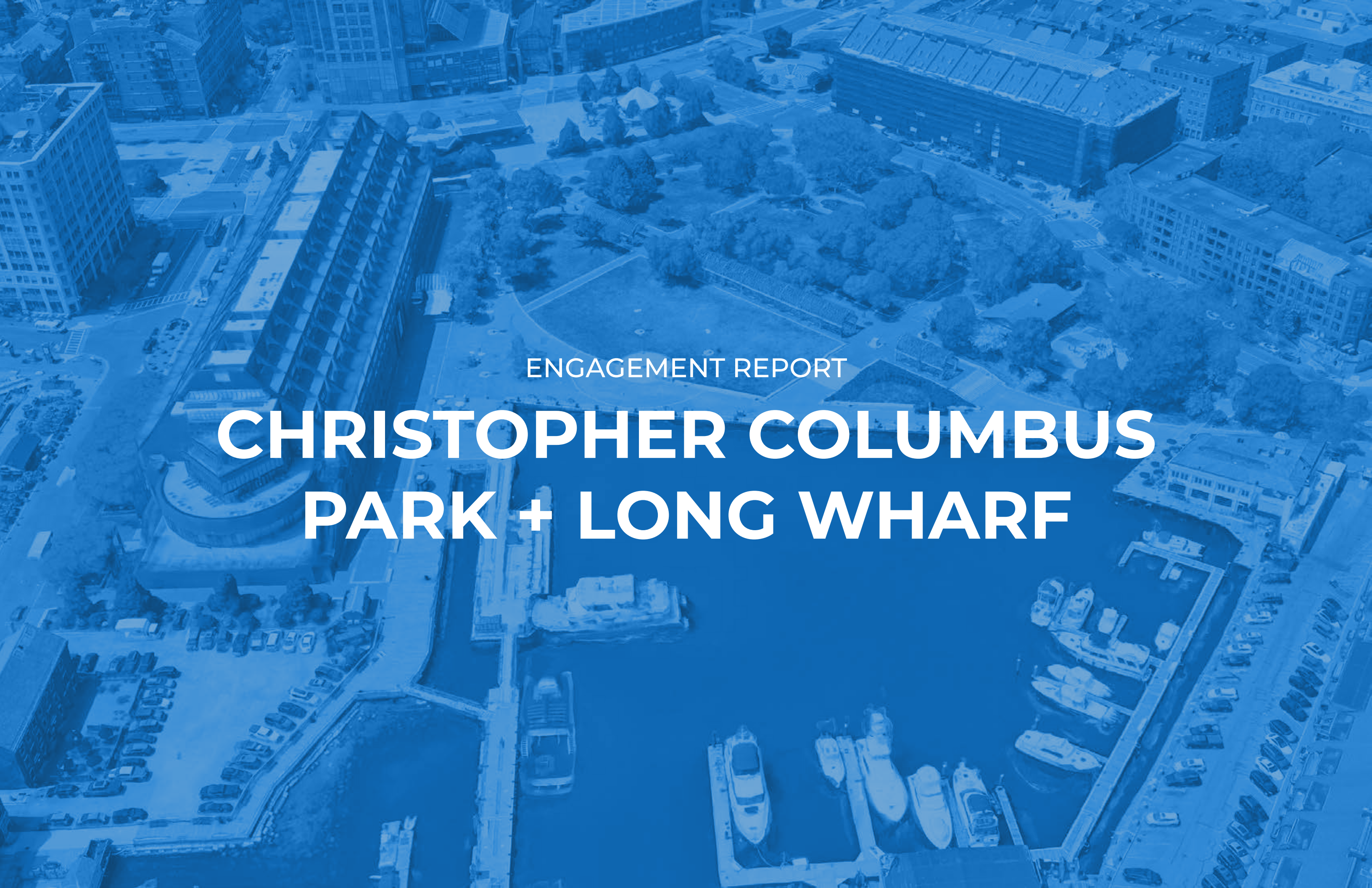
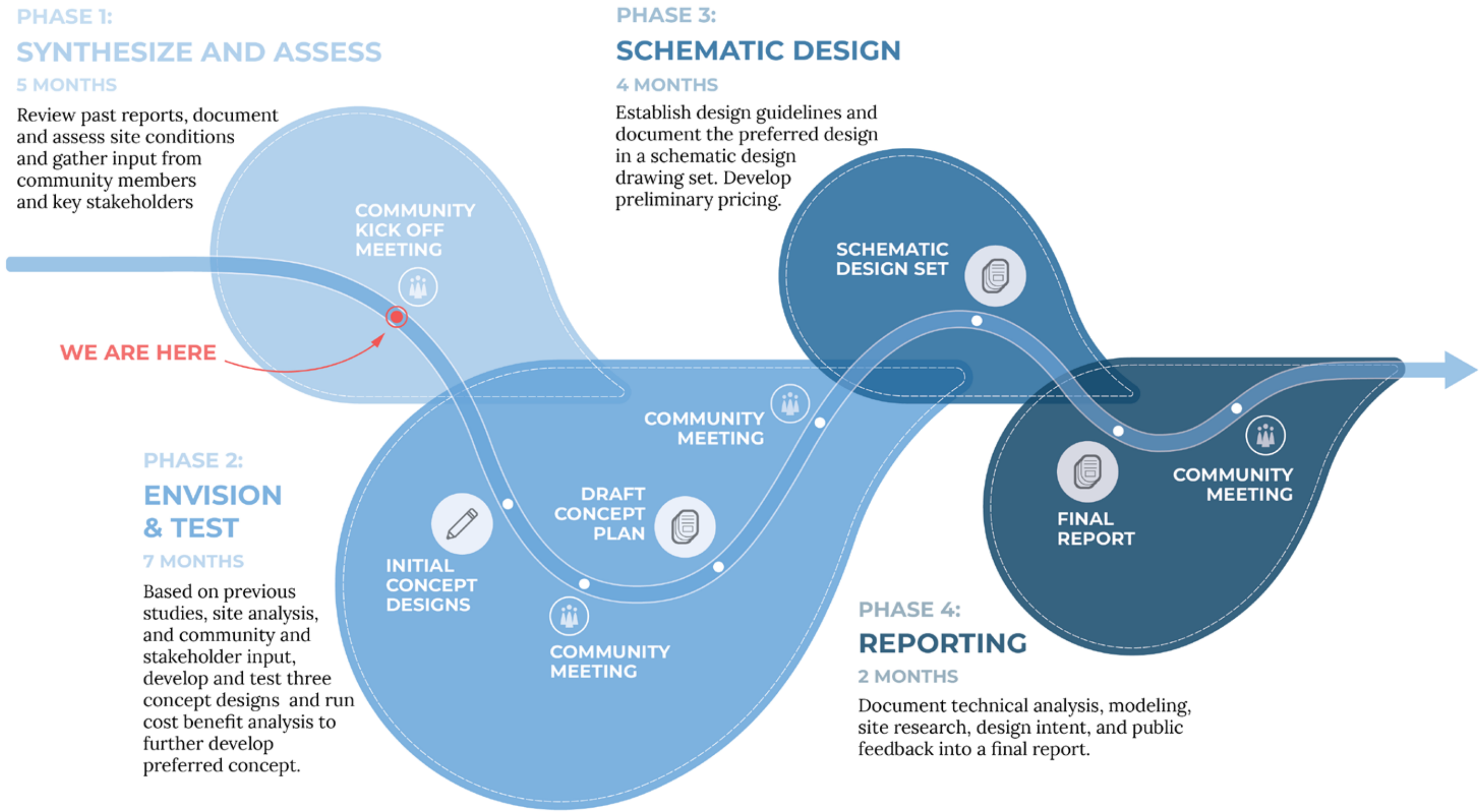


An aerial photograph of a city area, specifically Christopher Columbus Park and Long Wharf, overlaid with a solid blue color. The image shows a mix of urban architecture, including tall buildings and parking lots, as well as green spaces with trees and a waterfront area with boats docked. The text is centered over the image.

