Request for Proposals

Parcel 8

Nubian Square, Roxbury, MA 02119
## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction &amp; Instructions</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property Description</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development Objectives and Design Guidelines</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submission Requirements</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evaluation of Proposals</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contract Terms and Conditions</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix A: Information Resources</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix B: Required Forms</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Introduction & Instructions

Purpose

The purpose of this Request for Proposals ("RFP") is to solicit proposals for the disposition and redevelopment of vacant land, consisting of two (2) parcels. The first parcel is identified as Assessor’s Parcel Number 08-02426-030 with an address of Washington Street ("SR-25"). The second parcel is identified as 08-02426-040 with an address of Harrison Avenue (the “City Parcel”). SR-25 is currently under the care, custody, and control of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' Department of Conservation and Recreation ("DCR"), and the City Parcel is currently under the care, custody, and control of the City of Boston’s Department of Neighborhood Development ("DND"). Together, SR-25 and the City Parcel total approximately 47,333 square feet (the “Proposed Property Site”). The Proposed Property Site fronts Melnea Cass Boulevard and is located on a block bounded by Washington Street, Eustis Street and Harrison Avenue in the Roxbury neighborhood of Boston.

The Boston Redevelopment Authority, doing business as Boston Planning & Development Agency ("BPDA"), is hereby issuing this RFP in conformance with and pursuant to legislation enacted in 2014 by the Massachusetts General Court through Chapter 281 of the Acts of 2014, An Act Authorizing the Transfer of a Parcel of Land from the Department of Conservation and Recreation to the Boston Redevelopment Authority and the City of Boston (the “Act”), a copy of which is included in Appendix A of this RFP. The Act permits the transfer of
SR-25 from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (“Commonwealth”) to the BPDA and requires, among other things, that an approximately 8,626 square feet portion of SR-25 located on the corner of Washington Street and Melnea Cass Boulevard (the “Park”), be redeveloped as a public park, subject to preservation and conservation restrictions, to be conveyed to the City of Boston Conservation Commission. The restrictions are in substantially final form, and are included in Appendix A of this RFP. More specifically, in accordance with the Act, the public park shall not disturb any archaeology, shall include appropriate interpretation of the historic former uses of the site and shall serve as a gateway to the Roxbury community.

The BPDA will consider conveying the Proposed Property Site in order to allow the development of mixed use consisting of residential housing with ground floor commercial and/or retail use. Proposals will be subject to review and approval by the BPDA, including applicable planning and zoning controls, and the development objectives and guidelines described herein, as well as review and approval by City of Boston agencies.

Proposals must meet all minimum evaluation criteria, complete the enclosed proposal form and price summary form, and include all required documents. In accordance with the Act, any development or other improvement on SR-25 shall delineate and preserve the northeast corner of the parcel the Park. The Park shall not disturb any archaeology, shall include appropriate interpretation of the historic former uses of the site and shall serve as a gateway to the Roxbury community. Further, the Park design shall be subject to the approval of DCR and the Boston Parks and Recreation Department (“BPRD”). The Park shall be constructed, operated, maintained and repaired at the sole cost of the selected Proponent, the Park shall be subject to the rules and regulations of the City of Boston (“City”), as approved by DCR, and the Park shall be open to the general public.

The BPDA has attempted to be as accurate as possible in this RFP, but is not responsible for any unintentional errors herein. No statement in this RFP shall imply a guarantee or commitment on the part of the BPDA as to
potential relief from state, federal or local regulation. The BPDA reserves the right to cancel this RFP at any time until proposals are opened or reject all proposals after the proposals are opened if it determines that it is in the best interest of the BPDA to do so. The BPDA reserves the right to waive any minor informalities.

It should be further noted the BPDA makes no warranty or representations as to title for the Proposed Property Site and recommends that Proponents conduct their own title examinations. Additionally, the BPDA offers the Proposed Project Site in “as is” condition.

**Instructions**

The RFP will be available for download beginning on February 26, 2020 on the BPDA website at bit.ly/PlanNubian and the [BPDA Procurement Webpage](https://www.boston.gov/BusinessAndDevelopment/Procurement/). Proponents must register when downloading the RFP to ensure they receive any addendums. Requests for clarification or any questions concerning the RFP must be submitted in writing to:

Morgan McDaniel, Real Estate Development Officer  
Boston Planning & Development Agency (BPDA)  
One City Hall Square  
Boston, MA 02210  
morgan.e.mcdaniel@boston.gov

The BPDA will not respond to any requests for clarification or questions concerning the RFP received after **May 13, 2020**. With any request for clarification or question, proponents must include their name, address, telephone number and email address. An addendum with questions and answers will be emailed to all prospective responders on record and posted on the BPDA website no later than five business days prior to the RFP deadline.

A pre-proposal conference will be held on March 10, 2020 at 10:00 AM at the Bruce C. Bolling Municipal Building, 2nd Floor School Committee Room, 2300
Washington St, Roxbury. Attendance at the pre-proposal conference is optional. However, all proponents are strongly encouraged to attend. A site tour will follow the pre-proposal conference.

There is a fee of One Hundred Dollars ($100.00) to submit a response to the RFP, which check should be made payable to the Boston Redevelopment Authority.

Eight (8) sealed copies of the Development Submission and Disclosures (as defined in the Submission Requirements Section) are required. The Design Submission shall include: one (1) full set of reduced drawings in an 8 1/2" x 11" format; one (1) set of the drawings at full scale; and one (1) set of drawings mounted on boards, no smaller than 30"x 40" in presentation form. The Development and Design Submissions must also be submitted on a flash drive.

Three (3) sealed copies and one (1) original of the Financial Submission must be provided separately from the Development Submission and Disclosures and Design Submission. The Financial Submission must also be submitted on a flash drive. Proposals must be submitted no later than May 27, 2020 at 12:00 pm (noon) to:

Teresa Polhemus  
Executive Director/Secretary  
Boston Planning & Development Agency  
Room 910  
Boston City Hall  
One City Hall Square  
Boston, MA 02201

**No late proposals will be accepted.** Any proposals received after the date and time specified in this RFP will be rejected as non-responsive, and not considered for evaluation.
### Property Description

#### Site Description

The Proposed Property Site consists of approximately 47,333 square feet of vacant land fronting on Melnea Cass Boulevard on a block bounded by Washington Street, Eustis Street and Harrison Avenue. This block also includes the historic Owen Nawn Factory building and adjacent land, the Eliot Burying Ground and Eustis Street Firehouse at 20 Eustis Street, and the privately-owned Harrison Supply Company building which occupies the Harrison Avenue and Eustis Street corner of the block. The Harrison Supply Company building was recently acquired by the Benjamin Franklin Institute of Technology. Located to the west is Madison Tropical Foods and the Melnea Hotel and Residences. The Boston Water and Sewer Commission headquarters and the Morgan Memorial Goodwill Industries building are located to the north and east, respectively.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Parcel ID Number</th>
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<th>Survey ID #</th>
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<td>Harrison Ave.</td>
<td>9,068</td>
<td>38-1-c</td>
<td>City of Boston</td>
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<tr>
<td>0802426030</td>
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<td>38,265</td>
<td>SR-25</td>
<td>DCR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
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The Proposed Property Site is formed by an assemblage of the City Parcel and SR-25 shown on the survey attached hereto in Appendix A (the “Plan”).
SR-25, as described on the Plan, is currently owned by the Commonwealth. Parcel 38-1-C as shown on the Plan (the “City Parcel”) is currently owned by the City of Boston (the “City”). At closing, the BPDA will acquire SR-25 from the Commonwealth, acting by its Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (“DCAMM”), and the City Parcel from the City and simultaneously thereafter convey the Proposed Property Site to the selected Proponent.

**Explanation of Mandated Disposition Transaction**

As authorized by the Act, the BPDA anticipates that the Commonwealth will convey SR-25 to the BPDA. At the same time, the City of Boston will convey the City Parcel to BPDA; thereafter, the Proposed Property Site will be conveyed to the selected Proponent. This conveyance is subject to a number of requirements set forth as follows:

1. To ensure a no-net-loss of lands protected for natural resource purposes, the Act requires that the consideration for SR-25 shall be the full and fair market value for SR-25, as established by an independent professional appraisal commissioned by DCAMM and prepared by a professional appraiser licensed by the Commonwealth. The appraisal commissioned by DCAMM and dated October 15, 2018 (the “Appraisal”) set the full and fair market value SR-25 at $5,010,000 (the “Consideration”). Accordingly, the selected Proponent’s offer price must equal or exceed the Consideration. The Consideration shall be due upon conveyance of SR-25 from the BPDA to the Proponent.

2. As required by Section 5 of the Act, certain areas of the Proposed Property Site as shown on the Plan will be conveyed subject to a Preservation Restriction retained in the deed in the form included in Appendix A. The Preservation Restriction will be held by the Massachusetts Historical Commission (“MHC”). In addition, the same area of the Proposed Property Site shown on the Plan will be conveyed subject to a Conservation Restriction in the form included in Appendix
A. These forms are in substantially final form and have been reviewed by the BPDA, DCAMM, MHC, DND, and the City Conservation Commission.

