

# South End *News*

September 9, 2021 [Vol. 41, No. 25]

Single Copies Free. Multiple copies may be available, with prior approval, for 50 cents each by contacting the South End News business office.

## The Sound Inside premier date set

SUBMITTED BY SPEAKEASY STAGE COMPANY

From September 24 to October 16, 2021, SpeakEasy Stage Company will proudly present the Boston-area premiere of the gripping drama *The Sound Inside* by Adam Rapp.

Nominated for six 2020 Tony Awards including Best Play, *The Sound Inside* is an intensely quiet play that introduces us to Bella



Continued on page 3 Nathan Malin as Christopher Dunn. Jennifer Rohn as Bella Baird

## Boston Planning and Development Agency News

### Alexandra Hotel plans change,

ADAM GAFFIN  
WWW.UNIVERSALHUB.COM

The developers who won city approval in 2019 to keep three sides

of the former Alexandra Hotel at Washington Street and Massachusetts Avenue, gut the interior and add several floors to create a 13-story, 150-room boutique hotel have filed a request with the BPDA to instead turn what's left of the structure into a 13-story, 106-unit condo building.

In their request, developers Jas

Bhagal and Thomas Calus said their chances of getting financing for their original hotel project evaporated when the pandemic took hold and the local hotel business collapsed - just a few months after they received their last major approval, from the

Continued on page 3

## A Powerful Hurricane Diane

**Hurricane Diane,** Huntington Theatre, Huntington/ Calderwood Pavilion, Boston Center for the Arts, through September 26. (masks and proof of vaccination for COVID-19 required). Tickets: 617-266-0800, [huntingtontheatre.org](http://huntingtontheatre.org) or in person at Calderwood Pavilion, 527 Tremont Street, South End, Boston

BY JULES BECKER

Indoor theater is finally making a comeback in Boston, and the forecast for live theater is bright despite COVID-19. Boasting strict safety



Jennifer Bubriski and Rami Margron in Huntington production of Hurricane Diane. Photo: T. Charles Erickson

regulations for venues and people alike, the Calderwood Pavilion is hosting the Hub premiere of a smart 2019 play by Madeleine George.

Make no mistake about her Off-Broadway hit "Hurricane Diane."

Continued on page 4

Local news  
for and about Boston's  
best neighborhood

# BOS:311

For non-emergency Boston city services:

311 is an easy-to-remember telephone number that connects you with highly-trained Constituent Service Center representatives who are ready to help you with requests for non-emergency City services and information.

Download the  
BOS:311 app

Tweet at us  
@BOS311

Call 311

### Top Service Requests:

- Report a missed curbside pickup
- Get a pothole fixed
- Get a street cleaned
- Get rid of a big item
- Request needle clean-up
- Request graffiti removal
- Report a broken street sign
- Report a broken traffic signal
- Pay a parking ticket
- Report a street lamp is out

## South End Crime

### Suspect Arrested in Connection to Homicide Investigation at 112 Atkinson Street

SUBMITTED BY THE BOSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

At about 6:16 PM on Friday September 3, 2021, members of the District D-4 (South End) Drug Control Unit assisted by District D-4 patrol officers arrested Sean Stuart, 53, of Boston, pursuant to three outstanding arrest warrants in connection to a recent fatal stabbing.

According to the Boston Police, details are as follows: At about 6:12 AM

on Monday, August 23, 2021, officers assigned to District C-6 responded to a call for a person stabbed at 112 Atkinson Street, Boston. On arrival, officers located, Ugochukwu McDonald Anaele, 29, of Houston, Texas, suffering from a stab wound. The victim was transported to a local hospital where he was pronounced deceased.

The suspect was placed in custody pursuant to three warrants sought out of Roxbury District Court on charges of Murder, Assault and Battery by Means of a Dangerous Weapon (2 Counts) and Armed Robbery.

The Boston Police Department continues to actively review the facts

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Online

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[twitter.com/SouthEndNews](https://twitter.com/SouthEndNews)  
[facebook.com/SouthEndNews](https://facebook.com/SouthEndNews)

Online



## The Use of Technology to Support Caregivers

### CAREGIVER SOLUTIONS

Being the primary caregiver for an older adult or person with a disability can be challenging on many levels. Today, technology can empower caregivers with easy-to-use devices designed to keep care recipients connected to the world around them with music, games, news, video chat, and email. Caregiver Solutions, the caregiver support program of Boston Senior Home Care, offers several programs at no cost to caregivers enrolled in our program.

