

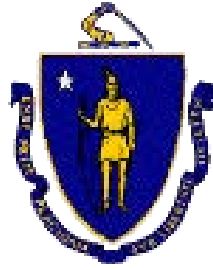


Landry Park Site Improvements

City of Waltham, MA

DCR Virtual Public Meeting

June 6, 2024



Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Governor

Maura Healey

Lieutenant Governor

Kim Driscoll

Energy and Environmental Secretary

Rebecca Tepper

Department of Conservation and Recreation Commissioner

Brian Arrigo



DCR Mission Statement

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

Meeting Logistics

- You will have the opportunity to submit comments over the course of the next two weeks at:
 - DCR Public Comments
<https://www.mass.gov/forms/dcr-public-comments>
- Two ways to ask questions during the meeting
 - Use chat feature
 - Raise your hand using the Zoom function, and you will be given permission to unmute and speak.
- *Please note that this public meeting will be recorded; the recording will be a public record.*

Meeting Purpose

1. Review existing conditions and site analysis data (physical, ecological, and cultural).
2. Share concept designs (Design elements and kit of parts approach).
3. Open discussion to garner community feedback.

Meeting Agenda

1. PROJECT OVERVIEW

- Project Team
- Goals and Objectives
- Timeline

2. EXISTING CONDITIONS AND SITE ANALYSIS

- Cultural and Historic Site Significance
- Existing Conditions and Site Analysis

3. CONCEPT DESIGN

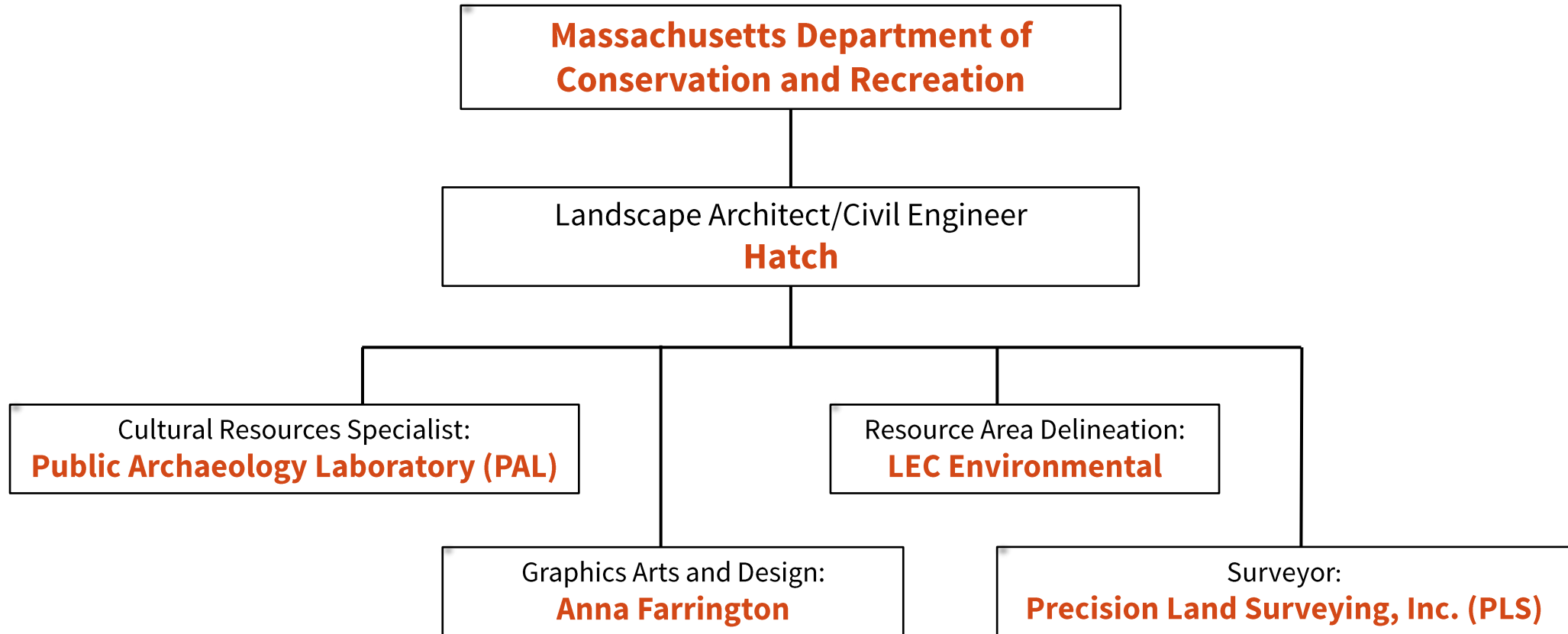
- Concept Plans and Site Renderings

4. COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

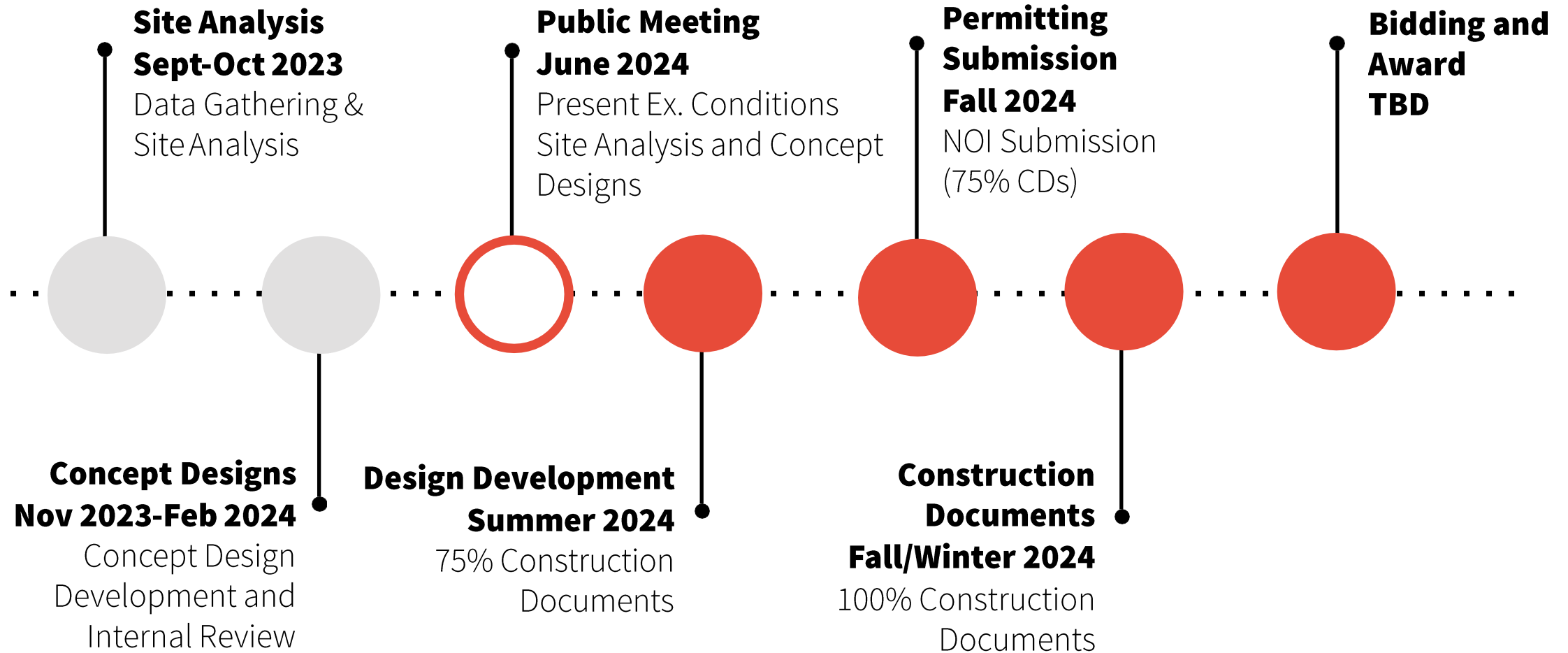
- Public Discussion and Comment

5. CLOSING REMARKS + NEXT STEPS

Project Team



Project Timeline

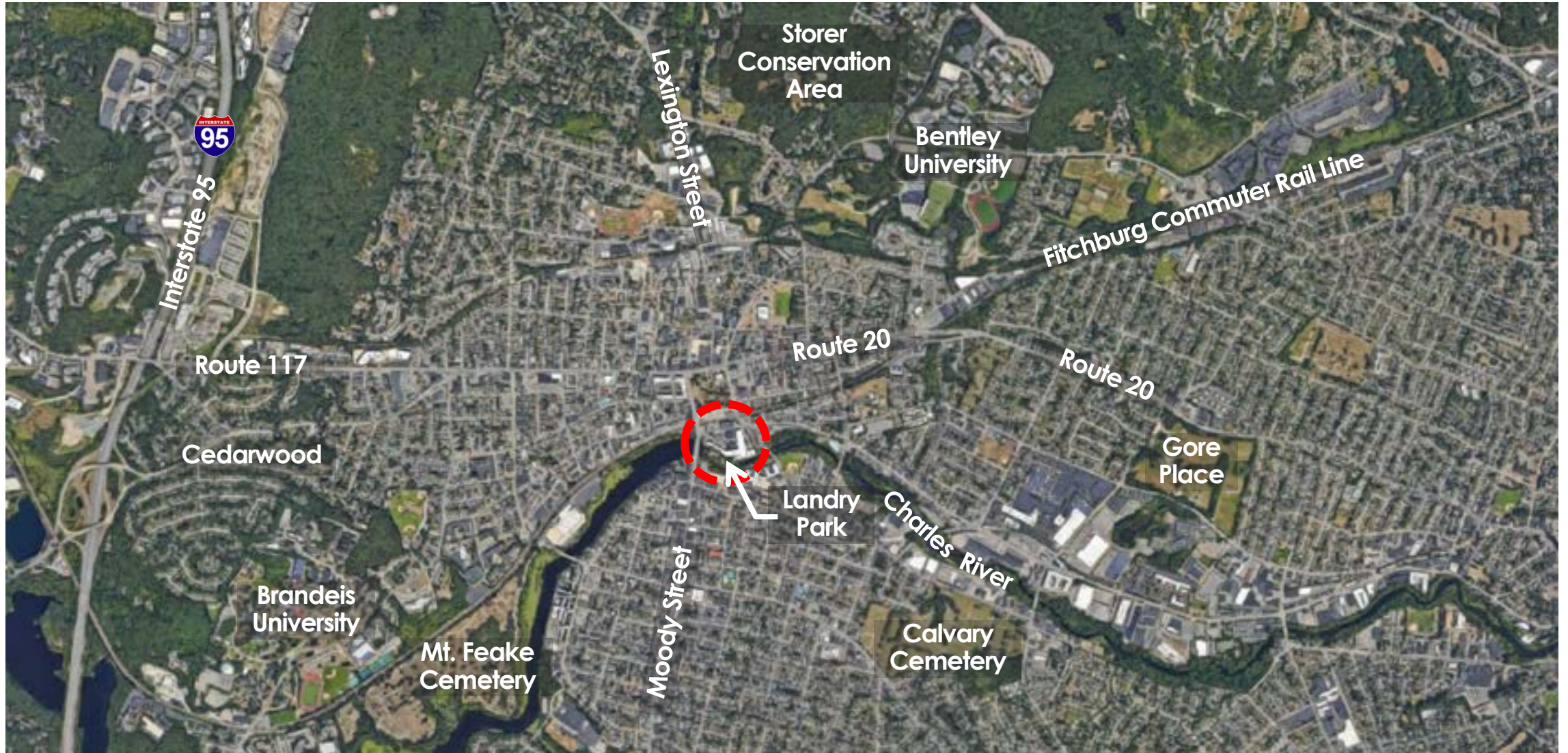


Project Goals

1. Promote historic character and ecological resources.
2. Improve views, accessibility, circulation and connections.
3. Provide improved gathering spaces.
4. Restore site soils and evaluate green infrastructure opportunities.
5. Promote biodiversity and improved wildlife habitat.
6. Unify site furnishings.

