

Planning and Development Department Update

DATE: June 24, 2016

TO: Mayor Setti D. Warren

FROM: Barney Heath, 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 6/27/16	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Zoning & Planning Committee, 7:00 p.m., Council Chamber (Room 207)/Room 205
Tuesday 6/28/16	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Land Use Committee Public Hearing, 7:00 p.m., Council Chamber (Room 207)• Zoning Board of Appeals, cancelled
Wednesday 6/29/16	
Thursday 6/30/16	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• West Newton Square Enhancements Project, 6:30p.m., Second Church in Newton, 60 Highland St.

- **Newton Leads 2040: A Blueprint to Promote Affordable, Diverse Housing and Economic Growth:** On Thursday, June 23rd the Newton Housing Strategy Report was released and marks the beginning of a housing conversation series and community engagement with members of the Newton community. The webpage www.newtonma.gov/housingstrategy has a link to a "factbook" about the housing strategy, which the Planning Department team developed to make this information accessible for a wide audience. Comments or questions are welcome and can be sent to housingstrategy@newtonma.gov.
- **Zoning & Planning Committee & Joint Hearing of the Planning and Development Board:** The Committee will meet on **Monday, June 27th** at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber to hear the following items: **#198-16, #230-16, #231-16, #232-16** for appointments to the Zoning Board of Appeals, Chestnut Hill Historic District Commission; **#159-16**, discussion with the Human Rights Commission and Fair Housing Committee relative to discriminatory practices; **#445-14**, updates from the Newton Fair Housing Committee on housing opportunities. **Joint Public Hearing with the Planning and Development Board** on the following items: **#183-16**, petition to rezone lots on **38 and 44 Mechanic Street**; **#184-16**, petition to rezone lots on **369 and 377 Walnut Street**; **#153-16**, petition to rezone **1294 Centre Street**; **#278-14(2)**, zoning amendment to clarify the definition of two-family detached dwelling; **#61-10**, discussion relative to bringing existing accessory apartments into compliance; **#164-09**, request for amendments to dimensional requirements for accessory apartments. A detailed agenda can be found on our website at www.newtonma.gov/gov/aldermen/committees/zoning/2016.asp. **Contact James Freas** at 617.796.1137 or jfreas@newtonma.gov.
- **Land Use Committee Public Hearing:** The Committee will meet on **Tuesday, June 28th** at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber to hear the following petitions: **#194-16**, to further increase the non-conforming number of stories and further increase the nonconforming FAR at **110 Upland Avenue**; **#195-16**, to extend a non-conforming use and further increase the non-conforming FAR at **41 Chesley Road**; **#126-16** to modify an existing nonconforming use and amend special permit

#88702 to raze the existing building and rebuild the dwelling away from the floodplain at **17 Malvern Terrace; #48-16** , to construct a three-story, 113,187 square foot self-storage facility which will increase the Floor Area Ratio to 1.5, where 1.0 is the maximum allowed by right as well as a waiver of 36 parking stalls and waivers of other parking requirements at 255-257 Newtonville Avenue; **Contact Alexandra Ananth**, 617.796.1121 or aananth@newtonma.gov.

- **West Newton Square Enhancements Project:** Join us on **Thursday, June 30th** from 6:30p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Second Church of Newton, 60 Highland Street as the City of Newton embarks on a project to plan , design and construct roadway, sidewalk and streetscape improvements in the heart of historic West Newton Square for construction in 2017. We invite you to be a part of the design process. To sign-up for project updates and participate online visit our website at www.newtonma.gov/westnewtonsq. Comments or questions are welcome and can be sent to westnewtonsq@newtonma.gov
- **Zoning Board of Appeals Public Hearing:** The originally scheduled **June 28th** meeting has been **cancelled** as no appeals or petitions were filed. The Board will next meet on **July 14th** to continue the Public Hearing for the 40B project at **1521 Beacon Street**. For more information **contact Adrianna Henriquez** at 617.796.1133 or ahenriquez@newtonma.gov.
- **New Parking Payment Application – Passport:** The City of Newton is launching a new parking app called Passport that will allow an alternative payment method for parking meters throughout the City. Watch for new decals on meter stands indicating you will now have the option to pay by phone using an app called Passport. **For more information, go to** www.newtonma.gov/parking.
- **Newton-in-Motion Draft Strategies Survey Open until July 15th:** At past workshops, the City collected input on goals, visions, ideas, and tools to improve transportation in Newton. Now, the Newton-in-Motion project team will present draft strategies that Newton could employ to achieve these goals. We want your help to select and prioritize these strategies. Please visit our website at www.newtonma.gov/transportationstrategy.
- **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.