ENGAGEMENT REPORT

CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS PARK + LONG WHARF

PROJECT PROCESS



Project process and timeline for the Resilient Christopher Columbus Park + Long Wharf Project.

ENGAGEMENT BY THE NUMBERS

COMMUNITY WORKSHOP ON SEPTEMBER 29TH, 2026

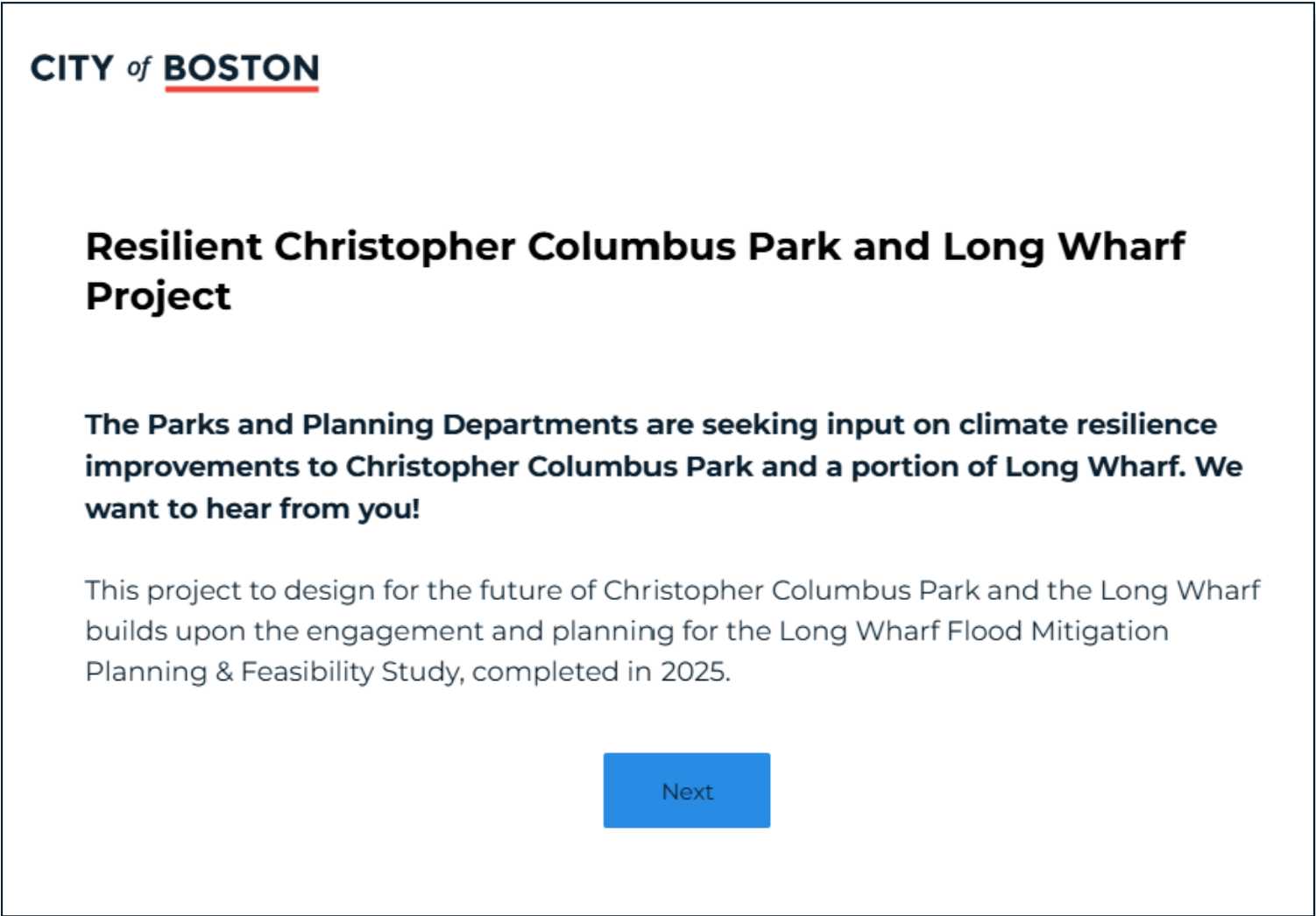
- One afternoon workshop in Christopher Columbus Park
- One evening workshop in City Hall Civic Pavilion
- **39** total sign-ins, ~90 estimated attendees

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION

- Workshops had four information stations that were color coded by topic:
 - **Introduction:** Project scope + process
 - **People:** Demographics + park uses
 - **Place:** Park + Long Wharf character
 - **Protection:** Resiliency for the Park + Long Wharf
- Stations and feedback responses are shown of the following pages



ONGOING ENGAGEMENT TOOLS



Vertical and ground sticker signage throughout the Park + Wharf

Online Survey



Signage materials have a QR code to the online survey

HOW WE GOT THE WORD OUT

HOME

EVENTS

CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS PARK AND LONG WHARF COMMUNITY MEETING 1

Last updated: 9/25/26

CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS PARK AND LONG WHARF COMMUNITY MEETING 1

Join us for an in-person community meeting about site analysis and next steps for Christopher Columbus Park and the Long Wharf!

UPCOMING MEETING LOCATIONS AND TIMES:

▶ Christopher Columbus Park near the Harborwalk, 12:30 - 2 p.m.

▶ Civic Pavilion (City Hall), 6 - 7:30 p.m.

▶ IN THE EVENT OF RAIN, MEETING WILL BE IN THE MARRIOTT HOTEL "M CLUB LOUNGE," ADJACENT TO THE PARK, AT 296 STATE ST.

September 29, 2026

6:00PM - 7:30PM

CIVIC PAVILION
5 CONGRESS ST
BOSTON, MA 02203

Contact: B CHATFIELD

SEND AN EMAIL

Price: PRICE FREE

Neighborhood: NEIGHBORHOOD DOWNTOWN

Event Type: CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Published Date
08/31/2026 - 2:40PM

City Webpage Post

CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS PARK AND LONG WHARF

Your Voice Matters!



In-Person Community Meeting 1

Tuesday, September 29, 2026 | 12:30-2:00 pm

Christopher Columbus Park, 110 Atlantic Avenue

Boston, MA 02110

In-Person Community Meeting 1

Tuesday, September 29, 2026 | 6:00-7:30 pm

Civic Pavilion, 5 Congress St

Boston, MA 02203

Project page: boston.gov/columbus-long-wharf

Join us for in person community meetings about site analysis and next steps for Christopher Columbus Park and Long Wharf!

Interpretation and translation services are available to you at no cost. If you need them, please contact us at abigail.chatfield@boston.gov or 617-504-7709 by 9/21/2026.

CITY of BOSTON

 City of Boston
Parks and Recreation

In Park Flyers

Beacon Signage throughout the Park + Wharf

CITY of BOSTON

WHAT DID WE LEARN?

COMMUNITY WORKSHOP IMPRESSIONS

WORKSHOP ATTENDEES WANT...

- Abundant trees and shade
- Green infrastructure features that support biodiversity and mitigate pollution and flooding
- Spots to rest and view the waterfront
- A clean and well-maintained park and mitigated water pollution
- Any resilience improvements shouldn't change the experience of the waterfront and the park



PEOPLE

WHAT'S YOUR RELATIONSHIP
TO THE PARK AND WHARF?

WHO DO YOU COME HERE
WITH?

HOW OFTEN DO YOU COME
TO THE PARK AND WHARF?



