

by JonathanCohn 3 years ago

One Can Only Wonder What Would Have Happened If There Were Pitchforks

The First Community Meeting Run by Mayor John Fish...I mean Marty Walsh...about the Boston 2024 Bid



Jamie Eldridge
@JamieEldridgeMA

Over past 2 weeks, I'm hearing zero support for [#Boston2024](#) Olympics in the 14 communities in my district, & a growing anger at the endeavor



@JonathanCohn · 3 YEARS AGO

caul

Robin
@caulkthewagon

?!?!?! RT [@UnaSpenser](#): wha? RT [@bosbastard](#): "The Oympics can solve global warming"
-John Fish [#Boston2024](#)



@JonathanCohn · 3 YEARS AGO

Mike

Michael Abelson
@MikeAbelson4324

John Fish runs a private organization. Why is he running a public meeting? [#NoBoston2024](#)



@JonathanCohn · 3 YEARS AGO



No Boston Olympics
@NoBosOlympics

[#Boston2024](#) intro references Lake Placid. Here's the NYT on the state needing to bail out city for massive overruns: [nytimes.com/1981/05/26/nyr...](https://www.nytimes.com/1981/05/26/nyr...)



@JonathanCohn · 3 YEARS AGO



JonathanCohn
@JonathanCohn

John Fish just invoked the Cold War to justify the [#Boston2024](#) bid. [#notajoke](#) [#NoBoston2024](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Una Spenser
@UnaSpenser

RT @caulkthewagon: We have as much right to be running this #boston2024 meeting as John Fish does. No one elected him. #NoBoston2024



@JonathanCohn · 3 YEARS AGO



NoBoston2024
@no_boston2024

So tweets from all over the globe overrule what actual Bostonians want for their city?
#Boston2024



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JonathanCohn
@JonathanCohn

John Fish: "The Olympic movement is about peace." Oh FFS. #NoBoston2024



3 YEARS AGO



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@JonathanCohn

"People put down their swords...." Who still fights with swords? Olympics don't stop US drone war.



3 YEARS AGO

caul

Robin
@caulkthewagon

Nobody elected you. Why are you running this city-sponsored meeting? You're part of a private group. @JohnFFish



@JonathanCohn · 3 YEARS AGO



Una Spenser
@UnaSpenser

RT @MikeAbelson4324: John Fish runs a private organization. Why is he running a public meeting? #NoBoston2024



@JonathanCohn · 3 YEARS AGO

britr [Britni](#)
@britnidlc

Fish says we've won even if we don't win the bid. I say we don't, bc failed bids still cost upwards of \$100 million. [#Boston2024](#)



@JonathanCohn · 3 YEARS AGO

britr [Britni](#)
@britnidlc

Why is every presenter telling personal stories about how sports transformed their lives? What does that have to do w/Olympics? [#Boston2024](#)



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[No Boston Olympics](#)
@NoBosOlympics

@steveannear @AnneMostue Is [#boston2024](#) saying new biotech firm or software startup is going to locate here because of some tweets?



@JonathanCohn · 3 YEARS AGO

Occi [McCallister Crowley](#)
@Occupocalypse

Why is this "Community Meeting" being treated as another venue for the private group [@Boston2024](#) to deliver their pitch? [#Boston2024](#)



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caul [Robin](#)
@caulkthewagon

I thought the [#Boston2024](#) was supposed to be a community meeting, not another propaganda session. We aren't buying it. Don't they get it?



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@JonathanCohn

.@no_boston2024 Some of those tweets were against the bid. They seem to have just done a city name search.