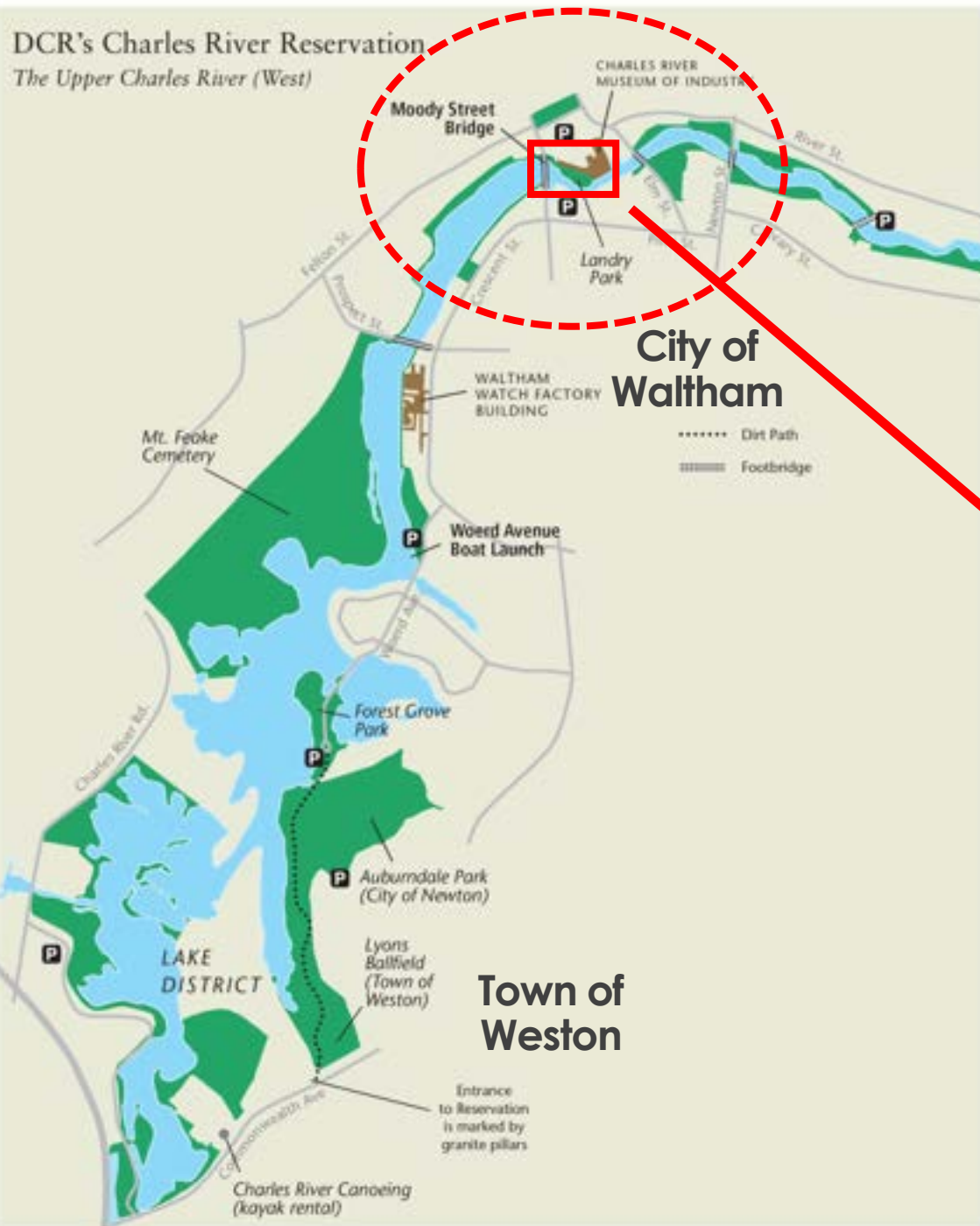


Regional Context – City of Waltham



DCR's Charles River Reservation

The Upper Charles River (West)

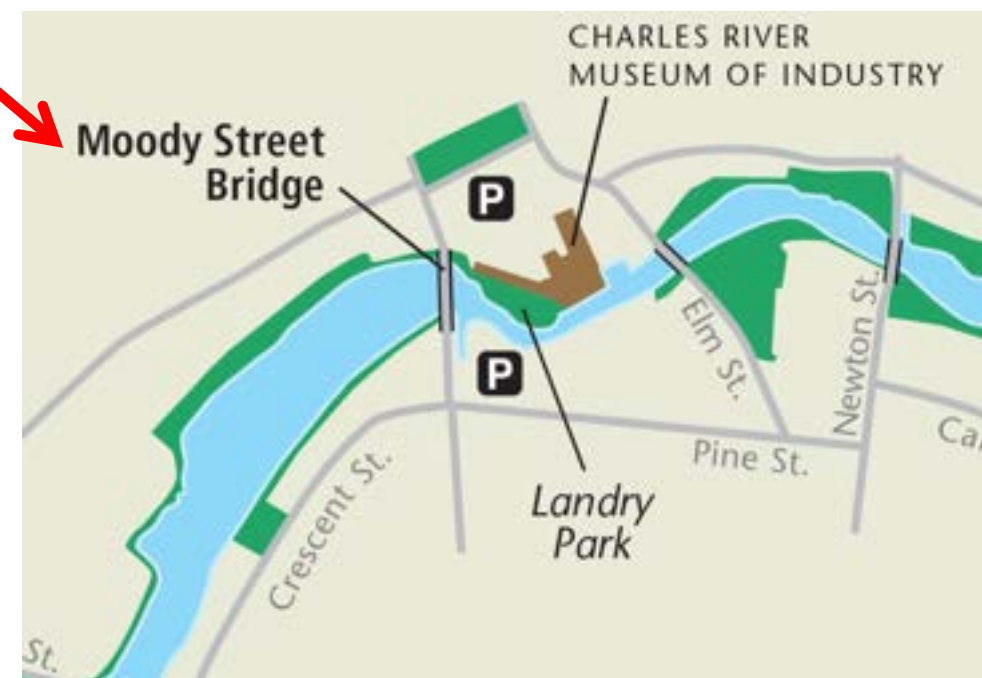


DCR's Charles River Reservation

The Upper Charles River (East)



Watertown Square

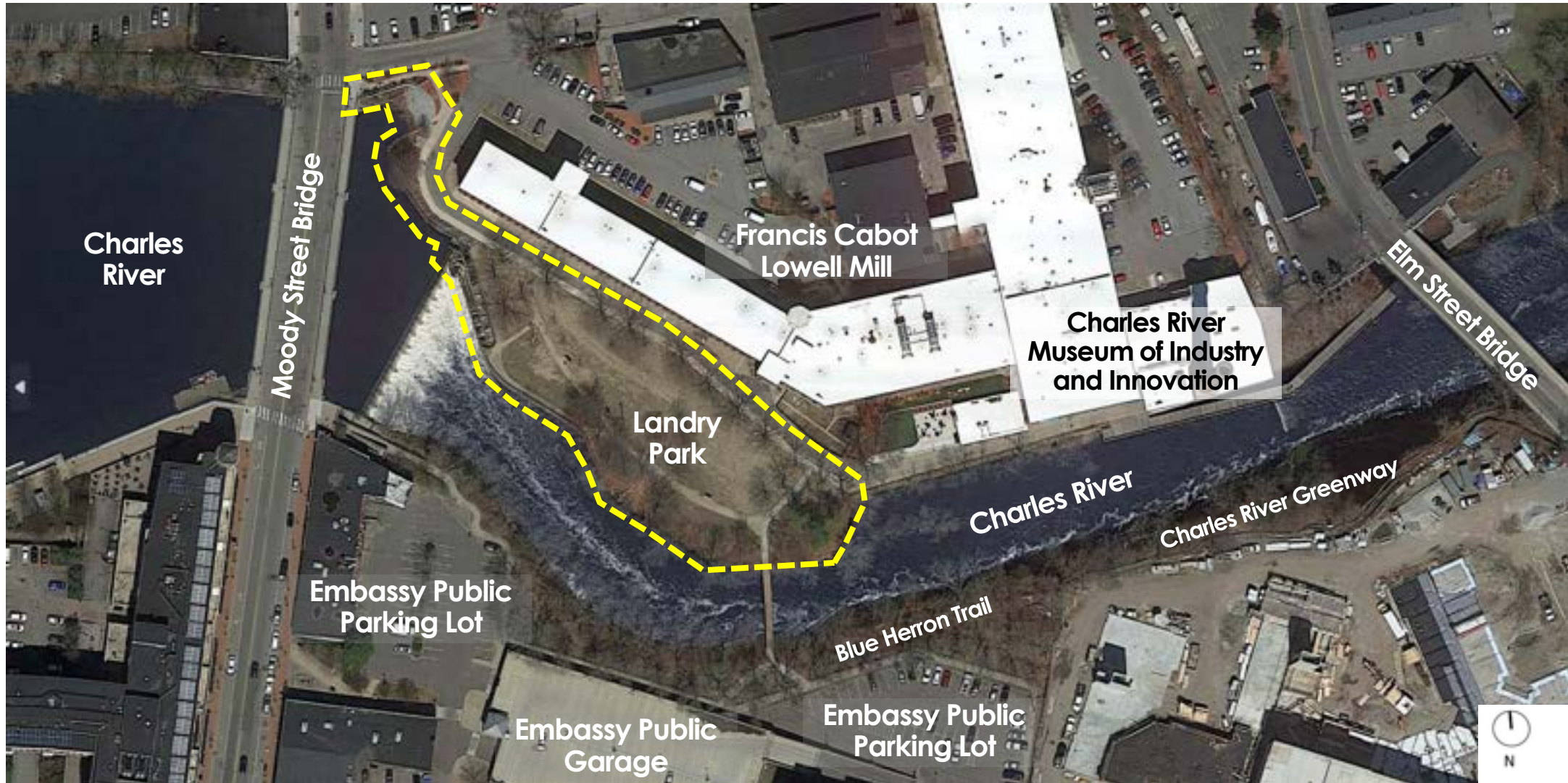


DCR's Upper Charles River Reservation

Project Site



Limit of Work Area



Pre-Contact Period

1. Massachusetts/Nipmuck Tribes.
2. Indian paths – Connecticut Path.
3. Natural falls/upland terraces used for seasonal camping & fish harvesting.

Camp Forest Grove Site (0.5 miles downstream)

- Discovered in 1984.
- Chipped stone tools and debris.
- Late Archaic Period (5,000-3,000 years ago or Woodland Period (3,000-450 years ago)).



Historical Atlas of MA, Wilkie & Tager, 1991

Boston Manufacturing Company (1813 – 1929)

- Site of earlier (1790) paper mill and wooden dam (natural falls).
- First mill for the manufacture of cotton cloth.
- Streamlined process of cotton spinning weaving using river waterpower.
- Hired Paul Moody as construction superintendent.
- Adjacent connected mill buildings and a waterpower canal.



Painting by Elijah Smith Jr.
ca. 1925

Boston Manufacturing Company (1813 – 1929)

Waterpower System

- Charles River's natural flow was stopped by the dam and re-directed through a canal.
- Water dropped 10-feet through the mills and turned a series of water wheels in the basement of each building.



Boston Manufacturing Company Expansion, 1847-1900

- **1847** wooden dam replaced by higher granite dam.
- **1852** brick mill building added to the 1816 mill at a slight angle to follow natural curve of the river.
- **Turbines and steam engines added** to increase power capacity for the mechanical textile equipment.
- **1870s-1900** Unified mill buildings added to the riverfront including three one-story buildings (today's Landry Park land north of the river).

Boston Manufacturing Company Expansion, 1847-1900



1901 Associated Mutual insurance map

present Landry Park location

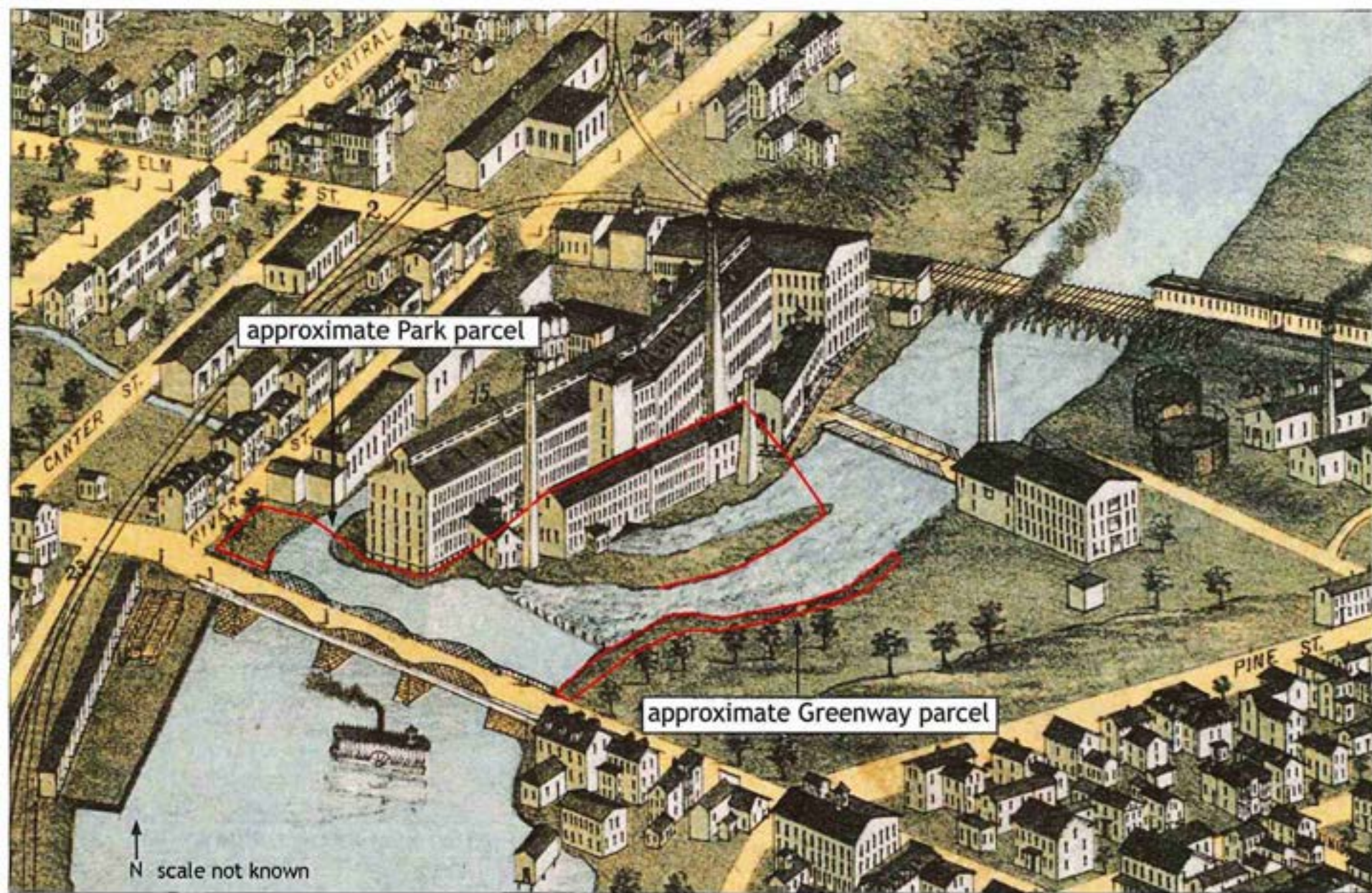


Figure 7. 1877 (Bailey) bird's eye view of Waltham showing the approximate locations of the Landry Park and Greenway parcels.

