

Boston-area lawmakers recognized for community planning

Posted by Johanna Kaiser January 6, 2012



(Photo courtesy Ingrid Freire)

Representative Linda Dorcena Forry of Dorchester (left) and Senator Sal DiDomenico of Everett (right) with Felipe Schwarz, president of the Massachusetts Chapter of the American Planning Association (center) at an awards ceremony where they were named legislators of the year by the association.

By Johanna Kaiser, Town Correspondent

Two state lawmakers representing Boston neighborhoods have been “legislators of the year” by the Massachusetts Chapter of the American Planning Association.

State Senator Sal DiDomenico, a Democrat from Everett who represents Charlestown and parts of Cambridge, Somerville, and Allston-Brighton, and Representative Linda Dorcena Forry, a Dorchester Democrat, who also represents Hyde Park, Mattapan and Milton, were given the titles of legislators of the year for their work involving community planning and preservation.

The American Planning Association, a non-profit organization that promotes development and growth in communities, commended both lawmakers' work as co-chairs of the legislature's Committee on Community Development and Small Business, which focuses on creating commercial districts, and revitalizing urban areas.

"Our committee has worked diligently this year to advance legislation such as the Community Preservation Act, which will help strengthen neighborhoods and allow our communities to stay strong and thrive," DiMomenico said in statement.

The community preservation act, supported by DiMonenico and Dorcena Forry, aims to help participating cities and towns preserve open space and historic sites, and promote recreation and affordable housing by matching locally raised funds.

The Community Development and Small Businesses Committee has recommended the bill, but the House of Representatives and Senate have yet to vote on it.

Follow us on Twitter @CharlestownNews or @JohannaKaiser.

Email Kaiser at johanna.yourtown@gmail.com.