

Public Meeting #3



MASTER PLAN FOR SMITH PLAYGROUND

ALLSTON, MA



Monday November 16th, 2015 @ 6:30-8:00 pm
Charlesview Community Room, 123 Antwerp Street

Agenda

- 1.** Welcoming Remarks
- 2.** Master Plan Overview and Project Process
- 3.** City Goals and Objectives
- 4.** Past Meetings Recap
- 5.** Preferred Concept Refinement
- 6.** Concept Overview
- 7.** Listening/Discussion
- 8.** Next Steps

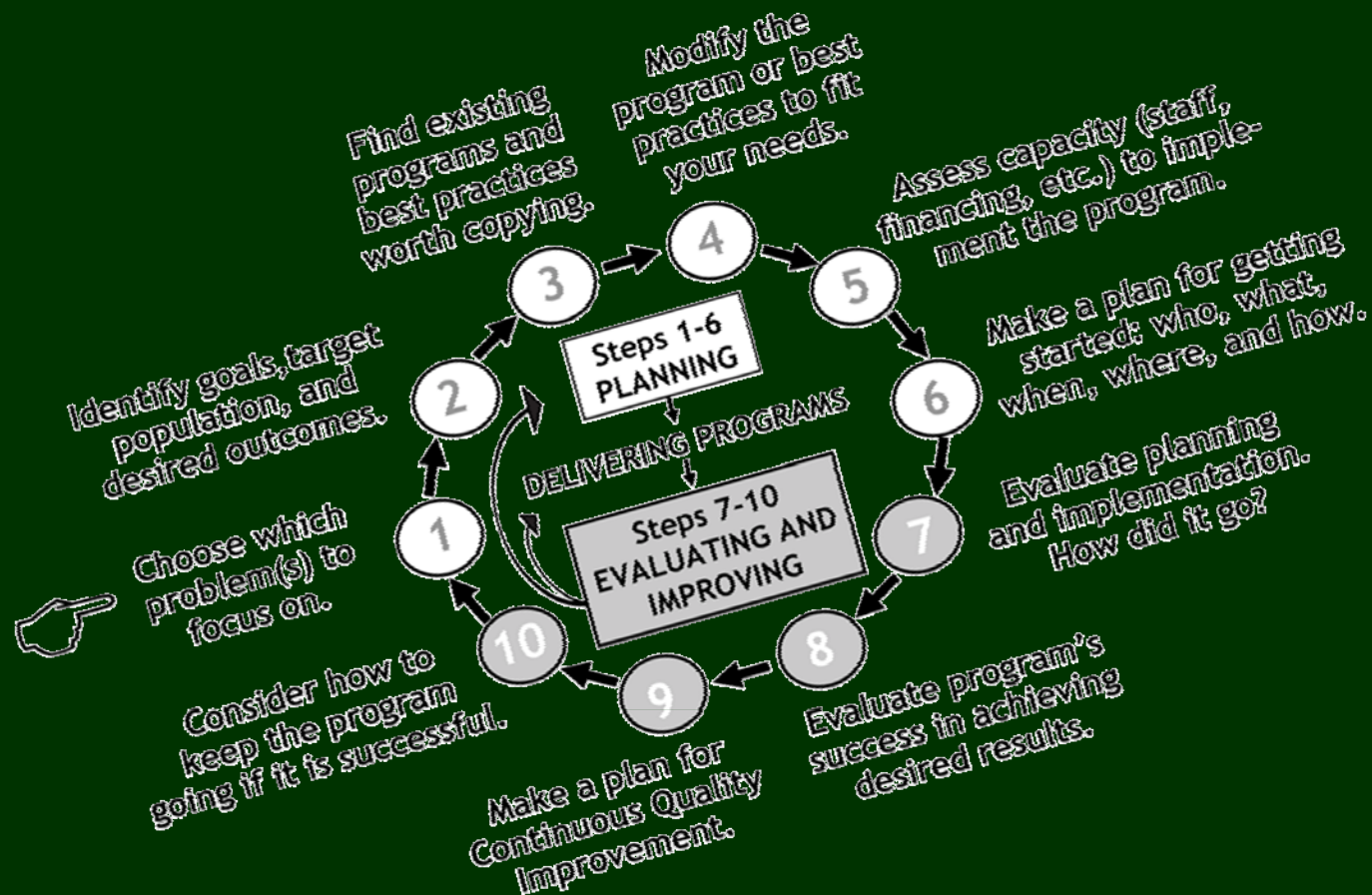
1. Welcoming Remarks

WELCOME TO ALL!

- Proponent is Boston Parks and Recreation Dept.
- This is the third in a series of stakeholder meetings
- Goal is to develop a master plan for Smith Playground



2. Master Plan Overview & Project Process



WHAT IS A MASTER PLAN?

- Preserves and protects
- Re-assesses what a park offers / lacks
- Directs change
- Allows a wholistic design approach
- Establishes a vision
- Guides capital dollars
- Sets 10-15 yr. course



WHY NOW?

- Area undergoing significant growth and change
- Community has advocated for a master plan
- Opportunity to preserve and enhance



3. City Goals & Objectives

CITY-WIDE PARK GOALS

- Preserve and protect existing trees
- Expand usable park area
- Improve universal access
- Enhance park visibility
- Increase park access
- Preserve and enhance existing active recreation spaces
- Serve park users of all ages



4.

Past Meetings Recap

MEETING # 1 RECAP

- First meeting held on 6/23/2015 at the Harvard Ed Portal.
- Approx. 40+ people attended.
- Topics discussed included:
 - Project Context
 - Allston Initiatives
 - Existing Conditions



MEETING #2 RECAP

- Second meeting held on 9/21/2015 at Charlesview Community Room at 123 Antwerp Street
- Approx. 45+ people attended.
- >50% of attendees within walking distance
- Represented uses included softball, Little League, soccer, hockey, bike polo, basketball, playground, and passive park users.



MEETING #2 RECAP

- Sgt. O'Hara Boston Police noted occasional homeless encampments along the WBZ edge.
- There is a need for a place for people to bring dogs.
- Field lighting is important, outfield fences not as much.
- Topics discussed included:
 - Facility Usage Summary
 - Concept Alternatives
 - Listening /Discussion



EXISTING PARK



BASELINE IMPROVEMENTS

- Incorporate accessible internal pedestrian circulation network.
- Increase park visibility and provide external links to community.
- Preserve active recreational uses and add additional as feasible (i.e. tennis).
- Incorporate active/passive community gathering spaces.
- Upgrade lighting
- Enhance and define spatial use w/ trees



ALTERNATIVES # 1-4



PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Alternate 1
 - Too tight if all 3 fields are in use at the same time
- Alternate 2
 - Consider adding an amphitheater to the community area
 - Western Ave. is a true boulevard – bring the beauty of the park out to the street
 - Wall is critical – offers protection for the kids in the playground
 - Hockey near passive area can be disruptive
 - Balls from bike polo hit outside of the fence – should not be near the street/passive area
- Alternate 3
 - Soccer too close to softball
 - Brighton High girls use multi-use fields
 - Full size football / soccer, multi-sport field needed
- Alternate #4
 - Scheme is “Perfect”. Provides 4 baseball/softball, separate multi-use field, 2 hockey courts, and basketball.

