

Media Coverage Report

This report is a comprehensive listing of where and when MAPC was mentioned in the media in 2025, including links and brief descriptions of why each article is included. It is organized into 10 coverage categories and a new "In Case You Missed It" section, with MAPC-related news from our partners, municipalities, and other organizations.

Metro Mayors Coalition unites for new climate commitment.
Pg. 5

Research spotlight: collaborative *Data Opens Doors* report featured in The Boston Globe, MassLive.
Pg. 7

Planning across the region and four MAPC staff members quoted in one story.
Pgs. 12-14

Executive Director Lizzi Weyant discusses her new role, climate goals, housing, and parking.
Pgs. 2, 4, 11, 15



Table of Contents

Agency News	3
Arts & Culture	4
Clean Energy, Climate, & Environment	4 - 6
Data Services	7 - 8
Government Affairs	9
Housing	10 - 11
Municipal Collaboration	11 - 12
Planning	12 - 14
Public Health	14
Transportation	15 - 16
In Case You Missed It	17 - 18
<i>MAPC-related news from our partners, municipalities, and other organizations</i>	

Agency News

Boston Herald: [Boston Mayor Michelle Wu slams Fox News, Dr. Phil for being embedded in ICE efforts](#) - Jan. 29, 2025 (MAPC immigration webinar mentioned) also [Sentinel & Enterprise](#)

The Boston Globe: [Mass. state auditor Diana DiZoglio accuses AG Andrea Campbell of trying to 'scapegoat' her, ratcheting up dispute](#) - March 4, 2025 (MAPC mentioned)

State House News: [Top regional planner offers outlook on federal funds access](#) - March 5, 2025 (Marc Draisen quoted; Winter Council meeting coverage)

Chelsea Record: [Chelsea Officials Announce Grant Funding through MAPC](#) - March 27, 2025 (Technical Assistance Program featured; Marc Draisen quoted)

Ashland Town News: [MAPC scholarship deadline April 18](#) - March 31, 2025 (MAPC mentioned)

State House News: [Personnel File - Tuesday, Oct. 7, 2025](#) - Oct. 7, 2025 (Lizzi Weyant's appointment as executive director featured)

The Boston Globe: ['Cities and towns have an opportunity to lead in this moment': New MAPC director takes charge](#) - Oct. 20, 2025 (Lizzi Weyant featured in the "Bold Types" business column)

BOLD TYPES

New MAPC director Weyant takes charge

By Jon Chesto
GLOBE STAFF

Just about every city and town in Greater Boston could benefit from outside assistance these days. Fortunately, they have an army of planners working on their behalf at the **Metropolitan Area Planning Council**.

Now, though, there's a new general leading the charge. **Lizzi Weyant** has been promoted to be MAPC's executive director, taking over at the Boston-based agency for long-time chief **Marc Draisen**, who retired over the summer after more than two decades there. Weyant joined MAPC to oversee its government relations and advocacy efforts more than 10 years ago. She realized she had arrived at her dream job: to work in a place that could have such a consequential impact

on its 101 member municipalities.

"We have an opportunity to actually encourage cities and towns to think about how they're supporting their residents," Weyant said. "It feels like a really important role, and I am honestly just very honored to be in it."

MAPC assists communities with a wide range of issues and scenarios such as preparing properties for the effects of climate change, rezoning for transportation corridors, and fostering more local arts and culture — to name just a few. (The MAPC can also act as a procurement authority for cities and towns.) Lately, it has been helping municipal officials set affordable housing benchmarks for new projects and to live

BOLD TYPES, Page D2



Lizzi Weyant has been promoted to MAPC director.

CHRIS MORRIS FOR THE BOSTON GLOBE

The Boston Globe, October 20, 2025

Arts & Culture

Daily Times Chronicle (Reading): [Arts and Culture Action Plan Showcase to be held Wednesday](#) - Jan. 21, 2025 (MAPC mentioned)

The Recorder: [Ashfield, Northfield awarded \\$15K grants for public art training](#) – Feb. 9, 2025 (Making it Public training program mentioned)

Swellesley Report: [Wellesley moves to strengthen arts and culture scene with new strategic plan](#) – Feb. 19, 2025 (MAPC mentioned)

Greenfield Recorder: [Mural artists chosen in Montague](#) - March 24, 2025 (Making it Public training program mentioned)

Preservation Magazine: [New Historical Markers Convey Immigrants' Stories in Boston's Chinatown Neighborhood](#) – Spring 2025 (MAPC, Chinatown Master Plan mentioned)

Somerville Times: [Landmark Arts Space Investment: Somernova in Somerville](#) – July 2, 2025 (MAPC Arts Risk Assessment mentioned)

The Worcester Guardian: [Lights, music and winter art return to Worcester Common](#) – Nov. 14, 2025 (MAPC & Making it Public grant mentioned)

Clean Energy, Climate, & Environment

Hopkinton Independent: [Town experiences growing pains during leadership transition period](#) – Jan. 8, 2024 (MAPC & Accelerating Climate Resiliency grant mentioned)

The Boston Globe: [How is the state doing on climate? The latest report card tells all.](#) - Jan. 17, 2025 (Lizzi Weyant interviewed & quoted)

Marblehead Current: [OPINION: Marblehead's road to net zero: Updates and how you can help](#) – March 26, 2025 (MAPC mentioned)

