

MCLAUGHLIN PLAYGROUND



September 17, 2026
Boston Parks and Recreation



ZOOM TIPS

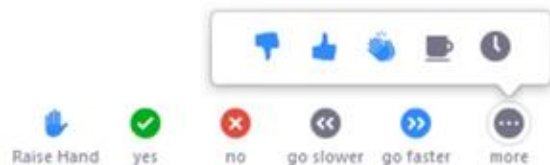
Here is how you can participate during the question and answer part of the presentation.

DURING THE PRESENTATION:



VIA WEB:

Turn video on / off.



To use these non-verbal options click on participants (bottom of screen); these options will pop up in side bar.

DURING THE Q&A:



JOINING VIA PHONE?

Use *9 to raise hand to ask for audio / video permission to ask questions or provide comments.



VIA WEB:

Chat to ask questions / comments or provide responses to poll questions



Raise hand to ask for audio / video permission to ask questions or provide comments.

AGENDA

1

PROJECT TEAM INTRODUCTION

2

PRESENTATION - ACCESS

3

LISTENING & DISCUSSION

4

PRESENTATION - DESIGN

5

LISTENING & DISCUSSION

6

CLOSING REMARKS & NEXT STEPS

PROJECT TEAM

B CHATFIELD

SENIOR PROJECT MANAGER

abigail.chatfield@boston.gov or 617-504-7709

My'Kel McMillen

COMMUNITY OUTREACH COORDINATOR

corey.mcmillen@boston.gov or 617-961-3006

NAOMI COTTRELL

Principal, Crowley Cottrell

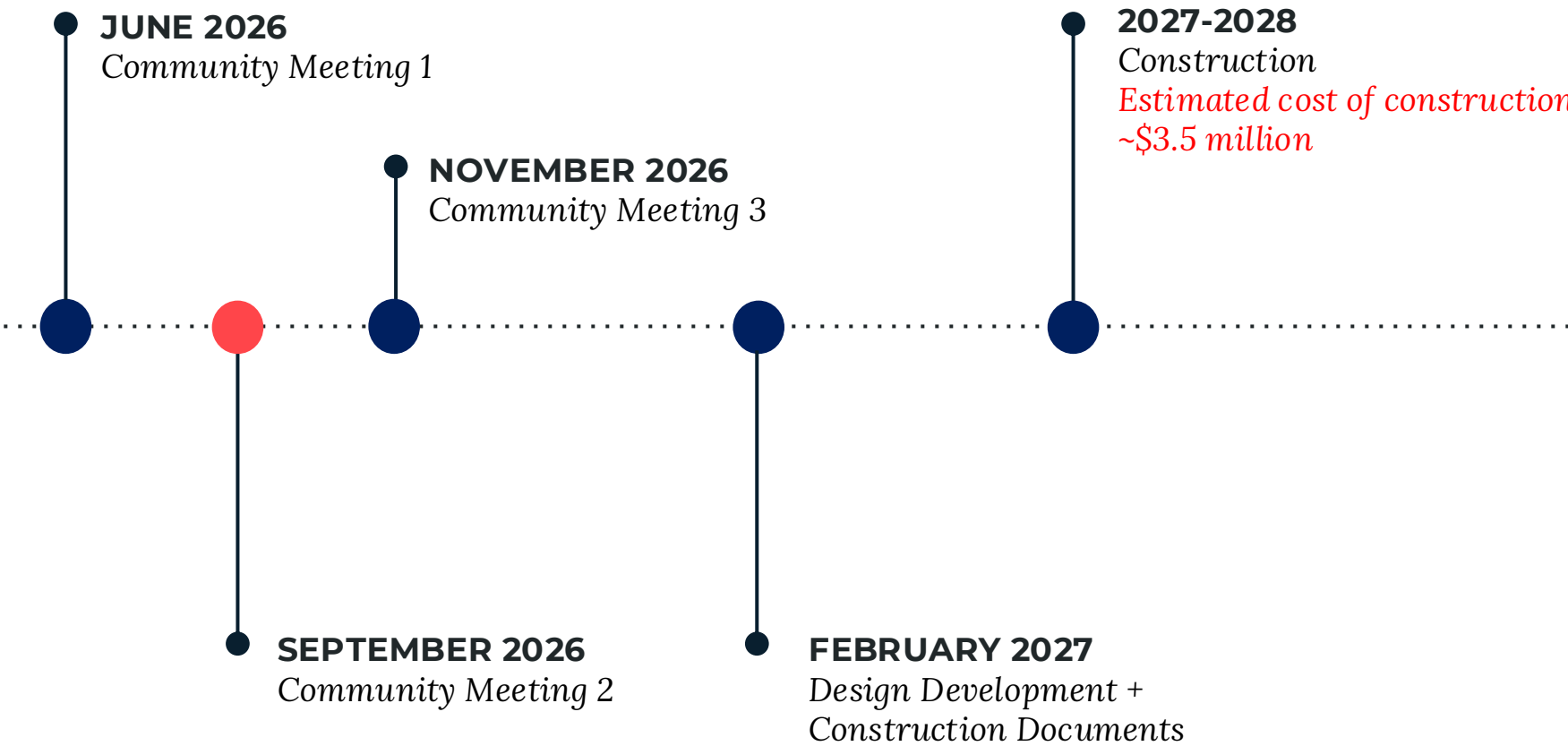
MARK WARFEL JR.

Associate, Crowley Cottrell

mark@crowleycottrell.com



PROJECT SCHEDULE & FUNDING





CITY OF BOSTON PRIORITIES

A city that is:

- **Delivering Exceptional Constituent Services**
- **Green and Growing**
- **Family Friendly**
- **Closing the Racial Wealth Gap**
- **Healthy and Safe**



PARK & RECREATION GOALS

- Accessible and available to all
- Diverse, balanced, and efficient mix of uses
- Meaningful and inclusive community engagement
- Adaptive and resilient landscapes
- Promote connections



SURVEY



SURVEY RESPONDENTS



SURVEY RESULTS

Q: What do you do in the park?

Commute

Nature

Exercise

Visit

Basketball

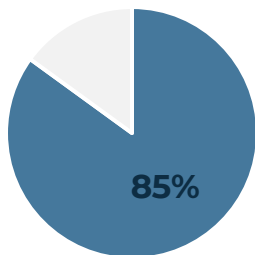
Walking

Dog

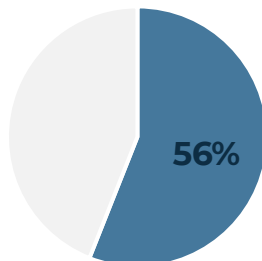
Playground

Q: Who goes to the park with you, or who do you see?

