

# THE BOSTON SUN

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

SERVING BACK BAY - SOUTH END - FENWAY - KENMORE

## CELEBRATING DR. KING 'WE SHALL OVERCOME' AT THE FCC



PHOTO BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

Bright Star Playmakers Reparatory Company performers Rosa Campbell and Blake Currie sing "We Shall Overcome," the anthem of protest against segregation and other racist policies in the United States. The performers came on a bus tour from North Carolina to perform at various venues, including the Fenway Community Center's MLK luncheon on Wednesday, Jan. 15. The performance included re-enactments of several moments in the fight for Civil Rights during the 1950s and 1960s.

## 'SPRITES & SPIRITS' DEBUTS AT KAJI ASO STUDIO IN FENWAY



PHOTO BY MIKE MEJIA

Soprano Suzanne Parker sings while Jonathan Lovenstein, who returned for the 31st consecutive year, plays piano during the opening reception for 'Sprites and Spirits' at the Kaji Aso Studio in the Fenway on Saturday, Jan. 18. The Fenway studio celebrated its 46<sup>th</sup> year last November.

## State Administration to hold hearing on future of Hynes Convention Center

By Dan Murphy

With Gov. Charlie Baker putting the John B. Hynes Convention Center up for sale as part of a plan to expand the Boston and Exhibition Center in the Seaport, the State Administration Committee has scheduled a hearing regard-

ing the Hynes' future for Monday, Jan. 27, from 1 to 4 p.m. in Room A-1 in the Statehouse.

"I am very concerned about the impact of the loss of the Hynes on the business community of the Back Bay, and I am even more concerned about the impact of a possible unknown replacement of the Hynes on the quality of life in

the Back Bay neighborhood," Sen. William Brownsberger wrote. "We are working to assess both of these impacts and we are still waiting for a lot of information from the Baker administration. Uncertainty is not a good thing for the community, so I hope that we can start to

(HYNES CENTER, Pg. 2)

## 'Executive Suite' loophole closes; Sonder drops Albany Street petition

By Seth Daniel

Neighborhood and City officials are cheering a change to the Zoning Code this month that closed a loophole attempting to be exploited by many short-term rental companies hoping to evade the City's new regulations on the industry.

The Zoning Commission on Jan. 8, in a unanimous vote, approved a text amendment to the Zoning Codes - allowing "Executive Suites" to fall under the same community and Zoning Board

process as all short-term rentals.

Chris English, a policy advisor for the Mayor's Office, said when the short-term rental (also known as AirBNB) regulations were crafted, the City felt that Executive Suites already existed in the zoning code and were more of a commercial use - and so they left them unaddressed when passing new, more residential based, short-term regulations.

Then they began to see the floodgates open.

"As our lawsuit with AirBNB ended and we started our enforce-

ment of short-term regulations, we started to see an uptick of applications for Executive Suite conversions," said English. "A handful of them were approved by right. They actually moved forward with a simple paperwork change. We saw in the end of August and in September that the same group of applicants were trying to convert a large number of units to Executive Suites. We figured this was the loophole that they were trying to exploit to get around our short-

(EXECUTIVE SUITE, Pg. 3)

## BPDA approves Boylston Street project, rental units, LGBTQ-centric theater

By John Lynds

At its monthly board meeting the Boston Planning and Development Agency approved the mixed-use project at 1252-1257 Boylston St. in the Fenway.

The BPDA approved project will bring 451 rental units that includes 68 income-restricted units, as well as a 10,000 square-foot LGBTQ-centric non-profit theater.

The 15-story, 226,700 square-foot building will honor the site's history and affiliation with the LGBTQ community. The development team has signed a Letter of Intent with The Theater Offensive (TTO) to develop a Black Box Theater on the ground floor as part of the development.

TTO is a 30-year social change organization that uses theater and the creative process to deconstruct oppressive practices and policies

to liberate queer and trans people of color. Over the years TTO has presented liberating art by, for, and about queer and trans people of color that transcends artistic boundaries, celebrates cultural abundance, and dismantles oppression.

The 10,000 square-foot performing arts venue will include a 156-seat dedicated community space, flexible space, actor spaces, public spaces and support spaces.

Donna Owens, Chair of the Board of Directors of TTO, said her group is excited to be part of the Boylston Street project.

"In the summer of 2017, The Theater Offensive gathered staff, board, and community members to develop a new three-year organizational strategy," said Owens. "In short order, we have realized a number of our strategy-driven

(BOYLSTON ST., Pg. 5)

## COMMUNITY CONCERT AT CATHEDRAL OF THE HOLY CROSS



PHOTO BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

Mark Brown performs in one of the Gregorian Impressions during the Cathedral of the Holy Cross's community organ concert on Sunday, Jan. 12. Since fully restoring the church and the organ, the Cathedral has welcomed the community into the Cathedral for wonderful music by Director Richard J. Clark. See more photos on Page 8.

# EDITORIAL

## WINTER: SO FAR, SO GOOD (AND NOT SO GOOD)

The winter season thus far has been fairly easy to take for those of us who have lived in New England for all of our lives.

The warmer-than-normal temperatures, highlighted by the record-breaking highs in the 70s two weekends ago, have been welcome, especially for our home heating bills, which are much less than usual. And as we write this at the beginning of this week, the forecast through the end of the month is for continued warmer-than-normal temperatures.

The lack of snow also has been a nice respite from the usual onslaught of winter, both for our backs (for those of us who shovel) and for municipal budgets, whose snow removal costs have been under control through the first two-thirds of what is considered to be the meteorological winter months of December, January, and February.

Of course, we all know that February often is associated with huge blizzards and March can roar in like a lion -- so we'd be the last to suggest that we should count our mild winters before the first crocuses push through the ground. Ol' Man Winter no doubt will have a few tricks up his sleeve.

However, what is undeniable is that the record-setting days of warmth that we have experienced this winter, as well as in the past few winters, are part of the trend toward warmer temperatures around the world.

When we were growing up (in the 1960s), the term "January thaw" referred to a few days when temperatures might have climbed to the high 30s after a period of a few weeks with temps in the single digits and teens.

But the January thaws of our childhood were nothing compared to the spring-like days we have experienced in the middle of these past few winters.

Climate change no longer is just a hypothetical. The recently-concluded decade of 2010-19 was the hottest that ever has been recorded on earth. The resultant changes to our climate are fitting the models predicted by scientists since the 1950s, who correctly surmised back then and ever since that the infusion into the atmosphere of man-made greenhouse gases would have a significant impact on our climate.

Our warming planet will have negative effects that only now are becoming evident, as scientific theory meets real-world conditions -- the burning of Australia within the past few weeks being a case in point.

Moreover, it is becoming increasingly clear that the previous scientific models of a warming planet understated the rapidity with which dramatic changes to our environment are taking place. We no longer can take comfort in thinking that climate change is something that is decades away.

Climate change is happening now -- and it is becoming more evident with each passing day that the planet is being sacrificed to the greed of corporate interests who control our government officials, to the detriment of every living creature, including ourselves.



TOM BRADY'S FUTURE IS STILL UP IN THE AIR

### GUEST OP-ED

## Tariffs will hurt small businesses on Main Street USA

By Ryan Maloney

The effect of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) announced tariffs on small U.S. businesses is dramatic and have the potential to become devastating. Not only would it effect suppliers and wholesalers of wine and single malt scotch, but it would also have an influence at the retail level. Jobs and stores will be lost right on Main Street USA where the impact will be felt most.

Wine in the first round of tariffs was a 25-percent increase. Some suppliers were able to absorb it, but 100-percent will be much tougher and for smaller retailers, impossible.

In the case of European Whisk(e)y, there are different hurdles. Single malt scotch sent to the U.S. has to be specially bottled in a 750 ml. While the rest of the world

(except South Africa) uses 700 ml. So if there are more impediments like a 25-100-percent tariff, anything but the basic whisk(e)y will be shipped to U.S. The slack will be taken up elsewhere especially China where demand is high.

