

Planning and Development Department Update

DATE: May 13, 2016

TO: Mayor Setti D. Warren

FROM: James Freas, Acting Director of Planning and Development

RE: Friday Report

CC: City Council

Maureen Lemieux, Chief of Staff and Chief Financial Officer

Dori Zaleznik, Chief Administrative Officer



Our Department's weekly report is intended to keep you informed of current development proposals and other noteworthy planning and development activities as follows:

Monday 5/16/16	
Tuesday 5/17/16	
Wednesday 5/18/16	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Urban Design Commission, 7:00 p.m., Cafeteria (Basement Level)
Thursday 5/19/16	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Brookline-Newton-Watertown-Waltham Homelessness Continuum of Care, 3:00 p.m., Room 211Chestnut Hill Historic District Commission, rescheduled to May 26th

- **Newton-In-Motion Event *Postponed*:** The Transportation Demonstration Workshop scheduled for Friday and Saturday, May 13th-14th, has been postponed due to inclement weather. We invite you to visit the demonstration site on June 10th-11th instead. The reason for the delay is that one of the primary materials used to make this a temporary demonstration is washable paint.

For two days, **Friday-Saturday June 10th & 11th**, the intersection of Washington Street and Walnut Street will feature a temporary traffic configuration that will demonstrate how the intersection could be redesigned to be more welcoming to all users. The temporary configuration will be made of moveable materials and will include elements like curb extensions, pedestrian islands, bike lanes, parklets, and art programming. Kids welcome and encouraged to participate! More information at www.newtonma.gov/transportationstrategy.

- **Urban Design Commission:** The Urban Design Commission will meet on **Wednesday, May 18th** at 7:00pm in the Cafeteria. The agenda includes the following sign applications: **276 Church Street** –YMCA, **739 Beacon Street**- Cambridge Savings Bank-Temporary Sign, **308 Walnut Street** – Cambridge Savings Bank-Temporary Sign, **1365 Centre Street** – Newton Centre Shell, **63 Union Street** – The Organic Lab, and **200-220 Boylston Street** – Modifications to the Comprehensive sign package for Bon Me and European Wax Center. There will additionally be Conceptual Reviews of **1615 Beacon Street** – multi-residence project, and **1-55 Boylston Street** (The Street at Chestnut Hill) – commercial project. **Contact Rachel Blatt** at 617.796.1127 or rblatt@newtonma.gov.
- **Brookline-Newton-Watertown-Waltham Homelessness Continuum of Care:** The Continuum of Care will meet on **Thursday, May 19th** at 3:00 p.m. in Room 211. The agenda includes a review of meeting minutes and a presentation on rapid re-housing. **Contact Lydia Scott** at 617-796-1132 or lscott@newtonma.gov.
- **Chestnut Hill Historic District Commission:** The regularly scheduled **Thursday, May 19th** meeting has been **rescheduled to Thursday, May 26th**. Contact **Barbara Kurze** at 617.796.1129 or bkurze@newtonma.gov.
- **Emergency Solutions Grant Funds Available:** The City of Newton has received a grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to fund homeless services within the Brookline-Newton Waltham-Watertown (BNWW) Continuum of Care (CoC). The Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) is intended

to provide assistance to prevent homelessness and to enable homeless individuals and families to move toward stable living situations. The City of Newton announced funding availability for providers of emergency shelter services, street outreach, homelessness prevention, and rapid re-housing services. The City is accepting applications for service during the period from 7/1/2016 to 6/30/2017, making a total of approximately \$172,231 available with the following maximum amounts for each activity:

- Shelter Services: \$17,516
- Homelessness Prevention: \$67,945.29
- Rapid Re-housing: \$23,086
- Street Outreach: \$17,516

Grants are available to 501(c)(3) corporations. Applications are due to the Housing and Community Development Division of the Planning and Development Department no later than 4:00 p.m., on Thursday, June 2, 2016. Information about the grant and application forms can be found on the City website at <http://www.newtonma.gov/gov/planning/hcd/homeassist.asp> or may be obtained by contacting **Lydia Scott** at 617.796.1132 or lscott@newtonma.gov.

- **Online Access to Building Permit Information:** Want to view the building permit plans, application, and other documents associated with a building permit? Check out www.newtonma.gov/permits. You can now view the attachments for a permit under the “documents” link from your computer. The Inspectional Services Department has been scanning applications electronically since July 2015. Building permit plans have been electronic since July 2010. The department also has an ongoing project to scan all items in the property files allowing them to be accessed online. **Contact the Inspectional Services Department at 617.796.1060.**