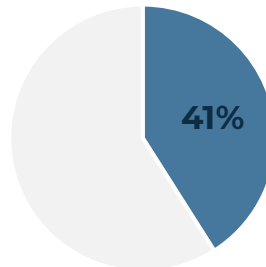
Family / friends / neighbors



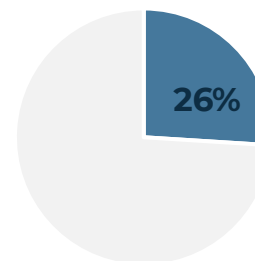
Alone



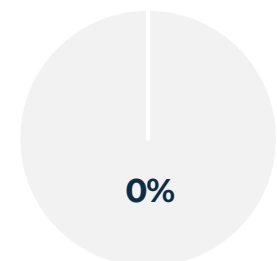
My dog



My child

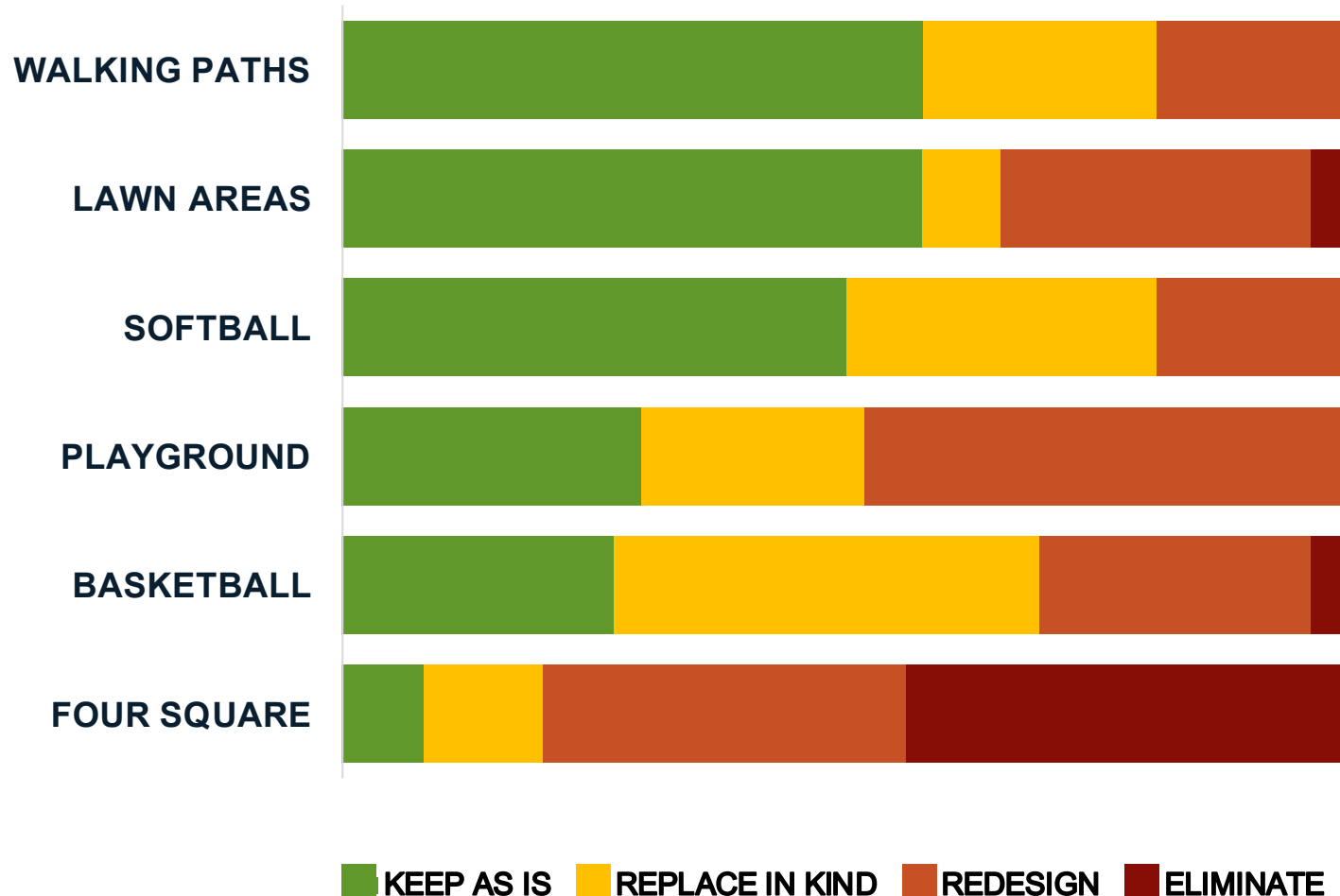


Teammates



SURVEY RESULTS

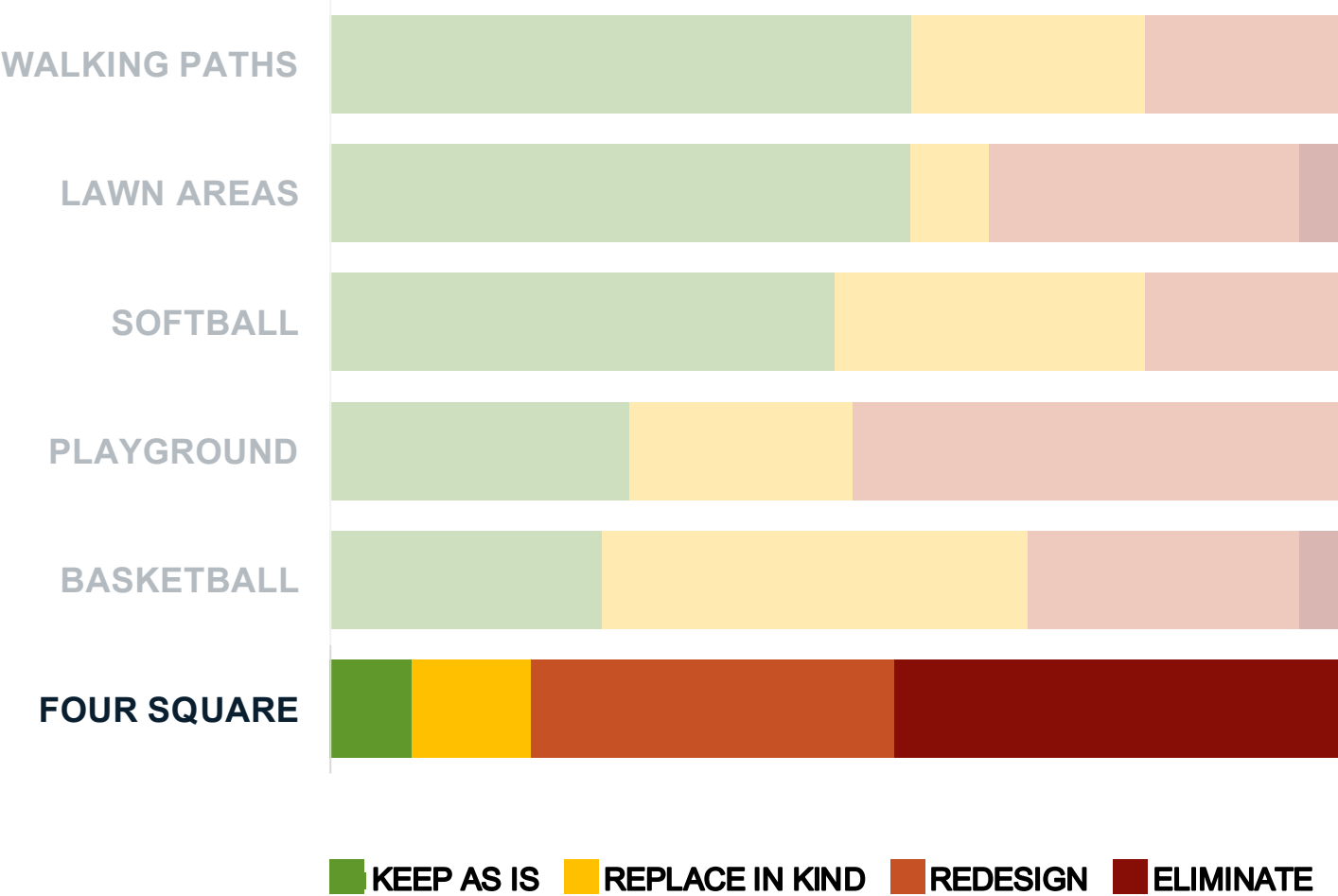
Tell us about the existing amenities



SURVEY RESULTS

Tell us about the existing amenities

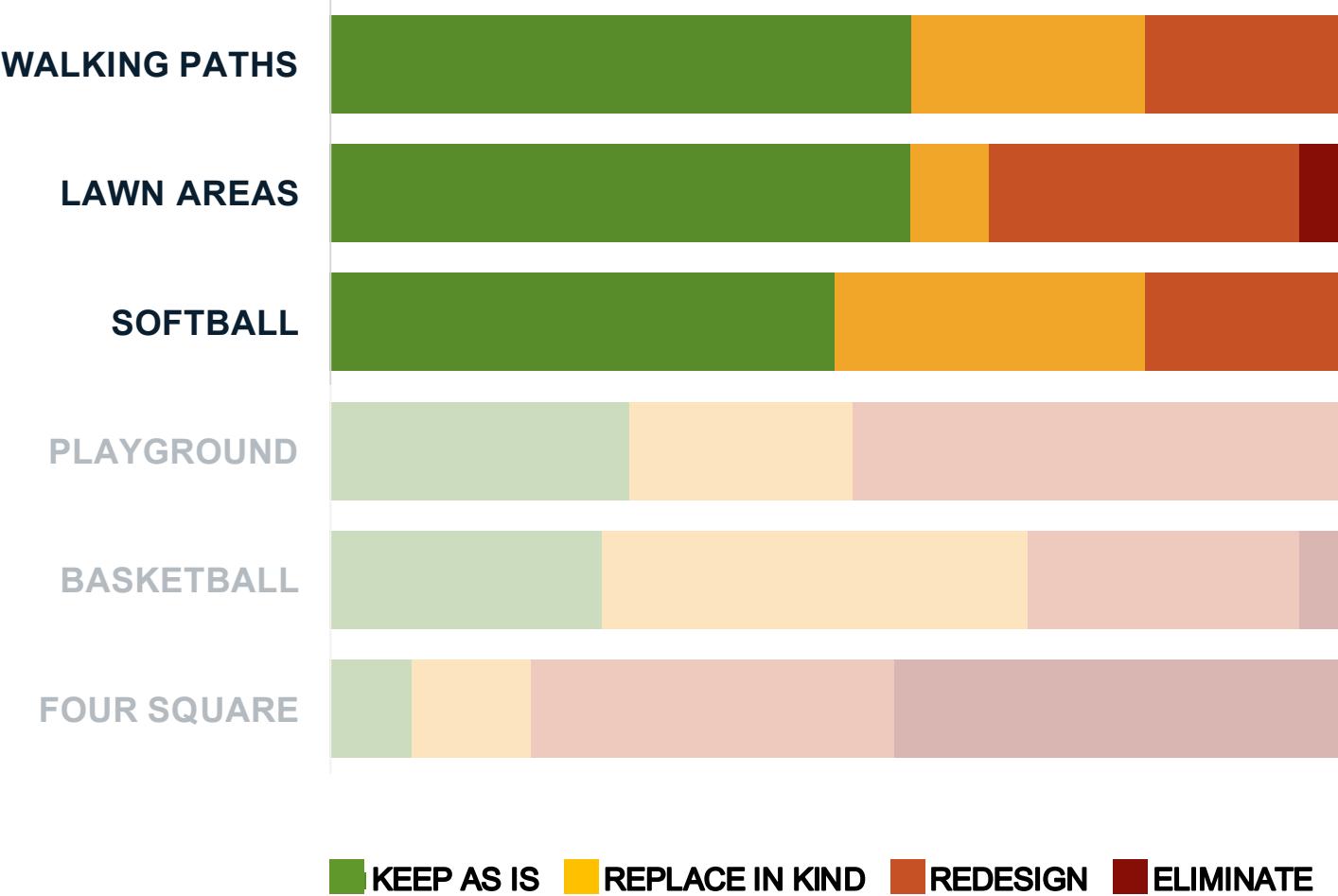
Most desired to be eliminated



SURVEY RESULTS

Tell us about the existing amenities

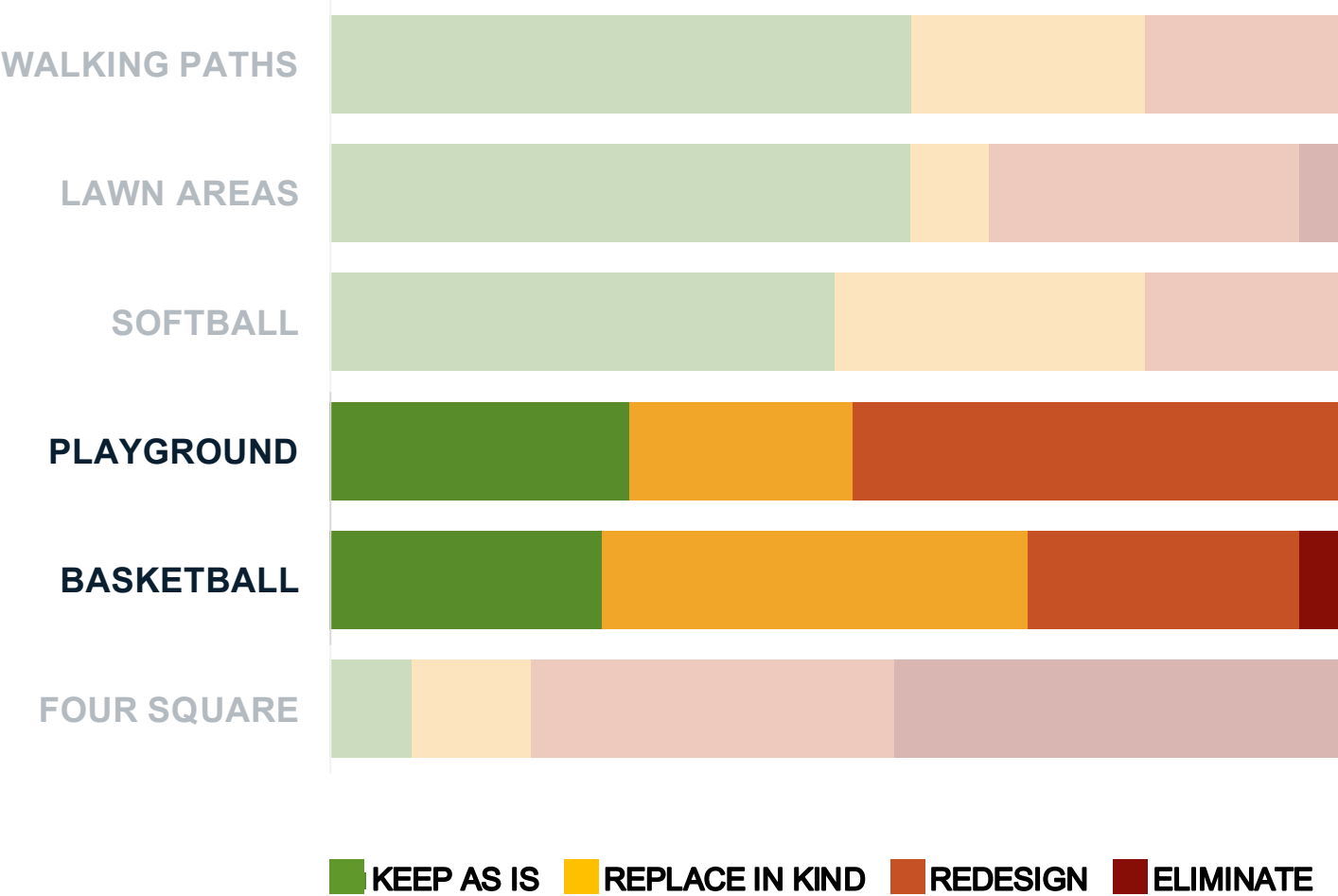
Amenities that are great as is



SURVEY RESULTS

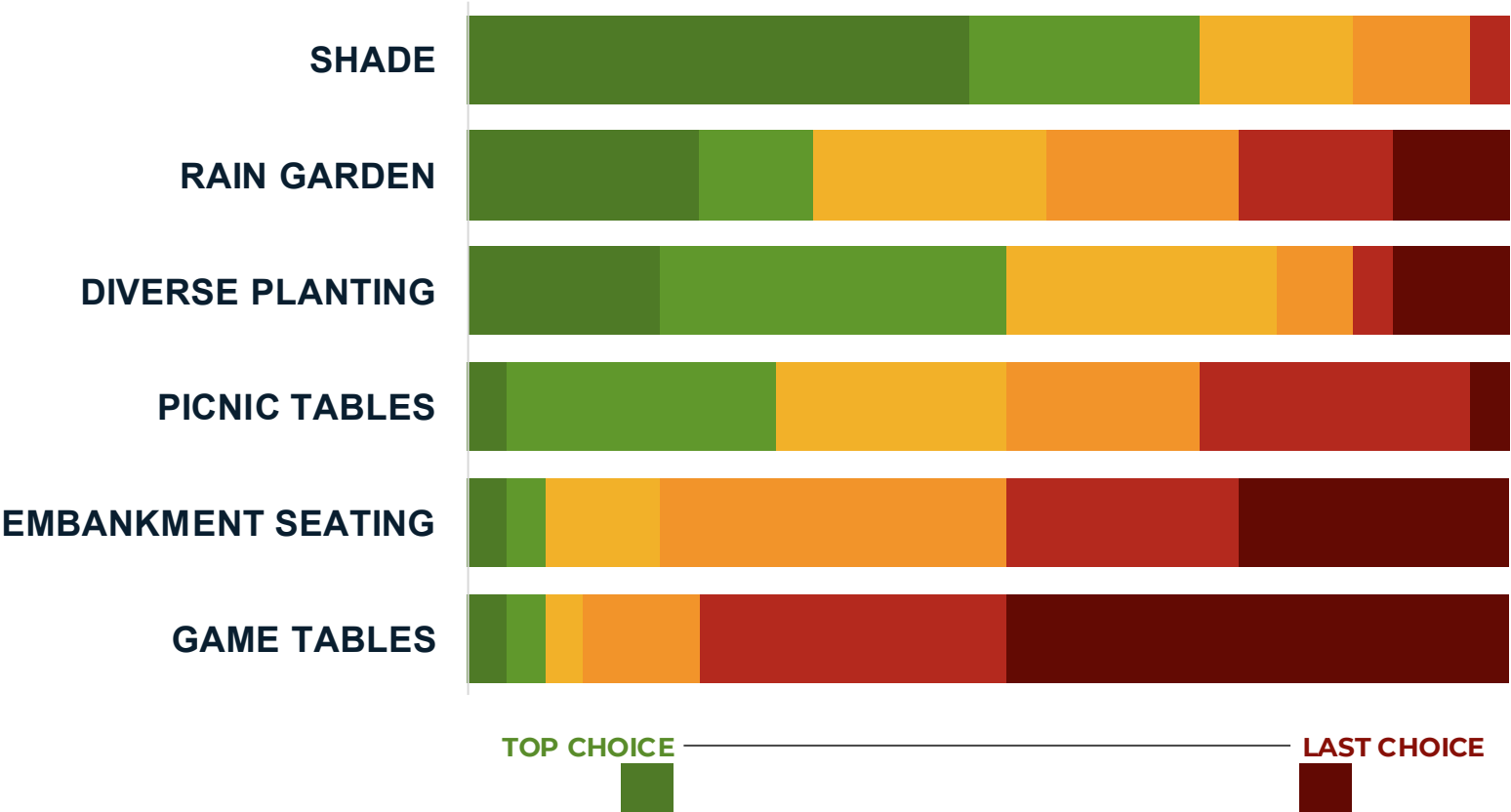
Tell us about the existing amenities

Amenities that work but need improvement



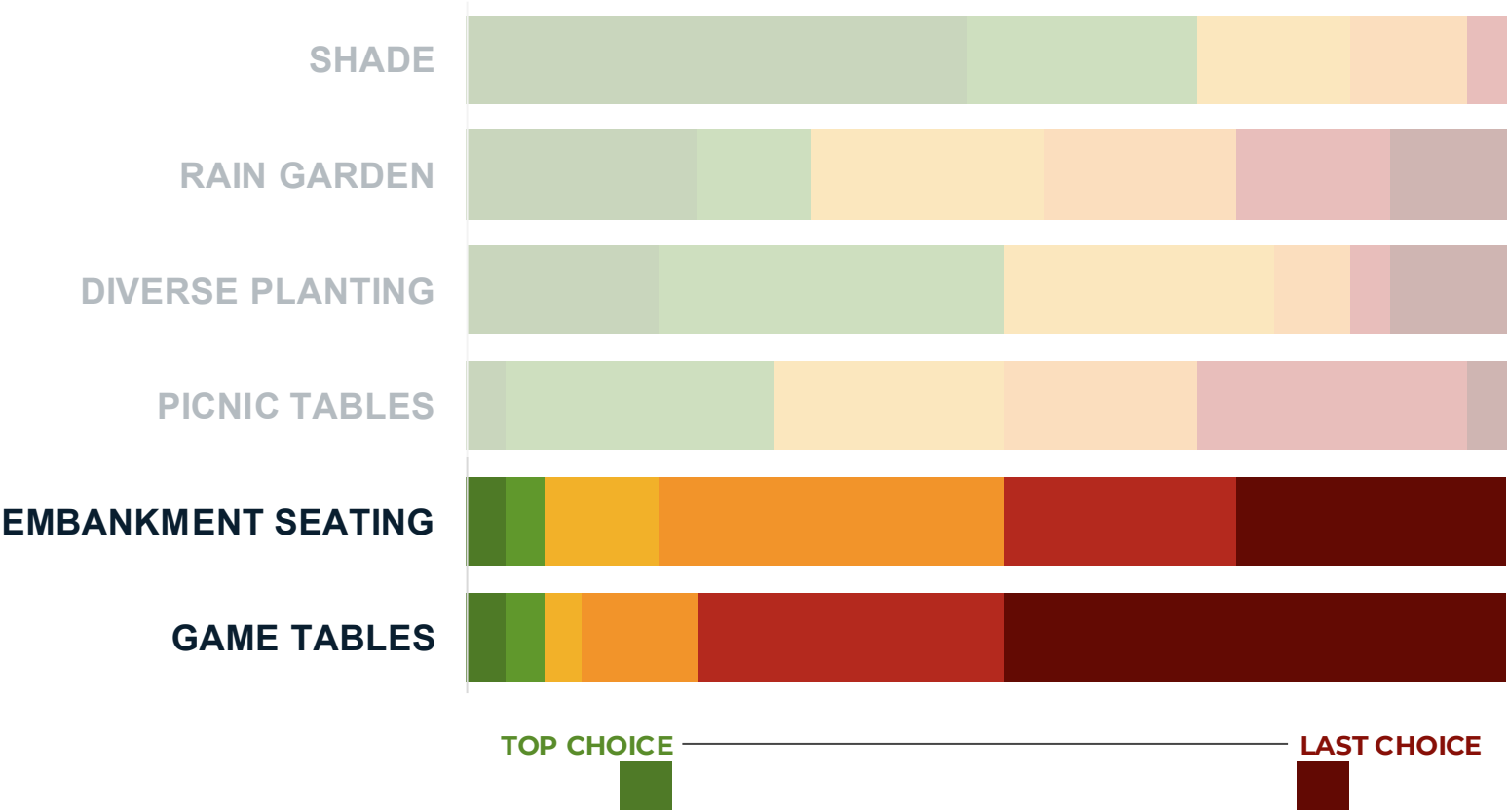
SURVEY RESULTS

Along with recreational amenities, which amenities do you think McLaughlin should have? Please rank



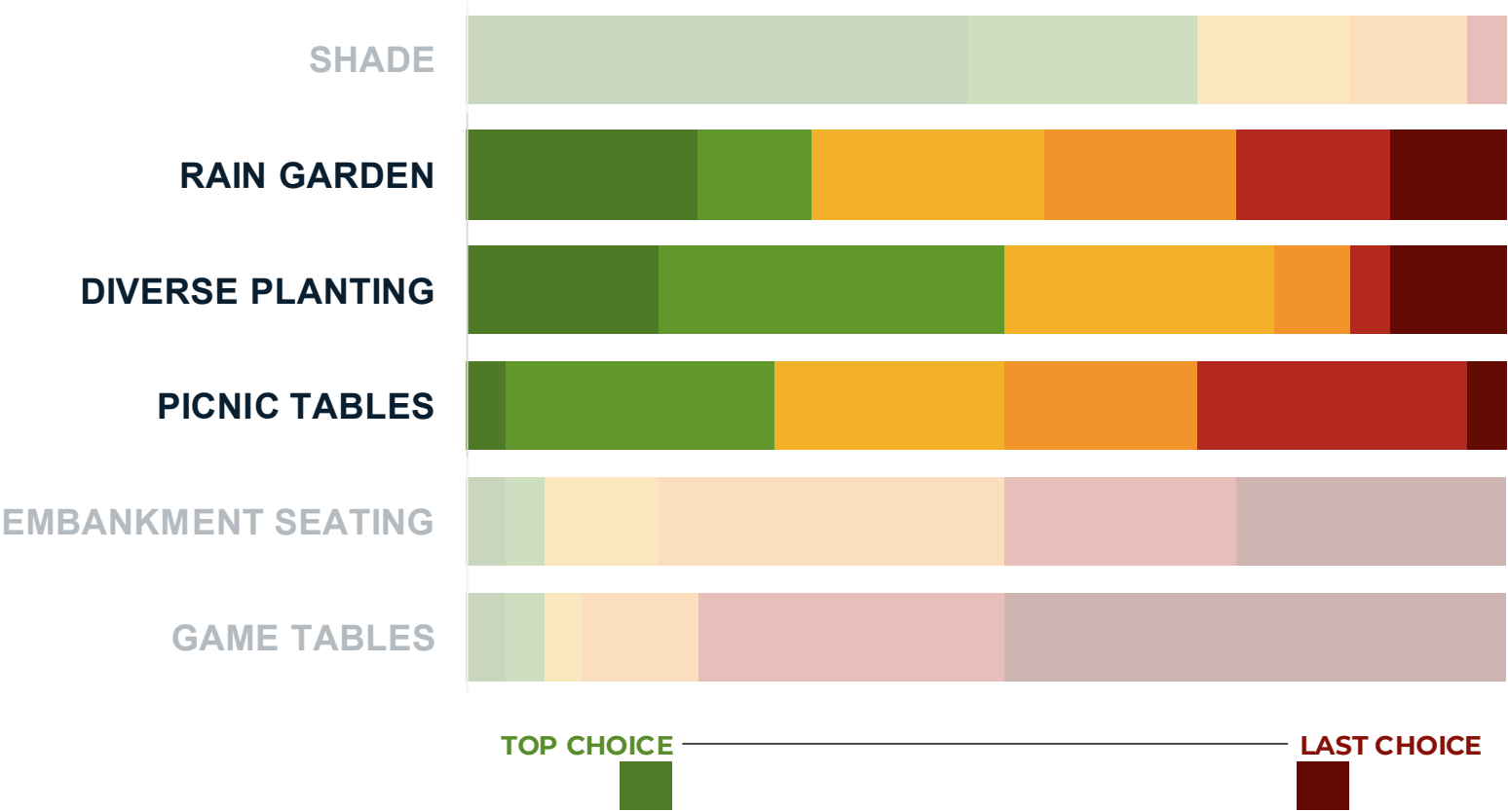
SURVEY RESULTS

Along with recreational amenities, which amenities do you think McLaughlin should have? Please rank
Least desired amenities



SURVEY RESULTS

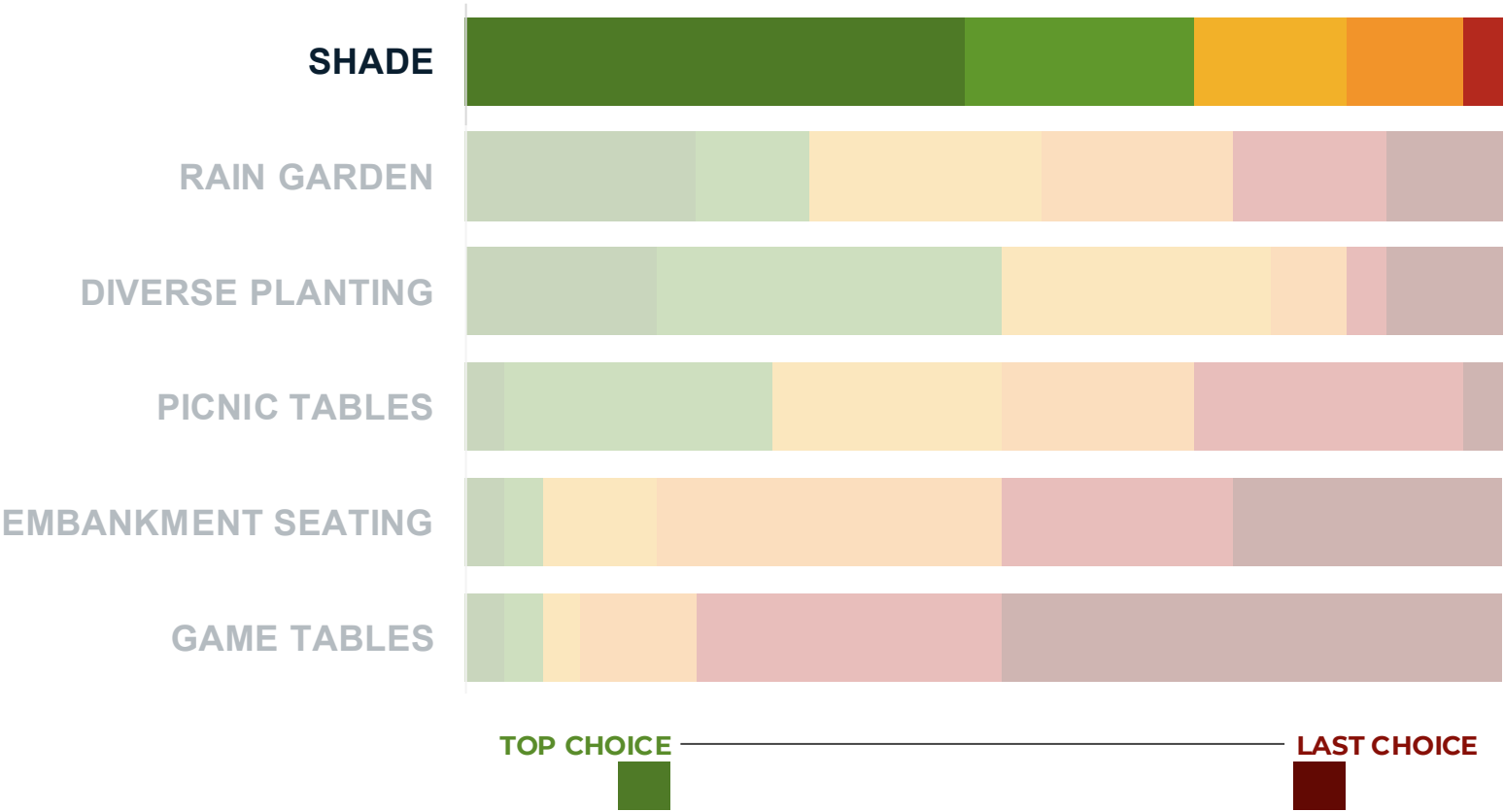
Along with recreational amenities, which amenities do you think McLaughlin should have? Please rank
Elements that most people think should be included



