

# PATTERSON PARK MASTER PLAN

Collaborative Stewardship — Sustaining a Vibrant Public Landscape

June 14, 2016



STEPHANIE  
RAWLINGS-BLAKE  
MAYOR



BALTIMORE CITY  
RECREATION & PARKS

ERNEST W.  
BURKEEN, JR.  
DIRECTOR



**Adopted by the Commission on Historic and Architectural Preservation:**

March 8, 2016

Consult CHAP staff on all projects in Patterson Park, including those that aren't obviously historic in nature, such as grading, tree planting plans, planning the design of the Habitat Core, since these activities may impact historic landscapes and archeological resources (both known and undiscovered) in the park.

**Adopted by the City Planning Commission:**

March 31, 2016

Adoption of the plan will serve to repeal and replace the 1998 Master Plan for Patterson Park.

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# PATTERSON PARK MASTER PLAN

Baltimore City Recreation & Parks

June 14, 2016



STEPHANIE  
RAWLINGS-BLAKE  
MAYOR



BALTIMORE CITY  
RECREATION & PARKS

Prepared by:

**MAHAN RYKIEL**  
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE  
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Baltimore, MD 21211 410.235.6001




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# Letters of Support

Baltimore City Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation (CHAP) // March 9, 2016

Baltimore City Planning Commission // April 5, 2016

Baltimore City Recreation and Parks Advisory Board // April 11, 2016

FROM	NAME & TITLE	Eric Holcomb, Executive Director CHAP	CITY of BALTIMORE <b>MEMO</b>	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation 417 EAST FAYETTE STREET, 8 <sup>TH</sup> FLOOR		
	SUBJECT	Patterson Park Master Plan		

DATE: March 9, 2016

TO Wilbur "Bill" Cunningham, Chair  
Baltimore City Planning Commission  
417 E. Fayette, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor


At its regular meeting of March 8, 2016, the Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation reviewed the Patterson Park Master Plan.

In its consideration of the Master Plan, the Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation reviewed the attached staff report and recommends approval of the Master Plan with the following amendment (8 members being present, 8 in favor):

- CHAP must be a consulting party (as required under Article Six §8-13 of the Baltimore City code) on all projects in Patterson Park, even those that aren't obviously historic in nature, such as grading, tree-planting plans, planning the design of the Habitat Core, etc. as these activities may impact historic landscapes and archaeological resources (both known and undiscovered) in the park.***

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Eric Holcomb, Executive Director, at 410-396-4866.

Baltimore City Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation (CHAP) Support Letter

<b>FROM</b>	NAME & TITLE	THOMAS J. STOSUR, DIRECTOR	CITY OF BALTIMORE <b>MEMO</b>	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING 417 EAST FAYETTE STREET, 8TH FLOOR		
	SUBJECT	PATTERSON PARK MASTER PLAN		

**TO** Mr. Ernest Burkeen, Jr., Director  
 Department of Recreations and Parks  
 3001 East Drive  
 Baltimore, MD 21217

DATE: April 5, 2016

This is to inform you that on March 31, 2016 the Baltimore City Planning Commission amended and adopted the Patterson Park Master Plan. This plan is to be used as a guide plan for the future development and renovation of Patterson Park. A Copy of the staff report with the approved amendments from Planning Commission and the Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation is attached.

Many thanks to you and the members of your agency who worked so diligently to bring this plan to completion.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Kate Edwards of my staff at (410) 396-5934.

TJS/WYA/kpe

**Attachments**

- cc: The Honorable James Kraft, City Council Representative, 1<sup>st</sup> District  
 Ms. Kaliop Parthemou, Chief of Staff  
 Mr. Colin Tarbert, Deputy Mayor for Economic and Neighborhood Development  
 Mr. Leon Pinkett, Assistant Deputy Mayor for Economic and Neighborhood Development  
 The Honorable Rochelle "Rikki" Spector, Council Rep. to Planning Commission  
 Mr. William Vondrasek, Department of Recreation and Parks  
 Ms. Kate Brower, Department of Recreation and Parks



Stephanie Rawlings-Blake  
Mayor

**PLANNING COMMISSION**

Wilbur E. "Bill" Cunningham, Chairman

**STAFF REPORT**



Thomas J. Stosur  
Director

March 31, 2016

**REQUEST:** Patterson Park Master Plan

**RECOMMENDATION:** Adoption with the following amendment:

Insert language into the 2015 Patterson Park Master Plan to clarify that adoption of this plan will serve to repeal and replace the 1998 Master Plan for Patterson Park.

**STAFF:** Kate Edwards

**PETITIONERS:** Department of Recreation and Parks

**OWNER:** Mayor and City Council – Department of Recreation and Parks.

**SITE/ GENERAL AREA**

Site Conditions: Patterson Park is located at 27 S. Patterson Park Avenue on the east side of Baltimore City. It is a 133-acre public park that features significant historic architecture, landscaping, recreational facilities, and archaeological resources. Patterson Park is Baltimore's most intensively used large park, serving as a venue for Baltimore City festivals, markets, and other events. The park includes numerous amenities including: a swimming pool, ball courts and fields, a dog park, a boat lake, an ice rink, a recreation center, the Pagoda, and a community garden. The majority of the park land (112 acres) is bounded by East Baltimore Street to the north, Eastern Avenue to the south, South Patterson Park Avenue to the western edge, and South Linwood Avenue to the east. South Linwood Avenue separates this larger segment from the 20-acre Eastern Annex—serving as the annex's western edge, with the other boundaries including South Elwood Avenue to the east, East Pratt Street to the north, and Eastern Avenue to the south.

General Area: Patterson Park is surrounded by six densely-built row houses neighborhoods that are immediately adjacent to its borders: Patterson Place, Baltimore-Linwood (Patterson Park North and East), Highlandtown, Canton, Upper Fells Point, and Butchers Hill (according to Baltimore City's 2011 Neighborhood Statistical Area boundaries).

**HISTORY**

Patterson Park is the oldest park in Baltimore City, originally only 6 acres in size, donated by William Patterson in 1827 for a "Public Walk". The park grew over the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries to reach its present size in 1908. The park's design, landscape, and built environment have been shaped by historic events that occurred there and by different eras of park planning ideals. The western portion of the park is the most historic area, with many historic buildings, such as the

Pagoda, a Baltimore City Landmark, historic walking paths, and remnants of Roger's Bastion, a fortification that was the eastern line of land defense in the 1814 Battle of Baltimore during the War of 1812. The park was redesigned several times over its history to meet the contemporary best practices in park planning, such as the City Beautiful movement and the American Recreation movement.

#### CONFORMITY TO PLANS

The request conforms to the goals and objectives of the Baltimore City Comprehensive Master Plan, specifically PLAY Goal 3, Objective 1: Maintain a Well-managed System of Parks and Open Spaces. The request conforms to the goals and objectives of the Baltimore Sustainability Plan, specifically GREENING Goal 3: Provide safe, well-maintained public recreational space within ¼ mile of all residents.

#### ANALYSIS

The Department of Recreation and Parks has been systematically developing master plans for each of their major parks. The purpose of these plans is to provide long-range guidance for project implementation in the park. They have completed plans for Druid Hill, Wyman, Farring Baybrook, Carroll, Clifton and Herring Run Parks.

This Master Plan studies how the physical plan of Patterson Park can reflect and facilitate its mission and fulfill related community needs. It studies the Park's immediate and long-term physical, programming, and historic preservation needs. The final product is a road map that guides immediate renovations and additions to grounds, buildings, and infrastructure, as well as anticipated long-term park needs.

The Department of Recreation and Parks worked with a consultant, Mahan Rykiel, on the master planning process. The planning process actively involved six surrounding neighborhoods in addition to representatives from other nearby communities, City agencies, local organizations, and non-profits. The process included monthly steering committee meetings, three at-large public meetings, seasonal Park user questionnaires, focus groups, and online engagement.

The plan was reviewed and approved by the Baltimore Commission of Historical and Architectural Preservation with the following amendment: *Consult CHAP staff on all projects in Patterson Park, including those that aren't obviously historic in nature, such as grading, tree planting plans, planning the design of the Habitat Core, since these activities may impact historic landscapes and archeological resources (both known and undiscovered) in the park.*

Recommendations are categorized under five broad strategies:

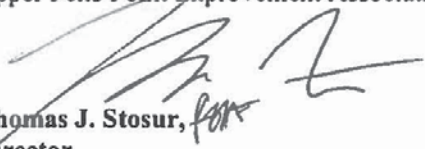
- Strategy I – Ecological at the Core: Systems, Performance, and Preference
- Strategy II – Protecting Assets: Maintenance, Enforcement, and Governance
- Strategy III – Big Moves, Significant Capital: Major Facilities and Their Relationships
- Strategy IV – Small Steps, Big Gains: Incremental Improvements
- Strategy V – Staging Success: Programs, Events, and Logistics

Staff finds that this Master Plan is sensitive to the preservation of the ecological, recreational and historic and architectural resources in the park, including buildings, landscapes, and archaeological sites.

Examples include:

- Designation of the western portion of the park, which retains significant historic integrity in landscape design, historic structures, and intact archaeological resources, as the "habitat core", with minimal new construction and landscape alteration. The eastern portion of the park will be the "active core", and will be the site of more active recreation, building construction, etc.
- Implement a maintenance strategy for buildings and structures in the park (Strategy II, pg. 46)
- Explore designation of the park as a Baltimore City Landmark, pursuant to City Council Bill 15-0511 (Strategy II, pg. 49)
- Construction of a new Recreation and Senior Center to be sensitive to historic character of Patterson Park, but not create an inauthentic "historic" appearance. (Strategy III, pg. 56)
- Enhance Boat Lake and Restore Promenade (Strategy III, pg. 60-61)
- Rehabilitation of historic structures, including the White House, Casino Building, Stables, Pagoda and Fountain (Strategy III, pg. 62-64)
- Continued utilization of Baltimore City standards for historic lighting in park (Strategy IV, pg. 66)
- Repair and enhance historic gateways and entrances into park and repair/reconstruct historic pathways using salvaged and historically-appropriate materials (Strategy IV, pg. 67-69)
- Add historical interpretative signage, including signage addressing archaeological resources, and self-guided historical trail paths (Strategy IV, pg. 70-71)
- Enhance tree and vegetation coverage, coordinated to ensure that key vistas and historic view sheds are retained and preserved. (Strategy IV, pg. 72-75)

**Community Notification:** Staff has notified Friends of Patterson Park, Banner Neighborhoods Community Corporation, Brewer's Hill Community Association, Southeast Community Development Corporation, Southeastern District Police Community Relations Council, C.A.R.E. Community Association, Canton Community Association, Highlandtown Community Association, Patterson Park Neighborhood Association, Butchers Hill Association, Inc., and Upper Fells Point Improvement Association.

  
Thomas J. Stosur, *for*  
Director

## CITY OF BALTIMORE

STEPHANIE RAWLINGS-BLAKE, Mayor



## DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS

ERNEST W. BURKEEN JR., Director  
 DR. RALPH W. E. JONES, JR. BUILDING  
 3001 East Drive - Druid Hill Park  
 Baltimore, Maryland 21217  
 410-396-6132

April 11, 2016

Wilbur Cunningham, Chair  
 Baltimore City Planning Commission  
 417 East Fayette Street, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
 Baltimore, MD 21202

Dear Mr. Cunningham:

On behalf of the Recreation and Parks Advisory Board, I want to express our strong support for the updated Patterson Park Master Plan. We hope the Planning Commission will approve the plan for adoption.

The last master plan for Patterson Park was completed in 1998. At that time, critical park needs focused on capital infrastructure, creating a safe environment and encouraging park use. The 1998 plan has successfully guided the creation of the Friends of Patterson Park, investment of over 12 million dollars in capital improvements by the City and a significant increase in park usage.

During 2015, the park was so well used, that issues of management, maintenance, health and ecology, vehicular and pedestrian circulation, plus funding are key. The new plan looks at where we go from here.

Development of the plan involved an intensive 18-month community-based process, which included an advisory Steering Committee, an on-line snapshot survey, a year-long bilingual, statistical park user survey, 27 targeted focus group meetings with park user groups (i.e., dog park, ice rink, recreation center, pool patrons) to get at deeper park issues and three large public forums. Additionally, a major effort was made to reach out to resident and user groups, who haven't traditionally participated in these types of planning issues, for their valuable feedback.

The Recreation and Parks Advisory Board feels that this plan sets forth an ambitious and forward thinking approach to the future of Patterson Park, both in terms of capital improvements- both short and long term- as well as operational, management and programmatic enhancements. Our focus is to compliment Patterson Park's unique ecological resources with quality park user experiences.

 Printed on recycled paper with environmentally friendly soy based ink.

We look forward to supporting implementation of the plan.

Sincerely,

Ernest W. Burkeen, Jr.  
 Director and Co-Chair, Recreation and Parks Advisory Board

Cc: Howard Aylesworth, Co-Chair, Recreation and Parks Advisory Board



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# Acknowledgements

## CITY OF BALTIMORE, MD

### Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks

Tim Almaguer, *Contract Services Specialist*

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Ernest W. Burkeen, Jr. *Director*

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Melissa Grim, *Chief Horticulturalist*

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Harold McCray, *City Farms Coordinator*

Jaleel Nash, *Urban Forester, Forestry Division*

Ronald Rudisill, *Park District Manager, Clifton Division*

Gennady Schwartz, *Former Chief Capital Development and Planning Division*

Francesca Spero, *Chief, Permits and Special Events*

Darryl Sutton, *Director, Aquatics*

Paul Taylor, *Chief, Capital Development and Planning*

William "Bill" Vondrasek, *Deputy Director*

Robert "Bob" Wall, *Bureau Chief of Recreation Division*

Cortney Weinstock, *Park Administrator, Permits Office*

### Department of Public Works

Mark Cameron, *Surface Water Management Division, Watershed Liaison*

Kim Grove, *Environmental Compliance and Laboratory Services, Chief*

Art Shapiro, *Office of Engineering and Construction, Chief*

## STEERING COMMITTEE

### Sub-Committee Chairs

Zainab Nejati & John Mariani, *Capital Improvements Committee*

Jordan Nott & Greg Walsh, *Finance Committee*

Mary Roby, Nancy Supik & Scott Richmond, *Governance and Maintenance Committee*

Jenn Aiosa & Susie Creamer, *Natural Resources/Ecology Committee*

Beth Braun & Katie Long, *Programming/Events Committee*

**General Members**

Jeffrey Buchheit, *Executive Director, Baltimore National Heritage Area*  
 Ann Carmody, *Patterson Place*  
 Pastor Gary Dittman, *Amazing Grace Lutheran Church*  
 Maritza Dominguez, *Living Classrooms Foundation*  
 Sean Flanagan, *Canton Community Associations*  
 Cynthia Gross, *C.A.R.E. Community Association*  
 David Harris, *McElderry Park Community Association*  
 Michael Hodeen, *Upper Fells Point Improvement Association*  
 Steve Hoffman, *Upper Fells Point Improvement Association*  
 Councilman Jim Kraft, *City Council District 1*  
 Chad Kramer, *Principal, Patterson Park Public Charter School*  
 Joe Manfre, *Hampstead Hill*  
 Cormac McCarty, *Butchers Hill*  
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 Mark Parker, *Highlandtown*  
 Mauro and Nestor Peralta *(Soccer/Volleyball)*  
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 Valerie Rupp, *Parks & People Foundation*

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 Rosalee Velenovsky, *Health Department*

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 Yijing He, *Graduate Student, Master of Community Planning Candidate, School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation*

**ECOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA, EARTH STEWARDSHIP INITIATIVE**

Alex Felson

# Executive Summary

Patterson Park is Baltimore's oldest and most intensively used large park, and is an outstanding example of 19th century park design. However, to ensure the Park is enjoyed for centuries to come, it must adopt a vision that is well-defined, yet flexible.

## MISSION STATEMENT

The 2015 Patterson Park Master Plan will guide current and future public and private stewards in their planning for Patterson Park, identifying core values and establishing goals for focusing on action and funding.

In 2014, to create a long-term vision for the Park, the Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks (BCRP) commissioned a Master Plan for Patterson Park which would build upon a 1998 Patterson Park Master Plan and a 2013 community working group established to discuss Park development and parking issues. A 37-member Steering Committee was created to guide the effort. The year-long planning process was inclusive and ambitious, and also focused. It progressed through three planning stages: engaging stakeholders, analyzing feedback, and envisioning the future.

## STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Planning for the Patterson Park Master Plan actively involved six surrounding neighborhoods in addition to representatives from other nearby communities, City agencies, local organizations, and non-profits. Opportunities to get involved were offered through monthly Steering Committee Meetings, three at-large public meetings, seasonal Park user questionnaires, focus groups, and digital engagement—using a project website, discussion forums, and an online survey. In total, this outreach effort was able to engage nearly 400 public meeting attendees, 27 focus group meetings, eight discussion forum participants, 819 seasonal survey participants, and 1,207 online survey respondents, among countless other individuals who stayed informed through project website traffic.

## ANALYZING FEEDBACK

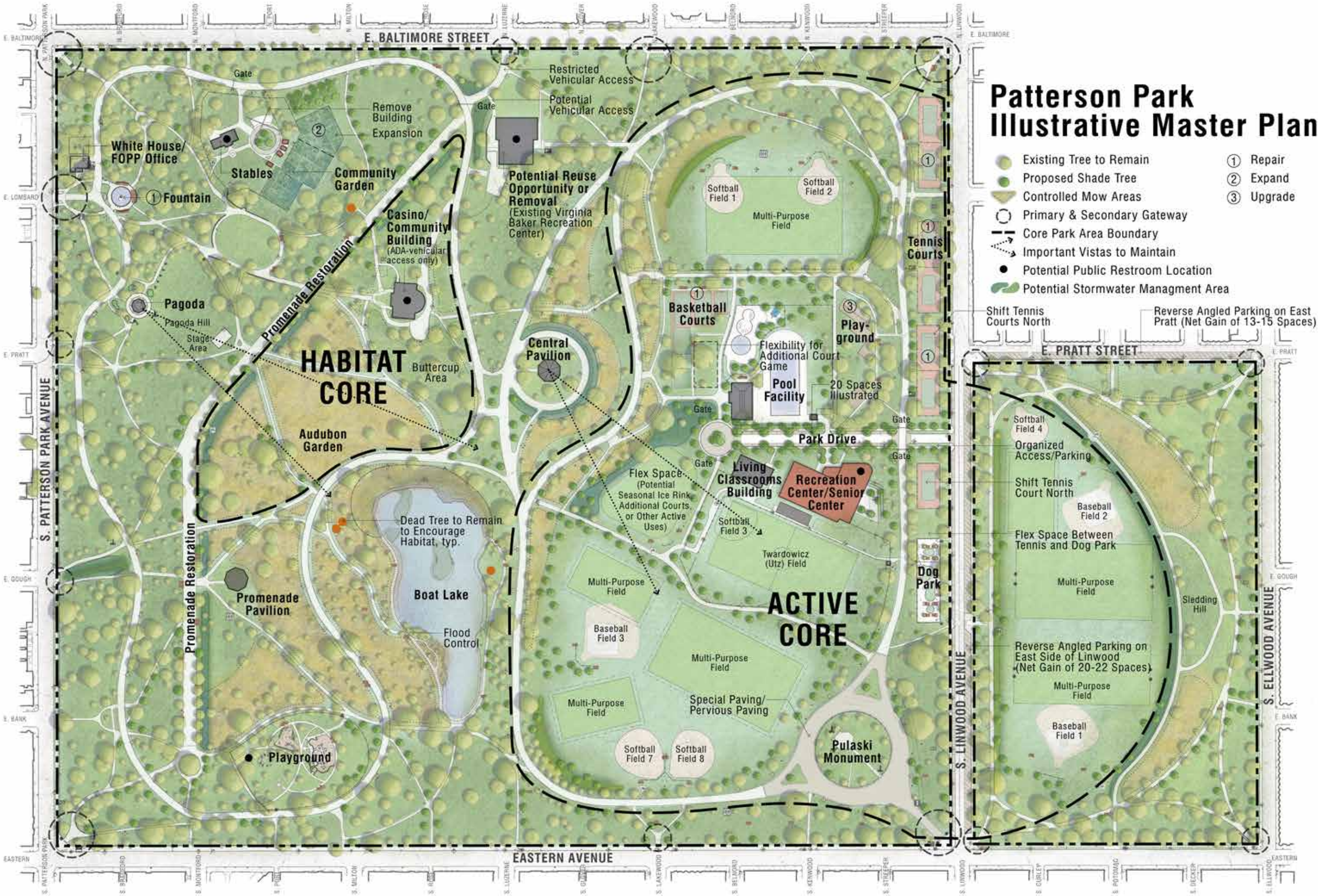
Through stakeholder engagement and additional research, this Plan was able to take direction. The analysis and assessment revealed, for instance, a strong appreciation among Park users for the Pagoda, Boat Lake, and the Park's landscape. The project team learned about a desire for improved maintenance and enforcement, despite the fact that maintenance was perceived as better in Patterson Park than in other City parks. Additionally, the project team better understood the intricacies of the need to balance passive and active uses in the Park. Key takeaways from the surveys include:

- » Park users travel from all around the city, but the most frequent users live within walking distance to the Park.
- » Park users include people with diverse demographic backgrounds; however, current socioeconomic issues, race, and safety present challenges to a fully integrated and welcoming park experience for all.
- » The most commonly cited reasons for visiting the Park include everyday activities like walking jogging, running, relaxing, and socializing.
- » Special events are major draws to the Park.
- » The Park landscape includes the most appreciated, well-used facilities.
- » Maintenance of Park facilities, enforcement of rules, and environmental performance are the most important priorities for many
- » Lighting, furnishings, trash cans, water fountains, restrooms, and pathway enhancements are commonly cited suggestions for improving the Park.

## Input and Recurring Themes

Some common sentiments were expressed and revealed during the stakeholder engagement process and throughout the project assessment phase. These themes, discussed on the following pages, helped shape the recommendations in this report.

# Patterson Park Illustrative Master Plan





### NATURE APPRECIATION

When visitors were asked what they most appreciated, Patterson Park’s landscape, terrain, and wildlife seemed to most capture their hearts. Patterson Park is indeed an oasis within Baltimore’s urban fabric. Patterson Park’s landscape—including the vistas capturing glimpses of city landmarks, the rolling hillsides, the ecological surprises found around the lake, and more—are what make Patterson Park a truly special place in the heart of Baltimore.

### HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

Patterson Park and its surrounding neighborhoods tell stories of a rich and significant history that not only shaped Baltimore City, but also contributed to the safety and endurance of our entire nation. As the Park grew, it became home to a few landmarks of its own. Many architecturally significant structures remain in the Park today, and are greatly appreciated by Park visitors. Less visible, but no less important, are nationally-significant archaeological resources related to the Battle of Baltimore in the War of 1812. The preservation of resources of particular significance should be considered.



### ACTIVE + PASSIVE USE

Many users of Patterson Park visit for the athletic amenities—ball courts, soccer fields, baseball diamonds, et al. These are hubs of activity, particularly during the warmer months.

But just as many users visit Patterson Park for passive recreation and leisurely visits. The continued balance of both active and passive uses must be carefully considered to ensure all users are welcome and comfortable in Patterson Park.

### CULTURE, COMMUNITY, + DIVERSITY

Patterson Park is utilized by a diverse collection of people who come from across the city and region to enjoy what the Park has to offer. Patterson Park is also a place where culture and heritage are celebrated during a number of festivals throughout the year.

This cultural respect and appreciation is key to Patterson Park’s success, and should be sustained and celebrated.



### PARTNERING ORGANIZATIONS

Many of Patterson Park’s current users visit, at least occasionally, as part of an organized group or activity. Whether a naturalist organization, a sport league, a youth group, a senior program, or one of many other programs, these organized activities play a large role in welcoming visitors to the Park and also in helping promote and care for Patterson Park. Moving forward, these organizations may be key partners for implementing this plan’s recommendations.

**PREFERRED TIMES TO VISIT**

When surveying visitors, it became clear that there were preferred times to visit Patterson Park. During the week, most people will visit in the afternoon or early evening, but the Park is mostly utilized during the weekend.

However, use varies by season, and visitation drops significantly during winter months. In order to encourage more year-round use, it may be beneficial to more actively program facilities and outdoor areas in the Park throughout the colder months.



**EVENTS + PROGRAMMING**

Large-scale festivals and events bring many visitors to Patterson Park. These cultural and ethnic festivals, markets, community fairs, parades, and special interest events help to elevate Patterson Park as a citywide destination. At the same time, there are concerns about overuse, and future programming should consider all potential impacts on the Park.



**ABUNDANCE OF MILLENNIALS**

The web survey revealed that nearly half of all respondents were “millennials;” at the same time, census data indicate that the area around Patterson Park is becoming increasingly younger. This is perhaps not surprising given that recent trends demonstrating more and more millennials are moving into downtown areas nationwide.

Some Park programs which are particularly popular with this population include social sports team leagues and the dog park.



**CARE + SECURITY**

While community input suggests that Patterson Park is better maintained, and also perceived as safer than other Baltimore City parks, many still suggested that care and safety could improve. Indeed, safety was often cited as a major concern, and was noted as a reason that people avoid visiting the Park, especially after dark.

At the same time, safety concerns were not exclusive to visits during off-peak hours, however; and ensuring the Park feels comfortable and cared for are important considerations for all future park projects.

**INCLUSIVE + WELCOMING FOR ALL**

Surveys, focus groups, and public meeting discussions revealed that some resident populations do not feel as welcome to visit Patterson Park. While this sentiment was experienced to some degree by all demographics, populations living further away from the park felt this to a higher degree.

Moving forward, Patterson Park must be inclusive and encourage positive visitor interaction by offering opportunities for people of varying ages, backgrounds, and interests.



## ENVISIONING THE FUTURE

The input and analysis had steered development of the Plan's identified strategies and recommendations. The Steering Committee, Baltimore City Recreation and Parks, and Mahan Rykiel Associates spent a considerable amount of time discussing and developing a concise vision for the Park and a set of core values for the Park. These statements, developed and adopted by the Steering Committee in addition to the Mission Statement, are outlined below and set the stage for the Master Plan strategies and specific recommendations described in Chapter Four.

### Vision

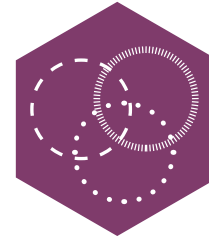
Patterson Park will be sustained as a public green space, healthy natural environment, and historic site, while providing opportunities for relaxation and recreation that contribute to the health and wellbeing of the community.

### Values

- » An environment that is essential to the quality of life of those in the many communities that surround it, while also welcoming visitors from across the city;
- » Restricted motor vehicular presence;
- » Walkability—both within the Park and also to and from it;
- » A celebrated historical context;
- » A commons that welcomes a wide range of users;
- » Green spaces and habitat areas;
- » A well-managed landscape;
- » A well-maintained landscape;
- » Safety for all Park users;
- » Government and community partnership;
- » Community events that bring neighbors together;
- » Facilities that provide an opportunity for healthful recreational activities; and
- » Multiple uses for spaces.

### Strategies & Recommendations

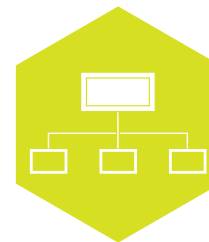
This Master Plan serves as a summary of input, analyses, and exercises that guided the development of five strategies and 43 recommendations for Patterson Park. Although the recommendations are organized within the five strategies, some recommendations may be implemented—either in part or in their entirety—as a component of a different strategy. Indeed, there is significant overlap, which is appropriate to an integrated master plan approach. The five strategies are summarized here.



#### Strategy I—Ecological at the Core: Systems, Performance, & Preference

Every successful park relies on the soil, water, plants, and animals within its boundaries. To ensure the long-term vitality of Patterson Park, it is essential to understand how these systems perform and how their social and ecological benefits can be maximized. Park-wide ecosystem monitoring and management protocols should be developed and deployed that balance the Park's role as a recreational, social, and ecological anchor for the city, its residents, and the broader urban and regional environment.

1. Ecological System Inventory
2. Ecosystem Performance Targets
3. Comprehensive Ecological Management Plan
4. Education & Interpretation



#### Strategy II—Protecting Assets: Maintenance, Enforcement, & Governance

Patterson Park is an important social, economic, and ecological asset. As such, its individual components should be maintained, rules of proper usage should be enforced, and a system of governance is needed to sustain the Park without exhausting the resources of any one entity or group.

1. Management & Governance Committee
2. Interim Organization Strategy
3. Park Leadership & Management Positions
4. Park Audit
5. Financial Plan
6. Asset Management Plan
7. Enforcement Plan
8. Safety Plan
9. Park Ranger Program
10. Project Design & Implementation
11. CHAP Designation

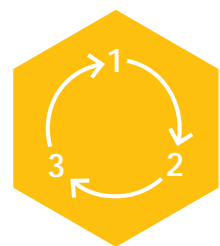




### Strategy III—Big Moves, Significant Capital: Major Facilities & Their Relationships

Significant capital projects—including their locations within the Park and their relationships to adjacent facilities and uses—will be transformative in how people use the Park and how park programming functions. Therefore, a comprehensive approach to capital projects should be adopted to preserve and strengthen the overall integrity of the Park.

1. Overall Vehicular Circulation & Parking
2. Active Core
3. Athletic Fields
4. Boat Lake
5. Promenade Restoration
6. Existing Structures: Re-purposing, Rehabilitation, & Removal
7. Fountain
8. Public Restrooms
9. Community Garden



### Strategy IV—Small Steps, Big Gains: Incremental Improvements

Small, incremental projects and improvements are timely investments that will ultimately have the most immediate, positive impact on Patterson Park and its stakeholders and they tend to serve as a starting point that sets the stage for implementing larger projects.

1. Lighting
2. Park Gateways, Entrances, & Perimeter
3. Walkway Pavement Removal and Repair
4. Site Elements
5. Signage & Wayfinding
6. Furnishings & Amenities
7. Landscape & Vegetation
8. Controlled-Mow Areas
9. Habitat Core
10. Water Management



### Strategy V—Staging Success: Programs, Events, & Logistics

Baltimore City Recreation and Parks, Friends of Patterson Park, and other partners have demonstrated that regularly-scheduled programming and events are critical to Patterson Park's success and to the quality of life in the surrounding neighborhoods. At the same time, it is important to recognize the carrying capacity of the Park and to maintain the right balance of activity without "over-programming" and burdening the Park's social and ecological resources.

1. Designated Event Spaces
2. Permitting
3. Event & Program Promotions
4. Programming
5. Café and Food
6. Off-leash Dog Areas and Hours
7. Bike Share Program
8. Transportation Alternatives: Shuttle Service, Bus Stops, & Temporary Valet
9. Community Petition for Residential Parking Permit

## IMPLEMENTATION

The strategies and recommendations summarized above and described in more detail throughout this Plan will be implemented incrementally over the next ten years, and beyond. This Plan, therefore, is a guiding, yet flexible document. In an implementation matrix (pp. 90-92), potential implementation partners and funding resources have been identified.

## SYNOPSIS

The outcome of the Patterson Park Master Planning process has been an inclusive and forward-thinking vision that reflects the needs of current and future users while preserving the unique qualities of the Park. With this Plan and the resources identified within it, Patterson Park can evolve and flourish to be enjoyed for many centuries to come, by many generations of diverse residents and visitors.

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## List of Acronyms

ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
BCF	Baltimore Community Foundation
BCPD	Baltimore City Police Department
BCRP	Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks
BESLTER	Baltimore Ecosystem Study Long-Term Ecological Research
BHAA	Baltimore National Heritage Area
BOPA	Baltimore Office of Promotion and Arts
CBT	Chesapeake Bay Trust
CDC	Community Development Corporation
CHAP	Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation
DOP	Department of Planning, Baltimore City
DOT	Department of Transportation, Baltimore City
DPW	Department of Public Works, Baltimore City
EBLO	Education Based Latino Outreach (EBLO)
ESA	Ecological Society of America
ESD	Environmental Site Design
ESI	Earth Stewardship Initiative
ESOL	English for Speakers of Other Languages
FMOPL	Friends of Maryland's Olmsted Parks and Landscapes
FoPP	Friends of Patterson Park
LEED	Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design
MRA	Mahan Rykiel Associates
MS4	Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System
MTA	Maryland Transit Authority
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NPDES	National Pollution Discharge Elimination Standards
NWF	National Wildlife Federation
P&P	Parks and People Foundation
PABC	Parking Authority of Baltimore City
PPAC	Patterson Park Audubon Center
PPPCS	Patterson Park Public Charter School
PTA	Parent-Teacher Association
RFP	Request for Proposals
SECDC	Southeast Community Development Corporation
SMART	Specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound
TMDL	Total Maximum Daily Load
UMD	University of Maryland

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# INTRODUCTION

# Chapter One // INTRODUCTION

## OVERVIEW

Patterson Park is a cherished community asset, vibrant ecological system, and valuable economic engine within the City of Baltimore. It is a rich cultural landscape and civic open space that is capable of serving multiple and overlapping uses, including a sustained social and ecological diversity. In this capacity, the Park provides direct and indirect services—both to humans and wildlife—in addition to serving as a venue for social exchange and community interaction, offering a wide range of opportunities for neighborhood, city, and regional visitors.

## PURPOSE AND NEED

In 2014, the Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks (BCRP) commissioned a Master Plan for Patterson Park which would build upon the 1998 Patterson Park Master Plan and a 2013 community working group established to discuss park development and parking issues. The year-long planning process has made a concerted effort to integrate ongoing community engagement, which endeavored to be inclusive, ambitious, and focused.

To be successful, the Patterson Park Master Plan needs to consider each of the following issues (independently and in relation to its context): capital improvements; ecology and natural resources; history and culture; programming and events; finances; and governance and maintenance.

## PARTNERSHIPS AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

BCRP, together with consultant Mahan Rykiel Associates, led the planning effort in partnership with the Patterson Park Steering Committee and Working Group, with assistance from the University of Maryland (UMD).

The effort was fueled by a deep commitment to collaboration and engagement, which grew along with the project to include a coalition of partners that contributed to the planning process. A website provided additional stakeholders an opportunity to inform the planning process by participating in surveys and Park mapping, staying up-to-date on news and events, and offering feedback on plan documents and in discussion forums.

Among those involved in planning, many have committed to working with Park stakeholders to implement recommendations from this Plan. The momentum, energy, and resources that have been harnessed throughout the course of the project will enable Patterson Park to thrive as a civic landscape for many years to come.

A more detailed list of stakeholders, participants, and public outreach opportunities is listed in Appendix A, on page 98.

## PLANNING PROCESS

The Patterson Park Master Plan process cultivated a public effort to create an inclusive and forward-thinking vision for Patterson Park. Planning for the Master Plan began in summer 2014 and continued until October 2015, progressing through three stages: engaging stakeholders, analyzing feedback and data, and envisioning the future.

The planning process actively involved the surrounding neighborhoods through community engagement and outreach efforts, including three community at-large





public meetings, seasonal park user surveys, focus group discussions, monthly input by way of a community advisory steering committee, and digital engagement through a project website, forum, and on-line surveys. The Steering Committee and associated working groups included residents, organizations, and other stakeholders who guided and provided an in-depth understanding of existing use and conditions of the park in addition to discussing issues as they arose in the process.

In addition to stakeholder input, site assessment and data collection continued throughout the planning process—including a year-long seasonal survey of park users and discussions with focus groups and key informants conducted by the University of Maryland. These were integral to driving the identification of strategies and recommendations.

## STUDY AREA

Patterson Park is a 133-acre public park located in East Baltimore City. Patterson Park is surrounded by six neighborhoods that are immediately adjacent to its borders: Patterson Place, Baltimore-Linwood (Patterson Park North and East), Highlandtown, Canton, Upper Fells Point, and Butchers Hill (according to Baltimore City's 2011 Neighborhood Statistical Area boundaries). The majority of the park land (112 acres) is bounded by East Baltimore Street to the north, Eastern Avenue to the south, South Patterson Park Avenue to the western edge, and South Linwood Avenue to the east. South Linwood Avenue separates this larger segment from the 20-acre Eastern Annex—serving as the annex's western edge, with the other boundaries including South Elwood Avenue to the east, East Pratt Street to the north, and Eastern Avenue to the south. Both East Baltimore Street and Eastern Avenue are significant east-west roadways within the City, as Eastern Avenue extends all the way into Baltimore County.

Patterson Park is Baltimore's most intensively used large park and remains an outstanding example of 19<sup>th</sup> century park design.

## REPORT STRUCTURE

This report serves as a detailed summary of the input, analyses, and exercises that drove the identification of the final Patterson Park Master Plan recommendations. The four chapters that follow are closely aligned with the planning process and development of the final recommendations, and will detail the Assessment, Vision, Master Plan, and Implementation Schedule of Priorities.

### PATTERSON PARK

*Patterson Park is a 133-acre public park located in Baltimore City. It is bordered by Patterson Place, Baltimore-Linwood (Patterson Park North and East), Highlandtown, Canton, Upper Fells Point, and Butchers Hill (according to Baltimore City's 2011 Neighborhood Statistical Area (NSA) boundaries; additional communities, such as Fells Prospect, exist within these larger NSAs).*

*The Park draws significant crowds from people across the region as a venue for Baltimore City festivals, markets, and other events. On a daily basis, the Park attracts many local visitors who come to enjoy the scenery, or one of Patterson Park's collection of amenities, including a swimming pool, ball courts and fields, a dog park, a boat lake, an ice rink, a recreation center, the Pagoda, and a community garden, among others.*

*The site is surrounded by extensive rowhouse neighborhoods that rely solely on Patterson Park for open space.*





**Fig. 1.** Study Area Map  
*PhotoMap Aerial of Patterson Park dated October 20, 2014; Source: NearMap*



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# ASSESSMENT

# Chapter Two // ASSESSMENT

Understanding the circumstances in which Patterson Park exists has provided the basis for identifying recommendations which can enhance the Park for many years to come. The Patterson Park Master Plan takes into consideration the Park's history and growth, its current context, and the sentiments held and shared by Park users.

## HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

Patterson Park is not only the oldest public park in Baltimore City, but it is also among the earliest examples of land dedicated for a public park nationwide. The original land provided to the City for Patterson Park was “the first gift of land given to a city for the purposes of public recreation” (City of Baltimore Department of Recreation and Parks, n.d., n.p.).



Patterson Park Boat Lake, circa 1936. Photo courtesy of BCRP.

Prior to becoming a public park, the land was owned by a wealthy merchant and served important military functions during both the War of 1812 and the Civil War. By 1827, Patterson Park would become a dedicated public space in Baltimore City. Beginning as a mere six acres in 1827, Patterson Park would flourish through four major land acquisitions—in 1860, 1873, 1883, and 1908—and has today grown to 133 acres in size. In the 1998 Patterson Park Master Plan, the Park was described as follows:

*Patterson Park is culturally significant within the context of '19th and 20th Century Park Planning in Baltimore.' Patterson witnessed three major stages of growth, each of which is integral to an understanding of American social history and landscape architecture. From its origins as a formal 'Public Walk' in 1827, to its romantic development as a 'country; park' between the 1860s and 1900s, to its early 20th century conversion and expansion into the city's most comprehensive athletic center, Patterson Park is a unique reflection of the changing ideals of American leisure over the course of 100 years ... it is the first and only known 'public walk' in the city, and ... it is one of two parks originally established under authority of Ordinance No. 227, approved June 4, 1860, which established the first Park Commission. Patterson Park, along with Druid Hill Park, reveals Baltimore's stature as one of the earliest cities in the country to embrace the new county park tradition spawned by Central Park in 1857 (Lampl Associates, NRHP Report, as cited in City of Baltimore Department of Recreation and Parks, 1998, p. 3).*

Patterson Park's rich cultural legacy and landscape define its character and make it an invaluable asset to Baltimore City and its residents.



## ROMANTICISM

*By the 1860s, much of the country's opinions regarding parks had been consumed by the American Park Movement, which emphasized the aesthetics of a picturesque landscape in the style of a European garden. Improvements made to Patterson Park at this time—such as a carriage route meandering through the Park called “the Drive”—were reflective of the romantic, “country park” landscape (BCRP, 1998).*



*Fountain, circa 1890. Photo courtesy of BCRP.*



*Boat Lake, circa 1890. Photo courtesy of BCRP.*

## History of the Land

The rolling hills and open fields of Patterson Park have seen dramatic changes throughout its history—from wooded uplands surrounding the Harris Creek, to a residential estate, military defense, and, finally, a public park. As early as the 1800s, the area around today's northwestern Patterson Park was generally referred to as “Hampstead Hill.” During the War of 1812, Hampstead Hill played a significant role in the defense of Baltimore and Washington, D.C., and, thus, of the nation as a whole (Davis, n.d.; BCRP, 1998).

Patterson Park's high knoll has been, and continues to be, one of its greatest assets. It is a site of national military importance, home to the landmark Pagoda, and a site that offers stunning vistas of Baltimore's harbor and the Chesapeake Bay. During the War of 1812, citizens of East Baltimore built “Rodgers' Bastion” as part of a fortification to protect Baltimore from the British Invasion (BCRP, 1998; Baltimore Heritage, n.d.-a). In August 1814, following the capture of Washington, all Baltimore residents—be them native or immigrant, free or enslaved—were required to work on a line of earthen entrenchments in Hampstead Hill to fortify the City against an expected advance of the British Army (Baltimore Heritage, n.d.-a). Once complete, this barricade stretched over a mile, from the waterfront northward (Iglehart, 2012).

While Patterson Park's significance in protecting Baltimore is often overshadowed by that of Federal Hill, it indeed “played a critical role in safeguarding Baltimore at that fateful time” (BCRP, 1998, p.4). Interpreting Scott S. Sheads' research on the history of Rodgers' Bastion, Baltimore Heritage explained:

*The preparations included digging extensive trenches, creating earthen berms, mounting cannon, and stationing upwards of 20,000 troops to meet the British forces. Baltimore's defense was successful at both Ft. McHenry and Hampstead Hill and the Battle of Baltimore was a turning point that led to the United States' victory in the overall War of 1812. (n.d.-a, n.p.)*

To this day, the original outline of the battery and its curtain walls are visible in the landforms at the foundation of the Pagoda. In 1906, the Society of 1812 placed a series of cannons—much smaller than those which were actually utilized during the battle—at the site to mark the location of Rodgers' Bastion (Browne, 2012).

## Early Beginnings of a Park

In 1827, Baltimore Town was gifted six acres of land (the equivalent of two city blocks) by William Patterson—an Irish immigrant and successful shipping merchant. Patterson traveled to the United States in 1766, at the age of 14, to work in Philadelphia as a shipping agent for the British government (Baltimore Heritage, n.d.-a; BCRP, 1998). Following the American Revolution, he would enter into international trade and later bring his fortunes to Baltimore (Burn, 1998). According to Baltimore Heritage (n.d.-a), Patterson moved to Baltimore in 1788, at which point he invested in land around Hampstead Hill and, four years later, purchased a 200-acre Harris Creek estate at auction for \$8,500.

After owning the land for 35 years, Patterson would decide to sell a portion to Baltimore, and reserve the remaining land for his heirs. William Patterson contacted Mayor Jacob Small on January 24, 1827, with an offer to donate six acres his land for the creation of “a public walk like those he had seen on his own travels in Europe” (Baltimore Heritage, n.d.-a, n.p.). Shortly thereafter, on March 1, Baltimore Council passed a resolution to accept the donation—the first national example of land gifted for public recreation (Baltimore Department of Recreation and Parks, n.d.; Baltimore Heritage, n.d.-a).

Provided to the City for the purpose of creating a “public walk,” Patterson's land was situated “on a high knoll with dramatic views overlooking the harbor” (City of Baltimore Department of Recreation and Parks, 1998). Patterson's idea for a public walk was to set aside land for recreation and leisure at a time when “[g]oing for a stroll for fresh air, socializing, or exercise was limited to city streets or private property” (BCRP, 1998, p.4). Devoting this space for public use set a national precedent for public parks and open spaces.



*Illustration of Patterson Park Barracks, c. 1862. Source: Allenbrowne.blogspot.com*

## Expansion and the American Park Movement

Although Patterson's land had been donated in 1827, it had been more than a quarter of a century before the Park would be formally presented to the public. In that time, the property benefited from few improvements; however, prior to his death in 1835, Patterson would see to it that over 200 trees were planted (BCRP, 1998, p.5).

The area first became known as 'Patterson's Park'—or 'Patterson Park'—following the 1850 construction of a wooden fence enclosure (BCRP, 1998). Finally, on July 13, 1853, Patterson Park would be dedicated to the public during a ceremony attended by residents and officials of Baltimore.

*There were some twenty thousand citizens present to witness the display of fireworks and take part in the ceremonies of the occasion. About seven o'clock a park of artillery (eighteen-pounders), the same that in 1814 had been used by Commodore Rogers in the defense of Baltimore, arrived, under the command of Capt. David R. Brown, and began firing salutes. William Bond had charge of the pyrotechnic display. The band of the Independent Blues, numbering twenty one pieces, under the lead of Prof. Holland, furnished the music. (Scharf, 1881, p.276).*

The first Park Commission in Baltimore was formed in 1860 by Ordinance No. 227, and an additional 29 acres were purchased from Patterson's heirs (BCRP, 1998; City of Baltimore, 1907). Not long after its dedication, however, Patterson Park was utilized once again as a military encampment; "Camp Washburn," as it was known, was an encampment for Union Troops during the Civil War (BCRP, 1998; BCRP, n.d.). According to the 1998 Patterson Park Master Plan, four regiments would occupy the space at different times beginning in 1861, until the Union camp was converted in 1862 to a hospital—Camp Patterson Park—which operated until 1864, when the War had ended. Despite occupation by the troops, some improvements were still made to Patterson Park.

Following the end of the Civil War, drainage improvements were made, and a lake was inadvertently created after grading revealed shallow groundwater reserves (BCRP, 1998). Significant architectural features, designed by George Aloysius Frederick, were also added to the Park at this time; these included the marble fountain (which remains today), the Gate House (now referred to as the "White House"), and the Lombard Street pillars and accompanying iron gates (BCRP, 1998). An additional 21 acres, donated by Patterson's heirs, expanded the Park in 1873; and another 58 acres, also from Patterson's heirs, would more than double the Park's size in 1883 (BCRP, 1998).

The 1883 expansion created the eastern half of the Park, east of Luzerne Avenue, which was at the time characterized as "a wide, unsightly and marshy ravine" (BCRP, 1998). The eastern addition was the location of the convergence of Harris Creek and Harford Run. To make way for Park activities, these waterways were either channeled underground or combined to form a second lake in the Park (BCRP, 1998). The following year, Charles H. Latrobe became the General Superintendent Engineer for Public Parks. Under his management, improvements would be made to both the eastern and western sides of Patterson Park. Latrobe oversaw the construction of two storm shelters, the Casino building, and the landmark Pagoda (constructed in 1891)—then called the "Observatory" (BCRP, 1998; Davis, n.d.).

## The American Recreation Movement

At the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, opinions of Parks were shifted by the City Beautiful and American Recreation Movements, which emphasized athletic opportunities, sports facilities, and open space in urban design. Athletic fields were added to Patterson Park, making it a recognized amenity for active recreation. According to the 1907 City of Baltimore *Reports of the City Officers and Departments*, the Baltimore's Municipal Games Association held its first set of games in the Park in 1900, and had continued to do so every year that followed for some years to come. Around that same time, Baltimore's first running track was built in Patterson Park—further emphasizing Patterson Park's role in health, fitness, and wellness—including an extensive gymnasium, which was officially opened to the public on June 4, 1904 (City of Baltimore, 1907). Athletic and recreational uses had become so popular in Baltimore that, by 1925, Baltimore's "athletic facilities outnumbered those of any other city, and many were located in Patterson Park" (BCRP, 1998, p.8).

In 1904, the Olmsted Brothers produced their *Report upon the Development of Public Grounds for Greater Baltimore*. While the Olmsted Brothers had previously demonstrated a stronger preference for pastoral landscapes in their 19<sup>th</sup> century work, they were now responsive to the Baltimore Park Commission's priority of adding recreational amenities, and had adapted the eastern half of the Park to serve active recreation needs—including new athletic fields and pathways to connect them (BCRP, 1998).

In the 1904 report, the Olmsted Brothers suggested an addition of grounds to the east of the Park, as recent surrounding development had limited the Park's prior feeling of expansiveness. They proposed an addition of 123 acres—which would have brought

## UNDERSTANDING THE HISTORY

*Present-day archeological digs in Patterson Park search for artifacts and remnants of the fortification which protected Baltimore against the British land attack in 1814 (Baltimore Heritage, n.d.-b).*



*Pagoda, circa 1893. Photo courtesy of BCRP.*

*The Pagoda, which is a Baltimore icon, is believed to celebrate William Patterson's connection with the silk trade in Canton, China (BCRP, n.d.).*



(Clockwise from top left) Patterson Park Boat Lake, circa 1910; Music Pavilion, circa 1956; Park entrance at Eastern and Linwood, circa 1930; 1951 Fishing Rodeo; all photos this page courtesy of BCRP.

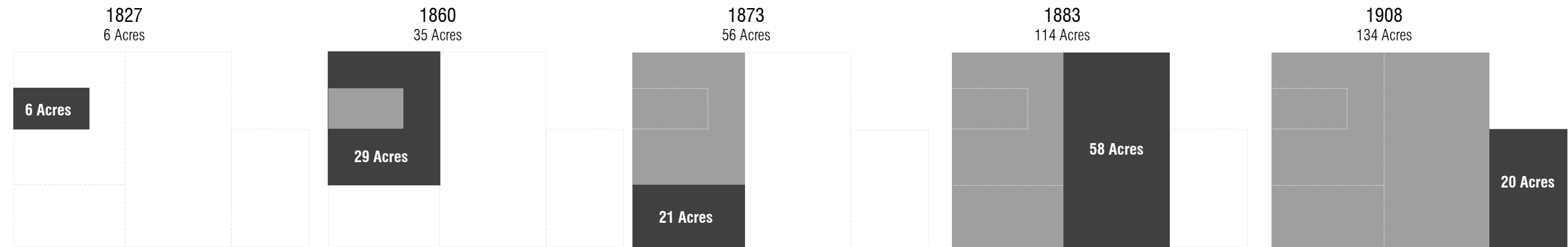
the Park to 267 acres—extending as far east as Highland Avenue, and connecting southward to “Canton Square,” now referred to as O’Donnell Square. They believed this expansion (while still not as large as they would have preferred) would “offer the working people of East Baltimore a conveniently accessible body of refreshing scenery, retired to a great degree from the turmoil of the city” (Olmsted Brothers, 1904, p. 53). However, due to limited funds available to the Parks Commission, the addition, as it was ultimately completed, only extended eastward to Ellwood Avenue following a purchase of 20 acres in 1908, and would never connect to Canton Square (Almaguer, 63).

In the decades that followed, Patterson Park would continue to evolve. A new policy would ban all vehicular traffic without a permit in the Park in 1940, and the eastern lake would be drained in 1950 and replaced with a pool and additional recreational facilities (BCRP, 1998). In the 1970s, the Park fell victim to large-scale acts of vandalism and arson, and many architecturally significant structures were burned down, including a beloved and ornate music pavilion, which was lost in 1972 (BCRP, 1998). As a result of this arson, new buildings were added, including the Virginia Baker Recreation Center; however, the new concrete masonry construction which replaced the elaborate architecture of the lost buildings could not compare with the original structures in terms of their aesthetic impact and detail.

Instituted in 1978, the Urban Parks and Recreation Recovery Act was a federal grant program that authorized \$725 million in funding and technical assistance nationwide to economically distressed communities. In Baltimore, this grant provided resources in the 1980s to support a new playground and infrastructure improvements in the Park (BCRP, 1998). Since then, ongoing maintenance and improvements ensure Patterson Park is properly cared for.

### Rejuvenation of the Park

Through the 1980s and early '90s, the Park and the surrounding neighborhoods struggled. Community associations, non-profits, and city agencies working in Southeast Baltimore were faced with challenges of population loss, abandoned properties, increased drug dealing, and crime. Patterson Park was viewed by many as under-used, unsafe, and poorly maintained. Tireless advocacy by neighborhood associations, the BCRP, and local politicians during this period saved key Park structures from demolition and eventually created the momentum for the development of a master plan for Patterson Park. In 1994, Baltimore City approved a \$1 million bond for the improvement of Patterson Park.



**Fig. 2.** Progression of Park Land Acquisition

The BCRP, with support from community and neighborhood groups, convened a master plan committee. This committee, with the assistance of a contracted landscape firm and The University of Maryland, studied Patterson Park's history, collected data about Park use, developed goals, and put forth recommendations that, in early 1998, became the Patterson Park Master Plan. The 1998 plan focused primarily on needed capital improvements in the Park and concluded with a prioritized list of projects to be used as a basis for budgeting bond monies.

Immediately following the approval of the 1998 Master Plan, local park advocates formed a new 501(c)3: The Friends of Patterson Park (FoPP). As recommended by the Master Plan, the group's mission included advocating for the implementation of the Master Plan and increasing volunteerism in the Park. By bringing new events and increased programming to the Park, the group hoped to increase Park use and improve the Park's then-tarnished image. Many Park neighbors involved in the planning process renewed their commitment to the Park, becoming involved as leaders, volunteers, and members of the new organization.

Over the next 15 years, many of the projects identified in the plan were completed. The use of public funds supplemented by money raised by the FoPP led to the renovation of the Pagoda, restoration of the Boat Lake, improvements to the Park's perimeter, new lighting, renovation of ball fields, restoration of the Casino, an updated bathhouse and swimming pool, and a new playground. New partnerships with The Creative Alliance, Audubon Maryland-DC, the Patterson Park Community Development Corporation, Banner Neighborhoods Southeast Community Development Corporation (SECDC), and Living Classrooms, among others, brought new events to the Park, including a summer concert series, water ballet, Halloween Lantern Parade, Bike Jam, and Día

del Niño. Volunteers focused on tree planting, boat lake maintenance, gardening, and serving as docents at the newly renovated Pagoda. Permitting demands for ball fields, picnic areas, and special events increased and daily use of the Park by bikers, walkers, joggers, and dog walkers grew substantially. The newly renovated pool, playground, and ball fields became popular meeting places for families living in the revitalized neighborhoods surrounding the Park, with thousands more visiting the Park each year to attend unique events or to visit the Park's historic features, natural habitat areas, and recreational facilities. The BCRP, FoPP, and other programming partners now work collaboratively to program, maintain, plan, and advocate for Patterson Park.

### Patterson Park Today

Patterson Park is Baltimore's oldest public park and is today the city's most intensively used large park. It is visited year round, by Baltimore City residents and non-residents alike. The Park serves as a location for educational programs, sports leagues, social gatherings, historical commemorations, and family leisure, among other uses; and it is a prominent host site for citywide festivals and events—from cultural and ethnic festivals, to athletic races and competitions.

While Patterson Park is already a valuable amenity for the city, it must be carefully stewarded to maintain and grow its value and meet the evolving needs of the community and the environment. With proper maintenance and strategic improvements, Patterson Park's rich history and unique landscape can be celebrated—catalyzing new uses and enriching life in the City. The past, present, and future of Patterson Park highlight what is an ever-changing asset capable of serving local and citywide communities.



### THE 1998 MASTER PLAN

*This Master Plan builds upon and updates the 1998 report, A Master Plan for Patterson Park in Baltimore, Maryland, prepared by the Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks, in collaboration with Rhodeside and Harwell, Inc.; Delon Hampton & Associates, A. Morton Thomas and Associates, Inc.; and Charles E. Beveridge.*

## EXISTING CONDITIONS

### Geology

The underlying geological and physiographic conditions of urban landscapes like Patterson Park influence their character and composition. The Park is located within the Atlantic Coastal Plain Province, and the Aberdeen Estuaries and Lowlands District, which are typically marked by relatively flat topographic conditions and dominated by irregular coastlines indented by mouths of flooded tributaries that drain to the Northwest shore of the Chesapeake Bay. However, Patterson Park sits atop the Arundel Geologic Formation, a clay and sand deposit that was formed during the Lower Cretaceous period when sediment from upland regions were transported to the swamps and floodplains of the lowland region; forming a local high point, which has come to be known as Hampstead Hill.

This overlook has guided much of the site's historical development, serving as the military outpost of Roger's Bastion during the War of 1812 and later offering the citizens of Baltimore an unparalleled view of the harbor after it was gifted to the city by William Patterson in 1827. The unique geological condition of Patterson Park continues to set the tone for its use as a recreational and cultural landmark—with concerts, events, recreation, and iconic architectural elements that capture its distinctive elevation and views.

### Soils

Urban development and geology merge to define the soil conditions in Patterson Park (Fig. 3, Existing Soils). The northwest corner of the Park, which is dominated by the Arundel Formation, is composed primarily of a fine sandy loam (Sunnyside Fine Sandy Loam), which is well-drained and capable of supporting rich vegetation. As the topography slopes downward to the east and to the boat lake, clay deposits alter the composition of the soil (Keyport Loam), reducing drainage and infiltration. Within this transition, the soil also reflects human use patterns, with oyster shells and drainage lines altering the structure and function of the soil. East of the Boat Lake, the soil is a complex amalgamation of anthropogenic (or, human-generated) urban fill and native soil, and is composed of sand, clay, oyster shells, ash, debris, and other translocated soil material. This poorly defined soil condition, commonly referred to as an "urban land complex," is highly variable and requires high resolution soil sampling to define its functionality to sustain and support both vegetation and physical structures.

### Topography

Patterson Park's topography is one of its most dominant features (Fig. 4, Existing Elevations). The landscape rises and falls gradually throughout the Park, ranging from a high of 140 feet in the Northwest corner, to a low of 20 feet in the area of the aquatic complex. From that low point, the elevation steps up eastward toward the annex to a relative high of 80 feet along South Ellwood Avenue. The undulating topography is relic of the Park's former landscape, which is typical of the hills and stream valleys found throughout the region. Patterson Park's slopes are also a product of its cultural history, which includes military outposts, clay pits and, of course, a picturesque public park. The subtle grading of its pathways and positioning of its view-sheds accentuates these topographic signatures and offers broad views of South Baltimore and the Harbor.

### Hydrology

The hydrological function of Patterson Park is a product of a complex mixture of native stream valleys, subsurface springs, a perched water table, and an uncertain development history which has, at various times, diverted, filled, and culverted the Park's water resources. Early surveys of the Park indicate that there has always been an active flow of water beneath the central portion between the Pagoda and the Boat Lake. This subsurface movement fed both the original Taurus Fountain, as well as the Boat Lake via a perched water table. East of Luzerne, the Park was originally occupied by a navigable stream, which was culverted and filled with ash, debris, and soil during the late 19th century. In the 1970s a major public works project expanded this channel to a 16 foot wide storm drain, known as the Lakewood Avenue Storm Drain.

In addition to larger hydrological features, Patterson Park also has buried in its soils numerous storm water inlets and sewer lines that convey water throughout the Park and beyond. BCRP, working with the Department of Public Works (DPW), have recently completed a shared inventory to more fully evaluate Patterson Park's hydrological function.

### Vegetation

The 2014 Patterson Park Tree Inventory counted 1716 trees in the Park. This included 56 different genera and 114 different species. These numbers reflect the concerted effort made by the City and its non-profit partners, such as FoPP, the Parks & People (P&P) Foundation, and the Audubon Society to restore and expand the Park's historical tree canopy.



Patterson Park’s tree canopy peaked in 1887, when an inventory registered 1714 trees (two fewer than were counted in 2014) and 45 distinct species. However, the 1915 survey yielded only 1070 trees and 21 species, which declined to a mere 808 trees in 1995, with 59 species. The shifting canopy conditions within the Park are also registered via changes to the landscape’s community composition, which has changed from a maple dominated community to an oak dominant community. Of particular concern today are the 101 Ash trees (White and Green), which are threatened by the Emerald Ash Borer and the monoculture stands of American Lindens that dominate the annex.

**Existing Soils**

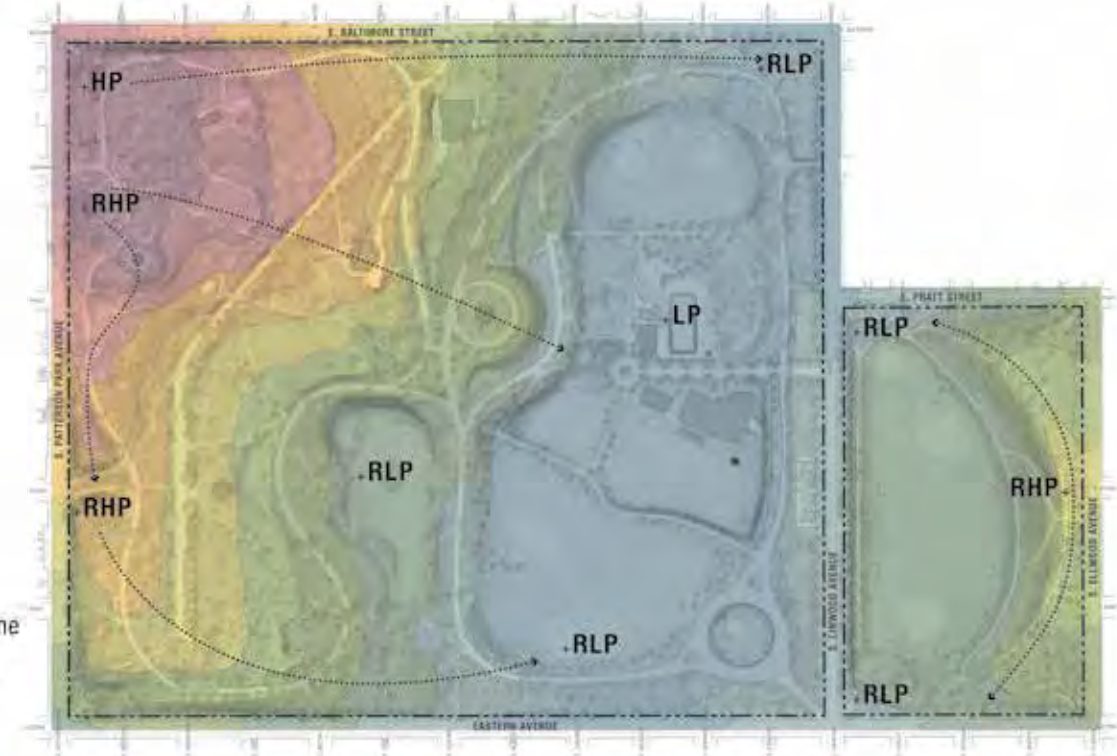
- 35B (B) Sunnyside Fine Sandy Loam (0-8%)
- 35C (B) Sunnyside Fine Sandy Loam (8-15%)
- 15B (C) Keyport Loam (0-8%)
- 7UB (C) Christiana - Urban Land Complex (0-8%)
- 7UC (D) Christiana - Urban Land Complex (0-15%)
- 44UC (D) Urban Land (0-15%)
- W Water



**Fig. 3.** Existing Soils

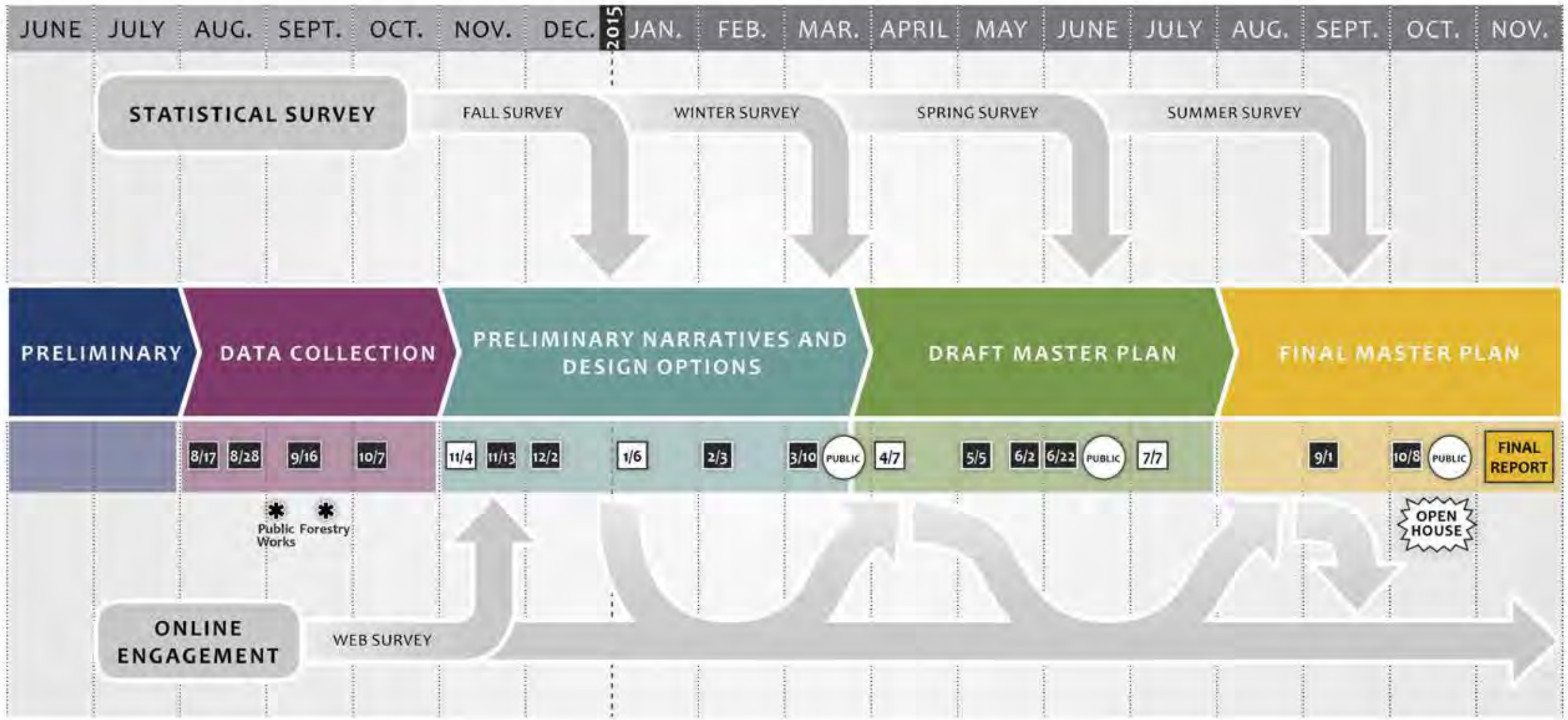
**Existing Elevations**

- 20'-30'
- 30'-40'
- 40'-50'
- 50'-60'
- 60'-70'
- 70'-80'
- 80'-90'
- 90'-100'
- 100'-110'
- 110'-120'
- 120'-130'
- 130'-140'
- .....> Existing Ridge Line
- +XX High/Low Points



**Fig. 4.** Existing Elevations

# PATTERSON PARK MASTER PLAN | Process Diagram



SC	Steering Committee	N <sup>TH</sup>	Steering Committee	PUBLIC	Public Meeting
MRA	Mahan Rykiel Associates	N <sup>TH</sup>	Steering Committee + MRA	*	Meeting on Site



Fig. 5. Process Diagram

## SUMMARY OF STAKEHOLDER INPUT

With any long-range plan, stakeholder input—from the community, park users, political and economic constituents, and other interested parties—is vital to the success of the recommendations. The Patterson Park Master Planning effort followed a deliberate schedule (Fig. 5, Process Diagram) of soliciting and interpreting stakeholder feedback.

Outreach methods included 18 Steering Community and Working Group meetings, three Public Meetings and Workshops, 27 Focus Groups, an Online Opinion Survey, a Seasonal Field Survey and Master Plan Feedback Survey (explained in Appendix B), and an online discussion forum (although this forum was only marginally utilized).

The engagement process was intended to solicit input from a broad range of stakeholders to ensure that the master plan effort was transparent, inclusive, and grounded in the needs of its users and the City. The diversity of the stakeholder population necessitated a multifaceted approach to outreach. As such, each of the methodologies was selected and tailored to offer a distinct way to reach and gather feedback from the Patterson Park stakeholder community. The concerted effort made by the project team, as well as by the Steering Committee and Working Groups, yielded significant insight into both the challenges and opportunities that Patterson Park offers to the City and its residents, as well as to its neighborhoods and neighbors. The information that follows answered and provoked questions about park users, park use, perceptions, and visions for the Park. It represents a summary of stakeholder input over a distinct period of time and highlights the need for a master plan that can evolve and adapt along with the needs of its stakeholders.

### Public Meetings

The three public meetings were designed to ensure that the master plan process was transparent and open. The meetings were structured as opportunities for stakeholders to learn about and provide feedback on in-progress strategies and recommendations. Informational presentations and facilitated discussions were used to share ideas and gather input, which were incorporated into the Master Plan report. Differences of opinion were noted and negotiated with the stakeholders—seeking to find the highest and best use for the Park for benefiting the greatest number of citizens. More than 300 people participated in two public input meetings and nearly 80 more attended a public open house to mark the completion of the planning effort. Each meeting was advertised through local email lists, social media, the project website, printed flyers, and local newsletters, in addition to various other channels, such as through neighborhood association contacts and networks.

## Surveys

### Methodology

Two surveys, an Online Opinion Survey (the “Online Survey”) and a year-long Seasonal Field Study (the “Field Study”), were administered to solicit input during for the Park’s planning process. The Online Survey was conducted early in the planning process to provide a snapshot of Park users and uses as well as user perceptions, preferences, and visions for the Park. As this survey was administered online, it reflects a non-probability, convenience sampling method of the Park user population. The Field Study was conducted by the School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation at the University of Maryland. It included a Field Survey that built and elaborated upon findings of the Online Survey, gathering complementary information about use patterns over a one-year period with seasonal data collected during the fall, winter, spring, and summer seasons. This survey was administered on-location to a randomly-sampled population of Park users.

Both surveys provided valuable input about how park stakeholders use and want to use their park, as well as suggestions for how the Park can be improved. The data gathered from the surveys informed the strategies and recommendations of the master planning process and helped guide discussions during the Steering Committee and Working Group meetings. Because the survey methodologies and questions differed somewhat between the Online Survey and Field Survey, direct quantitative comparisons between the two are not always compatible. However, qualitative integration of the input occurred throughout the planning process and key takeaways from both surveys are included in this assessment.

### Online Opinion Survey

For the purpose of soliciting input regarding use and perceptions of Patterson Park, the Patterson Park Online Opinion Survey was administered from August 19, 2014, to November 10, 2014. The survey’s 24 total questions were divided into four sections: Park Users, Park Use and Perception, Park Preferences, and Park Vision.

The survey was administered through a web-based service, and offered in both English and Spanish languages to account for a significant population of Spanish-speaking park users. In total, 1207 respondents completed the survey (1,128 English-language respondents and 79 Spanish-language respondents). The data illustrate ways in which stakeholders relate to and engage with Patterson Park and serve to ground the planning process in the most up-to-date information about the needs of its stakeholders.

## PUBLIC MEETINGS

*Public meetings provided opportunities for citizens to learn about the project, provide direct feedback, and collaborate with one another about the future of Patterson Park.*



### **Year-Long Field Study**

The University of Maryland team used four methods to collect information about the use of the Park during fall 2014, winter 2015, spring 2015, and summer 2015.

### **Seasonal Field Survey**

A questionnaire was developed, with English and Spanish versions, using the findings of the Online Survey, and with input from stakeholders, BCRP staff, event organizers, and the planning team. The questionnaire was administered on-site at four times of the year to find out how Park use changes by season, and to reach people who may only visit the Park at certain times of the year. Each season, respondents were asked about the activities with which they engaged and facilities they used in the Park during the previous seven days. This made it possible to paint a picture of Park usage by season. A number of open- and closed-ended questions were repeated at each season—questions about the condition of and problems with the Park, and also about respondents' own activities, perceptions, and suggestions for improvement. Small changes to the questionnaire were made after the fall, and again following the winter surveys to clarify certain questions, probe concerns that emerged in earlier responses, and reflect changes in seasonal offerings (the swimming pool in summer, the ice rink in winter).

Surveyors approached as many people as possible within pre-set time limits, on different days, at different times, and in different locations within the Park, as well as at local community meetings and events in the Park. The survey did not limit sampling to particular types of users (such as all cyclists) or users at particular locations (such as all users of the recreation center). Rather, all respondents were asked about all of their activities in all locations in the Park.

In total, there were 843 completed questionnaires—518 administered by survey staff and 325 by volunteers (residents of surrounding neighborhoods). The questionnaires completed by season total 200 in the fall, 129 in winter, 252 in the spring, and 242 in summer.

### **Focus Groups and Key Informants**

The survey team also arranged a series of meetings and discussions with users who have special needs (seniors, cyclists), those involved in the management and operation of the Park (the maintenance crew, the permits office), those who run programs in the Park (the Audubon Society, Living Classrooms), and those who may be under-represented in the Field Survey (African-American and Hispanic groups). The team held one- to two-hour focused discussions based on a prepared list of topics for each group. Attendees were recruited through community organizers, local newsletters and webpages, community leaders, and posted notices. Invitations were also issued during community events and at recreational programs. The size of each group

varied from two people to over twenty. The survey team also met with key informants who have special knowledge and experience of the Park and its use (such as the Friends of Patterson Park, and local community association leaders). In all, there were 27 meetings held between December 11, 2014, and August 24, 2015.

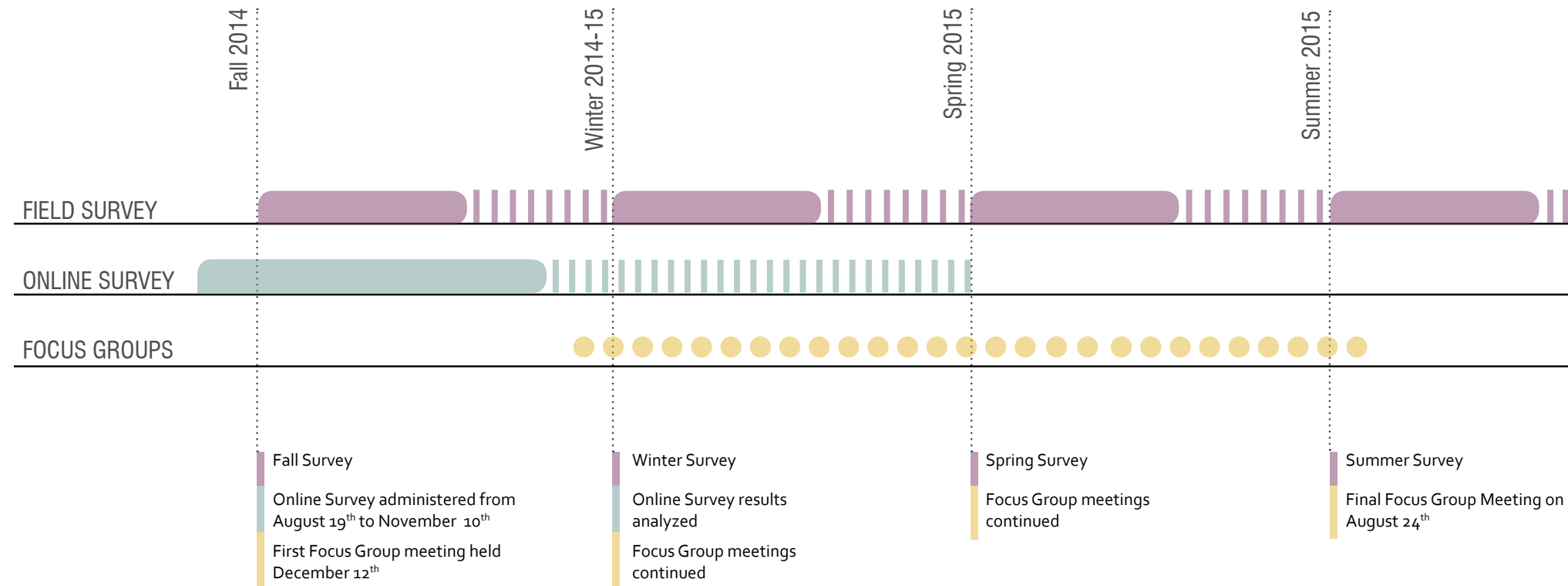
### **Events Study**

The questionnaires confirmed the popularity of organized events in the Park. Each event requires a permit application to be submitted to BCRP; the application lists the nature of the event and its site requirements, program, expected attendance, number of automobiles anticipated, and utility needs. Copies of 18 permits issued over the past year were obtained and the information used to map the sites in the park where events often take place. Key people responsible for issuing permits and organizing events were asked to suggest ways in which the sites could be improved.

