79GROVE STREET MELROSE | 02176

RF/MAX LEADING EDGE







LIST PRICE \$449,900

Evergreen Design Group, known for sophisticated luxury, is pleased to present this affordable yet trendy renovated townhouse in the heart of downtown Melrose. With a walk score of 89, leave the car in the driveway, lower your carbon footprint and enjoy Melrose's charming downtown. Bustling with restaurants, yoga & barre studios, chic boutiques, brimming with coffee shops (pun intended) and walkable to the train to Boston, this downtown locale can't be beat. Simply gorgeous, brand new kitchen boasting granite countertops, custom cabinetry and stainless appliances, dining peninsula with seating for 4 opens into the living room, providing the perfect blend of function and design. Two bedrooms and stunning new full bath on the second floor giving the feel of a single family home with the maintenance free lifestyle of a condo. Complete renovation; new windows, new maintenance free vinyl siding, completely re-wired electric. Finished lower level could be your new home office or home theater. Common outdoor space has been professionally landscaped and is an escape from the day to day. 2 car parking. Trendy and modern, yet classically detailed, this home is a score!

KIM IZZI

AGENT EXPERTISE TEAM 617.763.4034 Kimlzzi@LeadingEdgeAgents.com AgentExpertise.com

RE/MAX LEADING EDGE 536 Main Street, Melrose | 781.979.0100



79 GROVE STREET | MELROSE





Living Room	14x12	1st	HWF
Kitchen	18×11	1st	HWF
Master Bedroom	12x12	2nd	HWF
Bedroom	11x10	2nd	HWF
Bathroom	Full	2nd	Tile
Family Room	17×11	LL	w/w

Condo Fee Includes: Master Insurance, Landscaping, Exterior Maintenance, Snow Removal and Reserves

Style	Half-Duple	ex	AC	No	Condo Fee	\$175.25
			Heat	FHW BB Oil	Owner Occupied	New Conversion
Year Built	1955	II.	Hot Water	Off-System Oil		14ew Conversion
Year Converted	2018		Sump Pump	Yes	Condo % Interest	50%
	_		New WM	Yes	Storage	LL In-Unit
Rooms	5		Insulation	Unknown		Yes w/restrictions
Bedrooms	2		Electric	СВ	Condo Questionnaire	No
Bathrooms	1 = 141		Fenced Yard	Partial	Condo destronnare	110
Datilloonis			Sewer/Water	MWRA	Special Assessments	None
Living Area	1,005 sq/f	t I	School	Apply	Management Co.	Self-Managed
Color	Cream		Range	SS Electric	Assessed Value	Not Assessed Yet
Exterior	Vinyl		Dishwasher	Yes SS	1	
Roof	Asphalt	Approx. 2008	Disposal		Annual Tax	TBD
Foundation	Concrete		Disposai	Yes	Master Book/Page	Not Recorded Ve
Fireplace	No		Microwave	Yes SS	Those book rage	Not Recorded fet
Parking	2c Parking	Tandum	Laundry	LL Electric	Master Deed Date	TBD

Exclusions: See Inclusion/Exclusion Sheet. Disclosures: Currently assessed at \$455,300, tax fee split at \$2,579.28 per unit annual. Room measurements are estimated and vary between listing info & floor plans. The unit is developer-held, Buyer agrees to place 2 months of condo fees into the association account at closing and also reimburse the developer for prepaid Master Insurance. We ask that anyone who wants to make an offer read our letter on offers and home inspections (visit AgentExpertise.com). This home, like all of our properties, is being sold "as is". Buyers need to understand that a home inspection is not done so that buyers can ask sellers to compensate them for the perfect house, but to ensure that buyers know what problems they should expect to address during their ownership; make offers accordingly. We mean it and will negotiate for radon & active termites ONLY. Some lenders & pre-approvals are problematic; please contact us for reliable lenders. When making offers please attach RE/MAX Leading Edge Rider which states that only a mutually agreeable purchase and sale will act as a binding agreement and purchase is not contingent on the sale of any assets.

