



# Medford Parks & Open Space

AN UPDATE ON ONGOING & UPCOMING PROJECTS

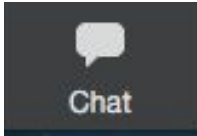
*FEBRUARY 17, 2021*



# Medford Parks & Open Space Public Meeting

## HOW TO PARTICIPATE

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We will leave time for general discussion of all projects at the end of the meeting, but please feel free to submit any comments or questions during the meeting via Zoom's Chat feature and we will address them at the end.



Questions and comments can also be emailed at any time during or following this meeting to [ocd@medford-ma.gov](mailto:ocd@medford-ma.gov).



During the discussion portion of the meeting, please use the raise hand feature in zoom or indicate in the chat that you would like to speak.



If you are having any difficulty submitting comments through the Zoom or via email, please call our office at 781-393-2480.

# WHY THIS MEETING?

Medford's abundant parks and open space are some of the many qualities that set the City apart as such a wonderful place to live and work.

Many of you have been involved with the City's planning efforts to improve and protect open space and recreation opportunities in the City of Medford, most recently with the 2019 update to the City's Open Space and Recreation Plan.

***You may be curious to hear about the many actions the City is taking to implement recommendations from that Plan as well as other initiatives aimed at improving open space and recreation opportunities in Medford!***

# GOALS FOR TONIGHT

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1. Provide an update on where these parks and paths projects stand
2. Gauge interest in additional public meetings and alternative engagement methods for specific projects
3. Gather input, ideas, and feedback from the Medford community
4. Invite you to join our email list to stay in touch and receive updates on these projects (visit <http://gogreenmedford.org/> or send us an email to sign up!)



# TONIGHT'S DISCUSSION

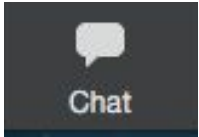
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To facilitate tonight's discussion, we've grouped these projects into a few categories:

- 1 **RECENT:** Highlight a couple of recently completed projects
- 2 **UPDATES:** Projects that are underway based on previous feedback
- 3 **KEEP AN EYE OUT:** Upcoming projects with future input opportunities
- 4 **HELP US OUT:** Projects we need your input on now!

