



IMPROVEMENTS TO DOWNER PARK

DOWNER PARK

Community Meeting #1 – January 25, 2017

ground



Agenda

- Project Overview – **Boston Parks and Recreation**
 - Project Team & Partners
 - Budget / Schedule
 - Project Goals
- Site Analysis of Existing Conditions - **Ground**
- Explore Project Ideas & Possibilities - **Ground**
- Discussion - **Everyone**

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Capital Improvement Project Team



Michele Folts, Project Manager



Shauna Gillies-Smith, Landscape Architect

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City Department Project Partners

Councilor Baker

City Councilor

Captain Connolly

Police Commander District C-11

Flavio Daveiga

Neighborhood Liaison

Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services

Zach Wassmouth

Principal Civil Engineer

Public Works Department

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Project Budget & Schedule

Project Budget

Construction - \$910,000

Schedule

- + January 25, 2017 Community Meeting #1
- + Spring 2017 Community Meeting #2 & #3
- + Summer 2017 Construction Starts
- + Spring 2018 Construction Completed

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Community Process

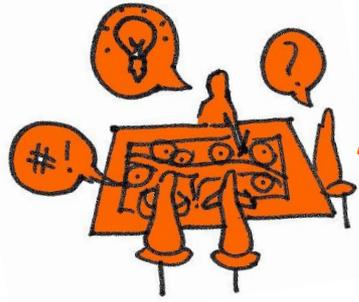
**RESEARCH:
SURVEY**



**HEAR:
COMMUNITY
MEETINGS**



ANALYZE & DEVELOP



PRESENT: OPEN HOUSE



PUBLIC INPUT: IMPLEMENT



CELEBRATE: COMMUNITY EVENTS



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Project Goals

- Preserve & Protect Existing **Trees**
- Expand Usable **Park Area**
- Improve **Universal Access**
- Enhance Park **Visibility**
- Improve Park **Access**
- Preserve & Enhance existing active **Recreation Spaces**
- Design **Flexible, Multi-functional** park spaces

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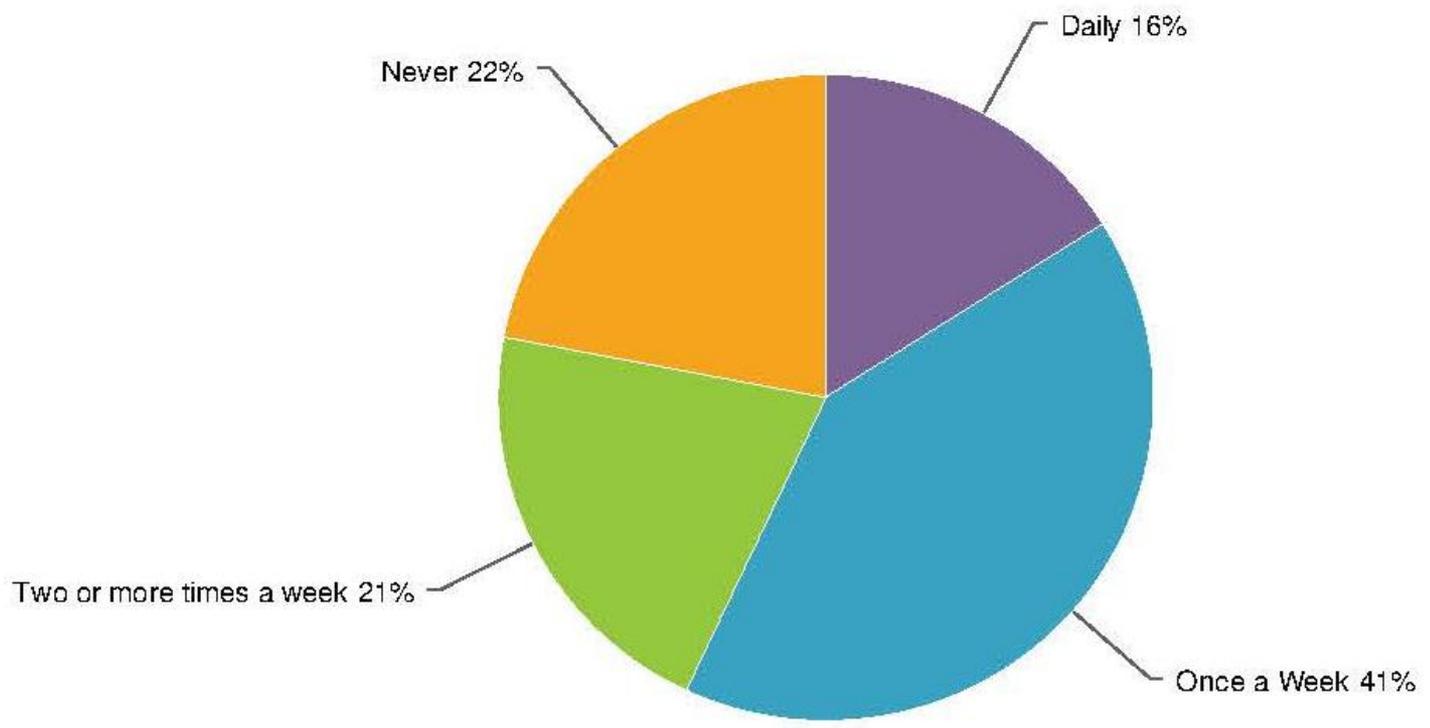
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Project Kick off Survey

1. How often do you visit Downer Avenue Park?



Approx. 100 responses

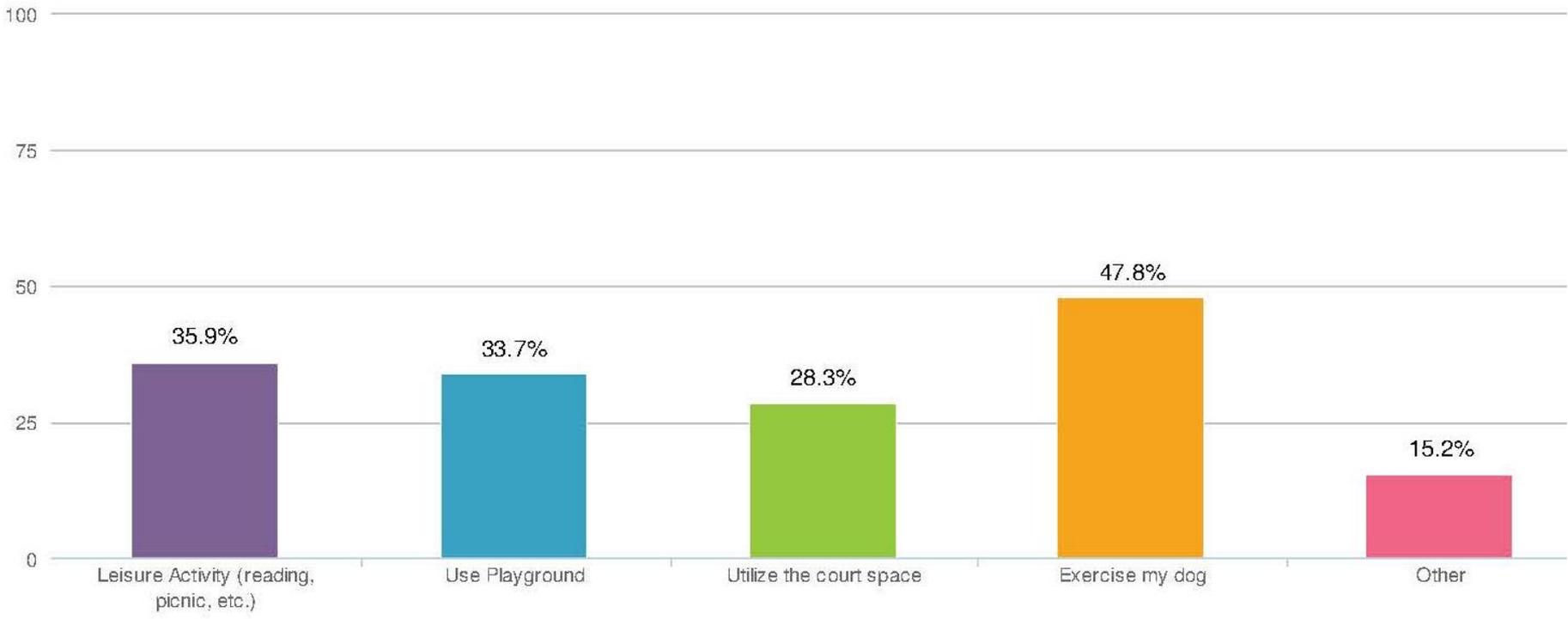
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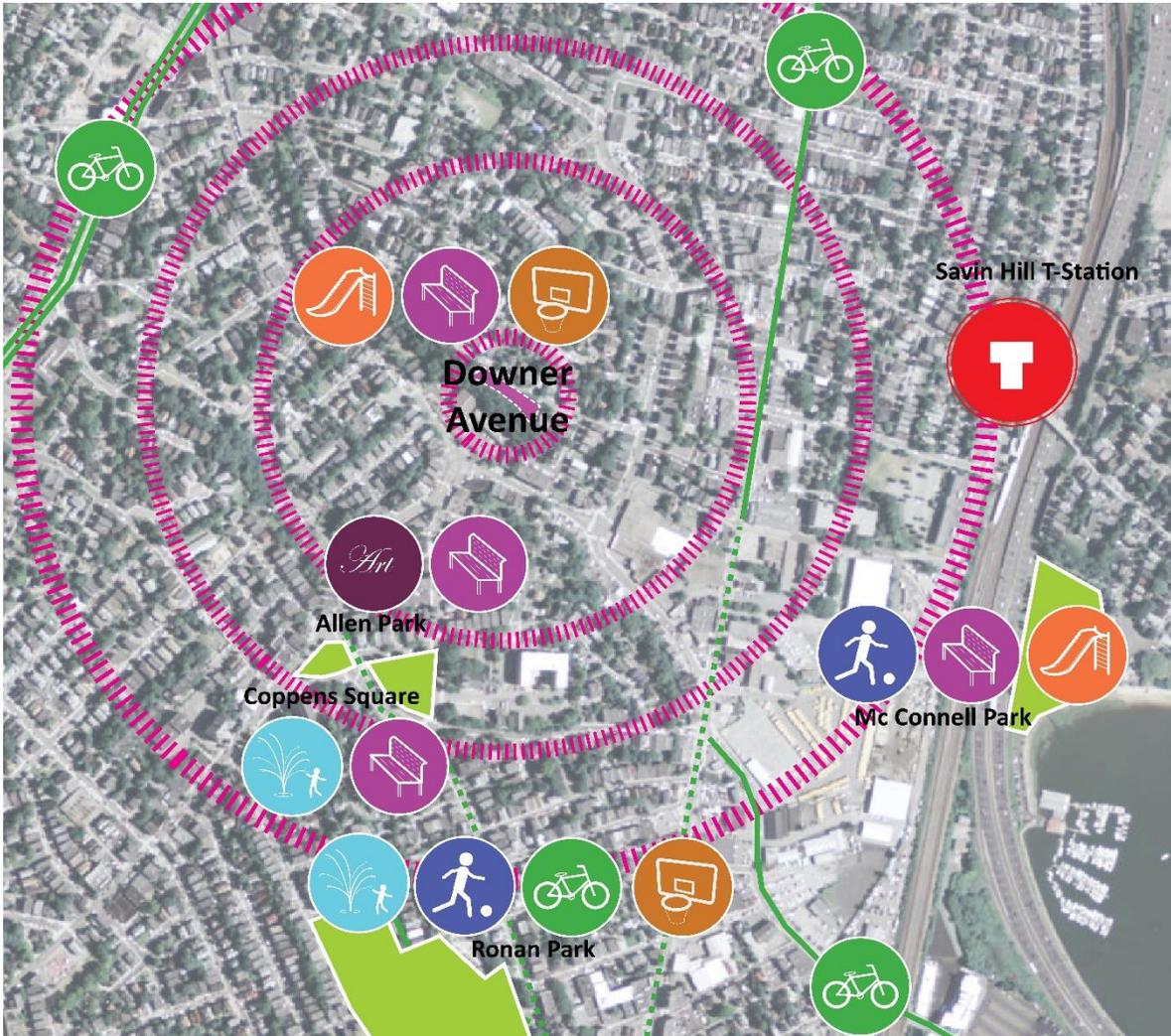


Project Kick off Survey

2. When you visit Downer Avenue Park, what do you do? (Select ALL that apply)



Context plan: What is around?



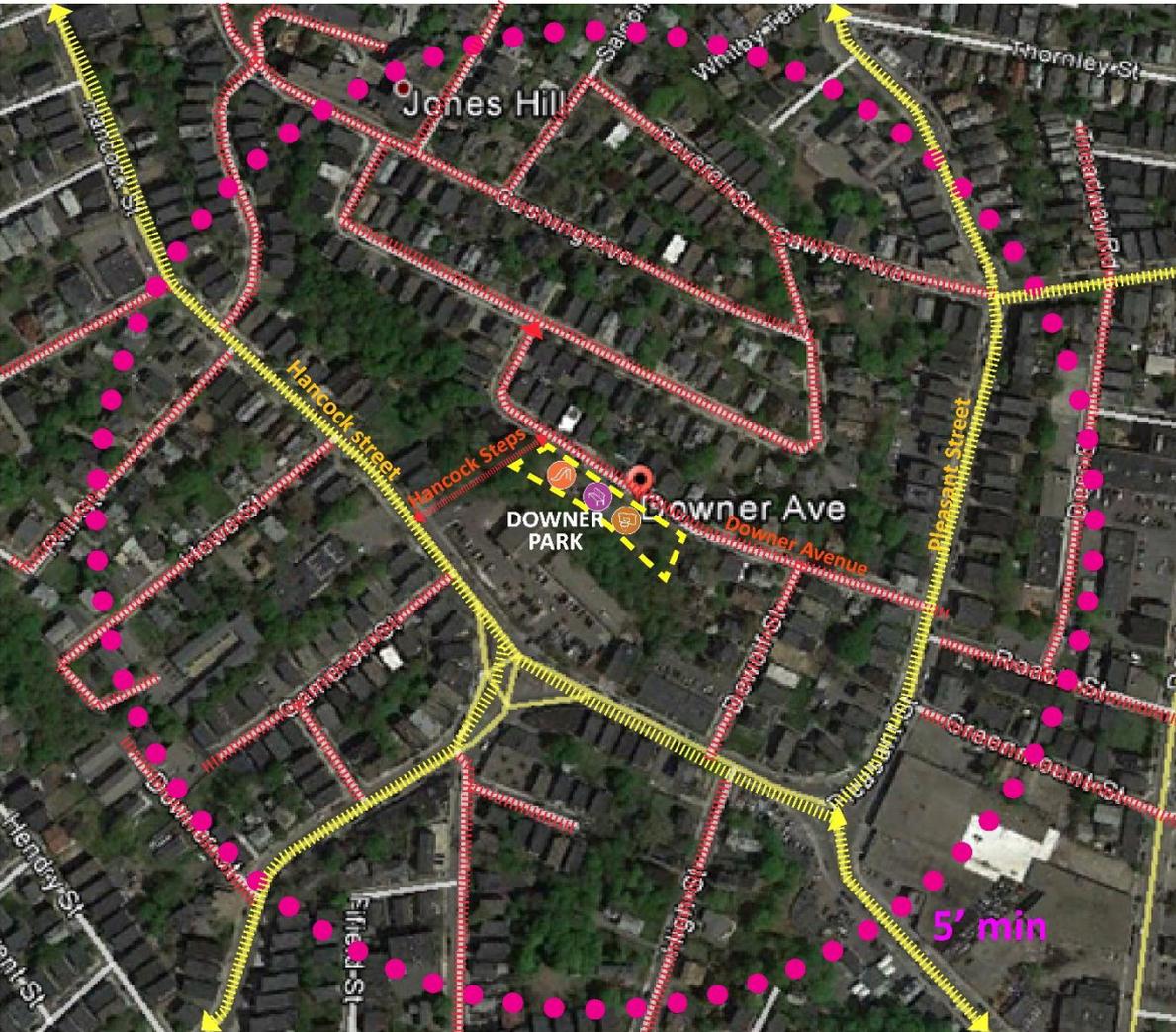
-  PLAYGROUND
-  SEATING AREA
-  ATHLETIC
-  BASKETBALL COURT
-  WATER FEATURE
-  BIKE PATH/CIRCUIT
-  COMMUNITY ART

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Project Site: Proximity to Residential Areas



