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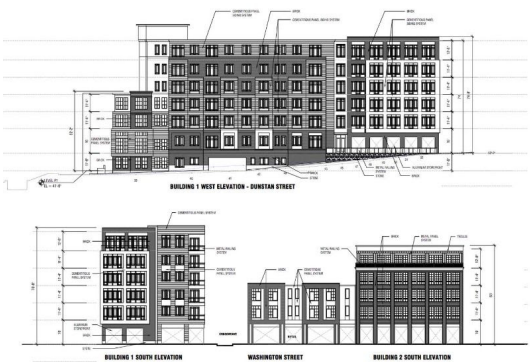
Dunstan East 40B open house Thursday 1/9; new Short-Term Rental rules in effect; former Newton Centre branch library returned to public use, & more

1 message

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Sat, Jan 4, 2020 at 5:59 AM

Learn about Dunstan East 40B at Thursday, Jan. 9 open house at FUSN in West Newton



As you may have heard, Mark Development has received their project eligibility letter from the state (MassHousing) for the proposed Dunstan East mixed use 40B, encompassing most of the area bounded by Dunstan Street and Kempton Place, and Washington Street and Cheesecake Brook.

As a 40B ("comprehensive permit") it will be reviewed by the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA), not the City Council. The public hearing will open on Wednesday, January 22, at 7pm in City Hall Rm 207. Per the [ZBA's notice](#), comments for the ZBA should be submitted to dunstaneast@newtonma.gov, seven days prior to the hearing, or in person at the public hearing.

The most current numbers are in the [40B application](#) to the ZBA: 244 units of rental housing, of which 25% would be permanently affordable, and allocated by lottery to families making up to 80% of Area Median Income (for their family size). There would be over 12,100 sq. ft. of retail space. The artist's renderings above are from the earlier [July 2019 application to MassHousing](#).

Mark Development's open house this Thursday will be a good opportunity to learn more and ask questions. This is their invitation:

Date: Thursday, January 9, 2020

Time: 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Place: The First Unitarian Universalist Society in Newton

1326 Washington Street, West Newton

Please feel free to drop by to review plans for a proposed 40B development on Washington Street in West Newton between Dunstan Street and Kempton Place. Representatives of the developer, Dunstan East, LLC, and its team will be available to answer questions.

If you cannot attend this open house but would like to be kept apprised of future meetings or any updates relating to this project, and/or would like to share feedback related to this project, please contact Scott Lombardi by email or by telephone, as follows: Email: slombardi@markdevllc.com

Phone: 781-573-3629

New limits now in effect for AirBNBs and other Short-Term Rentals.

Effective January 2, new rules are in effect for operators of short-term rentals such as AirBNBs. Registration is required, no more than three rooms may be rented, to no more than nine guests at a time, and the property must be the operator's primary residence, defined as living there nine months out of a year.

The Ward 3 councilors, and no doubt others, have already heard from people concerned about operators in violation of one or more standard, and a quick check of the AirBNB listings shows examples of more than three rooms being offered for rental, and non-owner-occupied units. [This page](#) on the city website has links to the

applicable ordinances, how to come into compliance, and how to report violations. (Call Inspectional Services/Code Enforcement at 617-796-1060 or the Newton Police at (617) 796-2100.) Note: this page incorrectly states that owner-occupied is defined as living there six months and a day out of 12 months; the ordinance says nine months out of 12.

"Bulky item" pickup fees begin February 1; "white goods" pickup fee to increase

Beginning February 1, residents will no longer be able to have up to five bulky items, like upholstered or broken furniture, mattresses or carpets, picked up at curbside for free. **There will be a fee of \$20 per item, so if you want to avoid this fee, you've got about three weeks left (allowing time to request a scheduled pickup).** I have never actually used this service, but apparently a relatively small number of households were scheduling a large number of pickups, and that prompted a review. I attended some of the committee hearings last fall, and although a few councilors wanted to continue to allow free pickup for a small number of items per household each year, they were outnumbered by those citing the rising overall cost of solid waste disposal.

Scroll down [this page](#) for info on how to schedule a bulky item pickup (before or after February 1).

Please note that for usable, non-broken, non-upholstered items (i.e. anything that wouldn't house bedbugs), the [Swap Shop](#) at Rumford Ave will be reopening for the season in May, and is a great way to keep items that other people might want, out of the waste stream. But check their [list of what's not acceptable](#). And you might find takers for even upholstered items on Newton Patch or NextDoor Newton.

Also February 1, the fee for pickup of "white goods" -- large recyclable metal items like stoves and refrigerators, will increase from \$20 to \$25, but if you can get them to Rumford Ave yourself (I sure couldn't!) dropoff will still be free. For more info scroll down [here](#).

OPEN HOUSE



The Centre at 1294 Saturday, January 4, 2020

Former Newton Centre Branch Library now The Centre at 1294; Open House 10am-2pm TODAY, Saturday, Jan. 4

I'm really happy to see this former branch library, later the Health Department HQ, and then vacant for several years while its fate was debated, once again be a center for community activity as The Centre at 1294, a venue for Parks, Recreation & Culture activities, and available for private rentals. Their open house celebration today will feature food, music, class demonstrations and other activities. Check out [their website](#) for upcoming classes and activities, including a March 5 visit by Harvard professor of epidemiology and nutrition, Dr. Walter Willett, who literally wrote the book on healthy eating!

It's official, I'm sworn in, and am happy to have been appointed to the Finance and Public Safety & Transportation Committees.



I plan to start having at least monthly "office hours," varying between Sundays and Monday daytime, later this month. I'm open to suggestions for venues (in addition to the always-popular L'Aroma). And please call me at 617-610-2509, or email me at jmalakie@newtonma.gov with any questions or concerns. Other city councilor contact info is [here](#). (Not sure why my phone number's missing, but I'm getting it added.)

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