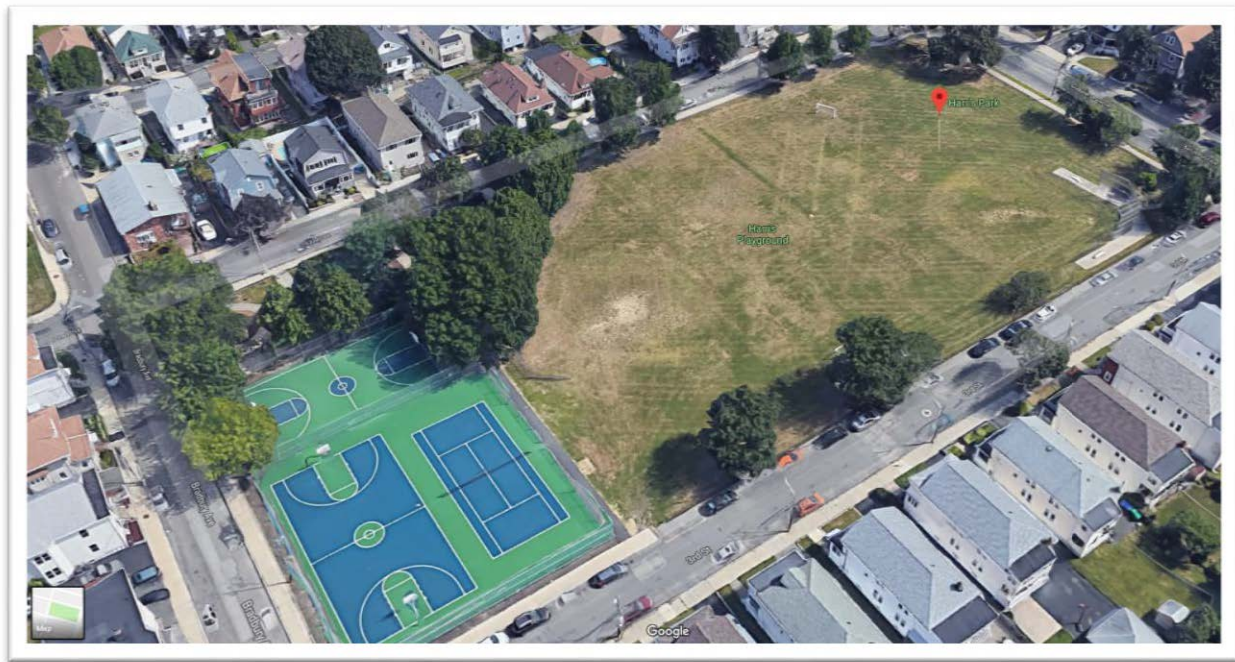


Harris Park



Existing Conditions

Harris Park is a 2.8-acre active recreation park containing two baseball fields, two tennis courts, two basketball courts and one playground area. The park is currently in the process of design and redevelopment with Phase I improvement scheduled for bid in spring 2019. Funding from the project is from the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund and local Community Preservation Act Funds. Park improvements include new play equipment, a rope climber, a water play area, a children's nature play area, and swing alley. The renovation will also include site furnishings, planting, and accessible parking improvements.

Harris Park has a green infrastructure priority for stormwater, daytime urban heat island, greater than 20% impervious surface, low tree canopy, and future flood zone of 2070. The park is also subject to current 10-year 24-hour storm and the 10-year and 100-year 24-hour storm in 2030. It received a park climate priority of 17.5.

Climate Design Recommendations

- Improve pedestrian access to the park to encourage walking and biking with crosswalks and curb ramps. Consider adding curb bump outs/curb extensions at crosswalks to enhance pedestrian and park-user safety and capture stormwater from the park (Figure 26).
- Consider using permeable pavers and pervious asphalt for hardened surfaces such as ball courts and walking paths.

Figure 26 Example of curb extension with rain garden.



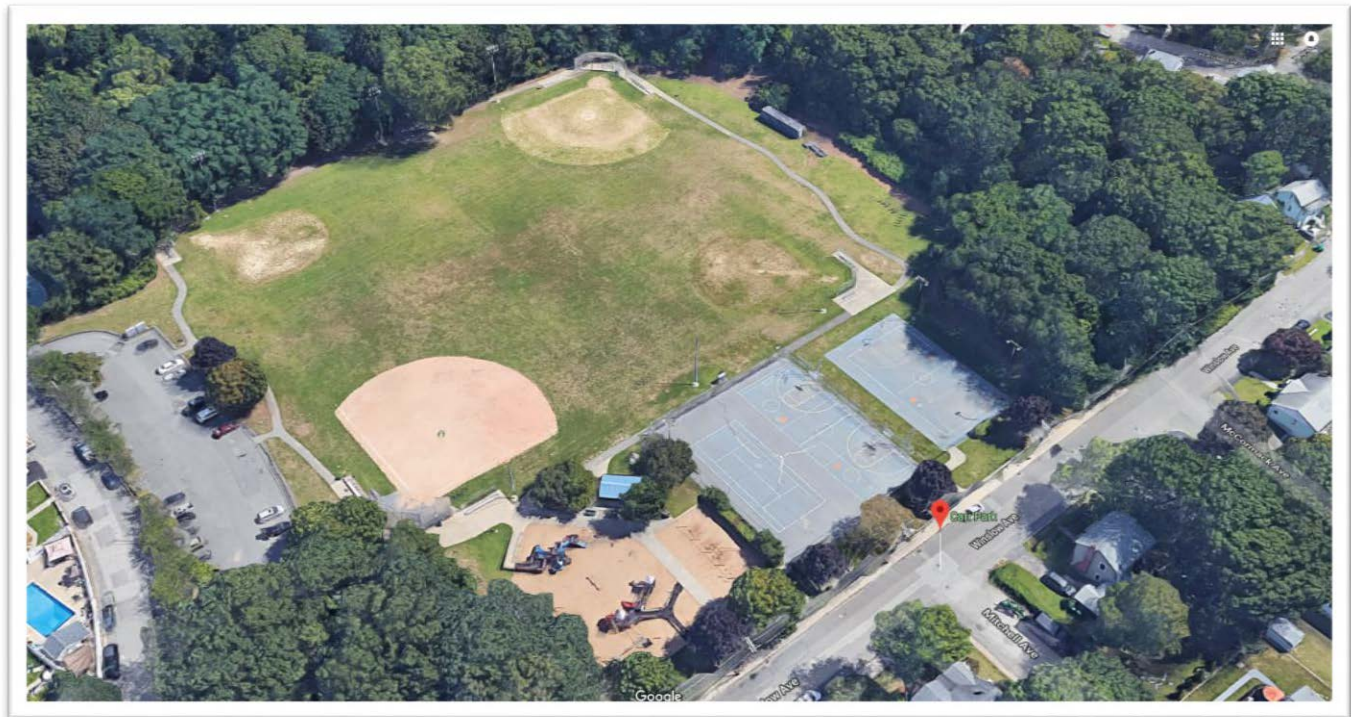
Curb extensions enhance traffic calming, increase pedestrian safety, beautify, and minimize stormwater entering the stormwater system. Photo credit Wikimedia Commons (Top) Metro.Net (bottom).

- For vegetated and landscaped areas, consider installing bio-swales and raingardens. Typical landscape gardens are not as effective as bio-retention at capturing runoff from nearby impervious surfaces.
- During renovation, regrade the park to manage runoff toward the raingardens and bio-swales.

- Rehabilitate soils to support healthy tree and vegetation.
- For tree plantings and replacement, ensure ample space for tree growth and root health. Current conditions indicate compaction of shallow trees roots.



Carr Park



Existing Conditions

Carr Park is an 11.5-acre active recreation area containing four little league fields, two tennis courts, basketball court, and playground. The park has not been renovated in seven years or more and is showing signs of significant wear and use. The park is located in an area identified locally as an area of chronic flooding. Trees are mature and shrubs around the tennis courts are weedy/invasive species which also block sightlines. Pooling from precipitation events was noted on the ball fields and the park is subject to flooding in the 10-year 24-hour storm in 2019 and 2030 as well as the 100-year 24-hour storm in 2030. Park Prioritization Score is 17 based upon current and future flooding and green infrastructure opportunity.

Climate Design Considerations

- Carr Park may benefit from an overall park renovation effort due to poor condition of the play equipment, buckling pavement on walkways from tree roots, pooling from rain events on the fields.
- Pooling on the field suggest there is a need to regrade the fields to both prevent pooling and manage stormwater runoff away from fields but onsite.
- Maintain the tree canopy but consider a tree succession plan for the next 10-15 years.
- Consider using a green parking area that will add to precipitation and runoff infiltration (Figure 27).

- Add bioswales and raingardens to the outside edges of the tennis courts to capture all runoff onsite and prevent runoff from entering the stormwater system (Figure 28)

Figure 27 Green Parking Lots that capture stormwater and promote evapotranspiration for cooling the urban heat island.



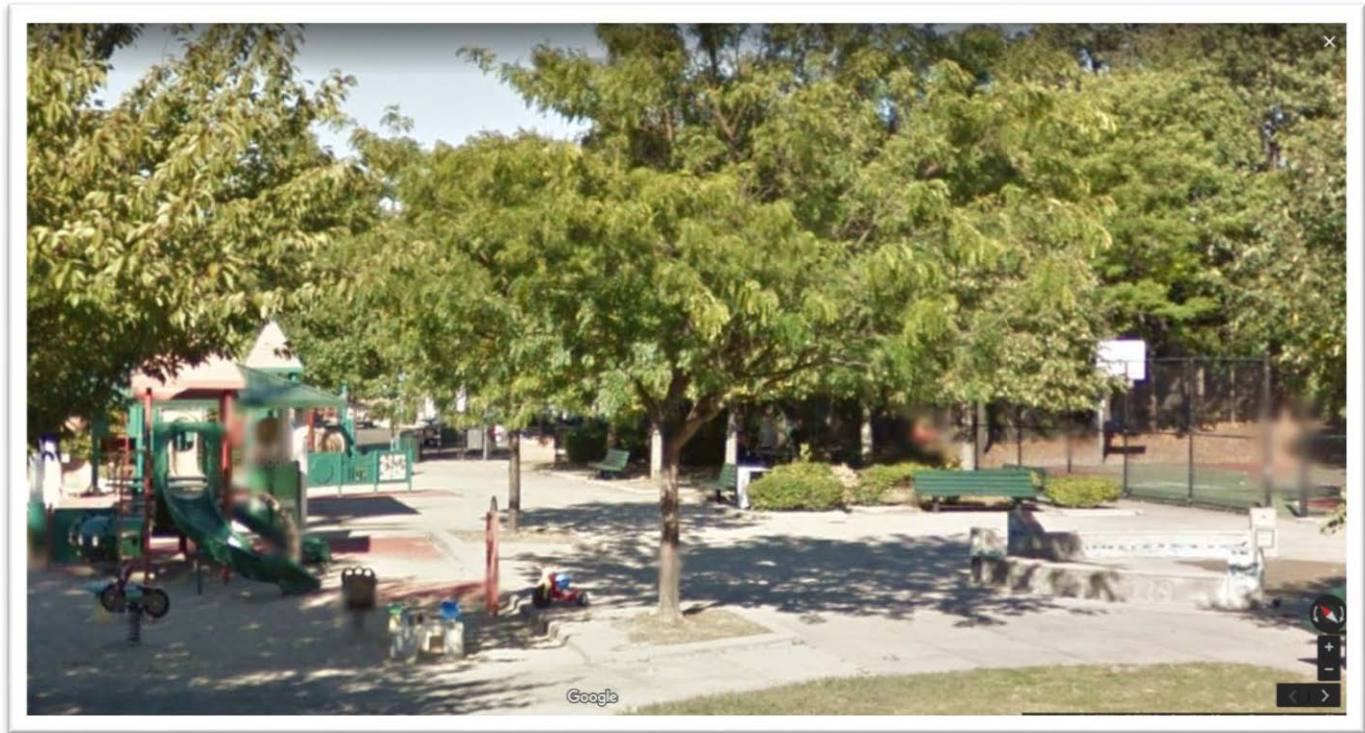
Photo Credit Ecoterr.com

Figure 28 PS 261, New York City. Children playing on impervious play surface which captures runoff with the new rain garden on the other side of the fence.



Photo credit Pedro Diez

Hillside Memorial Park/Capen Park



Existing Conditions

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. The park contains low tree canopy and is a green infrastructure priority for Day/Night Urban Heat Island, being a daytime and nighttime urban heat island. Capen is within 500 Feet of a 21 E Site and one of the few parks in Medford that is not a high priority for green infrastructure to manage stormwater. However, the park is subject to flooding for the 10- year, 24-hour storm in 2019 and the 100-year 24-hour storm in 2030. Capen scored 17 in park climate priority.

Climate Design Recommendations

Given the proximity to a 21E site, we caution on infiltration without further investigation on toxic exposure or toxicity migration.

- Consider multi-functional greenscape that encourages for creative play (Figure 29), particularly one that builds up or above grade to avoid soil disruption near a 21E Site.
- Plant trees to reduce the daytime and nighttime urban heat island effect. The passive recreation area along Capen Street may have space for additional trees.

Figure 29 Landforms for play at Pierce Park, Baltimore, MD.



Photo credit inhabitat.com.

Logan Park



Existing Conditions

Logan Park is a 1.3 acre 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. The park is a priority for green infrastructure for stormwater management, a daytime urban heat island, a climate equity park, and for the 10-year, 24-hour storm in 2019 and 2030 as well as the 100-year, 24-hour storm in 2030. Logan Park scored 17 for park climate priority.

Climate Design Recommendations

- Trees are very mature. Consider a tree succession plan to ensure tree canopy with minimal disruption. Ensure existing trees are pruned where and when necessary to promote tree health and park-user safety.
- Consider adding vegetated curb extensions and crosswalks at both Logan Ave and Otis Street where the walking paths intersect with the sidewalk/road. This could create a designated parking on street area for the park while calming traffic, promoting pedestrian safety, and capturing stormwater (Figure 26)
- As a climate equity park, investigate whether the park is meeting the neighborhood's needs via public meeting, survey, etc. Prioritize park renovations for managing stormwater and daytime heat with desired amenities.

The Brooks Estate (Mystic River Reservation)



Photo Credit City-Data.com



Existing Conditions

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 which is working on an ecological restoration project of removing Japanese Knotweed. The park is an area of concern for brush fires as identified in the Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan. It is a priority for green infrastructure for managing stormwater to maintain high water quality in the pond particularly since the shoreline of the pond indicates compressed soils due to trampling. The park is also subject to future flooding for both the 10-year and 100-year 24-hour storm in 2030. Park Climate priority score is 16, largely due to the need for upgrades in park amenities.

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Climate Design Recommendations

- Hire a consultant to perform a long-term forest management plan that ensures longevity of forest vitality with changing temperature and precipitation regimes. For example, Table 6) illustrates tree stress tolerance to changing climate conditions. Forest management could also consider and restore historic landscape and its relationship to the historic Brooks House.

Table 6 Tree species adaptive capacity to climate change.

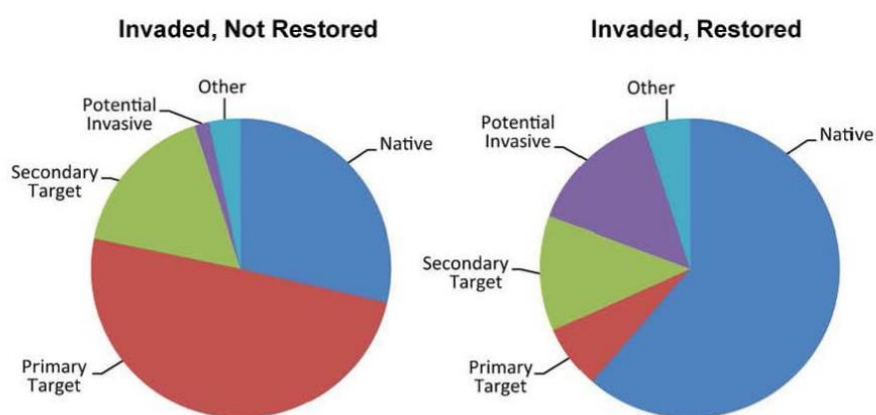
Southern New England Forest		
Tree Species	Low Emissions Scenario	High Emissions Scenario
Balsam Fir	--	--
Black Spruce	--	--
Eastern White Pine	--	--
Northern White Cedar	--	--
Paper Birch	--	--
Quaking Aspen	--	--
Red Spruce	--	--
White Spruce	--	--
Tamarack	--	•
American Beech	•	--
Red Maple	•	--
Northern Red Oak	•	--
Bear/Scrub Oak	•	•
Black Cherry	•	•
Sugar Maple	•	•
Bigtooth Aspen	+	•
Pitch Pine	+	•
American Basswood	•	+
Bitternut Hickory	+	+
Black Oak	+	+
Chestnut Oak	+	+
Shagbark Hickory	+	+
White Oak	+	+
Threatened by Current Forest Health Issues		
Black Ash	--	--
Eastern Hemlock	•	•
White Ash	•	•

The values indicate whether a species will decrease in habitat (--), stay the same (•), or increase in habitat (+). Source: Catanzaro, P., A. D'Amato, E. Silver Huff 2016. *Increasing Forest Resiliency for an Uncertain Future*. UMass Extension Landowner Outreach Pamphlet. 28 pages.

- Ensure Brooks Pond shoreline has a buffer that exceeds the FEMA 1% Annual Chance Flood. For example, prevent any further clearing around the pond to protect flooding that could exceed current zones with changing precipitation regimes. Protect Oak Grove Cemetery from potential flooding.
- Continue invasive species removal and restoration of the park to promote age-class tree distribution and native understory planting. Research indicates that long-term ecological restoration does ensure better native species diversity and ecosystem vitality (Figure 30).³¹ This will continue to promote ecological services such as air quality mitigation, water quality protection, carbon sequestration, and passive recreation opportunities (Figure 31)

Figure 30 Data from long-term management and restoration of NYC urban forested parks.

More natives on the ground.
Native plants occupied a much greater proportion of ground layer cover in restored plots.
Targeted invasive plants were more abundant in sites that were not restored.



Site Type	Native		Primary Target		Secondary Target		Potential Invasive		Other	
	cm	%	cm	%	cm	%	cm	%	cm	%
Restored	874	61%	105	7%	229	12%	213	14%	55	5%
Not Restored	1249	29%	2152	50%	670	17%	61	2%	141	3%

Invasive removal was performed over a 20-year period to restore ecosystem function and structure. Long-term management restored native species by more than half the plant populations. Photo credit American Society of Architects.

- Any upgrades to the vehicular access to the manor house could use porous pavement or other material that promotes stormwater infiltration and prevents runoff to mitigate the erosion and limit sediment going into Brook Pond (Figure 15).

³¹ <https://www.asla.org/2015awards/96274.html>

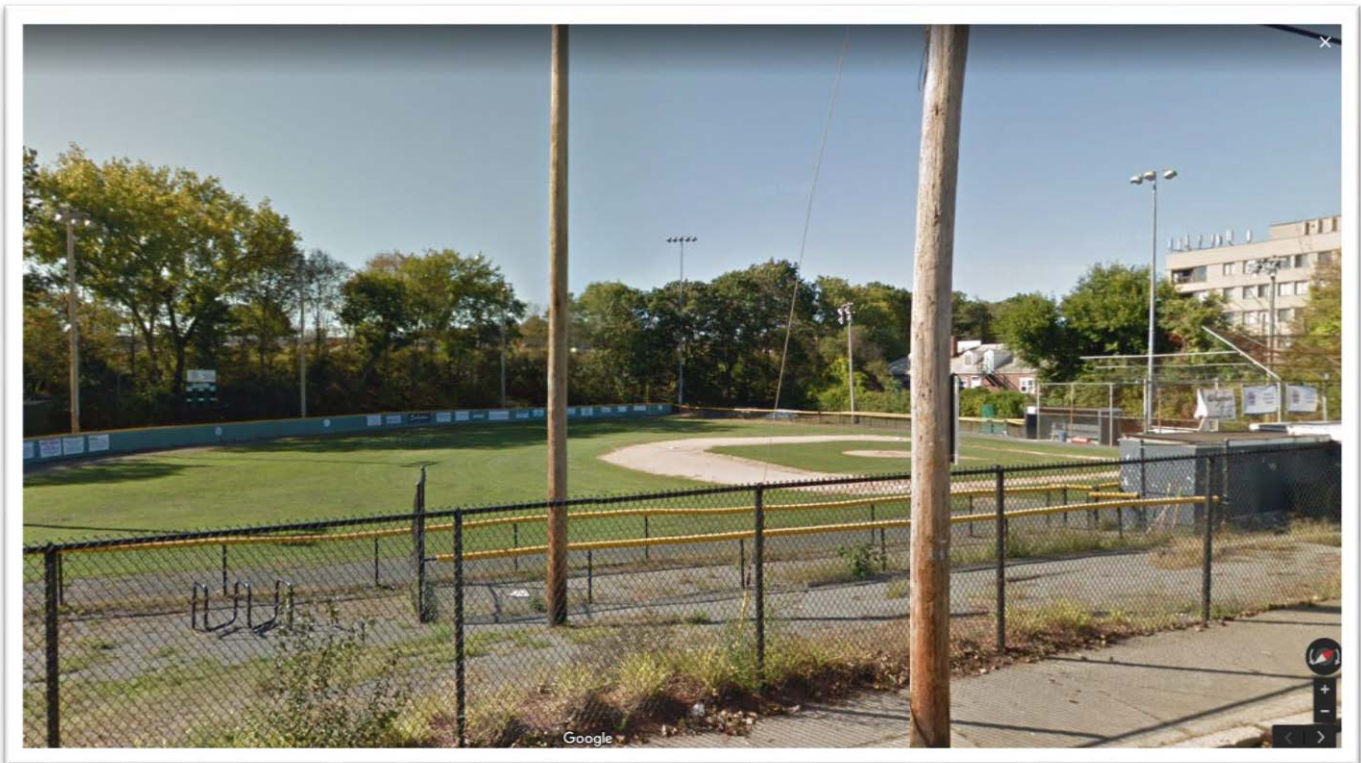
- Minimize trampling along the ponds edge to enable natural restoration and ecosystem function along the shoreline of Brook Pond, particularly around the board walk. Add signage to indicate to park users about the natural restoration area.

Figure 31 Woodland restoration at Fresh Pond, Cambridge, MA.



Photo credit photo from Wellnessscapes.com

Gillis Field



Existing Conditions

Gillis Field is a 1.8-acre active recreation park known previously as Medford's premier Little League Venue. Medford Little League is still the primary, although not exclusive, user of the park. It contains a little league baseball field, bleachers, and huts/concession building. Access into the park is steeply graded and does not meet safe design standards nor accessibility. Further, the pavements is degraded with cracks and weeds throughout. Ponding was observed on the playing field. There is limited safe accessibility for pedestrian access from the street to the park. Further, the playing field is located in a valley between the high grade the interstate and higher grade of Fulton Road, making it more susceptible to pooling.

The park is adjacent to Interstate 93 and is a daytime urban heat island containing greater than 20% impervious surface and low tree canopy. The park is a green infrastructure priority for managing stormwater and subject to the 10-year and 100-year 24-hour storm in 2030. Gillis Field scored 16 in park climate priority.

Climate Design Recommendation

Given the valley/sink position of the playing field between to the higher interstate and Fulton Street and its high-use area for Little League, we recommend a total renovation of the park which considers the following:

- Regrade the fields to ensure proper drainage. .
- Ensure proper drainage design and development under and around the little league field that includes a porous bases that eliminates surface runoff and allows infiltration. Because of low-lying condition, the incoming stormwater from all sides may require significant detention. Perimeter bio-retention with grading that leads to natural infiltration (Figure 32) may be a solution to the low-lying challenges if graded and constructed properly.
- Include tree plantings along the perimeter of the park and additional areas that do not interfere with the recreation area for little league.

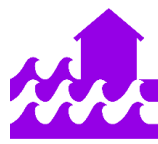
Figure 32 Example of natural stormwater infiltration infrastructure between playing fields with tree planting.



Infiltration pipes under the playing fields and overflow areas on the perimeter aid in reducing stormwater into the system while increasing usability of the field. Rainer Vista Community Park, Lacey, WA. Photo Credit <https://www.djc.com/>

- Eliminate steep access to the playing fields and increase accessibility for mobility, ADA, and other disabilities.
- Utilize pervious pavement or ADA Accessible pervious pavers for walking paths and entrances.

Oak Grove Cemetery



Existing Conditions

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. It surrounds the Brooks Estate and Brooks Pond. The property is a priority for stormwater management and is subject for flooding in 2019 for the 10-year 24 hour storm and flooding in 2030 for the 10-year and 100-year 24 hour storm. The park is a daytime urban heat island in part due to the many access roads, creating a high area percentage of impervious surface. The cemetery received a park climate prioritization score of 16.

Design Recommendations

- Stormwater management and runoff are important considerations for this park, particularly with the topography, adjacency to Brooks Pond, and potential for runoff into the storm system with significant pervious surface.
- We recommend retrofits to minimally disturb the grave sites but enhance the climate resilience of the park and surrounding neighborhood.
- Repave the interior drives with porous pavement.

- Identify if there are any drives that are not used, which can be converted to bio-retention areas (Figure 33). Where drive are seldom used, the pavement width could possibly be narrowed and incorporate a bio-swale alongside.
- Create a tree canopy/forest management plan for the entire Oak Grove Cemetery (jointly with the adjacent Brooks Estate). Consider diversifying age-class structure as well as investigating trees more resilient to climate change and more resilient to vehicle emissions, changing precipitation regimes, and pests. Create a tree planting plan.

Figure 33 Bio-retention area installed at a narrowed drive at Mount Olive Cemetery, Washington, DC.



Photo credit Bay Journal.

Magoun Park

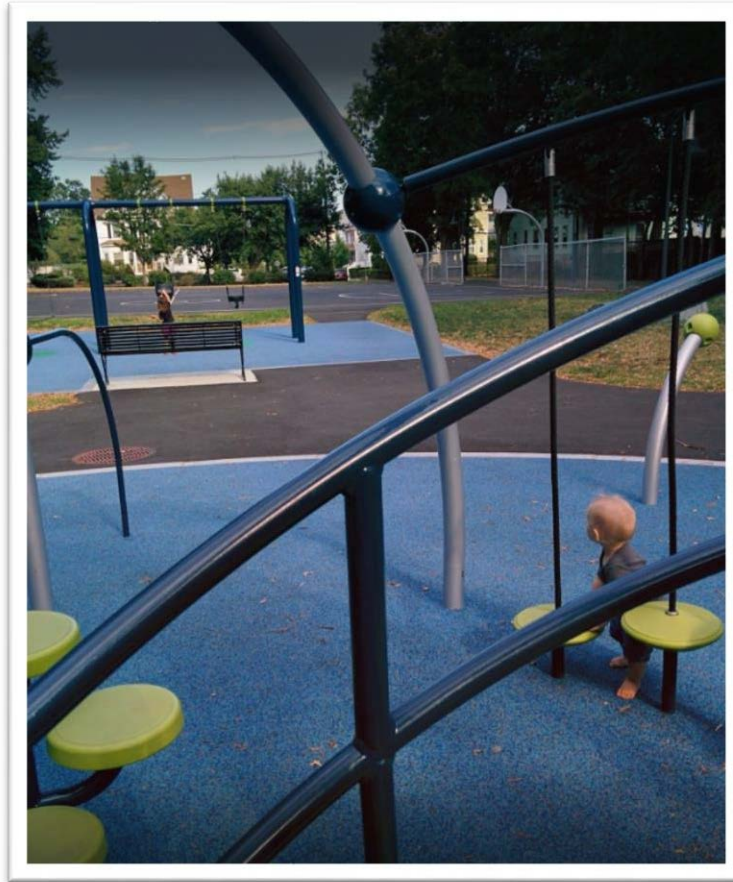


Photo Credit Katherine Tarca



Existing Conditions

Magoun Park is a 1.3 acre active recreation park with play features for both tots and older children and two basketball courts. In 2015, the City refurbished the park with its current amenities. During redesign, neighbors requested a 10-foot lit, bituminous pathway allow for better surveillance of the area. The park is a green infrastructure priority for stormwater management and subject to flooding in the 10-year, 24-hour storm in 2019 and 2030 as well as the 100-year, 24-hour storm in 2030. The park is also a daytime urban heat island. Located in a Medford CCVA Neighborhood of Concern, Magoun scored a 15.5 for park climate priority.

Climate Design Recommendations

- Existing grading directs stormwater into Pembroke Street. Add raingardens/bio-swales to the inside of the perimeter fence to capture stormwater and other runoff.

- Improve accessibility to the park for pedestrians adding crosswalks at the entrances at both Thatcher and Pembroke Streets.
- Replace bituminous pathways with ADA Compliant permeable pavers or pervious pavement.
- Consider vegetated curb extensions on Pembroke Street to increase runoff infiltration (Figure 26).

Columbus Memorial Park



Existing Conditions

Columbus Park is an approximate 5-acre active recreation park with one little league field, one softball field, and one basketball court. It is located adjacent to the Columbus Elementary School which contains a playground by the school building. It is located in a neighborhood of concern for the Medford CCVA and is a priority for managing stormwater and the urban heat island effect. Some sloped landscaped areas are showing signs of erosion. Some bituminous walkways at the northwest portion of the park are cracked and have an uneven surface. Columbus Memorial Park is 1.5 Park Climate Priority.

Climate Design Recommendations

- Integrate green infrastructure to mitigate stormwater runoff, particularly in the north-west corner of the park.
- Retrofit the area between the two playing fields with a bio-swale to slow down water before entering catch basins (Figure 34).
- Replace the walking path with pervious pavement. Use decorative drainage features to ensure runoff remains onsite and out of the stormwater system.

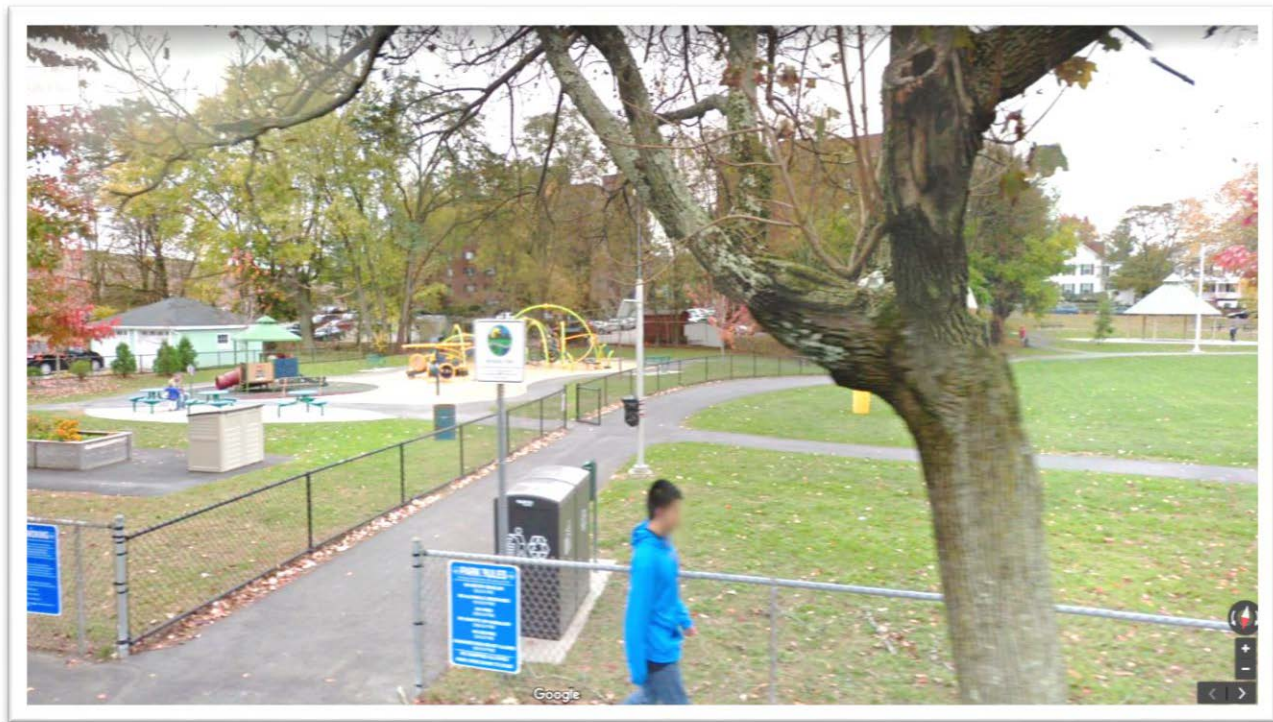
- The vegetation on the fence along Rear Mystic Ave is over grown and full of invasive species such as Japanese knotweed. The vegetation causes sight barriers that may minimize proper use of the park or create a sense of concern for safety. Remove this vegetation and replace with newly planted trees that are regularly pruned and maintained.

Figure 34 Bio-retention integrated into Doyle Hollis Park, Emeryville, CA.



Photo credit Nianticriverwatershed.org

McNally Playground



Existing Conditions

McNally Playground is a 1.7-acre active recreation park recently renovated in 2015. It contains new play structures, for 6-24 months, 2-5 years old, and 5-12 years old. The park also includes a new softball field, dugouts, bleachers, and accessible pathways, and areas for resting and picnicking with solar trash barrels. It also contains a newly established community garden. The park is a daytime urban heat island with less than 50% tree canopy cover. It is a green infrastructure priority for stormwater management and is subject to the 10-year, 24-hour storm in 2019 and 2030 as well as the 100-year, 24-hour storm in 2030. McNally Playground scored a 15 park climate priority.

Climate Design Recommendations

- Replace the asphalt walkway with permeable pavement or pervious pavers.
- Consider raingardens/bioswales inside the perimeter fence on Ash Street.

Playstead Park

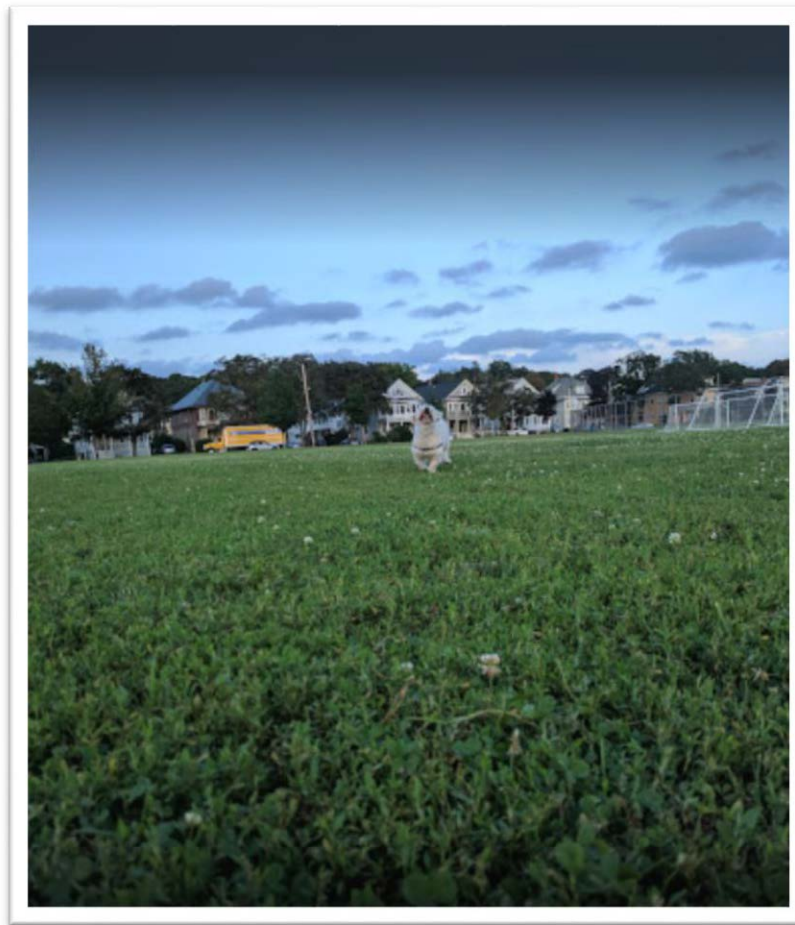
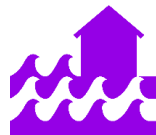
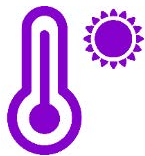


Photo Credit James McGaffigan



Existing Conditions

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 is located in a daytime urban heat island and has less than 50% tree canopy. It scored a 15 for a park climate priority.

Climate Design Recommendations

- Improve the parking area (Figure 35) with a green parking lot. Ensure to delineate park lanes and ADA Accessible parking spaces. The Green Parking Lot (Figure 35) will minimize erosion and pooling in current existing conditions.

- Given its adjacency to the commuter rail, consider planting additional trees at the rail line side of the tennis court areas, where there is underutilized space and opportunity to increase cooling and mitigate air quality.

Figure 35 Parking area by Tennis Courts at Playstead Park and green parking lot.



- Remove the overgrown evergreen shrubs and trees by the playground area. These impede sight lines to the play area from the sports field areas. Replace with deciduous trees that increase canopy and shade.
- Perform understory management including invasive removal in the forested area by the commuter rail line to help restore ecosystem function, carbon sequestration, and sight lines into the forest.
- Activate the unused space in the park by tennis courts and forested area with nature-based programming and features for children (Figure 36). This encourages children and adults to connect to nature in an urban environment as well as minimize illicit activity in the forested area in the “nooks and crannies”.

Figure 36 Forest play features and amenities.



Photo Credit The Telegraph (top), Kew Gardens (middle), and pxhere.com (bottom).

Brooks Park



Existing Conditions

Brooks Park is a 0.36-acre passive park with mature vegetation, some invasive species, and benches. Certain characteristics of the park enable excess stormwater runoff from the park into the stormwater system. These include a lack of edging between the street and the park boundary itself, compacted soils enhancing runoff, and the mature leafy trees combined with stormwater runoff from the park are contributing to clogging of the catch basins. The park contains permeable soils ideal for implementing natural infiltration infrastructure like rain gardens and bio-swales. However, Brooks Park contains overly mature vegetation and invasive species at Main Street and curve of Brook Street that create a visible barrier to the public of the park entrances (Figure 37). Vegetation barriers could discourage proper use of the park. The lack of edging on some portion of the park is causing gutting into the grass and park itself from tires. Further, Brooks Park is prone to flooding in the 10-year, 24-hour storm in 2019 and the 100-year 24-hour storm in 2030. Park climate priority core is 14.5.

