

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Governor

Charles D. Baker

Lieutenant Governor

Karyn E. Polito

Energy and Environmental Secretary

Bethany A. Card

Department of Conservation and Recreation Commissioner

Douglas J. Rice

Meeting Logistics

- The Herter Team will go through the presentation, asking everyone to be muted.
- Tonight's meeting will be recorded. The recording and slide deck will be available shortly after the meeting at: **www.mass.gov/dcr/past-public-meetings**
- During our Questions and Comments, you can make comments 2 ways:
 - Raise Your Hand, using the Zoom function
 - Comment or ask questions in Chat, using the Zoom function
- After the meeting, you are welcome to send comments to: **mass.parks@mass.gov**
- See the *Herter Park Master Plan* at: **www.mass.gov/guides/dcr-master-plans**

DCR Mission

To protect, promote and enhance our common wealth of natural, cultural and recreational resources for the well-being of all.

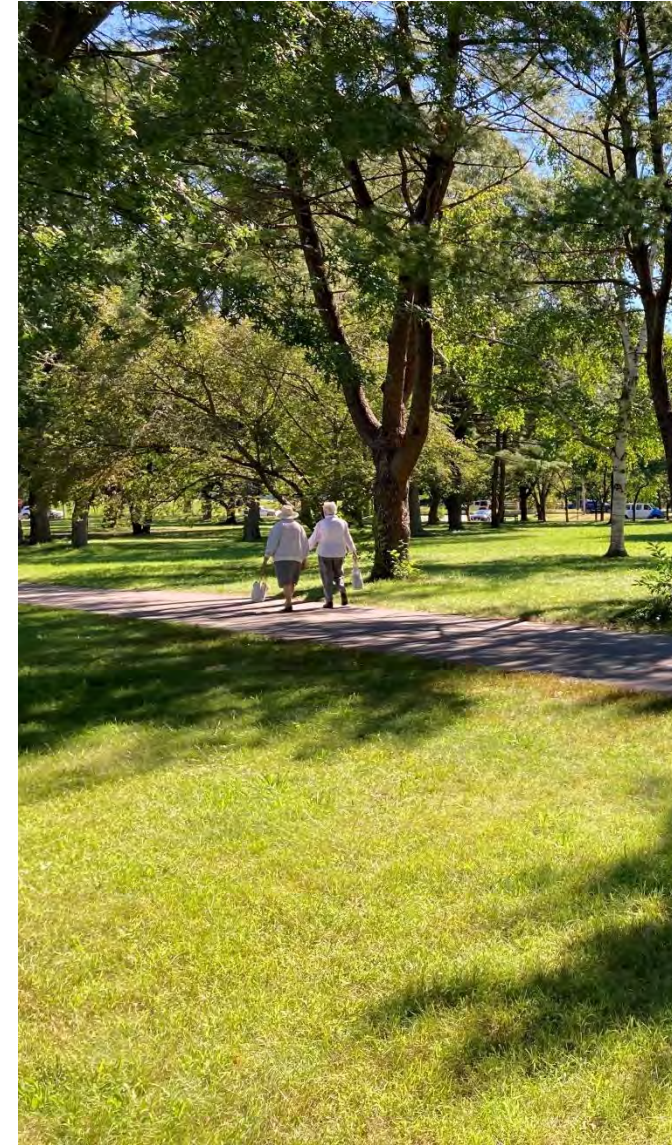


Master Plan Presentation
Christian A. Herter Park Master Plan



Agenda

1. Re-Introductions
2. Purpose of the Meeting
3. Master Plan Goals and Recommendations:
 - Circulation and Connectivity
 - Park Programming and Facilities
 - Park-wide Improvements
 - Park Infrastructure and Management
4. Next Steps and Project Updates



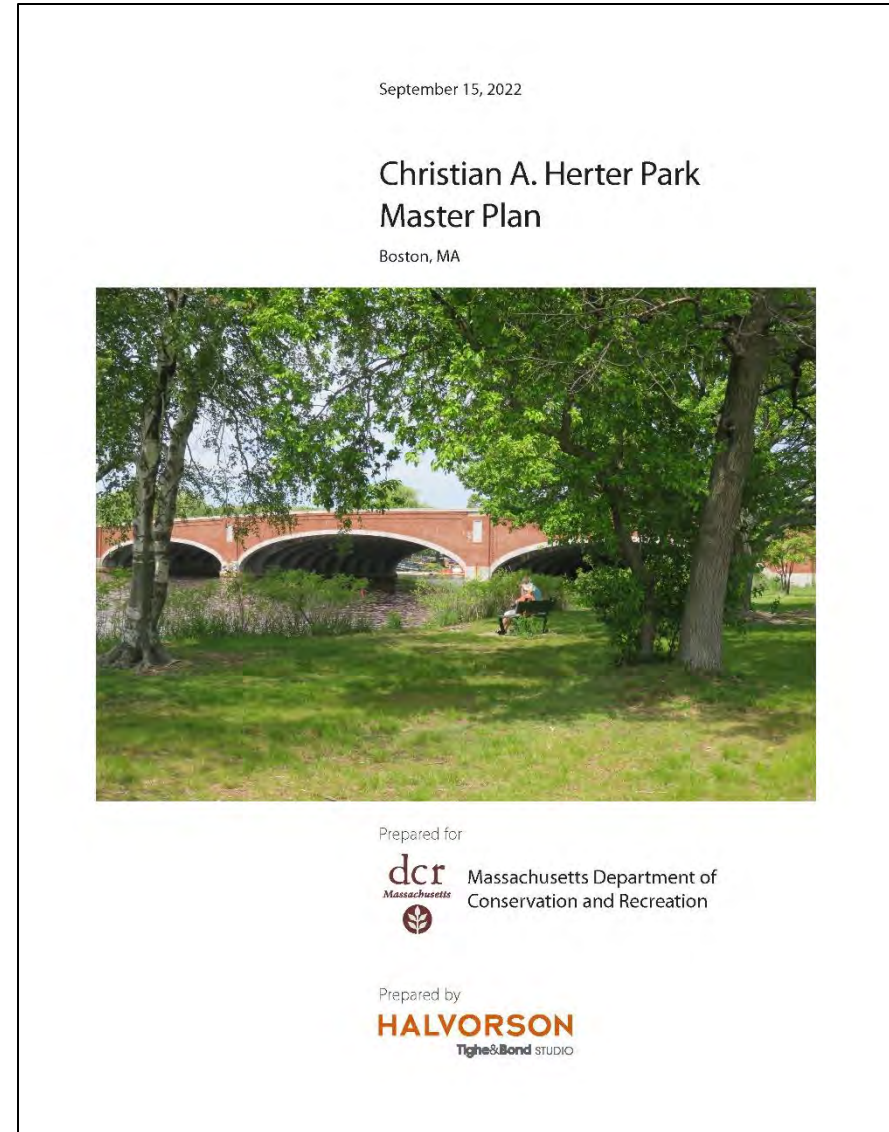
Master Plan Presentation
Christian A. Herter Park Master Plan



Purpose of the Meeting

Purpose of the meeting is to present an overview of the Herter Park Master Plan, including:

- Master Plan Goals
- Master Plan Recommendations



Master Plan Presentation
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Acknowledgements

DCR would like to recognize the contributions of the following individuals and organizations:

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Charles D. Baker, Governor
Karyn E. Polito, Lieutenant Governor
Bethany A. Card, Secretary, Executive Office
of Energy & Environmental Affairs
Douglas J. Rice, Commissioner, DCR

Elected Officials

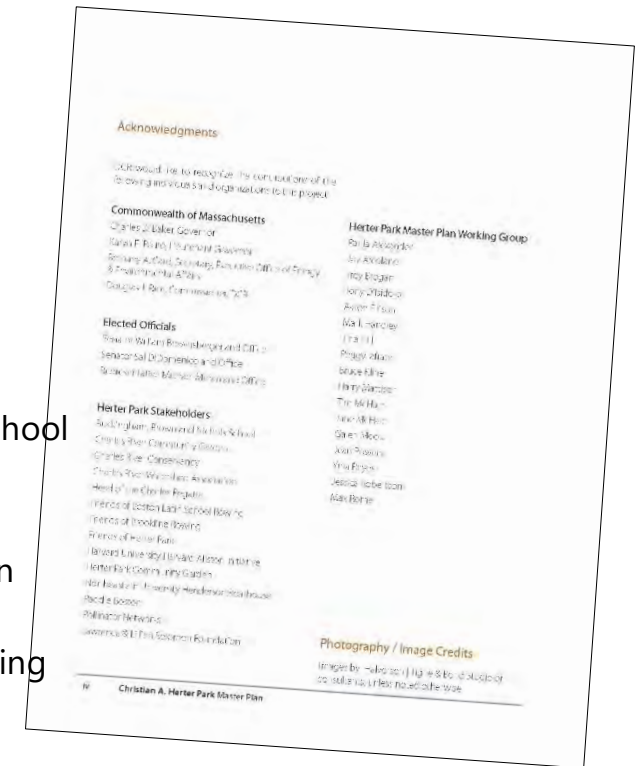
Senator William Brownsberger and Office
Senator Sal DiDomenico and Office
Representative Michael Moran and Office

Herter Park Master Plan Working Group

Paula Alexander
Joy Arcolano
Troy Brogan
Tony D'Isidoro
Aaron Ellison
Mark Handley
Tina Hill
Peggy lafrate
Bruce Kline
Harry Mattison
Tim McHale
Jane McHale
Galen Mook
Jean Powers
Yina Reyes
Jessica Robertson
Max Rome

Herter Park Stakeholders

Buckingham, Brown and Nichols School
Charles River Community Garden
Charles River Conservancy
Charles River Watershed Association
Head of the Charles Regatta
Friends of Boston Latin School Rowing
Friends of Brookline Rowing
Friends of Herter Park
Harvard University Harvard Allston Initiative
Herter Park Community Garden
Northeastern University Henderson Boathouse
Paddle Boston
Pollinator Networks
Lawrence & Lillian Solomon Foundation



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Master Plan Goals

The Master Plan Goals set the stage for a vibrant, sustainable, accessible, and well-crafted public park that unites multiple opportunities: recreation, cultural activities for all ages, connectivity, infrastructure, and ecological restoration.

- **Enhance public access** to outstanding opportunities for passive and active recreation along and adjacent to the riverbank.
- **Restore a healthy riverbank and parkland ecology** that provides for stable shorelines, enhanced wildlife habitat, improved stormwater management and water quality, beautiful vistas, climate resiliency, and a safe, stable tree canopy.
- Steward parklands that **reflect the cultural values** and the over 100-year history of the Charles River Reservation.
- Provide a framework to **guide future capital restoration projects** and vital programs for the Herter Park facilities.
- **Improve the visitor experience**, wayfinding, and visitor comfort amenities.
- **Engage a cooperative network of stakeholders** who both enjoy the recreational opportunities and provide volunteer assistance in managing the park's assets.

