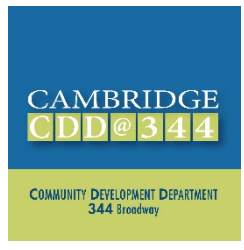
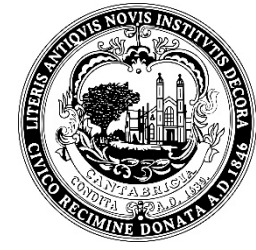


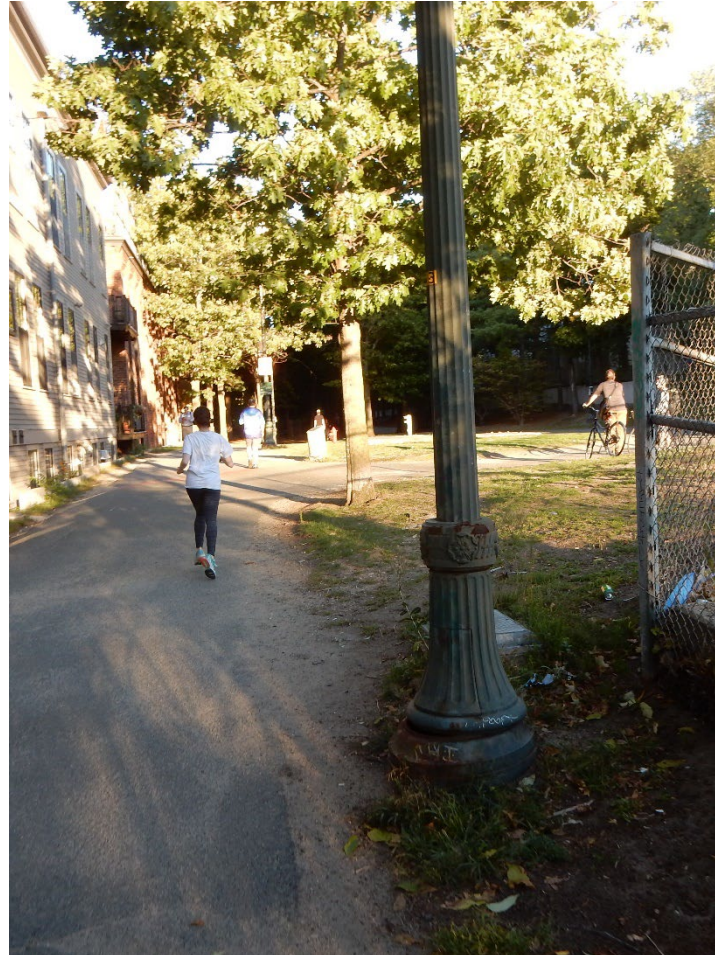


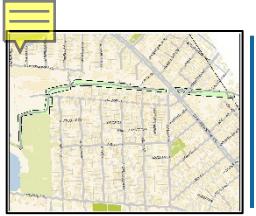
CITY OF CAMBRIDGE | JUNE 8, 2023
LINEAR PARK REDESIGN PROJECT



PUBLIC MEETING #3

ADVANCED DESIGN MEETING





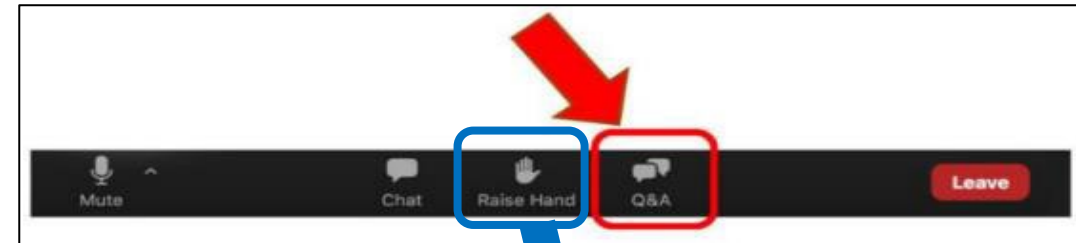
Q and A

Public Input

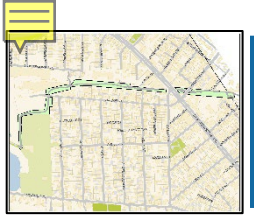
- At the bottom center of the Zoom window:
 - Use the “Q&A” button to submit written questions and comments during the presentation
 - Use the “Raise Hand” button to request to speak at the end of the presentation
 - We will unmute you
 - You’ll have 2 minutes to speak your comments and ask questions at the end of the presentation
- **Technical support** – Bill Deignan / wdeignan@cambridgema.gov

Camb.ma/LinearPark

“Q&A” to submit typed questions & comments



“Raise Hand” to speak questions & comments

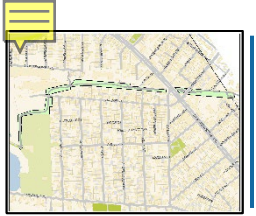


AGENDA

Welcome!

1. Project background and schedule
2. Feedback from Public Meeting #2
3. Linear Park advanced design plans
4. Questions & feedback



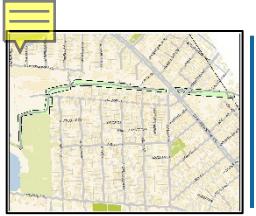


PROJECT BACKGROUND

Linear Park Redesign

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





PROJECT SCHEDULE

Linear Park Redesign

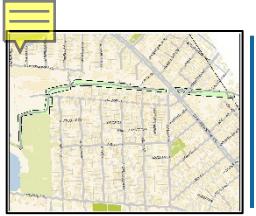
Late Fall 2022: Conceptual Design

Winter 2023: Preliminary Design

Spring-Summer 2023: Final Design

Late 2023: Out to Bid





PAST PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Key responses to 2022 open-ended survey questions

1. What works well about Linear Park?

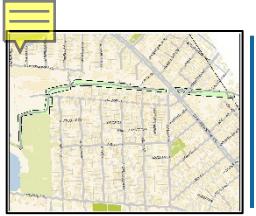
- The park and path itself as a place to walk, bike, and exercise
- Shade, trees, proximity to Alewife Station, Mass Ave and Davis Square

2. What does not work well about Linear Park?

- Crowded, narrow, need more space for different users
- Lack of benches

3. It would be great if the Linear Park project included:

- More trees and enhanced landscaping
- Drinking fountains, benches, and tables



PAST PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Public Site Walk

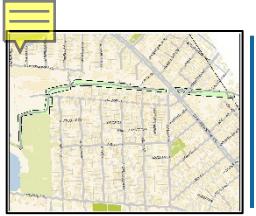
May 5th and June 4th, 2022



Paint the Path Event

June 18th, 2022



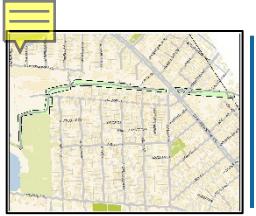


UPCOMING PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Linear Park Tabling Event

- Saturday, June 17th. 10am - noon
- Grass area between Russell Field and Harvey Street
- See the concept roll plans, learn more about the project
- RAIN DATE: Thursday, June 22, 3pm-5pm





LINEAR PARK REDESIGN PROJECT VISION

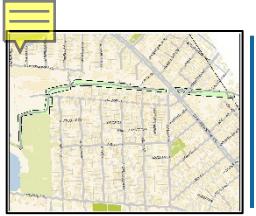
The Linear Park Redesign project will reimagine a beloved and highly used community park and multi-use pathway.

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 neighborhood connections
- Be a resilient and biodiverse landscape suited for a changing climate

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

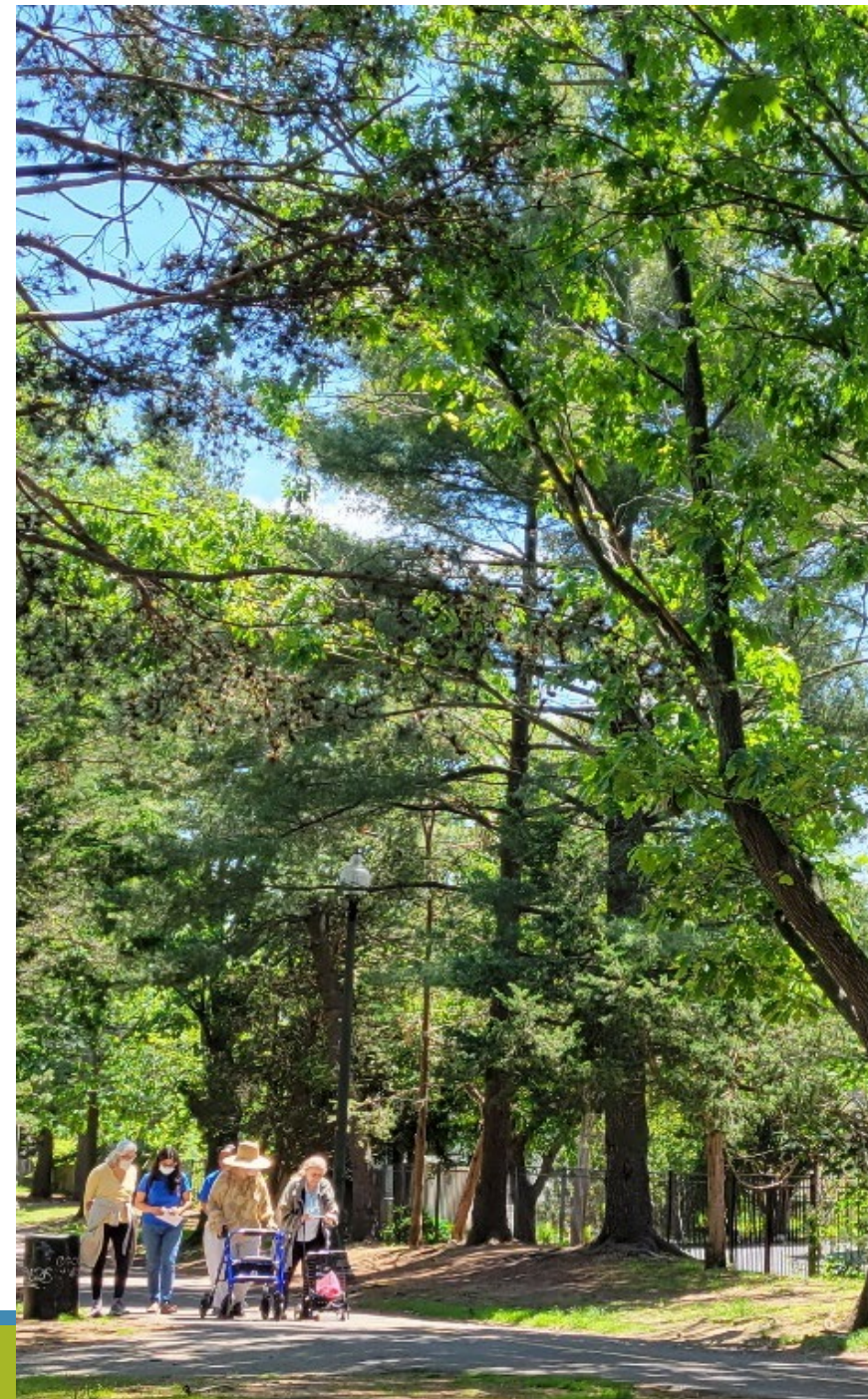
- Include playful and creative features
- Add new seating for all to enjoy
- Widen and differentiate paths of travel, where space allows



