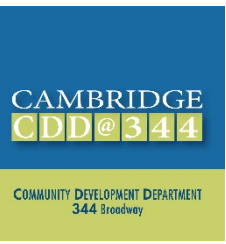
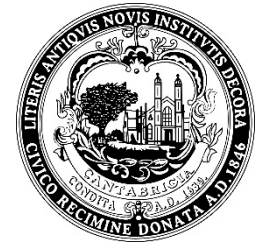
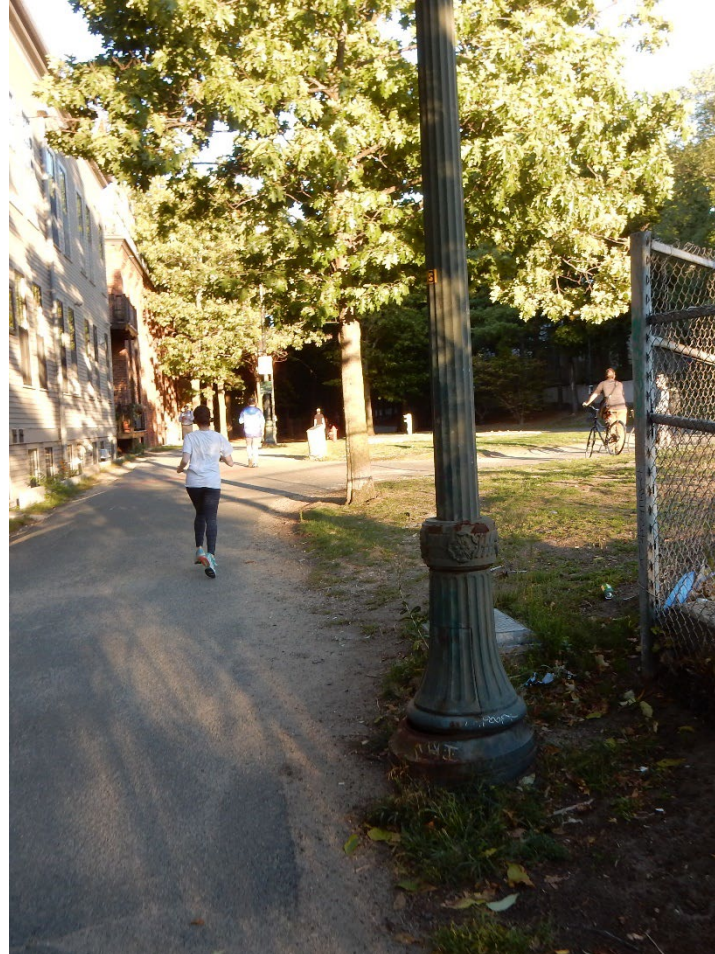


CITY OF CAMBRIDGE | NOVEMBER 16, 2022
LINEAR PARK REDESIGN PROJECT



PUBLIC MEETING #2

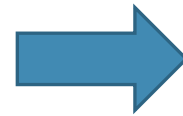




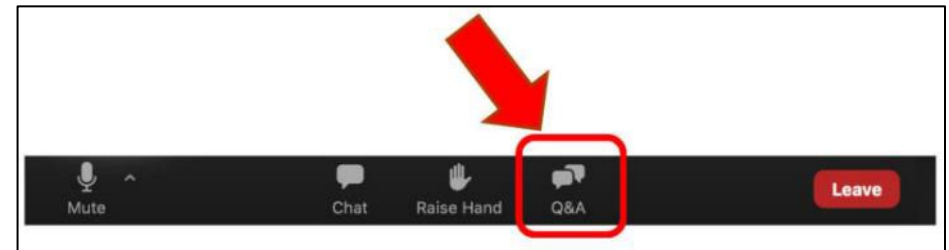
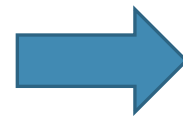
Q and A

Public Input

- Please visit the project websites to submit comments, sign up for the newsletter, and see upcoming events
- Use the Q&A button in the bottom center of the Zoom window to chat us your questions and comments



Camb.ma/LinearPark



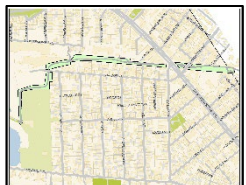


AGENDA

Welcome!

1. Project elements, schedule, and limits
2. What we've heard
3. Goals and vision
4. Conceptual design options
5. Questions & feedback





PROJECT ELEMENTS

Linear Park Redesign

- Renovation of Linear Park from Russell Field to Somerville-Cambridge line
- New path surface, trees/plantings, lighting, drainage, signage, seating, and opportunities for play
- Public art & placemaking





PROJECT SCHEDULE

Linear Park Redesign

Late Fall 2022: Conceptual Design

Winter 2023: Preliminary Design

Spring-Summer 2023: Final Design

Fall 2023: Out to Bid





PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Public Site Walk

- May 5th and June 4th



Paint the Path Event

- June 18th





PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT




Survey: input on project themes

1. Site History + Interpretive Signage
2. Art + Creativity
3. Ecology + Resiliency
4. Path Identity + Landscape Character
5. Multi-Generational Play
6. Social Spaces + Seating



PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Survey



- | | | |
|---|---|-----------------|
| 1. Site History + Interpretive Signage | | High |
| 2. Art + Creativity | | Priority |
| 3. Ecology + Resiliency |  | 78% |
| 4. Path Identity + Landscape Character |  | 50% |
| 5. Multi-Generational Play |  | 40% |
| 6. Social Spaces + Seating | | |



PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Survey

Medium
Priority

1. Site History + Interpretive Signage
2. **Art + Creativity**  **43%**
3. Ecology + Resiliency
4. Path Identity + Landscape Character
5. Multi-Generational Play
6. **Social Spaces + Seating**  **43%**



PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Survey: open-ended questions common responses

1. What works well about Linear Park?
 - The park and path itself as a place to walk, bike, and exercise
 - Shade, tree canopy, landscaping, open space
 - Proximity to Alewife Station, Mass Ave, & Davis Square
2. What does not work well about Linear Park?
 - Crowded, narrow, need more space for different users
 - Lack of benches
 - Community access points
3. It would be great if Linear Park project included:
 - More trees
 - Drinking fountains
 - Benches & tables



PROJECT VISION

The Linear Park Redesign project will reimagine a beloved and highly used community park and multi-use pathway.

The **outcomes** of a redesigned Linear Park are:

- To be an inclusive space and accommodating of all users
- Create an engaging community open space
- Strengthen and add neighborhood connections
- Be a resilient and biodiverse landscape suited for a changing climate





PROJECT VISION

To **enhance the experience** of path users and park visitors, we will:

- Include playful and creative features
- Add new seating for all to enjoy
- Widen and differentiate paths of travel, where possible



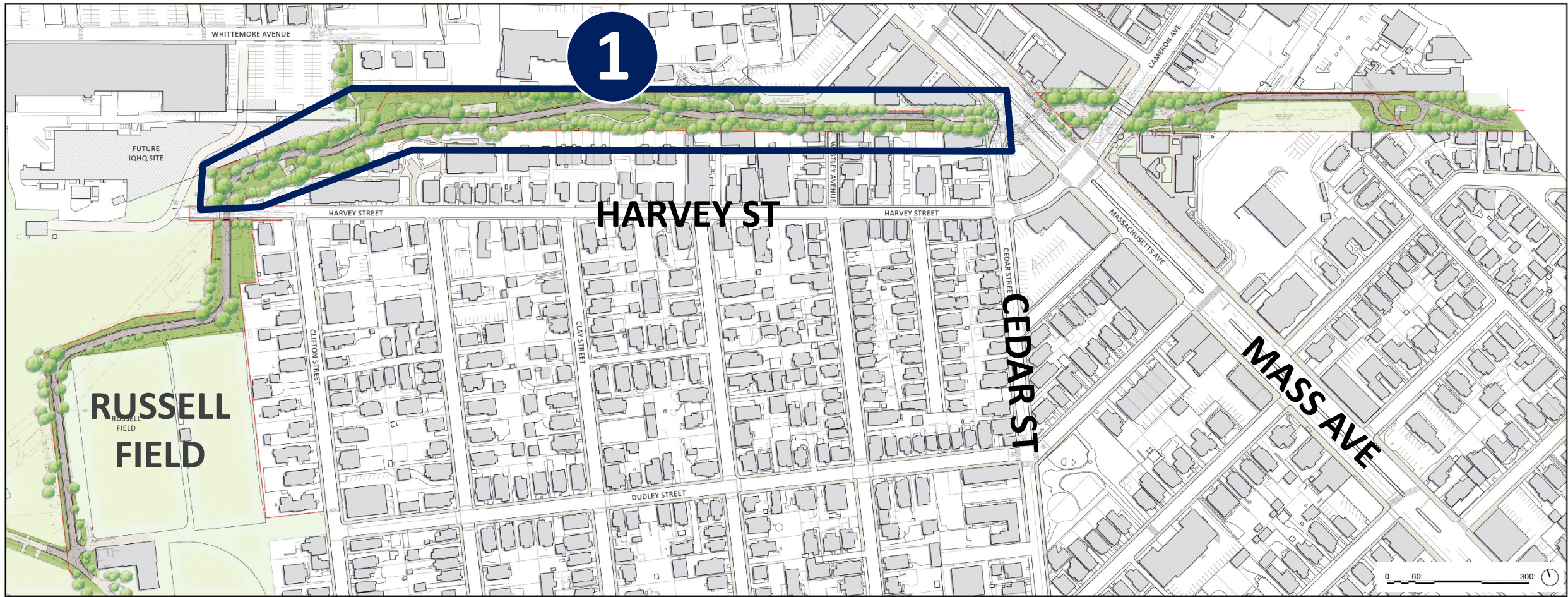


PROJECT GOALS

Linear Park Project Goals

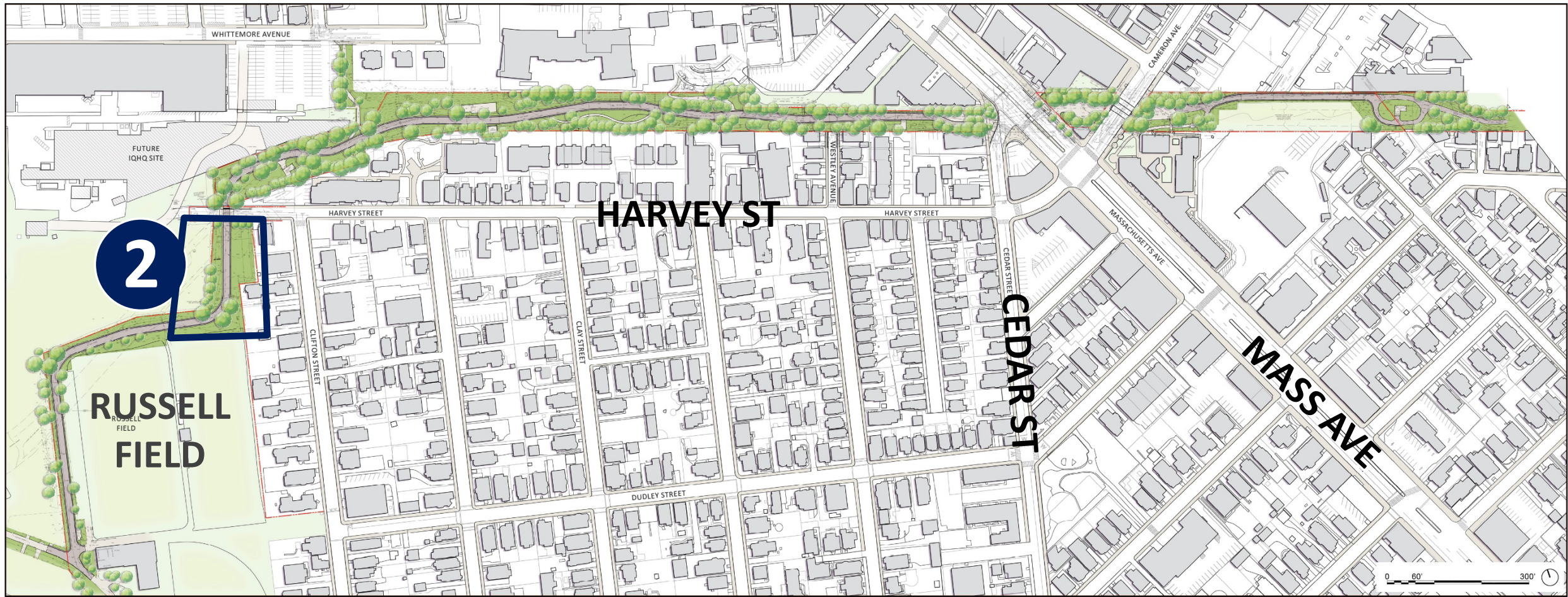
- Widen the path, where possible, for the high volume and mix of different users
- Add a variety of new seating and opportunities for natural play
- Establish stronger community access
- Retain tree canopy, add additional trees and understory plantings
 - Establish better soil and growing conditions
 - Minimize tree removals wherever possible with effort at transplanting
 - Design park and pathway to minimize root zone impacts





