City sets out a ‘bold vision’ for Moakley Park

Coastal protection is ultimate goal; Day Blvd. recasting eyed in plan

Ziven Drake, ‘Trades Woman of the Year,’ has always ‘kind of played with the dudes’

Inclusionary policy spurring growth in housing, city says

Rollins lays out a “roadmap” for DA office to follow

Focused, trusted, and committed – one transaction at a time.
Ashmont JFK-UMass targeted on T’s spring cleaning ‘blitz’

By Chris Lenski

STATE HOUSE

MBTA employees will begin a $25 million cleaning and maintenance project this spring to improve conditions at the transit system’s busiest stations, officials said on Monday. The “station brightening” effort will include power-washing, repairing ceiling leaks, replacing cracked tiles and repainting walls, among other checklist items.

MBTA leaders described the plan as a “short-term blitz” to give customers a more pleasant experience ahead of a multiyear renovation process next year.

“A lot of the feedback we got as part of the fare increase discussion was that folks wanted to see results,” MBTA General Manager Steve Poftak said at a meeting of the authority’s oversight board. “They wanted stations to be cleaner, wanted stations to be nicer, wanted better customer experience from the T. I’m very pleased we have short-term activities we’ve been able to initiate in a relatively short period of time.”

Work on the brightening project will begin April 1, with high-traffic stations to be completed by May 31, Governor Bay, Downtown Crossing, Dudley and JFK/UMass targeted first. However, MBTA Deputy General Manager Jeff Gonneville said additional busways and subway stations will be included as the project moves forward.

Gonneville said the spring cleaning will not be “the big bang” customers may want, but that the changes will be noticeable.

The MBTA will fund the effort with pay-as-you-go capital, but Gonneville left open the possibility of identifying additional money to lengthen the program. Fiscal and Management Control Board members urged the MBTA to use the planned work as a springboard toward better regular cleaning and maintenance.

“The contract we have in place is not sufficient,” said board member Monica Tibbitts-Nutt. “I don’t think it gives the level of cleaning, of constant cleaning, we need throughout our station.” MBTA officials are also planning to host a neighborhood meeting to focus on station renovation and improving wayfinding at the Park Street Station, which Gonneville said will begin during the summer. The project has been planned for close to a year and went out for a bid to secure the contract. Officials will discuss the effort in the coming weeks.

UPCOMING CIVIC ASSOC. MEETINGS • FULL LISTINGS ON PAGE 10

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Dorchester and Roxbury seven sober homes in the year, when 29 Percival.

Upon seeing 30 mat-

Christopher asked that the owners "do the right thing" and sell the house. In a strong real estate market, Dillon said, "you don't have to convert the house. It's easy, just say you're not gonna do it."

The state has standards for how densely rooming houses can be sited, she pointed out, so the state could in theory make density a condition of its voluntary certification process for sober homes.

Pizziferri III said the density is intentional, "so there is that community, so there is that camaraderie." He called it "intimidating" to go door-to-door to introduce himself. "As far as community involvement, we've been in this community six years and no one's ever called my phone to say Hello," he said.

Lisa Villaroel, a neighbor on Potosi Street, pointed out that they had to go digging through records to even find out who owned the houses and others said they had never seen the younger Pizziferri in the neighborhood.

Christopher asked that the Pizziferri's put the house and emphasized that they all have to stay clean while living there. Sheila Dillon, housing chief for the city of Boston, was among those visibly frustrated by the meeting's turn. At one point, Dillon pointedly asked that the owners "do the right thing" and sell the house. In a strong real estate market, Dillon said, "you don't have to convert the house. It's easy, just say you're not gonna do it."

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Inclusionary policy spurring growth in housing, city says

(Continued from page 1) Inclusionary units were completed and 834 more were under construction or permitted. Housing chief Sheila Dillon said the trend will likely continue in 2019.

The long recovery since 2008 seems to have hit a zenith with an explosion of new construction. Officials say Boston has leveraged the booming private housing market to boost the number of affordable units in the city, but add that there’s a careful balance between hitting affordability standards and shutting down development entirely.

“It’s calibrating it correctly so that we’re not disincentivizing development through too onerous a burden,” said Brian Golden, director of the Boston Planning and Development Agency. “But, at the same time, getting as much as we can out of private development to benefit people who otherwise would not be able to handle market rates when it comes to rentals and home ownership with an expansion of new construction.

In total, 57 percent of IDP Units can be found in central Boston neighborhoods, stretching from the Seaport North Station. The Treadmark Building in Dorchester is also among the period’s highlights. After a devastating fire just before completion, the mixed-use building was demolished and rebuilt by the end of 2018. Its 83 apartments include 51 income restricted rental units, 28 market rate condominiums, and 4 IDP on-site condos.

Mattapan has only 1 percent of completed on- and off-site units and 2 percent of all completed IDP-funded units, according to city data. A scatterplot shows that all Mattapan units were completed prior to 2018, with none in construction or permitted. Dorchester, the city’s largest neighborhood, houses only 5 percent of all on- and off-site units. Almost 2,600 on- and off-site income restricted units came online since 2000, with 1,414 units built through funding channels, including the IDP pool. Income restricted housing financed by the IDP fund are mostly found in Chinatown (12 percent), Mattapan (12 percent), and Roxbury (27 percent).

Affordable housing advocates in the region have pushed for higher standards of affordability overall and a reduction in the way municipalities determine affordability. Half of Boston residents earn less than $35,000 a year, according to a 2016 report. The report shows that 34 percent of current owners of IDP units had incomes between $25,000 and $50,000 when they purchased and 50 percent between $50,000 and $75,000. Renters of these units hit lower income levels overall, with 16 percent making less than $25,000, 49 percent between $25,000 and $50,000, and 29 percent between $50,000 and $75,000.

An ongoing project for which IDP funds can be used is the “1,000 Homes” effort, in which the city will use $1.1 million to preserve 1,000 existing properties and preserve them as income-restricted housing.

Revised in 2015, the program is on the cusp of another reassessment. The advisory firm Landese will conduct a feasibility study on the city development market to give them some clarity on “what we can extract from developers in different neighborhoods,” Davis said.