Figure 37 Mature and invasive vegetation at Brooks Park causing visible barriers.



Climate Design Recommendations

- Stabilize edge condition of park to collect and infiltrate stormwater minimize stormwater runoff from the park into the stormwater system (Figure 38).



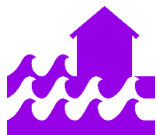
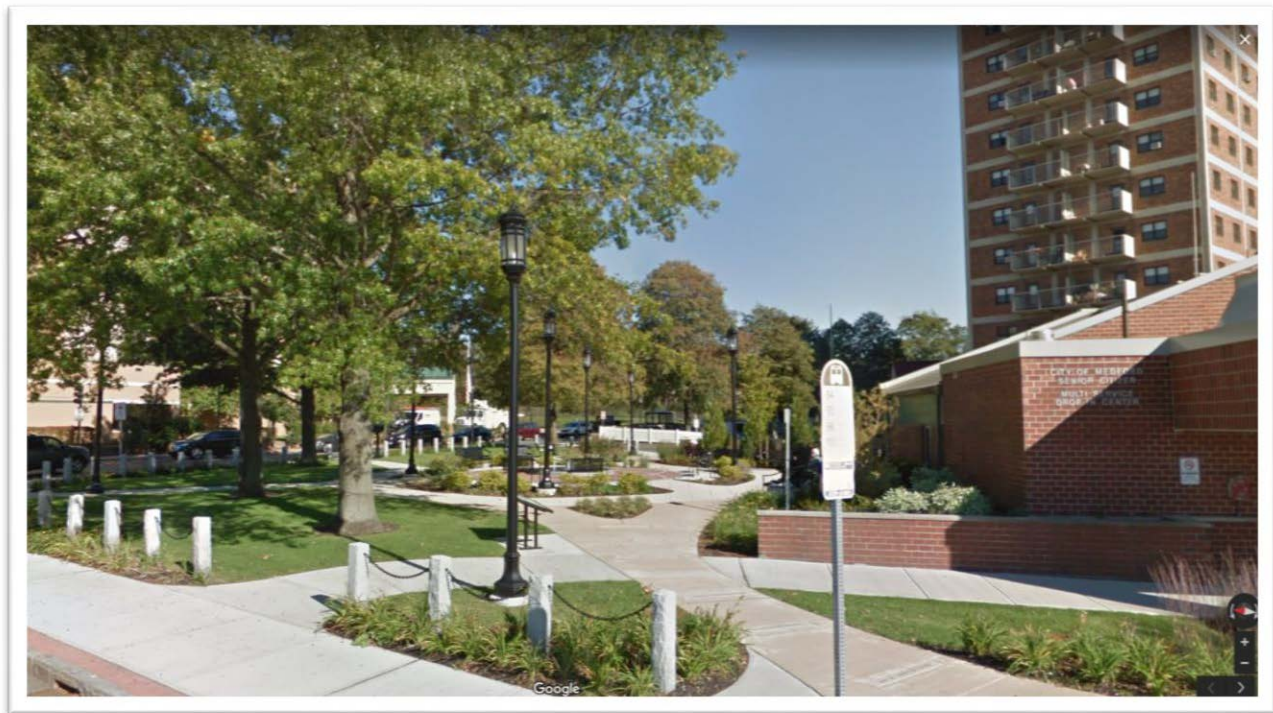
- Shift the grade so stormwater is captured onsite rather than toward the street.
- Create and implement a new vegetation plan that considers:
 - Removal and long-term maintenance of invasive species such as the Japanese Barberry currently choking and damaging existing park trees.
 - Consider implementing attractive rain gardens or small bioswales to minimize runoff from the park into the stormwater system.
 - Create a tree succession plan. The park contains <50% tree canopy so the existing mature trees, if pruned, are important assets to the park. Plant future trees in tree planters to minimize root trampling and damage to sidewalks and road.

Figure 38 Kerbing, channels and footbridge at Charter Towers, Queensland, Australia.



Photo credit Wikipedia.com

Krystle Campbell Peace Garden



Existing Conditions

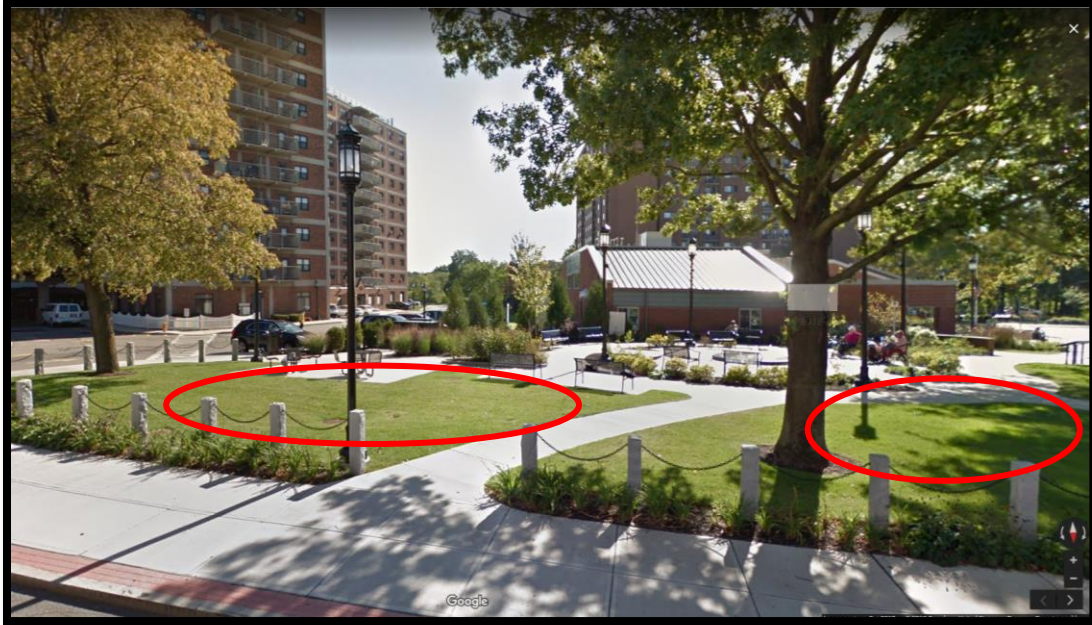
The Krystle Campbell Peace Garden was established in 2016 to commemorate the victims, their families, first responders, and survivors of the Boston Marathon Bombings. The park was named to honor Krystle Campbell, a Medford native who was one of the three people killed in the bombing. It is an approximate 0.5-acre memorial park adjacent to the Senior Center, the Riverside Towers affordable housing complex, and Clippership Park. It has low tree canopy cover, daytime urban heat island, current and future flooding, near important critical infrastructure, and an MVP Neighborhood of Concern. It has a park climate priority score of 14.5.

Climate Design Recommendations

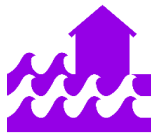
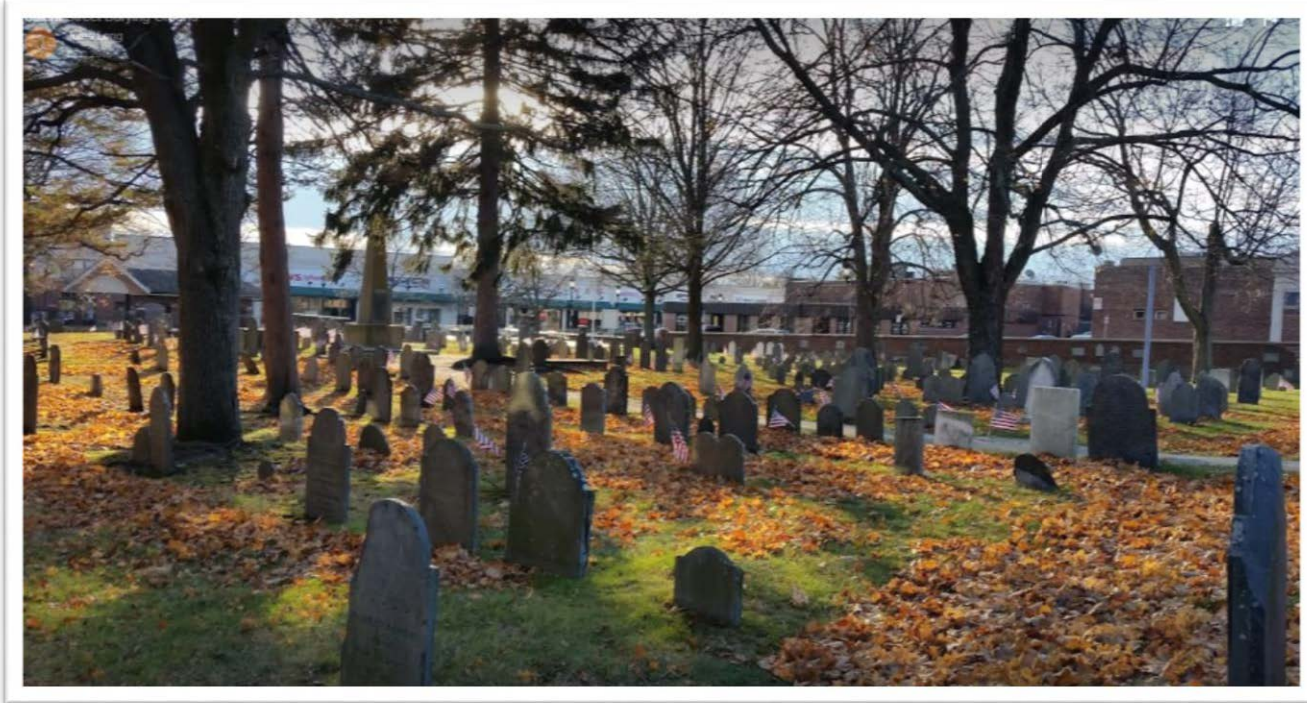
Since this is a newly designed and created park as well as a memorial park, we recommend the following to manage stormwater.

- Consider adding raingardens/bioswales to the edges of the concrete seating areas to capture stormwater before entering the storm drain within the park (Figure 39).

Figure 39 Prevent stormwater from entering the park stormwater drain by adding raingardens/bioswales downslope of the impervious surface.



Salem Street Burying Ground



Existing Conditions

The Salem Street Burial Ground is a 0.8-acre historic cemetery located in Medford Square and adjacent to the newly developed Riverside Plaza. With headstones dating back to 1683 and on the National Historic Register, the cemetery is an important historic landmark illustrating Medford's past. The Burial Ground is at high risk to the effects of climate change including current and future flood zones for sea level rise/storm surge as well as the inland flooding from the 10-year, 24-hour storm in 2019 and 2030 as well as the 100-year, 24-hour storm in 2030. The site is also a daytime urban heat island and a green infrastructure priority for managing stormwater runoff and protecting critical infrastructure. The Cemetery scored a 14.5 for park climate priority.

Climate Design Recommendations

Given the Historic designation of the site, we recommend strategies to preserve the natural and historic nature of the site. These include:

- Tree maintenance, care, and replacement as trees reach life expectancy. As Medford Square is both a daytime and nighttime urban heat island, the trees are an important contribution to the downtown area for both cooling with shade and evapotranspiration and absorbing stormwater in an area with significant impervious surface.
- Create a cemetery disaster mitigation plan to minimize and prevent loss from current or future flooding.

Edgerly Sports Complex/ High School Fields



Existing Conditions

The Edgerly Sports Complex/ High School Fields is an approximate 7-acre raised park with two turf fields and a grass soccer field. It abuts the Middlesex Fells Reservation and Medford High School. The Mustang Loop Trail is adjacent to the park providing walking trails into the Fells. The turf fields were installed in 2010. The recreation area is commonly known as “The Field of Dreams” and its elevation creates stunning views of the Boston skyline. The recreation area is a high priority for stormwater runoff, less than 50% tree canopy, critical infrastructure protection (high school). Turf is known to absorb sunlight and retain the heat making the area a Day/Night Urban Heat Island priority for green infrastructure for both daytime and nighttime urban heat island. This is a health concern for youth recreating during extreme heat events. The park is located within 500 feet of a 21 E site and received a high park climate priority score of 14.

Climate Design Recommendations

- Create a green parking lot to increase evapotranspiration and promote cooling for the recreation users (Figure 40).
- Replace drives and walks with porous pavement or ADA Accessible permeable pavers (Figure 22). Re-grade perimeter areas to direct stormwater to vegetated bio-swale or retention areas.

Figure 40 Green Parking Lots that capture stormwater and promote evapotranspiration for cooling the urban heat island.



Photo Credit Ecoterr.com

- Consider transforming two parking spaces at the lot between the school and the fields to create a bio-retention at the storm drain. This would enhance traffic calming in the parking lot in a high-pedestrian area as well as minimize runoff from entering the stormwater system. Bank vegetation and stabilization could be modified to direct stormwater toward the bio-retention area. Redirect the runoff from the bank toward the bio-retention area (Figure 41)

Figure 41 Parking lot and storm drain at Edgerly Sports Complex. Installing a bio-retention area will minimize stormwater from entering the storm drain and enhance traffic calming in a pedestrian high-traffic area.



Medford Honor Roll Park



Photo Credit City of Medford



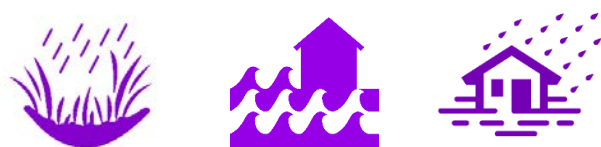
Existing Conditions

Medford Honor Roll Park is an approximate 1-acre memorial to Veterans in the City of Medford, from World War I to Desert Storm. The park is in excellent condition, though mobility and ADA Accessibility could be improved. The park is a high priority for green infrastructure for the daytime urban heat island, impervious surface and low tree canopy cover. In addition, the park is a green infrastructure priority for managing stormwater and is subject to inland flooding for the 10-year, 24-hour flood in 2019 and 2030 as well as the 100-year, 24-hour flood in 2030. The park scores a 14 for park climate priority.

Climate Design Recommendations

- Consider planting a few deciduous trees in the front lawn of the park by the sidewalk.

Victory Park



Existing Conditions

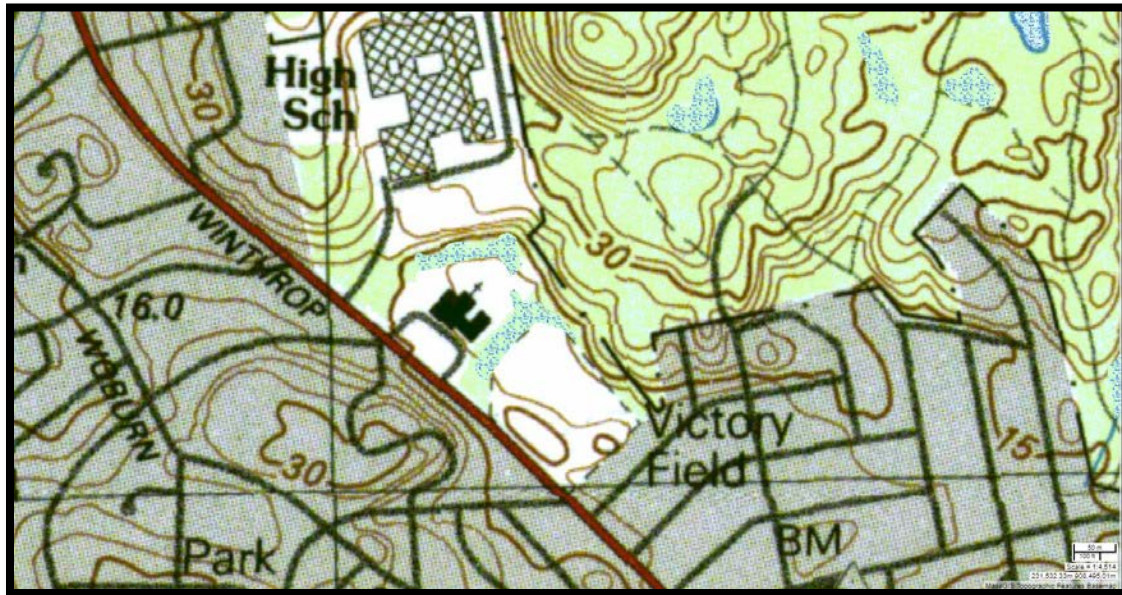
Victory Park is a 12-acre active recreation park containing tennis courts, a basketball court, play equipment, an open field for soccer, and a walking trail. It connects to the Middlesex Fells Reservation owned by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The open field area lies in a valley between two fells, one in the Middlesex Fells Reservation and the other across from Winthrop Street. It also contains some wetlands and is surrounded by wetland areas in the Fells Reservation (Figure 42). Because of these physical characteristics, Victory Park contains poorly drained soils and is prone to field saturation and pooling. The park is a high priority for green infrastructure for managing stormwater and is located in a Natural Hazard Mitigation hazard area for Brush Fires. It scored a 14 for park climate priority.

Climate Design Recommendations

- For long-term usability of the soccer field, consider installing subsurface drainage systems such as sand-capped system, which is a cost-effective solution to improve field conditions minimally interrupting field use. The sand-capped system includes cutting drain lines in the existing field running length wise, placing drain tile in the lines, and back filling with peas stone and then sand or coarse sand alone.³²

³² <http://safesportsfields.cals.cornell.edu/drainage>

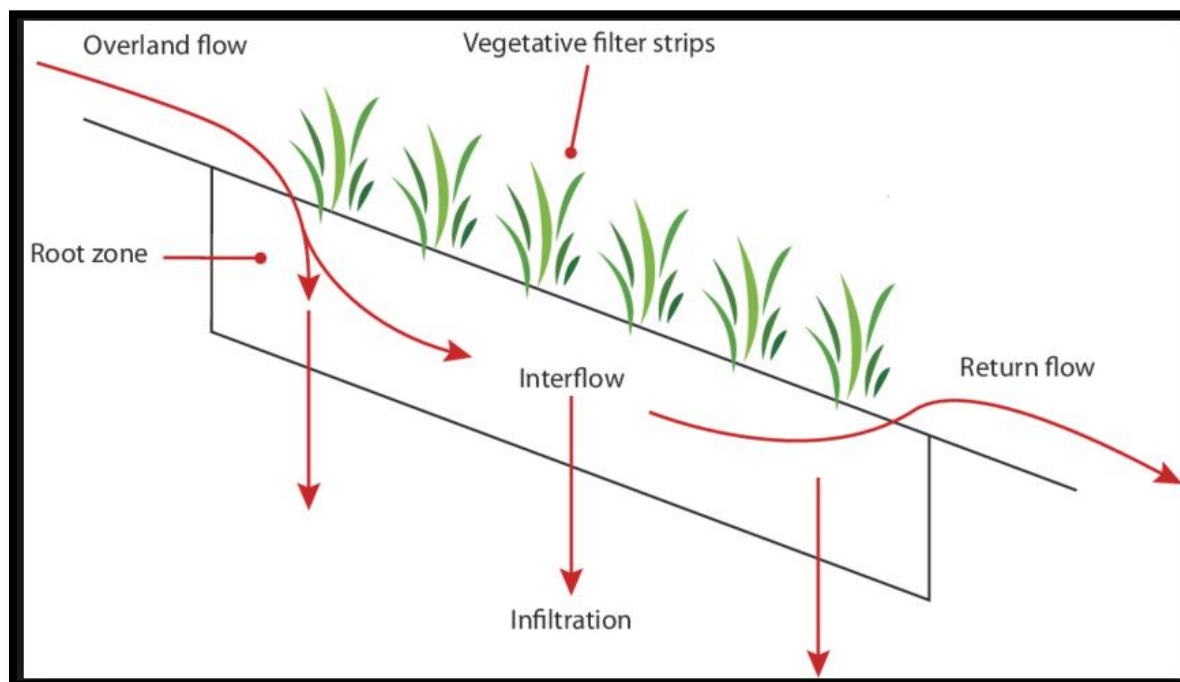
Figure 42 Victory Park topography located between two fells and surrounded by wetlands.



- Stonedust paths are showing signs of wear. Consider replacing with pervious pavers to allow infiltration on the hill and slope and minimizing runoff to the playing fields.
- Slopes are eroding and require stabilization. Utilize green infrastructure slope stabilization strategies to reduce or eliminate runoff and erosion while creating infiltration opportunities. Some suggestions are vegetated strips or vegetated check dams (Figure 43).³³

³³ U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. 2014 "Addressing Green Infrastructure Design Challenges in the Pittsburgh Region. Steep Slopes" 2012 GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM EPA 800-R-14-002

Figure 43 Green Infrastructure of steep slopes minimizing erosion and allowing infiltration.



Grass Swale with Check Dams.

Note significant channel storage capacity created by check dams.
Notched center allows safe overflow without scour around sides.

Photo credit Mark E Grismer (Top) and Lake Superior Streams and Virginia Stormwater Management Program (Bottom).

Wright's Pond



Existing Conditions

Wrights 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 parks serves to bring the community together for a variety of recreation activities and is open to Medford residents with a sticker. Wrights Pond Park is surrounded by the Middlesex Fells Reservation, a State-owned public park. The pond is subjected to flooding during the 1% Annual Chance Flood, according to FEMA, is located in a Natural Hazard Mitigation hazard area for brush fires and is susceptible to runoff from surrounding areas with $>1''$ precipitation events. Wrights Pond Park has a score of 14 park climate priority. This is largely due to the intensity of use and need for some renovations.

Climate Design Recommendations

- The parking could be re-designed to incorporate green infrastructure, tree planting and directing stormwater away from the beach and into bio-retention areas to increase infiltration and evapotranspiration (Figure 44).

Figure 44 Vegetated swale with erosion control walls, Long Pond, Littleton, MA.



Photo Credit Steven Roy, GeoSyntec Consultants.

- Consider a green parking lot that minimizes stormwater runoff and maximizes infiltration in parking area (Figure 27).
- Steep and eroded slopes could be stabilized with native plantings.
- Consider repaving walkways to pitch away from the beach and capture stormwater in bioswales that can control the direction of the flow (Figure 45).
- Eliminate, relocate or re-grade high-use activities on steep slopes – such as playgrounds and picnic areas.
- Restore the gardens inside the playground area along the fence to allow stormwater infiltration from runoff from Aquavia Road Bioswales are designed to capture a greater amount of water than a rain garden and allow slow infiltration capturing pollutants before entering the stormwater system (Figure 46).
- To increase the tree canopy, add tree plantings by Wrights Pond Dam area.

Figure 45 Stormwater directed to bio-retention basin, Long Pond, Littleton, MA.



Photo credit Steven Roy, GeoSyntec Consultants

Figure 46 View of play equipment at Wrights Pond Park from Aquavia Road. Consider renovating existing gardens along the fence to infiltrate stormwater runoff from the road.



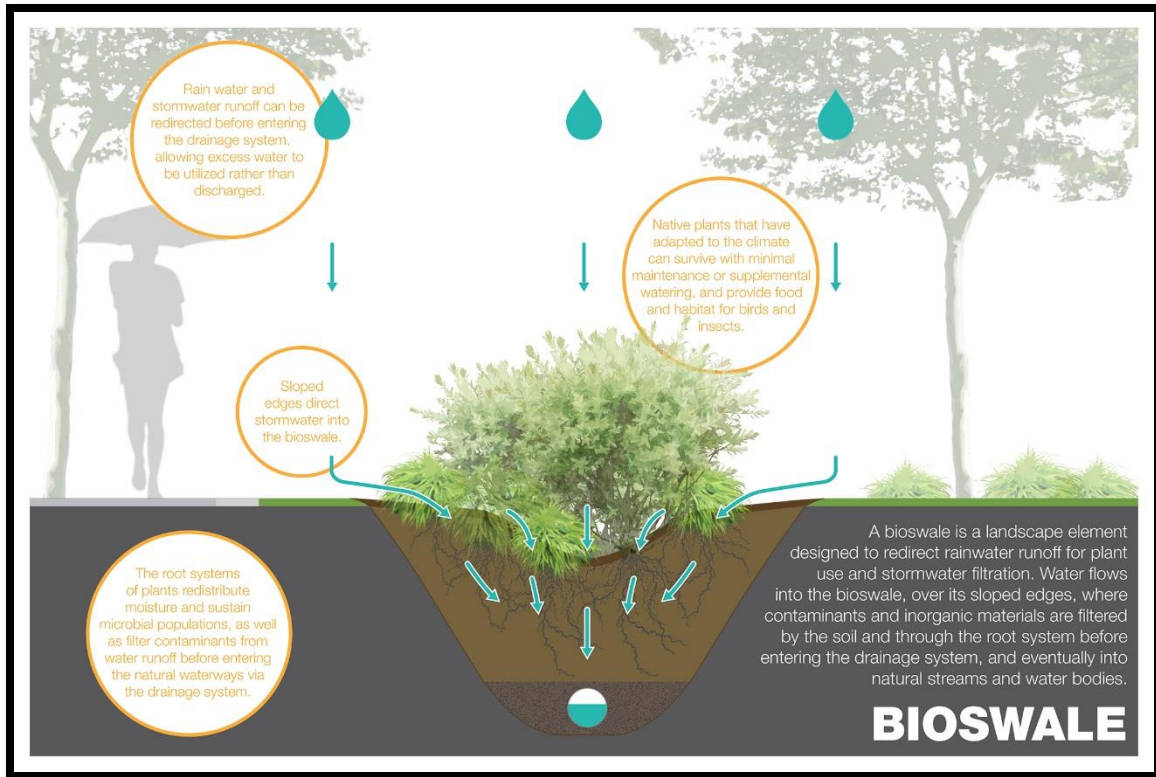


Photo credit (bottom) asurkarobinson.net.

Riverside Plaza

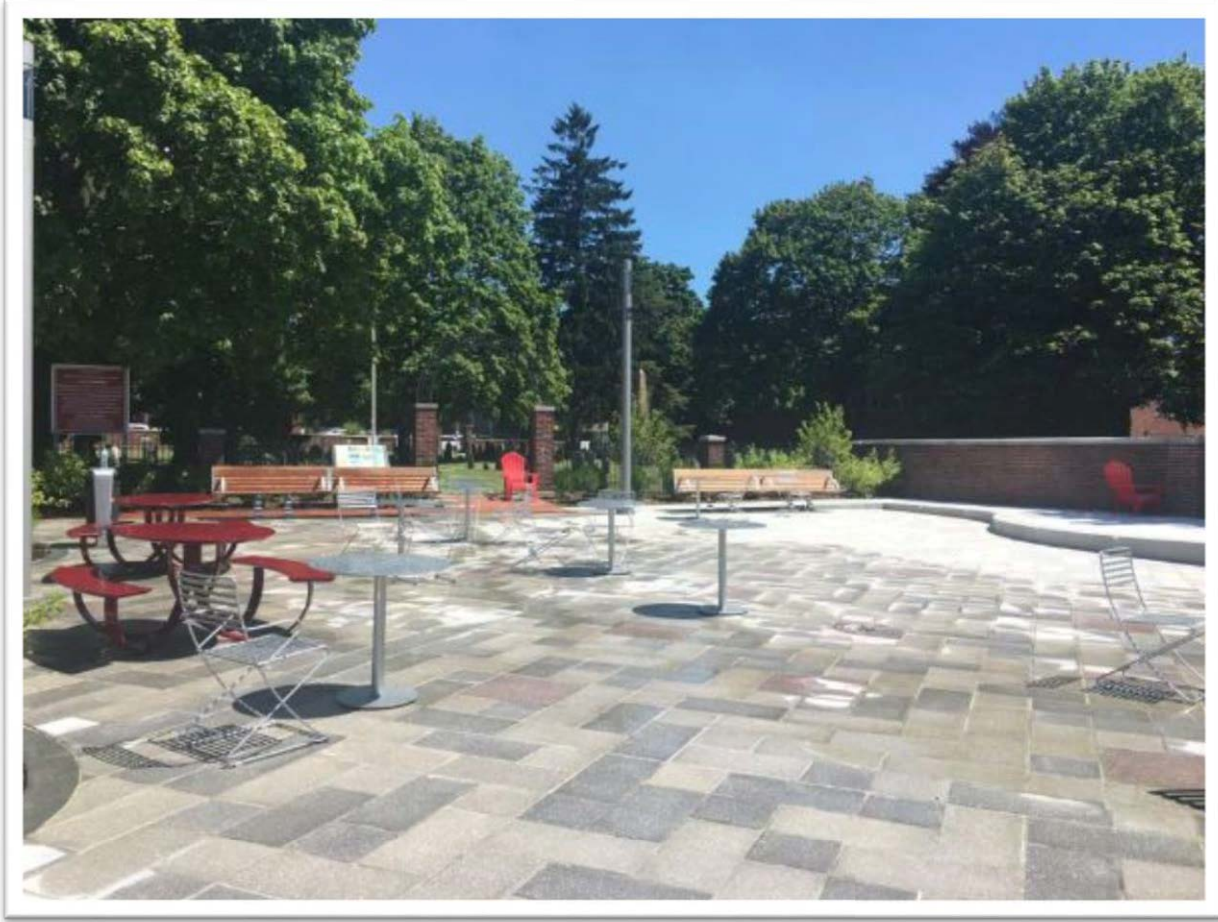


Photo credit: MedfordTop10.com



Existing Conditions

Riverside Plaza is a newly developed 0.25-acre park in the heart of Medford Square. It abuts the Salem Street Burial Ground making a contiguous stretch of open space through Medford Square. The goal of the plaza was to revitalize the area into a vibrant community gathering space for performances and connecting pathways to the Mystic River. The park is a daytime and nighttime urban heat island, susceptible to sea level rise and storm surge in 2070. The park is a priority for Climate Equity and protecting critical infrastructure. Riverside Plaza scored a 13.5 park climate priority.

Climate Design Recommendations

- Given the park is very new, we would recommend at a time of renovation to retrofit the paver area to include pervious/green zones for infiltration (Figure 47).

Figure 47 Vegetated paving zones in Ernie Street Plaza, Milwaukie, WI.

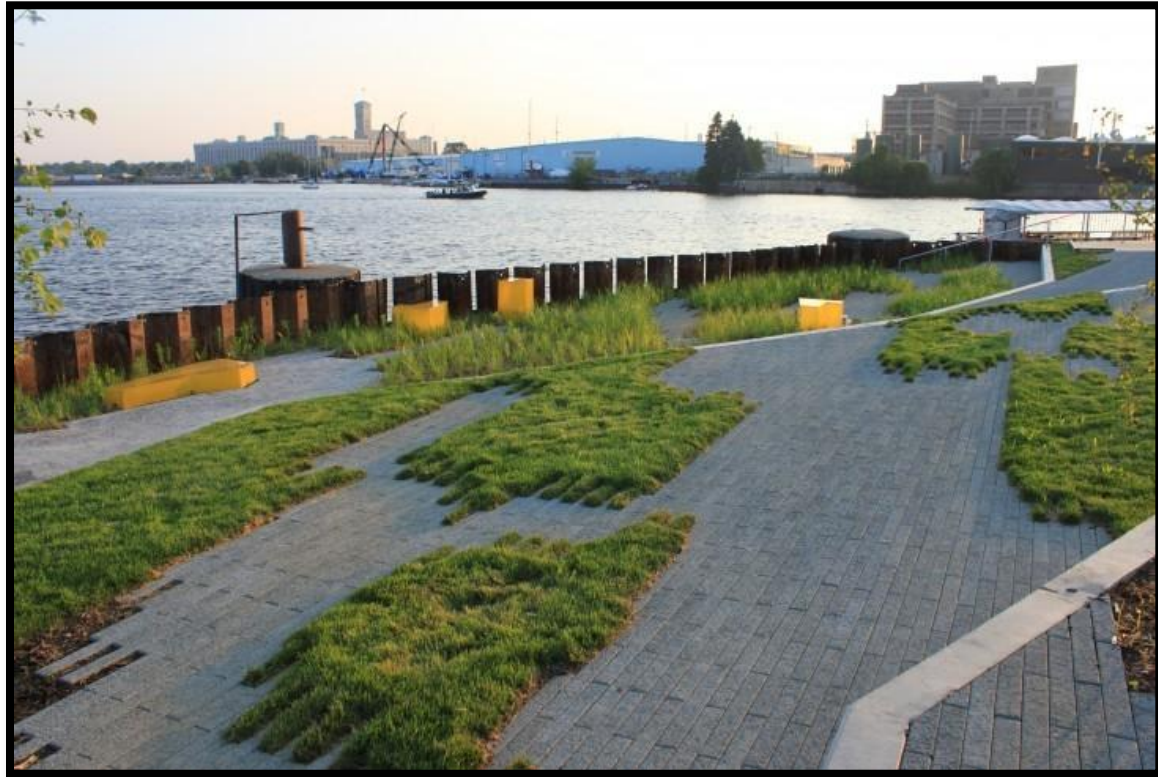
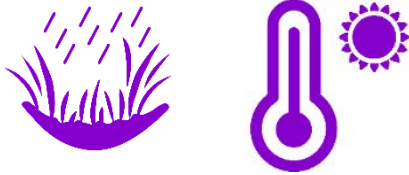
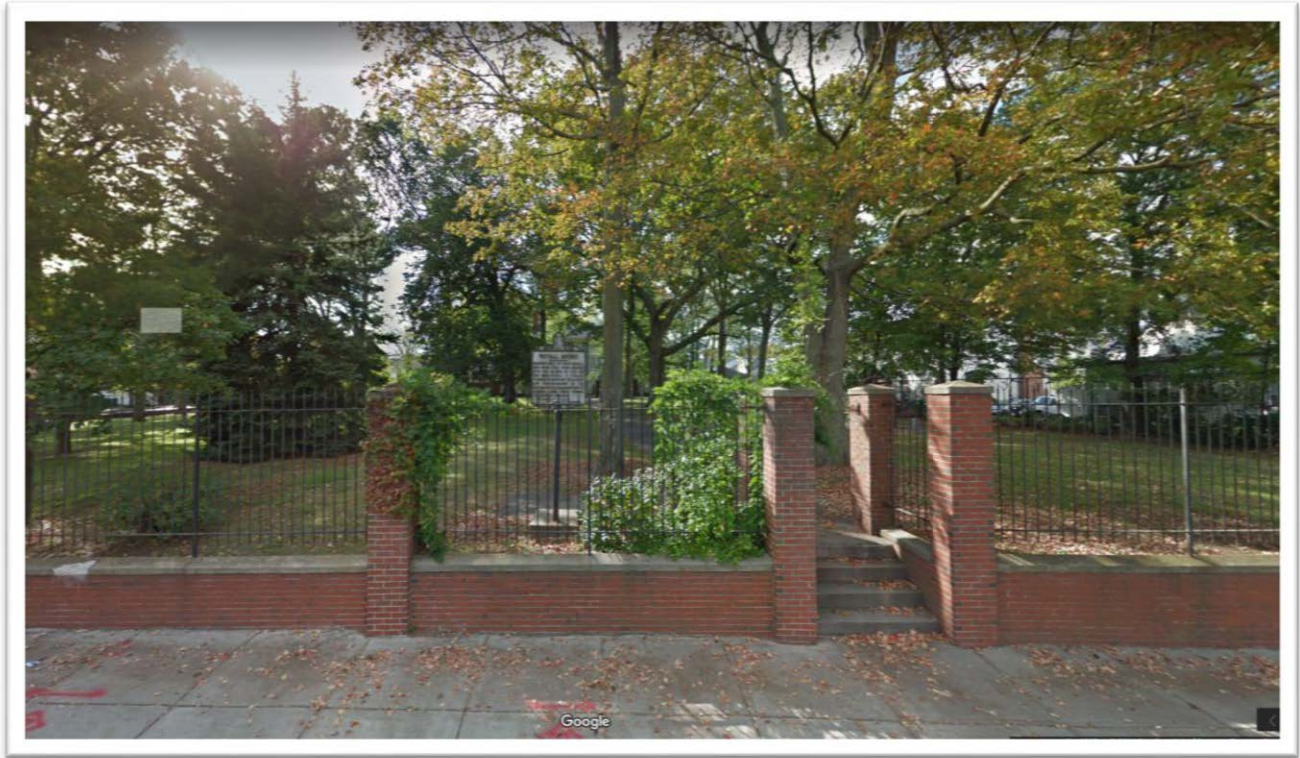


Photo Credit LAF Online Performance Series.

Royall House Park



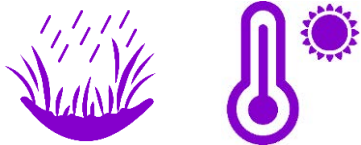
Existing Conditions

Royall House Park is a 0.76-acre passive park. Now owned by the City of Medford, the park was once part of the Royall family estate and is adjacent to the Royall Mansion and Slave Quarters, historic, colonial-era buildings which once housed the largest slave-owning family in Massachusetts. These building are now museums depicting the tragic history of slavery in Massachusetts, its associated wealth, and the American Revolution. The park is located in an area that is a green infrastructure high priority for stormwater and a daytime urban heat island.

Climate Design Recommendations

- The tree canopy is a critical asset for the neighborhood. Care, maintenance, and tree succession planning are most important to retain the forested nature of the park.

Grant Park



Existing Conditions

Grant Park is a 0.23-acre passive park adjacent to the Breed Memorial Hall, a function hall owned by Tufts University. The park contains a walkway and monuments. Though open to the public, it appears to be more of a private lawn area to the Memorial Hall than a park. It is a priority for green infrastructure for the daytime and night time urban heat island effect as well as for managing stormwater. Grant Park scored 11 park climate priority.

