

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT COMMISSION

of the **CITY OF BOSTON**

Boston City Hall room 714
Boston, Massachusetts

(617) 635-4961
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www.boston.gov/PIC

CHRISTOPHER P. OSGOOD
Chairman

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

ABATENEH Y. ALEMU
Interim Executive Secretary
Principal Civil Engineer

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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.”

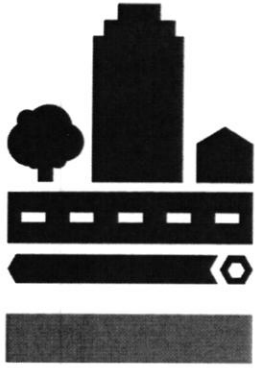
The City will endeavor to acquire and distribute reusable cloth face coverings as soon as practicable to employees reporting to physical work locations. In the interim, the City encourages employees with reusable cloth face coverings to bring their own to work.

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.



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October 22, 2020 - Hearing Agenda

Boston City Hall room 801 - 10:00 AM

Hearing Minutes

HM 1. At the request of the Public Improvement Commission staff, the **Acceptance of the Minutes** of the PIC hearing held on **October 8, 2020**.

Utility Pole Hearing

UP 1. On a joint petition by Verizon New England Inc. and Eversource Energy for a **Pole Relocation** within **Montmorenci Avenue** (public way), East Boston, to relocate one existing utility pole to be located on its northerly side at address no. 24, generally east of Orient Avenue.

Public Hearing Continued

PHC 1. On a petition by Boston Trinity Academy for the making of **Specific Repairs** within the following public ways in Hyde Park, consisting of curb, roadway, sidewalk, and pedestrian ramp reconstruction, as well as new and relocated wayfinding signage and driveway curb cuts:

- **Hale Street** – at address no. 17 generally between Gordon Avenue and Emmett Street;
- **Gordon Avenue** – on its northeasterly side between Hale Street and Child Street;
- **Child Street** – on its northwesterly side northeast of Gordon Avenue;
- **Braeburn Road** – on its northwesterly side southwest of Chestnut Street.

(NB 9/24/2020; PH 10/8/2020) As shown on a set of plans entitled “City of Boston Public Works Department, Engineering Division, Specific Repairs Plan, Gordon Avenue, Child Street, Braeburn Road, Hale Street, Hyde Park,” 4 sheets dated September 18, 2020.



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PHC 2. On a set of joint petitions by BRG 55 India LLC and the Boston Planning & Development Agency for the **Vertical Discontinuance** of portions of the following public ways in Boston Proper, vertically above the grades of the sidewalks:

- **India Street** – on its southwesterly side at address no. 55, between Franklin Street and Fitzgerald Surface Road;
- **Well Street** – on its northeasterly side southeast of Franklin Street;
- **Franklin Street** – on its southeasterly side between India Street and Well Street.

(NB 9/3/2020; PH 9/24/2020) As shown on a set of plans entitled “City of Boston Public Works Department, Engineering Division, Discontinuance Plan, Vertical, India Street, Well Street, Franklin Street, Boston Proper,” 3 sheets dated February 24, 2020.

PHC 3. On a joint petition by BRG 55 India LLC, the Massachusetts Department of Transportation, and the Boston Planning & Development Agency for the **Vertical Discontinuance** of a portion of **John F. Fitzgerald Surface Road** (public way), Boston Proper, located at the side of 55 India Street on its westerly side generally south of India Street, vertically below the grade of the sidewalk.

(NB 9/3/2020; PH 9/24/2020) As shown on a plan entitled “City of Boston Public Works Department, Engineering Division, Subsurface Discontinuance Plan, Vertical, Surface Road, Boston Proper,” 1 sheet dated February 24, 2020.

PHC 4. On a set of petitions by BRG 55 India LLC for the acceptance of **Pedestrian Easements** adjacent to the following public ways in Boston Proper:

- **Well Street** – on its northeasterly side at the rear of 55 India Street, southeast of Franklin Street;
- **Franklin Street** – on its southeasterly side between India Street and Well Street.

(NB 9/3/2020; PH 9/24/2020) As shown on a set of plans entitled “City of Boston Public Works Department, Engineering Division, Pedestrian Easement Plan, Franklin Street, Well Street, Boston Proper,” 2 sheets dated May 15, 2020.



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PHC 5. On a set of petitions by BRG 55 India LLC for the making of **Specific Repairs** within the following public ways in Boston Proper, consisting of curb, roadway, and sidewalk reconstruction, as well as new and relocated pedestrian ramps, specialty pavement, street trees, planters, landscaping, bike racks, groundwater recharge infrastructure, driveway curb cuts, and a decorative bronze inlay:

- **India Street** – on its southwesterly side at address no. 55, between Franklin Street and Fitzgerald Surface Road;
- **Well Street** – southeast of Franklin Street;
- **Franklin Street** – on its southeasterly side between India Street and Well Street;
- **John F. Fitzgerald Surface Road** – on its westerly side south of India Street.