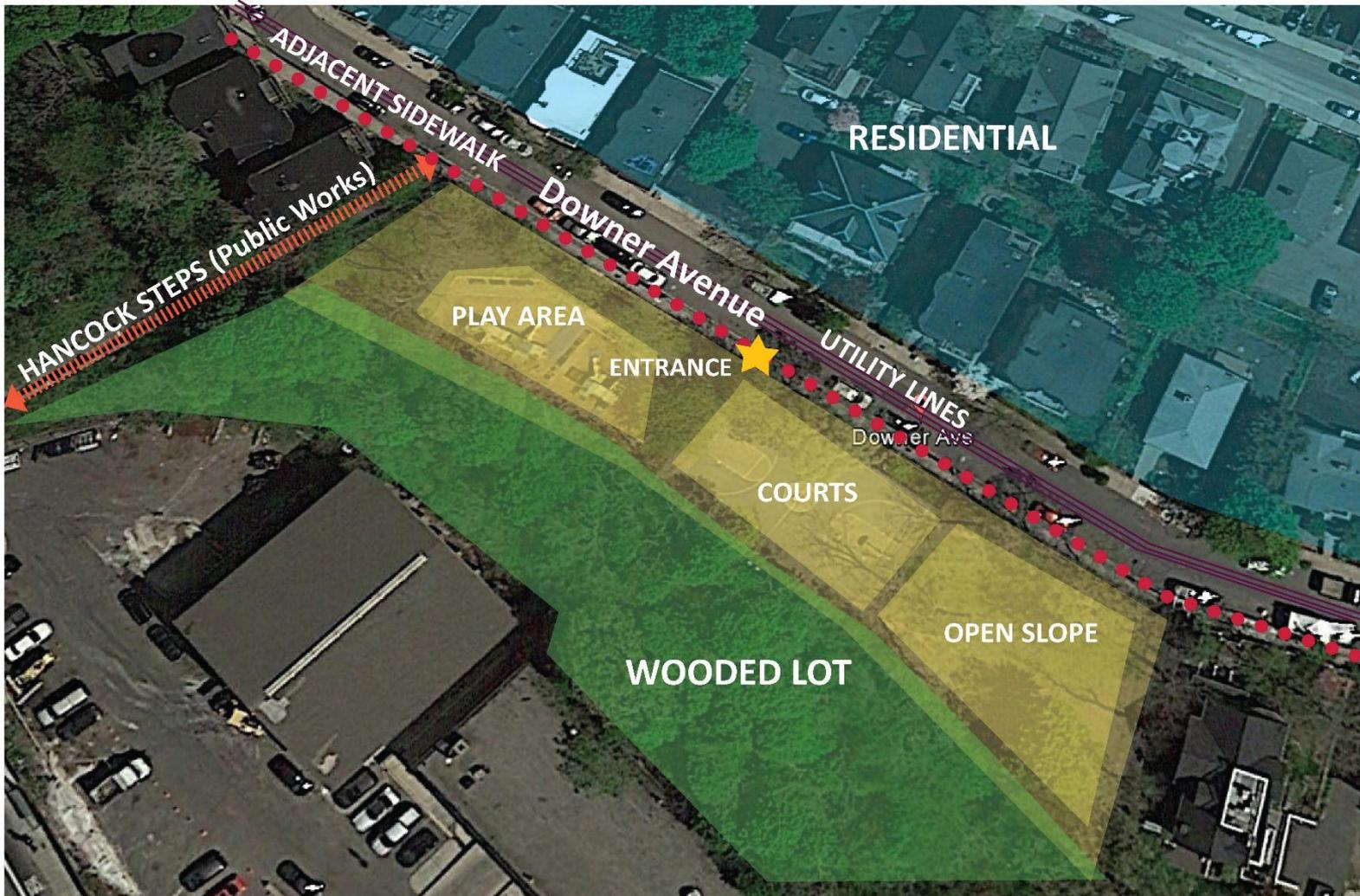
- 5 min walking ■■■
- Commercial Street ———
- Residential Street - - - - -

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Project Site: Existing conditions



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Site Analysis— Existing Play Areas

Basketball Court



Well used Equipment

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**BOSTON
PARKS &
RECREATION**
Martin J. Walsh, Mayor

Site Analysis—Site Edges

Existing Stone Wall



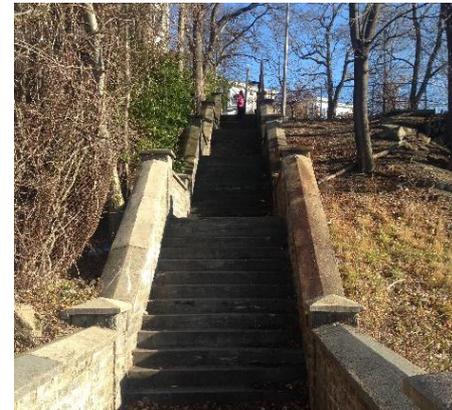
Clearly Defined Park Entrance



Elevated Views



Wooded Lot



Connection to Hancock St.

