



March 31, 2014

Parklet Letter of Support and Programming Proposal

Interim Commissioner Jim Gillooly  
Department of Transportation  
One City Hall Square  
Boston MA 02201

Roslindale Village Main Street (RVMS) is eager to install and program a Department of Transportation parklet in our Main Street district, Roslindale Village.

Recognizing that broad community support is an integral component of a successful parklet initiative, RVMS has first secured buy-in from a district business owner (Fornax Baking Co.), has drafted a number of programmatic uses and one-time uses, and has begun to reach out to our many business partners, resident partners, and non-profit partners in order to generate excitement and a sense of public ownership of the project.

RVMS anticipates that the parklet will be popular by sheer proximity to Fornax Baking Co. — an incredibly busy café with little indoor seating that is open from 7am to 7pm and is very much an anchor business in our district. Our center of community life, Adams Park, will be temporarily closed this summer and we are desperate for a location to host our summer concerts and movie nights. Our parklet would allow us an intimate setting for these free, beloved events. Our summer farmers market draws 3,000 people to Roslindale every Saturday and we've learned that many market attendees visit Fornax Baking Co — we'd love to host regular demos at the parklet which would allow us to swap recipes or actually prepare easy meals with regular market ingredients. RVMS is partnering with the Greater Roslindale Medical and Dental Center on a Veggie RX program and such cooking demos are an integral part of our Veggie RX plan. Additionally, RVMS has been contacted by many community groups who are looking for "third spaces" to hold their regular meetings and the parklet would be a great fit.

Finally, Roslindale Village is fortunate to have a sizeable Municipal parking lot as well as a sizeable MBTA Commuter Rail lot within walking distance of the proposed parklet site. Roslindale Village also has a growing cyclist community that has been increasingly vocal and eager for signs of 'complete streets' planning.

For these reasons and more, RVMS heartily supports installation of a parklet in Roslindale Village.

Christina M. DiLisio

Executive Director