



CRAWFORD STREET AND WALNUT PARK PLAYGROUNDS PROJECT UPDATE 09/23/2022

Thank you for your interest in the Improvements to Crawford Street and Walnut Park Playgrounds.



GENERAL UPDATE:

- A big update and change from what was discussed during community meetings is that Crawford Street and Walnut Park Playgrounds will be constructed at different times. Boston Parks made this decision to avoid closing both playgrounds at the same time.
- The goal for Crawford Street Playground is to start construction early spring 2023. There may be a slight overlap of closures, but Boston Parks will try to minimize this.
- Another update is that the project manager for Walnut Park Play Area will be Amy Linné moving forward. Please watch for updates from her. Lauren Bryant will continue to be the project manager for Crawford Street Playground.

WALNUT PARK PLAY AREA

Construction will be starting soon.

- We are excited to share that construction will be starting soon at Walnut Park Play Area. For Crawford Street Playground, please see the second half of this update.

WHAT TO EXPECT DURING CONSTRUCTION:

- The construction contract has been awarded and construction is expected to begin in October 2022.
- The playground will be closed for use through construction. We anticipate a playground reopening in Spring 2023.
- Construction vehicles will be using on-street parking spaces adjacent to the park on Walnut Ave and Walnut Park during business hours.
- During this closure, please visit another nearby park:
 - **Crawford Street Play Lot**, 320 Walnut Ave, Roxbury (on the Crawford Street side of the park)
 - **Trotter School Playground**, 59 Waumbeck Street, Roxbury
 - **El Parquesito Playground**, Franklin Park, 450 Walnut Ave, Roxbury

TREES:

The existing trees in the Walnut Park Play Area have been assessed by the arborist. The trees that are in decline will be taken down as part of the project in order to remove any potential hazards. See attached **Tree Removals and Proposed Tree Planting Study**.

OTHER ITEMS:

Please use [311](#) to document non-emergency issues relating to park use, and 911 for emergency situations relating to public safety. Construction questions and concerns can be directed to Cathy Baker-Eclipse, Project Manager for Boston Parks and Recreation (cathy.baker-eclipse@boston.gov).

PROJECT WEBSITE:

<https://www.boston.gov/departments/parks-and-recreation/improvements-crawford-street-and-walnut-avenue-playgrounds>

Please reach out with any additional questions.

Crawford Street Playground – lauren.bryant@boston.gov or 617-961-3019

Walnut Park Play Area – amy.linne@boston.gov or 617-961-3045

WALNUT PARK - ROXBURY, BOSTON, MA
TREE REMOVALS & PROPOSED TREE PLANTING STUDY

Tree Removals & Proposed Tree Planting Summary

The new design for Walnut Park reorients the play areas to improve circulation and the green edges around the park. Many of the existing will trees will remain, but several declining trees need to be removed. The proposed planting introduces even more shade as well as flowering trees to fill in canopy gaps and add more seasonal interest.

Primary Reasons for Tree Removal

1. Dead or in decline
 2. Safety hazard
 3. Invasive
- (See plan annotations for further detail)

Total Number of Removed Trees: 4

Total Number of Proposed Shade Trees: 11

AR	3	<i>Acer rubrum</i> Red Maple
BN	2	<i>Betula nigra</i> River Birch
NS	1	<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i> Tulepo
QR	3	<i>Quercus rubra</i> Red Oak
UA	2	<i>Ulmus americana</i> American Elm

Total Number of Proposed Flowering Trees: 2

CC	2	<i>Cercis canadensis</i> Eastern Redbud
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Dead Sycamore Maple



Two large silver maples are significantly damaged



Norway Maple has a large trunk wound/cavity, making it structurally unsound. The majority of the problematic roots in the play area appear to originate from this tree.

Legend

-  Existing Tree to Remain
-  Existing Tree to be Removed
-  Proposed Tree



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Primary Reasons for Tree Removal

1. Dead or in decline
2. Safety hazard
3. Invasive

(See plan annotations for further detail)

Total Number of Removed Trees: about 13

Total Number of Proposed Shade Trees: 11

AR	3	<i>Acer rubrum</i> Red Maple
BN	2	<i>Betula nigra</i> River Birch
NS	1	<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i> Tulepo
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