



Improvements to
**ROBERT G.
LAWSON
PARK**

Community Meeting #2

ZOOM INTERPRETATION SERVICES

English: For interpretation in [____],

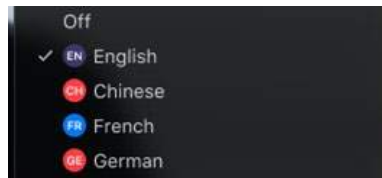
1. Go to the horizontal control bar at the bottom of your screen. Click on “Interpretation.”
2. Then click on the language that you would like to hear.
3. You are now accessing this meeting in [____]

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



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 muted and camera off.

Please share with your neighbors and friends,

WEB LINK:

<https://www.boston.gov/departments/parks-and-recreation/lawson-park-improvements>

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 **Priyanka Vankina**, priyanka.vankina@boston.gov, to further discuss the project or process.*

ZOOM TIPS

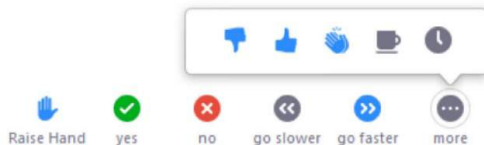
Here is how you can participate during the question and answer part of the presentation.

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

REVIEW OF PROJECT TEAM

2

REVIEW OF PROJECT GOALS AND SCOPE

3

DESIGN ALTERNATIVES

4

LISTENING AND DISCUSSION

5

CLOSING REMARKS & NEXT STEPS

PROJECT TEAM

Priyanka Vankina

Project Manager, Boston Parks and Recreation Department
priyanka.vankina@boston.gov or 617-961-3028

My'Kel McMillen

Community Outreach Coordinator, Boston Parks and Recreation Department
corey.mcmillen@boston.gov or 617-201-1294

William Moose

Planner, Boston Transportation Department:
william.moose@boston.gov or 617-635-5722

Office of Neighborhood Services:

Asha Janay, Roxbury Liaison, asha.janay@boston.gov

Caroline Peters, Jamaica Plain Liaison, caroline.peters@boston.gov

Kyle Zick

Principal, Kyle Zick Landscape Architecture, Inc.

