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To: Valerie Oorthuys
Subject: CHAPA Housing Briefs: February 2024

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CHAPA Housing Briefs

February 2024



State Updates

CHAPA's Statement on Town of Milton's Vote

On February 14th, residents of Milton voted no on a bright

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 23, 2024

[Municipal Engagement Office Hours](#)

February 29, 2024

[The Road to Financing Affordable Housing
in Massachusetts](#)

(streaming only tickets still available!)

June 5, 2024

[CHAPA's 57th Annual Dinner](#)

and inclusive future for their community. At a time when people across income levels are feeling the pain of escalating home prices and rents, CHAPA is disappointed that Milton voters chose the status quo that keeps their gates closed and limits opportunities for people to have homes they can afford in the neighborhoods they love. Milton's vote impacts people, our region, and our economy. Read CHAPA's [full statement on our website](#).

State Legislative Committees Act on CHAPA Priority Bills

On February 7, or [Joint Rule 10 Day](#), committees were required to take action on bills that had been referred to them for consideration. Several of [CHAPA's priority bills](#) received favorable reports, including [The Office of Fair Housing](#), [Eviction Records Sealing](#), [Access to Counsel](#), [Codification of the Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program](#), [The Supportive Housing Pool Program](#), and [The Healthy Homes Initiative](#). The Joint Committee on Housing also requested an extension until April 18 to act on [dozens of other bills](#), many of which may be considered as part of the Affordable Homes Act.



Federal Updates

Contact Your Members of Congress to Protect HUD Funding

The U.S. Congress is working to pass fiscal year 2024

CHAPA IN THE NEWS

February 21, 2024

[The Healey administration bars Milton from state grants after defiant housing vote. It's about more than the money](#)

February 15, 2024

[What's next for Milton after voters reject state-mandated housing plan?](#)

February 15, 2024

[Milton Votes To Kill State-Mandated Zoning Plan, Setting Up Test Of Housing Law](#)

February 12, 2024

[Housing Choice Coalition meets Thursday](#)

January 30, 2024

[Augustus, Driscoll Tapped to Chart More Housing Reforms](#)

January 29, 2024

[Governor Healey Swears in Housing Advisory Council and Commission on Unlocking Housing Production](#)

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spending bills for a range of federal agencies, including the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Unfortunately, there are indications that the proposals being considered would underfund HUD and threaten housing and homelessness programs like federal rental assistance, including Section 8 vouchers. [Contact your members of Congress](#) and demand they help address the housing and homelessness crisis by enacting an FY24 spending bill with significant increases for affordable housing and homelessness programs.



Federal Housing Credits Included in House Tax Bill

On January 31, the House of Representatives passed HR 7024, the Tax Relief for American Families and Workers Act of 2024. This legislation includes several provisions that will directly support affordable housing production. The bill is now in the Senate waiting to be put to a vote while advocates urge leadership to bring it directly to the floor rather than sending it to committee first. For more on this legislation and advocacy opportunities, [visit the Housing Advisory Group's website](#).



Recent Research

Boston Indicators Report Highlights Immigrants' Role in Region's Economy

Boston Indicators [report](#), *Global Greater Boston*:

Immigrants in a Changing Region, depicts the impact of high housing costs, which drive immigrant populations out of Boston and to suburbs like Revere (11% increase in foreign-born population), Boxborough (9% increase), Marlborough (8% increase), and Brockton (8% increase) while Boston and inner-ring suburbs saw much smaller increases.

Report Estimates Economic Impact of Affordable Homes Act Over Next 5 Years

Commissioned by EOHLC, the UMass Donahue Institute's [report](#) estimates the economic impact of the Affordable Homes Act over five years at nearly \$15.1 billion, with spending allocated across construction (\$9.7 billion), soft costs (\$2.3 billion), finance (\$1 billion), and maintenance (\$511 million), making up 89% of the total, with the remainder for land acquisition and loan repayment.



A safe, healthy, and affordable home for all.

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