Many smaller retailers of wine and whisky have invested deeply in specialty items that the big chains and big-box stores do not carry, these items are exactly the products that have been targeted by the tariffs! You are essentially taking away the one advantage these stores have to stay relevant and in business. It is unfathomable that they are being sacrificed to prove a point about a dispute between two international mega corporations in a field not even relevant to the same industry!

Further these new round of tariffs are now being used a bludgeoning tool against the European Union to help internet corpora-

tions that are not even paying their fair share domestically! Boeing, Facebook, Amazon, and Google are well equipped to weather international trade disputes within their own industries.

Unfortunately, the Mom and Pop stores are not designed survive when their livelihood is being used as a chess-piece in a multi country trade dispute. Especially a trade dispute in which they have no say and no recourse. It is important to note that there are no subsidies to the small businesses that will be effected by these tariffs, as there were with agricultural tariffs. There are better ways within each of these disputed industries to handle this without putting undue stress on an industry that is dominated by small businesses.

Ryan Maloney is President, Massachusetts Package Store Association.

### HYNES CENTER (from pg. 1)

get our options in better focus very soon."

State Rep. Jay Livingstone added, "I look forward to a public discussion of the positives and negatives of Governor Baker's proposal and working with residents and businesses of Back Bay to find the best result for the neighborhood."

In September, the Massachusetts Convention Center Authority voted in favor of Gov. Baker's plan, and Colliers International is now handling the sale of the Hynes.

"We appreciated, and were impressed by, the talent and diversity of the team Col-

liers' assembled for this project," MCCA Executive Director David Gibbons said in a statement. "The MCCA was purposeful in its goal to be diverse and inclusive and Colliers proved their commitment to exceeding the high bar that was set."

## THE BOSTON SUN

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# NEWS BRIEFS

## FLYNN CALLS FOR WEEKEND WORK HEARING

City Councilor Ed Flynn has called for a Council hearing on the practice of granting permits for weekend and after-hours construction work – a topic that has been front and center in the South End for some time. A new protocol was established and a lot of illicit work on weekends has been stopped.

However, Flynn said there are still a lot of permits that are being allowed for the weekend.

He believes it's too much. "There are a lot of requests for after-hours construction and a lot of it is happening in the South End," he said. "The process needs to be looked at and they shouldn't be given out as much as they are. It's a big impact on families, especially those with kids who need to get up to go to school."

## BACK BAY HAPPENINGS

- **SAVE THE DATE** for a new winter event on Boston Common! To celebrate our 50th Anniversary, on Sunday, February 9, the Friends of the Public Garden will be sponsoring Skating with Friends, FREE skating for all on the Frog Pond! Stay tuned for more updates.

- Save the Date: Friends

of the Public Garden 50th Annual Meeting

Join the Friends of the Public Garden for the 50th Annual Meeting at the Omni Parker House Hotel on Thursday, April 2. Event begins promptly at 6:00pm. Stay tuned for additional information as the date approaches.

## SOUTH END DATES

- The will be a meeting for the greater South End communi-

ty sponsored by IBA to discuss its plan to demolish the former church/Arts Center in order to build a new center. The plan is currently stuck before Landmarks and Inspectional Services. The meeting will take place on Jan 29, in the Union United Church, Columbus Avenue, 6 p.m.

- The South End Forum Opiate Working Group meeting is tentative-

(NEWS BRIEFS, Pg. 11)

## EXECUTIVE SUITE (from pg. 1)

term regulations."

Those Executive Suites were first noticed by the Boston Sun last summer when residents of some of the newer buildings – including 345 Harrison – reported that there were guests staying one or two nights in what were meant to be apartments. In that case, a company called Churchill Living had leased out a block of regular apartments and were renting them out similar to a hotel. The same thing was happening just down the block from that building by a company called Sonder.

As that process continued, and more executive suites were converted, English said the administration, City Council and concerned community members worked hard to close the loophole.

With about 200 units in the process of conversion on Jan. 8, the Zoning Commission passed its new regulations that would give the community warning and input before any Suites could be converted by corporate short-term rental companies.

"We had about 200 or so units in the application process at the time of the Zoning Commission vote," said English. "Now, all of those will have to go through a neighborhood process and go through the Zoning Board of Appeal if they want to move forward."

Councilor Ed Flynn, whose district in the South End and Chinatown has been disproportionately impacted by the Executive Suite situation, said applicants would now have to come to community meetings, and then move on the ZBA with or without the blessing of the neighbors. That, he said, is a protection that will help to preserve quality of life and keep living units in place for families and residents – not out of town rental agencies.

"Before the amendment, the Zoning Code for some neighborhoods allowed units by right to be converted to Executive Suites without a community process," he

said. "The new amendment would require community input. It's about quality of life for residents and not about these companies. I think it's a victory for the neighborhoods, and it brought neighbors together and they demanded input and advocated for their position. I'm proud to have worked with the neighbors and neighborhood associations. I give them a lot of credit because this is important. A lot of good people, longtime residents, immigrant communities, and low-income residents could have been displaced because of this loophole."

Already it seems to be having an effect.

On Tuesday night, Sonder representatives were to be before the Blackstone/Franklin Square Neighborhood Association (BFSNA) for discussion of a proposal to convert units in the neighborhood. Sonder wanted to convert 14 of 40 existing rental apartments at 601 Albany St. to Executive Suite short-term rentals. It was one of the many requests that are before the City and within the new process.

Sonder's Gregg Klein and Zoning Attorney Matt Eckel had been on the agenda to explain their proposal and the timeline for the conversion – which also would have had to make a trip to the ZBA.

However, Sonder pulled their proposal last Friday, said President David Stone.

"They are now reconsidering the proposal and whether to go forward with their project," he said on Tuesday night.

The Sun also revisited the 345 Harrison situation this week.

In an unsolicited e-mail from Churchill, the company was touting nightly rentals once again at 345 Harrison. The rate was as low as \$130 a night, with access to some amenities, including parking and some of the fitness room. Pets were encouraged.

However, after trying to book the room for a two-night stay in late January, a leasing agent wrote the Sun that they could no longer sched-

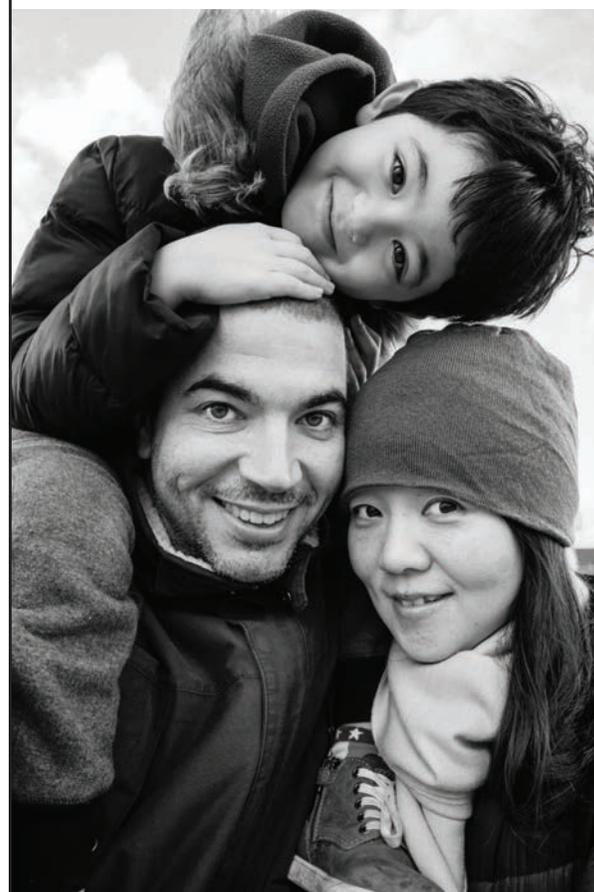
ule stays for less than 30 days.

"Thank you for your request," read the e-mail. "I am sorry, but in Boston we will need to book all stays for 30 days. Have a great weekend!"

