Improvements to
PETERS PARK
Dedication of Park in South End in Memory of George and Sadie Peters

This tribute is but small recognition for the contributions they made for more than four decades to their adopted country and chosen neighborhood in Boston.

The Peters who came to America in 1908 from Kear-Hilda, Lebanon, and settled in the South End with five children, set an example in the community which valued hard work, civic spirit, patriotism and brotherhood among various ethics groups.

Both were active communicants St. George’s Syrian Church in the South End with Mr. Peters serving as canter for thirty-five years. He was a conscientious worker in the shoemaking industry for years, retiring for illness four year before his death in 1954. Mrs. Peters was honored guest at the April, 1975, groundbreaking for the park on Bradford Street just six months before her death. The park recreation facility in the neighborhood they helped enrich will be formally dedicated on Mr. Peter’s birthday in the presence of many admirers of the couple.

The Boston City Council joins in adding its respect and tribute to these loyal, law-abiding citizens who helped make the South End a healthy and viable community, and be it further this Council officially registers its approval that a fitting living memorial in the form of a public park will help keep green the memories of George and Sadie Peters and many others like them for their quiet service to their neighborhood.

~ Boston City Council, Minutes of Meeting July 3, 1976
PROJECT OVERVIEW
AGENDA

1. GREETING & PROJECT TEAM INTRODUCTION
2. PROJECT OVERVIEW & GOALS
3. PRESENTATION
4. COMMUNITY INPUT
5. CLOSING REMARKS & NEXT STEPS
PROJECT TEAM

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PROJECT SCHEDULE & FUNDING

**FUNDING**
- 225 Albany: $70,000
- 345 Harrison: $200,000
- Capital Funds: $100,000

**SPENDING**
- Design: $55,500
- Construction: $275,000
- Contingency: $39,500

- **FEBRUARY 2018**
  - Community Meeting 1
  - If needed
- **MAY 2018**
  - Community Meeting 3
- **APRIL 2018**
  - Community Meeting 2
- **SUMMER 2018**
  - Design Development + Construction Documents Submit to send Landmarks District
- **SUMMER 2019**
  - Anticipated Park Opening
- **SEPTEMBER 2018**
  - Construction Estimated cost of construction: $275,000
CITY OF BOSTON PRIORITIES

- Expanding walkable access to parks
- Addressing equity
- Climate resilience
- Health
- Housing and community building
PARKS & RECREATION GOALS

• Accessible and available to all

• Diverse, balanced, and efficient mix of uses

• Meaningful and inclusive community engagement

• Adaptive and resilient landscapes

• Promote connections
PETERS PARK GOALS

• Keep the parts of the park that work well - courts, playground, ballfield, dog park

• Use strategic interventions to improve the circulation system & paving conditions

• Improve the long term health of the adjacent areas by addressing the circulation patterns
First Public Meeting Summary

How do people use the park?

- Dog Park, the actual dog park and walking one’s dog through the entire park.
- A pleasant place to pace through.
- Socializing.
- Sports.

Comments mentioned by almost all groups.

- Keep the trucks out of the park!
- Trash can be brought to the edges if it keeps the trucks out.
- Keep people and trucks from cutting the corners of the paths.
- More and better plants are needed but not between dog park and Washington Street sidewalk.
- Protect plantings – frustration with maintenance was expressed.
- Water is needed for the health of the plants.
- Some are in favor of turning desire lines into official paths, especially northeast of the ball field, others are not.
- More benches, ping-pong tables, or chess tables but others are worried about homeless people hanging out in park.
First Public Meeting Summary

**Recommended approach to responding to communities input.**

- Control edges. Add fences and/or bollards along edges but make sure maintenance vehicles can cut across park once they are in it.
- Once trucks can't drive into park, repair the lawn and cut across areas.
- Interesting and durable plant palette.
- Investigate viability of expanding irrigation into garden area, understanding that the Friends Group will take it on.
- New paths to replace desire lines without compromising existing trees.
- New furniture and game tables where appropriate.
- Palette of materials should blend with existing park.
- Move trash receptacles to perimeter of park and permanently affix in place. Use smaller receptacles with smaller openings to limit dumping of household trash.
New furniture where appropriate
Add fences and/or bollards along edges
New paths to replace desire lines
Keep people and trucks from cutting the corners of the paths
Trash located at the edges of the park to keep trucks out
Minimize trucks from entering the park
More and better plants are needed and should be protected
Automatic irrigation is needed for the health of the plants
Repair the lawn and cut across areas
Bollards located at the northern boundary would remain along the proposed concrete plaza within Concept One.
Bricks at the northern entrance of Peters Park will be removed within the proposed concepts.

April 2, 2018
Boston Parks and Recreation
Existing Conditions

Proposed Conditions - Concept One
The existing desire line along the basketball court becomes a pathway in Concept One.
To prevent pedestrians from cutting into the park, Concept One proposes a fence along Washington Street.
Area of well worn lawn is proposed to be reseeded within both concept designs.
The well worn area along the southern perimeter of the park will be planted with shrubs within the concept designs.
Existing entrance from Bradford Street will be more formal within the proposed designs.
Pedestrians cut through between brick sidewalk and the park’s pathway. The concept designs proposed locating a fence along Bradford Street.
A strong desire line exists along the outfield fence of the baseball field in Concept Design One. A stonedust pathway is proposed in this area connecting Shawmut and Washington Street.
• New furniture where appropriate
• Add fences and/or bollards along edges
• New paths to replace desire lines
• Keep people and trucks from cutting the corners of the paths
• Trash located at the edges of the park to keep trucks out
• Minimize trucks from entering the park
• More and better plants are needed and should be protected
• Automatic irrigation is needed for the health of the plants
• Repair the lawn and cut across areas
- New furniture where appropriate
- Add fences and/or bollards along edges
- New paths to replace desire lines
- Keep people and trucks from cutting the corners of the paths
- Trash located at the edges of the park to keep trucks out
- Minimize trucks from entering the park
- More and better plants are needed and should be protected
- Automatic irrigation is needed for the health of the plants
- Repair the lawn and cut across areas
The bollards located at the northern entrance of Peters Park are proposed to be replaced with an ornamental fence in Concept Two.
Within Concept Two, a fence and new concrete entrance space is proposed along Shawmut Street.
Existing Conditions

Proposed Conditions - Concept Two “A”

Proposed Conditions - Concept Two “B”
The pathway will be relocated along Washington Street to expand the sidewalk providing the opportunity for additional benches for seating and a fence prevent people from cutting through.
Existing Conditions

Proposed Conditions - Concept Two

April 2, 2018
Boston Parks and Recreation
Corners of pathway are heavily worn from foot traffic.
Pedestrians cut through between brick sidewalk and the park's pathway. The concept designs proposed locating a fence along Bradford Street.
Concept Two proposes to locate fences in key places to prevent the heavy cut through occurring along the baseball outfield fence.
Entry Arch
Receptacles
Benches
Fencing