Want to learn more? Visit [bshcinfo.org](http://bshcinfo.org) or call 617-292-6211.



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## News from...

# Friends Of the South End Library

SUBMITTED BY FOSEL

### Volunteers Wanted for Planting in Library Park

Volunteer for Fall Planting at Library Park!

The South End Library's Park has been weeded and mulched and is now ready for fall daffodil and hosta planting in preparation for spring 2022. Many thanks to all who helped - Chris Fagg, Barbara Faires, Reggie Ellenwood, Derek Plessing, Nancy Downer, Yvette Jarreau, and special thanks to Chris Neff of the Parks Department who provided the mulch in two big deliveries.

Check the site to volunteer for planting, likely in October. It is sure to be a fun community activity that will bring big smiles to the neighborhood in the spring.

### Staff Changes at our South End Library

After many years of devoted service to the South End community, Head Librarian Anne Smart has retired. FOSEL enjoyed a very congenial and collaborative relationship with Anne since its founding over 14 years ago, and we wish to express our profound thanks for all she has done for the Library and the community. Anne, we wish you the best in this new phase of your life. We will miss you!

Matt Krug, another beloved Librarian at our branch since 2013, has also left with hopes of bringing his energy, creativity, and passion for service to a new organization in the Boston area. FOSEL offers our gratitude for his service and wishes him all the best as he navigates new "waters."

Visit <https://www.friendsofsouthendl-library.org/> for more information.

Get local and advertise your property in the *South End News*

Call Jeff at (617) 464-7280 ext. 202  
or email: [sales@southendnews.com](mailto:sales@southendnews.com).



## Theater

Continued from page 1

Baird, a novelist who, in the seventeen years since she was last published, has almost completely isolated herself from the world. But everything changes when she meets Christopher, a brilliant but enigmatic student in her creative writing class at Yale.

As their friendship deepens, their lives and the stories they tell about themselves become intertwined in unpredictable ways, leading to a shocking request. Intensely intimate and deeply moving, *The Sound Inside* is "an astonishing new play... about fiction, both the kind we read and the kind we live." (The New York Times)

Playwright Adam Rapp made his Broadway debut with *The Sound Inside*, which was commissioned by Lincoln Center and received its world premiere in 2018 at the Williamstown Theatre Festival. A 2006 Pulitzer Prize finalist for his play *Red Light Winter*, Rapp is also the author of *Nocturne* (American Repertory Theatre, New York Theatre Workshop), *Finer Noble Gases* (26th Humana Festival), *Stone Cold Dead Serious* (A.R.T.), *Blackbird* (The Bush, London), and

*Essential Self-Defense* (Playwrights Horizons/Edge Theatre), among others.

Director Bryn Boice will helm this Boston premiere production of *The Sound Inside*. Winner of the 2019 Elliot Norton Award for Outstanding Director, Large Theater for Commonwealth Shakespeare Company's *Universe Rushing Apart: Blue Kettle & Here We Go*, Ms. Boice returns to *SpeakEasy* after having directed the company's 2020 production of *The Children*. Ms. Boice also serves as the Associate Artistic Director at Commonwealth Shakespeare Company and is a professor at Salem State University.

Jennifer Rohn (Broadway's *The Kentucky Cycle*) and Nathan Malin (*SpeakEasy's Admissions*) will star in this production.

*The Sound Inside* will run for four weeks, from September 24 through October 16, 2021, in the Roberts Studio Theatre in the Stanford Calderwood Pavilion at the Boston Center for the Arts, 527 Tremont Street in Boston's South End.

Ticket prices start at \$25, with discounts for students, seniors, and people age 25 and under. For tickets or more information, the public is invited to call Boston Theatre Scene Ticketing Services at 617.933.8600 or visit [www.SpeakEasyStage.com](http://www.SpeakEasyStage.com).

## Boston Planning

Continued from page 1

South End Landmark District Commission, in 2019. In contrast, they say, financing remains possible for condo construction in Boston.

