



Bluebikes Expansion

*Open House at the Tynan School
November 7, 2024*

Today's Open House

1. Provide information about the need for expansion.
2. Share potential sites we have identified.
3. Ask for input on which sites would be best for the neighborhood.



Bike share today

- ▶ 500+ stations (280+ in Boston)
- ▶ 4500 bikes (2000 in Boston), including ~750 ebikes
- ▶ Publicly owned, operating in 13 municipalities
 - Lyft = operator
 - BCBS of MA = title sponsor
 - Municipalities = owners



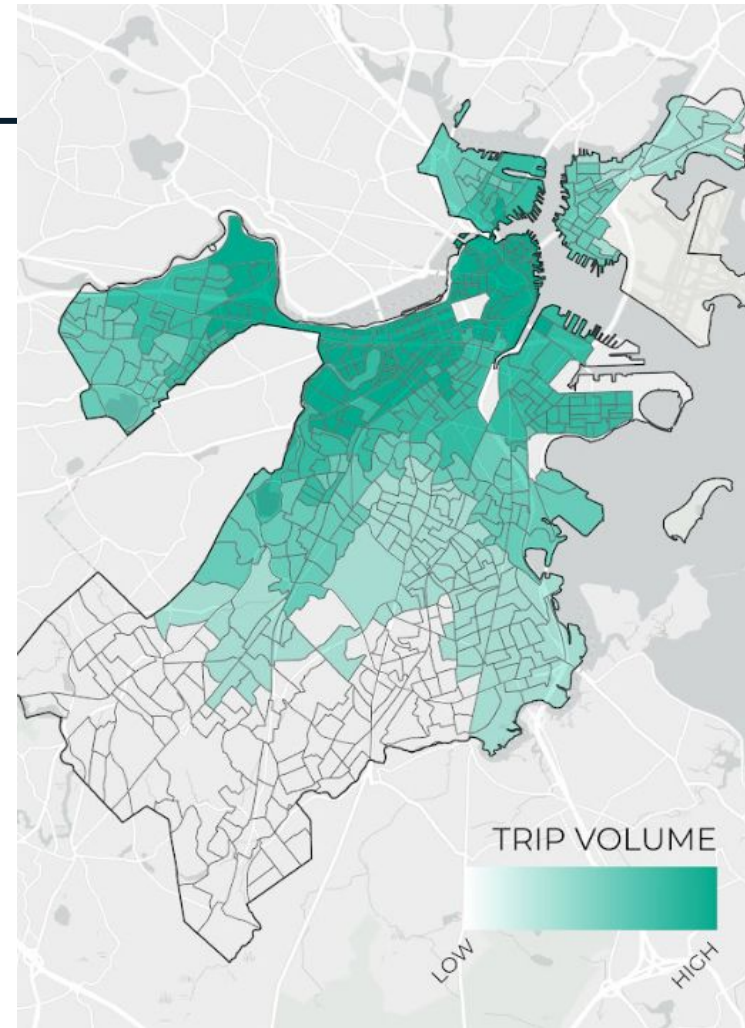
Boston residents ride for less with the Boston Bikes Pass



- ▶ Long-time income-eligible pass options:
 - \$50/year or \$5/month
- ▶ New discounts for Boston residents launched in October 2023
 - \$5/year for income-eligible residents
 - \$60/year for new members (have not had an annual membership in the last three years)

