

## Section 9: Seven-Year Action Plan

The Seven-Year Action Plan details the actions and activities that should occur over the next seven years to successfully implement the Medford Open Space and Recreation Plan. These action items provide specific recommendations for meeting the goals and objectives that were formulated in Section 8.

### Accomplishments since the 2011 OSRP

The City has undertaken a number of projects since the adoption of the 2011 plan including:

1. Establishment of the City's first citywide Recreation Department and appointment of a full-time Recreation Director in 2018
2. Installation of a turf field at Hormel Stadium in 2011
3. Complete rehabilitation of McNally Park in 2015
4. New playgrounds, pathways, lighting and resurfacing of courts at Magoun Park in 2015
5. Accessibility improvements to Hickey Park, Barry Park, and Morrison Park, completed in 2014
6. Resurfaced basketball and tennis courts at Morrison Park
7. Creation of the Krystle Campbell Peace Garden at the Medford Senior Center in 2016
8. Creation of Riverside Plaza in Medford Square in July 2018
9. Replaced sand with KidKushion, and resurfaced basketball and tennis courts at Harris Park
10. Harris Park (Design Phase I) was bid Spring 2019 and Harris Park (Design Phase II) received funding approval from the Community Preservation Committee and the Medford City Council
11. Creation of community gardens at Tufts Park, Winthrop Street (Condon Shell) garden, McNally Park (four beds)
12. Creation of a dog park in Riverbend Park
13. Installation of a rain garden at Wright's Pond
14. Creation of the South Medford Connector path on DCR property
15. Rehabilitation of fields and ancillary facilities at Columbus Park
16. Installation of irrigation system at the Library
17. Repaired irrigation system at Playstead Park baseball and soccer fields
18. Renovations to Carr Park (two of four diamonds for baseball and softball)
19. Cummings Park swing set replaced with KidKushion
20. Renovated basketball courts at Dugger Park

See also the open space projects and recently approved CPA projects as delineated in Section 3.

## Open Space and Recreation Priorities

Table 9 lists a wide range of action items, and Figure 8 indicates the locations of selected major projects. Some of these actions are already in the planning process; others are ongoing but need additional support. While all of the actions listed are recognized as important, two overarching issues rise to the top as being absolutely essential for any future progress toward meeting the goals of this Plan:

- Advocate for continued support from City staff, commissions, and boards for the principle that open space and recreation are central and lasting priorities for Medford residents. While it is understood that there are competing needs for both financial and staffing resources in the City, all groups must abide by the central tenet that these issues are extremely important to the residents of Medford. Where open space and recreational resources are concerned, the goals and policies of this Plan serve as a guide, and the City staff should be consulted.
- Secure additional funding sources for staffing and other support to better maintain and enhance all parks, playgrounds, playing fields, and natural open spaces. Additionally, there is strong interest among community residents in better managing how the use of recreational facilities are scheduled. Funds to achieve these goals are scarce and the City must be creative in how funds are raised. The recent adoption of the Community Preservation Act in 2015 is a new opportunity for funding some open space and recreation needs.

The four priorities listed below reflect the specific goals and attainable objectives that are embedded in the overall Plan. They hold equal importance and represent the concerns shared by City residents for acquiring, maintaining, raising funds for, and working collaboratively to preserve, protect, and enhance open space resources and recreational facilities in City.

### Climate Change Resilience

Actively pursue long-standing goals to protect parks and open spaces to strengthen Medford's climate change resilience through appropriate park and open space, siting, design and preservation. Another focus is to pursue opportunities for protecting and enhancing public access to the City's open space and recreational resources in neighborhoods where residents are most vulnerable to climate change.

### Maintenance and Capital Improvements

Explore multiple public and private avenues for raising additional funds for capital improvements and maintenance of all of the City's parks, playgrounds, and other recreational facilities. Some projects are already in line for capital improvements that expand recreational opportunities and improve facilities over the next couple of years, including ADA compliance upgrades.

### Management of City Open Spaces

Continue to encourage City departments, boards and commissions, and recreational leagues and organizations to work collaboratively to better coordinate, manage, and raise funds to implement the plan's goals and objectives. Special efforts are needed to hire additional staff to advocate



for and implement planning, management, and maintenance of Medford's open spaces, natural resources, and recreational facilities.

### Public Awareness and Stewardship

Increase public awareness, education, accessibility, and community stewardship of the City's open spaces through a variety of participatory education programs and volunteer activities to better monitor and improve open space and recreational facilities. A related goal is to make better use of the City website, e-mail lists, community access TV, and other resources to enhance channels of communication and levels of local knowledge, particularly with respect to the use of the City's ballfields.

The following table identifies the specific actions to be undertaken by the City to implement this plan. Each action item is organized by goals and objectives (the objectives are generally listed in order of priority) and where applicable, a funding source is identified. The party or parties responsible are listed with the primary one being in **bold** type (there are a few where several entities are primary and are listed in **bold**). A list of the responsible departments, boards and commissions is below.

### List of Responsible Party Acronyms

- BC – Bicycle Commission
- CC – Conservation Commission
- CBD – Community Development Board
- CGC – Community Garden Commission
- COA – Council on Aging
- CPC – Community Preservation Committee
- CPD – Commission for Persons with Disabilities
- CulC – Cultural Council
- DCR – MA Department of Conservation and Recreation
- DPW – Department of Public Works
- EE – Energy and Environment
- FD – Forestry Division
- HC – Historical Commission
- HD – Highway Department
- M-Cul – Mayor's Cultural Liaison
- MPS – Medford Public School
- MyRWA – Mystic River Watershed Association
- OCD – Office of Community Development
- PC – Park Commission
- RD – Recreation Department

The Action Plan is arranged sequentially beginning with the first goal and the associated objectives and actions to facilitate the achievement of this goal. For each action, a timeframe for when the proposed action should be taken is listed. Short-term recommendations fall within the 2019-2021 timeframe, mid-term recommendations fall within the 2022-2024 timeframe, and

long-term recommendations fall within the 2025-2026 timeframe. Recommendations that are ongoing are marked as such.

Acronyms for potential funding sources (see program descriptions below) listed in the Seven-Year Action Plan are:

- CDBG: Community Development Block Grant
- City: funding from City budget and/or from the Parks Linkage fee
- CPA: Community Preservation Act funding through the City Community Preservation Committee
- [LAND: Local Acquisitions for Natural Diversity Program through DCS](#)
- [LWCF: Land and Water Conservation Fund grant through DCS](#)
- [PARC: Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities through DCS](#)
- [RTP: Recreational Trails Program Grant through the MA Department of Conservation and Recreation \(DCR\)](#)
- [MET: Massachusetts Environmental Trust General Grant](#)
- [EPA: Environmental Protection Agency Brownfields Grants](#)

Table 16: Seven-Year Action Plan Matrix

<b>Goal 1: Serve the active recreation needs of all residents throughout Medford by expanding its open space resources and upgrading the conditions of existing facilities</b>			
<b>Objectives/Actions</b>	<b>Responsible Parties</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>	<b>Potential Funding Sources</b>
<b>Objective 1.1: Provide each neighborhood with a safe open space that provides multi-generational opportunities for recreation</b>			
Action 1.1.1: Implement improvements identified for various parks such as installing new or fixing benches or bleachers, installing new or improved walkways, etc. as identified in this plan (see list following this Action Plan Matrix)	DPW, RD	Short- to long-term	City, CPA, PARC, CDBG, LWCF
Action 1.1.2: Continue to reach out to seniors and people with disabilities to understand their recreation needs and how they can best be met	COA, CPD	Ongoing	n/a
Action 1.1.3: Expand programming and intentional spaces for teens at parks and recreation centers	RD, PC	Short-term	City
<b>Objective 1.2: Meet community needs for organized and informal team and individual sports</b>			
Action 1.2.1: Consider ways in which the field permitting process can be streamlined and coordinated	RD, PC	Short-term	n/a
Action 1.2.2: Publicize schedules for field use so that users can identify openings that can be used for informal, non-organized league use	RD, PC	Short-term	n/a
<b>Objective 1.3: Meet the needs of all citizens through universal design</b>			
Action 1.3.1: In order to improve accessibility to the City's parks and open spaces, the City should adopt the principles of universal design <sup>12</sup> to ensure that they are accessible to all regardless of age or ability.	CPD, DPW	Ongoing	City, CPA, PARC, CDBG, LWCF
Action 1.3.2: Ensure community gardens are accessible to residents of all abilities by continuing to integrate universal design principles and programming	CPD, CGC	Ongoing	City, CPA
<b>Objective 1.4: Extend playing hours for adult leagues and facilitate Youth League night-time play</b>			
Action 1.4.1: Look for opportunities to provide lighting at playing fields in a manner that does not impact adjacent neighborhoods (i.e. lighting that is compliant with the International Dark-Sky Association Community Friendly Sports Lighting Program)	RD	Mid-term	City, CPA, PARC, CDBG, LWCF
Action 1.4.2: Conduct a lighting audit to ensure that the best practices are implemented to ensure that recreation, public safety and energy efficiency goals are met	DPW, RD	Mid-term	City
<b>Objective 1.5: Provide a clean, safe playground for each neighborhood that provide a variety of play spaces and experiences</b>			

<sup>12</sup> Programs are available for training on Universal Design principles and application.

Action 1.5.1: Upgrade playground equipment, benches and picnic facilities at parks as identified in this plan	DPW	Short- to long-term	City, CPA, PARC, CDBG, LWCF
Action 1.5.2: Provide shade structures and covered picnic areas at heavily used parks and playgrounds	DPW	Short- to long-term	City, CPA, PARC, CDBG, LWCF
Objective 1.6: Extend the playing season and minimize use limitations due to wet conditions			
Action 1.6.1: Where needed, regrade playing fields to both prevent pooling and manage stormwater runoff away from fields but onsite	DPW, RD, PC	Ongoing	PARC, CPA, LWCF, CDBG, City
Action 1.6.2: Where needed, integrate green infrastructure measures to mitigate stormwater runoff	DPW, RD, PC	Mid-term	PARC, CPA, LWCF
<b>Goal 2: Establish connections to and along the City's natural resources</b>			
<b>Objectives/Actions</b>	<b>Responsible Parties</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>	<b>Potential Funding Sources</b>
Objective 2.1: Create a multi-use path system along the Mystic River and Malden River			
Action 2.1.1: Improve and expand open space opportunities along the Mystic and Malden Rivers, including potential linear parks with accessible multi-use paths to existing open spaces	DCR, MyRWA	Mid-term	DCR, CPA
Action 2.1.2: Provide needed safety and accessibility improvements including sidewalk renovations, updated crosswalks, and more curbcuts	HD, DPW	Ongoing	City
Action 2.1.3: Improve pedestrian and bicycle connections between parks and open spaces within Medford and in the region	BC, HD, CPD, DPW	Ongoing	RTP, City
Action 2.1.4: Work with DCR to improve/restore the pedestrian bridge and the park between the pedestrian bridge and Main Street	DCR, CPD	Mid-term	DCR
Objective 2.2: Provide access to the water for pedestrians, personal water crafts, and as an alternative route for transportation			
Action 2.2.1: Look for opportunities to expand water access locations and activities, particularly along the Mystic River	DCR, RD, MyRWA	Mid-term	DCR, CPA
Objective 2.3: Prioritize DCR's Mystic River Master Plan findings and leverage common goals			
Action 2.3.1: Look for ways to promote and advance projects promoted by DCR and MyRWA including the Clippership Connector, South Medford Connector, MacDonald Park, Mystic Lakes Linear Park, Wellington Greenway, Wellington Connector, and Condon Shell	DCR, MyRWA, RD, OCD, EE	Short- to long-term	State, CPA
Action 2.3.2: Work with DCR and improve communications to work collaboratively to meet mutual goals	DCR, OCD, EE, DPW	Ongoing	n/a

Goal 3: Expand / diversify recreational programming for the City within the existing open space resources			
Objectives/Actions	Responsible Parties	Time Frame	Potential Funding Sources
Objective 3.1: Expand community garden sites within the City to serve more moderate to low income neighborhoods			
Action 3.1.1: Partner with community groups in Medford to develop a strategy for maintaining and expanding community gardens	CGC	ongoing	City, CPA
Objective 3.2: Ensure that passive recreation opportunities are available throughout the City			
Action 3.2.1: Look for opportunities to add passive recreational activities such as installing picnic tables, establishing walking paths, and creating gathering spaces	RD, PC	Mid-term	PARC, CPA, City, LWCF
Action 3.2.2: Look for opportunities to provide programming at parks such as movie nights, adding exercise equipment, yoga or other fitness classes, etc.	RD, PC	Ongoing	n/a
Objective 3.3: Provide separate and distinct open space resources for residents with dogs who are not allowed off-leash in many of the City's parks			
Action 3.3.1: Consider additional sites for new dog parks	RD, PC, DPW	Short-term	City, CPA, PARC, Stanton (and other) private foundations
Action 3.3.2: Provide bags and related supplies and signage to encourage dog owners to pick up after their dogs	RD, PC, DPW	Short-term	City
Goal 4: Improve the ecological quality of the City			
Objectives/Actions	Responsible Parties	Time Frame	Potential Funding Sources
Objective 4.1: Expand the urban forest canopy			
Action 4.1.1: Preserve mature trees and strategically plant new trees to provide public health and environmental benefits	FD	Ongoing	City
Action 4.1.2: Along frequently traveled pedestrian routes, add benches and sufficient shade tree plantings	DPW, FD	Mid-term	City
Action 4.1.3: Develop succession plans for tree plantings in existing parks	FD	Ongoing	City
Objective 4.2: Restore wetlands within the riverfront areas to create better ecological function and native habitat			
Action 4.2.1: Regrade and revegetate river banks to prevent erosion	CC, DCR	Mid- to long-term	City, State
Objective 4.3: Manage the presence of exotic invasive vegetation in ecologically significant landscapes			
Action 4.3.1: Plant only native plants as existing parks are renovated and new ones are developed	DPW, CC	Ongoing	City

Action 4.3.2: Remove invasive plants and replace with native ones	DPW, CC	Ongoing	City
Objective 4.4: Deploy stormwater management pilot projects throughout the City to improve water quality			
Action 4.4.1: See specific design recommendations in the Climate Resilience Appendix to this plan	EE, CC	Ongoing	City, PARC, LWCF, CPA
Objective 4.5: Protect water quality and important natural resource areas and buffer zones			
Action 4.5.1: See specific design recommendations in the Climate Resilience Appendix to this plan	EE, CC	Ongoing	City, PARC, LWCF, CPA
<b>Goal 5: Develop a system for park facility management/maintenance</b>			
<b>Objectives/Actions</b>	<b>Responsible Parties</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>	<b>Potential Funding Sources</b>
Objective 5.1: Improve the overall quality of Medford's existing inventory of open spaces and facilities			
Action 5.1.1: Install or construct restroom facilities (temporary or permanent) that meet ADA accessibility guidelines, particularly at the City's most heavily used parks and those with playgrounds and ballfields	DPW, RD, PC	Ongoing	City
Action 5.1.2: Research additional funding resources for the maintenance and upgrading of parks and recreation facilities to relieve the financial burden on City departments	OCD, DPW	Ongoing	n/a
Action 5.1.3: Establish metrics to assess how the City implements the goals and objectives of this Plan (i.e. miles of walkways built, new open space acquisitions, facilities improved, etc.)	DPW, RD	Ongoing	n/a
Objective 5.2: Educate the residents as to the resources available throughout the city-wide open space system			
Action 5.2.1: Develop a coordinated online schedule for all playing fields so that potential users can determine field availability	RD, PC, DPW	Short-term	n/a
Action 5.2.2: Expand the webpages for the Recreation Department and Park Commission to include maps and detailed descriptions of the City's parks and open spaces, bikepaths, water access opportunities, etc.	RD, PC	Short-term	n/a
Action 5.2.3: Develop a consistent universally designed signage and wayfinding system to direct people to the City's parks and open spaces, especially from adjacent roadways and walking paths	RD, PC, DPW	Mid-term	City, CPA
Action 5.2.4: Improve communication between various City commissions, departments, and other entities such as with volunteer stakeholder groups and sports leagues	All	Ongoing	n/a
Objective 5.3: Facilitate the management of playing fields to protect their condition			

Action 5.3.1: Encourage the establishment of Friends groups to help oversee park conditions and report vandalism by utilizing and promoting SeeClickFix	DPW, RD, PC	Ongoing	n/a
Action 5.3.2: Schedule park cleanup days and encourage neighborhood and sports league participation	DPW, RD, PC	Ongoing	n/a
Objective 5.4: Support programming that supports public art and use of public outdoor venues throughout the City			
Action 5.4.1: Integrate arts and culture into the design of open spaces by creating opportunities for performing arts and the display of artwork	CulC, M-Cul, DPW	Short-term	City, private
Action 5.4.2: Work with residents, teens, and neighborhood groups to identify pop-up opportunities for the arts and culture	CulC, OCD	Short-term and Ongoing	n/a
Action 5.4.3: Commission artists to develop destination artworks along bicycle paths and routes to promote wayfinding and encourage use of bike and pedestrian trails	CulC, M-Cul	Short-term and Ongoing	City, private
Objective 5.5: Leverage permit fees as income for parks maintenance			
Action 5.5.1: Re-evaluate the permit fee schedule to determine how it can effectively cover ongoing maintenance expenses	RD, PC	Short-term	n/a
Action 5.5.2: Work toward establishing a dedicated park maintenance fund created in part from permit fees rather than having those fees go into the general fund	City Council, RD, PC	Short-term	City
<b>Goal 6: Strengthen Medford's climate change resilience through park and open space design and preservation</b>			
<b>Objectives/Actions</b>	<b>Responsible Parties</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>	<b>Potential Funding Sources</b>
Objective 6.1: Perform ecological restoration and maintain the ecological integrity of Medford's natural areas to maximize natural systems' benefits, such as cooling, sequestering carbon, avoiding and capturing stormwater, and mitigating air pollution			
Action 6.1.1: See specific design recommendations in the Climate Resilience Appendix to this plan	EE, CC	Ongoing	City, PARC, LWCF, CPA
Objective 6.2: Include design improvements in park renovations that incorporate strategies that mitigate climate change risks of urban heat island, stormwater runoff, inland flooding, and riverine/coastal flooding			
Action 6.2.1: See specific design recommendations in the Climate Resilience Appendix to this plan	EE, CC	Ongoing	City, PARC, LWCF, CPA
Objective 6.3: Prioritize new parks and open space acquisitions in locations where climate change mitigation can address risks such as extreme heat, inland flooding, and coastal flooding.			
Action 6.3.1: See specific design recommendations in the Climate Resilience Appendix to this plan	EE, CC	Ongoing	City, PARC, LWCF, CPA
Objective 6.4: Increase park access and distribution for neighborhoods where residents are most vulnerable to climate change			

Action 6.4.1: See specific design recommendations in the Climate Resilience Appendix to this plan	EE, OCD	Ongoing	City, PARC, LWCF, CPA
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## State and Federal Funding Sources

### Local Acquisitions for Natural Diversity (LAND) Program

The LAND Program (formerly the Self-Help Program) was established in 1961 to assist municipal conservation commissions acquiring land for natural resource and passive outdoor recreation purposes. Lands acquired may include wildlife, habitat, trails, unique natural, historic or cultural resources, water resources, forest, and farm land. Compatible passive outdoor recreational uses such as hiking, fishing, hunting, cross-country skiing, bird observation and the like are encouraged. Access by the general public is required. This state program pays for the acquisition of land, or a partial interest (such as a conservation restriction), and associated acquisition costs such as appraisal reports and closing costs.

### Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities (PARC) Program

The PARC Program (formerly the Urban Self-Help Program) was established in 1977 to assist cities and towns in acquiring and developing land for park and outdoor recreation purposes. Any municipality with a population of 35,000 or more year-round residents, or any city regardless of size, that has an authorized park/recreation commission is eligible to participate in the program. Only projects that are to be developed for suitable outdoor recreation purposes, whether active or passive in nature, shall be considered for funding. Grants are available for the acquisition of land and the construction, or renovation of park and outdoor recreation facilities, such as swimming pools, zoos, athletic play fields, playgrounds and game courts. Access by the general public is required.

### Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)

This is a federal program administered by the State Division of Conservation Services for the acquisition and development or renovation of park, recreation and conservation land. The Federal Land & Water Conservation Fund (P.L. 88-578) provides up to 50% of the total project cost for the acquisition, development and renovation of park, recreation or conservation areas. Municipalities, special districts and state agencies are eligible to apply. Nearly 4000 acres have been acquired and hundreds of parks renovated using the \$95.6 million that Massachusetts has received from the state side portion of the federal program since 1965. DCS administers the state side Land & Water Conservation Fund program in Massachusetts. Access by the general public is required.

### Recreational Trails Grant Program (RTGP)

The Recreational Trails Program provides grants ranging from \$2,000 to \$50,000 on a reimbursement basis for a variety of trail protection, construction, and stewardship projects throughout Massachusetts. It is part of the National Recreational Trails Program, which is funded through the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). Funds are disbursed to each state to develop and maintain recreational trails and trail-related facilities for both non-motorized and motorized recreational trail uses. In Massachusetts, funds are administered by the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), in partnership with the Massachusetts Recreational Trails Advisory Board.

### Community Preservation Act

The establishment of a real estate transfer tax was signed into law on September 14, 2000 as the Community Preservation Act (CPA). CPA is a tool for communities to preserve open space, park and recreational facilities, historic sites, and affordable housing. The Community Preservation Act is statewide enabling legislation that allows cities and towns to exercise control over local planning decisions by providing a funding source which can be used to address three core community concerns:

- Acquisition and preservation of open space
- Improve park and recreation facilities
- Creation and support of affordable housing
- Acquisition and preservation of historic buildings and landscapes

A minimum of 10% of the annual revenues of the fund must be used for each four core community concerns. The remaining 70% can be allocated for any combination of the allowed uses. This gives each community the opportunity to determine its priorities, plan for its future, and have the funds to make those plans happen.

The City of Medford adopted the Community Preservation Action in 2015, implementing a 1.5% property tax surcharge rate and establishing a Community Preservation Committee (CPC). The CPC subsequently developed the City of Medford's Community Preservation Plan, which includes an analysis of local needs, goals for CPA program areas (i.e. Housing, Open Space and Recreation, Historic Preservation), as well as priorities and potential projects to utilize CPA funding over the coming years. The Plan functions as an informational document and as a blueprint for the CPC to guide their recommendations to the City Council for project funding.

