

# Department of Planning & Community Development (DPCD) June Newsletter

Virtual Public Meeting (Zoom)

Revere Bike, Walk, and Roll Plan Community Conversation

Tuesday, June 18th, 2024 6:00pm – 7:30 p.m.

Register to Join Us here: mapc.ma/Revere-Bike-Ped-Meeting1



# Save the Date! Revere Walk/Bike/Roll Plan Public Meeting: June 18th from 6-7:30 on Zoom

The Department of Planning and Community Development (DPCD), in partnership with the <u>Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC</u>), is beginning a planning process to improve walking, biking, and rolling conditions in the city.

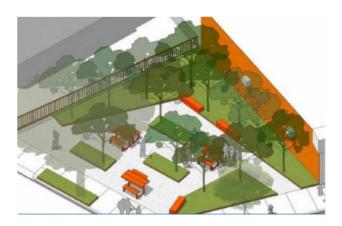
Next Tuesday (06/18) from 6-7:30, we will be hosting our first Public Meeting to discuss the plan. It will be held on zoom (register <u>here</u>). We will be discuss the plan and get your input on how to improve walking, biking and rolling in the city. Please join us, and invite your friends!!



# May 2nd Community Meeting Discusses Resiliency in Beachmont

A community forum was held last month to discuss plans for the Resilient Bennington Street and Fredericks Park Project. You can find the recording of that meeting here (in <u>english</u> and <u>spanish</u>), and more information on the <u>project page</u>.

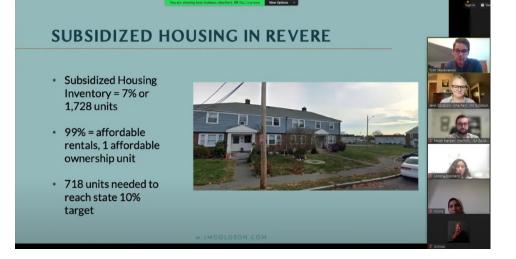
Pending future grant funding, in the coming year the project team will work to update these conceptual designs with input from the community, the design team, and state permitting agencies. If you would like to stay engaged on project progress, please reach out to <u>Elle</u> <u>Baker</u>, Open Space and Environmental Planner, for more information.



# Want a Free Tree? Greening the Gateways Expands to Most of Revere

For the past three years, the Division of Conservation and Recreation's (DCR) "Greening the Gateways" program has provided trees for residents and City projects in several Revere neighborhoods. Most recently, they partnered with DPCD on plans (in progress) to transform 69 Shirley Avenue into a pocket park (pictured above).

This past month the program expanded to cover almost all of the City. Are you interested in getting a free tree on your property? Contact DCR's team <u>here</u> to learn more.



# Housing Public Forums Held on the HPP, Housing Trust

Last week, DPCD and our consultants at JM Goldson partnered on two public forums related to housing affordability.

At the <u>first meeting</u>, the project team presented some initial goals and strategies for the <u>Housing Production Plan</u> (HPP). Strategies discussed included zoning improvements to support "<u>missing middle</u>" housing, selling City-owned land for affordable housing production, and partnering with the Revere Housing Authority on redevelopment proposals. Following this meeting, the project team will create a draft HPP, to be unveiled later this year.

Later in the week, the Affordable Housing Trust Fund Board met to discuss the mission, goals and strategies of the board, and how it aligns with the work of the HPP. Over the course of the next six months, JM Goldson will work with the Trust Board to established a plan with goals and strategies on how to best achieve their desired outcomes.

### **Revere Launches Municipal Aggregation with the Mass Power Choice**

This month, DPCD initiated work with consultants at Mass Power Choice to initiate a <u>Municipal Aggregation</u> program for the City of Revere. This program will allow the City to procure more competitive electricity rates for Revere residents, and will provide residents with alternatives to further reduce their carbon footprints.

Other the next few months, Mass Power Choice will work with the City to submit an application to the Department of Utilities (DPU) to participate in the program, and from there will work with the City to educate the public on the program and its benefits.