Company Closure and Park Development, 1929-1978

- **1929** Boston Manufacturing Company ceased operations.
- **Mill buildings sold piecemeal** to smaller companies for commercial/ residential purposes.
- **1920-1970** Power canals/mill raceways gradually filled in.
- **1974** Unified mill buildings on present park property sold to state Metropolitan District Commission (MDC).
- **1976** Demolition and removal of the mill buildings on new park land.
- **1978** Landry Park completed with new concrete fish ladder.

Company Closure and Park Development, 1929-1978



1974 view looking northeast
from Moody Street Bridge



1978 fish ladder construction and
park ground preparation

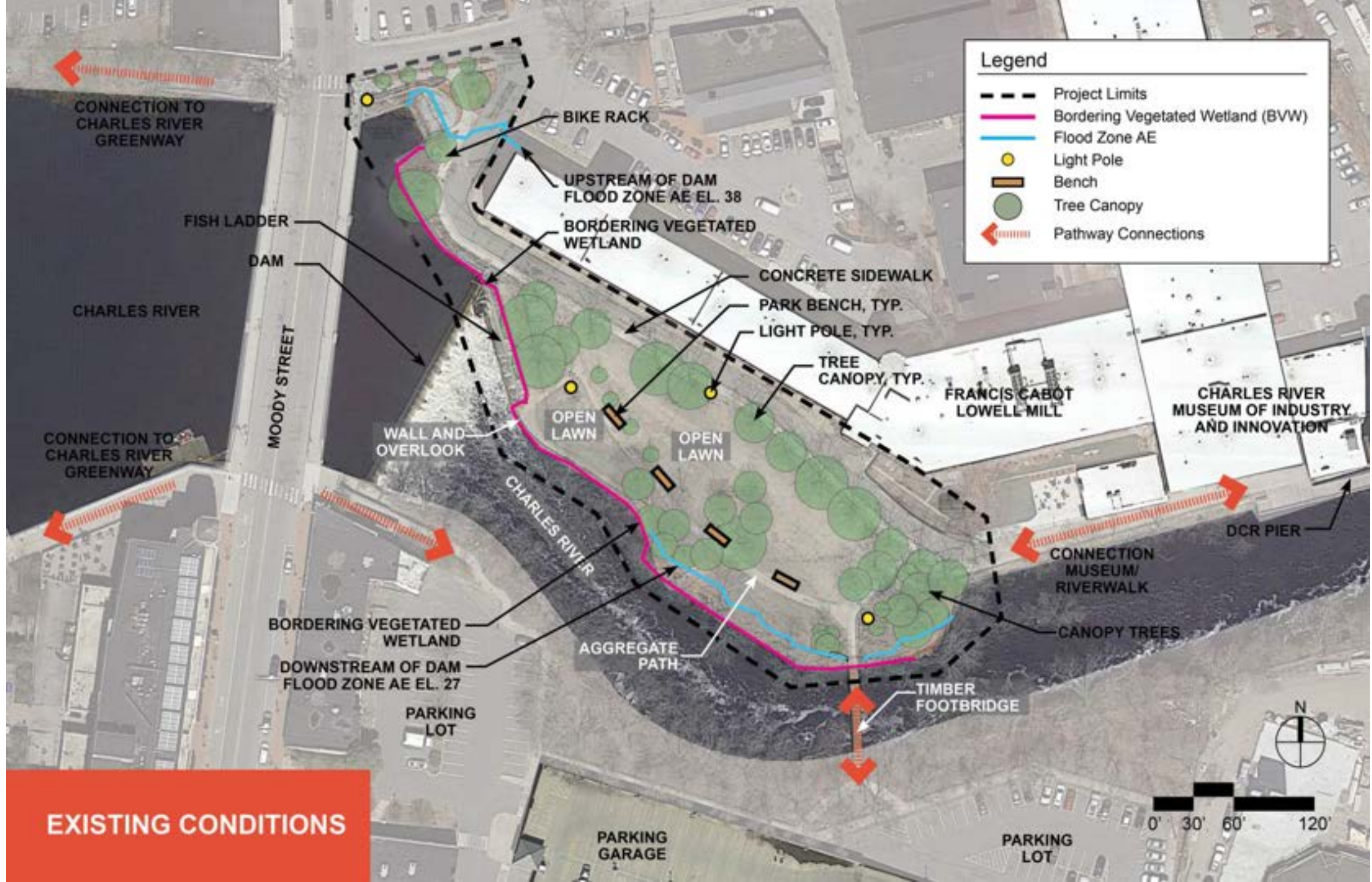
Landry Park newly Constructed (1978)

- ✓ Named after **Richard E. Landry**, early cardiologist and member of MA House of Representatives



Landry Park (Summer 2023)





EXISTING CONDITIONS

Site Analysis Overview

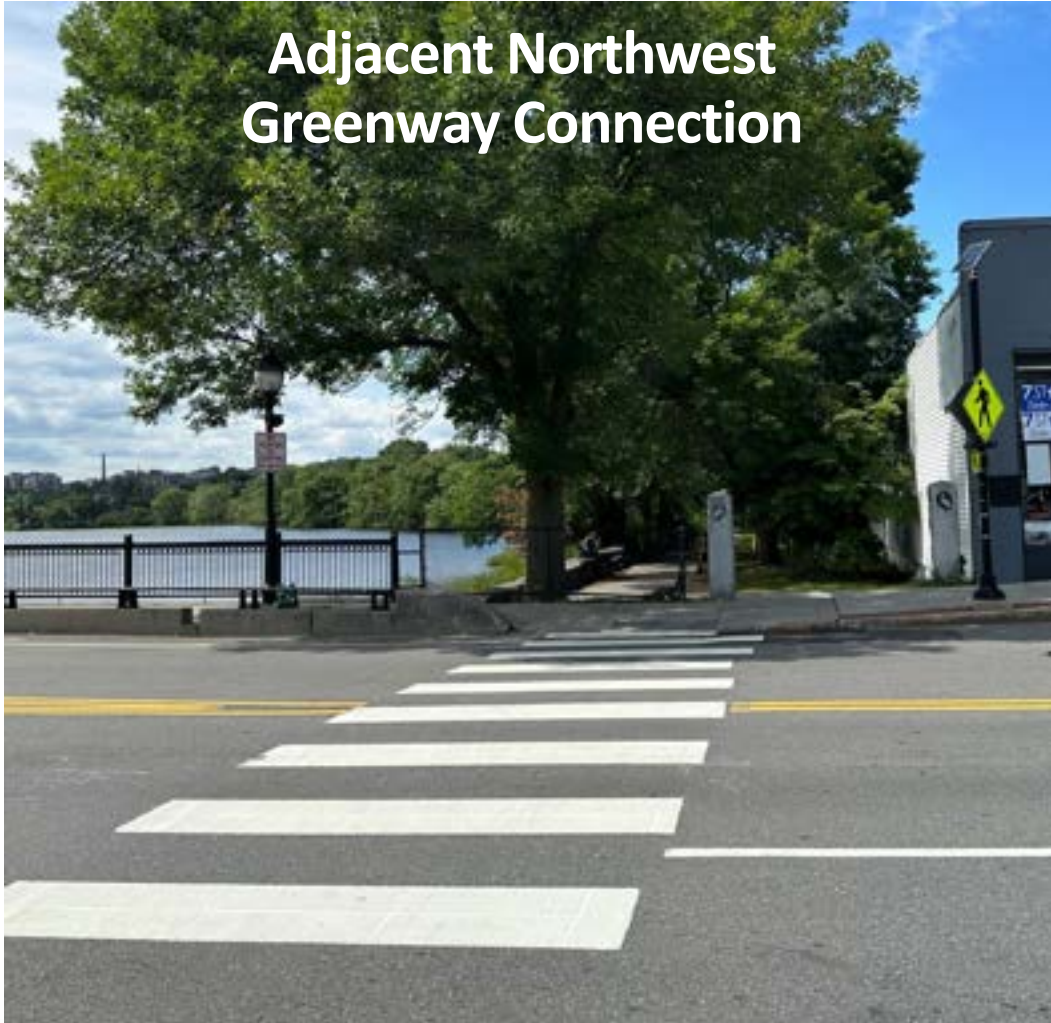
1. Circulation
2. Views
3. Accessibility
4. Paving and Surfacing
5. Soil Compaction, Erosion and Site Drainage
6. Vegetation



Circulation

Connections to Charles River Greenway (West Side at Moody Street)

**Adjacent Northwest
Greenway Connection**



**Northwest
Park Gateway**



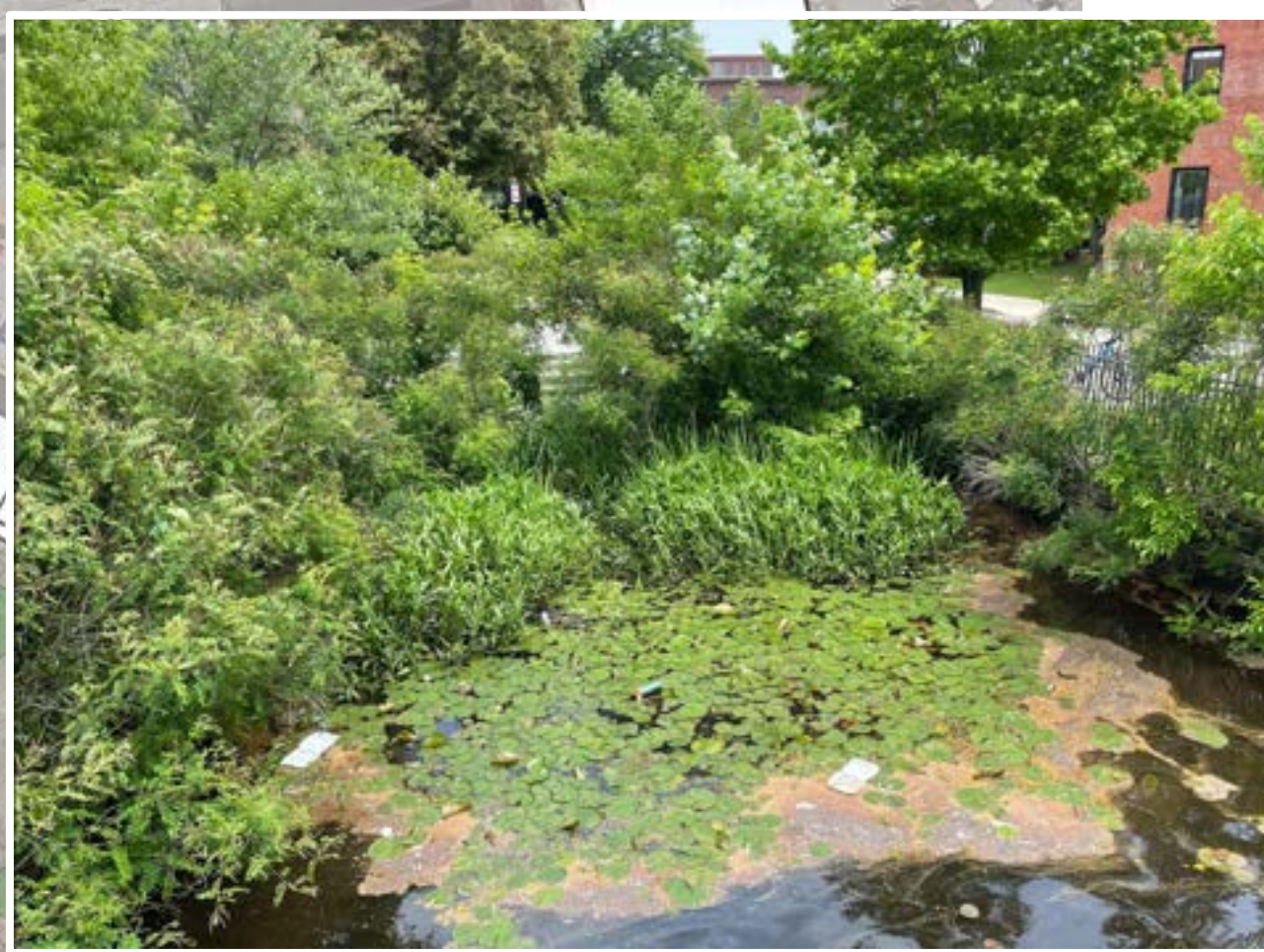
Circulation

Connections to Charles River Greenway (Northeast Side toward Museum)





