

COMMUNITY MEETING #1

# BYRNE PLAYGROUND



CROWLEY  
COTTRELL

NOVEMBER, 28, 2023  
BOSTON PARKS & RECREATION



# 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 the Zoom meeting live.*

*It is possible that participants may also be recording the meeting with their phones cameras or other devices. If you do not wish to be recorded during this meeting, please keep your microphone muted and camera off.*

*Please share with your neighbors and friends,*  
**<https://www.boston.gov/departments/parks-and-recreation/improvements-byrne-playground>**

# VIRTUAL MEETING ETIQUETTE

*We want to ensure this conversation is a pleasant experience for all and that all community members/stakeholders are comfortable sharing their comments, questions and feedback.*

*Please be respectful and mindful of each other's time when asking questions/ providing comments, so that all attendees are able to participate in the meeting.*

*Keep questions/ comments project-specific and not personal to yield solution-driven discussion.*

*Please wait until all attendees have had the opportunity to ask a question/ provide a comment before providing additional questions/ comments.*

*You can always set up a conversation with **NELLE WARD, NELLE.WARD@BOSTON.GOV** to further discuss the project or process.*

# ZOOM TIPS

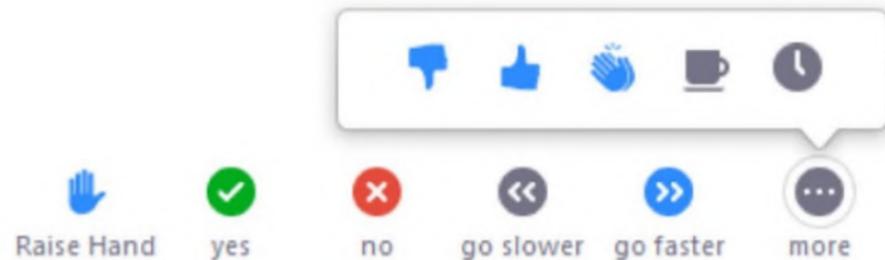
Here is how you can participate during the question and answer part of the presentation.

## DURING THE PRESENTATION:



### VIA WEB:

Turn video on / off.



To use these non-verbal options click on participants (bottom of screen); these options will pop up in side bar.

## DURING THE Q&A:



### JOINING VIA PHONE?

Use \*9 to raise hand to ask for audio / video permission to ask questions or provide comments.



### VIA WEB:

Chat to ask questions / comments or provide responses to poll questions



Raise hand to ask for audio / video permission to ask questions or provide comments.

# PROJECT OVERVIEW



# BYRNE PLAYGROUND | AGENDA

1. PROJECT TEAM INTRODUCTION
2. PROJECT OVERVIEW
3. PRESENTATION
4. LISTENING & DISCUSSION
5. CLOSING REMARKS & NEXT STEPS

## **INTRODUCTIONS** | MEET THE TEAM

### **NELLE WARD**

PROJECT MANAGER

617-961-3035 [nelle.ward@boston.gov](mailto:nelle.ward@boston.gov)