3 YEARS AGO


 **No Boston Olympics**
@NoBosOlympics

No evidence that hosting Games increases participation in sports -- youth or general population.
[#boston2024](#)

 @JonathanCohn · 3 YEARS AGO


 **Una Spenser**
@UnaSpenser

RT @Occupocalypse: Why is this "Community Mtg" being treated as another venue for private group @Boston2024 to deliver pitch? [#Boston2024](#)

 @JonathanCohn · 3 YEARS AGO


thet **The Tokist**
@thetokist

When it comes to [#Boston2024](#), this is a textbook case of 'Pay no attention to the man behind the curtain.' [#NoBoston2024](#)

 @JonathanCohn · 3 YEARS AGO

britr **Britni**
@britnidlc

"We're not planning an Olympuc park. We're planning a city." WHO ASKED YOU TO? WHO ELECTED YOU? [#Boston2024](#)

 @JonathanCohn · 3 YEARS AGO


 **Claire Blechman**
@cblechman

"Housing legacy" of London and Vancouver is failed private investments, cities on the hook for hundreds of millions [#boston2024](#)

 @JonathanCohn · 3 YEARS AGO

 **JonathanCohn**
@JonathanCohn

If you are having an event in Madison Square Garden, this Olympics won't be walkable.
[#NoBoston2024](#)

 3 YEARS AGO

Occ: [McCallister Crowley](#)
@Occupocalypse

Unless [@marty_walsh](#) is personally shoveling the streets of [#Dorchester](#) there is no excuse for his tardiness. [#Boston2024](#)



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@JonathanCohn

Still no mayor at the mayor's meeting. He's even outsourcing his public meetings.
[#NoBoston2024](#)



3 YEARS AGO



I'm sure [@JohnFFish](#) is well aware that every Olympics since Albertville '92 has gone into cost overrun. [#Boston2024](#) pic.twitter.com/94dcaPeEGG



MICHAEL ABELSON @MIKEABELSON4324 @JonathanCohn · 3 YEARS AGO



[JonathanCohn](#)
@JonathanCohn

They're talking about "workforce housing" again. Going all retro with company towns, are we?
[#NoBoston2024](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Judy Wang
@judywang

This talk of [#Boston2024](#) being a journey is starting to sound like we're all in an extended episode of the Bachelor.



@JonathanCohn · 3 YEARS AGO

booi

Boon Sheridan
@boonerang

Is that [#Boston2024](#) meeting 100% talking points from the committee? Will anyone else get the floor? (Or is that too “innovative?”)



@JonathanCohn · 3 YEARS AGO

britr

Britni
@britnidlc

Maybe they think if they talk long enough everyone will leave and they won't have to answer questions. [#Boston2024](#)



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@JonathanCohn

They plan to take apart "relocate" the housing units of the Olympic Village. How is that remotely sustainable or efficient? [#NoBoston2024](#)



3 YEARS AGO



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@JonathanCohn

Apparently the presence of New Boston Food Market is "underutilization" to [#Boston2024](#).
[#NoBoston2024](#)



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@JonathanCohn

"Our Boston" has to be one if the most saccharine lines so far.



3 YEARS AGO



Una Spenser
@UnaSpenser

infomercial! RT @britnidlc: It's been 45 minutes of #Boston2024 talking so far. No community members allowed to ask questions yet.



@JonathanCohn · 3 YEARS AGO

britr

Britni
@britnidlc

DOESN'T EXIST “@SpareChangeNews: Manfredi says Midtown will be perfect for #Boston2024, & revitalize & renew the neighborhood after Games.”



@JonathanCohn · 3 YEARS AGO

caul

Robin
@caulkthewagon

When private org #Boston2024 was given the power to run our city. RT @NatashaVianna: @caulkthewagon When did we get a Midtown?



@JonathanCohn · 3 YEARS AGO



Lauren Dezenski
@LaurenDezenski

Hisses from the crowd for beach volleyball facility on the Boston Common #Boston2024



@JonathanCohn · 3 YEARS AGO

britr

Britni
@britnidlc

Crowd is hissing when architect mentions beach volleyball on the Common. #Boston2024



@JonathanCohn · 3 YEARS AGO

Garr

Garrett Quinn
@GarrettQuinn

Talk of hosting Olympic beach volleyball on Boston Common draws hisses and thumbs down from the crowd. #boston2024



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@JonathanCohn

I wince and retch whenever I see what they want to do the Common. Heard people hissing.
[#NoBoston2024](#)



3 YEARS AGO



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"Everybody needs to try a lobster roll when they are in Boston." Sorry, I'm vegan.



