

MARCH 28, 2022

Boston Parks and Recreation



Improvements to
MALCOLM X PARK

Community Briefing

Our meeting will begin at 6:00 PM.

For more information, please visit

www.boston.gov/improvements-malcolm-x-park



MEETING RECORDING



The Boston Parks and Recreation Department will be recording the meeting and posting to our project webpage for those who are unable to attend.

It is possible that participants may also be recording the meeting with their phones cameras or other devices.

AGENDA

1

INTRODUCTIONS

2

BALANCING OVERALL PROJECT DESIGN GOALS

3

PROJECT GOALS AND SCHEDULE

4

ANALYSIS OF EXISTING AND PROPOSED TREE COVER

5

NEXT STEPS AND DISCUSSION

INTRODUCTIONS



INTRODUCTIONS



Mariama White-Hammond
Chief of Environment, Energy,
and Open Space



Ryan Woods
Commissioner, Boston
Parks and Recreation
Department



Cathy Baker-Eclipse
Director of the Capital
Plan, BPRD



Liza Meyer:
Chief Landscape
Architect, BPRD



Lauren Bryant
Project Manager, BPRD



Christine Brandao
Community Outreach
Coordinator, BPRD



Liz Sullivan
Director, External Affairs
and Marketing, BPRD



Maggie Owens
Planner, Urban Forestry
Plan, BPRD



Michael Easler
Project Manager,
Weston & Sampson



Farah Dakkak
Landscape Designer,
Weston & Sampson

BALANCING PROJECT GOALS PROCESS TO DATE

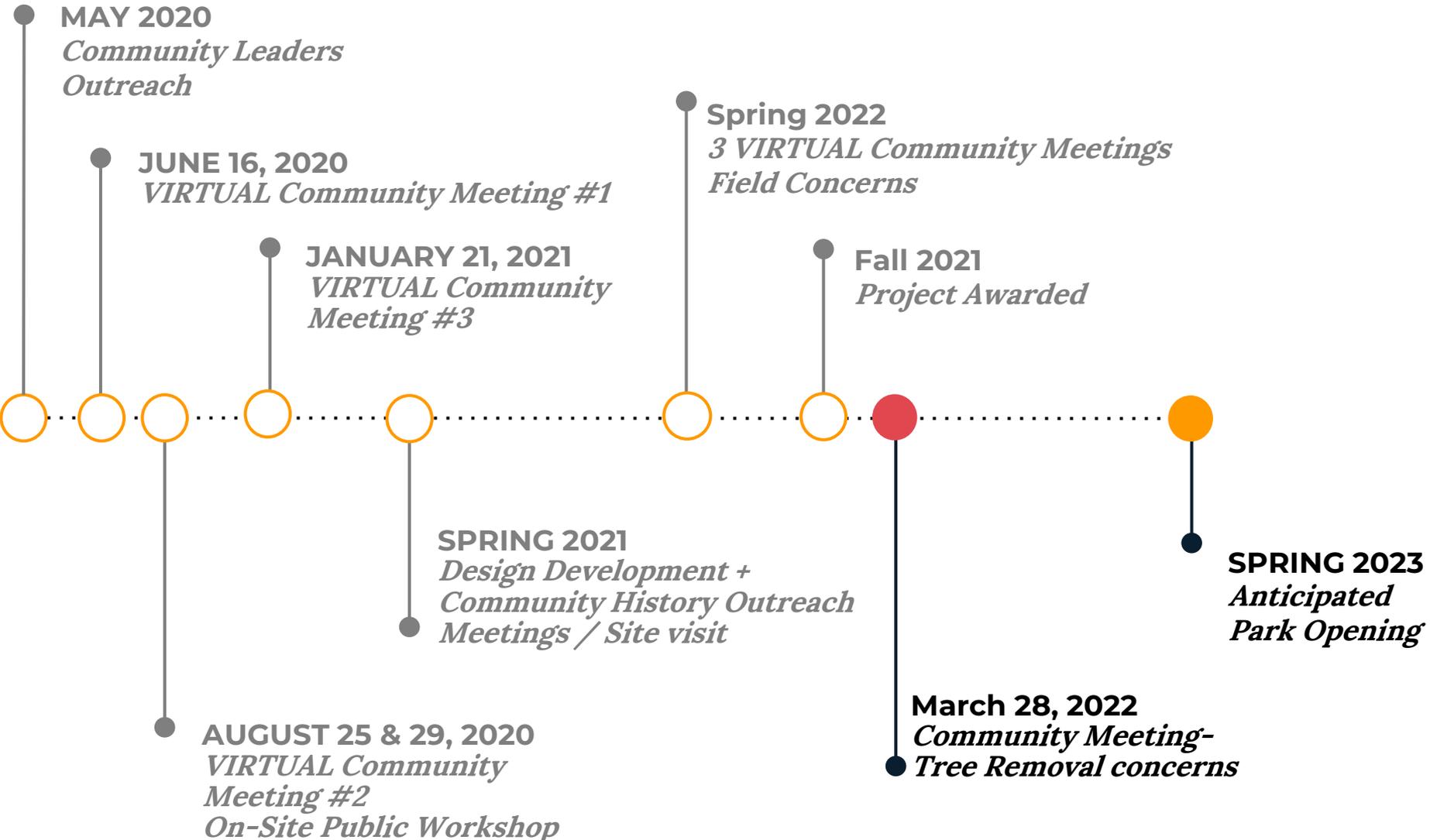


PROJECT GOALS (BPRD AND COMMUNITY)

- Update playground and increase play value
- Increase site-wide accessibility, including entrances
- Upgrade courts and field amenities
- Upgrade and unify park entrances
- Provide community gathering spaces
- Maintain existing tree canopy and supplement with additional trees
- Address safety concerns
- Support climate resilience through stormwater mitigation and provide heat relief
- Strengthen community connection to the park
- Provide meaningful community-based design process
- Protect puddingstone outcroppings and historic walls