### Community Development Block Grant

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program is a flexible program that provides communities with resources to address a wide range of unique community development needs. The City has utilized these funds to provide funding for park improvements at those facilities that are within close proximity to neighborhoods with low- to moderate-income residents.

## **Specific Park Improvement Recommendations**

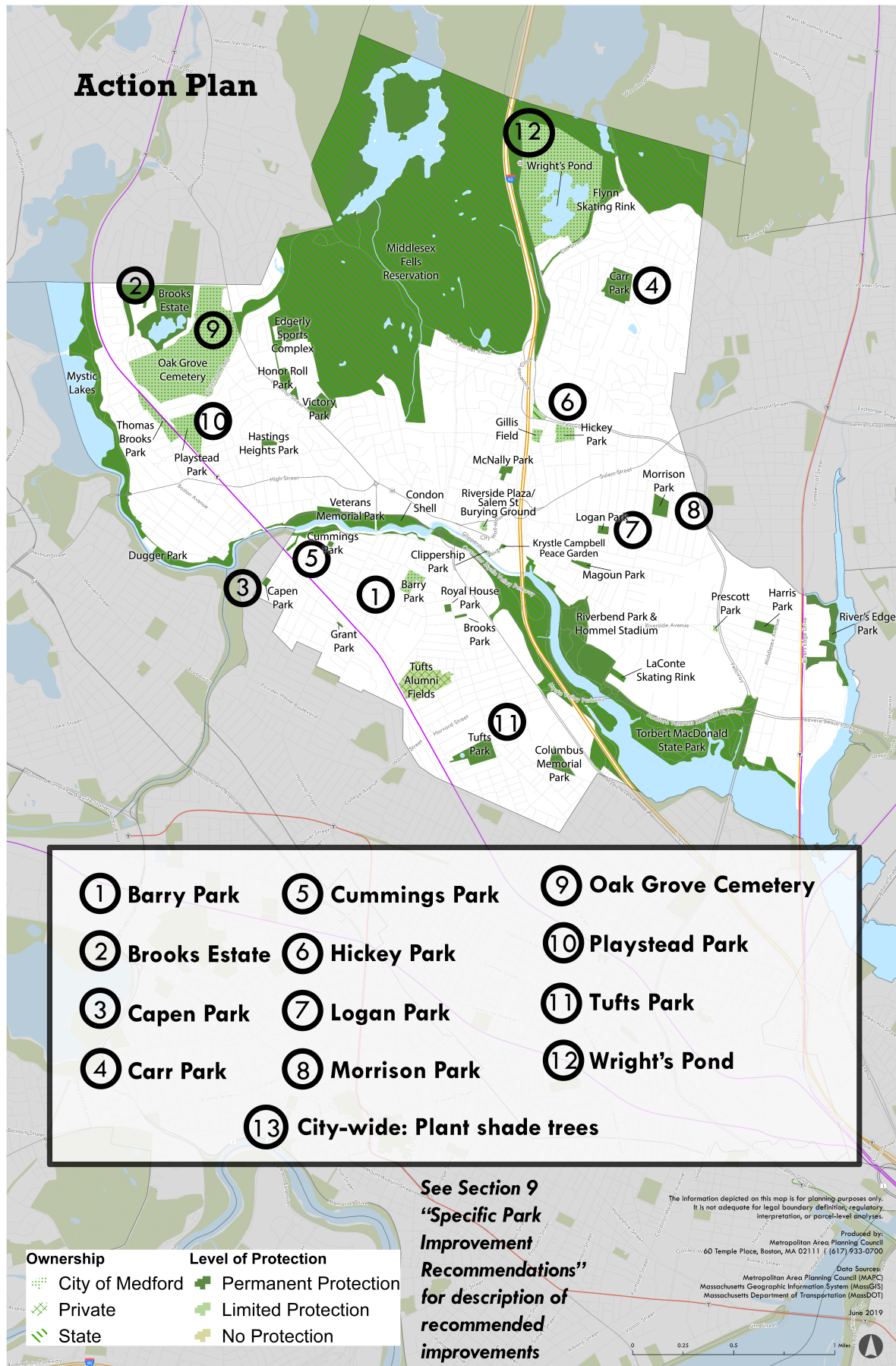
Specific park improvement recommendations are presented for City-Owned parks and open spaces in two sections: Prioritized Park Improvements and Additional Park Improvements. The Prioritized Park Improvements are provided as a guideline to the City of Medford. However, the actual timeline for implementation will be based on several factors including community needs and interests, funding, and the need to maintain safe public spaces. After the Prioritized Park Improvements, are recommendations for the Additional Park Improvements which can be implemented at any time as the community needs and/or funding becomes available. Only parks and open spaces owned by the City

of Medford are included in this section for which the City can control funding, design and implementation.

On the following pages, each project is described and profiled in relation to the Goals and Objectives set forth in Section 8, as well as its role within the overall Medford Open Space system, and in coordination with the Climate Action Recommendations (See Appendix B).

All parks identified as priority project sites are highlighted on Figure 8 – Action Plan Map.

Figure 8: Action Plan



## Prioritized Park Improvements

Several factors informed the prioritizations of the park improvements described below. Considerations included the Goals and Objectives embedded in this Open Space and Recreation Plan; the Climate Change Resilience recommendations outlined in the Climate Resilience Report (see Appendix B); and specific, strongly expressed feedback collected through the public participation process supporting this plan. Maintenance and Capital Improvement recommendations were prioritized for those parks deemed to be in POOR condition based on site observations and public input (See Section 5: Inventory of Open Space and Recreation Facilities). Sites targeted for improvement are listed in alphabetical order and specific actions are not necessarily listed in order of importance.

All City-Owned parks and open spaces present opportunities for Climate Action mitigation. Many recommendations for park improvements overlap with those that would help mitigate the impact of climate change. An asterisk symbol - \* - is used where Climate Action Recommendations are noted; additional information can be found in Appendix B: Medford Parks and Open Space for Climate Resilience Report.

For each Prioritized Park Improvements a Total Estimate of Probable Construction Costs is included. Each cost is presented for planning and budgeting purposes only and does not represent a line-item design level estimate. Updated costs should be developed as each project moves forward for a program based on improvements deemed necessary by City officials and neighborhood stakeholders.

### Barry Park

Barry Park is a 3.6 acre active recreation park consisting of one baseball field, two basketball courts, two recently renovated tennis courts, and one tot lot. Barry Park was identified in the 2011 OSRP as a priority to improve the irrigation system for the fields but has not yet been implemented. Accessibility improvements were made in Barry Park in 2014 to address accessibility deficiencies noted in the 2011 OSRP.

Barry Park includes two commemorative stones near the ballfield dugout. A redesign of this area would benefit the sanctity of these stones and create a quiet sitting area. With several active recreation areas in Barry Park, it would benefit with the addition of restrooms, drinking fountains and additional bicycle racks near the courts. The park needs a continuous walkway to connect all park uses and existing walkways need repair in several locations. The basketball pavement also needs renovation. Consider using porous pavement for new paving\*. The playing fields need minor grading improvements. Add raingardens / bio-swales around the courts and fields to capture and treat stormwater runoff\*. Additional trees need to be planted along Marston, Courtney and College streets to provide additional shade\*.

The existing playground should be assessed by a Certified Playground Safety Inspector (CPSI) and improvements made to address issues identified in the 2011 OSRP such as replacing wood

fiber safety surfacing in playground, repair the cracked basketball court surface, and refurbish picnic tables.

Total Estimated Cost: \$1,500,000

Possible funding sources: City (linkage and CPA), PARC, LWCF, CDBG

Neighborhoods and Populations Served: South Medford (Hillside) – diverse, lower income populations

## Objectives Served:

- 1.1 Provide each neighborhood with a safe open space that provides multigenerational opportunities for recreation.
- 1.2 Meet community needs for organized and informal team and individual sports.
- 1.3 Meet the needs of all citizens through universal design.
- 1.4 Extend the playing season and minimize use limitations due to wet conditions.
- 1.5 Provide a clean, safe, playground for each neighborhood that provides a variety of play spaces and experiences.
- 3.2 Ensure that passive recreation opportunities are available throughout the City.
- 4.4 Deploy stormwater management pilot projects throughout the City to improve water quality.
- 4.1 Expand the urban forest canopy.
- 5.1 Improve the overall quality of Medford's existing inventory of open spaces and facilities.
- 5.3 Facilitate the management of playing fields to protect their condition.
- 6.2 Include design improvements in park renovations that incorporate strategies that mitigate climate change risks of urban heat island, stormwater runoff, inland flooding, and riverine/coastal flooding.

### Brooks Estate

Abutting the historic Oak Grove Cemetery, the Brooks Estate is an approximate 50-acre passive park with mature forest, a small pond called Brooks Pond, and the Historic Brooks Estate, owned by the City of Medford since 1942 and permanently protected in 1998. The extensive deciduous forest contains many walking trails and unique wildlife habitat not often encountered in a city. The Estate is supported by the Medford-Brooks Estate Land Trust (M-BELT), which is working on an ecological restoration project of removing Japanese Knotweed\*. The Shepherd Brook's Estate was identified in the 2011 OSRP as a priority to continue to develop Brook's Estate as a natural and cultural resource through the implementation of portions of the Master Plan developed by M-BELT. Additionally, the 2011 OSRP recommended improving accessibility starting with an accessibility master plan that would be implemented in phases. The 2011 OSRP suggested to consider creating a dog park on this site. In 2018, the Community Preservation Committee and City Council approved funding for six projects on the site: access drive design, manor east entryways restoration, the removal of invasive plants, stone wall restoration, Manor third floor trim restoration, and a trails restoration.

The M-BELT will continue with current plans to rehabilitate the estate's historic core landscape and historic buildings on the estate and to manage and maintain the estate's woodlands\*, pond, and trail system. Preceding the 2011 OSRP, both the City and M-BELT were instrumental in securing funding to do major rehabilitation of the historic manor house. The identification of programming uses of the historic buildings, attraction of visitors, and making the property financially self-supporting continue to be important goals.

Implement the priority projects of the Master Plan as well as reconstruct the access drive into the heart of the property from Grove Street. The key elements of the Master Plan include re-use of the Carriage House to host functions, and re-use of the Manor House to support the functions in the Carriage House and to host smaller functions and rentals. Improvements to the Estate Entry and Access Drive (including upgraded underground utilities) will make re-use of the Carriage and Manor Houses feasible. Landscape Restoration will follow these efforts.

Access to the Brooks Estate should be clarified from Oak Grove Cemetery and adjacent neighborhoods. Any new walkways or drives should use porous pavement and a bio-swale for the length of the drive between the pavement and the pond to capture stormwater runoff, reduce erosion and sedimentation in the pond\*. Develop a long-term forest management plan\*. Invasive species removal should continue \*and native plantings on the shoreline of Brooks Pond should be protected and enhanced\*. Add signage to clearly identify trails and natural restoration areas.

Public comments collected through this 2019 OSRP Update process included: enhance and mark trails, restore the buildings, redefine parking, and consider adding restrooms.

Total Estimated Cost: \$5,700,000 (<sup>†</sup>escalated from 2011 estimate of \$2.5 million)

Neighborhoods and Populations Served: Citywide and regional

Possible funding sources: City (linkage and CPA), PARC, LWCF, RTGP

## Objectives Served:

- 1.1 Provide each neighborhood with a safe open space that provides multigenerational opportunities for recreation.
- 1.3 Meet the needs of all citizens through universal design.
- 2.2 Provide access to the water for pedestrians, personal water crafts, and as an alternative route for transportation.
- 3.2 Ensure that passive recreation opportunities are available throughout the City.
- 3.3 Provide separate and distinct open space resources for residents with dogs who are not allowed off-leash in many of the City's parks.
- 4.4 Deploy stormwater management pilot projects throughout the City to improve water quality.
- 4.3 Manage the presence of exotic invasive vegetation in ecologically significant landscapes.
- 4.5 Protect water quality and important natural resource areas and buffer zones.
- 5.1 Improve the overall quality of Medford's existing inventory of open spaces and facilities.
- 5.2 Educate the residents as to the resources available throughout the city-wide open space system.
- 5.5 Leverage permit fees as income for parks maintenance.
- 6.1 Perform ecological restoration and maintain the ecological integrity of Medford's natural areas to maximize natural systems' benefits, such as cooling, sequestering carbon, avoiding and capturing stormwater, and mitigating air pollution.
- 6.2 Include design improvements in park renovations that incorporate strategies that mitigate climate change risks of urban heat island, stormwater runoff, inland flooding, and riverine/coastal flooding.
- 6.4 Increase park access and distribution for neighborhoods where residents are most vulnerable to climate change.



## Capen Park

Capen Park is a 0.77 acre active and passive recreation park containing a basketball court, a tot lot, sand play area, benches and a water spray feature. Additionally, the 2011 OSRP recommended improving accessibility with new ADA accessible parking at the Capen Street Entrance with signs, striping and curb ramp and within the playground with accessible play opportunities.

Capen Park is easily accessible from the adjacent neighborhoods. Consider adding a gate at the end of Capen Street to allow access from the Somerville Housing Authority development. This park is one of the few parks in the City with a spray pad. It needs to be upgraded and made ADA compliant. Portions of the walkways and the basketball court needs to be repaired. Consider porous pavement where paving needs replacement\*. Drainage at the northern end of the park needs repair and add rain gardens to capture and treat stormwater\*. Plant additional trees to provide more shade\*.

The existing playground should be assessed by a Certified Playground Safety Inspector (CPSI) and improvements made to address issues identified in the 2011 OSRP, which notes that the swing set is not accessible and the sand safety surfacing in playground needs to be removed and replaced with an alternative safety surface. If playground renovation is needed or desired, consider multi-function green play spaces that will diversify the play experience and help mitigate climate change effects\*.

Total Estimated Cost: \$640,000

Possible funding sources: City (linkage and CPA), PARC, LWCF

Neighborhoods and Populations Served: South Medford (Hillside) – diverse, lower income populations

### Objectives Served:

- 1.1 Provide each neighborhood with a safe open space that provides multigenerational opportunities for recreation.
- 1.3 Meet the needs of all citizens through universal design.
- 1.5 Provide a clean, safe, playground for each neighborhood that provides a variety of play spaces.
- 4.1 Expand the urban forest canopy. 4.4 Deploy stormwater management pilot projects throughout the City to improve water quality.
- 4.5 Protect water quality and important natural resource areas and buffer zones.
- 5.1 Improve the overall quality of Medford's existing inventory of open spaces and facilities.
- 6.2 Include design improvements in park renovations that incorporate strategies that mitigate climate change risks of urban heat island, stormwater runoff, inland flooding, and riverine/coastal flooding.

- 6.4 Increase park access and distribution for neighborhoods where residents are most vulnerable to climate change.

### Carr Park

Carr Park is an 11.5-acre active recreation area containing four Little League fields, two tennis courts, basketball court, a playground, a perimeter walkway, and wooded area. The park has not been renovated in seven years or more and is showing signs of significant wear and use. Carr Park was identified for several priority improvements in the 2011 OSRP including: new field lighting and irrigation system upgrades, and upgraded basketball and tennis courts but has not yet been implemented. Additionally, the 2011 OSRP recommended improving accessibility within the playground with additional accessible play options.

Carr Park is in need of a full renovation. Improvements needed include renovating the existing parking lot along Fulton Street Rear to include porous pavements and rain-garden / bio-swales\*, designated ADA accessible parking with signage, curb ramp and accessible walkway connecting to the park. The fields need to be regraded to regulation pitch and sloped to low-lying areas with rain gardens / bio-swales to capture and infiltrate stormwater\*. Accessible spectator seating should be installed. Assess the need for four Little League Fields in this location and if it may be appropriate for permanent home field for youth lacrosse.

Access to Carr Park from the adjacent neighborhood needs improvement with the additional of sidewalks that connect to those along Winslow Avenue at the park\*. The park walkways, plaza and court pavements all need repair and/or replacement. The perimeter path needs to be re-aligned to avoid large trees roots. Consider using porous paving when replacing pavement\*. Benches, picnic tables, and bleachers should be replaced and made accessible to individuals with mobility impairments. Additional benches should be added along the perimeter path for respite.

Carr Park includes a wooded area that needs removal of invasive species and provides an opportunity for a nature trail loop with interpretive signage about woodland restoration and importance of open space protection\*. The wooded area contains significant amounts of litter and glass and needs to be cleaned. Several trees are in poor condition and need removal and replacement\*. There are several large mature trees providing good shade that should be protected\*. Existing shrubs around the courts are invasive species and overgrown and need removal. Develop a tree succession plan for planting before existing trees reach their maturity\*.

The existing playground should be assessed by a Certified Playground Safety Inspector (CPSI) and improvements made to address issues identified in the 2011 OSRP. The wood fiber surfacing in playground needs to be augmented. Several play pieces are in poor condition and new playground equipment is likely required. This playground would be an excellent candidate for a natural playscape because of the size. Teen spaces should be added near Winslow Street on the

far side of the basketball court. The parking lot side lawn would be a great gathering space, especially for seniors.

Public comments collected through this 2019 OSRP Update process included: add a restroom, add drinking fountains, add more swings, add benches and update the playground.

Total Estimated Cost: \$3,600,000

Possible funding sources: City (linkage and CPA), PARC, LWCF

Neighborhoods and Populations Served: Fulton Heights

#### Objectives Served:

- 1.1 Provide each neighborhood with a safe open space that provides multigenerational opportunities for recreation.
- 1.2 Meet community needs for organized and informal team and individual sports.
- 1.3 Meet the needs of all citizens through universal design.
- 1.4 Extend playing hours for adult leagues and facilitate Youth League night-time play.
- 1.5 Provide a clean, safe, playground for each neighborhood that provides a variety of play spaces and experiences.
- 1.6 Extend the playing season and minimize use limitations due to wet conditions.
- 3.2 Ensure that passive recreation opportunities are available throughout the City.
- 4.1 Expand the urban forest canopy.
- 4.3 Manage the presence of exotic invasive vegetation in ecologically significant landscapes.
- 4.4 Deploy stormwater management pilot projects throughout the City to improve water quality.
- 5.1 Improve the overall quality of Medford's existing inventory of open spaces and facilities.
- 5.2 Educate the residents as to the resources available throughout the city-wide open space system.
- 5.3 Facilitate the management of playing fields to protect their condition.
- 6.1 Perform ecological restoration and maintain the ecological integrity of Medford's natural areas to maximize natural systems' benefits, such as cooling, sequestering carbon, avoiding and capturing stormwater, and mitigating air pollution.
- 6.2 Include design improvements in park renovations that incorporate strategies that mitigate climate change risks of urban heat island, stormwater runoff, inland flooding, and riverine/coastal flooding.
- 6.4 Increase park access and distribution for neighborhoods where residents are most vulnerable to climate change.

#### Cummings Park

Cummings Park is a corner, neighborhood 0.45-acre with play equipment, tot lot, swings, pavilion, benches, a half basketball court and sand playing area. Cummings Park was identified in the

2011 OSRP as a priority to improve the half basketball court but has not yet been implemented. Additionally, the 2011 OSRP recommended improving accessibility with a new gate latch, the addition of crosswalk and curb ramps at the intersection of Cotting and Lyman and mid-block at Lyman Street, and striped and signed ADA accessible parking along both streets\*.

The concrete walk and basketball court surface are cracked and heaved in several locations and need replacement. Consider porous pavement for new paving\*. Incorporate rain gardens in lieu of plant beds to increase stormwater infiltration\*. Accessible picnic tables need replacement.

The existing playground should be assessed by a Certified Playground Safety Inspector (CPSI) and improvements made to address issues identified in the 2011 OSRP such as replacing sand safety surfacing in playground. If playground renovation is needed or desired, consider multi-function green play spaces that will diversify the play experience and help mitigate climate change effects\*.

Total Estimated Cost: \$530,000

Possible funding sources: City (linkage and CPA), PARC, LWCF

Neighborhoods and Populations Served: South Medford (Hillside) – diverse, lower income populations

Objectives Served:

- 1.1 Provide each neighborhood with a safe open space that provides multigenerational opportunities for recreation.
- 1.3 Meet the needs of all citizens through universal design.
- 1.5 Provide a clean, safe, playground for each neighborhood that provides a variety of play spaces and experiences.
- 1.6 Extend the playing season and minimize use limitations due to wet conditions.
- 4.4 Deploy stormwater management pilot projects throughout the City to improve water quality.
- 5.1 Improve the overall quality of Medford's existing inventory of open spaces and facilities.
- 6.2 Include design improvements in park renovations that incorporate strategies that mitigate climate change risks of urban heat island, stormwater runoff, inland flooding, and riverine/coastal flooding.
- 6.4 Increase park access and distribution for neighborhoods where residents are most vulnerable to climate change.

### Hickey Park

Hickey Playground/Park is a 4.4-acre active recreation park containing a baseball diamond, a softball diamond, a tennis court, a basketball court, and a playground. Heavily used by local baseball and softball leagues, this an important park for the community. Hickey Park was

identified in the 2011 OSRP as a priority to improve the basketball and tennis courts but has not yet been implemented. Accessibility improvements were made in Hickey Park in 2014 to address accessibility deficiencies noted in the 2011 OSRP. In October 2018, the Medford Community Preservation Committee (CPC) approved \$5,000 of funding for Canopy Gathering Area. The Medford City Council subsequently approved the award.

To increase access to Hickey Park a crosswalk should be striped across Brogan Road. A utility pole along Brogan Road at the park in the sidewalk needs to be moved because it reduces the width below the required clear distance of 3 feet limiting access along this route\*.

The playing fields should be regraded to regulation pitch and sloped to low-lying raingardens/bio-swales around the perimeter\*. Pedestrian circulation should be redesigned to connect all park uses. Bleachers need to be made accessible. Consider adding restroom facilities and drinking fountains. Several trees are in poor health and new trees need to be planted to provide more shade\*. Consider developing a tree succession plan for planting before existing trees reach their maturity.

The existing playground should be assessed by a Certified Playground Safety Inspector (CPSI) and improvements made to address issue identified in the 2011 OSRP including refilling or replacing the bark mulch surface at the play area, replacing basketball and tennis nets, and resurfacing the basketball court.

Public comments collected through this 2019 OSRP Update process included: add trash receptacles and lights.