BUYER'S	INITIALS	
DOILKS	HHILIALS	

RE/MAX LEADING EDGE CONSUMER PROTECTION PLAN



Address 79 Grove Street, Melrose, MA 02176

This contract to purchase is expressly conditioned upon the execution of a mutually acceptable Purchase and Sale Agreement, in form and substance approved by both parties' attorneys, unless walved, which when agreed upon and signed, will become the contract between the parties. Until the expiration of this agreement, the parties will each make a good faith effort to achieve a mutually acceptable Purchase and Sale Agreement. Meanwhile, the seller will not accept another offer during the pendency of the Contract to Purchase. It is RE/MAX Leading Edge's policy not to release the executed Contract to Purchase if listing agent is not in possession of good faith deposit, fully executed lead paint disclosure (if built before 1978), fully executed Seller's Description of Property (if provided by seller), agency disclosure and satisfactory bank letter or verification of funds, if cash.

This RE/MAX Leading Edge Consumer Protection Plan shall be incorporated into the Purchase and Sale Agreement referred to herein. Time is of the essence.

Initial One:

The following shall be deemed added to the end of the paragraph contained in the Contract to Purchase regarding financing: The buyer acknowledges and agrees that Buyer's obligation to purchase the premises is not, in any way, contingent upon the sale of any of Buyer's assets. In the event that Buyer receives a mortgage commitment conditioned upon the sale of any of Buyer's assets or is denied financing because of Buyer's inability or failure to sell any assets, it is agreed that such conditional commitment or denial of financing, shall not, in any way, be deemed just cause for termination of this Contract and/or any subsequent Purchase and Sale Agreement and shall not entitle Buyer to a return of Buyer's deposit.

OR

This offer is contingent on the sale of Buyer's assets (Real Property or other)

The Buyer is urged to conduct independent investigations through his/her attorney, through town officials, such as tax assessors, zoning and building departments, and the Board of Health or through a home inspector, etc. to verify any such information, including but not limited to the age of the home or its components, square footage and borders of the house lot; square footage of the home, zoning type; condition and age of mechanical and electrical systems, annual taxes, condition of home, idiosyncrasies of the neighborhood abutting the home; past and present structural problems of the home including problems with the roof or basement; the title to the property, etc. Buyer understands that information provided by Broker is based on information supplied by others and Brokers do not have personal knowledge of the matters relayed.

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Parties agree to the following:

- The purchase and sale agreement will stipulate how oil will be adjusted by the parties, either by buyer reimbursing seller for remaining oil or seller gifting it to buyer at closing.
- All parties agree to deliver all requested information to lender no later than 10 business days prior
 to scheduled closing, unless another date will comply with lending and closing attorney policies
 which will be noted in the Purchase and Sale. (Utilities such as final municipal water, sewer,
 electrical and gas; rents, security deposit, 6D last month's rent; commission statement etc, if
 applicable).

applicable).			
• Complete if applicable: the cor	ndo or HOA fee is	\$175.25 per month and/or	r \$ per year.
 Complete if applicable: a port Agent's Firm by the Buyer in \$			
 No claim, counterclaim or cau required by Buyer's Lender & SELLER against BUYER or by this RE/MAX Leading Edge Pro- 	pursuant to TRID BUYER against S	regulations, shall be init	tiated or maintained by
BUYER	DATE	BUYER	DATE
100000000000000000000000000000000000000			
SELLER	DATE	SELLER	DATE
The firms involved are:			
Selling Firm: RE/MAX Leading Edge	<u>. 2 Mount Vernon S</u>	Street, Winchester MA 01890	MA License #9499
Agent Name: <u>Kim Izzi</u>	Ager	nt Email: <u>kimizzi@leadingedge</u> age	ents.com
Agent Phone: <u>617.763.4034</u>	Адел	nt RE License #: <u>9534736</u>	WHITE AND A STATE OF THE STATE
Buying Firm: Real Estate Firm	Addr	ress	RE License #
Agent Name:			

____Agent RE License #:_

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(To Be Used When RE/MAX Leading Edge Represents Both Seller and Buyer in the Transaction)

