



Madison Park
Development Corporation



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

ROXBURY ORGANIZATIONS SHARE POLICY AGENDA WITH LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIALS AT ANNUAL BREAKFAST EVENT

ROXBURY, MA. Boston City Councilor At-Large Michelle Wu and District 7 City Councilor Tito Jackson along with Massachusetts Representatives Gloria Fox and Russell Holmes joined Madison Park Development Corporation and Nuestra Comunidad Development Corporation for a legislative breakfast dubbed “Donuts with Delegates” on February 11, 2014 at Hibernian Hall in Roxbury’s Dudley Square. The organizations shared a three-point advocacy agenda calling for resources for economic development, recapitalization of the State’s Brownfields Redevelopment Fund, and an increase in the state minimum wage.

City Councilors Michelle Wu and Tito Jackson expressed support for the development of a Roxbury business incubator for entrepreneurs to spur economic development in the neighborhood. “There are a ton of people out there with innovative ideas,” said Jackson. A business incubator would provide affordable commercial space with business expertise to allow entrepreneurs in Roxbury to establish and grow new businesses.

Representative Russell Holmes said he has been a long-term supporter of Brownfields redevelopment. “Most redevelopment taking place in Roxbury is on former Brownfields sites,” he said. Brownfields are polluted lands that require significant environmental remediation, as is the case with Nuestra Comunidad’s Bartlett Place development outside Dudley Square that will create 323 new affordable, moderate-income, and market rate apartments, for-sale homes, and commercial development.

Representatives Russell Holmes and Gloria Fox called for an increase in the state minimum wage. Both said they support an increase to \$10.75 an hour, above the \$10.50 an hour in recent legislation proposed by the Senate. “I advocate Massachusetts becoming the highest minimum wage state in the country,” said Holmes. Rep. Fox echoed his call saying, “I believe working people deserve a wage they can live on.”



District City Councilor Tito Jackson also said he supports the development of affordable housing, coupled with moderate rate and market rate housing, to enable long term residents of Roxbury, Dorchester, and Mattapan to remain in their neighborhoods. “We need more affordable housing, more moderate income housing, and more market rate housing,” Jackson said.

The early morning event attracted a diverse crowd of concerned residents, community activists, police officers, and other non-profits located in Roxbury.

Madison Park Development Corporation

Madison Park Development Corporation (MPDC) was founded in 1966 when a group of community activists said no to the threatened destruction of their neighborhood. Over the past 46 years, MPDC has become a champion in revitalizing Lower Roxbury and saying yes to resident-led development and community empowerment. MPDC’s mission is to create quality, mixed-income housing, and to promote the renaissance of Dudley Square as a thriving neighborhood business district, recognized as a center of commerce and culture.

MPDC is now leasing both apartments and commercial space at Dudley Greenville, a \$18 million mixed-use development being built near the intersection of Dudley and Greenville Street. The 43-unit development is located in the heart of Dudley Square and has direct access to public transportation. MPDC also recently began the first phase of construction on the new Tropical Foods supermarket (Parcel 10) at Shawmut Avenue and Melnea Cass Boulevard.

Nuestra Comunidad Development Corporation

Nuestra Comunidad Development Corporation is a nonprofit small business working in the Roxbury community and nearby Boston neighborhoods for over 31 years. With roots in Roxbury’s Latino community, Nuestra CDC has helped to lead the ongoing revitalization of Roxbury’s Dudley Square.

Nuestra Comunidad is currently building eight homes for formerly homeless families on Mt. Pleasant Street, 40 apartments for senior citizens at Quincy Commons at the corner of Blue Hill Avenue and Quincy Street, and is redeveloping 96 affordable apartments at Washington Park Apartments. In addition to the 323 homes proposed for Bartlett Place, which have received final zoning approvals, Nuestra Comunidad has received full zoning approvals to rebuild 40 apartments at the corner of Blue Hill Avenue and Dudley Street in its Dudley Crossing development.

For photographs from the event, please click [here](#).

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