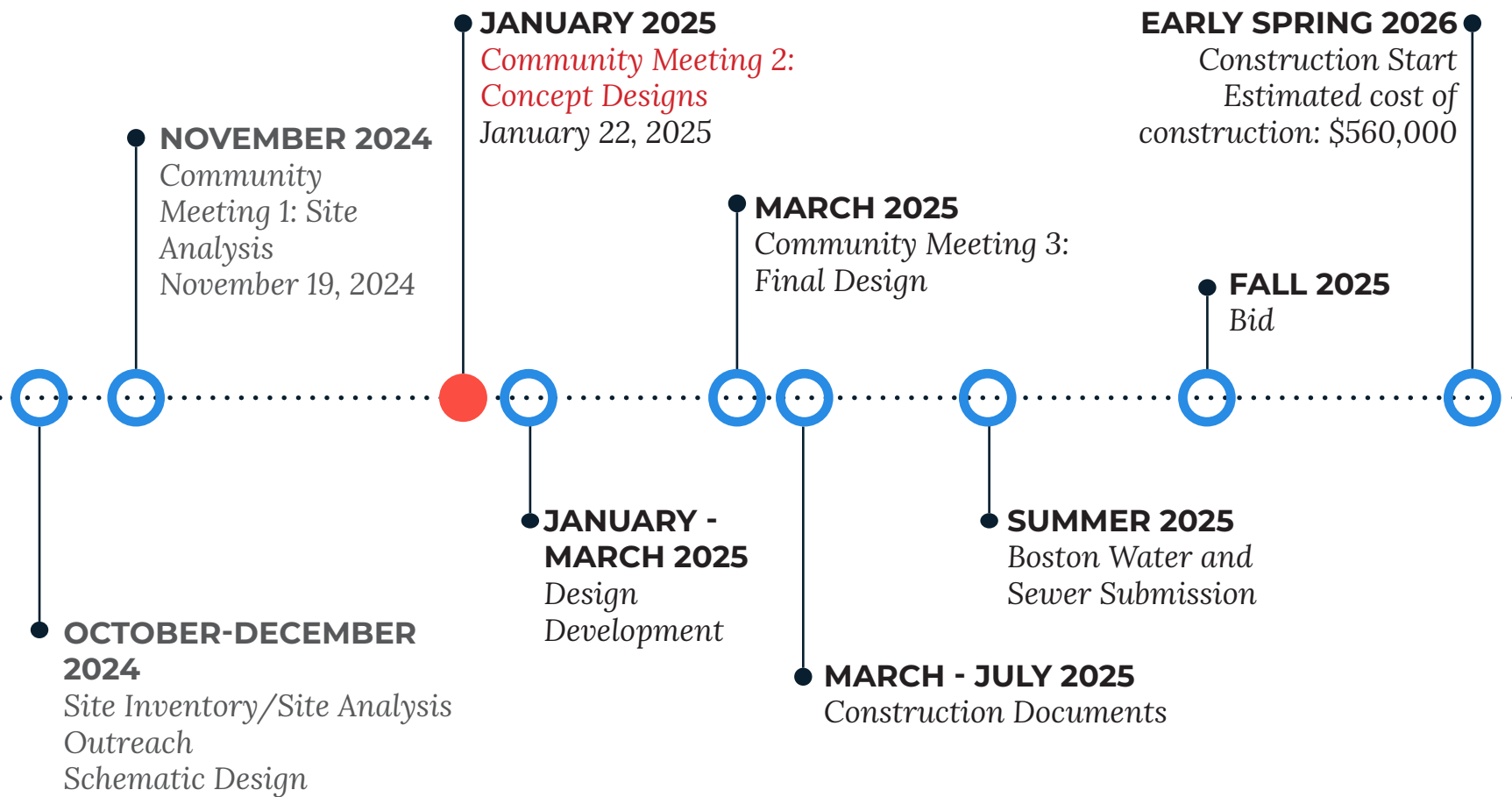
Tracy Hudak

Landscape Architect, Kyle Zick Landscape Architecture, Inc.



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PROJECT SCHEDULE & FUNDING





CITY OF BOSTON PRIORITIES

A city that is:

- **Delivering Exceptional Constituent Services**
- **Green and Growing**
- **Family Friendly**
- **Closing the Racial Wealth Gap**
- **Healthy and Safe**



