

FAIRMOUNT INDIGO PLANNING INITIATIVE

BLUE HILL AVENUE/ CUMMINS HIGHWAY *DRAFT* STATION AREA PLAN

APPENDICES



CITY OF BOSTON
Martin J. Walsh
Mayor



Boston
Redevelopment
Authority

BLUE HILL AVENUE/CUMMINS HIGHWAY
DRAFT STATION AREA PLAN
JUNE 2014

FAIRMOUNT INDIGO PLANNING INITIATIVE
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BLUE HILL AVENUE/ CUMMINS HIGHWAY *DRAFT* STATION AREA PLAN

Appendices Contents

- 1 Process and Meetings
- 2 Existing Conditions Analysis
- 3 Proforma Feasibility Tests
- 4 Sustainability Framework

PROCESS AND MEETINGS

The Fairmount Indigo Planning Initiative was over a 2 year long process that involved extensive community outreach, participation and conversation. The Planning Initiative involved separate, but parallel processes for corridor-wide planning and Station Area planning. In the first phase of planning, three Station Area Plans were undertaken. The Blue Hill Avenue/Cummins Highway Station Area Plan is the result of a community process that focused on the neighborhoods, residents and businesses around the Blue Hill/Cummins Highway MBTA Rail Station.

The City of Boston appointed members of a Blue Hill/Cummins Highway Working Advisory Group (WAG) to be a consistent voice of the community through the process. The WAG Members dedicated nearly a year of meetings and discussion to the Station Area Plan and the City is grateful for their contributions. All Working Advisory Group meetings were open to the public and attended by members of the community. The following is a list of meetings and agendas that were a part of this community planning process:

Working Advisory Group Meeting

September 26, 2013

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Roles and Ground Rules
3. Planning Context
4. Station Area Context/Background
5. Cote Ford Site Background
6. Next Steps

Working Advisory Group Meeting

October 29, 2013

1. Welcome and Introduction
2. Station Area Context/Background
3. Discussion
4. Cote Ford Scenarios and Feasibility
5. Discussion
6. Community Open House
7. Next Steps

Working Advisory Group Meeting

November 19, 2013

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Community Visioning Forum
3. Discussion
4. Blue Hill Ave/Cummins Hwy Station Update
5. Discussion
6. Next Steps

Blue Hill/Cummins Visioning Forum

December 5, 2013

1. Introduction
2. Virtual Station Area Tour
3. Interactive Questions and Answer
4. Break-out Group Discussion 1
5. Break-out Group Discussion 2
6. Concluding Presentation

Working Advisory Group Meeting

January 27, 2014

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Community Visioning Results
3. Discussion
4. Priorities and Discussion
5. Discussion
6. Next Steps

Working Advisory Group Meeting

February 25, 2014

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Public Realm and Transit Context
3. Station Area Street Network
4. Priority Streets
5. Discussion
6. Next Steps

Working Advisory Group Meeting

March 18, 2014

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Recap of Key Sites and Context
3. Development Scenarios and Feasibility
4. Discussion
5. Next Steps

Working Advisory Group Meeting

April 29, 2014

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Revisit Public Realm Discussion
3. Revisit Economic Development Discussion
4. Urban Design and Zoning
5. Review Plan Components
6. Next Steps

Working Advisory Group Meeting

May 20, 2014

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Station Area Plan Summary
3. Summary Discussion
4. Open House Preparation
5. Next Steps