It was not readily apparent what the enforcement status was for the Churchill units at 345 Harrison, but the City encourages residents to report all suspected illegal short-term rentals or Executive

Suites. The City said residents who have questions or concerns about any potential short-term rental unit are encouraged to contact 311 so that the Inspectional Services Department is notified.

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# Boston Common Master Plan team seeks more feedback at second open house

By Lauren Bennett

A second open house regarding the Boston Common Master Plan was held on Jan. 15 at the Josiah Quincy Upper School, where design and engineering firm Weston & Sampson presented the schedule and process for the project, as well as more concrete goals. Additionally, the public was invited to split into breakout groups to

discuss what they would like to see in each area of the park.

Gene Bolinger of Weston & Sampson said the Master Plan is intended to be a 15-month process, as they “don’t want to take too much time for people to see meaningful change on the Boston Common.”

Weston and Sampson, along with other stakeholders such as the Boston Parks Department and the

Friends of the Public Garden, have been working on a robust public engagement process for the Master Plan, as they are very interested in making this a true “people’s park.” So far 1,500 people have attended mini pop-up sessions across the city to provide feedback, and more than 5,500 people have shared their thoughts and suggestions about the park, Bolinger said. He said that many people request-

ed more trees, more free events, a fenced-in dog park, a bigger playground, and better food options, among many other things.

“People have been amazingly generous so far about contributing their thoughts and ideas about the Boston Common,” Bolinger said. “This public engagement process is not done tonight. It’s going to continue on.”

Bolinger said that around this summer, the Master Plan document should be done, and potential early action projects and improvements could begin as early as this calendar year.

“The project team has spent a fair bit of time talking about guiding principles and goals and objectives,” he said.

Some of the guiding principles for the Master Plan include that the park means “many things to all people,” as it is a “critical outlet for surrounding neighborhoods” who use it as their backyards as well as larger events, Bolinger said.

Additionally, the Boston Common is used as a major commuter route, and Weston & Sampson is looking at developing a plan that will continue to accommodate people who move through the park in many ways on a daily basis. Bolinger said that of the 4,500 people who responded to the online survey, over 80 percent of them said they use the Common as a means of commuting.

He added that they also want to recognize the people who come to the Common as a destination. “We’re trying to balance respect for nature and history with enhancements and improvements for this century,” Bolinger said.

Balancing park use and care is another guiding principle for the Master Plan, as Weston & Sampson wants to “strike the right balance of intensity of use and care and maintenance,” he said. Hand in-hand with that is championing resiliency strategies, which can help manage climate change.

Liza Meyer, Chief Landscape Architect for the City of Boston, talked about some of the project

goals as this process moves forward. Se said that a main goal is to “support and sustain a multi-functional park for a variety of users.” Additionally, the team hopes to use this process to inform projects into the future, strengthen the park’s character, improve the natural and physical infrastructure, expand amenities, and improve safety, maintenance and management of the park.

Cheri Ruane of Weston & Sampson talked about the six geographical areas that they have broken the Common into, which include the Parade Ground Zone above the Boston Common Parking Garage, the Frog Pond Zone, the Park Street Area, the Visitor Information Center/Parkman Bandstand, the Boylston Street area, and the athletic field area. Each of these zones are used for different purposes in the Common, and Weston & Sampson is really looking for feedback about what people like about each of the zones, and was they would like to see moving forward.

In areas like the Frog Pond Zone, the project team is curious as to how people want to see the Frog Pond used, as the infrastructure for the skating rink is starting to fail. The area also includes the Tadpole Playground, and the team wants to know if people think one playground is enough, or if the park should include multiple playgrounds. In the Park Street area, the team hopes to come up with a plan that will move the upwards of 25,000 people who travel through the area in the most efficient way, and also create an inclusive means of egress to the Shaw Memorial, as it is currently only accessible by stairs from inside the park.

The team is welcoming suggestions and ideas for every zone of the park and is working to incorporate these suggestions into the Master Plan, which will be used to create the improvements with the \$23 million that has been set aside for capital improvements to the park.

For more information on the Master Plan, visit [bostoncommon-masterplan.com](http://bostoncommon-masterplan.com).



## Public Meeting

### Lenox Apartments

Saturday, February 1

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

The Church of Saint Augustine & Saint Martin

29-33 Lenox Street

Roxbury, MA 02118

#### Project Proponent:

Beacon Communities Services, LLC

#### Project Description:

Beacon Communities Services, LLC, proposes to undertake a substantial capital improvement program to preserve Lenox Apartments located at 136 Lenox Street in the Lower Roxbury neighborhood of Boston (the “Project Site”). The Project Site is comprised of 285 units across twelve (12) three-story residential walk-up buildings totaling 250,525 square feet that is currently owned and managed by the Boston Housing Authority (BHA). Beacon Communities capital improvement program will ensure the physical integrity of Lenox Apartments and its long-term viability to continue to operate as affordable housing.

mail to: **John Campbell**  
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#### Close of Comment Period:

2/7/2020

[BostonPlans.org](http://BostonPlans.org) | [@BostonPlans](https://twitter.com/BostonPlans)

Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary



## Community Meeting

### PLAN: Nubian Square

### Roxbury Strategic Master Plan Oversight Committee

Monday, February 3

6:00 PM - 7:45 PM

Bolling Building

2300 Washington Street, 2nd Floor

Roxbury, MA 02119

#### Event Description

The Roxbury Strategic Master Plan Oversight Committee (RSMPOC) was developed to oversee projects that fall under the Roxbury Strategic Master Plan. Since the launch of PLAN: Nubian Square the RSMPOC meetings also include progress reports on the initiative.

At this meeting, the BPDA will be providing a debrief on the P3 Development Process, Lessons Learned, and Next Steps for the process.

All meetings are open to the public and community input is desired. For more information on the upcoming meeting, including the draft agenda and all materials from previous RSMPOC meetings, please visit [bit.ly/theRSMPOC](http://bit.ly/theRSMPOC).

Please come join your neighbors to help shape the future of the neighborhood!

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Sally Brewster      Betsey Barrett  
Ron Berkowitz      Toni Doggett

# Residents are enthusiastic about Phase 2 proposal

By Lauren Bennett

Fenway Center, a project on air rights parcels over the Massachusetts Turnpike in the Fen-way, is on track to becoming a reality, with changes to a previously approved proposal set to go before the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) board within the next month or two. A Community Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting regarding Phase Two of the Fenway Center project was held at the Fenway Community Center on January 15, where changes to the two building project were generally well-received by members of the CAC, many of which who have been involved with this project for over ten years.

John Rosenthal of Meredith Management, the developer for the project, said that Phase One of the Fenway Center project is currently under construction and set to be completed by June of this year. Phase One consists of buildings One and Two, totaling 346,000 square feet and approximately 312 residential units. He also discussed many of the community benefits that came along with the original approval of the project, which included the development of Lansdowne Station, a new intersection at Maitland and Beach Streets, and improvements to David Ortiz Drive.

The original approval for Phase Two happened in 2009, and included approval for 1,300,000 gross square feet, 1,290 parking spaces, and buildings that were mixed use commercial of-fice/lab, retail, residential, and parking.

The current Notice of Project change filed with the BPDA includes less housing and less parking, and Rosenthal said they will have a garage with 600 parking spaces, a small increase in height for the two buildings (Buildings Three and Four) due to the need for more rooftop me-chanicals to accommodate office, lab, and life science uses, since that's what the buildings will mainly consist of. Additionally, there will be connections to Lansdowne Station and more land-scaped public open space.

Rosenthal said that in order to finance a project in this location, rent that offices/labs are willing to pay are necessary. There is also a high demand for research and development as well as life science uses in proximity to the Longwood Medical area and Boston University, so this project will be able to provide those uses.

Todd Dundon of Gensler Architects said that the landscape design for this phase includes creating a series of open spaces that allow for people to pass through and connect from Brookline Ave. to Lansdowne, as well as opportunities for seating and activation from retail. There will also be an opportunity for a public garden as well. Trees will have to be planted in raised planters as it is not an option to compromise headroom for traffic below.