3. SR-25 will be conveyed by DCAMM, in consultation with DCR, to the BPDA subject to a requirement that the developer of SR-25 construct and perpetually maintain a public park on an 8,626 square feet portion of the parcel, as shown in the Plan. The Appraisal reflects this requirement; no further credit related to this requirements will be made against the Consideration. The requirements for the Park will be agreed upon by the BPDA (with input from the City of Boston Parks & Recreation Department, Boston Conservation Commission and Boston Landmarks Commission) and DCR and with input from MHC. The requirements are also discussed in Section 03 of this RFP and in the Preservation Restriction included in Appendix A.

4. The conveyance from the Commonwealth to the BPDA requires compliance with the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act, G.L. c. 30, §§ 61-62I and its implementing regulations at 301 CMR 11.00 (“MEPA”). MEPA requires the filing of an Environmental Notification Form (“ENF”) for the proposed “land transfer” of SR-25 and, if the Secretary of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (“EOEEA”) so requires, an Environmental Impact Report (“EIR”). The selected Proponent will be required to complete and submit the ENF and complete the MEPA process prior to the closing on any transfer of the Proposed Property Site. Accordingly, the filing of the ENF will occur prior to DCAMM’s transfer of SR-25 and as part of the BPDA’s Article 80 project review process. The BPDA will require that the selected Proponent complete and submit an ENF and, if required, EIR to EOEEA, and complete the MEPA process. As part of the MEPA process, DCR’s Section 61 Finding under MEPA will confirm that the required Consideration will be received by DCR at the closing on SR-25 and used by DCR for improvements to Roxbury Heritage State Park. The Secretary’s MEPA Certificate on the ENF (or, as applicable, EIR) also is
expected to make the receipt and use of the Consideration a project mitigation condition for the conveyance of SR-25 consistent with the Act and the EOEEA Article 97 Land Disposition Policy.

5. The conveyance of SR-25 is subject to the negotiation of a successful LDA with the Commonwealth. If the conveyance does not occur on or before October 15, 2022, then DCAMM may adjust the Consideration if DCAMM determines that it is necessary and appropriate to do so, taking into consideration changes in property values, the timing of the payment, and any credits agreed to between the parties as permitted by the Act.

6. The City's reserved right not to convey the City-owned Harrison Ave. Parcel to the BPDA if the City determines that it is not in the best interest of the City to do so. Any conveyance of the City-owned Harrison Ave. Parcel to the BPDA shall be subject to a Public Facilities Commission vote, and any other further approval as the City may require to effectuate the transfer to the BPDA.

Planning and Zoning Context

The neighborhood has been the subject of several extensive planning initiatives, including the Roxbury Strategic Master Plan, Dudley Vision, the Roxbury Heritage State Park Master Plan, and most recently, PLAN: Nubian Square, formerly known as PLAN: Dudley Square. Proponents should familiarize themselves with these documents and prepare their proposals based upon the principles discussed therein.

For zoning purposes, the Proposed Property Site is part of the Roxbury Heritage State Park Community Facilities zoning district and Eustis Street Protection Area as shown on Map 6A-6C of the Boston Zoning Maps in the Roxbury District, and therefore is principally governed by the provisions of Article 50 of the Boston Zoning Code ("Code").
As a result of its location in the Eustis Street Protection Area for the Eustis Street Architectural Conservation District, the selected proponent will be subject to Architectural Conservation District guidelines and oversight by the Boston Landmarks Commission. The Proposed Property Site is within 100 feet of protected open space and requires approval of the Boston Parks and Recreation Commission prior to the issuance of building permits, per the City of Boston Municipal Code Section 7-4.11.

The Proposed Property Site is also located within a Boulevard Planning District ("BPD") with overlays to underlying sub-districts. Within BPDs, special design review requirements and design guidelines apply as set forth in Subsection 50-38.1, Section 50-39, and Section 50-40; and screening and buffering requirements apply as set forth in Section 50-41.

The Code and maps can be found at www.bostonplans.org/zoning. Zoning relief may be required to achieve the requirements of this RFP.
Development Objectives and Design Guidelines

Development Objectives
After careful analysis of the Proposed Property Site, the BPDA and DND, in collaboration with neighborhood residents and the Roxbury Strategic Master Plan Oversight Committee (the “RSMPOC”), have established development objectives for the Proposed Property Site.

The Proponent must address the development objectives below in a development concept narrative, construction description narrative, and design documents as appropriate. Further, the Proponent must agree to work with the BPDA and the community to resolve any future issues or concerns that may arise as the development project moves forward.

Conservation and Preservation Requirements for the Park.
DCR envisions a passive park with minimal hardscape that functions as a gateway to Nubian Square historical interpretive installations. Proponents must include detailed plans for the Park as well as outline how they will: a) comply with the mandatory obligation to construct, operate, maintain, and repair the Park; and b) comply with the mandatory conservation and preservation restrictions that will encumber the Park portion of SR-25. The design of the Park is subject to review and approval by DCR and BPRD.
The following guidelines should be used for design of the Park. The Park should:

- Serve as a Gateway to the Nubian Square neighborhood,
- Incorporate relevant findings in the Roxbury Heritage State Park Master Plan (Appendix A)
- Provide a passive recreational opportunity, and
- Celebrate the historic and cultural values of the site.

Minimum Park design elements should include:

- A combination of lawn areas and minimal hardscape, i.e. paving,
- Planting beds and trees,
- Benches,
- Lighting,
- Trash receptacles, and
- Signage and interpretive features.

The value of these minimum Park requirements should be between $80 and $90/sq. foot

**Nawn Factory Disposition**

The City of Boston was the recipient of a HUD Choice Neighborhoods grant in 2015. DND issued an RFP on November 20, 2019 for the disposition of the adjacent Owen Nawn Factory building and land (the “Nawn Factory”) as shown on the Plan as SR-26 and 38-2-C, in order to access funding available from the HUD Choice Neighborhoods grant. DND received two proposals that are currently being evaluated.
Proponents are encouraged to either coordinate with proponents responding to the Nawn Factory RFP or enter into partnerships with adjacent developments in order to best fulfill the community's vision for development of these Nubian Square parcels, including maximizing affordable housing construction, advancing neighborhood stability, and providing local development opportunities. In order to create synergy between the two development sites, elements such as common access and circulation routes and paths and inclusion of historic detailing in architectural and landscape design are encouraged.

**Consistency with Area Planning History**

In addition to PLAN: Nubian Square, the area has also been the subject of the Roxbury Strategic Master Plan, the Roxbury Heritage State Park Master Plan, and Dudley Vision (See Appendix A). Proponents must incorporate the combined visions of these planning documents, while capturing and addressing the current needs of the community for affordable housing, economic development and job opportunities. The area is also part of the designated Roxbury Cultural District. As articulated in these documents, being mindful of the rich cultural history of this important neighborhood is paramount. Proponents should use development as a catalyst to promote the arts, culture, commercial and retail enterprise in the area. Neighborhood cultural amenities such as museums, art galleries, bookstores, entertainment venues, performance spaces and artist live/work spaces are strongly favored. Amenities and programming associated with the Proposed Property Site should activate the area in the evening, encouraging residents to “stay local” to support Nubian Square businesses for their entertainment, shopping and dining experiences.

**Sustainable, Resilient, and Healthy Development**

Proposals should support and exemplify the community's and the City's goals for sustainable, resilient and healthy new construction including Mayor Walsh's Carbon Neutral Boston 2050 commitment. Proposals should target net zero energy or net zero carbon performance. New buildings should be designed as green low energy all electric structures that prioritize enhanced
building envelope solutions and passive system strategies, and that are optimized for and include onsite solar renewable energy generation. As necessary, projects should identify off site and procured renewable energy solutions sufficient for achieving net zero carbon emissions.

Proposals should include strategies that extend beyond the specific development site and enhance the sustainability, resiliency, and health of the surrounding community. The community has identified increased extreme heat conditions as a leading concern and seeks proposals that reduce Heat Island conditions in the Nubian Square area and development site.

**Economic Development**

Proposals with commercial uses must promote local business and job training and creation, with special emphasis on providing maximum opportunities for local, small and disadvantaged businesses and job creation and training for people of color and women. This emphasis should take place in all aspects of redevelopment -- the construction phase, business development phase, in the procurement of goods and services, as well as in permanent jobs created. Wages associated with all jobs should be appropriate for their associated categories and provide for an enhanced quality of life and the prospect of economic mobility for area residents.

The community has expressed a preference for proposals that include the creation of commercial condominiums for small businesses. Creative equity building strategies such as rent-to-own business condominium ownership are encouraged. Developers should include proactive marketing and outreach practices within the immediate community to locate commercial tenants. Developers should place a special emphasis on commercial tenants that are locally-based, employ from within the community, are minority-owned business enterprises (“MBEs”), or are women-owned business enterprises (“WBEs”). See Section 4 for definitions of WBEs and MBEs. The community has suggested outreach strategies such as community business tenant fairs and “speed dating” events to match potential tenants / commercial condo buyers with available spaces.
In addition, the Proposed Property Site should be developed in a manner that supports the economic growth of the district by providing opportunities for area residents to participate in expanding sectors of Boston's economy. Proponents should describe how their proposed uses will generate new employment preparation and job prospects in education, health, medicine, bio and life sciences and/or finance. Proponents should also describe their experience in and capacity to attract such new local employment opportunities through the uses they propose.

Preference will be given to projects that include uses that support neighborhood control and/or household wealth creation, whether it be through homeownership, the creation of a cooperative, and/or control by a community land trust.