3 YEARS AGO



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@JonathanCohn

Do tou know that corny, cliché-ridden video you have to watch in customs? That, but for Boston, and run by a private group. [#NoBoston2024](#)



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@JonathanCohn

"Find out where the city is going, and plan into that." Follow the \$ trail. [#GoBoston2030](#) initiative is joined at the hip with [#Boston2024](#).



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Marty finally showed up. Just an hour late.



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@UnaSpenser

MT [@abs628](#): "Boston Common is our most cherished public space." says [#Boston2024](#) So let's destroy it. [#NoBoston2024](#)



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@JonathanCohn

First question is about cost. John Fish: "Thank you for your opinion. I appreciate your concern."
[#NoBoston2024](#)



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Marty notes that they'll be meeting with various community groups....to co-opt them.



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Marty just completely evaded a question about transparency. [#NoBoston2024](#)



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MA has a balanced budget requirement. Every penny spent in Olympics is taking away from a real priority. [#NoBoston2024](#)



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Marty says he cares about public education. Then why is he closing schools? [#NoBoston2024](#)



3 YEARS AGO



[superguppy](#)
@superguppy

[@AnneMostue](#) [@marty_walsh](#) We don't need the Olympics to have better schools. The Olympics will divert money from the schools.



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Heather
@pemibblue

Speaker from Dorchester: "this has been an entirely undemocratic process" [#Boston2024](#)
[#NoBoston2024](#)



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Una Spenser
@UnaSpenser

RT [@JohnAKeith](#): Withdraw the bid [@marty_walsh](#) [#1termmayor](#)



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@JonathanCohn

\$25 million for insurance policy is a pittance, Marty Walsh. [#NoBoston2024](#)



3 YEARS AGO

harn

Who, Harmony?
@harmonywho

RT [@cblechman](#): [.@marty_walsh](#) is wrong, every single Olympics have overrun. And \$25m insurance would barely cover the bid costs [#Boston2024](#)



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@JonathanCohn

They're trying to cut off a questioner. Maybe they should have shortened the propaganda session at the start? [#NoBoston2024](#)



3 YEARS AGO



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@JonathanCohn

How much will those colleges have to pay for this? Tuition is already outrageous.
[#NoBoston2024](#)



3 YEARS AGO



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@UnaSpenser

bids cost \$150m RT @cblechman: @marty_walsh is wrong, every Olympics have overrun. \$25m insurance would barely cover the bid costs



@JonathanCohn · 3 YEARS AGO

outc

james richardson
@outofideas4anam

You know it must suck for residences waiting decades for the Big Dig only to have the traffic nightmares of the Olympics to deal with.



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@JonathanCohn

"I love the Olympics, and I love the City of Boston, but not together." #NoBoston2024



3 YEARS AGO



Heather
@pemibblue

SO MANY temp structures—main stadium, 1 on Common, 1 Franklin Pk, housing to be moved—ALL the opposite of #sustainable building. #Boston2024



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Lauren Dezenski
@LaurenDezenski

Rozzie resident: "If I don't get to vote on this, I'm going to remember this during the next local election." #Boston2024



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Una Spenser
@UnaSpenser

@marty_walsh rape culture logic: "If Bostonians vote no #Boston2024 in non-binding referendum, I'll ignore." No means yes. #noboston2024



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Peter Krowiak
@peterkrowiak

Guys, if [@marty_walsh](#) won't listen to the results of a vote, then maybe we shouldn't give him ours next time he asks. [#Boston2024](#)



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BPSI

Karen Kast-McBride
@BPSNightmare

Apparently [@marty_walsh](#) is proving how little he thinks of [#Boston](#) residents 1st snow removal, now [#boston2024](#)



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Lauren Dezenski
@LaurenDezenski

Fenway resident: Why wasn't this meeting held before the bid was submitted? [#Boston2024](#)



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Ann

Anne Mostue
@AnneMostue

"The mayor's letting outside groups have a disproportionate weight on city planning." - Fenway(?) resident [#Boston2024](#)



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Garr

Garrett Quinn
@GarrettQuinn

Q from Fenway resident "Why wasn't the meeting held before the submission of the bid in the first place?" [#Boston2024](#)



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CarC

Mom needs coffee
@CarCarll

[#IOCMandatedCityEmployeeTweet](#) MT [@UncleSam916](#) Loving fact-based examples I'm hearing at [#Boston2024](#) mtg. [@marty_walsh](#) is easing my fears!



