

## **Community Rowing Breaks Ground for New Boathouse**

On Tuesday, May 22, 2007, Community Rowing held the groundbreaking ceremony for its new public access boathouse. Senator Steven A. Tolman (D-Brighton) was the Master of Ceremonies. Representatives Kevin Honan (D-Brighton) and Michael Moran (D-Brighton) and City Councilor Steve Murphy were also in attendance. A tent reception attended by more than 300 CRI members and supporters followed the event.

Of the ten boathouses dedicated to rowing along the Charles River, Community Rowing's new facility will be the only one committed to the general public, youth and adults with disabilities, and individuals from underserved communities. The project was initiated in 2004, and since that time, CRI has raised more than \$10 million. Construction of the new facility will begin later this month.

In addition to providing a permanent home for public rowing and increased public access on the Charles River, the new boathouse will enable CRI to fully realize its programmatic goals:

- To significantly enhance its adaptive programming by offering equipment and classes to individuals with disabilities who cannot currently access the river;
- To expand current outreach activities to increase the number of children recruited through Boston Public Schools and community centers;
- To strengthen the academic component to G-ROW (Girls Row) BOSTON by building a classroom in the new boathouse for year round tutoring and academic support.

Community Rowing, Inc. was founded in 1985 by a group of Olympic and world class rowers, whose vision was to involve a racially and economically diverse group of people with a wide range of physical abilities and disabilities in the Olympic rowing discipline that develops fitness, dedication, and teamwork.

Today, CRI is a thriving 501(C)(3) non-profit organization with nearly 30 programs, a fleet of over 75 sweep and sculling shells and an annual operating budget of almost \$1 million. With more than 1,500 members each year, CRI has grown into one of the largest and most successful community rowing organizations in the country.

Please see Campaign Page on Website for more details.