"Everybody's really thrilled to see this connection being made," said Tim Horn, CAC member and president of the Fenway Civic Association. "It's really exciting; it's really good to be a part of this." He said that the Fenway Civic Association still feels that even with the reduction in parking, it is still an excessive number of spots and fears that they will go unused fifteen years from now.

"Now we're looking at a way of doing a mechanical garage so in that day when parking isn't needed, it can be dismantled and floors put in," Rosenthal said. He said they want to adapt to a less car-centric Boston.

"You've been very thoughtful about the parking since the beginning," Pam Beale, owner of Cornwall's and a member of the CAC, said. She added that she believes a real solution to the traffic issue would be to have a 24-hour MBTA.

However, "I think all the changes are for the better," she said about the most recent proposal.

Once the deck is built, which Rosenthal said will start this summer, the buildings will go up and should be completed in 2023 or 2024.

Rosenthal thanked the community and the CAC for their involvement in this project over so many years. "What this community did, it was a big vision and it is coming to life; it is coming to fruition," he said.

Tim Czerweinski of the BPDA said that the comment period for this project closes on January 27, and comments can either be emailed to him or submitted through the project page on the BPDA website. He also said that a public hearing before the BPDA for a vote will be scheduled soon, possibly in February or March.

He added that this project is also pending comments and review from the city, and that it is finally becoming a reality: "We've been at this for quite some time."



An artist rendition of the BPDA approved project at 1252-1257 Boylston St. in Fenway that includes a 10,000 square-foot LGBTQ-centric non-profit theater.

## BOYLSTON ST. (from pg. 1)

goals. We are excited to support this partnership with Scape on the Black Box Theater, which will provide facilities stability for The Theater Offensive and other queer and trans organizations locally for the next 30 years and beyond.

Owens added TTO plans to deliver an iconic, innovative and enduring space to advance its mission.

"We intend to provide an accessible space for artistic experimentation, expression, and public discourse in service to the Fenway and greater Boston communities," she said. "We also seek to honor the site's historical importance to the Boston LGBTQ community."

Producing Co-Executive Directors of TTO Harold Steward and Evelyn Francis said they were excited by the opportunity to establish a creative hub for our thought provoking programs, including educational programs,

youth-centered leadership programs, community-led artistic experiences, and people-powered civic engagements.

"We look forward to securing a permanent home for queer and trans artists and youth, who have long sought a place for belonging in the Boston area, through our programming in the Black Box Theater," they said.

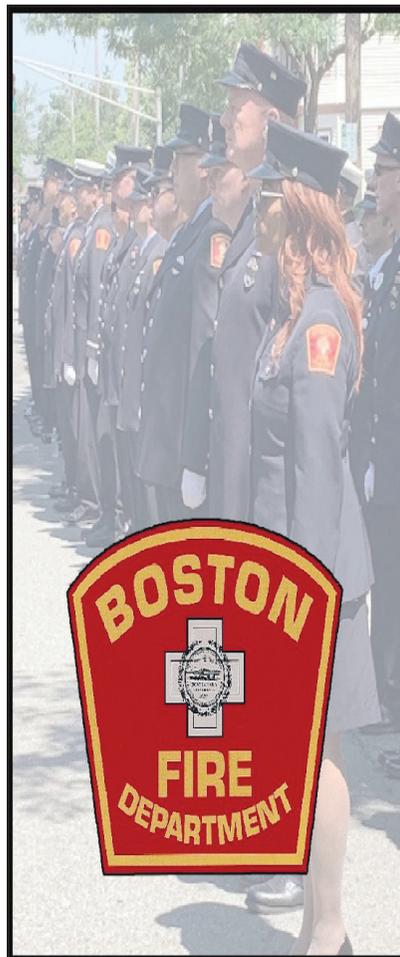
The Boylston Black Box will also help ground and grow a permanent community within the Fenway. As an established and thriving organization TTO will aid in creating a sense of stability, by acting as a conduit for maintaining, growing and defining the culture of the Fenway.

TTO is currently in a preliminary, planning phase of a capital campaign that will ultimately provide support for the building project, operations and endowment.

"This Letter of Intent reflects months of thoughtful engagement between TTO, Scape, and the City of Boston," said Owens. "This is the first significant step in this partnership, and we expect lots of work ahead to realize this opportunity. In the next few months, we expect to continue negotiations with Scape, sign a Letter of Acquisition, address public feedback, and outline the project's feasibility. We look forward to updating you on progress in the future."

In its ruling the BPDA wrote, "The newly approved project will bring a number of community benefits to Fenway and the City of Boston as a whole, including transportation, landscape and streetscape improvements to cultivate pedestrian activity and enhance the public realm."

There are no parking spaces associated with the project.



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## 'SPRITES & SPIRITS' AT KAJI ASO STUDIO OPENING

Photos by Mike Meija

Friends of the Kaji Aso Studio gathered on Saturday, Jan. 18, for the opening reception of the latest art exhibition, "Sprites & Spirits." Visitors escaped the snow and enjoyed a night filled with wine, food, poetry reading and music. Located on Fenway's Saint Stephen Street, the Kaji Aso Studio celebrated its 46th anniversary in November 2019.



Zinoviy Vayman speaking with Larry Sloss.



Barbara Fay selects chocolates, crackers, and chips during the social hour of the art opening.



Poet Harris Gardner speaks with artist Jeanne Gugino.



Pianist Linda Papatopoli speaks with Kim Clark of the South End



Katie Sloss listens intently during the poetry reading.



Kaji Aso Studio Executive Director Kate Finnegan and Monita Rajbanshi.



Artist Marjoie Layman reads a selection of poetry.



Artist Michael Biales reads from a book of poetry.

## D-4 reports 6-percent drop in crime; could be better

By Seth Daniel

The D-4 police district experienced a 6-percent decrease in overall crime over the past year, but Capt. Steve Sweeney told members of the Blackstone Franklin Square Neighborhood Association (BFSNA) he wasn't ready to celebrate just yet.

Sweeney told BFSNA on Tuesday night that while a 6-percent drop is good, the numbers could have been much better.

"Crime for the year is down 6-percent," he said. "That was good, but we were seeing much better numbers in August and then Atkinson Street (Operation Clean Sweep) pushed a lot of people into D-4 and into the neighborhoods. We saw a lot of package thefts and homeless and homeless crime... We're getting no cooperation from the victims on those crimes. We were down 10 percent at August. It's still good, but it could be better."

Police have instituted fixed posts in the area of Franklin Square, and "Officer Mike" has been patrolling the Blackstone/Franklin area on foot for some time. However, it was reported that he suffered a tear in his shoulder and would likely now be out for a while. That said, Capt. Sweeney indicated they are committed to putting a replacement on the beat for Officer Mike while he is out.

Sweeney said the activity since the cold months came has

decreased in the parks, with fewer needles in Franklin Square and fewer people starting encampments in both Blackstone and Franklin squares.

"I think Blackstone and Franklin look good," he said. "We have a lot of police presence. I'm not seeing much in there like we did. I saw a couple of needles recently, but not like we were seeing. Going forward, there will be a big push when we hit the warmer months."

•CAMERAS CAN'T COME SOON ENOUGH

Surveillance cameras will soon be on the way at West Newton around O'Day Park once funding is forwarded from the mitigation account of the Harrison/Albany project.

Those cameras have now been discussed for quite some time, and Capt. Sweeney said it's time for action on that. He said there was a shots fired call on Shawmut's 400<sup>th</sup> block this month. He believes the cameras would have been helpful in garnering information. As it is now, they have a witness, but no ballistics, no video, no victim or no leads.

"They're just waiting for the money to come over from the account," he said. "We need to get those in there. They're telling me once they get the account number, it's only going to take about 40 days to get them up. We had the incident down there. We need those cameras. This project pre-dates me. Let's get them up and

let's get some action."

