

# Original (1961) Goals + Planning Objectives | Government Center

## The Plan contains following basic goals:

1. Revitalization a key portion of downtown Boston through clearance, redevelopment and rehabilitation, thereby eliminating a decadent and sub-standard area;
2. Functional integration of new governmental facilities, supported by new private office facilities and ancillary consumer and business service facilities;
3. Introduction of new economic strength in the Government Center Project Area, thereby creating an effective center of activity functionally linked to the Retail Core, the Financial District, the Waterfront, the North Station, the Beacon Hill Governmental District, and the nearby residential areas of Beacon Hill and the West and North Ends;
4. Provision of adequate vehicular access to Government Center in order to emphasize the importance of Government Center to the entire Boston Peninsula, while at the same time improving mass transit and pedestrian access into and movement within the Project Area;
5. Creation of design continuity between the public and private parcels in order to heighten an awareness of the essential inter-relation of all the Government Center buildings, open spaces, and pedestrian and vehicular ways;
6. Creation of a symbol of democratic government and its related institutions in the physical context of the surrounding historical districts, thereby continuing and improving the important role this area has played in the political, social, and cultural history of Boston and America.

# Original (1964) Goals + Planning Objectives | Downtown Waterfront

## The Plan contains following basic goals:

1. To revitalize a key portion of downtown Boston;
2. To upgrade the pattern of land uses close by the North End residential community;
3. Establish a functional connection between the area and its surrounding districts: the North End, Government Center, and the Financial District;
4. To provide an environment suitable to the needs of contemporary real estate development.

## Supporting these goals are the following planning objectives:

1. To eliminate a pattern of land uses and blighting conditions which
  - a. Create severe traffic congestion in the area
  - b. Exert a depressing effect on adjacent areas
  - c. Inhibit the development of real property to its fullest economic potential;
2. To eliminate obsolete and substandard building conditions which are a factor in spreading blight to adjacent areas;
3. To prevent further the erosion of property values;
4. To protect and strengthen the tax base of the city;
5. To promote productive and intensive use of land;
6. To create opportunities for development of a downtown residential community offering a range of housing types and rentals;
7. To provide sites suitable for the construction of efficient and economical buildings;
8. To promote the preservation and enhancement of buildings in the Project Area which have architectural and historical significance;
9. To create an environment which is conducive to the investment of funds in the rehabilitation, conversion, and general upgrading of the property;
10. To create an area with a mixture of land uses compatible with living, working, and recreational opportunities'
11. To create an area for the development of water dependent uses and water transportation designed to stimulate tourism and symbolize the importance of Boston's historic relationship to the sea;
12. To provide for the efficient flow of traffic within and through the area and ensure that it is accessible to all modes of transportation;
13. To improve streets and utilities and the landscaping of public areas;
14. To provide public ways, parks, and plazas which encourage the pedestrian to enjoy the harbor and its activities;
15. To develop the area in such a way as to stimulate improvements in adjacent areas.

## Proposed (2015) Goals | Downtown Waterfront + Government Center

*Below are suggested themes for a proposed set of 2015 goals for the Government Center and Downtown Waterfront Renewal Areas. These themes and preliminary draft language were directly informed by current and past planning initiatives and with input from staff from the Boston Redevelopment Authority (BRA). However, we want your ideas and feedback on these proposed goals and planning objectives, as this language is meant primarily to facilitate conversation. Thank you!*

### Accessibility and Connectivity

- Take advantage of the area's location, accessibility, and visibility for the benefit of the surrounding community and the City of Boston by promoting safe and convenient multimodal access through and beyond the district
- Improve access and connections to and between parks, plazas, and other spaces which encourage enjoyment of the water, Harbor Islands, Harborwalk, and the Rose Kennedy Greenway
- Improve streets so that they strive to be accessible and to balance all modes of transportation, consistent with the City's Complete Streets standards

### Quality Public Realm

- Promote development excellence and strengthen ground level uses along and adjacent to the Greenway and waterfront for visitors and residents alike
- Improve continuity across and along ramp parcels on the Greenway through public realm enhancements
- Preserve and expand civic spaces and increase the diversity of programming for open space
- Improve the quality and experience of City Hall Plaza for residents, workers, and visitors

### Evolving Waterfront

- To create an area for the development of water dependent uses and water transportation designed to stimulate tourism, create jobs, facilitate development, and symbolize the importance of Boston's historic relationship to the sea
- Encourage development that promotes connection and activation of the Harbor, the Rose Kennedy Greenway, the many open spaces, the Harbor Islands and the Harborwalk.
- Incorporate climate resiliency measures in all new development, infrastructure and public realm enhancements near or adjacent to the water.

### Economic Development

- Promote redevelopment of aging parking facilities by increasing density and diversity of uses
- Encourage development that promotes connection and activation of the Harbor, the Greenway and the many public open spaces along the Harborwalk including the New England Aquarium.
- Promote and invest in civic and cultural anchors throughout the area, as well as in aging publicly-owned buildings and plazas
- Improve the economic and programmatic vitality of Government Center in a manner which relates to the surrounding neighborhoods such as Downtown Crossing, the Financial District, the Greenway, Market District, the Waterfront, North Station, Beacon Hill and the West and North Ends;
- Encourage a mix of uses including expanded residential opportunities, local services, and other amenities