#### **Sidewalk Improvements Underway for Washington Avenue**

The Washington Avenue Complete Streets Project is underway. New concrete sidewalks, with granite curbing and ADA panels have been installed along the roadway from Amelia Place to Loomis Street, dramatically changing the appeal of the neighborhood. Work will continue on the westerly side for most of June.

The \$1,000,000.00 project is being funded by MassDOT Complete Streets and Chapter 90 Funds. The project is expected to be completed by the fall. Questions about the project? Contact Transportation Coordinator <u>Julie DeMauro.</u>



# Page & Broadway Undergoes Drainage, Walkability Improvements

Today, work began on the Page and Broadway Roadway Improvement Project.

The improvements, expected to be completed by August, will include upgrades to the aging stormwater drainage system, and improved walkability for pedestrians traveling south on Broadway with safer crossing accommodations at the intersection of Page and Broadway. In addition to these civil improvements, the area will undergo an aesthetic upgrade featuring wider sidewalks that will be used for placemaking activations.

The project is funded through the City of Revere's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and is one of many initiatives to improve the appeal and safety of the Broadway corridor.



### MassDOT & Boston MPO Provide \$2.4m for Microtransit Pilot

In the last month, <u>MassDOT</u> and the <u>Boston MPO</u> announced over \$2m in support for a "microtransit" pilot in Revere and Chelsea. This project will provide "last-mile" connections to transit users in both cities.

<u>Microtransit</u>--a new trend of public transportation--involves public sector-led on-demand transit programs. One local example, the <u>Salem Skipper</u> (pictured), has been providing on-demand transportation to residents in Salem for years.

Over the next few months, the cities will work to secure a vendor and launch the program. Be on the lookout for more information in the near future!



### 133 Salem Street Lottery Re-Opened Until July 31st

The North Strand Condos project has re-opened the lottery application period for 20 Affordable Homeownership condos, which includes <u>an additional two units subsidized</u> by the Revere Housing Trust this spring.

The application period is open from June 1<sup>st</sup> through July 31<sup>st</sup>.

\*\*If you submitted in the first lottery this past winter, you must re-submit an application to be considered.\*\*

Applications are available online at **www.NORTHSTRANDCONDOS.com** or for in-person pick during office hours at Revere Public Library or at the Department of Planning and Community Development at Revere City Hall, 281 Broadway, Revere MA 02151. See the <u>attached flyer</u> (<u>here</u> in Spanish) for more details.

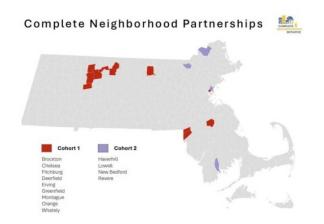
If you have additional questions, please call Roy Avellaneda at 617-212-4658 or email **roy@metropolitanbre.com**.



### Lt. Jones Jones Park Grand Opening Held in North Revere

Liberty Park was first established in the 1960s with a swing set. Over the decades it became a place for residents to congregate with their families and additional amenities were added. In the past year, DPCD worked to secure a \$363k PARC grant to expand the park's offerings, which now includes an updated playground, pickleball and four-square court. This project was further supported by Ward 6 CIT funds.

On June 10, 2024 the renovated park was re-opened, and dedicated to a lifelong resident of the North Revere neighborhood, <u>US Air Force Veteran Lt. John Jones</u>. The Jones family and many neighborhood residents gathered to celebrate the dedication and the new playground and pickleball court opening. The city is excited to offer this enhanced open space to the community.



# Shirley Avenue is Selected for Complete Neighborhoods Program

Revere is proud to announce its selection as one of the four communities participating in the second cohort of the <u>Massachusetts Housing Partnership's Complete Neighborhood</u> <u>Partnership program</u>. With the program's technical assistance support, our primary focus will be on fostering housing development in the vibrant Shirley Ave area.

A notable feature of this program is its flexibility, allowing each community to tailor their approach to meet their unique needs. Our goal is to reduce the risk of displacement while creating opportunities for small businesses and property owners to position themselves for informed real estate decisions and further wealth creation. We also aim to ensure that they remain valuable community assets while contributing to the growth and prosperity of the neighborhood.

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