

WALSH PLAYGROUND



Interpretation Information



English: For interpretation in [____],

1. Go to the horizontal control bar at the bottom of your screen. Click on “Interpretation.”
2. Then click on the language that you would like to hear.
3. You are now accessing this meeting in [____]

Spanish: Para traducción en Español,

1. Vaya a la parte baja de la pantalla, en la barra horizontal, y presione la tecla “Interpretation”.
2. Luego seleccione el idioma que desea escuchar.
3. Después de seleccionar, usted entrará a la reunión en el idioma “Español”.

Haitian Creole: Pou entèpretasyon Kreyòl ayisyen,

1. Ale nan kontwòl ba nan pati anba ekran an epi klike sou "Interpretation"
2. Apre sa, klike sou lang ke ou ta renmen tande a.
3. Kounye a ou gen aksè a reyinyon an Kreyòl ayisyen

Vietnamese: Cho thông dịch Tiếng Việt

1. Tìm thanh điều khiển ngang phía dưới màn hình của bạn. Bấm vào từ: "Interpretation"
2. Sau đó chọn lựa ngôn ngữ mà bạn cần lắng nghe.
3. Hiện tại bạn đang tham gia buổi họp bằng Tiếng Việt



WALSH PLAYGROUND

DESIGN MEETING 2

Amy Linné
Boston Parks and Recreation
amy.linne@boston.gov



October 3, 2023
Boston Parks and Recreation



MEETING RECORDING



The Boston Parks and Recreation Department will be recording the meeting and posting to our project webpage for those who are unable to attend the Zoom meeting live.

It is possible that participants may also be recording the meeting with their phones cameras or other devices. If you do not wish to be recorded during this meeting, please keep your microphone and camera off.

VIRTUAL MEETING ETIQUETTE

We want to ensure this conversation is a pleasant experience for all and that all community members/stakeholders are comfortable sharing their comments, questions and feedback.

Please be respectful and mindful of each other's time when asking questions/ providing comments, so that all attendees are able to participate in the meeting.

Keep questions/ comments project-specific and not personal to yield solution-driven discussion.

Please wait until all attendees have had the opportunity to ask a question/ provide a comment before providing additional questions/ comments.

*You can always set up a conversation with **Amy Linne, amy.linne@boston.gov**, to further discuss the project or process.*

ZOOM TIPS

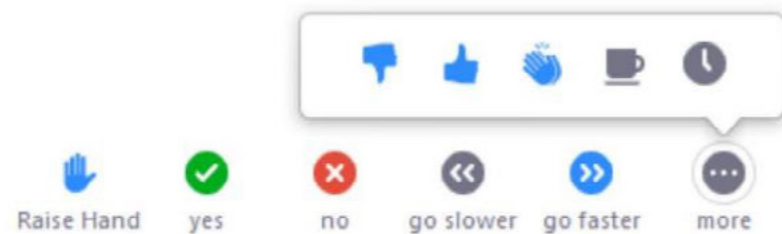
Here is how you can participate during the question and answer part of the presentation.

DURING THE PRESENTATION:



VIA WEB:

Turn video on / off.



To use these non-verbal options click on participants (bottom of screen); these options will pop up in side bar.

DURING THE Q&A:



JOINING VIA PHONE?

Use *9 to raise hand to ask for audio / video permission to ask questions or provide comments.



VIA WEB:

Chat to ask questions / comments or provide responses to poll questions



Raise hand to ask for audio / video permission to ask questions or provide comments.

AGENDA

1

PROJECT TEAM INTRODUCTION

2

PROJECT OVERVIEW

3

PRESENTATION

4

LISTENING & DISCUSSION

5

CLOSING REMARKS & NEXT STEPS

PROJECT TEAM

AMY LINNÉ

PROJECT MANAGER

amy.linne@boston.gov or 617-961-3045

MEGAN NICHOLS TOMKINS

Principal, CBA Landscape Architects

AMY FOSTER

Landscape Architect, CBA Landscape Architects

ERIC JAMES (MATTAPAN LIAISON)

OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES

eric.james@boston.gov

ROSS COCHRAN (DORCHESTER LIAISON)

OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES

ross.cochran@boston.gov



PROJECT APPROACH



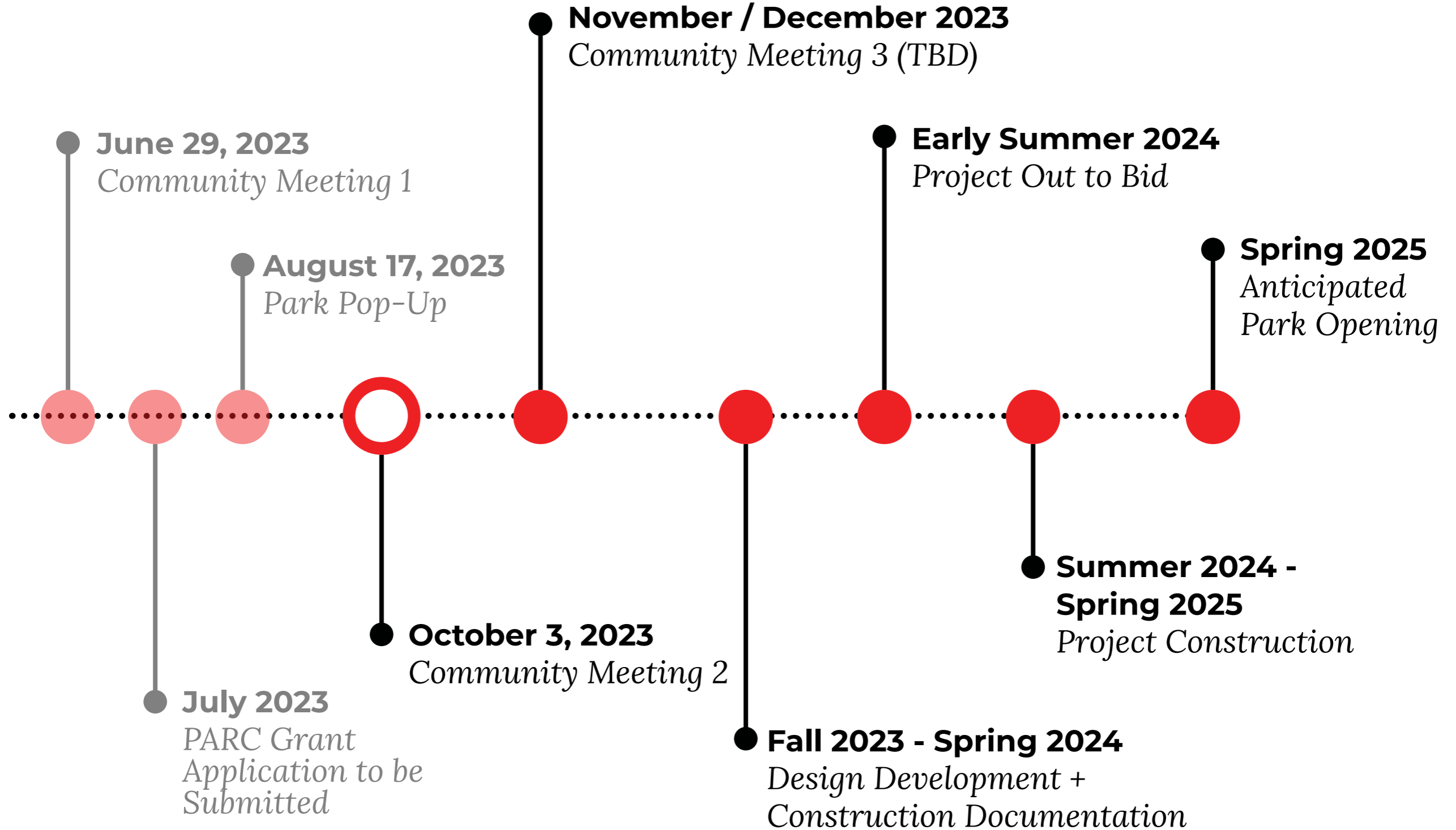
PARK & RECREATION GOALS

- **Accessible and available to all**
- **Diverse, balanced, and efficient mix of uses**
- **Meaningful and inclusive community engagement**
- **Adaptive and resilient landscapes**
- **Promote connections**



PROJECT SCHEDULE & FUNDING

Conceptual Design Currently Funded



MEETING 1 SUMMARY (June 29, 2023)

EXISTING PROGRAM:

- **Softball Fields** are well-used and in need of renovation (Washington Street field is preferred). Better drainage, furnishings, lawn condition, and spectator seating is desired. Secondary field is used as a practice field occasionally
- **Multi-Use Lawn** is well-used and in need of improvement. Issues include utility covers, grass condition, and drainage problems. The lawn size and layout should continue to accommodate flag football fields.
- **Basketball Court** is well-used and in fair condition. The lights do not function and limit playing time in the evening.
- **Tennis Court** is scarcely used due to its poor condition. It would likely be used more if its condition was improved.
- **Playground** is used and in need of renovation. Children should be included in discussions about creating a fun play environment.
- **Site Topography and Vegetation** are overall valued but are in poor condition in some locations, are in need of better maintenance, and create some dark and unused corners.

NEW PROGRAM & AMENITIES (POTENTIAL):

- **Splash Pad** would likely be well-used in the summer.
- **Picnic Area** may be well-used but raises concerns about noise levels and trash
- **Walking Loops** would likely be well-used and improve accessibility between program areas but raises concerns about increased hardscape and disturbance to existing program.
- **Water Fountain / Bottle Filler** is a highly desired amenity addition
- **Site Lighting** is a possible amenity addition but raises some concern about light pollution and activity level at night.
- **Community Garden** is a possible program addition.
- **Dog Park** is a possible program addition. (Dog parks frequently raise concerns about noise level and reduced program space for non-dog owners, but not yet discussed in meeting).

PARK POP-UP SUMMARY (August 17, 2023)

ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS:

- Provide privacy measures at neighbor properties for both visibility and noise
- Replace perimeter fence
- Consider adult fitness equipment
- Provide dog-owner amenities, such as waste disposal bag stations and drinking fountain with dog bowl feature
- Provide drinking fountains, more trash receptacles, and more seating
- Add cameras and lighting to deter undesirable behavior
- Consider including public art
- Provide regulation-height basketball hoops, padding around the pole, and bench seating for basketball players
- **Upgrade playground features to include:** bigger slide, monkey bars, zipline, rock climbing features, swings, rope swing, balance challenges, group spinner, musical instruments, shade features, replaced safety surface

HELP US REDESIGN WALSH PLAYGROUND
Tell us what is important to you in this park

AYÚDENOS A REDISEÑAR WALSH PLAYGROUND
Cuéntenos qué es importante para usted en este parque

EDE NOU TRANSFÒME WALSH PLAYGROUND
Di nou sa ki enpòtan pou ou nan pak sa a

GIÚP CHÚNG TÔI TÁI THIẾT WALSH PLAYGROUND
Hãy cho chúng tôi biết quý vị thấy điều gì là quan trọng ở công viên này

WALSH PLAYGROUND

What do you Like About the Park?
¿Qué le gusta del parque?
Kisa w renmen nan pak la?
Quý vị thích công viên này vì điều gì?

Playground and basketball court
Open space ✓✓
Quiet @ night
Natural grass ✓✓
space,
tennis court
Real Grass - Quiet @ night
Sledding (move backstop)
Space -
Close to
Dogs on site

How Could the Park be Improved?
¿Cómo se podría mejorar el parque?
Kijan pak la kapab amelyore?
Công viên có thể cải tiến như thế nào?

Remove basketball court!
Add more benches!
Add more seating!
Add more trash bins!
Add more lighting!
Add more cameras!

Get rid of wood chips
Make BB court closer
More benches ✓✓
SPLASH pad ✓✓
Lights for BB ✓✓
Single rim hoops → light the path
Rebo tennis court ✓✓
Benches
sprinkler park
more trash/recycling bins ✓✓
Cleaned more often ✓✓
Clean Drush along fence ✓✓
bathroom
one bus stop area
Walking Trail!
Water fountain

What are your Concerns About the Park?
¿Qué le preocupa del parque?
Ki enkyetid ou genyen parapo ak pak la?
Quý vị có mối lo ngại gì về công viên này?

