

TRANSFORMING THE NAVY YARD

The vision plan for the Charlestown Navy Yard will be one of the most exciting transformations related to how people experience the Yard since the park's inception. Through a master development strategy, the NPS, Navy and USS Constitution Museum are collaborating on making the Yard a place that is fitting for a national park that hosts America's "Ship of State" - USS *Constitution*, within the context of a working navy yard that reveals 174 years of naval heritage.

Transformation will be both physical and programmatic. A new "gateway" along Constitution Road will integrate the NPS visitors center, USS Constitution Museum and USS *Constitution*. It will serve as both a port on the Freedom Trail and a portal to the rich history, contemporary relevance and possible futures. This gateway will be an inviting space that allows people to create diverse experiences – opportunities for compelling programs, hands-on exhibitry, sweeping views of the harbor and city skyline, community spaces and moments for recharging and contemplation. Landscape enhancements will be noticeable with the restoration of historic buildings, restored artifacts like the massive cranes and dry dock to house USS *Cassin Young*. Throughout the Yard, a preservation standard will be applied to both NPS retained facilities, as well as several leased properties that will support the NPS in achieving its preservation and activation goals. This plan has far reaching impacts to being a good neighbor in the Charlestown community, and sustaining the national park through cost effective operational and stewardship approaches.



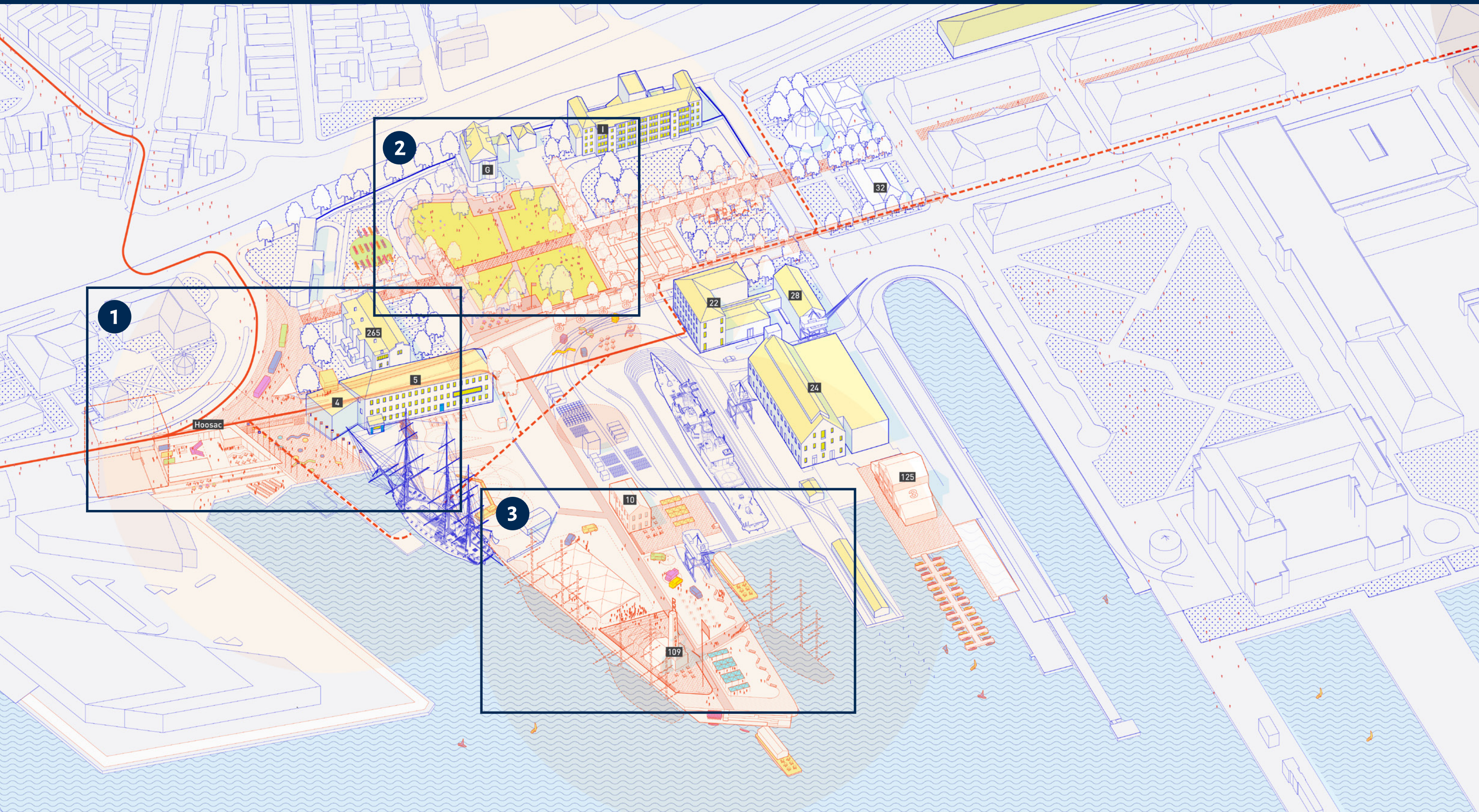
CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Prior to the transfer of the Navy Yard from the Navy to the National Park Service in the 1970's, there was little investment in the Yard's infrastructure, resulting in a park startup to address an inherited large deferred maintenance challenge. The park, Navy, City and USS Constitution Museum have made substantial investments over the years, but the preservation and active use of an historic landscape is costly. The CNY Master Development Strategy is an approach that looks at sustainable approaches that include public/private partnerships that creates efficiencies and collaborative opportunities for shared use of facilities, including shifts in the use and function of several buildings and landscape features.

