



WHARF DISTRICT
COUNCIL
B O S T O N

SEPTEMBER 15, 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 for the September 2020 Meeting. Neighborhood incidents are as follows:

SEPTEMBER 4TH 2020, 8:16PM, 12 POST OFFICE SQUARE: BREAKING AND ENTERING

Responding to a 911 call, officers were briefed upon arriving on-scene by building maintenance and Northeast Security who directed their attention to a window that had been smashed and a door that had been forced open. Officers proceeded to enter the door, performing a sweep and finding no one inside. According to security, that sector of the building was otherwise vacant. Nothing was stolen and detectives are currently following up.

SEPTEMBER 9TH, 11:30AM, 21 MERCHANTS ROW: BREAKING AND ENTERING

Officers responded to a 911 call made by a business at 21 Merchants Row. An employee reported discovering a number of items stolen upon arriving for work earlier that morning: iPads, an iPhone, and cash. According to the employee, it appeared as though someone had tampered with the office door. Detectives have been able to acquire actionable surveillance footage and the case is under investigation.

SEPTEMBER 9TH, 1:00PM, 21 MERCHANTS ROW: BREAKING AND ENTERING

At the very same location later that day, an office worker went to grab breakfast and, upon returning to his office, saw an unknown female individual in his workspace. A confrontation ensued whereupon the suspect grabbed two laptops and ran out the door. Detectives are currently working to identify the suspect, and the case is under investigation.

NEIGHBORHOOD VIGILANCE

The Wharf District Council also sought guidance from BPD on neighborhood vigilance, in the context of an incident that occurred on the afternoon of September 14th. According to an account given by WDC Member Judy Ehrlich, an altercation took place near the Greenway between an unknown individual and an Amazon delivery driver. The individual, as described by Ehrlich, was screaming and engaging in a racially-charged verbal exchange with the driver, who was a person of color.

Asking whether or not this sort of incident would merit a 911 call in future, Captain Robert Ciccolo responded in the affirmative, stating: "This is absolutely a 911 call." The Captain went on to say that upon responding, officers would be able to determine the appropriate course of action.

UPDATE FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE AARON MICHLEWITZ



Unpacking issues related to the state budget in his capacity as the Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, State Rep. Aaron Michlewitz spoke candidly in discussing the Commonwealth's police reform bills, the 2050 roadmap bill for climate change, the \$459 million economic growth bill and other Wharf District issues.

WDC Executive Director Susanne Lavoie asked what resources exist for Wharf District businesses associated with tourism. Michlewitz pointed to previous rounds of grant relief offered by the Mass

Development Corporation Council, but admitted that any major long-term relief would have to come from the federal government with additional measures serving as "bandaids on big issues."

WDC member John Larivee wondered what role the Commonwealth's rainy day fund could play in helping to address and potentially ameliorate budgetary impacts. Michlewitz responded that it would certainly be "part of the equation" and later acknowledged, "we're being very careful with that rainy fund, but it is raining and we have to use it."

MAYORS OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES UPDATE

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

- Click here to view [the Boston Police Task Force draft recommendations](#).
- Click here to view [the RFP announced for small business and technical assistance programs](#).
- Outdoor Dining extended to December 1

Mayor Walsh has announced the program will be extended past its original closure date of October 31 to better support restaurants during the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency.

This extension applies to outdoor dining on both public and private property. The Temporary Outdoor

Dining Program on private property (i.e. outdoor dining spaces that do not extend onto public sidewalks and parking lanes) has been extended for the duration of the ongoing COVID-19 related public health emergency. Restaurants utilizing public property may continue the approved use of those spaces until December 1, 2020, weather permitting or until further notice or until the Board issues further guidance.

A list of restaurants with outdoor dining is [available on boston.gov](#).

BPDA DESIGN AND USE GUIDELINES UPDATE

CHRIS BUSCH FROM THE BOSTON PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (BPDA)

Chris Busch discussed the Design and Use Guidelines for the Downtown Waterfront. Busch announced that there would be a public process with three virtual workshops planned in addition to other meetings.

Plans are in place to initiate the project in early December, with a projected completion period of spring 2021.

PINNACLE AT CENTRAL WHARF NEXT STEPS

ROB CARIDAD FROM THE CHIOFARO COMPANY

Rob Caridad provided a brief overview of recent developments with regard to the Harbor Garage redevelopment, also known as the Pinnacle at Central Wharf Project, and discussed next steps in the process:

- There was a MEPA Consultation hearing on the 14th of September.
- There will be an IAG (Impact Advisory Group) meeting on the 17th of September.
- The Chiofaro Company is hosting a virtual open house on October 1st designed to engage the public, with breakout rooms planned to offer individual discussions with subject matter experts.
- The BPDA public comment period has been extended to October 9th.

STATE STREET RENOVATION PROJECT

PROJECT MANAGER ASHLEY BIGGINS

Ashley Biggins announced that utility work around the project site has been mostly completed. The bicycle lane was temporarily taken down in anticipation of potential protests and has returned with cones instead of barrels.

BOSTON HARBOR CRUISES

MATTHEW MURPHY, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT FOR BHC (BOSTON HARBOR CRUISES)

Mathew Murphy announced the temporary discontinuation of water taxi service.

DETAILS: THE WHARF DISTRICT COUNCIL SEPTEMBER MEETING

[View the full meeting by clicking here.](#) Use password: 5t3@0uAk

Minutes credit to Steve Vilkas

THE NEXT WHARF DISTRICT COUNCIL MEETING
WILL TAKE PLACE ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2020