### **NAOMI COTTRELL**

PRINCIPAL, CROWLEY COTTRELL

### **MARK WARFEL**

ASSOCIATE, CROWLEY COTTRELL

### **ANA STOLLE**

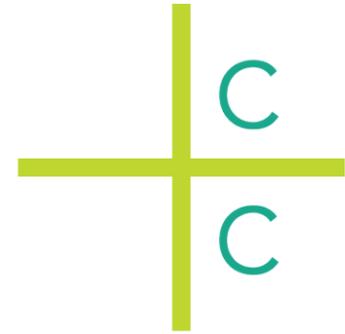
DESIGNER, CROWLEY COTTRELL

### **ROSS COCHRAN**

OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES

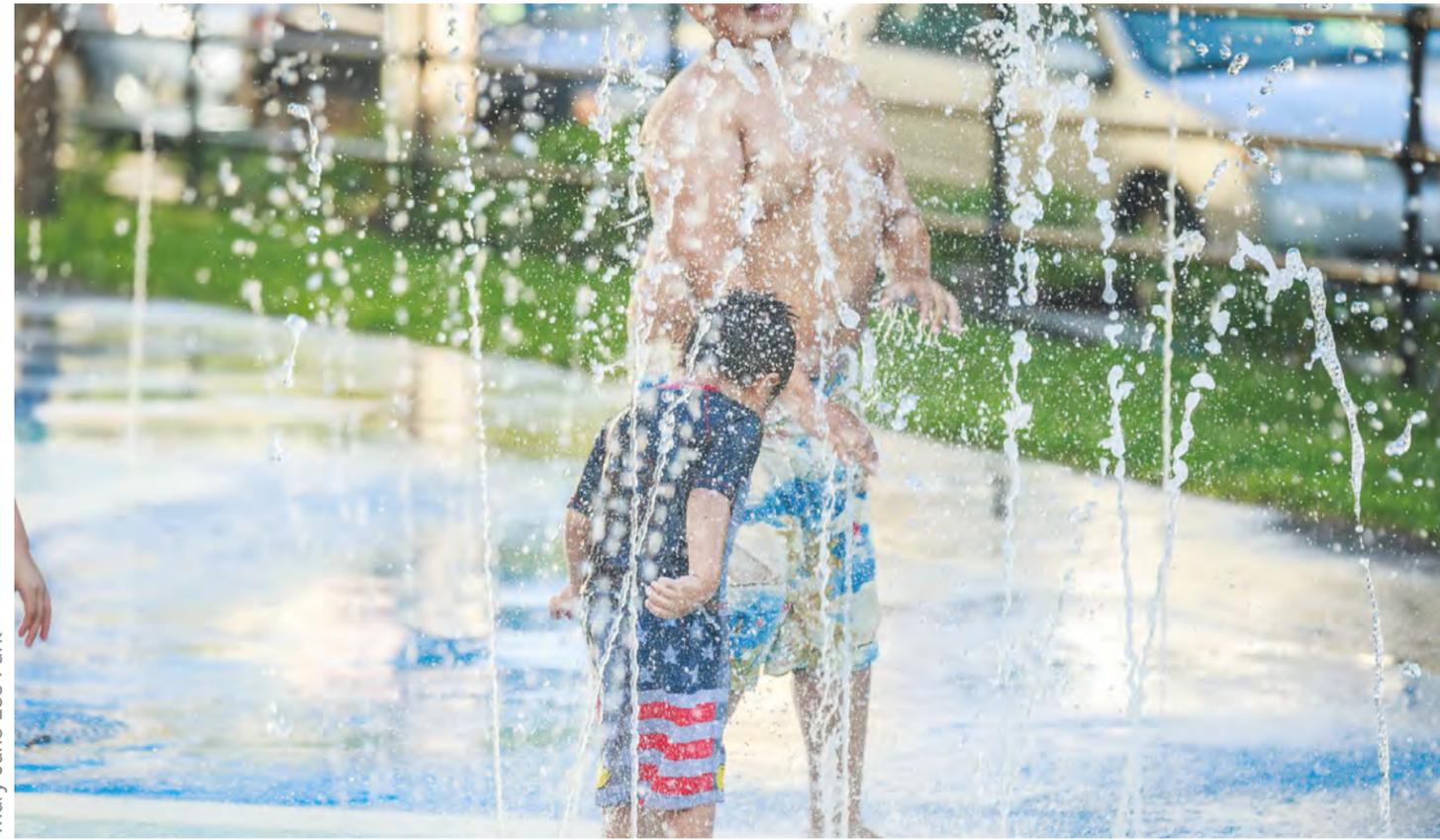
[ross.cochran@boston.gov](mailto:ross.cochran@boston.gov)

# INTRODUCTIONS | DESIGN TEAM'S PORTFOLIO



## A DECADE OF PARK EXPERIENCE

- McGlew Park
- Mary Jane Lee Park
- Splaine Park
- Flaherty Park
- Amatucci Playground
- Stonehill Park
- Edward Leathers Park
- Hovey Park
- Lafayette Park
- Fort Sewall
- Roslindale Wetland Urban Wild
- Whittemore Park
- Palmer Cove Park
- Somerville Junction Park
- Colin's Courtyard



