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## STRUCTURE AND CORE FUNCTIONS

The Planning Advisory Council is an internal coordinating body that guides a shared vision for a green, growing, family-friendly Boston and coordinates investments in the built environment to realize that vision. It was created by Mayor Michelle Wu, via Executive Order, in January 2023.



As the Mayor's "Built Environment" Cabinet, appointed members of the Planning Advisory Council (PAC) include:

- Kairos Shen (Chair) Chief of Planning
- Sheila Dillon Chief of Housing and Director, Mayor's Office of Housing
- Kenny Mascary
  Interim Chief of Arts and Culture
- Jascha Franklin-Hodge Chief of Streets
- Ashley Groffenberger Chief Financial Officer, Collector-Treasurer

- Dion Irish Chief of Operations
- Mariangely Solis Cervera Chief of Equity and Inclusion
- Brian Swett Chief Climate Officer
- Segun Idowu Chief of Economic Opportunity and Inclusion

Alongside the Mayor's Office, key Cabinet and Staff leadership also regularly advise on and engage in the work of the PAC, including Brianna Millor, Chief of Community Engagement, Kenzie Bok, Administrator of the Boston Housing Authority, and José Massó, Chief of Human Services.

The Council is supported by three full time staff, Katharine Lusk (Executive Director), Anne Schwieger (Assistant Director), and Joy Armstrong (Implementation Manager). It benefits from the support and collaboration of colleagues across the City.

#### **OUR MISSION:**

Delivering quality of place improvements for our constituents through coordinated, responsive government.

#### THE CORE FUNCTIONS OF THE PAC ARE:

#### MAKING COLLABORATION ROUTINE

We connect leaders and staff across departments to break down silos and work better together.

#### **DRIVING IMPLEMENTATION**

We track and report progress to make sure community priorities in City plans move forward quickly.

#### **BUILDING PUBLIC TRUST**

We create new ways to engage residents, so they can stay up to date on and influence key projects and plans.

#### **LEADING CROSS-CABINET INITIATIVES**

We lead special cross-departmental initiatives that require a dedicated set of hands to bring everyone together and create momentum.



### MAKING COLLABORATION ROUTINE

#### MONTHLY CONVENINGS OF THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT CABINET

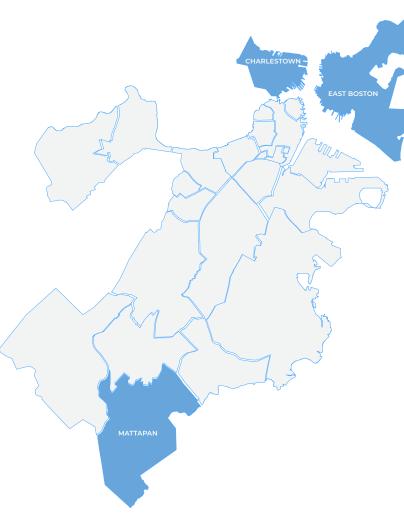
The PAC hosts monthly meetings of the nine appointed Cabinet Chiefs and key collaborators. These meetings allow for cross-Cabinet deliberation and decision-making on major planning and infrastructure initiatives. This year's presenters spanned the Planning Department, Public Facilities, Parks and Open Space, the Mayor's Office of Housing, Streets, Boston Public Schools, Office of Economic Opportunity and Inclusion, Finance, and the Department of Innovation and Technology.

#### WHAT'S THE PLAN? SERIES

The PAC and the Planning & Zoning Division continued to co-host What's the Plan?, a monthly cross-departmental forum that delves into the substance of plans and how Department staff are moving them forward. In the past year, nearly 300 colleagues participated in this unique learning space. Topics presented this year included the Boston Housing Strategy 2025, the Boston Public Health Commission's Live Long and Well Agenda, the City's Coastal Resilience Plan, the Boston Housing Authority's work on Transforming and Growing Boston's Public Housing, Boston Public Schools Long-Term Facilities Plan, Go Boston 2030 ReVisioned, the City's first Anti-Displacement Action Plan, the Community Safety Team's Summer Safety Plan, the City's Small Business Strategy, and Youth and Planning.

