



JOHN J. RYAN PLAYGROUND CONSTRUCTION UPDATE AUGUST 2026

Thank you for your interest in the renovation of Ryan Playground in Charlestown.

We realize this park is a very important outdoor space for recreation and community gathering in Charlestown, and we aim to have it back open as soon as possible. Our anticipated date for the park opening is Fall 2027, and we appreciate your patience.

We are now in the second of two construction phases. The first phase was site demolition and “setting the stage” for the berm (micropiles and ground improvements) and now we are in Phase 2: installation of a berm, ballfields, playground, splash pad, lighting - the park and playground.

CONSTRUCTION COMPLETED IN AUGUST:

- Electrical work continues throughout the site - old transformer removed, new one installed, new conduit for service along much of the Alford Street side of the park.
- Pedestrian lighting has been installed.
- The backstop for the softball field, by Alford Street, has been installed.
- Water lines, underdrainage for sports fields, and collector pipes have been installed.
- More lightweight fill has been installed, increasing the length of our berm towards Alford Street.
- Asphalt pavement has been started - the first layer, ‘binder course’ - for pickleball court and pathways.
- Hockey rink dasher boards and fencing have been reinstalled in their new location. (Surface paint and markings will occur before park opening, so these don’t experience any wear and tear in the meantime.)

WORK TO ANTICIPATE IN SEPTEMBER:

- Berm construction continues.
- Asphalt for paved pathways.
- Electrical work will continue.
- Water piping and drainage will continue to be installed.

SITE PHOTO, 8/21/2026



Our new electrical transformer will be installed on this long concrete pad. All the grey tubing is conduit - sleeves for electrical wiring. Once the transformer is installed, wiring will be pulled through these tubes and connected.

SITE PHOTO, 8/21/2026



Dugout and backstop posts for the Little League field, by Schraffts.

SITE PHOTO, 8/21/2026



Pickleball court asphalt has been installed, with concrete panel separating the two courts. Court surface paint will be installed shortly before park opening, to reduce wear and tear in the meantime.

SITE PHOTO, 8/21/2026



Our lightweight fill for the berm comes in giant bags that are over 6' tall. Here is one, waiting to be installed in the berm.

SITE PHOTO, 8/21/2026



Fill being placed against the concrete retaining wall, where the playground will be.

SITE PHOTO, 8/21/2026



Dashboards and fencing have been reinstalled at the Bryan McGonagle street hockey rink.

THIS IS A BOSTON RESIDENTS JOBS POLICY PROJECT:

For employment opportunities, call Fleming Brothers Inc. at (781) 843-4071

OTHER ITEMS:

Please use 311 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 B Chatfield (abigail.chatfield@boston.gov)