



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

TRANSPORTATION • LAND DEVELOPMENT • ENVIRONMENT



Lawrence DiCara Elected ABC Chair

A Better City is pleased to announce that Lawrence DiCara has been named Chairman of the ABC Board of Directors. Mr. DiCara is among the founding members of ABC and has been an active member of the organization for 22 years. When asked about his new position, Larry responded, "I'm honored for the opportunity to lead this great city-building organization as it continues its work on issues that are absolutely vital to the future economic competitiveness of Boston, the surrounding region and Commonwealth."



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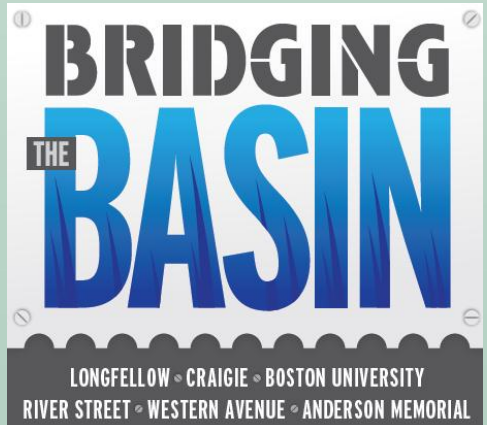
For information about ABC news, email dfennell@abettercity.org

Message from the President



On behalf A Better City (ABC), I would like to take this opportunity to wish our newsletter readers a happy New Year. Thank you for your continued interest in ABC. It is an honor to work in partnership with our dedicated board members, fellow stakeholders and collaborators. I look forward to continuing our work in the new year.

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(Message from the President, continued from p. 1)

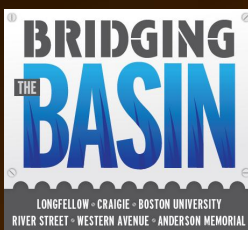
2010 saw progress in all three of ABC's focus areas. On transportation, ABC was active in planning and outreach for bridge projects in the Charles River Basin, including the Craigie Drawbridge and the Longfellow Bridge. We also continued our advocacy on transportation finance and policy. Through the Our Transportation Future coalition, we released a white paper on the importance of transportation investment to the Massachusetts economy, and we joined the fight against a ballot question to roll back the state sales tax. We also continued to reduce emissions and vehicle miles traveled through our Transportation Management Association. On land development, we continued to work closely with the Rose Kennedy Greenway Conservancy and with stakeholders in the South Boston Waterfront. And we moved aggressively into new territory with our Challenge for Sustainability, working with our members to reduce their carbon footprints.

We will be posting a complete list of our 2010 Accomplishments to our newly redesigned [website](#); I hope you take a moment to review them. ABC heads into 2011 with a new chairman of the board: long-time ABC board member Larry DiCara. Larry succeeds Mike Mooney of Nutter McClennen & Fish, who is stepping down after 4 very successful years of service to A Better City. I'm happy to report that Mike will remain active in the organization, service as: a member of our Executive Committee, co-chair of our Sustainability & Climate Change Committee, and ABC's representative to Mayor Menino's Green Ribbon Commission. Please join me in thanking Mike for his service to ABC.

2011 promises to be a great year for ABC. I hope it proves to be a great year for you as well.

Sincerely,
Richard A. Dimino
President and CEO
A Better City

Bridging the Basin: Charles River Bridge



ABC's Transportation and Construction Committee continues to focus on the reconstruction of bridges across the Charles River, with the goal of mitigating construction impacts and maintaining smooth traffic flow throughout the basin.

We are pleased to report that reconstruction of the Craigie Drawbridge is on schedule to be completed in April. Until then, the two inbound lanes over the bridge (from Cambridge to Boston) will remain closed. Meanwhile, work on the Boston University Bridge is scheduled to be completed in late 2011.

ABC participated in MassDOT's Task Force on the design of the Longfellow Bridge and is monitoring which of the group's alternatives will be chosen as the preferred design. As the project moves ahead, the Transportation and Construction Committee will work with MassDOT to develop strategies to mitigate construction, traffic and transit impacts.

ABC's Transportation and Construction Committee will also assess MassDOT's sequencing strategy currently being developed for reconstruction of the River Street, Western Avenue and Larz Anderson Bridges. A key priority is ensuring that buses using those bridges maintain their schedules during construction.

“Fast 14” I-93 Bridge Reconstruction Project

Beginning June 3, 2011 and continuing every weekend through Labor Day (except July 4th weekend), MassDOT will be replacing 14 bridges on I-93 in Medford. The project, nicknamed the “Fast 14”, is part of the state’s Accelerated Bridge Program and will use innovative methods to minimize traffic disruption.



