



Harvard Allston Public Realm Flexible Fund Informational Presentation

August 18, 2020



**boston planning &
development agency**

Agenda

1. Housekeeping
2. Background on Fund
3. Criteria and Eligibility
4. Accounting and Past Projects
5. Application Process
6. Q&A



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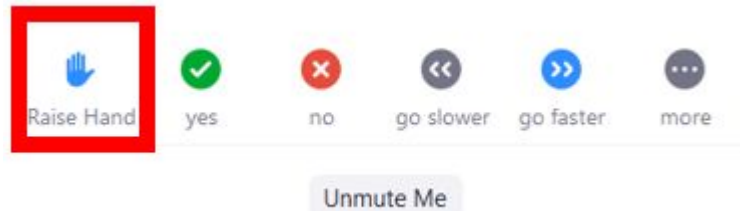
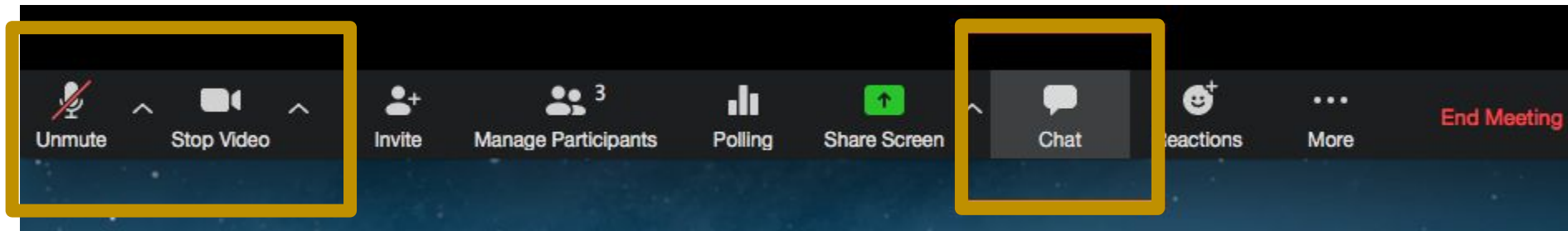
Housekeeping



Zoom Tips

Your controls should be available at the bottom of the screen.

Clicking on these symbols activates different features:



Important Information

- Gerald.Autler@boston.gov
- bit.ly/harvardflexfund
 - Fund guidelines
 - Link to online application
 - Sample successful applications from past rounds
 - This presentation
 - Video of this meeting

Important Information

- [Allston Brighton Mobility Study](#)
- Western Avenue Corridor Study and Rezoning
 - [bit.ly/westerncorridor](#)
 - [bit.ly/westernaveaug26](#)
- <http://www.bostonplans.org/about-us/get-involved>



Meeting Recording

- The BPDA will be recording this meeting and posting it on its website at bit.ly/harvardflexfund. The recording will include the presentation, Q&A, and public comments afterwards.
- Also, it is possible that participants may be recording the meeting with their phone cameras or other devices.
- If you do not wish to be recorded during the meeting, please turn off your microphone and camera.



COVID-19 Resources

Stay up-to-date with COVID-19 related announcements, City of Boston reopening plans, and resources for you and your community at:

boston.gov/coronavirus



The screenshot shows the City of Boston website page for COVID-19 resources. The header includes the City of Boston logo, Mayor Martin J. Walsh's name, and the City seal. The main heading is "CORONAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19) IN BOSTON". Below the heading, there is a paragraph of text: "The state has updated guidance on the Reopening Massachusetts website. We also continue to update City-specific guidance for Boston on our reopening website." The date "July 12, 2020" is displayed. On the right side, there is a "PUBLISHED BY: PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION" logo. Below that, there is a "MULTILINGUAL CONTENT" section with links for Arabic, Criolu (Cabo Verdean creole), Chinese, Français (French), Kreyòl ayisyen (Haitian Creole), Português (Portuguese), and Русский (Russian). At the bottom, there is a "TOPICS" section with links for "COVID-19 UPDATES" and "LATEST PRESS CONFERENCE". The date "BOSTON (AS OF FRIDAY, JULY 10)" is displayed. The main statistics are "13,673 CASES | 9,683 RECOVERED".



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2020 Census Update & Reminder

Key Dates:

August 11 - Doorknocking begins.

September 30 - Last day to respond.

Quick Facts:

As of 7/7, 52.2% (about 175,800) of Boston's households have responded.

In 2010, the final response rate was 64.4%.

The Census has never been more accessible. You can respond:

Online (my2020census.gov)

Over the phone, or by mail.

13 different languages available.

Boston depends on your household to respond. For every person not counted, ***nearly \$2,400*** per year in federal funding is ***lost*** for the next ten years.