Mary Jane Lee Park



Flaherty Park



Amatucci Park



Flaherty Park



Ward Street Park



Lafayette Park



Stonehill Park



McGlew Park

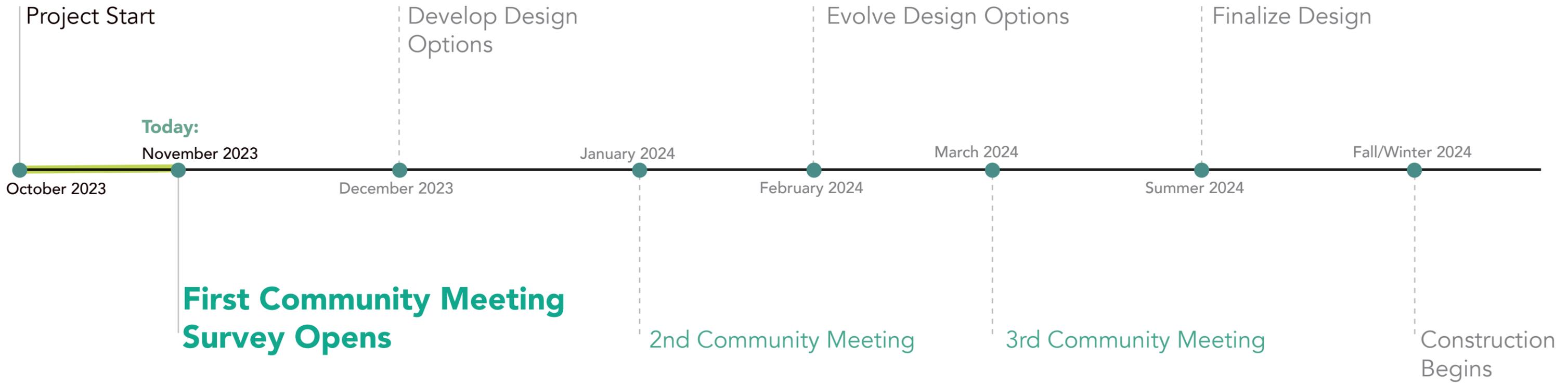


Splaine Park



Amatucci Park

# BYRNE PLAYGROUND | PROJECT SCHEDULE



# BYRNE PLAYGROUND | PARK DESIGN



# BYRNE PLAYGROUND | CITY OF BOSTON PRIORITIES

- EXPANDING WALKABLE ACCESS TO PARKS
- ADDRESSING EQUITY
- CLIMATE RESILIENCE
- HEALTH
- HOUSING AND COMMUNITY BUILDING



# BYRNE PLAYGROUND | PARKS AND RECREATION GOALS

- ACCESSIBLE AND AVAILABLE TO ALL
- DIVERSE, BALANCED, AND EFFICIENT MIX OF USES
- MEANINGFUL AND INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
- ADAPTIVE AND RESILIENT LANDSCAPES
- PROMOTE CONNECTIONS



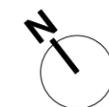
# SITE ANALYSIS



# BYRNE PLAYGROUND | PARK DESIGN



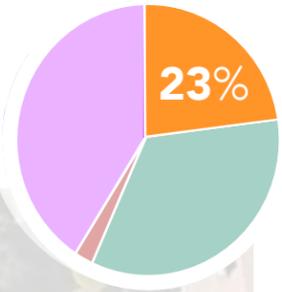
# BYRNE PLAYGROUND | EXISTING CONDITIONS



