

Advocacy Convinces MBTA to Restore 55 Bus Route

BY RUTH KHOWAIS

The MBTA held a virtual Bus Network Redesign meeting on Nov. 2 to update the public on the Better Bus Project. Interest in the meeting was overwhelming, with 300 people participating on Zoom. Many more tried to log in, but a cap on meeting size kept them off the site. Due to the interest, the agency held another meeting Nov. 14.

Moderator Regan Checchio said that the bus redesign committee had received 20,000 public comments since the proposal was announced in May and had read them all.

Many residents—including from the Fenway—complained about the proposed new routes. In the original MBTA proposal, the 55 bus was scheduled to run from the LMA to Kendall Square via Hynes Station, eliminating the popular Copley Square and Prudential stops.

Justin Antos from the MBTA announced that 85 of the 134 proposed routes would return to their original configurations. He said

that these changes were made in response to public feedback received on the draft proposal. Reverting to the original routes will improve access to hospitals and senior centers and reduce walking distances for seniors and riders with disabilities.

Thanks to strong and consistent advocacy by Fenway residents and the support of our elected officials, the 55 will continue to run to Copley Square from 6am to 7pm daily. The list of restored routes also included the 47 and 39 buses.

Antos also announced that the MBTA planned to increase bus service by 25 percent despite its shortage of drivers.

The T also plans to improve bus shelters, lighting and change the way the MBTA collects fares. The route changes are planned to start next summer and may take five years to fully implement.

Ruth Khowais lives in the West Fens. See page 3 for more Bus Network Redesign news.

WORK BEGINS ON REVIEW OF B.U. 'S TEN-YEAR CAMPUS MASTER PLAN

BY ALISON PULTINAS

In late October, Boston University submitted a proposed 10-year institutional master plan (IMP) with descriptions of potential future projects.

The first stated guiding principle for the 2023–2033 IMP is “grow internally to build a more dense, walkable, sustainable, and transit-friendly campus.”

The deadline for public comments is Dec. 13 (although Dec. 15 was mentioned at the Nov. 21 remote meeting of the BU Task Force.)

So far, the BPDA has held only one public meeting, but more are promised. BU's director of city relations, Ken Ryan

said another Task Force session should be scheduled before the comment period ends. However, according to BPDA project manager Tyler Ross, none have been announced.

Of 59 attendees at the Nov. 21 meeting, more than one-third were BU staff or paid consultants. City Councilor Kenzie Bok and all 17 members of the Task Force—including chairperson Pam Beale, owner of Cornwall's Pub—attended.

Ninety minutes into the meeting, the host inadvertently ended the video connection, and many did not log back when the meeting resumed. However, the meeting recording and presentation are posted on the BPDA website under the “planning for higher education” section.

Fenway CDC's Richard Giordano asked about enrollment projections. BU's senior vice president of operation, Derek Howe, said the university plans to maintain the current freshmen class size of 3,100 students, compared to 4,011 admitted last year.

Alison Pultinas lives in Mission Hill.

On The Other Hand... Maybe Speed Up?



The Department of Conservation & Recreation has installed a new sign on Park Drive near Justine Mee Liff Park reminding drivers to slow down to accommodate geese.

Future Holds Big Changes for Bowker, Charlesgate

BY STEVE WOLF

On Nov. 21, state and city officials joined open-space advocates in Charlesgate Park for a classic good news/bad news announcement.

The good news: the Commonwealth has committed funding for a massive redesign and rebuilding of the Bowker Overpass and adjacent ramps on Storrow Drive. (Recent Bowker ramp repairs are only meant to last a decade.) For \$180 million, Mass Highways will build a new overpass and new Storrow eastbound flyover. The dual projects will also launch the long-planned makeover of Charlesgate, originally designed by Frederick Law Olmsted but brutalized in the 20th century by highway construction (including the Bowker). A new configuration will increase parkland; relink the Esplanade and the Back Bay Fens for pedestrians and cyclists; restore the Muddy River channel where it enters the Charles; and increase bike/pedestrian connections from Beacon Street to the Esplanade.

The bad news? Project sequencing will mean roughly seven years of disruption, beginning with the Bowker reconstruction, projected to start by late 2024 and last two and a half years. Just as that wraps up in 2027, MassDOT will put the Storrow work out to bid. Assuming the work begins later that year, it would end in 2032.

Steve Wolf lives in the West Fens.



At the announcement, Nov. 21, from left: Parker James, Charlesgate Alliance; Karen Mauney-Brodek, president of the Emerald Necklace Conservancy; Commissioner Doug Rice, Department of Conservation and Recreation; State Sen. Will Brownsberger; Anthony Pangaro, Esplanade Association; MassDOT secretary Jamey Tesler; City Councilor Kenzie Bok; and John Gulliver, highway administrator at MassDOT.

