

**MEMORANDUM**

**DECEMBER 5, 2013**

**TO:** BOSTON REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY and  
PETER MEADE, DIRECTOR

**FROM:** KAIROS SHEN, CHIEF PLANNER  
JAMES FITZGERALD, SENIOR MANAGER TRANSPORTATION

**SUBJECT:** SOUTH BOSTON TRANSPORTATION PLAN

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**SUMMARY:** This Memorandum requests that the Boston Redevelopment Authority Board ("BRA") authorize the Director to enter into: (1) a Project Funding Agreement with the City of Boston, Massport, MassDOT and the Massachusetts Convention Center Authority ("MCCA") for the completion of a new South Boston Transportation Plan; and (2) a Memorandum of Agreement by and among the BRA, the City of Boston and the MCCA regarding the distribution of funds currently being held by the MCCA from the sale of the Contos Air Rights to fund a portion of the South Boston Transportation Plan.

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**BACKGROUND**

Since early summer 2013, the Boston Redevelopment Authority ("BRA") planning staff along with staff from the City's Transportation Department ("BTD") and Public Works Departments ("PWD"), have been working collectively with staff from Massport, MassDOT, the Massachusetts Convention Center Authority ("MCCA") and A Better City ("ABC"), on transportation and mobility issues in the South Boston Waterfront.

Many of the infrastructure improvements and policies that are in place were guided by the South Boston Transportation Plan lead by BTD and completed in 2000. Now that the area's major transportation infrastructure has been in place for some time, and the expected nature and pace of development in the area is better understood, all parties involved realize the importance of carefully planning for the Innovation District's future and progression to full build-out. In conjunction with these partners we are seeking to provide joint funding to secure supplementary transportation planning services. This effort will take an integrated multi-modal approach that services multiple user groups (e.g., employees, residents, conventioners/visitors, maritime industrial businesses) and involves all major stakeholders, public and private. The new South Boston Transportation Plan will provide for anticipated growth in commercial, tourist,

and residential development (including expansion of the BCEC), and also accommodate the equally important needs of the maritime industrial activities of the Port of Boston.

## **FUNDING**

Collectively the City of Boston and the BRA will contribute a maximum of \$250,000 toward consultant services for the completion of the South Boston Transportation Plan. This collaborative effort will also be receiving up to \$250,000 from Massport, MassDOT and the MCCA, for a total project budget of \$1 million. The BRA will also be contributing significant staff planning and design resources to this effort. Funding for the City of Boston/BRA portion of the South Boston Transportation Plan is to be paid from a portion of funds currently being held by the MCCA from the sale of the Contos Air Rights.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

BRA staff recommends that the Director be authorized to enter into: (1) a Project Funding Agreement with the City of Boston, Massport, MassDOT and the MCCA for the completion of a new South Boston Transportation Plan; and (2) a Memorandum of Agreement by and among the BRA, the City of Boston and the MCCA regarding the distribution of funds currently being held by the MCCA from the sale of the Contos Air Rights to fund a portion of the South Boston Transportation Plan.

Appropriate votes follow:

**VOTED:** That the Director be, and hereby is, authorized to enter into a Project Funding Agreement for the South Boston Transportation Plan, on terms and conditions determined to be in the best interests of the Boston Redevelopment Authority by the Director in his discretion; and

## **FURTHER**

**VOTED:** That the Director be, and hereby is, authorized to enter into an Memorandum of Agreement by and among the Boston Redevelopment Authority, the City of Boston and the Massachusetts Convention Center Authority concerning the distribution of sale payments currently being held by the Massachusetts Convention Center Authority from the Contos Air Rights toward the payment of consultant services associated with the South Boston Transportation Plan.