



# LOWER ROXBURY TRANSPORTATION STUDY

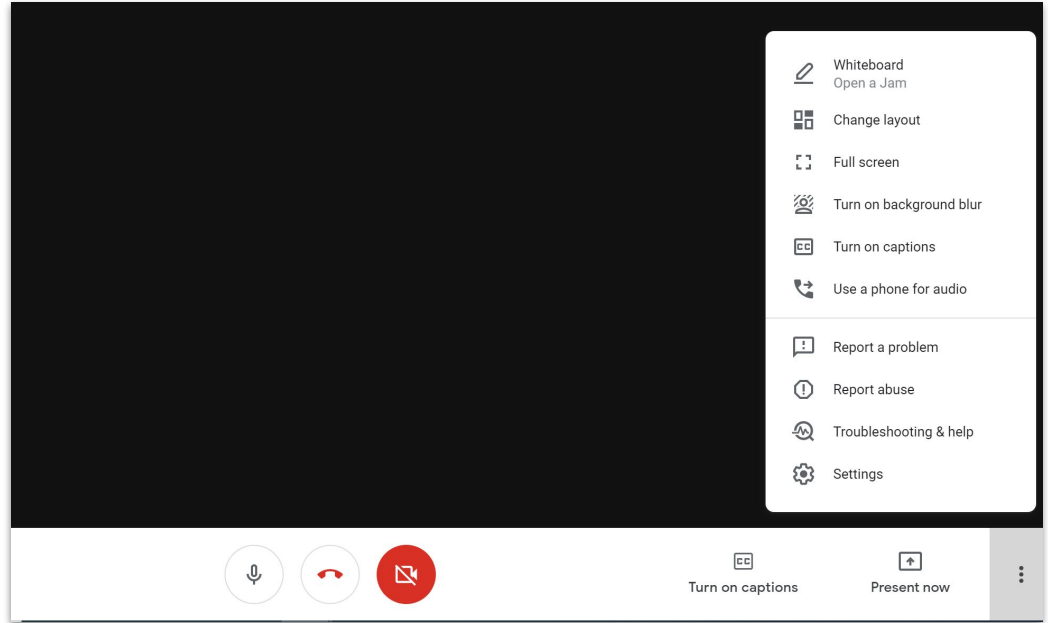
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*Outreach Advisory Group  
January 11, 2024 (!)*

**CITY** *of* **BOSTON**

# TECH CHECK-IN

- ▶ Is your Google Meet working properly?
  - Can you hear and see?
  -  Can you mute and unmute?
  -  Can you turn your video on and off?
- ▶ You can also join by phone:  
470-310-0905  
PIN: 194 312 316#
- ▶ Having trouble? Call Hannah (she'll put her number in the chat)



**TIP:** the options bar is at the bottom of your screen

# TODAY'S CONVENING

## OUTCOMES

- ▶ Review next steps for the project
- ▶ Hear about upcoming Streets projects in Roxbury
- ▶ Discuss future of this group as Jen transitions to a new role

## AGENDA

- 11:00 ▶ Suggest any revisions to desired outcomes and/or agenda
- 11:05 ▶ Introductions
- 11:10 ▶ Refresher on this group, what we've done to date
- 11:15 ▶ Review next steps for the project and group
- 11:25 ▶ Learn about upcoming Streets projects in Roxbury
- 11:55 ▶ Agree to next steps for the group and evaluate meeting

# INTRODUCTIONS

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# INTRODUCTIONS

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- ▶ Your name
- ▶ Your pronouns, if you feel comfortable sharing (for example: *she/her/hers*, *he/him/his*, *they/them/theirs*, *ze/hir/hir*, etc)
- ▶ How you're connected to communities in Lower Roxbury
- ▶ A way you like to celebrate or mark the New Year or a new moment (connected to any calendar or cultural or personal tradition—Gregorian calendar, lunar calendar, solstice, etc)
- ▶ *Note: Ashley Pierre-Louis and Louisa Gag send their best wishes and happy new years to everyone!*

**REFRESHER**

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# TO THINK ABOUT AS WE REFRESH

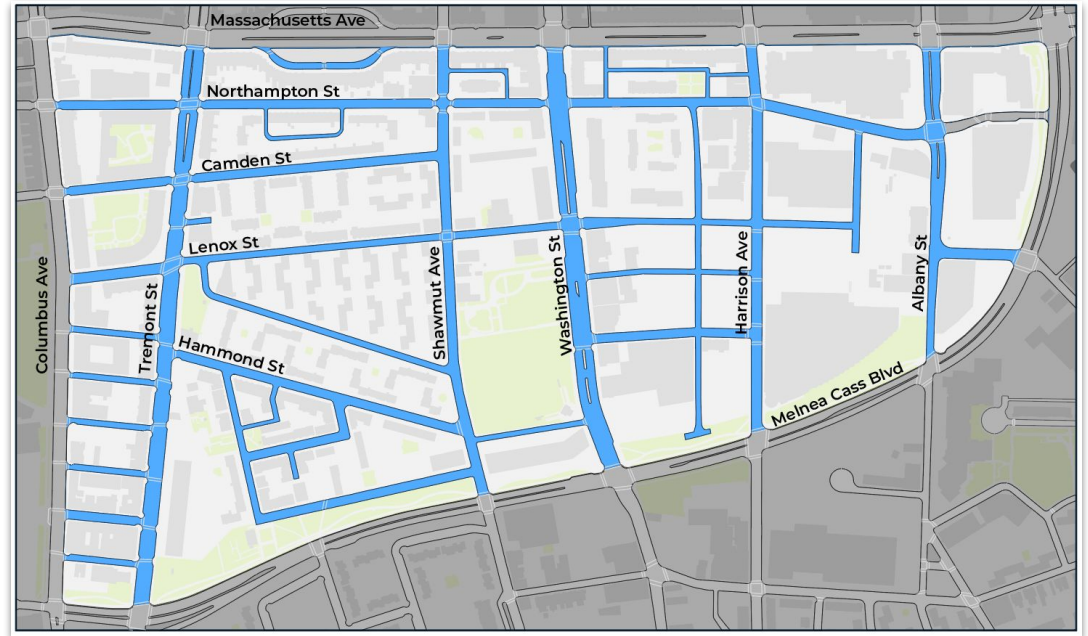
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- ▶ *Would this group like to continue helping us communicate and collaborate with the communities in Lower Roxbury around upcoming Streets initiatives?*
- ▶ *We'd love your feedback about this as a forum:*
  - *Open to all for whom it's of interest*
  - *Quarterly virtual meetings*
  - *Mutually accountable to group norms (for the City and the group)*
  - *Focused on communicating and collaborating with communities in neighborhoods right now (\* not the place where decisions about outcomes will be made)*

# PROJECT GOAL

Build a collaborative process with community members to:

- ▶ Highlight **neighborhood assets**
- ▶ Create **positive changes** to your streets in Lower Roxbury



The project area is bounded by, **but does not include** Columbus, Mass Ave., and Melnea Cass.