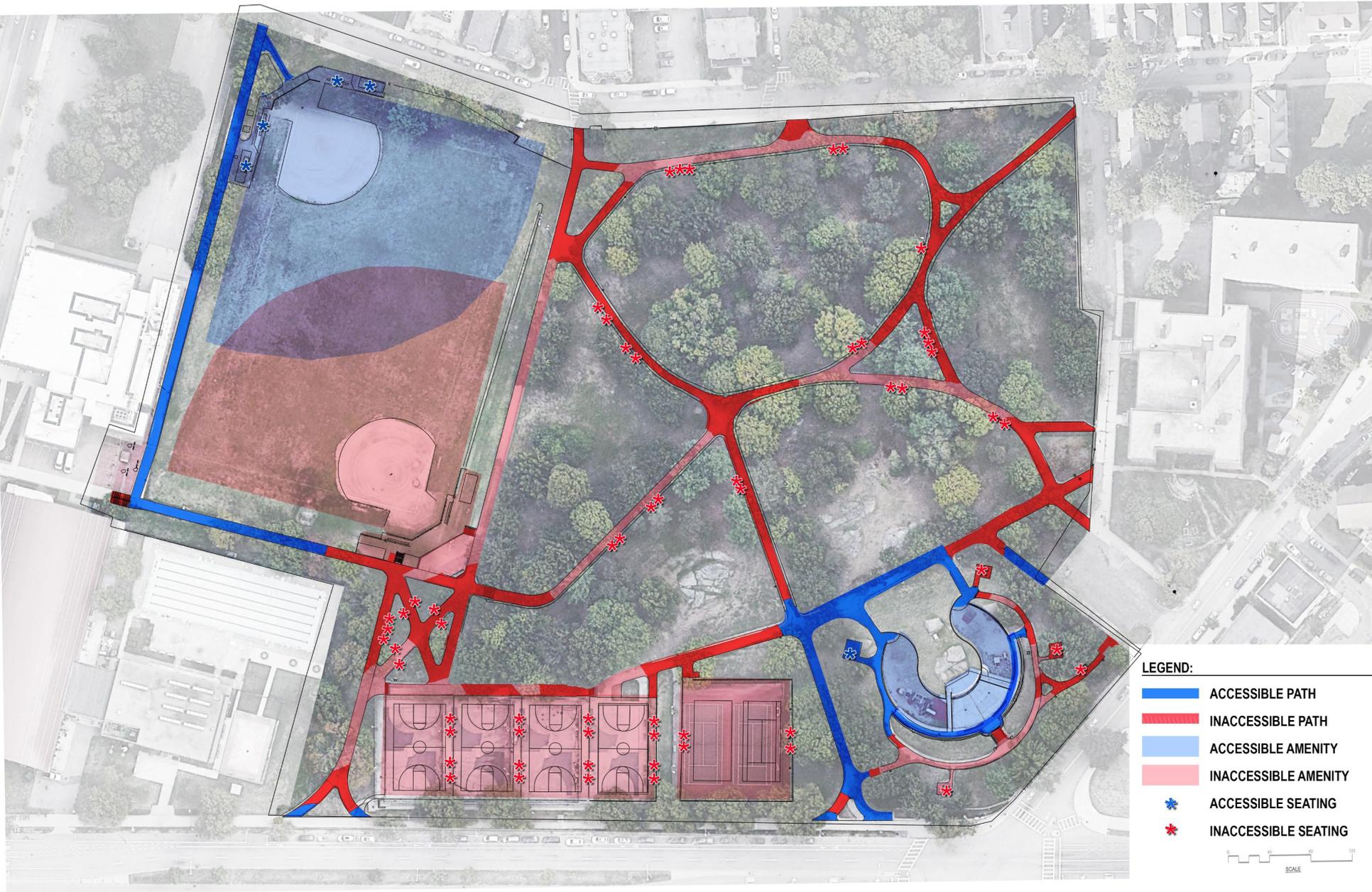


PROJECT SCHEDULE & FUNDING



BALANCING ACCESS AND IMPACTS ON-SITE

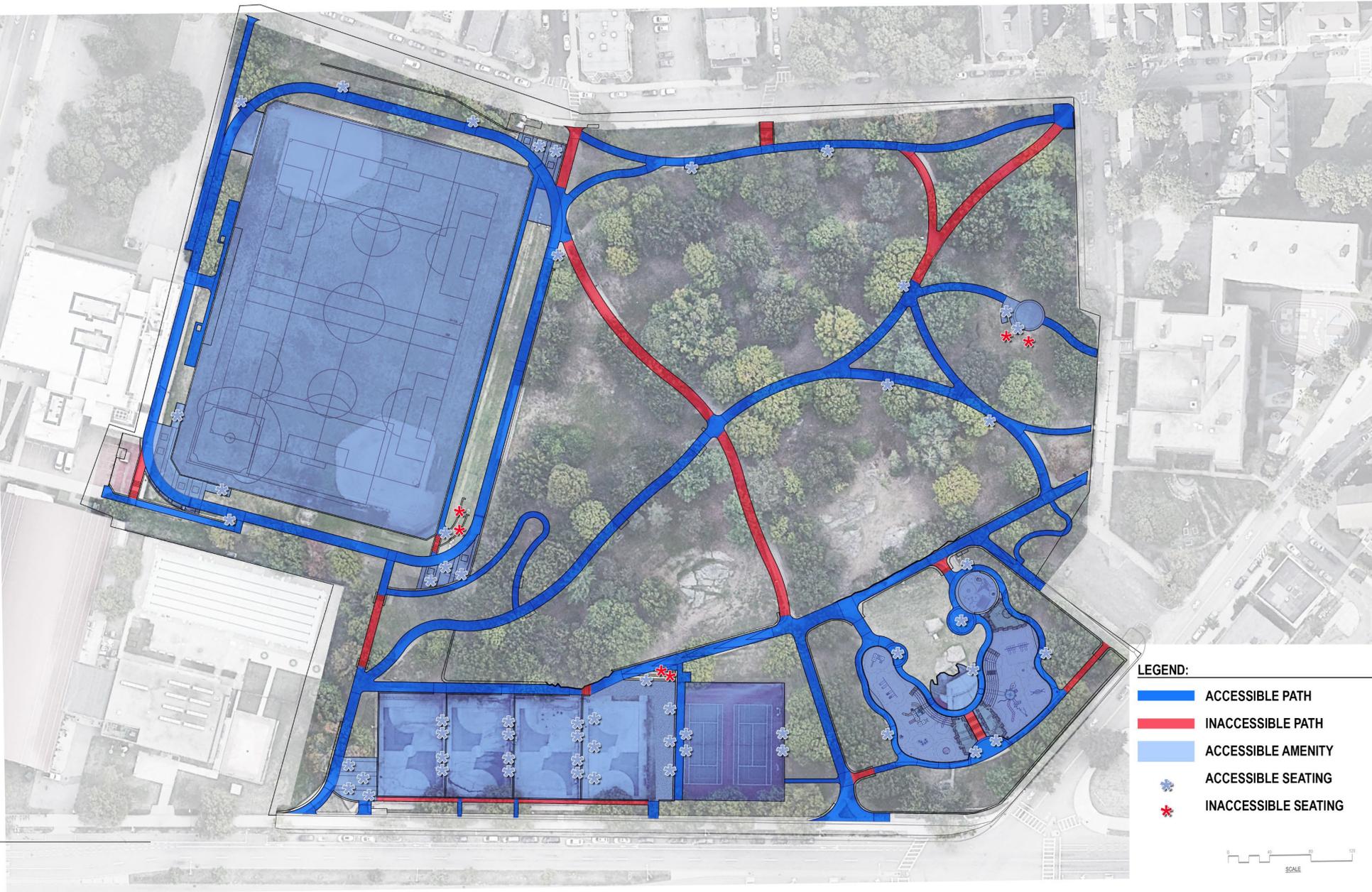




- LEGEND:**
- █ ACCESSIBLE PATH
 - █ INACCESSIBLE PATH
 - █ ACCESSIBLE AMENITY
 - █ INACCESSIBLE AMENITY
 - ✱ ACCESSIBLE SEATING
 - ✱ INACCESSIBLE SEATING