**Affordable/Income-Restricted Housing**

Proposals that include housing must be consistent with the affordable housing goals identified in the most recent series of public discussions with the community as part of the Plan: Nubian Square process. Specifically, a minimum of two-thirds of all housing units must be income-restricted affordable housing with one third targeting low and moderate income households and one third targeting middle income households. These requirements vary for homeownership versus rental development. Proposals should target one resident minimum per bedroom for affordable units.

Rental housing proposals must provide a minimum of one-third of units to low-income households (ranging from less than 30% to 50% of Area Median Income (“AMI”)) as defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development), with the maximum AMI for these units not to exceed 50% of AMI. A minimum of 10% of the overall units (i.e. one-third of the required low income units) must be homeless set-aside units at 30% or less of AMI. The middle income units should also include a range of affordability options with the maximum AMI not to exceed 80% AMI. Up to but not more than one-third of units may be market rate. Additionally, proposals must describe
measures they will take to avoid displacement of existing residents of the Roxbury neighborhood.

Where homeownership units are included, a minimum of two-thirds of the units must be targeted to households with a range of incomes, from 60% to 100% of AMI, with the maximum AMI not to exceed 80% of AMI, and the remaining one-third of units may be market rate.

Community members have expressed a strong preference for projects which can exceed these minimum affordability standards. Developments which can reach deeper levels of affordability and/or a higher percentage of income-restricted housing are preferred. Preference will also be given to projects that include affordability at many income levels (e.g. 30%, 40%, 50%, 60%, 80%, 100% of AMI, etc.). In addition, while the AMI is defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Greater Boston region, developers are encouraged to present their affordable housing proposals using both AMI and the corresponding, qualifying income ranges.

DND and BPDA affordability requirements require owner occupancy of income restricted homeownership units and prohibit subleasing of income restricted rental units. On this Proposed Property Site, DND and BPDA will also require that market rate rental units have rental periods of at least one year. Market rate rental units will also be subject to sub-leasing restrictions, prohibiting either short-term rentals or rental services.

All housing developments utilizing City funds or City land must comply with the City’s Affirmative Marketing Program requirements. Proposals that include 1 to 4 units of housing (small housing developments) must also comply as follows:

- Proposers of small housing developments using City funds or City land must advertise in a neighborhood newspaper or daily general and list on Metrolist.
• Owner-occupants of City-funded projects with fewer than five units must be informed of the services provided by Metrolist and encouraged to list vacancies for rental units through the Metrolist listing form (www.boston.gov/metrolist/metrolist-listing-form).

• DND will notify the Boston Fair Housing Commission of these projects by sending the Affirmative Marketing Program a copy of the project approval letter to affirmativemarketing@boston.gov.

Please note that the Proposed Property Site is in the vicinity of the Whittier Choice Neighborhoods program. This HUD funded initiative seeks not only to rebuild the existing Whittier BHA development, but also to deconcentrate poverty and invest in the people and places surrounding Nubian Square. Because the initiative includes enhanced assistance for target area homebuyers, the Boston Housing Authority (“BHA”) and BPDA are encouraging the creation of homeownership opportunities in nearby developments. If rental units are proposed, project-based Section 8 vouchers may be available to assist with more deeply affordable units. Proponents should contact Andrew Gouldson at the BHA at Andrew.Gouldson@bostonhousing.org for more information.

**Development without Displacement**

Proposals must describe measures they will take to avoid displacement of existing residents of the Roxbury neighborhood. As part of their submission, Proponents must include a narrative describing how their proposal supports the community’s goal of “development without displacement.” More details on the requirements of the development without displacement narrative can be found below in section 04 - Submission Requirements.

**Community Benefits**

Proposals must also describe specific contributions to the project above and beyond the development objectives described above. These contributions should support the PLAN: Nubian Square vision through direct support of programming, creation of institutions, financial support of existing
Institutions, and direct initiatives with missions to promote and maintain the underlying vision of the community represented in this RFP, the Roxbury Strategic Master Plan, and the Roxbury Heritage State Park Master Plan. Community Benefits could take many forms, such as:

- Incorporation of specific uses into the proposal such as educational, cultural, arts, entertainment and performance uses;
- Initiatives that foster, for example, the incubation of new entrepreneurs, and/or educational opportunities that prepare local residents and young adults for future career opportunities; and/or
- Seed funding and organizational support for existing local and/or non-profit organizations including organizations that support a business improvement or cultural district within Nubian Square.

In order to achieve the development goals of housing affordability, good jobs, economic development opportunities, development without displacement, and meet the criteria of 2014 Massachusetts Sessions Law Chapter 281 and Article 97 of the Amendments to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, a significant contribution of public resources may be necessary. Proponents that rely heavily on public subsidy to achieve the development objectives of this RFP may lack the additional resources to commit to offering community benefits. However, all proposals must include a community benefits narrative in order to address the overall community contribution of the proposed development.

**Development Guidelines**

This development is subject to both BPDA Development Review Guidelines and DND Development Review Guidelines as well as the guidelines set forth below.

The project is also subject to the design review of the Boston Parks and Recreation Commission. Information about that approval process may be found here.
Urban Design Guidelines

Planning and Urban Design Context
Proposed buildings and site design must be consistent with the PLAN: Nubian Square Urban Design Guidelines. The Proposed Property Site along with Parcels 9 and 10 forms the “gateway” into Nubian Square along Washington Street from the north. Therefore, along with use, the massing, architecture, façade articulation, and location of entries must be reflective of the role that the Proposed Property Site plays in the larger context of the square. To reflect the site’s location within the Nubian Square Cultural District, any development must incorporate a complementary mix of uses and design that is innovative, contextually appropriate, and highlights the historic sites that are adjacent to the Proposed Property Site.

Proposals that combine adjoining parcels to increase economic feasibility, public benefits and improve vehicular and pedestrian access are encouraged. If the proposed design makes use of adjacent parcels, the Proponent must demonstrate site control of such other parcels by way of a fully executed, and currently dated, Purchase and Sale Agreement or a signed, and currently dated, Option Agreement.

Use Guidelines
The use guidelines are reflective of the engagement process and are set forth to ensure alignment with community desires. Key use guidelines are as follows:

1. The base of the building must be a combination of retail, cultural and/or entertainment uses that contribute to the identity of the Nubian Square Cultural District. Office uses are permissible at the ground floor level, provided that they create an active and engaging streetscape to enliven the neighborhood.

2. The upper levels are required to have residential uses in order to address the housing needs in Nubian Square. However, partial
commercial use is also permitted, as long as housing is a majority of the use of the upper floors.

Massing, Height and Orientation
Buildings should employ a variety of setbacks and building heights that create a volume that is articulated, varied and dynamic, responds to special views and corridors, and reinforces existing street wall conditions making certain the building fits well into its surrounding context.

1. New buildings must front and define the street edges along Melnea Cass Boulevard and Harrison Avenue. Buildings must remain set back from the corner of Washington Street and Melnea Cass Boulevard to allow for a significant open space that addresses the historic significance of the Nawn Factory building and the Eustis Street Architectural Conservation District.
2. Building heights may vary from six to fifteen stories with lower heights/massing stepping down towards Washington Street and the Eliot Burial Ground. Building masses above six stories should be set towards Harrison Avenue. Proponents should be aware of the guidelines associated with the Eustis Street Architectural Conservation District, as taller building heights will require approval from the Landmarks Commission.

3. Building massing along Melnea Cass Boulevard should employ visual or physical breaks to provide for light, air and views and reduce a monolithic feel or wall-like effect along the street.

**Architectural Design & Character**

New buildings should contribute to the identity of Nubian Square by recognizing its rich cultural and architectural history through careful consideration of building materials and façade expression.

1. Building character should acknowledge the special nature and gateway opportunity of the corner at Washington Street and Melnea Cass Boulevard.

2. The Nawn Factory Site must be considered synergistically and in the design and development of the Proposed Property Site. New buildings may be contemporary in design, but must manifest an awareness of their immediate context by taking into account both the area's history as well as current needs, allowing for a blend of old and new architectural expressions.

3. Proposals shall express the distinction of retail, commercial, and other public uses at the ground level in order to animate the edges of the street and help define the character of the neighborhood along Melnea Cass Boulevard and Washington Street.

4. Proposed buildings must maintain the continuity of the street wall and provide a high percentage of transparency at the ground level in order
to achieve a continuous and engaging pedestrian experience along Melnea Cass Boulevard.

5. Architectural detailing (windows, doors, exterior cladding, masonry, etc.) should be attractive and be executed using materials of the highest quality, as well as being compatible with existing buildings in the area. Materials usage should strive to ground the building in the present and convey stability into the future.

Access and Circulation

New development must be oriented strategically to make easy connections through the building(s) to nearby community amenities such as transit stations, landmarks and public parks as well as create and strengthen major public corridors to enhance pedestrian activity, encourage public transit and promote bicycle use. Proponents are particularly encouraged to coordinate with proponents for the adjacent Nawn Factory site in terms of access and circulation.

1. Primary pedestrian building entrances should be on Melnea Cass and Washington Street, with vehicular and service access from Harrison Avenue. The successful proponent will be expected to explore shared vehicle access from Harrison Avenue with the adjacent Harrison Supply site, now proposed for redevelopment by the Benjamin Franklin Institute of Technology (“BFIT”) for the relocation of its South End facility. Proponents are encouraged to contact BFIT for more information.