# OUTREACH ADVISORY GROUP

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*Help us communicate and collaborate with the communities in Lower Roxbury right now.*

*\* This is not the place where decisions about outcomes will be made*

# EXPECTATIONS FOR BTD

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Jen and BTD will:

- ▶ Host outreach advisory group meetings quarterly, with ample notice.
- ▶ Be accountable to you with regular communication.
- ▶ Respectfully engage with the outreach advisory group and community members.
- ▶ Incorporate your advice and recommendations about outreach, as best as we are able.
- ▶ Make decisions transparently.

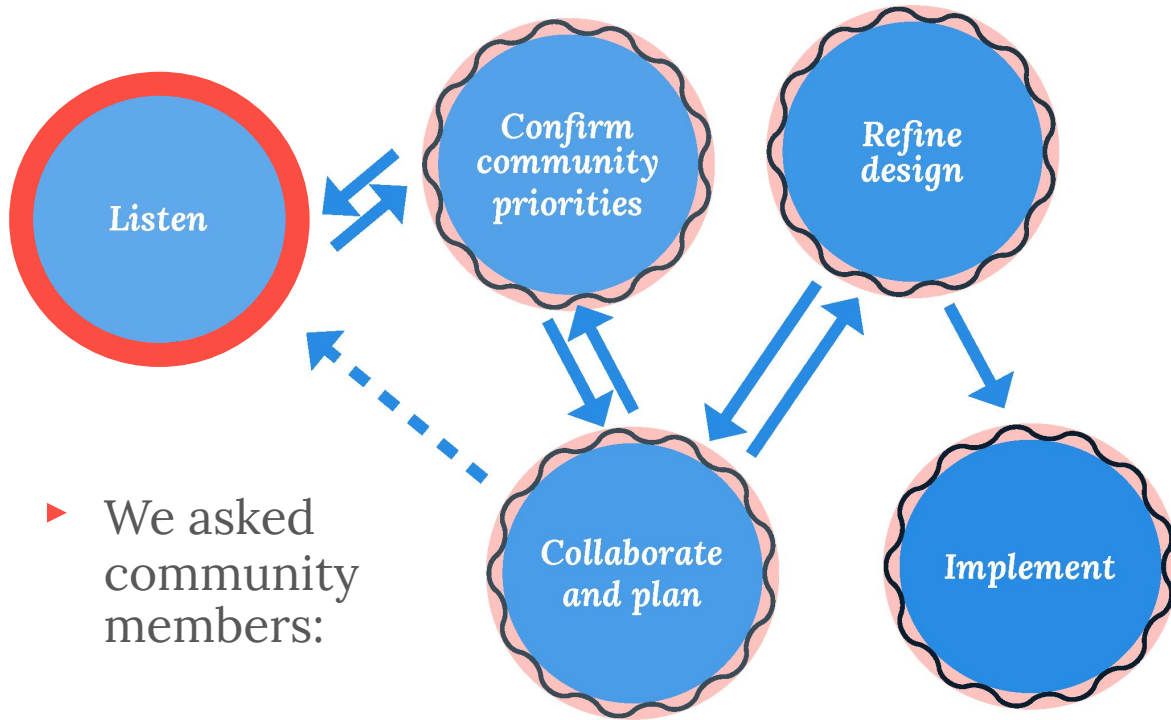
# GROUP EXPECTATIONS

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Members of the Outreach Advisory Group will:

- ▶ Make a good faith effort to attend outreach advisory group meetings.
- ▶ Engage respectfully with one other, with the project team, with community members.
- ▶ Share your knowledge and experience.
- ▶ Share back to your communities about the project.

# Fall 2019 through 2020



► We asked community members:

- Where do you find joy in the neighborhood?
- What would you change about the streets?

What do you *love* about Lower Roxbury?

Take a moment to share your joy.

Where do you find joy?

Place one dot on the map. Place the matching one here →

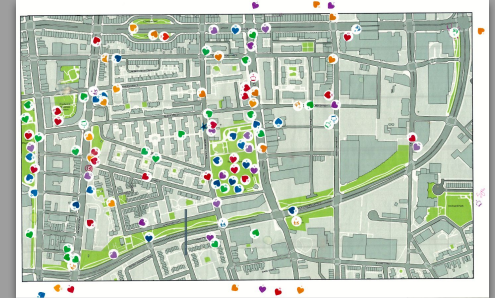


Write the name of the place here. \_\_\_\_\_

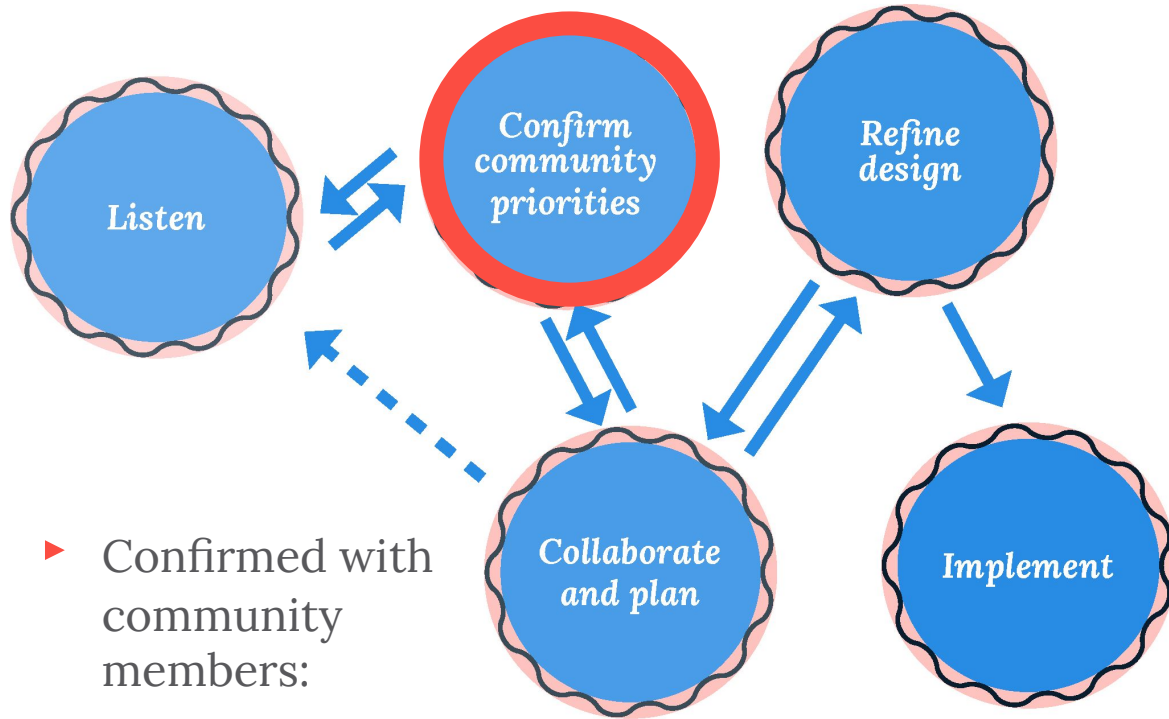
Tell us more about it.

