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ALLSTON BRIGHTON

New Balance gets final OK to build \$500m Brighton development

Posted by Matt Rocheleau September 14, 2012 12:57 PM

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By Matt Rocheleau, Town Correspondent

The city's redevelopment board gave final approval Thursday to New Balance's \$500 million development plan for Brighton, clearing the way for the project to break ground as soon as this fall.

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New Balance, new headquarter designs

The athletic apparel company plans to build 1.45 million square feet of space across a new headquarters, sports complex, hotel, and up to three office buildings. The development flanking Guest Street will incorporate a mix of retail, restaurant and recreation space.

The company also plans to pay for all costs associated with designing, permitting and building, operating and maintaining a commuter rail station on the Framingham-Worcester Line tracks that abut the 14-acre

site's northern edge, sandwiched by the Massachusetts Turnpike.

The new station, a separate project agreed to by the state transportation department, is expected to cost \$16 million. No construction timetable has been announced.

New Balance has said it hopes to start work on building its "health and wellness district" as soon as this fall and complete the six-phase project within about a four-year span. The headquarters, sports complex and the hotel are expected to be completed by 2015. The office buildings are expected to be built by 2017.

"This \$500 million development will be a wonderful addition to the Brighton neighborhood and will add brand new recreation space for public use," Mayor Thomas M. Menino said in a statement. "I salute New Balance as a major local employer, and I applaud its efforts to include the public in the new complex."

About 400 full-time construction jobs, 600 peak construction jobs and 3,000 permanent jobs are expected to be created as a result of the project, which is among the top 10 largest proposed or ongoing development sites in Boston.



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The city estimates the development will generate about \$14.5 million in annual tax revenue.

The team leading the project dubbed "New Brighton Landing" includes: New Balance, Elkus Manfredi Architects, Goodwin Procter, Howard/Stein-Hudson, Inc., Carol R. Johnson, Inc., Beals Associates, and Epsilon Associates.

"New Brighton Landing will knit an isolated area into the fabric of the surrounding residential neighborhood by activating the Guest Street corridor with high quality architecture, open space, street level retail and restaurants, and streetscape improvements that connect pedestrians, bicyclists and drivers," said a statement from the Boston Redevelopment Authority.

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