

Presentation of Proposed Projects for 16-20 Townsend Street, 48 Townsend Street, and Holworthy S-20 & S-21

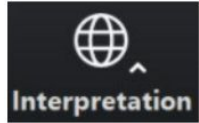
April 23, 2024



**boston planning &
development agency**

Interpretation and Translation

Interpretation

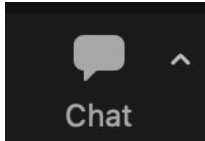


“Spanish” – for Spanish

“Haitian Creole” – for Haitian Creole

“Cape Verdean Creole” – for Cape Verdean

Translation

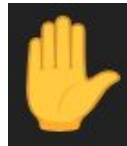


Zoom Meeting Info and Tips

- **The BPDA will be recording this meeting** and posting it on the BPDA's project webpage. If you do not wish to be recorded during the meeting, please turn off your microphone and camera.
- **Zoom controls are available at the bottom of your screen.** Clicking on these symbols activates different features.
- **Use raise hand function** (dial 9 followed by 6 if joining by phone) **and wait to be called upon** before asking your question or providing comment.



Mute/unmute



Raise hand to get in line to ask a question or provide comment



Turn video on/off



Agenda

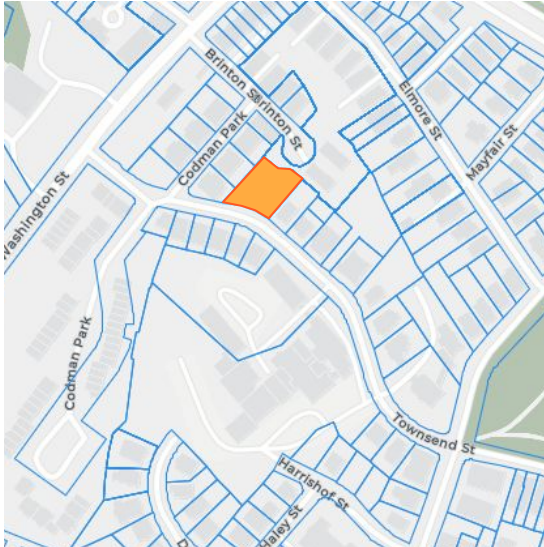
1. **Site Overviews**
2. **Presentation of Proposed Projects (The Garrison Trotter Neighborhood Association)**
3. **Community Conversation**