Winthrop Transcript - [Town Council gets Update on Hazard Mitigation Plan](#) – May 29, 2025 (MAPC mentioned; Martin Pillsbury quoted)

Hopkinton Independent: [Town to host webinar tonight on climate planning](#) – May 29, 2025 (MAPC climate action plan mentioned)

Big news:

GBH: [Local leaders recommit to regional response to climate crisis](#) - May 12, 2025 (Metro Mayors Coalition Climate Summit featured; Marc Draisen quoted; MAPC mentioned)

WBZ Radio News: [Greater Boston Mayors Reaffirm Climate Agreement](#) – May 12, 2025 (Metro Mayors Coalition Climate Summit featured; Marc Draisen quoted)

CommonWealth Beacon: [Greater Boston municipal leaders recommit to climate goals](#) - May 13, 2025 (Metro Mayors Coalition Climate Summit featured; MAPC mentioned)



“Mayor Michelle Wu, one of 17 leaders from across greater Boston who signed a Mayors Climate Commitment at an event at Boston Museum of Science on Monday, May 12, 2025. Robert Goulston / GBH News”

Bay State Banner: [As temperatures soar, researchers and advocates talk extreme heat solutions](#) – June 25, 2025 (MAPC Heat Symposium featured; Lizzi Weyant quoted)

WBUR: [An art installation in Cambridge has some critics heated](#) - July 7, 2025 (MAPC Accelerating Climate Resiliency project *Shade is Social Justice* mentioned)

NBC 10 Boston: [This ‘huge gray block’ in Cambridge is art with a purpose. Not all are fans.](#) - July 8, 2025 (MAPC Accelerating Climate Resiliency project *Shade is Social Justice* mentioned)

The Boston Globe Letters: [In defense of Boston-area municipal clean energy programs](#) - July 19, 2025 (Letter written by Jeremy Koo)

The Architect's Newspaper: [SHADE, a nonprofit founded by Jeff Goldenson, empowers teens to build shading devices in Cambridge, Massachusetts](#) – Aug. 22, 2025 (Accelerating Climate Resilience-funded *Shade is Social Justice* project featured)

Cambridge Day: [Amid climate change challenges, Shade presents obvious answer: Let teens show how to be cooler](#) – Aug. 31, 2025 (Accelerating Climate Resilience-funded *Shade is Social Justice* project featured)

Greenfield Recorder: [Ashfield highlighted as leader at inaugural State House Sustainability Day](#) – Sept. 10, 2025 (MAPC mentioned)

Marblehead Current: [Town awarded \\$80K climate resilience grant](#) – Sept. 22, 2025 (Accelerating Climate Resilience grant recipient featured)

Lynn Daily Item: [Swampscott seeks feedback on hazard plan](#) – Sept. 30, 2025 (MAPC mentioned; Martin Pillsbury quoted)

Worcester Telegram & Gazette: ['It's a scary proposal': Oakham residents ready to oppose battery storage project](#) – Oct. 13, 2025 (Jeremy Koo quoted)

Rock 92.9: [Rising Waters Threaten Future of Boston's Seaport District](#) – Nov. 12, 2025 (MAPC mentioned)

Revere Journal: [ConsComm told of Early Warning System for Flooding](#) – Dec. 10, 2025 (MAPC mentioned)

The Bay State Banner: [Encyclopedia Climatica: What is Boston doing to protect its coasts?](#) – Dec. 10, 2025 (Van Du quoted)

Gloucester Daily Times: [TownGreen wins \\$300,000 in grants to fund in initiatives](#) – Dec. 17, 2025 (Accelerating Climate Resilience grant featured)

“Jeremy Koo of the Metropolitan Area Planning Council explained that his organization works with communities and developers on permitting and siting of battery storage projects.

Koo touted Medway as an example of striking a balance between the needs of developers and residents, where a 500-megawatt hour battery storage system is nearly finished. A community benefit agreement between the parties includes \$2 million in local benefits for Medway including a 22-foot barrier around the project to lessen noise for nearby homes. Medway also negotiated a \$2.3 million yearly payment in lieu of taxes from the developer.

Massachusetts law, said Koo, limits cities and towns from passing regulations that unreasonably restrict zoning of solar projects. He noted the law applies to battery storage projects, with exemptions for public safety, health and welfare...

The new permitting and siting regulations being developed at the state level will have some impact here, said Koo...”

– Worcester Telegram & Gazette, Oct. 13, 2025

Data Services

Eagle-Tribune: [Housing plan points to mismatch between supply, demand](#) – Jan. 9, 2025 (MAPC School Enrollment data cited)

Daily Times Chronicle (Woburn): [Asks council to accept \\$115K grant for new study: Mayor Concannon keen to reexamine New Boston Street redevelopment opportunities](#) - Feb. 21, 2025 (MAPC industrial land use study cited)

WBUR: [Person infected with measles rode Amtrak train to D.C.](#) - March 26, 2025 (MAPC vaccine data cited)

“The reality is that we need thousands and thousands more units of affordable housing for people of every income, every household size, in every place in Massachusetts,” said Jessie Partridge Guerrero, director of data services at the Metropolitan Area Planning Council, which wrote the report with Housing Navigator Massachusetts, a nonprofit that created a statewide centralized affordable housing search tool. ‘It’s not necessarily shocking information, but the scale of that number certainly puts into perspective how far away we are from solving this problem.’”