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 GOALS AND SCOPE



ATHERTON STREET

ROBERT G. LAWSON PARK

ATHERTON PLAZA

COLUMBUS AVENUE

WASHINGTON STREET

BEETHOVEN STREET

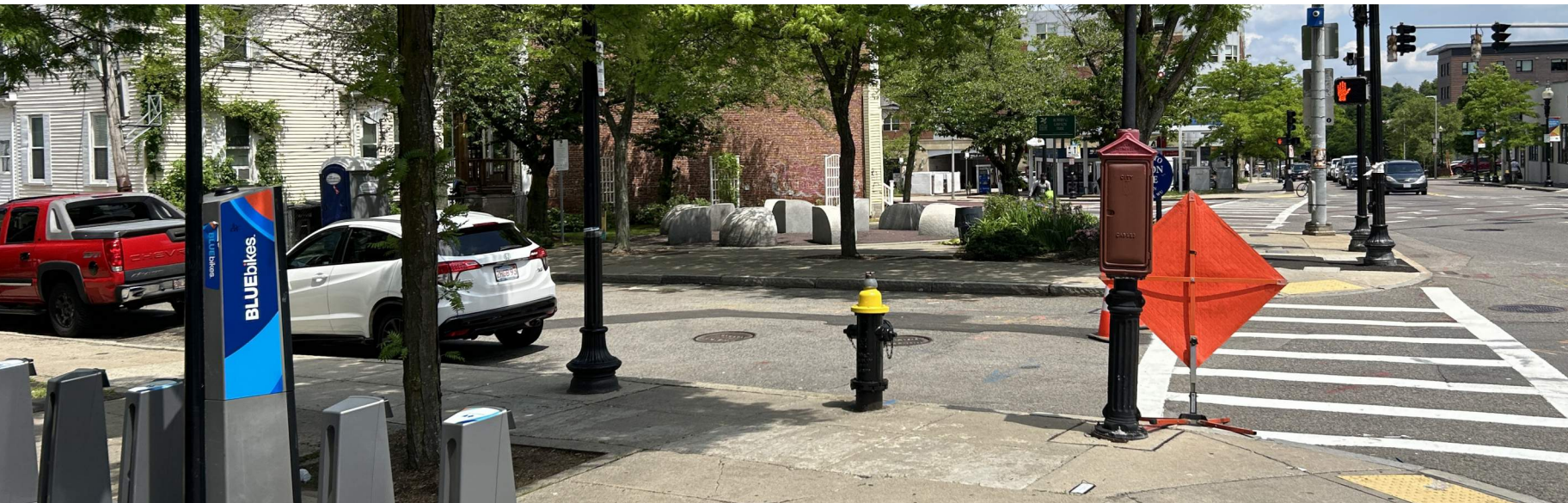
WASHINGTON STREET

COLUMBUS AVENUE

ROBERT G. LAWSON PARK REDESIGN SCOPE OF WORK

Design and construction of a park that:

- **Activates the park to promote positive interactions**
- **Better connects the park with Atherton Plaza**
- **Improves tree canopy and landscape**
- **Improves accessibility**
- **Honors the legacy of Robert G. Lawson**



COMMUNITY MEETING #1 AND PARK SURVEY

WHAT WE HEARD

KEY POINTS:

- Create separation from traffic
- Keep trees and increase green space, if possible
- Provide places for sitting and gathering as well as event space for markets, performances and celebrations
- Work to improve feelings of comfort and safety
- Connect Robert G. Lawson Park to Atherton Plaza
- Provide appropriate lighting
- Reuse granite blocks, if possible

