

# WHAT'S NEXT

Working with Environmental Justice communities surrounding the Gateway Path to actively involve more residents in future planning and community engagement efforts on the path.

Utilizing the Imagine Boston 2030 Action Plan to promote a strong network of interconnected paths to maximize accessibility for commuters in and around the city and reduce emissions.

Partnering with local and regional transportation authorities to study the impact of traffic management changes to adjacent roadways on the proposed Gateway Path.

Engaging the MBTA, City of Boston and the Arboretum towards a long term governance plan for the path.

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# ROSLINDALE ARBORETUM GATEWAY PATH

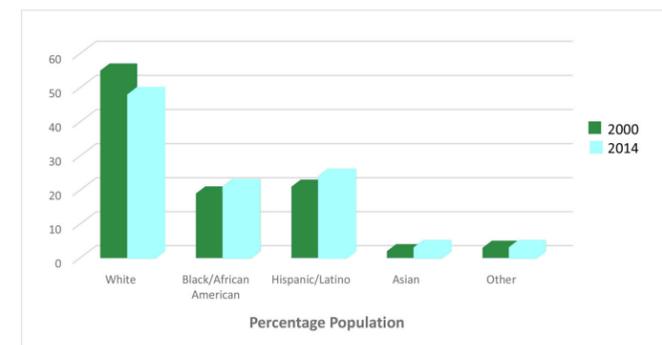


The Roslindale Arboretum Gateway Path is part of a proposed 1 1/2 mile shared use path that will travel between Roslindale business district and commuter rail station and Forest Hills station. When completed the path will improve neighborhood access to open space and transit while also providing safe and convenient passage for people walking or bicycling.

In Fall 2015, LivableStreets Alliance, Emerald Network, WalkUP Roslindale, and graduate students from Tufts University teamed up to complete a feasibility study for the Arboretum Gateway Path and its surrounding neighborhoods. The study included key interviews with stakeholders, an online survey collecting **685 responses**, and a community visioning workshop with **over 100 participants**.

## GROWING POPULATION, CHANGING NEEDS

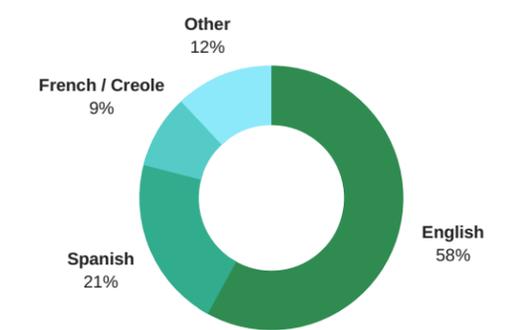
Since 2010, Roslindale's population has seen renewed growth, as people are moving to the neighborhood to escape rising housing costs in Boston's urban core.



Roslindale Population Change by Ethnicity 2000-2014 (Source: U.S. Census; American Community Survey 2010-2014; BRA Research Division 2016)

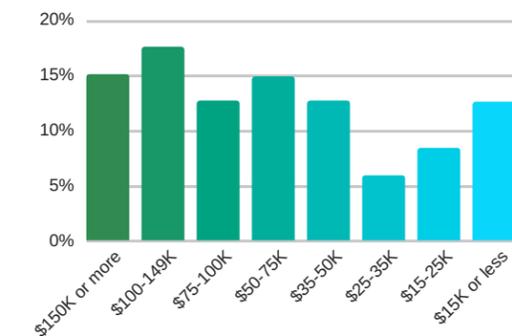
Between 2000 and 2014 Roslindale's white population decreased by 12.7% and its Black/African American and Hispanic/Latino populations increased by 10.5% and 14.3% respectively.

A number of communities within Roslindale are classified as Environmental Justice areas, defined by percent minority population, income, and/or English language isolation.



