

The Race for City Hall

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Walsh plan to improve public health includes direct appeal to residents

By [Matt Rocheleau](#) / Globe Correspondent

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Mayoral candidate Martin J. Walsh has released his public health plan, which calls for gauging the needs of residents by conducting a citywide door-knocking campaign.

Walsh's campaign called the "grassroots" approach the "centerpiece of his public health policy proposal.

"We will approach public health the way we approach campaigning: by engaging with neighbors door-to-door," Walsh, a state representative, said in a statement. "Using this established method, 'Grassroots Public Health' will identify populations in Boston that are facing barriers and will work to connect them to direct services."

Other components of the plan would include: promoting physical health education; offering assistance for individuals moving from shelters and jail; and establishing an Office of Recovery Services, according to a press release from his campaign.

Here is the [full text of Walsh's plan](#).

Walsh said his administration would continue to collaborate with hospitals, universities, nonprofits, the public schools, and the Police Department "to identify issues where they exist, and deliver services where they are needed."

The candidate said his administration would also share information and research openly "to encourage collaborative and innovative solutions to complex, sometimes systemic problems."

His campaign said that, like his other policies, Walsh's health plan "revolves around four main concepts: access, accountability, collaboration, and transparency."

About this blog

The Race for City Hall: Boston at a crossroads



Andrew Ryan Andrew Ryan covers city politics for The Boston Globe. He joined the newspaper in 2006 as a breaking news reporter. In 2010, he became City Hall bureau chief and has covered all of Mayor Thomas M. Menino's fifth term. Prior to joining the Globe, he wrote for the Associated Press in Boston, the South Florida Sun-Sentinel in Fort Lauderdale, The Day in New London, Conn., and the Highbridge Horizon in the Bronx.

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