

Why are we here?

- Interest in arts
- How will gentrification have impact?
- Community development / Economic dev.
- Not loose space / Not loose strands
- Space for arts - needs of cmty
 - a) 21st century
 - b) Honor history / Keep history
 - c) Young people in Boston
- Memories the Strand evokes for many
- A place to help develop new artists / musicians
- Arts as empowerment tool

STRAND THEATRE

Mission

- Emphasis on being inclusive
- How can it be made economically viable?
 - * pairing larger places w/ smaller venues. - coop model, sharing resources (PR, etc)
- Make it dynamic (outside to inside. Ex: Copley Library)
- Mix-use
 - Vibrant
 - Staffing
 - Youth programming
 - Be inclusive of arts community

Ideas

- Go wide / city asset
- Artist in residence
- Build / develop regional company (membership)
- Elevator
- Hire staff (hire neighborhood / city)

Other type of biz

- Monthly cultural market
- Gallery / visual arts / comedy
- Restaurants
- Maker space
- Other services (bakery, office shop JP / Brookline model)
 - Affordable space
 - Promote cultural diversity
 - Mix-use
 - Medium space
 - When marketing - do cross promotion
 - Movie sets
- CGI
 - accessibility for deaf & hard of hearing cmty.

STRAND THEATRE

- Community needs to know what Strand is all about, as a resource
- Community space, more accessible
 - only 1 way to engage right now
- add INTERGENERATIONAL

Strand needs regular audience to attract biz like restaurant

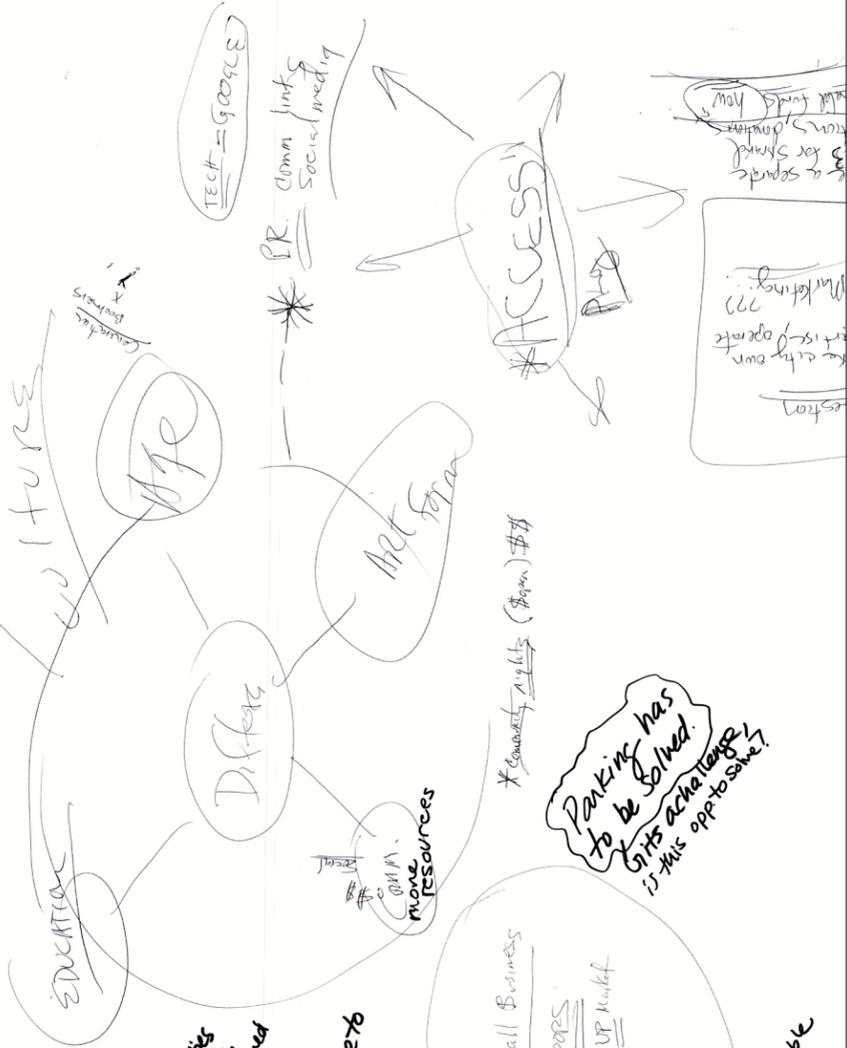
Multi-cultural fabric of Dorchester is diverse - what does it mean?