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# RECENTLY COMPLETED

## HARRIS PARK



## RECREATION CENTER

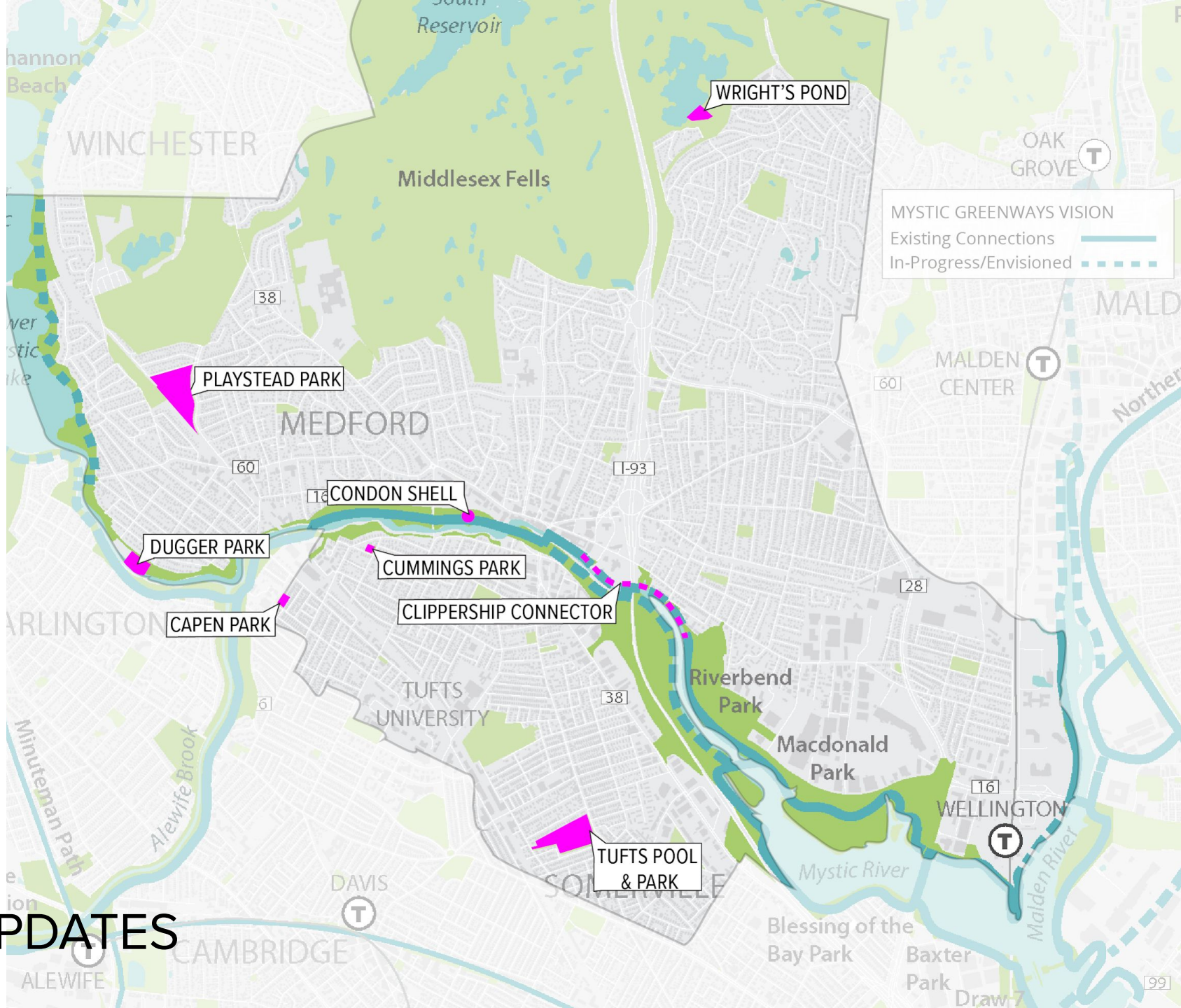


# UPDATES

PROJECTS THAT ARE UNDERWAY BASED  
ON PAST COMMUNITY FEEDBACK



UPDATES



# CONDON SHELL

## PROJECTS

### PAINTING OF THE SHELL

The Condon Shell was repainted last spring along with basic repairs to the roof

### ELECTRICAL OUTLETS

Electrical outlets on the stage were replaced this fall

**UPCOMING  
ITEM**

### REPAINTING MURAL

When the Condon Shell was repainted, the mural was covered. CACHE has fundraised money to repaint a new mural on the shell. More information will come out when an artist has been selected





# TUFTS POOL ACCESSIBILITY IMPROVEMENTS

## ONGOING IMPROVEMENTS

### BATHROOMS

Men's Handicap Bathroom floor was retiled this past fall. Upcoming projects to remove concrete lip in shower areas, install handicap-accessible sinks



### POOL STAIRS

ADA accessible pool stairs purchased and are currently being assembled



### PICNIC TABLES

2 ADA compliant picnic tables have been purchased and will be in place before the Summer season

### AUTOMATIC DOORS

Upcoming project to install automatic doors

# TUFTS POOL - UPCOMING PROJECTS

## ONGOING IMPROVEMENTS

### BATHHOUSE

Bathhouse improvements, including repairs to Women's showers, painting black lines in the bottom of the pool to create lap lanes, repainting doors and window frames

### POOL DECK

Replacement of pool deck

### WADING POOL

Installation of a water mushroom in the wading pool

### LIGHTING

The City is installing new LED lights with the assistance of National Grid to improve lighting and reduce the energy use



# WRIGHT'S POND

## ONGOING IMPROVEMENTS

### JERSEY BARRIERS

With the help of CCSR students, the jersey barriers in the parking lot of the pond are being painted forest green

### BULLETIN BOARD

DPW installed new shingles on the bulletin board

### PICNIC TABLES

ADA Accessible picnic tables have been ordered and will be placed on the deck in front of the bathhouse

### WALKWAY REPAIRS

Repairs to walkway - this Fall, DPW repaired sections of broken sidewalk panels



# DUGGER PARK TENNIS COURTS

## PROJECT

The City was awarded CPA funding to reconstruct 5 tennis courts at Dugger Park. Improvements will include:

- regrading, paving, coating of the court surface
- Installation of new net posts, fencing, pickleball lines

## WHY?

Identified as a priority in the Open Space and Recreation Plan and frequently raised as a request by community members

## STATUS

Public meeting held in October 2020

CPA grant agreement is being finalized and scope of work developed.



# PLAYSTEAD PARK BASKETBALL COURTS

## PROJECT

The City was awarded CPA funding for improvements to the basketball courts at Playstead Park which will include:

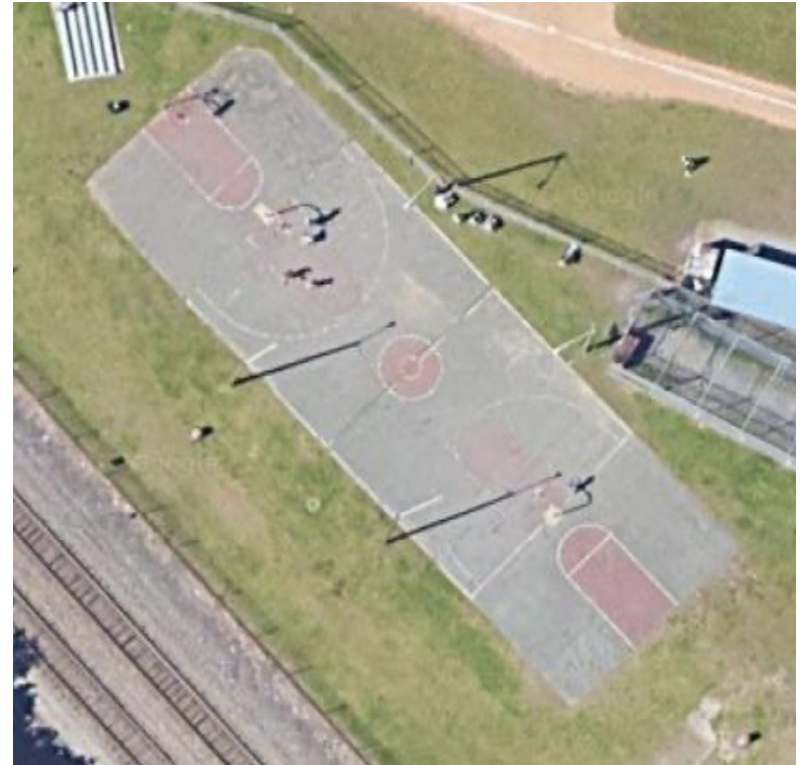
- regrading, paving, coating of the court surface
- installation of 2 new basketball hoops

