

Allston-Brighton Progressive Chapter Meeting Agenda

Date: Tuesday, August 5, 2025

Time: 6:30PM

Location: PSF Community Center, New Balance Room (640 Washington St, Brighton, MA 02135)

1. Welcome and Introductions (10 min)

- Quick round: name + favorite animated show or movie

2. Presentation & Feedback from Grey Black, Boston Planning Department, on Allston Brighton's Community Plan

- [The plan](#)
- ABHA is offering walking tours of the critical areas, FYI!
 - **Monday August 11th 5:30-6:30pm** (Packards Corner and Allston Village) (immediately before Urbanism Reading Group @ Model Cafe from 6:30-8:00pm) (<https://partiful.com/e/2BvpwBYixxJ7punt5cqA>)
 - **Sunday August 17th 10:00am-12:00pm** (Cleveland Circle and Commonwealth Avenue) (<https://partiful.com/e/aagtr9EMDgkFKUx8NCq1>)
 - **Saturday August 30th 10:00am-12:00pm** (Brighton Center and Oak Square) (<https://partiful.com/e/8FSGiwDlualZ5H8Qgifi>)
 - **Sunday September 7th 11:00am-1:00pm** (Market Street, Soldiers Field Road/Leo Birmingham Strip, Lower Allston) (<https://partiful.com/e/EQf64ZI2qdsF3powMA6e>)
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3. Quick Recap of Last Meeting & Organizing Fair July 14

4. City Council Races/Candidate Forums - SEPT/OCT

- Candidates in our district: Pilar Ortiz, Liz Breadon
 - Plan to host an A-B District Candidate Forum (possibly with ABHA/ABHC)
 - Brainstorm outreach/recruitment ideas for forum + turnout
 - Endorsement?
- At-large candidates
 - Co-hosted forum, recording [here](#) and solid recap [here](#)
 - No immediate clarity terms of final endorsements from PWRR and JPP on final endorsement (Valdez vs. Matheson)

- Endorsement?

5. Ongoing Action Opportunities

- Join the State House rules accountability team (Act on Mass x Progressive Mass)
- Dear Legislator postcards
 - Corporate Fair Share
 - Location Shield Act
 - Safe Communities Act (new)
 - Make Polluters Pay (new)
- Letters to the editor/editorials in local papers during August recess ([Templates](#) for Safe Communities Act & Corporate Fair Share)

6. Upcoming Events & Trainings

- Power Lunch Thursdays (calls) and other ops here:
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1YkzjISmSrK9FUvmcJ7Q3sZWWeMEjSsxmPxQK KvAUTg/edit?tab=t.0>
- Mass Dems Convention (Springfield) Sept. 13

7. Next Meeting and Future Planning (5 min)

- Wear masks for next meeting
- Try virtual meeting (perhaps after municipal elections?)
- As we grow, time to start thinking about a more formal structure. For now, here's a [great primer to read](#) on how other PM chapters have organized!

8. Any other business?

9. Closing & Call to Action (5 min)

- Action Steps: Pick at least 1 action (email, event, volunteering) to complete before next meeting:
 - [Join Slack](#) if you haven't
 - Write a letter to the editor
 - Send postcards to legislators
 - Bring a friend or neighbor to September's meeting!
 - Attend a protest
 - Propose and/or chair a committee (e.g., for a time-bound event like a D9 candidate forum, or an ongoing effort like growing membership).

Meeting Notes

Zoning Discussion with Grey Black

- [Squares + Streets](#) is an ongoing zoning project focused on housing, public space, small businesses, arts and culture, and transportation in neighborhood centers and along main streets
 - Different timelines for different neighborhoods (ex. Brighton Center, Cleveland Circle, etc.)
 - Cleary Square next
 - Based on political will – constituents can build momentum for their neighborhood to be a focus
 - A-B will be a part of this as part of the A/B community rezoning plan
- A/B Rezoning Approach
 - Will modernize A/B land code + provide guidance/framework for future developments
 - Make it easier to create mixed-use buildings
 - Enable new housing to be built
- Next open house: September (date TBD) - will discuss 10 focus areas in AB
- Can email feedback any time
- December 2025: Public meeting on zoning plan
- Spring 2026: Plan (hopefully) passes!
- Contact **Community Engagement Manager Grey Black** with any questions!
 - 617-858-0269
 - grey.black@boston.gov

A/B Admin

- **Committees:** May be useful to divide ourselves up into committees around events, tactics, admin tasks (e.g., outreach committee, committee for a specific event or legislator engagement)
 - As we grow, time to start thinking about a more formal structure. For now, here's a [great primer to read](#) on how other PM chapters have organized!
- **Candidate Forums:** A/B may not do any endorsements this cycle & focus on our own district race only
 - Candidates in our district: Pilar Ortiz, Liz Breadon
 - Plan to host an A-B District Candidate Forum (possibly with ABHA/ABHC)
 - Brainstorm outreach/recruitment ideas for forum + turnout
- **Virtual Meetings**
 - Start adding more to the schedule, maybe Dec/Jan timeframe?
- **Email Management**
 - Potentially utilize OnePassword

Next Steps

- ☐ Caitlin to investigate password manager for emails (Beehiiv & gmail)
- ☐ Emily to send Jon a recap of organizing fair (to send via Mobilize)
- ☐ Caitlin to coordinate next meeting about city council candidate forum meeting
- ☐ At next few meetings we will discuss more formalized structure & identify some committees to work on