# Innovation Space Compliance Report 2023 Update

February 21, 2024



## Introduction

The following Innovation Space Annual Compliance report is submitted to fulfill requirements stipulated by the MXD Infill Development Concept Plan (IDCP), administered by the Cambridge Redevelopment Authority (CRA) and the Planning Board via Special Permit PB315 (the "Special Permit"). As part of the new commercial and residential uses authorized by the Special Permit within the Kendall Square Urban Redevelopment Plan (KSURP) area, Boston Properties (BXP) pledged to deliver Innovation Space as a condition of approval for Commercial Building A (145 Broadway, a component of Phase I of the IDC) and Commercial Building B (325 Main, a component of Phase II). BXP also pledged to deliver Pre-Innovation Space associated with 75 Ames Street, as stipulated in the Commitment Letter for Ordinance Number 1334.

As initially envisaged, the Innovation Space mandate is intended to ensure a dynamic and diverse environment within the urban ecosystem of Kendall Square and the City of Cambridge at large. To this end, Cambridge Innovation Center (CIC) and The Link have operated at 255 Main Street as platforms for startups, innovators, and workforce development.

This document is intended to illustrate how the operators of the Innovation Space at 255 Main Street are fulfilling the conditions mandated by the MXD IDCP process and the granting of the special permit on an ongoing basis. It will enumerate how both the Market Rate Innovation Space—operated by CIC—and the Below Market Rate component—operated by Third Sector New England (TSNE)—offer space compliance with the standards established by Article 14 and Section 412 of the Kendall Square Urban Renewal Plan. It will also outline plans to deliver approximately 15,000 GFA of additional Innovation Space, associated with the delivery of Commercial Building B.

CIC continues to successfully operate at 255 Main Street, creating a place for entrepreneurs to develop new products and companies better and faster. Tenants benefit from CIC's world-class infrastructure and programming for innovators, including high quality, flexible office space. CIC's success is reflected in its grassroots recognition: in 2021, it was named "Best Coworking Space" in Startup Boston's first-ever Community Awards, celebrating CIC's ability to "constantly [create] opportunities for the startup community to connect and learn from one another."

In partnership with BXP, TSNE is operating The Link, a co-working, training, and event venue intended to provide affordable space for nonprofits, employers, and innovators focused on workforce development. Anchored by MassBioEd and Per Scholas, The Link has hosted over 100 events, conferences, lunch and learns, and mock interviews in 2023—furthering The Link's mission of fostering opportunities for diverse stakeholders in the Kendall Square innovation economy.

Since the last Innovation Report, BXP has identified promising opportunities to grow the Innovation Space portfolio. This includes an expansion of The Link was delivered January 2024. For remaining opportunities, BXP is prioritizing high-touch concepts that will offer the Kendall Square community access to cutting-edge innovators and the resources to participate in Kendall's innovation ecosystem directly.

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l.	Innovation Sp	ace	Phasing	Plan

## **Innovation Space Phasing Plan**

The phasing diagram below delineates the required delivery of both Market Rate Space and Below Market Rate Space within the KSURP area as a condition of approval for Commercial Building A (145 Broadway) and Commercial Building B (325 Main) as part of the MXD IDCP.

It also depicts the 20,000 GFA "pre-innovation space" requirement referenced in the Commitment Letter for Ordinance Number 1334 dated August 2, 2010 as "Boston Properties' Commitments" # 4.

Accounting for this "pre-innovation space," BXP's initial aggregate requirement was for approximately 80,500 GFA, linked to 145 Broadway's Certificate of Occupancy (C of O) in 2019 ("Phase 1"). This included a mix of Market Rate Space and Below Market Rate Space.

In 2022, BXP received temporary C of O for 325 Main Street ("Phase 2"). This increased BXP's innovation space requirement by 44,704 GFA, to 125,200 GFA total.

These innovation space requirements have supported the continued inclusion of small businesses, incubators, teaching facilities, entrepreneurs, and investors, among other entities, within the KSURP area.