EXISTING ACCESSIBILITY



- LEGEND:**
- ACCESSIBLE PATH**
 - INACCESSIBLE PATH**
 - ACCESSIBLE AMENITY**
 - ACCESSIBLE SEATING**
 - INACCESSIBLE SEATING**



PROPOSED ACCESSIBILITY



EXISTING PARK CONDITIONS



EXISTING CANOPY



ESTIMATED EXTENT OF CANOPY REMOVAL



EXISTING CANOPY WITH PROPOSED REMOVAL



PROPOSED CANOPY INCLUDING NEW TREE PLANTING

EFFORT TO SAVE TREES

Tree Condition: Fair

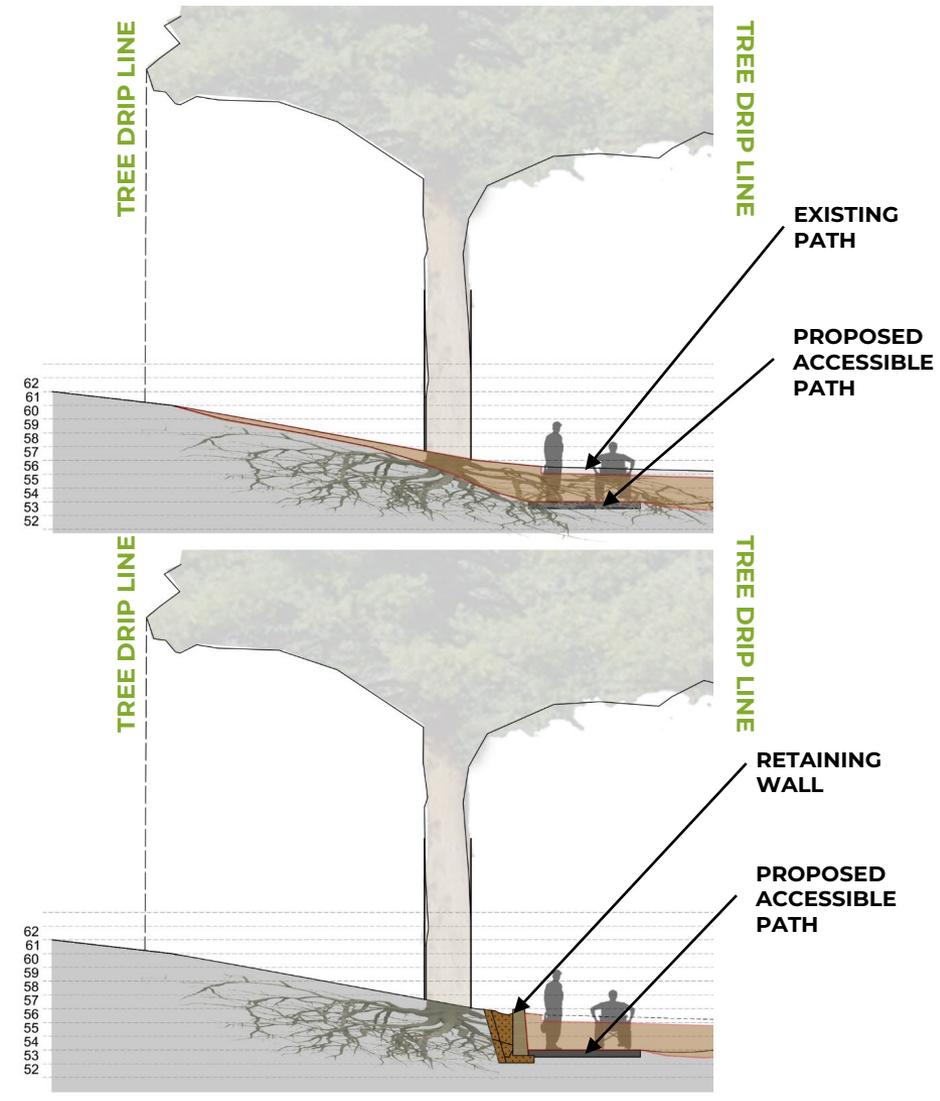
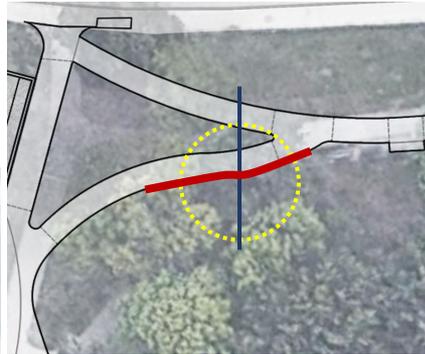
- Fully mature conifer showing little sign of additional growth (topped).

