

00:36:41 Jay Ruggiero (BPDA): Thanks for joining us tonight! A friendly reminder that my email address is, Jason.ruggiero@boston.gov and the PLAN: Charlestown website is, <https://www.bostonplans.org/planning/planning-initiatives/plan-charlestown>

00:39:58 Judy Brennan: It looks like this picture is of the Rutherford Ave parking lots. Why are you calling them the Austin St parking lots?

00:41:09 Des Parris Landing: To distinguish these lots from other lots on Rutherford. These are the lots at Austin Street.

00:43:16 Tiffany Gavin: The scenarios that were proposed were 15, 17 and 18 feet buildings, with distorted height depictions. The current plans say up to 250 feet, which is several times taller than anything else on that side of town. is the design still open to shorter building design to fit with the current standards that Charlestown follows?

00:45:42 Patricia Cafferky: Hi Tiffany! The RFP references maximums we,Ãre developing through PLAN: Charlestown, but we,Ãre absolutely open to responses with shorter buildings through the RFP.

00:49:53 Kelly Tucker: She just said they shortened to 150'

00:50:45 Patricia Cafferky: Hi Kelly, yes, it was shortened to 150,Ã. The 250,Ã maximum was from the previous public meeting. We lowered it in response to public comment.

00:51:50 Kelly Tucker: Why just soccer and lacrosse we have other sports teams

00:52:35 Jean Wilson: Will there be any parking for all these new units? We do not need any more cars on our streets.

00:54:14 Diane Valle: This proposal monetizes public land for the benefit of the BPDA revenue with every buzz word attached. This is a flood zone, this is a asthma location. We need trees and greenspace to eliminate heat island effect. What does it take for the BPDA hear we need a comprehensive Master Plan with meaningful community engagement? This is a top down land grab for BPDA revenue, funded with federal tax dollars that can be used for sustainable projects for the benefit of all. The community has not been heard.

00:54:34 Patricia Cafferky: Hi Kelly and Jean, thank you for your questions! I,Ãll be sure they are read during the Q&A.

00:55:25 Johanna Hynes: Are you looking in back bay and beacon hill

00:55:29 Kelly Tucker: She went to fast on the affordable end so how many units?

00:56:12 Diane Valle: Rents go up because the BPDA built luxury housing. TheCity does not require the colleges and universities to house the 20,000 plus graduate students who put pressure on our housing. This is not planning. This is a developer/ BPDA benefit.

00:57:27 Kelly Tucker: Because they are nor the lowewr class of residents

00:58:15 William McCallum: Will community benefit for this site stipulate the erection of another pedestrian bridge or tunnel and/or the renovation of the Plaza-to-Community College pedestrian bridge? The sidewalks, crossings, and even the subway entrance and existing pedestrian bridge are severely degraded, unsightly, and unsafe.

00:58:35 Linda Neshamkin: What is vision for integration of pedestrian connections?

00:58:40 Kelly Tucker: We are 5th in 24 communities for low income housing did the survey go to them.

00:58:54 Jessica Brown: Is there an estimated length of time for this construction, once approved

00:59:03 Johanna Hynes: Build housing on the Boston common - public land is public land

00:59:19 Ryan Gavin: It has taken 30 years to address Rutherford Ave, and I think it is now delayed to 2028 - will the city tackle that ever or just build more around it

00:59:33 Diane Valle: How much money will the BPDA receive on this project? The proforma must be complete or the BPDA could not consider fed funds. Please answer?

00:59:42 Lydia Bowers: As someone who is very excited about this project and this process, and it,Ãs potential to help address the housing crises Boston is currently in and is only going to get worse, what is the best way for us to voice our support moving forward and stay involved to offer support?

01:00:00 Johanna Hynes: Has the BPDA produced a historic land use report for this parcel?

01:01:06 Kelly Tucker: We are gonna sink

01:01:55 Patricia Cafferky: Hi Lydia! Anyone who wants to voice their thoughts on this project can email Natalie at natalie.deduck@boston.gov. Additional updates will be added to the PLAN: Charlestown webpage for now!

01:02:04 Diane Valle: We are all in support of the housing issues. Unfortunately this is an environmental injustice and follows ten years of the BPDA building on any open space, making Boston with no solution for housing.

01:02:19 JoAnn Grigoli: Mitigation of traffic pollution and heat island, resilience and sustainability can all be accomplished with a park that incorporates sports if necessary but having children breathe in pollution next to a highway is irresponsible.

01:02:29 Charlotte Hamill: To the (very good) point about pollution and open space - would you consider a climate-controlled sport environment like an ice hockey rink? The current rink does not seem to meet all the town demand, and a rink would be a safer environment for athletes than an open field.

