

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**MAYOR WALSH ANNOUNCES BOSTON HARBOR NEW YEAR'S EVE
MIDNIGHT FIREWORKS**

*First Night Boston Celebrations Will Include the
Return of Harbor Fireworks at Midnight*

BOSTON - Wednesday, November 29, 2017 - Mayor Martin J. Walsh is pleased to announce that Boston will ring in 2018 with two spectacular synchronized fireworks displays on the Boston Harbor. One display will be near the Seaport and the second will be near the North End.

"I am grateful to the Friends of Christopher Columbus Park and to Boston Harbor Now for their efforts to bring back the Midnight Fireworks," said Mayor Walsh. "This special event will draw lots of people to our beautiful waterfront to celebrate the New Year. I hope everyone enjoys the night and rings in the New Year responsibly."

Three local nonprofit organizations – the Friends of Christopher Columbus Park (FOCCP), Boston Harbor Now (BHN) and the Wharf District Council (WDC) – worked with businesses around the harbor to bring back the nearly 40-year tradition of New Year's Eve fireworks on Boston Harbor.

"There were many residents and visitors to Boston who missed the New Year's Eve fireworks on the harbor last year," said Joanne Hayes-Rines, president of FOCCP, the all-volunteer group of neighbors and businesses that work together for the betterment of the park. "The area hotels, restaurants and other businesses enthusiastically supported our fundraising efforts to bring them back."

The firework displays will be visible all around the harbor with the optimal viewing sites at Christopher Columbus Park, Fan Pier and Piers Park.

"We're fortunate to have a mix of businesses and neighborhood organizations along the waterfront that appreciate the importance of working together to contribute to events like New Year's Eve fireworks," said Kathy Abbott, president and CEO of Boston Harbor Now, a nonprofit that focuses on public access and activation on Boston Harbor. "Working together, we can draw more people to the waterfront and assure that it is a recreational and cultural resource accessible to everyone all year long."

For a list of sponsors of the Boston Harbor New Year's Eve Midnight Fireworks, go to www.foccp.org. For a list of First Night events, go to www.firstnightboston.org.

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About Boston Harbor Now

Boston Harbor Now plans, advocates, and activates a harbor that is environmentally healthy, belongs to all, is resilient to climate change, and fosters economic opportunity.

Boston Harbor Now envisions a thriving harbor, waterfront, and islands that contribute to our social, economic, and environmental health and well-being, and are welcoming and accessible to everyone

About Friends of Christopher Columbus Park

The Friends of Christopher Columbus Park (FOCCP) is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization made up of North End and Waterfront neighbors and businesses working together for the Gem of the North End and Waterfront: Christopher Columbus Park.

The FOCCP works closely with the City of Boston Parks and Recreation Department to keep the park clean and well maintained.