Reason for Removal

- Alignment of paths for accessible Route from Dale Street Entry requires re-grading near the tree in excess of expected root tolerances.

Effort to Save Tree

- Addition of a 2'-3' x 50' retaining wall.
- Disturbance to tree roots when cutting to create the wall would still impact the tree health.
- Approximately 40% of roots will still be disturbed when adding the retaining wall.



EFFORT TO SAVE TREES

Tree Condition: Fair

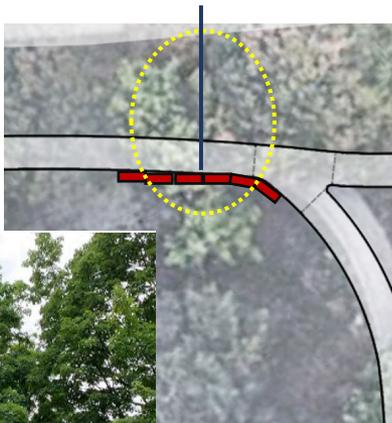
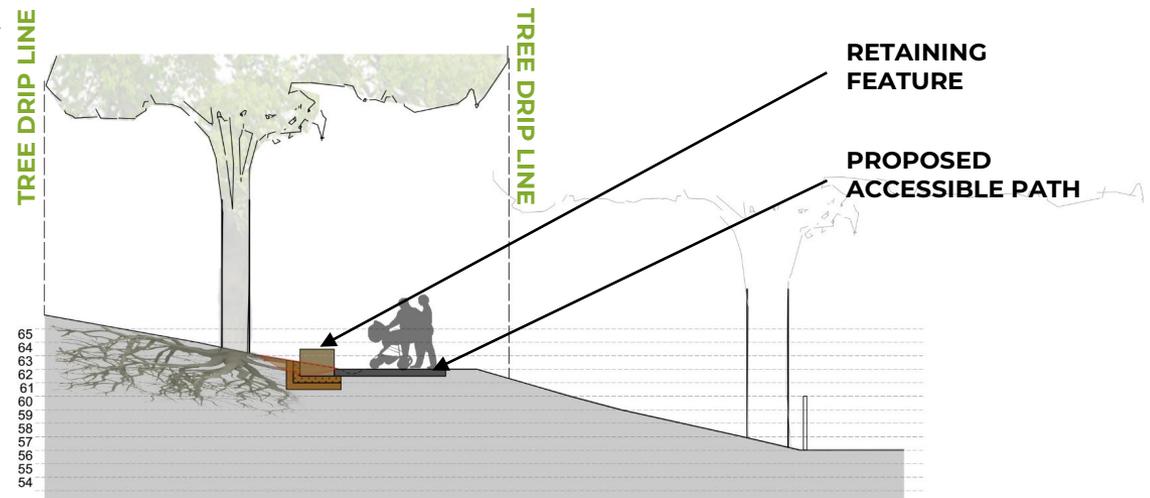
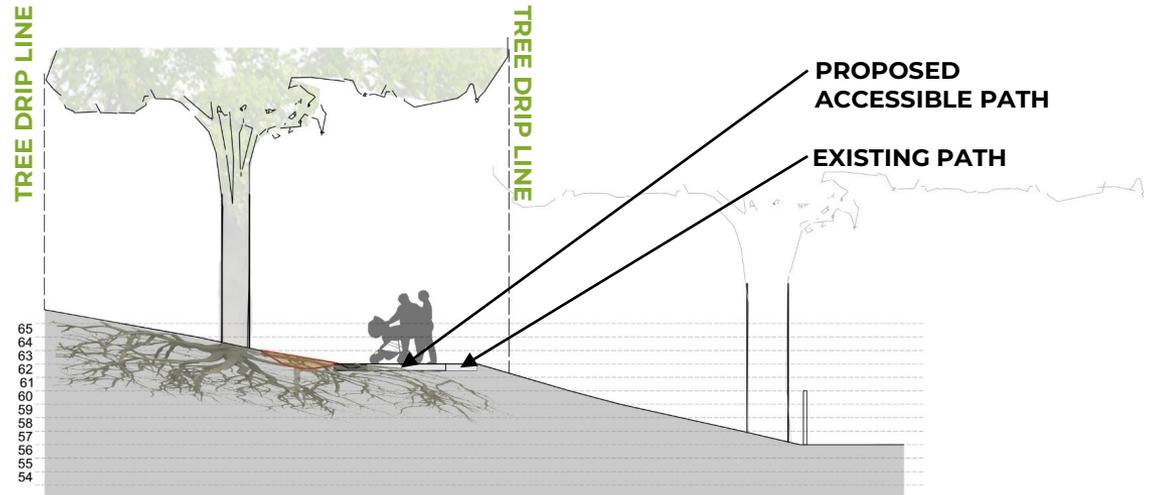
- Some thinning, little new growth
- Potential Trunk Damage needs review

Reason for Removal

- Re-grading of paths for accessible route through park
- re-grading near the tree in excess of expected root tolerance for disturbance.

