**Southwest Corridor Park – Parkland Management Advisory Committee (PMAC)   
GENERAL APPROACHES TO PUBLIC SAFETY  
NOTES – JULY 2016**

The most important step is to fill the park with positive activity -- which happens very naturally in the Southwest Corridor Park and which is part of the work of PMAC, the SWCPC and others.    The more people use a park, the safer it is. The Southwest Corridor Park is a great park because there are people gardening, bicycling, walking, jogging, walking dogs, playing sports, commuting by T and enjoying the park in all kinds of weather, year round.

Communication is important to public safety.  We regularly share general information about public safety through our emails, website, Facebook page and PMAC meetings.

**Here are some specific roles we play:**

(1.) ENCOURAGING PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTING.   PMAC helps to identify and communicate about the best ways to report public safety issues along the Southwest Corridor.  (When do you call 911 or state police?  What types of issues can you report to DCR or to the citywide 311? )

Here is an updated draft of our public safety website page with information about reporting -- <http://swcpc.org/publicsafety.asp>

(2.) PARK MAINTENANCE REPORTING.  PMAC regularly works with DCR to follow up on park maintenance issues, including public safety and quality-of-life issues such as non-working lights, graffiti, etc.   Park users and neighborhood residents are also encouraged to report maintenance issues directly to DCR or to use the citywide 311 system.

See the public safety webpage for details -- <http://swcpc.org/publicsafety.asp>

(3.) EDUCATION AND OUTREACH.// PARTNERSHIPS.   One of PMAC's roles is education and outreach and we are building our capacity to form partnerships with other organizations around a variety of shared interests.  For example -- as part of our response to public safety issues, we could consider partnering with another organization to organize a forum or expert panel of speakers on topics of interest such as "community response to homelessness."   We could also consider other types of partnerships with organizations involved with a variety of homelessness or recovery programs to provide interested neighbors with channels for getting involved in these issues.

(4.)  INFRASTRUCTURE and LANDSCAPING.   PMAC reviews and advises on any requests for major changes in infrastructure, landscaping or other park features.  (including any changes proposed for purpose of public safety.)   The PMAC by-laws outline this responsibility, which is  given to PMAC by the Care and Control Agreement between the MBTA and DCR.

*Some notes on this responsibility --> With the long tradition of neighborhood volunteers working on gardening in the Southwest Corridor Park, it is important for volunteers/neighbors to remember to follow official channels of communication through DCR and PMAC with respect to landscaping and infrastructure changes (and not to take on any changes independently).*

*The PMAC leadership team will strive to keep the wide variety of neighbors and park users in mind before recommending changes to landscaping, infrastructure, sight lines, foot traffic, seating or other features, considering how changes may affect abutting neighbors, regular park users, or others.*

*The PMAC leadership team will prioritize positive uses of the park before recommending any changes to park features (i.e., landscaping, sports facilities, seating, etc.), building on the concept that the best approach to public safety is to fill the park with positive activity.*

(5.) NEIGHBORHOOD VOICE.   Neighborhood voice at PMAC meetings can be both formal and informal  - PMAC meetings are open to all park users and  park neighbors.    Neighborhood and tenant associations from all along the length of the park are encouraged to send one or more representatives who will bring concerns to PMAC and report back to the neighborhood or tenant group.   Like all PMAC members, a representative may attend monthly or once every three months when the meeting is held in their section of the park, and is also welcome to participate in any PMAC subcommittees and projects of interest.

As a first step -- neighborhood residents and park users are encouraged to join PMAC and receive updates and emails.  Membership form -- <http://swcpc.org/pmac>