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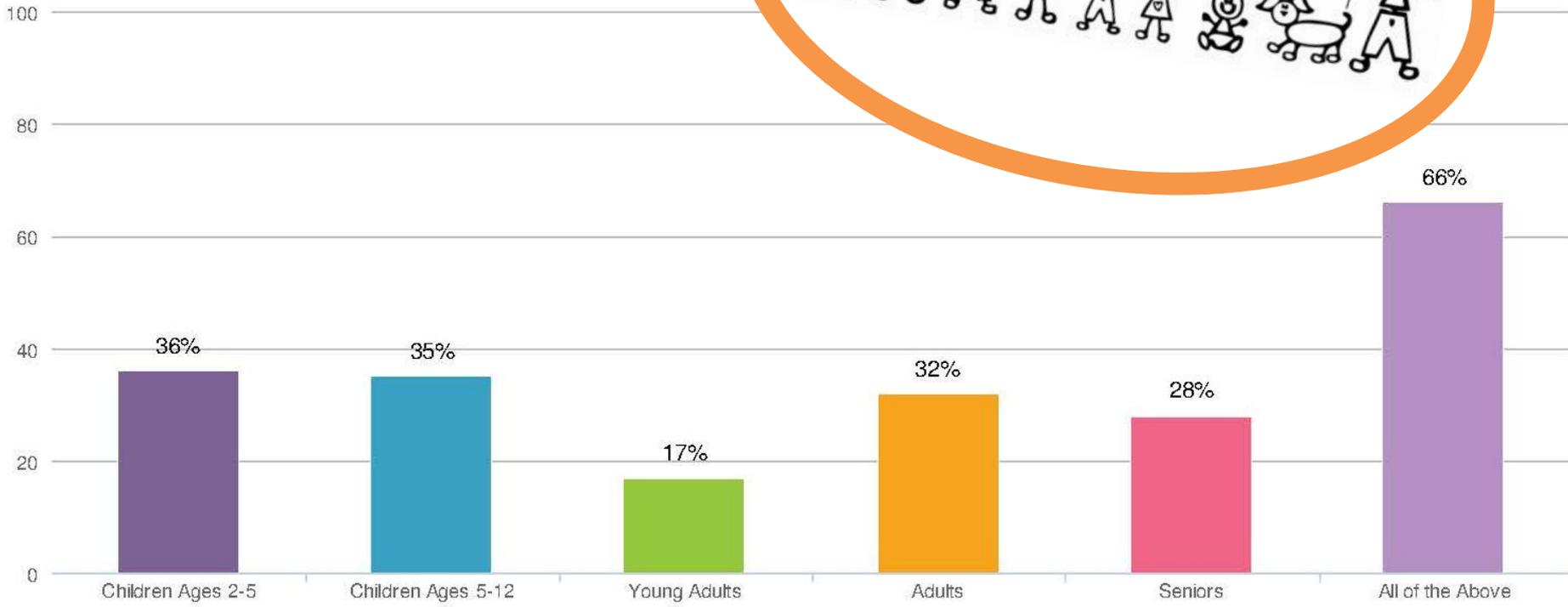
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Park Users

5. Who would you like this park/playground to serve?



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Project Goals and Aspirations

WHAT WE HEARD FROM THE COMMUNITY SURVEY:

IDEAS

- Improve play equipment
 - Improve safety
- Improve lighting and visibility
- Improve green feeling and seating areas
 - Add social and fitness spaces
 - Add dog park
 - Other

Exploring Ideas - **PLAY EQUIPMENT**

CLIMBING



PLAY HOUSES



**NATURAL
PLAY**



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**BOSTON
PARKS &
RECREATION**
Martin J. Walsh, Mayor

Exploring Ideas - **ACTIVITIES**



MODIFY WALL



**MORE
ACTIVITIES**



PROGRAMMING

ARTISTIC FURNITURES

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**BOSTON
PARKS &
RECREATION**
Martin J. Walsh, Mayor

Exploring Ideas - LIGHTING



ART OPPORTUNITIES

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 BOSTON
PARKS & RECREATION
Martin J. Walsh, Mayor