MassDOT is selecting a design/build team to implement the reconstruction plan. Every effort is being made to minimize congestion impacts, with I-93 remaining at full capacity during the work week. On weekends, two through lanes of traffic will remain open in each direction, along with one local lane providing access to exits. State and local police will monitor traffic from a mobile command center linked to cameras throughout the construction area.

MassDOT has begun to brief municipalities and stakeholder groups concerning this project. ABC will participate in the traffic management working group, and our Transportation and Construction Committee will be engaged through the planning and implementation process. We will keep ABC members informed of all progress related to construction and detours.

ABC Planning Director, Thomas Nally, can be reached by [email](#) or phone (617-502-6243), for further information.

ABC Welcomes Four New Members to Start 2011

ABC is pleased to welcome four new members in 2011. Each individual brings great experience and valuable perspective in support of ABC’s mission. We encourage our current members to introduce themselves to their new colleagues during our February board meeting.

John Fernandez, President & CEO, *Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary*: We welcome Mass. Eye and Ear to the ranks of world-class medical facilities represented by ABC. Under Mr. Fernandez’s leadership, Mass. Eye and Ear consistently ranks within the top five institutions across the nation for its specialty services.

Adam Mitchell, Partner, *Save the Stuff*: Save that Stuff formed in 1990 with a mission to provide cost-effective alternatives to traditional waste disposal. Since joining Save That Stuff in 2000, Mr. Mitchell has diversified the organization’s business to include the collection of office paper, organic waste paper, organic waste and co-mingled containers.

Gregg Dixon, Senior Vice President of Marketing, *EnerNOC*: Voted one of Boston’s “40 Under 40” by the Boston Business Journal, Mr. Dixon leads marketing efforts worldwide for EnerNOC’s utility and end-user customers. EnerNOC provides technology-based solutions to help commercial, institutional and industrial organizations use energy more efficiently and cost-effectively.

Jim Thomson, Executive Vice President, *NAI Hunneman*: Mr. Thomson brings years of experience in Boston real estate to the ABC board. NAI Hunneman is a worldwide leader in commercial real estate providing a wide array of services to property owners throughout New England.

Practicing What We Preach: ABC Launches Its "Green Team"

In addition to helping our members green their offices, A Better City is also participating in our own Challenge for Sustainability and the Sustainable Business Leader's Program. Under the direction of Sustainability Coordinator Megan Ramey, ABC's Green Team meets quarterly to discuss best practices.

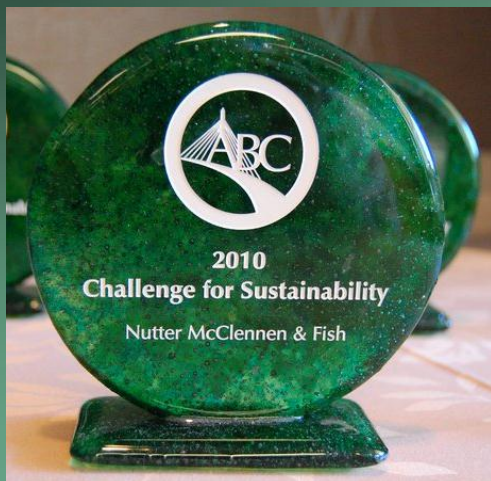
For the 2010 Challenge for Sustainability, ABC nearly doubled its initial score by adopting a range of initiatives: installing faucet aerators, coordinating with our property manager, administering an employee pledge and providing secure bike storage. The green team even made its own window draft stoppers!

Despite increased air conditioning usage due to this summer's record heat, we managed to keep our electricity consumption at 2009 levels. We are trending towards a 15% reduction simply by turning off office lights when possible and turning off our computers, monitors and printers at the end of the work day.

For 2011, we have ambitious sustainability goals:

- Decrease electric consumption by 5%
- Offset 100% of electric consumption with wind power
- Offset employee commutes and work-related travel.
- Host zero waste meetings (forgoing the disposal of recyclables).
- Source all supplies and food from local vendors

Challenge for Sustainability Recognition Party



To close the book on a successful pilot year, A Better City hosted a party recognizing the extraordinary achievements of ABC's Challenge participants. Jim Hunt, Boston's Secretary of the Environment Department, was on hand to congratulate the participants as well as urge them to go "broader and deeper" in their goals. Recycled glass awards were given to participants who successfully achieved their programmatic goals. In addition, special Bamboo Awards were presented to Blue Cross Blue Shield in the category of "Most Improved" and Nutter, McClennen & Fish for both "Highest Score" and "Peer Award". Many of our participants made large strides in their goals of making their workplaces more sustainable; we are honored to give them our sincerest congratulations. To learn more about the Challenge, contact ABC Sustainability Coordinator, Megan Ramey by phone (617-502-6247) or [email](#).



