

# CITYWIDE COOLING NETWORK

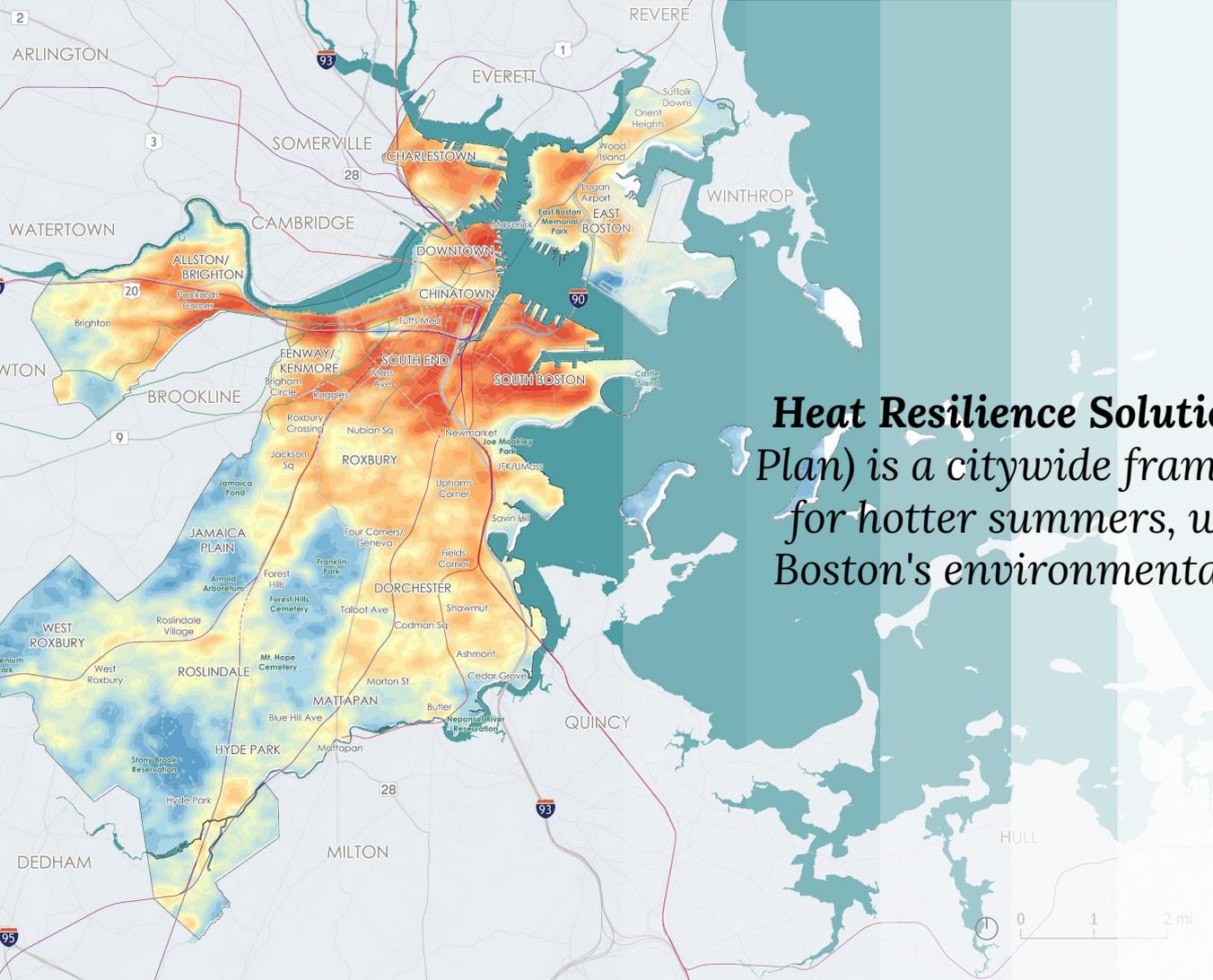
*Boston's network of outdoor and indoor cooling locations*





# EQUITABLE HEAT RESILIENCE

*How can we protect all of our residents from extreme heat, while addressing inequities in exposure, sensitivity, and adaptive capacity?*



