

BOSTON HARBOR NOW



FY24 ANNUAL REPORT



Creating a more vibrant, resilient, and welcoming harbor *for all.*

In 2023, we brought more people to Boston Harbor to visit, learn, and benefit from the harbor, waterfront, and islands.

Together with our partners at the state, local, and national level, we worked to ensure this important resource remains accessible and welcoming to all.

We doubled down on our climate resilience efforts in anticipation of sea level rise and severe storms. We strove to create a vibrant waterfront while balancing harborside development, conserving open space, and boosting the maritime economy. We connected communities with the harbor through activation and programming that supported their individual and social health.

I am grateful for the unwavering support of our talented board members, capable and hard-working staff, partners, and generous donors.

We could not do this vital work without you, and as we envision the future of the Harbor in bold new ways this year, your backing and collaboration remain essential.



**Kathy Abbott,
President and CEO**

2024 Recipient of the Norman B. Leventhal Award for Excellence

This prestigious award recognizes leaders who have made significant contributions to our environment as well as civic leaders who continue to build a better city for all.



Since our establishment in 2016, Boston Harbor Now has become a leader in waterfront activation and climate resiliency. I am proud of how much we have accomplished. This year, the Board of Trustees voted to develop a five-year strategic plan to increase the impact of our important work on Boston Harbor's waterfront and islands. I look forward to sharing our goals and strategies with all of you.



Meaghan Hooper-Berdik,
Board of Trustees Chair

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The impact of *your* gift

Philanthropic funds help us implement and advocate for equitable climate resilience and accessibility on Boston Harbor's waterfront and islands.



11,000,000
visitors

to the Boston Harbor Islands
and Harborwalk

"I love the friendly staff, activities, music, free food, and the beautiful days."

35,450
visited

the waterfront and islands, benefiting from our free and reduced-fee programs

\$4,167,722
raised

in FY24 through individual donors, corporate partners, and grant funding

6,550
served

through programs with free food, entertainment, and recreation at Moakley Park and Carson Beach

14,000
volunteer hours

for park and island clean-ups as well as our programs

We can't do it without you!

As a charitable organization, we rely on the generosity of our donors. We are also incredibly lucky to have talented and generous volunteers on our board of trustees and advisors.

“As a donor and board of trustees member for Boston Harbor Now, I’ve had the privilege of helping to protect and improve our harbor, making it more inclusive and accessible for everyone to enjoy. It’s a rewarding feeling knowing our efforts are making a real difference in our community and environment for years to come.”

— Kevin Clarke,
Board of Trustees



Spectacle on Spectacle was a success!

Boston Harbor Now raised over \$1 million on a perfect evening in September at our annual gala on Spectacle Island. The sunset over Boston was gorgeous. The food, company and music were even better. We honored Lt. Governor Kim Driscoll for our shared commitment to the environment, advancing climate resiliency measures along the waterfront, and increasing public access to the harbor and islands.

Partnership that fuels innovation

Thanks to the support of the NPS and DCR, we invited community groups to apply for Innovation Islands grants from the Boston Harbor Island Partnership. These grants empower local voices to lead the way in reimagining how people engage with the Boston Harbor Islands. Our 11 grantees brought dance battles, jazz performances, a Latino community cruise, and more to the islands!

Keeping the waterfront and islands accessible

We contribute to vibrant communities through recreational, cultural, and social events on the waterfront, harbor and islands. One visitor lived in Boston his entire life and had never been on a boat. On the ferry to Spectacle Island, he teared up admiring the beauty and magic of the harbor. He left vowing to begin bringing his children to the Islands.

“I saw the kids bringing people together and dancing to the live music. It was beautiful.”



Ten years of community cruises

We celebrated the 10th anniversary of the Community Cruise program. Each sunset cruise welcomes different local neighborhoods and communities onto the harbor for an evening of music, dancing, food, and family-friendly activities. For many, a community cruise offers a rare opportunity to relax with family and neighbors while connecting with Boston Harbor in their own backyard.

42,357 people

introduced to Boston Harbor through the Community Cruise program since our inception



Climate change and the resilient waterfront

Through our work with the Stone Living Lab and on the Harborwalk, we support shoreline adaptation efforts in Boston and surrounding waterfront communities in anticipation of sea level rise, severe storms, and extreme heat. We work with a variety of partners at the state, local, and national levels to create a vibrant waterfront that balances development, open space, and maritime industry while preparing for the challenges of coastal flooding.



“Boston Harbor Now is the leading objective voice in greater Boston advancing the urgency of climate resiliency.”
— Corporate Partner



The Moakley Park Plan

This collaboration with public and private partners is revitalizing Moakley Park, the City’s largest waterfront park. This ambitious project addresses a major flood pathway while improving recreation opportunities where they are needed most. We believe this transformation could be a national model for the development of resilient recreational spaces in under-resourced communities in South Boston.

OUR SUPPORTERS

Thank you for your support!



\$1,000,000+

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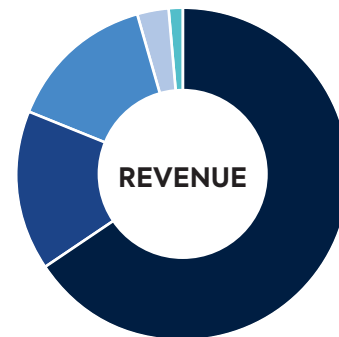
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FINANCIAL SUMMARY

April 2023–March 2024



Contributions	\$4,167,722
Government Grants & Contracts	\$982,692
Special Events	\$913,373
Programs & Earned Income	\$190,851
Other	\$84,087

FY24 REVENUE

\$6,338,725



Public Programs	\$1,744,750
Planning & Policy	\$872,180
Park Projects & Operations	\$530,968
Park Promotion	\$536,011
General & Administrative	\$691,429
Fundraising	\$800,244

FY24 EXPENSES

\$5,175,582

\$1–\$4,999 (cont'd)

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- Massachusetts Water Resources Authority
- Department of Conservation & Recreation Massachusetts
- The Boston Planning & Development Agency
- Cathleen Stone Island Outward Bound School
- City of Boston
- Massport
- The Trustees of Reservations

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