SURVEY RESULTS

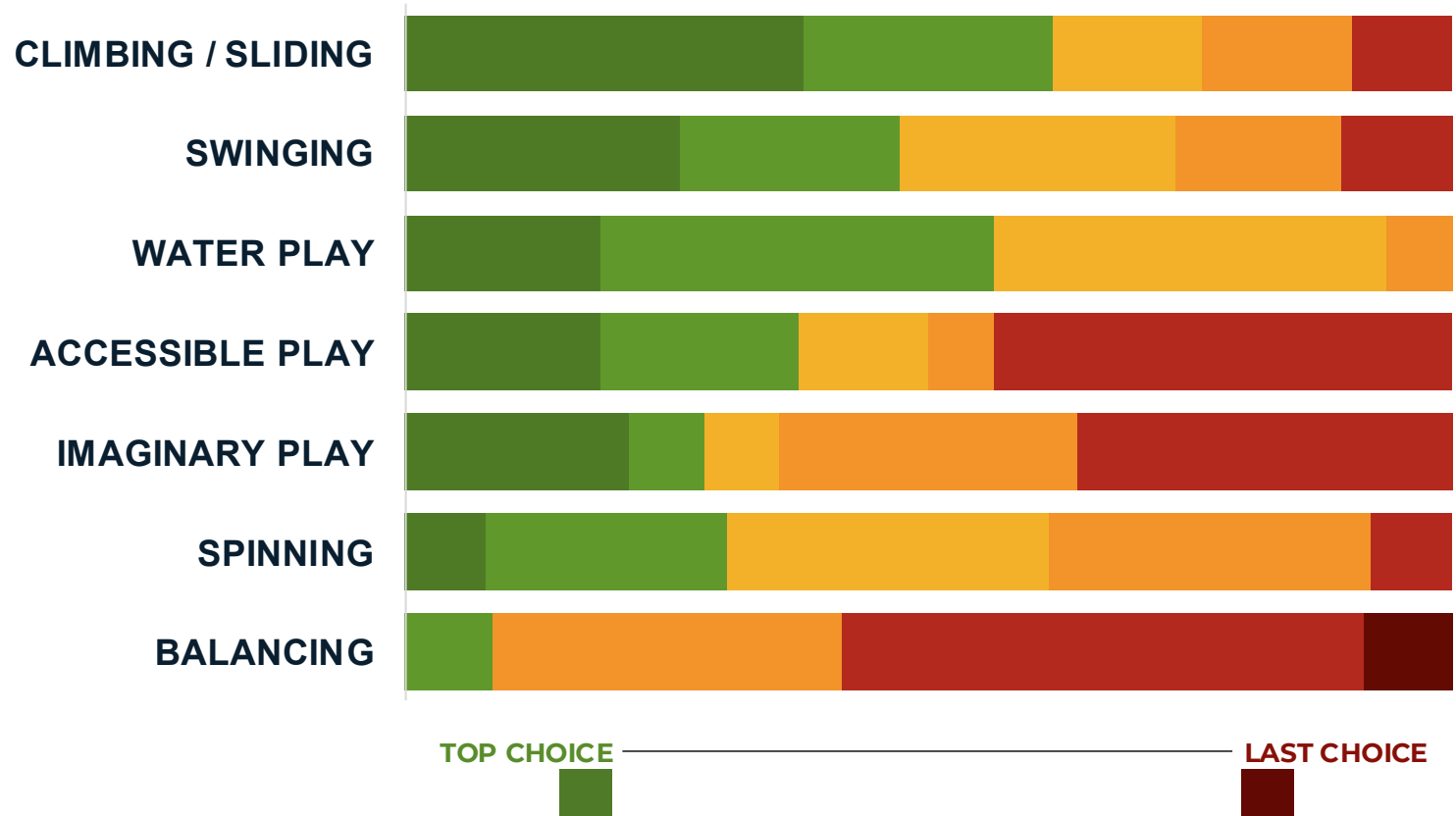
Along with recreational amenities, which amenities do you think McLaughlin should have? Please rank

A consensus that more shade is needed



SURVEY RESULTS

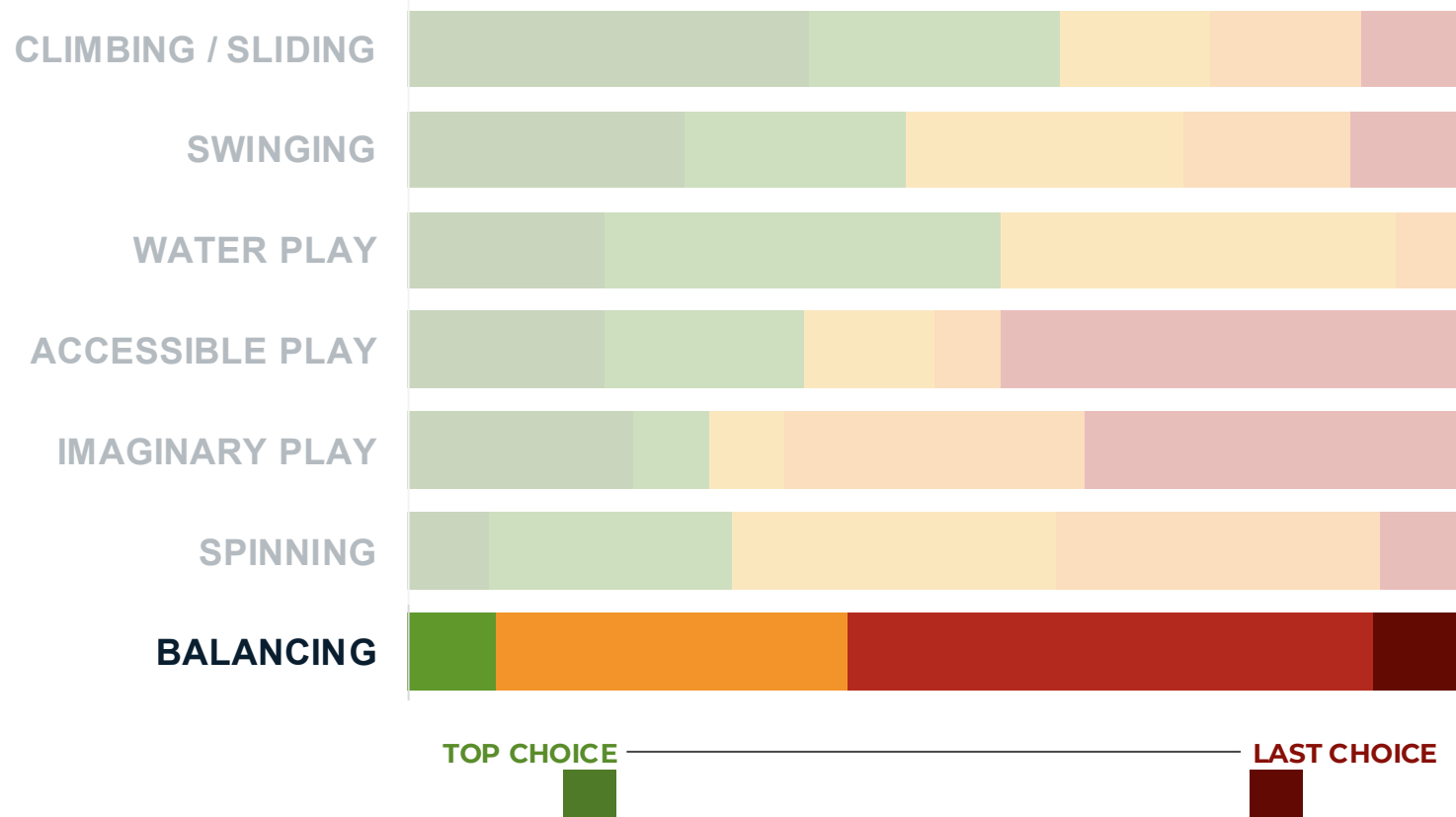
Within the children's playground area, what types of play are you interested in seeing? Please rank



SURVEY RESULTS

Within the children's playground area, what types of play are you interested in seeing? Please rank

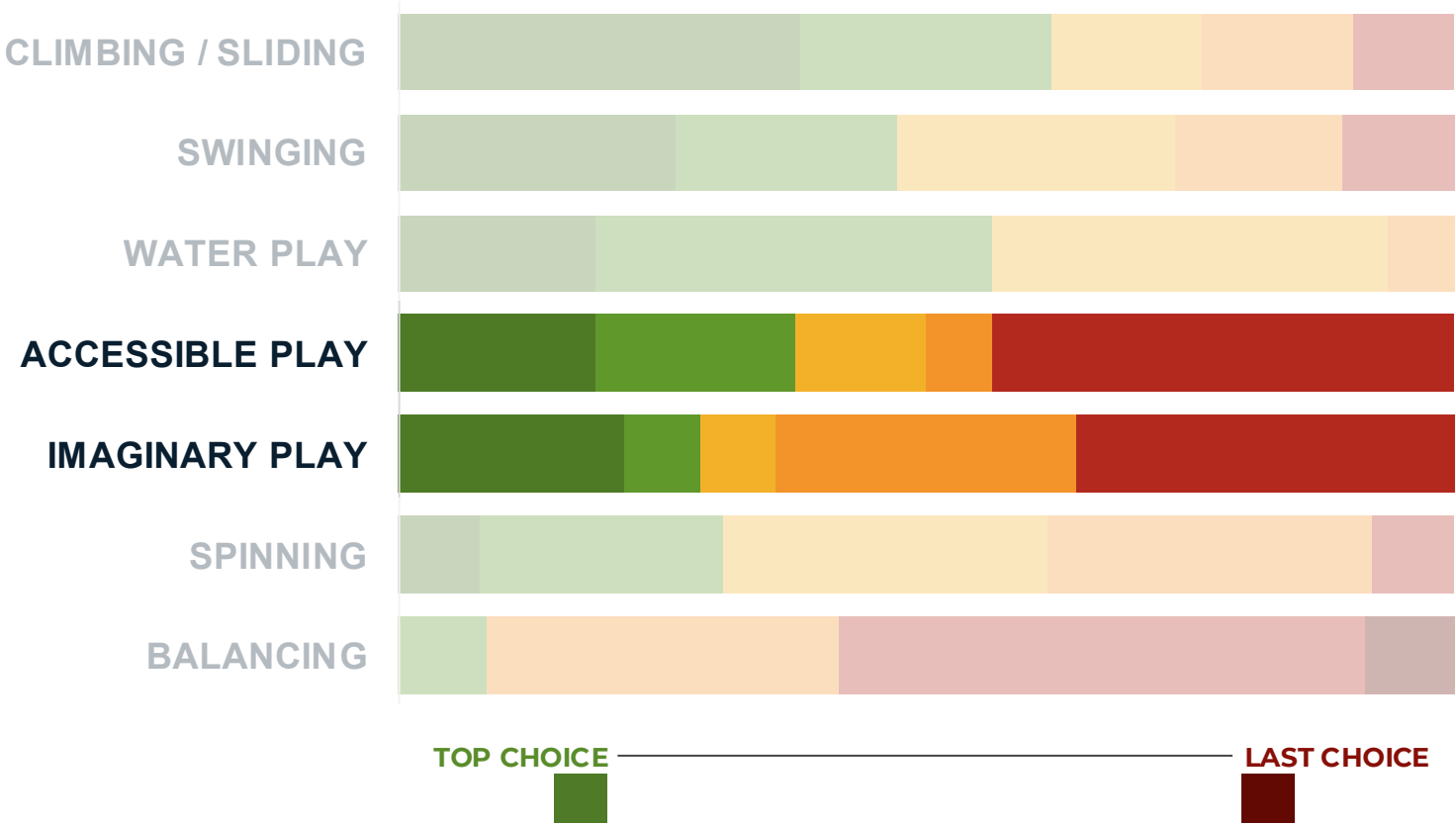
Balancing was overwhelmingly ranked last. However, gross motor skills are important and should not necessarily be disregarded.



SURVEY RESULTS

Within the children’s playground area, what types of play are you interested in seeing? Please rank

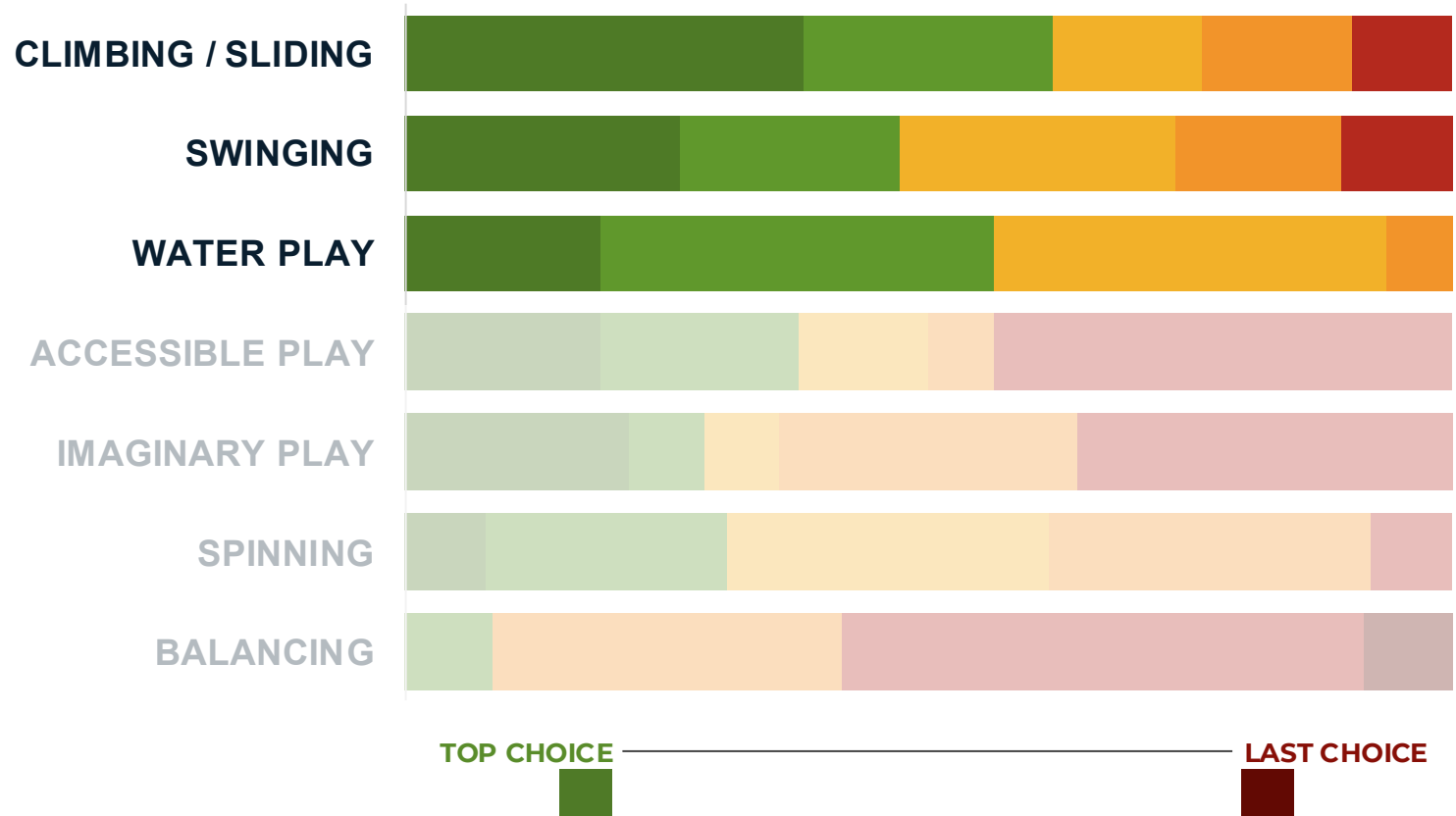
Strong difference of opinions



SURVEY RESULTS

Within the children's playground area, what types of play are you interested in seeing? Please rank

Most wanted types of play



SURVEY RESULTS

What is one word to describe the park now?



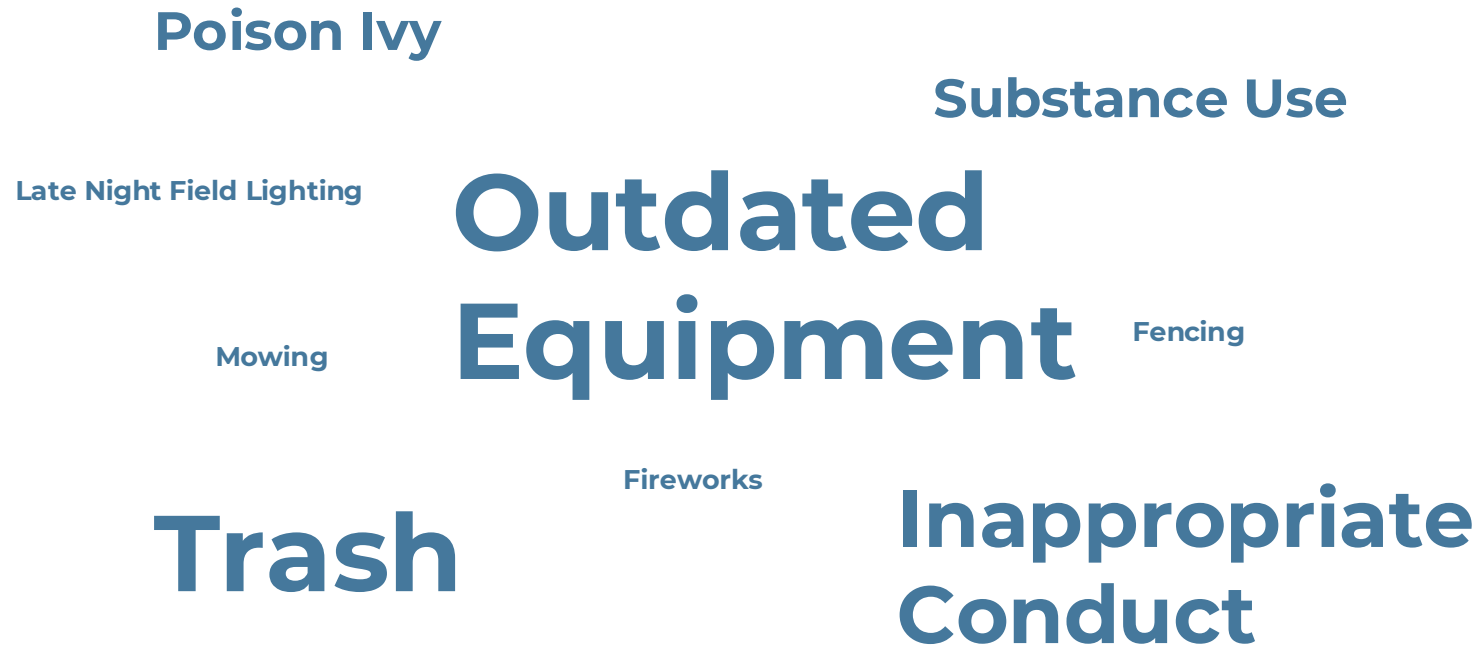
SURVEY RESULTS

What is one word you would like to describe the park after the renovation?



SURVEY RESULTS

What is one thing you would like to see less of?



SURVEY RESULTS

What is one thing you would like to see more of?



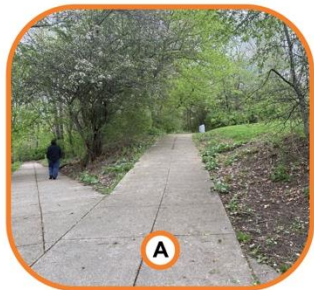
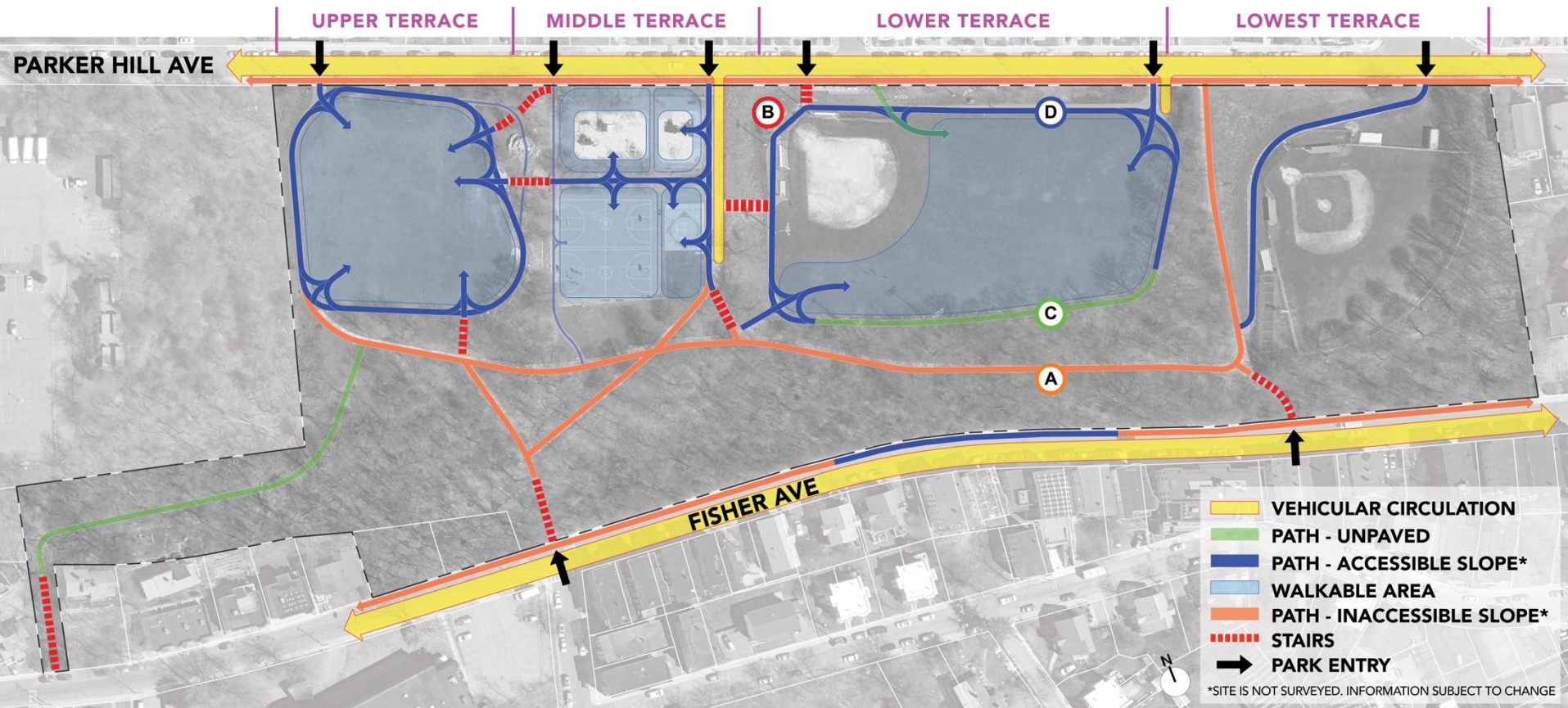
Big Take-Aways

1. Most people would like to see **more shade, places to gather, a dog park, and planting diversity.**
2. People generally agree adding **water play** to the park is a **top priority.**
3. Four square **isn't working** but the **walking paths, lawn areas and softball field are** well used.
4. **Climbing, sliding** and **swinging** are the most highly desired types of play to incorporate.