DESIGN ALTERNATIVES

- **OPTION 1**
- **OPTION 2**
- **OPTION 3**
- **TRIBUTE ELEMENTS**



DESIGN ALTERNATIVES - OPTION 1



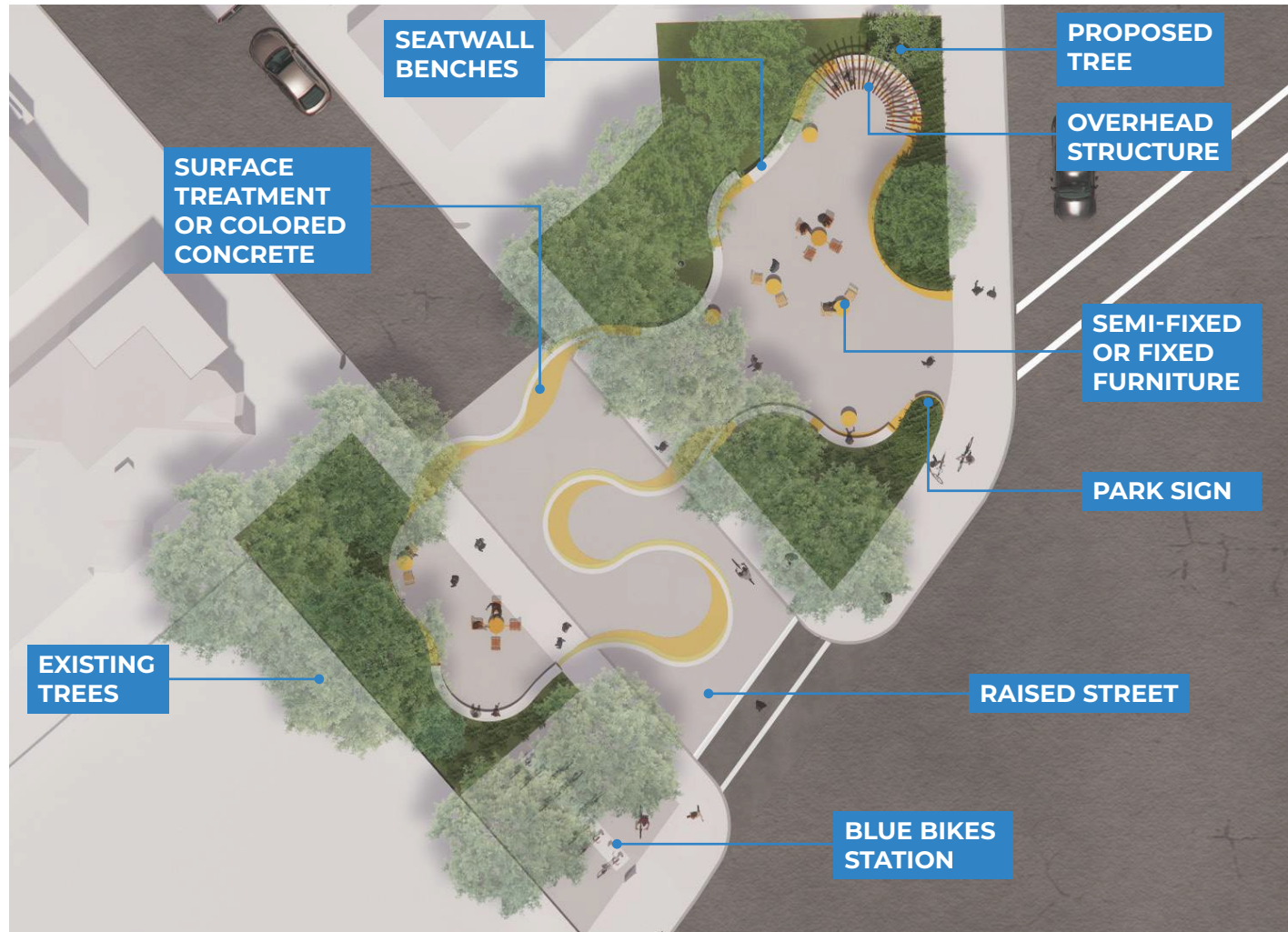
Improvements to
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Community Meeting #2

DESIGN ALTERNATIVES - OPTION 1



Improvements to
Robert G. Lawson Park
Community Meeting #2

DESIGN ALTERNATIVES - OPTION 1



DESIGN ALTERNATIVES - OPTION 1



BIRD'S EYE VIEW

Improvements to
Robert G. Lawson Park
Community Meeting #2

DESIGN ALTERNATIVES - OPTION 1



FROM COLUMBUS AVE.

Improvements to
Robert G. Lawson Park
Community Meeting #2

DESIGN ALTERNATIVES - OPTION 1



WITHIN PARK

Improvements to
Robert G. Lawson Park
Community Meeting #2

DESIGN ALTERNATIVES - OPTION 1



VIEW ACROSS ATHERTON

Improvements to
Robert G. Lawson Park
Community Meeting #2

DESIGN ALTERNATIVES - OPTION 1



VIEW FROM ATHERTON PLAZA

Improvements to
Robert G. Lawson Park
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DESIGN ALTERNATIVES - OPTION 1



Improvements to
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DESIGN ALTERNATIVES - OPTION 1



