

## Fort Point Channel Landmark District Commission 2009 filing deadlines and hearing dates.

The recently designated Fort Point Channel Landmark District (FPCLD) encompasses roughly 55 acres across the Fort Point Channel from downtown Boston. This area, including the land, was entirely developed by a single corporation: the Boston Wharf Company, which filled the site mainly from 1837-1882. The Boston Wharf Company initially specialized in the storage of sugar and molasses, and gradually expanded its interests to become a major developer of industrial and warehouse properties served by ships docking in Boston Harbor, and by the railroad. The Boston Wharf Company laid out and constructed streets which they named for company officers and prominent tenants, parceled out lots, and erected nearly all of the buildings in the FPCLD from the designs of their own staff architects. Among the chief industries located in the FPCLD was the wool trade. During the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries Boston developed into the principal marketplace for wool for apparel and fabrics in the United States. The buildings of the FPCLD represent an unusually coherent and well-preserved collection of late nineteenth and early twentieth century lofts that reflect a critical period of social, economic, and physical development in the city and the region.

The Fort Point Channel Landmark District Commission (FPCLDC) will review Applications for Certificate of Design Approval, which will be required for all exterior work proposed within the district. You may read the Study Report and Standards and Criteria (Design Guidelines) at: [www.cityofboston.gov/environment/fpc](http://www.cityofboston.gov/environment/fpc)

Fort Point Channel Landmark District Commission (FPCLDC) hearings will be held on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 5pm in the Piemonte Room, City Hall 5th floor. The first FPCLDC hearing will be in August provided there are agenda items for a hearing. Hearing agendas will be posted on the City of Boston calendar and mailed to commissioner, applicants, property abutters and interested parties prior to each hearing.

*The hearing dates for the remainder of 2009 are as follows:*

<u>COMMISSION</u>	<u>FILING DEADLINE</u>	<u>HEARING DATE</u>
<b>FORT POINT CHANNEL</b>	<i>Thursday, July 30</i>	<i>Thursday, August 13</i>
Meets 2nd Thursday	<i>Thursday, August 27</i>	<i>Thursday, September 10</i>
5:00 P.M.	<i>Thursday, September 24</i>	<i>Thursday, October 8</i>
Piemonte Room	<i>Thursday, October 29</i>	<i>Thursday, November 12</i>
Boston City Hall, 5 <sup>th</sup> Floor	<b><i>Wednesday, November 25 *</i></b>	<i>Thursday, December 10</i>

*\* Denotes a change from regular filing or hearing date to accommodate public and religious holidays*

For more information, visit [www.cityofboston.gov/environment](http://www.cityofboston.gov/environment) or contact staff at:

City of Boston Environment Department  
Boston City Hall, Room 805  
Boston, MA 02201  
T: 617/635-3850  
F: 617/635-3435

Gary L. Russell

Staff Architect  
Boston Landmarks Commission / Article 85 Demolition Delay Review  
Preservation Planner  
Fort Point Channel Landmark District Commission

City of Boston Environment Department  
Boston City Hall, Room 805  
Boston, MA 02201  
T: 617/635-3850  
F: 617/635-3435

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Hi Commissioners --

Congratulations, it's official. City Council has confirmed your appointments to the Fort Point Channel Landmark District Commission. The first FPCLDC hearing will be in July provided there are agenda items for a hearing.

In the interest of holding the hearings on weeks when the Boston Landmarks Commission meets to make it easier on BLC commissioner and staff schedules, in consideration of FPCLDC Commissioner scheduling constraints, and to avoid dates when other historic district commissions meet, *the hearings have been scheduled for the 2nd Thursday of the month at 5PM (not the first Tuesday). The hearing dates for the remainder of 2009 are as follows:*

*Thursday, July 9*  
*Thursday, August 13*  
*Thursday, September 10*  
*Thursday, October 8*  
*Thursday, November 12*  
*Thursday, December 10*

Gary Russell, BLC Staff Architect, will be the staff administration for the FPCLDC and, as such, the staff contact person. He will schedule a couple of times for group orientations prior to the first hearing, and will make accommodations for anyone who can't come at those times. Gary's phone number is 617-635-3850 and his email is [gary.russell@cityofboston.gov](mailto:gary.russell@cityofboston.gov).

Watch for a letter from the City Clerk asking you to make an appointment to be sworn in. It takes a couple of minutes and you may be able to do this when you come in for the orientation or prior to the first hearing.

I look forward to following the progress of the FPCLDC. Thank you all for making the commitment to serve the Fort Point Channel area and the city in this capacity.

Ellen

[kligris@ligris.com](mailto:kligris@ligris.com)