Artists can look like the community

connect all cultural to the w/differences AND similarities

2004 MISSION

- How does theater = econ strength in what?
- people working @ theater spend \$ locally
- brings people to visit
- theater supports small biz
- small biz, partnerships with artists + vendors
- UPmarket
- regular audience
- restaurant
- what does it mean?
- learn about difference



Different communities might not afford space, but Strand can be shared resource for all.

bad right now

HS2 big space and its expensive to keep open.

what are smaller uses?

petty slam, black box, evening room

rehearsal space

buildings could be in another building, too.

What does community access mean @ the Strand?

- smaller spaces, lower cost = more accessible
- give it to the youth
- trappers, artists spoken word poetry
- few resources, lots of ideas
- Teen Empowerment has to make do based on constraints
- budget
- Spaces for
- EVERYONE NEEDS THIS

Parking has to be solved. It's a challenge. This opp to solve?

Marketing??

theatre is an operator

theatre is an operator

Marketing??

theatre is an operator

theatre is an operator

the physical stuff

- close off the room/corridor
- black box theatre
- screen/movies
- connect to library musicality

concerns?
disagree

- performing arts only
- knowledge/resources
- dance needs to be broader

fears

- only community based theatre of this size
- why does MY neighborhood lose things?
- gentrification/pricing out
- tax changes affecting affordable housing
- union house in future could = fewer opportunities

needed

- black box theatre
- engage community w/ VARIETY of uses
- set shop/technical facility
- rehearsal/flex space
- recording/media arts
- dance space
- other uses/businesses in the neighborhood
- artist live/work space
- neighborhood arts ambassadors/artists in residence
- arts ambassadors

cost/money opportunities
diversity of roles/disciplines
body/managers etc.

mindset/perception
value of arts/community
silos-ing of disciplines/neighborhoods/sub-scenes

Other uses to support street

- physically connect library programming in the library
- event space
- youth space
- coffee shop/Dudley Cafe (arts/community)
- brewery/food incubator
- games/amusements? barcade
- live entertainment "club"?

Now



Partnerships

- engagement through BPs
- festivals/entertainment companies
- main streets orgs
- across neighborhood
- DSNI
- build garage + elevators etc.
- spoken word
- Uphams Community Health Center
- institutions that won't go away

Library as catalyst

- bringing ppl to neighborhood
- event/performance

STRAND THEATRE

history

- talent shows
- street fairs
- movie house
- MCA training

future

- emerging artists/incubator
- street fairs
- film fest/technical ability
- opportunities for youth

community = canon AND activity

Programming ideas

- MOth style storytelling
- spoken word
- individual performers
- pop-up events
- businesses hosting community/arts programming
- chess
- open mic nights
- fringe festival
- street fair
- web stars/youtube

seizes/makes mental

Learn from failure

- Haley House Cafe
- Salt Lake City homeless housing example

STRAND THEATRE

Produce new 21st technology!

- Previous Ideas Discussed:
- ① Space for music lessons (adult/children)
 - ② Space for student learning: production space, etc
 - ③ Space for set/costume design (apprenticeship, etc.)
 - ④ Physical connection between library + strand

Open mic night

When is this going to happen? Timeline?

Other small theatres have a small cafe or somewhere to eat/drink
 Madison Park Culinary arts program
 → good way to include local youth in the development of the mission

Mission Statement has yet to be achieved (2004)

Strand is just "venue for hire" No creative teams behind it.

Need to move with urgency

Comedy shows?

Who is this 2030 plan for? Needs proper local management
 We want to be here
 The young people want to be able to afford to spend here

Disconnect between decision makers and facilitators
 Failure to promote theatre groups and producers

Funds for Boston (might co.) Building Manager? Who is in charge?