Bhogal and Calus paid \$11 million for the building in July, 2019 to the Church of Scientology, which had once hoped to turn the building into its Boston headquarters. Developers and owners have been proposing new uses for decades for the former hotel, which opened in 1875, with an unusual steam-powered elevator. The hotel's decline began with the construction of an elevated subway line down Washington Street in 1900.

In their notice of project change to the BPDA, the developers say they would retain the same basic size and exterior originally planned for the hotel - essentially a glass tower that would be clad on its lower half on three sides with the original Alexandra facade. The fourth side would be extended into what is now a vacant lot where the equally historic Ivory Bean building once stood, but which had to be torn down after pieces of it began raining down on Washington Street.

Most of the units would be "compact" studios and one-bedroom condos, smaller than normally allowed by the city, as part of a pilot program to see if smaller units can help ease Boston's problem of housing people who are not financially well off. Some 14 of the units would be sold as affordable. The 13th

floor, originally planned as a roof deck, would instead have the building's sole 2-bedroom unit plus three smaller units and a deck, according to the plans.

As with their hotel plans, the developers say the building, which already has a Silver Line stop outside, would have no parking. Residents would be barred from obtaining parking permits for either the South End or Roxbury - which neighborhood the building is in has been the subject of some debate.

The BPDA will hold a Zoom meeting on the proposal at 6:30 p.m. on Sept. 7.

**Adjustments made to zoning rules in the South End to support cultural spaces**  
From BPDA

In 2012, The Harrison-Albany Corridor Strategic Plan recommendations were adopted into the South End Neighborhood District Article 64, governing affordable commercial and cultural space provisions.

The recommendations from the Harrison-Albany Corridor Strategic Plan have been successful in incentivizing on-site affordable commercial space in the Harrison-Albany area, but BPDA planners have determined further updates were necessary to ensure the continued provision of cultural spaces.

As part of these updates, the Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture will become the entity responsible for collecting, managing, and distributing funds in efforts to create affordable cultural spaces.

*Learn more at [bostonplans.org](http://bostonplans.org)*

## Crime

Continued from page 1

and circumstances surrounding this incident and is asking anyone with information relative to this investigation to contact Boston Police Homicide Detectives at (617) 343-4470.

Community members wishing to assist this investigation anonymously can do so by calling the CrimeStoppers Tip Line at 1 (800) 494-TIPS or by texting the word "TIP" to

CRIME (27463). The Boston Police Department will stringently guard and protect the identities of all those who wish to assist this investigation anonymously.

To those who find themselves in need of emotional support or simply needing to talk to someone about distressing events in our community, the Boston Neighborhood Trauma Team (NTT) provides free, private support 24/7 at (617) 431-0125 or by visiting [BPHC.org/trauma](http://BPHC.org/trauma).

## ZONING HEARING

The Zoning Commission of the City of Boston hereby gives notice, in accordance with Chapter 665 of the Acts of 1956, as amended, that a virtual public hearing will be held on September 22, 2021, at 9:00 A.M., in connection with Text Amendment Application No. 499, filed by the Boston Redevelopment Authority d/b/a the Boston Planning & Development Agency.

Said amendment would amend Article 64 (South End Neighborhood District), specifically Sections 64-29 and 64-42 with respect to affordable commercial and cultural spaces provisions for projects located in Planned Development Areas.

This meeting will only be held virtually and not in person. You can participate in this meeting by going to <https://bit.ly/3kG5SxA>. A copy of the petition may be obtained from the Zoning Commission electronically, and you may also submit written comments or questions to [zoningcommission@boston.gov](mailto:zoningcommission@boston.gov).

Interpreting services are available to communicate information at this hearing. If you require interpreting services, please contact the following: [zoningcommission@boston.gov](mailto:zoningcommission@boston.gov) or 617-918-4308. The meeting is scheduled for September 22, 2021. Please request interpreting services no later than September 17, 2021.

For the Commission  
Jeffrey M. Hampton  
Executive Secretary



## Virtual Community Meeting

### Roxbury Strategic Master Plan Oversight Committee

**Monday, September 13**  
6:00 PM - 7:45 PM

**Zoom Link:** [bit.ly/Sept2021RSMPOC](https://bit.ly/Sept2021RSMPOC)  
**Toll Free:** (833) 568 - 8864  
**Meeting ID:** 160 406 2203

#### Event Description

The Roxbury Strategic Master Plan Oversight Committee was developed to oversee projects that fall under the Roxbury Strategic Master Plan. The committee meets monthly to discuss development and planning in Nubian Square. Vote on P3 RFP on 9.13.21. To read the Draft RFP visit [bit.ly/DraftP3RFP](https://bit.ly/DraftP3RFP).