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Background on Fund

Background

- \$5,350,000 fund created in 2013
- Community benefit associated with Harvard's Institutional Master Plan, in agreement with Boston Planning and Development Agency and City of Boston
- Support projects that enhance the public realm and for which public sources of financing may be unavailable or inadequate.
- Public realm = streets, sidewalks, parks, etc.
- PRIMARILY for investments on public property
- ~\$2,000,000 uncommitted



Executive Committee

- Gerald Autler, Boston Planning and Development Agency
- Lea Beaulieu, neighborhood resident
- Mark Handley, Harvard University
- Sabrina Dorsainvil, Mayor's Office of New Urban Mechanics
- Bruce Houghton, Harvard-Allston Task Force
- Elsa Rojas, neighborhood resident
- Johanna Bernstein, City of Boston Office of Budget Management
- You ???



Other Funds

- Harvard Allston Partnership Fund
 - \$100,000 distributed annually to non-profits serving the North Allston-North Brighton community
- Boston College Neighborhood Improvement Fund
 - Similar to Flex Fund, investments in parks and public realm improvements



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Criteria and Eligibility

Applicant Eligibility

- Public agencies (e.g. Boston Parks and Recreation)
- Non-profits (e.g. Artists for Humanity)
- Organizations with a fiscal sponsor (e.g. Friends of Herter Park)
- Sometimes individuals, possibly for-profits [case by case]
- **Public agency as a proponent or partner for projects on public property**
- Sound financial condition with adequate reporting and controls
- Ability to execute the proposed project or program



Project Eligibility

- Public realm enhancements, public parks and open space, neighborhood beautification, non-vehicular mobility improvements, streetscape improvements, public safety (e.g. transportation safety)
- Primarily for projects located on public property but potentially for property with public access OR projects that otherwise meaningfully enhance the public realm



Project Eligibility

- Achieve at least ONE of the following:
 - Enhance the aesthetic quality and user experience of the public realm
 - Enhance public safety
 - Enhance local business and economic activity
 - Support non-vehicular modes of transportation
 - Promote collaboration and civic and cultural growth
 - Showcase unique qualities of the Allston-Brighton neighborhood



Project Eligibility

- Demonstrates community support
- Public funding is not available or insufficient
- Located in Allston-Brighton, emphasis on area north of I-90
- In MOST cases, located on public property
- Planning and design, capital improvements, programming, temporary installations are all eligible
- Routine maintenance is NOT eligible



Additional Review Criteria

- Demonstrate potential for public engagement as a project outcome
- Demonstrate other sources of funding
- Partnerships with other organizations and utilization of community volunteers
- Project readiness



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Accounting and Past Projects



Accounting

- \$5,350,000 original fund
- ~\$2,000,000 currently still uncommitted
- Grants have ranged from \$3,400 to \$1,900,000



Sample Past Projects

- Boston Bikes: Bluebikes stations (\$50,000)
- Boston Police Department: VMS boards (\$96,000)
- Charlesview: outdoor public programming (\$8,850)
- Artists for Humanity: artistic bike racks (\$65,000)
- Gardner Pilot Academy: outdoor gardens + turf field (\$66,000 + 75,000)
- Friends of Herter Park: amphitheater improvements (\$50,000 + 50,000)
- Public art: Lincoln/Franklin Street intersection (\$100,000)
- Pollinator Pathways: improvements at Everett Street/Herter Park (\$68,000)
- Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture: Allston Cultural Plan (\$50,000)
- Boston Housing Authority: improvements at Faneuil Gardens (\$226,000)
- Boston Parks and Recreation: Smith Field (\$185,000 + \$1,900,000)