Millions of trips taken

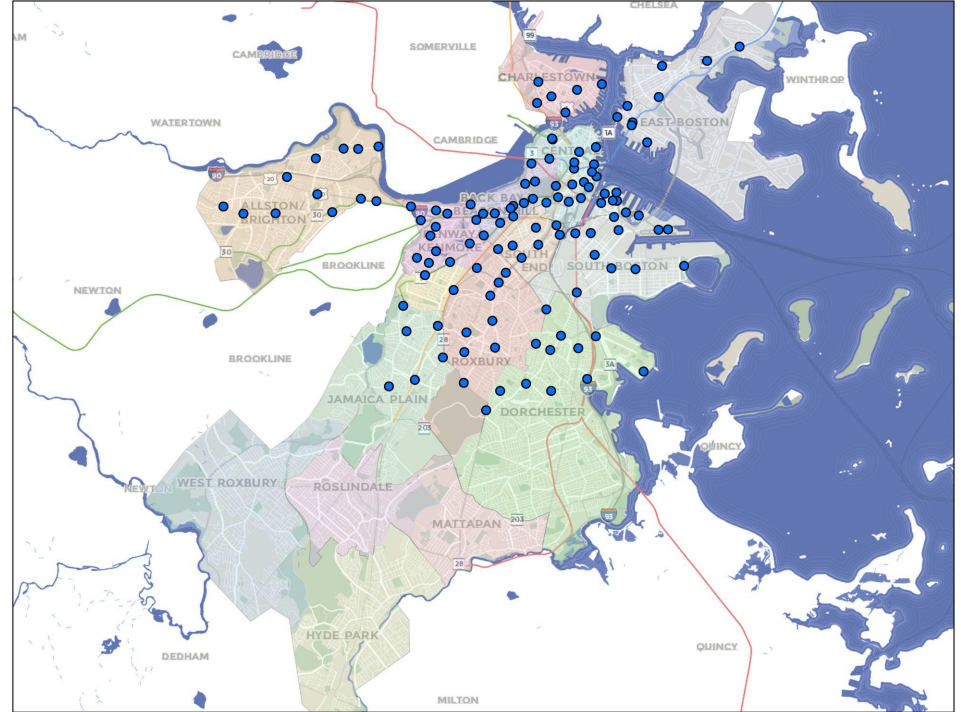
- ▶ Over **2.3 million trips** have been taken on Bluebikes *just in Boston* so far this year (and 4.2 million systemwide). This number increases each year as we expand our system.
- ▶ **Almost 15%** of those trips started in East Boston, Charlestown, South Boston, or South Boston Waterfront.



In Boston, bike share is (almost) everywhere!

- ▶ Go Boston 2030 goal: Every household within 10-minute walk of bike share.

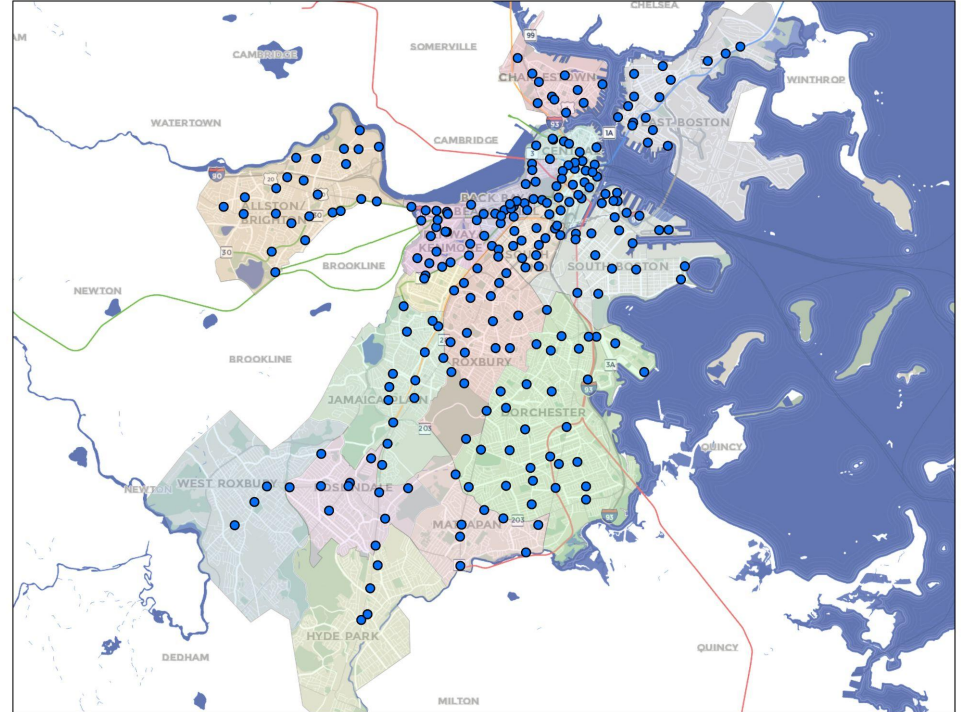
BOSTON BLUEBIKES STATIONS IN 2017



In Boston, bike share is (almost) everywhere!

- ▶ Today Bluebikes is in every neighborhood.
- ▶ ~89% of households are within a 10-minute walk.

