DOWNTOWN SPENCER



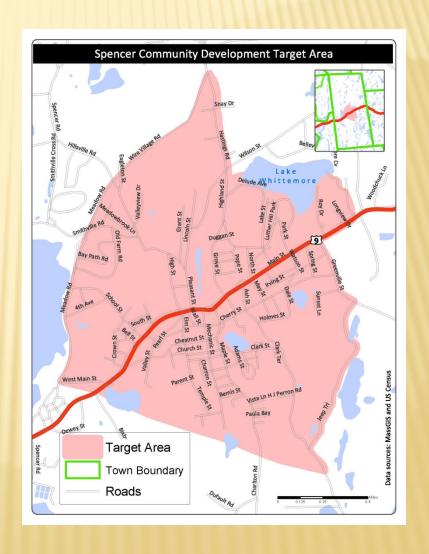
INTRODUCTIONS - PARP PROJECT

- The Pioneer Valley Planning Commission
 - + Andrew Loew
 - + William Scanlan
- The Town of Spencer
 - + Adam Gaudette, Town Administrator
 - + Michelle Buck, Town Planner
 - + Steve Tyler, Superintendent, Office of Utilities & Facilities

- **×** Consultants
 - + Community Preservation Associates
 - × Brian Barber
 - × Bill Giezentanner
 - × DB Reiff
 - + Lisa Davis Associates, Real Estate Consultants
 - + Daniel Benoit, Benoit Design Group

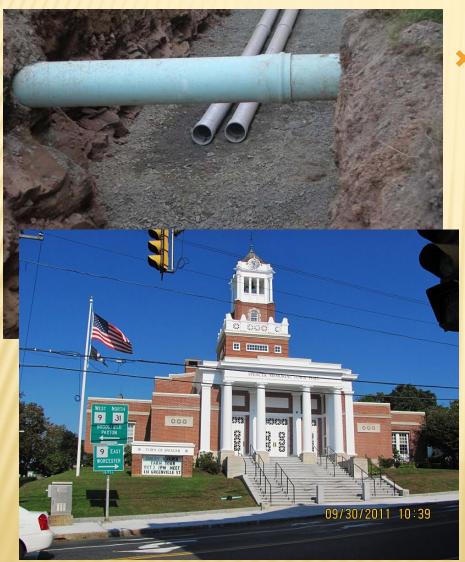
PARP STUDY AREA & GOALS

- Property Assessment and Re-use Planning Project (PARP)
 - Have a downtown that
 Spencer and its citizens
 can be proud of
 - + Accommodate future growth
 - Help create conditions for private actions





INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADES



× Recently completed

- Maple Street Reconstruction from Main to Vista Lane - \$2.1 million
- + Sewer & water upgrades on Maple Street \$500,000
- + Sewer upgrades on Water Street - \$100,000
- + Elm Street bridge replacement \$440,000
- + Memorial Town Hall improvements \$1.1 million

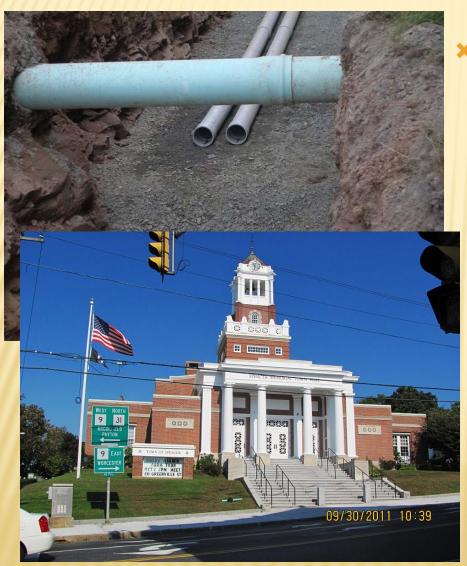
INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADES



× Recently completed

- Water separation & infrastructure improvement \$7.4 million
- + Water upgrades Langevin St.& Mechanic/ Chestnut Street -\$180,000
- Water St. reconstruction, drainage, water, sewer, sidewalks, roadway - \$160,000

INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADES



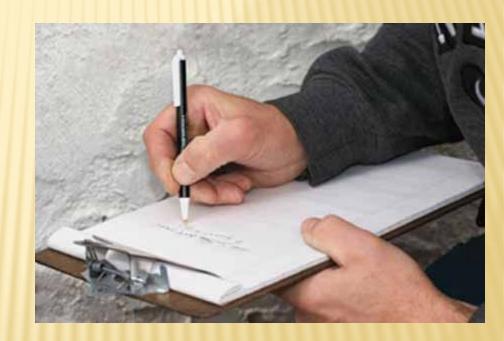
In the Pipeline

- + Mechanic St. reconstruction & pedestrian improvements Main St. to Chestnut St. \$500,000 (2014-2015)
- + Adams & Clark St. reconstruction & pedestrian improvements Maple to Ash St. \$400,000 (2014)
- + Roadway reclamation Prospect, McDonald, Charron, Langevin & Pleasant View -\$250,000 (2016)
- + Main St. reconstruction \$3.7 million (2016)

Total of \$16.83 million

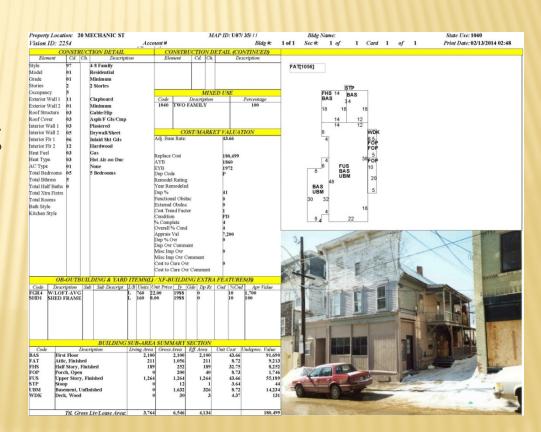
WHAT HAS BEEN HAPPENING SINCE JUNE?

- Selection, physical inventory, & assessment of 57 properties
- Site & regulatory assessment
 - + Infrastructure
 - + Zoning
 - + Ownership
 - + Environmental constraints
- Real estate market assessment
- Some preliminary reuse ideas
- Potential funding sources

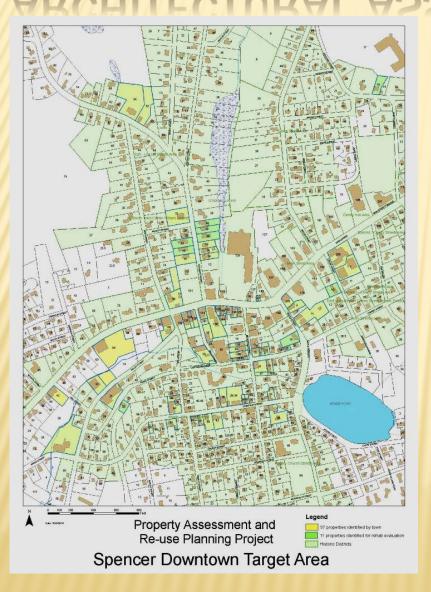


INFORMATION SOURCES

- Town leaders
- Assessors' records
- On-the-street architectural assessment
- Prior studies
- Realtors
- Banks
- State inventories & funding programs
- Zoning & other regulations
- Registry of Deeds
- Participants at 1st Public
 Workshop in June
- × You tonight



ARCHITECTURAL ASSESSMENT



- 57 properties selected for full assessment
- × Criteria
 - Abandoned, dilapidated, or underutilized buildings
 - Town-owned properties that are vacant or underutilized
 - + Focus on downtown
 - + Properties that relate to other Town improvements
- Includes 11 additional properties that may qualify for on-going Housing Rehabilitation Program funds

ON-THE-STREET ASSESSMENT PROCESS

Building deficiencies

- Major critical structural damage correctable only by major repairs
- + Serious defects seriously effecting structural soundness or nonstructural defects correctable by investment beyond normal maintenance
- Minor structural & nonstructural conditions correctable by investment within normal maintenance

	Table of Structure	al Deficienc	ies		
Condition	Component	Minimum % of component area nec			
MATERIAL	3 -	25% 25% 35% 35% 35% 35% 25% 35% 50% 50% 50% 50% 50% 50% 50% 50% 50% Surface deterioration cannot be a major deficiency Leaks can-	Seriou Deficie 12% 12% 12% 12% 12% 12% 12% 25% 25% 25% 25% 25% 25% 25% 25% 25% 2	S Minor ncy Deficience 5 to 12% 5 to 50% 12 to 50% 12 to 50% 12 to 50% 12 to 50%	
		not be a major de- ficiency	25%	12 to 25% 12 to 25%	

THE-STREET ASSESSMENT PROCESS





EXTERIOR CONDITIONS DATA SHEET

Material List

- 1. wood 5. brick 2. concrete
- 3. concrete block 7. asbestos 1. stucco
 - 8. asphalt
- 9. metal
- 10. thr and gravel 14. not determined 15. not observed 12. slate
 - 16. not applicable or non-existant

Condition List

- 1. Satisfactory
- 2. One surface only, less than 5%.
- 3. Two or more surfaces, less than 5%.
- 1. One surface only, more than 5%. (5.) Two or more surfaces, more than 5 %.
 - 6. Only one surface observed.

