

Planning and Development Department Update

DATE: April 6, 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 4/9/18	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Needham Street Vision Plan, 5:00 p.m., The Barry Price Center (27 Christina St)• Commission on Disability, 6:30 p.m., Room 204• Zoning & Planning Committee, 7:00 p.m., Room 205
Tuesday 4/10/18	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Economic Development Commission, 7:00 p.m., Room 204• Land Use Committee, 7:00 p.m., Council Chamber (Room 207)• Auburndale Historic District Commission, 7:00 p.m., Room 205
Wednesday 4/11/18	
Thursday 4/12/18	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• "What's the Process? How Stuff gets Built in Newton" Zoning Redesign Event, 5:00 p.m., Newton Free Library (330 Homer St)• Newton Upper Falls Historic District Commission, 7:00 p.m., Room 205

- **Needham Street Area Vision Plan:** Community Engagement Group meets **Monday, April 9th** at the 27 Christina Street, Newton. The topic will be a synthesis of the feedback we have heard from the engagement group, and how it is going to be incorporated into the vision plan. A **Public Forum** will take place on **Monday April 23rd** from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at 27 Christina Street. Everyone is invited to attend and learn more about the Vision Plan draft. 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 or email needhamstreet@newtonma.gov.
- **Commission on Disability:** On **Monday, April 9th** the Commission will meet at 6:30 p.m. in Room 204. The following items are on the agenda: Approval of March 12th Meeting Minutes, CDBG Report, CDBG 2019 Funding Ideas, Handicap Fines Report, Treasurer's Report, ADA Coordinator's Report, AAB Variance for Boston College. **Contact Jini Fairley** at **617.796.1253** or jfairley@newtonma.gov.
- **Zoning & Planning Committee:** On **Monday, April 9th** the Committee will meet at 7:00 p.m. in Room 205. The following items are on the agenda: **#186-18**, Zoning Amendment for Shared Parking Pilot Program as an accessory use in commercial districts, **#75-18**, Zoning Redesign event series updates, and progress report on Washington Street Corridor Action Plan. **Contact James Freas** at **617.796.1137** or jfreas@newtonma.gov
- **Economic Development Commission:** On **Tuesday, April 10th** the Commission will meet at 6:30 p.m. in Room 204. The following items are on the agenda: Economic Development Updates, Chair Updates, Mark Development Presentation, Approval of February Meeting Minutes and Potential EDC Candidates update from Chair. **Contact Kathryn Ellis** at **617.796.1122** or kellis@newtonma.gov.
- **Land Use Committee:** The Committee will meet on **Tuesday, April 10th** at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber (Room 207) to hear the following petitions: **#90-18** Special Permit/Site Plan Review to amend **Board Order #45-10** to remove a condition requiring off-site parking at **70-80 and 93-105 Union Street**; **#176-18** Special Permit/Site Plan Review to exceed the floor area ratio at **133 Park Street**; **#177-18** Special Permit/Site Plan Review to extend the nonconforming use at **36 Cummings Road**; **#179-18**

Special Permit/Site Plan Review to further increase the nonconforming side setback and to exceed the floor area ratio at **110 Parker Avenue; #181-18** Special Permit/Site Plan Review to further increase the nonconforming floor area ratio at **64 Green Park; #178-18** Special Permit/Site Plan Review to amend **Board Order #257-14(3)** to extend the hours of operation for the place of amusement at **145 Wells Avenue; #180-18** Special Permit/Site Plan Review to amend **Board Orders #43-10 and #307-12(2)** to allow nonaccessory parking and to waive 496 parking stalls at **199 Boylston Street; and #71-18** Special Permit/Site Plan Review to amend **Board Order #515-61** to extend the nonconforming front setbacks and to allow waivers to the parking requirements at **83-127 and 106-128 John F. Kennedy Circle**. Contact Neil Cronin at **617.796.1141** or ncronin@newtonma.gov.

- **Auburndale Historic District Commission:** The Commission will meet on **Tuesday, April 10th** at 7:00 p.m. in Room 205. The following requests will be considered: **280 Central Street**, to install a fence; **17 Leighton Road**, to amend previously approved deck railing system; **11 Leighton Road**, to replace front entry and front stairs; Administrative discussion to include approval of meeting minutes. Contact Barbara Kurze at **617.796.1129** or bkurze@newtonma.gov.
- **Zoning Redesign:** Join us at the next event in our series, “What’s the Process? How Stuff gets Built in Newton” on **April 12th** 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. Have more questions or ideas? Contact us at zoningredesign@newtonma.gov or **617.796.1120**.
- **Newton Upper Falls Historic District Commission:** The Commission will meet on **Thursday, April 12th** at 7:00 p.m. in Room 205. The following requests will be considered: **21-23 High Street**, to repave driveway and install front walkway, two gravel parking areas and a boulder wall; **287-301 Elliot Street**, to install sign; **1272 Boylston Street, Barn/Garage**, to convert historic barn/garage into dwelling unit. Continuation; Administrative discussion to include approval of meeting minutes. Contact Barbara Kurze at **617.796.1129** or bkurze@newtonma.gov.
- **Washington Street Vision:** On April 2, 2018 the City Council voted in favor of hiring the Principle Group to work with the community over the next year to develop a land use plan for the Washington Street corridor. To sign up for email updates go to http://www.newtonma.gov/gov/planning/lrplan/washington_street_vision.asp
- **Community Preservation Committee:** Reminder: **The CPC will *not* meet on April 10th**. Agenda requests and associated written materials are due by **Friday, April 20th** for the CPC’s next meeting on **Tuesday May 8th**.

At its April 3rd meeting, the CPC voted 7-0 (with one member absent) to adopt the [proposed revisions to the program’s current funding guidelines](#). For assistance, please contact Alice Ingerson at aingerson@newtonma.gov or **617.796.1144**.

Crescent Street updates, new proposal budgets & consultant review: The updated proposal budgets that will be the focus of the independent consultant analysis commissioned by the CPC, along with the CPC’s scope of work and the qualifications of the selected consultant, are now available on the CPC’s project webpage, www.newtonma.gov/gov/planning/cpa/projects/crescent.asp.

- **West Newton Square Enhancements:** Newton City Council voted in favor of this project in early 2018. The project is now advancing from planning to implementation. To view the proposed improvements, visit the website www.newtonma.gov/westnewtonsq. Read the City’s recent [email update](#).
- **28 Austin Street:** For more information on the Austin Street project and to sign up for email updates, visit www.newtonma.gov/austinstreet or email austinstreet@newtonma.gov.

- **160R Stanton Avenue Redevelopment Project:** In November 2017, JCHE was designated by the City of Newton to develop the water tower parcel to expand the Golda Meir House with additional affordable apartments and services for seniors, as well as 9-12 units of housing for the chronically homeless. To review materials and to stay up-to-date on this project, visit our website: [160R Stanton Ave](#). **Contact Barney Heath** at **617.796.1131** or bheath@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 James Freas** at **617.796.1137** or jfreas@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.
- **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.