



# CITY COUNCIL

## ROUNDTABLE/WORKING MEETING

~ MINUTES ~

Monday, October 23, 2023

3:00 PM

Sullivan Chamber

**Roundtable/Working City Council Meeting to receive an update from the City Manager, relevant departments, and community partners on Central Square**

Attendee Name	Present	Absent	Late	Arrived
Burhan Azeem	<input type="checkbox"/> Remote	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3:05 PM
Dennis J. Carlone	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Alanna Mallon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Marc C. McGovern	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Patricia Nolan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
E. Denise Simmons	<input type="checkbox"/> Remote	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3:05 PM
Paul F. Toner	<input type="checkbox"/> Remote	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3:10 PM
Quinton Zondervan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sumbul Siddiqui	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

**A communication was received from City Manager Yi-An Huang, transmitting the Agenda for October 23, 2023, City Council Roundtable/Working Meeting.**

**RESULT: PLACED ON FILE**

**A communication was received from City Manager Yi-An Huang, transmitting a presentation titled Central Square Roundtable.**

**RESULT: PLACED ON FILE**

**MINUTES OF THE CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL  
ROUNDTABLE/WORKNG MEETING**

**Monday, October 23, 2023**

A roundtable/working meeting of the Cambridge City Council was held on Monday, October 23, 2023. The meeting was called to order at approximately 3:02 p.m. by the Honorable Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui. Pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, adopted by Massachusetts General Court and approved by the Governor, this meeting was hybrid allowing Councillors and presenters to participate in person or by Zoom.

**The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui called the meeting to order and asked the Clerk to call the roll.  
City Clerk LeBlanc called the roll.**

Councillor Azeem – Absent\*

Councillor Carbone – Present/In Chamber

Vice Mayor Mallon – Present/In Chamber

Councillor McGovern – Present/In Chamber

Councillor Nolan – Present/In Chamber

Councillor Simmons – Absent\*

Councillor Toner – Absent\*

Councillor Zondervan – Present/In Chamber

Mayor Siddiqui – Present/In Chamber

**Present – 6, Absent – 3. Quorum established.**

\*Councillor Simmons and Councillor Azeem joined at 3:05 p.m. Councillor Toner joined at 3:10 p.m. Councillor Azeem, Councillor Simmons and Councillor Toner were remote.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui noted that the purpose of the meeting is to receive an update from the City Manager, relevant departments, and community partners on Central Square. The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui also noted that Pursuant to City Council Rule 24 C2, there shall be no public comment, that written comments will be accepted and made part of the record of the roundtable meeting and the opportunity for the public to make oral comments on items discussed at this meeting shall be at the regular meeting at which the item may be considered for action by the City Council. The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui stated that after the presentation, Councillors would each be afforded the opportunity to ask two questions to ensure that all Councillors had time to speak.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized City Manager Huang who acknowledged the City team and City partners who work together on matters related to Central Square. City Manager Huang began the presentation noting that Central Square is a key hub at the heart of the City. City Manager Huang noted some of the challenges including quality of life concerns and providing support to the unhoused community. City Manager Huang commented on the presentation framework noting it would cover three main areas: Public Safety, Social Services, and Public Space Activation.

City Manager Huang turned the presentation over to Commissioner Elow who noted that they are a data driven department and that tracking crime data in Central Square has seen an uptick in certain types of crimes. Dr. Jamie Barrett spoke on the Department's response to serving individuals who need case management help and provided examples of how they are helping in

various situations including providing transportation for those needing to get to a treatment facility and providing them with the items they need. Deputy Steven Magalhaes also provided an update on the City's work with Target to address the uptick in shoplifting. Commissioner Elow noted that arrest is used as one of many tools when needed. Commissioner Elow also noted that there have been over 7000 outreaches in Central Square since the beginning of the year.

Assistant City Manager Ellen Semonoff presented on the City's social services work and highlighted efforts to stabilize the City's emergency shelter capacity, efforts to expand permanent supportive housing, enhancing supportive services and reducing harm and preventing overdoses. Elizabeth Mengers noted that in 2023, the City stepped up to preserve 100 emergency shelter beds for homeless individuals. The team reviewed how Cambridge compares to other municipalities and noted the work that they have been able to do with ARPA funding including helping 173 households to move from homeless situations and to stable housing.

The team covered medical street outreach as an example of partnering with community organizations to address community needs.

Mark McGovern, Health Care for the Homeless, spoke to the number of individuals who have been served and the various types of health situations the street medical team assists with as well as the basic needs they are addressing for things like food, water, clothing, and toiletries.

Danielle McPeak, speaking on behalf of the Public Health Department, spoke on their efforts to reduce overdoses and reduce harm.

Public Space Activation – Melissa Peters covered programming and events design improvements and expanded uses and operations and maintenances. Melissa Peters stressed the importance of the City's partners. Melissa Peters highlighted the City's Dance Party, Play Street on Temple Street, Cambridge Arts River Festival, and several other programs and events, highlighted inclusive and welcoming spaces that encourage spontaneous play. Michael Monestime, Central Square BID, covered efforts to encourage music in the square, support for the Cambridge Carnival, the many community events at Starlight Square, the CSQ Farmers Market, and support for Graffiti Alley. Melissa Peters spoke about the River Street and Carl Barron Plaza Redesign to encourage people to gather, about permanent outdoor dining, and looking at additional ways to support spaces that support the community.

Deputy DPW Commissioner John Nardone noted that they are trying to keep Central Square friendly and clean and acknowledged the benefit of the partnership with the BID. Deputy Nardone noted what DPW is doing including emptying trash bins seven days a week twice a day, street and sidewalk sweeping, providing needle drop boxes, and doing power washing. Deputy Nardone also spoke of efforts to improve lighting, and highlighted the wonderful work of the BID Ambassadors, work that often goes unseen.

Michael Monestime spoke about the “In Central I Can” campaign, focusing on from vacancy to vibrancy.

City Manager Huang thanked everyone for their hard work and putting the presentation together.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor McGovern who asked if there is a way to further breakdown the uptick in crime numbers and said he would like to hear more specifically about the support services that the City is offering. Councillor McGovern thanked Michael Monestime and the BID. Councillor McGovern shared his frustration that the City is still talking about better lighting, better signage, safe sidewalks, and that it is time to stop talking and take action to address these issues. Councillor McGovern said it is time to give people a place to store their belongings. Councillor McGovern recognized that the City is doing great things, but said we need to stop talking and provide direct action to meet the various needs that still exist that have been well defined for years.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Carbone who noted he agreed with Councillor McGovern and that this was an excellent presentation. Councillor Carbone said what he did not hear in the presentation was anything about urban design potential. Councillor Carbone said that for 10 years, he and Councillor McGovern have supported a daytime shelter, and this should be a priority as should addressing lighting. Councillor Carbone mentioned Vice Mayor Mallon’s suggestion of moving the Library to Central Square. Councillor Carbone noted the potential of integrating a development site to public space and encouraged all to look at an open space system. Councillor Carbone noted that at one time Central Square was a hub of retail, stating that the pieces are there but the vision is not.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Simmons who said thank you to the BID and Michael Monestime for their extraordinary work in support of the Central Square community. Councillor Simmons commented that she had hoped that others would be participating in the conversation including our seniors, our families and those who don’t feel safe going out in Central Square and participating in events. Councillor Simmons asked what can be done to change this and mentioned holiday lights, giving Starlight more of a footprint and funding Starlight, and creating senior specific programming to encourage them to come to Central Square. Councillor Simmons noted that Central Square needs an anchor and affordable commercial space. Councillor Simmons asked the City Manager for a short and long term plan and a commitment to fully staff the substation. City Manager Huang noted he and his team are committed to continuing the work and happy to present the Council with a more concrete plan. Commissioner Elow noted that the substation is staffed 24/7 and that tremendous resources have been dedicated to Central Square. Commissioner Elow spoke about the Department’s Senior Shopping Program where they take seniors to the Square to shop. Deputy Magalhaes also spoke on direct outreach to residents and seniors. Deputy Magalhaes highlighted that close to 40 residents attended the senior police academy and that every month they do a presentation at the Senior Center and allow seniors to discuss their concerns. Councillor Simmons thanked the team for their response and said we need to do more to let our seniors know about these programs.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Zondervan who said he appreciated the update and the great work happening in Central Square. Councillor Zondervan said we are overtaxing the Police Department and expressed that he hoped we can shift some of these things to the Community Safety Department and HEART, once they become operational. Councillor Zondervan said he shared Councillor McGovern's frustration with constantly talking about the issues and that he agreed with Councillor Simmons that we need a real action plan.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Toner who said he wanted to double down on what Councillor Simmons said regarding needing a real action plan. Councillor Toner noted that the policy order that passed a few weeks ago directed the City Manager and his team to look at what has already been studied and the recommendations that have been made in the past, but never acted upon. Councillor Toner said that he appreciates all the work that has been done by City staff and partners but also recognized the need to further address the concerns people have raised to Councillors over the years. Councillor Toner asked if the City was ready for when Boston shuts down encampments.

City Manager Huang reiterated that after considering what has been said at this meeting, he and his team will come up with a clear action plan and noted that there will be another Roundtable meeting on this topic in November. The City Manager spoke to the potential impact of Boston shutting down encampments. Commissioner Elow responded that her Department is ready and has added 4 additional outreach officers who will be out in Central Square and actively engaging with any newcomers.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Nolan who noted the many good points raised by other Councillors and that the City is doing exciting things in Central Square. Councillor Nolan further noted that many of the issues we are grappling with are regional issues and we should be reaching out to other communities and taking a regional approach, especially relative to substance addition and mental health issues. Councillor Nolan asked how all of what has been discussed in this meeting relates to the rest of the City and encouraged the City Manager and his team not to reinvent the wheel, but rather build on the studies and work that has been done.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillor Azeem, who thanked the City team and partners who have put a lot of love into Central Square and their hard work to make it a safe and inviting space. Councillor Azeem agreed with other Councillors that an action plan is needed and encouraged a reevaluation of the borders of Central Square and consideration of closing a block/streets to traffic so people can walk, encouraging night life and creating more fun places for people to go.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Vice Mayor Mallon who thanked everyone and asked about the public library. Vice Mayor Mallon noted that she was reviewing the C2 Report and although it is 10 years old, everything is in there. Vice Mayor Mallon said the City needs to get moving on what still needs to be done. Vice Mayor Mallon called for a real action plan noting we cannot wait another decade. Vice Mayor Mallon said she does not want to diminish the work that has been done but there should be a way to go through the C2 Report and determine how we will be directing our resources going forward. Vice Mayor Mallon highlighted the continued

critical need for activating spaces for teens to safely hang out, for creating space for seniors and improving lighting and sidewalks.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui thanked everyone for participating and noted that this conversation is not finished, and that she shares her colleague's concerns. Mayor Siddiqui noted that beyond the next Roundtable meeting, we need to find other opportunities to continue to have this conversation, to get answers and to better understand what the constraints are.

City Manager Huang commented that it is exciting to be talking about Central Square, and the opportunity for long term planning similar to the approach taken with Alewife.

**There being no further business, the Chair, Mayor Siddiqui adjourned the meeting at approximately 5:01 p.m.**

**Attachments:**

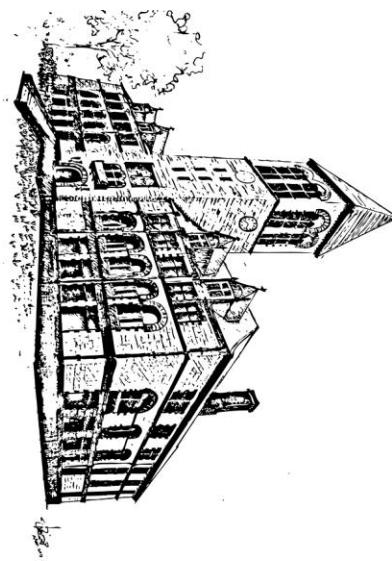
City Manager's Presentation

**Clerk's Note:** The City of Cambridge/22 City View records every City Council meeting and every City Council Committee meeting. It can be viewed at this link.

