

BOSTON COMMON

MASTER PLAN

Landmarks Commission
24 November 2020

AGENDA:

Project Background

Common-wide Strategies

Areas of Opportunity





Property Owner
& Project Proponent



FRIENDS
OF THE
PUBLIC GARDEN

Park Steward
& Project Proponent



Liza Meyer, RLA
Chief Landscape Architect



Liz Vizza
President



Nate Frazee, RLA
Project Manager



Bob Mulcahy
Director of Parks Case &
Capital Projects

TEAM



Gene Bolinger, RLA
Vice President



Cheri Ruane, RLA
Vice President



Elise Bluell
Landscape Architect



Louise Roland
Landscape Architect



Cassie Bethoney, RLA
Senior Landscape Architect

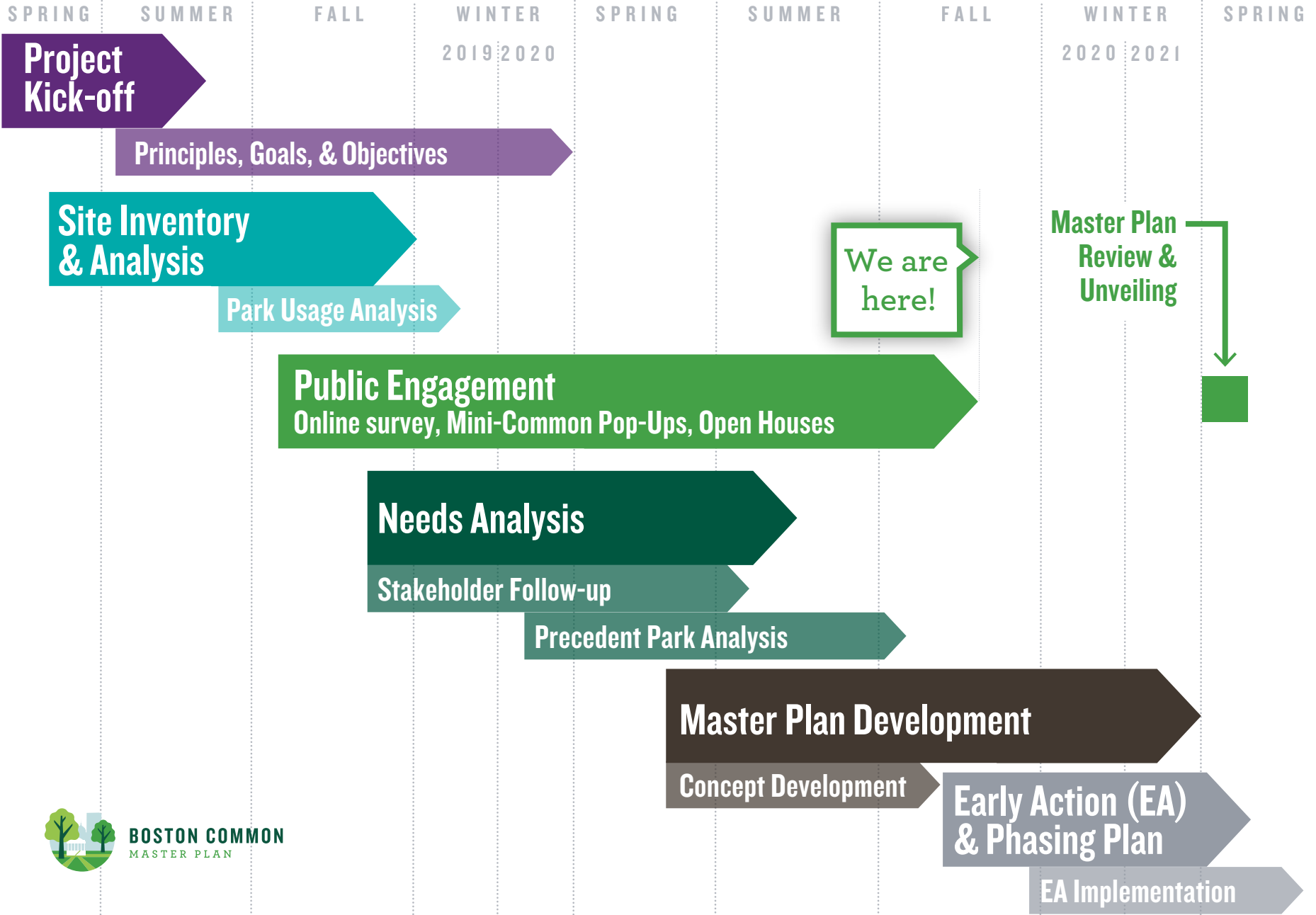
Weston & Sampson
design studio
Lead Designer

