

# Hello, LightHouse Community!

We've got some pretty big news.

mass.gov/info-details/fy24-community-one-stop-for-growth-awards				
+	Holyoke	Wellspring Cooperative Corporation	Collaborative Workspace Program	\$45,000
+	Holyoke	City of Holyoke	Community Planning Grant Program	\$90,000
-	Holyoke	LightHouse Holyoke	Underutilized Properties Program	\$500,000
<b>Project Description</b> LightHouse Holyoke will use this grant to renovate the 19,000-square-foot former Congregation Sons of Zion Synagogue in downtown Holyoke. Funds will be used for the abatement and disposal of hazardous building materials and renovations.				
+	Holyoke	Holyoke Redevelopment Authority	Underutilized Properties Program	\$600,000

It's a bit of a long story! (And we're still just at the beginning.)

Starting in the present, Mass Development has announced \$500,000 in grant funding to support LightHouse Holyoke to renovate the Sons of Zion Building at 378 Maple Street in Holyoke to become our permanent home. **WOW!** We are beyond thrilled.



The property is a four-lot parcel comprising the entire city block across the street from Lawrence Elementary School and diagonally across from The Holyoke Public Library. The building has been the home to our new friends, The Congregation of the Sons of Zion, for the last 100 years.

We are honored to take over the care and preservation of this historic building, and look forward to our continued relationship with the Congregation.

# Zion Timeline

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**June, 2022.** Congregation reaches long-considered decision to downsize and posts property for sale.

**July, 2022.** Fast food chain Wendy's makes competitive offer, shares plans to demolish building to build drive through.

**August, 2022.** Transformational District Initiative (TDI) Fellow, Kevin Moforte, hosts open house at Zion in the hopes that another local organization can outbid Wendy's and help move the neighborhood toward health and improved vitality.

**September, 2022.** LightHouse begins working with the Congregation and Mass Development on a possible plan.

**April, 2023.** LightHouse signs Purchase and Sale agreement with Congregation.

**April- October, 2023.** LOTS of due diligence work with the support of Mass Development.

**January, 2024.** Scheduled closing.

**September, 2025.** Planned occupancy.

Current total project estimate is \$4M. This grant from Mass Development is a phenomenal start. **Stay tuned for updates!**

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