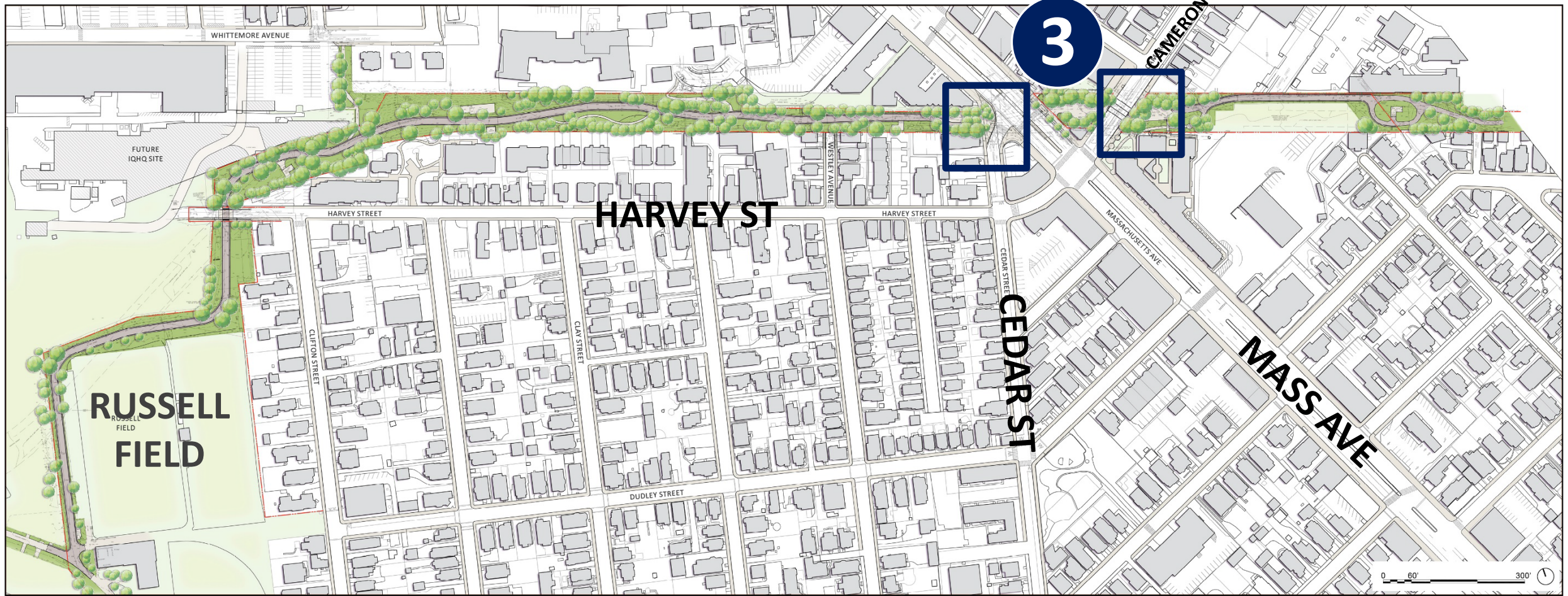
1. Harvey Street crossing to Mass Ave crossing