The Sites

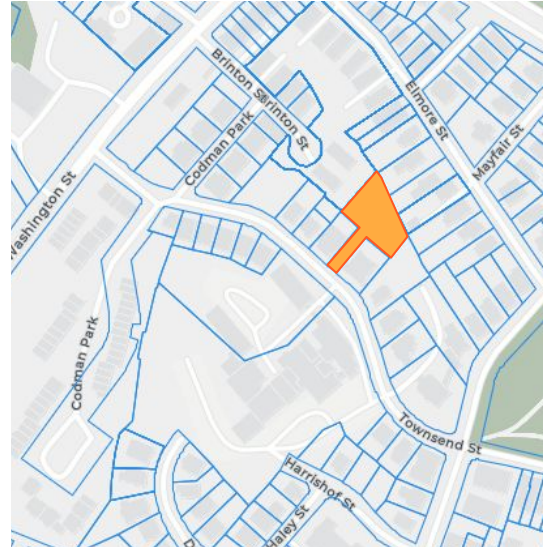
16-20 Townsend Street

Lot Size: 11,935 SqFt
Current Use: Vacant



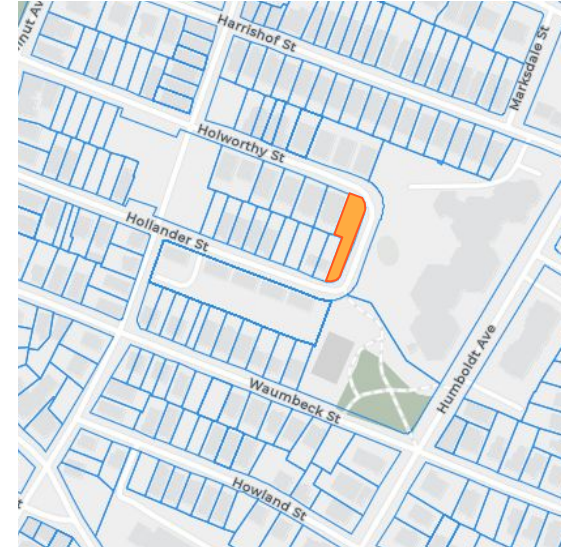
48 Townsend Street

Lot Size: 17,199 SqFt
Current Use: Vacant



Holworthy S-20 & S-21

Lot Size: 6,000 SqFt
Current Use: Vacant





Garrison Trotter
Neighborhood Association

BPDA- GTNA

Community Meeting

20 Townsend Street, 48 Townsend Street, and
Holworthy S-20 & S-21

<https://www.garrisontrotter.org/>



Revolution is based on land. Land is the basis of all independence. Land is the basis of freedom, justice, and equality.

— *Malcolm X* —

Who we are as an organization?

The Garrison-Trotter Neighborhood Association's mission is to foster community empowerment and to improve the quality of life for Roxbury, MA residents living in the GTNA catchment area. Our efforts include, but are not limited to community advocacy, beautification and land stewardship.

History Preservation and GTNA's Future

- Using Open spaces to illustrate, preserve and memorialize Black history in Roxbury. We will use the spaces to tell the stories of our founding members and other important people in Roxbury.
- Using benches, plaques and pavers amongst other site elements, we will capture the history of the neighborhood, as well as encourage visitors to explore the history deeper
- Connecting the Artery project that will run through our catchment area. This project will allow for us to demonstrate the relationship of open space and arts, to create community destinations.

GTNA Land Trust

GTNA Land trust is a renewed operation with current GTNA board members, started to address an identified need in the community of preserving spaces for the neighborhood of Roxbury. GTNA is one of Boston's oldest black owned nonprofits, and has been civically involved in all aspects of the the community since its inception 46 years ago. The Land trust initially existed with the stewardship of the Crawford Park Amphitheater, and is now being revitalized with the projects being presented today. Additionally GTNA's first farm was established in 2014, in partnership with the Trust for Public Land, the project being one of the first urban farms under the "right-to-farm" ordinance!

Our team is comprised of

- Nefertiti Lawrence, Chair of the GTNA Land Trust
- Louis Elisa, President of GTNA
- Michael Anthony Bryan II, Landscape Design Consultant
- Roderick McLaren , GTNA Treasurer
- Lucille Culpeper Jones, operations advisor and GTNA Board member
- Tamara Lawrence, educational specialist
- Joyce Lawrence, GTNA Board member
- Mark Sutherland , safety chair, board member GTNA
- Stacy Sutherland, urban farmer and historian

Crawford Street Park



The Garrison-Trotter Farm



Landscape Design Consultant
Michael Anthony Bryan II



- Project Context
 - Urban Forest Plan
 - City Partners/Project Focuses
- Goals
- Projects
- Activation Plans

Urban Forest Plan

City of Boston established

- Letter from the mayor
- Large collaborative effort
 - ◆ Engaged private and public producing:
 - 4 goals
 - 7 strategies
- Roxbury Identified as Priority Zone

HOW CAN WE EXPAND CANOPY?

Tree canopy can be expanded in three primary ways: caring for existing trees to ensure longevity, protecting existing trees from removal, and planting new trees. These are the three approaches that can be considered by public and private property owners to expand canopy in our neighborhoods. The neighborhood strategies outlined in this chapter focus on defining areas for new planting and promote methods for planting the right tree in the right place.

City of Boston, Stoss, et al. September 2022

Goal 1: Equity First

Focus investments and improvements in under-canopied, historically excluded and socially vulnerable areas



Goal 2: Proactive Care and Preservation

Ensure trees/tree canopy are proactively cared for



Goal 3: Community-Led

Ensure community priorities drive urban forest decisions and management



Goal 4: Prioritize and Value Trees

Increase awareness and buy-in regarding the importance of trees in Boston across the public and private sectors



Strategy 1: Expand and Reorganize Urban Forestry Management



Strategy 2: Proactively Protect and Care for Existing Trees



Strategy 3: Strategically and Equitably Expand Canopy



Strategy 4: Make Space and Improve Conditions for Trees



Strategy 5: Improve Communications - Both Process & Content



Strategy 6: Improve Information Collection and Sharing



Strategy 7: Build and Support a Local Tree Workforce



What is a priority zone?

