

# Fenway-Kenmore Transportation Action Plan

*Fenway CAC Introduction to the Action Plan*

*Nick Schmidt, Project Manager and Senior Transportation Planner*

# Meeting recording

The BPDA will be recording this meeting and posting it on the BPDA's webpage for those who are unable to attend the Zoom meeting live. It is possible that participants may also 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.

# Virtual meeting etiquette

- We want to ensure that this conversation is a pleasant experience for all, and that all community members/stakeholders are comfortable sharing their comments, questions, and feedback.
- Please be respectful and mindful of each other's time when asking questions/providing comments, so that all attendees can participate in the meeting.
- Please wait until all CAC members have had the opportunity to ask a question/provide a comment before providing additional questions/comments.

# Meeting information

- The presentation for this evening is available to view on the webpage on the BPDA's website:  
<http://www.bostonplans.org/planning/planning-initiatives/fenway-planning-and-rezoning>
- Comments may be submitted through the project webpage or emailed directly to Michael Sinatra ([michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov](mailto:michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov)) or Cyrus Miceli ([cyrus.miceli@boston.gov](mailto:cyrus.miceli@boston.gov)).
- Meeting recording will be uploaded to the project webpage within 48 hours.

# Meeting format

- All CAC members and city staff are panelists.
- Attendee microphones will be muted during the presentation.
- Once the presentation is over, questions/comments will be accepted in two ways:
  - Through the Q+A tab at the bottom of your screen; or
  - Raise your “virtual hand” and we will take your questions orally in the order which hands were raised.

# Zoom tips

Welcome! Here are some tips for first-time Zoom users. **Your controls are at the bottom of the screen.**

Clicking on these symbols activates different features. ***(Phone users press \*9 to raise hand and press \*6 to unmute.)***



**Mute/unmute** (you will remain muted until a host gives you access)



**Turn video on/off** (your video will remain off until a host gives you access)



**Ask clarifying questions** (we will have discussion period at the end)



**Raise hand** to ask for audio/visual permission at the end of the presentation.

# Welcome

## Good evening!

We are here tonight to introduce the *Fenway-Kenmore Transportation Action Plan*, why we're planning, and the next steps

## Tonight's agenda

- Introductions
- Planning context
- About the *Action Plan*
- Process update
- Discussion



# Fenway CAC members

Marty O' Riordan

Dolores Boogdanian

Pam Beale

David Read

Julian Phillips

Mia Jean-Sicard

Ryan Hatcher

Kelly Brilliant

Gabriella Mora

Tim Ney

Alex Sawczynec

Fredericka Veikley

Tim Horn

Kathy McBride

Rich Giordano

Tom Yardley

Mallory Rohrig

# Action Plan team

## Action Plan City Team



Planning & Development Agency (BPDA)



Transportation Department (BTD)



Public Works Department (BPWD)



Disabilities Commission



Parks & Recreation Department (BPRD)

## Fenway Neighborhood Planners

- Nick Schmidt, Senior Transportation Planner & *Action Plan* Project Manager (BPDA)
- Kristina Ricco, Senior Planner (BPDA)
- Cyrus Miceli, Planning Assistant (BPDA)
- Charlotte Fleetwood, Senior Transportation Planner (BTD)

## Action Plan Interagency Team



Massachusetts Bay Transp. Authority (MBTA)



Department of Conservation & Recreation (DCR)



Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT)

**... plus Fenway community, CAC, institutions, and stakeholders**

# What is the *Action Plan*?

The *Fenway-Kenmore Transportation Action Plan* is a holistic planning and design initiative that will guide the transformation of the Fenway transportation networks through public projects and private development

## Why plan now?

Need a coordinated response to:

- Address safety, access, and reliability needs
- Connect City and State plans and projects
- Inform review of development proposals

**First, let's review this planning context...**





# Planning context

## Fenway plans

- Urban Design and Zoning Districts (2004)

**Note: Fenway Rezoning meeting scheduled for November 1, 2022, at 6 PM:**

[https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN\\_6noASfO1TYq7V1ET2P86Ow](https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_6noASfO1TYq7V1ET2P86Ow)



