

by JonathanCohn 3 years ago

# The Boston 2024 Dog-and-Pony Show Comes to Roxbury

Boston2024 "Citizens Advisory Group" Meeting at the Yawkey Club of Roxbury



**JonathanCohn**  
@JonathanCohn

I enter to an old white man talking about how the Olympics is all about the youth.



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@JonathanCohn

Davey just said that they took their numbers from London, but [#London2012](#) was a budget buster. [#NoBoston2024](#)



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@JonathanCohn

"Workforce housing" just mentioned. Still not sure what that is. [#NoBoston2024](#)



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CarC

**Mom needs coffee**  
@CarCarll

Want to help kids with learning disabilities? Invest in schools. Want kids to feel the benefit of sport? Invest in schools--NOT [#Boston2024](#)



@JonathanCohn · 3 YEARS AGO

caul

**Robin**  
@caulkthewagon

What a hypocrite. He doesn't give two shits about the social impact that we are all going to feel. [#NoBoston2024](#) [twitter.com/LaurenDezenski...](#)



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@JonathanCohn

[#Boston2024](#) wants federal cash for security. Is that really how we want to spend our money given so many unmet needs? [#NoBoston2024](#)



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**NoBoston2024**  
@no\_boston2024

It's gone up from \$4.7B a month ago? RT@[LaurenDezenski](#): Rich Davey: \$9.1B budget for games, including \$1B from feds for security [#Boston2024](#)



@JonathanCohn · 3 YEARS AGO

Johr

**John A Keith**  
@JohnAKeith

"Boston has nearly all the transportation infrastructure it needs to host the Olympics..." says [@Boston2024](#) what say you, Boston?



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Davey said that they will have experts from past Olympics to help make things efficient. But past games busted their budgets. [#NoBoston2024](#)



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"The past three US games turned a profit.". Tell that to the communities that got displaced.[#NoBoston2024](#)



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First questioner, lifelong South Ender: "I plead that you give up the venues in the Common."  
[#NoBoston2024](#)



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jayfa [Jay Fallon](#)  
@jayfallon

[#ImagineBoston](#) when people realize they won't be able to travel to or from South Boston until after 2024.



@JonathanCohn · 3 YEARS AGO

noah [Noah McCormack](#)  
@noahmccormack

[@JonathanCohn](#) I've assumed the volleyball thing is the insane ask they will walk back and get credit for compromising. Your sense?



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@JonathanCohn

"Parks are not like buildings. You can't rebuild them easily when they get destroyed."



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[@noahmccormack](#) Wouldn't surprise me.



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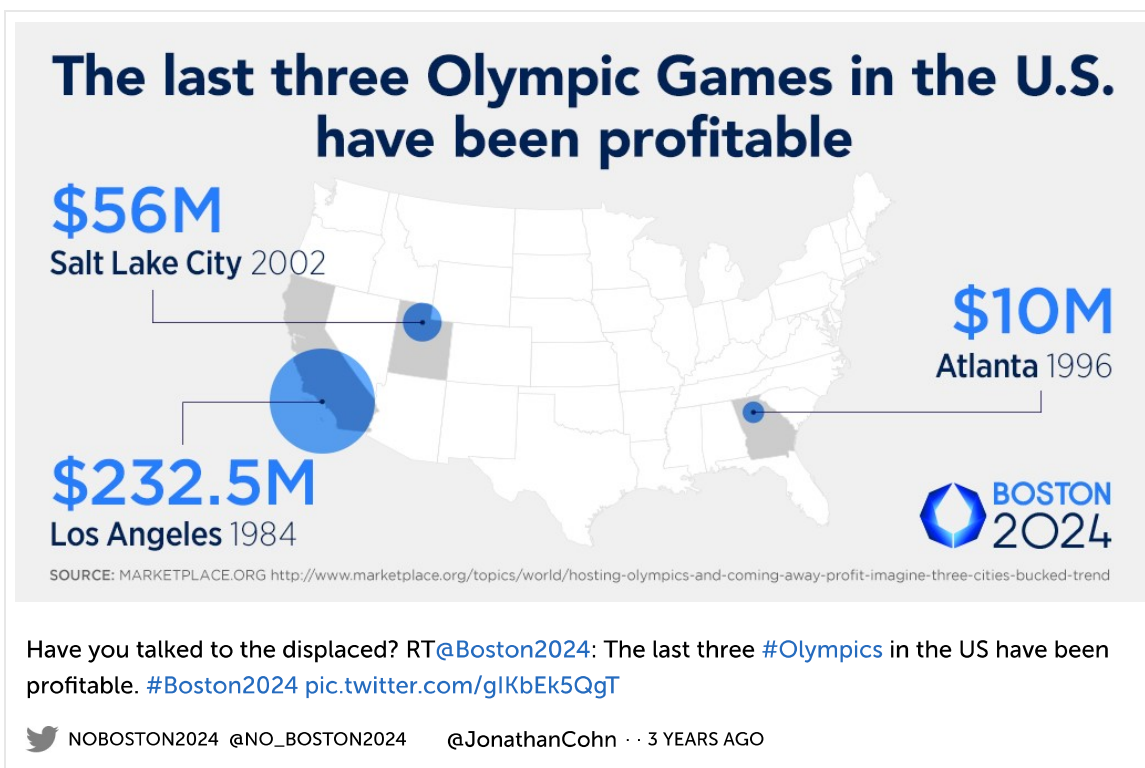