LOCAL ELECTION RESULTS: GOVERNOR & BALLOT QUESTIONS

The Fenway		UNOFFICIAL TOTALS BY WARD/PRECINCT							
TURNOUT [% OF REGISTERED VOTERS]									
WARD/PRECINCT ➡	4/5	4/6	4/7	4/8	5/2	5/10	5/15	21/1	
% VOTING ➡	42%	42%	33%	27%	36%	29%	74%	30%	
GOVERNOR									
Maura Healey	678 85%	515 82%	431 86%	395 81%	517 89%	333 81%	412 82%	563 89%	
Geoff Diehl	108 14%	99 16%	62 12%	87 18%	60 10%	70 10%	90 18%	42 11%	
REFERENDUM QUESTIONS [Y=yes, N=no]									
Question 1 4% surtax on income above \$1 million	Y 60% N 40%	Y 51% N 49%	Y 71% N 29%	Y 77% N 23%	Y 79% N 21%	Y 73% N 27%	Y 60% N 40%	Y 75% N 25%	
Question 2 83% of dental ins. revenue for services	Y 81% N 19%	Y 78% N 22%	Y 83% N 17%	Y 85% N 15%	Y 85% N 15%	Y 81% N 19%	Y 85% N 15%	Y 87% N 13%	
Question 3 Higher cap on single- owner liquor licenses	Y 59% N 41%	Y 56% N 44%	Y 57% N 43%	Y 65% N 35%	Y 62% N 38%	Y 62% N 38%	Y 61% N 39%	Y 61% N 39%	
Question 4 Licenses for noncitizen drivers	Y 77% N 23%	Y 74% N 26%	Y 76% N 24%	Y 79% N 21%	Y 83% N 17%	Y 76% N 24%	Y 76% N 24%	Y 82% N 18%	

Mission Hill		UNOFFICIAL TOTALS BY WARD/PRECINCT						
TURNOUT								
WARD/PRECINCT ➡	10/1	10/2	10/3	10/4	10/5	10/6	10/8	
% VOTING ➡	39%	24%	26%	29%	32%	31%	39%	
GOVERNOR								
Maura Healey	337 88%	228 86%	231 86%	500 85%	354 84%	453 88%	780 89%	
Geoff Diehl	42 11%	33 14%	35 13%	81 14%	59 16%	46 10%	83 9%	
REFERENDUM QUESTIONS [Y=yes, N=no]								
Question 1 4% surtax on income above \$1 million	Y 73% N 27%	Y 76% N 24%	Y 77% N 23%	Y 82% N 18%	Y 76% N 24%	Y 77% N 23%	Y 84% N 16%	
Question 2 83% of dental ins. revenue for services	Y 79% N 21%	Y 83% N 17%	Y 82% N 18%	Y 83% N 17%	Y 85% N 15%	Y 86% N 14%	Y 86% N 14%	
Question 3 Higher cap on single- owner liquor licenses	Y 49% N 51%	Y 56% N 44%	Y 56% N 44%	Y 52% N 48%	Y 62% N 38%	Y 61% N 39%	Y 58% N 42%	
Question 4 Licenses for noncitizen drivers	Y 73% N 27%	Y 78% N 22%	Y 81% N 19%	Y 80% N 20%	Y 80% N 20%	Y 82% N 18%	Y 83% N 17%	

EVENT ALERT

AT FENWAY PARK

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WASABI FENWAY BOWL
11:00AM

JAN. 2
NHL WINTER CLASSIC
2:00PM

JAN. 6-7
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SAT, JAN 7 ↻ 2:30–9:00PM

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ICYMI loves Fenwickians in the news, and we've got two this month. Carol Lasky won *The New Yorker's* weekly contest for cartoon captions—determined by readers' votes. The results appeared in the Nov. 28 issue. Meanwhile, the *Globe* illustrated an article on the winter-solstice light show at Mt. Auburn Cemetery with a picture of musician Brian Clague playing violin at last year's show. ➡ **Two 2022 Preservation Awards from the Boston Preservation Alliance landed on opposite sides of the Fenway. The group honored restoration of the Christian Science Plaza and redevelopment of the former Sears warehouse building, now known as 401 Park. Watch short videos on both at www.bostonpreservation.org/awards/2022.** ➡ Fenway Sports Group (aka the Red Sox' owners) put its British soccer team, Liverpool FC, up for sale. ➡ **ICYMI dropped the ball last month by failing to note a promotion at the Fenway Alliance. Genevieve Day has become co-executive director and will share**

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT
A LOT HAPPENED IN OUR NEIGHBORHOODS SINCE OUR LAST ISSUE, INCLUDING...



duties with longtime ED Kelly Brilliant. ➡ Music lovers get a chance to see Handel & Haydn's new music director in action at the Society's baroque Christmas concert on the 15th and 16th. H+H announced the appointment of Jonathan Cohen—a Grammy-winning Brit who's led chamber orchestras in Europe and North America—as successor to Harry Christophers. Cohen, 44, already has three H+H performances under his belt. ➡ ***Globe* business columnist Jon Chesto reports that opposition from Back Bay businesses and elected officials has successfully split sale of the Hynes Center from expansion of the South Boston convention center. Gov. Charlie Baker had hoped to sell the Hynes for private development and use the proceeds to fund the expansion in Southie. The Mass Convention Center Authority now says it will book shows at the Hynes through 2025. It hasn't ruled out a future sale but says it will pursue one of two renovation options for the Hynes.** ➡

TheArts

I Went To Paint A Forest. I Came Back With A Burning Question

BY BEVERLY SKY

I am a visual artist. In preparation for my two-week residency at the Spring Creek Project / Andrews Experimental Forest in Oregon, I purchased extra-large tubes of yellow and blue watercolor pigments, anticipating creating several notebooks full of “greens” in the shape of forests. My large checked bag was filled with all my supplies and weighed exactly 49 pounds. The carry-on held everything else. I had a studio at the former home of the renowned author and environmentalist Barry Lopez and his wife, the writer Debra Gwartney, situated across the road from the flowing McKenzie River three miles from the Andrews Forest.

