

Baker-Polito Administration Breaks Ground on Holyoke's Lyman Terrace Renovation

Public-Private Partnership will ensure the preservation of historic public housing stock in Holyoke

Holyoke – Tuesday, May 24, 2016 – Today the Baker-Polito Administration joined Holyoke Mayor Alex Morse, legislators, and The Community Builders to break ground on Lyman Terrace, an historic 160-unit public housing community.

The preservation of Lyman Terrace has received significant support from the Baker-Polito Administration. In September 2015, the Administration announced \$3 million in low-income housing tax credits and funding for Lyman Terrace, followed by a \$4 million MassWorks infrastructure grant award round for improvements to the surrounding streetscape, along with the sewer and safety systems.

“Renovating Lyman Terrace will preserve existing affordable housing stock while ensuring that residents continue have access to clean and safe homes,” said Governor Charlie Baker. “This is a great example of how we can work together with public and private partners to support working families and expand housing opportunities in Massachusetts.”

“Assisting cities and towns as they work to preserve their existing affordable housing stock is an important part of our support for communities,” said Lt. Governor Karyn Polito. “Renovating Lyman Terrace to provide modern, stable, and high-quality affordable housing supports the children and families who live there, and provides a foundation for economic growth in Holyoke.”

“I cannot thank the Baker-Polito administration enough for all they have done to help us get here,” said Holyoke Mayor Alex Morse. “But today truly belongs to the residents of Lyman Terrace—the people who refused to lie down, and who lifted their voices, and organized, and fought for their homes. Their efforts helped set an agenda for a densely populated, inclusive downtown community.”

The renovation of Lyman Terrace will proceed in two phases. The first phase will include the development of 88 affordable rental units and a community building, and the second will include the development of 72 affordable rental units.

“Our economic development agenda aims to support efforts by communities to better their own fortunes through increased leadership and capacity,” said Assistant Secretary for Communities and Programs Juan Vega. “Holyoke’s forward-thinking efforts to renovate and preserve their housing stock speaks to the community’s strong vision for the future.”

“TCB is grateful for the strong support from the Commonwealth and we’re excited to work with key partners to transform the City of Holyoke. The Holyoke Housing Authority’s plans to improve the infrastructure around our Lyman Terrace development will directly benefit residents,” said Bart Mitchell, The Community Builders (TCB) president and CEO. “These updates, coupled with the first phase of renovations for Lyman Terrace next year will make this an even better neighborhood.”

Investing in affordable housing developments and renovations reflect the Baker-Polito Administration’s commitment to ensuring that residents have access to affordable housing throughout Massachusetts. Supporting new developments, and ensuring that existing affordable housing stock remains available, helps to ensure that Massachusetts retains housing stock that supports family stability, economic growth, and job creation.

Last fall the Administration awarded \$85.6 million in MassWorks awards and \$75 million in Affordable Housing Development awards that support the construction and preservation thousands of housing units across the Commonwealth.

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