

Cambridge Committee on Public Planting

Date: Wed Nov 17, 2021

Time: 5:30-7:00pm

Location: conducted via Zoom

CPP Members in Attendance:

Maggie Booz, Sophia Emperador, Ellen Coppinger, Joan Krizack, Cynthia Smith, Sandra Fairbank, Ruth Leotterle, Sara Cohen, Ahron Lerman, Cindy Carpenter, Chantal Eide, Paula Cortes, Vinita Bhaskar, Tracy Orr

City Staff in Attendance: John Nardone, Kevin Beuttell, Andrew Putnam, Abby Bentley, Kate Riley, Erik Thorkildsen

Others in Attendance:

Erick Grunebaum & Suzanna Schell of Friends of Jerry's Pond

Meeting notes submitted by: Tracy Orr

AGENDA #1: Presentation of Friend's of Jerry's Pond (FoJP) Rejuvenation Presentation

Friends of Jerry's Pond proposes a nature based regeneration plan Eric's presentation shared with CPP via email

- History of Jerry's Pond
- Envision for Reshaping and Filling at Rindge Ave side
- New Trees planned in FoJPs plan: 150-175 approximated
- Alternative rehabilitation plan proposed by developer (IQHQ) includes fewer trees and less space for pedestrian/bicycle pathways

Question #1 from CPP - pollution/contamination levels of the pit/pond.

Response by Eric Grunebaum - lots of results on water and soil area tests how "low contamination"

Question #2 from CPP – clarification of wetlands status

Response by E. Grunebaum – still needs to be resolved, but verbal communication says it's not technically a wetland at the pond's edge

Question #3 from CPP – will water access be restricted to dogs/people

Response - yes plan for low 4' metal fence at edge

Question #4 from CPP - who will pay for it?

Response – IQHQ has proposal to build just the boardwalk; difference in cost between IQHQ's proposal and FoJP's proposal is 5-7 million; FoJP hopes city will make up the difference