- The Boston Globe, April 25, 2025

The Boston Globe: [Massachusetts needs more affordable housing, study says. Lots of it.](#) - April 25, 2025 (Jessie Partridge Guerrero interviewed & quoted; MAPC mentioned; *Data Open Doors* / Housing Navigator report featured)

MassLive: [Report: More affordable housing needed in Mass.](#) - April 30, 2025 (MAPC mentioned; *Data Open Doors* / Housing Navigator report featured)

Axios Boston: [Going up: Development in and around Boston](#) - April 30, 2025 (MAPC / *Data Open Doors* report mentioned)

The Bay State Banner: [Editorial: Proposed federal cuts would turn state’s housing crisis into a catastrophe](#) -

May 7, 2025 (MAPC mentioned; *Data Opens Doors* report cited)

Boston Herald: [Officials blast cancelation of climate grants in Chelsea, Everett](#) - May 28, 2025 (MAPC data on Island End River cited)

Axios Boston: [Greater Boston's median single-family home price hits \\$1M](#) - July 21, 2025 (MAPC’s *Homes for Profit* report cited)

Dorchester Reporter: [Mayoral candidates grapple on housing policy at MAHA forum that drew hundreds](#) – July 22, 2025 (MAPC’s *Homes for Profit* report cited)

The Berkshire Eagle: [Pittsfield needs to look beyond camping ordinance to bring North Street back to life](#) – July 25, 2025 (MAPC’s Housing MA data cited)

State House News: [Rent hike limits pitched as complement to housing production push](#) – July 29, 2025 (MAPC & Housing Navigator MA’s *Data Opens Doors* data cited)

CommonWealth Beacon: [Boston struggles to find takers for green roof grants](#) – July 31, 2025 (MAPC’s *Water, Water, Everywhere* report cited)

Boston.com: [Rent control could be on the ballot in 2026](#) – Aug. 6, 2025 (MAPC’s *Homes for Profit* report cited)

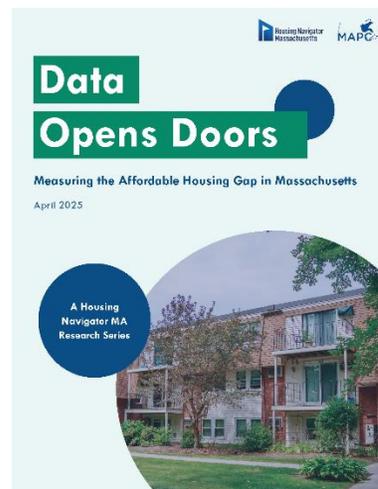
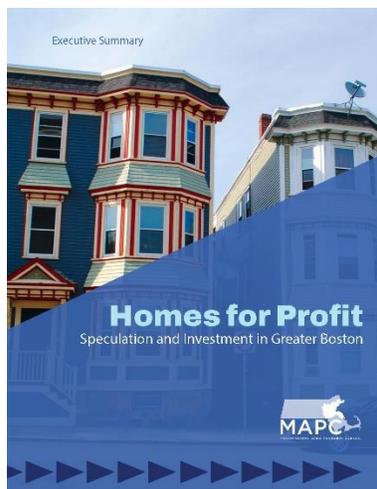
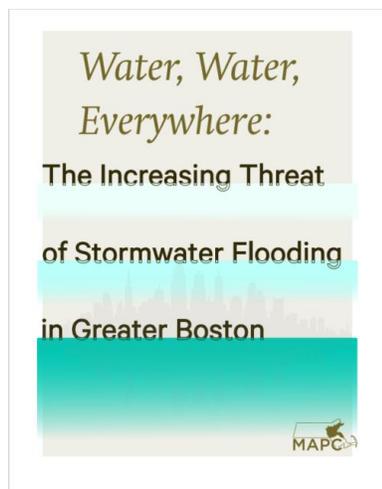
The Bay State Banner: [Coalition plans to take rent control to the ballot in 2026](#) – Aug. 13, 2025 (MAPC’s *Homes for Profit* report cited)

The Lowell Sun: [Commentary: Fixing Massachusetts’ housing crisis requires many good ideas – including rent stabilization](#) – Aug. 27, 2025 (MAPC’s *Homes for Profit* report cited)

CommonWealth Beacon: [New FEMA flood maps prompt questions, concerns across Massachusetts](#) – Oct. 3, 2025 (MAPC’s *Water, Water, Everywhere...* report cited)

The Boston Globe Editorial: [We don’t need 100 different septic system rules](#) – Oct. 12, 2025 (DataCommon Regional Wastewater Management map cited)

The Boston Globe: [Water is coming for the Seaport; the whole city will be poorer for it.](#) – Oct. 28, 2025 (MAPC data cited)



Read MAPC’s oft-cited research by clicking the report covers above or links below:

[Water, Water Everywhere: The Increasing Threat of Stormwater Flooding in Greater Boston](#) – Released in May 2023

[Homes for Profit: Speculation and Investment in Greater Boston](#) – Released in November 2023

[Data Opens Doors: Measuring the Affordable Housing Gap in Massachusetts](#) - Collaborative research with Housing Navigator Massachusetts, Inc. released in April 2025

Government Affairs

State House News: [Advances - A look at the week of March 2, 2025](#) - Feb. 28, 2025 (MAPC mentioned – creative sector policy briefing; also Winter Council Meeting)