Driving from Eugene to Finn Rock in the late afternoon, I was surprised to see just a few triangles of evergreen trees among all the leafless. I thought to myself, “oh, it’s early winter here, and the trees have lost their leaves already, like Vermont in winter.”

It was not until after I arrived that I learned about the Holiday Farm Fire that swept through here on Sept. 7, 2020. All these

grey trees were dead, only they hadn’t fallen yet. Snags, they called them. They would be downed within the next five years from a powerful rain or wind event. I was profoundly moved by what now appeared to me to be a wasteland. “Climate Change” and “Global Warming” were terms that seemed abstract to me before, but now I could see that this was truly a Climate Crisis.

Established in 1948 and located within the Willamette National Forest, the H.J. Andrews Experimental Forest is a 16-thousand-acre green sea of vegetation with some trees that are 700 years old, 10 feet thick, and over 250 feet high. This old growth forest is a long-term ecological research center with a focus on climate change, vegetation succession, biogeochemical cycling, and forest management. To quote John Luoma in his book, *The Hidden Forest*: “The Andrews... is the most studied primal forest ecosystem on this continent and perhaps the planet.”

What a sensorial relief it was to be in this green wonderland. Trees ornamented with

hanging Spanish moss, trunks covered in a wild variety of green velvet lichens and algae. The fragrance of clean, fresh pine and damp earth was exhilarating. Everywhere I looked



IMAGE COURTESY OF BEVERLY SKY

BURNING QUESTION on page 6 > **“My House Is On Fire: Ode to Greta Thunberg” by Beverly Sky**



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SUSTAINABILITY RISES AT B.U.

PHOTO: RUTH KHOWAIS



Boasting powerful sustainability features, BU's Center for Computing and Data Sciences is slated to open in December. At 345,000 square feet, the 331-foot tower at 645-665 Commonwealth Ave. will be the city's largest fossil-fuel-free building. It will rely on geothermal wells for heating and cooling, rigorous insulation, and adjustable shades to block or welcome sunlight according to the season. Toronto-based KPMB Architects designed the building to bring together the departments of mathematics, statistics, and computer science and maximize opportunities for collaboration and interconnectivity.

City Readies Plan To Upgrade Last Block Of Comm Ave Mall

BY RUTH KHOWAIS

On Nov. 15, the Boston Parks and Recreation Department held a meeting to outline plans for redevelopment of the Kenmore block of the Commonwealth Avenue Mall. Architect Arthur Gilman designed the 32-acre mall in the French boulevard style in 1856. The Kenmore block runs from Charlesgate West to Kenmore Street between the inbound and outbound lanes of Commonwealth Avenue. Public meetings about the block began in 2019 and included consultation with the Friends of the Public Garden. Concerns raised in earlier meetings include speeding on inbound Commonwealth Avenue and the poor condition of brick paving within the block. Participants on the 15th cited the hazardous midblock crossing; the problematic location of the Lombard light (replica of an ornate streetlight from Hamburg, Germany's Lombard Bridge); missing and damaged benches; and edge plantings that reduce visibility into the park. On the positive side, the block's mature trees are beautiful and need to be preserved. The Parks Department wants to keep all the trees, but a 2019 tree-health assessment concluded that many are in poor health. The department proposes opening the end of the park—now fenced off—to connect to the rest of the Mall; keeping the open lawn but relocating the memorial bench; relocating the Lombard lamp; adding bike racks, terraced stone seating, and an interior walkway; and introducing movable chairs and tables. The department expects construction to start in the late spring of 2024. Ruth Khowais lives in the West Fens.

BUCKMINSTER COULD WIN LANDMARK STATUS

BY ALISON PULTINAS

Over 20 signers—many Kenmore Square residents—have petitioned the Boston Landmarks Commission to designate the Hotel Buckminster a City landmark. The Boston Preservation Alliance sponsored the petition. At a Nov. 22 hearing, the Commission took two votes on the hotel. The first proposed upgrading a 1980s historical survey that classified the building as of local significance. The second was to accept the petition and begin the process of thoroughly researching the building's history. Both votes were unanimous. To win designation as an official Boston landmark, a property needs to

demonstrate regional or national significance. A presentation at the meeting laid out some of the hotel's notable history. In the 1930s it housed the studios of WNAC, the first radio station in New England to broadcast from Boston. In the 1940s, the hotel housed the First Army Command Headquarters, and military police housed German POWs there. In the early 1950s promoter George Wein moved Storyville, the famed jazz club, into the hotel, where it stayed for two years. City Councilor Kenzie Bok spoke at the hearing to support the petition, describing the Buckminster as a visual anchor for the square, especially relevant amid the "contemporizing" of the Kenmore neighborhood. Alison Pultinas lives in Mission Hill.

A Gift That Keeps On Giving

PHOTO: NASREEN LATIF



East Fens resident Nasreen Latif took on the task of transforming a formerly barren and vacant lot next to the Symphony Road Community Garden by planting a carpet of marigolds. The field continued to bloom into November this year.