**42% of the population speaks a language other than English**

Languages Spoken in Roslindale (Source: BRA: American Community Survey 2014)



**21% of residents make less than \$25,000 a year**

Breakdown of Household Incomes (Source: BRA: American Community Survey 2014)

## ROSLINDALE AT A GLANCE

*With a robust commercial district and many civic-minded residents, Roslindale is a Boston neighborhood with a "small-town" feel.*

*Roslindale Village Main Streets works to make Roslindale Village, a safe, vibrant, and attractive community that supports independent and small 'mom and pop' shops.*

*WalkUP Roslindale and Rozzie Bikes are organizations dedicated to making Roslindale a pedestrian -and bike-friendly neighborhood.*

*Roslindale is an important access point between downtown Boston and neighboring towns to the south.*

*Forest Hills is the 9th busiest MBTA station in Boston. The station averages 15,150 entries on a typical weekday-- a 20% increase in the past decade (MBTA 2014).*

*Between 2005 and 2015, the percentage of commuters biking to work in Boston increased by 78% (American Community Survey).*

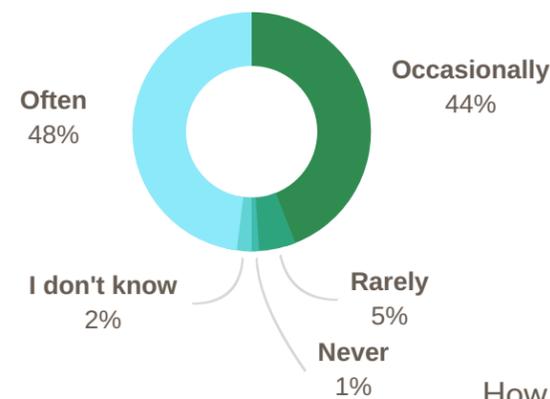
*The Washington Street corridor is in the top 5 areas of reported bicycle crashes in Boston (Boston Bikes Crash Survey, 2013).*

Currently, the MBTA Orange Line and Needham Commuter Rail tracks deter access to Arnold Arboretum for several Economic Justice neighborhoods on the eastern side of the park.

Improved access to the Arboretum, Roslindale Village and Forest Hills Station will help to create a more inclusive and equitable neighborhood.

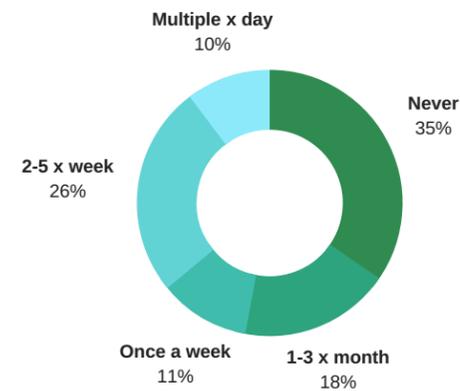
## SURVEY RESULTS

How often would you use the Gateway Path?



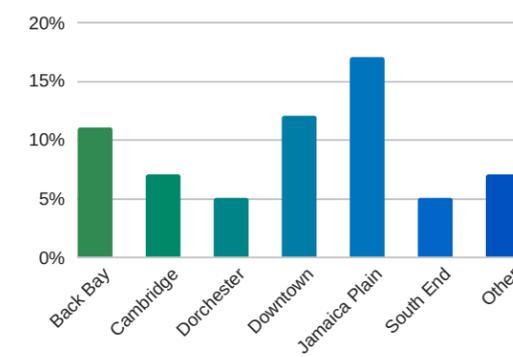
**92% indicated they would use all or part of the path often or occasionally**

How often would you use the Gateway Path to get to the Forest Hills or Roslindale Village Stations?



**70% who commuted to train stations said they would use the path once a week or more, on average**

Where do you bike, walk, or run to from Roslindale?



**The Gateway Path has the potential to increase travel on foot and by bike to destinations throughout Boston**

## WHY THE GATEWAY PATH ?

*Creates new entrances to the Arboretum, improving access to the park for all residents.*

*Boosts the local economy by making Roslindale Village a convenient destination for residents and visitors to reach on foot.*

*Promotes physical activity through safe, convenient access to green space and trails.*

*Contributes to the broader network of bike and pedestrian paths, including the popular Southwest Corridor.*

## BENEFITS OF THE GATEWAY PATH

*Access to parks is associated with higher levels of physical activity, especially when trails are present (Godbey and Mowen 2010).*

*Providing commuters with a safer, low-stress walking and biking route could help save them up to 22 minutes in commuting time and up to \$2.75 in costs per trip during peak travel times (Mobility Monitoring System from the Boston Regional MPO).*

*Shifting just 5% of travel from automobile to walking/bicycling could reduce transport-related greenhouse emissions by 0.4% (Lindsay, Macmillan and Woodward 2011).*