Climate Design Recommendations

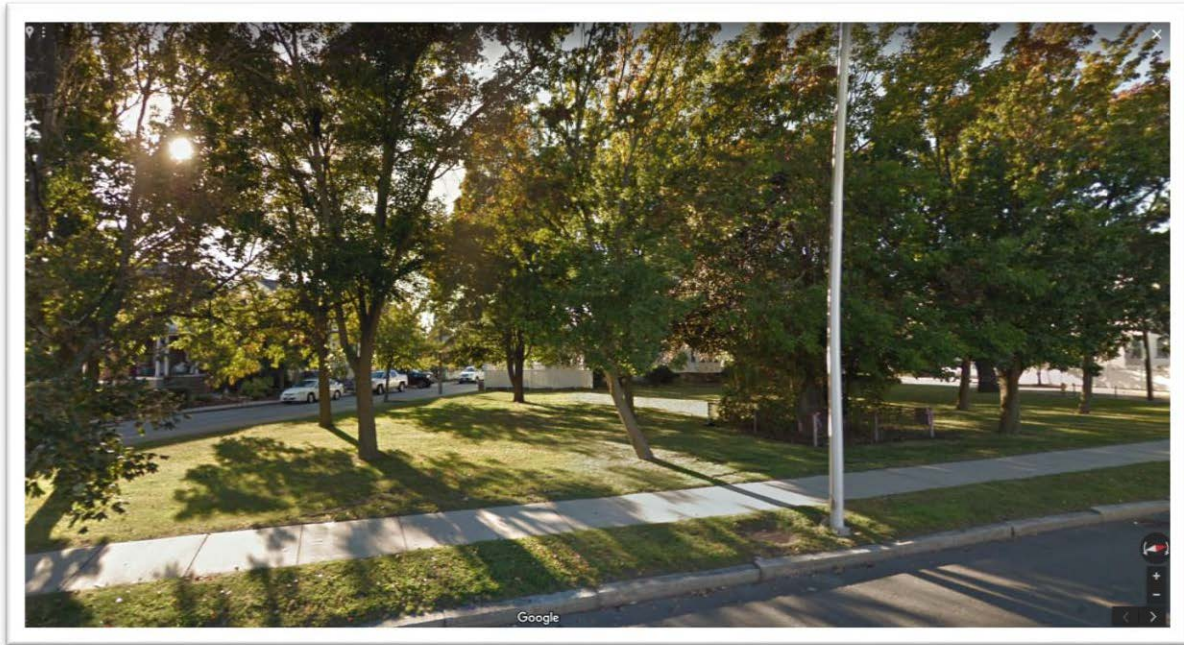
- Consider activating this space with arts and cultural components to enhance activity and use of the park. Given its located on the busy Boston Avenue, this is an ideal location to display arts and culture.
- Consider renovating the edge of the park along the sidewalk with a retaining wall and raingarden to prevent runoff down slope of the park to the road and increase infiltration (Figure 48).

Figure 48 Retaining Wall and Raingarden.



Photo credit Lawnmasters LLC

Prescott Park



Existing Conditions

Prescott Park is a 0.25-acre passive park located along The Fellsway. It is located in a future flood zone for sea level rise/storm surge in 2070 as well as the 100-year, 24 hour storm in 2030. The park is a daytime urban heat island. Its tree canopy is critically important toward cooling the adjacent neighborhood and The Fellsway itself. It scores a 10.5 park climate priority.

Climate Design Recommendations

- Continue with tree maintenance and care to ensure longevity of tree canopy.
- Consider activating the space with arts and cultural components, which could aid in traffic calming and encourage more walking along The Fellsway.

Thomas Brooks Park



Photo Credit British RedCoat



Existing Conditions

Thomas Brooks Park was part of this historic 400-acre Brooks Estate donated to the City in 1924. It is 6-acre passive, forested park with a stone wall purportedly built by a slave owned by the Brooks Family. There is a memorial recognizing Medford's history in the slave trade and the wall itself. The park runs parallel to the MBTA Commuter Rail line. It is a daytime urban heat island and subject to the 10-year and 100-year 24-hour storm in 2030. It scored low with a 9 park climate priority.

Climate Design Recommendations

- The park would benefit from some forest management, specifically thinning, for upper story tree growth and carbon sequestration.
- Perform ecological restoration to eliminate invasive species.

Hastings Heights Park



Existing Conditions

Hasting Heights Park is a 1.3-acre passive park used for walking, picnicking and slacklining. It scores an 8 for park climate priority.

Climate Design Recommendations

- Consider a forest management plan including pruning, planting, and tree succession



Appendix C: Public Forum Feedback

Public Forum 1: December 5, 2018

1. SWOT Analysis
2. Questions and Comments
3. Goals and Objectives Prioritization Exercise
4. Managing and Protecting Parks for Climate Change Resilience Comments

Public Forum 2: February 27, 2019

1. Action Plan Prioritization Exercise
2. Climate Risks and Park Design Opportunities Comments

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Public Forum 1: December 5, 2018

3. SWOT Analysis
4. Questions and Comments
5. Goals and Objectives Prioritization Exercise
6. Managing and Protecting Parks for Climate Change Resilience Comments

SWOT Analysis

<p style="text-align: center;">Strengths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sports communication very good • Committed volunteers • % of open space • Presence of Mystic River and other protected land • Availability of CPA funds • Other organizations to collaborate with 	<p style="text-align: center;">Weakness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need ways to access open spaces other than car • Ballfields in disrepair • Flooding • Need bathroom facilities at parks – big issue when used by youth sports • Maintenance of newly designed/built parks, i.e. wetlands @ Mystic • DPW understaffed • Community credibility with city – follow up with topics discussed, i.e. field maintenance • Environmental justice communities may not feel comfortable to call with issues
<p style="text-align: center;">Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People willing/able to help with recreation • Heat island in south Medford: add trees to Mystic Pkwy, incorporate trees into new development • Universal accessibility, i.e. children/playgrounds, bathrooms, strollers, age • Get youth input • Provide information online – lots of information available, but people need to find it. • Scheduled maintenance • Private or neighborhood association doing maintenance • Fundraising 	<p style="text-align: center;">Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noise and air pollution from airplane routes







Comments and Questions about the OSRP document and process:

- Start with the basics
- Source of funds to implement recommendations? E.g. city, state, fed?
- How does DCR property fit into the plan?
- Maintenance schedules
- Access to inventory: Section V of the 2011 Plan is being updated.
- Feedback timeline: Will there be opportunities to see recommendations before the plan is finalized?
- Include residents in decision making
- Will open space in neighboring towns which abut Medford be considered in the plan?
- Bike paths
- Collaboration with adjacent towns
- Is there a risk of open space properties being developed for other purposes?
- What is the project team's relationship with DCR?
- Point of contact for permits and use approvals?
- Provide locational context for parks in presentation
- Maintenance recommendations – evaluate and recommend, robust look at how they're maintained
- Concern about vulnerability
- Buy green space



Goal 1: Serve the active recreation needs of all residents throughout Medford by upgrading the conditions of existing facilities

Use six sticky dots to prioritize the Open Space & Recreation Plan's goals and objectives. Dots can be spread across multiple choices or concentrated in one.

Objective:	Place dots here:
Objective 1.1: Meet community needs for organized and informal team and individual sports	 (9)
Objective 1.2: Extend the playing season and minimize use limitations due to wet conditions	 (2)
Objective 1.3: Extend playing hours for adult leagues and facilitate Youth League night-time play	 (3)
Objective 1.4: Provide a venue for the school swim team	Completed since prior plan
Objective 1.5: Find a permanent home field for youth lacrosse	(0)
Objective 1.6: Meet the specific needs of children, elders, and people with disabilities	 (5)
Objective 1.7: Provide each neighborhood with a safe open space that provides multi-generational opportunities for recreation	 (13)
Objective 1.8: Provide a clean, safe, accessible playground for each neighborhood.	 (2)

Comments: - Recommended language change to 1.6 "Meet the needs of all citizens through universal design" ; What do we mean by "accessible"? What kind, and for whom? Involve SEPAC. Cost vs. play value, not all accessible playgrounds are FUN; Need different kinds of play spaces - natural play spaces, tree climbing, rocks, etc. No more plastic "big box" playgrounds; infant/toddler spaces, hill slides



Goal 3: Expand / diversify recreational programming for the city within the existing open space resources

Use six sticky dots to prioritize the Open Space & Recreation Plan's goals and objectives. Dots can be spread across multiple choices or concentrated in one.

Objective:	Place dots here:
Objective 3.1: Expand community garden sites within the City to serve more moderate to low income neighborhoods	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> <div>(7)</div>
Objective 3.2: Provide separate and distinct open space resources for residents with dogs who are not allowed off-leash in many of the City's parks	<div><div></div><div></div></div> <div>(2)</div>

Comments:

- Passive recreation needs to be an integral part of the Recreation Department ++++
- Expand existing open space by purchasing land near or next to existing open space. Thus making our current space larger.



Goal 4: Improve the ecological quality of the city






Use six sticky dots to prioritize the Open Space & Recreation Plan’s goals and objectives. Dots can be spread across multiple choices or concentrated in one.

Objective:	Place dots here:
Objective 4.1: Deploy stormwater management pilot projects through out the city to improve water quality	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> <div>(8)</div>
Objective 4.2: Restore wetlands within the riverfront areas to create better ecological function and native habitat	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> <div>(11)</div>
Objective 4.3: Manage the presence of exotic invasive vegetation in ecologically significant landscapes	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> <div>(10)</div>
Objective 4.4: Expand the urban forest canopy	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> <div>(21)</div>
Objective 4.5: Protect water quality and important natural resource areas and buffer zones	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> <div>(3)</div>

Comments:

- More trees in urban areas - older neighborhoods +++
- Yes to more trees! Urban forest does not mean the Fells!
- Plan to replace street trees that get cut down



Objective:	Place dots here:
Objective 5.1: Improve the overall quality of Medford's existing inventory of open spaces and facilities	 (15)
Objective 5.2: Facilitate the management of playing fields to protect their condition	 (6)
Objective 5.3: Leverage permit fees as income for parks maintenance	 (1)
Objective 5.4: Educate the residents as to the resources available through out the city-wide open space system	 (8)
Objective 5.5: Support programming that supports public art and use of pulic outdoor venues through out the City	 (6)

- Capacity for planning and grant management for parks and open space +
- Support multiple kinds of programming and use of outdoor venues - yes arts, but also education, nonprofit use, etc.
- Organize and reward volunteers



Goal 6: Strengthen Medford’s climate change resilience through park and open space design and preservation

Use six sticky dots to prioritize the Open Space & Recreation Plan’s goals and objectives. Dots can be spread across multiple choices or concentrated in one.

Objective:	Place dots here:
Objective 6.1: 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	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> <div>(9)</div>
Objective 6.2: 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	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> <div>(16)</div>
Objective 6.3: Increase park access and distribution for neighborhoods where residents are most vulnerable to climate change	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> <div>(6)</div>
Objective 6.4: 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	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> <div>(11)</div>

Comments:

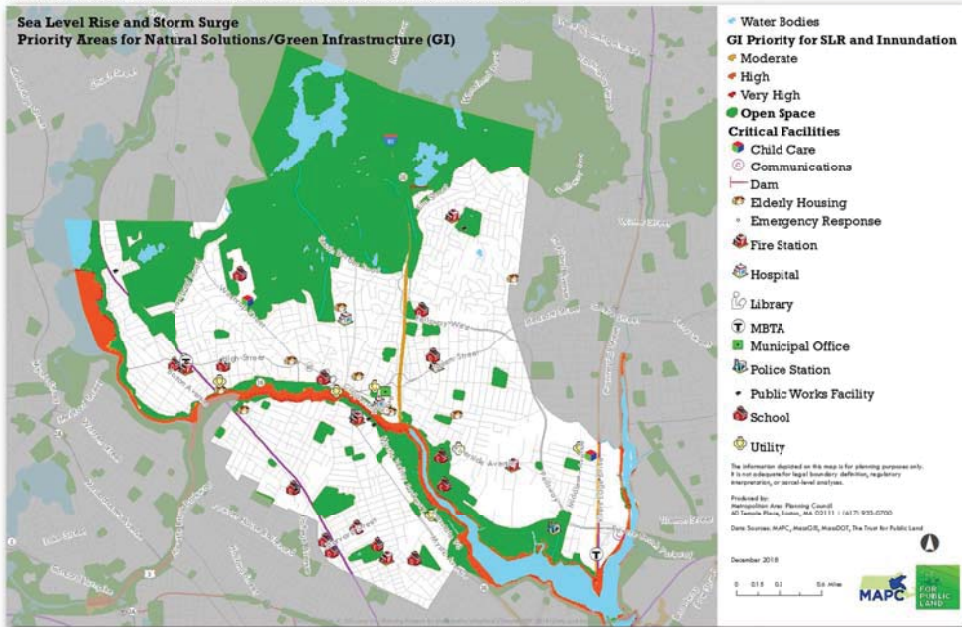
- Acquire open space at Malden Hospital in Medford near Fellsmere Park Malden
- Study traffic patterns in Medford so residents can access local place
- Used up all my dots but these are all important!

Managing and Protecting Parks for Climate Change Resilience



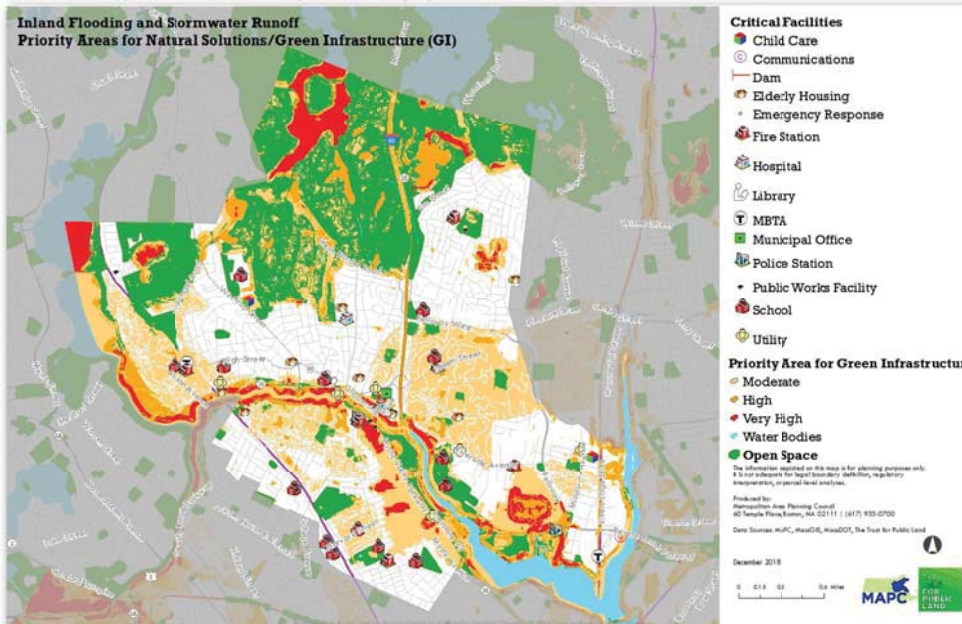
Sea Level Rise and Storm Surge Inundation

Boston Harbor could experience over two feet of sea level rise by 2050.¹ Because the tidal influence of the Mystic River is governed by the Amelia Earhart dam, future sea level rise occurs only when the dam is overtopped, projected in 2100. However, with storm surge from coastal storms could cause overtopping of the dam creating a large extent of flooding along the Mystic and Malden Rivers at the 1% Annual Chance Storm beginning in 2070.²



Increased Precipitation and Inland Flooding

For the last fifty years, precipitation in Massachusetts has increased by approximately 10% and increased 70% in the northeast US, 70% in the amount of rain that falls in the top 1% of storm events.³ Projections for future precipitation suggest an increase in total precipitation, changes in precipitation patterns, and increased frequency of extreme storms such as hurricanes and nor'easters. For example, today's 1% Annual Chance Flood storm could become the 25% Annual Chance Flood by 2070.⁴ This increased precipitation has the potential to exacerbate existing stormwater runoff issues and pollution of existing impaired waters.



What is important to protect from Sea Level Rise and Inland Flooding?

Infrastructure

- Drainage systems
- Pervious paving
- Brooks Pond - highly unlikely to overflow

Environment, Parks, and Open Space

- Carbon offset from increased tree canopy
- Pervious areas for better drainage
- Maintenance, tree health / street tree and forest management

Other

- Fulton Heights (Watervale, Lund, Grover Roads) - Near Malden
 - High water table - basements flood during heavy rain
 - Stream runs underground on Grover Road and runs down Murray Hill Road into Malden onto Route 60/Pleasant Street at Malden and Medford Line

¹Northeast Climate Science Center 2018, www.zednetma.org

²City of Malden Climate Vulnerability Assessment, DRAFT 2018

³USOCCP, 2018: Impacts, Risks, and Adaptation in the United States: Fourth National Climate Assessment, Volume II (Roodman, D.B., C.W. Avery, D.K. Easterling, K.E. Cook, E.L.M. Lewis, T.E. Mayrock, and R.C. Swann (eds.)), U.S. Global Change Research Program, Washington, DC, USA, doi: 10.7927/1044.2018.

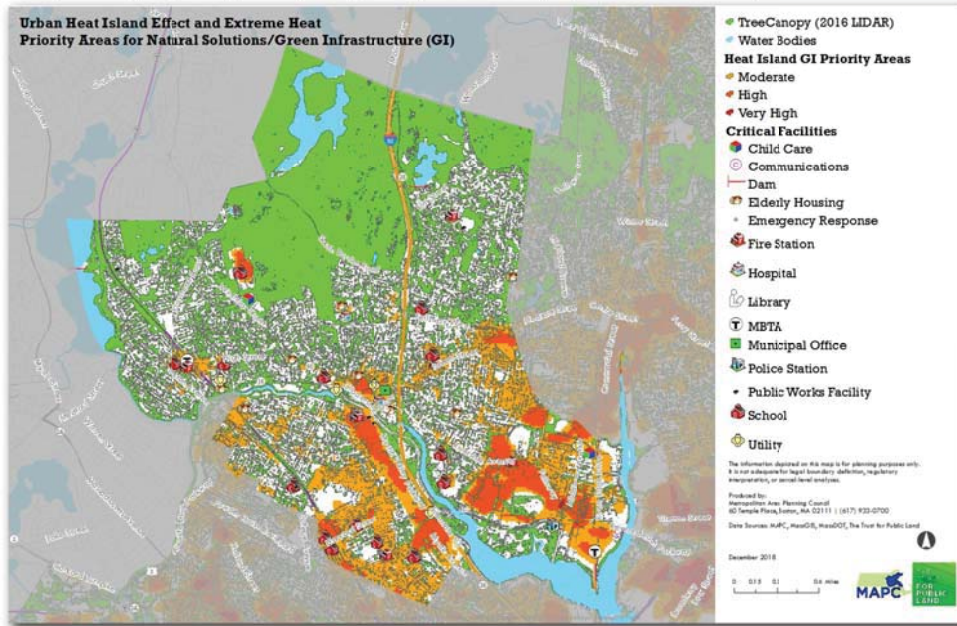
⁴City of Cambridge, Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment, (City of Cambridge, 2015), Temperature and Precipitation Projections

Managing and Protecting Parks for Climate Change Resilience



Increased Temperature and Urban Heat Island Effect

The last five years are the hottest years on record since temperature has been recorded and temperature projection models demonstrate an increasing likelihood of heat waves.¹ Medford could have 22 days by 2050 and 50 days by 2100 above 90°. Medford has 28% tree canopy cover which captures 1,500 lbs./year of CO₂, mitigates 127,000 lbs./yr. of air pollutants, and avoids \$300,000/yr. of stormwater runoff expenses.²

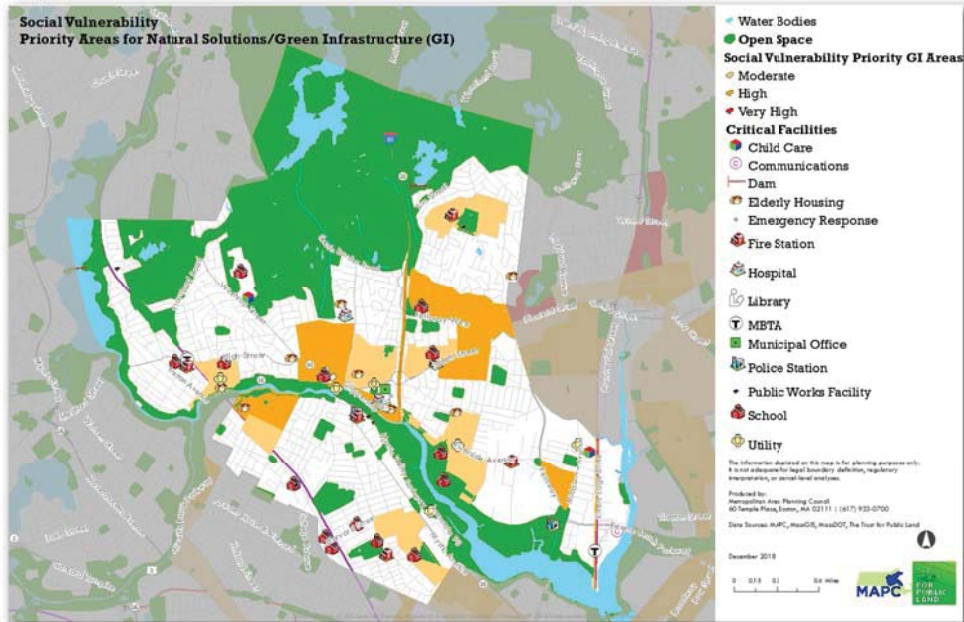


How do we protect Medford's public health from heat and its most vulnerable residents from climate change?

- More access to water-based recreation, more trees and green spaces
- Splash pads for multi-generational use
- More trees around neighborhoods
- More trees and grass - stop paving paths
- Replace dead trees in older, forgotten neighborhoods

Social Vulnerability and Climate Justice

Social vulnerability refers to social, economic, demographic, or health factors that may inhibit people's ability to adapt to or recover from climate change impacts or extreme weather events. The areas in the map below indicate high priority need for natural solutions to protect those with low income, limited English proficiency, communities of color, residents over 65 and under 5, less than high-school degree, persons living alone and/or persons with a disability.



¹USGCRP, 2018. Impacts, Risks, and Adaptation in the United States: Fourth National Climate Assessment, Volume II (Reidmiller, D.R., C.W. Avery, D.R. Easterling, K.E. Kunkel, K.S.M. Lewis, T.K. Mayrock, and S.C. Stewart (eds.)). U.S. Global Change Research Program, Washington, DC, USA. doi: 10.7955/NCA4.0018.

²Northeast Climate Science Center 2018. www.nceisnema.org





³TreeLandscape. Modeled on December 3, 2018

Public Forum 2: February 27, 2019

1. Action Plan Prioritization Exercise
2. Climate Risks and Park Design Opportunities Comments



Goal 1: Serve the active recreation needs of all residents throughout Medford by upgrading the conditions of existing facilities

Action	Time Frame	Vote
Provide each neighborhood with a safe open space that provides multi-generational opportunities for recreation		
Implement improvements identified for various parks such as installing new or fixing benches or bleachers, installing new or improved walkways, etc.	Short-term to long-term	 (9)
Continue to reach out to seniors and people with disabilities to understand their recreation needs and how they can best be met <i>Comments: This should be basic policy.</i>	Ongoing	 (5)
Meet community needs for organized and informal team and individual sports		
Consider ways in which the field permitting process can be streamlined and coordinated	Short-term	(0)
Meet the needs of all citizens through universal design		
In order to improve ADA accessibility to the City's parks and open spaces, the City should adopt the principles of universal design to ensure that they are accessible to all regardless of age or mobility	Ongoing	 (6)
Ensure community gardens are accessible to residents of all abilities by continuing to integrate ADA accessible design principles and programming <i>Comments: Change "ADA accessible design" to "universal design"</i>	Ongoing	 (2)






Goal 1: Serve the active recreation needs of all residents throughout Medford by upgrading the conditions of existing facilities



Action	Time Frame	Vote
Extend playing hours for adult leagues and facilitate Youth League night-time play		
Look for opportunities to provide lighting at playing fields in a manner that does not impact adjacent neighborhoods	Mid-term	● ● ● ● ● ● (6)
Conduct a lighting audit to ensure that the best practices are implemented to ensure that recreation, public safety and energy efficiency goals are met	Mid-term	● (1)
Provide a clean, safe playground for each neighborhood that provide a variety of play spaces		
Upgrade playground equipment at parks <i>Comments: Developmentally appropriate and natural. Get youth input.</i>	Short-term to long-term	● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● (9)
Extend the playing season and minimize use limitations due to wet conditions		
Where needed, regrade playing fields to both prevent pooling and manage stormwater runoff away from fields but onsite	Ongoing	● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● (9)
Where needed, integrate green infrastructure measures to mitigate stormwater runoff	Mid-term	● ● ● ● (4)



Goal 2: Establish connections to and along the City's natural resources

Action	Time Frame	Vote
Create a multi-use path system along the Mystic River, Malden River, and Alewife Brook		
Improve and expand open space opportunities along the Mystic and Malden Rivers <i>Comments: -Add Mystic Lakes. - What exactly does "expand open space" entail? I want more trees along banks of the Mystic River.</i>	Mid-term	 (5)
Look for opportunities to expand water access locations and activities	Mid-term	 (6)
Improve pedestrian and bicycle connections between parks and open spaces within Medford and in the region	Ongoing	 (9)
Provide access to the water for pedestrians, personal water crafts, and as an alternative route for transportation		
Provide needed safety and accessibility improvements including sidewalk renovations, updated crosswalks, and more curbcuts	Ongoing	 (5)
Prioritize DCR's Mystic River Master Plan findings and leverage common goals		
Look for ways to promote and advance projects promoted by DCR and MyWRA including the Clippership Connector, South Medford Connector, MacDonald Park, Mystic Lakes Linear Park, Wellington Greenway, and Wellington Connector	Short-term to long-term	 (6)



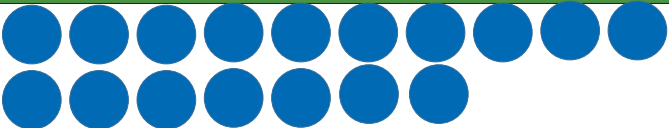







Goal 3: Expand / diversify recreational programming for the City within the existing open space resources

Action	Time Frame	Vote
Expand community garden sites within the City to serve more moderate to low income neighborhoods.		
Partner with community groups in Medford to develop a strategy for maintaining and expanding community gardens	Ongoing	● ● ● ● ● (5)
Ensure that passive recreation opportunities are available throughout the City		
Look for opportunities to add passive recreational activities such as installing picnic tables, establishing walking paths, and creating sitting areas <i>Comments: Senior activity installations</i>	Mid-term	● ● ● ● ● (5)
Provide separate and distinct open space resources for residents with dogs who are not allowed off-leash in many of the City's parks		
Consider additional sites for new dog parks	Short-term	● ● ● ● ● (5)
Provide bags and related supplies and signage to encourage dog owners to pick up after their dogs <i>Comments: Outreach at time of dog license/rabies to pick up after dog. Outreach via city Facebook about waste pickup.</i>	Short-term	● ● ● ● ● ● (6)

● *Comments: Active recreational programming and resources? Identify additional sites for pickleball and other activities?*



Goal 4: Improve the ecological quality of the city

Action	Time Frame	Vote
Expand the urban forest canopy		
Preserve mature trees and strategically plant new trees to provide public health and environmental benefits	Ongoing	 (17)
Along frequently traveled pedestrian routes, add benches and sufficient shade tree plantings	Mid-term	 (9)
Develop succession plans for tree plantings in existing parks	Ongoing	 (8)
Restore wetlands within the riverfront areas to create better ecological function and native habitat		
Regrade and revegetate river banks to prevent erosion	Mid-term to long-term	 (6)
Manage the presence of exotic invasive vegetation in ecologically significant landscapes		
Plant only native plants as existing parks are renovated and new ones are developed	Ongoing	 (7)
Remove invasive plants and replace with native ones	Ongoing	 (6)
Deploy stormwater management pilot projects throughout the City to improve water quality		
*Reference "Parks and Open Space for Climate Resilience" Boards for design examples		 (2)
Protect water quality and important natural resource areas and buffer zones		
*Reference "Parks and Open Space for Climate Resilience" Boards for design examples		 (1)

Goal 5: Develop a system for park facility management/maintenance






Comments: - We need more maintenance staff to do most all parts of this plan. – Increase capacity for planning and fundraising/project management for park, recreation, and school rec facilities. – A business plan with costs and revenues for each project. – Need “NO EATING FISH” signs. - Especially need a Friends of Medford Monuments group to support Oak Grove, war monuments, and other historic parks.



Action	Time Frame	Vote
Improve the overall quality of Medford's existing inventory of open spaces and facilities		
Install or construct restroom facilities (temporary or permanent), particularly at the City's most heavily used parks and those with playgrounds and ballfields	Ongoing	● ● ● ● ● (5)
Research additional funding resources for the maintenance and upgrading of parks and recreation facilities to relieve the financial burden on City departments	Ongoing	● ● ● ● ● ● (6)
Educate the residents as to the resources available throughout the city-wide open space system		
Develop a coordinated online schedule for all playing fields so that potential users can determine field availability	Short-term	● ● ● ● (4)
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.	Short-term	● ● ● ● ● ● (6)
Develop a consistent signage and wayfinding system to direct people to the City's parks and open spaces, especially from adjacent roadways and walking paths	Mid-term	● ● (2)
Facilitate the management of playing fields to protect their condition		
Encourage the establishment of Friends groups to help oversee park conditions and report vandalism by utilizing and promoting SeeClickFix	Ongoing	● ● ● ● (4)
Schedule park cleanup days and encourage neighborhood and sports league participation	Ongoing	● ● ● ● ● ● (6)



Goal 5: Develop a system for park facility management/maintenance

Action	Time Frame	Vote
Support programming that supports public art and use of public outdoor venues throughout the City		
Integrate arts and culture into the design of open spaces by creating opportunities for performing arts and the display of artwork	Short-term	 (7)
Work with residents, teens and neighborhood groups to identify pop-up opportunities for the arts and culture	Short-term and ongoing	 (4)
Commission artists to develop destination artworks along bicycle paths and routes to promote wayfinding and encourage use of bike and pedestrian trails. <i>Comments: Especially with historic interpretation.</i>	Short-term and ongoing	 (3)
Leverage permit fees as income for parks maintenance		
Re-evaluate the permit fee schedule to determine how it can effectively cover ongoing maintenance expenses	Short-term	 (1)
Work toward establishing a dedicated park maintenance fund created in part from permit fees rather than having those fees go into the general fund	Short-term	 (6)



Goal 6: Strengthen Medford's climate change resilience through park and open space design and preservation

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

*Reference "Parks and Open Space for Climate Resilience" Boards for design examples

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

*Reference "Parks and Open Space for Climate Resilience" Boards for design examples

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.

*Reference "Parks and Open Space for Climate Resilience" Boards for design examples

Comments: Malden Hospital



(4)

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

*Reference "Parks and Open Space for Climate Resilience" Boards for design examples



(2)

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE

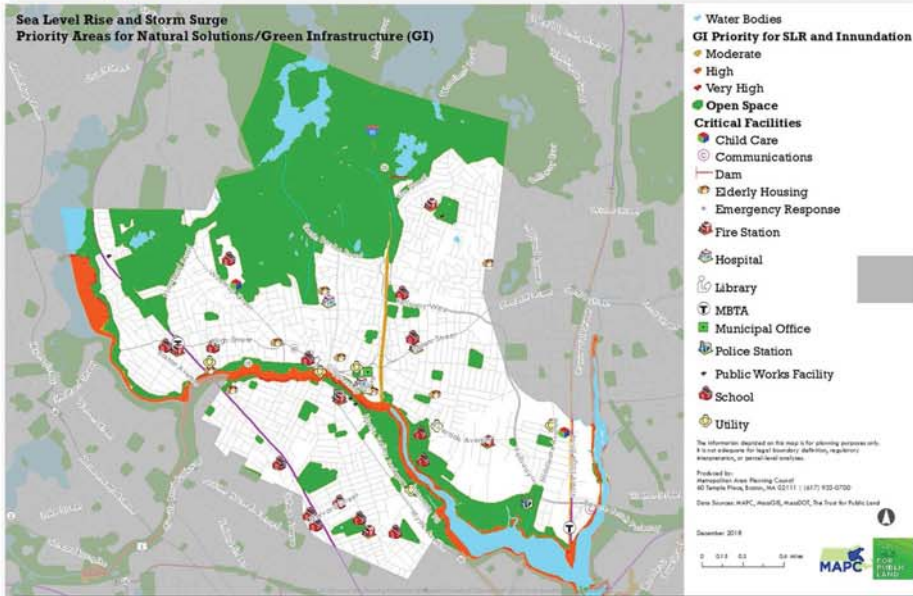


Climate Risks

Park Design Opportunities



Sea Level Rise and Storm Surge



Earthen Berm Shoreline Walkways



Floodable Park with Bike Pump Track

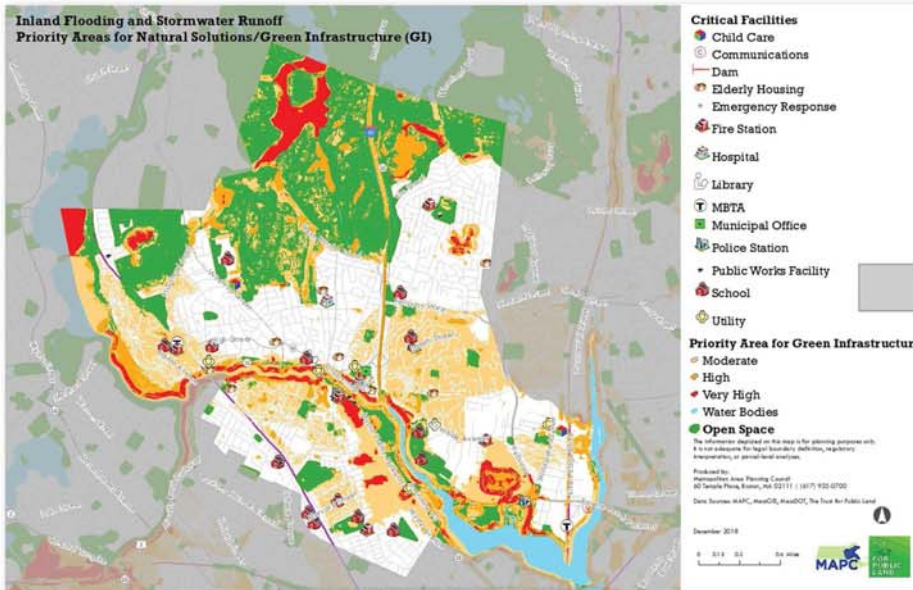


Floodable Wetland Park with Walking Bridge

- Take a look at the one @ Harvard Stadium
- Please consider this for our youth. They have no place like this to go to.
- Yes! Many of my kid's friends would love this.



Increased Precipitation and Flooding



Vegetated Swales along Drives and Pathways

- Concerns about ticks and mosquitos. Would like more information.



- Absolutely need more vegetated swales
- ### Rain Gardens adjacent to Impervious Courts



Natural Infiltration Basin between Playing Fields

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE

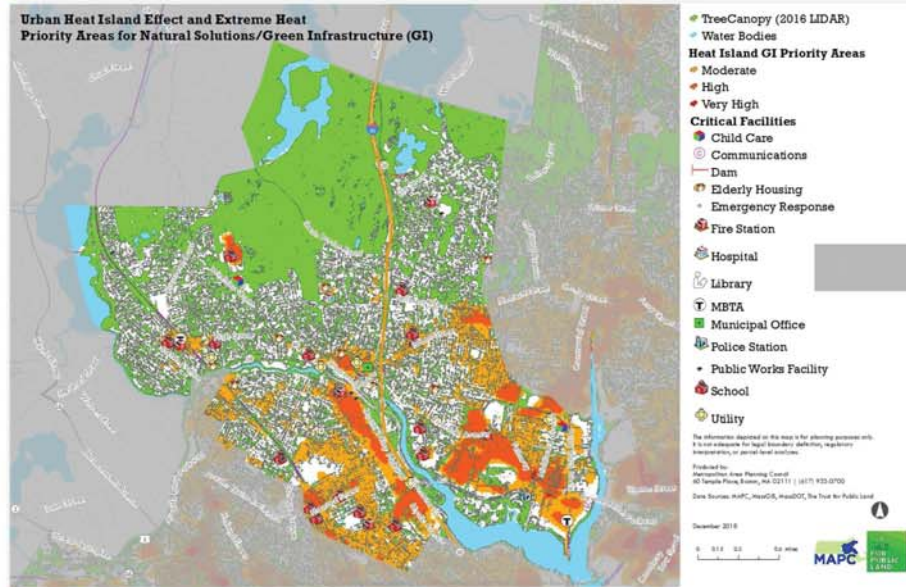


Climate Risks

Park Design Opportunities



Extreme Heat and Urban Heat Island Effect



Green Parking Lots at Parks



Arts & Culture and Reducing Greenhouse Gases

- The Tufts Community is an underused asset. Partner with classes to develop creative solutions in their own community.

- With more “guided-tour” creative signage in parks, kids and adults will be more informed and invested in green spaces.

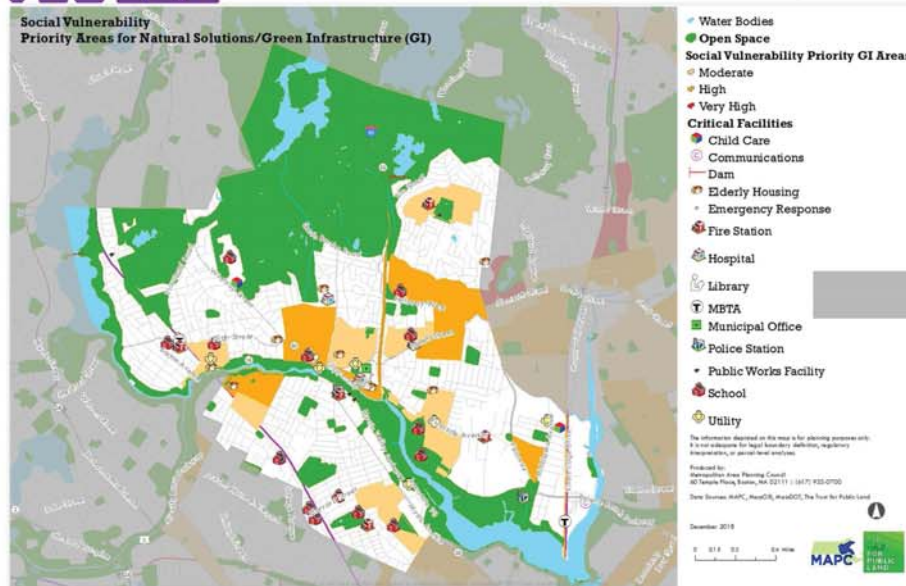


Planting, Stewarding, and Managing Trees

- Tree maintenance and forestry efforts are a strong visual to the community about conservation. People in the city are mourning loss of trees.



Social Vulnerability and Climate Justice



Creative Crosswalks for Traffic Calming

- We need to adopt solar LED/Motion Sensor technology for our more dangerous roads and crosswalks. **Especially** state/DCR roads.



