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From left, state Director of Fair Housing Whitney Demetrius, with Lowell Mayor Erik Gitschier, state Rep. Vanna Howard, Northern Middlesex Council of Governments Executive Director Jennifer Raitt, state rep. Rodney Elliott and Community Teamwork CEO Carl Howell at the Greater Lowell fair housing listening session held at UTEC on Jan. 29, 2026. (Melanie Gilbert/Lowell Sun)





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A full house at the Greater Lowell fair housing listening session held at UTEC on Jan. 29, 2026. Lowell Mayor Erik Gitschier delivered the keynote address. (Melanie Gilbert/Lowell Sun)



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Community Organizer Destiny Maxam speaks during the Greater Lowell fair housing listening session held at UTEC on Jan. 29, 2026. (Melanie Gilbert/Lowell Sun)



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State Director of Fair Housing Whitney Demetrius introduces the Greater Lowell fair housing listening session held at UTEC on Jan. 29, 2026. (Melanie Gilbert/Lowell Sun)



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Exterior shot of UTEC's main building, located between Warren and Hurd streets in Downtown Lowell, as seen on April 8, 2025. (Melanie Gilbert/Lowell Sun)