



COPLEY SQUARE PARK CONSTRUCTION UPDATE SEPTEMBER, 2023

Thank you for your patience and continued interest in this project.

Copley Square Park is an important cultural center of our city, and we understand that having the entire park closed for the duration of construction is difficult for many. We appreciate your patience during our renovation, and look forward to the reopening in 2024, with a completed park that is beautiful, safe and accessible.

Our project is scheduled to occur over 16 months, with completion in Fall 2024. This means that the Marathon will not occur in this park next year, but we look forward to welcoming this event back at Copley in 2025.

CONSTRUCTION SINCE AUGUST:

- Nearly all of the site pavement has been removed, with the exception of areas that we are keeping intact for pedestrian use. The one section of the site that hasn't been touched yet is the fountain, which is coming soon!
- The center portion of the fountain - the overflow spouts and the obelisks - will remain, while the large pool will be adjusted. We will be reusing stones from the granite steps for the adapted design.
- Light poles within the park have been removed.
- Exciting discoveries when we were excavating to confirm locations of utilities! Photos below.
- The 5 pieces of art on site have been removed to the conservator's workshop, or protected on site, for reduced chance of damage during transport.

Work to anticipate in the coming weeks:

- While demolition has happened throughout the site in recent weeks, construction of new pavements needs to happen strategically, so the contractor doesn't "paint themselves into a corner," as it were. Paving work will start in the northeast corner of the site, near Clarendon Street.
- Installation of drainage piping will begin towards the end of September.

SITE PHOTO, 8/10/2023



Mr. Copley's granite base will remain on site, protected, while the statue has been taken to the conservator's workshop.

SITE PHOTO, 8/14/2023



Standing in front of Trinity Church, looking at the Main Library and Old South Church. Quite a topography of pavement materials in the foreground!

SITE PHOTO, 8/20/2023



An old drainage vault below Huntington Avenue. Our test pit revealed it's true location was shallower and about 10' north of where we thought. The civil engineer redesigned much of the drainage as a result. We will fill it so it doesn't collapse in the future!



The Tortoise and the Hare have been removed to the conservator's workshop, at this point. Here, during relocation, the brick work surrounding the two pieces had to be carefully removed by hand to establish where the connection pins were.

TRINITY:

Trinity Church is a helpful neighbor during this challenging project, and they are attending our weekly site meetings, for the most up-to-date information regarding construction and schedules. The church is "open for business" during this project.

THIS IS A BOSTON RESIDENTS JOBS POLICY PROJECT:

For employment opportunities, call WES Construction Corp. at (781) 294-1080

OTHER ITEMS:

Please use 311 to document non-emergency issues relating to park use, and 911 for emergency situations relating to public safety.

Construction questions and concerns can be directed to B Chatfield, Project Manager (abigail.chatfield@boston.gov)

Project Website: boston.gov/copley-improvements