NOTICE OF AGENCY - check one

DESIGNATED A	GENCY: Broker pr	eviously gave notice o	f the potential for a designated
agency relationship with both i			
disclosed that a designated age			
buyer or seller, and with conse			
authorized to represent the oth			
Exclusive Listing Agreement (
Buyer). Broker now gives notice			
Broker represent both Buyer an	a Seller in connect	tion with the above nar	ned property.
			he potential for dual agency
relationship to occur in connec	ction with your re	al estate transaction.	That disclosure was contained
either in the Exclusive Listing	a Agreement (for	Seller) or in the Ex	clusive Buyer Representation
Agreement (for Buyer). You pre	viously gave your	consent to that relatio	nship. Broker now gives notice
that a dual agency has occurre	ed and that Broke	er and affiliated licens	ee represents both Buyer and
Seller in connection with the ab	ove named proper	ty. A dual agent is aut	horized to assist the Buyer and
Seller in a transaction, but sha	il be neutral with	regard to any conflic	ting Interest of the Buyer and
Seller. Consequently, a dual ag	jent will not have	the ability to satisfy	fully the duties of loyalty, full
disclosure, reasonable care an	d obedience to	lawful instructions, bu	it shall still owe the duty of
confidentiality of material inform	nation and the dut	y to account for funds	
	Y/Iv	n toni	
		n Izzi	
Signature (Seller's Agent)	Pri	nt Name	Date
Signature (Buyer's Agent)	Pri	nt Name	Date
			1. 11. 11. 11. 11. 11. 11. 11. 11. 11.
Ph. 1 1 / P. Ph.			
BUYER	5h. x 44 ya	<u> </u>	
	DATE	BUYER	DATE
	DATE	BUYER	DATE
	DATE	BUYER	DATE
SELLER	DATE	BUYER SELLER	DATE

RE/MAX

LEADING EDGE

PROPERTY TRANSFER NOTIFICATION CERTIFICATION

This form is to be signed by the prospective purchaser before signing a purchase and sale agreement or a memorandum of agreement, or by the lessee-prospective purchaser before signing a lease with an option to purchase for residential property built before 1978, for compliance with federal and Massachusetts lead-based paint disclosure requirements.

Required Federal Lead Warning Statement:

Every purchaser of any interest in residential property on which a residential dwelling was built prior to 1978 is notified that such property may present exposure to lead from lead-based paint that may place young children at risk of developing lead poisoning. Lead poisoning in young children may produce permanent neurological damage, including learning disabilities, reduced intelligence quotient, behavioral problems and impaired memory. Lead poisoning also poses a particular risk to pregnant women. The seller of any interest in residential real property is required to provide the buyer with any information on lead-based paint hazards from risk assessments or inspections in the seller's possession and notify the buyer of any known lead-based paint hazards. A risk assessment or inspection for possible lead-based paint hazards is recommended prior to purchase.

Kim Izzi	dotloop verified 04/03/18 4:16PM EDT ANR1-DZM7-RRTX-XK	W.	
urchaser	Date	Purchaser	Date
Grove Street, LLC Clifford G. Jon	es, Jr. Manager	T	Date
Clifford George Jones, Jr	Date	Seller	Date
provided is true and accurate.			owiedge, that the information they have
Certification of Accuracy The following parties have rev	iewed the information above an	d certify to the best of their kn	owledge, that the information they have
n the property.			
plaster, putty or other structure Law - either through full delea	l materials and his or her obliga- ding or interim control - if it wa	ations to bring a property into c s built before 1978 and a child	compliance with the Massachusetts Lead under six years old resides or will reside
h) Agent has verba	/her responsibility to ensure con ally informed purchaser or lessee	-purchaser of the possible prese	ence of dangerous levels of lead in paint
g) 04/03/18 Agent has infor	med the seller of the seller's obl	igations under federal and state	law for lead-based paint disclosure and
lead-based paint hazards. Agent's Acknowledgment	initial)	envision removemental bosoni umonominatorioni (2003) 59.000	→ The manufacture west of a fair that so for the state of the sound of the soun
(ii) waived the opp	nt and/or lead-based paint hazard portunity to conduct a risk as		presence of lead-based paint and/or
(i) received a 10-c	see purchaser has (check (i) or (i lay opportunity (or mutually ag	reed upon period) to conduct	a risk assessment or inspection for the
(e) Purchaser or les	see purchaser has received the P	roperty Transfer Lead Paint Not	ification.
(c) Purchaser or les (d) Purchaser or les	see purchaser has received copie see purchaser has received no de	es of all documents checked abo ocuments.	ve.
	chaser's Acknowledgment (i		
	ports or records pertaining to lea		
1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	g (check documents below). t; Risk Assessment Report	Letter of Interim Control	I etter of Compliance
	ded the purchaser with all availa	able records and reports pertaini	ng to lead-based paint and/or lead-base
	ble to the seller (check (i) or (ii)		





MASSACHUSETTS ASSOCIATION or REALTORS'

MASSACHUSETTS ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® SELLER'S STATEMENT OF PROPERTY CONDITION

THE SELLER AUTHORIZES THE BROKERS OR SALESPERSONS TO PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION TO PROSPECTIVE BUYERS. THIS INFORMATION IS BASED UPON THE SELLER'S KNOWLEDGE, BUT IS NOT INTENDED AS A GUARANTEE OF THE CONDITION OF THE PROPERTY OR THE CONTINUED SATISFACTORY OPERATION OF ANY SYSTEM.

THE BUYER SHOULD INDEPENDENTLY VERIFY ALL INFORMATION BEFORE PURCHASE.

	Property	y Address	77-79 Grove St., Melrose 02176
	ANSW	ERS	
YES	NO	UNKN	I. TITLE/ZONING/BUILDING INFORMATION
			1. Seller/Owner 77-79 Grove St., LLC Clifford G. Jones Jr., Manager How long owned?
50.0	335-554.	, To a series	1. Seller/Owner 77-79 Grove St., LLC Clifford G. Jones Jr., Manager How long owned? 2. How long occupied? Seller has never occupied property Approximate year built? 3. Have you been advised of any title problems or limitations (for example, deed restriction, lot line dispute, order of conditions)? If yes, please explain
			a) Do you know of any easement, common driveway, or right of way? If yes, please explain.
			Zoning classification of property (if known) Has your city/town issued a notice of any violation which is still outstanding? If yes, explain
			a) Have you been advised that the current use is nonconforming in any way? Explain
			6. Do you know of any variances or special permits? Explain
			7. During Seller's ownership, has work been done for which a permit was required? If yes, explain
\Box	H		a) Were permits obtained?
\exists			b) Was the work approved by inspector? c) Is there an outstanding notice of any building code violation? Yes
			8. Have you been informed that any part of the property is in a designated flood zone or wetlands? Explain.
			(See Flood Zone disclosure Page 4)
			9. Water drainage problems? Explain
YES	NO	UNKN	II. SYSTEM AND UTILITIES INFORMATION
			DO YOU KNOW OF ANY CURRENT PROBLEM WITH ANY SYSTEM LISTED BELOW? 10. Has there ever been an UNDERGROUND FUEL TANK? If yes, is it still in use?
			If not used, was it removed? (See Hazardous Materials Disclosure Page 4) 11. HEATING SYSTEM: Problems? Explain
			a) Identify any unheated room or area
			13. SEWAGE SYSTEM: Problems? Explain
			Type: Municipal Sewer Private If private, describe type of system: (cesspool, septic tank, etc.)
			During your ownership has sewage backed up into house or onto yard? Yes No Explain
			Is system shared with other homes? Date a Title 5 inspection last performed Copy attached. Yes No
SELLE	R'S INIT		OS/19/18 BUYER'S INITIALS 1 of 4

MASSFORMS**
Statewide Standard Real Estate Forms

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ANS	WERS	
		14. PLUMBING SYSTEM: Problems/Leaks/Freezing? Explain
		Bathroom ventilation problems? Explain
8	3 8	a) Location b) Date last tested Report: Attached Not attached c) Water quality problems? Explain d) Water quantity problems? Explain e) Flow rate (gal, min.)
8	3 8	t) Age of pump g) Is there a filtration system? Age/Type of filtration system 16. ELECTRICAL SYSTEM: Problems? Explain
		17. APPLIANCES: List appliances that are included Any known problems? If yes, explain . 18. SECURITY SYSTEM: None Type Age Company Problems? Explain 19. AIR CONDITIONING: Central Window Other None Problems? Explain .
YES NO		III. BUILDING/STRUCTURAL IMPROVEMENTS INFORMATION 20. FOUNDATION/SLAB: Problems? Explain 21. BASEMENT: Water Scepage Dampness Explain amount, frequency, and location a) Sump pump? If yes, age, location Problems? 22. ROOF: Problems? Explain Location of leaks/repairs 23. CHIMNEY/FIREPLACE: Date last cleaned Problems? Wood/Coal/Pellet Stove in compliance with installation regulations/code/bylaws?
		If not, explain
] [25. FLOORS: Type of floors under carpet/linoleum?
		26. WALLS: a) INTERIOR Walls: Problems? Explain b) EXTERIOR Walls: Problems? Explain. 27. WINDOWS/SLIDING DOORS/DOORS: Problems or leaks? Explain. 28. INSULATION: Does house have insulation? If yes, type Date installed Location 29. ASBESTOS: Do you know whether asbestos is present in exterior shingles, pipecovering or boiler insulation? Has a fiber count been performed? If yes, attach copy
		(See Asbestos disclosure Page 4) 30. LEAD PAINT: Is lead paint present?
		If yes, locations (attach copy of inspection reports) If yes, describe abatement plan/interim controls, if any Has paint been encapsulated? If yes, when and by whom? (See Lead Paint disclosure Page 4) 31. RADON: Has test for radon been performed? If yes, attach copy (See Radon disclosure Page 4) 32. INSECTS: History of Termites/Wood Destroying Insects or Rodent Problems? If yes, explain treatment and dates
SELLER'S II	NITIALS _	(See Chlordane disclosure Page 4) OSFO9/18 BUYER'S INITIALS 2 of 4