* PARKING

* Commuter Rail * Comedy shows

Long Term tenant that includes teens & community

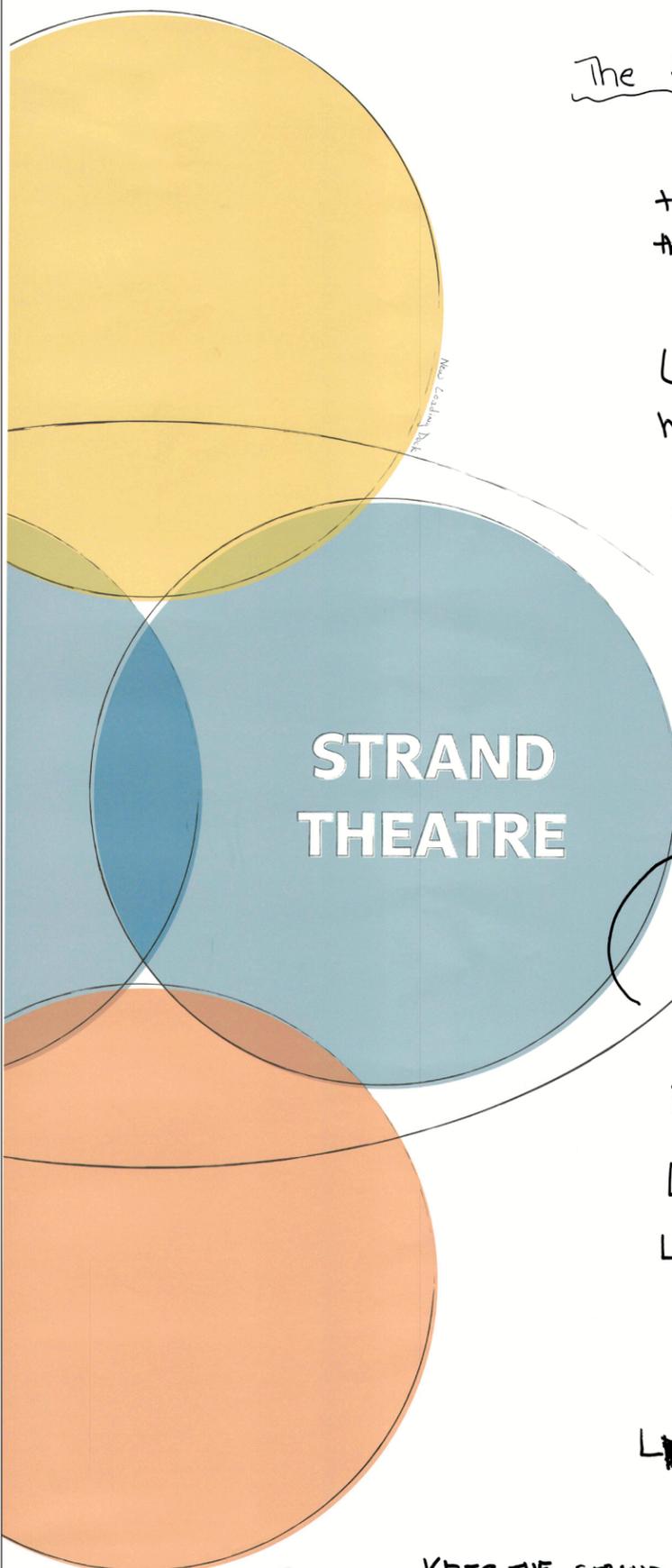
* EASIER
 Description to get to & TRILLY to the theatre
 Vision/energy may be lost in the process

* WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME MAYOR WALSH HAS BEEN TO SHOW?

Emergency

Idea of a black box was great!
 Then idea stalled
 Community meeting process doesn't really include new ideas - more talking to/dictating policy.

APX Gallery
 Current social media
 Write the STRAND for the STRAND
 Think about how to be the space where we can have a lot of things happen.



The Statement:

- ↳ Has a special commitment to the youth and community, specifically this community
- ↳ This is a big enough space to utilize
- ↳ All the amazing events that have happened here are a testament to change that can happen here
- ↳ Promotes and includes diversity, multicultural, ✓
- ↳ We also need adults to engage in the space, include young professionals, including the "new cultural institutions" that's coming in
 - ↳ How are we going to make that and the ~~one~~ cultural that's already here, to work or find a common ground
- ↳ Finding the balance between a renter and a presenter
- ↳ Build networks, keeping up with the website, partnerships
- ↳ How do we engage with the school's?! ~~And~~ ✓ have programs, provide opportunities
- ↳ Getting other theatre/art groups to be here ✓
- ↳ HOW DO WE GET FUNDING !!! TO build.
- ↳ Making things accessible/affordable

How can we find the common ground between audience + a brand?