### **Master Plan Feedback Survey**

In order to get a wide reaction to the actions recommended in the Draft Master Plan, a short survey form was developed in which respondents were asked to rank each action according to its perceived urgency. The survey forms were placed with Suggestion Boxes in local libraries and major Park facilities between July 20 and August 24, 2015. The survey was also posted online, and copies were sent through community newsletters and mail lists. In total, 530 responses were returned. Mahan Rykiel Associates also distributed a follow-up ranking survey to members of the Steering Committee.

The Feedback Survey makes it possible to rank each of the recommended actions according to its perceived urgency. It also identifies and provides contact information for people who are willing to participate in the ongoing planning process. (For more detail, see the Master Plan Feedback Survey summary in Appendix B.)



**Fig. 6.** Timeline of Stakeholder Involvement

**PARK CONVERSATIONS**

*Throughout its nearly 200 years of existence as a public open space, Patterson Park has engaged a diverse variety of populations. Serving as more than just a green space, Patterson Park has been a military advantage, a festival venue, and a recreational amenity, just to name a few. It has also served as a meeting ground for important conversations among community members. These conversations are vital to the continued growth and development, and sustaining this momentum will help Patterson Park remain a healthy and vital ecosystem for wildlife and the surrounding human communities.*

*Conversations continued throughout the development of this plan. The timeline to the left demonstrates a multi-layered approach to community and stakeholder engagement that has taken place throughout this planning effort.*

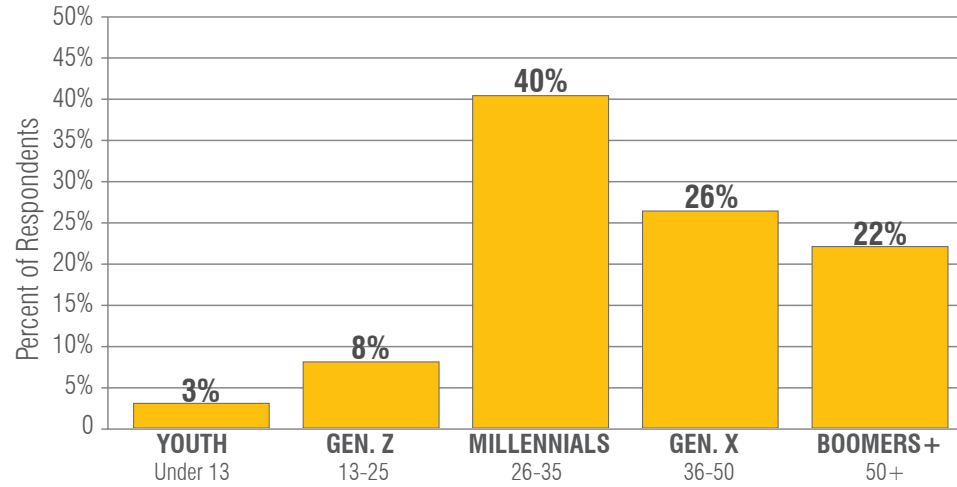


Fig. 7. Age Cohorts of Respondents

**Findings**

Key findings from the two surveys are summarized below. The information reveal was instrumental in shaping the identified strategies and recommendations of this Master Plan. Additional research and graphics can be found in Appendix C, Supplemental Data and Analysis.

**Age and Gender**

The data derived from the Online Survey highlight the growing demographic trends of millennials moving into cities and actively engaging with and investing social capital into issues of public space and civic landscapes. Nearly half of all respondents were between the ages of 26 and 35 (Fig. 7, Age Cohorts of Respondents). This may be attributed to a higher rate of internet usage, as is typical among millennials; however, no follow up research was done to officially evaluate the pattern or confirm this suggestion. The second largest group of respondents fell between the ages of 36 and 50 years of age. A majority of respondents (68%) identified as female.

**Race and Ethnicity**

To find out whether the composition of survey respondents was representative of the resident population in the surrounding area, the Field Survey identified neighborhoods that, in whole or in part, are within walking distance (i.e., a half-mile) of the Park.

Table 1, Race and Ethnicity of Field Survey Respondents, compares the racial and ethnic composition of populations within a collection of 19 census tracts<sup>1</sup> surrounding Patterson Park (Fig. 8, Census Tracts & Neighborhood Statistical Areas) with the composition of those who responded to the survey. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the population of the study area in 2010 the population of the study area in 2010 was 44,988 residents, down from 48,096 in 2000. During the same time period, the percentage of African-American residents declined from 39% to 33%, while the Hispanic population increased from 7% to 15%.

<sup>1</sup> The following Baltimore City census tracts were selected for study: 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 201, 202, 203, 301, 601, 602, 603, 604, 702, 703, 2608, 2609, 2610, and 2611.

**Table 1.** Race and Ethnicity of Field Survey Respondents

	Census		Field Survey*
	2000	2010	
<b>RACE</b>			
White	53%	53%	58%
Black/African-American	39%	33%	19%
Other	8%	14%	10%
<b>ETHNICITY</b>			
Hispanic	7%	15%	13%

*U.S. Census Bureau, Table QT-P3, 2000 and 2010 Decennial Census.*

*Generated by Yijing He and Megan Griffith using American FactFinder, <http://factfinder2.census.gov> (November 2015).*

\* The Online Opinion Survey and Field Survey combined ethnicity and race as one question.

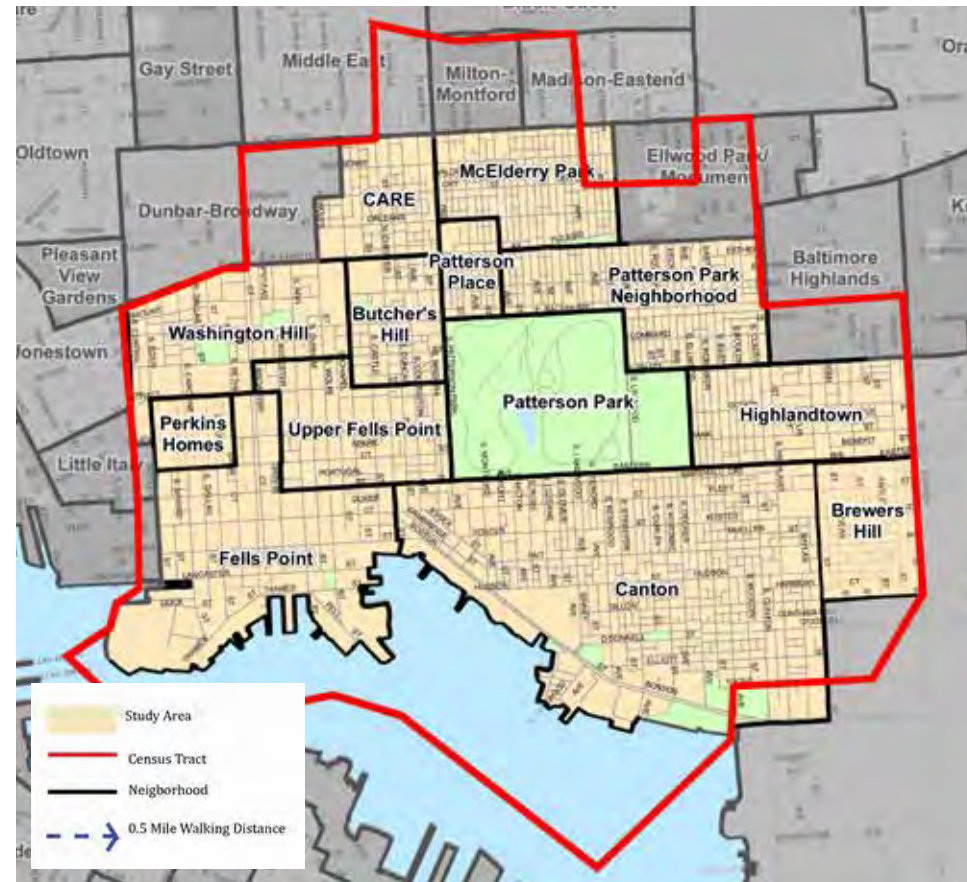


Fig. 8. Census Tracts & Neighborhood Statistical Areas

Responses to the 2014-2015 Field Survey<sup>2</sup>, however, reflected a recent population that was 58% white and 19% African-American. Focus group discussions revealed that some African-Americans feel as though they are discriminated against when inside the Park; this may explain the unexpectedly low response rate among African-Americans. In order to understand the reasons behind this feeling of being unwelcome, BCRP and the survey team arranged a series of meetings and discussions in predominantly African-American neighborhoods north of the Park. The findings are summarized later in this report (see *Feelings of Exclusion*, p. 23).

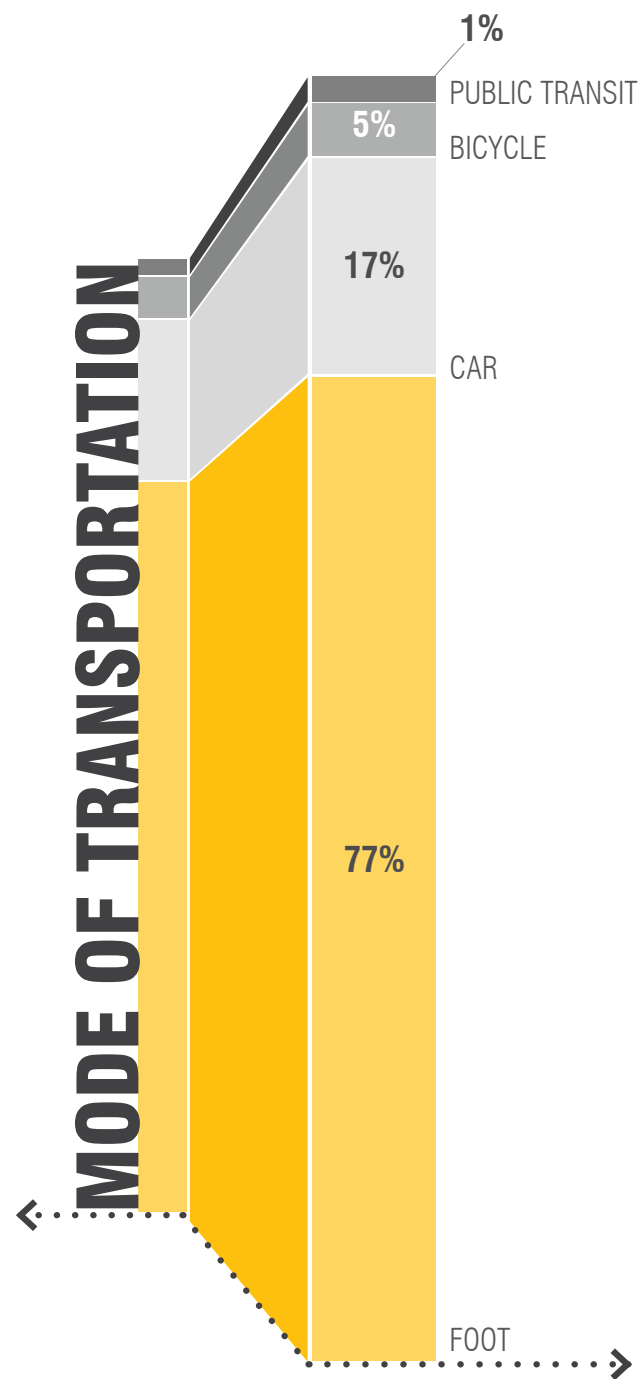
**Home Location**

The degree to which the Park is accessible plays a role in setting a framework for outlining the limits and potential of future enhancements. The data here represent a unique asset to Patterson Park—a relatively nearby community who relate to the Park in personal terms.

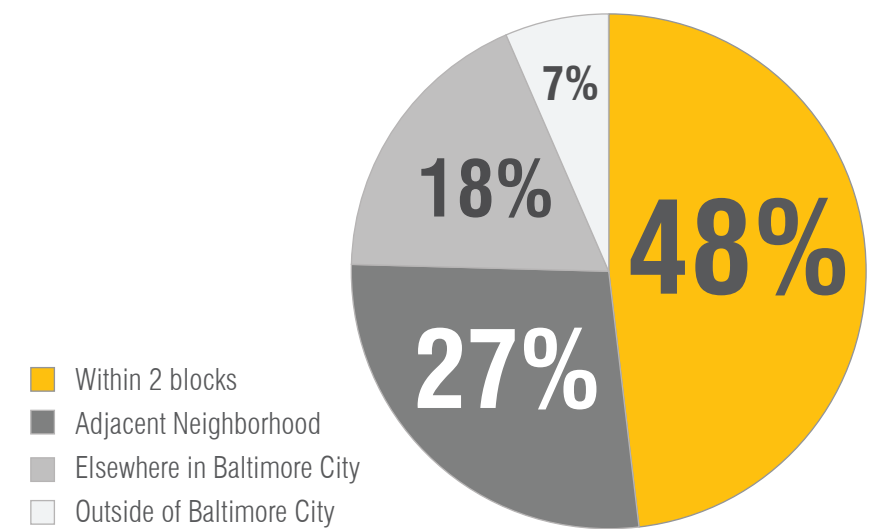
The Online Survey revealed that three quarters of respondents noted living either within two blocks of the Park, or elsewhere in an adjacent neighborhood (Fig. 10, Home Location of Respondents). Residents living immediately adjacent to Patterson Park often see the Park as a local amenity, one that enhances the quality of their living environment. They also tend to compose the core members of the Friends of Patterson Park and they often volunteer for park-related activities, such as setting up events, cleanups, and planting. In both the Online Survey and the Field Surveys, about a quarter of the respondents indicated living elsewhere in the city or an outside county.

Given that about three quarters of the respondents noted living close to the Park, it was no surprise that 77% arrive at the Park on foot (Fig. 9, Mode of Transportation to the Park). The second most utilized mode of transportation for getting to the Park was the automobile, at 17% of respondents. Bike travel accounted for only 5%, while public transportation was the least utilized mode of transportation, noted as the primary mode of travel to the Park for only 1% of the respondents.

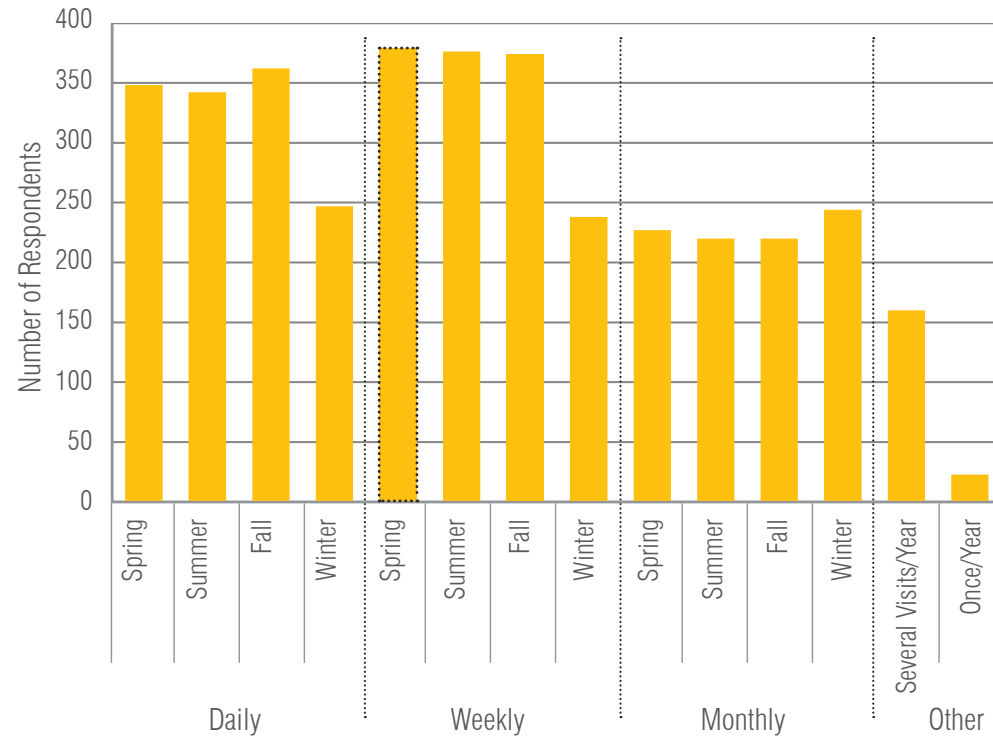
<sup>2</sup> It is important to note that both the Field Survey and the Online Opinion Survey had combined ethnicity and race as a single question. The two, therefore, cannot be evaluated as separate characteristics.



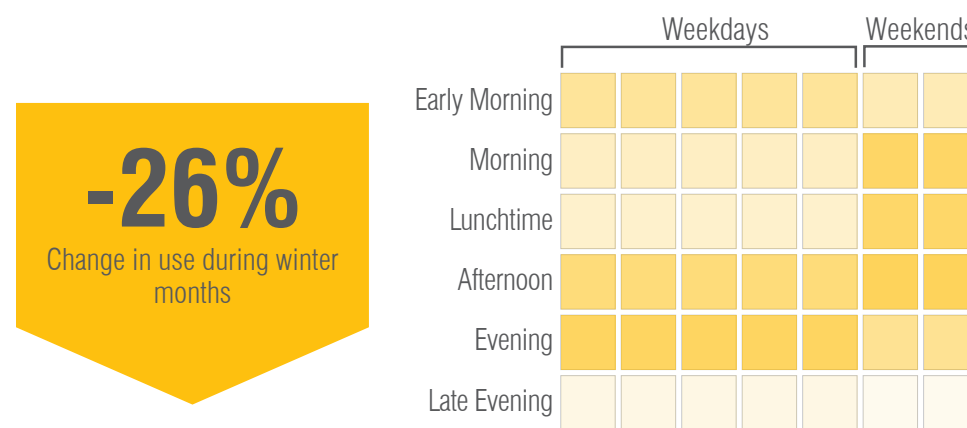
**Fig. 9.** Mode of Transportation to the Park



**Fig. 10.** Home Location of Respondents



**Fig. 11.** Park Use Year-round



**Fig. 12.** Seasonal Visitation

**Fig. 13.** Visitation by Time of Day

**Usage and Visitation Patterns**

When and how people use public space is just as important as *who* uses it. This information is particularly valuable when developing programs and maintenance regimes, and in designing the physical composition of a master plan. It also offers opportunities to promote wildlife areas of activity and habitat of the Park.

Through the Online Survey, Park use was analyzed in terms of frequency of visits, as related to seasons (Fig. 11, Park Use Year-round). Most visits tended to occur either weekly or daily, with the most favorable visiting times being weekly in the spring, fall, and summer seasons (all were indicated by 35% of respondents as a preferred time to visit).

The Survey shows heavy seasonal use during the warmer months (Fig. 12, Seasonal Visitation). However, there is a significant drop in visitation during the winter, with 26% of respondents indicating decreased usage.

Just as annual usage fluctuates in the winter months, daily rhythms likewise vary (Fig. 13, Visitation by Time of Day). Park traffic rises in the afternoon (defined as starting at 3pm), but drops dramatically in the late evening (after 9pm). On weekdays, visits pick up in the afternoon, indicated by 43% of respondents, and this preference for visits later in the day continued to increase to 53% of respondents into the early evening (defined as the period from 6pm to 9pm). On the weekends, visiting starts for 22% of the respondents in the early morning (6am to 9am), and jumps to a little more than half of the respondents by mid-morning (starting at 9am). Weekend visitation peaks at 56% during the afternoon hours, and falls to 34% between 6pm and 9pm and as low as 5% in the late evening (after 9pm).

When asked they avoided the Park at any time, respondents had shown a strong tendency to avoid the Park in the evening—citing a perception of poor safety, inadequate lighting, youth violence and crime, the presence of homeless and/or drunk individuals, and a lack of police presence as their reasons for avoiding the Park. The Field Survey provided additional clarity, indicating that those who do use the Park at night often did so to jog, visit the dog park, or participate in sports league training. Many indicated, nevertheless, continued Park usage for winter programs, despite an earlier sunset. It should be noted that late night Park usage does continue, regardless of the fact that the Park officially closes at dusk (for more detail on negative perceptions of safety and other issues, please refer to *Conflicts and Key Concerns* on page 22).



**Activities and Facility Use**

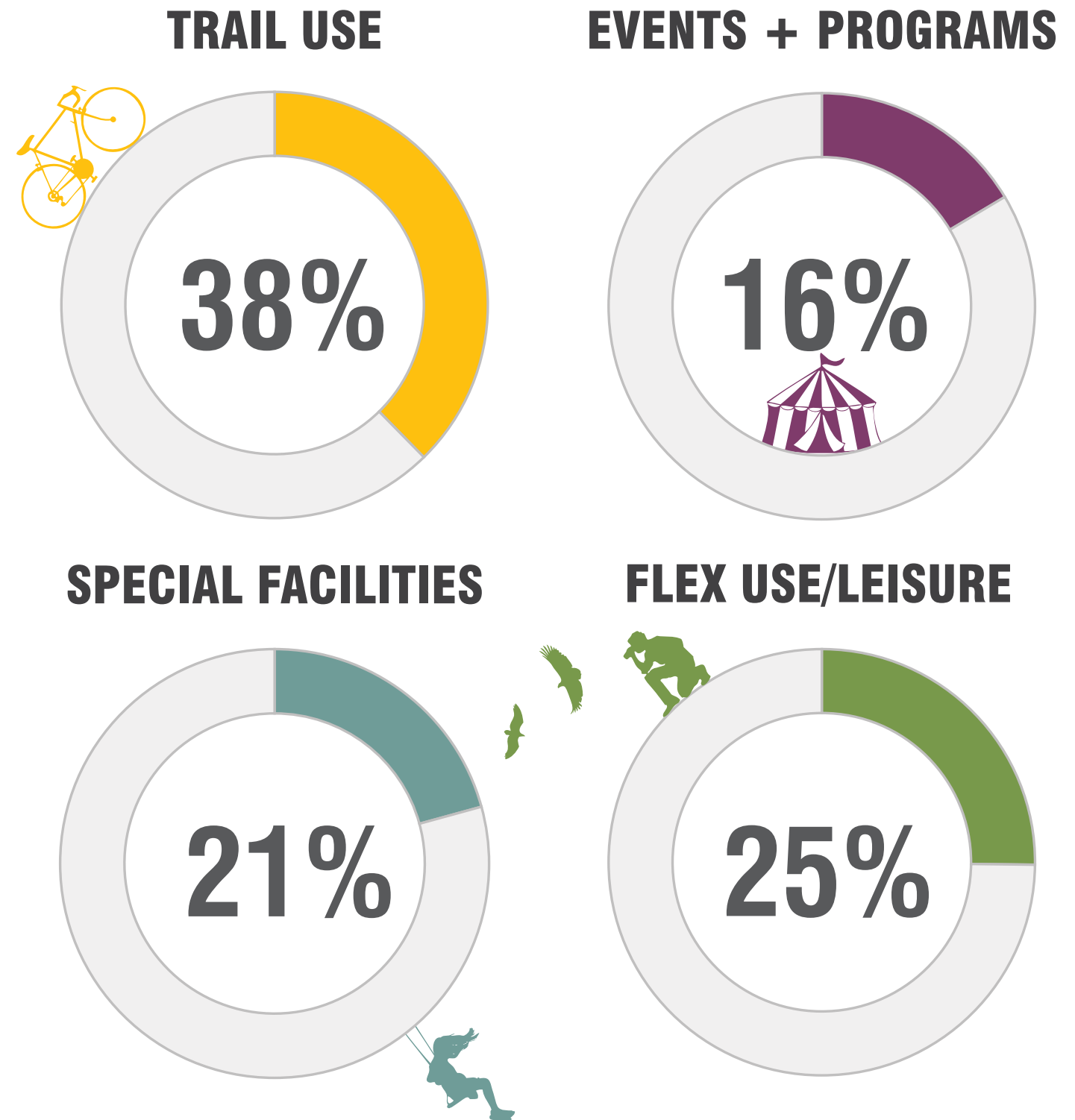
Park activities and facility use largely reinforce the trend of light, daily visitation (as indicated above), with a dominance of activities like walking, jogging, dog walking, and socializing mentioned as reasons to visit the Park. The Online Survey offered 17 possible reasons for visiting the Park (Table 2, Reasons for Visiting), sorted into four use categories: trail/path use, events and programs, special facilities, and flexible use and/or leisure (see Fig. 14, Indicated Reasons for Visiting). For respondents, Trail Use ranked as the highest use category for Park visitation (a similar trend was also observed in the Field Survey). Within this category, 84% of

respondents indicated walking as a reason for visiting the Park. Events and Programs was the lowest-ranked overall by Park visitors. The Flex Use/Leisure category was ranked second by respondents with Special Facilities ranking third.

The Field Survey provided an additional level of detail, evaluating activities and facility use by season (Table 3, Seasonal Ranking of Activities in the Park, and Table 4, Activities in the Park (Year-round)). The Field Survey shows that the Park is used at all times of the year. Relaxing is the most frequently mentioned activity, and the Boat Lake and Pagoda area are noted as ideal places for relaxing. Actually, in each season, the Boat Lake ranked as one of the most frequently mentioned facilities in the Park (see Table 5, Seasonal Ranking of Facility Use, and Table 6, Facility Use (Year-round)). Mirroring the results of the Opinion Survey, the Field Survey revealed that frequency of walking, jogging, and running is pretty consistent throughout the seasons. Other frequently mentioned facilities include the playgrounds and the dog park, which is well-used throughout the year. Another activity mentioned frequently in all seasons was dog-walking. Most users come to the Park one to three days a week in all seasons, but dog-walkers tend to visit more often.

**Table 2.** Reasons for Visiting

Community Gardening
Cycling
Dog Walking/Pet Play
Ice Skating
Jogging
Nature Appreciation
Picnicking
Playground
Reading
Recreation Center Activities
School-Based Programs
Senior Programs
Socializing
Special Events
Sports/Athletics
Swimming
Walking



**Fig. 14.** Indicated Reasons for Visiting

**Table 3.** Seasonal Ranking of Activities in the Park

Rank	Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer
1	Relaxing	Relaxing	Relaxing	Relaxing
2	Sports	Walking/Jogging/Running	Walking/Jogging/Running	Walking/Jogging/Running
3	Walking/Jogging/Running	Sports	With Dogs	Playing with Children
4	With Dogs	With Dogs	Sports	With Dogs
5	Playing with Children	Playing with Children	Playing with Children	Swimming
6	Cycling	Ice Skating	Cycling	Sports
7	—	Cycling	—	Cycling
8	—	Sledding	—	—

Note: Because each season brought a different set of responses, the numbers in each season must necessarily be viewed against a different total and so we report rankings rather than totals or percentages

**Table 5.** Seasonal Ranking of Facility Use

Rank	Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer
1	Playgrounds	Ice Rink	The Boat Lake	The Boat Lake
2	The Boat Lake	Dog Park	Casino Building	Pagoda
3	Utz Field	The Boat Lake	Playgrounds	Playgrounds
4	Dog Park	Playgrounds	Dog Park	Dog Park
5	Ice Rink	Recreation Center	Pavilions	Swimming Pool
6	Rec. Center	Utz Field	Rec. Center	Community Garden
7	Community Garden	Pavilions	Utz Field	Pavilions
8	Pavilions	Community Garden	Community Garden	Casino Building
9	Casino Building	Casino Building	Ice Rink	Utz Field
10	—	—	Pagoda	Rec. Center
11	—	—	—	Ice Rink

**Table 4.** Activities in the Park (Year-round)

Rank	Activities	Pct.
1	Relaxing <sup>1</sup>	40.1%
2	Walk/Jogging/Running	16.5%
3	Sports <sup>2</sup>	13.3%
4	With Dogs <sup>3</sup>	12.0%
5	Playing With Children	9.5%
6	Cycling	4.3%
7	Swimming <sup>4</sup>	2.8%
8	Ice Skating <sup>5</sup>	1.2%
9	Sledding <sup>5</sup>	0.2%

<sup>1</sup> Sitting/lying, picnicking, bird watching, people watching, hanging out.  
<sup>2</sup> Baseball, basketball, softball, tennis, kickball, soccer, volleyball  
<sup>3</sup> With dogs includes taking dogs to the park and to the dog park  
<sup>4</sup> Summer only  
<sup>5</sup> Winter only

**Table 6.** Facility Use (Year-Round)

Rank	Facility	Pct.
1	The Boat Lake	21%
2	Playgrounds	17%
3	Dog Park	13%
4	Casino Building	8%
5	Ice Rink <sup>1</sup>	8%
6	Utz Field	7%
7	Virginia Baker recreation center	7%
8	Pavilions	7%
9	Community Garden	6%
10	Swimming Pool <sup>2</sup>	6%

<sup>1</sup> Winter Only  
<sup>2</sup> Summers Only

Some facilities were more likely to be referenced depending on the season and time of year (e.g., the ice rink in the winter, Utz Field in the fall and during football season, and the Pagoda area in the summer). Spring sees an increase in cycling and sports activities. People in the winter are more likely to be engaged in sports and relaxing. There is an increase in cycling and playing with children in the fall. In the summer, there is increased use of the pagoda area. In winter, as expected, there is increased use of the ice rink, but in the summer the swimming pool is less used than might be expected.

Activity patterns highlight the irregularity, spontaneity, and intensity of uses that are associated with a growing number of large-scale special events—which stand as the second most cited (74%) reason for visiting the Park in the Online Survey. The Field Survey inquired into this common sentiment, and revealed that 70% of respondents noted wanting more events. Large, special events dramatically impact and influence the economic and ecological resources of public landscapes. The Events Study suggests ways in which the park facilities can serve these events better (for more detail, see the Events Study summary in Appendix B).

It's important to recognize that visitors appreciate Patterson Park for myriad different reasons, sometimes very personal. That being said, survey responses began to suggest some common themes. In an open-ended question of the Online Survey, respondents were asked if they had a favorite area in the Park (Fig. 15, Favorite Amenity). Respondents most frequently mentioned the Pagoda (29%), followed by the Boat Lake (24%) and Park's views (12%). Overall, reasons for appreciating Patterson Park were sorted by the keywords mentioned into nine categories: landscape and terrain, amenities, location and size, programs, wildlife, sense of community, variety (or diversity), cleanliness and safety, and history (Fig. 16, Most Appreciated Characteristics). Landscape and terrain—which included an appreciation of park scenery, open space, hills, views, and opportunities for respite—was the leading category, mentioned by 22% of the respondents. Amenities and location were second and third most mentioned, at 20% and 17% respectively. The history of the Park was mentioned least (1%).

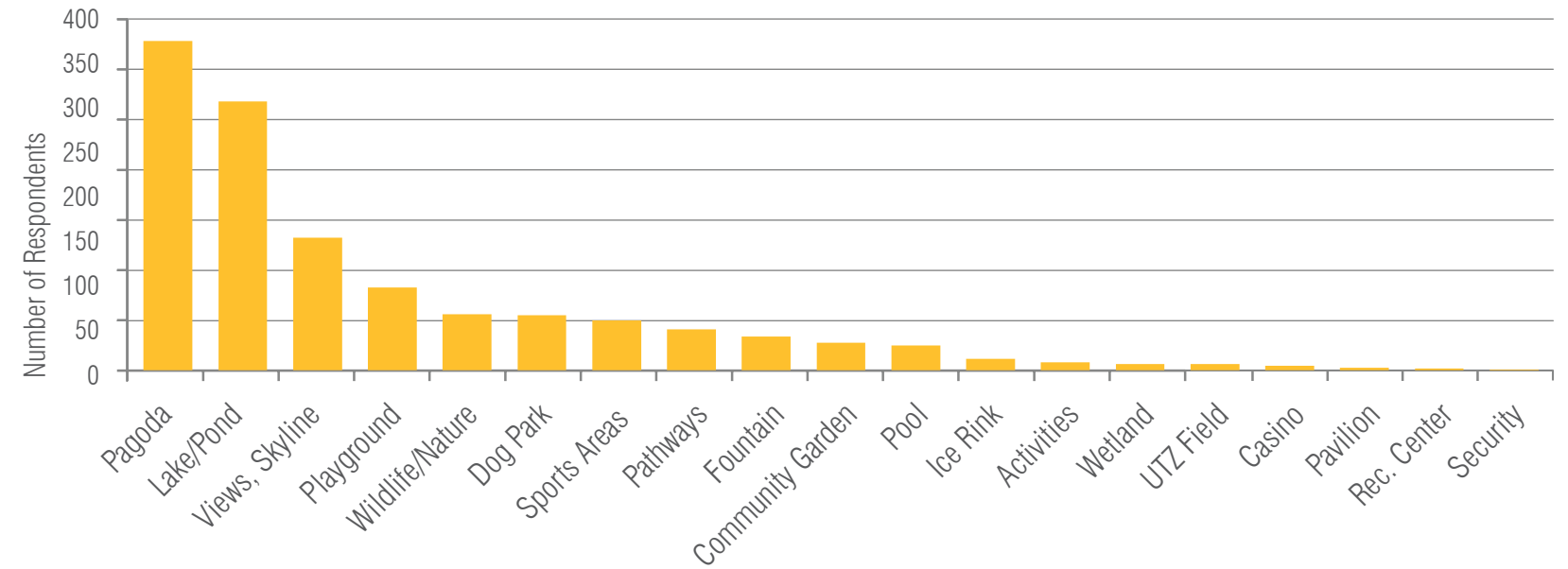


Fig. 15. Favorite Amenity

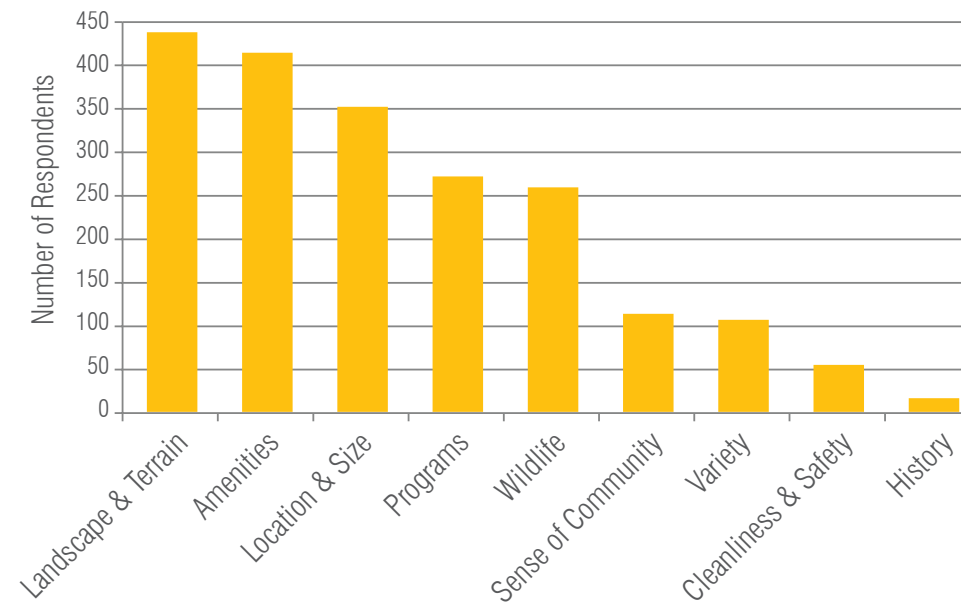


Fig. 16. Most Appreciated Characteristics

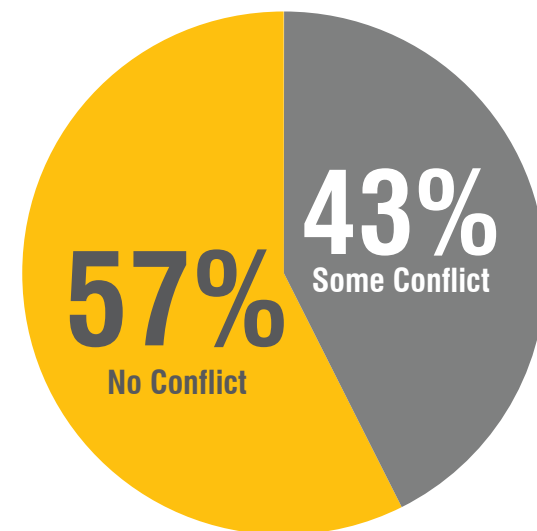
**Table 7.** Satisfaction with Maintenance

Sports fields	81%
Trees and grass	77%
Courts	75%
Buildings and pavilions	59%
Pathways and stairs	41%
Walls, fences and drinking fountains	36%

**Perceptions**

Usage, resource allocation, and care of a park's landscape all play a role in shaping public opinions—which, in turn, guide investment. In the case of Patterson Park, respondents in both surveys perceived the Park as being generally well maintained, and typically saw the Park as better maintained than other City parks.

