



Ruthanne Fuller
Mayor

City of Newton, Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor

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February 13, 2023

Honorable City Council
Newton City Hall
1000 Commonwealth Avenue
Newton, MA 02459

To the Honorable City Councilors:

I am pleased to appoint Jyothsna Buddharaju of 1175 Chestnut Street, Newton as an Alternate member of the Planning and Development Board. Their term of office shall expire on July 31, 2026 and their appointment is subject to your confirmation. Please note, Jyothsna Buddharaju will be completing an unfilled term which was previously held by Amy Dain.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Warmly,

Ruthanne Fuller
Mayor

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CITY CLERK
NEWTON, MA. 02459

Application Form

Profile

Jyothsna

First Name

Buddharaju

Last Name

Middle Initial

[Redacted]

Email Address

1175 Chestnut Street

Home Address

Apt 16

Suite or Apt

Newton

City

MA

State

02464

Postal Code

What Ward do you live in?

Ward 5

[Redacted]

Primary Phone

Alternate Phone

Boston University

Employer

Senior Dir. of Special Initiatives

Job Title

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Planning and Development Board: Not Submitted

Urban Design Commission: Submitted

Interests & Experiences

Please tell us about yourself and why you want to serve.

Why are you interested in serving on a board or commission?

Since my time as a graduate student in public policy I have been drawn to the impact that sound urban planning has on our community. With reference to Newton, I have been impressed by the civic participation of residents and in particular the thoughtfulness that undergirds landscaping and architecture of the city. Through my work with sustainability at BU I have become familiar with the need for equitable urban design policy. I would like to serve our city by participating on this vital commission and add a social impact & equity lens to decision making process of the commission. Thank you for considering my application.

[Jyothsna Buddharaju_resume_NewtonBoards.pdf](#)

Upload a Resume

JYOTHSNA BUDDHARAJU

Experienced principal gift strategist with a track record of securing major gifts from individuals, foundations and corporations spanning academia, healthcare, human services, and STEM research. A C-suite business partner reputed for successfully aligning processes with strategy to deliver results.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior Director of Special Initiatives
Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts

8/2019 - Present

- Chief development officer for Boston University's strategic priorities including computing & data sciences, sustainability and infectious disease.
- Facilitate transformational gifts from individuals, corporations, and foundations to support the University's priorities
- Partner with deans/faculty, President's Office, Provost's Office and other important stakeholders to build effective relationships to secure principal gifts to Boston University

Major Accomplishments

- To date, raised over \$6 million from undiscovered, unaffiliated donors. Established philanthropic relationships from point of discovery to stewardship.
- Raised nearly \$5 million for the newly launched Faculty of Computing & Data Sciences with an additional \$7 million in the pipeline.
- Secured seed funding to develop a research program focused on ESG measurement
- Managed two advisory boards which include University trustees; built one of these boards in partnership with Boston University's development committee chair.

Director of Corporate, Foundation & Research Relations
University of California Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California

7/2016 – 7/2019

- Led Corporate and Foundation Relations strategy for the Sciences at UCLA.
- Primary relationship manager for a portfolio of 70+ top corporate and foundation donors to UCLA; planned, prepared and participated in major solicitations
- Established new and advanced existing relationships between key schools (e.g. Health Sciences, School of Engineering), priority campus initiatives (e.g. Grand Challenges, Chancellor's Veterans Initiative) and significant corporate and foundation partners
- Prepared and presented formal fundraising proposals to major foundation and corporate donors

Major Accomplishments

- In FY 2017 - 2018, raised over \$6 million, 600% of annual goal
- Co-created a non-NIH funding database as a tool for biomedical researchers (<http://biofund.healthsciences.ucla.edu>)
- Created a quarterly corporate relations roundtable in 2018, convening campus partners to strategize institution-industry partnerships.

Senior Director of Foundation Relations
Director of Foundation Relations
Wayfinder Family Services (Formerly Junior Blind of America), Los Angeles, California
Helps children and adults with vision loss, other disabilities and emotional challenges achieve independence

2014 – 2016

2010 – 2014

JYOTHSNA BUDDHARAJU

- o Led the organization’s institutional giving efforts to meet an annual goal of \$1.4 million in grant revenue; also maintained an individual donor portfolio to solicit major gifts and planned gifts.
- o Supervised a team of three; a Foundation & Corporate Relations Manager based in Los Angeles and two staff members based in Oakland, CA: Associate Director of Development who managed Junior Blind’s Northern California fundraising efforts including major donors, board giving and corporate/foundation giving and the Development Associate who managed development operations for Northern California.
- o As a member of the leadership team, worked with the Executive Management Team, Board and key stakeholders to create a five-year strategic plan for the organization.
- o In addition to raising annual operating revenue, completed a successful \$1.2 million renovation campaign for a residential facility to house medically fragile foster youth.

Development Associate

2008 – 2010

The Wooden Floor, (Formerly Saint Joseph Ballet) Santa Ana, California

Empowers low-income youth to strengthen self-esteem and self-discipline through academic, dance and family programs

- o As the primary staff member overseeing corporate and foundation giving, developed and implemented a fundraising plan, prepared funding proposals and reports for corporate, foundation and government funders.
- o Created and implemented a strategy to cultivate and steward the organization’s 300+ volunteers.

Senior Budget Analyst– New York State Division of the Budget
Executive Office of the Governor, Albany, New York

2006 –2008

- o Nationally selected as a Hugh L. Carey Fellow in Public Finance for New York State
- o Analyzed Federal, State and local legislation to determine fiscal impact on State finances for the State Governor
- o Oversaw State education budget for capital construction financing and special-education programs totaling \$5 billion
- o Managed a grant fund of \$1 billion for pre-school education providers; evaluated requests and recommended funding levels

EDUCATION

Master of Business

Administration (M.B.A.)

Stephen M. Ross School of Business
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Masters of Public Policy and Asian

Studies (M.A./M.P.A.)

LBJ School of Public Affairs
University of Texas at Austin

B.A. Economics

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
Adelia Cheever Scholar

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Boston Club

- ESG Affinity Group - 2022

Boston University Women’s Guild

- Fisk House Committee Chair – 2022

Los Angeles Rowing Club

- Board Member: 2019 - 2020
- Vice President of Membership: 2016