

# Improvements to **CLIFFORD PLAYGROUND**



## Community Meeting 3

Zoom: January 17, 2024  
In Person: January 20, 2024  
Boston Parks and Recreation



# Interpretation Information



**English: For interpretation in [\_\_\_\_],**

1. Go to the horizontal control bar at the bottom of your screen. Click on “Interpretation.”
2. Then click on the language that you would like to hear.
3. You are now accessing this meeting in [\_\_\_\_]

**Spanish:** Para traducción en Español,

1. Vaya a la parte baja de la pantalla, en la barra horizontal, y presione la tecla “Interpretation”.
2. Luego seleccione el idioma que desea escuchar.
3. Después de seleccionar, usted entrará a la reunión en el idioma “Español”.

**Haitian Creole:** Pou entèpretasyon Kreyòl ayisyen,

1. Ale nan kontwòl ba nan pati anba ekran an epi Klike sou "Interpretation"
2. Apre sa, klike sou lang ke ou ta renmen tande a.
3. Kounye a ou gen aksè a reyinyon an Kreyòl ayisyen

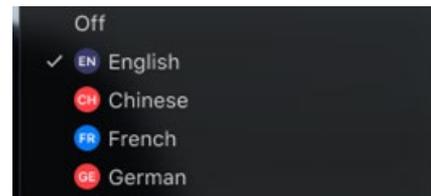
**Cabo Verdean Creole:** Gossim bu ta entra na reuniao na kriolu,

1. Bai na barra de controlo horizontal na parte inferior di computador bu kalka na “Interpretation”.
2. Depos kalka na idioma qui bu kre ovi.
3. Agora djabu sta ta entra na reuniaun em creole.

1.



2.



3.



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# 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-clifford-playground](https://www.boston.gov/departments/parks-and-recreation/improvements-clifford-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 **LAUREN BRYANT**, [Lauren.Bryant@boston.gov](mailto:Lauren.Bryant@boston.gov), to further discuss the project or process.*

# ZOOM TIPS

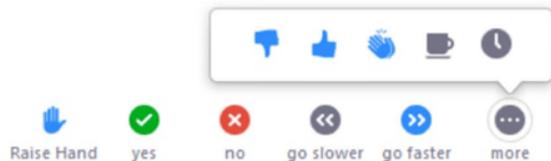
Here is how you can participate during the question and answer part of the presentation.

## 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.

# AGENDA

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- 1 **INTRODUCTION**
- 2 **PROJECT OVERVIEW**
- 3 **REVIEW OF DESIGN CONCEPTS AND COMMUNITY INPUT**
- 4 **SITE DETAILS: LISTENING & DISCUSSION**
- 5 **NEXT STEPS**

# CITY OF BOSTON TEAM

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## **LAUREN BRYANT**

PROJECT MANAGER, BOSTON PARKS  
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[mohammed.missouri@boston.gov](mailto:mohammed.missouri@boston.gov)

# DESIGN TEAM

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## **Ricardo Austrich, PLA**

Director of Landscape Architecture/Project Manager

## **Katie Kemen**

Director of Climate Resilience/Assistant Project Manager

## **Catarina Martinez**

Resilience Planner

## **Jesse Harris, RLA**

Project Landscape Architect

## **Tomer Rabinowitz**

Architect

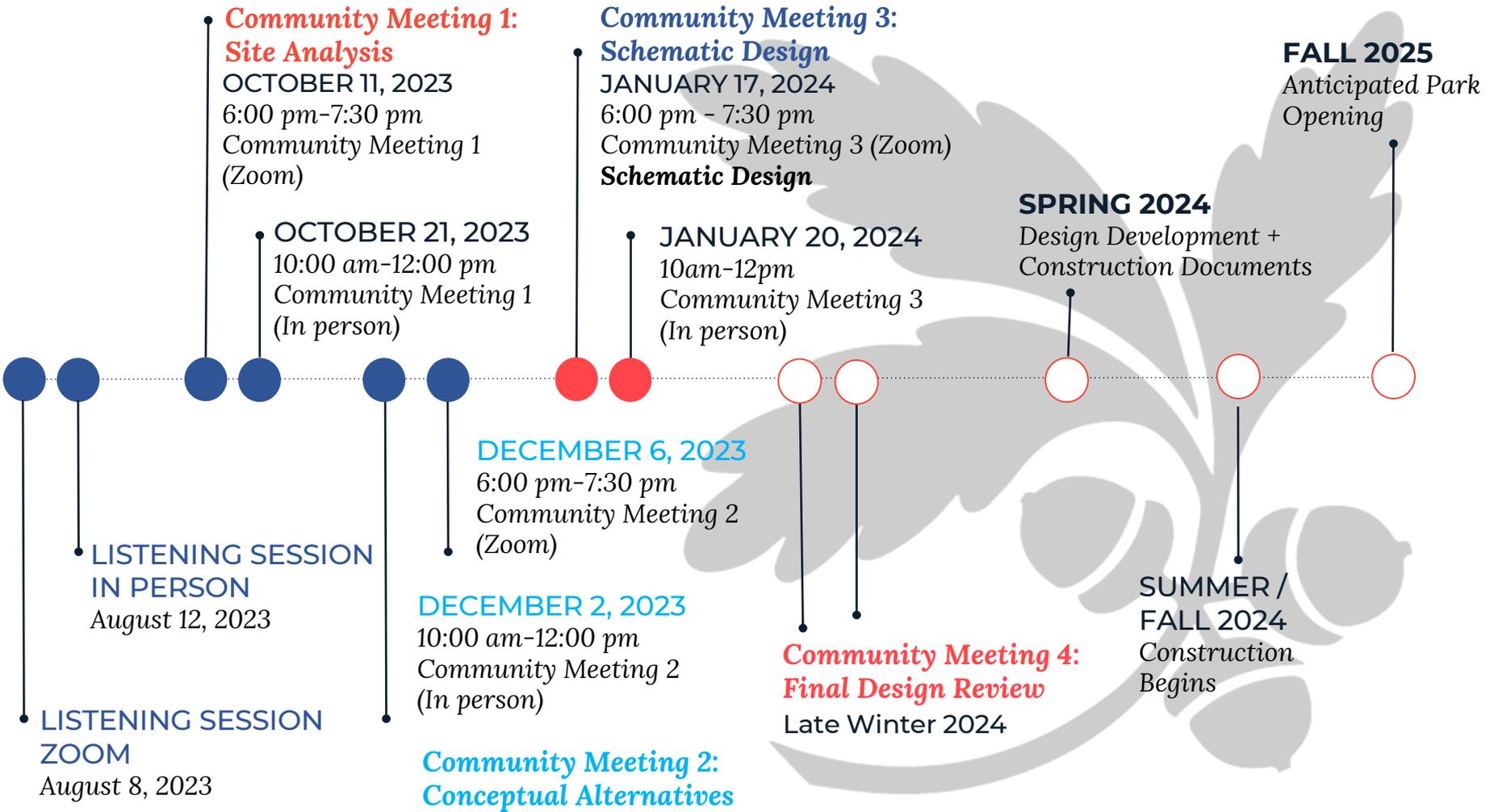
## **Rachel Salch, PLA**

Landscape Architect

## Land Survey



# PROJECT SCHEDULE





City of Boston  
Priorities

Safety Guidelines+  
Regulatory  
Guidelines

**PARK  
DESIGN**

Parks + Recreation  
Goals

Community  
Input

# RENOVATION VISION & GOALS

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## VISION

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An inclusive, resilient, and highly utilized park which reflects the needs of all park users and contributes to the overall vibrancy of the surrounding community.