[https://cambridgema.granicus.com/player/clip/598?view\\_id=1&redirect=true&h=dd62683f4bad7ac411bf53276f1635ae](https://cambridgema.granicus.com/player/clip/598?view_id=1&redirect=true&h=dd62683f4bad7ac411bf53276f1635ae)

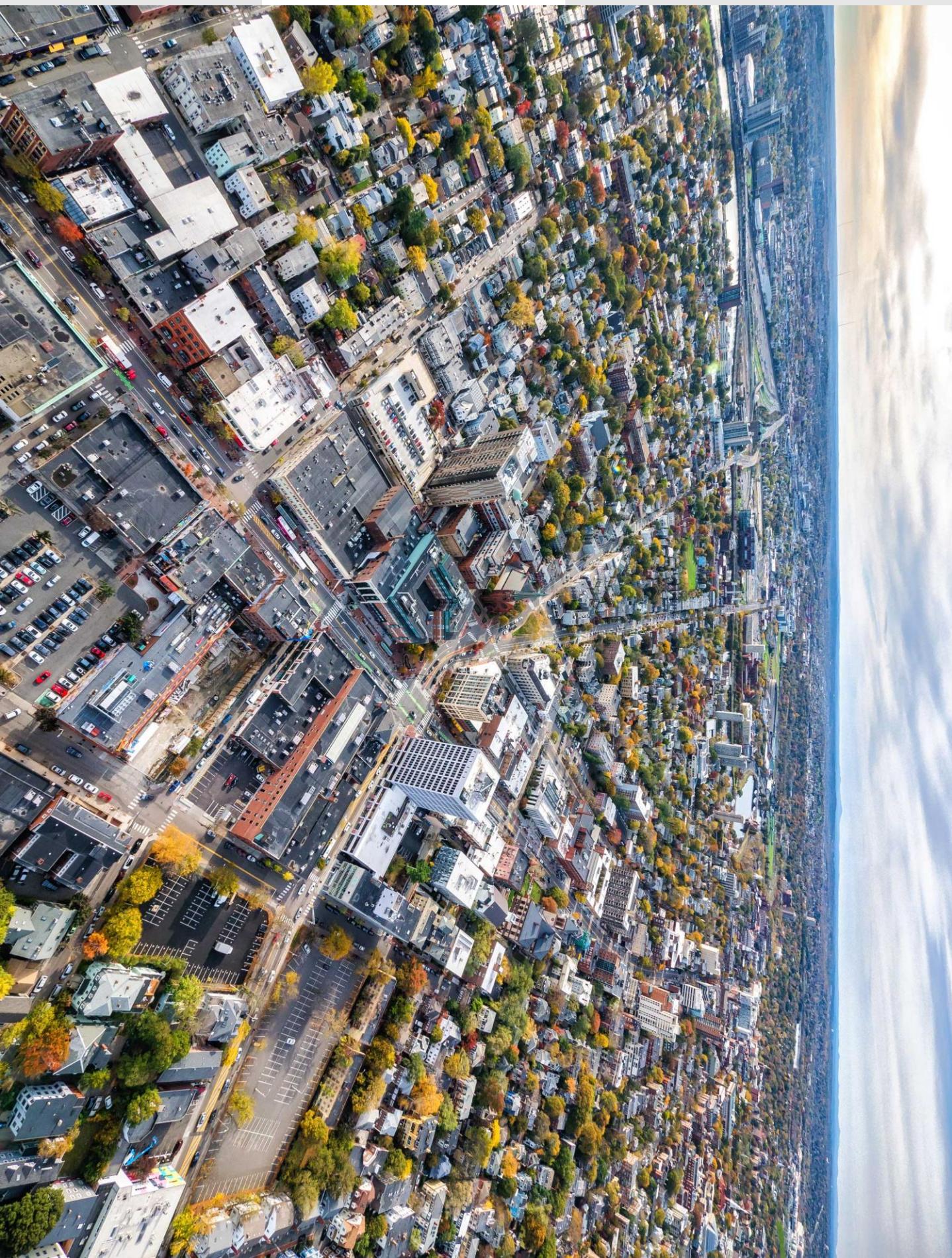


# Central Square Roundtable



**October 23, 2023**

Sullivan Chamber,  
Cambridge City Hall,  
795 Massachusetts Avenue

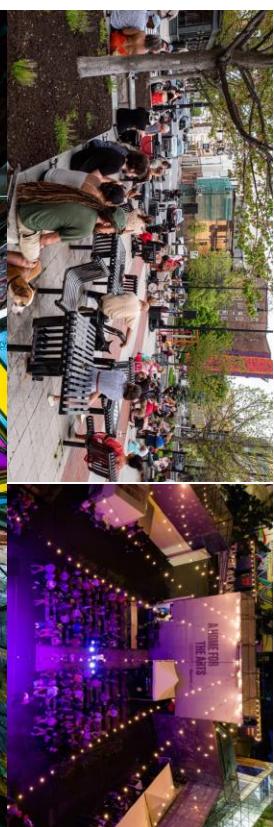
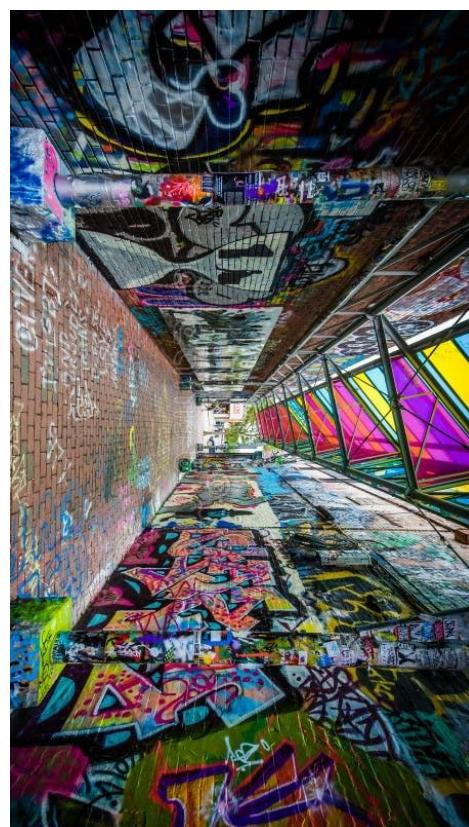


# Central Square is a key hub at the heart of our City

Only designated cultural district in the City

Nexus of many City services

... and shared spaces for all

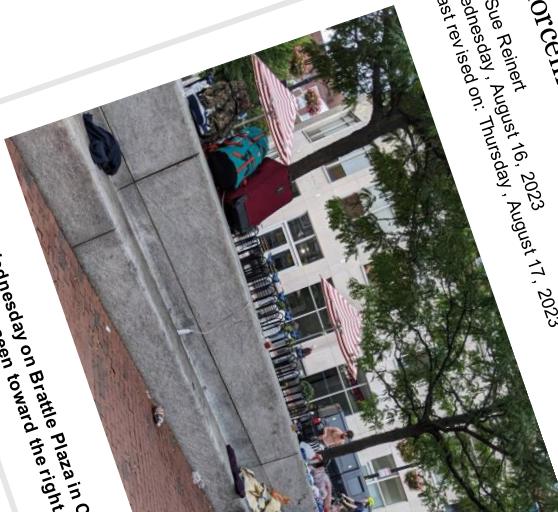


... However, it also has challenges, including addressing quality of life concerns and providing appropriate support to the unhoused community

## CAMBRIDGE DAY

[Home](#) | [News](#)  
Influx of homeless to Cambridge upsets business, law enforcement, raising tensions for business, law enforcement

By Sue Reiner  
Wednesday, August 16, 2023  
Last revised on: Thursday, August 17, 2023

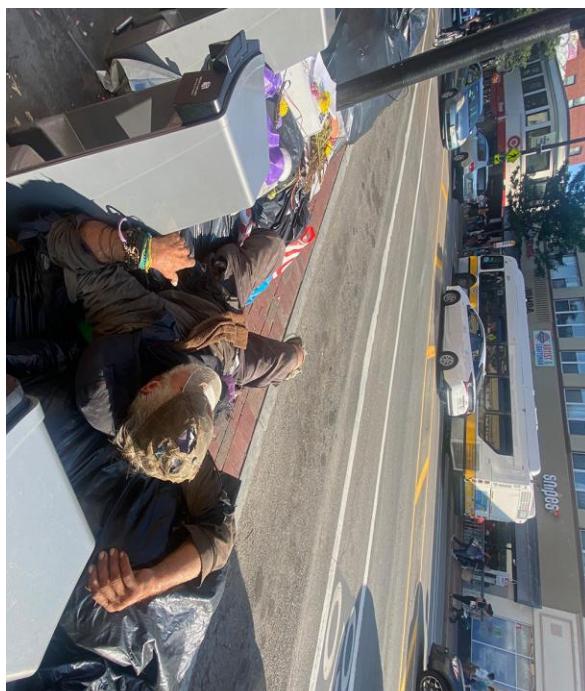


The scene Wednesday on Brattle Plaza in Cambridge's Central Square. John, 23, is seen toward the right.

## CAMBRIDGE DAY

[Home](#) | [News](#)  
Central Square turnaround must be a priority, starting where reports left off, councillors say

By Marc Levy  
Monday, September 25, 2023

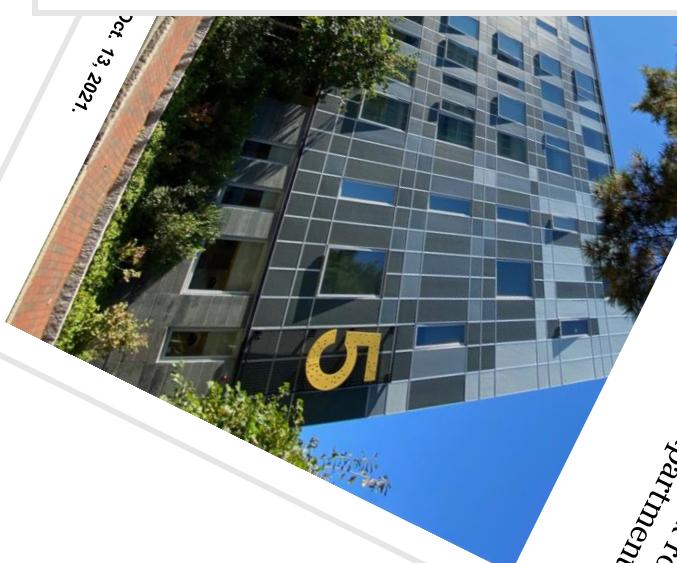


An unhoused man lounges on garbage bags on Sept. 1 in Cambridge's Central Square.

## CAMBRIDGE DAY

[Home](#) | [News](#)  
Police after chase found suspect in Central Square bank robbery

By Marc Levy  
Tuesday, September 26, 2023



26, 13, 2023.

