PLAN: Charlestown

Advisory Group Meeting #4

April 27, 2022

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Welcome

Jason Ruggiero, Community Engagement Manager

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Meeting Recording

At the request of community members, this event will be recorded and posted on the PLAN: Charlestown project webpage at **http://bostonplans.org/PlanCharlestown** for those who are unable to attend the Zoom event live.

It is possible that participants may be recording the meeting with their phone cameras or other devices. If you do not wish to be recorded during the meeting, please turn off your microphone and camera.

If your camera and microphone are off, you can still participate through the text chat feature at the end of the presentation.

Note: These meetings are not subject to Open Meeting Law. Open Meeting Law also does not require that public bodies allow public comment or public participation during meetings.

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Zoom Tips

Welcome! Here are some tips on using Zoom for first-time users.
Your controls are at the bottom of the screen
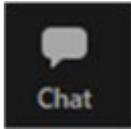
Use the chat to type a comment or ask a question at any time – Members of the PLAN: Charlestown team will enable the chat at the end.
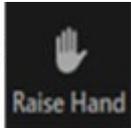
To raise your hand, click on "Participants" at the bottom of your screen, and then choose the "Raise Hand" option in the participant box
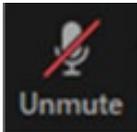
Mute/unmute – Participants will be muted during the presentation – the host will unmute you during discussion if you raise your hand and it is your turn to talk

Turns your video on/off

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Zoom Etiquette

- Please remain muted until called on. If you'd like to speak during this time please use the "Raise Hand" function in Zoom.

- The chat function will be enabled during the discussion agenda item. (In keeping with convention from in-person meetings.)

- Please be respectful of each other's time.

- We ask that participants limit their questions so that others may participate in the discussion. If you have more questions, please wait until all others attending have an opportunity to ask questions.

- If we are unable to get to your question at this meeting please put them in the Chat at the end or email **Jason.Ruggiero@boston.gov**

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Advisory Group Code of Conduct

- AG members should:
    - Act as ambassadors to the larger community
    - Treat all participants with respect
    - Listen actively; speak thoughtfully
    - Support all voices, so that all viewpoints may be heard
    - Actively participate in all PLAN: Charlestown events and encourage others to join

- The process encourages respectful dialogue among those with differing opinions

- Always be open to seeing the world from someone else's perspective

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For all meeting content:

http://www.bostonplans.org/plancharlestown

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Agenda

- PLAN: Charlestown Code of Conduct

- Walking Tours (dates, routes, meeting points, etc.)

- Discussion of scenario roll-out schedule

If you have a follow up item, please reach out to Jason Ruggiero (**Jason.Ruggiero@boston.gov**) and we will be in touch as soon as possible.

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PLAN Charlestown: Code of Conduct

Jason Ruggiero, Community Engagement Manager

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Code of Conduct
Questions sent ahead of time via email

- Do you think a code of conduct is needed? Do you have other suggestions on how to foster a more positive meeting space for all participants?

- What do you think constitutes "unacceptable behavior" in a public meeting?

- Is there behavior that should lead to someone being removed from a meeting? What about warnings? What about muting?

- Should questions or comments be limited to a specific time limit? For example, other public meetings sometimes limit speakers to 2 mins or 1 question to allow for everyone to voice their opinion.

- Should the chat during presentations be on or off? Remember, during in-person meetings, it's rude and distracting to talk amongst yourselves. Raising hands and asking questions is encouraged and perfectly acceptable.

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Code of Conduct

Do we need a code of conduct?

Yes, with concerns about enforcement.

-Many have suggested that yes, this is needed.

-"It can't hurt to have one, though you may have difficult time enforcing."

-"I very much support some kind of code of conduct and would welcome limiting speaking time."

"We do need a code of conduct, but we need enforcement of that to be fair, it's hard to do that, so hoping BPDA can establish rules that apply to all public meetings so the moderator isn't on their own."

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Code of Conduct

What is "unacceptable behavior"?

Grandstanding/ Speaking too long.

- "Threatening statements. Taking over the meeting and asking a series of questions. Grandstanding."

Threatening or negative written or verbal comments towards other participants, facilitator, or staff.

- "Directing negative comments at another attendee/speaker/facilitator, either in chat or when speaking. Another is speaker going on too long when s/he has been given time warning, especially when someone starts to get aggressive with facilitator.

- "Threats or derogatory speak about other community members should be kicked out. Get a ruling on what is possible.

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Code of Conduct

What are appropriate responses to "unacceptable behavior"?

Should someone be removed from a meeting? What about warnings? What about muting?

Generally, in favor of muting with warnings.

- "Yes [removal or muting in response to] disrespectful behavior or statements [or] talking over someone."

- "In general, BPDA staff shouldn't censor people they disagree with BUT...I think it is appropriate to mute people who are speaking over others (whether intentionally or just a hot mic)."

- "I don't think removing someone is wise. Muting them might be better. Begin with fair warning, e.g. that they will be muted in 10-15 seconds if they don't stop on their own....if all else fails, you have the magic mute button."

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Code of Conduct

Speaking time limit (such as 1-2 minutes)?

Interest in 2 minute rule with some flexibility to go over.

Mixed opinions on whether to allow back and forth.

- "...2 minutes is a reasonable limit and people should be warned when they hit that time and given 15 sec to wrap, and then at 2:20 be told they are getting muted. I don't think follow up back and forth is typically appropriate."

- "Yes. 2 minute limit to one question."

- "2-minute rule is challenging. Is it for speaker or does it include response? And should follow up/clarifying questions be allowed? To be too rigid might stifle interesting or informative discussion. Being mildly flexible is desirable, but reminding speakers who ask multiple questions upfront to ask one at time and if not directly related to original question, save additional questions til others have had their turn."

- "Either 1 question or 2 minute for speaker. Okay to say, 'I'm going to mute you now, two minutes are up.'"

Code of Conduct

Chat on or off? Only during presentations? Ever?

- "...just the AG members? I think [the chat] allows for more opportunities to comment and express opinions and not take up precious speaking time."

- "The chat is not a place to ask questions or make comments that require response in real time. Remind people that a presenter can't be expected to present AND read and respond at the same time."

Mixed responses.

- "..OFF honestly for this group. It's a cesspool of anxiety and negativity."

- "May be good idea to keep chat off during presentation and reopened at end. Chat can be distracting for everyone but it serves purpose, especially for those who find public speaking uncomfortable. Some rules might include limiting chat to questions/comments about presentation and that other types of comments/questions may be deleted, at staff's discretion."

- "open up the Q&A module at short breaks for people to ask **clarifying** questions regarding the material. Chat should absolutely be off during presentations. It's a time to listen and learn, not make speeches or throw the meeting off-course.

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Draft Code of Conduct

Key items for group discussion are highlighted

- **Leave space for everyone to participate.** Please limit your speaking time to two-minutes or one question. Save your additional questions if there is time at the end when everyone has gone once. Those grandstanding will be warned and, after 10-15 seconds, muted.

- **Treat virtual meetings like in-person meetings.** Please turn on your camera when speaking, commenting, or asking a question, if comfortable. There is still one microphone. Do not speak over others.

- **Foster a welcoming and respectful meeting environment.** Please do not threaten, mock, or speak over others. Those who threaten participants or staff verbally or in private or public chats will be warned and muted.

- **Engage in discussions productively and in good faith.** The chat will be turned off until after a presentation is complete. Any comments or questions not related to the presentation will be deleted and ignored at staff discretion.

- *What about participants who are warned multiple times and ignore this code?*

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Walking Tours

Jason Ruggiero, Community Engagement Manager
Patricia Cafferky, Urban Designer

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Walking Tours Overview

- **Dates: May 14th & May 21st**
- **Time: 10am - 12pm**
- **Goals**:
  - Engage the community
  - Discuss community vision for the future of Charlestown
  - Discuss community assets
  - Build stronger relationships between residents and the PLAN: Charlestown team
  - Receive community feedback on handouts

