

# 31st Annual Conference

From Challenges to Opportunities:  
Innovative Housing Solutions  
For Economic Prosperity  
**IN GREATER METROWEST**

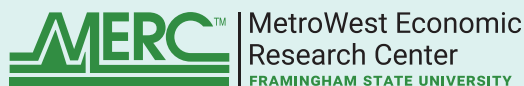


## Keynote Speaker: ED AUGUSTUS

*Secretary of Housing and Livable Communities, Commonwealth of Massachusetts*

Secretary Ed Augustus leads the newly created Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities. The office is dedicated to housing and driving solutions to create more homes and lower costs. It is focused on the urgent need to build places to live that are affordable and closer to public transit - giving residents access to jobs, medical care, groceries, and other essential services.

Before joining the Healey administration, Secretary Augustus served as City Manager of Worcester, functioning as the gateway city's chief administrative and executive officer of more than 200,000 people. As City Manager, Augustus spearheaded the \$240 million landmark redevelopment of Worcester's canal district, including leading the complex negotiation to relocate the Boston Red Sox AAA affiliate (now the WooSox) to the city and constructing the multi-use Polar Park Stadium.



For more information, please  
contact MERC at 508-626-4033  
or [merc@framingham.edu](mailto:merc@framingham.edu).

**Thursday**  
**May 30, 2024**

Forum, McCarthy Center  
Framingham State University

### TIME:

11:00 a.m. Program  
11:30 a.m. Keynote Address  
12:35 p.m. MERC Update  
12:55 p.m. Panel Presentation  
2:00 p.m. Adjourn

### MODERATOR:

**Jason Palitsch**  
Executive Director, 495/MetroWest  
Partnership

### PANELISTS:

**Amy Dain**  
Consultant, Dain Research

**Geoff Homoliski**  
Executive Vice President and Chief  
Lending Officer,  
Middlesex Savings Bank

**Debbie Maruca Hoak**  
Executive Director, Habitat for  
Humanity MW/  
Greater Worcester

**Peter Matchak**  
Town Planner / Director of Planning,  
Town of Ashland

**Paige Roosa**  
Director of the Mayor's Housing  
Innovation Lab,  
City of Boston

**REGISTER NOW!**

[https://MERC31stAnnualConference.  
eventbrite.com](https://MERC31stAnnualConference.eventbrite.com)

\*Registration is required. No cost to register and  
attend. Lunch will be served. Space is limited.