## GOALS

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- 1 Improve Openness and Visibility
- 2 Increase Utilization of and Activity within the Park
- 3 Increase Resilience of the Park
- 4 Increase Vibrancy of the Neighborhood

# CONCEPT #1



## PROS

- Allows for softball and baseball or multi-use field use simultaneously
- Fields could be natural grass, synthetic turf, or a combination of both
- Combination of courts possible (See next slide)
- Increased play area with separate water play
- Walking loop with exercise equipment stations
- New dog area

## CONS

- Courts are further from Mason School
- Does not increase number of courts

# CONCEPT #2



## PROS

- Allows for two softballs/little leagues or softball/soccer use simultaneously
- Fields would have to be synthetic turf due to field overlap
- Increase in number of courts
- Increased play area with separate water play
- Walking loop with exercise equipment stations
- New dog park

## CONS

- Less flexibility with field surfacing
- Fields overlap

# CONCEPT #3



## PROS

- Allows for baseball and football/soccer use simultaneously
- Fields could be natural grass, synthetic turf, or a combination of both
- Increased play area with separate water play
- Walking loop with exercise equipment stations
- New dog park

## CONS

- Courts are further from Mason School
- Does not increase number of courts
- Courts are separated from each other
- Smaller dog park area
- More unprogrammed space

# WHAT WE HEARD

## COMMUNITY MEETING #2 & ONLINE SURVEY

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### Concept #1



- Team/ spectator seating is in the safest location
  - can see flyballs, etc.

### Concept #2



- Prioritizes needs of neighborhood youth and schools best
- Increases number of courts
- Like that courts are close to school/ residential area
- Artificial turf accommodates more sports in a small area and fields are always ready for play

### Concept #3



- Aesthetically pleasing to separate multi-use field from baseball
- Recommend natural turf on multi-use field; artificial on baseball to accommodate different infields
- Courts are far away from Mason School

### General



- Assuming permanent football goal posts, use integrated football/ soccer goals
- Shaded seating throughout park and near playground/ courts
- Fitness equipment and walking loop are important

# WHAT WE HEARD

## SCHOOLS

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### Mason School

- Will use basketball courts at recess; locate near playground
- Walking loop shouldn't go through playground
- Integrated playground structure better for 2-5 y/o's; separate items better for older kids

### Roxbury Prep

- Preferred concept #2 with synthetic turf
- Would use soccer & football
- Scoreboards for each field
- Wouldn't use courts

### Boston Public Schools

- Preferred concept #2 with synthetic turf
- Would be required to follow MIAA requirements (i.e., team/locker rooms, 500 seat bleachers, restrooms)
- Wouldn't use courts

# **PARK ELEMENTS & DISCUSSION**

**Site Circulation & Entrances**

**Site Fencing**

**Seating and Shading**

**Sport Courts**

**Outdoor Fitness**

**Playground Equipment**

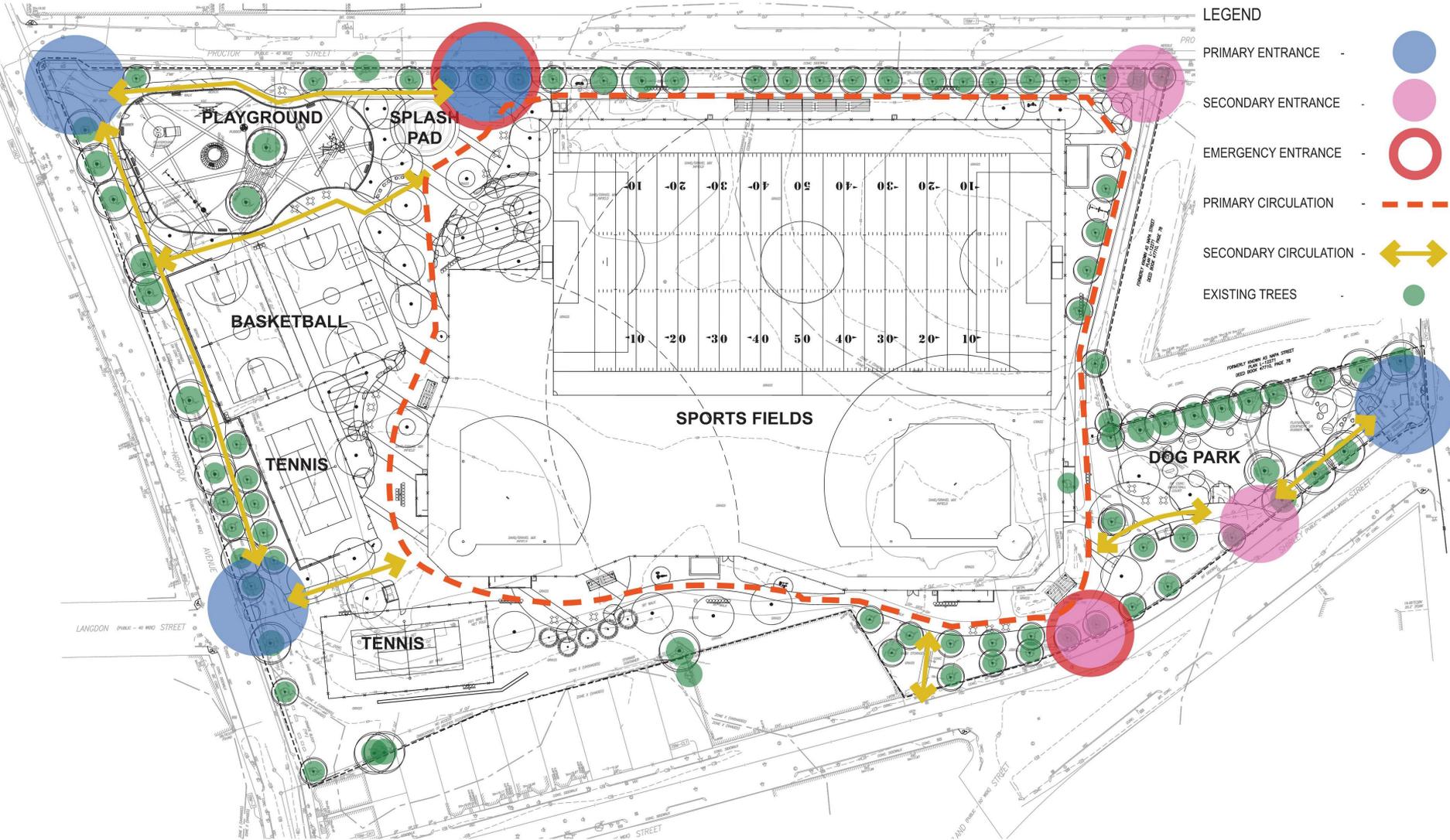
**Dog Park**

**Storage and Portable Facilities**

**Athletic Field Amenities and Seating**

**Field Surfacing**

# CIRCULATION



# PARK GATEWAYS & WALKING LOOP

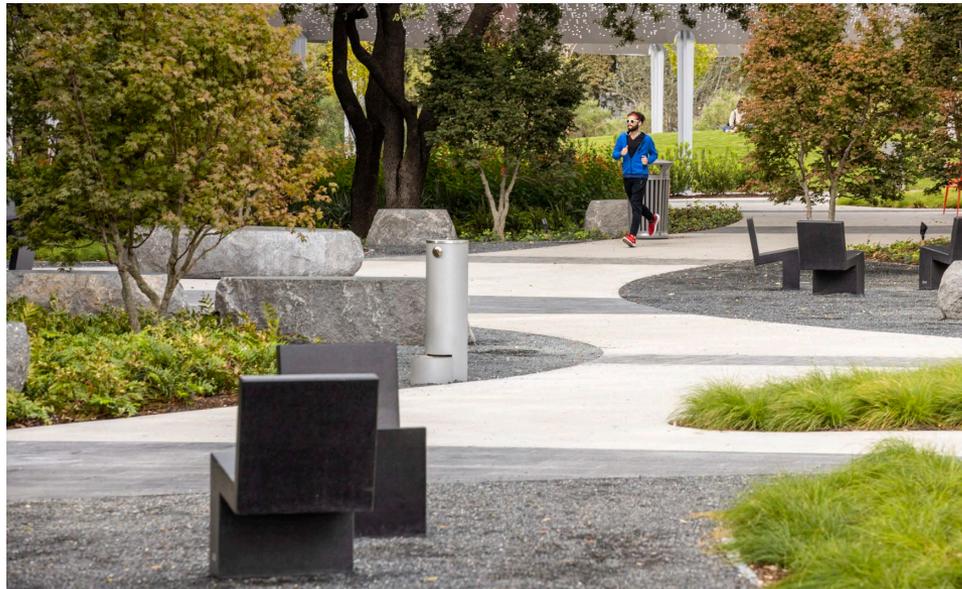


- Preferred style for primary/secondary entrances?
- Any specific gate requirements?
- Walking loop design?