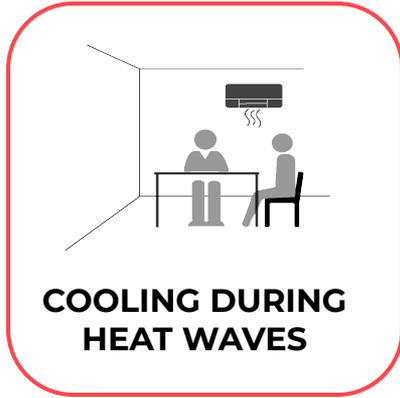
**Heat Resilience Solutions for Boston** (the Heat Plan) is a citywide framework to prepare Boston for hotter summers, with particular focus on Boston's environmental justice neighborhoods.



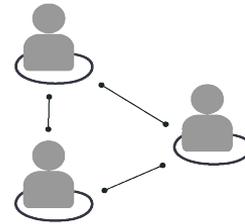
# Increase access to resources and reduce localized extreme temperatures



**OPERATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS**



**COOLING DURING HEAT WAVES**



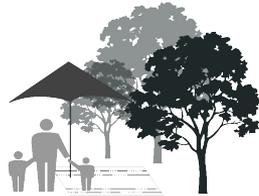
**LOOKING OUT FOR NEIGHBORS**



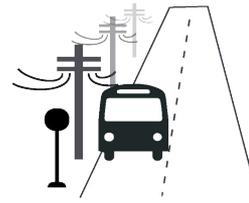
**AWARENESS, EDUCATION, AND TRAINING**



**BUILDINGS**



**PARKS, TREES, AND OPEN SPACE**

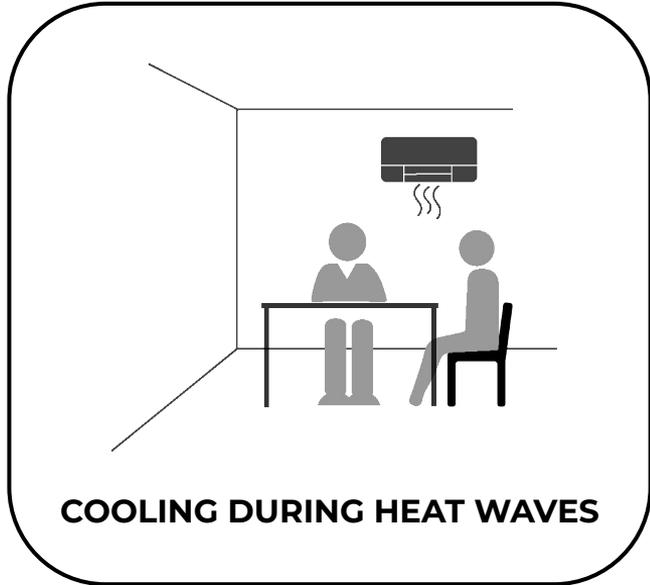


**TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE**



**PLANNING, ZONING, AND PERMITTING**

## Strategy 2.3 Citywide Cooling Network



- 60% of respondents would like to see more cooling opportunities in their neighborhoods.
- Minimize barriers to accessing publicly accessible cooling spaces
- Networking including:
  - City cooling centers and other locations with cooling
  - Public outdoor spaces
  - Community cooling partners
  - Pop-up heat relief spots

A photograph of a park scene. In the foreground, a person is sitting on a wooden chair on a paved area, looking towards a pond. The pond is filled with people, including children, who are swimming and playing. In the background, there is a large fountain with water spraying upwards. The scene is surrounded by lush green trees and a clear sky. A dark horizontal band is overlaid across the middle of the image, containing the text "EXISTING NETWORK OF COOLING SPACES".