BOSTON BLUEBIKES STATIONS TODAY



Expanding the system

100 new stations installed by Summer 2025 (~40% increase in Boston)

Infill Stations

Enhancing Service in High Demand Areas

Serving Latent Demand

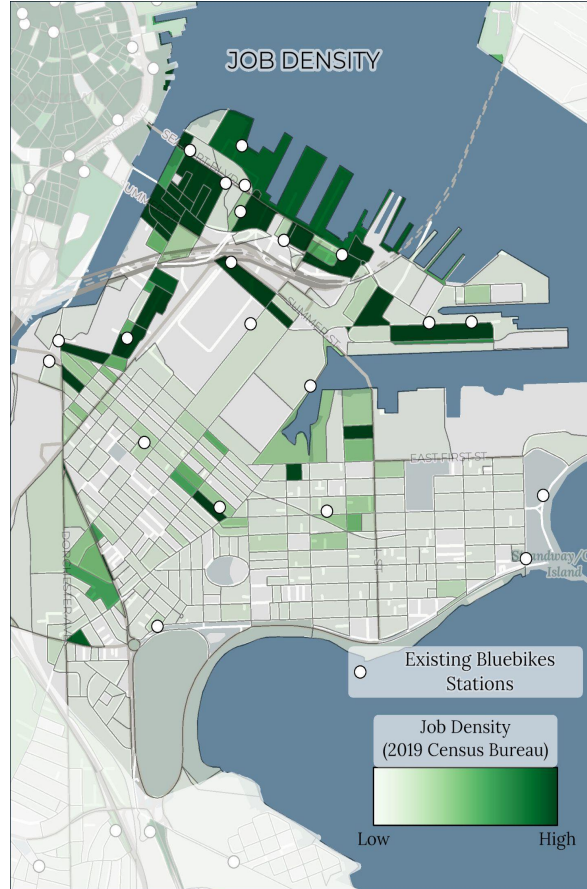
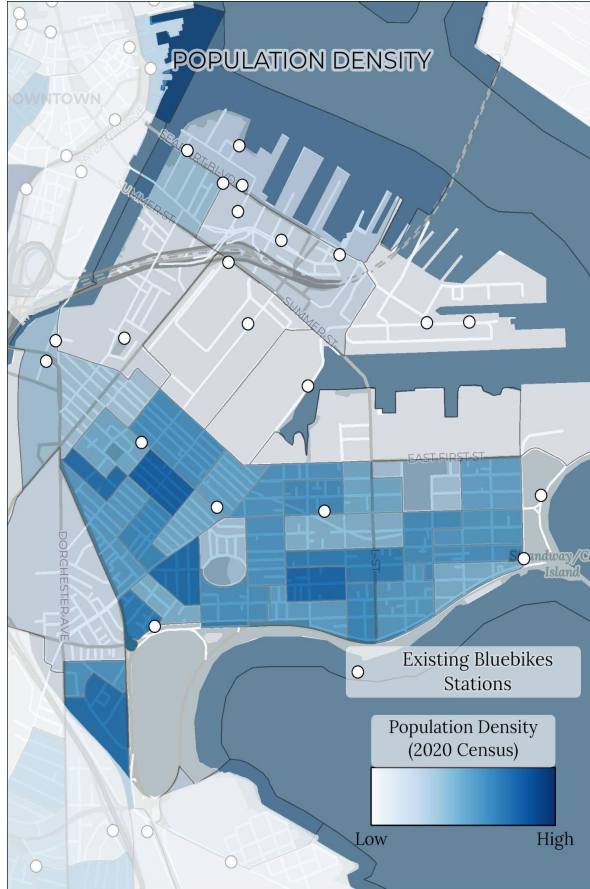
Filling Gaps in the Network

