

**Jamaica Plain Design Projects Meeting #5 Notes/Comments - Jackson/Hyde Main
Streets/ Hyde Square Design: Merchants Walk-through**

Notes by R. Szakmary, BTD Hyde Square, Jamaica Plain, 5/27/2015 at 8:30 AM

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Attendees:

1. Joe Silva, MSPCA, jsilva@mspca.org
2. Terry Bruce, 401-405 Centre Street, tbruce.amory@verizon.net
3. Tony Barros, Mayor's Office, tony.barros@boston.gov
4. Michel Soltani, - , michelsoltani4@gmail.com
5. Vanessa Snow, HSTF, vanessa@hydesquare.org
6. Jennifer Licht, Whole Foods Market, jennifer.licht@wholefoods.com
7. Bill Henderson, - , henderson.william@comcast.com
8. Damaris Puentel, Ultra Beauty Salon, 617-983-8407
9. Marie Mercurio, BRA Planning, marie.mercurio@boston.gov
10. Yosef Halre, Blue Nile Restaurant
11. Saril A. Cifuentes, Beauty Master Salon Supply
12. Noliel Garcia, JP Mass, 617-594-9026
13. Zach Wassmouth, Boston Public Works
14. Gerald Robbins, JHMS

Synopsis:

Boston Transportation Department conducted a public meeting on the morning of May 27, 2015 targeting feedback from the community and business owners in the JP Hyde Square area. The meeting was conducted on-site that met at Brendan Behan Pub and then was conducted as a walk-through in the square to discuss each area of design that is being proposed and to collect feedback. The following were comments related to the square in the conceptual design. This area was noted to be the first of the JP Design Projects to be taken to 100% design and then constructed in 2016 through the Boston Public Works Department.

Comments:

1. Need for parking enforcement in the Hyde Square itself- stores witness limited enforcement of the 2-hour parking & ask for 15-20 min or meter parking to increase turnover and parking availability.
2. Community would like to see the center of the island used to pronounce something/ present your arrival into the square- some kind of gateway.
3. Can we design the square to have some type of treatment in the rotary for the times when we close off the street for events? (Adding a design into the roadway through durafirm designs or have the community paint a rotating image are options)

4. Would like the striping for the crossings/intersections to be raised if possible or have some sort of treatment to the pavement.
5. Parking for loading times to be made to the signs by Blue Nile, sometimes the roadway area by the island is full and there's nowhere to load. Explore off-peak times for loading.
6. Private homes of permits for dumpster to that continuously renewed for months and have taken away 4 parking spaces in the square. Why is this possible?
7. Maintenance issue of the trees in the circle vs. the tree on one of the islands- Parks waters the ones in the middle and does not do the other one that's less than 100 yards away. How can we fix this? (Parks will not maintain plantings in areas they do not own)
8. Can there be a traffic analysis done for not only the Washington to Centre Street area but the larger roadway network to see where issues of traffic congestion can be handled better with design/signal changes?
9. Have the loop detectors issues at Centre, Creighton and Forbes been fixed? There still seems to be an issue.
10. Angell Memorial has been very receptive to working with the city to re-design the wall facing the square. BTM has been able to provide 3 options to Angell for reconfiguring the wall that is very basic. The ability for the City to reconstruct the wall is limited due to the fact it is private property. The City will continue to work with MSPCA to discuss the options available to include possible proposal to the Brown Fund.

NEXT STEPS

Next steps we will address submitting 25% design plans at the end of the month to BTM engineering for approvals moving forward.

The community groups in the area along with the local shops will be encouraged to meet with NTD/Public Works to discuss design details as they start to work further into the design. Maintenance, types of treatments, public art types and funding for some of these features will need to be discussed in terms of community involvement.