Curb Extension with Raingardens



Green-scapes and Natural Play Areas

Appendix D: Focus Groups

- Focus group schedule
- Focus group notes by topic

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Medford OSRP Focus Group Schedule

Group	Date	Location	Attendance	Language
Medford Family network	12/10/2018	489 Winthrop Street, Medford MA 02155	8	English
Medford Community Coalition, CACHE (arts group), and Medford Family Network	12/12/2018	West Medford Communtiy Center 111 Arlington St, Medford, MA 02155	5	English
Vida Nova Baptist Church	12/16/2018	320 Boston Ave, Medford MA 02155	22	Portuguese
Medford Recreation	12/17/2018	30 Forrest Street	4	English
Medford Senior Center	1/16/2019	121 Riverside Avenue, Medford, MA 02155	20	English
Medford Housing Authority	1/31/2019	121 Riverside Avenue, Medford, MA 02155	10	Haitian Creole, English
Medford High School	2/4/2019	489 Winthrop Street, Medford MA 02155	14	English
Medford Bikes/Walk Medford	2/7/2019	West Medford Communtiy Center 111 Arlington St, Medford, MA 02155	9	English
Medford Arts Council	2/11/2019	West Medford Communtiy Center 111 Arlington St, Medford, MA 02155	8	English
MVA NAACP	2/25/2019	West Medford Communtiy Center 111 Arlington St, Medford, MA 02155	11	English
Medford Disability Council	2/27/2019	Medford City Hall	10	English
Total Attendees			121	

Note Summary by Topic:

Facilities

Lack of restrooms and water fountains were by far the most noted issues with parks and rec facilities. When there are bathrooms and water fountains, many participants indicated that they were not maintained properly. Several participants indicated that parks needed trash cans.

Carr, Dugger, Hickey, Playstead, Wrights Pond, and Barry were all specifically mentioned in this category.

Maintenance

General maintenance was a specific problem mentioned in all 11 focus groups and both interviews that I conducted. In several focus groups, participants indicated that the maintenance issues in parks discouraged or prevented them from visiting. Among the issues most often cited as maintenance issues were:

- Geese and dog poop
- Litter and trash
- Overgrown parks, weeds
- Old and rusty structures

Programming

There are a diversity of suggestions and issues relating to programming, including things such as an obstacle course, longer pool seasons, more outdoor movies, yoga classes, grills for cooking, and more. Participants indicated that there was a lack of programming for teens more generally and pointed out that shortened hours of certain rec facilities (either officially or incidentally, such as through the lights turning off) has made that lack of programming worse. Participants in several focus groups indicated that they wished they had more information about programming in Medford's parks and recreation facilities. Several participants also indicated a desire for more programming around the Mystic River and the Mystic Lakes, such as kayak rentals.

Awareness about Parks and Recreation

Many participants indicated that they don't go to parks and or visit recreation facilities because they aren't aware of them and do not feel that there is a good place to go to get more information. In addition, many participants also indicated that signage about parks (and signage in parks) is severely lacking, which several felt exacerbated the existing issues about awareness. Attendees who have worked with the City have also indicated that it can be confusing to identify which permits they need and when they need to apply for them.

General Improvements

Many participants mentioned that they wished there was more shade at parks, particularly in the Krystal Campbell Peace Garden and Carr Park. Participants also suggested providing more trash cans and poop bags as well. Several participants also suggested improvements to access to the Mystic River from certain parks. Suggestions included better boat entry spots and fishing access.

Access

Most participants accessed parks by walking or driving. Several participants indicated that they would take the bus but either didn't have a bus pass or did not know which parks they could get to by bus. Participants pointed out a variety of barriers to accessing parks, however poor

sidewalks and crosswalks, both inside and outside parks, were among the most frequently mentioned. For example, several participants indicated that the crosswalks and sidewalks on South Border Road feel unsafe and are hard to cross. Members of the Commission for Persons With Disabilities indicated that sidewalks inside parks are often damaged due to tree roots, which negatively impacts their ability to move around inside parks. Many participants indicated that wayfinding and directional signage in parks more was significantly lacking. In the Fells in particular, several participants mentioned that they underutilize the park because they are afraid of getting lost on a hiking trail or of walking where they should not.

Cost

In general, cost was not an issue that associated with accessing and using Medford's parks and recreation services. However, multiple participants indicated that Tufts Pool and Wrights Pond are often too expensive to use, particularly because single use/day passes are not available. Most participants indicated that if they could buy a single use/day pass for these parks, they would use them more often.

Frequency of Use

The following parks were the most commonly used parks as reported by participants: Peace Garden, Wrights Pond, Playstead, Barry, Fells, Dugger, Tufts

Climate Change

The most commonly mentioned climate change issue was inland flooding, including the flooding of basements. Participants most commonly indicated that Victory Park as the park with the worst flooding.

Appendix E: Public Survey

- Full response data report

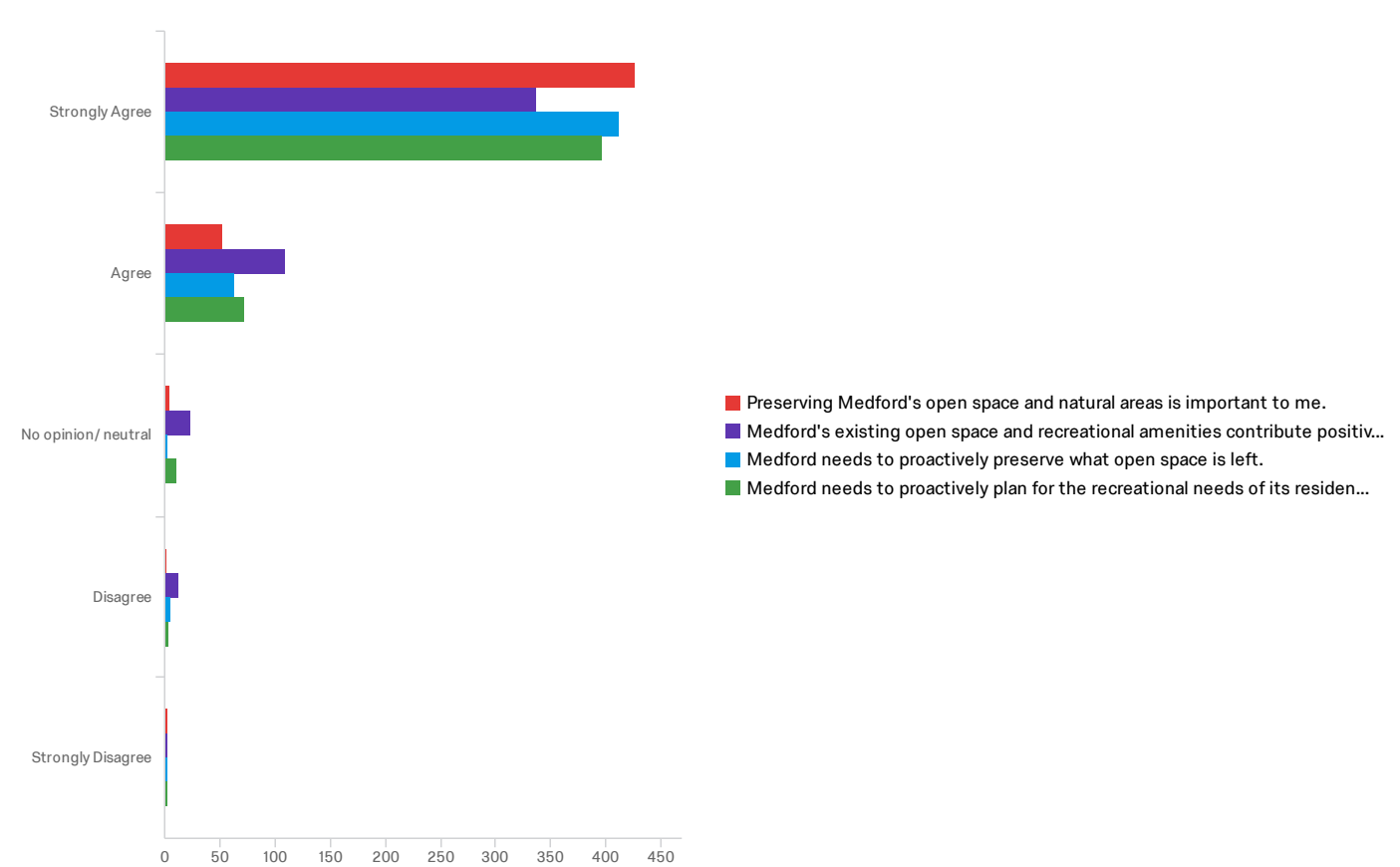
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Default Report

Medford Open Space and Recreation Plan Survey

March 19, 2019 11:23 AM MDT

Do you agree or disagree with the following statements:



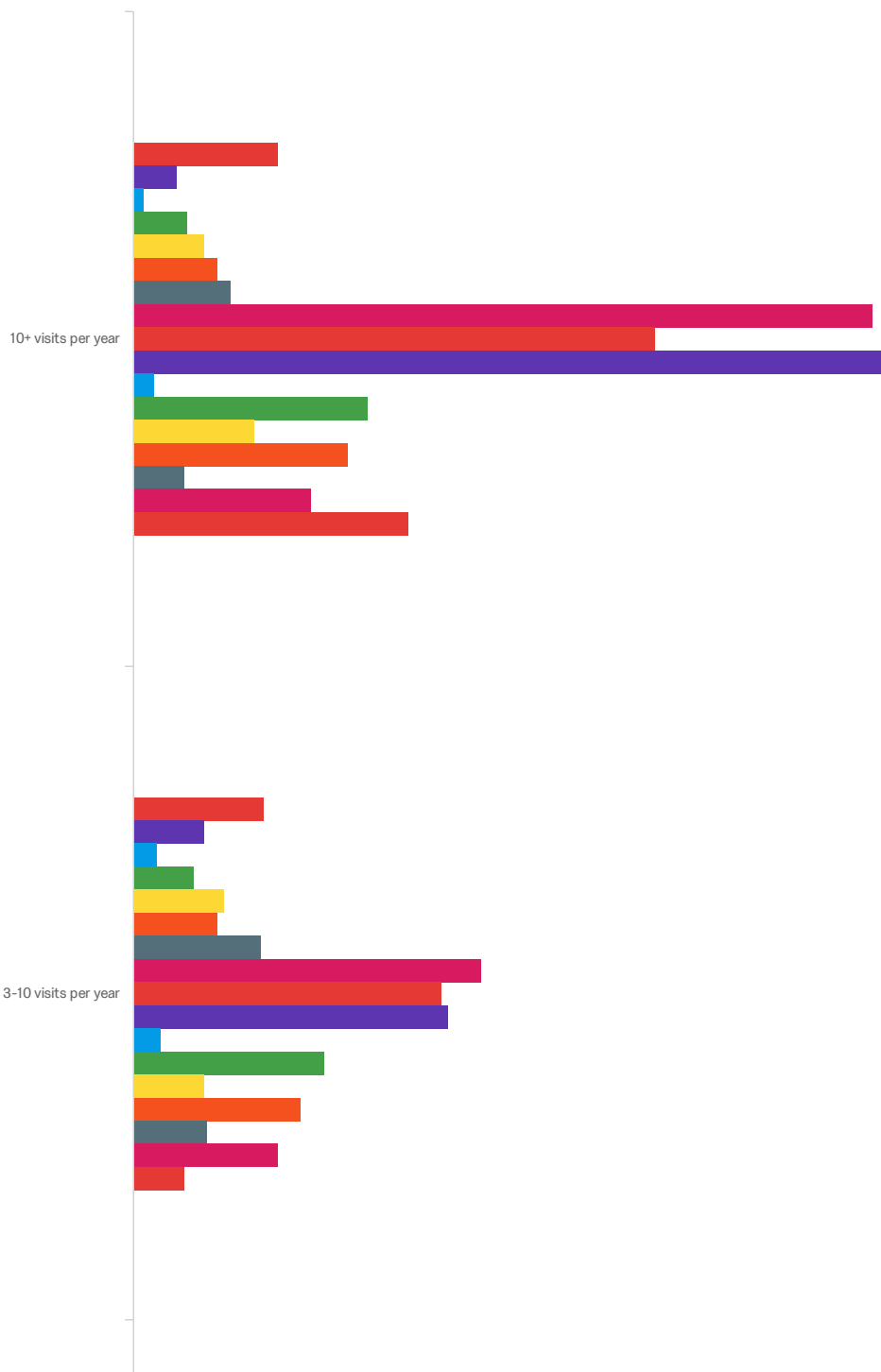
#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Preserving Medford's open space and natural areas is important to me.	1.00	5.00	1.15	0.45	0.20	486

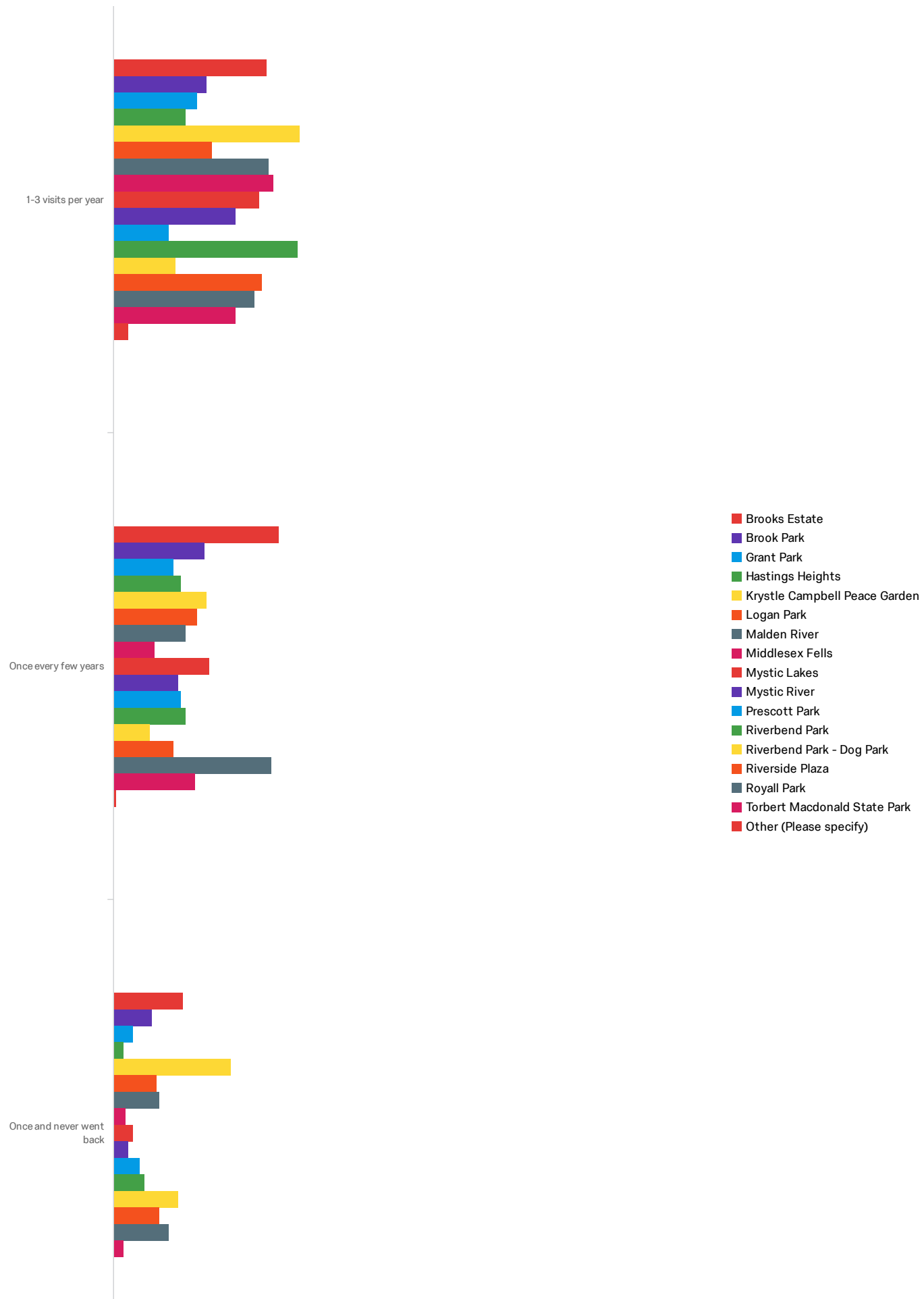
#	Field	Strongly Agree		Agree		No opinion/neutral		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Total
1	Preserving Medford's open space and natural areas is important to me.	87.86%	427	10.70%	52	0.82%	4	0.21%	1	0.41%	2	486
2	Medford's existing open space and recreational amenities contribute positively to overall quality of life.	69.77%	337	22.57%	109	4.76%	23	2.48%	12	0.41%	2	483
3	Medford needs to proactively preserve what open space is left.	85.12%	412	13.02%	63	0.41%	2	1.03%	5	0.41%	2	484

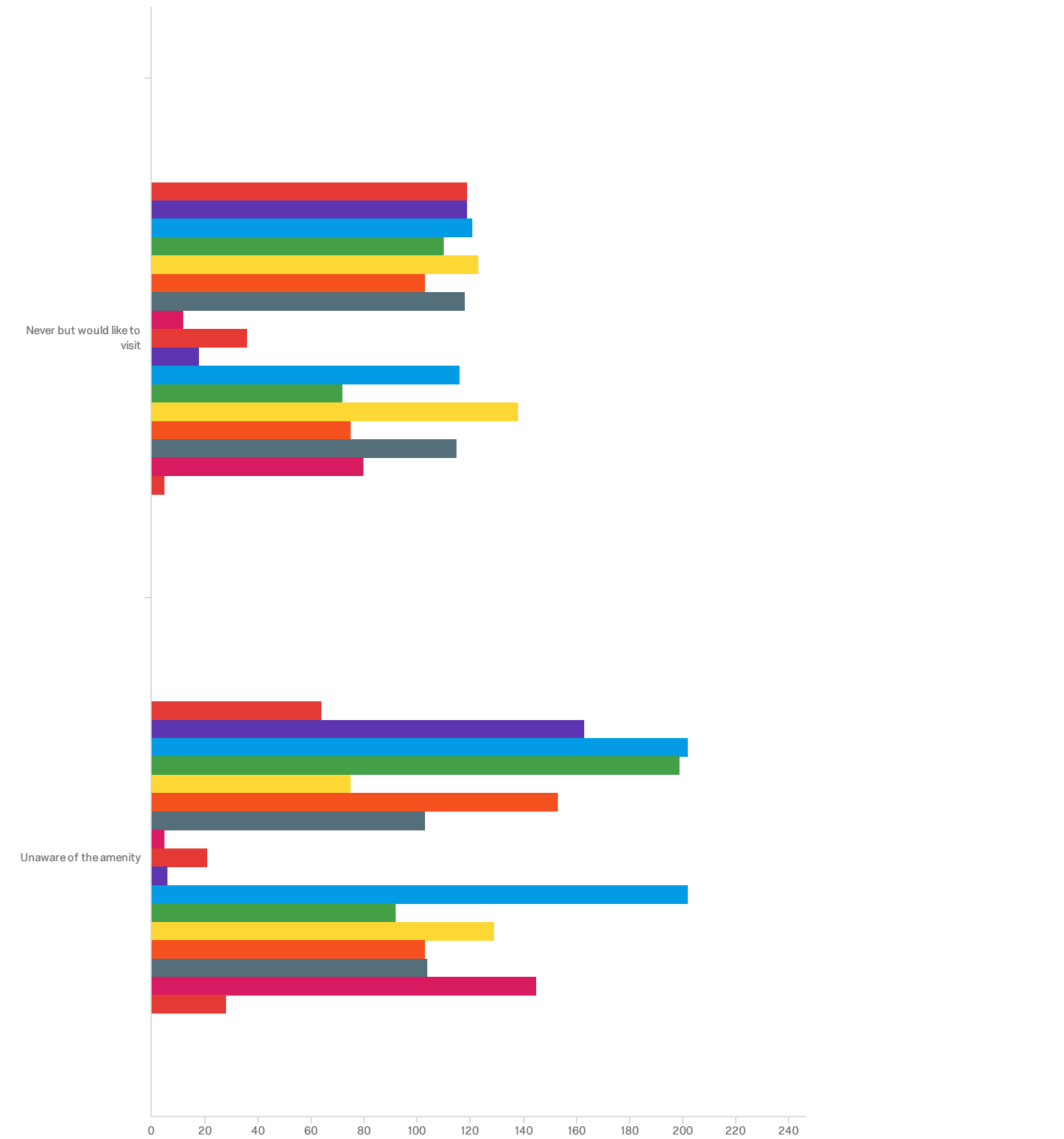
#	Field	Strongly Agree		Agree		No opinion/ neutral		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Total
4	Medford needs to proactively plan for the recreational needs of its residents.	82.02%	397	14.88%	72	2.07%	10	0.62%	3	0.41%	2	484

Showing rows 1 - 4 of 4

How often do you visit or use the following conservation areas for passive recreation, e.g. walking, boating, bird watching? A description of Medford's parks and playgrounds, as well as a map indicating the location of open space and recreation properties throughout the city, can be found at the City of Medford's Park Division website.







#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Brooks Estate	1.00	7.00	4.44	1.94	3.76	427
2	Brook Park	1.00	7.00	5.52	1.75	3.06	409
3	Grant Park	1.00	7.00	5.99	1.42	2.02	401

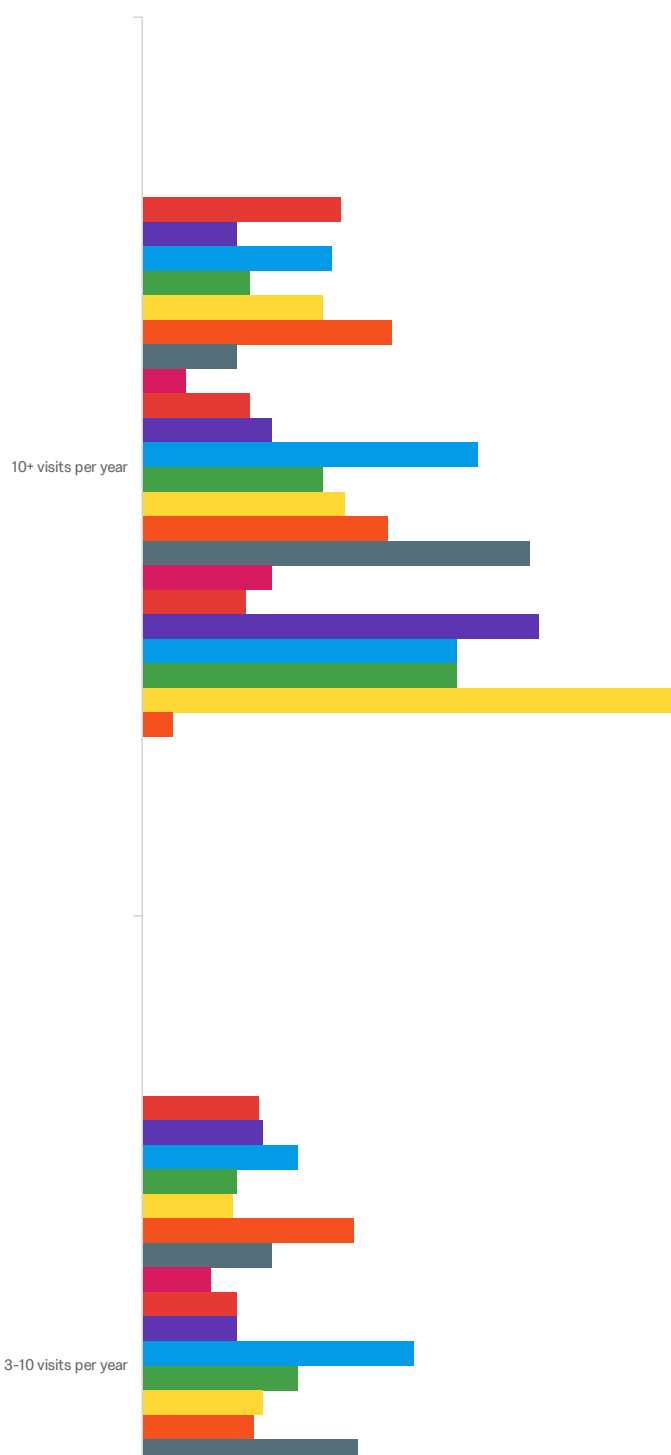
#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
4	Hastings Heights	1.00	7.00	5.75	1.75	3.08	405
5	Krystle Campbell Peace Garden	1.00	7.00	4.79	1.80	3.24	412
6	Logan Park	1.00	7.00	5.29	1.94	3.76	400
7	Malden River	1.00	7.00	4.84	2.00	4.02	402
8	Middlesex Fells	1.00	7.00	1.93	1.29	1.66	431
9	Mystic Lakes	1.00	7.00	2.62	1.83	3.36	414
10	Mystic River	1.00	7.00	2.00	1.43	2.05	426
11	Prescott Park	1.00	7.00	6.01	1.43	2.06	394
12	Riverbend Park	1.00	7.00	4.08	2.24	5.02	411
13	Riverbend Park - Dog Park	1.00	7.00	5.31	1.96	3.83	392
14	Riverside Plaza	1.00	7.00	4.31	2.27	5.14	398
15	Royall Park	1.00	7.00	5.03	1.77	3.15	404
16	Torbert Macdonald State Park	1.00	7.00	4.74	2.27	5.13	410
17	Other (Please specify)	1.00	7.00	2.63	2.44	5.97	137

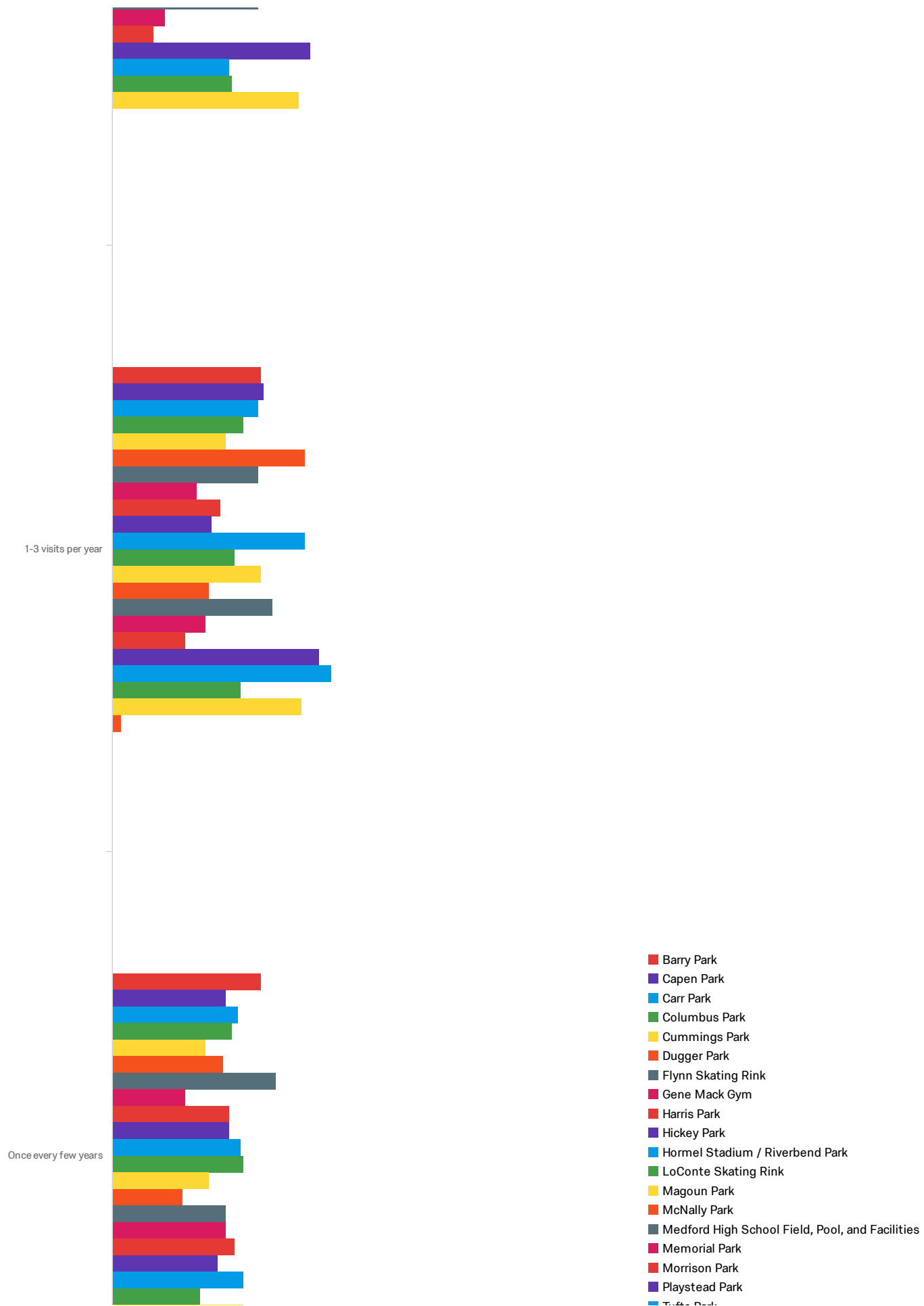
#	Field	10+ visits per year		3-10 visits per year		1-3 visits per year		Once every few years		Once and never went back		Never but would like to visit		Unaware of the amenity	
1	Brooks Estate	10.07%	43	9.13%	39	14.99%	64	16.16%	69	6.79%	29	27.87%	119	14.99%	64
2	Brook Park	3.18%	13	5.13%	21	9.54%	39	9.29%	38	3.91%	16	29.10%	119	39.85%	163
3	Grant Park	0.75%	3	1.75%	7	8.73%	35	6.23%	25	2.00%	8	30.17%	121	50.37%	202
4	Hastings Heights	3.95%	16	4.44%	18	7.41%	30	6.91%	28	0.99%	4	27.16%	110	49.14%	199
5	Krystle Campbell Peace Garden	5.10%	21	6.55%	27	18.93%	78	9.47%	39	11.89%	49	29.85%	123	18.20%	75
6	Logan Park	6.25%	25	6.25%	25	10.25%	41	8.75%	35	4.50%	18	25.75%	103	38.25%	153
7	Malden River	7.21%	29	9.45%	38	16.17%	65	7.46%	30	4.73%	19	29.35%	118	25.62%	103
8	Middlesex Fells	51.28%	221	24.13%	104	15.55%	67	3.94%	17	1.16%	5	2.78%	12	1.16%	5

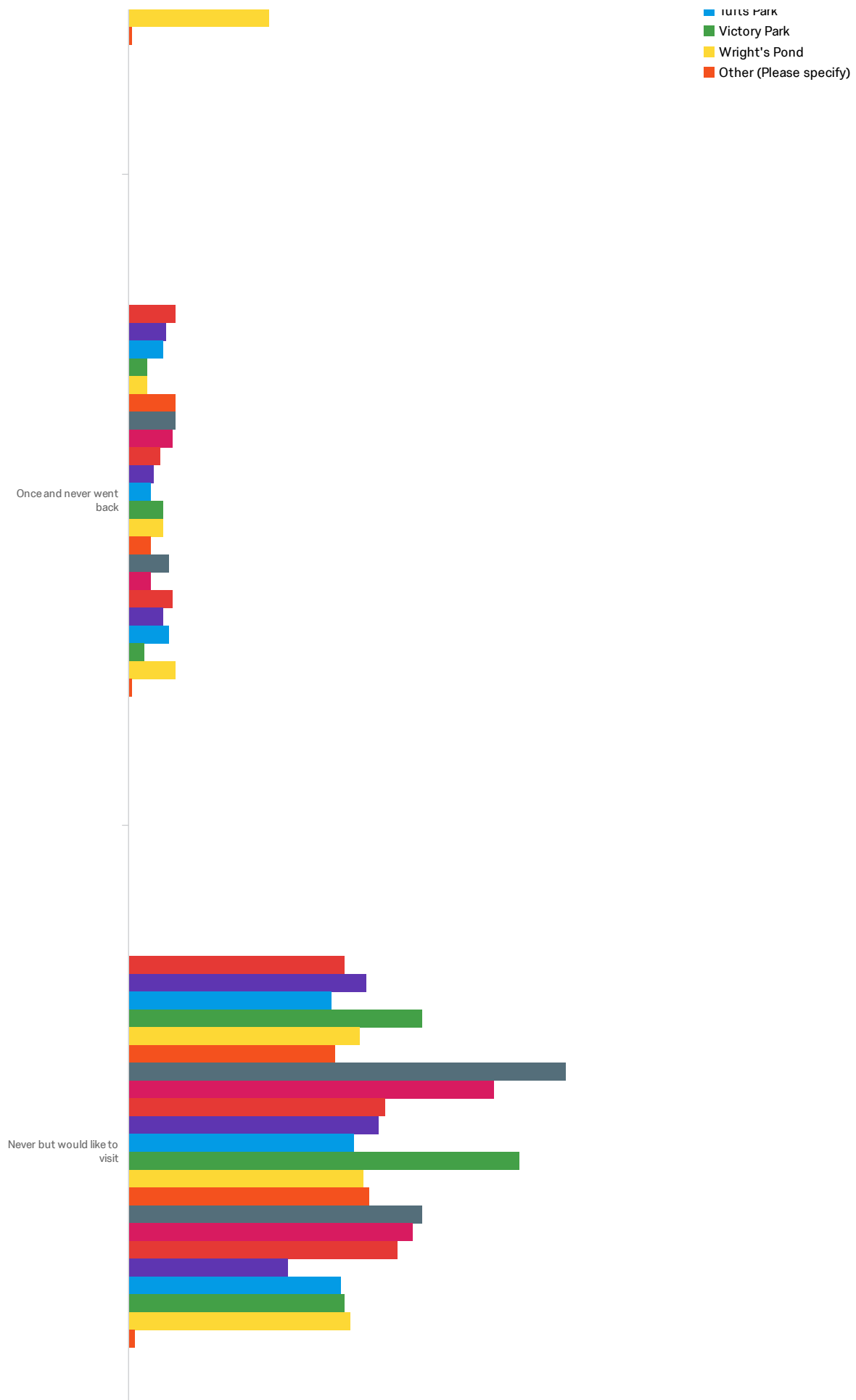
#	Field	10+ visits per year		3-10 visits per year		1-3 visits per year		Once every few years		Once and never went back		Never but would like to visit		Unaware of the amenity	
9	Mystic Lakes	37.68%	156	22.22%	92	14.73%	61	9.66%	40	1.93%	8	8.70%	36	5.07%	21
10	Mystic River	52.58%	224	22.07%	94	11.97%	51	6.34%	27	1.41%	6	4.23%	18	1.41%	6
11	Prescott Park	1.52%	6	2.03%	8	5.84%	23	7.11%	28	2.79%	11	29.44%	116	51.27%	202
12	Riverbend Park	17.03%	70	13.87%	57	18.73%	77	7.30%	30	3.16%	13	17.52%	72	22.38%	92
13	Riverbend Park - Dog Park	9.18%	36	5.36%	21	6.63%	26	3.83%	15	6.89%	27	35.20%	138	32.91%	129
14	Riverside Plaza	16.08%	64	12.56%	50	15.58%	62	6.28%	25	4.77%	19	18.84%	75	25.88%	103
15	Royall Park	3.71%	15	5.45%	22	14.60%	59	16.34%	66	5.69%	23	28.47%	115	25.74%	104
16	Torbert Macdonald State Park	12.93%	53	10.49%	43	12.44%	51	8.29%	34	0.98%	4	19.51%	80	35.37%	145
17	Other (Please specify)	59.85%	82	10.95%	15	4.38%	6	0.73%	1	0.00%	0	3.65%	5	20.44%	28

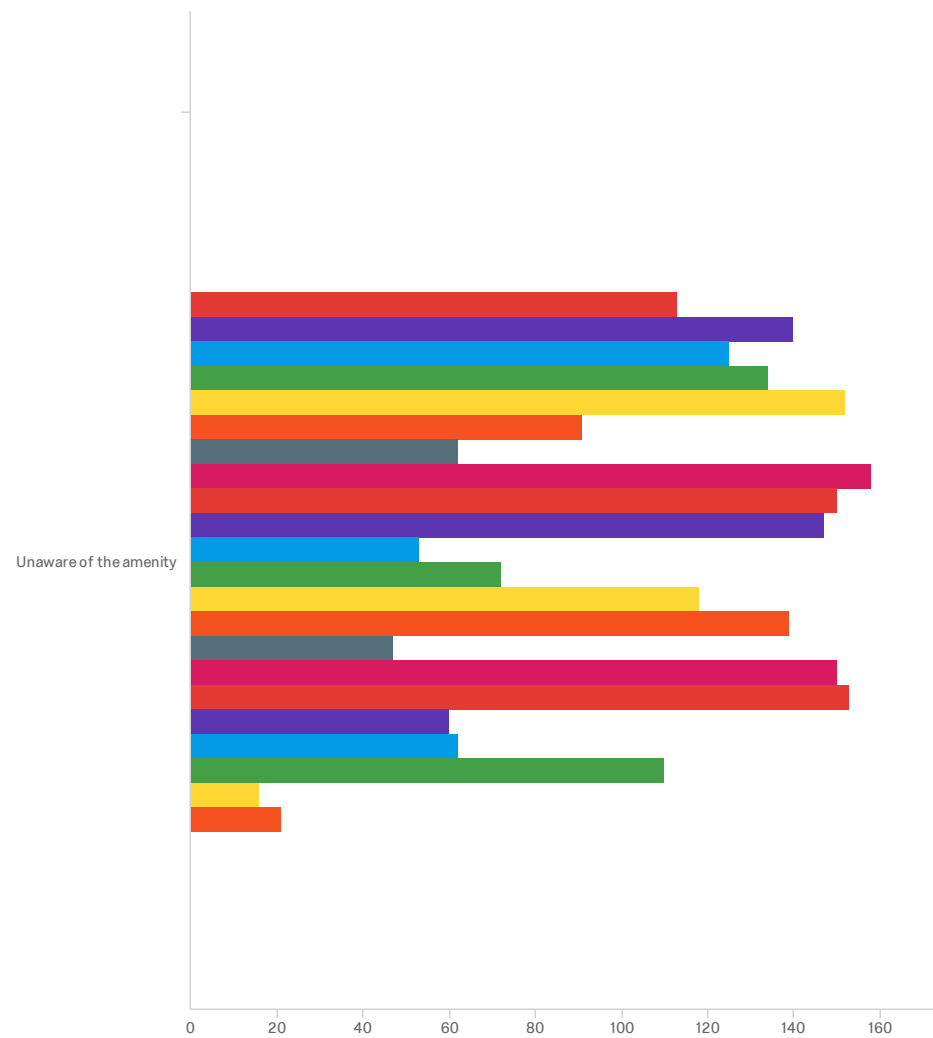
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How often do you visit or use the following recreation properties? A description of Medford's parks and playgrounds, as well as a map indicating the location of open space and recreation properties throughout the city, can be found at the City of Medford's Park Division website.









