



January 9, 2012

To: Kristina Johnson
Principal Planner
City of Quincy

Through: Keri Pyke, P.E., PTOE
Howard/Stein-Hudson
Project Manager

From: Nathaniel Curtis
Howard/Stein-Hudson
Public Involvement Specialist

RE: **First Public Information Meeting¹**
Meeting Notes of December 6, 2011

Executive Summary

On December 6, 2011, The City of Quincy team for the Adams Green Project held the first in a series of community meetings associated with the project. The goal of the project is to develop the roadway infrastructure and streetscape to support the new Adams Green Park to achieve its full potential in providing downtown Quincy with a green, bicycle, pedestrian, and transit-friendly focal point. The purpose of the meeting was to introduce the project and the City of Quincy's consultant team to the community. The meeting summarized herein consisted of a brief PowerPoint presentation given by members of the project team and an open house session. During the open house period, members of the audience were encouraged to visit one or more of several stations operated by design team members to informally discuss the project, offer comments, and have questions or concerns addressed. The consultant team is headed by Howard/Stein-Hudson and includes Halvorson Design Partnership, Toole Design Group, TrafInfo Communications Incorporated, Epsilon Associates, and A Plus Construction Services Corporation.

Highlights of the Presentation

C: Dennis Harrington (DH): Good evening everyone and thank you for coming. We'll start now with a brief presentation and then we'll circulate the plans and maps and let you visit with the engineers so you can communicate directly with them so they can respond to your questions and concerns. We have some ability to respond to you this evening, but responses to some questions may come later when more work has been done. This is an open house. We've had many of them in Quincy with respect to urban redevelopment (the 2004/2005 charettes) and the Transit Oriented Development Grant (TOD), which allowed us to engage Halvorson Design Partnership for Adams Green preliminary design activities. This is the first of many such meetings for this project, but it's an important one. We have under contract a consultant team for this project, headed up by Howard/Stein-Hudson (HSH) with Halvorson as a sub-contractor. This is the first time we have an engineering firm to help us address the sidewalks, roadways and utilities associated with the Adams

¹ Meeting attendance is listed in Appendix 1. Copies of the flipcharts taken at the meeting are listed in Appendix 2.

Green project. We need the proper foundation for the park and it's all within the HSH contract to do help us build it, which is an enormous task. We have signals at Washington Street, Chestnut Street, Temple Street, Hancock Street, Dimmock Street and Burgin Parkway. This will be quite the signalized system. All of the other traffic projects underway at this time spin off the work to be done by HSH in the next six months. We expect completion in short order of a design we can employ at the 25% design level to move on towards the 75% design level. We have \$5.2 million in federal funds to build the infrastructure. We are funded, we have a preferred design from Halvorson, and we know for the most part the direction in which we will proceed. We are also aware of the many other projects ongoing in Quincy at this time: the Church of the Presidents which is under review for rehabilitation, the Hancock Cemetery, and the Old Town Hall from 1844 which is ready for a thorough rehabilitation. All of these projects need to work together and the key to that is a good foundation which is the responsibility of HSH. HSH is here tonight to connect with all of you who are interested and to explain what they will do.

With that, I'd like to give you Keri Pyke, the project manager and a principal of HSH which we have funded for \$800 thousand through MassDOT. This is a MassDOT program with federal money passing through that agency. The federal government has approved the first half of the funding with the second half to come when we deliver a product.

- C: Keri Pyke (KP): Tonight, I'll hit the high points of where we're going. We'll revisit the preferred concept and introduce the team to you. We have an aggressive schedule to meet because we want to have the design finished by next fall. Right now, MassDOT has this project on the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for 2014, but if we can get the design done, MassDOT may move us up in the queue. Now, let me introduce our team members. In the back of the room is Tom Stokes, our principal-in-charge. I'm the project manager. Sitting towards the front of the audience and recording everything we say is our public involvement specialist, Nate Cabral-Curtis. He will be your point of contact for the project and get you answers to your questions. His cards are on the sign-in table by the front door. Alex Siu is in back next to Tom. She is our transportation engineer for traffic analysis. Halvorson is one of our sub-consultants for the project. In front we have Craig Halvorson and Bob Uhlig. We also have with us tonight Nick Jackson from Toole Design Group. They will help to ensure that we have a friendly pedestrian and bicycle environment. Sudhir from TrafInfo will be present at later meetings when we have more to say on traffic. Now, I'd like to hand this to Bob Uhlig to discuss the concept design for the park.
- C: Bob Uhlig (BU): Thank you, Keri. For some of you this may be brand new and for others it will be a refresher. We developed the preferred concept about a year ago so it's good to be involved in refining the concept into something tangible. Here's the overall site plan with Hancock Street, Codington Street coming down to Temple Street, and the current and old city halls. We'll now zoom into some of the improvements for the new vision for this area. Here's the Washington/Codington intersection. A big benefit here is tying in the church and library and narrowing down this sea of asphalt into a pedestrian-friendly crossing. We'll reorganize and simplify the traffic movements to provide a more unified cross-section. We also will make sure we respect the church yard and what is currently along Hancock Street. Between the MBTA station, church and City Hall, we will be creating an inviting arrival point for visitors to Quincy so you'll have a direct vista to the church that quickly familiarizes you with what's here. We will also address pedestrian versus vehicle conflicts at that site. Then, at the center of all this is the promenade which is now Hancock Street. This will remain as a visual corridor linking to the amenities down in Granite Square. It will create a forecourt for the church and city hall with historical elements, gateway features at Temple and Washington Streets and we envision it being available for celebrations, festivals and parades. Improvements would run down to Granite Square which we want to rationalize to create a nicer pedestrian-friendly frontage for the Granite Trust building and better spaces for walking or outdoor dining.

