

Lower Roxbury Outreach Advisory Group Meeting

May 19, 2022 @ 11 AM

Notetaker: Ashley Pierre-Louis, HSH

In Attendance:

Andre Jones, Nuestra Comunidad
Carol Blaire, Chester Square Neighborhood Association
Emmanuel De Barros, Alternatives for Community and Environment
Rev. Evan Thayer, Church of St. Augustine & St. Martin
Frank Williams, 888 Tremont Street
James Dilday, Alexandria Ball Neighborhood Association
Javier Guitierrez, Madison Health CDC
Michelle Eldgride, Roxse Homes
Natasha G, Roxse Homes
Ronald Whitaker, Peoples Baptist Church
Jen Rowe, Boston Transportation Department
Jacob Wessel, Boston Transportation Department
Louisa Gag, Boston Transportation Department

Slide deck. Note: after the meeting, we revised the pop-up schedule. The updated schedule is [here](#).

Receiving Feedback

Do dates/locations look good? ‘

- *Why these locations?* We chose these locations based on their proximity to the proposed changes. We'll set up a table but we also want to have print-outs that will allow us to walk a short distance over to the exact areas of the proposed changes and answer questions about them.
- *For location 1 on Harrison - what kind of info do we want?* We tabled here during our earlier round of pop-ups. There was a lot of foot traffic since it's so close to BMC and Rosie's Place. We heard a lot about the need for a crosswalk across Lenox St on the Rosie's Place side of the intersection. We also observed people crossing there. So we want to return to share the proposed change here.
- *There should be something further down on Tremont near Lenox and Hammond. Right now there's just location 2 at Northampton. A lot of long term community members live there. What will happen to them in the future? Northeastern was previously looking at purchasing property where the housing projects are.* That's a great suggestion. We were hoping to do a pop-up at Tremont and Hammond in collaboration with the folks from the City and community working on the Frederick Douglass Peace Plaza. We'll circle back with them to make that happen.

- *Could you move location 4 to an area where more people are? Tremont is busier around lunchtime. Also, Tropical Foods is very busy. Could you have a pop-up there? That's a great idea. We'll look into shifting location 4, maybe to Tremont and Hammond, and adding a pop-up at Tropical Foods.*

Do you know a local interpreter for Spanish?

- *Yes, we have two contacts for interpreters. One lives in the neighborhood.*

Getting the Word Out

Are there any residents these engagement strategies won't reach? How do we fill the gap?

- *Send the postcard to the neighborhood. The postcards work, we hear from people when they get them.*
- *Roxie Homes would love to know what's going on, Mandela, Grant Manor - reach out to the management and tenant-based communities there. They're on the sidewalk of where the changes will be. That's a good point. We have worked with their management and tenants associations to distribute information in the past and will do that again for this round of outreach.*
- *Go to the BPDA schedule and see when they have meetings to bring this up within. There are a small group of people going to community meetings. So you'll reach those people if you advertise these pop-ups there. You'll also reach local community groups. We'll pull together a calendar of upcoming events and try to have a presence at them.*
- *If there's a morning pop-up, make sure to go back for afternoon/evening when people are moving slower and have more time. We realize there's a typo and one of the morning times on this slide (location 5) is actually an evening pop-up. We agree that folks are more willing to stop and chat in the afternoons/evenings.*
- *Are there partnerships with BMC to support the pop-ups? We haven't connected with BMC but we'll reach out to them.*
- *Could you contact Hampton House and Fortes House to make sure the seniors know there's an invitation to come out and chat? Yes, we'll reach out to both residences.*

Do you have suggestions for reaching businesses?

- *Reaching out to businesses through local channels. Main Streets has regular communications with businesses in the neighborhood. Great idea. We'll reach out to them.*

Do you know of other neighborhood events we can pop up at?

- *The neighborhood association will be hosting stoop parties, BTD is welcome to join. We'd love that!*

Meeting Evaluation

- No comments.

Next Meeting: Aug 18th

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