Community Open House

June, 2014

Working Advisory Group Meeting

July, 2014

1. Final Station Area Plan Review
2. Next Steps

EXISTING CONDITIONS ANALYSIS





Census Tracts

Blue Hills / Cummins Highway

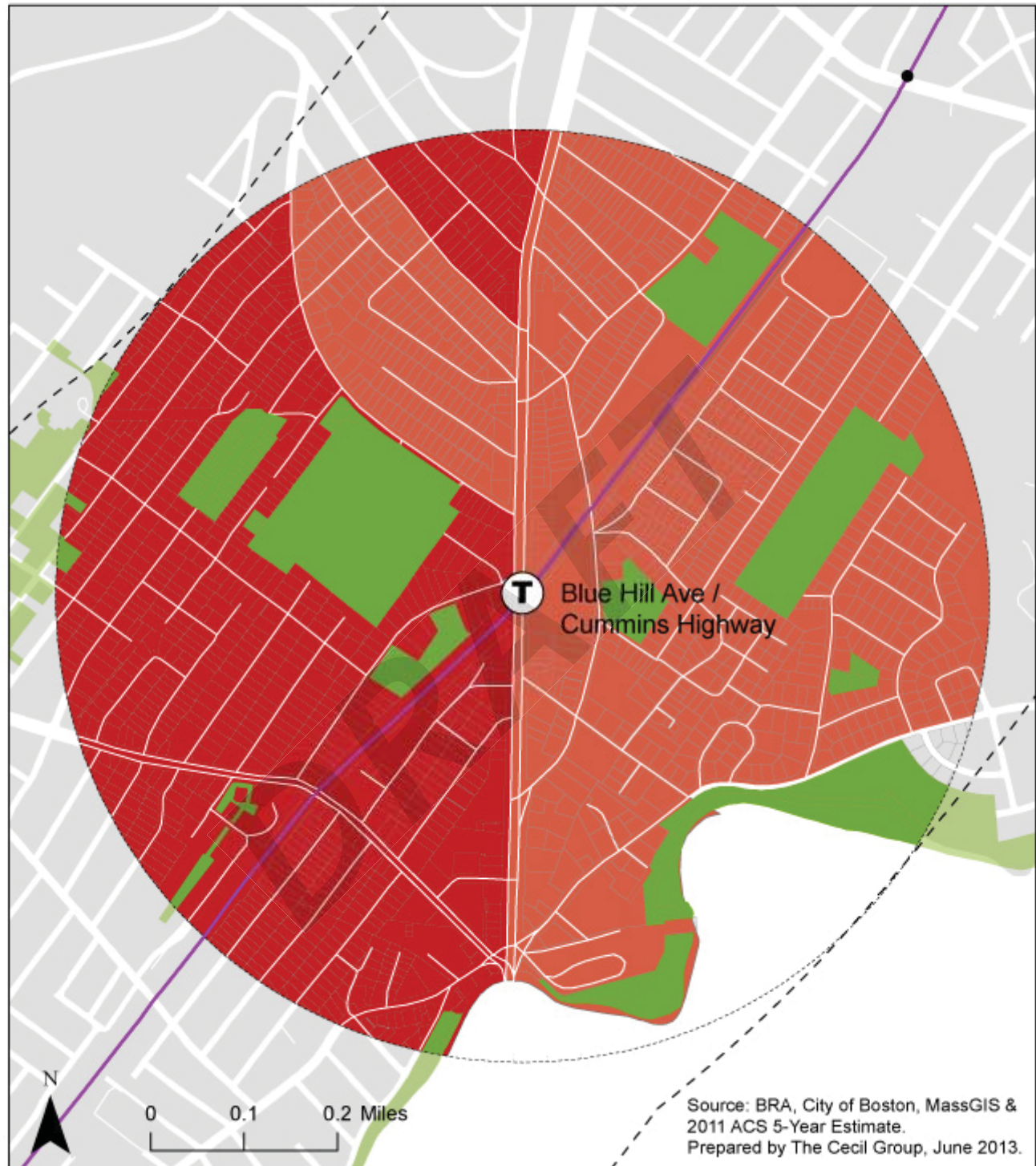


— Tract Boundary

— Fairmount Indigo Line

Household Income

Blue Hills / Cummins Highway



> \$50,000

\$35,000 - \$50,000

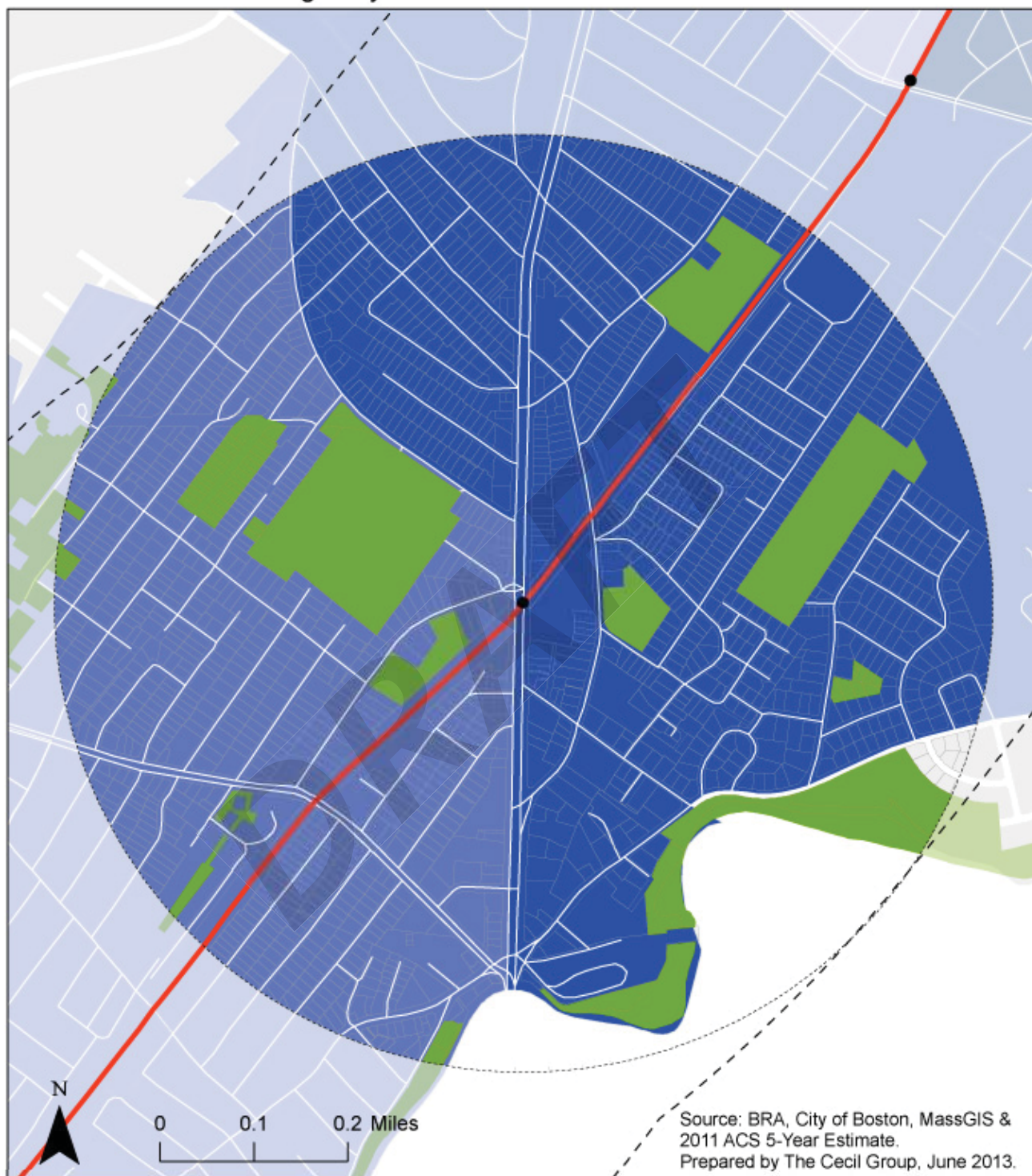
Fairmount Indigo Line

Half Mile Blue Hill Ave / Cummins Highway



Unemployment

Blue Hills / Cummins Highway



15 - 20%

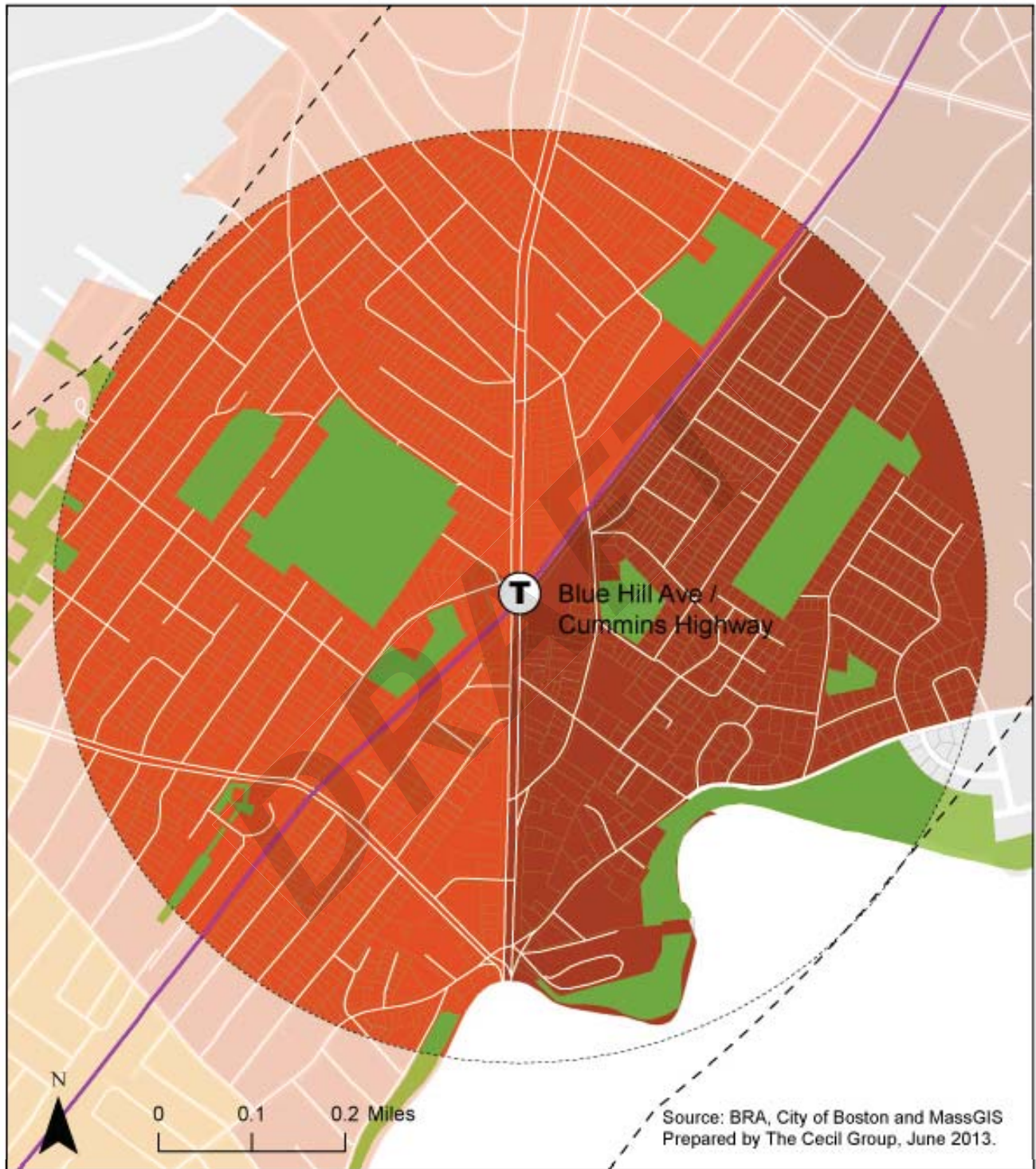
10 - 15%

Fairmount Indigo Line

Half Mile Blue Hill Ave /
Cummins Highway

Education

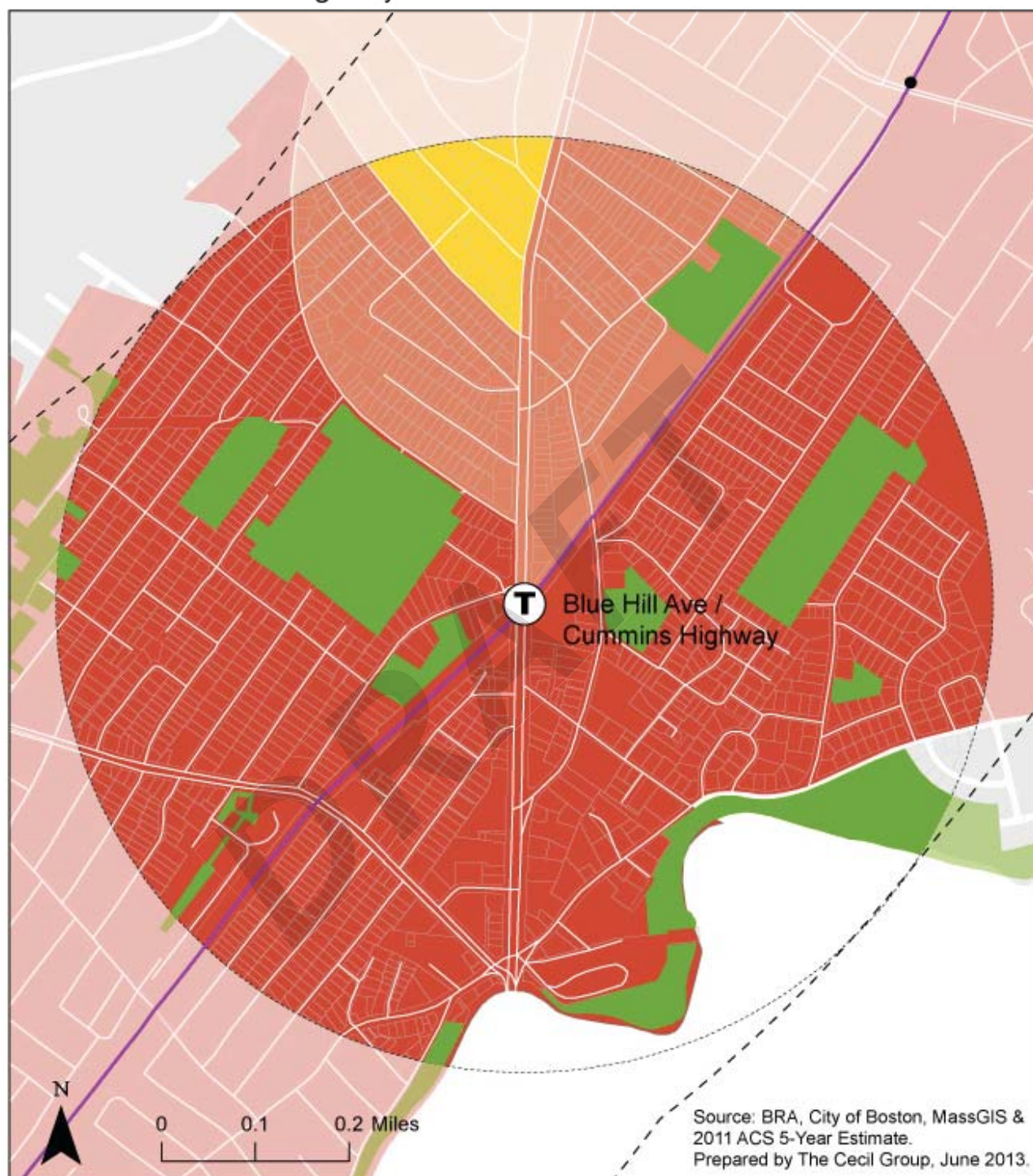
Blue Hills / Cummins Highway





Resident Age

Blue Hills / Cummins Highway



Source: BRA, City of Boston, MassGIS & 2011 ACS 5-Year Estimate.
Prepared by The Cecil Group, June 2013.