# Planning context

## Fenway plans

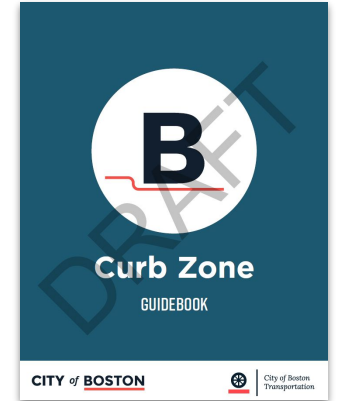
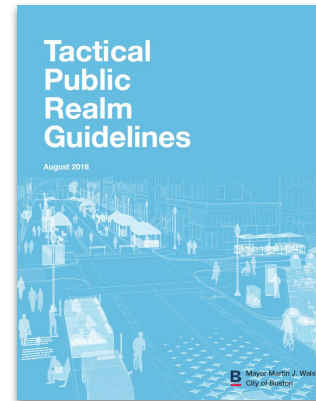
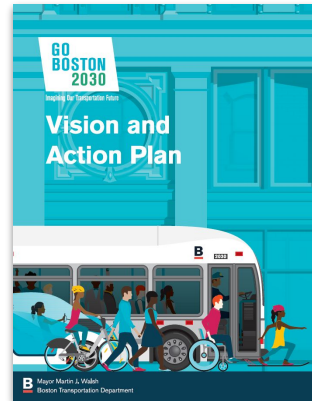
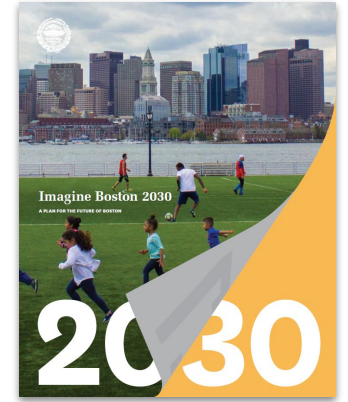
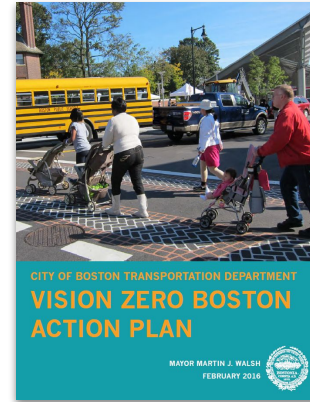
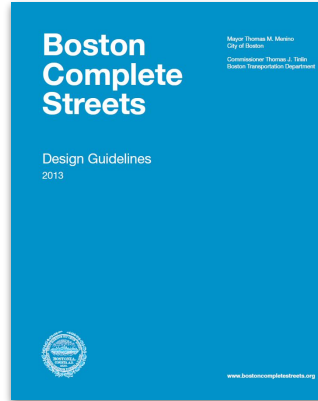
- Urban Design and Zoning Districts (2004)
- Transportation Action Plan Priority Projects (2009)



