

Staff Report to the Board

June 11, 2016

Contracting, Personnel, and General Administration

The staff have worked closely with the CRA's computer technical consultant Adam Rosen of Oakbog, Inc. to re-organize the CRA's file management system and expand the computer network to accommodate work stations for Carlos Peralta, Liz Pongratz, and other future interns.

The auditing firm of Roselli, Clark and Associates has scheduled their fieldwork for the 2015 audit for late June. At this time, staff will revisit the OPEB Fund issue discussed earlier in the year.

In coordination with City departments, staff have begun the designer selection process for transportation design and engineering services focused on streetscape design for the Kendall Square Urban Renewal Area. The CRA is also beginning the procurement process for selecting a cost estimator for building and infrastructure construction projects.

Draft Forward Calendar

July 2016	August / September 2016
Infill Development Concept Plan – Urban Design	Infill Development Concept Plan
MEPA NPC / Transit Enhancement Program (KSTEP)	Binney Street Park Designs
Retail Proposal for Seven Kendall Center	Kendall Square Implementation Plan
Foundry Development Entity Selection	Personnel Policy Revisions
2016 Budget Revisions	

Staff may schedule an additional CRA Design Review Committee to discuss the initial architecture and urban design within the upcoming Infill Development Concept Plan.

Projects and Initiatives

Parcel Sixth – Third and Binney

The site work to be provided by Newport Construction began last week. Curbing will be set and the staff are pursuing temporary furniture options. Food trucks are scheduled to begin service the week June 20th while the planting and furnishings are being installed. The staff are conducting follow up outreach to the local restaurants and working on a collection of social media avenues to promote the lunchtime food truck activity.

Foundry

The RFP submission from CIC / Graffito / Hacin + Associates is currently being reviewed by the Evaluation Committee. The Technical Team and the Foundry Advisory Committee have all provided thorough feedback on the proposal. A public presentation by the Proponent has been tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, June 21, from 6:30 – 8:30 pm at Cambridge City Hall, Sullivan Chamber.

Point Park

The CRA has continued to facilitate multiple meeting between the City, Boston Properties (BP), and their respective design teams. The City has undertaken the design and construction of the bicycle counterflow path to Third Street. BP is completing the construction documents with the goal of completing construction of the plaza in 2016. The CRA is working with the various artists of the Galaxy Fountain on a National Endowment of the Arts grant application for funds to restore elements of the public art.

Kendall Square Urban Renewal Plan Amendment

The CRA and BP have been working collaboratively on the technical elements of a Notice of Project Change (NPC) to follow up on the EIR certified in 2015. This NPC was a requirement to provide public review of the proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the CRA, the City, and MassDOT in order to implement the Kendall Square Urban Renewal Plan. The draft MOU will be finalized by the end of June and published with the NPC. The NPC will also include updates to the traffic, energy, soil conditions, and storm water analysis due to the modifications of the project. Much of this analysis will also inform the Infill Development Concept Plan, especially the Traffic Impact Study (TIS).

Grand Junction Park

The Grand Junction Path ribbon cutting was held last Thursday with over 60 people in attendance including city officials, city staff, local developers, and community advocates. Mattuchio Construction has been presented with a partial completion letter and is working on punch list items through the month of June. Additional work will need to be conducted due to the steam facility repairs undertaken by Veolia on both ends of the park. It is anticipated that the CRA landscape contractor will take over maintenance in July.