According to the Field Survey, however, users were less satisfied with the condition of pathways and stairs, walls, fences, and drinking fountains (Table 7, Satisfaction with Maintenance). Field Survey respondents noted a lack of drinking fountains—most of which are also broken. Respondents also mentioned lack of access to restrooms, the limited hours of operation at the swimming pool and recreation center, a lack of benches and seating opportunities, and a need for marked bike lanes to avoid conflict between walkers/joggers and cyclists. Additional comments supported improvements and better management of tennis courts, more frequent cleaning of the playgrounds, and additional seating and shade at the swimming pool.

**Fig. 17.** Percent of Respondents Experiencing Conflict**Conflicts and Key Concerns**

When the Online Survey asked if visitors had experienced conflict in the Park, 57% of respondents expressed they had not experienced any conflict (Fig. 17, Percent of Respondents Experiencing Conflict; see also Fig. 18 and Table 8, Do you think the following is a problem in the Park?). Of those reporting conflicts, crime and safety (including harassment, a fear for safety, homelessness, crime reports, crime incidents, illicit activities, vandalism, and nighttime or early morning concerns) ranked as the highest issue with a 20% response rate. Dog-related issues—including dog waste, need for improvements at the Dog Park, a general dislike of dogs, negative encounters with off-leash dogs, and (counter to the prior) a desire for more locations for free roaming dogs—were cited as the second largest conflict category with a 17% response rate. Car and pathway related issues—including driving in the Park, fast and aggressive cyclists, parked cars, and parking needs—ranked third highest among those reporting conflict. Other conflicts were related to feelings of exclusion, cleanliness, rules enforcement, difficulty communicating and events and Park information. All are elaborated below.

**Safety & Lighting:** Safety in the Park was perceived less favorably than maintenance, with 20% of Online Survey respondents perceiving Patterson Park as less safe than other Baltimore City parks. This poses potential challenges when considering certain ecological design opportunities—as increased sub-canopy trees, shrubs, and groundcover habitat types often create reduced visibility, or spots where people can hide and/or conduct illicit activities. However, a number of minor improvements can help make Patterson Park a safer place to visit, including improved lighting, security amenities (security phones or cameras), and increased foot patrolling—all of which were suggested by many of the respondents.

Similarly, the Field Survey revealed a widespread fear of crime. This is a highly emotional issue, and it directly affects the use and enjoyment of the Park. More than one-in-three respondents saw crime as a problem, and one-in-four were concerned about being harassed or threatened. People mentioned vandalism, drug dealing, car break-ins, unsupervised kids, and the presence of homeless people. Concern for safety, furthermore, extends beyond the boundaries of the Park to the streets that lead to it.

Safety concerns are closely tied to lighting within the Park. According to Field Survey respondents, ninety-one percent of Park users would like Patterson Park's lighting of paths and open areas to be improved (see Table 10, page 24). Although the Park is supposed to be closed after dark, parts of it are still used at night (including the dog park, sports fields, and jogging paths), and some winter programs at the recreation center, ice rink, and Living Classrooms facilities end after dark.

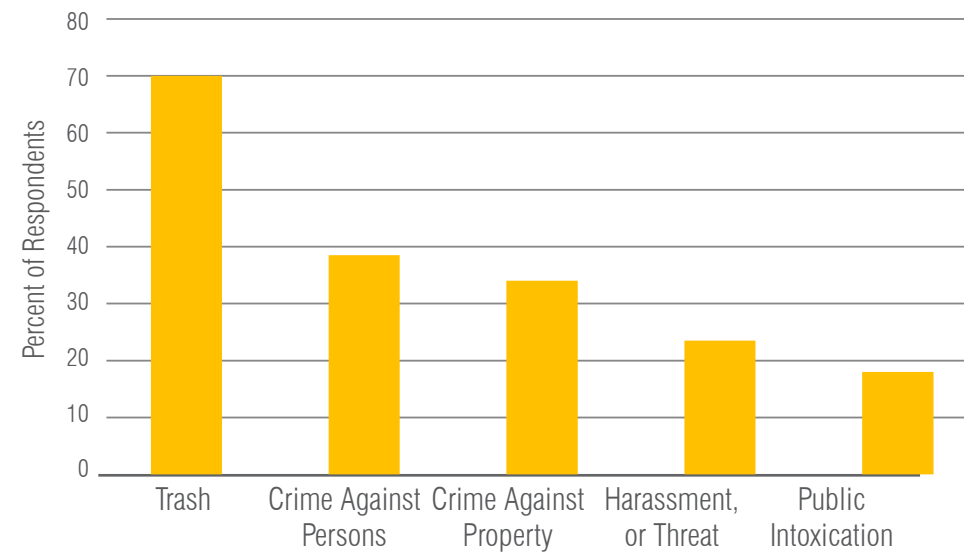
**Dogs in the Park:** Off-leash dogs are an oft-cited problem—and not only by people who do not own dogs. According to the Field Survey, 62% of all Park users and also 43% of dog-park users say off-leash dogs are a problem outside the dog park. At the same time, 73% of all Park users complain about dog-owners who do not pick up after their dogs. Additionally, 38% of dog park users complain that they have problems with other dog owners. When asked about the need for increased enforcement of leash laws, 58% all Park users responded favorably in the Field Survey. (Currently, there is little enforcement of the rule which requires dogs outside the dog park to be on a leash.)

**Cars in the Park:** The Field Survey revealed that half of respondents felt there were more cars in the Park than necessary, that there was excessive speeding, and that too many cars were parked inside the Park without permits. Three quarters of Park users felt that limiting automobile access would be a good idea. (Additional reactions to recommended improvements are illustrated in Table 10, Suggestions for Improvement.)

**Feelings of Exclusion:** Quite early in the research process, it was realized that survey outreach was not engaging a representative sample of African-Americans Park users. To compensate for this, a series of discussions were arranged with focus groups and with leaders in the African-American community. In these discussions, it was noted that some feel unwelcome in the Park. As a result, the Field Survey added a question on feelings of exclusion to the questionnaire after the first (fall) survey; it asked, “Do you feel that you are less welcome in the Park than some other people?” (Table 9, Feelings of Exclusion).

This question revealed that 35% of Hispanic respondents felt unwelcome in the Park. In meetings in the Hispanic community, people noted that the language barrier prevented them from interacting with other users. Discussions with teenagers revealed that they did not use (nor did they even know about) many of the amenities available in the Park, and that they were concerned about discrimination and crime.

In meetings with leaders in the African-American community, this matter of feeling unwelcome came up repeatedly. So it is perhaps surprising that the Field Survey should show that the feeling was no more prevalent among African-American respondents than among White respondents. The apparent contradiction may be explained by the fact that the Field Survey addressed Park users; it did not reach people who do not use the Park and, thus, it may not have captured the views of those who do not use it because they feel unwelcome. If this is the case, it has important policy implications. BCRP assigned a student intern, Nyala Clyde, to spend the summer of 2015 in the



**Fig. 18.** Do you think the following is a problem in the Park?

predominantly African-American neighborhoods north of the Park and attend community meetings, interviewing Park users and non-users. Some of her findings are incorporated in the discussion that follows, but are represented in their entirety in Appendix D).

A number of reasons why some African-Americans felt unwelcome in the Park were provided: people remember a history of racial discrimination, and some still experience racial prejudice in the Park today. Some feel that events in the Park do not cater to the special interests of African-American users. Others do not know about events in the Park because they do not have access to the Internet, and they would like to see more printed notices and flyers. At the same time, African-American Park users are under-represented in organizations and committees that make decisions about the Park. But for some, their involvement in social issues (such as job development and housing) takes precedence over involvement in the planning or operation of the Park.

FoPP has a staff member assigned to work with the Spanish-speaking community. It was suggested that they also have a staff person assigned to work with the African-American community, and that they should enter into a discussion with both groups to find out why certain individuals or populations feel unwelcome in the Park, and what should be done to remedy the situation.

**Table 8.** Do you think the following is a problem in the Park?

Issue	Percentage
Trash	70%
Crime against persons	39%
Crime against property	34%
Harassment or threat	24%
Drunkenness	18%

**Table 9.** Feelings of Exclusion

	White	Black	Hispanic
Yes, I feel less welcome	12%	12%	35%
No, I don't feel less welcome	88%	88%	65%

**Table 10.** Suggestions for Improvement

	Suggestion	Good	Bad	Neut.
1	Improve lighting in the park	92%	1%	7%
2	Provide additional trash cans	87%	3%	10%
3	Provide more benches	80%	6%	14%
4	Provide permanent restrooms (other than porta-potties)	79%	8%	13%
5	Enforce park rules (as identified on park signs)	77%	2%	3%
6	Limit automobile access to the park	77%	11%	12%
7	Add community notice boards in the park	72%	4%	24%
8	Organize more events, such as festivals, holiday events	70%	5%	25%
9	Enforce leash laws in the park	68%	10%	23%
10	Close some of the existing roads	68%	13%	19%
11	Provide seating at athletic facilities	52%	14%	34%
12	Provide a food concession with table & chairs in the park	52%	23%	25%
13	Create a system for reserving tennis and basketball courts	47%	18%	35%
14	Provide an indoor swimming pool	47%	18%	35%

**Cleanliness & Rules Enforcement:** As indicated in Figure 16 and Table 8, trash was seen as a major problem in the Park among Field Survey respondents. There are insufficient trashcans and those that do exist are not emptied often enough.

Field Survey respondents are also concerned that the rules are not well communicated and are poorly enforced. Police are seen in the Park only infrequently and seldom in evenings and on weekends when they are needed most. Park rangers (there are only four for the entire City) are not on a fixed schedule and are not often seen in the Park.

At the same time, Park users do not know where to go if they want to report infringements of the rules, as revealed in the Field Survey. Regular users may come to the maintenance yard to speak to crew members, but the maintenance crew is not assigned exclusively to Patterson Park, and is not always on-site. The recommended procedure is to call 311, but many people do not know this; instead, most will call FoPP.

**Park Communication:** Patterson Park hosts a variety of events and programs offered by different organizations, including the FoPP, Audubon Society, Living Classrooms, Sports Leagues, the Recreation Center, BCRP, and private individuals who have obtained permits for events such as birthday parties. Each organization puts out flyers, notices, emails, or listings on social media about its own programs, and there is little coordination among the various organizers. The FoPP newsletter lists many of the events, but not all; and the City webpage, on the other hand, is more comprehensive, but is not user-friendly.

BCRP has initiated a series of meetings with all event organizers to discuss coordination of activities, program gaps and overlaps, and ways of relating offerings to user needs. And, as a first step, BCRP produced a poster and brochure listing all activities scheduled in the park during the fall of 2015.

There is no easy way to find out what is happening in the Park. According to the Field Survey, users would like to have a centrally-located, easy-to-use source where they can get information about all programs being offered at any one time. This source should be accessible to those who do not have Internet connection. Some felt that this should be the responsibility of the FoPP, while others thought it might be BCRP or the Recreation Center. Regardless, it would be useful to have this information, as well as that about activities in the surrounding communities, posted in the Park. For instance, nearly three-quarters of Field Survey respondents are in favor of community notice boards (see Table 10, item 7).

### Suggestions

Park users were given a list of possible improvements and asked to rate each item according to whether they believed it was a Good (G) or Bad (B) Idea, or felt Neutral (N) towards the suggestion (see Table 10, Suggestions for Improvement). The items on the list came from informal discussions with local residents and responses from the Online Survey, or were of special interest to BCRP.

The most contentious ideas (suggestions which 10% of respondents or more rated as a “bad idea,” highlighted in purple) are item six, and items 10 through 14. Respondents’ comments indicated that these suggestions were unnecessary, costly, or would create new problems (e.g., will generate more trash or traffic; will be used by homeless people; etc.). These items are also those which many did not feel strongly about one way or the other (see Neutral responses of 25% or more, highlighted in gold).

Heading the list of desired enhancements are improved lighting (especially at the tennis courts, swimming pool, and recreation center); more trash cans and more frequent trash removal; additional benches; permanent restrooms (but only on condition that there are suitable provisions for maintenance); more police presence and an on-site manager to enforce park rules, especially those related to safety, litter, and leash laws; limited automobile access and parking within the Park; notice boards to inform users of scheduled events in the Park and adjacent neighborhoods; and more organized events. Anecdotally, other suggestions include longer operating hours at the pool and the recreation center, soft surface walking paths, inviting minority residents to participate in park activities and programming; and utility connections at the major event sites.

Park users do not always agree about the future of the recreation center and the ice rink. Generally, Field Survey respondents agreed that a recreation center is needed in the Park, but the present center is underutilized and many do not know what programs are offered there. The facility should be made attractive to a wider audience, and either renovated at its present site or rebuilt elsewhere in the Park. Users also agree that an ice rink is desired in the park, but the present rink is in need of serious repair and is too small for professional teams. If the rink is to be rebuilt to both serve organized groups and informal users, its current location does not offer the desired amenities and could not support increased parking; thus, it would be better relocated to another site, preferably one still within or near to the Park.

**Priorities**

In the Online Survey, respondents were given a list of seven themes from which they were asked to select their top three key themes for improving the Park (Fig. 19), Priorities and Themes for Improving the Park). These categories included environmental performance, maintenance and enforcement, capital projects, programming and events, historic preservation, governance and administration, and finance (Table 11, Categories for Priorities and Themes).

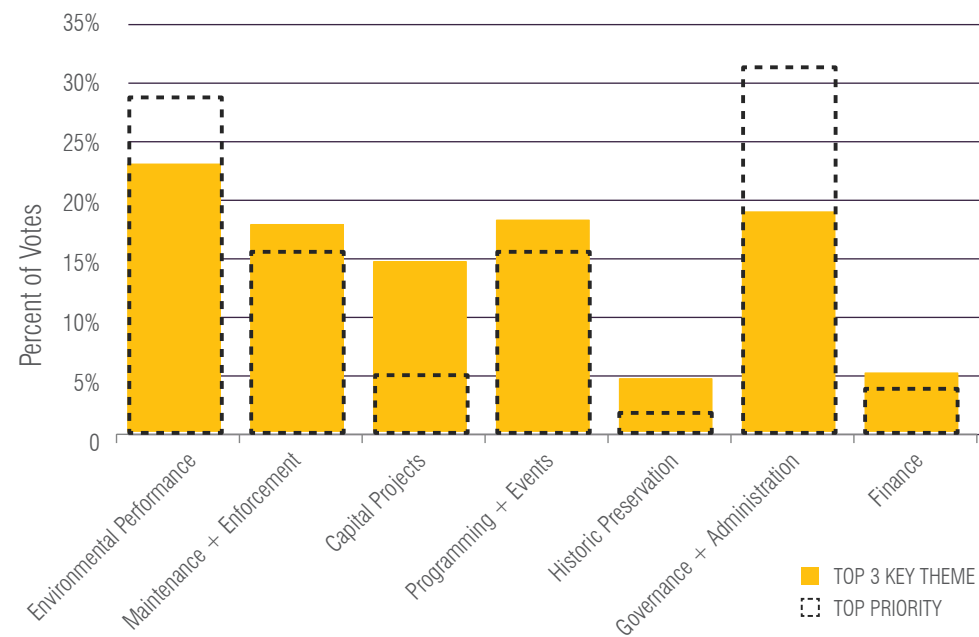
The top three themes for respondents were environmental performance (68%), maintenance and enforcement (58%), and programming and events (53%), followed by capital projects (52%), historic preservation (43%), finance (15%), and governance and administration (13%).<sup>3</sup>

Following the identification of the top three themes, respondents were then asked to choose their number one priority. Given this option, maintenance and enforcement was selected most (by 29%), followed by environmental performance (26%), and capital projects and programming and events (each at 14%).

**Table 11.** Categories for Priorities and Themes

<b>Environmental Performance</b>	Ensuring the healthy function of natural resources and biodiversity in the Park
<b>Maintenance &amp; Enforcement</b>	Maintaining Park assets and enforcing Park rules
<b>Capital Projects</b>	Investment in additional infrastructure, utilities, and facilities (benches, lighting, buildings, etc.)
<b>Programming &amp; Events</b>	Enhancing programs and events in the Park
<b>Historic Preservation</b>	Preserving historic building and landscape resources
<b>Finance</b>	Raising private funds to augment public funding for any of the above
<b>Governance &amp; Administration</b>	Managing the use and operations of the Park

<sup>3</sup> It is important to mention the following: perceptions of maintenance and enforcement as separate elements would have been more clearly understood had the two not been combined. Similarly, it’s important to recognize that the Governance & Administration and Finance categories, while important topics of discussion for involved stakeholders, may not be as relatable to the general public.



**Fig. 19.** Priorities and Themes for Improving the Park

Toward the end of the Online Survey, respondents were invited to talk freely about elements or improvements they would like to see in Patterson Park. Among respondents, there was an overwhelming desire for improved safety—which accounted for 41 percent of requests; specifically, the largest Park additions requested had been a police presence (10%) and increased lighting (8%).

Common sentiments among respondents touched upon some of the Park’s “classic” amenities—the Pagoda, the fountain, and other amenities, such as the sports fields—as well as youth programs and more activities or accommodations for families; these were expressed many times over throughout the surveys.

## Survey Takeaways

The results of the surveys jump-started the planning process and provoked questions that guided how the project team, Steering Committee, and Working Groups navigated complex issues such as access, inclusion, circulation, and safety. These Online Survey results, augmented by seasonal findings from the Field Survey, also highlighted the need to balance recommendations—ranging from modest, small-scale improvements that enhance daily Park use to significant capital projects that set the stage for long-term opportunities and enrichment. Together, the Online Survey and the Field Survey, along with other engagement efforts, provided an important tool to find compromises on challenging and complex issues. Additionally, the results informed the ranking of implementation actions (as short-, mid-, and long-term priorities), as described in Chapter Five.

Information gathered from both the Online Survey and Field Survey were foundational in the assessment phase of the master plan process and served to guide the project team’s approach to Park strategies and recommendations. Key takeaways from the surveys include:

- » Park users travel from all around the city, but the most frequent users live within walking distance to the Park.
- » Park users include people with diverse demographic backgrounds; however, current socioeconomic issues, race, and safety present challenges to a fully integrated and welcoming park experience for all.
- » The most commonly cited reasons for visiting the Park include everyday activities like walking jogging, running, relaxing, and socializing.
- » Special events—like festivals, flea markets, charity runs, and concerts—are major draws to the Park.
- » The Park landscape (e.g., the Boat Lake, terrain, vegetation, and views) comprises the most appreciated and well-used facilities within the Park.
- » Maintenance of Park facilities, enforcement of rules, and environmental performance are the most important priorities for many Patterson Park visitors.
- » Lighting, furnishings, trash cans, water fountains, restrooms, and pathway enhancements are the most commonly cited suggestions for improving the Park.

## CONCLUSION

The broad range of engagement tools and profound stakeholder response provided a deep foundation upon which to develop a relevant, pragmatic, and community-based master plan for Patterson Park. The efforts were transparent and inclusive, reaching across cultural, racial, geographic, and economic divides to give voice to the challenges and opportunities presented by Patterson Park. Input was active and ongoing, enabling the process to unfold incrementally and in real-time. As a result, development of the master plan was responsive to emerging needs (e.g., addressing social and ecological diversity in the Park) as well as deliberate in tackling persistent issues (e.g., a walkable, pedestrian friendly environment) identified by Park stakeholders. The recommendations and strategies of the Master Plan are grounded in the uses, perceptions, preferences, and visions of Patterson Park as described by those that know it best—its users and stakeholders.

The effort was not without its challenges and drawbacks, however, and questions remain about how to reach those in the community that feel disenfranchised and distrustful of public processes. We recognize that—despite 18 Steering Committee and Working Group Meetings, three Public Meetings, 27 Focus Groups, an Online Opinion Survey, a Seasonal Field Survey, and a Master Plan Feedback Survey, and a number of other invitations to get involved—some in the community still had not found their way into the planning conversations. At the same time, the depth and breadth of community engagement during the more than year-long master plan process enabled those that were involved to grapple with and find compromise about complex civic issues. As a result, the feedback that resulted from this engagement, coupled with continued outreach efforts and input opportunities, will guide the collaborative stewardship of Patterson Park for many years to come.



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**VISION**

# Chapter Three // VISION

The Steering Committee, BCRP, and Mahan Rykiel Associates spent a considerable amount of time discussing and developing a concise vision for the Park, the mission statement for the Master Plan, and a set of core values for the Park. These statements, adopted by the Steering Committee, are outlined below and set the stage for the Master Plan strategies and specific recommendations described in Chapter Four | Recommendations.

## VISION

Patterson Park will be sustained as a public green space, healthy natural environment, and historic site, while providing opportunities for relaxation and recreation that contribute to the health and well-being of the community.

## MISSION STATEMENT

The 2015 Patterson Park Master Plan will guide current and future public and private stewards in their planning for Patterson Park, identifying core values and establishing goals for focusing on action and funding.



## VALUES

In our vision of Patterson Park, we value a park which offers:

- An environment that is essential to the quality of life of those in the many communities that surround it, while also welcoming visitors from across the city;
- Restricted motor vehicular presence;
- Walkability—both within the Park and also to and from it;
- A celebrated historical context;
- A commons that welcomes a wide range of users;
- Green spaces and habitat areas;
- A well-managed landscape;
- A well-maintained landscape;
- Safety for all Park users;
- Government and community partnership;
- Community events that bring neighbors together;
- Facilities that provide an opportunity for healthful recreational activities; and
- Multiple uses for spaces.



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# RECOMMENDATIONS

# Chapter Four // RECOMMENDATIONS

## OVERVIEW

The Illustrative Master Plan for Patterson Park—featured on page 33 and described in detail throughout this chapter—is grounded in the vision, mission, and values described previously. A first glance at the Illustrative Master Plan will reveal that, overall, proposed changes to the Park appear to be subtle and the essential structure of the Park remains intact. This can be attributed to the fact that only some of the recommendations of this Plan relate to physical changes while many address less tangible elements, such as policy, programming, and additional studies. All of the recommendations, however, play an important role in the long-term protection of the Park and its function as a social, economic, and ecological hub within Baltimore.



## GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Overall, the main park and park extension continue to be divided by South Linwood Avenue; however, enhancements to South Linwood Avenue (while still maintaining the roadway's primary function) will establish the street as a connection for the Park, rather than a division between the two sides.

Approximately one third of the Park will continue to function as an “active core,” while the majority of the Park and its perimeters will be maintained as a “passive park.” This is not to say that the passive areas will be devoid of activity. Rather, the primary distinction is that passive areas will be characterized by less intensive uses and activities which require smaller land areas, or “footprints.” This portion of the Park maintains its historic integrity and the area’s valuable historic features—the Pagoda, White House, Stables, Promenade Pavilion, Central Pavilion, Casino Building, Fountain, Promenade, and the network of pathways—will be protected, renovated, and utilized to their fullest potential. Other significant features (e.g., the playground and community garden, among others) will continue to be maintained, improved, and/or expanded. The boat lake, in particular, will be enhanced both aesthetically and ecologically and will continue to serve as a park focal point. Additionally, the passive areas of the Park will serve as the primary *ecological skeleton*, if you will, of the Park—incorporating best management practices for both social and ecological diversity, as well as opportunities to explore and experiment with cutting edge urban ecological research. Structures or uses that are incongruent to the historic and landscape character of the Park—for example, the maintenance building—will be removed. The existing Virginia Baker Recreation Center will continue to function as a recreation center until it can be relocated, as described below. The building will then be re-purposed if a feasible use, compatible with the Park vision, can be determined. Otherwise, the building will likely be removed.



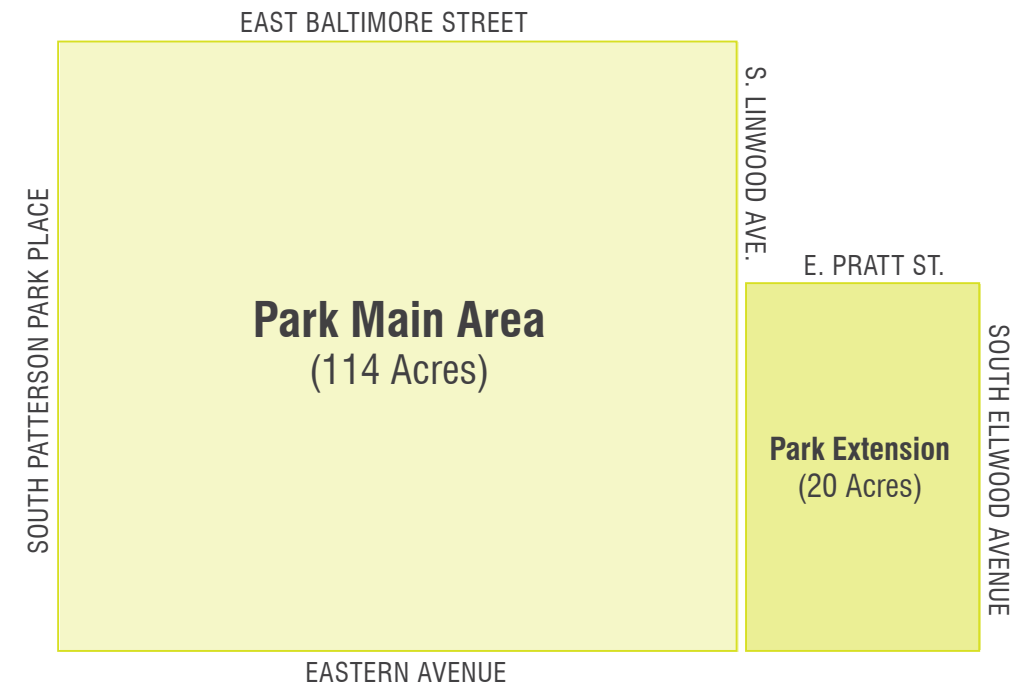
### RETAINING PATTERSON PARK'S ESSENTIAL CHARACTER

*All of this Plan's recommendations play an important role in the long-term protection of the Park and its function as a social, economic, and ecological hub within Baltimore.*

*While many recommendations address less tangible elements—such as policy, programming, and additional studies—a first glance at the Illustrative Master Plan (Fig. 22) will reveal that, overall, proposed changes to the Park are subtle and the essential structure of the Park remains intact. This can be attributed to the fact that only some of the recommendations of this Plan relate to physical changes.*

The active core, on the other hand, is characterized by larger building footprints and programmatic elements, such as recreation fields. The active core spans the length of South Linwood Avenue and is organized around a central drive that provides access to and limited parking for the pool, Living Classrooms facility, proposed Recreation/Senior Center, tennis courts, basketball courts, playground, and other potential recreational facilities, such as an outdoor, seasonal ice rink. Other elements within the active core include the dog park, Pulaski Monument event space, ball fields, and a network of connecting pathways.

Using the entrance at South Linwood Avenue and East Baltimore Street as a model, entrances throughout and surrounding the Park will be maintained and improved to be more inviting. Daily vehicular circulation will be limited to two areas (described in more detail in recommendation III|1) and permitted vehicular circulation will be limited to main pathways, which will be gated. Pathways will be repaired, excess pavement removed, site furniture added, and lighting improved. Significant tree planting will further reinforce circulation patterns, provide better definition to “outdoor rooms,” and expand the tree canopy. In combination with the expanded tree canopy, “limited mow areas” and other habitat types (e.g., meadows, mixed forests/woodlands, etc.) in targeted areas of the Park will enhance its ecological health by increasing vegetative diversity to provide food, shelter, and nesting sites for insects and birds. Programming will continue to occur throughout, with locations to be selected based upon the specific event or program. Major events, however, should be limited to the Pulaski Monument area and Pagoda Hill, where adjacency to the street network is important.



**Fig. 20.** Patterson Park Main Area and Extension



Fig. 21. Patterson Park Master Plan

## SUMMARY OF STRATEGIES

The recommendations identified within this report are organized across five strategies—assigned to the strategy which offered the most logical and appropriate foundation, while recognizing there are considerable overlaps for many. However, some recommendations may be implemented—either in part or in their entirety—as a component of another strategy. For example, enhanced lighting may be a project in and of itself, or lighting may be updated as adjacent projects (paths, buildings and site improvements, etc.) are implemented. Indeed, there is significant overlap among the five strategies and their recommendations, which is appropriate to an integrated master plan approach. The following is a summary of the five strategies:

### Strategy I—Ecological at the Core: Systems, Performance, & Preference

Soil, water, plants, and animals are the foundational resources upon which every successful park relies. To ensure the long-term vitality of Patterson Park, it is essential to understand how these systems perform and how they can be stewarded to maximize their social and ecological benefits. To do so, park-wide ecosystem monitoring and management protocols should be developed and deployed that balance the Park's role as a recreational, social, and ecological anchor for the city, its residents, and the broader urban and regional environment.

### Strategy II—Protecting Assets: Maintenance, Enforcement, & Governance

Patterson Park is an important social, economic, and ecological asset to the surrounding neighborhoods and to the city as a whole. As such, its individual components should be maintained, rules of proper usage should be enforced, and a system of governance is needed to sustain the Park without exhausting the resources of any one entity or group.

### Strategy III—Big Moves, Significant Capital: Major Facilities & Their Relationships

Although it's just one component of Patterson Park, significant capital projects—including their locations within the Park and their relationships to adjacent facilities and uses—will be transformative in how people use the Park and how park programming functions. Therefore, a comprehensive approach to capital projects should be adopted to preserve and strengthen the overall integrity of the Park.

### Strategy IV—Small Steps, Big Gains: Incremental Improvements

Small, incremental projects and improvements, while lacking the impressive impact of significant capital projects, are timely investments that will ultimately have the most immediate, positive impact on Patterson Park and its stakeholders and they tend to serve as a starting point that sets the stage for implementing larger projects.

### Strategy V—Staging Success: Programs, Events, & Logistics

Physical facilities and capital projects, by themselves, do not create a great park. BCRP, FoPP, and other partners have demonstrated that regularly-scheduled programming and events are critical to the success of Patterson Park and to the quality of life in the surrounding neighborhoods. At the same time, it is important to recognize the carrying capacity of the Park and to maintain the right balance of activity without “over-programming” and burdening the Park's social and ecological resources.

## Interconnected Recommendations

It is important to note that the above strategies are not listed in order of importance. Rather, they are listed in order of what is the most logical way to describe the recommendations in the context of this report. Ecological resources permeate and serve as the foundation for the entire park—whether in obvious ways, such as the aesthetic impact of the landscape, or in less obvious ways, as the ground surface for sports fields and events. Many of the recommendations under Strategy I call for additional studies about these resources, a number of which will provide guidance for projects described in subsequent strategies.

Strategy II, Protecting Assets, follows the ecological recommendations. Many of the Park's facilities currently exist and, regardless of whether or not any additional enhancements are made, these facilities should be (at the very least) maintained and protected through rules enforcement and governance. This becomes even more critical as improvements in Strategies III and IV are implemented. Strategy III follows as its recommendations address large footprint uses, and capital intensive facilities and projects. Appropriate locations for these recommendations are limited, but they set the framework for smaller Park projects, as outlined in Strategy IV. Finally, Strategy V focuses on programming the facilities described in earlier strategies.



## SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS

As stated earlier, there is significant overlap among the five strategies; specific Master Plan recommendations have, thus, been assigned under the strategy where they are *most* relevant. These specific recommendations are outlined on the pages that follow in this chapter.

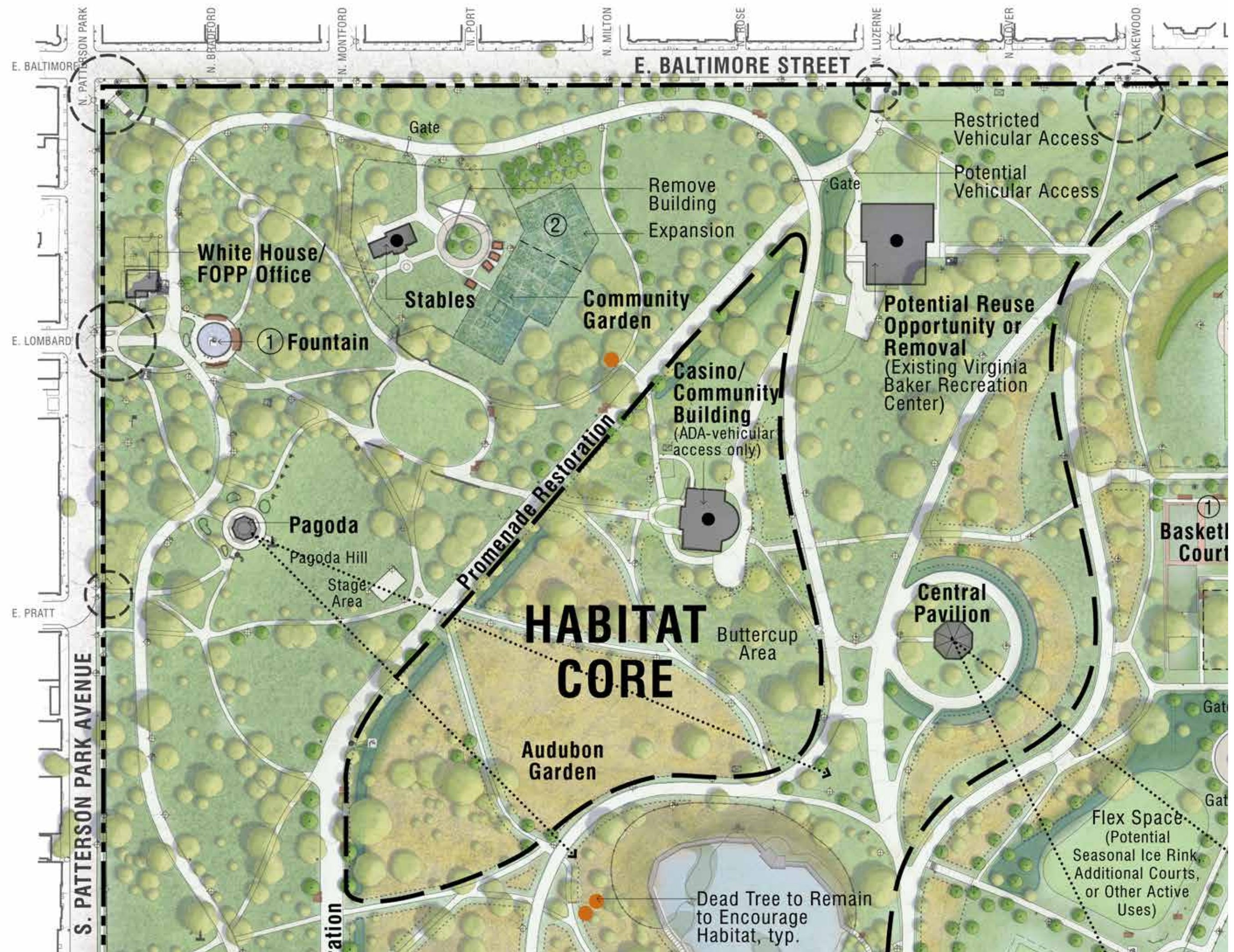



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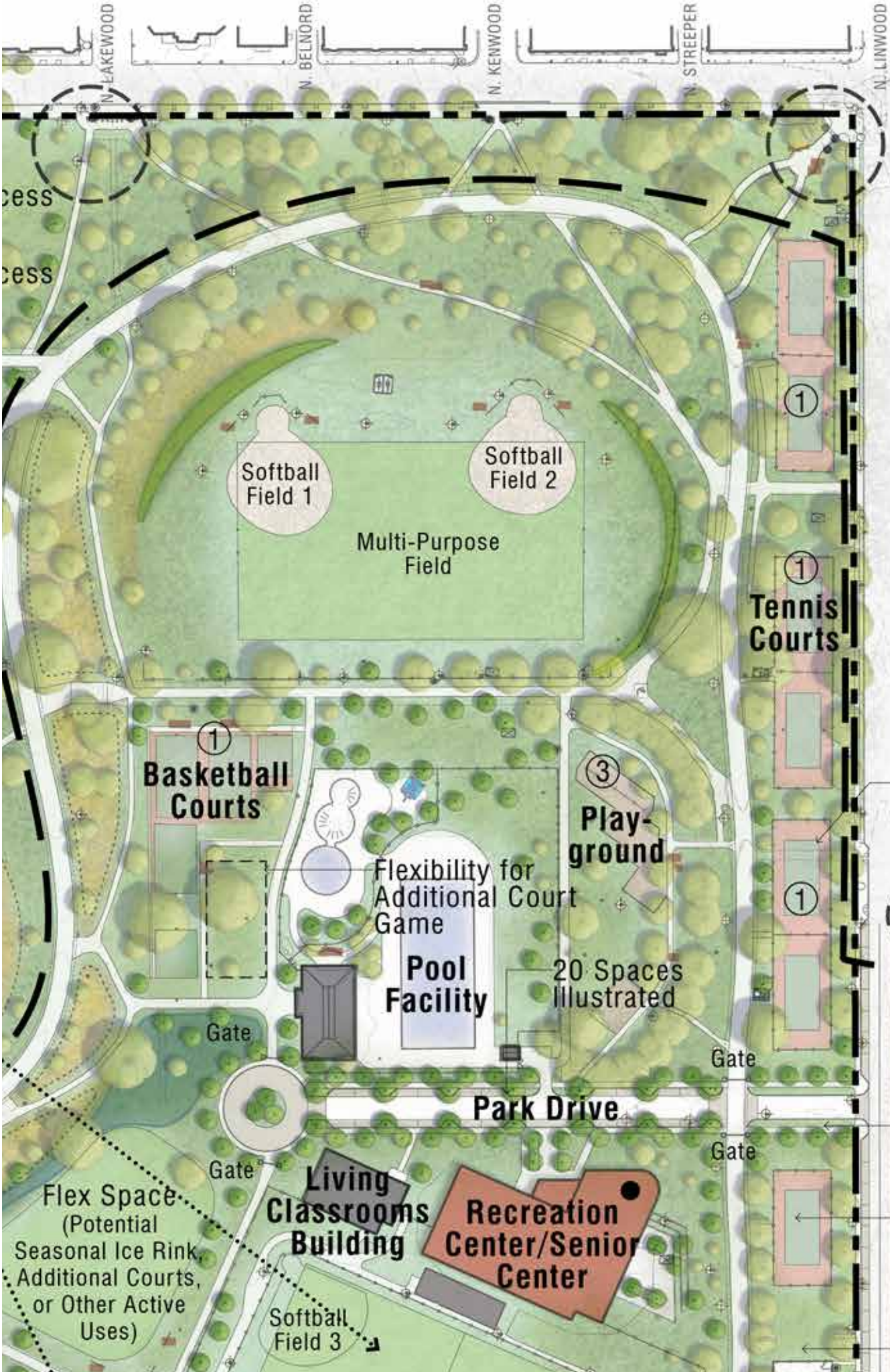
### ORGANIZATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

*Recommendations for the plan are organized under five main, overlapping strategies.*

*The five strategies are not listed in order of importance. Rather, they are listed in the most logical progression that describes the recommendations in the context of this report as well as, in many cases, the order of implementing recommendations (i.e., many recommendations under the Ecological at the Core strategy must be complete prior to implementing recommendations from subsequent strategies).*



# Patterson Park Illustrative Master Plan





# HABITAT CORE

Audubon Garden

Buttercup Area

Central Pavilion

S. PATTERSON PARK AVENUE

Promenade Restoration

Promenade Pavilion

Dead Tree to Remain to Encourage Habitat, typ.

