



Call to Action and Endorsement of Principles:

We urge the Legislature to pass a bill this session that will strengthen “Great Neighborhoods” across the state by reforming the Commonwealth’s planning, zoning and permitting laws. We call for state leaders to make this legislation a top priority of the 2017-18 legislation session.

A successful bill must meet the following principles:

- Make it easier for young families and seniors to stay in their communities by providing housing choices. These could include more multifamily housing, accessory apartments, and artist live/work spaces. Families should have the opportunity to live in the community they prefer without discrimination. State rules and incentives should encourage vibrant places that are welcoming to all generations.
- Promote healthy, active communities with good access to open space and protections for critical natural resources. Local zoning must encourage compact development patterns that are more walkable, bikable, and transit-friendly. By planning where we grow, we can reduce sprawl and protect our farms, forests and waterways to ensure that future generations can enjoy them.
- Provide cities and towns with the tools they need to plan for the future so they can take on their fair share of the region’s growth while improving local finances and quality of life. More resources, clear authority and sensible procedures are needed to support local planning and zoning.
- Establish predictable permitting rules that will help small businesses, property owners, and municipalities make investments to keep our economy and communities strong. Important goals include minimizing court battles, reducing the cost of development, and responsibly and transparently sharing the costs and benefits of growth.

Sincerely,

A Better Cambridge (H 2420, S 81)
American Institute of Architects, MA Chapter (H 2420, S 81)
American Planning Association, MA Chapter (H 2420)
Asian Community Development Corporation
Association to Preserve Cape Cod (H 2420)
Cape Cod Community Development Partnership
Charles River Watershed Association

Citizens' Housing and Planning Association (H 2420, S 81)
Congress for the New Urbanism/New England
Conservation Law Foundation
Environmental League of Massachusetts
Fair Housing Center of Greater Boston
Fenway Community Development Corporation
Green Cambridge
Groundwork Lawrence
Groundwork Somerville
Harborlight Community Partners (H 2420, S 81)
Jane Jacobs in the Woo
Livable Streets Alliance (H 2420, S 81)
Local Initiatives Support Corporation
Massachusetts Association for Community Action (MASSCAP)
Massachusetts Association of Community Development Corporations (H 2420, S 81)
Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions
Massachusetts Association of Consulting Planners
Massachusetts Association of Health Boards
Massachusetts Association of Planning Directors (H 2420)
Massachusetts Public Health Association
Massachusetts Smart Growth Alliance (H 2420, S 81)
Mass Audubon
MassBike (H 2420)
Merrimack Valley Housing Partnership
Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) (H 2420, S 81)
Metro West Collaborative Development, Inc. (H 2420, S 81)
NeighborWorks Southern Mass
North Shore CDC
Oak Hill CDC
Pioneer Valley Planning Commission
Preservation of Affordable Housing (H 2420, S 81)
Progressive Massachusetts
Progressive Newton
Southwest Boston CDC
The Trustees of Reservations
Transportation for Massachusetts (H 2420, S 81)
WalkBoston
Zoning Reform Working Group (H 2420)*
When organizations have endorsed a particular bill, that bill number is listed.
* Do not support exclusionary zoning provision

Business Leaders

Alliance for Business Leadership
B&B Micro Manufacturing
Dan Wolf, Founder and CEO, Cape Air
McGregor & Legere, P.C.
Metro South Chamber of Commerce
South Shore Chamber of Commerce

Local Officials

Aaron Clausen, Director of Planning & Development, City of Beverly
Barney Heath, Director of Community Development, City of Newton
Bill Carpenter, Mayor, City of Brockton
Bill Scanlon, former Mayor, City of Beverly
Dennis DiZoglio, former Mayor, City of Methuen
Dottie Fulginiti, Member, Board of Selectmen, Town of Easton
George Proakis, AICP, Director of Planning, City of Somerville
James Freas, Deputy Director of Community Development, City of Newton
Joseph Curtatone, Mayor, City of Somerville
Kathryn Ellis, Director of Economic Development, City of Newton
Kim Driscoll, Mayor, City of Salem
Michelle Ciccolo, Member, Board of Selectmen, Town of Lexington
Peter Lowitt, FAICP, Director, Devens Enterprise Commission
Robin Craver, Town Administrator, Town of Charlton
Setti Warren, Mayor, City of Newton
Stephen DiNatale, Mayor, City of Fitchburg
Tom Ambrosino, City Manager, City of Chelsea
Wayne Feiden, FAICP, Director of Planning & Sustainability City of Northampton

ENDORSEMENTS IN PROGRESS—list as of November 16, 2017