(NB 9/3/2020; PH 9/24/2020) As shown on a set of plans entitled “City of Boston Public Works Department, Engineering Division, Specific Repairs Plan, 55 India Street, Financial District,” 6 sheets dated March, 2020.

PHC 6. On a set of petitions by BRG 55 India LLC for the granting of an **Earth Retention License** for the installation of a temporary earth support system within the following public ways in Boston Proper:

- **India Street** – on its southwesterly side at address no. 55, southeast of Franklin Street;
- **Well Street** – on its northeasterly side southeast of Franklin Street;
- **Franklin Street** – on its southeasterly side between India Street and Well Street.

(NB 9/3/2020; PH 9/24/2020) As shown on a set of plans entitled “City of Boston Public Works Department, Engineering Division, Conceptual Temporary Excavation Support Plan, 55 India Street, Boston,” 3 sheets dated April, 2020.

Public Hearing

PH 1. On a joint petition by Trinity Orient Heights Phase Three Limited Partnership and the Boston Housing Authority for the acceptance of two **Pedestrian Easements** adjacent to **Faywood Avenue** (public way), East Boston, located on its northerly side generally east and west of Vallar Road.

(NB 10/8/2020) As shown on a plan entitled “City of Boston Public Works Department, Engineering Division, Pedestrian Easement Plan, Faywood Avenue, Orient Heights, East Boston,” 1 sheet dated March 4, 2020.



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PH 2. On a joint petition by Trinity Orient Heights Phase Three Limited Partnership and the Boston Housing Authority for the making of **Specific Repairs** within the following public ways in East Boston, consisting of curb, roadway, and sidewalk reconstruction, as well as new and relocated pedestrian ramps, street trees, bike racks, stormdrain infrastructure, and driveway curb cuts:

- **Faywood Avenue** – on both sides generally east and west of Vallar Road;
- **Vallar Road** – generally northwest of Faywood Avenue.

(NB 10/8/2020) As shown on a set of plans entitled “City of Boston Public Works Department, Engineering Division, Specific Repairs Plan, Faywood Avenue, East Boston,” 3 sheets dated February, 2020.

PH 3. On a petition by Madison Park Development Corp. (d/b/a 2451 Washington LLC) for the acceptance of a **Pedestrian Easement** adjacent to **Guild Row** (public way), Roxbury, located on its westerly side at the side of 2451 Washington Street, between Dudley Street and Washington Street.

(NB 10/8/2020) As shown on a plan entitled “City of Boston Public Works Department, Engineering Division, Pedestrian Easement Plan, Guild Row, 2451 Washington Street, (Roxbury) Boston,” 1 sheet dated October 1, 2020.

PH 4. On a petition by VietAID (d/b/a 191-195 Bowdoin LP) for the acceptance of a **Pedestrian Easement** adjacent to **Bowdoin Street** (public way), Dorchester, located at address nos. 191-195, at the easterly corner of its intersection with Topliff Street.

(NB 10/8/2020) As shown on a plan entitled “City of Boston Public Works Department, Engineering Division, Pedestrian Easement, 191 Bowdoin Street, Topliff Street, Boston (Dorchester),” 1 sheet dated September 24, 2020.



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PH 5. On a petition by VietAID (d/b/a 191-195 Bowdoin LP) for the making of **Specific Repairs** within the following public ways in Dorchester, consisting of curb realignment, sidewalk and pedestrian ramp reconstruction, as well as new and relocated street lighting infrastructure, street trees, landscaping, irrigation infrastructure, street furniture, bike racks, and driveway curb cuts:

- **Bowdoin Street** – on its southeasterly side at address nos. 191-195, generally between Topliff Street and Olney Street;
- **Topliff Street** – on its easterly side south of Bowdoin Street.

(NB 10/8/2020) As shown on a set of plans entitled “City of Boston Public Works Department, Engineering Division, Specific Repair Plan, 191-195 Bowdoin Street & Topliff Street, Dorchester,” 2 sheets dated October 19, 2020.

PH 6. On a petition by Verizon New England Inc. for a **Grant of Location** with lead company status and no participants to install new telecommunication conduit with City shadow within the following public ways in Roxbury:

- **Amory Street** – generally south of Centre Street;
- **Amory Street Connector** – east of Amory Street;
- **Centre Road** – at Amory Street.

(NB 10/8/2020) As shown on a plan entitled “City of Boston Public Works Department, Engineering Division, Grant of Location Plan, 25 Amory St, Amory St Connector, Centre St, Proposed Conduit Installation,” 1 sheet dated October 13, 2020.

New Business

NB 1. **40 Wallingford Road**; Brighton – **Specific Repairs** – On a petition by 2Life Leventhal Limited Partnership