# Planning context

## City plans

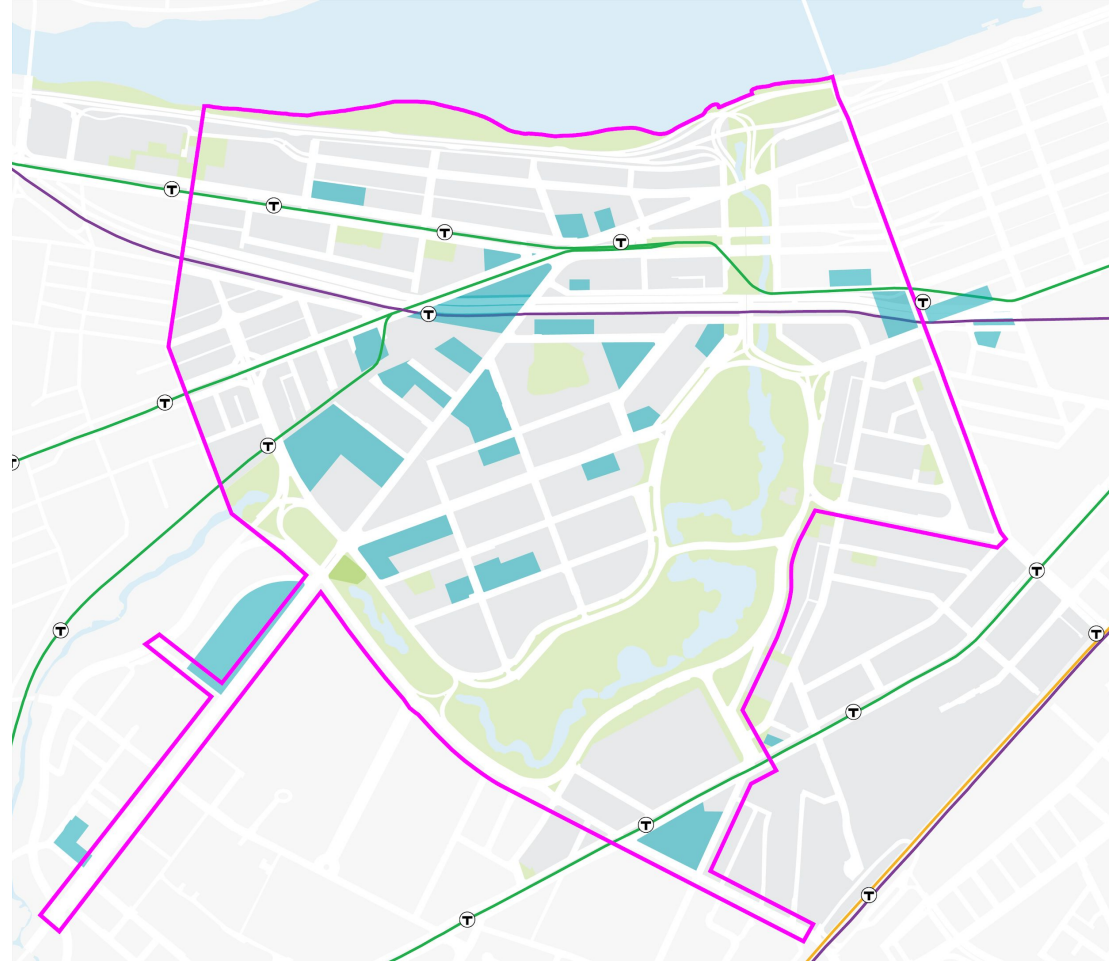
- Complete Streets Design Guidelines (2013)
- Vision Zero Action Plan (2016)
- Imagine Boston (2017)
- Go Boston 2030 (2017)
- Tactical Public Realm Guidelines (2018)
- Curb Use Guidebook (draft)



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- Complete Streets Design Guidelines (2013)
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- Curb Use Guidebook (draft)
- Transportation Development Review (2021)
  - Maximum Parking Ratios
  - Transportation Demand Management
  - Bicycle Level of Traffic Stress
  - Bike Parking Guidelines
  - Electric Vehicle Readiness



— Action Plan Study Area

— Fenway

— Development



# Planning context

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- Curb Use Guidebook (draft)
- Transportation Development Review (2021)
- Citywide Bike Network (ongoing)



