

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT COMMISSION

of the **CITY OF BOSTON**

CHRISTOPHER P. OSGOOD
Chairman

TODD M. LIMING, P.E.
Interim Chief Engineer

ABATENEH Y. ALEMU
Interim Executive Secretary
Principal Civil Engineer



Boston City Hall room 714
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www.boston.gov/PIC

December 23, 2020 - Hearing Agenda Boston City Hall room 801 - 10:00 AM

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Hearing Minutes

HM 1. At the request of the Public Improvement Commission staff, the **Acceptance of the Minutes** of the PIC hearing held on **December 3, 2020**.

HM 2. At the request of the Public Improvement Commission staff, the **Acceptance of the Minutes** of the PIC hearing originally scheduled for **December 17, 2020**.

Public Hearing Continued

PHC 1. On a petition by National Grid for a **Grant of Location** to install a gas regulator station and associated infrastructure within **Seaverns Avenue** (public way), West Roxbury, from Centre Street to a point southeast of Brown Terrace, generally at address nos. 17-19.

(NB 11/19/2020; PH 12/3/2020; PHC 12/17/2020) As shown on a set of plans entitled "City of Boston Public Works Department, Engineering Division, Grant of Location Plan, Seaverns Avenue & Brown Terrace, Jamaica Plain," 5 sheets dated October 26, 2020.

PHC 2. On a petition by Huntington Theatre Company Inc. for the granting of an **Earth Retention License** for the installation of a temporary earth support system within **Huntington Avenue** (public way), Roxbury, on its southeasterly side at address nos. 256-264, generally southwest of Public Alley no. 820.

(NB 12/3/2020; PH 12/17/2020) As shown on a set of plans entitled "City of Boston Public Works Department, Engineering Division, Temporary Support of Excavation, Huntington Theatre Renovations, 256-264 Huntington Avenue, Boston," 3 sheets dated November, 2020.

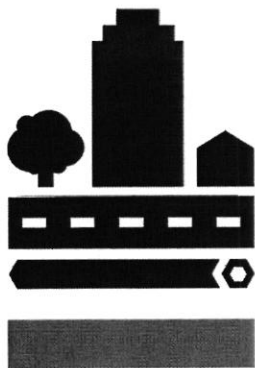


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Informational Discussion

- ID 1. Citywide – **Mayor’s Commission for Persons with Disabilities and the Composition of the Public Improvement Commission** – Announcement by the PIC Chairman



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September 10, 2020

PIC COVID-19 Update, Temporary Practices

With the ongoing public health concerns surrounding the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19), the Public Improvement Commission (PIC) has implemented the following temporary practices and procedures in an effort to promote social distancing and to comply with federal, state, and local directives:

- Upcoming PIC hearings will tentatively be held as scheduled.
- Hearing participants will be digitally connected, per the City's Department of Innovation & Technology.
- For those members of the public who are unable to attend the proceedings in person, all hearings will continue to be televised and may also be viewed online via Boston TV.
- Written testimony for all agenda items will continue to be accepted via email; testimony should be directed to PIC@boston.gov.
- **Until further notice, only one full-size set of all PIC plans (rather than the customary three) is required to be submitted by the relevant filing deadline.** All PIC plans, including revised versions, are also required to be submitted electronically as .pdf's.
- A project may be considered eligible for a New Business agenda only if a 100% complete submission package (one hard copy of everything, including plans) is delivered to the PIC office by 4:00 PM on the Thursday prior to the target PIC hearing. Incomplete and/or piecemeal submissions will not be placed on a hearing agenda. For additional information on submission requirements, please reference the relevant PIC procedural checklist(s) found online: boston.gov/PIC#related-documents.
- In addition to the typical hard-copy submission, a prospective New Business project is also required to submit a digital copy of all submission requirements (plans as noted above, signed petitions, agency responses, etc.) to PIC@boston.gov.
- Public access to City Hall continues to be limited. As such, hard copy submissions should be made via standard mail. Should any particular submission need to be delivered by hand, please contact PIC staff



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ahead of time via email to confirm staff availability to receive such a submission and to schedule a delivery time. Unannounced/unexpected in-person deliveries may not be accepted by City Hall staff.