Master Plan Table of Contents

Part One: Executive Summary

- 1.1 | Purpose and Goals
- 1.2 | Master Planning Process
- 1.3 | Summary Recommendations

Part Two: Site Analysis and General Recommendations

- 2.1 | Park History
- 2.2 | Past Planning and Development Context
- 2.3 | Arrival, Circulation and Parking
- 2.4 | Site Features and Built Facilities
- 2.5 | Program Activities
- 2.6 | Visitor Experience and Wayfinding
- 2.7 | Stormwater Infrastructure
- 2.8 | Utilities Infrastructure
- 2.9 | Landscape and Vegetation

Part Three: Master Plan Recommendations

- 3.1 | Circulation Improvements
- 3.2 | Area-Specific Recommendations
- 3.3 | Building Improvements and New Facilities
- 3.4 | Stormwater Improvements
- 3.5 | Utilities Improvements
- 3.6 | Proposed Site Furnishings
- 3.7 | Signage and Wayfinding Improvements

Part Four: Landscape Management Plan

- 4.1 | Landscape Management Plan

Christian A. Herter Park
Master Plan
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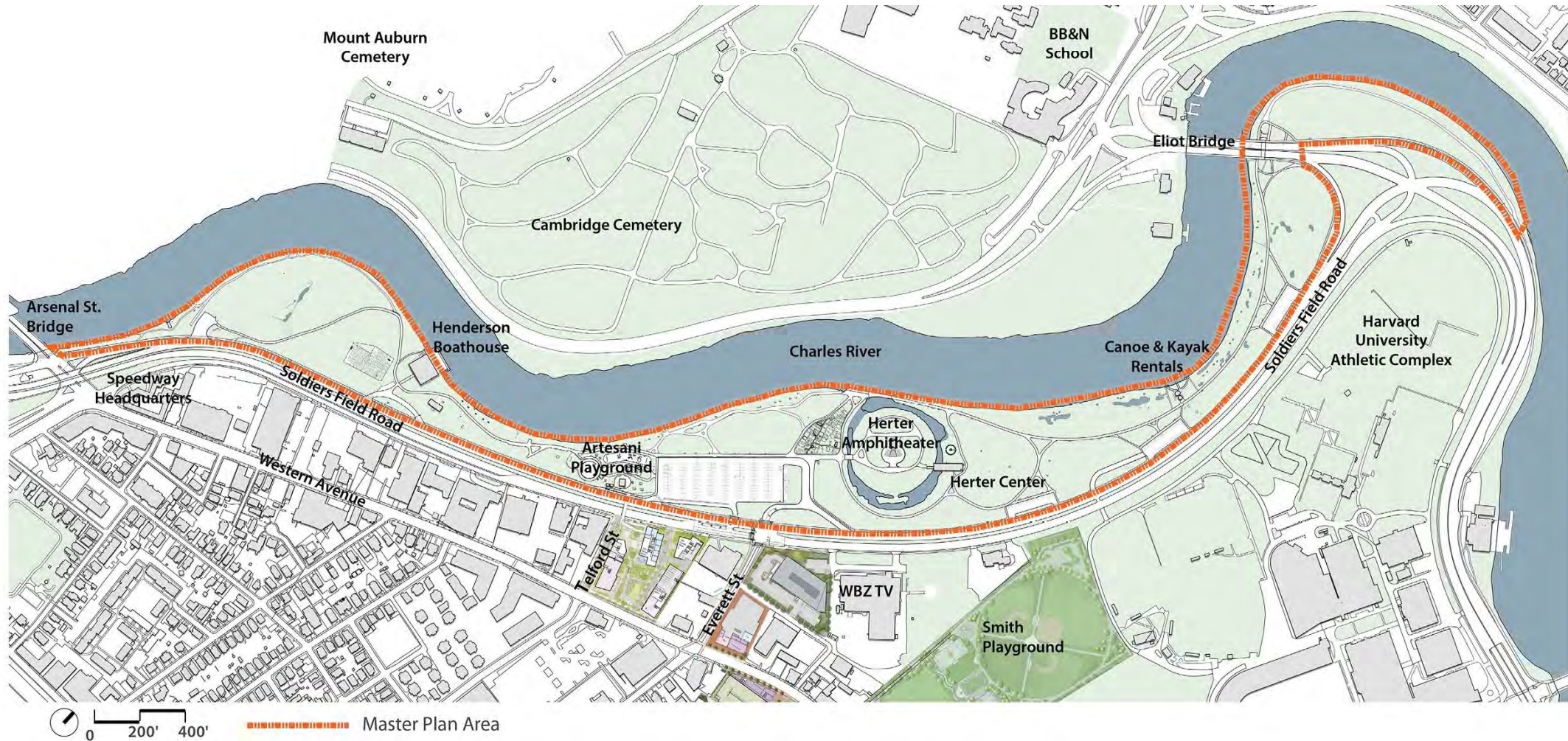
Part Three
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Part Four
Landscape Management Plan

- 4.1 | Landscape Management Plan

Existing Conditions Plan

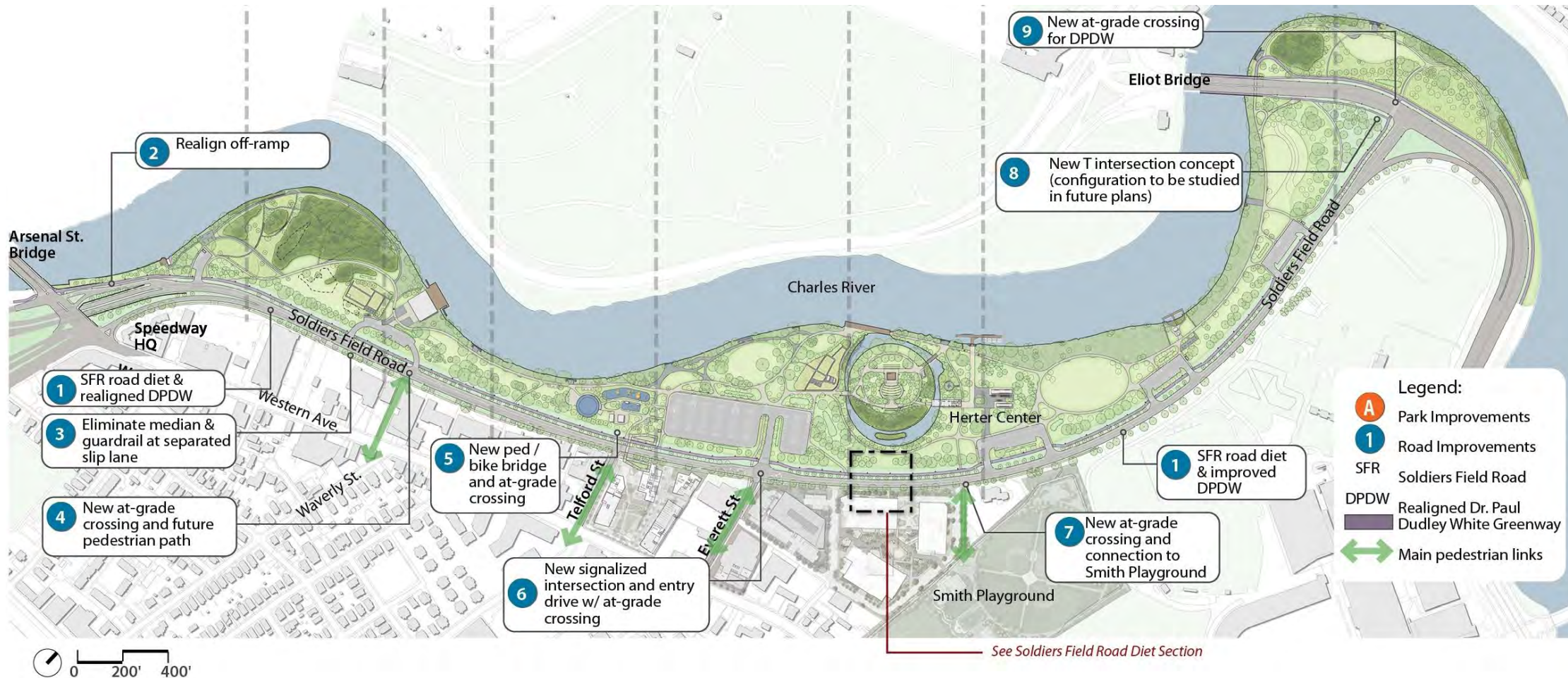


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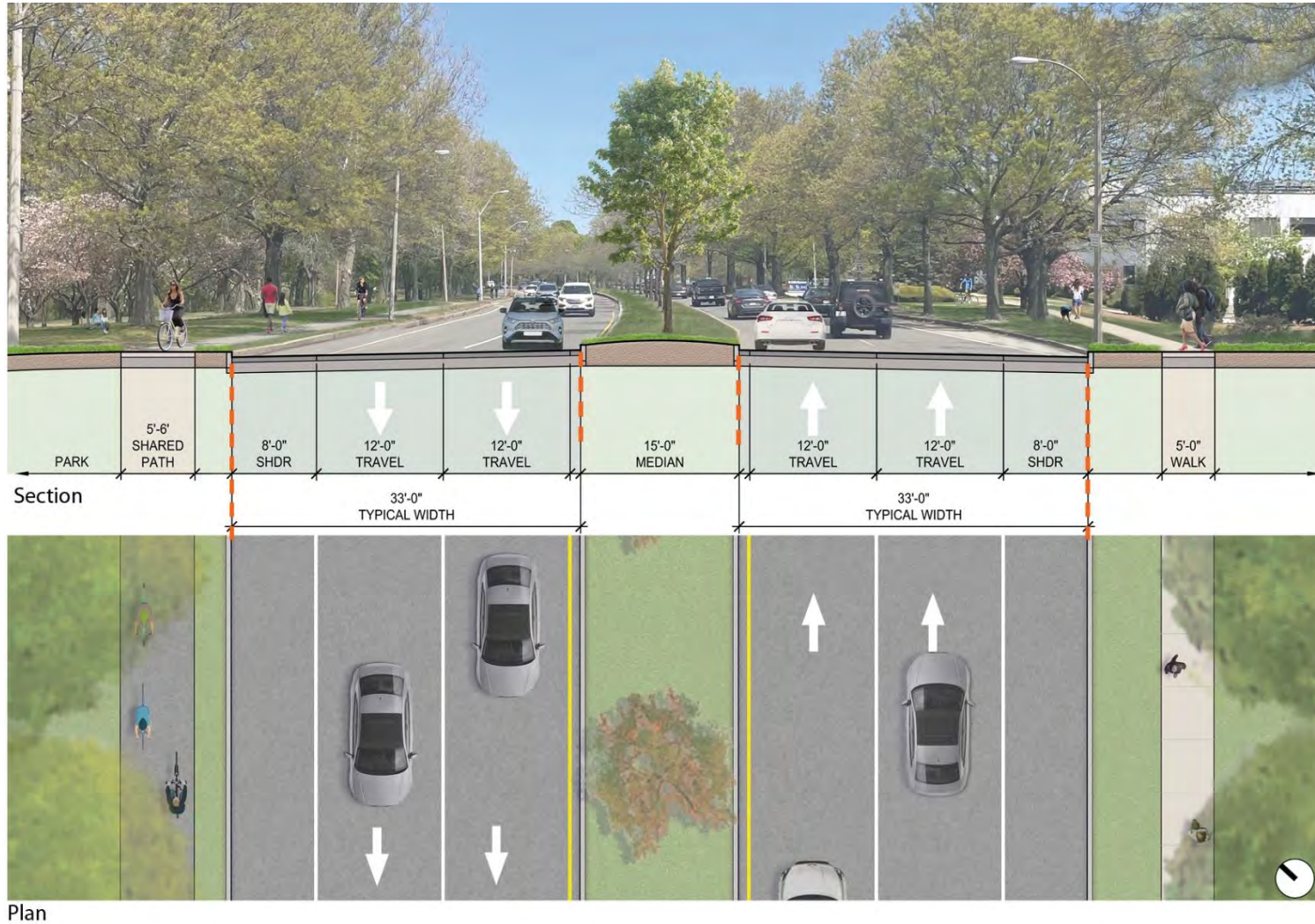
Circulation and Connectivity