COMMUNITY meetings

MON, DEC. 5 The BPDA hosts a virtual **FENWAY ZONING PUBLIC MEETING**. The presentation will include basic information about how zoning works to regulate development and a more detailed analysis of existing zoning in the West Fens. The BPDA will also gather input on the neighborhood's zoning and future planning considerations, for study and discussion over the next few months. 6pm. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/ms74pubx>. Contact Cyrus Miceli at cyrus.miceli@boston.gov or (617) 918-4423 with questions.

TUE, DEC. 6 The Boston Parks Department hosts **BACK BAY FENS PATHWAYS DESIGN MEETING #2**. Virtual meeting, held jointly with the Boston Landmarks Commission. 6pm. Email lauren.bryant@boston.gov for more information.

SAT, DEC. 10 The Fenway CDC's **PILOT ACTION GROUP** will host a virtual information session at 7pm. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/mr2skz5e>. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/mwy8ss7u> or email enidaeckstein@gmail.com for more information.

SAT, DEC. 10 Join the Fenway CDC for a **55 BUS RIDE-ALONG AND PIZZA CELEBRATION**. 3:10–5pm. Meet at the Jersey St./Boylston Str. stop. The pizza celebration takes place at the Fenway Community Center. Contact Leo Ruiz Sanchez at lruizsanchez@fenwaycdc.org or (857) 302-0523 with questions.

SUN, DEC. 11 Fenway CDC Organizing Committee hosts a **HOLIDAY SOCIAL** at the Fenway Community Center. 1–2:30pm. RSVP to cwhite@fenwaycdc.org.

COMMUNITY MEETINGS on page 7 >



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Cheerleaders Compete At Lewis Center, But Athletic Programs Scarce In BPS

PHOTO: ALISON PULTINAS



BY ALISON PULTINAS

On Sunday, Nov. 6, Boston Public School cheerleading teams spent six hours at the Reggie Lewis Center in Roxbury Crossing, warming up, practicing, then competing for championship medals in an annual city high school cheer tournament.

Eight teams warmed up in the gym then performed in the field house in front of three judges. There was a surprisingly large crowd of spectators and a Boston Neighborhood Network film crew. Three Northeastern University cheerleaders served as spotters and later helped distribute medals.

Each team had just two and a half minutes to display their creative routines. The winners were Latin School Wolfpack (pictured; junior varsity division); Brighton Bengals (medium division); and the Latin Academy Dragons (large division).

In related news, the City Council’s education committee, chaired by Councilor Julia Mejia, held a hearing on Nov. 17 about the lack of athletic opportunities for BPS students. While offerings like cheer and dance are options at certain schools, many only offer football, baseball,

soccer, basketball, and volleyball—and those are the larger schools. Swimming and tennis are available at just two high schools, and only Boston Latin School offers golf, lacrosse, and field hockey. Ice hockey and cross-country teams are also rare.

In certain instances, students can try out for unified teams (for example, Fenway High and Snowden combine their athletic programs), but opportunities are limited and can vary. Mejia suggests convening a blue-ribbon commission to study the issue of equity and access related to athletic offerings.

Alison Pultinas lives in Mission Hill.

@ THE CENTER

The Fenway Community Center is now open six days a week. Visit <https://fenwaycommunitycenter.org/> for more details.

- Tuesdays at 5:30pm: KUNG FU
- Thursdays at 1:00pm: HANDS TO HEART CENTER—YOGA FOR THE PEOPLE

SENIOR EVENTS

To attend these events, RSVP to Tracey or Sara at (617) 536-7154. For more information about Operation PEACE programs and senior programming, visit www.operationpeaceboston.org. The Peterborough Senior Center will be closed Dec. 27 to Dec. 29. Some events take place at the Peterborough Senior Center (PSC), and others take place at the Fenway Community Center (FCC).

- Tue, Dec. 6 at 12pm: HOLIDAY BINGO at the PSC
- Wed, Dec. 14 at 1pm: NEW ENGLAND CONSERVATORY ENSEMBLE at the FCC
- Tue, Dec. 20 at 1pm: HOLIDAY TRIVIA (with snacks) at the PSC
- Thursdays at 11:30am: COFFEE AND CONVERSATIONS at the FCC

Xmas Trees Crowd The Station

PHOTO: ALISON PULTINAS



The Fenway Tree Farm (1400 Boylston Street) offers Christmas trees, wreaths, and other evergreen products. Shoppers can walk or drive up daily for full service. Hours are 10am–6pm Monday to Wednesday and 8am–9pm Thursday to Saturday.

EATS BEAT

- **YELLOW DOOR TAQUERIA** opened at 1619 Tremont St. in Mission Hill in mid-November. This is the restaurant’s third location.
- **TENDERONI’S**, a bigger version of Tiffani Faison’s 1970s-themed pizza restaurant downtown, has opened in the old Tiger Mama space on Boylston Street in the West Fens.
- **PESCADOR** has opened in the Hotel Commonwealth in Kenmore Square.

Urban Meritage, which owns the retail floor of the building, brought in New York’s Blue Ribbon Restaurants to fill the spaces left by Garrett Harker, who built Eastern Standard and the Hawthorne into local institutions. During the pandemic, Harker waged a very public battle with Urban Meritage over rent increases and eventually left. He plans to open four new restaurants this year in the Bower complex between Kenmore and Audubon Circle.

