



We Want Your Help to Shape the Design of Franklin Park

Designs for Franklin Park are underway - we need your help shaping the future!

Join us for our third public workshop on Wednesday, March 10th at 12pm and again at 6:30pm. During this workshop we will share a preview of preliminary design ideas for Franklin Park. We will share the same design ideas in both meetings. There will be opportunities for you to share your ideas and feedback to inform the team's design decisions and next steps.

In light of COVID-19, this workshop will be available online and over the phone. On March 10th, you can join each workshop by clicking on the links below.

[Click here on 3/10 to join the 12pm workshop!](#)

Click here on 3/10 to join the 6:30pm workshop!

You can also join by phone!

At 12pm, use the following call information:

Call in number: 1-646-558-8656

ID: 814 2718 7762

At 6:30pm, use the following call information:

Call in number: 1-646-558-8656

ID: 879 1293 2475

Need translations during the community workshop?

Interpretation and translation services are available to you at no cost. If you need them, please contact Lauren Bryant at lauren.bryant@boston.gov or 617-799-2237 by March 1, 2021.

Hay servicios de interpretación y traducción a su disposición sin costo alguno. Si los necesita, póngase en contacto con nosotros mandando un correo electrónico a lauren.bryant@boston.gov o llamando a 617-799-2237 hasta esta fecha 1/3.

03 01

lauren.bryant@boston.gov

617-799-2237

Sèvis entèpretation ak tradiksyon disponib pou ou san sa pa koute w anyen. Si w bezwen yo, tanpri kontakte nou nan lauren.bryant@boston.gov oswa 617-799-2237, ant: 1/3

Các dịch vụ thông dịch và biên dịch được cung cấp cho quý vị hoàn toàn miễn phí. Nếu quý vị cần những dịch vụ này, vui lòng liên lạc với chúng tôi theo địa chỉ lauren.bryant@boston.gov hoặc số điện thoại 617-799-2237. ngày cuối: 1/3

Nu ta ofere-se-bu sirvisus di interpretason y traduson di grasa. Si bu meste kes sirvisu la, kontata-nu pa email lauren.bryant@boston.gov ó pa telefóni, pa númeru 617-799-2237. Na es data: 1/3

Want to see what we've learned so far?

Get caught up on our work to date and past public workshops ahead of workshop three with our new Resources page on the Franklin Park Action Plan website. We want to share

what we've learned and hear your feedback as we shift to focusing on recommendations for the park's future.

[Click here to view past presentations and reports!](#)



Please Sign this Petition to Get the Lobby of the Grove Hall Post Office Renovated

Renovating The Grove Hall Post Office

Renovation of the lobby of the Grove Hall Post Office 647 Warren St, Dorchester, MA 02121. It doesn't appear to have been renovated since 1959 when it was built.

[Click Here to Learn More](#)

[Click here to sign the petition](#)



ICIC

ICCC: Checking-in

We are starting to begin our planning for the 2021 ICCC program cycle and will be reaching out in the next month to see if you have any businesses you would like to nominate.

Maria Tata

Senior Program Coordinator, Inner City Capital Connections

617.238.3019

Email: mtata@icic.org

CITY *of* BOSTON

Warming Centers

Please find attached multilingual information regarding the Warming Centers available throughout the City of Boston. More information and multilingual fact sheets can be found at [Boston.gov/cold](https://www.boston.gov/cold). In addition, you can find the City's Multilingual Winter Weather Guides online via [Boston.gov/winter-boston](https://www.boston.gov/winter-boston).

[English](#)

[\(Simplified Chinese\)](#)

[Kreyòl ayisyen \(Haitian Creole\)](#)

[Af-Soomali \(Somali\)](#)

[Español \(Spanish\)](#)

[Français \(French\)](#)

[Português \(Portuguese\)](#)

[العربية \(Arabic\)](#)

[Русский \(Russian\)](#)

[Tiếng Việt \(Vietnamese\)](#)

Small Business Conference Call: Every Tuesday at 3pm!

Register in advance: <https://bitly.com/smallbizbos>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

You may also view the webinar and submit questions on [Facebook Live!](#)

CITY of BOSTON

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Our consultants work with entrepreneurs and small business owners. They provide the tools needed to start, strengthen, or expand your business.

Have questions? Contact:

[Economic Development](#)

[617-635-0252](tel:617-635-0252)

emily.patrick@boston.gov

Disparity Study Community Briefings

Please join us for a presentation on the Final Disparity Study report.

Wednesday, March 3: 12 - 2 p.m.

Wednesday, March 3: 6 - 8 p.m.

Friday, March 5: 8 - 10 a.m.

For more information and registration details, please visit

www.boston.gov/disparity-study

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Disparity Study
Community Briefings



RESIST COVID/TAKE 6!