- Soldiers Field Road road diet
- Multiple at-grade crossings
- Universal accessibility within the park



Circulation and Connectivity Christian A. Herter Park Master Plan

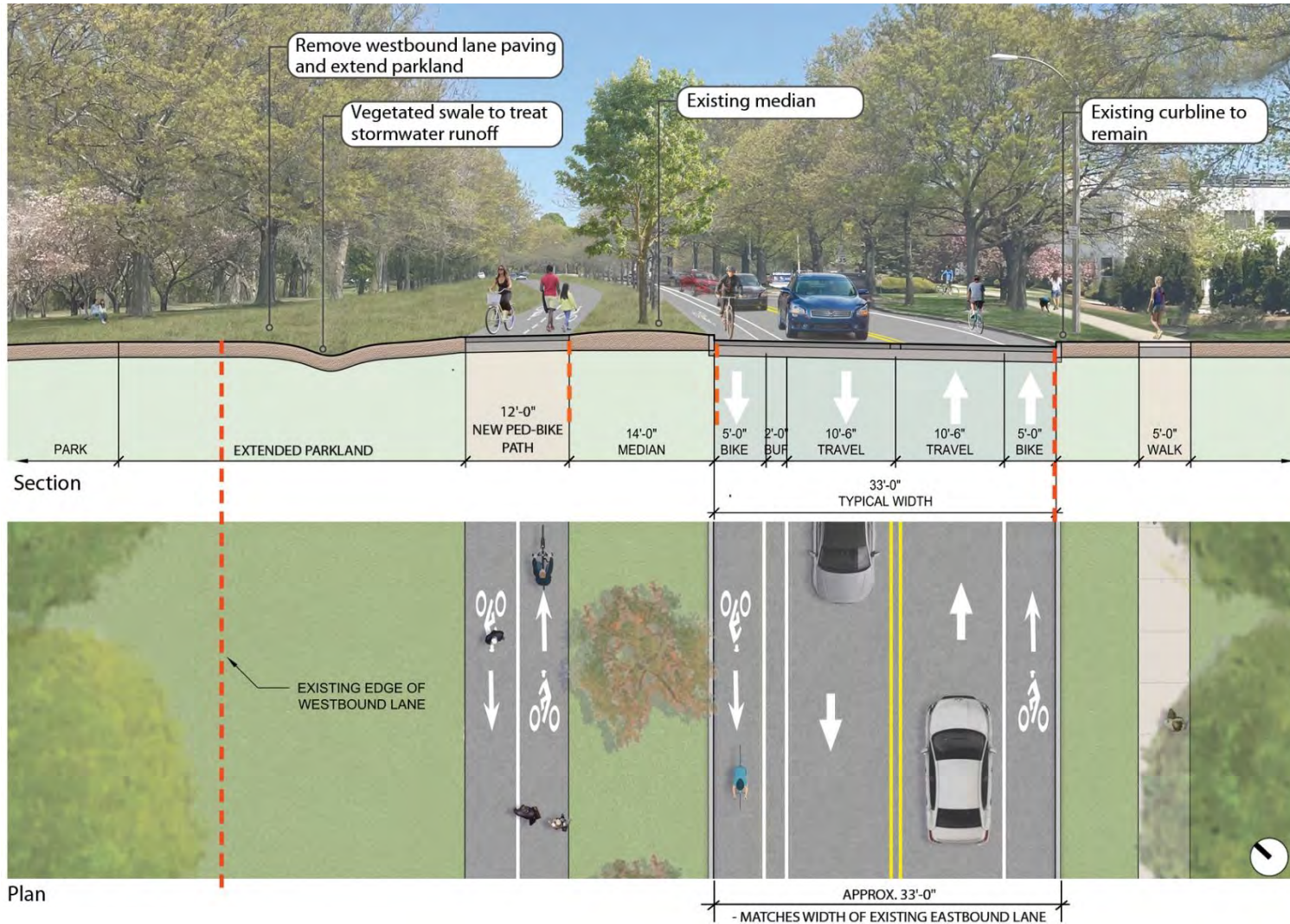
Soldiers Field Road: Existing Conditions



Circulation and Connectivity
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Soldiers Field Road: Road Diet Concept



Benefits:

- Traffic Calming
- Green Transportation
- Climate Resiliency
- Stormwater Management



Key Plan

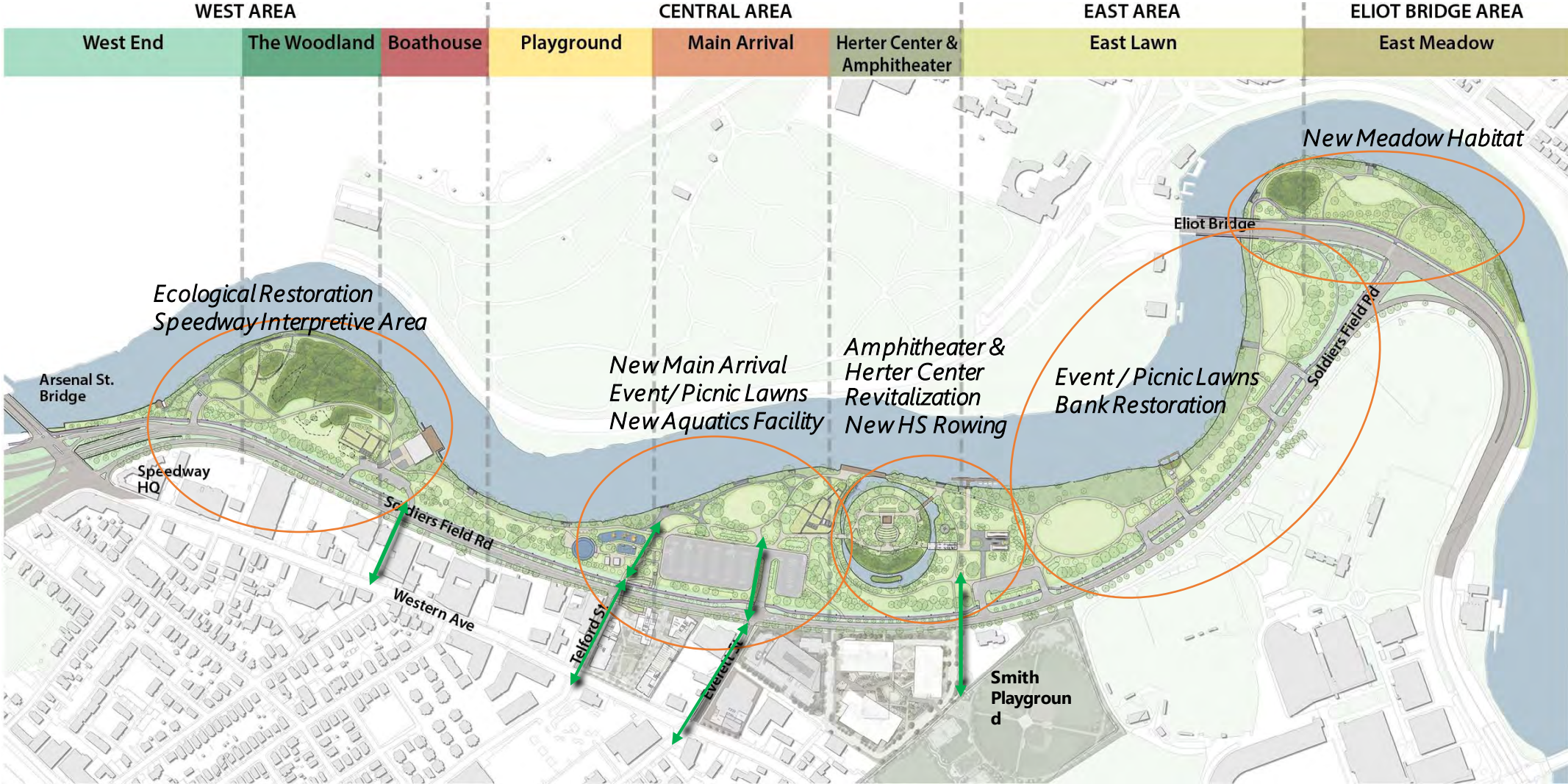
Circulation and Connectivity
Christian A. Herter Park Master Plan



Soldiers Field Road: Concept for Eliot Bridge Approach Intersection



Proposed Plan with Park Areas



Park-wide Improvements
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Park Programming and Facilities