ACCESS



EXISTING CIRCULATION



PATH - STEEP SLOPE



STAIRS



PATH - UNPAVED



PATH - GRADUAL SLOPE

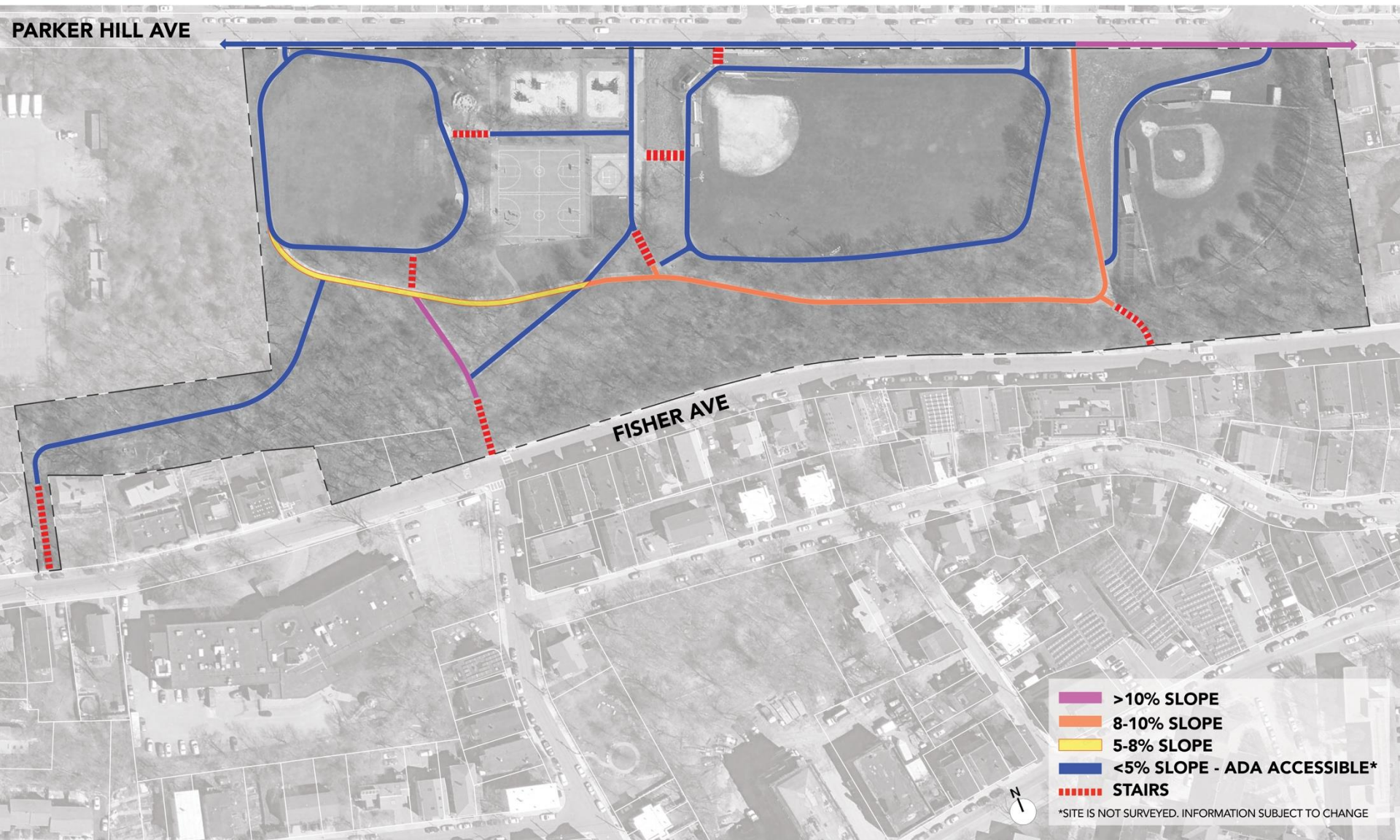
OPPORTUNITIES:

- IMPROVE ACCESSIBILITY
- IMPROVE CONNECTIONS
- PRESERVE WHAT WORKS

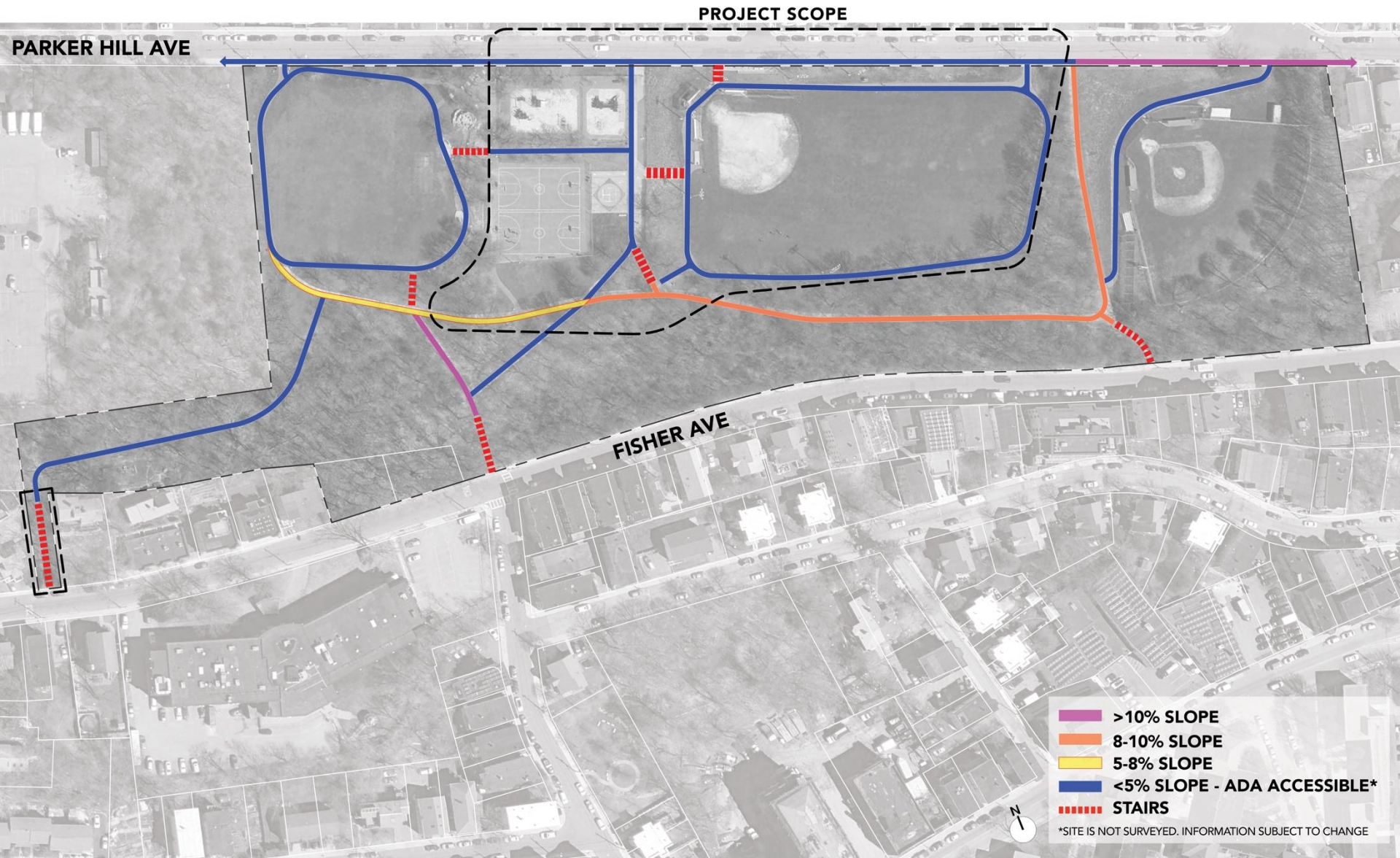
CHALLENGES:

- TOPOGRAPHY
- SCOPE AND BUDGET

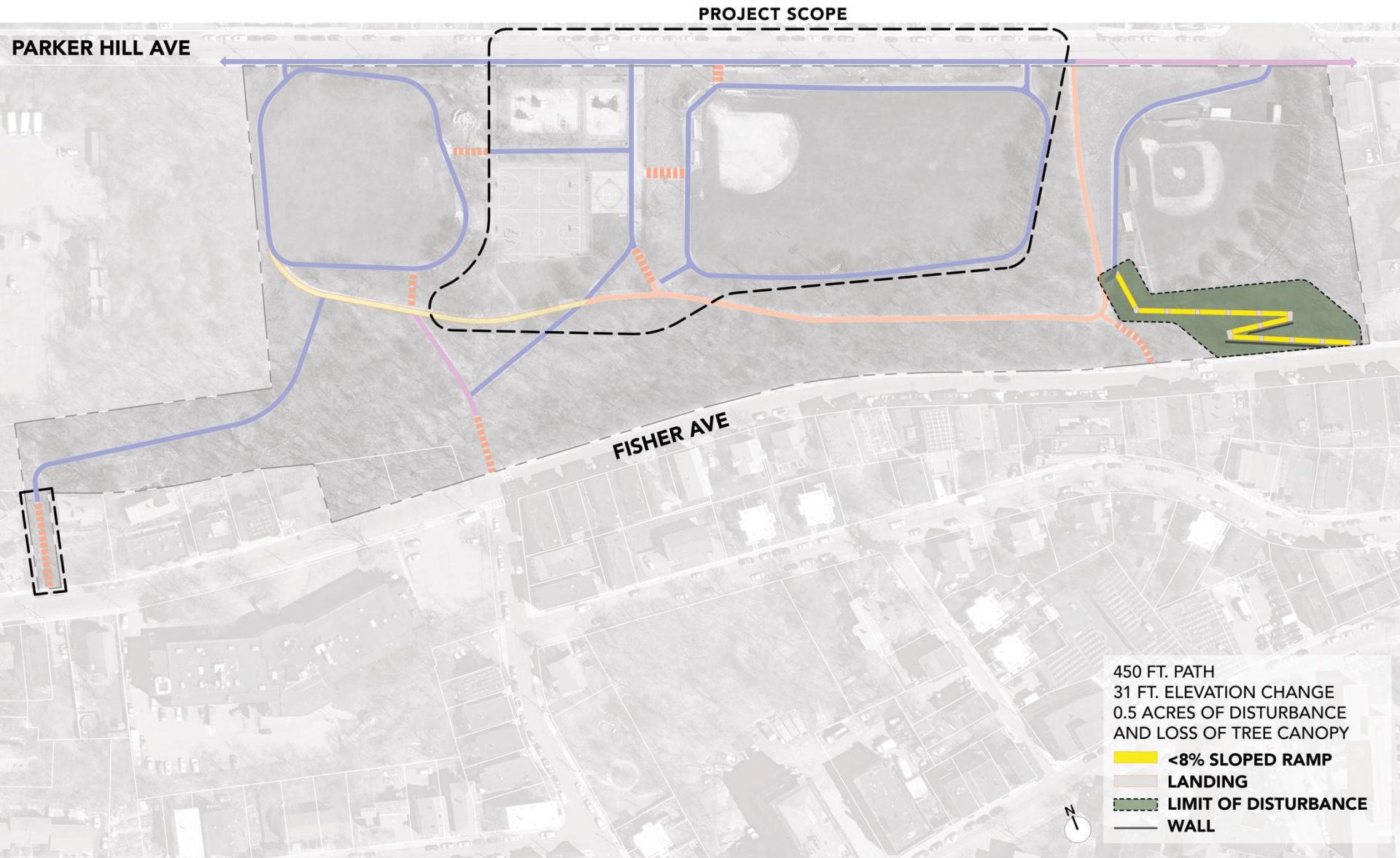
ACCESS



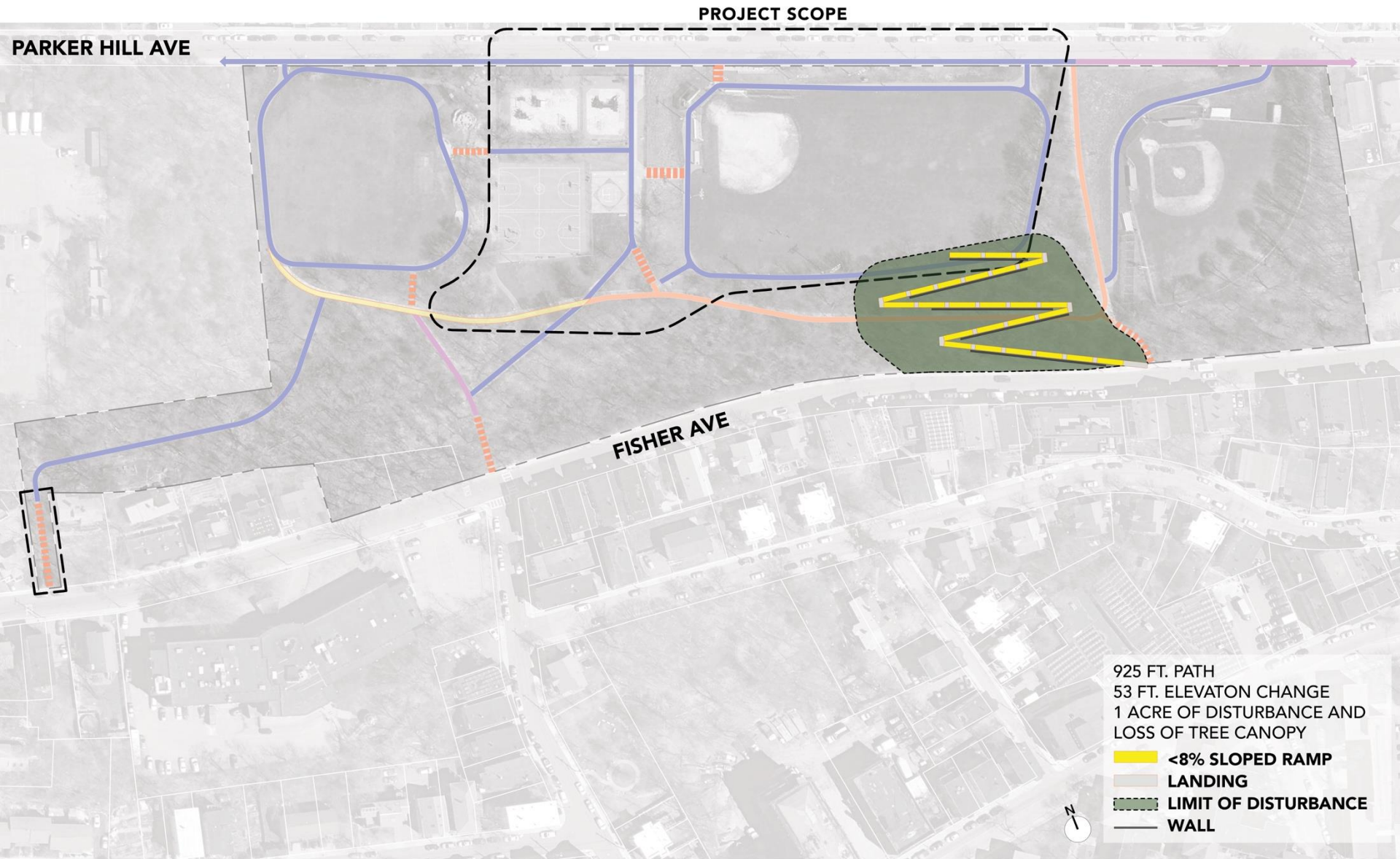
ACCESS



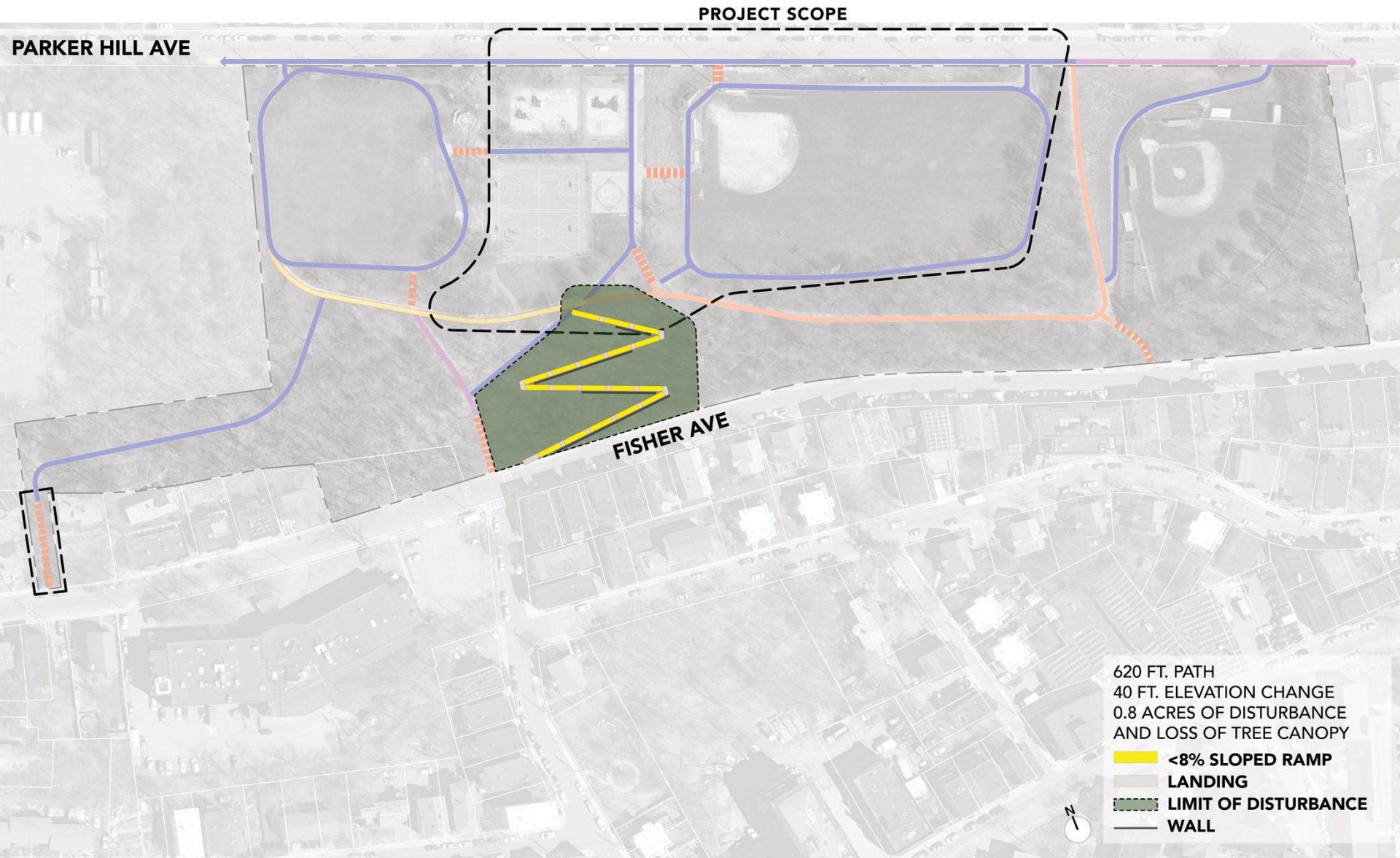
ACCESS – OPTION 1

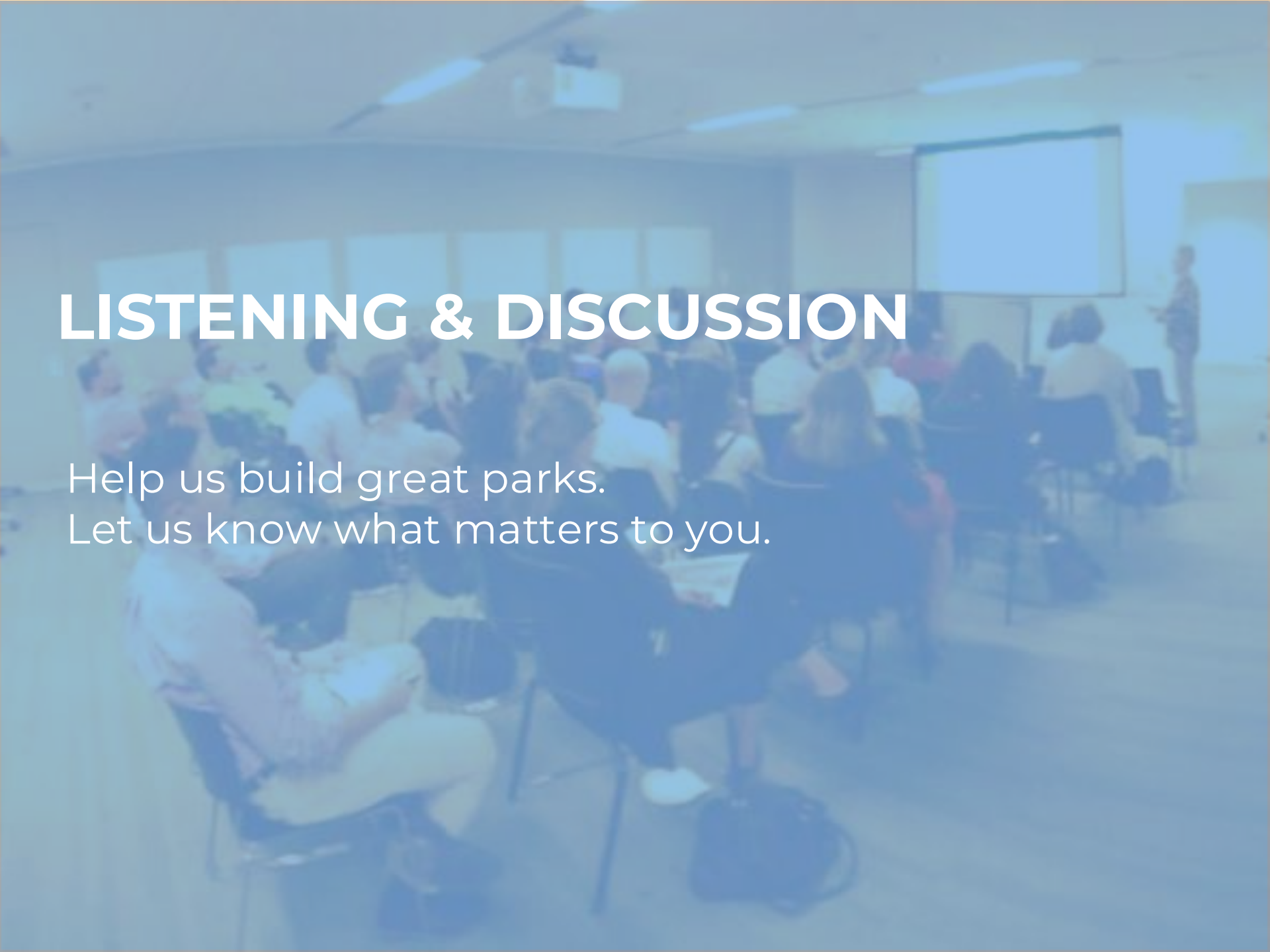


ACCESS – OPTION 2



ACCESS – OPTION 3

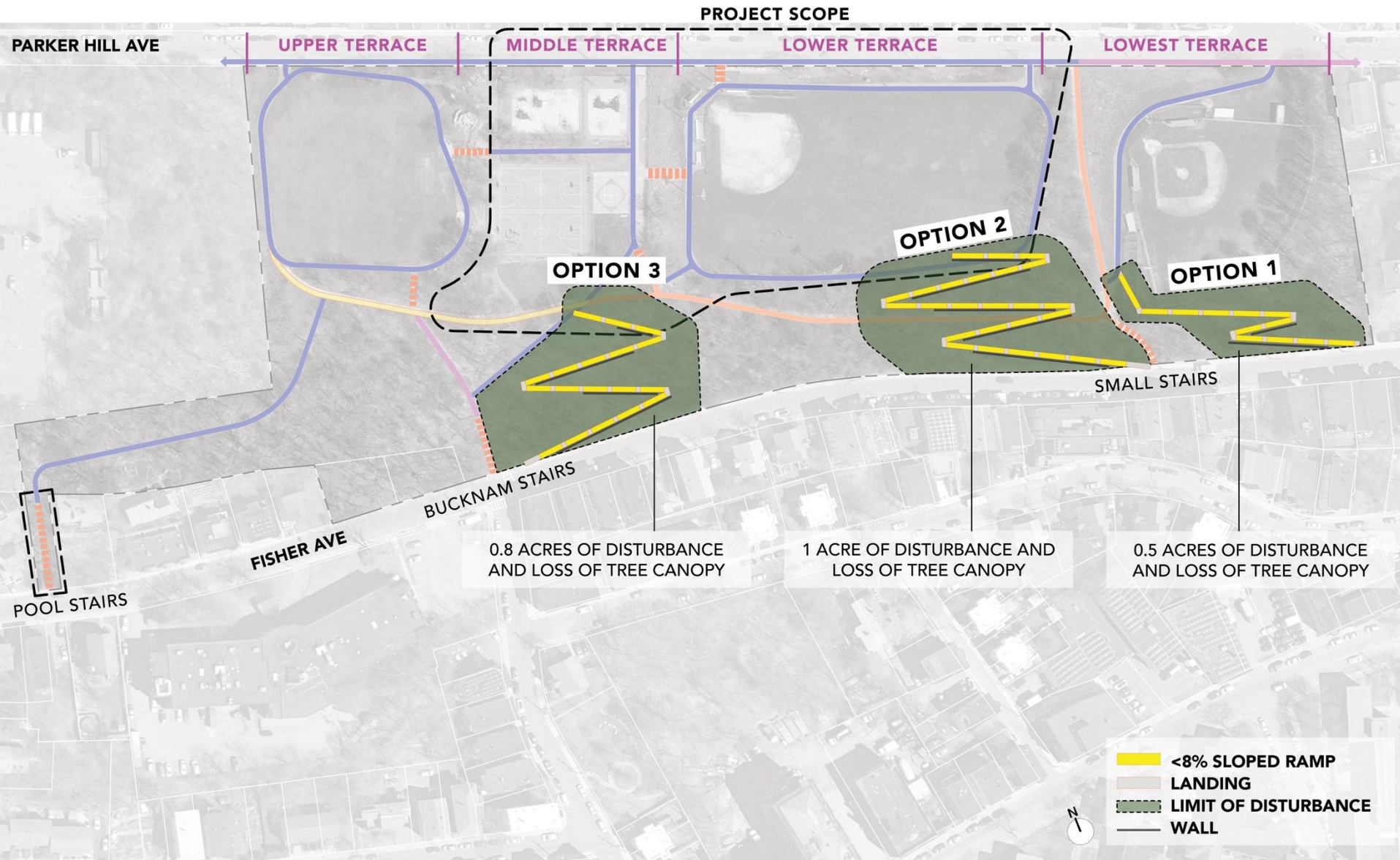




LISTENING & DISCUSSION

Help us build great parks.
Let us know what matters to you.