@JonathanCohn · 3 YEARS AGO

harn [Who, Harmony?](#)
@harmonywho

Grand Prize!! RT [@LaurenDezenski](#): Fenway resident: Why wasn't this meeting held before the bid was submitted? [#Boston2024](#)



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hayc [Hayden Bird](#)
@haydenhbird

Q: why wasn't a meeting held before the bid was submitted to [#USOC](#)? Answer: Fish says info was kept quiet to not hurt [#Boston2024](#)'s chances.



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@UnaSpenser

define 'affordable' RT [@UncleSam916](#): Boston's 2030 housing plans will work well w plans for [#Boston2024](#). 50,000+ units of affordable housing



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hant [Hank the Tank](#)
@hankito

The attitude of some ppl in Boston are amazing. "We must silence the community for the good of the community" [#Boston2024](#) [#NoBostonOlympics](#)



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Johr [John Ruch](#)
@JohnRuchAtlanta

Citizens have the right to say whether to compete for something in 1st place, not have competition as excuse to shut them out. [#Boston2024](#)



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Johr [John Ruch](#)
@JohnRuchAtlanta

[#Boston2024](#) *still* hasn't met with many people/businesses it wants to displace. Are people really swallowing these same lies? [#Boston2024](#)



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Claire Blechman
@cblechman

London underground saw 700k increase in riders during 2012 Olympics. Can T handle that?
[#boston2024](#) [#NoBostonOlympics](#)



@JonathanCohn · 3 YEARS AGO



No Boston Olympics
@NoBosOlympics

London Mayor told workers to stay home during Games. Economic output will drop, but won't be accounted for or paid for by [#Boston2024](#).



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caul

Robin
@caulkthewagon

As much as I disagreed with Menino, I know he cared about me and every other Bostonian. Marty Walsh doesn't care about me. Not one bit.



@JonathanCohn · 3 YEARS AGO



SteveBikes
@stevebikes

We're gonna help those Widdett Circle folks move to other places! Just like we helped those folks in the West End move. [#boston2024](#)



@JonathanCohn · 3 YEARS AGO

jame

James Donner
@jamesadonner

Reading the [#Boston2024](#) meeting tweets is making me realize that [@marty_walsh](#) is either an assclown or an IOC plant masquerading as a mayor.



@JonathanCohn · 3 YEARS AGO

Got

Meddle Bear Solid
@GotdamBear

"[@haydenhbird](#): "I'm not going to mortgage the city's future away" - [@marty_walsh](#) on [#Boston2024](#)" Just Rox, Dot, and Mattapan



@JonathanCohn · 3 YEARS AGO

booi [Boon Sheridan](#)
@boonerang

The [#boston2024](#) bid is "still in proof of concept phase" but it was good enough to get past the other US cities? What does THAT tell us?



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BosE [Catherine Carlock](#)
@BosBizCatherine

[#Boston2024](#) meeting member: "I vote in every election, and if I don't get to vote on this, I will remember this in the next local election."



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@JonathanCohn

John Fish was just trash talking Andrew Zimbalist. I want to see a debate. [#NoBoston2024](#)



3 YEARS AGO



[Boston Bastard](#)
@bosbastard

"All of the info was kept quiet because it would have gotten out.." -John Fish out of context
[#boston2024](#)



@JonathanCohn · 3 YEARS AGO

Johr [John Ruch](#)
@JohnRuchAtlanta

By the way, grats to Walsh on becoming mayor of entire state. Bet Pittsfield taxpayers are pleased he'll decide this for them. [#Boston2024](#)



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@JonathanCohn

Questioner notes that this is just a PR meeting. Why aren't all sides represented on the panel?
[#NoBoston2024](#)