35-40

30-35

< 25

Parks

Fairmount Indigo Line

Half Mile Blue Hill Ave / Cummins Highway

Half Mile Fairmount Corridor

Racial Characteristics

Blue Hills / Cummins Highway



Race

(One Dot = 20 People)

- White (non-hispanic)
- Hispanic / Latino
- Black
- Asian
- Other



Housing Type

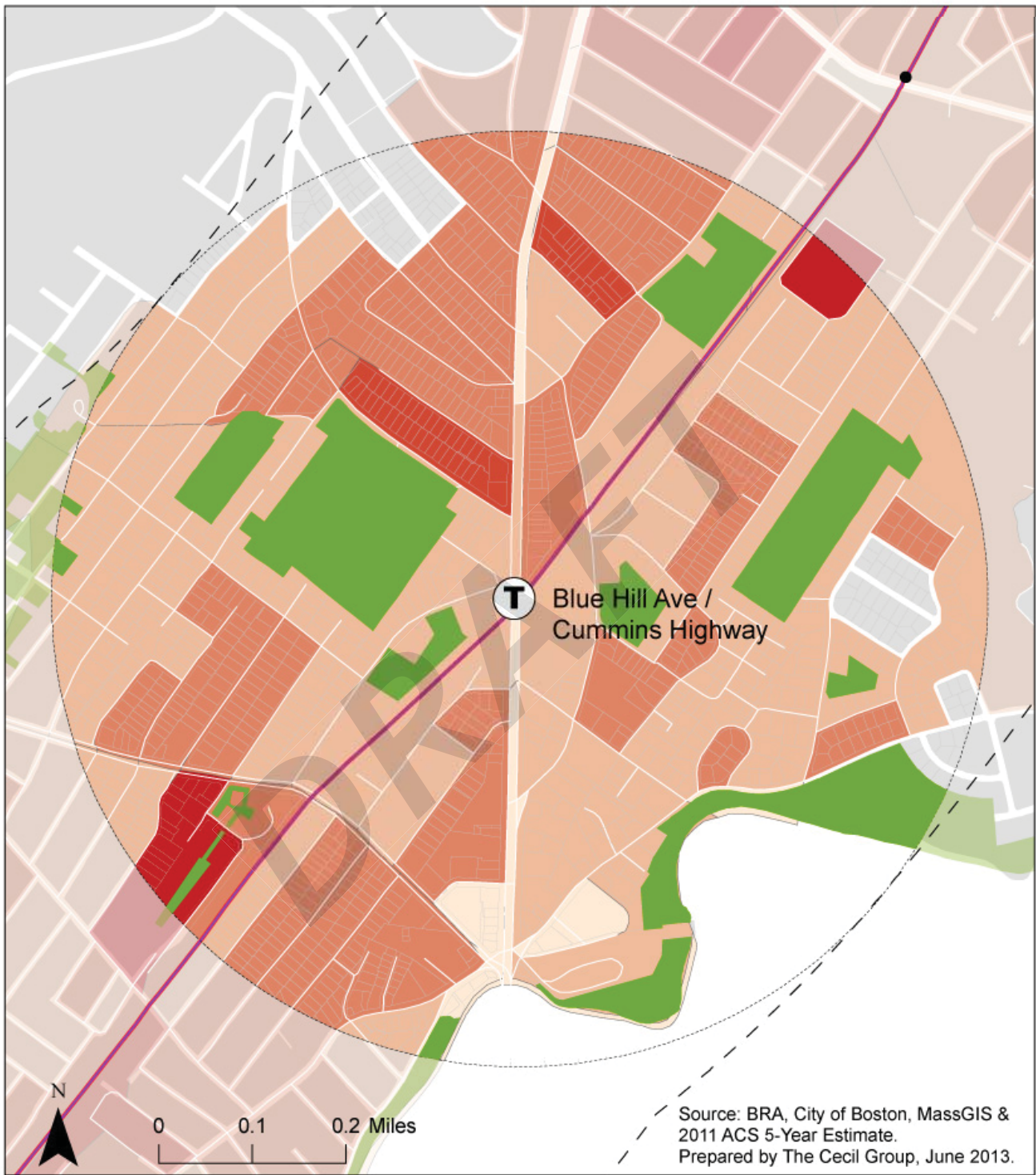
Blue Hills / Cummins Highway



- Residential 1 Family (R1)
- Residential 2/3 Family (R2, R3)
- Mixed Residential / Commercial (RC)
- Residential Multi-Family (R4, A, CM)

Housing Density

Blue Hills / Cummins Highway



- 25 - 49
- 17 - 24
- 9 - 16
- 1 - 8



Housing Affordability

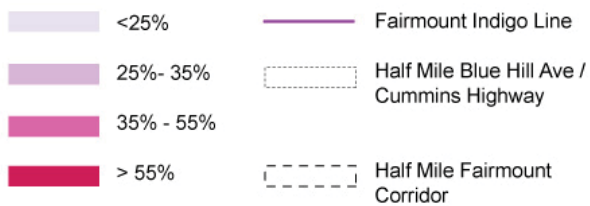
Blue Hills / Cummins Highway



- 1-10 units
- 10-25 units
- 25-60 units



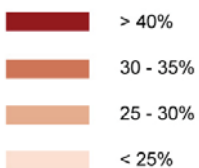
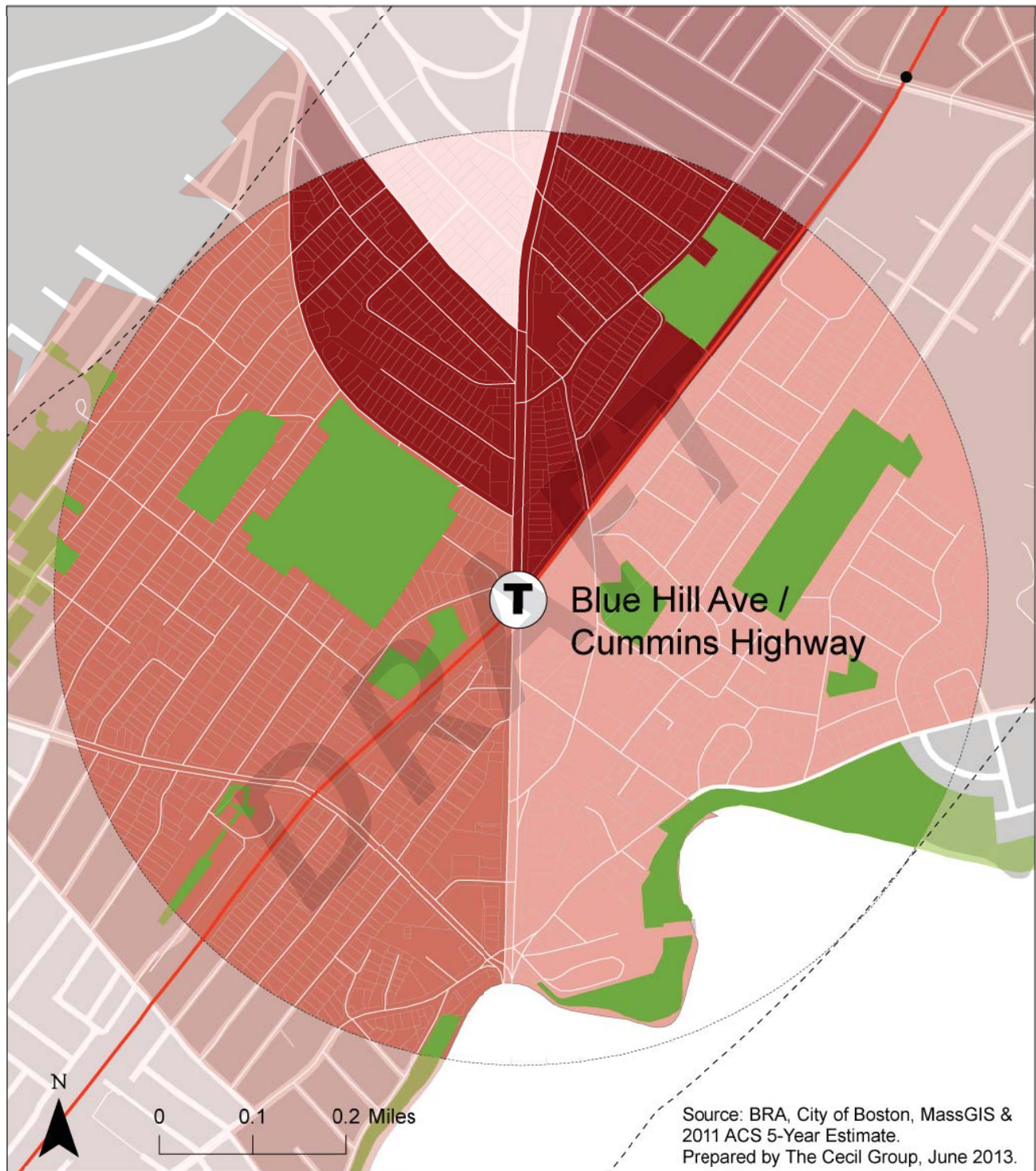
Percentage of Housing Units Owned by Occupant





Housing Affordability

Blue Hills / Cummins Highway



Neighborhood Land Use

Blue Hills / Cummins Highway





Main Street

Blue Hills / Cummins Highway



Main Street

Parcel Size

Blue Hills / Cummins Highway





Vacant Land

Blue Hills / Cummins Highway



- Vacant Land
- Parks

City Property

Blue Hills / Cummins Highway



- | | |
|---|--|
| City of Boston | City of Boston Public Health |
| City of Boston by Foreclosure | MBTA |
| | Parks |



Street Network

Blue Hills / Cummins Highway



- Parks
- Major Streets



Public Transportation

Blue Hills / Cummins Highway



MBTA Lines

- Bus 30
- Buses 28, 29, 31

- Buses 24, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 33, 799, 716, 245, 191
- Buses 24, 33
- Red Line (T)

Public Open Space

Blue Hills / Cummins Highway



- Malls, Squares & Pla.
- Parkways, Reservatio
- Parks, Playgrounds &
- Urban Wilds & Natura
- Vacant Land



Proposed Greenway

Blue Hills / Cummins Highway



- Proposed Greenway
- Parks

Neighborhood Trees

Blue Hills / Cummins Highway



- Tree
- Parks



Parking

Blue Hills / Cummins Highway



 Pavement Parking

 Parks

PROFORMA FEASIBILITY TESTS

A conceptual redevelopment proforma was evaluated as part of the feasibility testing of the four key sites selected by the Working Advisory Group that tested future redevelopment opportunity for the Blue Hill Avenue/Cummins Highway Station Area. In conjunction with financial feasibility the physical redevelopment potential of the sites was tested.

