



Department of Planning & Community Development (DPCD) August Newsletter



\$5m Wonderland Multimodal Study Approved by Boston MPO

At the August 1st meeting of the [Boston MPO](#), DPCD Chief Tom Skwierawski spoke in support of the Wonderland Multimodal Connector Study, an idea that started with an earmark secured by Representative Clark and Senator Markey in March 2022. The **\$5m study was then formally approved by the MPO, and will commence later this fall.**

The work will be led by the MBTA, in partnership with the City of Revere, and **will examine the potential of a Commuter Rail Station at Wonderland**, and will also develop plans for **safer bike and pedestrian connections** in and around the Wonderland/Waterfront Square area. You can see Tom's presentation [here](#), and read more about the earmark [here](#).



Northern Strand Apartments Applications Closed with 131 Submissions, Initial Lottery Conducted August 19th

The application period for the 133 Salem St Lottery has concluded, attracting a total of 131 submissions. The [lottery took place on Monday, August 19](#), where 18 applicants were selected. All applicants should have received the final lottery list. If you did not receive this list, contact [Joe Gravellese](#).

There will be another lottery, held at a later date, to announce an additional 2 units. Those units were designated as veteran's preference, but no veterans applied for these units. **Over the next few weeks the City will be conducting additional outreach to the veteran's community—and we encourage you to do the same—for these two units.** If no veterans apply, applicants for the remaining units will be selected from the original list of 131 submissions.

Any Revere veterans who would like to learn more about potential eligibility for these 2 units--a 1-Bedroom and a Studio--please contact [Joe](#).

First Time Home Buyer Down Payment Assistance Grant Program

Do you qualify?

You may qualify for up to \$10,000 to purchase your first home!

See if you qualify and apply by visiting the Mezzanine floor at City hall or reach out to the Department of Planning and Community Development at lescolero@revere.org or **781-286-8181**

QUALIFY FOR UP TO \$10,000

City Launches First-Time Home-Buyer Down Payment Assistance

With the receipt of a \$25,000 State Earmark and match funding from the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, the **City of Revere is proud to announce the establishment of the a First-Time Home-Buyers Program.**

\$50,000.00 is available for eligible Revere residents and City of Revere employees. **Funds may be used to purchase a condo or single-family home at an affordable rate or market price rate. If purchasing a 2-3-family home, the applicant must enter into an agreement with the city and the state to rent all non-owner-occupied units below market in accordance with EOHLG guidelines.** This assistance is provided on a first-come, first-served basis. To be considered, submit a completed application, along with supporting documentation and proof of eligibility and priority status, until funding is exhausted.

The application can be found [here](#), and is also on the [City's webpage](#)! Any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to Community Development Planner [Lorena Escolero](#).



New Mural Painted in Ward 5

The underpass beneath Route 1A in Ward 5 has received a long overdue transformation.

Those travelling under the bridge now **you can see the vibrant artwork of Revere resident Meagan O'Brien celebrating the Rumney Marsh and landmarks at Revere Beach**, the crown jewel of the city!

The Revere Public Art Commission led the initiative and secured funding from the Ward 5 Community Improvement Trust Fund. We hope this is the first of many public art improvements as it is a simple way to create a more inviting and mood-elevating space.

DPCD Meets to Discuss Gibson Park with Riverside Neighborhood

On August 5th, DPCD [hosted a meeting](#) with the Riverside neighborhood to discuss work implementing recreational and resiliency improvements at Gibson Park and along Mills Avenue. This was in advance of the August 23rd public comment deadline for the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR), which was submitted to the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) Office July 1st. You can find our full submission to MEPA [here](#).

When the City has receives a response from MEPA on this filing, DPCD will have a follow-up meeting with the neighborhood to discuss where the project stands, and what the next steps are for the project.



Bennington St./Frederick's Park Project Receives Additional Funding

This summer, the joint project between Boston and Revere **was awarded a second Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness grant (\$456k) for FY25**. Building off of the previous project, funding will advance designs for flood risk reduction, resiliency and recreational enhancements in the area.

Bennington Street, Frederick's Park and the properties in the immediate area are at risk of flooding under current conditions, and the situation will be exacerbated with sea level rise. Bennington Street is a heavily travelled regional transportation corridor for commuters and local residents. Fredricks Park located at the Beachmont School has the potential to provide increased play opportunity for all ages and abilities.

This project aims to identify the most efficient design alternative that provides the highest level of resiliency permissible and supports the co-benefits of enhanced recreational opportunities and marsh health.

Revere Launches Municipal Aggregation with the Mass Power Choice

This month, DPCD began work with Mass Power Choice to initiate a **Municipal Aggregation** program for the City of Revere. This program will allow the City to procure more competitive electricity supply rates for Revere residents, and will provide residents

with alternatives to further reduce their carbon footprints.

Mass Power Choice will be submitting an application to the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities (DPU) for Revere's aggregation plan. Upon acceptance, they will work with the city to procure competitive electricity supply rates for Revere residents

Next month, DPCD and Mass Power Choice will present the draft plan to the Revere City Council, which will trigger the 30-day public comment period, at which point the application will be formally submitted to DPU for approval.



What's Happening at McMakin Field?

We get this question a lot. This historic Winthrop Avenue ballfield, which has sat vacant since 2014, was acquired by the City in late 2022. Since that time, the City has gathered funding for improvements at the park and is now in the preliminary stages of transforming the space.