01:02:52 Pamela Daly: The open spaces on first floor buildings are left mostly empty long after buildings are built. Look at Harborview in the Navy Yard for just one example - empty space for many years. These spaces just don,Ãt work.

01:03:12 Lydia Bowers: Thank you for the response Patricia!

01:03:51 Kelly Tucker: Love the responses.

01:04:09 Johanna Hynes: The navy yard isn,Ãt dealing with piecemeal development because Unlike the rest of Charlestown its got the benefit of a master plan - what makes the navy yard any more historic than the rest of the sq mile? Answer - nothing.

01:04:52 Dave Goggins: Why was this property per-ordained as suitable for affordable housing instead of much needed green/open space for climate resiliency? Charlestown already has more than its fair share of income restricted housing compared to every other neighborhood. Why isn,Ãt the Seaport suitable for affordable Housing? Plenty of developable land still there! It seems to me that the City, in a rush to take advantage of Federal funding, is willing to hastily create a housing slum in Charlestown. The only Bostonians willing to live next to a busy highway will be those who can,Ãt afford to live anywhere else.

01:05:24 Johanna Hynes: KIDS NEED GREENSPACE.

01:05:44 Jay Ruggiero (BPDA): CURRENT ORDER: Judy, Regina, Linda, Joanne, Nora

01:06:06 Diane Valle: Michael Parker is a developer with 3 projects in front of the BPDA, full disclosure. That is just in Charkestown.

01:06:07 sheila dillon: Good point Michael

01:09:21 Jean Wilson: I would prefer an orchard or a forest on that site. Charlestown has a HUGE amount of affordable housing already.

01:10:14 Diane Valle: Hurrah Regina! Truth! Not propaganda!

01:10:18 Michael Parker: Full disclosure. I am not a developer, merely an environmental/land use lawyer.

01:10:53 Diane Valle: I stand corrected. Thank you for the correction.

01:11:49 Jean Wilson: Thank you Regina!

01:12:03 Johanna Hynes: Completely agree with Jean. imo, Charlestown has been dumped on by the city for long enough. Show the oldest neighborhood in Boston some respect and give us back our green spaces.

01:12:04 Dave Goggins: I echo the speaker,Ãs comments on the unsuitability of this location for affordable housing.

01:12:07 Kelly Tucker: Thank you Regina

01:12:14 Diane Valle: Not merely. Please share which developments you represent please? Include 700 tower proposed at North Washington Street. Thank you.

01:12:14 JoAnn Grigoli: Yes Regina! It is not hospitable!

01:12:32 Dan Jaffe: Thank You Regina! Well said!

01:12:59 Eric Zachrison: Really excited to see these properties used to help provide housing which this city needs so badly. Will alleviate pressure on other housing costs, will help provide more customers to main street. And will make it less likely that single families in the area are converted to four families. Great location and I,Ãd prefer an FAR of 5.0, if it could provide more and better housing.

01:13:28 Sean Boyle: 1) Why hasn,Ãt the BDPA had public meetings in Charlestown? Development is a huge issue for many in this town.  
2) Why hasn,Ãt Plan: Charlestown had meetings open to the public? The last ,Ãvisioning,Ã meeting I suggested having an open public meeting with both BDPA & Plan: Charlestown and that has yet to happen. 100 responses is not good enough for a population of almost 20,000.  
3) I would like Plan: Charlestown to reach more people in this town - a more diverse and inclusive population.  
4) My only fear is that this won,Ãt be affordable housing. My fear is that they,Ãre going to be once again, unaffordable units that only the upper classes can afford and the rest of us are fighting for lottery spots. This will also make ,ÃCharlestown Core,Ã even more pricey than it is.  
5) 11% of Charlestown goes to bed hungry. It will only increase. This sight would be ideal for an urban farm so that we can be sustainable.  
6) why can,Ãt we build affordable row/ town houses on this land? pathways to affordable homeownership.

01:13:50 Johanna Hynes: Re: Mr. Parker: Are you or re you not an environmental lawyer that represents corporations trying to skirt environmental regulations?

01:15:02 Diane Valle: The community are the experts. Read Nobel Prize winner Elinor Ostrom, Governing the Commons.

01:15:23 Lydia Bowers: Thank you Linda - I think those are great points about how to make the area more pedestrian friendly and better connected to the greater Charlestown. I,Äôm excited to see what the proposals include!

01:15:29 Jean Wilson: ERIC per sq ft we already have more than our share of affordable housing. Cut the project in half then and make have of it greenn.

01:16:07 Johanna Hynes: Please take a poll and ask the people on this call if they would like to see more green space on this site?

01:16:34 Jean Wilson: more green

01:16:37 Lydia Bowers: Bike lanes across Gilmore would be great! As someone who bikes commutes!