Meetings with developers and housing advocates, as well as a series of community meetings starting in the late spring, should lead to a new policy proposal later this year.

Boston has other sources of affordable housing money, such as the Community Preservation Act fund, for which they are working on improving the state match. A hearing Tuesday addressed a home rule petition that would apply IDP standards to all 10-unit-plus buildings in Boston, not just the ones that need zoning relief and trigger the IDP requirements.

The market is “mature,” Golden acknowledged, and a downturn in construction would also lead to a downturn in IDP funds.

“Any change to IDP or linking it will not affect the economics of development here in Boston,” said Tim Davis, RFPA housing policy manager. “Pretty much with only Mattapan as maybe one area with a lot fewer.”

Mattapan is the only IDP pool. Income restricted units have pushed for higher requirements.

“We want a program that pervades the development environment. We're sensitive to all of that and, and what informs us going forward as we tweak the program, as we modify the program, is we do not want to do harm to that which we've already achieved and continue to achieve. We want a program that is workable and that means workable from the standpoint of City Hall and public policies and public regulators, but also workable and in the private development world.”
together we can do more than we could do alone.

Addison Gilbert Hospital
Anna Jaques Hospital
BayRidge Hospital
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital–Milton
Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital–Needham
Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital–Plymouth
Beverly Hospital
Lahey Hospital & Medical Center
Lahey Medical Center, Peabody
Mount Auburn Hospital
New England Baptist Hospital
Winchester Hospital
Here to make a difference in people’s lives.

Beth Israel Lahey Health

healthier
Dot singer-songwriter explores his working-class, Iranian roots

By Daniel Sheehan

REPORTER STAFF

Mohammad Seven is the stage name of Nima Samimi, a 41-year-old Codman Square resident in the process of fulfilling his dream as an American singer-songwriter. The son of an Iranian immigrant father and a white American mother, Samimi says his identity has always been at the center of his musical journey, serving as both a source of inspiration and an obstacle.

While he was growing up with a single mother in the Greater Boston area, he says, elements of racism and classism made it hard for him to believe in himself as an artist.

“I really could not wrap my mind around how to exist as an Iranian song-writer and performer,” Samimi told the Reporter. “Who would want to hear what I had to say? What context was there?”

This combination of internal and external factors led to what he calls a “delay” in his artistic growth. But at the age of 30, he got a big break, joining “Montana’s Rap–Country” Chris Sand noted that “he changed: Nima became Mohammad. Sand noted that “he was having a harder time assimilating my identity, but instead of reinventing my stage identity, he started thinking about re-inventing my stage identity, but instead of assimilating my identity, doubling down.”

He chose Mohammad, his grandfather’s name, and Seven, a universally significant number, to form his new stage persona, which he describes as “a Middle Eastern everyman.”

Mohammad Seven recorded his first album a year ago on his phone, singing into earbuds and crafting tunes on a Garageband application. For his debut studio album, which was released this week, the songwriter joined forces with the bassist Pat Mussari and the vocalist Kelly Jo Reed to form Mohammad Seven and the Spring, a folk trio bolstered by a consortium of artists who contributed drums, strings, keys, banjo, mandolin, and lap steel, among other instrumentation.

The result, a lush, polished Americana album, is Mohammad’s proudest musical accomplishment. “This is the first thing I’ve truly love,” he said.

The songwriting on the album bounces between big ‘T’ truth and little ‘t’ truth, weaving semi-autobiographical stories about immigrants and working class characters. As such, he expects his music will resonate naturally in Dorchester.

“I love that Dorchester is such a vibrant, working class community, said Mohammad. He says his family thrives in the neighborhood, feeling the community, surrounded by working families with characters from the same age as his own. “Nobody looks down on me for wearing dirty clothes and steel-toed boots,” he said, a reference to his job as a gardener at the Arnold Arboretum in Jamaica Plain.

Mohammad Seven and the Spring will host their album release show at home.stead bakery in Fields Corner on April 15 at 6:30 p.m. In Mohammad’s most diverse neighborhood, home to a panoply of immigrant communities, seems to them an appropriate setting for the concert; after all, that’s who Mohammad made the album for.

“I made it for working people and for im­migrants. I hope they enjoy.”

You can listen to the new album and purchase show tickets at moham­madseven.com.
St. Ann’s parish gathers for annual $10k dinner on Friday

BY ELANA AUBREE REPORTER STAFF

The 35th annual St. Ann’s 10K dinner will be held on Friday evening in Port Norfolk. The event offers the opportunity for friends, family and neighbors to gather together to celebrate faith, community, and giving, keeping with the spirit of the Lenten season.

Together, supporters have raised more than $300,000 for programs and scholarships over the past 30 years for the youth and families of St. Ann Neponset.

“With the support of the St. Ann 10K dinner, our parish is able to offer much needed programs for families during out of school time,” said Linda Damatin, St. Ann Committee co-chairperson.

“Through our initiatives, the children and families are provided with activities in an environment that is safe and nurturing.”

The committee’s goal this year is to raise $35,000 to benefit and sustain the Alice McDonald Scholarship, Vacation Bible School, CYO basketball and youth programs.

St. Ann’s 10K dinner will be held at Venezia Restaurant, 20 Errison St., starting at 6 p.m., with a cocktail hour followed by a buffet-style dinner accompanied by a slideshow reflecting the many years of 10K dinners, winners, and friends and supporters of St. Ann’s, music, raffles, and the chance to win $10,000 with a numbered ticket. Ticket holders who purchase their numbered ticket on or before Fri., March 22 will be entered into a drawing for a special prize to be given at dinner. A limited amount of numbered tickets – $150 includes a number for the 10K drawing and dinner – are still available. Companion dinner tickets are $50. Any and all donations are welcome.

“This fantastic event has been a critical support for the so many programs that help and encourage the youth of our area. There is a lot of behind-the-scene effort as well to make it a success and we should be so grateful to those who give their time and effort toward its success,” said Rev. Robert L. Connors.

For more information, please contact Paula Skałinski at 617-504-3664 or SaintAnnNeponset@gmail.com. You may also pay online at saintannstannstt.org.