## WHY?

Identified as a priority in the Open Space and Recreation Plan and frequently raised as a request by community members

## STATUS

CPA grant agreement is being finalized and scope of work developed.





# PLAYGROUND RESURFACING

## PROJECT

The City was awarded CPA funding for playground resurfacing at the following parks:

- Tufts Park
- Capen Park
- Cummings Park

## WHY?

These are the only remaining sand playgrounds in Medford, which poses safety hazards and barriers to accessibility.

Replacement was identified as a priority in the Open Space Plan.

## STATUS

Public meeting was held in October 2020

CPA grant agreement is being finalized and scope of work developed.





# CLIPPERSHIP CONNECTOR



# KEEP AN EYE OUT

UPCOMING PROJECTS WITH FUTURE  
INPUT OPPORTUNITIES





# RIVERBEND PARK LABYRINTH

PROJECT

Capping contaminated land in Riverbend Park and returning it to passive recreational use, particularly a meditation labyrinth.

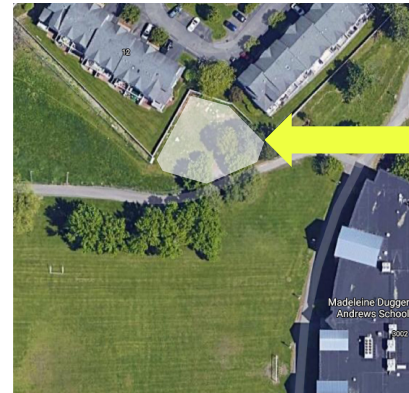
WHY?

This area has been fenced off due to high levels of lead, arsenic, and zinc contamination. The cap will return it to passive recreational use

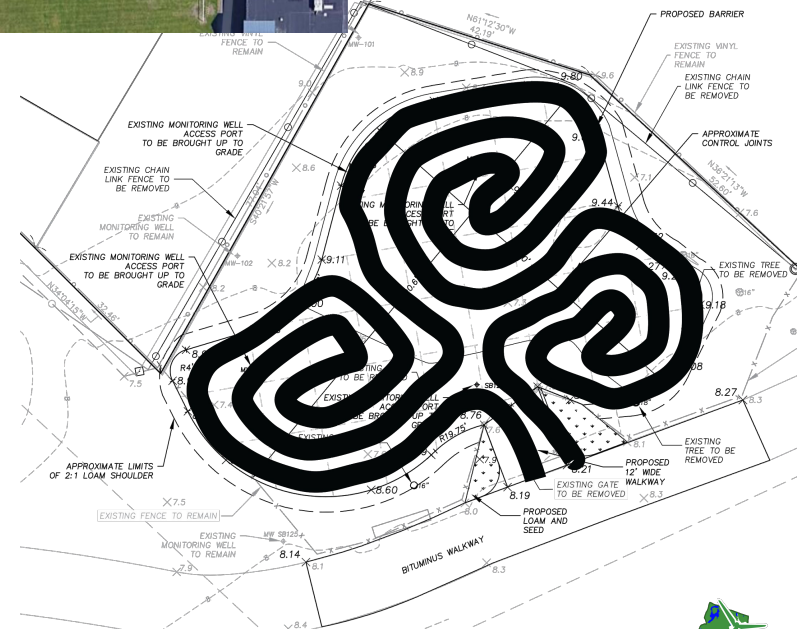
STATUS

There will be an upcoming public meeting dedicated to discussion of this project on March 3 at 7:00 PM via Zoom.

Anticipated construction Summer 2021



PROJECT  
LOCATION





# RIVERBEND PARK LABYRINTH - concept sketch



- Riverstones set in mortar on the cap
- Low maintenance privacy screen along the back fence
- Low maintenance perennials / wildflower meadow between path and labyrinth
- Poetry on signs in the middle of each swirl



# GILLIS PARK MASTER PLAN

## PROJECT

The City was awarded CPA funding for a Master Plan for Gillis Park that will look at the park as a whole, evaluate accessibility and site access, perform survey work and analysis, collect feedback, and develop conceptual design options.

