

West Fairmount Hill Community Meeting- Zoom

October 24, 2022

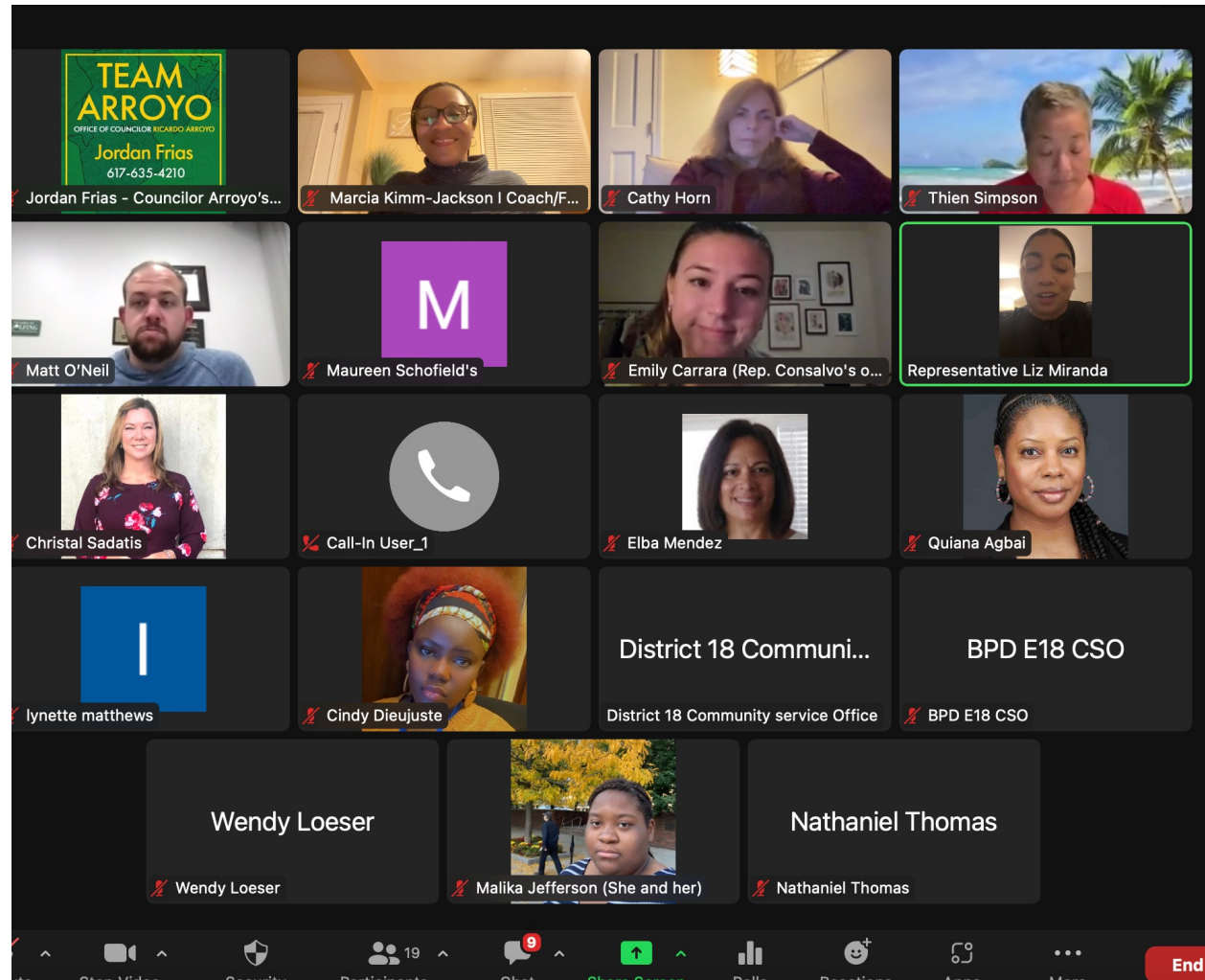


Agenda:

- Opening and Introductions
- Overview of WFH and Upcoming Activities

- Area E-18 Boston Police Report
- Remarks – City Councilors, Ruthzee Louijeune, Ricardo Arroyo and State Representative Rob Consalvo
- Updates – HP Main Streets/ BCYF/EM
- 311 App Updates - Training
- Q and A
- Next Steps and Adjourn

