

### **MOBILITY WORKSHOP**

February 23, 2016





"Boston needs more housing. But there is no one-size fits-all solution. Every neighborhood has its own character. In some places, density is not only appropriate – it is badly needed."

> - Mayor Martin J. Walsh, Chamber of Commerce December, 2014



"People want to live in Boston. That's a good thing. But we need to shape growth as a community, not let it shape us. That's what residents are doing along the Red Line in South Boston...They're helping us plan vibrant, walkable streets, with affordable homes, diverse businesses, and great open space."

- Mayor Martin J. Walsh, State of the City January 19, 2016



#### **AGENDA**

- 1. Schedule and Process
- 2. People and Density
- 3. Trends: Living in a City
- 4. Trends: Getting Around
- 5. Mobility Exercise



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#### **NEXT STEPS**

JULY 30, 2015 "Talk to Us" Open House

**SEPTEMBER 14, 2015 "Walk and Bike With Us"** *Study Area Tours* 

OCTOBER 1, 2015 "Imagine with Us" Visioning Workshop

OCTOBER 26, 2015 "Plan with Us" Streets & Blocks, Land Use Workshop

NOVEMBER 17, 2015 "Design With Us" Height & Density, Open Space Workshop

**DECEMBER 14, 2015 "What We Heard"** *Recap/Dialogue Session* 

JANUARY 27, 2016 "Draft with Us" Placemaking and Mobility Workshop

FEBRUARY 23, 2016 "Discuss with Us"

DRAFT Plan Session – Part 1

MARCH 2016 (Date TBD) "Discuss with Us" DRAFT Plan Session – Part 2

**APRIL and MAY, 2016 (Dates TBD)** 

Final Workshop - elements of plan and implementation strategies – "Review with Us"

Open House - Presentation of Plan - "Finalize with us"

MAY and JUNE, 2016
Final Plan production by BRA staff

JUNE and JULY, 2016
BRA staff draft zoning documents





#### **PLAN Overview**

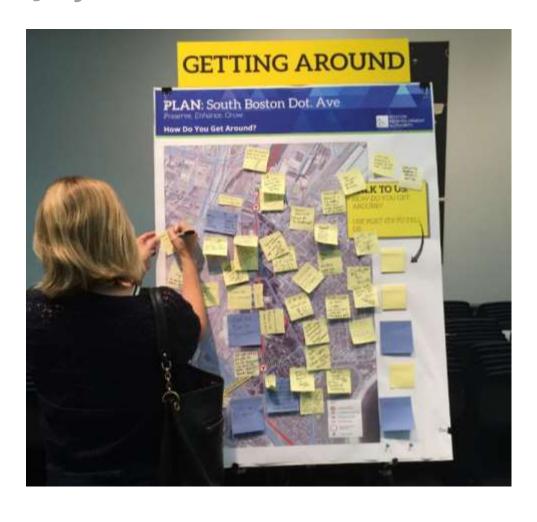


"Talk to Us" open house July 30, 2015



#### **OPEN HOUSE**

July 30, 2015



#### **WALK AND BIKE TOURS**

**September 14, 2015** 





#### VISIONING WORKSHOP

October 1, 2015

Open Space

Provide Quality Open Space

Preserve

Industrial

Some

Uses

Mobility & Getting Around

Provide More Parking

Reduce Traffic Congestion

Improve Public Transit

Housing

Residential

Placemaking & Neighborhood Character

Create More Amenities

Increase

Social

Equity

Economic Development

Provide More Cultural & Civic Uses

Environment & Sustainability

Improve Climate Resilience

Streets, Sidewalks & Public Environment

Build Walkable Sidewalks & Bikeable Streets

Create More Streets & Blocks

Other

#### **PLAN WITH US WORKSHOP**

October 26, 2015





#### **DESIGN WITH US WORKSHOP**

**November 17, 2015** 



**December 14, 2015** 





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#### **PLACEMAKING AND MOBILITY WORKSHOP**

**January 27, 2016** 

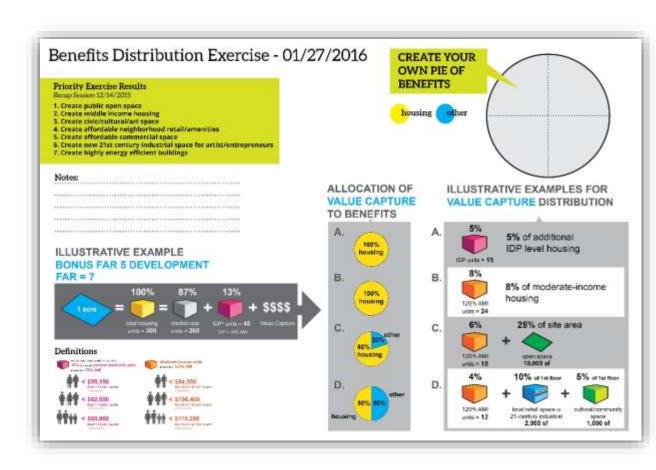






#### **Benefits Prioritization Exercise**

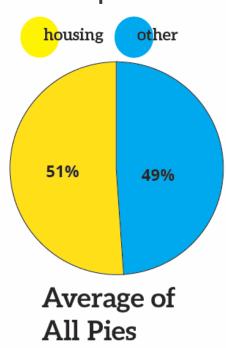
- Results from December workshop on the table – seven priorities
- Participants were asked to distribute value captured \$\$\$, provided through a bonus density
- Illustrative examples shown to jumpstart conversation
- Tables asked to create own pie of benefits

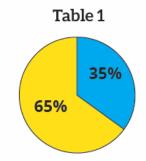




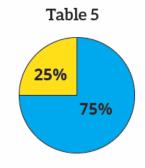
#### **Benefits Distribution Summary**

Average of all tables: 51% of the benefits for housing, 49% of the benefits for other priorities





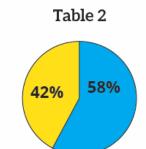
Group felt a distribution of value captured would provide a "quality of life" for this new district.



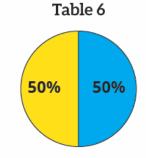
Housing: Specifically elderly and moderate-income housing.

Other benefits: 50% open space and 25% civic/ cultural/art space; affordable retail; 21st century

industrial.



Housing: 42% Other benefits: 58% (open space and local commercial space



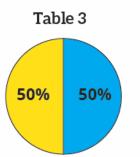
Housing: 50% (25% at 70% AMI, 25% at 80-100% AMI Other Benefits: 50% (25% open space, 25% local retail/ parking lot)



Ensure adequate parking in new development

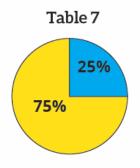
Double parking is unsafe
 Funding to create public parking

Fund amenities such as grocery stores



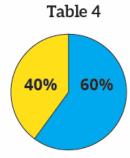
Group varied widely on distribution of benefits.

Some wanted to favored housing while others strongly favored other benefits, and one wanted to split it 50%-50%. Table collectively agreed to split all benefits 50%-50%. They also felt AMI percentages should be between 70%-100% AMI.

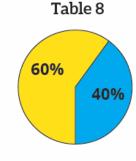


Housing = 75%
Other benefits: 25% (local retail, cultural/community space = 12.5%), open space = 12.5%)

Group felt new district should meet its open space needs and provide opportunities for small businesses and educational opportunities.



