

GREATER GROVE HALL MAIN STREETS



CLOSED.

This is not a photo of stores prior to their opening or on a Sunday when they would be closed. This is in the middle of the afternoon, in the middle of the week! If these businesses are closed, the owners and their employees won't be earning any money to pay bills or feed their family. That's the problem.

Greater Grove Hall Main Streets will continue to tell you about resources to help you and your family get through this difficult time. As such, this newsletter is divided into two parts. The first part will include **resources for businesses**. The second part will include **information on community events of interest**.

Business Resources



Small Business Relief Fund

These are **GRANTS**, not loans and when you are giving out **FREE** money, it will go fast. Please apply on Monday and no later than Tuesday for the best chance of getting these grants that range from \$2,500 to \$10,000.

The City of Boston is committed to helping small businesses during this unprecedented time.

We will begin accepting applications **MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2020**

[Click Here to Learn More >](#)

Supporting Boston Restaurants

We are providing a way for residents to find local restaurants that remain open for take-out and delivery service during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) crisis.

[Click Here to See the Listings of Open Restaurants >](#)

[Register Your Restaurant >](#)

Open Age-Friendly Businesses

The Age-Friendly Boston program is making a list of Age friendly businesses. These are businesses that provide delivery and other age friendly services for seniors.

If businesses are interested in becoming certified as "Age-Friendly" and getting on the list,

they should contact:

Nicole Chandler (*pronouns she/her/hers*)

Staff Assistant, Age-Friendly Boston

Age Strong Commission

City of Boston | City Hall Room 271

617.635.3745(w) | www.boston.gov/agestrong

SUPPORTING BOSTON'S OPEN BUSINESSES

The city is providing a way for residents to find essential businesses that remain open during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) crisis.

Open Business Registration

[Register Your Open Business >](#)

Open Business Listing

[View Open Business Listing >](#)

Small Business Resources

Dear Non-Profits, Small Businesses, Artists, Freelancers, Gig Workers, Self-Employers, Part-Timers, and Solo Shop Warriors
Wondering What's Next: This Money is For You. Please Take It.

[Click Here to Learn More >](#)



Coronavirus and Massachusetts



COVID-19 Business Resources

[Click Here to Learn More >](#)**FINANCIAL RELIEF***A Handbook for Small Business
Owners***Financial Relief Handbook**[Click Here to Learn More >](#)

Community Events

[Ideas That Count - Volume XIX and Partnership Newsletter](#)

I hope this message finds you healthy and in good spirits. While our mission to motivate others to self-respond to the 2020 Census remains paramount, we understand that you, your family, friends, co-workers, and communities are dealing with many other changes and issues due to the ongoing COVID-19 crisis. My purpose here is to provide you with 2020 Census information, resources, stories, and ideas to help guide you through these unprecedented times.

Partnership Newsletter

I would like to start with our March edition of our region's [Partnership Newsletter](#). The stories included help describe many of the events that took place throughout the month of February. We are so fortunate that many partners in every state of our great region are doing their part to spread the Census message, so we do our best to capture some of the work being done via articles and images shared by our Census partnership team. Please enjoy this latest version and feel free to share your thoughts, comments, and ideas with your partnership specialist.

Ideas That Count - Volume XIX

We decided to provide you with an idea that is fun, easy, and provides a message of individual and family pride. The attached I Completed My Census and We Completed Our Census thumbs-up sheets (also found [here](#)) can be colored, decorated, and displayed upon completing your 2020 Census questionnaire. Feel free to post inside a window or on the outside of the door to your house, office, or anywhere else people will be able to see it once social-distancing restrictions are lifted. For now, you can at least share photos that displays your work of art and sense of pride. Hopefully, it will serve as motivation for others to self-respond to the Census.

As a special tribute to the 2020 Census Faith Communities Weekend of Action, you will

also find attached images from some very special Census partners who are proudly displaying their own sense of pride. Pastor Gilbert Montrose, director of faith-based and clergy initiatives at the Brooklyn Borough President's Office, can be seen holding his sign at home in front of his piano. Reverend Dr. Moises Mercedes, from Iglesia Principe de Paz Assemblies of God in Bridgeport, has placed his thumbs-up sheet on the entrance door to his congregation. And Senior Rabbi Joel Mabacher was also kind enough to send along a few pictures of how the Temple Shaaray Tefila, located in Manhattan's upper east side, is showing its support of our 2020 Census self-response initiative.

If you would like to share other 2020 Census messaging with those in your social media community, please consider using material contained in our brand new [Virtual Media Toolkit](#), which is also now available in [Spanish](#).