2. Design should respond to landscape, pedestrian and bike accommodation improvements that are part of the Boston Transportation Department’s Melnea Cass Design project by providing secure on-site bike storage for users and residents, in order to encourage bike use.

3. Proposals must demonstrate provisions of adequate but not excessive on-site parking for new residents, employees, and/or customers and
strategies to prevent overburdening street parking used by area residents.

4. Safety, views and ease of navigation must be promoted in the design of the Proposed Property Site. Night safety is a particular concern of neighborhood residents, so structures must be designed with clear site lines. In addition, exterior lighting design must create well-lit open spaces and eliminate dark pockets in streetscapes.

Open Space/Public Realm/Public Art
The quality of the public realm surrounding any new development will play a significant role in shaping the everyday experience of the district. A project should strive to define a distinct and memorable public realm with innovative landscape design, enhanced paving, distinctive street furniture (light fixtures, benches, street trees) and create opportunities for temporary and permanent public art. Accordingly, projects should address each of the following, keeping in mind the context of the area as a designated cultural district:

1. Provide a new distinct and memorable public realm, with an enhanced sidewalk experience around the site that creates an active, vibrant, and attractive public area that encourages people to gather.

2. Repair and/or replace, as appropriate, any alteration or damage of existing sidewalks, paving, lights and street trees that occurs during construction.

3. Create an inviting open space at the corner of Washington Street and Melnea Cass Boulevard, consistent with the Conservation and Preservation Requirements for the Park on page 13. This space should recognize the historic character of the adjacent Nawn Factory and Eustis Street Architectural Conservation District, and be designed as a gateway to the Roxbury Heritage State Park in accordance with the Roxbury Heritage State Park Master Plan.
4. Provide a public realm of sidewalks, street trees, and street furniture that is well integrated into the Proposed Property Site and creates a continuous and engaging street level activity along Washington Street from Melnea Cass into Nubian Square.

5. Create a bold and inventive site design incorporating public art, particularly installations that are interactive and have a direct influence on the community, encouraging a sense of place.

6. Place disposal areas, accessory storage areas or structures and dumpsters at the rear of the property. Such areas must not abut the Eliot Burying Ground and must be appropriately screened from view.

7. Advance the goals of the Roxbury Cultural District to find and recognize Roxbury’s cultural assets, and create tools, strategies, resources, and spaces that elevate the arts in Roxbury.

**Resilient Development and Green Building Design Guidelines**

Proposed projects should support the community's and City of Boston’s Carbon Free, Climate Resilient, and Healthy Community goals including the 2019 Carbon Free Boston report and DND’s Zero Emission Buildings guidebook for affordable housing projects. See Article 37 Green Building and Climate Resiliency Guidelines for additional information.

Based upon Climate Ready Boston 2016, and the City’s comprehensive climate vulnerability and preparedness study available here, the Nubian Square area is subject to multiple climate change related hazards. Proposed projects should include resilient building and site strategies to eliminate, reduce, and mitigate potential impacts, as follows:

1. **Greenhouse Gas Reduction**: Proposed projects should exemplify Mayor Walsh’s Carbon Free Boston 2050 goals by striving for zero carbon emission or energy positive performance. New buildings should be designed as green low energy all electric structures that prioritize enhanced building envelope solutions and passive system
strategies and that are optimized for and include onsite solar renewable energy generation. As necessary projects should identify off site and procured renewable energy solutions sufficient for achieving net zero carbon emissions. Proposals should include a preliminary energy model with a Zero Carbon Building Assessment. Projects should assess these strategies in a first and life cycle cost analysis.

2. **Higher Temperatures & Heat Events:** Proposed projects should reduce heat exposure and heat retention in and around the building(s) and surrounding district. Strategies should include the use of building and paving materials with high Solar Reflectance and Solar Reflectance Index values and increased shade areas through landscaping, expanded tree canopy and shade structures. At a minimum, projects should achieve the LEED Sustainable Sites, Heat Island Reduction credit. Proponents should consider the inclusion of Green Roofs with plantings, especially for accessible roof spaces and sites limited access to open space.

3. **More Intense Precipitation:** Proposed projects should integrate strategies to both mitigate the impact of storm water flooding to the Proposed Property Site and reduce the Proposed Property Site's contribution to storm water flooding in the neighborhood. Strategies should focus on pervious site materials, enhanced landscaping and Low Impact Development measures to capture, retain, and infiltrate storm water.

4. **Rising Sea Levels:** Proposed projects should reduce risks of coastal and inland flooding through elevating the base floor, critical utilities, mechanical systems and infrastructure above anticipated flood levels. Proposed projects should utilize flood proof materials below any future flood level and relocate vulnerable uses to higher floors.

5. **Sheltering in Place:** Proposed projects should provide for a cool/warm community room and essential systems to allow for
extended sheltering in place and accommodation of local residents during an extreme weather event or an extended disruption of utility services.

Green buildings provide a comprehensive approach to reducing the adverse impacts of the built environment and to promoting human health and the wellbeing of our communities. **Proposed projects should exemplify leading green building and sustainable development practices and target zero energy or zero carbon emission performance.**

1. **Green Buildings**: Achieve and surpass the United States Green Building Council’s (“USGBC”) requirements for LEED Platinum and LEED Zero with a minimum requirement of achieving LEED Gold utilizing the most appropriate LEED rating system. Projects should seek USGBC certification and should be registered upon tentative designation and certified by the USGBC within one year of construction completion.

2. **Integrated Project Planning**: Projects should fulfill the Integrated Process requirements and include a LEED Accredited Professional(s) with the appropriate specialty(s) and, for residential uses, a LEED Homes Rater. Proposals should describe the team’s approach to integrated project planning, including the use of preliminary and whole building energy modeling.

3. **Site Development**: Employ strategies to eliminate construction phase environmental impacts including off-site tracking of soils and construction debris. Site designs should include strategies to reduce heat island and storm water runoff impacts, and promote area natural habitats. Projects should include storm water systems and strategies for retaining and infiltrating the first 1.25” of rain water.

4. **Connectivity**: Promote and support non-personal vehicle means of travel including walking, bicycling, public transit, and reduced personal vehicle travel. Strategies should include easily accessible, secure and enclosed bicycle storage space (see Boston Bicycle Parking Guidelines),
shared parking, transit pass programs, and car and bike share programs. Other elements that promote connectivity include open space courtyards with landscaping and seating, desire-line footpaths, public viewing areas, and communal gardening spaces.

5. **Water Efficiency:** Minimize water use and reuse storm and wastewater. Strategies should include low flow plumbing fixtures; rainwater harvesting for gardens and building systems; and drought resistant planting and non-potable water irrigation.

6. **Energy Efficiency:** Buildings should be designed as low-energy, all-electric structures that prioritize enhanced building envelope solutions and passive system strategies. Small residential buildings should target a HERS Index of 40 or lower (based on a current Commonwealth of Massachusetts Stretch Code of 55). Large residential / commercial buildings should target modeled performance at least 25% below the current Commonwealth of Massachusetts Stretch Code. Projects seeking DND funding for affordable housing should adhere to DND's Zero Emission Buildings guidelines.

   a. Passive building strategies should include optimized building orientation and massing; high performance building envelopes that are airtight, well insulated, have appropriate window to wall ratios, and include high efficiency windows and doors; and natural ventilation and daylighting.

   b. Active building strategies should include Energy Star high efficiency equipment, dedicated outside air systems with energy recovery ventilation, air and ground source heat pump systems for building thermal conditioning and hot water systems, and high efficiency LED lighting fixtures and advanced lighting control systems and technologies. Residential appliances should be Energy Star rated and all electric.
7. **Renewable Energy Generation and Storage**: Buildings should be designed to maximize the potential for onsite renewable energy generation and include installed solar photo voltaic (“PV”) systems. Building roof tops and vehicular parking areas should be designed to maximize the solar PV system performance. Additionally, electric battery and thermal energy storage systems should be considered.

8. **Energy Efficiency Assistance and Incentives**: Fully utilize any available federal, state, and utility energy efficiency and renewable energy programs, funding, and assistance. Proposals should identify potential assistance and funding resources.

9. **Indoor Environmental Quality**: Provide high quality healthy indoor environments by utilizing strategies including: extended roof overhangs, proper ground surface drainage and non-paper gypsum board in moist areas to reduce mold risks; passive and active dedicated outdoor (fresh and filtered) air systems; active ventilation at moisture and no indoor combustion; building products and construction materials that are to be free of VOC’s, toxins, hazardous chemicals, pollutants and other contaminants; entryway walk-off mats and smooth floors that reduce the presence of asthma triggers, allergens and respiratory irritants; easily cleaned and maintained finishes; and green cleaning and maintenance practices.

10. **Materials Selection**: Include sustainably harvested and responsibly processed materials. Strategies should include low embodied carbon products made with recycled and reclaimed materials; materials and products from responsibly harvested and rapidly renewable sources; and locally sourced products and materials (within 500 miles).

11. **Innovation**: Utilize both "off-the-shelf" products and practices as well as innovative strategies and "cutting edge" products to increase the sustainability and performance of the building.
Submission Requirements

Proposals must include all Submission Requirements set forth in this section. These Submission Requirements must also be submitted in accordance with the instructions set forth in Section 01 of this RFP.

