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-a-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 place.

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.
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  Franklin Park Tennis Association  OLMSTED 2022
ArborwayMatters  Fenway Garden Society  Speak for the Trees
Authentic Caribbean Foundation  Friends of Post Office Square  Trustees Collaborative for
Boston Food Forest Coalition  Friends of Ramler Park  Parks and Open Space
Brookline GreenSpace Alliance  Garrison Trotter Neighborhood Association  The Trust for Public Land
City Parks Alliance  Jamaica Hills Association  USA Track & Field – New England
Charlesgate Alliance  Massachusetts Conservation Voters  Zoo New England’s Franklin Park Zoo
Emerald Necklace Conservancy  Muddy Water Initiative
Fiduciary Wealth Partners  National Association for Olmsted Parks

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

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.

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

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

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
Frederick Vetterlein
Fredericka Veikley
Genevieve Day
Governor Michael Dukakis
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 Piezak
Jennifer Uhrhane
Jeremy Fischer
Jim Stillman
JoAnn Robinson
Joe Orfant
John C. Gill
John Iappini
John D. Lee
John Linehan
John Yaecker

Joseph Bowers
Josh Rosenblatt
Judith Dillman
Julie Waterman
Julia Africa
Julia O'Brien
Julie Lucier
Kay Mathew
Kelly Bolding
Kelly O'Keefe
Linda Freeman
Lisa Vaas
Lorraine Payne Wheeler
Louis Bailey
Louis Elisa
Luis Prado
Marcia Peters
Margaret Pokorny
Marjorie Foley Hanson
Marilyn Ray-Smith
Marjorie Greville
Martha Karchere
Mary Hickie
Mary Burchenal
Maureen Driscoll
Michael Leidig
Pam Kohlberg
Rob Radloff
Robert W. Wright
Rosemary Jones
Samuel Plimpton
Stephen Vaitones
Susan White
Suzanne B. McCance
Teresa Schreitmueller
William Malloy
Yvonne Lalyre