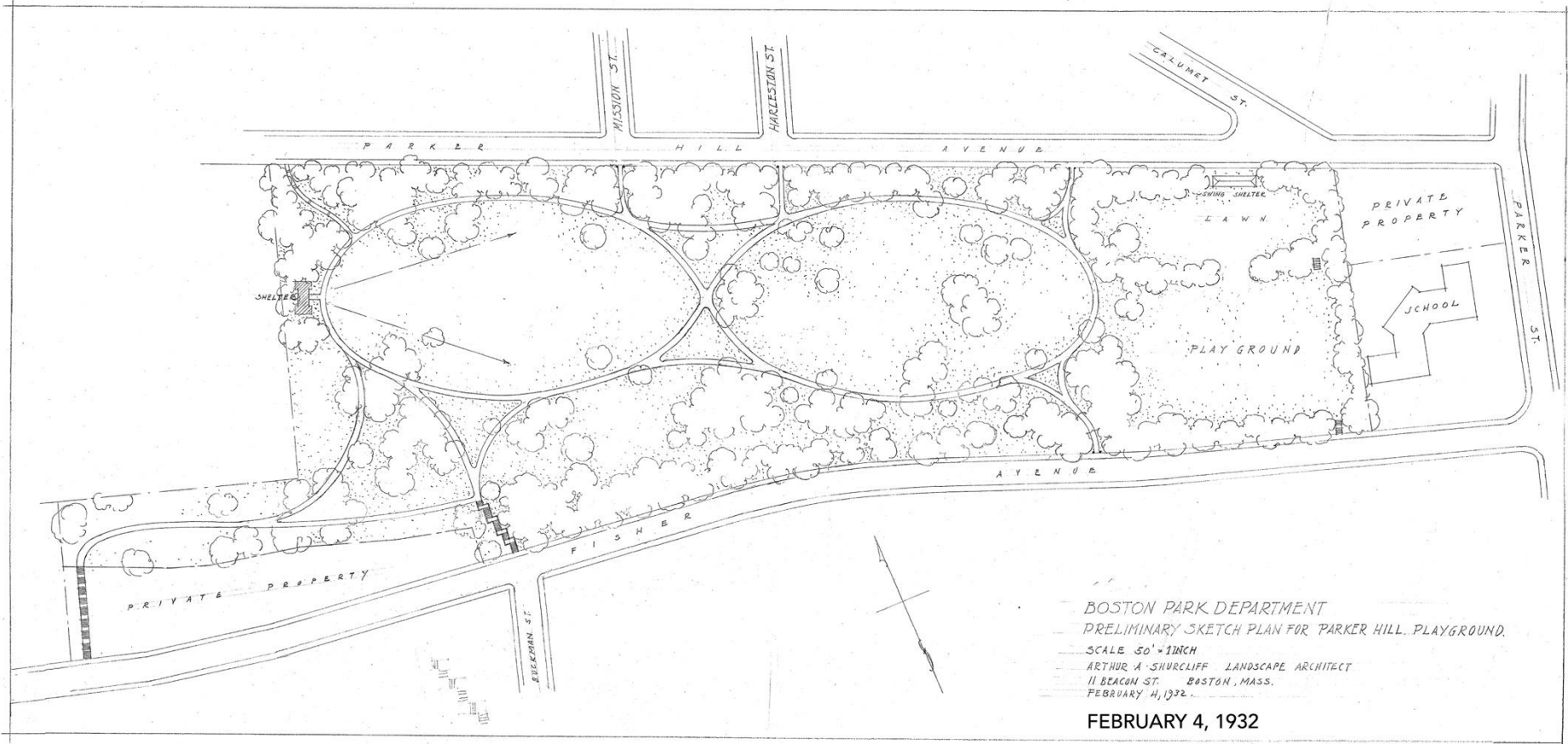
ACCESS



DESIGN

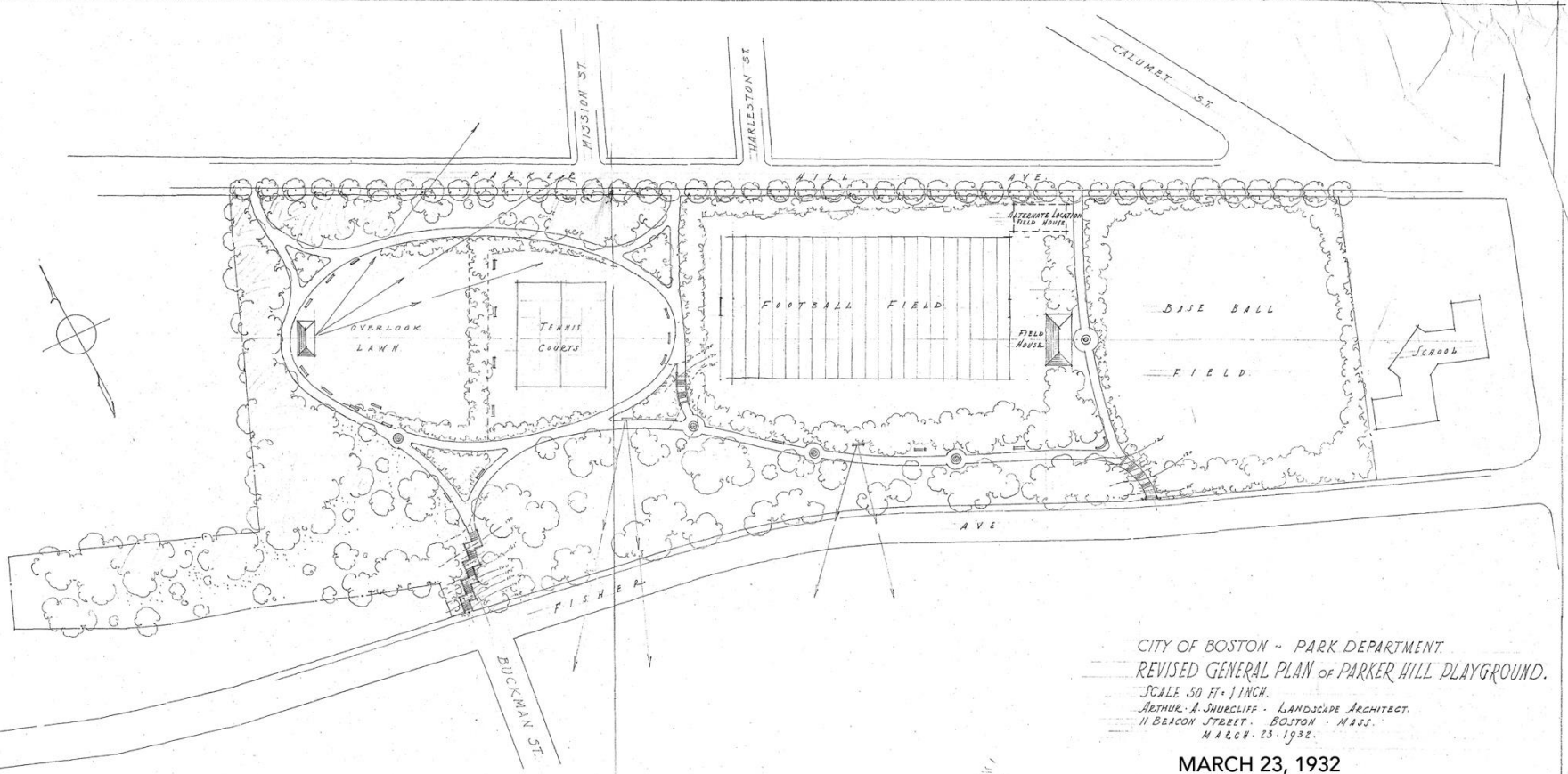


CONCEPT DESIGN PLAN: 1932



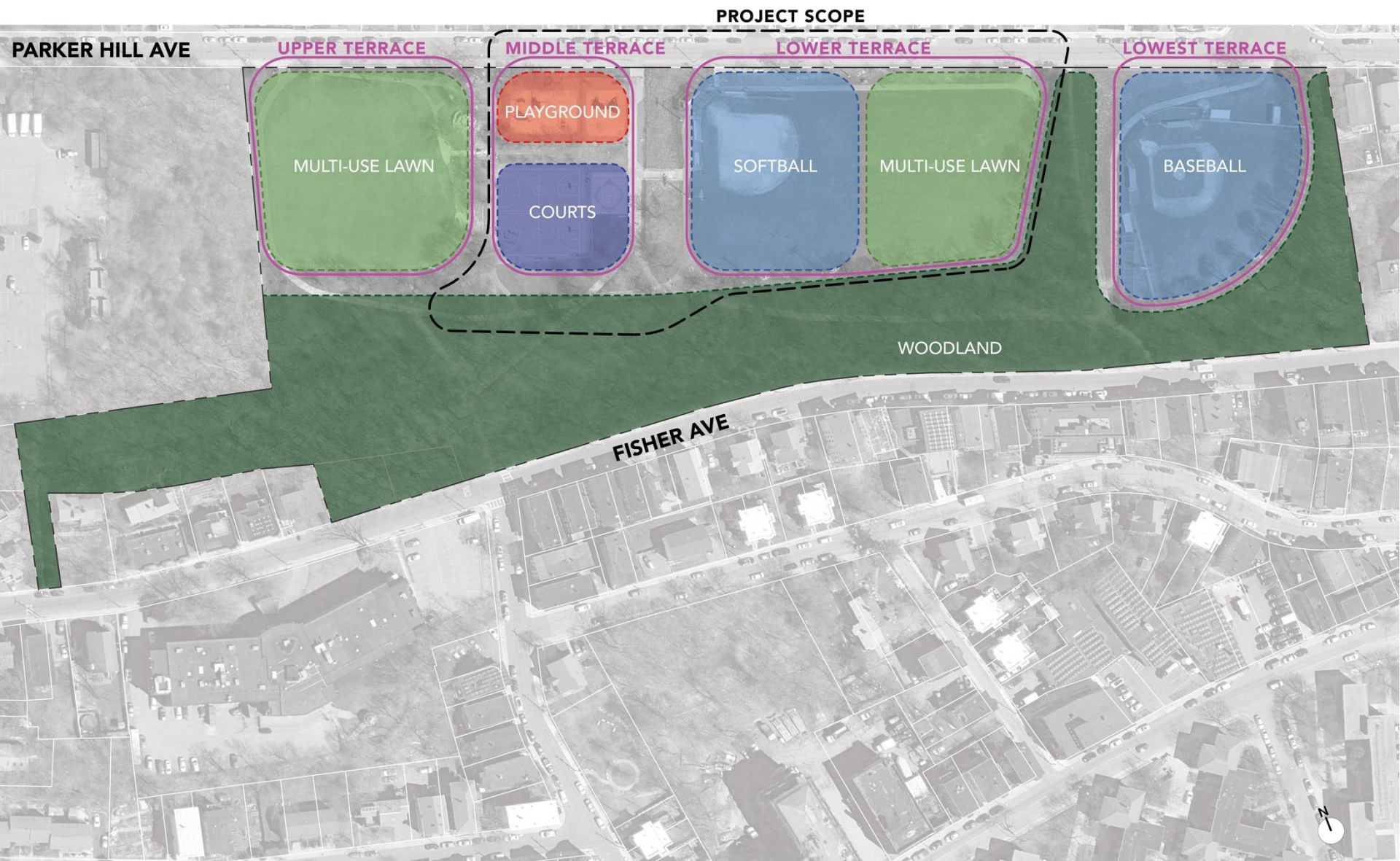
ARTHUR SHURCLIFF

CONCEPT DESIGN PLAN: 1932

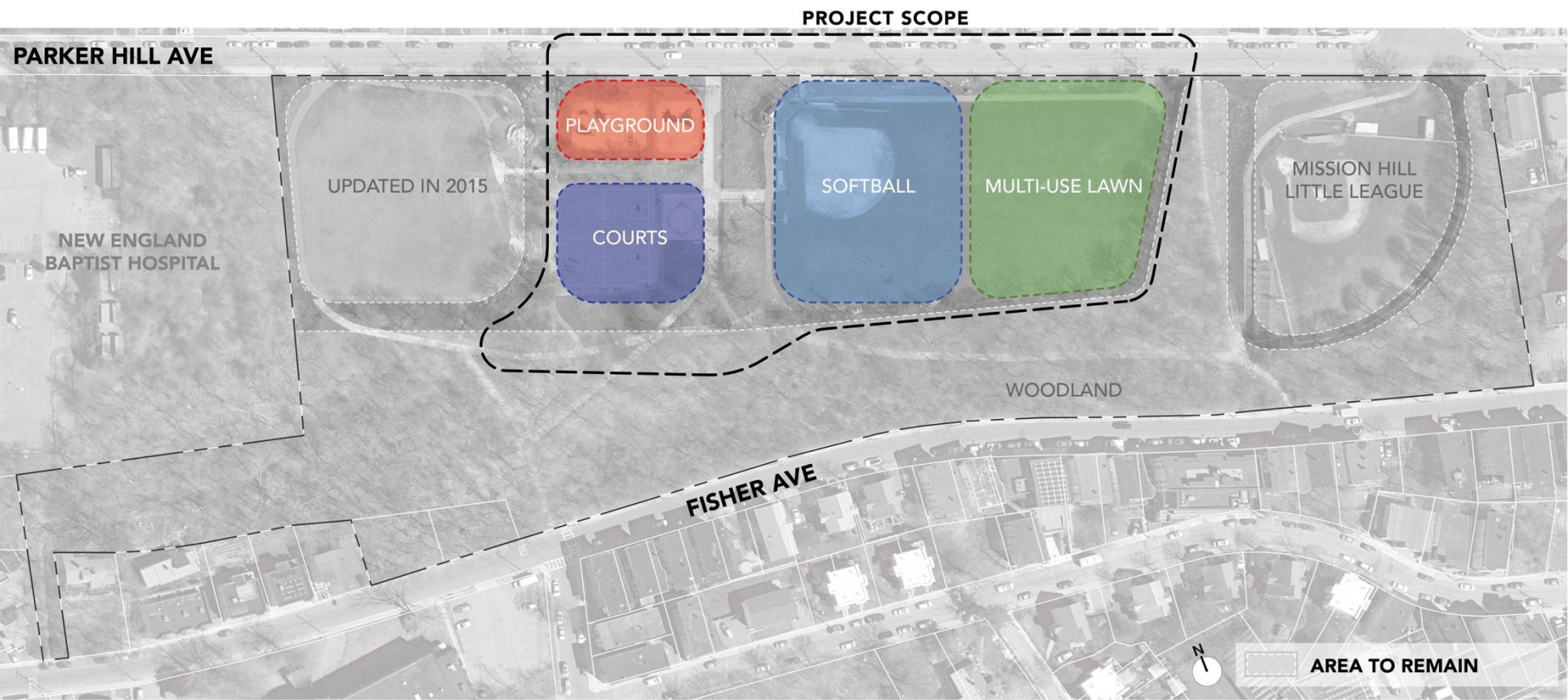


ARTHUR SHURCLIFF

EXISTING USE AREAS



PROJECT SCOPE



PLAYGROUND



COURTS

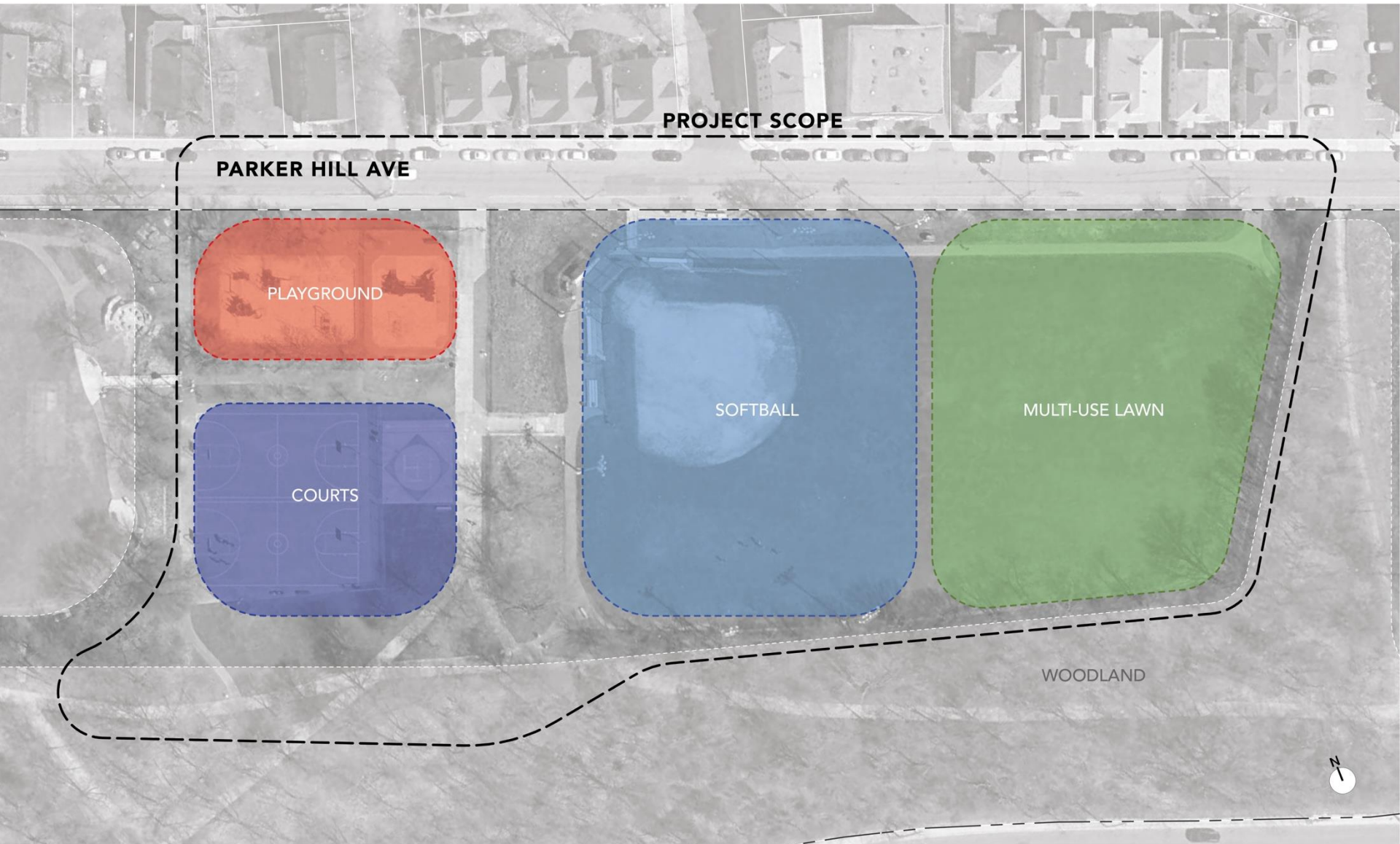


SOFTBALL

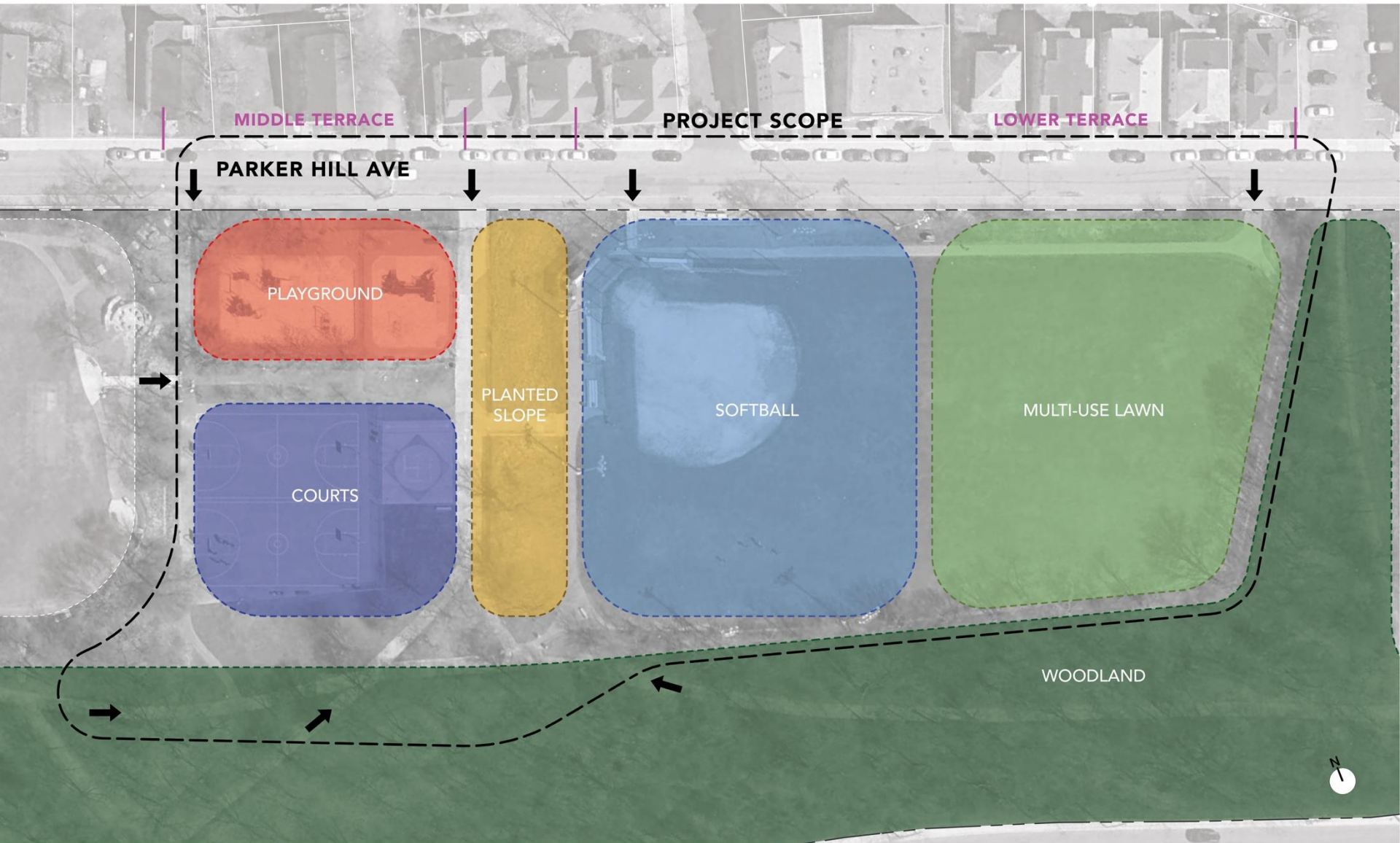


MULTI-USE LAWN

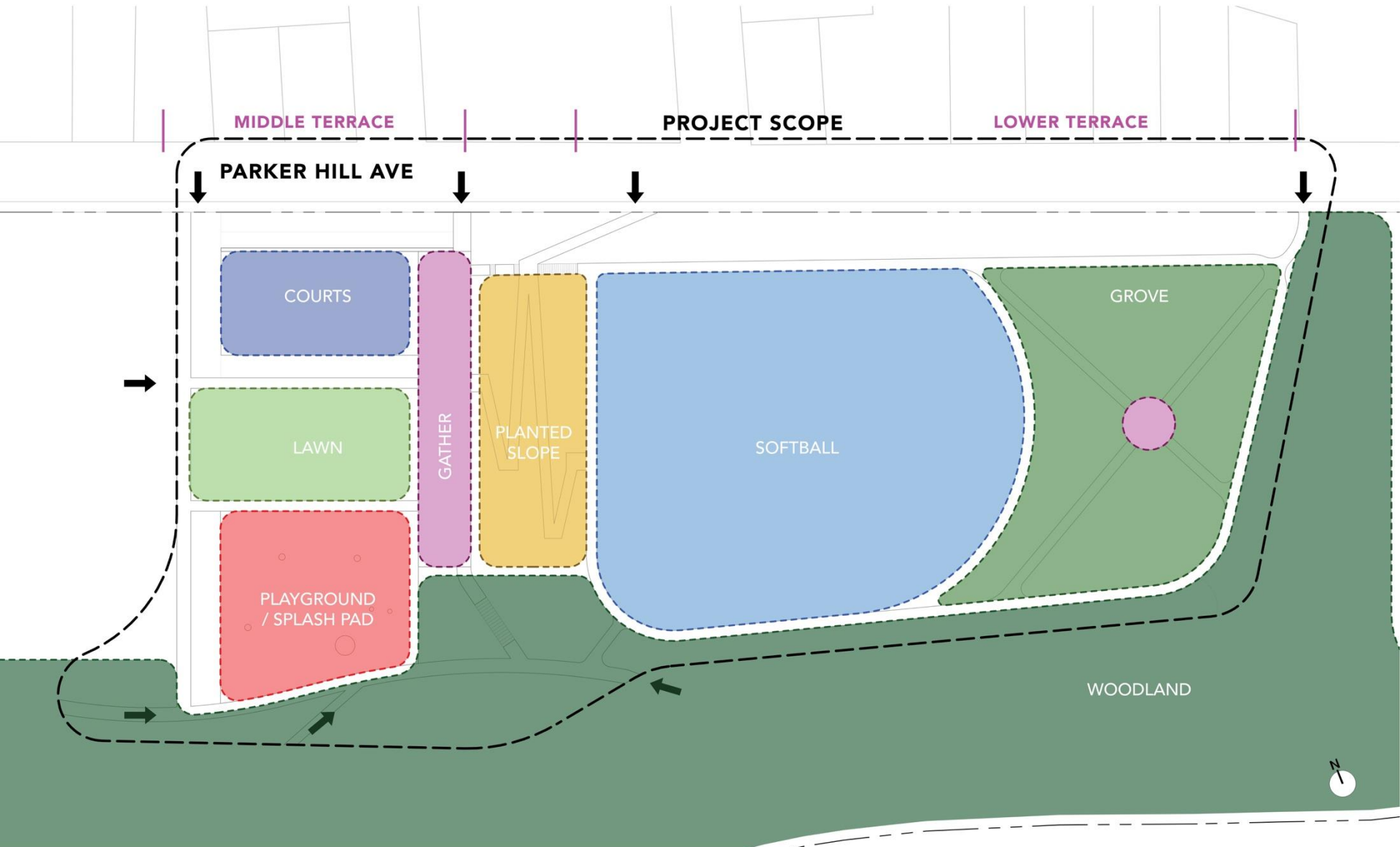
PROJECT SCOPE



SCOPE AREA - EXISTING CONDITIONS



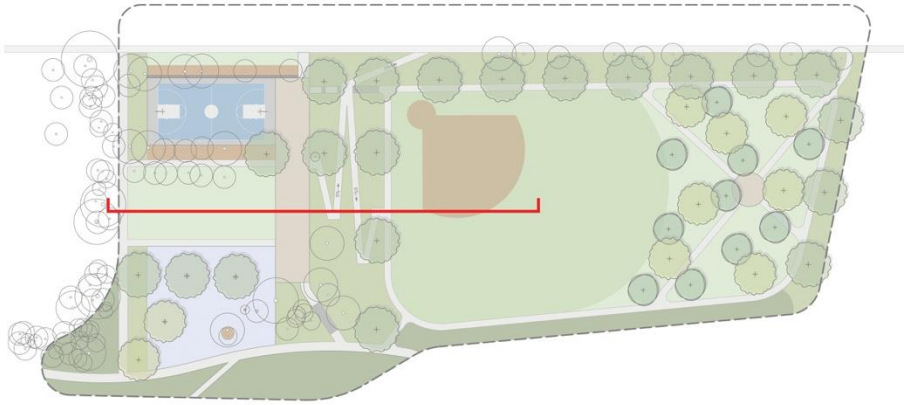
OPTION 1 – STRUCTURED



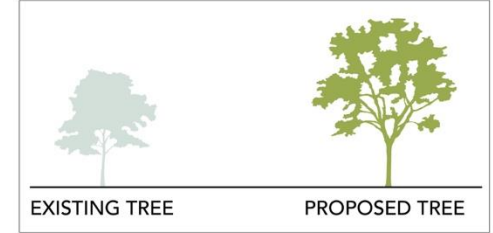
OPTION 1 – STRUCTURED



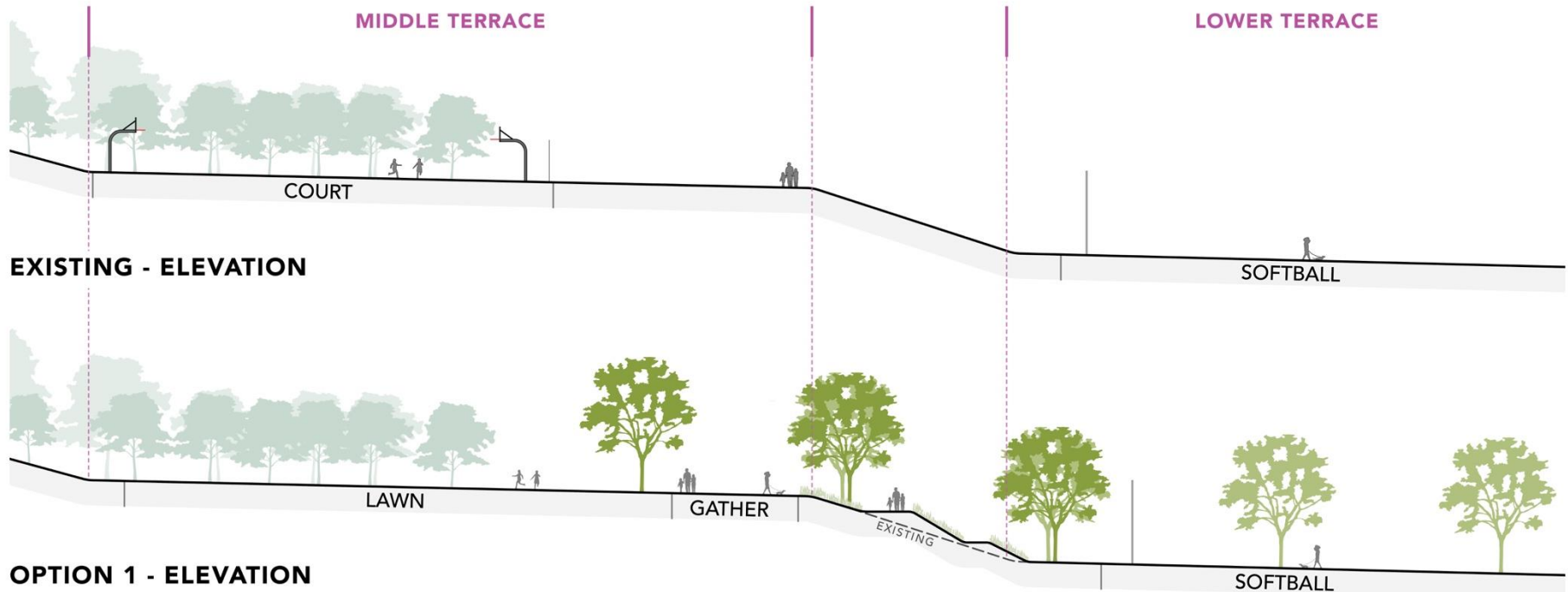
OPTION 1 – STRUCTURED



LEGEND



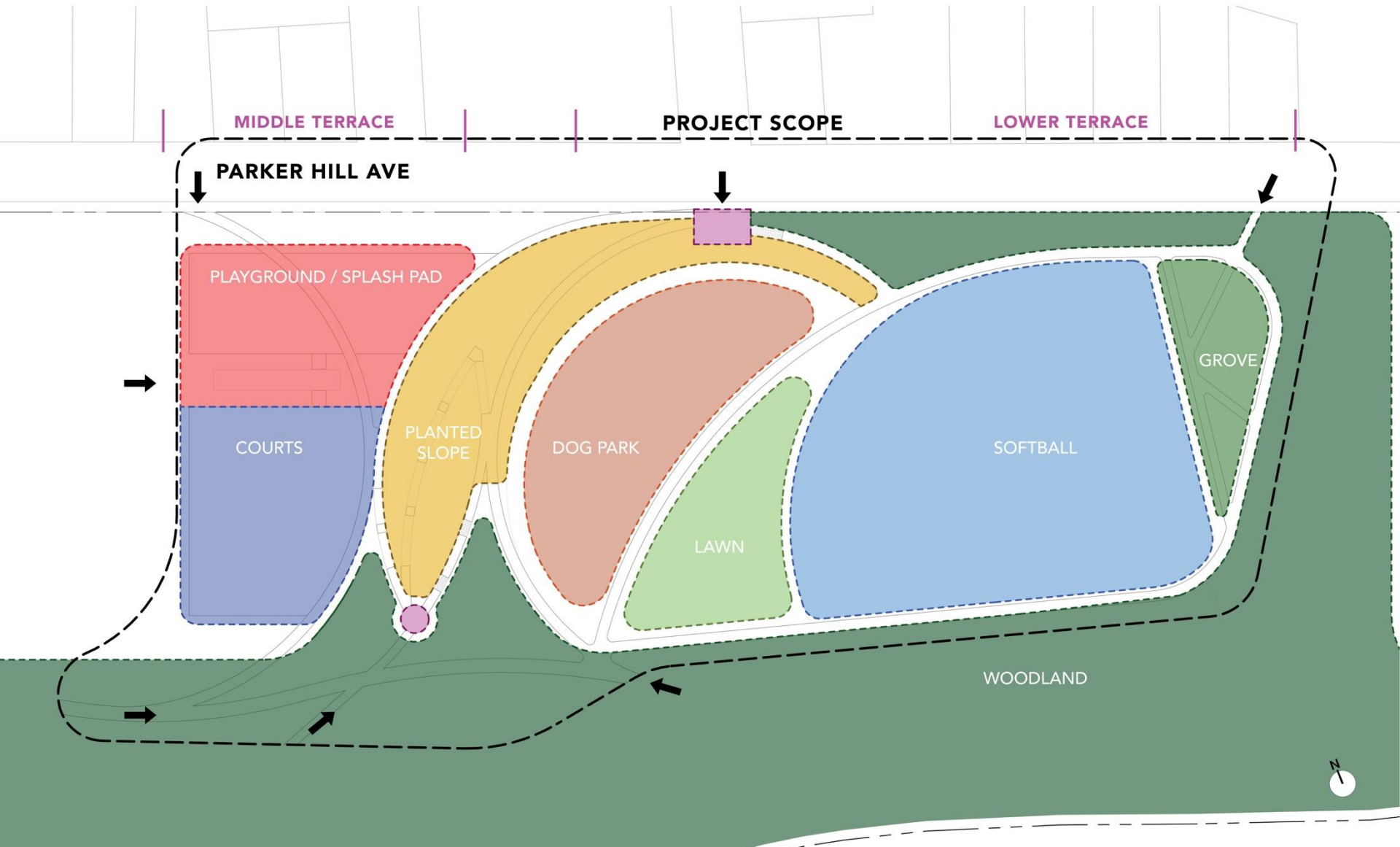
OPTION 1 - PLAN



EXISTING - ELEVATION

OPTION 1 - ELEVATION

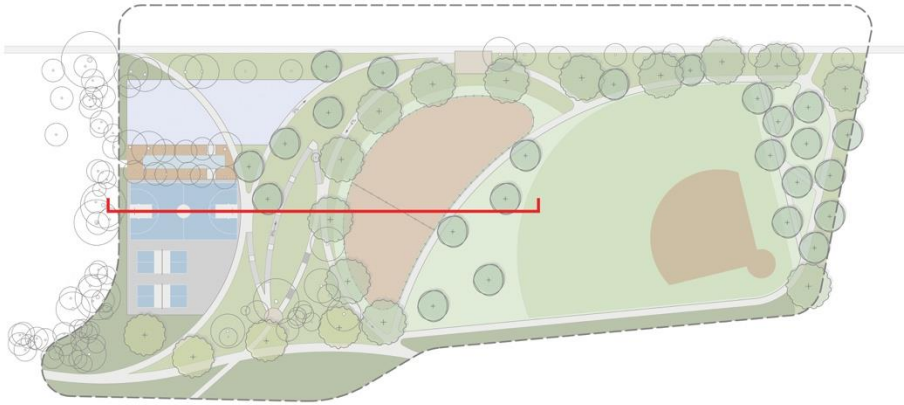