Total Estimated Cost: \$1,500,000

Possible funding sources: City (linkage and CPA), PARC, LWCF

Neighborhoods and Populations Served: East Medford

## Objectives Served:

- 1.1 Provide each neighborhood with a safe open space that provides multigenerational opportunities for recreation.
- 1.2 Meet community needs for organized and informal team and individual sports.
- 1.3 Meet the needs of all citizens through universal design.
- 1.4 Extend playing hours for adult leagues and facilitate Youth League night-time play.
- 1.5 Provide a clean, safe, playground for each neighborhood that provides a variety of play spaces and experiences.
- 1.6 Extend the playing season and minimize use limitations due to wet conditions.
- 3.2 Ensure that passive recreation opportunities are available throughout the City.
- 4.1 Expand the urban forest canopy.
- 4.4 Deploy stormwater management pilot projects throughout the City to improve water quality.

- 5.1 Improve the overall quality of Medford’s existing inventory of open spaces and facilities.
- 6.2 Include design improvements in park renovations that incorporate strategies that mitigate climate change risks of urban heat island, stormwater runoff, inland flooding, and riverine/coastal flooding.
- 6.4 Increase park access and distribution for neighborhoods where residents are most vulnerable to climate change.

### Logan Park

Logan Park is a 1.3 active and passive recreation neighborhood park. With mature trees and ample green space, it is an attractive community gathering space with play equipment, benches, and walking path. Logan Park was identified as a priority for full park improvements in the 2011 OSRP but has yet to be implemented.

Designate accessible parking spaces with signage and striping on Otis Street and Logan Avenue. Install curb extensions to shorten the crossing and install rain gardens to capture and treat stormwater\*. Add crosswalks and curb ramps and repair the sidewalk along both streets. Walkways within the park need to be accessible and rebuilt to pitch stormwater to low-lying areas.

The mature shade trees should be evaluated and pruned to extend their life and develop a tree succession plan\*. Site furnishings such as tables and benches should be replaced with accessible seating and be located to support the best and highest uses of the park.

The playground needs to be replaced as the equipment is in significant disrepair and does not provide a diversity of play experiences for all abilities. The sand safety surfacing needs to be replaced with an alternative material (wood chips or rubber). The 2011 OSRP also recommended adding additional ADA play features, play equipment for children 2-5 years of age, and upgrading site furnishings.

Total Estimated Cost: \$2,050,000 (†escalated from 2011 estimate of \$900,000)

†Escalation source: Historical Cost Index RS Means.

Possible funding sources: City (linkage and CPA), PARC, LWCF, CDBG

Neighborhoods and Populations Served: Wellington Neighborhood

#### Objectives Served:

- 1.1 Provide each neighborhood with a safe open space that provides multigenerational opportunities for recreation.
- 1.3 Meet the needs of all citizens through universal design.
- 1.5 Provide a clean, safe, playground for each neighborhood that provides a variety of play spaces and experiences.
- 3.2 Ensure that passive recreation opportunities are available throughout the City.

- 4.1 Expand the urban forest canopy.
- 4.4 Deploy stormwater management pilot projects throughout the City to improve water quality.
- 5.1 Improve the overall quality of Medford's existing inventory of open spaces and facilities.
- 6.2 Include design improvements in park renovations that incorporate strategies that mitigate climate change risks of urban heat island, stormwater runoff, inland flooding, and riverine/coastal flooding.
- 6.4 Increase park access and distribution for neighborhoods where residents are most vulnerable to climate change.

### Morrison Park

Morrison Park is a 4.4-acre active recreation park with a baseball diamond, two tennis courts, one basketball court, a tot lot and a perimeter walking path. It is the site of a community garden to be developed in 2019. Morrison Park was identified in the 2011 OSRP as a priority for a park renovation project but has not yet been fully implemented. Accessibility improvements were made in Morrison Park in 2014 to address accessibility deficiencies noted in the 2011 OSRP. The tennis courts and basketball courts were recently renovated as prioritized in the 2011 OSRP.

Access to Morrison Park would increase with a new crosswalk and curb ramp across Central Avenue centrally located to the park entrance and repairs to the existing sidewalk along the park\*. Several benches need to be replaced and the fence along Central Avenue needs repair. Add more benches along perimeter path and additional trees need to be planted to add opportunities for rest and shade\*. The playing fields need to be regraded to remove low spots and pitched to drain to low-lying rain gardens / bio-swales\*. Add walkways to make fields accessible, and some walkways need repair. Use porous pavement as appropriate when replacing pavement\*.

The existing playground should be assessed by a Certified Playground Safety Inspector (CPSI) and improvements made to address issues identified in the 2011 OSRP. This includes replacing fencing, replacing benches and adding picnic tables, and replacing the backstop fencing. The wood fiber surfacing in playground needs to be augmented.

Public comments collected through this 2019 OSRP Update process included: add trees\*, add a new playground, improve crosswalks/access\*, add lighting, and add restrooms.

Total Estimated Cost: \$1,600,000

Possible funding sources: City (linkage and CPA), PARC, LWCF, CDBG  
Neighborhoods and Populations Served: East Medford

Objectives Served:

- 1.1 Provide each neighborhood with a safe open space that provides multigenerational opportunities for recreation.
- 1.2 Meet community needs for organized and informal team and individual sports.
- 1.3 Meet the needs of all citizens through universal design.
- 1.4 Extend playing hours for adult leagues and facilitate Youth League night-time play.
- 1.5 Provide a clean, safe, playground for each neighborhood that provides a variety of play spaces and experiences.
- 1.6 Extend the playing season and minimize use limitations due to wet conditions.
- 3.1 Expand community garden sites within the City to serve more moderate to low income neighborhoods.
- 3.2 Ensure that passive recreation opportunities are available throughout the City.
- 4.1 Expand the urban forest canopy.
- 4.4 Deploy stormwater management pilot projects throughout the City to improve water quality.
- 5.1 Improve the overall quality of Medford's existing inventory of open spaces and facilities.
- 5.3 Facilitate the management of playing fields to protect their condition.
- 6.2 Include design improvements in park renovations that incorporate strategies that mitigate climate change risks of urban heat island, stormwater runoff, inland flooding, and riverine/coastal flooding.
- 6.4 Increase park access and distribution for neighborhoods where residents are most vulnerable to climate change.

### Oak Grove Cemetery

Oak Grove Cemetery is an approximate 100-acre City-owned cemetery. Donated to the City by the Brooks Family in the 1850s, this prominent open space is a historic natural asset that is still used for burials today. Some of the graves were moved in 1952-53 during the construction of Interstate 93. The property contains many paved narrow roads and paths for grave access, a significant tree canopy, and some topography with a 100-foot hill. In October 2018, the Medford Community Preservation Committee (CPC) approved funding for Historic Landscape Rehabilitation at Oak Grove Cemetery, and the Medford City Council subsequently approved the project.

Given the historic and delicate nature of this open space, this site should be preserved and its historic features protected both from the perspective of a City open space asset but also to uphold its climate resilient natural assets and any impact from climate change. The City should consider the development of a master plan or feasibility study to repair and restore historic monuments and structures in the cemetery. The Cemetery Commission and Veterans Agent anticipate requesting CPA funding to undertake stabilization projects in the short term, but a broader plan for a multi-year phased restoration may be needed.

Oak Grove Cemetery should be assessed relative to its paved spaces. Sections of the cemetery may contain very old grave sites and may not be frequented by visitors. Where paved drives



are no longer in use, consider removing the pavement to create bio-retention areas to treat and infiltrate stormwater. Where paved drives are seldom used, consider narrowing the paved area and install bio-swales along the drive to convey and infiltrate stormwater. Reduction of these paved surfaces will also reduce urban heat island effect.

The existing trees at Oak Grove Cemetery play an important role for both the aesthetic and cool enjoyment of the space, but also the tree canopy plays an important role in climate change mitigation. Develop a tree-succession plan in order to proactively plant trees in expectation of trees reaching their maximum life span.

Total Estimated Cost: \$700,000

Possible funding sources: City (linkage and CPA), PARC, LWCF

Neighborhoods and Populations Served: Citywide

Objectives Served:

- 3.2 Ensure that passive recreation opportunities are available throughout the City.
- 4.1 Expand the urban forest canopy.
- 4.4 Deploy stormwater management pilot projects throughout the City to improve water quality.
- 5.1 Improve the overall quality of Medford's existing inventory of open spaces and facilities.
- 6.2 Include design improvements in park renovations that incorporate strategies that mitigate climate change risks of urban heat island, stormwater runoff, inland flooding, and riverine/coastal flooding.

## Playstead Park

Playstead Park is a 12.3-acre active recreation park containing a baseball diamond, two basketball courts, two adult soccer fields, four tennis courts and one tot lot. It is also a community gathering space for festivals and community events. The park is adjacent to the MBTA Commuter Rail line. Playstead Park was identified as a priority for Edge Condition improvements in the 2011 OSRP but has yet to be implemented. Playstead Park was identified in the 2011 OSRP as a priority to improve the lighting and irrigation system for the fields but has not yet been implemented. The 2011 OSRP proposes both a new community garden and/or a dog park at the southern end of this park.

Playstead Park is in need of many improvements. Build a formal parking area off of Century Street and at the southern end of the park that includes ADA accessible parking spaces, signed and striped and include accessible walkways to park activities areas. Use porous pavement in the parking lots and pitch the grade towards rain gardens / bio-swales to treat and infiltrate stormwater. The pavement of existing walkways, basketball and tennis courts need to be replaced using porous pavement.

Access to the site is good, but a walkway is needed within the park to connect all of the various use areas. The picnic area should be connected to the concrete walkway within the playground. Install fencing, tree plantings and seating along Playstead Road and trees and benches along the new connecting walkways. Regrade fields to eliminate minor puddling and pitch to low-lying rain gardens / bio-swales. Support the various activities in the park with a new restroom facility and drinking fountains. Replace bicycle racks, add accessible picnic tables and bleachers.

Remove overgrown trees and shrubs along the playground to open sightlines and plant new shade trees and low shrubs to help delineate spaces and add shade. Remove invasive species along the rail line and open sightlines. Install nature-based programming and features to activate this space.

The existing playground should be assessed by a Certified Playground Safety Inspector (CPSI) and improvements made to address issues identified in the 2011 OSRP. However, the existing play equipment are showing significant deterioration and may require replacement. The wood fiber safety surfacing is dramatically deficient and should be replaced with resilient safety surfacing. Additionally, the 2011 OSRP recommends repairs to the basketball courts. If playground renovations are needed or desired, consider multi-functional green-play spaces that will diversify the play experience and help mitigate climate change effects\*.

Public comments collected through this 2019 OSRP Update process included: add lighting, install restrooms, improve basketball courts, add trees, shade playground, fence playground, add 6 month-24 month play area, add tennis backboard, add drinking fountain, upgrade fields, and add parking.

Total Estimated Cost: \$4,000,000

Possible funding sources: City (linkage and CPA), PARC, LWCF

Neighborhoods and Populations Served: Brooks Estate/West Medford

## Objectives Served:

- 1.1 Provide each neighborhood with a safe open space that provides multigenerational opportunities for recreation.
- 1.2 Meet community needs for organized and informal team and individual sports.
- 1.3 Meet the needs of all citizens through universal design.
- 1.4 Extend playing hours for adult leagues and facilitate Youth League night-time play.
- 1.5 Provide a clean, safe, playground for each neighborhood that provides a variety of play spaces and experiences.
- 1.6 Extend the playing season and minimize use limitations due to wet conditions.
- 3.1 Expand community garden sites within the City to serve more moderate to low income neighborhoods.
- 3.2 Ensure that passive recreation opportunities are available throughout the City.

- 3.3 Provide separate and distinct open space resources for residents with dogs who are not allowed off-leash in many of the City's parks.
- 4.1 Expand the urban forest canopy.
- 4.3 Manage the presence of exotic invasive vegetation in ecologically significant landscapes.
- 4.4 Deploy stormwater management pilot projects throughout the City to improve water quality.
- 5.1 Improve the overall quality of Medford's existing inventory of open spaces and facilities.
- 5.3 Facilitate the management of playing fields to protect their condition.
- 5.4 Support programming that supports public art and use of public outdoor venues throughout the City.
- 6.2 Include design improvements in park renovations that incorporate strategies that mitigate climate change risks of urban heat island, stormwater runoff, inland flooding, and riverine/coastal flooding.

### Tufts Park

Tufts Park is an approximate 10.6-acre active recreation park containing four softball fields, a youth soccer field, one basketball court, one playground and a fenced swimming pool area. It is adjacent to the Curtis-Tufts Alternative School. Tufts Park was identified in the 2011 OSRP as a priority to improve the irrigation system for the fields but has not yet been implemented. Additionally, the 2011 OSRP recommended improving accessibility with designated off-street accessible parking, accessible picnic tables, accessible swings and play components in the playground and accessible restroom with showers in the pool area.

Overall, Tufts Park is in need of many updates. Access to the park needs to be improved with upgraded crosswalks and curb ramps. Consider a pedestrian crossing beacon on Main Street to improve safety along this busy street. The Winchester Street entrance should be improved by clearing weeds, completing general landscaping, and providing an accessible path to the playing fields. The playing fields should be regraded to regulation pitch and sloped to low-lying raingardens/bio-swales around the perimeter\*. Pedestrian circulation should be redesigned to connect all park uses and remove trip hazards at players' entrance to fields thus making all fields universally accessible. Bleachers need to be made accessible. Additional trees should be planted to add shade throughout the park\*.

The parking lot at the eastern end of the park needs to be renovated with delineated parking spaces, accessible spaces and clear pedestrian access to the adjacent fields. The parking lot should incorporate porous pavement and be pitched to raingardens and/or bio-swales to capture and treat stormwater runoff\*.

The existing playground should be assessed by a Certified Playground Safety Inspector (CPSI) and improvements made to address issues identified in the 2011 OSRP such as replacing the sand

safety surfacing in playground and placing a buffer between the parking lot and the team bench at the baseball field adjacent to the parking lot. Consider adding adult exercise equipment.

Public comments collected through this 2019 OSRP Update process included: consider adding a dog park, upgrade fields, add restrooms, add lights, add benches, and add trees\*.

Total Estimated Cost: \$2,900,000

Possible funding sources: City (linkage and CPA), PARC, LWCF, CDBG

Neighborhoods and Populations Served: South Medford – diverse, lower income populations

#### Objectives Served:

- 1.1 Provide each neighborhood with a safe open space that provides multigenerational opportunities for recreation.
- 1.2 Meet community needs for organized and informal team and individual sports.
- 1.3 Meet the needs of all citizens through universal design.
- 1.4 Extend playing hours for adult leagues and facilitate Youth League night-time play.
- 1.5 Provide a clean, safe, playground for each neighborhood that provides a variety of play spaces and experiences.
- 1.6 Extend the playing season and minimize use limitations due to wet conditions.
- 3.2 Ensure that passive recreation opportunities are available throughout the City.
- 3.3 Provide separate and distinct open space resources for residents with dogs who are not allowed off-leash in many of the City's parks.
- 4.1 Expand the urban forest canopy.
- 4.4 Deploy stormwater management pilot projects throughout the City to improve water quality.
- 5.1 Improve the overall quality of Medford's existing inventory of open spaces and facilities.
- 5.3 Facilitate the management of playing fields to protect their condition.
- 6.2 Include design improvements in park renovations that incorporate strategies that mitigate climate change risks of urban heat island, stormwater runoff, inland flooding, and riverine/coastal flooding.
- 6.4 Increase park access and distribution for neighborhoods where residents are most vulnerable to climate change.

#### Wright's Pond

Wright's Pond Park is a 148-acre park consisting of a beach, fresh water swimming, fishing, a bath house, concession area, parking lot, and a walking trail around the pond. The park serves to bring the community together for a variety of recreation activities and is open to Medford residents with a sticker. In October 2018, the Medford Community Preservation Committee (CPC) approved funding for Wright's Pond Beautification, and the Medford City Council subsequently approved the project. Additionally, the 2011 OSRP recommended improving accessibility by

removing the speed bump in the paved access to the beach and water's edge, and replace outdated and inaccessible play equipment in both locations.

The active use and beach area at Wright's Pond is in need a significant improvements that promote the natural character of the park while preserving the same natural environment from the inevitable impact created by the heavy human activity. Pedestrian access to Wright's Pond is impeded by the lack of a safe Elm Street crossing. Add a pedestrian crosswalk with flashing beacons at the park entrance on Elm Street\*. Pave an accessible path into the park from Elm Street. Create an accessible pedestrian entrance along Aquavia Road. Install a bio-swale along Aquavia Road to capture and infiltrate stormwater before it enters the park\*.

The parking lot needs to be redesigned to minimize impervious surfaces, using porous pavement where appropriate\*. Plant trees to reduce urban heat island effect. Stripe and sign accessible parking spaces that lead to an accessible path to park amenities. Regrade parking lot to pitch away from the beach area and towards low-lying raingardens / bio-swales to capture and treat stormwater runoff and minimize sedimentation of areas towards the beach\*.

Stabilize eroding slopes around the parking lot and within the activity areas with native plantings, grasses and walls if necessary\*. Augment topsoil around existing trees where roots zones have been compacted and eroded. Added plantings should discourage trampling over tree roots.

Reduce beach erosion and reduce sedimentation into the plant beds and beach area by rebuilding walkways and other paved surfaces to pitch away from the beach and install bio-swales along the walkways to capture, direct and infiltrate stormwater\*.

Regrade, and relocate if necessary, seating, picnic and play areas with slopes that meet accessibility requirements for all users. Replace degraded benches, install accessible picnic tables and install new playground equipment. Incorporate a signage program throughout the park for wayfinding, interpretation of restoration/pollinators/climate change mitigation, etc.

The existing playgrounds should be assessed by a Certified Playground Safety Inspector (CPSI) and improvements made to address issues identified in the 2011 OSRP regarding the play surfacing at the playgrounds. However, the existing play equipment, grading and safety surfacing are showing significant deterioration and likely require replacement. The wood fiber safety surfacing would be prone to erosion, so resilient playground safety surfacing should be used. Consider multi-functional green-play spaces that will diversify the play experience and help mitigate climate change effects\*.

Plant additional trees not only in the parking lot, but also in the wooded areas along the shoreline and near the dam to increase shade for users and promote tree canopy over the water\*.

Public comments collected through this 2019 OSRP Update process included: improve crossing/pedestrian access into park, add picnic tables, improve and mark trails, improve restrooms, improve concessions, improve/expand pollinator garden, and add signage.

Total Estimated Cost: \$2,200,000

Possible funding sources: City (linkage and CPA), PARC, LWCF

Neighborhoods and Populations Served: Citywide

## Objectives Served:

- 1.1 Provide each neighborhood with a safe open space that provides multigenerational opportunities for recreation.
- 1.3 Meet the needs of all citizens through universal design.
- 1.5 Provide a clean, safe, playground for each neighborhood that provides a variety of play spaces and experiences.
- 3.2 Ensure that passive recreation opportunities are available throughout the City.
- 4.1 Expand the urban forest canopy.
- 4.3 Manage the presence of exotic invasive vegetation in ecologically significant landscapes.
- 4.4 Deploy stormwater management pilot projects throughout the City to improve water quality.
- 4.5 Protect water quality and important natural resource areas and buffer zones.
- 5.1 Improve the overall quality of Medford's existing inventory of open spaces and facilities.
- 5.2 Educate the residents as to the resources available throughout the city-wide open space system.
- 5.4 Support programming that supports public art and use of public outdoor venues throughout the City.
- 6.1 Perform ecological restoration and maintain the ecological integrity of Medford's natural areas to maximize natural systems' benefits, such as cooling, sequestering carbon, avoiding and capturing stormwater, and mitigating air pollution.
- 6.2 Include design improvements in park renovations that incorporate strategies that mitigate climate change risks of urban heat island, stormwater runoff, inland flooding, and riverine/coastal flooding.
- 6.4 Increase park access and distribution for neighborhoods where residents are most vulnerable to climate change.

## City-wide: Tree Planting and Tree Succession Plan

Tree and shade were identified through the public input process as particularly important to the community. Additional, planting trees is one of the simplest and most effective measures in mitigating the effects of climate change a primary goal of this OSRP. Trees provide shade for park users, cool a site by mitigating urban heat island effect, reduce stormwater runoff and mitigate vehicle emissions and improve air quality in active recreation areas.

Larger shade trees can address many of the effects of climate change. A diversity of deciduous shade trees, flowering trees, multi-stemmed trees, and evergreen trees add interest and beauty that is appropriate for many sites. When planting trees consider diversifying species, age-class structure as well as investigating trees that more resilient to climate change and more resilient to vehicle emissions, changing precipitation regimes, and pests. Select trees with deep root systems and strong limbs in flood prone areas.

Many parks throughout the system have been identified as needing additional tree plantings, replacement of trees and tree succession planning. Several playgrounds completely lack shade around the play structures, which limits their usability in the summer months. There may be an economy in grouping tree planting in various locations together into grouped construction contracts. This would also allow the city to impact several sites and provide benefit to many neighborhoods at once.

City-owned parks in need of tree planting (not included above) include: Grant, Harris, McNally, Honor Roll, and Prescott Parks.

Equally as important is the maintenance of existing tree canopy and shade trees. Several parks have been identified that have more mature trees while providing tree canopy critical to the enjoyment of the site and function for mitigation of the effects of climate change. There may be an economy in developing Tree Succession Plans for various locations into grouped efforts. This would also allow the city to be prepared for addressing future tree plantings as the need arises throughout the City.

City-owned parks that would benefit from tree succession planning include: Brooks, Grant, Hastings Heights, Logan, Magoun, and Royall Park.

Total Estimated Cost – Tree Planting: \$40,000/park  
Total Estimated Cost – Tree Succession Plan: \$20,000/park

Neighborhoods and Populations Served: Citywide improvements.

## Objectives Served:

- 3.2 Ensure that passive recreation opportunities are available throughout the City.
- 4.1 Expand the urban forest canopy.
- 4.4 Deploy stormwater management pilot projects throughout the City to improve water quality.
- 5.1 Improve the overall quality of Medford's existing inventory of open spaces and facilities.
- 6.1 Perform ecological restoration and maintain the ecological integrity of Medford's natural areas to maximize natural systems' benefits, such as cooling, sequestering carbon, avoiding and capturing stormwater, and mitigating air pollution.

