



CHARLESTOWN

 PATRIOT-BRIDGE

Mayor Wu announces creation of the Office of Early Childhood

 By John Lynds

At a press conference Wednesday Mayor Michelle Wu said, for anyone who has had to try to find an early childhood education seat in Boston navigating the many complicated systems, registrations and applications can be a daunting task.

“This is time for city leadership to step up and help provide a one stop shop,” said Mayor Wu. “We know that the pandemic has deepened every challenge that the city is facing, and our childcare gaps in access and the stresses on our early educators have certainly deepened as well. In Boston, and in Massachusetts, we have the second highest cost of childcare anywhere around the country and we continue to see the impacts of that ripple throughout our communities, throughout our economy and



Mayor Michelle Wu announces the creation of the Office of Early Childhood at a press conference Wednesday.

throughout our city.”

To combat this Wu announced the creation of the Office of Early Childhood to advance the administration’s commitment to universal, affordable, high-quality early education and care for all children under five. The new office will expand access to early education and childcare programs, invest in Boston’s early education and care workforce, and serve as a central point-of-entry for residents looking for information on early education and childcare program-

ming and wraparound services for young children and their families.

The Office will address needs highlighted in Boston’s 2021 Childcare Census Survey report, which the Mayor also released Wednesday.

“We conducted this census just to understand the needs and realities of our Early Education and Care ecosystem from families and educators,” said Wu. “We are here to report back that unsurprising-

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The case for a Union Street Architectural Conservation District in Charlestown rages on

 By John Lynds

Back in August the Boston Landmarks Commission (BLC) unanimously voted to accept for the further study the creation of the Union Street Architectural Conservation District in Charlestown.

The fight to create the Town’s first Conservation District in one of the most historic neighborhoods in Boston has been spearheaded by Ron Kulich, the homeowner of 30 Union St. and his desire to save the Federal-style home at 8 Lawrence St.

If BLC ends up siding with Kulich his home on Union and the one he is trying to save on the corner of Lawrence St. and Union would make up the entire Union Street Architectural Conservation

District he desires.

Kulich began his quest after the new owner of 8 Lawrence proposed tearing the single family home built in 1814 and replacing it with a multi-unit residential development.

At previous BLC meetings, Kulich has made his case arguing the 19th Century home he owns on Union, built by renowned Boston architect, Asher Benjamin, and the other on Lawrence in Thompson

Square both have significant historic value and should be protected with landmark status.

The study BLC voted to begin over the summer is just the first step in a long process to potentially establish the district and be able to prevent the demolition of any of the buildings.

“There were a couple of community meetings and the former

(UNION STREET Pg. 9)

CNC CORNER

The Charlestown Neighborhood Council will hold a public meeting on Tuesday March 1, at 7 pm. The meeting will be held in person at the Knights of Columbus (masks required), 545 Medford Street, Charlestown. Dan Jaffe will discuss transportation challenges within Charlestown in Part 2 of ‘Micro-bus for Charlestown.’ A recording of Part 1 is on our website. Please send questions or matters of concern via email to cnc02129@gmail.com.

“This is not a do-over” Union St. Architectural Conservation District still pending with BLC

 By Lauren Bennett

At the Boston Landmarks Commission (BLC) hearing on Feb. 22, the Commission provided a chance for the proponent of a petition to create an Architectural Conservation District for Union Street in Charlestown to give the presentation once again, as the owner of 8 Lawrence St. said he was not notified about the hearing in August of last year when the BLC voted to accept the petition for further study.

“It came to our attention that the owners of the property did not have sufficient time to be allowed to attend and participate in that preliminary hearing,” said Lynn Smiledge, chair of the BLC.

“This is an opportunity for the proponent of this district to present for the second time.” No commissioner or public comment was taken, as “this is a pending architectural conservation district.”

Ronald Kulich, owner of 30 Union St., provided what he called an “abbreviated presentation,” and went through the history of the architecture on Union St. He said that “dozens of abutters” have shown support for the conservation of the historic nature of the only two properties in question as part of the proposed conservation district: 8 Lawrence St. and 30 Union St.

Patrick Sweeney, an attorney on behalf of Nestor Limas of 8 Lawrence Street LLC, said that he was under the impression that the Feb. 22 hearing “was a start-over proposition,” and that his client was not properly notified about

the original hearing.

“Unfortunately, despite Landmarks knowing that my client owned the property at 8 Lawrence, we were required to submit a form for their change of ownership,” he said. “On June 23, Landmarks sent a letter to my client at his address,” though he said “we had no knowledge” because he said that the notice for the hearing had been sent to the previous owner.

In December, Sweeney said he put in a Freedom of Information Act request with the city in “12 different areas,” two for the Inspection Services Department and the remaining 10 to the Landmarks Commission. He said he has not received the public records he asked for.

Rosanne Foley, Executive Director of the Boston Landmarks Commission, said that “we took the time to upload every single record you asked for,” and upon hearing he had not received them, told Sweeney that the BLC “will make sure you get them as quickly as possible. We provide every person who asks for records as quickly as we can in accordance with the law,” she said.

“We’re in a situation where one hearing was held with notice given to the prior owner at the address of the property with full knowledge that my client was the owner,” Sweeney said.

“I’m very sorry for this lack of communication,” Smiledge said, but reiterated that Tuesday’s hearing “is not a do-over. We’re not

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EDITORIAL

WHAT'S OLD IS NEW

As this is being written, a huge Russian Army is standing ready and poised, at the whim of Russian dictator Vladimir Putin, to invade the nation of Ukraine, potentially bringing death and devastation to Europe on a scale not seen since 1939 when Nazi Germany invaded Poland with a blitzkrieg.

As was the case in 1939, when authoritarian leaders in Germany, Italy, and Japan combined to form an Axis, Putin and his fellow dictator, Xi Jinping of China, are conspiring to set the world ablaze. Putin has Ukraine in his crosshairs and Xi likewise has his sights set on an invasion of Taiwan.

The big difference between now and then is that these dictators possess nuclear weapons, which makes an all-out war unthinkable.

That means that they can get away with pretty much anything. They know that the U.S., which is their only countervailing force, will be hesitant to engage them directly because of the threat of escalation into a nuclear conflict.

Another difference between now and then is that both Russia and China have the ability to wreak havoc throughout the world by means of cyber warfare. The world economy, including that of the U.S., is incredibly vulnerable to Russian and Chinese hacks.

Make no mistake about it -- if the U.S. imposes the severe economic sanctions on Russia that are being promised by the Biden administration, the Russians will retaliate with a scale of cyber warfare that will make the hacks of last year look like child's play.

Another key difference between 1939 and today is that Russia plays a huge role in the world's energy markets. Although the Russian economy is only a fraction the size of California's, Russia serves as the major energy provider for Western Europe. A shutdown of the delivery of Russian natural gas and oil to Europe will drive energy prices skyrocketing beyond their already-high levels.

Our so-called allies in the Middle East, especially Saudi Arabia, could help out, but they're in bed with the Russians. Their decision to keep oil output artificially low is creating an energy crisis not seen since the Arab oil embargoes of the 1970s and early 1980s.

In addition, U.S. oil producers have joined the Saudi-Russian oil-opoly by limiting energy production in this country, thereby keeping prices artificially high. If energy prices continue their upward trend, the Biden administration may have to order a nationalization of the oil industry to increase domestic output.