The plan would be to install multiple cameras along the corridor of West Newton and Shawmut Avenue, with all of them tied into the Boston Regional Intelligence Center (BRIC). The alignment and quality of the cameras would give police an unusual, continuous view of a portion of the South End that has seen trouble over the years.

•CHRISTMAS SUCCESS

Treasurer Matt Mues reported that the Christmas Tree Sale went very well this year, aided by the Mayor's Enchanted Trolley Tour visiting Blackstone this year for the South End tree lighting.

Mues said they sold a record 82 trees and 162 wreaths and raised thousands of dollars for the organization. They sit on firm financial footing for both the general and parks funds.

•New Alexandra Ball Neighborhood Association President James Dilday – a prominent Boston attorney living in that area of the South End – visited the BFSNA meeting on Tuesday and gave a rundown of their new association.

He said they started late last year due to the fact that their South End resident parking was taken away via an emergency order from Council President Kim Janey. They also saw a need to organize to get action on many of the encampments and "unwanted guests" that migrated to their area from Mass/Cass in the late summer.

# 'SPRITES & SPIRITS' AT KAJI ASO STUDIO OPENING

Photos by Derek Kouyoumjian

In conjunction with a grant from Massachusetts Service Alliance, the Fenway Community Center and Operation PEACE organized a luncheon and performance for the neighborhood in honor of Martin Luther King

Jr. Day. The event brought people from all walks of life together to enjoy some fantastic BBQ food provided by Sweet Cheeks, reflect on performances depicting Dr. King's efforts and the struggle against racism and segregation, and get to better know one another better.



Peterborough Senior Center residents enjoyed the food, the performance, and meeting other residents in the Fenway community.



Operation PEACE director Mallory Robrig (center) with Om and Santosh Sharma.



Sara Reilly and Jerry Cooper, known as the "King Of Wreckers."



Tasha Merchand and Julia Luiz.



Rosa Campbell and Blake Currie re-enact Rosa Park's historic encounter with racism in the form of a tired woman refusing to move to the "colored" section of the bus. The scene was portrayed by Bright Star Playmakers Reparatory Company performers Rosa Campbell, portraying the bus driver, and Blake Currie, portraying Rosa Parks.



Bright Star Playmakers Reparatory Company performers Rosa Campbell and Blake Currie re-enact "Freedom Riders," making their way into the South to spread change.



Performer Blake Currie re-enacts Martin Luther King Jr. giving his 'Mountaintop Speech,' the last speech he would give before his assassination.



The luncheon was organized by Executive Director of the Fenway Community Center Robert Kordenbrock, community volunteer Tribora Kay, Program Coordinator Laura Jean Miller, and Zachary Kahn who was representing Northeastern's Circle K community service organization.

# COMMUNITY CONCERT AT CATHEDRAL OF THE HOLY CROSS

Photos by Derek Kouyoumjian

After religious services were concluded on Sunday, Jan. 13, Holy Cross Cathedral was the setting for a community-wide organ and choir concert followed by a tour of its grounds and a lecture on its history. The concert was of Gregorian Impressions, seven movements composed by the

Cathedral's Music Director Richard J. Clark, who also conducted the choir ensemble and performed on the Cathedral's organ. It was an awe-inspiring event celebrating a historic location in Boston's South End. Richard J. Clark will next performance is planned for St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City.



Cardinal Sean O'Malley greeted the community, giving them a brief history of the Holy Cross Cathedral before the concert began.



The organ at Holy Cross Cathedral was built by E and G.G. Hook & Hastings in 1875, the largest one that manufacturer built.



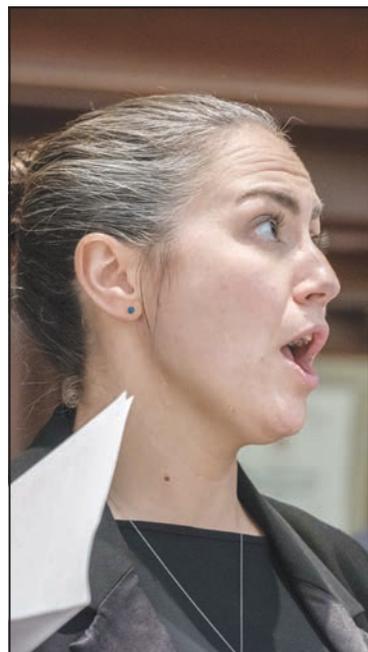
Holy Cross Cathedral Music Director Richard J. Clark conducted the choir, played the historic organ, and composed the Gregorian-inspired pieces performed by the ensemble.



Holy Cross Cathedral Music Director Richard J. Clark performs one of his Gregorian Impressions compositions on the historic organ.



Choir member Craig Hughes performs one of the Gregorian Impressions.



Choir member Jamie Korkos performs one of the Gregorian Impressions.



After the concert, the audience was treated to a tour and historical lecture of the Holy Cross Cathedral by its Communications Director Michael Kieloch.



Holy Cross Cathedral Music Director Richard J. Clark, with assistance from Gregory Merklin who turned the pages of the sheet music, finishes his Gregorian Impressions movement Ave Maria on the historic organ.

# e-scooters could unlock thousands of jobs for Boston residents

By Seth Daniel

When Boston's Charlie Palleschi first saw an e-scooter at an event in Cambridge, he thought it simply looked fun.

On second look, though, he realized the compact electric scooter could likely change his commuting life. And in fact, it has made his regular commutes to Assembly Square in Somerville, downtown Boston – as well as trips to neighboring Everett and Revere – last a matter of minutes rather than blocks of 30 minutes or more.

“I was blown away when I first tried one in Cambridge as a demo,” he said. “I began to think that if I had one of these, I could commute from my house to Assembly Row in minutes...It totally changes everything on good days – and getting downtown is super easy. I’ve used it a lot to go to Revere, taking the train there and then jumping on the scooter to get to my destination – kind of using it for the last mile. I can even keep it in my office, which is crazy. I just throw it under my desk. You can’t do that with a bike, and certainly not a car or anything else. Going into downtown, parking can be \$40 or \$50 and this is free.”

Palleschi and others in the Boston region are some of the first converts to e-scooters and e-bikes, but they may not be the last if a coalition of “micromobility” advocates can convince the state to allow more access to this new wave of transportation via rental-share companies that operate e-scooters and e-bikes (motor assisted bicycles) in the same way that BlueBikes operates.

A new study on micromobility – the use of e-scooters and pedal-assisted e-bikes – shows that Greater Boston is positioned as one of the areas nationwide that would most benefit from the widespread introduction of such new transportation systems.

The study was released late last week by the Micromobility Coalition – a trade association that represents e-scooter and e-bike rental companies. That study focused on access to jobs for residents of several Greater Boston communities, including all of Boston’s neighborhoods, Everett, Chelsea, Brookline, Cambridge and Somerville. Using Census data, they looked at jobs available within a typical 45-minute commute on public transit. Then they added e-scooter

or e-bikes into that commute and found many communities would greatly benefit.

No community would benefit more than Everett, according to the study, but Boston neighborhoods aren’t far behind in the potential benefit, according to the study.

For all of Boston, the study found that within a 45-minute commute, there would be a 60-percent increase in job opportunities for those using micromobility options to either get directly to a job, or to cover part of a commute from a train station or bus hub.

Without such transportation options, Boston residents can access about 436,000 quality jobs within a 45-minute commute. With micromobility added in, that number jumps to 696,000 – a 60-percent difference. The next largest gain for communities was neighboring Everett, which saw a 303-percent increase in job opportunities with micromobility factored in. Chelsea increased 79 percent and Somerville had a 68 percent increase.

“This is one of a series of studies we’ve done in cities across the United States,” said Micromobility Coalition CEO Ryan McConaghy. “These studies look at the access of mobility options like e-scooters and e-bikes to unlocking economic opportunity...Greater Boston is one city area that could be a prime beneficiary for e-scooters. Around 49 percent of car trips are under three miles. These trips are easily replaced by dockless e-scooters and e-bikes. Boston is the most congested city in America. By moving people out of cars and into e-scooters and other means of transportation, that can change. Boston is uniquely positioned to benefit.”