The physical fit studies were performed using digital three-dimensional building models to determine the scale of the building that is feasible on the site. An analysis of the market context helped to establish the development program that would occupy the hypothetical buildings that were conceptually tested.

The proforma analysis used the potential development program to test the balance of development costs and revenue on the particular site. All together this feasibility testing helps the community to better understand market conditions and the likelihood of a particular site to redevelop.

The information that follows documents the output of the proforma feasibility tests for the key sites studied. This information is followed by tables that reflect the market conditions of the Station Area for the residential, office, light industrial and retail markets.

1 Cote Ford Property

Cote Ford Feasibility Tests		Scenario Definition: # 1 Apartment/Retail Gateway Overlay Density			
Gross Potential Income					
Revenues - Private	Units	RSF	Monthly Rent	Rent/SF	Annual Rent
Apartment	135	135,000	\$1,800	\$1.80	\$2,916,000
Retail (NNN)	0	23,200	\$48,333	\$25.00	\$580,000
Parking Spaces	46	Surface	\$0	\$0	\$0
Parking Spaces	98	Structured	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subtotal	135	158,200		\$22.10	\$3,496,000
GSF (Excl. Parking)	78%	201,680			
Vacancy & Collection Losses				Residential 3.0%	(\$87,480)
				Retail 5.0%	(\$29,000)
Effective Gross Income					\$3,379,520
Non-Reimbursable Expenses					
Operating				\$10,000 Per Unit	(\$1,350,000)
Reserves				\$350 Per Unit	(\$47,250)
Retail				3% EGI	(\$16,878)
Subtotal					(\$1,414,128)
Net Operating Income					\$1,965,392
Capitalized Value of Residential On Completion-At Stabilization					
Capitalization Rate				5.00% Overall Rate	\$39,307,840
				Rounded	\$39,300,000
				Per Residential RSF	\$248
				Per Unit	\$291,111
Development Cost					
Land (Private Only)	Based on City Assessment		\$13 Per Land SF		\$614,115
Demolition	63,708 SF		\$10.00 per GSF		\$600,000
Hard Cost			\$150.00 per GSF		\$30,300,000
Parking	Structured		\$15,000 per space		\$1,500,000
Parking	Surface		\$1,500 per space		\$69,000
Soft Costs (includes financing, fee etc.)				20% of Hard Cost	\$6,400,000
				Rounded	\$39,500,000
				Per RSF	\$250
				Per Unit	\$292,593
Feasibility Surplus/(Gap)				Rounded	(\$192,160)
				% Surplus/(Gap)	-0.5%

1 Cote Ford Property

Cote Ford Feasibility Tests		Scenario Definition: # 2 Apartment/Retail w/Educational Use			
Gross Potential Income					
Revenues - Private	Units	RSF	Monthly Rent	Rent/SF	Annual Rent
Apartment	45	45,000	\$1,800	\$1.80	\$972,000
Retail (NNN)	0	10,175	\$21,198	\$25.00	\$254,375
Parking Spaces	44	Surface	\$0	\$0	\$0
Parking Spaces	0	Structured	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subtotal	45	45,000		\$27.25	\$1,226,375
GSF (Excl. Parking)	62%	72,130			
Vacancy & Collection Losses			Residential	3.0%	(\$29,160)
			Retail	5.0%	(\$12,719)
Effective Gross Income					\$1,184,496
Non-Reimbursable Expenses					
Operating			\$10,000 Per Unit		(\$450,000)
Reserves			\$350 Per Unit		(\$15,750)
Retail			3% EGI		(\$7,402)
Subtotal					(\$473,152)
Net Operating Income					\$711,344
Capitalized Value of Residential On Completion-At Stabilization					
Capitalization Rate			5.00% Overall Rate		\$14,226,879
			Rounded		\$14,200,000
			Per Residential RSF		\$316
			Per Unit		\$315,556
Development Cost					
Land (Private Only)	Based on City Assessment		\$13 Per Land SF		\$614,115
Demolition	63,708 SF		\$10.00 per GSF		\$600,000
Hard Cost			\$150.00 per GSF		\$10,800,000
Parking		Structured	\$15,000 per space		\$0
Parking		Surface	\$1,500 per space		\$66,000
Soft Costs (includes financing, fee etc.)			20% of Hard Cost		\$2,200,000
			Rounded		\$14,300,000
			Per RSF		\$318
			Per Unit		\$317,778
Feasibility Surplus/(Gap)					
			Rounded		(\$73,121)
			% Surplus/(Gap)		-0.5%

1 Cote Ford Property

Cote Ford Feasibility Tests		Scenario Definition: # 3 Apartment/Retail Exceeds Gateway Density			
Gross Potential Income					
Revenues - Private	Units	RSF	Monthly Rent	Rent/SF	Annual Rent
Apartment	308	308,000	\$1,800	\$1.80	\$6,652,800
Retail (NNN)	0	27,260	\$56,792	\$25.00	\$681,500
Parking Spaces	9	Surface	\$0	\$0	\$0
Parking Spaces	252	Structured	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subtotal	308	308,000		\$23.81	\$7,334,300
GSF (Excl. Parking)	80%	386,040			
Vacancy & Collection Losses				Residential 3.0%	(\$199,584)
				Retail 5.0%	(\$34,075)
Effective Gross Income					\$7,100,641
Non-Reimbursable Expenses					
Operating			\$10,000 Per Unit		(\$3,080,000)
Reserves			\$350 Per Unit		(\$107,800)
Retail			3% EGI		(\$19,832)
Subtotal					(\$3,207,632)
Net Operating Income					\$3,893,009
Capitalized Value of Residential On Completion-At Stabilization					
Capitalization Rate			5.50% Overall Rate		\$70,781,988
			Rounded		\$70,800,000
			Per Residential RSF		\$230
			Per Unit		\$229,870
Development Cost					
Land (Private Only)	Based on City Assessment		\$13 Per Land SF		\$614,115
Demolition	63,708 SF		\$10.00 per GSF		\$600,000
Hard Cost			\$165.00 per GSF		\$63,700,000
Parking		Structured	\$15,000 per space		\$3,800,000
Parking		Surface	\$1,500 per space		\$13,500
Soft Costs (includes financing, fee etc.)			20% of Hard Cost		\$13,500,000
			Rounded		\$82,200,000
			Per RSF		\$267
			Per Unit		\$266,883
Feasibility Surplus/(Gap)				Rounded	(\$11,418,012)
				% Surplus/(Gap)	-16.1%

1 Cote Ford Property

Cote Ford Feasibility Tests		Scenario Definition:		# 4	Apartment/Retail 2-4 Family Density
Gross Potential Income					
Revenues - Private	Units	RSF	Monthly Rent	Rent/SF	Annual Rent
Apartment	66	66,000	\$1,800	\$1.80	\$1,425,600
Retail (NNN)	0	0	\$0	\$25.00	\$0
Parking Spaces	48	Surface	\$0	\$0	\$0
Parking Spaces	0	Structured	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subtotal	66	66,000		\$21.60	\$1,425,600
GSF (Excl. Parking)		100,020			
Vacancy & Collection Losses			Residential	3.0%	(\$42,768)
			Retail	5.0%	\$0
Effective Gross Income					\$1,382,832
Non-Reimbursable Expenses					
Operating			\$10,000 Per Unit		(\$660,000)
Reserves			\$350 Per Unit		(\$23,100)
Retail			3% EGI		\$0
Subtotal					(\$683,100)
Net Operating Income					\$699,732
Capitalized Value of Residential On Completion-At Stabilization					
Capitalization Rate			5.00% Overall Rate		\$13,994,640
			Rounded		\$14,000,000
			Per Residential RSF		\$212
			Per Unit		\$212,121
Development Cost					
Land (Private Only)	Based on City Assessment		\$13 Per Land SF		\$614,115
Demolition	63,708 SF		\$10.00 per GSF		\$600,000
Hard Cost			\$150.00 per GSF		\$15,000,000
Parking		Structured	\$15,000 per space		\$0
Parking		Surface	\$1,500 per space		\$72,000
Soft Costs (includes financing, fee etc.)			20% of Hard Cost		\$3,000,000
			Rounded		\$19,300,000
			Per RSF		\$292
			Per Unit		\$292,424
Feasibility Surplus/(Gap)			Rounded		(\$5,305,360)
			% Surplus/(Gap)		-37.9%

2 Mattapan Square #1

Site 2 - Mattapan Square Feasibility Tests		Scenario Definition: # 1		Apartment/Retail	
Gross Potential Income					
Revenues - Private	Units	RSF	Monthly Rent	Rent/SF	Annual Rent
Apartment	112	89,858	\$1,440	\$1.80	\$1,940,939
Retail (NNN)	0	36,780	\$76,626	\$25.00	\$919,509
Parking Spaces	44	Surface	\$0	\$0	\$0
Parking Spaces	50	Structured	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subtotal	112	126,639		\$22.59	\$2,860,448
GSF (Excl. Parking)	82%	155,134			
Vacancy & Collection Losses			Residential	3.0%	(\$58,228)
			Retail	5.0%	(\$45,975)
Effective Gross Income					\$2,756,244
Non-Reimbursable Expenses					
Operating			\$10,000 Per Unit		(\$1,123,229)
Reserves			\$350 Per Unit		(\$39,313)
Retail			3% EGI		(\$26,758)
Subtotal					(\$1,189,299)
Net Operating Income					\$1,566,945
Capitalized Value of Residential On Completion-At Stabilization					
Capitalization Rate			5.00% Overall Rate		\$31,338,897
			Rounded		\$31,300,000
			Per Residential RSF		\$247
			Per Unit		\$278,661
Development Cost					
Land (Private Only)	Based on City Assessment		\$95 Per Land SF		\$7,066,200
Demolition	113,134 SF		\$10.00 per GSF		\$1,100,000
Hard Cost			\$150.00 per GSF		\$23,300,000
Parking		Structured	\$15,000 per space		\$800,000
Parking		Surface	\$1,500 per space		\$66,000
Soft Costs (includes financing, fee etc.)			20% of Hard Cost		\$4,800,000
			Rounded		\$37,100,000
			Per RSF		\$293
			Per Unit		\$330,298
Feasibility Surplus/(Gap)			Rounded		(\$5,761,103)
			% Surplus/(Gap)		-18.4%