UNDERSTANDING WHO USES THE PARK + WHARF

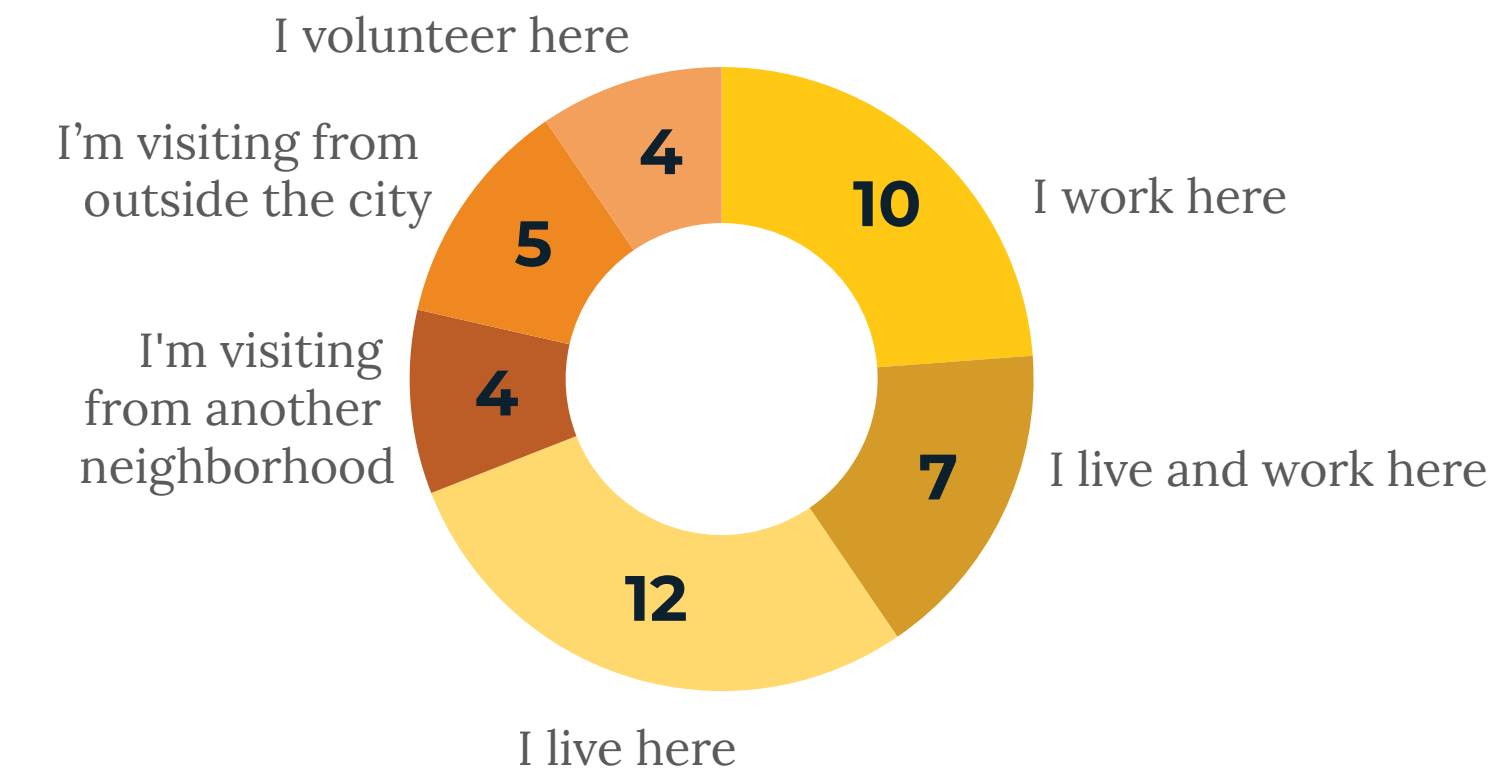
The design team produced triangular boards color coded for three themes: People, Place, and Performance. The People boards (yellow) presented characteristics of residents around the park and how the park is used.

Workshop participants placed stickers on an activity board to indicate their relationship to the area, who they visit the park with, and how often.



WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS REFLECTED DIVERSE RELATIONSHIPS TO THE AREA

WHAT'S YOUR RELATIONSHIP TO THE PARK AND WHARF?