## Required Innovation Space Delivery



- Market Rate Innovation Space
- Below Market Rate Innovation Space

The phasing diagram below illustrates the executed delivery of the Innovation Space mandate from 2019 through 2022, and the planned delivery of remaining requirements through 2024.

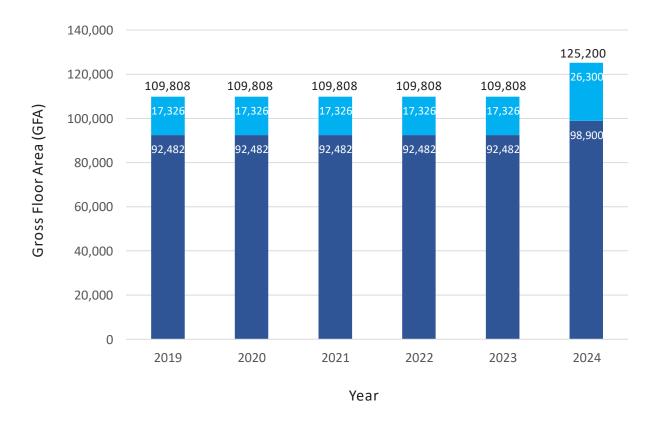
BXP fulfilled both "pre-innovation" space requirements and innovation space requirements associated with the C of O for 145 Broadway through the delivery of 92,482 GFA of Market - Rate Space and 17,326 GFA of Below Market Rate Space. This total – 109,808 GFA – well exceeded the Phase I minimum of 80,496 GFA.

With the completion of Phase I, BXP was able to bring two mission-oriented organizations to the KSURP area, at 255 Main. In the Market-Rate Space: Cambridge Innovation Center (CIC), an operator of collaborative work environments for entrepreneurs and startups. In the Below Market Rate Space: TSNE, a nonprofit offering a co-working, training, and event venue for organizations focused on workforce development.

In Phase II, BXP will deliver an additional 15,392 GFA of Innovation Space associated with the C of O for 325 Main, including both Market Rate and Below Market Rate requirements.

Of this remaining balance, BXP has already delivered 2,681 GFA through TSNE's planned expansion of The Link in Q1 2024. BXP is committed to collaborating with the Cambridge Redevelopment Authority (CRA) on the delivery for the remaining 12,711 GFA.

## Executed and Planned Innovation Space Delivery



- Market Rate Innovation Space
- Below Market Rate Innovation Space

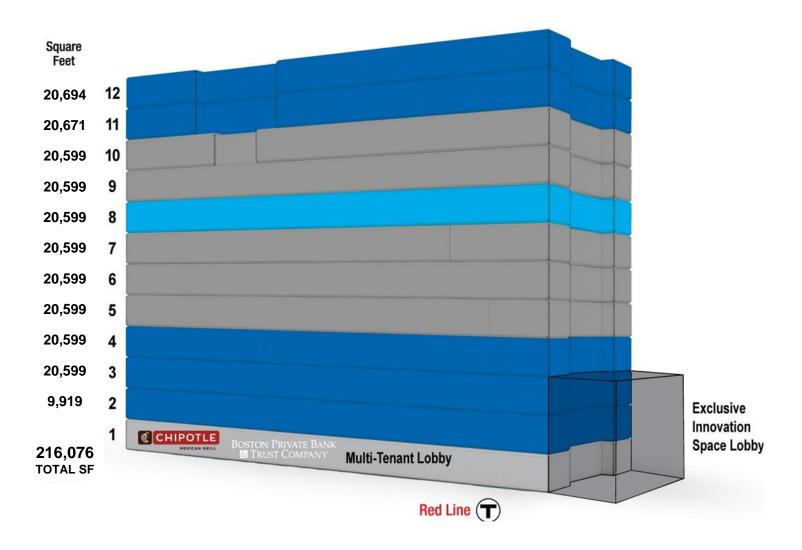
## II. Stacking Diagram – 255 Main Street

## Overall Stacking Diagram

The following depicts the innovation space currently delivered as part of Phase I, at 255 Main Street, Cambridge MA.