State House News: [Muni leaders urge action to keep remote meetings alive](#) - March 12, 2025 (MAPC & MARPA letter highlighted) also [WWLP.com](#), [Eagle Tribune](#), [Politico](#), [Salem News](#)

State House News: [Virtual open town meeting? Wayland is pushing to try it](#) - July 22, 2025 (MAPC mentioned) also [WBUR](#), [Milford Daily News](#), [Cape Cod Times](#)

WWLP News: [Committee on revenue considers tax credit, local ballot question option](#) – Oct. 17, 2025 (Lizzi Weyant quoted)

GBH News: [Massachusetts unveils plan to protect communities from sea level rise](#) – Nov. 7, 2025 (Norman Abbott quoted)

CommonWealth Beacon: [‘They’re making a huge bet’: Rent control referendum splits progressives](#) – Nov. 18, 2025 (Adam Ploetz quoted)

Andover News: [Andover’s Hiram Shah Honored as MAPC Legislative Staffer of the Year](#) – Nov. 19, 2025 (MAPC’s ‘Legislative Staff of the Year’ awards highlighted)

Boston Real Estate Times: [Massachusetts Housing Leaders Gather to Advance Production Goals at CHAPA Summit](#) – Nov. 21, 2025 (MAPC mentioned)

The Gloucester Times: [MAPC recognizes Tarr staffers](#) – Nov. 23, 2025 (MAPC’s ‘Legislative Staff of the Year’ awards highlighted; Leah Robins & Lizzi Weyant quoted)

CommonWealth Beacon: [People have a right to know’: Flood disclosures poised to step into legislative limelight next year](#) – Dec. 2, 2025 (Norman Abbott quoted)

Charlestown Patriot-Bridge: [Bills Filed to Help the Future Financing of Arts and Culture Programs](#) – Dec. 11, 2025 (MAPC mentioned)

The Boston Globe: [How a developer’s lawsuit against Cambridge aims to topple affordable housing rules across Massachusetts](#) – Dec. 29, 2025 (MAPC mentioned)

*“According to the National Resources Defense Council, Massachusetts is currently one of just 14 states that don’t have any flood disclosure requirements as part of the rental and homebuying process. **Norman Abbott**, an analyst with the Metropolitan Area Planning Council in Boston, has been urging state officials to change that.*

He noted the requirement is necessary to ensure people find out about a property’s flood vulnerability before signing a lease or putting down a nonrefundable deposit...

*‘We’re not reinventing the wheel here,’ **Abbott** said. ‘Texas, New Jersey, New York – they’ve all done this sort of stuff after major floods have occurred. So this is our chance to get in front of this.’*

– GBH News, Nov. 7, 2025

Housing

State House News: [High Court Upholds State Housing Density Law](#) - Jan. 8, 2025 (MAPC mentioned) also [GBH.com](#), [Worcester Telegram & Gazette](#), [The Cricket](#)

Gloucester Times: [Essex administrator outlines goals for year](#) - Jan. 13, 2025 (MAPC / Housing Production Plan mentioned)

The Cricket: [Town of Essex to Host Webinar on Housing Affordability and Development Trends](#) - Jan. 18, 2025 (MAPC and "Welcome Home Essex" mentioned)

Daily Times Chronicle (Woburn): [Jamieson Properties proposes 30-unit apartment complex: Mayor Concannon revives discussion around Federal Street 40R district](#) - Jan. 31, 2025 (MAPC mentioned)

The Boston Globe: [222,000 new homes must be built over the next decade to fix housing shortage, state says](#) - Feb. 6, 2025 (MAPC mentioned; Metro Mayors Coalition mentioned; Marc Draisen interviewed & quoted)

Banker & Tradesman: [Healey Sets Goal of 222K New Housing Units](#) - Feb. 6, 2025 (MAPC mentioned)

Boston.com: [New report states how many new homes Mass. needs to build by 2035. It's a lot.](#) - Feb. 7, 2025 (Marc Draisen interviewed & quoted) also [MSN.com](#)

"It's honestly hard to see how we can attain [222,000 units by 2035] without major changes in both policy and the amount of funding we're dedicating to housing," said Marc Draisen, executive director of MAPC. "If we produce at the rate we did last year, we'll fall very far short. It's a big goal, and it's going to require taking a hard look in the mirror, and probably making some big policy choices that are painful for some folks."

- The Boston Globe, Feb. 6, 2025

Boston.com: [7 myths about the MBTA Communities Act, debunked by experts](#) - Feb. 14, 2025 (Emma Battaglia interviewed & quoted)

The Boston Globe: [More controversy erupts after state auditor says Mass. housing law is an 'unfunded mandate'](#) - Feb. 24, 2025 (Marc Draisen quoted)

The Herald News: [Will ADUs 'decimate' neighborhoods in Fall River? Outcomes may be too far off to predict.](#) - April 18, 2025 (MAPC mentioned)

The Boston Globe: ['The numbers should work, and they just don't': Is Cambridge's affordable housing rule backfiring?](#) - May 5, 2025 (MAPC mentioned; Alexis Smith interviewed)

The Providence Journal: [Out-of-state buyers are purchasing more RI homes. Is that a good thing or bad thing?](#) - May 15, 2025 (MAPC mentioned)

