



**Department of Conservation and Recreation
Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**DCR Project Shade – Pope John Paul II Park
Public Meeting**

**Monday, June 2, 2025 @ 7 – 8 pm
Register for the meeting via the [Zoom Registration Link](#).**

DCR is taking action to address climate impacts in our parks, and a priority is addressing extreme heat by installing additional shade for our staff and visitors. At this virtual public meeting, the project team will present the DCR shade proposals for Pope John Paul II Park, including a new pavilion, new shade shelters for sports spectators, and tree plantings.

Climate projections for 2050 are for almost a month of high heat days—daily high temperatures above 90°F in Massachusetts—with a disproportionate impact on environmental justice populations, the elderly, and those with chronic diseases like asthma. DCR’s proposals to increase shade at Pope John Paul II Park will protect visitors as well as those who serve the public daily, including DCR’s rangers, interpretive leaders, and operations staff.

The public will be invited to provide comments during the meeting, after the presentation, by unmuting their microphones, or the chat functionality that will be available through the virtual participation platform. After the meeting, the presentation will be available for viewing on DCR’s [Past events for DCR Public Meetings Information](#) web page. DCR encourages the public to share additional feedback, with a deadline for receipt of comments by DCR of June 16th, 2025. Comments may be submitted via the [DCR public comment portal](#). Please note that the content of comments you submit to DCR, along with your name, town, and zip code, will be posted on DCR's website. Additional contact information required when commenting, notably email address, will only be used for outreach on future updates on the subject project or property.

If you have agency-related questions or concerns or would like to be added to an email list to receive DCR general or project-specific announcements, please email Mass.Parks@mass.gov or call 617-626-4973.

Reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities are available upon request. Include a description of the accommodation you will need, please include as much detail as you can. Also include a way we can contact you if we need more information. Please allow adequate advance notice for your request. Last minute requests will be accepted, but we may be unable to fulfill the request. Please send an e-mail to Melixza G. Esenyie, ADA and Diversity Manager at the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs at Melixza.Esenyie2@mass.gov or call 617-872-3270.