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Study of Sexual Exploitation in Boston

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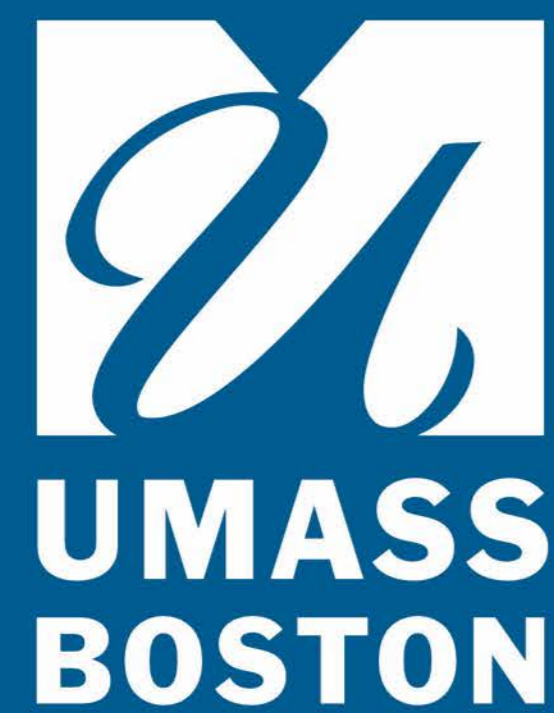
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Study of Sexual Exploitation in Boston

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CEASE Network Launch



On March 6, 2015, Mayor Martin J. Walsh announced the launch of CEASE Boston (Cities Empowered Against Sexual Exploitation), a chapter of the CEASE Network, a collaboration of 11 pioneering cities committed to combating sex trafficking by reducing demand for buying sex by 20 percent in two years. - <http://www.cityofboston.gov/news/default.aspx?id=20027>

Approach and Methods

In collaboration with the Boston Police Department and Councilor Baker's office, we developed a mixed-methods project that will provide a comprehensive picture of sexual exploitation in the city of Boston.

In-depth interview and focus group discussion guides developed with support from:

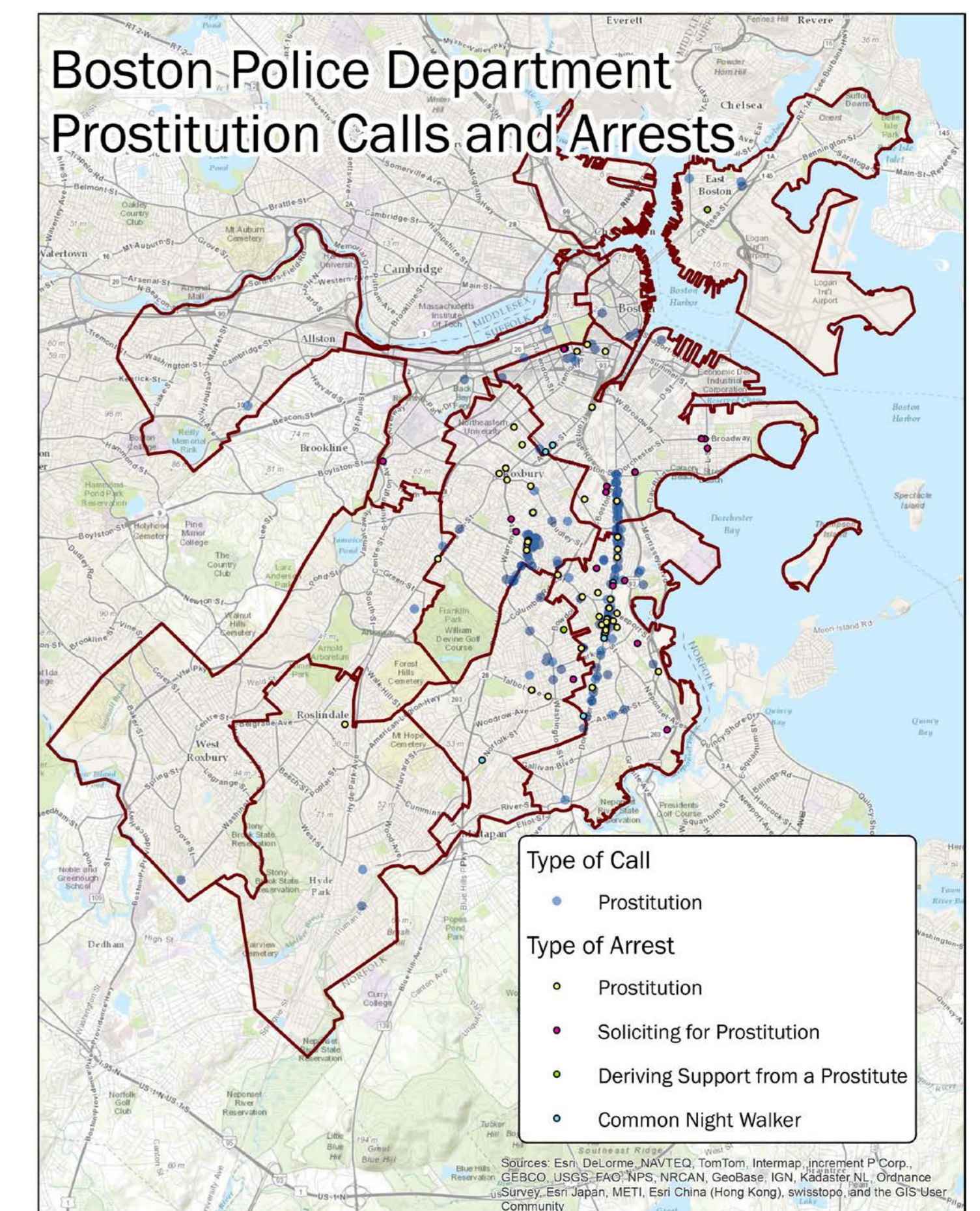
- **BPD - Office of Research and Development**
 - **BPD - Human Trafficking Unit**
- **Mayor's Office Of Women's Advancement**
 - **Mayor's Office of Public Safety**
 - **Councilor Baker's Office**

The project has already begun in-depth interviews with NGOs servicing victims of sexual exploitation and anticipates completion of the interviews with NGOs prior to the beginning of the proposed research.

Interviews with survivors of sex exploitation, sex buyers, and facilitators of the sale of sex will also be conducted. This proposed research includes four populations to better understand the sex trade in Boston:

- 1. members of Boston Police Department,**
- 2. prostituted individuals,**
- 3. those who facilitate the sale of sex, and**
- 4. those who purchase sex.**

Once the City of Boston has used the data from the first study to implement new programs and policies, the UMass Boston research team will develop outcome/evaluation measures of impact of those policies.



The Sex Trade and Law Enforcement: The map above displays the distribution of calls made to and arrests made by the Boston Police Department between October 2013 and October 2014.

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