City of Boston Credit Union won Best Non-Beef for its vegetarian chili. Tiger Stockbridge (center) accepts the award for the team. Libyan Amos photo

People’s Choice: Lower Mills Civic Association won the popular vote and took the People’s Choice Award with chili from the Lower Mills Tavern. From left: Tavern chef Patrick Doyle and owner Brian O’Donnell, Civic Association president Mike Skillin and member Mike Mackan. Nancy Knouton photo

Chili Cook-Off fills bellies, coffers for Dot Day Parade

The 11th annual Dorchester Chili Cook-off, held on Sunday at the IBEW 103 union hall on Freeport Street, succeeded on multiple fronts, according to organizers, who re-direct proceeds from admission to the Dorchester Day Parade Committee. The event featured entrants from roughly 20 different civic and business organizations in the neighborhood. The winners were decided by a mix of judges and the People’s Choice category—which went to the Mills Civic Association—was decided by the votes of cook-off visitors.

At left: The Best in Show award at Sunday’s Dorchester Chili Cook-Off 2019 went to Ashmont Grill and Tavolo Ristorante. Shown from left: Emma Douglass, Ashmont Grill; Cook-Off Judge Eugenia Soiles, Age Strong Boston; Chris Douglass, restaurant owner and chef; Cook-Off judges Boston City Council President Andrea Campbell and comedian Jimmy Tingle.

Libyan Amos photo

The Prendergast Preventorium

Our local history includes the establishment of the Prendergast Preventorium at 1000 Harvard Street, Mattapan, and other camps, notably at the Boston Consumptive Hospital at 249 River Street.

Excerpts from a Boston Globe article, Aug. 19, 1921: “A children’s party for 50 was held yesterday at the Prendergast Camp in the woods off Harvard St., Mattapan. Boston Tuberculosis Association was the host and primarily the party was a demonstration bringing public attention to the preventorium planned to be established at the camp as soon as the association can finance it. Dr. John B. Hawes, president of the association, says that Boston is 10 years behind the times because it has no preventorium. Since Boston has been the pioneer in every progressive project of tuberculosis care, cure, and prevention, it is distinctly up to Boston to treat the situation properly. “Children from various parts of the city who are in homes where there are adult cases of consumption or who already show signs of a tuberculosis infection were the guests for the all-day picnic. Autos donated by various local motor companies transported the children to camp. Games and the facilities the camp affords for fun were enjoyed. One little girl discovered an excellent sliding place on the bulkhead from the cellar. At noon a sumptuous repast was handed out. In the afternoon, before they journeyed home, they were each given a pint bottle of milk and a straw to complete the contents to the proper place. Another feature was a milk fairy, who entertained the children with stories about milk with moral lessons. Another feature was a toothbrush drill. Each child was given a toothbrush and then they all showed how much system they knew about “eight strokes up, down, etc.” There was a cracker-eating contest and then whistling, or in case of girls—singing, to prove the crumbs were all “down.”

Prendergast Camp was begun 10 years ago as a lodging place for working men who were not free enough from consumption to sleep in their city homes. Later it developed into quarters for men on the waiting list for state sanatorium. Now that use is over and it is planned to use the camp as a preventorium for children.

The archive of these historical posts can be viewed on the blog at dorchesterhistoricalsociety.org. Please Note: The Society’s historic houses are open on the third Sunday of each month from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. James Blake House, 735 Columbia Road (1661); Lemsal Clap House, 199 Boston Street (1712 and remodeled 1765); Williams Clap House, 195 Boston Street (1860).
TD Bank's Back Bay branch hosted the offending ad that was removed on March 21.

TD Bank should put Dot on its map

When you’re Downtown, but your debit card’s somewhere in Dorchester. A copryrighted ad by TD Bank decided this would be a good way to attract customers, and Dot finally agreed.

They couldn’t have been wrong.

Last Wednesday, a customer spotted the pitch in front of TD Bank, which is in the Back Bay and made a sensible interpretation—one that Dorchester people, by and large, grasped immediately.

The cars Atkinson and Dot, behind on a customer's kitchen table or in his or her office back on Dorchester Avenue or at the Dot Brewing Company after a night of partying. It was “somewhere” in Dorchester because something sinister was in play.

You are free to conjure up your own answering to the mystery—but there’s no doubt that a negative inference was ready for the taking from the TD Bank promotion.

Mark Crandall, TD Bank's regional president for southern New England, was quick to respond to the critique that erupted on Twitter (including from this paper).

Critics thought the ad was a mud pit.

after a rain event, the dugouts would be flooded and the field would be a mud pit.

As egregious as the Fall River election may be, there are other, more insidious impacts that the Reporter have a partnership and share content and resources.

Let’s stand tall for girls' softball rights

I was surprised to see the girls get such an unfair draw when the potential spots for the DCR fields in Dorchester, most especially Toohig Field, where the girls softball league plays and practices. I read the report on the DCR fields in Dorchester, most especially Toohig Field, where the girls softball league plays and practices, I was surprised to see the girls get such an unfair draw.

I was surprised to see the girls get such an unfair draw. The war of the words is about equity. Why is equity not part of this conversation?

We fought for it. They should own first rights to it.

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METCO seeks more dollars to fund afterschool ‘late bus’

By Colin A. Young
State House News Service

Rep. David Linsky, the House chair of the METCO Caucus, did not want there to be any doubt about what METCO students, parents, administrators, and supporters want out of the next state budget. “We are requesting funding of $24.2 million. Remember that number. Twenty-four point two” at the annual METCO lobby last Tuesday. “Twenty-four point two” at the annual METCO lobby day last Tuesday. “Twenty-four point two” at the annual METCO lobby day last Tuesday. “Twenty-four point two” at the annual METCO lobby day last Tuesday. “Twenty-four point two” at the annual METCO lobby day last Tuesday. “Twenty-four point two” at the annual METCO lobby day last Tuesday. “Twenty-four point two” at the annual METCO lobby day last Tuesday.

Milly Arbaje-Thomas, the CEO of METCO, said the new money would fund it at $24.2 million for fiscal year 2020. That would represent a $2 million increase above the current budget.

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Linsky told the students and supporters who turned out for the advocacy day that he is a politician today, in part, because of the experience he got as a student on the Natick High School competitive speech and debate team.