Development Submission

In addition to the required forms listed in the submission checklist, the following information shall be submitted in the written Proposal Summary. This is an opportunity for the Proponent to convey how the proposed property will be a highly-beneficial use of the Proposed Property Site that will be cost-effective, completed in a timely fashion, and provide options superior to those currently available to the community.

Omission of any of the Submission Requirements may lead to a determination that the proposal is non-responsive. Please provide the following items as listed:

Introduction/Development Team. A letter of interest signed by the principal(s) of the Proponent. This letter should introduce the development team and organization structure, including the developer, attorney, architect, contractor, marketing agent/broker, management company, and any other consultants for the proposed development. For joint ventures, the Proponent shall provide a copy of the Partnership Agreement detailing the authority and participation of all parties. A chief contact person for each specialty must be listed. The Proponent shall provide a listing/description of any lawsuits
brought against the Proponent or any principals of the Proponents in courts situated within the United States within the past five years.

**Development Plan.** A description that demonstrates that the Proponent understands the development plan to be performed. The Proponent must indicate and fully explain their plan for development and how it coincides with the BPDA's stated scope for PLAN: Nubian Square and the project requirements and meets the requirements of the Act. Additionally, the Proponent must provide a credible scheme for accomplishing its stated goals and/or objectives, a proposed time schedule to accomplish the tasks listed in the development timetable, a project scope and an articulation of the goals and objectives unique to the submitted proposal.

**Operational Plan.** A summary of the plan for the operation of the Proposed Development upon development completion. Include the anticipated annual costs, as well as the planned sources of funding.

**Boston Residents Jobs Policy.** Proposals must describe the planned approach to meeting the goals outlined in the Boston Residents Jobs Policy (Appendix A).

**Good Jobs Strategy Plan:** Proponents must include a narrative explaining how their proposal supports the community's expressed priorities regarding the creation and sustainment of good permanent jobs in all phases of the development and in particular, end user jobs that will be located in the development. This includes engaging in fair hiring practices which will foster and encourage the participation of the people of Roxbury and the immediate neighborhood. The narrative should include the proponent's commitments towards achieving the seven (7) “Good Jobs Standards criteria” (“GJS”) listed below. Proponents will be required to make their commitments public and these commitments will be evaluated and enforced on a long term basis after construction is complete. While the Boston Residents Jobs Policy is focused primarily on construction hiring, GJS are not only more expansive,
but focus more on the people employed at the Proposed Property Site after
construction is complete.

If the proponent believes that it is not able to achieve any of the individual
GJS listed below, this should be clearly indicated in the narrative and an
alternative commitment should be crafted.

The seven (7) priority “good job standards” are:

1. At least 51% of the total employees working on the Proposed Property
   Site shall be bona fide Boston Residents. Please note that the
   community has expressed a preference for developers to select
   tenants for retail spaces who are committed to hiring Roxbury
   residents specifically. Proponents are expected to work with
   community partners as an element of their employee recruitment.

2. At least 51% of the total employees working on the Proposed Property
   Site shall be people of color.

3. At least 51% of the total employees working on the Proposed Property
   Site shall be women.

4. All employees shall be paid a “good wage,” defined as a salary or
   hourly wage equal to or greater than the Boston Living Wage, which
   shall be defined as $17.62 on January 1, 2019 and thereafter increasing
   annually by the rate of inflation.

5. At least 75% of all employees working on the Property, and at least
   75% of all employees of each lessee, sub-lessee, or tenant working on
   the Property, shall be full-time employees. “Full time” shall mean at
   least 30 hours per week.

6. All employees shall work “stable shifts,” which include a predictable
   schedule that is appropriate for the particular field of work. Such a
   work schedule allows employees to reasonably schedule other family
   care, educational, and work obligations. A schedule that does not
include “on-call” time and has a set weekly pattern that does not change more than two times per year shall be presumed to be stable.

7. All full-time employees shall be offered benefits, defined as the opportunity to opt into a company sponsored health insurance plan with coverage that meets Massachusetts Minimum Creditable Coverage (“MCC”).

The BPDA does not believe these job standards are applicable to small businesses, defined as those with fewer than 15 employees and less than $2.5 million in annual revenue. However, the BPDA expects all Proponents to make their best-faith efforts to meet the GJS to the extent that is economically feasible. Therefore, if all commercial businesses proposed are intended to be small businesses of this size or smaller, the Proponent should submit a good jobs narrative describing which of the GJS the Proponent can commit to, which GJS the proponent will make a good faith effort to achieve, and which are not economically feasible.

The City of Boston plans to monitor business’s performance against GJS commitments. Monitoring will be performed by the Boston Employment Commission. The selected Proponent will be responsible for providing requested data.

The most advantageous proposals will include a comprehensive and credible GJS strategy. This may include elements such as:

- an explanation of how the Proponent’s vision for retail tenants meets the spirit of the GJS;
- the Proponent’s strategy to recruit tenants demonstrating an ability to comply with the GJS; and/or
- the plan for the development’s property management office to meet the GJS.
Diversity and Inclusion Plan. Proponents must include a narrative setting forth a plan (hereinafter, a “Diversity and Inclusion Plan”) for establishing and overseeing a minority outreach program aimed at creating increased opportunities for people of color, women, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts-certified Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (“M/WBEs”) to participate in the development of the Proposed Property Site. Proposals should reflect the extent to which the proponent plans to include meaningful participation by people of color, women, and M/WBEs in the following professional fields:

- Construction;
- Design;
- Development;
- Financing;
- Operations; and
- Ownership.

A Minority Business Enterprise or “MBE” is a firm that is owned, operated, and controlled by one or more individuals who are African American, Hispanic American, Native American, or Asian American who have at least 51% ownership of the firm.

A Woman Business Enterprise or “WBE” is a firm that is owned, operated, and controlled by one or more women who has or have at least 51% ownership of the firm.

Proposals will be considered and rated based on the comprehensiveness of the Proponent’s Diversity and Inclusion Plan for creating increased opportunities for people of color, women and M/WBEs to participate in the development of the Proposed Property Site, including specific strategies to achieve maximum participation by people of color, women, and M/WBEs in
the fields of construction, design, development, financing, operations, and/or ownership. The Diversity and Inclusion Plan should be realistic and executable.

**Developer Qualifications, Experience and References.** A narrative supported by relevant data regarding qualifications and past experience with similar projects. Proponents must provide detailed descriptions of previous relevant work completed and the results or outcome of that work. Proponents shall also furnish three (3) current references including: names, addresses, e-mail addresses, phone numbers, and principal contacts in which the Proponent has provided comparable services.

**Permits/Licenses.** A list of relevant business permits/licenses, including expiration dates.

**Subcontractors or Partnerships.** If applicable, explain the relationship(s) between the Proponent and any third-party developers, subcontractors, or community partners that might influence the Proponent's development plan.

**Development without Displacement Plan.** Proponents must include a narrative explaining how their proposal supports the community's goal of "development without displacement." Specifically, this narrative should address how the proposed development will assist the current residents of Roxbury to remain in their community in the future, afford housing, and find pathways to economic opportunity. At a minimum, this narrative should include the affordable housing production goals of the project and articulate how the proposed rents meet the needs of Roxbury residents, as well as other local residents. This discussion should also identify how proposed sizes of units meet the needs of community members, taking into consideration that community members have suggested that larger unit sizes of two, three and four bedrooms are needed for local families, while smaller unit sizes may be appropriate for seniors.

The development team’s track record for supporting projects and policies which promote development without displacement should also be
included. If applicable, the development team should include their experience preventing eviction of tenants when acquiring, developing and operating property. Proponents must disclose if the proposed development of the Proposed Property Site will result in the direct eviction of any current tenants living in property owned or acquired by the development team. (Note that while the property being disposed of by the BPDA in this RFP is vacant, proponents including any abutting or nearby properties in their proposals should disclose if any direct evictions are contemplated on these properties).

Community members have expressed enthusiasm for innovative strategies that support community stability such as cooperative ownership, land trust participation, and rent-to-own strategies. The inclusion of these or similar elements and/or other innovative strategies to prevent displacement will increase the advantageousness of the proposal.

**Community Benefits Plan.** As described in the Development Objectives, proposals must include a narrative of the community benefits supported by the development, including any benefits to the local community that are above those generated by the development itself.

**Additional Data.** Any other relevant information the Proponent believes is essential to the evaluation of the proposal (i.e., aesthetic designs, environmental sustainability goals, property management plans, ideas for selection of subcontractors, methods of obtaining community engagement, etc.).

Development Concept:

1. Describe the proposed property uses and the total square footage of each use, along with a description of how the proposed uses and design will satisfy the Development Objectives and Development Guidelines of this RFP.
2. Describe how the proposed property will benefit the surrounding community.

3. Estimate the number of construction and permanent jobs that will be generated by the proposed property.

4. Provide an outline of all required regulatory approvals and a projected timeline to obtain these approvals. The proponent should note the currently applicable zoning districts, overlays and provisions that govern development of the Proposed Property Site and discuss the type of zoning amendments or variances that are required for the proposed development, or indicate if the proposed development can be constructed “as-of-right” under existing zoning.

5. Describe how the proposal addresses the conservation and preservation restrictions and the obligation to construct and perpetually maintain the required public park.

