

[Home](#) > [Allston-Brighton TAB](#) > [Arts & Lifestyle](#)

## Lincoln Street will be wearing the green

By **Auditi Guha**/ Staff Writer  
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The Lincoln Park green strip project is inching along, with a survey to begin as soon as the leaves fall.

The community met at the Honan-Allston Library Monday to discuss the next steps for the project, which organizers hope will transform a weedy, littered strip of land at the east end of Lincoln Street, Allston, between Lincoln and Cambridge streets into a public oasis.

"It's going really well and there's a lot of community support," said Heather Knopsnyder, open space community organizer with the Allston-Brighton Community Development Corp., which is spearheading the project.

"We're looking forward to see how this strip will be transformed."

On Dec. 5 from 6-8 p.m., residents will meet the four teams of semifinalists who have been chosen to design the public art installation at the site.

They are Gary Duehr of Somerville, Kathleen Driscoll of Medford, Gina Foglia of Somerville, Andrea Legge of New York, Murray Legge of Austin, Texas; Deborah Eve Lewis of Austin, Ross Miller of Allston, Nancy Selvage of Weston, Andrea Wasserman of Vershire, Vt., and Elizabeth Billings of Turnbridge, Vt.

Each group will present its vision and their work will be on display, open for public comments at the library's gallery all of December.

Each received a \$1,500 planning grant from the New England Foundation for the Arts and is working closely with the community to develop ideas and a full proposal.

The final artist team will be selected on Jan. 5 by a panel of community members and institutions involved in the project.

"Some of the artists are local and it will, hopefully, be a big event for the community to see what might happen there," said resident Harry Mattison.

Judith Nitsch Engineering of Boston is expected to conduct the survey later this month, followed by soil tests to make sure the plot is safe for community use. This will be followed by a discussion on possible use, said Andrea Post, director of grassroots program with the city's Department of Neighborhood Development, who attended the meeting.

The project received a boost with grants this summer from the New England Foundation for the Arts, the National Parks Service and federal Housing and Urban Development.

Whatever the design and art installments, the main goal is to improve that patch of land, residents said.

(Editor's note: To learn more about the project or to participate, contact the Allston-Brighton CDC at 617-787-3874)

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