World history has shown that dictators do what dictators do. Putin, Xi, and MBS essentially are dictators for life and face no consequences for their policies and actions in their own countries. All three have cracked down brutally on political opponents and various ethnic groups that may pose even a remote threat to their regimes.

As they seek to expand their authoritarian regimes beyond their borders, world peace will be in peril.

Dark days lie ahead.

GUEST OP-ED

We all face challenges

Dr. Glenn Mollette

Everyone will face insurmountable challenges in life. The price of longevity is heartache, opposition, failures, grief and life events that come out of nowhere. Life is filled with the death of loved ones, financial ups and downs, daily health challenges and world events that impact us whether we like them or not.

Russia is going to invade Ukraine. Most of us don't like Russia anyway but we have to sit here and watch what they are doing to someone else while it negatively affects our energy, financial stability, our military, and our everyday lives. We don't like it; we don't want it but we will be impacted by the evil decisions of Russia's leadership. Can you imagine how the people of Ukraine feel?

We despise what Covid-19 has done to all us. Mask wearing, vaccinations and the fear of gathering have tormented us. The loss of family and friends who went into Intensive Care Units and never came home haunts us. Can we begin to imagine how they felt as they struggled to breathe on respirators their last few days of life?

We have all faced news that a loved one was killed on the battlefield, or someone died suddenly of a heart attack, or received news of terminal cancer.

Typically, we ask why? We ask God, "Why has this happened?" or "Why me, God?" Often there is rarely a good answer. We can analyze and say, "This could have been prevented. Or, this is how he or she should have lived their lives." Sports fans making suggestions from their recliners while watching reruns always see how the play could have been run better.

Life is always in motion. We make decisions. We react to situations differently. We don't always do the right thing and emotions often overturn commonsense.

The reality is that we all face and walk through fires. Most of the time we're hopeful that everything will work out alright. Often, things do. Unfortunately, everything doesn't always work out alright. If we manage to survive, that's when we have to help others who are crushed in spirit, who can't see the light of day for the darkness in their lives.

Ukraine needs their allies or they will never be the same. It can't be all the United States. We can't save everyone and have proved it over and over again from Afghanistan to Iraq to Vietnam.

There are always those around you who need your emotional and spiritual support. If nothing else, friendship and a word of kindness and support are always meaningful.

Most of the time, we feel as if we face our greatest challenges alone. A lonely place of desperation is a dark place to be.

Don't ever go there. Look to God. When money, friends, education, hospitals, doctors and the church can't fix what you are facing God can see you through. He never leaves us or forsakes us. His hand is strong and nothing can pull us out of his mighty hand.

Glenn Mollette is the publisher of Newburgh Press, Liberty Torch and various other publishing imprints; a national columnist - American Issues and Common Sense opinions, analysis, stories and features appear each week in over 500 newspapers, websites and blogs across the United States.

SEND US YOUR NEWS

The Patriot-Bridge encourages residents to submit engagement, wedding and birth announcements, news releases, business and education briefs, sports stories and photos for publication. Items should be forwarded to our offices at 385 Broadway, Revere, MA 02151. Items can also be faxed to 781-485-1403.

We also encourage readers to e-mail news releases and photos to deb@reverejournal.com.

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CHARLESTOWN

PATRIOT-BRIDGE

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WU (from pg. 1)

ly, the vast majority of families who participated in the Census reported that they are looking for formalized care, but having trouble finding it. Many of our families are relying on some informal arrangement, often with a family member, often not covering enough hours that are needed (for parents to work)."

Wu said 81 percent undergoing this kind of informal arrangement are women and this is impacting their own careers and their own professional development.

"The costs are high," said Wu. "The need is great, but the opportunity is tremendous right now as well. So it is time to truly tackle root causes and understand just how much our child care infrastructure is the foundation for families to thrive all across our city and beyond."

The Office will advance the Mayor's work to prioritize the City's youngest residents and their families by: Accelerating the creation of a universal pre-K system that stretches across Boston Public Schools (BPS), community-based organizations, and family-based childcare programs, and expanding high-quality, affordable options for infants and toddlers; Creating a one-stop shop for enrollment and access to early education and childcare programs by building an accessible, multi-lingual platform so that options are clear, streamlined, and accessible to all families; Investing in the early education and childcare workforce by building sustainable career pathways that recognize early educators as professionals who are essential to young children's wellbeing; Coordinating outreach and information for City and community programming that impacts the lives of young children and their families.

Wu said the city will be hiring a leader of the new Office of Early Childhood to advance this work in partnership with the Boston Public Schools, the Mayor's Office of Women's Advancement, the Boston Public Health Commission, Boston Centers for Youth and Families, other City departments, and community organizations that serve Boston's children and families.

"We are excited to deepen the City's investment in high-quality, accessible childcare solutions for early childhood professionals, families, and their little ones," said Executive Director of the Mayor's Office of Women's Advancement Alexandra Valdez. "The Office

of Early Childhood will continue the work of looking at closing child care gaps with community voices at the center. This will not only create opportunities to further support a child's care needs and early development, but also empower a profession that is largely represented by women, specifically women of color, and our immigrant community."

Wu added that Boston Public Schools has led the way in building out a mixed-delivery system for universal pre-K (UPK) that integrates both BPS classrooms and community-based organizations. In its third year, the UPK program currently serves 664 pre-K students through 21 community-based organizations across 32 program sites; 2,556 non-special education K1 seats for 4-year-olds, and 880 special education seats for 3- and 4-year-olds in K0/K1.

In 2021, UPK expanded to include a pilot program to serve 3-year-olds in addition to 4-year-olds in 2021-22. For the upcoming school year in 2022-23, Boston UPK plans to expand to serve up to 930 children at community provider settings, including 600 4-year-olds and 330 3-year-olds. The City of Boston and Boston Public Schools recently released an Invitation for Bids (IFB) to identify additional community-based organizations seeking to join the UPK program. The IFB deadline is April 4, and more details can be found on the BPS Universal Pre-K website.

By investing in and growing the early educator workforce, supporting early education and childcare businesses, and streamlining information and access for families, the Office of Early Childhood will support UPK's continued expansion by increasing the number of seats available to infants and toddlers.

"I am grateful to Mayor Wu and her team and all who have worked so hard to advance this work on behalf of our children and their families," said Chair of the Boston School Committee Jeri Robison. "As someone who has dedicated my entire career to ensuring enhanced access to all-inclusive early education and care, I am heartened today to see this important next step in our City's progress. We are sending a message to our families today that Boston is united in our work to help our youngest learners get off to the right start through new support to them and their families."

Daniel Ryan endorses Gabriela Coletta

Gabriela Coletta, candidate for Boston City Councilor District One, announced the endorsement of Daniel Ryan, State Representative for 2nd Suffolk. Preliminary Election Day is April 5. General Election Day is May 3.

"I've known Gigi through her service to the City of Boston, particularly her work in my hometown of Charlestown," said Ryan. "She understands these neighborhoods. Nobody will work harder for the people of District 1 than she will. Her broad coalition of supporters have hit the ground, knocking on doors and talking to voters about this election. I proudly throw my support behind Gigi's energetic campaign and will do everything I can to assist her efforts to represent District 1 on the City Council. I look forward to having her as a colleague and partner."