Areas experiencing factors of social vulnerability and greatest canopy needs

“Starting place for ongoing conversations and on-the-ground exploration”

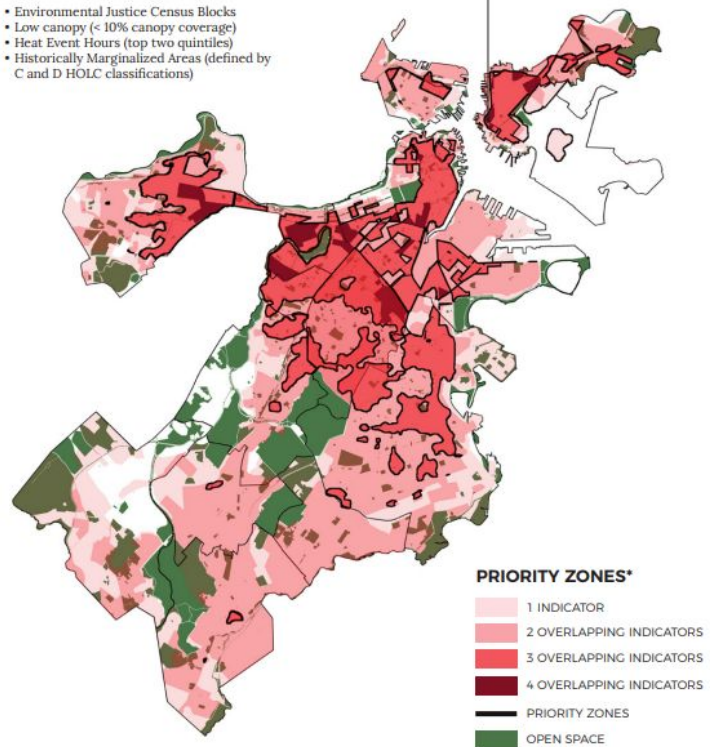
*City of Boston, Stoss, et al.
September 2022*

WHAT IS A PRIORITY ZONE?

Priority zones are a way to focus efforts, but should not prevent action in areas not highlighted in this map. Many priority populations, for example, live in areas with relatively high overall canopy, but in which canopy cover is declining.

Priority zones are determined by three or more overlapping prioritization indicators, which include:

- Environmental Justice Census Blocks
- Low canopy (< 10% canopy coverage)
- Heat Event Hours (top two quintiles)
- Historically Marginalized Areas (defined by C and D HOLC classifications)

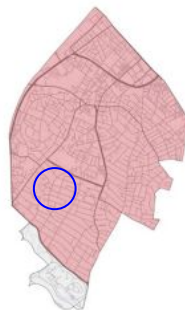


*Priority zones are areas with three or more overlapping indicators.

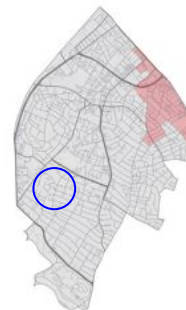
PRIORITY INDICATORS

Indicators

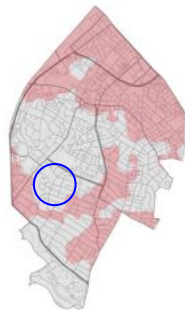
Environmental Justice and Historic Marginalization cover the project zones