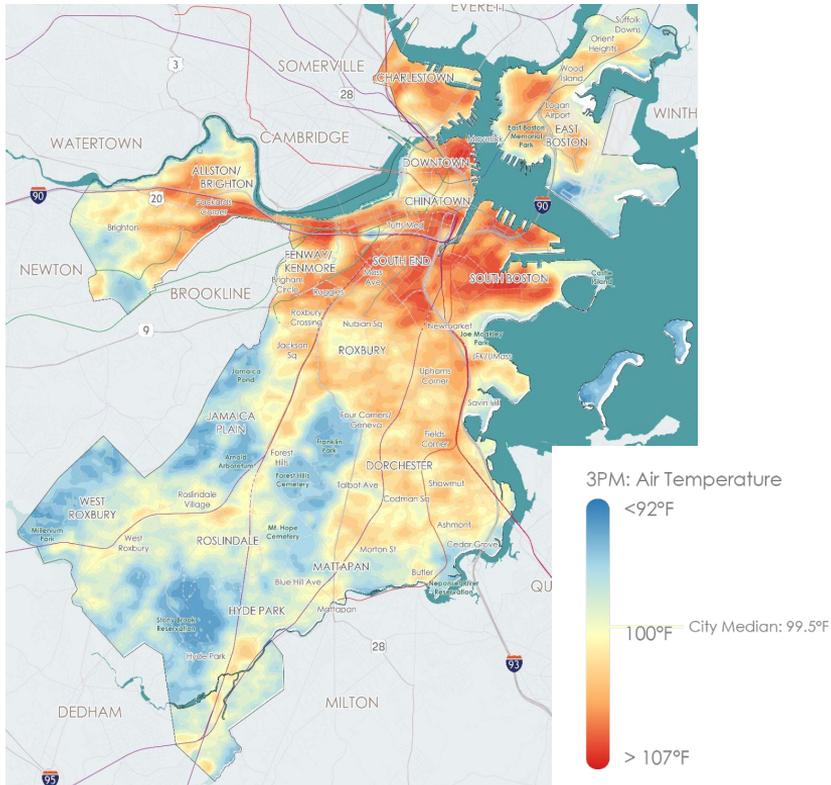
# EXISTING NETWORK OF COOLING SPACES

Temperatures can reach over 105 in the day; extreme heat conditions can last over 36 hours.