- 6.2 Include design improvements in park renovations that incorporate strategies that mitigate climate change risks of urban heat island, stormwater runoff, inland flooding, and riverine/coastal flooding.



## Additional Park Improvements

In alphabetical order. Improvements to City-owned parks can be implemented at any time as the community wants and/or funding becomes available.

### Brooks Park

- ADA Accessibility Improvements noted in 2011 OSRP
  - Install a paved entry path to allow for ADA access to the site
- Improve accessible parking area to provide better access to the park
- Provide access from Main Street
- Access into and within park, and to various features in the park
- Pruning needed for trees and shrubs; a succession plan is needed for all plantings; protect tree roots
- Address stormwater issues along edge of park
- Repair cracks and ruts in pavement
- \*Collect and infiltrate stormwater to minimize stormwater runoff
- \*Regrade to capture stormwater on-site
- \*Develop a tree succession plan

### Clippership Park

- Minor repairs – damaged guardrail, fallen trees, missing sign
- Consider additional seating away from the Senior Center
- \*Install a landscaped/vegetated earthen berm combined with shoreline restoration
- \*Planted trees are species that are deep rooted and strong-limbed
- \*Install art and gathering space, artfully capture stormwater and consider Solar Trees

### Columbus Park

- ADA Accessibility Improvements noted in 2011 OSRP
  - ADA compliant parking in lot with signage, pathway lighting between parking lot and park
- Repair erosion on sloped landscape areas
- Build a path leading to bleachers at the softball field and provide accessible seating
- Repair cracked and uneven sidewalks
- \*Install green infrastructure
- \*Retrofit between playing fields with bio-swales
- \*Use pervious pavement when replacing pavement.
- \*Capture stormwater on site
- \*Remove invasive species

### Condon Shell

The City should coordinate with DCR to do the following:

- Remove invasive species along river and replace with native plantings
- Repair eroding river bank
- Stonedust path needs to be augmented
- Repair sidewalk along Winthrop Street
- Replace missing bench at concrete bench pad
- Repair improve existing kayak/canoe landing
- Pedestrian paths are often impassable due to ground saturation – new paths along Rt. 16 will improve accessibility
- \*Restore river bank, remove invasive species, install bioengineering with native plants
- \*Use pervious pavement instead of stone dust
- \*Add bioswales and raingardens
- \*Install earthen berms for shoreline protection
- \*Install wetlands and other infrastructure that can hold water and minimize flooding to adjacent infrastructure
- \*Build raised walking bridge to allow flood waters to move freely under useable space

## Dugger Park

- ADA Accessibility Improvements noted in 2011 OSRP
  - Site furnishings are inadequate to accommodate disabled park users and should be upgraded
- Community Garden - Estimated Cost: \$180,000/each new garden
- Consider Dog Park - Estimated Cost: \$75,000 each
- Add restroom facilities and water fountains
- Spray park needs to be upgraded, including ADA compliance
- Add accessible pavement at bicycle racks and bleachers
- Stabilize bank and address compacted soils and exposed roots
- Replace picnic tables with ADA compliant tables and benches
- Repair heaved and cracked pavement
- Wood fiber play surface needs to be augmented or replaced
- Replace play equipment roofing

## Gillis Field

Gillis Field is a 1.8-acre active recreation park known previously as Medford's premier Little League Venue. Medford Little League remains the primary, but not exclusive, user of the park, which contains a little league baseball field, bleachers, and huts/concession building. In 2018, the Medford Community Preservation Committee (CPC) and the City Council approved funding for Gillis Field Enhancements. The City purchased the Henger Center property, which is adjacent to Gillis Field, in 2016. The City continues to explore possible permanent uses for the facility, but site improvements could potentially enable Gillis Field to share the parking lot and provide an accessible entrance from the northern side of the site.

- Stripe and sign accessible parking on Fulton Street and provide a curb ramp on both sides of Fulton Street from Rockwood Terrace.
- Redesign and reconstruct entrances to Gillis Park to provide barrier-free access into the park and remove cracked pavement.
- Consider using porous pavement for new paving. Further, the pavement inside the park is degraded with cracks, the stonedust needs to be augmented or replaced and the weeds throughout need to be removed.
- Provide accessible paths to concessions, benches and bleachers.
- Replace bleachers with ADA accessible ones.
- Regrade field to remove areas of ponding and pitch to low-lying rain gardens / bio-swales to capture and infiltrate stormwater.
- Replant and stabilize slopes into park from Fulton Street and from Interstate 93.
- Plant trees to provide shade throughout the park.

## Grant Park

- Work with Tufts University to make landscaping and site improvements so that the park functions better as a park
- ADA Accessibility Improvements noted in 2011 OSRP
  - Circulation around park should be upgraded to be ADA compliant
  - Access to park is only available via stairs
- Repair cobblestone edge along sidewalk
- Establish access to park from Winthrop Street and improve pedestrian access to make it ADA compliant
- Designate an accessible parking space
- Replace steps to address grade and add handrails
- Create a succession planting plan
- Consider adding ADA compliant seating options
- \*Incorporate arts and cultural components
- \*Install retaining wall and raingardens to prevent runoff down slope of the park

## Harris Park

- In 2018, the Medford Community Preservation Committee (CPC) and the Medford City Council approved funding for Phase II, and the project has been approved by the Medford City Council.
- Phase 1 improvements are out to bid; Phase 2 funded and under design
- \*Improve crosswalks and curb ramps
- \*Install curb extensions and capture stormwater from the park
- \*Use permeable pavers and pervious asphalt repaving
- \*Install bioswales and raingardens

- \*Regrade field to infiltration areas
- \*Rehabilitate soils to support healthy tree and vegetation
- \*Plant trees

Public Comments include: add a new playground, splash pad and restrooms

#### Hastings Heights Park

- ADA Accessibility Improvements noted in 2011 OSRP
  - Upgrade pedestrian access and internal circulation to be ADA compliant
- Designate an accessible parking space
- Repair and repoint perimeter wall
- Replace and add ADA compliant seating options
- \*Develop a tree succession plan

#### Krystle Campbell Peace Garden

- \*Consider adding raingardens/bioswales to the edges of the concrete seating areas to capture stormwater before entering the storm drain within the park

Public comments include: consider adding trees.

#### MacDonald Park

- ADA Accessibility Improvements noted in 2011 OSRP
  - Park requires a circulation and access master plan that creates universal access to all site features
- Conduct selective plant pruning to improve sightlines to improve sense of security
- Clear overgrown riverbank and remove invasive species
- Add more ADA compliant benches

#### Magoun Park

- Add mid-block crosswalk and curb ramp connecting neighborhood to Bradshaw Street
- Prune mature shrubs to increase sightlines into and out of the park
- Create a tree succession plan
- \*Install raingardens/bioswales to the inside of the perimeter fence
- \*Add crosswalks and curb ramps
- \*Use pervious pavement when repaving
- \*Install curb extensions with infiltration

#### McNally Park

- Recently renovated
- Designate an accessible parking space

- Retrofit planting beds to accommodate disabled visitors
- Add shade and improve access along adjacent streets
- \*Use permeable pavement or porous pavers when repaving
- \*Install raingardens/bioswales

#### Medford High School/Edgerly Sports Complex

- \*Create a green parking lot to increase evapotranspiration and promote cooling
- \*Use porous pavement or ADA Accessible permeable pavers when replacing pavement
- \*Install vegetated bio-swale or retention areas
- \*Transform two parking spaces to bio-retention areas for traffic calming and stormwater management
- \*Stabilize banks with native plantings

#### Medford Honor Roll Park

- Designate an accessible parking space
- Install ADA compliant benches with back support
- \*Plant trees

#### Riverbend Park

- Address puddling on fields and at playground
- Provide accessible walkways to players' benches and bleachers
- Address grading on back side of dog park that drains toward the river and causes erosion and puddling
- Repair or replace signage
- Repair or replace benches
- Repair cracked walkways
- \*Regrade fields towards infiltration areas.
- Grade to lower areas to receive the stormwater
- \*Restore the river bank and install bioengineering with native plantings
- \*Install bio-swales along the length of the path along the river
- \*Use porous paving when repaving
- \*Use porous paving when repaving parking lot and direct stormwater into bio-retention areas
- \*Plant trees
- \*Incorporate green walls or solar panels
- \*Pave desire lines with porous pavement

#### River's Edge Park

- Augment stonedust path

### Royall Park

- ADA Accessibility Improvements noted in 2011 OSRP
  - No accessible entrance (Main St. has stairs; George St. has gate)
- Repair damage to perimeter wall/fence
- Repair walkways that are uneven, cracked and heaving
- Augment stonedust path
- Provide accessible pathway to Royall House entrance (which is accessible)
- Replace benches
- \*Develop a tree succession plan

### Salem Street Burying Ground

- ADA Accessibility Improvements noted in 2011 OSRP
  - Burial grounds are not accessible
- Designate an accessible parking space
- Repair or replace brick paving at north entrance
- Create a tree succession plan
- \*Develop tree maintenance and succession plan
- \*Develop cemetery disaster mitigation plan

### Thomas Brooks Park

- In 2018, the Medford Community Preservation Committee (CPC) and the Medford City Council approved funding for a Thomas Brooks Park and Slave Wall Master Plan. Once completed, the City should work to implement the plan.
- ADA Accessibility Improvements noted in 2011 OSRP
  - Create an accessible entrance into the main park/field area from Grove St.
- Community Garden – 2011 OSRP Estimated Cost: \$180,000/each new garden
- Provide sidewalk access to park and a crosswalk across Grove Street
- Remove invasive species
- \*Manage woodland with thinning, for upper story tree growth and carbon sequestration

### Veterans Memorial Park

- ADA Accessibility Improvements noted in 2011 OSRP
  - Designated ADA compliant parking, accessible paths connecting all amenities
    - DCR created a paved, accessible multi-use path through Memorial Park in 2017
- Designate an accessible parking space
- Create accessible path to park at Winthrop Street
- Create riverside path
- Provide a sidewalk along Mystic River Parkway

- Repair cracked pavement along Winthrop Street
- Connect bituminous path through park to field amenities
- Create accessible pedestrian circulation to ball fields
- Provide ADA compliant additional benches
- Remove chain link fence and invasive plants along the river edge and generally improve viewsheds

Public Comments include: upgrade fields, add lighting

## Victory Park

- ADA Accessibility Improvements noted in 2011 OSRP
  - Repair rubber safety surfacing under swings
  - Identify designated ADA accessible parking space
- Isolated repairs to soccer fields
- Selected tree removals
- Redefine and augment the stonedust paths
- Stabilize the slopes that are eroding
- Consider the addition of service access to courts and fields
- Evaluate long-term viability of play fields given their low-lying location (improve drainage and stormwater management)
- Consider developing unused section of the park for passive use or community garden
- \*Install subsurface drainage system at fields
- \*Use porous pavement to replace stonedust
- \*Stabilization slopes with bioengineering with native plants

Public comments include: Improve lighting, add restrooms, add tennis backboard, and improve road crossings/access.

### Estimate of Probable Range of Construction Costs

RECOMMENDATION	RANGE OF COSTS	UNIT
<b>EARTHWORK</b>		
* Regrade fields (8" deep and seed)	\$4.50 to \$5	SY
* Earthen berms (4' ht, 12' w, 3:1 slopes, 8' bit conc path)	\$240 to \$275	LF
* Till fields (aerate and overseed)	\$2 to \$2.50	SF
* Rehabilitate soils (strip loam 4", rough grade 24", compact, place topsoil, fine grade, seed)	\$6.50 to \$8	SY
<b>UTILITIES</b>		
Field lighting (BB, 5 lights, load center, service, panel, conduit, HH)	\$400,000 to \$500,000	Each
Pedestrian lighting	\$1,800 to \$3,000	Each
Restrooms (per unit)	\$1,800 to \$3,000	Each
Restrooms structure (2 stalls plus concession space)	\$300,000	Each
* Solar panels (MA, 6kw, after tax credit)	\$12,300 to \$15,300	6kw system
<b>PAVING AND CURBING</b>		
* Porous pavement (+50% typ. asphalt @ \$35/SY)	\$51 to \$55	SY
* Permeable pavers	\$85 to \$100	SY
Parking space (bit. conc. 9'x20')	\$5,500 to \$6,000	Each
Parking space (porous bituminous)	\$8,500 to \$9,000	Each
ADA accessible parking space and aisle (bit conc 8'x20' plus 10'x20' aisle)	\$11,500 to \$12,000	Each
ADA accessible parking space & aisle (porous. 8'x20' plus 10'x20' aisle)	\$17,000 to \$17,500	Each
Concrete sidewalks (5' wide)	\$30 to \$32	LF
* Retaining walls (4' ht, stone, mortar set)	\$195 to \$250	LF
* Green walls	\$195 to \$265	SF
* Boardwalk (wood posts)	\$20 to \$30	SF
* Curb ramps	\$1,200 to \$1,500	Each
* Crosswalks (thermal plastic)	\$1.00 to \$1.50	SF
<b>SITE IMPROVEMENTS</b>		
Bench	\$2,500 to \$5,000	Each
Bleacher (fixed)	\$100 to \$110	Seat
* Picnic Table	\$6,000 to \$10,000	Each
* Playground	\$25 to \$55	SF
Sitting area (12'x18', 2 benches, 1 trash/recycling)	\$15,000 to \$20,000	Each
Dog park	\$25,000	Each
* Signage (2-sided, 2 posts, ave. 3'x4')	\$1,200 to \$3,000	Each
Accessible drinking fountain	\$6,000 to \$7,000	Each
Spray park	\$75,000	Each
Art display spaces, installations, etc.	Unknown - tbd	



GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE/STORMWATER MANAGEMENT		
* Infiltration basins (large to small)	\$1 to \$11	CF of stormwater
* Subsurface detention vaults	\$24 to \$30	CF of stormwater
* Bio-swales (2' deep, 12' wide at top, 3:1 side slopes)	\$60 to \$100	LF
* Bio-retention areas/ rain gardens	\$5 to \$30	SF
* Curb extensions (5'x10', GC, soil medium, plants, underdrain)	\$100 to \$125	SF
* Green parking (grass grid pavers, base, loam, seed)	\$75 to \$80	SY
* Constructed wetland (costs vary widely)	\$20,000 to \$200,000	Acre
PLANTING		
* Deciduous tree	\$1,500 to \$1,800	Each
* Flowering tree	\$1,250 to \$1,500	Each
* Multi-stem tree	\$875 to \$950	Each
* Evergreen Tree	\$1,000 to \$1,250	Each
* Small Trees (conservation trees, 3'-4' ht)	\$25 to \$30	Each
* Medium Shrubs	\$120 to \$150	Each
* Small Shrubs	\$75 to \$100	Each
* Grasses and Perennials (#2 cont)	\$50 to \$65	Each
* Grasses and Perennials (#1 cont)	\$35 to \$40	Each
* Invasives removal	\$2,500 to \$3,000	Day
* Bank stabilization/bioengineering:		
Vegetated geogrid	\$23 to \$60	LF
Live fascines	\$10 to \$30	SF
Brush Mattresses	\$2 to \$5	SF

\* Climate Action Recommendations

## Section 10: Letters of Review

Mayor's Review Letter

Community Development Board Review Letter

MAPC Letter



Stephanie M Burke  
Mayor

**City of Medford**  
*Office of The Mayor*

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E-Mail [mayor@medford.org](mailto:mayor@medford.org)

June 5, 2019

Ms. Melissa Cryan  
Grant Programs Supervisor  
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs  
Division of Conservation Services  
100 Cambridge Street, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Boston, MA 02114

Re: City of Medford 2019 Open Space Plan Update

Dear Ms. Cryan:

Please accept the final draft of the City of Medford's 2019 – 2026 Open Space and Recreation Plan Update for your approval. This plan updates and revises the 2011 Open Space and Recreation Plan approved by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs. This document has been prepared to serve as a planning guide for various City staff, committees, boards, commissions and volunteer groups in Medford working to support open space and recreation. The plan also evaluates how Medford's parks and open spaces can be leveraged as part of the City's strategy to mitigate and minimize its vulnerability to climate change by using nature-based solutions. While acknowledging the financial constraints and dense development and changing demographics of Medford today, this plan seeks to offer opportunities for improving open space and recreation land in the city as well as for developing actions to meet community goals. Preparation of the plan has been funded in part by a Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Action Grant from the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs.

The plan was prepared by the Metropolitan Area Planning Council under the direction of the Open Space and Recreation Committee and staff from relevant City departments. Preparation involved a robust public engagement process, which included two well attended public forums, a series of focus groups and a survey completed by over five hundred people. The plan was advertised and posted on the City's website and comments accepted until April 26<sup>th</sup>, and subsequently presented at a third public forum On May 1<sup>st</sup>, and approved by the Community Development Board at their meeting on May 29<sup>th</sup>. All comments received have been taken into consideration and incorporated into the plan.

As Mayor of Medford, I am fully committed to preserving and improving Medford's open space and recreation system, so as to maximize its value to our community both today and in years to come.

I truly appreciate that assistance provided by the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, through its support and grant programs, particularly as other sources of funding are being eroded. I respectfully request that your department approve this Draft Open Space and Recreation Plan so that we may continue our cooperative relationship in preserving and enhancing the city's resources.

Very truly yours,

  
Stephanie M. Burke  
Mayor



**City of Medford**  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BOARD

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May 29, 2019

Ms. Melissa Cryan  
Grant Programs Supervisor  
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs  
Division of Conservation Services  
100 Cambridge Street, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Boston, MA 02114

Re: City of Medford 2019 – 2026 Draft Open Space and Recreation Plan Update

Dear Ms. Cryan:

The City of Medford Community Development Board has reviewed the 2019 – 2026 Draft Open Space and Recreation Plan Update. This plan updates and revises the 2011 Open Space and Recreation Plan approved by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs. The document has been prepared to serve as a planning guide the City's efforts preserve and improve its open space and recreation resources and to maintain eligibility for State open space and recreation funding programs. The plan also evaluates how Medford's parks and open spaces can be leveraged as part of the City's strategy to mitigate and minimize its vulnerability to climate change by using nature-based solutions.

A link to the document was distributed to the members of the Board, prior to a formal presentation of the plan at the Community Development Board meeting on May 29, 2019. Following a brief discussion the Board voted to support the plan and to recommend its approval by the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs.

Very truly yours,

John DePriest, Chairman



SMART GROWTH AND REGIONAL COLLABORATION

June 4, 2019

Melissa Cryan  
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs  
Division of Conservation Services  
100 Cambridge Street  
Boston, MA 02114

Re: Medford Open Space and Recreation Plan

Dear Ms. Cryan:

This letter will serve as MAPC's review of the City of Medford 2019 Open Space and Recreation Plan. MAPC enjoyed working with the City of Medford to develop this plan. It was written to comply with the Division of Conservation Services (DCS) guidelines and to integrate a regional perspective on the issues addressed during the planning process. We have also worked to make the plan consistent with the goals and objectives of *MetroFuture*, the regional policy plan for the Boston metropolitan area. We believe that the participation of City staff, the enhanced outreach conducted during the preparation of the plan, and MAPC's regional perspective have generated a plan that will help to guide the City in its continued efforts to improve open space and recreation opportunities and facilities in Medford.

Additionally, the plan includes a parks and open space climate resiliency report. This appendix, funded by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Program, evaluates how Medford's parks and open spaces can be leveraged to mitigate and minimize its vulnerability to climate change by using nature-based solutions. Using the latest climate science and data and ongoing City climate vulnerability assessments, the climatic, geomorphological, and environmental conditions of the City's park system were evaluated. MAPC analyzed how the park system intersects with key components of the City's infrastructure, vulnerable populations, and ecological resources, and creates design recommendations that enhance climate resilience across Medford's people, places, and environment.

MAPC wishes the best of luck to the City as it moves forward with implementation of the plan.

