City of Boston
Parks and Recreation
Mayor Michelle Wu

JOHN J. RYAN PLAYGROUND
CONSTRUCTION UPDATE
OCTOBER 2026

Thank you for your interest in the renovation of Ryan Playground in Charlestown.
We realize this park is a very important outdoor space for recreation and community gathering in Charlestown, and we aim to have it back open as soon as possible. Our anticipated date for the park opening is Fall 2027, and we appreciate your patience.

We are now in the second of two construction phases. The first phase was site demolition and "setting the stage" for the berm (micropiles and ground improvements) and now we are in Phase 2: installation of a berm, ballfields, playground, splash pad, lighting - the park and playground.

CONSTRUCTION COMPLETED IN OCTOBER:

- The ballfields are looking good. Three of the four are almost done, with scoreboards, backstops, infields, pitchers mounds, and two of those have received their turf. The Premier Little League field is located right in the middle of the project, so that will be completed last as we move out of the site.
- Trees have been tagged. Many have been delivered and installed, as well as shrubs and grasses along the berm.
- The berm itself is nearly complete. Concrete retaining walls and fill have been completed along the sections of the berm where they were needed, and concrete walkways and the splash pad have been completed. We are almost finished connecting the berm to the Alford Street edge.
- Curving seatwalls by the club building, which will serve as seating for the Premier Little League field, have been started and partially poured.

WORK TO ANTICIPATE IN NOVEMBER:

- Final section of the berm to be completed, with lightweight fill and soil.
- Water piping and drainage structures will continue to be installed, although we are mostly complete with this work.
- Begin installation of concrete footings and installation of playground equipment.
- All asphalt pathways throughout the park and pickleball court will be completed with 'binder' course - the layer just below the top layer. The top course will be installed shortly before park opening.
- Finalize all delivered shrubs and perennials on the berm.

SITE PHOTO, 10/30/2026



Turf on the Little League practice field is growing and establishing.

SITE PHOTO, 10/30/2026



Babe Ruth baseball field turf has been installed.

SITE PHOTO, 10/30/2026



The seatwall around existing trees by the club house has been started.

SITE PHOTO, 10/23/2026



Behind the Little League practice backstop is the temporary plant storage area.

SITE PHOTO, 10/30/2026



Forms for the retaining wall that will hold up the overlook and berm.

SITE PHOTO, 10/30/2026



One of the new concrete pathways atop the berm, adjacent to the playground. All play equipment has been delivered, still wrapped in plastic here.

SITE PHOTO, 10/30/2026



Splash pad! Not quite play-ready, but all the pieces are installed.

SITE PHOTO, 10/30/2026



Newly installed grasses and shrubs are liking the setting. Black-eyed susans (Rudbeckia) are also in the planting scheme, and will bring beautiful color to the waterfront in spring and summer.

THIS IS A BOSTON RESIDENTS JOBS POLICY PROJECT:
For employment opportunities, call Fleming Brothers Inc. at (781) 843-4071

OTHER ITEMS:
Please use 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 B Chatfield (abigail.chatfield@boston.gov)