Commonwealth Beacon: [The new Seaport District? Restoration of Lynn’s waterfront has developers closing in on city’s South Harbor](#) – Aug. 22, 2025 (MAPC’s ‘Housing Lynn’ report cited)

Commonwealth Beacon: [‘It was too effing complicated:’ A pro-housing reckoning over MBTA Communities law](#) – Sept. 18, 2025 (John Cruz quoted)

Commonwealth Beacon: [Boston housing permitting lags as residents express support for zoning changes](#) – Oct. 22, 2025 (Lizzi Weyant quoted; MAPC & Metro Mayors Coalition Housing Task Force mentioned)

Banker & Tradesman: [Change to Condo Conversion Law Doubles Number of Protected Rental Homes](#) – Nov. 9, 2025 (Column co-written by Lizzi Weyant and Sen. Lydia Edwards; Data / Analytical Services’ work featured)

NOVEMBER 10, 2025 BANKER & TRADESMAN 1

OPINION
MARKET GUARDRAILS

Change to Condo Conversion Law Doubles Number of Protected Rental Homes

287K Homes Now Covered by Requirement to Compensate Tenants

BY SEN. LYDIA EDWARDS AND LIZZI WEYANT
SPECIAL TO BANKER & TRADESMAN



The Affordable Homes Act, codified over the summer in its most comprehensive effort via procedural authorizations to housing and security by state legislators in response to the housing crisis in Massachusetts. Experts all agree that housing production must be paired with efforts to preserve existing housing stock and policies that ensure housing stability for residents, especially for populations most at risk of displacement.

One particular amendment to the Affordable Homes Act can help thousands of renters avoid potentially life-altering evictions and displacements. The 1991 condominium conversion law provided tenants of buildings with four or more units with protections from evictions and rent increases for decades.

A 2014 amendment to the statute, included in the Affordable Homes Act, expands the law to apply to two- and three-family buildings if there is a proposed condo conversion to a unit building.

Expanding Protections to More Renters

Before the 2014 expansion, some municipalities had already provided similar protections to local renters, but, like with the constitution, many more units are not able to access the same rights, across the entire Commonwealth. Housing advocates and municipalities must do their part to spread knowledge of these rights to protect vulnerable renters.

Recently, the Metropolitan Area Planning Council evaluated the potential impact of the sections of the law that amended the 1991 condo conversion law. Expanding the protections to two- and three-family buildings adds more than three times as many buildings and nearly doubles the number of units covered by the original condo conversion law.

Using the agency’s land parcel database, MAPC found that changes to the condo conversion law have resulted in an additional 124,000 two- and three-family buildings (287,000 units) across Massachusetts to which renters are now able to access protections against eviction and displacement in the event of condominium conversion.

Housing advocates and municipalities must do their part to spread knowledge of these rights.

By contrast, the 1991 law covered tenants of buildings with five or more units (43,000 buildings and 852,000 units). With the applicability to two- and three-family buildings, the total number of buildings that tenants can access these protections has nearly doubled. Covered units have increased to about 721,000 units, which is equal to half of all multifamily housing units in Massachusetts.

Providing a Softer Landing

When a renter loses their housing to a condo conversion, they might face an unexpectedly and abruptly paid three-months worth of rent in a matter of weeks, as well as a new place to live. Given the increasing costs around the region and the state, this can threaten housing stability. The requirement to compensate tenants employed

by a condo conversion creates a softer landing for households facing the challenge of an unexpected rent increase.

MAPC also estimated what moving costs might look like for tenants displaced by a condo conversion. Often, new tenants are required to provide for their month’s rent, last month’s rent, and a security deposit to secure a new apartment, requiring three months of rent-like payments.

Two business median rents for the Three States division, which includes parts of Maine and the state of Rhode Island and Weyant, suggest that an appropriate moving cost estimate for that district would be between \$6,000 to \$10,000, according to the agency’s rental housing database.

With these new protections in place, these tenants may have to make an unexpected move when their unit is sold or leased into condos, and there would be opportunities for financial support if they do leave their units.

Maximizing Expanded Protections

To maximize that entire set of new expanded protections, and municipal officials need to understand how local condo conversion ordinances interact with the new law. Stronger local regulations reflect the 2025 changes and apply to two- and three-family buildings will help protect more renters and advance housing stability.

Regional planning agencies like MAPC can study and engage to assist municipalities implement the amended law to the condo conversion law and update or create new local regulations. Municipalities and housing advocates can collect data on current or historical condominium conversions, including the number of units converted, rental units lost, and other metrics that could be shared with MAPC or the Executive Office of Housing and Community Development for policy evaluation.

Cities and towns should also explore additional local regulations that further safeguard renters and address local housing trends, including increasing eviction prevention resources, adding and strengthening measures during the conversion process and championing the right for tenants to organize their rights of first refusal.

Lydia Edwards represents the Third Suffolk District in the Massachusetts State Senate. Lizzi Weyant is the executive director of the Metropolitan Area Planning Council.

