



UPDATE ON WHITE STADIUM

The Boston Parks Commission has announced that it will vote on the demolition of White Stadium THIS Monday, Aug. 12, at 10 AM.

We urge you to: **Write to the commissioners and attend the Zoom call**

<https://www.boston.gov/public-notices/16217866>

It is just two weeks since the Commission chose not to vote on the demolition request after hearing from numerous passionate parties that too many questions and concerns were unanswered.

<https://www.bostonglobe.com/2024/07/29/metro/white-stadium-parks-commission-vote/>

One thing is clear: THE QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS THAT WERE RAISED HAVE NOT BEEN ANSWERED.

Pending litigation by the Emerald Necklace Conservancy raises serious issues of regulatory compliance and the privatization of public land; discovery is still underway and a decision is expected in the spring. Given these important matters affecting the public interest, the Parks Commission should take no action until the court decides.

If the Commission approves demolition, it will have thumbed its nose at those who have raised these concerns.

Indeed, the speed with which the demolition decision has been rescheduled suggests that the postponement was not intended to take the concerns of the neighbors and parties across the country seriously. This is particularly sad since the project most directly affects environmental justice communities surrounding the park whose concerns should be heard.

Serious questions remain regarding:

- terms of the lease with Boston University Soccer Partners and their impact on community usage
- ability of the affected neighborhoods to influence these terms

- the extent of access restrictions imposed on BPS students and the community when it comes to using the stadium
- the amount of fees to be charged, destroying Olmsted's vision of a park for ALL people
- the plans for long term maintenance and care of the facility
- parking impacts on the neighborhood
- traffic intrusion in the neighborhood
- pollution
- noise
- and the irrevocable damage to the restorative nature of Frederick Law Olmsted's Franklin Park caused by 11,000 planned visitors.

The time to address these questions is BEFORE THE PROJECT BEGINS – not after demolition occurs.

The Commission should vote against the demolition until the pending litigation is decided and all parties have received answers to their legitimate concerns.