Sincerely,

Mark Racicot  
Land Use Planning Director

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## Appendices

Appendix A: Maps 11"x17"

Appendix B: Medford Parks and Open Space for Climate Resilience Report

Appendix C: Public Forum Feedback

Appendix D: Focus Groups

Appendix E: Public Survey

Appendix F: ADA Assessment

Appendix G: ParkServe® Analysis

Appendix H: Public Comments on April 2019 Draft Plan

# Appendix A: Maps

## Required Maps

1. Regional Context Map
  - a. Regional Context Map 2
2. Environmental Justice Map
3. Zoning Map
4. Soils and Geologic Features Map
5. Unique Features Map
6. Water Resources Map
7. Open Space Inventory Map
8. Action Plan Map

## Supplementary Maps

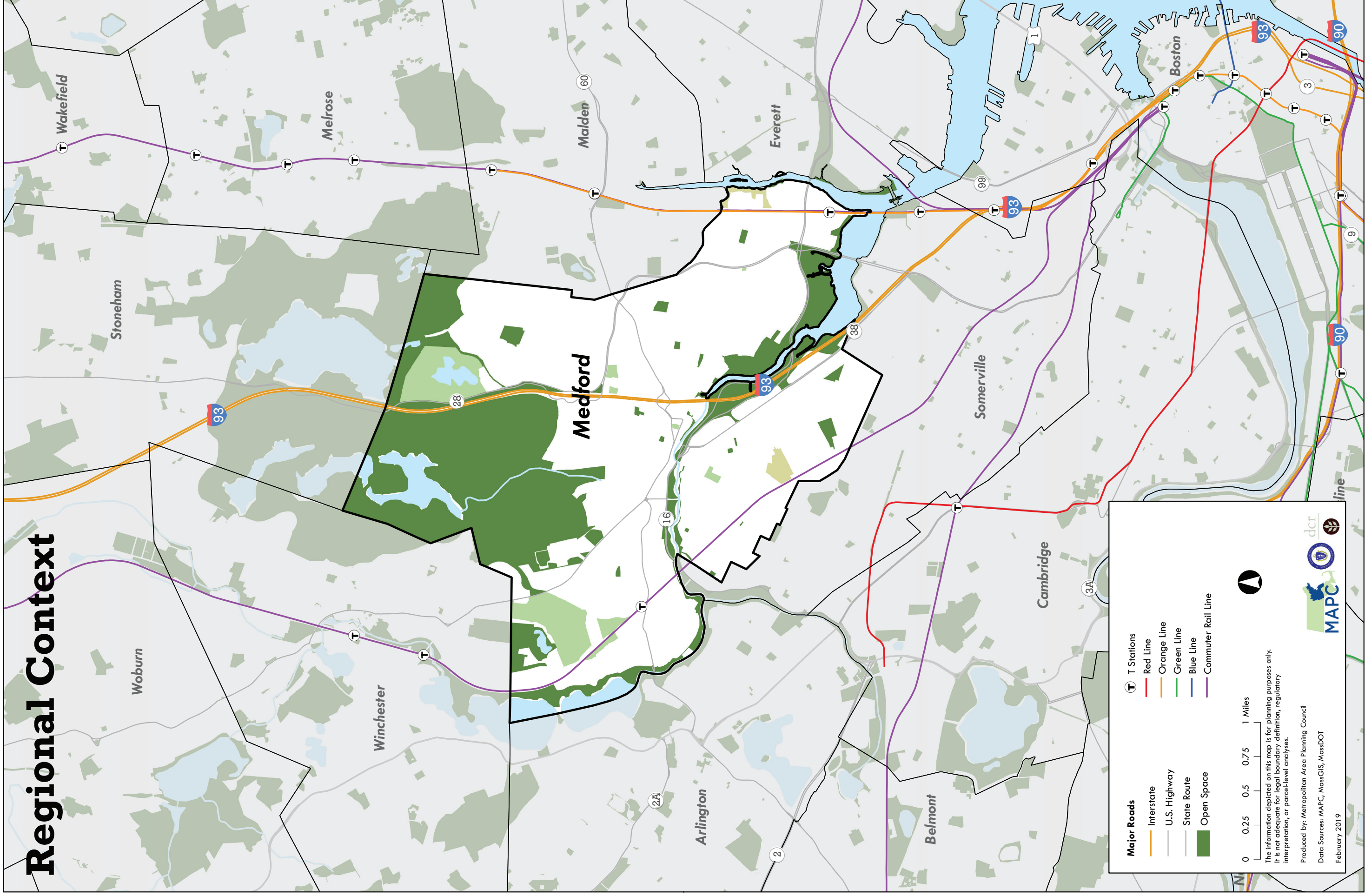
9. Historic Town Maps<sup>1</sup>
10. Population Characteristics Map
11. Current Land Use Map
12. Existing Infrastructure Map
13. Plant and Wildlife Habitat Map
14. Environmental Challenges Map
15. Climate Change Vulnerability Map
16. Low-Moderate Income Census Block Groups
17. Park Service Area Maps (29 total)

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<sup>1</sup> The version of the Historic Town Map included in the 2019 Open Space and Recreation Plan was drawn from the 2011 Open Space and Recreation Plan developed by Weston & Sampson

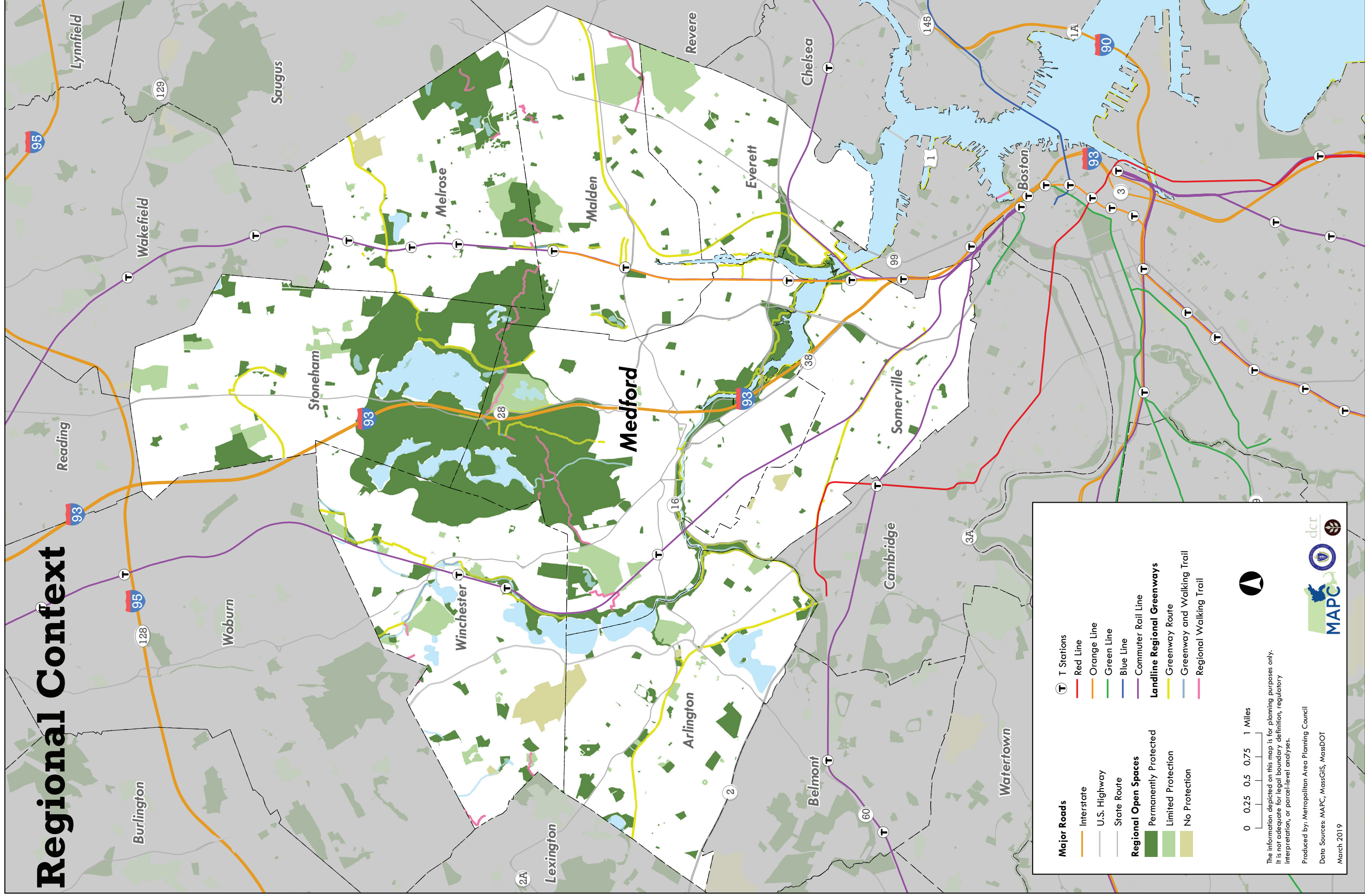
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# Regional Context



