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# CHAPA Housing Briefs

June 2019



## State Updates

### **FY2020 State Budget Heads to Conference Committee**

The [FY2020 state budget is now before a conference committee](#), chaired by Rep. Aaron Michlewitz and Sen. Michael Rodrigues, to reconcile the differences between the House and Senate budget proposals. Once the Legislature agrees to a final budget, it will be sent to the Governor for his signature, amendments, and/or vetoes.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**June 25, 2019**

[CHAPA YP Network's Summer Mixer\\*](#)

*\*waitlist only*

**October 30, 2019**

[CHAPA's 52nd Annual Dinner](#)



**Have you registered for our 52nd Annual Dinner yet? Four**

## **Baker-Polito Administration Releases FY2020 Capital Plan**

On June 6, the [Baker-Polito Administration released its FY2020 Capital Plan](#), including investments in affordable housing, community development, and early education programs. The plan includes \$95 million in capital funding to support and improve state-assisted public housing and over \$20 million for programs that create accessible homes for persons with disabilities.

## **DHCD Announces Mini-Competition for Affordable Housing Funding**

The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) announced it will hold a [mini-competition for funding](#) certain highly-ready, multi-family affordable rental housing projects. DHCD will hold a public hearing on the competition on June 20. The deadline for the competition will be October 31.

## **State Senate Finalizes FY2020 Budget Proposal**

On May 23, the [State Senate approved its final FY2020 state budget proposal](#). The budget includes significant funding increases for the Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program, the Alternative Housing Voucher Program, public housing, and unaccompanied homeless youth support services. The budget also provides increased funding for the Community Preservation Trust Fund.



## **Federal Updates**

### **Federal Legislation Could Boost Affordable Housing Tax Credit**

A bipartisan group of legislators from the [House and Senate introduced legislation](#) last week that would make

award winners and a special guest to be announced soon! [Get your tickets for the Dinner here.](#)



**CHAPA's [Municipal Engagement Initiative](#) will be releasing the application for new communities soon!**

If you are interested in receiving the application for your community when available, please be in touch with [Dana LeWinter](#), Director of Municipal Engagement.

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key improvements to the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC). [The bill](#) includes a 50% increase to the annual allocation and incentives for ELI housing in addition to establishing a minimum 4% rate, among other priorities.



### **U.S. Appropriations Committee Releases FY2020 THUD Funding Bill**

The House Appropriations Committee released [its annual funding bill](#) for affordable housing and community development programs, [increasing funding levels by \\$6 billion](#) from FY 2019 and \$17 billion over the President’s request. The Transportation-Housing and Urban Development (THUD) Subcommittee approved the bill by a voice vote, and it will now proceed to the House floor for a final vote before moving to the Senate, then ultimately the President’s desk.

### **Presidential Candidate Booker Releases Affordable Housing Plan**

Senator Cory [Booker introduced a plan](#) last week to address the nation’s affordable housing challenges. Booker’s plan includes a [federal tax credit for renters](#), \$40 billion for the Housing Trust Fund, right-to-counsel in eviction cases, and incentives for localities to eliminate restrictive zoning rules.



## **Recent Research**

### **Webinar and Advocacy Materials to Respond to HUD’s Mixed-Status Rule**

The National Low Income Housing Coalition and The National Housing Law Project hosted a [webinar](#) to assist advocates in responding to HUD’s proposed rule prohibiting mixed immigration status families from living

in public and other subsidized housing. They also provided [additional resources](#) and a [state-by-state breakdown](#) of households affected.

### **The Paper Wall: Zoning Restrictions of Multi-Family Housing**

[New research](#) sponsored by the MA Smart Growth Alliance, CHAPA and other partners sheds light on how certain suburban towns in Metro Boston use zoning to stop new housing development. Read coverage from [The Boston Globe](#), [The Lowell Sun](#), [WGBH](#), and [Banker & Tradesman](#).

### **How NIMBY Politics Keep Housing Costs High**

Why can't proposals for new housing development overcome local resistance? A [podcast from the Niskanen Center's Political Research Digest](#) features two of the leading researchers on the subject, Katherine Einstein from Boston University and Michael Hankinson from Baruch College.

### **The Plunder of Black Wealth in Chicago**

[New research from Duke University](#) attempts to calculate the amount of money extracted from Chicago's black communities in the 1950s and 60s through the practice of "home contract sales." These contracts offered buyers the illusion of a mortgage, but with higher interest rates, inflated purchase prices, no accumulation of equity, and no legal protections for consumers.



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