

To: Boston Planning & Development Agency
Erikk Hokenson, Waterfront Planner

From: Barbara Mackey, Pat Keegan, Susan Madden
Landscape Committee, Shipway Place Condominiums

Re: RFI for Activation of the Charlestown Navy Yard Waterfront & Water's Edge

Date: 12 May 2017

Shipway Place Condominiums occupy the two historic shipways of the U.S. Navy which were actively used during World War II. The property is notable for the expansive lawn at the harbor seawall which contained Shipways I. Next to it are red brick condominium townhouses built over the foundation of Shipways II, which can be seen sloping back toward First Avenue.

As residents and board members of Shipway Place, we would like to participate in plans for activation of the waterfront called for in the 2007 Waterfront Network Activation Plan and the Water-Dependent Use Management Plan for the Navy Yard. We are responding to the Request for Letters of Interest to inform the BPDA of the keen interest of Shipway Place in helping to achieve visions outlined in these plans.

In particular, we would like to have interpretive signage installed on HarborWalk at Shipways which would provide visitors with images and descriptions of the Navy Yard Shipways and the key role they played in World War II. We are working with the owners of the Charlestown Marina to develop such signage as they make improvements to HarborWalk.

In addition, the Water Activation Plan envisions a "Maritime Technology and Science" story loop which includes the Chain Forge building directly across First Avenue from Shipway Place. Our residents are supportive of the proposed development of a hotel in the building and would like to see its history and artifacts incorporated in the new hotel.

Overall, residents of Shipway Place, like those of other housing developments on the waterfront, would like to see the following:

- far greater emphasis on water transportation
- development of Pier 5 as a public park or other public amenity
- HarborWalk improvements for safety and aesthetics

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the RFI. We are ready to work with the BPDA on behalf of our condominium complex to develop concrete proposals, to seek funding to implement water activation plans, and to generate support for enhancement of this community.