



**For Immediate Release
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**The Capital Grille restaurant to move to Hynes Convention Center
*Newbury Street staple to build larger restaurant with more amenities at corner of
Dalton & Boylston***

BOSTON – James E. Rooney, executive director of the Massachusetts Convention Center Authority, announced today that The Capital Grille restaurant, a staple of Boston’s fine dining scene for the past 20 years, will move from its current Newbury Street location to the John B. Hynes Veterans Memorial Convention Center in 2011.

The move to the nearby Hynes caps a momentous year for the state facility, which had been tasked with enhancing its revenue potential by creating two restaurant or retail spaces on either end of its Boylston Street corridor. The new restaurant will be located at the corner of Dalton and Boylston streets and will bookend the Hynes with two new world-class dining spots. Towne Stove and Spirits on the Prudential Plaza was opened earlier this year by local restaurateurs Lydia Shire, Jasper White and Patrick Lyons.

“In 2004, the MCCA was tasked with enhancing the economic performance of the Hynes, and we’ve now completed that task with this new lease with The Capital Grille,” said Rooney. “The move will not only create economic activity and jobs at a time when Boston needs them most, but it preserves this icon of the Boston restaurant scene and moves it just a short walk from the old location. We couldn’t be happier.”

The move offers several advantages to The Capital Grille. In addition to being just one block away from the previous site, the Hynes Center restaurant will be significantly larger (10,300 square feet compared to the current 5,500 square feet), with an outdoor patio, three private dining rooms with state-of-the-art conferencing technology, and a more spacious bar and lounge. In addition, the new restaurant will be open for lunch, which they aren’t able to do in the current location. The restaurant was unable to renew its lease at the old location.

Construction at the new Hynes site is expected to begin in January 2011 and the new restaurant is expected to open by summer. The Capital Grille on Newbury Street will continue to operate until the new restaurant is ready to open.

“While Newbury has been a great location for us over the last 20 years and in many ways it will be sad to say goodbye, we’re very excited about the move to Hynes Center, an iconic building in an area that’s a hub of downtown activity,” said John Martin, president of The Capital Grille. “And the fact that it’s just a block away from our current location means we won’t inconvenience our existing guests or employees.”

Founded in 1990 in Providence, R.I., The Capital Grille is a fine-dining restaurant known for its dry-aged steaks, fresh seafood, award-winning wine list and personalized, professional service in an atmosphere of relaxed elegance. Routinely recognized by *Wine Spectator* magazine, the brand recently received the American Culinary Federation’s “Achievement of Excellence Award” and was named one of the best restaurants in America by readers of *Consumer Reports* magazine.

The restaurant concept at the Hynes stems from recommendations made by the Hynes Convention Center and Boston Common Parking Garage Commission, which was established by the Massachusetts Legislature in 2004 to analyze the continued use of the Hynes as a convention facility. As a result of that legislative commission’s work, the MCCA prepared a study to evaluate the economic, physical and policy impacts of adding commercial, retail or restaurant uses to the Hynes to enhance its economic performance and improve its physical integration with the Back Bay. The lease with The Capital Grille culminates this effort.

About Massachusetts Convention Center Authority (MCCA)

The Massachusetts Convention Center Authority owns and oversees the operations of the Boston Convention & Exhibition Center, the John B. Hynes Veterans Memorial Convention Center, the MassMutual Center in Springfield, MA and the Boston Common Parking Garage. In 2009, the MCCA hosted 208 events at the BCEC and the Hynes with 714,128 attendees, generating 521,556 hotel room nights and \$420 million in economic impact for Greater Boston. The authority is currently examining a possible expansion, with more information available at www.t5boston.com.

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