The Chelsea Waterfront
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Chelsea River
❖ Waterfront industries
➢ Eastern Minerals
➢ Gulf Oil
➢ Enterprise
❖ Designated Port Area
➢ "industries that require marine transportation or large volumes of water"
❖ Master Harbor Plan

Our goal
Determine ways to promote public use on the Chelsea waterfront that express the vision of ALL residents.
Objective 1
Examining industrial and working waterfront cities in North America.

Objective 2
Identifying the preferences of Chelsea’s residents for the waterfront.

Objective 3
Determining best practices for increasing public access on Chelsea’s waterfront.

Our process
❖ Investigated waterfront cities
❖ Interviewed Chelsea representatives
❖ Conducted surveys with residents
❖ Focus group

Within Massachusetts
- Boston
- Chelsea
- Gloucester
- Lynn
- New Bedford
- Salem

Other cities in North America
- Astoria, Oregon
- Baltimore, Maryland
- Burlington, Vermont
- Hamilton, Ontario
- Port Huron, Michigan
- Vancouver, Washington
- Waukegan, Illinois

Interviewed/Researched
- Researched

What we learned

Many residents of Chelsea do not know about the waterfront
❖ The waterfront ➢ 20 of 77 were unaware of the waterfront
❖ Crime takes precedence ➢ 42 of 86 say crime is the biggest issue in Chelsea

“I did not know that was part of Chelsea”
Residents and the youth of Chelsea prefer parks and public uses

❖ "Active" open spaces
➢ Sporting facilities
➢ Walkways
❖ Family areas

"having a playground for kids of different ages"

Continuous walkways from within cities to waterfronts promote public use and facilitate access

❖ Enables pedestrian travel to the waterfront
❖ Boston’s harbor walk
  ➢ maintains continuous public access along the waterfront
❖ Astoria’s harbor walk
  ➢ Connects to downtown streets

Visual enhancements have been shown to improve use of waterfronts.

❖ Tending to plants and trees
❖ Cleaning streets
❖ Public art displays
❖ More appealing to residents

What should be done?
We recommend GreenRoots, Inc. and the City of Chelsea collaborate to inform residents about the waterfront and possibilities for redevelopment

- Bilingual Meetings
- Social Media
- Local Newspapers

We recommend that the City of Chelsea works on simple improvements to the waterfront

- “attractive and green parks lead to higher public use”
- Landscaping and gardeners
- Keep parks and streets clean
- Low cost or free public events

We recommend that the City of Chelsea collaborate with the Massachusetts Department of Transportation to invest in pedestrian access to the waterfront.

- Add crosswalks
- Improve sidewalks
- Increase signage

We recommend that the City of Chelsea and GreenRoots, Inc. collaborate to include public opinion in the upcoming Master Harbor Plan.

- Conduct regular surveys
- Providing food and child care during public meetings
- Set optimal times and venues for public meetings
Conclusion

At the end our project we delivered:

- Report of public opinion
- Comparison table of case studies
- Newspaper article

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Questions?
Works cited