Expansion Stations

Increasing Access to the Network

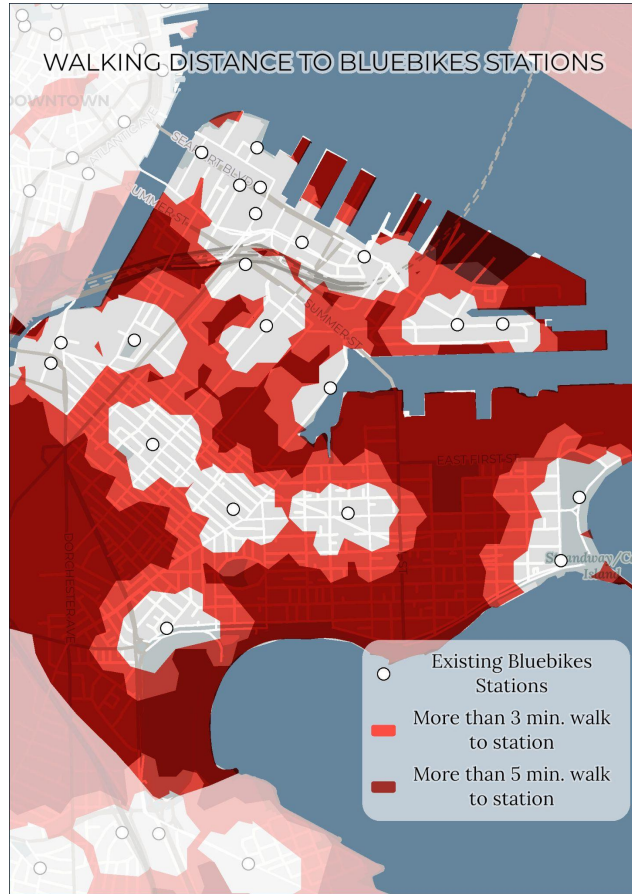
Strengthening Edges of Current Network

Analyzing the need in South Boston



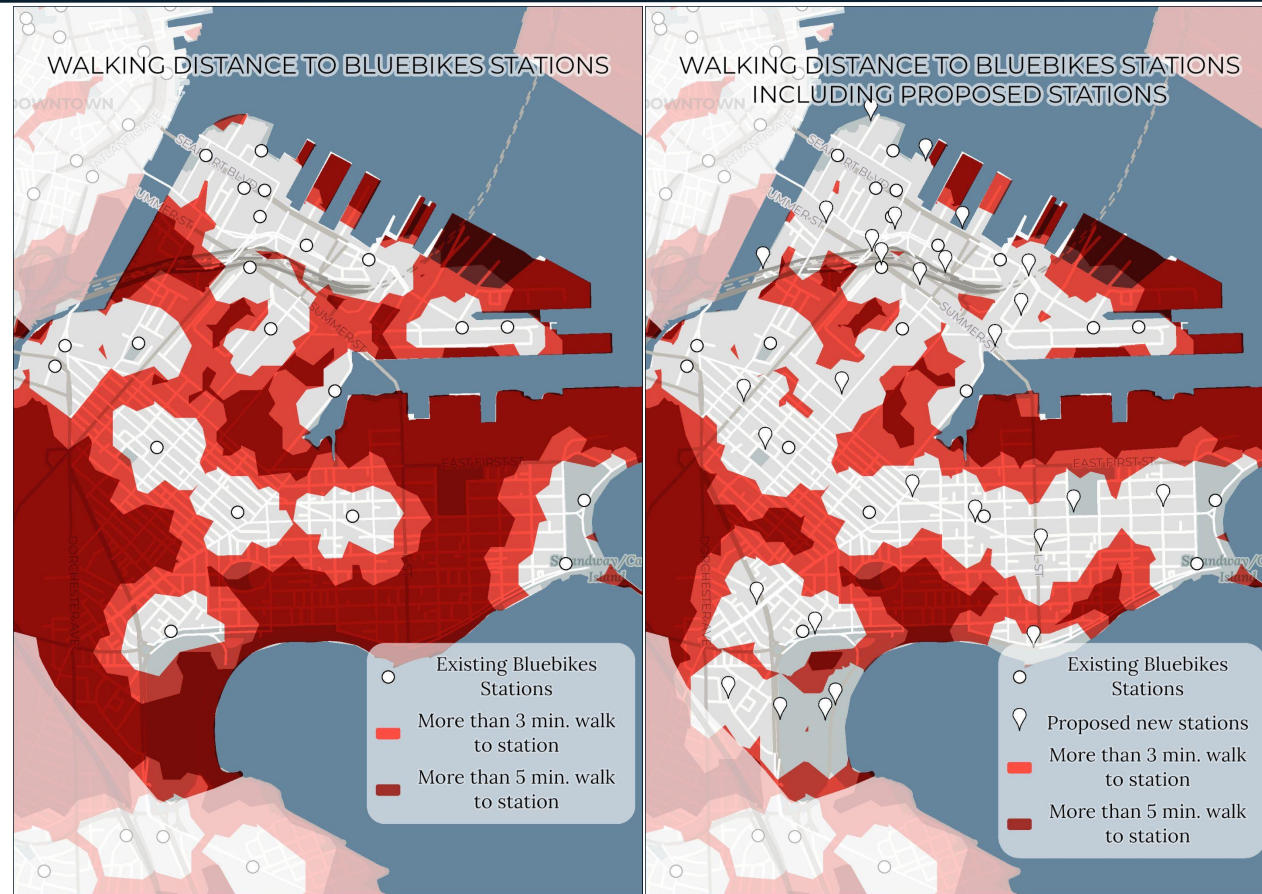
▶ As of August 2024, we had over 800 active members who live in South Boston or the Waterfront