# BYRNE PLAYGROUND | ZONES



# BYRNE PLAYGROUND | PLAYGROUND



## OPPORTUNITIES:

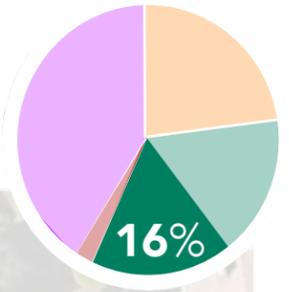
- SHADE
- LARGE AREA

## CHALLENGES:

- TREE SAP CAUSED BY APHIDS CAUSING ISSUES FOR PLAY SURFACING
- PLAY STRUCTURES AT END OF USEFUL LIFE



# BYRNE PLAYGROUND | STREET HOCKEY / PICKLE BALL



**- VARYING FENCE HEIGHTS**

**- CRACKING IN PAVEMENT**

**- PICKLE BALL NETS/LINES ADDED TO RINK**

**- STREET HOCKEY REMENENTS**

**- PLANTERS IN VARIOUS STATES OF DISREPAIR**

**- AREA ENCLOSED WITH SINGLE ENTRANCE**  
**- DAMAGED PLANTERS**

**OPPORTUNITIES:**

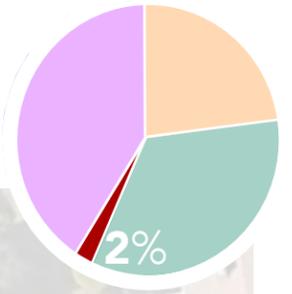
- ENGAGED AND ACTIVE USERS

**CHALLENGES:**

- LIMITED SHADE
- SINGLE ENTRANCE
- PAVING AND FENCING IN NEED OF REPAIR



# BYRNE PLAYGROUND | SPLASH PAD



- DRINKING FOUNTAIN



- SINGULAR WATER PLAY ELEMENT  
- SEAT WALL IN SPLASH ZONE



- OPEN PLAY AREA  
WITHOUT FENCING



- EMPTY PLANTING AREA

### OPPORTUNITIES:

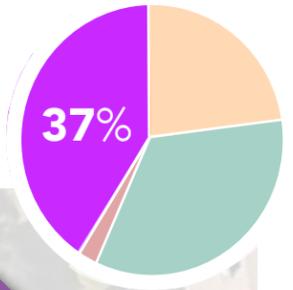
- WATER ACCESS
- CENTRALLY LOCATED

### CHALLENGES:

- LIMITED OPPORTUNITIES FOR PLAY
- NO SHADE
- OUTDATED EQUIPMENT LACKS IMAGINATION
- LOTS OF UNDERUTILIZED PERIMETER SPACE



