

Notice of Public Meeting

Rose Kennedy Greenway Conservancy, Board of Directors
March 24, 2026, 5:30PM – 7:30PM

This meeting will be held in a hybrid format. There will be in-person attendance at

MassDOT District 6
First Floor Conference Room
185 Kneeland Street
Boston, MA 02111

Greenway Board In Person: Hilina Ajakaiye, Michael Carragher, Sherry Dong, Kathryn Friedman, Rory Harrington, Conan Harris, Kirsten Hoffman, Midori Morikawa, Tom O'Brien, Jenny Harding, Jessica Hughes, Samari Ahmadi, Anita Yip, Luz Arregoces

Greenway Board on Zoom: Jennifer Fang, Michael Bonetti, Chris Loh, Matt Conti

Greenway Board not present: Susanne Lavoie

Greenway Staff In Person: Chris Cook, David Dalena, Michael Dockray, Caleb Friday, Brian Gibbons, Bwiza Kironyo, Audrey Lopez, Eileen Ong, Alex Rogers-Pittman, Bob Stigberg, Adam Torres

Open Session:

1. Hilina Ajakaiye called the meeting to order at 5:35pm and called for a motion to approve the minutes from the February 3, 2026 meeting of the Board of Directors.

Upon a motion made by Jessica Hughes and seconded by Michael Carragher, the minutes were unanimously approved.

2. Chris Cook and Adina Astor shared a refined strategic framework developed over ten months of research and community engagement. The framework is centered on three core pillars: park stewardship, inclusive and transformative experiences, and economic vibrancy. Cook emphasized that these pillars will unify departmental goals and guide measurable outcomes over both short- and long-term horizons (1–3 years and 3–5 years), while also prioritizing high-impact initiatives and introducing a rubric to address competing priorities. The Board discussed a long-term vision of positioning the Greenway as one of the nation's leading parks, including expanded public art, deeper community engagement, and large-scale economic initiatives. Astor will finalize the

strategic pillar language and prepare a working draft of the full strategic plan for presentation at the May Board meeting, while Cook will align departmental work plans accordingly.

Upon a motion made by Jessica Hughes and seconded by Hilina Ajakaiye, the Board unanimously approved the strategic pillars and overall direction of the plan.

3. Mike Carragher and Alex Rogers Pittman reported progress toward the \$2.3 million annual fundraising goal, noting that \$580,000 has been raised through the gala, with approximately \$120,000 in sponsorships pending and a remaining gap of \$67,000. Board members were asked to contribute by raising approximately \$3,500 each to help close this gap. A verbal \$150,000 corporate pledge is pending finalization and is expected to support small business vendors through mentorship and programming. Upcoming initiatives include a spring corporate engagement kickoff event, personalized donor tours, and expanded Board participation in fundraising efforts. The Development Committee will begin planning a five-year fundraising strategy aligned with the broader strategic plan.

4. Kirsten Hoffman and Caleb Friday reported that the 2025 financial audit resulted in a clean, unmodified opinion with no material weaknesses. Key financial highlights included \$7.7 million in operating revenue, a \$104,000 surplus, and approximately \$36 million in net assets. Additional details noted an investment portfolio of approximately \$24 million, operating reserves of \$2.1 million (roughly three months of cash), and unrestricted cash closer to \$300,000, indicating limited liquidity. The team explained that recent fluctuations were influenced by grant timing and emphasized the importance of strengthening cash reserves. In coordination with the Development Committee, the Finance team will develop a five-year financial and budget model aligned with the strategic plan.

Upon a motion made by Jessica Hughes and seconded by Hilina Ajakaiye, the Board unanimously approved the audited financial statements.

5. Conan Harris introduced Christina Fisher, a senior executive and local resident with prior legislative experience, as a nominee for Board membership, noting that her appointment strengthens both corporate and community ties. The Committee also reported ongoing efforts to secure a state representative for Board participation and continued progress toward maintaining a full and diverse pipeline of candidates. The Committee will continue recruitment for the state representative seat and support onboarding of the new Board member.

Upon a motion made by Jessica Hughes and seconded by Hilina Ajakaiye, the Board unanimously approved the nomination of Christina Fisher for a three-year term of the Greenway Board seat ending December 2029.

6. Eileen Ong and Dr. Audrey Lopez reported continued growth and engagement across seasonal programming, including over 25,000 riders on the Ferris wheel, expanded participation from new food truck vendors, and a slate of new and returning events featuring festivals and international partnerships. The Public Art program launched a seasonal theme, “Because You Are The Thread,” highlighting artists exploring memory, community, and cultural narratives, with installations and activations planned through 2026. Upcoming highlights include interactive installations, mural projects, and artist talks aimed at deepening community engagement, which the Public Art and Programs teams will continue to execute alongside seasonal programming and partnerships.

7. Robert Stigberg and Brian Gibbons outlined ongoing and planned capital and horticultural improvements, including expanded tree plantings in Dewey Square, infrastructure and irrigation upgrades, installation of new seating and site furnishings, and testing of sustainable materials such as permeable surfaces. The team also presented updated park use guidelines designed to support safe and effective park management, including a prohibition of weapons in park spaces and new fee structures aligned with neighboring parks. Operations and horticulture teams will implement these capital and landscape improvements moving forward. The Board approved the updated park use guidelines and fee structures.

8. There were no questions or comments from the public.

Upon a motion made by Jessica Hughes and seconded by Kirsten Hoffman, the Rose Kennedy Greenway Conservancy Board Meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm.