

Jamaica Plain Design Project Meeting Notes

July 7th - Meeting #2

Hyde Jackson Business Community

WHERE: 9:30 AM, Brendan Behan Pub, 378 Centre Street, Jamaica Plain, MA

Meeting notes:

Compiled by Rachel Szakmary, BTD

Project Administrator attendees:

- Rachel Szakmary, BTD Project Manager
- Vineet Gupta, Director of Policy & Planning at BTD
- Marie Mercurio, BRA Representative
- Jullieanne Doherty, JP Neighborhood Liaison
- Kyle Zick, Project Landscape Consultant, KZLA
- Stephen Farr, Project Engineer Consultant, Nitsche Engineering
- Councilor O'Malleys Office
- Tony Barros, Asst. to the Mayor
- Jennifer Maria, Latino Liaison

Presentation by consultants to the Hyde Jackson business community involving quick project introduction, project team intros, area of examination, deliverables and followed by presentation of meeting #2 materials on Hyde Jackson design. The presentation was the same given the following evening, July 8th at the Kennedy School.

II. Comments/ Questions

- Consultant Comments: Questions for the community post-presentation:
 - Opinions/New standards for benches, trash receptacles, lights, planters, bike racks, tree pits, crosswalks?
- Comment: [Rotary parking] Request was made to **maintain parking** in the area for businesses as business owners have a difficult time loading and finding parking when they are not neighborhood residents.
 - Suggestion of: **Merchant parking sticker** that would be allowed for store owners to park in off-peak times in residential areas?
 - Islands around the rotary also should be kept as they serve as best location for larger **commercial trucks loading** in the eastern portion.
 - Request for more **bike parking** that is off the ground and consolidated- bikes are locked to everything in the area.

- Comment: Need for better **rotary signage**, no one slows down on the approach.
- Comment: Businesses interested in pursuing a **water feature** in the middle of the rotary, this is reminiscent of the “Latin” branding of this area of the neighborhood. Such features exist in Santa Domingo etc. Would add a nice feel and touch to the area- request a pricing/maintenance of such a feature.
- Comment: **Sidewalk widths** around the rotary are inconsistent and need to be widened especially in the location on the SE side of the rotary.
- Comment: Would like to see **seating allowed up to the curb**-(Noted BRA restriction) Sidewalk area widths in JP do not allow seating on most rights of way due to the limited areaways limiting businesses from allowing outdoor seating.
 - Suggestion of tree-pits with benches was made.
- Comment: Centre Street- pedestrian crossings at areas by CVS, Purple Cactus should be examined for a **ped-activated signal**
- Comment: Issue of **traffic flow** from Hyde to Jackson Square-needs to be look at synchro-signal of lights in the whole corridor.
- Comment: Angel-Memorial hospital wall- narrows the line of site at Day street as you turn into the rotary