Analyzing the need in South Boston



- ▶ In areas with the most jobs and population density, our goal is to have bike share within a 3 minute walk
- ▶ Areas in light red are 3-5 minutes walk from a station. Dark red is over 5 minutes walk from a station.

Analyzing the need in South Boston



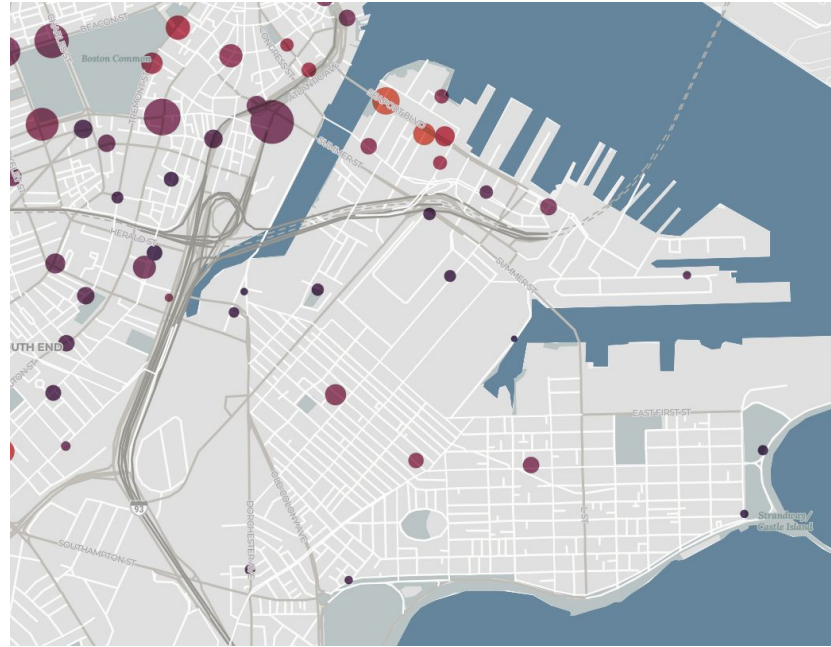
The second map shows how walking distance would improve with the proposed stations. (Note, we won't install all of the proposed new stations!)

Analyzing the need



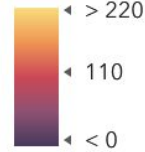
- ▶ “Lost trips” is an estimate of how many trips didn’t occur because there are no bikes available at the station
- ▶ We use the amount of time each station was empty in a month combined with the number of trips that typically start at that station