Linsky said that while Chapter 70 public school revenue increased just 44 percent from fiscal years 2001 and 2019, funding for METCO increased by 64 percent. “That’s the importance of what I learned at school were after school,” he said. “That’s part of the school experience but you can only participate in that very important part of the school experience if you have a way to get home after it’s over. It doesn’t work if you don’t have the transportation.”

Before the students and supporters fanned out across the State House to lobby legislators for the full $24.4 million METCO request, they got a brief pep talk from METCO Board of Directors President Patrick Kimble, a METCO alumnus who today works in the investment world.

“In my industry, there is no force more powerful than the force of compound persistence,” he told the students. “I say that to you guys to say that no matter what it is you’re going through, you cannot stop. METCO was founded in 1966, it’s 2019. That’s over 50 years of compound persistence.”

Commonwealth Care Alliance (CCA) Senior Care Options Program (HMO SNP) is a Medicare contract with a Medicare contract and a contract with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts/EOHHS Medicaid program. Enrollment in the Plan depends on contract renewal to provide benefits for both programs to enrollees. CCA complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate based on race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, gender, gender identity, sex, age, mental or physical disability, health status, claims experience, medical history, genetic information, evidence of insurability or geographic location. ATENCIÓN: Si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al 866-610-2273 (TTY 711). ATENCIÓN: Se fala português, encontram-se disponíveis serviços linguistico, grátis. Ligue para 866-610-2273 (TTY 711).
The Dorchester Park Association is cleaning up to get ready for Easter. Volunteers are needed to join a cleanup on Sat., April 13 from 8-11 a.m. It will consist of raking out leaves on the tennis courts and removing litter from the Spring Egg Hunt search area. If interested, please meet at the tennis courts any time before 8 a.m. The Spring Egg Hunt will begin on Sat., April 20 at 10 a.m. sharp. With the Easter Bunny will be available and attendees should prepare to search for eggs within Dorchester Park. Dorchester Park is located at 2180 Dorchester Ave. Please visit dotpark.org for further information.

SATURDAY BREAKFAST BENEFITS BLUE HILL BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

The Latino Law Enforcement Group of Boston hosts a breakfast to benefit the Berkshire Partners Blue Hill Boys & Girls Club on Sat., March 30 from 9-11 a.m. at 15 Talbot Ave., Dorchester. In partnership with the Blue Hill Club provides. Special guest speakers for the community breakfast include Boston Police Commissioner Willie Gross and Dan Lebowicz, executive director of the Center for the Study of Sports in Society at Northeastern University. Tickets are $20 per person or $200 per table. E-mail Shari Maestre at the Blue Hill Club (smaestre@bgcb.org) or Officer Pelle James, 617-343-4717.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY HOSTS GENEALOGY EXPERT ON APRIL 14

Dorchester Historical Society will host genealogist Kileen Curley Pironti for a special program on research family history on Sat., April 13, at 2 p.m. at 185 Boston St., Dorchester. Using examples from research she conducted on four generations of Dorchester’s Clapp family, speaker Curley Pironti will provide tips on how to make your family history research an interesting and rewarding experience. She is a genealogist at the New England Historic Genealogical Society in Boston. She and her husband, Paul, have been caretakers at the William Clapp House since 2015.
Rollins lays out a new “roadmap” for DA office to follow

(Continued from page 1) a success story of the “Declination and Diversion Policy” because the program reduced the number of people araigned in juvenile court by 60 percent without a “corresponding increase in crime.”

The JAR program provides “individualized service to young people as an alternative to traditional prosecution.” Instead of being senteced, the juvenile offenders are placed in programs offered by community agencies aimed at leading them away from criminal justice system.

The Rollins memo says the DA’s office will learn from the JAR program’s success and expand it to “emerging adults and adults in all courts.”

In cases involving mental illness and substance use disorder, per Rollins’s memo, her office will defer or decline prosecution so that people with the disorders will receive “properly matched treatment programs.” Rollins says she supports the use of “supervised consumption sites, safe needle exchange, and cleanup programs, widespread availability of drug test strips, and the lifesaving drug Naloxone to prevent overdose.” She points out that the change in the public’s perspective toward substance use came as a result of shifting demographics impacted by opioid issues, as the impacts were no longer limited to black and Latino communities. As to immigration cases, she said that consequences will be factored into charges and sentences under her administration. She, or her first assistant, or the office’s general counsel will be notified if ICE or other immigration authorities arrest or question people in or around the Suffolk County courthouse. There is no mention of what actions will be taken after the office has been notified of any ICE presence.

Other “collateral consequences,” such as employment, insurance, and family, will also be considered when the DA’s office decides immigration cases. The office will be working with Harvard Law School to chart “some of the thousands of collateral consequences,” the memo says.

The section on immigration drew a quick and stern response from Todd Lyons, the acting director of ICE’s enforcement and removal operations in Boston. According to the Boston Globe, Lyons said in a statement that “attempts to promote an overall fear or suspicion of law enforcement agencies is a counterproductive and very misguided approach to criminal justice.”

Rollins’s approach was supported by Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley, who tweeted on Tuesday: “I stand in solidarity with efforts to ensure that immigrants in our communities are not denied that justice for fear of being targeted & separated from family and loved ones.”

The guidelines in the memo extend to almost all aspects in the prosecution procedure, from pre-trial detentions to appeals. In each bail and pretrial stages, the office will recommend release unless “there is clear evidence of a flight risk.” Charges will only be arraigned with probable cause and evidence that supports fact finding, and the right to trial is not impeded by concessions such as plea deals.

Rollins promises new plea guidelines that use incarceration as “a last resort” and prioritize diversion. Plea negotiations will incorporate individualized incentives, such as getting a GED as a condition for reduced post-incarceration supervision.

The new policies, including diversion and declination, will apply to appellate cases, and pending appeals will be determined based on her administration’s guidelines.

The memo also highlights the DA’s office’s adoption of the data-driven approach, with “internal data collection and system audit” as well as timely recording of case information into the office’s system.

MBTA delays rollout of new Orange Line cars till summer

Rollout of new Orange Line trains has been delayed once again, officials said Monday, with public use now likely to begin during the summer to allow additional time for software testing. The start date for the first of 152 new passenger cars had already been pushed from winter to spring to allow officials to complete vetting of the “complex” signal system created by a subcontractor.