**Design Submission**

All drawings must be submitted in both hard copy and digital format (PDF or JPEG, at minimum 300 DPI). The Design Submission must include, but not be limited to, the following materials:

1. A written and graphic description explaining how the proposed design will meet the Development Objectives and Urban Design Guidelines of this RFP and the PLAN: Nubian Square context document. These documents must describe and illustrate all the program elements and the organization of these spaces within the building.

2. A neighborhood plan (at appropriate scale, e.g. 1"=40’) as well as a Site Plan (1"=20’ scale) showing how the proposed design will fit within the immediate context of existing buildings and within the larger Nubian Square neighborhood. The neighborhood plan must illustrate how the proposed property meets the Urban Design Guidelines set forth in this RFP. The proposed building(s), existing building footprints, lot lines,
streets and street names and any other relevant contextual information should be included in this plan. The site plan should illustrate the building footprint and placement on the Proposed Property Site, the general building organization, open space and landscape elements, driveways, curb cuts, fencing, walkways and streetscape improvements. The neighborhood and site plans should coordinate with renderings, perspective drawings and aerial views of the project and the neighborhood plan should illustrate how the project meets the larger Urban Design Guidelines in relating to Nubian Square.

3. Schematic floor plans (1/8" = 1'-0" scale) showing the basement, ground floor, upper floor(s), and roof including room dimensions, square footage of rooms, overall building dimensions, and the gross square footage of the building.

4. Building Elevations (1/8" = 1'-0" scale) showing all sides of the proposed building, architectural details, building height and notations of proposed materials.

5. Street elevations (at appropriate scale, e.g. 1/8"=1'-0") showing the relationships of the proposed building to the massing, building height and architectural style of adjacent buildings. This street context drawing may combine drawings with photographs in any manner that clearly depicts the relationship of the new building to existing buildings.

6. Perspective drawings drawn at eye-level and aerial views that show the project in the context of the surrounding area.

7. A description and illustration of the bicycle parking, automobile parking and transportation plan for the proposed development based on the Urban Design Guidelines for this site set forth in this RFP.

8. A preliminary zoning analysis.
9. A written and graphic Sustainability Narrative describing how the proposed project will satisfy the Resilient Development and Green Building Guidelines that includes:

   a. The team’s approach to integrated project design and delivery;

   b. Preliminary energy modeling including a Carbon Neutral Building Assessment and describing strategies for achieving zero energy or zero carbon performance and targets;

   c. Preliminary LEED Checklist and narrative describing key green building strategies; and

   d. Preliminary Boston Climate Resiliency Checklist reflecting proposed outcomes and describing key resiliency strategies.

10. A conceptual drawing of the required public park and all improvements.

**Financial Submission**

The Financial Submission should include, but not be limited to the information listed below. The financial submission should be provided in both hard copy and flash drive form in Microsoft Excel. The Financial Submission must be submitted in a separate, sealed envelope and include a formal price offer on the Price Proposal form included in Appendix B.

1. Formation Documents:

   a. Articles of Incorporation;

   b. Certificate of Status/Good Standing;

   c. Certificate of Incorporation;

   d. By-laws;
2. Financial Documents:

   a. Financial Statements or Annual Reports for the three most recent fiscal years;
   
   b. Interim Financial Statements for Proponent (if applicable, most recent month ending within thirty days);
   
   c. Personal Financial Statement of principal owners of Proponent (upon request);
   
   d. Financial Statements of any tenants, lessees and occupants intended to occupy the premises (if applicable); and financing commitments or project specific letters of interest from recognized funding sources.

3. **Financial Submission Workbook**: Using the template provided in Appendix B and here, provide the following information: with separate sources and uses for each project component (e.g. commercial, housing, parking, etc.) or phase, if applicable, as well as a combined budget for the entire project.

   a. Sheet 1: Development Program

   b. **Sheet 2: Development Cost Pro Forma.** All costs identified must be supported by realistic funding sources and uses must equal sources.
c. **Sheet 3**: Stabilized Operating Pro Forma.

d. **Sheet 4**: Fifteen Year Operating Pro-Forma

The construction, maintenance, and repairs of the Park was valued at $730,000 (approximately $85 per square foot). The appraised value and asking price for SR-25 is net this amount. Financial submissions should indicate that the proposal realizes the full appraised value of the Park.

4. **One-Stop**: If the sources of funds for the Proposed Project include City or State subsidies for affordable housing, the financial submission must include a One-Stop Application that can be downloaded from [www.mhic.com](http://www.mhic.com) (see tab “One Stop Center,” then “Downloads,” then “OneStop2000.”) The One Stop should only include financial information for the affordable housing portion of the Proposed Project. Sources must equal uses. If applicable, land costs for privately owned parcels that would be included in the proposed development must be identified in the “Acquisition” line. At the time of application to BPDA, the applicant must have an accepted offer to purchase, an executed purchase and sale agreement or a deed and the price must be supported by an as-is appraisal for that property.

5. **Financial Narrative**: In addition to the pro forma spreadsheets, the Proposal must include a narrative which describes the following:

   a. An implementation plan for the proposed development, including a development schedule with key milestone dates and a projected occupancy date. The development schedule should outline the required regulatory approvals for the proposed development and the anticipated timing for obtaining such approvals;

   b. All contingencies, specifying whether for hard costs, soft costs or total costs, design or construction, financing or other critical components of the total project costs;
c. Sources of debt and equity for the total project cost;

d. All assumptions regarding financing terms on acquisitions, pre-development, construction, and permanent loans;

e. Any other project related expense not included in the above categories; and

f. Calculation of total project costs.

6. **Price Proposal:** Using the Price Proposal form included in Appendix B as described in Section 6, clearly outline the financial offer to the BPDA by indicating the amount of the offer for SR-25 and for the City Parcel. This form must be signed by the authorized principal.

7. **Preliminary market study,** using empirical market data, that demonstrates the feasibility of the proposed sale and/or lease rates of the project.

8. **Financing:**

   a. Developer Equity: The Proponent must demonstrate the availability of financial resources to fund working capital and equity requirements for the proposed project. Acceptable documentation includes current bank statements, brokerage statements, and/or audited financial statements; and

   b. Financing Commitments: Letters of interest and/or commitment from debt and equity sources for construction and permanent financing. Letters should include a term sheet that provides the Loan-To-Value ("LTV") and Debt Service Coverage ("DSC") requirements, fees, term, amortization, etc.

**Disclosures**

Proponents must submit the following forms, which are referred to as the “Disclosures” (Appendix B):
1. Disclosure Statement for Transaction with a Public Agency Concerning Real Property

2. BPDA & City of Boston Disclosure Statement


4. HUD Form 6004: Developer's Statement for Public Disclosure and Developer's Statement of Qualifications and Financial Responsibility (Only required for proposals with affordable housing use)

Submission Checklist

1. Submission Fee of $100.00

2. Development Submission

3. Design Submission

4. Financial Submission

5. Disclosures
   a. Disclosure Statement for Transaction with a Public Agency Concerning Real Property
   b. City of Boston & BPDA Disclosure Statement
   d. HUD Form 6004: Developer's Statement for Public Disclosure and Developer's Statement of Qualifications and Financial Responsibility

6. Price Proposal Form

7. Submission Checklist
Evaluation of Proposals

Description of Evaluation Process
Proposals must meet the Minimum Threshold Requirements as described below. Only Proposals that satisfy the Minimum Threshold Requirements will be comparatively evaluated based on the Comparative Evaluation Criteria below. A ranking of Highly Advantageous, Advantageous or Not Advantageous will be decided for each criterion. The Selection Committee shall then assign a composite ranking for each proposal it evaluates based upon the Comparative Evaluation Criteria as described below.

To facilitate final evaluation of Comparative Evaluation Criteria, Proponents that meet the Minimum Threshold Requirements will be required to present their plans of development to the community and respond to questions and comments from the RSMPOC. The Selection Committee will then factor community input received at this presentation into the final overall rating.

Rule for Award
The most advantageous proposal from a responsive and responsible proponent, taking into consideration price and all comparative evaluation criteria set forth in this RFP, shall be recommended to the BPDA Board for Tentative Designation.

Minimum Threshold Requirements
All proposals must meet the following minimum threshold criteria:
1. Only proposals that are received by the date, time, and at the location indicated in Section 01 of this RFP will be accepted.

2. Proposals must include all documentation specified in the Section 04 Submission Requirements.

3. The proponent shall have the necessary finances in place to pursue this project.

4. The proponent must demonstrate that it has adequate insurance.

5. Proponents shall comply with the Conflict of Interest Law.

**Comparative Evaluation Criteria**

The BPDA will use the following Comparative Evaluation Criteria to compare the merits of all qualifying proposals. For each evaluation criterion set forth below, the BPDA’s selection committee, in collaboration with DND, shall assign a rating of Highly Advantageous, Advantageous or Not Advantageous. The selection committee shall then assign a composite rating of Highly Advantageous, Advantageous or Not Advantageous for each proposal it evaluates.

To facilitate evaluation of the Comparative Evaluation Criteria, BPDA and DND will take into account community input received as a result of developer(s)’ presentation(s) with opportunity for public comment as supported by the RSMPOC.

1. **Development Concept**

This Criterion is an evaluation of the Proponent’s development plan relative to the Development Objectives set out in Section 03. Proposals that better fulfill the Development Objectives and affordability requirements relative to other proposals will be considered to be more advantageous. Proposals that do not meet the objectives specified in the Development Objectives will be considered less advantageous. **To facilitate its evaluation of this criterion,**
the BPDA will seek community input in the form of a developer(s)’ presentation(s) with opportunity for public comment.