Cleanliness - already not picked up, more happens with more traffic
- trash, parking during events, noise during events
- maintenance
- People USE Wooded Areas AS Outskirts
Toilet!! → Clear Cut it to save this
- Fireworks → Lack of Electric lights
Needles in Mulch, Broken glass by Basketball
Security - Gate needs repair
Lighting - need more
cameras please
Signage around park

WALSH PLAYGROUND

CBA | LA City of Boston Parks and Recreation

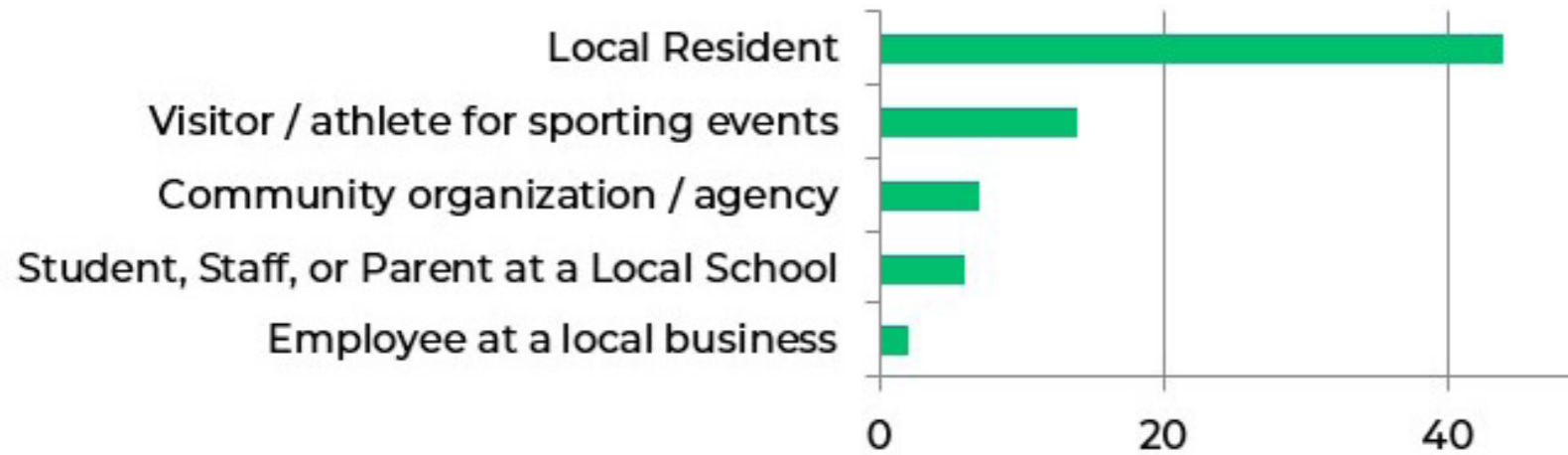
ADDITIONAL CONCERNS:

- Wooded areas are used for undesirable activities because of limited visibility
- Vehicular access into park causes disruptions
- Picnic opportunities may bring in too many crowds and trash
- Some tree branches pose hazards and need pruning
- Several neighbors strongly oppose artificial turf
- Noise, trash, & maintenance are ongoing concerns
- Softball backstop is a hazard to sledders; users do not want park additions to disrupt sledding paths

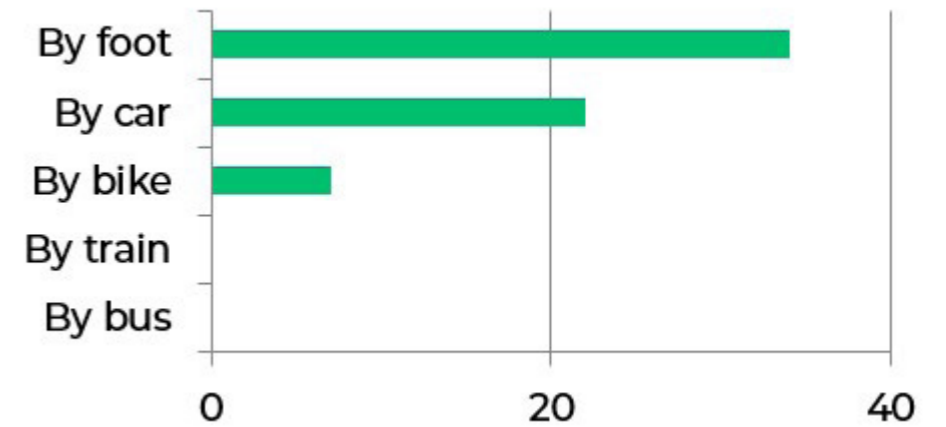
ONLINE SURVEY RESULTS (August 17 - September 22, 2023)

SURVEY RESPONSES: 51

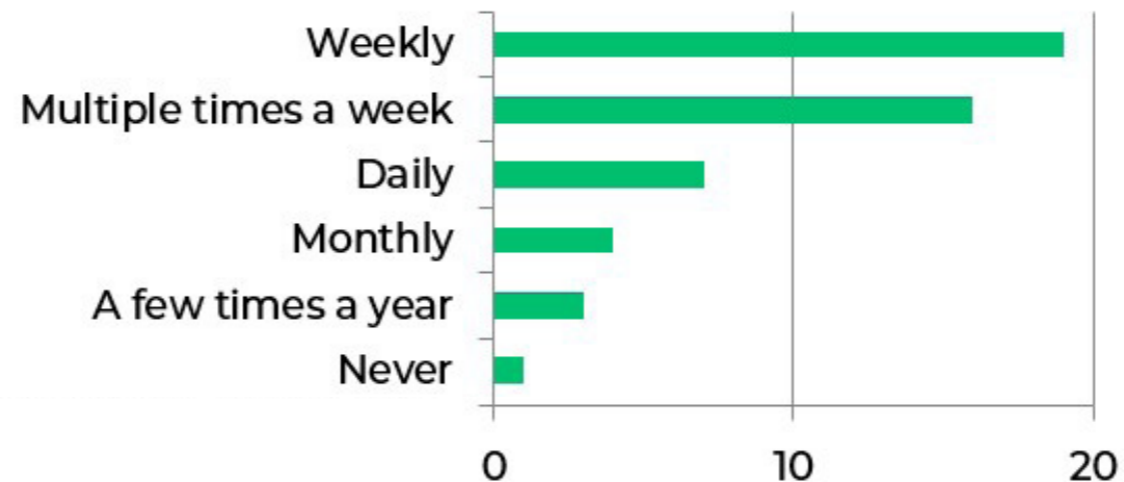
What is your relationship to Walsh Playground?



How do you typically get to Walsh Playground?

