

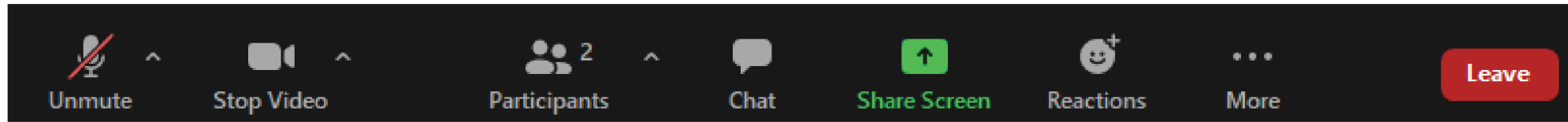
# Gold Star Mothers Park (Gore Street Park) Court Area Renovation

Community Meeting #1  
July 25, 2023

City of Cambridge

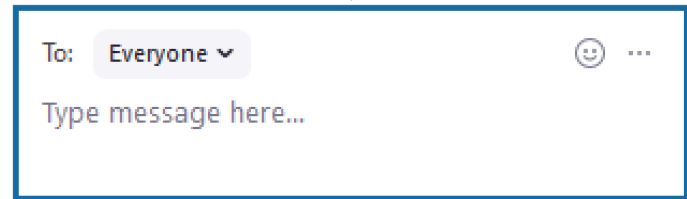


# Using Zoom

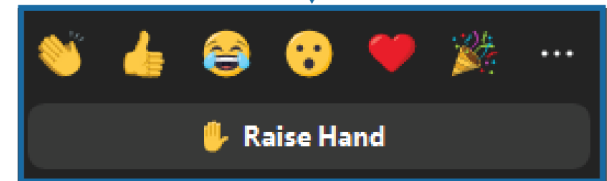


↑ ↑  
Please leave your **audio muted** and video on (if comfortable)

↑  
Click to open the **Chat** box. This will allow you to chat with the Hosts and Participants.



↑  
Click to open the **Reactions** box. This will allow you to give nonverbal feedback.



For Zoom-related questions reach out to Kevin Beuttell via chat or email [kbeuttell@cambridgema.gov](mailto:kbeuttell@cambridgema.gov)



If you're having connectivity issues, call in at  
Phone Number: (929) 436-2866  
Meeting ID: 863 8419 0141



We're recording!

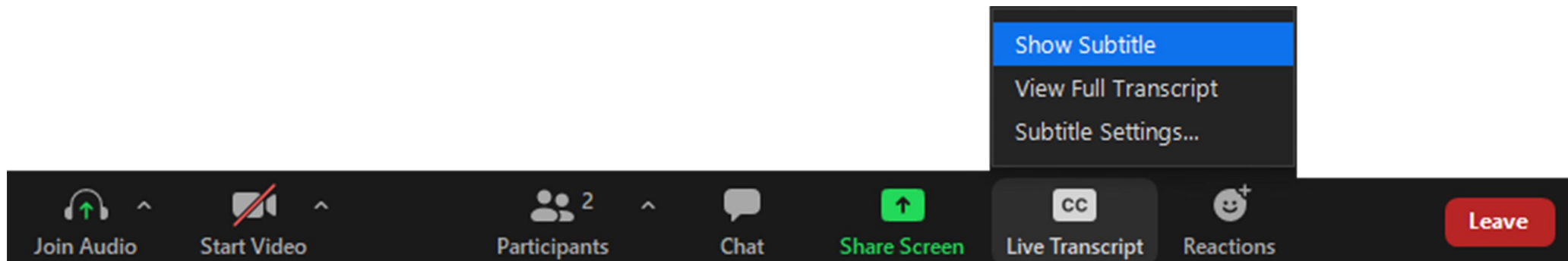
# Closed Captioning

Turn on closed captioning by clicking the **'Live Transcript'** button on the bottom of your screen.

a) Turn on subtitles by clicking on **'Show Subtitle'**

b) View a streaming transcript by clicking on **'View Full Transcript'**

View a streaming transcript in a separate window by clicking the **link in the chat**.





# PROJECT TEAM

## CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

**Gary Chan** Neighborhood Planner,  
Community Development

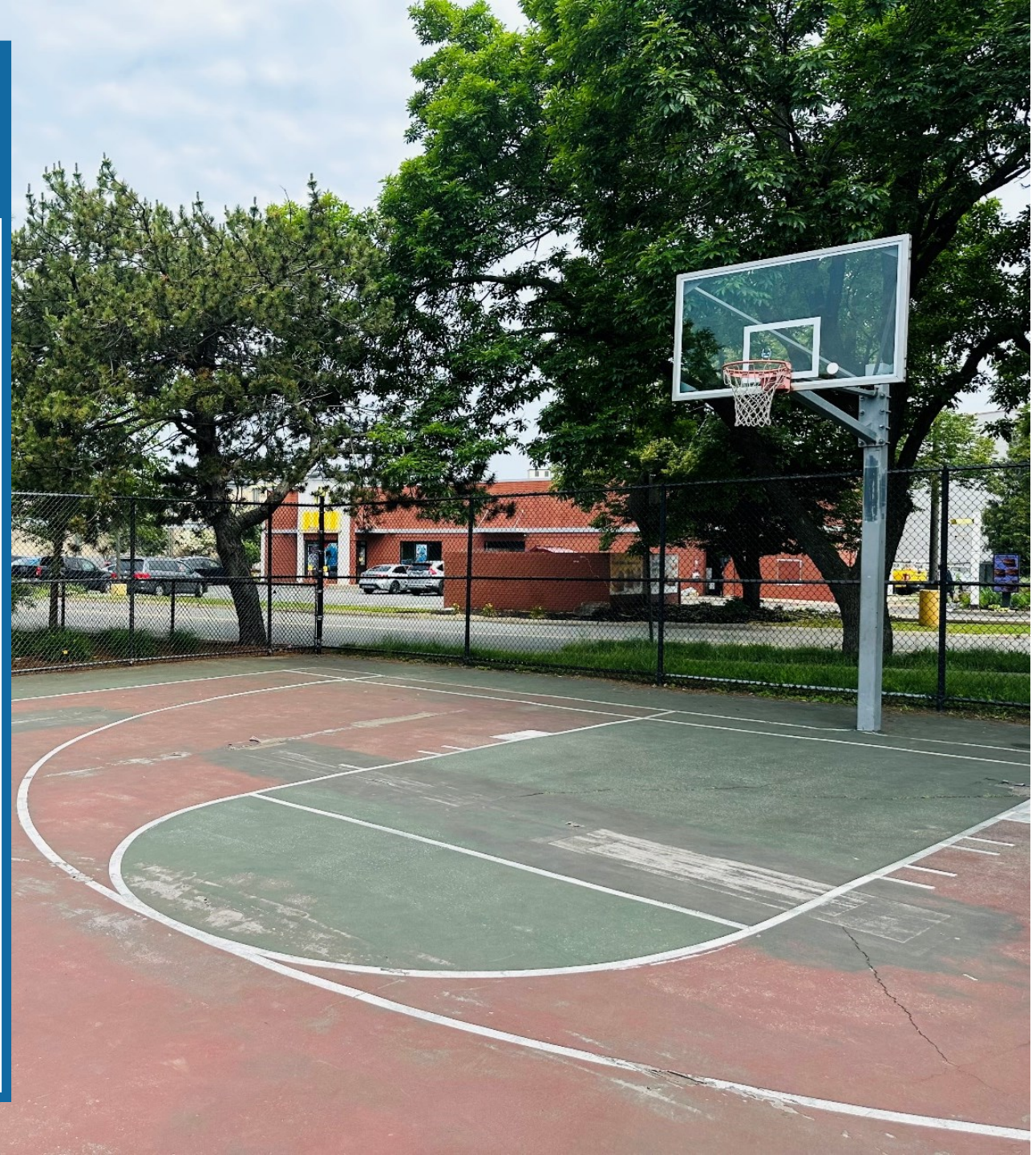
**Lillian Hsu** Director of Public Art,  
Cambridge Arts Council