- C: KP: Thank you, Bob. Dennis mentioned the signals and so I wanted to mention a few things about traffic. On the graphic projected behind me, north is up. Here's the current alignment of Hancock Street, the MBTA station and the library. The shaded yellow is our limits of work for the MassDOT project which as Dennis noted sets up a whole host of other things. We are thinking about how this ties in with the town green. This sets that up and we'll also be thinking about pedestrian connections to the old and new city halls and the MBTA. We'll address how the signals work and what impact there will be to Dimmock Street. We'll be talking with the Street Works team around the utilities and seeing if there's anything we need to do to help set them up. We have a total of 22 intersections for which we're collecting traffic and crash data. Street Works has another 24 intersections so we'll have very large network to make sure we don't cause traffic issues. We'll figure out which signals might need to be tweaked further out even though the actual reconstruction area will be smaller. So, we're looking holistically and we'll be back to you in the next several months with that data. I'd now like to invite Nate up to say a few things about public involvement.
- C: Nate Cabral-Curtis (NCC): Good evening everyone; thank you for coming out tonight. Both the City of Quincy and its project team are committed to effective public involvement. A project of this size needs to be done with the community and not just for it. We will have a number of avenues through which you can participate in this project. In addition to public information meetings such as this one, we will have a project website,² and you can sign up to follow the project on FaceBook and Twitter. When we post new content to the website, such as the presentation given tonight, you'll receive an alert. I also encourage you to get in touch and bring me your questions and concerns by email, telephone or postal mail.³
- C: KP: In terms of what we've been up to thus far, we've been collecting traffic data, later this week we'll do a parking turnover study, our surveyor has been out mapping the area and in the coming months we'll be back to you to discuss the analysis of that information. We're most likely looking at a meeting in January, but we want to make sure we come back to you with meaningful information. For now, this concludes our formal presentation. After this, we'll be available to you for question and answer.
- C: DH: Before we go to the open house portion of the meeting, just by way of reminder, this is a meeting set up to introduce the engineering firm of Howard/Stein-Hudson, principal Keri Pyke and her team and to indicate to the citizens of Quincy what this firm will be doing to design the public works for support the Adams Green Park. State Representative Tackie Chan is here as are Councilors Gutro, LaForest and Coughlin, and Dean Rizzo from the Chamber of Commerce. What we'll do now is just what Keri said. Please take advantage of the team members here tonight. Jack Gillon and Frank Tramontozzi are both here so please ask us questions. HSH has the responsibility to respond to your questions on a daily basis. We want this process to be smooth and there's no reason to assume it won't be. We're looking forward to the 25% design and our answer on our Gateway Parks application for the design of Adams Green. This is a design of subsurface utilities, signals, topography and the issues we need to address before the park. Comments specifically on the park can go to Mr. Halvorson and Mr. Uhlig.

² www.adamsgreen.info

³ Mr. Cabral-Curtis' contact information is: ncabral-curtis@hshassoc.com, (617) 348-3336 and Nathaniel Cabral-Curtis, Howard/Stein-Hudson, 38 Chauncy Street, 9th Floor, Boston, MA 02111.

Comments Received during the Q&A Session:

- Members of the United 1st Parish Church are generally positive with regard to project. Reverend Sheldon Bennett, the church's minister, commented that he has some remaining concerns regarding the design of the forecourt area in front of the church. Some of this concern stems from the fact many of the plantings around the church are dedicated to current or deceased members of the congregation. Other items of concern regarding the forecourt include ADA accessibility, providing an area for special events and gathering, and ensuring access for limousines and tour buses. The church's entrance and relation to City Hall is also an area of ongoing concern.
 - Drainage is also an issue for the United 1st parish. The church roof sheds significant rain and the basement often floods.
 - The interface between Hancock Street and the MBTA entrance, and the bus/taxi activity that goes on there should be addressed by this project.
-

Next Steps

Members of the project team will appear before the Quincy Planning Board on January 11, 2012. This meeting will provide a similar introduction to the project as the presentation summarized herein and a brief update on what has been accomplished since the December 6th meeting. The meeting will take place in at 6:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers on the 2nd floor of 1305 Hancock Street in Quincy. The next large public information meeting is tentatively slated for late January or early February, 2012.