SITE ANALYSIS: VIEWS



**SITE ANALYSIS:
VIEWS**









**SITE ANALYSIS:
VIEWS**



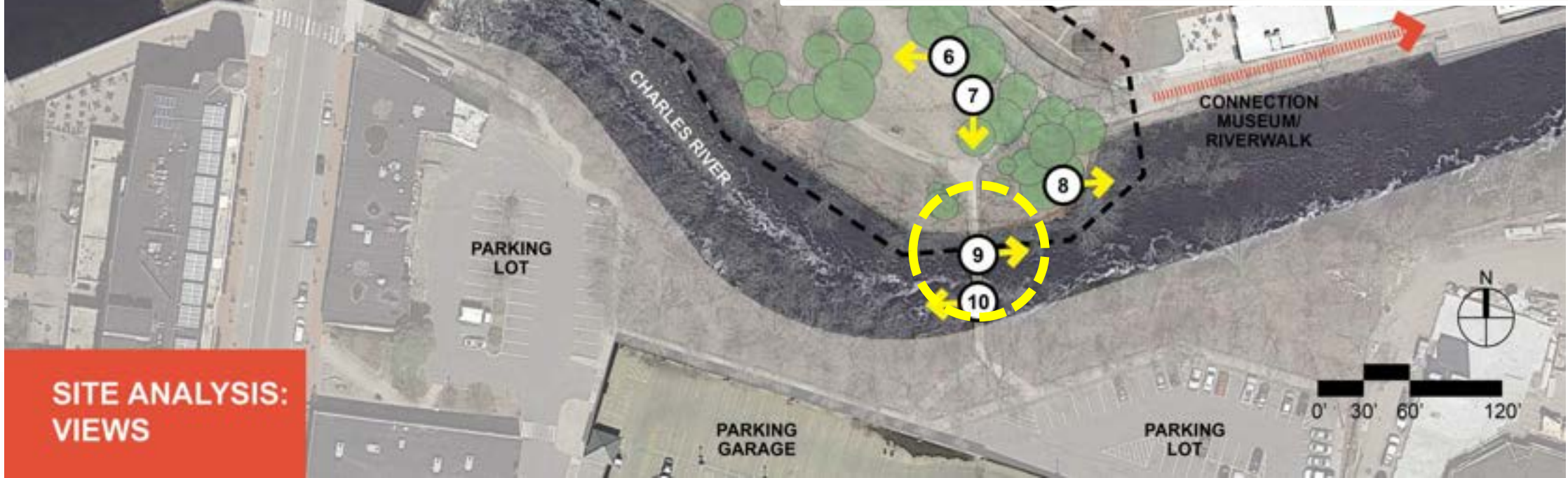


**SITE ANALYSIS:
VIEWS**

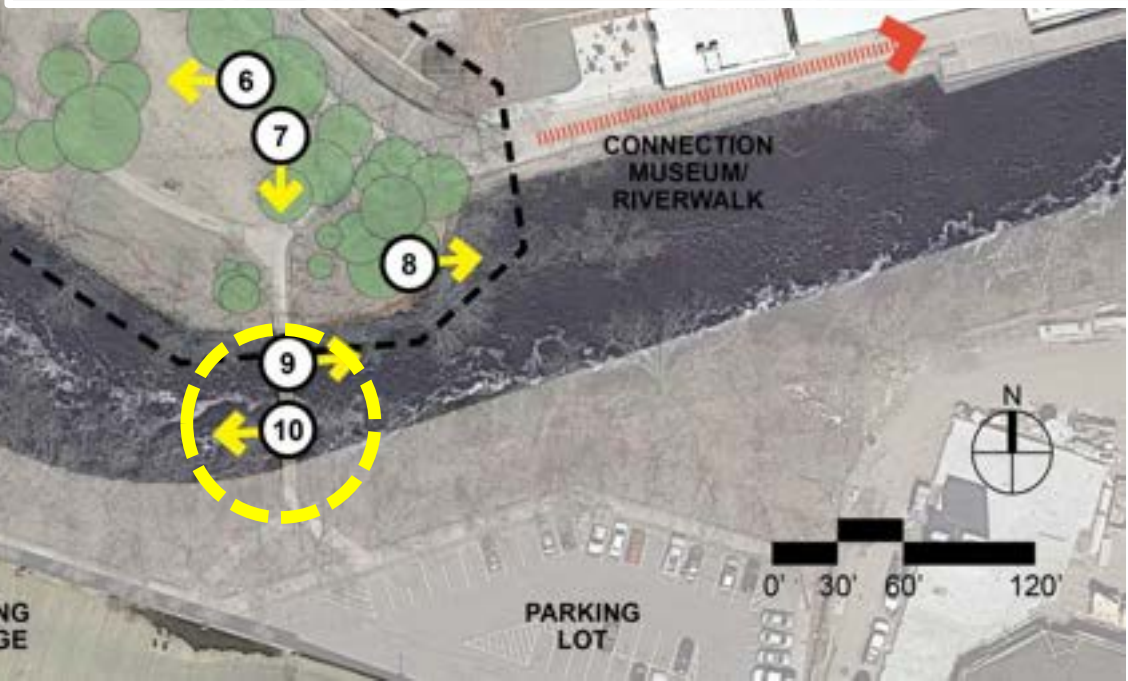
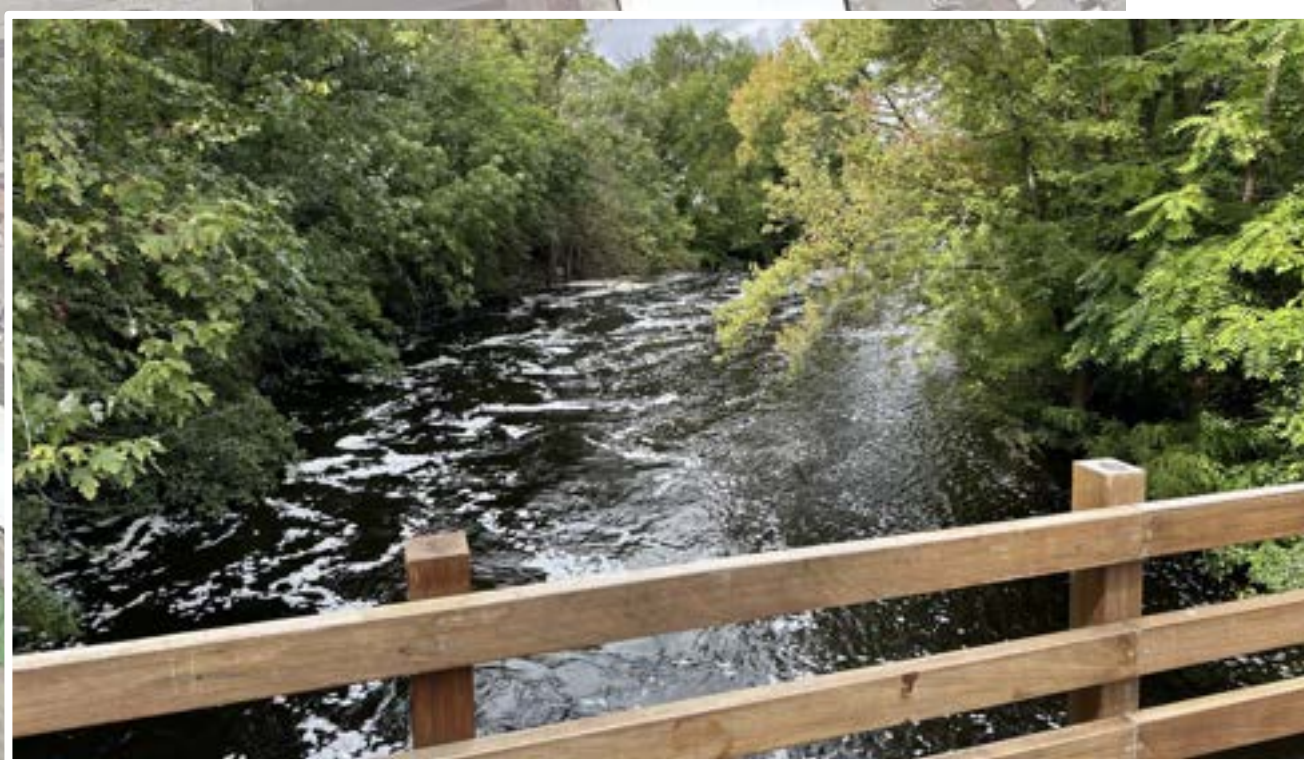








**SITE ANALYSIS:
VIEWS**

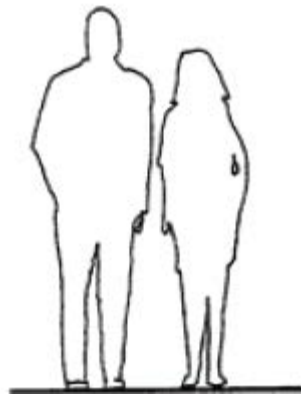




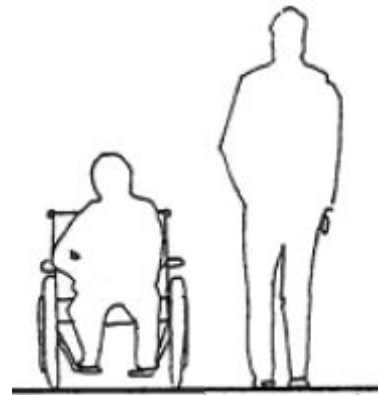
Accessibility and ADA Compliance

Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Standards (ADA)

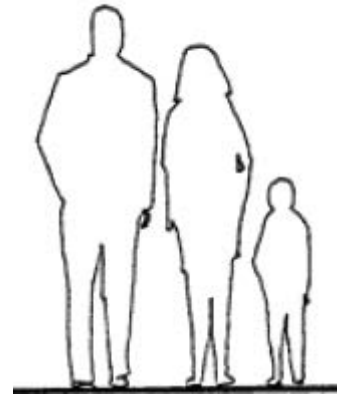
- Maximum permitted slope of 5.0% and firm and stable surface material.
- Project objective to comply with ADA standards.