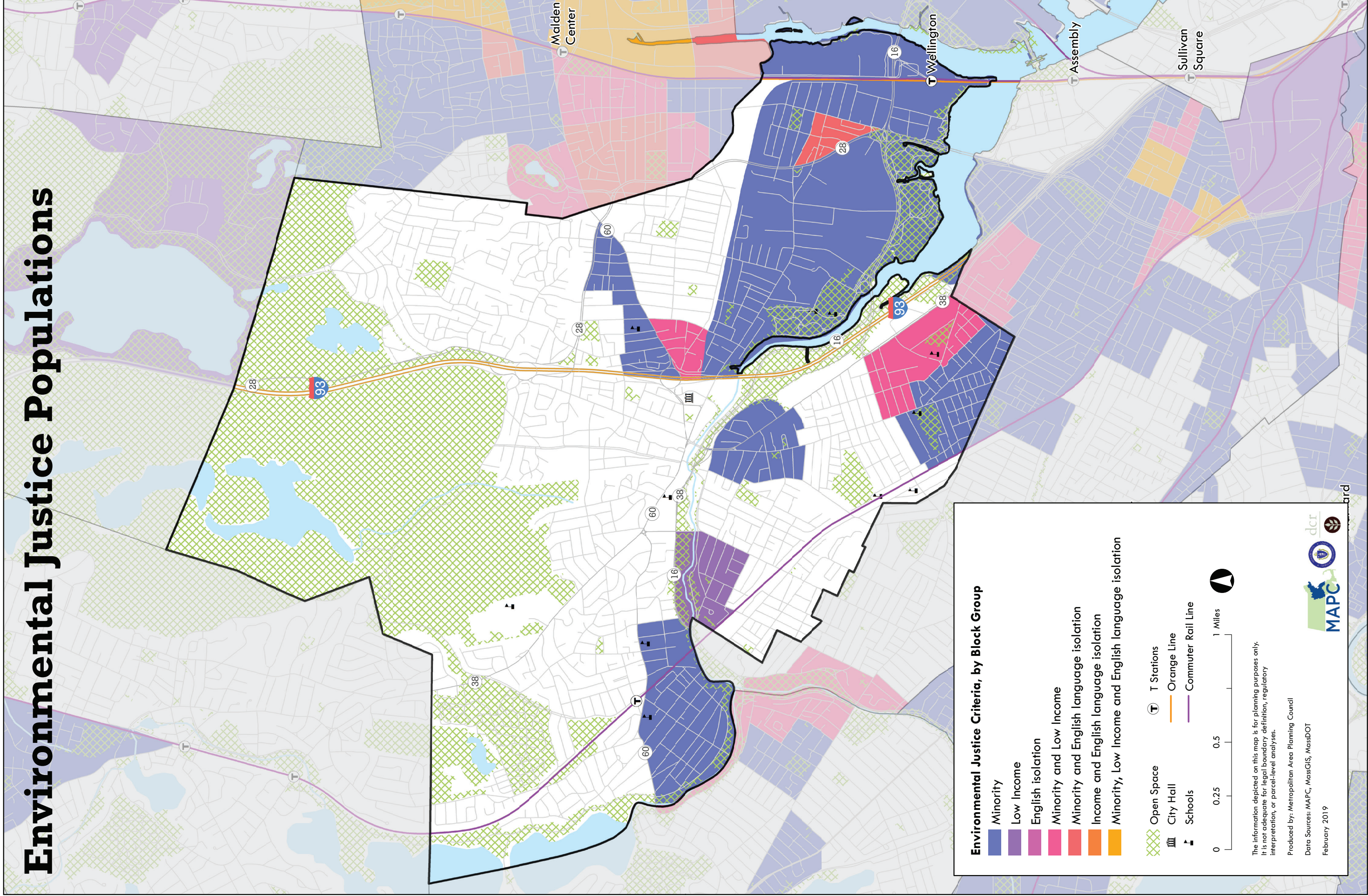


# Regional Context



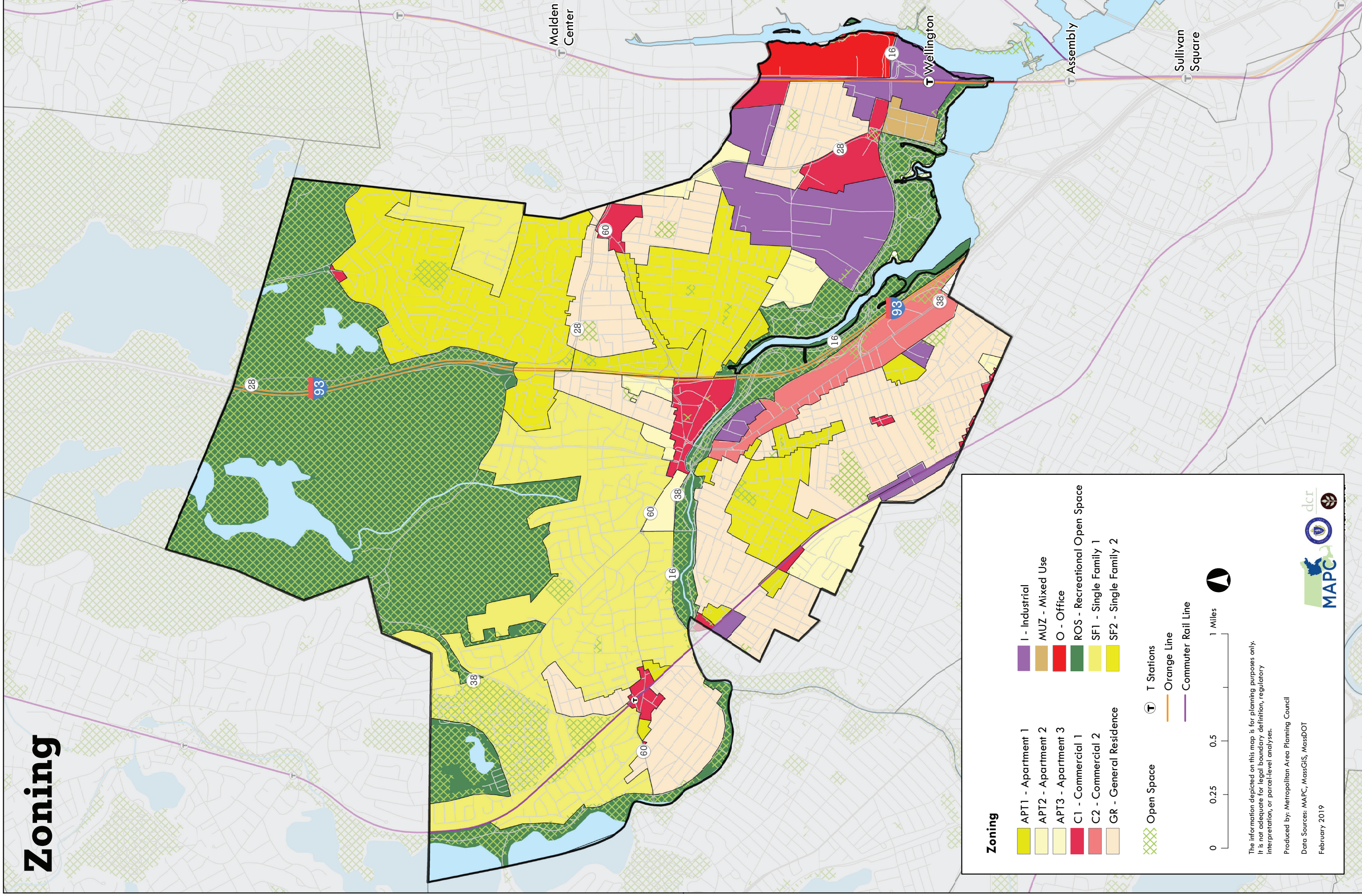


# Environmental Justice Populations



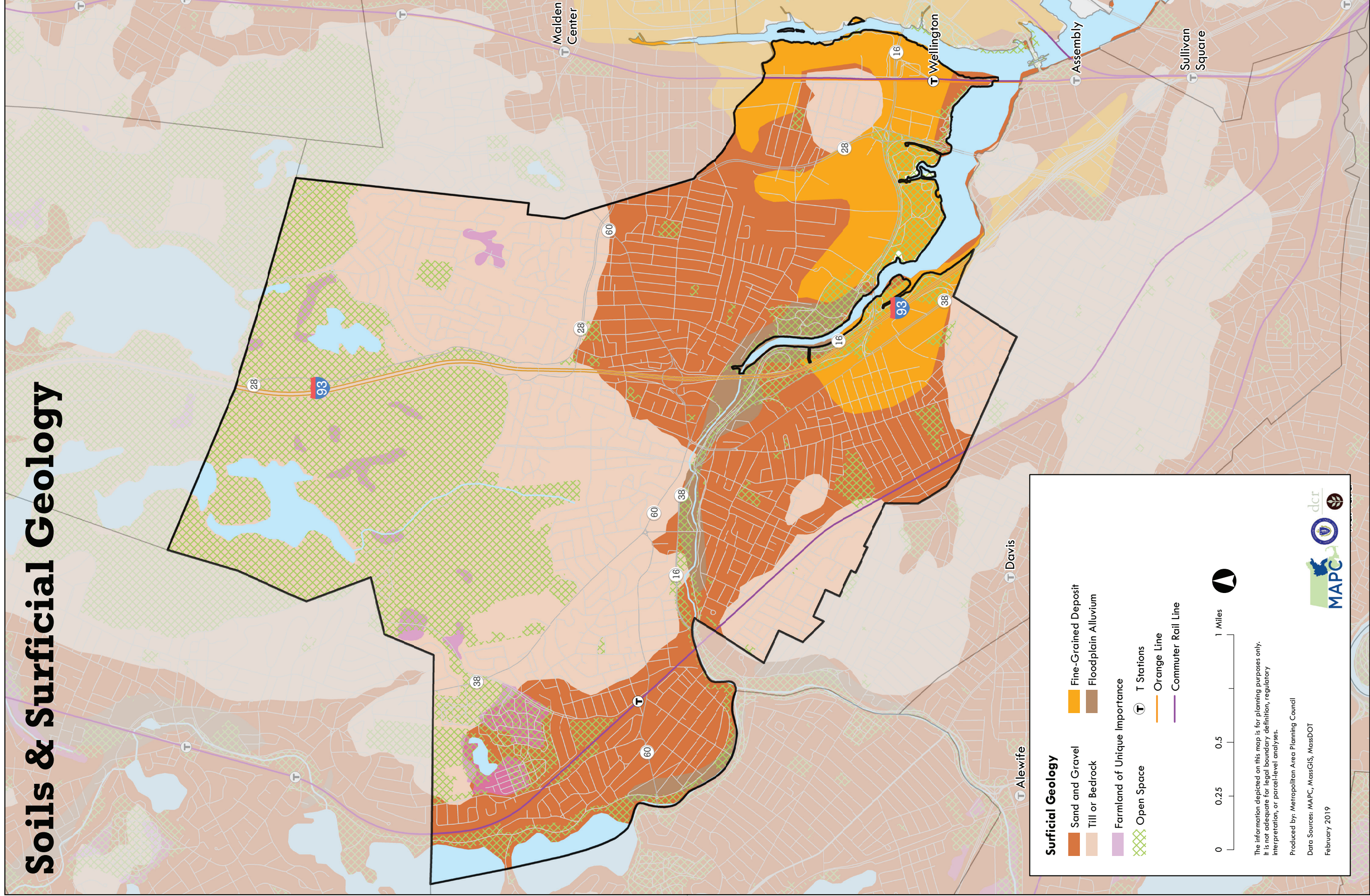


# Zoning



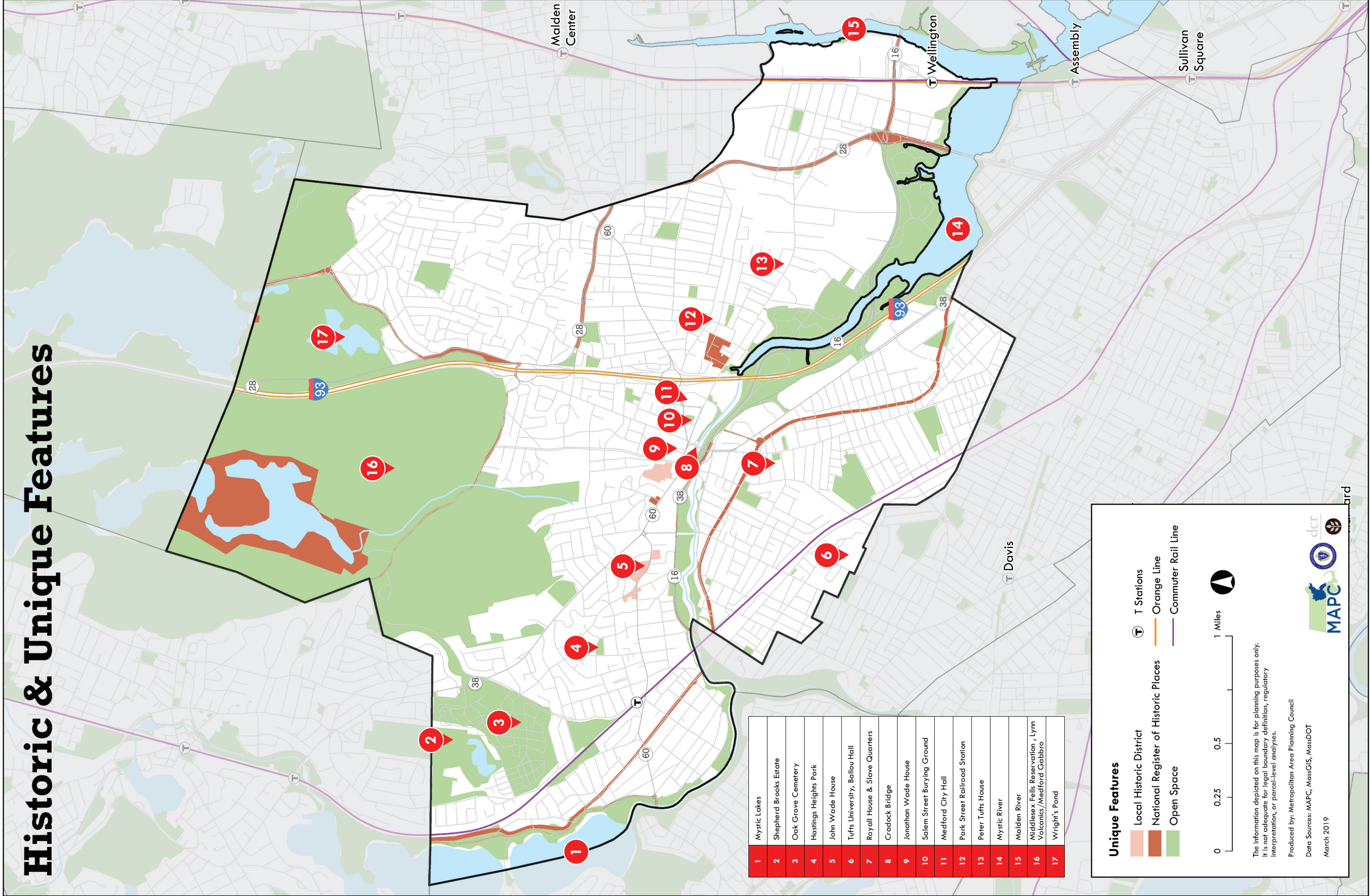


# Soils & Surficial Geology



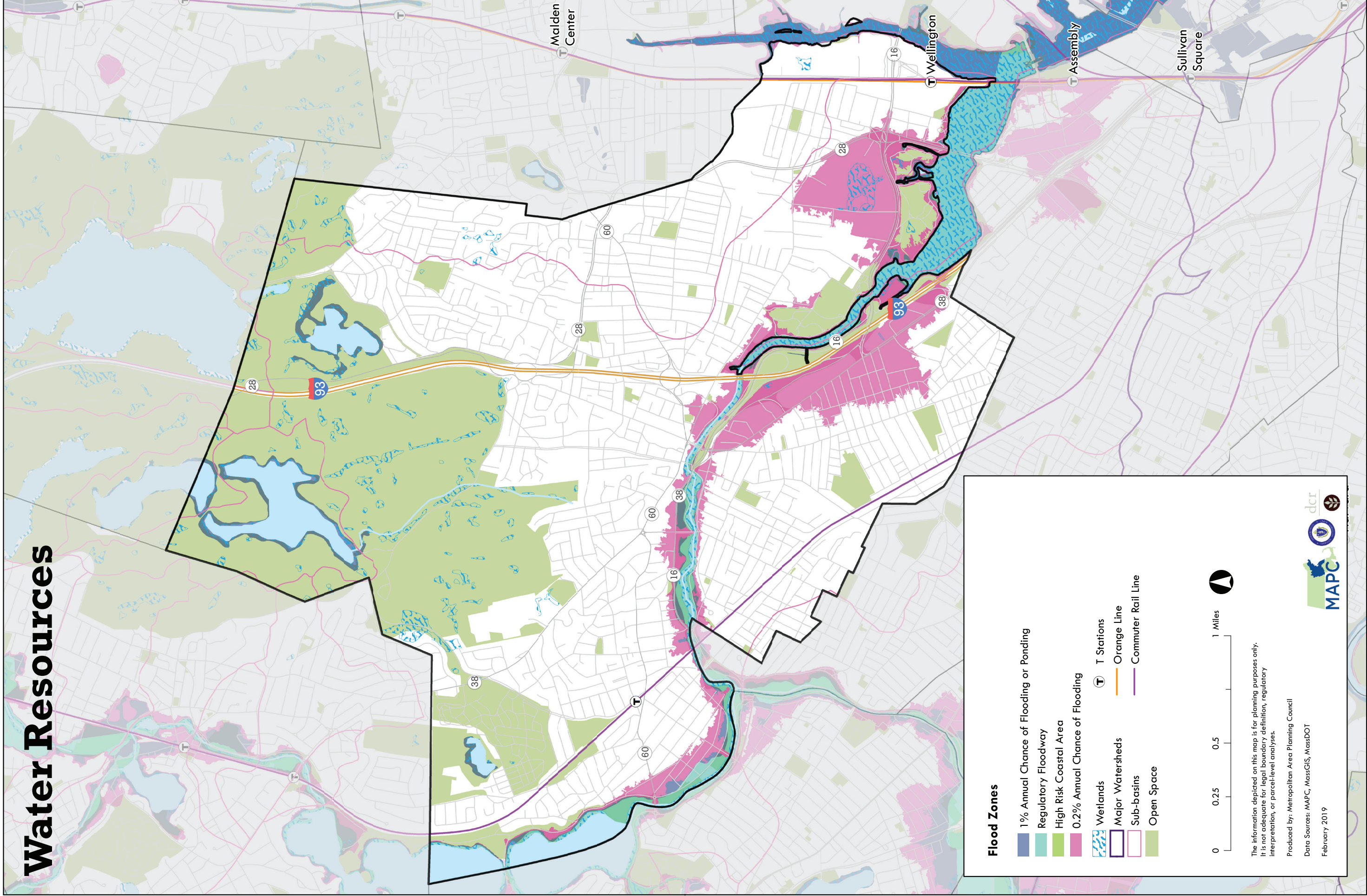


# Historic & Unique Features





# Water Resources



## Flood Zones

- 1% Annual Chance of Flooding or Ponding
- Regulatory Floodway
- High Risk Coastal Area
- 0.2% Annual Chance of Flooding
- Wetlands
- Major Watersheds
- Sub-basins
- Open Space
- T Stations
- Orange Line
- Commuter Rail Line



The information depicted on this map is for planning purposes only. It is not adequate for legal boundary definition, regulatory interpretation, or parcel-level analyses.

Produced by: Metropolitan Area Planning Council

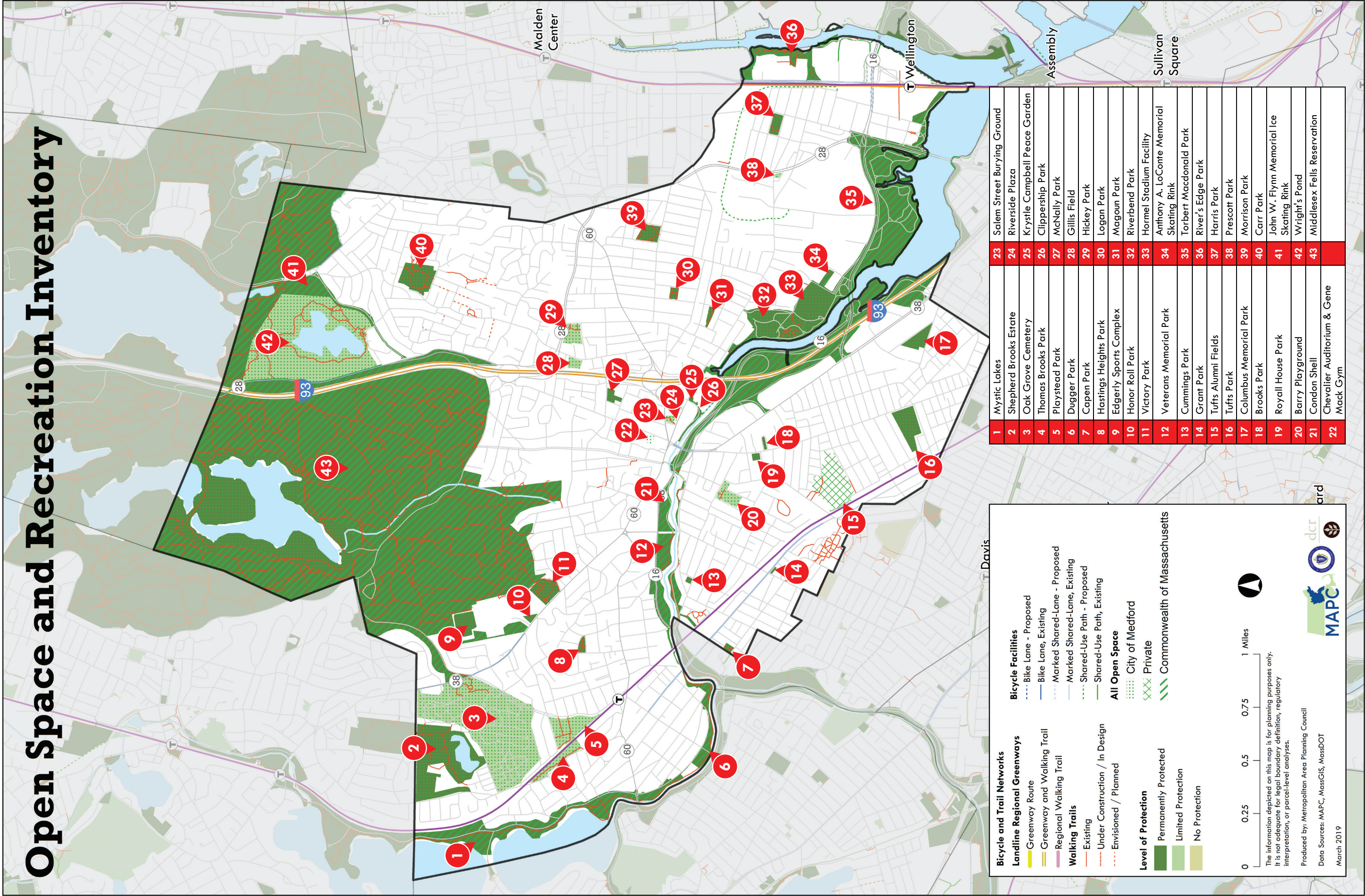
Data Sources: MAPC, MassGIS, MassDOT

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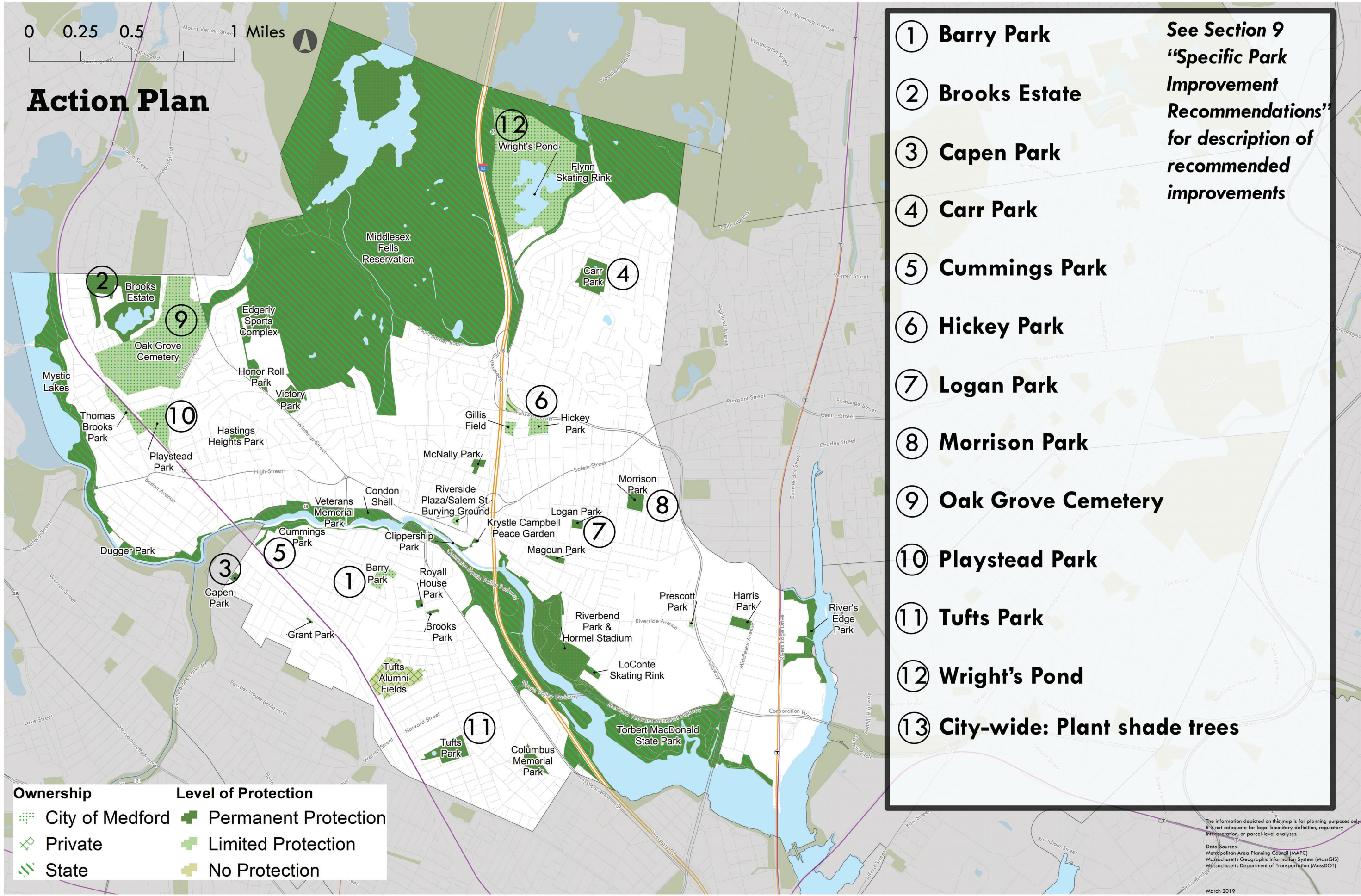


# Open Space and Recreation Inventory



1	Mystic Lakes	23	Salem Street Burying Ground
2	Shepherd Brooks Estate	24	Riverside Plaza
3	Oak Grove Cemetery	25	Krystle Campbell Peace Garden
4	Thomas Brooks Park	26	Clippership Park
5	Playstead Park	27	McNally Park
6	Dugger Park	28	Gillis Field
7	Capen Park	29	Hickey Park
8	Hastings Heights Park	30	Logan Park
9	Edgerly Sports Complex	31	Magoun Park
10	Honor Roll Park	32	Riverbend Park
11	Victory Park	33	Hornel Stadium Facility
12	Veterans Memorial Park	34	Anthony A. LoConte Memorial Skating Rink
13	Cummings Park	35	Torbert Macdonald Park
14	Grant Park	36	River's Edge Park
15	Tufts Alumni Fields	37	Harris Park
16	Tufts Park	38	Prescott Park
17	Columbus Memorial Park	39	Morrison Park
18	Brooks Park	40	Carr Park
19	Royal House Park	41	John W. Flynn Memorial Ice Skating Rink
20	Barry Playground	42	Wright's Pond
21	Condon Shell	43	Middlesex Fells Reservation
22	Chevalier Auditorium & Gene Mack Gym		





# Action Plan

- ① Barry Park
- ② Brooks Estate
- ③ Capen Park
- ④ Carr Park
- ⑤ Cummings Park
- ⑥ Hickey Park
- ⑦ Logan Park
- ⑧ Morrison Park
- ⑨ Oak Grove Cemetery
- ⑩ Playstead Park
- ⑪ Tufts Park
- ⑫ Wright's Pond
- ⑬ City-wide: Plant shade trees

See Section 9  
"Specific Park  
Improvement  
Recommendations"  
for description of  
recommended  
improvements

Ownership		Level of Protection	
	City of Medford		Permanent Protection
	Private		Limited Protection
	State		No Protection

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Data Sources:  
Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC)  
Massachusetts Geographic Information System (MassGIS)  
Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT)

March 2019



# Population Characteristics

**Population Density  
2010 Census Blocks People Per Acre**

- 0 or No Data
- 0.1 - 5.0
- 5.1 - 15.0
- 15.1 - 30.0
- More than 30

**T Stations**

- Orange Line
- Commuter Rail Line
- Open Space

0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

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Produced by: Metropolitan Area Planning Council  
Data Sources: MAPC, MassGIS, MassDOT  
February 2019

MAPC dcr

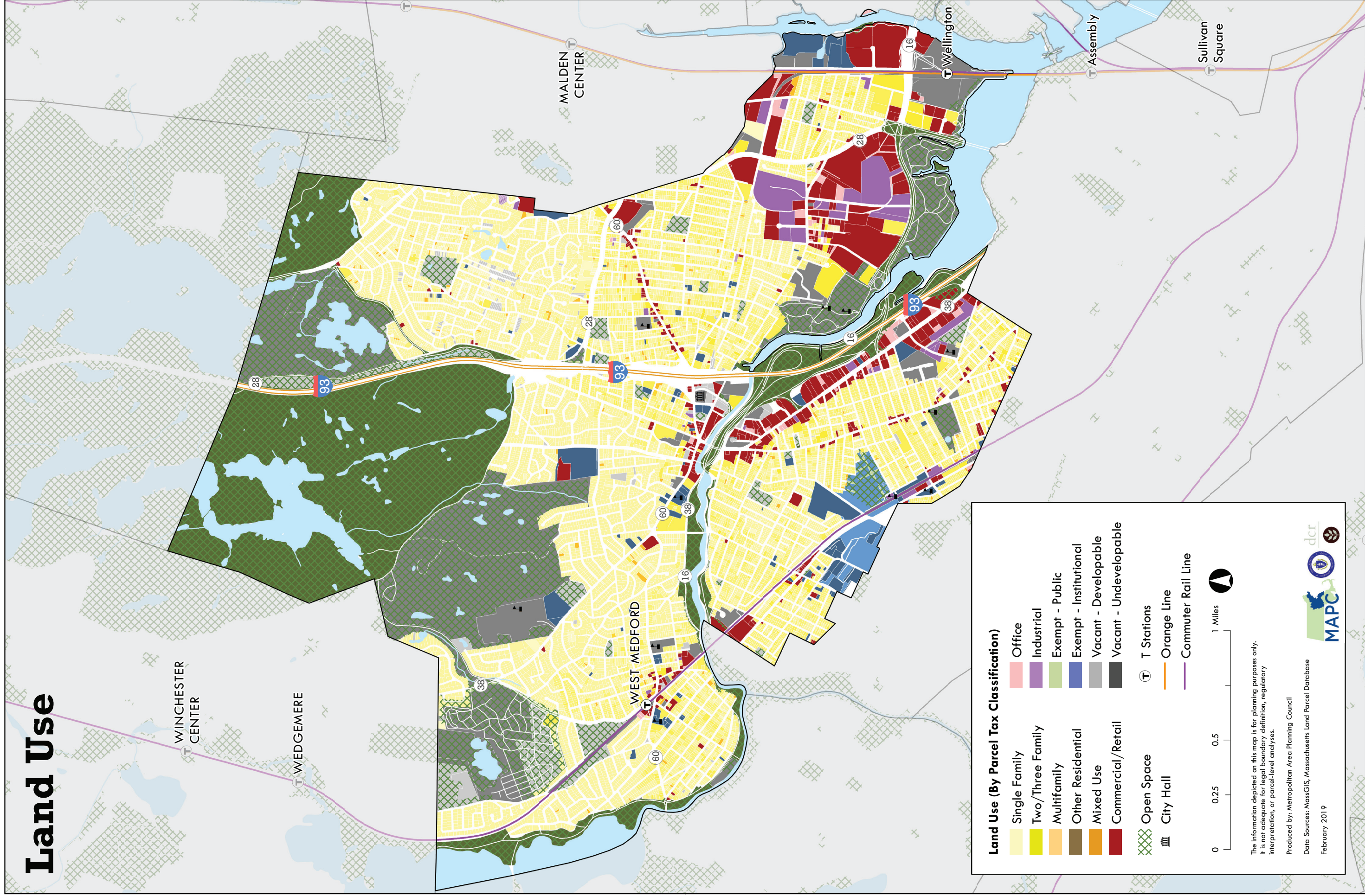
Produced by: Metropolitan Area Planning Council

Data Sources: MAPC, MassGIS, MassDOT

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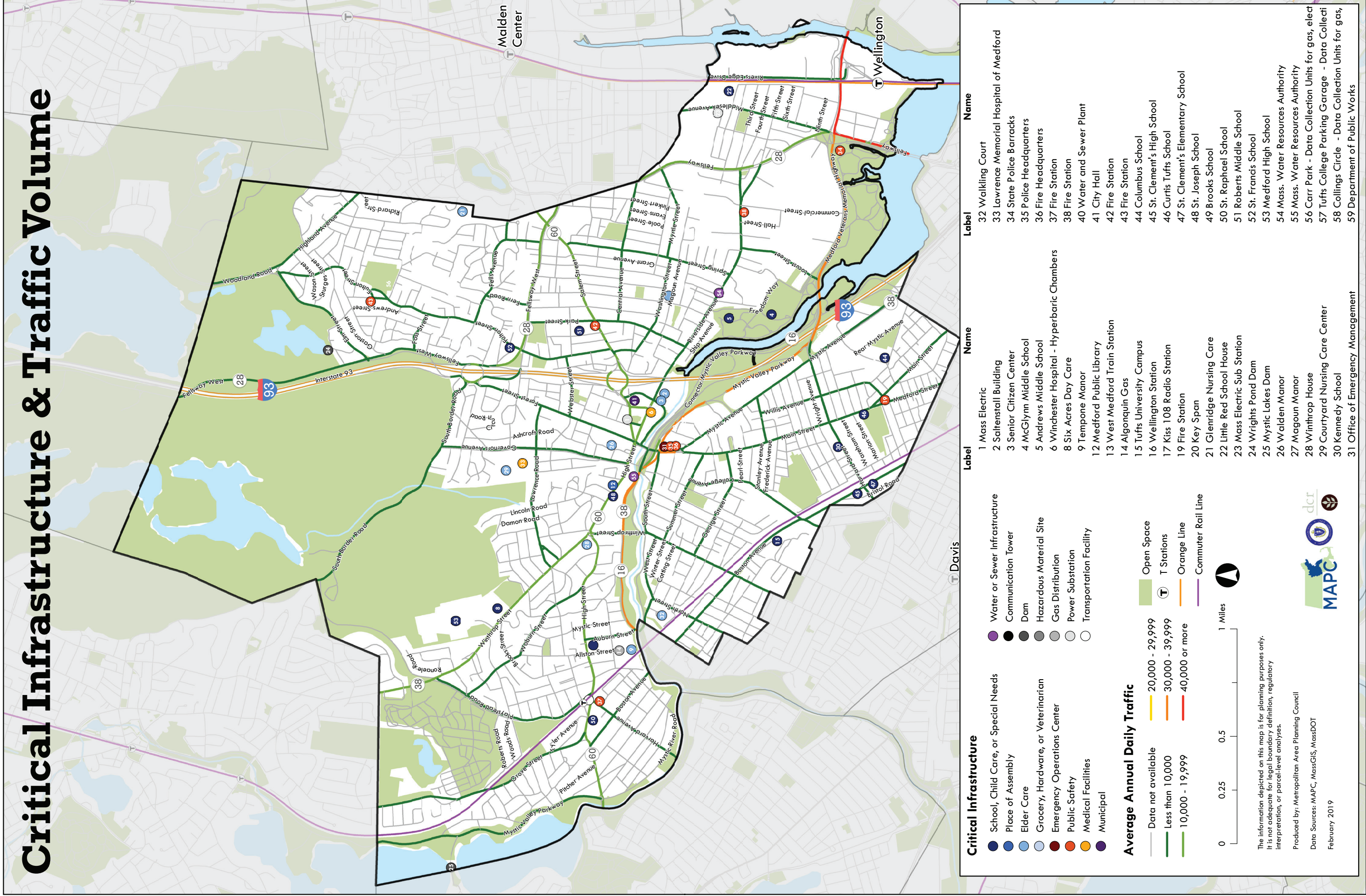