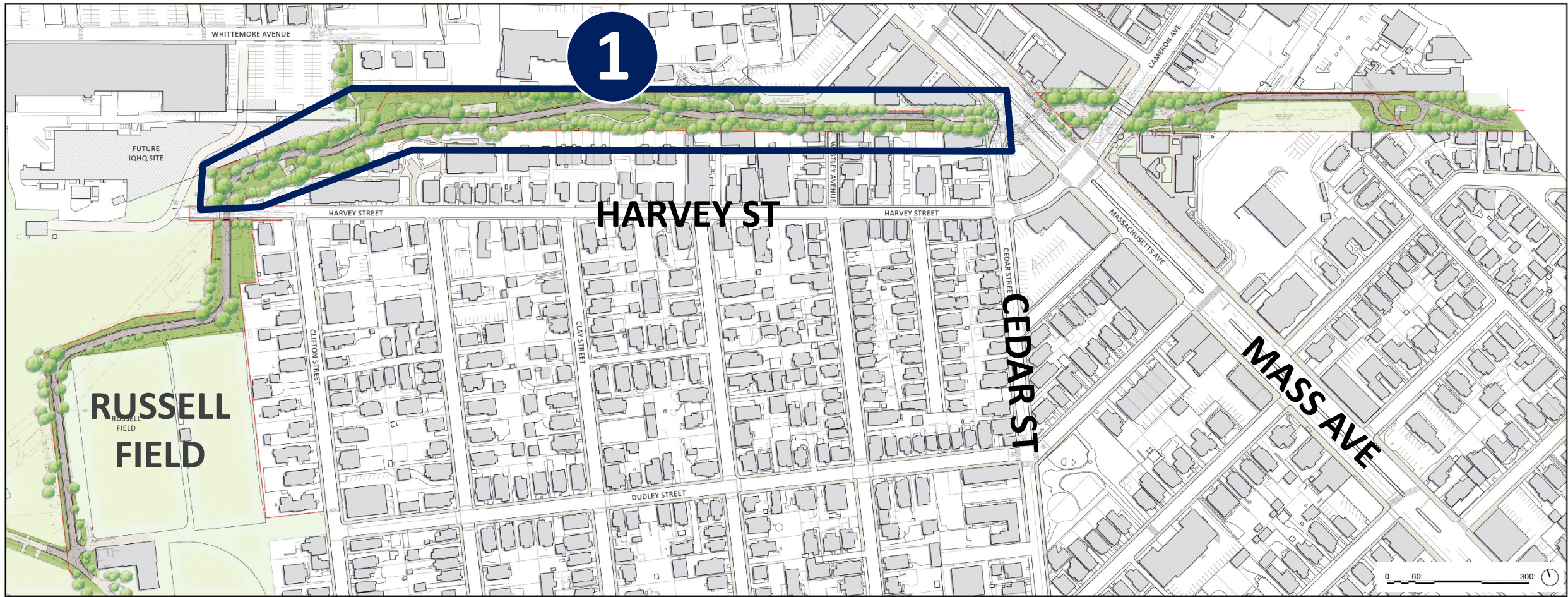
2. Russell Field to Harvey Street





3. Mass Ave and Cameron Ave Gateway Entrances

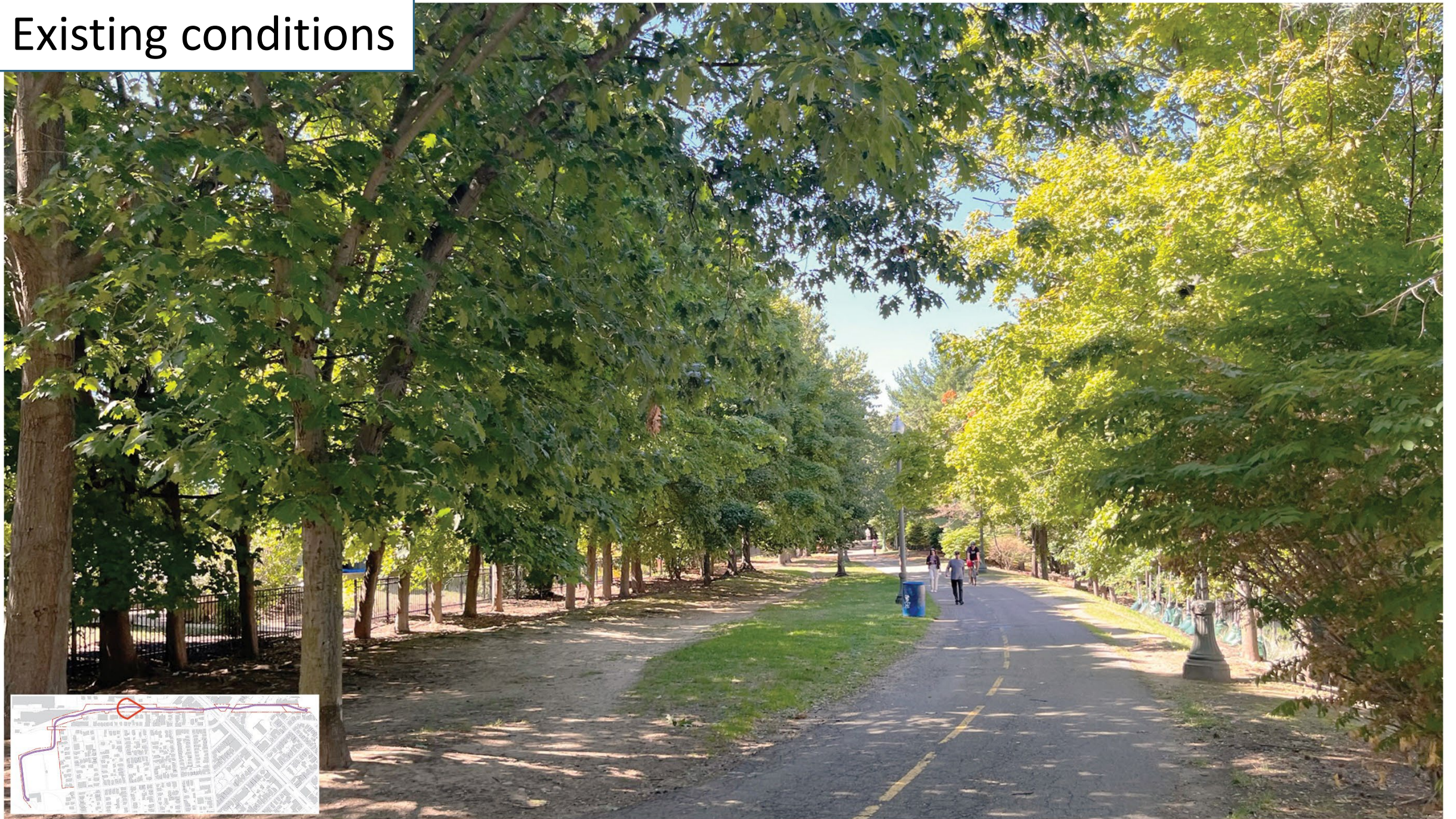




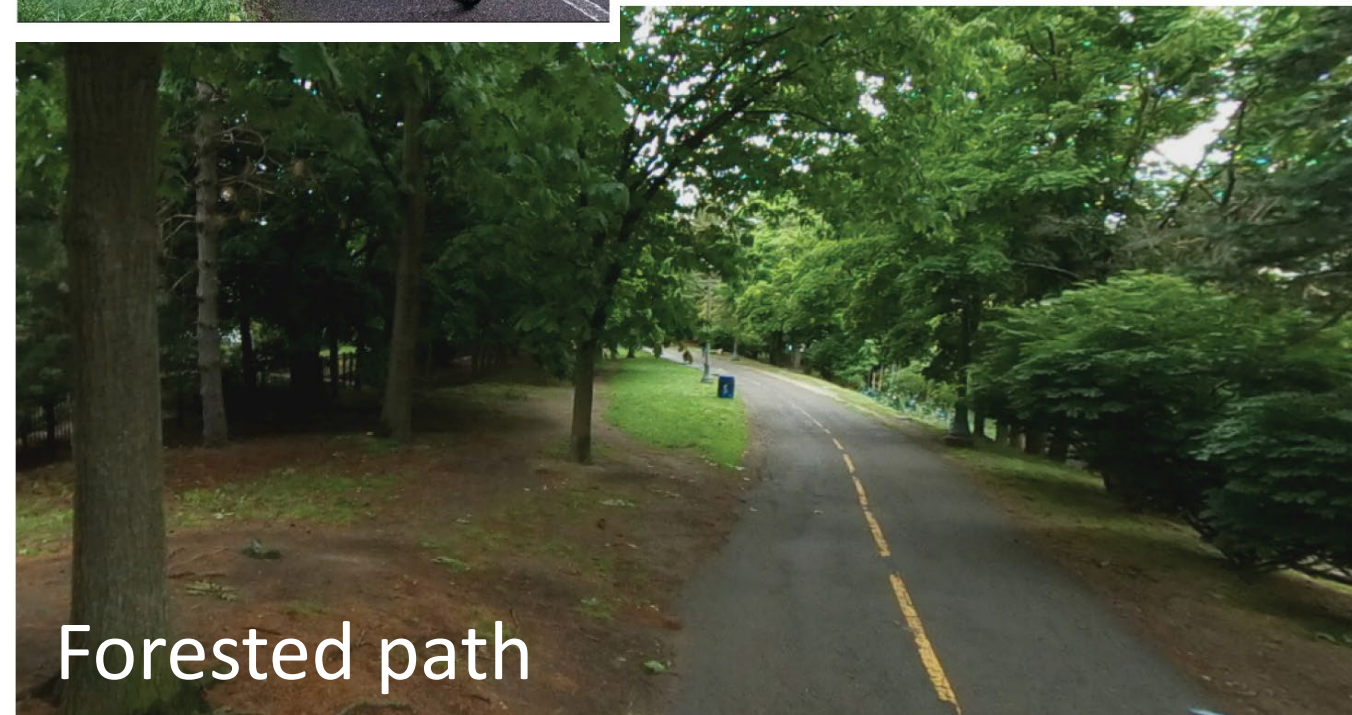
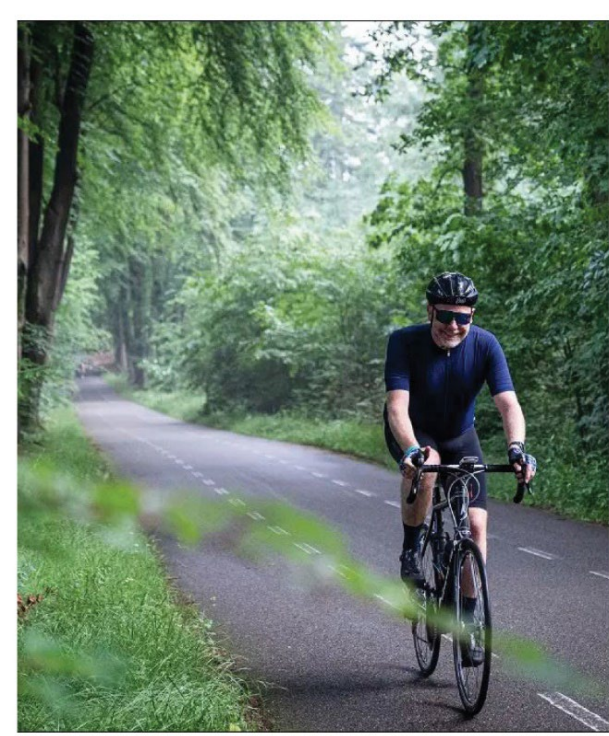
1. Harvey Street crossing to Mass Ave crossing



