

Date Received	To/accepted official(s)/Source	Comment	Name	Organization (if applicable)
12/13/2024	No	Comment Form	Colin Parmelee	
12/14/2024	No	Email	Kathleen Sullivan	
	No	Email	Dennis Kierpatrick	Rosindale Community School Council
12/20/24	No	Comment Form	Maria Marnoleop	My Easy Flowers of Boston LLC
12/21/24	No	Email	Russell Flynne	Wallpaper City
12/28/24	No	Comment Form	Thiago Oliveira	
12/29/24	No	Comment Form	Gene Radwin	Rosindale Coalition
01/05/2025	No	Comment Form	Karen Taylor Soles	
01/07/2025	No	Email	Gene Mavul	Creative Art in Community
01/07/2025	No	Comment Form	Jeremy Bohm	
01/07/2025	No	Comment Form	Tony Lee	
01/08/2025	No	Comment Form	Alan Wright	WALKUP, PIZZIE BIKES, ARMA
01/08/2025	No	Comment Form	Sam Conway	
01/08/2025	No	Comment Form	John Young	
01/08/2025	No	Comment Form	Chris Vaughn	
01/08/2025	No	Comment Form	Colin Parmelee	
01/08/2025	No	Comment Form	Nikki Kong	
01/08/2025	No	Comment Form	Greg Buckland	
01/08/2025	No	Email	Luke Winslow	

Date Received	To elected officials/Source	Comment	Name	Organization (if applicable)
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		I am excited about this plan! Some parts that I think would be particularly impactful for the neighborhood. Adding more transit and housing options for more diverse housing development while keeping in mind the architectural character of the area. I am more in favor of Community Vision 1. More residential across Washington St at our stops. We could use one or two off-street parking spots to fill empty storefronts. Some businesses I miss from my previous neighborhood (Giacomini's Market for an independent craft store) and a local theater (improving lighting in the Roseblade Village commuter rail underpass Advocate for moving Roseblade Village to Zone A. I would also love to see more frequent service. Although the plan as a goal we have dedicated bus lanes on Washington St for peak hours, but the report is correct that double-parking is a stressor. I wonder if there could be increased enforcement of parking like in North Cambridge might help. I'm not sure if this falls within your purview, but Washington St often has a lot of train on the sidewalk. I wonder if there's a way to add more train cars or cleaning?		
01/09/2025	No	Comment Form	Kimberly Kennedy	
		We have already discussed the negative impacts of building on the municipal lot in Roseblade several years ago at the previous Boston planning meetings. I would have a negative impact on the lives and investments of the residents that all live on Tenth Hill. It is unsafe for our residents, and all the business owners of Roseblade unanimously were against doing anything to the municipal lot that is essential to keeping their small businesses open. Leave the municipal parking lot alone! There is already so much congestion downtown and no one can visit the businesses downtown without a parking lot!		
01/09/2025	No	Email	Christina Mikonis	
		We have already discussed the negative impacts of building on the municipal lot in Roseblade several years ago at the previous Boston planning meetings. I would have a negative impact on the lives and investments of the residents that all live on Tenth Hill. It is unsafe for our residents, and all the business owners of Roseblade unanimously were against doing anything to the municipal lot that is essential to keeping their small businesses open. Leave the municipal parking lot alone! There is already so much congestion downtown and no one can visit the businesses downtown without a parking lot!		
01/09/2025	No	Comment Form	Christina Mikonis	
		Point for page 38 1/2 of the plan is incorrect. That intersection is Belgrade and Walnutworth. Walnutworth does not start until back down Walnutworth. I have lived there my entire life. It shows that you did not take anyone to review the area you are dealing with and just sent someone out to take pictures. You don't care about this community you don't live in it and those that don't own. You don't need to build you need to focus on what's vacant. Focus on the equipment, do do not and let us burn to the ground like Los Angeles. Do better because you aren't so far. The municipal parking lot is essential to my investment already made in the Roseblade square and the safety of my life living directly across from it the businesses all agreed that building on the lot would negatively impact them and force them to shut down. Listen to the small business! I'd like to show my support for the draft Roseblade Squares Small Area Plan. I love the idea of more housing and mixed-use development, safer streets and intersections, and more vibrant and green public spaces. I would like to see far more of the area's residential fabric restored to allow for more housing. We are facing a dire regional housing shortage, and increasing use of our neighborhoods should be everyone's responsibility, not just those who happen to be along main streets. The plan is really great though and I make me excited for the future of the neighborhood.		
01/09/2025	No	Comment Form	Elton Coppola	
		The municipal parking lot is essential to my investment already made in the Roseblade square and the safety of my life living directly across from it the businesses all agreed that building on the lot would negatively impact them and force them to shut down. Listen to the small business! I'd like to show my support for the draft Roseblade Squares Small Area Plan. I love the idea of more housing and mixed-use development, safer streets and intersections, and more vibrant and green public spaces. I would like to see far more of the area's residential fabric restored to allow for more housing. We are facing a dire regional housing shortage, and increasing use of our neighborhoods should be everyone's responsibility, not just those who happen to be along main streets. The plan is really great though and I make me excited for the future of the neighborhood.		
01/09/2025	No	Comment Form	Rhoda Vasilakis	
		I'd like to submit my overall support for the draft Roseblade Squares Small Area Plan. This is a strong plan with a lot to like. It lays out an exciting vision for Roseblade Square, with more housing, public spaces, and more vibrant and green public spaces. There are areas that could be strengthened. In particular, I'd like to see more of the area's residential fabric restored to allow for more housing. We are facing a dire regional housing shortage, and increasing use of our neighborhoods should be everyone's responsibility, not just those who happen to be along main streets. However, this plan is ambitious and laudable. The safety of my neighborhood.		
01/09/2025	No	Comment Form	Matt Meyer	
		I'd like to submit my overall support for the draft Roseblade Squares Small Area Plan. This is a strong plan with a lot to like. It lays out an exciting vision for Roseblade Square, with more housing, public spaces, and more vibrant and green public spaces. There are areas that could be strengthened. In particular, I'd like to see more of the area's residential fabric restored to allow for more housing. We are facing a dire regional housing shortage, and increasing use of our neighborhoods should be everyone's responsibility, not just those who happen to be along main streets. However, this plan is ambitious and laudable. The safety of my neighborhood.		
01/09/2025	No	Comment Form	John Stewart	
		I would like to register my strong support for "Community Vision 2" maximizing the opportunity for housing, transit, and other quality improvements in the neighborhood, and one of its strengths is recognizing that housing, transportation, economic development, and non-commercial community landscaping are all interconnected, so each reform will support the success of the others. I am not worried that more housing would increase traffic congestion or parking competition, because the S-5 plan's concurrent investments in transit, transit, walkability, and support of public accommodations and neighborhood amenities will enable and attract people who do not have access to cars because they are a financial burden, people who cannot drive for reasons of age or disability, and people who prefer to use public transportation or other modes of transit. In this time of acute housing crisis, we must go beyond simply "confirming" the existing scale of buildings in the neighborhood, we must make the best use of the available land by building up in the square and allowing more density in the residential areas around it. This is necessary for Roseblade to be a viable neighborhood with a stable economic center; we cannot afford to artificially depress density in and around the square. If we were to continue as we are, housing prices will continue to rise at so rapid a pace that current residents will continue to be displaced, other folks and young people will be priced out of joining our community, the businesses will lose customers and begin to close and move elsewhere. Only if we increase the availability of housing can we bring enough people to the square to keep our local businesses thriving and our community spaces and events buzzing. I believe "Community Vision 2" will make that future possible. I support S-5's recommendation to allow for entertainment/recreation spaces. I would love to see things like a movie theater or an indoor playground. I support S-5's recommendation for encouraging active use ground-floor spaces that would enable residents and visitors alike to spend time in the square, in indoor and outdoor spaces. I agree with the S-5 statement that the diversity of building styles and spaces lends Roseblade's built environment its character. Thus, I support preserving historic structures and existing housing units alongside building additions, and new structures to maintain that diversity in the future while also increasing the commercial and residential space available to better serve our growing population. I support S-5's vision of creating the B+C through street a safer and more pedestrian-friendly space. As it is mistakenly driven against the signage, it is unsafe for pedestrians to use to access Village Market and the Greenway area, and it is undeniably possible to more comfortably use. I support S-5's recommendation for encouraging a continuous path walk on the area of Washington St with turning into the square from the south. I would like to preserve the pedestrian street character that the block has had but eventually replace the outdated single-story structures with multi-story structures that are age appropriate. I support the S-5 recommendation to build housing above the Tenth Hill parking lot. The city has been very accommodating to the concerns that some folks have expressed about maintaining parking there, and the plan to retain parking while building residential space above it is a win-win for the few who may need to drive and for the whole community who share an acute need for more transit-oriented housing stock. I support the S-5's recommendation to foster a range of business types that can be open during the day and the evening. As someone who works from home, I welcome more places to spend time during the day, and I would love to see outdoor seating in accessible outdoor spaces like B+C, Plaza and Adams Park. I support the S-5's recommendation to add trees, green infrastructure, cooling stations, and shade structures in the square, Corbett St, South St, and Washington St, especially lack such amenities now. I strongly support the S-5 plan for restoring two-way Washington St, expanding the sidewalks at Belgrade and at Poplar, and making Poplar a shared space. The current traffic pattern is uninviting and drivers become dangerous to pedestrians as they struggle to navigate it. The proposed configuration would be safer for all. The curve from Washington to South is treacherous for bikes, drivers have difficulty parking near the curb and when their cars jolt out into the bike lane they push bikes into the car lane, where cars and buses have the curve and squeeze bicyclists into dangerous situations. The curve also makes it harder for drivers pulling out of the parking lane to see bicyclists. I take these frequently, and I always seem like the most dangerous sector of the street, a protected bike lane would be much safer and very welcome. And a shared Poplar St. would be wonderful for the many farmer markets and events that fill Adams Park, by giving events space to spread out and enabling safer pedestrian access to the park. I strongly support the S-5 plan to redesign the intersection at Belgrade, Corbett, and Robert Sts. Sidewalk expansion would make pedestrian crossings so much safer. I would push the planning department to be more inclusive in the future, especially to curb traffic, reduce on-street parking, and ensure bicyclists feel comfortable using the sidewalks. I support the S-5 plan to add crosswalks and improve bus stops on Washington. This is very much needed. There are lots of other recommendations that taken together, make Roseblade with much needed improvements. I wholeheartedly support them, and I urge you to adopt the most energetic version of them possible.		