- All dissemination of PIC plans to Public Agency and Utility Company reviewers should be done via email; certified mailings are no longer necessary.
- PIC staff will not be accepting in-person meetings until further notice; requests for phone and teleconference meetings will be accommodated to every reasonable extent. Such requests should be scheduled in advance via email.
- PIC staff will continue to be available via email during normal business hours.

These practices should be considered in effect immediately and will remain in effect until further notice by PIC staff. Updates to these practices will be posted as appropriate. Please feel free to contact PIC@boston.gov should you have any questions. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Todd M. Liming, P.E.

Interim Chief Engineer



MEMO

TO: All City of Boston Employees
FROM: Emme Handy, Chief of Administration and Finance
SUBJECT: City of Boston's Recommendation for All Boston Residents to Wear a 'Face Covering' when Going Out in Public
DATE: April 5, 2020

What is the Recommendation and Why is it Being Made?

It is important to remember that social distancing remains the primary strategy to reduce the spread of COVID-19. However, based on evidence that some level of transmission is occurring by people who are asymptomatic and may not know they have COVID-19, the CDC on April 3, 2020, issued a recommendation that everyone cover their mouth and nose with a "face covering" when "in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain" in order to help reduce the risk that someone may unknowingly spread the virus. Based on this guidance, the Boston Public Health Commission and the Mayor are now advising all residents to wear a "face covering" when out in public in instances where social distancing cannot be predictably maintained. Accordingly, effective Monday, April 6, 2020, the City of Boston will begin requiring its employees to wear a "face covering" when reporting to physical work locations.

It is important to remember that the face covering does not protect the person wearing the covering from contracting COVID-19. Instead, it is to protect those whom you are interacting with. Thus, even when wearing a face covering it is important to continue to practice social distancing.

NOTE: Employees who continue to report to work in direct care and other settings where personal protective equipment (PPE) and related guidelines have already been issued should continue to use PPE in accordance with those guidelines, as directed by their programs/departments.

What is a "Face Covering"

A “face covering” is **not** necessarily a face mask. The administration is NOT recommending all employees or the public begin wearing masks. Instead, a “face covering” is a cloth, scarf, bandana, etc. that can cover a person’s mouth and nose.

- It should be fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face and secured with ties or ear loops,
- Include multiple layers of fabric,
- Allow for breathing without restriction, and
- Be able to be laundered and machine dried without damage or change to shape.

These can be made at home using intact, close-weave cloth that allow comfortable breathing. For those interested in creating their own face covering, [here](#) are instructions provided by the CDC, there are examples of both a folded model and a model that is sewn.

A face covering is NOT a surgical mask or N95 masks. Those masks should continue to be reserved for emergency personnel and healthcare providers who need them in order to keep safe when providing critical and emergency services.

What Will the City Provide Employees Required to Wear A “Face Covering”?

Beginning Monday, April 6, 2020, the City will provide all employees reporting to work at a physical location a “face covering.”

The City will endeavor to acquire and distribute reusable cloth face coverings as soon as practicable to employees reporting to physical work locations. In the interim, the City encourages employees with reusable cloth face coverings to bring their own to work.

For employees who do not own a reusable cloth face covering and who are reporting to physical work locations, the City will provide surgical masks in the interim. Please note, the guidance on the use of such masks permits for the reuse of these masks when they have not been exposed to symptomatic persons. Face masks should be carefully folded so that the outer surface is held inward and against itself to reduce contact with the outer surface during storage. The folded mask can be stored between uses in a clean sealable paper bag or breathable container. Note: face masks should be discarded if soiled, damaged, or hard to breathe through.

For those using reusable cloth face coverings, they should be laundered daily to ensure they remain clean. If reusing without cleaning, advice about storage outlined above should be followed. In addition, employees are reminded that such face coverings must comply with all City rules and policies regarding professionalism in the workplace. Accordingly, no face covering should express offensive language or graphics, discriminatory language or graphics, political opinions, religious views, or otherwise be viewed as violating City policies or procedures.

How to Safely Remove Your Face Covering

Individuals should be careful not to touch their eyes, nose, and mouth when removing their face covering and wash hands immediately after removing.