COMMUNITY TALKS AT CARR PARK
8/29/21, 8/30/21, 9/1/21, and 9/3/21

- We started the design process with conversations in the park to get community input about concerns, desires, how the park gets used, and ways people would like to use the park.
- People participated in a sticker voting exercise on boards showing different design ideas.

SCHEMATIC DESIGN DISCUSSIONS AT THE PARK
9/29/21, 10/8/21, and 10/11/21

- We shared 3 schematic design concepts at Carr Park, at different times and on different days. We listened to people’s ideas for the park, and got feedback about the design concepts.
- People participated in a drawing design activity for what they hoped for in Carr Park.
- At each event, we spoke to an average of 25-50 people of many ages and backgrounds.

COMMUNITY GROUP MEETINGS
October-November 2021

- We got specific feedback from local community groups, including the Medford Family Network play group, the Medford Youth Center after school program at the Malden YMCA, a representative of Greater Boston New England Mountain Biking Association (NEMBA), and the Medford community pickleball group.
- We also spoke to representatives from Medford’s Parking Commission, Conservation Commission, the Commission for Persons With Disabilities, the Police Department, and the Department of Public Works.

SURVEYING EXISTING CONDITIONS
September-November 2021

- A full existing conditions survey was conducted to accurately map property lines, limits of the wetlands in the park, existing tree locations and size, utility infrastructure, built elements, and topography of the park.
- Test pits were dug to examine the park’s subsurface conditions, including soil type and classification, and depth to the water table. Much of the fields are built on about 8’ of urban fill—large stones, assorted soil, and some debris like concrete slabs. In one pit there was peat from a historic wetland on the site...

SCHEMATIC DESIGN DISCUSSIONS AT CITY-WIDE EVENTS
Mystic River Celebration (9/25/21), Oktoberfest (10/2/21), and Harvest Your Energy Festival (10/16/21)

- We shared the 3 schematic design concepts at City-wide events to get input from the community at large.
- Similar to the discussions at the park, we had sticker voting exercises, a design drawing activity, and engaged in many one-on-one conversations about the park design.

ONLINE SURVEY #1
8/29/21-9/7/21

297 SURVEY RESPONSES

- Many respondents live within walking distance of the park, and say they use it frequently.
- The loop path at the park was the most popular feature among all respondents.
- Many were concerned about nighttime safety and the current condition of the playground, the courts, and the walking path.
- Basketball is one of the most popular activities at the park.

ONLINE SURVEY #2
10/5-10/18

302 SURVEY RESPONSES

- In addition to a new playground, there was strong support to include activities for teens like swings, skateboarding, obstacle courses, parkour-style equipment, and a mountain bike pump track.
- Many survey respondents were enthusiastic about trails and active programming in the woodland areas.
- People supported both the idea of separated traditional and nature play, and the concept of a larger combined play area.
- Over 70% of people supported an off-leash dog area of some kind.

NEXT STEPS FOR DESIGN
2021-2023

- CBA will finalize the Vision Plan and assemble a report that documents the Vision Plan process, the preferred Vision Plan, a preliminary cost estimate, permitting requirements, funding/grant opportunities and recommendations for construction.
- The City of Medford will work to secure grants and funding for construction.
- Once construction funding is secured for part or all of the project, the City will contract for construction phasing and/or documents. These documents will refine the design and detail how the park needs to be built to meet industry/regulated standards and the City’s maintenance capabilities.
- The project will undergo review and approval with local regulatory bodies, and then go out to public bid.

DESIGN REVEAL IN THE PARK
November 13, 2021

Today, you can:

- Review a preferred design that was generated in response to the community’s feedback and concerns.
- Walk a rough layout of the site’s proposed features. You can get a better idea of how the spaces relate to each other, how big they would be, and where proposed features would be located.
- Check out the illustrative perspectives, which give you a bird’s eye view of the preferred plan.
- Intensified is participating in stewardship or maintenance of the park now, or in the future? Sign up for some of the suggested ideas or proposal your own!

