

About The Project

The Climate Ready Boston team is launching a citywide heat resilience planning process to prepare the City of Boston for the impacts of climate change, specifically related to increases in extreme heat (summertime temperatures that are much hotter/humid than average) and heat risk (negative health impacts related to heat exposure). This process will include city-wide strategies, with a focus on five neighborhoods across the city: Roxbury, Dorchester, Mattapan, Chinatown, and East Boston. Through this process we hope to work alongside communities to develop solutions that help the City's people, infrastructure, and natural resources thrive in the face of climate change. Visit the City's website to learn more about how we are preparing for extreme heat.

Purpose of the Community Advisory Boards (CAB)

For this planning process, the City is seeking applications for a Community Advisory Board (CAB) that will help guide our heat resilience planning across the City. CAB members will be key partners in shaping an inclusive planning and design process. In collaboration with the CAB, we hope to create a plan that represents community-supported values and objectives and that can be carried forward to implementation to reduce heat risk in all neighborhoods.

For the CAB, we are looking for active participation from community members who reflect the variety of backgrounds, interests, lived experiences, and expertise found in Boston. We welcome **all** applications. **We especially encourage applications from those who have not been involved in previous planning processes, but welcome those who have participated or are currently participating in advisory groups for other City plans.** Please note that we have a limited number of seats on the CAB, so we will optimize for diversity and inclusive representation.

Our Commitment to the CAB

As facilitators of the planning process and the CAB meetings, we commit to creating a safe and inclusive space for representatives from the City to contribute to this process. Through the CAB, we seek genuine collaboration and partnership and are dedicated to maintaining clear, transparent communication. The planning and design team is committed to engaging with the feedback provided by the CAB members in shaping the planning process and the design and planning strategies included in the final plan.

Goals of the CAB

- The CAB will collaborate with the project team. Some goals of CAB member engagement include, but are not limited to:
- Provide a lived-experience perspective and personal knowledge related to the social, economic, and cultural impacts of climate change

- Ensure that community priorities are reflected throughout the planning and design process by helping to create an effective, inclusive engagement process and identifying barriers to public feedback
- Help develop and maintain transparency about the planning process within the broader community
- Help honor past work and people's time investments by flagging duplication of efforts from prior and ongoing plans and by highlighting feedback from prior plans that can inform this new project
- Inform and help refine the planning process in the interest of representing the diverse perspectives of the entire City of Boston community
- Carry forward the knowledge of the planning process beyond the plan document to support achieving community goals during future implementation

Roles and Responsibilities

- Participation in two open houses
- Participation in five Community Advisory Board meetings
- Identify "community ambassador" touch points and share them with the broader CAB. These touch points will help extend opportunities for engagement beyond the CAB meetings and open houses.
- Share existing resources with other members of the community

Time Commitment and Term of Service

- CAB members will receive monetary compensation
- CAB will begin in early Spring and continue through Fall 2021
- There will be five meetings (around 2 hours each). The time and date of the meetings will be determined by members' availability.
- Time commitment: 20-30 hours. This will include meetings and other projects and activities.