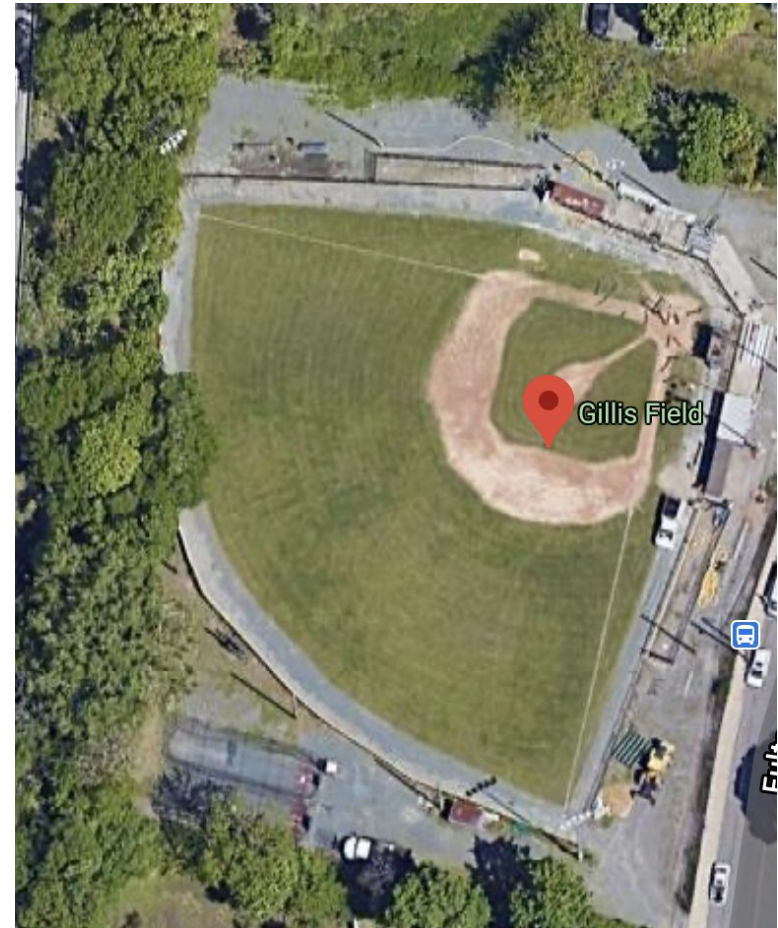
## WHY?

Gillis Park is not fully accessible and improvements were identified as necessary in the Open Space and Recreation Update.

## STATUS

There will be future opportunities for input on this project, but we are starting to look for feedback on:

- What do you love about Gillis Park?
- How do you use the park?
- What would you like to see in this space that isn't there?
- What challenges have you noticed?





# CARR PARK MASTER PLAN

## PROJECT

The City was awarded CPA funding for a Master Plan for Carr Park that will look at the park as a whole, evaluate accessibility and site access, perform survey work and analysis, collect feedback, and develop conceptual design options.

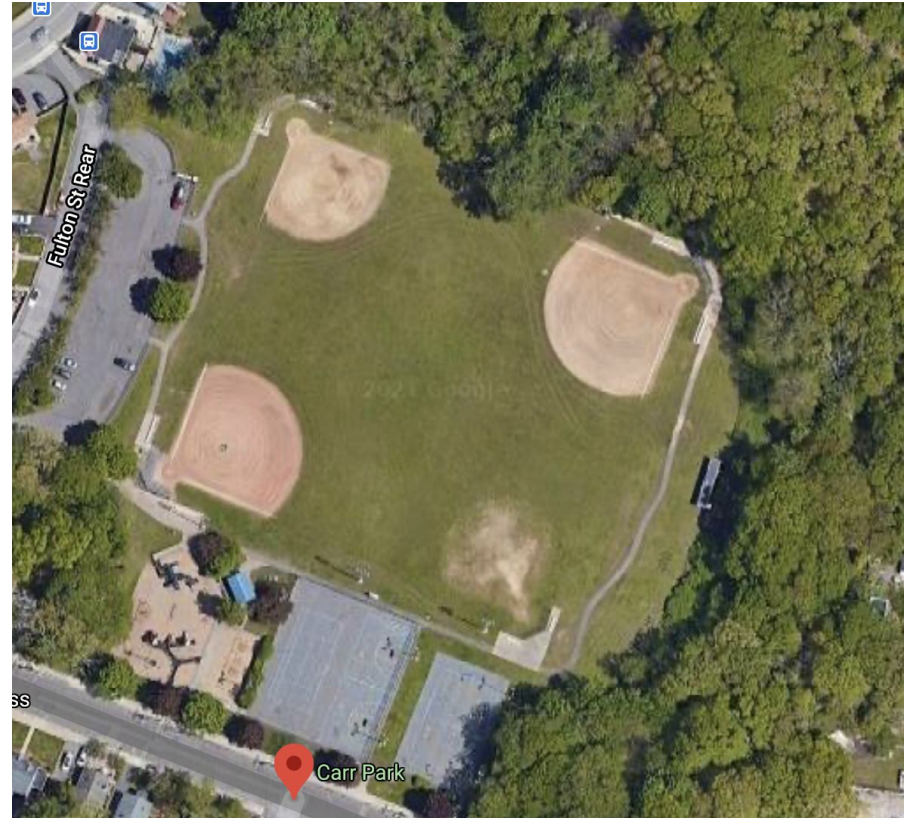
## WHY?