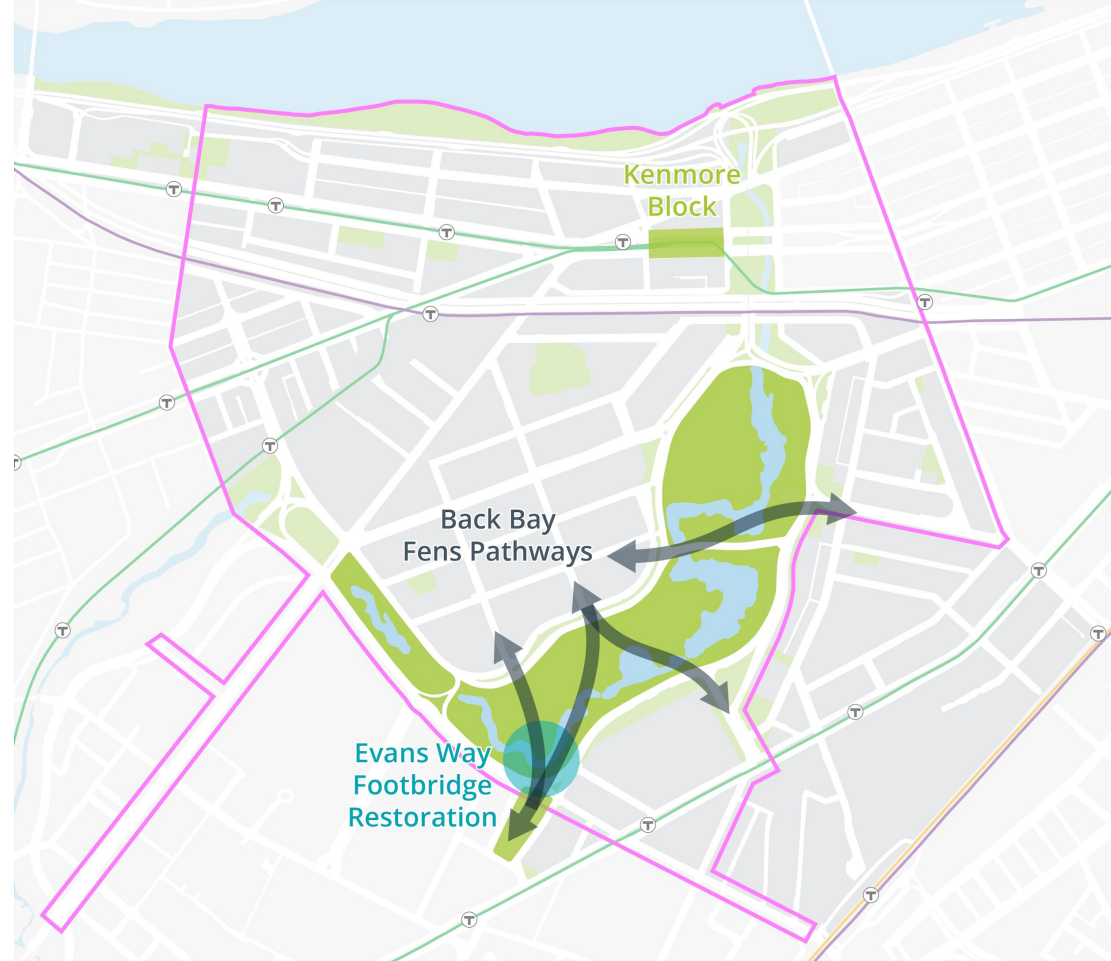
**Commonwealth Avenue (Proposed)**

Source: Boston Transportation Department

# Planning context

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- Curb Use Guidebook (draft)
- Transportation Development Review (2021)
- Citywide Bike Network (ongoing)
- Back Bay Fens Pathways (ongoing)
- Kenmore Block (ongoing) *in partnership with the Friends of the Public Garden*



# Planning context

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- Transportation Development Review (2021)
- Citywide Bike Network (ongoing)
- Back Bay Fens Pathways (ongoing)
- Kenmore Block (ongoing)
- Transportation projects (2023-2027)