3 Mattapan Square #2

Site 3 - Oriental Theater Feasibility Tests		Scenario Definition: # 1		Theater Rehab w/Mixed Use	
Gross Potential Income					
Revenues - Private	Units	RSF	Monthly Rent	Rent/SF	Annual Rent
Apartment	24	19,290	\$1,440	\$1.80	\$416,665
Retail (NNN)	0	46,028	\$95,892	\$25.00	\$1,150,709
Theater	0	18,502	\$0	\$0.00	\$0
Office	0	33,912	\$42,390	\$15.00	\$508,680
Parking Spaces	112	Surface	\$0	\$0	\$0
Parking Spaces	20	Structured	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subtotal	24	117,732		\$17.63	\$2,076,053
GSF (Excl. Parking)	96%	122,182			
Vacancy & Collection Losses			Residential	3.0%	(\$12,500)
			Retail	5.0%	(\$57,535)
Effective Gross Income					\$2,006,018
Non-Reimburseable Expenses					
Operating			\$10,000 Per Unit		(\$241,125)
Reserves			\$350 Per Unit		(\$8,439)
Retail			3% EGI		(\$33,486)
Subtotal					(\$283,050)
Net Operating Income					\$1,722,968
Capitalized Value of Residential On Completion-At Stabilization					
Capitalization Rate			7.00% Overall Rate		\$24,613,823
			Rounded		\$24,600,000
			Per NSF		\$209
			Per GSF		\$201
Development Cost					
Land (Private Only)	Based on City Assessment		\$54 Per Land SF		\$6,257,500
Demolition	78,540 SF		\$10.00 per GSF		\$800,000
Hard Cost-New	103,680 GSF		\$150.00 per GSF		\$15,600,000
Hard Cost-Rehab	18,502 GSF		\$400.00 per GSF		\$7,400,800
Parking		Structured	\$15,000 per space		\$300,000
Parking		Surface	\$1,500 per space		\$168,000
Soft Costs (includes financing, fee etc.)			20% of Hard Cost		\$3,200,000
			Rounded		\$33,700,000
			Per RSF		\$286
			Per Unit		\$1,397,613
Feasibility Surplus/(Gap)			Rounded		(\$9,086,177)
			% Surplus/(Gap)		-36.9%

3 Mattapan Square #2 - Alternative

Site 3 - Oriental Theater Feasibility Tests		Scenario Definition: #2		New Construction w/Mixed Use	
Gross Potential Income					
Revenues - Private	Units	RSF	Monthly Rent	Rent/SF	Annual Rent
Apartment	115	92,000	\$1,440	\$1.80	\$1,987,200
Retail (NNN)	0	24,827	\$51,723	\$25.00	\$620,675
Theater	0	0	\$0	\$0.00	\$0
Office	0	0	\$0	\$15.00	\$0
Parking Spaces	112	Surface	\$0	\$0	\$0
Parking Spaces	133	Structured	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subtotal	115	116,827		\$22.32	\$2,607,875
GSF (Excl. Parking)	82%	142,265			
Vacancy & Collection Losses			Residential	3.0%	(\$59,616)
			Retail	5.0%	(\$31,034)
Effective Gross Income					\$2,517,225
Non-Reimbursable Expenses					
Operating			\$10,000 Per Unit		(\$1,150,000)
Reserves			\$350 Per Unit		(\$40,250)
Retail			3% EGI		(\$18,062)
Subtotal					(\$1,208,312)
Net Operating Income					\$1,308,914
Capitalized Value of Residential On Completion-At Stabilization					
Capitalization Rate			6.00% Overall Rate		\$21,815,227
			Rounded		\$21,800,000
			Per NSF		\$187
			Per GSF		\$153
Development Cost					
Land (Private Only)	Based on City Assessment		\$51 Per Land SF		\$5,900,000
Demolition	78,609 SF		\$10.00 per GSF		\$800,000
Hard Cost-New	142,265 GSF		\$150.00 per GSF		\$21,300,000
Hard Cost-Rehab	0 GSF		\$400.00 per GSF		\$0
Parking		Structured	\$15,000 per space		\$2,000,000
Parking		Surface	\$1,500 per space		\$168,000
Soft Costs (includes financing, fee etc.)			20% of Hard Cost		\$4,700,000
			Rounded		\$34,900,000
			Per RSF		\$299
			Per Unit		\$303,478
Feasibility Surplus/(Gap)			Rounded		(\$13,084,773)
			% Surplus/(Gap)		-60.0%

4 River Street Property

Site 4 - Post Office Parking Lot Feasibility Tests		Scenario Definition: # 1 Apartment/Retail			
Gross Potential Income					
Revenues - Private	Units	RSF	Monthly Rent	Rent/SF	Annual Rent
Apartment	46	36,549	\$1,600	\$2.00	\$877,177
Retail (NNN)	0	6,630	\$13,813	\$25.00	\$165,750
Parking Spaces	40	Surface	\$0	\$0	\$0
Parking Spaces	0	Structured	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subtotal	46	43,179		\$24.15	\$1,042,927
GSF (Excl. Parking)	81%	53,035			
Vacancy & Collection Losses			Residential	3.0%	(\$26,315)
			Retail	5.0%	(\$8,288)
Effective Gross Income					\$1,008,324
Non-Reimbursable Expenses					
Operating			\$10,000 Per Unit		(\$456,863)
Reserves			\$350 Per Unit		(\$15,990)
Retail			3% EGI		(\$4,823)
Subtotal					(\$477,677)
Net Operating Income					\$530,648
Capitalized Value of Residential On Completion-At Stabilization					
Capitalization Rate			5.00% Overall Rate		\$10,612,954
			Rounded		\$10,600,000
			Per NSF		\$245
			Per Unit		\$200
Development Cost					
Land (Private Only)	Based on City Assessment		\$0 Per Land SF		\$0
Demolition	0 SF		\$10.00 per GSF		\$0
Hard Cost-New	53,035 GSF		\$150.00 per GSF		\$8,000,000
Hard Cost-Rehab	0 GSF		\$400.00 per GSF		\$0
Parking		Structured	\$15,000 per space		\$0
Parking		Surface	\$1,500 per space		\$60,000
Soft Costs (includes financing, fee etc.)			20% of Hard Cost		\$1,600,000
			Rounded		\$9,700,000
			Per RSF		\$225
			Per Unit		\$212,317
Feasibility Surplus/(Gap)			Rounded		\$912,954
			% Surplus/(Gap)		8.6%

DRAFT

Residential Market Background

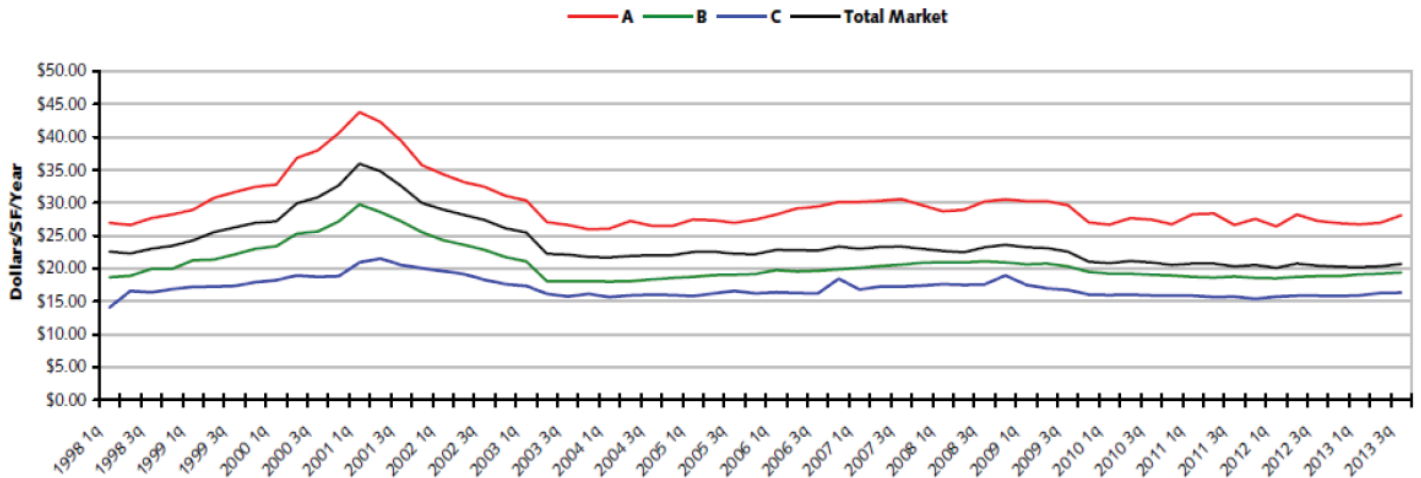
Year	Qtr	Inventory SF/Units	Completions	Inventory Growth%	Vacant Stock	Vacancy Rate	Vacancy Change(BPS)	Occupied Stock	Net Absorption	Asking Rent	Ask Rent % Chg
2007	Y	13,447	112	0.8%	511	3.8%	-170	12,936	334	\$1,459	- 1.1%
2008	Y	13,507	60	0.4%	500	3.7%	-10	13,007	71	\$1,554	6.5%
2009	Y	13,776	269	2.0%	854	6.2%	250	12,922	-85	\$1,489	- 4.2%
2010	4	13,875	48	0.3%	666	4.8%	-50	13,209	115	\$1,542	- 0.2%
2010	Y	13,875	99	0.7%	666	4.8%	-140	13,209	287	\$1,542	3.6%
2011	1	13,875	0	0.0%	638	4.6%	-20	13,237	28	\$1,547	0.3%
2011	2	13,875	0	0.0%	587	4.2%	-40	13,288	51	\$1,560	0.8%
2011	3	13,875	0	0.0%	541	3.9%	-30	13,334	46	\$1,566	0.4%
2011	4	13,875	0	0.0%	458	3.3%	-60	13,417	83	\$1,577	0.7%
2011	Y	13,875	0	0.0%	458	3.3%	-150	13,417	208	\$1,577	2.3%
2012	1	13,914	39	0.3%	431	3.1%	-20	13,483	66	\$1,580	0.2%
2012	2	13,914	0	0.0%	417	3.0%	-10	13,497	14	\$1,595	1.0%
2012	3	13,914	0	0.0%	417	3.0%	0	13,497	0	\$1,610	0.9%
2012	Y	13,962	87	0.3%	423	3.0%	0	13,539	122	\$1,620	2.7%
2013	Y	14,223	261	1.9%	434	3.1%	0	13,789	250	\$1,683	3.9%
2014	Y	14,884	661	4.6%	476	3.2%	20	14,408	619	\$1,768	5.0%
2015	Y	15,005	121	0.8%	453	3.0%	-20	14,552	144	\$1,826	3.3%
2016	Y	15,150	145	1.0%	406	2.7%	-30	14,744	192	\$1,872	2.5%

