



**For immediate release  
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**PATRICK-MURRAY ADMINISTRATION TO HOST  
PUBLIC MEETING ON REOPENING OF MELNEA A. CASS RINK**

BOSTON - The Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) will hold a public meeting on February 17, 2010, to discuss possible repairs, rehabilitation, and reopening of the Melnea A. Cass Rink in Roxbury.

DCR's proposal would convert the facility on Washington Street, which is a former ice rink that has been closed for several years, to a three-season multi-use recreational facility. Under the proposal, the approximately \$425,000 project will be funded through DCR's fiscal year 2010 capital budget.

**The public meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 17, from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., at the Shelburne Community Center, 2730 Washington St., Roxbury**

"Reopening the Melnea Cass facility will be a wonderful addition to this city neighborhood," said DCR Commissioner Richard K. Sullivan Jr. "Before moving forward, however, we want to hear thoughts from the community on how they would like us to proceed."

Among the potential capital improvements are resurfacing the rink area for inline skating as well as for tennis, soccer, and other activities; replacing the fiberglass boards and exterior fencing; adding a new gate to the Shelburne Community Center next door; and improving the lighting in and around the facility.

The Melnea A. Cass Rink was built in 1968, and operated as an ice skating rink for about 20 years. The facility closed in the 1980s. In 2006, DCR renovated and reopened the swimming pool and bathhouse.

DCR expects to award a contract for the rink repairs and rehabilitation work in March, and complete the project in the summer of 2010.

For more information on the project, or to register your concerns or suggestions, send an email to [dcr.updates@state.ma.us](mailto:dcr.updates@state.ma.us) with "Cass Facility" in the subject line.

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*The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), an agency of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, oversees 450,000 acres of parks and forests, beaches, bike trails, watersheds, dams, and parkways. Led by Commissioner Richard K. Sullivan Jr., the agency's mission is to protect, promote, and enhance our common wealth of natural, cultural, and recreational resources. To learn more about DCR, our facilities, and our programs, please visit [www.mass.gov/dcr](http://www.mass.gov/dcr). Contact us at [mass.parks@state.ma.us](mailto:mass.parks@state.ma.us).*