# The City has cultivated a robust network of partnerships working across three areas to help Central Square unlock its full potential

DRAFT

1

## Public Safety

- Central Square remains a **key focus area for CPD outreach and patrols**
- Officers connect with 50-100 individuals a week, many unhoused, and offer services to all, **including a grant-based partnership on post-overdose outreach**
- CPD continues to partner with other departments and community organizations

2

## Social Services

- Stabilizing shelter capacity
- Expanding permanent supportive housing resources
- Continuing to enhance supportive services (e.g., First Step)
- Focusing on harm reduction and overdose prevention

3

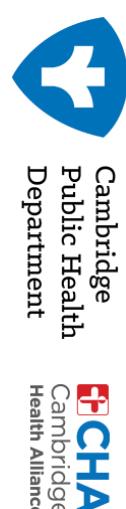
## Public Space Activation

- Providing a wide range of cultural activities through **programming and events**
- Enhancing public space through **design improvements and expanded uses**
- Maintaining a clean, safe, and inviting image with **operations and maintenance**



BAY COVE

HUMAN SERVICES



Cambridge  
Public Health  
Department

Cambridge  
Health Alliance



CARE

COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE  
RESPONSE & ENGAGEMENT  
TEAM

CAMBRIDGE | ARTS



Central Square  
Business Improvement District



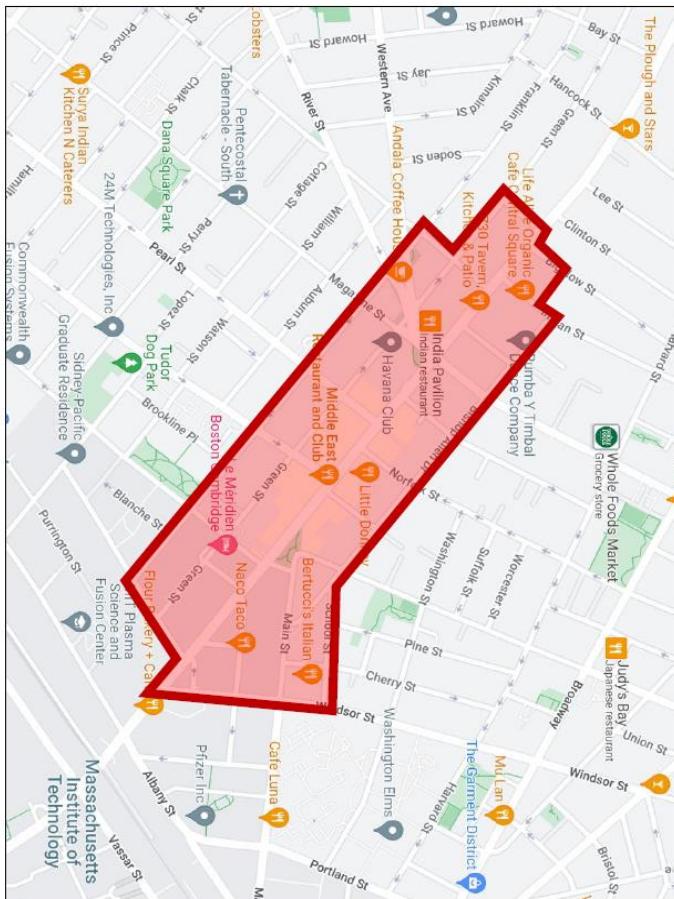
CAMBRIDGE  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC  
WORKS

344 Boundary

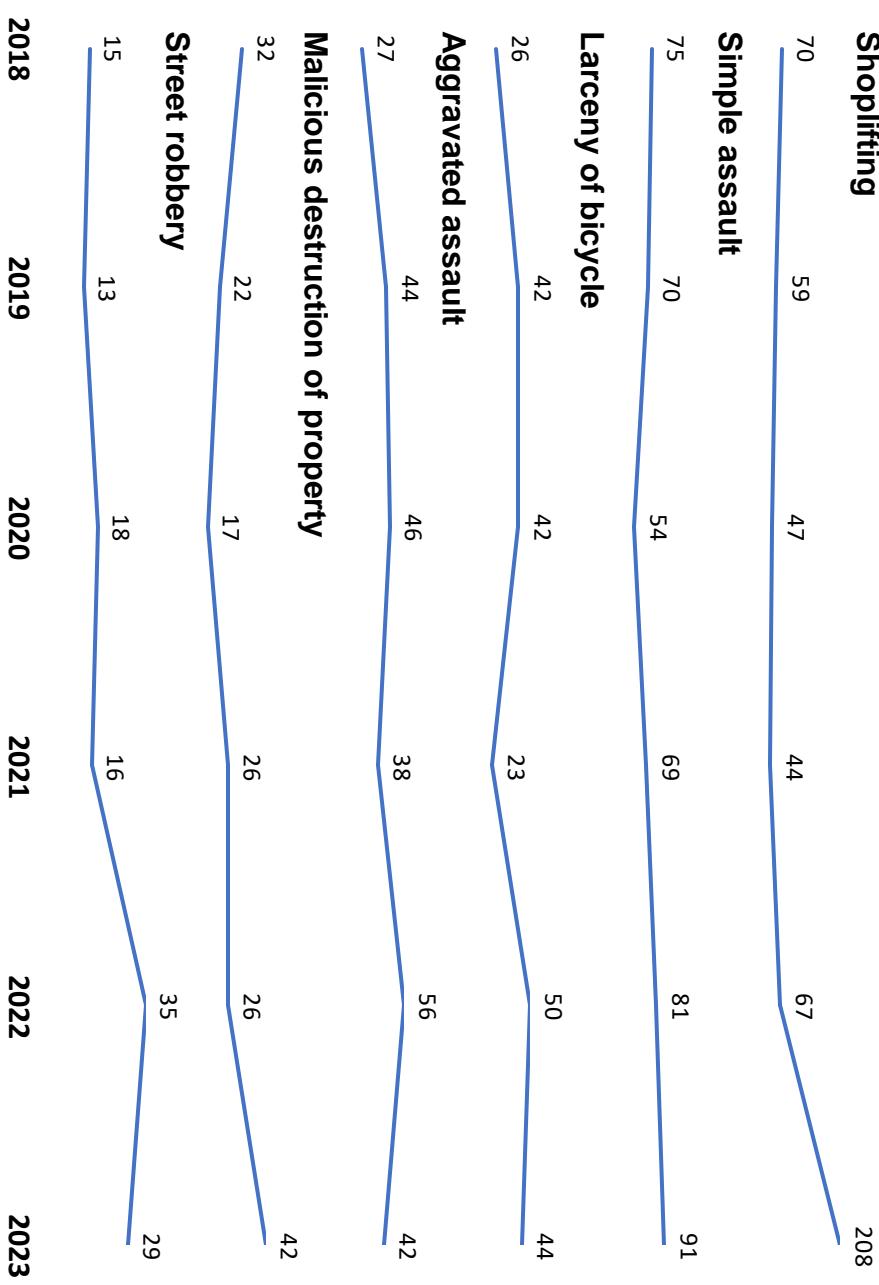


# The Cambridge Police Department (CPD) is tracking crime data in Central Square and has seen an uptick in certain crime types

**Using a narrow definition of Central Square (approximating the BID)...**

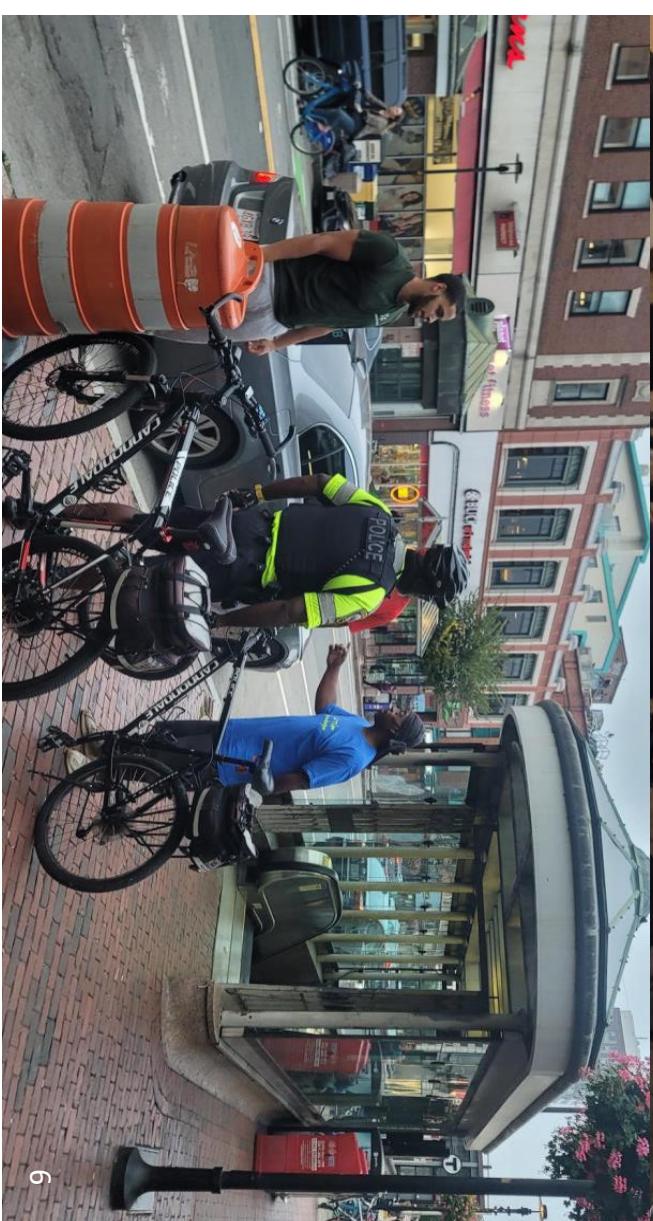


...crime has increased in Central though remains lower than historical high points



## Central Square is a key focus area for CPD patrol units

- Extensive visibility and data-driven work is being done within our Operations and Criminal Investigations Units
- High-impact patrols are also conducted during the day and night shifts, 7 days a week, in areas that have seen an increase in quality of life and disorder complaints
- Undercover officers are also deployed in the Squares to monitor and act on any criminal activity and develop intelligence on specific issues and places and refer individuals in need for follow-up
- These high impact patrols supplement foot patrol officers assigned to the Squares every shift (7 days a week) and officers are assigned to both Central and Harvard Square
- Strategically using Community Court arrest and summons process as a tool for people who are resistant to services and involved in petty crime



## 1. Public Safety

# Officers connect with 50-100 individuals a week, many unhoused, and offer services to all, including a grant-based partnership on post-overdose outreach

- Officers and staff are:
  - Seeking to locate and help any unhoused residents who may be in need of services
  - Looking to identify and mitigate any active substance use, drug transactions, abandoned property, and trespassing violations
  - On average officers are connecting with approximately 50-100 individuals a week, many unhoused, in these areas
  - All are offered services
  - Many accept a Cambridge Continuum of Care “Homeless Services Update” that helps locate and access temporary and longer-term shelter options, as well as showers, public toilets, food options, and more.
  - Food, water, blankets, and other needed items are also distributed, as available/when appropriate
  - Clinical support unit and social workers are central to response including getting records of unhoused sealed so people can get housing
  - Supported by a grant-based partnership with Access: Drug User Health Program on post-OD outreach



DRAFT

## DHSP and the Department of Public Health are working to stabilize emergency shelter capacity, expand permanent supportive housing, enhance supportive services, and reduce overdoses

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | <b>Stabilizing emergency shelter capacity</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Funding Salvation Army Emergency Shelter and daytime drop-in (\$1.3M)</li> <li>■ Continuing funding for seasonal Warming Center (\$475k/year)</li> <li>■ Extending lease and shelter services at Transitional Wellness Center (\$3M/year)</li> </ul>                         |
| 2 | <b>Expanding permanent supportive housing</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Emergency housing and mainstream vouchers</li> <li>■ Funding 6 FTE housing navigators/stabilization workers (\$3M)</li> <li>■ 116 Norfolk St. Development: 62 studio units supporting people transitioning out of homelessness (\$10Min funding provided by CAHT)</li> </ul> |
| 3 | <b>Enhancing supportive services</b>          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Increased funding for stabilization services (\$235k), coordinated entry (\$200k/year)</li> <li>■ Shower services (\$150k/year) and food support (\$185k)</li> <li>■ Street outreach: First Step Street Medicine (\$900k)</li> </ul>   |
| 4 | <b>Reducing harm and preventing overdoses</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Expanding accessibility to Naloxone, Narcan, and fentanyl test strips</li> <li>■ Raising awareness through PSA campaigns and training</li> <li>■ Including consumer voices in decision-making</li> </ul>   |