3 YEARS AGO

briac [bria quinlan](#)
@briaquinlan

I'm sorry... did John Fish get elected to something and I missed it? [#notaxes?](#) [#boston2024](#)



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Anni [Anne Mostue](#)
@AnneMostue

The phrase "we're still in proof of concept" (ie planning stages) doesn't seem to be going over well with this crowd. [#Boston2024](#)



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[Una Spenser](#)
@UnaSpenser

RT [@harmonywho](#): Boston is already a great city. How sad that [#Boston2024](#) boosters don't know that. PS: [#GiveItToRome](#)



@JonathanCohn · 3 YEARS AGO

harn [Who, Harmony?](#)
@harmonywho

Good Q RT [@AmandaXsoler](#): “[@AnneMostue](#): Res. asks "What is the meaning of public/private partnerships" in the bid description. [#Boston2024](#)”



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harn [Who, Harmony?](#)
@harmonywho

"Idea: OLYMPICS!" RT [@LaurenDezenski](#): Fmr. pol: "We can't pretend we're a world class city w/o a world-class transpo strategy." [#Boston2024](#)



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[Seth Kroll](#)
@sethkroll

Are secret [#Boston2024](#) plans in proof of concept phase until host city is selected by IOC & Walsh signs "host city" contract obligating us?



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harn [Who, Harmony?](#)
@harmonywho

NB! >> RT @Hanksingle: Be wary that, at each turn, #boston2024 finds a way to not be responsible for overruns. That means they expect them.



@JonathanCohn · 3 YEARS AGO

reftpt [Jennifer Reft](#)
@reftpt

@harmonywho @JonathanCohn @AmandaXsoler @AnneMostue I believe the *public* takes most of the risk and the *private* reaps the gains.



@JonathanCohn · 3 YEARS AGO

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@harmonywho

NB!>> RT @Hanksingle: #Boston2024 investors hv been here a long time. if they wanted to help city, why hvnt they? Bc they couldn't get paid.



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harn [Who, Harmony?](#)
@harmonywho

Ammo-caddies? RT @bosbastard: No word on what would happen when the Olympics come and Long Island is shut down for the shooting. #boston2024



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@JonathanCohn

Richard Davey admits that they never talked to some of the business owners whose property they want to take. #NoBoston2024



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Forgot to note earlier that Marty said he would completely ignore a non-binding referendum. #NoBoston2024



3 YEARS AGO



Spare Change News
@SpareChangeNews

Back bay resident says proposed volleyball stadium is on a revolutionary war graveyard. Calls scale of stadium ridiculous.



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@JonathanCohn

Questioner: Your "smart" plan includes putting beach volleyball on a Revolutionary War graveyard. [#NoBoston2024](#)



3 YEARS AGO



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@JonathanCohn

"You say no public funds are being used. Then who pays your salary?" [#NoBoston2024](#)



3 YEARS AGO

Hanl

Hank Single
@Hanksingle

[#boston2024](#) is basically taking all the profits, giving Boston all the risk, all the work, all the hardship - in exchange for 'exposure'.



@JonathanCohn · 3 YEARS AGO

harn

Who, Harmony?
@harmonywho

DING: RT [@JohnRuchAtlanta](#): Is anybody official even pretending to write down public comments for response at [#Boston2024](#) charade of a mtg?



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Anni

Anne Mostue
@AnneMostue

Back Bay resident: "How do you expect us to get on board a plan that has no budget?" Mayor: "This is very early in the process." [#Boston2024](#)



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@JonathanCohn

Woman: "Where is your budget for replacing the ancient trees you destroy by putting volleyball in the Common?" [#NoBoston2024](#)



3 YEARS AGO



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@JonathanCohn

Guy asks if any of those on the panel would support a binding referendum/legislation to back "no public funds pledge." Got no response.



3 YEARS AGO



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Woman asks why they expect us to get behind something when they won't give us an exact budget. [#NoBoston2024](#)



3 YEARS AGO

Johr

John Ruch
@JohnRuchAtlanta

This [#Boston2024](#) meeting is basically the antithesis of why local gov't was invented. City's lucky there aren't pitchforks and torches.



