

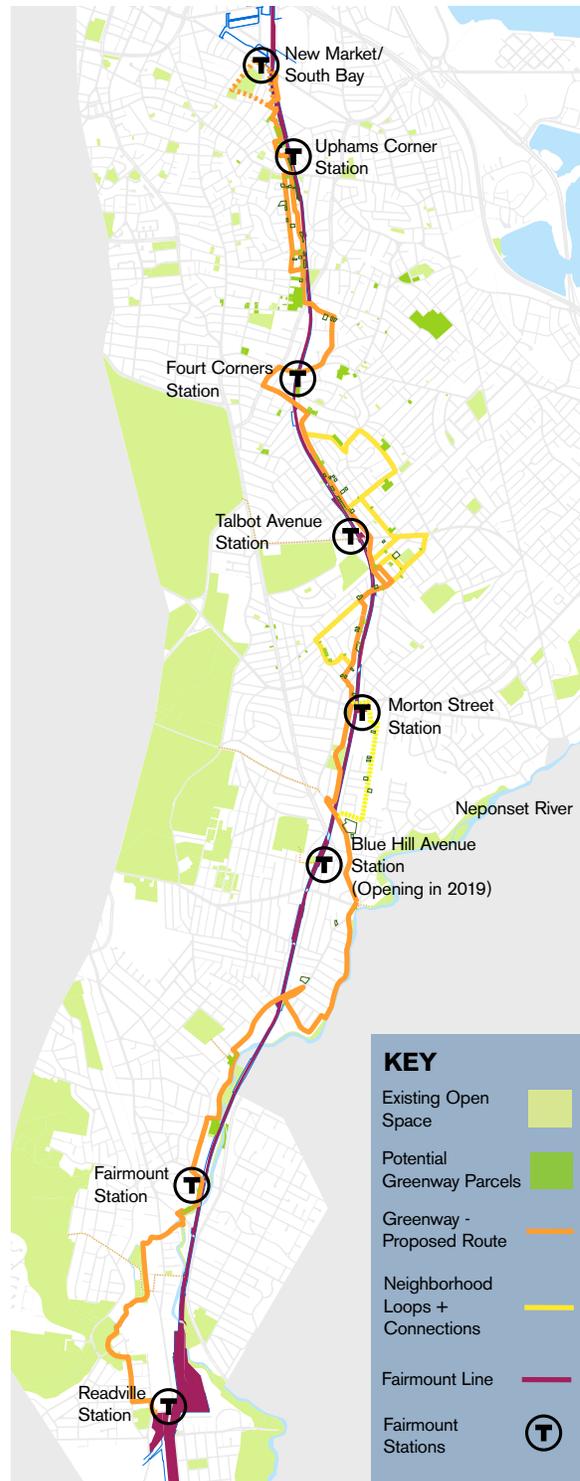
Local

Fairmount Greenway Neighborways

A nine-mile walking and biking route that parallels the Fairmount Indigo Line

Project Description

This multi-site urban greenway links the Fairmount stations, open space, and other developing neighborhood amenities with an on-street biking and walking route that loosely follows the Fairmount/Indigo Line. The neighborways would include traffic calming, wider sidewalks, wayfinding signs and markings, improved intersection crossings with busy streets, and green infrastructure enhancements. In addition to the primary north-south route, there would be shorter loops for local trips that safely connect residents, commuters, shoppers, and visitors to transit stations; to new and existing open space, including parks, community gardens, schools; and to neighborhood business districts and historic sites.



Project Score

- Access 1
- Access 2
- Safety 1
- Safety 2
- Reliability
- Affordability
- Sustainability/Resiliency 1
- Sustainability/Resiliency 2
- Governance

This project recommendation came out of community feedback and the Needs Assessment.

Benefits and Issues Addressed

The Fairmount Greenway Task Force (FGTF) has engaged over 700 local community members since 2008 to implement short stretches of the neighborways, create new community gardens, activate vacant sites, enhance urban wilds, and develop a shared vision for a connected network of gardens, parks, and open spaces that enhance the communities in Hyde Park, Mattapan, Roxbury, and Dorchester that were historically underserved by transit and park access. Moving forward, its special designation as a greenway of neighborways will make it the focus of temporary playways, art installations, tactical urbanism strategies, and green infrastructure improvements to the streetscape to create a sense of place, provide community destinations, and green the route.

Implementation

- Approximate Cost:** To be determined
- Potential Funding Sources:** City capital plan, DCR for path along Neponset, EPA Region 1, and MassDOT's Complete Streets program
- Who's Responsible:** BTD and Public Works with MassDOT and DCR
- Time Frame:** Five years for design and 15 years for construction in coordination with local public process

Best Practices

In Vancouver, BC, the Carrall Street Greenway connected three neighborhoods by altering the existing street layout of two travel lanes and parking/loading lanes to include a recreational path, more street trees, and decorative street lighting. The design includes "flexible amenity space" that can be used for loading, parking, sidewalk cafes, parties, etc. The design preserved the character and history of the neighborhoods it passed through (ex. brick sidewalks in the Gastown neighborhood) with an existing ROW of 66 feet. ourvrc.com/?p=493

Public Input

"Build the Fairmount Greenway: a neighborway to connect communities. The Greenway promotes active living and improves the environment, while connecting neighborhoods. Since 2008 the effort has been led by the Fairmount Greenway Task Force, which includes 10 community organizations working in collaboration with the City of Boston. We are very excited to mark the Greenway route with permanent signage and bikeway pavement markings in the near future. However, there is still more work to be done. Our vision is to create a friendly, safe, and green route."

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More info at fairmountcollaborative.org/what-we-do/create-the-fairmount-greenway/