Retail Market Background

Period	Existing Inventory		Vacancy		Net Absorption	Delivered Inventory		UC Inventory		Quoted Rates
	# Bldgs	Total RBA	Vacant SF	Vacancy %		# Bldgs	Total RBA	# Bldgs	Total RBA	
2013 3q	2,410	23,139,648	533,711	2.3%	17,606	0	0	1	50,000	\$28.33
2013 2q	2,410	23,139,648	551,317	2.4%	34,998	2	17,460	0	0	\$26.80
2013 1q	2,408	23,122,188	568,855	2.5%	35,910	0	0	2	17,460	\$24.62
2012 4q	2,409	23,164,188	646,765	2.8%	25,015	1	33,000	2	17,460	\$24.11
2012 3q	2,408	23,131,188	638,780	2.8%	32,380	0	0	3	50,460	\$23.59
2012 2q	2,408	23,131,188	671,160	2.9%	691	0	0	2	50,000	\$23.60
2012 1q	2,408	23,131,188	671,851	2.9%	114,401	2	6,933	2	50,000	\$17.89
2011 4q	2,406	23,124,255	779,319	3.4%	(19,951)	0	0	3	39,933	\$18.45
2011 3q	2,408	23,141,406	776,519	3.4%	12,267	0	0	2	6,933	\$20.97
2011 2q	2,409	23,148,420	795,800	3.4%	151,531	3	41,000	0	0	\$20.06
2011 1q	2,408	23,114,965	913,876	4.0%	82,892	1	2,905	3	41,000	\$20.79
2010 4q	2,408	23,114,969	996,772	4.3%	140,303	1	46,400	4	43,905	\$21.23
2010 3q	2,408	23,085,039	1,107,145	4.8%	(17,414)	1	2,200	4	80,305	\$21.60
2010 2q	2,407	23,082,839	1,087,531	4.7%	52,378	2	125,700	3	74,600	\$21.78
2010 1q	2,405	22,957,139	1,014,209	4.4%	80,505	1	5,731	5	200,300	\$21.67
2009 4q	2,405	22,956,280	1,093,855	4.8%	32,679	0	0	4	133,631	\$22.62

Office Market Background - Historical Rental Rates

Based on Full-Service Equivalent Rental Rates



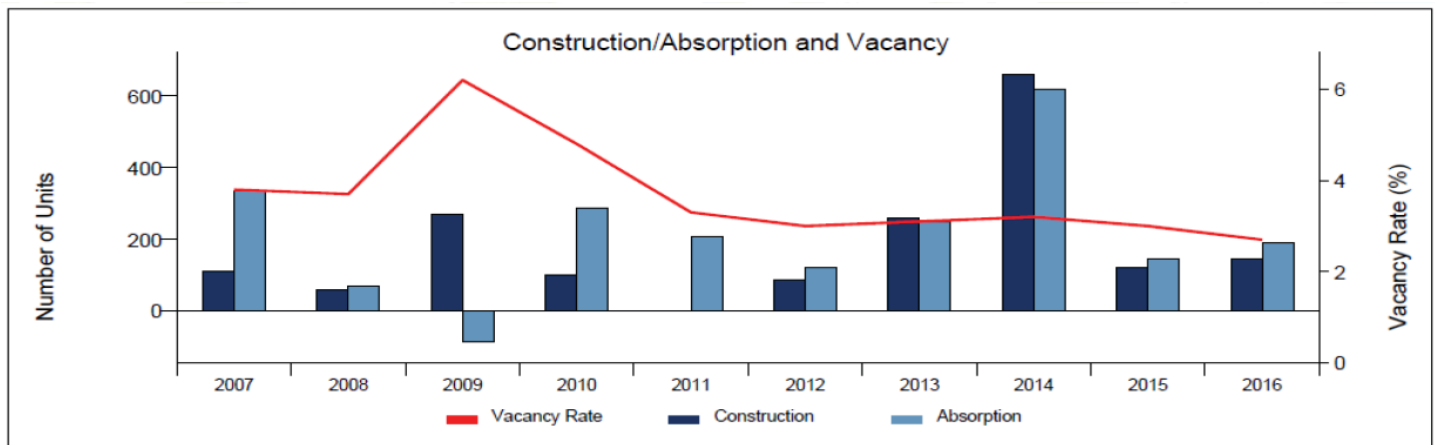
Light Industrial Market Background

Period	Existing Inventory		Vacancy		Net Absorption	Delivered Inventory		UC Inventory		Quoted Rates
	# Bldgs	Total RBA	Vacant SF	Vacancy %		# Bldgs	Total RBA	# Bldgs	Total RBA	
2013 3q	742	26,857,878	2,633,155	9.8%	71,907	0	0	0	0	\$9.09
2013 2q	742	26,857,878	2,705,062	10.1%	(31,047)	0	0	0	0	\$9.30
2013 1q	743	27,063,275	2,879,412	10.6%	173,175	0	0	0	0	\$9.00
2012 4q	744	27,074,020	3,063,332	11.3%	1,850	0	0	0	0	\$8.65
2012 3q	745	27,089,020	3,080,182	11.4%	(150,340)	0	0	0	0	\$8.94
2012 2q	745	27,089,020	2,929,842	10.8%	35,613	0	0	0	0	\$9.22
2012 1q	745	27,089,020	2,965,455	10.9%	(180,167)	0	0	0	0	\$9.09
2011 4q	746	27,190,270	2,886,538	10.6%	25,240	0	0	0	0	\$9.06
2011 3q	749	27,369,690	3,091,198	11.3%	(287,072)	0	0	0	0	\$9.36
2011 2q	750	27,446,082	2,880,518	10.5%	(42,118)	0	0	0	0	\$9.43
2011 1q	751	27,498,582	2,890,900	10.5%	126,649	1	10,225	0	0	\$9.25
2010 4q	753	27,738,835	3,257,802	11.7%	(291,763)	0	0	1	10,225	\$9.45
2010 3q	754	27,853,033	3,080,237	11.1%	228,307	0	0	1	10,225	\$8.49
2010 2q	754	27,853,033	3,308,544	11.9%	82,632	0	0	0	0	\$8.55
2010 1q	754	27,853,033	3,391,176	12.2%	(53,838)	0	0	0	0	\$8.66
2009 4q	754	27,853,033	3,337,338	12.0%	60,976	0	0	0	0	\$8.55

Neighborhood Residential Positioning

Current Submarket Average Rents and Sizes				Asking Rent Growth					
Studio/Efficiency One Bedroom Two Bedroom Three Bedroom	July			Quarterly			Annualized		
	Rent	Avg. SF	Avg. Rent PSF	2Q13	1Q13	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year
	\$1,043	444	\$ 2.35	0.5%	3.7%	4.6%	0.4%	0.6%	1.8%
	\$1,482	722	\$ 2.05	1.1%	2.2%	3.7%	0.6%	2.6%	2.1%
	\$1,795	971	\$ 1.85	- 0.4%	0.2%	0.2%	3.4%	3.0%	2.1%
	\$2,425	1193	\$ 2.03	- 0.6%	2.4%	2.1%	5.1%	2.4%	2.2%
Average over period ending:				06/30/13	03/31/13	06/30/13	12/31/12	12/31/12	12/31/12

Neighborhood Residential Positioning



Neighborhood Commercial and Industrial Positioning

Face Rent Analysis Report

	DIRECT SPACES				SUBLET SPACES				TOTAL
	# Spaces	Min	Avg	Max	# Spaces	Min	Avg	Max	Avg
Flex									
Modified Gross	2	\$7.50	\$7.50	\$7.50	0	-	-	-	\$7.50
Triple Net	5	\$3.75	\$5.57	\$9.00	1	\$13.00	\$13.00	\$13.00	\$7.99
Industrial									
Full Service Gross	3	\$5.00	\$6.49	\$10.20	0	-	-	-	\$6.49
Modified Gross	3	\$6.00	\$6.28	\$9.94	0	-	-	-	\$6.28
Negotiable	19	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	-
Plus All Utilities	3	\$9.00	\$9.00	\$9.00	0	-	-	-	\$9.00
TBD	2	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	-
Triple Net	27	\$1.99	\$5.83	\$15.00	1	\$6.50	\$6.50	\$6.50	\$5.87
Off/Med									
Modified Gross	4	\$7.40	\$16.25	\$35.00	0	-	-	-	\$16.25
Plus All Utilities	1	\$28.00	\$28.00	\$28.00	0	-	-	-	\$28.00
Triple Net	5	\$15.00	\$18.27	\$39.00	0	-	-	-	\$18.27
Off/Ret									
Modified Gross	1	\$18.60	\$18.60	\$18.60	0	-	-	-	\$18.60
Negotiable	5	\$25.86	\$26.19	\$26.51	0	-	-	-	\$26.19
Plus All Utilities	3	\$10.00	\$10.50	\$11.69	0	-	-	-	\$10.50
Plus Electric	1	\$18.00	\$18.00	\$18.00	0	-	-	-	\$18.00
Triple Net	6	\$15.00	\$18.27	\$51.42	0	-	-	-	\$18.27
Office									
Full Service Gross	7	\$13.63	\$15.59	\$27.26	0	-	-	-	\$15.59
Modified Gross	11	\$12.85	\$20.30	\$29.90	0	-	-	-	\$20.30
Negotiable	10	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Plus All Utilities	4	\$11.92	\$17.76	\$26.00	0	-	-	-	\$17.76
Plus Electric	2	\$15.43	\$15.43	\$15.43	0	-	-	-	\$15.43
Triple Net	26	\$3.60	\$13.03	\$27.43	0	-	-	-	\$13.03
Retail									
Full Service Gross	3	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$20.00	0	-	-	-	\$20.00
Modified Gross	8	\$16.00	\$19.74	\$24.00	0	-	-	-	\$19.74
Negotiable	28	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
Net	1	\$19.50	\$19.50	\$19.50	0	-	-	-	\$19.50
Plus All Utilities	1	\$18.00	\$18.00	\$18.00	0	-	-	-	\$18.00
TBD	5	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	-
Triple Net	27	\$5.40	\$21.24	\$45.00	0	-	-	-	\$21.24
Utilities & Char	2	\$29.53	\$29.53	\$29.53	0	-	-	-	\$29.53

