



THE ROXBURY STRATEGIC MASTER PLAN OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE INTRODUCES NEW ONLINE RESOURCE “OPPORTUNITY ROXBURY” TO COMMUNITY

September 4, 2014, Boston, MA – The Roxbury Strategic Master Plan Oversight Committee (RSMPOC) announced today the launch of a new website designed to provide updates on development in Roxbury. The purpose of the site is to better ensure the community is informed of the committee’s work and to encourage community and resident engagement.

Called “Opportunity Roxbury” (www.opportunityroxbury.com), the site provides information about current and future development in Roxbury, committee meeting schedules and minutes, job opportunities, resources for the community, and a page to gather public input.

“We are extremely excited that through [Opportunity Roxbury](http://www.opportunityroxbury.com) we can now provide more detailed information to the community,” says Darnell Williams, Chairman of RSMPOC. “We want our relationship with the community to be a two-way street where we can deliver information, but also get more input. This makes a stronger community.”

Celebrating the 10 year anniversary of its creation in 2004, the [Roxbury Strategic Master Plan](#) was completed after a three-year partnership between community members and organizations and city and elected officials. The first community-wide public workshop was held in February 2000, when the Boston Redevelopment Authority (BRA) encouraged Roxbury residents to participate in the development of their own community by instituting a planning process centered on community participation. The goal was to create a community-based plan that would guide future policies and development, while building upon Roxbury’s existing assets and rejuvenating the area economically, physically and socially. Opportunity Roxbury is a reflection of these goals and aims to advance transparency and communication related to projects in the neighborhood.

“We are thrilled to have worked with the Oversight Committee in building the website. We hope that this site will be a valuable tool for the community,” Ronnie Seeney said, an associate at [The American City Coalition \(TACC\)](#).

About RSMPOC:

Today the RSMPOC provides a forum and a process for community input to be incorporated into the most crucial projects in Roxbury. RSMPOC is a [15-member](#) mayor-appointed committee that operates in collaboration with elected officials, the Roxbury Neighborhood Council (RNC), the [BRA](#), city and state agencies, and other stakeholders to ensure all public and private development is in accordance with the Master Plan. The duties and responsibilities of the committee include proposing land use programs, disposition of public parcels, coordinating public participation and feedback, reviewing RFPs, creating sub-committees, setting benchmarks, reviewing zoning, public outreach and communication and coordinating with existing neighborhood review committees. Visit Opportunity Roxbury at www.opportunityroxbury.com

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