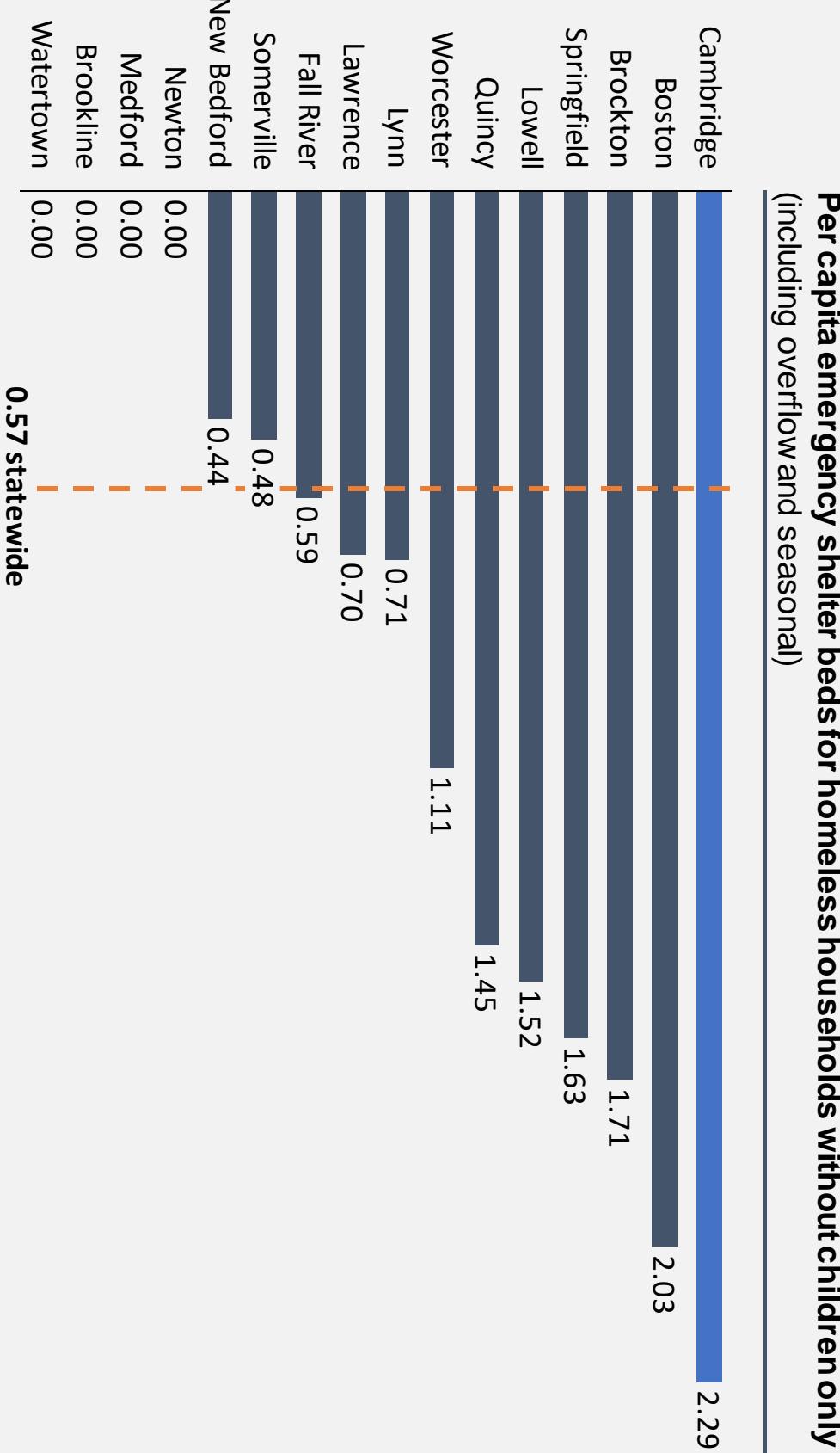
Prioritizing the most vulnerable/highest service need clients for limited housing opportunities generates challenges including for referral, vacancy time, service provision, etc.

## In 2023, the City stepped up to preserve ~100 emergency shelter beds for homeless individuals

Name	Emergency shelter					2024-25 (anticipated)
	Pre-COVID	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24		
BAY COVE Emergency Services Center (240 Albany)	97	60	60	60	60	
BAY COVE Cambridge Warming Center (Seasonal)	49	30	40	40	40	
Salvation Army Emergency Shelter	43	35	35	40	40	
Harvard Square Homeless Shelter (Seasonal)	29	15	15	15	15	
Y2Y Harvard Square (Seasonal)	27	18	22	22	22	
Heading Home Emergency Shelter	21	0	0	0	0	
First Church Shelter	14	14	14	14	14	
Catholic Charities St. Pat's (Somerville)	32	20	27	27	27	
BAY COVE Transition Wellness Center (Spaulding)	N/A	58	58	58	58	
Green St. Shelter (State funded)	N/A	55	52	58	58	
<b>Total</b>	<b>312</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>323</b>	<b>334</b>	<b>334</b>	
<b>YoY change</b>	<b>-7</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>0</b>		

City preserved **58 beds** by extending lease to June 2025

## And on a per capita basis, Cambridge provides more adult emergency shelter beds to homeless individuals than any city or town across the state



**Note on methodology:**

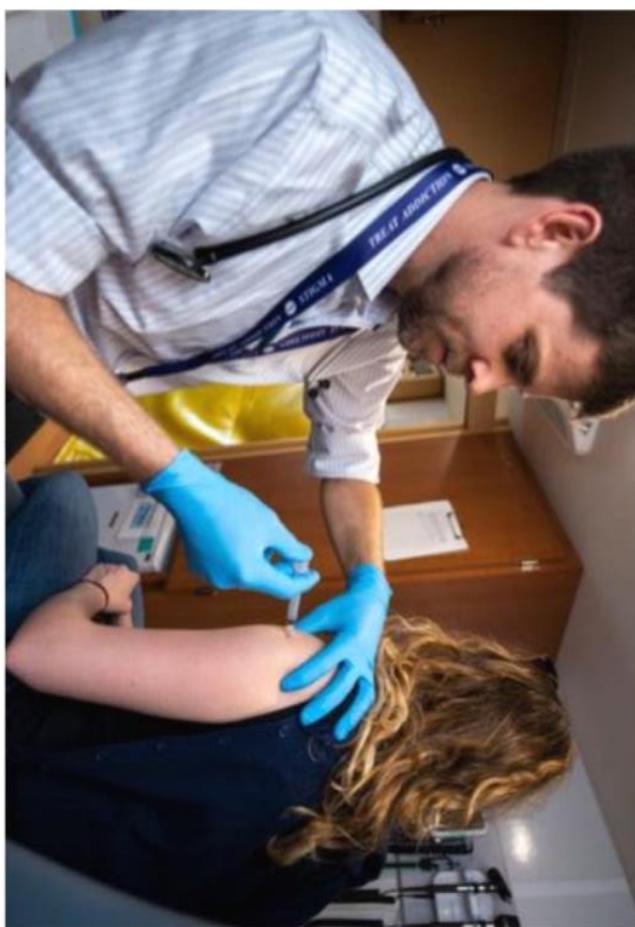
- Figure presented is based on the raw data from HUD's 2022 Housing Inventory Count (HIC) report. This analysis includes only emergency shelter beds for homeless individuals, including all overflow and seasonal beds reported.
- Although Boston contains the lion's share of the state's emergency shelter capacity, when family shelter beds are excluded and population is considered, Cambridge has a higher density of shelter beds for homeless individuals

## DHSP continues to generate positive housing outcomes for vulnerable populations and is working to increase Permanent Supportive Housing inventory

Summary of Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) Awards					
PHA Code	PHA Name	Total Awards	Active Issuances	Current Leased Vouchers	Unit Utilization
MA024	Brockton Housing Authority	31	6	31	100.00%
MA003	Cambridge Housing Authority	128	29	124	96.88%
MA005	Holyoke Housing Authority	25	1	24	96.00%
MA012	Worcester Housing Authority	73	7	69	94.52%
MA026	Northampton Housing Authority	17	2	15	88.24%
MA020	Quincy Housing Authority	24	1	21	87.50%
MA002	Boston Housing Authority	480	63	409	85.21%
MA023	Lynn Housing Authority	18		15	83.33%
MA094	Franklin County Regional Housing Authority	15	3	11	73.33%
MA901	Department of Housing & Community Development	917	238	595	64.89%
MA007	New Bedford Housing Authority	25	3	16	64.00%
MA035	Springfield Housing Authority	27	15	15	55.56%
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,780</b>	<b>368</b>	<b>1,345</b>	<b>75.56%</b>

- Leveraged ARPA funding to pair Housing Navigation and Stabilization supports with Emergency Housing Vouchers allocated to Cambridge Housing Authority to rehouse over **120 households experiencing or at risk of homelessness**
- In Federal FY23 (Oct. 1, 2022 – Sept. 30, 2023), **173 households have exited homeless situations in Cambridge to stable housing – including through the Emergency Housing Voucher program**, placements to Continuum of Care Permanent Supportive Housing, and other housing such as SROs and mainstream public housing
- DHSP has increased funding to nonprofit partners for services to support stable tenancies at YMCA, YWCA and St. Paul's
- City has committed significant funds toward the CHA redevelopment and expansion of 116 Norfolk Street; DHSP has participated in planning and will be referral source for identifying individuals exiting chronic homelessness for placement at the property

## Medical Street Outreach is a great example of partnering with community organizations to address our community's needs

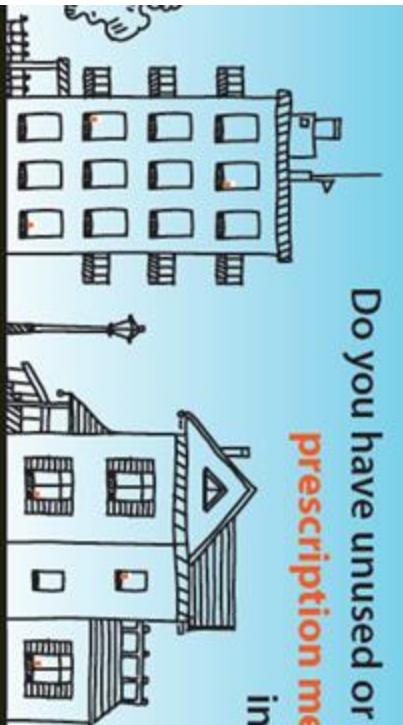


First Step provides mobile outreach services in Cambridge and Somerville and services have recently expanded:

- Daytime shifts Monday through Thursday, in addition to regular 7 days/week from 2 pm - midnight
- Care from a physician (Cambridge Health Alliance physician has been joining street outreach team 3 shifts/week since mid-2020)
- Medical team has expanded to include a Nurse Practitioner, phlebotomist and a Community Health Worker starting in November
- Basic needs supplies (including food, water, clothing, and toiletries)
- Safe injection supplies (clean needles and personal sharps containers) and Narcan
- Connections to shelters including information and transportation
- Partnering with multiple agencies to expand supplemental services available on van – Department of Mental Health; Housing Navigators; transports to Homeless and Mental Health Court sessions
- Working to add another outreach van to support growth of the street medicine program

## Cambridge Public Health Department is taking action to reduce overdoses and reduce harm

**You Can  Save a Life With a Spray**



Do you have unused or expired **prescription medications** in your home?

**Stop an Overdose with Naloxone**

Think someone's overdosing?