Faith Communities Weekend of Action

This weekend, **March 27-29**, is the **2020 Census Faith Communities Weekend of Action**. Faith leaders have a strong connection to the communities they serve, including hard-to-count populations, and can make a real difference in achieving a complete 2020 Census count. Please view this informative [Faith communities 2020 Census action guide](#) to learn more about how you may connect with these wonderful communities and communicate the importance of self-responding to the 2020 Census. We are also proud to present this video message from faith leaders, available here in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

News and Information

We will continue to provide you with updated [news and information](#) pertaining to 2020 Census operational adjustments due to the COVID-19 outbreak. You may also find this [Census Operational One-Sheet](#) to be helpful in communicating the updated plan with others. However, much like everything else these days, that plan can change at moment's notice.

In the meantime, you may now track how your state, town, community, or Census tract (and so much more) is self-responding via the [2020 Census Response Rate Map](#). It's a fun, accurate, and intuitive new tool that can easily be shared with others. As always, we would love to hear your thoughts and comments.

Beware of Stimulus Scams

Here's what taxpayers need to know about stimulus payment processing in order to protect themselves from scammers:

1.Be alert for phone scams.

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury Department, or any other government agency will not contact you by phone to collect information for stimulus payment processing. Period.

2.Be alert for phishing scams.

Government agencies will not email or text you to collect information for stimulus payment processing. Watch for suspicious emails or texts with links or attachments requesting

information for processing stimulus deposits or checks. If you receive one, do not click the link or open the attachment. It's a scam. Delete it.

3. Be alert for state-related scams.

State agencies will also not call, email or text you to collect information or a fee to process a stimulus payment. To date, no state has introduced their own version of a stimulus payment.

As of now, we are only aware of one communication a taxpayer will receive from the IRS. No later than 15 days **after** distributing a stimulus payment, the IRS is required to mail a notice to the taxpayer indicating the payment amount, whether the payment was mailed or deposited, and a phone number to call if the taxpayer did not receive the payment.

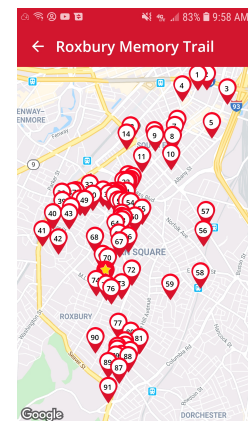
Victims or targets of stimulus payment scams should report it immediately to the Federal Trade Commission, www.ftc.gov/complaint.



The Roxbury Memory Trail App is Ready

Download and tell us what you think.

The Roxbury Memory Trail has over a 100 points of interest from Grove Hall to Nubian Sq.



2020 Census Online and Phone Launch

The 2020 Census is now available online at 2020census.gov!

The most accurate response is a self response and an early response helps to ensure that no one will come knocking on your community members' doors starting in mid May (earlier in some neighborhoods of Boston.)

With respect to COVID-19, Census 2020 is moving ahead according to plan. The Census Bureau will follow the guidance of Federal, State, and local health authorities.

Some resources and answers to recently and frequently asked questions:

1) What does the Invitation to Respond envelope look like?

See visuals of our Census 2020 mailings here:

<https://www.census.gov/newsroom/press-kits/2020/2020-census-mailings.html>

2) Can I answer the questionnaire without the code in the Invitation to Respond?

Yes! Visit my2020census.gov to complete the questionnaire with or without a code.

3) Will my geographic area receive the paper form first or only the invitation to respond?

Take a look at the Mail Contact Strategies Viewer -- if your census tracts are in green then your area will receive the invitation to respond **and** the paper questionnaire in the first mailing. Remember, anyone who does not respond by phone or online will receive a paper questionnaire as part of their 4th mailing.

<https://gis-portal.data.census.gov/arcgis/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7ef5c37c68a64ef3b2f1b17eb9287427>

4) I like the paper questionnaire. Will I need to pay to mail it back?

No, it has postage on the return envelope and is ready to mail.

5) What are the Census phone numbers?

LANGUAGE LINE	TOLL-FREE NUMBER
English	844-330-2020
Spanish	844-468-2020
Chinese (Mandarin)	844-391-2020
Chinese (Cantonese)	844-398-2020
Vietnamese	844-461-2020
Korean	844-392-2020
Russian	844-417-2020
Arabic	844-416-2020
Tagalog	844-478-2020
Polish	844-479-2020
French	844-494-2020
Haitian Creole	844-477-2020
Portuguese	844-474-2020
Japanese	844-460-2020
English (Puerto Rico residents)	844-418-2020
Spanish (Puerto Rico residents)	844-426-2020
Telephone Display Device (TDD)	844-467-2020

6) What if more than 10 people are in my household?