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Walking Tour #1
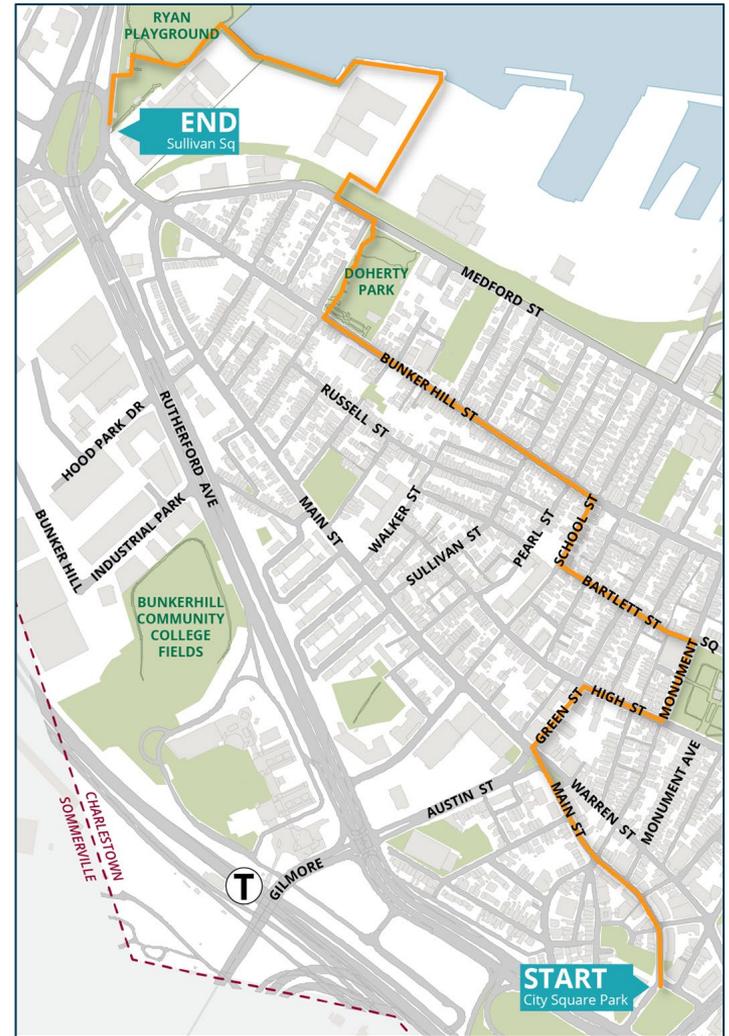*Industrial Area to Lost Village*

- **Date: May 14th @ 10am**
- **Start Point:** Community College T Stop
- **End Point:** Sullivan Square T Stop
- **Major Points of Interest:**
  - Bunker Hill Community College
  - Rutherford Ave
  - Hood Park + Hood Green
  - Roland Street Industrial Area
  - Lost Village Residential Area