Effort to Save Tree

- Addition of a low retaining wall with shallow footings or block retaining wall.
- Approximately 35% of roots will still be disturbed when adding the retaining wall.



EFFORT TO SAVE TREES

Tree Condition: Fair

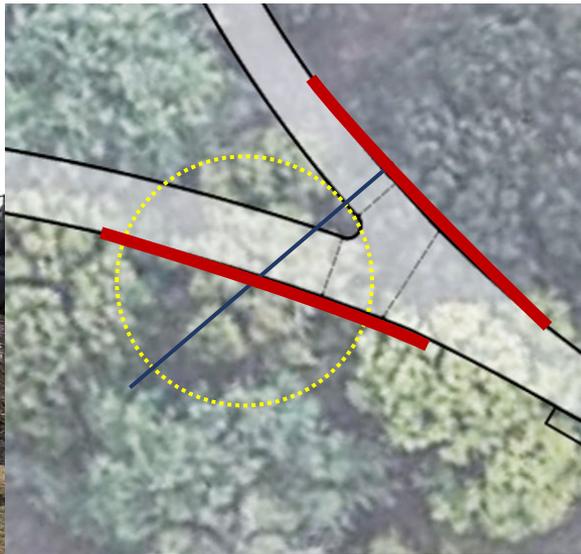
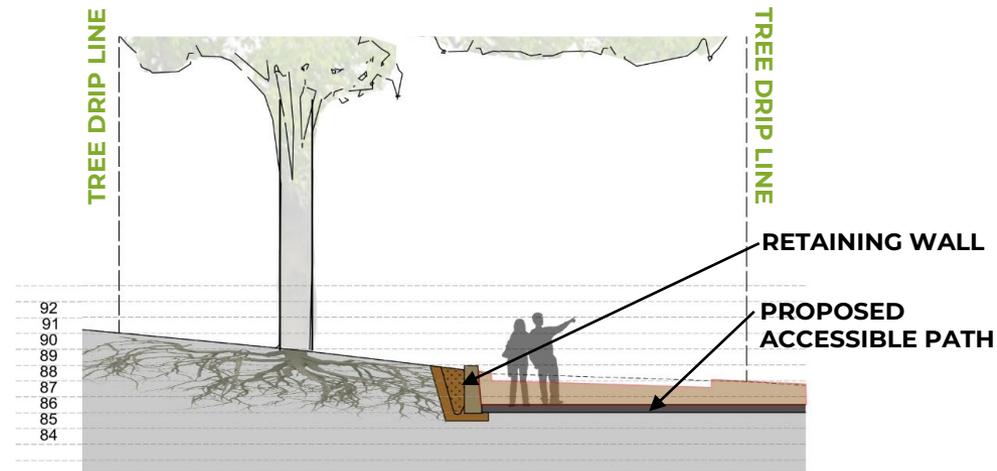
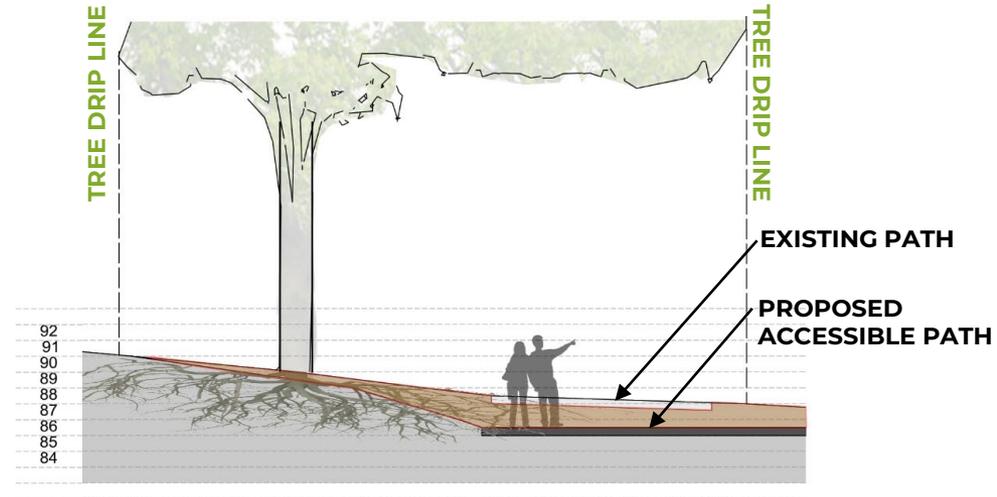
- Outcompeted by surrounding trees.
- Thinning of canopy due to light constraints.

