STREETCASTER: Bringing Equity to Sidewalk and Street Repairs

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CITY OF BOSTON
Sidewalk Network

1,600+ centerline miles of sidewalk network (54M SF!)

$485M repair backlog

with only

$11M to spend annually on repairs
Something So Right Can Be SO WRONG

CONSTITUENT REQUESTS

SIDEWALK CONDITIONS

PER CAPITA INCOME
**ASSESSING IMPACT**

Sidewalk Condition Rating Categories

- **Good:** <20% of sidewalk area is damaged
- **Fair:** 20-50% of sidewalk area is damaged
- **Poor:** > 50% of sidewalk area is damaged

2017 Sidewalk Repair Improvements

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<th>POOR</th>
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<td><strong>15.3%</strong></td>
<td><strong>5.0%</strong></td>
<td><strong>0.8%</strong></td>
<td><strong>19.4%</strong></td>
<td><strong>14.9%</strong></td>
<td><strong>44.6%</strong></td>
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Only 1.1% of repairs done were in the most socially-vulnerable regions of the City.
ASSESSING IMPACT

**INPUT**

$11M dollars

**OUTCOME**

650,000 ft² sidewalk repairs

**IMPACT**

???
Creating an Equitable & Impactful Investment Strategy: StreetCaster

WHERE DO PEOPLE WALK THE MOST?

WHERE DO PEOPLE NEED IT

PUTTING THEM TOGETHER
Why It Matters.

Sidewalks and walkability are tied to improved outcomes regarding:

- Health
- Housing value
- Criminal activity
- Access to transit
- Customer retail
- Sense of community

“Sidewalks are where you meet your neighbors and watch the seasons change.”
Paving the Path: You Can Do It Too

How we did it:

• Assessed conditions and locations of the assets

• Applied this condition dataset into an asset/work order management system to monitor and track

• Found good and reliable data to assist in locating regions of the city in equitable need

• Worked with local partners with like-minded goals with tools to assist in prioritization
THANK YOU!
Fairness does not mean everyone gets the same. Fairness means everyone gets what they need.

Black households in Boston have a median net worth of only $8, making them more vulnerable to financial hardship.


$247,500
$12,000 $12,000 $3,020 $2,700 $8