



CITY OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS  
Office of the Mayor  
Thomas M. Menino

## **Community Development Block Grants** **Work for Boston**

Boston's annual CDBG allocation, which is primarily administered by the Department of Neighborhood Development, gives the City flexibility to make decisions locally about what works for our neighborhoods. Funds create housing for the homeless, revitalize Main Streets, provide assistance to first time homebuyers and job creating small businesses, and support the strong middle class base of our city. The proposed cuts to CDBG in HR 1 would damage the City's efforts to build stronger neighborhoods. Some specific examples of what Boston has allocated CDBG funding for are below.

### **270 Centre, Jamaica Plain**

A \$1.4 million loan from the City has made possible Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Development Corporation's 270 Centre, a \$14M mixed-use development consisting of 30 affordable rental housing units and a ground-floor retail space. The City's investment leveraged a total \$10.5 million in other public and private resources, and made possible 345 jobs in the trades.

### **Clover Food Truck, Downtown**

A \$25,000 small business loan from Boston's Office of Business Development enabled Clover to expand operations from Cambridge into Boston in mid-2010; this new Dewey Square truck attracted 50,000 visitors to the Greenway in just the last 6 months of 2010. When Clover first approached the City of Boston for assistance, they had 7 employees. Today, thanks to the success they continue to enjoy with two food trucks and a newly opened restaurant in Harvard Square, they boast a total of 70 employees, 30 of whom are Boston residents.

### **Central Boston Elder Services' senior housing, Roxbury**

Roxbury-based Central Boston Elder Services utilized a \$1 million award from the City to develop 57 new, affordable units for low- and moderate-income seniors in the heart of Dudley Square. Construction for the \$16 million project is underway, and has brought over 100 construction jobs to Roxbury's commercial center.

### **McDonald Home Improvement, Mattapan**

As one of the Boston Home Center's 'pre-approved home repair contractors,' Mattapan-based David McDonald employs 9 full and part-time workers through his small contracting business. He has completed over 60 home repair projects with Boston homeowners through his partnership with the City, representing a total \$1 million CDBG investment.

### **Artful Edge Framing, Allston Village**

With the help of a \$2,500 grant through the Office of Business Development's CDBG-funded ReStore storefront improvement program, Artful Edge Framing was recently able to complete the design, fabrication and installation of \$5,000 in new signage and lighting, helping them to become a more visible member of the Allston Village Main Streets district.



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### **Pine Street Inn, Roxbury**

Pine Street Inn serves more than 1,300 homeless individuals daily and 10,000 annually, providing the full spectrum of services to help residents reach their highest level of independence. Among other CDBG-supported programs, Pine Street operates *Abundant Table*, an in-house food service enterprise that has prepares and delivers nutritious and affordably priced meals to non-profit institutions, schools and other organizations.

### **Liberty Wharf, Seaport/Innovation District**

Boston's Seaport/Innovation District will soon benefit the \$40 million Liberty Wharf, a multi-use commercial building complete with space for four restaurants and Class A office space. This major development will add more than 600 new jobs to Boston's economy, a substantial portion of which are expected to be filled by low- and moderate-income residents of Boston. This project would not have been possible without a total City investment of \$2.6 million in CDBG funds.

### **Eustis Street Firehouse, Roxbury**

Leveraging a \$485,000 contribution from the City, Historic Boston Inc. (HBI) is nearing completion on their \$2 million renovation of the historic Eustis Street Firehouse, a Dudley Square landmark dating back to 1859. The rehab of this long-vacant structure will result in a new, multi-use building that contributes to Dudley Square's continued revitalization and provides a new headquarters for one of Boston's premier historic preservation organizations. The property will soon offer non-profit commercial space for a retail tenant, interior and exterior program space for historic documentation and interpretation uses, and a conference room available for community members' use.

### **Senior Home Repair program, Citywide**

Through the Boston Home Center, the CDBG-funded Senior Home Repair program works with neighborhood-based non-profits to offer low- and moderate-income senior citizens affordable loans for minor, moderate, and emergency home repairs. In 2010, the City helped 649 residents make critical repairs to their home, for a total \$2.4 million CDBG investment.