PROJECT GOALS

Linear Park Project Goals

- Widen the path where space allows 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
 - Design park and pathway to minimize root zone impacts
 - Establish better soil and growing conditions
 - Minimize tree removals wherever possible with effort at transplanting



Side paths

- Existing side paths shown here (where people jog and walk today)
- Planned side paths are a strategy to reduce soil compaction for trees and allow park users to explore off the main path





PLANT PALETTE

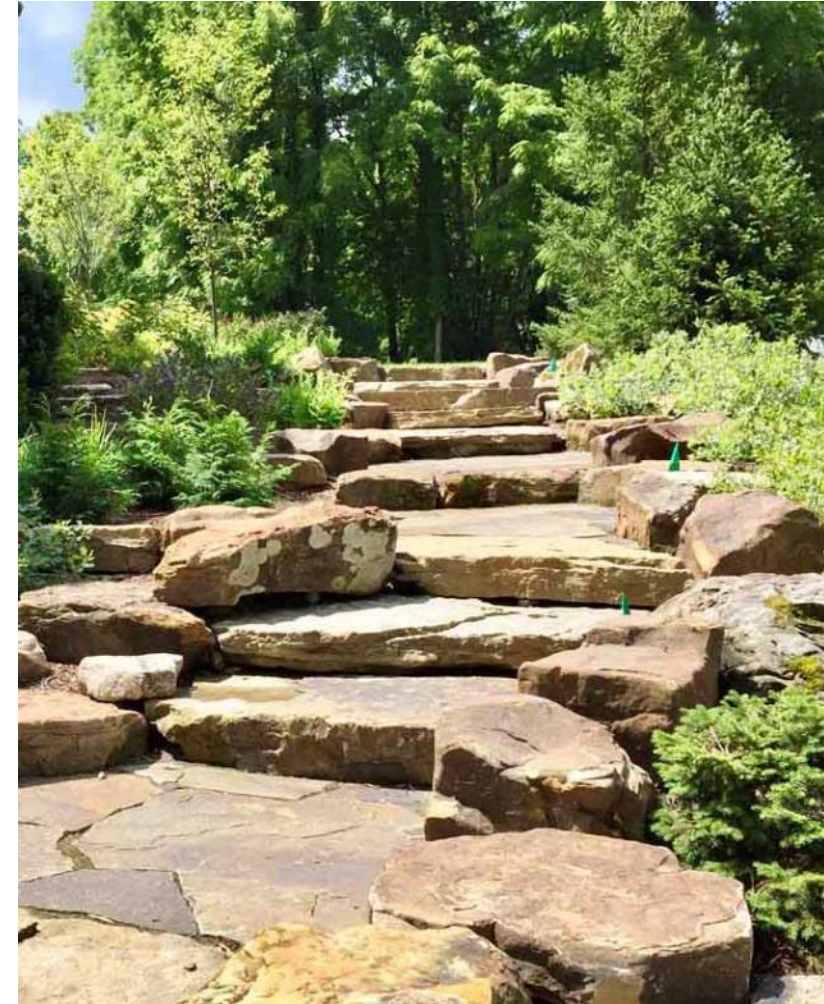
Landscape Character





MATERIALS PALETTE

- Granite
- Goshen
- Stone dust surface





PLAY PALLETTE

Natural material for play

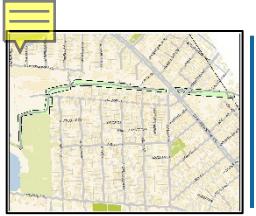




STONE

- Play
- Explore off the main path
- Retain slope





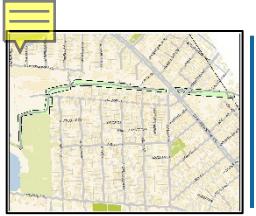
PATH AMENITIES

New Lighting

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



Toomey Park in East Cambridge

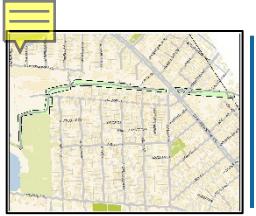


PATH AMENITIES

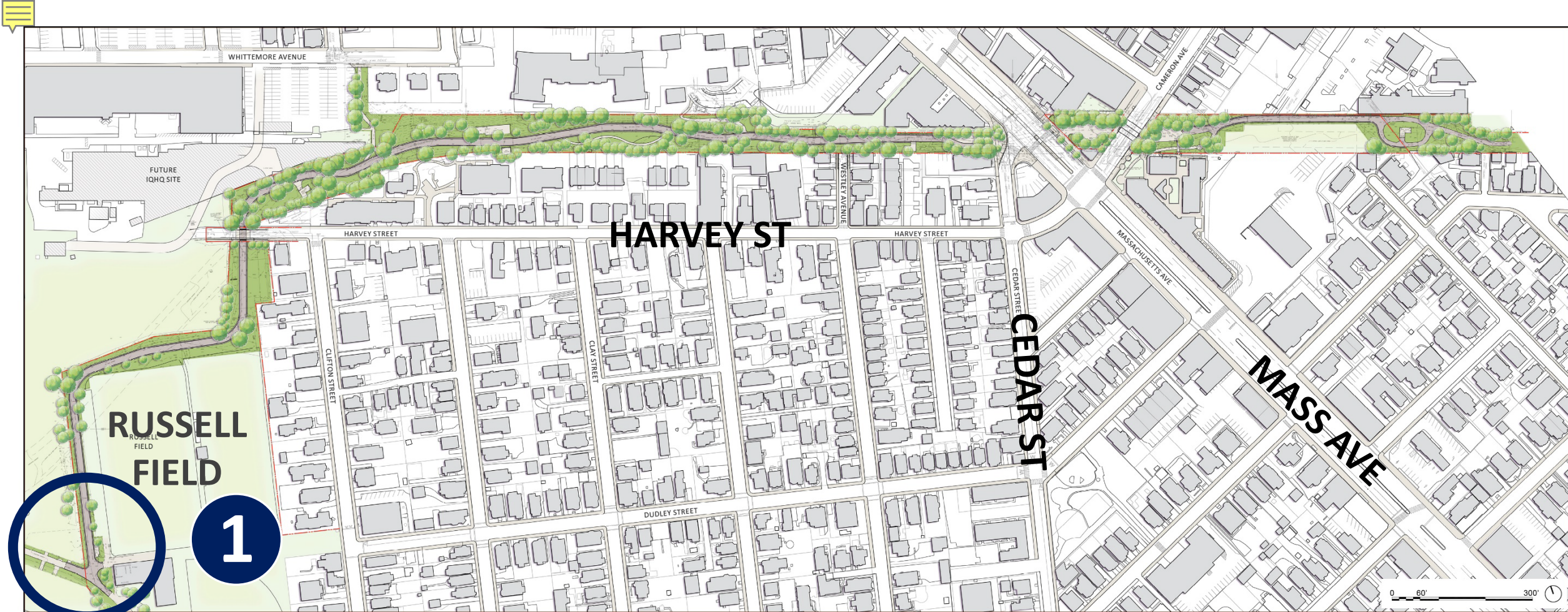
Other Path Furniture

- Variety of seating types
 - Swinging bench like at Trolley Sq
 - Clustered seating, Cambridge Common
- Trash and recycling containers
- Water fountain & bottle filler station
- Emergency call boxes