01/11/2025	No	Comment Form	Kathryn Ostroby	
		I attended the S & S Zoom session the other night. I've also attended previous sessions, it's obvious that a lot of work has gone into this to provide some clarity. Thanks. I live within the area outlined, I've been in Roseblade for 32 years in a single family house. Here are my thoughts. 1. Washington street being 2 way, 2 way at all times. The change is a win-win as a result of a traffic study done 20 or so years ago. It changed to one way primarily due to congestion. Please put out that old study and revise it. 2. Parking. We cannot seem to lose any more parking spots in the square and the surrounding area. The section of Poplar street just across Washington Street (at the Bakery) had a concrete bike lane added this past year and as a result there was a loss of 5 or so spots on this short section of the street. My driveway is repeatedly getting blocked in by illegal parking - especially on weekends. Contact 311 is not an option on the weekend for this issue. 3. Traffic - Trying to get out of Roseblade Square area on a Saturday morning when the farmers market is in traffic is impossible. Sometimes it takes 15 minutes to just go from the intersection of Sycamore and Carverina to Washington Street. 4. Displacement/impact on the businesses. I've seen Roseblade come back from a time of many, many empty storefronts and no Village Market. I would want to know that decisions made are thoughtful and are geared to minimal impact on our local shopkeepers. They are the lifeblood of this neighborhood. Thanks Carol		
01/11/2025	No	Comment Form	Carol Duffy	
		The Roseblade Squares Small Area Plan presents an inspiring vision for the future of our neighborhood, with its emphasis on increased housing, mixed-use development, safer streets, and enhanced public spaces. The proposed 6-7 story buildings are particularly promising, as they will not only alleviate our city's housing crisis but also bolster local businesses by introducing a steady influx of new residents. Moreover, the proposed redesign of Poplar Street adjacent to Adams Park is a good step towards ensuring pedestrians safety and fostering community engagement in that area. While these aspects are commendable, I urge the Planning Department to consider designing a broader swath of the area's residential zones. The current plan does not sufficiently address our regional housing shortage. Expanding zoning to accommodate more housing should extend beyond main streets to a wider range of neighborhoods. As someone who has lived on South Street (a five-minute walk from the square) for 39 years and was on the board of Roseblade Village Main Street for 15 years, I have witnessed firsthand the value that residential traffic can bring to our local shops and I believe increased density will significantly benefit Roseblade. The Roseblade Squares Small Area Plan offers an inspiring vision for our community, promoting increased housing, safer streets, and more vibrant public spaces. The proposed 6-7 story buildings are particularly commendable, as they can help alleviate the city's housing shortage and support local businesses. I am particularly pleased with the plan to redesign the connection between South St and Corbett St, which will greatly enhance pedestrian safety. Similar restoring two-way traffic on Washington Street promises to increase pedestrian safety and open housing. However, I urge a broader re-zoning of the area to address the severe housing shortage. This enhancement is crucial to maintaining affordability, preventing displacement, and ensuring that Roseblade remains accessible to residents of all income levels. As someone who has witnessed housing prices soar, I believe this approach will allow Roseblade Square to thrive as a community hub.		
01/13/2025	No	Email	Steve Gag	
		The Roseblade Squares Small Area Plan offers an inspiring vision for our community, promoting increased housing, safer streets, and more vibrant public spaces. The proposed 6-7 story buildings are particularly commendable, as they can help alleviate the city's housing shortage and support local businesses. I am particularly pleased with the plan to redesign the connection between South St and Corbett St, which will greatly enhance pedestrian safety. Similar restoring two-way traffic on Washington Street promises to increase pedestrian safety and open housing. However, I urge a broader re-zoning of the area to address the severe housing shortage. This enhancement is crucial to maintaining affordability, preventing displacement, and ensuring that Roseblade remains accessible to residents of all income levels. As someone who has witnessed housing prices soar, I believe this approach will allow Roseblade Square to thrive as a community hub.		
01/13/2025	No	Email	James Cole	

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			Dear City of Boston Planning Department, The Rosindale Square Small Area Plan offers an exciting vision for our community, promoting increased housing, safer streets, and more vibrant public spaces. The proposed 6-7 story buildings are commendable, as they can help alleviate the city's housing shortage and support local businesses.		
01/13/2025	No	Email	I am particularly pleased with the plan to redesign the connection between South St. and Corinth St., which will greatly enhance pedestrian safety. Similarly, restoring two-way traffic on Washington Street promises to increase pedestrian safety and open spaces.	Devin Cole	
			However, I urge a broader rezoning of the area to address the severe housing shortage. This enhancement is crucial to maintaining affordability, preventing displacement, and ensuring that Rosindale remains accessible to residents of all income levels. As someone who has witnessed housing prices grow way too fast during my adulthood, I believe this approach will allow Rosindale to thrive as a community hub.		
01/14/2025	No	Comment Form	The following comments were also sent in emails to the Mayor and to the Planning Department Board of Directors. I am writing to request that the Planning Department Board of Directors, at its February 13 meeting, NOT approve the current Rosindale Small Area Plan. First of all the plan is not a plan. It LACKS - specific, measurable goals (i.e., how many new affordable housing units are needed) - estimates of costs - financial, human, resources - for its recommendations - milestones by which the "plan's" implementation can be monitored and assessed - infrastructure requirements - electric grid adequacy, fire fighting capacity for tall buildings - environmental impact considerations - e.g., environmental impact of demolition existing buildings. Secondly, the plan cannot be judged as a STANCIALONE initiative - anti-displacement programs need to be enacted and funded to ensure adequate provision for displaced residents and businesses - the City's ability to prioritize, resource and fund the Rosindale plan will be dependent upon the 15+ plus other Squares + Streets plans that are forthcoming. Thus the Board of Directors should not be evaluating 8-9 plans for individual neighborhoods. Thirdly, the plan did not derive from a representative community engagement process, 60% of community participants in 8-9 planning events were white. In contrast, less than 50% of the population of Rosindale is white. I strongly support the need for more housing, especially for more affordable housing. I do not believe that the current Rosindale Small Area Plan will lead to such housing.	Gene Radwin	Rosindale Coalition
01/14/2025	No	Comment Form	I'd like to submit my support for the draft Rosindale Squares Small Area Plan. I'm excited for this vision for Rosindale Square, with more housing and mixed-use development, safer streets and intersections, and more vibrant and green public spaces.	Mark Warfel	
			Hello, I wanted to share that I am in favor of a lot of the propositions in the Squares + Streets plan for Rosindale. However, the idea of adding a housing development on the Municipal Lot seems like a bad one. The proposed plan seems to call out prioritizing new gathering spaces (i.e. a new theater or performance building with businesses on the 3rd floor and residential above). The idea of new businesses and gathering spaces will bring higher volume of traffic to Rosindale Square (a welcome change). However, it seems counterintuitive to try to increase capacity in the area by increasing parking. There are several parking options in the area, which will restrict the ability for folks from outside walking options to access all of the improvements you are suggesting. While there are several public transit nearby, they are restricted to the Needham Commuter Rail (in Zone 1 + Zone 1A) and several bus lines from South Forest Hills and an extended Green Washington St. Bus stop relying on the available public transit options introduces extra levels of friction, that are likely to dissuade people from outside of Rosindale choice to avoid the area. The Zone 1 + Commuter rail results in an extra \$8.25 for an individual round trip. Similarly, to access the bus routes from the majority of the city involves riding a Orange Line to the end of the line at Forest Hills and having to transfer to a bus. These additional levels of friction are more likely to dissuade people from outside of Rosindale to visit. Prioritizing mixed use buildings along Washington St. seems to solve the dilemma of adding residential housing to the area by building vertically without resulting in decreasing accessibility to the Square. Many of the buildings along Washington St. are vacant or underutilized and could be redeveloped taller to achieve the goal of additional housing. Accessibility: I have heard from several local business owners that the bulk of their business comes from people outside of the Square. Removing a large parking lot & relying on public spaces with extra friction seems counterintuitive towards helping to support them. It also does not sound like an environment that new businesses proposed by the proposal (i.e. local theater, etc.) would flourish in the environment either. Finally, I would like to point out that the municipal lot currently sits across the street from a high-traffic Medical Center. There is a steady stream of visitors to that center with limited mobility who would experience severely negative impacts from removing the ease of accessibility to their healthcare that developing that municipal lot would result in.	Andrew Lynch	
01/14/2025	No	Comment Form	As someone who has lived and owned a home in Rosindale since 1990, I have experienced the dramatic improvements in the quality of life here in the past three decades. For example, Little Rosindale was designated as one of the first Villages in Boston. I never went to the center of Hazzard because there were no restaurants, shops, or businesses that attracted me and at night it was pretty much "shut down". Gradually, over the past few decades, Rosindale has become a vital part of Boston with its Farmer Market, a variety of restaurants, small shops, coffee shops and magnificent newly renovated Substation and Community Center. Every week, I like to visit other residents who go to Rosindale Center for their fitness every week and I finished drive and park it's a targetful lot. My friends who visit from afar, as well as from other parts of the city, frequently comment about the quality of life here.		