It is best to answer online or by phone for a larger household as you may include up to 99 people in your response.

7) Where can I find language assistance for the census?

See print guides in 59 languages here.

<https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/decennial-census/2020-census/planning-management/language-resources/language-guides.html>

8) When will I be able to see how well my community is responding?

As of March 20th you will be able to see Census Self-Response Rates here: <https://2020census.gov/en/response-rates.html>

9) Will the Census Bureau provide staff at my agency to help my community complete the census?

We are staffing Census Response Representatives (CRR) at locations across the city from March 12 through March 30th. After March 30th, we will deploy CRRs where self-response rate are lowest for Mobile Questionnaire Assistance (please see attached flyer regarding MQA).

[Learn About the 2020 Census Mobile Questionnaire >](#)

[Learn More About the 2020 Census Invitation >](#)



A Message from the Grove Hall Branch Library: Message to Partners and Resources

Below are various digital services that are available and ways that you can connect with us on social media or by email. Our social media includes additional resources and updates that you may find useful. As always, please feel free to email us at grovehall@bpl.org if you need to reach us.

Visit our Teen Instagram: [@bplbostonteens](#)

Visit us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/grovehallbranchbpl>

Visit us on Twitter: [@bplgrovehall](#)

Reach us by email: grovehall@bpl.org

[View Boston Public Library Resources in English >](#)

[View Boston Public Resources in Spanish >](#)



Franklin Park Master Plan Survey

The city of Boston has pledged \$28,000,000, from the \$153 million sale of the Winthrop Square Garage, for the improvement and maintenance of Franklin Park. This is the largest investment ever made to this park. The city hired Reed Hilderbrand Landscape Architects to create a master plan for the Park.

They have put out a survey, to get the public's opinion, so far only 9% of Blacks, 6% of Latinos and 76% of whites have responded to this survey, to voice their opinions. The problem with this is 72% of the people who live around Franklin Park are people of color. Now, is the time to make our voices heard. Please take the time to complete the survey. Franklin Park is the largest park in the city, a wonderful resource that could be so much better with your input.

<https://www.franklinparkmasterplan.com/survey>

We Want to Hear From You! Franklin Park Master Plan

Project Background:

With [the sale of Winthrop Square Garage](#), in the spring of 2019, Mayor Walsh committed \$28 million to revitalize Franklin Park. In preparation for this investment, which includes \$5 million earmarked to create a maintenance endowment, the Boston Parks and Recreation Department has launched a master planning process for Franklin Park and is seeking community feedback as we begin our work!

In collaboration with a cross-functional team led by landscape architects [Reed Hilderbrand](#), we are looking to learn more about the park's:

- current strengths

- areas for improvement
- the park's landscape health
- the park's relationship to adjacent communities
- & the park's most frequent uses

During our community engagement process and extensive community conversations, we hope to create a master plan that will lead to a more accessible and sustainable future for Franklin Park. Our hope is that the ideas laid out within the master plan will help to inform future projects and programming within the park.

Ways to get involved:

Email Updates: Visit the Franklin Park Master Plan project website (www.FranklinParkMasterPlan.com) and sign up for email updates about the project.

Take the Survey! Let us know how you use the park now, or what you'd like to see for the future of the park by [taking our project survey!](#) The survey is open until **April 10th**.

Help spread the word: Feel free to forward this email to your networks and encourage your friends to take the survey as well. If you are active on social media, feel free to share some of these [premade graphics](#) and tag @BostonParksDept

Stay in touch: With the current public health circumstances, we have not yet scheduled our next Community Meeting, but when we know it is safe to do so, we will let you know. In the meantime, please stay in touch and if you have any questions about the project feel free to reach out to the project manager, Lauren Bryant (Lauren.Bryant@Boston.gov).

We know that this is a crazy time in the world, but it is times like this when we can turn to our open space for reflection. Franklin Park park is one of the City's most important open spaces and we need your help to ensure the future success of one of Boston's best.

[View Flyer >](#)

Franklin Park Workshop Postponed

In the meantime, we will be creating new ways for you to engage in the process even when we cannot get together in person! To get started...

If you have not yet, take our 5-7 minute [survey](#) to help us understand how you use the park and what improvements you would like to see (available in 6 languages). **Extended until April 10th!**

Please share the survey with your friends, family, and other people you know who go to (or would like to go to) Franklin Park!

Weren't able to attend our first community workshop in January? Spend some time

2020 SuccessLink Summer Employment Program

Mayor Martin J. Walsh & the City of Boston Department of Youth Engagement & Employment are excited to announce the launch of the 2020 SuccessLink Summer Employment Program!