Reason for Removal

- Regrading of Site for accessible paths through park.
- Regrading of paths for accessible route through park.
- Thinning of tree to allow for further growth of immediately adjacent trees may improve their health.

Effort to Save Tree

- Addition of a retaining wall. Disturbance to tree roots when cutting to create the wall would impact the tree health.
- Approximately 30% of roots will still be disturbed when adding the retaining wall.



EFFORT TO SAVE TREES

Tree Condition: Fair

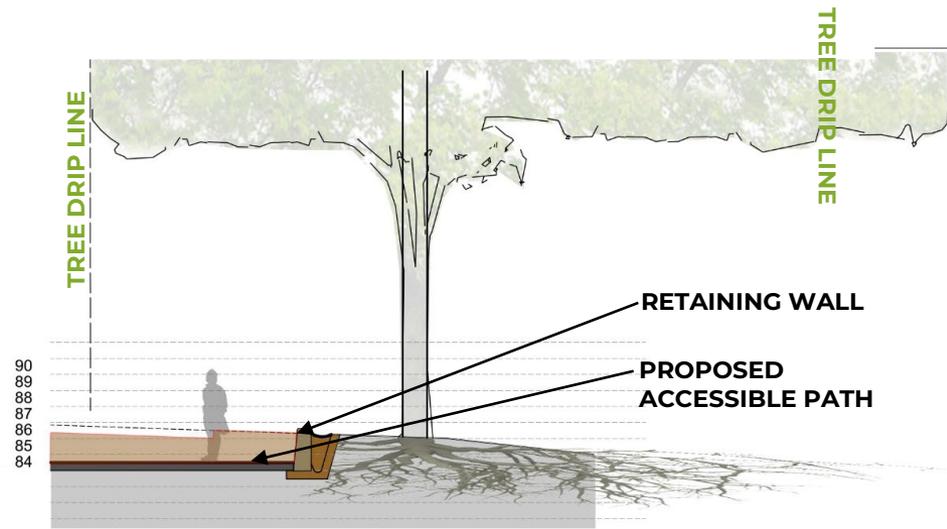
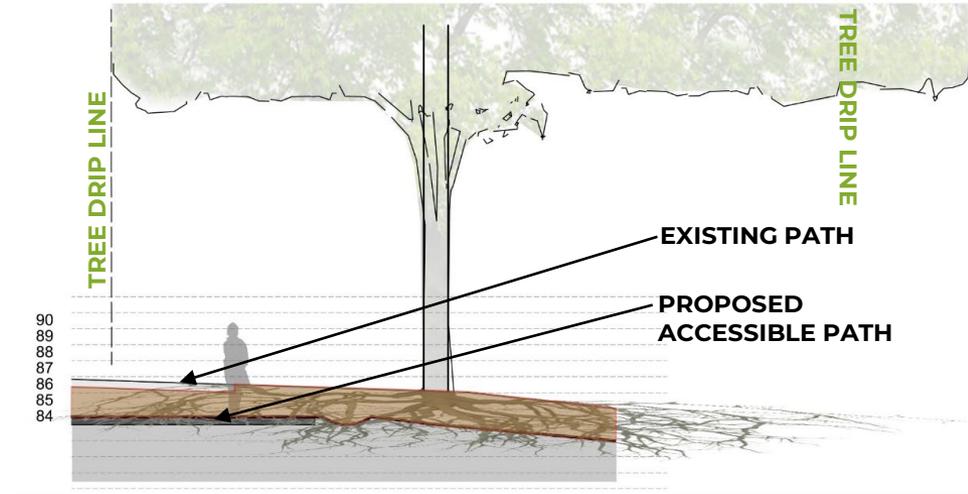
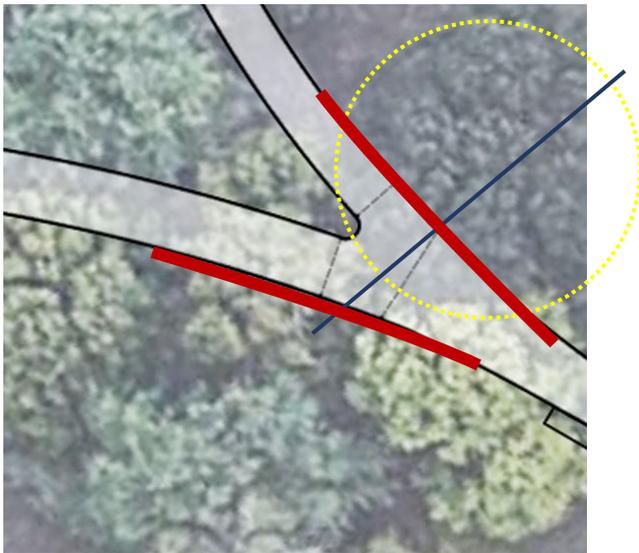
- Some signs of canopy die-back
- Thinning of canopy due to light constraints

Reason for Removal

- Regrading of paths for accessible route through park

Effort to Save Tree

- Addition of a retaining wall. Disturbance to tree roots when cutting to create the wall would impact the tree health.
- Approximately 40% of roots will still be disturbed when adding the retaining wall.