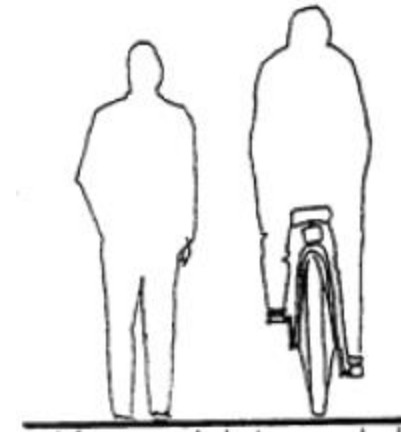
4'-6"
**Two
Pedestrians**



5'-6"
**Pedestrian &
Wheelchair**



6'-3"
**Three
Pedestrians**



6'-6"
**One Pedestrian
One Bicycle**

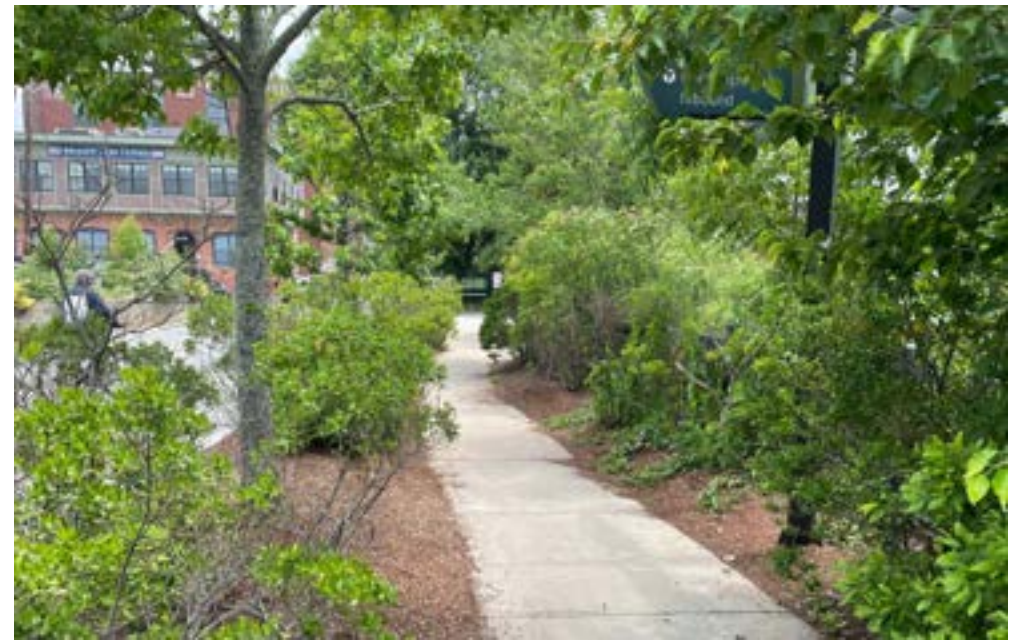
Accessibility

Fire Lane & Pedestrian Bridge



Accessibility

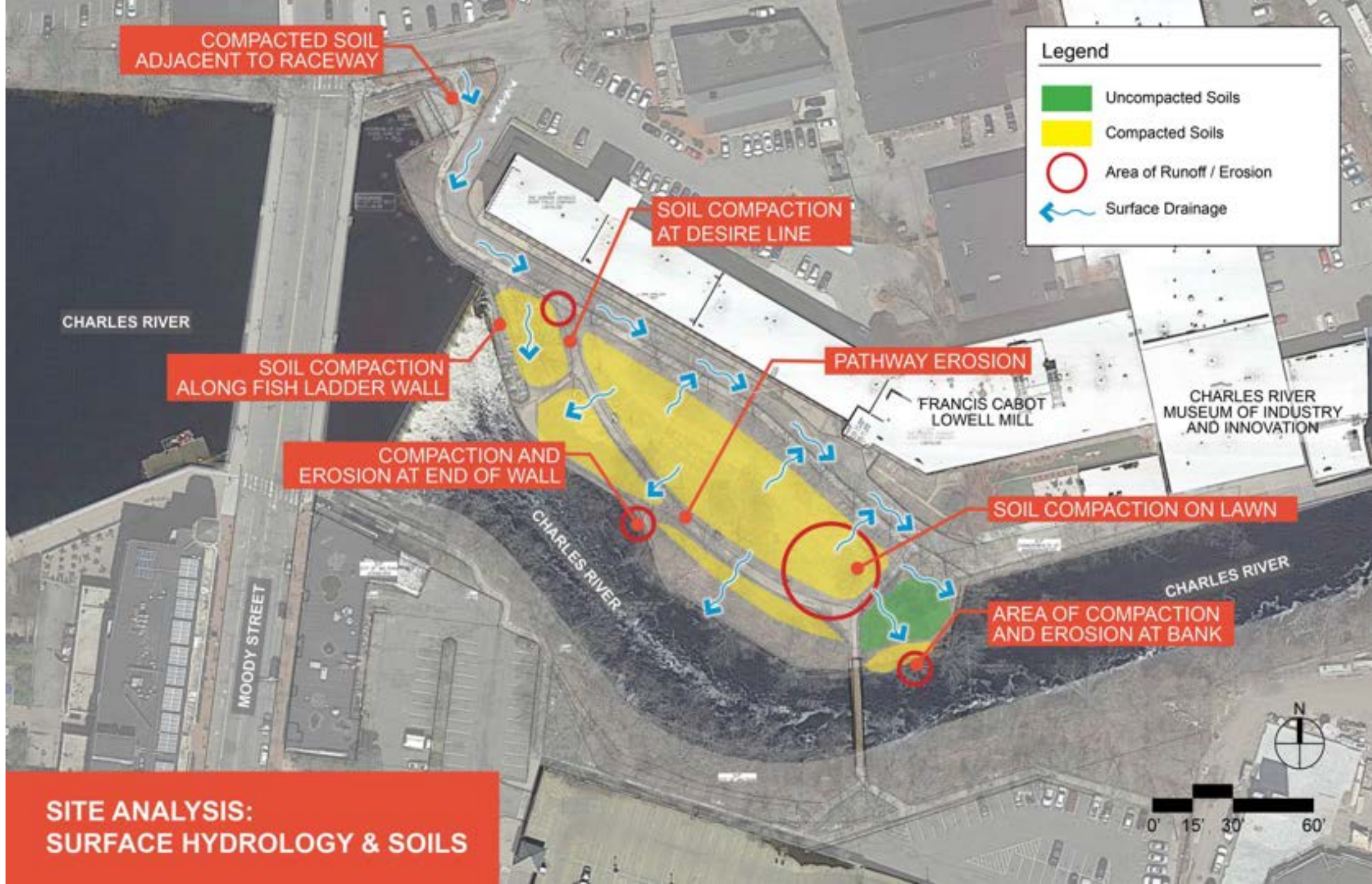
Northwest Park Gateway at Moody Street



Accessibility

Universal Accessibility Compliance
- Paths and Trails





Soil Compaction and Erosion



Soil Compaction and Erosion



Soil Restoration Approach

- Enhance compacted soils to improve soil structure, infiltration, water retention, nutrient retention and microbial life.
- Scarify (loosen), aerate, and mix in soil amendments.
- Planting woody plants and seed mixes/sod will prevent soil loss and protect nutrient levels and microbial life.



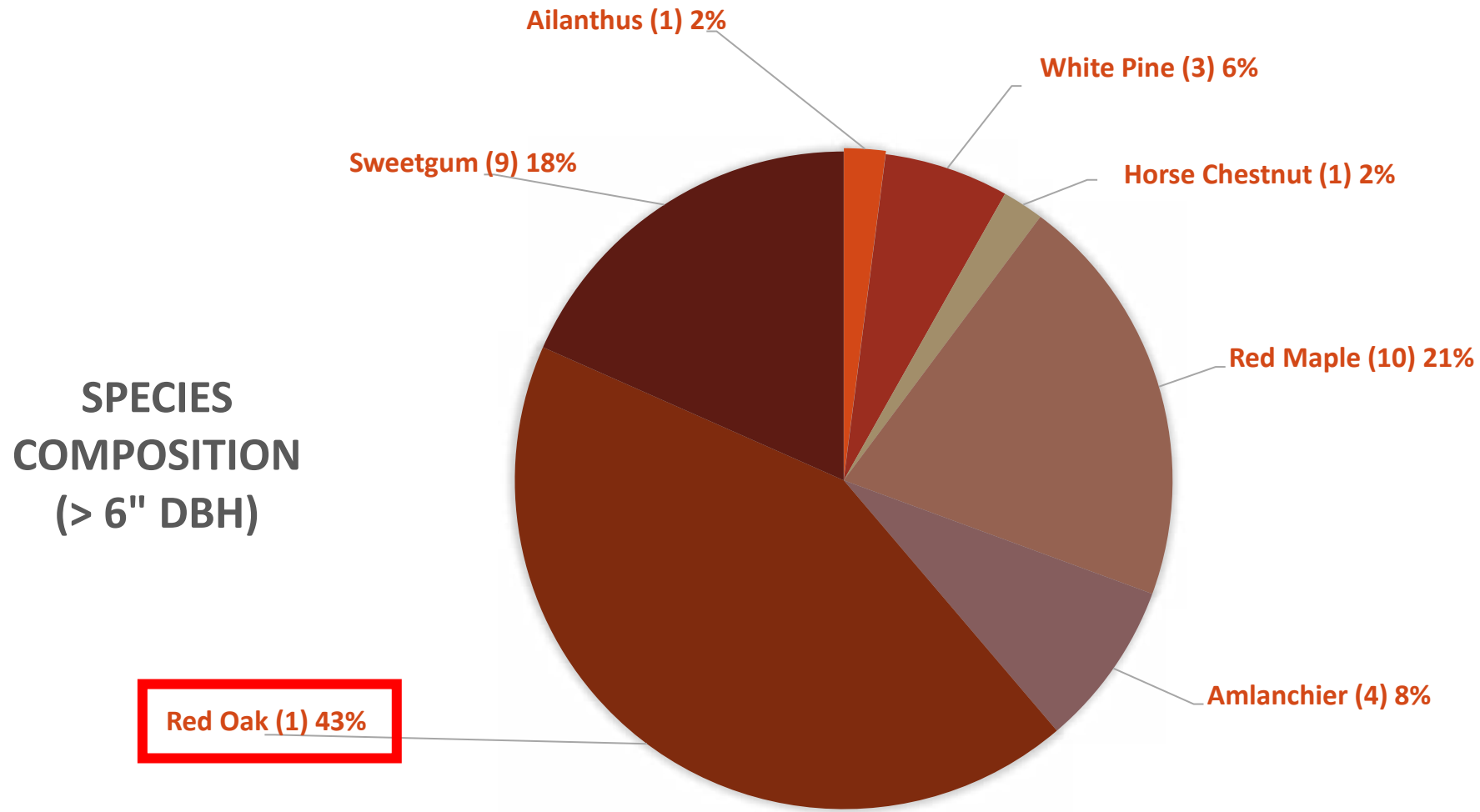


Tree Assessment Overview

- Trees 6" and above were assessed (49 Total).
- 6 Trees recommended for removal (safety hazards).
- 12 Trees require significant pruning.
- 3% of all trees are state-listed invasive species.



Tree Assessment Statistics



State-Listed Invasive Vegetation



Garlic Mustard - MIPAG Invasive



Japanese Knotweed - MIPAG Invasive



Bittersweet - MIPAG Invasive



Bittersweet - Berries



Norway Maple - MIPAG Invasive



Norway Maple - Bark



Amur Honeysuckle - MIPAG Potentially Invasive



Buckthorn - MIPAG Invasive



Black Locust - MIPAG Invasive



Black Locust - Bark



Multiflora Rose - MIPAG Invasive



Mulberry - MIPAG Evaluated

Native Trees and Shrubs

Red
Oaks



Red
Maple



White Pine



Shadbush

Site Furnishings (Existing)



Light Pole



Bike Racks



Signage



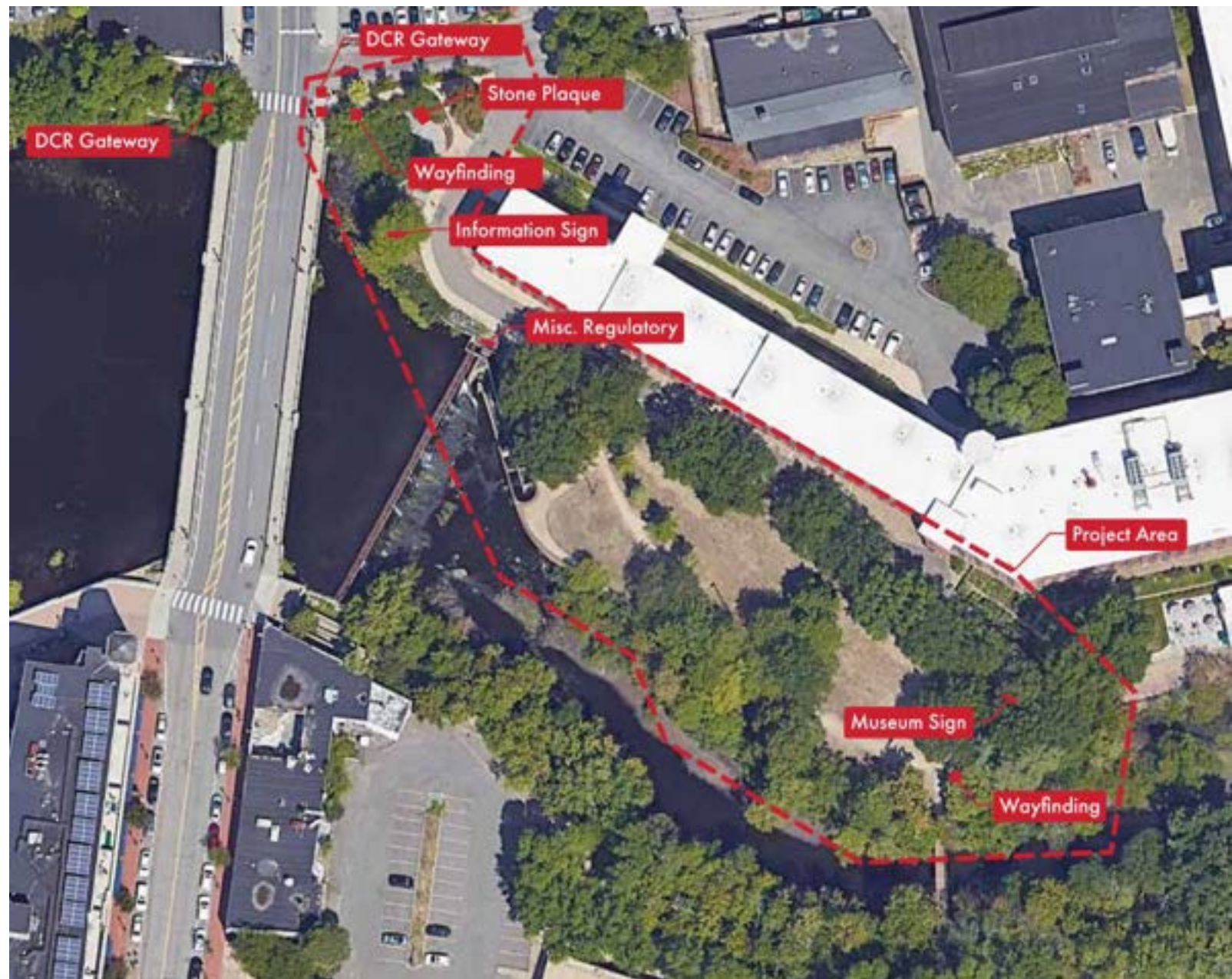
Bench

Site Signage

Existing Signage Locations

Signage Types:

- Gateways
- Identification
- Wayfinding
- Interpretation
- Regulatory



Site Signage - Gateways



Site Signage – Pedestrian Wayfinding



Site Signage – Information and Interpretation



Site Signage – Regulatory

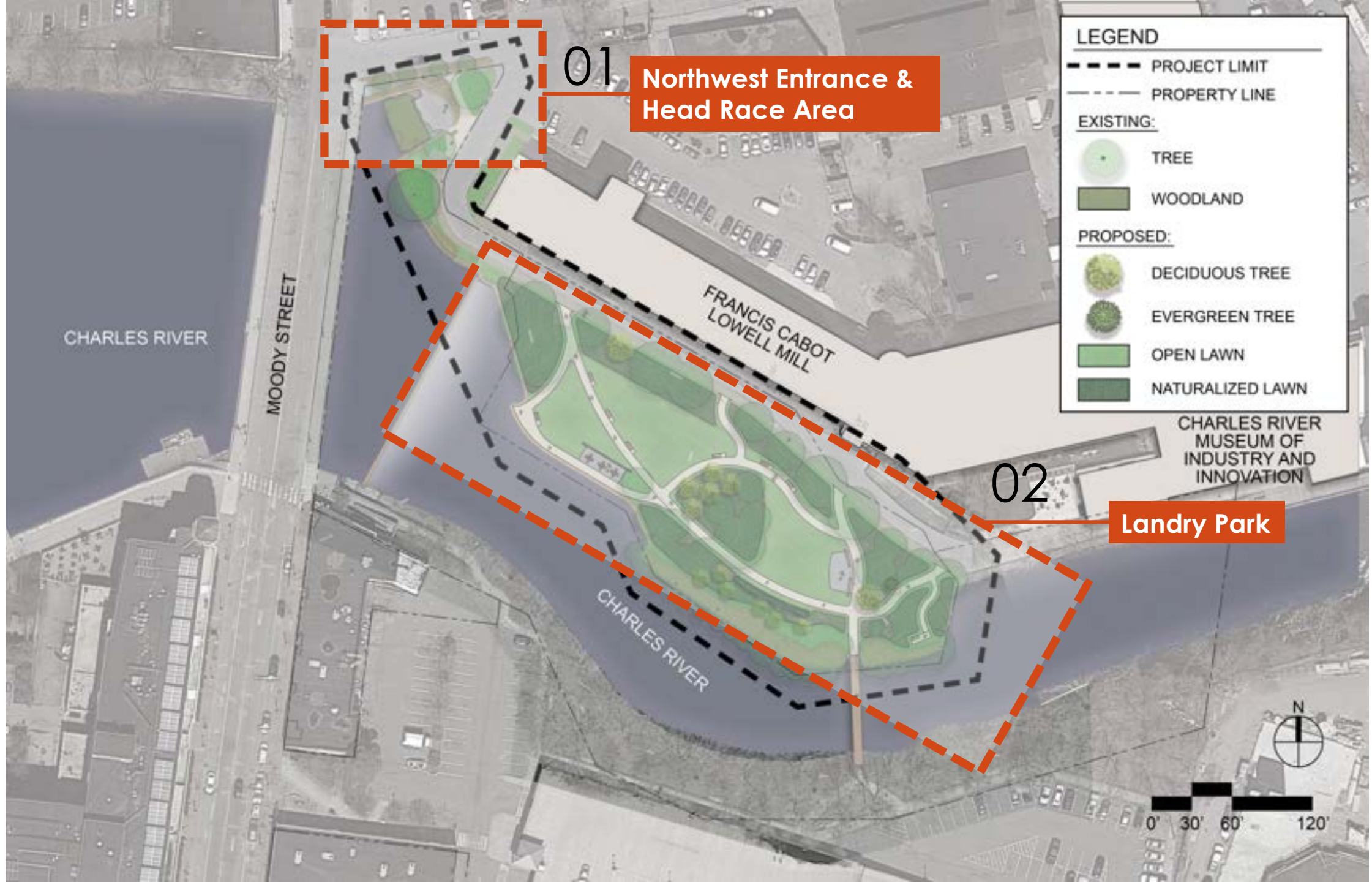


Concept Design Areas

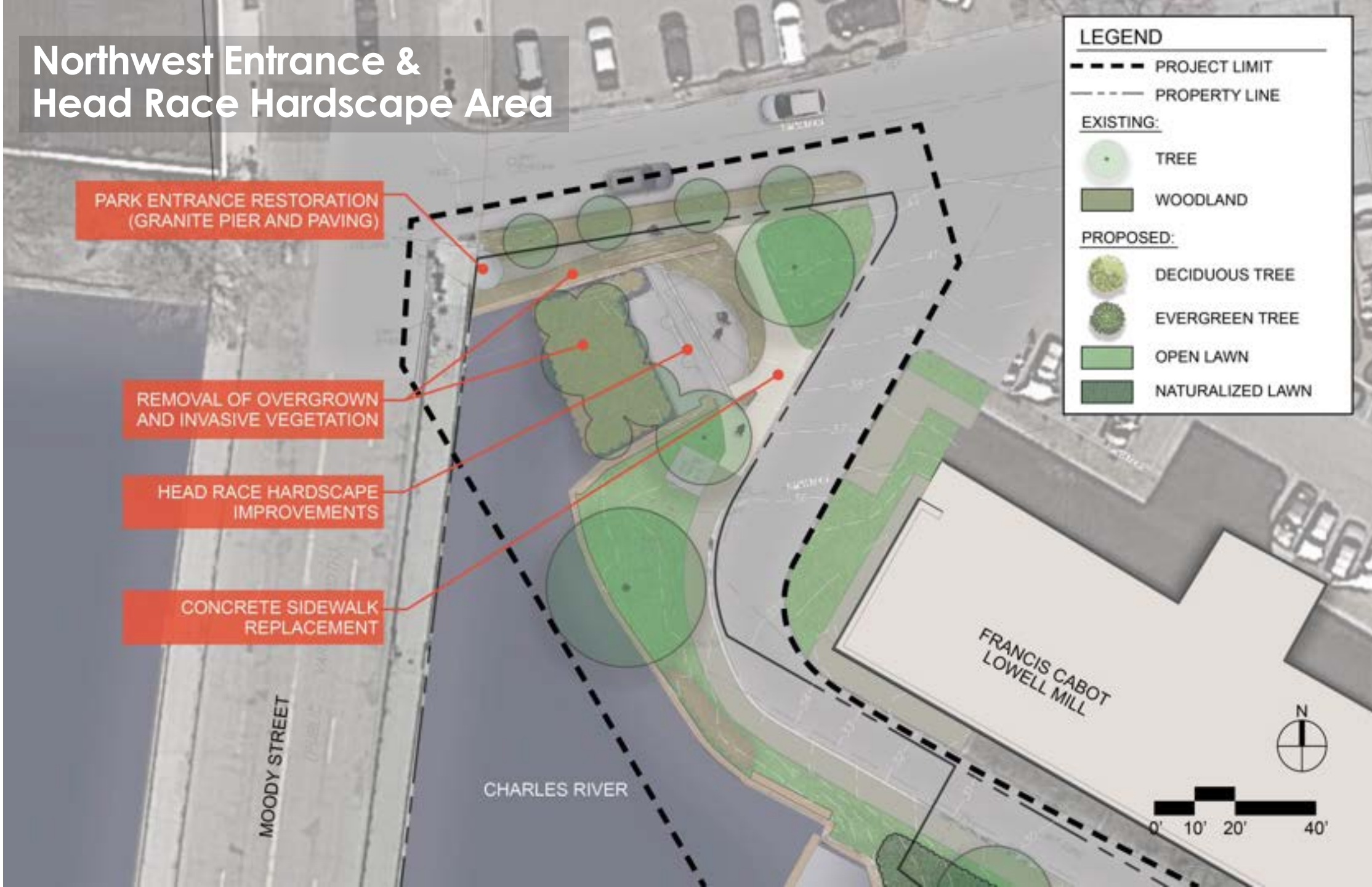
1. Northwest Entrance & Head Race Area

2. Main Park Alternatives:

- Concept 1A
- Concept 1B
- Concept 2



Northwest Entrance & Head Race Hardscape Area



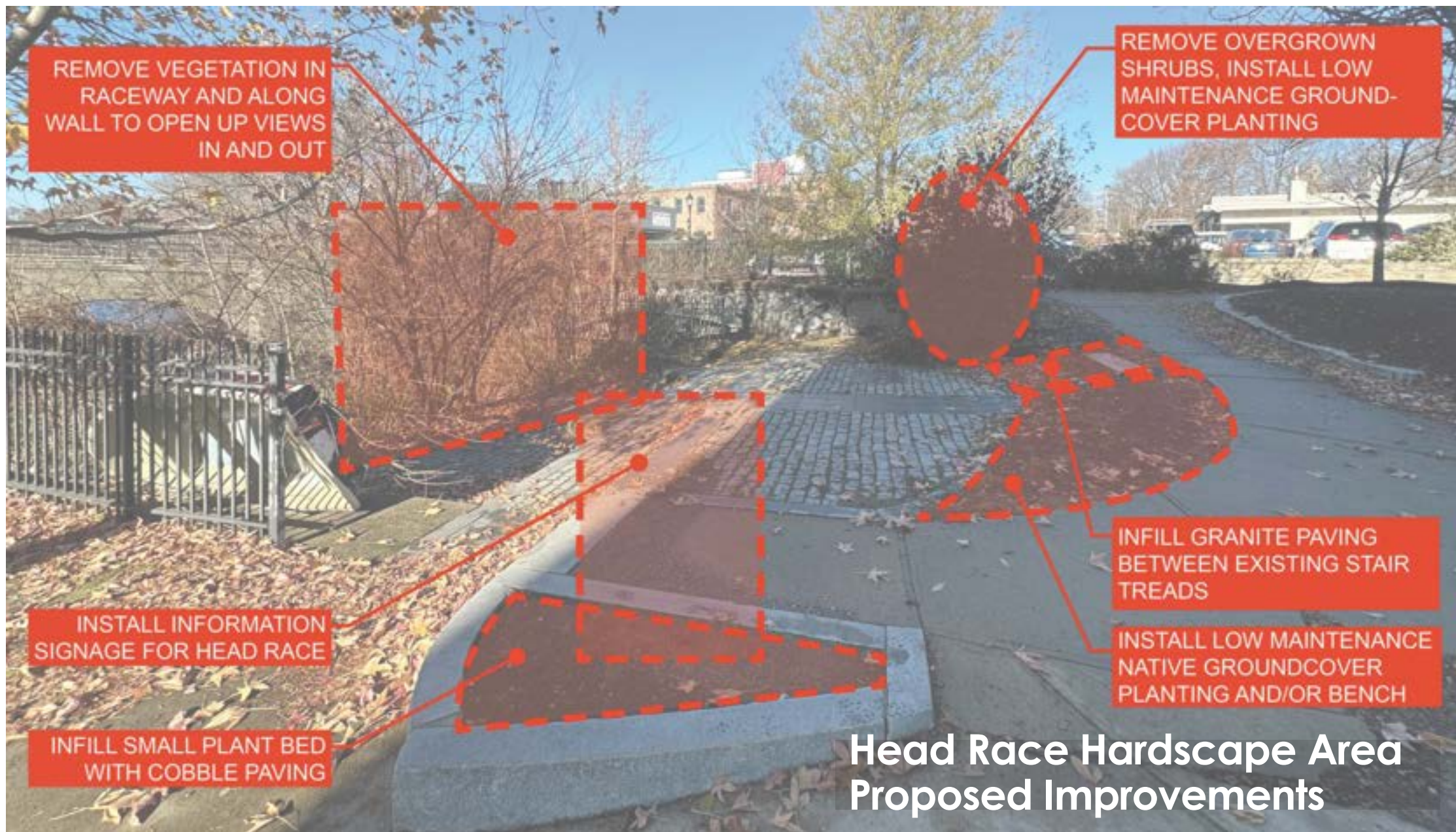
Head Raceway Area

Overgrown Invasive and Nuisance Vegetation

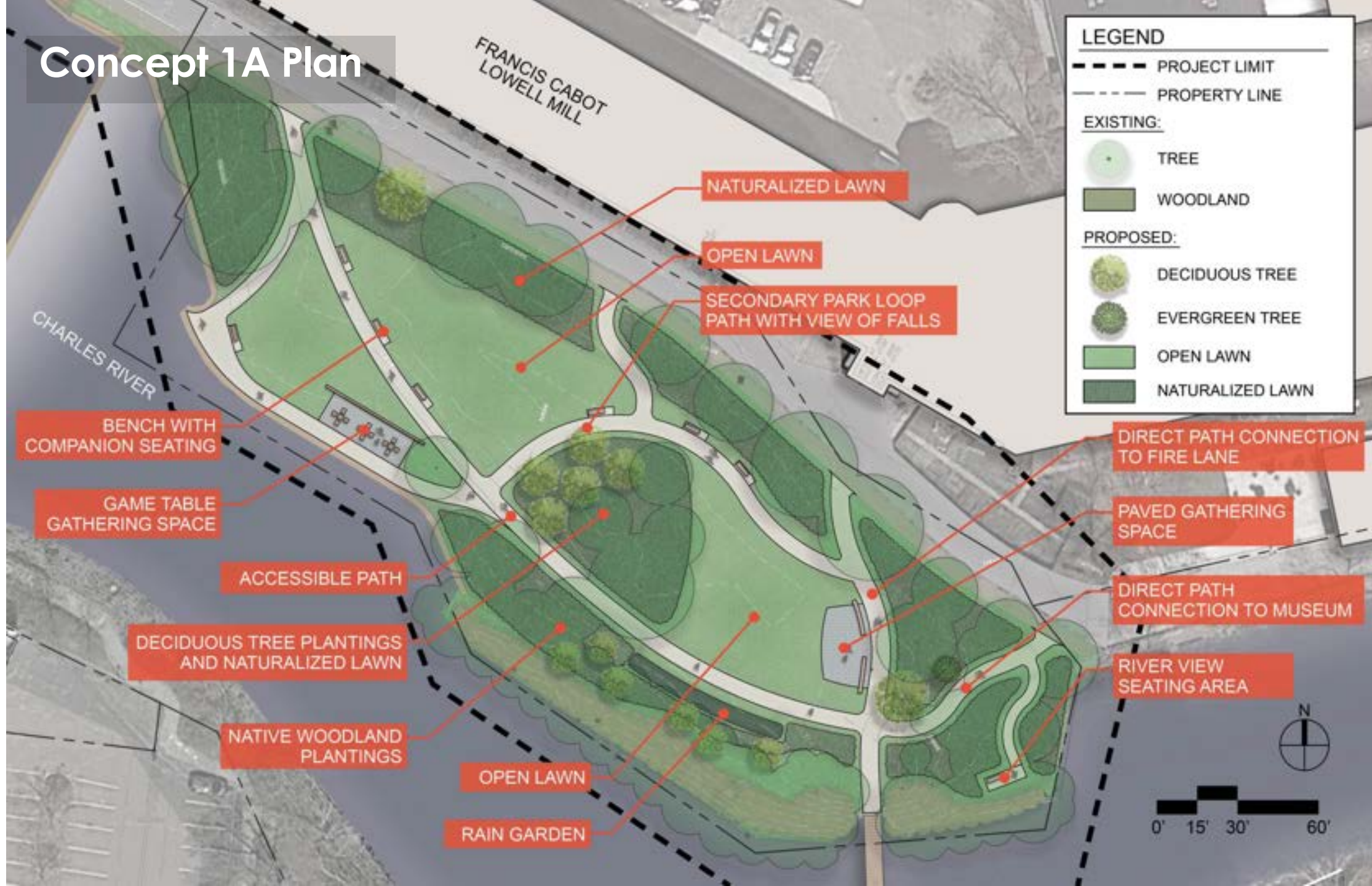




**Head Race Hardscape Area
Existing Conditions**



Concept 1A Plan



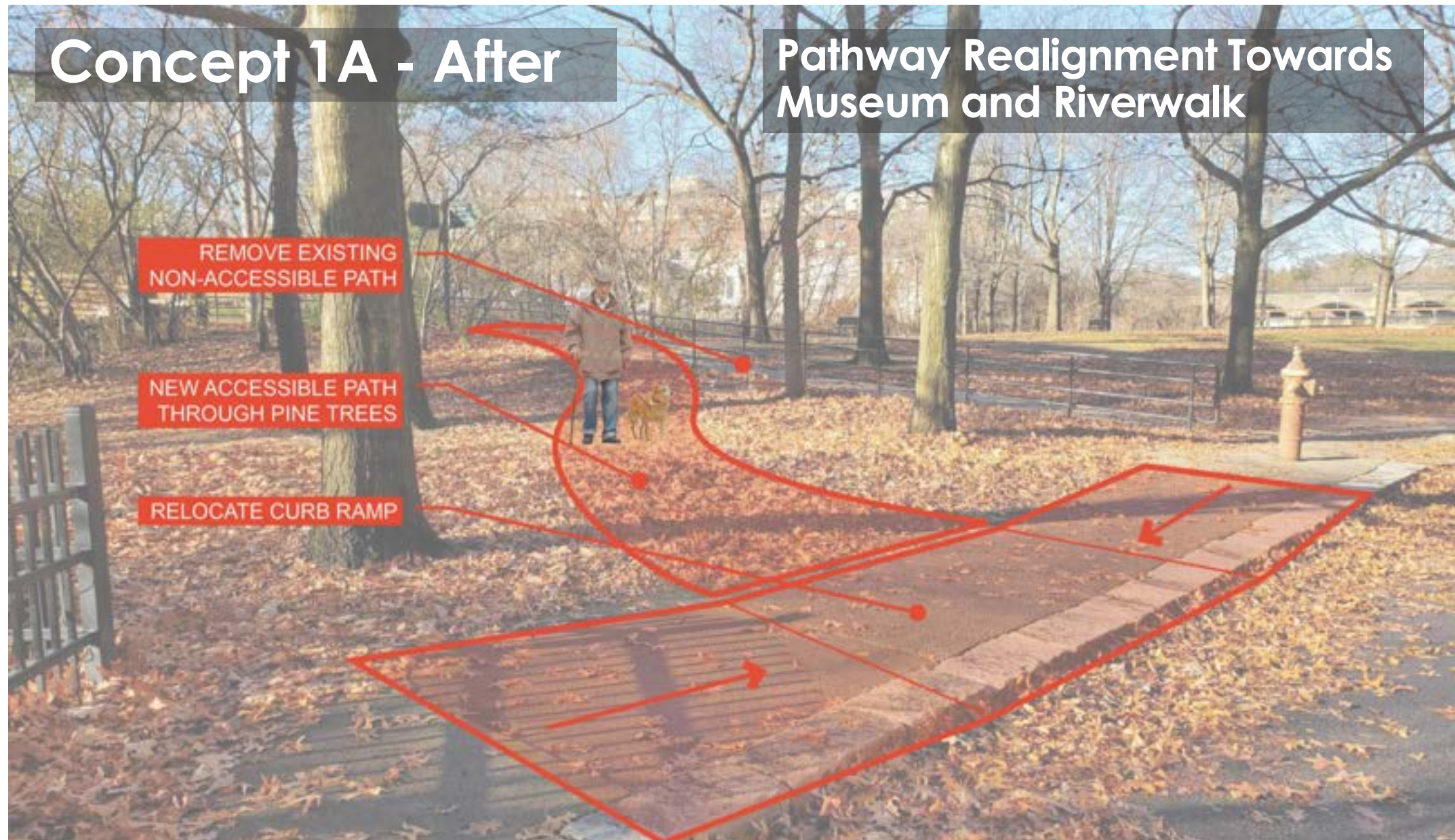
Concept 1A - Before



Existing Pathway Towards Museum and Riverwalk

Concept 1A - After

Pathway Realignment Towards Museum and Riverwalk



Concept 1A - Before



View From Overlook Wall East
Towards Bridge

Concept 1A - After



Game Table Gathering Area