The Lowell Sun: [Editorial: Despite building spurt, home ownership still remains elusive goal](#) – Nov. 15, 2025 (MAPC mentioned)

Boston Real Estate Times: [Massachusetts Housing Leaders Gather to Advance Production Goals at CHAPA Summit](#) – Nov. 21, 2025 (MAPC mentioned)

The Boston Globe: [How a developer’s lawsuit against Cambridge aims to topple affordable housing rules across Massachusetts](#) – Dec. 29, 2025 (MAPC mentioned)

Banker & Tradesman, Nov. 9, 2025

Municipal Collaboration

Gloucester Daily Times: [Massachusetts Free Library Gets \\$50K Digital Learning Grant](#) – Feb. 19, 2025 (MAPC Digital Equity Plan mentioned)

State House News: [Advances - A look at the week of March 9, 2025](#) - March 7, 2025 (MAPC Community Safety Day mentioned)

Quincy Access Television: [Media Advisory: O'Brien Towers](#) – Aug. 27, 2025 (YouTube video of full recording of MAPC, the City of Quincy, and the Quincy Housing Authority’s launch of a local “Apartment Wi-Fi” program to increase access to affordable and reliable high-speed internet for residents of O’Brien Towers.)

The Gardner News: [MA Digital Government Summit commends Gardner, Hubbardston for IT excellence](#) – Sept. 23, 2025 (MAPC's Digital Equity work awarded)

Chelsea Record: [EOTSS honors Chelsea organizations for groundbreaking partnership](#) – Oct. 10, 2025 (MAPC's Apartment Wi-Fi program mentioned)

Planning

Wilmington Town Crier: [At the Wilmington line: Woburn mayor keen to reexamine New Boston Street redevelopment opportunities](#) – March 8, 2025 (MAPC mentioned)

Milton Times: [East Milton overlay final touches before TM](#) – March 21, 2025 (MAPC mentioned; Josh Fiala quoted)

Somerville Times: [Somerville launching guide to help small businesses secure favorable leases](#) - April 10, 2025 (MAPC mentioned)

Your Arlington: [Postpandemic Heights Neighborhood Action Plan survey results released](#) – July 12, 2025 (MAPC mentioned)

Watertown News: [Regional Planning Group Seeks Feedback on Areas of Town to Develop, Places to Preserve](#) – July 24, 2025 (MAPC I-90 Corridor project mentioned)

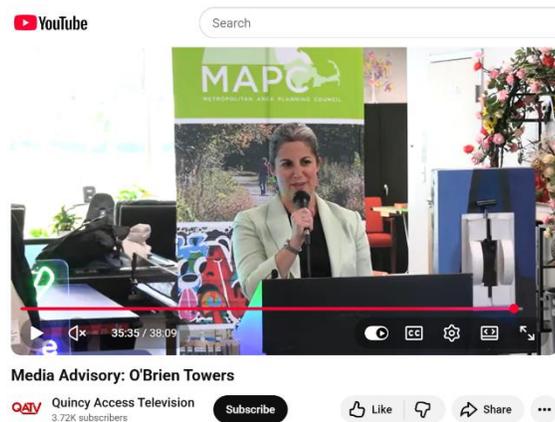
Marblehead Current: [Town seeks advisors for master plan](#) – Aug. 4, 2025 (MAPC is facilitating the planning process for Marblehead's 2037 Master Plan)

The Hull Times: [Master planning process to include targeted outreach, community opinion survey](#) – Aug. 7, 2025 (MAPC is providing technical assistance for the Hull Master Plan)

The Swellesley Report: [Select Board meeting brims with positive financial news](#) – Aug. 20, 2025 (MAPC mentioned)

Hopkinton Independent: [EDAB \(Economic Development Advisory Board\) holds initial meeting, talks priorities](#) – Aug. 27, 2025 (MAPC mentioned)

MetroWest Daily News: [Milford MA unveils updated master plan for future. It addresses eight key topics](#) – Sept. 3, 2025 (MAPC mentioned)



Watch the O'Brien Towers' Apartment Wi-Fi program launch on YouTube.

Hopkinton Independent: [Town partners with MAPC to administer economic survey](#) – Sept. 25, 2025 (MAPC mentioned; Hopkinton Economic Development Plan featured)

The Hull Times: [Residents invited to ‘visioning open house’ to share ideas, learn more about the master planning process](#) – Oct. 16, 2025 (MAPC & Hull Master Plan featured)

Swampscott Tides: [Swampscott Residents Weigh In on Town’s Future at Master Plan Forum](#) –Oct. 16, 2025 (Carlos Javier Montañez quoted; Swampscott Master Plan featured)

The Hull Times: [Hull’s master plan consultant highlights need for affordable housing, open-space protection](#) – Oct. 23, 2025 (Sarah Scott, Evelyne St-Louis, Emma Yudelevitch, and Jiwon Park quoted; Hull Master Plan featured)

Excerpt:

*“The goal, according to **senior regional land use and historic preservation planner Sarah Scott**, is ‘to get a sense of which direction to go in and how to prioritize all of this information...’”*

*“According to **MAPC staff**, who provided an existing condition analysis while also identifying gaps and opportunities for improvement for each category:*

Open space and recreation are a key aspect of the town’s identity, with “a rich and diverse mix of open spaces that contribute not only to residents’ quality of life and well-being, but also to the town’s climate resiliency and economic strengths.”

About 82% of Hull residents live within a 10-minute walk of a park or open space.

