



COPLEY SQUARE PARK CONSTRUCTION UPDATE JULY, 2024

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.

CONSTRUCTION SINCE JUNE:

- The fountain: the team has been working to determine the intended water level in both pools, which lead to a number of different requirements - nozzle heights, pump power, overflow elevations, to name a few.
- We received our permit, and are proceeding with sidewalk work on Boylston Street, starting by Clarendon and moving west. We will create a path just inside the sidewalk on the park side, so pedestrians will use this route while the contractor works on the area adjacent to the curb.
- The contractor is getting ready to pour the resin-bound porous gravel pavement just north of Trinity Church. Frames for the concrete bases to support tree grates in this area are installed.
- We are making a slight modification to the design of the Raised Grove, to try to limit openings to the interior of the deck space, to make it inaccessible to rats. We already have gravel and stainless steel mesh - both recommended to limit rat access - but additional aggregate to fill voids is a new approach the City is trying.
- Concrete walkways - both color and regular gray - continue to be poured during this warm, dry stretch.

Work to anticipate in the coming weeks:

- The “inside” path along Boylston Street will be constructed, so the contractor can shift pedestrians and work on the “outside path” of the Boylston Street sidewalk. The contractor is currently excavating for new pavement and the addition of new structural soil around the existing street trees.
- The contractor is prepping the grade beam surfaces at the Raised Grove, and planting soil will be added to the areas where we will be planting new trees.
- Interior and exterior of the fountain will continue to receive attention.
- Electrical work throughout the site will continue - light pole bases and delivery of light poles.

SITE PHOTO, 7/10/2024



Our contractor indicates the blue line where the high water level should be, in the upper pool.

SITE PHOTO, 7/17/2024



Boylston street trees are now inside the construction fence, and have mounds of soil to cushion their root zone as the contractor works around them to install structural soil and porous pavement.

SITE PHOTO, 7/17/2024



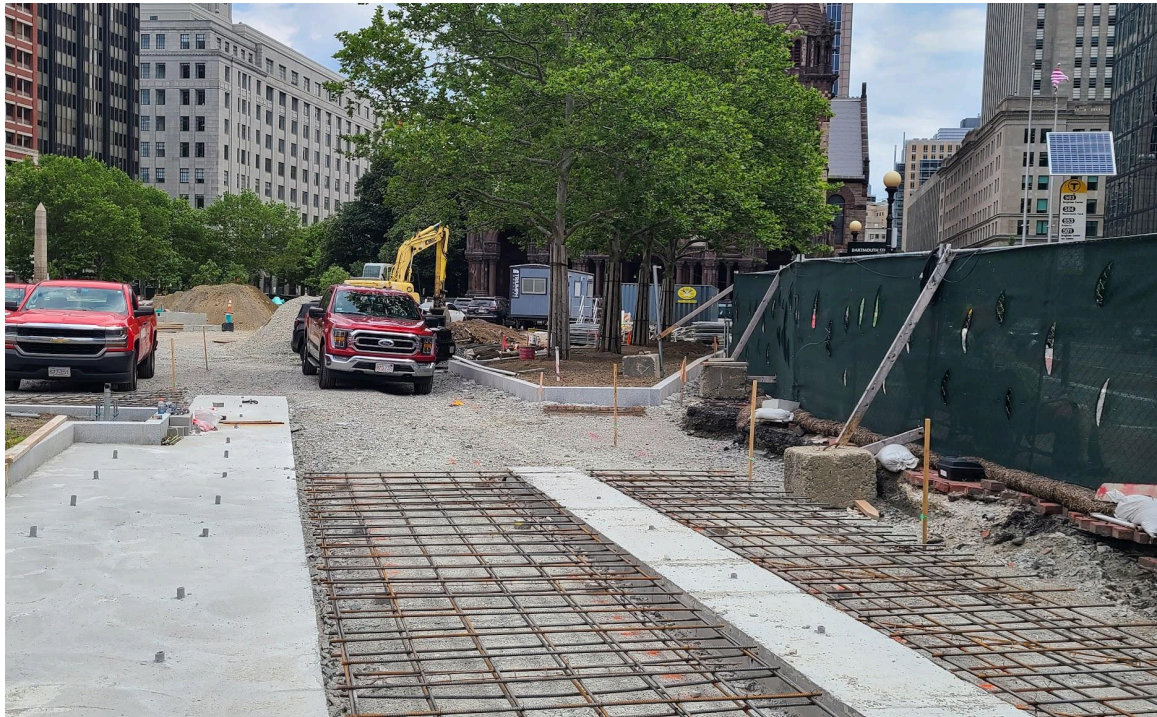
We've installed the gravel base layer for the resin-bound porous pavement, north of Trinity. Wood frames will be filled with concrete, which will support the tree grates.

SITE PHOTO, 7/17/2024



The grade beams at the Raised Grove will receive surface preparation to receive the pavers, which make the surface of our Raised Grove area. Before the pavers get installed, we will add a light-weight aggregate in those 'cells' around the existing trees, to try to prevent rats from entering through the gap between trunk and tree grate.

SITE PHOTO, 7/17/2024



Rebar waiting for color concrete, at the entrance on the corner of St. James and Dartmouth.

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