

Housing Institute for Gateway Cities

October 28, November 4 & 9

10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Day 1 - Thursday, October 28th

Housing Production Tools for Gateway Cities

[Click Here to Register for Day 1](#)

10:00 am **Welcome!**

Clark Ziegler, Executive Director, MHP

10:05 am **Session 1: Addressing Distressed Properties in Holyoke**

Francis Jhoan Goyes Flor, Policy Innovation Associate, MassHousing

Don Bianchi, Senior Policy Advocate, MACDC

Aaron Vega, Planning and Development Director, City of Holyoke

Michael Moriarty, Executive Director, OneHolyoke CDC

South Holyoke, a diverse and culturally rich neighborhood in the City of Holyoke, suffers from property disinvestment, as the real estate market too often does not provide the necessary economic incentives for maintaining and improving properties. The Neighborhood Hub, administered by MassHousing in collaboration with other public agencies and nonprofit organizations, has entered into a partnership with the Holyoke Office of Planning and Economic Development and OneHolyoke CDC to address property disinvestment.

In this session, hear from each of these three partners, who are bringing their energy and expertise to confront the challenges the market has created. Hear how OneHolyoke CDC is working with the City to assess the capital needs of the properties it owns and serve as a voice for neighborhood residents. Discover how City government is identifying vacant buildings and developing a toolkit so that private owners have access to the information, the resources, and the connectivity they need to address the rehabilitation needs of properties. Learn about the Neighborhood Hub's experience in bringing these parties together in an "all hands on deck" approach.

10:55 am Transition Break

11:00 am **Session 2: Leveraging State Programs and Tools for Housing**

Bill Reyelt, Principal Planner, Smart Growth Programs, MA DHCD

Stephen Pantalone, Housing Program Specialist, MA DHCD

Greg Watson, Origination Manager, MassHousing

Dave Traggorth, Principal, Traggorth Companies

Gateway Cities have the advantage of tapping into State programs and tools specifically created to boost housing production in their communities, such as HDIP, Commonwealth Builder, and Neighborhood Hub. However, implementation and outcomes of these resources may differ under different market conditions. Hear from representatives who oversee or have utilized these programs on the most effective strategies to drive desired outcomes.

11:55 am **Wrap Up Day 1 : See you next week, November 4th 10 am – 12 pm**

Topics: Investment without displacement; Leveraging public land for affordable housing

[Click here to register for Day 2](#)