#### SHARED INTERNAL CALENDAR PILOT

In spring 2025, the Department of Innovation and Technology, PAC, and the Planning Department's Community Engagement team launched an internal shared calendar pilot for City project teams working in Allston-Brighton. The goal is to improve coordination and avoid competing meetings - which is better for staff and our constituents. The pilot will expand to include additional neighborhoods in the coming year.



Map of Boston's neighborhoods

## DRIVING IMPLEMENTATION

#### PLAN IMPLEMENTATION TRACKERS

The PAC continued to develop implementation tools to track progress on plan-aligned public projects. This year, we tracked the City's progress on projects related to PLAN: East Boston, PLAN: Mattapan, PLAN: Charlestown, and the Franklin Park Action Plan. Tracking plan implementation is the foundation upon which accurate and timely public progress reports are built.

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Recommendation Overview								Recommendation Information	
Status 🖬	10 T	Name T	Plon Text Y	Goal		Project Type	Preliminary ID T	Plon Area "	Recommendation Type
Incomplete	PES-M-06	East Seston Size Line Improvements	The City should support MISTA efforts to improve and expand the Diue Line by: Blue Line to allow passengers to reach more destinations—and for the region to read and Capacity. Initiate a "Siles Line Transformation" program to increase service and assing Hours of Operation. Expand service hours and week toward achieving all-day s	Mobility		Transit Improvements	PEB-TPR-76	East Boston	Transportation and Public Re
Incomplete	PEB-M-13	Sulfall Louris Square Hedesign	Invest in Suffelk Cown Square to: It. Palermo Street, and Austin Avenue (Connect to Mary Ellen Welch Greenway, sho ses to the Belle hile Marsh at Palermo Street, Austin Avenue, and the Belle Isle Marsh at Intersections at Walley Street, Leyden Street, and Palermo Street with new crosses	Mobility	٠	Square Redesign	PEB-TPR-52	Sulfak Downs Square	Transportation and Public Re
Incomplete	PEB-M-21	Condor Street Redesign	Redesign Condor Street for safer conditions with expanded public realm	Mobility		Street Redesign	PEB-TPR-11	Eagle Hill and Paris Flats	Transportation and Public Re
incomplete	PEB-M-31	Expan Transit, including Waterhort Transportation	Reconfigure waterhord transportation networks and expand transit options	Mobility		Transit Improvements	PEB-TPR-58	East Boston	Transportation and Public Re
Incomplete	PEB-M-32	Expand Ferry and Advance Coastal Resilience	de Ferry Service: Concurrently advance coantal resillence inhastructure and ferry exp	Mobility		Transit Improvements	PEB-TPR-83	East Soston	Transportation and Public Re
Incamplete	PE8-M-33	Upgrade Bus Stops	MSTA and City should continue to partner to upgrade area bus stops	Mobility		Transit Improvements	PEB-TPR-24	Orient Heights	Transportation and Public Re
Incomplete	PES-M-34	Improve safety through street design	ugh street design on neighborhood residential streets with safer speeds, safer turns.	Mobility		Street Redesign	PEB-TPR-02	East Boston	Transportation and Public Re
Incomplete	PEB-M-35	Expan Transportation Access	tion access so that all residents are within a 10-minute walk to frequent transit, bikest	Mobility	*	Transit Improvements	PEB-TPR-03	East Boston	Transportation and Public Re
Incomplete	PEB-M-36	Better Bike Lanes	Beter bike lares	Mobility		Street Radesign	PEB-TPR-04	East Buston	Transportation and Public Re
Incomplete	PDB-M-37	Clear Comers at Crosswalks	Introduce clear corners at all crosowalks throughout Maverick Central	Mobility		Intersection Redesign	PEB-TPR-06	Maverick Central	Transportation and Public Re *
Incomplete	PE8-M-38	Prioritize Pedestrian Experence	Prioritize the quality of the pedestrian experience	Mobility	*	Street Redesign	PEB-TPR-30	East Boston	Transportation and Public Re