01/16/2025	No	Email	I think that the plan being developed for Rosindale will preserve the elements of Rosindale that make it such a special place. I also think that amenities, like large movie theatres and game sets, are needed here because movies are shown in the Substation and a coffee shop here and big theatres are easily accessible by car and public transportation in neighboring areas. The Community Center has extensive and newly renovated gym facilities including pickleball, basketball court, fitness machines, track and ping pong.	Susan Roberts	
01/20/2025	No	Comment Form	Thank you for considering our thoughts and recommendations for Rosindale going forward! I hope that development can be done within the character of the neighborhood (4 stories or less) and that traffic calming or lights can be added to help with heading into the square to avoid another catastrophe as happened with the vehicle hitting the building on Corinth. Finally, I hope that parking and traffic management is considered for businesses in the square as we discuss closing additional streets and making the village more pedestrian friendly.	Drew Scott	
01/24/2025	No	Comment Form	I strongly support the planning process, as well as the proposed rezoning of the Tall Hill parking lot to include affordable housing. A possible compromise on the parking lot would be to find a compromise to create underground municipal parking while building a larger building for affordable housing above. I support a minimum of 6 story height limit in the immediate Rosindale Square area, and would be in favor of taller heights (up to 8 stories) where possible to encourage more housing and more local businesses. I would urge the 8-9 team to support 4 story heights at minimum on the major roads leading into the Square, as these areas already have a common height of 3 stories, with some buildings being taller than that.	Colin Parnake	
01/24/2025	No	Comment Form	Dear City of Boston Planning Department, I'm writing to express my strong support for the Rosindale Square Small Area Plan's overall vision while suggesting some crucial improvements. As a resident who lives in this area and is concerned about our housing shortage and pedestrian safety, I'm particularly excited about the plan's commitment to creating more housing options and safer streets in our neighborhood. The proposed 6-7 story buildings in Rosindale's heart represent a significant step toward addressing our housing crisis while supporting local businesses with a larger customer base. The redesigned connection between South Street and Corinth Street will create a safer, more inviting environment for pedestrians, and the restoration of two-way traffic on Washington Street promises to enhance both safety and public space activation. I'm especially encouraged by the Squares + Streets zoning district's emphasis on improving our public areas with wider sidewalks, increased greenery, and more outdoor seating. These changes will make Rosindale more walkable and vibrant while promoting community interaction and local business vitality. However, the current plan does go far enough in addressing our severe housing shortage. While I appreciate the controls to encourage areas like Robert, Fern, and Florence for multifamily housing, we need to think bigger. The opportunity for changing our housing should fall away on housing along main streets - it should be distributed throughout our residential areas. I urge you to expand the rezoning to allow more housing options across our entire neighborhood. This broader approach would help create a more inclusive, sustainable, and vibrant Rosindale for current and future residents alike. I'd like to submit my support for the draft Rosindale Squares Small Area Plan. This is a strong plan with a lot to like. It lays out an exciting vision for Rosindale Square, with more housing and mixed-use development, safer streets and intersections, and more vibrant and green public spaces. There are areas that could be strengthened. In particular, I'd like to see far more of the area's residential fabric rezoned to allow for more housing. We are losing a rare regional housing shortage, and thickening up our neighborhoods should be everyone's responsibility, not just those who happen to live along main streets. However, this plan is ambitious and laudable, and it makes me excited for the future of my neighborhood.	Nikki Kong	
01/24/2025	No	Comment Form	Dear City of Boston Planning Department, I'm writing to express my strong support for the Rosindale Square Small Area Plan's vision of a more vibrant, walkable neighborhood. As a parent of two elementary school children who frequently walk, play, and bike in the area, I particularly appreciate the emphasis on pedestrian safety, wider sidewalks, and enhanced public and play spaces. The plan's proposed 6-7 story buildings in the Square's core and the redesigned South-Corinth connection are excellent steps forward. I do have concerns, though, about the Design Guidelines' mandatory upper-story setbacks. While setbacks may be appropriate in some cases, requiring them for all new buildings could unnecessarily constrain architectural creativity and reduce housing capacity.	nyljet sanan	
01/25/2025	No	Email	I love the emphasis on street trees, but I also urge you to prioritize immediate shade solutions for our parks and sidewalks, particularly at Fallon Field, where the lack of shade currently limits its usability for families. The proposed improvements to Adams Park, including a children's play area, would be a valuable addition to our community. I strongly support the restoration of two-way traffic on Washington Street, combined with expanded open space and shared use of Poplar Street. These changes, along with broader residential rezoning, would help Rosindale become an even more welcoming, sustainable, and family-friendly neighborhood.	Maggie Brosoak	

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		<p>Dear City of Boston Planning Department,</p> <p>I'm writing to express my strong support for the Rosindale Square Small Area Plan's vision of a more vibrant, walkable neighborhood. As a parent of an elementary school child who frequents walk, play, and friends, and who lives in the area, I particularly appreciate the emphasis on pedestrian safety, wider sidewalks, and enhanced public play spaces.</p> <p>The plan's proposed 5-7 story buildings in the Square's core and the redesigned South-Corinth connection are excellent steps forward. I do have concerns, though, about the Design Guidelines' mandatory upper story setbacks. While setbacks may be appropriate in some cases, requiring them for all new buildings could unnecessarily constrain architectural creativity and reduce housing capacity.</p> <p>I love the emphasis on street trees, but I also urge you to prioritize immediate shade solutions for our parks and sidewalks, particularly at Fallon Field, where the lack of shade currently limits its usability for families. The proposed improvements to Adams Park, including a children's play area, would be a valuable addition to our community.</p> <p>I strongly support the restoration of two-way traffic on Washington Street, combined with expanded open space and shared use of Foster Street. These changes, along with broader residential rezoning, would help Rosindale become an even more welcoming, sustainable, and family-friendly neighborhood.</p> <p>The images of 6-7 story buildings in the heart of Rosindale look great! They will allow us to welcome more young Rosindalers, help address our city's dire housing shortage, and provide a steady stream of customers to our local businesses.</p>		
01/25/2025	No	<p>See attached letter (Copy of Note Sheet - Public Comment on Rosindale Sq Small Area Plan.pdf)</p> <p>Dear City of Boston Planning Department,</p> <p>I am writing about the Rosindale Square Small Area Plan. As a parent raising a family in Rosindale, I've watched housing costs spiral upward at an alarming rate. Like many others, my family has contemplated leaving the neighborhood we love simply because of affordability concerns. This reality makes the Plan's vision particularly meaningful to me.</p> <p>The Plan presents an inspiring framework for Rosindale Square's future, especially in its commitment to creating more housing and mixed-use development. It's particularly encouraged by the proposed 6-7 story buildings in the heart of Rosindale. These developments will welcome new neighbors while strengthening our local businesses with a broader customer base. The improvements to public spaces and safer street designs will make our neighborhood more family-friendly and vibrant.</p> <p>The focus on expanding housing options beyond just the commercial core, including areas like Robert, Fern, and Florence Streets, is a step in the right direction. However, the approach needs to be more ambitious. Our housing crisis demands that we think bigger and bolder about where new homes can be built throughout our entire neighborhood.</p> <p>I strongly urge the Planning Department to expand the rezoning scope significantly beyond what's currently proposed. The housing shortage affecting our region requires every housing option to be considered, not just those along major streets. We need to enable more housing throughout Rosindale's residential areas. This isn't just about maintaining the status quo - it's about ensuring that future generations, including my children, can afford to call Rosindale home.</p>	Maggie Bitsock	