**Kevin Beuttell** Supervising Landscape  
Architect, Public Works

## WESTON & SAMPSON

**Cassie Bethoney** Project Manager and  
Landscape Architect

**Yuanbin Wang** Landscape Designer





# AGENDA

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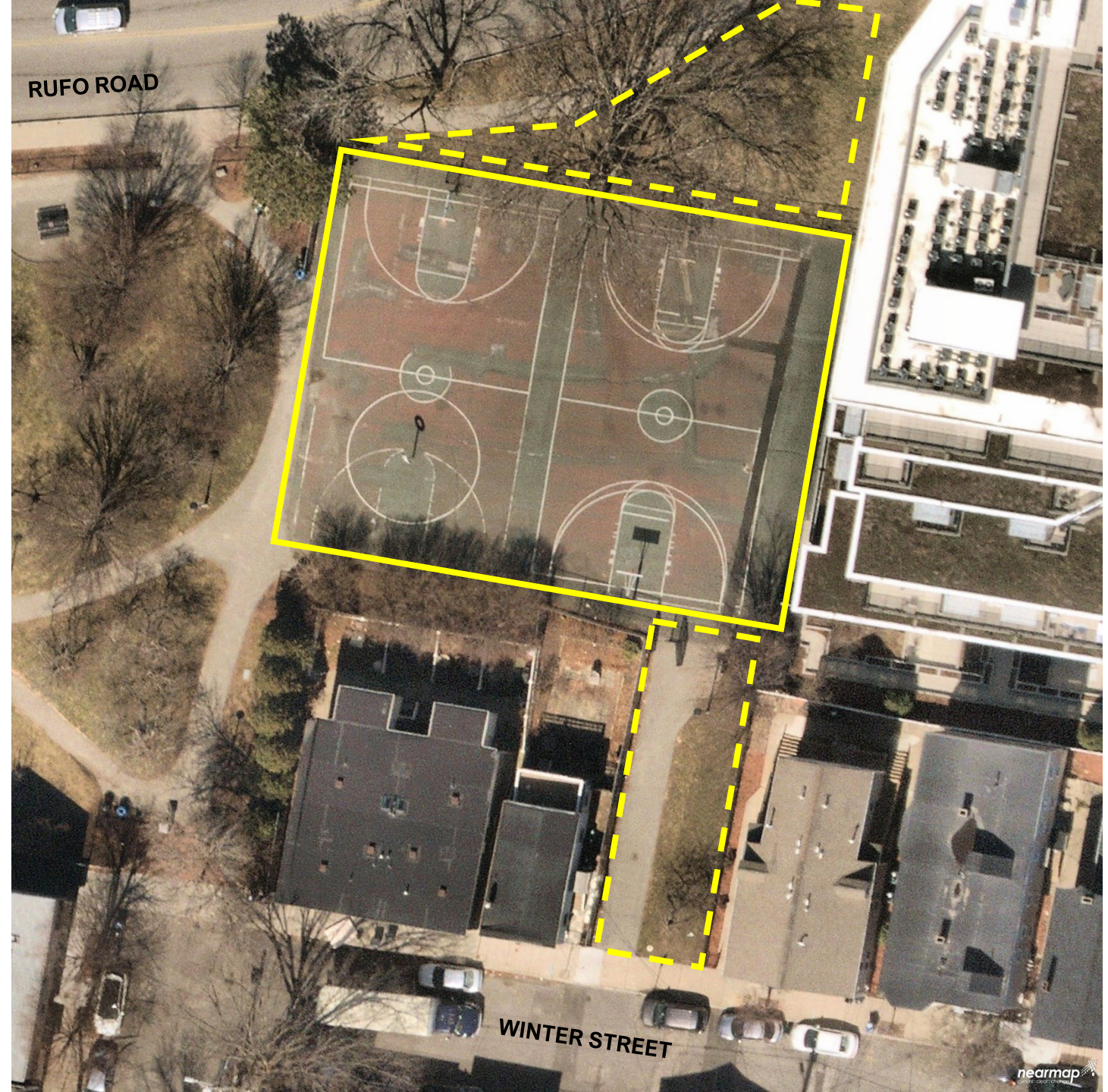
- PROJECT INTRODUCTION
- OPEN SPACE AND PROJECT GOALS
- WHAT WE'VE HEARD SO FAR
- SITE CONDITIONS AND ANALYSIS
- DESIGN CONCEPTS
- DISCUSSION





# Project Area

- Project focus is the paved court area
- Potential for modest improvements (e.g., planting, trees, seating) for entry from Winter Street and planted north of courts