incomplete	PE8-M-39	Manage Curb Space	Balance and manage curbside space	Mobility		Street Radesign	PEB-TPR-31	East Boston	Transportation and Public Re
incomplete	PEIS-M-40	Expand Travel Options	evel options for residents and visitors of East Boston through public projects and red	Mobility		Transit Improvements	PEIS-TPR-26	East Boston	Transportation and Public Re
incomplete	PE8-M-41	Cityvide Bike Network	ike network as the city creates the citywide blike plan, which will embed local needs a	Mobility	*	Street Redesign	PEB-TPR-84	East Boston	Transportation and Public Re
incomplete	PEIS-M-42	Culm Truffic	Calm traffic and clear corners on neighborhood residential streets	Mobility	٠	Intersection Redesign	PEB-TPR-06	Eagle Hill and Paris Flats	Transportation and Public Re
Incomplete	PE8-M-04	by Equitable Connections to Opportunity to and from East Bo	Evaluate equitable connections to apportunity	Mobility		Study	PEB-TPR-59	East Boston	Transportation and Public Re
incomplete	PEB-M-05	fighway EDA and Upper Chelsea Creek Waterfront Transit I	and Upper Chelsea Creek Waterbord 'transit deserf' (by creating new high-capacity	Mobility		Transit Improvements	PEB-TPR-71	East Buston	Transportation and Public Re
incomplete	PEB-M-67	Ted Williams Tunnel Dus and HOV Lanes	bor Crossings: Pflot shared bus- and high-occupancy vehicle-only lanes in the Ted W	Mobility		Transit Improvements	PEB-TPR-76	East Boston	Transportation and Public Re
incomplete	PE8-M-68	East Boston Transit Fare Reduction Study	rossings: Explore transit fare reductions for East Beston residents to create parity bet	Mobility	*	Study	PEB-TPR-79	East Boston	Transportation and Public Re
Incomplete	PEB-M-09	East Buston Inner Harbor Bike Ped Tunnel Feasibility Study	Sable Harbor Crossings: Study the feasibility of an Inner Harbor walking and biking tu	Mobility		Study	PEB-TPR-00	East Duston	Transportation and Public Re
Incomplete	PEB-M-13	Harbor View Neighborhood Circulation Study	ton Street, like Addison Street, facilitate access to Route 1A, resulting in higher traffic	Mobility		Study	PEB-TPR-17	Harbor View	Transportation and Public Re
Incomplete	PE8-M-14	affilies Point and Gove Street Truck Restriction Signage Stur	effectiveness of track restriction signs and continue coordination with industrial prop	Mobility	*	Study	PEB-TPR-14	Jeffries Point and Gove Street	Transportation and Public Re
incomplete	PEB-M-23	Waldemar Avenue Redesign	Redesign Waldemar Avenue for safer conditions with expanded public realm	Mobility		Street Radesign	PEB-TPR-26	Orient Heights	Transportation and Public Re
incomplete	PEB-M-24	Orient Avenue and Faywood Avenue Intersection Redesign	octions and create public space at irregular intersections along Orient Avenue and Fa	Mobility		Intersection Redesign	PEB-TPR-27	Orient Heights	Transportation and Public Re
Incomplete	PE8-M-25	Intersection Badesign along White Street and Eagle Street	actions and create public space at irregular intersections along White Street and East	Mobility		Intersection Redesign	PEB-TPR-09	Eagle Hill and Paris Flats	Transportation and Public Re
-	PER-M-26	Chokea Street Bridge Bike Lanes	and META should advance the introduction of safe and comfortable bike lanes and by	Mobility		Bike / Ped Improvements	PER-TPR-70	Development Area and the Upd	Transportation and Public Re

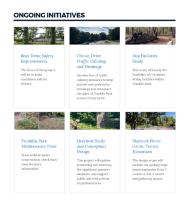
 $Sample\ plan\ implementation\ tracker$ 

### FRANKLIN PARK ACTION PLAN

With support from the PAC, a dedicated cross-departmental working group continued to advance the Franklin Park Action Plan, a roadmap for investment in Franklin Park to restore the landscape, support uses desired by park users, and keep the park accessible and welcoming.