#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Barry Park	1.00	7.00	4.67	2.15	4.61	372
2	Capen Park	1.00	7.00	5.11	2.00	4.02	369
3	Carr Park	1.00	7.00	4.70	2.20	4.82	374
4	Columbus Park	1.00	7.00	5.18	1.98	3.92	367
5	Cummings Park	1.00	7.00	5.10	2.17	4.72	366
6	Dugger Park	1.00	7.00	4.21	2.21	4.87	383
7	Flynn Skating Rink	1.00	7.00	4.81	1.83	3.34	375
8	Gene Mack Gym	1.00	7.00	5.71	1.65	2.73	369
9	Harris Park	1.00	7.00	5.28	1.98	3.93	366
10	Hickey Park	1.00	7.00	5.22	2.04	4.17	361

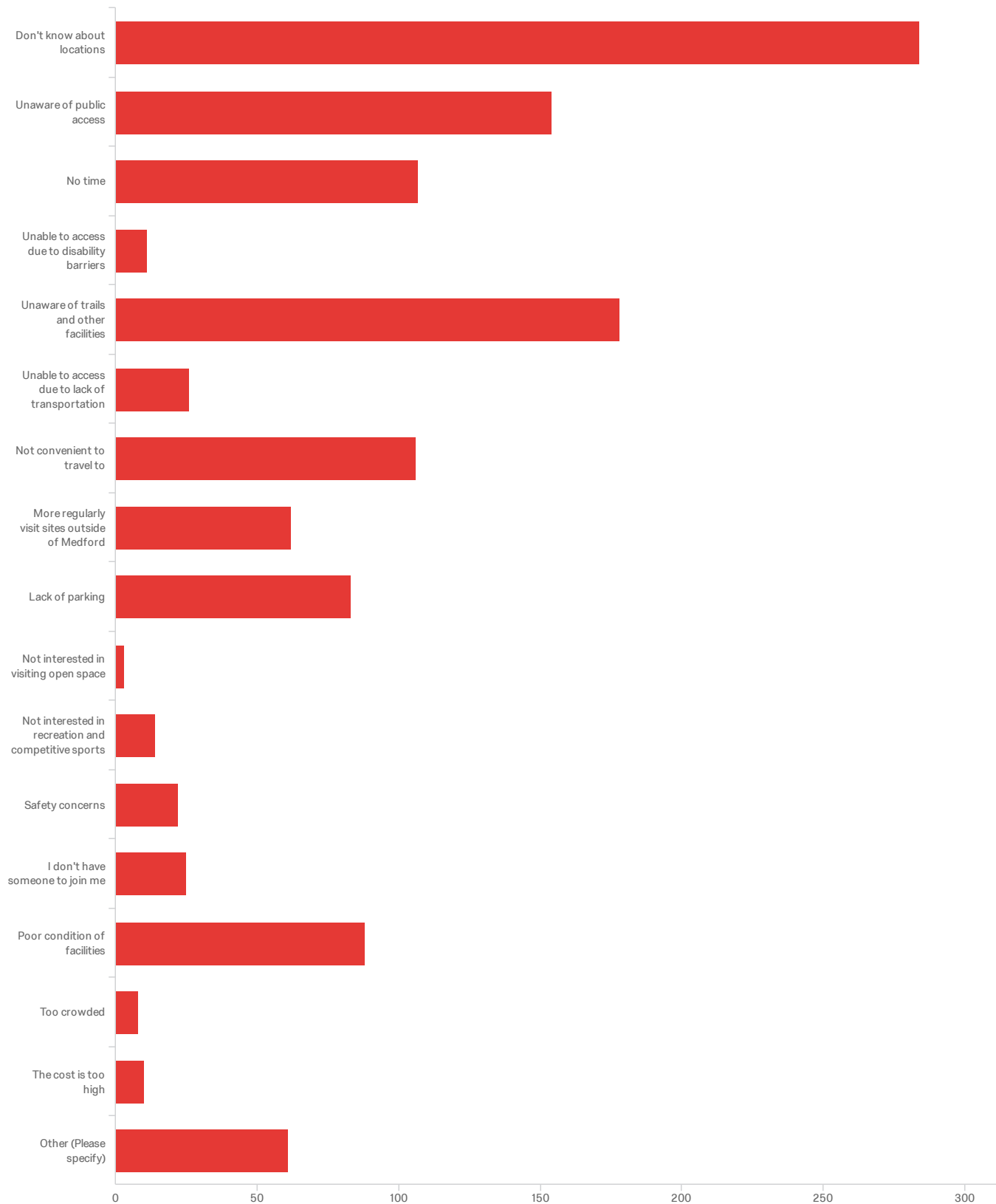
#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
11	Hormel Stadium / Riverbend Park	1.00	7.00	3.70	2.14	4.59	383
12	LoConte Skating Rink	1.00	7.00	4.64	2.05	4.22	373
13	Magoun Park	1.00	7.00	4.74	2.20	4.86	363
14	McNally Park	1.00	7.00	4.89	2.31	5.32	363
15	Medford High School Field, Pool, and Facilities	1.00	7.00	3.79	2.19	4.79	388
16	Memorial Park	1.00	7.00	5.31	2.00	3.99	367
17	Morrison Park	1.00	7.00	5.45	1.89	3.57	358
18	Playstead Park	1.00	7.00	3.51	2.17	4.71	389
19	Tufts Park	1.00	7.00	3.90	2.15	4.60	376
20	Victory Park	1.00	7.00	4.34	2.37	5.62	372
21	Wright's Pond	1.00	7.00	3.11	1.97	3.89	399
22	Other (Please specify)	1.00	7.00	5.26	2.44	5.96	35

#	Field	10+ visits per year		3-10 visits per year		1-3 visits per year		Once every few years		Once and never went back		Never but would like to visit		Unaware of the amenity	
1	Barry Park	12.37%	46	7.26%	27	13.71%	51	13.71%	51	4.03%	15	18.55%	69	30.38%	113
2	Capen Park	5.96%	22	7.59%	28	14.09%	52	10.57%	39	3.25%	12	20.60%	76	37.94%	140
3	Carr Park	11.76%	44	9.63%	36	13.37%	50	11.50%	43	2.94%	11	17.38%	65	33.42%	125
4	Columbus Park	6.81%	25	5.99%	22	12.26%	45	11.17%	41	1.63%	6	25.61%	94	36.51%	134
5	Cummings Park	11.48%	42	5.74%	21	10.66%	39	8.74%	32	1.64%	6	20.22%	74	41.53%	152
6	Dugger Park	15.14%	58	12.79%	49	17.23%	66	9.92%	38	3.92%	15	17.23%	66	23.76%	91
7	Flynn Skating Rink	5.87%	22	8.00%	30	13.33%	50	14.93%	56	4.00%	15	37.33%	140	16.53%	62
8	Gene Mack Gym	2.71%	10	4.34%	16	7.86%	29	6.78%	25	3.79%	14	31.71%	117	42.82%	158
9	Harris Park	6.83%	25	6.01%	22	10.11%	37	10.93%	40	2.73%	10	22.40%	82	40.98%	150
10	Hickey Park	8.31%	30	6.09%	22	9.42%	34	11.08%	40	2.22%	8	22.16%	80	40.72%	147
11	Hormel Stadium / Riverbend Park	20.37%	78	16.45%	63	17.23%	66	11.49%	44	1.83%	7	18.80%	72	13.84%	53

#	Field	10+ visits per year		3-10 visits per year		1-3 visits per year		Once every few years		Once and never went back		Never but would like to visit		Unaware of the amenity	
12	LoConte Skating Rink	11.26%	42	9.65%	36	11.26%	42	12.06%	45	2.95%	11	33.51%	125	19.30%	72
13	Magoun Park	12.95%	47	7.71%	28	14.05%	51	9.09%	33	3.03%	11	20.66%	75	32.51%	118
14	McNally Park	15.70%	57	7.16%	26	9.09%	33	6.61%	24	1.93%	7	21.21%	77	38.29%	139
15	Medford High School Field, Pool, and Facilities	23.20%	90	12.89%	50	14.18%	55	10.05%	39	3.35%	13	24.23%	94	12.11%	47
16	Memorial Park	8.17%	30	4.90%	18	8.72%	32	10.63%	39	1.91%	7	24.80%	91	40.87%	150
17	Morrison Park	6.70%	24	3.91%	14	6.98%	25	11.73%	42	3.91%	14	24.02%	86	42.74%	153
18	Playstead Park	23.65%	92	17.48%	68	18.25%	71	9.25%	36	2.83%	11	13.11%	51	15.42%	60
19	Tufts Park	19.41%	73	10.64%	40	19.95%	75	11.97%	45	3.46%	13	18.09%	68	16.49%	62
20	Victory Park	19.62%	73	11.02%	41	11.83%	44	8.06%	30	1.34%	5	18.55%	69	29.57%	110
21	Wright's Pond	30.83%	123	16.04%	64	16.29%	65	11.28%	45	3.76%	15	17.79%	71	4.01%	16
22	Other (Please specify)	20.00%	7	0.00%	0	8.57%	3	2.86%	1	2.86%	1	5.71%	2	60.00%	21

Showing rows 1 - 22 of 22

What prevents you from utilizing Medford's open space and recreation amenities listed in the previous questions? Check all that apply.



#	Field	Choice Count	
1	Don't know about locations	22.87%	284
2	Unaware of public access	12.40%	154
3	No time	8.62%	107
4	Unable to access due to disability barriers	0.89%	11
5	Unaware of trails and other facilities	14.33%	178
6	Unable to access due to lack of transportation	2.09%	26
7	Not convenient to travel to	8.53%	106
8	More regularly visit sites outside of Medford	4.99%	62
9	Lack of parking	6.68%	83
10	Not interested in visiting open space	0.24%	3
11	Not interested in recreation and competitive sports	1.13%	14
12	Safety concerns	1.77%	22
13	I don't have someone to join me	2.01%	25
14	Poor condition of facilities	7.09%	88
15	Too crowded	0.64%	8
16	The cost is too high	0.81%	10
17	Other (Please specify)	4.91%	61
			1242

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Q12_17_TEXT - Other (Please specify)

Other (Please specify)
lack of variety in children's playgrounds
Lack of bathrooms/ portapotties at parks
I'm aware of some parks but go to some rather than others for convenience and interest.
Lack of restroom or porta-potty facilities.
number of hours in the day/week
limited time

Other (Please specify)

lack of sufficient shade

Many playgrounds need updating

No issues. Walk in some open space daily

Streets getting there are not bike and pedestrian friendly.

prefer to hike, kayak and swim

Lack of access/watercraft for Mystic and Malden Rivers

Not convenient (location/schedule) or offering activities of interest to my family

I only recently moved to Medford about a year ago and so I haven't had the time to visit all locations.

I have limited mobility

recently moved to Medford

alternatives more local to where I live (different part of city)

Lack of shade during the summer

Medford Family Network

no bathrooms

I am usually away from May to October.

I'd love to see some renovations of the downtown area, maybe a nice river boardwalk/walkway. Also, bike commuting is scary through Medford.

I would like to access Wright's pond but it is too complicated to pay for access

Needles everywhere

Visit some parks more than others. A good question would be have you been to the park and separate question if you'd like to visit.

Dogs not always welcome

Children too old to use playground

Would like there to be more public bathrooms.

I mostly take advantage of open spaces that I can walk to

I recently moved here and was simply unaware of all that is offered

Other (Please specify)

Fells. Too many off leash dogs. Lots of strange men having sex in woods. Seems unwatched, Wild West.

I am busy enough with the 4-5 places I go to regularly

no restroom facilities available is a major impediment to using these resources (e.g. at the Mystic Lakes, there are bathrooms available until Columbus Day. People visit the lakes at other times throughout the year, but cannot really enjoy the resources for extended periods without a bathroom available.

I tend to visit parks and open spaces that are either dog friendly or walking distance, or short drive to my home. Open spaces are very important t and I hope we preserve them.

WE made more use of many of the playgrounds/parks when my kids were little. Now they use facilities such as basketball courts all around the city. We need as much open green space as possible with mature trees. This has many benefits besides providing recreational space (which is equally important).

Safety concerns, but not over crime and the like. The playing and lighting conditions of Tufts Park is among the worst in the state & I know. I've played there and umpire there as well as throughout Eastern MA.

Shepard Books estate has been saying your the last 20 plus years it would be functional so the city could make money. No paved road wide enough to access it. Just a waste of money. Other parks a built only for toddlers not both toddlers and school age children, other parks are in bad neighborhoods with crimes and teenagers hanging out,

I tend stay within my neighborhood unless the attraction is unique or very well suited to our recreational needs.

Not near my house

Would like more recreational facilities for dogs, such as off leash hours in some parks.

New to town and haven't learned all of the places yet.

Safety

How many open spaces do we need? Stop building luxury housing. Bring businesses into the city. We have enough parks for children to play in; there's one near every neighborhood.

Recently moved to Medford, still learning about the different spaces.

Have Medford sites I like a lot that are near me that I visit

I use the spaces in west medford.

Lack of bathrooms

primarily visit larger, less structured areas like Mystic River, Condon Shell Park, Fells and Brooks Estate for hiking and Kayaking. Don't have kids or dogs who might appreciate smaller park

The ones I don't know about, I have s sense that they are very small and cater to the adjacent neighbors. I DO attend the parks that are very close to me. I'm not aware of a reason to seek out other small parks that are not right in my neighborhood. If there were an amenity li didn't have locally I would certainly trVrl to another park.

For city parks we mostly go to the ones we can walk to.

Other (Please specify)

I go to the parks closest to where I live.

I love the Fells and spend most of my time there.

I usually only go to parks in walking distance from home

Visited many of these parks when our kids were little.

only recently moved to Medford, still learning!

Too many restrictions on dogs

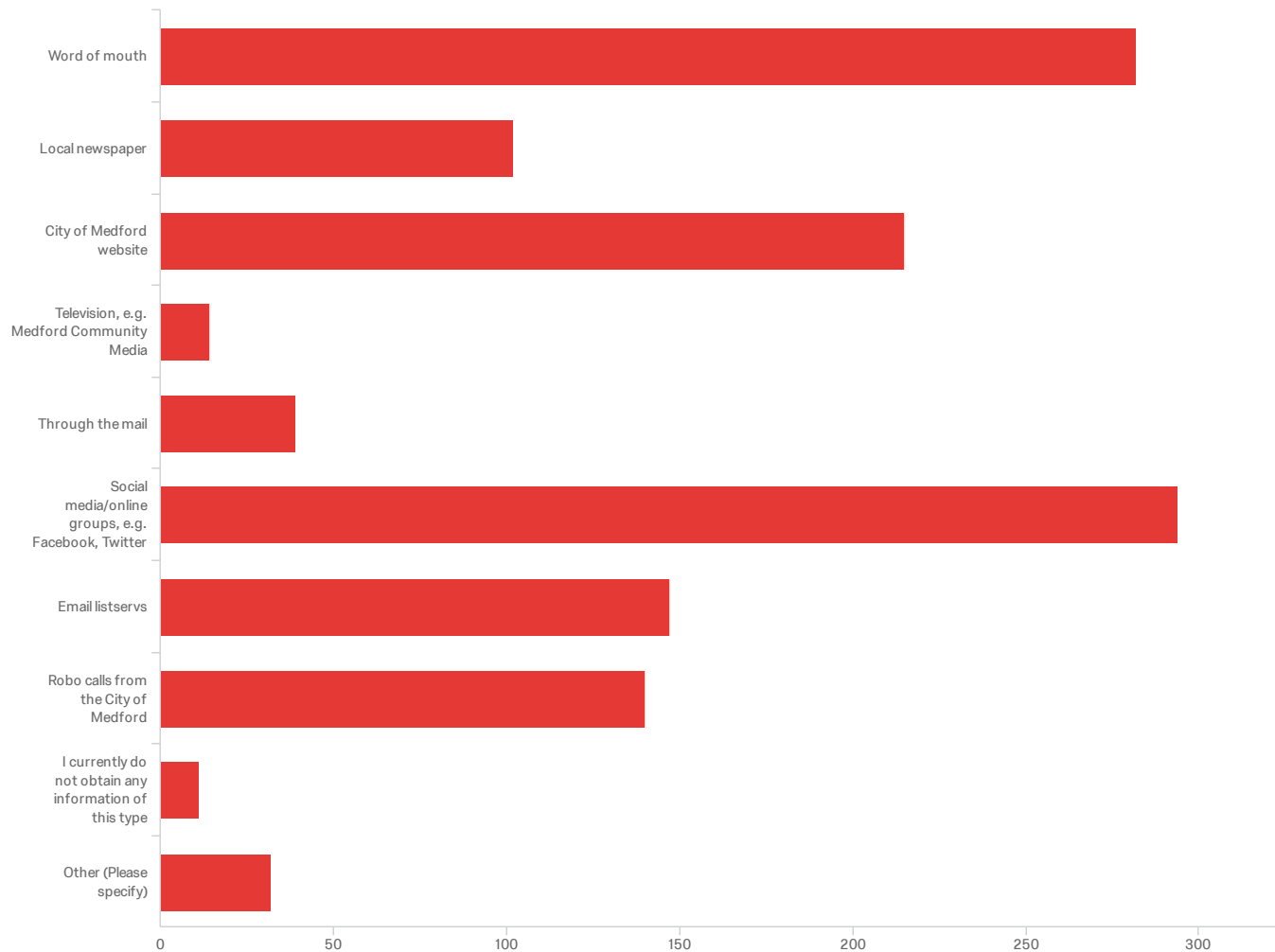
New to the area

I don't know the "real" names of many parks. Also, seems unrealistic that someone would visit every playground in town, especially those not in walking distance? I go to several convenient playgrounds frequently with my kids,

Unsure of stroller access

nothing prevents me. Spend a lot of time on mystic river and park.

How do you currently obtain information about city news, events, and activities? Check all that apply.



#	Field	Choice Count
1	Word of mouth	22.10% 282
2	Local newspaper	7.99% 102
3	City of Medford website	16.85% 215
4	Television, e.g. Medford Community Media	1.10% 14
5	Through the mail	3.06% 39
6	Social media/online groups, e.g. Facebook, Twitter	23.04% 294
7	Email listservs	11.52% 147
8	Robo calls from the City of Medford	10.97% 140

#	Field	Choice Count
9	I currently do not obtain any information of this type	0.86% 11
10	Other (Please specify)	2.51% 32
		1276

Showing rows 1 - 11 of 11

Q13_10_TEXT - Other (Please specify)

Other (Please specify)

Medford Family Network

community organizations- the website is terrible

would like better access to information through biweekly email

Community organizations

Citywide text messages

Google Maps

just moved back to medford after 20 years so learning whats available

My wife.

With new Google phone, don't know how to get robo calls from the city. I signed up for email but don't check it regularly.

Text messages from City

Facebook

friends

Medford Family Network

Wish direct mailings were used for redevelopment notices

Medford txt messages and emails

CACHE

Text alerts from City of Medford website and Medford Police website

Medford Moms facebook group

Internet

Other (Please specify)

City of medford email alerts, Medford Family Network emails, flyers at library and MFN, posters in coffeeshops

All of the above except Television

City council meetings on tv.

Nextdoor app

MFN

Just happen to drive/walk by

Google searches

MFN and surrounding parenting communities

I walk everywhere and observe.

MFN

Medford Patch emails, and notices from school

eBird

posters

Please provide any general comments you have on specific city facilities and public spaces. (e.g. better lighting, restrooms, new benches, more trees, better maintenance, etc.)

Please provide any general comments you have on specific city facilities an...

more trash barrels, better lighting, and water fountains would be a great start. bathrooms would be awesome [Dolores Park in San Francisco is a perfect example of good use of bathrooms in a public park space].

Need more native plants, shady spaces take care of invasives & poison ivy Benches that face each other (gathering spaces) spaces for teens better maintenance (garbage is overrun all the time)

Only wish is to have and maintain bathroom facilities. A portapotty is good enough in an emergency

The Medford dog park could use more benches and there are bag dispensers but they are always empty and the trash cans are typically full. Having them stocked all the time and having available empty trash cans to use would make the park a cleaner place to visit.

Trash removal and clean up

I wish there were more trash cans in parks and around the river. I see trash and I'd be more likely to pick it if there were receptacles for disposal. I wish there was more access for walking around the river near Medford square. Also, I wish there were more kayak boat launches, particularly in West Medford.

Some parks lack places to sit in the shade - McNally Park for example. Wish tables and benches were out of hot sun.

It would be awesome to have water fountains installed along the Mystic river trails behind Hormel stadium and/or Mystic Reservation. This is a big turnoff for exercising/running during the summer. What about trash cans at the Fells entrances? We see a lot of garbage at the entrances and it would be great to have facilities to recycle/throw stuff away.

Overall better maintenance. More parking especially for Capen st park, one of only 2 parks that has water & only 4 parking spaces! More parking to access Fells, especially since many trails are not easily accessible by T on weekends.

Medford city facilities and public spaces are generally not inviting or well cared for. The city itself seems rather shabby, and it's difficult to navigate the streets due to potholes and poor upkeep of sidewalks and streets. I'm also unable to invite my disabled husband to join me on outings because his wheelchair requires smooth curbs and surfaces on which to navigate. We're originally from Berkeley, California, the first city in the country to require disabled accessibility in the 1970s. Medford and many other towns in Massachusetts are frightfully lax when it comes to care for its disabled residents. Please do something about this as soon as possible. It will also make the city more accessible for everyone else.

Lighting at Playstead and Victory would be perfect!

I love the Sheepfold but parking can be a nightmare. I don't understand why parking isn't allowed on Rt 28. There are also a lot of disabled parking for such a small lot.

It would be wonderful to have restrooms in the parks. It's very difficult to visit parks further from home with young children. Would also love to see splash parks throughout the city! We travel to Everett and Arlington regularly for these amenities. Would be nice to employ high school students as "park montitors" to ensure people are respectful of the facilities. Everett has this and it seems to work wonderfully. General park maintenance/upkeep is very important to our family.

All tot areas should have trash cans. Visiting non local parks like Dugger, Playstead, McNally, and Victory are difficult due to lack of restrooms.

Please provide any general comments you have on specific city facilities an...

Parks can easily fall into disrepair if there is no maintenance scheme in place. I was thrilled to see the changes at MacDonald Park! The upgrades are wonderful and the park that I love is fully alive again. What a difference.

We need to preserve our open spaces and conservation areas ..I think it is what makes Medford Special ..also feel that maintains parks for children is very important

Add lighting at Victory park so Medford Soccer kids don't have dangerous practices in the dark and stop practicing two weeks before the season ends.

Better maintenance is important to encourage public use.

Specifically Logan Park, I do not know why the grounds aren't kept up all around the outside of the park. Down tree limbs, brush growing up, leave clean up etc. It is a big area and doesn't look great when just walking around and through and everything is growing up around or tree limbs never removed after the winter. I walked into a branch the other day and just about got my eye. I had a hood on and didn't see it in the bad weather. I am average height so this may affect others. It was at the end of the pathway on Otis St. I would even help clean up if there was a clean up day set up, but we would need some muscle and some vehicles/machinery to have this clean up work best.

I have a young walking toddler, and found Magoun was a great space for her given the lack of woodchips within the play area, however, tree debris and trash were often littered all over the play space. She is/was at an age where she puts everything in her mouth, so I had to be on constant lookout this past summer. Would help if there was periodic cleaning of the ground/rubber in the play area to help with this. I even tried bringing a small broom with me once, but it wasn't effective. Shade in the toddler area would also be great, but probably not plausible. Additionally, I would stop and sit more at the beautiful Krystle Campbell Peace Garden, however, the seats aren't in the shade...

We are asked this same question over and over. The answers are still the same. Better maintenance of our spaces is a necessity. Our sidewalks are a disaster and unfriendly to the mobility challenged. Parks are unfriendly to the disabled-- wheelchair swings, adult changing areas, way finding for the visually impaired. No urban forestry preservation plan. Disappearing areas of sanctuary for pollinators and small animals. We are losing our indigenous flora and fauna at an alarming rate. Overarching communication to the city at large is lax- if you don't have a child in the school or live in 99-101 Riverside info is scarce. All fueled by blind support of "housing at all costs".

Playstead Park is great but the basketball area could be refurbished and there could be more trees. there is hardly any shade on the playground equipment and it gets hot and unusable in summer. trails along mystic lakes could be better kept up. in some spots there is hardly any trail and sometimes when you do follow a trail to the lake you see trash and beer bottles everywhere. Would be GREAT to have a community path linking up to ones in or like the ones in somerville cambridge and arlington...

Gene Mack better parking Fells some lighting River bend better lighting

Update Lighted Athletic Fields

The parks and public spaces need regular maintenance. I feel lucky to live in a city with so many beautiful open spaces for kids to play and to go for a run, but we need to pay closer attention to them. I was very pleased to see the shell being used for yoga and other events in the nice weather and believe that we need to continue to dedicate time and resources in this spaces.

Can't wait for the new library.

- Would love to see seasonal canoe and kayak rentals and more launch sites on Mystic River or Wright's Pond. - I use the high school pool and enjoy the facilities there, but the showers could be cleaner. - Complete the bike/walking path network, especially the Clippership Connector - Would love to see a better signage and traffic turn/crosswalk into Wright's Pond. - Please consider redesigning the Wright's Pond sticker system so that I can use it on either a car or a bike/walk-in. I have to buy both a walk-in and a car pass when I want the option or riding my bike there. -Would love extended use or Wright's Pond to Labor Day or weekends after peak season.

Live on Logan Ave. Logan park and Magoun park are nice as they are. Morrison is in need of a real rehab. It looks sad and bare, i.e. needs some trees. Will help stop the cold winds in the winter and bring some shade in the summer. Needs new playground for the kids. Existing playground is outdated. It doesn't seem safe on central st for pedestrians to cross. Are there enough pedestrian crossings, are they in the right place and are they well lit at night? For sure, it is a shame that there aren't proper pedestrian traffic lights at the intersection of central and spring st. As much as possible, do not use tax revenue from the city for improvements. Fill out grant applications to get State and Federal funds.

Please provide any general comments you have on specific city facilities an...

I think better resources on access would be helpful. I tried to find a place, either free or relatively cheap, to swim last summer and called all over, sent emails and no one ever returned my calls. I ended up going to Dillboy in Summerville because information was more easily accessible.

Playstead Park would be a good area for a fenced in park for dogs

Sheepfold needs a bathroom Medford dog park is boring and too small Already too much waterside construction in medford. Wish we could leave it alone ie Wellington circle Traffic patterns are messy; makes walking unsafe High school looks like a prison, not welcoming to use facilities Bike lanes are a joke. No connection between bike trails. Dangerous placement of bike lanes.

Many of the City's playgrounds do not meet current playground safety standards. Equipment is outdated and sand is not considered a safety surface. Recommend that the City inventory all existing playgrounds and begin renovating a few each year.

Street crossings near all Medford facilities are not friendly to pedestrians or bikes. Makes it hard to get there. If I go running the trails don't have good crossings. I usually go the half mile to Somerville where it is. Also they plow side walks and enforce residents to plow their walks as well.

Medford needs to get serious about it's trees. Trees are one of the few ways we have to proactively reduce our carbon footprint and ameliorate the climatic changes that are upon us. Their presence improves our quality of life. We are losing them faster than we can plant them. Medford's budget for tree replacement and stump removal is pitiful. At this rate, there will be no more trees left!

Use of recycled materials or otherwise environmentally-friendly building materials would be great (and better for the environment). More waste receptacles, but specifically for recycling and compost as well. More proactive and visible maintenance. There are several requests put in by Medford residents on SeeClickFix that are simply ignored.

I'm a parent of an almost two year old and we go to the Town's playgrounds frequently. We have many within walking distance from our house which is very nice and convenient. I would love it if there were Porto-potties at the playgrounds. Especially since I'm currently potty training my daughter and the need for a bathroom quickly is an issue. We love all that Tufts Park has to offer, that's where we go the most, followed by Magoun and McNally playgrounds. Thank you for soliciting this feedback.

City facilities and public spaces overall give the impression of being neglected and not a priority for City Hall and its departments. Our parks and playgrounds are a distinctive treasure, but on the whole show no ongoing investment and reflect no vision or creativity about their potential.

The orphaned, unnamed green space near the John Hand Bridge near the Mystic River has great potential as a gathering space and music venue The city needs to identify a location for a lighted, adult baseball field. Permanent restroom facilities (composting toilets) are needed are larger parks. The missing pieces of the multi-use path network, in particular the Clippership Connector, should be a priority of this plan. Public open space/green space must be a requirement of any development proposed on Mystic Avenue over the life of this plan. The plan should set annual goals for increasing the staffing levels for the Medford Parks maintenance crew, which is grossly understaffed Completion of the Brooks Estate Master Plan should be a high priority in this plan. The project has languished far too long and deserves an investment from the city.

better bathroom facilities at the playing fields

I swim at the high school pool 3-4 times a week. The showers and hair dryers in the men's locker room are maybe 50% operational. For some reason they never get fixed. Instead they just put yellow tape up and say out of order. The pool itself is great. The canoe kayak launch down by the half shell is poorly placed. Makes it difficult to put a boat in when I put my kayak in down there. I never use it. I just park my car and walk in a straight line to the water. We need more large shade trees. Too many small ornamental trees.

Brooks Estate VERY important to the city! Road on estate needs work!! Better picnic tables at Wright's pond, better garden upkeep at Wright's Pond, better security (ie many people walk through woods to get in free)

I love that there are a number of parks I can go to. I regularly use facilities to walk my dog. My biggest pet peeve is that other dog owners do not pick up waste after their dogs and people leave lots of litter on the ground when there are plenty of trash receptacles available. Specifically this is an issue at hHickey Park. In addition there is a park on the corner of Webster and Ash Street that I go to regularly but I have to walk under the highway. While it is well-lit, there is regularly broken glass under there so the walk is not very nice to get to the recreation area. Medford has nice things, I just feel like my neighbors are not motivated to take care of them.

Please provide any general comments you have on specific city facilities an...

Restrooms would be a great asset to public parks—seasonal port-a-potties are not enough Shade & shelter are lacking in some parks Better bike racks and bike access Better maintenance Opportunities for wider age range

Concerned about needles being littered at the parks. Would like more police monitoring parks at night and would like more clean up crews to inspect parks regularly for needles and broken glass. These are my among my biggest concerns as a mom of young children. An overhaul of the tufts pool facilities would be great, as would the addition of a sprinkler park.

Government should be more focused on basic services like safety, infrastructure, and maintenance of City assets.

I think in general there is a lack of maintenance with respect to even current amenities (e.g. paint is missing/chipping off benches and grass is patchy if not growing at all in certain parks). As part of this effort, more attention and resources need to be applied toward the maintaining of our current parks and open areas in addition to creating or updating additional areas.

I am highly interested in preserving open space, trees, etc. to positively impact climate change.

Real concerns about the trash and debris (sometimes dangerous) in the playgrounds. Also concerned about dog waste and unleashed dogs.

Duggar park is in a great location but has been let go - a renovation of the space would be nice .

Restrooms / facilities in one or more of the parks would be a HUGE improvement and benefit for many parties of different demographics. Also beneficial on a regular basis: both for ongoing informal use with kids and for periodic formal sports events (e.g. intercity /intracity competitive sports)

Adding more trees would be helpful in mitigating the damaging effects of climate change as well as helping the playgrounds to be more comfortable during the summer months.

Enhance historical sites . Better lighting . Properly positioned.

Water fountains, better portapotty/restrooms. Some tennis courts with lights- esp hickey park

Need more benches & trees to promote walkability. Need more trash and recycling receptacles because there's so much litter Need better trimming and maintaining of plants, trees, weeds, etc Need public restrooms and or portapotties. Also access to water- drinking fountains that fill up water bottles!! Need more community gardens and growing spaces . They don't have to be big like the Winthrop Garden. Think growing more food and beautiful plants in small spaces all over the city. Mini orchards like the Boston Tree Party project a few years back. Need to be more open to "alternative" ways of recreating. Allow folks to keep bees in beehives in parks for example. It's not all about baseball. More bike sharing to allow people to access the places without having to worry about parking cars!

All city facilities and public spaces should prioritize native plantings whenever possible and should return unused areas to natural habitats.

I have been to many Little League Fields in other cities and towns and I'd say Medford's are amongst the worst I have seen. It's embarrassing for people from other communities to come to our fields. I fear as my kids get older, I will discover this fact is not limited to just our Little League Fields.

Restrooms are badly needed in medford amenities and public spaces. Bike paths connecting Medford Square to mystic river walkway/bike path is also badly needed. Skate park for teenagers is strongly required and other facilities that would entice teenagers to come together in a safe environment to engage in constructive activities.

Maybe the City could list events at many of these locations in the libraries monthly newsletter that is emailed to many.

Would like parks better maintained (mulch, no graffiti, trash removal, broken equipment), and to have restrooms/porta potties. Playgrounds better designed for specific ages, natural type experiences/materials (see Somerville parks), shaded areas and picnic areas.

There is a short section of Mystic River path-must be barely 50 ft-between the Rt 16/Auburn St intersection/bridge and the bridge taking the train tracks over Rt 16, which is in very bad repair. This section was never repaved/repared when the adjacent sections were redone (very nicely!) and I am wondering why this tiny gap was left-does this specific land belong to Medford instead of DCR, and if so, we should fix this little gap in the path!

Please provide any general comments you have on specific city facilities an...

More community gardens located near Medford Square please. Perhaps near City Hall Plaza!

I tend to go to my same parks (creature of habit, love them). So, even though I don't go to many, I value them immensely. My favorite is the Fells, and I think we should do whatever we need to do to keep that cherished resource. Good job, by the way, in shooting down the proposed skating rink. (Nothing against skating, but still...) Oh, and if there's any way we can somehow ""shame dog owners into picking up their litter bags instead of leaving them in/near the trails, that would be great.

More car parking for the Fells, especially by Bellevue Pond. Year-round access to Wright's Pond, not just the two months during swimming season; develop trails in the woods around Wright's Pond.

The path along 16 and from Whole Foods past memorial park into the Sq does not have lights. It dangerous to walk in past dark for fear of tripping or whatever else could happen. Also Cummings park is well lived and used a lot but it's falling into disrepair.

I'm overall pleased with the facilities in Medford. I'd like to see more space devoted to affordable housing.

I am a frequent visitor to the Brooks Estate, Middlesex Fells, and Mystic Lakes because of the excellent bird-watching in these areas and because I live nearby in Medford. The Brooks Estate is a particular gem because of the varied habitat and ponds. I would appreciate better maintenance of the entrance road and some attempt to control invasive plants. In addition, the buildings (manor and carriage house) have historical significance and need restoration work.

I live by Barry park and would love to see it get used more.

Playstead Park could have better lighting. It appears that lights are there but are not turned on. Generally, I have ben happy with the upkeep of the parks that I have visited.

More tennis courts please!

Port o potties at the playgrounds would be extremely useful. We need water features at our playgrounds so kids can get out on hot days. We need less plastic and more natural materials and structures. We need parks that inspire open-ended play. I believe all of this will also help the Malden Y feed more children through the Summer Eats program. Other cities that have more desirable parks and and water features attract more families and the Y can give out more lunches. Somerville and Csmbridge parks offer a lot of inspiration.

1. I wish you offered a 1 time only 1 visit pass for residents to try wrights pond and/or tufts pool before committing to a whole season pass. 2. I wish there was a 6-24mo tot area at playstead park, the current structures are not good for younger children and there is plenty of room. 3. I wish there was a tennis backboard at Playstead or Victory park where someone could practice tennis with themselves if they can't find a partner.

I would like better north to south paths along Grove Street and along the Lowell line, that would allow continuous off Street biking or walking from the Brooks Estate to West Medford Square. (1) a path or sidewalk on the cemetery side of Grove Street between the Brooks Estate and the Lowell line (Grove St @ Bussell Rd) (2) a path or sidewalk on Bussell Road from Grove Street to Playstead Park. (Could just be a painted shoulder lane) (3) a path parallel to the Lowell line through Playstead Park, from Bussell Road on the north, to the West Medford T station on the south. (4) a path through what is called Thomas Brooks Park, parallel to Grove Street, from where it crosses the Lowell line, down to at least Tyler Avenue (and somehow from there to the West Medford T stop) Together these would greatly improve access to three public parks: Brooks estate, Thomas Brooks Park, and Playstead Park.

Our parks need better maintenance. Broken benches, unsightly trash and poorly lit places deters people from accessing them. I would love to see a "senior playground" in Medford. These playgrounds that are springing up around the Country give seniors opportunities to improve balance, range of motion and dexterity. They help seniors to build muscle tone and increases the ability to bend and stretch. In addition they provide a setting that encourages and fosters social interaction. Seniors need fun and play!!

Bike infrastructure. Nicer walking areas for Medford downtown. I'd love to see a boardwalk in/along the river to help make downtown more of a destination than a place to run errands.

I am very excited for the Clippership connector, as that will improve pedestrian and bicycle safety (Medford square is a death trap for bikes) as well as connect access along the length of the Mystic river.

Please provide any general comments you have on specific city facilities an...

The trails through Riverside Park are a major bike route from Medford to Wegmans/Somerville/Cambridge, and need to be cleared of snow and ice down to the pavement.

Carr park needs some updating. As one of the largest parks in the city the structures are in need of repair.

More benches is always good.

Better lighting, feeling of safety.

More trees, and bigger variety of trees instead of monoculture of Bradford Pears. A bench here and there along long paths in the Fells and by the Mystic Lakes would be nice but not essential. And please replace the 150+ trees cut down by GLX across from Tufts, preferably along the same sidewalk to keep it from being one big heat sink.

Harris Park playground needs some serious love. The park has looked the same for 10 years. Bridge is separating from side and is getting worse over years. Would really benefit from a splash area as well. Cummings Park as well needs some updates and just a little TLC

lighting along bike paths would be wonderful. more bike paths all around our city would be great. car-free bike routes are wonderful for everybody - drivers, bikers, and pedestrians alike.

Would really really love bathrooms or water fountains at more parks.

The path along the Mystic Lakes and Mystic River need to be upgraded. Why was the Winchester section upgraded but not the Medford portion? Also, the Brooks Estate is a valuable resource--the City has neglected it for too long. Please take care of it-- develop trails and the pond area, put the stump dump someplace else, restore buildings, upgrade the drive, upgrade parking, add restrooms. It is a historic and natural treasure. Treat it that way.

It would be nice to have more benches and other designated areas along the trails to enjoy nature and stay a while.

There is a dearth of trees along streets and tend to get cut down with no replacements (due to roots interfering with pavement). I don't know some park locations and would love to have some printed material at the library with all the open spaces in Medford.

