

The following Competition Updates are as of January 5, 2015 and include Updates, Summary of the December 2, 2014 Competition Webinar and formal responses to questions both asked during the Webinar and submitted directly to Boston Living with Water, and Frequently Asked Questions with responses.

### **COMPETITION UPDATES**

1. Anonymous Submissions – Phase One submissions are to be anonymous. The Submission Title, Design Narrative, and the Design Proposal / Exhibit Board submissions should NOT including any identifying names or logos of the individuals or firms involved in the proposal. PLEASE NOTE, this is a change from the response given during the webinar.
2. Submission Acceptance Date – Boston Living with Water will begin accepting submissions at 12 noon (Eastern Standard Time) on Tuesday, January 6, 2015.
3. Submission Due Date – Boston Living with Water will stop accepting submissions at 12 noon (Eastern Standard Time), January 29, 2015. This date is unchanged.

### **SUMMARY OF COMPETITION WEBINAR**

#### **Presenters:**

Gretchen Schneider, BSA – welcome  
Julie Wormser, TBHA – designing with water principals  
John Dalzell, BRA - Sites and Competition Challenges, Schedule and Logistics, and

#### **Presentations:**

The two presentations given during the webinar, “Preparing for the Rising Tide” and the “Competition Webinar” are available in the [Resources](#) tab of the web site.

#### **Questions and Responses**

1. *Have the bridges between North End and the North West been affected by Sandy?*  
We are unaware of any impacts due to super storm Sandy.
2. *Are we free of zoning regulations?*  
Yes, submissions do NOT need to conform to current zoning regulations.
3. *What are the project boundaries for the Morrissey Blvd site?*  
The focus of the Morrissey Boulevard site is “Infrastructure”. There are no set boundaries for this site.

4. *Is it OK to use company logos on the proposal board?*  
No. Identifying names or logo should NOT be used on Design Narrative or the Design Proposal / Exhibit Board.
5. *How many boards can be submitted?*  
Only one Design Proposal / Exhibit Board may be submitted per submission.
6. *Are you making list of competition registrants' public?*  
No.
7. *Is there a limit to the number of team members?*  
No.
8. *Will a DWG (CAD file) of the 1' topography for the Prince Building site be released beyond the current PDF of the site package?*  
No.
9. *On the Morrissey Blvd site, can we work with the 93 (expressway) Corridor as well?*  
The focus of the Morrissey Boulevard site is "Infrastructure". There are no set boundaries for this site.
10. *Will registration numbers be provided and should they be shown on the boards?*  
No. The website will provide a link between registrations and submissions.
11. *Who will be judging the submissions?*  
A jury of international and local experts will judge submissions; the [List of Jurors](#) is available on the [www.BostonLivingWithWater.org](http://www.BostonLivingWithWater.org)
12. *WHY not a blind submission?*  
Submissions will be anonymous. Please note that this is a change from the response given during the webinar.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **What is the purpose of Boston Living with Water?**

Boston Living with Water is an international call for design solutions envisioning a more resilient, more sustainable, and more beautiful Boston adapted for end-of-the-century climate conditions and rising sea levels.

The competition seeks leading planners, designers, and thinkers to help the City of Boston and area businesses and residents develop and apply new concepts and strategies, including designing with water principles, to increase the City's sustainability and climate change resiliency. Selected finalists will further advance location-specific solutions to coastal flood dangers and rising sea levels that are beautiful and replicable.

### **What does the competition involve?**

Boston Living with Water is a two-stage planning and design competition. The first stage is an anonymous open international call for proposals seeking site-specific planning and design solutions from multi-expertise competition teams. The second stage involves up to nine finalists further developing their initial submissions.

Successful design proposals will embrace [Designing with Water strategies](#) and solve multiple urban challenges including minimizing damage from chronic and episodic coastal flooding. They will mitigate adverse building impacts on the environmental, enhance climate resiliency, be incremental, and be implementable. They will envision communities that are economically and social sustainable, inclusive, equitable and beautiful.

Teams may submit Design Proposals for one, two, or all three sites; each proposal must be specific to a single site and be individually submitted.

### **Who is sponsoring the competition?**

[The Boston Harbor Association](#), [City of Boston](#), [Boston Redevelopment Authority](#), and [Boston Society of Architects](#) are the lead organizers of the competition. We are grateful for the generous support of the [Barr Foundation](#) and [Massachusetts Coastal Zone Management](#) for making this competition possible.

### **Who can participate?**

Everyone! The design competition is structured both to engage local stakeholders and capture the imagination of leading planners, designers, thinkers, and problem solvers from around the world.

Phase I has few submission requirements in order to encourage a wide range of new ideas. Phase II requires additional detail; we encourage finalists to assemble more robust, multi-disciplinary teams to develop viable solutions that could actually be implemented.

### Where are the competition site(s) and why were they chosen?

This competition considers the challenges of adapting to climate change and rising sea levels at three sites specifically chosen for their vulnerability and where winning solutions could influence future redevelopment activities. Each site presents challenges that are representational of common urban conditions and call for scale-specific solutions.



