was named.

Founded in 1833, Mercer University is a dynamic and comprehensive center of undergraduate, graduate and professional education. The University enrolls more than 9,000 students in 12 schools and colleges - liberal arts, law, pharmacy, medicine, business, engineering, education, theology, music, nursing, health professions, and professional advancement - on campuses in Macon, Atlanta, Savannah and Columbus - and two regional academic centers in the Atlanta metro area.

### MOODY OF CHARLESTOWN NAMED TO MUHLENBERG COLLEGE FALL 2020 DEAN'S LIST

Congratulations to William Moody of Charlestown for being named to the Muhlenberg College Dean's List for the Fall 2020 semester.

Muhlenberg College students and Muhlenberg College School of Continuing Studies students with a term GPA of 3.50 or higher were recognized for this academic achievement.

Founded in 1848, Muhlenberg is a highly selective, private, four-year residential, liberal arts college located in Allentown, Pennsylvania, approximately 90 miles west of New York City. With an undergraduate enrollment of approximately 2,200 students, Muhlenberg College is dedicated to shaping creative, compassionate, collaborative leaders through rigorous academic programs in the arts, humanities, natural sciences and social sciences as well as selected pre-professional programs, including accounting, business, education and public health. The College is affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. A member of the Centennial Conference, Muhlenberg competes in 22 varsity sports.

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Published  
Feb. 10 & 11



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Kravitz, Aaron E	35 Elm Street Rt LLC	35 Elm St	\$1,815,000
Smith, Devin	Johnsmeyer, Nora	2 Harvard Pl #2	\$470,000
Mckie, Rachel	StAndre, Marc	11 Main St #A	\$575,000
Tran, Nancy	Chapin Northeast LLC	48 Monument Sq #3	\$848,000
Johnson, Garrett J	Hayes, John	37 Mount Vernon St #3	\$592,500
Viera-Cannon, Lourdes	Phillips Mcenany RT	4 Mount Vernon St #1	\$589,000
Mcilveen, Courtnet	Stahl, Julia B	100 Pearl St #1	\$395,000
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# New middle school at Charlestown High would have unique academics, more activities

By Seth Daniel

A large group of Boston Public Schools (BPS) administrators told the community this month that the new middle school at Charlestown High starting next year would not only provide a more predictable educational path within 02129, but also would offer unique academic offerings like Pre-AP classes and the rigorous International Baccalaureate Middle Year Programme – as well as extensive extra-curricular activities.

It would not, however, threaten the programming or culture at the existing K-8 model at the Warren Prescott or Eliot School.

“We are the first group in the City with a new 7-12 high school in our backyard with the introduction of grades 7 and 8 at East Boston High School and Charlestown High School,” said BPS’s Tommy Welch.

“This is a big moment for me in my six years at BPS,” he continued. “I can’t wait to see what could come out of this in September 2021. We are leading the way.”

Welch and Supt. Brenda Cassellius told those at the online Jan. 7 meeting that with the introduction of a sixth grade at Harvard Kent School – making it a K-6 school, there was a need for a unique, rigorous pathway to seventh grade within the Town. Welch said that was one of the top priorities from parents since he came to the district, creating only one transition in a predictable way within a child’s educational path.

Right now is a time for school choice within BPS, and Welch and others in the district are encouraging sixth graders in the Town to choose the new middle school. The 7th grade will be made up of a brand new class, while the 8th grade would be made up mostly of students that are now at the Edwards Middle, which will close in June. Administrators specified that the logistics of the school would be to keep the middle school separate from the existing high school as is done across the city in other 7-12’s, including the three exam schools.

“It will have separate classrooms and separate lunches,” said BPS’s Ella Bruggeman. “There would be separation between the middle school and high school students.”

The key part of the new ven-

## Vision for 7-12 Expansion



### Core 4 - National Models of Rigor

- Pre-AP preparation and expand Advanced Placement (AP)
- International Baccalaureate (IB) Middle Year Programme (MYP), Diploma Programme (DP) & IB Career-related Certificate (IB-CC)
- Career and Technical Education (CTE) pathways
- Dual Enrollment or Early College offerings

*Note: Transformation schools are also adopting the Core 4 in alignment to Advanced Academic strategies*

*Some of the academic offerings being discussed for the new middle school, including the rigorous International Baccalaureate Programme and pre-AP classes.*

ture’s success would be to convince parents in the Town that the academics and opportunities would be challenging and welcoming. Charlestown High has long been an island in the neighborhood, with some 90 percent of the students coming from other neighborhoods – mostly Dorchester, Roxbury and Mattapan. To date, it has not been a school known for academic rigor and is an open enrollment school that has had more than its share of academic struggles.

BPS officials painted a picture at the meeting though of a new creation at the middle school that would offer unique and challenging academics.

One of the offerings will be pre-Advanced Placement courses in all subjects, as well as the little-known International Baccalaureate (IB) programme. That programme is an internationally accepted rigorous course of study that is daunting. Students can start the course of study in middle school, and work their way through the official IB Diploma offering in high school.

“It is a popular and rigorous program,” said Welch. “Boston has had three exam schools so there has not been a large expansion of IB here. We do have it at the Josiah Quincy (Upper) School and the Snowden School now.”

There would also be advanced opportunities coming down from the high school, including the Pathways programs that exists at Charlestown High in partnership with Bunker Hill Community College (BHCC). Those programs



*Elementary Supt. Tommy Welch said the expansion to middle school for Charlestown High was a big moment for him and the community.*

offer students the ability to earn college credits in high school, and actually attend college classes at BHCC in their later years, with the potential of earning an Associate’s Degree by the end of high school. That program could start preparation for students at the middle school, who could then transition to it at the high school.

Similarly, BPS officials said there would be music and band opportunities for students in the middle school, as well as varsity athletics at the high school. Officials said they are working to build loads of partnerships with organizations outside the school for performing arts, science, STEAM, visual arts and theatre – among others.

They predicted that in September they would have 60 students in the new 7th grade, and 100 students in the new 8th grade. They hope to build on that as time goes on and the programming solidifies.