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@JonathanCohn

"Proof of concept"




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caul [Robin](#)  
@caulkthewagon


Who gets this profit, and who loses out in the long run? @no\_boston2024 @Boston2024

[Twitter](#) @JonathanCohn · 3 YEARS AGO

 [JonathanCohn](#)  
@JonathanCohn

Oh, god I don't believe in, that was a softball question.

[Twitter](#) 3 YEARS AGO

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@JonathanCohn

Guy from Roxbury noting how benefits of these big events tend not to trickle down to those most in need. #NoBoston2024

[Twitter](#) 3 YEARS AGO

Parq [Intestinal Fortitude](#)  
@ParquetOverIce

YES! This man saying that economic "benefits" don't trickle down to Roxbury and Mattapan... you go, Sir. [#Boston2024](#) [#NoBoston2024](#)



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Johr [John A Keith](#)  
@JohnAKeith

Simple answer: "You're getting squat." [#boston2024](#)



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CarC [Mom needs coffee](#)  
@CarCarll

Rich Davey forgot to mention that Atlanta [@Olympics](#) went 147% over budget! Taxpayers on hook for [#Boston2024](#) overruns [bloomberg.com/news/articles/...](https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/...)



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Johr [John A Keith](#)  
@JohnAKeith

Boston's rising tides aren't going to raise boats, there going to flood our basements.  
[#boston2024](#)



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Occ [McCallister Crowley](#)  
@Occupocalypse

[@JonathanCohn](#) point out that local businesses cannot be involved.



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[Lauren Dezenski](#)  
@LaurenDezenski

Fish calls Widett Circle some of the "most underutilized" 85 acres in the center of a city in the country [#Boston2024](#)



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Johr [John A Keith](#)  
@JohnAKeith

You should talk with some environmental experts on what might be under the ground in Widett,  
[@LaurenDezenski](#) [@DotNews](#) [@adamtvaccaro](#)



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@JonathanCohn

John Fish just called volunteer positions new jobs. What? [#NoBoston2024](#)



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Davey: "We want to have games in Roxbury and Dorchester." Aka "We want to raze the public housing here."



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Job creation!! Fish: "[@Olympics](#) will create 125,000 jobs including VOLUNTEERS"  
[#Boston2024](#) counts unpaid folks dressed as lobsters as "jobs"



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Johr [John A Keith](#)  
@JohnAKeith

If you lived in the city in 1960-1975 and dealt with broken promises by the powerful, why would you believe them in regard to [#boston2024](#)



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Who is paying to move this "modular housing"? [#NoBoston2024](#)



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"I'm not looking for nice stories. I want facts," says guy calling out empty speech of [#Boston2024](#).



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@JonathanCohn

Guy calls out Fish for describing volunteer positions as jobs. Asks what do they mean by "good jobs"?