RENOVATING CARR PARK
2023 and Beyond

- The park’s reconstruction may happen in phases to meet available funding.

DESIGN PROCESS AND FEEDBACK

Today, you can:

- For Carr Park: Visit the park and being so receptive to feedback in the process!
- “Thank you for redesigning the park and being so receptive to feedback in the process!”
- “I feel the most helpful would be shade and water!”
- “I would love to see community events get the park!”
- “It would be wonderful to take advantage of the woods...”
- “Teenagers here need a place to be comfortable, to gather and hang out.”
- “A nature play area would be FANTASTIC for the kids.”
- “Sustainability is key!”
- “Thank you for redesigning the park and being so receptive to feedback in the process!”

Follow Us Online!
medfordenergy.org/greenacranparkvisionplan
Questions?
ocd@medford-ma.gov
781-393-2480

CARR PARK VISION PLAN

- Visit the park and being so receptive to feedback in the process!
- “Thank you for redesigning the park and being so receptive to feedback in the process!”
- “I feel the most helpful would be shade and water!”
- “I would love to see community events get the park!”
- “It would be wonderful to take advantage of the woods...”
- “Teenagers here need a place to be comfortable, to gather and hang out.”
- “A nature play area would be FANTASTIC for the kids.”
- “Sustainability is key!”
- “Thank you for redesigning the park and being so receptive to feedback in the process!”

Follow Us Online!
medfordenergy.org/greenacranparkvisionplan
Questions?
ocd@medford-ma.gov
781-393-2480

CARR PARK VISION PLAN

- Visit the park and being so receptive to feedback in the process!
- “Thank you for redesigning the park and being so receptive to feedback in the process!”
- “I feel the most helpful would be shade and water!”
- “I would love to see community events get the park!”
- “It would be wonderful to take advantage of the woods...”
- “Teenagers here need a place to be comfortable, to gather and hang out.”
- “A nature play area would be FANTASTIC for the kids.”
- “Sustainability is key!”
- “Thank you for redesigning the park and being so receptive to feedback in the process!”

Follow Us Online!
medfordenergy.org/greenacranparkvisionplan
Questions?
ocd@medford-ma.gov
781-393-2480

CARR PARK VISION PLAN

- Visit the park and being so receptive to feedback in the process!
- “Thank you for redesigning the park and being so receptive to feedback in the process!”
- “I feel the most helpful would be shade and water!”
- “I would love to see community events get the park!”
- “It would be wonderful to take advantage of the woods...”
- “Teenagers here need a place to be comfortable, to gather and hang out.”
- “A nature play area would be FANTASTIC for the kids.”
- “Sustainability is key!”
- “Thank you for redesigning the park and being so receptive to feedback in the process!”

Follow Us Online!
medfordenergy.org/greenacranparkvisionplan
Questions?
ocd@medford-ma.gov
781-393-2480
Check out how your feedback shaped the Carr Park Vision Plan!

FEEDBACK FROM IN PERSON EVENTS AND CONVERSATIONS

- An average of about 30–40 people per event turned out to meet with the design team and City staff to discuss their preferences and ideas.
- There was strong support to keep 2 Little League fields at the park, which was also supported by the Park Commission. Most people preferred to keep a large open lawn area for football practice, frisbee, and other open-ended uses.
- Keeping play areas combined for easy monitoring was preferred by many parents. There was a general preference for combined traditional and natural play. Keeping the play area close to Winslow Ave makes it more accessible and less likely to be buggy or attract vandals.
- People strongly advocated for 2 basketball courts, including a covered court, and many suggested a half-court with adjustable hoops for younger children.
- Many people supported dedicated pickleball courts. Some preferred to keep a tennis court, some suggested reducing the number of pickleball courts, and some suggested combining the courts to have shared strung. There are 28 dedicated tennis courts in the city, but no dedicated pickleball courts. Four pickleball courts take up about the same amount of space as one tennis court.
- There was lots of support for the inclusion of shade trees, a shade structure, and a water play feature.
- People strongly supported universal accessibility and inclusivity throughout the park.