• Floors 2, 3, 4, 11, 12: Cambridge Innovation Center (CIC)

• Floor 8: TSNE – The Link



- Market Rate Innovation Space
- Below Market Rate Innovation Space

## III. Market Rate Zoning Compliance Narrative

## Market Rate Zoning Compliance Narrative

CIC develops innovation ecosystems that enable exceptional entrepreneurs to create new products and companies better and faster. This is accomplished by creating world-class infrastructure and programming for innovators, including high quality, flexible office space; shared wet-lab facilities; public, civic innovation spaces; and targeted initiatives to help entrepreneurs grow their companies.

CIC client companies come from all industries, primarily startups, innovation companies, as well as the innovation arms of larger corporations. Globally, CIC has housed over 7,500 client companies in over 1,140,000 SF of premium office and co-working space.

## CIC Innovation Space Overview

CIC occupies floors 2, 3, 4, 11, and 12 of 255 Main Street in Cambridge. Within these 5 floors, 92,482 GFA qualifies as Innovation Space.

## **Fulfillment of Innovation Space Plan**

Innovation Space: A Concept Plan proposing more than 100,000 square feet of GFA for Office and Biotechnology manufacturing uses shall include a plan for Innovation Space meeting the requirements below. Innovation Space within the District must occupy GFA equal to, or in excess of, ten percent (10%) of nonresidential Infill GFA. Existing GFA within the District may be converted to meet this requirement. The Innovation Space requirement shall be met through the provision of office spaces of at least ten thousand (10,000) square feet or [ten percent (10%) of the newly constructed non-residential GFA, if less] within a single building and may be satisfied by means of a lease to a single user who will operate and manage a facility meeting the requirements hereof.

DESCRIPTION OF REQUIREMENT	HOW CIC FULFILLS THIS REQUIREMENT		
Durations of lease agreements with individual office tenants shall be for periods of approximately one (1) month.	CIC maintains the same 30 day service agreements for all clients.		
No single business entity may occupy more than two thousand (2,000) square feet or ten percent (10%) of the entire Innovation Space provided in the District, whichever is greater.	Total innovation space within the District is 92,482 GFA. All CIC clients are currently under 10% of this total space.		
	Top five clients by sf:		
	- Client A: 2,419 - Client D: 1,163 - Client B: 1,222 - Client E: 1,106 - Client C: 1,191		
The average size of separately contracted private office suites may not exceed two hundred (200) square feet of GFA.	Based on a review of offices within the defined innovation space, the average size of separately contracted private offices is 180 square feet.		
Innovation Space shall include shared resources (i.e. co-working areas, conference space, classroom space, office equipment, showroom, shop or lab equipment, storage, circulation, supplies, and kitchens) available to all tenants and must occupy at least fifty percent (50%) of the Innovation Space.	All innovation space floors have at least 50% shared resources.		



## Market Rate Zoning Compliance Narrative

#### **DESCRIPTION OF REQUIREMENT**

Individual entities occupying Innovation Space may include small businesses, incubators, small research laboratories, office space for investors and entrepreneurs, facilities for teaching and for theoretical, basic, and applied research, product development and testing and prototype fabrication or production of experimental products.

## HOW CIC FULFILLS THIS REQUIREMENT

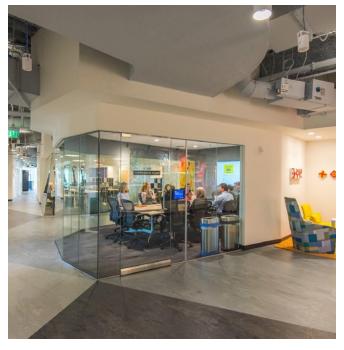
CIC services a range of clients, and our clients fall into one or more of the described sectors, including:

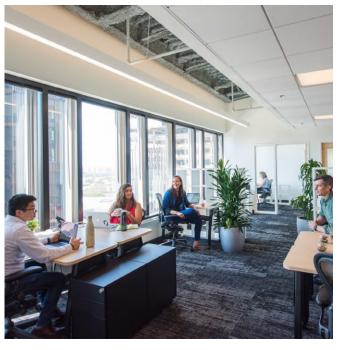
- Approximately 56% focused on science + technology
- Remaining 44% focused on:
  - Finance + VC
  - Business Services
  - Artificial Intelligence