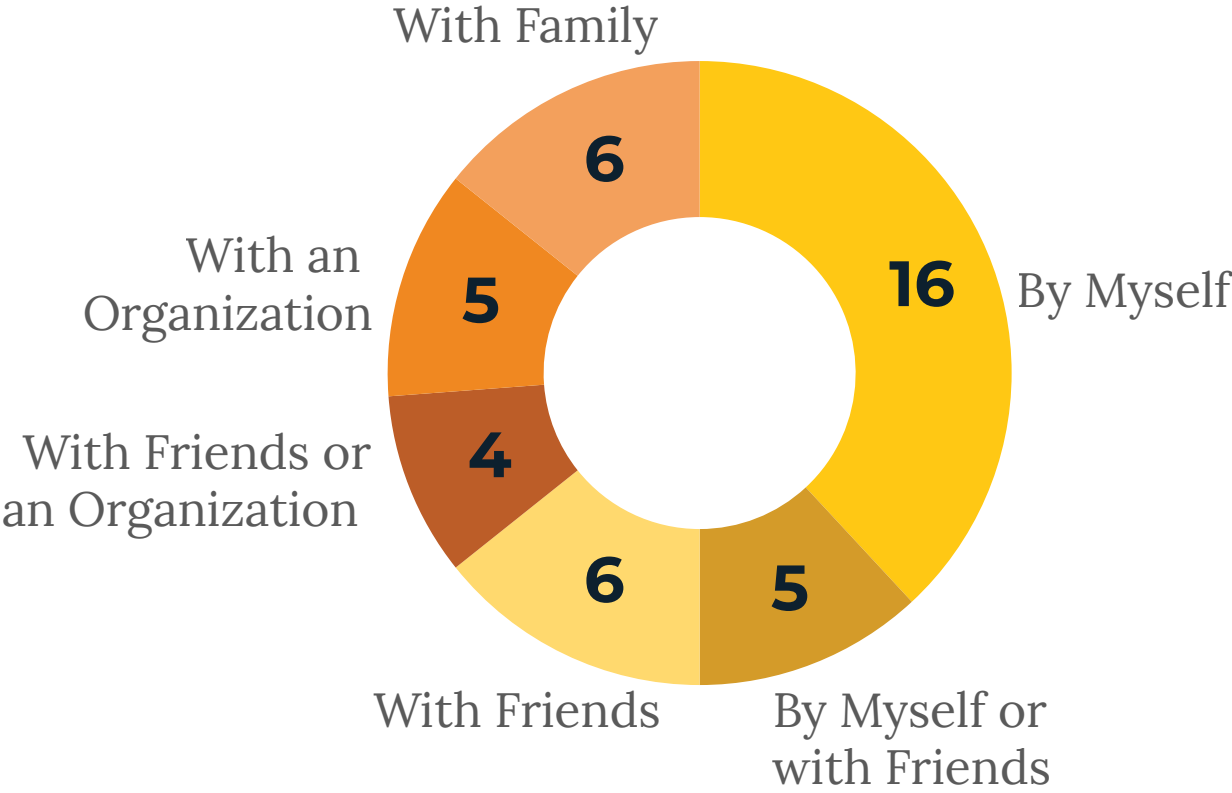


Workshop Responses



THE PARK + WHARF WELCOME MANY INDEPENDENT VISITS

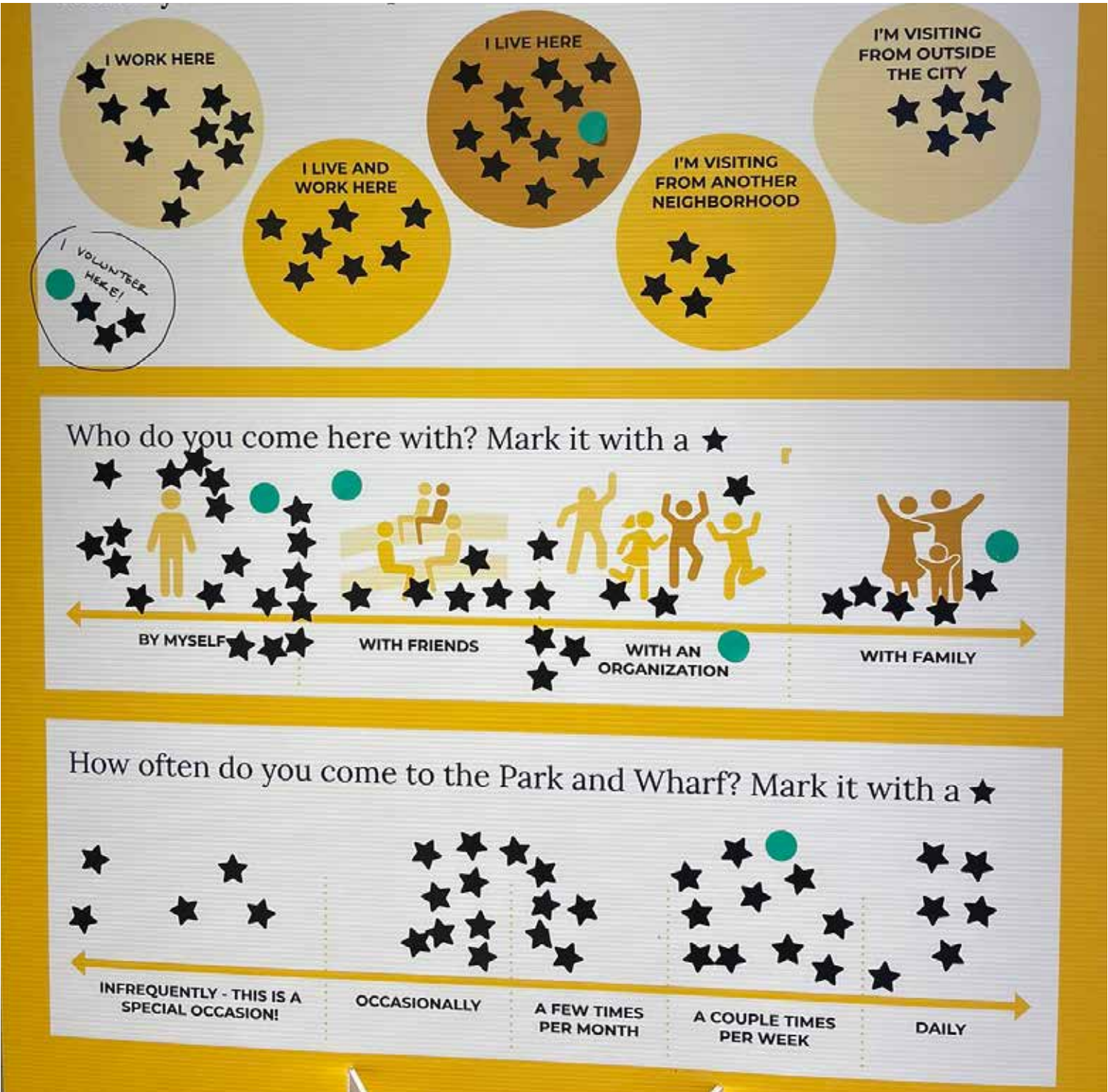
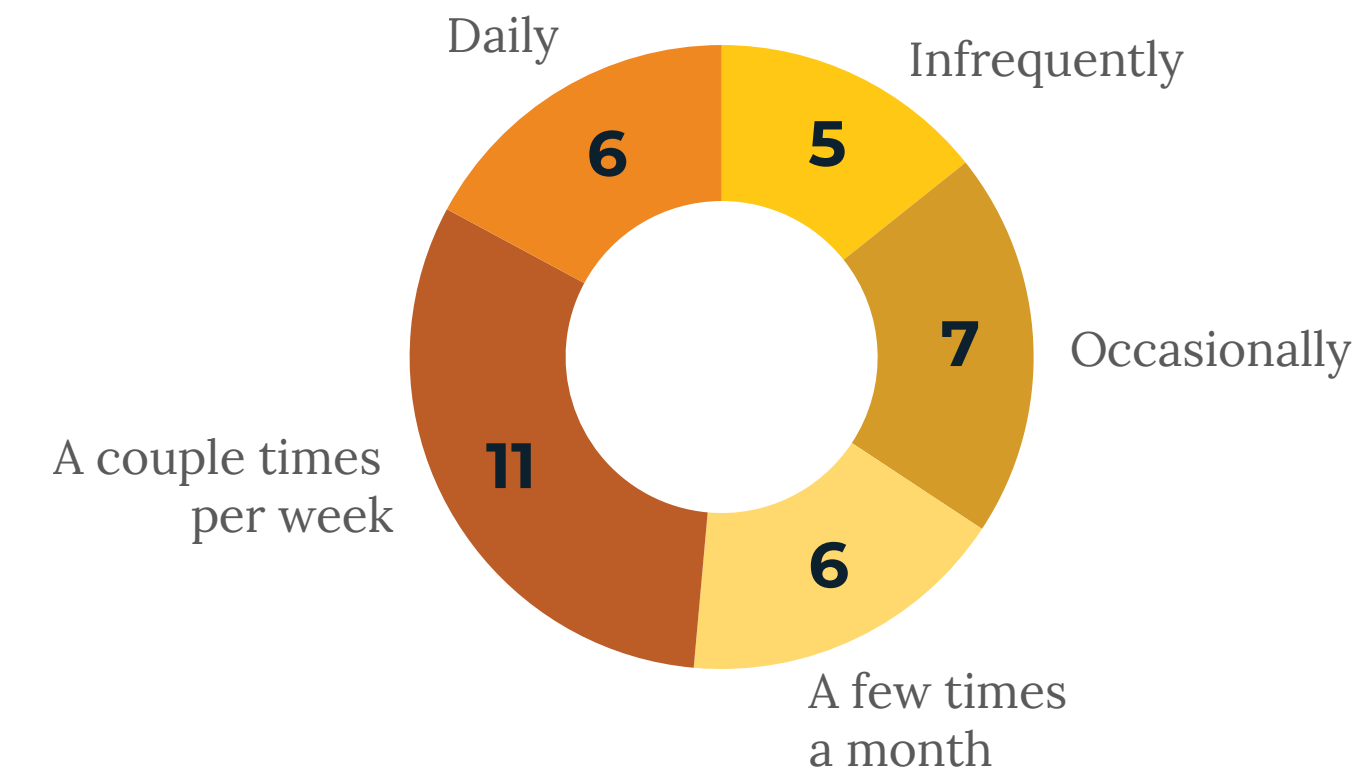
WHO DO YOU COME HERE WITH?



Workshop Responses: Pie chart includes workshop responses only. Online survey responses reflect similar patterns.

WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS VISIT THE PARK REGULARLY

HOW OFTEN DO YOU COME TO THE PARK AND WHARF?



Workshop Responses: Pie chart includes workshop responses only. Online survey shows higher proportion of daily and infrequent users.

PLACE

WHAT USES ARE
IMPORTANT TO YOU?

HOW DO THESE AMENITIES
MEET YOUR NEEDS?