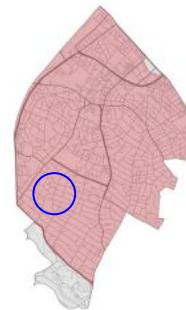
Environmental Justice Communities



Low Canopy

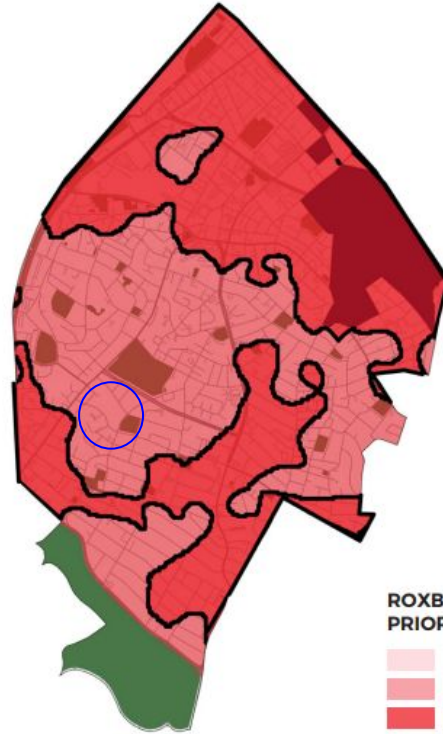


Heat Event Hours




Historic Marginalization

*City of Boston, Stoss, et al.
September 2022*



**ROXBURY
PRIORITY ZONES***

-  1 INDICATOR
-  2 OVERLAPPING INDICATORS
-  3 OVERLAPPING INDICATORS
-  4 OVERLAPPING INDICATORS
-  OPEN SPACE
-  PRIORITY ZONES

*Priority zones are areas with three or more overlapping indicators.

 2,000 FT.

*City of Boston, Stoss, et al.
September 2022*

Grow Boston

Designer Funds

Urban Agriculture Support

GrowBoston's goal is to increase food production and support local food producers in Boston, including gardeners, farmers, beekeepers, and more.

Our work builds on the long-term work of the Mayor's Office of Housing (MOH). MOH, through the Grassroots Program, has been supporting the development of community gardens, urban farms, food forests, and other open spaces through land disposition and capital funding for more than 25 years.

We will be working to increase community gardens, urban farms, and other food-growing spaces throughout Boston. We will support the implementation of innovative food production strategies, such as rooftop growing, vertical growing, and hydroponics.

<https://www.boston.gov/departments/growboston>

Community Preservation Act

Funds to provide regular maintenance and upkeep

Investment into project beautification and art/cultural impact

Historic Preservation of Neighborhood heritage

With the adopted Community Preservation Act, the City created a special Community Preservation Fund. Financed by a 1-percent property tax surcharge and a state match, the City raises over \$20 million annually to fund:

- ▶ affordable housing
- ▶ historic preservation, and
- ▶ open space and recreation.

Many cities and towns adopted the Community Preservation Act soon after the law was passed in 2000. They've received millions for affordable housing, historic preservation, open space and recreation projects. Boston is now among the other cities and towns that have adopted the act. We implemented our first round of funding in 2018.

<https://www.boston.gov/community-preservation>

Environmental Justice, Resiliency and Parks

Opportunities to engage residents in healthy living

Engaging city needs including:

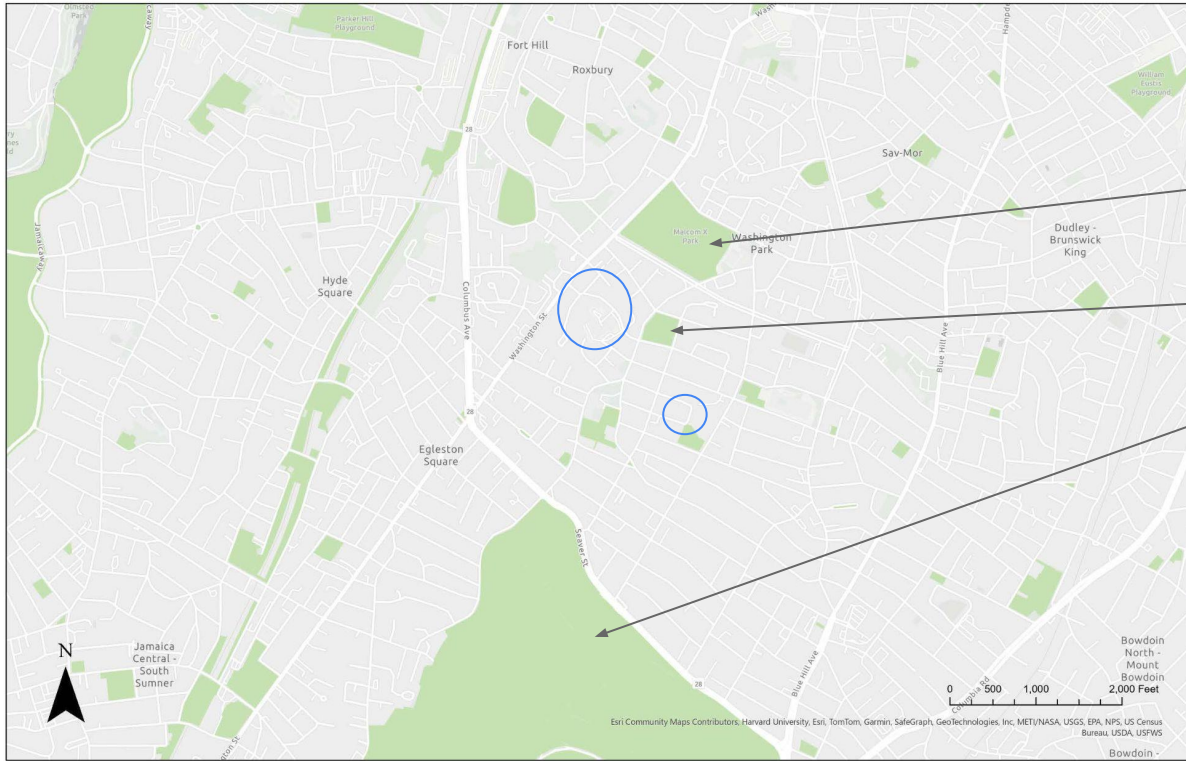
- Urban Canopy
- Water infiltration/Flood mitigation
- Heat Resilience

