

## **Preparing for Rising Sea Levels: Experts Explore Solutions for Greater Boston**

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Boston, MA – Rapidly rising sea levels are creating complex challenges throughout New England for both government and private industry. Now, ULI Boston/New England is assembling teams of local experts in real estate and land use to identify key preparedness strategies to address the impacts of climate change.

*Living with Water: The Urban Implications* will engage interdisciplinary teams of architects, engineers, developers and financiers as part of a multi-step process beginning with a design charette on May 8, 2014 from 12 pm to 6 pm at CBT Architects, 110 Canal Street, Boston. *Members of the media are invited to attend the last session of the day from 5 pm – 6 pm.*

Teams will focus their study on four unique real estate scenarios to develop a set of best practices, which the real estate community and public sector can adopt to improve preparedness and response to the effects of climate change and rising seas. They will build upon existing research and seek to identify design solutions to address sea level rise.

Teams will discuss their preliminary findings at the end of the design charette and then compile a comprehensive report for release in September.

The four areas of study are: historic Back Bay, new developments in the Innovation District, a new mixed-use construction project on the Revere waterfront and a planning initiative for Alewife.

“We are preparing not for an emergency, but for what will become the new normal,” explains Dennis Carlberg, Sustainability Director for Boston University and co-chair of the ULI Boston Sustainability Council. “Projections indicate that by the end of this century Boston Harbor will be as many as six feet above current levels. High tide during storms will result in floods covering nearly a third of the city.”

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For additional information or to set up interviews, please contact:

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***About the Urban Land Institute:***

*The Urban Land Institute ([www.uli.org](http://www.uli.org)) is a global nonprofit education and research institute supported by its members. Its mission is to provide leadership in the responsible use of land and in sustaining and creating thriving communities worldwide. Established in 1936, the Institute has nearly 33,000 members representing all aspects of land use and development disciplines. ULI's [Boston New England District Council](#) has over 1,100 members comprised of developers, architects, analysts and financiers.*

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