This year, the City advanced key strategic priorities including: studies focused on the restoration of the Overlook Ruins, planning for traffic calming and drainage improvements on Circuit Drive, expanding the Shattuck Picnic Grove Tennis Courts, safety improvements to the Bear Dens, and initial work on White Stadium.

Additionally, the Franklin Park Trust has undertaken high priority projects to remove invasive species, restore the Wilderness, repave Glen Road, and improve safety at Ellicott Arch.



Examples of ongoing projects to advance the Franklin Park Action Plan



Poster advertising the Icons of Franklin Park Poster Competition

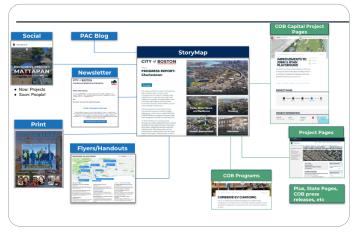
## FRANKLIN PARK ICONS POSTER COMPETITION

The PAC and the Urban Design Division supported the Boston Parks Department in developing a new 'Icons of Franklin Park' poster competition, together with the Franklin Park Coalition and the Boston Society of Landscape Architects. Designers and artists were invited to submit poster designs that highlight the physical and cultural icons of Franklin Park's past and present.

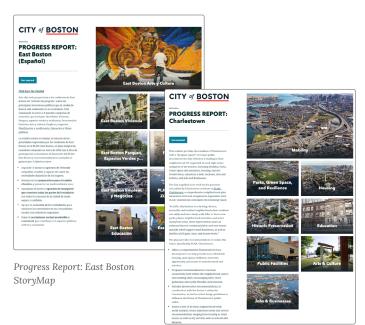
### **BUILDING PUBLIC TRUST**

## PROGRESS REPORTS AND "HUB & SPOKE" COMMUNICATIONS

The PAC created new public reporting channels to help constituents understand progress on a range of public investments in their neighborhood. This year, we developed and launched a "hub & spoke" communications strategy, leveraging social media, online newsletters, a blog, print collateral, and <a href="Months Social Roboton.gov">Boston.gov</a> to reach constituents wherever they are.



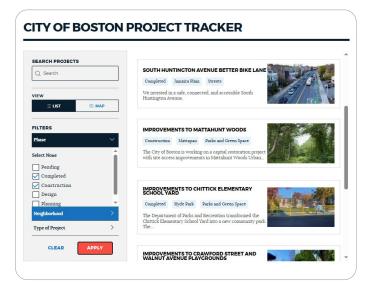
Graphic of the PAC's "hub and spoke" communications strategy



Progress Report: Charlestown StoryMap

At the "hub" are public Progress Reports in the form of StoryMaps. This year, the PAC published reports on the implementation of <u>PLAN: East Boston</u> and <u>PLAN: Charlestown</u> in multiple languages. These public sites detail the investments the City is making in major community priorities outlined in the plans, including Mobility, Housing, Parks, Green Space and Resilience, Historic Preservation, Arts and Culture, Jobs and Businesses, Planning and Zoning, Education, and Public Facilities.