Group felt need for a distribution to fulfill a range of benefits. Given residential context of study area and adjacencies (where there is existing BHA and market rate housing) the majority of housing benefit should provide for income restricted moderate income housing. Also a portion of the 40% residential pie should be allocated to AMI% that is lower than 120%.

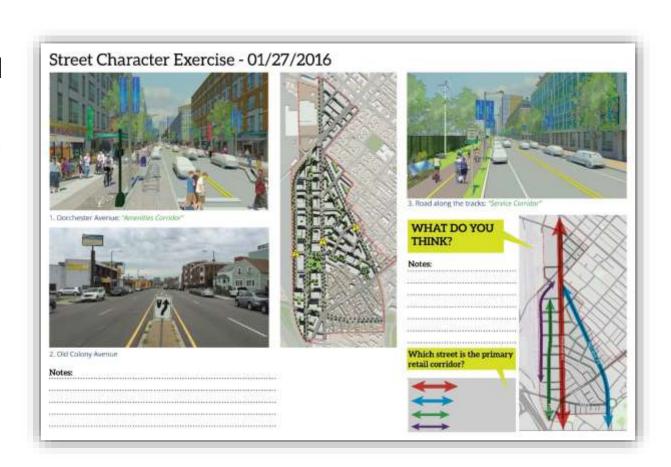


Low income housing a priority.



#### **Street Character Feedback**

- Dorchester Avenue should be primary retail corridor
- Old Colony Avenue should be more than an arterial; it should be a green corridor connecting to Moakley Park and beach
- Service road along tracks should have a green "live" wall acting as a sound and pollution barrier
- New Street (as rendered) "Like it!" Option to close down street periodically is another amenity to be enjoyed





#### **Open Space Character Feedback**

- Create a hybrid that's both active and passive
- Would like something for everyone in a large open space - State Street Park on A Street seen as a model
- Playgrounds for children, open space for families
- Dog parks
- Provide public restrooms near park



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#### **HOMEWORK**

Underway with City and State agencies, consultant

Real Estate Market Analysis/Economic Feasibility – Consultant

**Housing** – Department of Neighborhood Development, Boston Housing Authority, Fair Housing

**Economic Development** – Mayor's Office of Economic Development, Office of Business Development

**Public Financing** – Treasury, Assessing, Economic Development & Industrial Corporation (EDIC)

**Public Facilities** – Boston Public Schools, Boston Public Library, Boston Police Department, Boston Fire Department, Property & Construction Management

**Open Space** - Parks and Recreation

**Arts & Culture** – Arts Commission

**Public Transportation** – MBTA

**Transportation** – Boston Transportation Department, Boston Bikes, MassDOT

**Public Works** – Public Works Department, Public Improvement Commission

**Water** – Boston Water & Sewer Commission

**Environment/Sustainability/Climate Change** – Environment Department, Boston Landmarks Commission, Boston Public Health

**Boston Centers for Youth & Families** 

**Elderly Commission** 

**Commission for Persons with Disabilities** 

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**People & Density** 





#### **Conceptual Buildout**

#### Mix of Uses:

- Residential
- Retail & Services
- Cultural & Civic
- Office
- 21<sup>st</sup>-century industrial
- Open Space

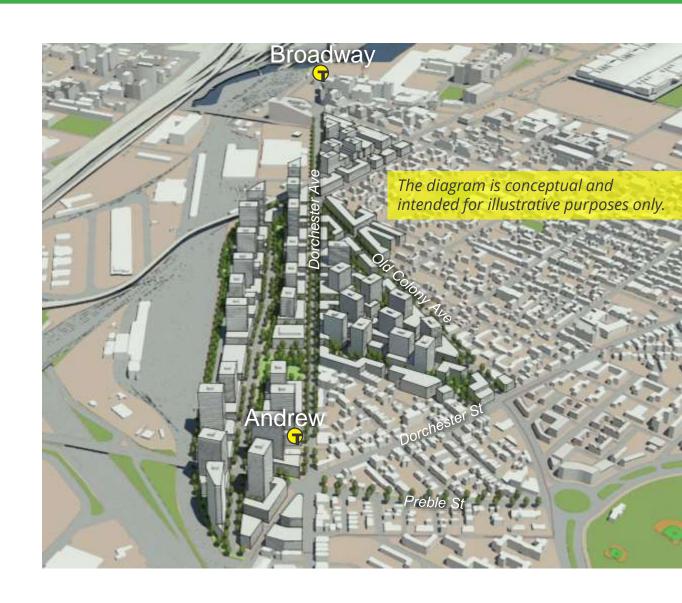




#### **Conceptual Buildout**

#### Total New Development ~ 12 - 16M sf

- Residential uses ~ 6 8M sf
- Other (office, 21-century industrial) ~
   5 7M sf
- Ground Floor Retail and Cultural uses ~
   0.5M 1M sf





**Public Realm** 

Roads & Sidewalks ~ 30 - 50 acres

Open Space ~ 8 - 12 acres





**Residential Uses** 

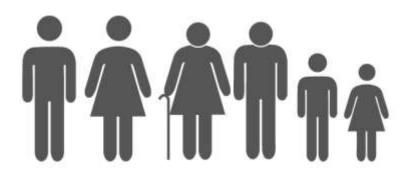
**6 – 8 M sf** of residential uses



**6,000 – 8,000** Residential units



2.3 persons per household



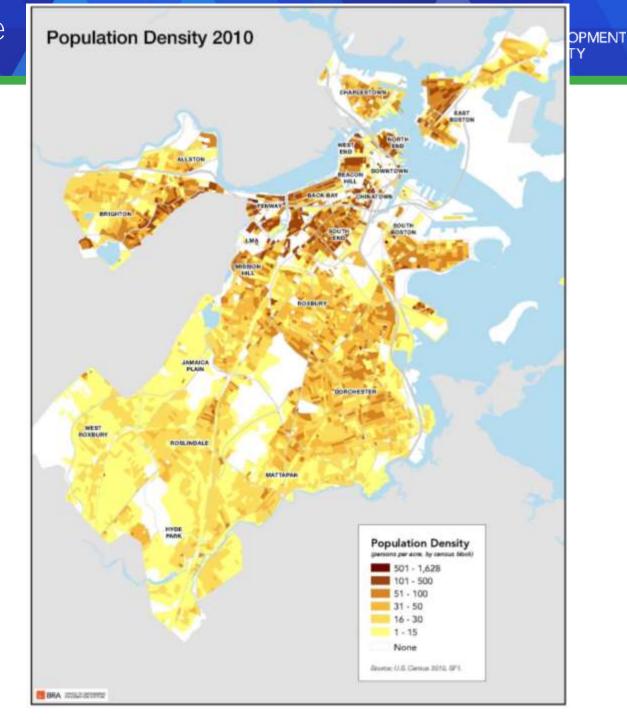


~ 14,000 - 16,000 people

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### **BOSTON'S POPULATION**

**Population Density by Census Tract** 



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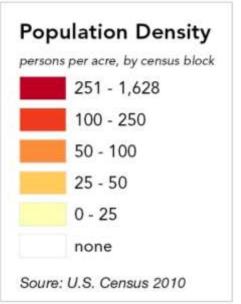


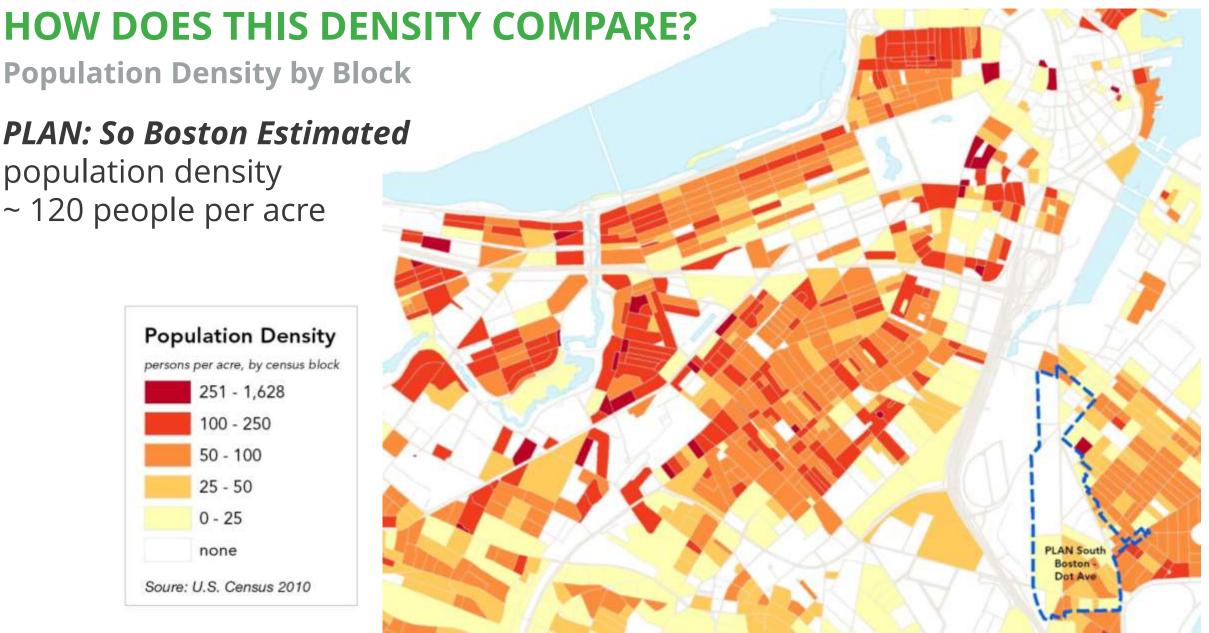
**Population Density by Block** 

**PLAN: So Boston Estimated** 

population density

~ 120 people per acre

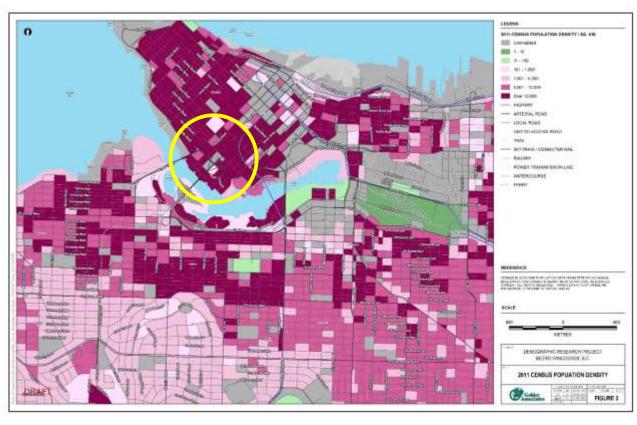






#### SIMILAR URBAN DENSITY EXAMPLES

Vancouver, British Columbia



English Bay and West End Neighborhoods





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**Trends: Living in a City** 

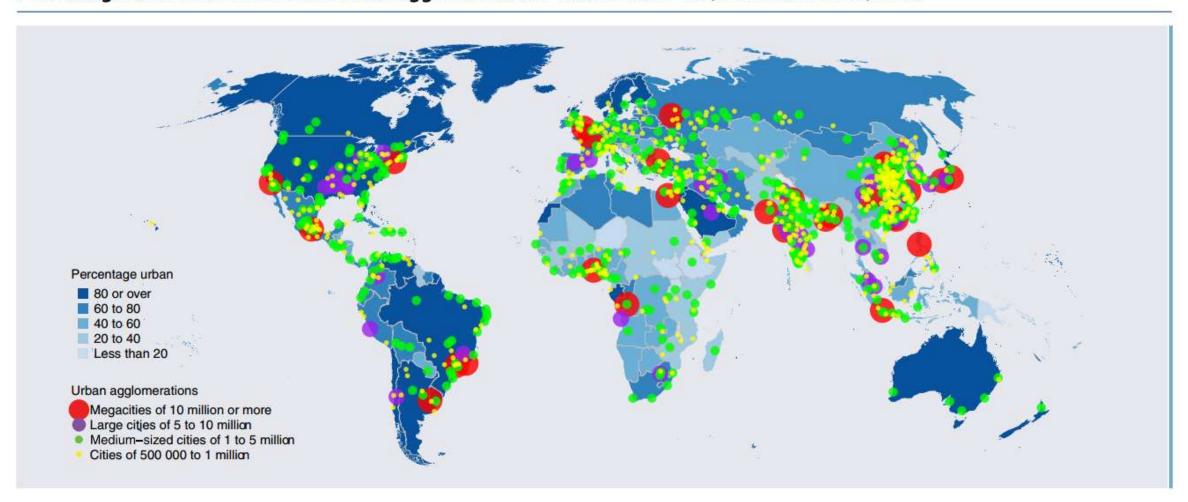


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#### **URBANIZATION IN THE WORLD**

Percentage urban and location of urban agglomerations with at least 500,000 inhabitants, 2014

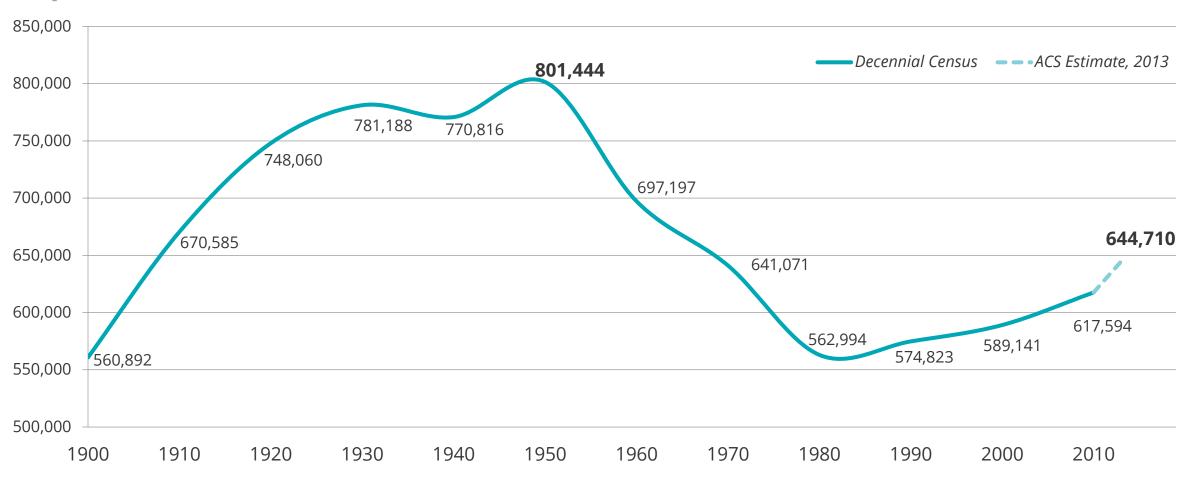


Source:



#### **BOSTON'S DEMOGRAPHICS**

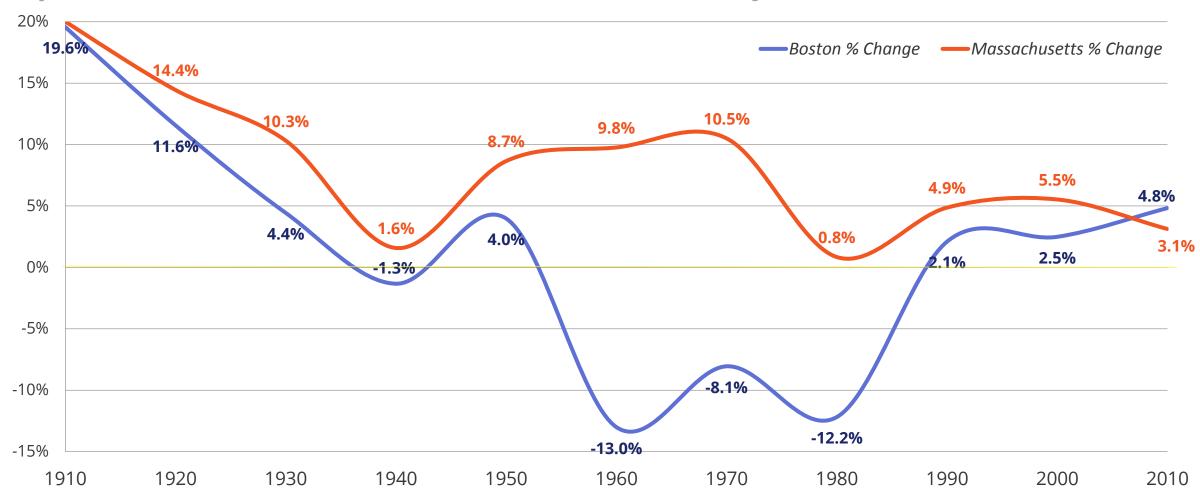
#### **Population 1900-2013**





#### **BOSTON'S DEMOGRAPHICS**

Population Growth for Boston and Massachusetts by Decade (1910 – 2010)



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#### WHY GROWTH IS GOOD?

**Great for Economy & Jobs** 



















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#### WHY GROWTH IS GOOD?

**Neighborhood Amenities** 



Boston Landing Commuter Rail

Stop Platform.



Flour Bakery



A Street Park. State Street Headquarters. South Boston.

District Hall, South Boston Waterfront

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# In 2000, did you imagine that in 15 years we would...

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#### **SINCE 2000**

**Shop Online** 





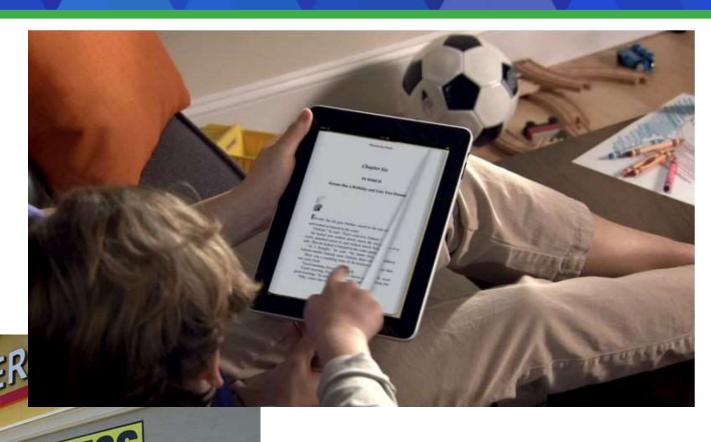
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#### **SINCE 2000**

**Purchase and Read Books Online** 





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#### **SINCE 2000**

#### **Connect/stay in-touch with People Online**





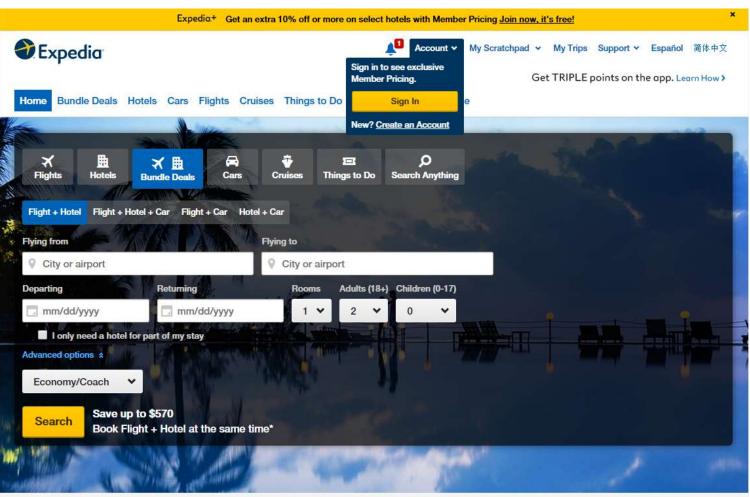
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#### **SINCE 2000**

