



*The United States Interagency Council on Homelessness
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*IN THE CITIES: MASSACHUSETTS MAYORS COMMIT TO NEW
REGIONAL PLANNING PARTNERSHIP AND TIP AMERICA'S ROAD
HOME SIGNERS TO OVER 270*



WEYMOUTH, MASSACHUSETTS. Meeting in Weymouth City Hall, Weymouth Mayor Susan Kay, Quincy Mayor Thomas Koch, and Braintree Mayor Joe Sullivan committed to create a regional planning initiative to reduce and end homelessness in their communities. The Mayors were joined by United States Interagency Council on Homelessness Executive Director Philip Mangano who encouraged the Mayors to look at the leadership, innovations, investment, and results in the Quincy 10 Year Plan as a model of what can be achieved in the region.

Pictured here at the meeting are (left to right): John Yazwinski, President and CEO, Father Bill's and Mainspring Coalition, Director Mangano, Mayor Koch, Mayor Sullivan, Mayor Kay, Peter Forman, President and CEO, South Shore Chamber of Commerce and Community Champion of the Quincy 10 Year Plan, John Boucher, President and CEO, South Shore Savings Bank, and Dennis Harrington, Director of Planning, City of Quincy.

Mayor Kay has a long interest in housing issues, and the new mayors have begun to work regionally on other issues of common concern. Dennis Harrington, Quincy Planning Director, will be the point person to facilitate the new collaboration among the mayors.

Father Bill's/Mainspring Executive Director John Yazwinski heads the new organization created through the 2007 merger of two locally based non-profits. The two 20-year-old entities, first organized as emergency responses in their South Shore communities, merged to coordinate their strategies and increase their housing focus for individuals and families through 10 Year Planning partnerships that have achieved decreases in chronic homelessness, including through Housing First initiatives.

Council Regional Coordinator John O'Brien also participated.

Mayors Kay and Koch are some of the newest signatories Mayors to the *America's Road Home Statement of Principles and Actions*, the unprecedented 12-point agreement on ending homelessness now signed by more than 270 jurisdictional officials. Other recent signers include Warwick, RI Mayor Scott Avedisian, Lowell, MA Mayor Edward Caulfield, Taunton, Ma Mayor Charles Crowley, Orlando, FL Mayor Buddy Dyer, Bakersfield, CA Mayor Harvey Hall, Coos County, OR Commissioners John Griffith, Kevin Stufflebean, and Nikki Whitty, Deschutes County Commissioner Tammy Melton, and Benton County, WA Commissioner Claude Oliver.