LEARNING ABOUT RELATIONSHIPS TO PLACE

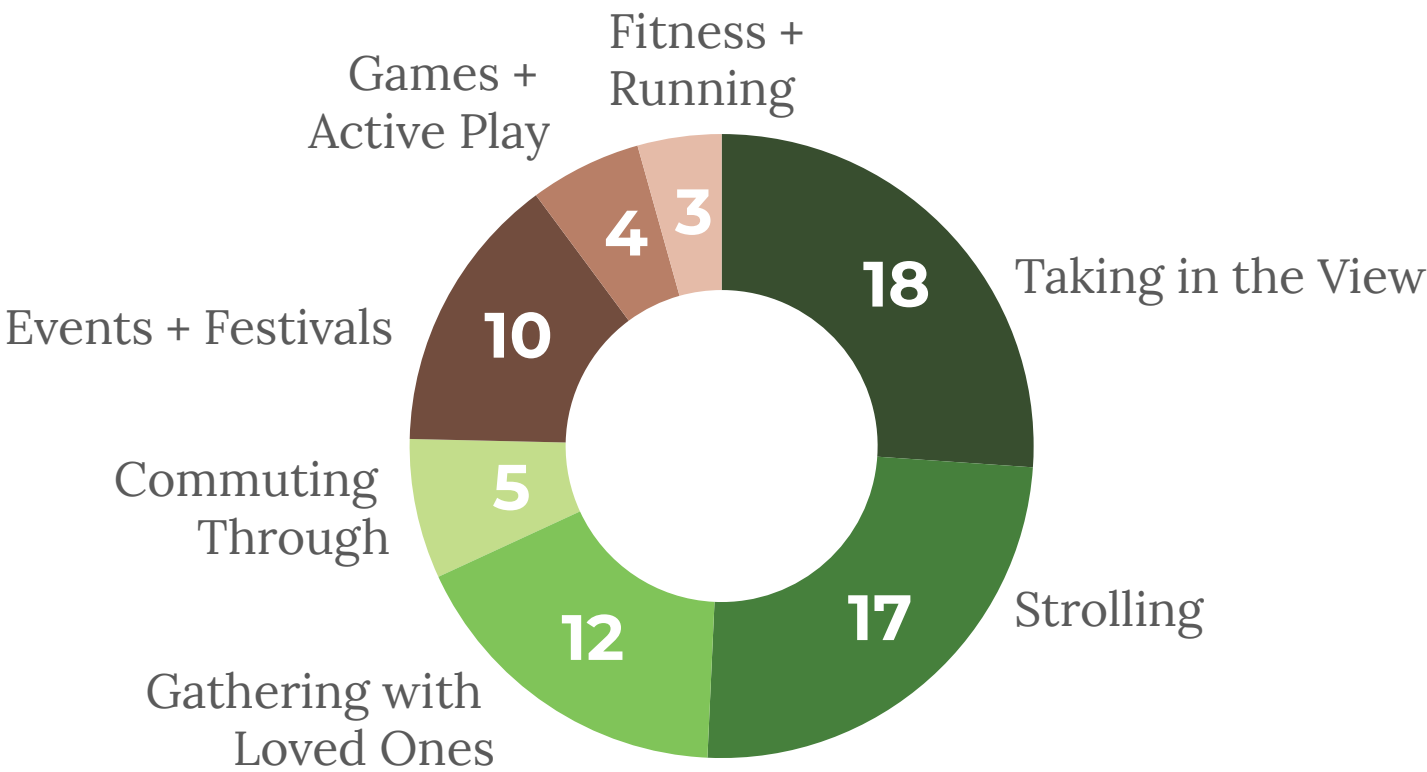
The People boards (green) presented characteristics of the physical site and its changes over time.

Participants shared their most important use type by placing a sticker on the board along a spectrum of activities.



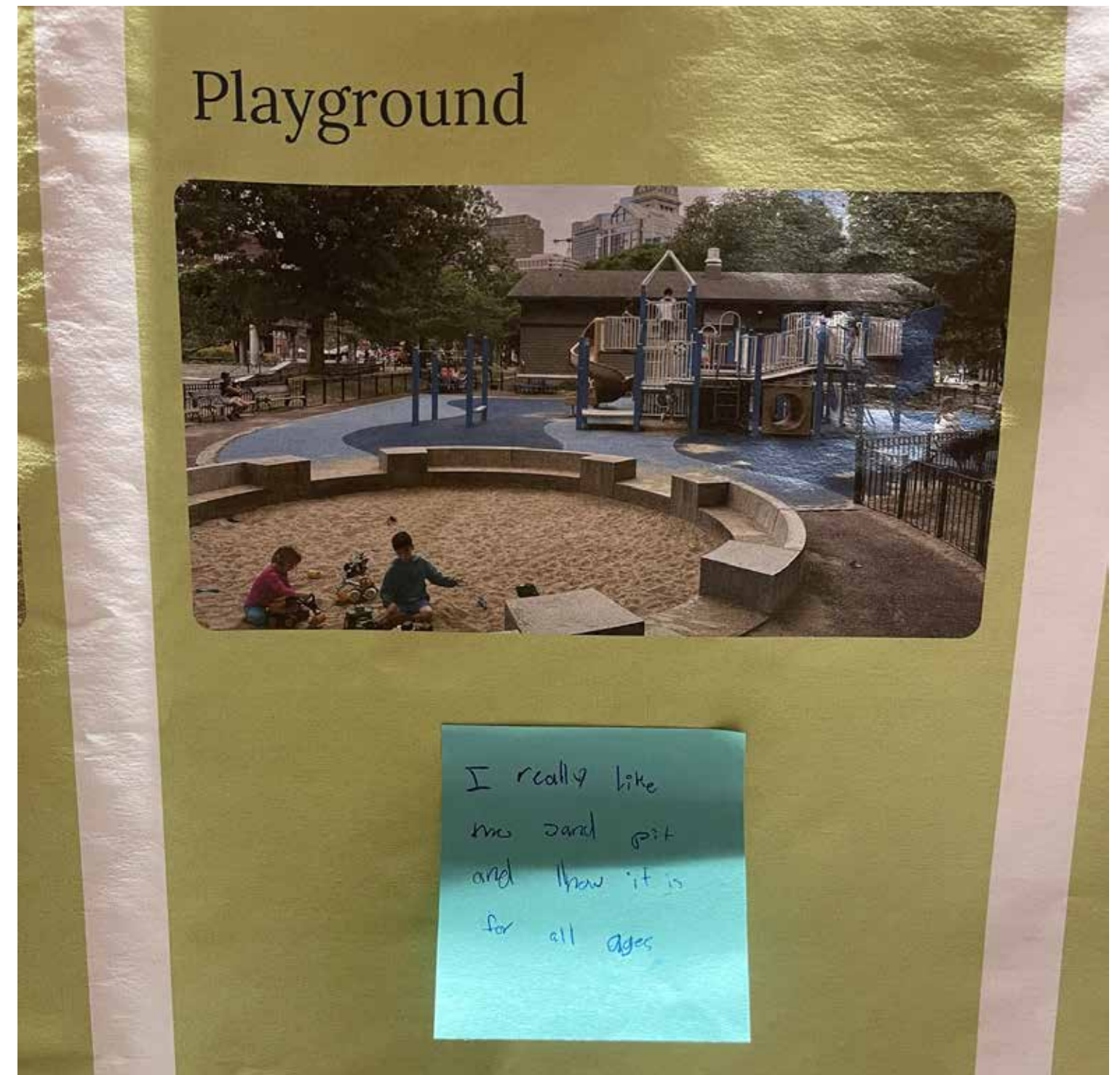
PEOPLE VALUE PASSIVES USES AT THE PARK + WHARF

WHAT USES ARE IMPORTANT TO YOU?