Comment #5 from CPP – concern with permitting and fundraising

Response – IQHQ gave FoJP 1 yer to get financing and ducks in a row

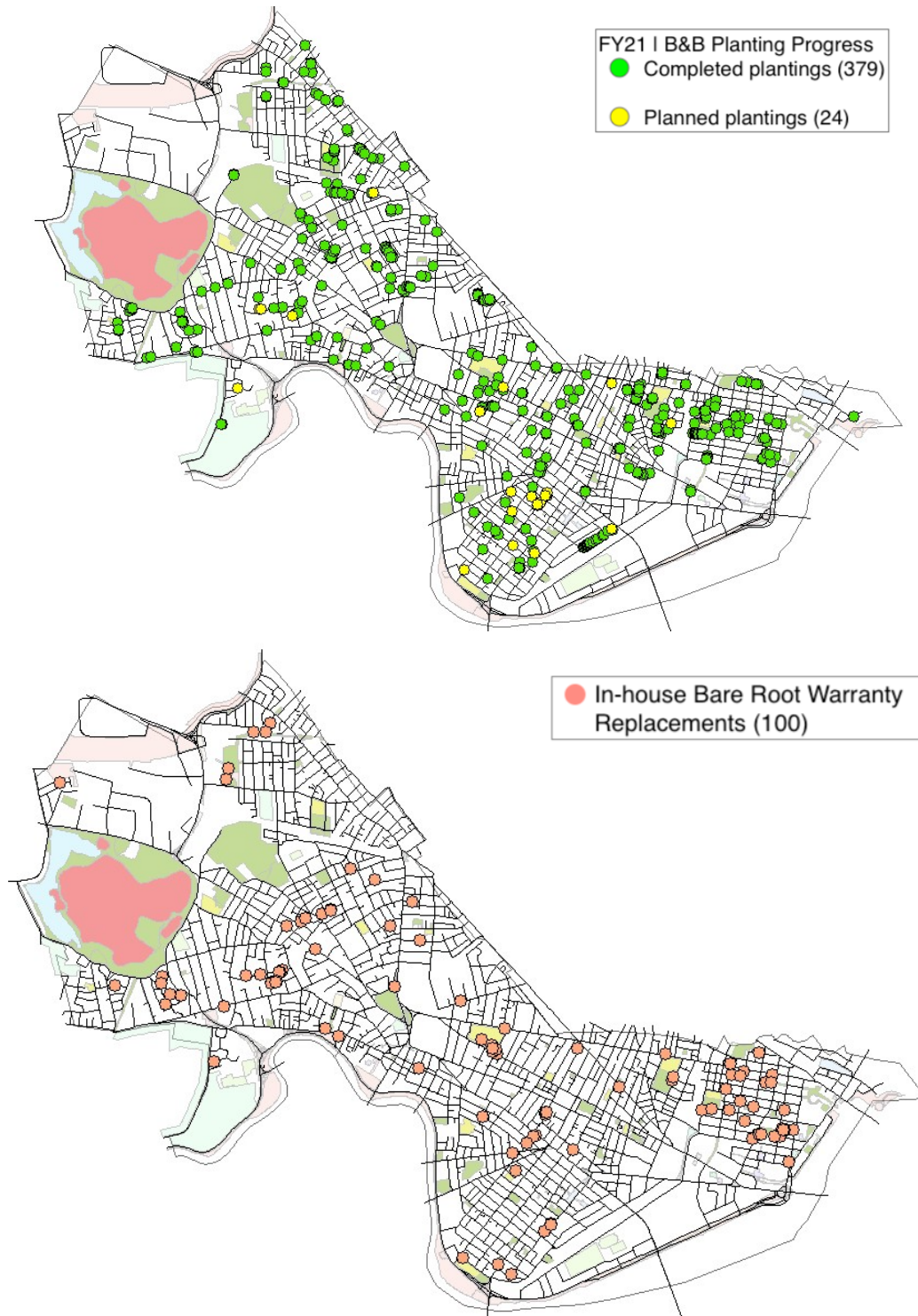
Comment #6 from CPP – concern that proposed bike lanes will fit with existing city bike lanes

Comment #7 from CPP – vision & plan applauded, vouches for Mass Audubon’s letter of support to FoJP that impact on birds will not be negative

Action Item: IQHQ plans to with Mass Audubon to have staffed site with information available to public

AGENDA #2 - Updates from City Arborists

Abby: 379 of 421 (target) autumn B&B trees planted by contractors



Microforest installations under way at following sites:

1. Pemberton /Haskell St – complete – 16 new trees
2. Lincoln & Windsor Streets – complete – 12 new trees
3. Broadway – not started – 15 trees planned

In house crews start replacing failed trees (approx. 100) after microforests complete

CPP Comment #1 – difference between Miyawaki Forest and microforest

Arborists Response - difference in width/density and plant species selection

Action Items: none



AGENDA #3

Update from Erick Thorkildsen

1. Walden Affordable Housing Overlay Project: will likely redesign because developers got lots of pushback from the community
2. PB 385 Fawcett Street – paved industrial site will be developed – plan includes more trees than currently exist
3. MIT's SOMA building demolition and redevelopment – “some” large mature trees will be saved, additional trees planned, net increase of trees is proposed

AGENDA #4: - Update from CPP subcommittees

1. Governance and Communications:
 - a. Generating template for CPP response to projects
 - b. Generating template for CPP meeting notes
 - c. Generating goals for G&C subcommittee
2. Outreach:
 - a. Idea generation for outreach efforts
 - b. Met with Kate Riley about wishlist and previous outreach efforts
3. Zoning:
 - a. Identified ordinance issues that CPP would like to see amended
 - b. Create mission/charge statement for zoning subcommittee CPP's next meeting scheduled for Dec 8th