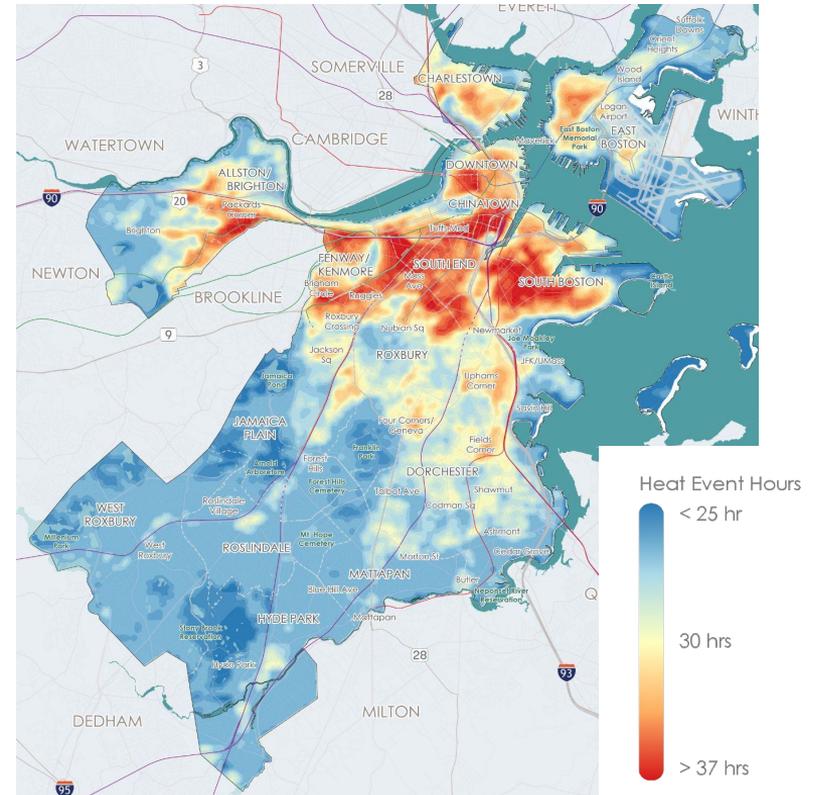
# Extreme Temperatures in Boston



## Daytime Air Temp (3 PM)



## Heat Event Duration

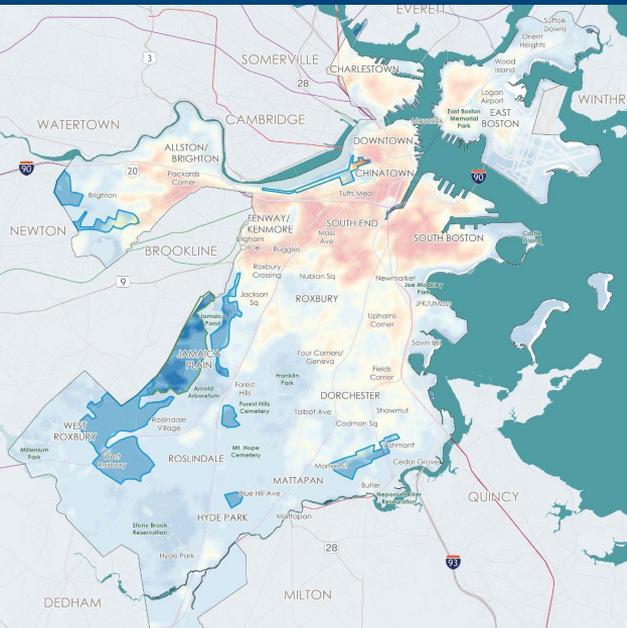


Histories shape present day experiences

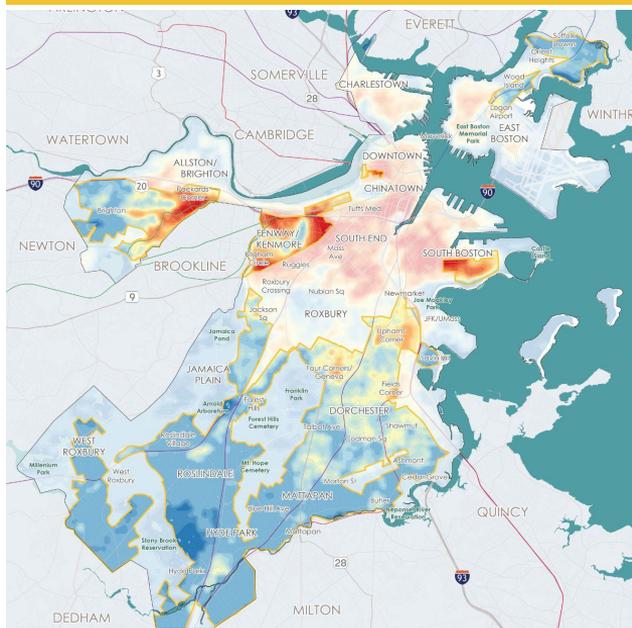
# Comparison of heat duration across HOLC grades