kzla
Kyle Zick Landscape
Architecture for Cultural
Landscapes support



BOSTON COMMON
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PROJECT SCHEDULE



GUIDING PRINCIPLES



MANY THINGS TO ALL PEOPLE



DESTINATION AND CROSSROADS



HISTORIC AND CONTEMPORARY



BALANCE PARK USE AND CARE



CHAMPION RESILIENT STRATEGIES

WHAT WE HEARD

PARK MAP
/ HANDOUT

INTERNAL WALKING ROUTES

DESTINATION &
NOT JUST A CUT THROUGH

PICNIC
AREAS

NO SMOKING/
DESIGNATED
SMOKING AREA

BETTER FOOD OPTIONS

MORE
LOCAL
ART

IMPROVE
SAFETY /
SECURITY

MORE RESTROOMS

SPLASH
FEATURES AT
FROG POND

LIGHTING /
VISIBILITY
AT NIGHT

BIKE LANE AT PARK
PERIMETER

IMPROVE PAVEMENT

ADA
ACCESSIBILITY

FENCED-IN DOG PARK

WAYFINDING
/ SIGNAGE

MORE TREES

EVENTS TO
PROMOTE SENSE
OF COMMUNITY
& YOUTH
ENRICHMENT

BETTER
LAWN

BETTER BENCHES /
MORE SEATING
OPTIONS

KEEP THE
COMMON FREE

NATURAL PLAY
/ TREE HOUSE

MORE FREE EVENTS

SEASONAL /
HOLIDAY
INSTALLATIONS
& ACTIVITIES

BIGGER PLAYGROUND

MORE SHADY
PLACES TO SIT



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AREAS OF OPPORTUNITY

CENTER CORE

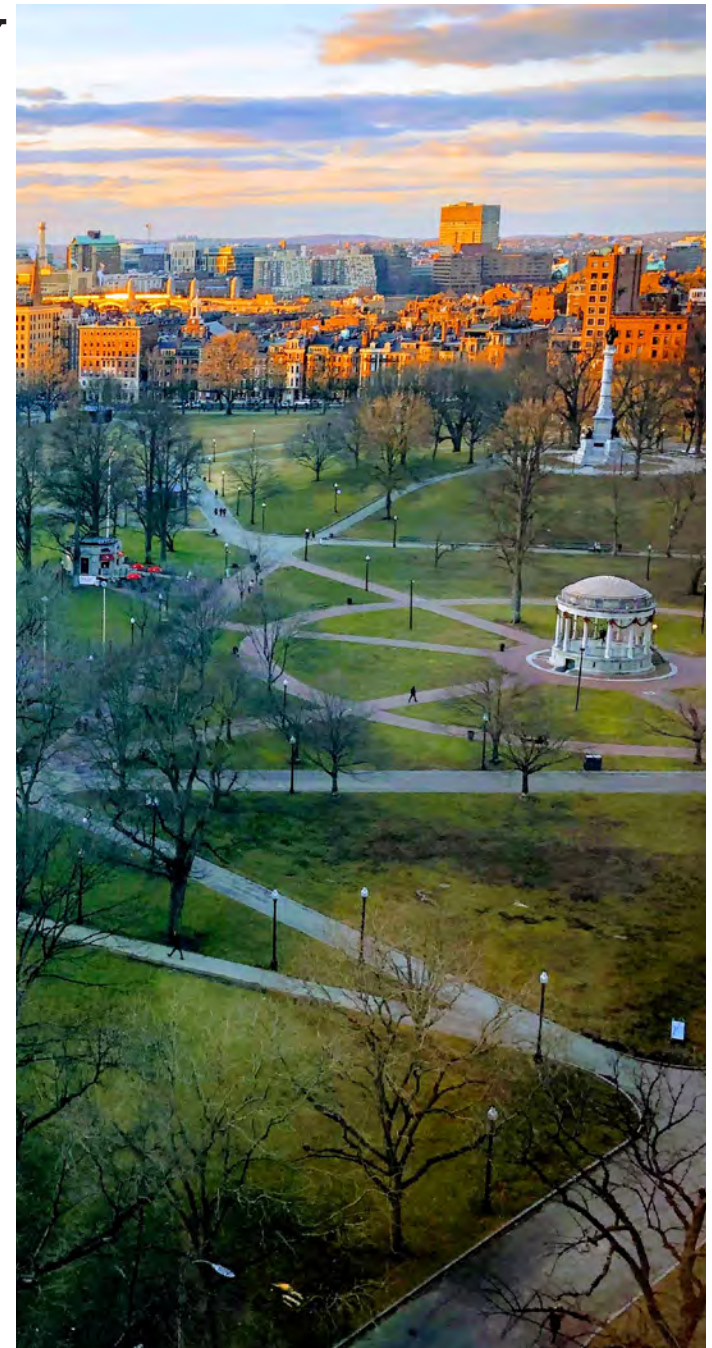
- King Boston Memorial
- Frog Pond and Pavilion
- Tadpole Playground
- Visitor Information Center and Plaza
- Accessibility at Parkman Bandstand and Venue Upgrades
- Earl of Sandwich Plaza improvements

RECREATION

- Sports Fields Upgrades and Reconfiguration
- Tennis Court Realignment
- Enclosed Dog Park

ENTRANCES

- Beacon and Charles Street Entrance
- Charles Street Mid-Block Crossing at Mayor's Walk
- Park Street Plaza
- Boylston Street Station Plaza
- General Entrance Upgrades



FROG POND AND PAVILION



FROG POND AND PAVILION

RECOMMENDED FEATURES:

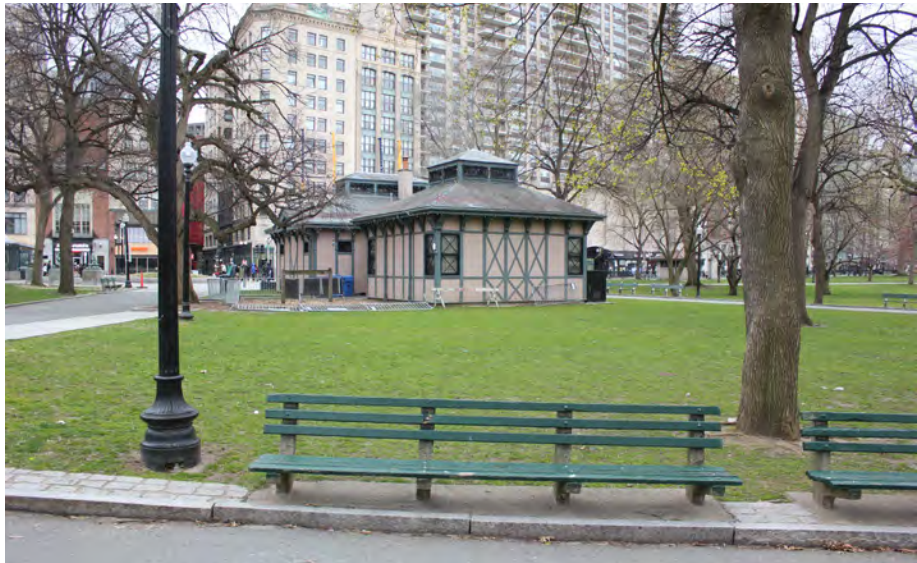
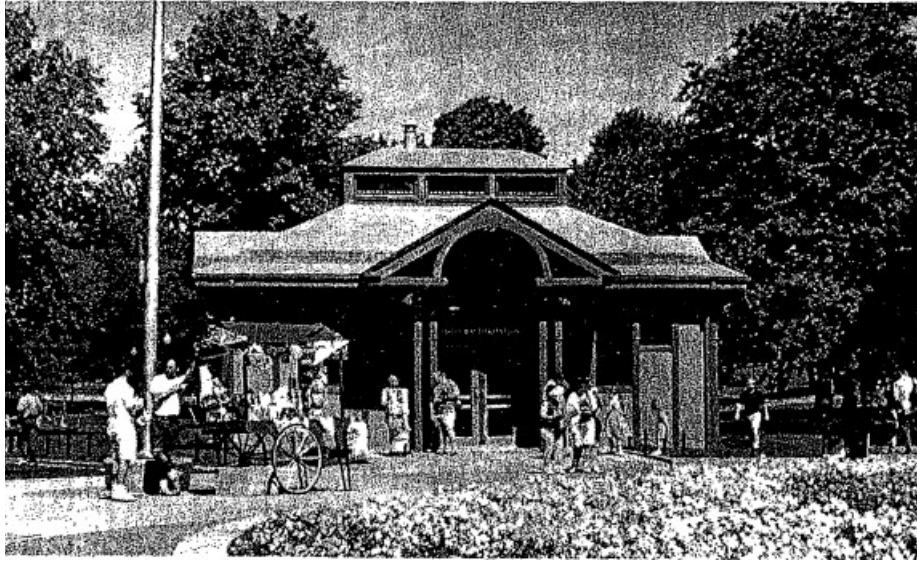
- Expand the Frog Pond Pavilion with added amenities
- Plant trees to increase shade
- Expand the children's playground with diverse play opportunities
- Expand seating options
- Provide support infrastructure for multi-season events and flexible programmed use







VISITOR INFORMATION CENTER



VISITOR INFORMATION CENTER

RECOMMENDED FEATURES:

- Invest in visitor resources and amenities; expand the V.I.C. building footprint
- Establish a pedestrian connection between the V.I.C. and Mayor's Walk
- Provide pathway connections to the forthcoming King Memorial
- Expand seating options for increased convenience
- Increase park-wide wayfinding