Foundations

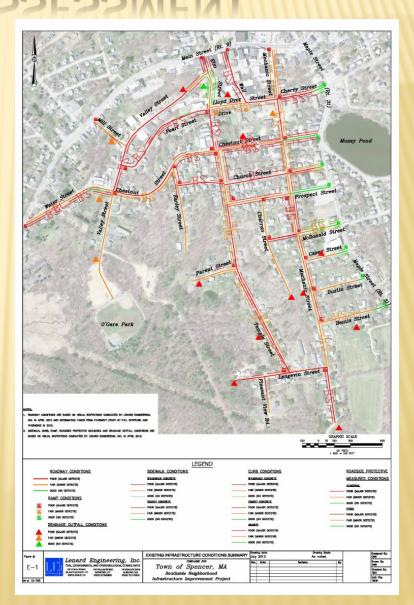
- Pred. mat. 5 Sec. mat. ___
- -- A. Surf. finish deter. 123
- --B. Surf. material deter. 1 2 3
 - 4 (5) 6 Loose, missing, broken 1 2 3

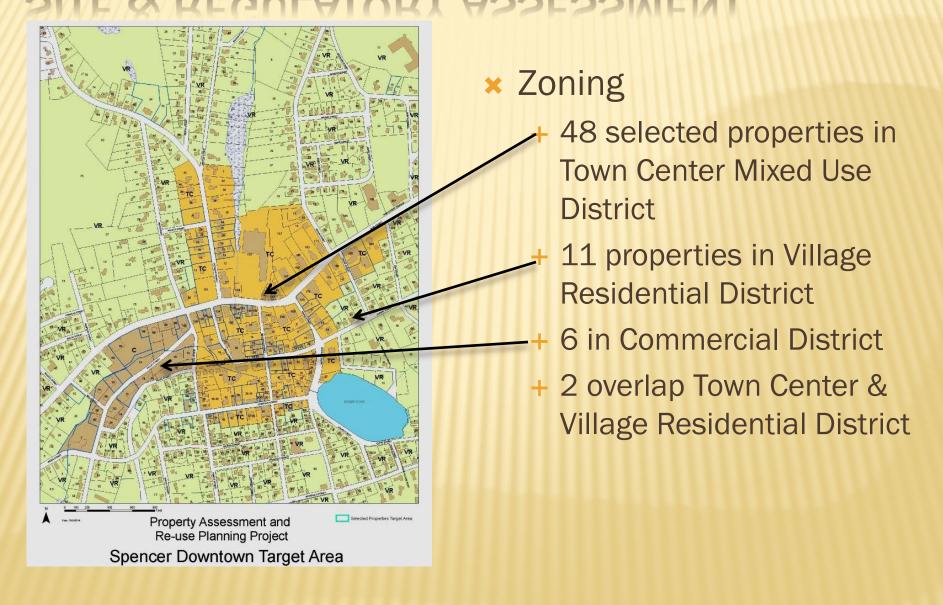
 - rs satis, one surface only __ Appears satis, one surface only _

Exterior Walls

- Pred. mat. __ Sec. mat. __
- -- A. Surf. finish deter. 1 2 3
- --B. Surf. material deter. 1 2 3
- --C. Loose, missing, broken 1 2 3 Out of plumb, sag, etc. 1 2 3 -- D. Out of plumb, sag, etc. 1 2 3
- s satis, 2 or more surfaces_ Appears satis, 2 or more surfaces_

- Infrastructure Southside Neighborhood Infrastructure Improvement Project
 - Lenard Engineering, Inc. inventory of roads, curbs, sidewalks, water lines, & sewer lines
 - + Summary
 - Most infrastructure is in poor condition due to age
 - Programs to upgrade infrastructure are underway
 - × No limitations for PARP project

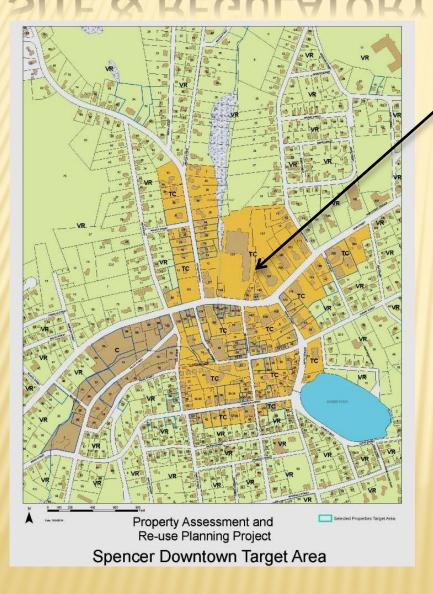






Town Center Mixed Use District

- + Advantages
 - × Allows mixed uses in a single building by right
 - Enables single-family homes to become 2-family by right
 - Allows many small-scale commercial uses



- Town Center Mixed Use District
 - + Disadvantages
 - Does not permit singlefamily homes; meaning existing 1-family homes are non-conforming
 - × Requires numerous uses to obtain special permit
 - Of 77 uses listed 30 are not permitted, 26 require special permit, & 21 are permitted by right