Analyzing the need

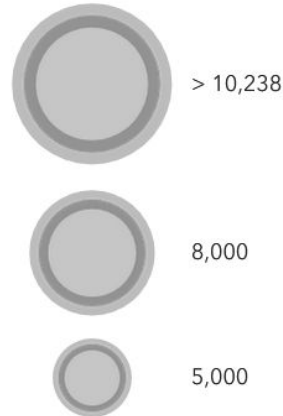


Bluebikes Station Data - Sept.
2023

Lost trips + Lost returns

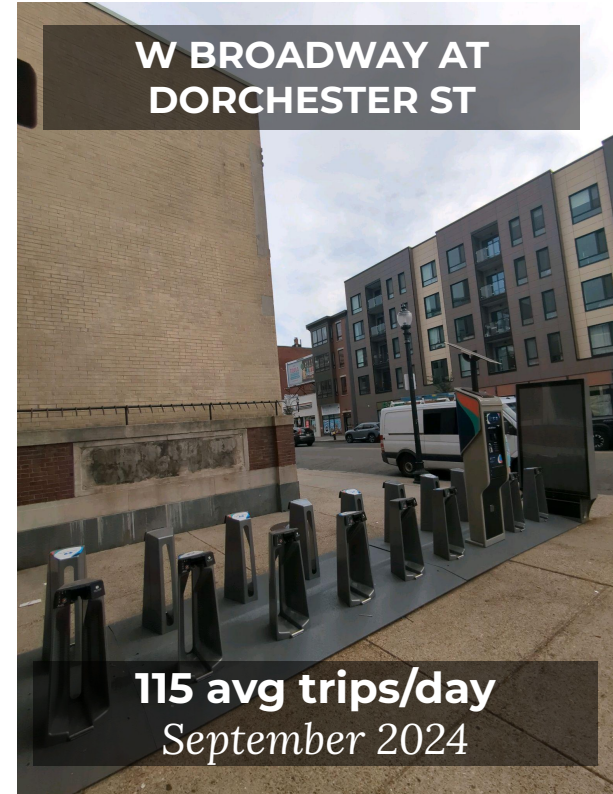


total_trips



- ▶ Some parts of South Boston and the Waterfront experience high numbers of lost trips.
- ▶ On an average Wednesday and Thursday in April 2024, all the Bluebikes at the South Boston Library had been checked out by 9 a.m.

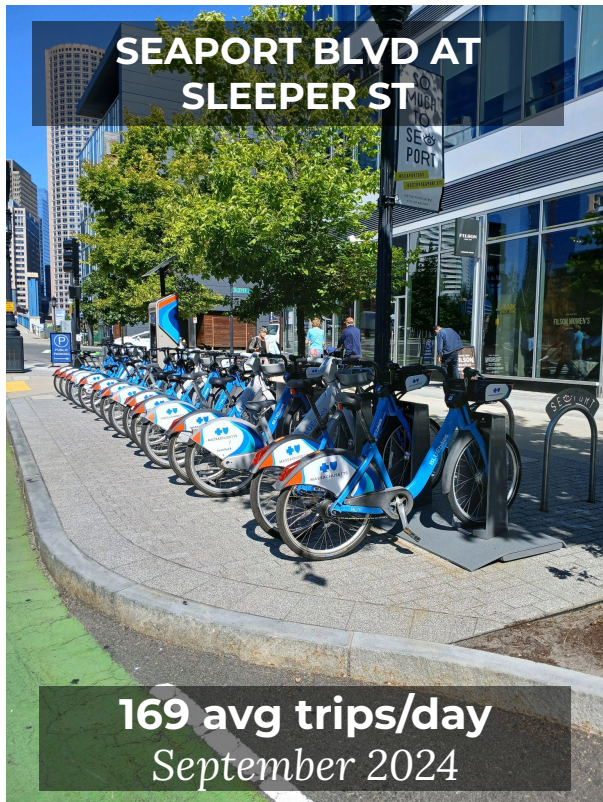
Trips Starting or Ending in South Boston



Trips Starting or Ending in South Boston

STATION	AVERAGE TRIPS/DAY SEPT 2024
W Broadway at D St	118.9
W Broadway at Dorchester St	114.7
South Boston Library - 646 E Broadway	114.0
Andrew T Stop - Dorchester Ave at Dexter St	62.9
Newmarket Sq T Stop - Mass Ave at Newmarket Sq	61.2
Farragut Rd at E. 6th St	59.2
Broadway T Stop	56.6
Murphy Skating Rink - 1880 Day Blvd	52
Columbia Rd at Tierney Community Center	50.0
Dorchester Ave at Gillette Park	30.8
Damrell St at Old Colony Ave	29.5