- Call 911
- Give Naloxone
- Give Rescue Breaths

Learn more at [cambridgepublichealth.org](http://cambridgepublichealth.org)

  
Cambridge  
Public Health  
Department

  
CCHA  
Cambridge  
Health Alliance

**Dispose of them the safe way!** 

Prescription Drug Take Back Day

- Reducing overdoses
- Naloxone and fentanyl test strip distribution events
- NaloxBox accessibility at City buildings
- Medication takeback events
- Pilot project with Harvard students to provide Narcan vending machines and CPR face shields.
- Awareness and training
  - PSA campaign (BlueBikes, MBTA buses) including maps of nearest Narcan sites
  - Overdose prevention training sessions
  - Consumer voice and inclusion
    - Incorporating a consumer voice in decision-making

# Public Space Activation

Providing a wide range of cultural activities

## PROGRAMMING AND EVENTS

Enhancing public space through design

## DESIGN IMPROVEMENTS & EXPANDED USES

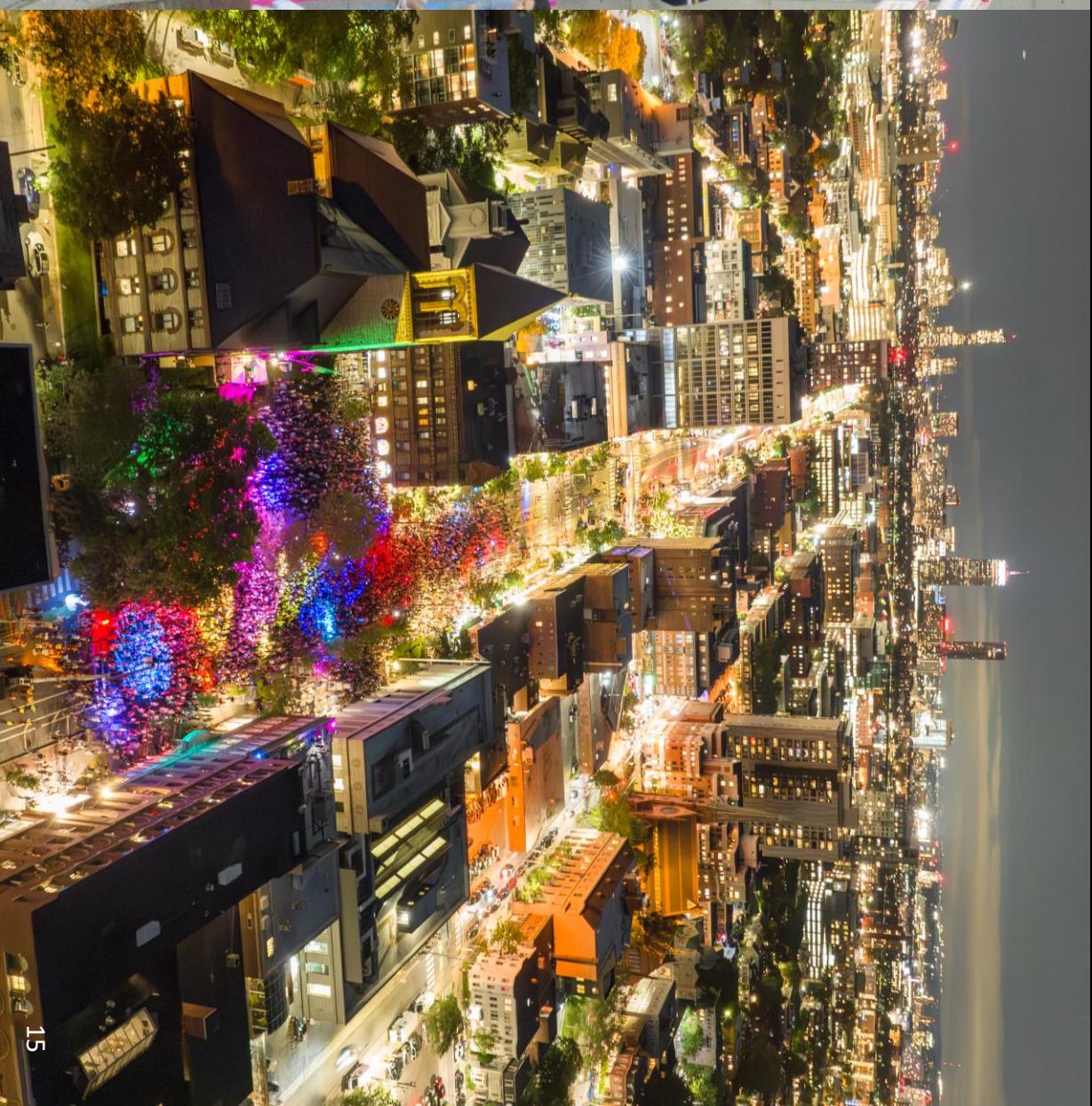
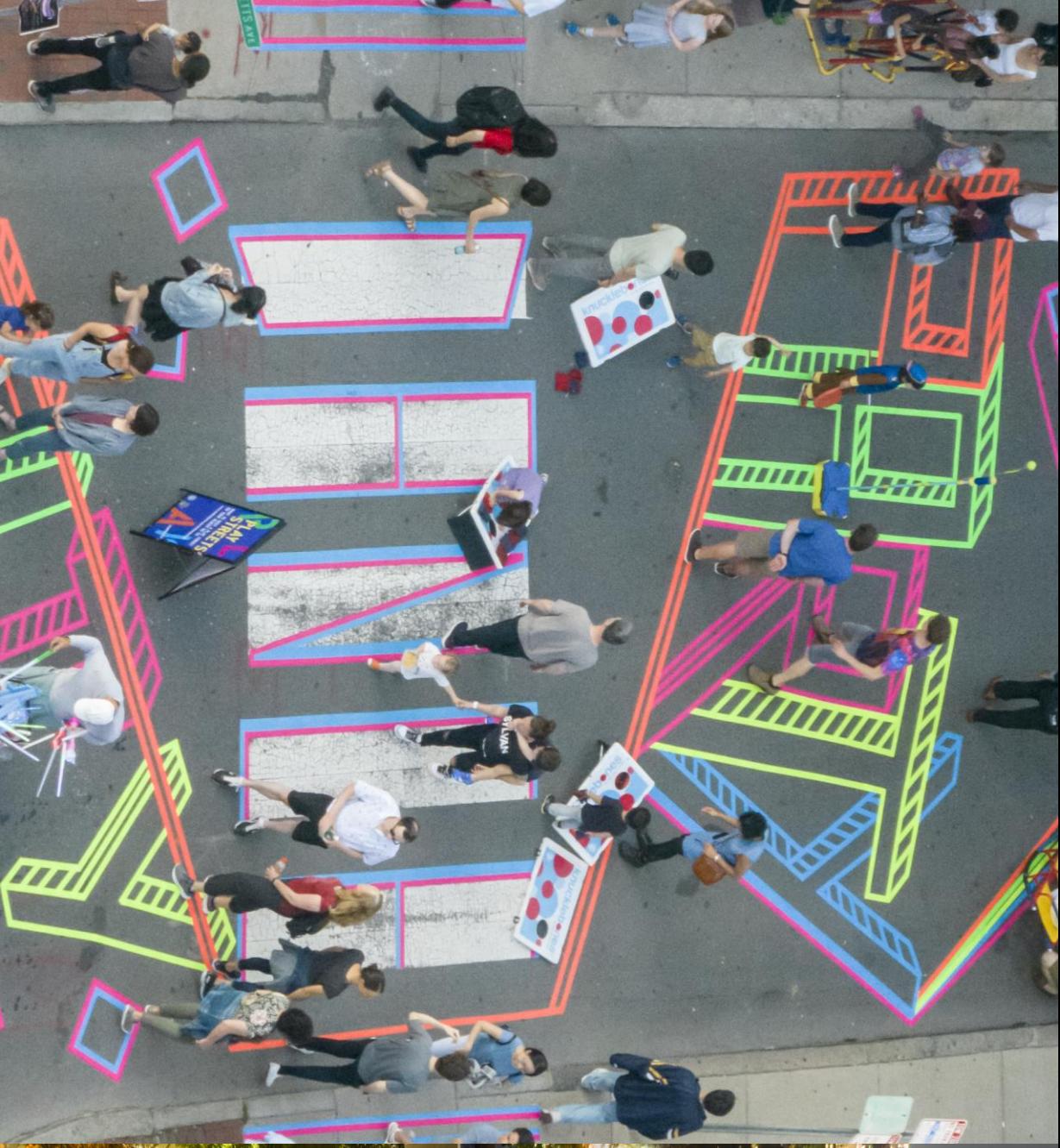
Maintaining a clean, safe, and inviting image

## OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE



### 3. Public Space Activation: Programming and Events

#### Return of the 2023 City-Wide Dance Party



### 3. Public Space Activation: Programming and Events

#### Play Street for all ages on Temple Street



### 3. Public Space Activation: Programming and Events

#### Dance Happens Here



### 3. Public Space Activation: Programming and Events

#### Activating Norfolk Street



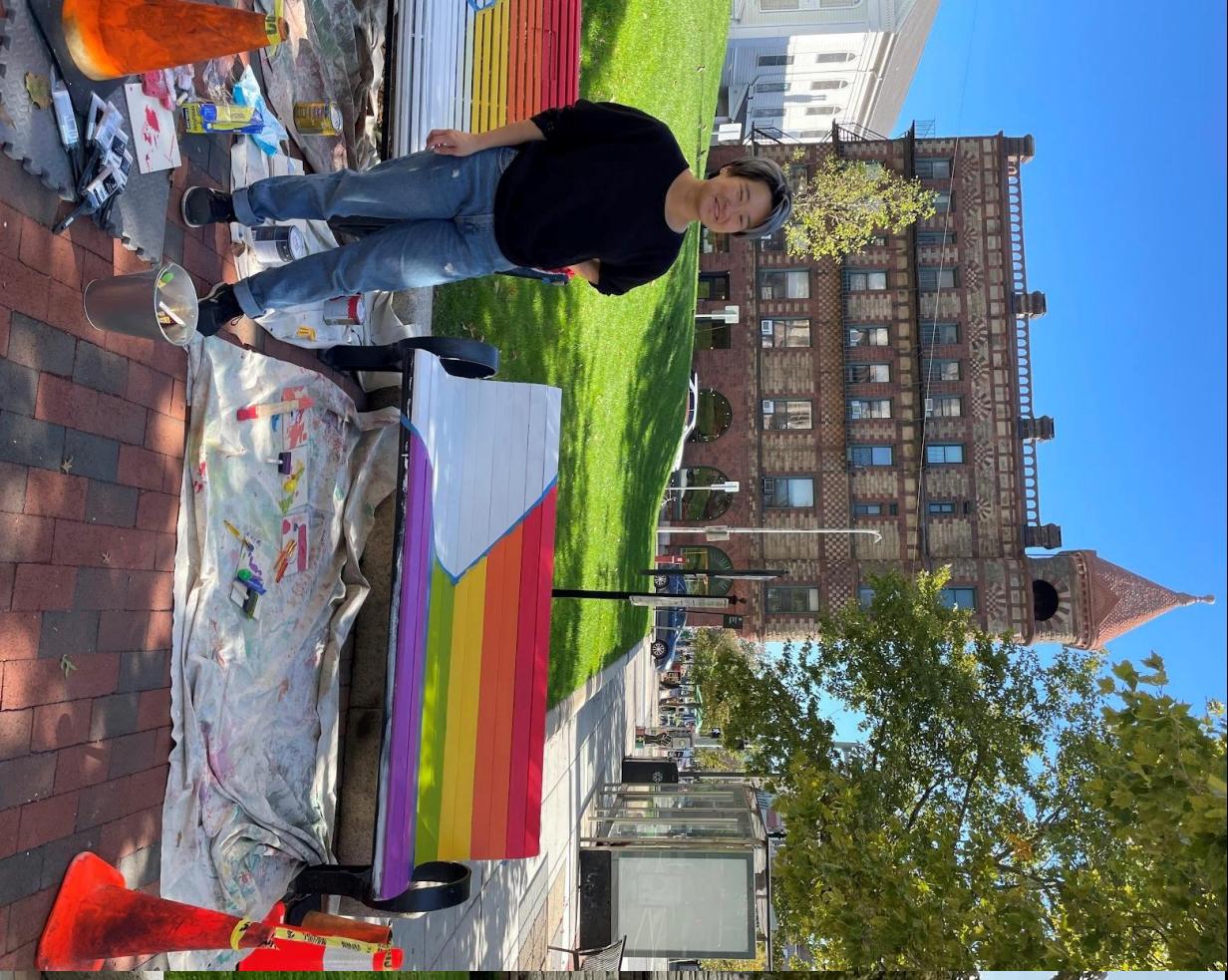
### 3. Public Space Activation: Programming and Events