## CIC Shared Spaces











## Market Rate Zoning Compliance Narrative

**CIC Success Stories** 



## Highlights include:

- •CIC, a global leader in building and operating innovation ecosystems, and C10 labs, a groundbreaking Al venture studio with roots in the innovation hub of MIT, announced their collaboration to establish an Al hub in Kendall Square that will drive innovation and grow an Alfocused community.
- CIC was the exclusive recipient in Massachusetts of the U.S. Depart of Commerce's Minority Business Development Agency's Capital Readiness Program. This grant will be used to fund the launch of CIC's Social Impact Cohort, which is now accepting entries.
- •The Massachusetts Mobility Innovation Hub (the Hub) is an initiative driven by the Massachusetts Competitive Partnership (MACP), CIC, and Zipcar. The Hub aims to convene leading mobility companies, entrepreneurs, policymakers, and thought leaders to advance sustainable transportation solutions. The Hub recently announced its founding board members and executive director.



## IV. Below Market Rate Operations Report

## **Below Market Rate Operations Report**

In accordance with our first Operations Plan, BXP has retained lease control of the 8th floor of 255 Main Street while partnering with an experienced licensee operator to run the Below Market Rate Space. Via extensive collaboration with TSNE—operator of the NonProfit Center of Boston (NPC)—as of the submission of this report, BXP has delivered its Innovation Space requirement in the form of The Link.

Conceived in response to the guidelines of the IDCP and the unique context of the Kendall Square community, The Link seeks to connect underrepresented job seekers to the innovation ecosystem of Kendall Square and Greater Boston. With a focus on workforce training and skills-matching, the space boasts facilities for co-working, flexible office, classrooms, and conference space. Both office and events spaces are open to all, and offer creative opportunities for fostering connections between different facets of the business and non-profit community in Kendall.

The Link opened in June 2019, occupying 17,326 GFA. Starting in January 2024, The Link expanded to include an additional 2,681 GFA on the 8th floor—a testament to the strong demand for and successful operations of The Link's services. With this expansion, The Link now has over 40 workstations and 15 offices to host co-working and office users. It also has two additional conference rooms available as an amenity to users of the space. The Link continues to operate three different classrooms to facilitate instructional programming. Demountable walls between classrooms allow for considerable flexibility in use patterns, broadening The Link's appeal.

As originally envisaged, tenants of The Link have access to a variety of services and amenities, including:

- High speed internet
- Tech support
- Networked printer/copier/scanner
- Access to conference space
- · Cleaning, security, engineering services
- Stocked kitchen
- Community/educational events and programming

## Below Market Rate Operations Report

#### The Link Success Stories

The Link has seen a surge of activity in 2023, representing an inflection point coming out of the COVID-19 pandemic. For example, The Link hosted 105 events in their rentable spaces in 2023. Many of these external organizations—including BARCC, Devo, DMI, HueLife, the MIT Center for Internal Studies, Modus Create, and The Austral Group—have already rebooked for 2024.

Meanwhile, office/co-working tenancy remains strong, underscored by TSNE's 2024 expansion. Two anchor tenants, Per Scholas and MassBioEd, have continued to grow their presence—and impact—at The Link. As organizations working to build a sustainable technology and life sciences workforce in the region, respectively, they have helped maintain a strong connection between The Link and its mission.

Drawing from The Link's resources, Per Scholas hosted four IT and two cybersecurity classes, supporting 108 learners in 2023. In addition, Per Scholas continues to facilitate lunch & learns and mock interviews at The Link. To do so, they have built partnerships with locally-based companies such as: Meketa Investment Group, Granite Telecommunications, Hollister Group, TEKsystems, PointClickCare, Verizon, Robert Half, Technicum, and Pegasystems.

Meanwhile, in 2023 MassBioEd used The Link to host several large-scale, 200+ person conferences as well as professional training courses. This includes the Aligned Curricular and Career Experiences for Secondary Science (ACCESS) Program, which brings teachers, administrators and scientists together to provide partner districts with vertically aligned, hands-on life science lab lessons and career experiences for students in grades 6-10. MassBioEd currently occupied 19 workspaces and will use the additional space from The Link's expansion to grow their footprint at 255 Main Street.