Concept 1B Plan



Concept 1B - Before



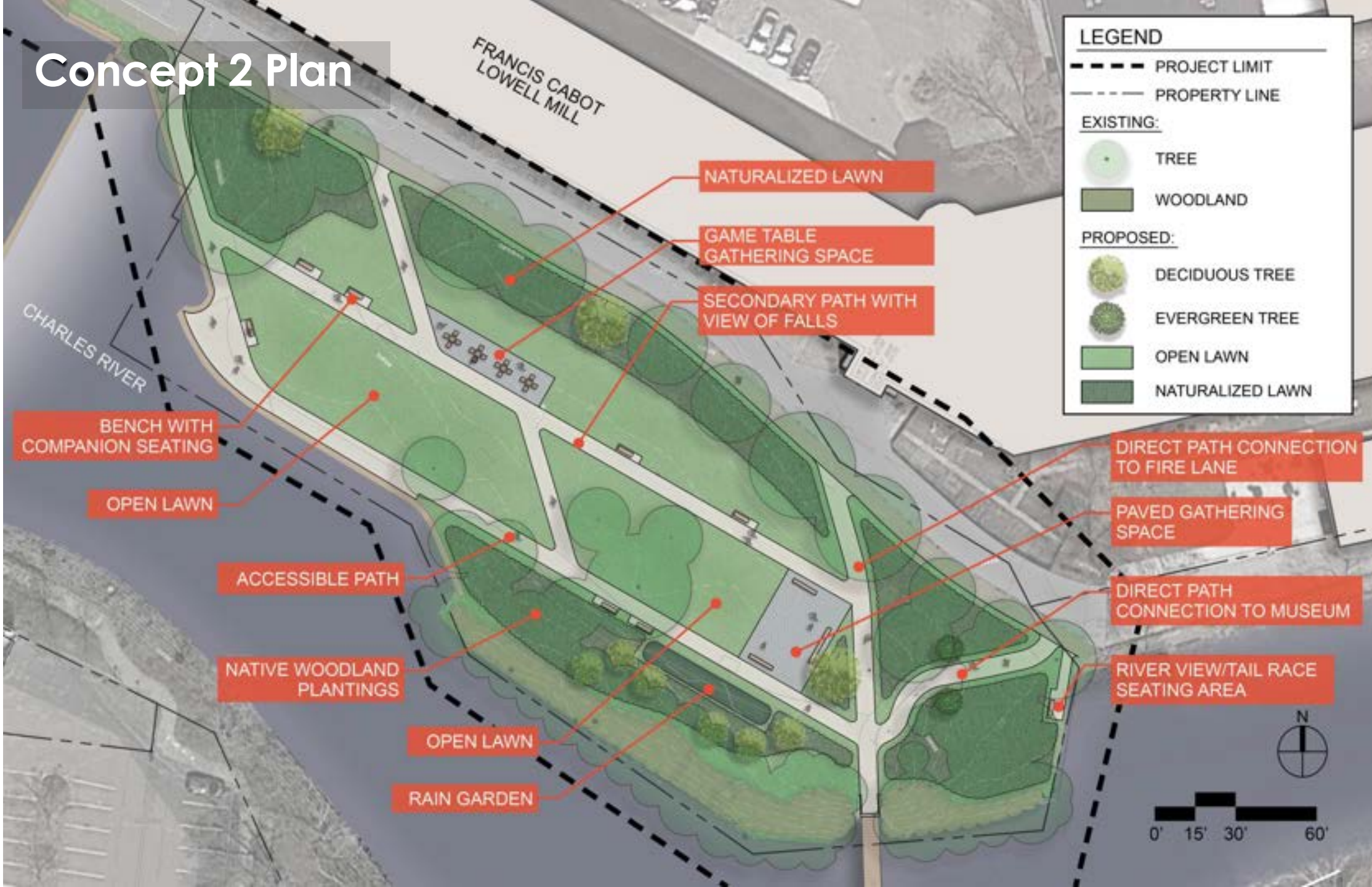
View West Toward Falls

Concept 1B - After



Rendering of Pathway, Game
Tables and View Towards Falls

Concept 2 Plan



Concept 2 - Before



View West from North of Bridge

Concept 2 - After



Main Park Entrance North of Bridge

Concept 2 - Before



View South Adjacent to Fish Ladder

Concept 2 - After



Path Adjacent to Fish Ladder

Site Signage Examples

Overview and Goals

- Create a cohesive site.
- Improve circulation.
- Highlight the historic and ecological resources in the area.
- Support connections to the surrounding areas, amenities, and communities.
- Create a welcoming environment for all users.

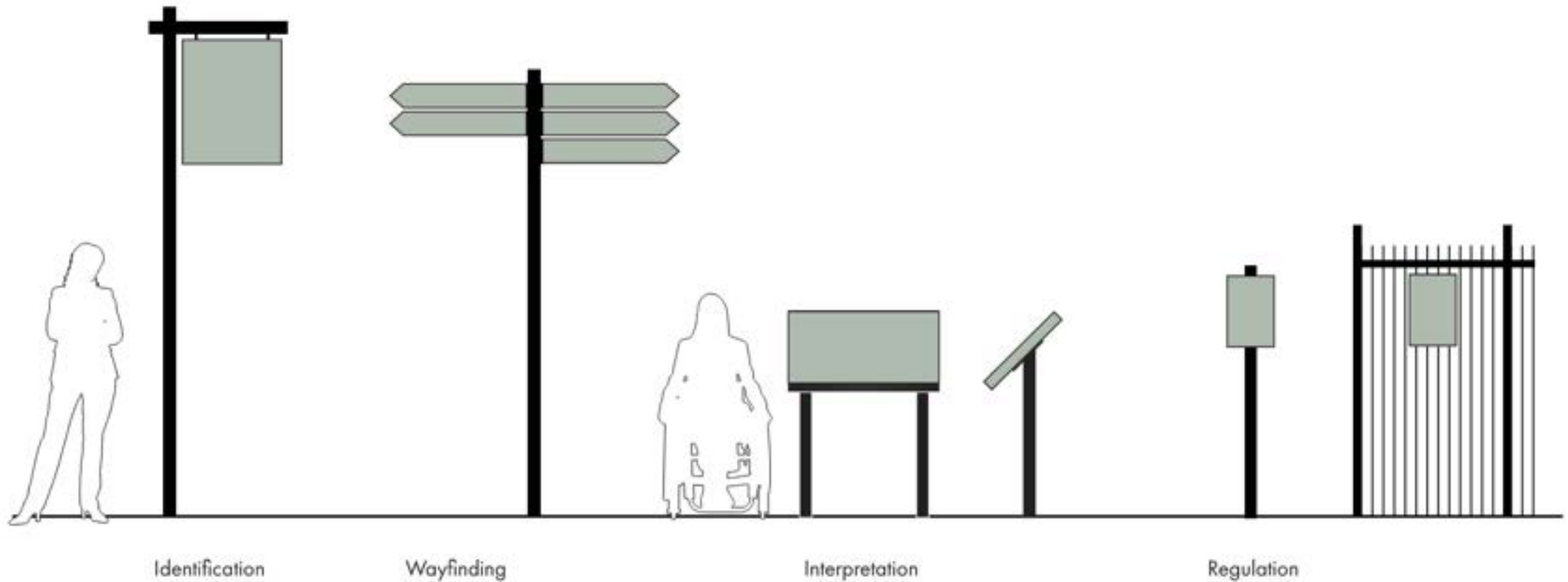




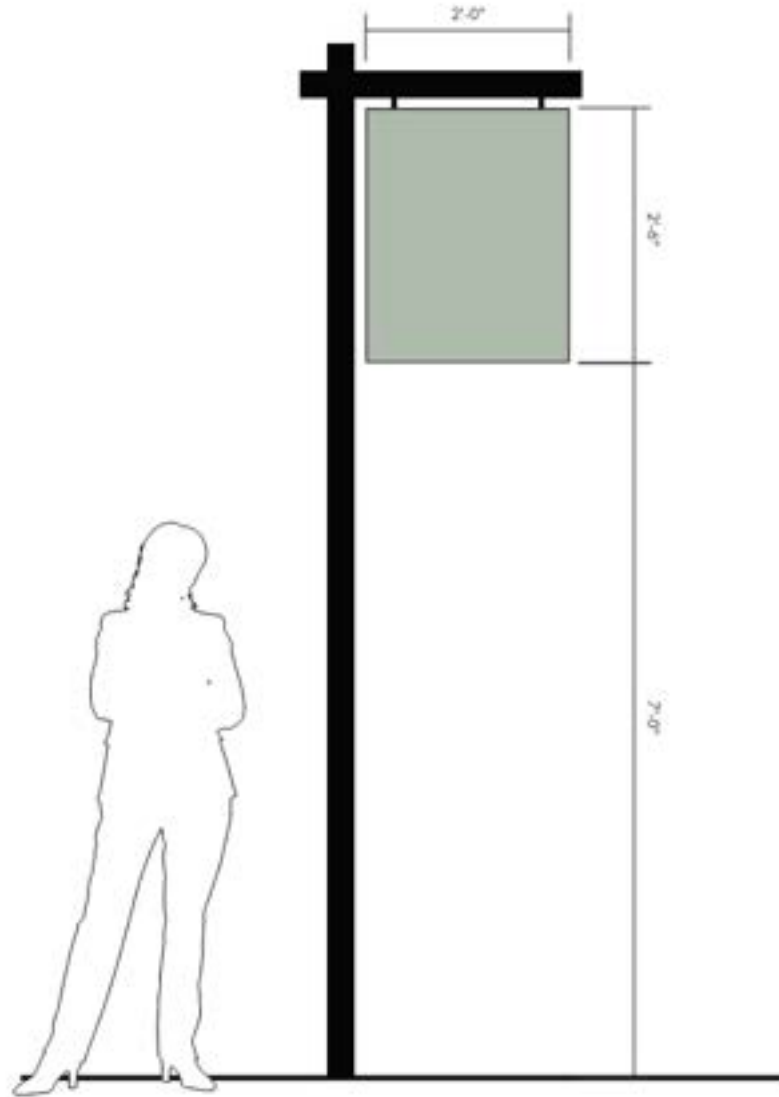
Site Signage – Proposed

Site Signage – Kit of Parts

The “Kit of Parts” is a family of sign types that can be used to address the needs of all user groups. Sign types shown here are for type and scale reference only.