Flashing light crosswalks to access parks would be great. Trees/shade are always a plus. Good condition of grass for open areas - clear of litter - is very important.

Please create more dog parks and establish / maintain cans for dog waste. Royal Park on Main St. is a dog potty. It smells so strongly of dog waste that the space cannot be used for anything else.

All the Medford parks, recreation and open space facilities I've been to or know of all look and feel neglected. Poor lighting, dead or dying plants and trees, broken or missing lighting, seating, pavement, fences, trash barrels, etc. They could all use some love and would benefit from regular maintenance, rather than the neglect that has lead to their current desperate states of disrepair. More trees and plantings all over the city would be great too. I constantly see dead or dying trees all over the city and almost none being replanted or cared for. (Except the new plaza in Medford Square near the Cemetery)

I don't think about the parks much but it would be useful to be sent to listing of what kinds of facilities are available in my neighborhood. Also I have use the tennis courts but sometimes there are use by the schools. That would be useful information regarding the schedule.

Love the Middlesex Fells for mountain biking! Please keep up the good work (and don't build that ice rink)! You have a loyal biking community and you need to listen to them!

Restrooms in the harris park

Love Wright's pond but the bathrooms are gross. We just go home when some one has to pee

Please provide any general comments you have on specific city facilities an...

It would be great to have better overall facilities at Carr park. Bathrooms would be excellent.

Need better bathroom facilities. Also helps to have shade especially at McNally. In the summer the older kids play structures get very hot.

control invasive species along Mystic lakes

Please fix unusable showers in the pool lockerrooms at the high school and make sure that shower curtains are long enough to prevent water from pooling in the area which is dangerous.

Wright's Pond--we walk there, and the walk up situation leaves a lot to be desired. My main concern is crossing Elm street. It's dangerous. I'd love an on-demand red light.

I enjoy the quieter places such as the walk along the Mystic River and the Royall Park. The Peace Garden is inviting, but with traffic it is pretty noisy. It would be nice if the walk along the Mystic River could be paved as Arlington has done on its side of the river.

Generally, better maintenance. Paths could be better maintained or improved, better grass surfaces, improved signage, additional trash receptacles and trash removal. Additional amenities/activation at Playstead (e.g. water fountain, restrooms, playing field delineation with soccer nets), better shoreline access and viewing areas (and bank stabilization) at Dugger. Better access to Brooks Estate. Big picture, it'd be great to see new/more smaller neighborhood-scale "pocket" parks with amenities for the kiddos.

Playgrounds need more restrooms.

Need better restrooms, lighting and trash pick up

1) I would recommend that the Medford website have a nice map of the city with the open spaces, parks and associated parking areas clearly identified with their names and a brief description of amenities. 2) A hard copy of the map described above should be available to residents, perhaps for picking up at the Library, City Hall, etc. (I would prefer a mailing to each resident but I realize that that may be cost prohibitive. 3) Most parks could use routine maintenance and professional landscape planning and design. Pure open space areas can be left as-is except for removal of invasive species and some low-key, but well-planned pathways. 4) All boundaries of open spaces and parks should be re-measured and reaffirmed so that any illegal encroachment by residential or commercial neighbors can be promptly addressed.

More public transportation options to parks could be helpful. Also, improving pedestrian and cycling options would make me want to visit these spaces more often.

The Mystic River is such a valuable amenity that we share. I would really like to see more work to preserve the entirety of the riverbed and associated paths. I also believe we should be creating new access via connecting paths. Take a look at what the city of Watertown has accomplished, it really is quite spectacular.

Love the new space park in Medford Sq!! And the music you had there last summer. Would be lovely to add some day lilies or other flowers and public art. Would like to see the other squares fixed up with fun lighting and flower containers all year round.

Harris Park could use an upgrade. A splash pad in the city would be great as we go to Arlington, Everett and Somerville in the summer for that. Healthier food options at Wrights pond.

Public restroom/outhouses would be very helpful, particularly near the Fells.

more trees ; climate resilience ; right now the parks seem to support to many organized activities that favor young white men (e.g., organized soccer, football, hockey, baseball) -- I would like to see room for pick-up games and sports played by more diverse folks (frisbee, cricket) -- open Medford up

Love Mystic Reservation

Better lighting and better maintenance please. Trash cans overflow regularly.

Please provide any general comments you have on specific city facilities an...

We love Wright's Pond and all of the playgrounds Medford has to offer. We also love that we can 'get away' in the Fells.

I would love to see Carr Park get updated; bathrooms, water fountain, lines painted in the parking lot!

Restrooms or portapotties and more accessibility for children and adults with disabilities

My recreation needs always include my dog and I want more places where I can walk with my dog, hang out, picnic, etc.

better maintenance. no more development for luxury condos by outside developers to enrich themselves, including some current and former city officials.

I think more trees are needed along streets and in parks

I would like to see more trees planted in and around our parks. Also, I would like to see a dog park in Tufts Park.

Like I said earlier, public bathrooms would be great! Having non-competitive exercise classes might be nice as well. In addition, parking or other transit is a major barrier. Also, skating rinks are typically very crowded during public ice- I'd love to see more options for either public skating and/or for adult skating lessons.

Better maintenance to address the wild broken window effect, consistent trash barrel pickup year-round (and adequate trash cans so people don't drop their trash wherever), less restrictive street parking around parks (parks should be for EVERYONE--not just for those who have "resident parking" for that particular street)

I play softball in the Hub Softball league, and my daughter plays in Medford Youth Girls Softball. My adult team plays or has played in Lexington, Charlestown, Cambridge, and Brighton. Playing in Medford (Tufts or Veteran's Memorial) is extremely convenient to me, so I'm happy to play in Medford. For those on my team whose commute is not improved by playing here, a scheduled game in Medford is viewed as a negative due to the condition of the fields relative to the others we play at. The Veteran's Memorial softball field is in terrible condition, but separate from its condition, I don't think it should be rented to adults for softball use. The right field is too close to Route 16, and we're routinely chasing foul or fair balls onto route 16 and Winthrop St. Tufts fields (for youth and adults) need some care in the infield, needing aeration, leveling, and grass removal. We once had a game scheduled for a Monday night. It had rained hard the previous Saturday. No one thought twice about the field not being ready, but when we showed up, it was still under water. Hub Softball probably rented 20 fields that night, and ours was the only location that had a cancelled game. I also think the lighting can be inadequate for night games, particularly in the outfield. On a more positive note, we have enjoyed the Tufts playground since my kids could sit up in a swing. I'm not a fan of sand in playgrounds in general, but we've never found it to be any dirtier than what I would think is reasonable, and of course the kids like the sand. I've used See Click Fix to get an equipment issue resolved within 48 hours, and while I think I may have seen some graffiti, it wasn't so extreme I've given it much thought. There have been some occasions when the trash cleanup could have been more prompt, but it's not a regular gripe. In general, I'm happy to live so close to Tufts playground, and feel it's been a gift for our kids to make friends, get fresh air, and exercise. I've always found Tufts Pool to be clean and well maintained. In the last year, there have been great improvements in the management of the pool. It was much easier to get pool passes last year than in previous years, and last year they stopped requiring people to leave the pool every hour, which was a much-welcomed improvement in policy. Columbus fields also seem to be well maintained, better than Tufts and Veteran's.

We have an amazing resource in the MFR and it badly needs more attention. We can improve the health of our citizens now and preserve this incredible blessing for future generations if we take care of it now. Would be a tragedy if we lost this space because we don't include it in initiatives like this. I am running the 1200 member FellsDOG community. I am also the Mass DOG representative to Massachusetts recreational trails advisory board (MARTAB). I would love to be part of this initiative in the city of Medford since I am a citizen and homeowner here. I need more direct info, contact. 781-573-1110 FellsDOGgroup@gmail.com

I am a member of the Winthrop Street community garden which I love dearly. I'm so happy that Medford has made a commitment to creating community gardens in our city!

We love the dog park, but there is a lack of general cleanup that happens.

Looking forward to improvement of bike routes through the city.

Please provide any general comments you have on specific city facilities an...

I'm glad to see climate mitigation measures being implemented and believe the city should prioritize the maintenance and acquisition of open space areas that can buffer and offset carbon emissions (more trees!), preserve and restore habitat, and mediate stormwater run-off from upland to downland areas prone to flooding. Road improvements for better access should be considered, including sidewalks, since people who report having sidewalk access are 28% more likely to be physically active. Anything to encourage people to get out of doors and out of their cars.

We need more natural spaces!

Thank you for providing and maintaining so many public space. It's important.

We have some wonderful facilities for younger kids, but could really use some more play spaces designed for older kids, not just competitive sports. Maybe parkour facilities or a work out track with pull-up bars, etc. We love the swings at Carr and wish there were more elsewhere.

Lighting at parks. (LED lights once installed should be inexpensive to run - the LED street lights are much brighter than the old sodium-vapor lights.) Restrooms are better than PortoPotties which are better than having nothing there. Irrigation systems for natural playing surfaces. Artificial surfaces where it makes sense. Maintenance to upkeep assets.

Some parks with restroom access would be nice for little children

More trees on residential streets. Older trees that are removed are not replaced.

It would be beneficial for the city of Medford to invest on one or two children water parks for the warmer months. This should be a priority. Also, more shade and benches at all parks is greatly appreciated as well. Keep the dogs off of the play parks where the children play. Thank you and keep up the great work. Thank you Red and Jeanine.

More trees- our canopy needs a big boost and as the summer gets hotter we need to plant now or provide an oasis of cool trees. High canopy trees when possible, too - let's replace the elms and the chestnuts that we lost decades ago. And flowers, especially natives to feed birds and bees. Restrooms would be great. Bike path accessibility and parking! Picnic tables. Adventure playgrounds or more creatively designed playgrounds- no more plastic cookie cutters.

I'm looking forward to improvements at Harris Park, our neighborhood park. I am particularly excited at the prospect of having a garden plot as I had to give mine up when I moved from Malden to Medford. Our backyard is too shady to grow the kind of garden I would like. I am also a big supporter of preserving trees and any open space we have. We enjoy being outdoors daily and local parks give us new options to explore without having to travel far.

Carr park should have benches for the baseball field. It should also have new playground equipment. It's your second largest park. Why not put money into it.

More trees. The quality of our air given the tremendous amount of air pollution (trains, buses, trucks, commuters) needs to be addressed. We have to take a more proactive approach and plant more trees. Also, the overall appearance of our squares does not reflect well on our city. The trash on sidewalks in Medford Square, the lack of greenery, landscaping, fresh paint, and attractive fencing by the West Medford commuter rail stop shows our city in the worst possible light.

I would love to see some lighting on the soccer fields so they can be used at night. In the Spring and Fall there are parts of the season where teams cannot practice because there are no lights on the grass fields and the High School is not accessible.

Some public art or events that activate the spaces might be nice.

The tennis courts at Dugger Park need to be replaced/repared. They are frequently used and full of cracks and weeds that make it not only hard to play on but a tripping hazard.

Please provide any general comments you have on specific city facilities an...

1 - Medford wastes vast amounts of electricity by lighting ballfields late at night, which benefits only the Canadian Geese. 2 - Mystic Riverbend Park has failed to maintain the seasonal meadow, and restored wetlands. 3 - Generally, Medford is blessed with a lot of open space (thanks to the foresight of the much-maligned Yankees of the late 19th century, and something former Mayor McGlynn loved to brag about). But we could do a better job on park maintenance and aesthetics. 4 - More emphasis on passive recreation needs to be made by the City of Medford and its agencies. 5 - Online information is weak -- there should be an interactive map of the city on the Web site with pop-ups for each park and open space area.

Increasing restroom access (e.g. port-a-potties throughout the year) at open space areas would be important to help people feel that they can use the resource for more than a quick visit. Preserving the Medford section of the Middlesex Fells is particularly important, as this is a vital resource in the City, as well as in neighboring cities and towns. Similarly Brooks Estate and the Mystic Lakes are important amenities, both for people and for preserving for the many species that use these important open areas.

Love the common gardens. They are a great resource

I love many of the open spaces in Medford. Please persevere and maintain spaces for people across the community.

Medford needs BRIGHTER lighting in general. It is too dark everywhere. Benches needed. Not all residents are athletically fit. We want to sit and enjoy open space while not being limited to sitting on grass. More frequent maintenance. Too much litter in Medford in general. People need to care more for their open space and for their city in general.

I miss having a skatepark in Medford! Arlington skatepark is very small and Malden/Boston aren't good for my young kids.

Trash cleanup and collection is an issue everywhere. People don't always use trash cans even when provided, and sometimes the City doesn't empty the trashcans when needed. Also, especially at Riverbend Park near Hormel Stadium, control of invasive plants must be done regularly- several times per yr., not once every few yrs. Otherwise the invasives such as bittersweet, phragmites etc. completely smother native plants.

ALL of our open spaces - parks/playgrounds - need to be maintained as best as possible. Mature trees need to be preserved and new trees need to be planted. Most importantly with new trees regular maintenance to make sure they make it through their first year is vital. In many of our parks, notably in Riverbend Park and all along the Mystic River, invasive oriental bittersweet is running rampant and killing our mature trees. More effort needs to be put toward eliminating this threat and if it takes more money so be it. Some parks need more vigilant protection from vandalism and young teens with nothing to do. As always, there is a lack of things to do in Medford for those teens that either don't drive or don't have money to spend. I realize that is a perpetual problem that is very hard to solve. So more trees and better maintenance of new trees during their first year, protection of mature trees that are present, eradication of invasives particularly oriental bittersweet, vigilance against vandalism, and an emphasis on nature is needed in ALL our parks.

As already covered, Tufts Park is in deplorable conditions. There are NO restrooms (youth girls & girls high school games are played there). There are seldom even porto-potties and when there are, they are locked & restricted to one league (not that I consider porto-poties and acceptable option). Public urination is the only alternative (and I'm not recommending this become a policing issue... there are no alternatives once evening rolls around and the pool is closed.) Many local towns have actual bathrooms at their fields (certainly at a field used to the extent Tufts is). The lights there are incredibly bad and don't cover the field sufficiently for men's softball. It's an injury and lawsuit waiting to happen. In addition, the actual fields have not been adequately maintained or sufficiently prepped daily. As a result, rain one day can put the park near the community garden out of commission for several days and the other field is only slightly better. There's little grass there, mostly weeds. It is an eyesore and a black mark on our city. I can't think of any recreational field in Medford (other than Tufts University) that we can take pride in. Playstead's baseball field stinks. Our Intercity League team the Chiefs, are forced to play at Tufts U. and Malden Catholic. They used to be a fixture at Playstead, but lack of lights and poor field conditions makes it a poor option. After the issues related to bathrooms, lighting, and field maintenance are addressed, we can begin talking about benches, plantings, etc. Let's fix the parks we do have before we start considering I'd acquisition of additional land for ballparks and playgrounds. - I'd be happy to discuss this with anyone in the city. Norman Shacat 781-391-5726.

Would love a water fountain and re-surfaced tennis courts at Duggar!

Definitely restrooms-- kids have a hard time holding it when out playing! Stinks to have to cut playtime short just to go home and use the restroom. And more shaded areas trees at playgrounds would be great for summer time.

Restrooms water fountains more trash barrels and cameras to deter drug activity and crime

Better lighting

Please provide any general comments you have on specific city facilities an...

Trail from crossing 16 at the footbridge to South Street is in need of maintaining. Can't take a bike, stroller, or wheelchair across that route currently.

The city needs a centrally located public splash/sprinkler park free to residents. We travel to Arlington for theirs.

More lighting around river end dog park / walking area

I'm pretty happy with the quality of the parks in general. I do deal with soccer for the kids in Medford and if there was one thing I would like to see would be an effort to deal with regrading and better storm runoff for some of the fields. I'd also like to see a more unified effort between the Recreation department, Parks Commission and Community Schools to utilize the available open spaces.

All of the above. But especially: More trees, greater variety of trees and improved maintenance of existing trees, shrubs, greenspaces. Removal of invasive plants and protection of wildlife habitat. Sometimes safety is an issue, or at least perception of safety, at Riverbend Park and MacDonald Park, and the Fells, which have some secluded areas.

Looking forward to having a more robust tree planting program Looking forward to more community gardens All parks would benefit from more maintenance

We need to improve and lengthen bike paths that connect parks

Generally good upkeep; more trash pick up and receptacles for dog walkers, etc...

I would love to add more gardens to the Victory Gardens!

There are too many parks already. Why keep building new ones or upgrading...spend the money on fixing the roads!

Playgrounds need an overhaul. There needs to be bathrooms (or the prtapotties that are there need more regular cleanings)

Please install gates at Playstead Playground to completely enclose the play area. Currently there are two openings that could easily have gates, and it's a big safety concern, especially for parents who are watching 2 children at the same time. Additionally, the parking lot in front of the tennis courts in Playstead has huge potholes that get filled with water. In the summer mosquitos gather and it's unpleasant. If there are woodchips to spare, this could be a low cost way to fix this issue. Thank you!

Parks are poorly maintained in general. Off leash hours in the early morning would bring me out to several local parks.

I would love to see better maintenance and more trees for Medford parks. Many seem like nice recreational parks but fewer seem like nice places to sit and relax.

Better cleaning of city parks and emptying of trash receptacles. Increased hours and spring/fall access to Wright's Pond.

Always more green/natural space and more trees, please! Beyond that: public transit access is huge; so are sidewalks and bike lanes both for getting to the open space and once you are there. it can be hard to get to the Fells right now if you're not in a car. water fountains, restrooms, and lighting are good too. Thank you!

I am the president of Medford Soccer and utilize primarily Playstead, Harris and Victory Parks as well as the turf fields at the high school and hormel. i think the parks dept (for what it's worth) does a tremendous job in making our fields as playable as possible. I think we can always strive to utilize our resources more efficiently. It's not easy, and i'm happy to see that there are so many great people that want to get this done. We all may not agree on every option, but we direction-ally want the same thing.

In terms of access, it would be really helpful to have a crosswalk at the Flynn Rink parking area for folks who park there to access the trails on the other side of the road. It would also be really helpful if the sidewalk near the corner of Fulton and Webster were navigable with a stroller so we would not need to walk in the street to access McNally park by foot. It would also be nice if Gilles Field were open more often. We love that there is a little rink there now. Also, my child is currently in diapers but bathroom access at parks and playgrounds will become a huge limiting factor for our ability to enjoy outdoor spaces. So far we have been loving the outdoor space here in town. It's one of the biggest reasons we chose to buy in Medford!

Please provide any general comments you have on specific city facilities an...

Complete fences for playgrounds and other toddler/kid areas make a huge difference and make it much easier to visit with multiple kids or for grandparents etc.

No specific requests other than I'd like to see continued investment in the outdoors.

Maintenance maintenance maintenance

In order of priority: -Preserve the land for Middlesex Fells -Trash cans at Middlesex Fells trailheads -Water fountains at Macdonald Park -Finish Wellington Greenway to connect to River's Edge Park -Finish the Clippership Connector to connect Medford Square to Riverbend Park -Additional lighting on pedestrian paths along the Mystic River

Please make it so that a car pass to Wright's Pond also includes a walk-in/biking pass. I think it would be great for the city as a whole if people who paid to access Wright's Pond via car could also decide to bike there or walk there (saving parking spaces, reducing car traffic and gasoline emissions, and getting exercise).

Parks need more Trash and recycling bins, benches and picnic tables.

Would like to see more creative designs of playground equipment. More native species in landscaping. More information about species, ecology, and history incorporated into design of parks, trails, and other facilities.

We have enough open spaces; no need to have one on every other street. Every neighborhood has a park nearby. Parks are for children and they just need swings, slides, water play. Children don't need lots of nice things; they need to use their imaginations! Restore the Brooks Estates. Preserve Medford's rich history; that will truly make Medford a destination! Most importantly, fix all the fire stations that need help in Medford. It is disgraceful that our first responders are neglected when they put their lives on the line for us. When are we getting a training tower? Take care of business first; making more open spaces (we already have our fair share)can wait and it's irresponsible. It's time for change in Medford and it starts at the top. Sincerely, a Medford taxpayer for 40 years with 100% voting record. Can't wait to vote in November.

In general ion Medford there is a little lot of trash on the ground

Lights at night are very important to me bc I walk my dog alone. Walking near Hormel area & 2 nearby schools is great. Safe & clean. Looking forward to new space along the River by Shippside Green. Thank you.

Public restrooms needed at many public spaces.

I have lived in Medford almost 20 years, and have no children. So I wasn't even aware of most of the places listed. Better communication through different channels to a wider audience would be beneficial. Maybe highlight one place/week on the Medford website/social media/Mayor's Corner weekly update. Restrooms at public facilities is the key, as well as easy access, bike parking facilities and trails to the facilities.

All the playgrounds needs public restrooms

As a parent of a toddler and dog owner, I'm very interested in free open spaces (but also interested in some covered/indoor areas for the cold winter months). I am on the border of Malden and Medford so I tend to visit other parks in neighboring communities outside of Medford, but I would love more options in Medford. Thank you!

Appreciate the recent improvements to Morrison Park. I'm on my bike a lot and am very much hoping that the Clipper Ship connector gets built. Very grateful for whoever repaved the bike path along the Mystic River along Blessing of the Bay. Wish there were more flowers and tree plantings in most of the local parks (I'm close to Morrison), to liven things up. Love the Riverside plaza in Medford Square--but it needs better trash pick up. I hope we keep seeing more ways to include public space in Medford Square and along the river in town. Huge opportunity there. I joined as a member of Paddle Boston and paddled up the Mystic quite a bit, and there's so much potential there.

Tufts park area the grounds are not taken care of and the pool grounds look like they need work! There is s fence on the Main Street side that has been broken for a long time!

Please mark trails in Fellsway clearer

Please provide any general comments you have on specific city facilities an...

Organized volunteer activities, or guidance on where to find existing groups.

Please make access more bicycle friendly. Roads outside Cambridge/Somerville feel very dangerous for people biking and improving safety would make access a lot easier for me.

Carr Park needs some upgrades. The streets in North Medford are missing a lot of trees (a lot have been chopped down). Getting into Wright's Pond by walking still doesn't feel particularly safe. Cars don't often stop for the pedestrian walkway. I love all the open space in Medford!

More bike paths, better maintenance of existing bike paths. Additional dog parks more centrally located in the city.

More trees, better water management to prevent flooding, permeable surfaces, restrooms, better maintenance, and again, MORE TREES !

It would be nice to have a boat rental facility on the Mystic River.

It would be great to have lined turf fields for u10 and u12 soccer games in the city. Lights at victory park with a walking track would be nice to

Most of the parks need better lighting.

Use of the Mystic lakes is greatly increasing the need for sanitary facilities and parking enforcement. Lake of facilities is a health threat. This property may not belong to Medford but this should still be a priority.

If you could improve the trail along Mystic Lake that would be great. Also, block the road to through traffic on the weekend. Provide access across the Mystic Dam to Arlington for foot traffic. Provide a bike path from West Medford to Medford Center.

(1) I see by the map that the Morrison Park area is of moderate social concern yet Morrison Park (with the exception of the tennis courts) has not been updated in many, many years, nor is it slated to. I find this troubling. The area in Medford in need of it the most is overlooked. I have attended several meetings over the years regarding this and I find it pointless. I grew up and currently live in this area on Grant Avenue. I never suspected this was the poor section of Medford growing up, however it is unmistakable now. We have an 8 year old granddaughter who lives in Medford and visits here several times a week. During her lifetime we have taken her to many, many parks, however we never once took her to Morrison park second to the condition and safety concerns. (2) Better lighting is needed in the east portion of the dog park. (3) having a bathroom at the Sheepfold Entrance would be well received.

Not having access to bathrooms in parks significantly limits the amount of time we can spend there. As a postpartum mom and parent of a potty training child, it's very difficult to have no place to use the restroom.

The updated lighting around the city is great! I would like to see more amenities and updates in the local parks. For example, adding a fenced-in dog park in Tufts Park.

Open spaces I visit I visit most frequently aren't generally the responsibility of the City because it isn't their jurisdiction, the Fells, Mystic River (mostly volunteer effort), Condon Park and Winthrop Street Community Garden (by DCR and gardeners) Don't visit others so can't speak to betterments.

In general I would like more big trees throughout Medford. We used to have big regal trees, now only small trees are planted and the old communities lose their beauty and elegance with this. I like to play tennis, there is no tennis center with a place for people to gather and socialize, use restrooms. A building with benches to watch and restrooms would encourage people to spend time and be able to organize groups instead of just showing up with a friend to play and leave. Another outdoor winter sport that would be great to support us platform tennis. It was very popular where I grew up and a wonderful wintertime sport.

Better lighting would be great at the Condon Shell. More flashing crosswalk signs at parks on busy streets (at Victory Park, for example).

Need to be able to work with dcr to put lights on new path from Winthrop street to whole foods. Build a skate park

Please provide any general comments you have on specific city facilities an...

I'd like fields and athletic facilities to be prioritized for Medford residents, particularly children. And also better maintained. I'm tired of my kids practicing on sub par fields. I'm also tired of being kicked off fields for non-Medford groups. And having the early arrivers of these groups overtake fields before their turn and having facilities personnel do nothing.

There seems to be an awful lot of trash around in the parks and in town generally. Sometimes broken playground equipment stays that way for a long time, and it's not obvious how to get that addressed.

Bathrooms at playgrounds would be AMAZING. Updated playground structures and surfaces would also be great!! We have been enjoying the new path along Mystic River near Whole Foods. Wish it was a little less scary to get from the Condon shell area over route 16 to Medford center.

Restrooms, barrels left out YEAR ROUND, overall up keep of park (leaves, grass), MOST IMPORTANT— cleanliness. I do not want to bring my dog or children to a dirty park.

Wright's Pond needs a new bathroom, concessions, and life guard building. Finding anything in the city via the website is embarrassing. We need to purchase a content management system instead of just having someone code html files like it is 1995. Search doesn't work - or if it works it shows nothing you care about and everything you care about is missing from the results.

I would love for their to be much more public art in the open spaces. I would also encourage more signage/monuments/art about Medford history or prominent people that lived/worked/performed near these areas.

All parks looking fairly shabby. Many with broken pieces. Wright's Pond has lots of broken glass around restrooms. New recreation schedule encouraging! Archery class was great.

Are Medford's best facilities (Hormel, Loconte, soccer field, HS pool) rented too often to private or other community groups?

I would love to see open spaces used for more events, festivals etc that would bring the community outdoors. There are some great spaces for food festivals, brewery festivals, outdoor movies etc.

I also place a high value on the DCR land along the Mystic River and access to the river. The area of the Condon Shell is very important community space that should continue to be part of the positive open space planning for Medford.

More trash barrels, more bathroom facilities.

Better trash removal, lighting needed at several parks. Also better rules for dogs at non-dog parks -- especially off leash, aggressive dogs.

More areas for dogs to be off leash would be great! Absolutely love the Medford High School Pool and staff there. Would like to see Gillis field gate left unlocked over the winter (& possibly skating rink removed) for open field space.

since you brought it up, I think EVERY city I've ever lived in needs to plant more trees and acquire more, even small & scattered, green spaces - also roof gardens and other innovative ways to integrate nature and offset carbon. the new, cool-white, LEDs that replaced the street lamps on Elm St. are too bright - the wrong kind of light for nature (disrupts plant/tree growing cycles and pushes animals and insects far away), should be replaced or at least put on a timer so they are not blasting high-beam headlight-style light all night into the woods. Wright's Park could use an ACTUAL pollinator garden, not just a sign and some weeds. We could make the park much prettier and healthier by sanctioning more space for native species plantings so more birds and insects and other wildlife return. We could add guided tour signage in the gardens to educate and inspire, and paint murals on the snack bar/bathroom building, with educational messaging about putting litter in its place and treating the pond, woods and wildlife with more respect. Elm St itself could use better maintenance - being an access point to Wright's Pond/Park and the Fells. Illegal dumping, irresponsible trash and litter, dysfunctional traffic signage and missing caution signs which enable further speeding and accidents, all compromise the safety and beauty of Elm St.

Pass a Prop 2.5 override or debt exclusion so we can fund public services please.

More trees

Please provide any general comments you have on specific city facilities an...

It would be great if garbage in parks and other open space areas such as the river could be picked up more frequently. I see so many trash bins overflowing with garbage that inevitably gets strewn everywhere and pollutes the ground and the river. I also would love to see the dog leash and poop scoop laws ENFORCED. Also, is there any way that the City of Medford could work together with DCR to enforce the dog leash and poop scoop laws in the Fells? There are so many dog owners who let their dogs run free in the Fells. These dogs are leaving their poop everywhere--a health menace--and they also stress out the local wildlife in the Fells, not to mention that they stress out other people trying to enjoy the parks. We always keep our dog on a leash and she is still a very happy dog! We DEFINITELY need more trees in Medford. AND, we need to keep the trees we do have, and maintain their health. Can we also stop some of these local developers from chopping down trees and building on green spaces? There's one local developer who has been systematically decimating all the green space in the Walnut Ave/Mystic River area. They recently cut down two enormous copper beeches that were each at least a couple of hundred years old. This was so upsetting to so many members of the community, not to mention that they took away important habitat for birds and other small critters, they took away an important source of clean air and shade for all of us, and they took away a source of beauty. Dear City of Medford: THANK YOU so much for making this a priority for Medford, and thank you for giving us a forum to express these important concerns.

Part of the open space priorities I believe is to clean the trash found in the city especially along wooden areas along 93. Also to make the city more walkable the sidewalks should be fixed. Similar capital improvement done in Somerville and emphasis on bike lanes.

I would prefer playgrounds to use mulch or soft sustainable materials rather than sand which seems to be easy for dog poop to be hidden in. Also the park near us, Cummings, the metal parts of many of the play structures seem like they are rusty or can pinch little hands. I think we need lighting along the mystic for walking or running at dusk, and it would be great if we had food trucks at the half shell in the summer or other pop up events along there, especially stuff for kids.

Restrooms at all parks. Shaded seating/table areas. More shady spots at playgrounds in general. More water features for the summer. More swings at various playgrounds.

Medford needs more spray parks and a natural playground! As a parent of young children, I would also like to see more restrooms at parks.

More splash parks.

Unfortunately Medford seems to build things and then doesn't maintain them. For instance at Riverbend Park the dog park has some lighting and is open till 9, but almost all the lights in the parking lot are out, so it doesn't seem very safe. Medford needs to both build outdoor amenities and maintain them.

The place we swim in the summer needs to be cleaned the water always smells like feces. Went once and never returned. We love the park by the McGlynn but so many children have used it, the park needs some TLC.

I love the park by the condon shell, and my family loves to go to concerts and events there- but our visit is often spoiled by all of the goose poop- it's hard to sit down, run around, etc with having to watch every step and I worry about my kids playing in it.

Better path maintenance including pavement and plowing

For me a priority is natural spaces, passive parks or parks with good hiking or walking trails or cycling paths. Tree cover, protecting large mature shade trees is absolutely essential!!! More music at the condon shell.

More picnic areas with tables and benches

restrooms at parks

Fixing gates to enclosed park areas, tennis courts etc,

More restrooms needed in playgrounds- The structures need to be updated. Somerville has some lovely kids playgrounds which we go to a lot because the ones in Medford are tired and outdated and boring for the kids. The play spaces need to have multi functions skateboarding, climbing, exploring natural structures, water play. I also don't know the names and the facilities at each of the playgrounds a map of them on the website would be helpful and a specialty for each of the playgrounds would be good too. I love the fells and we should be doing more as a community and then

Please provide any general comments you have on specific city facilities an...

my experience from the playgrounds is that there could be better or more regular clean up. Also, finding shady spots has been an issue at the playgrounds. more trees would be wonderful! we love our outside time and are exploring our new home town. i feel medford square could be beautified with the river right there. the playgrounds could use some updating (see Hoyt Sullivan park in Somerville). Please don't let anyone touch the fells. they are a treasure and will become more so as the area continues to be built up.

I would like to see less litter along the Mystic River path and Mystic Lakes.

More walking paths. Clean up the trash - very important. Clean up goose droppings. Dog areas are unappealing. Encourage vendors l/food/cafes along side.

Currently, the lighting on our street is very, very bright! This poses a health risk to our circadian rhythms, as well as to the migratory birds and owls which get disoriented by the bright lights at night. Please reconsider.

Improved pathways around mystic lakes would be nice but I use them multiple times per week now

Would love to see a combined summer pass option for Tufts Pool and Wright's Pond. Would like to see more splash pads for kids.

Skate times, especially during holidays/breaks are unpredictable and not well publicized. Wish concessions at Wrights were more predictable and healthier. Love all the playgrounds and open spaces, especially the walking/biking loops at Carr, Tufts, etc....and the bike paths through Medford.

The community garden installation was brilliant. I'd like to see more of those.

I would like to see more community garden space. I am a member of the Tufts Park community garden and can say that having space close to my home (3 minute walk) is incredibly valuable to me. I am not sure that I would enjoy having a garden that was a 10+ minute walk away. I would like to see more trees and *native* plants grown in open space around the city. In particular, native plants (as opposed to non-native ornamentals) are less water-intensive than non-native ornamentals and can better tolerate regional climate fluctuations. These native plantings can help to support lots of urban biodiversity including birds, bees, and butterflies that already have to cope with a stressful life in the city.

Brooks estate is a great undeveloped potential We need to make the Mystic river a center part of the community with public access everywhere. Making kayaking and boating in the river a central part of who we are (and were!). And lets clean it up while were at it!Trash floating in the river is disgusting.

Playground maintenance could be improved at some spots and added shaded areas would help make them more user-friendly. The park near the square and shipyard way/bridge could be better managed. I'm scared to let my child walk around there with all the trash.

The significant loss of trees on our streets, without replacement is changing the look of Medford. Let's keep a green community outside of parks, too. We used most facilities during the time we had school aged children, for general sports and play. Why not use the carriage entrance to the fells or brooks estate for adult activities-tai chi in the park? nature education Time to develop the Brooks estate into a community resource. It is greatly underutilized. I think most residents use the parks and areas near their homes

Restrooms require ongoing maintenance that may be too expensive on an ongoing basis. What we have now should be properly maintained.

All parks, in general, need more trash cans - and McDonald Park in Medford, while it has gone under renovation - it sure could use a flower upgrade!

This is so important, thank you for reaching out to the public of Medford.

Medford has some beautiful public spaces, but most are not well kept and do not have lighting or signage to attract passersby. Surrounding cities seem to have more color, art, culture and wayfinding to highlight different parts of the city. Walking through Medford isn't pleasant as a pedestrian, the City prioritizes cars. It would be great if the City had bike lanes and walking paths for pedestrians. It would also be nice to see a more design-forward approach to infrastructure to give Medford more of an identity. Communication is a huge issue in Medford. If you don't live in Medford Square, it's tough to find out what's going on in the City. Most people I know do not subscribe to the local paper or follow Medford groups on social media so we're left out of the loop.

Please provide any general comments you have on specific city facilities an...

Tennis courts in South Medford or Wellington area would be nice. Snow removal on paths is important - many of these facilities are used not just for recreation but for transportation.

Would be amazing if free public wifi was available in public spaces such as parks

I often bike along the Mystic river and in the winter months it would be nice to have better lighting along the trails for evening hours/continuing to stay active in the winter months.

Improved lighting in general at parks would be good. Definitely need more trash/recycling bins and the parks need to be more consistently maintained. Hiking/walking/biking trails are great. Thanks!

Would love to see more trees, restrooms, family activities at the parks. Ongoing Maintenance and replacement/repair plans to keep parks in good shape instead of relying on once in a lifetime overhauls. Would also love to see a splash pad or water play features at more parks.

I would love to hear more about all these open spaces. The ones I frequently, I thoroughly enjoy, but I would like to get to know the rest as well!

Playgrounds would benefit from auto-closing/auto-latching gates. Many times parents/caregivers leave playground gates open, posing a hazard to small children prone to bolting or wandering.