## V. Below Market Rate Zoning Compliance Report

## Below Market Rate Zoning Compliance

As currently conceived, the Below Market Rate Space on the 8th floor of 255 Main Street (The Link) complies fully with the requirements of Article 14, as well as the prescribed mission for Innovation Space under the KSURP as described by the narrative above. The below zoning compliance matrix is included for reference:

DESCRIPTION OF REQUIREMENT	HOW THE LINK FULFILLS THIS REQUIREMENT
Durations of lease agreements with individual office tenants shall be for periods of approximately one (1) month.	TSNE's business plan incorporates agreements for private and shared office, as well as co-working space at 255 Main Street on short-term license agreements. Relief was sought and received from the CRA Board to offer terms as long as (1) year due to specific tenant requirements.
No single business entity may occupy more than two thousand (2,000) square feet or ten percent (10%) of the entire Innovation Space provided in the District, whichever is greater.	No tenant occupies more than 10,500 SF, ten percent of the entire Innovation Space provided in the District. With the 2024 expansion, the largest tenant at the Link occupies 2,681 SF.
The average size of separately contracted private office suites may not exceed two hundred (200) square feet of GFA.	The Link's buildout includes 111 SF per private office on average.
Innovation Space shall include shared resources (i.e. co-working areas, conference space, classroom space, office equipment, showroom, shop or lab equipment, storage, circulation, supplies, and kitchens) available to all tenants and must occupy at least fifty percent (50%) of the Innovation Space.	Over 50% of The Link's space qualifies as co-working, shared kitchen, storage, and/or circulation space available to all tenants, as well as shared conference, and meeting facilities available to both non-profit and for-profit organizations irrespective of tenancy in The Link space.
Individual entities occupying Innovation Space may include small businesses, incubators, small research laboratories, office space for investors and entrepreneurs, facilities for teaching and for theoretical, basic, and applied research, product development and testing and prototype fabrication or production of experimental products.	The Link's tenants as of the submission of this report fall into one or more of the enumerated categories, with the majority situated in the field of workforce development.

## VI. Below Market Space Summary Report

## Below Market Rate Summary Report

## **Space Allocation**

- 1. The space has been designed with three instructional spaces capable of accommodating 25 students each, as well as one large event space with a capacity of 50. Operable partitions have been installed between two of these spaces to provide flexibility in accommodating larger events and classes. These spaces account for roughly 3,100 SF in total.
- 2. The majority of available square footage has been configured as a co-working area with a total of 43 workstations, accounting for approximately 1,700 SF of available square footage.
- 3. 15 private offices—each measuring under 140 SF—account for approximately 1,670 SF.
- 4. Residual square footage—approximately 9,455 SF—is dedicated to shared resources, including a kitchen/cafeteria area, a lounge, shared meeting spaces, and operational areas including uses such as storage, copy room, server room, and operator's room.