OPTION 2 – INTERCONNECTED



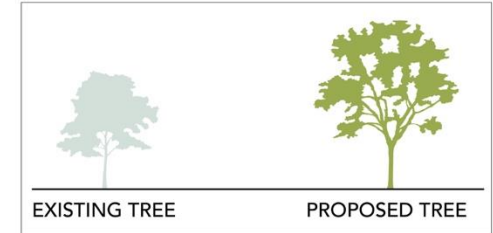
OPTION 2 – INTERCONNECTED



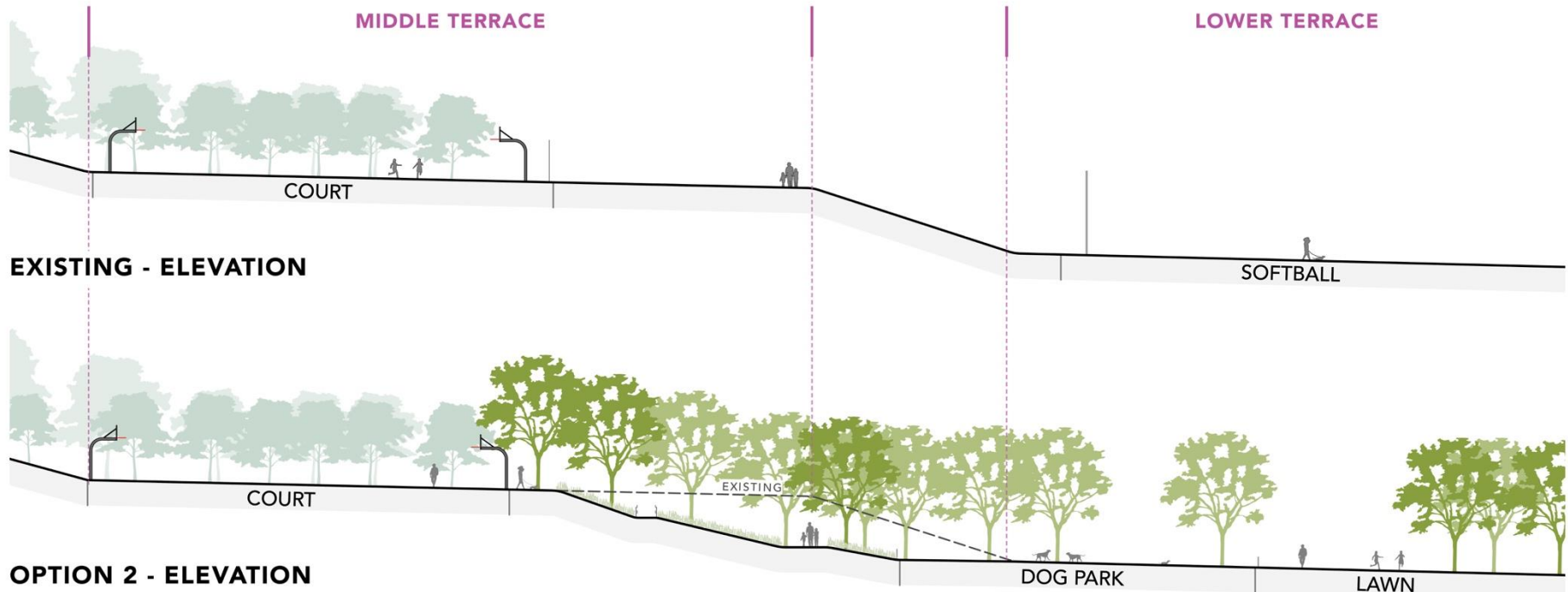
OPTION 2 – INTERCONNECTED



LEGEND



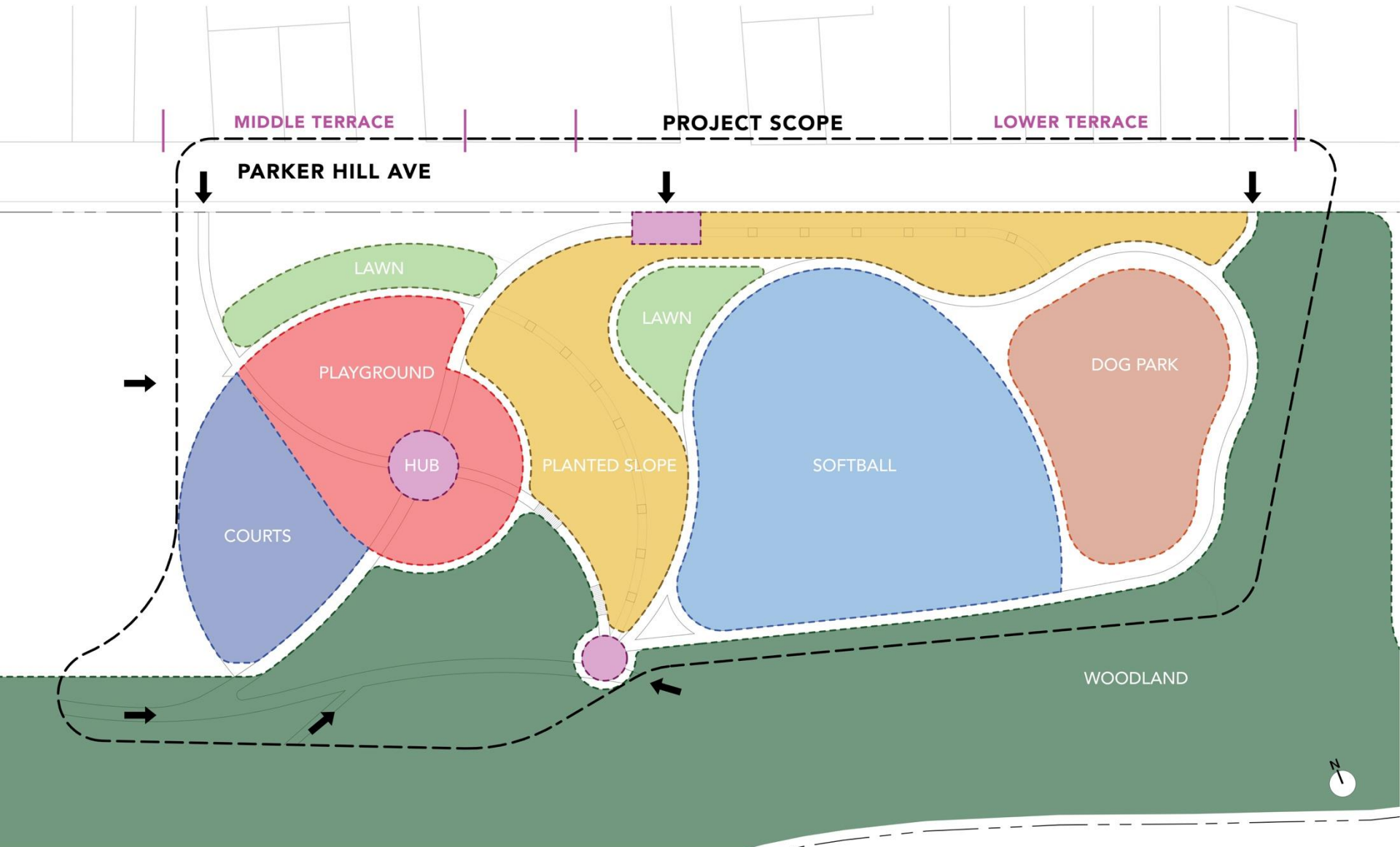
OPTION 2 - PLAN



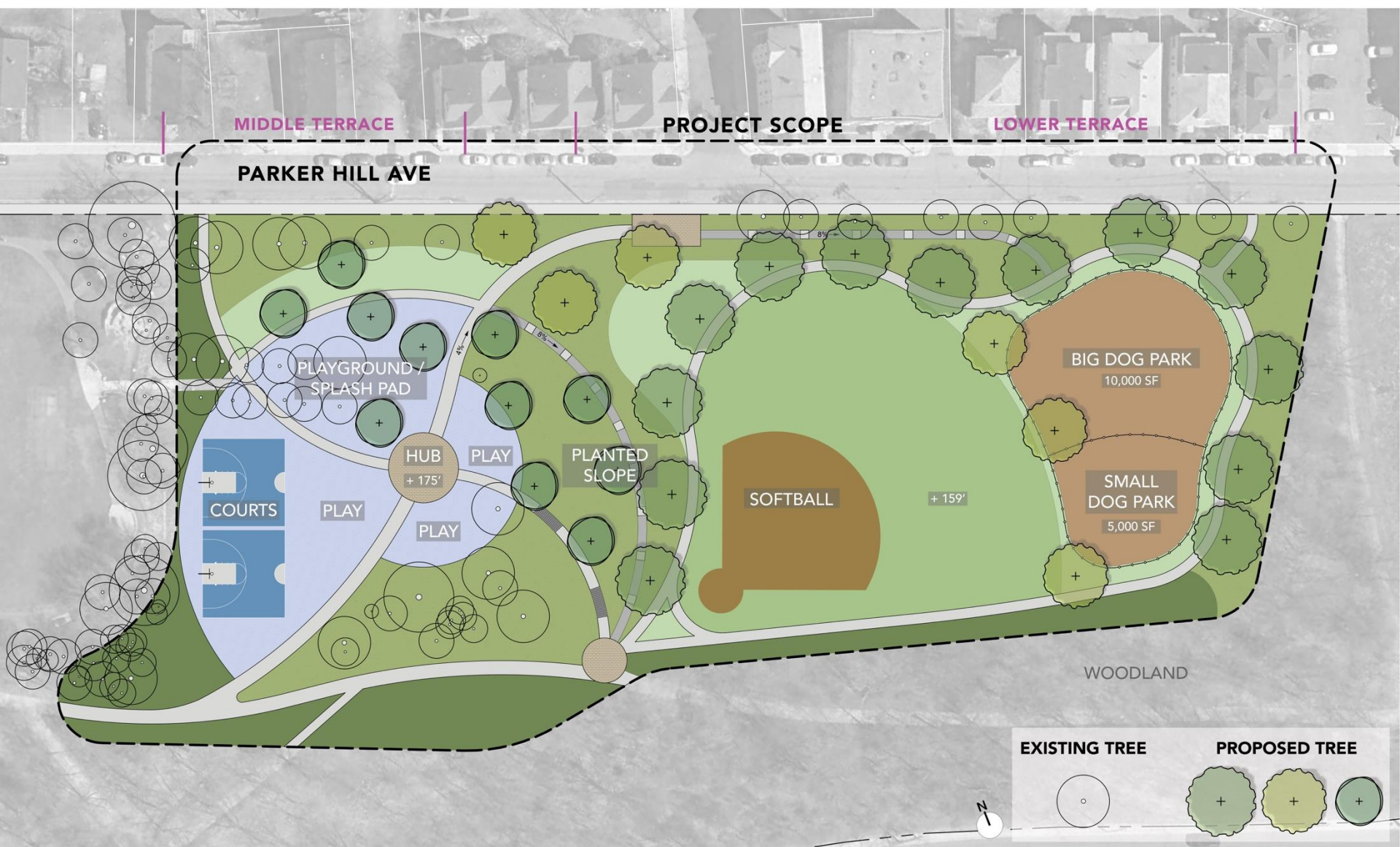
EXISTING - ELEVATION

OPTION 2 - ELEVATION

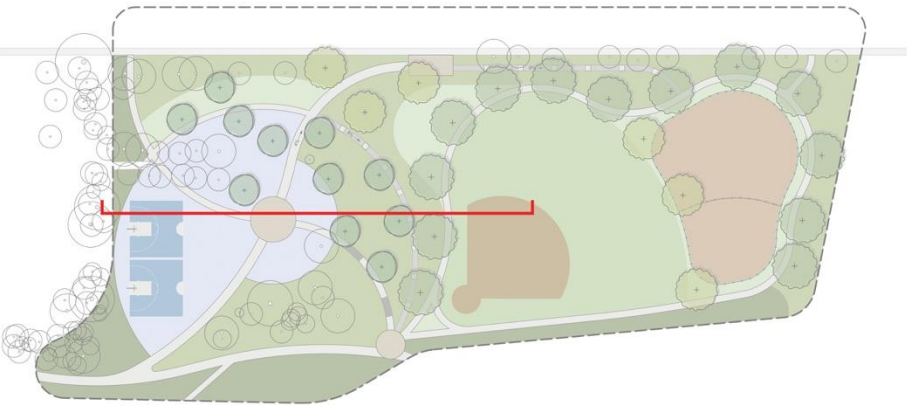
OPTION 3 – HUB AND WEDGES



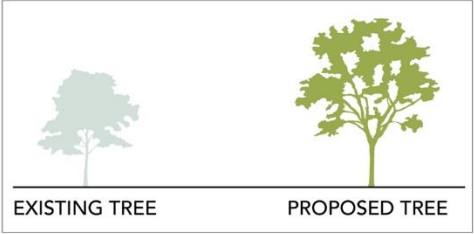
OPTION 3 – HUB AND WEDGES



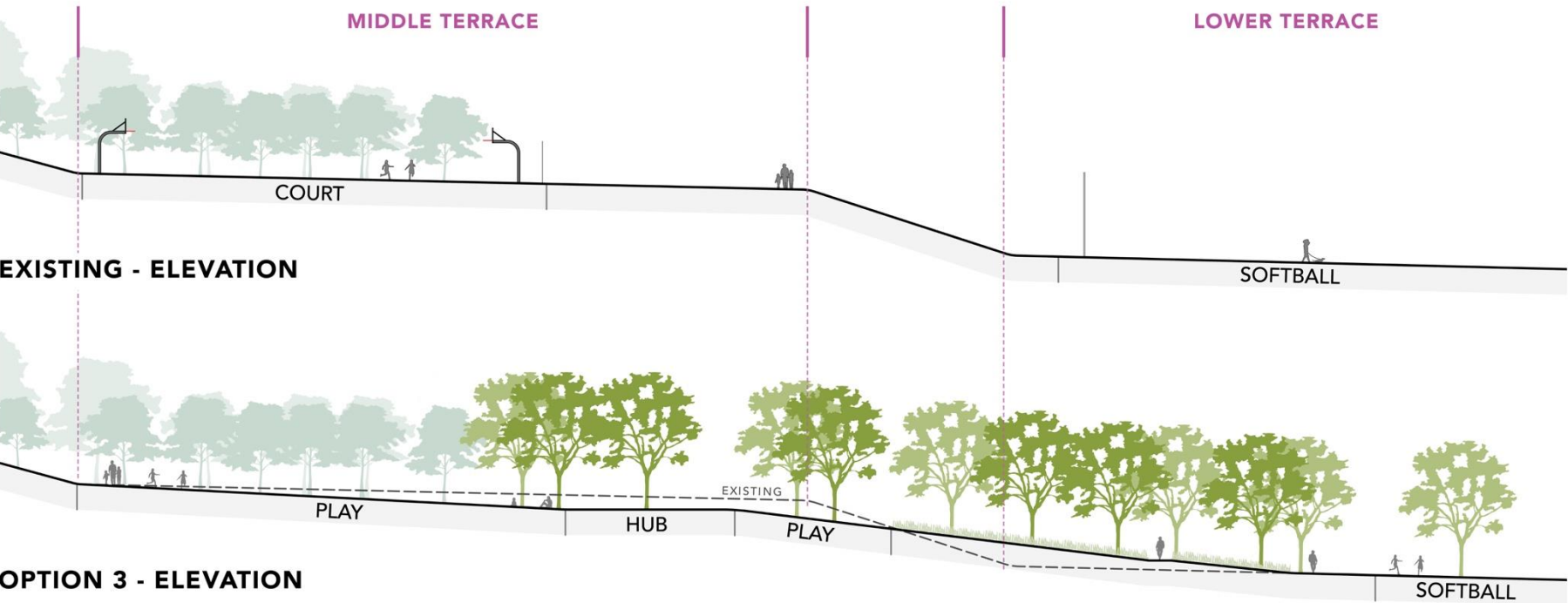
OPTION 3 – HUB AND WEDGES



LEGEND



OPTION 3 - PLAN

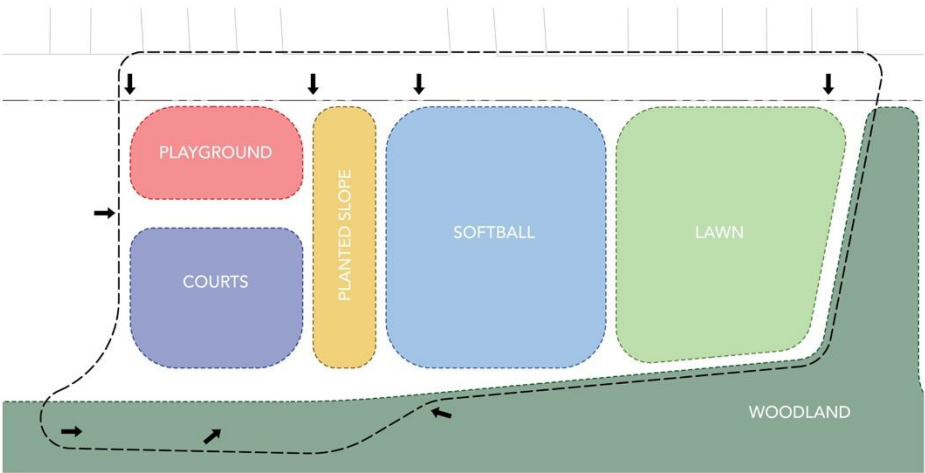


EXISTING - ELEVATION

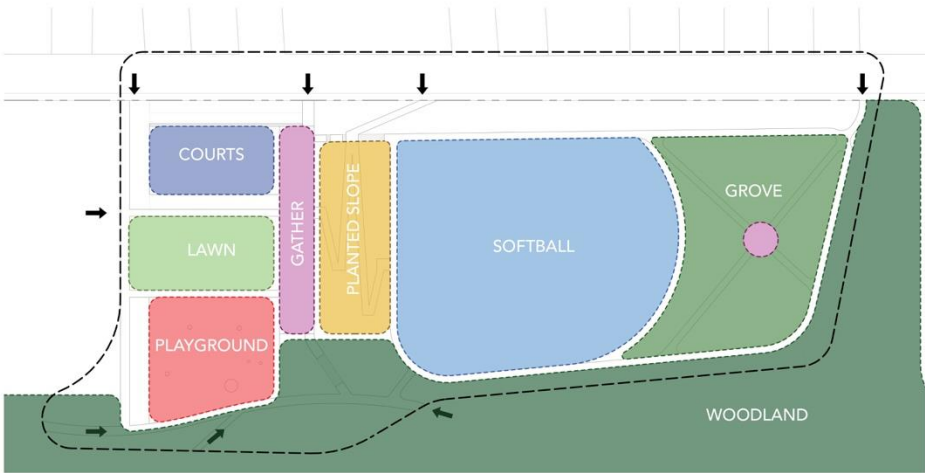
OPTION 3 - ELEVATION

EXISTING AND PROPOSED

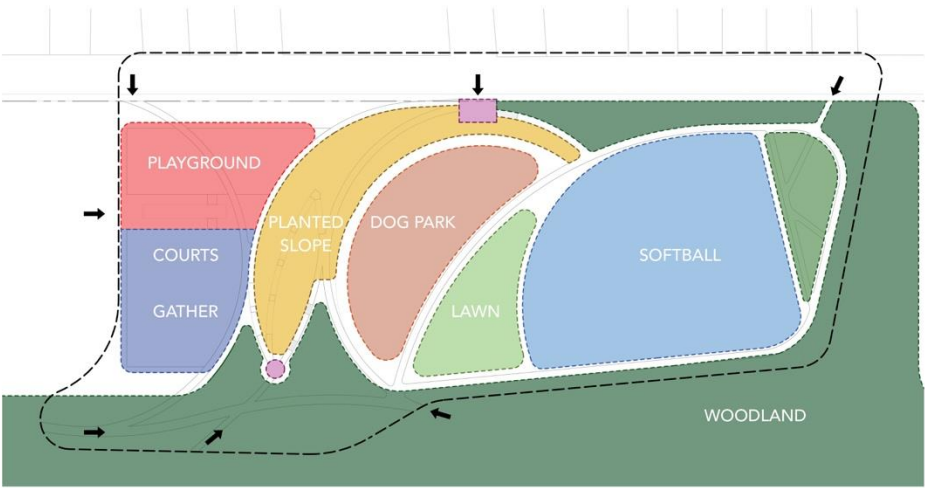
EXISTING



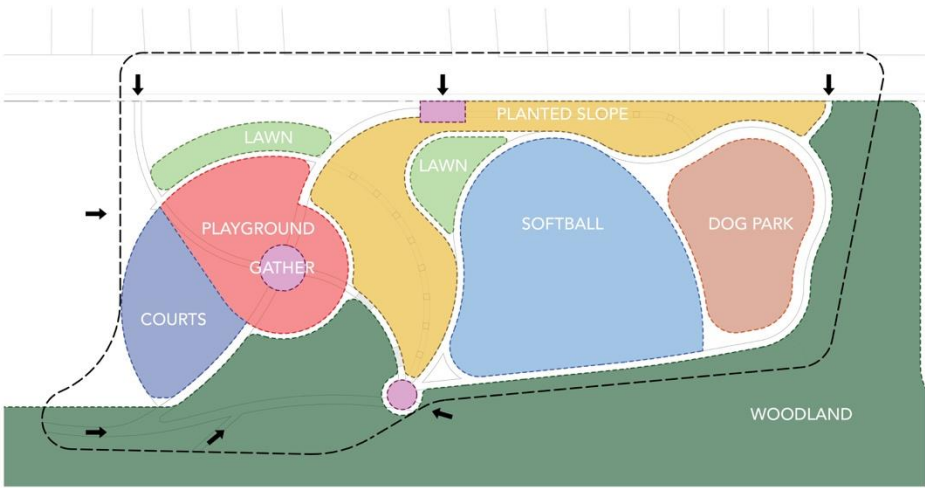
OPTION 1 - STRUCTURED



OPTION 2 - INTERCONNECTED



OPTION 3 - HUB AND WEDGES



CLIMBING / SLIDING