# Park Context

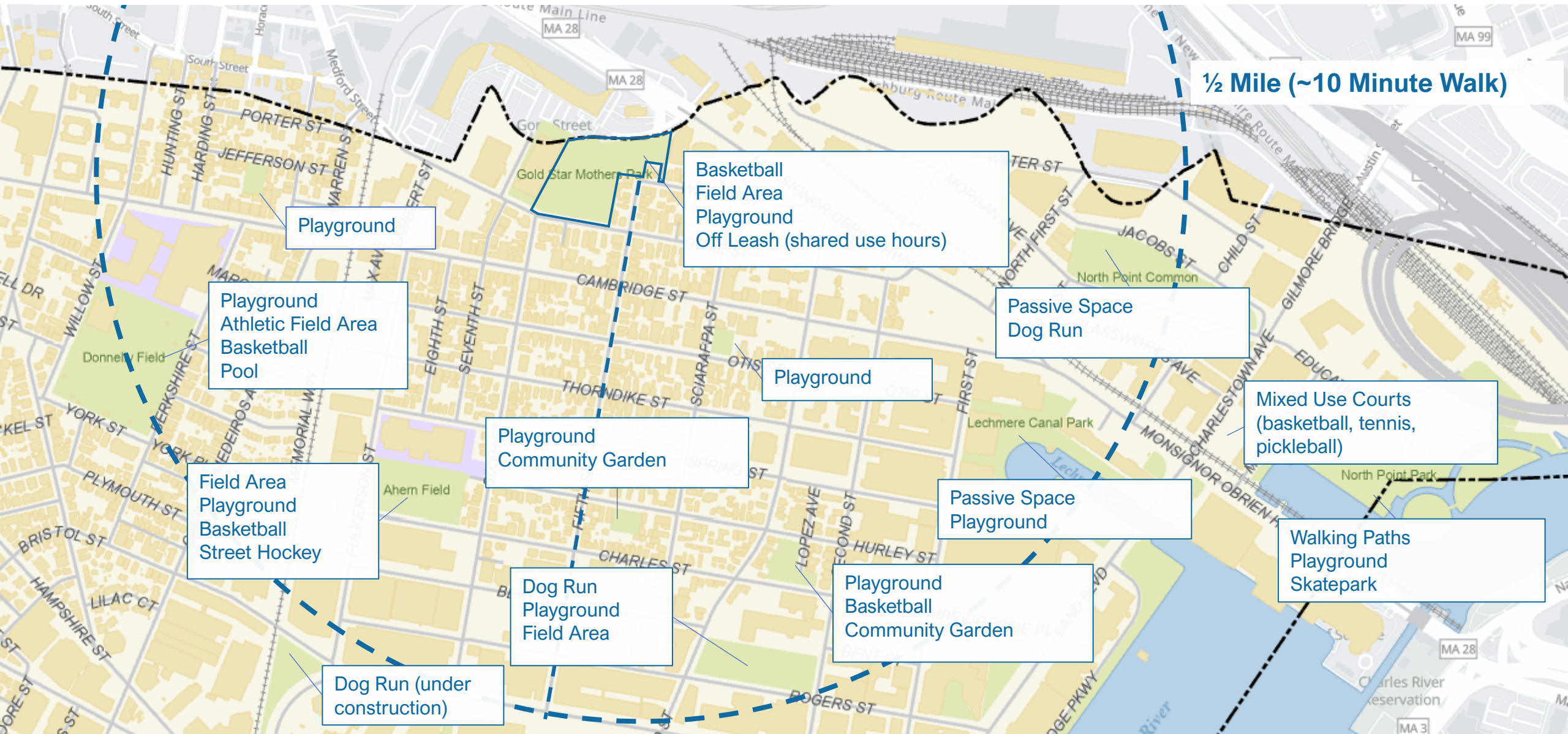
## Gold Star Mothers Park

- Playground
- Athletic/passive use field
- Morning shared use off leash dog hours
- Seating (standalone benches and tables)
- Basketball court (also used as flexible paved area)





# Neighborhood Parks Context



1/2 Mile (~10 Minute Walk)

Playground

Basketball Field Area  
Playground  
Off Leash (shared use hours)

Playground  
Athletic Field Area  
Basketball  
Pool

Passive Space  
Dog Run

Playground

Mixed Use Courts  
(basketball, tennis, pickleball)

Playground  
Community Garden

Field Area  
Playground  
Basketball  
Street Hockey

Passive Space  
Playground

Walking Paths  
Playground  
Skatepark

Dog Run  
Playground  
Field Area

Playground  
Basketball  
Community Garden

Dog Run (under construction)