MBTA Deputy General Manager Jeff Gonneville announced another delay Monday, explaining that the first passenger trip on the new cars – the first Orange Line the MBTA has seen in decades – to sometime this summer. “Originally when I gave the presentation in January, we talked through that there was this potential delay,” Gonneville told reporters after the Fiscal and Management Control Board meeting Monday.

“We were hopeful that this delay was only going to extend us to March timeframe to putting trains into service, but now, it does look as though it’s going to be this summer.” The MBTA hired Chinese firm CRRC to manufacture its new train cars, and the company subcontracted Alstom to design a signal system.

 Transit officials said one component would be “vital” in the MBTA’s use, so the software must be updated to ensure proper function.

Despite the delay, Gonneville said the broader goal of having all 152 new cars delivered by December 2021 to replace the current fleet is still on schedule.

STATE HOUSE NEWS SERVICE
City sets out a ‘bold vision’ for Moakley Park

(Continued from page 1) execute over many years. Christopher Cook, the city’s commissioner of Parks and Recreation, addressed the meeting, describing the still-emerging plan as “a bold vision” that maintains the recreational function of the park, plays a role in a resilience strategy for sea-level rising while preserving the neighborhood.

Chris Reed, founder of Stoss Landscape Urbanism, the design team for Moakley Park, and the firm’s project manager, Amy Whitesides, presented the three visions that the design fulfilled: protecting the residential community from flooding and impact of climate change, retaining and enhancing the sports fields and play areas, and creating equitable access for all polygons.

The design features not only fields and tracks for various sports, but also recreational spaces such as an adventure playground, community building, picnic overlook, family slope, and flex lawn. A berm, with elevated sports fields and recreational space below, would form the flood protection. Basketball courts would be safely floodable and easily drained after a storm.

Under the conceptual proposal, a section of Day Boulevard would be transformed into a car-free promenade connecting the park with the beach. Reed said the design integrates Moakley Park into the waterfront, and aids in “safe access for more people to really experience what’s wonderful about Boston Harbor.” City officials say that they have consulted with counterparts from the state’s Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) about the concept of eliminating the segment of Day Boulevard that bisects the park and Carson Beach, but that no firm plans have been made to advance the plan.

Other improvements to the road system around Columbia Point—specifically the rotary at Kosciuszko Circle—would need to be planned out and incorporated into any change to Day Boulevard, according to city officials who briefed the Reporter on the concept.

Olivia K. Dorrance, a spokesperson for DCR, confirmed that state officials have been looped into the planning. “On multiple occasions, the City of Boston has consulted with the Department of Conservation and Recreation regarding the municipality’s efforts to increase the climate-change resilience of South Boston, including the Joe Moakley Park Vision Plan, as well as the potential use of state-managed land in the immediate vicinity,” said Dorrance.

“At this time,” she added, “the agency is reviewing information provided by the City, and will continue to be an engaged stakeholder as the process moves forward.”

Allison Perlman, the Boston Parks and Recreation Department’s project manager of the Moakley effort, said the city will continue working with other partners including UMass Boston, the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority and Winn Development. The design will next go through modeling tests to determine if the plan sustains an ability to withstand floods. Another step for the city is to look into maintenance strategies.

Perlman said that part of the plan moving toward implementation is Phase 1, a small piece of land on the upper left corner of the design designated for a sports court complex and water/play space. Like the other parts, there is no firm timeline or secured funding source for the first phase.

“We have requested capital funding for the design and development. As we move that forward, we will start to think about what our avenues are for funding and construction, and if we are actively seeking all that now,” Perlman told the Reporter. She also added that the budget plan for the overall park is too “rough” to be shared.

“Over time, we are not sure what the future phases are going to be. We have a lot to think about in the next year about how to balance park-user needs, what is available and what partnerships we need to develop,” she said during the meeting.

City officials emphasized the value of Moakley Park for communities. “Moakley Park played a huge role in the lives of many people in this room and generations of people from South Boston... Everybody’s voice is important, and everybody’s voice will be respected,” said City Councillor Ed Flynn.

Community members who spoke with the Reporter mostly approved of the plan, with a few reservations about transportation and access for seniors.

“I think they did a brilliant job of creating the necessary topography to protect people, and at the same time building new and improved athletic fields that are more multi-purpose and creating areas that are not for organized athletics but for families and individuals to use the park in any way they want,” said Ray Abbott, president of Boston Harbor Now.

Cam Murphy, an elementary school swimming paraprofessional who volunteers at South Boston Little League, said before the meeting that he was concerned with how athletic fields would be implemented, but later he noted that all the fields are still in place.

Roger C. Tepe, who lives near the park, said he likes the “ambitious” plan, but noted there is no provision for parking. “I’m not sure everyone will want to bring their kids for a soccer game and drag all their equipment on the train,” he said.

Louise Baxter, a South Boston retiree and an advocate for public transportation, said she would like to see buses running more frequently from Roxbury to the park.
Baker, lawmakers in accord on protecting family planning funds

By Matt Murphy

State House News Service

Both branches of the Legislature, with the support of Gov. Charlie Baker, could act soon to offset the loss of federal money to cut off federal money in the face of the Trump administration’s proposed changes to Title X, a federal program that supports family planning and preventive health services.

Baker said on Monday that he supports that effort, and Senate President Karen Spilka said that the Senate will follow suit with the House vote taken place as planned on Wednesday.

“I think there’s unanimity among us that we would make sure that the federal policy change here does not affect women’s ability to access reproductive services, period,” Baker said.

House Speaker Robert DeLeo, Spilka, and Baker met Monday for about an hour where Baker said the Title X program was one of the issues the leaders discussed.

Baker said he believed the House and Senate were planning to pass a bill to ensure full funding for family planning clinics for the rest of this fiscal year, and the governor said they would consider how to address a potential funding loss next year once court challenges are resolved.

“It’s something we are all very concerned about. We want to make sure that people here in Massachusetts, women, are not affected by this and get access to reproductive services, all of them,” Baker said.