01:17:19 Diane Valle: To Sean Boyle,Äôs point: Charlestown has a petition of 3600 signatures requesting for a comprehensive Master Plan with meaningful community engagement. Plan Charlestown is spot planning.

01:17:54 Ryan Gavin: They pushed Rutherford to 2028, they just haven't told us yet. The City knows this

01:18:33 Kelly Tucker: Dianne who provided petition please should have more signatures

01:19:12 Dave Goggins: How can the BPDA possibly conduct an assessment of pedestrian safety or traffic capacity anywhere along the Rutherford Avenue corridor when nobody can say with certainty when there will be a plan for Sullivan Square or when the Washington St. bridge will be completed?

01:19:23 Dan Jaffe: Where is the college parking?  
Where is our standing for affordable housing when compared to the other communities? By population.

01:20:43 Eric Zachrison: Jason, half measures like that really aren,Äôt keeping up. We need to take big action. Be bold. Our fair share is everything we can do. We have a beautiful community, we should be welcoming and help as many as we can.

01:21:02 Diane Valle: We can send it around again. Hopefully people will sign. Ann sat out on cold, hot, wind and spoke with residents who willingly signed. I will follow up. Anyone who wants to help please contact me.

01:23:15 Karla Wert: I,Äôm sorry but kid,Äôs need Homes with green space. I am completely horrified with calling low income housing ,ÄúAnother Housing SLUM,Äù. No there isn,Äôt enough housing anywhere even in Charlestown. I don,Äôt understand why no one cares about the thousands of people who have been waiting years and years on a waiting list to have somewhere to give their kid,Äôs a safe place to live. I can,Äôt understand why everyone is so against helping their fellow man who need help.

01:24:13 Eric Zachrison: Amen karla

01:24:19 Johanna Hynes: The only neighborhoods that are eligible for master plans are those designated as historic. Places like Charlestown and roxbury ,Äöurban renewal districts,Äô get disjointed development before planning.

01:25:05 Sean Boyle: Those surveys never went to Mishawum.

01:25:27 Johanna Hynes: How many public housing units in beacon hill back bay to date?

01:26:56 Dave Goggins: Were the community surveys limited to Charlestown residents? If not, what percentage of the responses received were from Charlestown residents?

01:27:05 Johanna Hynes: None of us are against helping those in need but when it means depriving those that live here of clean air and green space there needs to be balance.

01:27:48 Johanna Hynes: Bcc has a line a mile long - inventory should have happened in 1975

01:27:52 Johanna Hynes: BLC

01:28:11 Diane Valle: BPDA: Please post all the comment online so all residents can read.

01:29:08 Diane Valle: We have a rink...is that environmentally advisable since the community needs green space. We need a tree buffer to block toxins.

01:29:11 Johanna Hynes: And an accurate list of the town residents on this call. Lots of duplicates.

01:29:29 Johanna Hynes: Will the meeting be in person? If not why not? And pls dot not say for public safety

01:29:50 Dan Jaffe: We are still on Zoom! We need physical meetings!

01:30:29 Lydia Bowers: Just pointing out - many of us are unable to attend in person meetings. Remote/Zoom meetings are much more accessible to those of us with kids, disabilities, or even have to work late and can,Äôt leave the office to make a 6pm in person meeting, etc.

01:30:36 Dan Jaffe: I think a indoor soccer area should be great!

01:31:23 Nora Blake: I agree with path to ownership.

01:31:24 Diane Valle: "Transit oriented" is not intended to place housing next to known toxins. It mean proximity to transportation, not in the unhealthy air adjacent.

01:32:08 Eric Zachrison: Some of us (with kids) really appreciate zoom meetings. Can,Äôt remember a similar meeting that got 85 people in person on a wed night

01:32:15 Johanna Hynes: I agree that any new housing in town should have path to home ownership as well

01:32:25 Diane Valle: Will you post the complete chat?

01:32:47 Karla Wert: The Low income people live here too. Why can,Äôt there be green space, Clean Air AND Housing for people who otherwise would be homeless with their children?

01:32:53 Johanna Hynes: Change your policy - have a hybrid meeting. absolutely ridiculous

01:33:18 Lydia Bowers: Would you be able to review the timeline again real quick before we wrap up?

01:33:21 Lydia Bowers: Just what,Äôs next?

01:33:25 Lydia Bowers: I,Äôm sorry I can,Äôt remember

01:35:11 Kelly Tucker: What about Police, Fire, Schools EMS, we don't have a full time police station now. Why does the housing crisis have to be resolved via a square mile.

01:35:55 Nora Blake: Would it be possible to designate 40% of the affordable housing to path to ownership?

01:36:33 Brian Beisel: providing housing AND enough open space to accommodate sports field is a far better use of this site than the current parking. Nobody would be forced to live here (or play) if they have the same environmental priorities/sensitivites as mentioned by the vocal few in the chat.