01/25/2025	No	<p>Dear Planning Team staff,</p> <p>I would like to comment on aspects of the Rosindale Streets and Squares plan.</p> <p>Please do not remove the Tall West parking lot which is an important open space and resource for the Rosindale Square small businesses.</p> <p><b>Parking to help small businesses thrive:</b></p> <p>Some of the current uses of that parking lot, which I use almost daily, include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- a space for diners to park when having a meal at Square Root Cafe, attending a musical concert in the evening, having one's haircut, bringing a box of items to donate to the thrift store (benefiting Home for Life Volunteers).</li> <li>- news media reports of your sessions suggest that "everyone shops online these days" and I find that statement incorrect. The vitality of Rosindale Square's shops is due to community help and small businesses adapting to changing habits. I shop at the grocery store daily, I get my haircut at Centre Cuts, I donate to the thrift store, I walk to the library and bring a bag of books to donate. I need a place to park that is longer than 15 minutes, and when I am carrying things, it is hard to use the MBTA as a bike.</li> </ul> <p>Sunlight concerns:</p> <p>I hope that your planning will also consider the Angle of the Sun in the Winter and the Effect of Shadows on the pedestrian feel of the place. I appreciate the low levels of the buildings, and I would hate to have shadows the shadows on Copley Square or Union Square in SF be a constant presence in winter time. As you know, the arc of the sun is lower in winter and the Square was well-designed to take advantage of very pretty sunsets.</p> <p><b>There are beautiful views from the overlook of the Rosindale Commuter Station, and one can look down and see a sunset or a moonrise, without 15 story buildings in the way. I would hate to lose all those views.</b> Can you include some sort of height restrictions and zoning rules "anti-monoculture block" guidelines or rules, so that these major thoroughfares are NOT as high as the stark canyons of the financial district?</p> <p>Building a walkable city &amp; helping public transit:</p> <p>I would continue to advocate that the MBTA be informed of your design plans, and that your planning include the safety of the bus lanes. As it stands, the "high commuter hours" Rosindale Square connects many neighborhoods through its bus connectors to Mattapan (D), Forest Hills (D), West Boston (D, SB), Dedman/Hopson (D) and links to the Green Line (bus D1 to Reservoir). At its worst, it is gridlock, school buses, double parked loading trucks, and long wait times after rain on any routes out of Forest Hills. Can your redesign of the triangle help make it easier to commute by bus?</p> <p>Can you add, expand and preserve parking for people trying to get to Forest Hills by bus? You would help with congestion in other parts of the city.</p>	Ref Bekendam	Note Sheet
01/25/2025	No	<p>I speak for many of us who work in downtown Boston in late shift hospital and hospitality shifts. The buses are often standing room only at 11pm or 12:30 am coming out of Forest Hills. Please remember these people as you plan.</p> <p>As a Rosindale resident, I'm very excited about the SAS are plan! I prefer Community Vision 2 when focuses on the broad support for increasing and housing growth in the commercial village and residential areas. Rosindale will only continue to grow and it's important that we set a foundation that will serve the neighborhood for decades to come. I also support exploring Washington to a 2-way. I think this will do wonders on traffic in the village. I would love to see continued focus on the gateways to the village. We often walk down Belmonte to the village and it does not feel safe to cross given the speed of cars and blind turns onto residential streets. Further, there are a ton of vacant commercial spaces that are not well maintained, and not enough trees. Improving the visual aspect of Ross will bring more people and encourage more people to spend time in our great community. I am aligned with the focus on PROSD and green space to create more zones for the many families in Rosindale to enjoy.</p> <p>I just moved to Rosindale 2 years ago from New York and this is neighborhood has many of the things I was desperately needing. Rosindale is a very down-to-earth, family-oriented neighborhood and I feel that many of the points in this plan try to support that. I know all the residents would love more trees, even if it's for energy and environmental purposes. I love how the local flora and fauna feel safer here than downtown and I'm happy about any measure that encourages this. This appreciation for nature is so beneficial for everyone's mental health. I don't see how I could lose many of my neighbors. I'm very disappointed at the comments in our local press. My general and would also like to see more community events like film screenings so we can interact with our neighbors even though we're not parents. Safety during these events is very important and I like that you have more spaces for pedestrians. The farmers market in the warmer months is so popular with everyone in the neighborhood and I love to meet the people that come out to these events. However, I often see a lot of traffic in the area that could pose a danger to pets and children. I'm no expert in real estate, but multifamily housing in the heart of Rosindale seems like a wonderful idea. I know that would reduce vehicle traffic around the grocery stores, pharmacies, and community meeting places in the square while encouraging more business for these places. Most of all, affordable housing is such an important problem to tackle for our city. We live in a place where the winter months can be deadly and get colder as it gets. Improvements for housing availability and community involvement are a good combination for preventing homelessness in my opinion. In my opinion, this plan makes it easier for Rosindale residents to stay together, check on each other, and support each other so that no family needs to fall through the cracks in our system.</p> <p>Hello, Thank you to you and those in your office who work tirelessly to make Boston a safer and more welcoming place to live. I wish in enthusiastic support of the Rosindale Square Small Area Plan. I support the development of mixed-use developments and the increase in the number of green areas. Most importantly, as a bicyclist, I strongly support plans to make streets and intersections safer for all. I have lived in Rosindale for 36 years and have seen several businesses close their doors in that time. There are also businesses that have remained vacant the entire time that I have lived here. Upgrading and blending housing with businesses is a good way of increasing housing in this area of the city. New spaces for residents will only increase the foot traffic to Rosindale's businesses. Perhaps this will allow them to thrive and attract additional investors to the area. "Community Vision 2" seems like a solid proposal. Additionally, more outdoor spaces will also provide spaces for customers to sit after their have frequented Rosindale's businesses--the ability to shut down Foster Street for such a purpose would be quite useful. This is just another reason to make Washington Street a two-way street. The current system is also confusing, especially for people who are unfamiliar with the area. Finally, I support the increase of bike lanes and the improving of the Roberts-Belmonte-Corinth intersection as outlined. I would encourage even greater reduction in vehicle speeds in this area, perhaps by removing the stop lanes, which are hazardous to pedestrians. Thank you for your consideration and for your hard work on this and other projects around the city.</p>	Taylor Leach	
01/26/2025	No	<p>Can you add, expand and preserve parking for people trying to get to Forest Hills by bus? You would help with congestion in other parts of the city.</p>		
01/26/2025	No	<p>I speak for many of us who work in downtown Boston in late shift hospital and hospitality shifts. The buses are often standing room only at 11pm or 12:30 am coming out of Forest Hills. Please remember these people as you plan.</p> <p>As a Rosindale resident, I'm very excited about the SAS are plan! I prefer Community Vision 2 when focuses on the broad support for increasing and housing growth in the commercial village and residential areas. Rosindale will only continue to grow and it's important that we set a foundation that will serve the neighborhood for decades to come. I also support exploring Washington to a 2-way. I think this will do wonders on traffic in the village. I would love to see continued focus on the gateways to the village. We often walk down Belmonte to the village and it does not feel safe to cross given the speed of cars and blind turns onto residential streets. Further, there are a ton of vacant commercial spaces that are not well maintained, and not enough trees. Improving the visual aspect of Ross will bring more people and encourage more people to spend time in our great community. I am aligned with the focus on PROSD and green space to create more zones for the many families in Rosindale to enjoy.</p> <p>I just moved to Rosindale 2 years ago from New York and this is neighborhood has many of the things I was desperately needing. Rosindale is a very down-to-earth, family-oriented neighborhood and I feel that many of the points in this plan try to support that. I know all the residents would love more trees, even if it's for energy and environmental purposes. I love how the local flora and fauna feel safer here than downtown and I'm happy about any measure that encourages this. This appreciation for nature is so beneficial for everyone's mental health. I don't see how I could lose many of my neighbors. I'm very disappointed at the comments in our local press. My general and would also like to see more community events like film screenings so we can interact with our neighbors even though we're not parents. Safety during these events is very important and I like that you have more spaces for pedestrians. The farmers market in the warmer months is so popular with everyone in the neighborhood and I love to meet the people that come out to these events. However, I often see a lot of traffic in the area that could pose a danger to pets and children. I'm no expert in real estate, but multifamily housing in the heart of Rosindale seems like a wonderful idea. I know that would reduce vehicle traffic around the grocery stores, pharmacies, and community meeting places in the square while encouraging more business for these places. Most of all, affordable housing is such an important problem to tackle for our city. We live in a place where the winter months can be deadly and get colder as it gets. Improvements for housing availability and community involvement are a good combination for preventing homelessness in my opinion. In my opinion, this plan makes it easier for Rosindale residents to stay together, check on each other, and support each other so that no family needs to fall through the cracks in our system.</p> <p>Hello, Thank you to you and those in your office who work tirelessly to make Boston a safer and more welcoming place to live. I wish in enthusiastic support of the Rosindale Square Small Area Plan. I support the development of mixed-use developments and the increase in the number of green areas. Most importantly, as a bicyclist, I strongly support plans to make streets and intersections safer for all. I have lived in Rosindale for 36 years and have seen several businesses close their doors in that time. There are also businesses that have remained vacant the entire time that I have lived here. Upgrading and blending housing with businesses is a good way of increasing housing in this area of the city. New spaces for residents will only increase the foot traffic to Rosindale's businesses. Perhaps this will allow them to thrive and attract additional investors to the area. "Community Vision 2" seems like a solid proposal. Additionally, more outdoor spaces will also provide spaces for customers to sit after their have frequented Rosindale's businesses--the ability to shut down Foster Street for such a purpose would be quite useful. This is just another reason to make Washington Street a two-way street. The current system is also confusing, especially for people who are unfamiliar with the area. Finally, I support the increase of bike lanes and the improving of the Roberts-Belmonte-Corinth intersection as outlined. I would encourage even greater reduction in vehicle speeds in this area, perhaps by removing the stop lanes, which are hazardous to pedestrians. Thank you for your consideration and for your hard work on this and other projects around the city.</p>	Sara Hamlen	