Carr Park is in need of renovations and was identified as a priority in both the 2011 and 2019 Open Space and Recreation Plans

## STATUS

There will be future opportunities for input on this project, but we are starting to look for feedback on:

- What do you love about Carr Park?
- How do you use the park?
- What would you like to see in this space that isn't there?
- What challenges have you noticed?



# LOGAN PARK

## PROJECT

The City is exploring options for improvements at Logan Park, including the potential for the addition for a natural play area

## WHY?

Improvements were identified in Open Space and Recreation Plan update

## STATUS

There will be future opportunities for input on this project, but we are starting to look for feedback on:

- What do you love about Logan Park?
- How do you use the park?
- What would you like to see in this space that isn't there?
- What challenges have you noticed?



# MORRISON PARK

## PROJECT

The City is looking to do some improvements at Morrison Park, including:

- Upgrades to the tot lot
- Landscaping improvements
- Coverings to the dugouts

## WHY?

The City has received complaints from residents and improvements were identified in Open Space and Recreation Plan update

## STATUS

Defining scope and obtaining quotes from vendors. If enough interest, there will be future opportunities for input on this project





# BROOKS PARK

## PROJECT

The City is looking into some maintenance and improvement projects at Brooks Park, including:

- Curbing/edging around the park
- Landscaping and pruning of trees and shrubs



## WHY?

The City has received complaints from residents and improvements were identified in Open Space and Recreation Plan update

## STATUS

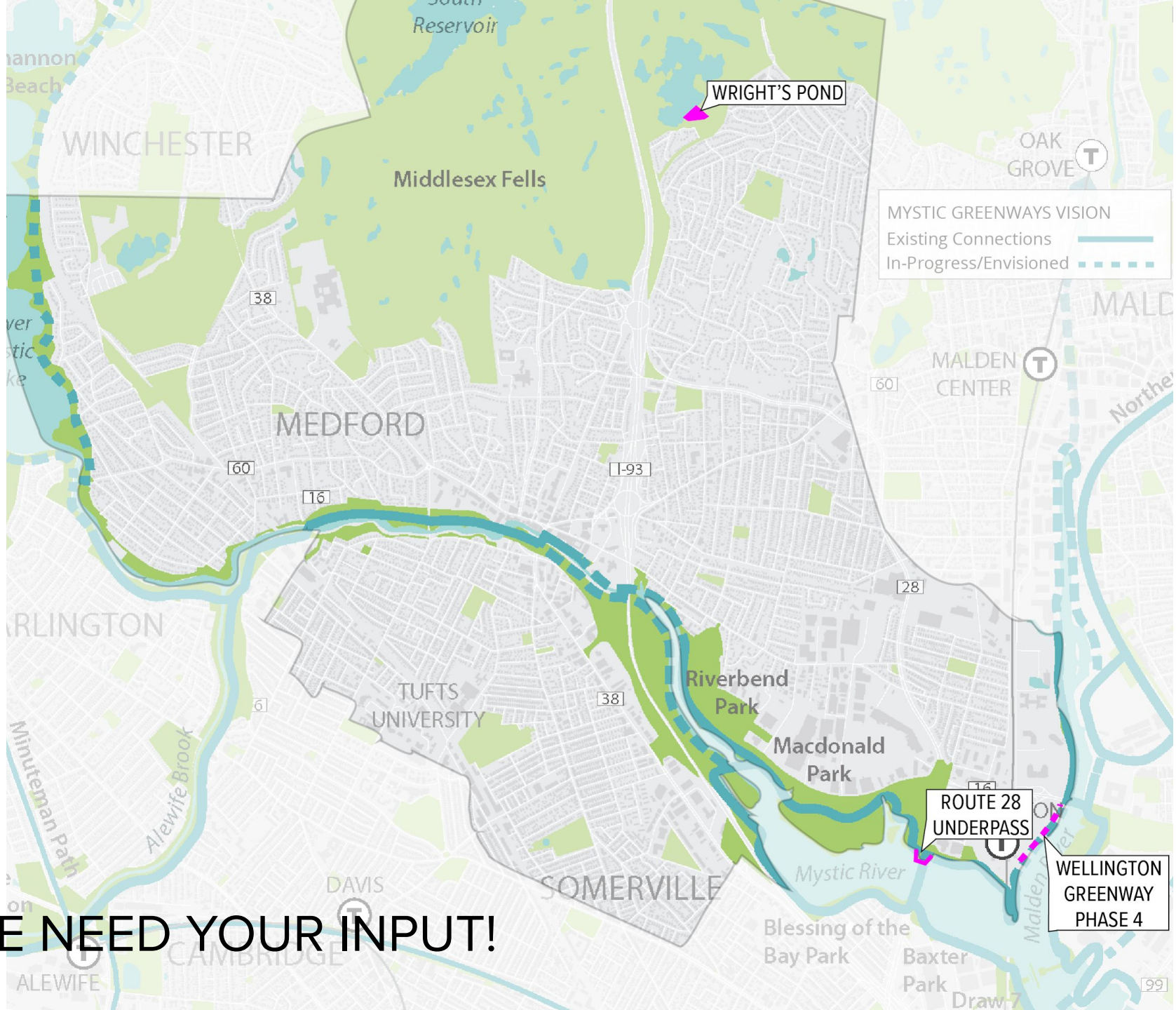
Defining scope and obtaining quotes from vendors. If enough interest, there will be future opportunities for input on this project





# HELP US OUT!

## PROJECTS WE NEED YOUR INPUT ON NOW



WE NEED YOUR INPUT!



**MYSTIC GREENWAYS VISION**

- Existing (solid blue line)
- In-Progress (dashed blue line)
- Envisioned (dotted blue line)

**Mystic River WATERSHED ASSOCIATION**

# ROUTE 28/WELLINGTON UNDERPASS

## PROJECT

Boardwalk under Route 28 to connect shared use paths at Torbert MacDonald Park and Station Landing and to new bike lanes on Route 28

## WHY?

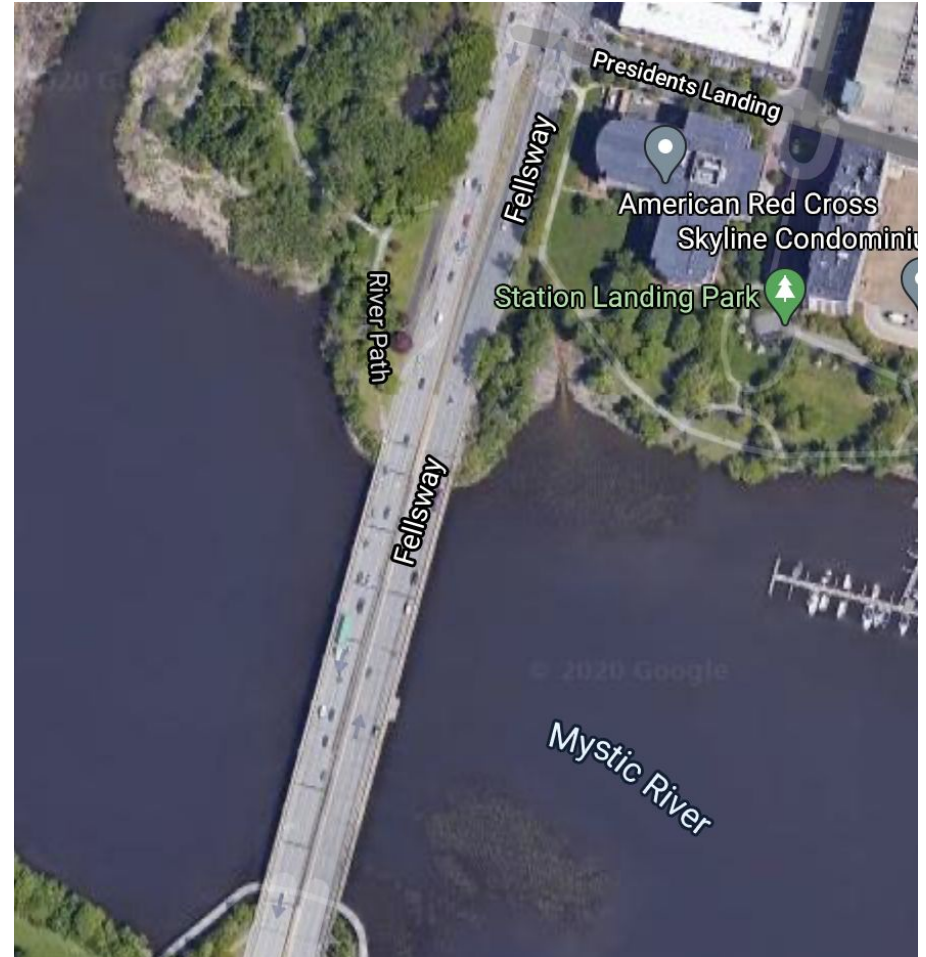
Fill a gap in the area's multimodal network and encourage recreation and mobility along the Mystic River

Avoid dangerous crossing at Wellington Circle and mirror a similar connection across the river in Somerville