Exploring Ideas - GREEN FEELING

TREES IMPROVEMENTS



OPEN LAWN



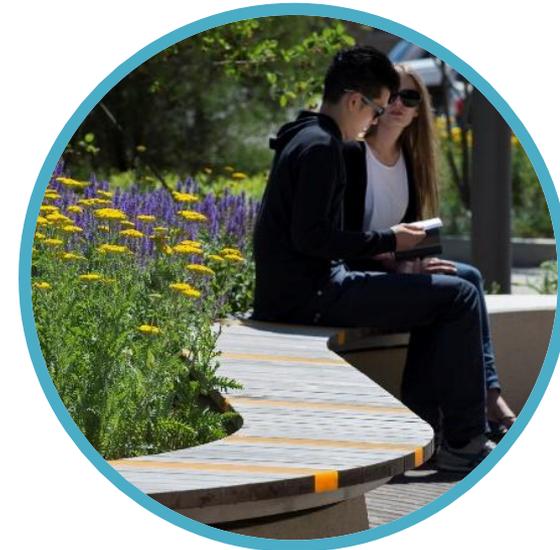
LEISURE



GREEN
CIRCUIT



VIEW POINT



SEATING AREAS

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Exploring Ideas - SOCIAL/FITNESS ACTIVITIES



FITNESS CIRCUIT+
STATIC EQUIPMENT



FLEXIBLE SPORT FIELD



THAI CHI / YOGA DECK



FLEXIBLE
LAWN



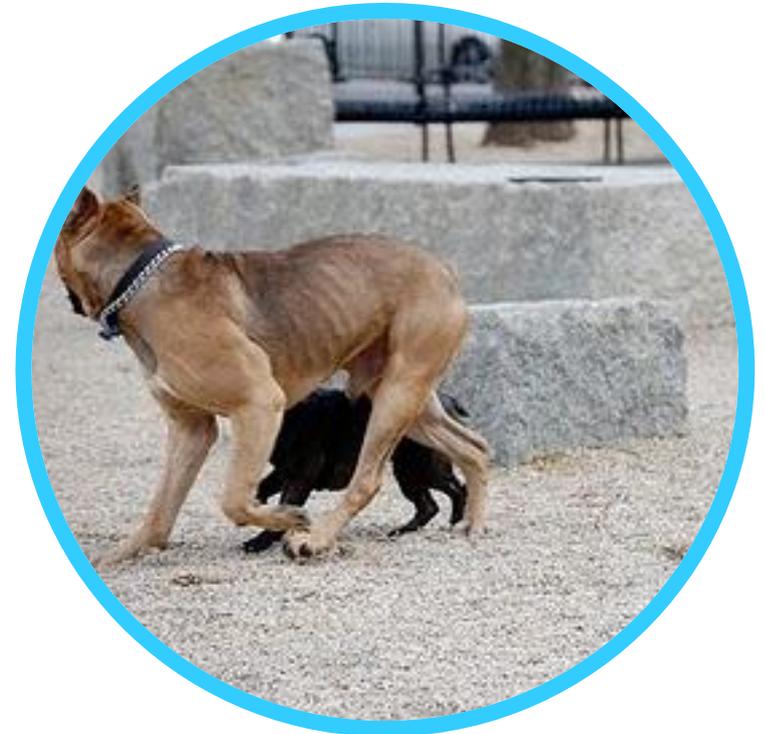
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Exploring Ideas - DOG PARK

DOG FRIENDLY AREA



DOG PARK

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DISCUSSION

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Favorite things about Downer Park

basketball
trees
park
place
run
enjoy
close
area
exercise
hill
kids
dog
accessible

space green

children
open
home
great
love
playing

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OTHER IDEAS

Online Survey: <http://www.surveymoz.com/s3/3241581/Downer-Avenue-Improvements>

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THANK YOU!

Next Community Meeting – Coming Soon!

Should you have any additional questions, comments, or concerns regarding the Capital improvement project and/or process, please contact:

Michele Folts - Project Manager

Design & Construction Unit

617-961-3025

Michele.folts@boston.gov

For questions comments or concerns that are *non-design* related or if you have interest in starting a friends group, please contact:

Marchelle Jacques-Yarde - Outreach Coordinator/Park Partners Manager

617.961.3006

Marchelle. Jacques-Yarde@boston.gov

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