## RootsUprising Artist Residency



### 3. Public Space Activation: Programming and Events

#### Inclusive and welcoming spaces



### 3. Public Space Activation: Programming and Events

#### Spontaneous play in the public realm



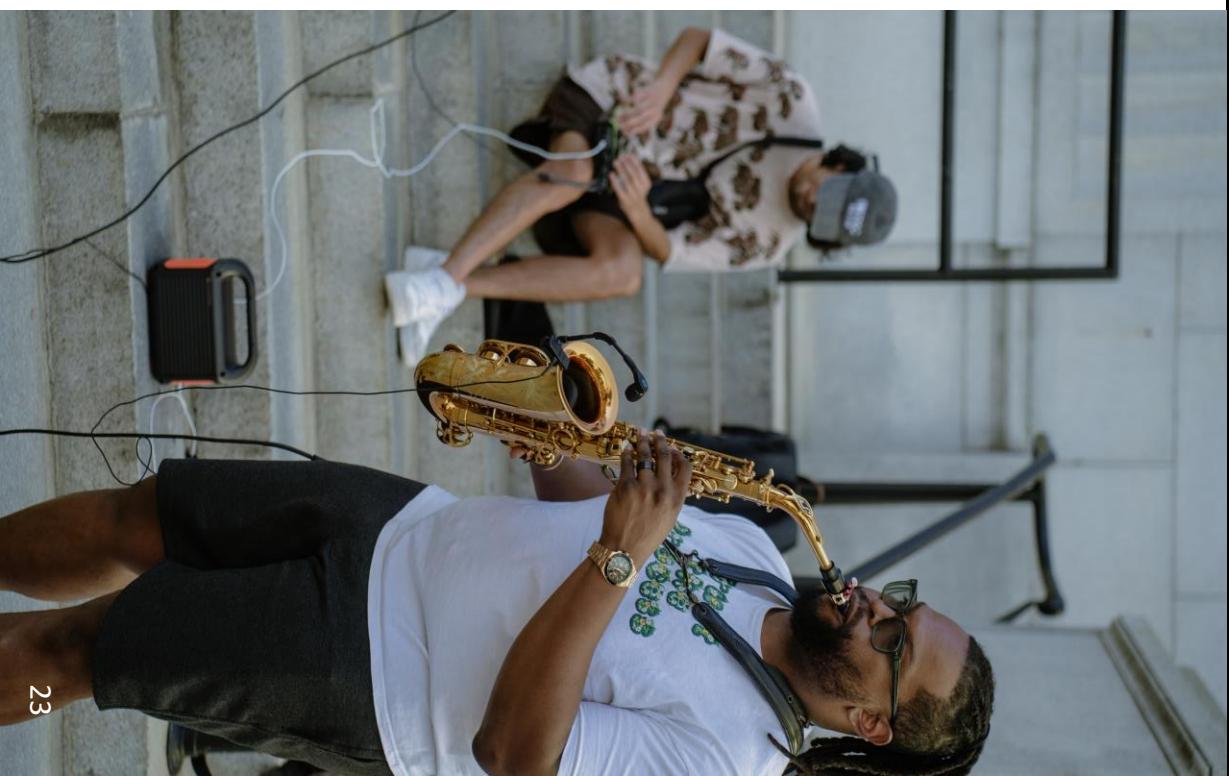
### 3. Public Space Activation: Programming and Events

#### Cambridge Arts River Festival



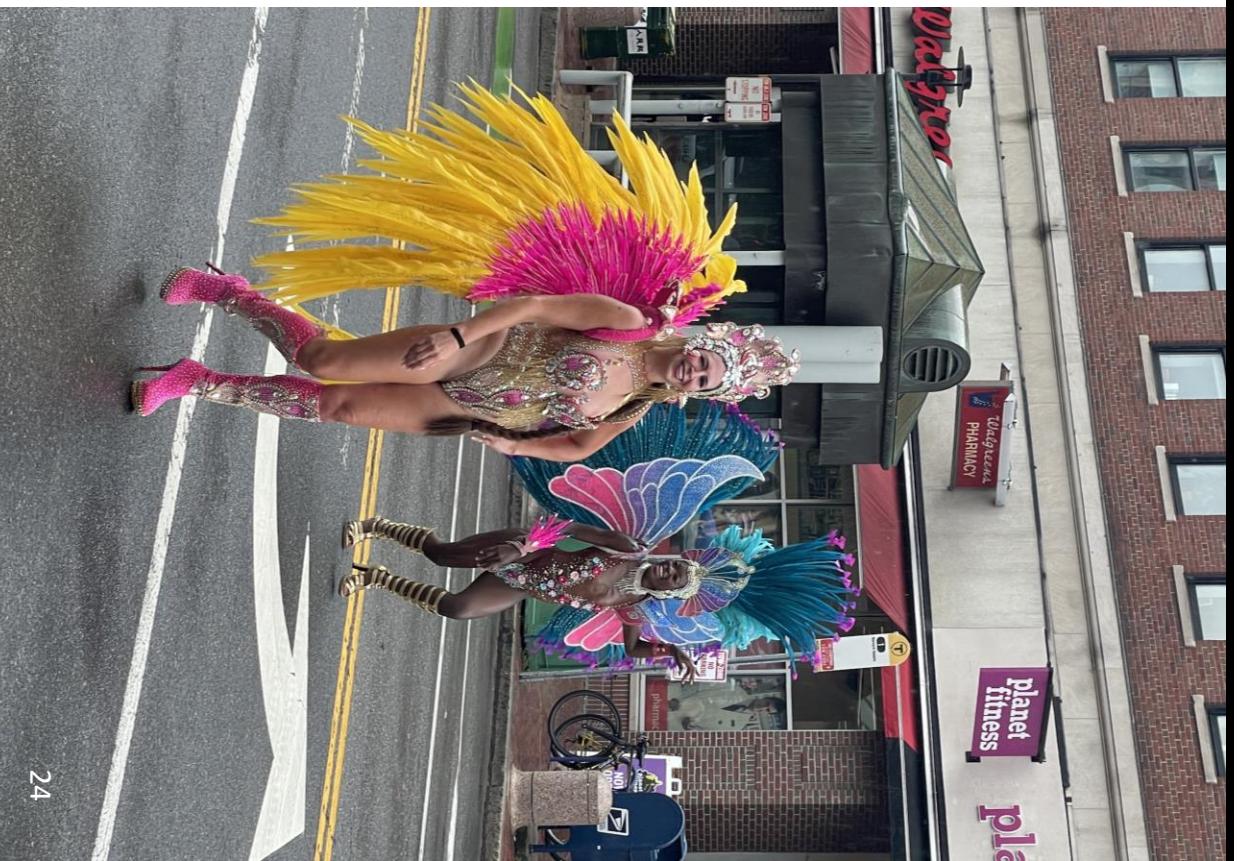
### 3. Public Space Activation: Programming and Events

#### Music in the Square



### 3. Public Space Activation: Programming and Events

## 29<sup>th</sup> year of Cambridge Carnival in Central Square



### 3. Public Space Activation: Programming and Events

## Season 4 of Starlight Square, 65 Events (June-October)



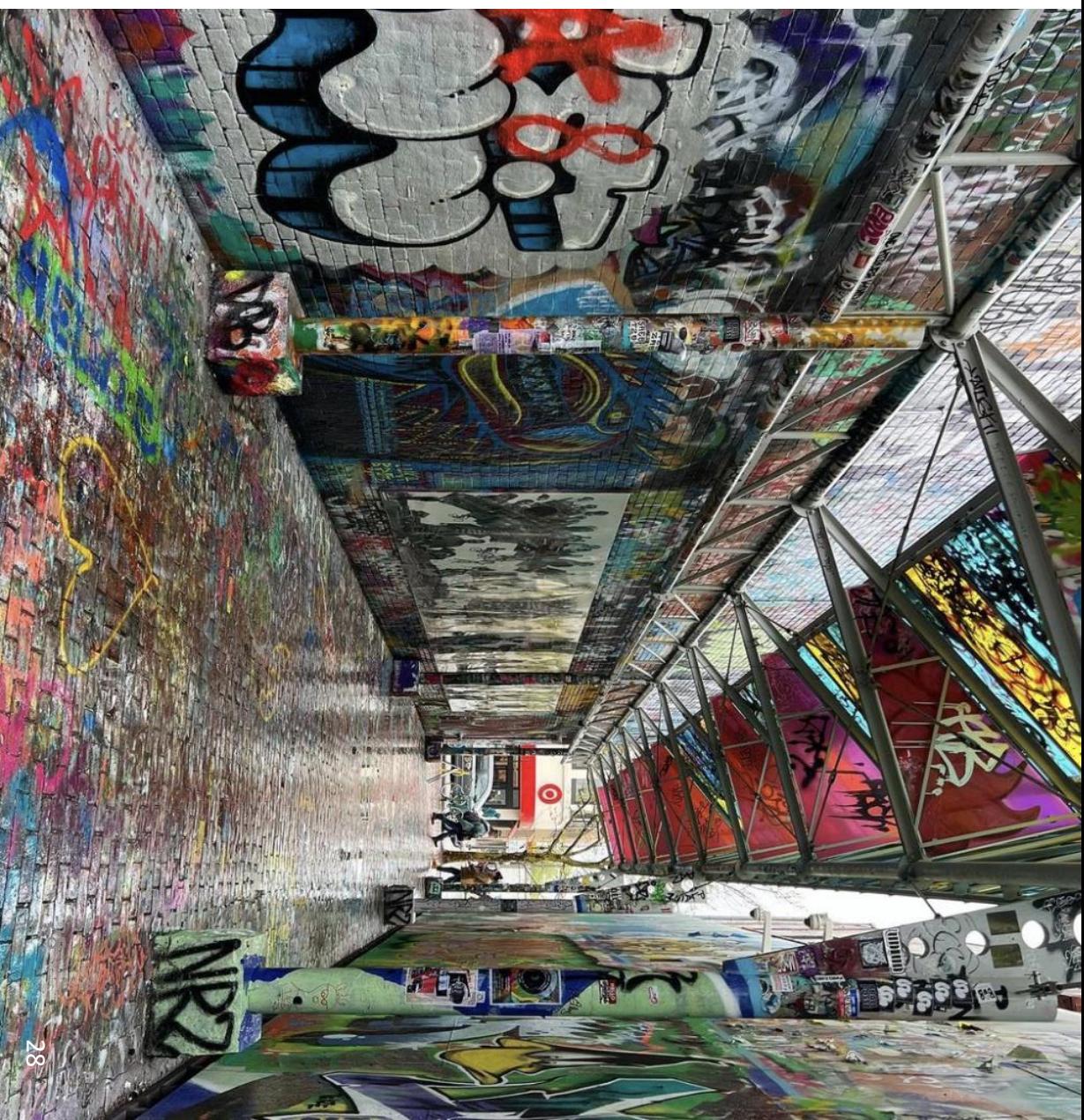
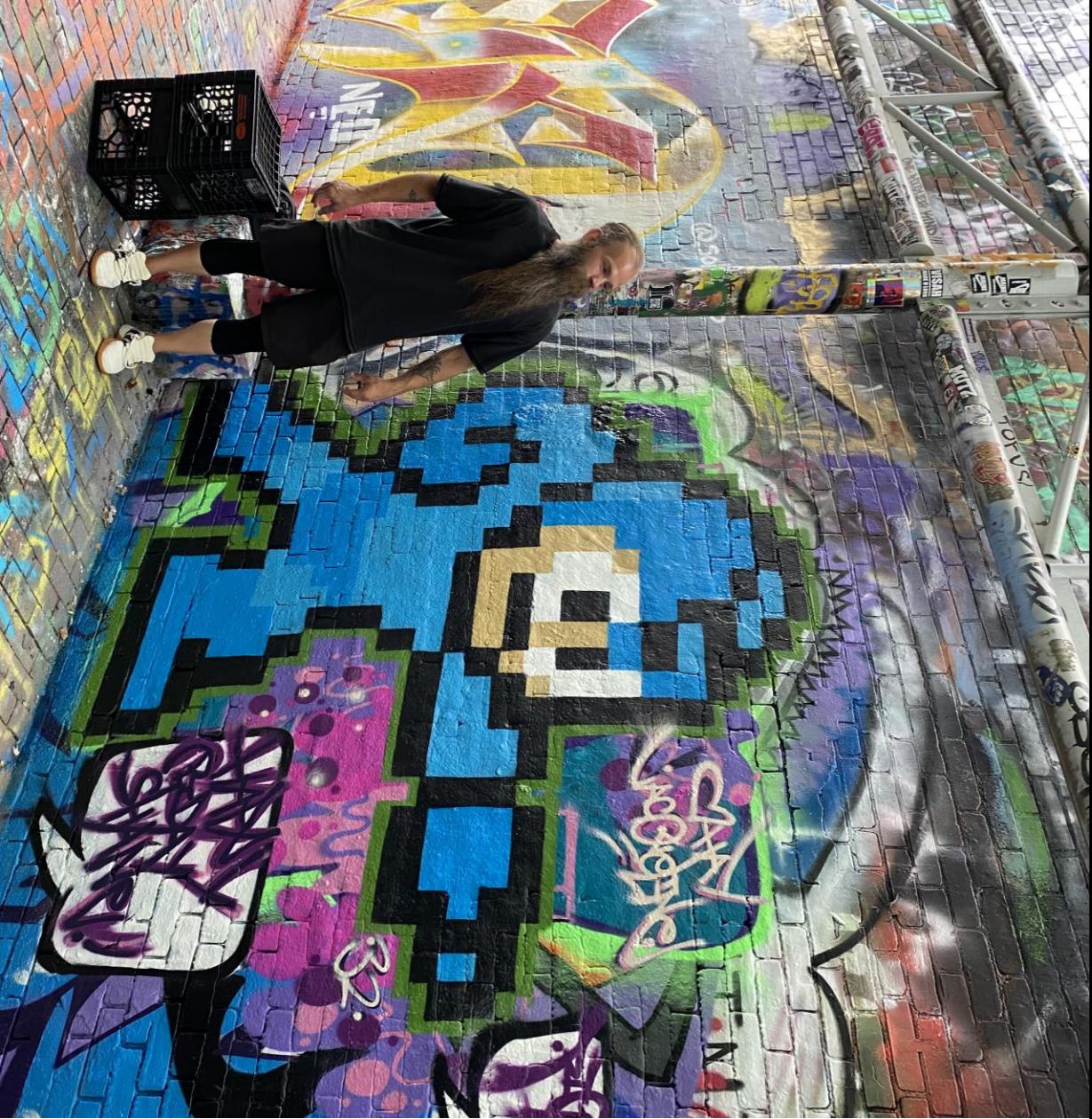