The NPS commissioned the General Services Administration (GSA) to undertake engineering studies, program development studies, real estate market analysis, and a feasibility study for the adaptive reuse of the Hoosac Stores Warehouse. These plans have shaped the direction the NPS is proposing in the CNY Master Development Strategy. It is our goal to invest in the built environment that will reveal the powerful stories that these lands and waters hold. However, the current state of buildings and landscape features do not meet the needs of the park, partners, visitors and the community. The Strategy has mapped out ways for the National Park Service to reduce its footprint, increase revenues

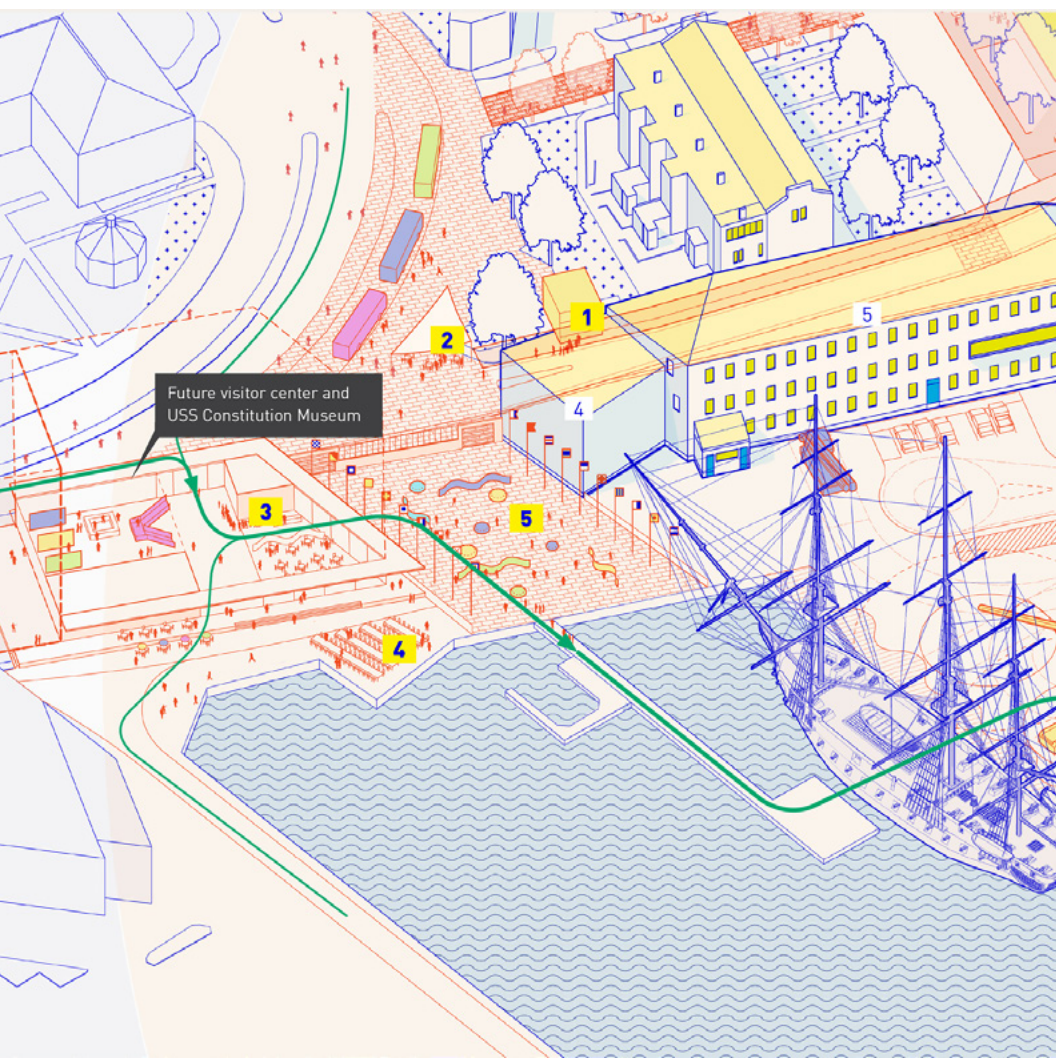
through leasing facilities, seek public/private partnerships, and enhance the visitor experience. This is a bold and complex undertaking that will require several years to accomplish. Obviously, the park will need additional operational support, funding, and planning. This concept stage is critical to evaluate the various alternatives being considered in the CNY Strategy. This meeting will provide an opportunity for the NPS to present the overall CNY Strategy and hear ideas and comments from the public. Several proposed concepts require greater input and consideration as part of the planning process. The following concepts will be presented in greater detail for consideration:

PRELIMINARY PROJECT CONCEPTS



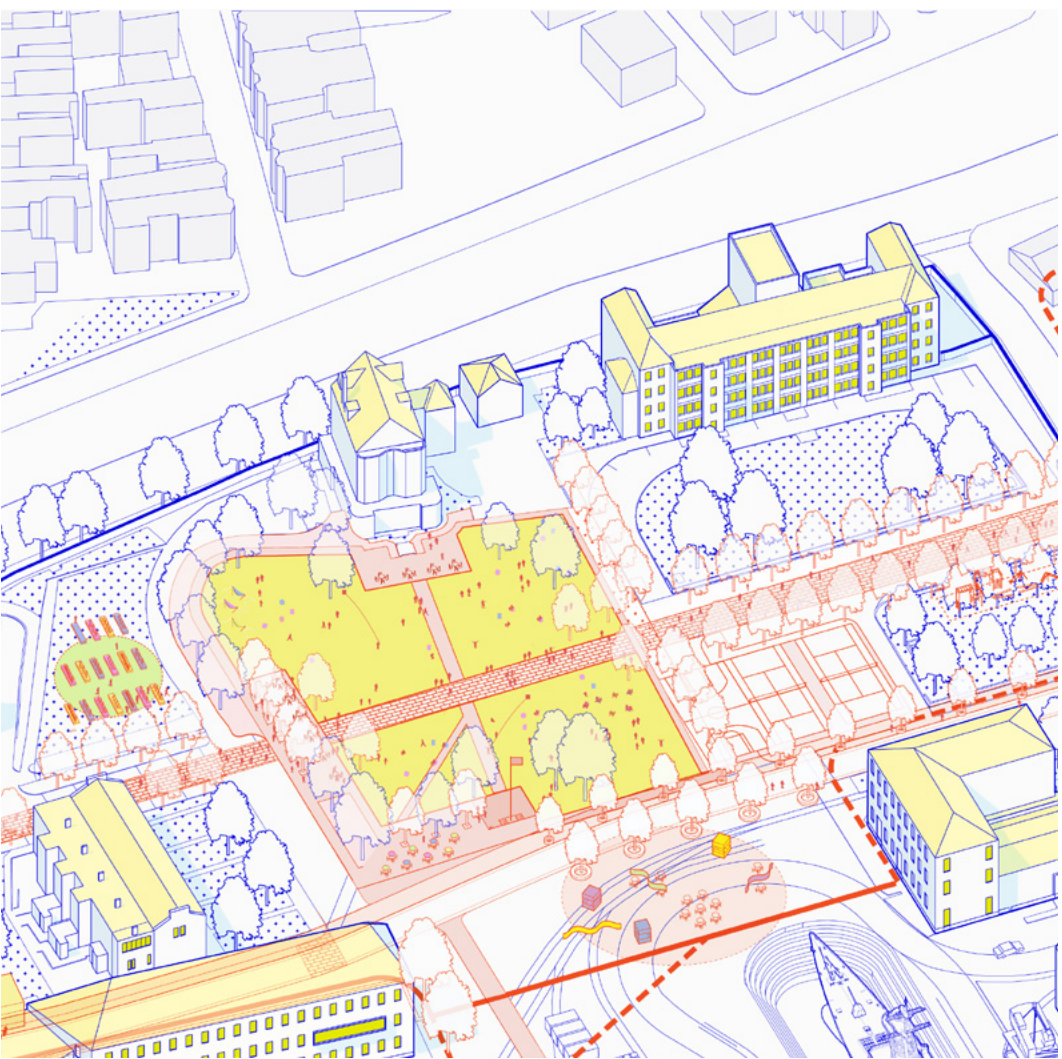
1. "GATEWAY CENTER"

— A consolidated partner operation combining the USS Constitution Museum with the NPS visitor center at the entrance to the park along Constitution Road. Options being considered include Hoosac redevelopment or demolition and building new facility.