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Date Received	To	Electoral District/Source	Comment	Name	Organization (if applicable)
01/26/2025	No	Email	<p>Dear City of Boston Planning Department,</p> <p>I'm writing to express my enthusiastic support for the Roslindale Square Small Area Plan's vision while highlighting crucial areas for improvement. As a Roslindale resident of over a decade, I've witnessed housing prices nearly double, making it increasingly difficult for families to put down roots in our vibrant community.</p> <p>The Plan's embrace of 6-7 story buildings in the Square's core is a positive step toward addressing our housing crisis while supporting local businesses. <b>I'm particularly excited about the proposed redesign of the South Street and Cornish Street connection, which will create safer pedestrian spaces and encourage more community gathering.</b> The focus on shade and cooling through street trees and the commitment to improving green space, especially Adams Park's need for a children's play area, will make our neighborhood more livable for families.</p> <p><b>However, the Plan must go further in rezoning residential areas beyond just Robert, Fifth, and Fenwick Streets. Our severe regional housing shortage demands that all neighborhoods contribute to the solution, not just those along main streets.</b> We need to think bigger and bolder about allowing multifamily housing throughout Roslindale, by enabling more vertical development across our neighborhood, we can ensure that future generations of families can afford to join our community and contribute to its continued vitality.</p>	Kelvin Shecraft	
01/26/2025	No	Email	<p>Dear City of Boston Planning Department,</p> <p>As a frequent visitor to Roslindale, I'm excited by the ambitious vision laid out in the Small Area Plan. The proposed changes - from increased housing density to safer streets and vibrant public spaces - represent exactly the kind of thoughtful urban development that makes neighborhoods thrive.</p> <p>I'm particularly impressed by the proposed 6-7 story buildings in Roslindale Square. These developments will welcome new residents while providing steady support for local businesses. The redesigned connection between South Street and Cornish Street will create a safer, more inviting pedestrian experience, and the restoration of two-way traffic on Washington Street promises to enhance both safety and public space activation.</p> <p>The plan's emphasis on shade and cooling through street trees demonstrates forward-thinking environmental awareness, though I'd suggest considering immediate solutions like modern plant structures while waiting for trees to mature. Additionally, the proposed improvements to Adams Park, Hady Field, and Fallon Field will create more welcoming community spaces for residents of all ages.</p> <p><b>However, I believe the plan could go further in addressing our region's housing shortage.</b> While rezoning the commercial core is crucial, we should consider multifamily housing opportunities throughout more of Roslindale's residential areas. As someone who lives in Newton, I see how limiting density to certain corridors puts undue pressure on specific areas while leaving other neighborhoods unchanged. Roslindale has an opportunity to demonstrate how thoughtful, distributed density can strengthen an entire neighborhood while maintaining its character and improving quality of life for all residents.</p>		
01/26/2025	No	Email	<p>Dear City of Boston Planning Department, I'm writing about the Roslindale Square Small Area Plan as a resident deeply concerned about safety, walkability, affordability, and climate change in our neighborhood. First, as a Roslindale homeowner and parent, I want to express my support for the proposed changes, which will help preserve &amp; improve our vibrant community center. Second, while the plan's vision for more housing, safer streets, and green spaces is promising, I worry I don't see it clear enough for enough to address our critical challenges. The proposed 6-7 story buildings and improved pedestrian connections are essential steps in the right direction, but we urgently need to expand multifamily zoning throughout residential areas, not just along main corridors. Without more aggressive rezoning to allow denser housing throughout Roslindale, we risk missing opportunities to create a more sustainable, walkable community.</p> <p>I'm pleased to submit these personal, strong, and clear support for the Small Squares + Streets Small Area Plan for Roslindale Square. I'd like to preface my comments with special thanks for the entire collaborative effort demonstrated by everyone at the city, starting with Mayor Wu and running through Karlos Shen, Director of Planning, and everyone at the Boston Planning Department and the other city agencies that have been involved. Overall, this is a strong plan with a lot to like. It lays out a compelling vision for Roslindale Square, with more housing, retail/service uses, and recreation development, safer streets and intersections, and more vibrant and green public spaces. There are areas that could be strengthened. <b>We can count on seeing those wanting to see more of the small plan area's residential fabric, rezoned to allow for more housing.</b> We are facing a regional housing shortage emergency. We don't have time to wait for a minimum solution. I would also like to see a rezoning plan for both other street fronting in the square (the difference in visibility between the right righting lights on the adjoining streets and the historical-looking, comparatively dim lamp posts in core of the square is clear and noticeable) and at least the start of a program to have the city's own personnel clear the key sidewalks and curb ramps in the square on Cornish, Washington, South, Fallon, Birch, and Fenwick streets. <b>The following are particularly strong parts of the plan, in my view:</b> Land Use &amp; Design Framework "Community Vision 2" which acknowledges broad support for updating and housing growth in both the commercial core and the residential areas. The images of 5-7 story buildings in the heart of the square are impressive! They will allow us to welcome many more neighbors, help address our city's affordable housing emergency, and provide a steady stream of customers to our local businesses. The Squares + Streets zoning districts promote better use of public space and open space, such as water walking, greenway, plazas, and outdoor seating. <b>The redesigned connection between Belgrade/Robert and Cornish looks great. This will be much safer for pedestrians, and will encourage more active use of that space.</b> Housing &amp; Real Estate - I'm in favor of starting a public process to decide what to do with the <b>Taft Hill municipal parking lot. The plan only calls for public discussion, not imminent development. We should at least consider other ideas for this public resource.</b> I acknowledge that the Planning Department knows about parking lots concerns and I proceed without a temporary parking solution. Purchasing and improving existing affordable housing, such as Hope Deckers, is a good idea and one that organizations like our local CDC, Southwest Boston CDC, is perfectly positioned to try. Small Businesses - Flexible entertainment space for film screenings and events is a great idea. <b>It also like to see city support for promoting commercial stability.</b> I support the idea of researching whether zoning can effectively support small businesses by limiting zone size. Following adoption of the rezoning that will come out of the plan, we need to track commercial vacancies to ensure that new zoning policies are working. And if they aren't, we should not wait to adjust them. Arts &amp; Culture - I support the "location-specific entertainment korner" if it streamlines the approval process for holding events in public space. Right now, organizing public events is hard and complicated, requiring multiple licenses and permits from different City departments with varying responsibilities for transportation, Public Safety, and other departments. <b>Washington Street because it allows for increased pedestrian safety, increased open space, a new bus stop, and shared Poplar Street.</b> This would enable more regular Poplar Street open street periods, better activating public space and moving vehicles through more free traffic. The plan's promoting shade and cooling in the Square is mitigate urban heat is a great idea. Street trees are a great long-term solution for shade, but we need shade now. The plan should consider implementing modern shade structures in the public realm. I like that the plan calls for new investments in our parks. Adams Park needs a children's play area. Hady and Fallon need better pathways, seating and shade. And Fallon needs a water fountain! Once again, thank you for the hard work you're all doing and for the opportunity to submit this as a resident's support of the Small Area Plan. I want to publicly strong support for the Small Squares + Streets Small Area Plan for Roslindale Square. Thank you to Mayor Wu and the entire Planning Department for their collaborative efforts to put this forth. It is a strong plan and particularly like the vision it lays out for Roslindale Square with more housing, retail uses, mixed use development, safer streets, and more vibrant and green public spaces. We are in a housing crisis and I am in support of zoning for as much new housing as possible. Also, good lighting and clear sidewalks and intersections are important to ensuring many people will be able to safely access the businesses in the Square! I particularly like the redesigned connection between Belgrade/Robert and Cornish making it much safer for pedestrians and more active use. And please, let's support and advocate for the commuter rail stop in Roslindale Square to be Zone 10! We are a City neighborhood and it's only right that all neighbors can afford the fare into downtown at a reasonable rate. The more riders, the less cars on the streets. Finally, I support restoring Washington Street to be way and also re-zoning in our park! Thank you for your hard work to bring this forward, Ann-Marie Lawlor.</p>	Joshua Hertz-Max	
