

From: Updates, DCR (DCR)
Sent: Thursday, October 24, 2019 12:13 PM
To: Updates, DCR (DCR)
Subject: Lowell Memorial Park - DCR Update/Follow-up Communication

Dear Friends,

The design for the rehabilitation of the Lowell Memorial Park landscape has progressed, based on feedback from the March 2019 public meeting, comments received subsequent to that meeting, and consultation with DCR Operations staff responsible for the park.

On Monday evening, October 21, at the Cambridge Main Library, DCR provided a recap of the design ideas that were presented in March, including existing conditions and several options for creating an accessible pathway in Little Lowell (between Fresh Pond Parkway and Mount Auburn Street.) Additionally, the landscape architect for the project presented the 30% design, which includes:

- Addition of a perimeter pathway in Big Lowell, with more benches.
- Reconfiguration of the path in Little Lowell – both the “D”-shaped plan, which includes five steps, and a relatively new idea to create a serpentine path with no stairs, no ramp sections, and no railings. The goal is to eliminate areas that are difficult for snow removal, like stairs. The serpentine design was well-received and is preferred by DCR.
- The proposed plant palette, which is based on the Olmsted Brother original 1906 plant lists, but adapted to include Massachusetts native species.
- Repairs to historic brick walls.
- Turf restoration and shrub plantings.
- Park signage, interpretive panels, and pathway lighting.
- Links to the presentation at on October 21, as well as Draft Project Plans, are found on DCR’s website at <https://www.mass.gov/event/rehabilitation-of-the-historic-landscape-at-lowell-memorial-park-2019-10-21t183000-0400-2019> . The public is invited to submit comments, with an extension of the deadline for receipt by DCR to Thursday, November 21. Comments may be submitted online at <https://www.mass.gov/forms/dcr-public-comments> or by emailing DCR.Updates@mass.gov noting “Lowell Park” in the subject line, or by writing to the Department of Conservation and Recreation, Office of Public Outreach, 251 Causeway Street, 6th Floor, Boston, MA 02114. Please note that public comments submitted to DCR may be posted on the DCR website in their entirety, and no information, including personal information, will be redacted.

We appreciate your interest in this important project and thank you for your input.

Sincerely,
Wendy Pearl
Director, DCR Office of Cultural Resources