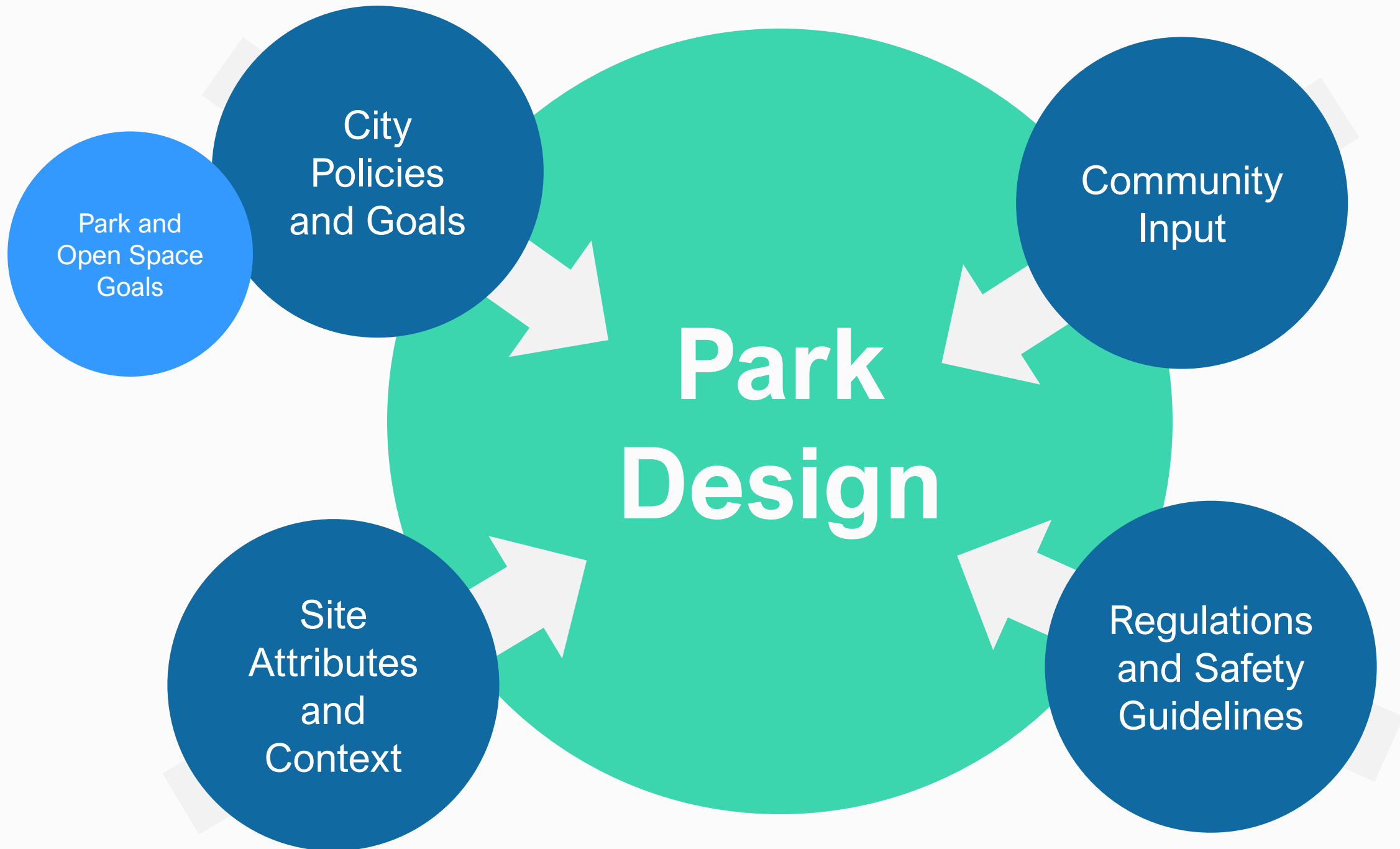


# Anticipated Project Schedule



# Open Space and Project Goals

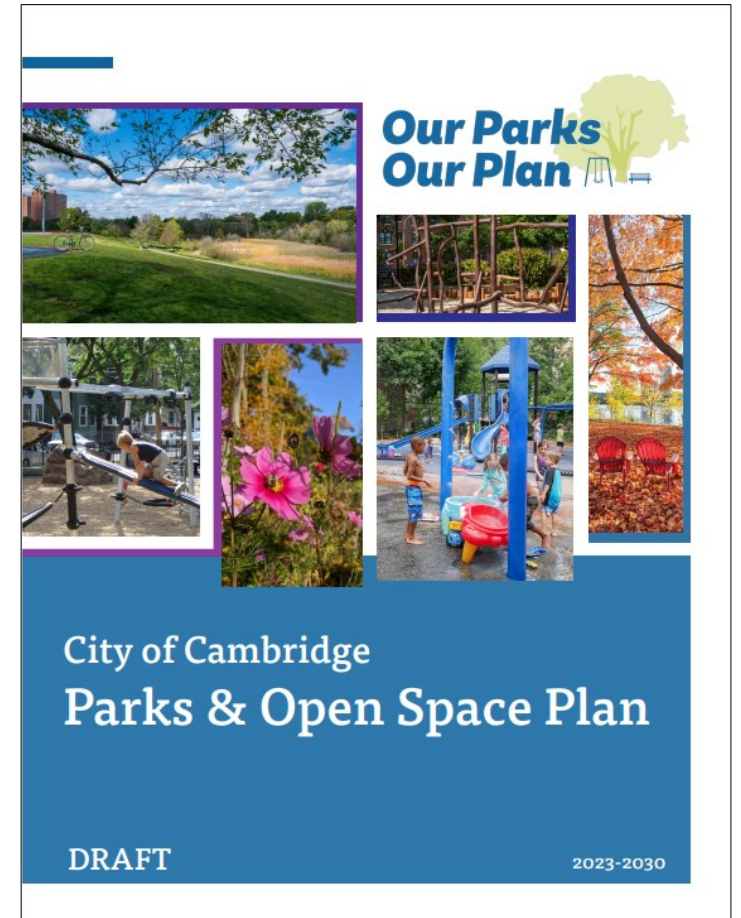




# Cambridge Parks & Open Space Goals

## Expanding & Enhancing Park Access for All

- Make parks and park programs **welcoming for all.**
- Improve access to open space, with an emphasis in areas of high open space need.
- Make it easier for people **to get to and travel through** our parks and open spaces in ways that are **active and sustainable.**





# Cambridge Parks & Open Space Goals

## Providing Environmental Benefits in our Urban Context

- Protect and enhance natural areas.
- Use our parks and open spaces to make Cambridge more resilient to climate change.



# Cambridge Parks & Open Space Goals

## Activating & Enhancing Spaces

- Promote healthy play and active recreation for people of all ages, abilities, genders, and backgrounds.
- Increase active and passive activity in public spaces.
- Make comfortable spaces where people can gather and connect.
- Bring creativity, arts, and culture to parks and public spaces.

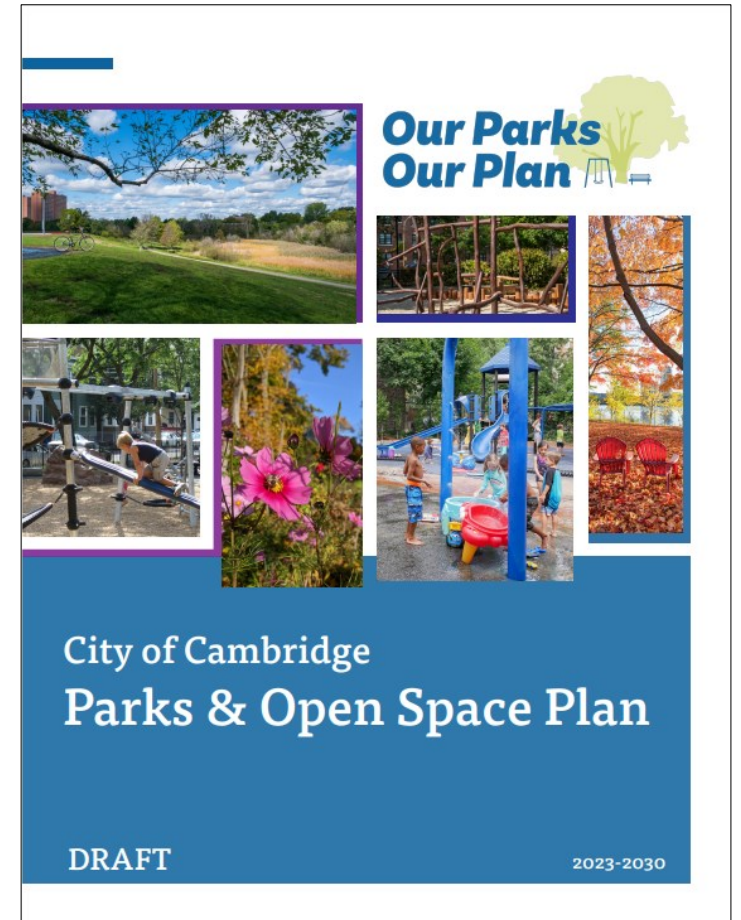




# Cambridge Parks & Open Space Goals

## Enhancing & Improving Design, Operations, and Management

- Build high-quality parks that embody our community's priorities and wide range of interests.
- Aim to keep parks clean and keep equipment in working order.
- Improve how we share information about parks and open spaces. Highlight opportunities for learning and community building.





# Project Goals

- Enhance visibility and activate the space
- Clarify service access through the space
- Ensure seamless connections to larger Gold Star Mother's Park area
- Prioritize accessibility and inclusion
- Protect and enhance existing tree canopy and buffer planting
- Ensure sustainable and resilient design
- Integrate public art into site design
- Confirm the programming aligns with community needs





# What We've Heard So Far

**40%**

Use the basketball court area regularly

**33%**

Use the park regularly, but rarely or never use the basketball court area

**20%**

Pass through the park regularly, but do not often stay and use it

## Themes:

- Basketball courts need renovation
- Need more seating/picnicking and trees for shading, or add canopy structure
- Consider noise impacts on nearby residences
- Explore multi-sports courts
- Remove unused sports equipment

# Site Conditions and Analysis



# Existing Conditions - Court



Full Basketball + 1 Half-court and "Needle's Eye"



Memorial Plaque



"Needle's Eye"



