

ULI to Examine Impact on Residents, Airport, Transit and more

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Boston, Mass. – (May 26, 2015) – [ULI Boston/New England](#), in partnership with Neighborhood of Affordable Housing (NOAH), will present a series of recommendations on climate resiliency strategies for East Boston on **Wednesday May 27** at the **East Boston Library**, with the goal of designing a community resiliency plan for the neighborhood's 40,000 residents.

East Boston is particularly vulnerable because of its geography and its transit system. An estimated 250,000 people travel through East Boston every day via Logan Airport; the Ted Williams and Sumner tunnels; and the MBTA's Silver and Blue lines.

ULI has assembled a Technical Assistance Panel (TAP), comprised of experts in architecture, public policy, real estate law, landscape architecture, engineering, and planning, to study potential climate change threats to East Boston. The panel will present its findings on Wednesday and solicit feedback from members of the community and the infrastructure agencies that serve the neighborhood. As part of the presentation, the panel will have visual depictions of public and private assets which are most at risk from sea level rise and coastal flooding. These images will be made available to the media.

"ULI has been a fabulous partner bringing expertise and zeal to ameliorating these increasing threats. We are hopeful that our collective efforts aimed at protecting the physical and human assets of our vulnerable community will find their way into the capital budgets of the City and State agencies," said Phil Giffey, Executive Director of NOAH, which, along with ULI, received a Kresge Foundation grant to improve neighborhood planning for sea level rise and storm-related coastal flooding.

NOAH and ULI developed the community-supported planning process, which brings various stakeholders together to address community needs. The Kresge grant has provided for a series of climate change adaptation workshops held in partnership with the Boston Society of Architects, Maverick Landing Community Services, UMass-Boston and the University of New Hampshire.

"One challenge in East Boston is protecting both residential assets and infrastructure lifelines," said Dr. Paul Kirshen, a Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of New Hampshire and a member of the NOAH team, who has been working on climate change adaptation in East Boston since 2008. "The TAP was a creative forum to consider how to bring these two needs together. The NOAH/ULI work in East Boston is an excellent example for Boston and the nation."

A final report on the East Boston study will be issued on June 10, 2015 and will be available on ULI's website, www.uli.org.

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About the Urban Land Institute:

The Urban Land Institute (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 District Council](#) has over 1,100 members comprised of developers, architects, analysts and financiers.

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