



*Middlesex Senior Cohousing -- Building the first senior cohousing community in New England!*

Greetings!

It's summer and the livin' is easy, although not as easy as last year before Covid-19 turned our worlds upside down.

We just rounded the corner of the longest day of the year, June 20, and now we're sweltering through a week-long heatwave that feels more like July than June.

But our community and project are chugging along. After lockdowns started back in March, we organized small support groups that our members could sign up for. We got that idea from Pioneer Valley Cohousing in Amherst, and it's been a big success. The pods meet weekly by Zoom to keep tabs on each other's mental and physical health, maintain social connections, and coordinate help, if needed. Pods, it turns out, are a great way to get to know each other better, an unexpected silver lining in an otherwise dark time.

Here's a snapshot of this newsletter:

- Project update -- see one of the architectural drawings of our proposed development in Littleton, Mass.
- Watch a video that shows how senior cohousers are managing the challenges of Covid-19 without sacrificing the benefits and comforts of community.

## June Project Update



See that little red door above? That's the entry to the historic 1790s house, known as Hager Homestead, which will become the common house of our proposed cohousing project on King Street in Littleton, Mass.

To the right of the historic house is the connector building, which houses the elevator and connects to the apartments in the new construction.

Our architects have continued to tweak the design to accommodate the Planning Board's feedback. And our developer Matt and civil engineer Bruce continue to be optimistic that we'll have permits by the time our Purchase & Sale agreement expires in December.

## Covid-19 and Senior Cohousing



Are you maybe wondering how folks living in senior cohousing are managing Covid-19 and social distancing?

To find out, watch this new virtual tour of **Harbourside Cohousing**, which was built in 2016 and overlooks Sooke Harbor in Victoria, Canada. It's narrated by one of the founders, Margaret Critchlow, and was made not long after coronavirus lockdowns went into effect in Canada.

Not only does the video give you a good look at Harbourside's buildings and site, it also shows how a tightknit bunch of seniors is smoothly managing the challenges of social distancing without sacrificing the benefits and comforts of community. It shows why cohousing is where you want to be in times of crisis. And why there's never been a better time to be in cohousing.

## About Middlesex Senior Cohousing



We are 12 equity member households from Metro Northwest Boston on track to build the first senior cohousing neighborhood in New England.

Our vision is a collaboratively designed, self-managed neighborhood of 20 or so privately-owned, clustered, energy-efficient homes. With abundant open space, gardens, and a large outdoor commons. Also a large common house with extensive amenities, including gourmet kitchen and great room for cooking and eating

together, dancing, gatherings, and celebrations. Other common house amenities may include spaces for woodworking, arts/crafts, offices, and yoga/exercise.

To learn more go to our website below and to the Cohousing Association of America at [www.cohousing.org](http://www.cohousing.org)

[middlesexseniorcohousing.org](http://middlesexseniorcohousing.org)