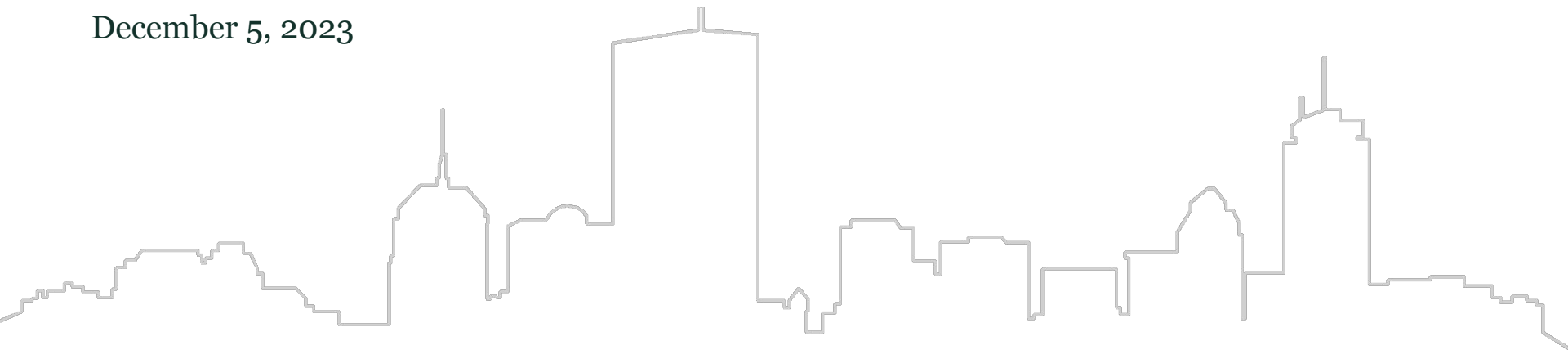


Our Shared History: Discussing Systemic Racism and Boston's Climate Opportunities



Presented by the Boston Green Ribbon Commission and Embrace Boston

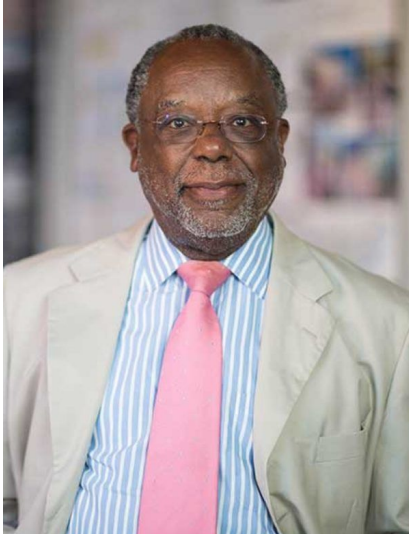
December 5, 2023



Agenda

- 2:00 Program Description
- 2:05 Overview of the Shared History Report
- 2:15 Development in Boston and Historic Harms
- 2:30 Patterns of Racial Injustice in Boston
- 2:45 Future of Climate Justice in Boston
- 3:00 Moderated Discussion & Q&A

Participants



Theodore C. Landsmark
Director, Kitty and Michael Dukakis
Center for Urban and Regional
Policy, Northeastern University



Dr. Imari Paris Jeffries
President and CEO,
Embrace Boston

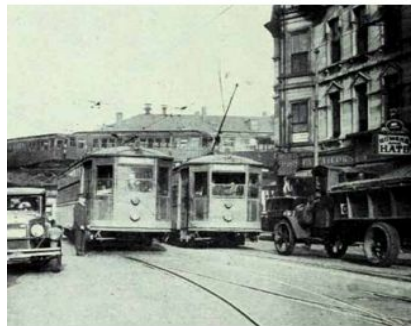


**Reverend Mariama
White-Hammond**
Chief of Environment,
Energy, and Open Space, City
of Boston



Our Shared History

Using Boston's Climate Opportunities
to Address Historical Racism



1. Patterns of Racial Injustice Historically

- Redlining and disinvestment
- Suburbanization and zoning separated usages
- Underfunding public schools for students of color
- Transit system developed to serve wealthier suburbs
- Less green space, fewer parks

