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LHAND development on Fayette Street first of many planned projects

By Thor Jourgensen / The Daily Item

LYNN - Five homes that the Housing Authority and Neighborhood Development plans to build on Fayette Street top a list of a dozen projects under way or planned in local neighborhoods.

Foundations for the 145 Fayette St. project will be poured by Labor Day and construction will take place during the fall and winter, Authority Director Charles Gaeta said. The homes should be totally completed by next spring.

"This is certainly one of the more challenging initiatives undertaken by the Housing Authority but it is going to make a big difference," Gaeta said.

The houses are planned for construction on the former Sgt. Robert D. Gautreau Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6535 site next to a community garden, the Ingalls School and two foreclosed homes on Daniel Place recently cleaned up with the Authority's help.

A neighborhood cleanup removed 24 tons of trash from lots around the construction site and housing officials brought in a city of Boston rodent expert to offer advice on getting rid of rats in the Ingalls and Fayette Street area.

"There is a huge problem and a lot of it is enforcement," Gaeta said.

In a June 10 letter to Gaeta, Ingalls Principal Kimberlee Powers stated the Fayette project will have "a positive impact in cleaning up our surroundings and helping to instill a renewed pride."

The Fayette houses are among several small-scale residential construction projects the Authority is building, including a single-family home on 160 Essex St., a duplex constructed at 42-44 Jackson St. and two homes purchased and renovated at 42 Chatham St.

The Authority has also purchased a home at 5 Ames St, which will be renovated using state money. Once the work is done, the home will be sold to a first-time home buyer.



The extreme pileup of two Lynn police cruisers at the corner of Chestnut Street and Western Avenue on July 12, 2008. Item file photo

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