SUSTAINABILITY FRAMEWORK FOR STATION AREA PLANNING

The concept of sustainability describes a condition where human consumption of natural resources is in balance with Nature's ability to replenish them. Sustainability planning aims to achieve the greatest good for all segments of our population, to protect the health of the environment, and to assure future generations the resources they will need to survive and progress.

Physical, social and economic patterns of human development are affecting sustainability at all levels and expanding the gap between human consumption of resources and Earth's capacity to supply those resources and reabsorb resulting waste. Sustainable planning guides development towards holistic and inclusive approaches. Our approach to sustainable design is based on the "three-legged stool": an understanding that each of the three legs – community, economy and environment – is of equal importance to support a healthy, sustainable community. In this way, the concept of sustainable development becomes an overarching framework to guide the planning process toward a holistic and inclusive view of the community; both the natural and human processes. The goals and attainable benefits to this approach are reduced environmental impacts, better health for residents, and greater economic opportunities.

The sustainability framework described below aims to operationalize these principles into guidelines and implementation actions for Fairmount Indigo station-area planning.

1 SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAMS, POLICIES, FRAMEWORKS

The Fairmount Indigo project occurs within the context of existing programs, policies and guidelines in the Boston region, as well as national frameworks and initiatives for sustainability. The Sustainability Framework synthesizes these existing programs, along with community values and priorities, into a planning guide that aims to achieve consistency with and satisfy multiple objectives of local, regional and national policies and programs.

LEED for Neighborhood Development (LEED-ND) serves as the foundation for the Sustainability Framework. The City of Boston requires all new construction over 50,000 SF to be designed and built to meet the LEED certifiable level, and all multiple-building developments to meet the LEED-ND certifiable level (Article 37 – Green Building Regulations of the Boston Zoning Code). Administered by the U.S. Green Building Council, LEED-ND provides a rating system that integrates the principles of smart growth, new urbanism, and green building into a national standard for neighborhood design. LEED-ND guidelines promote environmentally responsible buildings and infrastructure, mixed-use development, walkable streets, and open space.

To customize LEED-ND to the local context, several other programs were considered in creating this framework, including:

- Boston Complete Streets
- Boston Parks and Recreation Department Sustainable Design Guidelines
- Boston Water and Sewer Commission Stormwater BMP Guidance Document
- Boston Harbor Association "Preparing for a Rising Tide"
- A Climate of Progress: City of Boston Climate Action Plan Update 2011
- Massachusetts Climate Change Adaptation Report
- Fairmount Greenway Concept Plan

2 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The Sustainability Framework is informed by goals and objectives that are expressed – explicitly or implied – in the documents mentioned above. Table 1 summarizes the goals and objectives for station-area redevelopment and future growth.

TABLE 1

Table 1. Sustainability Goals and Objectives		
Category	Goal	Objective
Water	Restore pre-development hydrology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design for water efficiency in plumbing fixtures, landscaping, and operations. • Recycle graywater and rainwater on site • Minimize impervious cover • Utilize green stormwater infrastructure to slow, cleanse and infiltrate rainwater where it falls
Energy	Promote clean, renewable energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design structures and operations for energy efficiency • Generate renewable energy on site • Minimize embodied energy of materials • Utilize vegetation and solar-reflective surfaces to reduce urban heat island and building heating/cooling energy needs • Orient buildings to maximize passive and active solar access
Climate	Minimize greenhouse gas emissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilize fuels with lower carbon footprint • Choose locally sourced materials with lower carbon footprint
	Foster resilience to climate change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilize design standards that account for projected changes in sea level, precipitation, and temperature • Adopt climate adaptation strategies
Ecology	Support healthy soil, plant, and wildlife ecosystems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specify native vegetation in landscape design • Control invasive and nuisance species • Preserve existing mature trees • Preserve and create open (undeveloped) space • Minimize soil disturbance by using a phased approach to landscape construction, where one area will be begun and completed prior to starting the next site • Protect and restore wetlands
Community	Foster environmental stewardship in the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage community members in planning and design • Include public access, interpretive signage, and educational programming • Reflect community identity and values in design
	Create community amenities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design stormwater features to provide landscape amenities • Preserve and create open space with public access, recreational facilities, and ongoing maintenance and security
	Reduce burdens of legacy contaminants and ongoing pollution in the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remediate brownfields • Reduce vehicular traffic • Install noise damping facilities • Limit light trespass
	Enhance access and connectivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create accessible pedestrian and bike routes connecting stations, neighborhoods, open spaces, and commercial centers • Repair and upgrade existing pedestrian and bike corridors and facilities • Provide secure and covered bicycle storage • Design compact, mixed-use, walkable neighborhoods
	Expand access to and awareness of healthy, local food systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dedicate space for urban agriculture and farmers markets • Locate markets and CSA drop-offs in central, visible, accessible places • Enhance/create signage for local farmers markets, community gardens, urban farms
	Ensure fairness in the distribution of project costs and benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Involve environmental justice community in planning and design
Economy	Encourage growth of sustainable businesses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create “green business” incubators • Co-locate businesses that can share resources (i.e. eco-industrial facility) • Incentivize businesses to adopt sustainable practices (green building, bike-to-work facilities, energy conservation, etc.)
	Improve access to jobs and services by foot, bike or public transit.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote infill
	Increase waste diversion among area businesses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Composting • Recycling

3 BEST PRACTICES

The goals and objectives summarized above can be achieved by implementing a set of best practices, as described in the following sections. Under each broad category below, specific best practices are detailed in relation to station site design, neighborhood planning, and station-community connectivity. Overarching themes for each of these planning areas are as follows:

Green and Efficient Stations: Develop neighborhood specific, green, energy efficient stations that are safe, well managed and maintained and that elicit a sense of ownership from the community.

Healthy and Integrated Neighborhoods: Create community driven sustainable neighborhood development with a compact, walkable environment created with environmentally-friendly infrastructure and community connectivity to open space and healthy food systems.

Green Connections: Create a system of accessible pedestrian and bike friendly corridors connecting the neighborhood to the green and efficient stations and reinforce a sense of community and stewardship.

3.1 Green Stormwater Infrastructure

Green stormwater facilities capture, cleanse, and infiltrate rainwater where it falls, mimicking natural hydrologic conditions with small-scale facilities distributed throughout the drainage basin. Typical green stormwater facilities include rain gardens, vegetated swales, permeable pavement, green roofs, street trees, and stormwater wetlands. These facilities can be designed to infiltrate into underlying soils, discharge to the storm sewers, and/or provide treated rainwater for on-site storage and reuse.

Green stormwater infrastructure meets multiple sustainability objectives. It enables restoration of pre-development hydrology, allowing for groundwater

recharge, improved stream baseflow, and reduced stream channel erosion. These facilities reduce peak runoff flows, thereby reducing demand on existing stormwater and combined sewer infrastructure and reducing the likelihood of localized flooding and combined sewer overflows during extreme events. Filtering and detaining stormwater runoff also improves the quality and temperature of runoff entering water bodies, thereby enhancing ecological, human health, and recreational conditions. If captured rainwater is subsequently reused, potable water can be conserved.

In terms of energy use, green stormwater facilities can provide shading and evapotranspiration to reduce the urban heat island effect and building energy needs. They also reduce the embodied energy of stormwater infrastructure (i.e. soil, stone, plant material versus concrete pipes). In green street applications, green infrastructure provides for traffic calming and improved pedestrian and bike safety. It also creates community green-space amenities, and allows for community engagement and education through planning, design and maintenance.

Green stormwater infrastructure is a common requirement in sustainability guidelines. LEED-ND provides credits for retaining and treating stormwater on-site, and encourages the use of green stormwater retention techniques. The Boston Sewer and Water Commission (BSWC) report, Stormwater Best Management Practices (BMP) Proposal and Guidance Document, identifies green stormwater BMPs for BSWC to consider during site plan review of development projects and when designing capital improvements in both public and private development.

3.1.1 Station Site Design

- Design the station to minimize impervious area, maximize vegetated area, and preserve existing trees.
- Surface-level parking areas: bioretention basins (a.k.a. rain gardens) on perimeter and within parking-

lot islands. Tree wells designed to receive flows from surrounding pavement. Permeable pavement.

- Courtyards, walkways: Bioretention basins receiving runoff from roofs and paved surfaces. Permeable pavement.
- Roof: Vegetated roof (“ecoroof”) on portion of station roof. (assume large portion is allocated for PV)
- Specify native species for vegetated stormwater facilities
- Allow for public access and educational signage and programs in low-security areas.