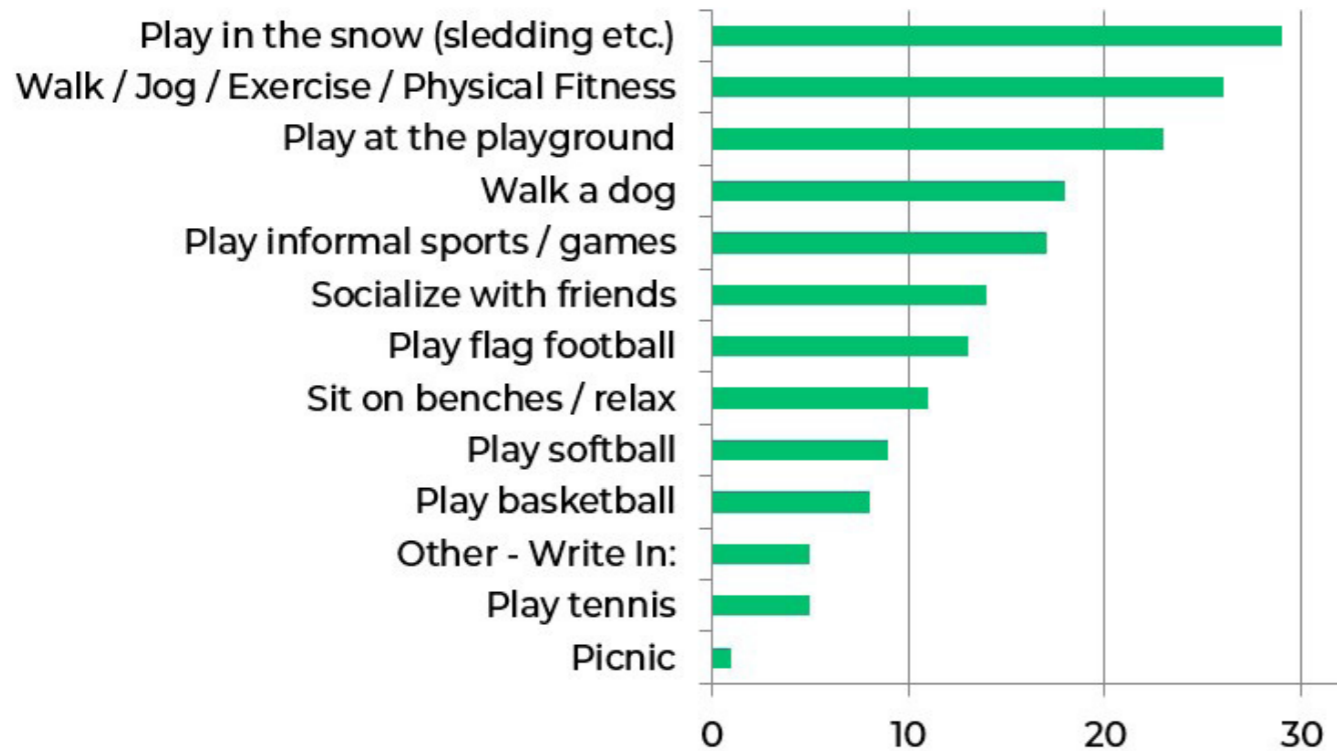


How often do you visit Walsh Playground?

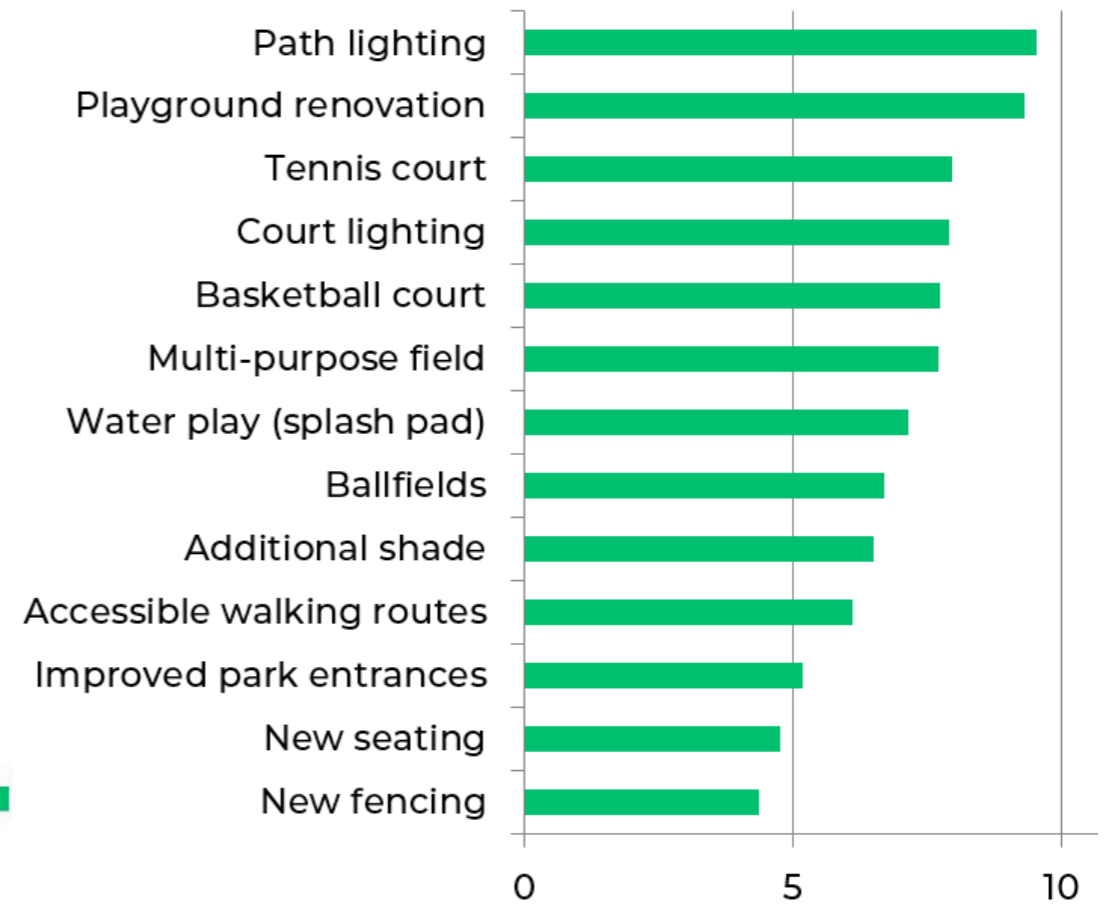


ONLINE SURVEY RESULTS (August 17 - September 22, 2023)