The Arts

> **BURNING QUESTION** from page 4 it hanging Spanish moss, trunks covered in a wild variety of green velvet lichens and algae. The fragrance of clean, fresh pine and damp earth was exhilarating. Everywhere I looked it seemed as though some unseen gardener had been landscaping the woodlands. The ground was spongy with mounds of mosses, mushrooms, and flowers. Because old growth forests contain more diversified and established vegetation and are much cooler and damper than young forests, scientists have discovered that these woodlands are more resistant to high severity fires. That is why we were in an oasis of green surrounded by 175,000 acres of burned wood.

Fred Swanson, our guide, asked us what our impressions were, and I said, “we are in a Museum of Time here.” A living museum of history that shows us what has been happening for over 500 years. The surrounding treeless mountains have to start all over again. Will five generations from now be able to have this luxurious, lush life experience? What a precious resource these ancients are for humani-

ty’s future. These woods have so much to teach us, and we are only now beginning to listen to them. They hold our history in their rings.

Instead of painting the bucolic and majestic arboreal evergreens, I wound up watching videos of the fire. Searing interviews with the survivors and rescuers. Heartbreaking stories of 3am knocks on the door with three minutes to grab your cat and leave. Cell phones dead, one road out, the roar and heat of the inferno blazing the mountains and bellowing 50 mile an hour winds, rushing through the valley.

Incredibly, no one died except the forest. The towns of Blue River, Finn Rock, Nimrod, and Vida were incinerated. Here and there, a house was spared. The Lopez house survived. All that remained of Barry Lopez’s nearby studio and archive of his life’s work was ash.

Adding to this was the silence. No birds singing. No longer silent spring. We have entered the silent summer, fall, and winter. I never saw a deer, or any other animal other than a small chipmunk and one lonely hawk. Fellow resident and poet Ellen Bass saw a

quail that apparently lives under the Lopez house with her little brood.

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife organized a tour for us to see the artificially created Chinook salmon spawning ground on the upper McKenzie River. We watched from the banks as a few females shimmied the gravel in anticipation of laying eggs.

The salmon travel from the ocean, fasting in the fresh water as they plow their way 100 miles upriver. The journey began five years ago when they left this river to swim part of the circumference of the Pacific Ocean, eventually returning to their birthplace. This arduous upstream swim, through several dams, begins in February and winds up in Finn Rock, annually around Sept. 17. From Sept. 17 to Sept. 20, a few people came to the banks of the McKenzie opposite the Lopez house to watch for the return of the salmon. I saw one female. However, 30 years ago, you could almost walk across the river on the backs of the salmon.

I went to see the Cougar Hot Springs and the nearby reservoir created by the South Fork of the McKenzie River. The water in the reservoir was down to less than half of the dark, high-water-marked line of the past. Drought is visiting here too.

My creative time at the Spring Creek Project and the Andrews Old Growth Forest turned out to be something of a lamentation for what was no longer here. I try to take heart that the underbrush is back, and the Fire Lily has bloomed, but what was lost will not be restored for a long time. I have lots of leftover yellow and blue paint but no more red and orange.

As a Northeasterner, I am grateful for this opportunity to experience what is now the new normal in Oregon and California. Now, I understand the climate crisis is coming my way too. And sooner than I had realized.

Our house is on fire.

What shall we do?

Beverly Sky is an artist at the Fenway Studios and co-director of the Fenway Gallery. View her paintings at issuu.com/skybooks/docs/spring_creek_project_residency_final

Artists On The Rise

PHOTO: ALISON PULTINAS



The Arts Academy held a ninth-grade Exploratory Exhibition on Nov. 10.

Fenway Studios Opens Its Doors

PHOTO: RUTH KNOWLES



On Nov. 12 and 13, Fenway Studios on Ipswich Street hosted its open studios for the first time in three years. Pictured: Patricia Burton’s studio.

CIVIC AGENDA

- **MON, DEC 5: Fenway Zoning Public Meeting.** Virtual, 6-8pm. Reviewing zoning with 11 million sq ft of development already in the pipeline. www.bostonplans.org/news-calendar/calendar/2022/12/05/fenway-zoning-public-meeting
- **TUE, DEC 6: Longwood Place IAG meeting.** Virtual, 6pm. www.bostonplans.org/news-calendar/calendar/2022/12/06/longwood-place-impact-advisory-group-meeting
- **TUE, DEC 6: Fens Pathway Redesign Meeting,** Virtual, 6pm. Email lauren.bryant@boston.gov for to register.
- **WED, DEC 7: Fenway Tree Lighting,** 6pm. Outside the Rose Garden. Then, free skating, 7-9pm, at 401 Park.

PHOTO: ALISON PUTNAMS



After two years as a virtual event, the School of the Museum of Fine Arts at Tufts art sale returned to an in-person experience. The sale—featuring more than 1,000 works created by 250 alumni, students, faculty, and friends of the school—ran from Nov. 4 to 6.

Neighborhood Newsline

Comments Due Dec. 2 On Proposal For 409 Huntington Ave.

The deadline for public comments on a proposed 19-story residential project at Hemenway and Forsyth streets and Huntington Avenue is Dec. 2. Owner Sam Slater wants to convert an existing five-and-a-half-story apartment building into a high-rise. Technically located in City Council District 8, the site sits on the edge of District 7, represented by Councilor Tania Fernandes Anderson.