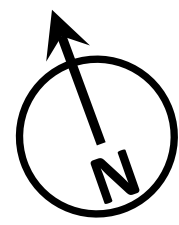


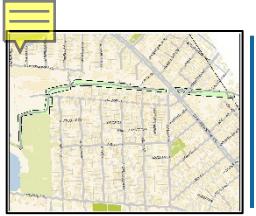


LINEAR PARK ADVANCED DESIGN PLANS



1. Russell Fieldhouse corner



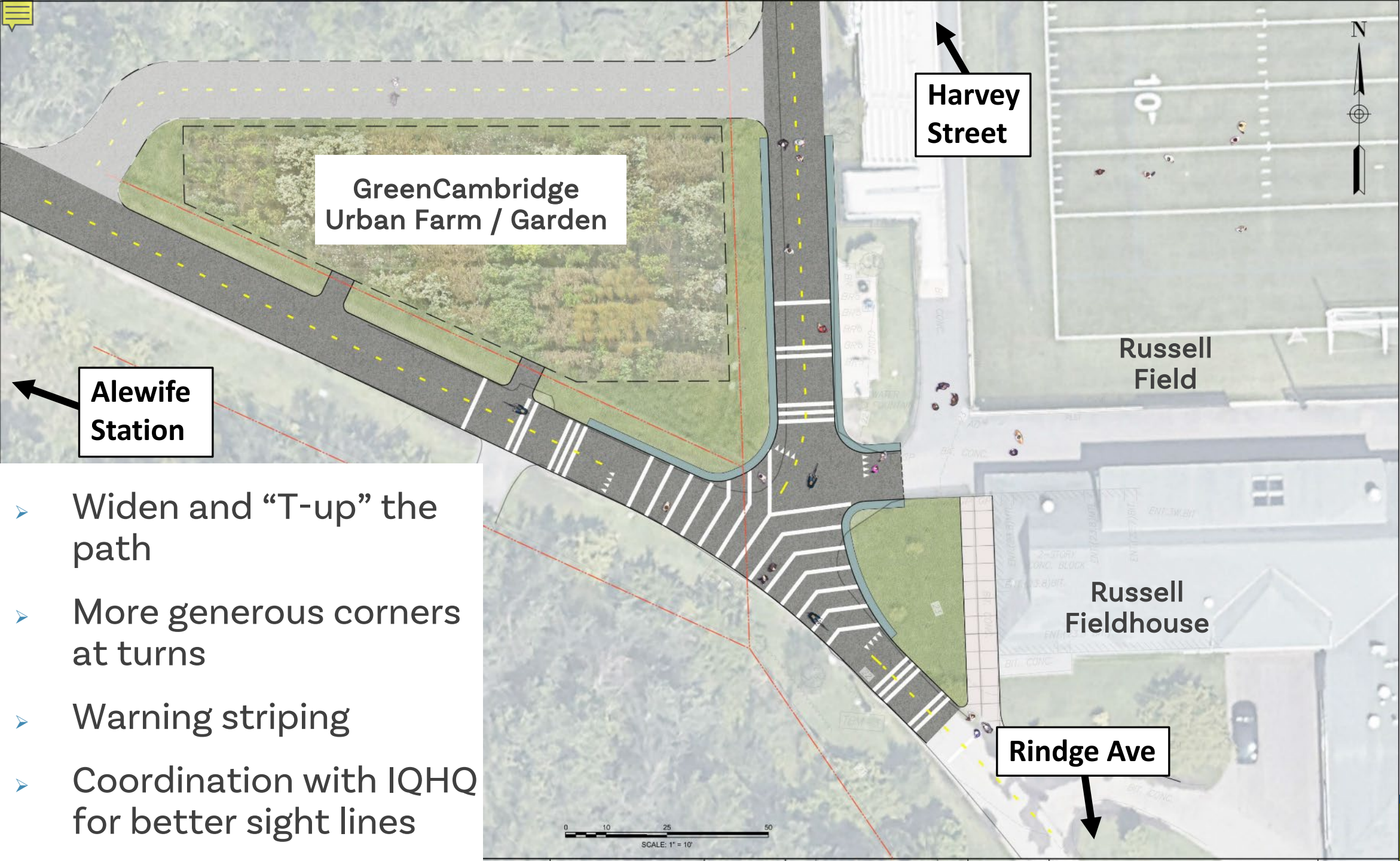


1. RUSSELL FIELDHOUSE CORNER

Existing Conditions

- Tight turning radius
- Short sight lines
- High number of path users





**GreenCambridge
Urban Farm / Garden**

**Harvey
Street**

**Alewife
Station**

**Russell
Field**

**Russell
Fieldhouse**

Rindge Ave

- Widen and “T-up” the path
- More generous corners at turns
- Warning striping
- Coordination with IQHQ for better sight lines

0 10 25 50
SCALE: 1" = 10'



A spur path around northern edge of the communal garden is currently under evaluation and in discussion with IQHQ.

