



GREATER BOSTON  
CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

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## **Boston's Waterfront Continues to Evolve**

*New Developments America's Walking City Better than Ever!*

**BOSTON, MA (April 3, 2014):** Boston's waterfront has a long tradition of history and innovation. From the famous Boston Tea Party in 1773 to the home of the oldest commissioned warship in the Navy, the USS Constitution, the waterfront of Boston is one of the liveliest and continually changing areas of the city. And now, new developments to Boston's Waterfront District once again have made the harbor home to a variety of activities and events that satisfy all interests.

A significant amount of hotel development will be taking place over the next few years along Boston's waterfront. A 330-room Aloft hotel and a 180-room Element hotel will open opposite the Boston Convention & Exhibition Center. This \$137.8 million project broke ground in December 2013 and will bring 510 new hotel rooms with the opening scheduled for 2015.

In addition, The Massachusetts Port Authority and the Massachusetts Convention Center Authority have issued a Request for Qualifications from parties interested in developing, financing, constructing and operating a headquarters hotel near the Boston Convention & Exhibition Center. The RFQ is the latest step by the quasi-public agencies in an effort to build a 1,200-room hotel near the corner of Summer and D streets. The \$700 million hotel project is contingent upon legislative approval of the convention center's proposed \$1 billion expansion, which would double the size of the center.

The Envoy Hotel a \$70M, 100,000 square-foot, 136-room 6-story luxury 'Autograph Collection' boutique hotel by Marriott will open in spring 2015 in the Fort Point neighborhood of Boston on the site of landmark Boston restaurant, The Barking Crab. Plans for the new hotel include a pedestrian plaza linking the property to the Boston HarborWalk, a rooftop terrace with commanding views of the downtown skyline and Boston Harbor, and 4,000 SF of ground level restaurant space.

In addition, a 156-room select-service hotel with restaurant and retail space has been approved for the corner of West Broadway and Dorchester Ave. The property will cater to business travelers with its close proximity to downtown and convenient access to public transit.

Boston's Waterfront Neighborhood is also home to restaurants by Boston celebrity chefs and the options keep growing, not only for dining, but also for special events. Celebrity chef Ming Tsai of Blue Ginger and Iron Chef has opened a new Asian gastro pub in South Boston called Blue Dragon. Legal Harborside offers 20,000 square feet, comprising three floors on Boston Harbor. Empire is a 14,000 square foot boutique Asian restaurant and lounge, just steps from the Boston Convention & Exhibition Center and can accommodate groups up to 650 people in private dining space. And Smith and Wolensky's waterfront location on Atlantic Avenue offers 10,000 square feet of space for private events with unique rooms such as, Patriots Corner, among others, with floor to ceiling windows overlooking the waterfront and Boston Tea Party Museum.

Along the harbor, you'll find the Institute of Contemporary Art and the Moakley Courthouse, both of which offer views of the harbor and city from their glass covered atriums, perfect for evening receptions and gala dinners. Just steps away, the Intercontinental Hotel and the Boston Harbor Hotel offer waterfront and city views for their guests. You'll also find the Boston Tea Party Ships & Museum, with replicas of three tall ships, interactive exhibits, and special event space, so that historic night in Boston Harbor can be relived over two centuries later.

This vibrant city has it all. Whether it's great dining, world class shopping, or the vibrant arts and cultural community, it's easy to see why Boston is the ideal place for any visit.

For more information, go to <http://www.bostonusa.com>.