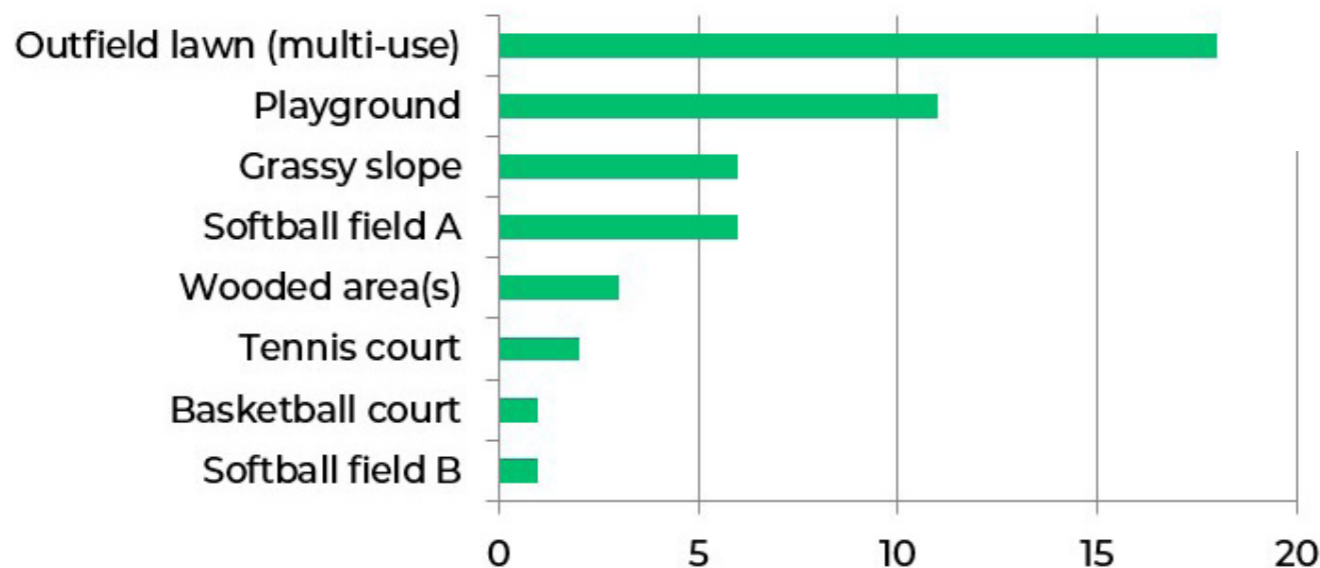
What do you typically do at Walsh Playground?



What do you think should be prioritized for improvement?



What is your favorite feature of Walsh Playground?



ONLINE SURVEY RESULTS (August 17 - September 22, 2023)

What is special about Walsh Playground?



“ variety of shade, sun, open space, closed space. Path that cuts through to neighborhood. ”

“ The big hill is fabulous for sledding and really special feature. ”

“ The combination of Playground and large fields to have multiple events happening at once. ”

“ It’s a public park in an urban area that has sports, activities and people who use it but also remains green and quiet...”

ONLINE SURVEY RESULTS (August 17 - September 22, 2023)

If you feel that there are safety issues in the park, please explain why:

17 Mentions

related to vegetation

including “wooded, poison ivy, shrubs, grass, weeds, holes, rocks, shady, trees, field, overgrown, landscaping...”

14 Mentions

related to amenity conditions

including “playground, basketball courts, fields, rusty fencing, path, gates...”

18 Mentions

related to maintenance & cleanliness

including “trash, litter, unclean, smashed, maintenance, garbage, glass, bottles, needles...”

16 Mentions

related to lighting

including “lighting, dark, unlit, night, light...”

5 Mentions

related to drainage

including “puddling, drainage, slippery, icy, water...”

14 Mentions

related to visitor misuse

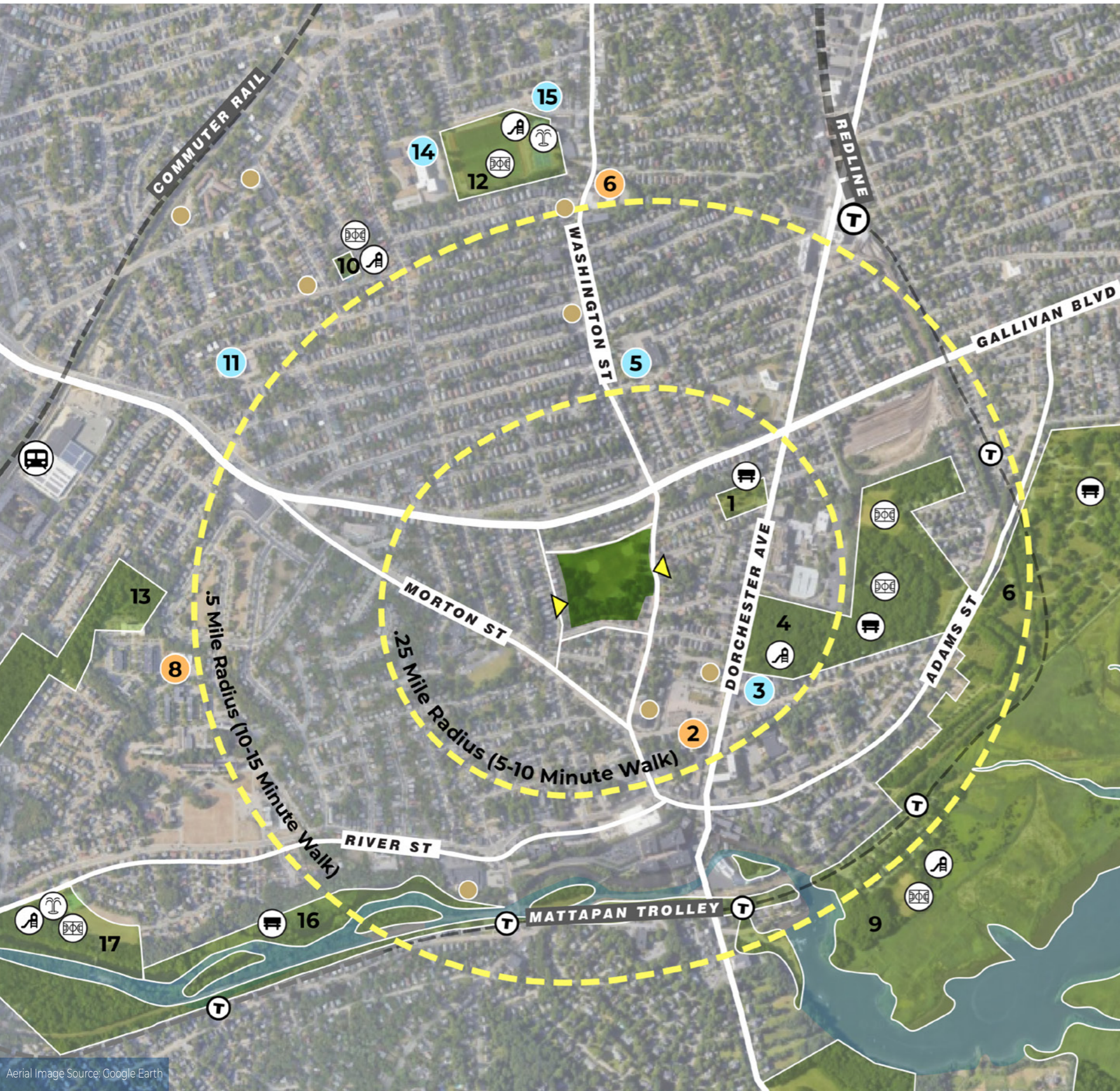
including “fireworks, loud music, permits, vehicles, dirt bikes, substance abuse, sketchy, alcohol, needles...”

