


Planning and Development Department Update

DATE: July 28, 2017

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 7/31/17	
Tuesday 8/1/17	
Wednesday 8/2/17	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Fair Housing Committee, 8:00 a.m., Room 205
Thursday 8/3/17	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Newtonville Historic District Commission, 7:30 p.m., Room 205
Saturday 8/5/17	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Pop-Up Planning at West Newton Farmers Market, 10:00 a.m., Elm Street

- Fair Housing Committee:** On **Wednesday, August 2nd** the Committee will meet at 8:00 a.m. in Room 205 to have a review of proposed amendment to Kessler Woods special permit and the next steps for auditing for housing discrimination in Newton. Administrative discussion to include approval of meeting minutes. **Contact Malcolm Lucas** at **617.796.1149** or mlucas@newtonma.gov.
- Newtonville Historic District Commission:** On **Thursday, August 3rd** the Commission will meet at 7:30 p.m. in Room 205. The following requests will be considered: **142 Lowell Avenue**, to install a landscaping wall and irrigation, to replace the front walkway, to install steps, and to change the driveway; Administrative discussion to include approval of meeting minutes. **Contact Barbara Kurze** at **617.796.1129** or bkurze@newtonma.gov.
- Pop-Up Planning Department:** Your City of Newton Planning Department is popping up at local Farmers Markets again this summer. Ask us questions about anything planning! Learn about the new Accessory Apartment zoning rules, get details on the upcoming Zoning Redesign event series, find out how West Newton and Walnut Streets are getting street safety makeovers, get connected with economic development resources. . . and more. **Saturday, August 5th from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.** at the West Newton Farmers Market on Elm Street and **Tuesday, August 8th from 1:30 – 6:00 p.m.** at the Cold Spring Farmers Market off Beacon Street.
- West Newton Square Enhancements Project:** Come out to the West Newton Farmers Market on **Saturday, August 5th, 2017**, find the Pop-Up Planning Department, and get information about the street safety improvements and village enhancements planned. Also visit our website at www.newtonma.gov/westnewtonsq to review and draft plans and past presentations. Questions and comments are welcome at westnewtonsq@newtonma.gov or 617.796.1127.
- Zoning Redesign:** We are continuing our Zoning Redesign Drop-In sessions this summer. **Drop-In on Wednesdays, August 16th and August 30th** from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. Come by City Hall, 1000 Commonwealth Avenue, Room 106 (1st floor main entrance) to share your ideas with staff and ask questions about the City's project redesign the zoning ordinance. Everyone is welcome! Starting next week invitations will go out in Newton utility bills to "Zoning Redesign Event Series". On **September 27th, 2017** the nine-part series will launch and will run to May, 2018. Each event is about a different topic and

will be held at Newton Free Library, 300 Homer St. from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. Check out the series online and RSVP at <http://courbanize.com/newtonzoning>. Contact James Freas at jfreas@newtonma.gov or zoningredesign@newtonma.gov with questions.

- **Local Historic Districts:** The Zoning and Planning Committee and the Planning and Development Board hosted a public hearing on June 12th to discuss the recommendation from the Newton Historical Commission to establish a **West Newton Local Historic District**. This public hearing remains open. The proposed **Newton Highlands Local Historic District** was presented to the Zoning and Planning Committee and the Planning Board on May 8th. That public hearing also remains open. Additional information can be found on our website www.newtonma.gov/gov/planning/current/devrev/hip/local_historic_districts.asp. Contact Katy Hax Holmes at kholmes@newtonma.gov with questions regarding the approval process in Newton.
- **1294 Centre Street:** Conceptual plans for the redevelopment of this property and an adjacent rear property are available at www.newtonma.gov/1294CentreStreet . Sign-up for updates.
- **Crescent Street Housing and Reverend Ford Playground Expansion Project:** To view the preliminary design for the eight (8) units of housing visit our website at www.newtonma.gov/crescentst.
- **Community Preservation Committee:** The agenda for the CPC's next meeting on Wednesday, August 9, 2017 (starting at 7 p.m. in City Hall Room 204) includes brief items for the already funded project at the [New Art Center](#) and the pending proposal for the [Newton Cemetery's Whipple-Beal Cast Iron Fence](#), plus a PUBLIC HEARING on the Newton Housing Authority's \$2 million request for its [Jackson Road New Senior Housing \(Haywood House\)](#) project in Newton Corner. On the program website, www.newtonma.gov/cpa, the full agenda and pre-meeting packet are available from [Committees & Meetings – Current CPC Meetings](#), and the Jackson Road proposal is available from [Proposals & Projects – Pending](#). For assistance, contact Alice Ingerson, Program Manager, at alingerson@newtonma.gov or 617.796.1144.