*Shops, peaceful, friends*

 BOSTON TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT  
Greg Rooney, Acting Commissioner

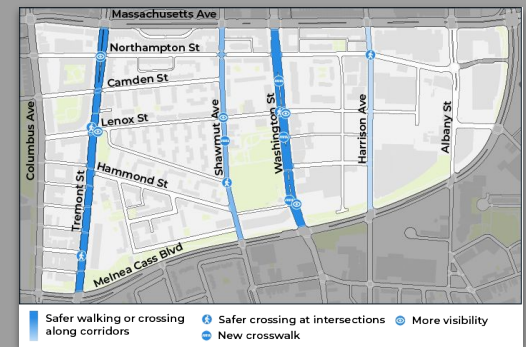


# 2021



► Confirmed with community members:

- Which locations rose to the top as priorities
- Information about the tools we could use to make changes on the streets.



**PROJECT GOAL**

You asked us to:

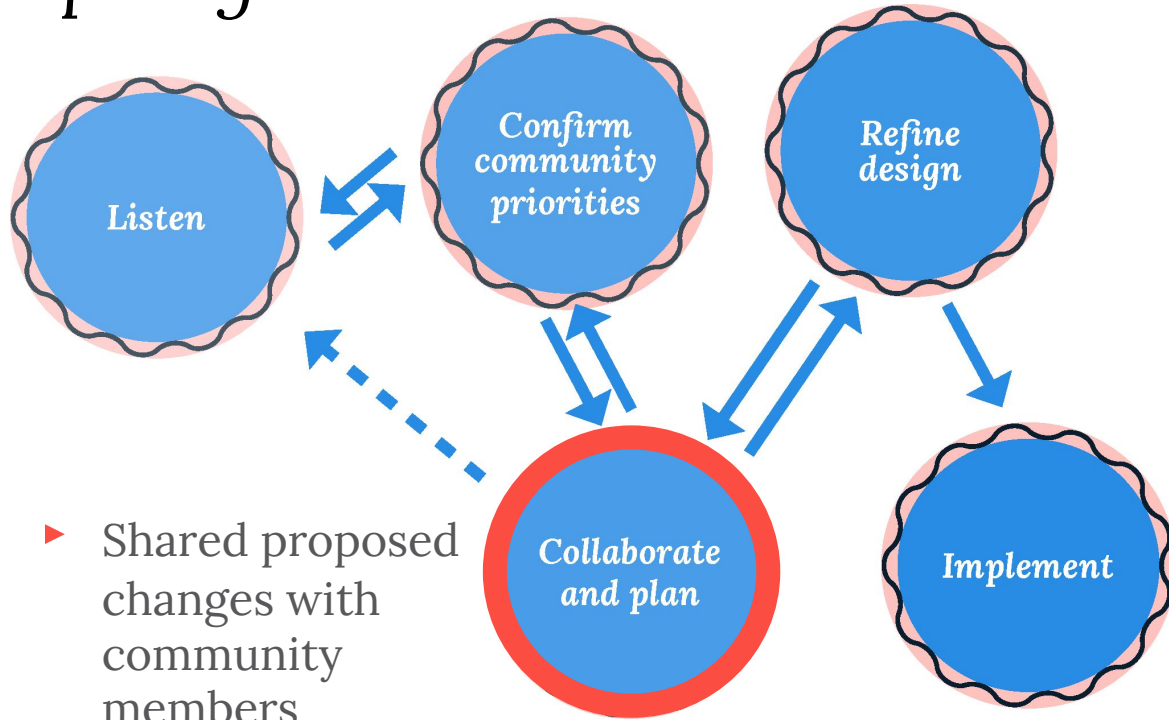
- Take a **broad look** at Lower Roxbury
- Listen to what the **people who live here** want for their community
- Help realize goals related to **transportation and safety**

We aim to build a collaborative process with community members to:

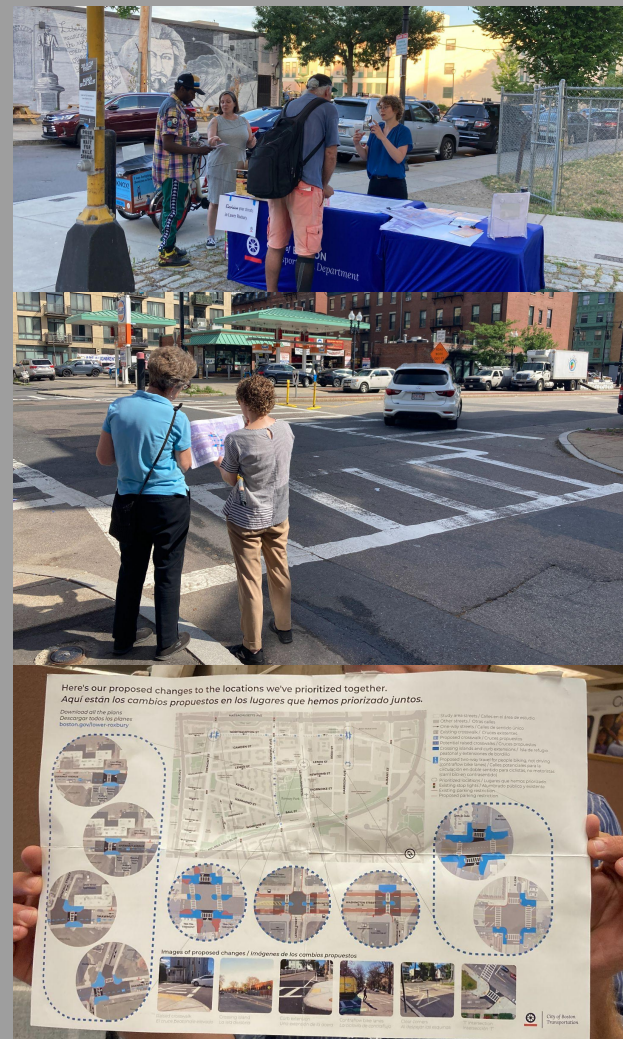
- Highlight **neighborhood assets**
- Create **positive changes** to your streets in Lower Roxbury

The project area is bounded by, but does not include Columbus, Mass Ave., and Melnea Cass.