Our committee focuses on environmental issues in the City, including:

- ▶ air, land, and water pollution
- ▶ recycling and sustainability
- ▶ waste disposal and land improvement, and
- ▶ energy savings and efficiency.

We concern ourselves with conserving and developing our City's parks. We want to ensure residents have access to open spaces.

<https://www.boston.gov/departments/city-council/environmental-justice-resiliency-and-parks>

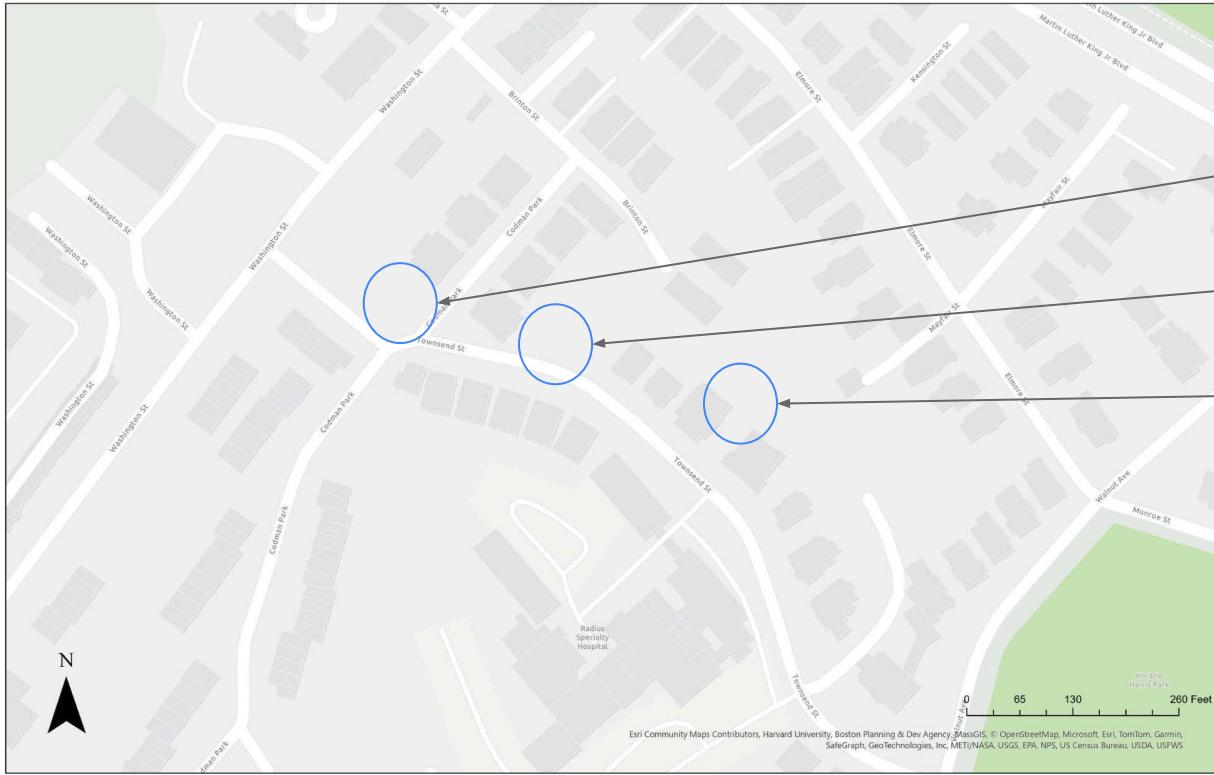


Malcolm X Park

Horatio Harris Park

Franklin Park

Existing Open Space