ALTERNATE COMPARISON

- Greatest quantity per feature (in yellow)

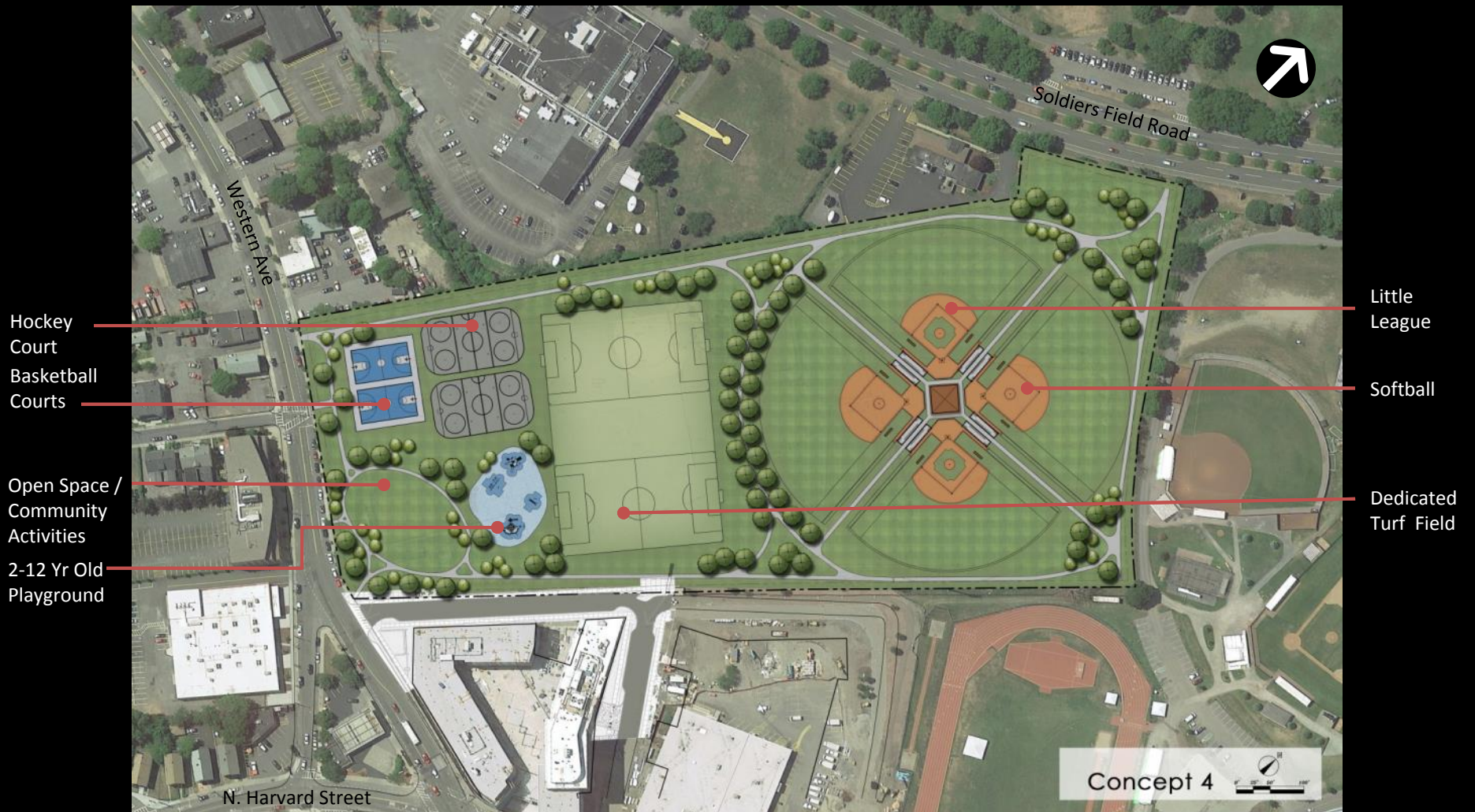
Alternative	Little League	Softball	Multi-use Field	Dedicated Field	Hockey	Basketball
Existing	2	3	2	0	1	2
#1	1	4	1.5	0	2	2
#2	1	3	1.5	0	1	2
#3	2	2	1.5	0	1	2
#4	2	2	0	1	2	2

- Alternate with greatest quantities per feature (in yellow)

Alternative	Little League	Softball	Multi-use Field	Dedicated Field	Hockey	Basketball
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5. Preferred Concept Refinement

ALTERNATIVE #4: Preferred Concept



Likes

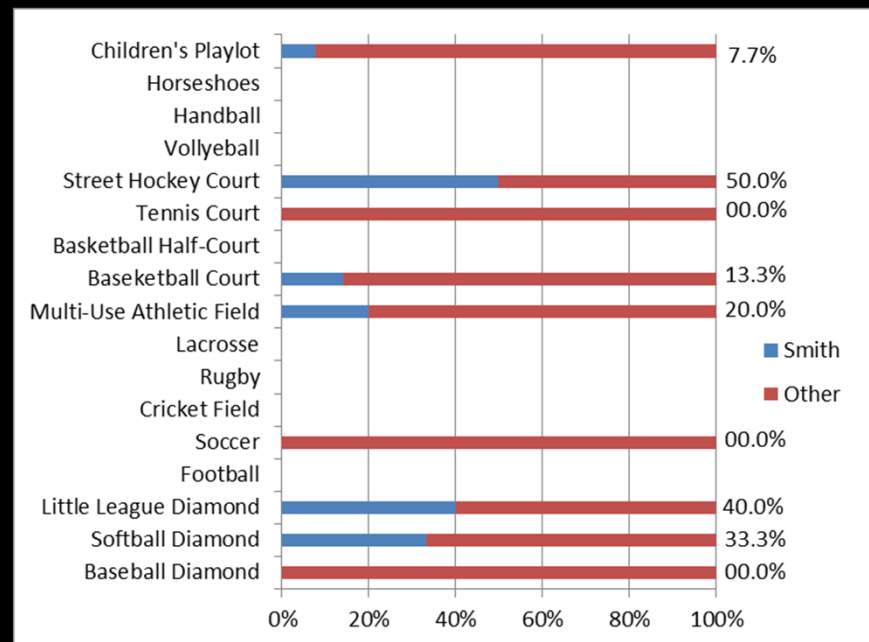
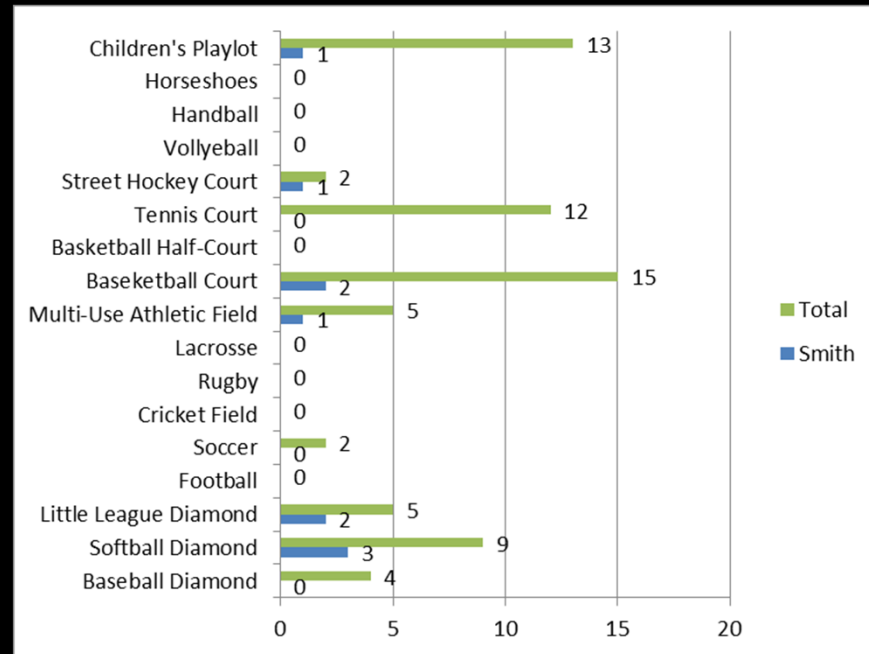
- Strong organization of ball fields
- Dedicated soccer field
- Two hockey courts
- Two basketball courts
- Passive area at corner of Western Avenue & Park Road

Dislikes

- Location of courts near passive area
- Still too much recreation?

PLAYGROUND OFFERINGS

- 5th largest open space in Allston-Brighton.
- One of 6 city parks in AB that provides Little League and softball.
- Only 1 of 4 that provides field sports.
- Largest of playgrounds with similar offerings.
- In AB, accounts for:
 - 20% of multi-use fields
 - 33% of softball
 - 40% of little league
 - 50% of street hockey



REFINEMENTS

- Relocate courts to center of playground.
- Review existing trees and save as feasible.



Tree Inventory



SMITH PLAYGROUND
Tree Inventory

10-29-2015

6.