DESIGN ALTERNATIVES - OPTION 2



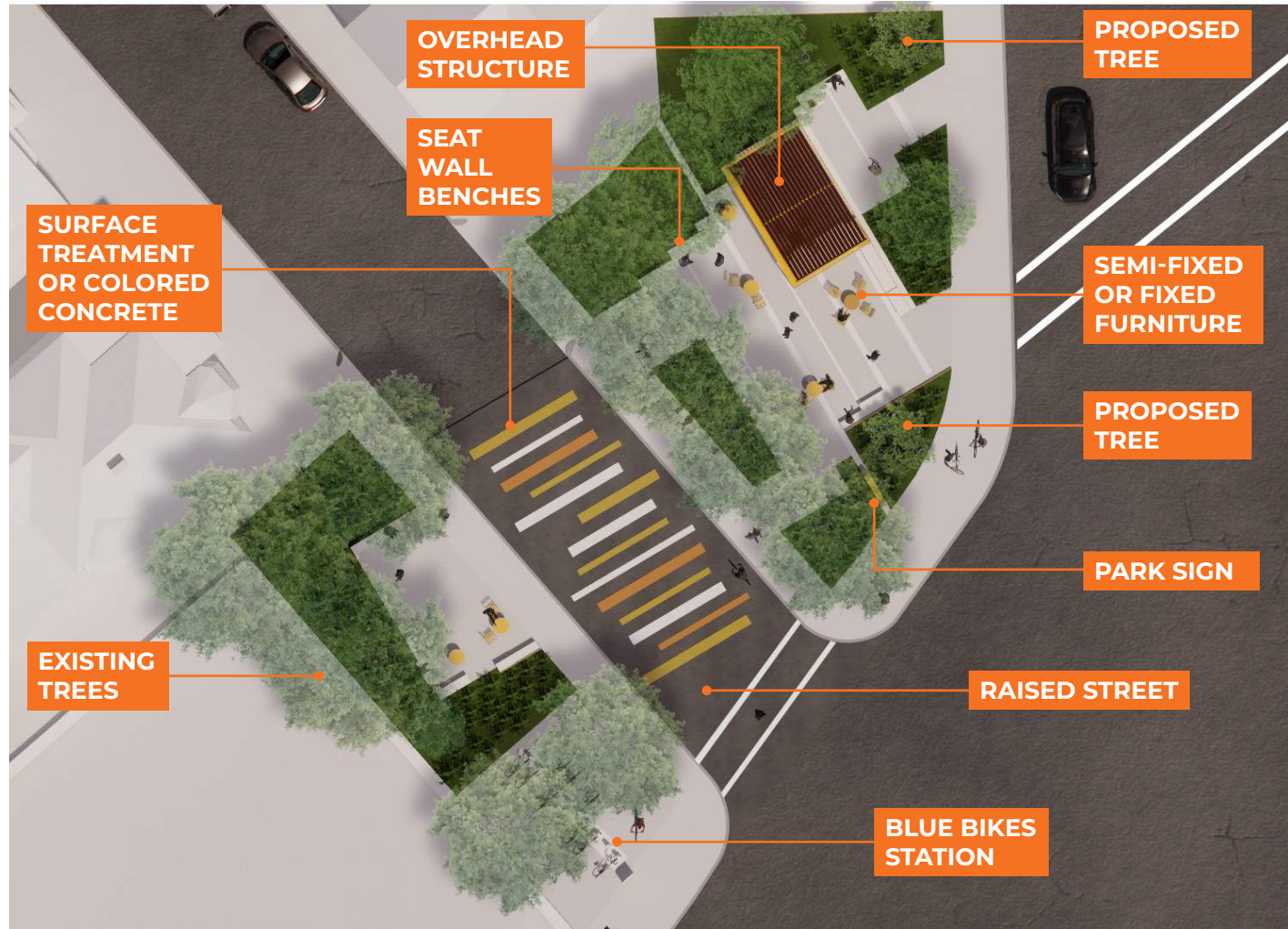
Improvements to
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DESIGN ALTERNATIVES - OPTION 2



Improvements to
Robert G. Lawson Park
Community Meeting #2

DESIGN ALTERNATIVES - OPTION 2



DESIGN ALTERNATIVES - OPTION 2



BIRD'S EYE VIEW

Improvements to
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DESIGN ALTERNATIVES - OPTION 2



FROM COLUMBUS AVE.