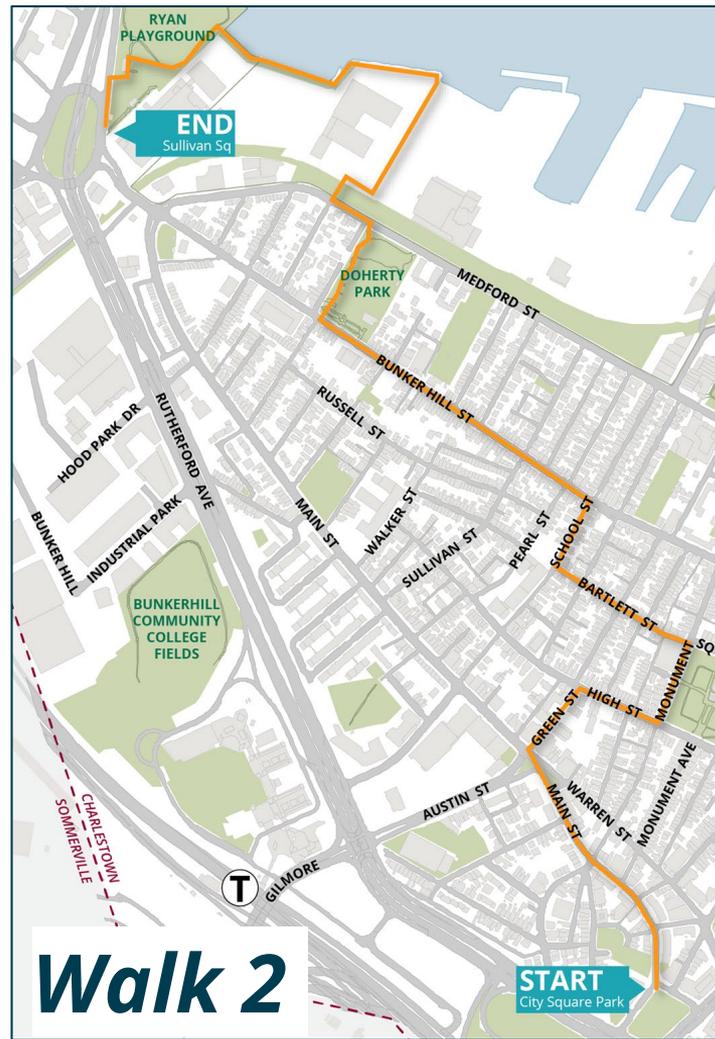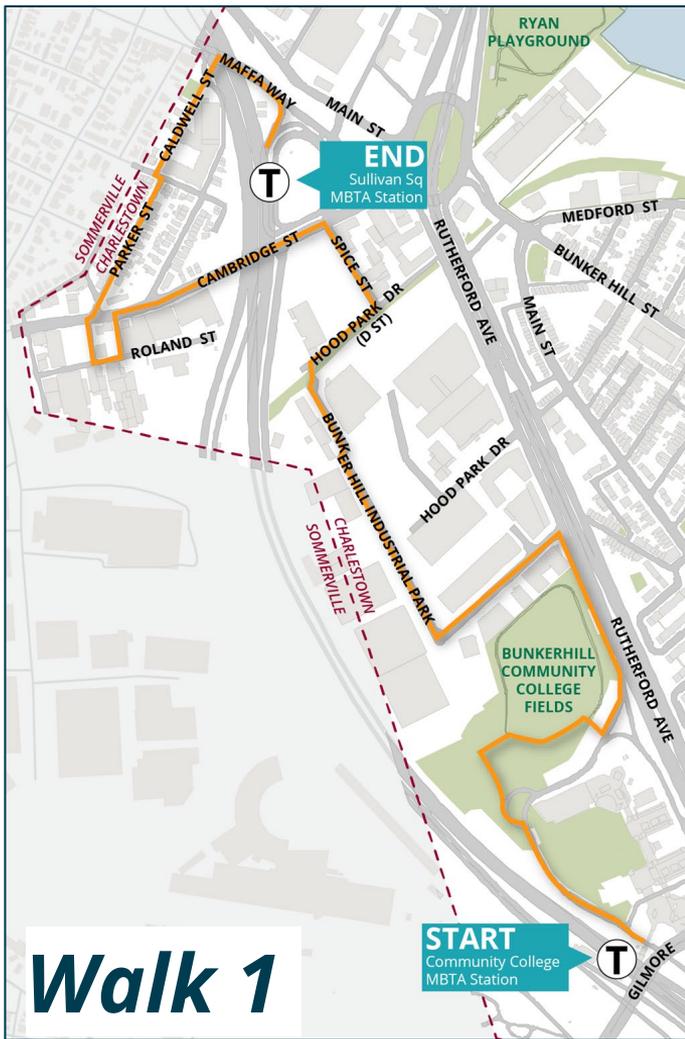boston planning &
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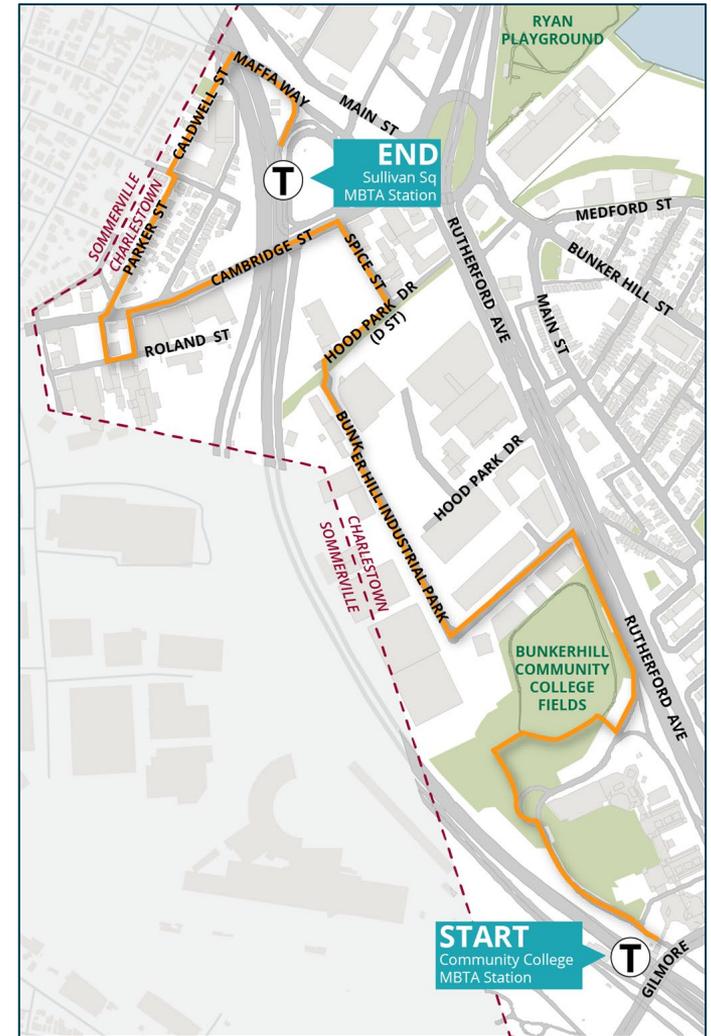
Walking Tour #2
Original Peninsula to Mystic River