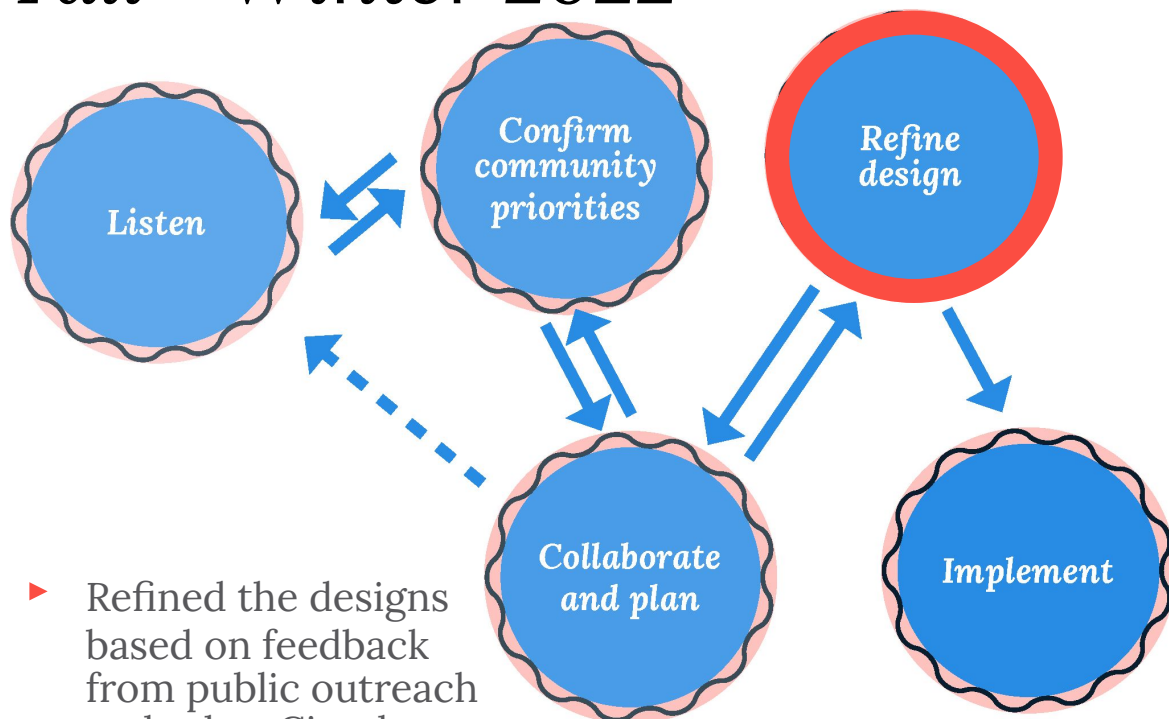
# Spring - Summer 2022



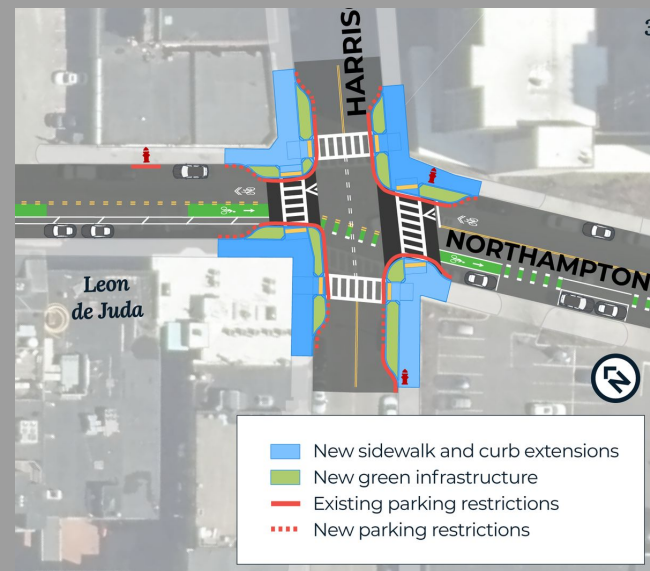
- ▶ Shared proposed changes with community members
- ▶ Heard what residents liked, had questions about, and how they felt about any trade-offs



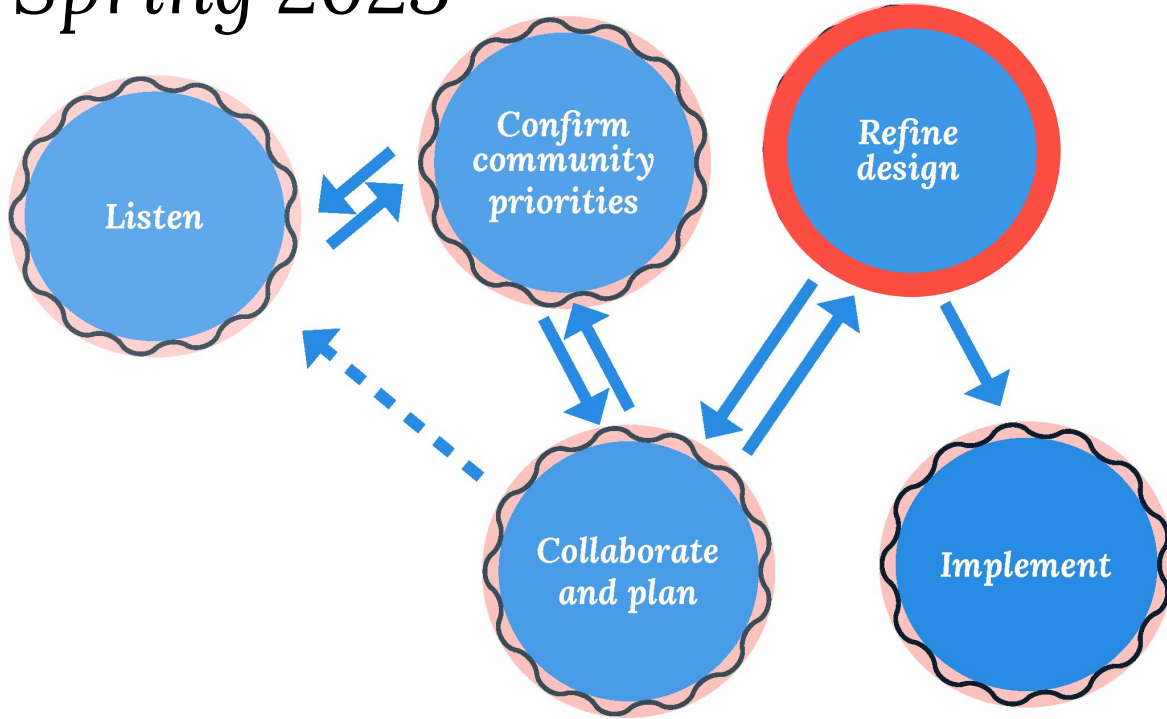
# Fall - Winter 2022



- ▶ Refined the designs based on feedback from public outreach and other City departments
- ▶ Shared the final designs with community members
- ▶ Heard what residents liked and where they had questions