Daniel Ryan is one of the many elected leaders to endorse Gabriela Coletta for Boston City Council District 1.

"Dan Ryan's dedication to his district has served as an example for and an inspiration to me over the years, and I am so honored to have his endorsement," said Coletta. "He always puts the needs of others before his own and I would be thrilled to work with him hand-in-hand to serve the people of Charlestown."

Gabriela Coletta will host a canvass this weekend in Charlestown with Dan Ryan this Sunday at 12PM,. For more information, please visit

<http://gigi4district1.us/events>. This Sunday at 4PM, State Representative Dan Ryan will host an event in support of Coletta's candidacy with Charlestown friends at Warren Tavern. For more information please visit, <http://secure.actblue.com/donate/gc-millennials>

In just the first month of her candidacy, Coletta has secured the endorsement of over seventy community leaders including various former and current elected officials. To learn more visit about

gabrielaColetta.com, Facebook at @GigiforDistrictOne, and Twitter @Gigi4District1.

Gabriela Coletta has dedicated her entire life working in service to others and empowering her neighbors to become involved in local democracy. She's currently the External Relations Manager at the New England Aquarium where she advocates for a more resilient, inclusive, and accessible waterfront for all Bostonians. As Campaign Manager for Councilor Edwards's successful 2017 campaign, Gabriela activated and mobilized a grassroots campaign consisting of a broad coalition of residents, unions, volunteers, and advocacy groups numbering over 500 people - all of whom felt disenfranchised by the political establishment - to elect the first Black woman to represent us on the Boston City Council. For more information, please visit <https://www.gabrielaColetta.com/about>.

BLC (from pg. 1)

able to do that. I thought that was made very clear to the owners and the petitioners tonight. This is not something we can remedy to your satisfaction tonight," since the property has already been accepted as a pending landmark and more process is needed to make it an actual landmark.

Foley said that "our usual practice is to notify the owner that is listed in assessing. It wasn't until

there was an issue with the new owner saying they didn't know about the petition that this was re-publicized so they would have their opportunity to speak."

Nestor Limas stated that "I was not noticed properly," and said that the "evidence is very clear that they had my address." He continued, "there's an issue of the legitimacy of that meeting."

Smiledge said that though she

believes further discussion on this matter is necessary, this particular hearing is not the forum to have that conversation.

Sweeney said that though "I understand your position now," he doesn't believe it is "supported by the law."

No further action was taken on the matter at this hearing.

Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
Price, Eilanna S	Vellucci, Christina	12 Sheafe St #2	\$445,000
Armstrong, Mary A	Schaller, Kristin	17 Sackville St #3	\$620,000
Goldberg, Michael	Tucker, Ross	29 Essex St #2	\$835,000
Alix, Veronica E	Clark Charles W Est	50 Mystic St #1	\$814,000
Mcvey, Kathleen A	Feder, Alpa	65-67 Monument Ave #1	\$880,000
Barry, Courtney B	Brouse Jr, Edward G	97 Bartlett St #3	\$729,000
Alix, Veronica E	Clark Charles W Est	99 Pearl St #13	\$814,000



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City holds budget listening session for Districts 1, 3, and 4

By Lauren Bennett

The City of Boston held a budget listening session for Districts 1, 3 and 4 on Feb. 19 as part of its Budget Listening Tour. Approximately 65 people tuned into the Zoom session to learn about the city's budget process and provide feedback on things they'd like to see in the Fiscal Year 2023 city budget.

Jim Williamson, the city's Budget Director, gave a brief presentation about the budget process and how it works.

He said that the city is "really excited to hear people's thoughts," especially since voters voted to change the role of the City Council in the budgeting process in last November's election and a participatory budgeting model will be created.

Boston's budget has two parts, the operating budget, which gets most of its funding from things like taxes and state aid and pays for general city services, and the capital budget, which receives funding from the operating budget to pay for municipal bonds for longer-term projects.

Williamson explained that the operating budget has two parts: expenses and revenue. The most amount of money is spent on public agencies, then on general government agencies, public safety, fixed costs such as pensions, and

health insurance.

Williamson also said that 73 percent of the FY22 budget came from property taxes. The rest comes from state aid, departmental revenue, excise taxes, and non recurring revenue.

He also explained the budget timeline. FY22 started on July 1 of 2021, and the FY23 budget process began in the winter of 2021 and 2022. On April 13 of this year, Mayor Wu will submit her recommended budget, and in May and June, the City Council will hold hearings related to budget matters. On June 8, the Council will vote on the budget, and on June 15, the Mayor will accept or reject the Council's version. On July 1, FY23 begins.

There are also several charter changes that will affect how the City Council interacts with the budget. Prior to last November's election, the Council was only permitted to "reject, reduce, or pass the budget," but on top of that, they will also be allowed to "amend" individual line items in the budget.

According to a slide presented, "amending the budget means that the Council can reduce certain appropriations and increase others, as long as it stays within the overall total budget submitted by the Mayor."

Additionally, an Office of Participatory Budgeting will be

created by 2024 per the ballot measure.

"This listening tour is an opportunity to hear from you," Williamson said, though he added that the city engages the public all year long to gain insight into what residents would like to see as part of the budget. He said people can reach out to their City Councilors, mayor's liaisons, or call 311 with budget feedback as well.

During the public comment portion, several residents spoke about what they believe money should be allocated towards.

Frank O'Brien of the East Boston Climate Coalition said that "we're recommending that the city identify a meaningful public process from the Feb.-April time period for measures in East Boston." He said that East Boston and a few others "have very significant climate risk," and that the Coalition "recommend that all stakeholders be fully involved."

In the chat, he said that he'd like to see in the "final capital budget line items for priority flood risk pathways for East Boston, with a focus on natural systems."

Phil Giffie of Neighborhood of Affordable Housing in East Boston wrote: "May I agree with Frank that East Boston, as a vulnerable, environmental justice community, needs significant capital investments in green/gray infrastructure. If we fail to address this neces-

sity, small businesses, long-time as well as diverse new residents, public properties such as the tunnels/T, public schools will suffer losses which no insurance policies will ever cover. DPA's need to be amended soon. Collaboration with private owners in order to create more affordable housing and climate protections are essential."

A question was also asked about all Boston communities being given an equitable voice in the process. City Councilor Lydia Edwards said that as Williamson mentioned, "this process is already in response to that," she said. She also spoke of a "democratic process for participating" in the budget process, adding that "those words need to be defined" and will be by the Office of Participatory Budgeting once it is created.

Several residents spoke on behalf of allocating money towards Crane's Ledge Woods in Roslindale, and several also asked for more funding for parks.

Kathy Elliott said that more discussion should be had about "where the budget can be cut" rather than where it can be added to. "We have so many competing needs," she said. "Let's look where we can cut some waste.... We have a lot of wealthy institutions in Boston who do not pay their fair share of taxes."

Orient Heights resident Cindy

Baxter spoke about climate resilience in East Boston, specifically about TREE Eastie and planting more street trees in the neighborhood. She said that with "extra staffing," she hopes that these plantings can continue.

She also said that more "liaison support" from the Mayor's Office would be beneficial to the neighborhood. She said that East Boston is a "neighborhood of 40,000-plus people" and "could really use that personal touch" of more representatives.