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Guy asking about what happens when the cost of living goes up. Asks for concrete answers. Davey: "I don't know."



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If they can't promise jobs, why should we focus on this and not something that can? [#NoBoston2024](#)



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Guy calls out Fish for use of intent re: union jobs, rather than promises.



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Jasc

**Jason Lowenthal**  
@JasonLowenthal

"We know how many jobs [#Boston2024](#) will create but not how many of those jobs will be paying jobs nor how many will be permanent." [#NOlympics](#)



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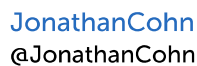
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"We don't really have a good record with shooting in this community," woman notes of the events in this neighborhood.



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@JonathanCohn

Asks whether they will put money in account in advance to restore parks afterwards.



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**Heather**  
@pemibblue

[#Boston2024](#) responds that golf course will be closed for 6 months, gives no info for impact on White Stadium or rest of [#FranklinPark](#)



@JonathanCohn · 3 YEARS AGO



**Heather**  
@pemibblue

.@JonathanCohn asks: How are you defining “public funds” (eg. do they include tax incentives?) and “workforce housing”? [#Boston2024](#)



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**superguppy**  
@superguppy

@JasonLowenthal @no\_boston2024 @marty\_walsh What happened to "no public money"? Did that go the way of "transparency"?



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**NoBoston2024**  
@no\_boston2024

Wondering if [@Boston2024](#) will be providing comprehensive minutes from tonight's meeting in multiple languages? [#Boston2024](#)



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CarC [Mom needs coffee](#)  
@CarCarll

Oh, no [#Boston2024](#) isn't trying to parse the wool over our eyes "I want to be clear because a lot of people print specifically what we say"



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@CarCarll That was in response to my q. Lol



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Johr [John Ruch](#)  
@JohnRuchAtlanta

'Underutilized' is [#Olympics](#)-speak for 'used by working-class people.'



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@JonathanCohn

Asked about definition of "workforce housing." Didn't get an answer that explained why that term over, say, "affordable housing."



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No

Nope. MT [@JasonLowenthal](#): Proposed site in Franklin Park, Boston of [#Boston2024](#) Equestrian & Pentathlon [#BOSpoli](#) [pic.twitter.com/thKKZDeUJx](https://pic.twitter.com/thKKZDeUJx)



ROBIN @CAULKTHEWAGON @JonathanCohn · 3 YEARS AGO



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@JonathanCohn

Asked for definition of "public funds" and got a rather weaselly answer. [#NoBoston2024](#)



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[@JohnRuchAtlanta](#) It is? Yuck.



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Asked Fish abt whether he was still planning to move Suffolk HQ from Roxbury and quoted him speaking about Roxbury as not future of Boston.



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Johr

**John A Keith**  
@JohnAKeith

Olympic Village to be built on flood plain; Olympic Stadium to be built next door to Level 4 bio-lab. Heck of a job, Brownie!



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It was a great quote of him praising the Innovation District as against Roxbury. Don't think he expected such a question.



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@JonathanCohn

[@caulkthewagon](#) Globe article from August. I loved reading his words to him, even though he says they decided against the move.



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**superguppy**  
@superguppy

[@JohnAKeith](#) Does bid call for shutting down the Level 4 bio-lab during games? God forbid there be an accident and athletes/VIPs get sick



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@JonathanCohn

@caulkthewagon Didnt catch his eyes then, but @JohnAKeith said he looked rattled.



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@JonathanCohn

"If you say it will develop anyway, why not let it develop organically?" @pemibblue asking about Widett Circle. Answer: proof of concept



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JonathanCohn  
@JonathanCohn

"If you say it will develop anyway, why not let it develop organically?" @pemibblue asking about Widett Circle. Answer: proof of concept



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@CarCarll

Fun #Boston2024 game! OK, kids who can identify the lawsuit that's coming & what booster made which ridiculously incriminating statement(s)?



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@JonathanCohn

.@pemibblue asks about how a "temporary stadium" can be sustainable. #NoBoston2024



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Who pays to move these temporary stadiums? #NoBoston2024



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@CarCarll

#[Boston2024](#) no match for informed public "If you build a white elephant & take it down, aren't you still PAYING to build a white elephant?"