SPINNING



SWINGING



GROUND LEVEL PLAY

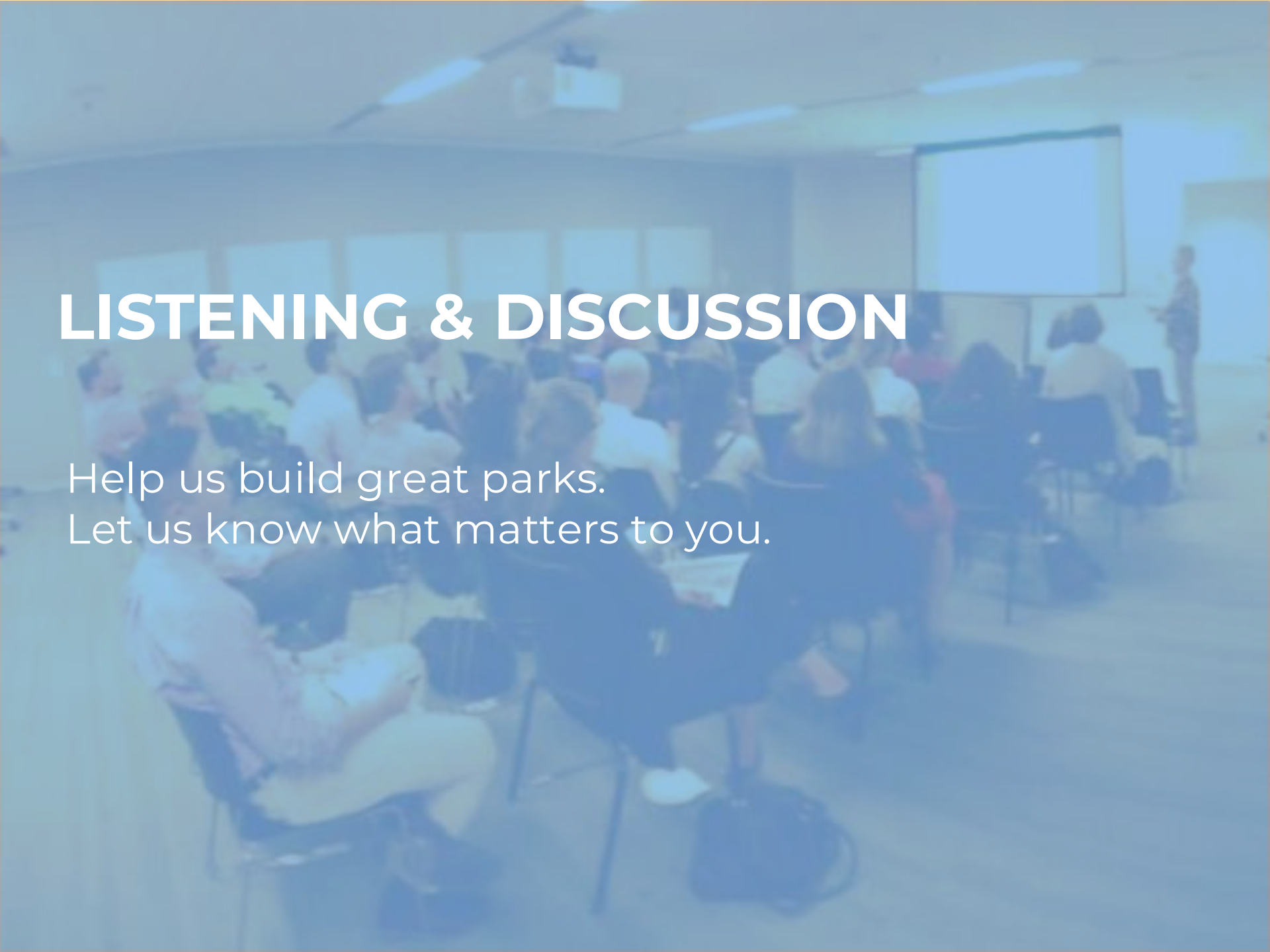


BALANCE / ROCKING



WATER PLAY



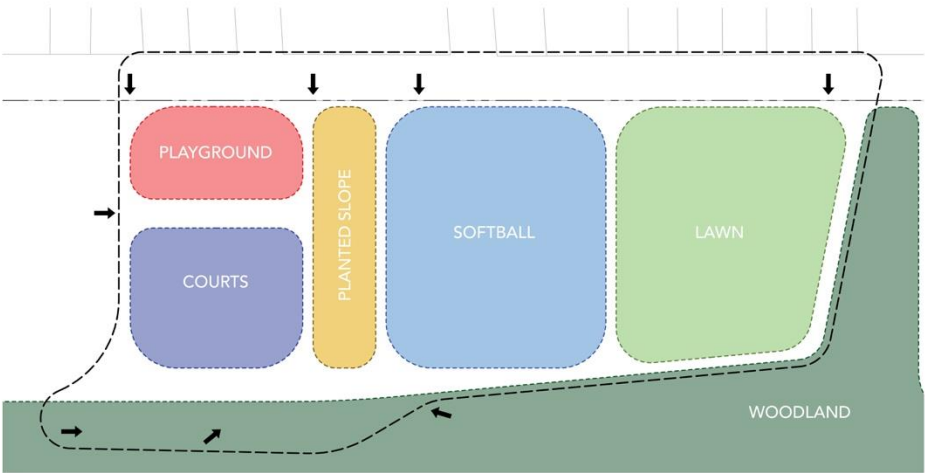


LISTENING & DISCUSSION

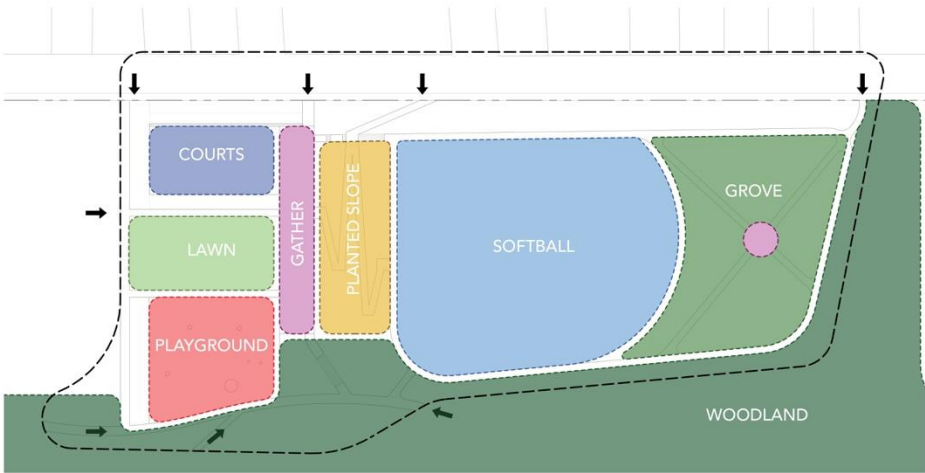
Help us build great parks.
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EXISTING AND PROPOSED

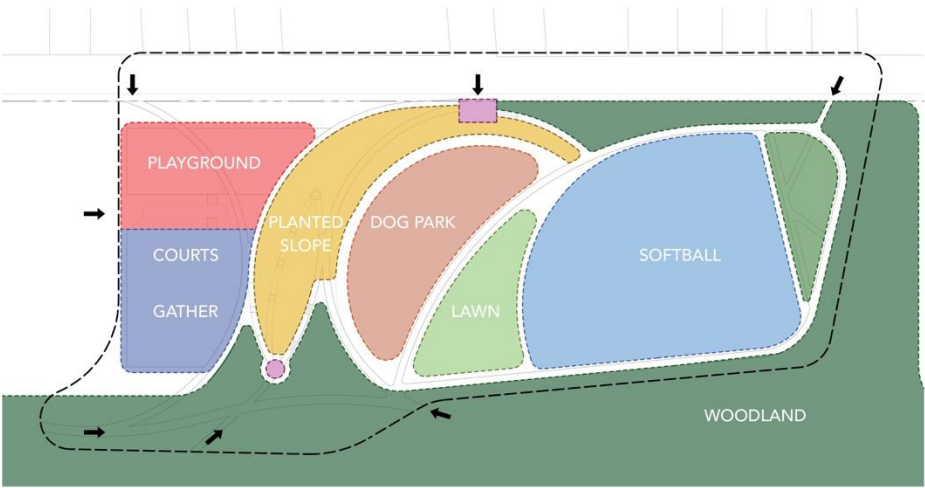
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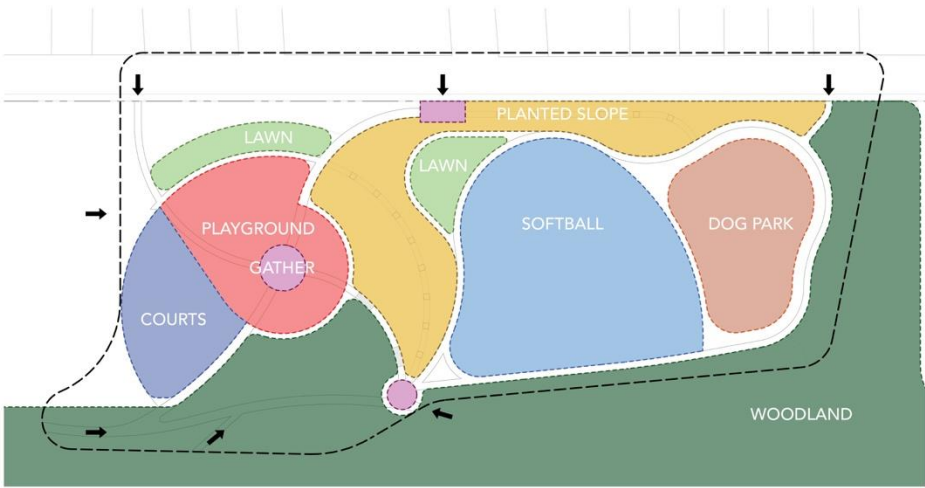
OPTION 1 - STRUCTURED



OPTION 2 - INTERCONNECTED



OPTION 3 - HUB AND WEDGES



EXISTING AND PROPOSED

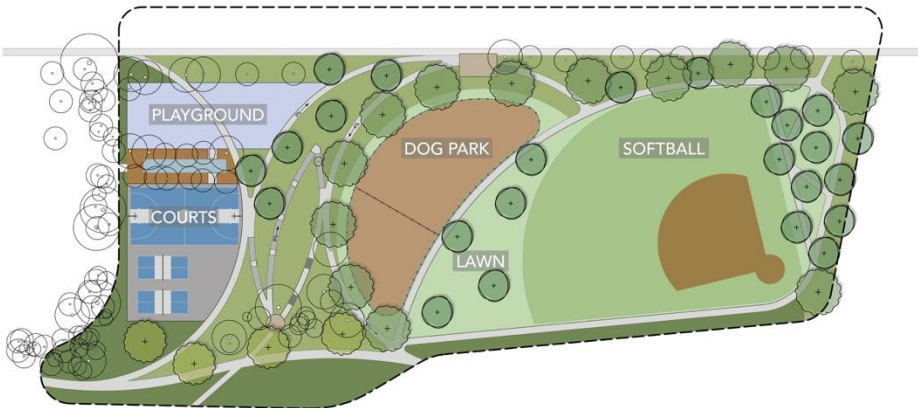
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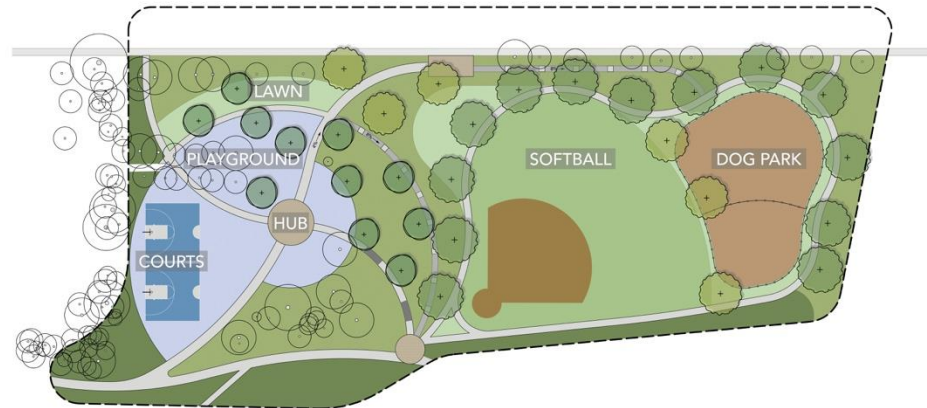
OPTION 1 - STRUCTURED



OPTION 2 - INTERCONNECTED



OPTION 3 - HUB AND WEDGES





THANK YOU!

Next Meeting November 2026

Check our progress page for updates:
boston.gov/mclaughlin