Trips Starting/Ending in South Boston Waterfront



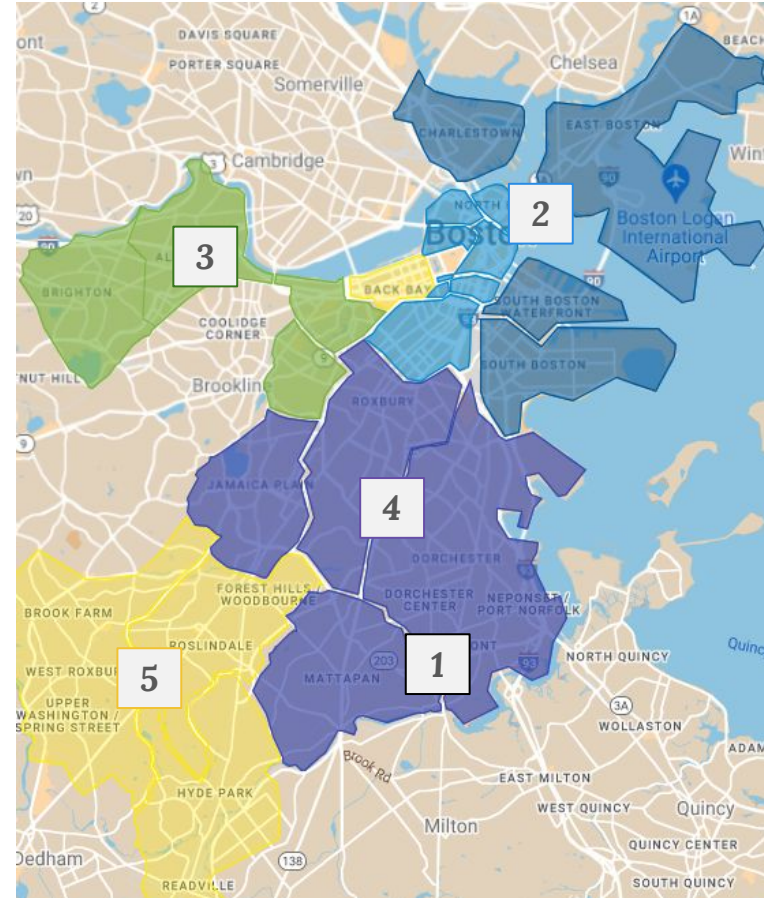
WATERFRONT STATIONS	AVERAGE TRIPS/DAY SEPT 2024
Seaport Blvd at Sleeper St	169.3
Watermark Seaport - Boston Wharf Rd at Seaport Blvd	140.9
Seaport Square - Seaport Blvd at Northern Ave	123.9
Congress St at Northern Ave	104.6
Congress St at Sleeper St	88.5
Pier 4 Blvd at Autumn Ln	87.3
Boston Convention and Exhibition Center - Summer St at West Side Dr	81.1
Fan Pier	73.6
Seaport Hotel - Congress St at Seaport Ln	69.2
The Lawn on D	67.8
State Street at Channel Center	61.9
ID Building East	56.0
ID Building West	54.5
645 Summer St	36.3
Au Bon Pain Way at Fid Kennedy Ave*	4.7

*This station was offline for most of September due to construction nearby

We're growing in phases

We are adding new stations in phases.

- ▶ In **Phase 1**, we added 8 new stations in Mattapan and Dorchester in 2023 to support the Red Line shutdown.
- ▶ In **Phase 2**, we aim to add 42 stations (installation for downtown stations has started)
- ▶ In **Phase 3-5**, we aim to add 50 new stations (Spring - Summer 2025)