2. Results of Racial Injustice Today

- A segregated majority-minority city
- Most new housing since 2000 is for high-income
- Black communities still concentrated in redlined areas
- A city of the rich and the poor; Black poverty 50% higher
- Dorchester-Roxbury transit void for 20% of population
- Chronic air-pollution and heat-related disease
- 76% of Boston is Environmental Justice Community

2. The Vision: An Equitable Post-Carbon Boston

- Transition the City
 - Commit to Investing in Mitigation and Resilience
 - Prioritization of Capital and Projects
- Engage the Private Sector
- Partner with Federal and State government
- Frame the Narrative

3. Practical Climate Justice Opportunities

- Establish Goals, Baseline, and KPIs
- Target Investments to Vulnerable People
- Address need for Residential Retrofits
- Focus on Equitable Workforce
- Organize Climate Justice Strategies
- Communicate Justice

GRC Initiatives and Workstreams

1. Boston Grid Modernization - Hosting the table for complex challenges
2. Mass Community Climate Bank: Enabling new public-private capacity
3. Coastal Resilience Working Group - Piloting across ownership lines
4. Heat Network - Addressing heat risk through pilot program
5. Cultural Institutions - Cultivation and Climate Action Planning
6. Information Sharing Programs: GRCx Webinars & Innovation Tours
7. **Climate Justice Network - Leveraging anchor institutions**

Ted Landmark



Imari Paris Jeffries



An aerial photograph of Boston, Massachusetts, showing a dense urban landscape. The foreground is filled with trees in vibrant autumn colors (yellows, oranges, and reds) interspersed with residential buildings. A multi-lane highway with traffic is visible in the lower right. In the background, the Boston skyline is prominent under a cloudy sky, featuring several tall skyscrapers.

GRCx Embrace Boston



8 Harm Areas

Culture, Symbols, &
Personhood
Criminal Legal System
Transportation
Housing
Education
Health
Income + Wealth
Climate + Resiliency



Why we march with Dr. Martin Luther King

We march today with Dr. Martin Luther King to protest the sufferings endured by the citizens of Boston.



WE MARCH TO CITY HALL

To protest the exclusion of the poor from anti-poverty planning.

To protest the bad faith of public officials in failing to enforce our housing codes.

To protest continued segregation in public housing.

In short, we march to protest the lie that a New Boston can be built without social justice.

WE MARCH TO THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

To protest poor and racially imbalanced schools, and demand a commitment by the School Committee to a program and timetable to end this educational genocide, beginning September 1965.

To call on the citizens of Boston to repudiate the School Committee majority which says:

"These Negro parents have no background, they are just a pair of hands."

"We do not have inferior schools; what we have been getting is an inferior type of child."

"White parents don't want their children to go to school with backward Negroes."

Will YOU Join Us?

— FREEDOM RALLY —

Pre-Rally Master of Ceremonies: Rev. Gilbert Caldwell

Welcome: Governor John A. Volpe

A Message of Welcome from Richard Cardinal Cushing

Master of Ceremonies: Rev. Virgil Wood

Speakers: Mr. Alan Gartner, Mrs. Ruth Batson, Dr. Ralph Abernathy, Dr. Martin Luther King.

Benediction: Rev. Richard Owens



Mr. Alan Gartner

Chairman, Boston Congress
of Racial Equality



Mrs. Ruth Batson

Massachusetts Commission
Against Discrimination

Rev. Virgil Wood

President, Massachusetts
Unit, S.C.L.C.



Dr. Ralph Abernathy

Vice President at Large,
Southern Christian Leadership
Conference



Dr. Martin L. King

President, Southern Christian
Leadership Conference.



Only program participants are seated on the platform. There is a reserved section for special guests.



Education Housing Poverty Social Justice

Culture, Symbols, & Peoplehood

The destruction and subjugation of culture, and the infringement of the larger culture upon people. Jim Crow and ongoing discrimination have resulted in a denial of Black and other marginalized people the right to openly express culture, appropriation of culture, and denial of the right and resources necessary to be a self-determining people. Throughout this country's history, their efforts to be self-determining have been met with violence and destruction as evidenced by the untold numbers of townships, such as Greenwood, Oklahoma; Rosewood, Florida; and Wilmington, North Carolina – townships ultimately destroyed because of the surrounding white community's jealousy and need to suppress models that refuted their claims of white superiority.