Lastly, Baxter said that "feet on the street is really important from a police perspective," adding that she is "seeing the positive perception from even the police ice cream trucks."

Two more listening sessions remain as part of this tour: Wed., Feb. 23 from 6-7pm for Districts 2, 7, and 9, and Fri., Feb. 25 from 10-11am with At-Large Councilors.

The city has also put out a survey as another way for residents to provide feedback during the budget process, which can be found at <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdaPIAK-b8UygdwLkEUMjTnUM6dL-rhIr8dVIs2AN-bEqFKCmYg/viewform>.

Charlestown's weekly COVID positive test decreases

By John Lynds

With Boston's weekly COVID positive test rate falling below 5 percent for the first time in months, Mayor Michelle Wu and Dr. Bisola Ojikutu announced last week that the City's "B Together" policy, which requires patrons and staff of certain indoor spaces to show proof of vaccination against COVID-19, would be lifted effective immediately.

"The public health data shows that we're ready to take this step in our recovery," said Mayor Wu. "This news highlights how much progress we've made in our fight against COVID-19 thanks to vaccines & boosters—which have always been our most effective weapon against the pandemic. It's a win for every Bostonian who's done their part to keep our communities safe, and we have to keep going. I want to thank all of our small businesses who have been

working to keep our communities healthy through challenging times."

Public health data shows Boston has a 4.6% community positivity rate, a 90.7% occupancy rate of adult ICU beds, and 7-day average of adult COVID-19 hospitalizations at 195.9 per day, falling below all three previously announced thresholds.

"I'm encouraged by our COVID-19 data and optimistic about where our city is headed. The City's COVID-19 response has been guided by science throughout the pandemic, and we will continue to make data-driven decisions in our mitigation and response strategies in order to keep everyone safe," said Commissioner of Public Health and Executive Director of the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) Dr. Ojikutu. "The Boston Public Health Commission remains focused on ensuring equitable

access to vaccination and supporting communities disproportionately impacted by COVID-19."

However, Wu and Ojikutu said the City's mask mandate for indoor spaces, including schools, remains in effect until further notice.

According to the BPHC 14,734 residents were tested citywide last week and 4.6 percent were COVID positive--this was a 33 percent decrease from the 6.9 percent that reportedly tested positive for the week ending on February 14. The weekly positive test rate has now decreased 57 percent in Boston since February 7.

According to the weekly report released Monday by the BPHC, 385 Charlestown residents were tested and 5.2 percent were found to be positive--this was a 40 percent decrease from the 8.7 percent that tested positive between February 7 and February 14. So far the weekly positive test rate has decreased 62.5 percent week over

week since February 7.

Twenty additional Charlestown residents tested positive for the virus last week and the number of positive cases increased to 3,517 overall since the start of the pandemic.

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 0.64 percent last week and went from 162,683 cases to 163,720 confirmed cases in a week.

There were 19 additional deaths in Boston from the virus in the past week and the total COVID deaths is now at 1,697. Deaths decreased 14 percent in Boston last week with three less deaths than the 22 deaths reported by the BPHC two weeks ago.

A SHORT STORY ABOUT A MOTORCYCLE AND A SUDDEN TURN.

When she was a young college student, Elisabeth Marra had a serious motorcycle accident that ultimately changed her life. Two years after the crash, her painful open fractures had failed to heal. Then she heard about a new and complex surgery pioneered by a surgeon who used a patient's own stem cells to concentrate the healing process. This time, her surgery and subsequent therapy were successful.

Elisabeth's experience caused her to redirect her own career aspirations. Inspired by the medical professionals who helped her reclaim her active lifestyle, she changed her major to study physical therapy—a profession where her own experience could help other patients prevail through difficult recoveries.

We tell Elisabeth Marra's story here to illustrate two of the most profound messages we know. Don't give up, and remember to give back. If reading it inspires just one more person to achieve something special, then its telling here has been well worth while.



Care Dimensions welcomes Gowri Nagaraj of Charlestown to its Board of Directors

Care Dimensions, the largest hospice and palliative care provider in Massachusetts serving more than 100 communities, is pleased to welcome Gowri Nagaraj of Charlestown to our Board of Directors. She is the director of Business Expansion at Point32Health, the company recently formed through the merger of Harvard Pilgrim Health Care and Tufts Health Plan.

"I welcome Gowri to our Board of Directors, where she brings abundant experience, expertise and enthusiasm for our mission of providing comprehensive and compassionate care for

individuals and families dealing with life-threatening illnesses," said President and CEO Patrician Ahern, RN, MBA, FACHE. "She has built a legacy of transforming lives in healthcare and we are thrilled she is committed to our organization and its work."

Previously, Gowri was on the corporate strategic planning teams at Mass General Brigham Healthcare, New England Baptist Hospital and University of Kentucky Health System. She earned her master's degree in health administration from the University of Kentucky and her Bachelor of Engineering in biomedical engi-

neering from Manipal Institute of Technology in Karnataka, India.

Care Dimensions is the largest hospice and palliative care provider to adults and children in Massachusetts. As a non-profit, community-based leader in advanced illness care, Care Dimensions provides comprehensive hospice, palliative care, grief support in more than 100 communities in Massachusetts. Founded in 1978 as Hospice of the North Shore, Care Dimensions cares for patients wherever they live – in their homes, in skilled nursing facilities and assisted living communities, in hospitals, or at our

two inpatient hospice facilities, the Care Dimensions Hospice House in Lincoln and the Kaplan Family Hospice House in Danvers. Additionally, Care Dimensions HomeMD program provides in-home primary care to patients over age 65 in select communities on the North Shore and Greater Boston who have difficulty leaving home. The Care Dimensions Learning Institute educates more than 7,000 health care professionals and community members each year on advanced illness and end-of-life topics. Please visit www.CareDimensions.org to learn more about Care Dimensions.



Gowri Nagaraj.

Tania Del Rio releases plan to engage Boston's unique resources into equitable, exemplary education

Candidate for Boston City Council District 1 and BPS mother Tania Del Rio released her vision for the future of BPS, crafted collaboratively with a coalition of community members, parents, and education experts, including former Chief of Education for the City of Boston Rahn Dorsey and community activist Elsa Flores.

Her plan outlines a pathway to ensure all students have equitable access to quality schools and safe learning environments by providing safe, quality, and sustainable learning environments; expanding mental health resources; guaranteeing safe, accessible environments for our immigrant students; streamlining our school transportation system; enriching our arts education curriculum; and charting a path forward for Charlestown High School.

She also includes her commitment to expanding Universal Pre-K for all 3-year-olds, her support for an elected school committee, and her intention to integrate community input into the process of appointing a new superintendent. To spread awareness, the Del Rio campaign will be hosting a series of collaborative round tables, open to all members of the public and the press, in support of envisioning BPS' future. (Stay tuned for more details & RSVP information!)

"As a BPS parent, transforming

the Boston Public Schools into an equitable, thriving system is personal to me. I have experienced the joys and challenges of BPS and advocated for our early educators and children throughout my career. Throughout the pandemic, chronic absentee rates have been very high and unenrollment from BPS threatens the success of the system. As a City Councilor, my focus would be to do everything we can to attract students and families back into our school system by providing equitable access to an excellent education for all," said Del Rio.

