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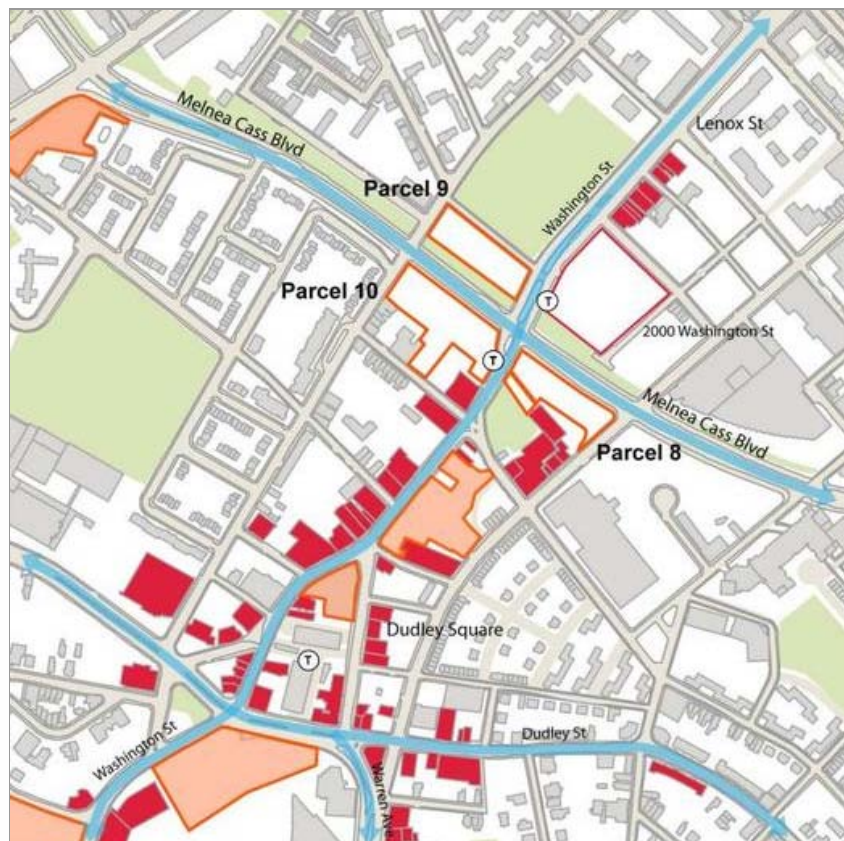
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ROXBURY, SOUTH END

Development ideas sought for 3.5 acres of vacant Roxbury land

Posted by Matt Rocheleau April 28, 2011 04:52 PM

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(Courtesy: Boston Redevelopment Authority)

Officials released a request for proposal this week for ideas on developing Parcel 9 and Parcel 10 in Roxbury.

By Matt Rocheleau, Town Correspondent

The city has begun seeking proposals for developing roughly three-and-a-half acres of vacant land in Roxbury along two parcels separated by Melnea Cass Boulevard and abutting Washington Street and Shawmut Ave on either side.

Broad goals for development are laid out in the [proposal request](#) from the city's redevelopment authority and the state transportation department – each of which own portions of the two parcels.

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Those goals include: implementing the neighborhood's strategic master plan with an emphasis on maximizing economic development and job creation, including for jobs for neighborhood residents; opportunities for community and/or minority equity and ownership, local small business development, and more home ownership opportunities

The request also recommends developers focus on offering ideas that will: catalyze on economic growth of adjoining parcels and other nearby developments – including Dudley Square's business district; reinforce the physical, social, and economic fabric of Roxbury; leverage the neighborhoods resources; build with sustainability; and have a successful transit-oriented design.

The objectives for developing the land were worked out through a three-year partnership with community members, residents' groups, the city and elected officials to create the [Roxbury Strategic Master Plan](#), which provides a strategic framework for 10 to 20 years of future economic growth.

The tracts near the neighborhood's border with the South End are dubbed Parcel 9 and Parcel 10. They are just over 2 acres and just over 1.3 acres, respectively.

"In its planning work for Parcels 9 and 10, the [Roxbury Strategic Master Plan Oversight Committee] and Roxbury community have arrived at a preference for 'wealth-generating' uses that create jobs, equity, and sustainable economic growth for Roxbury residents," reads the solicitation for development ideas.

"Development proposals should consider small to mid-size retail and commercial anchor tenants that complement and strengthen the Dudley Square retail business district," continues the request.

The deadline for development proposals, which the city began seeking earlier this week, is July 25.

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