



WHARF DISTRICT
COUNCIL
B O S T O N

NOVEMBER 17, 2020 (5-7 PM) Wharf District Council Meeting

BOSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT A-1 UPDATE

SERGEANT STEVEN MOY AND CAPTAIN ROBERT CICCULO

Boston Police Department (BPD) Sergeant Steven Moy provided a police report at the November Wharf District Council (WDC) meeting.

Before reviewing the most recent criminal incidents, Sergeant Moy along with BPD Captain Robert Ciccolo spoke to continued concerns regarding the homeless population in and around the Wharf District.

With cold weather posing considerable risk for injury and exposure, Captain Ciccolo stated that BPD is working with its partners in the area to coordinate outreach services.

Sergeant Moy spoke to the issue more broadly when referencing calls made to BPD as recently as November 12th regarding a homeless female spotted at 75 Central Street who is well-known to the department. Social services are currently engaging with her.

NEIGHBORHOOD INCIDENTS

NOVEMBER 15TH 2020, 111 ATLANTIC AVE. AND 10 ROWES WHARF: TWO ACTS OF VANDALISM

A 911 call was received by a witness who had been out walking his dog near 111 Atlantic Ave. when he witnessed an unknown male throw a brick through a parked BMW window.

While responding to this incident, officers received a second call from 10 Rowes Wharf of a second vandalism in progress. Once arrived, the front desk employee reporting having heard a loud noise likened to a "big bang" and observed that the front door glass had been shattered by a brick as well.

Video surveillance of the suspect was obtained at the 10 Rowes Wharf location and detectives are currently following up on this case.

NOVEMBER 9TH, 53 STATE STREET NEAR MCKINLEY SQUARE: ATTEMPTED PURSE- SNATCHING AND LARCENY

Female victim was walking from a friend's house to reach the MBTA Blue Line stop when she was

approached and engaged in conversation by two suspects, a male and a female, with the male suspect attempting to snatch the victim's purse. The purse fell to the ground and some money spilled out. At this point, the female suspect was able to grab a \$100 bill. Suspects fled and the case is currently under investigation.

WHARF DISTRICT BICYCLE AND SCOOTER THEFTS

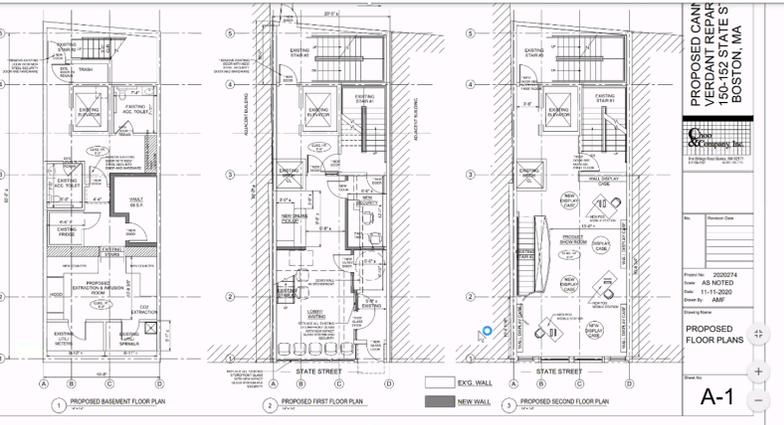
Sergeant Moy also made note of three separate reports being filed on November 5th, 10th, and 14th regarding bicycle and scooter thefts around the Wharf District. All three incidents are currently under investigation.

WDC Executive Director Susanne Lavoie reported hearing numerous motorcycles traveling up and down Atlantic Avenue. "Aside from being dangerous, the noise is deafening," Lavoie stated, with Captain Ciccolo acknowledging that the issue has become citywide in scope.

The group in question often range as far as Cambridge and other localities.

VERDANT CANNABIS DISPENSARY AT 150 STATE STREET FORMER BOSTON CITY COUNCILOR TITO JACKSON, FOUNDER AND CEO OF VERDANT MEDICAL INC.

Tito Jackson gave a detailed presentation on his company's proposed cannabis dispensary on 150 State Street.