Neither DeLeo nor Spilka said how much funding they were prepared to authorize, but DeLeo called it “outrageous” that the Trump administration had finalized a rule that would cut off Title X funds for any provider that performs abortions or makes abortion referrals.

“We felt that we had to take action immediately, although we all know there are some injunction possibilities out there as well,” DeLeo said.

Attorney General Maura Healey was one of 21 state prosecutors who joined Planned Parenthood and the American Medical Association in a federal lawsuit challenging the rule when it was first proposed last year.

Bakers also wrote a letter last summer to US Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar taking issue with the proposal, arguing that the federal government should have been critical to providing low-income residents with preventive health care services, such as counseling, physical exams, contraception, HIV/STD testing, and reproductive cancer screenings.

The Julie’s Spring Event will be held at Florian Hall, 55 Hallet St., Dorchester on Sat., May 11 from 1-4 p.m. Tickets are $100. All donations are welcome. If interested in offering a raffle item or becoming a sponsor, please reach out to 617-209-6063 or visit juliesfamily.org.
are also available during select weekdays from 4-6 p.m. for students in grades K-8. Visit bps.org/homework.

POLICE DISTRICT C-11

Non-emergency line for seniors: 617-343-5649. The Party Line phone number, where you can report loud parties, is 617-343-5500, 24 hours 7 days per week.

POLICE DISTRICT B-3 NEWS

For info, call B-3's Community Service Office at 617-425-6501.

APPLE GROVE ASSOCIATION

The Apple Grove Association meets on the second Tuesday of every month from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at 1155 Morton St., Mattapan. The contact is Ms. Myrtle Huggins at 617-425-6501.

ASHMOND-ADAMS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Meetings are typically held on the first Thursday of each month at the Plasterer’s Hall, 7 Fredericka St., at 7 p.m. Contact Pat O’Neil at pattiashmont@gmail.com.

ASHMOND HILL ASSOCIATION

Meetings are generally held the last Thursday of the month. For info, see ashmondhill.org or call Message Line: 617-822-9179.

ASHMOND HILL BOOK GROUP

Everyone is welcome to Book Group, whether you’ve read the book or not. For further info, please contact Lil Konowitz at kili@hotmail.com.

ASHMOND VALLEY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Meetings are usually the 2nd Monday or Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. on 776 Washington St., Dorchester.

CEDAR GROVE CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Meetings are held in the St. Brendan’s Father Lane Hall – lower level at 500 Father Lane Blvd., Dorchester. Tuesdays on the second Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. Visit cedargrovecivic.org or call 617-825-1402.

CLAM POINT CIVIC ASSOCIATION

The meetings are usually held on the second Monday of the month (unless in May; in May the meeting is on the 2nd Tuesday) at WORK, Inc., 28 Beach St., at the corner of Freeport St., across from the IBEW, on-street parking available.

CODMAN SQUARE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

The Codman Square Neighborhood Council meets the first Wed. of each month, from 6:30-8 p.m., in the Great Hall of the Codman Sq. Health Center, 6 Norfolk St. Info: call 617-825-5620.

COLUMBIA-SAVIN HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Meetings are the first Mon. of each month, 7 p.m. at the Little House, 275 East Cottage St. For info: columbia-savinhill.org.

DORCHESTER NORTH NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

The Dorchester North Neighborhood Association, (formerly the Annapolis Neighborhood Association) generally meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the large room at 44 Avenue of the Arts. Please see our Facebook page (search Dorchester North) for updates and announcements. Send questions and agenda items to: dorchesternorthmt@gmail.com.

FIELDS CORNER CIVIC ASSOCIATION

The PCCA meets on the first Tuesday of the month at 6:30 at the Kit Clark Center, 1500 Dorchester Ave. For more info, contact V. Girard, chair, at: vircon8120@gmail.com.

WOODROW AVENUE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

WANA meets on the second Tuesday of every month from 6:30-8 p.m. at VFV Post 8772, 54 Woodrow Ave., Dorchester. Nick Noonan is the president. Email woodrowwaveassoc@gmail.com or visit wunanaboston on Facebook.

JONES HILL ASSOCIATION

The Jones Hill Association meets every month on the second Wednesday at 7 p.m. at St. Mary’s Center for Women and Children in the Executive Board Room. All are welcome. Developers wishing to inquire or present should contact officers@joneshill.com. Information, events, and voting membership can be found on joneshill.com.

EASTMAN-ELDER ASSOCIATION

The association meets the third Thurs. of each month, 7 p.m., at the Upham’s Corner Health Center, 636 Columbia Rd., across from the fire station.

DORCHESTER UNIFIED NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Please join us in this Association! The contact list is updated every year; that’s okay, too! To be able to receive a copy of the newsletter at your email address, please subscribe by June 1. To do so, visit the website, www.bupaucinc.com or call 617-961-4819.

FREEPORT-ADAMS ASSOCIATION

The meetings will be held the second Wed. of the month at 7 p.m. in the Fields Corner Civic Association Office (the old Dist. 11 police station).

GROOM/HURMFORD’S NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

The GHNA meets on the third Wed. of the month, 7 p.m., in the Krue Salvation Army Community Center, 6 Hale St., Mattapan. The contact is Ms. Myrtle Huggins at 617-343-5500, 24 hours/7 days per week. For info. contact V. Girard, chair, at: vircon8120@gmail.com.

HANCOCK STREET CIVIC ASSOCIATION

HANCOCK STREET CIVIC ASSOCIATION meets on the first Tuesdays of each month, 7-8:30 p.m., at the community room of 530 Columbia Rd, Dorchester. Visit https://sites.google.com/view/hanc/ca02125/ for more info.

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27 Years service in town
Ziven Drake, ‘Trades Woman of the Year,’ has always ‘kind of played with the dudes’

(Continued from page 1) diving four years ago on “a calculated whim. I was actually watching an episode of ‘Dirty Jobs’ with Mike Rowe, and he was talking about the trades and how there are such a gap in terms of the number of jobs and the number of available women. And I thought, ‘Hey, let’s give it a shot.’ I found commercial diving and here we are.”

Working in less than ideal conditions, divers have to possess a certain level of discipline, patience, and a “get the job done” attitude – all skills Drake says she honed during her time with the military.

