




Massachusetts

Known Condemnations Benefiting Private Parties²⁰⁰

Filed/Authorized Condemnations  5

Threatened Condemnations  1

Legend  = 1  = 1

Fall River

On September 27, 2005, Fall River's City Council voted unanimously to give the City's Redevelopment Authority permission to take Samuel Shapiro's 4.62-acre plot of land, on which he runs United Textile Machinery, by eminent domain if he won't sell it.²⁰¹ The City Council wants to give Shapiro's land to Meditech, a computer software company that promises to bring 600 jobs to the town.²⁰² In December 2005, the City's redevelopment authority voted to seize Shapiro's land by no later than January 5, 2006.²⁰³ In January, the City took the property and gave Shapiro and his employees 120 days to vacate.²⁰⁴

Lowell

City officials are planning to acquire all private property within the 15.2-acre Hamilton Canal District redevelopment area to replace it with new commercial, retail, office and residential space along the Hamilton, Merrimack and Pawtucket canals. The City will issue a request for proposals for the project and select a master developer later this year.²⁰⁵ In April 2006, City councilors voted

200 These numbers were compiled from news sources. Many cases go unreported, and news reports often do not specify the number of properties against which condemnations were filed or threatened.

201 Daniel Fowler, "Council gives OK for eminent domain," *Herald News*, September 28, 2005.

202 Paul Grimaldi, "High-tech company to bring 600 jobs," *The Providence Journal*, August 24, 2005.

203 Gregg M. Miliote, "Group votes to take land," *Herald News*, December 17, 2005.

204 Gregg M. Miliote, "City seizes land for Meditech," *Herald News*, January 6, 2006.

205 Michael Lafleur, "Eminent domain talks to take front and center at City Council meeting," *Lowell Sun*, February 6, 2006, at NEWS; <http://www.lowellma.gov/depts/dpd/services/econdev/hamilton-canal-district> (retrieved May 31, 2006).

Lunenburg plans to sell the land to a different developer who will presumably build something else.

unanimously to seize four properties—seven acres of the defunct Appleton Mills and properties owned by McLaughlin Storage Inc. and attorney Louis Saab. The owner of Appleton Mills was given until the end of May to come to terms with the city or face eminent domain, whereas the other three properties were being condemned immediately. The City will use State and federal funds to pay for the acquisitions.²⁰⁶

Lunenburg

In June 2006, City selectmen will ask town residents to approve the use of eminent domain to seize the former Whalom Park, the site of a former amusement park that developer Global Property Development Corp. wants to turn into condos.²⁰⁷ Lunenburg plans to sell the land to a different developer who will presumably build something else.²⁰⁸

206 Michael Lafleur, "Council votes to take Appleton Mills, other properties by eminent domain," *Lowell Sun*, April 26, 2006, at LOCAL.

207 Jordana Timerman, "Residents weigh Whalom land plan," *Sentinel & Enterprise*, May 30, 2006, at LOCAL.

208 Jordana Timerman, "Selectman: Take Whalom land by eminent domain," *Sentinel & Enterprise*, May 24, 2006, at LOCAL.