Improvements to
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DESIGN ALTERNATIVES - OPTION 2



WITHIN PARK

Improvements to
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DESIGN ALTERNATIVES - OPTION 2



VIEW ACROSS ATHERTON

Improvements to
Robert G. Lawson Park
Community Meeting #2

DESIGN ALTERNATIVES - OPTION 2



VIEW FROM ATHERTON PLAZA

Improvements to
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DESIGN ALTERNATIVES - OPTION 2



DAILY USE

Improvements to
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Community Meeting #2

DESIGN ALTERNATIVES - OPTION 2



DESIGN ALTERNATIVES - OPTION 3



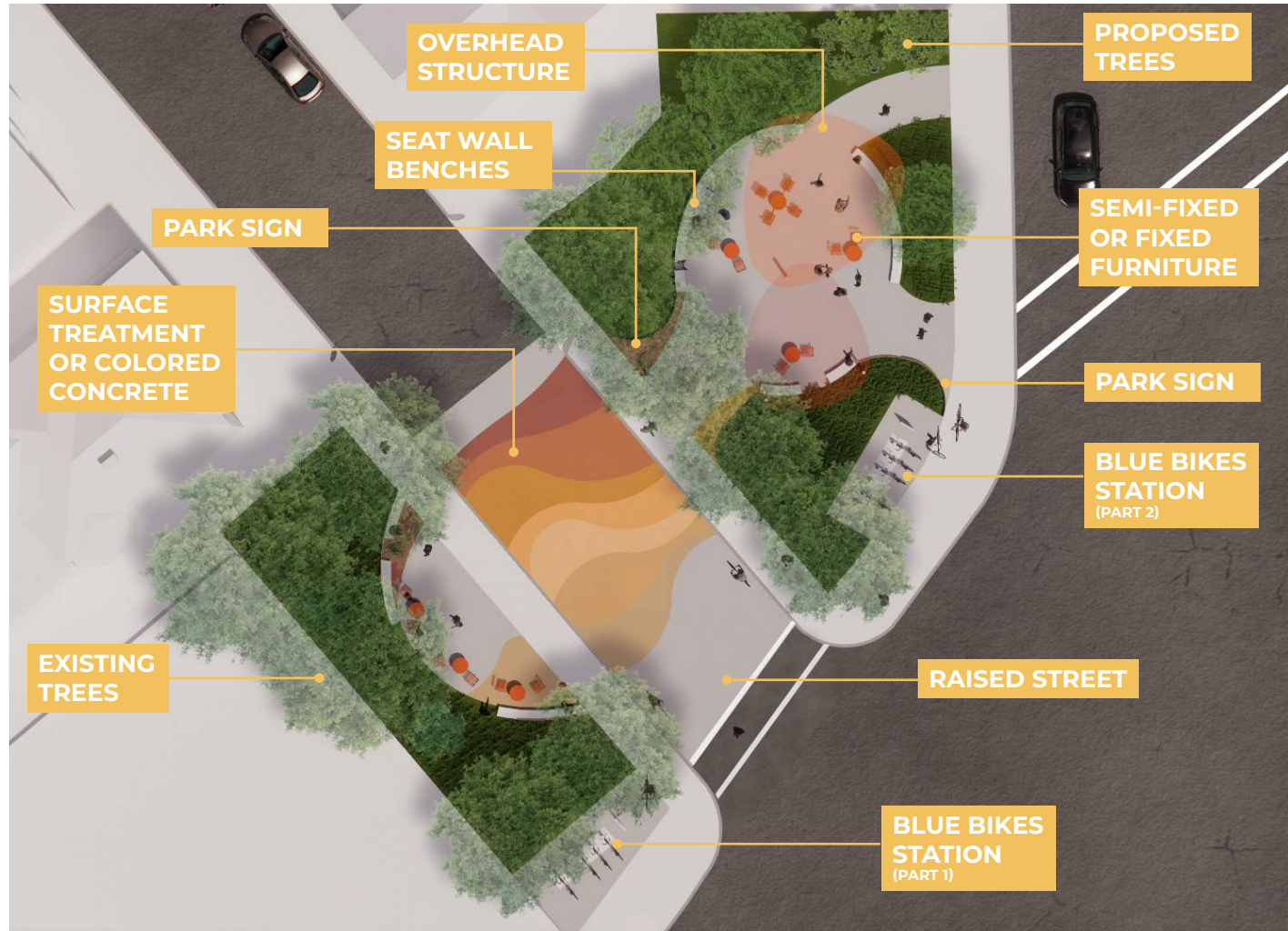
Improvements to
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DESIGN ALTERNATIVES - OPTION 3



Improvements to
Robert G. Lawson Park
Community Meeting #2

DESIGN ALTERNATIVES - OPTION 3



DESIGN ALTERNATIVES - OPTION 3



BIRD'S EYE VIEW

Improvements to
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DESIGN ALTERNATIVES - OPTION 3



FROM COLUMBUS AVE.