## A PUBLIC CAPITAL PROJECT TRACKER



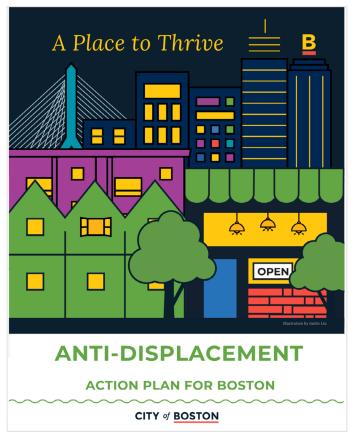
Citywide Project Tracker on Boston.gov

The PAC continued its partnership with the Department of Innovation and Technology to improve the consistency and quality of publicly available information on major capital projects. Together, we launched Boston's first citywide Capital Project Tracker on Boston.gov. Now residents can explore all major city investments in their neighborhood, from parks to schools to community centers and streets. As part of this initiative, the PAC helped staff across City departments migrate 180 projects to a new standardized project page format. Created with input from City staff and constituents, this new template includes clear information on the purpose, timeline, and status of major capital projects across Boston.

### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT - COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE

The City's first Community of Practice dedicated to Community Engagement brings together staff from more than 20 departments who engage constituents to help transform Boston. Monthly staff-led sessions enable them to learn new skills, better collaborate, and share best practices and resources. This year's highlights include training on effective meeting facilitation, staff-led case studies on community engagement methods in Squares + Streets and transportation projects, and a training on the new Boston.gov project page template to ensure residents have high quality, consistent information on capital projects in their neighborhood.

## LEADING SPECIAL CROSS-CABINET INITIATIVES



Cover of Anti-Displacement Action Plan

## ANTI-DISPLACEMENT ACTION PLAN

The PAC led the development of the City's first Anti-Displacement Action Plan, A Place to Thrive, which outlines more than forty initiatives that fill gaps in the City's ongoing efforts to protect residents, small businesses, and cultural institutions from displacement. In developing the plan, the City also released two reports as part of a discovery phase, highlighting constituent priorities elevated by more than 2,300 residents over multiple years, and analyzing the City's existing stabilization tools. Over the next two years, the PAC will continue to play a central coordination role.

DISPLACEMENT
DISCLOSURE PILOT

While the City has strong tools to mitigate the economic impacts of new development—such as Inclusionary Zoning and Linkage Fees—it lacks a process to address the direct displacement of existing tenants due to new development. To address this, the Planning Department, Mayor's Office of Housing, Office of Economic Opportunity and Inclusion, and the Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture are developing a new Direct Displacement Disclosure, which will be piloted in Fall, 2025.

# COMMUNITY-LED, CITY-FACILITATED ANTI-DISPLACEMENT WORKSHOPS

The PAC and Planning piloted a new model of engagement centered on deep collaboration with trusted community organizations, piloting codesigned anti-displacement workshops tailored to neighborhood needs. Two workshops were hosted with community partners in summer 2025 — one in Allston-Brighton and the second in Codman Square — engaging over 140 residents in total.



Allston-Brighton Anti-Displacement Workshop



Codman Square Anti-Displacement Workshop

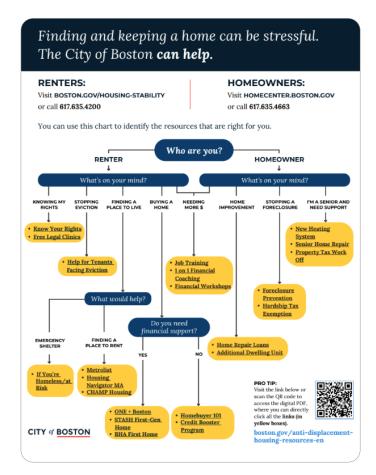
Through storytelling and small group scenario activities, the workshops aimed to increase resident awareness of stabilization tools and establish a method to integrate antidisplacement priorities into future planning efforts.



Infographic of community priorities related to displacement

#### MULTILINGUAL STABILIZATION RESOURCE GUIDES

The City of Boston has a wide range of resources to stabilize residents, small businesses, and cultural organizations, but navigating them can be difficult. To help with this, the PAC developed the Housing Stability Resource Guide and the Housing Stability Resources for Older Adults Guide—both available in twelve languages—highlighting key supports for renters and homeowners across multiple departments. The next guide, focused on small businesses, is being developed in partnership with the Office of Economic Opportunity and Inclusion.





Housing Stability Resource Guide

Housing Stability Resources for Older Adults