- Village Residential District
 - + Advantages
 - × Allows mixed-uses in a single building by special permit



- village Residential District
 - + Disadvantages
 - × Single-family & 2-family are only residential uses permitted by right
 - All other residential uses require special permit
 - Requires commercial uses to obtain a special permit



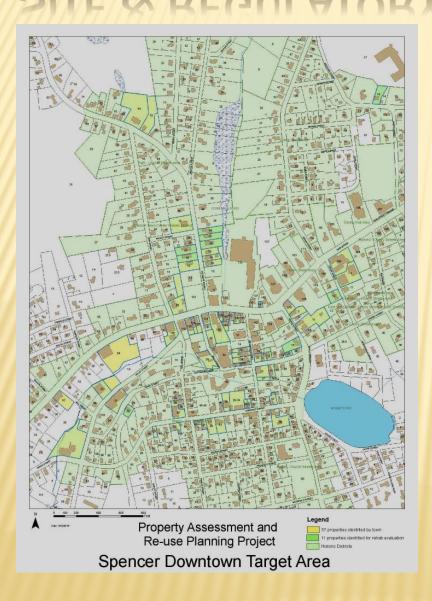
Commercial District

- + Advantages
 - × Allows a broad range of activities



Commercial District

- + Disadvantages
 - × Allows activities that require an extensive land area. Such uses are likely to be incompatible with village character that promotes walkability



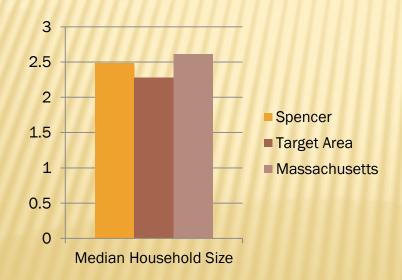
× Historic Districts

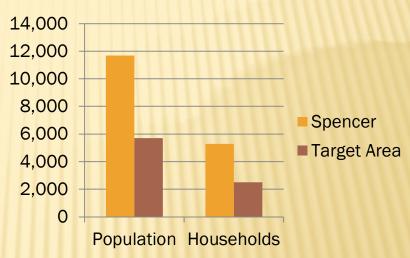
+ All but 4 properties are inside one of the Town's Historic Districts & would potentially be eligible for historic tax credits

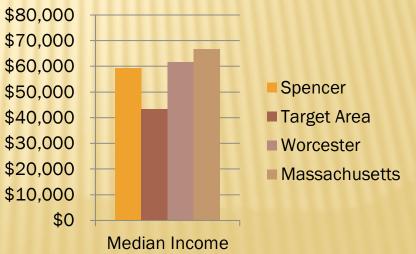
- Ownership (based on assessors' records)
 - + 3 properties owned by Town of Spencer (including 1 small vacant parcel)
 - + All others are privately owned
 - Several individuals or families own multiple properties
 - × 1 owns 7 properties
 - × 2 own 3 properties
 - × 6 own 2 properties each
 - + 14 are owner occupied

- **×** Environmental constraints
 - + 8 properties are within the 100' buffer of Muzzy Brook
 - + An additional 8 properties are within 200'
 - + 7 are within 100' of a wetland
 - + Small portions of 3 properties are within the FEMA flood area of Cider Mill Pond
 - + 6 properties are listed as 21E sites by MassDEP
 - × 4 have had underground storage tanks removed
 - × 2 have had hazardous chemical incident remediation
 - 1 has use limitations on a portion of the site

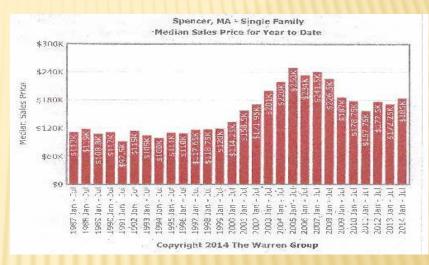
Demographics







- Generally considered poor
- Some signs of recent improvement in 2014
 - + 7.5% increase in single family home sales prices
 - + 6.2% increase in all property sales prices