Boat Lake

Flood Control

Flex Space (Potential Seasonal Ice Rink, Additional Courts, or Other Active Uses)

Multi-Purpose Field

Baseball Field 3

Multi-Purpose Field

Softball Field 7

Softball Field 8

Playground

E. PRATT

E. GOUGH

E. BANK

EASTERN

S. PATTERSON PARK

S. BRADFORD

S. MONTFORD

S. POB

S. MILTON

S. ROSE

S. LUZERNE

S. GLOVER

S. LAKEWOOD

EASTERN AVENUE





Photos courtesy of Audubon.

## Strategy I—Ecological at the Core

### *Systems, Performance, & Preference*

Patterson Park is the largest and most active green space in southeast Baltimore. It is an urban oasis and a significant environmental and social asset. The environmental values provided by Patterson Park are essential “ecosystem services”—such as stormwater management, temperature regulation (through the reduction of the “Urban Heat Island” effect), local food production, and air purification and carbon sequestration. Stewarding and increasing the performance of these ecological functions within a recreational framework is central to the Park’s role as part of an urban landscape. As such, ecological considerations should be woven in to all park improvements and programs, and additional partnerships should be developed to manage the Park’s ecological systems. In these efforts, it is necessary to balance the Park’s ecological resources (soil, water, plants, and animals) with its social and recreational programs to ensure that its overall environmental value is appreciated by visitors who come specifically to enjoy its ecology, as well as by those that come for other social and/or recreational pursuits.

Of particular concern within the Park is preserving and restoring habitat for wildlife, which find food, shelter, and nesting within the Park. Many migratory birds, for example, rely on the Park to rest and refuel during their long journeys along the Atlantic Flyway. Birds within Patterson Park are also a draw for naturalists in and around the city. The Patterson Park Audubon Center stewards and leverages these resources to provide educational programs and activities in the Park geared toward residents and visitors. These include urban bird watching walks, wildlife gardening workshops, environmental stewardship, Tiny Tots safaris, and special seasonal programs for both adults and children. These efforts activate the Park and enhance its ecological and recreational value, making the Patterson Park Audubon Center a vital partner in both the Park’s ecological present-day and future well-being. As such, the relationship and collaboration between the Patterson Park Audubon Center and other park stakeholders, such as BCRP and the FoPP, should be strengthened to facilitate more ecologically sensitive maintenance, planting, and educational programming.

Ultimately, a park that supports a healthy and vibrant ecosystem, including local and migratory wildlife, also benefits the people who come to the Park to enjoy its wildlife. This kind of balance between human and non-human activity is vital to the health of city residents, neighborhoods, the Harbor, and the Chesapeake Bay—fostering social, economic, and ecological diversity that enhances the Park’s value as a place to visit and as an urban asset.

## 1 | Ecological Systems Inventory

A first step to enhancing the ecological value of Patterson Park is to establish baseline inventories of the Park’s ecological systems and functions in order to make informed decisions about the Park’s resources, and also as a means to evaluate outcomes of targeted interventions. The inventories will provide quantitative metrics which can be used to prioritize ecological projects, and to make the case for local, state, and federal funding, in addition to charitable donations. The funding and data should be made publicly available to encourage open source use and citizen science programs, such as the Audubon Society’s annual Bird Count, which is the nation’s longest running citizen science program. Ecological Systems Inventories should be reviewed and updated on a regular basis. Low-cost environmental sensors (e.g., soil moisture probes, microclimate gauges, etc.) should be explored as a way to supplement the more extensive ecological inventory. Particular attention should be paid to ways in which the Park can assist in meeting state and federal environmental regulations—such as Clean Water Act Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) requirements, National Pollution Discharge Elimination Standards (NPDES), and Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) requirements. Each of the systems below should be included in the overall inventory:

- » Flora (vegetation): A tree inventory report was completed by BCRP in 2014 as part of this Master Plan and is included as part of Appendix E. Additional vegetation—including ground cover, shrubs, and aquatic plants—should be inventoried, paying particular attention to species that may be threatened by climate change and/or pests (e.g., Ash trees, which are threatened by the emerald Ash borer), as well as to native plant communities which serve birds, beneficial insects, and pollinators.
- » Fauna (wildlife): Determine animals and insects currently within the Park, noting habitat conditions and opportunities to increase ecological diversity. Particular attention should be paid to enhancements and design research strategies that support species of significance identified by the Patterson Park Audubon Center and urban ecologists.
- » Hydrology (water): Complete a hydrology assessment to identify the quantity and quality of water systems and utilities within the Park (e.g., fresh water, stormwater, sewer, etc.). Leverage existing efforts, such as BCRP and DPW’s recently completed water utility infrastructure map which includes information collected regarding water quality.
- » Pedology (soils): Perform a comprehensive soil survey throughout the Park to evaluate soil composition and structure, measure biogeochemical cycling (Nitrogen and Carbon transformations), and to identify microbial

dynamics (microbial composition, soil respiration, etc.). Soil areas requiring remediation (regarding moisture, compaction, structure, biology, etc.) and that are in need of more intensive management (for instance, sports fields, open turf, and wooded and/or habitat areas) should be identified and documented.

**2| Ecosystem Performance Targets**

Once the Ecological Systems Inventory has been complete, identify short- and long-term Ecosystem Performance Targets that are “SMART” (specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound). These targets will help steward and improve the Park’s environmental resources. Targets should be established using the baseline information collected from Ecological Systems Inventory from recommendation I|1. Each target should be assigned a set of qualitative and quantitative metrics for evaluating annual progress toward achieving those targets. Particular attention should be paid to ways in which the Park can assist in meeting state and federal environmental regulations, TMDL requirements, NPDES, and MS4 requirements. Each of the systems below should identify performance targets:

- » Flora (vegetation): In 2007, TreeBaltimore, alongside Baltimore City and other partners, set a goal of increasing Baltimore’s tree canopy 40% by 2037. Based on the Patterson Park Flora Inventory, specific vegetative targets should be identified which contribute to the City’s broader strategic canopy goals, as well as enhance the recreational and ecological value of the Park landscape. Opportunities to leverage mitigation and afforestation funds should also be identified and incorporated in to a proactive, long-term planting/vegetation strategy for the Park. This recommendation should be closely tied to the development of controlled-mow areas, as discussed in recommendation IV|8.
- » Fauna (wildlife): The Patterson Park Audubon Center has observed and documented 203 different species of birds in the Park. Of these species, the Baltimore oriole, Chimney swift, American woodcock, Wood thrush, and Black-throated blue warbler have all been identified as Species of Significance. The Fauna Study should be used to guide the development of “designed experiments” that aim to increase habitat diversity (meadows, woodlands, thickets, etc.) and trophic complexity (in other words, the food web and hierarchies in which organisms consume resources and transfer energy) within the Park to provide opportunities for nesting, feeding, and breeding. For instance, this study would be informative in shaping a Habitat Core, as described in recommendation 9 of Strategy IV.



**STEWARDS AND VOLUNTEERS**

*Patterson Park benefits from volunteer programs which engage communities, residents, and others as they plant trees, remove invasive species, and participate in other activities which help steward the land. (Photos from Patterson Park Audubon Center.)*

- » Hydrology (water): Specific water quality and quantity goals should be set and considered in relation to the Park’s other ecological systems (flora, fauna, and soils) and positioned to maximize the Park’s ability to support the City’s broader commitments to TMDL requirements, NPDES, and MS4 permits. The Park’s Hydrological Assessment should serve as the foundation for hydrological infrastructure investments targeting surface runoff, underground utilities (storm and sewer), and the boat lake.
- » Pedology (soils): The long-term vitality of Patterson Park’s vegetation, wildlife habitat, and hydrological function depend on healthy soils to provide plants with available nutrients, support microbes that breakdown plant and animal waste, and serve as a medium for stormwater filtration and absorption. Healthy soils also reduce maintenance costs (less sod replacement, mowing, etc.) for athletic fields and open lawns. The Soil Survey will serve as a guide to identify and set goals for high priority remediation areas, and is a foundation for developing best management practices for urban soils.

## EXPERIENCING ECOLOGY

*Patterson Park's ecological resources are assets in Baltimore's urban environment. Volunteer and educational programs offer vital experiences for people (particularly youth) to engage and experience these resources, while at the same time learning of their value.*



*Bird-watching and youth volunteer and education programs. Photos courtesy of Audubon.*

### 3| Comprehensive Ecological Management Plan

Create a Comprehensive Ecological Management Plan to steward Patterson Park's ecological resources, including plants, soil, water, and wildlife. The Ecological Management Plan should be evidence- and hypothesis-driven to ensure that the Performance Targets identified above are achieved for both short- and long-term goals. Management strategies and practices for the Park's ecological systems should be developed holistically, considering how each of the Park's systems relates to one another as well as how they fit within recreational and programmatic activities. The Ecological Management Plan should be the foundation for overall maintenance practices and should consider the elements below:

- » Facilities: Park facilities, including building and landscape assets, serve as both sources and "sinks" of ecological goods and services. As such, they require careful and integrative management to maximize their contribution to the Park's overall ecological performance. In establishing guidelines for Patterson Park's facilities, existing industry standards should be explored and adapted to create a robust program that is suitable for Patterson Park. The standards below rate buildings, landscapes, habitat, and design equity.
  - Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) buildings
  - Sustainable SITES landscapes
  - National Wildlife Federation (NWF) and Audubon Habitat Areas
  - Social Economic Environmental Design (SEED) projects
- » Programs & Events: Programs and events alter the function of Patterson Park's social, ecological, and economic systems. Periodic activities shift resources and populations throughout the Park. As a result, events represent significant opportunities to proactively manage park resources to enhance ecological benefits. Both on-site and off-site actions, such as those listed below, should be considered (among others) in developing the program and events component of the ecological management plan.
  - Carbon neutral: events should strive for a net-zero or limited "carbon footprint," meaning any carbon released through transportation, energy, or other resources required might need to be offset using a carbon credit service.
  - Alternative energy: use, for example, of energy sourced through solar panels or wind turbines.
  - Zero-waste: similar to carbon neutral, events should be strive to be waste neutral through use of composting, recycling, and limiting sources of waste.



- Social Enterprise: events might explore how they can contribute to human and environmental well-being outside beyond their site and program.
- » Landscape Maintenance: Flora, fauna, water, and soils are immediately impacted by landscape maintenance practices. These practices alter the chemical properties, nutrient cycling, community composition, habitat size, and a range of other variables that contribute to the overall ecological health of Patterson Park. As a built-in ecological meter, the direct feedback mechanism of maintenance offers a range of opportunities to improve the Park’s performance. These practices can be explored incrementally in the form of pilot projects and/or designed experiments to evaluate more widespread implementation. However, in the case of practices with proven success, larger scale adoption may be appropriate. Among the maintenance practices to consider are:
  - Organic management
  - Integrated pest control
  - Emission-free tools
  - Conservation planting
  - Drip irrigation (if necessary)
  - Urban logging
  - Designed Experiments

In addition to considering the elements listed above, the ecological management plan should be part of an overall effort to:

- » Identify partner organizations that would be beneficial for supporting maintenance efforts.
- » Work with partners to establish a detailed budget for managing park maintenance. Coordinate with partners and stakeholders to identify potential sources of supplementary funding (e.g., a park donation or sponsorship program).
- » Establish a set of ecological management protocols to guide maintenance efforts in the Park.
- » Research priorities necessary to develop best management practices and develop designed experiments/pilot projects to test ecological outcomes and community reception.



#### 4 | Education and Interpretation

Encourage visitor understanding and appreciation of ecological elements by providing opportunities to inform park users of ecological systems, elements, and processes.

- » Create a system for educational signage (e.g., tree labels, diagrams of ecosystems/ecological functions, etc.) to be located throughout the primary ecological environments within the Park.
- » Partner with area schools and youth groups, as well as with adult and community special interest groups, to develop educational programs to introduce individuals to Patterson Park’s ecological components and environments.

#### INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE

*Interpretive signage, which can take many shapes and forms, helps to engage visitors and educate them about park elements, qualities, and priorities. For instance, signage can be used to demonstrate the stormwater management capacity of a bioswale, or to describe a particular plant species and its value—both ecological and social. These signs are valuable in raising community awareness of ecosystem value, and encourage visitors to take part in knowing and caring for the park’s ecosystem.*

## PARK TREASURES

*Patterson Park is filled with a number of iconic and significant treasures—from historical monuments (the Pulaski Monument, bottom right) and significant architecture (the Pagoda, below), to detailed entrance gates (pictured top right). These features should be maintained to ensure many more years of enjoyment.*



## Strategy II—Protecting Assets

### *Maintenance, Enforcement, & Governance*

Numerous community groups in the surrounding neighborhoods are (and have been for many years) actively engaged in supporting Patterson Park. Non-governmental entities like the FoPP, Patterson Park Audubon Center, and the Creative Alliance (among others) have partnered with BCRP to develop popular programming and support the Park through investment, maintenance, and organizing of volunteers. Patterson Park, therefore, presents a distinct opportunity for Baltimore City, community groups, and non-governmental organizations to explore a management and governance structure as one of the ways to build upon its success and improve the Park further. This structure, then, can serve as an example for all City parks.

BCRP and its partner, the FoPP, have been exploring ideas to become efficient in the use of its resources, managing park assets, and creating management systems that are more responsive to the needs of the citizens they serve. With many supportive elements already in place at Patterson Park, plus a real sense of momentum, BCRP and FoPP have an opportunity to explore the potential for a long-standing model of partnership and governance that can be applied throughout the City's park system.

Over the past ten years, a number of public parks in urban settings throughout the country have begun to experiment with new models of management and governance. There are now many success stories of the public/private partnerships formed between cities and "friends" groups intending to create great public spaces. There is an opportunity to learn from these successes in determining the best path for improved management and administration of Patterson Park.

### 1 | Management and Governance Committee

Create a committee of those with appropriate expertise, led by BCRP and FoPP, to explore models for potential new management and governance of Patterson Park. The goal of continuing to improve the Park and taking it to the next level may require a new model of management and governance to improve park maintenance, rules enforcement, and park user responsiveness. The committee should consider:

- » Certain models for governance—such as conservancy, alliance, special benefits district, etc.

- » Feasibility of the ability to apply a model of management, particularly as it relates to the availability of supplementary or alternate funding.
- » A process for the formation of, and transition to, a new governance model, if deemed appropriate. This should include early first steps that may utilize an interim committee so that the process can begin early and capitalize on the momentum of the master planning process.

**2| Interim Organization Strategy**

Until a time when leadership and management positions can be implemented (as described below), establish an interim management strategy between BCRP and FoPP. This strategy may include:

- » An organizational chart outlining existing roles and responsibilities and accountable entities for each.
- » Mechanisms to share and post the organizational chart on websites, in park facilities, etc.

**3| Park Leadership and Management Positions**

Through the management and governance committee, explore the ability to secure Park leadership and management positions to include a Park Administrator and Park Manager. These positions may or may not be through BCRP and will be determined as governance models are explored.

- » Explore establishment of a Park Administrator position with the responsibility to:
  - o Oversee the implementation of Patterson Park’s long-term strategic goals—such as budgets, maintenance, capital improvements, and financing—and oversee the Park Manager (described below).
  - o Work with BCRP to review master plan projects specific to Patterson Park and ensure that fundamental questions regarding projects are answered during the design process and before any major capital improvements are made.
- » Explore establishment of a Park Manager position with the responsibility to oversee the day-to-day management and to serve as a coordinator among partners and single point of contact for Park users. The Park Manager would be located in the Park.
- » The Park Administrator and manager will work with BCRP (if they’re not already working directly under BCRP) to create a clear communication



The Grant Park Conservancy Website

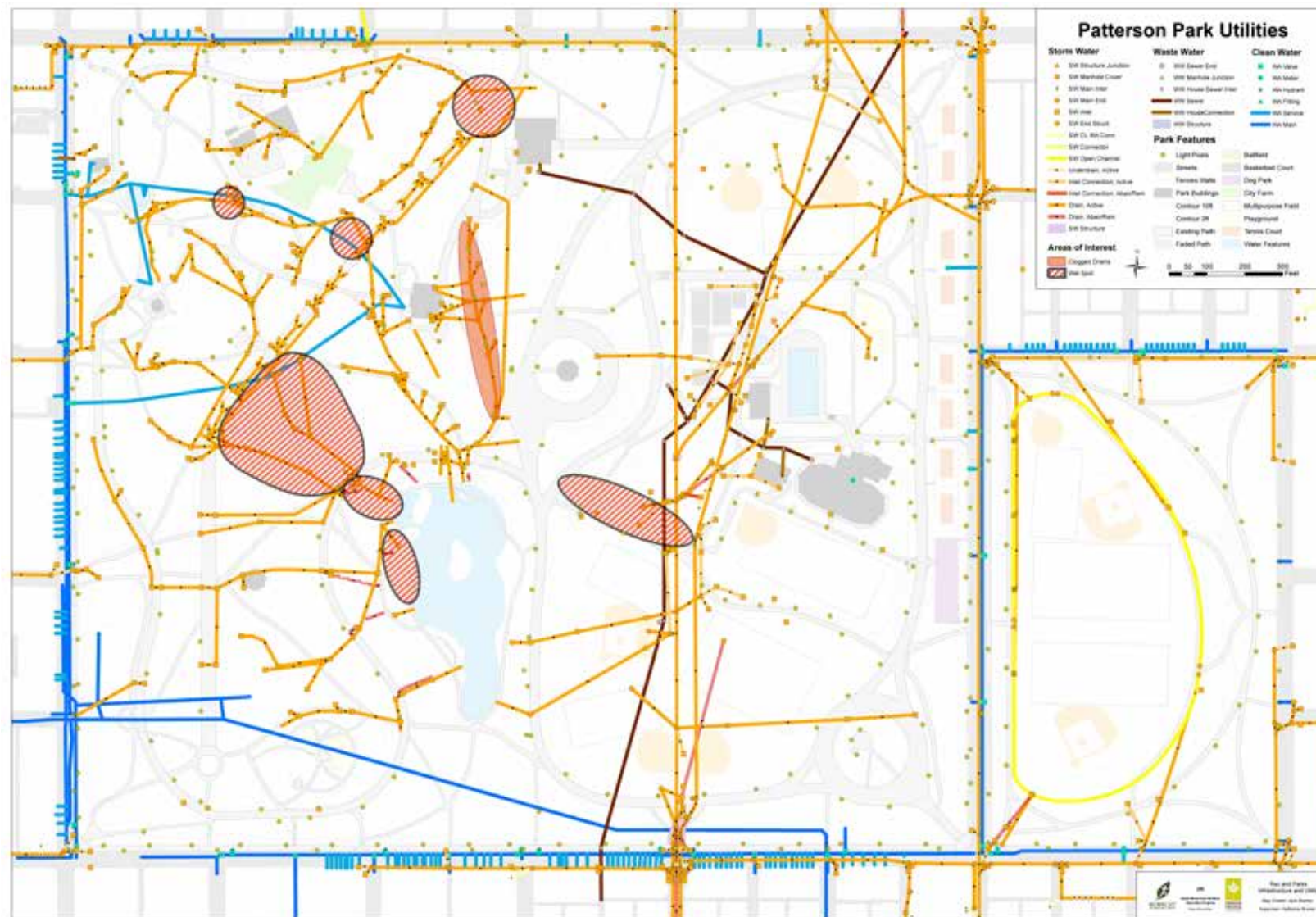


Samples of park brands and logos.

**PARK REPORT CARD**

In 2002, New Yorkers for Parks began releasing its first annual Report Card on Parks. In addition to identifying strengths and weaknesses, these Report Cards evaluate park performance against defined maintenance benchmarks and provide an assessment of park maintenance, compiling data to make an effective case for park needs.





**Fig. 22.** BCRP Utilities Plan

### UTILITIES PLAN

The map above is the result of an effort between BCRP, DPW, and an intern from the URI (Urban Research Initiative) Program, a program administered by Parks and People Foundation, to inventory hydrological infrastructure and utilities within the Park.

mechanism for organizations/individuals responsible for each aspect of maintenance, enforcement, and governance, including:

- Creating a new organizational chart as governance/management system evolves.
- Creating mechanism to share and communicate new organization chart and responsibilities.
- Ensuring that different entities are committing to responsibilities and coordinating with each other as needed.

### 4| Park Audit

Conduct an annual audit of existing enforcement, governance, and maintenance practices (safety, trash pick-up, mowing, pruning, aerating, sediment removal, resurfacing/paving, parking/vehicles, structures, dog activities, etc.) and establish a “report card” identifying elements/actions to be evaluated, criteria for success, and responsible parties. In the evaluation, include any explanations for successful and unsuccessful results and re-evaluate priorities for the coming year.

### 5| Financial Plan

Develop a long-term financial plan outlining revenues, expenses, and key partnerships for securing additional revenues. Work with appropriate agencies and City government to look at the allocation of revenues generated in Patterson Park and how they (or a portion of them) could be invested directly back into the Park.

### 6| Asset Management Plan

Develop a comprehensive asset management plan for Patterson Park to proactively protect park assets and to keep the Park clean and functional. This plan would include schedules for custodial maintenance, routine repair/replacement of components, and life cycle replacement or refurbishment of park assets, and would feed into the annual budget for the Park. The asset management plan should include the components detailed below.

#### 6A Building/Structure Maintenance

Implement maintenance strategy for buildings and major structures within the Park to avoid deteriorating conditions as a result of deferred maintenance. Additionally, include an understanding of maintenance requirements into the work scope for each new building project to aid in developing a maintenance schedule for that project.

**6B Park Hydrological Assessment and Stormwater Maintenance Plan**

In addition to assessing hydrology around the Boat Lake (as described in Strategy III, below), assess hydrology in the entire park in terms of surface, groundwater, storm water, and sewer flows and develop a stormwater maintenance plan.

- » Identify areas of standing water and poor drainage as a result of poor surface grading and/or clogged drains and broken underground utilities.
- » Augment the BCRP map of existing park utilities (Fig. 22, BCRP Utilities Plan) to complete gaps in missing information.
- » Test the functioning of existing utilities to determine locations of broken pipes and clogged drains.
- » Identify areas where grading, additional catch basins, and/or bio-retention solutions may be required to eliminate standing water.
- » Inspect, clean, and repair existing inlets, manholes, and pipes throughout park on a regular basis.

**6C Turf/Lawn Management**

Create a turf and lawn management plan to maintain appropriate turf areas within the Park and to experiment with limited-mow areas.

- » Re-seed and aerate active lawn areas throughout the Park as needed.
- » Consider temporary fencing (black or dark green in color to minimize the visual impact) to close off lawn areas, allowing for recovery after seeding. Use signage with positive messaging to communicate the purpose of fenced-off areas and to encourage cooperation from Park users.
- » Monitor controlled-mow areas (as described in Strategy IV, below), on a regular basis to ensure well-maintained edges and evaluate whether additional controlled-mow areas should be implemented within the Park.
- » Coordinate with BCRP’s mowing contractors or utilize a private contractor for late season mowing of limited mow areas (BCRP contracts typically end in October and late season mowing of limited-mow areas should occur in November).
- » Consider experimenting with the use of sheep or goats through private contractors for mowing of lawn in targeted areas. Areas would need to be fenced off to protect other plants. This could serve as an educational event and attraction in the Park.



**6D Vegetation Management**

Continue to maintain non-turf vegetation (trees, shrubs, special plantings/flowers) on an on-going basis utilizing City staff and volunteers. While the City is typically responsible for tree removal and major pruning, volunteers are primarily responsible for watering, mulching, and planting/weeding flower beds, habitat plantings, and other special planting areas. These efforts should continue on a regular basis. As described in Strategy IV, below, flower beds and special planting areas should only be installed when volunteers or other partners are in place to ensure regular maintenance. Specific vegetation management may include:

- » Routinely maintain tree cover through pruning and the removal and replacement of dead/dying trees. In particular, prune lower limbs from trees to allow for unobstructed views into and out of the Park.
- » Eliminate chemical fertilizer, pesticide, and herbicide use and adopt ecologically sensitive practices.
- » Coordinate training with volunteers and partners (e.g., Baltimore City’s “Weed Warrior” program, programs with the Baltimore Tree Trust, et al.) to ensure proper identification of invasive plants and proper tree pruning techniques.

**ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN**

*A Park Asset Management Plan should cover all areas of park maintenance, from vegetation management to caring for paths, stormwater management to control of litter, and more.*



## TRASH-COMPACTING RECEPTACLE

*Solar powered, trash-compacting receptacles, such as the BigBelly brand waste bin, accommodate larger volumes of trash—therefore reducing the need for frequent emptying.*



Photo courtesy of Chris Beall

## 6E Litter Management

Enhance litter management programs to improve removal of trash from the Park.

- » Explore best alternatives for trash disposal and recycling as part of each capital improvement project described in Strategies III and IV, below. Consider the use of receptacles that accommodate higher volumes of trash (such as “Big Bellies”) particularly in areas that have the most activity.
- » Research effective trash disposal and recycling methods from other communities.
- » Explore ways to effectively integrate recycling throughout the Park and within its facilities.
- » Continue coordinating regular park clean-up events.
- » Incorporate signage (sensitively, while avoiding sign clutter) with positive messaging to request that Park users refrain from littering and to assist volunteers by encouraging visitors to pick up litter as they see it. Any signs should be coordinated with an overall signage system and Park brand.

## 6F Maintenance Funding

In conjunction with exploration of different governance structures, explore BCRP and City policies relating to allocation of revenues generated within the Park and the feasibility of dedicating a percentage of these back toward maintenance of those parks.

## 6G Pathway Maintenance

Maintain existing and new paths throughout the Park to address deterioration and issues as they occur, before major problems develop.

- » Patch-repair damaged paved surfaces until pathway replacement occurs (as described in Strategy 4).
- » Maintain a stockpile of historic brick pavers, new asphalt pavers (being incorporated into renovated park entrances), and any other special materials being utilized in the Park for use in minor repairs for future spot-replacement, as needed.

## 7| Enforcement Plan

Develop an enforcement plan to address code and criminal violations and enforce park rules associated with daily park use and permitted activities. Ultimately, the plan should be developed among BCRP, the Park Administrator and manager (if not part of BCRP), Baltimore City Police Department (BCPD), Baltimore City Department of

Transportation (DOT), and park rangers. Until Park Administrator and Park Manager positions are secured, the other entities should develop an interim plan.

- » Consider revising conditions associated with vehicular access for permitted events to allow for limited time for loading and unloading (for example, a 30-minute maximum) so that park rangers and police can enforce the rules.
- » Work with the Mayor’s office and the BCPD (specifically, the Southeast District) to ensure that police officers already stationed in the Park can enforce park rules being violated.
- » Work with Southeast District Commissioner to encourage police officers to support park rangers when needed.
- » Coordinate among all enforcement bodies (BCPD, DOT, park rangers, etc.) so that penalties and fines for code violations have consistency among the enforcement entities.

## 8| Safety Plan

Work with Southeast District Police and other partners to develop a safety plan ensuring that Park users are protected from acts of intimidation or violence and to protect park property from abuse or vandalism.

- » Determine the most effective hours for patrolling the Park, such as the afternoons, early morning, and after dark.
- » Work with the BCPD to consider bike and/or equestrian patrols, which provide more mobility. Additionally, bike and equestrian patrols generally present a more positive image to the community.
- » Report incidents where police are being dismissive to user concerns.
- » Work with police and park rangers to coordinate the best manner to support each other’s responsibilities within the Park.
- » Consider alternatives for augmenting City police presence with added security patrol (i.e., hiring off-duty officers or private security) as part of the overall asset management and governance plans.

## 9| Park Ranger Program

- » Explore the feasibility of expanding the Park ranger program to continue providing rangers—expanding the total number of rangers, their hours of operation, and their levels of responsibility.
- » Provide training so that rangers can work most effectively with the Park Administrator, Park Manager, and the BCPD to help enforce rules and ensure security within the Park.
- » Extend the park ranger program throughout the year so enforcement training, which takes several weeks, is feasible.

## 10 | Project Design and Implementation

As new capital projects occur within the Park, ensure that the goals, recommendations and mission of this Master Plan are met. New capital projects will likely be initiated by BCRP; however, other partners may also initiate projects (with access agreements and memorandum of understandings developed with BCRP). BCRP will typically develop the project in-house, or work with an on-call consultant. Private partners such as FoPP, on the other hand, may directly retain a consultant/contractor or utilize a Request for Proposal (RFP) process. As programming and design is initiated for each project, regardless of whether or not an RFP process is utilized, the following should be considered:

- » Answer fundamental questions about how each project is supportive of this Master Plan.
- » Incorporate community engagement if necessary, particularly from children and teens and who use the Park.
- » Require each project to identify specific maintenance requirements that should be incorporated into the overall asset management plan.
- » Clarify that design details of any initial project phase will set the standard for future development.
- » When two projects share a critical relationship, but are built at different times, the first project constructed should consider a plan for the entire area to ensure the rest of the land still accommodates implementation of the second project. The active core area, as described in Strategy III, is an example of where many facilities and projects are interrelated.

## 11 | CHAP Designation

Explore Baltimore City Landmark Designation for Patterson Park as required by CC Bill 15-0511. BCRP, CHAP, FoPP, and other key stakeholders should work together to determine if designation as a Baltimore City Landmark is appropriate at this time, and to identify historic and non-historic characteristics of the Park. Consideration should also be given to identifying portions of the Park that should be subjected to lenient application of CHAP guidelines, allowing for new, creative, and innovative uses within these areas of the Park. CHAP already reviews all significant changes to the Park (as required under Article Six Section 8-13 of the Baltimore City code), which results in a recommendation report to the Mayor and Department of Recreation and Parks. However, designation provides a broader level of oversight regarding the design of public buildings and site projects (such as excavation) to ensure that they are in keeping with the Park's historic context.

CHAP Staff have outlined some of the benefits of designation:

- » Provide a mechanism to preserve and protect the Park and its features, particularly if community interests and level of community engagement change over time.
- » Offer protection for significant archaeological resources—particularly those related to the 1814 Battle of Baltimore—and provide a mechanism for discovery, documentation and excavation of unknown archaeological resources. Currently, excavation in Patterson Park is not reviewed by CHAP, and nationally-significant archaeological sites may be accidentally damaged or destroyed due to this lack of oversight.
- » Celebrate the history of the Park and provide more opportunities for interpretive markers, programming, and participation in the Baltimore National Heritage Area (BHAA).
- » Provide more funding opportunities when applying for grants.
- » Ability to add additional, specific landmarks later in the process, such as the Pulaski Monument.

As exploration of this designation occurs, it will be important for all parties to understand both the benefits and the potential constraints associated with the designation.

It's particularly relevant to take note of the protection of significant archaeological sites with Patterson Park. Archaeological sites are significant but largely invisible cultural resources that exist in Patterson Park. Recent excavations in Patterson Park of Rodger's Bastion, the eastern line of defense during the 1814 Battle of Baltimore, uncovered a wealth of information about the battle itself, but also found evidence of a Civil War encampment, the butcher's shop that gave name to Butcher's Hill, and artifacts that tell us about the lives of everyday Baltimore citizens. This archaeological site is of national significance and should be protected. Often, archaeological resources provide information about the past that wasn't written in historical records, and is an inspiring and tangible connection to our history. Archaeological sites are non-renewable resources – once destroyed, they cannot be replaced. Therefore, it is important to protect both known and undiscovered archaeological resources. Patterson Park has the potential to teach us a lot about our shared heritage through archaeology. There is a lot of potential for continuing public archaeology in Patterson Park, for STEAM-based educational programs for students and adults alike, and funding for these programs. In order to protect these archaeological resources, a policy needs to be implemented that requires a review by the CHAP staff archaeologist of all proposed excavations in the park prior to implementation, so that the City does not accidentally destroy known and undiscovered archaeological sites when making improvements. Additionally, permits for metal detecting should not be issued in Patterson Park.

### MOUNTED PATROL

*Having police or park rangers travel the park on bike or horseback reduce the number of vehicles in the park and provide access to more areas of the park for patrol.*



*A Baltimore City Police Officer rides around Lake Montebello for the BCRP + DPW Laps around the Lake Event. Photo source: photos.baltimorecity.gov/*

### Strategy III—Big Moves, Significant Capital

#### Major Facilities & Their Relationships

The location and relationship between significant capital projects in the Park can be transformative—in the way the Park is used, as well as in how the Park is programmed for events. Significant facilities and projects generally require the largest footprint (land area) and are therefore limited by the availability and location of feasible, appropriate sites within the Park. Placement needs to be carefully considered with respect to topography, available acreage, circulation and access, relationships to other facilities and program elements, and balancing needs for flexible open space, etc. Many large recreational facilities already exist at Patterson Park; however, the plan envisions relocation of some of these facilities, both within and outside of the Park. The following recommendations outline major enhancement and relocation projects.

#### 1 | Overall Vehicular Circulation and Parking

Responding to comments and input received through the opinion and field surveys, both of which suggested that cars in the Park create a challenge, Patterson Park should reorganize vehicular circulation and parking to limit daily vehicular access to specific areas only and other vehicular access to accommodate essential park functions on a permitted and emergency basis. Specific components of this recommendation include:

- » Limit of daily vehicular access to two locations only. The first is a new, central parking area with access off of South Linwood Street, providing access to the active core, as described below. This parking should be designated for key staff, persons with disabilities and permit holders, with specific details to be developed. The second location is the community garden area, with access off of East Baltimore Street at North Luzerne Avenue. This parking will be restricted to permit holders for the community garden only, with specific details to be developed.
- » Use a gate and/or removable bollard system to limit access to the main carriageway loop system and park facilities for the purposes described below. The gate and/or bollard system should be designed to be compatible with park aesthetics and should be bike and pedestrian-friendly, providing:
  - Emergency and service access.
  - Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant access.
  - Permit-holder access for time-restricted loading and unloading.
- » On-Street, Angled Parking: Work with Baltimore City DOT and the PABC to explore “head-out” (or, “reverse”) angle parking along two perimeter streets.

If this is determined not feasible after further study, re-engage stakeholders in planning for a new limited parking solution. Specific recommendations include:

- Head-out angle parking on Linwood Avenue (between Eastern Avenue and East Pratt Street) for a potential net gain of 20- 22 spaces. Design and planning to consider:
  - Widening of the street on each side to the existing inside edge of sidewalk.
  - Head-out, angle parking on one side (east side shown on plan), with parallel parking to remain on the other.
  - Parking areas that are visually distinct from travel lanes, using different paving treatment.
  - Curb bumpouts and well-delineated crosswalks.
  - Appropriate signage outlining parking restrictions.
- East Pratt Street head-out, angle parking (between South Linwood Avenue and South Elwood Avenue). Design and planning to consider:
  - Widening of the street on the south side only to the existing inside edge of the sidewalk within the Park.
  - Head-out, angle parking on the south side of the street, with parallel parking to remain on the north side.
  - Curb bumpouts and well-delineated crosswalks.
  - Appropriate signage outlining parking restrictions.
- Potential designated parking spaces for park users. Work with DOT and the PABC to explore the potential to meter a number of on-street parking spaces (not to exceed the net gain achieved with the conversion to angled parking and likely a maximum of 33) for park use during specific hours (to be determined) along Linwood, south of East Pratt Street. A portion of these spaces closest to the proposed recreation/senior center (described below) should be reserved for persons with disabilities and seniors. As part of this effort, explore the feasibility of using four-hour metered parking for the designated spaces to ensure turnover. Work with DOT to ensure designs maintain adequate roadway facilities and parking layout.
- » Neighborhood Parking and Transit Considerations: Coordinate parking in conjunction with broader neighborhood-wide parking solutions (undertaken by other City departments) and other park access options such as a shuttle system as described further in Strategy V.