01/27/2025	No	Comment Form	<p>I'm pleased to submit these personal, strong, and clear support for the Small Squares + Streets Small Area Plan for Roslindale Square. I'd like to preface my comments with special thanks for the entire collaborative effort demonstrated by everyone at the city, starting with Mayor Wu and running through Karlos Shen, Director of Planning, and everyone at the Boston Planning Department and the other city agencies that have been involved. Overall, this is a strong plan with a lot to like. It lays out a compelling vision for Roslindale Square, with more housing, retail/service uses, and recreation development, safer streets and intersections, and more vibrant and green public spaces. There are areas that could be strengthened. <b>We can count on seeing those wanting to see more of the small plan area's residential fabric, rezoned to allow for more housing.</b> We are facing a regional housing shortage emergency. We don't have time to wait for a minimum solution. I would also like to see a rezoning plan for both other street fronting in the square (the difference in visibility between the right righting lights on the adjoining streets and the historical-looking, comparatively dim lamp posts in core of the square is clear and noticeable) and at least the start of a program to have the city's own personnel clear the key sidewalks and curb ramps in the square on Cornish, Washington, South, Fallon, Birch, and Fenwick streets. <b>The following are particularly strong parts of the plan, in my view:</b> Land Use &amp; Design Framework "Community Vision 2" which acknowledges broad support for updating and housing growth in both the commercial core and the residential areas. The images of 5-7 story buildings in the heart of the square are impressive! They will allow us to welcome many more neighbors, help address our city's affordable housing emergency, and provide a steady stream of customers to our local businesses. The Squares + Streets zoning districts promote better use of public space and open space, such as water walking, greenway, plazas, and outdoor seating. <b>The redesigned connection between Belgrade/Robert and Cornish looks great. This will be much safer for pedestrians, and will encourage more active use of that space.</b> Housing &amp; Real Estate - I'm in favor of starting a public process to decide what to do with the <b>Taft Hill municipal parking lot. The plan only calls for public discussion, not imminent development. We should at least consider other ideas for this public resource.</b> I acknowledge that the Planning Department knows about parking lots concerns and I proceed without a temporary parking solution. Purchasing and improving existing affordable housing, such as Hope Deckers, is a good idea and one that organizations like our local CDC, Southwest Boston CDC, is perfectly positioned to try. Small Businesses - Flexible entertainment space for film screenings and events is a great idea. <b>It also like to see city support for promoting commercial stability.</b> I support the idea of researching whether zoning can effectively support small businesses by limiting zone size. Following adoption of the rezoning that will come out of the plan, we need to track commercial vacancies to ensure that new zoning policies are working. And if they aren't, we should not wait to adjust them. Arts &amp; Culture - I support the "location-specific entertainment korner" if it streamlines the approval process for holding events in public space. Right now, organizing public events is hard and complicated, requiring multiple licenses and permits from different City departments with varying responsibilities for transportation, Public Safety, and other departments. <b>Washington Street because it allows for increased pedestrian safety, increased open space, a new bus stop, and shared Poplar Street.</b> This would enable more regular Poplar Street open street periods, better activating public space and moving vehicles through more free traffic. The plan's promoting shade and cooling in the Square is mitigate urban heat is a great idea. Street trees are a great long-term solution for shade, but we need shade now. The plan should consider implementing modern shade structures in the public realm. I like that the plan calls for new investments in our parks. Adams Park needs a children's play area. Hady and Fallon need better pathways, seating and shade. And Fallon needs a water fountain! 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And please, let's support and advocate for the commuter rail stop in Roslindale Square to be Zone 10! We are a City neighborhood and it's only right that all neighbors can afford the fare into downtown at a reasonable rate. The more riders, the less cars on the streets. Finally, I support restoring Washington Street to be way and also re-zoning in our park! Thank you for your hard work to bring this forward, Ann-Marie Lawlor.</p>	Max Tobin-Hochstadt	
01/27/2025	No	Comment Form	<p>I want to publicly strong support for the Small Squares + Streets Small Area Plan for Roslindale Square. Thank you to Mayor Wu and the entire Planning Department for their collaborative efforts to put this forth. It is a strong plan and particularly like the vision it lays out for Roslindale Square with more housing, retail uses, mixed use development, safer streets, and more vibrant and green public spaces. We are in a housing crisis and I am in support of zoning for as much new housing as possible. Also, good lighting and clear sidewalks and intersections are important to ensuring many people will be able to safely access the businesses in the Square! I particularly like the redesigned connection between Belgrade/Robert and Cornish making it much safer for pedestrians and more active use. And please, let's support and advocate for the commuter rail stop in Roslindale Square to be Zone 10! We are a City neighborhood and it's only right that all neighbors can afford the fare into downtown at a reasonable rate. The more riders, the less cars on the streets. Finally, I support restoring Washington Street to be way and also re-zoning in our park! Thank you for your hard work to bring this forward, Ann-Marie Lawlor.</p>	Matthew Lawlor	
01/27/2025	No	Comment Form	<p>I have a concern that the crisis for developing multifamily residences includes street such as Fenwick Street and Cornish Street, which are primarily now single-family residences or perhaps two or three family residences. I don't think this area is appropriate for higher rise buildings. Especially as you get further from Roslindale Square and closer to the Arborway.</p> <p>I really appreciate how thorough this plan is and the work involved in bringing the new vision of what Roslindale could become. I am 98% on board with the content in the doc and agree that housing and accessibility are top priorities. <b>I have one objection and a few concerns.</b> First, the idea of removing or reducing availability of at the Taft Hill Lot. This is at times raised out on parking and I would hate to take that away from people who drive to the square (I rarely do since I can walk out here given when I am buying lots of things in the square). I know for a fact that several of my doctors and dentists who live in Wellesley, etc. come to drive and shop in the square. If you do anything with the Taft Lot, please solar panels which provide shade in the summer and to use in the winter (see pictures at Butler and Community College). I am also concerned with modernistic-looking architecture (see Cary North) because it's not like e.g. corner of West &amp; Cornish which is visually and out of place with the vernacular in the neighborhood. I would like to see several smaller, neighborhood-style family units versus a larger development that takes a city block. Also, removal of exclusive height to maintain the "high feel." I am excited about the proposal of returning Washington St to 2-lanes. I never thought the current configuration made sense by forcing cars through the square to get towards Cornish. I am also excited with reconfiguration at Cornish/Belgrade/Robert. It is impossible to cross the street (too wide), nobody gives you a break if you are trying to go left from Robert and it is dangerous. I also agree we need more trees and preferably native trees like oaks. There are several streets in the Longfellow Area that are completely devoid of street trees making it unpleasant to walk around on hot days. Thank you, Justin Hochstadt.</p>	Ann-Marie Lawlor	
01/28/2025	No	Email	<p>I really appreciate how thorough this plan is and the work involved in bringing the new vision of what Roslindale could become. I am 98% on board with the content in the doc and agree that housing and accessibility are top priorities. <b>I have one objection and a few concerns.</b> First, the idea of removing or reducing availability of at the Taft Hill Lot. This is at times raised out on parking and I would hate to take that away from people who drive to the square (I rarely do since I can walk out here given when I am buying lots of things in the square). I know for a fact that several of my doctors and dentists who live in Wellesley, etc. come to drive and shop in the square. If you do anything with the Taft Lot, please solar panels which provide shade in the summer and to use in the winter (see pictures at Butler and Community College). I am also concerned with modernistic-looking architecture (see Cary North) because it's not like e.g. corner of West &amp; Cornish which is visually and out of place with the vernacular in the neighborhood. I would like to see several smaller, neighborhood-style family units versus a larger development that takes a city block. Also, removal of exclusive height to maintain the "high feel." I am excited about the proposal of returning Washington St to 2-lanes. I never thought the current configuration made sense by forcing cars through the square to get towards Cornish. I am also excited with reconfiguration at Cornish/Belgrade/Robert. It is impossible to cross the street (too wide), nobody gives you a break if you are trying to go left from Robert and it is dangerous. I also agree we need more trees and preferably native trees like oaks. There are several streets in the Longfellow Area that are completely devoid of street trees making it unpleasant to walk around on hot days. Thank you, Justin Hochstadt.</p>	Dave Hinhon	