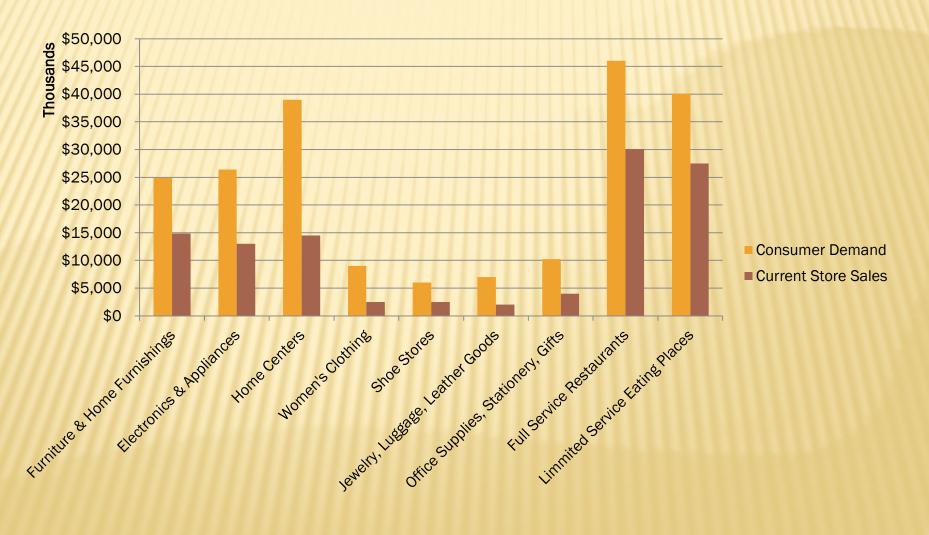
Recent property sales & rental data







Selected Retail Opportunities: 15-minute Drive Time Market Area



Opportunities

- + A village where homes, jobs, & shopping are close to each other
- Many attractive buildings with historic character & potential for reuse
- + Walkability convenient shopping
- + Rt. 9 traffic = business potential



Opportunities

- Town investments in upgrading infrastructure
- Some local consumer demand
- + Several vibrant local farms & businesses
- + Spencer Fair = people
- + Other events
- Broad range of potential reuse for many buildings



Opportunities

- + Reuse example Natick
 Center for the Arts reuse of abandoned fire station as a performing arts venue
- + Non-profit housing developers



Northampton - Paradise Pond Apartments





Northampton - Village Hill



× Obstacles

- Poor real estate market/ economy
- Some property owners primarily interested in selling
- + School reputation
- Appearance of some buildings
- + Negative perceptions
- Difficulty of obtaining special permits

RE-USE RECOMMENDATIONS



x Re-use options

- + Rehab existing structure
- + Change use
- + Mixed uses
- + Tear-down & build new
- + Tear-down & reuse lot for open space or parking
- + Other

RE-USE RECOMMENDATIONS



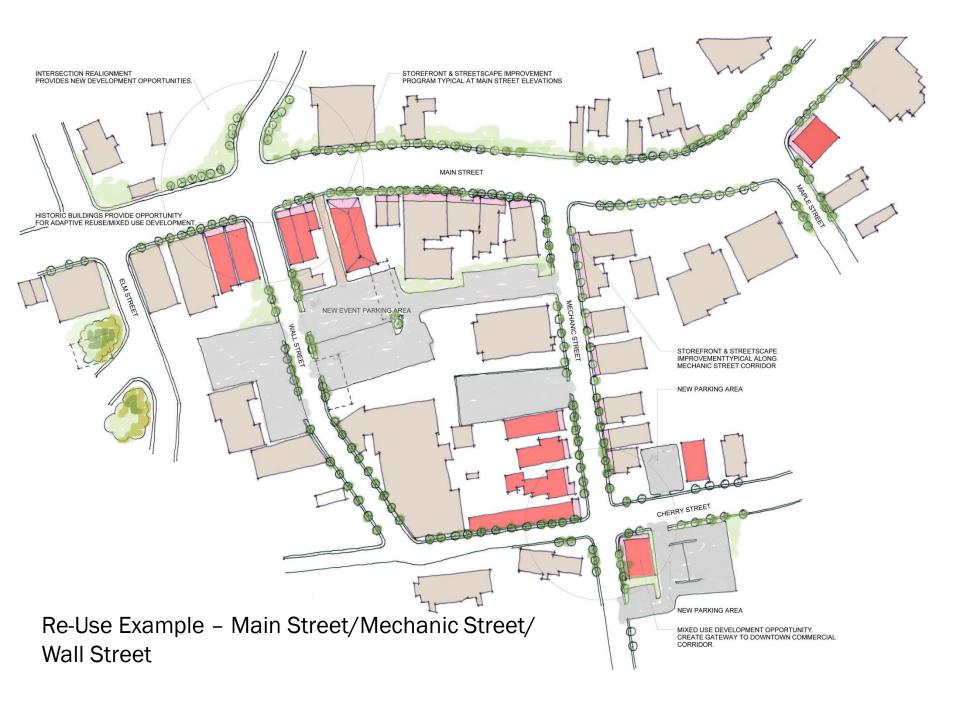
- Implementation tools that may be recommended
 - + Regulatory changes
 - + Tax incentive programs
 - + Loan programs
 - Property-owner training programs
 - Private/public development corporations
 - Economic development strategies
 - + Other

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (STILL TO COME)