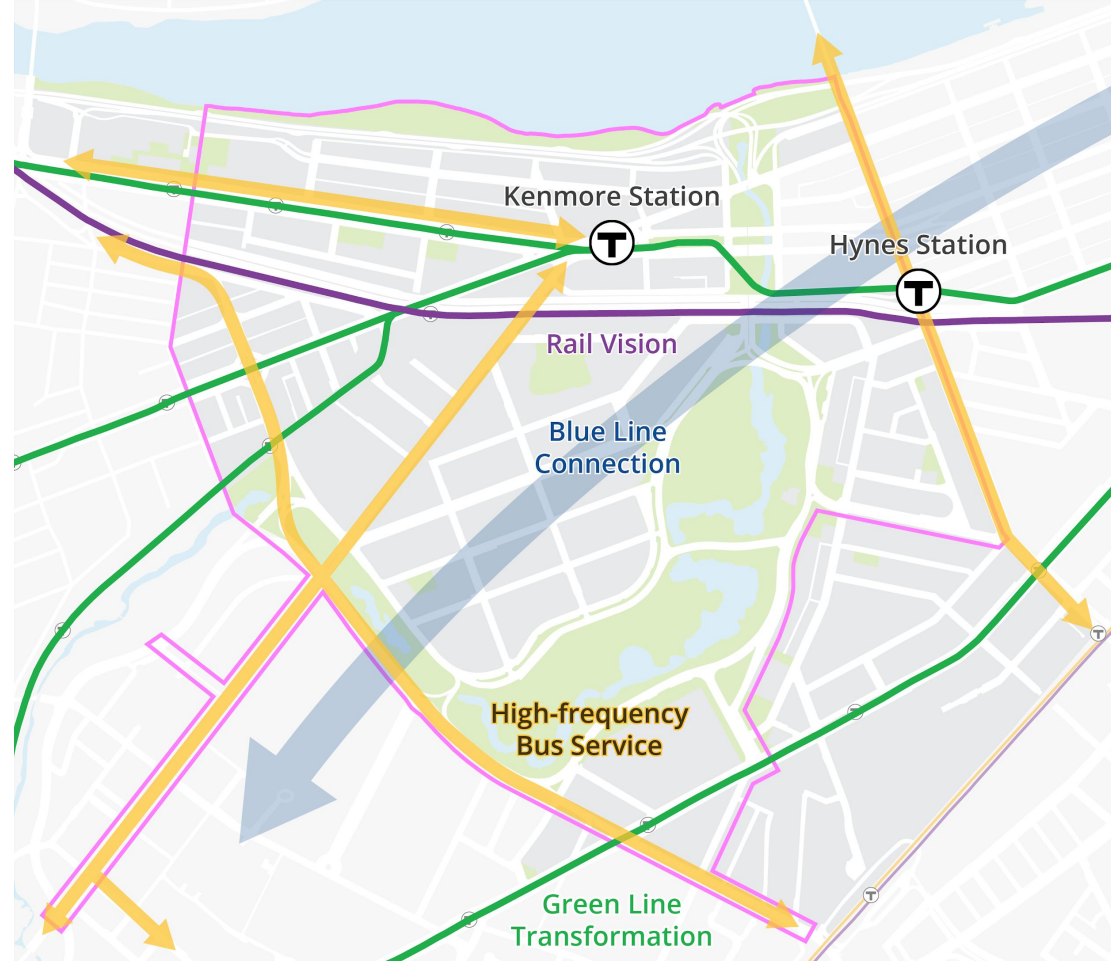




# Planning context

## State plans

- MBTA Focus40 (2019)
- MBTA Rail Vision (2020)
- MBTA Bus Network Redesign (ongoing)
- MBTA Green Line Transformation (ongoing)
- MBTA Kenmore Station and Hynes Convention Center Station Accessibility (ongoing)





# Planning context

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- MBTA Bus Network Redesign (ongoing)
- MBTA Green Line Transformation (ongoing)
- MBTA Kenmore Station and Hynes Convention Center Station Accessibility (ongoing)
- MassDOT MA Bike Plan (2019)
- MassDOT MA Pedestrian Plan (2019)
- MassDOT Bridge Deck Reconstruction at Beacon Street, Bowker Overpass, and Mass. Avenue (ongoing)
- MassDOT Storrow Drive Ramps (ongoing)



— Action Plan Study Area

■ Fenway

# Planning context

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- MassDOT Bridge Deck Reconstruction at Beacon Street, Bowker Overpass, and Mass. Avenue (ongoing)
- MassDOT Storrow Drive Ramps (ongoing)
- DCR Parkways Master Plan (2020)
- DCR Charlesgate Revitalization (ongoing)  
*in partnership with Charlesgate Alliance and Emerald Necklace Conservancy*



