

SOUTH BOSTON - DORCHESTER AVENUE IMPROVEMENT STUDY

APRIL 27, 2006 COMMUNITY CHARRETTE COMMENTS

*DRAFT-FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY

| TOPIC | GROUP 1 | GROUP 2 |
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| TRANSPORTATION | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Extend MBTA Silver Line service through Andrew Square and airport connection ▪ Need bus service along entire length of Dot Ave ▪ CT3 service needed (with connection to airport) ▪ Coordinate sidewalk bump-out extensions with bus shelters (e.g., Dorchester Street and Middle Street intersection crosswalks) ▪ Encourage Zipcar or other car-sharing services ▪ Enhance crosswalk between Andrew Station and Lil' Peach ▪ Pedestrian safety along Southampton bridge connection to South Bay is an issue ▪ Clearer turn-movement signals are needed at confusing intersections ▪ Need customer parking ▪ Temporary solution for the junkyard parcel is surface parking ▪ Need parking garage near the Andrew Square T station ▪ Parking enforcement at Dunking Donuts (double parking at Dot Ave and Southampton) ▪ MBTA needs to be involved in parking discussions/solutions ▪ Safety issues for pedestrians at the Haul Road bridge | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Buses – can stops be at hydrants – they take up to many spaces for cars ▪ Dunkin Donuts – customers take up road by double parking ▪ Crosswalks that remain flat ▪ Visibility without signs blocking ▪ Have a turning radius for trucks ▪ Bike lanes ▪ Traffic signals (especially going into Andrew Square from Dot Ave) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Timing is off ▪ Dexter Street to Joes Subshop (4-6pm carflow is back up) ▪ Sound barrier (existing wall is not high enough or long enough) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Can be attractive ▪ Shuttlebus from parking lot and around square ▪ Driver 18-wheelers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Enforcement (Dot Ave is a truck route) ▪ MBTA stations are very dark ▪ Bus service to Logan Airport (Silver Line, CT3, etc.) ▪ Andrew Square needs to be more pedestrian friendly ▪ Management of student foot traffic ▪ Pedestrians are walking in middle island because they feel safer ▪ Transportation to the waterfront ▪ Traffic islands are difficult to see at night while driving <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Can they be painted? ○ Reflectors installed? ▪ Trucks and big busses are a problem |

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| NEIGHBORHOOD BUSINESSES | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Need the following services: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Post Office ○ Food market (e.g., Trader Joe's, Whole Foods) ○ Café/Breakfast place ○ Medium to high-end restaurants ○ Pharmacy (e.g., CVS, Brooks, Walgreens) ○ Florist ○ Bakery (e.g., White's Bakery) ○ Book Store ○ Clothing Store ▪ Attracting larger or "destination" shopping as a catalyst for smaller business development through zoning changes ▪ More professional service businesses (architects, etc.) ▪ Rehab/reuse of existing warehouse buildings to accommodate creative industry (e.g., artists) ▪ Encourage business incubators for small businesses to create new center ▪ Greening of streetscape and storefronts through public/private partnerships ▪ Screening and buffering of surface parking areas and storage lots, yards, etc. to hide visual blight | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Need the following services (possibly at Junkyard site): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Post Office ○ Trader Joes ○ CVS ○ Bakery ○ Coffee shop ○ Restaurant ▪ No new Dunkin Donuts ▪ Existing Dunkin Donuts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Trash issues ○ Need parking ▪ Lil' Peach (parking lot is trashy) ▪ Amtrak trains are loud ▪ No place to go for lunch (need a car or bus) ▪ Need bank or ATM ▪ Closed store fronts are negative for the area ▪ Run-down facades on many existing businesses ▪ Need places for kids <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Movies ○ YMCA ○ Not a video arcade ▪ Existing vet and groomer (across from the junkyard) is an example of a good business in the area |
| COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Street-level parking and garage doors conflict along sidewalks ▪ Ground-floor garages are not aesthetically appealing ▪ Zoning code better enforced to minimize number of variances ▪ Smaller scale/finer grain of building widths along a single block to have traditional scale and rhythm along streets | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Junkyard lot development to entice "good" businesses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Anchor tenant ▪ Balancing of residential development between Broadway and Andrew Square ▪ Draw business from high end condos in Broadway ▪ Don'ts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dollar stores ○ Pizza restaurants |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ New development scale and massing erasing history (like Kendall Square) ▪ South Boston Chamber of Commerce needs improvements ▪ Locate a trade/vocational school to encourage job growth ▪ Gateway eye sores ▪ Encourage relationship with South Bay and civic groups to share information and evaluate impacts of development and traffic generated on neighboring areas | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chinese restaurants ○ Nail salons ○ Liquor stores ▪ Concerns regarding the environment ▪ Buffer zone between light industrial |
| <p>STREETSCAPES</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Public restrooms (e.g., Wall) – safety issue ▪ Wall bathrooms on MBTA property ▪ Businesses providing restrooms to public ▪ Street cleaning enforcement ▪ Litter and shopping carts (Target, Stop and Shop) ▪ Earmarking parking meter revenue fund back to neighborhood ▪ Banners hanging from lights to establish or create a neighborhood shopping identity (could alternate banners for special events and holidays) ▪ Street signs are missing on many streets ▪ Clear signing at confusing intersections ▪ Key intersections need make over w/ materials such as pavers, nice crosswalk, and clearer curb cuts to establish a prominence and safety for pedestrians ▪ Overhead signage ▪ Designate one location for flyer holders ▪ Trash being left out – eyesore | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Narrow to no sidewalks ▪ Not handicapped accessible ▪ Signage for dog curbing ▪ Small park ▪ Broadway is more developed than Andrew Square, unbalanced ▪ Greenery, grass, trees needed ▪ Very industrial, would like to soften ▪ Comfort level for pedestrians ▪ Trash barrels needed ▪ Sidewalks need repair ▪ Planters (adopted by businesses) ▪ Bike lane ▪ Street cleaning – not required to move cars – enforcement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Clean streets the day before trash day ○ Public Works needs to coordinate schedule ▪ Boston Street, Preble Street need street cleaning signs ▪ Type of lighting – something decorative (e.g., holiday decorations) |

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