Herter Center: Existing Conditions



Herter Center with memorial wall



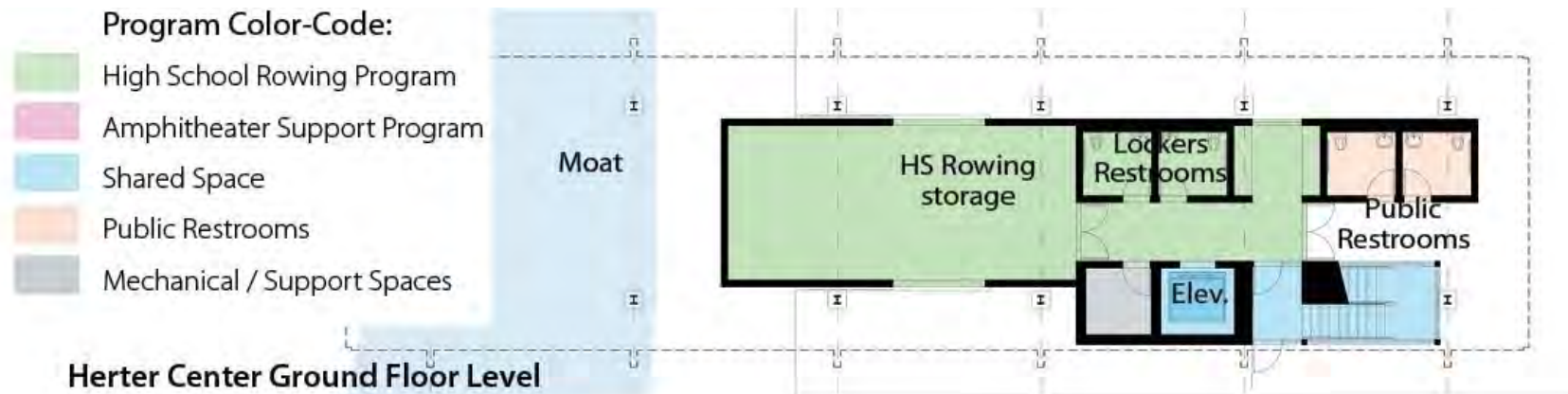
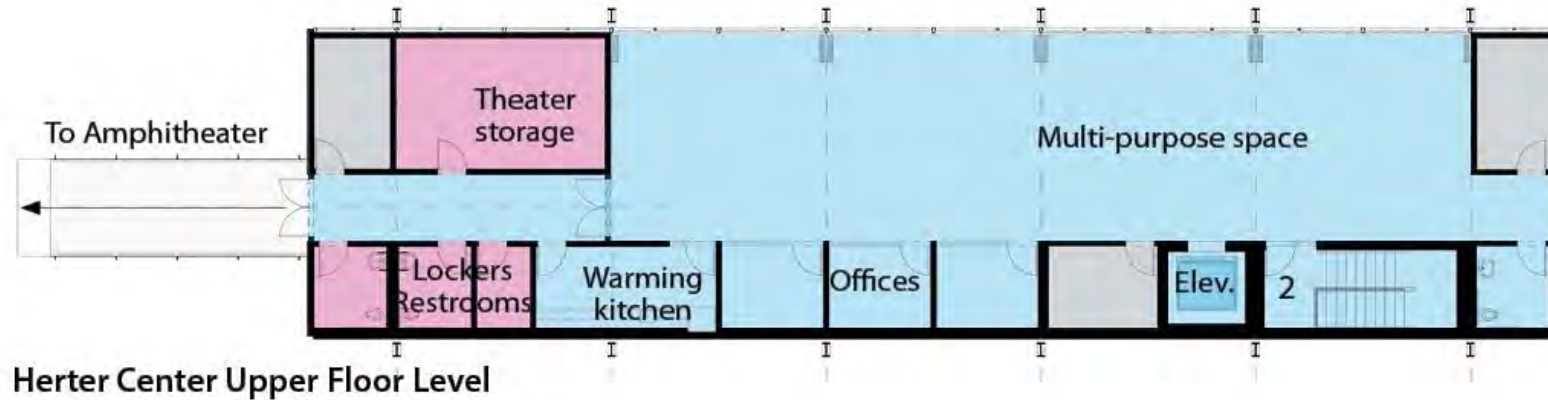
Proposed site for boathouse looking North



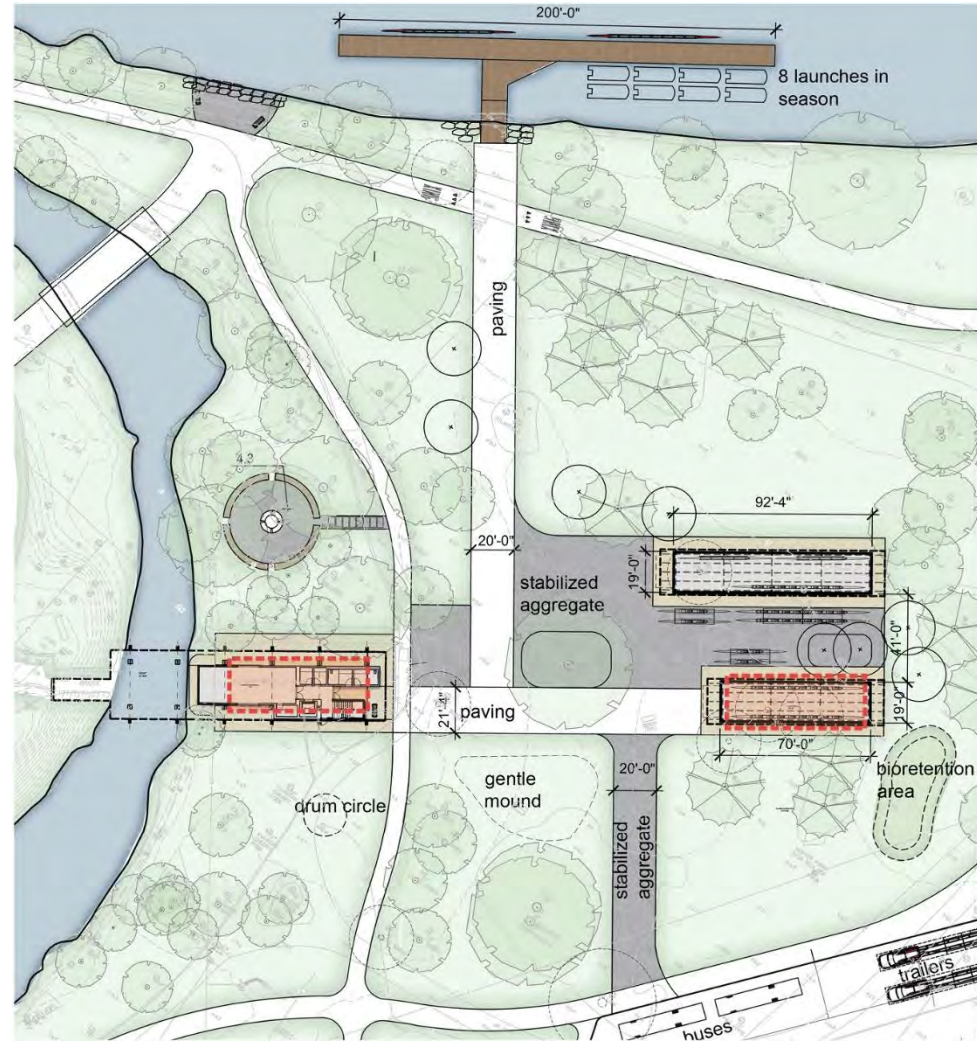
Aerial view of study area

Park Programming and Facilities
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Herter Center Floor Plan Concept: Rowing Center and Amphitheater Support



Herter Center Site Plan Concept: Preferred Alternative



Assumption: 7 boat vertical per rack

	Current
21 @ 8-seat	22 @ 8 seat
14 @ 4-seat	18 @ 4-seat boats
extra boats on site	20 @ 2-seat boats

Existing "garage"
HS storage facility

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Herter Center Site Plan Concept: Perspectives View Looking South

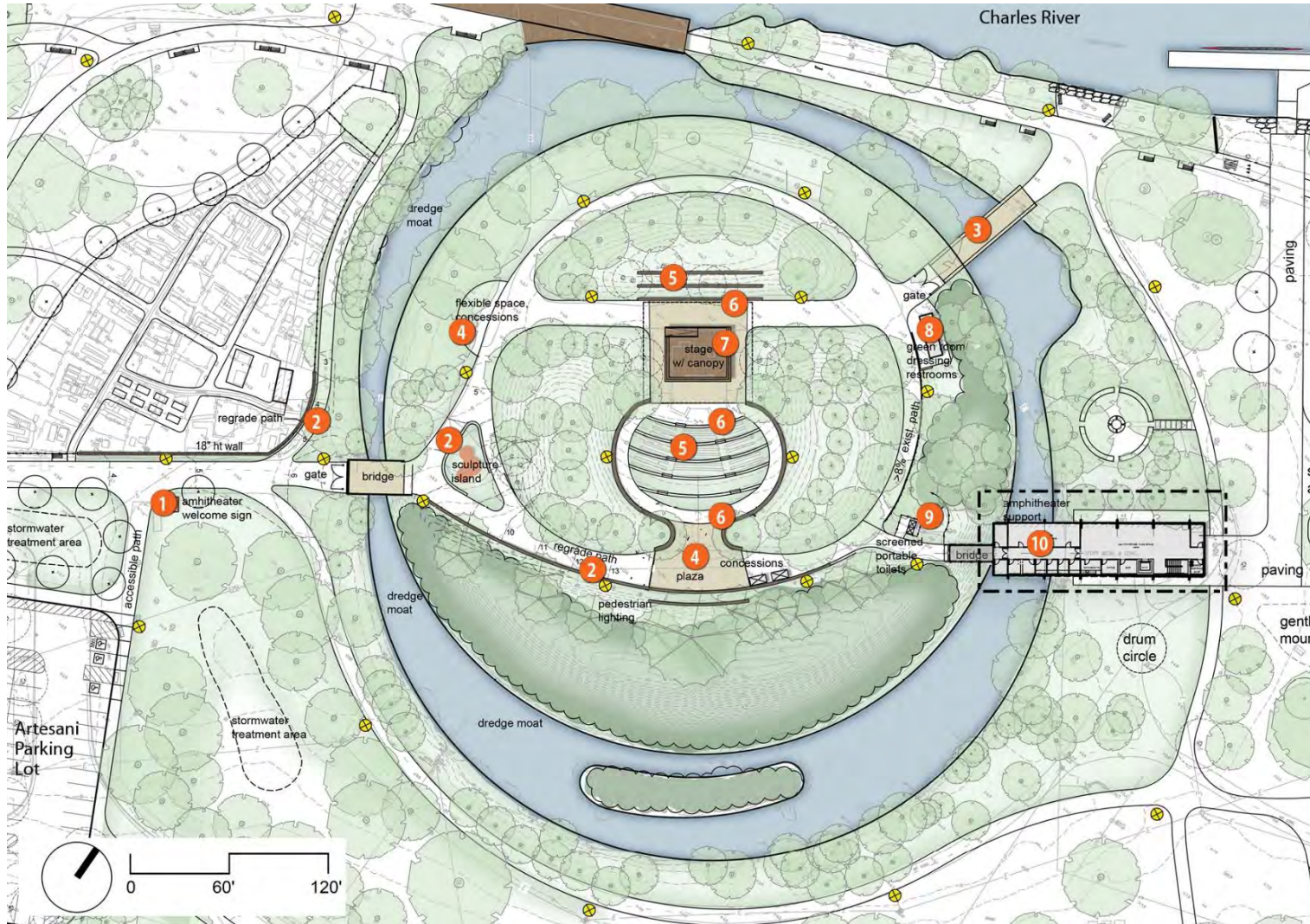


Birds-eye View Looking North



View Looking South

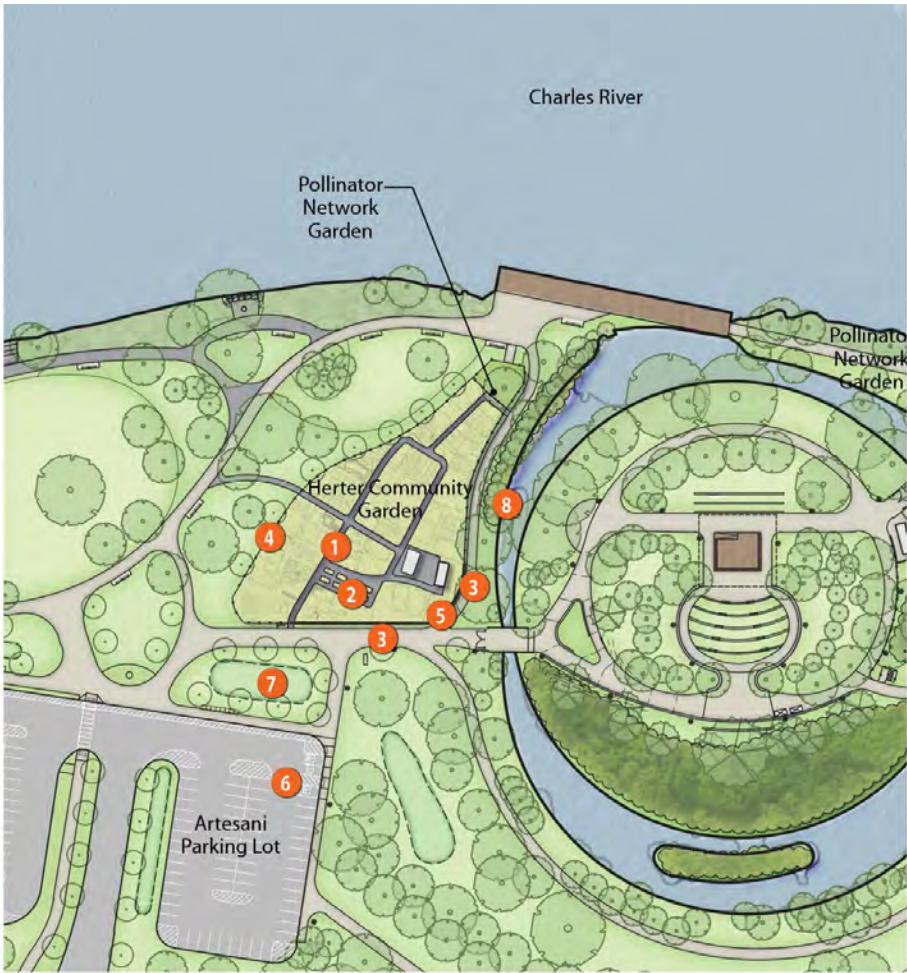
Herter Island and Amphitheater Improvements



