PLAN: Charlestown

Mobility

How do you get around

Get Around
- walk = run
- bike
- trolley

I love the lake shore stations & bike lanes.
A trail on the
North side (parallel to
North Main St)
and path along Rutherford
would be great!

A town
Trolley would be nice.
Passing through main ski
historic areas.

The bridge at North Point
Park & the rail trails
connection along
Gilmore Bridge are good.
Bus to Lechmere/Kendall
would be good to connect
to Cambridge
Knowing Charlestown

What are the benefits and assets of the neighborhood?

- Family Community
- Local good schools
- Smaller retail shops
- Public transport
- Walkability
- Historical Aspects - Freedom Trail
- People
- Amenity
- Easy access to public parks
- Diversity
- Quaint streets, quiet downtown
- Waterfront
- Bicycle friendly
- Proximity to downtown

What would you like to stay the same in the neighborhood?

- Lower Density Living
- The Family Homes
- Community Spaces
- Families with children staying for local schools
- Single family houses
- Sports fields (built)
- Historical landmarks/spaces
- Trees
- No limited chain stores or pop-ups
- Proximity to expansion of affordable housing
- Neighborhood clean and safe
- Younger parks + rec office, that are easy to walk to

What are the challenges of living or working here?

- Traffic
- Opion Abuse
- Lack of restaurants
- Parking
- Gridlock
- Gritty
- Inefficient trolley
- Old buildings

What would you like to change about the neighborhood?

- Add more field space for youth sports
- Increase field spaces
- Get rid of MedVet (moving too far away)
- Improve parking for residents at night
- No more cash
- No more daily removal of community parking spots
- Charlemont High School to become a viable option for high performing alternative students
- Improved tree canopy
- More practical commuter space, bike
- More housing options (multi-family)
- Higher density, accessible for elderly
- What costs in Charlestown that are relevant for saving?
- More green
- Create historical zoning

bpda
www.bpda.boston.gov/plancharlestown
Who else should be invited to participate in this process? What is the best way to reach out to these groups/people?

- Residents - Patch, Grafton Street
- Knock on doors (if not online

ALL AGENCIES, CITY, STATE, FEDERAL THAT HAVE AN INTEREST IN THE AREA - BIDWORTH/PROSPECT

CMA

Democrats, Republicans - Common Council
- Retiring from list

How would you like to participate in this process? Share your ideas for future events.

GROUP MEETINGS TO ADDRESS SPECIFIC THEMES

- Citywide issues
- Neighborhood issues
- Elderly...summary

Development issues

Need an in-person option for people who are unable to attend in-person meetings. Could be done in-person where someone would be present during in-person meetings.

2 meetings on same topic (to ensure people who can't make one could make the other) held close to people/stakeholders engaged in project

Define for one?

Have an online way to participate in more detail.

Join the Advisory Group

Mayor Martin J. Walsh and BPDA seek nominations for Charlestown stakeholders to serve on the PLAN: Charlestown Advisory Group (AG).

The AG will be made up of community members who will share the perspectives of their represented groups to inform the work of the planning process.

Nominations Due: March 6th, 2020
Attendees are encouraged to meet new people and share ideas. Consider spending some time at a station on an unfamiliar topic, and get to know your neighbors who care about that issue. At the end of the evening, please hand in this form to a member of the staff team. Comments will be posted to the project website at www.bostonplans.org/plancharlestown

Please share a new idea, or viewpoint that you learned from another participant tonight.

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What about the meeting format did you find helpful? What could be improved for future meetings?

I think many topics of planning were covered on the boards, which was great. The historic boards (either for future Charlestown meetings or other neighborhoods) would be more engaging if the shots showed before/after to give people an idea of that locations' transformation and for context.

Please share any general thoughts on PLAN: Charlestown.

One of the few boards where people wrote their feedback (eg. benefits, concerns, what do you want changed) I'd be curious to have a meeting or input method (online portal) where those could be elaborated on. Many people have the same concerns (traffic, parking, etc) as every other neighborhood. But understanding what it is specifically that gives them that impression (eg. is it a particular street, area, or do they think that about all of Charlestown.) Some of the concerns I saw written were not ones I actually see regularly living here.
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I was unable to hear much of the statement.

What about the meeting format did you find helpful? What could be improved for future meetings?

I like the explanations of the displays.

Please share any general thoughts on PLAN: Charlestown.

We need to be heard, and our needs to be taken seriously.
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Please share any general thoughts on PLAN: Charlestown.

Need WATER Transportation enhancement
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What about the meeting format did you find helpful? What could be improved for future meetings?

I wasn’t able to get into the event too crowded.

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Please share any general thoughts on PLAN: Charlestown.