Improvements to
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DESIGN ALTERNATIVES - OPTION 3



WITHIN PARK

Improvements to
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DESIGN ALTERNATIVES - OPTION 3



VIEW ACROSS ATHERTON

Improvements to
Robert G. Lawson Park
Community Meeting #2

DESIGN ALTERNATIVES - OPTION 3



VIEW FROM ATHERTON PLAZA

Improvements to
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DESIGN ALTERNATIVES - OPTION 3



DESIGN ALTERNATIVES - OPTION 3



EVENT USE

Improvements to
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DESIGN ALTERNATIVES

OPTION 1



OPTION 2



OPTION 3



ROBERT G. LAWSON (1942-2016)

Born September 9, 1942 in Kinston, NC
10th(!) child to a family of
sharecroppers

Moved to Boston in the 1960s, joining
his brothers, and working at Boston
City Hospital

Completed Barber School, and
worked alongside his brothers

Purchased a burned-out building
in Egleston Square to open his own
barber shop - at Columbus and Weld
avenues

Expanded his business to a beauty
salon, beauty supply store and
sharpening business

A Deacon at New Fellowship Baptist
Church near Franklin Park, and then
Concord Baptist Church

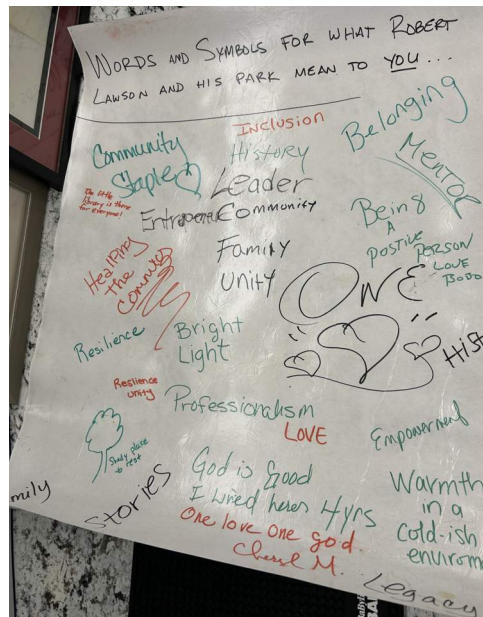
Passed in Boston on June 21, 2016

Robert G. Lawson Park dedicated on
June 22, 2019

Lawson's Barber Shop receives Legacy
Business Award - 2024



Egleston Square, Roxbury, June 15, 1948. City of Boston Archives
Site of future Lawson's Barber Shop



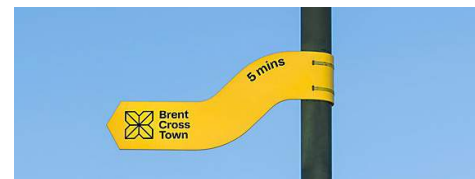
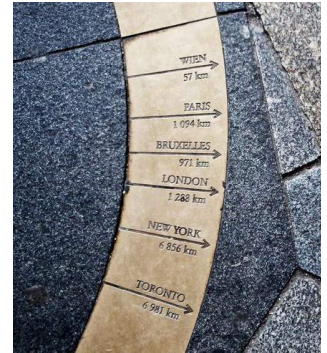
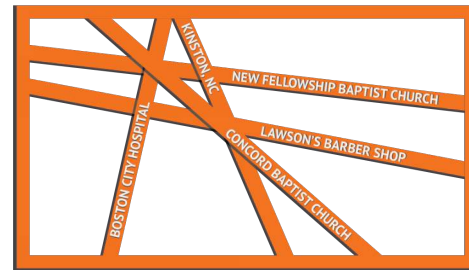
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ROBERT G. LAWSON TRIBUTE ELEMENTS - OPTIONS

