FINDING A LOCATION

Different types of businesses are allowed “by right” (without having to get special permission) in different sections of the City, based on the Zoning Ordinance. If the location where you’d like to be isn’t zoned for your type of business, you may apply for a special permit or a variance to do business there (neither of these is guaranteed so make sure your lease is contingent on obtaining the required approval).

THINGS TO CONSIDER

- Would special requirements be accommodated? (ie, deliveries, trash removal)
- Is ample parking available for you, your employees and your customers?
- Does the neighborhood have the features that your type of business might need / want?
- How quickly do you want to open? The extent of renovations or permits needed may impact your decision
- If leasing, have a complete understanding of what your landlord expects you to pay for to renovate and/or maintain the building before you sign the lease as these may impact your business plan
- Get an estimate of build-out costs – and double them!

BEFORE SIGNING A LEASE or BUYING A BUILDING:

Visit Denise and/or the Building Commissioner and verify that your location is zoned for the type of business you want to operate. If not, understand the permit / variance process and next steps.

KEY CONTACTS and RESOURCES

STEVE FREDERICKSON, Building Commissioner
978.921.6025 or sfrederickson@beverlyma.gov
Located at GAR Hall at 8 Dane Street
Mon-Wed: 7-3, Thurs: 7-6 and Fri: 7-11:30
Zoning map located online at