"Justice and prosperity in Boston depend on having leaders, like Tania, who can act powerfully

and produce results in the places [like our education system], where society's contemporary challenges come together. Tania has [already] demonstrated the unique ability to work at [these] important policy intersections and turn aspirations into tangible progress, in her case increasing early education quality in Boston, increasing the economic sustainability of early childhood businesses and expanding opportunity for women in and beyond the workplace. I am ecstatic that she has chosen to run for Boston City Council," said former chief education executive Dorsey.

"As a mother, activist, and education professional, I fully support and value Tania Del Rio's plan to

improve our education system, as part of her candidacy for District 1 City Council. It is important that our immigrant community feels represented and valued. All students need to feel recognized, like their culture is respected,

like their teachers want them to succeed, and like their family is involved. I am excited to see this plan of instrumental and inclusive improvements that Tania has proposed for our education sphere," said Flores.

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THANKS FROM THE KENNEDY CENTER

Thank You for your support! The February 2022 Meal Pack project was a success! The JFK Community Services Team, along with some amazing volunteers, delivered 200 "packs" on

Thursday, February 17, to schools throughout Charlestown. It may be a small gesture, but for many families, receiving these packs makes a big impact.

The Kennedy Center cannot do

this work without you! We hope you will consider learning more about the Kennedy Center's Food Security programs and support this project again in April.



On Thursday, February 17, The JFK Community Services Team, along with some amazing volunteers, delivered 200 "packs" to schools throughout Charlestown. It may be a small gesture, but for many families, receiving these packs makes a big impact. To learn more about the Community Services Team at the Kennedy Center visit: www.kennedycenter.org.

NEWS BRIEFS

CHARLESTOWN RESIDENT COMPETES AT U.S. SKATING CHAMPIONSHIPS FOR BOSTON COLLEGE EAGLES

Gemma Parker, a member of BC's Synchronized Skating team, will be competing with the team at the 2022 U.S. Synchronized Skating Championships on March 5th in Colorado Springs, CO. Gemma is in her first year at BC, majoring in Psychology. She graduated last year from the Boston Latin School and did her senior capstone project on diversity in figure skating. Gemma has represented The Skating Club of Boston since 2009.



Gemma Parker.

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Boston Symphony violinist Lucia Lin headlines North Shore Philharmonic Winter Concert

Boston Symphony Orchestra violinist Lucia Lin will play the Jean Sibelius Violin Concerto No. 1 as the featured soloist highlighting the North Shore Philharmonic Orchestra Winter Concert on Sunday, February 27. Music Director Robert Lehmann will raise his baton to start the concert at 3:00 p.m. at Swampscott High School auditorium.

The concert program will open with Michail Glinka's "Overture to „Russian and Ludmilla” and con-

clude with Carl Nielsen's Symphony No. 1.

Tickets can be purchased in advance on the Orchestra's website, www.nspo.org or at Swampscott High on the day of the concert for \$30. \$25 for seniors and students. Children 12 and under are admitted free.

Violinist Lucia Lin joined the Boston Symphony Orchestra in 1985 and has enjoyed a stellar career as soloist, chamber musician, and recording artist. She

debuted at age 11 when she performed Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. Since then, she has won numerous competitions, including the 1990 International Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow. She has appeared with the Boston Pops, the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, the Oklahoma Symphony Orchestra, the Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra, and the Festival Orchestra in Graz, Austria. She has served as the BSO's assistant concertmaster and also has held concertmaster roles with the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra and London Symphony Orchestra. She previously appeared with the North Shore Philharmonic Orchestra in 2015.

Danish Composer Carl Nielsen wrote his first Symphony in 1891-92 and dedicated the work to his wife, renowned sculptor Anne Marie Carl-Nielsen. The work is known for its distinctively "Danish" flavors and Nielsen's personal style.

Out of concern for the health and safety of all musicians and audience members, the North Shore Philharmonic Orchestra requires all patrons attending the concert present proof of a Covid-19 vaccination, or proof of a negative Covid-19 test no more than 72 hours prior to the concert. Home tests are not accepted. Patrons will be required to wear masks and socially distance in the auditorium.

For more information about the North Shore Philharmonic Orchestra, visit nspo.org.



Violinist Lucia Lin.

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To request an application online visit: www.202MaverickLottery.com. To have a hard copy of the application mailed to your mailing address, please call 617-531-7123 Ext 778.

After careful consideration and out of 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 617-531-7123 Ext 778 or email 202Maverick@maloneyproperties.com to request that we mail you one and to ask us for any guidance you might need to complete the application.

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House of Representatives passes driver's license bill

In an unprecedented effort to increase safety on the roads, the Massachusetts House of Representatives passed legislation that will allow applicants who are unable to prove lawful presence in the United States to apply for a Massachusetts driver's license.

Under this legislation, the Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV) will not inquire about immigration status when processing an application for a Massachusetts driver's license or registration, solely basing the issuance of driver's licenses to residents who provide required documents to prove their identity, pass the corresponding driver tests, and meet all other eligibility criteria.

"I'm proud of the significant step that the House took today towards bringing all drivers under the same licensing and insurance standards, regardless of immigration status," said House Speaker Ronald J. Mariano (D-Quincy). "In addition to increasing safety on our roads for all drivers, this legislation recognizes the essential role our immigrant neighbors play in our society and economy by ensuring that everyone has access to a driver's license. I thank Chair

Straus, Chair Michlewitz, the bill's sponsors, and all my colleagues in the House, as well as countless supporters, immigration and labor advocates, and law enforcement officials for their tireless work to ensure its passage."

"In line with the 16 other states that have passed laws offering standard licenses to those providing secure identification documents, this carefully crafted public safety legislation will mean that all drivers using our roads are identifiable, competent and insured," said Representative William M. Straus (D-Mattapoisett), House Chair of the Joint Committee on Transportation.

"I'm extremely grateful for the tireless advocacy that led to this pivotal moment. I also want to thank Speaker Mariano, Chair Michlewitz, Chair Straus, and the House for their leadership on this important issue," said Boston Mayor Michelle Wu. "All Boston and Massachusetts adults deserve access to driver's licenses regardless of immigration status. I support the Family Mobility Act because it will make all of us safer."

"We cannot overstate our joy, pride and gratitude for today's

historic vote in the Massachusetts House of Representatives," said the leaders of the organizations that co-chair the Driving Families Forward Coalition, Brazilian Worker Center Executive Director Lenita Reason and 32BJ SEIU Vice President Roxana Rivera. "We extend our deepest thanks to Speaker Mariano for his clear support in moving the bill through the legislative process, and we also thank the bill's four lead sponsors, dozens of cosponsors and many thousands of individual supporters. Today, all of them have helped move our state toward safer roads, stronger public security, better public health, and a more robust economy, while also taking a step toward transforming the lives of immigrants and their families across the Commonwealth."

"Immigrants without status are essential workers and card-carrying, dues-paying union members. Moreover, they are our neighbors, friends, and family and an integral part of our economy and community. With overwhelming support from law enforcement, this bill will provide greater public safety and allow workers to obtain and keep good paying jobs, all while

making facets of everyday life that many of us take for granted, like getting kids to school, a reality. We commend Speaker Mariano and the entire Massachusetts House for voting to pass this important legislation that will result in safer roads for all Massachusetts residents," said Steven A. Tolman, President, MA AFL-CIO.