MASSFORMS"
Statewide Standard Real Estate Forms

<u>ANSWERS</u>	
33. SWIMMING POOL/JACUZZI: Problems? Explain	
Name of service company 34. GARAGE/SHED/OR OTHER STRUCTURE: Problems, explain	
35. Have you been advised of elevated levels of mold at the Property?	
YES NO UNKN IV. MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION	
36. Do you know of any other problem which may affect the value or use of the property which may not be obvious Explain	ous to a prospective buyer?
YES NO UNKN V. CONDOMINIUM INFORMATION 37. If converted to condominium, are documents recorded (Master deed/Unit deed etc.)?	
37. If converted to condominium, arc documents recorded (Master deed/Unit deed etc.)? 38. PARKING: Number of Spaces Of those spaces, identify number that are deeded; assigned; Unassigned or in common area?	exclusive easements;
CONDO FEES: Current monthly fees for Unit are \$	
Heat included? Yes No Electricity included? Yes No	
40. RESERVE FUND: Has an advance payment been made to a condo reserve fund? If yes, how much \$	
41. CONDO ASSOC. INFO: Is owners' association currently involved in any litigation? If yes, explain	
42. Have you been advised of any matter which is likely to result in a special assessment or substantially in	crease condominium fees?
Explain	9011710997911 1739779±186401171HBBB1779594-1 \$46155090
YES NO UNKN VI. RENTAL PROPERTY INFORMATION	
43. NUMBER OF UNITS:	
If yes, was a permit for new/added unit obtained?	
Expiration date of each lease	
Is owner holding last month's rentsecurity deposit?	
If yes, has interest been paid? If security deposit held attach a copy of statements of condition. Attached Not attached Not attached 45. Is there any outstanding notice of any sanitary code violation? Yes	
VII. ACKNOWLEDGMENT	
Seller(s) hereby acknowledge that the information set forth above is true and accurate to the best of my (our) knowledge	ge, I (we) further agree
to defend and indemnify the broker(s) and any subagents for disclosure of any on the information contained herein. Seller(s) receipt of copy of Seller's Statement of Property Condition.	further acknowledge
Oliford George Jones, Gr. Manager OS/09/18 8:19AM EDT IXTO-AJAP-IMAR-380V Seller	
Date	
NO. 28	
Buyer/Prospective Buyer acknowledges receipt of Seller's Statement of Property Condition before purchase. Buy Broker has not verified the information herein and Buyer has been advised to verify information independently. BUYER is	er acknowledges that
representation, verbal or written, from any real estate broker or licensee concerning legal use. Any reference to the cat	egory (single family,
nulti-family, residential, commercial) or the use of this property in any advertisement or listing sheet, including the number of u	nits, number of rooms
or other classification is not a representation concerning legal use or compliance with zoning by-laws, building code, sanitary corrivate restrictions by the broker. The BUYER understands that if this information is important to BUYER, it is the duty of the E	SUYER to seek advice
from an attorney or written confirmation from the municipality.	
	=======================================
Date Buyer Buyer	
SELLER'S INITIALS 99 BUYER'S INITIALS L	
8:19AM EDT 3 of 4	
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VIII. EXPLANATORY MATERIAL

The following clauses are provided for descriptive purposes only. For detailed information, consult the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, or other appropriate agency, or your attorney.

A. Flood Hazard Insurance Disclosure Clause (Question #8)

The lender may require Flood Hazard Insurance as a condition of the mortgage loan if the lender determines that the property is in a flood hazard zone.

B. Hazardous Materials Disclosure Clause (Question #10)

In certain circumstances Massachusetts law can hold an owner of real estate liable to pay for the cost of removing hazardous or toxic materials from real estate and for damages resulting from the release of such materials, according to the Massachusetts Oil and Hazardous Material Release and Response Act, General Laws, Chapter 21E. The buyer acknowledges that he may have the property professionally inspected for the presence of, or the substantial likelihood of release of oil or hazardous material and such proof of inspection may be required as a prerequisite for financing the property.

