



## Six takeaways as the 2026 FIFA World Cup quarterfinals begin

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# The Newport Daily News

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This rendering shows the courtyard that will be in the center of the Bellevue Hotel in Newport.

PROVIDED BY CENTERBROOK ARCHITECTS

## Makeover on Bellevue

### A Newport parking lot gives way to a grand hotel, but not everyone is happy

**Wheeler Cowperthwaite**

Providence Journal  
USA TODAY NETWORK

What was once a stone villa on Bellevue Avenue in Newport that was torn down in 1957 for a shopping center parking lot is set to once again become a three-story luxury hotel.

Procaccianti Companies is doing site work for a three-story, 90-room luxury hotel in what is now the second parking lot of the Bellevue Gardens Shopping Center, home to CVS, a liquor store, a sushi restaurant and a furniture store.

Renderings for the building show a three-story mansion-like building that, with the windows illuminated in the evening, looks like something out of a Hallmark movie storyboard and is not out of place with the famed Newport mansions down the road.

The hotel is set to be open by the summer of 2028 at a "substantial" cost, which the developer declined to divulge, made more expensive by a large underground parking lot set to hold 175 vehicles.

The hotel project received its final approval from the City of Newport on

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Construction is underway on the Bellevue Hotel on Bellevue Avenue in Newport, seen June 24. DAVID DELPOIO/THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL

**"We really wanted to do something that pays respects to the city of Newport, the history of Newport, and do something that generations to come will be proud of."**

**Ralph Izzi**

Procaccianti Companies vice president of corporate marketing and public affairs

## \$7.7M in tax credits to spur 239 new jobs

### RI Commerce Corp. incentives to Raytheon, 2 other businesses

**Jack Perry**

Providence Journal  
USA TODAY NETWORK

The Rhode Island Commerce Corporation has awarded \$6.2 million in tax credits for Raytheon to create 150 jobs with an expansion of its Portsmouth facility.

The \$100 million expansion, started with a ceremonial groundbreaking in June, will enable the aerospace and defense manufacturer to increase its capacity to test a new radar system and make subcomponents for a missile defense system.

"Every new job and innovative idea brought to market strengthens our economy and creates new opportunities for Rhode Islanders," said Gov. Dan McKee, who is chairman of the commerce board. "By investing in companies like Raytheon that are expanding, creating good-paying jobs and developing the next generation of products, we're helping build a more competitive and resilient economy."

Raytheon will receive an estimated \$6,213,084 in tax credits over 10 years to create 150 jobs in Rhode Island, McKee said in announcing the credits on Tuesday, June 30. Raytheon currently employs 724 people.

"We are pleased to support Raytheon's significant expansion in our state," said Secretary of Commerce Stefan Pryor. "The expansion involves the testing of Raytheon's next-generation air and missile defense system as well as the production of missile sub-components. Thank you, Raytheon, for choosing Rhode Island."

The Qualified Jobs Incentive Program allows companies that create new positions or relocate jobs to the state to receive annual, redeemable tax credits for up to 10 years, with credits of up to \$7,500 per job per year, according to the commerce board.

The program has minimum job creation thresholds, starting with as few as 10, and the new jobs must meet or exceed specific wage thresholds to qualify for the maximum credit, the commerce board said.

Two other businesses were also

See **TAX CREDITS**, Page 3A

## Democrats eye replacement for Platner

### Maine Senate nominee weighs future after latest accusation

**Nick Penzenstadler and Margie Cullen**

USA TODAY NETWORK

Even as Senate nominee Graham Platner continued to "reflect on the best path forward" for Maine after he was accused of sexual assault, Democrats were considering his replacement.

The race is widely viewed as an opportunity for Democrats to pick up a seat

from GOP Sen. Susan Collins potentially flipping the chamber from Republican control.

According to state rules, Platner had until July 13 to withdraw and be replaced on statewide ballots. The Maine Democratic Party, which called on Platner to step aside, would be responsible for naming a replacement by July 27. The law does not provide for a specific mechanism.

Maine Democrats truly have "free rein" in selecting a replacement, said University of Maine political science professor Mark Brewer. Options include a caucus, internal election, pop-up con-

vention or more informal internal deliberations.

"They could have it be done by the party leadership, right? Classic old-style, smoke-filled room politics. I don't think they're going to do that, because the optics on that would be terrible," Brewer said. "They could have a party convention, which is more open, but maybe not as open as some folks would like. They could have a caucus," though time was tight.

Here are the top contenders to replace Platner:

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Maine Senate nominee Graham Platner, who was accused of sexual assault, has until July 13 to withdraw and be replaced on the state's ballots, according to state rules. The Maine Democratic Party, which has called on him to step aside, would then be responsible for naming a replacement by July 27.

CJ GUNTHER/GETTY IMAGES FILE

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