PARK AMENITIES ACTIVITY

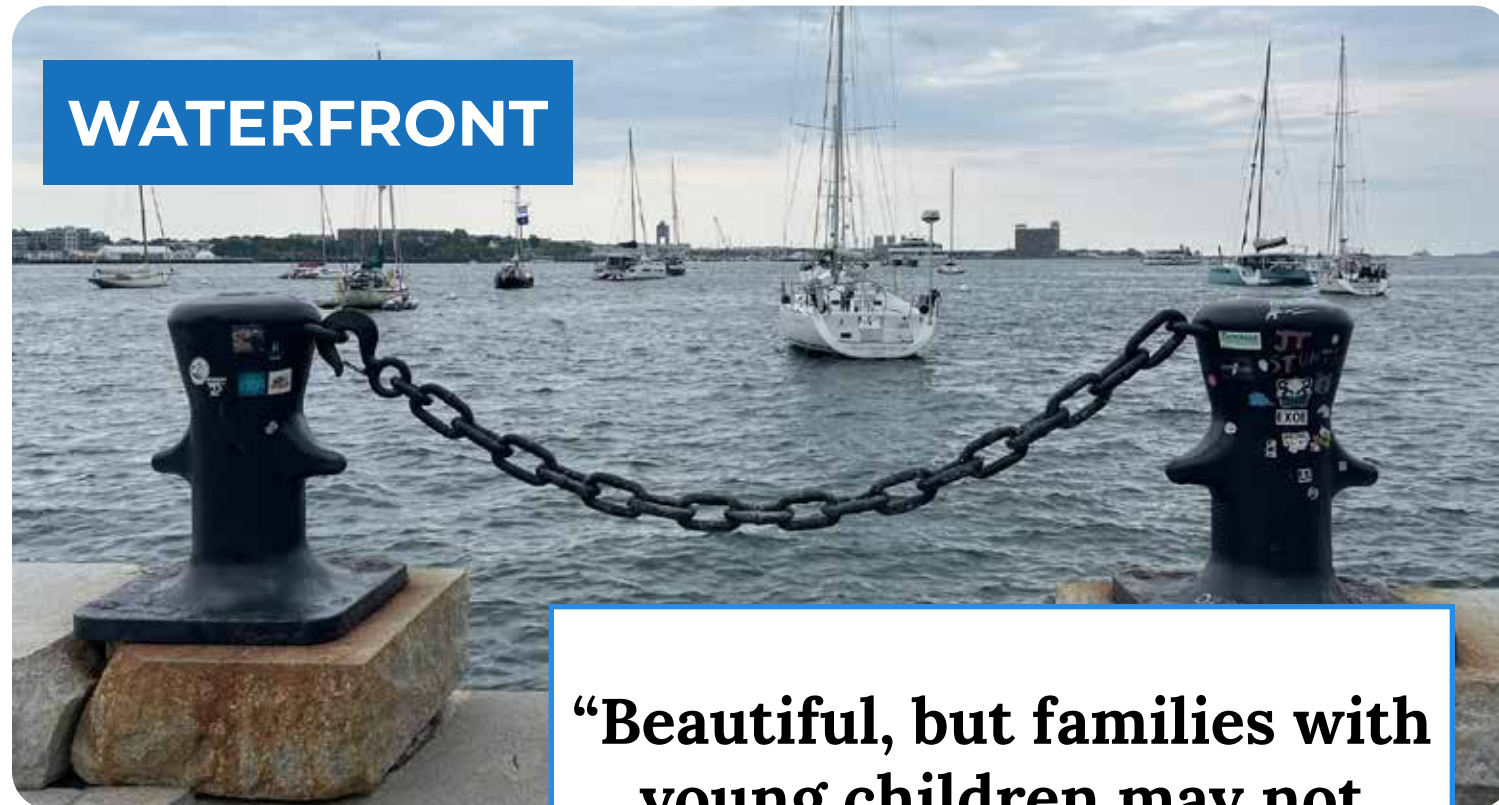
An additional place activity was displayed at the evening meeting. This prompted people to share how well existing features in the park met their needs by placing red or green dots, and leaving thoughts on sticky notes.



WATERFRONT AMENITIES COULD BETTER MEET VISITORS' NEEDS

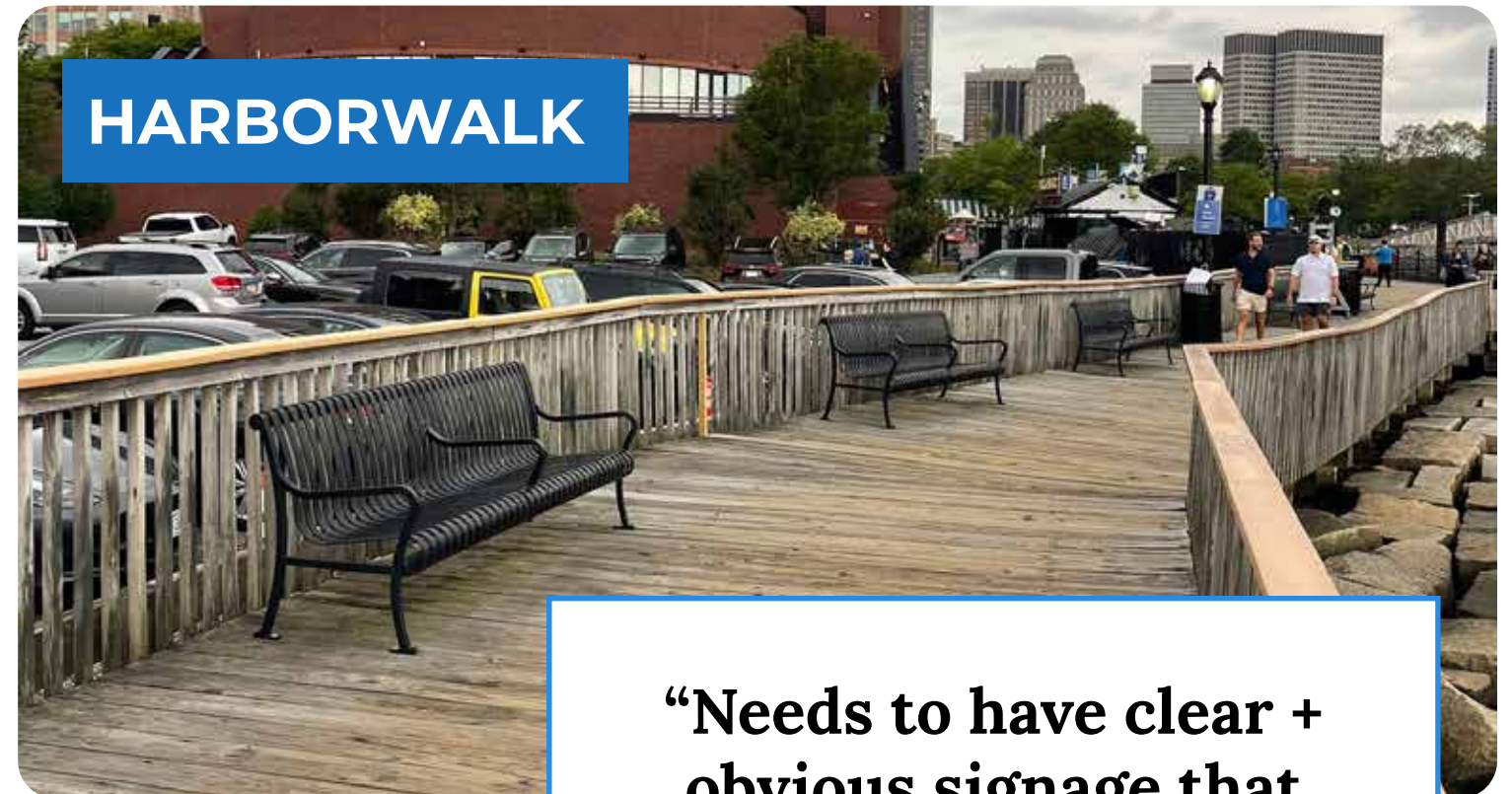
HOW DO THESE AMENITIES MEET YOUR NEEDS?