A Nov. 16 public meeting repeated the October presentation shared with the project’s Impact Advisory Group. Concerns were raised at both meetings about shadows the building would cast on public parkland. The meeting ended quickly—it was less than 60 minutes.

Architect Brian O’Connor of CUBE 3 Architects compared the proposed height with nearby buildings: Northeastern’s building H across Huntington, MassArt’s Tower at 621 Huntington Ave., MassArt’s Treehouse dorm, and the 32-story glass tower soon to be under construction at 252-264 Huntington Ave. O’Connor’s recent Boston work includes the high-rise LightView dormitory on Burke Street.

IAG member Richard Giordano applauded the developers’ plan for housing instead of a lab and was unconcerned about future shadows. “People should keep the big picture in mind,” he said. Kelly Brilliant and Tim Horn rebutted. Horn said, “we don’t get more parkland, parks are what makes an urban neighborhood livable.”

City Eyes New Funding For Our Lady’s Guild House

Apparently, Our Lady’s Guild House hasn’t been sold yet. However, the Mayor’s Office of Housing, together with Pine Street Inn, hopes to fund the purchase with \$14 million in federal community-development block grants. The City itself administers that program. Plans call for renovation of the six-story building in Kenmore Square to create 80 to 90 units of affordable housing, with at least 25 percent set aside for extremely low-income households. The renovation would also reserve one floor for current long-term residents, although many have left during a years-long campaign of petty harassment run by the former owner’s property manager. Pine Street Inn will play an active role in providing supportive programming for residents.

KAJI ASO STUDIO CONCERTS



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LEGAL NOTICE

ZONING HEARING

The Zoning Commission of the City of Boston hereby gives notice, in accordance with Chapter 665 of the Acts of 1956, as amended, that a **virtual public hearing will be held on December 14, 2022, at 9:00 A.M., in connection with a petition for approval of the Fourth Amendment to Boston Children’s Hospital Institutional Master Plan** (“Fourth Amendment”) filed by the Boston Redevelopment Authority d/b/a the Boston Planning & Development Agency.

Said Fourth Amendment proposes the following changes: (1) approval of the change in use of its property at 819 Beacon Street from the proposed office and retail uses, to a residential project including: (i) the non-institutional housing component, including three hundred seventy-seven (377) residential rental units, being pursued by Scape Beacon, LLC, an affiliate of Scape Student Living, Ltd., and (ii) the institutional component of short-term housing for families of patients that are receiving medical care at Children’s Campus; and (2) approval

of the 200-space below-grade parking garage, a reduction from the institutional parking use previously approved for the Project Site.

This meeting will only be held virtually and not in person. **You can participate in this meeting by going to https://bit.ly/BZC_December2022.** Copies of the petition, the proposed IMP and a map of the area involved may be obtained from the Zoning Commission electronically, and you may also **submit written comments or questions to zoningcommission@boston.gov.**

Interpreting services are available to communicate information at this hearing. If you require interpreting services, please contact the following: zoningcommission@boston.gov or 617-918-4308. The meeting is scheduled for December 14, 2022. Please request interpreting services no later than December 10, 2022.

FOR THE COMMISSION
JEFFREY M. HAMPTON
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

> COMMUNITY MEETINGS from page 5

TUE, DEC. 13 The BPDA hosts a public meeting on the **LONGWOOD PLACE** proposal located in the LMA. The meeting will discuss the proposed Planned Development Area development plan for redeveloping the site, the existing Simmons University residential campus. Register in advance at bit.ly/3Xd9WIs. Contact sarah.black@boston.gov with questions. 6pm.

TUE, DEC. 13 The Ward 4 Democratic Committee hosts its **ANNUAL HOLIDAY**

PARTY at Petit Robert Bistro in the South End, featuring a holiday dessert competition that anyone can enter. If you’d like to donate to support the event, visit <https://secure.actblue.com/donate/ward4dems2022holiday>. 6–8pm.

WED, DEC. 14 Join the Fenway CDC for a **55 Bus Route Coalition Meeting**. 10am on Zoom. Join at <https://tinyurl.com/55Coalition>. Contact Leo Ruiz Sanchez at lruizsanchez@fenwaycdc.org or (857) 302-0523 with any questions.



THE MAYOR'S OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES,
FENWAY CIVIC ASSOCIATION AND SAMUELS & ASSOCIATES
INVITE YOU TO ATTEND THE 2022 ANNUAL

Fenway Tree Lighting

Wednesday, December 7 | 6PM
Outside Kelleher Rose Garden (across from 77 Park Drive)

6PM | Tree Lighting Ceremony

- Performances by Boston Children's Chorus & Berklee's Grooversity
- Refreshments from Tasty Burger
- Cider & Cocoa
- Meet & Greet with Red Sox Mascots Wally and Tessie

6:45PM | Luminary Walk

7-9PM | Community Skate at The Rink at 401 Park
**Bring your own skates or rent on site!*

SPONSORED BY THE MAYOR'S OFFICE OF SPECIAL EVENTS, THE MAYOR'S OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES, FENWAY CIVIC ASSOCIATION, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, AREA D-4 POLICE, THE BOSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT AND SAMUELS & ASSOCIATES.

This event is free & open to the public



Resident Leaders Needed for Fenway Cares Food Distribution Program

Fenway Cares is looking for responsible individuals to manage food distributions every other Wednesday from 1:30pm to 4:30pm at Fenway Community Center or Symphony Park. Training and mentoring will be provided to selected applicants. Upon successful program completion, participants will receive a stipend. Receiving a stipend is optional.

