



BOSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT A-1 UPDATE

SERGEANT STEVEN MOY AND CAPTAIN ROBERT CICOLO

Boston Police Department (BPD) Sergeant Steven Moy provided a police report for the October 2020 Meeting. Sergeant Moy spoke to an uptick in issues related to the homeless population due to COVID-19's effects on shelter capacity and on the BPD's continuing engagement efforts to provide services.

NEIGHBORHOOD INCIDENTS

SEPTEMBER 4, 5:00PM: 53 STATE STREET (BOSTON GLOBE) – DISTURBING THE PEACE AND DISORDERLY CONDUCT

The head of security for the Boston Globe located at Exchange Place on 53 State Street contacted BPD stating that a gentleman outside the property was yelling racially charged statements, had been repeatedly asked to leave and had refused to do so.

Officers arrived on scene and suspect denied suffering from mental health issues or being on any medication and also refused any EMS treatment. Suspect left but later returned, resuming his actions and was subsequently placed under arrest for disturbing the peace and disorderly conduct.

SEPTEMBER 28TH: 1 LONG WHARF – SIMPLE ASSAULT

The suspect, a homeless female, was asked to leave the premises by employees at the establishment she'd entered. Words were exchanged and the suspect began yelling racial slurs at two employees before spitting on them. Officers arrived on scene and located the suspect who has been summoned to court for assault/battery and threats to commit a crime.

OCTOBER 1ST, 10:00PM: 83 CENTRAL ST. (MCKINLEY SQUARE) – LARCENY

A homeless female contacted 911 and reported items had been stolen from her shopping cart. Detectives filed a report and are currently following up on the case.

OCTOBER 2, 4:30PM: ATLANTIC AVE. & STATE ST. (AQUARIUM STATION) – LARCENY OF A BICYCLE

Victim reported bicycle stolen. Bicycle had been left momentarily unattended and unlocked.

OCTOBER 2, 5:00PM: PEOPLE'S UNITED BANK (50 MILK ST.): BANK ROBBERY

Unknown individual walked into bank, passing a note to the teller stating that he had a firearm and a bomb in his backpack. The teller told the suspect she had no bills, only coins and ended up giving him \$50 in coins. Suspect fled and the bank robbery task force currently has this case under investigation.

OCTOBER 8: 170 STATE ST. – AGGRAVATED ASSAULT

Officers responded to a late-night 911 call by the victim who had been drinking at Sissy K's. Upon leaving the establishment under the influence, the victim reported being assaulted by a homeless male. Victim was only able to provide a vague description of the suspect and was transported to MGH for treatment.

ELECTION DAY PREPAREDNESS

When asked by WDC member John Larivee about Election Day concerns, Captain Robert Ciccolo responded that officers will be at the polls as per usual and briefly touched on the recent decision by the BPD to effectively cancel all days off for officers around the election. This decision, according to Captain Ciccolo, means that around 1/3 additional officers will be on duty.

ELSEY PARTNERS “POD STYLE HOTEL” AT 188 HIGH STREET OWNER CHRIS ELSEY AND SENIOR ARCHITECT BRAD BUSER

Kansas-based developer Elsey Partners, represented by owner Chris Elsey and Senior Architect Brad Buser, appeared before the Council to discuss their 188 High St. development project: a “pod-style” hotel.

Referred to by Elsey as an alternative between “a hostel and a regular hotel” that would primarily target transient and price-conscious travelers, the proposed development would consist of 12 floors with the majority of space accommodating the pod units themselves.

The previous property owner obtained approval for a 50 key hotel with variances that have been

received: permitting a height of 130 ft and a depth of approximately 60 ft. Elsey indicated that they'd like to stay within the current building envelope.

With the project quite early in its development cycle, Elsey and Buser acknowledged the unique challenges from an approvals and life-safety perspective, particularly with COVID-19 in mind.

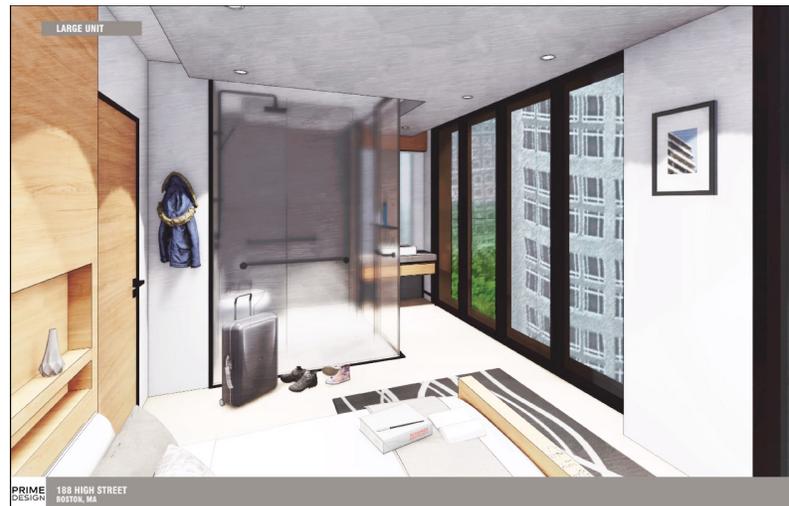
The team also faced questions from the Council on comparative examples, property dimensions, and design choices. The Council decided to hold an executive session following the public meeting to discuss the project further.



↑ Exterior view of Elsey Partners planned “Pod-Style Hotel” on 188 High St



↑ Renderings of pod unit interiors. ↓



MAYORS OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES UPDATE

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

North End/West End Neighborhood Liasion John Romano briefed the WDC on some important City of Boston updates (click): [Early Voting Access & Information](#) | [Boston Police Reform](#) | [Boston's Drive-In Movie Program](#)

STATE STREET RENOVATION DISCUSSION

The Healthy Streets Pilot Project has entered its second phase, affecting State St. with striping on wider sidewalks and bike lanes. Another virtual public presentation will be uploaded later this week [to the project website](#) alongside additional updates.

In a sub-discussion, Council members strongly expressed their unease over the project potentially eliminating two-lane traffic on State St., with WDC President Marc Margulies asserting:

"The community that lives and works here (and tries to get the hell out of here on occasion) understands that State St. must be two lanes of traffic. If it is proposed as a single lane, we will collectively make as much noise as a community group can possibly make because it will not work regardless of how pretty it may look."

Members agreed on writing a letter of concern, with John Romano stating that he would relay Council concerns as well.

PINNACLE AT CENTRAL WHARF UPDATE

ROB CARIDAD FROM THE CHIOFARO COMPANY

Rob Caridad, The Chiofaro Company's Project Manager for the Pinnacle Project reported receiving MEPA's (Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act) scoping determination and expects to receive additional findings including the BPDA (Boston

Planning & Development Agency's) over the next several weeks. Caridad reported next steps including conversations, analysis on compliance with BPDA Design Use Standards, and integration of all feedback received.

SPECIAL NOTE

The Climate Ready Downtown Boston study was originally on the October WDC agenda but was moved to the November meeting.

OCTOBER MEETING DETAILS

View the full meeting [by clicking here](#). Use password: **pgEnBku\$**. | Meeting minutes by Steve Vilkas

The WDC Members went into Executive Session to vote on a letter of support to the Boston Licensing Board for the 188 High Street Pod Hotel concept of 200 pods in place of the already approved 50 bedroom concept. The proposed plan generated concerns. While members liked the idea of a low-cost hotel in the area, the scale and density of what is being proposed is completely out of proportion with the neighborhood. The majority of the members voted for a letter of nonsupport.