1. Welcome Sign / Kiosk
2. Path Accessibility Improvements
3. New Pedestrian Bridge with Security Gate
4. Plaza with Portable Concessions
5. Terraced Slope
6. Accessible Seating
7. Accessible Stage with Canopy and Truss-Mounted Stage Lighting
8. Performer's Green Room / Dressing Room and Toilets
9. Visitor's Screened Portable Toilets
10. Amphitheater Support Functions in Herter Center

Park Programming and Facilities
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Community Garden Improvements: Consensus Plans



1. Accessible Garden Paths
2. Accessible Raised Beds
3. Regraded Perimeter Paths for Accessibility
4. New Fence
5. Low Retaining Wall
6. Reconfigured Parking with Accessible Spaces
7. Bioretention Area
8. Landscape Restoration / Invasive Species Control

New Aquatics Facility

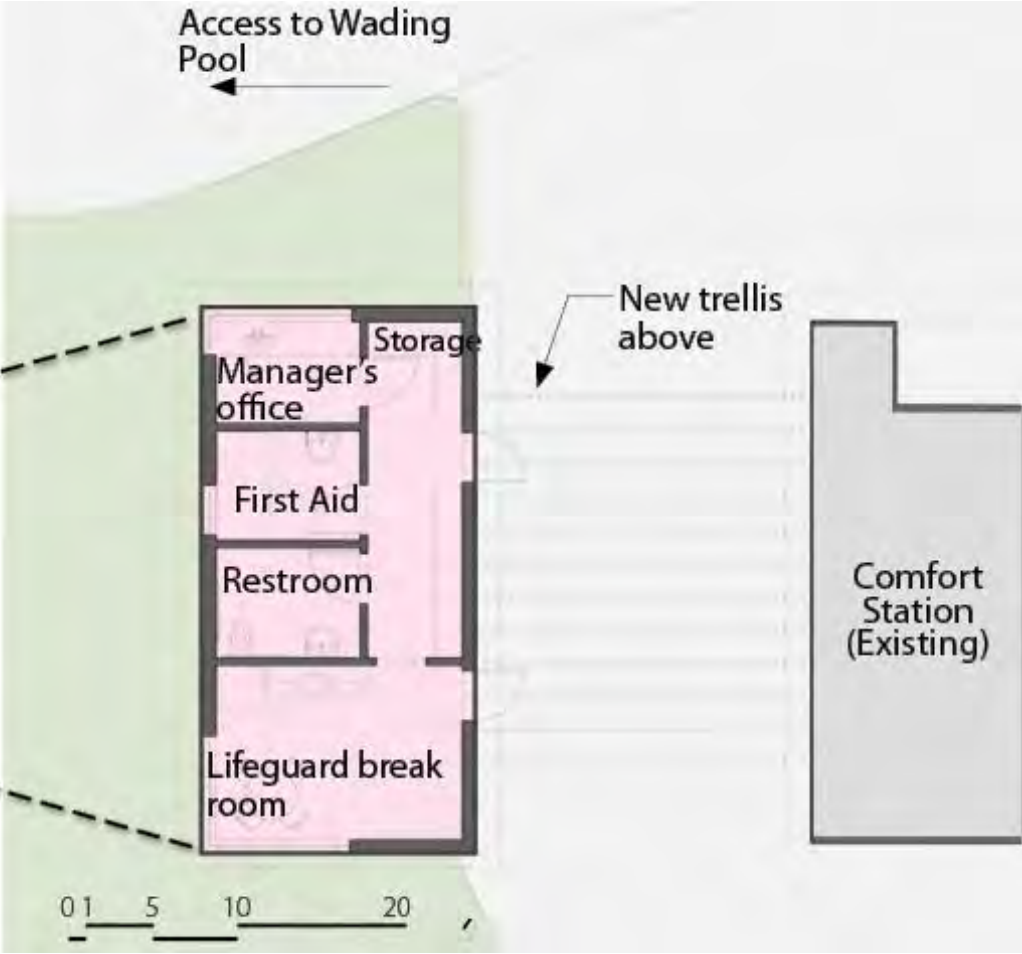


Existing lifeguard break rooms are housed in two temporary sheds.

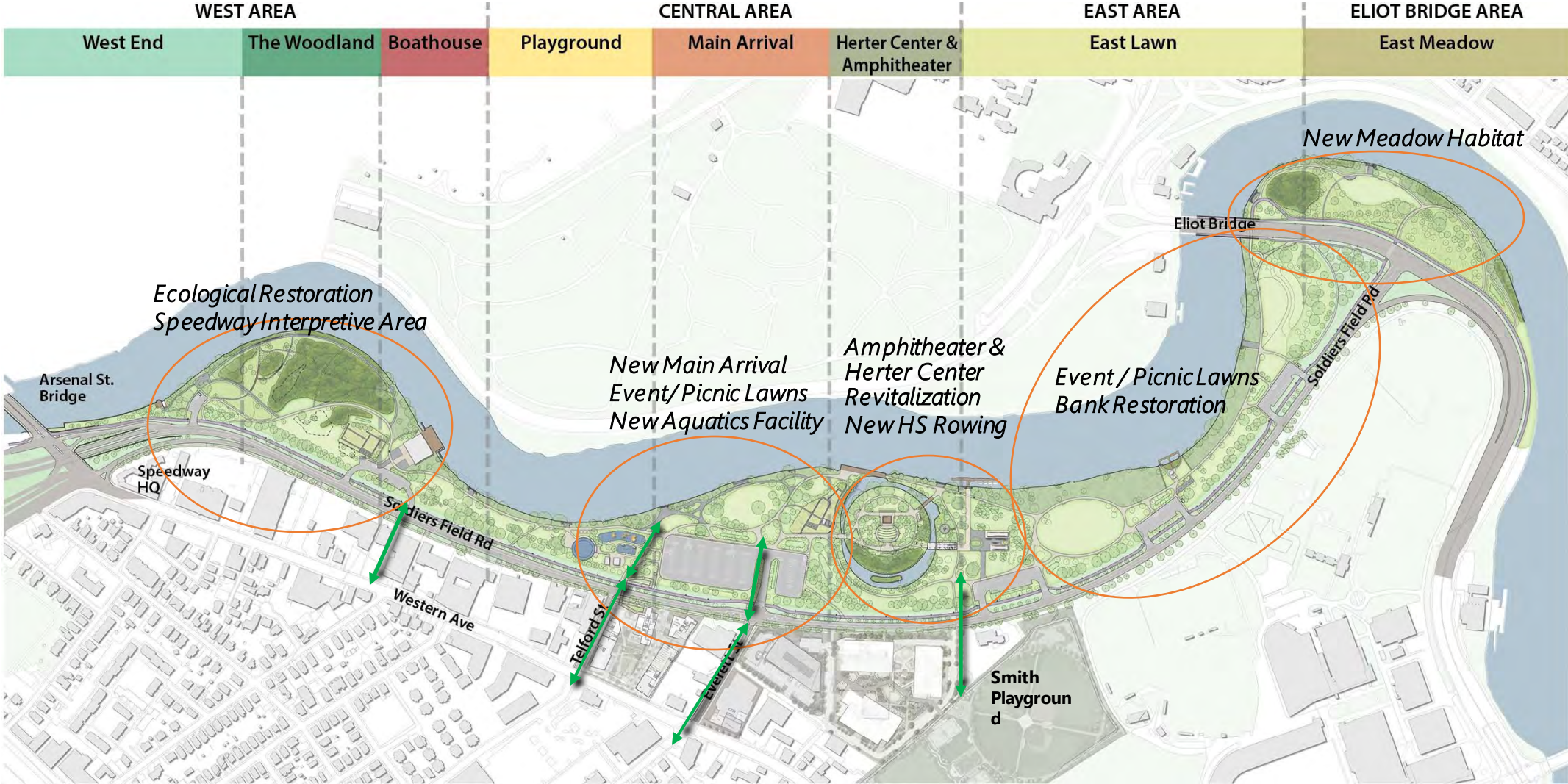


Proposed Aquatics Facility, right, would create a courtyard with the existing restroom building.