Requirements:

- Fenway/Kenmore resident
- Minimum 5 hours every other Wednesday
- Access to a computer and cell phone
- Able to lift up to 30 pounds

To apply, scan the QR code and complete the online form.

Questions?

Email fenwaycares@fenwaycommunitycenter.org or call (617) 446-3949 (leave a voicemail).



FENWAY CARES

Fenway Cares is a collaboration of six Fenway-based organizations working together to provide food access and COVID-19 resources to neighborhood residents. Since March 2020, Fenway Cares has distributed 15,000+ free bags of produce to community residents in need. Plans are to continue in 2023 and beyond. To learn more, please visit: fenwaycommunitycenter.org/fenway-cares/

Program Partners:

- Audubon Circle Neighborhood Association
- Fenway Alliance
- Fenway Civic Association
- Fenway Community Center
- Fenway Community Development Corporation
- Operation P.E.A.C.E.

Special thanks to Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center's Community Benefits funding for supporting our Healthy Neighborhoods Initiative



Independent eateries do so much to define our community, so we collaborated with the Mission Hill Fenway Neighborhood Trust to raise their profiles with our **Eat Here!** campaign. Through May we'll run

a full page listing about 80 locally owned restaurants. When you **Eat Here!** you help local businesses thrive and continue making the Fenway, Mission Hill, and Audubon Circle special places to live.

Eat Here!
Amelia's Taqueria
1076 Boylston St. [617] 233-2100 https://www.amelias-taqueria.com/
The Bebob
1502 Tremont St. [617] 445-6738 https://www.chachospizzasubs.com/
Bobo Cafe
137 Mass. Ave. [No phone or URL available]
Dumpling Palace
179 Mass. Ave. [617] 266-8888 https://www.dumpling-palace.com/
Energize
265g Mass. Ave. [857] 317-3868 https://energizeboston.com/
Ginger Exchange
250 Huntington Ave. [617] 867-9999 www.gingerexchange.com/symphony/
Haju Kitchen
175 Mass. Ave. [617] 982-7118 haju-kitchen.business.site/
Ichiban Yakitori
144 Westland Ave. [617] 236-7907 ichibanboston.net/
Love Art Sushi
1 Haviland St. [617] 982-6953 loveartsushi.com/
Mumbai Spice
251 Mass Ave. [857] 350-4305 mumbaispiceboston.com/
Oakleaf Cakes Bake Shop
12 Westland Ave. [617] 299-1504 oakleafcakes.com/
Pad Thai Cafe
6 Hemenway St. [617] 267-2828 www.padthai.cafe/order-online
Pavement
44 Gainsborough St. [617] 859-7080 pavementcoffeehouse.com/
Pho Basil
177A Mass. Ave. [617] 262-5377 phobasilboston.com/
Saigon Fusion
201 Mass. Ave. [617] 236-1464 www.facebook.com/Saigon-Fusion/
Shin Hakata Ramen
173 Mass. Ave. [857] 350-3923 www.shinhakataramenboston.com/

Symphony Sushi
44 Gainsborough St. [617] 262-3888 symphonysushi.com/
Sombrero Chiquito
197A Mass. Ave. [857] 265-3254 sombroeroboston.com/
Supreme Pizza
177 Mass Ave. [617] 247-8252 https://www.eatsupremepizza.com/
Tori Japan
1110 Boylston St. [857] 265-3642 https://www.torijapan.com/
The Westland
10 Westland Ave. [617] 208-6292 https://www.westlandboston.com/
Woody's Grill & Tap
58 Hemenway St. [617] 375-9663 https://www.woodysfenway.com/

West Fenway
Basho Japanese Brasserie
1338 Boylston St. [617] 262-1338 www.bashojapanese-brasserie.com/
Bennett's Sandwich Shop
1348 Boylston St. [857] 239-9736 www.bennettssandwichshop.com/
Blackbird Doughnuts
20 Kilmarnock St. [617] 482-9000 www.blackbirddoughnuts.com/
Citizen House & Public Oyster Bar
1310 Boylston St. [617] 450-9000 https://www.citizen-pub.com/
College Pizza
50 Queensberry St. [617] 266-4919 www.collegepiz-zamenu.com/
El Pelón Taquería
92 Peterborough St. [617] 262-9090 www.elpelon.com/
Eventide Oyster Co.
1321 Boylston St. [617] 545-1060 www.eventideoyster-co.com/eventide-fenway/