City of Boston, GIS, Michael Bryan II



8 Townsend St

20 Townsend St

48 Townsend St

Townsend St Parcels
City of Boston, GIS, Michael Bryan II



S20-S21 Holworthy

Holworthy Parcel & Trotter School
City of Boston, GIS, Michael Bryan II

Collaborative Goals

- Community gathering
- Healthy living
- Education
- Art and Culture(Beautification)
- Historic preservation



Projects

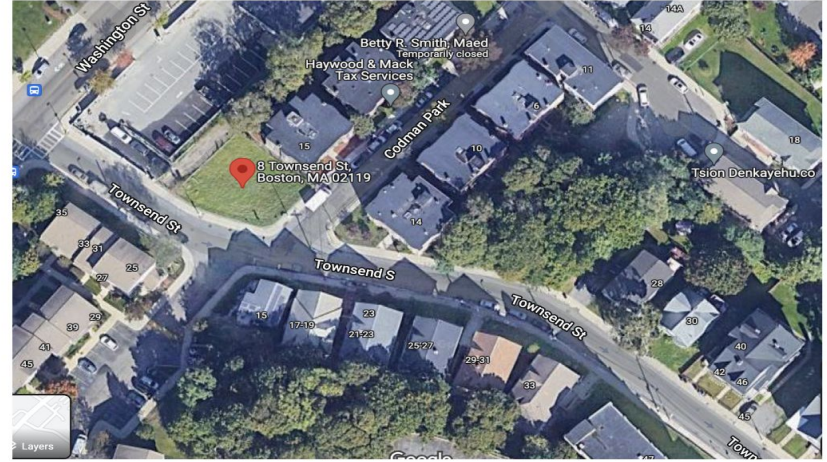


Phase I: 8 Townsend Street

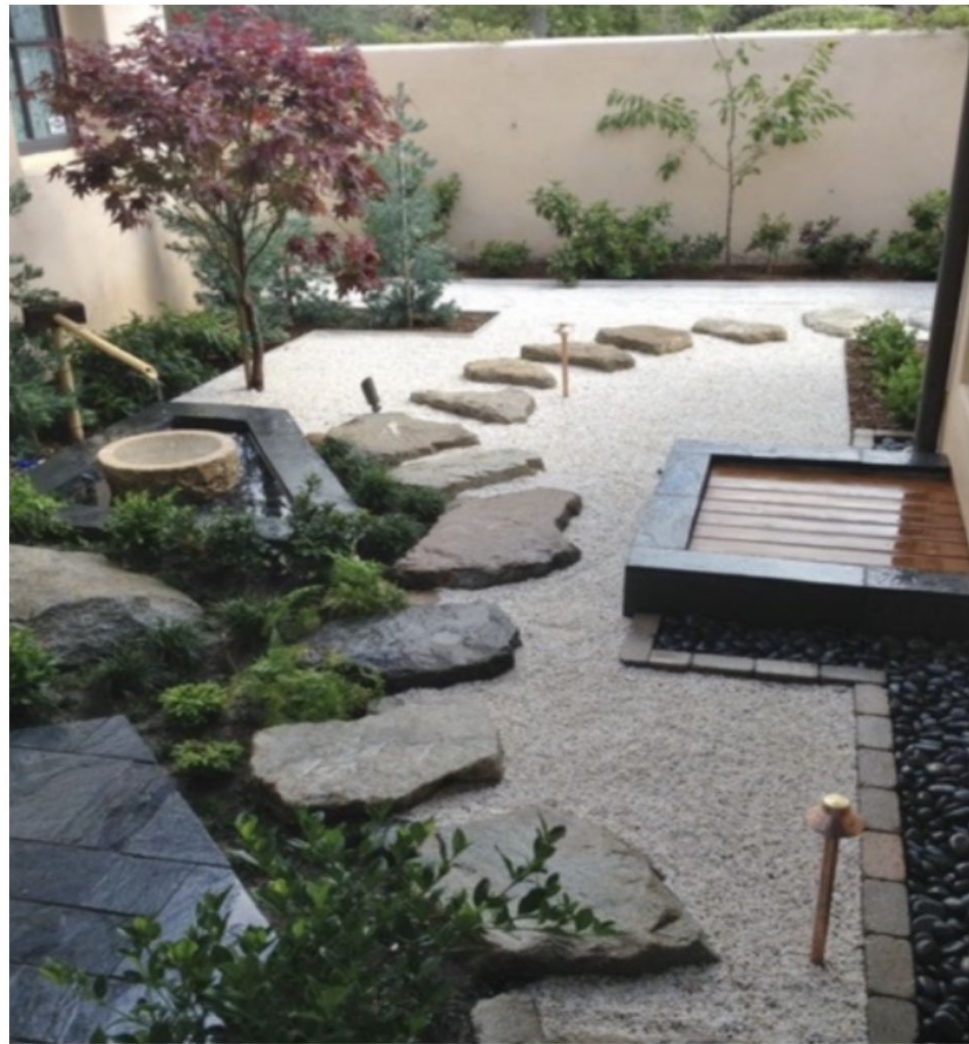
*Project currently in progress to begin
construction anticipated
groundbreaking May 2024.*