Our Zoom Group



WFH Updates

Overview of WFH and Upcoming Activities

- Daffodils Planting at Fairmount Hill Development – Need volunteers
- Election Overview and Voter Turnout Project- Next meeting 10/27
- Other Neighborhood Visits – see email notes
- MLK Day Celebration – seeking planning volunteers. Visit website
- Fall and Winter Neighborly Talks (Podcast). Seeking neighbor volunteers to tell their story. Email: westfairmounthillcg@gmail.com if interested
- Turkey Giveaway – request by November 5. Link [here](#) or visit www.westfhcommunity.org
- Keep Hyde Park Beautiful Events - 10am on 10/28(Costume clean up)
HPMS clean out planters at the Muni 11/5; Holiday wreath project. Visit KHPB.org

Elected Officials Remarks

Senator Elect – Liz Miranda

- Greeted/Thanked the Group
- Will be focusing on voter turnout for November
- Plans to have Civic group conversations in the future. Info to come

Councilor Arroyo 's office- Jordan Frias representing

-Working on redistricting; Shared Unity Map that was created. Advocating for this Map- there is a vote on October 26 on the districting plan; Hyde Park is still District 5. One focus is on a unified map for Roslindale.

Link to Map here: <https://www.boston.gov/public-notices/15939611->

Rep Rob Consalvo's Office- Emily Carrara representing

- Riverstreet bridge closure meetings by MASSDOT on October 11. Bridge will be completely re-built and be fasttracked. Updates continue
- Planning meeting with DCR/State Police to address crime reports and safety concerns

Boston Police Report.

Period of September 26 to present

- October 22- Brush Road and Dana ave- assault with gunshots
- September 15 – tire slashed – 15 bow street
- 0 robberies, B and E or larceny or auto thefts, drug reports= 0
- Crime up 22% compared to last year this time. Auto thefts up 103% and Larceny's up 17% ; note residents – “lock your cars”. Auto thefts on the rise with unlocked cars with valuables
- Anticipating extra patrol for Halloween
- Patrols at the Fairmount Housing on Code 19 work.
- Questions from attendees: Request for Patrols at Martini shell –suspicious activity noted; DCR property dumping and prostitution incidents have gone unnoticed and unaddressed. The only response is to block the parking lot but there is still access for individuals to commit criminal activity. Can there be more collaboration between State and E-18 to address these issues
- Can we invite troopers or have a meeting with the troopers or outreach team to hear the issues and talk with neighbors? Emily will follow-up. Rep Consalvo is exploring earmarking the budget to have a trooper stationed at parks.

Announcements

HPMS:

- Annual fundraiser a success
- Distributed welcome bags for new homeowners in Hyde Park
- Holiday Pub Crawl coming up- December 9th
- The Switch Co-op will be having their anniversary on 11/5 – free prizes and raffles
- Home Decorating contest coming up.
- Visit Hydeparkmainstreets.com website

Hyde Park Muni – Matt O’Neill

- Seeking new partners and activities and invite input from neighbors – reach out to Muni
- October 30 –pumpkin Painting with E-18
- Anderson Tree lighting -11/27
- St. Ann’s Christmas Bazaar- 11/12
- Youth Basketball league – registration 10/29 , 9am – 1pm
- Pickleball is back – Monday Nights !
- Muni is also now available for Community Meetings
Visit the Muni’s website for more information

311 Training

Presenter: Meaghan Towle from City of Boston. 20-24 people on staff at Boston 311 and get over 1400 requests daily

New links to download new app:

<https://apps.apple.com/us/app/bos-311/id330894558>

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=gov.cityofboston.citizensconnect>

Key Updates:

- Service requests can be translated in the preferred language
- New tools to report emergencies
- More user friendly and even shows record of previously submitted reports
- Can upload multiple photos and include surrounding areas
- Contact info is not required but helpful
- 311 Feedback Survey included
- You can track other reports in your neighborhood
- Reports that come in about State properties get referred to the State. 211 is the State hotline for similar issues
- Visit Boston.gov for more information

Mayor's office and BHA and Close

BHA/Fairmount House – They have a community meeting this week with residents of the FH development and will share WFH info.

Mayor's Office : Shared resource sheet/announcements. (Below)

Next Meeting – January- MLK Day Celebration;

May do Holiday Meet and Greet via Zoom (?). If interested, please email WFH leaders.