Existing conditions

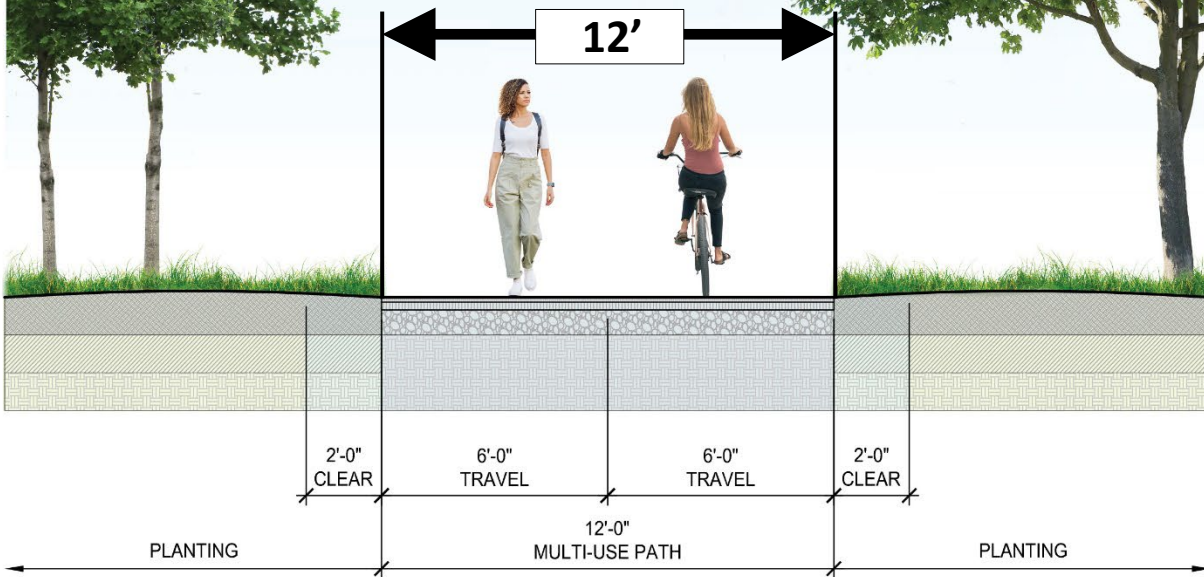


Natural play features



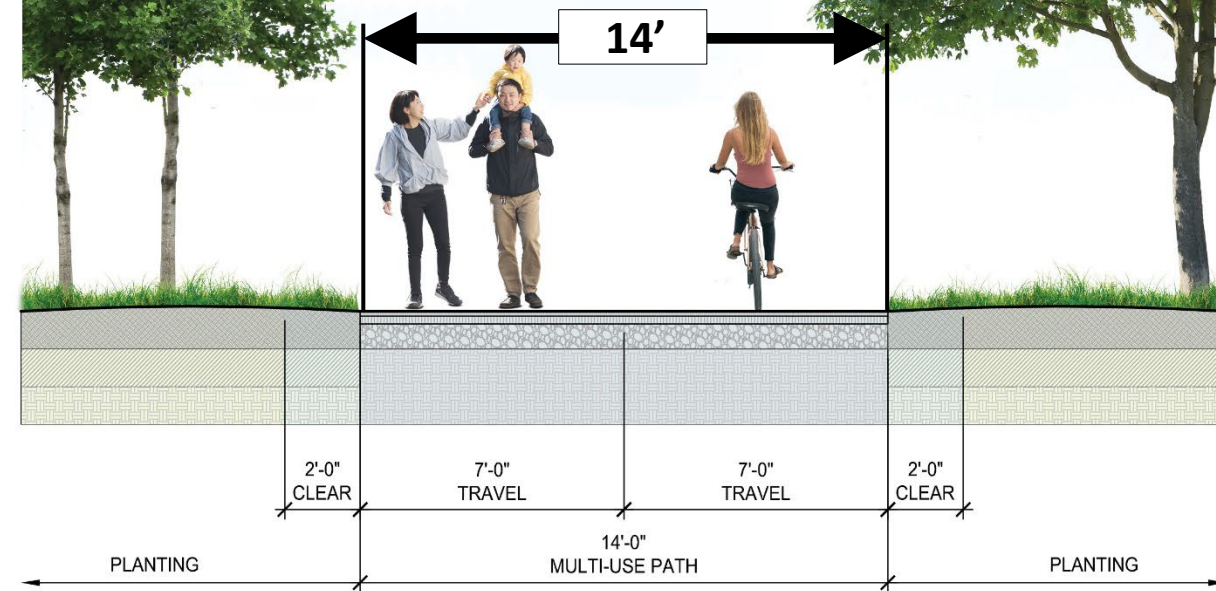
Existing

Width varies between approximately 10' and 15', but 12' is typical.



Proposed

14' typical, with 12' allowable at pinch points.





Path precedent images

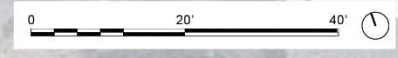
Proposed side path, seating, and natural play elements