- Recommend re-use strategies for individual or "packages" of properties
 - + Strategies for owners & residents
 - + Rehab, re-use, rebuild
 - + Regulatory changes
 - + Financial programs
 - + Home ownership programs







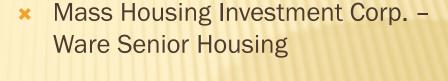


POTENTIAL FINANCIAL AID PROGRAMS

Program	Funding Source	Property Type	Applicant	Type & Use of \$	Amount	Rate/ Terms	Require- ments	Comments
Pre- development loans	Mass Development	Commercial / Mixed Use	For Profit & Non Profit Developers	Loans for pre- development costs	Max: \$100,000	Deferred interest payment	Requires 50% match from Applicant	Applicant is typically a business that will occupy portion of building
Real Estate Loans	Mass Development	Multi tenant, mixed use, commercial / industrial, manufacturers apartment buildings	For Profit & Non Profit Developers	Acquisition, renovation, construction and /or permanent financing	Max: \$5,000.000 will fund up to 90% of property value	Flexible		Construction financing Preference for multifamily rental buildings in downtowns
Commercial Real Estate Improvement Loans	Mass Development	Commercial / mixed use buildings in downtowns	For Profit and Non Profit Developers	Improvements to buildings to help lease up vacant or underutilized space	Max.: \$500,000	Flexible		
Tax Exempt Bonds	Mass Development Mass Housing Investment Corp (MHIC)	Affordable rental housing manufacturers infrastructure	For Profit & Non Profit Developers	Acquisition réhabilitation & adaptive reuse	No preset limits	interest rates lower than traditional funding sources		

PROJECT EXAMPLES

Mass Development – North Hampton – Village Hill Apartments







Program	Funding Source	Property Type	Applicant	Type & Use of \$	Amount	Rate/ Terms	Require- ments	Comments
LIHTC - State & Federal Tax Credit Program	Mass Development MHIC Department of Housing & Community Development (DHCD)	Affordable rental housing/ Mixed Use	For Profit & Non Profit Developers	Acquisition, new construction rehabilitation of existing structures for rental	Max: \$400,000 less than 40 units; \$700,000 41-60 units: \$1,000,000 more than 60 units	Federal: 4% tax credits for 10 years; State: 4% tax credits for 5 years	20% earning less than 50% of area median income (AMI) and 10% at 30% AMI or 40% at 60% AMI and 10% at 30% AMI	40% of total costs must be financed by Mass Development bonds; priority given to large scale neighborhood projects
Historic Tax Credits (Federal & State)	US Department of the Interior/ MHIC/ MA Historical Commission	Income properties including commercial, industrial, agriculture & rental housing	For Profit & Non Profit Developers	Substantial rehabilitation (must exceed pre-rehabilitation cost of the building)	20% of qualifying expenses	Tax credits can be carried forward for 5 years		Building must be designated as historic or certified as contributing to significance of an historic district
MA HOME Program	DHCD	Affordable rental housing	For Profit; Non profit, Municipalities in conjunction with the above	Acquisition, new construction and/or rehabilitation of existing structures	Max: \$750,000 - \$1,000,000 per project, \$50,000 per unit in entitlement communities	30 years @ 0% (deferred payment)	Project must have min. of 5 HOME assisted units with all HOME units below 60% OF AMI and 20% below 50% of AMI	Local funds required; total state subsidy exclusive of tax credits is \$100,000 per unit

Progran	Funding Source			Type & Use of \$	Amount	Rate/ Terms	Require- ments	Comments
Housing Stabilizatio Fund	DHCD	Housing/ Non Profit new Mixed Use Developers con and related of a strict		Acquisition, new construction and/or rehabilitation of existing structures for rental	Max: \$750,000 - \$1,000,000 per project, \$50,000 per unit	50 year at 0% (deferred loan payment)	Must be min. of 5 affordable units & all units receiving assistance must be occupied at 80% AMI for years 0- 40 & no greater than 100% of AMI for years 41-50	Local funds required; can be used in conjunction with other state programs
Capital Improveme & Preservat Fund		Existing low Income rental housing	For Profit & Non Profit Developers; Local Housing Authorities	Refinance & rehabilitation of existing rental properties	Max: \$40,000/unit for project with >25 units up to \$2 million, Max. \$50,000/unit for projects with <25 units up to \$1.25 million	40 year at 0% (deferred payment loan)	50% of the units at 80% AMI, 5% of the units at 50% AMI	DHCD subsidies are limited to \$100,000/ unit (exclusive of tax credits); cannot be combined with DHCD Home funds