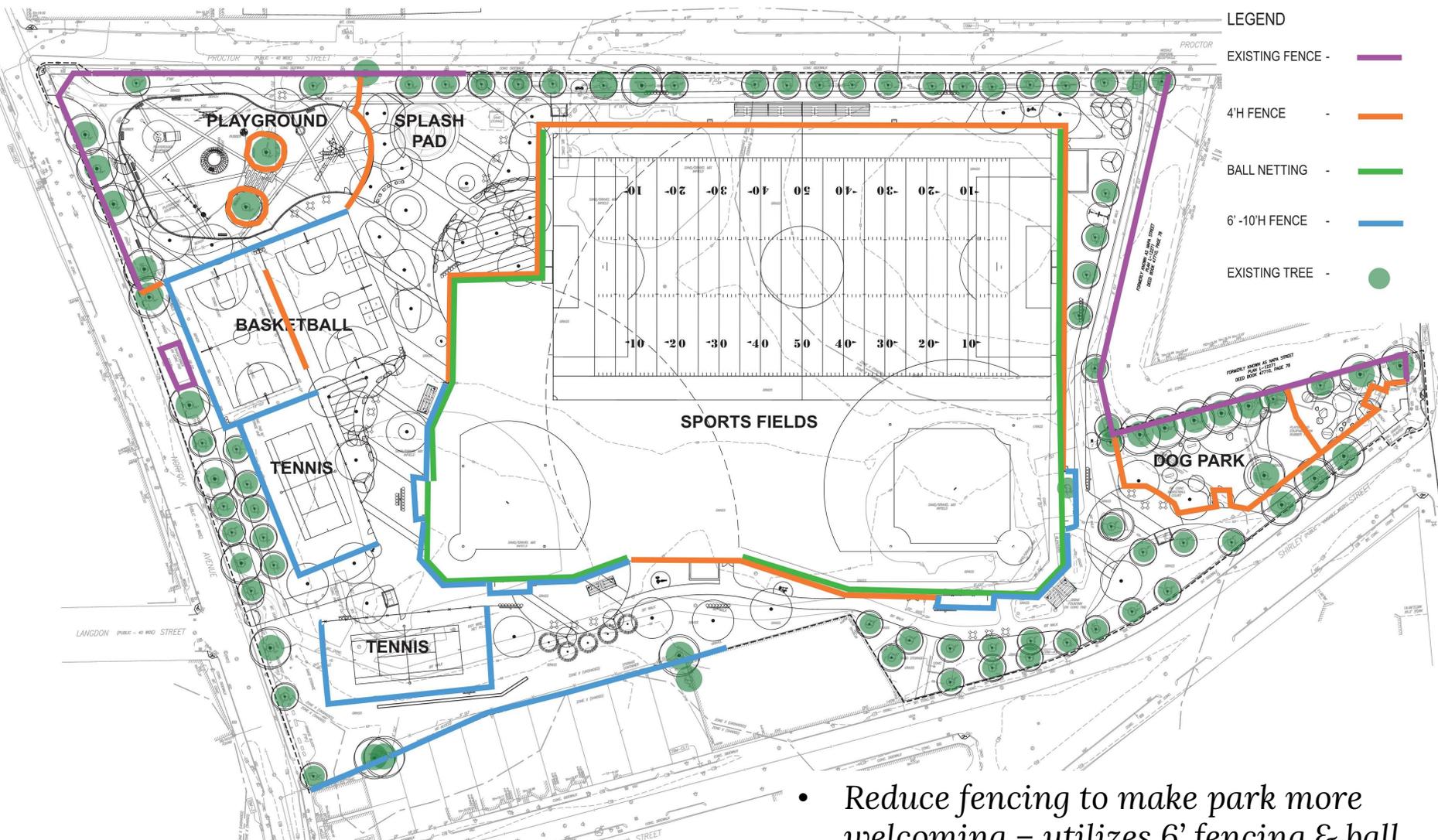


# PLAZA DETAILS

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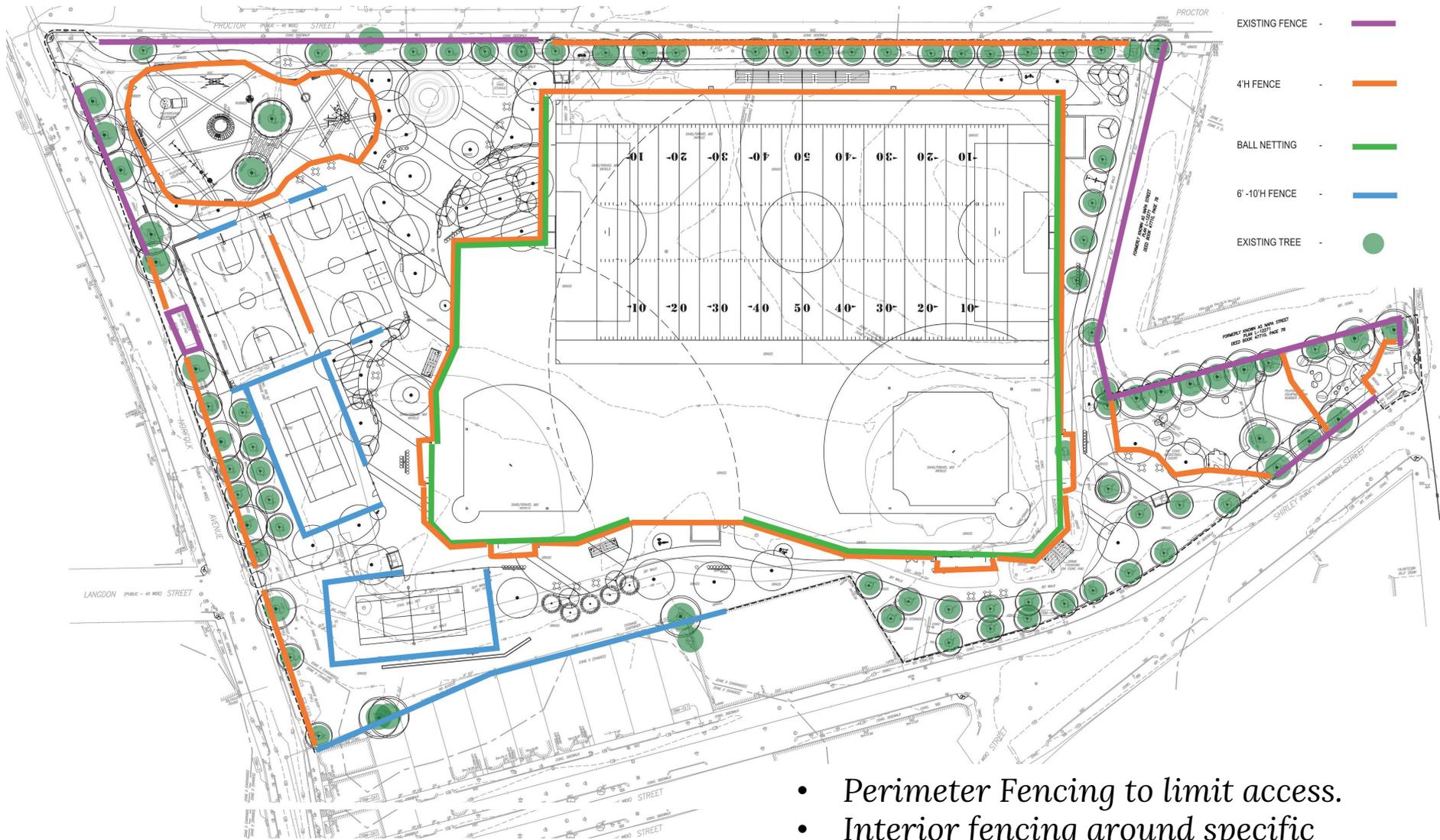


# SITE FENCING - OPTION 1



- Reduce fencing to make park more welcoming – utilizes 6' fencing & ball netting.
- Refurbish existing fencing in select areas.

# SITE FENCING - OPTION 2



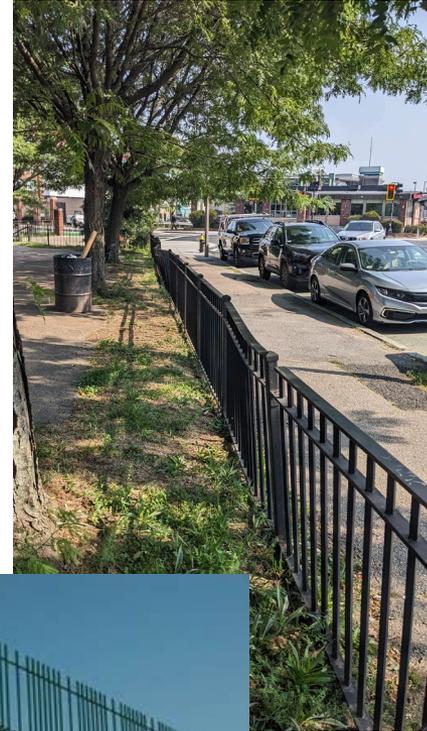
- Perimeter Fencing to limit access.
- Interior fencing around specific program elements – utilizes ball netting.

# SITE FENCING - OPTION 3



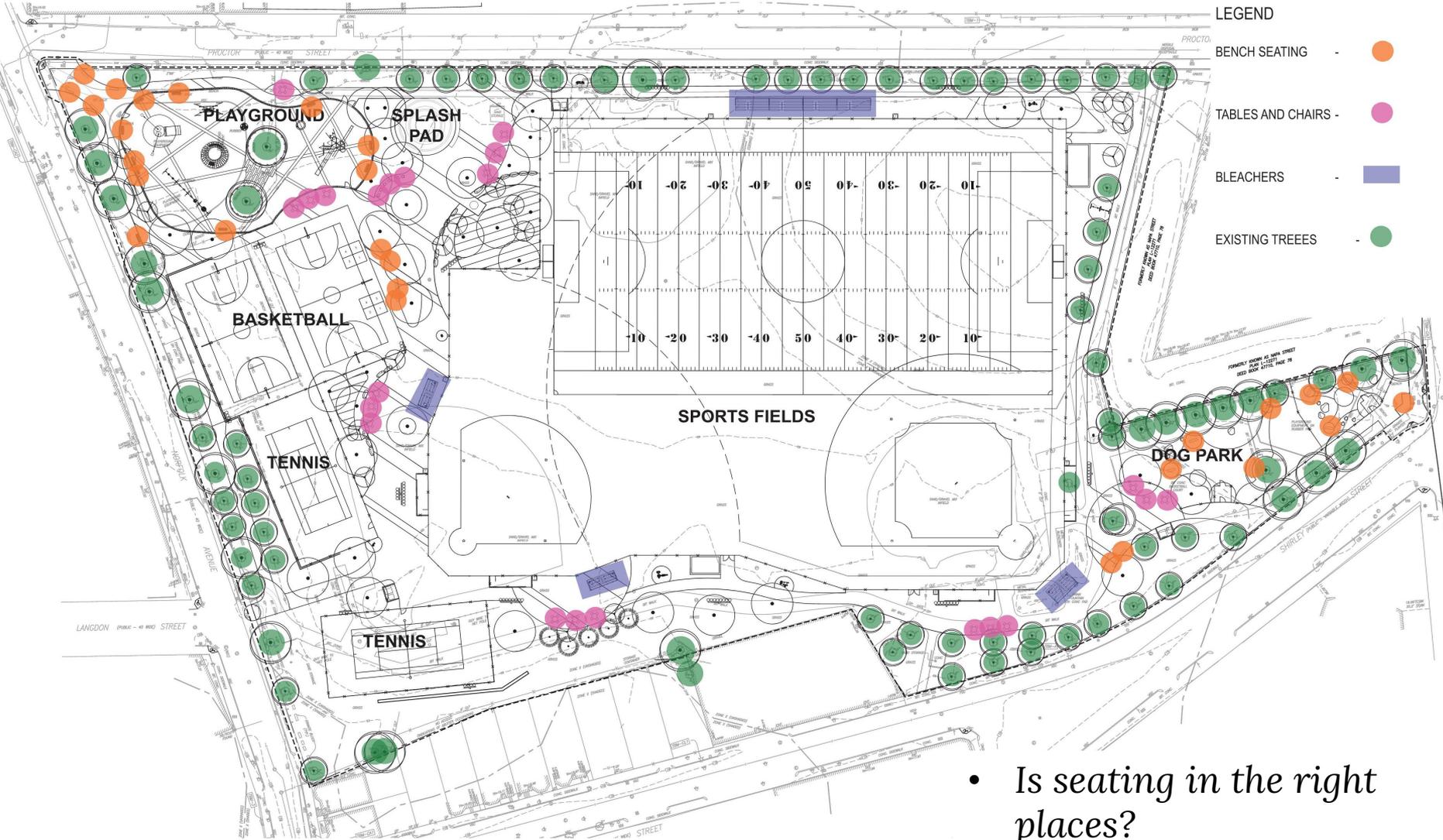
- Open access to park.
- Fencing focused on park program elements – utilizes 10' backstop fencing.