01/28/2025	No	Comment Form	<p>It is with great pleasure that I write in support of the small area plan for Roslindale Square. Given the regional housing shortage and the capacity for Roslindale to build more and denser residential units, this is a step firmly in the right direction toward supporting the residents of the City of Boston. I am hopeful that this new zoning will help Roslindale welcome more residents and encourage those from around the corner and around the city to frequent local businesses and spend time in our much-needed green spaces in Roslindale. <b>In the future, I would like to see more of the area rezoned to allow for more housing.</b> Thank you to Mayor Wu and Karlos Shen for their great work on this project.</p>	Justin Hochstadt	
01/28/2025	No	Comment Form	<p>It is with great pleasure that I write in support of the small area plan for Roslindale Square. Given the regional housing shortage and the capacity for Roslindale to build more and denser residential units, this is a step firmly in the right direction toward supporting the residents of the City of Boston. I am hopeful that this new zoning will help Roslindale welcome more residents and encourage those from around the corner and around the city to frequent local businesses and spend time in our much-needed green spaces in Roslindale. <b>In the future, I would like to see more of the area rezoned to allow for more housing.</b> Thank you to Mayor Wu and Karlos Shen for their great work on this project.</p>	Benjamin Lawlor	

Date Received	To elected officials/Source	Comment	Name	Organization (if applicable)
01/29/2025	No	<p>I am a strong supporter of Squares and Streets for Rosindale. I am in support of all aspects of the plan, which I have not read but support all the different areas of recommendations because housing, increased and expanded small businesses, change to traffic patterns, and better use of parks are all important to our community. I particularly like the "community vision 2" which stresses the need to create more housing and especially housing that is many stories high and requires rezoning agreements for families and for low-income residents. However, I heard at an open meeting that all or many businesses are extremely concerned about losing the Fall Ave parking lot. If that is the case, I think it would be better to keep the parking lot, rather than lose the entire Squares and Streets project. Instead, I would support the construction of taller housing along Washington Street, an open-park area. It would be possible at a later date to build housing on the parking lot, after the entire Squares and Streets initiative is seen as successful. I would also support "managed parking" in front of businesses, that is meters with limits of approximately two hours, which would allow commercial businesses to maintain active traffic in their stores and restaurants. I strongly support the changes suggested in the plan for Washington Street, making it two-way and eliminating the need for everyone to use Poplar Street when they want to continue along Washington. That would make possible the ideas presented in Squares and Streets for closing Poplar for events and in any case, making it safer for pedestrians. You all have done a great job with Squares and Streets. I would like to see it all implemented! Thank you. I'm writing to share my enthusiasm for the Rosindale Square Small Area Plan and offer some thoughts on strengthening it further. As someone who values our neighborhood's public spaces and pedestrian-friendly atmosphere, I'm particularly excited about the plan's vision for transforming our streets and common areas into more vibrant, welcoming spaces.</p> <p>The proposed redesign of the South Street and Corinth Street connection and the potential for a new-way Washington Street are especially promising, and Washington St. in particular, will be game changing for the core of Rosindale. These changes would create safer conditions for pedestrians while opening up new possibilities for expanded open space and a fully closed and pedestrianized Poplar Street (with maybe some deliveries allowed).</p> <p>The increase in vibrancy and pedestrian-friendly design will increase foot traffic and dwell time in the Square (independent of how that arrived in the Square). This does not just tend to create a halo Effect, so that pedestrians visit other businesses, rather than just the one they were shopping through when shopping to get to Corinth. This, along with a positive contribution by giving all businesses an extra boost, as well as providing an opportunity for more social confusion and connection. The closure of Poplar St. would connect Adams Park all the way through to South St. and would be similar to what is being done in Boston, creating such a unified neighborhood. Rosindale, once again leading the way.</p> <p>I appreciate the emphasis on shade and cooling solutions in the Square, though I'd encourage considering immediate solutions like modern shade structures while we wait for new trees to mature. The plan's commitment to improving our parks, particularly the pathways and seating at Healy and Fallon Fields, will help create more inviting spaces for our community. However, I believe we can be even more ambitious. While the plan makes excellent progress in improving our common core, we should expand seating and shade beyond the main corridors. Given our region's severe housing shortage, we have an opportunity - and responsibility - to welcome more neighbors throughout our residential areas, not just along major streets. This would not only address housing needs but also help support our local businesses and enhance the vitality of our public spaces.</p>	Elizabeth Tobin	
01/29/2025	No		Adam Schutes	
01/30/2025	No		Teresa Lawlor	
01/30/2025	No		Andrea Bruno	
01/30/2025	No		Scott Mirkin	
01/30/2025	No		Emily Pease	

Date Received	To elected officials/Source	Comment	Name	Organization (if applicable)
		<p>The Rosindale neighborhood, the City of Boston and the greater metro area is in a housing crisis with lack of supply driving up housing prices and rents and forcing many people to leave neighborhoods where they have lived most of their lives. During the past few years we have had multiple thousands people living in Rosindale Square, much more than previously. The only way to get people into housing, and allow people to stay in their home, especially housing that they can afford is to build far more housing. Street, CO and Transit. On this we have seen rental prices go down due to increased apartment supply. It can be done in Boston as well.</p> <p><b>More homes for people will provide more customers for local businesses and an improved tax base to help stabilize property taxes.</b></p> <p>I fully support the recommendations for Arts and Culture, Transportation and Public Realm and look forward to seeing the recommendations implemented.</p> <p>Squares and Streets Zoning Districts: I see no reason for zoning S-0 to exist along arterial streets Washington, Belgrade, and Converse Highway in the Rosindale S-0 area. It unnecessarily creates smaller buildings where I does not make much sense. We already have buildings (or buildings that have been approved by the DCR and Zoning Board of Appeals) on these streets that exceed S-0 zoning.</p> <p>S-4 zoning should be limited to the Northwest side of Washington St from 4165 (Target) to Murray Hills. From both sides of Washington to 4251. Both sides of Converse St from Washington to S. Conway, the southeast side of S. Conway to the walkway along Conway St to the southeast side of the railroad tracks along the northeast side of the T-148 Parking lot to Washington St.</p> <p><b>S-6 zoning perhaps could be a floating zone, limited to one building within the S-4 zoning area described above.</b> I generally believe that a 70' max height can produce not only a very beautiful neighborhood but one that is dense, compact and makes for a fantastic neighborhood such as evidenced in the Back Bay and South End. However, having an iconic taller building could be a great addition to the neighborhood. I just think that in our relatively small neighborhood, one would be enough.</p> <p><b>Regarding the proposal to build multi-family housing on the City-owned Tuff Hill public parking lot and the two MITA Converter Rail Parking Lots,</b> I highly recommend that the City hold off until a parking management plan is in effect, regularly enforced and people are accustomed to it. When housing was first proposed at the Tuff Hill lot several years ago a great many business owners and residents objected to it with some stating that the free parking at Tuff Hill was currently the only thing keeping their shops and restaurants in business. Please hold off on this for now. It has the ability to generate a great amount of opposition to S-3 if it remains. Institute the current BTZ parking management plan, enforce it, wait a year for people to get used to it, plan, engage, then build, baby build!</p> <p>I hope that in the future the residential neighborhoods in Rosindale will be the right zone to allow a majority of houses that already exist to be conforming to zoning and that those who/who's family houses are allowed as of right everywhere and fourstory eight family are allowed everywhere along arterial streets.</p>		
01/30/2025	No	Email	Mark Todor	
01/30/2025	No	Letter	David Czarski	
01/30/2025	No	Comment Form	Sam Bruno	
01/30/2025	No	Comment Form	Michael Collins	
01/31/2025	No	Comment Form	Barnaby Nave	
01/31/2025	No	Comment Form	Andrew Giannino-Curtis	
01/31/2025	No	Comment Form	Bryan Sadowski	
01/31/2025	No	Comment Form	Jen Sadowski	
01/31/2025	No	Comment Form	Natasha Meyer	
01/31/2025	No	Comment Form	Ben Bruno	

Date Received	To	Electoral office/submitting Source	Comment	Name	Organization (if applicable)
			I'm excited about the Rosindale Square Small Area Plan's vision for our neighborhood's future. As a Rosindale resident, I value the thoughtful approach to creating more vibrant, sustainable spaces that will benefit our entire community. The proposed 6-7 story buildings in the Square's core will help address our city's housing needs while supporting local businesses with new customers.		
