

Question

How many entrants registered?

Answer

35

At community charrette, are we allowed to propose alternate schemes for feedback?

See description of Charrette below. Designers will have the opportunity to talk with community members but there will be no formal presentations. You may present as many schemes as you want -- if they fit the submission requirements.

Will the community charrette be a closed presentation or will other participants be able to view the presentation?

It is open to all. There will not be formal presentations. Rather each team will present ideas on boards and models in a "job fair" format. Be prepared for dialogue with community members and Q&As.

How long should we schedule the presentation at community charrette on April 15?

See Description of Charrette below - The charrette will not have formal presentations.

Is there preferred or required scale of drawings for the presentation and the final submission?

No. As long as it fits the presentation format.

Who from the community will we be addressing on our presentation on April 15th?

Members of the community involved in the planning process and the general public.

Will the preliminary concepts presentation to the community on April 15th be in the form of a closed meeting with each entrant group or will all the participants present in one large setting with everyone else able to see their competitors ideas?

It is open to all. See Description of Charrette below - Designers will exhibit their conceptual designs in a gallery like setting, which will be open to all. Entrants will be asked to submit electronic copies of their submissions before the charrette so that we document for the record and future development discussions, each designer's conceptual ideas.

Will there be additional design-scope and general parameters added (especially relating to required presentation content) and also respecting any additional criteria or value-factors that the entries will be asked to respond to and be equally judged by?

Due to the large number of participants, we have revised the Submission Requirements. We do not anticipate any future changes in scope, parameters, etc.

What is the maximum building height regulation if any?

The underlying zoning has a height limit of 55ft, maximum FAR of 2. But variance to the zoning can be obtained through appeal process with the support of the city.

Are there any site restrictions regarding max.bldg height?

See above

With respect to building dimensions and general zoning concerns, will the final design submission be held to current and actual municipal zoning standards and constraints (including height restrictions and setback policies)?

No. The competition is designed to solicit ideas, not to test the city's zoning regulations.

Are we allowed to propose design alteration outside the site boundary?

Yes. There is an award for best site design. But you must accept the new location for police station and the existing library.

Will the road that is being proposed between the competition site and the new police station be of sufficient width to accommodate on street parallel parking as well as two way circulation/access to our site?

The design proposal include street design. This is a question to be answered by the design team.

Where can we source more detailed plans that gives us a better description of the existing municipal plaza level w/ stairs etc.? I checked the boston atlas online and it provides no more detailed than that already provided.

We don't have this information as of now. Maps and drawings will be posted on the website if they become available to us.

Please describe the nature and format of the memorial to be built at the triangular park. Who is it for? How is it intended to be used or engaged?

The park is designated to War Veterans.

The new police station site appears to be larger than the existing site. Is this primarily for police vehicle parking?

The new police station will be designed with the front to the street line and parking to the back.

Is there an existing parking garage under the courthouse, police station, and/or library? If so, what is its configuration?

The primary parking is surface parking.

What is the configuration of the proposed housing development across Washington Street from the police station site?

The proposed housing project on this 8.5 acre site includes 313 units of housing, 34,000 sf of commercial/retail space, and 325 parking spaces.

What uses will be accommodated in the Ferdinand Building renovation/addition project? How tall will it be? How many square feet?

Municipal offices. The building is approximately 200,000 sf and 8-stories high.

The streets and neighborhoods surrounding Dudley Square have many small vacant lots. Is it reasonable to assume that most of these lots once had buildings on them which succumbed to urban blight?	Yes.
Why was the state building project for this (or the adjacent) site cancelled?	Former state-level administration decided to not proceed with financing.
Can you provide an accurate CAD plan of the Hope VI housing project on Harrison Street? The plan supplied does not match current conditions.project on Harrison Street?	We don't have the drawings.
Have any formal studies of the library building been performed? Is it known if it has lead paint, asbestos, environmental, or maintenance deficiencies? How well does the building serve its audience at present?	This is a question for the community on April 15.
What was the design reason for the court houses's triangular geometry?	We don't know.
Has the pedestrian way running behind the police station and library been problematic in regard to crime?	This is a question for the community on April 15.
What grades are accommodated at the Boston school facility on Malcolm X Boulevard? What percentage of students there walk to school/drive/are bused?	High school age. We don't have information on how many walk/ride bus.
Are we presenting the final proposals on May 5th, or simply they have to be turned in by then?	There is no presentation on May 5 th .

Design Charratte (Set up time for participants is 4-5:30pm)

The purpose of the design charrette is two fold:
 1) Listen to community input; and 2) provide individual design concepts.

The charrette will be organized with several major components:

1. Introduction and overview;
2. Presentation of individual design concepts in gallery type setting, which will enable participants to view the conceptual design at individual stations, providing an opportunity for individuals to talk to designers and to leave comments verbally and in writing on sticky notes;
3. Opportunity for community participants to inform designers about their visions, goals, and ideas;
4. Questions from designers to community;
5. General discussion and conclusion.