NEEDING FOR THE STRAND TO COME ~~BACK~~
BACK ALIVE

↳ Transportation and parking space

Make an entrance with ~~ent~~ enthusiasm.

KEEP THE STRAND THEATRE ALIVE, IT'S NEEDS TO BE REVIVED.

STRAND THEATRE

MISSION

- Focus on local community
- Catalyst for neighborhood, need to balance local w/ ability to expand
- Diversity is a key element of programming performance
 - Try to find a way to realize local artists
 - ↑ Needs a tie in w/ leadership (Diversity)

Culture + Catalyst

- Many cultures in Boston!
- plus, local vs transplant
- Strand could bridge both diverse cultures + local/transplant
- Performances may not be advertised to all communities
- only see shows advertised when walking by → City sponsored...
- Acts coming thru may not have budget for marketing.

Challenge

- Small orgs have limited budget for marketing
- so much happening in Boston!
- How does Strand stand out in Boston?
- If Strand to survive it must be centralized.
- Strand needs to be marketing center
- It have elements, marketing + brand

- Hard to market! local orgs could help promote
- Need to have system to distribute info

- Bring in local people, none in on talent, build on word of mouth

- Strand cannot be rental (only) → Cannot be solely the users promoting

- Lots of young creatives in Uphams → where is the talent in the community!

Challenge

- Buzzwords that haven't been defined. "Diversity" "Multi-cultural" "engaged!"
- Don't say enough about this place.

- What makes the Strand different?

- How is different than other theatres in Boston?
- Reflect community.

- Create power for economic future. Focus on biz owner!

- How can the Strand be a part of it?

- Theatre provides good jobs.

- DSM can serve as a model for other developers in the community
- Pilot!

Elephant in Room

- Boston gentrifying fast!
- Eco Dev could bring displacement
- How to build on existing neighborhood fabric instead of displacing
- Indicators + definitions of diversity
- need of flexibility to D's in environment

- What is the ripple effect of "new"?
- increased rents...

- Need to be a way to control rents!
- How to 'quench' real estate thirst for \$

- Strand benefits from DSM, DBEDC, the City!
- Can be foundation to protect against gentrification
- Damage control

- Is their research around the process of justification? Will it be incorporated into this process?

- DSM is a big player for affordable maintenance.
- get out in front of the real estate wave.

- Dev. w/out Displacement. nights, across grade levels
- District strategy gives room to accommodate more uses + avoid displacement.

- Inclusive in a way that falls right for community.

Economic Dev.

- Costs go up, can we get wages to rise too?
- how do we provide jobs + opps for comm. in resources

- How can developer support mission?

- Multifaceted approach → see last meeting notes on desired uses
- security shubs, kitchen, etc.

- DBEDC is complementing innovation process
- see progress story

- Contract w/ arts in residence during community process

- Black Market in Dudley
- Activate community
- could be done in Uphams too.

- Make Strand exciting, fun walk by!

- Design of exterior does not lose

- AS. 220 in Prov. R.I
- arts collab. ^{described} w/ artists to put in residence
- live work w/ arts in residence
- way to focus on affordable

- How to partner w/ schools? public schools

- Conservatory Charter (arts) is building new school on Dudley

- Have different schools rent Strand on different

- way to connect w/ your
- See. B.A.A. event + show
- kids produce + act
- was amazing!

- Poetry slam, was also awesome!

- Question → % of employees from area

- Is there a market among st
- Need to keep advertising comm. needs to be shared

- See pizza shop in Diddy
- City of Boston Zone & low income rents
- coops
- grocery stores
- Lots of gold here, people will mine it.

How do we create accountability
- accountability of the community

How does community benefit?

Diversity is a key element of this neighborhood → See what happened to PLK.

Strand RFP

Mission statement to developers.

- Housing mix
- affordable commercial
- affordable cultural
- Need to subsidize space for certain
- Median Income
- How is it determined?
- Does it reflect community?

Renters more vulnerable to displacement

Biz's
→ There have been some big time biz who have been leaving → priced out

Suggestion → Need to develop skills! Lots of jobs, make enough skilled labor
→ Tie in w/ no other uses
- technical training

Encourage biz's to hire people of color, build the network!

Value

... of these characteristics ...
... of price ...

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