Appendix 1: Attendees

First Name	Last Name	Affiliation
Pat	Artis	Resident
Wendell	Bartholomew	Resident
Reverend Sheldon	Bennett	United 1 st Parish Church
Steven	Briggs	Resident
Rebecca	Brown	TEC Engineer
Bianca	Buono	Resident
Nathaniel	Cabral-Curtis	Howard/Stein-Hudson
Hannah	Carlson	Resident
Tackey	Chan	State Representative
Kara	Chisholm	Resident
Kevin	Coughlin	Resident
Domenica	Coughlin	Resident
Tom	Cynn	Resident
Ed	Fitzgerald	Resident
Claire	Fitzmaurice	Resident
John	Gillon	City of Quincy, Traffic Engineer
Doug	Gutro	Councillor-at-Large
Craig	Halvorson	Halvorson Design Partnership
Dennis	Harrington	City of Quincy, Planning Director
Richard	Heapes	Street-Works
Nick	Jackson	Toole Design Group
Kristina	Johnson	City of Quincy
Margaret	LaForest	City Councilor
Geoffrey	Logan	VHB
Owen	MacDonald	Resident
Lisa	Malone	Resident
Marianne	Peake	National Park Service
Jack	Phillips	Resident
R.M.	Pontes	Resident
Keri	Pyke	Howard/Stein-Hudson
Dean	Rizzo	Quincy Chamber of Commerce
Lynne	Rose	Resident
Alex	Siu	Howard/Stein-Hudson
Mary	Smith	City of Quincy
Tom	Stokes	Howard/Stein-Hudson
Frank	Tramontozzi	City of Quincy
Bob	Uhlig	Halvorson Design Partnership
Nick	Verenis	City of Quincy
Rita	Walsh	VHB
Matt	Warmer	Resident



Welcome to the Public Information Meeting for the City of Quincy's Adams Green Project!
 To become part of the project's stakeholder database and receive project milestone emails, please print the requested information below.

Name	Street Address, Town	Email Address	Telephone Number
BOB UHLIG	121 Massachusetts Ave., Boston	bobu@halversondesign.com	6175360380
CRAGS HALVORSON	"	craig@halversondesign.com	6175360380
MARY SMITH	1305 Hancock St.	MSmith@quincyma.gov	
Marianne Peak	135 Adams St.	Marianne_Peak@nps.gov	6176948258
GEOFFREY MORRISON-LOGAN	VHB, INC	GLOGAN@VHB.COM	6179241770
Jack Phillips	357 Billings Rd	JPPCRTT@AOL.COM	
Pat Artis	" " "	Bigou357@AOL.COM	
Lynne Rose	200 Cove Way #1000 Quincy	Exitzero@comcast.net	
Ed Fitzgerald	42 Gilman St Quincy	edward.f.fitzgerald@comcast.net	
Rev. Sheldon Sannett	43 Marymount Rd #11 Quincy	swbennett@earthlink.net	617-471-4946
Bianca BUONO	150 BOYLSTON	biancabuono@yahoo.com	
Steven H. Briggs	227 Cross St. Norwell, Ma.	SBRIGGS@QUINCYMUTUAL.COM	617-770-5290
RITA WALSH / VHB	101 WALNUT, WATERTOWN	rwalsh@vhb.com	617-607-2967
MARGARET LAFOREST	236 ROCK ISLAND RD QUINCY	mclaforest@quincyma.gov	617-376-1351
Doug Gauthier	230 Marlboro St Quincy	dougtr@quincyma.gov	617 376-1355
Kevin + Domenica Coughlin	19 Small St	kcoughlin@quincyma.gov	617-328-7749
Claire + John Fitymaurice	9 Calvin Rd Quincy	artclaire@comcast.net	(617) 729-0220
Tadley Chan	State House Room 236 Boston 02133	Tadley.Chan@mahorse.gov	617-722-2430
LISA R. Welle Malone	26 Dockray St. Quincy 02169	lisawelle@hotmail.com	
<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>		

Appendix 2: Meeting Flip-Charts

See following page

- Very positive - member of Church.

- Concern over exact design of Church forecourt.
↳ from Minister of the Church.

- church yard - memorial garden

- ADA provisions

- area for special events/

gathering - ^{access for} limos/buses

↳ Church basement takes H₂O!

- drainage - church roof rain leaders

- Homeock/T sta. entrance

- bus/taxi interface

- church entrance + relation to city hall/T

- Concerns over plantings @ Church, much of what's there is dedicated - dedicated vegetation to be discussed.