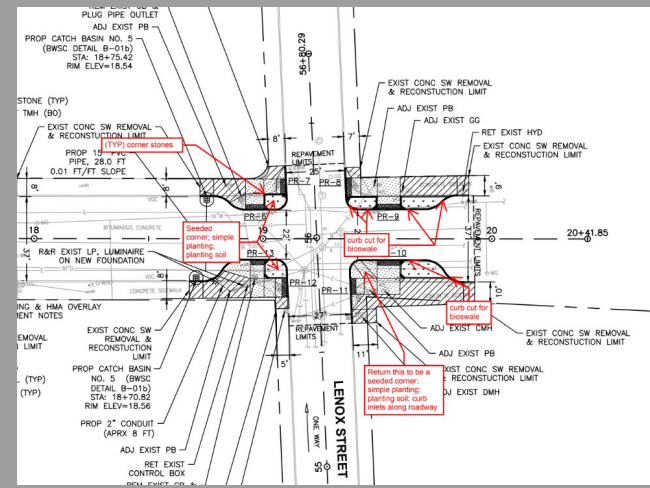
# Spring 2023



- ▶ Finalized engineering plans
- ▶ Prepared to bring plans to the Public Improvement Commission (PIC) in July

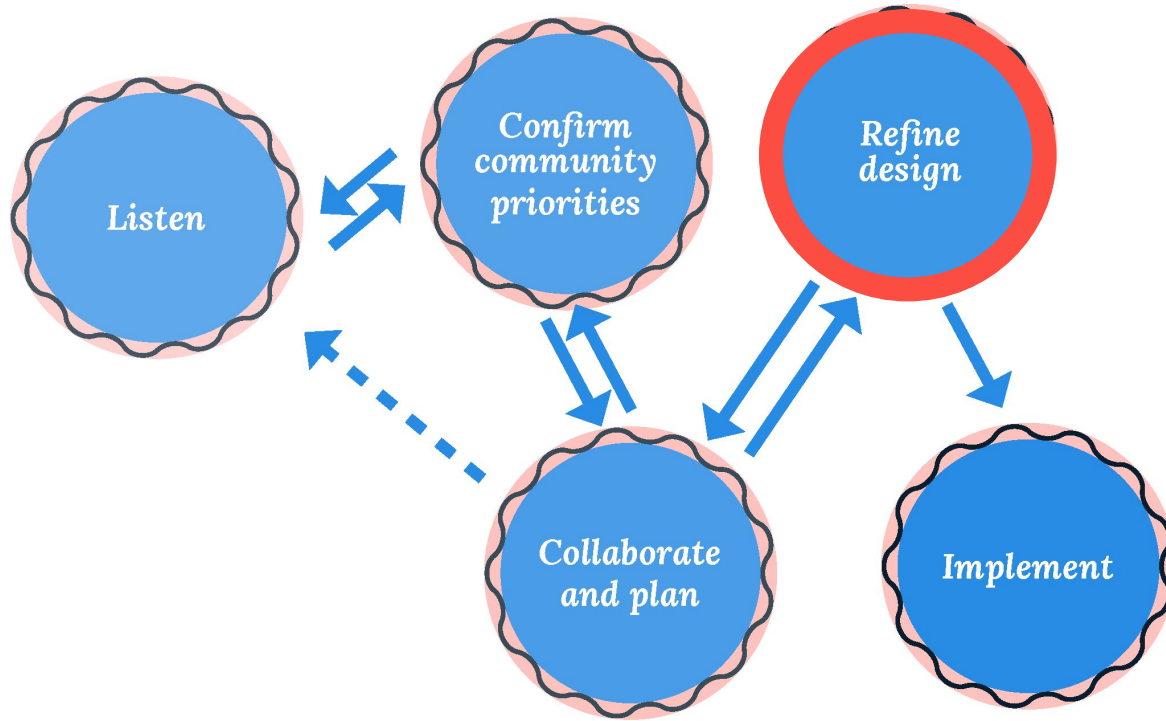
Shared lane pavement markings will be placed in the center of the vehicular travel lane per the City's standard detail.

DESIGN REVIEW COMMENT AND RESOLUTION FORM									
PROJECT NO.		LELAND							
DESCRIPTION		Comments for the City to weigh in on							
SUBMITTER		DATE							
REVIEW SECTION		REVIEWER NAME							
SHEET OR PLAN	COMMENT	INITIAL	RESPONSE	REVIEW INITIAL	COMMENTS (BY REVIEWER)	COMMENTS (BY DESIGNER)	FINAL ACTION (BY REVIEWER)		
COMPLETED BY REVIEWER				COMPLETED BY DESIGNER					
<b>BTD Signals 75/100% Comments on Safety</b>									
15	1	General	The consultant is requested to provide a response to all comments from the PIC. Subsequent General safety issues were raised. However, no response was provided in writing and a response requested. This is requested for records and detail for use of the project. The City will be reviewing the response to the comments.	A	Consultant has provided a comment response log with previous responses. Will make sure that all comments were addressed.				
16	2	General	The City is providing guidance to the consultant on providing additional street lighting.	B	The City to provide guidance to the consultant on providing additional street lighting.				
17	3	General	The City is providing guidance to the consultant on providing additional street lighting.	B	The City to provide guidance to the consultant on providing additional street lighting.				
18	4	General	The City is providing guidance to the consultant on providing additional street lighting.	B	The City to provide guidance to the consultant on providing additional street lighting.				
19	5	General	The City is providing guidance to the consultant on providing additional street lighting.	B	The City to provide guidance to the consultant on providing additional street lighting.				
20	6	General	The City is providing guidance to the consultant on providing additional street lighting.	B	The City to provide guidance to the consultant on providing additional street lighting.				
21	7	General	The City is providing guidance to the consultant on providing additional street lighting.	B	The City to provide guidance to the consultant on providing additional street lighting.				
22	8	General	The City is providing guidance to the consultant on providing additional street lighting.	B	The City to provide guidance to the consultant on providing additional street lighting.				
23	9	General	The City is providing guidance to the consultant on providing additional street lighting.	B	The City to provide guidance to the consultant on providing additional street lighting.				
24	10	General	The City is providing guidance to the consultant on providing additional street lighting.	B	The City to provide guidance to the consultant on providing additional street lighting.				
25	11	R-2	The City is providing guidance to the consultant on providing additional street lighting.	B	The City to provide guidance to the consultant on providing additional street lighting.				
26	12	R-2	The City is providing guidance to the consultant on providing additional street lighting.	B	The City to provide guidance to the consultant on providing additional street lighting.				
27	13	R-2	The City is providing guidance to the consultant on providing additional street lighting.	B	The City to provide guidance to the consultant on providing additional street lighting.				
28	14	R-2	The City is providing guidance to the consultant on providing additional street lighting.	B	The City to provide guidance to the consultant on providing additional street lighting.				
29	15	R-2	The City is providing guidance to the consultant on providing additional street lighting.	B	The City to provide guidance to the consultant on providing additional street lighting.				