# SITE FENCING



- Perimeter
- Playground & water play
- Courts
- Athletic fields
- Dog park

# SEATING



### LEGEND

- BENCH SEATING - ●
- TABLES AND CHAIRS - ●
- BLEACHERS - ■
- EXISTING TREES - ●

- Is seating in the right places?
- Is there enough? Too much? Not enough?

# SEATING

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# SEATING & SHADING



# SHADING

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# SPORT COURTS



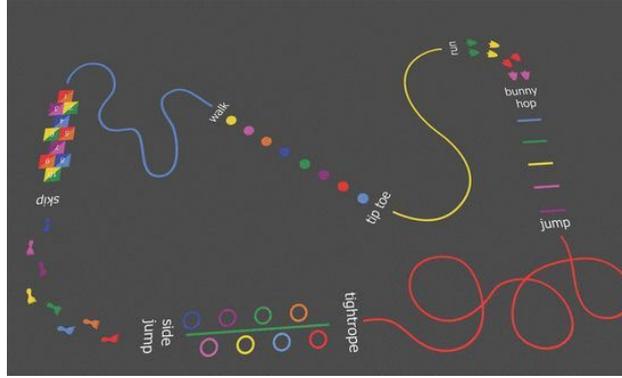
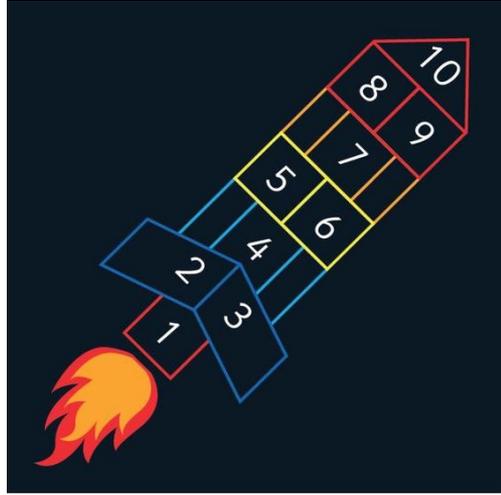
# SPORT COURTS



- Do we want striping for additional sports beyond basketball & tennis?
- Do we need scoreboards & storage?



# PAINTED COURT ACTIVITIES



# OUTDOOR FITNESS



- Preferred fitness activities?



(Mfr: Kompan)

# OUTDOOR FITNESS



- Preferred fitness activities?



# ADDITIONAL PARK AMENITIES

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# PLAYGROUND DETAIL – PLAY SYSTEMS (2-5 Years)

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# PLAYGROUND DETAIL – PLAY SYSTEMS (5-12 Years)

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# PLAYGROUND DETAIL – INDIVIDUAL ELEMENTS

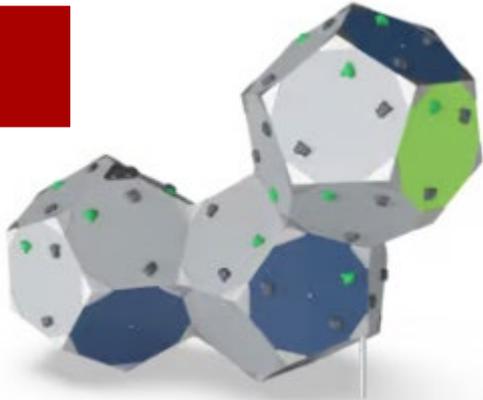
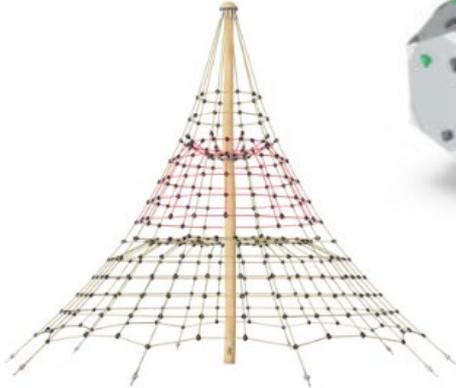
Slide



Spin



Climb



# PLAYGROUND DETAIL – INDIVIDUAL ELEMENTS

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## Imaginative Play



## Hang Out



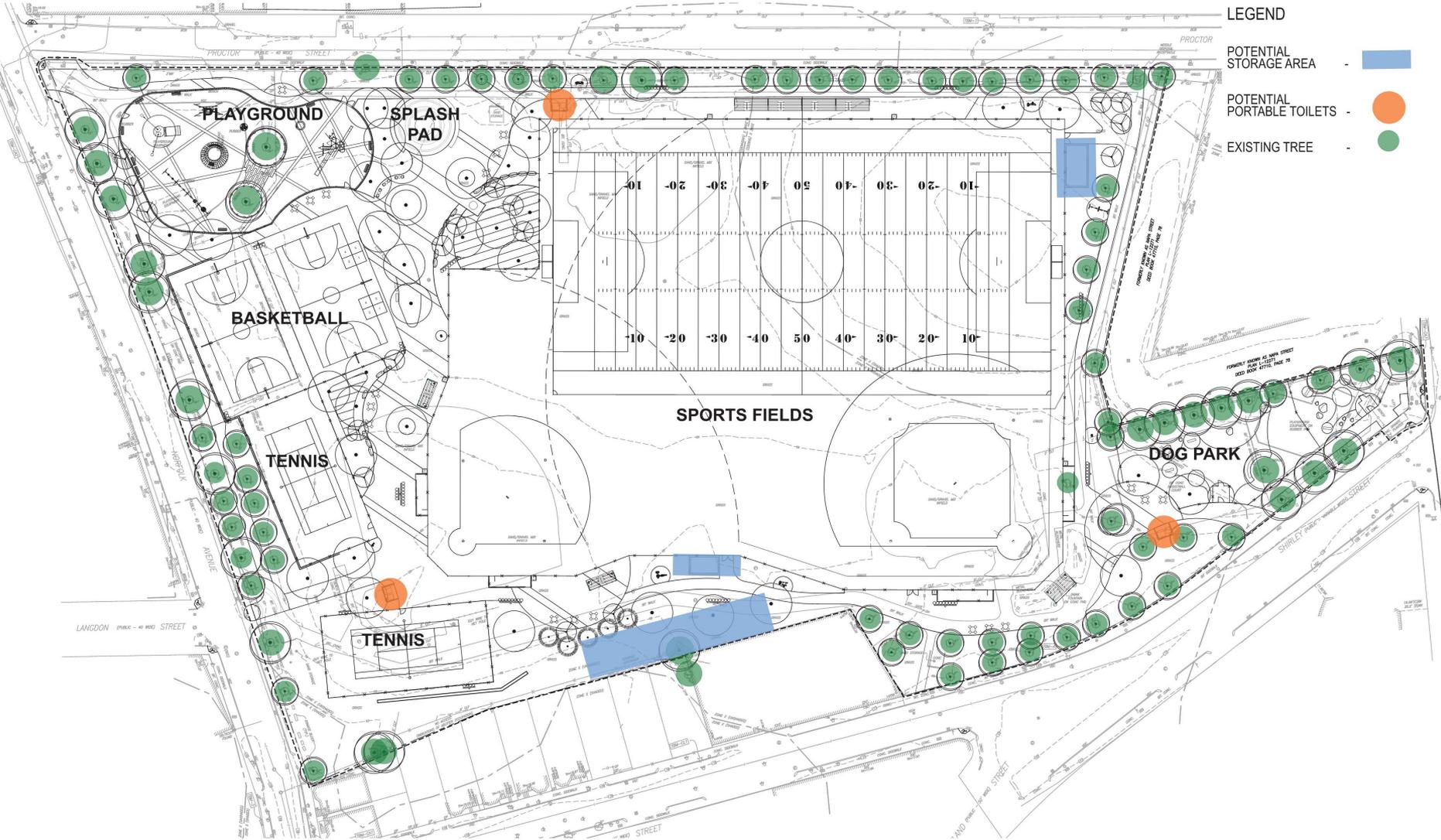
## Swing



# DOG PARK DETAIL



# STORAGE & PORTABLE TOILETS



# STORAGE & PORTABLE TOILETS

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- *Storage needs at courts or playground?*