## STATUS

Preliminary design drawings

Has been identified as eligible for State construction funding through the TIP



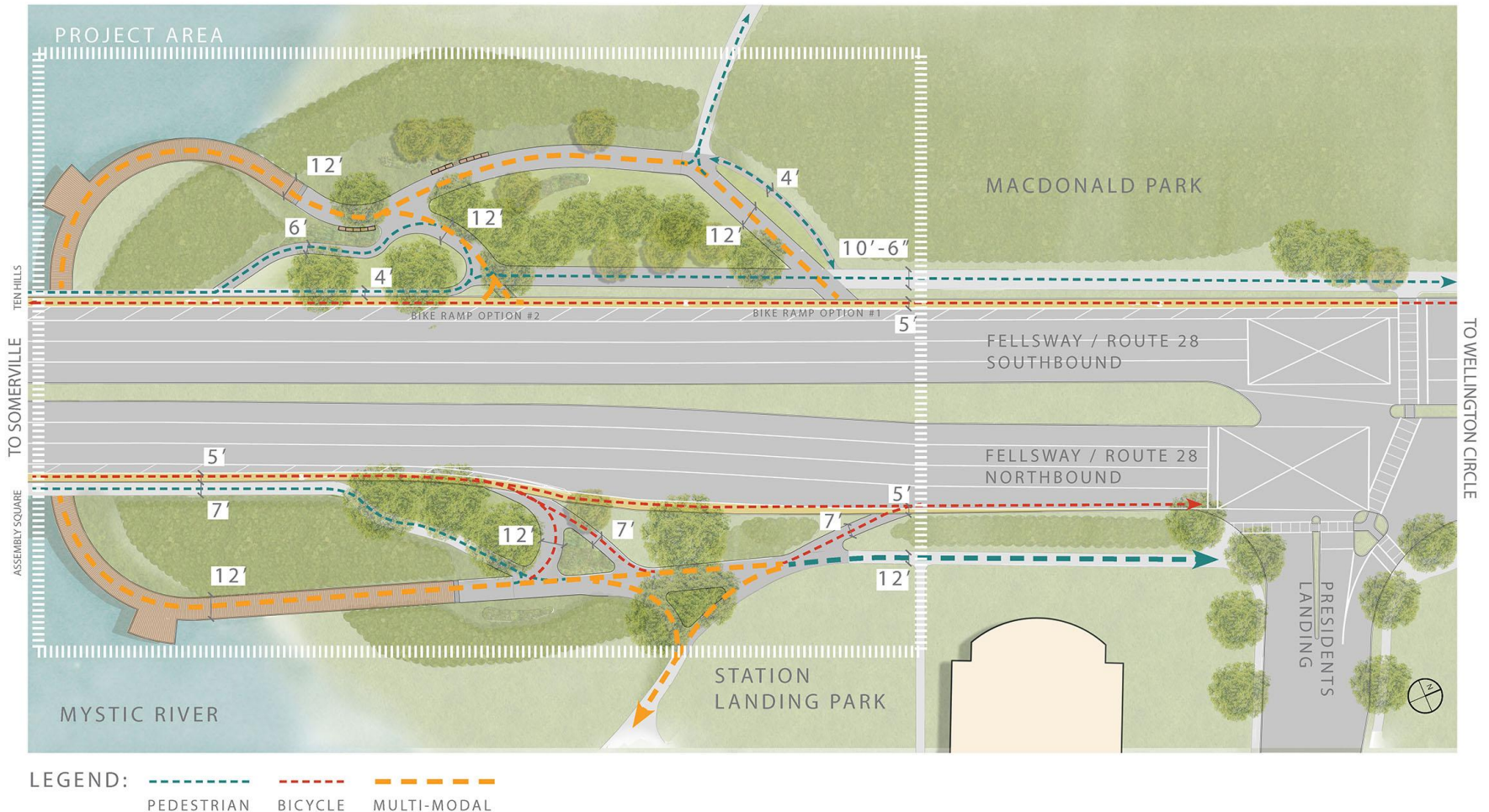


# ROUTE 28/WELLINGTON UNDERPASS



Existing boardwalk under Route 28 in Somerville

# ROUTE 28/WELLINGTON UNDERPASS





# ROUTE 28/WELLINGTON UNDERPASS

1. Will having this shared use path increase your comfort level biking/walking in the Wellington area?
2. Would you use two outlooks along the boardwalk, one in each direction?
3. Any feedback on 2 different proposed methods of connecting to bike lanes along Route 28 (see options 1 and 2 on previous slide).

