

# Legislators, city discuss Pleasant Street project

By Jeff Malachowski  
Staff Writer

MARLBOROUGH – State legislators and Marlborough Community Development officials were scheduled to meet with residents of the Pleasant Street senior apartments on Oct. 2 to discuss the upcoming much-needed \$5.5 million overhaul of the facility.

State Sen. Jamie Eldridge, D-Acton, state Rep. Danielle Gregoire, D-Marlborough, and state Rep. Carmine Gentile, D-Sudbury, and members of the Marlborough Community Development Authority Tenants Association were to tour the apartment complex and listen to questions and concerns from residents, such as the relocation process during construction.

“They want to talk to the residents,” Douglas Bushman, Housing Authority executive director, said last week. “They

want their input. There’s a lot of emotional attachment to that property.”

The city was recently awarded \$3.3 million in state funds to help pay for the \$5.5 million interior modernization of the Pleasant Street apartments. The state initially granted Marlborough \$2.2 million, but increased the amount as estimated construction costs rose and the city secured additional money for the work.

Marlborough will use about \$720,850 in solar net metering credits over 10 years, \$100,000 from the neighborhood stabilization program, \$100,000 in Community Development reserves and \$400,000 approved by the City Council to fund the remainder of the project.

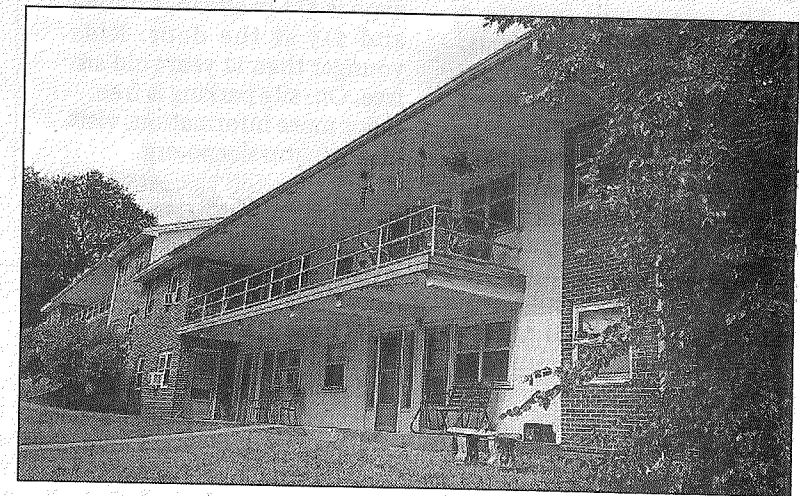
The city also received a \$100,000 earmark from the state that Eldridge, Gregoire and Gentile helped secure.

Upgrades to the 42-unit apartment complex – which opened in 1961 – are set to include kitchen and bath replacements, plumbing upgrades, bath ventilation, electrical and fire alarm system improvements, asbestos abatement and new entry doors and sprinkler systems. The plan also calls for upgrades to help seniors age in place, such as replacing bath tubs with walk-in showers and easy to reach cabinets.

Bushman and city officials are devising a plan to relocate tenants during construction. The work is expected to be done building by building to reduce the effect on the tenants.

The four-building complex was last renovated in the late 1980s. That project included window replacements and a new roof.

Architects hope to complete designs by January. Bushman anticipates putting the project out



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to bid next spring, with construction beginning in fall 2019. The project is expected to be completed in fall 2020.

Jeff Malachowski can be reached at

508-490-7466 or [jmalachowski@wickedlocal.com](mailto:jmalachowski@wickedlocal.com). Follow him on Twitter @jmalachowskiMW.