“As a commercial diver, any type of work that is done in the dry is done in the wet also,” she explained. “Concrete, drilling, welding, learning. Nothing is meant to be done underwater, so there’s a lot of problem solving that goes into it.”

The type of troubleshooting is based on self-reliance. When you’re underwater in a diving suit, breathing surface-supplied air through a hose, there is no outside help. You have to be, as Drake puts it, “on your toes.” Often, in murky canals and riverbeds, she works blind.

“It’s extremely tactile; you can’t see anything,” said Drake. “With inland diving, you’re lucky if you can see your hand in front of your face, so it’s very much done by feel.”

At just over five-foot-tall, Drake can squeeze into small spaces and maneuver in situations that might be prohibitive for her larger male counterparts. But even in the office, she believes her unique perspective and skillset help her do her job “just as well as a man, if not better.”

Drake is used to sitting quietly at a conference table while a dozen men try to talk over each other, so a female approach can be better, she argued. “Men tend to want to showcase what they know whereas women tend more to sit back and observe and absorb,” she said. “We listen, and we tend to have smaller egos, or we’re able to check them at the door a little bit more easily...we’re really valuable pieces of the team.”

Drake’s supervisor, Local 66 Union Chief Dave Borrus, noted that her value is tied to her versatility, describing her as “a jack of all trades.” But her leadership skills also set her apart. “If you think about how all this happens it’s sort of an orchestra. And if you think of the construction workers as the musicians, and the supervisor as a conductor, they’re really the one that makes sure the symphony can happen,” said Borrus. “So [Drake] plays a critical role in the administration of the work and the success of the project.”

Currently, Drake is playing a vital role in one of the city’s biggest undertakings: replacing the North Washington Street bridge, a project she calls “her baby.”

The five-year project, which is now in the demolition phase, will overhaul the 100-year-old bridge while constructing an alternative career path.

“It’s a really dynamic industry and a lot of people don’t know about it,” she said. “It’s stigmatized still; it’s kind of looked down on as you’re uneducated, whereas I actually know a lot of really, really smart people in the trades. And it’s just a great way to earn an honest living.

“I make more money in the trades than a lot of my friends who are PAs or nurses or whatever. Like anything, the trades aren’t for everyone, but if it’s for you, it’s really rewarding. I’m proud to do it.”

BPD/A Income Restricted Housing Rental Opportunity

Lucky Strike Residency

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Three Income Restricted Units

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Applications are available during the 10-day application period: Monday, April 8 to Friday, April 19, 2019

To request an application be sent by e-mail please write to: rental@btcompanies.net or call 617-637-3538

Applications may also be picked up in person at 281 Adams Street, Dorchester, MA 02122

BHDA Income Minimums Apply unless household has housing assistance like a mobile Section 8, VASH, etc.

Monday, April 8, 2019

2 pm

William Clapp House

195 Boston Street, Dorchester

Curious to discover more about your family history but don’t know where to begin? Perhaps you are looking for suggestions on how to organize the collection of family photographs and records acquired from working on your family tree. Using examples from research she conducted on four generations of Dorchester’s Clapp family, speaker Eileen Curley Pirotti will provide tips on how to make your family history research an interesting and rewarding experience.

Eileen is a genealogist at the New England Historic Genealogical Society in Boston. She and her husband, Bill, have been active volunteers at the William Clapp House since 2015.

www.dorchesterhistoricalsociety.org

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By Chris Lisinski

No meetings on tap on Morrissiey rehab

The status of the Morrissiey Boulevard redesign plan is on hold until the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) can identify and resolve encroachment and easement issues along the critical artery.

The state intends to rebuild and elevate portions of the roadway in a three-phased project that could take a decade to complete.

According to a DCR spokesperson, the review process is necessary before moving past the 25 percent design phase at which the project has been stalled. Concerns from Mayor Martin Walsh essentially sent planners back for rounds of community feedback in early 2018. There has been no further movement since a public comment meeting last January.

We are part of a national network of 224 KIPP schools educating nearly 100,000 students on their path to and through college, careers, and life. For more information about our schools, please visit www.kippma.org.

Scope of work

KIPP Massachusetts seeks a Contractor to provide technology consulting services for three campuses beginning in Spring 2019. KIPP Massachusetts is seeking a Contractor who is flexible, but also understands the critical nature of the timeline.

KIPP Massachusetts or KIPP MA, is part of a non-profit network of college preparatory, public charter schools educating students across grades K-12 in Lynn and Boston. Comprised of two elementary, two middle, and one high school, we have an 15-year track record of preparing students in educationally underserved communities for success in college and life. Our schools are part of that free public school system and are not dependent on any federal funding.

We are part of a national network of 224 KIPP schools educating nearly 100,000 students on their path to and through college, careers, and life. For more information about our schools, please visit www.kippma.org.

ANNOUNCING:
KIPP ACADEMY MASSACHUSETTS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
TECHNOLOGY CONSULTANT

Proposals due April 12, 2019

KIPP Massachusetts Public Charter schools is seeking a Contractor to provide technology consulting services for three campuses beginning in Spring 2019. KIPP Massachusetts is seeking a Contractor who is flexible, but also understands the critical nature of the timeline.

KIPP Massachusetts or KIPP MA, is part of a non-profit network of college preparatory, public charter schools educating students across grades K-12 in Lynn and Boston. Comprised of two elementary, two middle, and one high school, we have an 15-year track record of preparing students in educationally underserved communities for success in college and life. Our schools are part of that free public school system and are not dependent on any federal funding.

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Scope of work

KIPP Massachusetts seeks a Contractor to provide technology consulting services for IT project management and process improvement for 6-12 months to review our current technology infrastructure, develop solutions to some of our key technology challenges, develop technology processes, as well as concurrent site moves.

The scope of work for this RFP is centered on managing multiple, complex work streams in parallel with physical location shifts. We will be evaluating bids on their value and relative costs and strongly encourage interested bidders to propose a set of services which are the most cost efficient.