Concept Overview

Preferred Concept



**Concept Image
(Looking East)**



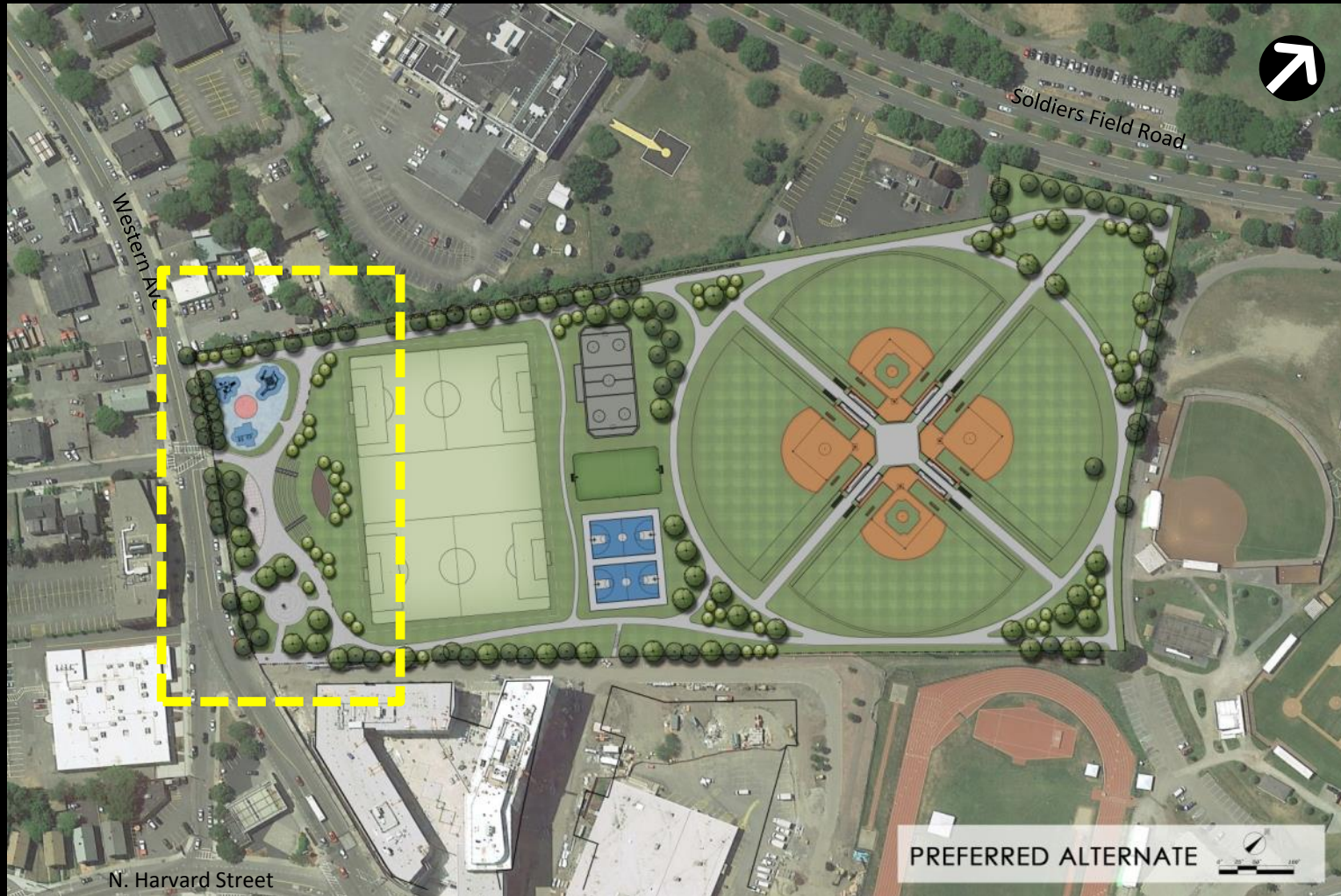
**Concept Image
(Looking Southwest)**



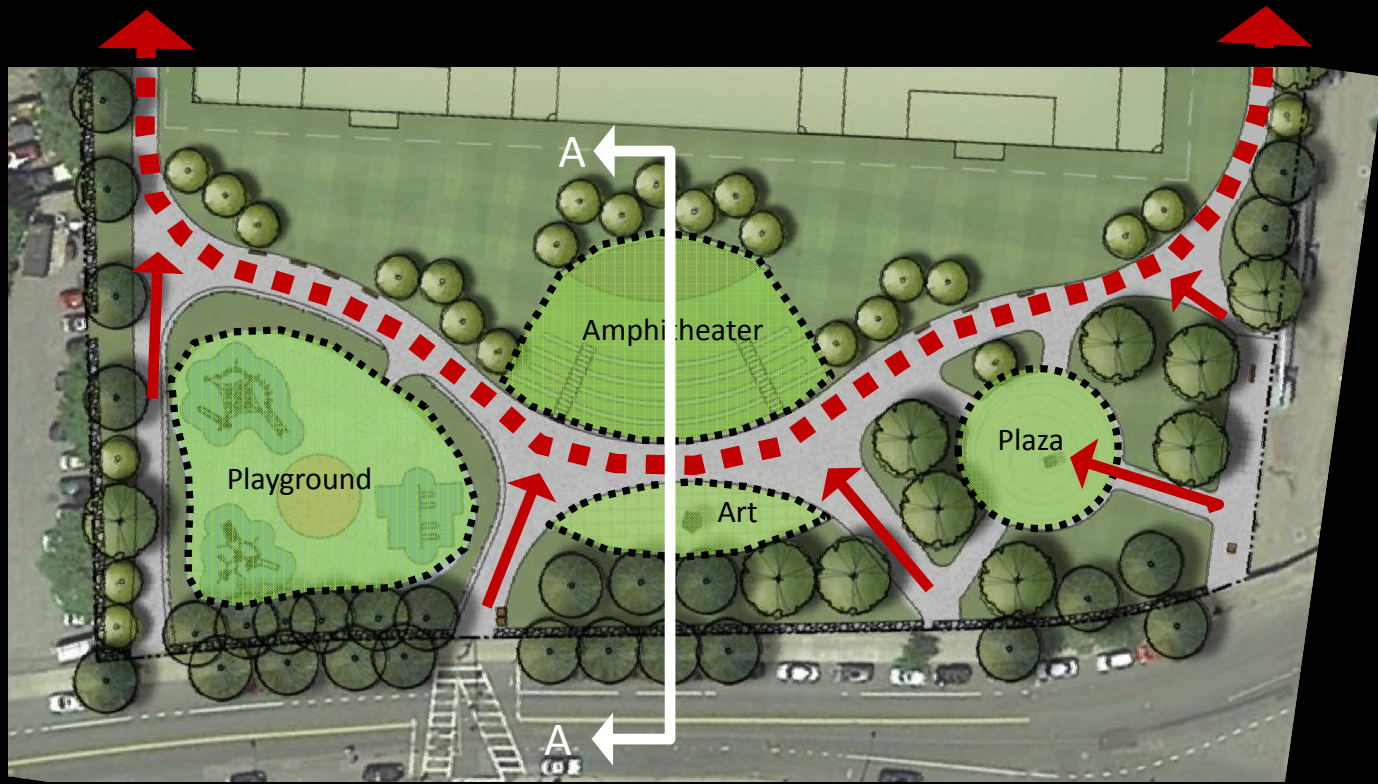
**Concept Image
(Looking Northeast)**

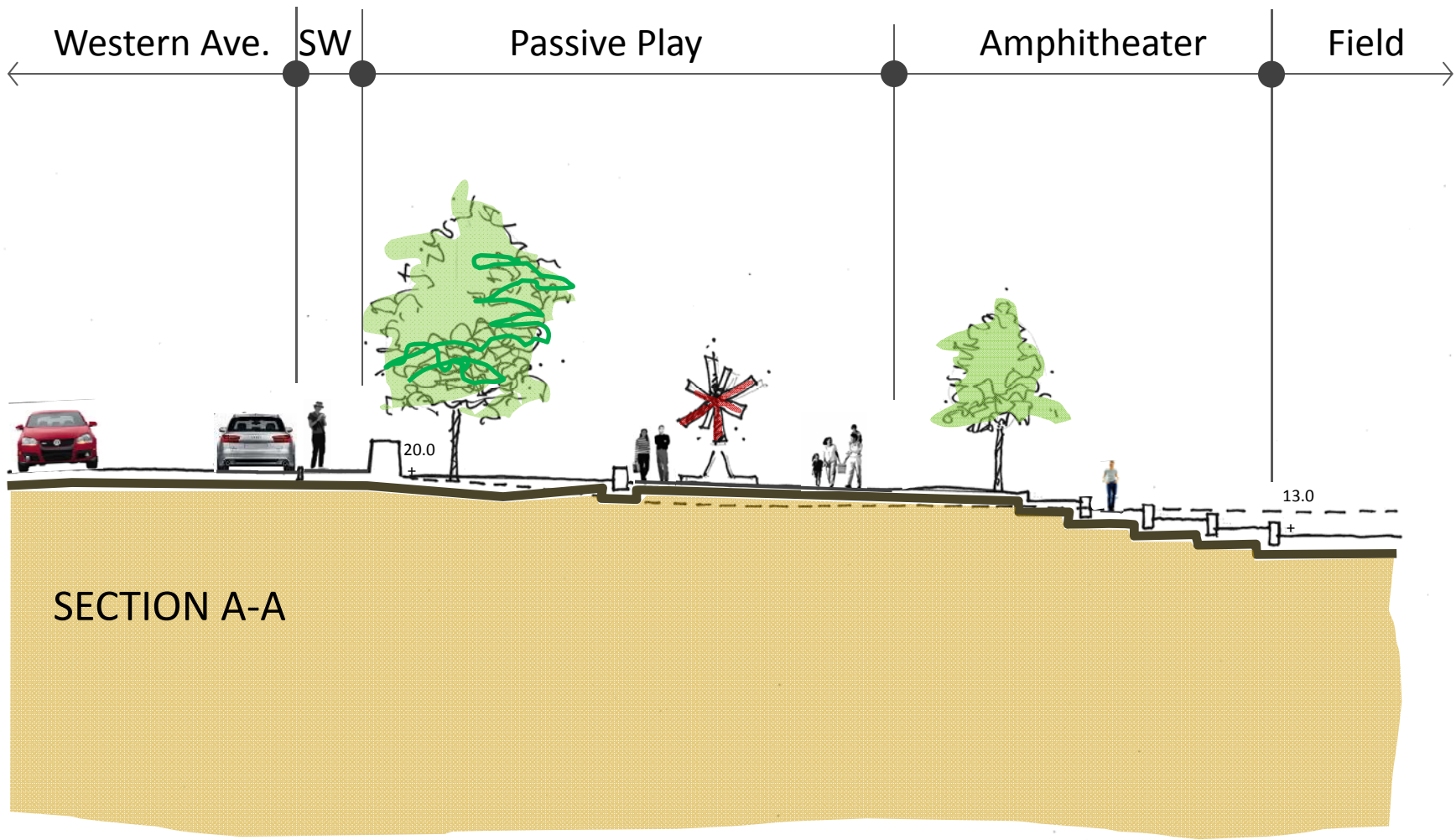


Passive Area

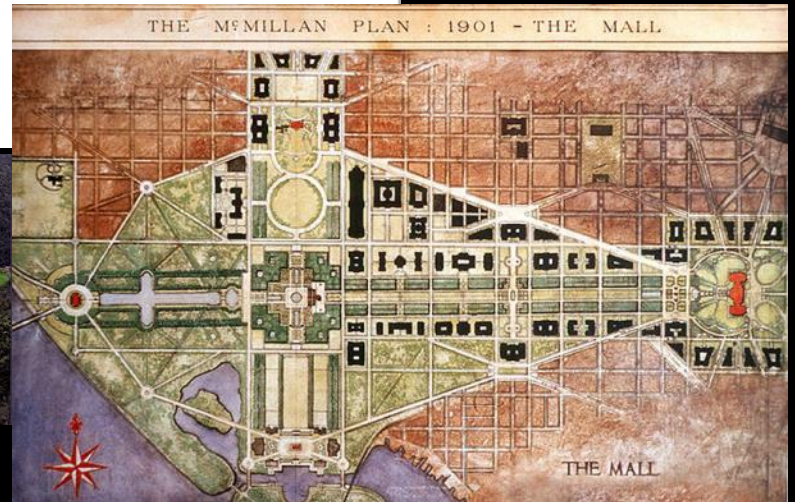
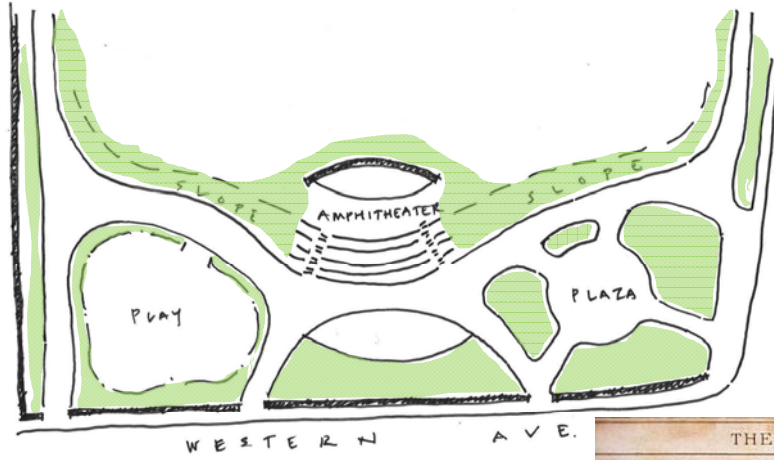


Concept Update





Sinuuous + Linked



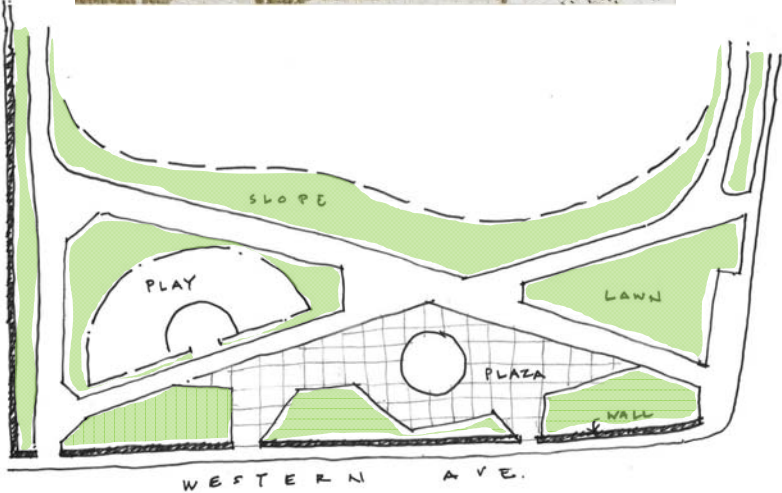
Symmetrical



Organic/Flowing



Angular



Greensward



Amphitheater

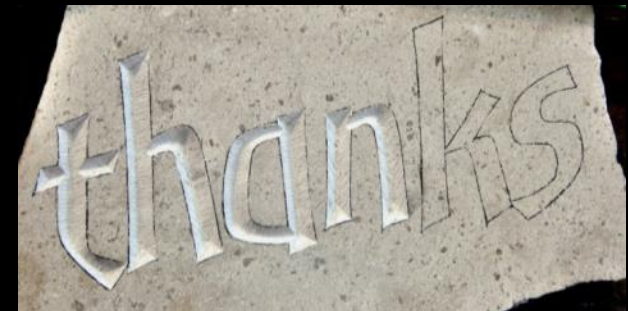
- Usable space w/ informal seating.



William F. Smith Recognition

- Dedicated on August 9th in honor of U.S. Marine Corps veteran William Francis Smith of Allston, who was killed in the line of duty in Soissons, France on July 20, 1918.
- Current playground lacks proper memorial.
- Manner of recognition to be determined.

**NAMING OF WILLIAM F. SMITH
PLAYGROUND.**
Coun. McLAUGHLIN offered an order—
That the Board of Park Commissioners be re-
quested, through his Honor the Mayor, to have
the playground now known as the North Brighton
Playground named the William Francis Smith
Playground, in memory of said Smith, who gave
his life for the cause of freedom in the World
War, and that said playground be suitably marked.
Passed under a suspension of the rule.



Peace Pole

- A Peace Pole is a hand-crafted monument that displays the message and prayer ***May Peace Prevail on Earth*** on each of its four or six sides, usually in different languages. There are tens of thousands of Peace Poles in 180 countries all over the world dedicated as monuments to peace. They serve as constant reminders for us to visualize and pray for world peace.



Public Art

- Sculpture as focal point of passive area?



Public Art

- Labyrinth?