FoMu
140 Brookline Ave. [857] 284-7229 www.fomuicecream.com/
Gyro City
1502 Tremont St. [617] 266-4976 www.gyrocity.com/
Hojoko
1271 Boylston St. [617] 670-0507 www.hojokoboston.com/
Kappo Sushi and Ramen
86 Peterborough St. [857] 263-8168 www.sushikappo.com/
M&J Teriyaki
130 Jersey St. [617] 424-0900 www.mjteriyaki-ma.com/
Nathalie Wine Bar
186 Brookline Ave. [857] 317-3884 www.nathaliebar.com/
Pavement
1334 Boylston St. [857] 263-7355 pavementcoffeehouse.com/
Phinista Cafe
96 Peterborough St. [617] 266-7700 www.phinista.com/
Regina Pizzeria
1330 Boylston St. [617] 266-9210 www.pizzeriaregina.com/fenway.html
Rod Thai
94 Peterborough St. [617] 859-0969 www.rodthaifenway.com/
Saloniki Greek
4 Kilmarnock St. [617] 266-0001 www.salonikigreek.com/
The Sipping Room by Breeze
132 Jersey St. [617] 412-6668 www.facebook.com/thesippingroomby-breeze/
Sojuba
1260 Boylston St. [617] 424-1260 www.sojubaboston.com/
Suffra Mediterranean
96 Peterborough St. [781] 645-8080 www.suframediterraneanfood.com/
Sweet Cheeks Q
1381 Boylston St. [617] 266-1300 www.sweetcheeksq.com/
Tasty Burger
1301 Boylston St. [617] 425-4444 https://www.tasty-burger.com/

Thaitation
129 Jersey St. [617] 585-9909 www.bostonthaitation.com/
Thornton's Fenway Grille
100 Peterborough St. [617] 421-0104 www.facebook.com/thorntonsfenwaygrille/
Wow!!Tikka
84 Peterborough St. [857] 250-2062 https://wowtikka.com/

Audubon Circle
Audubon Boston
838 Beacon Street [617] 421-1910 www.audubonboston.com/site/
Bar 'Cino
1032 Beacon Street [617] 608-3220 barcino.com/brookline/
Futago Udon
508 Park Drive [617] 505-6157 www.facebook.com/Futago-Udon-564602680690873/
Giggling Rice
(TAKEOUT ONLY) 1009 Beacon Street [617] 655-8443 www.gigglingricethai-togobrookline.com/
Japonaise Bakery
(TEMPORARILY CLOSED) 999 Beacon Street [617] 566-7730 www.facebook.com/CafeJaponaise/
Sol Azteca
914 Beacon Street [617] 262-0909 www.solaztecaboston.com/
Taberna De Haro
999 Beacon Street [857] 743-4035 www.tabernaboston.com/

Mission Hill
AK's Takeout & Delivery
1427 Tremont Street [617] 541-0300 www.akstakeout.com/aks-roxbury/

Brigham Circle Chinese Food
728 Huntington Ave. [617] 278-2000 orderbrighamcirclechinesefood.com/
Boba Me Bubble Tea
1520 Tremont Street 617.203.6480 www.bobameboston.com
Chacho's Pizza & Subs
1502 Tremont St. [617] 445-6738 www.chachospizza-subs.com/
Chilocates Mexican Street Food
1482A Tremont St. [617] 286-3888 www.chilacates.mx/location/chilacates-mission-hill/
Crispy Dough Pizzeria
1514 Tremont St. [617] 445-7799 crispydoughpizzeria.com/
Flames Jamaican Restaurant
746 Huntington Ave. [617] 743-4035 flamesjamaicanrestaurants.com/index-2.html
Flann O'Brien's
1619 Tremont St. [617] 566-7744 flanns.com/
Ginger Exchange
1625 Tremont St. [617] 739-8888 https://www.gingerexchange.com/mission/#
Halal Indian Cuisine
736 Huntington Ave. [617] 232-5000 www.halalindiancuisineboston.com/
Il Mondo Pizzeria
1502 Tremont St. [617] 445-6738 ilmondopizza.com/
Joseph's Pizza & Subs
8 S. Huntington Ave. 617.731.9880 www.josephspiz-zashop.com
Laughing Monk Cafe
737 Huntington Ave. [617] 232-8000 www.laughingmonkcafe.com/
Lilly's Gourmet Pasta Express
1528 Tremont St. [617] 427-8080 lillysgourmetpasta.com/
Mama's Place
764 Huntington Ave. 617.566.1300 www.orderma-masplacemenu.com

Mike's Donuts
1524 Tremont St. [617] 427-6828 www.mikesdonutsboston.com/
The Mission Bar and Grill
724 Huntington Ave. [617] 566-1244 www.themissionbar.com/
Montecristo Mexican Grill
748A Huntington Ave. [617] 232-2228 montecristomission-hill.com/
Nachlo Mexican & Pakistani Cuisine
1443 Tremont St. [617] 516-8730 nachloboston.com/
Papa's Pizza Co.
682 Huntington Ave. [617] 648-7272 papas pizzacompany.com/
Penguin Pizza
735 Huntington Ave. [617] 277-9200 www.thepenguinpizza.com/
Pizzeria Milkweed
1508 Tremont St. [617] 516-8913 www.eatatmilkweed.com/
The Puddingstone Tavern
1592 Tremont St. [617] 435-7663 thepuddingstone-tavern.com/
Solid Ground Cafe
742 Huntington Ave. [617] 445-6738 www.solidgroundcafe.com/
The Squealing Pig Pub
134 Smith Street [617] 566-6651 squealingpigpubs.com/boston/
Sushi Today
1562 Tremont St. [617] 738-0888 sushi-today.com/
Tavern of Tales
1478 Tremont St. [617] 7080172 www.tavernoftales.com//
Tremont House of Pizza
1590 Tremont St. [617] 566-5120 tremonthouseofpizza.com/
Wok N Talk
23 S. Huntington Ave. 617.487.8262 www.wokntalkboston.com

A grant from the Mission Hill Fenway Neighborhood Trust makes EAT HERE! possible. Visit <https://missionhillfenwaynt.org/>