New Aquatics Facility



Proposed Plan with Park Areas



Park-wide Improvements
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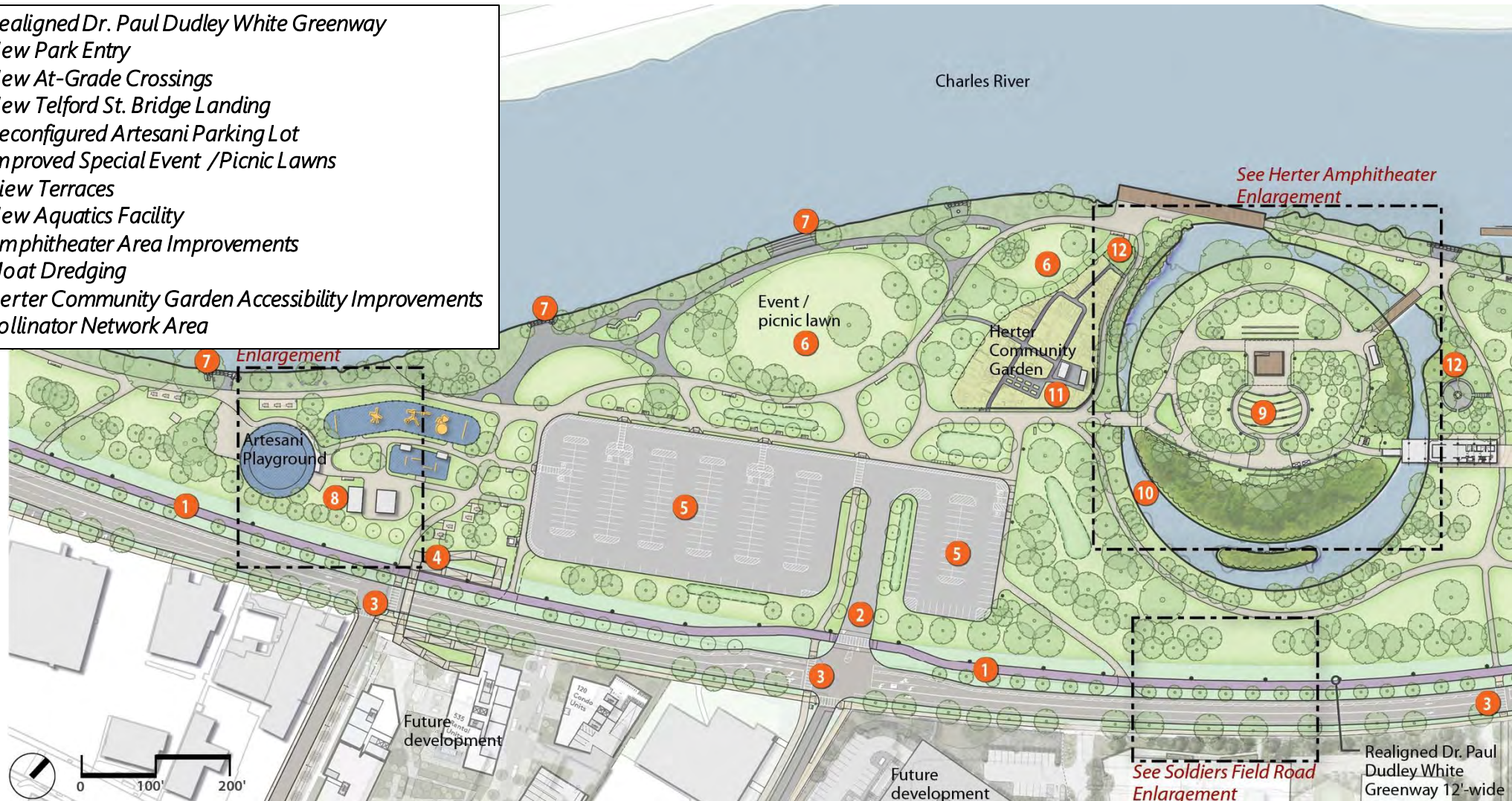
West Area



Park-wide Improvements
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Central Area

1. Realigned Dr. Paul Dudley White Greenway
2. New Park Entry
3. New At-Grade Crossings
4. New Telford St. Bridge Landing
5. Reconfigured Artesani Parking Lot
6. Improved Special Event /Picnic Lawns
7. View Terraces
8. New Aquatics Facility
9. Amphitheater Area Improvements
10. Moat Dredging
11. Herter Community Garden Accessibility Improvements
12. Pollinator Network Area



Park-wide Improvements Christian A. Herter Park Master Plan

East Area



Park-wide Improvements Christian A. Herter Park Master Plan



Eliot Bridge Area



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Park Accessibility and Visitor Experience

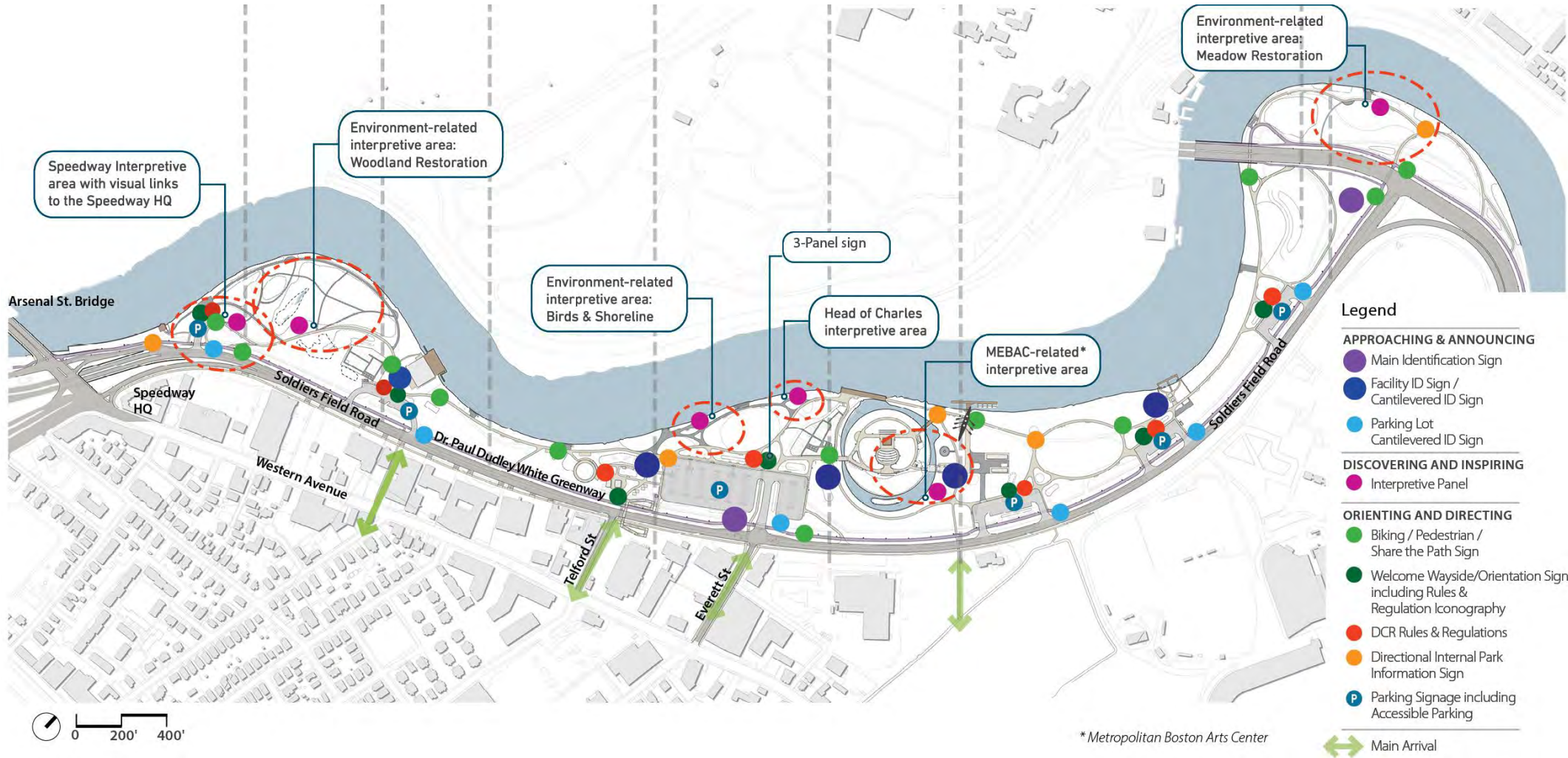
Signage and Wayfinding: Signage Hierarchy Recommendations



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Signage and Wayfinding: Overall Plan



Park-wide Improvements Christian A. Herter Park Master Plan



Visitor Experience: Accessibility and Site Furnishings



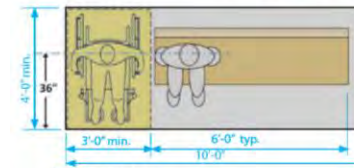
Park view terrace furnished with standard palette of furnishings.

Vegetation management: invasive species removal, trimming of vegetation for views, and riverbank vegetative remediation are to comply with the CRVMP.



Shurcliff Bench

The historic Shurcliff bench was named for Arthur Shurcliff, the celebrated landscape architect and a protégé of Frederick Law Olmsted.



Bench pad plan



Fencing for Community Gardens

The proposed fencing is a combination of wood and metal mesh

- Wood posts and gate frames
- Metal top and bottom rails
- Metal mesh panels

Fresh Pond Reservation Community Garden
Photo credit: mobile.twitter.com/nearinghelen.



Esplanade Play Space

Unique Nature-Play Element

Nature-based play element can be a focal point.

- Allston artist Mitch Ryerson is renowned for wood sculptural play elements.

Park-wide Improvements
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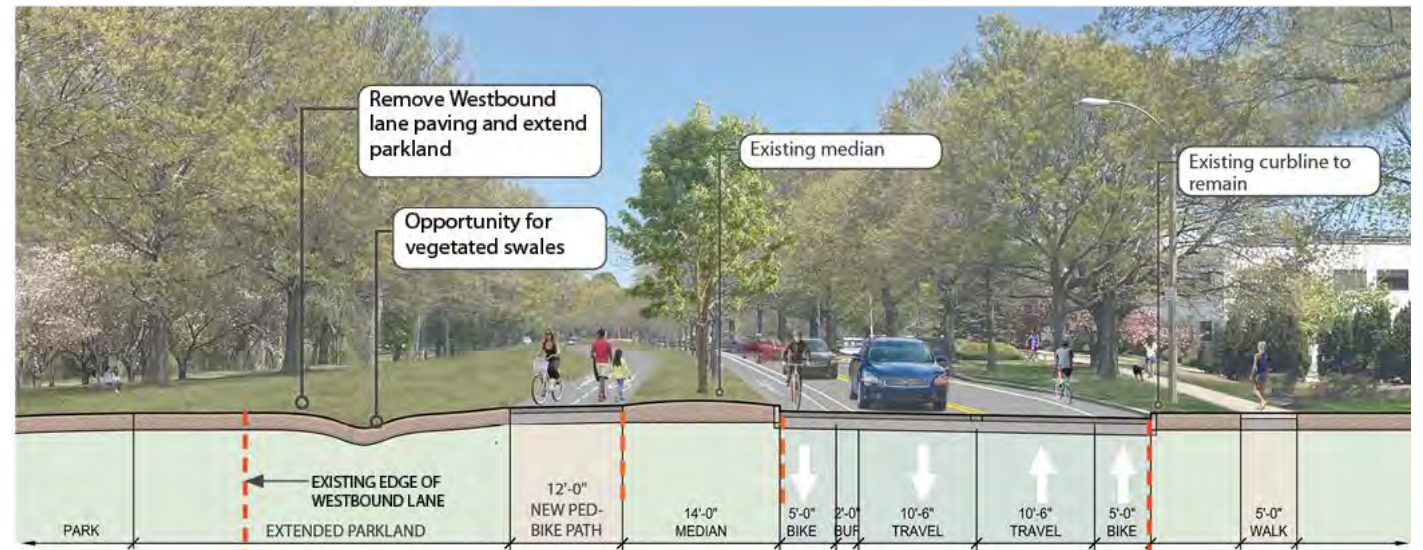