Cycle Repair Station

- Compact, prefabricated tool and air station



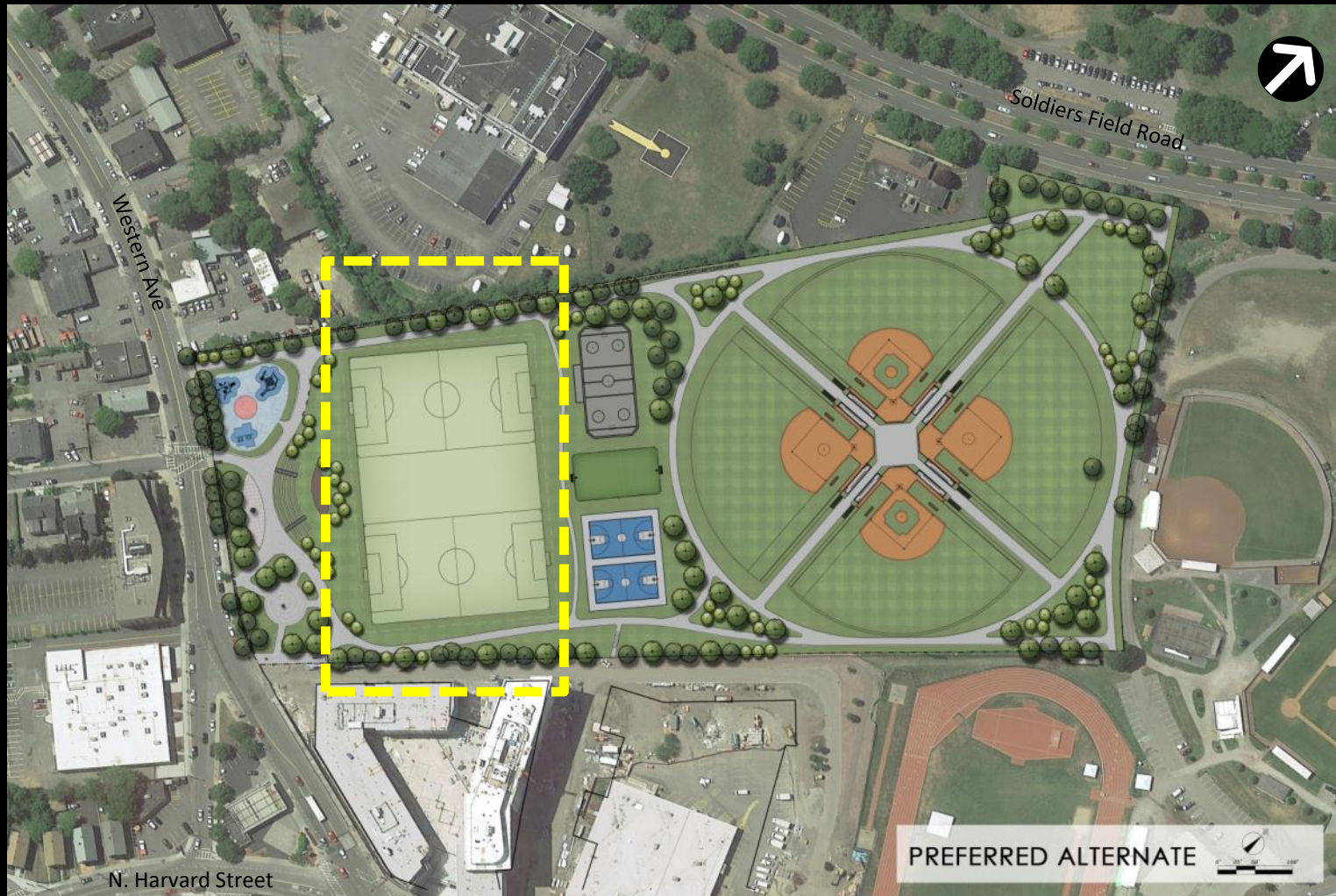
FIXIT



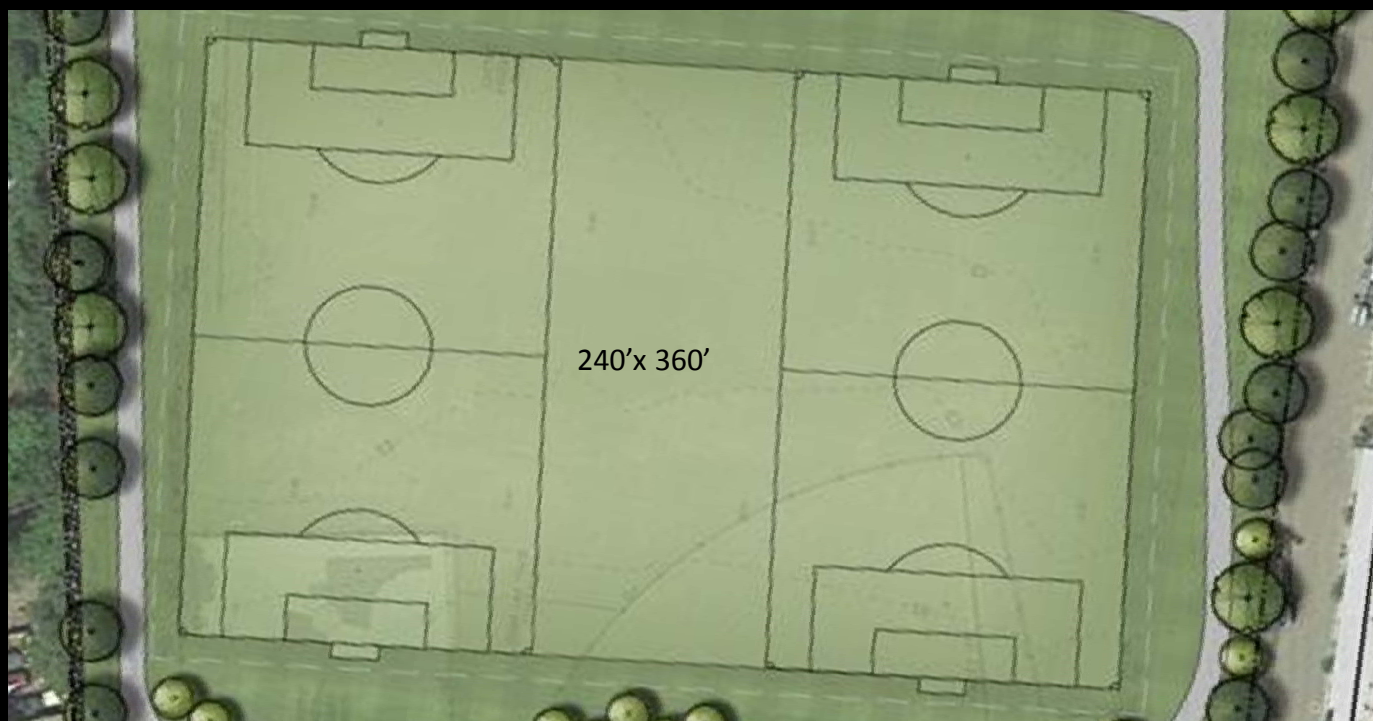
FINISH OPTIONS



Dedicated Sports Field



Dedicated Sports Field

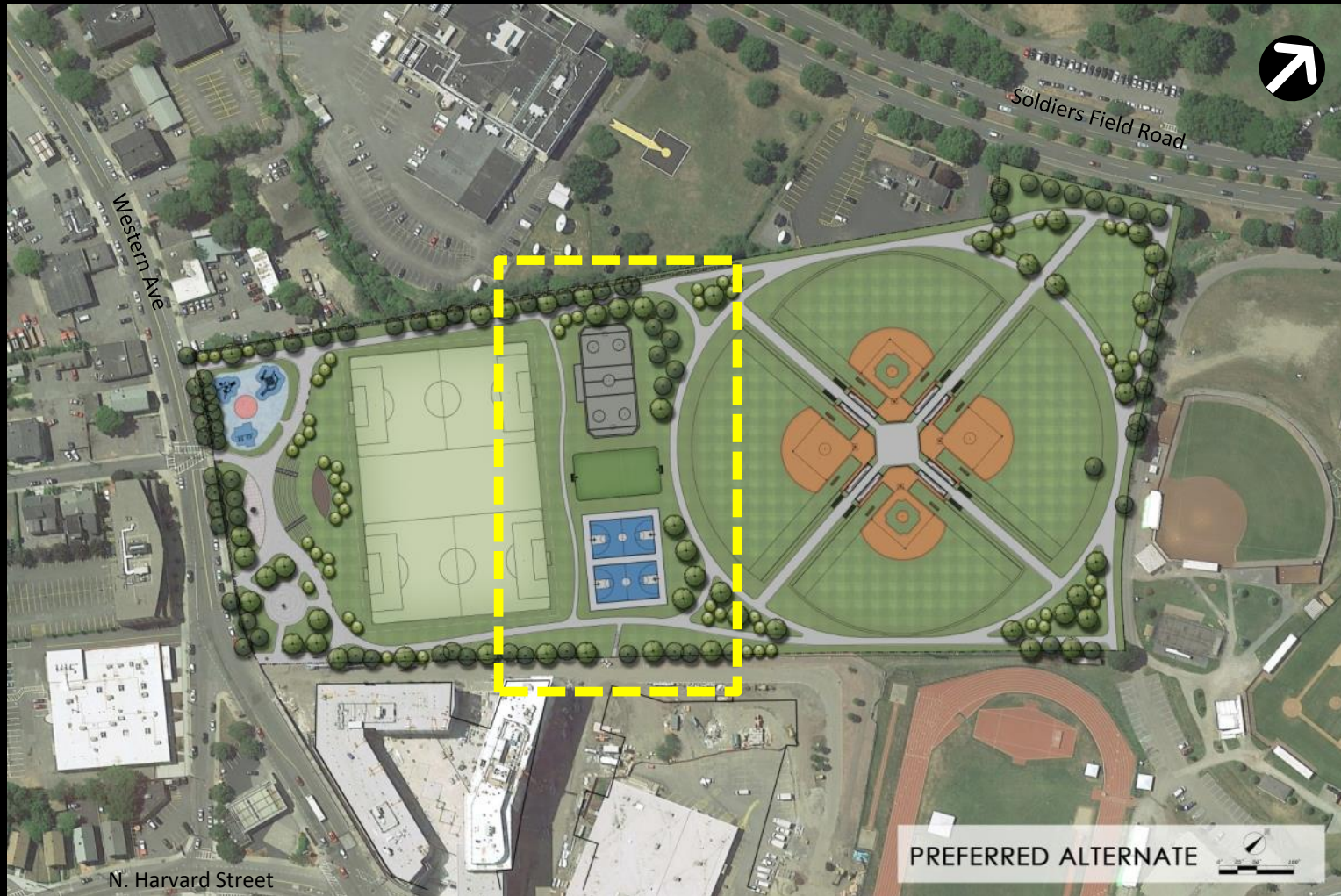


Dedicated Sports Field

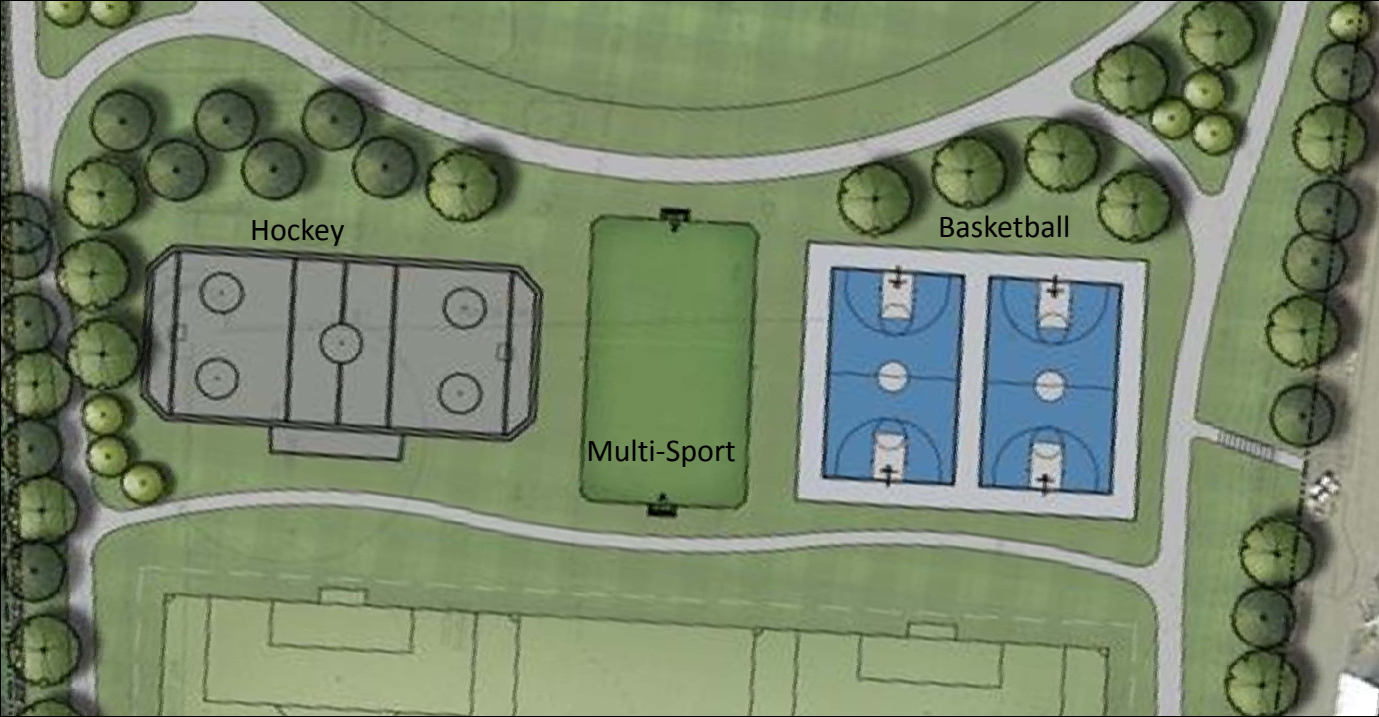
- 240' x 360' full size
- (2) 136' x 240' 8 v 8
- Other uses

Small Sided Field Dimensions					
	3v3	4V4	6V6	8V8	11V11
Length *	25-30 yards	40-50 yards	50-60 yards	70-80 yards	100 yards
Width *	20 yards	30 yards	40yards	45-50 yards	60 yards
Goal **	4'h X 6'w	4'h X 6'w to 6'h X 12'w	6'h X 18'w	7'h X 21w	8'h X 24w
Goal Area	none	3 yards from each goal post and 3 yards into field of play	6 yards from each goal post and 6 yards into field of play	3 yards from each goal post and 3 yards into field of play	6 yards from each goal post and 6 yards into field of play
Penalty Area	none	Not needed	12yd from each goal post and 12 yards into the field of play	14yd from each goal post and 14 yards into the field of play	18yd from each goal post and 18 yards into the field of play
Penalty Spot	n/a	n/a	9 yds from center of goal line	10 yds from center of goal line	12 yds from center of goal line
Center Circle	3 yard radius	5 yard radius	8 yard radius	8 yard radius	10 yard radius
Corner Arc	2' radius	2' radius	2' radius	2' radius	3' radius
Corner Flags	cone or 5' flags	cone or 5' flags	standard	standard	standard