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

ROUND ONE

- People were generally very vocal about environmental and climate concerns, expressing interest in sustainable park elements such as native plants, pollinator habitats, permeable paving, natural materials, rain gardens, and the development of forest management strategies.
- Some people were concerned about potential conflicts if the off-leash dog area were to be in close proximity to the playground or ball courts.

ROUND TWO

- There was a strong preference for skateboarding and obstacle courses/obstacle course activities to be incorporated into the plan, particularly among people under age 20.
- People advocated for flexible open lawn or plaza space, and multi-use functions of paved court space.

PREFERRED DESIGN

- A large majority of people favored a water feature with ground-level water sprays in a plaza/space that can be used for other purposes and open lawn areas during the summertime season.
- Periodic use of paved courts or parking lot for street hockey.

FEEDBACK HIGHLIGHTS FROM ONLINE SURVEY #2

- There were 352 responses to the online survey.
  - 15% under the age of 20
  - 7% ages 21–29
  - 31% ages 31–40
  - 25% ages 41–50
  - 20% ages 51+
- People gave feedback on the most popular design elements and concepts/park programs, mentioning considerations for the courts and fields, corridors for the playground and nature play, the woodland area, water play, off-leash, dogs, and teen-centered spaces.
- There was strong support to keep 2 Little League fields at the park, which was also supported by the Park Commission. Most people preferred to keep a large open lawn area for football practice, frisbee, and other open-ended uses.

COMMON CONCERNS WE HEARD ABOUT PROPOSED SCHEMATIC DESIGN CONCEPTS A,B,C

1. Environmentally-related concerns for use of wooded areas: mosquitoes, ticks, poison ivy, and wildlife (including coyotes)
2. Some people thought that a viewing platform would invite vandalism and shared that the wetland doesn’t offer opportunities for wildlife observation throughout the year

TOP CONCERNS

1. Environmentally-related concerns for use of wooded areas: mosquitoes, ticks, poison ivy, and wildlife (including coyotes)
2. Park maintenance, particularly sports fields, courts, paths, and a potential water play feature
3. Nighttime safety concerns, especially in the woodland area of the park. Many suggested lighting throughout the park, and some suggested installing security cameras.

SECONDARY CONCERNS

1. Some people were concerned about potential conflicts if the off-leash dog area were to be in close proximity to the playground or ball courts.
2. Some people thought that a viewing platform would invite vandalism and shared that the wetland doesn’t offer opportunities for wildlife observation throughout the year.
3. Management, use, and maintenance of a proposed community garden.
4. Some people were concerned about a skateboarding area because of personal risk and required maintenance.

“The new Carr Park is going to be with us for many decades, let’s make it awesome.”

-medfordenergy.org/gogreen/carr-park-vision-plan/

Follow Us Online!

Questions?

medfordenergy.org/gogreen/carr-park-vision-plan

781-393-2480

medfordenergy.org/gogreen/carr-park-vision-plan

oco@medford-ma.gov

medfordenergy.org/gogreen/carr-park-vision-plan

781-393-2480

medfordenergy.org/gogreen/carr-park-vision-plan

oco@medford-ma.gov

medfordenergy.org/gogreen/carr-park-vision-plan

781-393-2480

medfordenergy.org/gogreen/carr-park-vision-plan

oco@medford-ma.gov

medfordenergy.org/gogreen/carr-park-vision-plan

781-393-2480

medfordenergy.org/gogreen/carr-park-vision-plan

oco@medford-ma.gov

medfordenergy.org/gogreen/carr-park-vision-plan

781-393-2480

medfordenergy.org/gogreen/carr-park-vision-plan

oco@medford-ma.gov

medfordenergy.org/gogreen/carr-park-vision-plan

781-393-2480