# Existing Conditions - Connections



**Service Entrance**



**Runoff Pavement at Fencing**



**Adjacent Pathway Connections**



# Existing Conditions – Trees and Buffer Plantings



Existing Tree Canopy on Northern End



Buffer Planting at Southern End










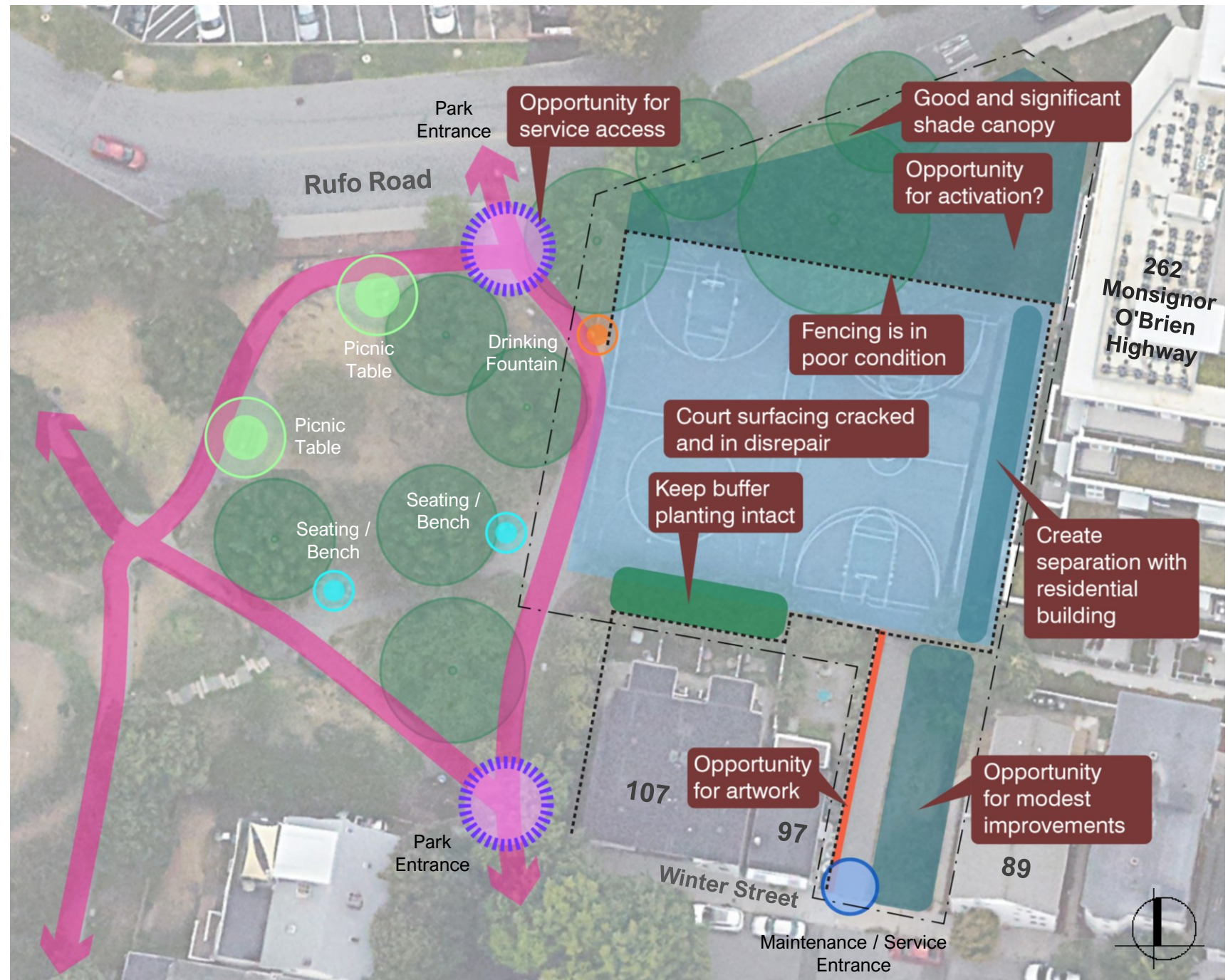
Existing Trees at Service Entry



# Site Analysis

## LEGEND

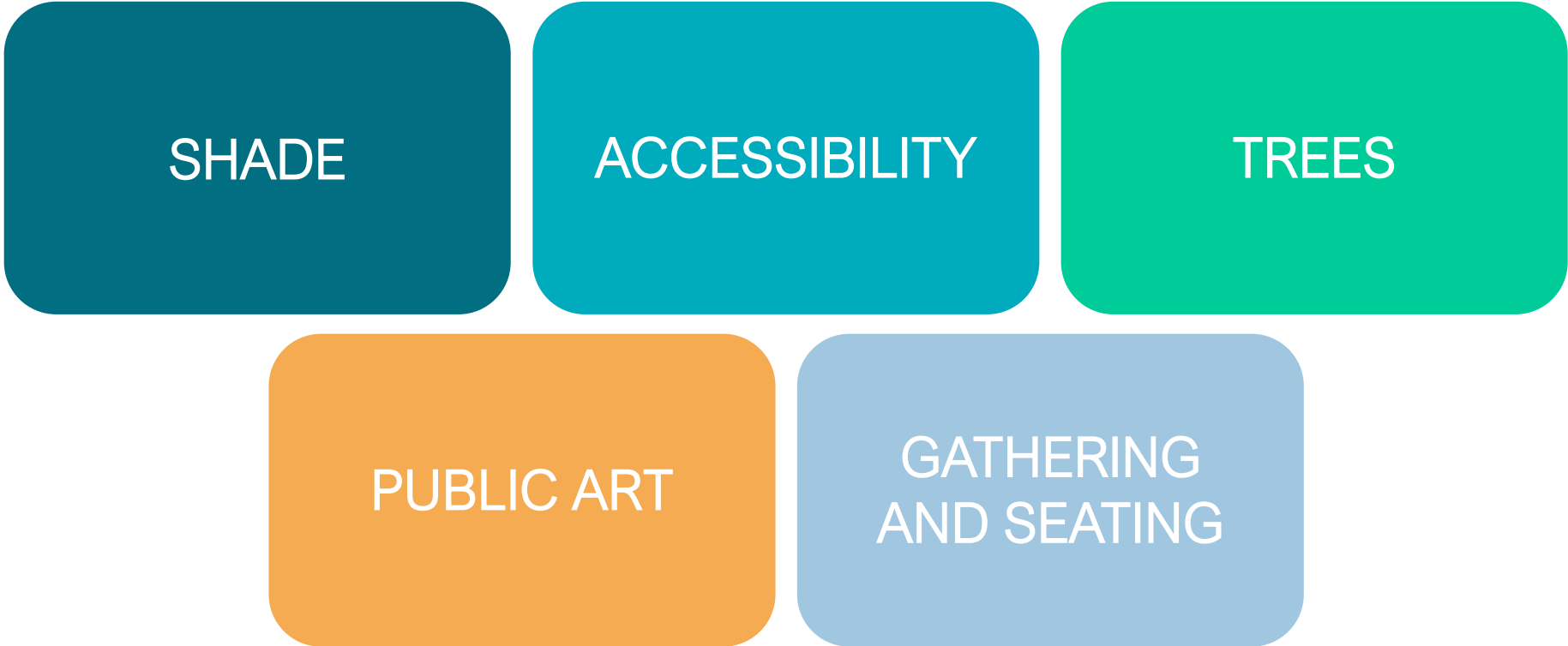
-  Major Circulation Routes
-  Existing Fence
-  Picnic Table
-  Seating / Bench
-  Drinking Fountain
-  Main Entrance
-  Maintenance / Service Entrance