### CSQ Farmers Market Celebrates 45 years in the Square



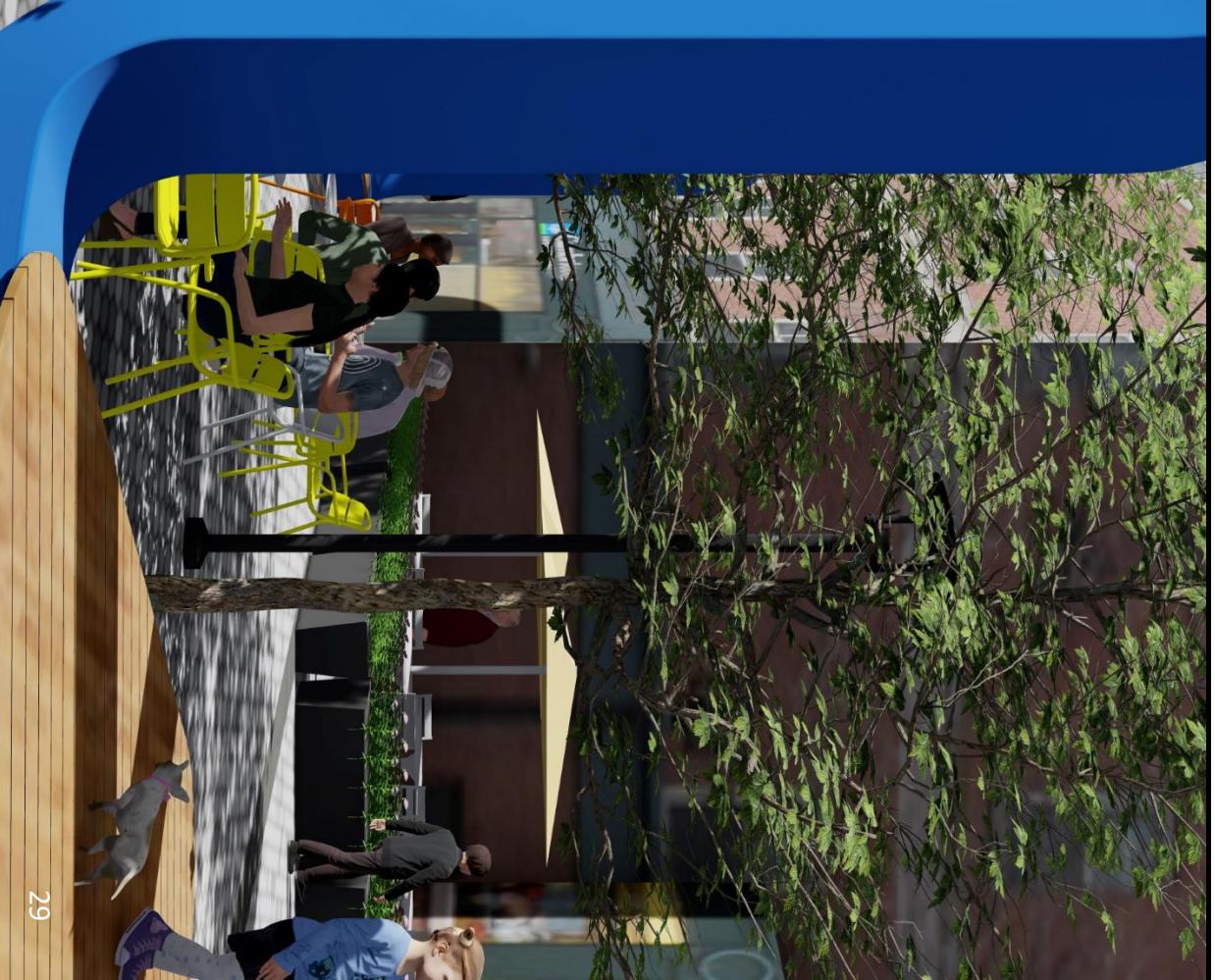
### 3. Public Space Activation: Programming and Events

#### Graffiti Alley, celebrates 10 + years of free Public Art



### 3. Public Space Activation: Design Improvements & Expanded Uses

## River Street and Carl Barron Plaza Redesign



### 3. Public Space Activation: Design Improvements & Expanded Uses

## River Street and Carl Barron Plaza Redesign

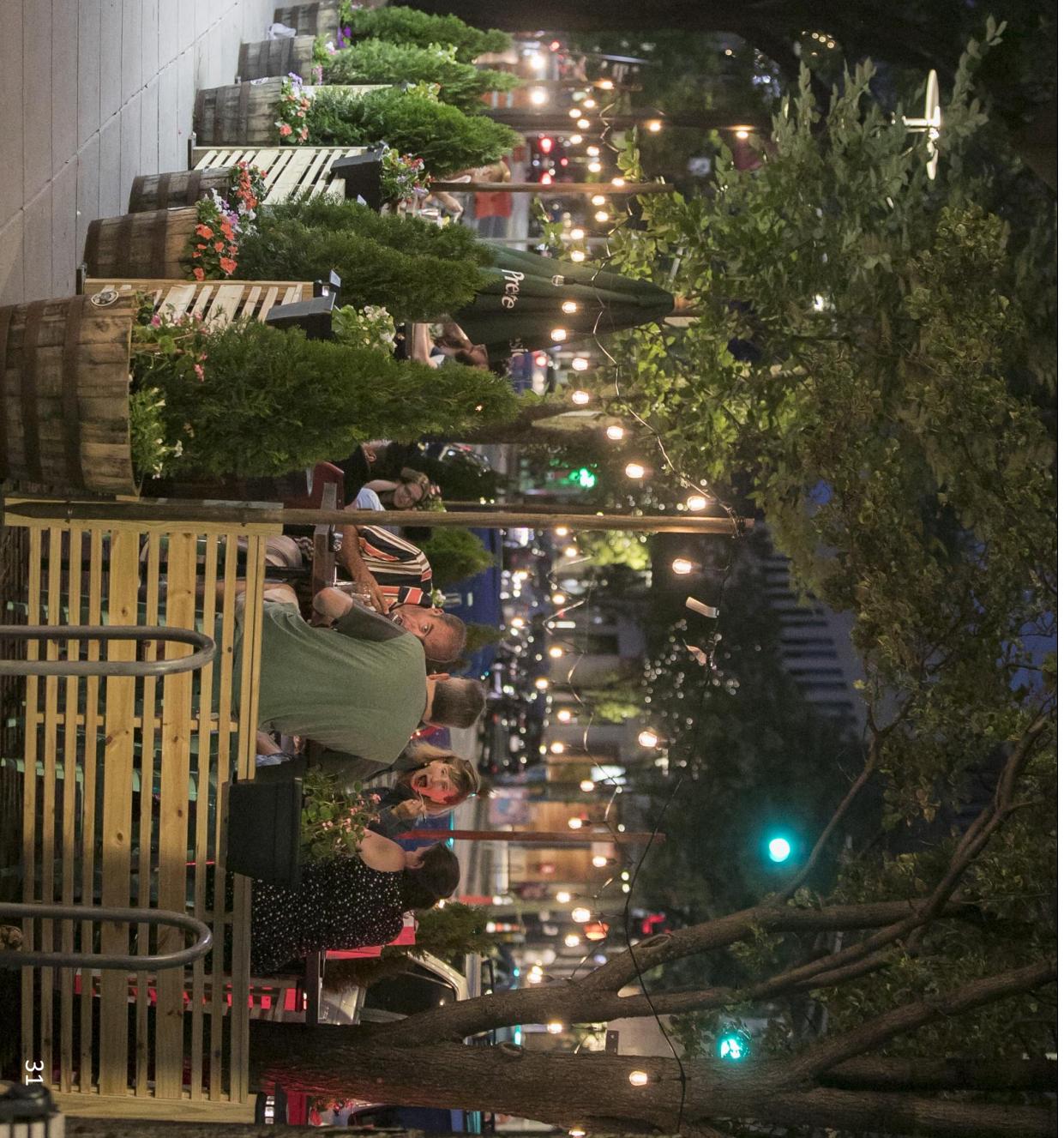
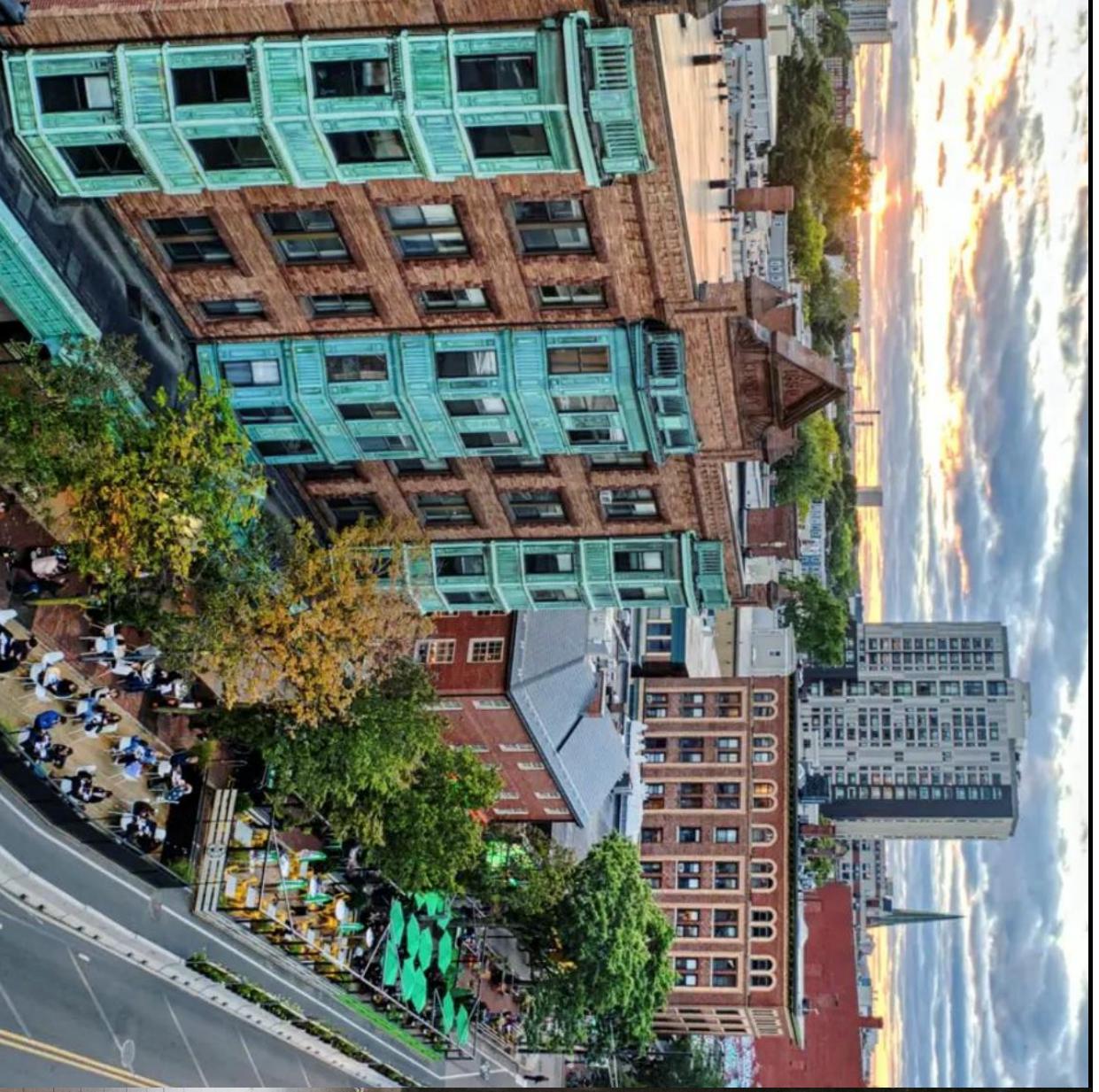