Courts Area



Courts Area



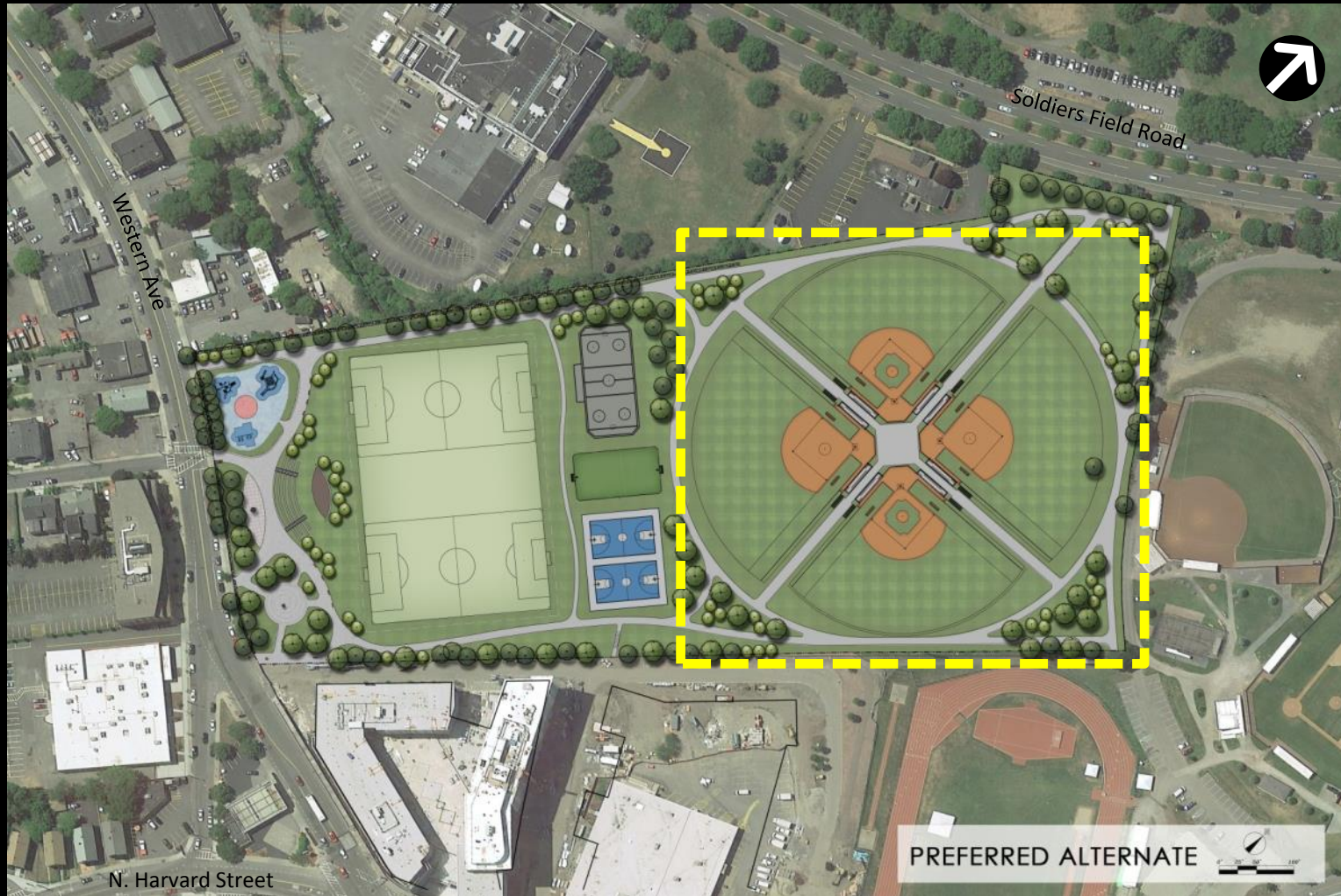
FREEGAME COURT

- 61' x 120' Multi-sport court including soccer, volleyball, basketball



Ballfields

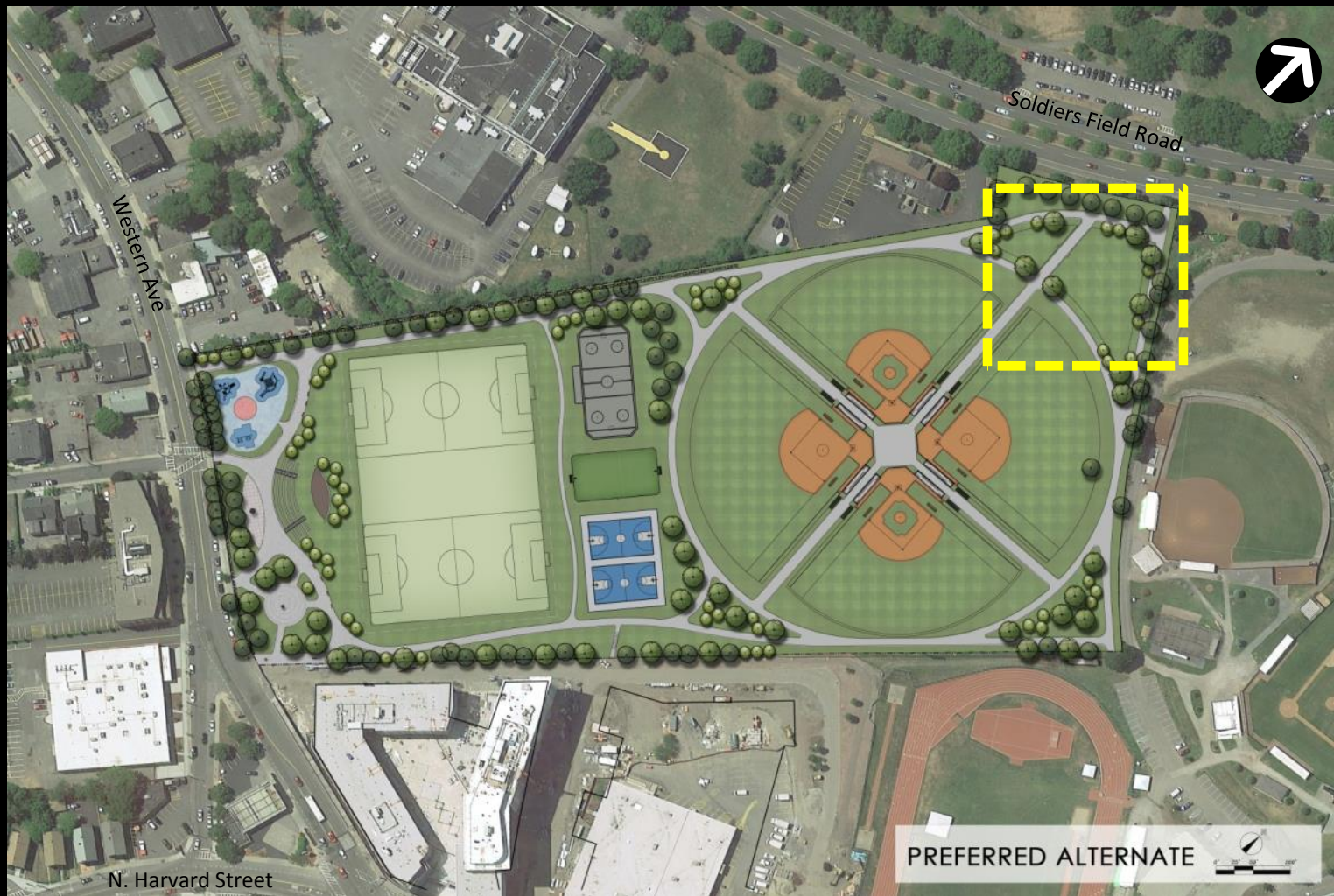
Baseball fields - 200 ft . outfield
Softball fields— 240 ft. outfield