01/13/2025	No	Email	I particularly appreciate the plan's attention to public spaces and pedestrian safety. The redesigned connection between South and Corhill Streets will create a more welcoming environment, and the restoration of two-way traffic on Washington Street promises improved pedestrian safety and expanded open space. However, I believe we need to take a broader view of our housing goals. While the current plan makes positive steps toward increasing density along main corridors, we should extend these opportunities throughout more of Rosindale's residential areas. Given the severe housing shortage in Greater Boston, every neighborhood needs to play its part in creating new homes. I encourage the Planning Department to consider expanding the areas zoned for multifamily housing beyond just Robert, Fifth, and Florence Streets to include more of our residential streets. This would help create a more inclusive and accessible neighborhood while maintaining Rosindale's unique character.	Thomas Little-Cremer	
01/13/2025	No	Email	I support the Rosindale Square Small Area Plan because I want more urban density to reduce our reliance on cars and promote walking, biking, and the use of public transportation. I also want to see more local businesses and more people supporting them instead of Amazon and other huge corporations.	Aurelia Campbell	
01/13/2025	No	Email	I appreciate the Rosindale Square Small Area Plan's vision for creating a more vibrant neighborhood with increased housing opportunities and safer streets. As someone who bought a home here nearly a decade ago, I've witnessed firsthand how rising housing costs have made it increasingly difficult for young families to put down roots in our community. While the plan's proposal for 6-7 story buildings in the commercial core is promising, I strongly believe we need to expand the rezoning efforts beyond just the main corridors. The current housing shortage demands a more comprehensive approach - one that allows for increased density throughout our residential areas, not just along major streets. This would help create more opportunities for families like mine to build their lives in Rosindale, while maintaining the neighborhood's character.	Margaux Leonard	
			I'm writing to express my strong support for the Rosindale Square Small Area Plan's vision of creating more housing, safer streets, and vibrant public spaces. As a young adult hoping to put down roots in Rosindale, I'm particularly encouraged by the plan's recognition that we need more housing options throughout our neighborhood.		
			The proposed 6-7 story buildings in Rosindale Square's core are exactly what we need to welcome new residents while supporting our local businesses. I'm especially excited about the redesigned connection between South and Corhill Streets, which not only adds safe pedestrian spaces and encourages more community gathering, but also helps maintain the vibrant character that makes Rosindale special.		
			However, to truly address our housing crisis, we need to think bigger. While the plan's initial steps toward allowing more multifamily housing on streets like Robert, Fifth, and Florence are positive, we should extend these opportunities throughout residential areas. As someone struggling with Boston's challenging housing market, I know firsthand that finding new housing options isn't always easy. By thoughtfully increasing density across our entire neighborhood, we can create more opportunities for young families like me to join this wonderful community while ensuring our local businesses thrive with a growing customer base.	Jonathan Liem	
01/13/2025	No	Email	My main concern is that too many parking spaces will be eliminated, which hurts business owners, not all of their customers live within walking distance of those businesses, and not all of our customers who will make purchases and then have to figure out how to bring purchases home or public transit. When I first moved to Rosindale 30 years ago the square was not a thriving business area. Now that it has become one, I would hate to see that change by becoming impossible to park nearby and businesses therefore going elsewhere.	Sarah Markel	
01/13/2025	No	Comment Form	I recently moved to Boston from Maine, I choose Rosindale as my neighborhood because of the vibrant form of social life that has been built up around the square and because the city and residents are investing in its future. For this reason, I especially support Community Vision 2 as articulated in the draft plan. The density of people, public space, and businesses should be allowed beyond the core streets, setting up the neighborhood to continue to thrive to the future (rather than shrink and fade) and enabling people to live closer to their jobs and/or transit. This is something not available in my previous home state of Maine and at the cost of poorer quality of life. I also especially appreciate the draft plan items expanding public spaces for eating outdoors, items encouraging small business success serving diverse communities, and improving commuter rail value and service. Thanks for putting the effort into engaging this community about its future.	Matthew Stamp	
01/13/2025	No	Comment Form	Housing and real estate strategies. Please include support for a higher number of single-bedroom units (both apartments and condos) in future developments in Rosindale. As a single-parent household in Rosindale, I know firsthand how difficult it is to find a single bedroom apartment for rent, singles and empty nesters are left with few choices. A long search through older housing stock, paying a premium for a second bedroom, getting a roommate to afford the second bedroom, or simply moving elsewhere. As our city grows, Rosindale has a smaller percentage of single bedroom apartments that most other neighborhoods in Boston. This is likely one reason that Rosindale currently houses more children than some other neighborhoods. It seems like single bedroom apartments are considered a priority. Rosindale Square Parking management plan: If there is any hope of using the Tall Hill as multi-family housing then the Tall Hill Lot needs to be returned and be free for less than four hours. A free parking lot will be seen as a necessity for many people who work and shop in the square or only because it subsidizes their driving dependency. At a free four hour workers in the area can park for the morning four hours of work, go home to have lunch, come back and park for another four hours until the work day is over without spending a penny. This subsidizes and encourages poor parking management and will make reuse of the Tall Hill very politically difficult.	Mark Towson	
01/13/2025	No	Comment Form	Please make every effort to make our city safer for pedestrians and bikers, and children. I love bringing my children to Rose Square and would love the following improvements: I support restoring two-way Washington Street, which allows for increased pedestrian safety, expanded open space, a new bus stop, and shared Pedlar Street. This would enable more regular Pedlar Street closures, better activating public space and driving business. I love that the plan prioritizes shade and cooling in the Square to mitigate urban heat. Street trees are a great urban solution for shade, but we need shade now. The plan should consider implementing modern shade structures in the public realm. I see that the plan calls for new investments in our parks. Adams Park needs a children's play area. Healy and Fallon need better pathways, seating, and shade. And Fallon needs a water fountain! Thank you.	Nancy Ryan	
01/13/2025	No	Comment Form	Dear City of Boston Planning Department, I am writing to share my thoughts on the Rosindale Square Small Area Plan. As a nearby resident who frequently visits Rosindale Square for shopping, dining, and community events, I am excited about the vision this plan presents for creating a more vibrant, accessible, and sustainable neighborhood center. The plan's emphasis on mixed-use development, safer street intersections, and enhanced public spaces aligns well with what makes Rosindale special. I particularly appreciate the proposed redesign of the South Street and Corhill Street connection, which will create a safer environment for pedestrians while encouraging more community gatherings. The images showing 6-7 story buildings in the heart of Rosindale are encouraging, as they will help address our city's housing needs while supporting local businesses with new customers. Additionally, the focus on shade and cooling through street trees and modern structures demonstrates a thoughtful approach to climate resilience. However, I believe we can do more to address the increasing housing shortage. While the plan prioritizes allowing higher main streets in good areas, we need to consider allowing more housing throughout Rosindale's residential areas. The responsibility for creating new homes shouldn't fall solely on those living along major corridors. By thoughtfully expanding housing opportunities throughout the neighborhood - including areas like Robert, Fifth, and Florence Streets - we can create a more inclusive and sustainable community while preserving what makes Rosindale unique.	Jason Brown	
01/13/2025	No	Comment Form	I am so excited for your draft plan as released in December, and very much look forward to the continued community collaboration in finalizing the current recommendations. In particular, I applaud your strong commitment and thoughtful integration of the city vision for housing 2025 and beyond. We desperately need more housing! Rosindale was my first neighborhood before I moved to a city, and I recently returned as a first time homeowner (I now bring within the plan area - I plan for Rosindale to be my forever home. I just wish more of my friends and colleagues had the same opportunity to find a home here too. Many of them are facing difficult choices in the next few years about whether to give over higher proportions of their budgets to constantly rising rents or leave the city we love to somewhere where housing is generally affordable and accessible. Owning my own home instead of moving from rental to rental has shifted how I think about place and community. I am living in a town that will generations before me; I am less an owner than active steward with a duty of care to ensure it continues beyond me. I attended the online public comment session earlier this month, and was struck by a number of fellow neighbors and cherished local business leaders approaching the forward community planning opportunity with fear and apprehensiveness of what we have and they fear will erode rather than openness to expanding and adapting as Rosindale will thrive not just now, not just in 10 or 15 years to come, but after each of us are gone. We have to plan for our children too. Let's not be tripped by capitalism's frequent fallacy of benefits off others coming at direct equivalent cost to ourselves. Community is not a zero-sum game. Public utilities give us a model of the synergy of how helping our neighbors - established and new - also helps ourselves. (Speaking of public utilities, I would be so thrilled if part of the 6-7 story plan for Rosindale also integrated visions for how we might position ourselves to plan new and exciting opportunities for all of us to our expensive utility costs: how can we be the next network geothermal plant Rosindale would be such a perfect location, from which a network could continue to expand? Looking forward to continuing to grow, listen, connect, and participate in this process.	Jane Newbold	
01/13/2025	No	Letter	See attached (Copy of Ros 5&S Comments-Galga)	Deborah Galga	