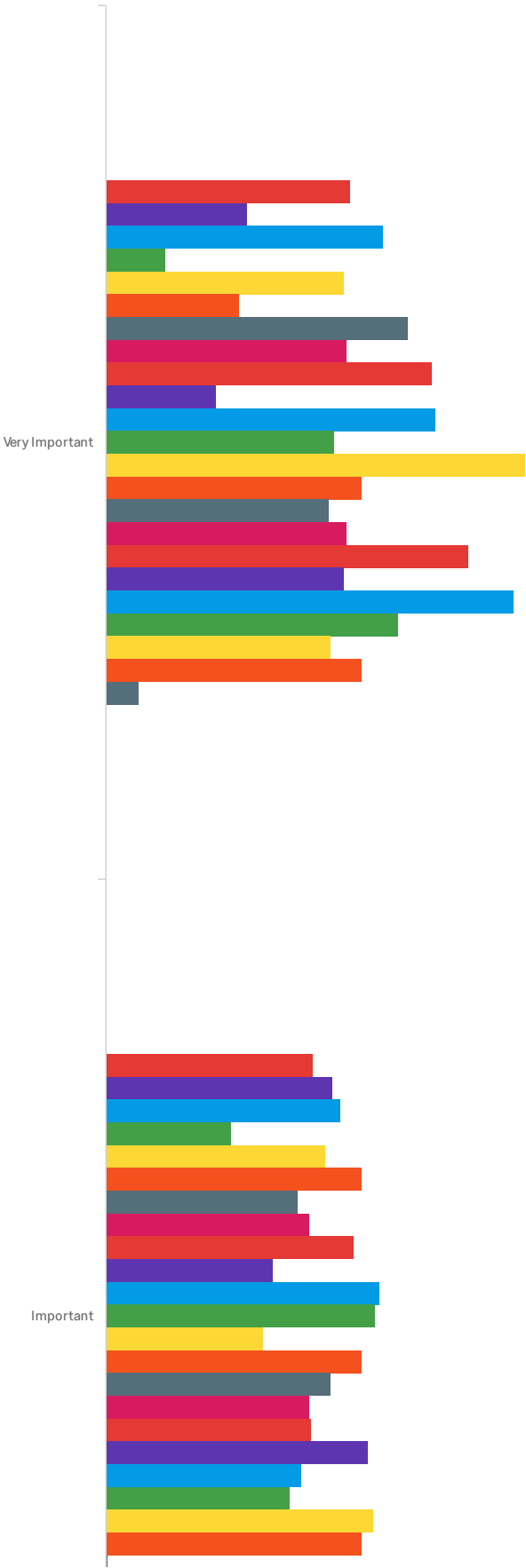
More trees and low level, simple lighting would be great

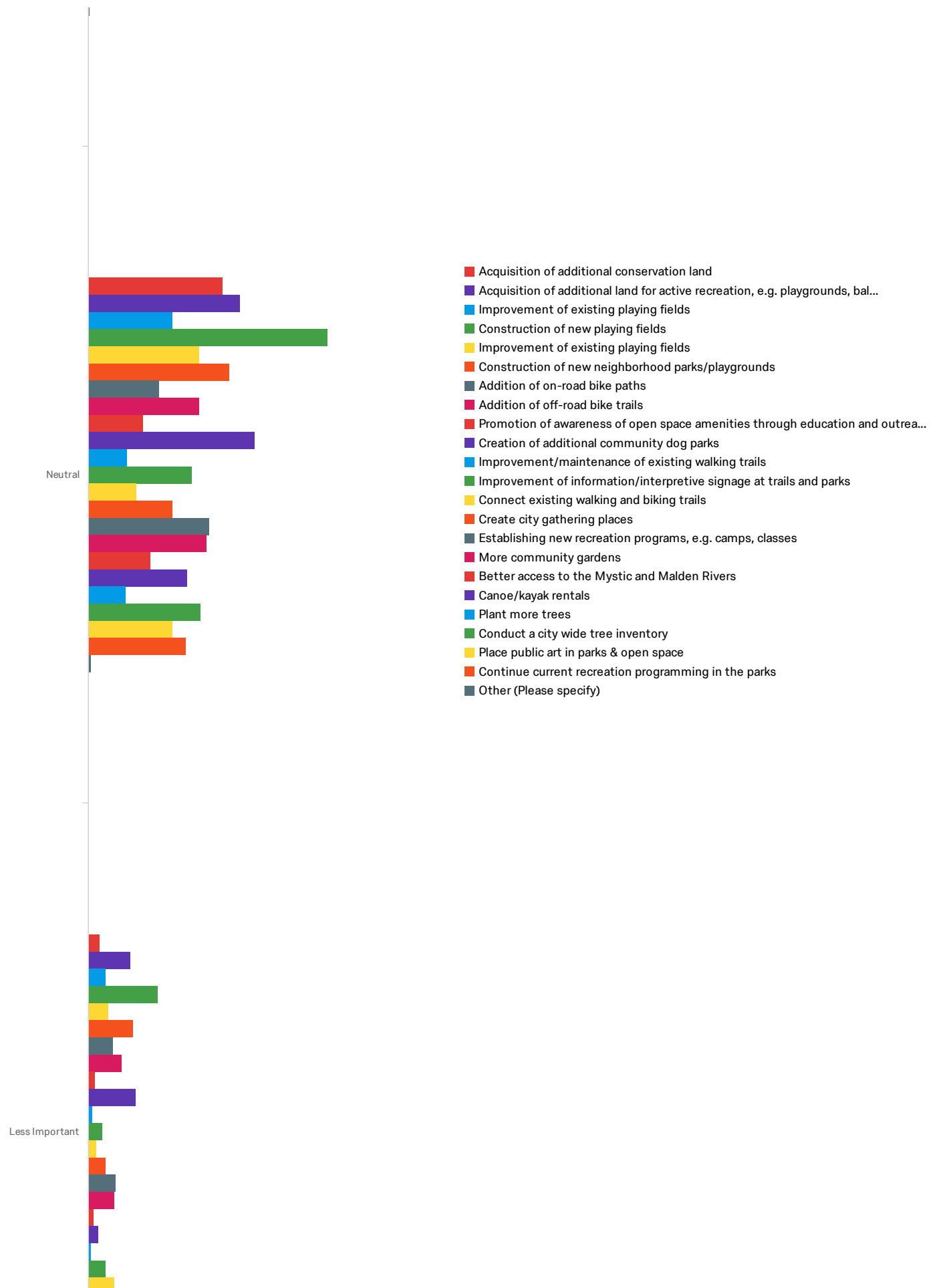
restrooms would be great! water play areas for warm weather. would love to see more interactive equipment and play spaces - musical pipes, etc, ziplines, more climbing and seeking structures. properties can definitely be maintained better. and more community garden spaces/more plants and trees incorporated into the spaces as well.

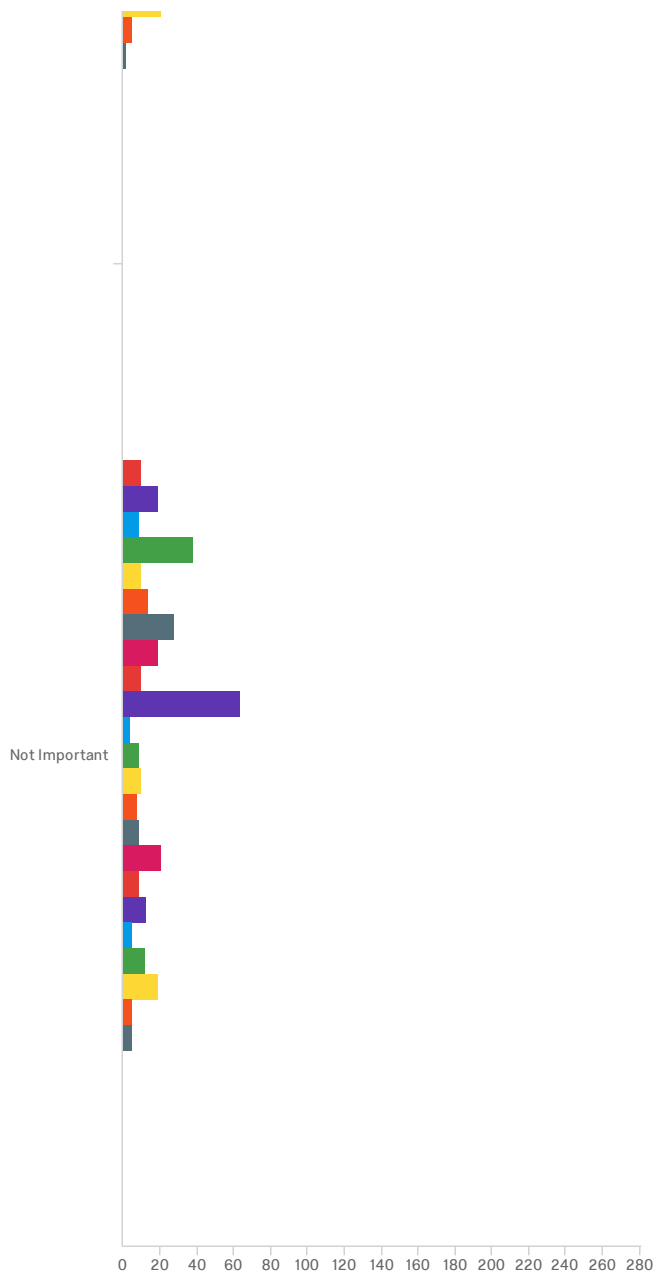
resurfacing of tennis courts at Dugger would be great and new nets. MacDonald park needs signage and interpretative signage about the Mystic River. Public Boat launch on the Mystic or the Malden :)

The needs to be a lot of maintenance and up-grading to the area around the areas abutting the park along the Mystic River (where the schools and dog park is). The trails need new stone dust and better lighting. The trees and bushes need more landscaping work.

Please rate the importance of the following:







#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Acquisition of additional conservation land	1.00	5.00	2.02	0.98	0.95	403
2	Acquisition of additional land for active recreation, e.g. playgrounds, ballfields	1.00	5.00	2.40	1.06	1.13	400
3	Improvement of existing playing fields	1.00	5.00	1.89	0.96	0.92	403
4	Construction of new playing fields	1.00	5.00	2.96	1.03	1.07	400
5	Improvement of existing playing fields	1.00	5.00	2.02	0.99	0.98	395
6	Construction of new neighborhood parks/playgrounds	1.00	5.00	2.37	1.01	1.03	401

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
7	Addition of on-road bike paths	1.00	5.00	1.99	1.19	1.41	406
8	Addition of off-road bike trails	1.00	5.00	2.13	1.12	1.25	407
9	Promotion of awareness of open space amenities through education and outreach	1.00	5.00	1.72	0.89	0.78	409
10	Creation of additional community dog parks	1.00	5.00	2.83	1.27	1.61	406
11	Improvement/maintenance of existing walking trails	1.00	5.00	1.63	0.74	0.55	406
12	Improvement of information/interpretive signage at trails and parks	1.00	5.00	1.99	0.92	0.85	407
13	Connect existing walking and biking trails	1.00	5.00	1.57	0.91	0.82	407
14	Create city gathering places	1.00	5.00	1.91	0.93	0.87	402
15	Establishing new recreation programs, e.g. camps, classes	1.00	5.00	2.08	1.00	1.00	402
16	More community gardens	1.00	5.00	2.13	1.12	1.24	409
17	Better access to the Mystic and Malden Rivers	1.00	5.00	1.67	0.89	0.79	409
18	Canoe/kayak rentals	1.00	5.00	1.98	0.96	0.92	406
19	Plant more trees	1.00	5.00	1.51	0.76	0.58	405
20	Conduct a city wide tree inventory	1.00	5.00	1.94	1.03	1.06	407
21	Place public art in parks & open space	1.00	5.00	2.07	1.06	1.12	408
22	Continue current recreation programming in the parks	1.00	5.00	1.87	0.86	0.73	401
23	Other (Please specify)	1.00	5.00	2.03	1.58	2.50	30

#	Field	Very Important		Important		Neutral		Less Important		Not Important		Total
1	Acquisition of additional conservation land	36.97%	149	31.27%	126	27.05%	109	2.23%	9	2.48%	10	403
2	Acquisition of additional land for active recreation, e.g. playgrounds, ballfields	21.50%	86	34.50%	138	30.75%	123	8.50%	34	4.75%	19	400
3	Improvement of existing playing fields	41.94%	169	35.48%	143	16.87%	68	3.47%	14	2.23%	9	403
4	Construction of new playing fields	9.00%	36	19.00%	76	48.50%	194	14.00%	56	9.50%	38	400

#	Field	Very Important		Important		Neutral		Less Important		Not Important		Total
5	Improvement of existing playing fields	36.71%	145	33.92%	134	22.78%	90	4.05%	16	2.53%	10	395
6	Construction of new neighborhood parks/playgrounds	20.20%	81	38.90%	156	28.43%	114	8.98%	36	3.49%	14	401
7	Addition of on-road bike paths	45.32%	184	28.82%	117	14.04%	57	4.93%	20	6.90%	28	406
8	Addition of off-road bike trails	36.12%	147	30.47%	124	22.11%	90	6.63%	27	4.67%	19	407
9	Promotion of awareness of open space amenities through education and outreach	48.66%	199	36.92%	151	10.76%	44	1.22%	5	2.44%	10	409
10	Creation of additional community dog parks	16.50%	67	25.12%	102	33.25%	135	9.36%	38	15.76%	64	406
11	Improvement/maintenance of existing walking trails	49.51%	201	41.13%	167	7.64%	31	0.74%	3	0.99%	4	406
12	Improvement of information/interpretive signage at trails and parks	34.15%	139	40.29%	164	20.64%	84	2.70%	11	2.21%	9	407
13	Connect existing walking and biking trails	62.90%	256	23.59%	96	9.58%	39	1.47%	6	2.46%	10	407
14	Create city gathering places	38.81%	156	38.81%	156	16.92%	68	3.48%	14	1.99%	8	402
15	Establishing new recreation programs, e.g. camps, classes	33.83%	136	34.08%	137	24.38%	98	5.47%	22	2.24%	9	402
16	More community gardens	35.94%	147	30.32%	124	23.47%	96	5.13%	21	5.13%	21	409
17	Better access to the Mystic and Malden Rivers	54.03%	221	30.56%	125	12.22%	50	0.98%	4	2.20%	9	409
18	Canoe/kayak rentals	35.71%	145	39.41%	160	19.70%	80	1.97%	8	3.20%	13	406
19	Plant more trees	61.48%	249	29.38%	119	7.41%	30	0.49%	2	1.23%	5	405
20	Conduct a city wide tree inventory	43.73%	178	27.52%	112	22.36%	91	3.44%	14	2.95%	12	407
21	Place public art in parks & open space	33.58%	137	39.95%	163	16.67%	68	5.15%	21	4.66%	19	408
22	Continue current recreation programming in the parks	38.90%	156	38.90%	156	19.70%	79	1.25%	5	1.25%	5	401
23	Other (Please specify)	66.67%	20	3.33%	1	6.67%	2	6.67%	2	16.67%	5	30

Showing rows 1 - 23 of 23

Are there any parcels of land you think the City should investigate purchasing or permanently protecting for new conservation or recreation land?

Are there any parcels of land you think the City should investigate purchas...

Malden Hospital site

Any unused land could be used

No

We do far better with a responsible approach to allowing variances and minimizing clear cutting our oversized lots.

As much land as possible for conservation and for planting trees - any possible contribution toward addressing climate change

It would not require purchase of land, but a certain percentage of new open space should be required as part of any redevelopment proposal on Mystic Avenue. Also, the city should oppose ANY additional development in the Middlesex Fells, as it did with this proposed hockey rink in 2018.

I am opposed to dog parks

None

Change bylaws to PREVENT ANY FURTHER SUBDIVISION of any existing large plot -- if owner wants to subdivide, they can accept a reasonable offer from city and the excess land should be retained as local open space for small-scale activities: passive recreation; community gardens; tree plantings; etc.

There is a parcel of land between Melrose and Medford (16 acres from what I've heard) that would be so much better utilized as a green space rather than luxury condos.

All land along our waterways should be given both physical and visual protection.

No

Both banks of Mystic River the whole way!

I'm not really informed enough about what is and isn't protected to answer this question.

Thomas Brooks Park (unclear who owns it since it is so ill-maintained) along Grove...and behind Tyler Ave to West Medford Station

Building the Clippership connector is key. I would also be interested in seeing if any rail-trails could be developed in Medford.

On street biking is extremely dangerous special bike lanes only convince bikers they are safe to speed when they are not safe. Offstreet bike lanes are Extremely important and should be created to protect drivers and bikers and pedestrians.

Protect the existing mountain bike trails in the Fells

No specific parcels but vacant lots in neighborhoods for small parks.

Are there any parcels of land you think the City should investigate purchas...

Old Malden Hospital site to maintain green space and use for Community walking trails, arts venue, minimal building maybe for seniors.

Land - approximately 1 acre - at corner of Governor's Ave and Lawrence Road, adjacent to the hospital...as open space.

The old hospital sites in the fells and near fellsmere park

Malden Hospital

no. medford has enough recreation areas: mystic lakes boating and beach, wrights pond, 2 skating rinks, dog park, middlesex fells reservation, 30 something neighborhood parks, numerous paths to walk and bike. compared to neighboring cities (somerville, cambridge, malden, arlington) i think we have more than our fair share. what we need is low income housing for the citizens who live here.

I believe the city should purchase and utilize land along the Mystic River.

We have so many. We need to curate what we have.

Vernal pool area north of Carr Park

47 Grover Road, including the dire need for road improvements, introduction of sidewalk/s and improved drainage culverts and retention systems to mitigate run-off, protecting the existing riparian corridor, cleaning up invasive, non-native species, introducing 2 to 3 trails for passive recreational use and surveying the existing tree canopy, diseased and dead tree removal and tree replacement. This parcel affords a unique opportunity to create a permanent wooded buffer that can drastically enhance the immediate environs and serve as an important carbon offset and asset against flooding if improved correctly.

Malden hospital site!

More riverfront land, vacant lots for community gardens

Malden Hospital

I feel like there is a park for every home, but a survey should be done to see if anyone does not have a park within walking distance as this is a priority.

Malden hospital site

There is an opportunity for additional open space at the Malden Hospital site, given that some portion of the land is actually in Medford.

More garden space if possible

I am not sure about new parcels. But please preserve Wright's pond, the fellsways, and the riverway parks and trails. The small playgrounds and neighborhood parks are also extremely important for people in Medford and kids here.

1) The gravel pit on WInthrop street. This should be refilled and replanted or could be made into a "pocket park." 2) There are many open areas that are spaces completely enclosed by the back boundaries of private plots. These plots can easily be gobbled up by developers that are only interested in their own profits. These spots need to be protected. If the city owned them, a plan could be figured out how to utilize them without disturbing the surrounding neighbors. Perhaps these would be good locations for community gardens - screened off from the neighbors by trees and bushes. Gardens would have limited visitors. 3) I'm sure I will think of more...

Leave what free land open space for wildlife, stop building mega condos and taking land away from animals

Land between houses on West/Auburn and Mystic river could be utilized with active walking path, labyrinth, pollinator garden, etc.

Are there any parcels of land you think the City should investigate purchas...

Permanent protections for existing conservation and recreation land are very important. Any City property, even small parcels or lots, could be evaluated for creation of "pocket parks" or even simply as greenspace.

I think that any existing waterfront or available waterfront along the Mystic or Malden river should be protected. Particularly, I think there is a lot of potential to activate and improve waterfront around Medford Center, where much of it is occupied by the backs of closed off businesses.

Malden Hospital site

The Malden hospital 6acres

Middlesex Fells

Yes, there's a huge track of land on Spring Street (across from Washington Street area and the Spring Street variety store) this is where the old railroad use to run through. Currently, it is a long track of fields of green growth between property owners backyards. I always thought some of this land close to Spring Street could be used as a community garden area and the rest should be preserved as is. There are many wild animals that live there.

Any land along the Mystic River or that could potentially contribute to a connected path or greenway.

No! Fix the streets all over the city; lights at south and main; keep the off ramp into Medford square; keep the parking area in front of the police station for residents who have police business; stop over-development of luxury housing and increase low-income housing. Every age group in the city should be represented.

Fulton Heights / Fellsmere Pond. 20% of the old Malden Hospital property is in Medford (wetlands). Medford/Malden should purchase this property, and the portion of the property currently in Malden that used to be Medford prior to the hospital being built should go back to the city of Medford (the city line was moved so that all babies born at the hospital would know which city they were born in without question). If we move the city line back to where it was, both Malden and Medford could equally share in the property tax gains of whatever mixed use development goes into that property.

Land along the rivers that becomes available.

I think the city should consider purchasing the places currently reserved for motor vehicle parking both on and off street and turn them into recreation land.

The land in the city of Medford currently part of the old Malden Hospital. We ceded part of that land to Malden when the hospital was built so that babies would all be born in Malden...now that hospital is gone and property is to be developed, Medford should get the land back that it ceded to Malden so we can partake in the property tax benefits.

We can't afford to maintain what we have now. It would be irresponsible to add more things we can't afford.

Any private land on Mystic & Malden rivers. Private lots that are inbuilt.

The land north of the cemetery should be improved for walking. Narrow the street where you cross over to the Fells from the Cemetery so it is safer for pedestrians to cross.

I would like to see the city purchasing and preserving as much land along Mystic River as possible.

Well, I would have where the old Shaw's was. It would have made for a couple very nice younger kid soccer fields that are needed since the Andrews has been off limits for the last few years.

Property adjacent to the elementary schools should be purchased to allow for increasing open space that serves the dual purpose of serving students during the daytime/school year and the community the rest of the time/year.

Are there any parcels of land you think the City should investigate purchas...

Any available land around school locations and the major squares in Medford.

I think the median of Fellsway west near Elm street and small square piece of land between Fellsway west and 93 could both be good areas for a playground and/or dogpark

Land on Winthrop Street at Lorraine has been blasted for development but nothing has been done with the land in 2+ years. This should be preserved.

Any green space that is left. For instance, if somebody sells their house and land, is there any way for the City to step in and make sure the land is conserved so that developers don't swoop in and build on that land? I've seen this done so many times in the past 5 years that it is incredibly disheartening and worrying. Our green space is disappearing so that somebody else (from out of town, no less) can make a profit. I realize the world needs housing, since there is a population explosion, but there has to be a more efficient way to make sure everybody gets a home without taking away what little is left of our green space.

More connecting bike and walking paths such as the stalled clippership connector

the fells, the rivers. please protect these. for the rivers, you can build restaurants and shops nearby to draw people.

Anywhere near the square to make it more inviting and family-friendly. Maybe a playground near the condon shell.

I am unaware of other open land in the city, other than what is listed. Time to protect even small green spaces-we lost small lots (on High St, Playstead, etc that changed the feel of the city; limit building on residential lots

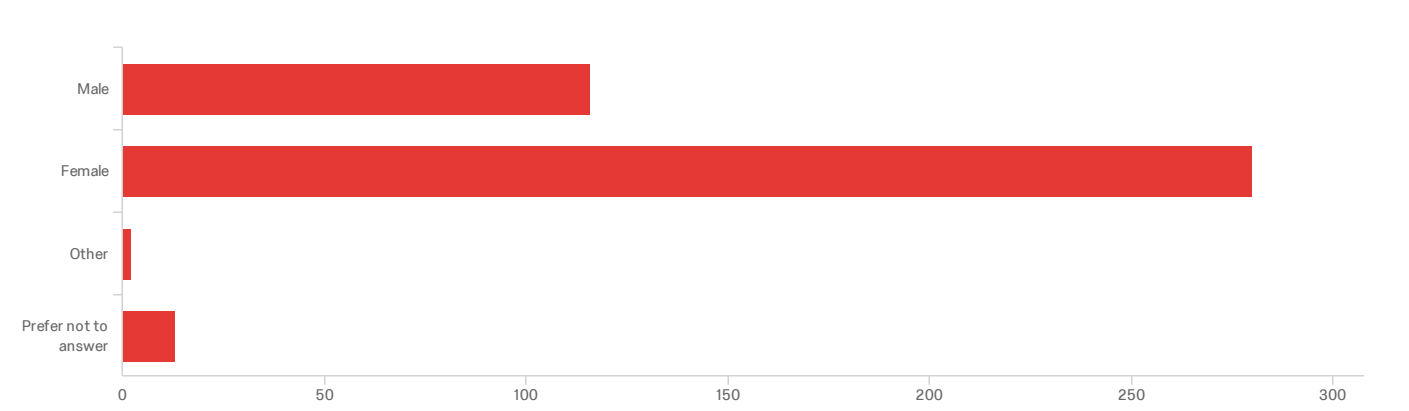
I'd prefer city investment in land purchases be used for affordable housing, and recreation funds be used to improve existing parks and open spaces.

Would be nice to do something with the green space by the footbridge over the River in Medford Square. Expand the Fells?

The Harvard Vanguard building in Medford Center. That space would be an idea place for an open space/retail space hybrid that will help make Medford Center more of a gathering place than a pass-through intersection.

Malden Hospital Site

What is your gender?



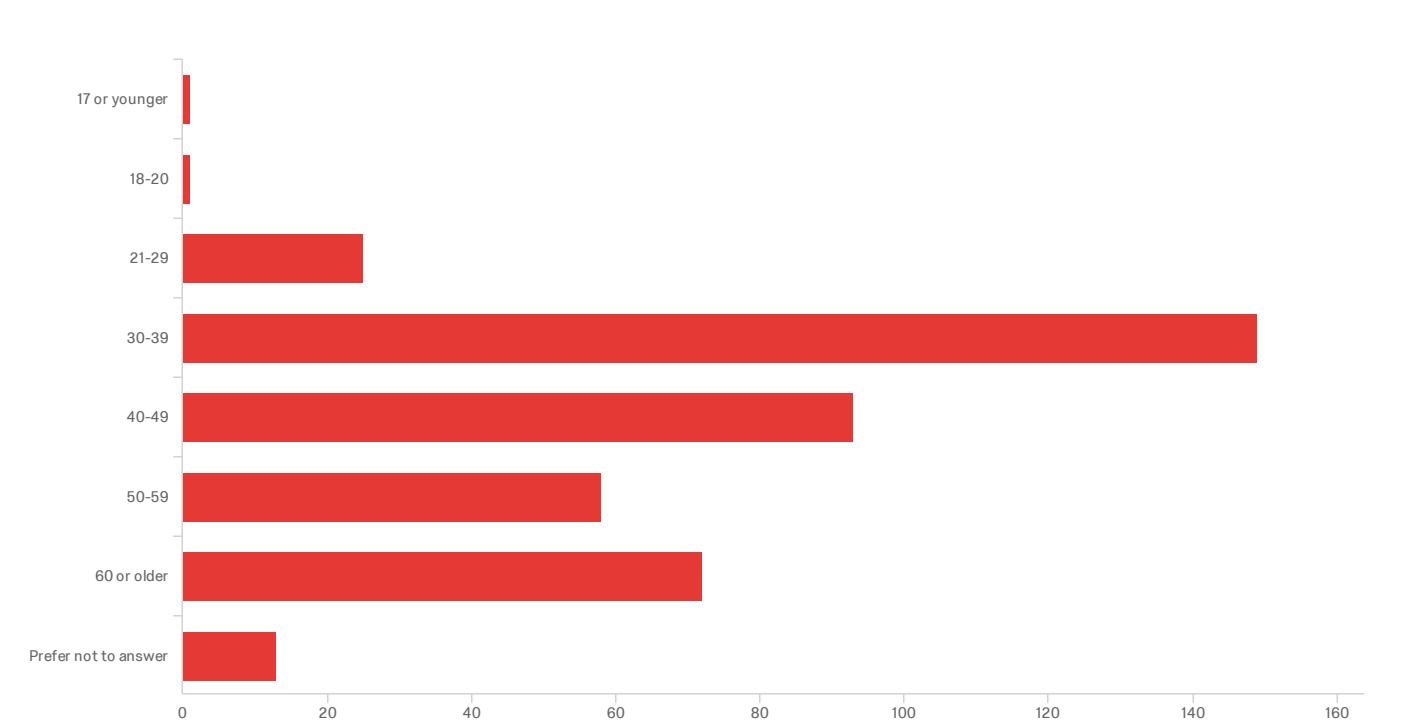
#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	What is your gender?	1.00	4.00	1.79	0.61	0.37	411

#	Field	Choice Count	
1	Male	28.22%	116
2	Female	68.13%	280
3	Other	0.49%	2
4	Prefer not to answer	3.16%	13

411

Showing rows 1 - 5 of 5

What is your age?

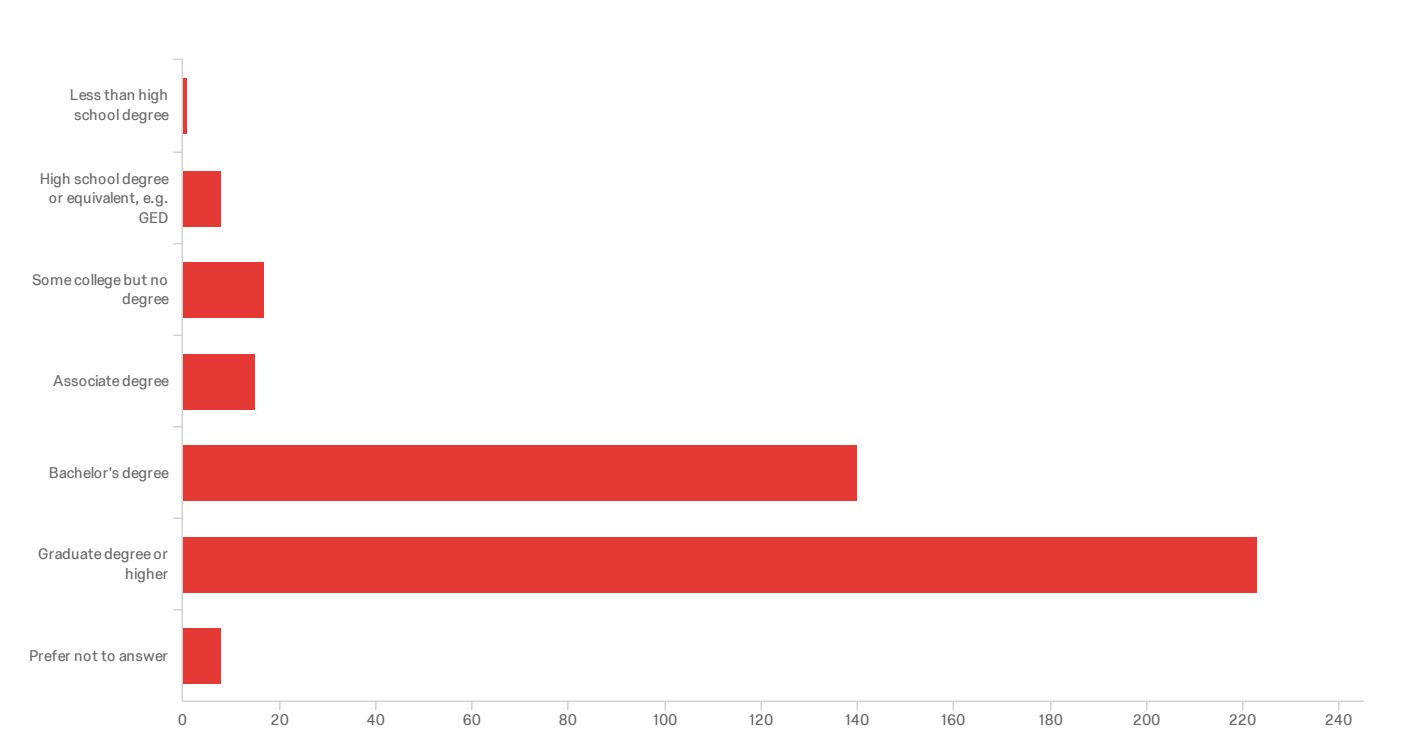


#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	What is your age?	1.00	8.00	5.08	1.33	1.78	412

#	Field	Choice Count
1	17 or younger	0.24% 1
2	18-20	0.24% 1
3	21-29	6.07% 25
4	30-39	36.17% 149
5	40-49	22.57% 93
6	50-59	14.08% 58
7	60 or older	17.48% 72
8	Prefer not to answer	3.16% 13

412

What is your highest level of educational attainment?

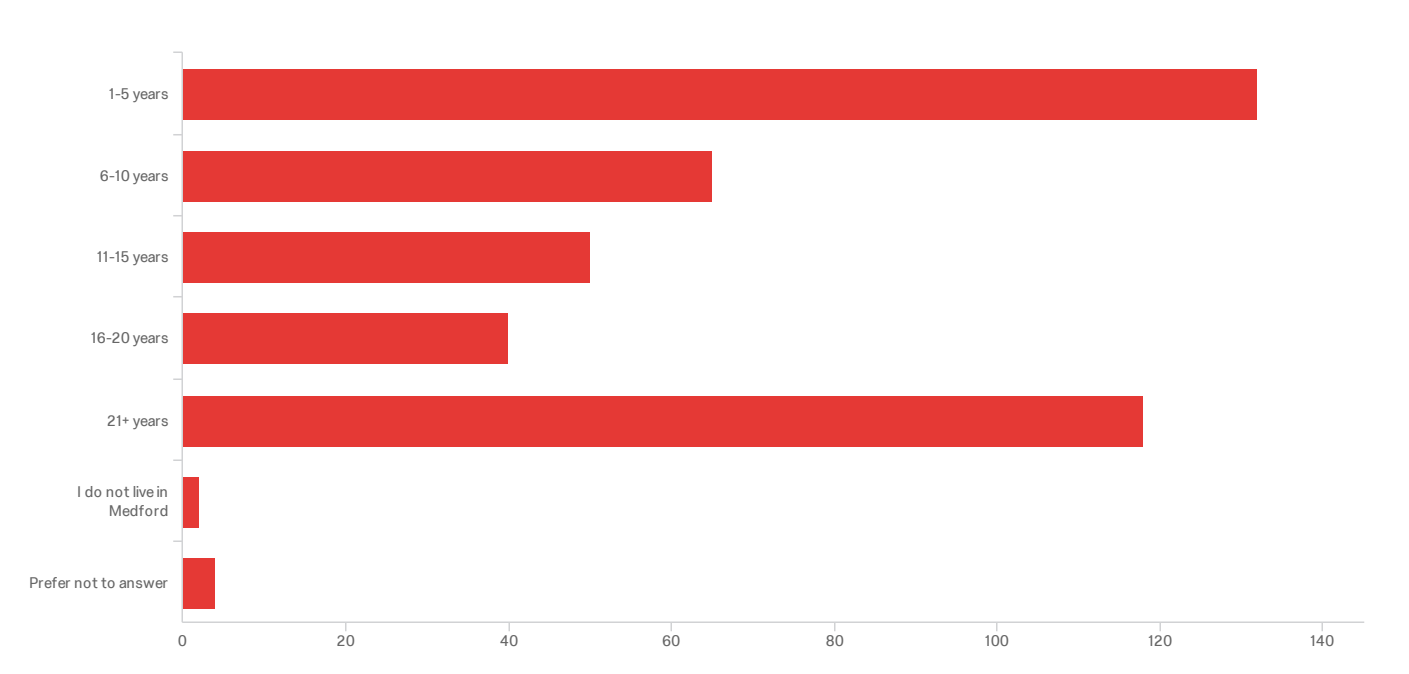


#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	What is your highest level of educational attainment?	1.00	7.00	5.39	0.94	0.88	412

#	Field	Choice Count
1	Less than high school degree	0.24% 1
2	High school degree or equivalent, e.g. GED	1.94% 8
3	Some college but no degree	4.13% 17
4	Associate degree	3.64% 15
5	Bachelor's degree	33.98% 140
6	Graduate degree or higher	54.13% 223
7	Prefer not to answer	1.94% 8
		412

Showing rows 1 - 8 of 8

How long have you lived in Medford?

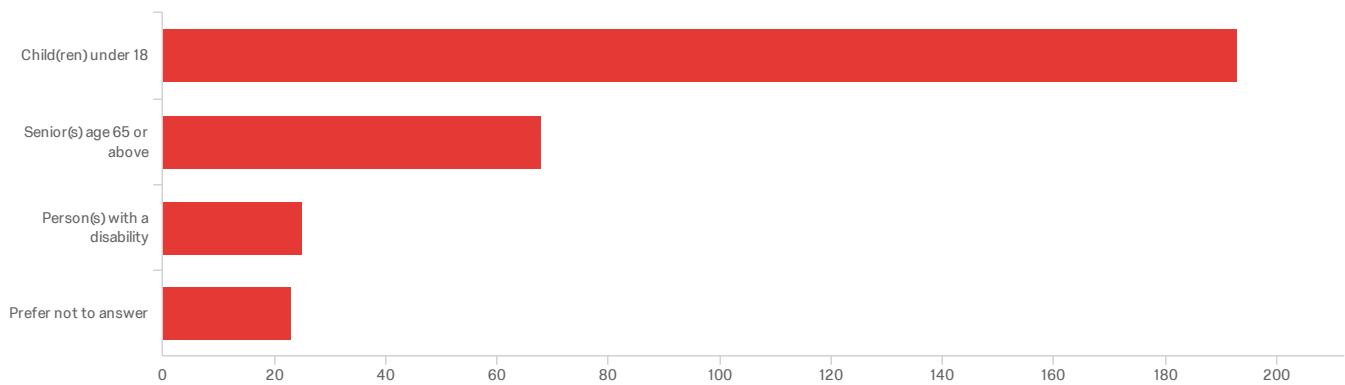


#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	How long have you lived in Medford?	1.00	7.00	2.92	1.70	2.88	411

#	Field	Choice Count
1	1-5 years	32.12% 132
2	6-10 years	15.82% 65
3	11-15 years	12.17% 50
4	16-20 years	9.73% 40
5	21+ years	28.71% 118
6	I do not live in Medford	0.49% 2
7	Prefer not to answer	0.97% 4
		411

Showing rows 1 - 8 of 8

Do you any members of your household - including yourself - match the following descriptions? Check all that apply.



#	Field	Choice Count	
1	Child(ren) under 18	62.46%	193
2	Senior(s) age 65 or above	22.01%	68
3	Person(s) with a disability	8.09%	25
4	Prefer not to answer	7.44%	23
		309	

Showing rows 1 - 5 of 5

Please use the space below to add any other comments you may have.

Please use the space below to add any other comments you may have.

Find ways to create welcoming gathering spaces throughout the city for teens. Create channels for communication with youth/children. <https://www.childinthecity.org/2018/12/17/urban-planning-is-failing-children-and-breaching-their-human-rights> No more plastic playgrounds - more natural play spaces for children Infant/toddler spaces with small hills, built-in hill slides, logs to climb on Gathering / seating for adults away from the playgrounds Universal design rather than mere ADA compliance. GET MORE FINANCIAL SUPPORT for park maintenance crew! I would support a tax increase that allowed for more maintenance staff. Community message boards at parks All picnic tables should be accessible Keep up the support of the recreation department. Hire a Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist next full-time staff to create inclusive programming for the 11% of our population that have disabilities.

I love community gardens but not that many of them are fenced & locked, therefore only available to enjoy/walk through by those who rent beds. Which takes away free open space from the general population,

We're very glad that Medford is reaching out to residents about these issues... Thank you for eliciting our opinions.

I applaud your efforts at doing this. We know so much more about how these places have a positive impact on the quality of life for everyone. We are recognizing more and more how important our relationship and our connection to the environment is. Things like "forest bathing" are innovative and wonderful ways to connect us to nature.

Why would you ask "How long have you lived in Medford?" Why would one's length of time in Medford matter? How about asking if someone is a resident and if they see themselves being a resident in 5+ years?

Medford has been a great place to live. Close to so much. Just wish we all kept it up better/cleaner/brighter lit in crosswalks/walking areas/all around the city to keep it beautiful as well!!

Was unaware of some of the places listed here, especially on the first screen. Therefore, probably good to somehow provide more info on them that's easily accessible. Also, helpful to make details on the various playgrounds easily accessible (e.g. photos, type of ground, what's there to play on, recommended ages, etc.). I used google to find out what I could about some of the playgrounds so that I could try to determine where to go with my little one.

Medford could use a community green space - central gathering spot for farmers market etc. the current location for the summer farmers market is a traffic nightmare and not worth attending.

Medford is a beautiful City and we could think more about our young people and offer more programs and outdoor spaces to support our youth.

I have been so pleased with the updated Medford Rec programs and the coaches running the childrens programs. The Gene Mack gym is an amazing resource. Riverside Plaza looks amazing and has brightened up the forgotten end of Medford Square. I applaud all of your hard work and look forward to seeing improvements to Carr and Harris parks in the near future.

There's so many great open spaces in Medford. I honestly think that more riverfront gathering space and more off road bike trails would make it even better!

Hi - Not sure why the tree inventory question was in there. I guess I assumed there already was one! Loved the Shakespeare at Hastings Park last year. Combining arts events and the parks would give me a reason to visit other parks in Medford.

Providing basic services such as fire, police and zoning are most important and resources should be directed to those resources before secondary amenities are added

The City would do well to change its thinking that open space only means playing fields. These fields often don't get used efficiently and other use could be made of them when not used for sports. Sports destroy the soil and cause flooding. These activities should be combined so that not every neighborhood has a sports park. Parents drive their kids everywhere, so it's not clear that proximity to home is a high priority. Mixed use parks are much more conducive to use by other demographics in Medford.

Please use the space below to add any other comments you may have.