EFFORT TO SAVE TREES

Tree Condition: Good

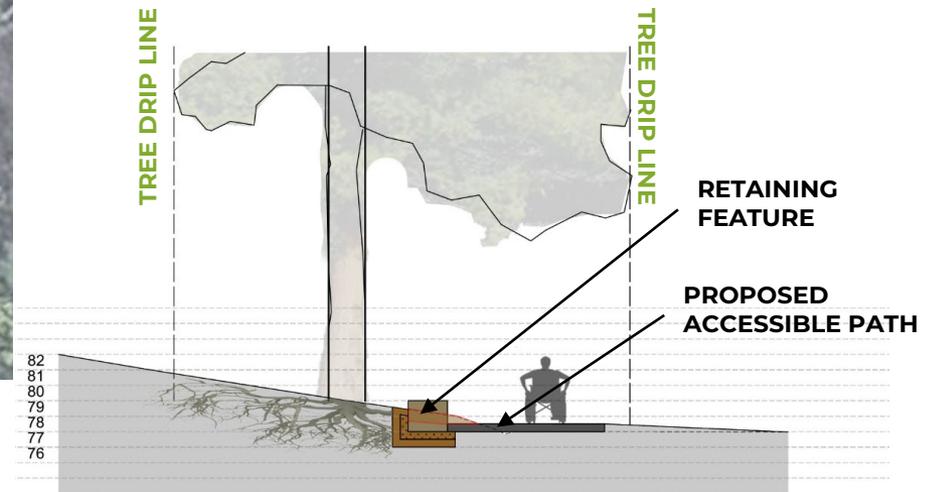
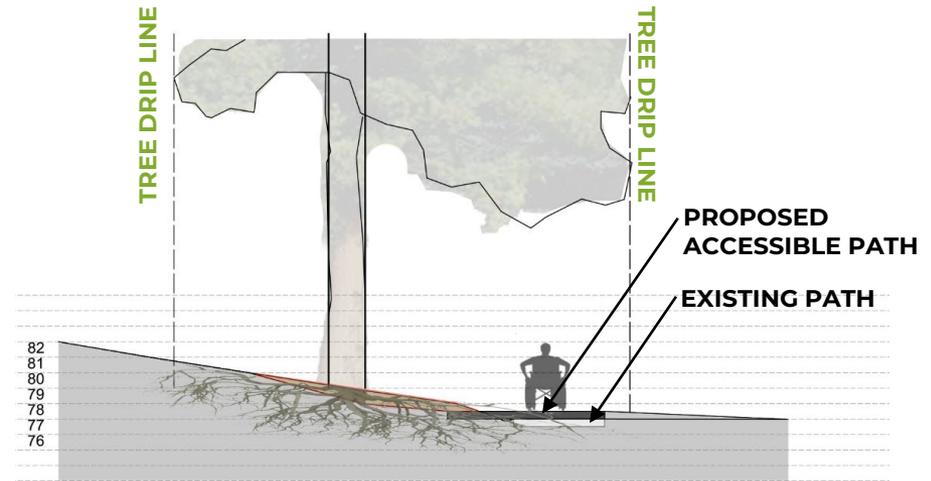
- Mature Pine in good condition

Reason for Removal

- Regrading of paths for accessible route through park
- Thinning of tree to allow for further growth of immediately adjacent trees to either side may improve their health (both also only in fair condition)

Effort to Save Tree

- Addition of a retaining wall. Disturbance to tree roots when cutting to create the wall would impact the tree health.
- Approximately 40% of roots will still be disturbed when adding the retaining wall.
- Adjusting path location effects other tree root systems more heavily.





LOCATIONS FOR ADDITIONAL EFFORTS TO SAVE CANOPY

MARCH 28, 2022

Boston Parks and Recreation



QUESTIONS

For questions after please contact Lauren Bryant, Project
Manager Boston Parks and Recreation Department:

617-961-3019

Lauren.Bryant@boston.gov

For more information, please visit the website:

www.boston.gov/improvements-malcolm-x-park