"I want to thank all those legislators, law enforcement leaders, immigration advocates and public health officials who worked tirelessly to advance this bill through today's historic vote in the House," said Middlesex Sheriff Peter J. Koutoujian. "Efforts on this issue date back to my time as a state representative. Then, as now, it was clear that this bill would improve public safety and public health. While I was supportive of this concept 20 years ago, it was the rigorous identification requirements in the final version of this bill that strengthened it further and made today's vote possible. I applaud Speaker Mariano for bringing it to the floor and the individuals who lent their stories and voices to this important cause."

To apply for a standard driver's license, applicants will need

to provide at least two documents to prove their identity and date of birth. All documents written in a foreign language must be accompanied by a certified translation to English:

- Document #1: valid unexpired foreign passport or valid unexpired consular ID
- Document #2: valid US driver's license, birth certificate, valid foreign national ID card, valid foreign driver's license, ora marriage certificate or divorce decree

Residents who cannot prove lawful presence in the United States would remain ineligible for a "REAL ID" which requires documentation of U.S. citizenship or lawful status as a matter of federal law. To protect applicants' privacy, the legislation also prohibits the RMV from disclosing any information about applicants for and holders of a standard driver's license except as authorized by regulations promulgated by the Attorney General.

"An Act relative to work and family mobility" (H.4461) passed the House of Representatives 120-36. It now goes to the Senate for their consideration.

PRIM Board to vote against directors at high-polluting portfolio companies

The Massachusetts Pension Reserves Investment Management (PRIM) Board, which oversees the state's \$104.1 billion pension fund, voted unanimously in favor to approve new proxy voting guidelines proposed by State Treasurer Deborah Goldberg. These guidelines are designed to allow the state pension fund to vote against directors at companies that are not aligned with the Paris Climate Agreement and Climate Action 100+.

The action comes as part of Treasurer Goldberg and PRIM's commitment to build and implement a comprehensive ESG framework with the proxy goals of limiting global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius and/or establishing a plan to achieve "net zero" emissions by

2050.

"This vote not only benefits our retirees and taxpayers with its positive environmental outcomes, but has significant potential to increase our bottom line," said State Treasurer Deborah B. Goldberg, who Chairs the PRIM Board. "It is a more active approach toward achieving our financial goals while having a productive long-term impact on our changing climate."

Over the past 10 years, PRIM has achieved an investment gain of \$70.6 billion – exceeding the benchmark return by \$12 billion over that time. In 2020, PRIM became the first founding member of the MIT Sloan School of Management's Aggregate Confusion Project, a research consortium with the goal of improving ESG

measurement.

"Today's votes help keep PRIM out in front of major ESG trends in the industry," said Michael G. Trotsky, CFA, Executive Director and Chief Investment Officer of MassPRIM. "The new committee will build on the work we have been doing with our partners in the MIT Sloan School's Aggregate Confusion Project to become more impactful; to use the power of PRIM to advocate for important change."

Grassroots organizations, pension funds, and other investors have been working collaboratively with the Treasurer's office to develop policies where shareholders vote against company directors that are the most significant drivers of climate change. Additionally,

the development of an investment approach that pursues an environmental, social, and corporate governance (ESG) frameworks into investment decision making will not only have better impacts on our world but better corporate outcomes resulting in greater returns.

The Board also voted to create an ESG Committee comprised of industry experts. This first-in-the-nation initiative will help to leverage the Fund to be a force that promotes worker safety, fosters diversity, fights against climate change, while still maintaining – and even increasing – returns.

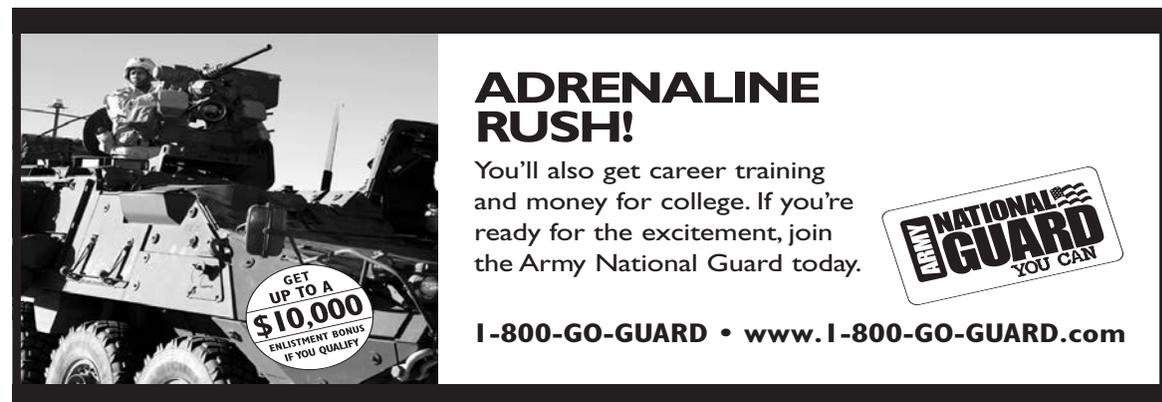
"These voting guidelines are a great move for Massachusetts and other state treasurers and controllers should follow suit," said Mary Cerulli, Founder of Boston based Climate Finance Action. "We know that Treasurer Goldberg's ESG committee will address the entire portfolio and she will work successfully with other large investors to improve and align the climate transition plans of high-emitting companies."

"We applaud the leadership of Treasurer Goldberg and today's actions by the PRIM Board," said Mindy Lubber, CEO and President of Ceres. "Companies and

their directors have been put on notice by many of their shareholders that if they fail to address climate change risks and implement climate practices and policies that will help bring about a transition to a net zero emissions economy, those shareholders will hold them accountable. Following the historic 2021 U.S. proxy season directors now know they might be replaced if they are not doing their jobs in mitigating climate-related risks and capturing opportunities in the net zero transition."

The proxy voting guidelines do not restrict or determine which companies the pension fund invests in. Instead, they allow the fund to use its power as a shareholder to advocate for policies that advance effective corporate governance and ensure sustained value for the fund, fostering long-term growth for its investments.

In prior years, the Treasurer proposed, and the PRIM Board unanimously approved a series of reforms, which, in addition to targeting climate change, also focused on renewable energy, human rights standards, executive pay, LGBTQ rights, board diversity and wage equality, and limiting the number of boards a director may sit on.