Visit the website for updates: www.westfhcommunity.org

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- **The Switch:** Open Mic 10/26 from 7-9pm. Come dressed as your favorite artist/composer or musician.
- **Spark Boston:** The SPARK Boston Council will be at District 7 Tavern Friday, October 28th sharing voter resources and answering questions with neighbors over a drink. Pledge your vote & join! RSVP encouraged: <http://bit.ly/GOTVdrink>
- **Keep Hyde Park Beautiful:** Saturday, 10/29 at 10AM: Join KHPB for the 6th annual Costume Cleanup, a Halloween-themed, family-friendly cleanup and planting event. This year they'll be cleaning up and planting daffodils at the Reservation Road Skate Park. Costumes are optional, but encouraged! Bring work gloves and a trowel if you have one and they will supply the rest
- **BCYF:** Pumpkin Painting event at the community center at 1179 River St. on October 30th from 11-1pm (for children ages 12 and under)
- **Age Strong:** Medicare's open enrollment period is from October 15th until December 7th. The Age Strong Commission can help with your application and find the best plan for you! They are hosting community events to help you review your Medicare plan.
- **The Switch:** SAVE THE DATE for the Switch Co-op 5 Year anniversary on Saturday November 5th!
- **Harlem Renaissance event:** November 12th and 13th at 7pm at Roxbury Community College.

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- **PREPARATIONS AND IMPORTANT DATES AHEAD OF THE 2022 STATE ELECTION**

Deadline to Register to Vote is Saturday, October 29, to be able to vote in the State Election on Tuesday, November 8! Learn more boston.gov/vote

- In-Person Early Voting

- Voters registered in Boston can vote during the early voting period starting **Saturday, October 22 and lasting through Friday, November 4, 2022** at any of the early voting sites. Hours and locations for in-person early voting can be found at boston.gov/early-voting

- Accessible Voting

- Massachusetts has implemented an Accessible Electronic Voting System. Boston voters may now request, receive, complete, and return their ballot electronically using a secure web portal. More information about voting for persons with disabilities is available at boston.gov/elections. Boston residents may also make requests through the Boston Election Department. The deadline to make a request is **5 p.m. on Tuesday, November 1, 2022**.

- Vote By Mail

- Applications for vote-by-mail ballots have been mailed out to every voter in Boston. To be eligible to vote by mail in the State Election, vote-by-mail applications must reach the Boston Election Department by **Tuesday, November 1, at 5:00 p.m.** Vote-by-mail applications can be returned by U.S. mail using the prepaid postcard, in person at the Boston Election Department (located at Boston City Hall, Room 241), or by emailing absenteevoter@boston.gov.

- Learn more at boston.gov/vote-by-mail

- Ballot Boxes

- Voters are able to drop their mail-in ballot at any of the **21 ballot drop boxes** the Elections Department has placed around the City, including at both the first and third floor entrances of Boston City Hall. All drop boxes are monitored under 24 hour video surveillance. Drop boxes will also be available at each early voting location during the scheduled voting hours. To find a ballot drop box location, visit boston.gov/elections

- Voting on Election Day

- Polling locations for the State Election will be open **from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 8, 2022**. Ballots will be available in English, Spanish, Chinese, and Vietnamese. Language assistance will be available on Election Day by interpreters at polling locations or by contacting the Election Department's interpreters phone bank.

- **BOSTON COMMON MASTER PLAN**

- The City of Boston and the Friends of the Public Garden are thrilled to announce the release of the new Boston Common Master Plan. The planning process incorporated community input to create a roadmap for preservation, maintenance, and public use while honoring the Common's history and creating a space that will be more accessible, resilient, and inclusive for generations to come.

- We encourage you to explore the website and plan documents, then provide your priorities for early action items on www.bostoncommonmasterplan.com during a 45-day public comment period that ends on November 30, 2022. We are grateful for your continued commitment to engaging and providing feedback for the Boston Common Master Planning initiative.

- For more information about the plan, disability access, or language interpretation, please contact Nate Frazee at nathan.frazee@boston.gov or at 617-961-3167.

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- **CALL FOR POLL WORKERS**

The Elections department needs poll workers in Chinatown, Charlestown, the North End, Fenway, East Boston, Downtown, Beacon Hill, South Boston, the Seaport, the South End, and the Back Bay. Bilingual candidates are encouraged to apply! Learn more at boston.gov/poll-workers.