# Land Use



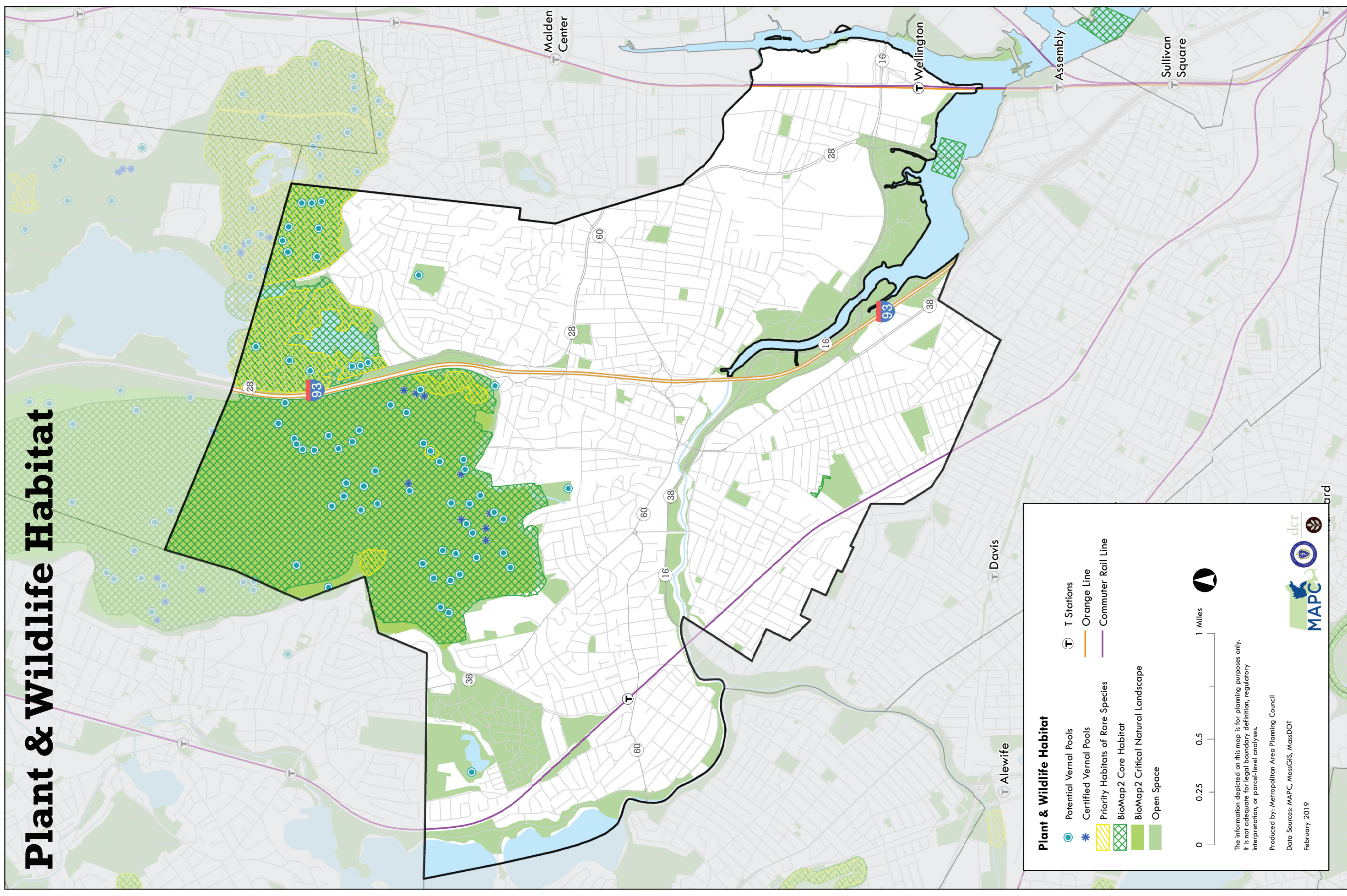


# Critical Infrastructure & Traffic Volume





# Plant & Wildlife Habitat



### Plant & Wildlife Habitat

- Potential Vernal Pools
- Certified Vernal Pools
- Priority Habitats of Rare Species
- BioMap2 Core Habitat
- BioMap2 Critical Natural Landscape
- Open Space
- T Stations
- Orange Line
- Commuter Rail Line

0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

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Data Sources: MAPC, MassGIS, MassDOT  
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# Environmental Challenges

**Large Quantity Generators**

- ◆ EPA /RCRA-regulated Hazard. Waste
- MA-regulated Hazard. Waste
- MA and EPA /RCRA-regulated Hazard. Waste

**AUL/ 21E Sites**

- ◆ Tier 1 A
- ◆ Tier 1 B
- ◆ Tier 1 C
- ◆ Tier 1 D
- ◆ Tier II

**Landfills by Status**

- Active
- ▨ Inactive
- ▩ Closed

**Other Features**

- Open Space
- Ⓣ T Stations
- Orange Line
- Commuter Rail Line

0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

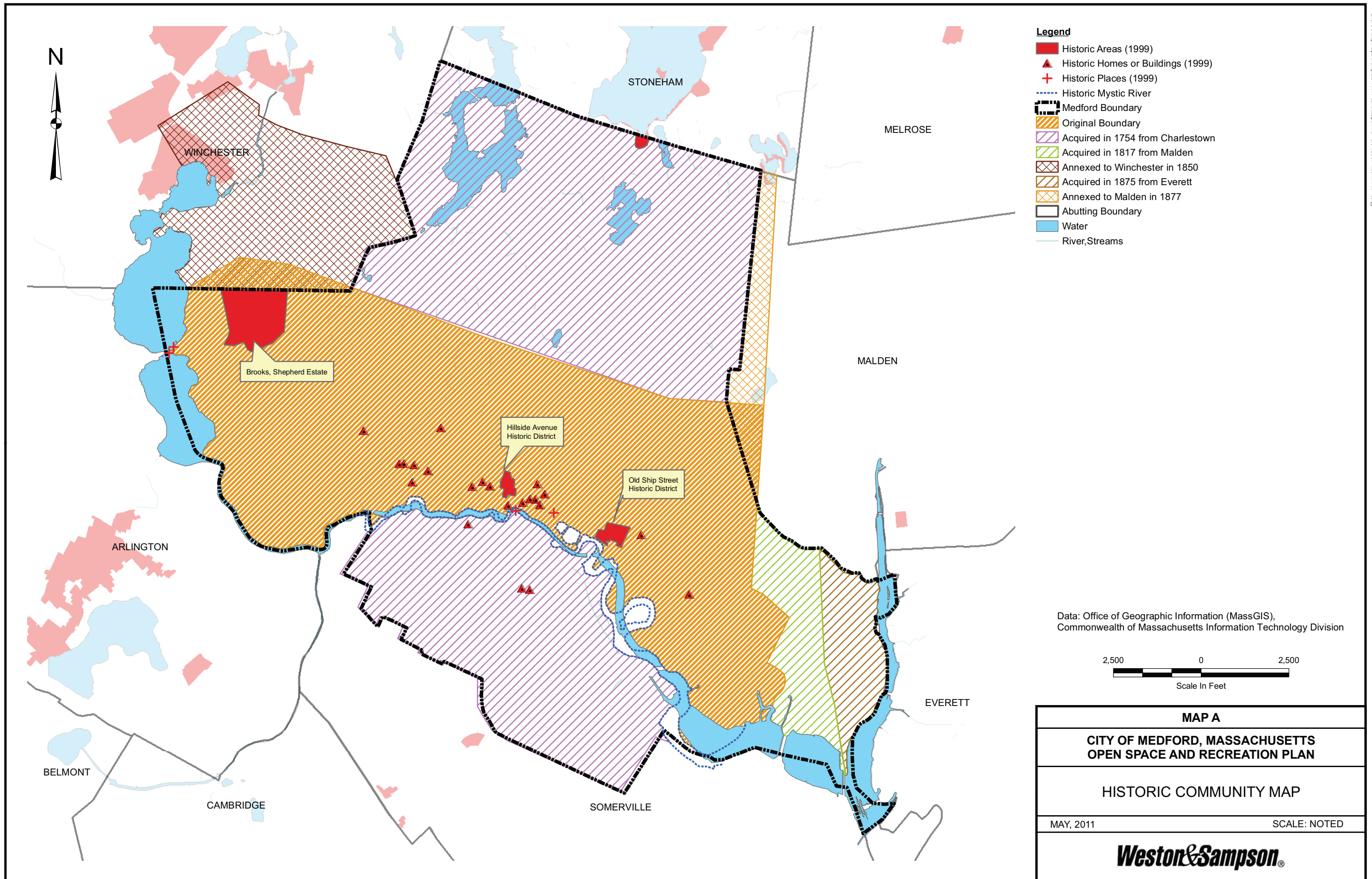
The information depicted on this map is for planning purposes only. It is not adequate for legal boundary definition, regulatory interpretation, or parcel-level analyses.

Produced by: Metropolitan Area Planning Council  
Data Sources: MAPC, MassGIS, MassDOT  
February 2019

MAPC dcr

Produced by: Metropolitan Area Planning Council  
Data Sources: MAPC, MassGIS, MassDOT  
February 2019







# Low and Moderate Income Block Groups

**Legend:**

- Census Tract Boundary
- Block Group Boundary
- Low/Moderate Income Population 51% or higher
- Open Space
- T Stations
- Orange Line
- Commuter Rail Line

**Scale:** 0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

**NOTE:** Low- and Moderate-Income Summary Data based on 2011-2015 American Community Survey estimates. Effective date for use of data: April 1, 2019.

**Produced by:** Metropolitan Area Planning Council  
**Data Sources:** MAPC, MassGIS, MassDOT, HUD  
**March 2019**

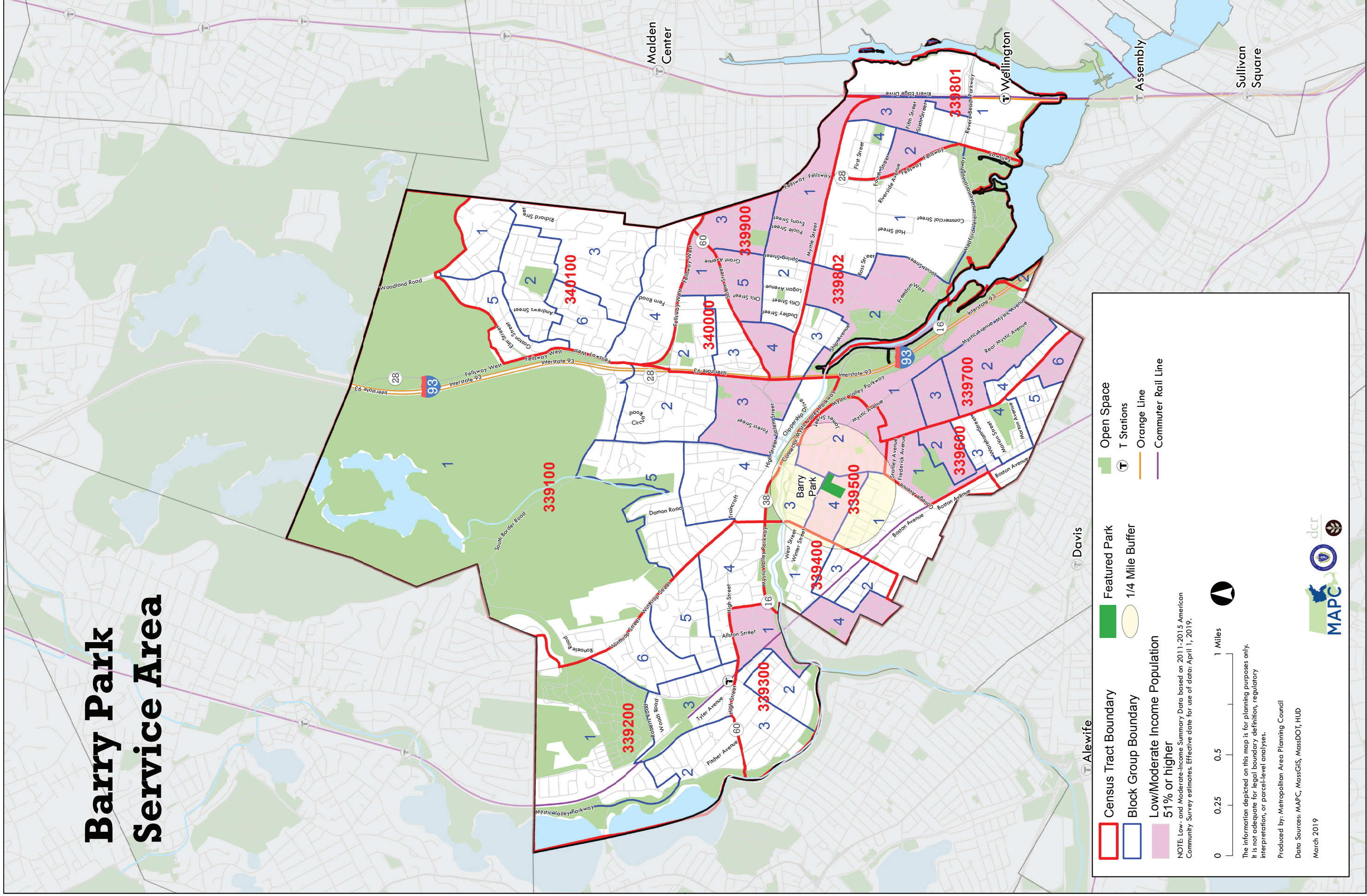
Produced by: Metropolitan Area Planning Council

March 2019





# Barry Park Service Area





# Brooks Park Service Area

This map displays the Brooks Park Service Area, highlighting census tracts and block groups. The map is color-coded to show the percentage of the population with low to moderate income, with shades of pink indicating 51% or higher. Major roads, including Interstate 93 and Interstate 495, are shown. The map also includes a legend, a scale bar, and a north arrow.

**Legend:**

- Census Tract Boundary (Red outline)
- Block Group Boundary (Blue outline)
- Low/Moderate Income Population 51% or higher (Pink shading)
- Open Space (Green)
- Featured Park (Green square)
- 1/4 Mile Buffer (Yellow circle)
- T Stations (T symbol)
- Orange Line (Orange line)
- Commuter Rail Line (Purple line)

**Scale:** 0 to 1 Miles

**NOTE:** Low- and Moderate-Income Summary Data based on 2011-2015 American Community Survey estimates. Effective date for use of data: April 1, 2019.

**Produced by:** Metropolitan Area Planning Council

**Data Sources:** MAPC, MassGIS, MassDOT, HUD

**March 2019**

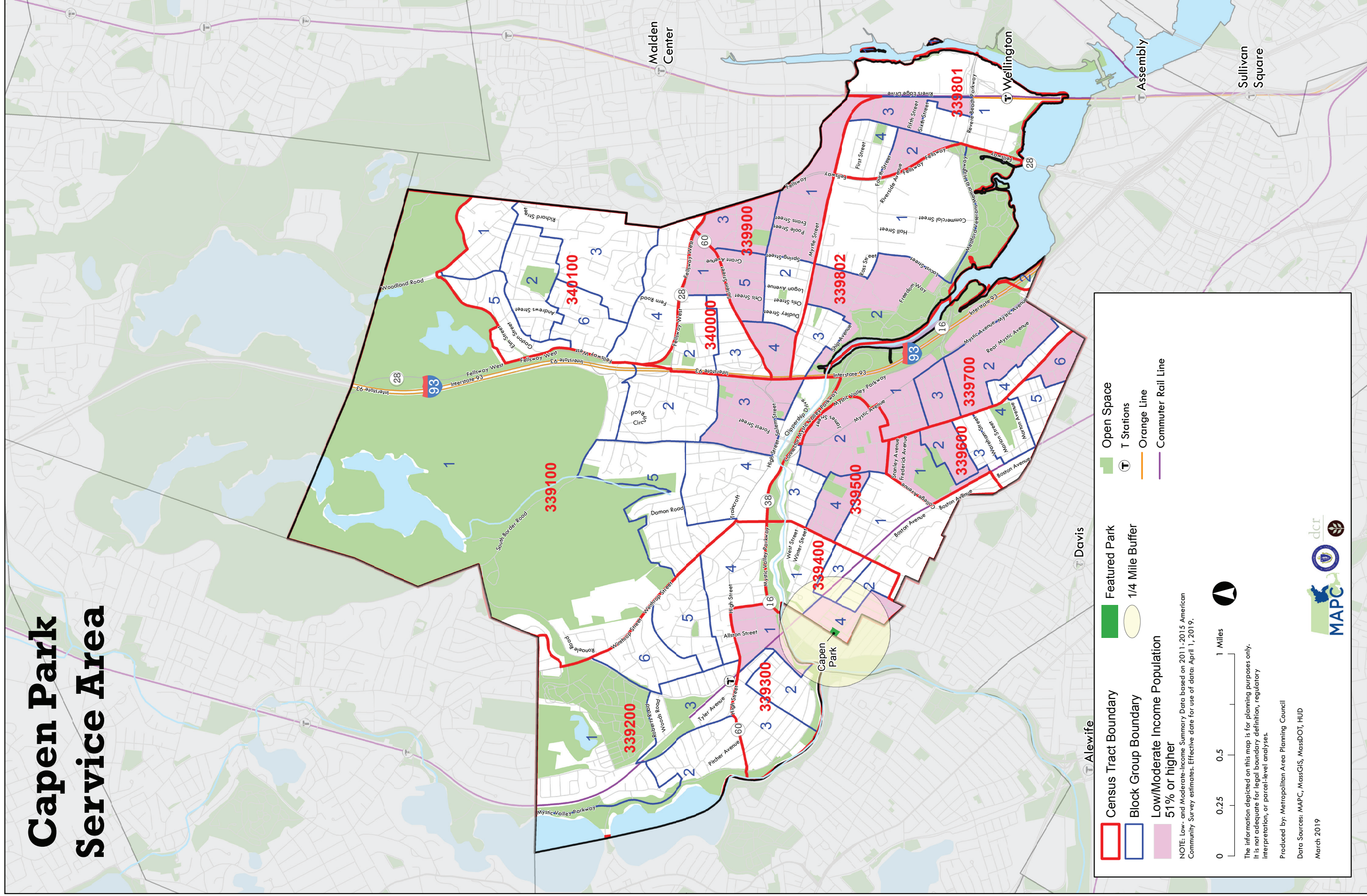
Produced by: Metropolitan Area Planning Council