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@JonathanCohn

Woman asked John Fish how much the insurance policy cost. He refused to answer.



3 YEARS AGO



RightWingWatch Fan
@RWwatchMA

You didn't even ask IOC but you did promise us transparency MT [@GarrettQuinn](#): "I don't have the ability to release the bid"-Walsh [#boston2024](#)



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@JonathanCohn

"If we have to plan, why don't we just plan?" [#NoBoston2024](#)



3 YEARS AGO



Blue Mass Group
@bluemassgroup

FINALLY the right question! MT [@AnneMostue](#) "If we need to plan, why don't we plan? Why do we need a huge, expensive event?" [#Boston2024](#)



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Johr

John Ruch
@JohnRuchAtlanta

[@JonathanCohn](#) These could have been grassroots planning town halls led by DND or some actual planning experts.



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@JonathanCohn

"When the venues move, who pays to restore the parkland destroyed?" [#NoBoston2024](#)



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@JonathanCohn

Person notes how London 2012 budget ballooned from \$5B to \$15B. [#NoBoston2024](#)



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No Boston Olympics
@NoBosOlympics

[#Boston2024](#) response to London cost overrun question: "Trust us." What happened to the promised insurance policy?



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Ann: [Anne Mostue](#)
@AnneMostue

Resident: concerned about HIV/AIDS care in Boston, questions city priorities. [#Boston2024](#)



@JonathanCohn · 3 YEARS AGO



[Una Spenser](#)
@UnaSpenser

RT @leeber: . @AnneMostue @sethcroll it's "too early" to discuss details until it's "too late."
when is [@Boston2024](#) Goldilocks moment?



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@JonathanCohn

Questioner talks about failure to invest in ending homelessness, AIDS epidemic. What are our
priorities? [#NoBoston2024](#)



3 YEARS AGO

harn [Who, Harmony?](#)
@harmonywho

How abt grow it w/o the custerfluck? RT [@haydenhbird](#): "1 of the reasons I support
[#Boston2024](#) is the oppo to grow our economy"- [@marty_walsh](#)



@JonathanCohn · 3 YEARS AGO



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@JonathanCohn

Sorry, Marty, a three-week party is not going to make some tech company move to Boston. It's
probably already in Cambridge anyway.



3 YEARS AGO



[JonathanCohn](#)
@JonathanCohn

Sorry, Marty, a three-week party is not going to make some tech company move to Boston. It's
probably already in Cambridge anyway.



3 YEARS AGO



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@JonathanCohn

Marty is just lying through his teeth about attracting long-term foreign investment through the Olympics. [#NoBoston2024](#)

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Woman asks about how representative Boston 2024 re: race, gender, education, neighborhood. Davey talks only about staff not exec committee.

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Woman says she called Mayors Office in November about the bid, talks about getting shunted from department to department, with no answers.

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Woman: "It feels like you've shoved this down our throats." [#NoBoston2024](#)

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A few belated tweets, now that I am back in the warmth of my apartment (and allowing my phone to charge).

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When asked a q either about cost overruns or ancillary costs born by the city, Fish responded by talking about "socializing the message."

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@JonathanCohn

(1) What the heck does "socialize the message" even mean?

3 YEARS AGO



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@JonathanCohn

(2) Unless he's talking about the fact that Boston, as the IOC requests, will be handing over all advertising space to the IOC.

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@JonathanCohn

(3) It was just particularly weird/funny because the q was about privatizing gains/socializing losses. And he talks about "socializing" msg.

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@JonathanCohn

Also, one woman asked a sharp question about the implicit bias in the wording on the question sheets. (1)

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@JonathanCohn

The sheets said to contact them if you have any "questions, concerns, or ideas about how the Olympics will be beneficial to Boston." (2)

3 YEARS AGO



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@JonathanCohn

An that framing makes it seem less like a balanced debate. It privileges the discussion of "benefits," implicitly ignoring costs. (3)

3 YEARS AGO

Johr [John Ruch](#)
@JohnRuchAtlanta

[@JonathanCohn](#) Surprised it didn't just ask your free T-shirt size.

 [@JonathanCohn](#) · 3 YEARS AGO