

Planning and Development Department Update

DATE: January 26, 2018

TO: Mayor Ruthanne Fuller

FROM: Barney Heath, Director of Planning and Development



RE: Friday Report

CC: City Council

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 1/29/18	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Needham Street Area Vision Plan, 5:00 pm., Barry Price Center (27 Christina Street)
Tuesday 1/30/18	
Wednesday 1/31/18	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Austin Street Liaison Committee, 7:00 p.m., Room 205
Thursday 2/1/18	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Newton Farm Commission, 7:00 p.m., Planning Conference Room (B10)Conservation Commission, 7:00 p.m., Room 204Newtonville Historic District Commission, 7:30 p.m., Room 205

- **Needham Street Area Vision Plan:** On **Monday, January 29th** the Community Engagement Group is meeting at the Barry Price Center, 27 Christina Street from 5:00 – 7:30 p.m. Members of the public are welcome to attend and there will be a portion of the agenda available for public comment. To review materials, sign up for email updates, and to stay up-to-date on the Needham Street Area Vision Plan, visit www.newtonma.gov/needhamstreet
- **28 Austin Street:** The next Liaison Committee meeting is **Wednesday, January 31st** at 7:00 p.m. in Room 205. Pre-construction phase work will start in January 29th. Construction to begin in earnest in March. Go to www.newtonma.gov/austinstreet for more information and to sign up for occasional email updates.
- **Newton Farm Commission:** On **Thursday, February 1st** the Commission will meet at **7:00 p.m.** in the Planning Department's Basement Conference Room (B10). **Contact Adrianna Henriquez** at 617.796.1133 or ahenriquez@newtonma.gov.
- **Conservation Commission:** will meet on **Thursday, February 1st** at 7:00 p.m. in Room 204. The following matters will be discussed. Wetland decisions regarding: construction of a 6-lot subdivision at **56 Farwell Street** and a certificate of compliance request for the fields built at the Fessenden School, **250 Waltham Street**; certificate of compliance request for an addition and deck at **55 Wayne Road**; certificate of compliance request for the demolition and rebuilding of a single family home at **10 Maynard Street**. Administrative decisions: Approval of 1/11/18 meeting minutes. Updates will be given on wetland matters, conservation areas, administrative matters, and issues around town. A detailed agenda can be found at [2018 Agendas & Minutes](#). Contact **Jennifer Steel** at 617.796.1134 or jsteel@newtonma.gov.
- **Newtonville Historic District Commission:** On **Thursday, February 1st** the Commission will meet at 7:30 p.m. in Room 205. The following requests will be considered: **40 Foster Street**, to replace front walkway and install cobblestone edging; Administrative discussion to include approval of meeting minutes. **Contact Barbara Kurze** at 617.796.1129 or bkurze@newtonma.gov.
- **Auburndale Square Project Review:** On **Thursday, February 8th** at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers (Room 207) there will be a public hearing for a 1 year check back and presentation to discuss re-design as well as all modifications of Auburndale Square. The meeting will include City Councilors and

representatives from the Department of Public Works, Planning and Police Departments. Questions can be sent to DPWProjects@newtonma.gov.

- **Zoning Redesign:** On **Thursday, February 15th** join us at the next event in our series, “Tapping the Creative Economy: Zoning, Arts and Artisans” at 6:30 p.m. at the Newton Free Library – Druker Auditorium, 330 Homer Street. Check out the entire nine-part Zoning Redesign series online and **RSVP** at www.courbanize.com/newtonzoning. Also, **Drop-In Office Hours** will take place at City Hall in Room 106 on **Wednesday, February 28th** from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. Have more questions or ideas? **Contact us** at zoningredesign@newtonma.gov or 617.796.1120
- **Community Preservation Committee:** Agenda requests and related written materials for the next CPC meeting on Tuesday, February 13th, are **due today, Friday, January 26th**. If you cannot meet this deadline but have an urgent item for this agenda, please **contact Alice Ingerson** at aingerson@newtonma.gov or 617.796.1144.

At its meeting on **Tuesday, January 23rd**, the Committee made the following decisions:

- [Jackson Road/Haywood House new senior housing](#) [Newton Corner] (Newton Housing Authority), \$2,500,000 request – to recommend full requested funding to the City Council
- [Crescent Street](#) [Auburndale/West Newton] (affordable housing and community playground/park), \$2,575,000 in additional CPA funding for final design & construction – to close the public hearing and continue the CPC working session to February 13, with a commitment to vote at that meeting on whether to recommend the requested funding

Additional information is available on the program website at www.newtonma.gov/cpa.

- **Crescent Street Housing and Reverend Ford Playground Expansion Project:** To view the most recent concept design for the housing project and to sign up to receive project updates, go to www.newtonma.gov/crescentst. **Contact Amanda Berman** at 617.796.1147 or aberman@newtonma.gov.
- **Inclusionary Zoning Ordinance Update:** To review materials and stay up-to-date on this project, go to www.newtonma.gov/Inclusionary_Zoning **Contact Amanda Berman** at 617.796.1147 or aberman@newtonma.gov.
- **Needham Street Corridor Project (MassDOT roadwork):** This project proposes roadway reconstruction and transportation safety improvements including new pavement, sidewalks, traffic signals, crosswalks, bicycle lanes and stormwater management. Email needhamstreet@newtonma.gov to sign up for occasional project updates.
- **Highlights of Newton transportation improvements in 2017** are published online here <http://conta.cc/2p1CXdS>. Since launching [Newton-in-Motion: A Transportation Strategy for Newton](#) in April, we have made progress on several priority actions including beginning work on a **Street Design Guide** for Newton. Look for events in early 2018 or email ssikka@newtonma.gov with any ideas, comments, or questions.
- **Newton-Needham Transportation Survey:** The Newton-Needham Regional Chamber is assisting the 128 Business Council on an initiative that aims to improve transportation directly benefiting Newton and Needham residents, businesses, employees and customers. As a first step, they are surveying commuters in the Newton and Needham area. **Take the survey! Win a \$40 Amazon gift card!** <https://128bc.org/surveys>
- **Village Enhancement Projects:** To review materials and stay up-to-date on the **West Newton Square Enhancements Project** and the **Walnut Street Enhancements Project**, visit the respective project websites at www.newtonma.gov/westnewtonsq and www.newtonma.gov/walnutstreet.