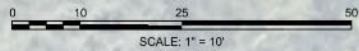
GreenCambridge
Urban Farm / Garden

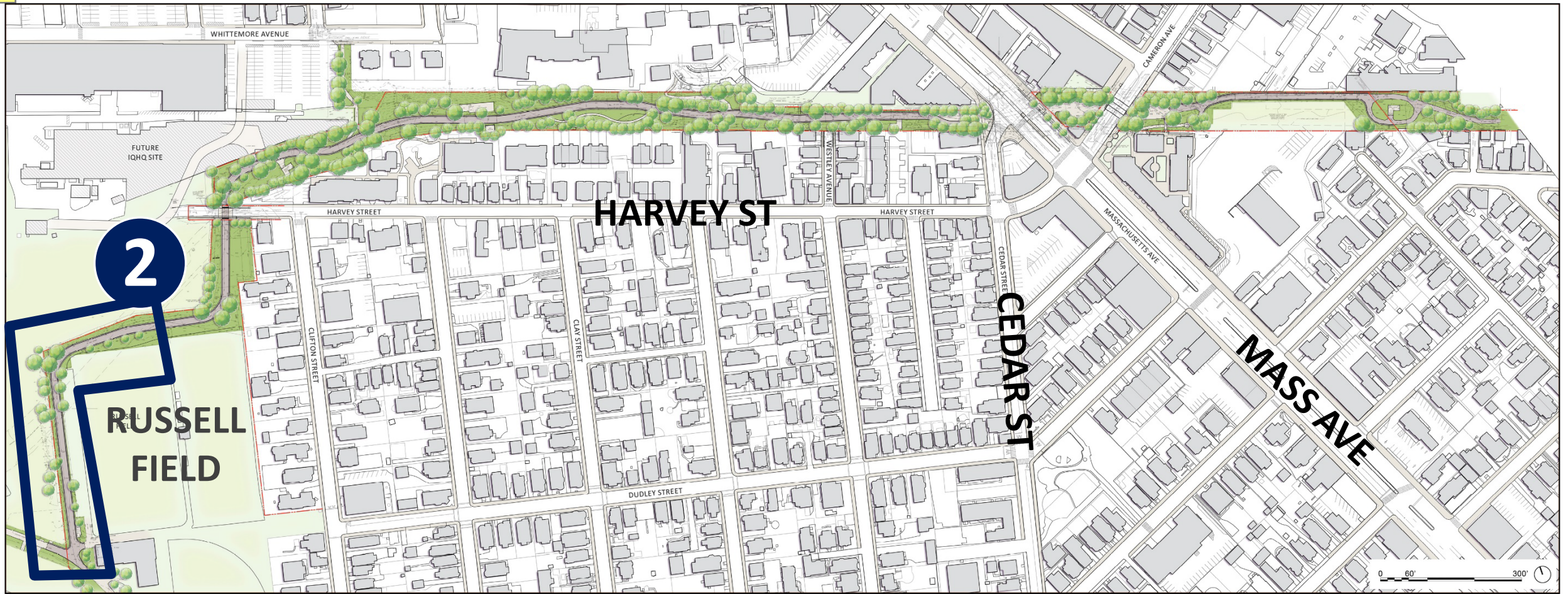
Alewife
Station

Rindge Ave

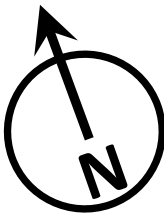
Russell
Field

Russell
Fieldhouse





2. Russell Field area



2. RUSSELL FIELD AREA

Artist installation

One tree removal

14' path width

New wayfinding signage, park entry stone feature

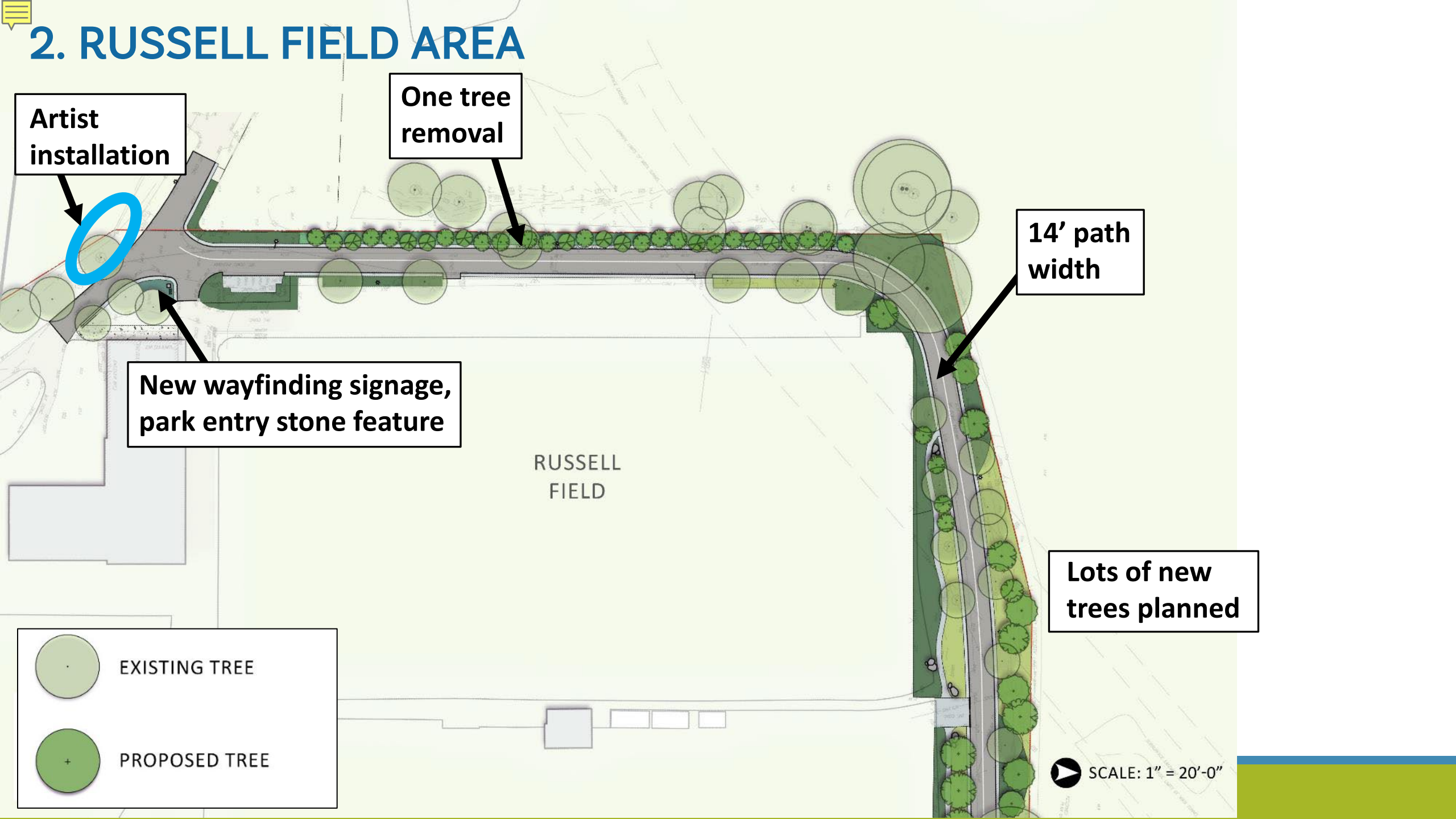
RUSSELL FIELD

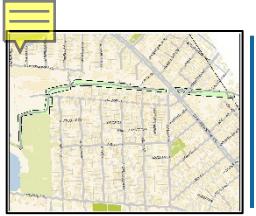
Lots of new trees planned

EXISTING TREE

PROPOSED TREE

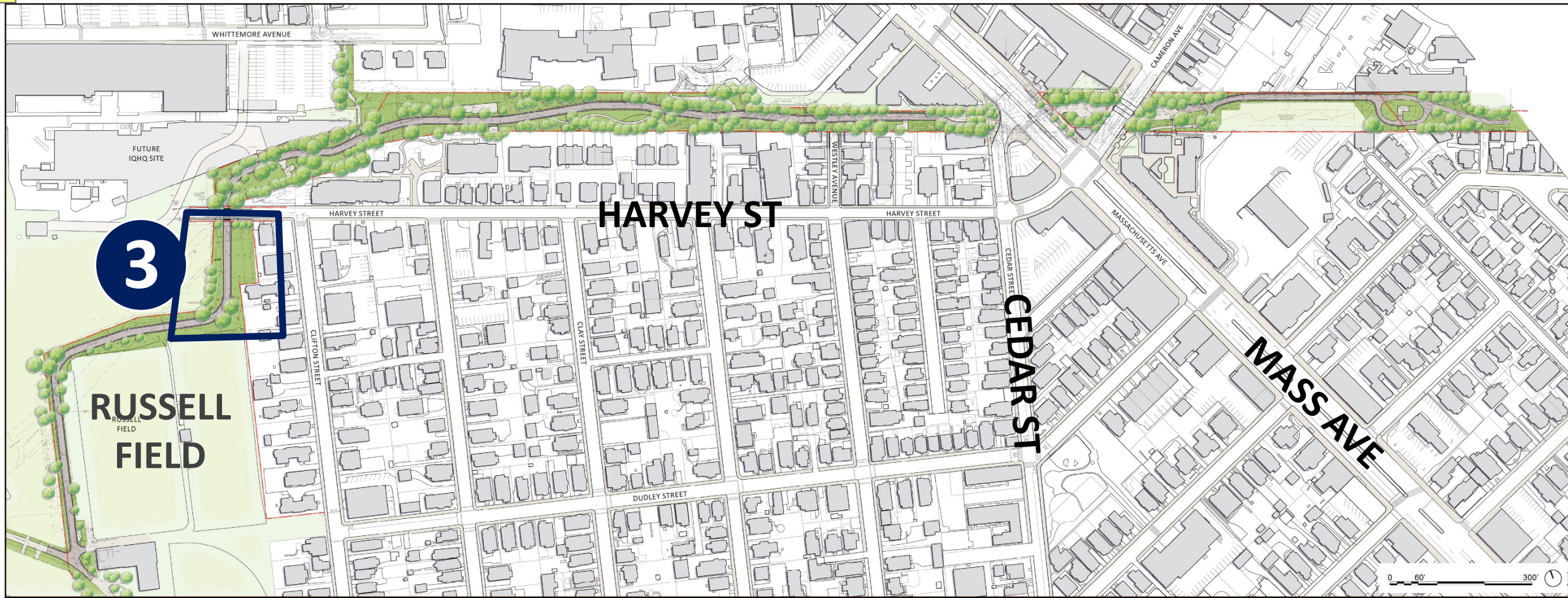
SCALE: 1" = 20'-0"



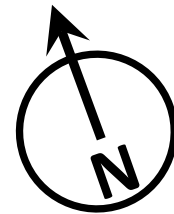


EXAMPLE STONE ENTRY MARKER





3. Russell Field area to Harvey Street



Side paths and plantings are a landscape strategy to encourage plant growth and reduce soil compaction