C. Asbestos Disclosure Clause (Question #29)

The United States Consumer Product Safety Commission has maintained that asbestos materials are hazardous if they release separate fibers which can be inhaled. Asbestos is a common insulation material on heating pipes, boilers, and furnaces. It may also be present in certain types of floor and ceiling materials, shingles, plaster products, cements and other building materials. The buyer may have the property professionally inspected for the presence of asbestos and if repair or removal of asbestos is desired, proper safety guidelines must be observed.

D. Lead Paint Disclosure Clause (Question #30)

Whenever a child under six years of age resides in any residential premises in which any paint, plaster or other accessible material contains dangerous levels of lead, the owner is required by law, to remove all said paint, plaster or cover with appropriate materials so as to make it inaccessible to a child under six years of age. Consumption of lead is poisonous and may cause serious personal injury. Whenever such residential premises containing dangerous levels of lead undergoes a change of ownership, as a result, a child under six years of age will become a resident, the new owner is required by law to remove said paint, plaster cover or encapsulate it with appropriate materials so as to make it inaccessible to such child. Buyer should receive information pamphlet from Department of Public Health.

E. Radon Disclosure Clause (6

Radon is an odorless, colorless, tasteless gas produced naturally in the ground by the normal decay of uranium and radium. Radon can lead to the development of radioactive particles which can be inhaled. Studies indicate the result of extended exposure to high levels of radon may increase the risk of developing lung cancer.

F. Chlordane Disclosure Clause (Question #32)

Pesticide products containing chlordane were banned in Massachusetts on June 11, 1985, following a determination by the Department of Food and Agriculture that the use of chlordane may cause unreasonable adverse effects on the environment including risk of cancer. Although existing data does not conclusively prove that significant health effects have occurred as a direct result of chlordane use, the long-term potential health risks are such that is prudent public health policy, according to the Department, to eliminate the further introduction of chlordane into the environment.

G. Mold Information

Molds are naturally occurring organisms that exist both indoors and outdoors. More than 1000 different kinds of mold have been found in homes in the United States. Molds are fungi that reproduce by making spores. Spores are small and lightweight and able to travel through the air. Molds need moisture and food to grow and their growth is stimulated by warm, damp and humid conditions. Molds can use materials such as wood, paper, drywall and carpet as food sources. Reducing dampness indoors is often key to reducing the growth of mold. Depending on the level of mold, allergies, respiratory problems and other health consequences can be triggered in sensitive individuals. However, exposure to mold does not always result in health problems. As of July of 2002, U.S. governmental agencies reported that a determination had not been made what quantity of mold was acceptable in an indoor environment. For more information on mold, contact an engineer or other qualified mold inspector. Information may also be found at the web site for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, www.epa.gov.

H. Fair Housing Notice

It is unlawful to discriminate on the basis of race, color, religious creed, national origin, age, gender, sex, ancestry, marital status, veteran status, sexual orientation, disability, presence of a child, receipt of public assistance or other protected classification in the sale or rental of covered housing.







LETTER TO BUYERS AND SELLERS -

BEST PRACTICE FOR SMOOTH TRANSACTIONS

We ask parties to live by the golden rule when making or receiving an offer.

Treat the other side the way you would want to be treated.

Advice to sellers: if you receive an offer, respond to it in a timely manner. Work with the "bird in the hand." Buyers understandably get upset if they feel their offer is being leveraged for another offer that may or may not materialize. This alienates a potentially good buyer and gets negotiations off to a bad start.

Advice to buyers: make offers in good faith. If you find yourself in a position of multiple offers, or if you feel the only way to put a house under agreement when it is new to the market is to pay top price, then don't try to renegotiate the price after a home inspection. Only offer a price that you feel comfortable with and always assume that the house will need work and budget accordingly. All houses need work. Please be patient after submitting an offer. We often have to wait to get in touch with the seller who may need to talk to an attorney, spouse, partner or extended family. Expect a long delay if the seller is an estate or bank. We will do our best to explain the circumstances and respond to you as soon as we can. There are many reasons a response may not be immediately available – please try to understand. We know waiting can be anguishing.