All meetings are held on zoom and open to the public. For more information, on how to join, engage, and take action, please visit the website.

#### Upcoming meetings/Próximas reuniones/Dat pwochen rankont yo se:

- Sept./Septiembre/Septanm 13 (P3 RFP Vote/Votar sobre la solicitud de propuesta para P3/Vote sou demann pou pwopozisyon Pou P3)
- Oct./Octubre/Oktòb 4
- Nov./Noviembre/Novanm 1

For interpretation services, contact the planner listed below one week before each meeting.

Para los servicios de interpretación, comuníquese con el planificador que se indica a continuación una semana antes de cada reunión.

Si w bezwen sèvis entèpretasyon, kontakte moun kap planifye a pi ba a, yon semèn anvan chak reyinyon

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Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary



## School's Back!

# Know the school bus law

Massachusetts requires that vehicles stop for a bus that has flashing lights and an extended stop sign, when you are driving behind or toward the bus.

You may resume driving when the lights

top flashing or the sign folds back in.

These rules apply to pupil transport vehicles—like vans, station wagons, or family sedans, that have flashing red lights and "SCHOOL BUS" signs on top.

Failing to stop or illegally passing a stopped school bus with flashing lights can result in \$250 fine in Massachusetts, at minimum. A second offense by a fine of not less than \$500.

## Theater

Continued from page 1

While this Euripides-inspired effort may not be a theatrical eye of the storm, a crack Huntington Theatre cast makes the company's 40th anniversary opener a generally engaging no-intermission 90-minute howler.

Euripides buffs will appreciate George's transformation of the menacing god of agriculture, wine and song Dionysus of "The Bacchae" into a gender-bending demi-god turned climate change-fighting gardener named Diane. After a back story stay in Burlington, Vermont, Diane has arrived on the down low at what she considers the "perfect spot" to start her crusade to save the planet—namely suburban Red Bank, Monmouth County, New Jersey. Initially sporting a red armor-like garment befitting a god—credit designer Hahnji Jang's vivid costumes for her and the humans alike, Diane dons a fittingly green gardener's outfit for her undercover odyssey.

That odyssey entails convincing four wives—neighbors and friends who happen to reside in the same cul-de-sac setting—to turn their well-manicured lawns slowly suffocating the earth into a "lush primeval forest." The women in question—Carol, Beth, Renee and Pam—live in similarly structured homes with identical kitchen islands. While they seem to prize their suburban lifestyles, the differences between them confront Diane with diverse challenges as she implements her agenda.

Diane may compliment Carol's "pretty mouth," but the skeptical latter—who depends on HGTV and the latest landscaping ideas—senses that this atypical gardener is "more of a forest ranger" and is "hitting" on her. Vulnerable Beth—whose husband has left her—proves more open to Diane's unconventional approaches. Renee—who edits the HG magazine Carol loves—has lived on a commune and displays both a free spirit and sexual fluidity. No nonsense Pam is as prepared for storms and unexpected circumstances as a weather wizard, but the enterprising demi-

god looks to find her proverbial Achilles heel.

Does Diane transform the world? Playwright George provides detailed if somewhat predictable philosophical as well as sexual successes for the environmentalist god with Beth, Renee and Pam (each 'victory' benefiting from Jen Schriever's radiant lighting and Ben Scheff's strong sound design). As for adamant Carol, her opposition to Diane becomes a storm in its own right—resistance that she calls the "biggest organism."

What makes George's sometimes set-up scenario absorbing is a first-rate ensemble under Jenny Koons' taut direction. Rami Margron has all of Diane's charisma, swagger and tenacity. Marianna Bassham is touching as lost soul Beth. Kris Sidberry captures Renee's individuality as well as her malleability. Jennifer Bubrski is properly amusing and resourceful as Pam. Esme Allen has the right fiery attitude with Diane, especially as the demigod's fury unleashes the climactic storm.