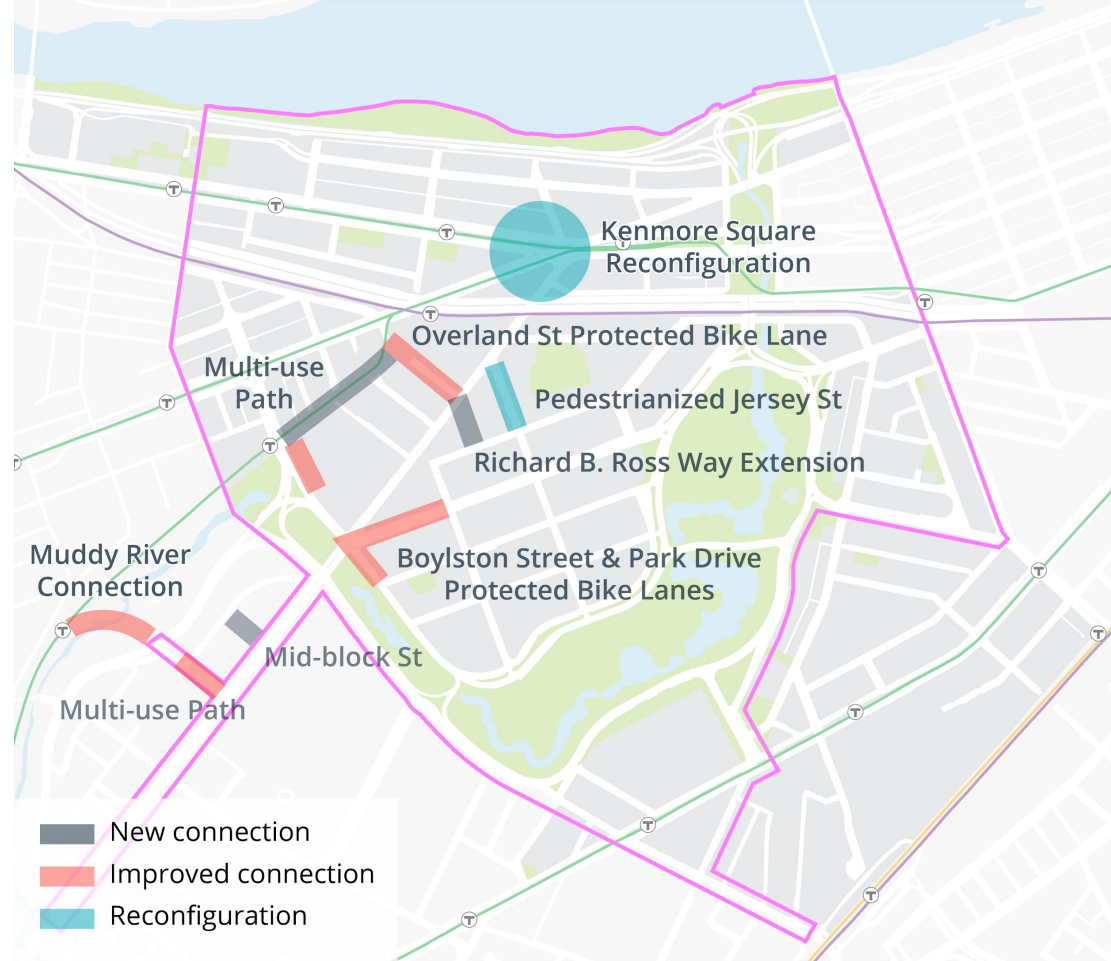
— Action Plan Study Area

■ Fenway

# Planning context

## Development-driven plans

- Developer-proposed changes (ongoing)

