



ARLINGTON REDEVELOPMENT BOARD

TOWN HALL ARLINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02476

TELEPHONE 781-316-3090

PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT

Arlington Redevelopment Board Gubernatorial Appointment David Watson begins two-year term

On September 28, 2016, the Arlington Redevelopment Board (ARB) received notification from the Governor's Office of Boards and Commissions that Governor Baker appointed David Watson as the state appointee for a two-year term on the Arlington Redevelopment Board. The letter from the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development who provides oversight of redevelopment authorities, noted that Mr. Watson will be "responsible for establishing and monitoring the achievement of goals for the Board as well as establishing policy. Furthermore, he will be responsible for ensuring the integrity of the authority, maintaining good community relations, supporting pro-active economic and community development and advocating for the use of smart growth principles."

Mr. Watson is Principal of WatsonActive LLC. He implements active transportation projects, programs, and policies, working with local, state, and federal agencies, advocacy groups, planners and engineers, and community members. He played a major role in establishing groundbreaking policies to promote bicycling and walking in Massachusetts, including the Healthy Transportation Compact, statewide Mode Shift Goal, Strategic Highway Safety Plan, Healthy Transportation Policy Directive, and MassDOT design criteria. He has both managed and personally delivered a wide range of services for Mass in Motion communities, the MassDOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Awareness and Enforcement Program, the City of Boston, the City of Springfield, Massachusetts Safe Routes to Schools communities, and more. He has served on numerous transportation advisory boards and committees, including the Massachusetts Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Board, the Healthy Transportation Compact Advisory Council, the GreenDOT Advisory Group, and the DCR Urban Paths and Parkways Committee. He is currently co-facilitator of the Built Environment Community of Practice of the Massachusetts Partnership for Health Promotion and Chronic Disease Prevention. David has taught bicycle advocacy and planning in the Boston University City Planning and Urban Affairs program. Prior to founding WatsonActive, he was the Executive Director of the Massachusetts Bicycle Coalition (MassBike), a statewide bicycle advocacy organization. He has strong relationships with regional planning agencies and active transportation advocates across the state.

Mr. Watson has the following education and professional registrations: JD, with a concentration in Advocacy, Cornell Law School; BS, Management Science, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Licensed Attorney: Massachusetts and District of Columbia; Registered Lobbyist: Massachusetts.

For further information about this appointment, please contact Jennifer Raitt, Director of Planning and Community Development at 781-316-3092 or jraitt@town.arlington.ma.us.