Every year, the City of Boston partners with hundreds of community-based and nonprofit organizations across the city to provide meaningful employment opportunities to thousands of Boston youth ages 15 to 18. There are opportunities to work in a wide variety of job fields like the arts, government & advocacy, STEM, sports & recreation, childcare, education, and more!

Youth who are interested in applying to work with SuccessLink must meet the following requirements:

- Must be a full-time resident of the City of Boston
- Must turn 15 years old on or before Monday July 6, 2020
- Cannot turn 19 years old on or before Friday August 14, 2020
- Must be legally permitted to work in the United States

SuccessLink Employment Program Dates:

SuccessLink Application Opens: Monday, March 2, 2020 at 12:00 PM

SuccessLink Application Closes: Sunday, April 5, 2020 at 5:00 PM (**NOTE:** Youth may be contacted for an interview by a site prior to the end of the application period, so we recommend that youth apply early!)

Employment Program Begins: Monday July 6, 2020

Employment Program Ends: Friday August 14, 2020

The Process

Youth Engagement & Employment (YEE) will post job opportunities for youth to apply for directly. **Youth may apply for up to 15 positions.**

The next steps:

- The job site(s) that youth have applied to will review applications and will contact youth directly if they believe that the youth will be a good fit.
- Youth will have the opportunity to meet with the job site and show off their interviewing skills. The City of Boston Youth Job and Resource Fair is a great way to learn about different opportunities and meet with SuccessLink Partners.
- If selected, youth will receive an email from our team with instructions about how to complete the hiring process.

Onboarding and Paperwork Completion: Youth applicants who accept job placements will be emailed instructions on how to fill out the necessary hiring paperwork along with a [checklist of required documents](#) that must be brought to the YEE Office for verification. The visit to our office is the very last step in the hiring process!

*Applying with SuccessLink does not guarantee a job. If you need assistance with applying for a job, please visit the City of Boston Department of Youth Engagement & Employment at 1483 Tremont Street, Roxbury, or give us a call 617-635-4202.

Job Openings:

[You can view all job openings or use the search options below to find job openings that match your specific career interests.](#)

STEPRox Recovery Support Center Online/Virtual Resources

In the Rooms - <https://www.intherooms.com/home/>

The world's largest, online social network for the global recovery community. In The Rooms is for people already in recovery, those seeking immediate help from any addiction, and for the families, friends, and allies of loved ones who are affected by substance use disorder. Scroll to the bottom right for a long list of upcoming live meetings.

SMART Recovery - <https://www.smartrecovery.org/>

A science based addiction support group where we learn self-empowering skills and support each other in our recovery.

Recovery Dharma - <https://recoverydharma.org/online-meetings>

Using Buddhist practices and principles to heal the suffering of addiction.

[Click Here to View More Resources >](#)



WE ARE ALL WONDERWOMEN!



We Are All Wonderwomen!

Even Wonder Women need support sometime (like now). The Women Moving Forward Group is back!

Join STEPRox via ZOOM (It's free!)

Meeting ID: 662-663-014

Every Friday at 3PM starting March 27, 2020

[View Flyer >](#)

All Pathways to Recovery Meeting at STEPRox!

Starting Monday, March 30, 2020 via ZOOM

Meeting ID: 335-929-911

All Pathways to Recovery is a support group for anyone in recovery from any substances (which includes but not limited to alcohol, opiates, heroin, tobacco, and cocaine.) This group welcomes an array of recovery approaches including MAT, 12-Step, and faith-based recovery but is not limited to these.

NO MATTER WHAT PATH YOU ARE ON, YOU ARE WELCOME!

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday

Noon - 1:00PM

Any questions please call/text **Katlin 617.987.4439** or email **kjohnson@northsuffolk.org**

[View Flyer >](#)

The Co-Pad Upcoming Events

Chase Bank's First-Time Homebuyers Workshop

Learn about the process of purchasing a home and lenders who can help

April 7th, 6PM – 8PM

1601 Blue Hill Ave, STE 210

[View Flyer >](#)

The Co-Pad + Level'N Up Podcast Launch Party

You are invited to a launch party to celebrate the opening of The Co-Pad and Level'N Up Podcast

April 9th, 6PM

The Co-Pad Office, 1601 Blue Hill Ave, STE 210

[Learn More >](#)

[View Flyer >](#)

Around the Community



Monthly Main Street Director Meeting

Main Street Director Gerald Robbins receives an award from Chief of Economic Development John Barros for his work.