Cottage Park Ave

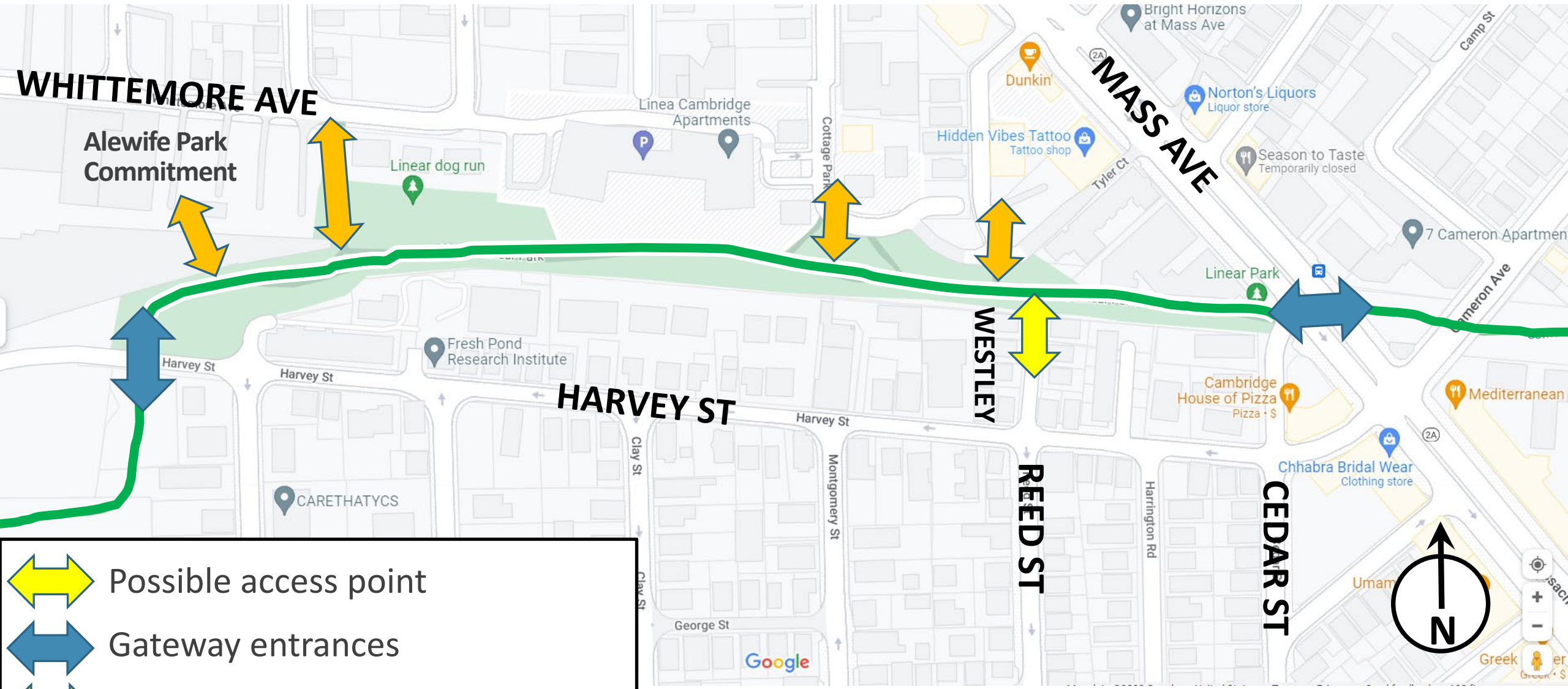





LINEAR PARK PATH

SIDE PATH



Linear Park Community Access Points



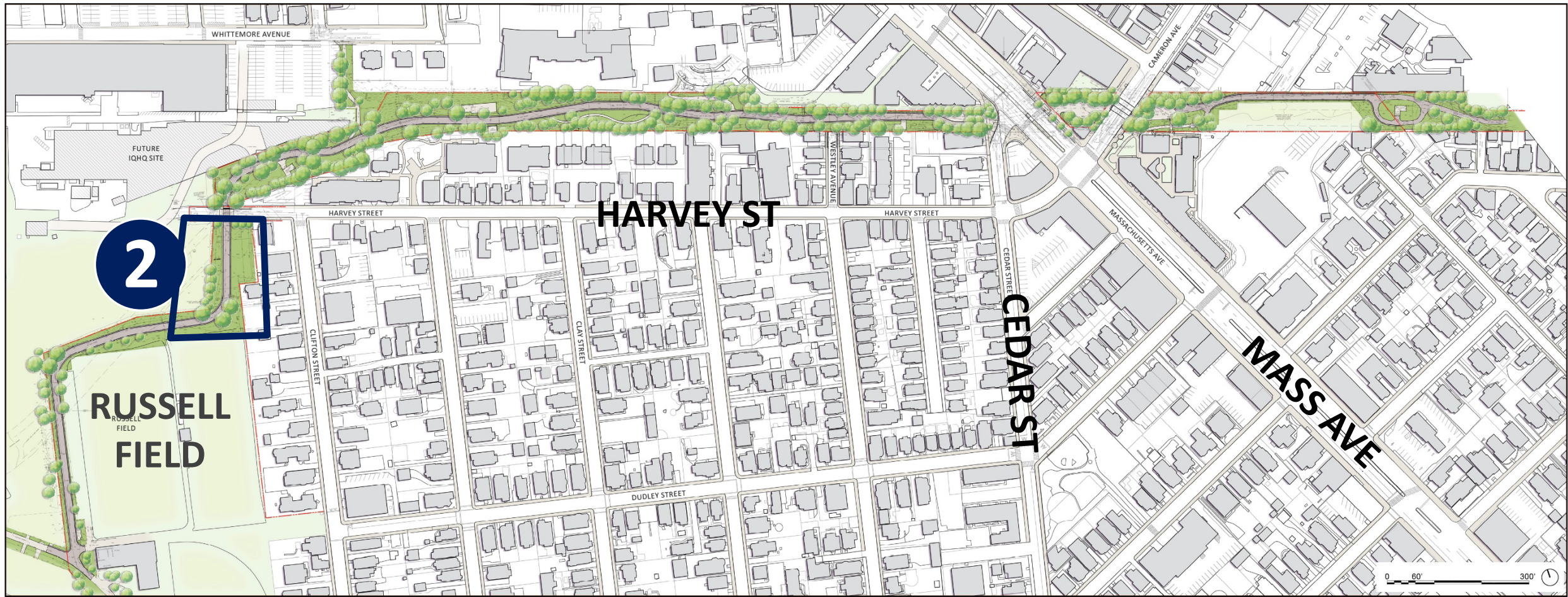
-  Possible access point
-  Gateway entrances
-  Existing community access points



Community Access Points

- Multiple requests for additional community access points along Linear Park
- Specific requests for a new community access point at Westley Ave
 - Survey responses
 - Comments on project website (Tell Us Your Thoughts)
- Opposition from Westley residents
 - Following abutters letter about fencing and access points
- City to consider additional feedback



