

Joel Wool

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SUMMARY

Public policy leader, public sector manager, procurement professional. Experience in municipal government, environment and clean energy, affordable and public housing, zoning, public health, government relations, communications, urban planning.

EXPERIENCE

Deputy Administrator, Boston Housing Authority
(August 2023 - Present)
Chief of Staff & Chief Procurement Officer, Boston Housing Authority
(December 2021 - August 2023)
Chief of Staff, Boston Housing Authority (April 2021 – December 2021)
Special Advisor for Policy and Planning, Boston Housing Authority
(April 2020 – April 2021)
Board Member, Boston Neighborhood Community Land Trust (Spring 2022 –)
Director of Policy and Communications, Boston City Councilor Lydia Edwards
(February 2018 – April 2020)
Energy Advocate, Clean Water Action (2011 – 2018)
Board Member, DotHouse Health (May 2017 – Present)
Treasurer, Boston Community Cooperatives (January 2016 - November 2018)
Advisory Committee, Mass Interfaith Coalition for Climate Action (2015 – 2017)
Transition Team, Marty Walsh for Mayor (Dec. 2013 – Feb. 2014)
Community Advocate, GreenDorchester, Dorchester, MA (2010 – 2012)

SKILLS

Public Sector Management and Strategic Initiatives

- Directed energy purchasing and strategy, managed procurement office for public housing authority with nearly 10K units and 17K rental vouchers
- Oversaw Sustainability Plan update for public housing authority
- Expanded internet access for residents in 17 federal public housing buildings
- Established pandemic-era rental relief program for public housing tenants
- Secured millions in disaster relief funds for COVID-19 and snow emergencies, for vaccination, cleaning, emergency feeding and other projects
- Launched rental voucher for returning citizens
- Managed American Rescue Plan Act programs and reporting

Government Relations

- Secured unprecedented housing concessions from largest private development project in Boston's history, Suffolk Downs
- Won passage of state legislation to enable public housing redevelopment in Charlestown and Jamaica Plain neighborhoods of Boston
- Advocated successfully through city, state and federal budgets to secure >\$50M in American Rescue Plan Act (CSLFRF), HUD (EDI) and other funds
- Represented housing authority in meetings with public officials and public hearings on topics related to housing, internet access, public safety, surveillance, and other issues

Communications, Organizing and Public Policy

- Adept at print and digital media, including appearances in Boston Globe, Boston Herald, Commonwealth Magazine, State House News Service, etc.
- Founded 150+ group environmental coalition, Mass Power Forward, bringing groups together statewide to advocate for policy change
- Won changes to state energy programs to ensure low- and moderate-income residents had greater access to energy-saving weatherization programs

EDUCATION	M.A., Urban and Environmental Policy and Planning <i>Tufts University, Boston, MA</i>
	B.A. Media Production B.F.A. Writing, Literature & Publishing <i>Emerson College, Boston, MA; Honors Program; Summa Cum Laude</i>
PUBLICATION SAMPLES	<p>Building for All Bostonians (2019) Co-author on Boston City Council report on two affordable housing programs, inclusionary development and linkage, with accompanying recommendations for city and state policy changes. Coauthored home rule petition updating local authorities.</p> <p>The Case for Land Trusts (2015) Co-author on Tufts University Report on implementation of Community Land Trusts in Boston and across the country, including impact and opportunities related to urban agriculture, housing and economic development.</p> <p>Brayton Point: Operating at Our Expense (2013) Co-author on widely-publicized report examining health costs of economically vulnerable coal-fired power plant in Southeastern Massachusetts, with recommendations to meet energy grid needs, improve public health, redevelop community and protect workers in transition as plant moved towards closure.</p> <p>Health, Environment, Community: A Tour of Dorchester (2012/2013) Co-authored booklet and policy recommendations document relative to air quality with Harvard School of Public Health.</p>
MEDIA SAMPLES	<p>“Beyond Shelter: Sustaining Public Housing Communities During a Pandemic.” Boston Bar Journal. November 2020. https://bostonbarjournal.com/2020/11/18/beyond-shelter-sustaining-public-housing-communities-during-and-after-a-pandemic/</p> <p>“Thoughts on the Advocacy of Regulators,” Commonwealth Magazine. August 2020. https://commonwealthmagazine.org/opinion/thoughts-on-the-advocacy-of-regulators/</p> <p>“We need to end energy inequality,” Commonwealth Magazine. March 4, 2018. https://commonwealthmagazine.org/opinion/need-end-energy-inequality/</p> <p>“At state hearing in Worcester, National Grid Rate hikes called excessive.” Mar. 30, 2016. Telegram & Gazette. http://www.telegram.com/article/20160330/NEWS/160339877</p> <p>“Electric Customers can be charged for gas, state rules.” Boston Globe, October 10, 2015. https://www.bostonglobe.com/business/2015/10/02/baker-administration-rules-that-electric-customers-can-charged-for-natural-gas/rkImu3kriaaVdx5qyBqm9K/story.html</p> <p>“House Bill Aims to Address State’s Power Shortfall,” Boston Globe, January 29, 2015. https://www.bostonglobe.com/business/2015/01/29/house-bill-aims-address-state-power-shortfall/wrlx8fjkjzLF85wDhsf6KJ/story.html</p> <p>“Surviving in a Food Desert.” Interview on WCVB’s Chronicle. Dec. 18, 2013. http://www.wcvb.com/chronicle/surviving-in-a-food-desert/23537252</p>
LANGUAGE	Proficient in Spanish; some Haitian Creole