Park Infrastructure and Management

Stormwater Improvements

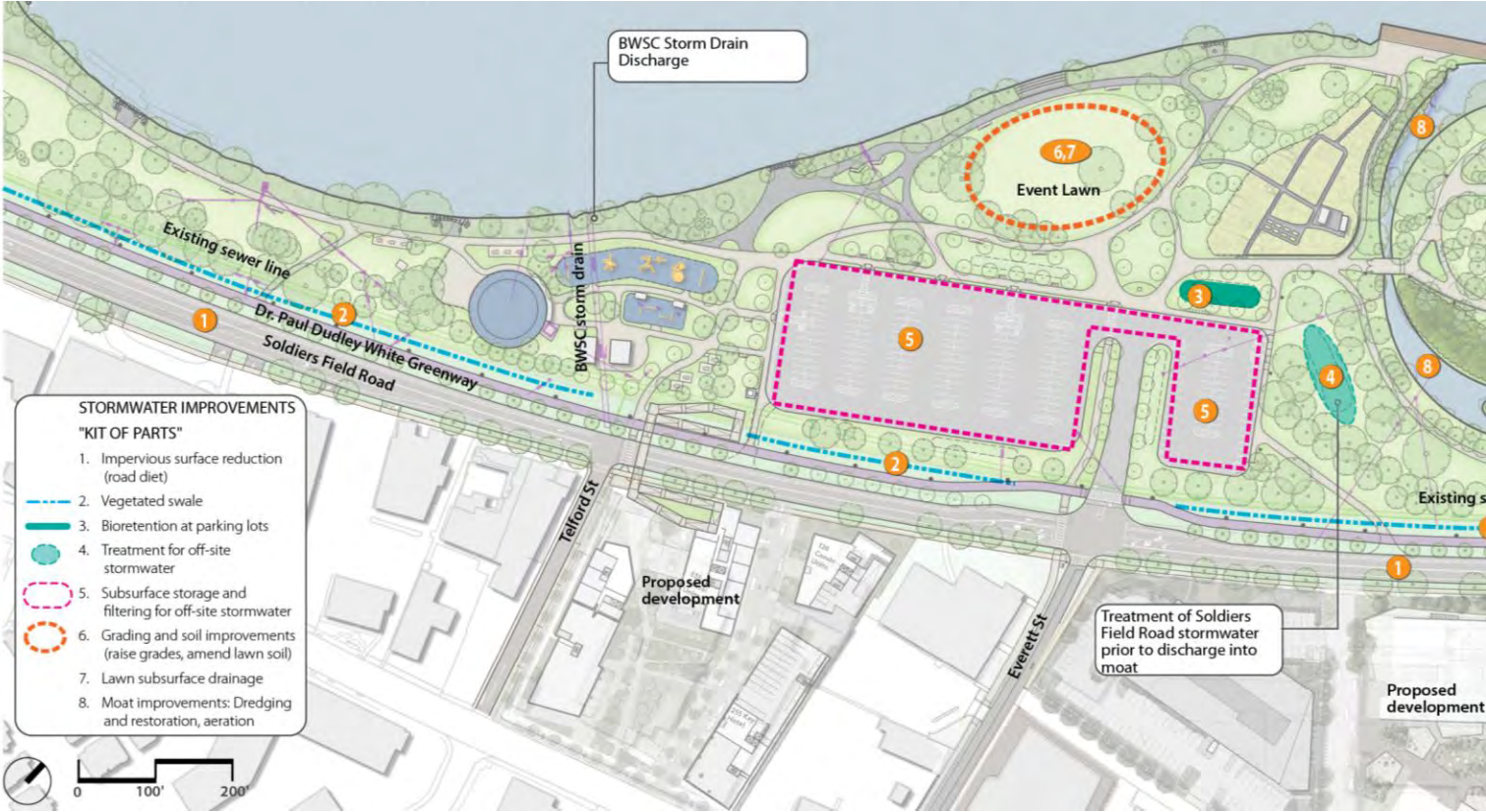
- Impervious Surface Reduction for Volume Management
- Subsurface Detention for Peak Flow Reduction
- Green infrastructure and Jellyfish Filters for Discharge Quality Improvements:
TSS, TP, Temperature Reduction

Impervious Surface Reduction (Estimate)	
Road paving reduction	= 240,000 sf
Ped-bike path widening	= 40,000 sf
	Minus
Total Imperv. Reduction	= 200,000 sf (4.6 acres)

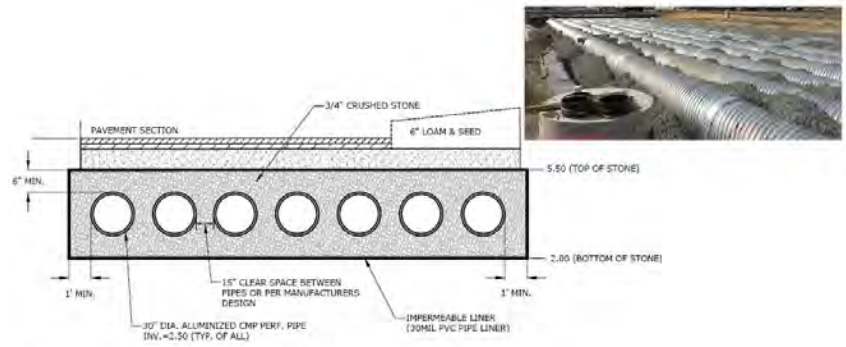


Stormwater benefits of Soldiers Field Road road diet

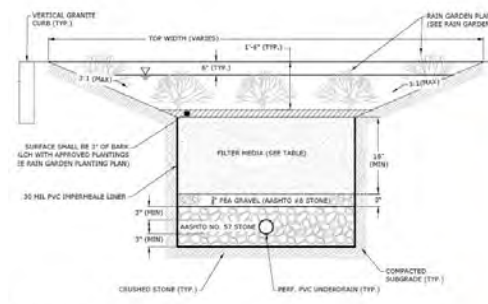
Stormwater Improvements



Central Area Stormwater Improvements



Subsurface Corrugated Pipe Detention System



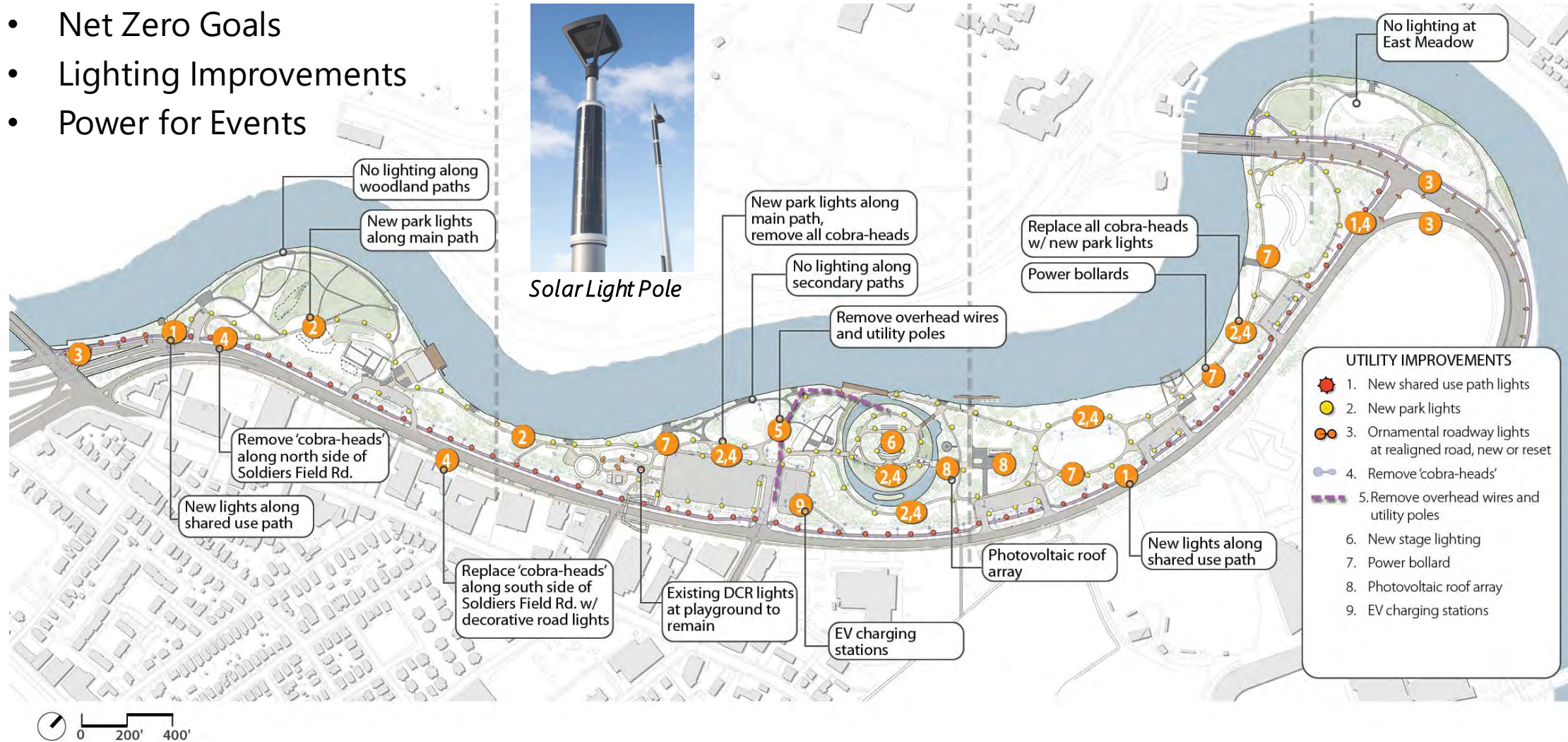
Bioswale cross section at parking, typical.