WATERFRONT



“Beautiful, but families with young children may not feel comfortable/safe with current barriers.”

HARBORWALK



“Needs to have clear + obvious signage that this is a public amenity throughout its entirety”

PLACE MAPPING ACTIVITY

The design team created a topographic model of the project area and asked people to plant a flag on the model - a red flag in a 'problem area,' and a green flag in a 'special area.'

Participants wrote their thoughts on these flags, which were then collected and transcribed, so the project team can see what parts of the park give people a good experience, and what could use improvement.



SPECIAL PLACES WERE CONCENTRATED AT PARK AMENITIES

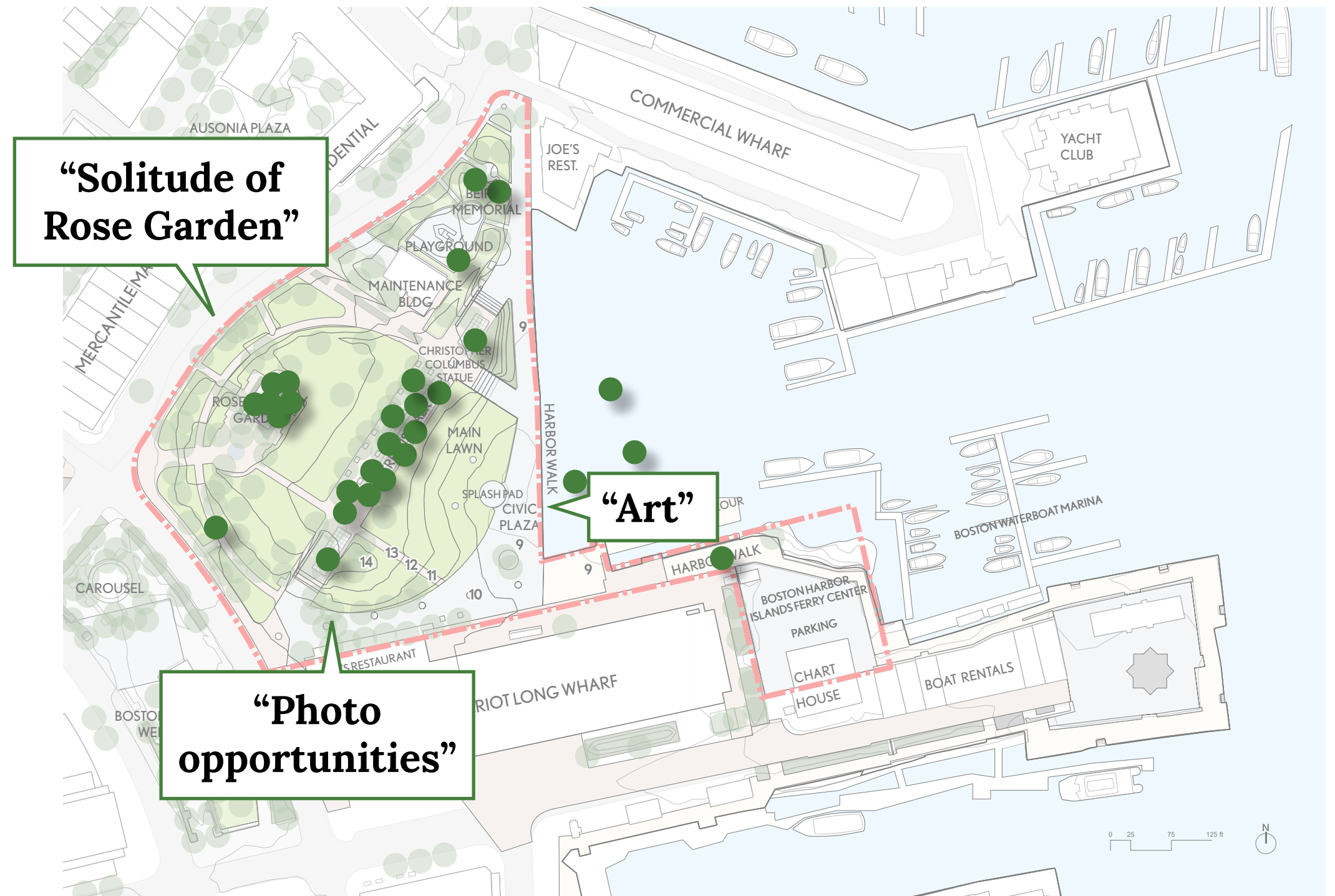
WHAT PLACES ARE SPECIAL?

● Special Places

“Connection to Quincy and greenway”

“Love the ferries”

“Love the fountain”



PEOPLE WOULD LIKE TO SEE IMPROVEMENTS TO THE WHARF AND HARBOR WALK

WHAT PLACES NEED IMPROVEMENT?

● Needs Improvement

Harborwalk

“Noise”

“Afraid of falling in water”

“I am afraid of the water because I might fall in”

“Signage prohibiting noise”

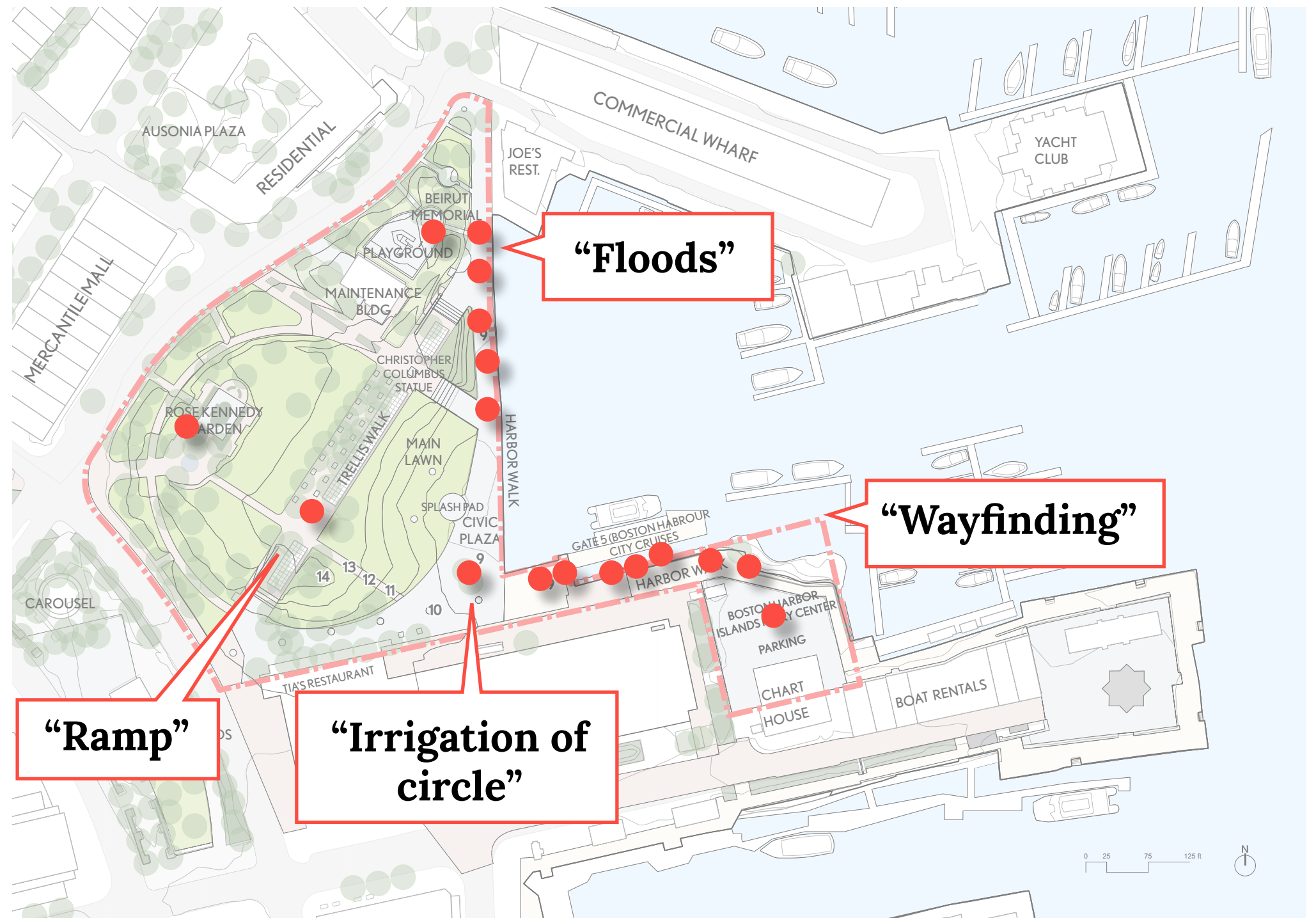
“Wayfinding and beautify”