01:36:40 Kelly Tucker: Can you state affordable numbers please.

01:36:53 Johanna Hynes: Talk about impacts after the fact come on  
01:37:08 Johanna Hynes: Plan Charlestown is a joke  
01:37:54 Paul Hughes: mr boyle could you raise your hand and  
reiterate what you just chatted?  
01:38:09 Kelly Tucker: i want to ask ? but cannot find hand, lol  
01:38:40 Rebecca Hansen: Kelly - if you click on reactions, you can  
choose Raise Hand  
01:39:10 Kelly Tucker: got it, lol  
01:40:16 Diane Valle: Bunker Hill Housing is the largest public  
development in New England and the fourth largest in the Country! The  
bike path needs to be along the fence on the railroad side of the site  
from Sullivan square to North Station...safe, isolated, without taking a  
line of vital traffic lane.  
01:41:33 Johanna Hynes: Completely agree with Kelly Tucker,Ãs  
comment - stop asking charlestown to bear the brunt of the housing  
crisis.  
01:41:38 Eric Zachrison: Amen Diane. Wouldn,Ãt it be great if we  
were known as the community that did the most for those in need!  
01:42:22 Diane Valle: We ARE known as the community that does the  
most for those in needs now.  
01:43:06 Kelly Tucker: Diane,  
01:43:08 Eric Zachrison: And you,Ãre right, we can do more, with  
parking lots that are pretty typically empty  
01:43:56 Diane Valle: Let's ee the air quality report, the flood  
zone, teh impact on traffic, our schools, our infrastructure etc.  
01:44:53 Diane Valle: We are seeking innovative, sustainable,  
environmental, safe development.  
01:45:34 Diane Valle: We have more low income per capita than andy  
other community.  
01:45:55 Diane Valle: Sorry for typos...  
01:46:03 Dave Goggins: Good points, Kelly.  
01:46:31 Lydia Bowers: Wanted to drop a quick message thanking for  
the representatives from Boston Planning & Development Agency and other  
agencies for organizing and answering our questions. Thank you.  
01:46:42 Brian Beisel: Can the BPDA explain the difference between  
low income/public housing and affordable/inclusionary housing. Lots of  
incorrect statements in this chat  
01:47:04 Mary C Boucher: Marty Walsh committed to 55,000 new units of  
housing by 2030 (back in 2016). There are 26 towns/neighborhoods in  
Boston. Spread evenly, each neighborhood would have the burden of approx.  
2100 units. It seems to me Charlestown has taken the lion,Ãs share (and  
probably one of the smallest neighborhoods). How many new units has  
Charlestown put up since 2016??  
01:47:54 Diane Valle: 11,000 new residents plus thousand of new  
workers.  
01:47:55 Mary C Boucher: Correct Kelly!  
01:48:59 Patricia Cafferky: My email is  
patricia.a.cafferky@boston.gov - Kelly, Jay and I would love to connect  
01:49:11 Tiffany Gavin: Can the surveys also be sent in the  
Charlestown newsletter?  
01:50:09 Dan Jaffe: I haven,Ãt seen any surveys in my area. Where can  
I grab it to fill out?  
01:50:14 Kelly Tucker: Sad 2 percent of Navy yard taxes go towards  
the BPDA and we get the shaft.

01:50:24 Diane Valle: If the BPDA does not know how to plan...take a moratorium. Hire an independent planner who works directly with the community. All other cities know how to plan.

01:51:35 Kelly Tucker: I will gladly walk around with you.

01:52:00 Kelly Tucker: Go Nora

01:52:10 Jay Ruggiero (BPDA): Friendly reminder for contacts and the BPDA website, Jason.ruggiero@boston.gov // natalie.deduck@boston.gov // <https://www.bostonplans.org/planning/planning-initiatives/plan-charlestown>

01:52:26 Diane Valle: The BPDA took \$40.5M for ten years, now with appreciated real estate prices, it must be higher. NOT the majority spent in our neighborhood in Charlestown. We are the Golden Goose that is abused.

01:53:35 Kelly Tucker: You want to build and no definitive plan so that leads to ? the average has been 5-7 years and take the money and run

01:53:53 Karla Wert: Ownership for low income would be amazing and a great way to break the cycle of poverty

01:54:35 Jay Ruggiero (BPDA): natalie.deduck@boston.gov

01:54:39 Jay Ruggiero (BPDA): jason.ruggiero@boston.gov

01:54:40 Diane Valle: Home ownership is a 2% annuity for every ale on home owner when they sell? All that money goes to BPDA?

01:54:58 Karla Wert: Thank you BPDA and Plan Charlestown for all your hard work

01:55:13 Regina Ashodian: Thanks, Jay

01:55:27 Mary Lu Mendonca: thank you!