Sidepath areas for play opportunity, viewing sports events

3. RUSSELL FIELD AREA TO HARVEY STREET

- EXISTING TREE
- PROPOSED TREE

Many new trees planned

Flexible lawn space with moveable seating

Benches, trash and recycling containers, bike parking, way finding signage

RUSSELL FIELD

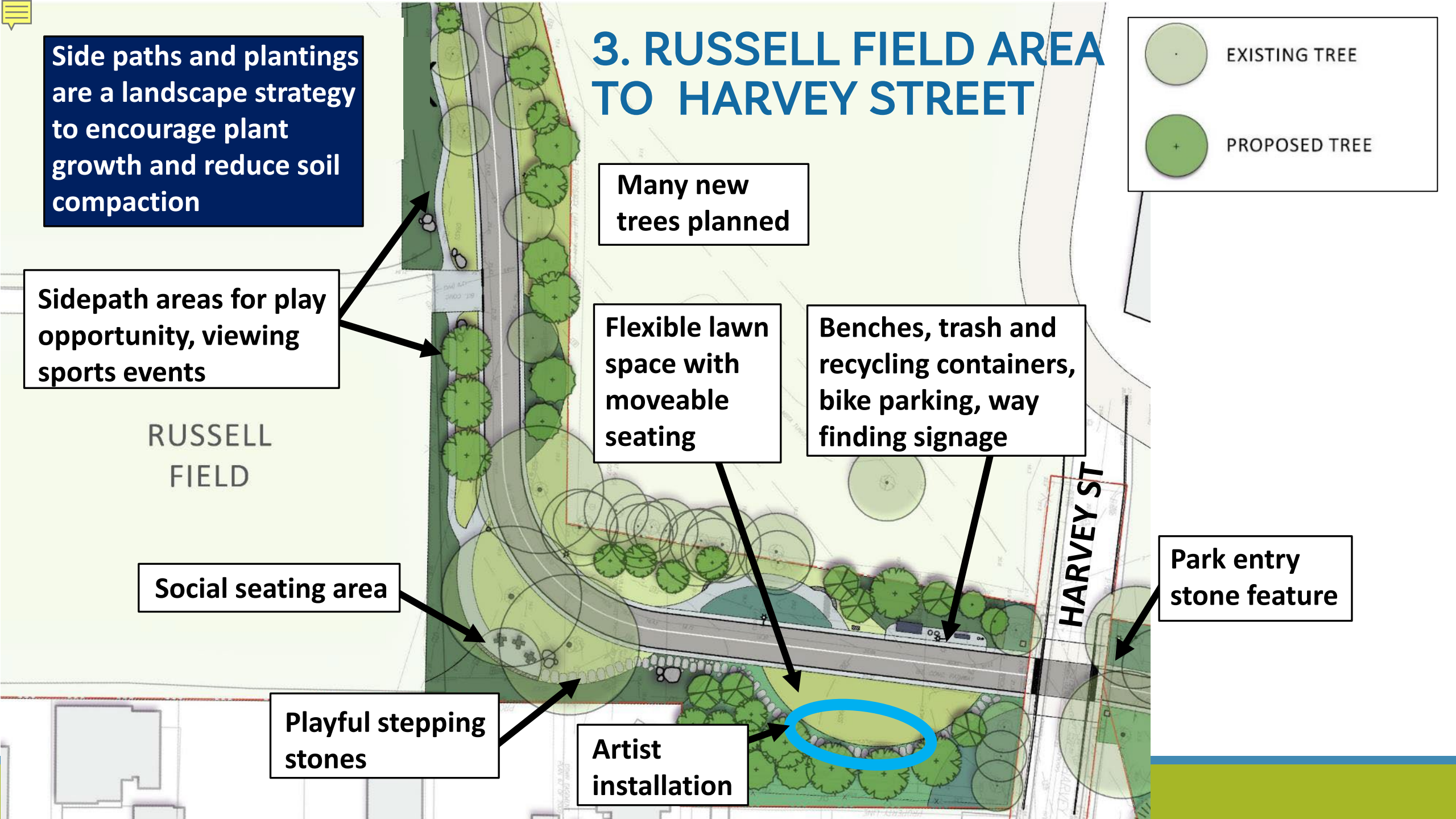
Social seating area

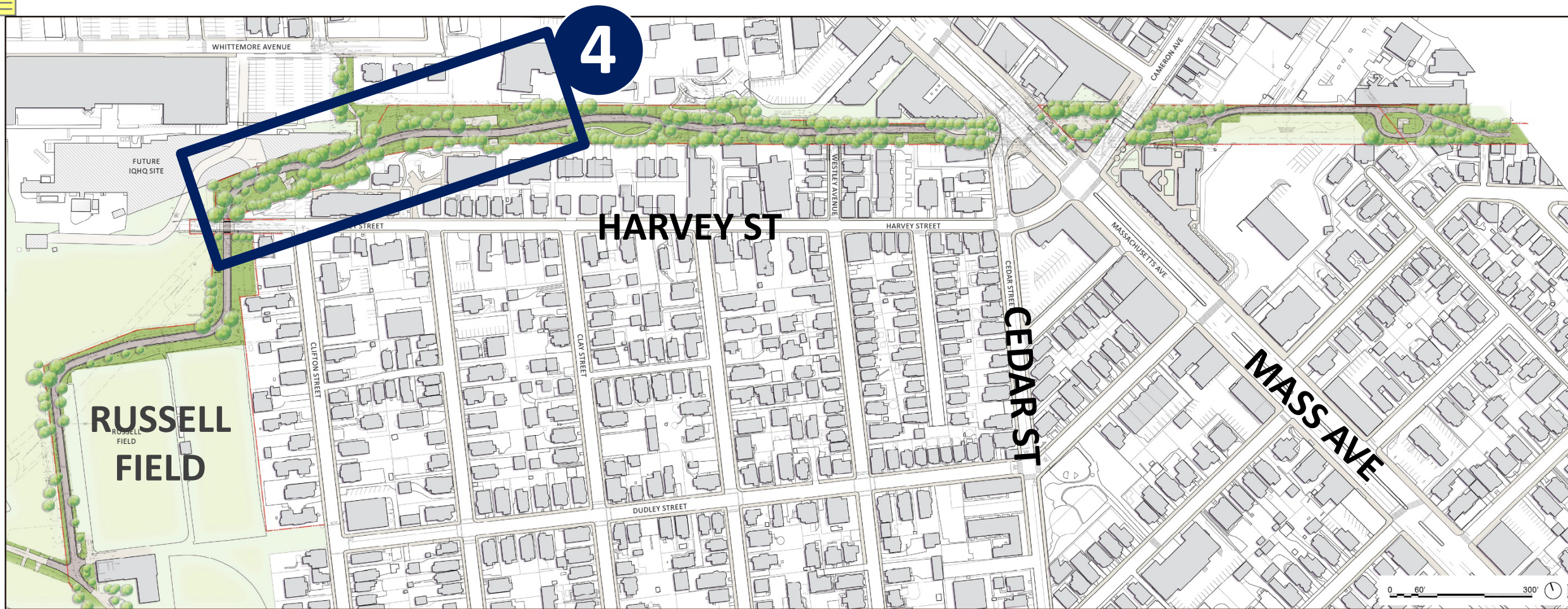
Park entry stone feature

Playful stepping stones

Artist installation

HARVEY ST





4. Harvey St Crossing to Linea Building



4. HARVEY ST CROSSING TO LINEA BUILDING

EXISTING TREE
PROPOSED TREE

WHITTEMORE AVE

Install new fence and move to property line

Many new trees planned

Connection to Alewife Park commercial development

Meandering side paths for play, exploring

Raised path crossing at Harvey Street

FUTURE IQHQ SITE

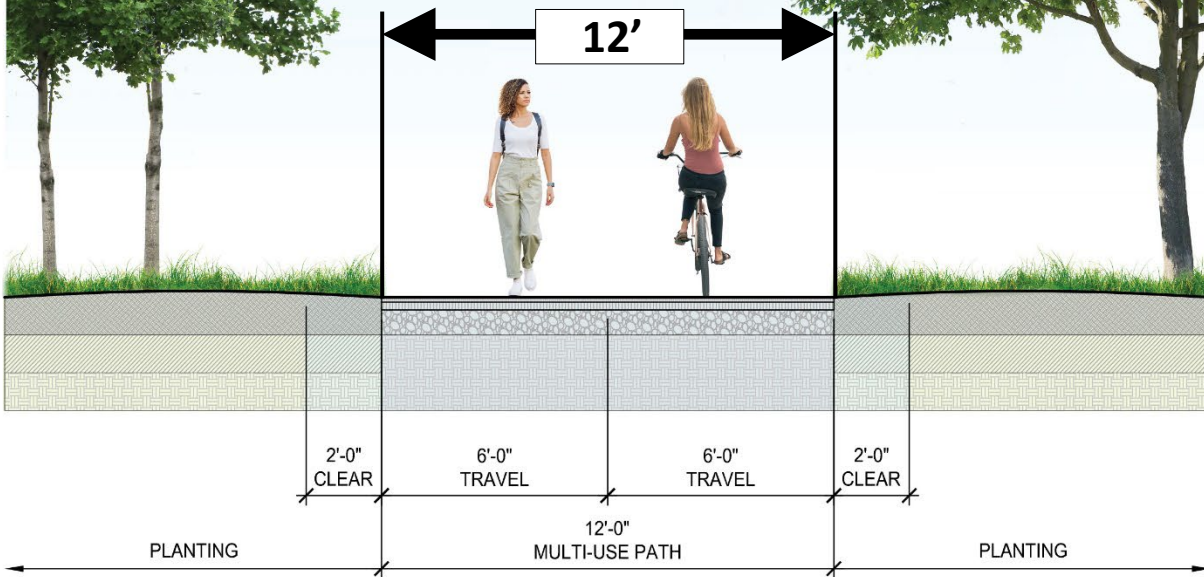
Side paths and plantings are a landscape strategy to encourage plant growth and reduce soil compaction

Slightly reduced path width due to mature trees

HARVEY ST

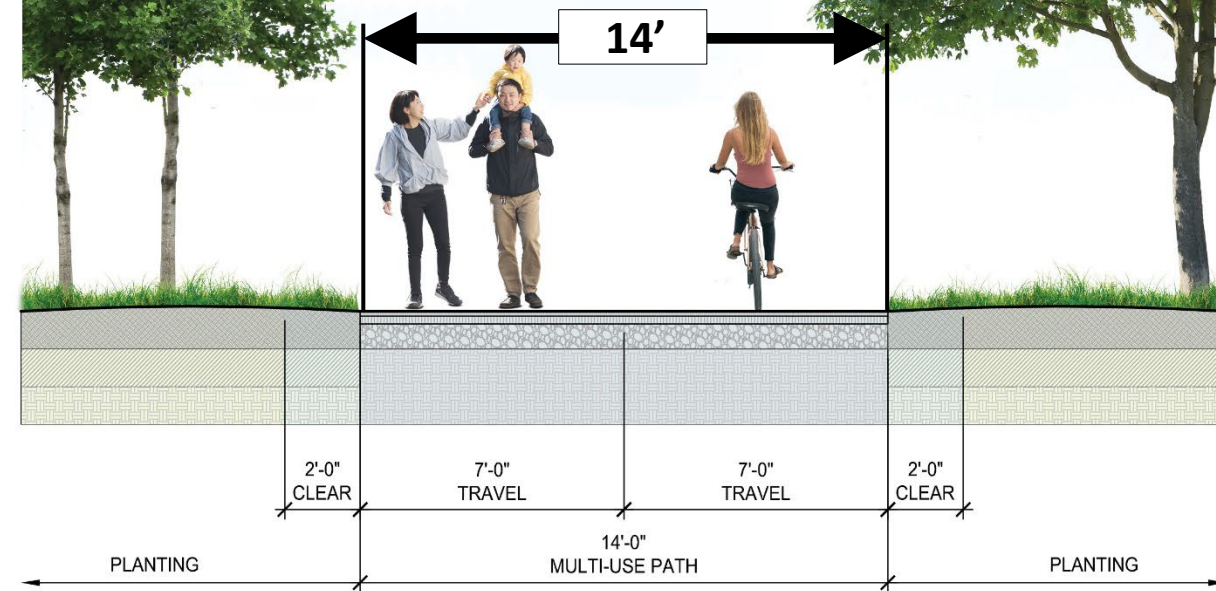
Existing

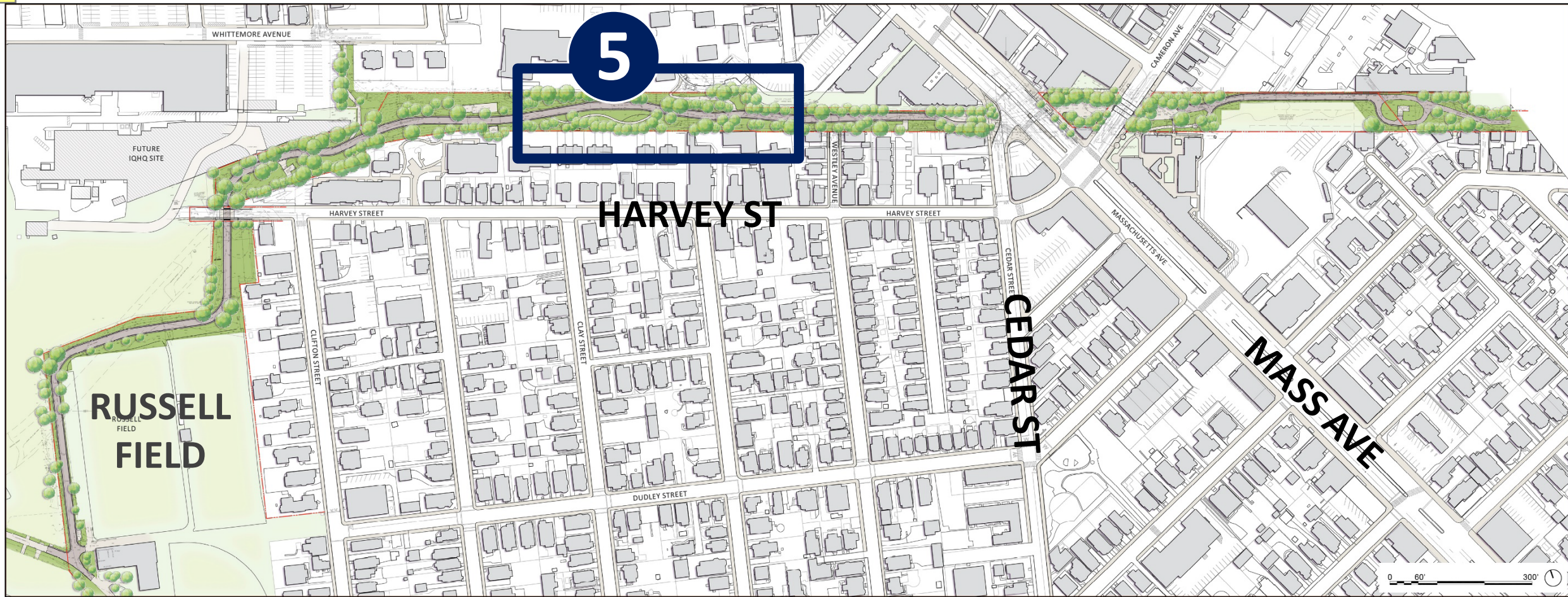
Width varies between approximately 10' and 15', but 12' is typical.