The Purpose of a Home Inspection: Rules of the Road for Buyers and Sellers

Everyone needs to keep in mind that most of the housing stock we have in Greater Boston and surrounding communities is USED. The purpose of a home inspection is to inform a buyer about what he or she is buying, not to renegotiate the sale price of a property. When potential Buyers are MAKING AN OFFER THEY SHOULD BUDGET TO SPEND THEIR OWN FUNDS TOWARD THE REPAIRS SUGGESTED BY THE HOME INSPECTOR. It would not be unusual for that sum to add up to many thousands of dollars. We ask all buyers to take this into consideration when they make their offer so that they don't feel they overpaid if they discover things that need to be fixed in the house. No house is perfect no matter how well maintained. We as REALTORs have priced a property taking into consideration its location, size, configuration, number of rooms, bedrooms and bathrooms, lot size and general condition. Buyers are always taken by surprise by the costs of maintenance and repairs to a house and want to renegotiate the price after home inspection. We ask that you don't shop in a price range that stretches your household budget so much you cannot assume the maintenance of a house. Do you have access to thousands and thousands of dollars over the next 5-10 years to take care of the items your home inspector will inevitably find? If not, you may not be a good match for a used house. So, except for some very expensive item that needs immediate repair that you could never have known about without an inspection, we expect the buyer to assume the house and its issues at closing. That is normal. We keep hearing from buyers, "I knew I'd have to do some work, but I just can't afford to go forward without a price adjustment." So we ask you to take this very real issue into consideration now, before you make an offer on a house you can't afford.

STEPS TO ANTICATOWAY BEING BEING AND AN AN ACCOUNT	$\overline{}$	$\overline{}$
BUYER'S INITIALS		

RE/MAX LEADING EDGE

It is the job of all home inspectors to highlight maintenance issues, look for pests and insects, point out needed repairs, assess structural condition and scrutinize major systems like plumbing, electric, heat and roof. Every home inspection, even in the best maintained home, turns up multiple issues. Commonly we find that a chimney or wall needs re-pointing, that fireplaces aren't lined, (new building codes require linings - however old fireplaces are often triple bricked which may in fact be a better, but more expensive way to build a chimney than today's current code requires). It is not uncommon for some electrical wire to be loose or not properly boxed or for homes to have knob and tube wiring. Expect to have to upgrade electrical service; today's buyers have needs for computers and equipment that many of our sellers never faced. We see that ropes in windows are broken, that older kitchens and baths do not have GFI outlets and that lots of physical things that currently exist do not meet updated building codes. Our older housing stock has older waste pipes, water services, heating systems, roofs, exterior shingles and gutters, facia boards and plumbing. It is typical for roofs to be installed without vents, and insulation not to be in keeping with your home inspector's recommendations. Powder Post Beetles and termites have left their damage scars in virtually all basements in older homes. When a basement is finished, a home inspector will tell you that he can't determine what is going on in the sills and joists behind the covered walls, so take that into consideration now when you make your offer. We don't want you backing out of the deal later because you don't know what is covered up in the finished basement.

Another very common issue in our 19th C. homes is settling and sloping. Some home inspectors will sound the alarm of structural problems when floors tip. If you see tree trunk columns in the basement, know that a home inspector will suggest you put in steel columns in concrete footings (at about \$1500 apiece - the seller has lived without steel columns - so this is a buyer's expense - budget accordingly). Homeowners with slanting floors think it's part of the charm. If you don't want that charm, don't make an offer on a home with floors that aren't level. Buyers should not expect sellers to upgrade a house for them. Every buyer should expect most, if not all, of these things in our beautiful older housing stock.

We ask everyone to further understand that every home inspector has his own opinion as to the proper maintenance of a home. Please remember that the issues that are brought up by the home inspector have probably not been a concern to the current homeowner. (The house is functioning fine from their perspective and they may like their old fuses... and the corrosion on the pipe feeding the laundry has never leaked... they are used to the windows that won't stay up...they've been having fires in their fireplaces for years, ...etc.)

Please do not expect a seller to negotiate on something visible to the eye: tree roots uprooting sidewalks, tree limbs or trees too close to the house, cracked tile in the bathroom or cracked windows, rotting bulkhead doors, gutters that are broken or disconnected, etc. We expect that you have carefully seen the property and that problems that are in plain view have been taken into consideration when you make an offer. Also, expect a home inspector to recommend maintenance items like servicing the heating system or cleaning the gutters. The purpose of the home inspection is not to compensate a buyer for the perfect house, but to make them aware of the items they will need to address when they buy the home. Again, these are buyer's expenses and should be anticipated.