- **MAYOR WU ANNOUNCES EXECUTIVE ORDER TO STREAMLINE APPROVAL OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

- Mayor Michelle Wu announced that she will sign an executive order designed to speed up the production of affordable housing in the coming days.
- This executive order is a response to the challenges facing Boston's housing market in order to remove barriers and make the process for developing affordable housing easier across the city.
- The current process to approve affordable housing can take as long as 337 days. This executive order aims to reduce that time in half.
- The executive order consists of five components designed to increase the speed by which affordable housing projects are approved for development:
 - Create a more efficient path for Article 80 development review and approval
 - Study and address zoning challenges to affordable housing development
 - Prioritize affordable housing in the development review processes
 - Create a system to track affordable housing reviews and approvals
 - Establish a governance structure to ensure effective implementation

- **MAYOR WU ANNOUNCES GRASSROOTS FUNDING AWARDS, THE NEW GROWBOSTON ADVISORY BOARD, AND CELEBRATES NEW RAISED BED GARDENS**

- Mayor Michelle Wu announced the [GrowBoston: Office of Urban Agriculture's](#) Advisory Board that will advise GrowBoston on the equitable expansion of urban agriculture throughout Boston. The Mayor also announced \$600,000 in [Grassroots Program](#) funding to support non-profit organizations to develop and renovate urban farms, community gardens, and other open spaces in Boston.

- **BOSTON PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION BPHC URGES CAUTION AS COVID-19 SPIKES IN LOCAL WASTEWATER**

The Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) is urging residents to take proper precautions against COVID-19 amid a significant spike in COVID-19 virus particles in local wastewater that suggests higher levels of community spread.

Boston has not experienced levels this high since May.

COVID-19 vaccines and boosters are free and readily available to the public.

For additional information on COVID-19 testing and vaccination resources in Boston, go to boston.gov/covid19.

Based on the current trends, BPHC continues to recommend masking indoors to lower the risk of COVID-19.

With flu season on the horizon, taking proper mitigation and prevention measures to avoid severe infection can reduce the strain on our health care system, especially our emergency care infrastructure.

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- **BOSTON PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION (BPHC) UPDATES ON MONKEYPOX**

Have questions about monkeypox? For the latest information on monkeypox symptoms, prevention, and what to do if you think you may be infected, visit boston.gov/monkeypox. Information about monkeypox is available in nine languages, including English.

- **FREE IMMIGRATION CONSULTATIONS**

Do you need immigration advice from a lawyer? Volunteer lawyers work with the Mayor's Office for Immigrant Advancement (MOIA) to offer free immigration consultations on the **first** and **third Wednesday** of every month from **12 pm - 3 pm**. To schedule an appointment call (617) 635-2980 or email immigrantadvancement@boston.gov. Appointments are currently by telephone. Interpretation and disability accommodations are available. Consultations are 15 minutes and limited to one-time only. More information in several languages can be found on boston.gov/immigrants.

- **LONG-TERM DEVICE LENDING PROGRAM OFFERS FREE WI-FI ROUTERS AND CHROMEBOOKS TO BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY PATRONS IN BOSTON**

The Boston Public Library is offering over 2,000 home Wi-Fi routers and Chromebooks city-wide through its Long-Term Device Lending Program.

The program is open to any adult resident of the City of Boston who does not otherwise have access to equipment or services sufficient to meet their educational needs.

The program began with 3,000 routers and 3,200 Chromebooks and additional funding has been requested for an additional 3,000 Chromebooks to distribute to residents.

- Learn about the Long-Term Device Lending Program and sign up for a Chromebook and/or LTE-enabled Wi-Fi router at bpl.org/long-term-lending.

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- The Notes from the **Community Conversation on Climate Change and Urban Farming**.

[Article](https://www.baystatebanner.com/2017/05/03/bostons-often-overlooked-long-history-of-urban-farming/): <https://www.baystatebanner.com/2017/05/03/bostons-often-overlooked-long-history-of-urban-farming/>

Video/slide show recap: [here](#)

Final Community Conversation meeting of this series:

- **When:** Wednesday, November 9, 6:00-7:30pm
- **Where:** Uphams Corner, Dorchester (exact location TBA)
- **RSVP:** Please RSVP [here](#)!