If you have questions, please call: KIPP Massachusetts lcurry@kippma.org

Baker worries rent control might discourage new housing

By Devon Browneis, MS, RD, LDN

30 Minutes of Exercise Can Change Your Life!

March is National Nutrition Month! This is a month full of education and increased awareness started by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics to encourage healthy eating and physical activity. Rather than promoting a select theme this year, the Academy is encouraging greater flexibility in communicating healthful messages. For this month, National Nutrition Month will be honored as its own theme, focusing on its original purpose to ‘increase the public’s awareness of the importance of good nutrition’.

As part of maintaining a healthy lifestyle, regular physical activity along with a healthy diet is necessary for sustainable weight management and optimal wellbeing. By participating in 30 minutes of exercises daily for adults and 60 minutes for children, you can help prevent your risk for chronic diseases such as heart disease, cancer, and stroke which are deemed the three leading health-related causes of death. Daily exercise provides additional benefits such as resilient sleep, promotes strong bone, muscle, and joint health, improved energy and self-esteem, as well as longer-life among many others.

While increased physical activity is important for overall health, it can be challenging to get outside and move more in the cold winter months. Listed below are some fun ideas for you and your family to try at home:

- Our Fitness center here at the Whittier Street Health Center has fun group classes such as Zumba or Yoga. It’s open to both patients and community members and offers cardiovascular equipment as well as weights for individual training and holds group fitness classes. This is also a great way to meet other-families!
- Our Fitness center here at the Whittier Street Health Center has fun group classes such as Zumba or Yoga. It’s open to both patients and community members and offers cardiovascular equipment as well as weights for individual training and holds group fitness classes. This is also a great way to meet other-families!
- On the go workouts you can do with your family, or brainstorm your own! Check out the fitness center here at the Whittier Street Health Center for some extra encouragement. We welcome all ages and abilities to stop by and see what the fitness coach is happy to answer any questions you may have to help you and your family get moving.

Quincy College Nursing

Quincy College Nursing

March 28, 2019

THE REPORTER
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**For complete City of Boston Credit Union membership eligibility and guidelines visit cityofbostoncu.com
Cedar Grove Cemetery

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ATTORNEYS AT LAW in West Roxbury

in Steven’s memory may

Gus, Frank will be sadly

Rachel and his father,

in Valdosta. Preceded in

of Maryland, and Michael

Brother of Thomas P.

and Bonnie Delk; his

a host of friends and

Mary Lou Rear-End, Boston formerly of

a beloved sister, Mary

she leaves

and dear friends; son of

mother of Steven B. and

James R. and his wife

formerly Dorchester, at

of Tewksbury, of

she leaves

and Psychology. She later added two master’s
degrees to her portfolio.

After graduation, Ms. Kennedy moved across

the Atlantic to Madrid intent on perfecting her

Spanish, returning to Boston after two years to

the Boston community as an ESL teacher,

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Changes to prison visit rules hailed by black, Latino lawmakers

By Katie Lannan

Recent changes to the visitor policy at state prisons will help inmates maintain the types of family and community ties that can aid their rehabilitation, members of the Black and Latino Legislative Caucus said last week.

Supporting loved ones who are incarcerated is an investment, and oftentimes even more of an investment for low-income families and for families of color, and we are committed to creating an environment where those who are incarcerated can learn, grow, and heal,” Rep. Chynah Tyler, a Roxbury Democrat, said at a press conference the caucus held to tout the policy revisions.

“Allowing for those who are incarcerated in the Department of Correction right here in the commonwealth of Massachusetts to update the authorized, pre-approved visitation list every 120 days is the first step in the right direction in creating a strong, long-lasting support system for those who are and who have been incarcerated,” Tyler said.

Policy changes that took effect on March 1, as outlined in a memo from Commissioner of Correction Carol Mici, raised the upper limit of pre-approved visitors for maximum security inmates from five to eight, and allowed inmates to revise their visitor lists every 120 days. Previously, inmates could only update their list of pre-approved visitors twice a year, according to the caucus.

“Some may say that this is a small, little change, but we think it’s incremental change that says a lot of how we can impact rehabilitation,” said Rep. Carlos Gonzalez, who chairs the caucus. “And the key to this is that it’s a joint effort looking at ways to improve the ability to rehabilitate folks that are incarcerated.”

Black and Hispanic inmates make up about half the department’s prison population, the caucus said.

Gonzalez, a Springfield Democrat, said the visitation policy is not solely an issue of importance to the black and Latino community. The change is about respecting the rights of everyone within the prison system, he said.

Mici, in a statement distributed by the caucus, said the update “will offer additional visiting privileges to inmates while still maintaining our commitment to ensuring the safety of all public, staff, visitors, and inmates throughout the Massachusetts Department of Correction.”

“The Department recognizes the importance visitors have on an inmate’s well-being and successful reentry into the community, and on the encouragement on family reunification,” she said.

Legislation filed by Sen. Sonia Chang-Diaz, a member of the Black and Latino Caucus, and Rep. Marjorie Decker calls for further changes to DOC visitation policies. Among other measures, the bill (S 1379/H 2047) would prohibit placing limitations on the number of unique individuals who may be eligible to visit an inmate.

Elizabeth Matos, executive director of Prisoners’ Legal Services of Massachusetts, said her organization hopes “there are more changes to come. For those on the inside who have large immediate families, they’re still not able to see a lot of those people, because the caps are still fairly low, so I think that is one area that the department is sympathetic to, and we’re very happy to do whatever we can to facilitate those conversations,” she said.

The department allows exceptions to its visitor cap in certain circumstances where an inmate’s number of immediate family members exceeds the cap.

Josh Zakim, who waged a heated statewide campaign against an entrenched incumbent and won the support of the Democratic Party’s convention for the office of secretary of state but not its primary voters last year, announced last week that he will not seek another term on the Boston City Council.

Zakim said on social media last Wednesday that his third term will be his last on the council. He said he made the decision “after a great deal of consideration,” adding that “public service has always been an important part of my life and will continue to be beyond my time as a Boston City Councillor.”

In his losing run for secretary of state against incumbent Bill Galvin, Zakim pushed ideas like automatic voter registration, weekend voting, and same-day registration, and topped Galvin for the party’s endorsement at its convention in June. But in the September primary election, Galvin secured 67 percent of the vote.

Zakim said that he plans to use his remaining eight months in office to work “with a particular focus on civil rights, neighborhood issues, and housing.”
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