Just because a home inspector recommends a lightening rod, updated electrical system, vinyl siding, new storms and screens, GFI outlets or lining the chimney, does not mean that the seller should be responsible for these or any other improvements for the new buyer. (We have witnessed home inspectors recommending things that we feel would hurt the value of a property like vinyl siding in an area where natural siding has higher value!)

A significant sea change has occurred in the way pest control companies look at homes for pest problems, most notably termites. Until recently pest companies only recommended treatment if there were signs of active termites in the house. Today, many pest companies, concerned about liability, are recommending treatments for every home they inspect.

BUYER'S INITIALS		
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Rotting wood near the ground, termite activity in landscape timbers and under rocks near the foundation, and termite damage in porches and sills are common, and most companies are recommending treatment even if the damage is a century old. It is also the policy of many chemical companies not to distinguish between old and active termite damage. Further, it is the policy of many companies to always recommend treatment if there is any evidence of damage, past or present. Because it is evident that some termite or wood boring insect damage is present in almost every property that we list we would like to set a standard for negotiations. We believe it is a seller's responsibility to treat for termite damage if, and only if, termite mud tubes are found to be present in the structure of the main house or an attached garage or if there is evidence of "swarming". This is the industry standard for active termites. We also believe that all buyers who elect to have a pest inspection should be prepared to follow up on the recommended treatment of the pest control company after they purchase their house if mud tubes or swarming are not present. Sheds and detached garages are not considered the main house and are very attractive to pests. Buyers should be prepared to treat those structures when they purchase a home as normal home maintenance and not expect the seller to compensate them for such.

On occasion there are major issues which cannot be known to the buyer, or perhaps even the seller, without the more in-depth investigation usually done by a home inspector or specialist, (e.g. extensive termite damage). There is a possibility that such an issue might require negotiating and/or repair. A cash settlement may be warranted so that work can be done to the satisfaction of the new owner.

ADVICE FOR BUYERS – if you want to make the terms of your offer more favorable to a seller you should agree to do your home inspection within three days of an accepted offer and sign a purchase and sale as soon thereafter as possible (7 days). Sellers cannot accept other offers while you have it under agreement, and they lose valuable marketing time not knowing whether or not their deal is solid. A deal is solid when there is a fully executed Purchase and Sale and if the bank has issued a commitment letter. Also, please disclose to the seller in writing if you will be using a government loan (FHA or VA) when you make your offer. Under no circumstance will the seller consider an offer contingent on the closing of the buyer's property. Every transaction has inherent risk for both parties. A buyer who attempts to eliminate all risk on their end creates high risk for the seller which is simply unacceptable. A buyer cannot expect the seller to assume all the risk. Consult an experienced real estate attorney.

WARNING - It is our experience that many banks/mortgage companies are very eager for your loan and will promise you the moon but are having difficulty delivering on their promises. (Read: the loan you get at closing isn't the one you thought you were getting.) In addition to causing delays with some financing, there are a lot of bank/mortgage operations that are using attorneys, appraisers, surveyors and title examiners who do not complete their work in time to meet the financing deadline. Unfortunately, many buyers who are purchasing homes we have listed have experienced carelessness, oversights and ineptness with the bank they have chosen and are unable to close on time. New HUD regulations are wreaking havoc with closing on the contract date. The buyer's deposit (five percent of the sale price) is at risk if they are unable to perform or close on the date required by their contract. It is not unreasonable for the seller to want a large sum of money to agree to extend the closing in order to bridge their next purchase or to compensate them for not closing on time. We are happy to provide a long list of reliable lenders, but if a buyer chooses to work with someone else and the closing is delayed, we will consider the buyer forewarned, and will be less likely to be sympathetic when trouble arises from a bank that is not on our list of reliable lenders. Buyers can also request that a local attorney be used to do the conveyancing which tends to streamline the process. Buyers may, of course, use the bank of their choosing but it is our goal for every transaction to go smoothly. We have learned that the people we rely upon will do a good job for their clients, the buyer (s). This warning is simply to prevent any misery in the buyer's life. We would be glad to furnish names of people who wish they had taken this advice.

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GROSS INTERNAL AREA FLOOR 2: 410 sq ft FLOOR 2: 410 sq ft FLOOR 2: 410 sq ft FLOOR 3: 400 sq ft FLOOR 3: 410 sq ft TOTAL: 1206 sq ft

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