# BYRNE PLAYGROUND | WALKING LOOP



- TREES AND BENCHES AROUND WALKING LOOP



-COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD & COMMUNITY PLANTER



- UTILITIES BOX IN PROMINENT AREA



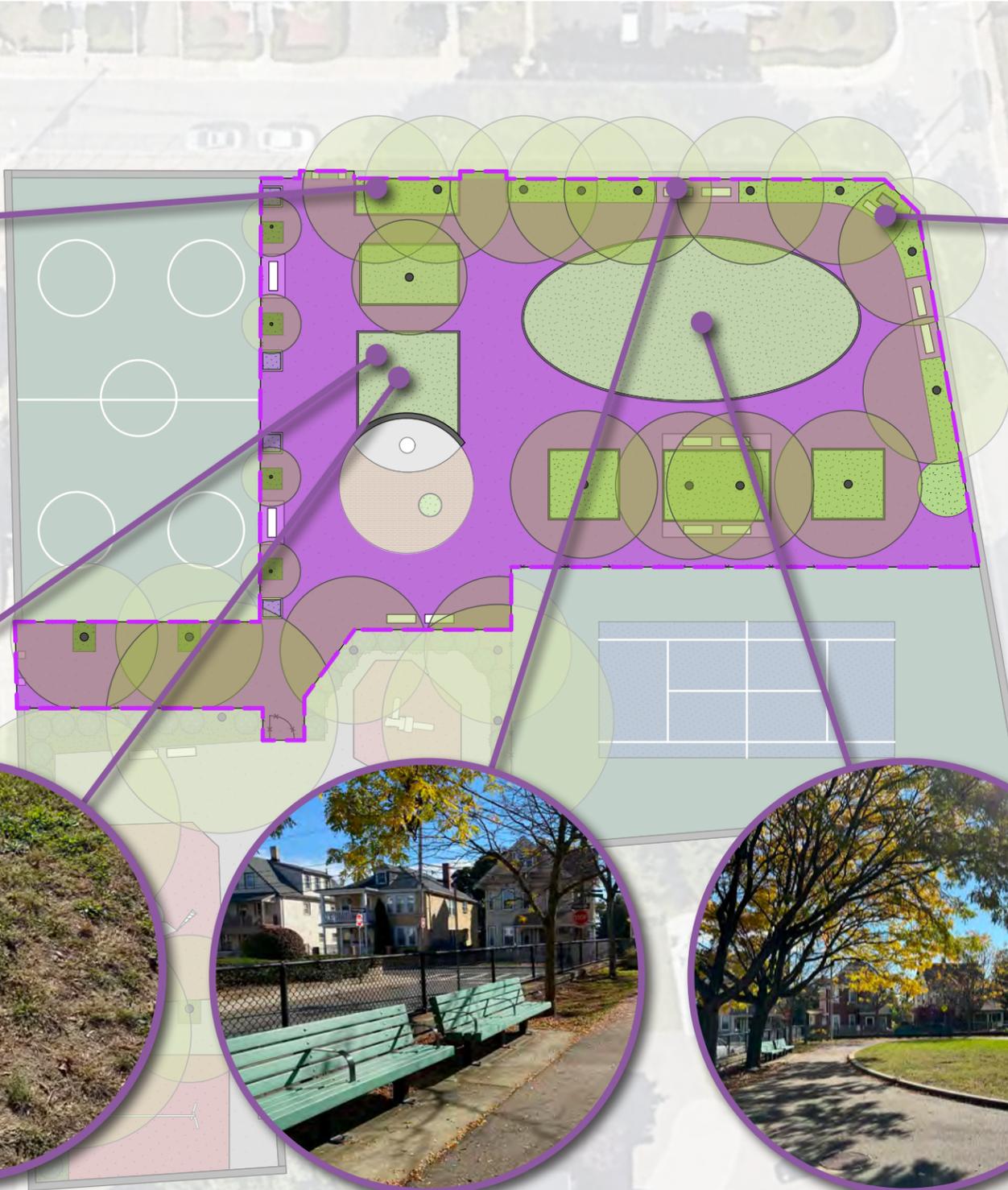