7 Mentions

related to utilities

including “sewer, grates, drainage, caps, popping...”

NEIGHBORHOOD CONTEXT



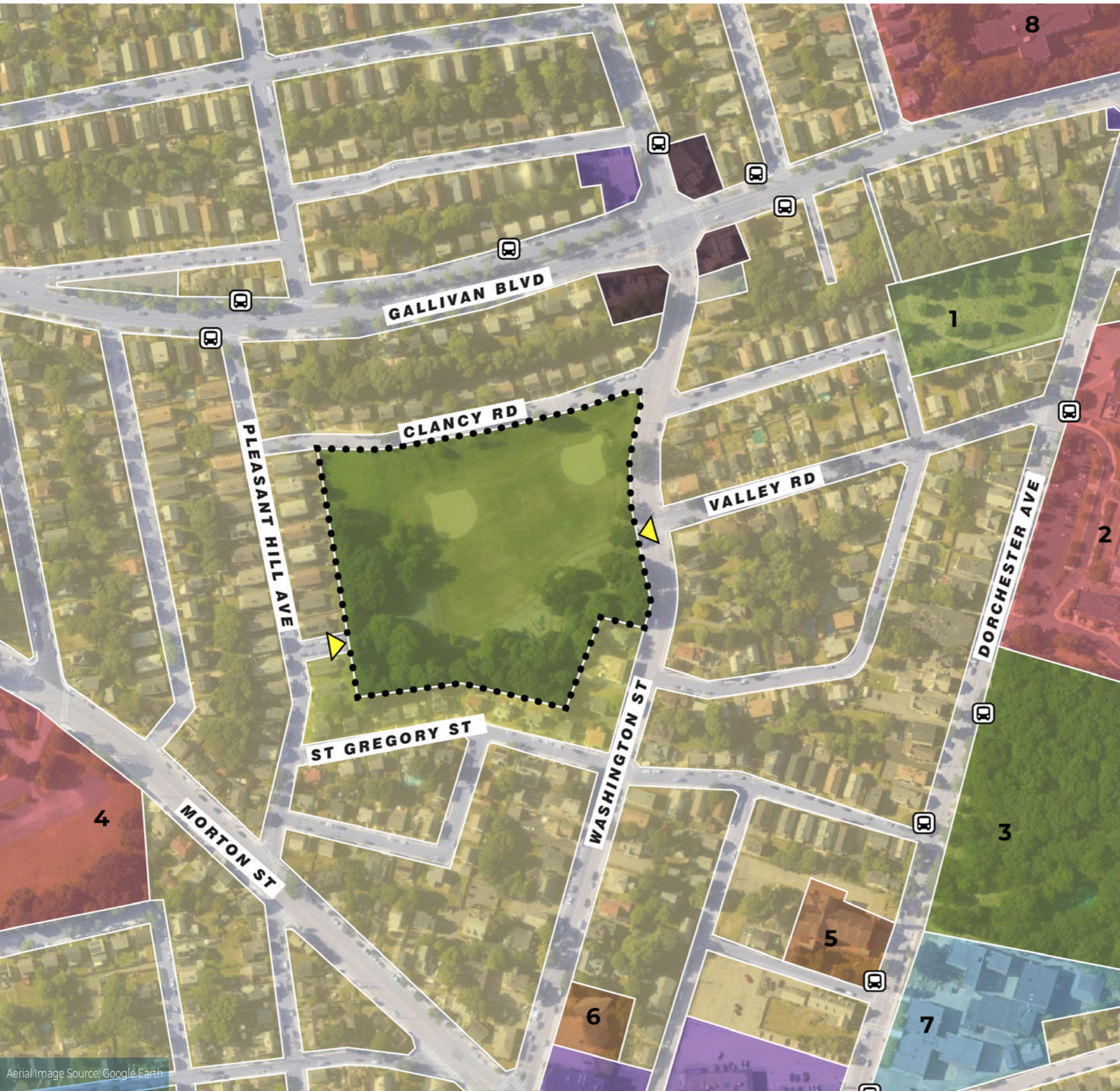
LEGEND

- Walsh Playground Entrance
- School
- Community Center / Library
- Church / Temple
- Park
- Playground
- Passive Recreation
- Sport Field / Court
- Splash Pad

1. Dorchester South Burying Ground
2. Boston Library - Lower Mills
3. Saint Paul II Catholic Academy
4. Dorchester Park
5. Dr. William W. Henderson Inclusion Upper School
6. Cedar Grove Cemetery
7. Dorchester YMCA
8. Gallivan Community Center
9. Ventura Park (DCR)
10. Thetford Evans Playground
11. Boston International High School
12. Roberts Playground
13. Gladeside I Urban Wild
14. TechBoston Academy
15. Lee Academy Pilot School
16. Neponset River Trail (DCR)
17. Ryan Playground (DCR)



IMMEDIATE SURROUNDINGS



LEGEND

-  Walsh Playground Entrance
-  Walsh Playground Fence
-  Residential
-  Commercial
-  Industrial Commercial
-  Healthcare
-  School
-  Church / Temple
-  Park
-  Bus Stop

1. Dorchester South Burying Ground
2. Carney Hospital
3. Dorchester Park
4. Harbor Health Services
5. Saint Gregory Parish Catholic Church
6. Wesley United Methodist Church
7. Saint John Paul II Catholic Academy
8. The Boston Home