McConaghy said one of the greatest time-savers for commuters using micromobility is to bridge the gap for the last mile – such as using e-scooters to get from MBTA stations to a destination that is beyond walking distance, but too close for a car or Uber ride.

“They might be using them to go directly to a job opportunity, or maybe they are using them to bridge a public transit desert – going the last mile much faster,” he said. “It’s no surprise to us there are significant jumps in opportunity in Boston. In particular, you look at a place like Everett which sees an increase of 300 percent of

Average Worker in	Jobs within 45 minutes for Average Worker			
	Baseline	Micromobility	Increase	
Boston	436,000	696,000	260,000	60%
Brookline	461,000	721,000	260,000	56%
Cambridge	611,000	823,000	212,000	35%
Chelsea	297,000	532,000	235,000	79%
Everett	119,000	480,000	361,000	303%
Somerville	460,000	775,000	315,000	68%

A new study by a pro-micromobility association looked at how e-scooters and e-bikes might help residents of Greater Boston access job opportunities with shorter commutes. All of the Boston area showed major benefits, and micromobility advocates said no area is poised to benefit in a greater way than Boston neighborhoods like the South End, Back Bay and Fenway.

jobs available. You look at places like Jamaica Plain and Mission Hill where it adds to increasing access to existing transportation. These jumps usually happen in places underserved by public transit and places where there are large transit deserts. Micromobility there can unlock economic opportunity quickly.”

Right now, users can operate e-scooters or e-bikes if they own them – like Palleschi does - but the rental companies such as BlueBike cannot operate e-scooter/e-bike sharing platforms in the state. While Boston has tried out micromobility already and has prepared for them to come, the state still has not passed legislation that allows them to be rented out like bikes. That is mostly due to the fact that they are dockless and are to be left on the sidewalk when a rider is done with them. During debate over a scooter ordinance at the Boston City Council a few years

ago, sidewalk space was the biggest issue – pitting those wanting micromobility against those in the disability community who worried about blocked sidewalks and thoroughfares.

Boston does have scooter legislation in place, and it is ready and waiting for the state to take action. McConaghy said Boston has been ahead of the curve in debating and passing legislation, but he said they hope the state can “get out of the way” to allow this new transportation to help city residents more easily access job opportunities.

Palleschi said using an e-scooter not only helped his work commute, but also expanded the places he considers going in his free time.

He also said that, unlike riding a bike, you don’t arrive at work hot and sweaty. That’s an issue for many bike commuters, who need to shower when they arrive at work on a hot, summer day.

He noted that the e-scooters

are powered by electricity, and his is very easy to charge and runs at about 15 mph on flat terrain.

Added to the practical uses, McConaghy said they are simply a fun way to get to work or any other destination, “They really are a fun experience because on a nice day you’re outside and the wind is going through your hair under your helmet. It is just a fun way to get around.”

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## Public Meeting

# Frederick Douglass Peace Garden

**Wednesday, February 5**

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

**Roxse Homes Community Room**

Rear of 1050 Tremont Street

Roxbury, MA 02120

### Project Description:

The Boston Planning & Development Agency (BPDA) invites the community to a public meeting to discuss Parcel X-26B in the South End Urban Renewal Area, known as the Frederick Douglass Peace Garden.

At this meeting, we invite the community to review the first draft of a request for proposal (RFP) and provide feedback. The RFP draft is based on comments from the first community meeting held on November 6, 2019.

mail to: **Morgan McDaniel**  
 Boston Planning & Development Agency  
 One City Hall Square, 9th Floor  
 Boston, MA 02201  
 phone: 617.918.6250  
 email: morgan.mcdaniel@boston.gov

**Close of Comment Period:**  
 2/19/2020

# Supt. Cassellius releases framework for public school plan

By Seth Daniel

After more than six months of visits to all 135 school buildings in the Boston Public School district, and conducting more than 100 community meetings, Supt. Brenda Cassellius submitted her final strategic plan to the Boston School Committee last week.

It's a plan that, Cassellius and administration officials said, came together with the advice of thousands of voices from all over Boston — voices that included parents, teachers, community groups, students and elected officials. It will be a roadmap for Supt. Cassellius and contains general goals for the district. The bones of those goals will be filled in with specifics on Feb. 5 when she submits her School Budget draft to the School Committee.

That's when parents in Boston will know with more certainty how the strategic plan will specifically affect schools like the Hurley K-8, the Blackstone School, and the Josiah Quincy Upper and Lower schools.

That budget plan is expected to be voted on by the Committee Feb. 26.

For now, though, Cassellius is looking for input and attention

on her strategic plan released last week.

Instead of goals in that plan, she has released commitments to the families, students, staff and overall Boston community for BPS going forward under her leadership.

The five commitments outlined in the plan include:

- Eliminate Opportunity and Achievement Gaps.
- Accelerate Learning
- Amplify All Voices
- Expand Opportunity, and
- Cultivate Trust.

Each commitment is tied to a set of priorities and progress will be measured by clear and measurable goals, district leaders said. The plan aspires to lift up and support schools, starting with those most in need, increase academic rigor in all grades across all schools, improve funding equity in the way resources are distributed, and provide deeper engagement with students and families.

"This plan, and the thousands of voices that played a part in shaping it, are a testament to the value Bostonians place on our students and their future," continued Superintendent Brenda Cassellius. "Together, we will hold ourselves accountable to these commitments through transparency, shared decision making, and regular reporting

of our progress to better outcomes for all of our students."

Dr. Charles Grandson, chief equity and strategy officer at BPS, told the Sun the document contained input from around 2,100 unique voices from all across Boston — including several meetings the South End and Back Bay.

He said one of the pieces of those commitments was around doing basic things better.

"What we heard from stakeholders was there was a real clear call to action from parents and families on improving basic things we're not fully doing," he said. "Those are things like maintaining school buildings, improving the cafeteria, heating and ventilation in the schools, and fair and equitable funding across all schools. We also heard a call for a clear and productive pathways from preschool to graduation."

Other such examples, he said, included fixing transportation issues, making registration easier, having a rigorous curriculum across the district, better food/nutrition and improving opportunity for students with disabilities and who are English Learners.

"One clear goal is that every child, every classroom and every school gets what they need to achieve the highest potential," he

said. "These are strategies. Supt. Cassellius did not outline goals, but rather five commitments."

One of the unique pieces in her plan calls not only for high-quality schools in all neighborhoods, but also "joyful classrooms," a statement not often seen in a strategic document.

"It is unique and we want school to be a place young people want to be and the school environment to be happy so they can thrive," he said.

Another piece that parents will be anxious to see more about is a new customer service approach to the central office and regional leadership. As part of a regional effort in the strategy, superintendents will once again be in charge of schools within a region of the city.

Hiring a more diverse pool of teachers, staff and administrators is also a priority in the new strategy so that those leading the schools reflect the demographic population of the district — which overall is predominantly made up of black and Hispanic students.

A strategy involving the upkeep, maintenance and construction of buildings is to re-evaluate the steps toward following BuildBPS- the \$1 billion commitment announced by Mayor Martin Walsh two years

ago to fix, maintain and build new schools. By bringing a Capital Strategic Plan, they hope to stretch out the BuildBPS initiative for more of a long-term strategy.

"A capital strategic plan will allow us to see where we're going over a longer period of time," he said.

The new plan builds upon the Boston School Committee's current strategic plan, which was created through a community-driven process in 2013, 2014 and 2015. The next phase of this process includes continued community engagement through a 30-day public comment period through Feb. 14. Community members can review and comment on the strategic plan at [bostonpublicschools.org/strategicplan](http://bostonpublicschools.org/strategicplan) or attend an in-person review of the plan during the following public meetings:

- Jan. 30 at East Boston Library, 365 S Bremen St, East Boston
- Feb. 6 at Condon Community Center, 200 D St, South Boston
- Feb. 11 at Thelma D. Burns Building, 575 Warren St, Dorchester

The final strategic plan will be presented to the Boston School Committee on Feb. 26 for approval.

