

Wellesley Housing Development Corporation

“Wellesley Affordable Housing Trust”

Join the Wellesley Affordable Housing Trust

The Town of Wellesley is seeking a pool of candidates to fill three volunteer positions on the Board of Trustees of the new Wellesley Affordable Housing Trust (WAHT), which is being established to replace the existing Wellesley Housing Development Corporation. It is anticipated that the WAHT will be established and these Board positions will be filled by the end of September 2025. If you’re passionate about advancing affordable housing in our community, this is a great opportunity to make an impact.

What is the Wellesley Affordable Housing Trust? The creation of the WAHT to replace the Wellesley Housing Development Corporation was approved at Town Meeting in April 2025. The mission of the WAHT is to provide for the creation and preservation of affordable housing in the Town of Wellesley for the benefit of low- and moderate-income households, with a particular focus on assisting the Town and other public agencies, including the Wellesley Housing Authority.

Five Year Objectives to be adopted by the Board of Trustees are expected to include:

- Establishing the full Board of Trustees of the WAHT.
- Collaborating with Wellesley Housing Authority to evaluate its current portfolio and explore ways to improve or enhance utilization of property.
- Advocating for affordable housing and supporting the Town in maintaining proper affordable housing stock and development activity.
- Facilitating public-private partnerships for affordable housing projects.
- For properties that may come under WAHT control, including 156 Weston Road, directing their development and/or redevelopment to create affordable housing.

Who Can Join? The seven voting Members of the WAHT Board of Trustees shall include a member of the Select Board (designated by the Select Board) and six Wellesley residents appointed by the Select Board. One of the six Wellesley residents may be a tenant who resides in subsidized housing units as defined by G.L. c.40B, or who receives state- or federally sponsored rental subsidies, or who lives in workforce housing. The WAHT Board will meet once or twice per month, typically at 8:00 am. Meetings can be attended in person or virtually (subject to the Open Meeting Law) and last approximately one hour. Some preparation time may be required between meetings.

What is the Appointment Process? Members of the Board of Trustees are appointed by the Select Board to two-year terms in a volunteer capacity. The WAHT Board is composed of eight members who include the Town's Executive Director or their designee in a non-voting capacity, and seven voting members appointed by the Select Board in consultation with existing WAHT Board Members.

Board Member Responsibilities will include:

- Attending regular WAHT Board Meetings
- Helping to develop and execute 5-year strategic plan
- Advocating for affordable housing
- Understanding the legal duties of being a Board Member of a Trust
- Acting with reasonable diligence and prudence, making informed decisions, and staying informed about relevant matters
- Acting in the best interests of the WAHT and avoiding conflicts of interest
- Evaluating WAHT programs and operations regularly
- Representing the WAHT and connecting with other community organizations, committees and boards to build support and awareness
- Reviewing and understanding financial and budgetary information

How Do I Apply? Please fill out a [volunteer form](#) online and attach relevant information such as a resume.