**SITE 1: BUILDING:** Typical of the existing historic urban waterfront fabric of Boston, The Prince Building, located in the North End, embodies the challenges facing multi-owner residential buildings.



**SITE 2: NEIGHBORHOOD:** *The 100 Acres* section of Fort Point Channel District is representative of the large urban mixed-use redevelopment opportunities across Boston. It includes development sites, green and blue open spaces, multi-level infrastructure, and existing historic buildings.



**SITE 3: INFRASTRUCTURE:** *Morrissey Boulevard*, near the outer harbor and mouth of the Neponset River, provides access to Columbia Point peninsula and a range of residential, commercial, institutional, and open space areas. It exemplifies the critical transportation infrastructure connecting Boston's neighborhoods.

### Who will judge the submissions?

The Boston Living with Water Jury brings together nine local and international experts with a range of perspectives to review proposals, select finalists and winners, and to provide commentary on competition responses. They will review both initial and final submissions. Please learn more about them at <http://www.bostonlivingwithwater.org/about-2/jury>.

### How will entries be judged?

Entries will be judged based on how well they address the challenges described below. Solutions should address the unique aspects of the selected site while being replicable elsewhere. Additional site-specific challenges are included in each Site Package.

Design Proposals *must* address the principal challenge:

- End-of-century Sea Level Rise: Adapting to a five-foot increase in sea level in Boston Harbor. This means that monthly “wicked” high tides and moderate storm surges chronically reach elevation 18.5 feet on the Boston City Base (BCB) datum.

Design Proposals *should* also address each of the following challenges:

- End-of-century Climate Conditions Rising Heat: Adapting to increased annual and daily temperatures, extreme heat waves, increased precipitation and storm severity.
- Incremental Adaptation: Adapting to a continuously changing environment and the incremental nature of sea level rise. Designs should anticipate the ongoing need to adapt iteratively for rising sea levels and increasing coastal flooding over time.
- Community Infrastructure: Retaining and supporting Cultural and, Social identity, ensuring an equitable economic sustainability, opportunity and prosperity resiliency, and providing for ongoing community engagement and connectivity. Energy providing for cost efficient and security energy, local and affordable food cost and availability, accessible transportation and connectivity mobility, accessibility and/or coastal and marine biological health.
- Environmental Infrastructure and Urban Infrastructure: Ensuring coastal and harbor marine biological health, and the ongoing vitality of our natural systems. Providing for continuously changing environment and the incremental nature of sea level rise. Designs should anticipate the ongoing need to adapt iteratively for rising sea levels and increasing coastal flooding over time.
- Solutions that move beyond simple flood control and embrace one or more living with water design strategies

**Are there any master plan, programmatic, or zoning requirements?**

Submissions do NOT need to reflect current master plans, programmatic, or zoning requirements.

**Can entries assume a large scale flood barrier will be constructed by the end of the century?**

No. Proposals should address projected and future sea level rise conditions at each site.

**Can we include additional materials?**

No. Judges will consider only a single Design Proposal / Exhibit Board and a 500-word Design Narrative in each first round submission. Please limit your thinking and strategy to these two formats.

**How many sites can we submit a proposal for?**

Teams or individuals may submit proposals for one, two, or all three sites. Proposals must be for an individual site and only one site per proposal.

**Will submissions be anonymous?**

Yes. The submitted Design Board and Design Narrative should NOT including any identifying names or logos of the individuals or firms involved in the proposal. PLEASE NOTE, this is a change from the response given during the webinar.

**Does each team member need to individually register?**

No. At least one team member needs to register so that competition organizers can be in touch with you. You may register at <http://www.bostonlivingwithwater.org/downloads>. Entrants must register to download site-specific materials.

### **How does my team submit materials?**

Phase I proposals must be submitted via web upload at <http://www.BostonLivingWithWater.org> between 12:00 noon EST on January 6, 2015 and 12:00 noon EST on January 29, 2015. Please go to <http://www.bostonlivingwithwater.org/how-it-works> for more details on Phase I and II submissions.

### **What is the competition schedule?**

#### *Phase I*

- October 29, 2014 – Website launches
- December 2, 2014 – Competition webinar
- January 6, 2015 – Phase I submission acceptance begins at 12 noon EST
- January 29, 2015 – Phase I submissions due by 12 noon EST
- February 26, 2015 – Phase I Finalists announced; public jury and exhibition

#### *Phase II*

- May 15, 2015 – Phase II Submissions due by noon EST
- June 2015 – Award ceremony and exhibition

### **What happens if we win?**

*Phase I:* The jury will choose up to nine finalists (three per site) from the Phase I entries. Each finalist will be awarded \$1,000 and publicly recognized. Finalists will be provided an opportunity to expand their proposal and compete in Phase II. Design proposals from selected respondents and finalists will be promoted and exhibited by the Boston Living with Water Competition organizers.

*Phase II:* One winner per site will be selected. The best overall proposal will be awarded \$20,000, the second and third best will each be awarded \$10,000. Finalists' proposals will be promoted and exhibited by the Boston Living with Water Competition and organizers.

### **What if I still have more questions?**

Please feel free to contact us at <http://www.bostonlivingwithwater.org/contact-us>.

Good luck and thank you for participating!