The first step was demolishing the clubhouse, dugouts, and fence-lines, which was completed this summer (pictured above; photo credit: Ed Terrell). The City's project team is **now conducting site investigations, developing drainage designs and a grading plan**, and performing a site survey. Following this work, the City will **develop conceptual plans and a cost estimate** to transform the site into a **multi-purpose recreational space**. Once a program is finalized, the City will develop construction designs and bid out the project, with a **goal of Spring 2026 completion**.

We Want to Hear From You!

Revere Walk, Bike, and Roll Plan Survey

If you live, work, play, pray, or visit Revere, we want to hear from you! What is working well, and what needs to be improved?



Take our survey!

mapc.ma/walk-bike-roll-survey



Help us Reach 500 Survey Responses!!!

The Walk, Bike and Roll Plan survey remains active, and community members are encouraged to participate. With a target of 500 responses, the initiative has so far garnered around 320 contributions. The survey can be found [here](#), and on the link above.

Please share with friends and family to help us reach our goal of 500 responses!! Our working group is particularly eager to hear from Spanish, Portuguese, and Arabic-speaking residents to ensure diverse perspectives are included. Those with suggestions for outreach opportunities can contact the team at lescolero@revere.org or by calling 781-286-8181 x 20124.



Oak Island Playground Resurfacing to Begin this Fall

Oak Island Park will be undergoing some changes to the safety surface of the tot lot. Neighborhoods residents have been advocating for poured-in-place rubber surfacing, and this summer funding was secured and a contractor awarded to upgrade the surface of Oak Island Playground.

Using a combination of funding from CDBG and the Ward 5 Community Investment Trust Fund, the City will begin this renovation in the fall of 2024. There will be a short-term disruption to accessing this space during the construction period. Once the surface is completed it will also need 3-5 additional days to cure depending on the weather and we encourage residents to respect the park closure until it is safe to enter without causing damage to the new surface. More updates will be provided as we get closer to a construction date, but for now we wanted to share the great news!



Park Your Bike in the 02151

We've received a lot of questions about the new Zip Code bike racks set up in front of City Hall (pictured) and on Shirley Avenue. They were built and installed by Iron House Services in Marshfield. We wanted to show pride in our city, while also providing extra bike storage for those that need it. So if anyone asks: **No, it's not a sculpture. Yes, you can park your bike there.**

Shirley Avenue Survey: TDI Needs your help!!

Do you live, work or play in the Shirley Avenue neighborhood? If so, the [Revere TDI Partnership](#) would love your opinion on what the neighborhood needs! MassDevelopment, which is funding the TDI partnership is looking for input from residents, businesses and stakeholders in the area. The survey should take a few minutes and is available in multiple languages:

English: <https://forms.gle/tCfJomS1qduXnTDz7>

Spanish: <https://forms.gle/1hGkmRthVAcDxd3QA>

Portuguese: <https://forms.gle/oZwSUAjHw7ARWUoY9>

Arabic: <https://forms.gle/NygGF6t63PkkRj39A>

Khmer: <https://forms.gle/Qjh4uXGb3V1JRJBY9>

The **survey deadline is September 9th**, so please spread the word!

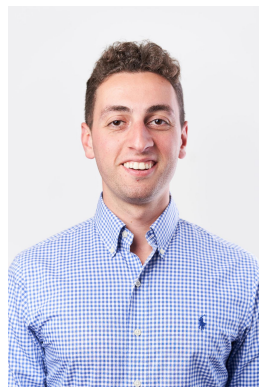
Say Hello to the New Members of the Team!

This summer was a busy time for hiring at DPCD! We have hired 3 new positions, two who will be working for the North Suffolk Office of Resiliency and Sustainability (NSORS)--a shared office between the municipalities of Revere, Chelsea, and Winthrop--and one who will be managing DPCD's grant programs.



Megan Ragab, Community Development Program Manager

Megan recently joined the team as Community Development Program Manager, where she will be helping to support the Department's grant programs, most importantly the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). Through her background in Business Management and Organizational Leadership, coupled with experiences in academia, she has gained valuable insight and a desire to support and empower others. She previously worked as Program Director at The Alliance for Business Leadership and as a Teacher Librarian at Boston Public Schools. With a strong drive and determination, she strives to make a difference as a visionary leader.



Abderezak Azib, NSORS Sustainability Manager

Abderezak Azib grew up in Revere, is a Revere High School graduate, and previously served as the Coordinator for the City's Youthworks program. He is a graduate of the University of California, Davis, where he developed a deep passion for sustainability, particularly in green buildings and innovative technologies. Currently, he is pursuing a Master's degree in City Planning at Boston University. When he not studying or working, you'll find him on the soccer field or enjoying city strolls, soaking in the urban landscape he loves.



Kristen Homeyer, Resilience Manager

Kristen specializes in climate resilience, equity, environmental planning, and ecological restoration and is responsible for implementing projects in the NSORS region to mitigate extreme heat, flooding, and to build social resilience. Kristen is an accomplished planner, with an understanding of climate science and a background in community engagement and ecology. Kristen graduated in 2024 with a Master's degree in Urban & Environmental Policy & Planning.

If you are interested in receiving monthly communication from the Department of Planning and Community Development, please join our mailing list below.

**Join Our Mailing
List**

City of Revere | 281 Broadway | Revere, MA 02151 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!