Data Sources: MAPC, MassGIS, MassDOT, HUD

March 2019

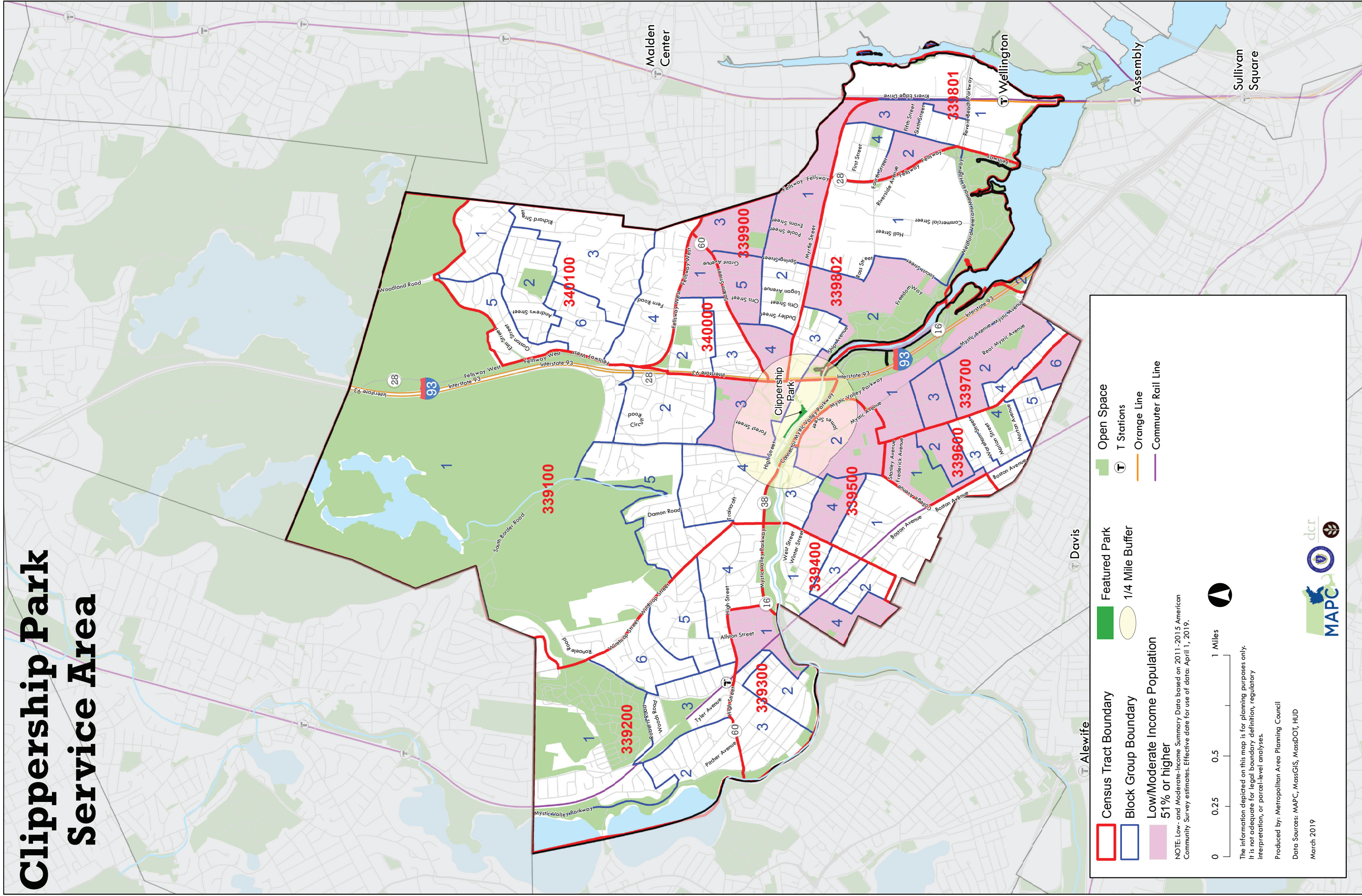


# Capen Park Service Area



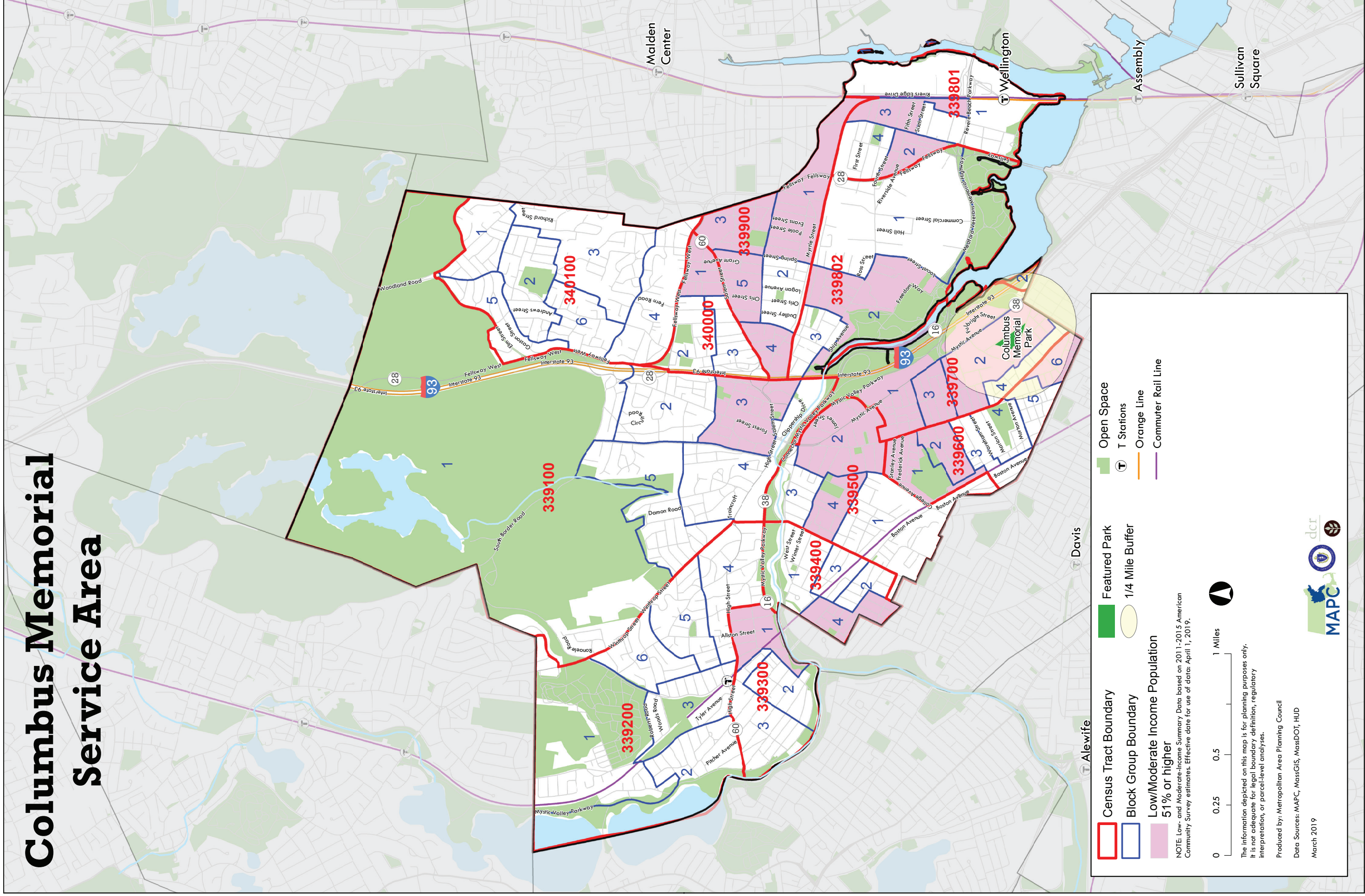


# Clippership Park Service Area



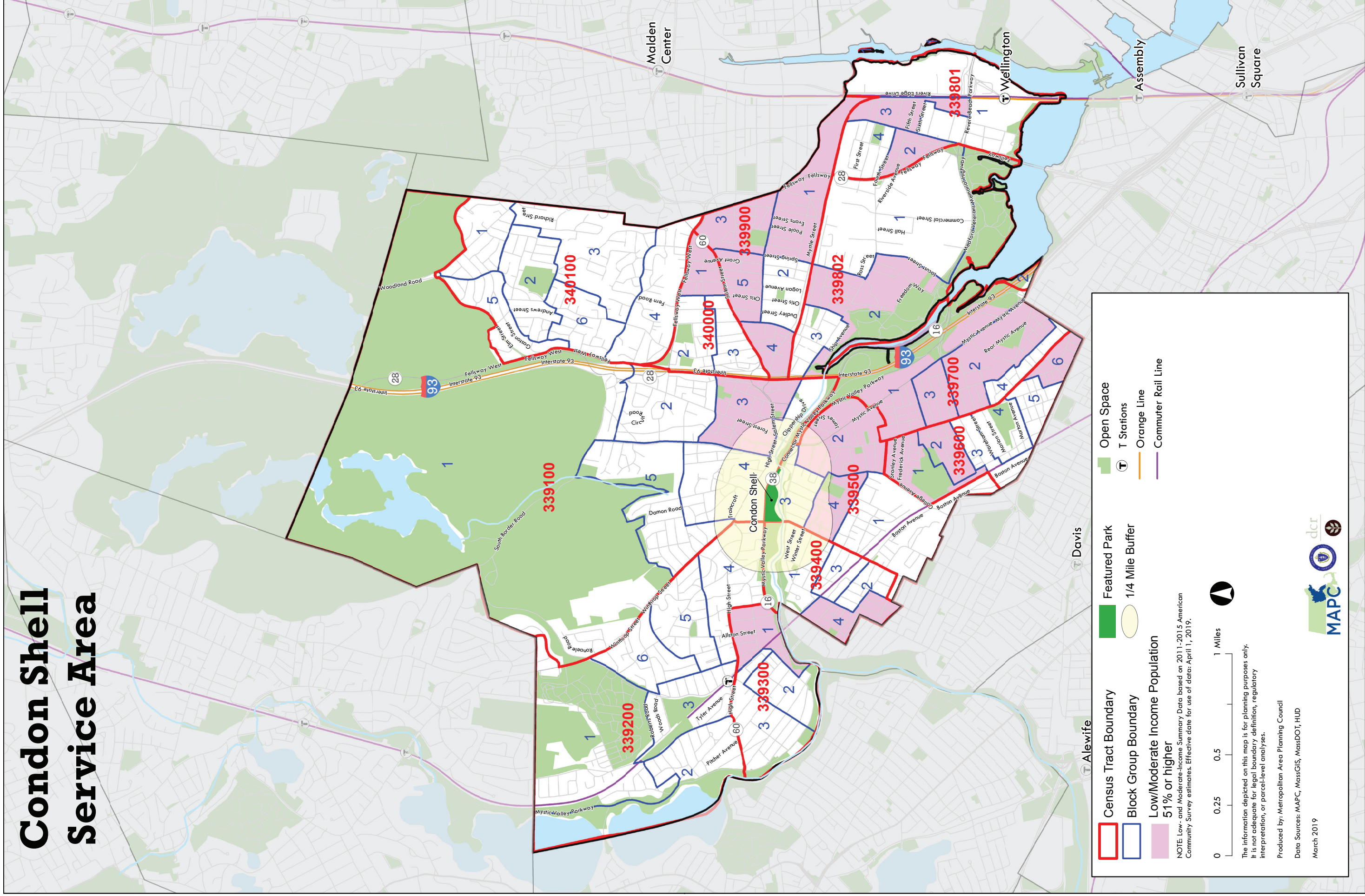


# Columbus Memorial Service Area



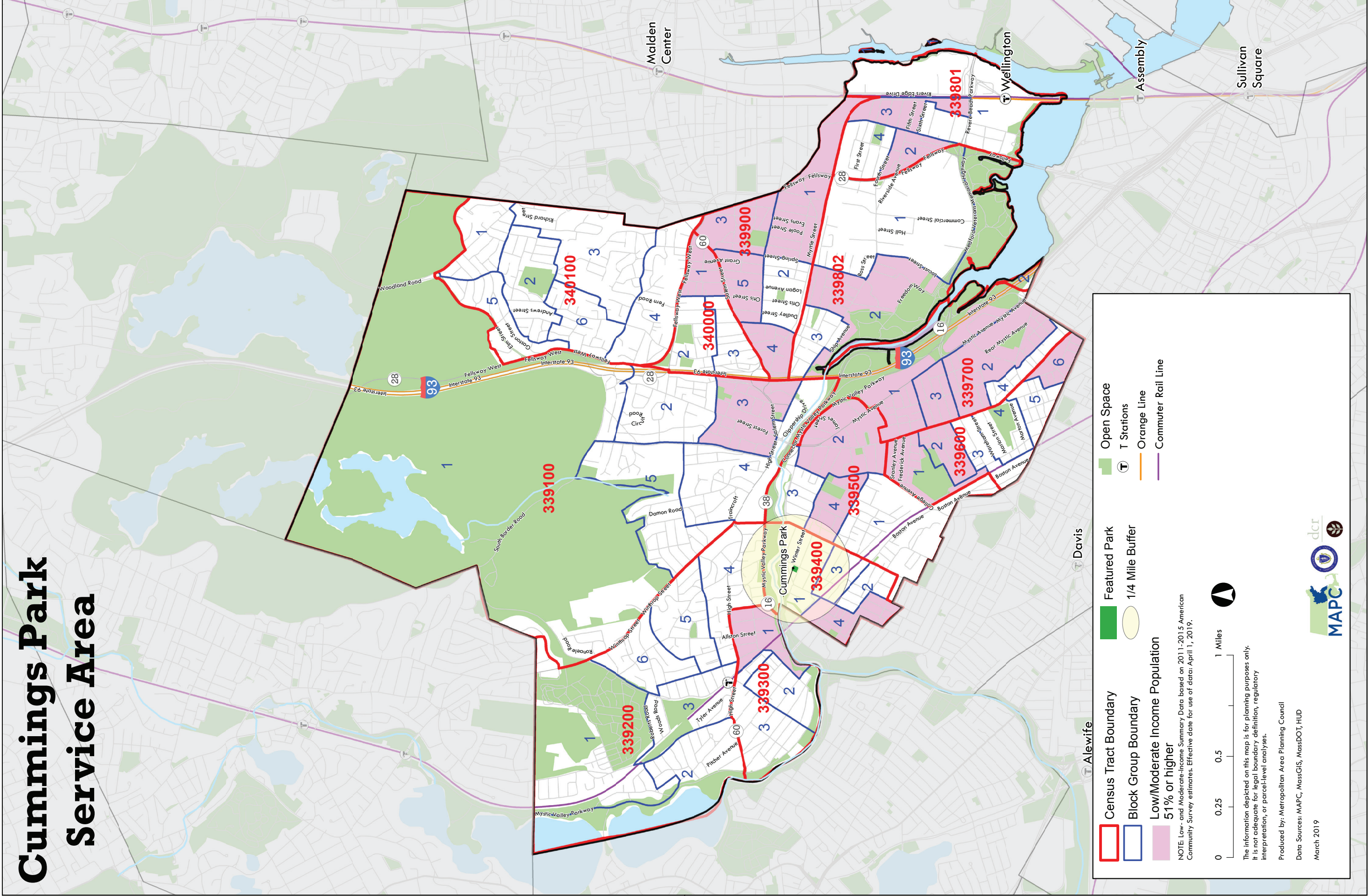


# Condon Shell Service Area



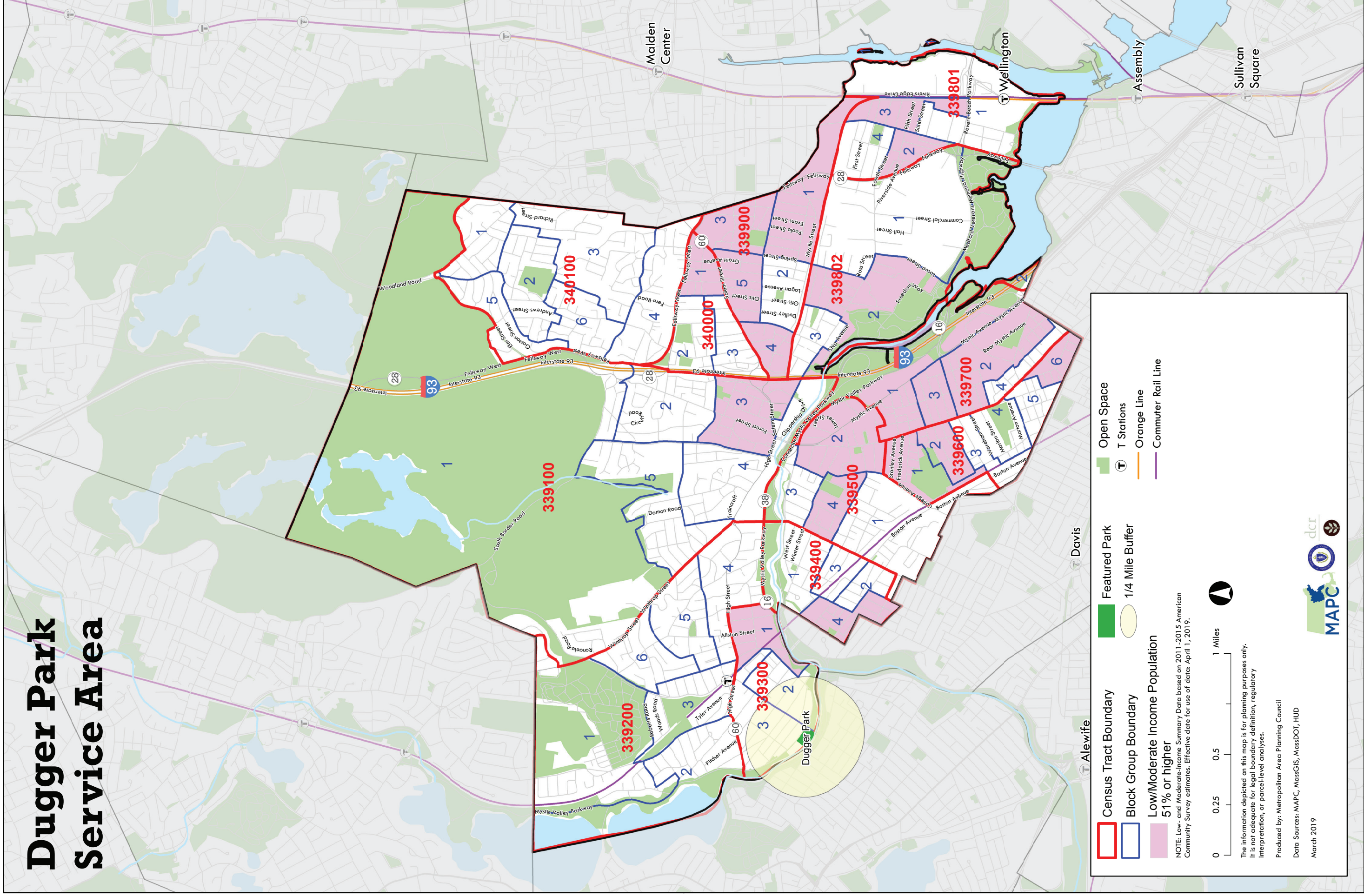


# Cummings Park Service Area



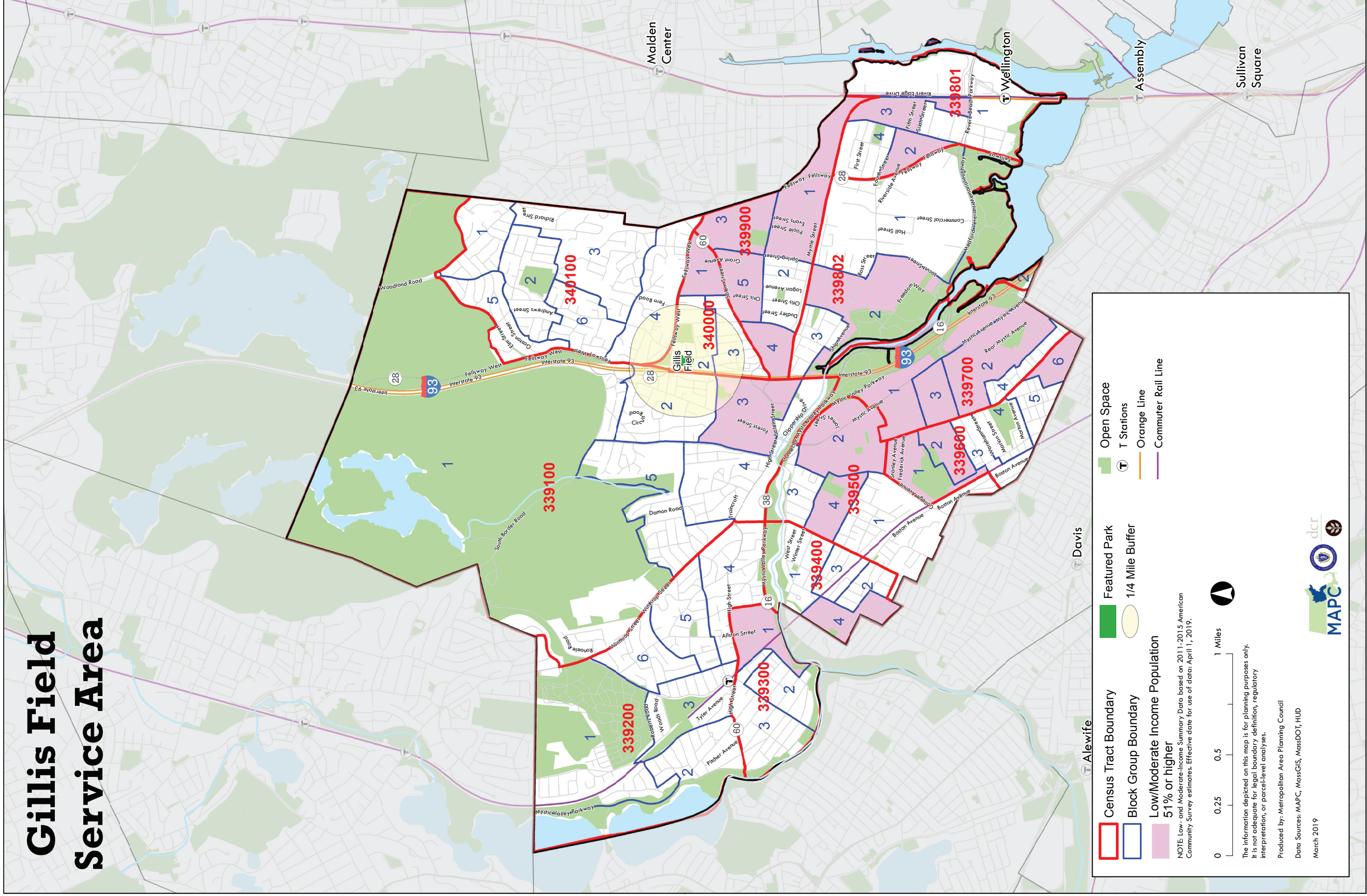


# Dugger Park Service Area



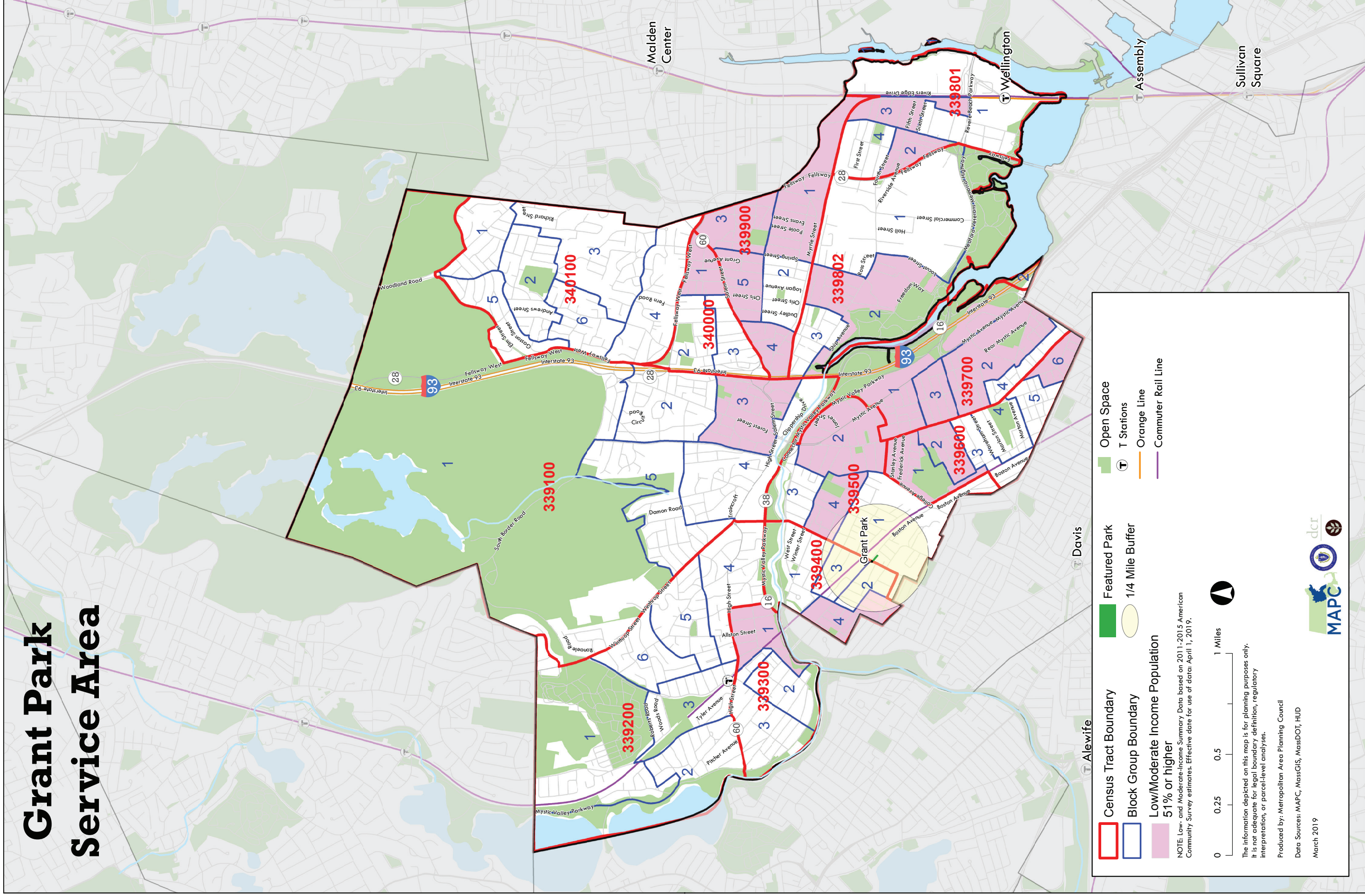


# Gillis Field Service Area





# Grant Park Service Area





# Harris Park Service Area