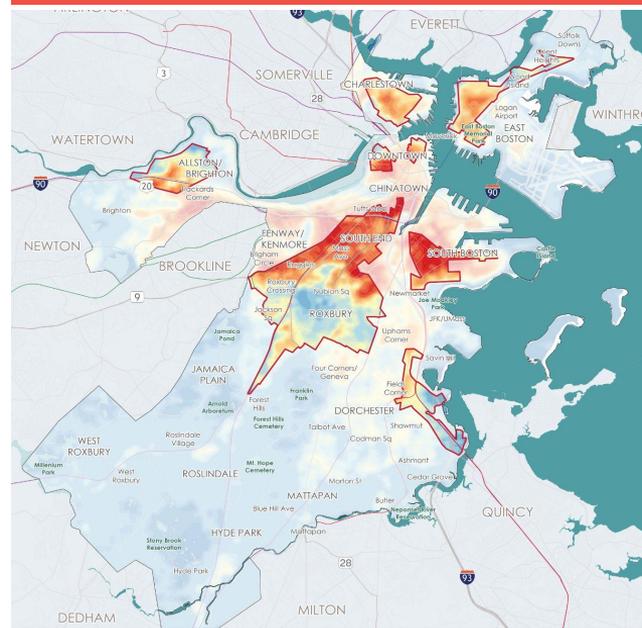
**A: "Best" & B: "Still Desirable"**



**C: "Declining"**

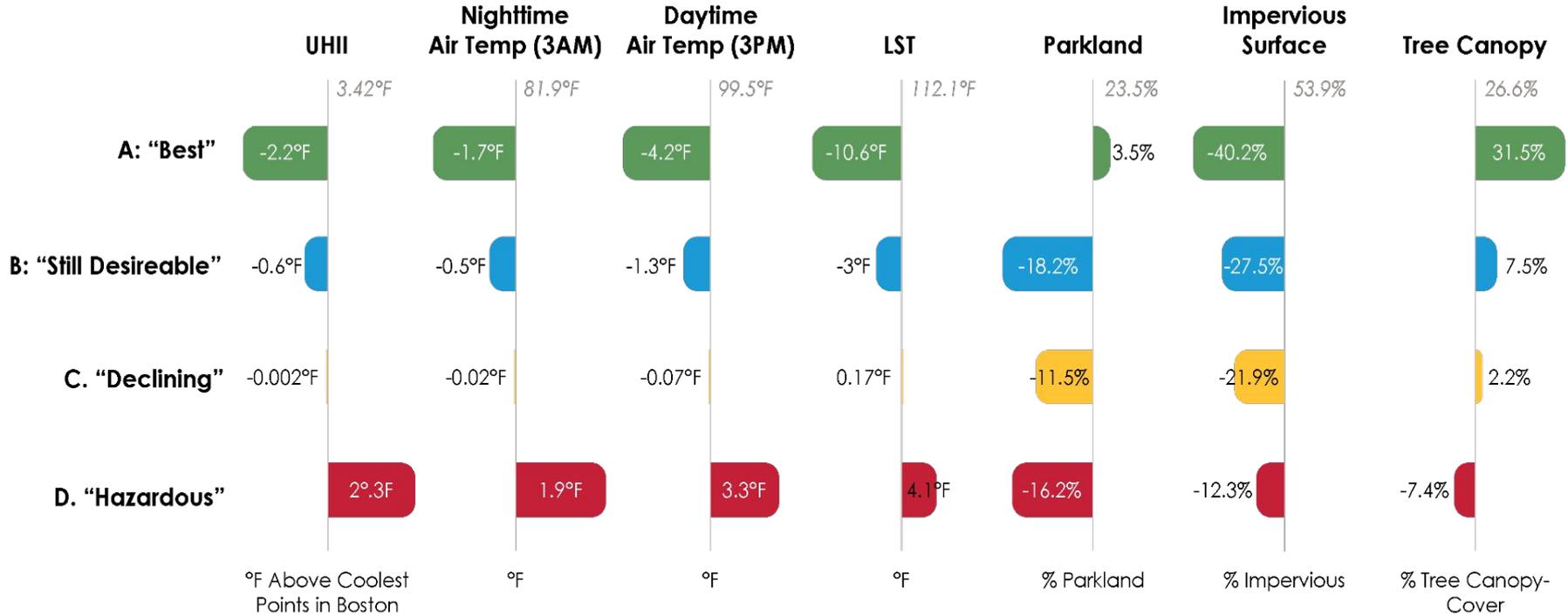


**D: "Hazardous"**



Histories shape present day experiences

# Comparison of heat and green space metrics across HOLC grades

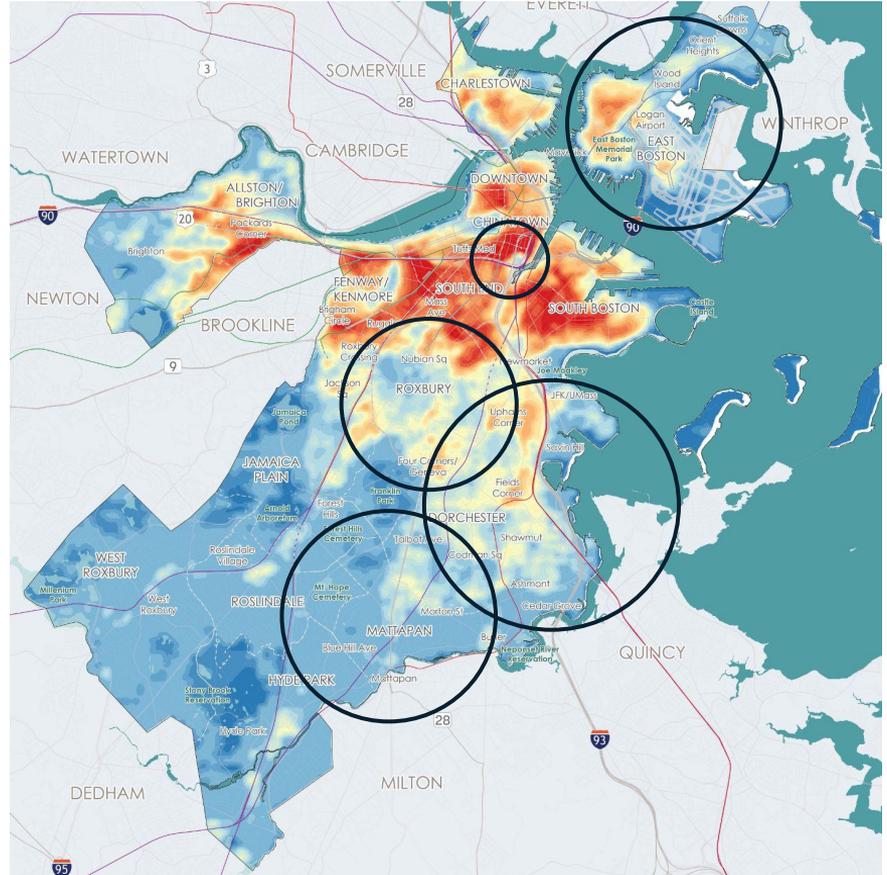