- **Date/Time: May 21st @ 10am**
- **Start Point:** City Square
- **End Point:** Sullivan Square
- **Major Points of Interest:**
  - Bunker Hill Monument
  - Original Peninsula Residential Area
  - Doherty Park
  - Boston Harborwalk
  - Ryan Playground
  - Sullivan Square

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Comments?

Walk 1

START
Community College
MBTA Station

END
Sullivan Sq
MBTA Station

RYAN PLAYGROUND

MAFFA WAY

MAIN ST

CALDWELL ST

PARKER ST

SOMMERVILLE
CHARLESTOWN

CAMBRIDGE ST

SPICE ST

HOOD PARK DR
(D ST)

ROLAND ST

MEDFORD ST

RUTHERFORD AVE

MAIN ST

BUNKER HILL ST

HOOD PARK DR

BUNKER HILL INDUSTRIAL PARK

CHARLESTOWN
SOMMERVILLE

BUNKERHILL
COMMUNITY
COLLEGE
FIELDS

RUTHERFORD AVE

GILMORE

Walk 2

START
City Square Park

END
Sullivan Sq

RYAN PLAYGROUND

DOHERTY PARK

MEDFORD ST

BUNKER HILL ST

HOOD PARK DR

RUTHERFORD AVE

BUNKER HILL

INDUSTRIAL PARK

BUNKERHILL
COMMUNITY
COLLEGE
FIELDS

RUSSELL ST

MAIN ST

WALKER ST

SULLIVAN ST

PEARL ST

SCHOOL ST

BARTLETT ST

SQ

MONUMENT

GREEN ST

HIGH ST

AUSTIN ST

WARREN ST

MAIN ST

MONUMENT AVE

CHARLESTOWN
SOMMERVILLE

GILMORE

Discussion of Scenario Roll-out

Jenn Emiko Kaplan, Planner

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Scenarios - what & why

Proposes **two** land use scenarios for Sullivan Square and Rutherford that depict different **land use and density mixes** while also **expanding open space and mobility networks**.

These draft scenarios have been informed by your feedback from other workshops, existing conditions, and current developments in the pipeline.

We will be discussing the community priorities and tradeoffs for different uses and density.

Do these scenarios align with your vision for this part of the neighborhood?
     a.   **If so, what works?**
     b.   **If not, what would you change?**

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Dates to hold

- **May 14th at 10 am - Walking Tour #1** *(Industrial Area to Lost Village)*

- **May 21st at 10 am - Walking Tour #2** *(Original Peninsula to Mystic River)*

- **June 15th at 6 pm - AG Meeting #5**

  - Share additional information about the scenarios

  - Announce the launch of a live tool for gathering community feedback

- **Mid-June to August 2022 - Community feedback on scenarios**

  - Live feedback from digital tool

  - Tabling at Community Meetings/Events, Listening Sessions

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