*‘Open space [also] attracts visitors and tourists to town,’ noted **MAPC planner Evelyne St-Louis...**”*

*“The **MAPC** presentation also mentioned the importance of meeting the needs of Hull’s growing senior population, including considering the expansion of the senior center’s exercise programs, exploring the possibility of a small fitness center within the existing facility, and creating “walkable and accessible outdoor spaces, i.e. age-friendly seating and exercise equipment.”*

*Of Hull’s 5,733 housing units, only 1.66% qualify toward the state’s required 10% affordable housing inventory, with minimal recent housing production in the town, **MAPC regional housing planner Emma Yudelevitch** said...”*

*“**MAPC staff** also provided an update on the master plan visioning survey, including how many citizens have participated so far and related demographics.*

Target populations include year-round and summer residents, lower-income households, youth, seniors, and the LGBTQ+ community. High school students are also participating in response to their principal encouraging them to do so...

*‘We’re trying to reach as many people as possible,’ **MAPC regional land use planner Jiwon Park** said.”*

- The Hull Times, Oct. 23, 2025

Gloucester Daily Times: [Essex seeks resident input to update open space, recreation plan](#) – Oct. 24, 2025 (MAPC mentioned)

Milton Times: [Community discusses future of E. Milton Fire Station](#) – Nov. 20, 2025 (Community Engagement project & team-Javier Gutierrez & Sasha Parodi-featured)

The Gloucester Times: [Essex seeks input on housing production plan](#) – Dec. 9, 2025 (John Cruz quoted; Essex Housing Production Plan featured)

Melrose Patch: [Melrose Looking For Input On Future Plans For Historic Hall](#) – Dec. 9, 2025 (MAPC mentioned)

The Hull Times: [Master plan survey reveals residents divided on whether Hull meets their 'ideal vision'](#) – Dec. 11, 2025 (Sarah Scott, Josh Fiala, and Jiwon Park quoted; Hull Master Plan featured)

Public Health

Cambridge Day: [Effects of hostile Trump order have been blunted, but worries grow regionally on funds and grants](#) – Feb. 8, 2025 (MAPC mentioned)

Lynn Daily Item: [Lynn listens and will respond](#) – May 28, 2025 (MAPC mentioned)

WBZ News Radio: [Nightside News Update 6/24/25](#) – June 24, 2025 (Sharon Ron interviewed as guest on extreme heat)

Boston.com: [To handle Mass. and Cass. city councilors say other communities need to 'step up'](#) - July 10, 2025 (MAPC mentioned) also [South End News](#)

Chelsea Record: [Chelsea Public Health Department Launches "Play for All" Project and Invites Residents to take Survey on Play, Recreation and Health](#) – Sept. 18, 2025 (Vanessa Guardado-Menjivar quoted; MAPC mentioned)

The Bay State Banner: [School-based Codman Square Health Center brings pediatric care to Randolph](#) – Nov. 26, 2025 (MAPC's Randolph Community Wellness Plan cited)

Transportation

State House News: [Advances - Week of Jan. 12, 2025](#) – Jan. 10, 2025 (Julia Wallerice mentioned – Transportation for Massachusetts event)

State House News: [Daily Advances - Wednesday, Jan. 15, 2025](#) - Jan. 14, 2025 (Julia Wallerice mentioned – Transportation for Massachusetts event)

The Boston Globe: [State commission on housing production targets single-family zoning, other sweeping reforms](#) – Feb. 21, 2025 (MAPC’s Perfect Fit Parking study cited)

The Boston Globe: [Some believe Monica Tibbits-Nutt has lost her voice as transportation secretary. Can she find it again?](#) - March 31, 2025 (Marc Draisen quoted)

Streetsblog Mass: [Region Seeks New Operating Contract for Expanding Bluebikes System](#) – May 2, 2025 (MAPC mentioned)

The Waltham Times: [Traffic Commission recommends moving forward with regional bikeshare initiative](#) – Sept. 18, 2025 (Marah Holland quoted; MAPC & Bluebikes partnership featured)

The Boston Globe: [Salem eliminates parking minimums for new development, in bid to make housing cheaper](#) – Sept. 29, 2025 (Perfect Fit Parking research featured)

The Salem News: [Ordinance eliminates minimum parking mandates for new multifamily developments](#) – Sept. 30, 2025 (Perfect Fit Parking research featured; Lizzi Weyant quoted)

Streetsblog Massachusetts: [Salem eliminates parking minimums for new development, in bid to make housing cheaper](#) – Sept. 30, 2025 (Perfect Fit Parking research featured; Lizzi Weyant quoted)

Planetizen: [Salem, Massachusetts Eliminates Parking Minimums](#) – Oct. 2, 2025 (MAPC Perfect Fit Parking study mentioned)

The Salem News: [Our view: Putting brakes on parking-space rules a win for housing](#) – Oct. 6, 2025 (MAPC’s Perfect Fit Parking research featured)

The Berkeley Beacon: [Will Boston ban e-bikes for food delivery? Community members, Dashers, and students weigh in](#) – Oct. 9, 2025 (MAPC’s *From App to Table...* report cited)

Daily Times Chronicle – Burlington: [Mall Road District looks to boost connectivity with mobility plan](#) – Nov. 1, 2025 (MAPC mentioned)

CommonWealth Beacon: [Massachusetts EV charging plans continue to take hit](#) – Nov. 13, 2025 (Eric Bourassa quoted)

Woburn Daily Times Chronicle: [By site of New Boston Street bridge... City to use grant funding to explore new pedestrian bridge options](#) – Nov. 18, 2025 (MAPC’s ‘New Boston Street’ project highlighted)