Site at 8 Townsend

This site has been unoccupied for years.



S20-S21
Holworthy Street
The Alma Wright Zen
Garden





Perinials

GTNA Marker Stones

Path
Indicated per lined hatch

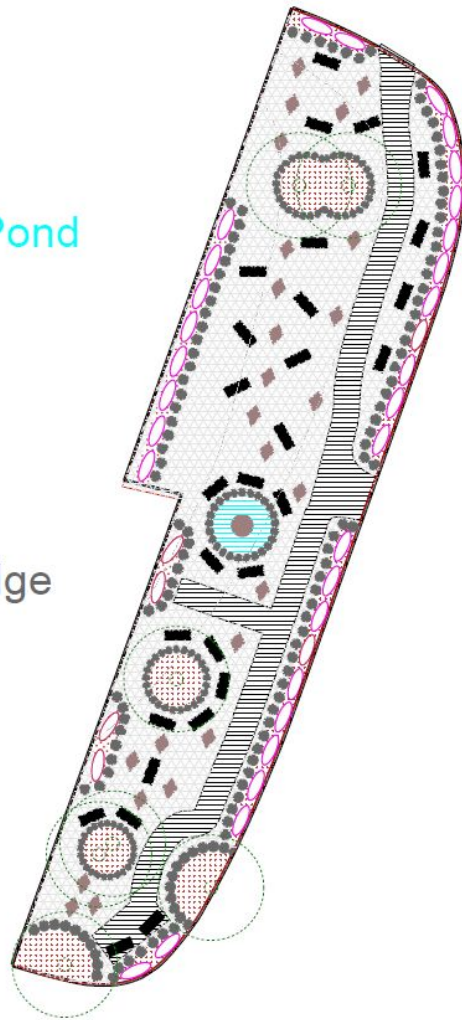
Puddingstone Fountain/Pond

Trees

Gravel

Seating

Puddingstone/Granite Edge



48 Townsend Street Community Garden Oasis







Site Elements



20 Townsend Street Organized Urban Garden



Site at 20 Townsend

This site has never been occupied due to the outcropping of pudding stone on the site .



GTNA Puddingstone Plaques

Plantings

- Trees
- Perennials/Pollinators
- Understory

Seating

Ledge Railing

Puddingstone Outcrop



Activation Plans

These sites will be activated throughout the year to engage residents from the surrounding community

Activation opportunities will include but are not limited to:

- Wellness Classes
- Urban Agriculture
- Outdoor Talks, Salon's, Book Clubs
- Holiday activations

Future outlook and Projects: Memorializing and protecting historical spaces in Roxbury

- Vacant parcels with greater opportunity to serve as open/green space
- Grants and Funding Opportunities
- Installations and Exhibitions (Design Consultant)

Partnerships and support

- Accepting responsibility of these projects, GTNA will be engaging local partners in order to establish relationships with public and private organizations throughout the city and beyond.
- This includes re-engaging with past organizations. As well as continuing ongoing conversations.
- Special thanks to the National Museum of African Artists for hosting GTNA throughout the year for meetings and events. We look forward to continuing this collaborative work.

Questions???