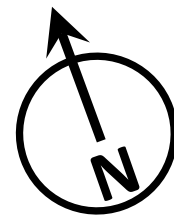
Proposed

14' typical, with 12' at pinch points.

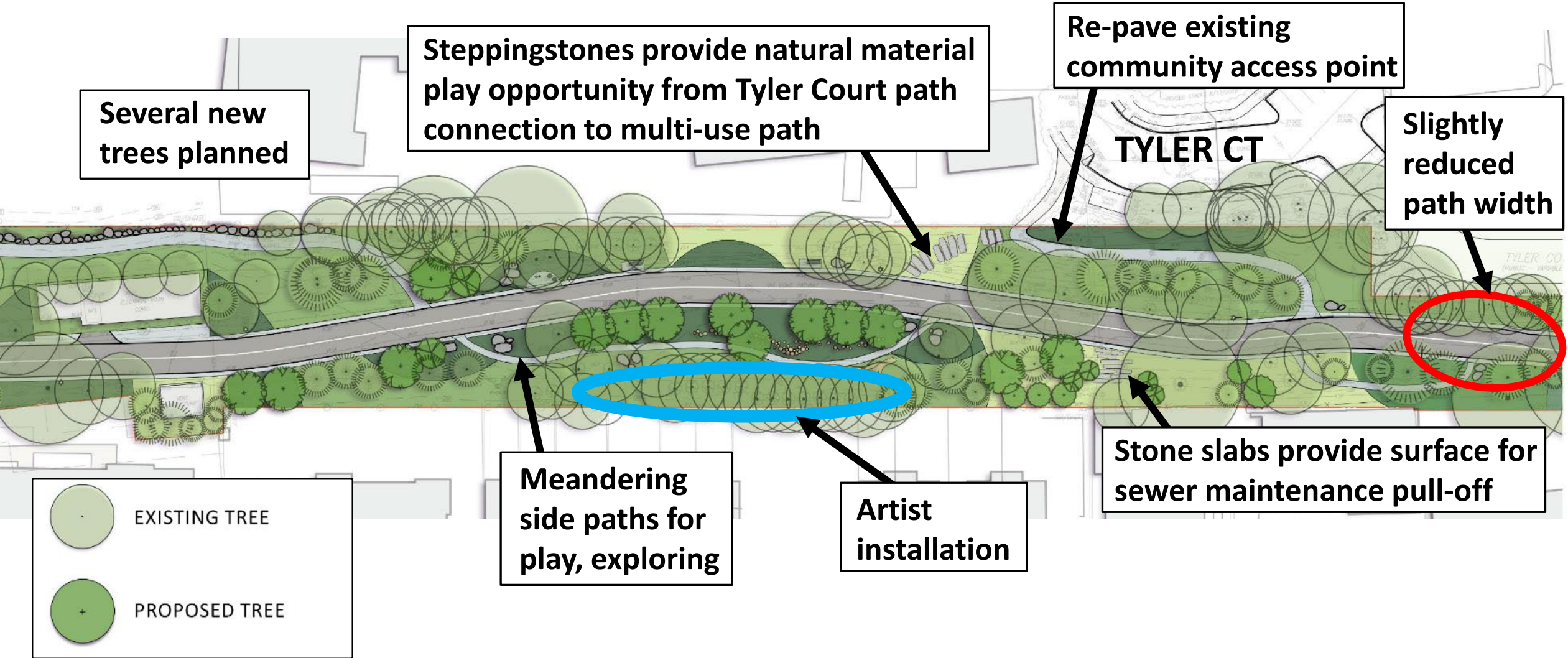




5. Linea Building to Tyler Court



5. LINEA BUILDING TO TYLER COURT

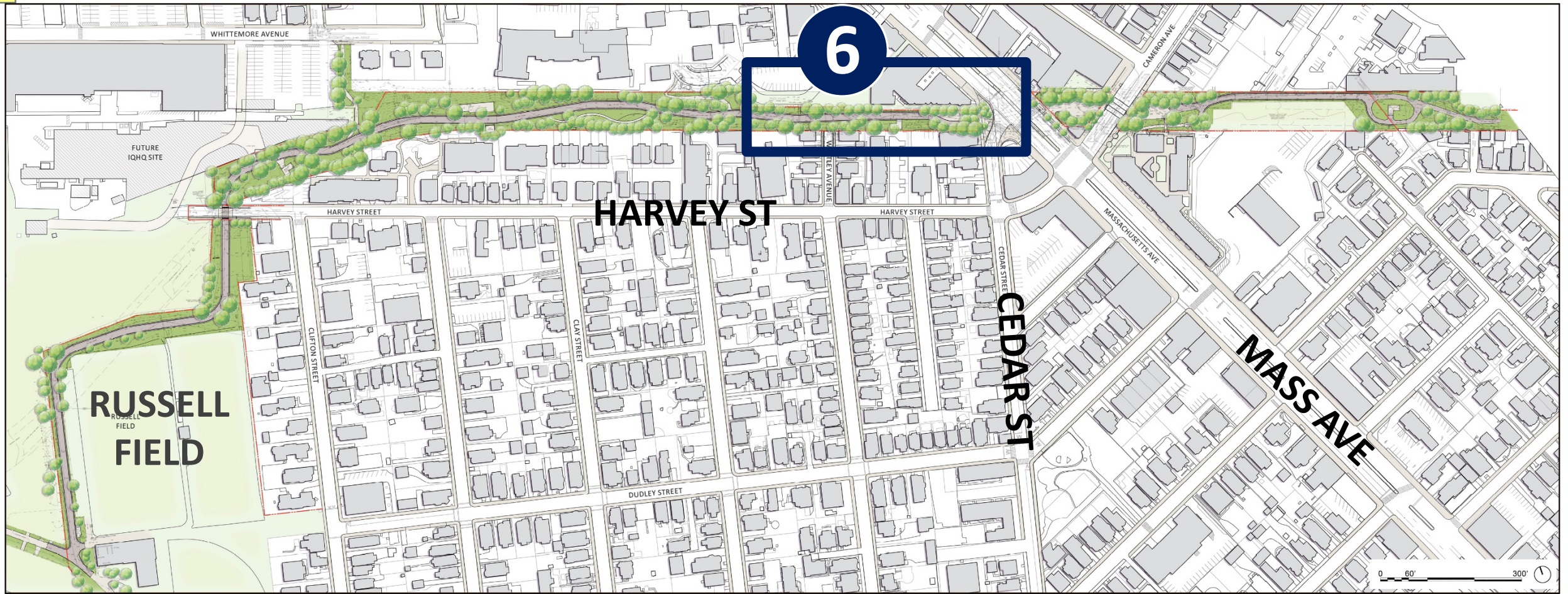


Existing Linear Park



Proposed path design





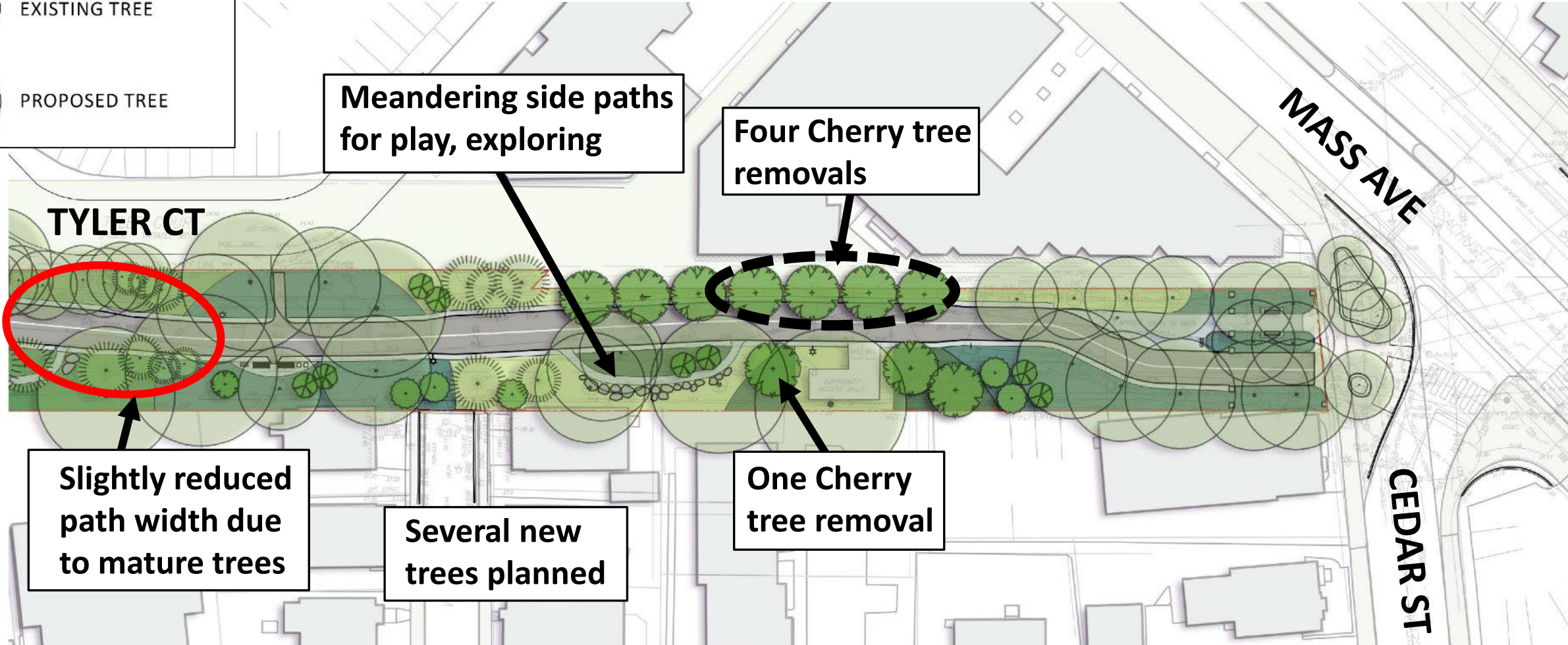
6. Tyler Court to Cedar Street



6. TYLER COURT TO CEDAR STREET

EXISTING TREE

PROPOSED TREE



Meandering side paths for play, exploring

Four Cherry tree removals

TYLER CT

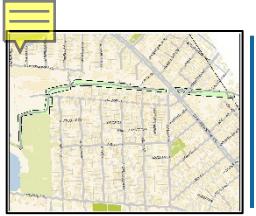
MASS AVE

CEDAR ST

Slightly reduced path width due to mature trees

Several new trees planned

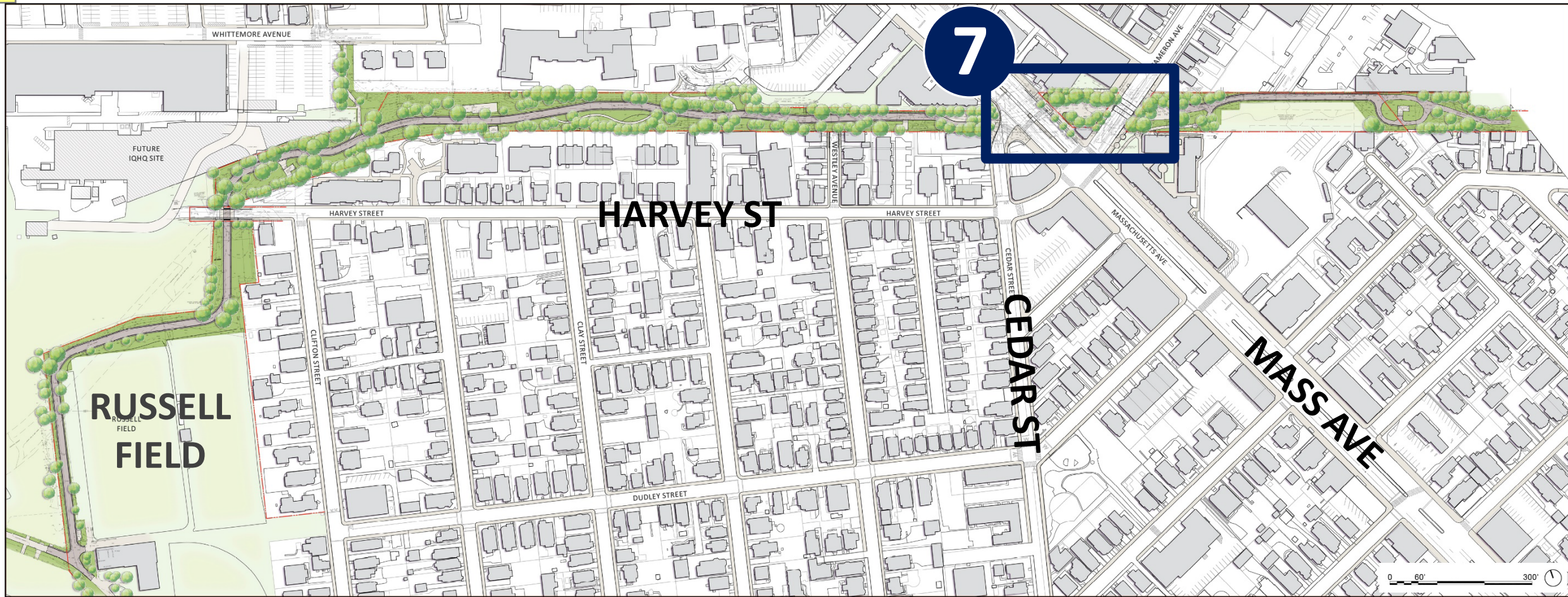
One Cherry tree removal



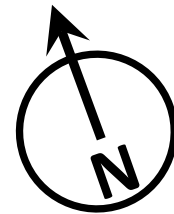
Community Access Points

- City not currently pursuing a community access point at Westley Ave at this time
 - Narrow width of the road
 - Strong resident opposition
 - Perceived safety
- Well-lit and well-established Linear Park entrance exists about 3 blocks away on Cedar Street