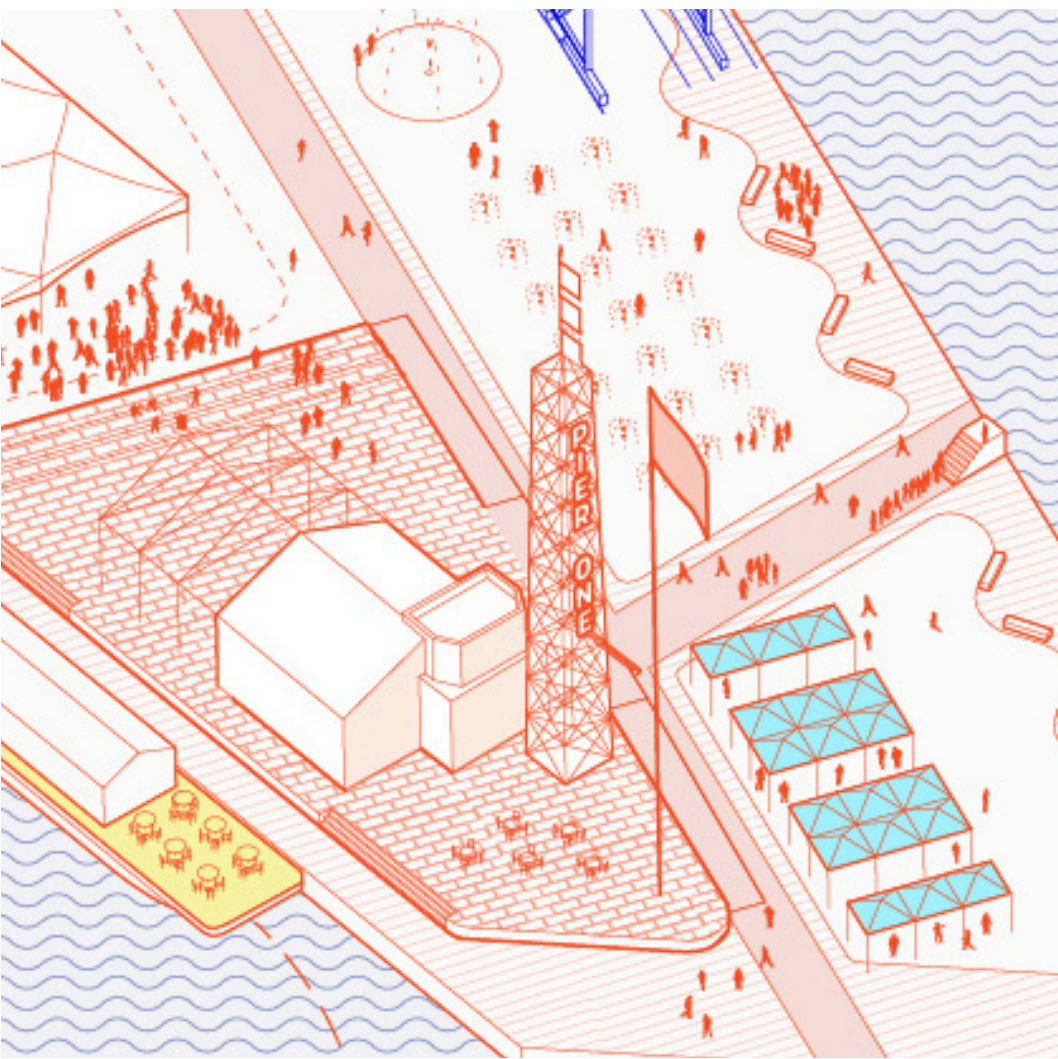
2. "GREAT LAWN"

— Restore Second Ave and connect east-west pedestrian access. Consider reconfiguring athletic courts in front of the Commandant's House lawn that would allow for additional green space, special events, and enhanced views of the ocean.



2. "PIER ONE ACTIVATION"

— Activate the water's edge along Pier1 to offer opportunities for visiting ships, special events, etc. Building 109, a temporary structure built during World War II is currently riddled with structural issues and hazardous materials, is proposed to be replaced with a "ghost structure" to provide shade for visitors, special events and other amenities.




THE PLANNING PROCESS

During the civic engagement meeting, NPS will provide a description of the CNY site, a progress update on the overall CNY master development plan, an overview of preliminary project concepts, and a question and answer session. Interested parties are encouraged to attend and provide written comments regarding the preliminary project concepts. The comment period will be open from June 2 through July 1, 2021.


Important steps in the planning process are described below.

June - July 2021	Preliminary public involvement period
July - November 2021	Refinement of Options
November - December 2021	Anticipated NEPA public review period
December - January 2022	Review and analysis of public comments

HOW TO COMMENT

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1

Submit comments electronically at the project website link below (preferred method).
<https://parkplanning.nps.gov/cnystrategy>
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2

Submit written comments to the park's headquarters in Charlestown, MA by mail to:
CNY Master Development Plan Project
Superintendent Michael Creasey | Boston National Historical Park
21 Second Ave | Charlestown, MA 02129

The 30-day comment period ends on July 1, 2021.

Notes: Comments will not be accepted by fax, email, or any other way than those specified above. Please also note that your entire comment - including personal identifying information such as your address, phone number, and email address - may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. Comments submitted by individuals or organizations on behalf of other individuals or organizations will not be accepted.



CNY WEBSITE:
For more information, visit the project website at:
<https://charlestownnavyyard.org/>