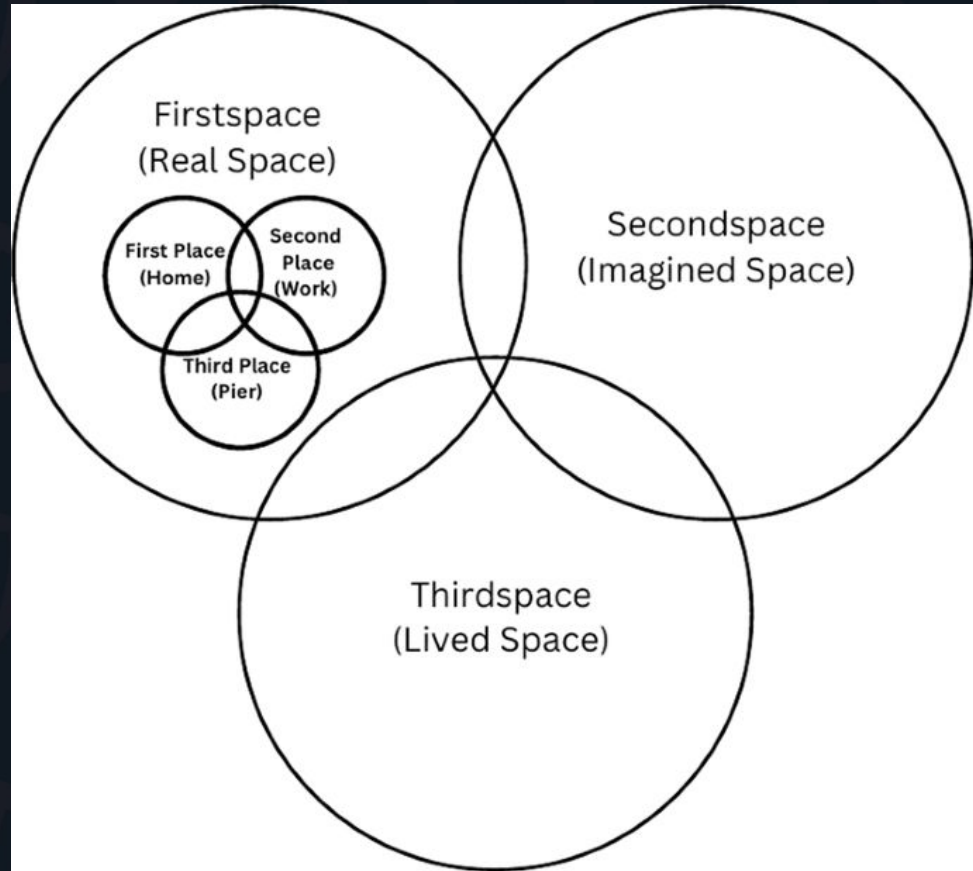


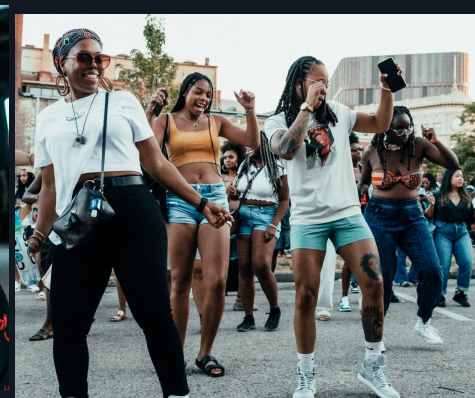
Spatial Justice

Spatial justice explores the relationship between social justice and space. It stems from the idea that justice has a geography and that the spaces in which we live, work, and interact play a significant role in shaping our life opportunities, experiences, and outcomes (Soja, 2009).

Third Space

Third Spaces are essential venues that bridge the gap between home and work, providing a neutral ground for people to interact and share cultural experiences. These spaces, easily reachable by everyone, play a vital role in promoting social equality and engagement. In an era marked by swift urban growth and global connectivity, they are key to fostering a sense of community and enhancing the overall wellness of society.





Spatial Justice

Equitable Distribution of Resources and Services: Fair sharing of things like public transport, healthcare, education, and parks across all areas.

Inclusivity and Accessibility: Designing public spaces so everyone can use them, no matter their age, abilities, race, gender, or money.