Site Signage – Identification

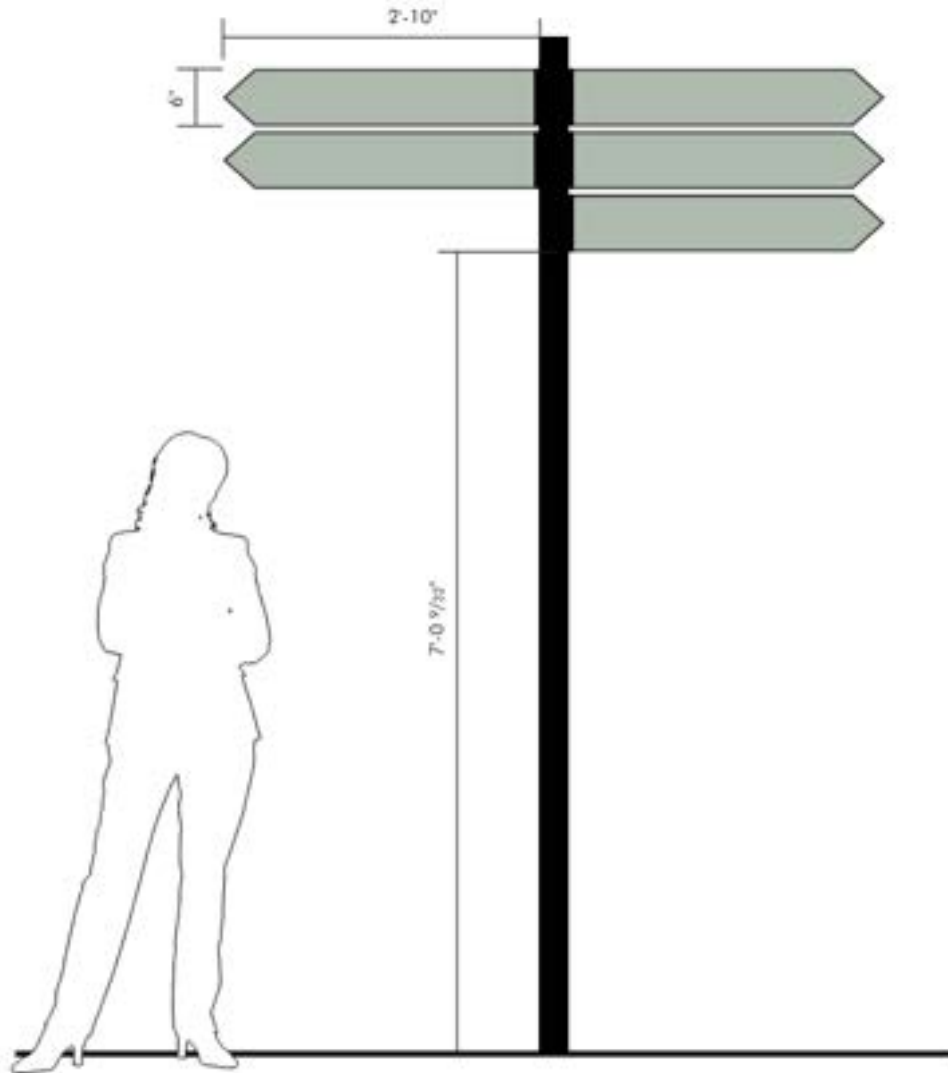


Charles River Reservation

LANDRY PARK

dcr  MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF
CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

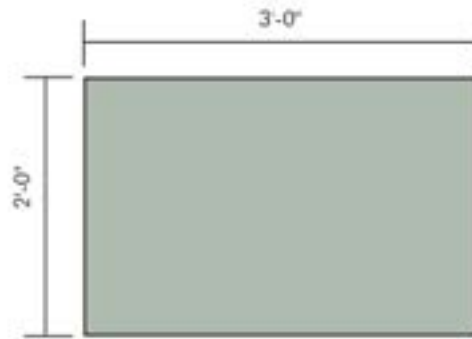
Site Signage – Wayfinding



DESTINATIONS

Charles River Museum
City Hall
Commuter Rail Station
Commuter Rail Inbound
Commuter Rail Outbound
Embassy Cinema
Moody Street
Public Internet
Riverwalk
Waltham Common

Site Signage – Interpretation



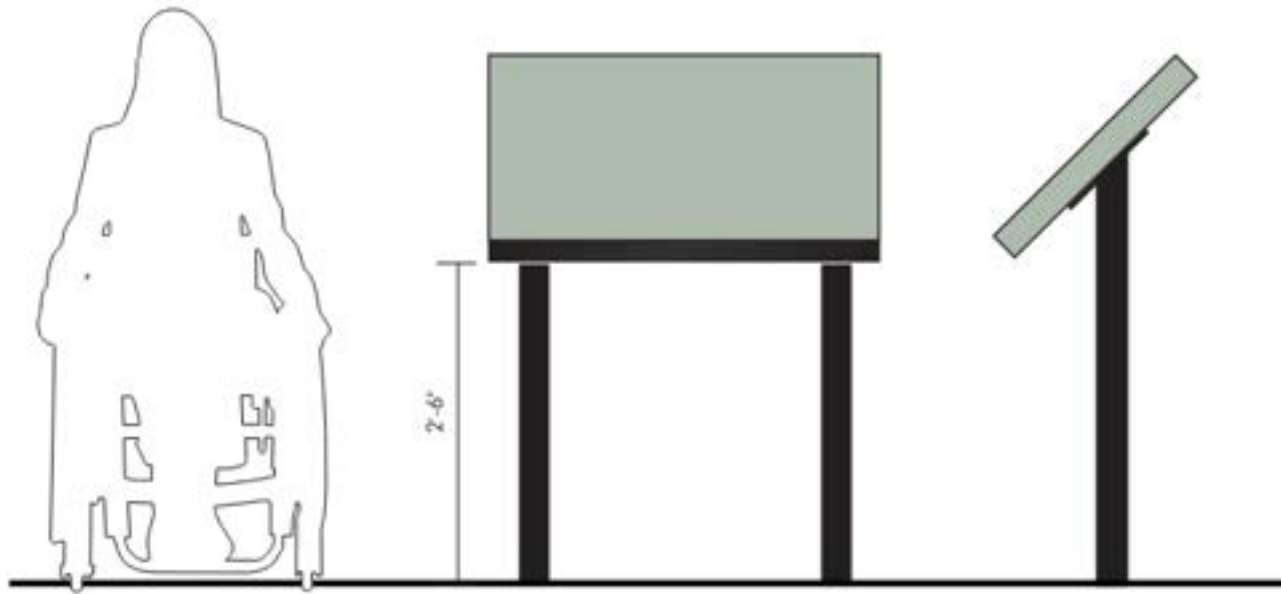
HISTORIC INTERPRETATION

Pre-Colonial Period

Boston Manufacturing Company 1813 – 1929

Boston Manufacturing Company Expansion 1847-1900

Company Closure and Park Development 1929-1978



ECOLOGY INTERPRETATION

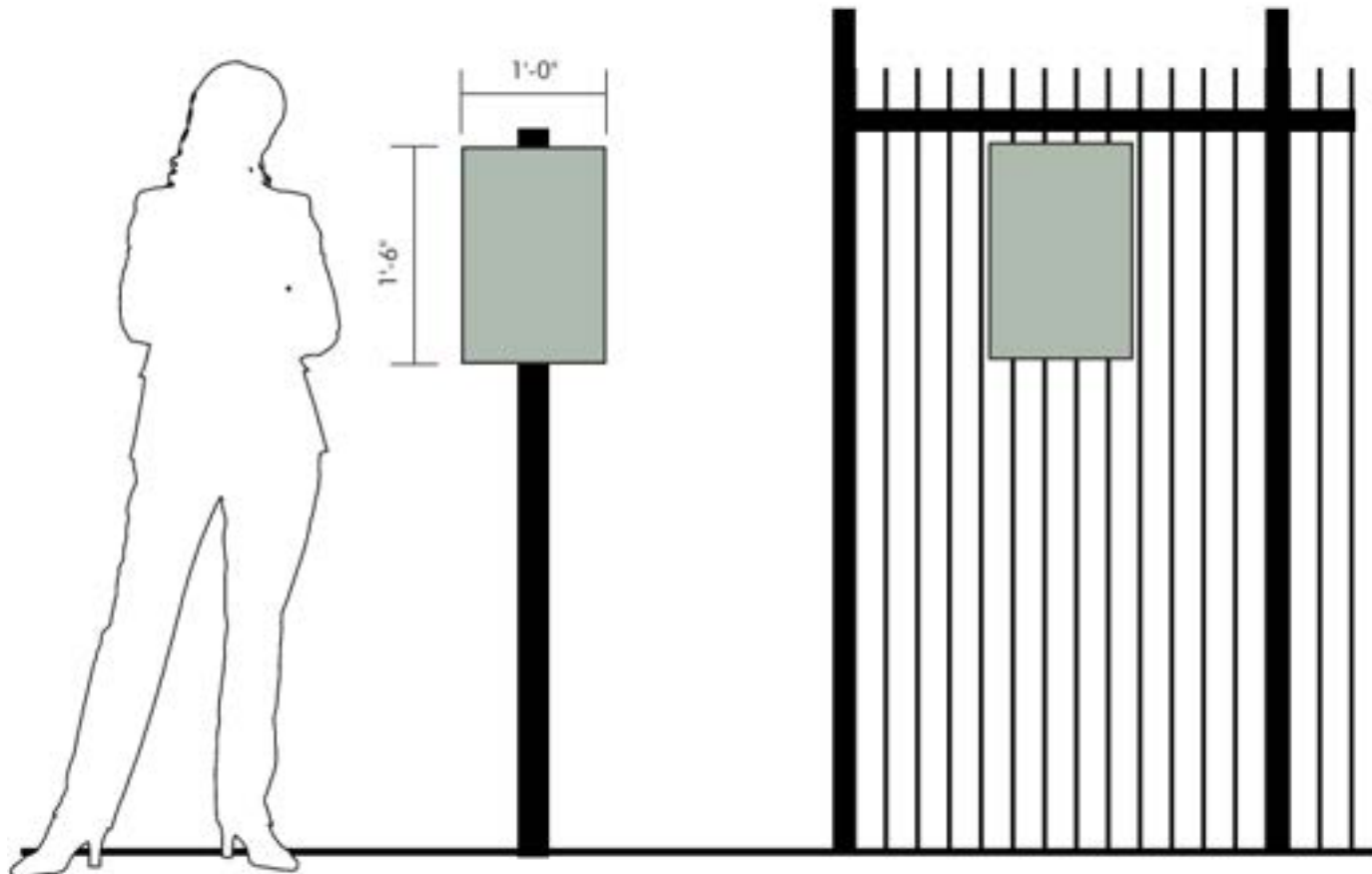
Charles River Ecosystem

Fish of the Charles River & Fish Ladder

Wildlife of the Charles River

Native Plant Species

Site Signage – Regulation



DCR VISITOR GUIDELINES

Park closed at dusk
No trespassing
No fishing
No swimming
Dogs must be leashed and waste removed
No motorized vehicles
No fires
No alcoholic beverages
Area under video surveillance



Site Furnishing Examples – Seating



Site Furnishing Examples – Game Tables



Site Furnishings

Granite Pier Gateway Restoration



Canopy Tree Examples



Red Oak



American Linden

Woodland Edge Planting Examples



Ferns



Foamflower



Flowering Dogwood



White Wood Aster



Spicebush



Grey Dogwood

Groundcover Examples

1. ***Carex pennsylvanica***
(Pennsylvania sedge)
2. ***Tiarella cordifolia***
(foamflower)
3. ***Asarum canadensis***
(Canadian wild ginger)
4. ***Eurybia divaricata***
(white wood aster)
5. ***Dryopteris marginalis***
(marginal woodfern)
6. ***Pteridium aquilinum***
(bracken fern)



Turf Lawn



Woodland Herbaceous



Naturalized Lawn

Rain Garden (aka Bioretention Basin)

Functional Landscapes

1. Reduces Surface Runoff and Sedimentation into Charles River.
2. Promotes Exfiltration to Subsoils.
3. Provides Pollinator Habitat for Insects and Birds.



Rain Garden Vegetation Examples

1. *Juncus canadensis* (Canada rush)
2. *Panicum virgatum* (switchgrass)
3. *Schizachyrium scoparium* (little bluestem)
4. *Asclepias tuberosa* (butterfly weed)
5. *Echinacea purpurea* (purple coneflower)
6. *Rudbeckia fulgida* (black-eyed susan)



Next Steps

- **Progress Design Development** (Summer 2024)
- **75% Construction Documents and Permitting** (Fall 2024)
- **100% Construction Documents** (Fall/Winter 2024)
- **Bidding and Award** (TBD)

Additional Information

- Recording and tonight's slide deck will be available at:
 - www.mass.gov/dcr/past-public-meetings
- If you have comments on this project:
 - Submit online: www.mass.gov/dcr/public-comment
 - Deadline: **Thursday, June 20th, 2024**

Please note: the contents of comments submitted to DCR, including your name, town and zip code, will be posted on DCR's website. Additional contact information provided, notably email address, will only be used for outreach on future updates to the subject project or property.

- If you wish to subscribe to a DCR general information or project-related listserv: contact DCR's Office of Community Relations via email at: mass.parks@mass.gov