INSPIRATION IMAGERY | HISTORIC AERIALS



1955



1983



2008

EXISTING CONDITIONS | SITE PLAN



Softball Field
Vegetated Slope
Basketball Court
Tennis Court
Entrance

Softball Field
Multi-use Lawn
Entrance
Memorial Flag
Paved Pedestrian Path
Playground



LEGEND

- Internal Fencing
- Perimeter Fence
- ▲ Park Entrance
- Lawn
- Infield Clay / Sand
- Playground
- Tree Canopy
- Rock Ledge

PRECEDENT IMAGES | PROPOSED RENOVATIONS



Renovated Basketball Court



Renovated Tennis Court



Renovated Softball Field



Renovated Playground



Walking Loop



Park Entrance Gate

PRECEDENT IMAGES | NEW SITE FURNISHINGS



Pedestrian Lighting



Water Station



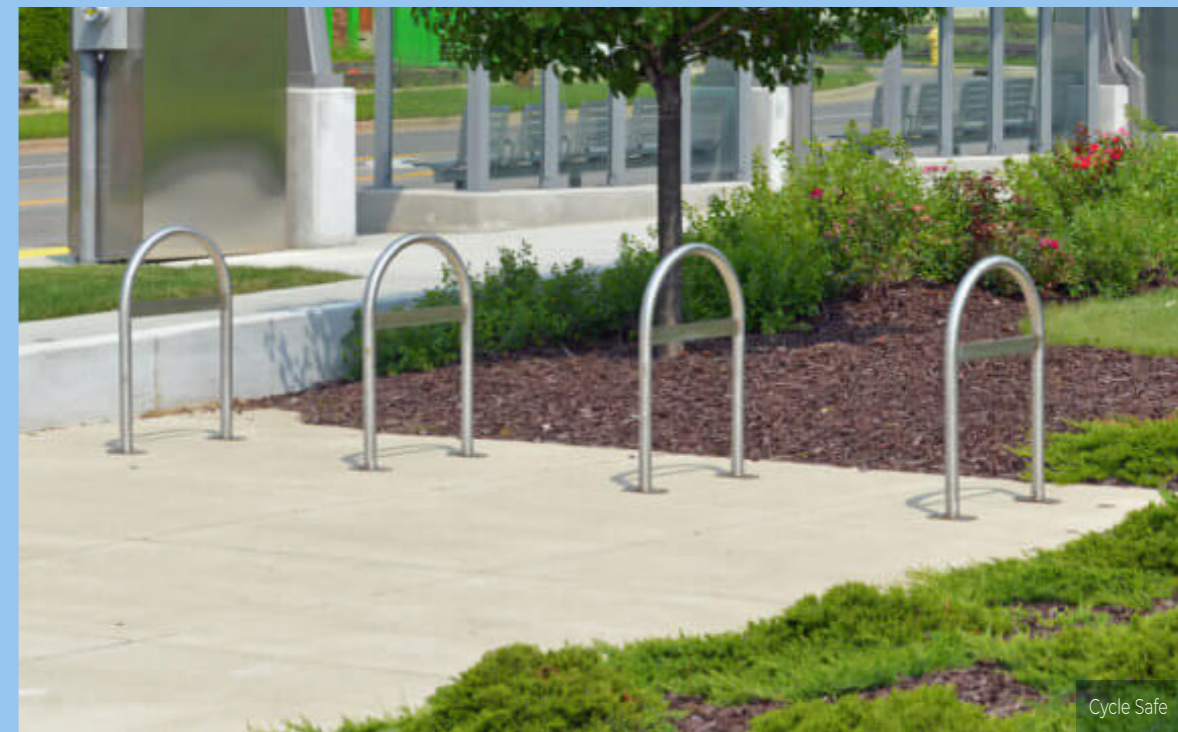
Port-a-Potty Enclosure



Waste Receptacles



Wayfinding



Bike Racks

PRECEDENT IMAGES | VEGETATION MANAGEMENT



Invasive Understory Removal



Renovated Multi-use Lawn



New Fence with Concrete Mow Strip at Clancy Road



Branch Pruning on Existing Trees for Health & Safety



Protect Existing Mature Trees



New Shade & Ornamental Plantings

PROPOSED DESIGN | OPTIONS



OPTION A
















OPTION B



OPTION C

LEGEND

- | | | | |
|---|-----------------------|---|----------------------|
|  | Playground |  | Infield Clay |
|  | Splash Pad |  | Lawn / Groundcover |
|  | Seating Area |  | Existing Tree Canopy |
|  | Adult Fitness Station |  | Circulation Path |
|  | Basketball Court |  | Existing Tree |
|  | Tennis Court |  | Proposed Tree |
|  | Dog Park | | |

PROPOSED DESIGN | OPTION A

LEGEND

- Playground
- Splash Pad
- Seating Area
- Adult Fitness Station
- Basketball Court
- Tennis Court
- Infield Clay
- Lawn / Groundcover
- Existing Tree Canopy
- Circulation Path
- Existing Tree
- Proposed Tree



PRECEDENT IMAGES | OPTION A "HILLS, MOUNTAINS, & VALLEYS" PLAYGROUND



Tower, Slide & Rope Climbers



Integrated Slope Features



Age 2-5 Play Structure



Age 2-5 Play Features



Musical Instruments



Wheelchair Accessible Play Features



Swings

PRECEDENT IMAGES | OPTION A



Curved Shade Structure



Dual-Use Tennis & Pickleball Lines



Backed Bench Seating



Splash Pad with Ground Sprays

PROPOSED DESIGN | OPTION B

LEGEND

- Playground
- Splash Pad
- Seating Area
- Adult Fitness Station
- Basketball Court
- Tennis Court
- Infield Clay
- Lawn / Groundcover
- Existing Tree Canopy
- Circulation Path
- Existing Tree
- Proposed Tree