Redressing Historical Injustices: Fixing past wrongs in city development, like undoing the damage from unfair policies that hurt certain communities.

Public Participation in Urban Planning: Ensuring everyone has a say in shaping their community.

Sustainable and Resilient Development: Building cities in a way that protects the environment and can handle future challenges like climate change.

Addressing Spatial Segregation: Working to mix communities better, breaking down barriers caused by differences in income, race, or other factors.



First Reconstruction

Post Civil War
(1865-1877)



Second Reconstruction

Civil Rights era (1950s-1960s)



Third Reconstruction

2016-present

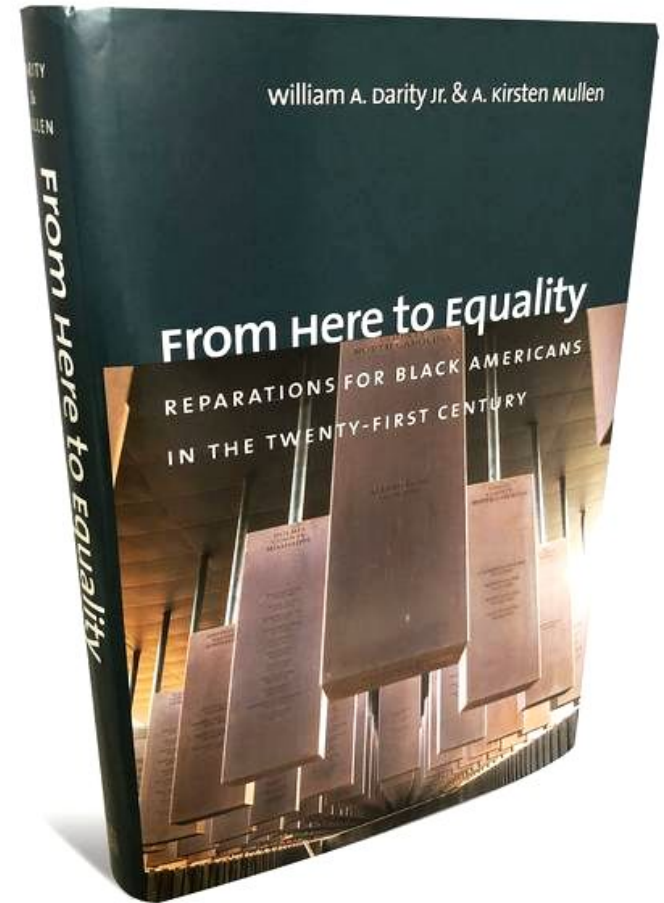
Full Reparations

Full reparations is an international law term that indicates the degree to which reparation *must redress crimes against humanity*. Full reparations *must include* the following:

1. *Cessation, assurances and guarantees of non-repetition*: State that is wrongfully injuring a people must stop and guarantee non-repetition.
2. *Restitution and repatriation*: Re-establish the situation which existed before the wrongful act was committed.
3. *Compensation*: Injuring state is obligated to compensate financially for damage.
4. *Satisfaction*: Symbolic reparations that aim to repair moral damage (e.g., public apologies).
5. *Rehabilitation*: Mind, body, emotional and spirit healing.

Darrity and Mullen Frame

- Reparations based on **ARC** for addressing grievous injustice:
 - Acknowledgment
 - Redress
 - Closure
- Grievous injustices *sanctioned, maintained and enabled* by the US government:
 - Slavery
 - Legal segregation (Jim Crow)
 - Ongoing discrimination and stigmatization



Local Reparations

1. Mayor Wu signed a 2022 City ordinance, sponsored and led by Councilor Julia Mejia and co-sponsored by Councilors Tania Fernandes Anderson and Brian Worrell, to study the impact of slavery in Boston. In the Ordinance, referred on February 2, 2022, Docket #0239, An Ordinance Creating a Commission to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African Americans
2. An Act establishing a commission to study reparations in Massachusetts By Ms. Miranda, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1053) of Liz Miranda, Lydia Edwards, Jason M. Lewis, Mindy Domb and others for legislation to establish a commission to study reparations in Massachusetts.

Boston
Green Ribbon
Commission

Chief Mariama White-Hammond



Thank You

Questions? Please type them into the chat.