#### Plan Your Own Trip

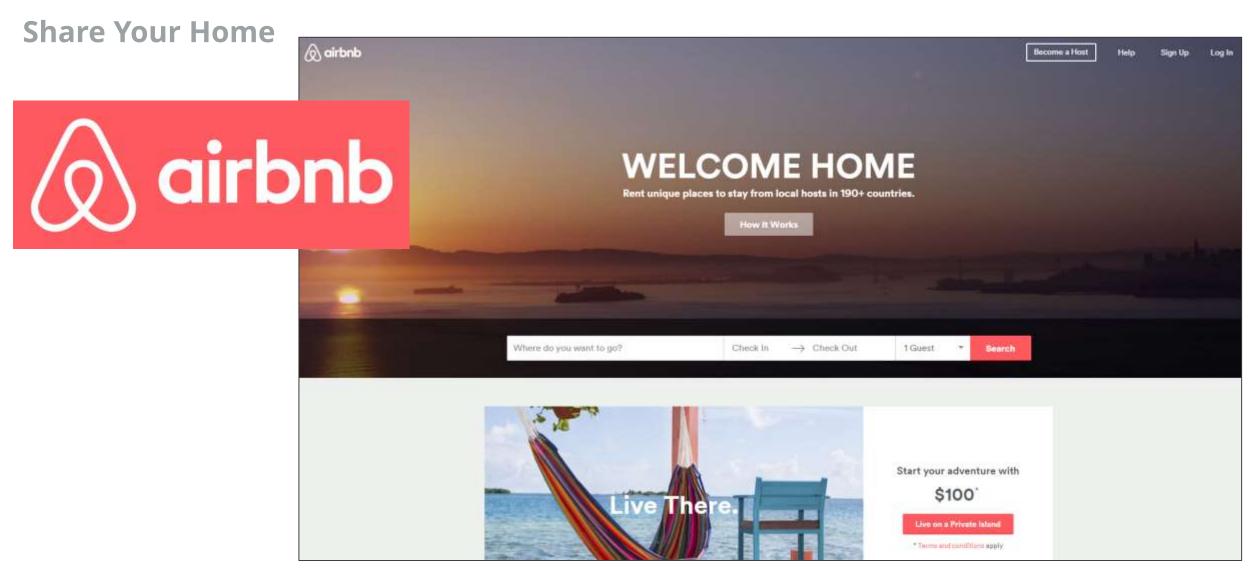




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#### **SINCE 2000**



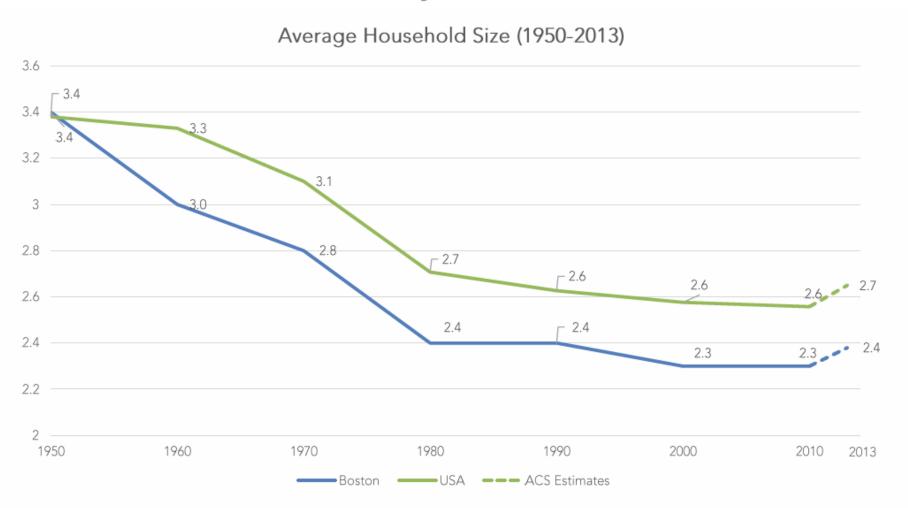


## In 2030 how we live, work, and move around will be different.



#### TREND: HOMES AND NEIGHBORHOODS

#### Average household size is smaller today





## TREND: HOMES AND NEIGHBORHOODS

Average household size is smaller today





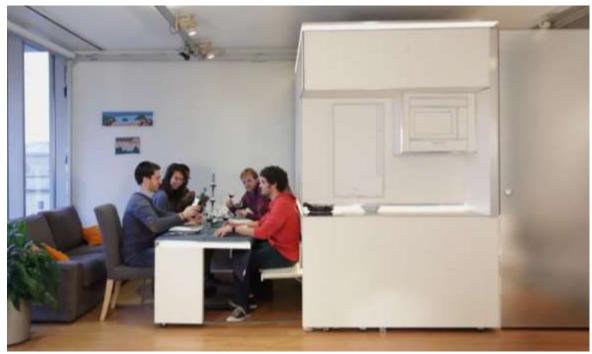


2016 (with 1950's furniture)



## TRENDS: HOMES AND NEIGHBORHOODS

#### **More Compact Lifestyle**









Grove Ecosystem – garden for your home

CityHome – MIT prototype for scalable living



## **TRENDS: HOMES AND NEIGHBORHOODS**

## **More Compact Lifestyle in Desirable Locations**





360 Sf unit in Watermark, South Boston Waterfront



## TRENDS: HOMES AND NEIGHBORHOODS

**Shared Amenities for Community Building** 



Small group exercise options



Peter's Park, South End

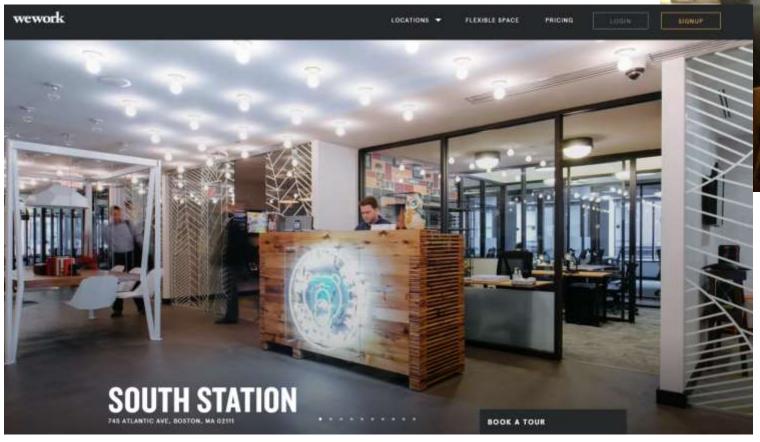
Roofdeck Amenity

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## **TRENDS: WORKPLACE**

**Diverse Workstyles** 





Starbucks cafe

wework Boston – shared workplace

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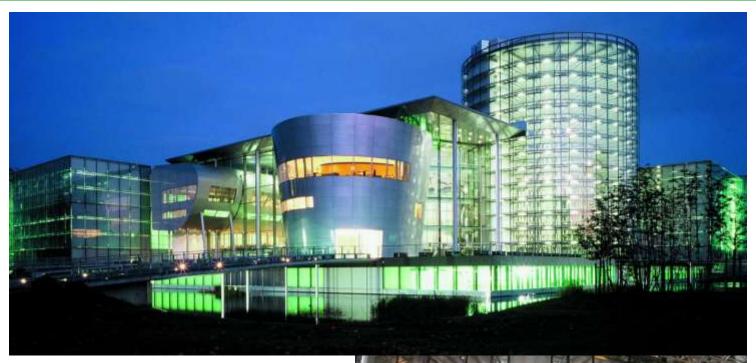


## **TRENDS: WORKPLACE**

**21-century industrial** 



Transparent Factory VW, Dresden, Germany





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## **TRENDS: WORKPLACE**

"Maker" Culture



Fabrication Labs

Etsy Creative Labs, Brooklyn, NYC





**Trends: Getting Around** 



"Talk to Us" open house July 30, 2015



#### CONTEXT



Thriving economy
Growing inequities



Growing and young population Limited connections to new jobs



Declining GHG emissions Limited extreme-event preparedness





#### **VISION: PRINCIPLES**

Go Boston 2030 will improve

Equity

Proactively invest to close gaps in underserved neighborhoods

Economic Opportunity

Connect dynamic workforce with jobs in new-economy sectors

Climate Responsiveness

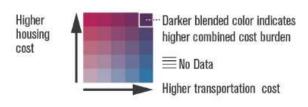
Focus on public transit and prepare for severe weather