Smith Field



Smith Field



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Gardner Pilot Academy



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Gardner Pilot Academy

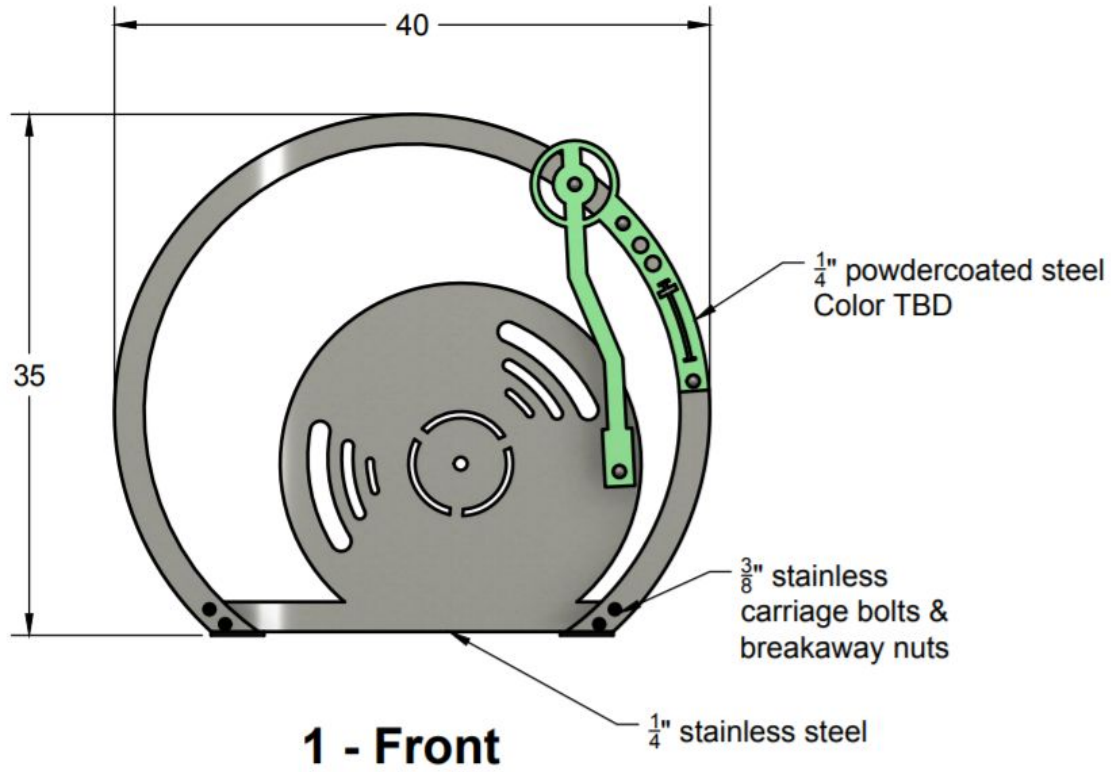


Gardner Pilot Academy



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Artists for Humanity



Herter Park Amphitheater



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Application Process

Harvard-Allston Public Realm Flexible Fund

2019 Grant Guidelines and Application

Applications Due: Wednesday, May 15, 2019*

LATE SUBMISSIONS ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR
FUNDING

Presentations: Monday, May 20, 2019, 6:00-7:30, Honan-Allston Branch
Library, Allston, MA.*

***Note change of date/venue from original application**

Inquiries to:

Gerald Autler, Boston Planning and Development Agency
617-918-4438
Gerald.Autler@boston.gov



Application Process

1. Review guidelines and sample applications and access online application at bit.ly/harvardflexfund
2. Submit application online and upload supporting materials
 - Longer narrative, images, letters of support **in .pdf format**
3. Deadline tentatively set for October 9 but CHECK WEBSITE FOR UPDATES
4. Presentations shortly after deadline; Exec Committee holds open meeting same day or shortly after, announces decisions
5. BPDA Board Vote
6. Grantees sign grant agreements with BPDA, checks disbursed



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Q&A



Q&A

- Write your question in the chat.

OR

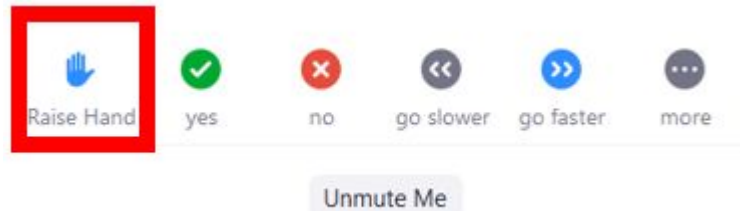
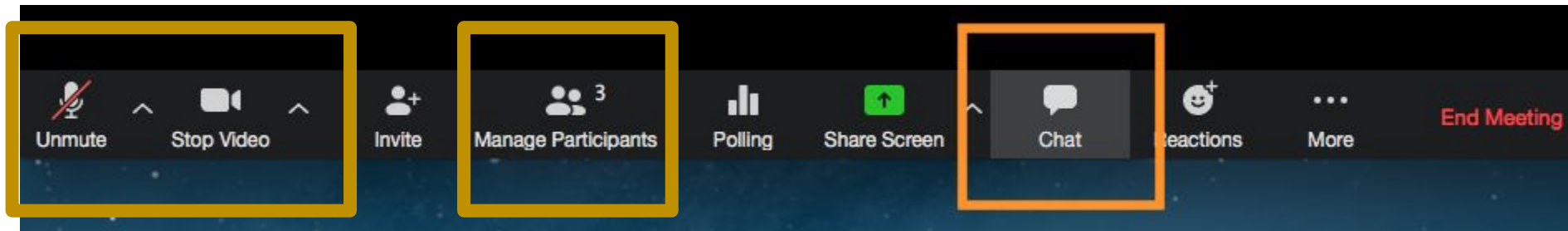
- Raise your hand or use chat to indicate you'd like to speak.
- Unmute microphone when called on.
- Please allow everyone space to participate.
- If you are joining only by phone, unfortunately, you will not be able to ask questions.



Zoom Tips

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Thank you

CONTACT US:

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