#### CARS IN THE PARK

*Vehicles driving and parking in Patterson Park were often referenced in the opinion and field surveys as being a challenge. Vehicular circulation and parking should be reorganized to limit daily vehicular access to specific areas only. These areas would be accessed from East Baltimore Street and Linwood Avenue.*

*Other vehicular access that serves essential park functions may be accommodated on a permitted and emergency basis.*



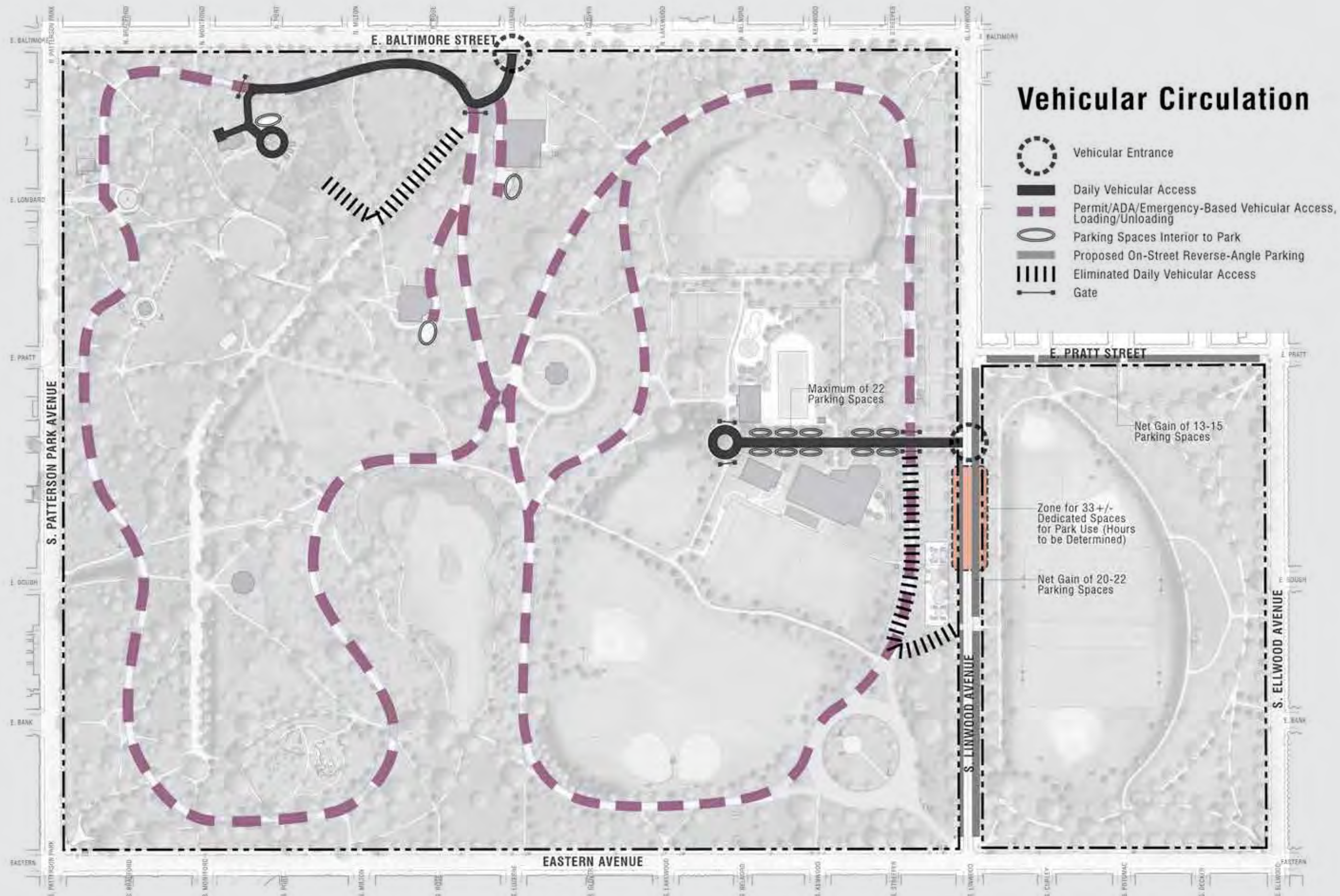


Fig. 23. Vehicular Circulation Diagram

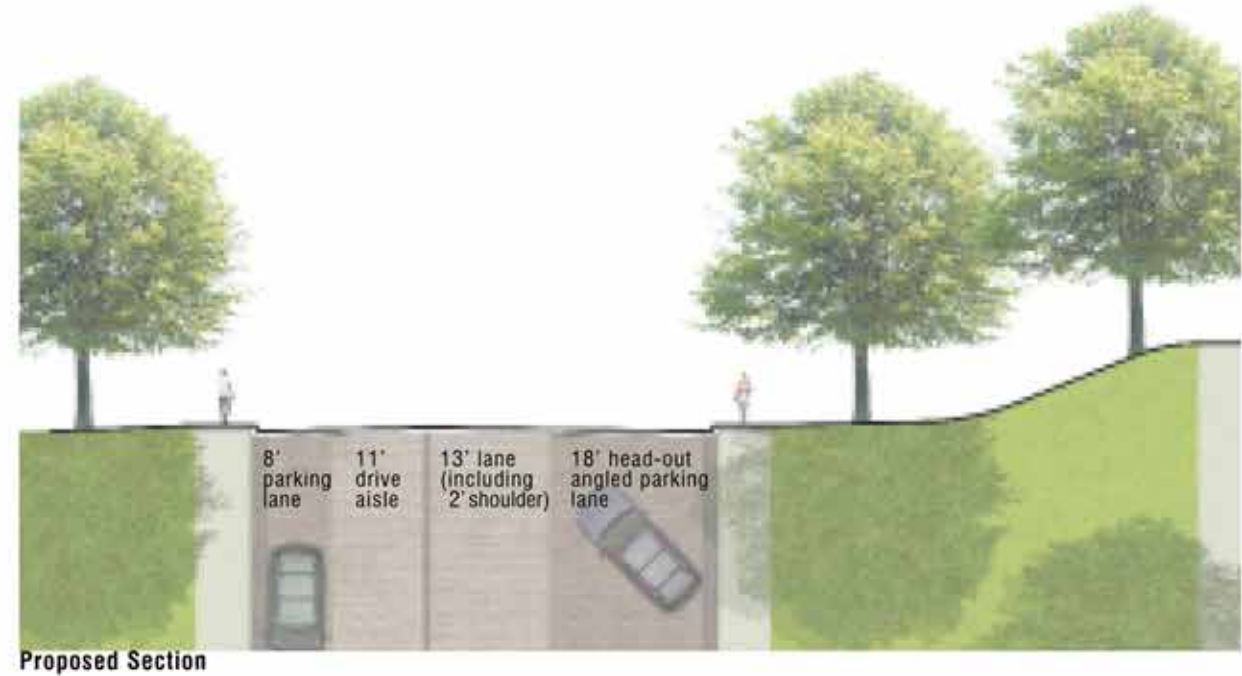
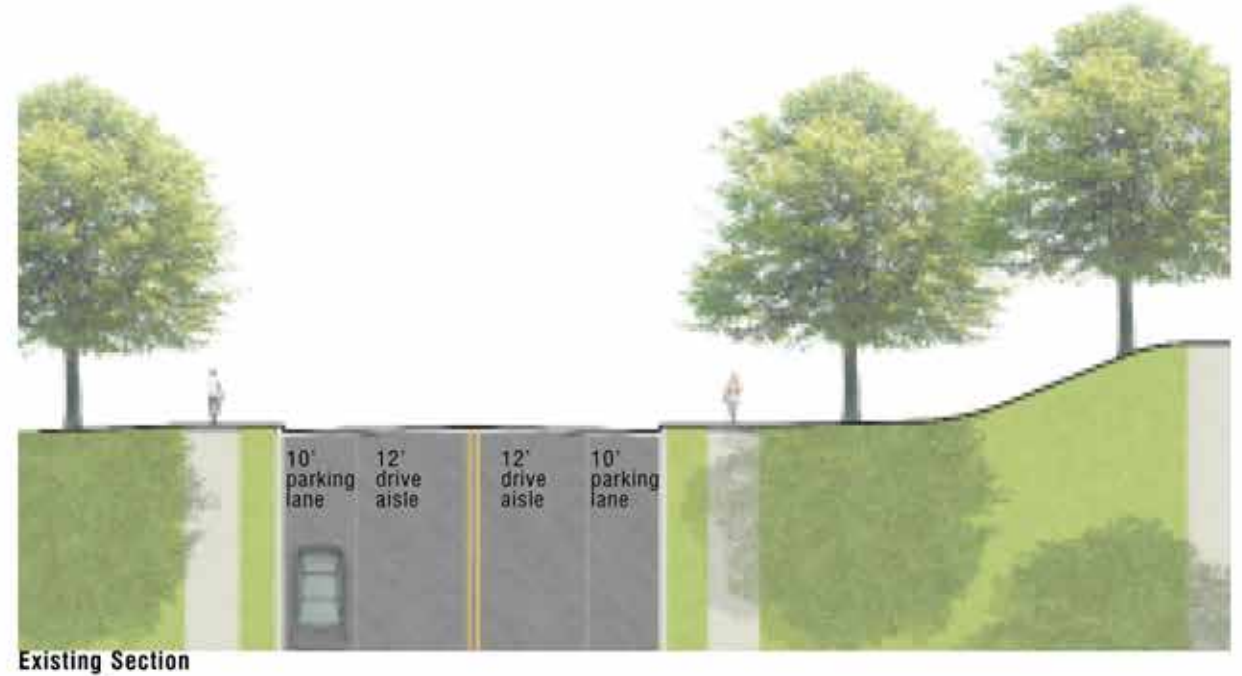


Fig. 24. Linwood Ave. & East Pratt St. Angled Parking Concept

**2| Active Core**

Identify and designate the eastern zone of the main park and western zone of the Park extension as the “active core” in which the most intensive recreation facilities are located. Renovate and relocate existing facilities and develop new recreation facilities in this area, making them more accessible and providing an opportunity to better organize this part of the Park which has grown somewhat organically.

The Master Plan illustrates a preferred plan in which the existing ice rink is reconstructed in a nearby location and a new recreation/senior center constructed in its place. The plan also illustrates an alternate location for the new recreation/senior center. Both are described later under this recommendation. Other requirements for the active core include:

- » Individual projects should not be done in a vacuum. The program statement for the first structure/project located within the active core should require a schematic concept for the overall active core area to place the new project and future projects in context with one another and to ensure conformance to this Master Plan.
- » With each follow-up project, the program statement may need to require a re-evaluation of the schematic plan for the overall active core if the project requires a logical deviation from the overall plan.

Specific components of the Active core which can be developed as individual projects include the following:

**2A Park Drive**

As introduced earlier, this part of the Park will be one of two areas where vehicular access is permitted on a daily basis, organized along a central parking avenue or “allée” (allée is a French term for a straight route, particularly within parks or gardens, lined with trees on either side). It is important that this parking resource be designed as an aesthetic feature, compatible with the historic qualities of the Park, and not appear to be a typical parking lot, which is why the term “allée” is used. This parking should be designated for key staff, persons with disabilities and permit holders, with specific details to be developed. The following characteristics are envisioned:

- » The use of “green” strategies (such as permeable paving) within the Parking stalls areas.
- » A maximum of 22 parallel parking spaces.
- » Regularly spaced tree islands, preferably every two parking spaces.



**Fig. 25.** Active Core Enlargement

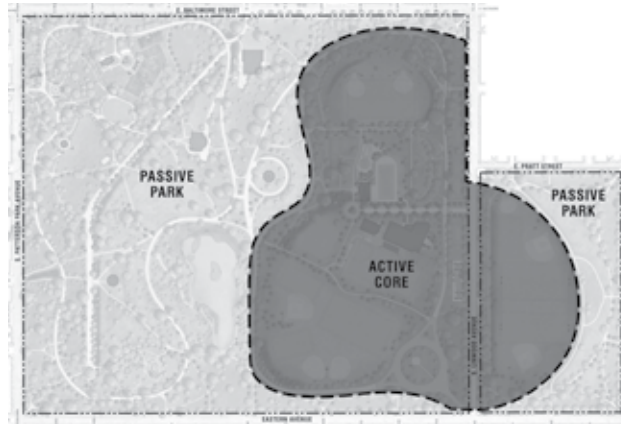


Fig. 26. Active Core Zone



Park Drive Area, existing conditions



Example of how trees can be incorporated into a row of parking



Fig. 27. Recreation Center and Park Drive

- » Drop-off zone for access to potential seasonal ice rink, pool, recreation/senior center.
- » ADA-compliant parking.
- » Permit parking.
- » Parallel pedestrian walkways on either side.
- » Clear signage identifying any parking restrictions and limitations for vehicular access.
- » Bike racks.
- » Clearly designated bike and pedestrian crossings.

The park drive needs to meet ADA requirements based on the road's use and design.

#### 2B Pool Facility

Continue to evaluate existing pool facilities as they respond to current user trends and renovations to adjacent existing facilities and/ or the creation of new facilities within

the active core. Additionally, continue to evaluate operations and programming accordingly. Specific considerations should include:

- » Provision for additional water games and interactive elements.
- » Additional shade, provided either by shade structures or tree plantings.
- » Improved seating.
- » Maximization of relationship with proposed recreation/senior center, playground, and potential seasonal ice rink/multi-use facility.
- » Potential updates to the restroom building to improve availability and to make it more flexible in serving as a support building for seasonal ice rink.
- » Potential expanded evening hours to better accommodate users, who work during the day, as well as sports leagues, and provide more clarity in the daily 30-minute pool closure process.
- » Improved scheduling of programs that limit public access to the pool during morning hours.
- » Installation and location of bike racks.

**2C Primary Ice Rink Facility**

Despite a high percentage of user satisfaction with the existing ice rink and its location within the Park, the facility has significant structural and mechanical problems, resulting in high annual maintenance costs. Additionally, limited parking resources result in current users driving into the Park to park their cars and also prevent BCRP from being able to expand programming for the facility. For these reasons, BCRP’s goal is to relocate the existing ice rink to a new location in close proximity to the communities it serves, preferably within a two mile radius of Patterson Park. This will allow for construction of a more financially sustainable facility with additional revenue-generating activities and parking. The goal is to construct a new facility prior to closing the existing facility; however, this will be dependent upon the timing of other program elements, availability of a site and feasibility of continuing to repair existing facility. The name of the facility will remain the Dominic “Mimi” DiPietro Skating Center.

**2D Flexible Multi-Use Space/Seasonal Ice Rink**

Maintain a flexible, multi-use space within the active core in the current location of the underutilized softball field to the southwest of the pool. This space could accommodate other programmed elements such as a seasonal ice rink, additional court games, and/or an open play lawn. Strive to continue operation of the existing ice rink facility until a new seasonal facility is operational and opened.

- » Include an area for recreational ice skating.
- » Explore feasibility of a covered “open air” facility, if funding can be obtained. Design the facility to minimize the impact of any structure (such as a roof, if a covered facility is developed) on Park facilities and to complement the overall Park, taking care to preserve views. Set any structures into the topography and incorporate as much transparency in the structures as possible to accommodate vistas.
- » Consider how skate functions (e.g., rental, restrooms, etc.) can be integrated with those functions needed by pool.
- » Include a gathering space for temporary refreshment area (seasonal café, etc.).
- » Accommodate off-season uses, such as a roller skating facility or a temporary skate park.
- » Utilize a concrete base to better allow for non-ice rink uses.
- » Explore working with a seasonal ice rink provider to explore setting up a portable facility as well as feasibility of incorporating a more permanent pavement base with refrigerant tubes.
- » Provide bike racks.
- » Provide electric and water connections.



LeFrak Center Ice Rink in Prospect Park. Photo source: Lakesidebrooklyn.com



**LAKESIDE, PROSPECT PARK**

*LeFrak Center in Prospect Park, New York, offers year-round activities. The permanent skating pavilion (pictured here) supports ice skating during the winter months, and roller skating and a splash pad when it’s warm.*

## REC CENTER ARCHITECTURE

*The samples below demonstrate how the proposed Recreation/Senior Center can be glassy, transparent, and open.*



### 2E Recreation Center/Senior Center

Develop a new and expanded recreation center and senior center within the active core, close to parking resources along Linwood Avenue. With significant investment in this new facility, it will be important to improve management, expand programs, and enhance visual appeal. The new facility should be constructed prior to the closing of the existing facility.

BCRP's 2015 *Comprehensive Recreation and Aquatics Facility Analysis and Plan*<sup>1</sup> intends to expand programming to include families, adults, and others. While the program and design for the new center needs to be determined, the center in Cherry Hill (pictured on page 57) is an example of one of the City's newest recreation centers, currently in final design review. Construction of the new center is anticipated to start Fall/Winter 2016.

#### Preferred Location

In terms of accessibility to on-street parking resources, visibility from the street, and relationship to other program elements within the active core, the current location of the ice rink is the preferred location for the recreation/senior center. To optimize the functionality and aesthetics of this significant resource, the design of the facility must carefully consider the following:

- » Design the structure to be dynamic yet sensitive to the historic character of Patterson Park. The building design should avoid creating an inauthentic "historic" appearance.
- » Incorporate a significant amount of windows and natural light with glassy, open facades through which evening illumination offers a striking appearance.
- » Ensure that the facility is close to Linwood Avenue and has strong visibility from the street.
- » Orient the building so it responds to and helps reconcile the different Park grid alignments established by the pool and stadium.
- » Respond to and create a backdrop to the stadium. Consider how stadium activity can be viewed from within the recreation/senior center building.
- » Establish outdoor gathering spaces associated with recreation center programming.
- » Provide easy access to transit stops.

<sup>1</sup> BCRP's 2015 comprehensive recreation and aquatics facility plan can be accessed at [http://destinationgetactive.org/sites/default/files/pdfs/BCRP\\_Recreation\\_and\\_Aquatics\\_Facility\\_Analysis\\_and\\_Plan.pdf](http://destinationgetactive.org/sites/default/files/pdfs/BCRP_Recreation_and_Aquatics_Facility_Analysis_and_Plan.pdf)

- » Consider incorporating a police substation into the facility.
- » Consider incorporating public restrooms as part of the structure, with access from the exterior so that they can be operated independently from the recreation/senior center. These would be accessible to users of the different activities within the active core including the playground, basketball courts, tennis courts, etc.
- » Explore opportunities for a permanent concession café located within the center.
- » Prevent congestion within the active core through careful traffic management around the facility.
- » Utilize Park Drive, described above, to provide accessible parking spaces for persons with disabilities and seniors.
  - If parking meters are installed on-street along Linwood, designate some spaces as ADA-only, with signage and ADA meters.
- » Provide bike storage (racks, covered storage, etc.) adjacent to the facility.
- » Accommodate programs and facilities for people of all ages. Facilities may include traditional recreational amenities (such as a fitness room, courts, community rooms, etc.) as well as expanded programs, particularly youth programs, to attract a wider membership. Programs may include gym classes, Spanish language classes, and job-training classes, just to name a few.
- » Consider extended operating hours.
- » Consider the facility as a hub for coordinating with all of the programs in the Park. As much as possible, efforts should be made to cross-program Park facilities for continual use.
- » Provide inter-generational benefits. Explore the feasibility and desirability of distinct areas for use by seniors and youth, possibly separate entrances as well.
  - Provide flexible facilities and spaces that could be scheduled for use by both seniors and youth at different times.
- » Explore feasibility of incorporating Living Classrooms into the new recreation/senior center to provide more efficient use of the limited space within the active core.
- » Provide electric and water connections to accommodate nearby outdoor events.

*Alternate Location*

If the preferred plan as illustrated is not feasible because of changing priorities, funding opportunities, lack of an available site for a new ice rink, difficulties resulting in taking program elements off line, etc., then an alternative solution for the location of the new recreation/senior center should be considered within the active core. Both are illustrated in the diagrams on this page. The summary below describes how each could be developed in phases.

*Potential Phasing (Preferred Plan)*

Option 1:

1. Construct and open a new ice rink in a nearby location (preferably within two miles of the existing location).
2. Demolish the existing ice rink and construct the new recreation/senior center in the location of the existing ice rink.
3. Implement enhancements to other areas within the active core as feasible.

Option 2:

1. Discontinue operations of the existing ice rink for a period of time and demolish the structure to allow for the construction of the new recreation/senior center. The ice rink would remain out of operation until a new one could be constructed.
2. Construct the new recreation/senior center in the location of the existing ice rink.
3. Implement enhancements to other areas within the active core as feasible.

*Potential Phasing (Alternate Plan)*

1. Construct a new playground within the underutilized softball field area to the southwest of the existing pool (the existing ice rink continues operations in its current location).
2. Construct the new recreation/senior center within a portion of the existing playground area, preserving as many of the large, existing trees as possible (the existing ice rink continues operations in its current location).
3. Construct a new ice rink in a nearby location (preferably within two miles of the existing location).
4. Demolish the existing ice rink and relocate the basketball courts and additional tennis courts to this area.
5. Construct a flexible-use space/seasonal ice rink in the location of the existing basketball courts.



**Fig. 28.** Active Core: Preferred Approach



**Fig. 29.** Active Core: Alternative Approach

**PREFERRED + ALTERNATIVE APPROACH**

*The Active Core area could evolve in a variety of ways. Illustrated to the left are two options: a preferred approach and an alternative. While there are many similarities (e.g., the location of existing facilities, and the preservation of existing view corridors), the preferred approach optimizes the functionality and aesthetics of the proposed recreation/senior center and provides a significant zone for flexible use.*



*The Cherry Hill Fitness and Wellness Center and the Cahill Fitness and Wellness Center projects have been proposed as part of BCRP's Destination Active Baltimore initiative to improve recreation and aquatic facilities.*



### 2F Playground

Upgrade the existing playground in its current location within the active core. Enhancements may include:

- » Prune and limb trees along the playground edges to enhance the sense of safety and security while inviting views into and around the playground. Better maintain trees to preserve existing tree canopy.
- » Consider providing terraced seating on the hillside.
- » Update the playground equipment.
- » Provide more opportunities for shaded seating and play spaces through additional shade trees and shade structures.
- » Reconfigure playground orientation so that it offers a better relationship to the pool and to the new recreation center.





**2G Tennis Courts**

Continue to upgrade the existing tennis courts for tennis and equa-volley (a variant of volleyball invented and played in Ecuador, and increasingly popular among some Patterson Park visitors) use and provide routine maintenance. Explore potential opportunities for additional courts (up to two) within the active core. Additional considerations include:

- » Shift or relocate courts to accommodate new access and Park Drive within the active core. This results in the loss of one tennis court, which may be able to be relocated along with an added court within the active core area.
- » Explore the feasibility of providing lighting for the relocated and new tennis courts (described above) to extend hours of operations.
- » Because the courts are heavily used, particularly during the summer months, consider establishing a court reservation system.

**2H Basketball Courts**

Continue to upgrade the existing basketball courts and facilities and provide routine maintenance. If basketball courts are relocated within the active core, consider the relationship of their new site to the new recreation/senior center.

**2I Living Classrooms Building**

Living Classrooms leases its facility from BCRP. Located in the active core adjacent to Twardowicz (Utz) Field, the Living Classrooms facility offers after-school programs, sports programs, and both youth and adult exercise programs. Enhancements should focus on better integrating the facility into the Park and strengthening its relationship to other program elements within the active core, particularly with the new recreation/senior center and adjacent recreational amenities. Additionally, the new Park Drive, drop-off, and signage regarding parking restrictions will provide clarity as to where vehicular access is allowed. Specific considerations include:

- » Evaluate the design relationship to new recreation/senior center and pedestrian connections between the two.
- » Explore the feasibility of incorporating the facility into the new recreation/senior center building for better utilization of space within the active core.
- » Enhance the lighting around the facility to accommodate winter programs that end after dark.
- » Improve communication and outreach regarding programs, scheduled activities, and opportunities for seniors to be involved.



**2J Linwood Dog Park**

The dog park is well-used throughout the year and users are generally satisfied with it. Enhancements should focus on addressing the concerns of both users and non-users. These include:

- » Improve the lighting around the facility.
- » Provide additional shade with tree planting nearby.
- » Maintain and repair the components on a regular basis.
- » Improve enforcement of the rules governing the use of the dog park.

**3| Athletic Fields**

Renovate existing athletic fields throughout the Park, as needed. Renovations may include:

- » Repair bare patches of turf and fix broken goals within the east Park.
- » Amend and aerate turf soil in the short-term.
- » Over the long-term, install drainage, upgrade soil, and replace turf.
- » Replace damaged fencing.
- » Provide access to public restrooms in conjunction with the development of the new recreation/senior center.
- » Coordinate with perimeter tree planting (recommendation IV|7) to allow for field rotation.



**DOGS IN THE PARK**

*Many visitors bring their pet dogs with them to Patterson Park. While dogs must be kept on a leash in the park's open areas, the Linwood Dog Park provides a space for owners to let their dogs run. Continued maintenance and strategic improvements will ensure that the Dog Park is a well-utilized amenity.*

*The Linwood Dog Park is a well-used facility and appreciated by those who use it. However, it is overcrowded and maintenance and enforcement of rules need to be improved. Elsewhere in Patterson Park, many park users indicate problems with off-leash dogs and owners who don't clean-up after them. Because the park cannot accommodate additional dedicated dog parks, enforcement of off-leash laws and/or exploration of enforceable off-leash hours is important for future consideration.*

## APPRECIATION OF THE BOAT LAKE

*Both the Online Opinion Survey and the Field Surveys indicated that the Boat Lake is one of the most valued amenities in the Park.*



### 4 | Boat Lake

The Boat Lake is one of the most popular facilities in the Park, offering opportunities for bird-watching, fishing, and passive recreation. The focus for the Boat Lake should be to improve functional operations of the lake, increase the ecological performance, and enhance the overall aesthetics. This involves studies and also physical improvements. Specific enhancements are described below.

#### 4A Boat Lake Assessment

Build upon DPW's initial testing to assess the Park's hydrology and gather data regarding surface and groundwater, as well as stormwater and sewer flows, particularly as related to impacts on the Boat Lake and its water quality. Inspect pond inlets and outlets and document current conditions to inform priorities for moving forward. Following the implementation of the repairs described below, document any changes to the hydrology as a result of cleaning and repair.



#### 4B Boat Lake Maintenance Plan

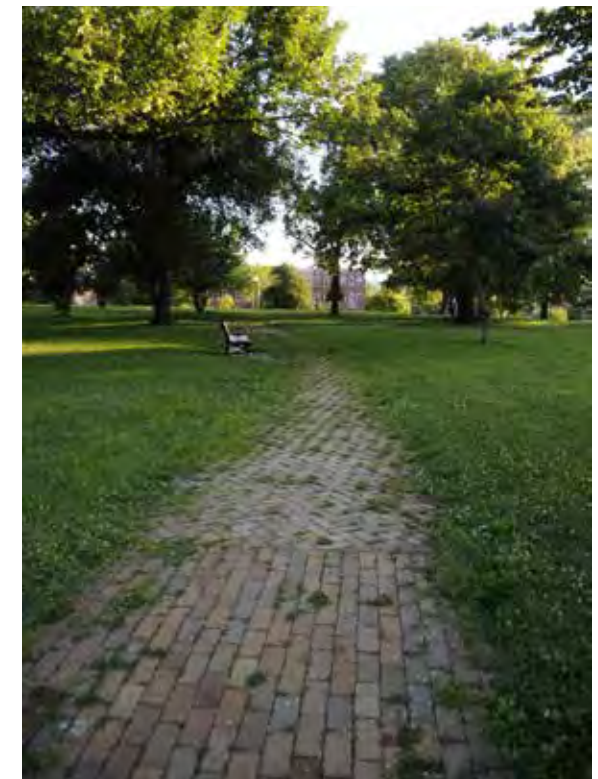
Using the assessment from above, develop a maintenance plan utilizing best management practices to identify sustainable maintenance solutions for the Boat Lake. Perform the following as part of routine maintenance:

- » Reduce sediments and nutrient input into the pond.
- » Remove litter from the lake and catchments on a monthly basis.
- » Inspect, clean, and/or repair inlets, outlets, and utility piping within the lake's drainage area.
- » Remove emergent invasive plants from the lake and its edges; replace with Maryland native plants.
- » Upkeep lake and catchment plantings.
- » Dredge the lake to remove excess sediment on a regular basis, such as every 10 years.
- » Remove sediment/debris from adjacent walkways after flooding and large storm events.

**4C Boat Lake Enhancements**

In addition to maintenance to the lake itself, implement enhancements to the area around the lake, including:

- » Repair the brick wall and picket fence.
- » Provide pathway connections at higher elevations on the west side to allow circulation around the lake during flooding.
- » Provide micro-bioretenion and rain garden facilities—planted with low, native plants—on higher ground adjacent to the Boat Lake to reduce flows, improve water quality and reduce nutrient loads, and increase habitat for beneficial insects and birds.
- » Coupled with a plan to maintain additional plantings, enhance ecological diversity of native plantings around the Boat Lake (particularly in areas that drain into the lake) to include meadow plantings and low, native shrubs (under three feet in height) to augment existing plantings.
- » Increase tree planting along the eastern edge of the Boat Lake to increase riparian buffer and nesting opportunities for Baltimore Orioles and other species of significance (see recommendation I|1). Be mindful to maintain and frame key views to and from the lake.



**5 | Promenade Restoration**

The Promenade anchors the circulation system through the western portion of the Park and presents a tremendous opportunity for restoring its original grandeur. Specific enhancements include:

- » Restore the path to its original width and lift and reset the bricks; use salvaged bricks from other walkways, as necessary.
- » Restore the Promenade’s “crown” to the center of the path to facilitate drainage.
- » Develop appropriate edge detail (including curbing and/or gutter pan) to minimize future erosion and/or sediment buildup.
- » Continue to replace benches and site furnishings as needed and provide additional ones where appropriate.
- » Supplement existing tree planting with regularly spaced shade trees along the length of the Promenade.
- » Provide interpretive signage.



**PATH REPAIR AND RESTORATION**

*The remaining brick paths throughout the park are often found in poor condition. The brick can be salvaged as the promenade is restored.*



## 6 | Existing Structures: Re-purposing, Rehabilitation, or Removal

There are numerous structures throughout the Park in addition to those facilities described above in previous recommendations. Many are historic buildings and structures that add to the richness of the Patterson Park experience. They offer the potential to continue housing current functions or be renovated and re-purposed for more appropriate uses. Other buildings, however, are more utilitarian in nature; some should be removed while others should be renovated in a manner compatible with the character of the Park.

As buildings are re-purposed and considered for new tenants, it will be important to evaluate the tenants carefully to make sure they are an appropriate fit for the Park. It is equally important that buildings not remain vacant for long periods of time, which burdens BCRP or other partners with ongoing maintenance. Specific considerations for selecting building uses and tenants may include:

- » Financial stability and revenue-generating potential.
- » Compelling business plan.
- » Organizational purpose or function that is compatible with the vision, mission and values for Patterson Park.
- » Uses that expand the programming opportunities within the Park.
- » Uses that are multi-purpose and can support/complement other park uses.
- » Public access.
- » Potential to activate particular areas of the Park with positive activities.
- » Opportunity to provide more “eyes on the Park.”
- » Uses that do not require daily parking at the building (other than ADA) or vehicular circulation into the Park.
- » Sensitivity to the inherent historic characteristics of the building.

As opportunities arise for re-purposing of buildings, BCRP should work with FoPP and other key stakeholders to determine the best fit, related to the considerations described above.

Regardless of the specific use for each building, there are some general recommendations for all buildings and structures, as described below:

- » Provide lighting for facilities whose programs or operating hours continue after sundown.
- » Provide bike racks at all facilities within the Park to accommodate and promote bicycle use.

- » Provide appropriate signage/message boards/orientation maps at each building, as appropriate, to promote programs offered within the building and show context of facility within the greater Park.

Recommendations for specific buildings and structures are described below.

**6A White House**

Renovate the White House and continue to utilize it as an office for FoPP. To accommodate renovation, consider the Stable Building or Casino Building as temporary re-locations for FoPP while the building is being renovated. Provide exterior electric and water connections to better accommodate events in this area.

**6B Casino Building**

Renovate and re-purpose the Casino Building to take advantage of this unique resource for park- and recreation-related organizations that will not require on-site parking (with the exception of parking provided for ADA compliance). Potential users may include the Audubon Society or a similar organization. Specific considerations include:

- » Continue the building’s function as a senior center until the new recreation/senior center can be constructed.
- » Include office, classroom, exhibit, and gathering spaces in the building renovations.
- » Consider the site’s potential as an event space; however, note that economic feasibility of this would require permitted parking or a shuttle system.
- » Allow the building to potentially function as “flex space” while other buildings, such as the White House, are renovated.
- » Consider the site as a potential café opportunity if a permanent concession is not opened in the new recreation/senior center facility.
- » Consider incorporating public restrooms that could be accessible to general Park users.
- » Improve the approach to the Casino from the Promenade by removing overgrown vegetation and considering an outdoor gathering area/entry courtyard.

**6C Stables and Maintenance Buildings**

Renovate the Stables for a new use that would take advantage of this building’s historic architectural character and setting. This may include a use such as offices for the Park Administrator and Park Manager with a reduced maintenance component, should the

full maintenance facility relocate as being explored by BCRP. If this building serves as management offices for the Park, it may also be a good candidate to incorporate public restrooms into the design. In conjunction with the renovation, remove the existing cinder block maintenance building which is incompatible to the historic character of the Park.

**6D Pagoda**

Continue proactive maintenance on the Pagoda, including painting and minor repairs to avoid more significant repairs that could be required if the Pagoda is neglected. Other specific recommendations include:

- » Update/expand the electric service at the performance area, as needed.
- » Provide water access.
- » Consider providing multiple locations for power sources to better accommodate events in this area of the Park.

**6E Existing Virginia Baker Recreation Center**

The existing Virginia Baker Recreation Center should continue to function as a recreation center until the new recreation/senior center can be constructed, as described in recommendation III|2. At this time, BCRP should explore the reuse potential of the facility using the use and tenant criteria outlined above. The Patterson Park Public Charter School has expressed some interest in using the facility once the Recreation Center moves and should be considered in addition to other uses. If a suitable use/occupant cannot be found, the building should be demolished. In addition to the criteria described earlier, the following should be considered specifically for this building if it is reused, regardless of the occupant.

- » Provide parking within existing parking areas only for persons with disabilities and for permitted activities.
- » Redesign the access to the existing parking area so that vehicles enter from outside the proposed gate, rather than requiring access along the internal carriageway.
- » Visually “open up” the building with windows and integrate it into the Park, making it more welcoming from the inside, as well as from the outside.
- » Consider the incorporation of public restrooms with independent access from outside the building.

If the building is demolished, electric connections and water access should be provided in this area so that it can continue to function as a secondary event space, as described later in this report in recommendation V|1 (p. 80).



**VIRGINIA BAKER RECREATION CENTER**

*The existing Virginia Baker Recreation Center, with expanses of windowless facades, is uninviting for visitors. Should reuse be feasible, future renovations need to include enhancements that will allow the building to better engage its park setting.*

## PARK ASSETS & NEEDS

**THE FOUNTAIN** was constructed by George Aloysius Frederick after the Civil War.

**PUBLIC RESTROOMS** were identified in many of the surveys and focus group discussions as a need for Patterson Park.



### 7| Fountain

The historic fountain near the White House is a tremendous asset to the Park in terms of its historic character and function as a gathering place. Over the years, significant renovations to the fountain have occurred, including lighting; however, leaking has been a recent challenge. Repair the leaks in the fountain and continue to maintain on a regular basis.

### 8| Public Restrooms

There is a need and desire for public restrooms in multiple locations throughout the Park. In most instances, these should be incorporated into building facilities (as described for individual projects, such as the Virginia Baker Recreation Center renovation, the proposed in recreation/senior center, and others) for cost and operational considerations as well as to allow better oversight. Additionally, public restrooms incorporated into existing or new buildings should be designed with separate access from the outside so that they can function independently of the attached building's operating hours, as much as is feasible. The buildings that are logical candidates to accommodate public restrooms include the Stables, Casino, Virginia Baker Recreation Center Building, and/or the new recreation/senior center. In addition to those incorporated into existing or proposed buildings, consider a permanent stand-alone public restroom in the southwest corner of the Park, near the playground.

### 9| Community Garden

The Patterson City Farms Garden is one of 12 City Farms, and the most popular garden managed by the City. While there is a need to expand the gardens to provide additional gardening plots, there is a limit as to how much expansion is appropriate within Patterson Park. There are currently 80 plots and there is a desire to expand to accommodate at least 50 additional plots. City Farms has identified 150 plots as the ultimate maximum size before management becomes too difficult. As shown on the Illustrative Master Plan, the gardens can expand by approximately 40-50 plots (10' x 15' each) and fit within the overall Park context. Additional plots can be accommodated by incorporating half-size plots. Specific considerations for the garden include:

- » Expand the garden to the northeast where there is little existing tree cover.
- » Incorporate terracing to accommodate slight slope and minimize runoff and erosion.
- » Incorporate gardening areas that are ADA accessible and can better accommodate seniors and people with mobility challenges.

- » Replace chain link fence around community garden with a sturdy ornamental fence.
- » Provide adjacent access for loading/unloading via Luzerne Avenue and the northern perimeter loop, as opposed to continued utilization of the Promenade.
- » Design the loading/unloading area as an “organized space” that not only serves as a functional drop-off zone for the gardens and Stables, but also as a potential gathering/meeting space where small events associated with the garden can take place.
- » Explore the use of pervious pavement for the drop-off area.
- » Identify areas for the organized location of mulch, topsoil, organic matter, etc.
- » Ensure adequate access to water is available.
- » Consider producing guidelines to minimize unsightly visual clutter as part of personal garden spaces.