Heat resilience investments can help build more resilient Boston with justice and equity at the center

# Heat Plan Neighborhood Focus Areas



- Chinatown
- East Boston
- Dorchester
- Mattapan
- Roxbury

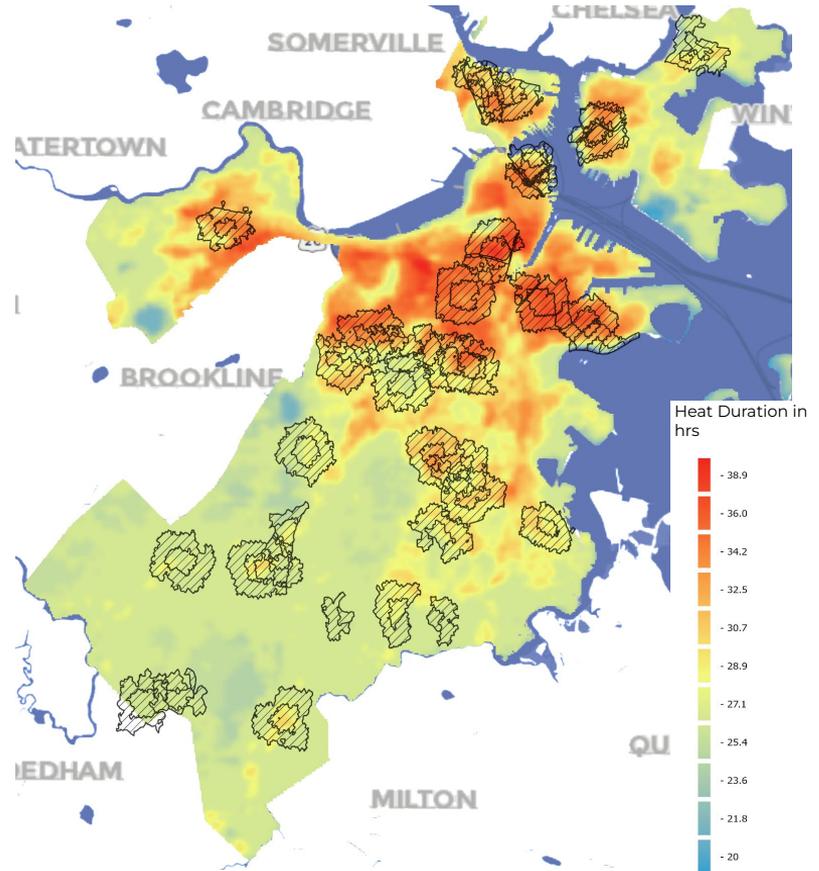


*During heat emergencies, community centers are selected to activate as cooling centers*