Bioretention area at DCR Community Rowing

Utility Improvements

- Net Zero Goals
- Lighting Improvements
- Power for Events

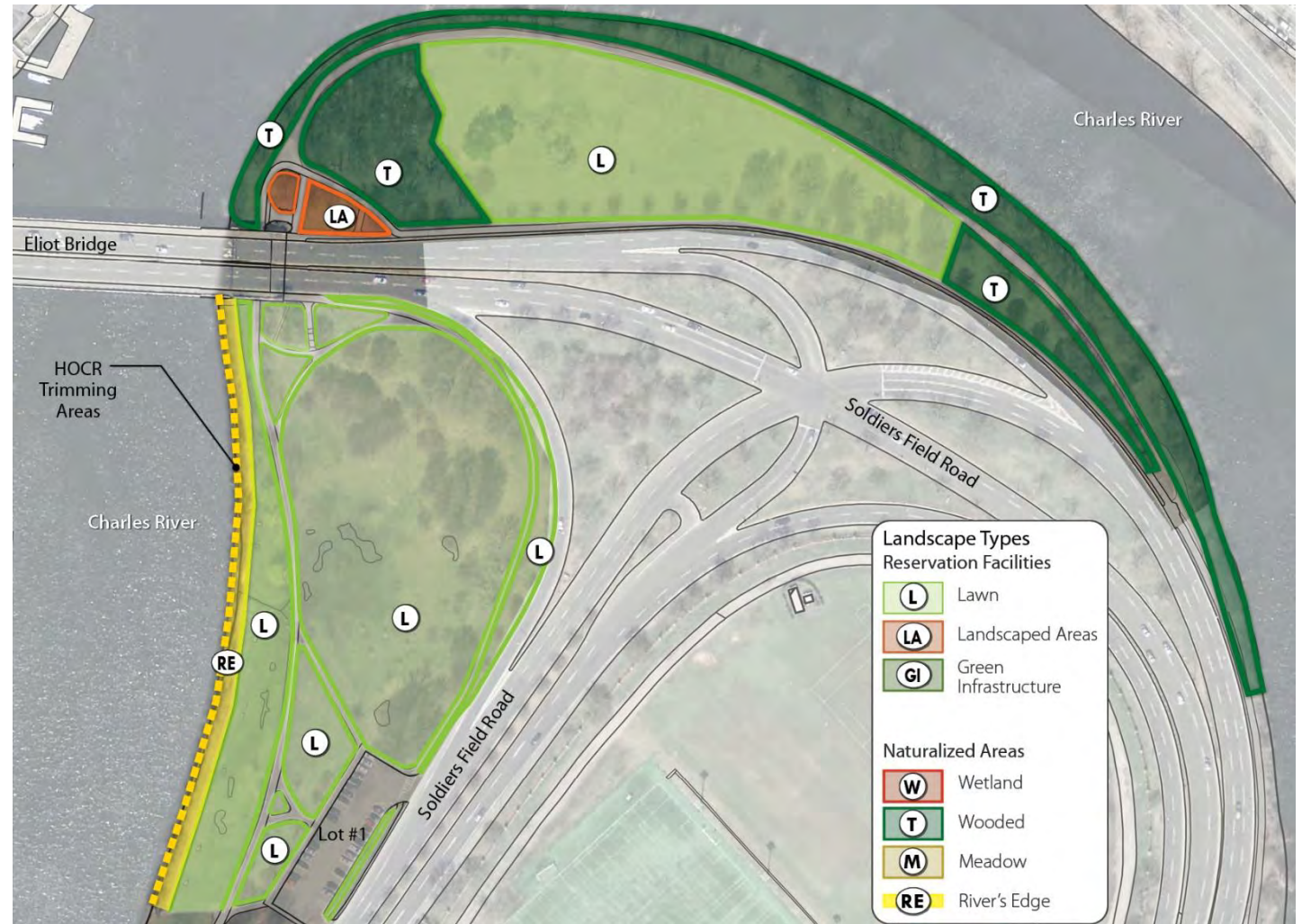


Landscape Management Plan

Aligned with the *Charles River Vegetation Management Plan (CRVMP)*:

LMP Components:

- LMP Diagrams, outlining the landscape management areas, as defined in the *CRVMP*
- LMP Implementation Schedule

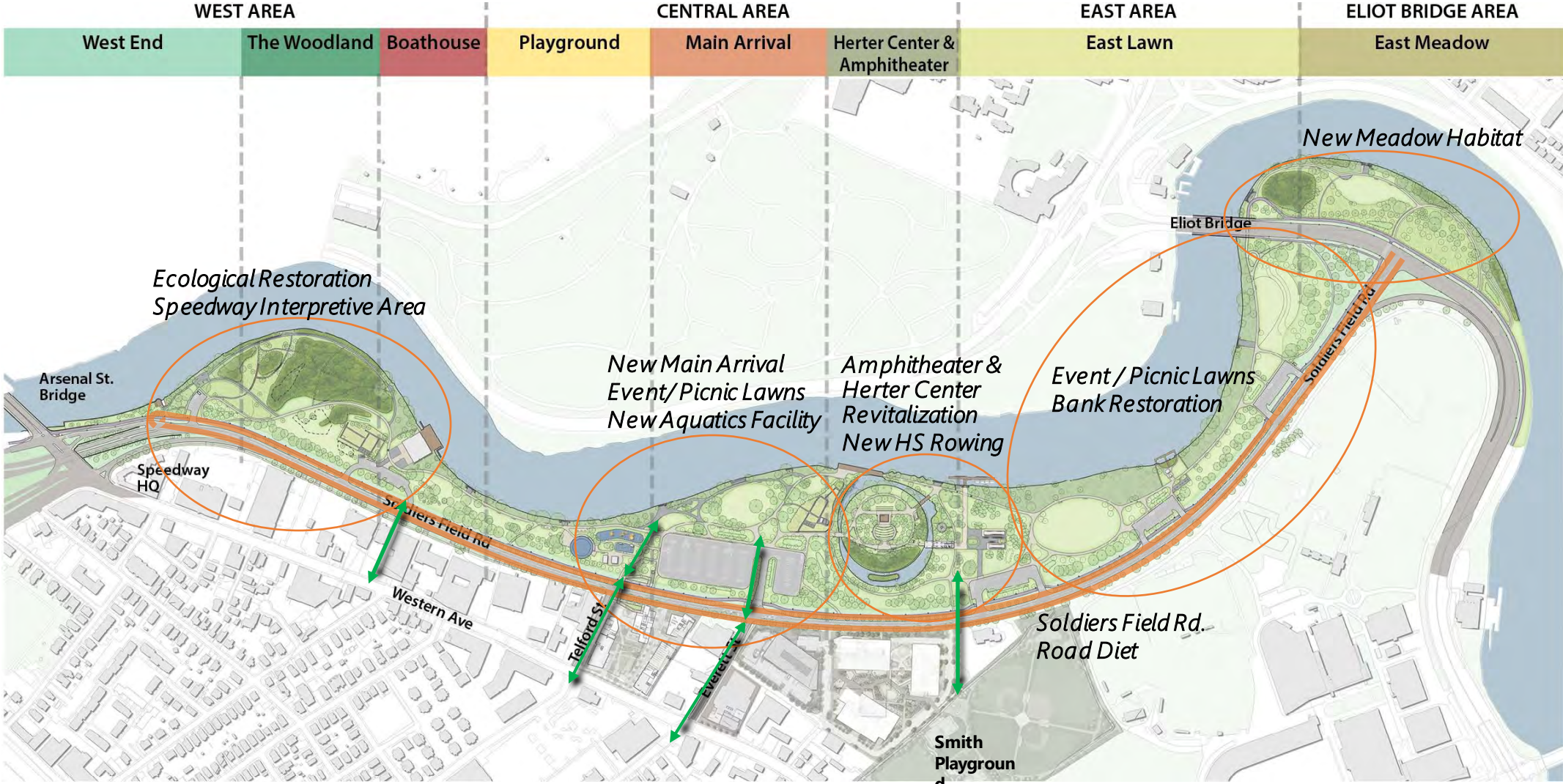


Park Infrastructure and Management
Christian A. Herter Park Master Plan

Landscape Management Plan: Implementation Schedule

Landscape Area Symbol	Tasks	Frequency/ Notes	Location	Spring Cleanup		Growing Season					Fall Cleanup		Winter Activities			Responsibility					
				MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	DCR Ops	DCR Contracts	DCR Partners	Permit Holders		
L	Lawn																				
	Lawn Mowing	Frequency: 2 times monthly during March to November as required Height: 4 inches. Remove litter prior to mowing. Mow no more than 1/3 of the leaf blade off, mowing with sharp blades at a slow enough ground speed so as to actually cut the leaf rather than tear or rip it. Sharpen mower blades as soon as grass tips appear jagged or brown when cut.	All Areas																		Within pertinent MOU areas
	Sweep clippings	Sweep any grass clippings that land on a paved surface to the lawn	Paths																		
	Lawn Seeding and Topdressing	Early fall preferred	All Areas																		
	Lawn Aeration	Early fall preferred	High-use areas, along path edges, compacted areas																		
	Litter Removal	Weekly or as needed	All Areas																		
	Special Event Site Preparation		Central Area, East Area																		
	Special Event Restoration		Central Area, East Area																		
LA	Landscaped Areas																				
	Seasonal Cleanup	Frequency: 2 times a year, early Spring and late Fall Raking, clearing away of plant debris, road salt, and other fallen matter after seasonal storm events	Artesani Playground, Herter Community Garden, C. River Community Garden, Canoe & Kayak Plant Bed																		
	Planting	Frequency: as required from April through June and September through October	Artesani Playground, Herter Community Garden, C. River Community Garden, Canoe & Kayak Plant Bed																		
GI	Green Infrastructure (Currently N/A)																				
	GI Maintenance and Debris Removal																				
	Mowing																				
	Invasive Plants Removal																				
	Silt Clean Out																				
	Circulation /Paths																				
	Cutting and Trimming	Trails: 5 feet - buffer width Bridges, Buildings: 10 feet - buffer width																			
	Mowing	Frequency: 2 times monthly during March to November as required Height: 4 inches Trails: 5 feet - buffer width Bridges, Buildings: 10 feet - buffer width																			
	Graffiti Removal	as-needed																			
M	Meadows																				
	Mowing	Frequency: 1 time per year, annual cut should be done when the soil surface is dry, and equipment can safely be brought on-site in early Spring during March to May. Height: 4" inches																			
	Overseeding	Frequency: 1 time per year or as required; March to April or August to November. Meadow seed mix shall be specified by DCR																			
	Plug Planting																				
	Weed Control / Invasives Removal	Regular weed control to be done months throughout May to August																			
	Litter Removal																				
W	Wetlands																				
	Invasive Removals	All work to be coordinated by DCR Natural Resources																			
	Litter Removal	All work to be coordinated by DCR Natural Resources																			
T	Woodlands																				
	Pruning	All work to be coordinated by DCR Natural Resources																			
	Invasives Removal	All work to be coordinated by DCR Natural Resources																			
	Litter Removal																				
RE	River's Edge Special Events																				
	Cutting and Trimming	All work to be coordinated by DCR Natural Resources																			
	Litter Removal	All work to be coordinated by DCR Natural Resources																			

Master Plan Summary



Park-wide Improvements
 Christian A. Herter Park Master Plan



Master Plan Summary

Revitalized Herter Park: vibrant, accessible, sustainable, well-crafted - offering rich recreational and cultural opportunities for all

- **Enhancing Access to Herter Park**
 - Soldiers Field Rd road diet, multiple at-grade crossings, improve green transportation, universal accessibility
- **Providing Outstanding Recreational Opportunities**
 - Improve event / picnic lawns, new river's edge view terraces and docks, improve woodland trails
- **Restoring a Healthy Riverbank and Parkland Ecology**
 - Comprehensive stormwater management, moat dredging, ecological restoration areas, new native pollinator meadows, tree canopy preservation, bank vegetation management
- **Reflecting the Cultural History and Values**
 - Herter Center Rehabilitation, Speedway and MEBAC historic interpretation, nature play sculpture by local artist
- **Investing in Park Facilities**
 - Updates to Amphitheater and Island, new Aquatics Facility, new lighting infrastructure
- **Enhancing Visitor Experience**
 - Attractive and safe arrival areas, comprehensive signage and wayfinding, visitor comfort amenities, river views and touch the water opportunities

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Questions and Comments?



Next Steps and Project Updates

- Artesani Parking Lot – Design
- Charles River Vegetation Management Plan (CRVMP) - Implementation
- Head of the Charles Regatta Master Plan
- Everett Street Reconstruction - Design
- Telford Street Bridge Reconstruction
- Allston Brighton Pool Feasibility Study
- Leo M. Birmingham Parkway - Design
- Eliot Bridge Renovation - MassDOT
- Marsh Post Trailhead - Construction



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Thank you!

Please send your comments to:
mass.parks@mass.gov

See the *Herter Park Master Plan* at:
www.mass.gov/guides/dcr-master-plans