CommonWealth Beacon: [E-bikes are supercharging the Bluebikes system – and that’s a good thing](#) - Nov. 23, 2025 (MAPC mentioned)

Boston Business Journal: [Boston city councilors weigh eliminating all parking requirements for residential developments](#) – Dec. 11, 2025 (Adi Nochur quoted; MAPC’s Perfect Fit Parking Research cited)

Daily Times Chronicle: [Town hopes to improve walking, biking access to retail sector developments](#) – Dec. 26, 2025 (MAPC & Burlington Mall Road Area Mobility Action Plan featured)



“Alongside city councilors and staff, members of the Affordable Housing Trust Fund and Planning Board, and representatives from the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) Mayor Dominick Pangallo signed the ordinance into law in an underutilized parking space on Palmer Street on Monday. Michael McHugh\Staff photo”

“The city of Salem has been working with MAPC and utilizing their “Perfect Fit Parking” research to paint a clearer picture of parking use throughout the city. According to findings from the city and MAPC, there are currently 1.18 parking spaces built per unit of housing at the 12 multifamily sites studied in Salem. Of those spaces built, 62% were occupied and 38% sat vacant overnight. The study determined that multifamily housing in Salem on average had a demand for only 0.85 parking spaces per unit.”

- The Salem News, Sept. 30, 2025

In Case You Missed It

MAPC-related news from our partners, municipalities, and other organizations

New England Foundation for the Arts: [Ten Massachusetts Municipalities Selected for Public Art Program](#) – Jan. 10, 2025

“The New England Foundation for the Arts welcomes 10 municipalities across Massachusetts – Andover, Ashfield, Beverly, Chelsea, Cohasset, Gloucester, Malden, Northfield, Pittsfield, and Worcester – to Making it Public 2025, a training offered in partnership with the Metropolitan Area Planning Council’s Arts & Culture Department.”

Office of Governor Healey: [Governor Healey Extends Hybrid and Remote Public Meetings to Increase Access](#) – March 28, 2025

MAPC provided a statement of support

Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities: [Implementation of MBTA Communities Law Continues with Nearly 70 Communities Approved](#) – April 14, 2025

MAPC provided a statement of support

Boston University: [SPH Partners with MAPC to Host Symposium on Heat Health](#) – June 26, 2025

“With half the country poised to hit record-breaking high temperatures, the Center for Climate and Health at the School of Public Health collaborated with the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) to host a timely symposium focused on heat and health on June 18.”

City of Cambridge: [Art Installation’s Flowers ‘Bloom’ In Extreme Heat To Indicate Danger Of Our Warming World](#) – Aug. 12, 2025

“Shade Is Social Justice was initially funded by a \$100,000 Accelerating Climate Resiliency grant from the Metropolitan Area Planning Council.”

Applied Economics Clinic: [The Lingering Impact of Redlining on Boston Neighborhoods](#) – Aug. 21, 2025

“The Home Owners’ Loan Corporation 1930s [redlining data](#) and Massachusetts 2019 [heat vulnerability data](#) developed by the Metropolitan Area Planning Council are well correlated.”

Lincoln Institute of Land Policy: [Land Use and Transportation Scenario Planning in Greater Boston](#) – Oct. 16, 2025

“The Consortium for Scenario Planning is hosting a peer exchange featuring Sarah Philbrick and Conor Gately from the Metropolitan Area Planning Council, who will discuss their summer 2025 project conducting four land use scenarios using a travel demand model to understand the impact of different transit-oriented development strategies on greenhouse gas emissions in Greater Boston.”

MASSCreative: [Advocates Testify On Creative Space And Place Acts](#) – Oct. 21, 2025)

“These bills were developed in partnership through the MASSCreative Action Network, Metropolitan Area Planning Council, and more than 500 arts and culture advocates...”

The Urban Institute: [Understanding the Impact of Arts and Culture on Communities through Local Data](#) – Oct. 27, 2025)

“A study by the Metropolitan Area Planning Council of the Boston area identified creative spaces across the region to inform how policy decisions could help protect and support existing creative spaces...”

Boston Indicators: [The Surprising Lack of Good Permitting Data and What to Do about It](#) – Oct. 31, 2025

“MAPC’s MassBuilds statewide building data map is an inspiration, a reminder that the universe of building data is not infinite... MAPC analyst (housing data hero) Brandon Stanaway made it his mission to track actual progress toward the goal, not estimated progress.”

Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs: [Healey-Driscoll Administration Releases Comprehensive Strategy for Coastal Protection](#) – Nov. 6, 2025

MAPC provided a statement of support

Massachusetts Municipal Association’s The Beacon, page 21: [MVP grant to help build regional collaborative for climate resilience](#) – November 2025

“Van Du, environmental planning director at the MAPC, said the team will be building resiliency components that support the population living and working in the watershed area.”

Harvard Joint Center for Housing Studies: [Building Missing Middle Housing: Six Actions Massachusetts Can Take Beyond Policy Reform](#) – Dec. 4, 2025

“Massachusetts is already exploring this potential: the Metropolitan Area Planning Council is developing a regional off-site construction strategy and exploring opportunities for a new modular manufacturing facility.”

Boston Indicators: [The Problem of Rental Deserts in Greater Boston, by the Numbers](#) – Dec. 17, 2025

“...It helps to view these patterns through the lens of the Metropolitan Area Planning Council’s Community Types, since the absence of rental housing carries different implications depending on local context.”