## LEGAL NOTICES

### LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Self Storage Sale  
Please take notice Prime Storage - Boston Traveler St. located at 33 Traveler St., Boston, MA 02118 intends to hold an auction to sell the goods stored by the following tenants at the storage facility. The sale will occur as an online auction via [www.storagetreasures.com](http://www.storagetreasures.com) on 2/10/2020 at 12:00 PM. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods and furnishings. William DeLove unit #219; Jeffrey D Bulpert unit #247; Curtis M Babine unit #300. All property is being stored at the above self-storage facility. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. See manager for details.  
1/23/20, 1/30/20  
BS

occur as an online auction via [www.storagetreasures.com](http://www.storagetreasures.com) on 2/10/2020 at 12:00 PM. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods and furnishings. Raye Murchison unit #3315; Albert R. Skane unit #4044; Carlos A Alonso unit #4082; Yvonne Santiago unit #4200; Enoch OD. Woodhouse unit #4201. All property is being stored at the above self-storage facility. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. See manager for details.  
1/23/20, 1/30/20  
BS

### LEGAL NOTICE

INVITATION TO BID  
GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH BRICK MASONRY AND WINDOW RESTORATION  
The Somerville Hispanic Association for Community Development, the Awarding Authority, requests bids for historic brick masonry and window restoration work at Grace Baptist Church, 59 Cross Street, Somerville, Massachusetts, which is listed in the State & National Registers of Historic Places. The project is being partially funded with a

grant from the Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund through the Massachusetts Historical Commission. All work must be performed in accordance with the documents prepared by and available from Spencer, Sullivan & Vogt, 1 Thompson Square, Suite 504, Charlestown, Massachusetts 02129 (617-861-4291) and meet the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties. State law prohibits discrimination. Awarding of this contract is subject to Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity guidelines. Bids shall be evaluated on the basis of price, previous experience with similar types of construction projects, ability to perform the work in a timely manner, and references. All bids must be delivered to the architect's office at the above address no later than 12:00 noon, Monday, February 17, 2020 to be eligible for consideration.

A pre-bid conference will be held at Grace Baptist Church, 59 Cross Street, Somerville, at 10:00 AM on Monday, February 3, 2020.

1/23/20  
BS

### BUYER 1 BACK BAY

Roush, William R  
Popov, Boris

### BEACON HILL

Schoemaker, Kimberly  
Lee, Minsuk  
Samardina, Kateryna

### SOUTH END/BAY VILLAGE/KENMORE

Parker-Lee T  
178 West Canton St LLC  
Wang, Xiaoliang  
Tsai, Ernest T  
Parsonnet, Brian  
Pierson, John  
178 West Canton St LLC  
Fauteux, Andrew P

### WATERFRONT/DOWNTOWN

Clarke, Cynthia M  
Kafasis, Paul  
Regan, George K

### SELLER 1

Baker, Jon M  
Burke, Carson L

Bramson, Robert  
Maher FT  
Goldenthal, Leah

Ling, Gabriel  
Schmid, Paul A  
Anderson, Curtis N  
Tsai, Andy H  
Resch, William  
Wilde, Timothy J  
Schmid, Paul A  
Lilleystone Angela U

Scioletti, Bradley  
Bonney, Alison G  
Berkshire Bank

### ADDRESS

4 Arlington St #4  
79 Dartmouth St #3

48 Beacon St #9R  
342 Commonwealth Ave #2  
8 Whittier Pl #7D

301-319 Columbus Ave #305  
178 W Canton St  
74 Fenway #12  
87 Gainsborough St #306  
27 Greenwich Park #1  
60 Rutland St #5  
178 W Canton St  
28 Worcester Sq #2

2 Battery Wharf #4409  
536-538 Commercial St  
20 Rowes Wharf #TH1

### PRICE

\$5,000,000  
\$1,135,000

\$1,690,000  
\$462,500  
\$550,000

\$2,645,000  
\$4,200,000  
\$421,000  
\$375,000  
\$1,080,000  
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D-4 POLICE NEWS

**WRONG-WAY DRIVER**

On Wednesday, Jan. 15, at about 2:30 a.m., police observed a grey vehicle take a grey vehicle turning right off Massachusetts Avenue onto Newbury Street, headed in the wrong direction.

After the vehicle was observed continuing down Newbury Street the wrong way, it stopped at the intersection of Newbury and Herford streets. The vehicle then headed the wrong way down Her-

ford Street and turned right onto Boylston Street. Police stopped the vehicle outside 941 Boylston St. and conducted a motor vehicle traffic stop at which time they determined the driver wasn't wearing a safety belt.

The driver, who didn't notify police his Massachusetts driver's license had been suspended, said he was following directions on his phone, which instructed him to go the wrong way.

Police conducted a Criminal

Justice Information Services inquiry of the driver, which revealed his license had been suspended.

Officers instructed the driver to turn off and exit his vehicle.

Police then instructed the driver to remove all valuables from the vehicle before it was towed from the scene.

The driver was subsequently charged with operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license, going the wrong way on a Boston street and not wearing his seatbelt.

He will be summonsed to Boston Municipal Court.

**SPARE CHANGE**

On Friday, Jan. 17, at approximately 7:59 p.m., officers responded to 683 Tremont St. to a radio call for a robbery in progress.

Upon arrival, police spoke with the victim, who said a former female employee of Upper Crust Pizzeria had grabbed a coin bag from beneath the cash register and walked away with it.

The victim gave chase before he was approached a male suspect who he believed was the female suspect's boyfriend.

"Just let it go," he said to the victim. "It's not worth losing your life over."

At this time, the victim stopped chasing the female suspect and watched her run towards Columbus Avenue.

The victim said neither individual brandished a weapon during the robbery.

**NEWS BRIEFS**

From Pg 3

ly scheduled for Tues., Jan. 28, at 4 p.m. in the Hampton Inn and Suites, Mass/Cass. Look for updates as the meeting might change.

•The South End Forum will not meet at its regularly scheduled January date. The first quarter meeting is still up in the air, but a date of Feb. 4 is being discussed.

•The Ellis South End Neighborhood Association will have a board meeting on Jan. 28, 6:30 p.m. in 66 Berkeley St.

•The Worcester Square Area Neighborhood Association (WSANA) will host its monthly meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 28, in the Boston Medical Center's Menino Pavilion in the conference room, next to the surgical suite waiting room.

•The East Berkeley Neighborhood Association (EBNA) will have its next meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 4, at 6:30 p.m. in Project Place.

•The Eight Streets Neighborhood Association has scheduled its Winter Meeting for Tuesday, Feb.

11, at 6:45 p.m. in Project Place, Washington/East Berkeley Street.

•The second-ever monthly meeting for the Alexandra Ball Neighborhood Association will take place on Tuesday, Feb. 11, 7 p.m. in the Grant AME Church, Newcomb Street entrance. The agenda D-4 Police report, Boston Transportation representative and a Parks Department representative.

**FENWAY TIMES**

•Fenway Sound. Dr. Erica Walker presents the results of her 2019 study on noise levels in the Fenway. Thursday, Jan. 23, 6:30 p.m., Fenway Community Center. 1282 Boylston St. - enter on Jersey Street.

•The Rink at 401 Park is open an operating (weather dependent). The rink is open seven days a week. Monday-Friday, 3-9 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m. - 10 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m. - 8 p.m. \$10 for adults, \$6 for college students, seniors and kids under 12. Skate rentals are \$6.