Ballfields



Potential Dog Park

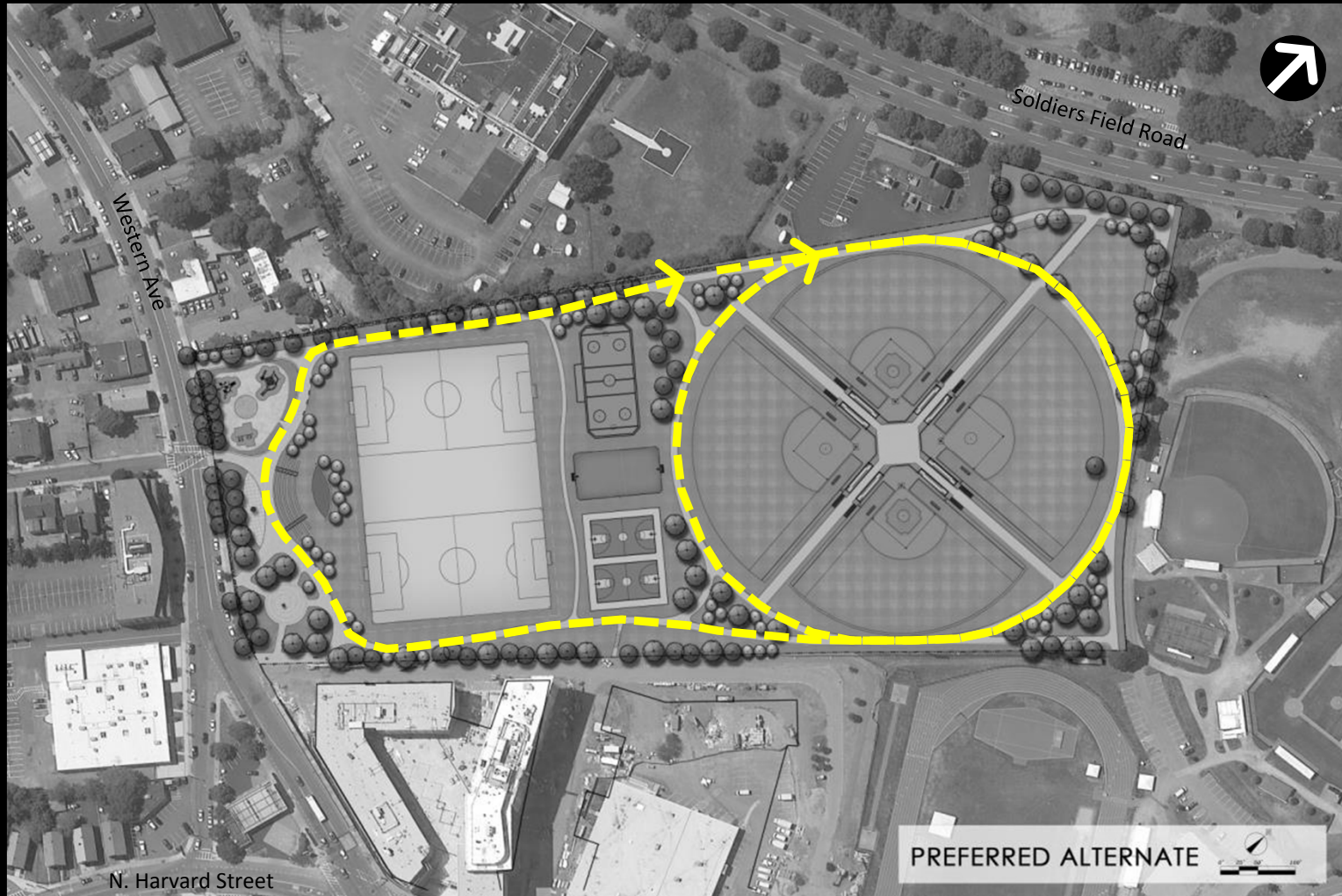


Potential Dog Park

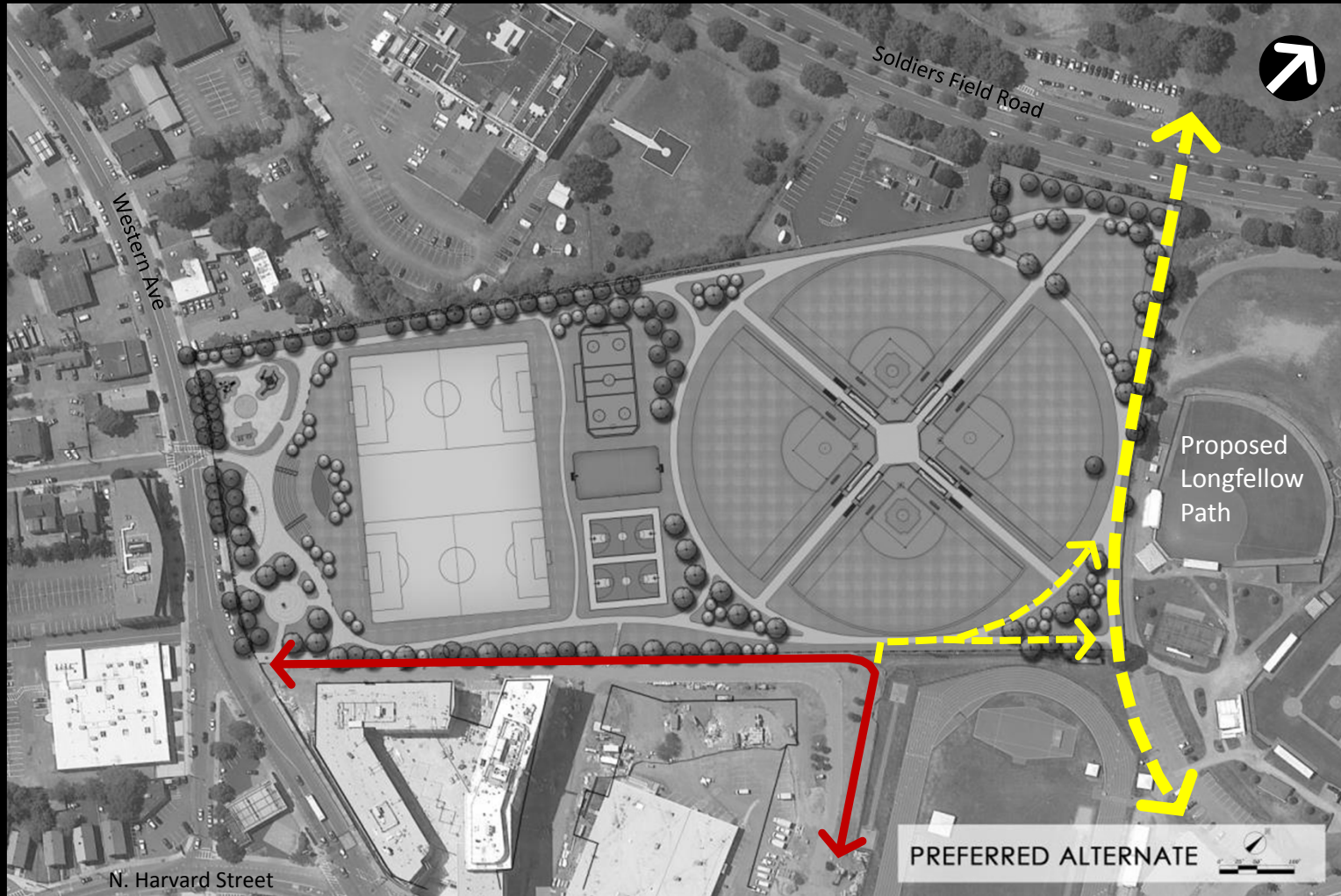


Baseball fields circulation – 1813.5 ft. = 0.34 mile
Perimeter circulation – 2890 ft. = 0.55 miles

Perimeter Loops

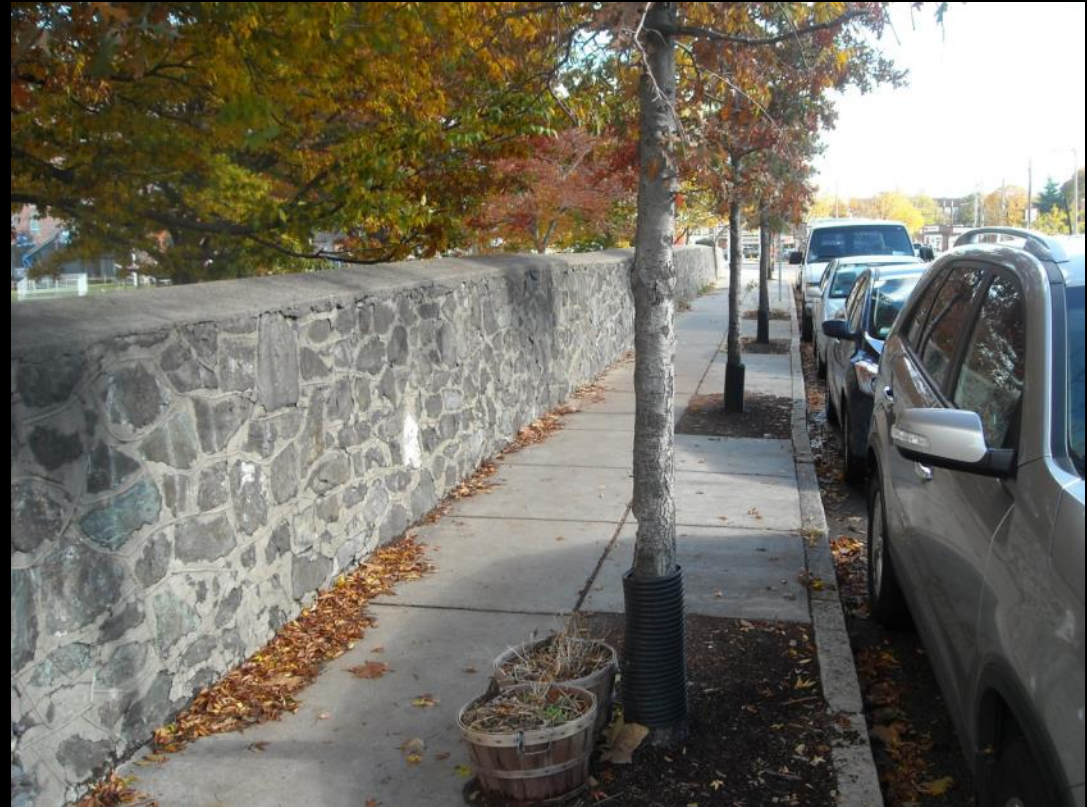


Pathway Links



Stone Wall

- Existing Stone wall on two sides including along west side (Western Ave.) and along North side
- Wall is in various states of disrepair.



Elevation - Existing

Elevation - Option

Stone Wall

- Wall along north side of park has significant deterioration.



7. Listening / Discussion

THOUGHTS, IDEAS....

- Do you like what you see?
- Anything else you think belongs in the park?



8. Next Steps

Next Steps

- Finalize Master Plan.
- Develop Costs and Phasing Sequence.
- Move towards Phase 1 of Design.
- Additional public meetings to occur during Design Phase.



Preferred Concept

