

Notice of a Public Meeting

A Public Meeting will be held by the City of Boston Public Works Department to discuss the City's proposed Connect Historic Boston Project being funded through a Federal Highway Administration Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Grant and City of Boston funds.

**WHERE: Offices at the Government Center Parking Garage
1 Congress Street, 11th Floor
Boston, MA 02203**

**WHEN: Thursday, May 15, 2014
5:00 PM Open House
6:30 PM Presentation
7:00 PM Q & A**

PURPOSE: The purpose of this Meeting is to provide the public with updated information about the City of Boston's Connect Historic Boston Project including: 1.) The latest design elements and features of the project, 2.) Construction that is on public recreation land, in historic districts and/or on historic properties, 3.) The City's proposal to secure a right-of-way via temporary and permanent easements, and 4.) Next steps for the design and bidding process.

PROPOSAL: This project consists of pedestrian and bicycle facility improvements at four (4) separate locations in downtown Boston and Charlestown. The projects include:

1. Constitution Road and Water Street in Charlestown – Construct a bicycle track, widen the southerly sidewalk, make accessibility improvements, and pedestrian safety improvements near the entrance to the Charlestown Navy Yard. Provide bicycle markings and improved crosswalk on Water Street. Reconstruct and make minor modifications to the alignment of the Freedom Trail.
2. Joy Street – Reconstruct Joy Street from Cambridge Street to Smith Court as a “shared street,” make accessibility improvements, and pedestrian safety improvements.
3. Blackstone Block – Reconstruct Union Street, Marshall Street, and Hanover Street from Cambridge to Blackstone Street. Project includes streetscape, pedestrian and accessibility improvements to Union Street and Marshall Street; modifications to Curley Park; and, repairs and improved accessibility to Scott Lane and Creek Square. Project includes reconstruction of portions of the Freedom Trail.
4. Connect Historic Boston Trail, Phase 1: Staniford Street/Causeway Street/Commercial Street/Atlantic Avenue – Construct a two-way, bicycle track along the above-mentioned streets. Reconstruct Causeway Street including Lowell Square and Keany Square. Construct hardscape improvements on Causeway Street that improve the pedestrian experience. Reconstruct the sidewalk on the southerly side of Staniford Street, the northerly side of Commercial Street and the easterly side of Atlantic Avenue. Install bicycle signage and lane marking details within DCR property along the waterfront from Prince Street Park to Beverley Street Extension. Provide accessibility improvements and pedestrian safety improvements throughout the corridor.

A secure right-of-way is necessary for the construction of this project. Acquisitions in fee and permanent or temporary easements may be required. The City of Boston is responsible for acquiring all needed rights in private or public lands. The City's policy concerning land acquisitions will be discussed at this Meeting.

Plans will be on display one and one-half hour before the Meeting begins, with members of the project team in attendance to answer questions regarding any of the above topics. The presentation will be at 6:30pm and include an overview of the project, design update, Section 4(f) open space, impacts to abutting historic properties, and next steps for the project including right-of-way acquisition and permitting. Presentation materials will be available on the Connect Historic Boston website listed below following the Meeting. Project inquiries may be emailed to william.egan@cityofboston.gov.

This location is accessible to persons with disabilities. The City of Boston provides reasonable accommodations and/or language assistance free of charge upon request (including but not limited to interpreters in American Sign Language and languages other than English, open or closed captioning for videos, assistive listening devices and

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alternate material formats, such as audio tapes, Braille and large print), as available. For accommodation or language assistance, please contact the City's Disability Commissioner, Kristen McCosh by phone (617) 635-3682, fax (617) 635-2726, TTY (617) 635-2541 or by email at disability@boston.gov. Or contact the City's Office of Civil Rights by phone (617) 635-4408, fax (617) 635-3290, or by email CivilRights@boston.gov. Requests should be made as soon as possible prior to the meeting, and for more difficult to arrange services including sign-language, CART or language translation or interpretation, requests should be made at least ten business days before the meeting.

Information about the project and past meetings can be found at the project website: www.connecthistoric-boston.org. In case of inclement weather, meeting cancellation announcements will be posted on the Connect Historic Boston project website.

Advertisement to appear in the Boston Herald and Boston Globe on Wednesday, April 30, 2014.