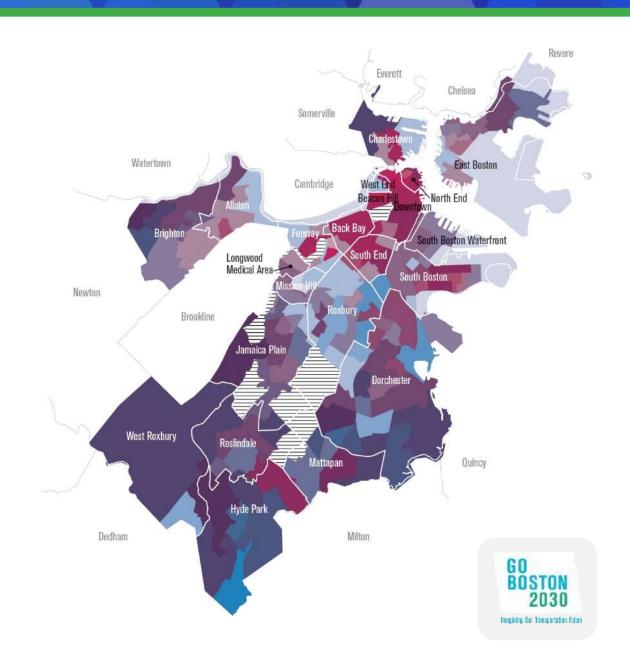




## **EQUITY**

Some neighborhoods closer to downtown have high transportation and low housing costs, while neighborhoods with more affordable rents have high transportation costs.

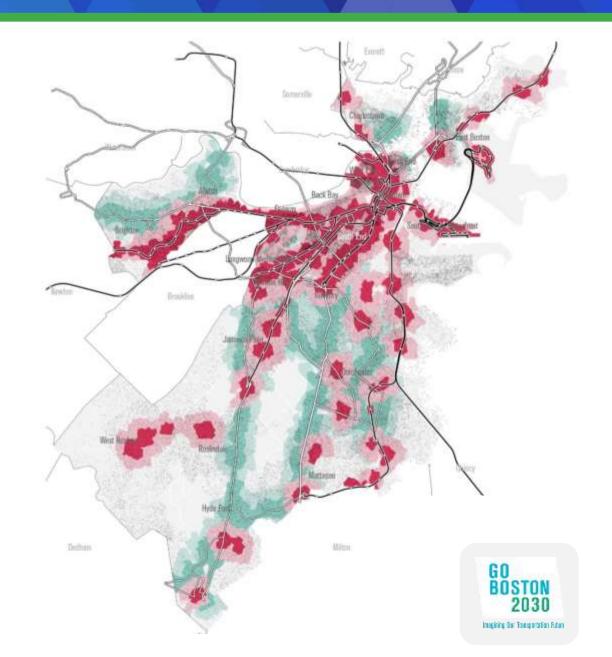






#### **ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY**

Many residents are outside the 5 and 10 minute walk sheds along transit corridors which makes it hard to get to jobs downtown and new job centers are emerging that are poorly served by transit.

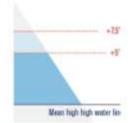




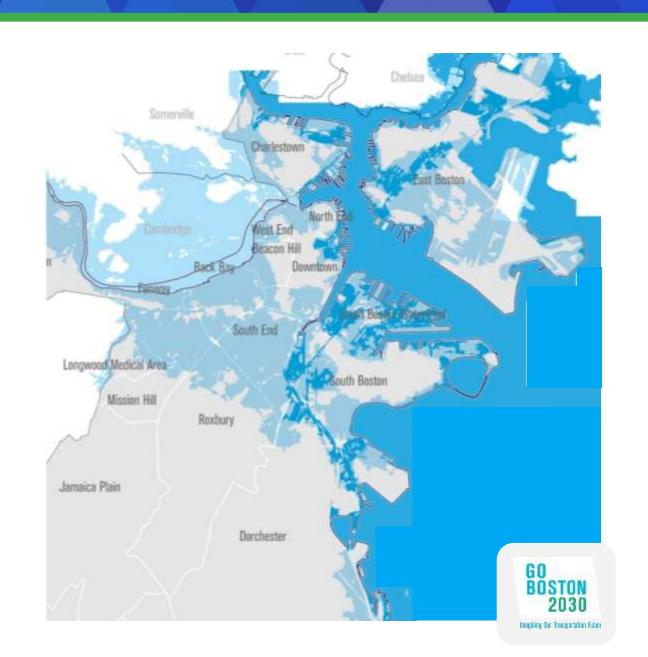
#### **CLIMATE RESPONSIVENESS**

With a 7.5 foot storm surge approximately 432 miles of roadway will be vulnerable

Storm Surge at Mean High High Water



Data Source: Boaton Harbor Association, 2019, via City of Boaton DelT, MassGIS, Climate Roady Boaton 2019.





## **VISION: MODE SHARE ASPIRATIONS**

| Boston<br>Commuters   | Share Today | 2030 Aspirational      |
|-----------------------|-------------|------------------------|
| <b>Public Transit</b> | 33%         | Up by a third          |
| Walk                  | 14.5%       | Up by almost half      |
| Bike                  | 1.9%        | Increases fourfold     |
| Carpool               | 5.4%        | Declines marginally    |
| <b>Drive Alone</b>    | 40.6%       | Down by half           |
| Other, WFH            | 4.5%        | Slight increase in WFH |