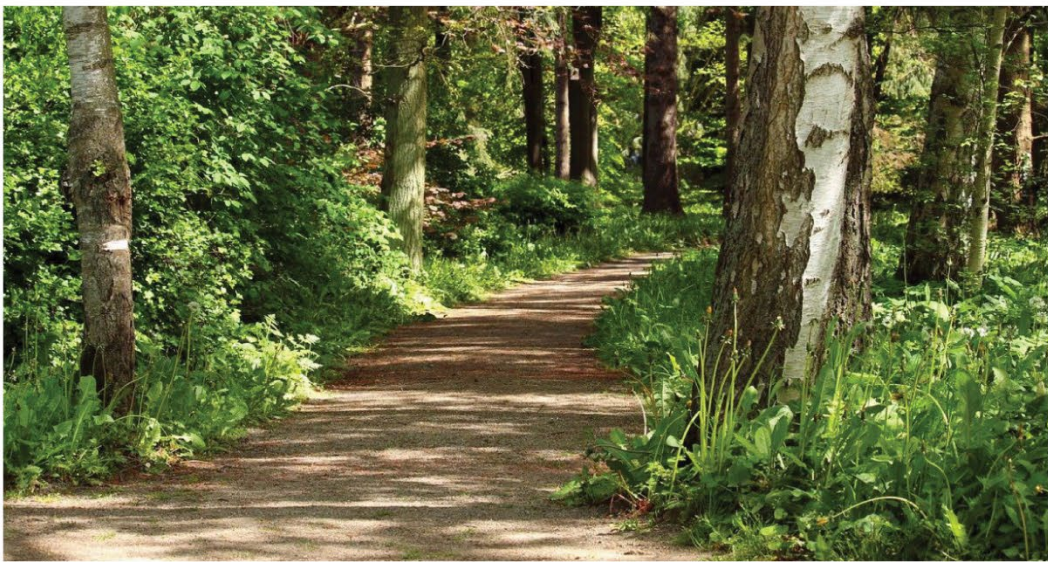


2. Russell Field to Harvey Street



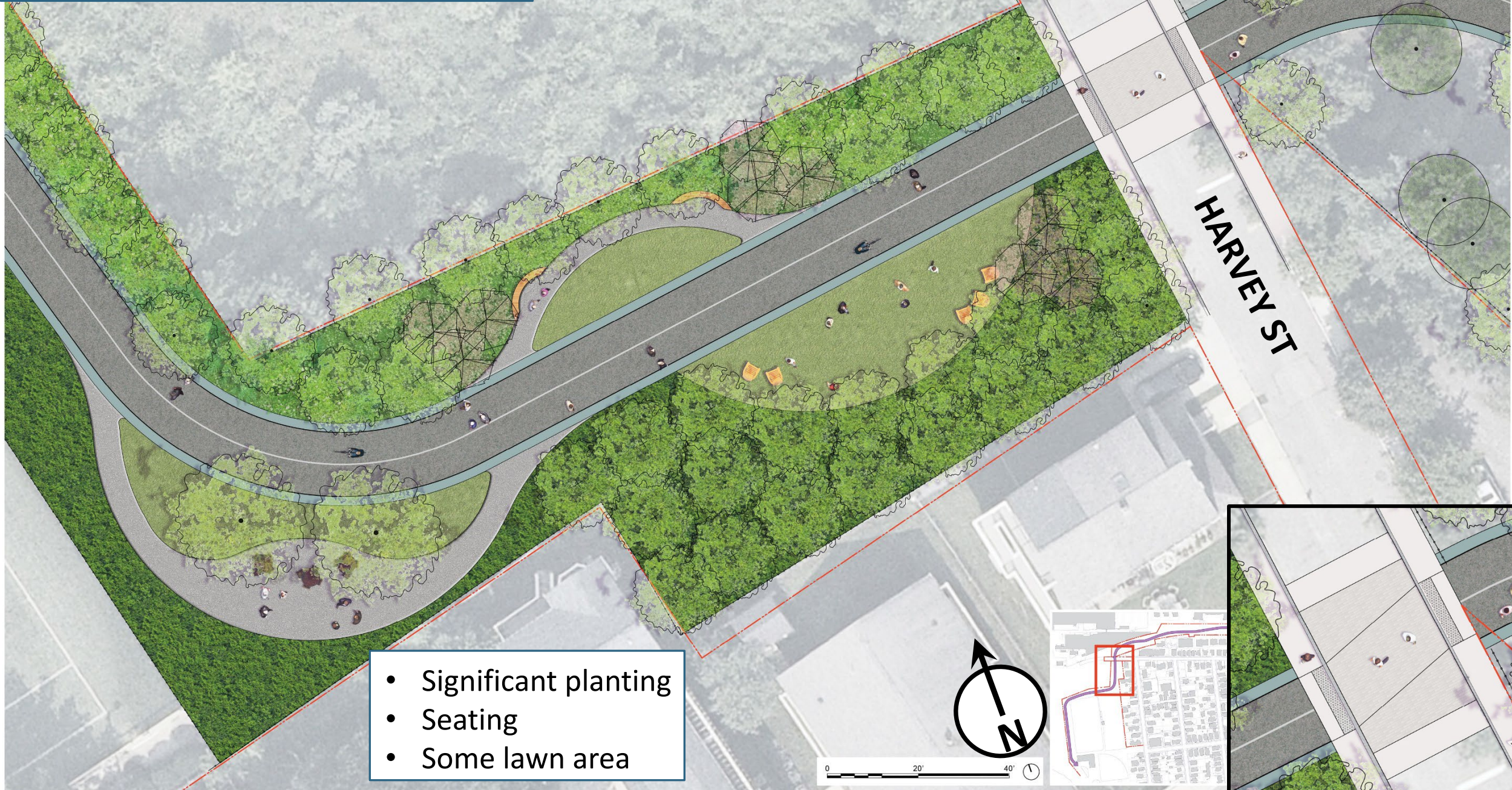
Existing conditions





Design option: expand forest character

Expand forest character



- Significant planting
- Seating
- Some lawn area

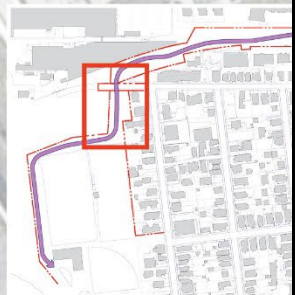


Design option: maintain open lawn

Maintain open lawn area

HARVEY ST

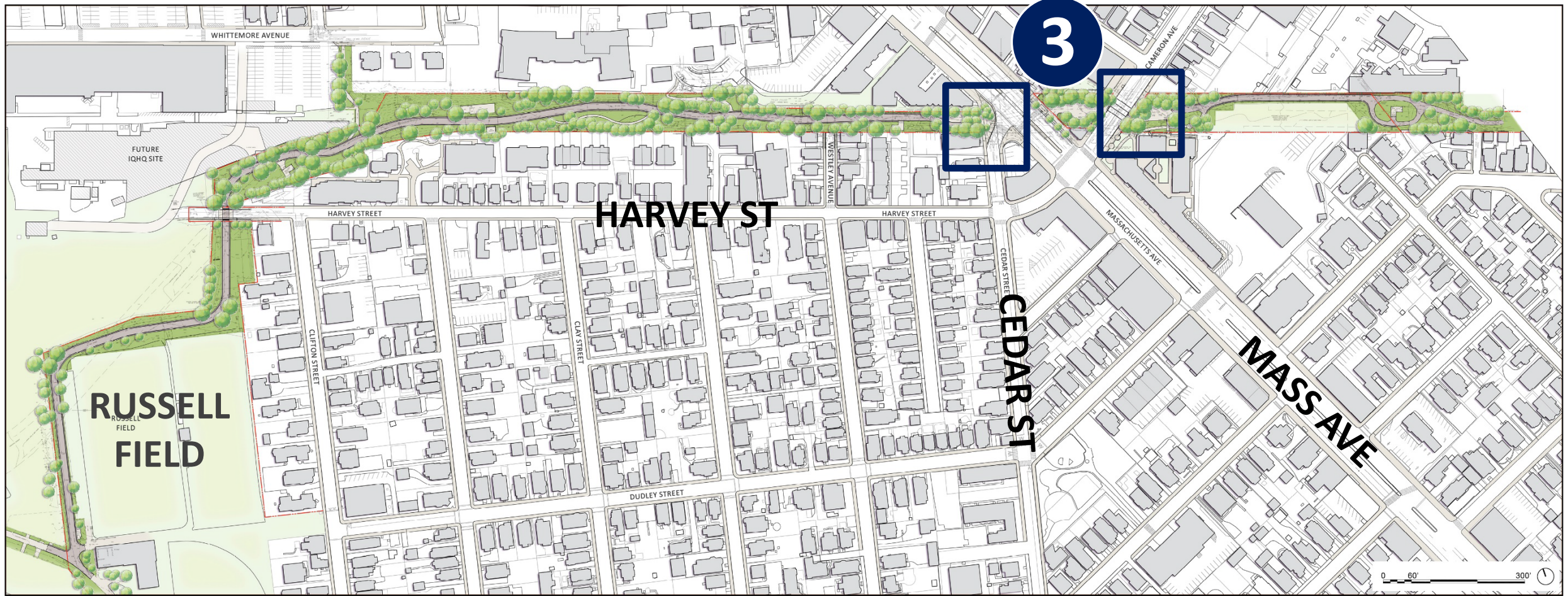
- With additional seating and/or play areas



