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JAMAICA PLAIN, ROXBURY

## City to seek public feedback on

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## near Forest Hills Station in Jamaica Plain

Posted by Matt Rocheleau August 19, 2013 12:11 PM

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(Boston Redevelopment Authority)

nt

ority will host a meeting this week to seek to build 280 apartments, ground-floor retail and 35 parking spots in the Forest Hills area of

ld Wednesday, Aug. 21 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at

proposal with the redevelopment authority in late

al for 3593-3615 Washington St. would be "Forest Hills," according to a copy of the 140-page

g the development, The Brennan Group, a and the John M. Corcoran Company, a development and investment firm, according to a press release team issued Wednesday.

ur buildings on the 2.8-acre site ranging in height. Across the property, about one acre would be used for courtyards, private decks, a common roof deck

square feet of space for ground-floor retail and other commercial use, according to the plan.

g spots for residential use and another 16 for commercial use. All but about 20 of the parking spots will

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By Matt Rocheleau, Town Correspondent

The Boston Redevelopment Authority is seeking public feedback about a proposal for a new development of shops, outdoor open space and 18 parking spots in Jamaica Plain.

The meeting is scheduled to be held at Curtis Hall in Jamaica Plain.

A development team filed the proposal in late July.

The 300,733-square-foot proposal is for a development called "The Commons at Forest Hills," according to a copy of the 140-page plan.

Two companies are spearheading the development: Beacon Hill-based lobbying firm, Brennan Group, and Braintree-based real estate, development and investment firm, John M. Corcoran Company, according to a joint press release the development team issued Wednesday.

The plan calls for constructing four buildings of varying height from three to five stories. About one acre would be used for open space, including courtyards, private decks and green space.

There would be a total of 7,960 square feet of space for ground-floor retail and other commercial use, according to the plan.

The proposal includes 169 parking spots for residential use and another 16 for commercial use. All but about 20 of the parking spots will

use. All but about 30 of the parking spots will be in ground-floor garages under the proposed buildings.

spots for residents and 25 more spaces for bike

condos, 115 one-bedroom, 111 two-bedroom and thirty-seven of the units would be designated as

streetscape improvements such as new street a bicycle lane along Washington Street,

project to receive LEED Silver certification for would be a smoke-free property, development

in the spring or summer of 2014 and take ng to the proposal. It would create an and 15 full-time jobs.

Overpass, which is [scheduled to be torn down](#) network of surface roads by the fall of 2016.

also less than 800 feet from the Forest Hills improvements as part of the state's overpass e is nearby other private developments have built.

developer [has proposed](#) building a 130,000 ent. Across the street from that property is a use [development](#).

led with the city [a proposal](#) to build a five-mixed-use development on a 3.4-acre plot that est Hills project. The Jamaica Plain Gazette al, for 3521-3529 Washington St., is moving for about a year when hazardous chemicals ar lot site.

spaces for commercial and retail be in ground-floor garages under

There would be 225 bike parking parking for visitors.

Housing would consist of 44 stu 10 three-bedroom apartments. T affordable housing.

The project would also include st trees, lighting and installation of according to the plan.

The developer will aim for the pr environmental sustainability. It v officials said.

Work on the project would start i about two years to build, accordi estimated 325 construction jobs a

The site is next door to the Casey next year and replaced with a net

The proposed development site is MBTA station, which is due for i replacement project. And, the site been recently been proposed or b

About a half-mile south, another square-foot mixed-use developm new 44,000 square-foot mixed-u

Two summers ago, a developer fi building, 208,000-square-foot, r would about the Commons at For [reported in May](#) that that propos forward again after it had stalled were [discovered](#) on the former ca

Commons at Forest Hills would be built, was former Hughes Oil Company for bulk storage products.

has been removed and an extensive development completion, including the removal of 30,000 tons of contaminated soil, the development team said in a recent press release.

ation will be a beautiful and vibrant place to live with shops and amenities," said a statement from project spokeswoman

giving the neighborhood a more human feel, "that will create its own sense of place and investment in this section of Forest Hills," she

Washington and Burnett streets and Orange Street is occupied by several partially-vacant, low-density lots and is currently used for office space and building materials.

bridge-based Arborway Corporation, which was founded in 1980. It is now worth about \$1.6 million,

al was filed with city officials by Forest Hills LLC, owned by Richard J. High, president of the John M. High Company. The project was first outlined in a letter from that entity to

The site at 3593-3615, where the site was used for about 100 years by the company for the storage and distribution of petroleum products.

"The giant above-ground oil tank environmental cleanup is nearing completion, with the removal of 30,000 tons of contaminated soil," the developer said.

"The Commons at Forest Hills Street will be a beautiful and vibrant place to live with shops and amenities," said project spokeswoman Connie Kastelnik.

"It will be truly transformative, giving the neighborhood a more human feel with increased pedestrian activity and investment in this section of Forest Hills," she said.

The property, which abuts New York Avenue and commuter rail tracks, is currently used for level industrial buildings and parking lots and to store and sell electrical equipment.

The property is owned by Cambridge-based Arborway Corporation, which bought the site in 1980 for \$350,000, according to city records.

The detailed development proposal was filed with city officials by Forest Hills LLC, owned by Richard J. High, president of the John M. High Company. The project was first outlined in a letter from that entity to

hele@gmail.com.

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(Boston Redevelopment Authority)

city officials in June.

E-mail Matt Rocheleau at [mjroc](mailto:mjroc)

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