



QUARTERLY UPDATE - WINTER 2015



Neighborhood Strategy for Whittier Choice Neighborhood Transformation Plan:
Reclaiming intersections along Ruggles Street in Boston's Lower Roxbury neighborhood.

Message from Neil McCullagh
Executive Director of The American City Coalition - TACC

While it is still only January, 2015 has already brought with it some great new projects and interesting changes.

In recognition of the broad public benefit of TACC's work and the role of our strong and expanding board of directors, I am pleased to report that on January 1 TACC was designated as a public charity by the IRS. Since its founding in 1994, TACC has operated as a private foundation, allowing the organization to define and refine its mission and expertise; this shift in tax status to a

public charity best reflects the organization's current strategy and structure, including the direct impact of TACC's work on residents of underserved neighborhoods and independent management through our board of directors. In the coming year, TACC will also be cultivating a more diverse funding stream. Below, you can read more about this important transition.

I also want to share the news that in 2015 I will start another project, serving as the inaugural director of the [Joseph E. Corcoran Center for Real Estate and Urban Action](#) at the Carroll School of Management at Boston College, where I have been teaching for the past several years. I will continue to serve as TACC's executive director, dividing my time between the two positions, but not my purpose. At the Corcoran Center, there is an exciting opportunity to work with outstanding faculty and students on the emerging discipline of revitalizing neighborhoods through a multi-sector approach. I look forward to supporting scholarship and critical dialogue on the field and helping to mint another generation of thoughtful and successful real estate developers who understand the importance of partnering closely with communities.

Thank you for your continued support and interest in TACC's work. In this update, you will find information on our current projects, including an exciting new partnership with Historic Boston Incorporated and the Bowdoin Bike School to support the restoration and adaptive re-use of a distressed public building in Boston's Upham's Corner neighborhood into The Bike Kitchen, a mission-driven bike shop and café.

I wish you a Happy New Year and hope, as always, you will be in touch with thoughts and recommendations for TACC's work.

Warm Regards,



Neil McCullagh

From Our Community to Yours: An Update on TACC'S Work

WHITTIER CHOICE NEIGHBORHOOD TRANSFORMATION PLAN: CONTRIBUTING WITH STRATEGIES FOR PEOPLE AND NEIGHBORHOOD

In October, the Boston Housing Authority (BHA) submitted the [Whittier Choice Neighborhood Transformation Plan](#) to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. This thoughtful and competitive plan will transform the Whittier Street public housing development and the surrounding section of Roxbury into a neighborhood with mixed-income housing and greater economic opportunity for residents. TACC provided technical assistance to the BHA on two components of this Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grant: the people strategy and the neighborhood strategy. TACC's contribution to the strategy for people focuses on increasing family upward mobility; TACC assessed residents' needs and then identified a high-quality service provider to supply mobility mentoring to adult residents (page 6-8, Transformation Plan). TACC's strategy for the neighborhood includes The Roxbury Loop, an upstream planning intervention that promotes health, culture, and safety in the neighborhood (page 4-7, Transformation Plan). Read more about the transformation plan on our [blog](#).

AGING IN PLACE: BUILDING A SUPPORTIVE HOUSING MODEL FOR OLDER RESIDENTS

Working with [Madison Park Development Corporation](#), TACC is designing and conducting a senior needs and assets assessment to better understand the unique needs of the 300 older adults (age 55 and older) living in the Madison Park Village community in Boston's Roxbury neighborhood. The data collected from surveys, interviews, and focus groups will be used to evaluate existing services and inform strategies for developing an enhanced supportive housing and services model for residents aging in place in the community. The assessment will also be integrated into the Whittier Street Choice Neighborhood planning process, providing baseline information on the housing, health, employment, and community needs of this older group of residents.

THE BIKE KITCHEN: REPURPOSING A NEIGHBORHOOD ASSET IN UPHAM'S CORNER

TACC is supporting [Historic Boston Incorporated](#) and Noah Hicks, founder of the [Bowdoin Bike School](#), in the proposed redevelopment of the 1912 Upham's Corner Comfort Station into The Bike Kitchen, a full-service bicycle shop and café. The disposition process is underway for the city-owned historic building. TACC has worked to ensure that the project aligns with community preferences, creates short- and long-term employment opportunities for the community, and supports and advances Hicks' mission-orientated business. Please take a minute to read about The Bike Kitchen in [The Bay State Banner](#) and view the [project summary and renderings](#).

THE JOSEPH E. CORCORAN CENTER FOR REAL ESTATE AND URBAN ACTION: MCCULLAGH APPOINTED INAUGURAL DIRECTOR

Neil McCullagh was appointed the inaugural director of the [Corcoran Center for Real Estate and Urban Action](#) at Boston College; this new position complements his role at TACC, where he will continue to serve as the executive director. At Boston College, Neil will focus on student engagement, curriculum development and support, a speaking program for practitioners, and community outreach. Through internships and academic coursework that connect students with real world experiences and examples, students will learn about how multi-sector collaboration and thoughtful real estate development can be an agent of positive transformation. Read more in [The Boston Globe](#).

CHANGE OF STATUS: TACC IS NOW A PUBLIC CHARITY

On January 1, 2015, the IRS designated TACC as a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit public charity. Since 1994, TACC has operated as a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit private foundation; this new status better reflects the broad public benefit of TACC's work as well as the organization's independent management through a strong and growing board of directors. We are confident TACC will flourish in this new status and welcome the expanded partnerships and funding opportunities this status will support. Please visit TACC's nonprofit profile on [The Giving Common](#) at The Boston Foundation.

NEW OFFICE: MOVING TO DUDLEY SQUARE, A REFLECTION OF TACC'S COMMITMENT TO THE COMMUNITY

In the coming weeks, TACC will move our offices to 2136 Washington Street in the heart of Roxbury's Dudley Square. We are excited to be part of this dynamic neighborhood and closer to the people and projects that drive our work. Designed by the architectural firm [Utile](#), this new location features a space for community use that we hope will serve as a valuable asset to our new neighbors. Look for an invitation this spring, when we will host an

open house for our friends and supporters in the new space.



Copyright © 2015 The American City Coalition, All rights reserved.

You are receiving this message because you expressed an interest in hearing about the work of The American City Coalition either via their website (www.tamcc.org) or by signing up at an event.

Our mailing address is:

The American City Coalition
150 Mount Vernon Street, Suite 500
Boston, MA 02125

[Add us to your address book](#)

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