PRECEDENT IMAGES | OPTION B "WOODLAND OBSTACLE COURSE" PLAYGROUND



Tower, Climbers, & Slides



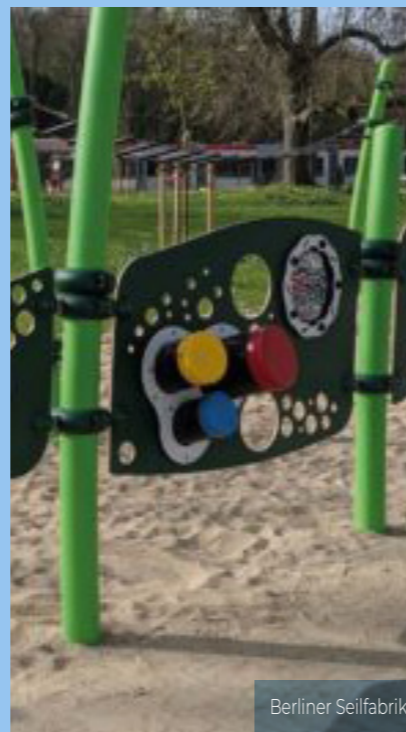
Age 2-5 Play Structure



Balance Challenges



Climbing Structure



Accessible Panels



Accessible Group Swing



Zipline

PRECEDENT IMAGES | OPTION B



Graphic Splash Pad



Dog Park



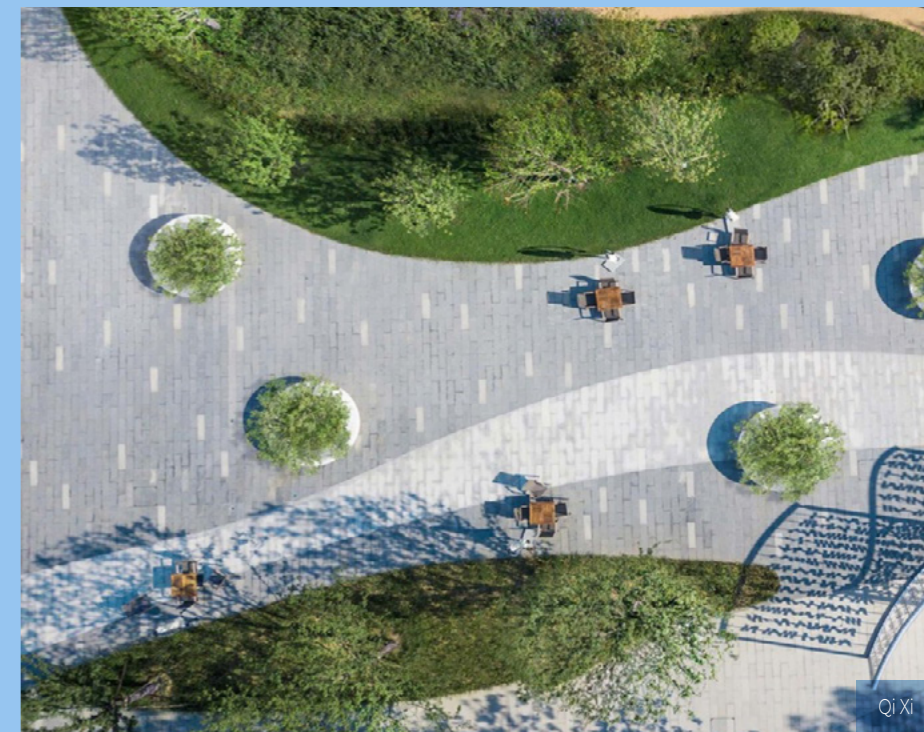
Parcourse Path with Workout Stations



Shade Pergola



Backed Bench Seating



Stream-Inspired Paving & Circulation

PROPOSED DESIGN | OPTION C

LEGEND

- Playground
- Splash Pad
- Seating Area
- Adult Fitness Station
- Basketball Court
- Tennis Court
- Infield Clay
- Lawn / Groundcover
- Existing Tree Canopy
- Circulation Path
- Existing Tree
- Proposed Tree



PRECEDENT IMAGES | OPTION C "BRIDGES & PLATFORMS" PLAYGROUND



Post & Platform Tower



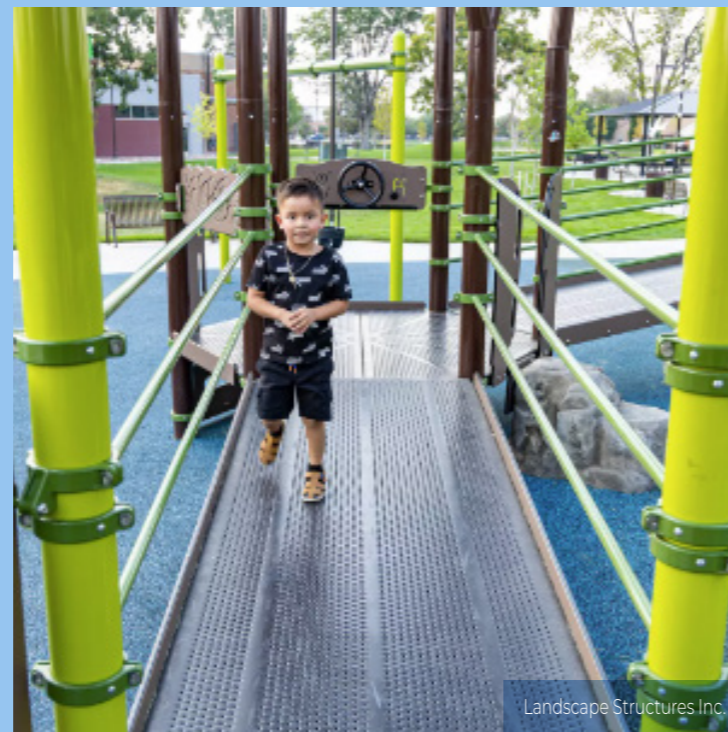
Age 2-5 Post & Platform Play Structure



Musical Instruments



Swings



Ramp-Accessible Structures



Monkey Bars



Group Spinner

PRECEDENT IMAGES | OPTION C



Graphic Splash Pad



Graphic Basketball Court



Backed Bench Seating



Large Spectator Pergola



Outdoor Gym

PROPOSED DESIGN | OPTIONS



OPTION A
















OPTION B



OPTION C

LEGEND

- | | | | |
|---|-----------------------|---|----------------------|
|  | Playground |  | Infield Clay |
|  | Splash Pad |  | Lawn / Groundcover |
|  | Seating Area |  | Existing Tree Canopy |
|  | Adult Fitness Station |  | Circulation Path |
|  | Basketball Court |  | Existing Tree |
|  | Tennis Court |  | Proposed Tree |
|  | Dog Park | | |



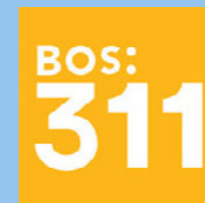
LISTENING & DISCUSSION

Help us build great parks.
Let us know what matters to you.

THANK YOU!

Visit the Project Webpage for Updates
www.boston.gov/walsh-playground
or email the BPRD project manager
amy.linne@boston.gov

For questions, maintenance requests or
concerns regarding any of our
parks contact 311



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