

February/March 2007

More Changes for City Management Team

Decisions on three top city positions expected

Since the beginning of Mayor Menino's fourth term, he has had openings in twelve top level management positions. Nine of these positions have been filled, and now he must act on openings in the three key positions of:

- School Superintendent (with the School Committee)
- Director of the Boston Redevelopment Authority
- Chief Operating Officer

School Superintendent Mike Contompasis will continue as head of the Boston Public Schools until a permanent superintendent can be appointed. The withdrawal of Rochester, New York Superintendent Manuel Rivera, who had previously accepted the position, required the Search Committee to reconvene in February. Despite this delay, the Committee expects to have a new superintendent in place in time for the 2007-2008 school year.

Former Boston Redevelopment Authority Director Mark Maloney left the BRA in January 2007, having served seven years. He recently agreed to chair Boston World Partnerships, an initiative to attract businesses to Boston, announced at the Research Bureau's Annual Meeting. Paul McCann, Executive Assistant to the Director, is again

serving as acting Director of the BRA until the position is filled.

Finally, the Mayor must address the opening of the Chief Operating Officer position next month. Dennis DiMarzio, the City's COO since 1996, is expected to retire in April of this year. He also serves as Chairman of the Boston Water and Sewer Commission.

Most recently, Mayor Menino recommended Barbara Ferrer to replace John Auerbach as Executive Director of the Public Health Commission. Ferrer has been Headmaster of the Parkway Academy of Technology and Health in West Roxbury for the past two years. Previously, she was Deputy Director of the Public Health Commission. John Auerbach, who has been the Executive Director since 1998, was recently tapped by Governor Patrick to head the state Department of Public Health.

In 2006, Mayor Menino filled vacancies in eight top level positions, including Chief of Public Works and Transportation, Police Commissioner, Fire Commissioner, Chief of Staff, Chief Information Officer, Corporation Counsel, Press Secretary, and Director of Intergovernmental Relations. Of these positions, all but the Director of Intergovernmental Relations were filled with external candidates.