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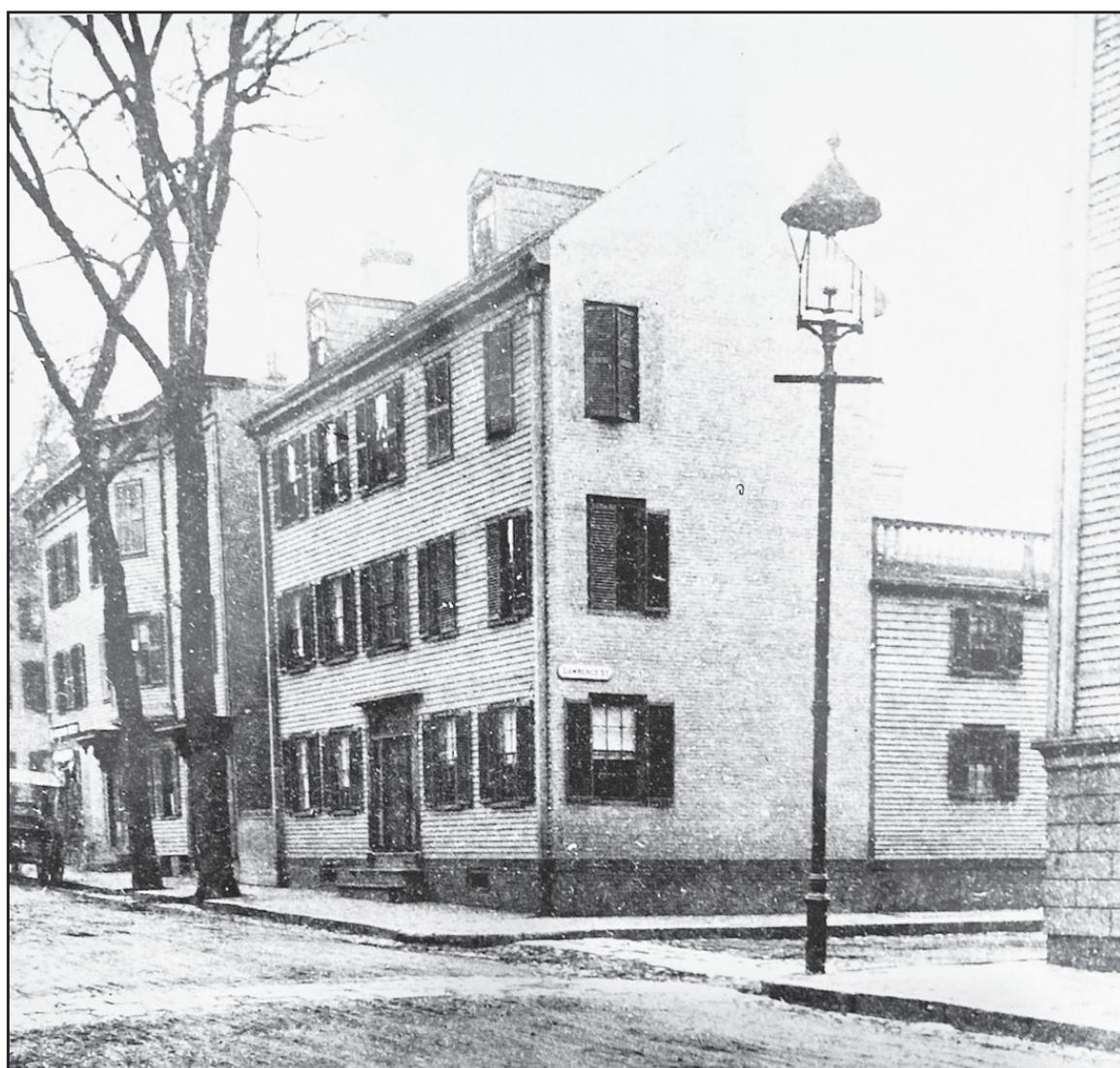
UNION STREET (from pg. 1)

owner was planning on tearing it down and building a sort of New Orleans-style Prudential Tower," said Kulich. "There was some feverish objection from the neighbors and eventually he bowed out."

Kulich said the building was eventually sold to Nestor Lemus and the whole resurrected the knock down and then build back up plan, which prompted him to take action with BLC.

"So the Charlestown Preservation Society helped fashion for the Landmarks Commission a proposal to pro-

tect the area," said Kulich. "We want to create the Union Street Architectural Conservation District to force a proper restoration of that home on Lawrence Street that has a huge history to it. From the preservation side we did some research and we have found a lot of interesting stuff. So we are seeking this protection but the owner could tomorrow go in and just do a restoration on the building. The Preservation Society already offered him advice on how to do that and he could do that right away."



An historic photo of 8 Lawrence St.

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NEIGHBORHOOD ROUND UP

MICHAEL P QUINN DINNER DANCE SET FOR APRIL 9

Three days shy of three years we will be having our annual dinner dance April 9, at the Bunker Hill Knights of Columbus Hall, 545 Medford St, Charlestown, Ma. Our journey has been fraught with medical complications that could not be fathomed. With our organization perseverance and community support, a festive eve-

ning has been planed.

We will be saluting Jeremy S Shea 2019, Madison J Rodriguez 2020, and Quinlan E O'Brien 2021. The featured speaker will be Major General Michael S Martin, U. S. Marine Corps, Deputy Commandant (REC) Combat Development and Integration. A six course meal will be provided by Sandy Griffin McLaughlin, and our musical entertainment will be provided by Alan La Bella.

Tickets are \$50.00 per person and may be obtained by calling Ronan at 627-242-5493, email maryfitzpatrick10@comcast.net or contacting our P O Box 290216, Charlestown. Ma 02129 - 0213. The evening will commence with a 6:15 p.m. social hour, and followed by dinner at 7:30 p.m.

Hopefully you can join us as we continue Mike's mission of selecting and funding the future leaders of our beloved town.

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NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING Project File No. 607670

A Live Design Public Hearing will be published on the MassDOT website below to present the design for the proposed Superstructure Replacement of Maffa Way & Mystic Avenue over Orange Line and MBTA/BMRR project in Boston and Somerville, MA.

WHEN: Time: 6:00PM - Wednesday, March 2, 2022

PURPOSE: The purpose of this hearing is to provide the public with the opportunity to become fully acquainted with the proposed Superstructure Replacement of Maffa Way & Mystic Avenue over Orange Line and MBTA/BMRR. All views and comments submitted in response to the hearing will be reviewed and considered to the maximum extent possible.

PROPOSAL: The proposed project consists of Boston-Somerville- Superstructure Replacement of, B-16-067 (3GV), Maffa Way & B-16-068-S-17-027 (3GW), Mystic Avenue over Orange Line and MBTA/BMRR. Maffa Way will

consist of a 12' sidewalk on the southside of the bridge with a 10' wide 2 way Bicycle lane and a raised concrete median. Mystic Ave. will consist of a 12' sidewalk on the northside of the bridge that will be shared by pedestrians and bicyclists, separated by a 1.5' wide visual buffer.

A secure right-of-way is necessary for this project. Acquisitions in fee and permanent or temporary easements may be required. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts is responsible for acquiring all needed rights in private or public lands. MassDOT's policy concerning land acquisitions will be presented in the hearing. Project inquiries, written statements and other exhibits regarding the proposed undertaking may be submitted to Carrie E. Lavallee, P.E., Acting Chief Engineer, via e-mail to dot.feedback.highway@state.ma.us or via US Mail to Suite 6340, 10 Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116, Attention: Major Projects, Project File No. 607670. Statements and exhibits intended for inclusion in the public hearing transcript must be emailed or postmarked no later than ten (10) business days after the hearing is posted to the MassDOT website listed below. This hearing is accessible

to people with disabilities. MassDOT provides reasonable accommodations and/or language assistance free of charge upon request (e.g interpreters in American Sign Language and languages other than English, live captioning, videos, assistive listening devices and alternate material formats), as available. For accommodation or language assistance, please contact MassDOT's Chief Diversity and Civil Rights Officer by phone (857-368-8580), TTD/TTY at (857) 266-0603, fax (857) 368-0602 or by email (MassDOT.CivilRights@dot.state.ma.us). Requests should be made as soon as possible and prior to the hearing, and for more difficult to arrange services including sign-language, CART or language translation or interpretation, requests should be made at least ten business days before the hearing. This Live Virtual Design Public Hearing or a cancellation announcement will be published on the internet at www.mass.gov/massdot-highway-design-public-hearings. JONATHAN GULLIVER CARRIE E. LAVALLEE, P.E. HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATOR CHIEF ENGINEER

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LOCAL STUDENTS EARN ACADEMIC HONORS

WILLIAMSON INITIATED INTO OMICRON DELTA KAPPA

Jennifer Williamson, a native of Charlestown, was recently initiated into the Union College Circle of Omicron Delta Kappa, the National Leadership Honor Society. The Society welcomed 265 new initiates from 9 universities during January 2022.