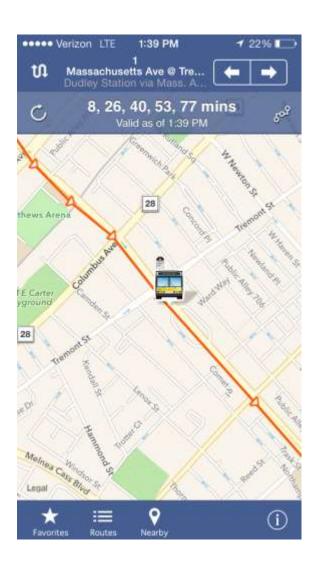
How we pay for transit







# Real time information

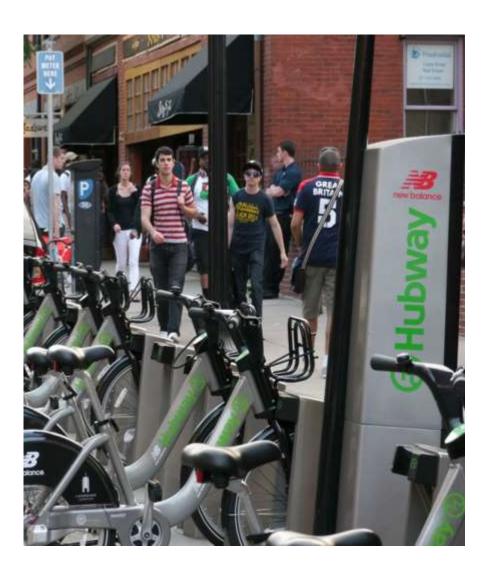








Infrastructure for cycling







How we use and view streets











How we request and pay to get around



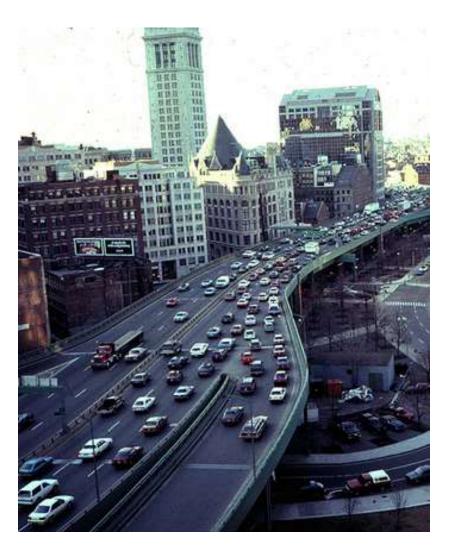








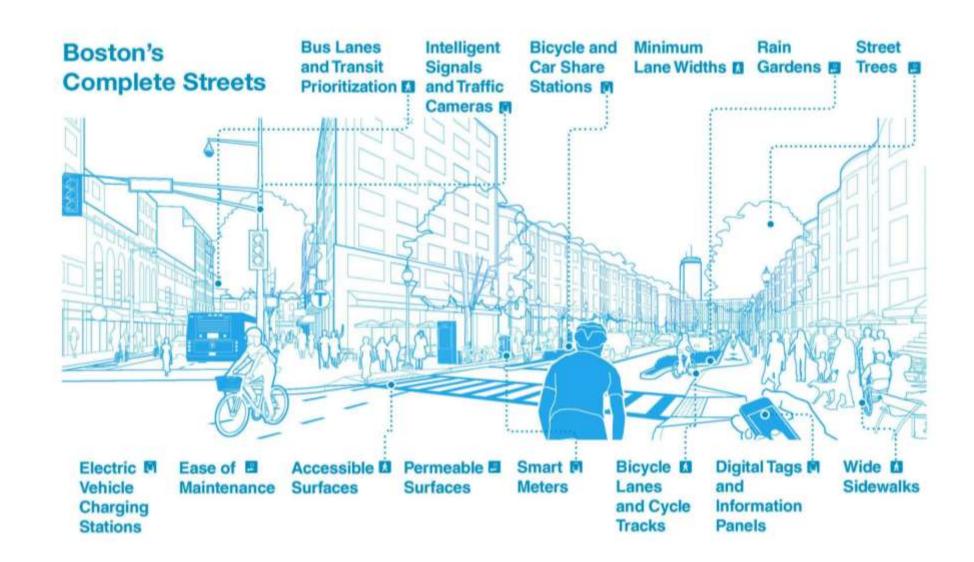
A highway moved underground and transformed downtown







## **MULTIMODAL, GREEN, AND SMART**





## **MULTIMODAL STREETS**





Commonwealth Avenue



## REPURPOSED STREETS FOR PEOPLE WALKING





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## REPURPOSED STREETS FOR PEOPLE IN TRANSIT







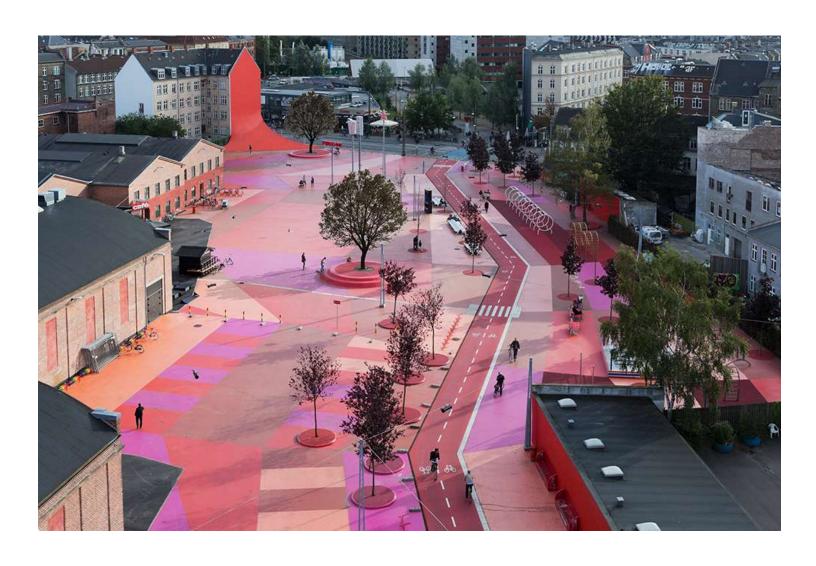
## REPURPOSED STREETS AT INTERSECTIONS







## REDESIGNED CONNECTIONS BETWEEN STREETS





## REDESIGNED SIDEWALKS AND STREETS





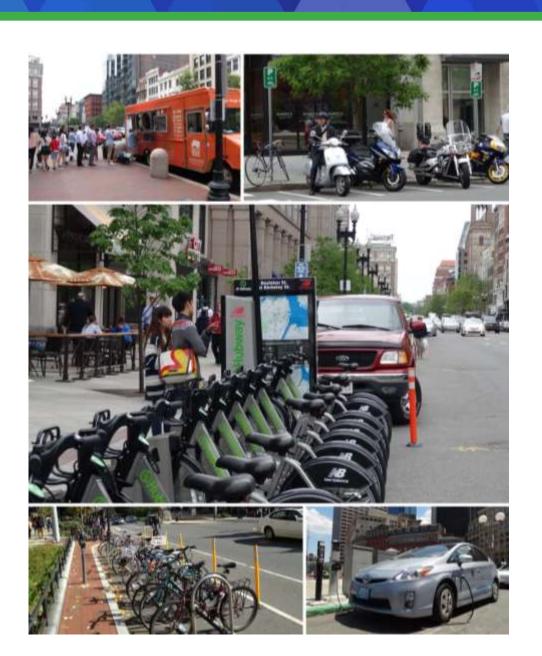






## REPURPOSED CURB USES

- Scooter parking
- Bike share/car share
- EV charging
- Parklets
- Food trucks





## SHARED TRANSPORTATION

## **Hubway**

- From 60 stations at launch in 2011 to 160 stations in 2015
- From 1 million rides by July 2013 to 5 million rides by Fall 2016