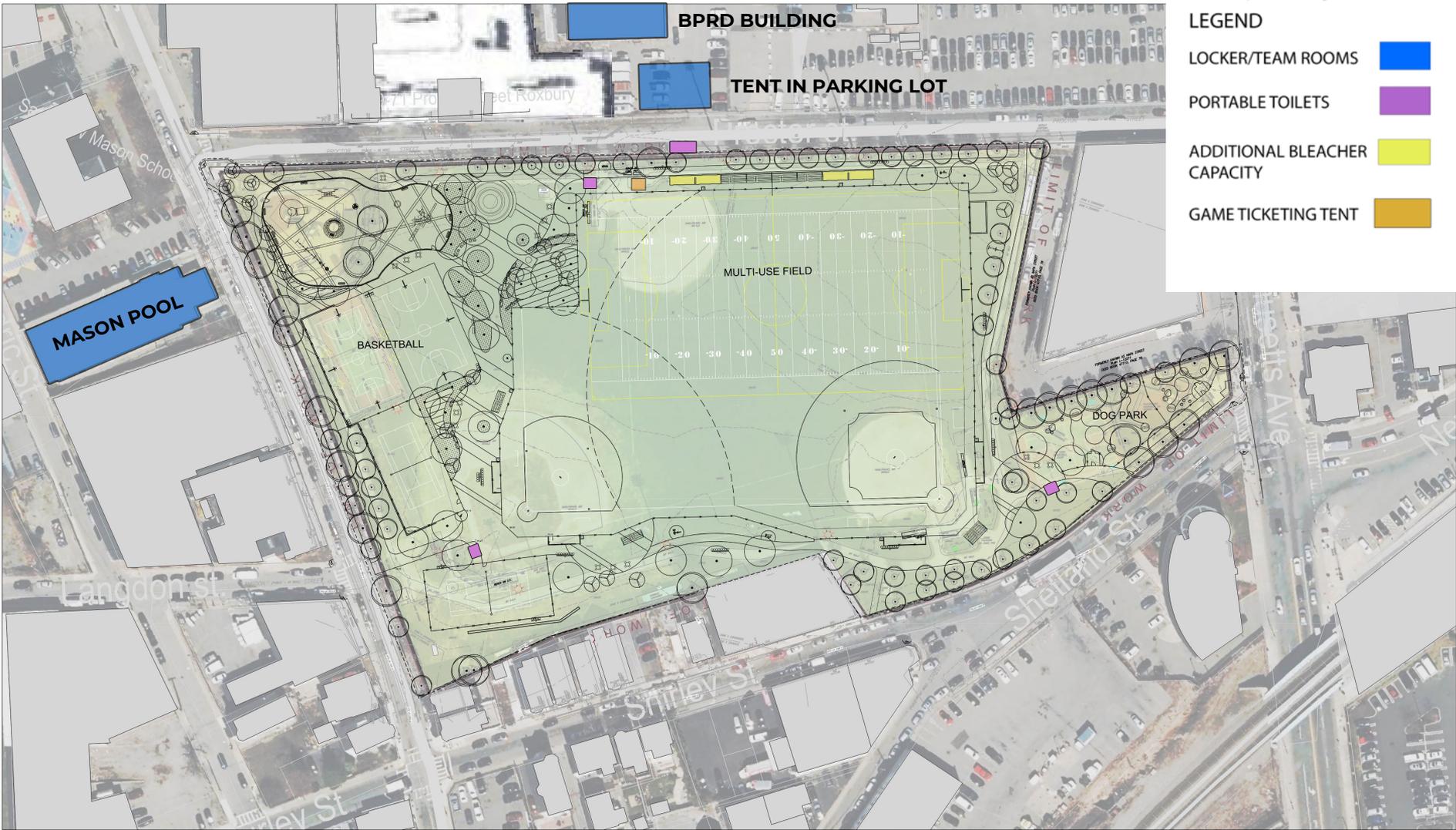
# ATHLETICS SEATING

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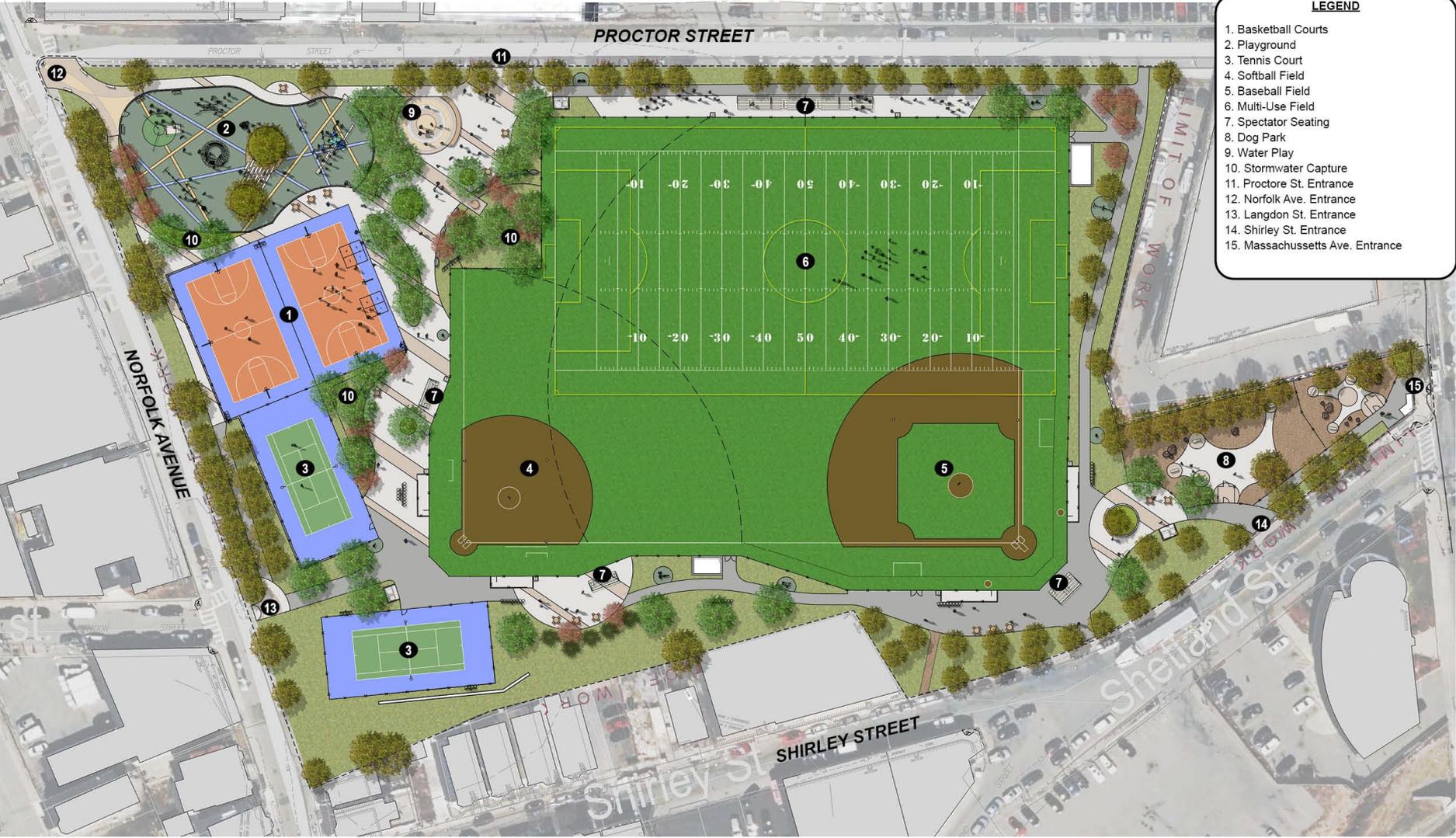


