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The Boston Globe

NU dorm proposal gets key approval

By [Matt Rocheleau](#)
Globe Correspondent / April 16, 2011

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The Boston Redevelopment Authority approved plans for a 17-story Northeastern University dormitory behind the Huntington Avenue YMCA, moving it one step closer to being fully cleared for construction.

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Work on the \$75-million, 220,000-square-foot facility on St. Botolph Street will begin this summer, with the goal of being ready for move-in by the start of the fall 2013 semester.

The authority voted unanimously Thursday night to approve the project.

In early March, the city's Landmarks Commission invoked a 90-day delay for the demolition of the Y's century-old gymnasium building. Unless a petition is submitted requesting that the structure be designated a city landmark, plans to tear it down can move forward on June 7. A hearing with the commission at the end of April will consider waiving the delay.

The Massachusetts Historical Commission is asking to review the developer's revised plans and to consult with developers, city officials, and local community members, said spokesman Brian McNiff.

Northeastern spokesman John Tobin said the school will continue to work with both commissions and other interested or concerned parties, as well as to seek necessary zoning approval before work can begin.

The project is being led by the YMCA and Phoenix Lincoln Properties with a long-term lease to Northeastern University.

NU has pledged to add more housing in an effort to reduce the student impact on residential neighborhoods.

The building will house 720 beds.

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