

McCONNELL PARK CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

AUGUST 2021



Thank you for your continued interest in the McConnell Park construction project!

WHAT TO EXPECT IN AUGUST:

- Playground walls and subgrade are in place. Some playground equipment is on site and may start installation later in the month.
- Sports lighting foundations are installed on the playing fields. Other foundations will be installed in the playing field for scoreboards and shade structures. Light poles and sports lighting fixtures will be installed when they arrive on site in the next few weeks.
- The e-layer for the Challenger Field has been installed. This is a shock absorption layer under the turf that provides safety and a degree of “springy-ness” to the surface.
- Some concrete pads for dugouts and bleacher areas around the backstops have been installed. Work on the field will continue in August.
- Utility work for drainage and electrical has begun and will continue in the field and parking lot.
- BPRD is assessing whether it is possible to place temporary trash barrels in the portion of the park that is accessible to vehicles.



ACCESS TO MALIBU BEACH

- The access to the Harborwalk has been restored from Bayside Street and Southview Street. There is also an accessible route from Denny Street. Minor refinements are still underway.
- Fine grading of planting areas, loam, seed, plantings, and trees will follow in the Fall (planting is



recommended in cooler seasons for viability of installation).

- The temporary access to the Dorchester Yacht Club and DCR parking lot was shifted to the east to allow demolition to be completed. This configuration will continue throughout the summer.

TREES:

- In 2020, the City discovered Emerald Ash Borer in some Ash trees (*Fraxinus spp.*). EAB is a major threat to the urban canopy, but the threat can be slowed through insecticidal treatments. Approximately 12 of the trees at the top of the slope between Denny and Bayside are ashes. The first round of annual injections to protect these trees were completed in July. The injection treatment will continue for the next few years as we continue to monitor the canopy citywide.

NEIGHBORHOOD PARKING:

Pat Fandel at the Mayor’s Office of Neighborhood Services has requested that neighborhood parking issues be directed to 311 (or www.boston.gov/311). This will allow him to document the need for relief and coordinate with BTM.

OTHER ITEMS:

Please use [311](http://www.boston.gov/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-mcconnell-playground>

Previous Updates:

June 2021:

<https://www.boston.gov/sites/default/files/file/2021/06/McConnell%20Update%20June%202021.pdf>

July 2021:

<https://www.boston.gov/sites/default/files/file/2021/07/McConnell%20Update%20July%202021%20%281%29.pdf>

Please reach out with any additional questions. cathy.baker-eclipse@boston.gov or 617-961-3058.