ENTRANCES

ENTRANCES

Beacon and Charles Street Entrance

Charles Street Mid-Block Crossing at Mayor's Walk

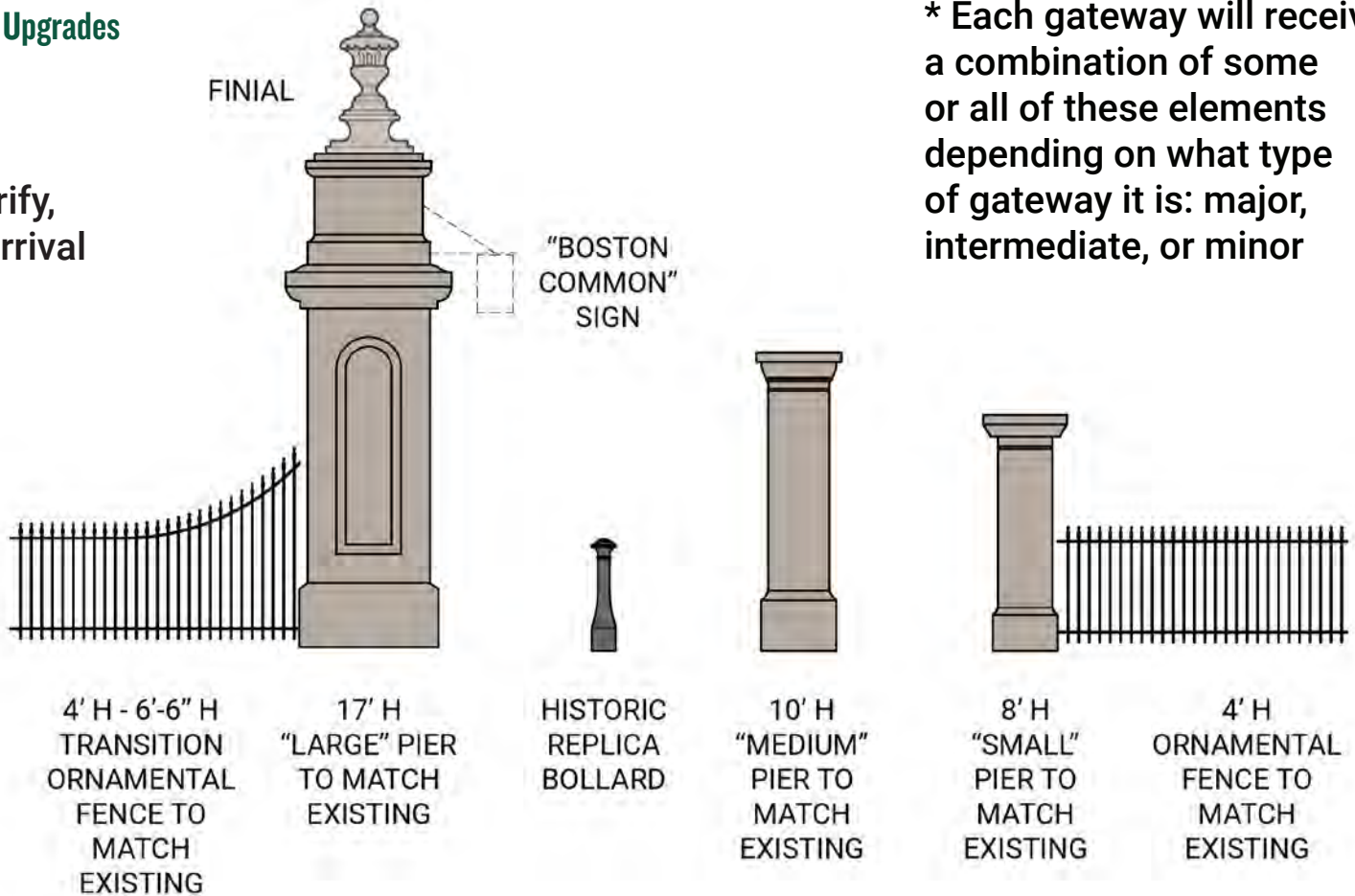
Park Street Plaza

Boylston Street Station Plaza

General Entrance Upgrades

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Coordinate, clarify, and celebrate arrival at the Common



* Each gateway will receive a combination of some or all of these elements depending on what type of gateway it is: major, intermediate, or minor

BEACON & CHARLES STREET ENTRANCE



BEACON & CHARLES STREET ENTRANCE

RECOMMENDED

FEATURES:

- Enhance pedestrian arrival with historic - based gateway and paving
- Limit vehicular access with a controlled gate entry
- Improve accessibility
- Restore historic tree allée along Beacon Street Mall
- Upgrade vending support infrastructure
- Increase park-wide wayfinding
- Ensure bike safety with one-way bike lane



CHARLES STREET MIDBLOCK ENTRANCE



CHARLES STREET MIDBLOCK ENTRANCE

RECOMMENDED FEATURES:

- Enhance pedestrian arrival with historic - based gateway and paving
- Restore formal tree allée on Mayor's Walk
- Upgrade vending support infrastructure
- Increase park-wide wayfinding
- Provide new restroom facility adjacent to the Athletic Fields
- Ensure bike safety with one-way bike lane



PARK STREET PLAZA



PARK STREET PLAZA

RECOMMENDED FEATURES:

- Establish a fully accessible route through the plaza to the MBTA headhouses
- Enhance pedestrian arrival with historic-based gateway
- Provide support infrastructure for vending and programmed use
- Increase park-wide wayfinding
- Protect the iconic viewshed to the State House



Thank you!
Questions?



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