Western Ave Virtual Chat with a Planner
July 14, 2020
Meeting Format

- **Casual**: opportunity to meet and chat with the team.
- Presentation followed by Q & A, comments, discussion.
- During the presentation you can ask questions through the chat feature. Depending on the question, we will answer it in writing in the chat box, verbally, or wait until the Q&A period.
- The BPDA is piloting this platform. If you have feedback regarding this platform and meeting format please let us know.
- Brief survey at end of meeting – please take it!
Zoom Tips

Your controls should be available at the bottom of the screen.
Clicking on these symbols activates different features:
Virtual Meeting Etiquette

- Please be respectful of each other’s time so that all may participate in the discussion.
- Please wait until all attendees have the opportunity to ask a question before asking a second.
- You can always set up a conversation with Gerald Autler, Senior Project Manager/Planner, Gerald.Autler@boston.gov.
Meeting Recording

- The BPDA will be recording this meeting and posting it on its website at bit.ly/WesternCorridor. The recording will include the presentation, Q&A, and public comments afterwards.
- Also, it is possible that participants may be recording the meeting with their phone cameras or other devices.
- If you do not wish to be recorded during the meeting, please turn off your microphone and camera.
COVID-19 Resources

Stay up-to-date with COVID-19 related announcements, City of Boston reopening plans, and resources for you and your community at:

boston.gov/coronavirus
2020 Census Update & Reminder

Key Dates:
August 11 - Doorknocking begins.
October 31 - Last day to respond.

Quick Facts:
As of 7/7, 52.2% (about 175,800) of Boston’s households have responded.
In 2010, the final response rate was 64.4%.

The Census has never been more accessible. You can respond:
Online (my2020census.gov)
Over the phone, or by mail.
13 different languages available.

Boston depends on your household to respond. For every person not counted, nearly $2,400 per year in federal funding is lost for the next ten years.
Presentation Topics

- Who, What, Where, When, Why...How
- Engagement and Outcomes: past and future
- High-Level Planning and Zoning Goals
Team: Core BPDA Planning

Gerald Autler
Rosa Herrero
Kennan Rhyne
Charlotte Ong
Team: Other BPDA

- Community Engagement: Mark McGonagle
- Urban Design: Jeong-Jun Ju, Matt Martin
- Zoning: Bryan Glascock, Jeff Hampton
- Legal: Matt Fitzgerald
- BPDA Transportation and Infrastructure: Tad Read, Jack Halverson
- Mapping: Carolyn Bennett, Piaotian Jin, Alla Ziskin
- Smart Utilities: Manuel Esquivel
Team: City of Boston and Consultants

● Other City of Boston:
  • Parks, Public Works, Transportation, ONS (Conor Newman)

● Consultants:
  • Jon Stover and Associates (financial analysis)
  • Kittelson (transportation)
Western Avenue Corridor Study & Rezoning

- The Western Avenue Corridor Study and Rezoning will:
  - Build on previous planning in the area.
  - Foster dialogue among residents, developers, and property owners.
  - Inform recommendations for new or modified zoning.
  - Recommend public realm improvements and transportation enhancements in conjunction with the Allston Brighton Mobility Study.
Study Area
Current Development Proposals
Timeline

Kickoff
Planning Goals
Analysis
Recommendations
Rezoning

Fall 2019
Winter/Spring
Summer/Fall 2020

WE ARE HERE
Past Engagement and Outcomes

- September 16: Open House
- October 5: Walking and Biking Tour
- October 30: Neighborhood Goals and Street Design Workshop
  - Planning goals
  - Western Avenue cross-section options
Past Engagement and Outcomes

- **December 9: Development Feasibility and Benefits 101**
  - Presentation of outcomes from October 30
  - Background on development feasibility and benefits

- **January 6: Development Feasibility & Western Avenue Redesign**
  - Review of feedback and goals
  - Consultant introduction and background
  - Western Avenue redesign feedback and options
Future Engagement and Outcomes

- Online events and office hours
- Self-guided materials (both online and physical)
- Summer/fall topics:
  - Draft urban design framework, financial analysis, introduction to scenario methodology
  - Scenarios with financial and transportation impacts/feedback
  - Draft recommendations/feedback
Goals

1. Multi-modal Western Avenue with a great public realm, active streetscape, and neighborhood retail

- **Set new development back** from Western Ave
- Leverage development to create **great public realm**
- Include **ground floor active space** east of Telford Street
- **Anchor active corridor** at Telford and Barry’s Corner
Goals

2. More and better connections
   - Improve connections to river at multiple points
   - Ensure porosity between Western Avenue and SFR
   - Break down area south of Western Ave in order to and provide access across I-90
Goals

3. Significant new green space south of Western Avenue
   - Create an open space system to support growing population and as an anchor for new residential neighborhood
Survey

Please take a one-minute survey at:

bit.ly/westerncorridor
If you attended the July 14 virtual meeting please fill out this survey.
Community Conversation

- Write your question in the chat.

**OR**

- Raise your hand or use chat to indicate you’d like to speak.
- Unmute microphone when called on by moderator.
- Please allow everyone space to participate.
- If you are joining only by phone, unfortunately, you will not be able to ask questions.
Zoom Tips

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Thank you

CONTACT US:

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