7. Camp Cameron

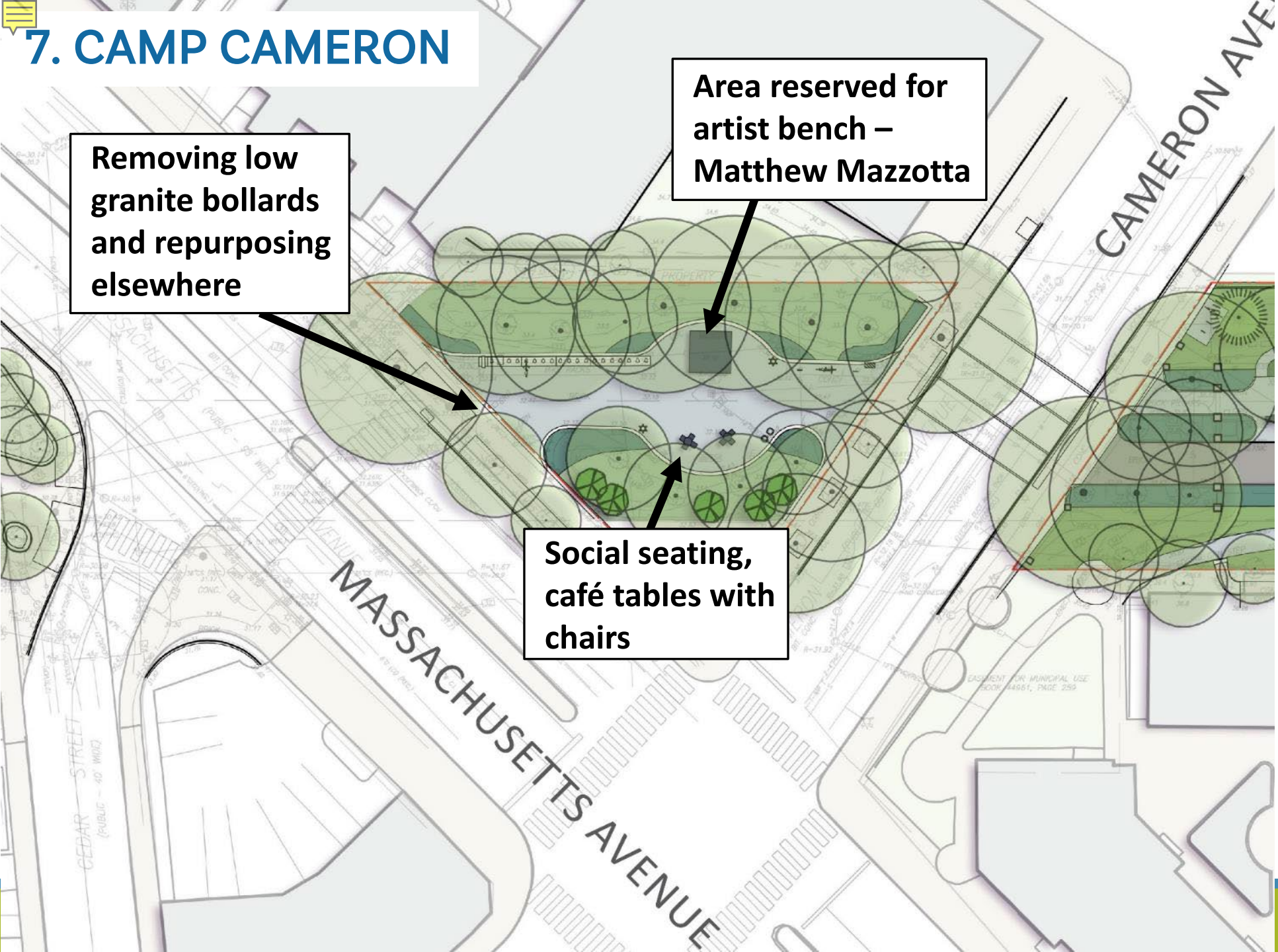


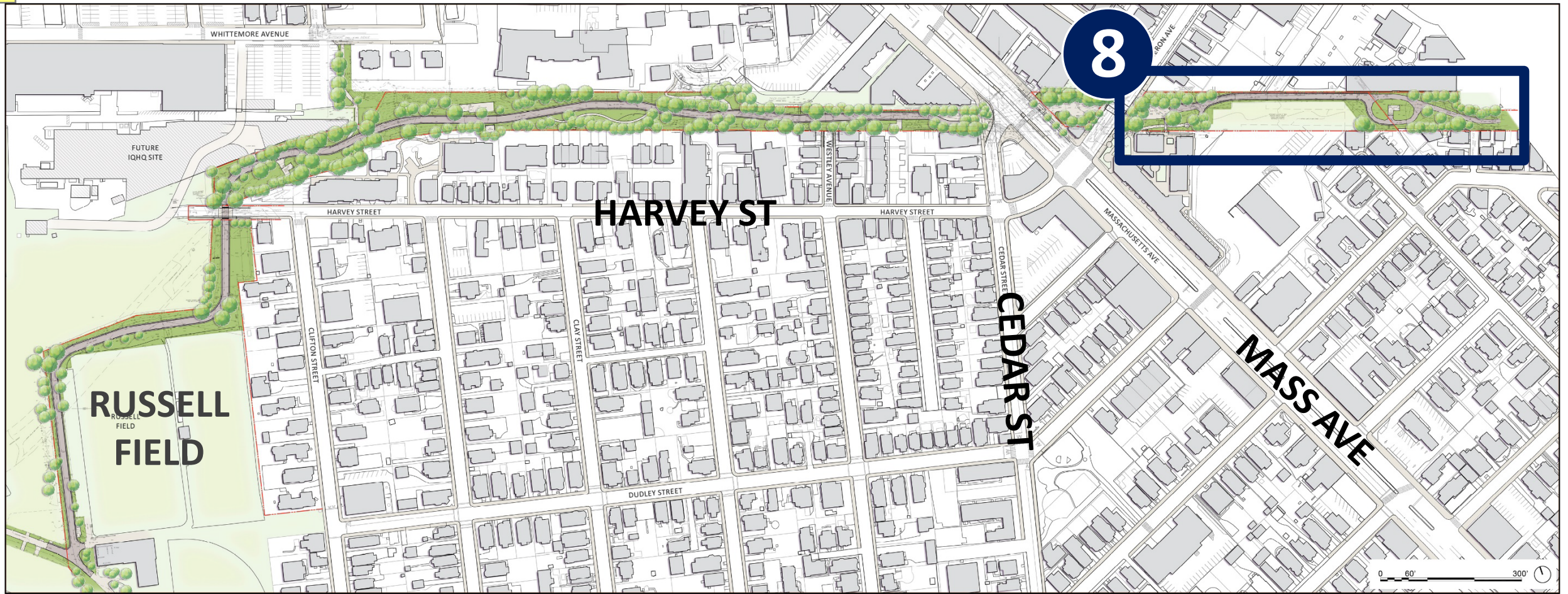
7. CAMP CAMERON

Removing low granite bollards and repurposing elsewhere

Area reserved for artist bench – Matthew Mazzotta

Social seating, café tables with chairs

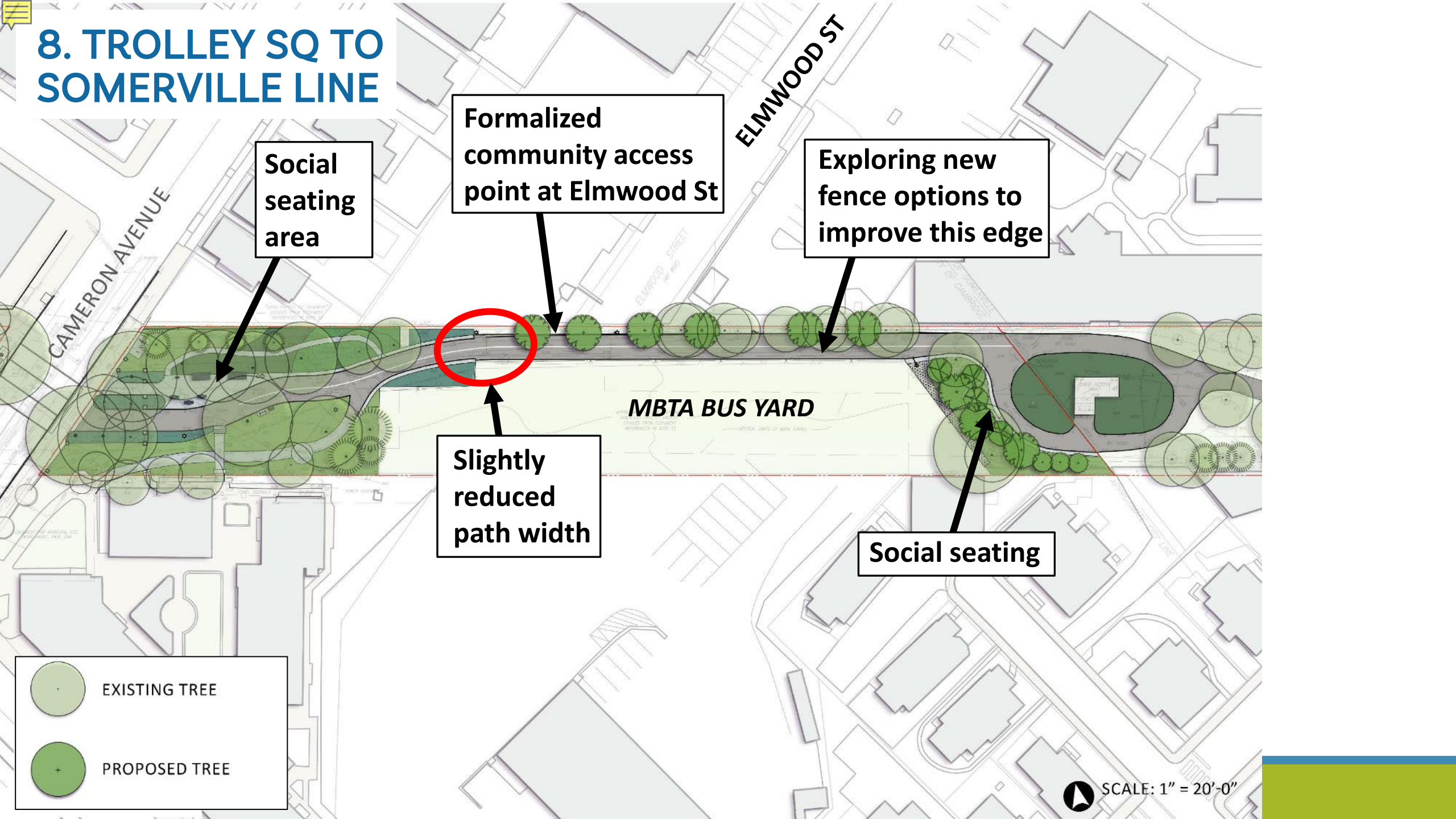




8. Trolley Square to Somerville line



8. TROLLEY SQ TO SOMERVILLE LINE



Social seating area

Formalized community access point at Elmwood St

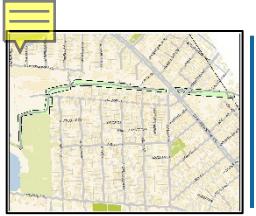
Exploring new fence options to improve this edge

Slightly reduced path width

Social seating

EXISTING TREE

PROPOSED TREE



TREES

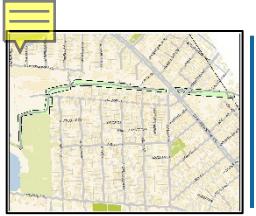
Top Priority is to Maintain Healthy & Mature Canopy

➤ Proposed removals include:

Location	# of Removals	Caliper Inches	Reasoning	Species
Russell Field Area	1	6"	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Too close to widened path• Transplanting unlikely to be successful due to existing slope where tree is planted	Red Maple
Tyler Court to Cedar Street	5	12" x 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Poor condition• Hollow, signs of rot and decay	Cherry



A decaying Cherry tree planned for removal



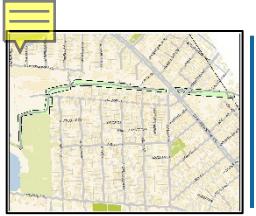
PROPOSED PLANTING PLAN

Top Priority is to Add Additional Tree Canopy

- We estimate that we'll plant between 120 and 150 trees as part of the Linear Park redesign process
- That's roughly 200-300 new caliper inches



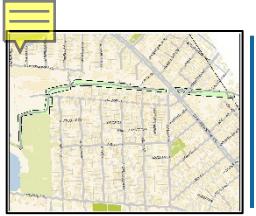
Photo showing a Miyawaki forest in Danehy Park