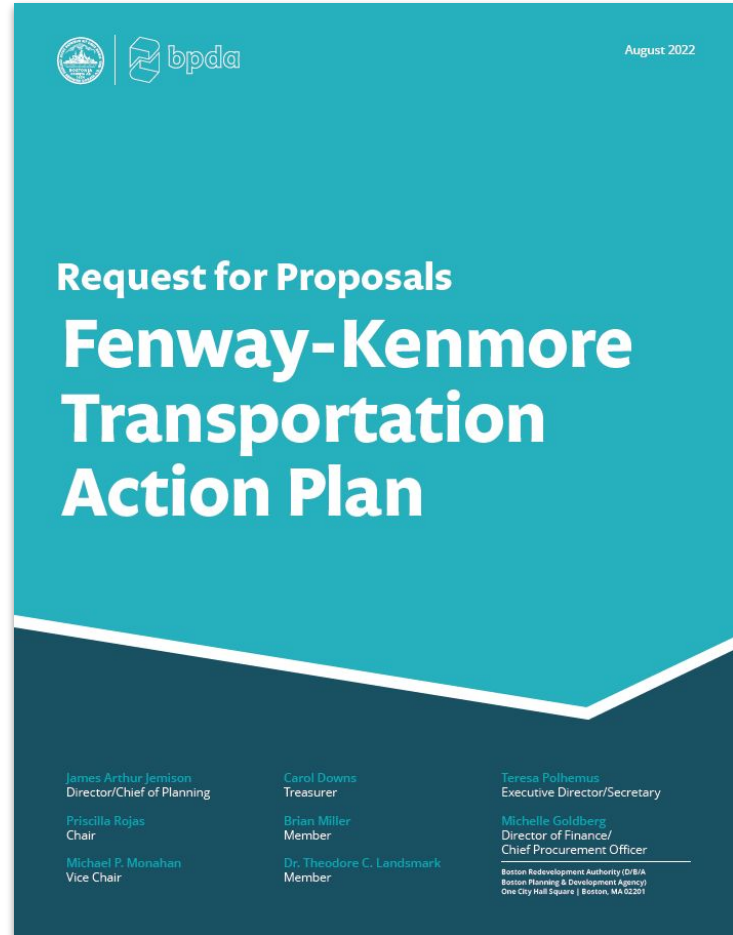


# About the *Action Plan*

The *Action Plan* has four major tasks:

- **Plan** safe, complete, and connected networks to inform all analysis and design
- Develop and maintain a multimodal network model to **analyze** proposed changes
- **Design** streets and spaces
- **Engage** the community and stakeholders

*While the consultant contract lasts for up to 48 months, we anticipate most work will be completed within 24 months*



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## What does this mean?

Identify a vision and priorities for streets and squares to inform all *Action Plan* planning, analysis, and design

## How will we do this?

- Define a multimodal network vision, including for bus priority
- Create a bike network plan, including bikeshare locations
- Identify curbside priorities, management strategies, and mobility hub locations

## What is the end result?

- Network vision map and report
- Bike network and priority bikeshare locations
- Modernized curb zone management framework

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## What does this mean?

Holistically understand how to realize the *Action Plan* vision with planned transportation changes and anticipated growth

## How will we do this?

- Inventory user, network, and development data
- Evaluate how people travel in and through Fenway
- Model future transportation and growth scenarios

## What is the end result?

- Lots of data
- A holistic model to a) test proposed street changes and growth in population and employment, and b) inform future development review

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## What does this mean?

Prepare design concepts in collaboration with the Boston Transportation Department, Boston Public Works Department, developers, and other implementation partners

## How will we do this?

- Allocate space based on the multimodal network vision
- Focus on eliminating or mitigation conflicts at intersections
- Reclaim pavement for useful, integrated public spaces

## What is the end result?

- Preferred concepts for reconfigured Kenmore Square, Brookline Avenue, and Ipswich Street/Van Ness Street

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## What does this mean?