Detailed, realistic proposals for development of the Proposed Property Site that are consistent with and which successfully address the Development Objectives and Development Guidelines, including delivering affordable housing options that are more deeply affordable than that of other proposals submitted, will be ranked as **Highly Advantageous**.

Realistic proposals for development of the Property that are consistent with the Development Objectives and Development Guidelines but do not completely or satisfactorily address all issues identified in the Development Objectives or the Development Guidelines and deliver affordable housing options that are comparable in affordability to those of other proposals submitted will be ranked as **Advantageous**.

Proposals for development of the Property that are not consistent with the Development Objectives or Development Guidelines and deliver affordable housing options that are less deeply affordable than other proposals submitted will be ranked as **Not Advantageous**.

**2. Design Concept**

This criterion is an evaluation of the Proponent’s development plan relative to the Urban Design Guidelines outlined in Section 3. Proposals that better fulfill the Urban Design Guidelines relative to other proposals will be considered to be more advantageous. Proposals that do not meet the objectives specified in the Urban Design Guidelines will be considered less advantageous. **To facilitate the evaluation of this Criterion, BPDA will seek community input in the form of developer(s)’ presentation(s) with opportunity for public comment.**

Proposals that are highly compatible with the Urban Design Guidelines described in this RFP and fully address each subsection, provide more detail, and meet more of the objectives than other proposals, will be ranked as **Highly Advantageous.**
Proposals that are mostly compatible with the Urban Design Guidelines described in this RFP and address each subsection, provide less detail, and meet fewer of the objectives than other proposals, will be ranked as **Advantageous**.

Proposals that are not compatible with the Urban Design Guidelines described in this RFP and do not fully address each subsection, provide little detail, and meet fewer or none of the objectives compared with other proposals, will be ranked as **Not Advantageous**.

### 3. Sustainable Development

This criterion is an evaluation of the extent to which the Proponent addresses the Resilient Development and Green Building Guidelines specified in Section 4. Proposals that better fulfill these objective relative to other proposals will be considered to be more advantageous. Proposals that do not meet these objectives will be considered less advantageous. **To facilitate the evaluation of this criterion, BPDA will seek community input in the form of developer(s)’ presentation(s) with opportunity for public comment.**

Proposals that provide a detailed plan that addresses all subsections, exceeds LEED Platinum certifiability, exceeds Zero Carbon Building performance, and exceeds the other requirements outlined in the Resilient Development and Green Building Design Guidelines, will be ranked as **Highly Advantageous**.

Proposals that address most subsections, provide a feasible plan for LEED Gold certifiability, and meet Resilient Development and Green Building Design Guidelines will be ranked as **Advantageous**.

Proposals that address few subsections, do not provide a plan for LEED Gold certifiability, and do not meet minimum Resilient Development and Green Building Design Guidelines will be ranked as **Not Advantageous**.
4. Development Team Experience
This Criterion is an evaluation of the Proponent’s experience and capacity to undertake the proposed property. This will be evaluated based on the Proponent’s experience relative to that of other Proponents. Newly formed development teams and or joint venture partnerships will be evaluated based on their combined development experience. Development teams with the greatest experience, especially experience in the City of Boston, will be considered to be more advantageous than development teams with less experience.

Proposals that provide all of the requested information regarding the development team’s experience and capacity, and demonstrate that the development team has successfully completed one or more similar projects in the City of Boston in the last five years, will be ranked as **Highly Advantageous**.

Proposals that provide most of the requested information regarding the development team’s experience and capacity and illustrate that, although the development team has not successfully completed any similar projects in the City of Boston, it has successfully completed one or more similar projects elsewhere, or can demonstrate transferable experience from another type of project, will be ranked as **Advantageous**.

Proposals that do not include any of the requested information regarding the development team’s experience and capacity and do not demonstrate that the development team has successfully completed a similar project to the one proposed or cannot demonstrate transferable experience from another project, will be ranked as **Not Advantageous**.

5. Financial Capacity
This criterion evaluates the relative strength of the Proponent’s financing plan relative to other proposals. Proposals that can demonstrate confirmed financing to generate sufficient capital to fund most or all of the development budget presented, will be considered to be more
Proposals that do not have confirmed financing sources or have confirmed financing for only part of the Development Budget will be considered less advantageous.

Proposals that include evidence of approved or conditionally approved financing to initiate and complete the proposed development within a definitive timeframe and document if the project will require federal, state or local subsidy; and provide a financial plan detailing and evidencing any and all available financial resources will be ranked as **Highly Advantageous**.

Proposals that provide a feasible financing plan that are entirely funded by federal, state or local subsidy and/or capital campaigns to initiate and complete the development; and include letters of interest for all sources of debt and equity, indicated with timelines for commitments, will be ranked as **Advantageous**.

Proposals that provide a financing plan to initiate and complete the development but do not include letters of interest from funding sources or any other evidence of potential sources of private and public debt and equity; and/or include little to no documentation of a financial plan, will be ranked as **Not Advantageous**.

### 6. Development and Operating Cost Feasibility

This Criterion evaluates the relative strength and completeness of the proponent’s development budget relative to other proposals. Proposals that most completely specify all anticipated costs and contingencies, are most reasonable in any subsidy assumptions, and are consistent with current industry standards will be ranked as more advantageous. Proposals that contain incomplete development budgets or costs that are inconsistent with industry standards, will be ranked as less advantageous.

Proposals with development and operating pro formas that include cost estimates that are appropriate for the proposed project and its ongoing operations, include reasonable subsidy assumptions if applying for subsidies, and are supported by documents such as estimates from recognized...
professionals or price quotes from licensed builders or contractors, will be ranked as **Highly Advantageous**.

Proposals with development and operating pro formas that include cost estimates that are appropriate for the proposed project and its ongoing operations, include reasonable subsidy assumptions if applying for subsidies, but do not provide supporting documentation for the most significant costs will be ranked as **Advantageous**.

Proposals that do not submit development and operating pro formas or include development and operating pro formas that lack in detail, or are not realistic or appropriate for the project and its ongoing operations, or include unreasonable subsidy assumptions if applying for subsidies will be ranked as **Not Advantageous**.

### 7. Diversity and Inclusion

This is an evaluation of the relative strength of a proposal's plan to achieve diversity and inclusion in the development and operation of the proposed Project Site. Proposals will be considered and rated based on the comprehensiveness of the Proponent's planned approach to achieving maximum participation of MWBEs and people of color, including specific strategies to fulfill this objective, with particular emphasis on non-traditional functions as defined in the Diversity and Inclusion Plan section of the Minimum Submission Requirements. The Proponent must also demonstrate that its Diversity and Inclusion Plan is realistic and executable. **To facilitate the evaluation of this Criterion, BPDA will seek community input in the form of developer(s)' presentation(s) with opportunity for public comment.**

Proposals that provide a comprehensive, highly reasonable, and justifiable Diversity and Inclusion Plan for a project of the type proposed that is clearly superior to that of all other proposals will be ranked as **Highly Advantageous**.
Proposals that provide a reasonable and justifiable Diversity and Inclusion Plan for a project of the type proposed that is similar or equal to all other submitted proposals will be ranked as **Advantageous**.

Proposals that do not provide a credible or detailed Diversity and Inclusion Plan for a project of the type proposed, and/or propose a Diversity and Inclusion Plan that is substantively inferior to all other submitted proposals will be ranked as **Not Advantageous**.

### 8. Development Timetable

This Criterion evaluates the relative strength of the proponent's development timetable relative to that of other proponents. Proposals that are able to start construction in a timely manner and have a realistic construction schedule will be considered to be more advantageous. Proposals that are unable to commence in a timely manner, or have unrealistic construction schedules will be considered to be less advantageous proposals.

Proposals that provide a detailed development timetable that is feasible, demonstrates an understanding of the development process, and provides clear indication that the project will be completed within a time frame that is efficient and reasonable for a project of its type, will be ranked as **Highly Advantageous**.

Proposals that provide a feasible development timetable, demonstrate a general understanding of the development process, but either lack detail and/or indicate that the project will be completed in a longer time period than other similar projects will be ranked as **Advantageous**.

Proposals that fail to provide a development timetable or propose a development timetable that is not timely or practical and/or demonstrates a lack of understanding of the development process will be ranked as **Not Advantageous**.
9. Good Jobs Standards for Full Time Employees
This criterion evaluates the relative strength of the proponent’s employment strategy narrative to respond to the seven point “Good Jobs” standard as articulated in the Submission Requirements section of this RFP. Narratives that are more comprehensive, complete and are able to document a credible implementation plan, will be ranked more highly advantageously. **To facilitate its evaluation of this Criterion, BPDA will seek community input in the form of a developer(s) presentation(s) with opportunity for public comment.**

Proposals that provide a comprehensive, complete and documented GJS Plan narrative that is superior to that of other proposals and is able to clearly explain its strategy for how it will attain its objectives, will be ranked **Highly Advantageous.**

Proposals that provide a comprehensive, complete and documented Good Jobs Plan that is similar or equal to all other submitted proposals will be ranked **Advantageous.**

Proposals that do not provide a comprehensive, complete and documented Good Jobs Plan that is inferior to other submitted proposals will be ranked **Not Advantageous.**

10. Development Without Displacement
This is an evaluation of the relative strength of the proposal for achieving the objective of development without displacement as articulated by the community. Proposals will be considered and rated based on the comprehensiveness of the Proponent’s planned approach to assisting the current residents of Roxbury to remain in their community in the future, afford housing, and find pathways to economic opportunity. **BPDA will seek community input in the form of developer(s)' presentation(s) with opportunity for public comment.**

Proposals that provide a comprehensive, highly reasonable, and achievable development without displacement strategy for a project of the type proposed
that is clearly superior to that of all other proposals shall be ranked **Highly Advantageous**.