Students initiated into the Society must be sophomores, juniors, seniors, or graduate/pro-

fessional students in the top 35% of their class, demonstrate leadership experience in at least one of the five pillars, and embrace the ODK ideals. Fewer than five percent of students on a campus are invited to join each year.

Omicron Delta Kappa Society, the National Leadership Honor Society, was founded in Lexington, Virginia, on December 3, 1914. A group of 15 students and faculty members established the Society to recognize and encourage leadership at the collegiate level. The founders established the ODK

Idea-the concept that individuals representing all phases of collegiate life should collaborate with faculty and others to support the campus and community. ODK's mission is to honor and develop leaders; encourage collaboration among students, faculty, staff, and alumni; and promote ODK's leadership values of collaboration, inclusivity, integrity, scholarship, and service on college and university campuses throughout North America. The Society's national headquarters are located in Lexington, Virginia.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

North Washington Street Bridge construction look-ahead to March 5

This is a brief overview of construction operations and impacts for the North Washington Street Bridge Replacement Project. MassDOT will provide additional notices as needed for high-impact work and changes to traffic configurations beyond those described below.

SCHEDULED WORK

- North abutment (Charlestown side near Chelsea Street) – barrier slab repair and rebar installation
- Assembling and installing north and south wooden fender panels
- Utility work on Charles River Ave
- Forming and pouring concrete elements at City Square

WORK HOURS

- Most work will be done during the daytime and evening (6:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.)

MARINE IMPACTS

- Routine closures of the north and south channels continue. Only one channel will be closed at a time.
- Work hours are during the day (6:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.)
- Vessels may continue to transit through the work site through the open channel.
- While traveling through the open channel, pay close attention

to signage and the multiple boats, barges, cranes, and other work vessels on site.

Use VHF-FM Channel 13 to contact work- and push-boats. If access to the commercial lock is required and work barges are in the channel, 24-hour notice to J.F. White is required to clear access to the lock. The on-scene Superintendent for the J.F. White Contracting Company is Patrick Wilson and can be contacted at (617) 680-7537.

TRAVEL TIPS & THE WINTER SEASON

With winter underway, we will be clearing the bridge during & after snow events. In December 2021, we reapplied the anti-skid coating to the bridge walkway. We will continue to monitor and reapply whenever the coating needs to be refreshed, including our team inspecting the walkway regularly. Additionally, the contractor is responsible for monitoring the site daily for snow and ice issues and addressing them as soon as they are identified. They are also proactively preparing for imminent weather conditions when forecasted.

For everyone using the temporary bridge, please help share the space: walk to the right, walk

bikes, and be mindful of people coming from both directions, if walking in a large group.

Drivers should take care to pay attention to all signage and move carefully through the work zone. Police details, lane markings, temporary barriers, traffic cones, signage, and other tools will be used to control traffic and create safe work zones.

The Tudor Wharf Walkway (under the bridge next to the water in Paul Revere Park) will be intermittently closed for safety during construction operations, with access provided via the Water Street underpass. The Boston Harborwalk under the bridge and eastern/harborside bridge sidewalk remain closed until rebuilt.

For your awareness, the following events are scheduled during this look-ahead period:

- BRUINS: 2/21 at 1:00 p.m.
- EVENTS: 2/20 at 7:30 p.m., 2/22 at 3:00 P.M., 2/23 at 7:00 p.m., 2/24 at 11:00 a.m., 3:00 p.m., and 7:00 p.m.; 2/25 at 11 a.m., 3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.; 2/26 at 11:00 a.m., 3:00 p.m., and 7:00 p.m.; 2/27 at 12:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.
- CELTICS: 3/1 at 7:30 p.m., and 3/3 at 7:30 p.m.

CHARLESTOWN BEAT

Motor Vehicle Accident-Property Damage

02/14/22 – At about 1:10 p.m., an officer responded to a radio call for a downed lightpole at 250 Rutherford Ave.

Upon arrival, the officer met with State Police and observed a lightpole had broken from its base and fallen onto Rutherford Avenue. The pole was broken into multiple pieces and blocked two travel lanes.

Boston Fire Engine 50 and Ladder 9 also responded to the scene and secured the two travel lanes to prevent any accidents. The Boston Lighting Department crew arrived on the scene as well and removed the pole from the roadway before rendering the electrical safe. The cause of the incident appeared to be that the concrete base of the light pole rotted away and caved in.

Fraud Pretense - Scheme

02/16/2022 – At approximately 3:30 p.m., police in the TS21 Unit took a phone-in report of threats at the Warren Prescott School. O

The officer was contacted by the school's headmaster, who said a parent of one of their students had come to the school's front office. The student's mother stated she received a phone call from an unknown number and said the person on the other line pretended to be her son while crying "hysterically." The individual on the phone indicated that her son witnessed "them" doing something "bad" during his recess, and as a

result, "they" took her child with them. The individual on the phone then stated his boss wants to kill him, but he is trying to save his life. The individual then demanded \$5,000 cash for his safe return.

It should be noted that the student's mother had the child at the time of the reporting, and all parties involved were never physically confronted nor harmed.

Fraud Pretense - Scheme

02/20/2022 – At around 2:30 p.m., an officer assisted with a walk-in fraud report from Walford Way.

The officer spoke with the victim, who stated that she met two males, Clinton T. Ken and Coleman Freeman, from Nigeria, on a dating website called "Finally" and "Hi." The victim stated that a relationship formed online overtime when Clinton and Freeman began saying they would fly from Nigeria to Boston to meet her but needed money.

The victim started purchasing gift cards and wiring money to the suspects via MoneyGram. The victim stated that she was contacting the suspects via "What's App" and "Hi app," where she would send them the codes to the gift cards. The victim stated that she sent over \$10,000 before realizing she was being scammed.

The victim said she has since blocked the individuals and deleted her accounts on the apps and websites.

The Area A-1 Detectives will do a follow-up investigation.

IN LOVING MEMORY MARY A. WIEMERT June 5, 1932 – February 22, 2014 8 Year Anniversary



*My dearest darling Sister
How can I find the words to say
To tell of how I miss you
Throughout every single day?
I miss our little chats -
The way you'd listened to me moan
And how you'd always cheer me up
Whenever you would phone.
Living life without you
Is so very hard to bear
And I'd give all I have to waken
And to see you standing there.*

Love,
Frank

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