

Statement of Principles

The Emerald Necklace Conservancy

The mission of the Emerald Necklace Conservancy is to restore and improve the Emerald Necklace for all.

The Conservancy connects people and parks and conserves the Emerald Necklace through projects and programs that enrich the visitor experience and restore and renew the landscape, waterways and parkways. To steward the Emerald Necklace's 1,100 acres of parkland extending from Boston's Back Bay through Brookline and Jamaica Plain to Franklin Park in Dorchester, the Conservancy collaborates with its partners on advocacy, maintenance and restoration, education and access and promoting park stewardship through volunteer and youth programs.

A once-in-lifetime opportunity: the right community services and needed housing in the right location, and an opportunity to restore parkland to Franklin Park, a high growth area in a high-needs community.

Background/Site History

- The Shattuck Hospital was built on "Heathfield", originally designed as a large meadow with shade trees, after 13 acres of parkland were transferred from the City of Boston to the Commonwealth for the purpose of building a hospital in 1949.
- The Shattuck Hospital building has now reached the end of its useful life and is slated for demolition by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Most services are planned to relocate to the Newton Pavilion at Boston Medical Center in the South End. At the Shattuck site, HHS plans to build 75-100 units of housing for the formerly unhoused, along with a recovery and supportive services.
- Franklin Park has been a key open space for neighboring communities, providing a gathering

The Commonwealth's Nearby Arborway Yards: Superior alternate location in proximity to public transportation

The 18-acre site is the largest underdeveloped area along the Emerald Necklace, offering space to provide the many requirements requested by the MBTA, the City of Boston, the community and HHS, including:

- 8 acres for community services, residential units, and affordable housing (as required by the 2001 MOU between the MBTA and the City of Boston).
- Mental health and addiction rehabilitation services and 75-100 units of housing for the formerly unhoused.
- Sufficient space for the MBTA to meet its bus related needs, including room for an electric bus facility and charging station.



Emerald Necklace

space for events, as well as a welcome respite from city life.

- Mixed-use services and recreational greenspace adjacent to public transportation.

Connecting People and Parks and Conse

CHARLESGATE PARK • BACK BAY FENS • RIVERWAY • OLMSTED PARK • JAMAICA POND • ARNOLD ARBORETUM • FRANKLIN PARK

- The agency has not evaluated alternative options or sites for services not moving to the South End.
- The Emerald Necklace Conservancy and a consortium of other groups and stakeholders have been working with Northeastern to explore a superior nearby site, also largely under the control of the Commonwealth.
- Supportive services and housing for the formally homeless adjacent to the Forest Hills T stop and public transportation. These services must be easily accessible to public transportation and fully integrated in the community, not isolated from essential community services.

We, the undersigned, support the following:

1. Returning and restoring the Shattuck Hospital site to public parkland
2. Building the proposed services and supportive housing in a less isolated setting, integrated into the community. The Arborway Yard site provides direct access to public transit, neighborhood amenities and job opportunities.
3. The 18-acre Arborway Yard site presents an opportunity to better accommodate all the populations that it will serve and fulfill prior commitments, including affordable housing and an environmentally friendly bus facility.

Organizations

Arborway Coalition

ArborwayMatters

Boston Food Forest Coalition

Brookline GreenSpace Alliance

City Parks Alliance

Charlesgate Alliance

Emerald Necklace Conservancy

Fiduciary Wealth Partners

Franklin Park Tennis Association

Fenway Garden Society

Friends of Post Office

Square

Friends of Ramler Park

Garrison Trotter

Neighborhood Association

Massachusetts

Conservation Voters

Muddy Water Initiative

National Association for

Olmsted Parks

OLMSTED 2022

Speak for the Trees

Trustees Collaborative for

Parks and Open Space

Jamaica Hills Association

The Trust for Public Land

Zoo New England's Franklin

Park Zoo

Individuals

A.A. Levee
Abraham Landau
Adam Forkner
Alan Banks
Alex Guriev
Alexi Conine
Alida C. Silverman
Andrew Gross Gaitan
Anita Ruthling Klaussen
Ann and Jim Stillman
Ann Stillman
Anne Lusk, Ph.D.
Anne Neal Petri
Arlene Mattison
Beatrice Nessen
Ben Taylor
Beth Worell
Betsy Ridge Madsen
Betsy Shure Gross
Bill Walczak
Bonnie Thryselius
Brittany Gravely
Brooke Chamberlain Cook
Carroll M. Williamson
Celeste Walker
Chris Knight
Chuck Anastas
Clayton Harper
Daniel Verinder
David Holzman
David Meshoulam
Dede Petri
Deirdre Rogers

Diane Pacitto
Diane Pierce-Williams
Diane Valle
Diane Valle
Dorothy Pazin
Edward Burke
Edward W. Campion, MD
Eliza Parad
Elizabeth Craig-Olins
ellen Forrester
Emily Jacobsen
Emily Wheeler
Erica Holm
Faith Girdler
Faith Girdler
Fredericka Veikley
Genevieve Day
Hassan Makkeh
Hugh Mattison
Isabel M Shattuck
James K. Cornell
James Maguire
Jason Mogel
Jean Krasnow
Jean Krasnow
Jeannine Laing
Jeff Cook
Jeffrey Kaufman
Jennifer Bosworth
Jennifer Uhrhane
Jeremy Fischer
JoAnn Robinson
Joe Orfant

John C. Gill
John D. Lee
John Iappini
John Linehan
John P. Iappini
John P. Iappini
Josh Rosenblatt
Judith Dillman
Juie Waterman
Julia O'Brien
Julie Lucier
Kay Mathew
Kelly Boling
Kelly O'Keefe
Linda Freeman
Linda Freeman
Lisa Vaas
Lorraine Payne Wheeler
Louis Bailey
Louis Elisa
Luis Prado
Margaret Pokorny
Marjorie Foley Hanson
Marjorie Foley Hanson
Marilyn Ray-Smith
Marjorie Greville
Martha Karchere
Mary Hickie
Pam Kohlberg
Rob Radloff
Samuel Plimpton
Susan White
Yvonne Lalyre