Lawn

“Dogs”

Statue Pedestal

“Needs a focus”



PROTECTION

WHAT SHOULD A RESILIENT
PARK + WHARF PROVIDE?



SHARING DREAMS FOR A RESILIENT PARK + WHARF

The design team created cards for visitors to fill out in response to this question. These cards were then added to fishing nets, which are hung up at the park by the trellis, for visitors walking through to read - and hopefully think about their own response.



A RESILIENT PARK AND WHARF SHOULD PROVIDE...

TOP THEMES

- A relationship to the water
- Green infrastructure
- A piece of the coastal resilience network
- Storytelling about resilience

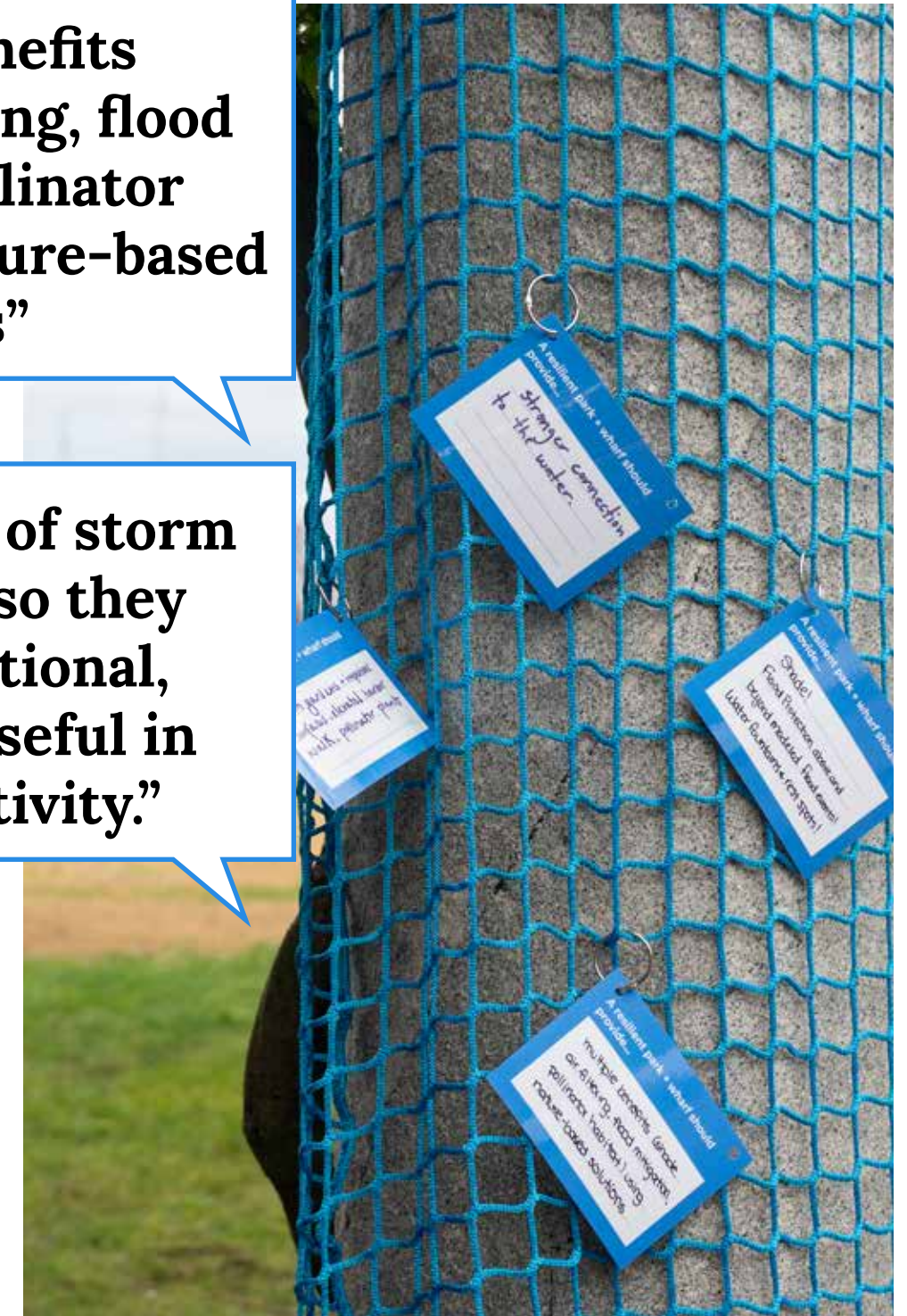
SAMPLE COMMENTS

- “Easily maintained, biodiverse, enjoyable for the community”
- “Nature based solutions, shade! flood protection above and beyond modeled flood events! Water fountains + rest spots!”

“Multiple benefits (shade, air filtering, flood mitigation, pollinator habitat) using nature-based solutions”

“Visible aspects of storm management...so they become educational, entertaining, useful in measuring activity.”

“Stronger connections to the water”



MY DREAM FOR THE WATERFRONT IS...

TOP THEMES

- Green + shady
- A vibrant, welcoming place that also offers opportunities for rest
- An important place for Bostonians of all backgrounds

SAMPLE COMMENTS

- “I want a playground that is bigger than this”
- “A modern ferry hub where more boats can dock, transfers are easy, and the park offers respite at the start or end of a journey + protection from flooding”
- “More foliage and trees”
- To add more flowers and plants like trees and ferns so it will be more pretty”

“To add more flowers and plants like trees and ferns so it will be more pretty”

“Offers respite at the start or end of a journey + protection from flooding”



TOP 3 DIGITAL SURVEY RESPONSES

DIGITAL SURVEY RESPONDENTS MOST FREQUENTLY MENTION...

- Preserving the park's iconic charm while adding improvements for resilience
- Creating comfortable places with furniture to relax, sit, and observe the harbor
- Reducing pollution and keeping the park clean, safe, and comfortable



“A continuation of what currently exists, with abundant green space and built to last to stand up to climate change and erosion”

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

ENGAGEMENT TAKEAWAYS

- **Protect what people enjoy most:** preserve the experience of the **waterfront, trellises, and neighborhood character**
- **Seamless flood infrastructure** that protects without obstructing the existing relationship to the water
- **Nature-based solutions** and **green infrastructure**
- **Storytelling about resilience** baked into the design
- A **well-maintained**, clean park that is **usable throughout all seasons**