That extended storm should be the actual ending of the play rather than a theatrically softening poetic speech by Beth—admittedly rendered with pathos by gifted Bassham. (Theatergoers familiar with the powerful Tony-winning Broadway revival of "Journey's End" will remember experiencing the unending bombs of World War I in a darkened theater as though they were soldiers). The climate change battle ought to have the force of Euripides. Instead, "Hurricane Diane" is a lively, often humorous fantasy that ultimately loses some intensity.

41/25

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To be considered for publication, letters must be no longer than 500 words; refrain from extreme personal attacks; be signed and include an address and daytime telephone number. Writers should refrain from making incorrect statements since they may be barred from future issues. Deadline is noon Tuesday for Thursday's paper. To send us letters: Mail to PO BOX E14, Boston, MA 02127; FAX to 617.464.7286; E-mail: letters@southendnews.com



## Virtual Community Meeting

# Roxbury Strategic Master Plan Oversight Committee

**Monday, October 4**  
6:00 PM - 7:45 PM

**Zoom Link:** bit.ly/October2021RSMPOC  
**Toll Free:** (833) 568 - 8864  
**Meeting ID:** 160 512 3481

### Event Description

The Roxbury Strategic Master Plan Oversight Committee was developed to oversee projects that fall under the Roxbury Strategic Master Plan. The committee meets monthly to discuss development and planning in Nubian Square.

### Vote on Crescent Developer Designation Oct. 4th.

All meetings are held on zoom and open to the public. For more information, on how to Join, Engage, and Take Action, please visit the website.

### Upcoming meetings/Próximas reuniones/Dat pwochen rankont yo se:

- Oct./Octubre/Októb 4 (Vote on Crescent Developer/ Votar sobre el desarrollador de Crescent Parcel/ Vote sou pwomote Crescent Pasèl)
- Nov./Noviembre/Novanm 1

For interpretation services, contact the planner listed below one week before each meeting.

Para los servicios de interpretación, comuníquese con el planificador que se indica a continuación una semana antes de cada reunión.

Si w bezwen sèvis entèpretasyon, kontakte moun kap planifye a pi ba a, yon semèn anvan chak reyinyon

### Contact:

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Boston Planning & Development Agency  
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor Boston, MA 02201  
617.918.5493 | kelly.sherman@boston.gov

bostonplans.org | @bostonplans

Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary



## COVID-19 RESOURCES

### Greater Boston Basic Needs Supports

Catholic Charities Greater Boston Basic Needs Department

Serving Suffolk and Middlesex County. Services include: food pantry assistance (Dorchester, South End, Somerville); emergency financial assistance; emergency essential assistance; SNAP outreach; HIV support services; resource & referral assistance

More Info: Please call (617) 506-6628 or email [Basic\\_Needs@ccab.org](mailto:Basic_Needs@ccab.org)

### Resources for Immigrant Communities: What's available?

Protecting Immigrant Families Campaign (NILC & CLASP)

The PIF Campaign has developed a quick reference guide on immigrant eligibility that provides a general overview of some of the federal public programs available to support individuals and families during the COVID-19 crisis. In light of implementation of public charge regulations, we have also included clarification about whether certain public programs are taken into account for public charge purposes. The guide includes links to deeper dive resources on eligibility from our partners. <https://protectingimmigrantfamilies.org/>

### Suffolk County Resource Guide

Suffolk County District Attorney, Rachel Rollins

This is a collection of resources currently available in Suffolk County, Ma, compiled by the staff of the Juvenile Alternative Resolution Program of the Juvenile Unit at the Office of Suffolk County District Attorney Rachael Rollins. It is not a complete list, and you should continue to consult relevant experts

and your care providers when appropriate. This guide is intended to be a starting point for residents and service providers for finding resources to assist during the COVID-19 National Emergency. Our current circumstances are fluid and evolving; information, services, and recommendations may change over time. We advise you to contact any of the included services outlined here ahead of time to ensure up-to-date accuracy. <https://www.suffolkdistrictattorney.com/>

### DTA SNAP and Cash Benefits During COVID-19

Massachusetts Legal Services  
To view a general overview of DTA policies and how to ensure folks can access benefits, please visit MLRI's COVID-19 page: <https://www.masslegalservices.org/DTA-COVID-19>