Follow a community engagement plan that guides all aspects of the *Action Plan*

## How will we do this?

- Raise community awareness and learn about key issues
- Test, revise, and prioritize plans, analysis, and design concepts

## What is the end result?

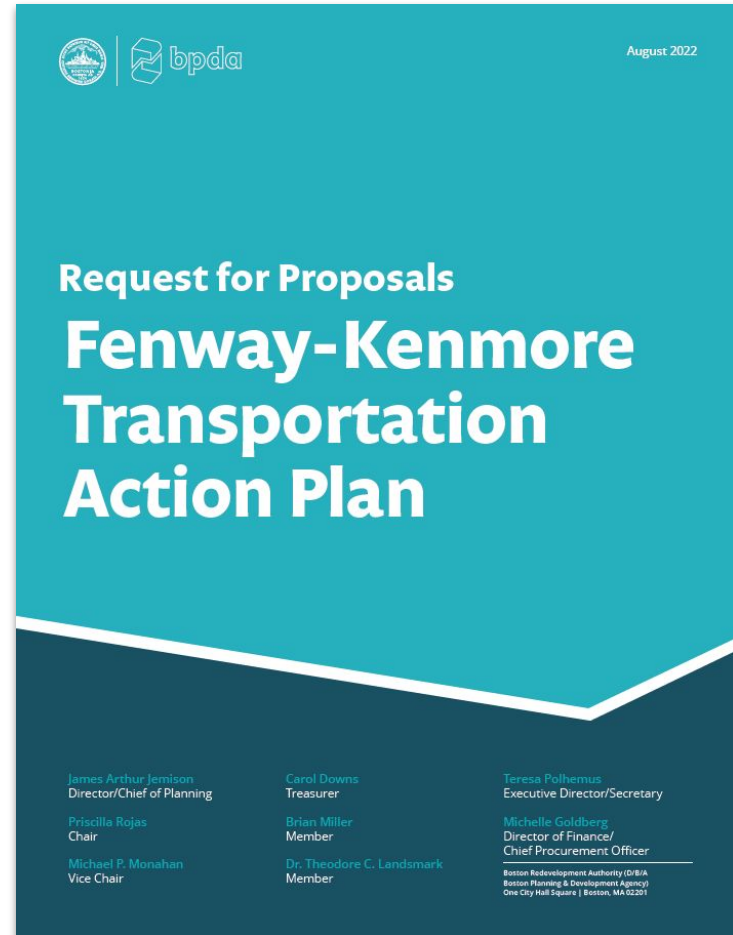
- Confirmation of a shared vision
- Feedback that drives planning and design decisions



# About the *Action Plan*

## Process snapshot

- Completed the Request for Proposals (RFP) process on October 13, 2022
- Hiring the consultant team, which is led by Nelson\Nygaard and includes McMahon Associates, Utile, Agency Landscape + Planning, and Rivera Consulting
- Establishing City and Interagency Teams
- Develop community engagement plan, with formal engagement to begin this winter



# What is *Fenway Rezoning*?

Recent development proposals are exceeding 2004 zoning changes. The *Fenway Rezoning* effort will examine which elements of today's zoning are still relevant and which should be changed.

## What will *Fenway Rezoning* look into?

- Height
- Use
- Density

**The *Action Plan* and *Fenway Rezoning* are closely linked. Future density is a key input into the *Action Plan* analysis.**

- 1 *Fenway Rezoning* will determine anticipated future density and uses
- 2 Future density and use-mix help us estimate the number of trips for the *Action Plan* analysis
- 3 *Action Plan* analysis will help us understand where more walk, bike, or transit capacity is needed
- 4 Understanding capacity constraints will help match mitigation with capacity needs during Article 80 development review

# Discussion

**Do you have any questions, comments, or items for discussion today?**

For example:

- What would you like us to know heading into the *Action Plan*?
- What is your vision for Fenway's transportation networks?
- Do you have any concerns about the *Action Plan*?

# Thank you!

## Questions or comments?

Send to Nick Schmidt, *Fenway-Kenmore Transportation Action Plan* project manager, at [nick.schmidt@boston.gov](mailto:nick.schmidt@boston.gov)

Send to Kristina Ricco, *Fenway Rezoning* project manager, at [kristina.ricco@boston.gov](mailto:kristina.ricco@boston.gov)

## What's next?

Fenway CAC meeting for *Fenway Rezoning* on November 1, 2022, at 6 PM  
[https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN\\_6noASfO1TYq7V1ET2P86Ow](https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_6noASfO1TYq7V1ET2P86Ow)