It is a good start but we need to continue to figure out development vs. infrastructure. We should also open up streets to make it easier to move through the area.
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- The format tonight was not informative.
- Could not hear. Representatives from the city told different answers to the same questions. Some did not know why they are here.

What about the meeting format did you find helpful? What could be improved for future meetings?

- A presentation with community questions and answers - recorded - so those who could not attend can participate.
- North end waterfront records their meetings.

Please share any general thoughts on PLAN: Charlestown.
- This are important issues.
- This is not helpful.
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Please share any general thoughts on PLAN: Charlestown.

Reduce noise pollution from Tobin Bridge.
Consider sound barrier on highway entering Charlestown to dampen.

[Signatures]
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Preservation Society included on all meetings going forward

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Please share any general thoughts on PLAN: Charlestown.

Plan to Decrease density of neighborhoods makes sense.
Oversaturation of multi-family buildings.
Address lack of parking spaces for residents—open up lots in evening w/ reasonable time to move in morning hours.
Sustainable infrastructure to support current residents population.
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Stop all the development, starting to feel squished in.
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Upzoning Works, so increased density that allows for some affordable densitybonus. More density allowed for 10% affordable units at 120% AMI, and NO parking requirements. Parking is hot.

What about the meeting format did you find helpful? What could be improved for future meetings?


Please share any general thoughts on PLAN: Charlestown.

Bigger is better.
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Excellent display.

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Please share any general thoughts on PLAN: Charlestown.
Sullivan Sq was originally designed by Frederick Law Olmsted. New design should incorporate features + pay tribute to his beautiful design.
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Please share any general thoughts on PLAN: Charlestown.

Consider the younger generations moving in the

want to stay and raise your family.

- Schools -> allowing Charlestown kids to
  go to Charlestown schools

- More commercial space that is
  useful (no more small expensive boutiques)
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What about the meeting format did you find helpful? What could be improved for future meetings?

Because we had a good turnout the posters were hard to study.
Perhaps slideshow or slideshows would be better.

Please share any general thoughts on PLAN: Charlestown.

Please consider adding small historically informative signs - sidewalk embeds or egual to point out neighborhood history example - Green St. were battle line @ the Bunker Hill Battle.
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What about the meeting format did you find helpful? What could be improved for future meetings?

- Meetings should be held at times working family people can attend (e.g. nights, weekends)
- Don’t let the loudest people or groups control the process. A loud minority shouldn’t be able to block/control development in this neighborhood’s city.

Please share any general thoughts on PLAN: Charlestown.

- Boston & the region are experiencing a housing shortage crisis. It’s good to listen to community input, but it shouldn’t be allowed to slow or block needed development.
- This process is, by nature, undemocratic & should be for information sharing only.
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What about the meeting format did you find helpful? What could be improved for future meetings?

Layout of room not ideal... perhaps boards against free walls and seating in the center. Thank you!

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This event lacked accessibility. From the setup of the posters to the titles of the posters themselves, the space excluded pop communities that need to be heard and understood.

What about the meeting format did you find helpful? What could be improved for future meetings?

For future meetings, there needs to be a focus to making the space as accessible as possible. There are ways to set up the room to make way the presentations were set up as.

Please share any general thoughts on PLAN: Charlestown.

Be more respectful of the emotional component of this project. For many of us, change has already led to some very negative experiences rooted in racism, xenophobia, and classism. Furthermore, planning needs to bring everyone to the table for translation of payers, access to assistive technologies, and a focused effort to include the residents of Charlestown that are often forgotten.
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What about the meeting format did you find helpful? What could be improved for future meetings?

Would like formal presentation + Q&A. Liked the posters for general interest, but still don’t know where the planning is or where it’s going.

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Please share any general thoughts on PLAN: Charlestown.

1/ I work in Kendall, 2.2 miles from home. It took me 35 min tonight to get home. Might as well live in Newton.
2/ Blue bikes aren’t a commute option in the rain, in 10° weather - that can’t be the failback.

 ARGIE arjwecz@gmail.com
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Please share any general thoughts on PLAN: Charlestown.

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Need more specificity on what is currently happening, next steps. This is a good summary of 2030, would like a presentation of overall overview followed by Q&A to get feedback from residents.
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I CANNOT HEAR ANYTHING

Did I hear that all of Charlestown is included in Masterplan?

What about the meeting format did you find helpful? What could be improved for future meetings?

UNSATISFACTORY

Nice attempt with stations and in-game but this venue is not symmetrical and encourages conversation, but I could not hear questions.

Please share any general thoughts on PLAN: Charlestown.

I would like to know that some may say 'encouraging' and to transparent and listen and respect what residents say.