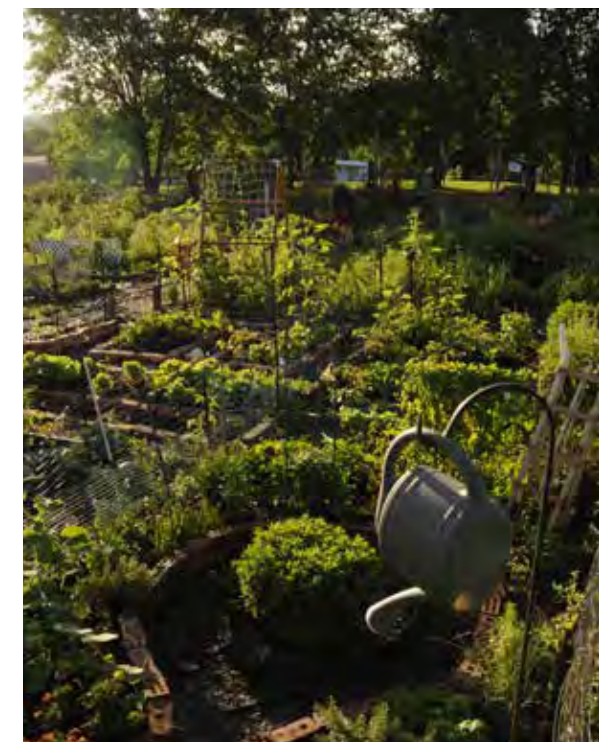


An ornamental fence surrounds the community garden in Roosevelt Park (Baltimore) and serves as an example for improvements at Patterson City Farms Garden.

### PATTERSON CITY FARMS GARDEN

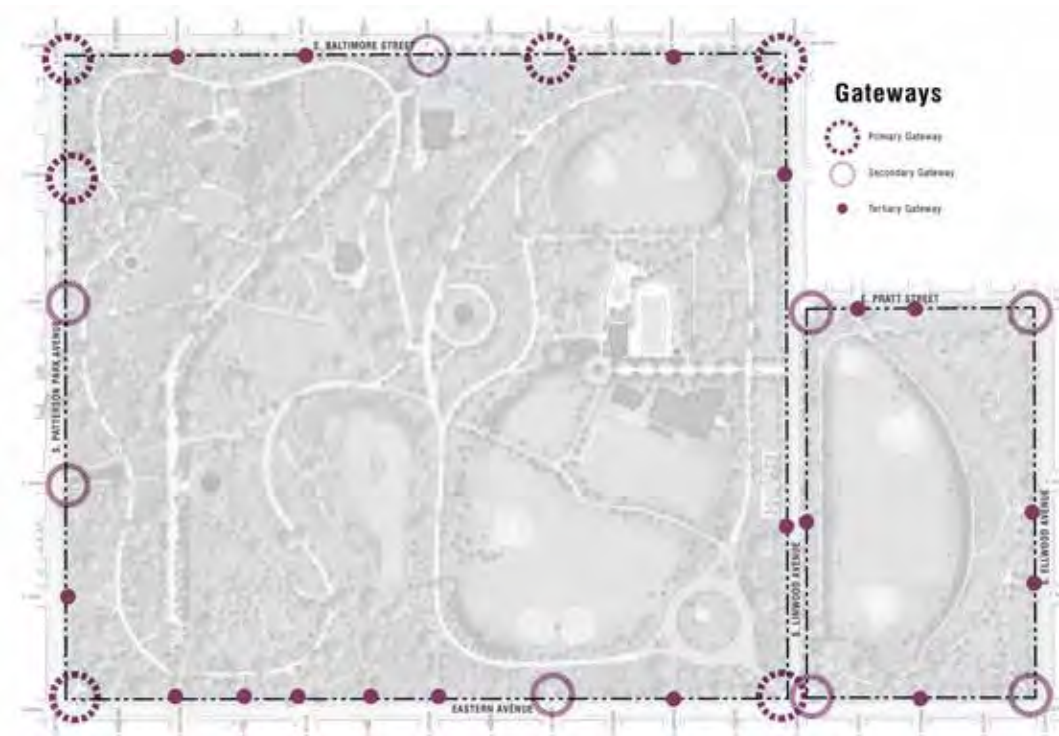
The garden in Patterson Park provides a space for community members to garden when they may not have that space at home. Patterson City Farms Garden is one of twelve farms managed by the Department of Recreation and Parks’ Horticulture Division. At present, there are 92 plots that are 150 square feet each and are available for rent to residents.

An improved appearance of the garden would enhance its perception as an amenity within the park. Roosevelt Park (pictured left), for example, installed an ornamental fence to improve its appearance.



## PARK GATEWAYS

*The edges of Patterson Park are “permeable,” with numerous accent points from the surrounding communities. Enhancements made at the Linwood/East Baltimore Street gateway serve as a good precedent for other gateways.*



**Fig. 30.** Gateway Locations

## Strategy IV—Small Steps, Big Gains

### *Incremental Improvements*

Small, incremental projects and improvements, while lacking the impressive impact of significant capital projects, are ultimately the investments that will cumulatively have the greatest impact on Patterson Park. Indeed, the small enhancements described below were plan elements that the majority of stakeholders identified as being the most critical for the on-going success of the Park.

### 1 | Lighting

Develop a comprehensive lighting plan for the Park to evaluate overall lighting and determine where repairs and additional lighting are needed. The plan should be developed so that it can be implemented incrementally as a combination of “stand alone” projects and in conjunction with the site work associated with other major capital projects. Lighting improvements need to consider the following:

- » A focus on areas that facilitate legitimate evening/nighttime use of particular facilities within the Park, recognizing that many areas of the Park are closed from dusk to dawn.
- » Continued utilization of Baltimore City standards for historic lighting with consideration of modifications that will accommodate “dark sky” goals and eliminate or minimize excessive light pollution.
- » Solutions to determine how to best address vandalism of light posts and theft of copper wiring.
- » Lighting of key structures and facades within the Park to highlight historic resources and improve the overall image of the Park, such as with the fountain.

### 2 | Park Gateways, Entrances, and Perimeter

The edges of Patterson Park are quite “permeable,” meaning there are numerous access points to the Park from the surrounding communities. Additionally, it is highly visible from the street network and numerous homes that face onto it. This is one of the reasons the Park is so successful as a neighborhood amenity—it is well integrated into the city’s grid pattern and physically and visually accessible from all sides.



**2A Gateways and Entrances**

While there are many entrances and gateways to the Park, there is a clear hierarchy; the entrances can be categorized as primary, secondary, and tertiary in nature. Enhancements to some of the primary and secondary entrances have been implemented quite successfully and these serve as models for other entrances. Following is a description of improvements to consider for each of the Park entrances.

**General Enhancements to Consider at Multiple Entrances**

**Visual Clutter:** Coordinate with DOT to explore possible reductions in regulatory sign clutter at primary and secondary entrance and to consider replacement of utility poles with ornamental poles and signal arms, in conjunction with adjacent streetscape improvements.

**Gateway Signage:** As part of the overall Park signage system, provide standardized identification signs at primary and secondary entrances. Utilize a hierarchy of compatible sign types so that they are scaled appropriately for different entrances.

**Primary Entrances**

**Linwood Avenue/East Baltimore Street:** Enhancements completed; continue to monitor for minor repairs that may be needed. The focus here should be to maintain the improvements already made and update the message board using Park signage standards as described later in this strategy. This entrance should serve as a model for enhancements to other primary and secondary entrances in terms of special accent plantings if there is an ability to maintain such plantings through volunteer/sponsorship opportunities.

**Patterson Park Avenue/East Baltimore Street:** Enhancements completed; continue to monitor for minor repairs that may be needed. The focus here should be to provide ornamental fencing (to match that used at Linwood Avenue) to prevent bicycle access and continued erosion of the dirt path adjacent to the stairs. Additional enhancements should consider ornamental planting on the highly visible slopes adjacent to the stairs if there is an ability to maintain such plantings through volunteer/sponsorship opportunities.

**Patterson Park Avenue/Eastern Avenue:** Enhancements completed; continue to monitor for minor repairs that may be needed. The focus here should be to provide

ornamental planting and fencing if there is an ability to maintain such plantings through volunteer/sponsorship opportunities.

**South Linwood Avenue/Eastern Avenue (NW Corner):** Enhancements completed; continue to monitor for minor repairs that may be needed. The focus here should be to replace wooden bollards with ornamental bollards (to the sides of the entrance piers) and consider ornamental planting and fencing if there is an ability to maintain such plantings through volunteer/sponsorship opportunities. Care will need to be taken to coordinate any ornamental planting design with the functionality of the space for events, as well as the ability to protect the planting during events.

**Patterson Park Avenue/East Lombard Street:** Enhancements mostly completed; continue to monitor gateway elements for minor repairs that may be needed. The focus here should be to consider ornamental planting and fencing if there is an ability to maintain such plantings through volunteer/sponsorship opportunities. Care should be taken to integrate improvements into the overall setting and approach to the fountain. At the time of the fountain restoration, the decision was made to not replace the metal work on the side gates so that the Park maintained a more welcoming and open appearance.

**North Lakewood Avenue/East Baltimore Street:** Repair and clean entrance piers, replace missing light fixture, remove graffiti, reduce paving, remove bollards (replace with garden), remove center pathway (and excess pavement within landing area), remove curb cut area, and replace with sidewalk and consider ornamental planting and fencing if there is an ability to maintain such plantings through volunteer/sponsorship opportunities.

**Secondary Entrances**

**North Luzerne Avenue/East Baltimore Street:** Repair and clean small stone piers and replace signage with new signage utilizing Park standards (and appropriate messaging about limited vehicular access to community gardens only). Consider ornamental planting and fencing if there is an ability to maintain such plantings through volunteer/sponsorship opportunities.

**Patterson Park Avenue/East Pratt Street:** Repair and clean small stone piers, steps and low stone edging. Consider ornamental planting and fencing if there is an ability to maintain such plantings through volunteer/sponsorship opportunities.



**REMNANT CURBS**

*Remnant curb cuts remain at many of the park entrances, such as one at South Patterson Park Avenue and Gough Street (pictured bottom). These need to be removed and replaced with a continuous sidewalk.*

## LOW BRANCHES ALONG ELLWOOD

*The photo below is an example of low-limbed trees along South Ellwood Avenue. Trees along the park perimeter and throughout the park should be pruned to allow for clear sightlines into and out of the park.*



*Neighborhood Design Center concepts for bumpouts along East Baltimore Street*



*School children use the Park on a regular basis. Safe Routes to the Park need to be coordinated with DOT.*

**Patterson Park Avenue/Gough Street:** Repair and clean stone piers and low stone edging, replace missing ironwork, remove curb cut/remnant pavement from previous vehicular access, and extend the Patterson Park Avenue sidewalk across. Maintain two pathways leading into the Park, which were implemented following a community process when the roadway was removed. Consider ornamental planting and fencing to take advantage of highly visible slopes if there is an ability to maintain such plantings through volunteer/sponsorship opportunities. Additionally, provide canopy trees at the top of the slope to accentuate topographic change while allowing visibility beneath the canopies.

**South Lakewood Avenue/Eastern Avenue:** Repair and clean stairs and provide canopy trees to visually anchor the entrance while allowing views beneath the canopies. Consider ornamental planting and fencing if there is an ability to maintain such plantings through volunteer/sponsorship opportunities.

**South Linwood Avenue/Eastern Avenue (NE Corner):** Monitor pavement condition and repair as needed. Consider ornamental planting and fencing if there is an ability to maintain such plantings through volunteer/sponsorship opportunities.

**South Linwood Avenue/East Pratt Street (SE Corner):** Monitor pavement condition and repair as needed; prune lower limbs from adjacent mature trees to open views into the Park. Consider ornamental planting and fencing if there is an ability to maintain such plantings through volunteer/sponsorship opportunities.

**South Ellwood Avenue/East Pratt Street:** Monitor pavement condition and repair when needed. Provide canopy trees to help visually anchor the entrance and consider ornamental planting and fencing if there is an ability to maintain such plantings through volunteer/sponsorship opportunities.

**South Ellwood Avenue/Eastern Avenue:** Monitor pavement condition and repair and clean stone wall as needed. Continue to maintain ornamental planting in front of the wall. Prune lower limbs from adjacent trees to open visibility into the Park.

### Tertiary Entrances

In addition to the primary and secondary entrances described above, there are numerous tertiary entrances into the Park along all perimeters. Each of these should be evaluated in terms of condition of pavement, stairs, and ADA-compliant access, and should be repaired as necessary. These entrances should remain visually modest and

should not be candidates for ornamental planting and fencing, focusing those efforts instead on the primary and secondary entrances.

- » Replace the missing ornamental urn at the Ortman Field entrance.
- » Repaint the iron picket fence in the Park extension.
- » Complete general repairs to the entire perimeter fence.

### 2B Park Perimeter

As part of the vegetation maintenance plans described in recommendation III6, prune and limb the trees along Patterson Park's edges to open views into and out of the Park and to enhance a sense of safety and security. Additionally, enhance the vegetation along the Park perimeter in accordance to the following guidelines:

- » For new tree plantings, emphasize canopy trees in most areas to allow for unobstructed views into and out of the Park beneath their canopies. Avoid smaller ornamental trees (except as occasional accents and as described below) as they can create visual barriers between the Park and adjacent streets and residential areas.
- » Consider groves of smaller ornamental trees on sloped perimeters where sightlines into the Park are obscured regardless of plantings.

### 2C Safe Routes to the Park

Coordinate with DOT and develop an overall plan examining safe routes to the Park<sup>2</sup> from all directions, particularly the neighborhoods to the north where a significant number of children live. Streets could include North Patterson Park Avenue, North Luzerne Avenue, and North Lakewood Avenue.

- » Focus on routes that also link to other neighborhood green spaces, such as the Park space along Port Street, north of McElderry Street.
- » Locate curb extensions (bump-outs) at intersections of key streets connecting to the Park (e.g., at Orleans Street).
  - Give consideration to stormwater accommodations, with flow-through planters.
  - Provide traffic calming and expanded pedestrian landing areas.

<sup>2</sup> The American Planning Association offers a valuable resource for improving and/or providing safe walking routes and access to parks. This PDF can be viewed online here: <https://www.planning.org/nationalcenters/health/toolsforhealth/pdf/saferoutestoparks.pdf>

### 3 | Walkway Pavement Removal and Repair

Develop a park-wide plan for repair and replacement of damaged walkways and stairs (those not already described as part of the gateway/entrance enhancements or Promenade restoration, described above) that can be implemented incrementally in phases. In some cases, the pathway repair or replacement can be a “stand alone” project while, in other instances, the repair and replacement should be tied to and coordinated with the site work required for a larger capital project. Specific recommendations include:

- » Remove redundant pathways at various locations in the Park.
- » Remove excessive pavement by narrowing major “carriageways” from an average of 22’ to 18’ (with the exception of the Promenade, which should maintain its original width). Some sections of pathway will require minor repair and others more significant repair. Coordinate this work with adjacent regrading and/or incorporation of micro-bio retention facilities to mitigate water/sediment flow over pathways in addition to the pooling of runoff.
- » Consider significant narrowing of the carriageway spur on the low side of the central pavilion (and above the active core area). This would need to be coordinated with the Bike Jam and other events that utilize this path to determine feasibility.
- » Explore feasibility of salvaging brick pavers (from within the Park or those previously removed from Patterson Park and stored in Druid Hill Park) and using in the reconstruction of key pathways in the historic western side of the Park and/or repair of existing brick walks. Alternatively, salvaged brick can be used to create edge treatments for key pathways as described below.

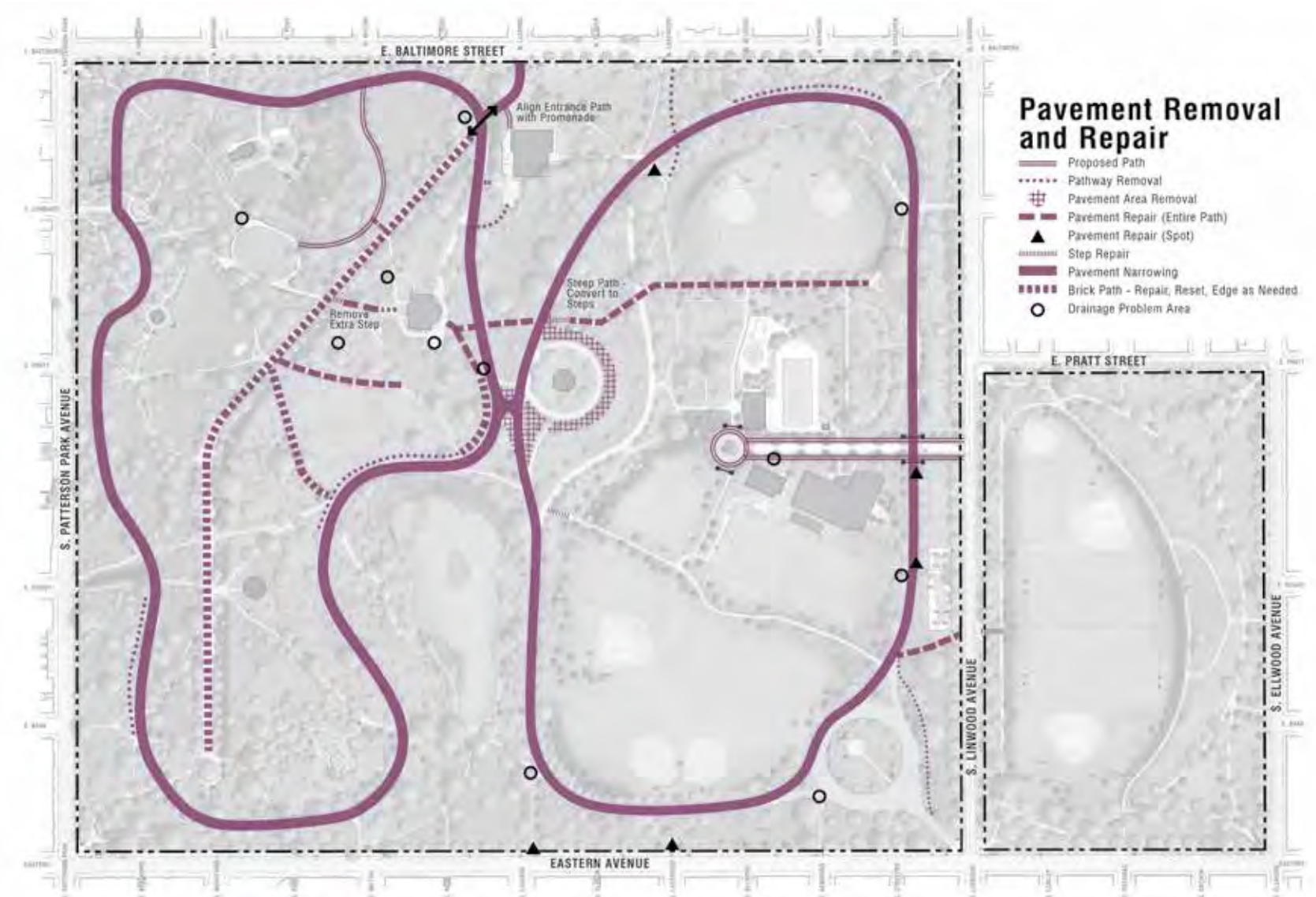


Fig. 31. Pavement Removal and Repair

#### PATHWAY REMOVAL + REPAIR

*Path maintenance is essential for providing surfaces that are safe and comfortable for walking, jogging, and biking. Historic path materials should either be restored or removed. Excessive paving (left) should be removed.*



Cost-effective signage on a material like Coroplast™, New York City



Temporary Central Park Signage, New York City

#### COST-EFFECTIVE SIGNAGE

Parks in New York, such as Prospect Park and Central Park, implement a cohesive signage system using low-cost, temporary signage solutions that are consistent with the Park brand.



#### BCRP SIGNAGE STANDARDS

Friends of Wyman Park Dell used BCRP Sign Standards to implement this sign.



Central Park Signage, New York City

- » Reset existing brick paths. Consider removing small remnants of remaining brick paths and using the salvaged brick to repair other brick walks within the Park.
- » Develop appropriate edging standards for pathways to stabilize edges, better accommodate drainage, and provide an aesthetic that is in keeping with the historic character of the Park.
- » Explore a variety of pavement surfaces for paths that need to be completely reconstructed and consider use of permeable paving, and other “soft surfaces” for some pathways. Incorporate pavement markings to delineate bike and pedestrian zones on the main carriageways. Pilot projects can be tested in segments to explore durability and the aesthetic value of different treatments.
- » Incorporate details that facilitate maintenance goals (e.g., drainage and grading).
- » Accommodate ADA requirements in pathway repair.

#### 4 | Site Elements

Repair miscellaneous site elements throughout the Park, such as stairs where handrails are needed, historic retaining walls, and chain link fencing. Chain link fencing should be replaced with black, vinyl-coated fencing which is visually less intrusive.

#### 5 | Signage and Wayfinding

Attractive, coordinated signage and wayfinding is important in communicating that Patterson Park is an important public space. Additionally, it can improve the functionality of the Park and help to connect various facilities to one another. Signage can be used to promote health and fitness activities, historic interpretation, environmental education, wayfinding, and the identification of facilities. To that end, introduce signage strategically throughout the Park, utilizing bilingual (English/Spanish) messaging. Additional considerations include:

- » Coordinate with current BCRP standards.
- » Incorporate the appropriate levels of the Park’s identity, wayfinding, and informational signage at primary and secondary entrances, as described in recommendation IV|2.
- » Provide health and fitness signage (e.g., mile markers, trail/loop recommendations, bicycle lanes/sharrows, etc.).
- » Create a standard for historical interpretative signage.

- Distinguish archeological findings with historical markers and/or interactive, audio-visual displays.
- Identify self-guided historical trail paths.
- » Utilize signage for environmental education to explain Park hydrology (underground streams, stormwater, etc.), biodiversity (native plants, pollinators, habitat, etc.), geology/soils (physiographic province, parent material, urban soils, etc.), and research/experimentation (test plots, etc.), among other environmental elements.
- » Initiate a tree labeling program for educational purposes.
- » Place informational signs throughout the Park (as part of a coordinated signage system which follows BCRP standards). Begin with temporary signs constructed with corrugated plastic (e.g., Coroplast™), such as those utilized in Brooklyn’s Prospect Park, and move toward installing permanent signs, as funding allows.

**6 | Furnishings and Amenities**

Furnishings and small amenities can enhance the quality of Patterson Park by providing additional user comforts and supporting various activities. In addition to furnishings and amenities that are fixed in place, consideration should be given to using portable furnishings that allow for more flexibility in use.

**6A Fixed Site Furnishings and Amenities**

Replace or repair damaged site furnishings and provide additional furnishings throughout the Park, using current BCRP standards. Drinking fountains, in particular, are needed throughout. Site furnishings can be implemented in some areas as “stand alone” projects, and in other areas in conjunction with site design associated with significant capital projects. Specific recommendations for site furnishings are outlined below. For a full list of BCRP standards, refer to Appendix F.

- » Benches
- » Trash receptacles
- » Drinking fountains
- » Dog waste bag dispensers
- » Bike racks at major event sites—such as Pagoda Hill and Pulaski Monument—as well as at destination facilities. Custom bike racks are also an opportunity to incorporate functional public art in the Park and should be considered in addition to any standard identified by BCRP in the future.



**PARK AMENITIES**

*Park Amenities, such as ping pong tables, are low impact and can bring people together while activating the Park. Ping pong tables can either be permanent (top), or can be portable (bottom).*

- » Limited number of ADA-compliant picnic tables located throughout the Park. While the intent is to primarily utilize moveable picnic tables so that no one area becomes a “single use” picnic area, ADA-compliant tables will need to be fixed to accommodate persons in wheelchairs.
- » Exercise stations along a designated pathway. These should be carefully placed in relation to other park elements, important view sheds and trees (for shade considerations).
- » Consider occasional placement of outdoor ping pong tables as low-impact recreational amenities that can be provided within the active core and/or select locations in more passive areas of the Park. Locate these as individual amenities to help activate different areas of the Park and to increase the multi-use function of other facilities such as playgrounds and picnic areas. Avoid concentration of multiple ping pong tables in any one area, which would result in a single use activity space.

### MAXIMIZING THE VALUE OF SEATING

*Moveable seating provides increases the number of possible seating arrangements, thus providing visitors with the ability to create a seating arrangement that best suites their needs.*

*At the same time, bench sponsorship programs can be a source of funds for the park, further enhancing the value of seating.*



*Moveable seating in Baltimore City*



*Central Park Bench Sponsorship Program, New York City*



*Moveable seating in New York City*

### 6B Portable/Flexible Site Furnishings and Activities

Consider use of portable chairs and umbrella tables in select locations—such as near the White House/fountain, Pagoda, Pulaski Monument, and outside the proposed recreation/senior center—as is being done in parks throughout the world. Portable furniture maximizes flexibility and user comfort. This can be explored initially on a fairly limited basis to monitor success and potential demand for other areas in the Park. Mechanisms will need to be developed to either store the furnishings in the evening or chain lock them together. Locate moveable picnic tables throughout the Park.

Additionally, portable activities and games can be used to activate park areas. In the past, FoPP utilized a “fun wagon” of games and crafts for kids when trying to establish the fountain area as a gathering place for families. Activities like this should continue to be considered for various areas of the Park and can be coordinated with particular programs associated with adjacent facilities.

### 6C Bench/Chair Sponsorship Program

Consider sponsorship opportunities for fixed benches or portable chairs with small recognition tags or plaques. This is a very tangible way to raise funds and allows interested individuals to contribute to the Park’s improvements.

## 7 | Landscape and Vegetation

Enhance the general tree and vegetation coverage in Patterson Park to improve aesthetics and user comfort while maximizing ecological benefits. Specific details of planting—including species, quantity, and location—should be determined at the time of any project. Overall, general planting recommendations include:

- » Coordinate overall landscape enhancements with a comprehensive ecological management plan, as described earlier in recommendation I|3, and with Audubon’s “A Bird’s Eye View” planting strategy. In an urban park, it is important to consider balance, safety, and visibility when incorporating habitat plantings alongside active recreation needs.
- » Identify priority areas for tree planting in order to strategically enhance park aesthetics, provide shade, frame views, accentuate entrances, and increase species diversity.
  - Coordinate tree planting so that key vistas are framed and preserved and that hills for winter sledding routes and unobstructed.

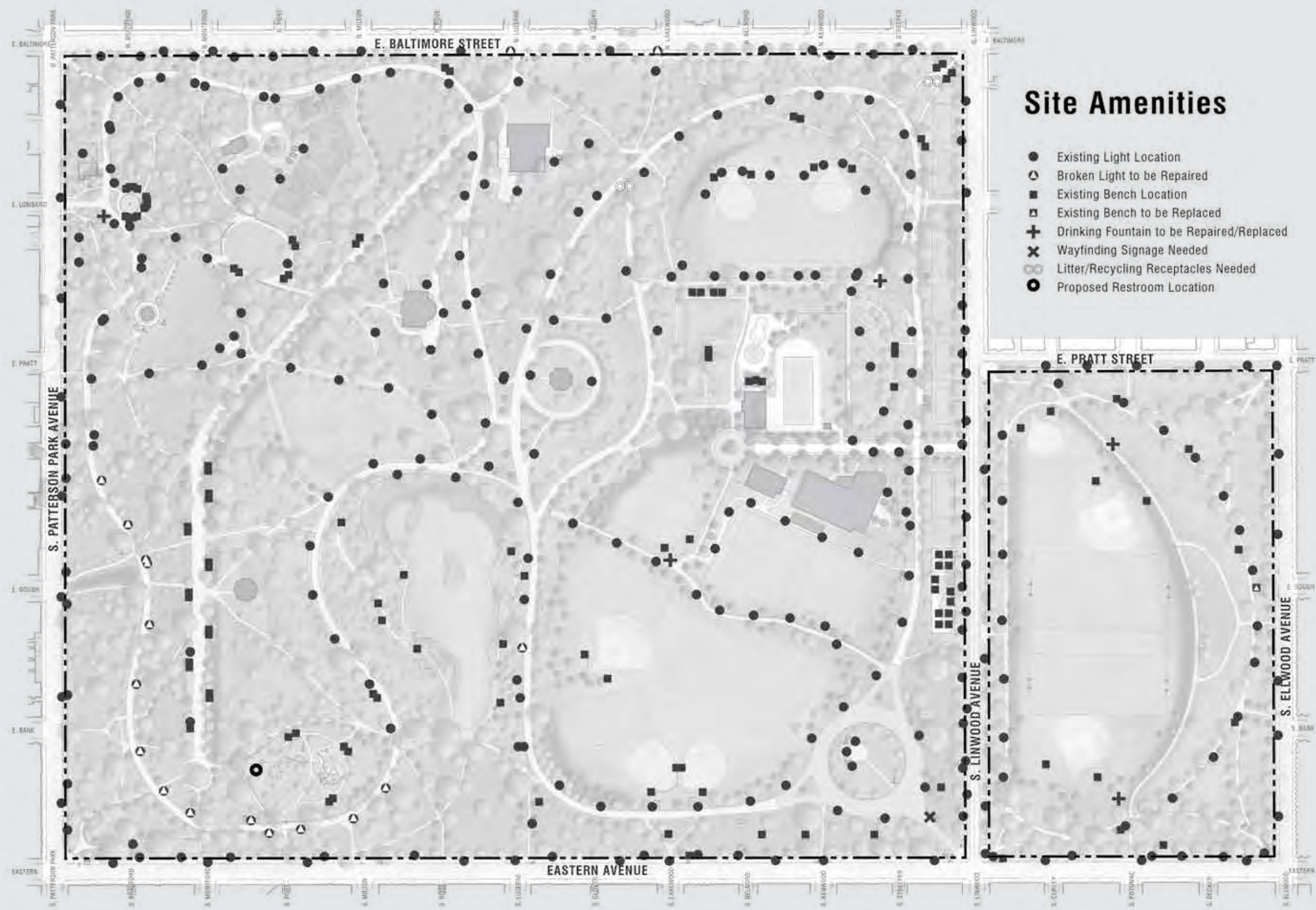


Fig. 32. Site Amenities Diagram

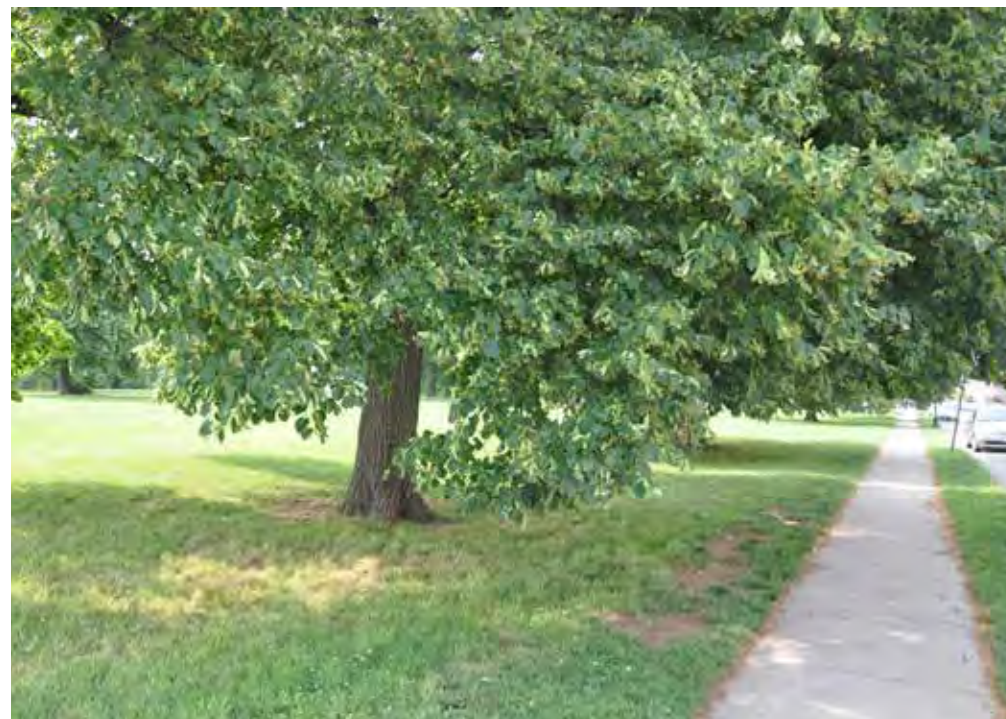


Fig. 33. Tree Canopy Cover



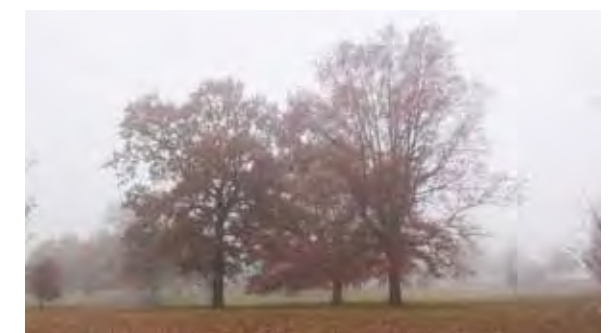
- Coordinate tree planting around the perimeter of the athletic fields to allow for field rotation.
- Enhance the tree planting along the Park perimeter (as described earlier in recommendation IV|2).
- Establish ornamental plantings to include shrubs, perennials, and annual flowers in key locations—assuming a maintenance plan is in place prior to planting. Locations might include outdoor gathering areas associated with buildings and their entrances in addition to primary and secondary Park entrances.
- » Emphasize Maryland native species with the greatest benefit to wildlife—fostering diverse communities of birds and beneficial insects.
  - Focus and expand native ornamental tree, shrub, and wildflower plantings within the existing vegetated areas surrounding the Boat Lake. Expand this area only to the degree that it can be maintained.
  - Identify select areas where non-native species might be thoughtfully incorporated into the overall planting program to reflect historic plantings, seasonal interest, and aesthetics.
- » Enhance the diversity of trees within the Park—particularly in the eastern annex, where existing species diversity is very limited. This should be done while balancing other objectives related to vegetation, such as remaining the historic aesthetics of the Park and emphasizing canopy trees to preserve important sightlines.
  - Expand tree diversity by providing native evergreen trees in key areas where they will help create seasonal interest and frame important views. Use care in placing evergreen trees in locations where they do not create security issues due to reduced visibility, or do not block prominent vistas and cultural experiences throughout the park.
  - Provide flowering trees in select groves, particularly on sloped areas, as described in recommendation 4|2B.
- » Consider opportunities to emphasize the broader ecological benefit of landscape and vegetation elements.
  - Increase tree planting along the eastern edge of the Boat Lake to increase riparian buffer and nesting opportunities for Baltimore Orioles and other species of concern, as described in recommendation I|2. Use care to maintain and frame views of the lake.

- Explore opportunities to leave the trunks of one to two dead trees in place within the lake area for biodiversity enhancement and educational purposes. Trees should be pruned of branches that present hazards and removed when no longer stable. The decision to leave dead tree trunks in place will need to be carefully evaluated against overall aesthetics of the Park, in addition to user safety.
- Explore design research opportunities to establish parameters for a “Habitat Core” bird area as described in recommendation IV|9 detail below.
- » Ensure the ongoing and future maintenance of Park vegetation.
  - Remove/inhibit weed growth in pavement.
  - Follow-through with the Forestry Division recommendations to prune and remove select trees. In particular, prune lower limbs from trees to maintain sight lines and “eyes on the Park.”



**TREE PLANTING**

*Tall canopy shade trees make the most impact within the Park, in terms of defining spaces, providing shade, and enhancing tree canopy while at the same time allowing for unobstructed sight lines. Low-limbed trees, on the other hand, obscure sightlines and can give the impression that the Park isn't safe.*





### CONTROLLED-MOW AREAS

*Limited mow areas should appear purposeful. Pastoral English parks (top right) often utilize controlled mow areas with mow-paths.*

*Using controlled-mow techniques on slopes (bottom right) minimizes difficult maintenance.*

*Note: the mow line along the path signals that the limited mowing is intentional.*



### 8 | Controlled-Mow Areas

A limited mowing schedule can be utilized to create controlled-mow areas where grasses can grow taller, creating vibrant and healthy meadows. Controlled-mow areas should appear purposeful, in that they look like manicured spaces with maintained edges. To do so, they should be created with a stepped progression—from short grass to meadow. Controlled-mow areas provide ecological benefits, including attracting wildlife and reducing stormwater runoff. These benefits are enhanced when controlled-mow areas are kept toward the center of the Park, away from more urban activity. Controlled-mow areas therefore offer opportunities to provide educational messages (e.g., “In this area, you are likely to see more wildlife and pollinators”) to demonstrate the ecological value and intent tall meadow grasses. Signage will help to convey the purposeful decision of permitting the grass to grow.