Quotes from Robert Lawson on paving, signs or furnishings



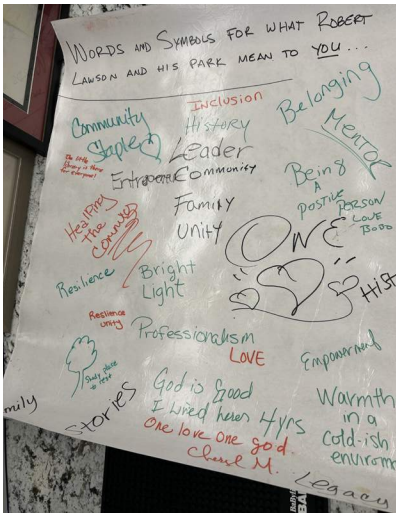
Elements highlighting the location of the barber shop, the place of his birth, or other important places in his life



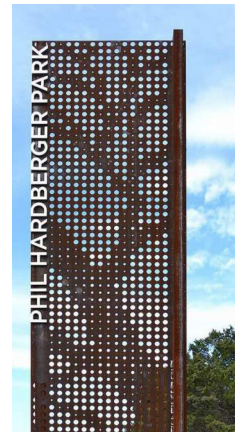
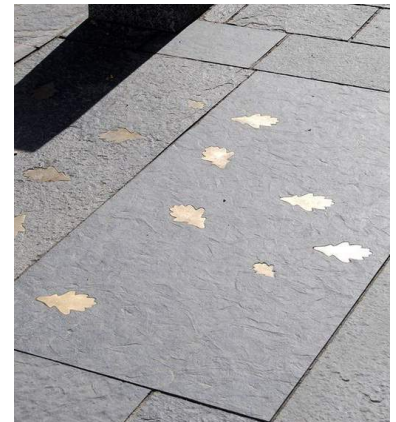
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ROBERT G. LAWSON TRIBUTE ELEMENTS - OPTIONS

Words used by friends and neighbors to describe Robert Lawson on paving, signs or furnishings



Elements suggestive of Robert Lawson or his profession in signs, pavement, or site furnishings



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ROBERT G. LAWSON TRIBUTE ELEMENTS - OPTIONS

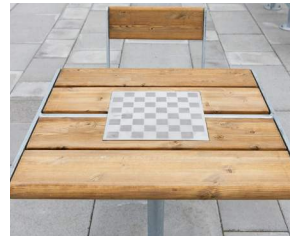
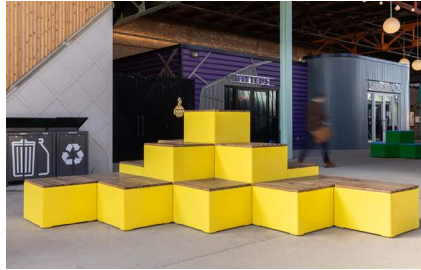
Elements laying out his story or the timeline of important events in his life



Something different?



SEATING EXAMPLES



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LIGHTING

KEY POINTS:

- **Locations will depend on layout of final design, tree cover, etc.**
- **Goal is to create lighting that is even and an appropriate level of brightness, to maximize safety**
- **Lighting will be standard Boston light post, with future maintenance handled by Boston Parks and Recreation Department**



Improvements to
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LISTENING & DISCUSSION

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

NEXT STEPS

NEXT COMMUNITY MEETING

- March 2025 Community Meeting to review the final design

VISIT PROJECT WEBSITE FOR SURVEY ABOUT THE 3 DESIGN OPTIONS

WEB LINK:

<https://www.boston.gov/departments/parks-and-recreation/lawson-park-improvements>

Scan me with your
phone's camera!



TELL YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS ABOUT THE PROJECT AND SURVEY



THANK YOU!

See the project website for future updates.

Next Meeting:
March 2025 - Community Meeting #3

BOS:
311

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



January 22, 2025
Boston Parks and Recreation