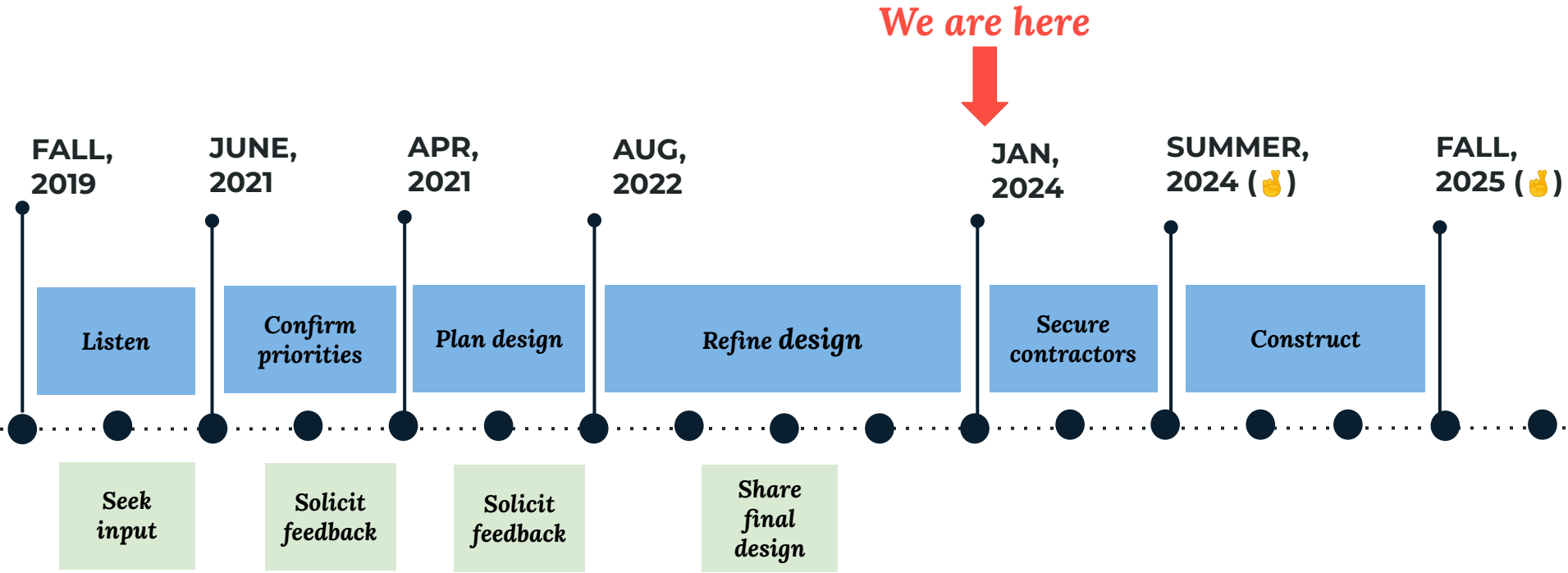


# Summer 2023 - Spring 2024



- ▶ Brought plans to the Public Improvement Commission (PIC)
- ▶ Preparing to put the project out to bid (late winter - early spring)
- ▶ Keep up awareness of the project (ongoing)

# PROJECT TIMELINE



# NEXT STEPS FOR THE PROJECT

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- ▶ We're working to secure funding in the City's Capital Budget for State Fiscal Year 2025 (begins this July 1, 2024)
- ▶ We're also seeking permission to bid out the project a few months early so we have the best chance of construction starting up first thing in July
- ▶ Our Public Works Department will advertise the project and manage it through construction
- ▶ Jen has shifted to a new role (Regional Planner with the Streets Cabinet)
  - Coordinating with our partner agencies (MassDOT, MBTA, DCR)
  - Securing funding for great projects like this one :)

# NEXT STEPS FOR THIS GROUP

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- ▶ We're working to improve communication with residents as projects move into construction
- ▶ Hannah Fong from the Public Works Infrastructure & Design team will be our liaison and do her best to keep this group updated, along with John Monacelli (project engineer)
- ▶ Maria Daniela Castillo, the Neighborhood Planner for Roxbury, will host this group in April

# NEXT STEPS FOR STREETS

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- ▶ We'd like to keep up our good momentum making positive changes to streets in Roxbury!
- ▶ We have a number of projects moving forward:
  - Tremont/Columbus (Phase II)
  - Columbia Road
  - Roxbury Resilient Corridors