Proposals that provide a reasonable and justifiable development without displacement strategy for a project of the type proposed that is similar or equal to all other submitted proposals shall be ranked **Advantageous**.

Proposals that do not provide a credible or detailed development without displacement strategy for a project of the type proposed, and/or propose a development without displacement strategy that is substantively inferior to all other submitted proposals shall be ranked **Not Advantageous**.

**11. Additional Benefits**

This criterion evaluates the Proponent’s relative ability to provide benefits to the local community that are in addition to those generated by the development of the Project Site itself. Proposals that offer benefits that the community most desires will be considered to be more advantageous. Proposals that offer fewer, or do not offer any additional community benefits will be considered to be less advantageous. **To facilitate its evaluation of this Criterion, BPDA will seek community input in the form of developer(s)’ presentation(s) with opportunity for public comment.**

Proposals that describe and quantify specific benefits that will be provided to the community, aside from the development of the property, and offer a level of benefits that are superior to those provided by other proposals will be ranked as **Highly Advantageous**.

Proposals that describe and quantify specific benefits that will be provided to the community, aside from the development of the property, and the level of benefits provided will be equal to those provided by other proposals will be ranked as **Advantageous**.

Proposals that do not sufficiently describe and quantify specific benefits to the community, other than the development of the property, and the level of
benefits provided are inferior to those provided by other proposals will be ranked as *Not Advantageous*. 
Contract Terms and Conditions

Disposition Price Proposal

In accordance with Section Two of the Act, the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (“DCAMM”) hired the services of an independent professional appraiser to determine the full and fair market value of SR-25. The appraisal commissioned by DCAMM established that the full and fair market value of SR-25 is Five Million, Ten Thousand Dollars ($5,010,000.00). In addition, the appraised value of the construction, maintenance, and repairs of the Park is $730,000. That value was subtracted from the full and fair market value of SR-25 as part of the Article 97 disposition of publicly owned open space from DCR to the BPDA.

Accordingly, any Proposal for the Proposed Property Site must reflect a minimum purchase price of Five Million, Ten Thousand Dollars ($5,010,000.00) for SR-25; a Proposal reflecting anything less than a purchase price of Five Million, Ten Thousand Dollars ($5,010,000) for SR-25 shall be rejected.

The Price Proposal must also reflect a purchase price for the City Parcel; a minimum purchase price of $100.00 has been established for the City Parcel. The market appraisal commissioned by DCAMM for SR-25 indicates to BPDA that the value of the City Parcel is $1,360,200. While BPDA expects a price proposal of at least that value, a lower price proposal will not be automatically rejected. A proposal offering a price lower than the appraisal
for the City Parcel must demonstrate that the proposed use of the City Parcel will require affordable housing subsidy.

The BPDA is selling both SR-25 and the City Parcel (together, “the Parcels”) to one (1) entity; any proposals to purchase only one (1) of the Parcels shall be rejected.

For the purpose of preparing a Development and Operating Pro Forma, proponents should use these amounts (or greater if the offer exceeds them).

The SR-25 proceeds will be provided to the Commonwealth upon the conveyance of SR-25 and deposited in the Division of State Parks and Recreation Trust Fund and expended by DCR on improvements to the properties of the Roxbury Heritage State Park. “Roxbury Heritage State Park” shall mean: the Dillaway-Thomas House property and adjacent parcels presently under the care and control of DCR, located at 183 Roxbury Street, and any land to be acquired by DCR expressly for addition to Roxbury Heritage State Park.

**Proponent Designation and Conveyance**

Upon a satisfactory review of all proposals submitted to the BPDA pursuant to this RFP, as well as the completion of any subsequent applicable reviews resulting therefrom and relating thereto, BPDA staff will request Board approval to award a single proponent Tentative Designation status. The Tentative Designation status shall be for a nine-month period. Pending sufficient progress during the Tentative Designation period, BPDA staff will then request that the BPDA Board award Final Designation status to the selected proponent, prior to the expiration of the Tentative Designation period. During the Tentative Designation period, the selected proponent shall accomplish, among other things, the following in order to be considered for Final Designation status:

- Provide evidence of necessary financing and equity;
• approval of its development schedule including submittal of development plans;

• BPDA Design Review;

• Article 37 Initial Filing Compliance;

• Completion of the Article 80 process with the BPDA;

• Issuance of all required building permits; and

• Negotiated terms and conditions of a ground lease.

Final designation will be granted upon satisfactorily completing all required terms and conditions. The proposal will be subject to subsequent stages of BPDA development and design review, including Article 80 if required. The Director of the BPDA will then be authorized for and on behalf of the BPDA to execute and deliver a Land Disposition Agreement (“LDA”). The LDA will restrict the use of the Proposed Property Site to those specifically approved by the BPDA. Final Designation will be automatically rescinded without prejudice and without any further authorization or approvals by the BPDA’s Board, if the Proposed Property Site has not been conveyed by a designated time frame established by the BPDA Board.

**Additional Terms and Conditions**

**Boston Resident Jobs Policy.** Construction on this project must comply with the Boston Residents Jobs Policy. Compliance review includes an assessment of whether the project is meeting the following employment standards:

• At least 51 percent of the total work hours of journey people and fifty-one percent of the total work hours of apprentices in each trade must go to Boston residents;

• at least 40 percent of the total work hours of journey people and forty percent of the total work hours of apprentices in each trade must go to people of color, and
• at least 12 percent of the total work hours of journey people and twelve percent of the total work hours of apprentices in each trade must go to women.

For more information on how to achieve compliance with the Boston Residents Jobs Policy, please see City of Boston Code, Ordinances, Section 8-9, and Appendix A.

**Development Costs.** The preparation and submission of all proposals by any person, group or organization is at the sole expense of such person, group or organization. Proponents shall be responsible for any and all costs incurred in connection with the planning and development of the Proposed Property Site. The BPDA and the City of Boston shall not be liable for any such costs nor shall the BDPA or the City of Boston be required to reimburse the applicants for such costs.

**Site improvements.** All site improvements, including sidewalks, street lights and street trees, shall be paid for by the selected Proponent, and the estimated costs for such improvements must be documented in the development pro forma. The selected Proponent will pay for the cost of any utility relocation not paid by a utility company. The selected Proponent will assume any and all liability for any environmental clean-up pursuant to Chapter 21E of the Massachusetts General Laws. The selected Proponent may be responsible for having the Proposed Property Site surveyed, with plans that are suitable for recording, at the expense of the Proponent.

**Policies and Regulations.** Development of the Proposed Property Site shall comply with the City of Boston’s zoning and building regulations, procedures and any other applicable City and/or State code(s). The project will be assessed and taxed by the City of Boston pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 59.

**Signage during Construction.** During the construction of the Proposed Property Site, the selected Proponent shall provide and display, at their expense, appropriate signage as required by the BPDA. Such signage must be approved by the BPDA prior to installation. The selected Proponent
should also provide signage that describes the project, including the number of affordable units, if applicable.

**Compliance with City of Boston Eviction Prevention Efforts.** Data collected from Boston Housing Court in 2015 indicates that at least 67% of evicted tenants were evicted from subsidized units. Because tenants that are evicted are often unable to secure alternate housing and also may be disqualified from future affordable housing opportunities, the City of Boston and BPDA are implementing eviction prevention strategies. Selected proponents developing affordable housing financed with public resources will be required to submit data on the number of evictions and terminated tenancies that exist in their portfolio of property during the previous twelve month period. They may also be asked to submit an eviction prevention plan. If the information received from selected proponents receiving City of Boston funding indicates a significant presence of evictions or terminated tenancies, the award of these funds may be suspended.
Appendix A: Information Resources

Proponents should consult the following web links for information to assist in proposal preparation.

- Plan of Land Dated November 2, 2016 (link)

City of Boston Zoning, Master Plans, and Development Review Information:

- Roxbury Strategic Master Plan (link)
- Dudley Square Vision (link)
- PLAN: Dudley Square (link)
- Roxbury Heritage State Park Master Plan (link)
- Zoning Map: 6A/6B Roxbury North (link)
- BPDA Development Review Information, including Article 80 and Article 37 (link)
- Boston Residents Jobs Policy (link)

Legal Requirements:

- Enabling Legislation: 2014 Massachusetts Sessions Law Chapter 281 (link)
- Draft Conservation Restriction (link)
- Draft Release Deed with Preservation Restriction (link)
Appendix B: Required Forms

- Price Proposal (link)
- Financial Submission Workbook (link)
- HUD Form 6004: Developer's Statement for Public Disclosure and Developer's Statement of Qualifications and Financial Responsibility (link)
- Disclosure Statement for Transaction with a Public Agency Concerning Real Property (link)
- BPDA & City of Boston Disclosure Statement (link)
- Certificate of Tax, Employment Security, and Contract Compliance (link)
- Submission Checklist (link)