

## Task II Concept Design: Community Meeting 3

Fidelis Way Park  
City of Boston

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Date/Time: February 2, 2026 / 6:00 PM  
Location: 35 Fidelis Way, Brighton, MA  
Prepared By: Adrienne Emmerich, Landscape Designer (BRR)

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### MINUTES OF MEETING

This document summarizes discussion topics and community feedback collected during the third community meeting for the Fidelis Way Park improvement project. The meeting was hosted by the Boston Parks and Recreation Department (BPRD) in collaboration with landscape architects Brown, Richardson and Rowe (BRR). BRR presented their findings from the second community meeting and survey data, providing an overview of the community's desires and preferences in the new park design. The primary purpose of the meeting was to share the final concept design with the public and gather input from community members, which will continue to inform the development of the park design.

State Rep. Kevin Honan, whose district includes parts of Allston, Brighton, and Brookline, attended the meeting. A representative of City Councilor Liz Breadon, whose district includes Allston and Brighton, also attended.

### PRESENTATION

#### 1. Survey Results

- BRR reminded the audience about the three initial concept designs and presented data about the community's responses to the initial designs.
  - The data showed that Concept 2, which included renovated sport courts, terraced seating, and a new play area, was the most popular. The least popular concept was Concept 3 which included a new playground and splash pad.
  - Responses to Concept 1 suggested that residents were most excited about potential plaza and shade improvements and least excited about a dog facility.
  - Responses to Concept 3 suggested that residents were excited about a potential splash pad, although some felt the concept was too focused on children and did not serve all ages.
- BRR presented other findings from the community survey:
  - Respondents are most excited about climbing play structures.
  - Respondents prefer picnic tables over benches or gameboard tables.
  - Most respondents do not feel the park's existing lighting works as intended.
  - Most respondents enter the park through the parking lot.
  - When asked which of the proposed amenity improvements would you like to see included in the final design of the park, with the option to select three choices only, 81% of respondents said improvements to the playground, 77% of respondents said improvements to the sport courts and embankment seating area, 54% of respondents

selected the ADA access ramp from Pamela Donovan Rd. and another 54% selected a splash pad. Respondents were least interested in a dog amenity at 35%.

## 2. Final Concept Design

- BRR presented the final concept design for community review and feedback.
- The final concept design includes a large renovated playground, new terraced seating at the sport courts, an enlarged furnished seating area at the central plaza, an ADA access ramp from Pamela Donovan Rd, furnishing updates, lighting improvements, pavement and drainage improvements as needed, preservation of existing trees and planting and seeding as needed.
- The final concept design does not include a splash pad, dog amenity, or improvements to the sport courts themselves.

## COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

### 1. Site Amenities & Program

- A community member asks if some picnic tables can be added to the large field on the east side of the park.
  - BRR states picnic tables can be added there but they will need to be close to the path due to grade issues.
- A community member suggests adding trees in the large field to create more shaded seating areas, especially in areas where people can sit against the slope of the field.
- A community member suggests adding more seating along walkways.
- A community member noted the popularity of Arsenal Playground in Watertown and Smith Playground in Allston and suggested they should be used as precedents.
- A community member noted the big field near the parking lot used to be used for BHA community events such as cookouts, but recently those events have been moved to a BHA parking lot.

### 2. Accessibility & Site Access

- Community members asked why the ADA ramp is located in its proposed location, near Pamela Donovan Rd and One Nevins Hill Way.
  - The ramp was the subject of a previous feasibility study that chose this as the most effective location to provide an additional accessible entrance to the park.
- A community member asked whether the walkway from the parking lot to the playground will be re-surfaced.
- A community member asked why an ADA access ramp is being installed as part of this renovation, given that there is already an ADA accessible entrance to the park that is used more regularly.
  - BPRD stated the ramp is a high priority for the city and will provide easier access to all of the park's amenities. BPRD noted the ramp is being funded partially by a donation from Boston Children's Hospital.
- Community members ask if new signage can be installed on the street to make the park easier to find.
  - BPRD notes signage will be added, but possibly not on Warren St as it is outside the scope of the project.
- A community member expressed concerns with how much of the renovation budget will be spent on the ADA accessible ramp rather than on the park itself.

### 3. Maintenance

- A community member asked who will be responsible for maintenance, such as shoveling snow, on the ADA ramp. A community member noted Avalon and Overlook are responsible for maintenance on Monastery Path and they feel Monastery Path is well-maintained during snowstorms.
  - BPRD responded that Public Works will be responsible for maintenance of the ADA ramp.
- A community member expressed that the park is not currently well-maintained and asked whether the upgrades will be better maintained.
  - BPRD noted that they will meet with Maintenance to discuss what the difficulties are in maintaining the park and how the renovation can address these issues.
- A community member expressed frustration with the amount of trash and graffiti in the park and the general lack of cleanliness. The community member said he has personally cleaned all the trash out of the stairs on Monastery Path near Pamela Donovan Rd and plans to do so again.
  - BPRD suggested a Community Clean-Up Day should be organized for the park.

*The preceding meeting minutes represent our understanding of the information exchanged. Please notify us of any misunderstandings in writing within 48 hours of the date of issue otherwise we will proceed on the basis that these items are as agreed to by all parties concerned and will become part of the contract documents.*