### Hunger and Food Resources for Households

Project Bread's Hunger and Food Resources page offers information for families and households on school meal sites and locations; the Food Resource Hotline (to get connected to food, and for SNAP application assistance); and policy updates (state and federal level). <http://www.projectbread.org/>

Greater Boston Food Bank (GBFB)  
GBFB partners with 500+ hunger-relief agencies, including food pantries, community meal programs and other food assistance providers throughout the nine counties and 190 towns and cities across Eastern Massachusetts. These efforts have doubled in the wake of COVID and increased food needs. This page offers information on food pantries across

*Continued on page 6*

<b>CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION</b>		Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Docket No. SU21P1436EA
Estate of: Henry Ferguson Date of Death: 4/01/2021		Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon Street PO Box 9667 Boston, MA 02114 (617)788-8300
To all interested persons: Richard Ferguson of Clayton, NC requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that Richard Ferguson of Clayton, NC be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in an unsupervised administration.		
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on 09/22/2021.		
This is NOT a hearing date but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return date, action may be taken without further notice to you.		
UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)		
A Personal Representative appointed under MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.		
WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: August 11, 2021 Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate		

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# COVID-19 RESOURCES

Continued from page 5

the state, as well as additional resources for food assistance, including school meal sites. <https://www.gbfb.org/>

## Massachusetts State Updates & Resources

State of Massachusetts (Governor's Office) and MADPH is working closely with the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to provide updated information about the novel coronavirus outbreak. <https://www.mass.gov/offers>:

- Prevention and treatment
- Cases, quarantine and monitoring
- State of emergency
- Printable fact sheets and FAQ
- Emotional health and well-being resources
- Press release
- MA 2-1-1

## SIREN COVID-19 Resource Page

Social Interventions Research & Evaluation Network (SIREN)

sirennetwork.ucsf.edu/covid-19-resources includes resources on a national level such as:

- Social needs surveillance
- Recent news articles about COVID and health equity
- Resources for clinicians and patients
- Insurance coverage and codes for COVID-related healthcare services
- Pharmacy delivery services
- Vaccination scams/exploitation
- Housing
- Employment/income concerns
- Utility concerns
- Social isolation
- Advocacy opportunities

## The City of Boston

The City of Boston has a free texting service to provide daily updates and information about the coronavirus. Text BOSCOVID to 99411 to opt-in for English. Language and

communications access remains a priority for Mayor Janey, so this text service is also available in Spanish, Haitian Creole, French, Cabo Verdean Creole, and Portuguese.

- Text BOSEspanol for Spanish
- Text BOSKreyol for Haitian Kreyol
- Text BOSFrancais for French
- Text BOSKriolu for Cabo Verdean Creole
- Text BOSPortugues for Portuguese

Updates in 10 total languages can additionally be accessed through [boston.gov/coronavirus#multilingual-help](https://boston.gov/coronavirus#multilingual-help). Each language has its own page and hosts multilingual print materials distributed citywide.

## HOMELESS SERVICES AND HOSPITAL CAPACITY

On April 2nd, Mayor Walsh announced that construction begins at the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center to add 500 beds for treating homeless adults who have tested positive for COVID-19 and need care, but do not require full hospitalization.

The City has released a Request for Proposals to secure a partner organization to operate the facility. If necessary, the Convention Center beds will be opened up for hospitals to use for sub-acute COVID patients in the general population.

These 500 beds will bring Boston's total number of new beds for homeless individuals to over 1,000. This includes Boston Medical Center's Newton Pavilion facility, which the City and State are working to re-purpose as a medical facility for homeless residents affected by the coronavirus.

## SMALL BUSINESS SUPPORT

On April 2nd, Mayor Walsh announced two new resources that will help small businesses during the public health crisis.

The City of Boston has created a Small Business Relief Fund. Drawing on a combination of City, federal, and private industry contributions, it establishes \$2 million in grant funding—capable of providing a lifeline to hundreds of local businesses at risk of shutting down permanently due to the crisis. It will be administered as a streamlined version of the City's Small Business Financing program. Small businesses can begin applying on Monday, April 6.

The City of Boston has also created a Financial Relief Handbook and FAQ document for small businesses. It's a resource for navigating

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