



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

January – December 2016

TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE PRIORITIES

ALLSTON INTERCHANGE REFINEMENT

A Better City worked closely with our member institutions abutting the Allston Interchange, with MassDOT and its consultants, and with members of the Task Force to further refine and develop an at-grade alternative for replacement of the I-90 viaduct adjacent to the interchange in coordination with the placemaking initiatives advanced by the City of Boston and adopted by MassDOT for the area.

FUTURE OF PARKING IN BOSTON

A Better City completed the *Future of Parking in Boston* report, a research project developed in partnership with the City of Boston to learn the best practices on parking policies from around the nation. This report listed specific recommendations on how to make parking work more effectively for residents, visitors, and the business community. Recently Mayor Walsh announced the Performance Parking pilot program that will study the relationship between parking meter prices and vehicle demand in the Seaport and Back Bay, a recommendation listed in our parking report

GO BOSTON 2030

As co-chair of the Advisory Committee for the Go Boston 2030 planning effort, A Better City helped to lead the process that is proposing transformative policies and projects that will inform programs and investment decisions described in the final Vision report of the project.

MASSDOT CAPITAL INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN

A Better City submitted a comprehensive review of the MassDOT capital infrastructure plan for FY17-21. Testified before the both the MassDOT and FMCB boards on portions of the transportation capital infrastructure needs. MassDOT Board adopted my recommendation on pledging additional funding for the Chapter 90 program for municipalities through non-capital budget sources.



SOUTH BOSTON WATERFRONT AREA

Secured \$25 Million in the MassDOT capital infrastructure budget for improvements to the South Boston Waterfront area. This funding will be used to implement improvements from the 2015 South Boston Waterfront Transportation plan. A Better City leads a group of stakeholders and public agencies to sequence and reach consensus on the projects that will be funded by this money. We also helped to advance the South Station Expansion project, by submitting comment letters, writing op-ed articles, and organizing the South Boston Stakeholders Community.

LAND USE & DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES

DOWNTOWN WATERFRONT MUNICIPAL HARBOR PLAN

A Better City served on the Advisory Committee reviewing and commenting on the Municipal Harbor Plan prepared in accordance with the requirements of Chapter 91 for the waterfront between Christopher Columbus Park and the Moakley Bridge. A Better City submitted detailed comments to the Boston Planning and Development Agency on the current draft plan in December.

PUBLIC REALM PLACEMAKING STUDY

Continuing with the study begun in 2015, A Better City completed three reports on placemaking practices for the City of Boston which were released at a panel discussion *Designing Boston: Placemaking* co-sponsored with the Boston Society of Architects in October. Our consultant, Stantec Urban Places Group, began development of a conceptual design in Phillips Square in Chinatown. Utile, Inc., under direction of A Better City, began working with the Boston Transportation Department and other City departments to prepare guidelines that will support placemaking activities in the city.

STATE OF THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

A Better City produced the information and state government reports that led to the State of the Built Environment projections, content, and the production of report. Presented the findings and discussed the issues and opportunities offered by the analysis at the State of the Built Environment Conference in June.



ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY PRIORITIES

CHALLENGE FOR SUSTAINABILITY

In November, the Challenge hosted its third peer-to-peer meeting for 2016: a tour of the new Partners HealthCare facility, the first LEED v4 building in Somerville. A fourth and final peer-to-peer meeting will take place on December 13, when experts from the City of Boston, MassDEP, and Recycling Works will join participants for lunch to discuss the City's zero waste plans and waste management strategies for businesses.

Mid-year meetings were conducted with 56 out of 65 participating facilities to introduce the new Sustainability Programs Coordinator, provide updates on sustainability and resilience plans, and discuss Challenge plans for 2017.

CLIMATE VULNERABILITIES AND SOLUTIONS SYMPOSIUM

On September 15th, A Better City held Boston's Climate Vulnerabilities and Solutions Symposium and Expo, attended by 325 attendees. In addition to three panels: an overview of Climate Ready Boston; resilience interventions in new construction, existing buildings and at a district level; and financing and policy solutions for resilience; this half day event included an expo of fourteen resilience vendors showcasing their technologies.

COLLABORATIVE RENEWABLE ENERGY PROCUREMENT

In October, A Better City announced the facilitation of a joint solar power purchase agreement to fuel member organizations Boston Medical Center MIT, and the Friends of Post Office Square. The facility is expected to deliver 146 GWh of emissions-free power to the grid every year, making it the largest renewable energy project ever built in the U.S. through an off-taker alliance among diverse organizations. This initiative highlights the efforts of the Greater Boston region's business and institutional leaders to identify and execute innovative, cost-effective, and responsible climate change mitigation investments.

In November, A Better City co-hosted an invitation-only event that shared insight from each of the key participants reflecting upon the genesis of the agreement. Both challenges and lessons learned were reviewed, with an emphasis on meaningful conclusions that will facilitate and guide power purchase agreements in the future.

MOBILE SOURCE GHG REDUCTION PROJECTS

Over the summer, the MBTA released a Request for Qualification (RFQ) to develop a new account-based, single-source automatic fare collection system for the MBTA. A Better City



provided input on the RFQ and a Request for Proposal (RFP) with the contract to be awarded in 2017. A Better City is working with Regina Villa to engage other transportation agencies, modes, and services in Massachusetts (RTAs, Massport, private bus operators, suburban/contracted bus systems, TMAs, etc.) to gather feedback about their interest in joining this new fare collection system.

A Better City's Mobile Source GHG Emissions Calculator was recognized at the 2016 ACT National Awards, as a finalist for the Excellence in Research Award.