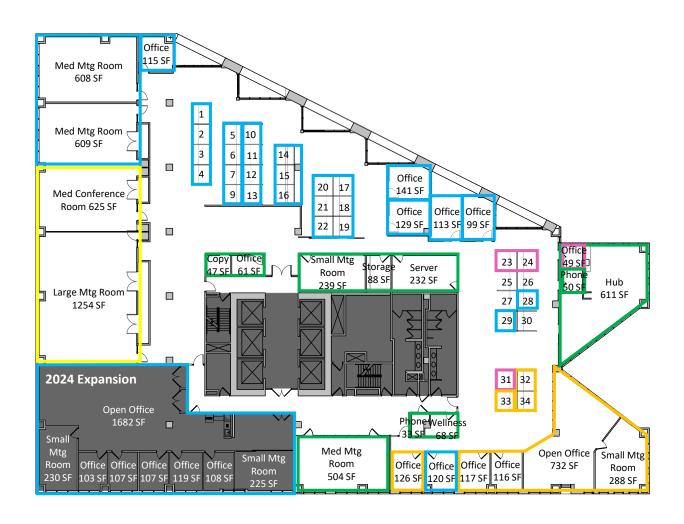
#### **Tenancy**

- 1. Occupancy: All workspaces at The Link, with the exception of CRA's space, are rented out to 501c(3) organizations as follows:
  - a) Education/Workforce Development: 24 workstations and 6 private office
  - b) Research/Advisory: 3 workstations and 1 private office
- 2. Occupant List:
  - a) MassBioEd
  - b) Cambridge Redevelopment Authority (CRA)
  - c) Per Scholas
  - d) CDA Collaborative
  - e) A-T Children's Project
  - f) Coalition of Schools Educating Boys of Color (COSEBOC)
  - g) Green Soul Organics Foundation
- 3. Vacancy:

Workstations: 4 vacant
 Private office: 0 vacant

VII.Link Space Floor Plan

## The Link Kendall Usage Breakdown



## Link UsageBreakdown



## VIII.Future Innovation Space

## **Future Innovation Space**

As part of BXP's commitment to deliver an additional 12,711 GFA of Innovation Space, BXP partnered with CommonWealth Kitchen (CWK), collaboratively developing the vision and design for a food hall at 325 Main Street specifically for local food entrepreneurs. Unfortunately, broad changes in the office market following COVID-19 have decreased office demand for lunchtime food options. This has created a challenging environment for brick and mortar food operations, particularly for nascent businesses. In addition, operational and strategic changes at CWK greatly reduced CWK's desire to move forward with the food hall project. As a result, BXP and CWK mutually agreed to pause the food hall build-out.

BXP continues to partner with CWK on signature programs, such as its annual Food Show and Holiday Gift Boxes. Moreover, BXP continues to monitor the market and will assess future opportunities to provide diverse local food entrepreneurs a retail presence in the heart of Kendall Square. BXP's public market plans, developed through Construction Documents (CDs), can serve as a blueprint in these conversations and assessments.

In the meantime, BXP is focused on delivering its remaining Innovation Space. To do so, BXP has progressed substantial conversations with The Fab Foundation that would meet the majority of GFA still required — and likely overdeliver on remaining Below Market requirements by approximately 3,000-5,000 SF. The resulting opportunity, tentatively named Fab Kendall, would offer the community opportunities to interact with, and participate directly in, Kendall Square's innovation ecosystem.

## **Spotlight: The Fab Foundation**

## Summary

BXP is in active conversations with The Fab Foundation to build its global HQ and flagship community fab lab on Level 2 of 325 Main Street. A Letter of Intent is in progress, and a draft fit plan has been developed.

This project would deliver 10,000+ GFA of Below Market Innovation Space.

#### About The Fab Foundation

The Fab Foundation is a US non-profit 501(c)3 organization whose mission is to provide access to the

tools, the knowledge, and the financial means to educate, innovate, and invent using technology and digital fabrication that allow anyone to make (almost) anything – thereby creating opportunities to improve lives and livelihoods around the world. Its programs and services fall into three categories:

- .EDU: teaching the skills and knowledge of digital fabrication
- .ORG: enabling the development of community-based and educational fab labs
- .COM: facilitating an ecosystem of fab lab-generated businesses and products

## Connection to Innovation Space

This project would provide space oriented towards business incubation and entrepreneurship, as well as facilities for teaching, research, and fabrication/ production of experimental products, as detailed in Section 14.32.5 of the Zoning Code.



From the Kendall Square Association:

"Locating this digital fabrication hub in Kendall Square will... demonstrate that this is the most innovative and the most welcoming innovation ecosystem in the world."

## **Future Innovation Space**

#### A Proven Model

Today, the fab lab network includes more than 2,500 centers across 125 countries. The first was developed in Boston in 2003, in partnership between MIT Professor Neil Gershenfeld and the late Mel King, a renowned civil rights activist, politician, and community organizer and a lifelong resident of the South End. This fab lab, the South End Technology Center, operates to this day and provides communities direct access to a platform for learning and invention: a place to play, create, mentor, and invent.