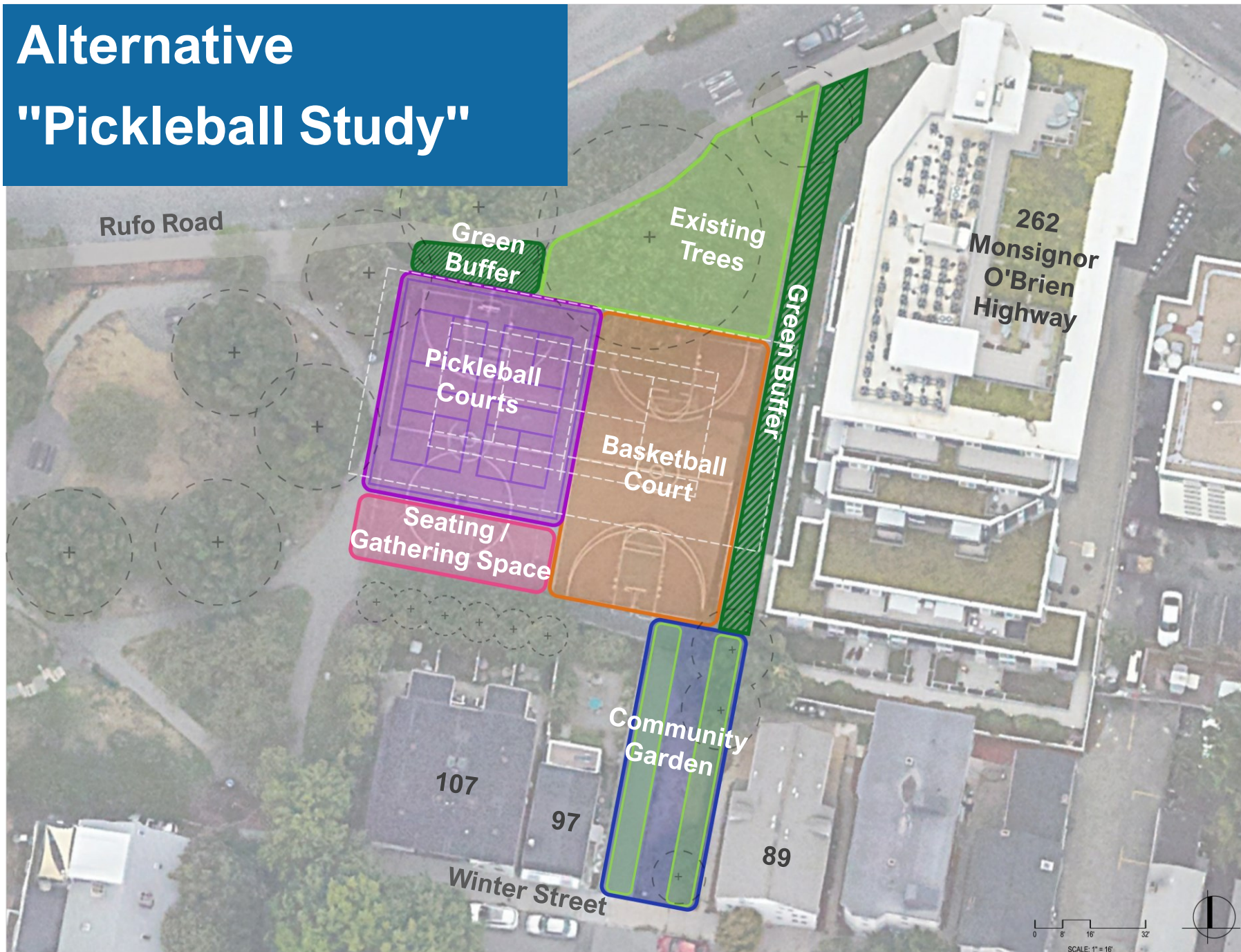
# Design Concepts

# Conceptual Design “Givens”





# Alternative "Pickleball Study"



Pickleball Court



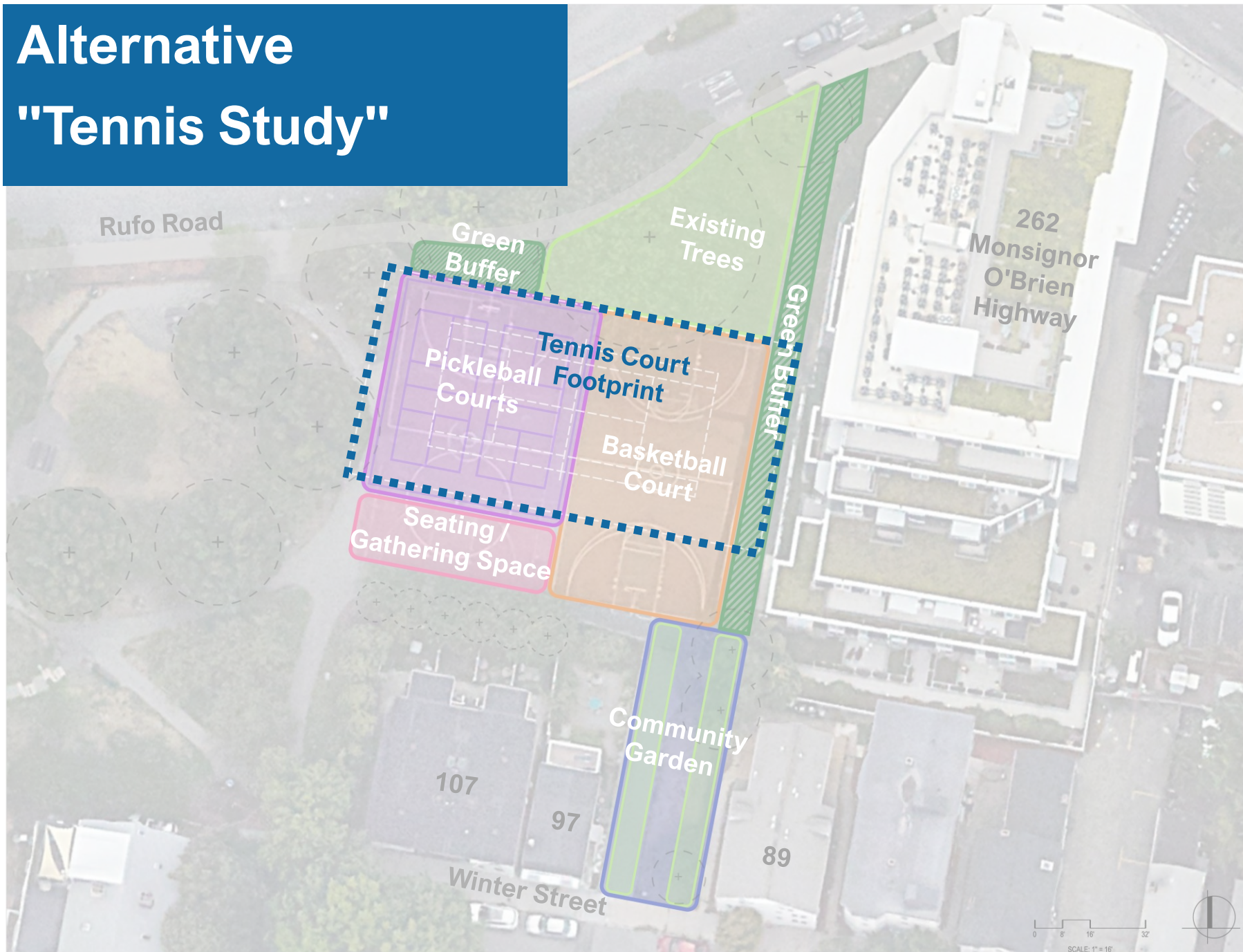
Seating / Gathering



Community Garden



# Alternative "Tennis Study"



Pickleball Court



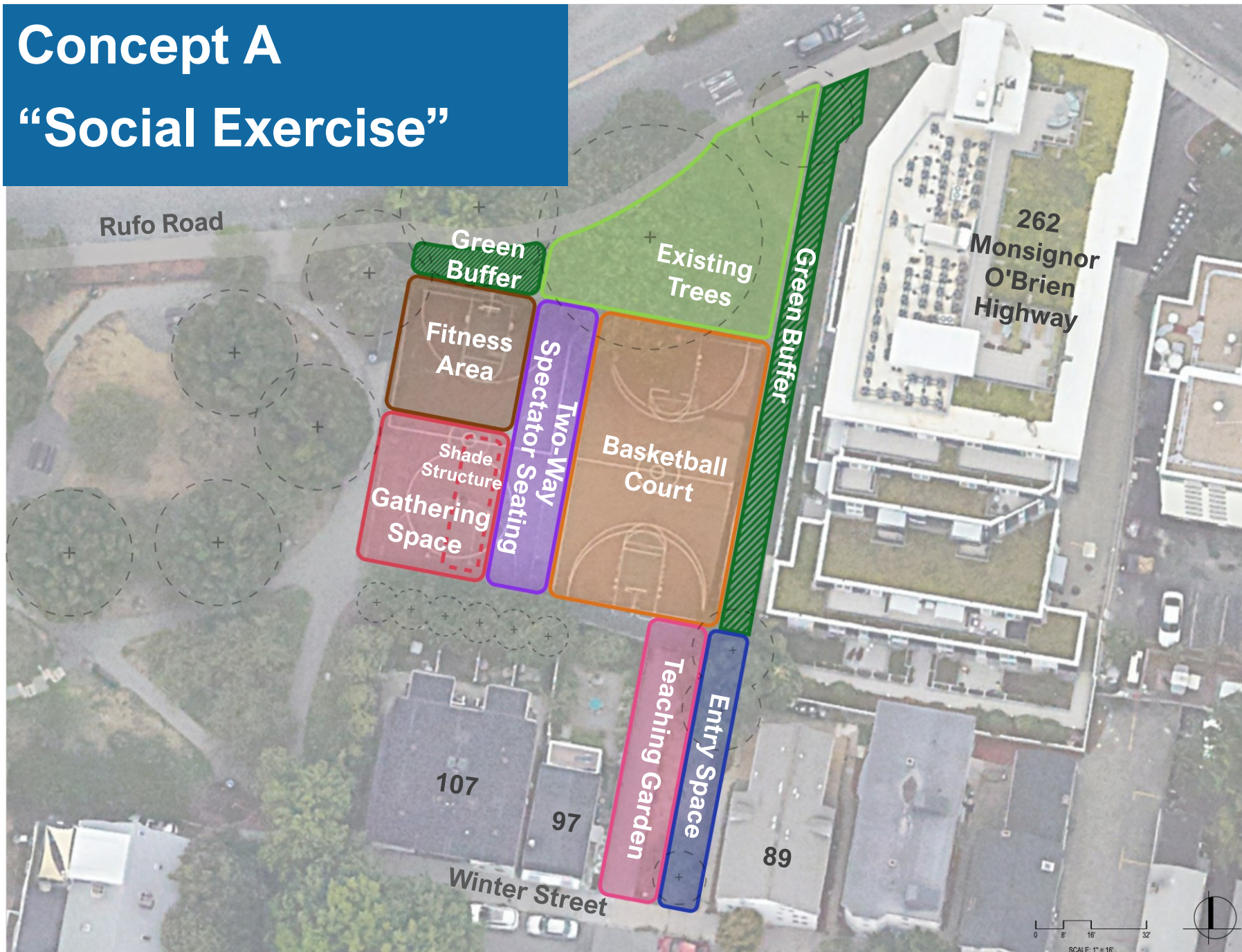
Seating / Gathering



Community Garden



