

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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Contact: Kevin Harutunian
978-605-2334

RE: CITY OF BEVERLY LOOKS FOR PROPOSALS TO REDEVELOP THE FORMER MCDONALDS BUILDING ON HARBOR FRONT

Beverly MA –The City of Beverly has issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the redevelopment of the City owned property located on the City’s harbor front. The City seeks proposals from qualified entities to offer up their best ideas to redevelop the property at the base of the Veterans’ Memorial Bridge located at 1 Water Street. Most Beverly residents will recognize the property as the former, and long vacant, McDonald’s restaurant.

Mayor Michael Cahill said, “We are very excited to bring a restaurant and more public amenities and access to our waterfront. This project will provide great enjoyment to our citizens and visitors. This property is a key part of our economic development plan, aimed at growing Beverly as a regional destination.”

Aaron Clausen, the Beverly Planning Director, said, “This RFP responds to the comments we received during the public process conducted this past year by seeking a restaurant use and enhancing recreational amenities available to the public.”

The City is seeking proposals specifically for a restaurant or similar foodservice facility that invites the public to enjoy the waterfront, complements existing maritime uses, and existing recreational amenities. The proposals will also need to provide additional recreational and public amenities to enhance access and enjoyment of the waterfront. One of the key objectives of the RFP is to attract redevelopment of the site that will encourage public use of the waterfront by integrating existing open spaces, commercial and recreational marinas, a restaurant and shoreline access for the general public.

Making the RFP available is the next step in a focused work plan targeting Beverly’s inner harbor, the area roughly between the Veteran’s Bridge and Jubilee Yacht Club, with the objective to open up development opportunities to invigorate and improve public access to the waterfront. A year long public process coincided with the successful removal of the Designated Port Area and followed by the creation of a new zoning Beverly Harbor Zoning District. By offering the RFP the City is creating a unique opportunity to rejuvenate one of the City’s premier gateways and introduce development that will act as the catalyst for broader improvements to Beverly’s inner harbor. Ultimately we are seeking a waterfront with improved access, with active water related businesses, and a vibrant and inviting public space.

A copy of the RFP can accessed on the City of Beverly website through the following link: <http://www.beverlyma.gov/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/15-019-Request-for-Proposals-Lease-1-Water-Street41.pdf>. Further information or copies of the RFP can be obtained through the Purchasing Agent David Gelineau at 978-921-6000.

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