## **Zipcar**

- 600+ Vehicles
- 40,000+ Members

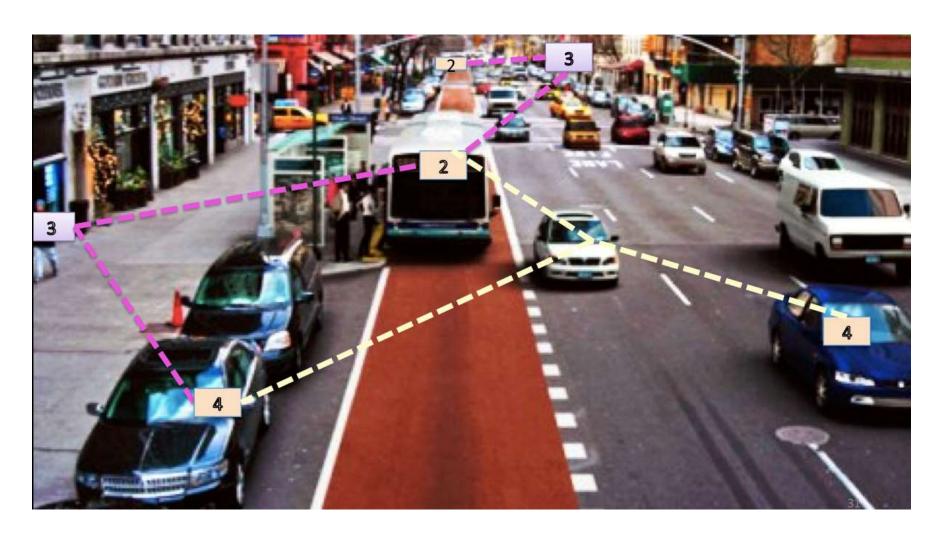
#### **DriveBoston**

80+ On Street Spaces





## STREETS WITH CONNECTED VEHICLES





## THE NEXT GENERATION OF VEHICLES





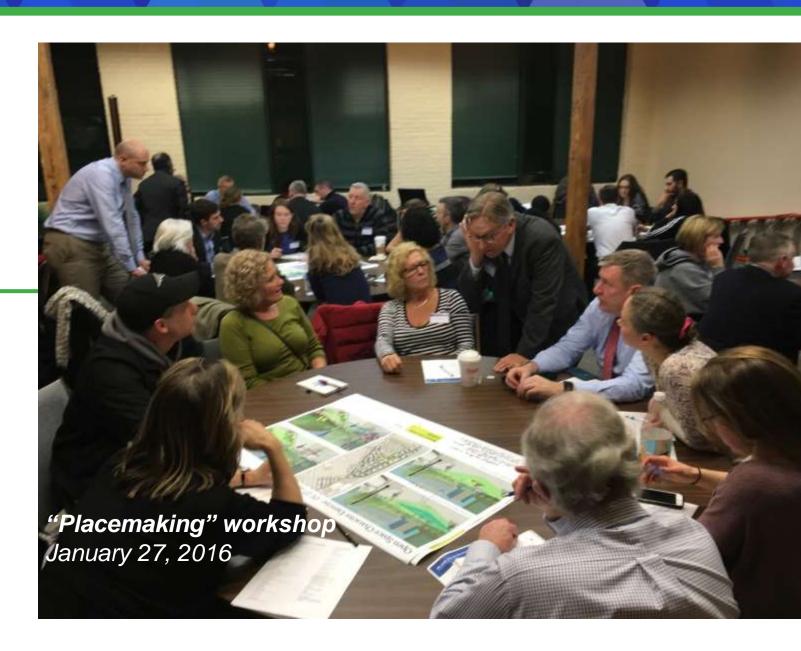








**Mobility Exercise** 

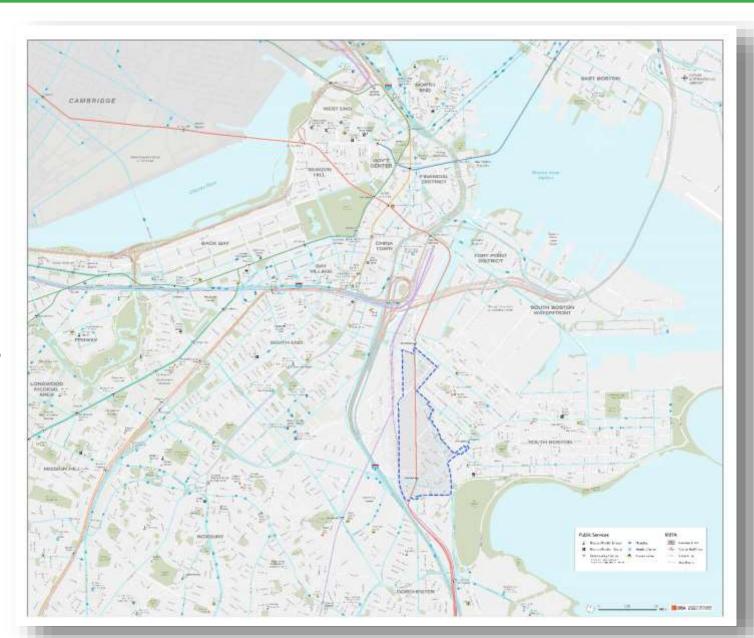




#### **CONNECTIONS**

#### **Instructions**

- There are destinations surrounding the study area, both near and far, that are difficult to get to without driving.
- West Broadway, South Bay, LMA, South Boston Waterfront
- If you lived or worked in this area, how would you get to these places?
- What connections need to be strengthened?
- What connections need to be created?

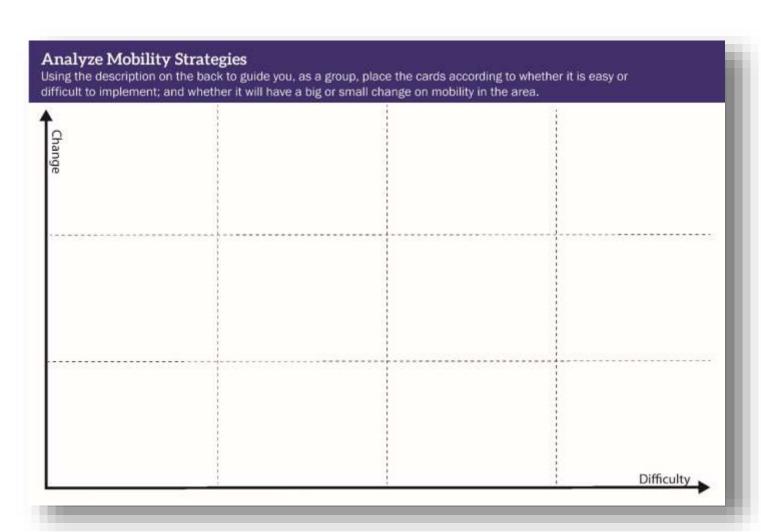




#### **ANALYZE MOBILITY STRATEGIES**

#### **Instructions**

- We have assembled a set of innovative mobility strategies that might be implemented in the study area.
- First we will learn about the strategies.
- Second we will analyze them as a group based on:
  - How much change the strategy would create
  - How difficult (either institutionally, politically or financially) each strategy would be
- This is not where you say whether you think each is a good idea or not!



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#### PRIORITIZE MOBILITY STRATEGIES

#### **Instructions**

- Now that we understand each strategy, we will think about whether they are a good idea – whether we should prioritize each.
- Each person will get five dots that they can distribute as they like.
- This will create a prioritized list for each table.

#### Prioritize these Mobility Strategies: Group A

Which of these strategies do you prefer, given your personal experience and the analysis? Each participant has dots to vote with on their preferred strategies.

| Mobility Strategies   | Prioritization Dots | Comments        |
|---|---------------------|-----------------|
| Remote/shared parking   |                     |                 |
| Lower minimum parking requirements for vehicle trip reduction strategies                                |                     |                 |
| Require developments to include carshare parking spaces and provide free carshare vehicles to residents |                     |                 |
| Unified private, publically accessible transit system   |                     |                 |
| 5. Exclusive bus lanes  |                     |                 |
| 6. Transportation Management Association (TMA)  |                     |                 |
| 7. Bus service to South Boston Waterfront   |                     |                 |
| Cycle Track – possible short term plan for Old Colony from Dorchester Avenue to Moakley Park.           |                     |                 |
| Bike network – possible long term plan for major streets  |                     |                 |
| 10. Charging for residential parking permits  |                     |                 |
|   |                     | 550 KE MY - SIV |
| 11  |                     | Table Number:   |