**TREMONT/COLUMBUS**

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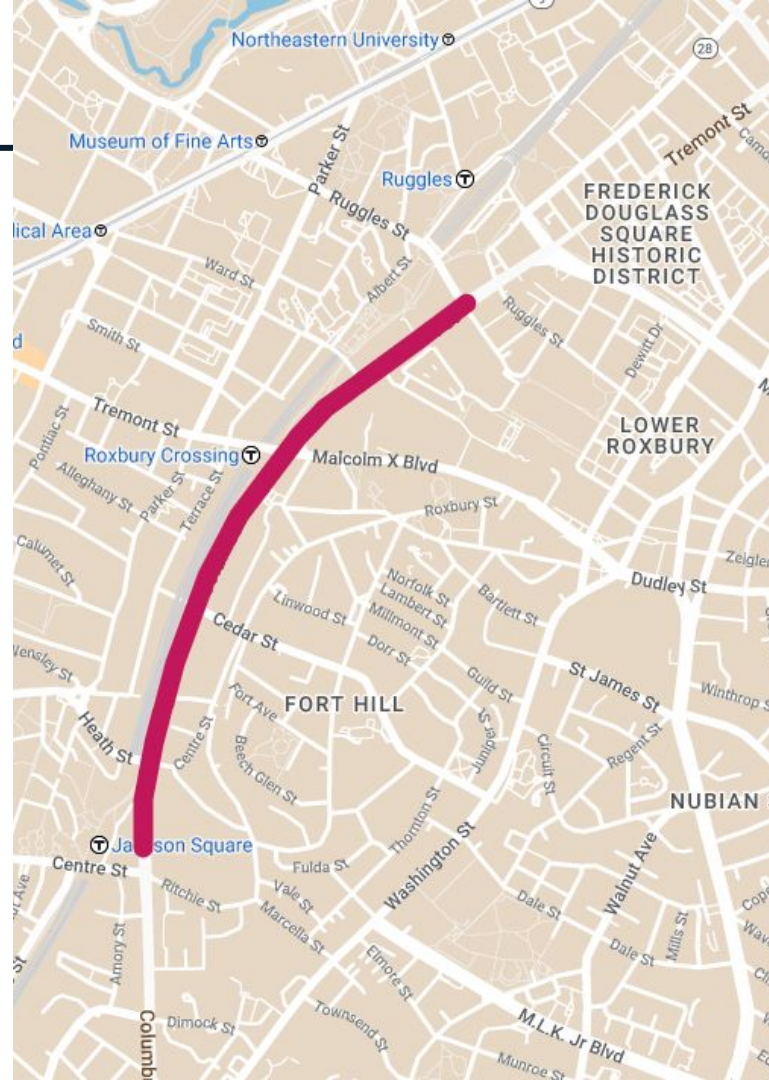
# TREMONT/COLUMBUS

## What is this project?

- ▶ Continuation of Columbus Ave center-running bus lanes in Egleston Sq
- ▶ Will support increased high-frequency bus service provided through BNRD
  - 12, 15, 19, 22, 23, 28, 45, 66
- ▶ Enhanced bus stops, reduced delays for bus riders
- ▶ Green infrastructure, safer pedestrian & bicycle crossings, reconstruction of Roxbury Crossing Plaza

## Where is this happening?

- ▶ Jackson Sq → Roxbury Crossing → Ruggles Station



# TREMONT/COLUMBUS

## Who is leading this project?

- ▶ MBTA is responsible for the design and construction of this project
- ▶ City of Boston is contributing to the funding, design, and maintenance
- ▶ Our job is to ensure that the final project does right by our transit riders and other people using the street

## What is the timeline?

- ▶ Currently in design, aiming to begin major construction in 2026

## How can I learn more?

- ▶ Learn more at:  
[mbta.com/projects/columbus-avenue-bus-lanes](https://www.mbta.com/projects/columbus-avenue-bus-lanes)





**COLUMBIA ROAD**

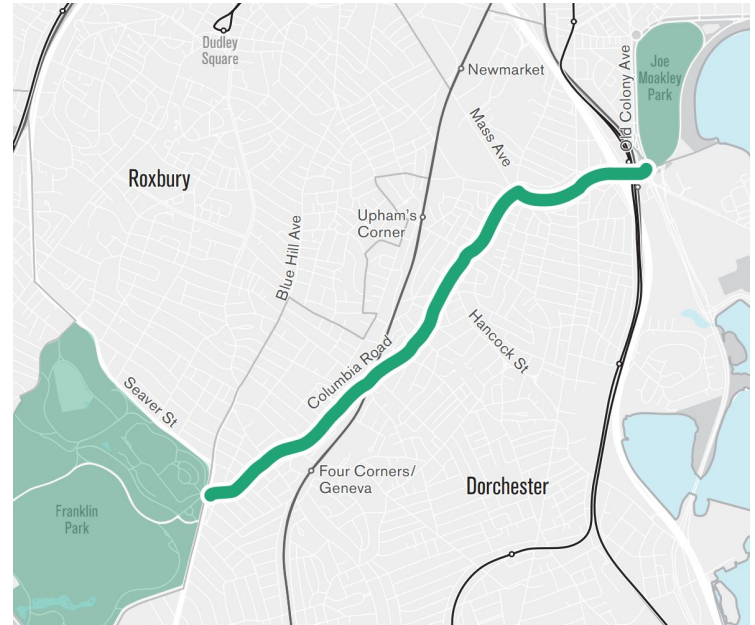
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# COLUMBIA ROAD

- ▶ Identified as a key project in Go Boston 2030
- ▶ 2.4 mile corridor in Dorchester connecting Franklin Park and Moakley Park
- ▶ Create a linear park, repurposing the existing median, sidewalks, and improving transportation connectivity for the surrounding neighborhoods

## Project Design Goals

1. Provide universal access
2. Improve safety
3. Increased greenery & enhance the public realm



Columbia Road Transportation Action Plan Project Limits

# COLUMBIA ROAD

## Next Steps

- ▶ Development of Public Engagement Plan
- ▶ Community engagement to begin Spring 2024
- ▶ Near-term improvements to be implemented Summer/Fall 2024

## Project Webpage

[boston.gov/columbia-road](https://boston.gov/columbia-road)



# ROXBURY RESILIENT CORRIDORS

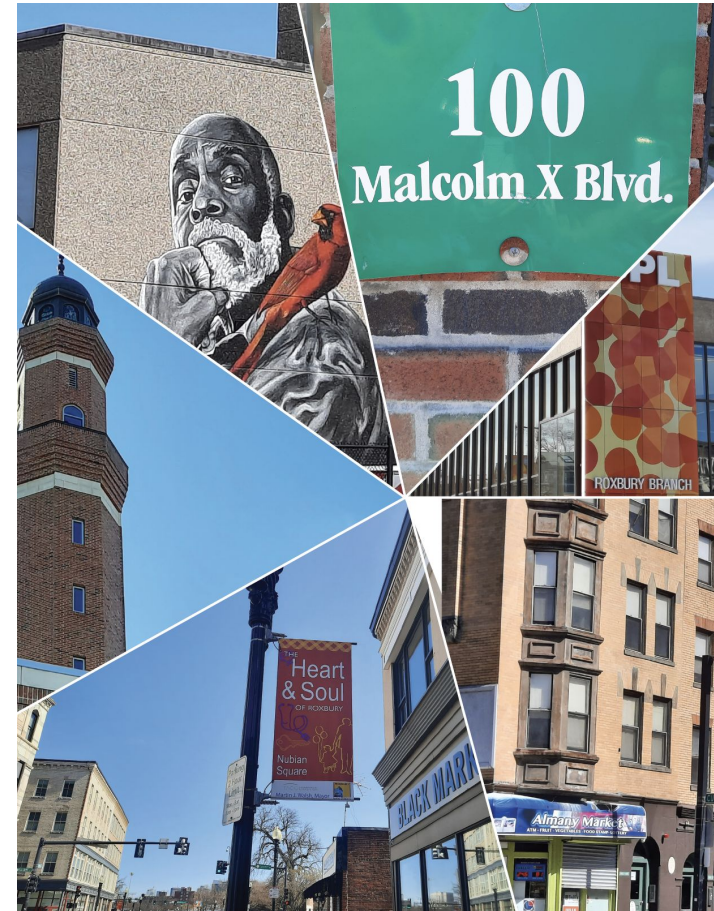
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# ROXBURY RESILIENT CORRIDORS

- ▶ The City will partner with local residents and community organizations to apply the fund toward the planning, design and implementation of improvements for Warren Street, Malcolm X Boulevard, and Melnea Cass Boulevard in Roxbury.