#### Fab Kendall Notional Fit Plan

Based on The Fab Foundation's 20+ years of experience on what it takes to create a successful fab lab, BXP developed an initial fit plan for a flagship lab at 325 Main Street. While the plan is subject to change following further input from The Fab Foundation, it reflects the general intent of the project. Core uses would include:

- Publicly programmed convening space (yellow)
- Community-accessible lab and classroom space (green)
- Office space for The Fab Foundation staff, ambassadors, and entrepreneurs (blue)

#### Notional Fit Plan



## **Future Innovation Space**

## **Remaining Innovation Space**

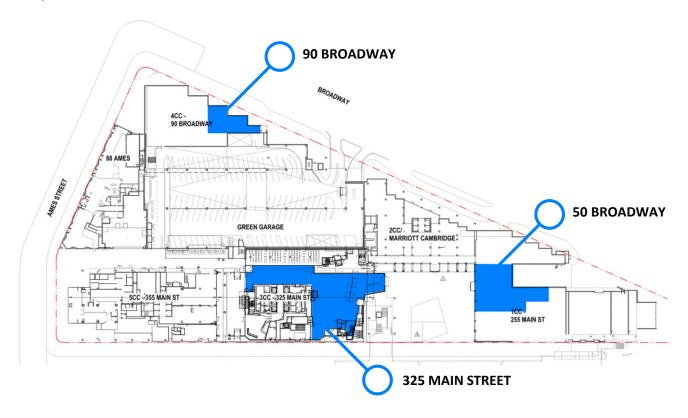
As BXP and The Fab Foundation continue to refine the Fab Kendall project, BXP will assess any remaining GFA requirements to finalize its Innovation Space commitments.

BXP has identified a number of prospective locations that could be potential candidates for future Innovation Space. These locations are highly visible and would strategically activate Kendall Plaza and the surrounding block.

## Locations include space at:

- 325 Main Street ground floor, approx. 8,000 sf
- 50 Broadway former Champions Restaurant in the Marriott Hotel, approx. 7,000 SF
- 90 Broadway temporary location for the Coop Bookstore, approx. 5,500 SF

## **Prospective Locations**



## IX. Appendix: 245 Main Digital Board

Note: This content is separate from BXP's Innovation Space requirements and was prepared directly by the CIC, compiled here for convenience.

# 245 Main Digital Board BXP Report

November 2023



## **CIC AWARENESS (11)**

#### **General Workspace Message**



#### **Client Spotlights**





## **Staff Spotlights**



## **PUBLIC EVENTS (6)**

#### **Venture Cafe Thursday Gatherings**



#### **CIC-Hosted Community Events**



## **COMMUNITY CONTENT (13)**

#### **BXP Events**







## **Kendall Square Organizations**







#### **BioMed Realty**





#### **CIC Partner Events**





#### **DEIB Messaging**









For a weekly log of slides, <u>click here</u>

## **COMMUNITY CONTENT DETAILS (13)**

#### **BXP Events**



Red Sox Opening Day



Black History Month Stroll



St. Patrick's Day Event

#### **CIC Partner Events**



Women in Tech Boston Event



Food for Free Volunteer Invite

#### **Kendall Square Organizations**



KSA 15th Anniversary



Innovation Trail Tour



**Foundry Promotion** 

## **BioMed Realty**



Bio in Bloom Event



Holiday Market

#### **DEIB Messaging (Generic)**

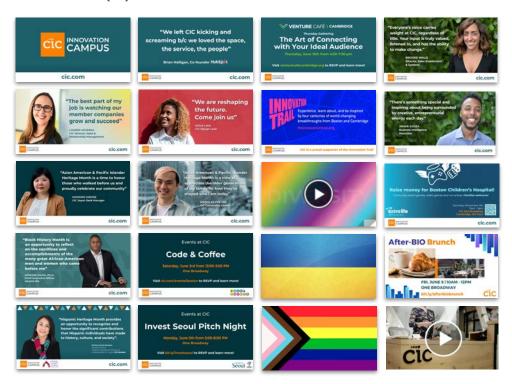








#### **CIC CREATED (20)**



#### **PARTNER CREATED (8)**





