**Public Meeting**

**Digital Signage**

**Monday, January 27**  
6:30 PM - 7:30 PM

**1 City Hall Square**  
City Hall, 9th Floor Room 900  
Boston, MA 02201

**Project Proponent:**  
Digital Signage

**Project Description:**

The BPDA is recommending an adjustment in the permitted times for digital sign operation. Currently digital signs are permitted to operate between 7am and 2 am. The BPDA is recommending to change the permitted times of operation to 6am to 12am. Additionally, the BPDA is recommending changes to Section 11-7 of the Boston Zoning Code (Electronic Signs). The BPDA is recommending that language referencing Article 7 (Variances) be inserted into Section 11-7.

mail to: **Mark McGonagle**  
Boston Planning & Development Agency  
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor  
Boston, MA 02201  
phone: 617.918.4283  
email: mark.mcgonagle@boston.gov

BostonPlans.org | @BostonPlans  
Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary

**For the Record**

**From the Jan. 22 License Board hearing, City Hall:**

•Crazy Good Kitchen, LLC D/B/A: GKC on Newbury, 266 NEWBURY St., Back Bay. Has applied for a Common Victualler License to be exercised on the above - In one room in basement with kitchen and seating. Outdoor annual patio (weather permitting) on private property with 44 seats, same hours as the restaurant. Manager: Jose Desouza. Hours of Operation: 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

•G & V Restaurant, Inc. D/B/A: Shah's Halal Food, 1124 BOYLSTON St., Fenway. Has applied for a Common Victualler License to be exercised on the above - Kitchen on first floor, basement for storage. Manager: Nitral Patel. Hours of Operation: 10 a.m. to 2 a.m.

•95 Waltham Street LLC D/B/A: 95 WALTHAM St., South End. Has applied for a Lodging House License to be exercised on the above - 6 story brownstone building with 11 units total. Basement studio and lower level of 1 bedroom unit. 1st floor, studio rear, top floor of 1 bedroom, 2 floor, 3rd floor, 4th floor, 5th floor rear/front studios. Manager: Bruce Miller.

•245 Newbury, LLC D/B/A: 245 NEWBURY St., Back Bay. Has applied for a Lodging House License to be exercised on the above - Garden level barbershop, 1st floor front retail/office, 1st floor rear 1 bedroom apartment, floor 2, 3, 4 are lodging units with private bath per floor. Manager: Frank Hoff.

•476 Columbus, LLC D/B/A: 476 COLUMBUS Ave., South End. Has applied for a Lodging House License to be exercised on the above - In whole of Second, Third and Fourth Floor of building located at 476 Columbus Avenue, Boston, MA 02118, with three (3) lodging rooms per floor. Total occupancy of twelve (12) persons. Manager: Keith Beardsley.

•BOSTON TAVERN COMPANY, INC. D/B/A: LION'S TAIL, 300 HARRISON Ave., South End. Holder of a Common Victualler 7 Day All Alcoholic Beverages License has petitioned to change the d/b/a of the licensed business - From: Lion's Tail To: Yellow Door Taqueria.

•LBV HOTEL, LLC D/B/A: LOEWS BOSTON HOTEL, 154 BERKELEY St., Back Bay. Holder of an Innholder All Alcoholic Beverages License has petitioned to amend the description of the licensed business. From: In whole of said building. Includes an outdoor seasonal (April-October) patio on private property for 90 patrons. To: Hotel consisting of ten (10) floors and 225 guest rooms with one restaurant and bar with 4,000 square

feet of meeting space. Outdoor year round patio on private property for 90 patrons.

•EW TIMES GROUP CORPORATION D/B/A: Chef Chang's on Back Bay, 30 MASSACHUSETTS Ave., Back Bay. Holder of a Common Victualler 7 Day Malt and Wine w/ Liqueurs License has petitioned to transfer the license and location of the licensed business from the above - To: Smashburger Acquisition Boston, LLC d/b/a Smashburger 545 Boylston St., Back Bay. The premises is located on the first floor of the office building at 545 Boylston St. The square footage of the premise is 2,231 and consists of a kitchen, dining room, and 2 restrooms. Outdoor annual patio on private property same hours as restaurant. Rachel Serillo, Manager. 10 p.m. Closing Hour.

**From the Jan. 28 Boston Landmarks Commission meeting, City Hall Rm. 900, 4 p.m.:**

•Paine Furniture Building, 81 Arlington St.: Installation of one cast aluminum plaque at Arlington Street entrance.

•Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James Avenue: Replace 29 existing lighting fixtures at the exterior second story level of the building with LED color changing fixtures.

•Boston Young Men's Christian Union Building, 48 Boylston Street: Installation of exterior signage including: two blade signs at Boylston Street façade; and two awnings and a blade sign at the east elevation of the building along Marty's Way.

•Museum of Fine Arts, 465-475 Huntington Avenue: Replacement of skylight at Behrakis Wing for the Art of the Ancient World.

**HOW TO REPORT A PROBLEM PROPERTY**

Since taking office in 2014, Mayor Walsh has made fixing quality of life issues a priority in his administration. From investing in Public Works to making sure community policing is a staple in every neighborhood, we are making sure every neighborhood is clean, safe and a great place to live and work in. Unfortunately some properties in Boston need more help than others, and that's why we are here. If you know of a property that fits one of the following criteria: multiple calls to 911, one that's blighted or just a general concern, we encourage you to reach out to your neighborhood liaison.



# BACK BAY PENTHOUSE

**288 COMM AVE #PH**  
 4 Beds | 4.5 Baths | 3,750 SQFT  
 \$8,995,000

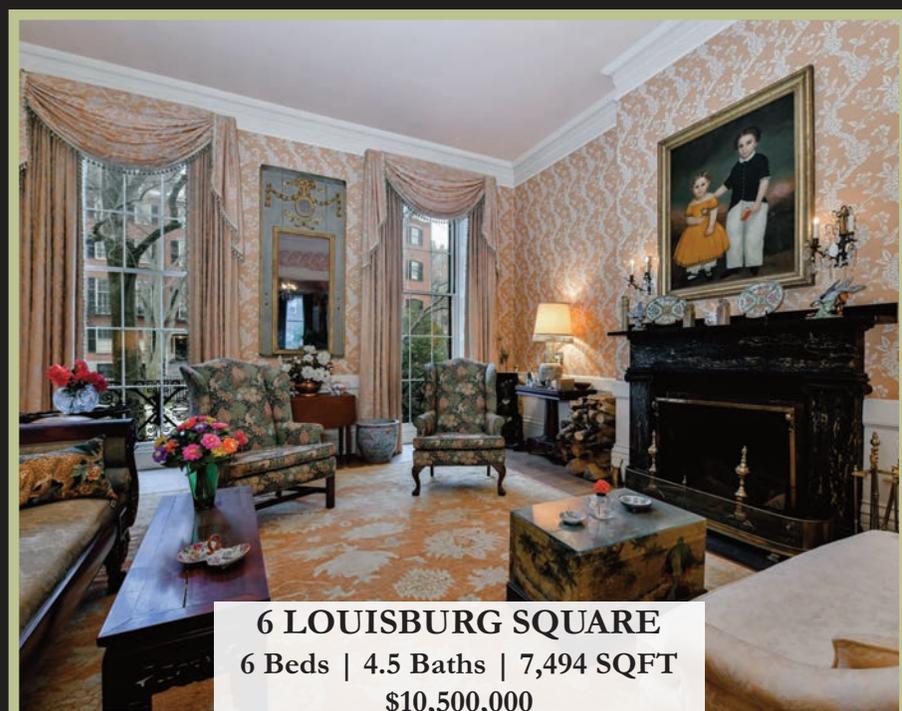
*Exclusive Marketing Agent for Four Seasons Private Residences, One Dalton Street, Boston*



**23 MARLBOROUGH ST #3**  
 4 Beds | 3.5 Baths | 3,636 SQFT  
 \$7,400,000



**183-185 MASS AVE #302**  
 1 Beds | 1 Baths | 983 SQFT  
 \$969,000



**6 LOUISBURG SQUARE**  
 6 Beds | 4.5 Baths | 7,494 SQFT  
 \$10,500,000



**400 STUART ST #27E**  
 4 Beds | 4.5 Baths | 2,508 SQFT  
 \$5,650,000