- HOLES IN LAWN



- AMPLE SEATING ON PERIMETER



-CENTRAL RAISED OVAL LAWN



### OPPORTUNITIES:

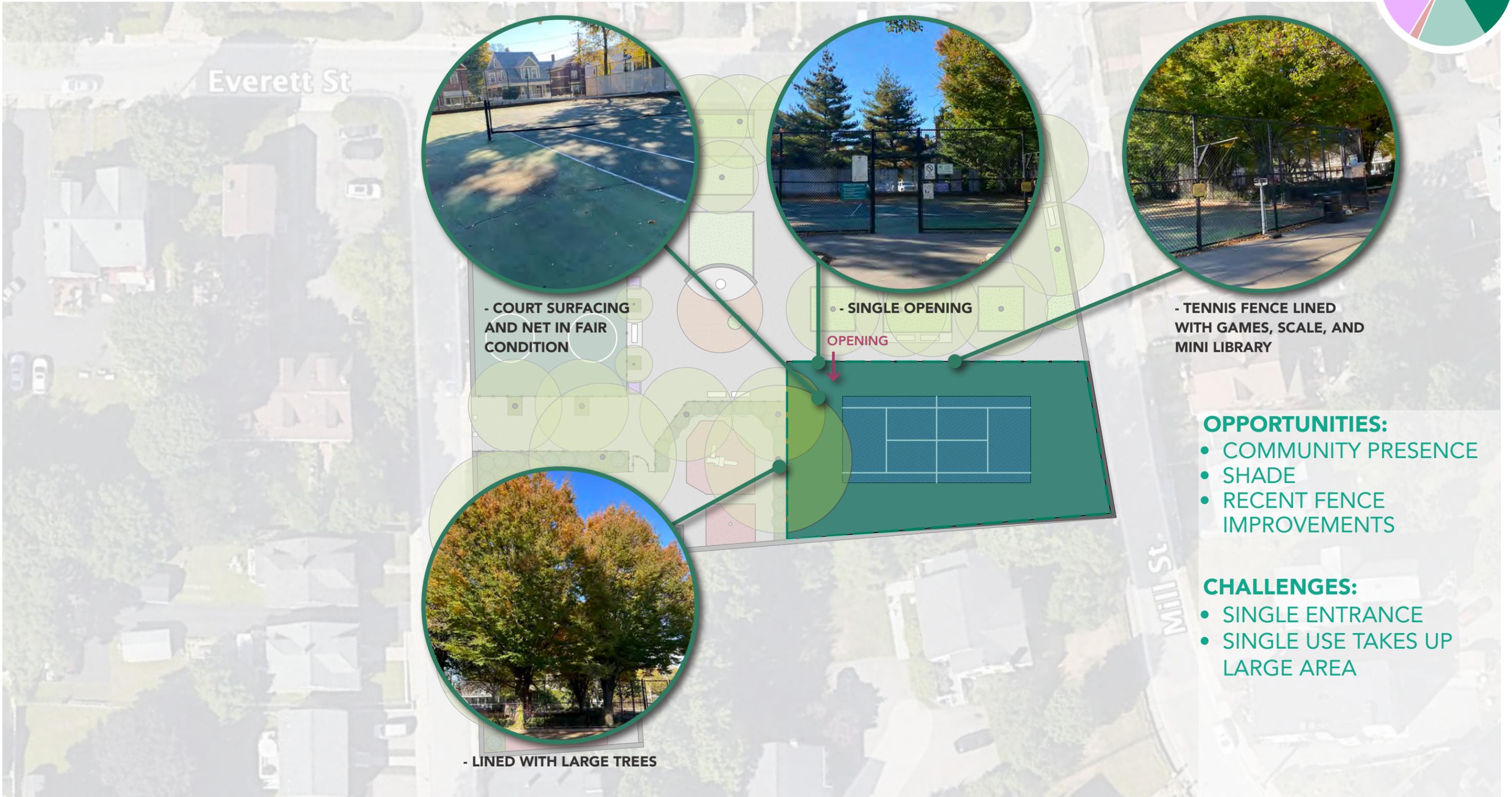
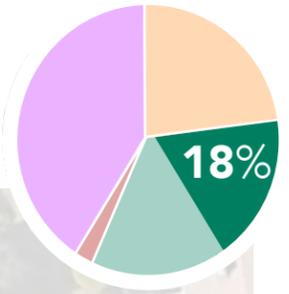
- SEATING WITH SHADE
- WALKING CURCUIT