Program	Funding Source	Property Type	Applicant	Type & Use of \$	Amount	Rate/ Terms	Require- ments	Comments
Housing Innovation Fund	DHCD / Community Development Assistance Corp (CEDAC)	Residential properties & SROs	Non Profit Developers	Acquisition, construction & renovation of residential buildings & SROs	Max \$500,000 except for projects that primarily serve homeless families or individuals then \$1 million	30 years - 5% deferred loan payment	at least 25% of the project must be occupied by low income persons or families & 25% must be occupied by very low income persons or families	Designed to create alternative forms of housing such as SROs
Facilities Consolidation Funds	DHCD / CEDAC	Residential properties that serve individuals affected by the facility consolidation/community expansion & restructuring initiatives of DMR & DMH	For Profit, & Non Profit Developers	Acquisition, new construction and/or rehabilitation of existing structures for rental	Max: \$500,000 - No more than 50% of total development costs of eligible units	30 years - Interest is deferred but accrues for only the initial 20 years provided the loan is not in default	At or below 80% AMI, Designed to service persons with physical or mental impairments	A service program monitored by DMR and DMH is an integral component

PROJECT EXAMPLES

- DHCD Amherst ButternutFarm 26 units of family rental housing
- * HAPHousing Springfield HOME program, etc.





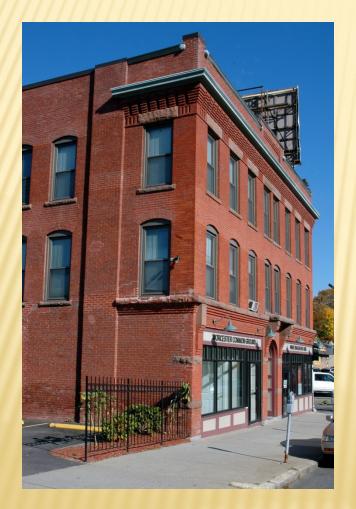
	Program	Funding Source	Property Type	Applicant	Type & Use of \$	Amount	Rate/ Terms	Require- ments	Comments
Ba	ommunity ased ousing	DHCD / CEDAC	Rental housing	Non Profit Developers	Acquisition, new construction and/or rehabilitation of existing structures for rental	Max: Lesser of \$750,000 per project or 50% of total development costs of eligible units	30 years @ 0% (deferred payment)	At or below 80% AMI (majority of tenants will have a long term physical or mental impairment, or be at risk of institutionalization or a household with a minor child who qualifies)	Application must include a letter of support from the Mass. Rehabilitation Commission
Re Fir	ermanent ental nancing ogram	MHP	Multifamily rentals & Non Profit & Non Profit Developers more units	Non Profit	Permanent financing for takeout of construction loans	Min: \$250,000, Max:\$15 million (Projects over \$15 million w/ participating lenders)	20 years amortizing up to 30 years	20% at 50% AMI or 40% affordable at 60% AMI or 50% at 80% of AM; total commercial space income cannot exceed 33% of total effective rental income	

Program	Funding Source	Property Type	Applicant	Type & Use of \$	Amount	Rate/ Terms	Require- ments	Comments
5 Year Flexible Financing	MHP	Multi family rental properties with 5 or more units	For Profit & Non Profit Developers	Permanent financing for takeout of construction loans	Max: \$15 million	10 year term with initial interest rate set using 5 year prices amortizing over 30 years	20% at 50% AMI or 40% affordable at 60% AMI or 50% at 80% of AM; total commercial space income cannot exceed 33% of total effective rental income	
MATCH Tax Exempt Financing	MHP / Mass Development	Affordable rental housing	For Profit & Non Profit Developers	Bonds issued by Mass Development to MHP which provides a mortgage equal to bond amount. Bonds are guaranteed by Federal Home Loan bank assuring low rates		20 years amortizing over 30 years	20% at 50% AMI or 40% affordable at 60% AMI or 50% at 80% of AM; total commercial space income cannot exceed 33% of total effective rental income	Developers may qualify for an allocation of tax credits

Program	Funding Source	Property Type	Applicant	Type & Use of \$	Amount	Rate/ Terms	Require- ments	Comments
Energy Performance Improvement Loan	MHP	Affordable multifamily housing	For Profit; Non Profit developers must have MHP funded first mortgage	Loans to enhance energy efficiency & energy conservation	Max: \$15,000 per unit	20 years amortizing over 30 years	20% at 50% AMI or 40% affordable at 60% AMI or 50% at 80% of AM; total commercial space income cannot exceed 33% of rental income	
Community Revitalization Rental Financing for projects located in a high poverty area	MHP	Predominately market rate housing in a high poverty area	For Profit & Non Profit Developers	Permanent financing for takeout of construction loans	Min: \$500,000; Max: \$15 million	Minimum 5 years, Maximum 20 years amortizing over 30 years	Minimum 10% affordable	
One Source	MHP / MHIC	Affordable multifamily housing	For Profit & Non Profit Developers	Provides simplified financing for acquisition & rehabilitation; \$ provided by MHIC or participating lenders	Not specified	Not specified		

