Getting to Know Zoom

For Zoom-related questions reach out to Drew Kane via chat or email dkane@cambridgema.gov

If you’re having connectivity issues, call in at 929-436-2866
Meeting ID: 871 1772 7531

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.

If you require closed captioning for the breakout session, please raise your hand or send a private chat message to the Hosts.
Agenda

1. Our Process
2. What We’ve Heard So Far
3. What is a Community Vision?
4. Visioning Activities
5. Next Steps
Our Process
Open Space Planning Process

- Inventory & Needs Assessment
- Vision & Goal Setting
- Strategy Development

Community Engagement & Feedback

We are here!
Parks and open spaces are a key part of the City’s infrastructure for maintaining and increasing quality of life.
Community Core Values

- Livability
- Diversity and Equity
- Economic Opportunity
- Sustainability and Resilience
- Community Health and Well-Being
- Learning
What We’ve Heard So Far
Community Engagement So Far

- *Tell Us How You Use Parks* online survey *(still open for responses!)*
- Kickoff Community Meeting
- Community Core Values and Priorities Community Discussion
- *Community Values and Priorities* online survey

- Presenting to Neighborhood Groups, Advisory Boards and Committees, and Other Groups *(reach out to us!)*
- Virtual Office Hours
Who We’ve Reached

Age

Survey 1 (296 responses)
Survey 2 (133 responses)

- Under 18: 0% (Survey 1), 0% (Survey 2)
- 18-24: 1% (Survey 1), 3% (Survey 2)
- 25-34: 19% (Survey 1), 23% (Survey 2)
- 35-44: 20% (Survey 1), 26% (Survey 2)
- 45-54: 18% (Survey 1), 17% (Survey 2)
- 55-64: 14% (Survey 1), 14% (Survey 2)
- 65-74: 19% (Survey 1), 15% (Survey 2)
- 75+: 9% (Survey 1), 3% (Survey 2)
Who We’ve Reached

Race & Ethnicity

- Survey 1 (284 responses)
- Survey 2 (135 responses)
Who We’ve Reached

Neighborhood

Survey 1 (292 responses)
Survey 2 (134 responses)
What are the most important priorities for our parks and open space?

It is important for people to live within walking distance of parks and open spaces.

It is important for parks and open spaces to be accessible without needing to drive.

It is important for parks and open spaces to provide shade or protection from heat.

It is important for parks and open spaces to be accessible to users of all abilities.
What is your favorite park in Cambridge?
What do you like most about that park?

Danehy Park

“Size, variability, diversity of folks who use it.”

Fresh Pond

“The beautiful always changing scenery.”

Cambridge Common

“It beautifully serves many uses and its spaciousness allows one to view a great expanse of the sky.”
Which urban park(s) are particularly memorable to you?

- Rittenhouse Square, Philadelphia, PA
- Central Park, New York City, NY
- Lincoln Park, Somerville, MA
Are there topics or issues you'd be interested in learning about or discussing?

“...in light of ongoing concerns about our city and climate, we must preserve and add to these spaces at all costs.”

“Cambridge is an urban space, which can handle more density and people, and we need to find homes for many, many residents. Open space should not take priority over that.”

“...Not all kids want to play football, baseball, soccer and lacrosse. Open spaces and parks offering less intensive activities are also of critical importance. Keep a balance.”

“...Keep integrating elements that encourage natural curiosity, active engagement with nature, play, relaxation, exercise, and beauty on all sensory levels. visual, physical, social... you get the idea!”

“I think it's important to have a plan for how to keep parks and open spaces clean and well-maintained...”
Are there topics or issues you'd be interested in learning about or discussing?

“...Please think about how our open spaces could encourage more interaction, particularly for intergenerational encounter and provide older people with more social engagement....”

“I'd be interested in learning more about plans to make the playgrounds and parks more accessible.”

“Bring more LIFE to all parks. When I walk in Cambridge I like to walk through the different parks. Seeing people there is important. Bring in the arts!”

“How can open spaces (both in quality and quantity) be equitably distributed across the City”

“I’d like to see reading groups under trees in the park. Meeting for discussions for adults at park tables.”

“More than the physical improvements of parks, I will be interested in the different engagement process and new community activities proposals around the parks.”
What Is A Community Vision?
What is a Community Vision?

• Both a process and a statement
• **Process:** Discover the future we want. What does the community want our parks and open spaces to be like in 7 – 10 years?
• **Statement:** The vision statement is then used to guide the planning process.