Potential Locations for Murals on Blue Hill Ave

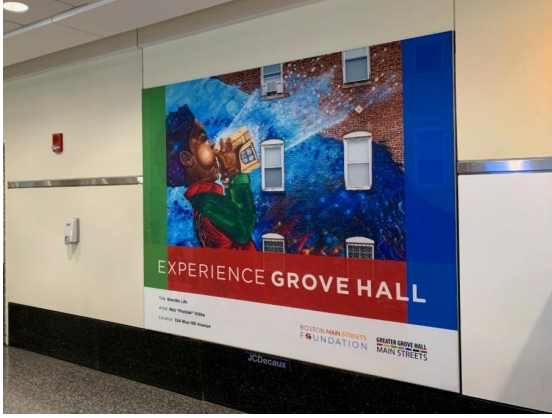


Blue Hill Ave Transportation Action Plan. Residents were invited to provide on feedback on various initiatives to improve Blue Hill Ave.

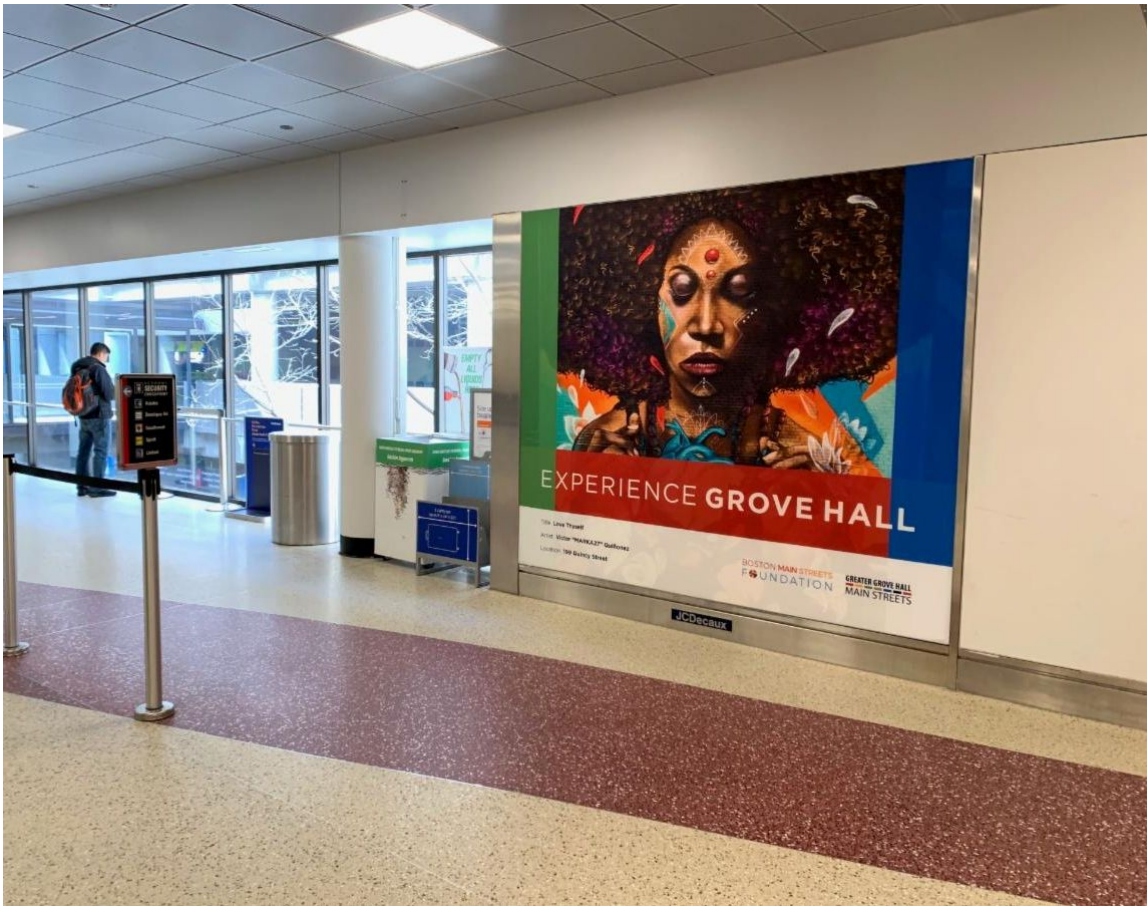


The News Conference for Pure Oasis Prior to

its Opening. Pure Oasis is the first recreational cannabis store in Boston and the first equity applicant.



New Art Work at Logan Airport to Promote Artists of Color and Greater Grove Hall by Greater Grove Hall Main Streets



A Campaign by Greater Grove Hall Main Streets to Promote Artists of Color and the Greater Grove Hall Area. The Campaign is at Logan Airport.

[Visit Our Website](#)