## Extreme heat alerts and thresholds for cooling centers



	Threshold
<b>Heat Advisory</b>	3 days or more of a 90°F Heat Index
<b>Heat Emergency</b>	2 days or more of a 95°F Heat Index

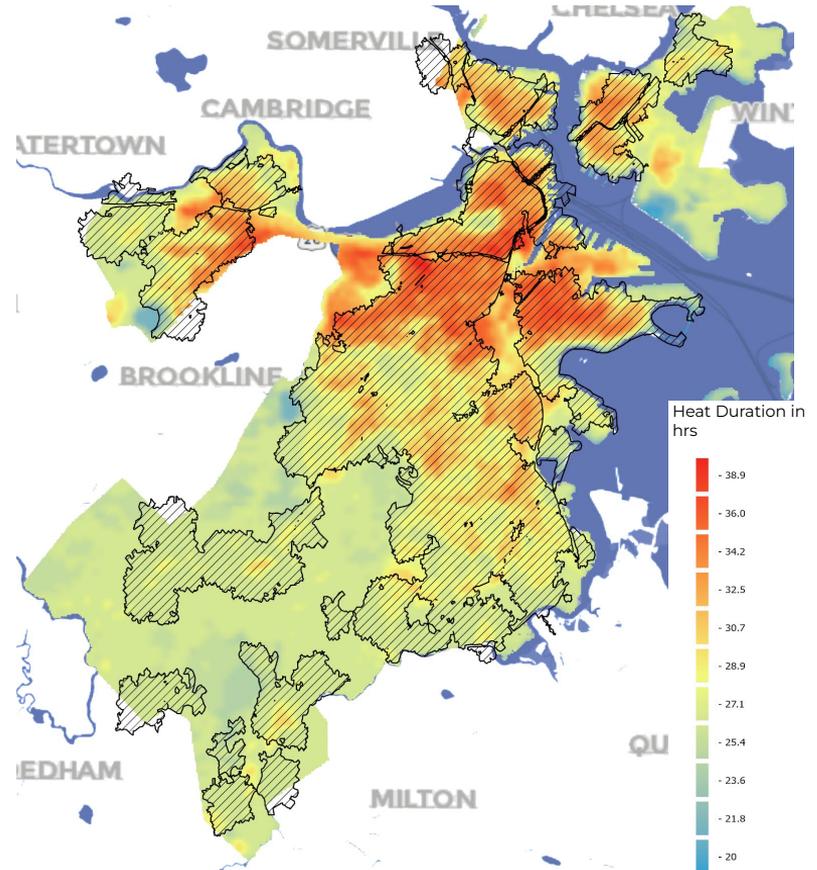


*During heat emergencies, community centers are selected to activate as cooling centers*

## Network of existing cooling features



- **Indoor public facilities**
  - Cooling Centers
  - Libraries
- **Outdoor public facilities**
  - City and State-owned parks and beaches
  - Tot sprays





# EXPANDING THE NETWORK OF COOLING SPACES

# Recent Heat Resilience Programs and Projects

*Pop-up Cooling Kits Program*



*The first pop-up cooling kit at Trotter Park with the Garrison Trotter Neighborhood Association.*

- Pop-up misting stations to support outdoor community events
- 30 cooling kits
- 33 # community based organizations
- 8 BCYF locations