- *Requirements for dugouts & player seating?*
- *What seating, if any, is desired for court sports?*

# POTENTIAL ADDITIONAL ATHLETIC AMENITIES

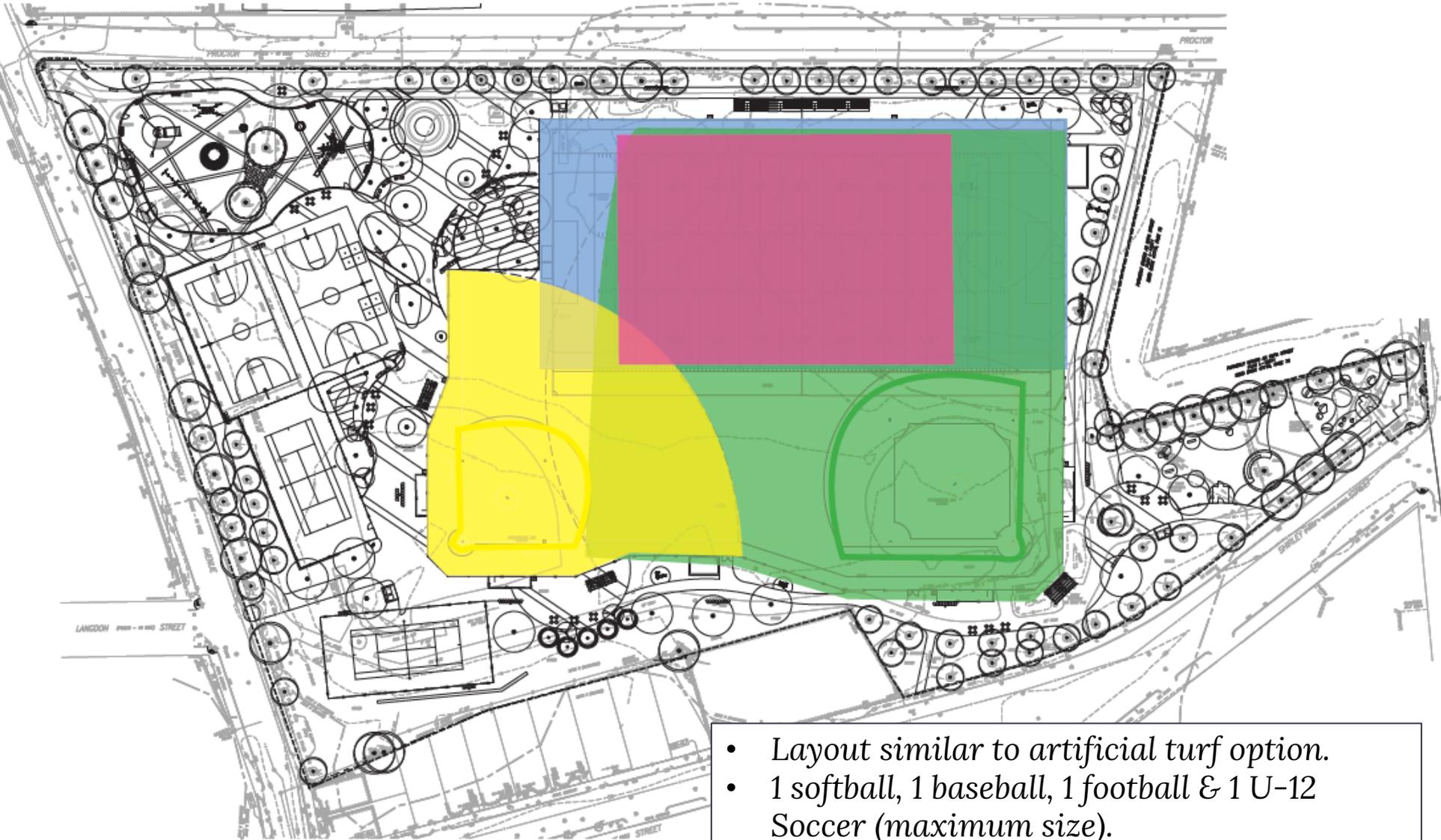


# CONCEPT 1: ARTIFICIAL TURF



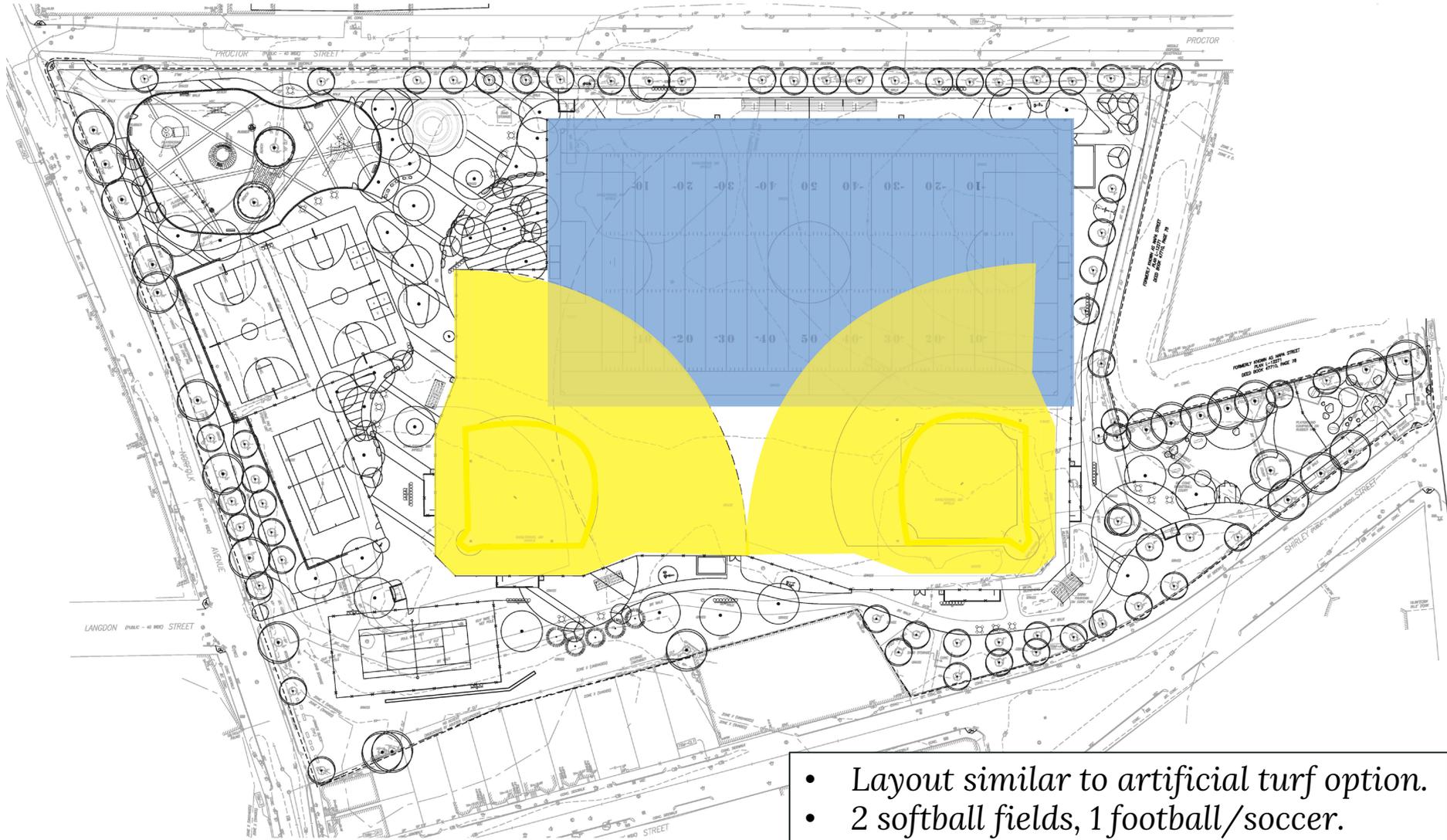
- LEGEND**
- 1. Basketball Courts
  - 2. Playground
  - 3. Tennis Court
  - 4. Softball Field
  - 5. Baseball Field
  - 6. Multi-Use Field
  - 7. Spectator Seating
  - 8. Dog Park
  - 9. Water Play
  - 10. Stormwater Capture
  - 11. Proctor St. Entrance
  - 12. Norfolk Ave. Entrance
  - 13. Langdon St. Entrance
  - 14. Shirley St. Entrance
  - 15. Massachusetts Ave. Entrance