INTRODUCTION

RESIST COVID/TAKE 6! Is an exciting artist-driven public awareness campaign by award-winning artist Carrie Mae Weems to inform and enlighten communities about the impact of the COVID-19 virus, to encourage public health measures, and to thank front line and essential workers. TAKE SIX! refers to the recommended six feet of separation in social distancing.

Take 6! been launched in cities across the country —from New York and Philadelphia, Syracuse and Detroit, Savannah and Atlanta, Houston and many more with displays of powerful images and text on bus shelters, cultural institutions, construction fencing, and other venues. These displays have been coupled with distribution of items such as bookmarks and bumper stickers. Please take a look at the attached [Project Book](#) to see the different images and what's happened in other cities.

We're now bringing Take 6! to Boston. The Museum of Fine Arts is an institutional partner, but we hope to expand the reach of the project throughout Boston neighborhoods in collaboration with local businesses, community groups, libraries, and others. We would be

interested in working with you with posters for display in storefront windows, construction fences or other sites, and various take-aways to distribute—whatever would make sense.

We welcome your ideas! Please share your questions and thoughts with [Ed Gaskin](#) who can relay them directly to me. I look forward to hearing from the Greater Grove Hall community.

Liz Werby
THE OFFICE arts

[Click Here to View the Project Book](#)



As Critical Members of Our Community, It Is Vital That You Get Protected Against Covid-19

PHASE 1:

- Clinical and non-clinical health care workers doing direct and COVID-facing care
- Long term care facilities, rest homes and assisted living facilities
- First responders
- Congregate care settings
- Home-based health care workers
- Health care workers doing non-COVID-facing care

PHASE 2:

Group 1:

- Individuals 75 and older

Group 2:

- Individuals age 65+, individuals with 2+ certain medical conditions
- Cancer
- Chronic kidney disease
- COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease)
- Down Syndrome
- Heart conditions, such as heart failure, coronary artery disease, or cardiomyopathies
- Immunocompromised state (weakened immune system) from solid organ transplant
- Obesity (body mass index [BMI] of 30 kg/m² or higher but < 40 kg/m²)
- Severe Obesity (BMI ≥ 40 kg/m²)
- Pregnancy
- Sickle cell disease
- Smoking
- Type 2 diabetes mellitus

- Residents and staff of low income and affordable senior housing

Call Harvard Street Neighborhood Health Center

at 617-825-3400

to get registered and scheduled for your COVID-19 Vaccine

[Click Here to View Flyer](#)

Mom-And-Pop Businesses Get Exclusive Access To PPP Loans

President Biden announced on Monday the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) would open a 14-day Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) application window just for small businesses and nonprofits with fewer than 20 employees. The special period, which will begin Wednesday, is aimed at helping the smallest employers get their applications prioritized by lenders.

[Click Here to Read More](#)

The Smallest Businesses Are Getting Extra PPP Help. What to Know Before You Apply

The smallest businesses that have [had the most trouble accessing forgivable loans](#) from the Paycheck Protection Program will soon get extra help.

The Biden administration on [Monday announced changes for the pandemic aid program](#) focused on helping small and minority owned firms as well as sole proprietors.

For two weeks, starting Wednesday, the Small Business Administration will only accept applications for PPP loans from firms with fewer than 20 employees.

[Click Here to Read More](#)

FACT SHEET: Biden-Harris Administration Increases Lending to Small Businesses in Need,

Announces Changes to PPP to Further Promote Equitable Access to Relief

Small businesses account for [44 percent](#) of U.S. GDP, create two-thirds of net new jobs, and employ nearly half of America's workers. Now, millions of main street small businesses – especially Black- and Brown-owned small businesses – are struggling to make ends meet in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting economic crisis.

The Biden-Harris administration has made delivering equitable relief to hard-hit small businesses a top priority. The latest round of Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) funding opened just one month ago and it represents a [marked improvement](#) on the prior round of the Program last year. Compared to the same point in the Program last year:

- The share of funding going to small businesses with fewer than ten employees is **up nearly 60 percent**
- The share of funding going to small businesses in rural areas is **up nearly 30 percent**
- The share of funding distributed through Community Development Financial Institutions and Minority Depository Institutions is **up more than 40 percent**

[Click Here to Read More](#)

Self-employed and Gig Workers Could Get Bigger Loans Under New PPP Rules. They May Want to Wait to Apply

Millions of self-employed and gig workers got good news this week.

[The Biden administration on Monday changed how the Small Business Administration's Paycheck Protection Program](#) calculates forgivable loans for the smallest firms and sole proprietors.

But there's a catch. The updated formula — which will likely lead to larger loan amounts for non-employer firms, including sole proprietors and independent contractors — doesn't go into effect until the first week of March.