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Sophy Tuttle commissioned to design mural imagery on the ribbon: <https://sophytuttle.com/murals>

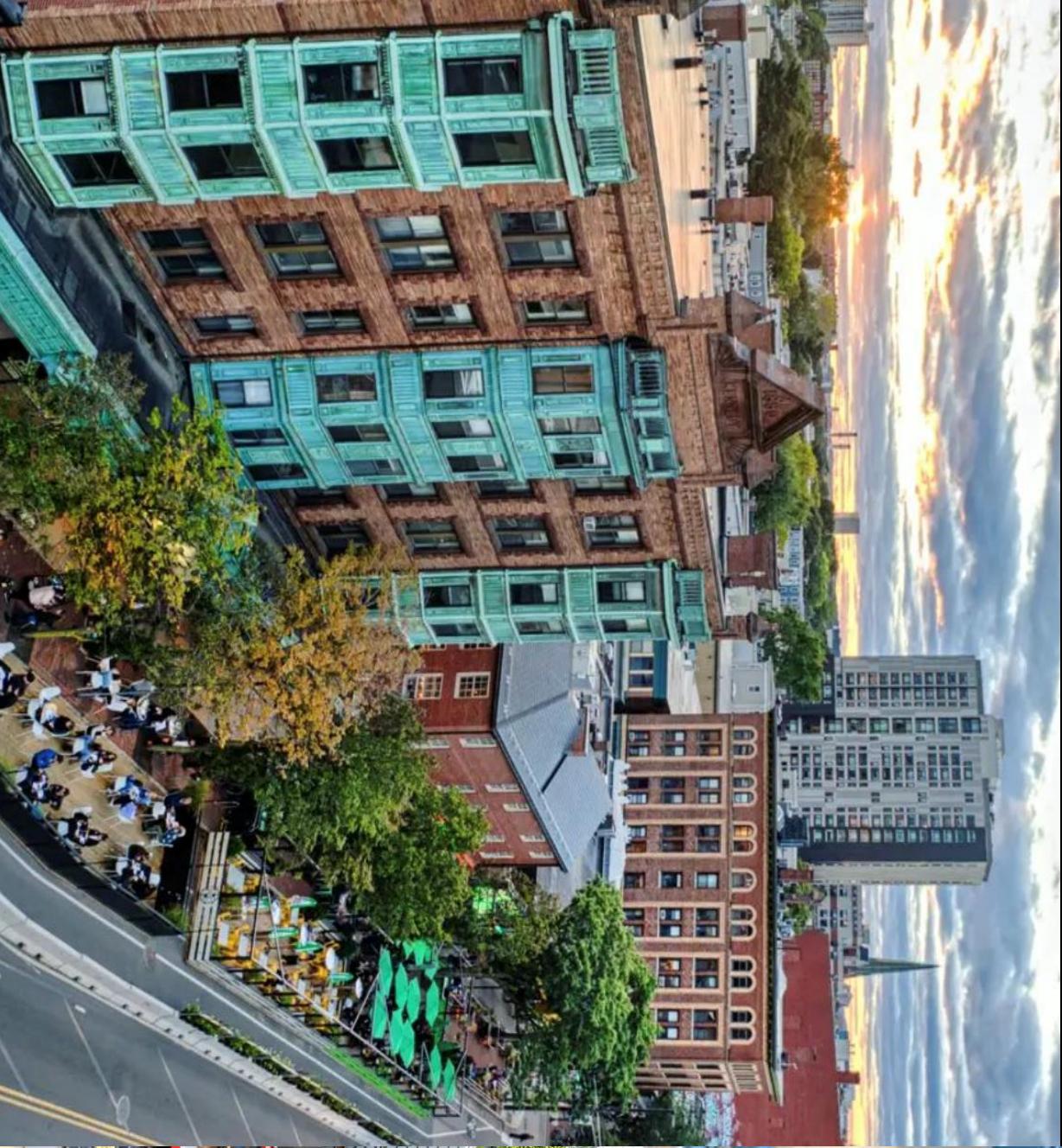
### 3. Public Space Activation: Design Improvements & Expanded Uses

#### Outdoor Dining



### 3. Public Space Activation: Design Improvements & Expanded Uses

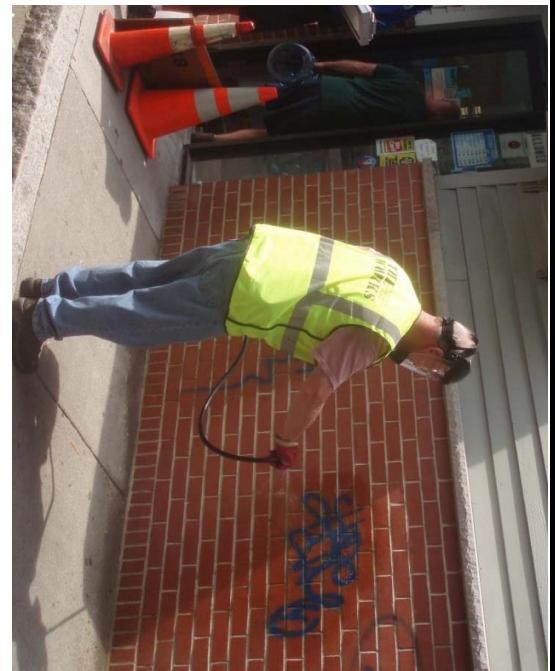
#### Mass Ave – Bigelow Street to Sidney Street



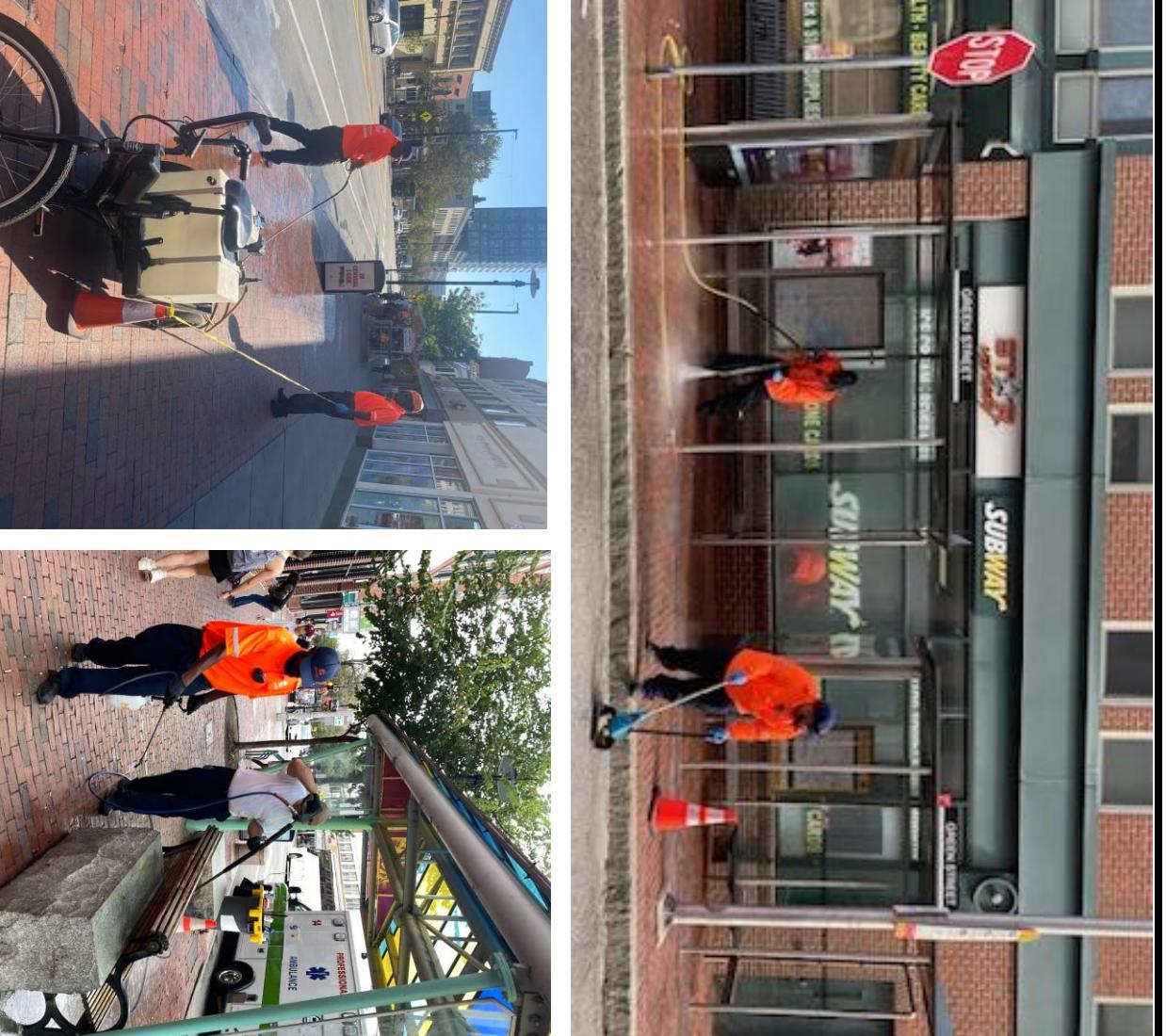
### 3. Public Space Activation: Operations & Maintenance

## DPW / Central Square Business Improvement District (BID) Partnership

- Trash bins are emptied seven days a week, twice a day.
- Compactors and open barrels are washed monthly.
- The streets are mechanically swept daily between April and December.
- A vacuum sidewalk sweeper is deployed daily between April and December.
- Hand-crews for sidewalk sweeping are stationed in Squares year-round.
- Needle drop boxes were installed at 4 locations within Central Square, and needles are collected daily by BID staff.



### BID Ambassadors in Action (expanded coverage now 6am – 11pm)



### 3. Public Space Activation: Operations & Maintenance

#### Lighting



### 3. Public Space Activation: Operations & Maintenance

## "In Central I Can" Campaign – Vacancy to Vibrancy



... And more to come!

Providing a wide range of cultural activities

## PROGRAMMING AND EVENTS

- More cultural events
- More play streets
- Senior and family-specific programming

Enhancing public space through design

## DESIGN IMPROVEMENTS & EXPANDED USES

- District-wide wayfinding and lighting
- Beautifying physical infrastructure
- Public patios

Maintaining a clean, safe, and inviting image

## OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE

- Vacant storefront activation

# Questions?

DRAFT



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