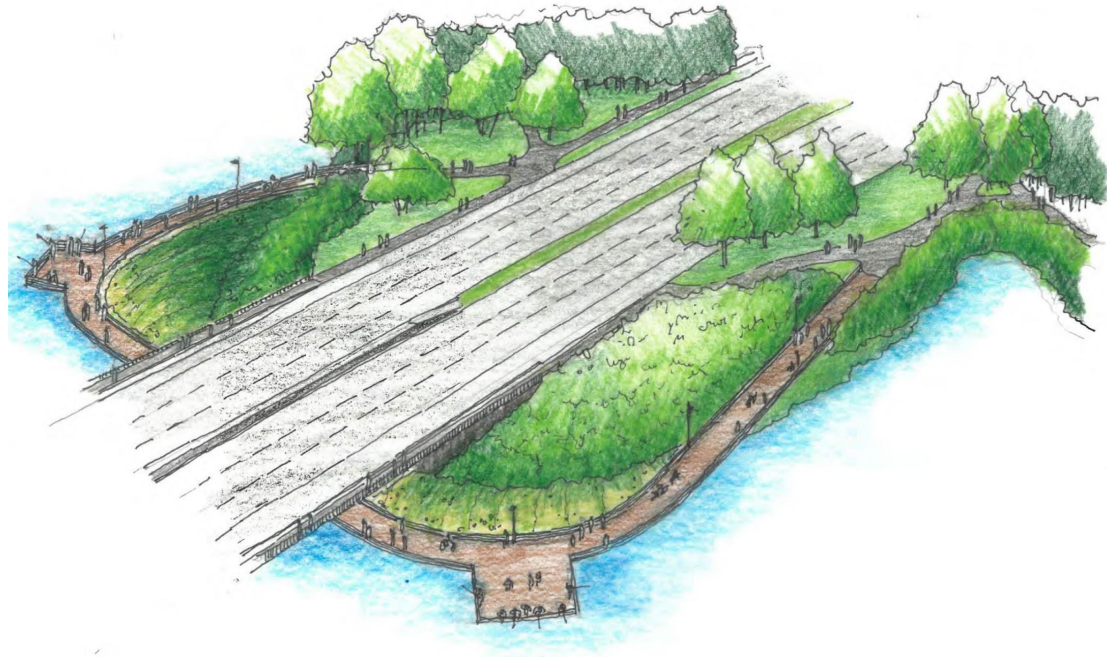


Photo credit: Nitsch Engineering and Copley Wolff Design Group



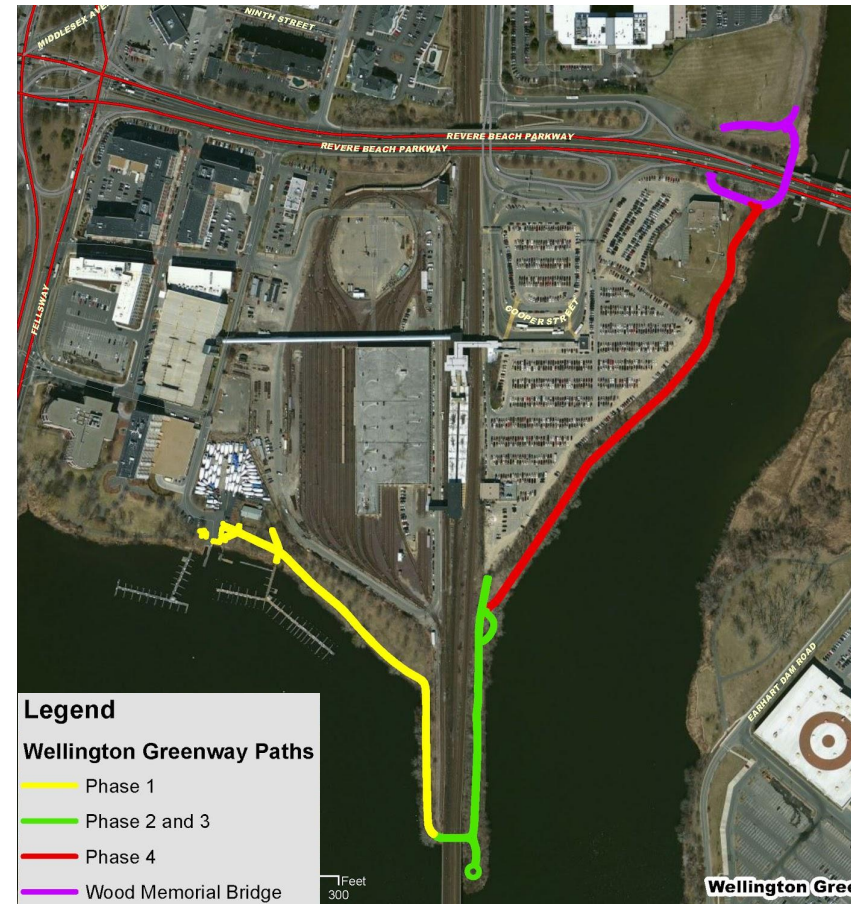


# WELLINGTON GREENWAY PHASE 4

**PROJECT** Last phase (Phase 4) of Wellington Greenway shared use path that will link current dead end at Wellington T station parking lot to new underpass under Route 16

**WHY?** Fill a missing link in the multimodal network along the river and improve safety conditions

**STATUS** Gathering construction funding



# WELLINGTON GREENWAY PHASE 4

1. How often do you use the Wellington Greenway?
2. Would you use this for recreation or for transportation (to get to the T, or somewhere else?)
3. How important would this connection be to you?



# PARTING QUESTION: WRIGHT'S POND



**HOW  
CAN WE  
IMPROVE  
THIS  
FACILITY?**

The City's Recreation Department would like to submit CPA applications for Wright's Pond improvements for next year - We welcome your ideas and suggestions!

Please send suggestions to [MedfordRecreation@medford-ma.gov](mailto:MedfordRecreation@medford-ma.gov)

781-393-2480 [ocd@medford-ma.gov](mailto:ocd@medford-ma.gov)







# Questions and Comments

Reach out to us anytime at [ocd@medford-ma.gov](mailto:ocd@medford-ma.gov) !



## ***WE'D LIKE TO KNOW***

What would be the best way to reach you and your neighbors about future opportunities for public input on these projects?