# Concept A "Social Exercise"



**Fitness Area**



**Double Sided Seating**



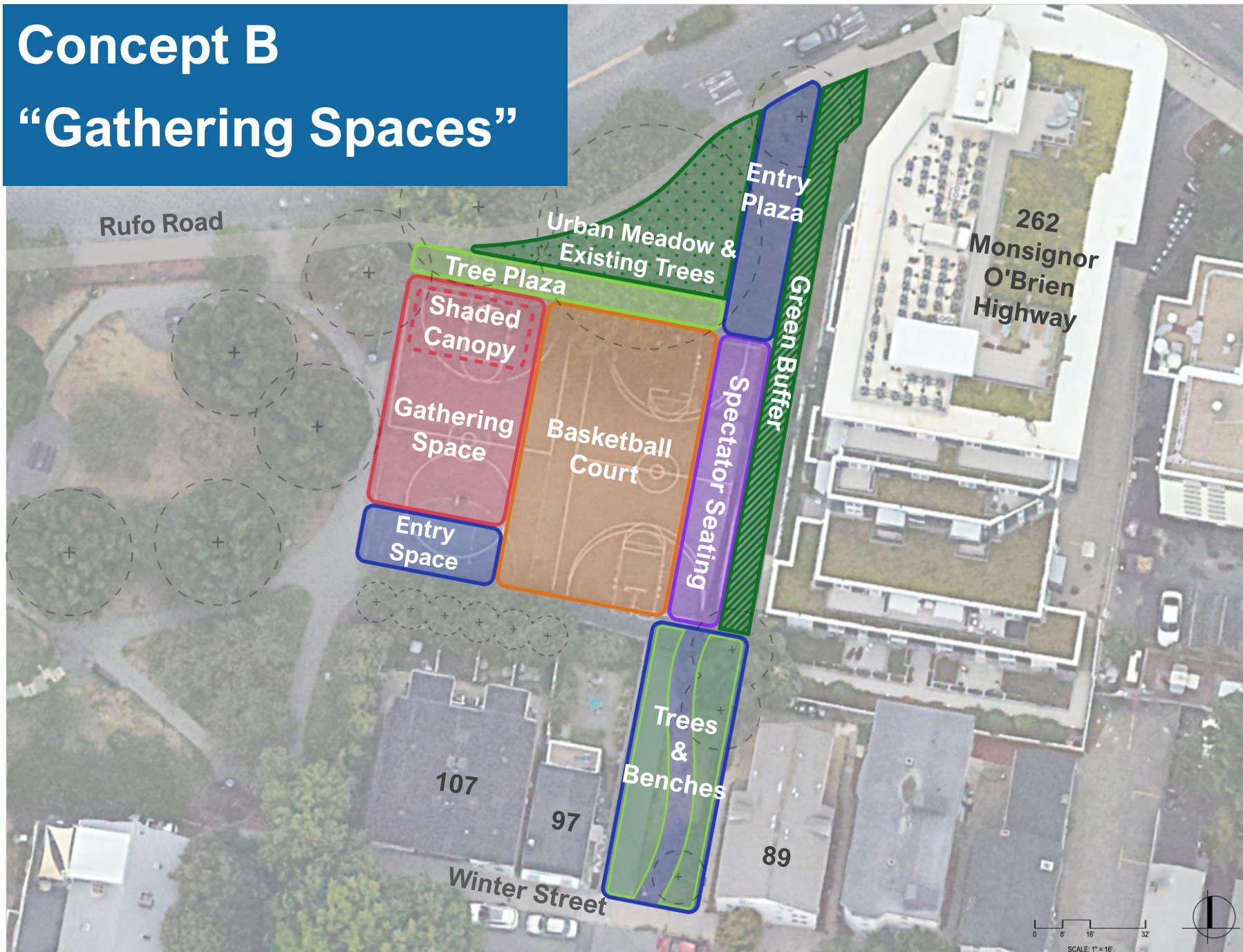
**Teaching Garden**



**Gathering & Shade**



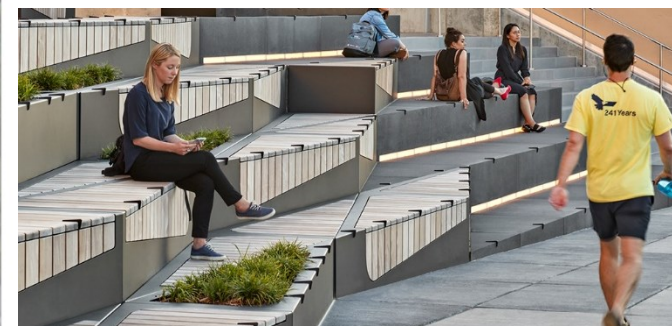
# Concept B "Gathering Spaces"



Entry Plaza



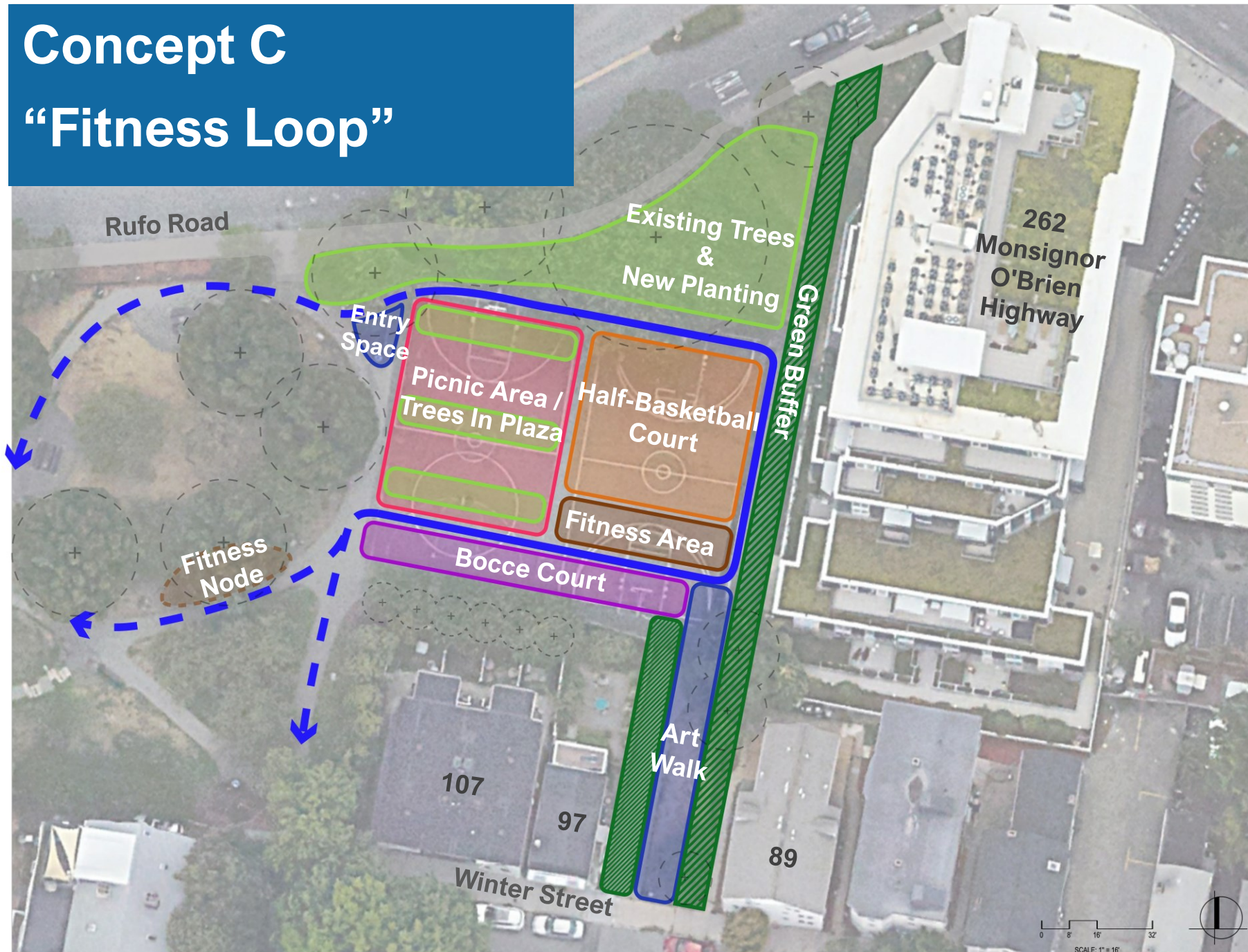
Gathering & Shade



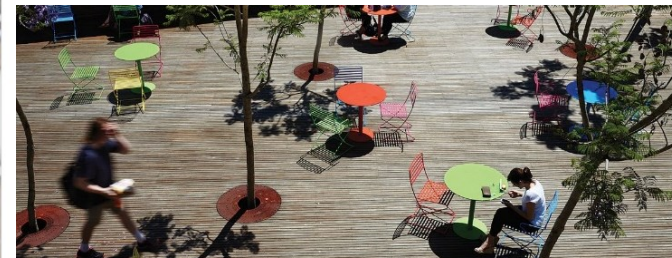
Seating & Game Watching



# Concept C "Fitness Loop"



**Bocce Courts**



**Picnic Area/Trees in Plaza**



**Walking Loop**



**Half-Basketball Court**



# Thank you!

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Questions?  
Comments?

**For more information:**

Gary Chan, Neighborhood Planner

[gchan@cambridgema.gov](mailto:gchan@cambridgema.gov)