A New Year's Resolution for Businesses: 2011 Challenge for Sustainability

ABC is excited to kick off the second year of the Challenge for Sustainability. For 2011, we have 25 member companies representing 34 facilities, 40,000 employees and 23 million square feet working to benchmark utility data and sustainability initiatives. We have also updated our industry scorecards for 2011 to accommodate restaurants, retail spaces and hotels.

The Challenge's full calendar of events features monthly breakfast meetings, quarterly energy management roundtables and a biannual forum, "Making the Business Case for Sustainability".

There's still time to sign up to the 2011 Challenge for Sustainability; [REGISTER TODAY!](#)

A Better City	Au Bon Pain	Blue Cross Blue Shield of MA
Boston Marriott Copley Place	Boston Private Bank	Boston Properties, Inc.
Delaware North Companies, Inc.	ERG	Hines
Foley Hoag LLP	John Hancock	Holiday Fenoglio Fowler LP
Lincoln Property Company	Manulife Financial	New England Aquarium
Massachusetts Convention Center Authority	Nutter, McClennen & Fish, LLP	Nixon Peabody
Putnam Investments	Peabody Office Furniture	Sheraton Boston Hotel
Seaport Hotel	Tsoi/ Kobus & Associates	TRO Jung/ Brannen
	Wilmer Hale	



COMMITTEE UPDATES



Transportation and Construction Committee

The ABC Transportation and Construction Committee met on January 13 with Boston Transportation Commissioner Thomas Tinlin to review the use of command centers to manage traffic during major projects. In addition, MBTA staffer, Melissa Dullea provided a status report on the Key Bus Routes initiative. The Committee also continued discussions about the status of MassDOT's Accelerated Bridge program in the Charles River Basin.

Moving forward, the Committee will be meeting bimonthly to closely review bridge reconstruction within the Charles River Basin (dates to be determined). One key priority of the committee for 2011 will be the review, planning and implementation of the "Fast 14" I-93 bridge reconstruction project. In addition, the committee is planning to monitor MassDOT's implementation of recommendations provided by the "Stem to Stern Safety Review" on the Central Artery/ Mass. Turnpike Extension.

Advancing Transportation Improvements in the Urban Ring Corridor

ABC continues to advocate incremental transportation improvements in the Urban Ring corridor; a prominent project being the East Boston/Chelsea Bypass Road. Construction for the bypass road is slated to begin in 2011. The MBTA is also studying using the bypass road as a means for extending Silver Line service from South Station and Logan Airport to Chelsea.

In the Fenway and Longwood Medical Area, work on the Yawkey Station platform and improved connections to Beacon Street and Brookline Avenue will also get underway this year. Development along the Turnpike at Yawkey Station will include street improvements that will support better bus movement through the area. ABC is also advocating for roadway changes at Mountfort Street near the Boston University Bridge so as to improve Crosstown (CT) bus performance.

ABC's Urban Ring Institutional Business Committee, the Citizens Advisory Committee and the Urban Ring Compact each plan to meet quarterly during 2011.

(Lawrence DiCara Elected ABC Chair, continued from p. 1)

Mr. DiCara, a former member and president of the Boston City Council, is a partner in Nixon Peabody's Real Estate & Community Development and Government Relations & Public Policy practices. He has more than 30 years of firsthand experience and knowledge with development in the state and has represented owners and developers before the Boston Redevelopment Authority as well as other city and state agencies. Mr. DiCara is also chairman of the Audit Committee of the City of Boston and is active in many other civic and charitable endeavors. He has dedicated more than 40 years to teaching government at Massachusetts Boys State/Girls State, which has recognized him with a Lifetime Achievement Award.

Is Your Building Tour-Worthy? Let ABC's Challenge for Sustainability Help Showcase your Workplace's Green Features!

Is your building making strides towards sustainability? If so, ABC wants to help showcase your green features. A Better City's Challenge for Sustainability program is looking to schedule bimonthly tours of notable Boston buildings. Each event will include a tour hosted by the manager of building facilities and should highlight the buildings structural and programmatic sustainability initiatives. Following each tour, we are requesting the host building provide space for informal networking opportunities. If interested in hosting a tour, contact A Better City Sustainability Program Coordinator, Megan Ramey, by [email](#) or phone (617-502-6257).



Upcoming Meetings

The following meetings are open to A Better City and A Better City TMA members. For information about membership, please contact ABC Director of Policy and Development Richard Parr by phone (617-502-6244) or [email](#).

- * Jan. 27 – Challenge for Sustainability first monthly breakfast meeting
- * Jan. 31 – Real Estate and Land Development Forum
- * Feb. 4 – South Boston Stakeholders (open to non-ABC members)
- * Feb. 8 – Project Development Committee
- * Feb. 10 – Challenge for Sustainability Energy Management Roundtable
- * Feb. 16 – ABC Quarterly Board Meeting
- * Feb. 24 – Transportation Finance and Policy Committee
- * Mar. 17 – Challenge for Sustainability Portfolio Manager training