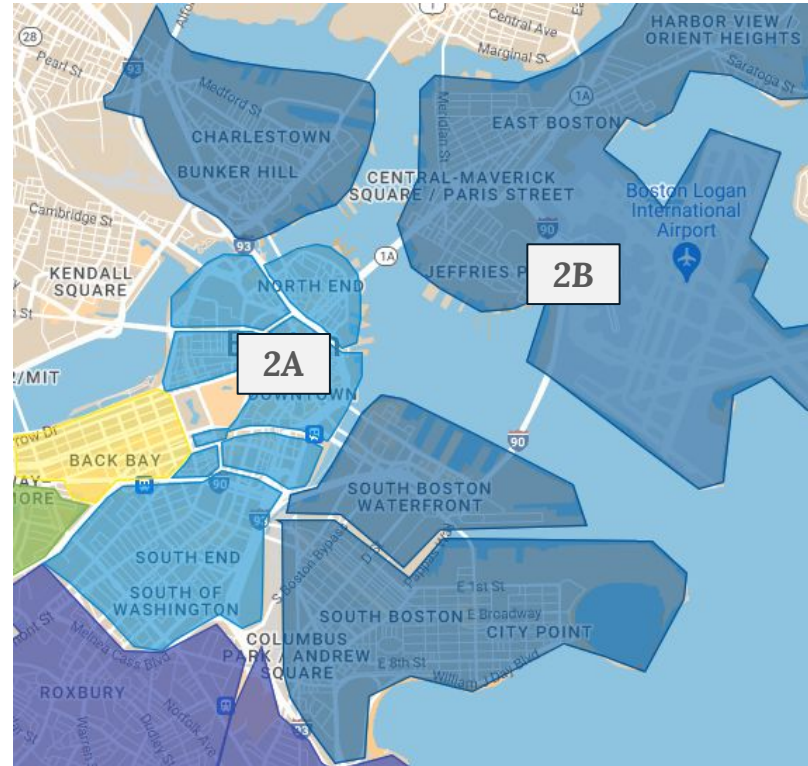
Phase 2

Phase 2A: South End, Chinatown, Beacon Hill, Downtown, West End, North End

- ▶ Jul - Aug 2024 | Community engagement
- ▶ Sep - Oct 2024 | Installation
 - South End: 5-7 new stations
 - Downtown: 17-22 new stations

Phase 2B: East Boston, Charlestown, South Boston, Waterfront

- ▶ Oct - Nov 2024 | Community engagement
- ▶ Dec 2024 | Installation begins
 - Charlestown: 6-8 new stations
 - East Boston: 2-5 new stations
 - South Boston & Waterfront: 7-14 new stations



Community engagement for this phase

- ▶ 4 Open Houses
 - October 17, East Boston
 - October 22, Charlestown
 - November 7, South Boston (today!)
 - November 14, virtual
(bit.ly/expansion-november)
- ▶ Online Surveys
(boston.gov/bike-share-survey)
 - We've posted signs and flyers at sites directing people to the surveys.



What's next for us?

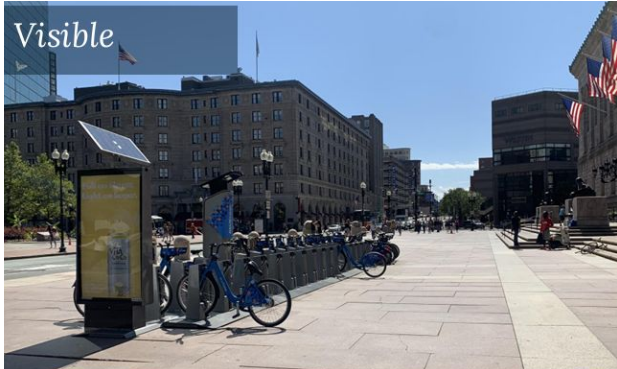
- ▶ Consider all comments from Open Houses, surveys, and email
- ▶ Narrow down our list of sites
- ▶ Finalize locations and get permits

What we've heard so far

- ▶ Hundreds of responses on the survey - nearly all respondents live in 02127
- ▶ Existing stations are often empty or full
 - *“Great spot! Nice to have it be off the street, and the stations in either direction down Broadway are always full/empty”*
- ▶ Some parts of South Boston do not have access to Bluebikes
 - *“This area of Boston is a Bluebikes desert”*
- ▶ Opposition from some to removing vehicle parking spaces
 - *“By placing Bluebikes at this location you are taking away much needed parking.”*

Station siting requirements

Good locations are...



Off-Street: Sidewalks, Plazas



In-Street: Parking Lanes

A station with parking for 15 bikes takes the same space as two cars



Private Property



Other Agencies and Departments

MBTA and DCR will sometimes host our stations
Agencies/departments must agree and sign legal documents



Review potential sites

Open House

- ▶ Sites are arranged by neighborhood.
- ▶ Visit each table to review and give comments.
- ▶ Staff are available to answer questions

Survey(s)

- ▶ You can share comments by survey through the end of November. Spread the word!

boston.gov/bike-share-survey

Review sites and share your thoughts

- ▶ *Where do you travel to/from in this neighborhood?*
- ▶ *What do you like/dislike about the site?*
- ▶ *What do you know about the site that we might not know?*

Ideas? Questions? Comments?

- ▶ boston.gov/bike-share-expansion
- ▶ bikeshare@boston.gov