“(In 2030,) Cambridge is a forward-thinking, welcoming, and diverse city. We enjoy a high quality of life and thrive in a sustainable, inclusive, and connected community.”

- Envision Cambridge
We are here!

Inventory & Needs Assessment → Vision & Goal Setting → Strategy Development → Open Space Plan

Community Engagement & Feedback
PARKS & OPEN SPACE VISION

Visioning forms our vision...

Vision & Goal Setting
Visioning forms our vision...

...and our vision guides the planning process.
What is YOUR vision?

What would our parks and open spaces be like if you could make them any way you wanted?
Visioning - Brainstorm
Multiple ways to participate

1. Go to **www.menti.com** and enter the code **4731 3285** or check the chat for link

2. Use the **Chat** feature in Zoom to submit responses to everyone, or just the hosts
Mentimeter How-To

1. Log in
   Go to www.menti.com and enter the code 4731 3285

2. Share your ideas

3. See everyone's ideas

![Images of Mentimeter app screens showing the log in process, sharing ideas, and viewing results.]
Multiple ways to participate

1. Go to **www.menti.com** and enter the code **4731 3285**

2. Use the **Chat** feature in Zoom to submit responses to everyone, or just the hosts
Our Parks, Our Plan Visioning Activity
Imagine what our parks and open spaces would be like if you could make them any way you wanted.
Now imagine you're visiting an ideal single park or open space
What are you doing?

- hanging out with friends
- coffee
- people watching
- picnicking
- taking photos
- activities for all ages
- observing nature
- meeting friends
- sports
- observing under shade trees
- napping under the tree
- enjoying nature
- reading
- concert
- hanging out with dog
- exercising
- laughing
- recharging
- walking in nature
- socializing
- meditating
- with nature
- eating or drinking
- playing with dog
- not sunburning
- appreciating wildlife
- sitting with friend
- enjoying nature
- enjoying seasonal plantings
- enjoying listening
- enjoying fresh air
- enjoying the outdoors
How do you get there?
Who are you with?

- family
- friends
- alone
- family members
- community
- scientists
- met a stranger
- in 10 years
- grandchildren
- meet new people at park
- my grandson
- neighbor
- my dog
- my partner
- colleagues
- my friends
- team
- neighbors
- audience
- my son or daughter-in-law
- organizations
- students in grade 4 and 5
- with friends
- children and adults
- community
- children
- my wife
- my kids
- robots
- nature
What do you see?

trees

nature

birds
ingsects

places to sit

smiles

water

native plants

great design

all ages of people

great design

lawn and flowers

animals

golf pickel ball

play equipment

new activities

water natural or feature

trees and native flowers

trees and plants

lawn or field

great design

happy ness

food

happiness

canopy

canopy

bushes

trees and bushes

trees and native flowers

well-maintained space

good design

grass field

many trees

people

birds and deer

kids playing

many trees

playground areas

messy nature

a lush tree canopy

arboretum of trees

migratory songbirds

gigantic freakin' turtle

pollinator gardens

native species

benches

swimming in the river

clear signage

youth sports

no astroturf
What do you hear?

- birds
- water
- music
- laughter
- quiet
- less traffic
- live music
- insects
- breeze
- people laughing
- movement of trees
- happy voices
- not cars
- conversations
- native bumble bee species
- children's voices
- not planes
- birds and water burbling
- no cars or hvac equip
- people chatting
- children playing
- political rally
- nature
- silence
- kids
- kids laughing
- conversation
- children
- people playing
- joy
- playing
- chatting
- wind
Thank you!
Visioning – Group Discussions
What is YOUR vision?

What would our parks and open spaces be like if you could make them any way you wanted?
Group Discussion Guidelines

• Show respect to all that participate
• Embrace diverse points of view
• Avoid debates and interruptions
• Listen to understand, not to respond
• Do not engage in personal attacks
• All stereotyping and hateful comments are not tolerated
Next Steps
What's Next

- Inventory & Needs Assessment
- Vision & Goal Setting
- Strategy Development

We are here!

Community Engagement & Feedback

Open Space Plan
How you can be involved

• Keep the discussion going:
  • Mentimeter Link: www.menti.com/t48j77ynb1
  • Office hours – signup link on the project page
  • Survey 3 Park Uses and Activities will be launched in early April

• Sign up for email updates

• For more information:
  • Visit cambridgema.gov/openspaceplan
  • Contact Gary Chan at gchan@cambridgema.gov