2020 Summer News

Working for community control of land, development without displacement, permanently affordable housing, and shared neighborhood spaces.

Responding to the moment

As both the COVID pandemic and #BlackLivesMatter movement continue to expose deep inequalities and systemic problems, the moment offers both new challenges and new opportunities to work for change.

Take a stand for Black lives!
Chinatown CLT has been working with APIs CAN (civic action network) to stand in defense of Black lives, hold difficult conversations, and explore how funding shifts could support new community-led approaches to public safety.

Keep wearing those masks!
While the economy is reopening, mask-wearing and physical distancing are important to protect those who are most vulnerable, as much of the US remains in the first surge.

Support Chinatown businesses!
COVID's worst impact on our community is economic. Restaurants have been the mainstay of Chinatown's economy for decades, employing hundreds of workers. Support local businesses by ordering take-out for a special treat!

A healthy recovery calls for social housing
Click to read our op-ed!

Business is backed up at the State House, but there is still an opportunity to pass important bills to keep people in their homes.
Stay in touch!
Join the Chinatown Stabilization Committee if you would like to help us do with a tenant survey and outreach effort. Contact us to help.

Please contact your legislators and ask them to pass TOPA (H 1260/S786) to give tenants the right to purchase if their homes are being sold, and to support the Housing Stability Act to extend the moratorium on evictions and foreclosures.

Building a Community Land Trust movement
Chinatown CLT is part of the Greater Boston Community Land Trust Network, which brings together seven local CLTs for peer learning, resource sharing, and shared advocacy. This month, we held two trainings to learn about affordable housing finance.
We also are members of the national Homes for All campaign and a translocal committee called Our Homes Our Land! We hold monthly peer learning meetings on Zoom to share our experience of working for community controlled land and housing. Contact us if you would like to join these learning sessions.

Chinatown Master Plan 2020
Chinatown CLT and Metropolitan Area Planning Commission have anchored a participatory community planning process to produce Chinatown Master Plan 2020, supplementing PLAN: Downtown with Chinatown’s vision and development priorities.

Download a copy in English or Chinese here.

Some important followup steps are:
- Proposals for Chinatown zoning amendments
- A plan to support Chinatown businesses
- Creation of a Historic and Cultural District
- Proposing new guidelines for what makes a healthy community

Contact ChinatownCLT@gmail.com if you are interested in getting involved.

Friends of Reggie Wong Park
Chinatown CLT has continued to work with Chinatown and Leather District neighbors, as well as volleyball and basketball players who are the most regular users of Reggie Wong Park to finalize the community’s lease of the land from Mass Department of Transportation and begin planning for modest immediate improvements and upkeep of the park.

In April, we incorporated Friends of Reggie Wong Park, Inc., a nonprofit corporation which will become the leaseholder and provide a governance structure for park planning and programming. The board includes Chinatown and Leather District residents, park users, and a Wong family representative. Friends of RWP will also explore potential collaboration with the Greenway for broader open space improvements in the future.

Contact us at ChinatownCLT@gmail.com or 617.259.1503 if you would like to get involved.

Row House Preservation
Chinatown CLT purchased two row house properties on Oak Street and Hudson Street. We are moving forward with renovations this summer in order to develop seven permanently affordable, low-income homeownership units.

Donations to our Row House Preservation Fund will provide us flexibility and creativity to continue to preserve other row house properties.

Click to make a gift today, call, or email ChinatownCLT@gmail.com if you would like to learn more.

Support community control to stabilize Chinatown!
Anyone can become a member of Chinatown CLT if you agree with our mission and pay $5 annual dues. Chinatown residents are voting members; non-residents are supporting members.

Click **here** to **become a member or donate** to Chinatown CLT!