While the SBA has given some information on how the formula for loans will change, it has yet to communicate the specifics of how to calculate loans under the new rules to lenders.

[Click Here to Read More](#)



ROW BOSTON



**HARRY PARKER
BOATHOUSE**
20 Nonantum Road, Brighton

CRI
Community Rowing Inc.

Sign Up through
Interest Form:



Spring 2021 Sign Ups Open to All Boston Public School Students
RowBoston team is no cost to students from BPS in 7th-12th grade. No experience necessary. Sign Ups open until March 19th 2021.

E-Mail Eddy Mog: eddy.mog@communityrowing.org
Masks required for all students. All participants complete wellness check before entering boathouse

[Click Here to Read More](#)

**CONSTRUCTION
SUPERVISOR LICENSE**

**ONE-ON-ONE
TRAINING**

MASS. CSL TRAINING GROUP

1280 Belmont Street, Brockton, MA
SIGN-UP EVERY TUESDAY 4:30 to 8:30 pm



"Time to bring you to the next level of your profession", all it takes 6 week, and a commitment, let's get you started.

-- David A Johnson, CBO/Tutor



TACTICAL PUBLIC REALM

CASE STUDIES

FEATURED A BETTER CITY ANALYSIS

NEW REPORT: [Tactical Public Realm Case Studies](#)

The pandemic has reinforced the necessity of open spaces to sustain the health and well-being of residents and businesses alike. This new A Better City report highlights the planning, design, and implementation process for three tactical public realm projects managed by A Better City, in addition to a fourth case study describing several pop-up plazas implemented by the City of Boston.

[Click Here to Learn More](#)

Commercial Lease Obligations: An Update from DeMouralSmith LLP

An Update from DeMouralSmith LLP

In the early stages of the pandemic, Paul Robertson and Ken DeMoura of [DeMouralSmith LLP](#) delivered a talk to the Boston Globe's Small Business Support Initiative about commercial lease obligations. As part of their presentation, they noted that commercial tenants seeking to get out of rent obligations may have an uphill battle because most commercial leases contain unfavorable force majeure language.

In a rather stunning decision, a Massachusetts Trial Court has greatly altered the playing field, holding that judicial principles of frustration of purpose may well permit just such rent forgiveness, contract language notwithstanding, when the circumstances call for it. Although the decision is limited to the facts and contract language that were then before the court, and may well be subject to appeal, DeMouralSmith believes that the ruling creates favorable leverage for commercial tenants.

Further detail about the decision may be found here: [Massachusetts Court Excuses Tenant's Rent Due to COVID-19 Shutdown \(demourasmith.com\)](#).

Around the Community



Newton Rotary club along with Greater Grove Hall Main Donate 2000 medical mask to Harvard neighborhood health center.



21 Shades Leadership Team

(Left to right: Jessica Avila, Terri James Solomon, Melissa Elow, Roxanne Hoke-Chandler)

Did You Know 21 Shades

By Karen Bunch

After Roxanne Hoke-Chandler had a child with Down Syndrome, she quickly learned that being her daughter's number one advocate was her top priority. Hoke-Chandler's ability to secure the best healthcare and support services for her daughter was imperative for her daughter's well-being and future opportunities. Twenty-two years later, Hoke-Chandler has become a champion for her daughter and for scores of people of African heritage and the underserved with Down Syndrome, their families, and loved ones.

Born and raised in Boston, a product of Boston Public Schools, Hoke-Chandler went on to earn an MS in Management from Lesley University. Then, after a successful career in Human Resources, her daughter's birth changed the trajectory of her work and would ultimately enrich the lives of children with Down Syndrome in Boston and far beyond.

Over the years she has served with a number of organizations including the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, the State Rehab Council of Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission, the Federation for Children with Special Needs, and the Massachusetts Down Syndrome Congress. A much sought-after speaker, she has also taught classes at UMass-Boston and Wheelock College. In 2010, Hoke-Chandler founded *21 Shades*, which is "an inclusive support group for all families of African heritage in Massachusetts who love someone with Down Syndrome."

Since founding, *21 Shades*, she has welcomed Melissa Jones Elow, Terri James Solomon, and Jessica Avila to the organization's leadership team. Their work has provided support around assistive technology, self-care, monthly support meetings, and education

around the Covid-19 vaccination. They have also organized Black History Month and Father's Day events, as well as participation in the Massachusetts Down Syndrome Congress's "Buddy Walk."

At the "Buddy Walk," *21 Shades* raised \$8,777. This accomplishment, given the necessary Covid-19 precautions and restrictions did not go unnoticed. Last month, the Massachusetts Down Syndrome Congress honored the women for "excellence in leadership and support of families in Massachusetts." Grove Hall is a better place because of people like Roxanne Hoke-Chandler.

[Visit Our Website](#)