Comprising several floors including a basement kitchen, two showrooms, and a secure vault, Verdant seeks to offer infused baked goods and assorted products. Describing security systems, procedures, and practices, Jackson spoke about a "contract with the community" that clients would be expected to sign prohibiting public consumption, excessive loitering, and littering.

Feedback from the WDC came primarily from the Friends of the Christopher Columbus Park represented by Joanne Hayes-Rines and The Greenway Conservancy's Marketing and Community Affairs Manager Rachel Lake, each expressing similar concerns on how to effectively enforce the proposed "Community Norms Agreement".

NUISANCE PREVENTION: VERDANT REPARATIVE

- Upon their first visit to our facility, customers will sign a "Community Norms Agreement" indicating that they have been educated on how to appropriately consume, transport, and store their product. They also indicate that they understand that the following behaviors will not be permitted on site or in the community at large.
 - » Any disturbance of the peace
 - » Public consumption of cannabis
 - » Illegal activity under state or local law
 - » Excessive littering



Proposed site for the Verdant dispensary

- » Excessive loitering or pedestrian/vehicular traffic
- » Illegal parking or violations of state and local traffic laws
- » Queuing of patrons or other obstructions of the public or private way
- Queuing technology to ensure there are not long lines when we open.
- All products will arrive pre-packed limiting odor on site.
- Signage will be discrete and for the purposes of wayfinding only.

CLIMATE READY BOSTON BRIEFING ON COASTAL RESILIENCE STRATEGIES

SANJEY SETH, THE CLIMATE RESILIENCE PROGRAM MANAGER FOR THE CITY OF BOSTON

Sanjey Seth delivered a Coastal Resilience Solutions briefing to the Wharf District Council that [summarized intelligence contained within the recently released Climate Ready Boston reports](#). Seth was joined by Joe Christo, the BPDA (Boston Planning and Development Agency) Senior Waterfront Resilience Planner.

Following the briefing, WDC members inquired on next steps. Seth pointed to the current phase of implementation strategy exploration, with Long Wharf being identified as a potential catalytic project site.

MAYORS OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES UPDATE

JOHN ROMANO JR, CITY OF BOSTON NORTH END/WEST END NEIGHBORHOOD LIAISON

John Romano briefed the WDC on some important City of Boston updates. He spoke about the [latest COVID-19 statistics released by the City of Boston](#) as well as mobile testing site availability, [the Commonwealth's Thanksgiving celebration guidance for families and college students](#), and gave a reminder on the [November 30th liquor license renewal deadline](#).

STATE STREET RENOVATION DISCUSSION

ASHLEY BIGGINS, STATE STREET RENOVATION PROJECT MANAGER

State Street Renovation project manager Ashley Biggins reported on the new virtual public presentation and pilot program updates before engaging in discussion with WDC membership regarding the controversial decision to potentially convert State Street from two lanes of traffic to one.

Restating the WDC's position on the issue as "an impossible hardship for Wharf District residents attempting to commute out of the area" and adding that the WDC had initially been told the proposed conversion would not happen, WDC President Marc Margulies requested a two-lane version of the project plan.

Biggins replied that due to the geometry of the street, "there is no possible configuration for consistent two-lane traffic that would meet basic guidelines" because of the pinch point which could cause a potential bottleneck.

Susanne Lavoie proposed holding a separate community meeting that would potentially take place in early December.

BOSTON HARBOR CRUISES

MATT MURPHY, MANAGING DIRECTOR BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT FOR BOSTON HARBOR CRUISES

Matt referenced the MBTA's Forging Ahead initiative and expressed wanting to advocate against cutting ferry services, citing the potentially debilitating effects the suspension would have. WDC membership are considering drafting a letter of support, but may opt for individual petitions instead.

THE GREENWAY

Rachel Lake provided a link to an upcoming virtual event focused on the Greenway's Public Art Program on December 10th. [Click here to learn more.](#)

PINNACLE AT CENTRAL WHARF UPDATE

ROB CARIDAD FROM THE CHIOFARO COMPANY

The Chiofaro Company continues to await the BPDA scoping determination findings.

**THE NEXT WHARF DISTRICT COUNCIL MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE ON
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2020 FROM 5 TO 7 PM ON ZOOM**