PROJECT EXAMPLES

Worcester rehabs







Program	Funding Source	Property Type	Applicant	Type & Use of \$	Amount	Rate/ Terms	Require- ments	Comments
Economic Development Fund	DHCD	Mixed use & adaptive reuse projects	For Profit & Non Profit Developers	Acquisition & development of mixed use properties in commercial areas	\$100,000- \$750,000/ project; \$100,000- \$500,000 to community development corps.; \$50,000 planning grants; Loans of \$500,000- \$5,000,000 for economic development projects		Project must be critical in downtown revitalization &/or job creation / retention	Funds are limited & awarded on a rolling basis depending upon availability; 2-step application process
Affordable Housing Trust Fund	DHCD/Mass Housing/ CEDAC/MHIP	Affordable housing	For Profit & Non Profit Developers; Government Housing Authorities	Acquisition, rehabilitation & construction of affordable housing	Lesser of \$1,000,000 or \$50,000 per assisted unit	30 year @ 0% (deferred payment)	110% of AMI (range of incomes with special emphasis on units of 80% AMI or less)	DHCD subsidy limited to \$100,000 per unit exclusive of tax credits
Small Business Loan Options	Quaboag Valley Business Assistance Corporation	Micro- enterprises (small business with few employees)	Business Owners (typically low and moderate income)	Working capital, equipment, expansion, refinancing	\$500 - \$100,000	Lower monthly payments - 5-10%	Must qualify under USDA Rural Micro- enterprise Program	Average loan is \$35,000 with interest rate of 7-8%

PROJECT EXAMPLE

Lee, MAPartial funding from CEDAC.



Program	Funding Source	Property Type	Applicant	Type & Use of \$	Amount	Rate/ Terms	Require- ments	Comments
Commercial Area Transit Node Housing	DHCD	Housing Projects of 25 units or less in Commercial areas in close proximity to public transit	For Profit & Non Profit Developers; Municipalities	New construction	Max: \$50,000 per unit up to \$1 million	30 years @ 0% (deferred payment)	At least 51% of the units must be affordable at or below 80% AMI	Funding Limited; Maximum DHCD subsidy is limited to \$100,000 per unit exclusive of tax credits
Home Funders	MHP / MHIC	Affordable housing for family sized units (2 bedrooms or more)	Non Profit Developers	Acquisition, rehabilitation & construction of 10 or more new affordable housing units	Max: \$50,000 per eligible unit up to \$750,000 (typically 5- 10% of total project costs)	20 years, fully amortizing with 2% interest only payments required during loan term. Full repayment of principal at maturity	20% of the family sized units at 30% of AMI	Project must include some provision for service coordination for residents
Mixed Income Rental Housing	Mass Housing	Mixed income rental housing	Non Profit Developers	Tax exempt & taxable financing for mixed income rental housing	Varies by Project	40 years	Tax Exempt: 20% affordable at 50% AMI or 40% affordable at 50% AMI; Taxable: 20% affordable at 80% AMI	

Program	Funding Source	Property Type	Applicant	Type & Use of \$	Amount	Rate/ Terms	Require- ments	Comments
Elder Mixed Income Housing	Mass Housing	Rental housing for elders	For Profit & Non Profit Developers	tax exempt & taxable bonds	Varies by Project	30 and 40 years	20% of units must be affordable to elders at 50% AMI	must provide supportive services for seniors
Elder CHOICE	Mass Housing	Assisted living units for frail elders	Non Profit Developers & Limited Dividend Corps	tax exempt & taxable bonds	Varies by Project	30 and 40 years	20% affordable at 50% AMI or 40% affordable to 60% AMI; rents must not exceed 30% of target income group	must provide supportive services for frail elders
Brownfields Redevelopment Fund	Mass Development	Properties with economic development benefit	For Profit & Non profit developers, Municipalities	For environmental assessment and clean-up of contaminated properties	\$100,000 for site assessments; \$500,000 for remediation	Deferred loans & flexible funding, Municipalities & Community Development corps. maybe eligible for a grant		
Affordable Housing Program	FHLB Member Bank	Affordable housing	Non Profit Developers	Acquisition, rehabilitation & construction of affordable housing	Max:\$ 400,000 in direct subsidy grant & a total of \$800,000 (grant plus loan)	Subsidized advance loans &/or grants have various interest rates provided by FHLB member banks	20% of the units at 50% AMI	Must have commitments for at least 50% of funding less AHP request

OWNER/RESIDENT PARTICIPATION



× An invitation

- + Please let us know if you are interested in a follow-up owners'/residents' workshop
- + Contact Brian Barber, brian.barber@comcast.net phone: 781 648-0326

SCHEDULE

Tasks	June	July	August	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Inventory & Physical Assessment	*						
Site & Regulatory Assessment							
Re-use Recommendations					*		
Implementation Plan							
Final Report							*
*Public Forum							