

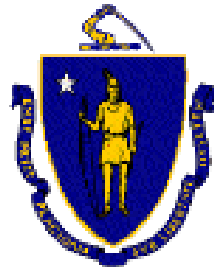


MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF
CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

Neponset Greenway Improvements



DCR Pre-Construction Meeting
New Spray Deck at Ryan Recreation Area
October 2022



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



DCR Mission Statement

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

Purpose of Presentation

Provide an opportunity to review proposed improvements:

- Construction schedule for new Ryan Spray Deck
- Discuss benefits
- Future Planning
- Review next steps

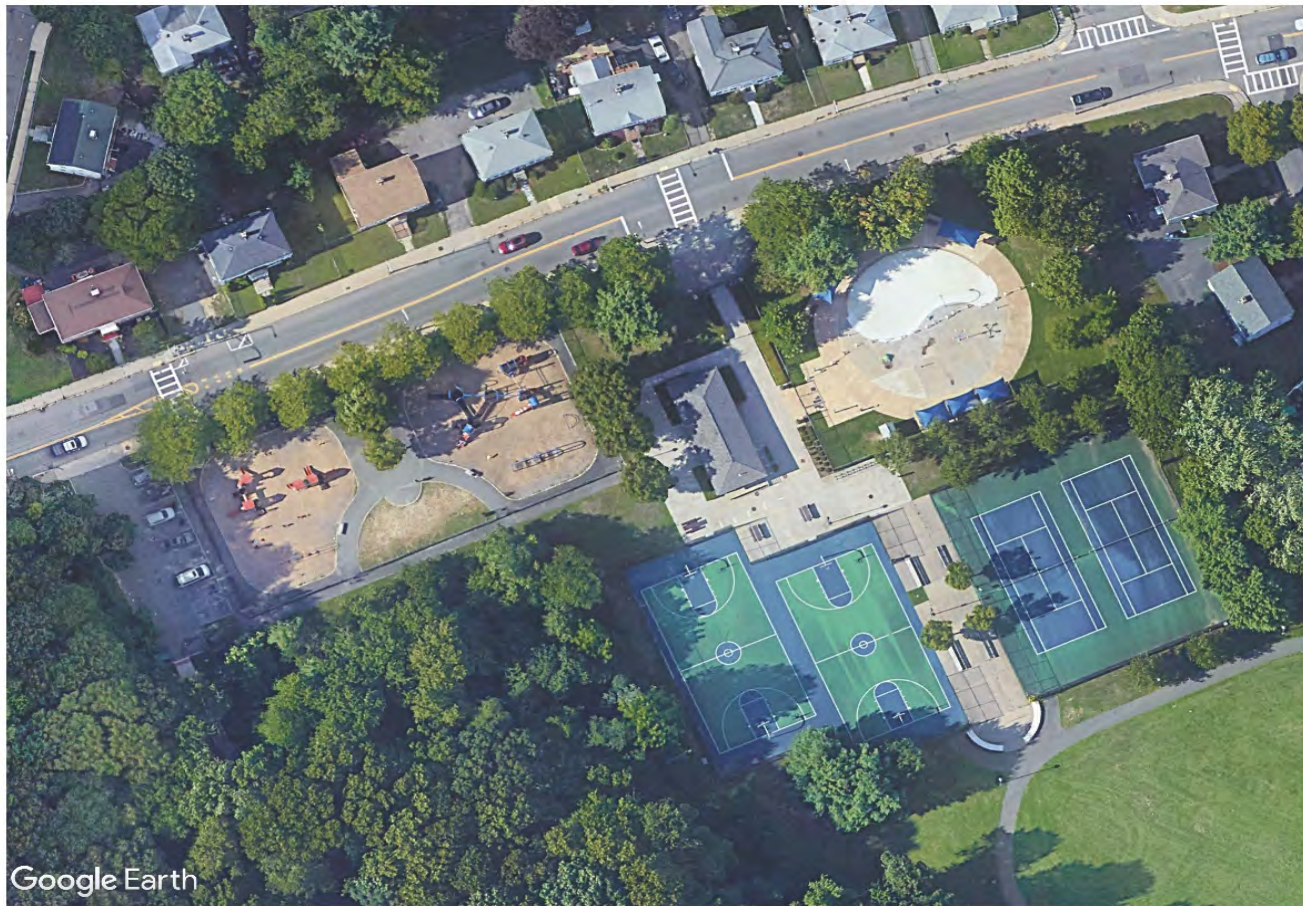
Project Team

Department of Conservation and Recreation
Owner

Coneco Engineers & Scientists, Inc.
Site Engineers

Traverse Landscape Architects
Landscape Architects

Ryan Recreation Area Existing Conditions



Purpose of Project:

- Expand the pool operating season and daily operating schedule
- Increase the user capacity
- Improve accessibility
- Start process for Playground and Parking and improvements as future phase



Ryan Recreation Area Improvements Project Purpose



Conversion to Spray Deck

- Doubles the operating season from 9 to 18 weeks
- \$600,000 investment is fully-funded in FY23
- Conversion is similar to successful projects at DCR's Beaver Brook Area (Belmont) and Esplanade (Alford Spray Deck) which combine spray decks and abutting playgrounds

Ryan Recreation Area Improvements
Preferred Alternative



MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF
CONSERVATION AND RECREATION



Beaver Brook SR - Belmont

- Project completed 2020
- Converted wading pool to spray deck and rehabilitated playground

Ryan Recreation Area Improvements
Preferred Alternative

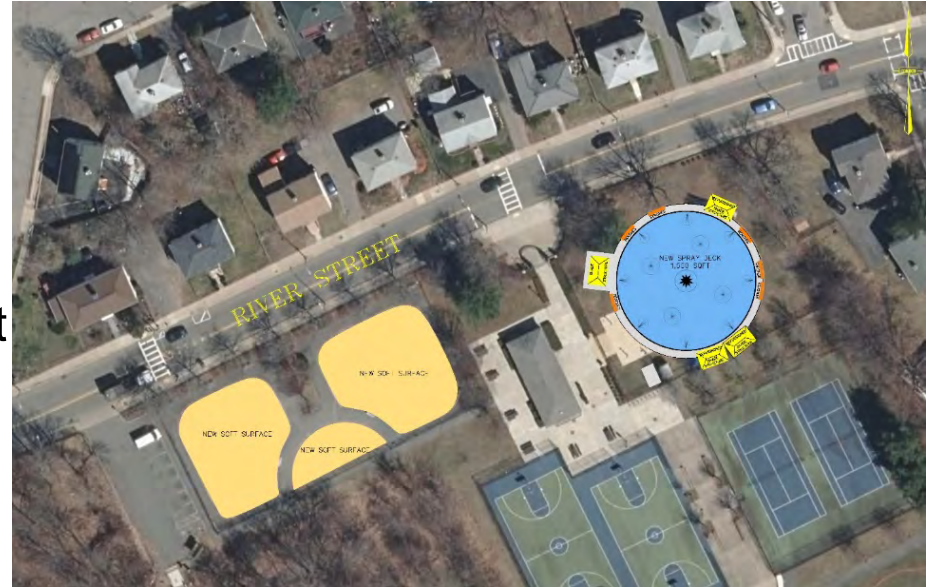


- Advantages of Spray Deck Versus Wading Pool
 - Spray deck potential operating season extends from May to October
 - Daily operation expands to 9AM to 8PM
 - No Lifeguards needed for operation (avoids staffing shortages)
 - Spray deck will be fully accessible and used by all ages
 - No chemical treatment or mechanical recirculation system needed

Ryan Recreation Area Improvements
Preferred Alternative

Alternative Approaches Considered

- Rehabilitate the existing hybrid wading pool within current footprint
 - Issues
 - ✓ Reduced operating season and hours – Lifeguards needed
 - ✓ Not fully accessible
- No Reconfiguration of Playground
 - Add Safety Surface Only
 - Issues
 - ✓ Does not address parking concerns (flow and number of spaces)



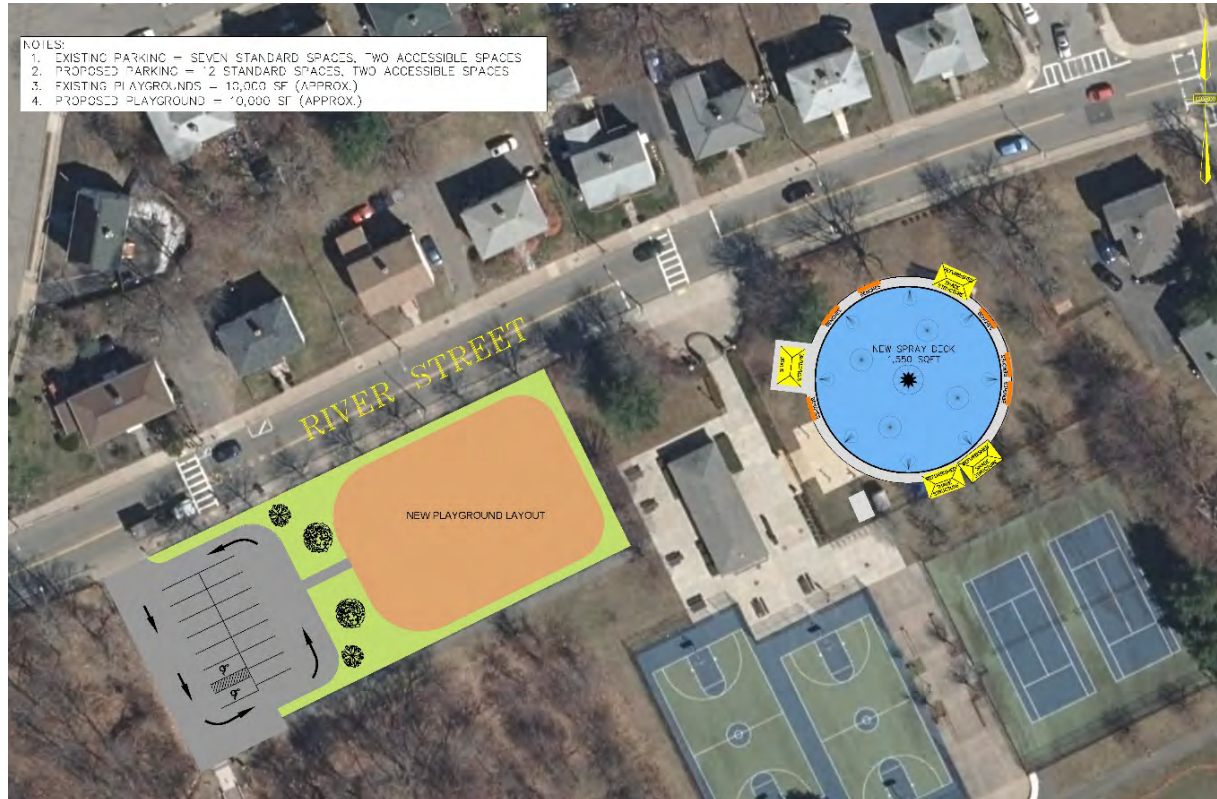
Ryan Recreation Area
Other Alternatives Considered

Benefits of DCR's Spray Parks

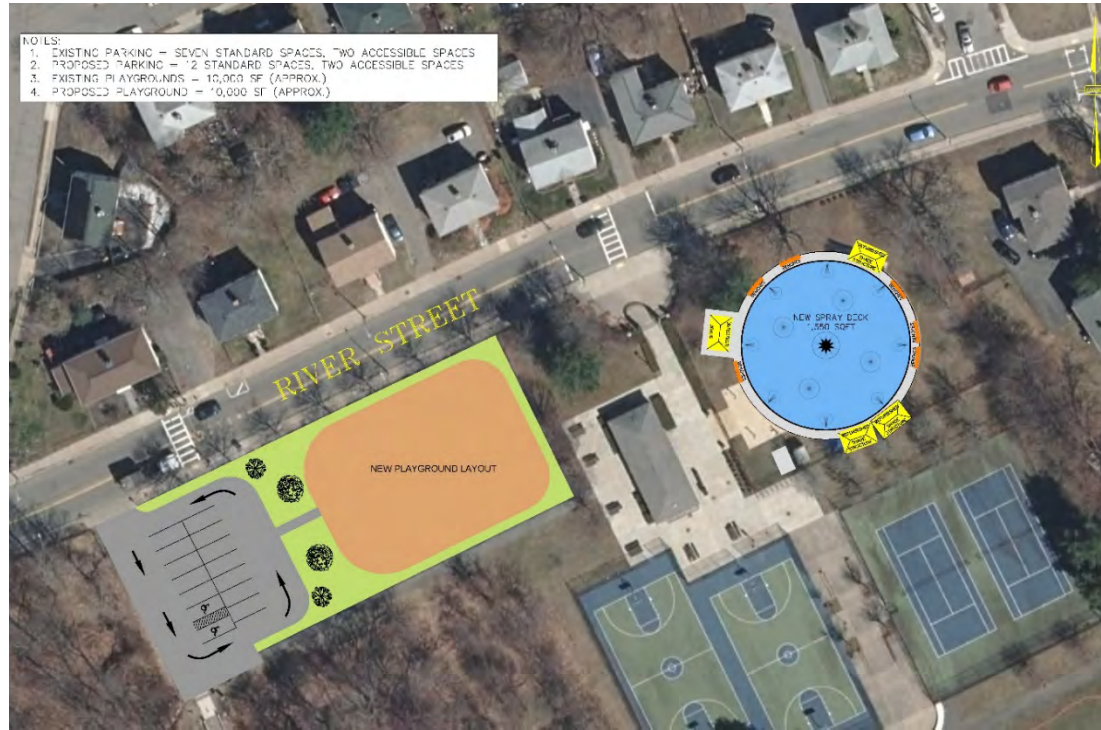
1. Extended Operating Season – A spray park has a potential operating season of April to October which is significantly longer than for a swimming pool.
2. Longer Daily Operating Hours - Spray parks open earlier in the day and remain open longer. Typical operating hours are 9AM – 8PM and deck controls are set by timer (not staff dependent)
3. User Population – Spray parks can be used by people of all ages and swimming ability and are fully accessible.
4. No Chemical Treatment – spray deck operation does not require chemical treatment or mechanical recirculation
5. Lower Staffing Requirements - Lifeguards are not required and deck operating controls set by timer



Future Planning: Playground Upgrades and Parking Area Improvement



Ryan Recreation Area
Future Planning



- New playground features and soft rubber surfacing
- Modified single large playground layout
- Expanded parking to add spaces and flow-through travel
- Improved circulation to Greenway

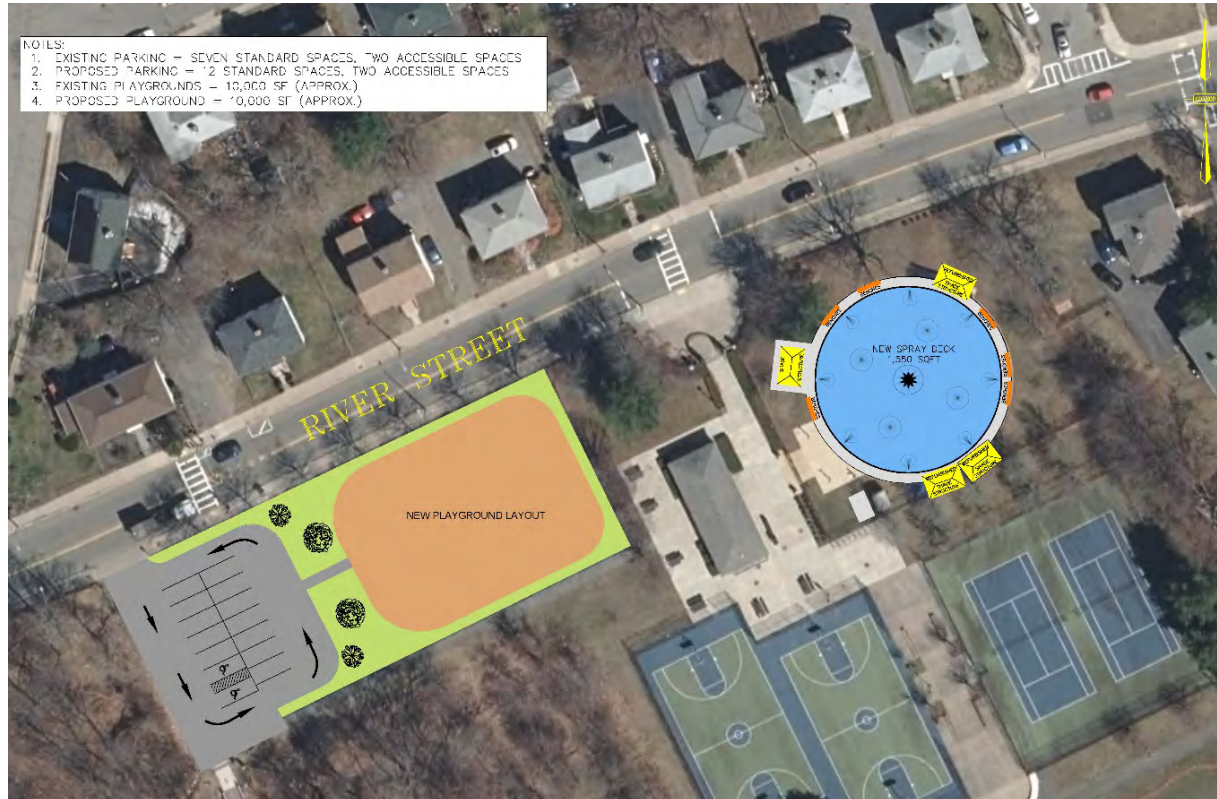
Ryan Recreational Area Future Planning

Parking Layout is Conceptual



Future Planning:

Parking Area and Circulation Upgrades (pick-up/drop off)
Improved access to Greenway



Ryan Recreation Area
Future Planning

Next Steps:

- Schedule moving forward
 - Fall 2022 - Spray Deck Construction (work starts Oct 15th)
 - Spring 2023 – Playground Design & Public Input
- Spray Deck Complete & Operational Summer 2023
- Playground & Parking Lot Construction (as soon as Fall 2023)

Ryan Recreation Area
Schedule



Questions/Discussion

Ryan Recreation Area
Closing

Additional Information

- Recording and tonight's slide deck will be available at:
 - www.mass.gov/dcr/past-public-meetings
- 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