Maintain open lawn area



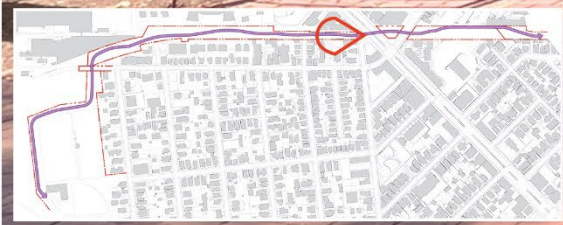
- With additional seating, opportunity for play



3. Mass Ave and Cameron Ave Gateway Entrances

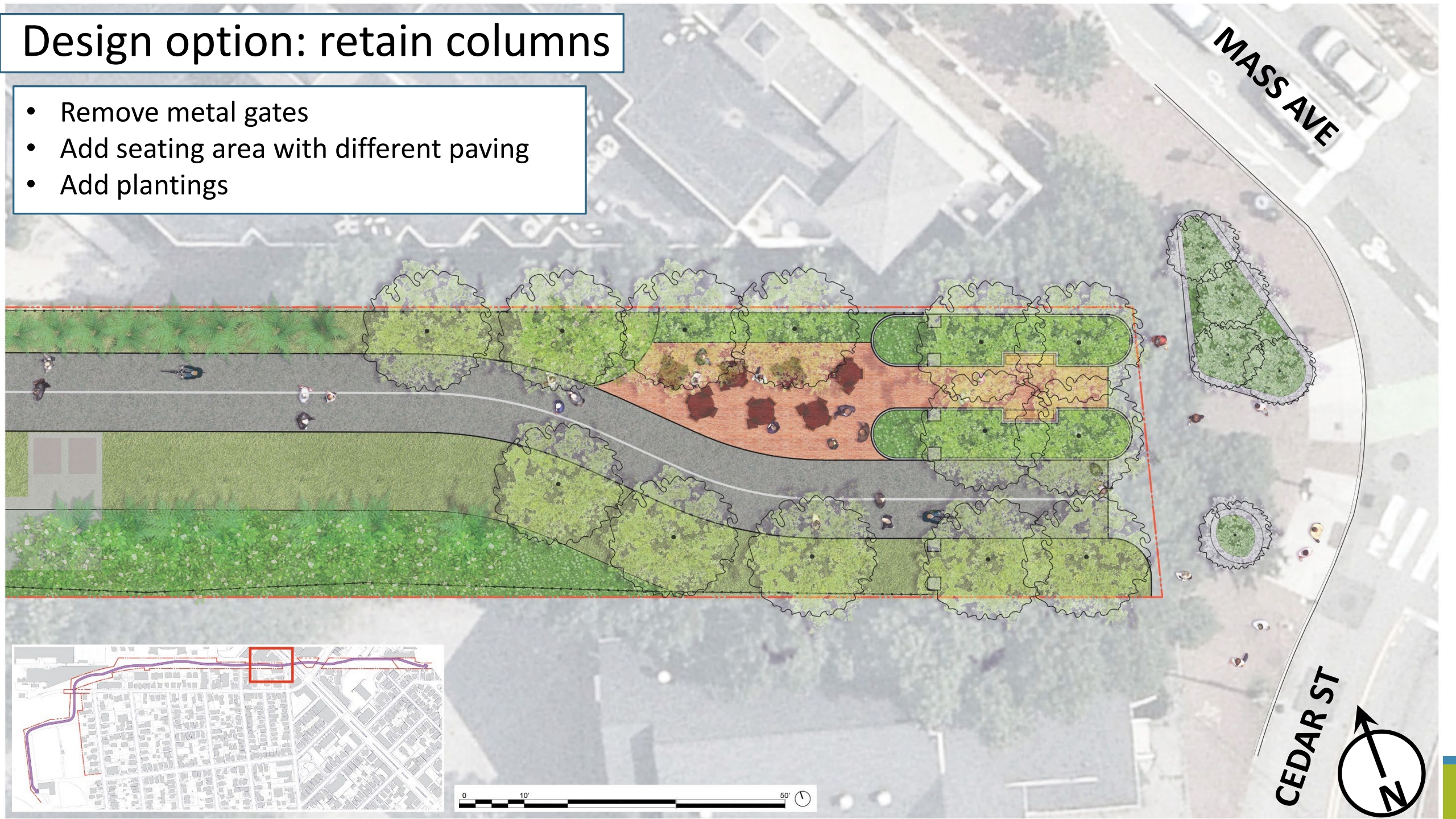


Existing conditions: Cedar St gateway



Design option: retain columns

- Remove metal gates
- Add seating area with different paving
- Add plantings



MASS AVE

CEDAR ST



Design option: retain columns



Design option: replace columns





Camp Cameron

Between Mass Ave and Cameron Ave

- Replace brick with accessible surface
- Remove low granite posts
- New seating options
- What elements would you like to see here?
- Send us your ideas in the Q and A





Municipal Line

Near MBTA Bus Yard

- Still brainstorming opportunities here at the Cambridge-Somerville line
- Reset plaque / marker
- Add new plantings, seating?
- Send us your ideas in the Q and A





PATH AMENITIES

New Lighting

- Install city parks standard
- Many existing poles along Linear Park in poor condition





PATH AMENITIES

Other Path Furniture

- Variety of seating types
- Trash and recycling containers
- Water fountain & bottle filler station
- Emergency call boxes





NEXT STEPS

Other Areas to Consider

- Continuing coordination with Alewife Park development
 - Redesign of path intersection towards Alewife station
 - Coordinate new entry point to path
- Review options to expand path width along Russell Field
- Review path options behind MBTA bus yard

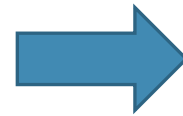




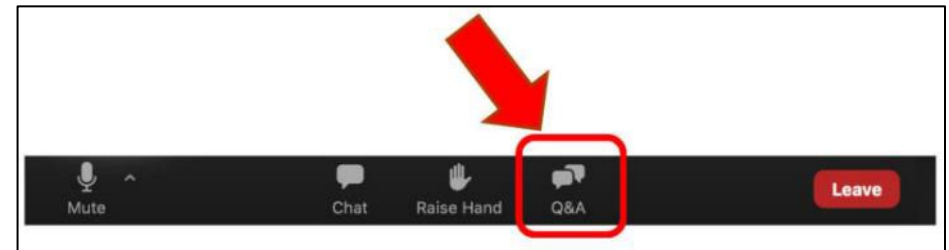
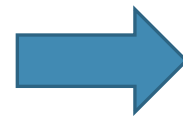
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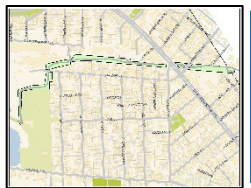
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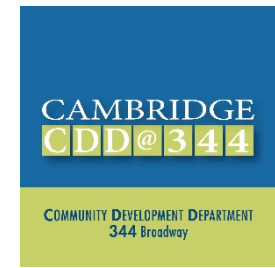
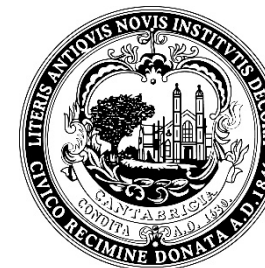


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THANK YOU



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