3.1.2 Neighborhood Planning

- Assess the condition of storm sewers, combined sewers and receiving waters to identify priority areas for improved stormwater management, along with target pollutants.
- Engage community members in identifying and prioritizing neighborhood sites for green stormwater facilities.
- Develop a protocol – and a policy requiring its use - for evaluating opportunities for green stormwater infrastructure within all redevelopment/improvement areas.
- Minimize creation of new impervious area (e.g. surface parking lots)
- Preserve existing trees
- Identify paved surfaces that could be revegetated
- Consider community de-paving parties such as those in Somerville
- Identify vacant lots or existing landscaped areas that could accommodate larger stormwater facilities (e.g. large bioretention basin or wetland basin) to receive

runoff from several adjacent properties on which there is no space for green stormwater facilities.

- Specify native species for vegetated stormwater facilities
- Include educational signage.

3.1.3 Station-Community Connections

- Evaluate opportunities for installing “green street” facilities along pedestrian and bike routes. These may include tree-well filters, vegetated curb bulb-outs, rain gardens, and permeable sidewalks and bike lanes.
- Select one or two streets to pilot full conversion to green streets
- Specify native species for vegetated stormwater facilities
- Include educational signage.

3.2 Energy Efficiency and Generation

Energy efficiency and on-site energy generation are essential strategies for reducing pollution, greenhouse gases emissions, energy losses along transmission lines, and reliance on depleted non-renewal energy sources.

3.2.1 Station Site Design

- Orient buildings to maximize passive and active solar access
- Design buildings systems – including electrical, lighting, HVAC – for energy efficiency
- Install solar PV and micro wind turbines for on-site energy generation
- Utilize green roofs and solar-reflective roofing and paving materials to reduce urban heat island effect, and thereby reduce building heating/cooling energy needs.
- Capture and reuse waste heat (if applicable)

3.2.2 Neighborhood Planning

- Evaluate opportunities for district heating and cooling systems

3.2.3 Station-Community Connections

- Reduce vehicle miles traveled – and thereby fossil fuel consumption – by creating more accessible and affordable transit, pedestrian and bike connections to jobs, schools, services and recreation areas.

3.3 Water Conservation and Reuse

As with other sustainable strategies, water efficiency satisfies multiple sustainability objectives, including lower rates of water withdrawals from aquifers, streams and reservoirs; and reduced energy and chemical use for potable water treatment and conveyance.

Efficient indoor water use can be achieved by utilizing low-flow plumbing fixtures and equipment, and by using lower-quality recycled water for toilet flushing, air conditioning, and other industrial uses (e.g. bus or train wash-down). Outdoor water efficiency can likewise be improved by irrigating with recycled water, and through careful plant selection and landscape design (see landscape section below).

3.3.1 Station Site Design

- Design for water efficiency in plumbing fixtures, landscaping, and operations.
- Recycle graywater and rainwater on site

3.3.2 Neighborhood Planning

- Evaluate opportunities for neighborhood-scale decentralized wastewater treatment and reuse.
- Identify open areas, such as playing fields, where rainwater can be stored underground in engineered

storage systems and used during droughts for landscape irrigation.

- Specify native and drought-resistant plants.
- Include educational signage.

3.3.3 Station-Community Connections

- Specify native and drought-resistant plants.
- Include educational signage.

3.4 Landscape Design

Sustainable landscape design incorporates the water efficiency practices described above. It also aims to support ecological health of soil and plant communities; prevent soil erosion; and create green-space community amenities. A sustainable landscape will consist of native, drought-tolerant, aesthetically pleasing vegetation that provides habitat value and other ecological services.

Thoughtful landscape design and plant specification not only enhance the value of green and open space; they also reduce the need for irrigation, fertilizer and pesticide application, and energy-intensive maintenance (e.g. mowing). Native plants have naturally evolved over time with adaptations for survival and reproduction within a specific ecosystem. These adaptations make them resilient to climate changes and less susceptible to insects and disease. Native plants also provide habitat value and forage for wildlife as well as erosion control, stability and aesthetic significance to surrounding human communities. Invasive plants, on the other hand, impair both ecological function and aesthetic appeal. Commonly found invasives in Massachusetts include Japanese knotweed (*Polygonum cuspidatum*), common reed (*Phragmites communis*), reed grass (*Phragmites australis*), and Japanese hop (*Humulus japonicus*).

3.4.1 Station Site Design

- Preserve existing tree canopy and native vegetation

- Specify native and drought-resistant vegetation in landscape design
- Control invasive and nuisance species
- Minimize soil disturbance by using a phased approach to landscape construction, where one area will be begun and completed prior to starting the next site
- Develop and implement an erosion control plan for the construction phase.
- During construction, protect open space and sensitive areas through the use of strict boundaries to reduce damage to site ecology.
- For open areas, select hardy grass species that are adapted to the conditions present
- Use taller grasses in areas where there is a desire to reduce energy and resource input further (less or no mowing) and also to restrict access by humans and or nuisance wildlife.
- Select native tree and shrub species for their tolerances to the environment, i.e. full sun, low water requirements etc. and place them where they are sure to succeed.
- Restrict access to certain areas completely, making them into butterfly or wildflower gardens that provide aesthetic interest but require no maintenance

3.4.2 Neighborhood Planning

- Inventory existing landscape conditions, including species composition, vegetative community health, percent cover of native species, percent dominance of invasive species and habitat characteristics.
- Prioritize areas for invasive and nuisance species removal and maintenance
- Preserve and enhance existing open space

- Evaluate parcels for open space creation, with a focus on both recreational and ecological services
- Protect and restore existing wetlands
- Coordinate public events such as interpretive walks or volunteer events to remove invasive species or to plant native species.

3.4.3 Station-Community Connections

- Invasive species are commonly found in disturbed, high-use areas and travel corridors. Bike and pedestrian corridors could be prioritized for the control of invasive species.
- Install kiosks and educational signage made of recycled or found materials where informative flyers and maps can go. This will draw public attention and inform them of environmental and sustainability goals and how they can help.

3.5 Materials

Sustainable material selection aims to reduce the energy and environmental consequences of material use and waste production. For example, reusing existing buildings reduces construction and demolition waste while conserving raw materials. Likewise, using materials with recycled content diverts materials from landfills and helps conserve raw materials.

3.5.1 Station Site Design

- Evaluate the embodied energy (i.e. energy used to extract, manufacture, and transport) when specifying materials.
- Reuse existing buildings
- Specify materials with recycled content

3.5.2 Neighborhood Planning

- Reuse existing buildings

- Specify paving materials with recycled content

3.5.3 Station-Community Connections

- Specify paving and sign materials with recycled content

3.6 Healthy Food Systems

Urban food systems aim to improve access to affordable, nutritious, locally-produced, fresh food within urban communities. Local agriculture offers myriad benefits, including health, education, food security, and economic benefits for local farmers and consumers alike. It also diminishes the environmental impacts of long-distance transport of food.

Access to fresh, locally-produced foods can be fostered using several tools, including:

- Small urban farms
- Community gardens
- School gardens
- Private/family gardens
- Farmers markets
- Community-supported agriculture (CSA) with local drop-offs

The City of Boston, in partnership with local organizations, has supported the expansion of urban agriculture. In August 2013, the Boston Redevelopment Authority issued draft Zoning Code Article 89, which establishes zoning regulations and standards for urban agriculture in Boston. Several organizations already operate urban farms in Boston: ReVision Urban Farm has two farms in Dorchester; The Food Project includes a 2-1/2-acre farm in Roxbury; and City Growers operates three small farms in Dorchester and one in Roxbury.

3.6.1 Station Site Design

- Install signage at or near station to increase awareness to local farmers' markets and urban farms/gardens.
- Dedicate permanent space at transit station for farmers' market, local-food kiosks, and/or CSA drop-off.

3.6.2 Neighborhood Planning

- Evaluate vacant lots and open spaces within a ½ mile walking distance of transit station for farmers market, community garden, urban farms and urban orchards
- Review local zoning codes or deed restrictions to ensure that growing food is not prohibited; if it is, work with officials to amend codes
- Ensure suitable soils for growing food, in compliance with Boston Public Health Commission's Soil Safety Protocol for Urban Farms

3.6.3 Station-Community Connections

- Create or enhance bike and pedestrian access to farmers' market, community gardens and/or urban farms.

3.7 Climate Resilience

The Fairmount Indigo corridor, as with Boston in general, can expect changes in precipitation, temperature, and flooding in the future as a result of climate change. Precipitation impacts will include more extreme rain events, greater occurrence of droughts, and more winter precipitation in the form of rain instead of snow (therefore more winter runoff and less spring snowmelt runoff). These changes, paired with sea level rise, will increase the likelihood of flooding along the Neponset River and its tributaries. In contrast, stream flows during the summer months are expected to decrease, leading to higher water temperatures and stress on fish populations. The number

of extreme-heat days will also increase, creating higher energy demand for cooling.

The City of Boston has introduced many climate mitigation and adaptation initiatives and policies. Boston Complete Streets and Grow Boston Greener promote green infrastructure throughout the City to reduce the urban heat island effect and mitigate flooding. The BRA requires all new large developments to complete a climate adaptation questionnaire as part of the Article 80 review process. The 2011 update to Boston's Climate Action Plan highlights many of the City's climate preparedness initiatives, and the 2014 update will focus on climate preparedness.

All of the sustainable strategies described in sections above will improve station-area climate resilience. Beyond those, the key recommendation for climate resilience will be to follow the City of Boston's guidelines in its upcoming 2014 Climate Action Plan. Several additional strategies, to be applied to all planning areas, are summarized below.

- Use design standards that are based on projected (not historic) flood elevations, precipitation, and temperatures
- Elevate key utilities (e.g. generators) above projected flood levels
- Seal lower levels or install flood walls; OR allow free passage of water through lower levels
- Relocate key infrastructure away from or above flood zones
- Mitigate the urban heat island effect using shading, green spaces, reflective roofs/pavement
- Design for system redundancy
- Design pedestrian/bike corridors along waterways to serve as flood buffers



CITY OF BOSTON
Martin J. Walsh
Mayor



Boston
Redevelopment
Authority

BLUE HILL AVENUE/CUMMINS HIGHWAY
DRAFT STATION AREA PLAN
JUNE 2014

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