NEXT STEPS

Additional Ways to Engage

- Tabling event between Russell Field and Harvey Street on Saturday, June 17, 10am - noon
- Comment on project web page at: camb.ma/linearpark
- In-person open house event in November or December
- Construction documents out to bid in January 2024
- Plans for Linear Park closures, temporary path detours



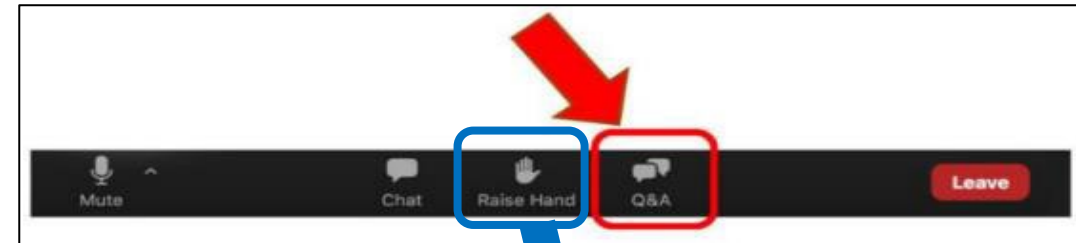
Q and A

Public Input

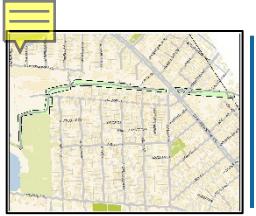
- At the bottom center of the Zoom window:
 - Use the “Q&A” button to submit written questions and comments during the presentation
 - Use the “Raise Hand” button to request to speak at the end of the presentation
 - We will unmute you
 - You’ll have 2 minutes to speak your comments and ask questions at the end of the presentation
- **Technical support** – Bill Deignan / wdeignan@cambridgema.gov

Camb.ma/LinearPark

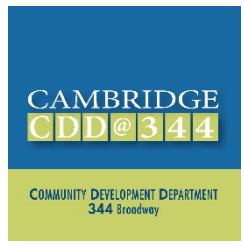
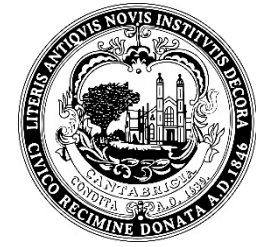
“Q&A” to submit typed questions & comments



“Raise Hand” to speak questions & comments



THANK YOU



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Charlie Creagh, AICP
Transportation Project Planner
ccreagh@cambridgema.gov

Gary Chan
Neighborhood Planner
gchan@cambridgema.gov

Bill Deignan
Transportation Program Manager
wdeignan@cambridgema.gov

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Kevin Beuttell
Supervising Landscape Architect
kbeuttell@cambridgema.gov

TRAFFIC, PARKING & TRANSPORTATION

Stephen Meuse, PE
Street Design Project Manager
smeuse@cambridgema.gov