## Project Goals

1. Improve safety for all those who use the corridor on a daily basis
2. Proactively include approaches for climate resilience with green stormwater infrastructure, street trees, and “hot spot” heat mitigation
3. Address parking and traffic flow concerns

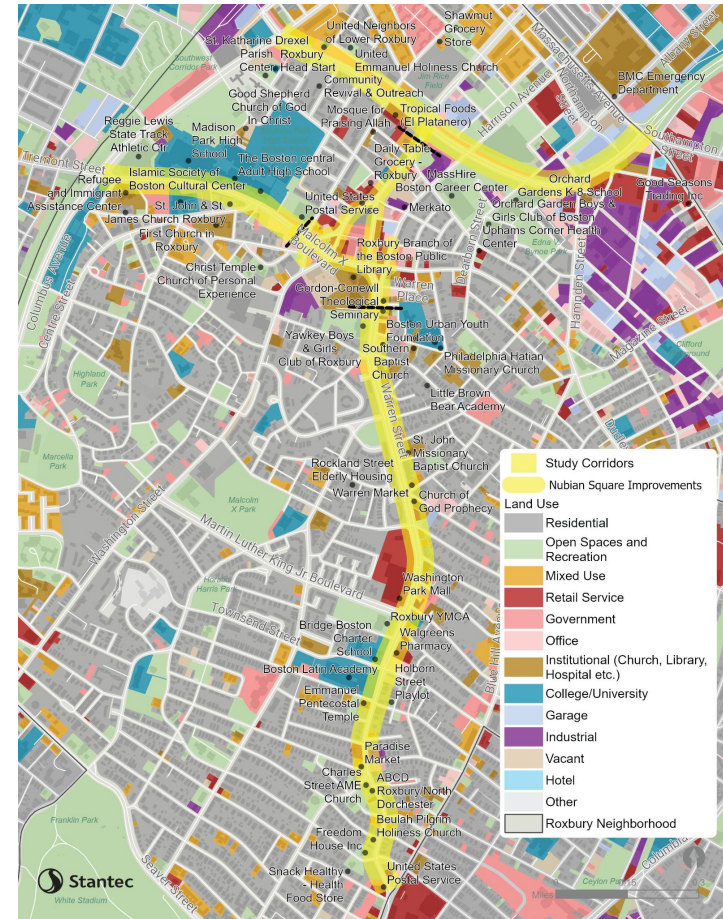


# ROXBURY RESILIENT CORRIDORS

## Next Steps

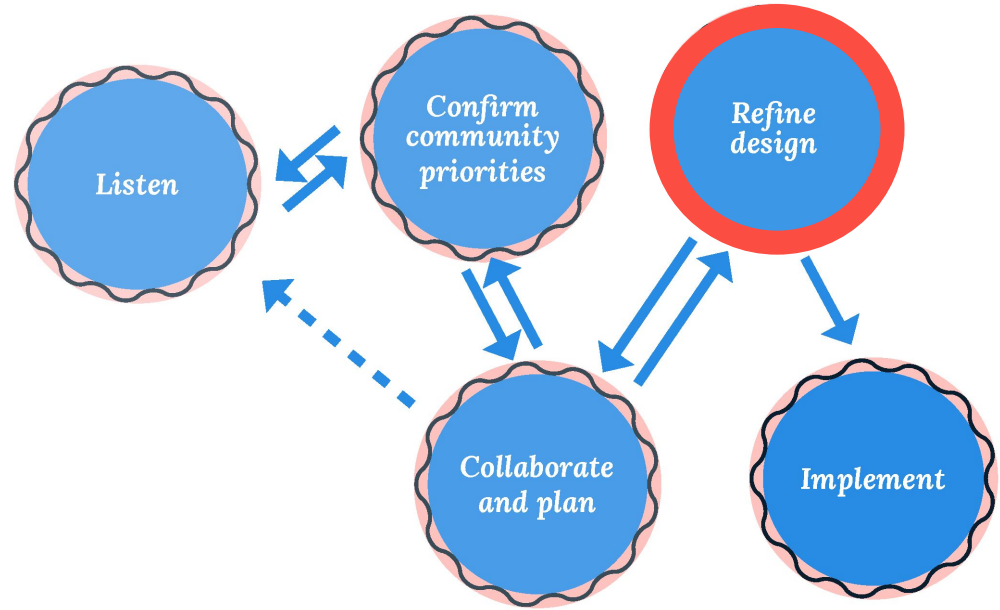
- ▶ Publish the Request For Proposals (RFP)
- ▶ Develop a community engagement strategy taking into consideration nearby, ongoing projects
- ▶ Gather information from the Environment Department and MONUM's pilot projects over the summer

To be added to the project's email list, write to [maria.castillocastillo@boston.gov](mailto:maria.castillocastillo@boston.gov)



# NEXT STEPS FOR THIS GROUP

- ▶ Meet again:
  - *April 11 at 11:00 am*
- ▶ Email to you re: today's meeting notes
- ▶ Keep you posted!



# NEXT STEPS FOR THIS GROUP

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▶ *Discussion:*

- *Would this group like to continue helping us communicate and collaborate with the communities in Lower Roxbury around upcoming Streets initiatives?*
- *We'd love your feedback about this as a forum:*
  - *Open to all for whom it's of interest*
  - *Mutually accountable to group norms (for the City and the group)*
  - *Quarterly virtual meetings*
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# MEETING EVALUATION

## OUTCOMES

- ▶ Review next steps for the project
- ▶ Hear about upcoming Streets projects in Roxbury
- ▶ Discuss future of this group as Jen transitions to a new role

## QUESTIONS

- ▶ *How did we do as a group at achieving our desired outcomes for the meeting?*
- ▶ *How did the project team do at guiding the process?*
- ▶ *Any recommendations for the next meeting?*

**CONCLUSION**

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