



www.RCIC-Charlestown.org

Dear Surface Design Supporters:

The RA/SS Working Group is immensely grateful for your continuing support; we know we have asked a lot of you. Below are a few updates:

1. On Wednesday, March 28th, BTD will be holding a meeting to continue its work on the underpass design. The meeting starts at 6:30 and will be at the Knights of Columbus building, 545 Medford Street.

2. BTD handed out updated drawings at a recent meeting in the city council office. These drawings: a) eliminated the few feet of open space that were previously added at Austin Street and converted them into a right turn lane. This means that the "new" surface design at Austin Street will be the same as the existing configuration, except that the existing sidewalk and a few feet of roadway will be turned into a shared use path; b) eliminated the promised deck that would allow air rights development at Sullivan Square. We do not know if this will be the iteration shown next Wednesday, but everyone should look closely for these changes. A copy can be found on the "links" page on the RCIC website: <http://www.rcic-charlestown.org/links.html>

3. BTD has promised to study and report on Professor Peter Furth's Austin Street surface design. We hope it will be available before or at this meeting. If it is, we will let you know. Professor Furth has made modest updates to his report about Austin Street which can be found at <http://www.northeastern.edu/peter.furth/local-projects/>. He is also working on an improved underpass design for Sullivan Square which should be available sometime next week.

4. We have asked for a public hearing to so everyone involved can see the surface design and compare it to the underpass design. Many of us have called City Councilors Michelle Wu and Lydia Edwards asking for such a meeting. If you haven't done so yet, please contact Michelle Wu's office at 617-635-3115 and Lydia Edward's office at 617-635-3200.

5. We have sent a letter to the Boston MPO, which issues funding for transportation projects and asked for a 1-year delay in this project to provide the neighborhood with adequate time to consider the new design options. (This can also be reviewed on the "links" page).

6. A total of 558 people have signed the 2 petitions we sent out in 2017 (May and October)!! 498 of us are listed on the RCIC website.

We are asking you once again to attend the meeting next Wednesday, March 28th and display your continuing support for a true community dialogue on the best design for the Rutherford Avenue/Sullivan Square corridor.

With heartfelt thanks, Ivey