# CONCEPT 2: NATURAL TURF – U-12 SOCCER



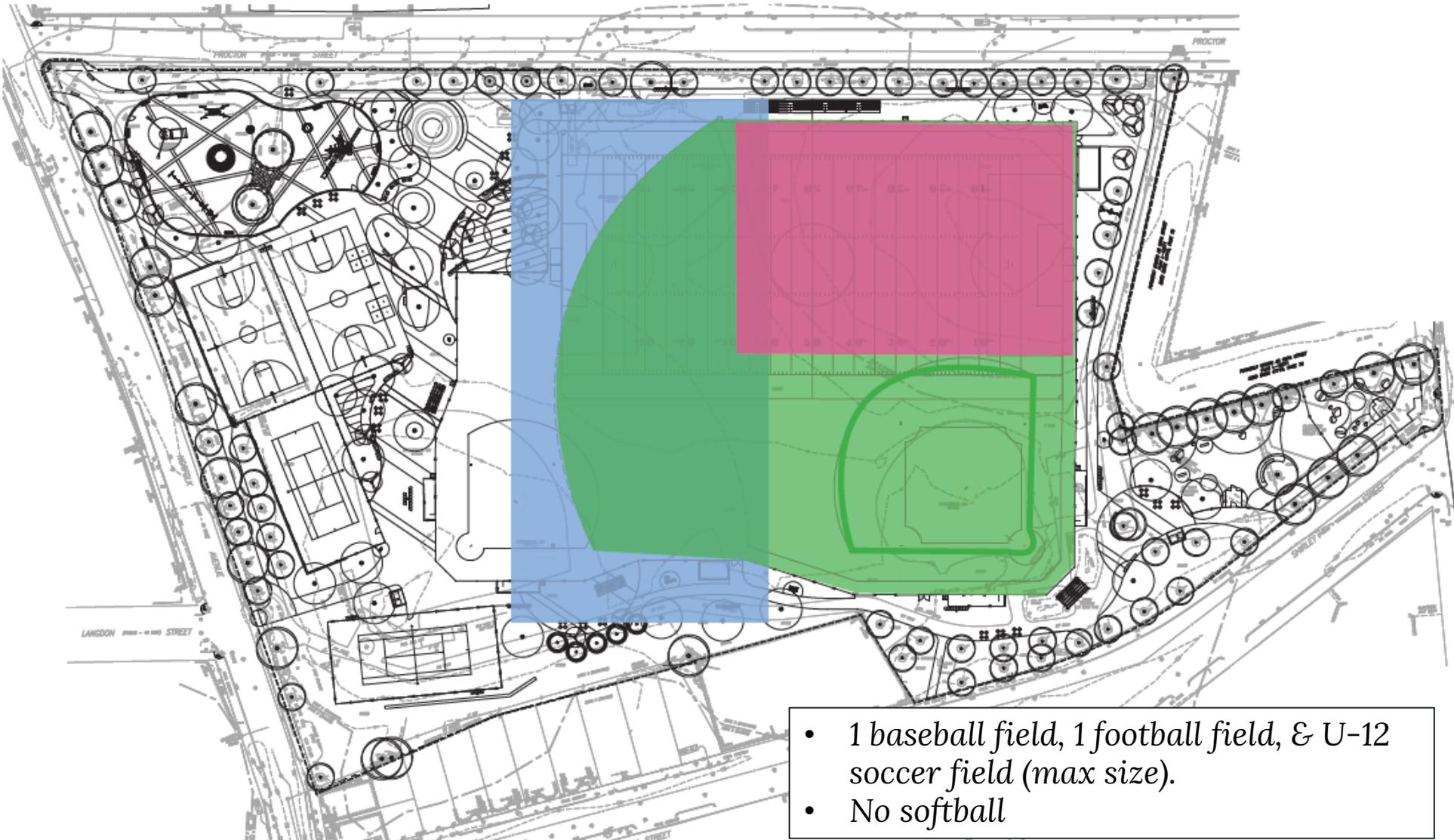
- *Layout similar to artificial turf option.*
- *1 softball, 1 baseball, 1 football & 1 U-12 Soccer (maximum size).*
- *Baseball field shifted south, football shifted north.*

# CONCEPT 3: NATURAL TURF – NO BASEBALL



- Layout similar to artificial turf option.
- 2 softball fields, 1 football/soccer.
- No Baseball field.

# CONCEPT 4: NATURAL TURF – U-12 SOCCER, NO SOFTBALL



# CONCEPT 5: NATURAL TURF – U-12 SOCCER, NO FOOTBALL



**PLEASE JOIN US FOR**

**COMMUNITY MEETING 4: FINAL DESIGN**  
**(Zoom & In-Person)**  
**Late Winter 2024 - Date To Be Announced**