# Recent Heat Resilience Programs and Projects

BPL Cool Spots and Outdoor Spaces

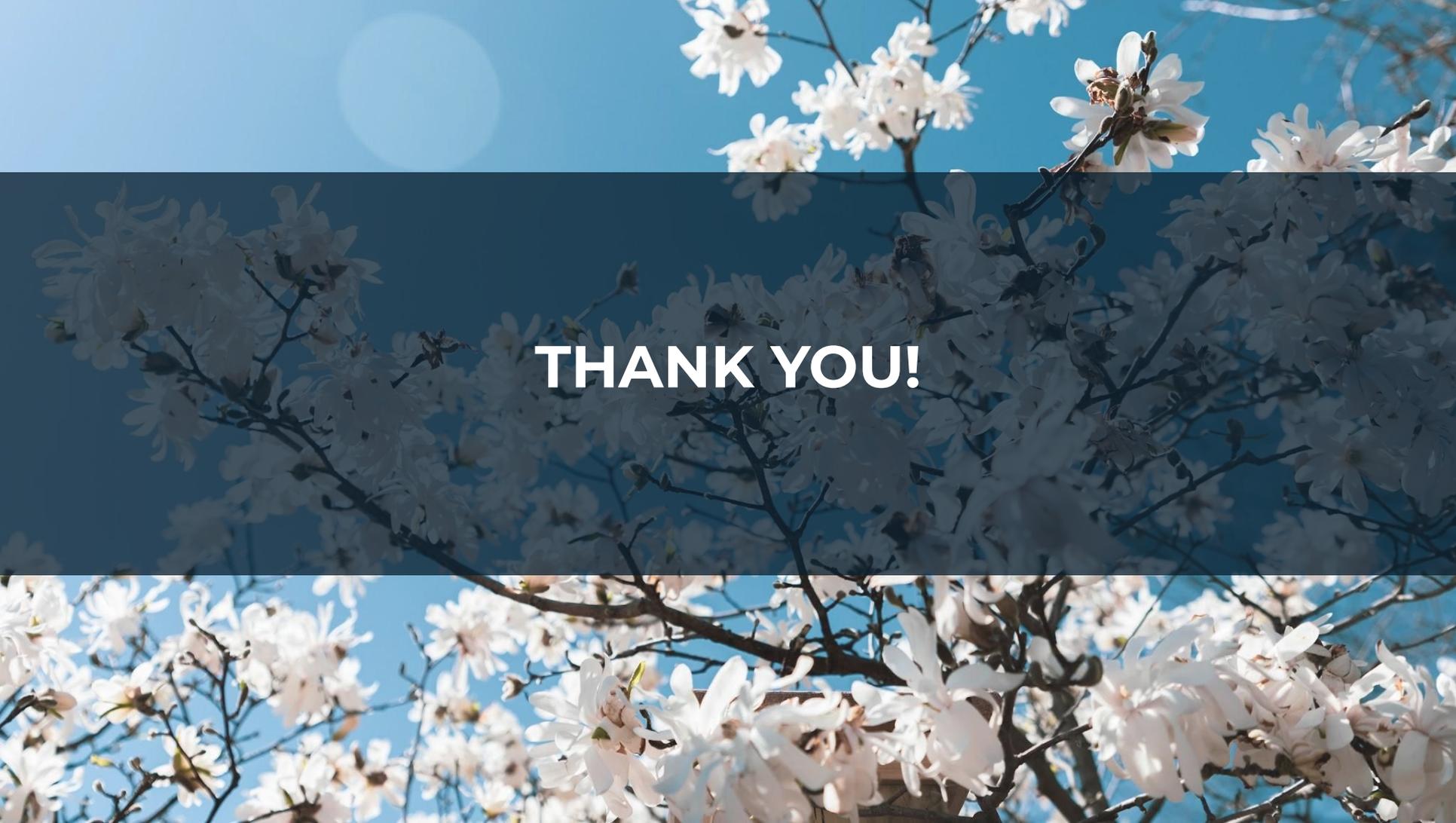


Outdoor Wi-Fi pop-up learning and work spaces at Boston Public Libraries.

Boston Public Library, Mayor's Office of New Urban Mechanics, and the Environment Department.

Additional services:

- free grab-and-go meals through Boston Summer Eats
- Rental Relief Fund office hours



**THANK YOU!**