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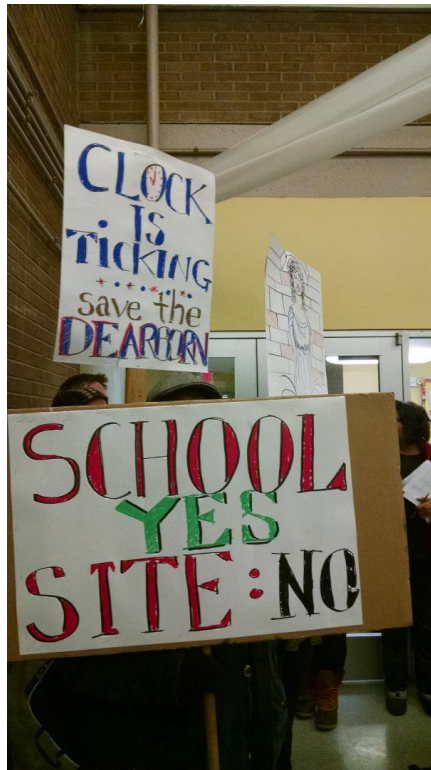


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@JonathanCohn

Community coordinator from NAACP notes 2020 doc requires them to provide evidence of public support, asks how they plan to do that.



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Save the Dearborn protesters. We need to invest in schools and protect our public sphere.

[pic.twitter.com/FbHPpovGsd](https://pic.twitter.com/FbHPpovGsd)



JONATHANCOHN @JONATHANCOHN · 3 YEARS AGO



[SteveBikes](#)  
@stevebikes

"Remember when Columbus obliterated the Taino? That was great." - John Fish, probably.

#[Boston2024](#)



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@JonathanCohn

#Boston2024 didn't seem to do a very good job of advertising their meeting. Seemed less than half full.



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But I was very happy that there were a number of residents from Roxbury who came and asked solid questions.



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Including the guy who would just not accept bullsh\*t and kept asking follow-up after follow-up.



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Chief executive John Fish said Tuesday that he is planning construction of a 125,000-square-foot building along Harbor Street in the Marine Industrial Park. The new building, for about 450 employees, would allow the company to consolidate its Roxbury and Danvers offices at a single facility.

"This location speaks to where Boston is going, not where it is today," Fish said Tuesday. "We appreciate the vibrancy and overall energy of the Innovation District, and we think it's only going to get stronger."

This is what I read before the crowd in my question to John Fish. [bostonglobe.com/business/2013/...pic.twitter.com/GZzUArt4GF](http://bostonglobe.com/business/2013/...pic.twitter.com/GZzUArt4GF)



JONATHANCOHN @JONATHANCOHN · 3 YEARS AGO



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@JonathanCohn

Still can't get over John Fish including volunteer positions as part of the jobs created by #Boston2024.



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@JonathanCohn

If the areas for #Boston2024 venues will be "developing anyway," as they claim, then how many net jobs will the Games actually bring vs BAU?



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@JonathanCohn

John Fish answered a question from [@pemibblue](#) about moving the "temporary stadium" w/ a "rapidly advancing technology" deflection.



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**Heather**  
@pemibblue

.[@JonathanCohn](#) Yes, magical greening tech will undo the \$ & CO2 of building, disassembling, moving, & reassembling multiple temp structures.



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**NoBoston2024**  
@no\_boston2024

"We've had a lot big [sports] events, but economically, a lot of [the benefits] of the events don't trickle down." [bostonglobe.com/metro/2015/02/...](http://bostonglobe.com/metro/2015/02/...)



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@JonathanCohn

The [#Boston2024](#) "Citizen Advisory Group" isn't much of a "group" in any meaningful sense.



3 YEARS AGO



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@JonathanCohn

"Workforce housing" is a great term if you view a city/neighborhood not as a community, but as a workforce to be exploited.



3 YEARS AGO

billr

**Billmon**  
@billmon1

[@JonathanCohn](#) "Are there no prisons? Are there no workforce houses?"



@JonathanCohn · 3 YEARS AGO