### CHALLENGES:

- CURBS LIMIT LAWN ACCESS
- LARGE INTERRUPTED PAVED AREAS
- LAWN LACKS SHADE
- LACKS IMAGINATION



# BYRNE PLAYGROUND | TENNIS COURT



# BYRNE PLAYGROUND | SITE AMENITIES



- PICKLEBALL NETS PUT UP BY COMMUNITY

- NEW BENCHES

- DAMAGED PLANTERS

- PLANTER AND COMMUNITY SIGN

- RING TOSS, SCALE, LITTLE LIBRARY ON FENCE

- OPPORTUNITIES:**
- STRONG COMMUNITY SUPPORTING PARK
  - SPACE FOR MORE AMENITIES

- CHALLENGES:**
- OUTDATED AMENITIES
  - LACKS GATHER SPACE

- LEGEND:**
- Ⓧ TRASH
  - Ⓛ BENCHES





# BYRNE PLAYGROUND | ACCESS & CIRCULATION



- VEHICULAR ACCESS  
- VEHICLE GATE BLOCKS PEDESTRIAN USE

- FLUSH ENTRANCE

## OPPORTUNITIES:

- DOGWALKING
- TRICYCLE TRACK
- WALKING TRACK

## CHALLENGES:

- COURTS AND PLAYGROUND WITH SINGLE ENTRY IS A SAFETY CONCERN
- LIMITED CIRCUIT FOR A LARGE PARK

- DAMAGED SIDEWALK MAKES ENTRANCE DIFFICULT FOR PEOPLE WITH MOBILITY CHALLENGES

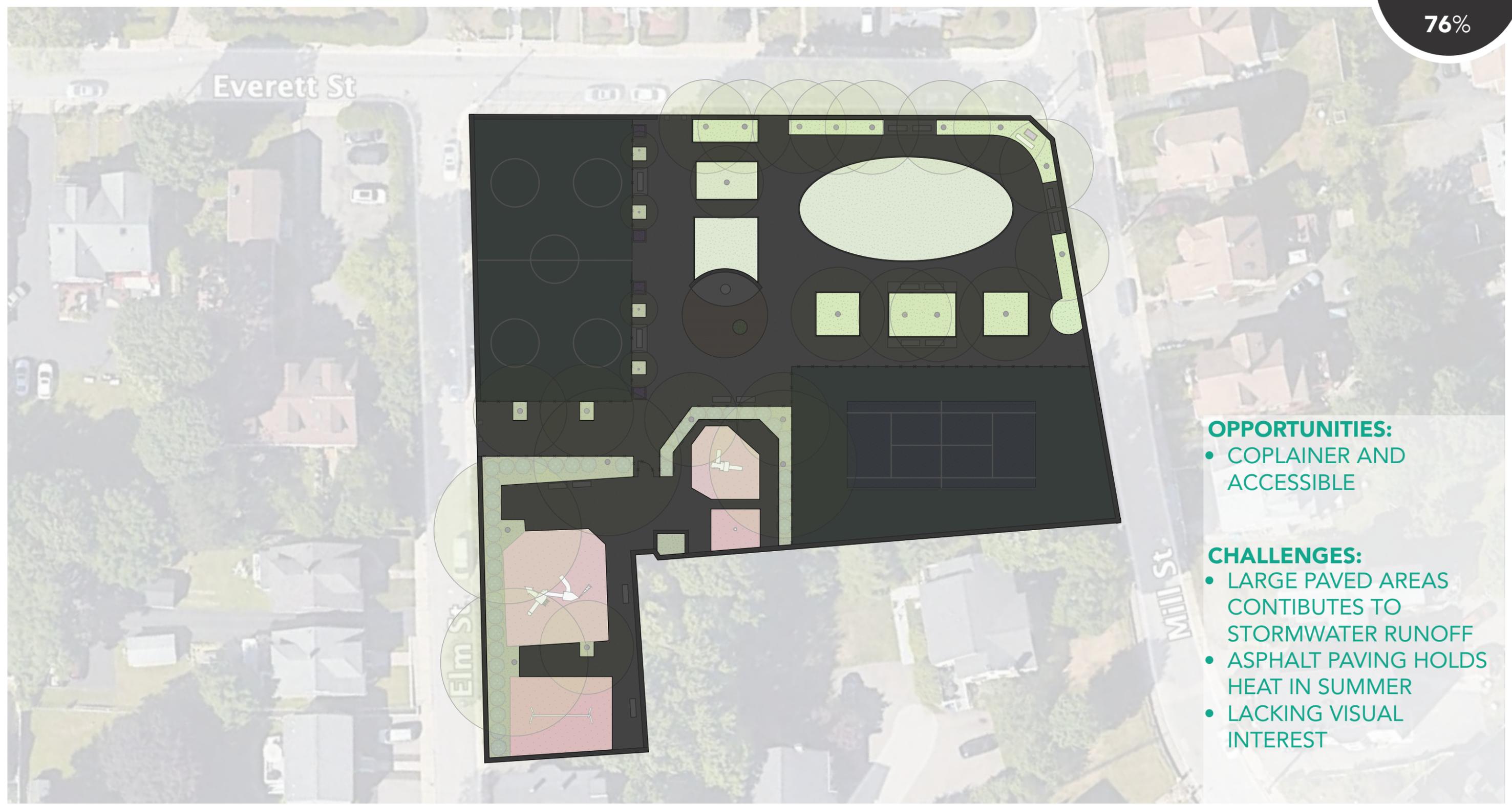
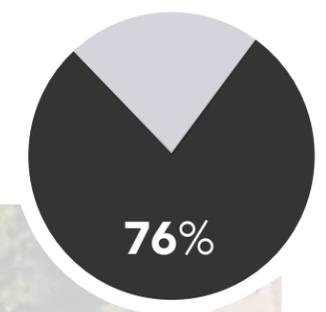
- COLUMNS PROVIDE A SENSE OF ARRIVAL  
- NARROW VIEW

- CURB POSES ACCESSIBILITY CHALLENGES

- MAJORITY OF PARK PERIMETER HAS BRICK RETAINING WALL



# BYRNE PLAYGROUND | IMPERVIOUS

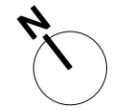


**OPPORTUNITIES:**

- COPLAINER AND ACCESSIBLE

**CHALLENGES:**

- LARGE PAVED AREAS CONTRIBUTES TO STORMWATER RUNOFF
- ASPHALT PAVING HOLDS HEAT IN SUMMER
- LACKING VISUAL INTEREST



# BYRNE PLAYGROUND | VEGETATION



**OPPORTUNITIES:**

- VARYING AMOUNTS OF SHADE
- MATURE TREES

**CHALLENGES:**

- LACKS BIODIVERSITY
- LACKS NATIVE VARIETIES
- HEDGE COLLECTS TRASH AND REQUIRES MAINTENANCE
- COMPACTED LAWN WITH HIGH DOG USE
- LINDEN APHID CAUSES EXCESSIVE TREE SAP



# LISTENING & DISCUSSION

HELP US BUILD GREAT PARKS.  
LET US KNOW WHAT MATTERS TO YOU.



# BYRNE PLAYGROUND | ZONES

Which spaces work best?  
Which ones don't?

How do you spend your  
time here?

How can this park foster  
community?

What would you be  
excited to see in the  
future?

What would you want to  
protect?



# ONLINE OPINION SURVEY



<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BM32CWB>



# THANK YOU

**NEXT MEETING IS IN JANUARY 2024**

FOR QUESTIONS, COMMENTS,  
CONCERNS REGARDING ANY OF  
OUR PARKS CONTACT 311



**NELLE WARD,**  
**NELLE.WARD@BOSTON.GOV**  
<http://boston.gov/byrne-play-ground>

