



**FLAHERTY PLAYGROUND
CONSTRUCTION UPDATE
MAY 2025**

Thank you for your interest in our renovation to Flaherty Playground.

We understand this park is an important outdoor space for recreation and community gathering. We anticipate that the park will be open at the beginning of August. However, we aim to get the park back online as soon as possible. We will keep you all posted if we think we can get the park open before August. We appreciate your patience during our renovation.

Please note that BPRD has decided not to replace the low perimeter chain link fence at the intersection of Cornwall and Brookside. This decision was based on Department concerns about dogs being unleashed within the area between the chain link fence at the park boundary and the dog park's chain link fence (outside of the designated dog park space). Therefore, to ensure neighbors have the intended privacy buffer from dog activity, and also out of concern for the health of the trees, there will be no fence at that location. This will also provide a more open relationship between the park and the surrounding community.

We received some questions from constituents. In order to address them we have provided as Q & A section at the end of this document. Please feel free to reach out if you have any further inquiries.

CONSTRUCTION IN MAY:

- Poured-in-place safety surface has been installed
- New perennials and shrubs installed
- New trees installed
- Hydroseeding has begun
- Landscape boulders have been installed, including a new seat at the playground
- Concrete flatwork is mostly complete
- Handrails and fencing have been ordered
- The existing wall at Cornwall was replaced with a new wall

- Lady bug sculpture pathway installed

CONSTRUCTION TO ANTICIPATE IN JUNE:

- Installation of perimeter fencing, guardrails, and handrails
- Installation of the star shaped play area surfacing
- Installation of fencing, including chain link fence at dog park
- Installation of site furnishings
- Installation of remaining trees and shrubs and completion of hydroseeding
- Installation of block wall at entrance off of Cornwall St around existing tree to remain

SITE PHOTO 5/28/2025



New plants getting installed!

SITE PHOTO 5/28/2025



In order to help with separation between the parking lot and playground, and as a response to Brookside Community Health Center's request, we added more vegetation and boulders to the park's border with the parking lot.

SITE PHOTO 5/28/2025



The poured-in-place safety surface has been installed!

SITE PHOTO 5/28/2025



Planting at the playground has been installed!

SITE PHOTO 5/28/2025



The dog park grading and drainage is in process!

Questions and Answers:

Q: What is the plan for stormwater runoff on the sloped walkways that lead to Brookside Ave?

A: The contractor has been asked to add a straw wattle to the bottom of the sloped walkway that will help divert any excess water caused by construction into the adjacent plant bed. BPRD will continue to monitor the situation.

Q: Will there be planting along the outside of the dog park?

A: Yes, there is planting along the outside of the dog park at the Brookside entrance.

Q: Will there be planting between the multi-use paved area and Brookside Ave?

A: Yes, the planting between the multi-use paved area and Brookside Avenue consists of lawn and trees. No, there will not be shrubs or perennials in that area.

Q: Will the star on the playground rendering be part of the final design?

A: Yes, the multi-use paved will have the star reflected as acrylic surfacing.

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OTHER ITEMS:

- Please use [311](https://311.boston.gov) to document non-emergency issues relating to park use, and 911 for emergency situations relating to public safety.
- Construction questions and concerns can be directed to Nelle Ward (nelle.ward@boston.gov), Project Manager for Boston Parks and Recreation.
- B Chatfield is out on Parental Leave.
- Project Website: boston.gov/flaherty-playground