The paths along the Mystic river is great but would be so much more useful and enjoyable if crossings at rt16 we're made saf. The one near Medford square There is a pedestrian light but no one stops for it sine the road is a highway. If this could be fixed a connect with the other trails along rt16 and the middle sea canal it would be great for running and biking. It would connect you to all the trails leading into Somerville and Cambridge and Arlington minuteman bike paths. But the crossings in Medford are almost impossible to cross safely.

We need a real inventory of the status of the trees that we have, including stumps that must be removed. The stumps are an eyesore. We need more trees and a budget that will sustain the replacement of the Norway maples that were planted in the 50's and are now starting to die off. This is not only important because it improves the livability of the community, but because it combats the heat island effect of all our concrete, and sequesters carbon.

Thank you!

We have an overemphasis on athletic fields in our parks system, as reflected in this survey. "Recreation" should not only mean active/passive things tied to our traditional definition based on sports. We need to give arts and cultural activities equal space and investment to improve access for persons of all ages and abilities. Public art of many kinds is a major opportunity for Medford to pursue in its open spaces.

Thank you for offering this survey. Medford is at a crucial stage with regard to development and the next seven years will see an intense amount of activity. This plan should be referred to often to help chart the course of the city not only for the next seven years, but for decades to come.

Please Please take better care of Medford's trees!! Also, plant some new ones, NOT all the same kind!!

Medford may not have the businesses that are drawing people in, but we do have open spaces and Recreation areas that if continued to be well taken care of are a huge asset. It does not make sense to let them deteriorate, or not maintain a decent standard, it makes more sense to take care of the nice things we have.

Give fire & police the support and resources they need. Tend to roads and streets and maintain up to date zoning regulations. Create additional parking facilities so residents can frequent local businesses.

I would appreciate updates on the progress of the plan being available by e-mail.

In the demographics you didn't ask about race or language. Need to make sure non-native English speakers and people of color are answering this survey too....

Thank you for all your hard work!

More and better off-road bike paths, especially along our rivers and lakes.

I would love to see the carriage house at the Brooks Estate be used as a private and public function space.

I'd like to see better proactive maintenance of all the playgrounds, and especially the school playgrounds. I'd also like to see equity amongst the school playgrounds. Not sure if these fall under this survey, but they are the parks many school-age children frequency the most, so wanted to throw it out there.

I would like better north to south paths along Grove Street and along the Lowell line, that would allow continuous off Street biking or walking from the Brooks Estate to West Medford Square. (1) a path or sidewalk on the cemetery side of Grove Street between the Brooks Estate and the Lowell line (Grove St @ Bussell Rd) (2) a path or sidewalk on Bussell Road from Grove Street to Playstead Park. (Could just be a painted shoulder lane) (3) a path parallel to the Lowell line through Playstead Park, from Bussell Road on the north, to the West Medford T station on the south. (4) a path through what is called Thomas Brooks Park, parallel to Grove Street, from where it crosses the Lowell line, down to at least Tyler Avenue (and somehow from there to the West Medford T stop) Together these would greatly improve access to three public parks: Brooks estate, Thomas Brooks Park, and Playstead Park.

Please see my comments on my desire for a "senior playground" in Medford. The benefits to seniors beyond the opportunity for fun and play are many. Greater cardio vascular health, improved muscle tone and strength and an increase in the ability to stretch and bend.

Please use the space below to add any other comments you may have.

The Medford city website is not well designed - often the information that comes up when Googling a particular result is outdated and not accurate. More effort could go into deprecating information and SEO.

Thanks for including an "other" gender option! Combining green space with bike paths, like the planned Clippership Connector, is a great way to increase access to nature and improve transportation options in one fell swoop. Judging whether I had in fact been to specific parks etc. took a significant amount of googling, because often I've been to a park but don't know what it's name is. Links to locations on a map in the survey (or a map on the page) would greatly decrease friction.

good luck

I feel disconnected with Medford. Is there a better way to increase advertising of current free community groups and activities? I used to get calls from Capt Barry Clemente but with new online phone can't find how to sign up again. Only found email option on city website.

The green spaces and the lakes are the main reasons we love Medford and our kids want to live here too. Also the little parks and playgrounds, which we would like to see expanded with more challenging equipment for older kids.

Love the community gardens and would love to see more space used like this. The Medford parks are great but could use some updates. People love the "natural" playgrounds and water features. But bathrooms of some kind would really help

Stop using Park Medford ticket renters living In the city and paying auto excise tax to Medford

I hope that Medford makes an effort towards more urban planning and thought about zoning before approving every apt complex and commercial structure. The city is becoming clogged with traffic and no common sense zoning. Also South Medford tends to be ignored and is suffering from parking and traffic issues that don't seem to get addressed.

The landscape maintenance contract that goes out to bid needs more money to ensure that you get the services in the specs. The city is not receiving needed services because the awarded contract is priced too low and the contractor needs to make up the difference somewhere. Fall cleanups are often not completed throughout the park system.

One of the most important reasons I live in Medford is access to the middlesex fells. Please continue to make their preservation a priority.

Paved places to walk in Medford would be a nice brochure., particularly those near water.

Create a better public transportation system so people can actually use the parks and the river. And tell people to keep their dogs on leashes in the Fells. Thanks

Thanks for looking into this!

Take care of Brooks Estate, but do not take trees or Woden road. Ruin atmosphere if it gets plowed over.

Very important for city to improve to management of sidewalks and crossing walks to ensure safe access to walking on city streets to gain access to these conservation areas. The traffic management, street lighting, safety for walking across streets is very difficult. I'd encourage our traffic engineer to work with this plan to help make sure walkers have safe access to streets.

Please keep in mind that in addition to comprehensive planning, proper design, best building and landscaping materials & techniques, that ongoing maintenance of what Medford has and what we eventually improve or build really needs to be maintained on an ongoing basis. Thank you.

I have just moved here from Cambridge and I have found it more difficult to find places to run in Medford that don't involve some kind of dangerous intersection to cross at during my runs. I also find that sidewalk access and lighting are not always consistent.

Please use the space below to add any other comments you may have.

if another community garden is considered, do not use cinder blocks. It looks municipal-looking and is an eye sore. What can MAPC do to create low-income housing? It is not the taxpayer's job to enrich outside-and i mean outside the state as well-developers! We are aware that this is an election year.

This survey took much longer than 10 mins. Because i had to search for all of the parks. If you provided google map links to lat long locations that would have made it much easier.

Thank you!

Creating the Clippership Connector and other riverside paths should be a priority.

Besides my comments from earlier, I would love to see a bike path along the Mystic lakes that connects to the bike path from Winchester to Stoneham and for the bike lanes along Boston Ave to feel safer to use. Love the idea of kayak rentals and it would be great if there were more places for people to launch their kayaks into the river.

Please strongly consider improvements is access to MFR. Efucationak offerings, signage, increased connections with this amazing resource. I'll help!

safe biking and walking infrastructure in South Medford should be a priority since it borders the great maintenance of Somerville's infrastructure; additionally trees are needed on Main Street all the way to the border of Somerville. Medford does not end at Tufts Park & Pool.

I'm encouraged that Medford is updating their OSRP and prioritizing needed improvements throughout the city to maintain and enhance their parks and recreational assets for the health and well-being of the community - thank you.

Our open spaces are a big part of what I love about Medford. My family hikes in the Fells and plays at Carr park regularly. We also use bike paths and streets to bike commute to work and school for the kids. The Clippership connector will be a great step towards safer commuting by bike. Please work on other off-road bike paths!

Enjoy living in Medford and look forward to more opportunities to explore the open spaces that it offers.

I think it is important to expand biking trails in the city, however, those trails should NOT be expanded into the conservation/wooded areas.

Water/splash parks are important. Please focus on traffic control if possible and less focus on high concentration housing. Traffic officers at high volume traffic bus stops very important. Also the roads are deplorable (Fulton Heights) and need to be addressed with a comprehensive paving improvement plan. Thank you.

Music events and festivals should also be encouraged.

I have been involved in several aspects of open space: Mystic Riverbend Park; the Brooks Estate and River's Edge Park. Medford has made progress on many fronts, but there is more to do, particularly with some City parks and the Brooks Estate. Also, Medford is a much more diverse place than it was 30 years ago; that needs to be better incorporated into the overall open space picture. As always, it is a matter of political will, public resources and working with volunteers in the community. Good luck!

No further comments.

make sure a wide range of medford people, including adults, and people with disabilities are aware of this survey. medford recreational stuff is very geared towards families with kids, which is fine, but adults and others should not be left out.

Adding a dog park on the green space at Boston Ave and Route 16. This space is currently under utilized. Prioritizing removal of invasive species such as Japanese Knotweed should be a conservation priority for the City of Medford.

The Brooks Estate must become a priority so that everyone can enjoy its unique (in this city!) combination of a historical and beautiful house with a large conservation area. It can only become self supporting if the carriage house is restored and the long driveway improved so that the building can become a site rentable for functions such as weddings, parties, meetings, etc.

Please use the space below to add any other comments you may have.

this is a well done survey. Congratulations!

there should be enforcement on "no dogs" in the Fells. I can't use this great resource with my small kids because dogs are running loose.

AS a community we do not value our open space as much as we should. We also do not value our street trees. There are too many streets that are completely barren. Pocket parks would be a great way to relieve that barrenness and can be tucked away in many neighborhoods. It may be hard for the DPW to maintain many pocket parks - but we hire contractors for so many other things that the city could swing it if there was a will to do so. Any plot of land that could be built on could be purchased for this purpose - especially if there were mature trees on it. It's one thing to plant new trees - that is fantastic and I encourage it - but we need to preserve the mature trees we already have even if they are on private land. One way is to buy those buildable lots as I mentioned.

Sprinkler park would benefit numerous families and make Medford more desirable. The clippership connector is important but the abutters should not be ignored

Thank you for reaching out to the public with this survey, and for protecting, preserving and promoting Medford's open space and recreation areas. Quality of life in Medford depends on it!

Definitely more bike paths! I live in West Medford and NEVER go to downtown Medford because High Street is very dangerous to bike on, and that rotary is terrible.

While the demographic is changing, don't forget the seniors in our community, who can't or won't use upgraded parks or walking trails. But do walk the sidewalks and drive the roads which are in deplorable condition. Priorities are needed for this city.

Medford is extremely bike-unfriendly. Arlington, with fewer residents, has much better bike infrastructure. Medford is at least 10 years behind Arlington. I'd ride my bike to work 8 months soon of the year if Riverside Avenue and Medford Square weren't nightmares on a bike.

Improving existing biking and walking paths, and creating new connections between those paths as well infrastructure for safe biking and walking on roads, should be a major priority in my opinion. I also think it is crucial that plans to preserve and create new open space not take away from opportunities to create denser housing that will make Medford more vibrant, business friendly, and affordable. Finally, I would love to see larger requirements for private developments to create open/green space rather than just adding parking spaces. There is way too much space dedicated to parking in Medford!

Thank you for all that you do!

A one who did not grow up in Medford, I feel blessed that my family and I live in such a wonderful town.

I appreciate the opportunity for feedback. Open space is one of the most important features of our city and needs to be maintained and enhanced to attract residents and visitors alike along with promoting physical activity. If done correctly it can become a characteristic of a community and radiate positivity to non-residents. Access and maintenance (i.e. upkeep of sidewalks) is extremely important for "passthrough"/commuter property (Rivebend Park, Macdonald Park, Wellington Greenway) as these paths act as points of access for key locations in our city - MBTA, retail, etc.

Thank you!

I would like to see the City take the initiative to work more proactively with DCR to improve facilities on land the DCR owns. To ask for DCR to collaborate, cooperate, and communicate with the City in planning new facilities, with input from Medford Boards and public. DCR's lack of cooperation is currently a barrier to accomplishing projects that would meet Medford's recreation needs.

Maintain what we have in Medford. There are many choices for recreation, Wright's pond, sandy beach and mystic lakes and boat club, middlesex fells reservation, chevalier theatre, 30 plus neighborhood parks, a potential historical landmark (Brooks Estates) Royall House and Slave quarters, skating rinks, dog parks, community parks. We have enough play things.

Keep up the good work. Residents need open space. Quality of life issue.

Please use the space below to add any other comments you may have.

If we could incorporate more art into the city's OSRP, that would draw more use to the spaces. Develop standards across the city, e.g. colorfully painted crosswalks and signage near ALL parks in the city...this would show everyone that a park is nearby. We need to do more to address climate change resilience in the city to protect what we have from damage. Fulton Heights has a high water table, such that we needed to install interior french drain to remove water from the basement during heavy rainfall. At the old Malden Hospital, much of the area is covered by impervious asphalt...making the land more climate and run-off friendly would help. More trees would help with extreme heat conditions, and cleaner air. Creating park areas to hold storm water runoff would help. Let's use our assets not only for recreation, but also to help with climate resilience!

Thanks for reaching out! It feels like Medford is making positive steps and building positive momentum.

Bicycle safety and convenience please!!!

Be excellent to each other

Thanks for doing this survey! Small improvements will have a compounding effect over time.....but we must keep moving forward with improvements!

The choices for identifying the Rec spaces were odd. "Never been but would like to visit" or "visited once but never returned" are strange. No option to just say "I have never been."

Not plowing snow on to the sidewalks would make it easier to recreate. Clearing the sidewalk on Grove St over the train tracks. Use crushed stone to improve the trail along Mystic Lakes. Enforce speed limits. Make it easier to cross South Border Road at trail crossings.

I would like to see 1. additional bike paths and bike lanes, 2. More trees planted across the city, and 3. updates to make the existing parks more appealing.

Thank you for doing this!

Thank you for using Qualtrics instead of the cheaper alternatives - Qualtrics is a much better product and the experience of this survey reinforces my experience with them!

I am a first-time homeowner and have lived in Medford for 3 years. I am happy that the Chevalier Theatre has become more active and like that Medford has organizations like the Medford Arts Council and Medford Conversations, bringing the community together and supporting arts initiatives. I would love for there to be some sort of maps made, available to the public, and updated on a regular basis of Medford, showing the different neighborhoods, what businesses, parks, and amenities are located in each. This would be helpful to Medford residents as well as people visiting Medford. I also think it would be great for the Medford city website to have a catalog of all of the historical plaques located around Medford so people find out and know where to go to see things such as Amelia Earhart's house, the site where "Over the river and through the woods" was written, and things like that. Most of my friends who live in Medford aren't even aware of these sites and this history.

Definitely let's ensure we can take care of what we have before taking on more!

Looking forward to greater connectivity between the open and recreational spaces in Medford. Especially the Greenway connections along the Mystic River for walking, running and biking. Thank you!

I left thorough comments about Elm St and Wright's Park so I'll leave this one to breathe. :)

Please pass a 2.5 override! our public services are starving!

Thank you for making this a priority and for asking for input from residents. Thanks for your awareness about how crucial it is to all of us to maintain and nurture the elements of nature that remain in this city. I love Medford and am very proud to be a resident of Medford. I grew up here in the 60s and 70s and came back in 2001 and in some ways the city has improved. However, I have also seen trees and land disappear and this troubles me. I am so glad that we have people in our current city's administration that want to make sure that we conserve and improve all the green space in Medford, and that we educate people in ways to help keep Medford clean and green.

Medford has some really nice parks but SO much more potential. I would like to see some better running paths/routes as well.

Please use the space below to add any other comments you may have.

As Medford continues to gain population as a result of more and denser housing projects, which seems to be a priority for the mayor, we will need additional parks, playing fields and recreation areas for the additional residents. And the ones we have will be more heavily used and will have to be taken care of.

Improve the website. Just putting info in PDFs is not helpful.

Medford has lost an enormous number of mature trees b/c of greenline extension and loss of street trees. The city has an opportunity to step up and address this loss by planting diverse shade trees (not bradford pears), on our streets -and, very importantly- along Boston Ave from Winthrop street to College ave where there is now not a single tree - or even to Broadway.

Thanks for the inclusive "prefer not to answer" option on Gender!

as a bicycle commuter, bicycling in medford is harrowing. please build biking infrastructure, at least around the prominent streets and public transit areas. i'm so pleased to see medford open to listening to the residents. we moved here because medford has so much nature.

More events in the parks would be great. Maybe food truck gatherings like Somerville did near Powderhouse.

Obtain and maintain as much open space as you can...even smaller spaces when well-maintained add to the enjoyment of Medford's citizens.

Could McDonald park get garden space? That would be fantastic!

Thank you for taking our input and I look forward to seeing the results of this survey.

thanks for thinking of these things! would love to see Medford have similar open play spaces like that of Cambridge, Somerville, Arlington and Belmont.

Malden and Medford should work together to purchase conservation land/park land. The Middlesex Fells needs to be protected (e.g. dog walkers need to clean up after their dogs)

End of Report

APPENDIX F - ADA Assessment

City of Medford

A.D.A. and 504 GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

This Grievance Procedure is established to meet the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504. It may be used by anyone who wishes to file a complaint alleging discrimination on the basis of disability in employment practices and policies, or the provision of services, activities, programs or benefits by the City of Medford.

This grievance policy does not supplant any provision of an existing collective bargaining agreement with a City of Medford employee representation group. Any grievance processed (or in process) under the terms of a collective bargaining agreement may not be submitted through this ADA/504 Grievance Procedure.

The complaint should be in writing and contain information about the alleged discrimination such as name, address, phone number of complainant and location, date, and description of the problem. Alternative means of filing complaints, such as personal interviews or a tape recording of the complaint, will be made available for persons with disabilities upon request.

This complaint should be submitted by the grievant, and/or his/her designee, as soon as possible but not later than sixty (60) calendar days after the alleged violation to:

Neil Osborne,
ADA Coordinator
City of Medford
Office of Human Diversity & Compliance
City Hall, Room 214
Medford, MA 02155
(781) 393-2501 – Voice
(781) 393-2516 TDD

Within fifteen (15) calendar days after receipt of the complaint, the ADA Coordinator will meet with the complainant to discuss the complaint and possible resolutions. Within fifteen (15) calendar days after the meeting, the ADA Coordinator will respond in writing and, where appropriate, in a format accessible to the complainant, such as large print, Braille or audio tape. The response will explain the position of the City of Medford and offer options for substantive resolution of the complaint.

If the response by the ADA Coordinator does not satisfactorily resolve the issue, the complainant, and/or his/her designee, may appeal the decision of the ADA Coordinator within fifteen (15) calendar days after receipt of the response to the Mayor, or his/her designee.

Within fifteen (15) calendar days after receipt of the appeal, the Mayor, or his/her designee, will meet with the complainant to discuss the complaint and possible resolutions. Within fifteen (15) calendar days after the meeting the Mayor, or his/her designee, will respond in writing and, where appropriate, in a format accessible to the complainant, with a final resolution of the complaint.

All written complaints received by the ADA Coordinator, appeals to the Mayor, or his/her designee, and responses from the ADA Coordinator and Mayor, or his/her designee, will be kept by the City of Medford for at least three (3) years.

Section 504/Americans with Disabilities Act Compliance

The City of Medford has done extensive work to meet its obligations under Section 504 and the Americans with Disabilities Act. In 1994, the City's consultants performed an accessibility audit of all municipal buildings, schools, parking lots, and parks. The August 1994 report, by the compliance consultant Katherine McGuinness and Associates, Inc., documenting this work contains an accessibility program for each of these categories. Park audits and accessibility program summary were included in the Appendices of the 2001 and 2011 Open Space and Recreation Plans. The audits of the parks and open space have been updated and are included in the sites assessment forms at the end of Section 9 of the OSRP. As noted in the Open Space Plan, the City has made steady progress in making its open space system accessible, substituting conforming playground equipment and providing accessible paths as each park is rehabilitated. This work will continue with the rehabs called for in the Seven Year Action Plan.

Part I: Administrative Requirements

1. Designation of the 504 Coordinator
The City has designated Neil Osborne, Director of Human Diversity & Compliance, as 504 Coordinator.
2. Grievance Procedures
Medford has an established grievance procedure for handling complaints on the basis of disability. The Grievance Procedure is included above.
3. Public Notification Requirements
Medford's ADA/504 Self Evaluation and Transition Plan was formally noticed in December 1994. In addition, the 504 Coordinator transmits a memorandum to all Department Heads of city government each year, reaffirming the City's policies relative to the Americans with Disabilities Act and requesting that they be posted for notice by all staff.
4. Participation
Medford's Evaluation of Program Accessibility and Transition Plan for schools, public buildings, parking facilities, and parks was completed in 1994 with the participation of a number of persons with disabilities.

Part II: Program Accessibility

Medford has surveyed all parks as noted above and is making steady progress in making improvements identified in the accessibility audit. In 1994 the City conducted a complete compliance audit of all public buildings, schools, parking facilities and parks. In each case, playground equipment was replaced with equipment meeting ADA Accessibility Guidelines, and accessible paths were provided to all new elements. The process of compliance continued with the park rehabs identified in the Seven-Year Action Plan of the 2001 and 2011 Open Space and Recreation Plans.

Accessibility improvements 1994-2001:

- Cummings Playground
- Harris Playground
- Hillside Park (Capen Street)
- Tufts Park

- Tufts Pool Bathhouse

Accessibility Improvements 2001-2011:

- Barry Park
- Victory Park
- Columbus Park
- Dugger Park
- Hickey Park
- Playstead Park
- Morrison Park
- Riverbend Park
- The track at Hormel Stadium
- High School athletic fields
- Condon Shell park

Accessibility Improvements 2011-2018

- McNally Park
- Hickey Park
- Barry Park
- Morrison Park

Part III: Employment Practices

The 1994 ADA Review included a complete review of the City's employment practices. Medford's employment policies and practices are in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's ADA regulations.

ADA Assessment

The following is a list of ADA improvements required for the top priority parks in the OSRP. The following descriptions identify 504/ADA improvements needed at parks that do not currently meet those requirements. Assessments of Medford's parks were conducted based on the facility inventory sheets found in the Open Space and Recreation Planners Workbook and are focused on the relevant equipment and features available at those parks. Additionally, input from the Commission for Persons with Disabilities is incorporated into this assessment. Existing deficiencies are noted for each of these parks. The remainder of Medford's parks are new or have been recently renovated and meet 504/ADA standards.

Tufts Park

Improve accessibility with designated off-street handicapped parking, accessible picnic tables, accessible swings and play components in the playground and accessible restroom with showers in the pool area. Remove trip hazards at players' entrance to fields thus making all fields universally accessible. Upgrade crosswalks and curb ramps. Replace the playground play surface.

Cummings Park

Improve accessibility with 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. Accessible picnic tables need replacement. Replace the playground play surface.

Morrison Park

Although ADA improvements were implemented in 2014, 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. Add walkways to make fields accessible, and some walkways need repair.

Carr Park

This park is in need of a full renovation. The 2011 OSRP recommended improving accessibility within the playground with additional accessible play options. Designated ADA accessible parking with signage, curb ramp and accessible walkway connecting to the park is needed. 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. Benches, picnic tables and bleachers should be replaced and made handicapped accessible. Additional benches should be added along the perimeter path for respite. Several play pieces are in poor condition and new ADA compliant playground equipment is likely required. Replace the playground play surface.

Logan Park

Designate handicapped parking spaces with signage and striping on Otis Street and Logan Avenue. Install curb extensions to shorten the crossing. Add crosswalks and curb ramps and repair the sidewalk along both streets. Walkways within the park need to be accessible. 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 2011 OSRP also recommended adding additional ADA play features, play equipment for children 2-5 years of age, and upgrading site furnishings. Replace the playground play surface.

Capen Park

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. 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.

Shepard's Brook Estate

The 2011 OSRP recommended improving accessibility starting with an accessibility master plan that would be implemented in phases. There is no accessible route to the estate's amenities and there is no accessible parking.

Gillis Field

The 2011 OSRP recommended improving accessibility with new entrances that meet accessibility/ADA requirements. Stripe and sign ADA accessible parking on Fulton Street and provide a curb ramp on both sides of Fulton Street from Rockwood Terrace. Re-design and reconstruct entrances to Gillis Park to provide barrier-free access into the park and remove cracked pavement. Provide accessible paths to concessions, benches and bleachers. Replace bleachers with ADA accessible ones.

Playstead Park

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. An accessible walkway is needed within the park to connect all of the various use areas. 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. If playground renovations are needed or desired, consider multi-functional, ADA compliant green-play spaces that will diversify the play experience.

Wright's Pond

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. Stripe and sign handicapped parking spaces that lead to an accessible path to park amenities. Re-grade, 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. 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, ADA compliant green-play spaces that will diversify the play experience.

The following is a list of ADA improvements required for other parks and while they are not priority parks, the ADA improvements identified here should be incorporated into improvements within these parks.

Brooks Park

- ADA Accessibility Improvements noted in 2011 OSRP
 - Install a paved entry path to allow for ADA access to the site
- Improve handicapped 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
- Repair cracks and ruts in pavement

Columbus Park

- ADA Accessibility Improvements noted in 2011 OSRP
 - ADA compliant parking in lot with signage, pathway lighting between parking lot and park
- Build a path leading to bleachers at the softball field and provide handicapped seating
- Repair cracked and uneven sidewalks

Dugger Park

- ADA Accessibility Improvements noted in 2011 OSRP
 - Site furnishings are inadequate to accommodate disabled park users and should be upgraded
- Add ADA compliant restroom facilities and water fountains
- Spray park needs to be upgraded, including ADA compliance
- Add accessible pavement at bicycle racks and bleachers
- Replace picnic tables with ADA compliant tables and benches
- Repair heaved and cracked pavement
- Wood fiber play surface needs to be augmented or replaced

Grant 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 a handicapped parking space
- Replace steps to address grade and add handrails
- Consider ADA compliant adding seating options

Hastings Heights Park

- ADA Accessibility Improvements noted in 2011 OSRP
 - Upgrade pedestrian access and internal circulation to be ADA compliant
- Designate a handicapped parking space
- Replace and add ADA compliant seating options

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
- Add more ADA compliant benches

Magoun Park

- Add mid-block crosswalk and curb ramp connecting neighborhood to Bradshaw Street

McNally Park

- Designate a handicapped parking space
- Retrofit planting beds to accommodate disabled visitors

Medford Honor Roll Park

- Designate a handicapped parking space
- Install ADA compliant benches with back support

Riverbend Park

- Provide accessible walkways to players' benches and bleachers
- Repair or replace benches
- Repair cracked walkways

Royall House Park

- ADA Accessibility Improvements noted in 2011 OSRP
 - No accessible entrance (Main St. has stairs; George St. has gate)
- Repair walkways that are uneven, cracked and heaving
- Provide accessible pathway to entrance to Royall House (which is accessible)
- Replace benches

Salem Street Burying Ground

- ADA Accessibility Improvements noted in 2011 OSRP
 - Burial grounds are not accessible

- Designate a handicapped parking space
- Repair or replace brick paving at north entrance

Thomas Brooks Park

- ADA Accessibility Improvements noted in 2011 OSRP
 - Create an accessible entrance into the main park/field area from Grove St.
- Provide sidewalk access to park and a crosswalk across Grove Street

Tufts Alumni Fields

- ADA Accessibility Improvements noted in 2011 OSRP
 - Parking lot has no ADA compliant spaces
 - Spectator seating should include accessible accommodations
- Repair pavement and drainage in parking lot

Veterans Memorial Park

- ADA Accessibility Improvements noted in 2011 OSRP
 - Designated ADA compliant parking, accessible paths connecting all amenities
- Designate a handicapped parking space
- Create accessible path to park at Winthrop Street
- 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 additional ADA compliant benches

Victory Park

- ADA Accessibility Improvements noted in 2011 OSRP
 - Repair rubber safety surfacing under swings
 - Identify designated ADA accessible parking space
- Consider the addition of service access to courts and fields

Appendix G: ParkServe® Analysis

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Project Areas

Medford, MA - City Level Report

All statistical results are aggregated for the listed project areas and their service areas. Service areas are based on 10-minute (1/2 mile) walk times from project access points defined for each project area and based upon the walkable network.

Legend

 Report Area

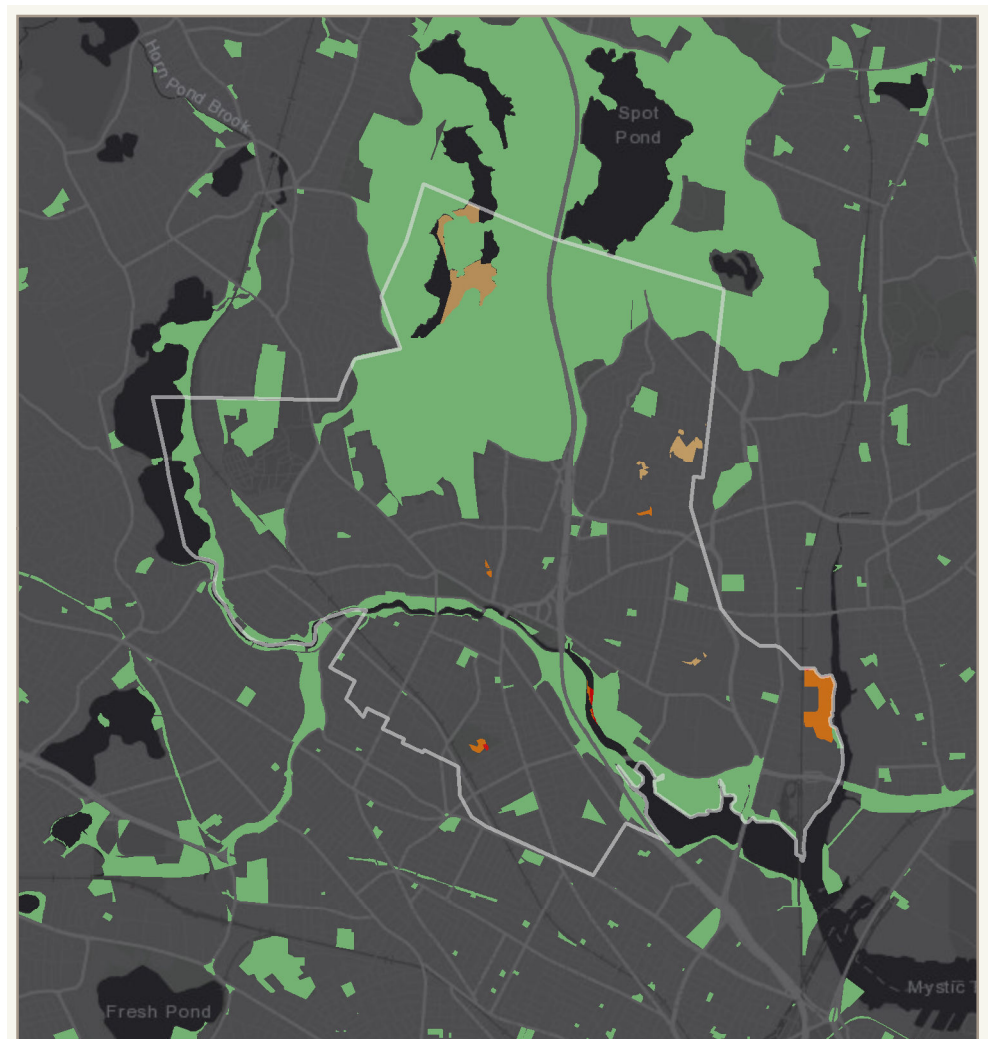
 Parks

Park Need (Places)

 Very High

 High

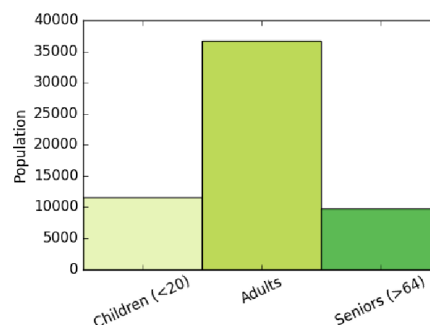
 Moderate



Population within a 10-minute walk

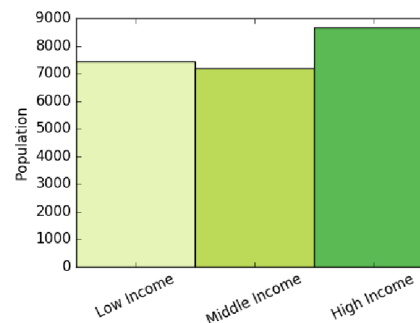
Total Population	58,083
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Age	Served
Children (less than age 20)	11,501
Adults (age 20 to age 64)	36,786
Seniors (age 65 and up)	9,792



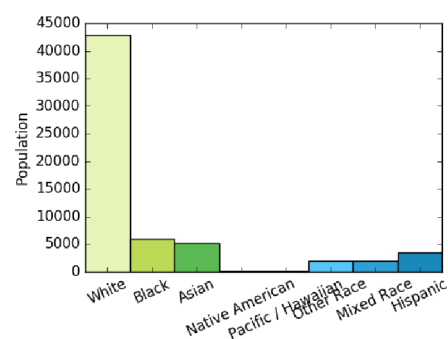
Household Income	Served
Low income	7,438
Middle income	7,176
High income	8,657

(Generated From Regional Median Incomes)



Race/Ethnicity	Served
White	42,833
Black	5,991
Asian	5,211
Native American	133
Pacific / Hawaiian	8
Other Race	1,953
Mixed Race	1,955
Hispanic*	3,405

* U.S. Census captures Hispanic Origin separate from race



Demographic information is derived from ESRI 2017 Demographic Forecast Block Groups data.

This report was created on February 5, 2019 using the ParkServe® interactive mapping site. It is for informational purposes only. The providers of this report disclaim any and all warranties, express or implied, including fitness for a particular purpose or merchantability, and make no representation that the report is complete, accurate, or error free. Use and reliance on this report is at the sole risk of the party using same.

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Appendix H: Public Comments on April 2019 Draft Plan

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Comment 1:

We live near Barry Park and it is great to have such a multi-functional space in the neighborhood. I was wondering if there were any plans to create a fenced-in dog area, perhaps next to the basketball courts, any time in the future? Our closest fenced-in dog park area is over by Andrews Middle School. It's a great space, but we have to drive there and so we can't utilize it on a regular basis. With so many dogs in the Medford Hillside neighborhood, I think many people would benefit from a dog area in Barry Park. I was curious whether a dog park here might be possible.

Comment 2:

My husband and I would like to second [the] idea for a fenced-in dog park in Barry Park in Medford. We live in the Hillside neighborhood, and there is nowhere for our dog to run off-leash in the area. I am sure many other neighborhood dog owners would support this idea, too.

Comment 3:

I am a resident of Allston St. Our house is one of the many that ring Hastings Park. I understand that this beautiful, historic area of Medford has been consistently neglected from plans/budget for upkeep/maintenance/beautification for many years. I want to strongly advocate for including Hastings Park in the newest Open Space and Recreation Plan for 2019-2026.

The park is a lovely space. It provides a beautiful and scenic vantage point to survey the neighborhood. Children sled down the back side in the winter; people walk their dogs and take their young kids to play and climb trees. It's part of Medford's history, is very much utilized and appreciated by many residents in the surrounding neighborhoods, and deserves some TLC.

There are broken benches that should be replaced. There are areas that could be developed with shrubs and planting to attract native pollinators and add to its aesthetic value. It would even be great place to be included on architectural and nature scenery tours of the town.

It brings us great joy to look out on the park. It's one of the really unique and wonderful things about this neighborhood and we would love to see it taken care of with a bit more attention and conscientiousness.

Comment 4:

I would like to submit comments to the new plan:

In Medford's 1916 annual report, the Board of Park Commissioners wrote: "Playgrounds are of the first importance; the parks, however, should not be neglected, but so planted and cared for as to develop their natural beauty and attractiveness from year to year."

My concern is that the city now focuses primarily on the parks which have playgrounds or sports fields and has basically neglected the passive parks, particularly Hastings Heights Park,

which is the city's fifth oldest park still in existence. Now that my children are grown, I no longer go to the playgrounds and primarily use parks for rest and relaxation and walking about. That is one of the prime original purposes of Hastings Heights Park, but because the city hasn't maintained the original pathway or cared for the original plantings or regularly replaced unhealthy shrubs and trees, this park looks nothing like its original plan. The park was once bordered by trees and shrubs to provide a sense of refuge and to offer something lovely to look at, but everything now seems more naked and exposed. People enjoy sledding in the park in the winter and walking their dogs there. Many folks in the neighborhood like to include it as part of their daily walk, but no one really stays and enjoys the park anymore because there isn't as much to enjoy visually and there is no comfortable place to sit. The lawn hasn't been kept healthy so it now looks like a lot of dead clumps, and the broken glass around the tower has been a problem for decades and really needs to be resolved for issues of safety.

Having neglected Hastings Park for so many decades, the city really owes it more attention in an open space plan. The park needs several new attractive benches with backs (the backless wooden ones currently there have been there for 30 or more years) and nice trash receptacles rather than barrels. Every time a tree has to be cut down, a new one should immediately be planted. More shrubs should be planted. The flat lawn needs to be completely redone so that it is lush and green again. The original pathway should be restored along with access points that make the park ADA accessible. Please help to bring this park back to the beautiful park it was meant to be.

Thank you for your consideration.

Comment 5:

Thank you for providing the residents of Medford with such a thoughtful comprehensive plan, that is visually appealing and informative. I look forward to seeing the recommendations implemented.

Comment 6:

2 thoughts:

1. What is the land on South Street across from Truro and Maple? Is it considered open space? If so, I don't see it mentioned. I hope we can continue to leave this open space and not build any more houses on the river bankment.
2. I would like to see some permanent Pickleball courts (with lighting if possible) for the adult and senior population added to the Medford parks system. Right now, It appears everything is tied to the school system and whenever the schools are closed, the available pickleball courts are closed so that the kids can have the area. I understand but also believe a dedicated area might relieve this issue.

Comment 7:

I was hoping to put in a recommendation for the open space and recreation plan. I visited the new Lincoln Park in Somerville last weekend and spent an entire day (literally) there with my

kids. I am hoping Medford would be able to create something similar at Carr Park in Medford as that is the only playground in the entire Fulton heights neighborhood.

What my 4 and 7 year old enjoyed most was the skate park. They rode around it with their bikes for hours. We don't have anything like that in Medford and as I showed friends videos taken there, everybody now wants to go there. I think it would be a nice addition to our city. Lincoln Park in Somerville is designed so well. It is designed around open play, bike paths connecting different sections of the park. My kids keep asking to go back there.

I also liked that no dogs were allowed in there at all and that there's a separate dog park nearby. It is a huge problem at Carr Park that dogs keep running around without a leash. My one child is absolutely terrified of dogs and so he won't ride his bike around that park. No kids should be exposed to dogs running up to them. Especially when the signs clearly say they should be on leash. Unfortunately that is never enforced at Carr Park.