- » Prior to beginning any controlled-mow areas, work with partners (including BCRP contractors, urban ecologists, and landscape architects) to develop

specific designs and establish management plans. A management plan should consider:

- Mowing equipment required to allow for heights greater than 5.5” (equipment for regular lawn mowing allow for grass heights 3.5 to 5.5”).
  - Reuse or disposal of mowing debris from taller grasses.
  - Logistics related to mid-winter or late November mowing (preferred times), as annual mowing is typically ended in October.
  - Test plot for evaluation in a relatively small area.
  - Over-seeding of bare spots, which often form in controlled-mowed areas.
  - Formal arrangements, geometries, and layouts of the site (e.g., grid, circles, maze, labyrinth, etc.)
- » Create initial controlled-mow areas using existing grasses, recognizing there will be a dominance of one species. This can serve as a test case for utilizing existing (non-native) vegetation prior to investing meadows with native species. Study the controlled-mow areas to determine the benefits—ecological, cultural, financial, etc.—of different mow heights. The studies can include species recruitment, pollinator counts, bird surveys, community response to aesthetics, and other targeted socio-ecological hypothesis.
  - » Over the course of a growing season, monitor controlled-mow spaces three times—beginning in June, then again in August and October. June observations serve as a baseline, and the changes observed in October will be valuable to note. It will be important to coordinate with BCRP maintenance contractors regarding the mowing and monitoring schedules.
  - » Incorporate mow paths between controlled-mow areas to provide access for study and interpretation. Pathways should be seven to ten feet, or a minimum width of one pass on a lawn mower.

### 9 | Habitat Core

Patterson Park serves as an important urban habitat for migratory birds and other wildlife. Its proximity to the harbor and location along the Atlantic Flyway make it a unique environment to explore habitat enhancements (e.g., increased plant species and more complex plant arrangements) that will help the Park more fully support species of concern (see recommendation I|2) identified by the Patterson Park Audubon Center and urban ecologists. Species of concern include, the Baltimore oriole, Chimney swift, American woodcock, Wood thrush, and Black-throated blue warbler. A carefully

designed habitat area will also serve as an educational and recreational asset for Park users. However, to achieve avian (bird) and other wildlife habitat goals within the framework of an urban recreational landscape requires careful research into both the social responses to, as well as the ecological outcomes of “intentional ecologies” (i.e., created landscapes designed and managed for wildlife) and urban habitat design. As such, this Plan calls for the development of controlled-mow areas (described above in recommendation IV|8) and the implementation of designed experiments (hypothesis– and evidence-based pilot projects) that explore both social and ecological responses to more intensely managed bird and wildlife habitats within the Park. Pending the identified outcomes of these efforts (e.g., positive community responses and measurable habitat benefits), it is recommended that an area north/northwest of the Boat Lake be developed into a “Habitat Core”—a restricted-access zone that is managed primarily to serve as habitat for birds and other wildlife. The concept for a Habitat Core was explored in detail by ecology student fellows from across the U.S. during the 2015 Earth Stewardship Initiative charrette, organized during the Ecological Society of America conference held in Baltimore in August 2015 (see the sidebar caption). Specific designs for the Habitat Core should be developed in collaboration with urban ecologists, the Audubon Society, and other stakeholders. Habitat Core designs should establish:

- » Total area requirements for species of concern (e.g., contiguous acreage, minimum patch acreage, etc.).
- » Setbacks and transitional landscapes from other park landscapes (e.g., a four-foot mow path between Habitat Core and open park space).
- » Human “exclusion” (or limited-access) zones and appropriate human access (e.g., off-limit breeding areas, naturalist trails, etc.).
- » Plant palettes and planting arrangements.
- » Management regimes, budgets, and responsibilities.
- » Monitoring, data collection, and data sharing strategies.

The above considerations should be balanced with recreational and cultural programs, as well as the historical and aesthetic character of Patterson Park (view corridors, path networks, etc.) to ensure that the Park’s ecological assets complement its overall value within the city’s open space network.

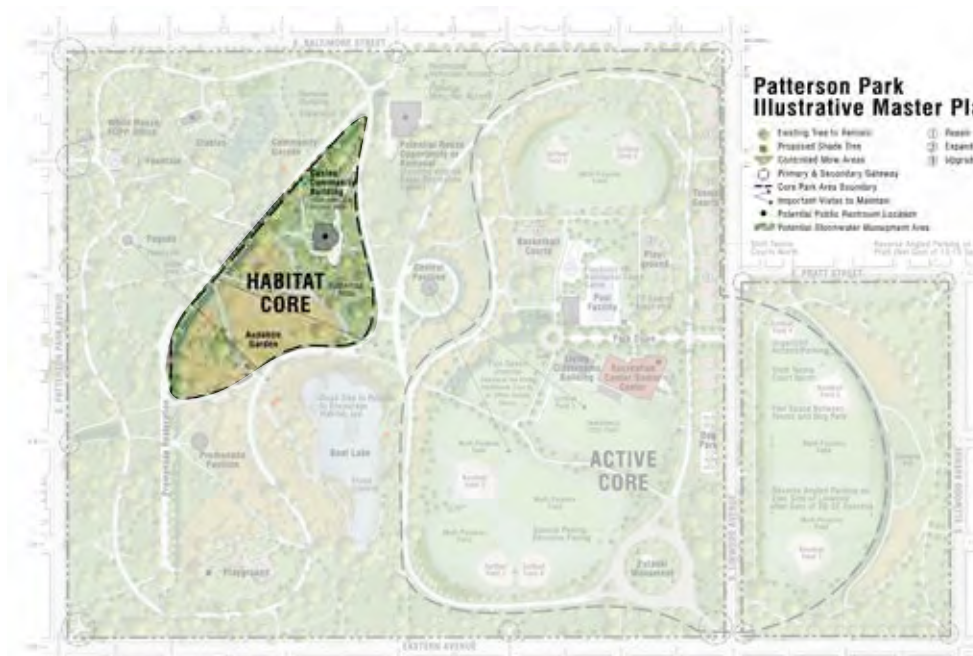


Fig. 34. Bird Core Area



**ECOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA**

*In August 2015, the Ecological Society of American hosted their 100th Annual Meeting in Baltimore City, providing the opportunity for Patterson Park to benefit from the insights from the nation’s leading scientists. During this trip, scientists from the Earth Stewardship Initiative conducted a broad analysis of Patterson Park and its potential to enhance ecological value.*

The image shows a sign for "Audubon BIRD-FRIENDLY HABITAT". On the left is a photograph of a colorful bird, possibly a Baltimore Oriole, perched on a branch. To the right of the bird, the text reads: "Audubon recognizes this wildlife habitat as beneficial for birds and the people who maintain it." Below this, the same message is written in Spanish: "Este hábitat de animales silvestres es reconocido por Audubon por su beneficio para las aves y las personas que lo conservan." At the bottom, it says "Healthy for birds & people! ¡Saludable para aves y gente!". Contact information is provided: "pattersonpark.audubon.org", "410-558-BIRD", and "bird-friendlyaudubon.org".



Bird programs and events. Photos courtesy of Audubon.

## STORMWATER FACILITIES

*Stormwater management can be both aesthetic and functional. The facilities pictured here include a parking lot using pervious pavers at the Maryland Department of Transportation Headquarters, and bioretention facilities throughout the Kaiser Permanente Largo Medical Center campus.*



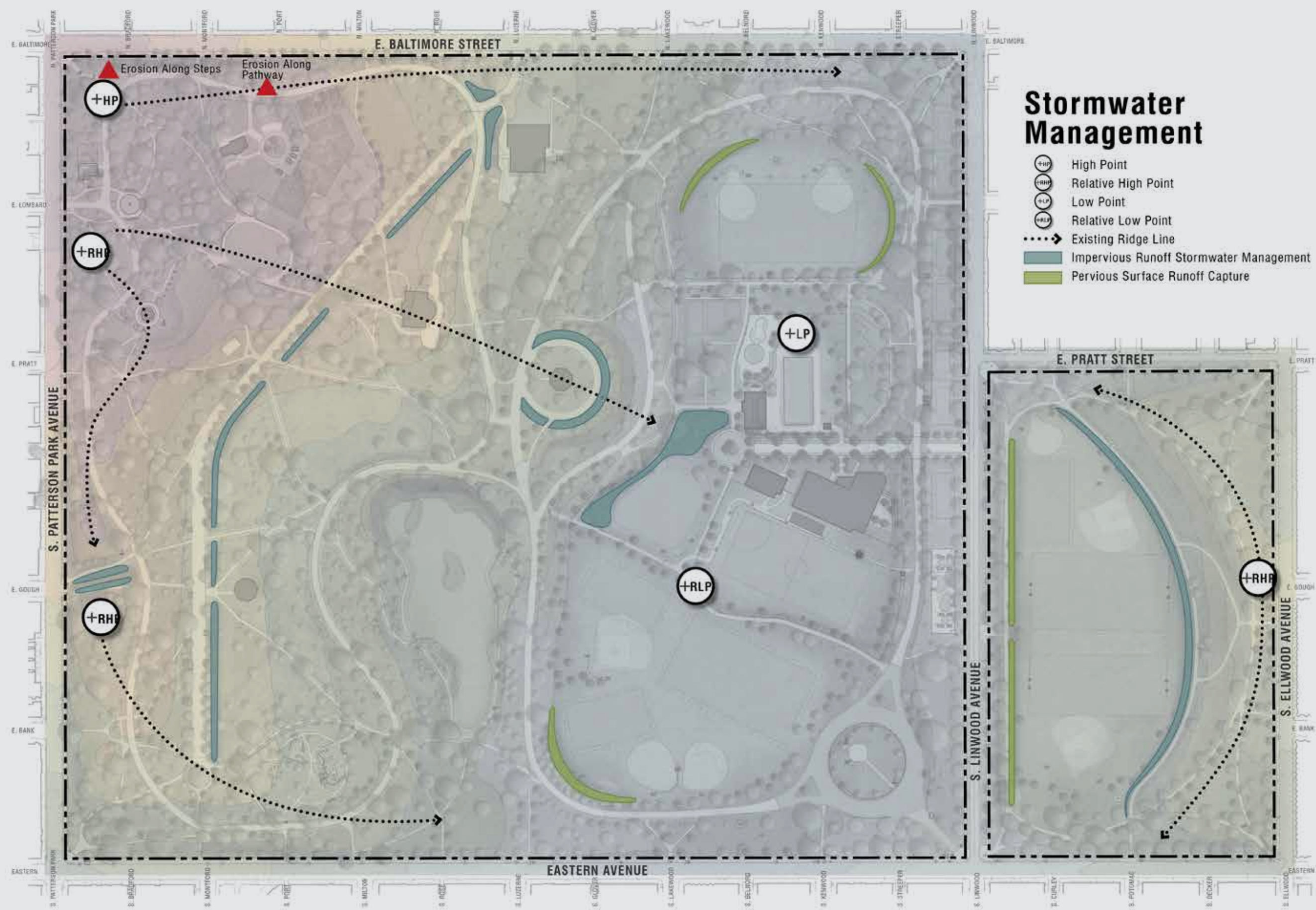
## 10 | Water Management

Environmental Site Design (ESD) practices will need to be applied throughout the Park to manage stormwater—both in terms of quantity and quality. The large number of new and renovated structures and facilities that may ultimately be incorporated throughout the Park could have a potentially significant impact on the environment as drainage patterns are altered and new hardscape elements shift or reduce areas where rainwater can be absorbed where it lands on the ground.

At the same time, it is critical to consider the aesthetics and functionality of the facilities themselves. There are a variety of ESD practices that can be applied, depending upon a number of site considerations—including bioretention facilities in pervious areas, bioswales or grass channels along pathways, stormwater planters throughout open plaza spaces, stormwater tree pits/flow-through planters around the Park perimeter, terraced bioretention designs in hilly areas, filter strips or infiltration trenches around intensive uses, permeable paving for pathways and parking areas, and green roofs atop new structures.

As each new project is implemented, the design process should evaluate which ESD practices (either from those listed above or alternative mechanisms) are most appropriate. These facilities should be responsive to the site, landscape, architectural design of adjacent buildings, and the overall Park context, rather than developed as an afterthought. In particular, it will be important that the design of these facilities consider the historic qualities of the Park. Stormwater management facilities can be developed as focal points within the landscape—integrated with pathways so as to engage pedestrians, developed with interpretative and educational opportunities, and/or designed as architectural extensions of the buildings to which they are adjacent. It will also be important to explore how appropriate stormwater management practices can be used to help Baltimore City meet its TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load) goals.

Water management should take a comprehensive approach, and so planning and design discussions should engage the appropriate City agencies (including the Department of Public Works and the Baltimore Office of Sustainability) alongside key local partners working on stormwater management issues, like Blue Water Baltimore. Strategies should also correlate with the findings and recommendations outlined in the Hydrological Assessment and Stormwater Maintenance Plan, as discussed in recommendation III|6B.



### Stormwater Management

- +HP High Point
- +RHP Relative High Point
- +LP Low Point
- +RLP Relative Low Point
- Existing Ridge Line
- Impervious Runoff Stormwater Management
- Pervious Surface Runoff Capture

Fig. 35. Stormwater Management

## EVENTS IN THE PARK

*Patterson Park serves as a prime location for events in Baltimore City. From regularly held athletic tournaments to annual festivals, events are a significant draw for visitors. Finding the right balance between programmed events and flexible, everyday activities will be important to avoid overusing the park's social and ecological resources.*



## Strategy V—Staging Success

### *Programs, Events, & Logistics*

Physical facilities and capital projects, alone, do not create a great park. BCRP, FoPP, and other partners have demonstrated that regularly scheduled programming and events are critical to the success of Patterson Park and to the quality of life in the surrounding neighborhoods. At the same time, it is important to recognize the carrying capacity of the landscape and to maintain the right balance of activity without “over-programming” and overusing the Park’s social and ecological resources. Coordination of event scheduling and enforcement of permits, therefore, will become increasingly important as the Park strives to maintain this balance.

### 1 | Designated Event Spaces

Events and festivals occur in locations throughout Patterson Park; however, some locations, such as Pagoda Hill and the Pulaski Monument, accommodate most of the significant events, while other events occur near the existing recreation center, at the Central and Promenade Pavilions, at the Living Classrooms building, and, occasionally, within the Park extension. Specific areas of the Park should be designated for certain types of events so that the spaces and facilities within these areas can be renovated to best accommodate the event and facilitate clean-up and maintenance following events. Similarly, it will be important to establish guidelines for the *types* of events that are appropriate for each location, in addition to a decision-making process for permitting large, high-impact events that require large stages and parking of numerous vehicles inside the Park, near the event location.

For purposes of this Master Plan, event locations are divided into “primary,” “secondary,” and “incidental” spaces. These are described in more detail below along with general considerations for all event spaces.

### **General Considerations**

- » While some event locations already include access to electricity, electrical connections may need to be upgraded in some areas to accommodate greater usage. Electrical connections should be metered and incorporated into vandalism-resistant enclosures. Furthermore, additional locations should be considered for electrical connections, some of which may be included as a part of an adjacent building project. These are described below under primary, secondary and incidental event spaces.

- » Consider allowing the use of noise and pollution-producing generators for emergency only or in areas where sufficient electrical power is not available, if feasible.
- » Provide water connections at each designated event location, either through a connection at an adjacent building or an independent water source. Independent water sources should utilize controlled access, in-ground boxes with quick connect hose bibs.
- » While there is a need for drinking fountains to be located throughout the Park, as described earlier, they are particularly needed in areas where events occur most often.
- » Large events should continue to utilize portable restrooms, as the cost and responsibility of maintenance is included with the rental service. Even as public restrooms are added to the Park, as described earlier, they may not be sufficient to accommodate large events, nor located in the best location, depending on the event. Consideration may be given to taking permanent restrooms (located nearest an event) out of operation during the event so that Park maintenance staff will not be overwhelmed. In this approach, event-goers will be required to use the portable restrooms.
- » It should be noted that BCRP Permits office is currently considering requiring a parking plan to be submitted with event permits that includes non-Park off-street parking options (including parking garages and shuttles) for all permitted events expected to attract over 200 people.

**Primary Event Spaces**

- » **Pulaski Monument:** This area should continue to be the location where most of the major, high-impact permitted events take place because of the paved surface, ease of access, and proximity to on-street parking resources, particularly along South Linwood Avenue. These high-impact events require the use of large stages and vehicular access for numerous trucks, vans, and cars within the Park. While this area is appropriate for major events, there is a limit to the size of event that can be accommodated here because of its adjacency to other Park facilities (such as the recreation fields). Likewise, events are restricted to the pavement area. Currently, the permit office limits this area to events with a maximum attendance of 10,000. To gain more space, event organizers have expressed a desire to utilize the fenced lawn area surrounding the Pulaski Monument. However, this area should remain off-limits with the exception of minor events that have traditionally occurred here (such as the Muevetón event in September) and those events that have BCRP staff present

to monitor activities and ensure that damage to the monument does not occur. Specific enhancements to this area should consider:

- o Use of additional tree planting (as described earlier) to provide a clear visual definition of the event area and the boundary between the event space and the adjacent recreation fields.
- o Upgrade the electrical connection to accommodate higher voltage requirements for major events so that generators will be used only in emergencies.
- o Provide water access.
- o Explore re-design of the fenced enclosure of the Pulaski Monument, or construction of an inner ornamental fence nearer to the monument so as to afford protection of the monument while allowing for use of a large portion of the lawn area for some events.
- » **Pagoda Hill/White House Area:** Because of the rich natural and historical resources in the northwest corner of the Park, and a proximity to on-street parking resources, the area around the Pagoda and White House has served as the location of lower-impact major event—such as concerts, fairs, and flea markets. Electrical service is provided at the White House and the Pagoda. This area should continue to serve these uses. Specific enhancements should consider:
  - o Providing an independent electrical connection to supplement power sources located in the White and Pagoda.
  - o Providing water access.
- » **Park Extension:** The recreation fields in the Park extension are under the oversight of the Permits Office and the Office of Youth and Sports. While FoPP held a movie night in this location, this part of the Park is not regularly utilized for events and the permit office currently does not issue event permits in this location. In the future, however, consideration should be given to utilizing this space for occasional large, low-impact events. The broad slope along the extension’s eastern edge could be well-suited for spectator seating for some events (consideration needs to be given to the extension’s western-facing slope and solar orientation). Additionally, the site is in close-proximity to on-street parking resources. Should this be utilized for occasional events, specific enhancements should include:
  - o Provide electrical connections.
  - o Provide water access.
  - o Consideration given to the site’s raised elevation above South Linwood Avenue and whether or not visibility from the street is crucial for the event’s success.



A ground-hose connection box

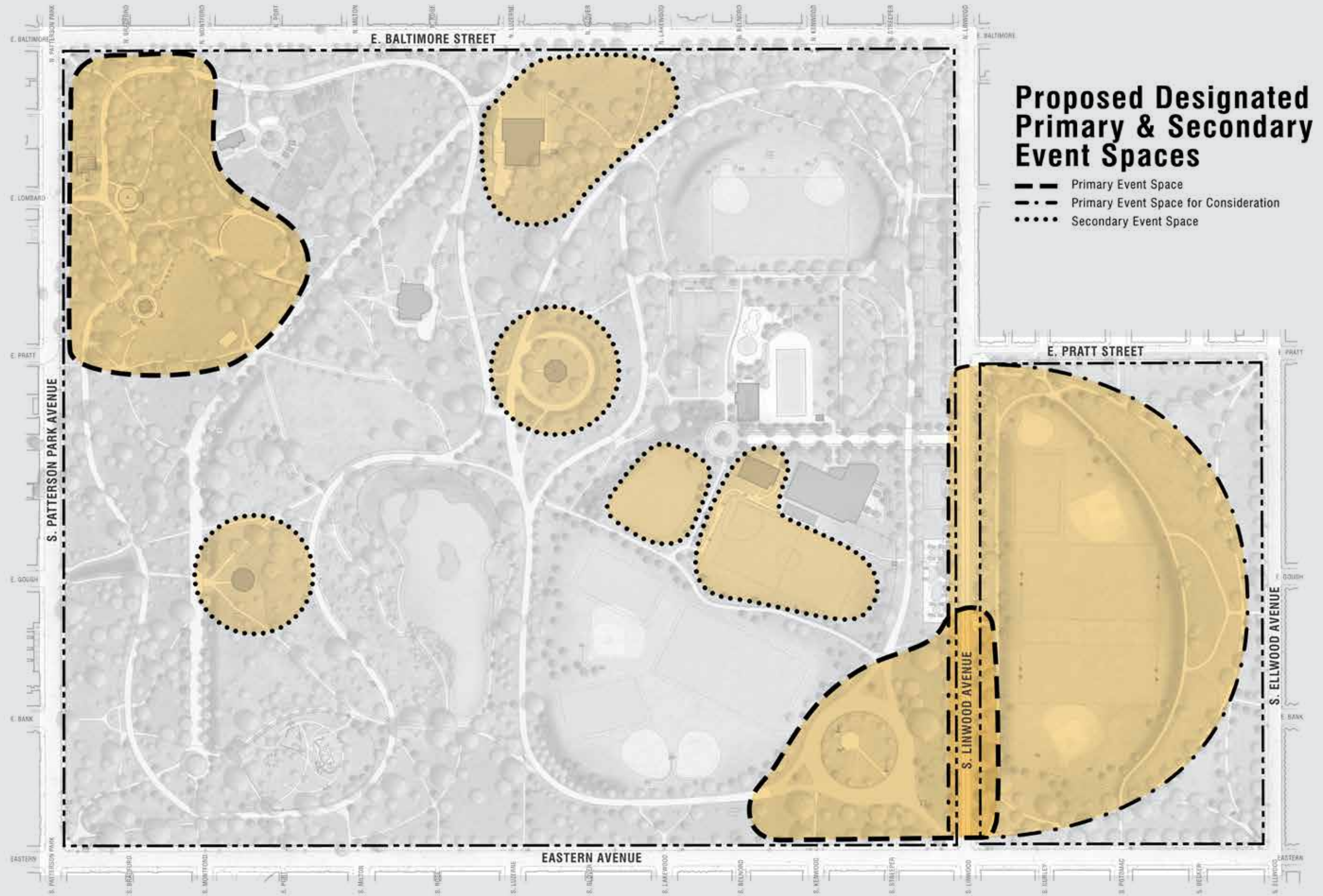


Fig. 36. Major Event Spaces



**Secondary Event Spaces**

- » **Virginia Baker Recreation Center:** Currently, the recreation center staff programs four to six events a year on the grounds near the existing center. The area works well for these events as it is relatively level and is located close to on-street parking resources. Restrooms, water, and electricity are available in the center. Once the recreation center relocates, this site should continue to be considered for low-impact events, whether or not the building remains. If the building is not reused and is demolished instead, consideration should be given to providing electrical connections and water access in this location.
- » **Pavilions:** The Central and Promenade Pavilions are permitted for private events and should continue to be used in this manner as well as considered for low-impact events. Because they are located internal to the Park, however, users often have difficulty locating the pavilions. Signage and/or wayfinding (as described in recommendation IV[5]) should be considered to direct visitors to the pavilions. Vehicular access to both pavilions should utilize the loop carriageway and continue to be limited to two permitted vehicles only. This should be strictly enforced. Vehicular access along the promenade to access the Promenade Pavilion should be prohibited.
- » **Living Classrooms:** Living Classrooms runs their own programs and will often lease out their facilities. Their programs increase the variety of options available within the Park; however, it will be important for Living Classrooms to notify and coordinate with the permit office for their events in the future.
- » **Active Core Flexible Multi-Use Area:** The proposed flexible, multi-use area located within the active core, and described earlier in this report, will serve as another location to be considered for events. Its location at the end of Park Drive—and its proximity to a variety of facilities—could make it a desirable location, particularly for events tied to specific programs that occur within the active core.

**Incidental Event Spaces**

- » While the areas described above are primary locations for events, other areas of the Park should be available for small, low-impact permitted events and private picnics, which do not require any vehicular access.

**2| Permitting**

Clear and consistent policies (and clarity in the responsibilities as they relate to the permitting process and enforcement of these policies) is paramount to the success of Patterson Park. It is important to continue to engage partner and community organizations in decision making and feedback regarding permitted events. Specific recommendations include:

- » Outline the permitting process and the responsibilities of permit holders in a clear and consistent way, including:
  - o Intended uses and appropriate permits,
  - o Vehicular permissions/parking allotments,
  - o Clean-up protocol,
  - o Noise control,
  - o Enforcement, and
  - o Fines/consequences of non-compliance.
- » Consider prohibiting the use of generators, except for emergencies, in locations where adequate electrical power is provided.
- » Collect and track information on all permitted programs and events. Develop a collection strategy for an on-going review (occurring annually, at a minimum) of:
  - o Programs,
  - o Visitors,
  - o Revenue,
  - o Expenses,
  - o Compliance,
  - o Marketing campaigns (e.g., “How did you hear about us?”), and
  - o Communication.
- » Follow-up & Enforcement
  - o Establish consistent follow-up and rules enforcement to ensure that permitted programs/events conform to the appropriate uses, parking allotments, noise levels, and clean-up requirements. Currently, BCRP is instituting a policy that will require BCRP staff to supervise parking for permitted events over 1,000 people
  - o Establish penalties that will encourage compliance with Park and permitting rules.
- » Once a Park Manager position can be secured, aggregate all Park permitting with a Park Manager stationed inside the Park. The Park Manager would interface with Baltimore City.

**PERMITTING FOR EVENTS**

*In the permitting process for events, clear and consistent policies—as well as consistent enforcement of such policies—is paramount to the success of Patterson Park.*



## FOOD IN THE PARK

*The availability of food and refreshments is an important component of successful parks, as demonstrated throughout the world.*



Central Park, New York City



Berlin, Germany

### 3 | Program and Event Promotions

Improve the communication and promotion of park programs and events to increase awareness within the surrounding communities. At the time of this Plan's release, some of the recommendations below had already begun to develop as a result of the planning process. Specific recommendations include:

- » Ensure that marketing and promotion of all Park programs and events are welcoming to all who wish to participate. Patterson Park is open to all, to the exclusion of none.
- » Develop a single park programs/events website (passive communication).
- » Develop a marketing/promotion plan for outgoing communication. Include a plan for two-way communication to nearby neighborhoods, schools, and libraries.
- » Develop a social media strategy.
- » Cross promote on partner websites (BCRP, FoPP, Audubon Maryland-DC, recreation leagues, events, P&P, Creative Alliance, Friends of Maryland Olmsted Parks and Landscapes (FMOPL), Recreation Center, Ice Rink, Living Classrooms, churches, schools, neighborhood associations, etc.).
- » Include non-digital (printed, broadcasted, communicated, etc.) means of outreach and promotion of Park events to reach people without access to a computer.
- » Establish a regular coordination meeting among all Patterson Park program providers to share information, collaborate, and coordinate events.

### 4 | Programming

Continue to work with existing and new partners to expand the diversity of programs and events within the Park. Coordinate among partner organizations to create a balance of programs and avoid competition among programs. Specific recommendations include:

**4A Program to Expand Park User Diversity:** Work with and encourage members of minority communities and organizations who are interested in planning Park events and programs to help expand offerings in Patterson Park.

**4B Youth Programs:** Work with all partner organizations to expand programs and events that appeal to youth and promote these programs to surrounding communities and organizations.

**4C Art in the Park:** Art enlivens public spaces and should be incorporated into Patterson Park. Like any park element, the incorporation of public art needs to be coordinated and follow basic guidelines to avoid having a negative impact on the Park. To that end, work with the Baltimore Office of Promotion and Arts (BOPA) and other partner organizations to establish a set of criteria to guide placement of art in the Park, whether on a permanent or temporary basis. Criteria should consider the length of the installation, any impacts to surrounding uses, installation methods, visual impact, on-going maintenance, and removal procedures (if temporary).

### 5 | Café and Food

The availability of food and refreshment is an important element in successful parks throughout the world. Partner organizations in Patterson Park should continue to explore opportunities to incorporate food and refreshment on a temporary and/or permanent basis. Specific considerations include:

- » Permanent cafés or refreshment facilities should be located in conjunction with an existing facility—such as the casino or proposed recreation/senior center.
- » Explore relationships with food trucks and “pop-up” cafés to provide food and refreshments during specific times of the week or year. In considering options, priority should be given to non-motorized facilities over food trucks within areas internal to the Park. Food trucks should be considered near the perimeter.
- » Coordinate permanent or temporary refreshment facilities with any programs to provide flexible outdoor seating and umbrella tables as described earlier.

### 6 | Off-Leash Dog Areas and Hours

Current maintenance, rules enforcement, and financial and governance structures do not exist as a precedent in Patterson Park (or in the City) for creating off-leash dog areas or dog parks. The viability of such improvements should be re-assessed by the entity that governs Patterson Park, should those governance structures and models be developed in the future.

**7 | Bike Share Program**

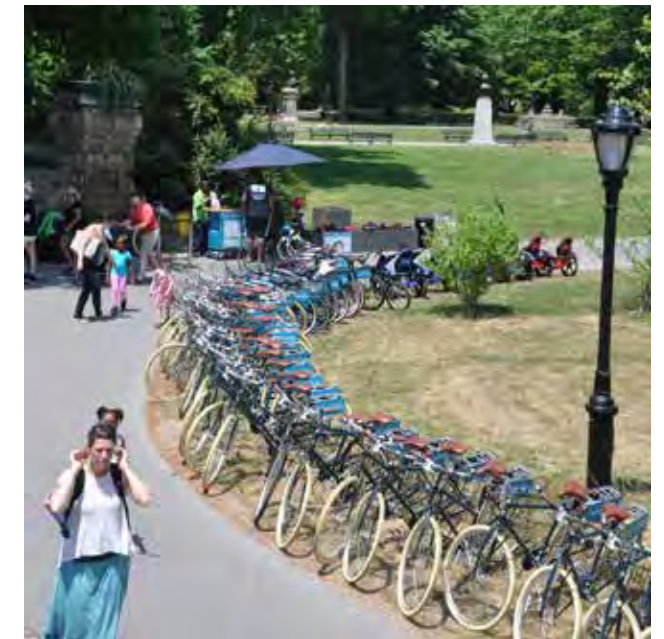
Baltimore City Department of Transportation (DOT) is seeking to implement a bike share program throughout Downtown. Patterson Park partner organizations should work with the DOT to explore placing bike stations at several locations within the Park to provide non-motorized alternatives for getting to and from the Park and to various facilities within the Park. If the city bike share program does not move forward, consider an independent bike share or bike rental program within the Park. Consider one station with approximately 20 bikes available for an initial rental of up to 4 hours.

**8 | Transportation Alternatives: Shuttle Service, Bus Stops, & Temporary Valet**

Work with the PABC, Maryland Transit Authority (MTA), Charm City Circulator, and DOT to explore transportation alternatives to and from Patterson Park to expand options for daily access to the Park. Additionally, explore ways to minimize the impacts to Park/neighborhood parking resources during large events. Specific recommendations include:

- » Leverage underutilized public and private parking resources within a reasonable distance of the Park (Harbor East/Fells Point, Johns Hopkins, etc.) and work with event organizers and sports leagues to establish a shuttle service and/or temporary valet<sup>3</sup>.
  - The shuttle costs can be subsidized, in part, by the increase in parking revenues generated at several of the garages that are currently underutilized on weekends. This, and other funding mechanisms should be further explored.
  - Service might initially be offered only during special events but can begin to operate on weekends if it's successful.
  - For any shuttle system, it is important to provide reliable service for it to be successful.
  - Explore the potential of implementing a temporary valet service during major events.
- » Work with MTA and the Charm City Circulator to evaluate existing bus routes and consider a route along South Linwood where a stop can be provided in close proximity to the Park's new recreation/senior center and active core of the Park. Maintain a discussion with MTA as the BaltimoreLink system moves forward.

<sup>3</sup> Information about establishing a temporary valet can be found by contacting the Parking Authority's Valet Program Manager.



**9 | Community Petition for Residential Parking Permit**

Consideration and interest in an area-wide residential parking permit (RPP) was expressed in several meetings during the planning process. However, this is an issue which cannot be addressed within a park master plan. Residents and community associations can elect to have RPP through application by petition to the City of Baltimore through the Parking Authority of Baltimore City. Patterson Park partner organizations and the district councilperson(s) should be involved in the discussions to ensure that any new regulations work for both residents and park users.

*In December 2012, a five-year moratorium was placed on the Canton Area, prohibiting an RPP area from being established. The moratorium can be found in Art. 31, subsection 10-11 (b). The language is as follows:*

*(b) Moratorium for Canton area.*

- (1) *In this subsection, "Canton Area" means the area bounded by the outer limits of the following: Eastern Avenue to the north; S. Haven Street to the east; Boston Street to the south; and S. Patterson Park Avenue to the west.*
- (2) *Until December 31, 2017, the Parking Authority may not:*
  - (i) *entertain any petition for the creation of a new Residential Parking Area that would include any part of the Canton Area; or*
  - (ii) *approve any amendment to an existing Parking Management Plan that would extend an existing Residential Parking Area into any part of the Canton Area.*



**GENERATING REVENUE**

*Many parks have demonstrated the potential to generate funds for maintenance and programming within the park—for example, through concessions or bike share programs. Patterson Park has the potential to explore similar programs to support the recommendations in this plan, as well as ongoing maintenance and improvements.*

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**IMPLEMENTATION**

# Chapter Five // IMPLEMENTATION

## OVERVIEW

This plan is a framework to guide enhancements in Patterson Park over the next ten years, and beyond. Implementation of the recommendations will occur incrementally by a partnership among many public and private entities and individuals as outlined throughout the report and below. It is important to note that the master plan is intended to be a guiding, yet flexible document. Many of the concepts illustrated will be further refined and vetted as they become real projects. Additionally, it is important to view the master plan as a “menu” of projects, particularly as it relates to enhancement opportunities. Certainly, the recommendations illustrated and modeled would not all happen within the next 10 years. However, they serve as a guide. Similarly, opportunities may arise that are not illustrated in this plan. The concepts of the plan, however, can still be applied to these opportunities.

### Implementing the Master Plan

An Implementation Matrix is provided within this chapter (pp. 90-92). It is organized by the five strategies of the plan, and the recommendations for each of those strategies. The time frames for each are categorized as Short (one to five years), Medium (five to ten years), Long (ten or more years), and ongoing. With this Implementation Matrix, it is important to note that recommendations, for the most part, will not be implemented all at once. Rather, they will be implemented in phases over many years. This is, in part, due to sequencing of actions required to achieve longer-term recommendations, but also tied to Master Plan priorities, described within this chapter.

## PRIORITIES

The recommendations outlined in this report provide a connected set of actions to steward and guide investment in Patterson Park in a way that maximizes its value to the City, its residents, and the environment. Implementation priorities have been identified to streamline execution, assist in resource allocation, and simplify decision-making. However, in approaching the priorities below, it is important that implementation partners be ready to adapt to emerging opportunities. Keeping the larger Master Plan vision while staying flexible in implementation will enable the Park and its stewards to capitalize on new funding streams, innovative partnerships, political alliances, and other yet-to-be determined resources that can accelerate the execution of the Master Plan.

### Short Term

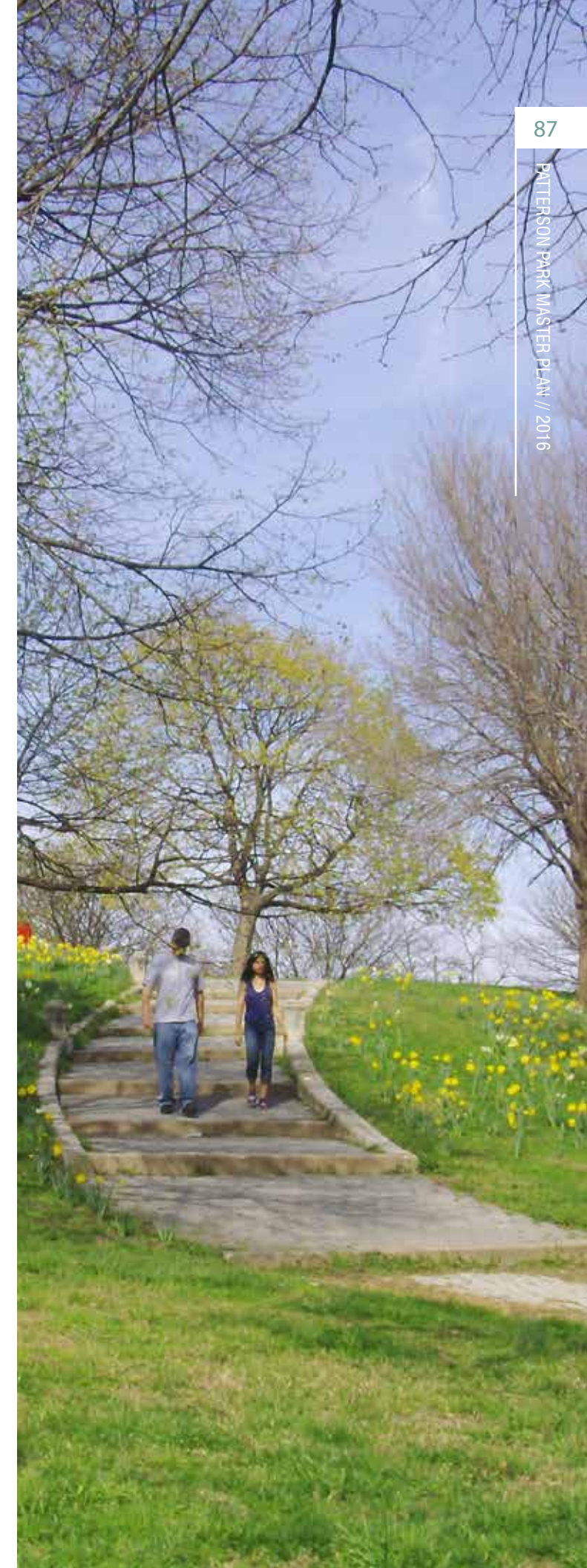
Short-term recommendations serve as building blocks for medium- and long-term recommendations. As such, they should be targeted for early implementation. Some short-term recommendations may need to be coupled with medium- and long-term recommendations to be fully realized.

#### Ecological at the Core: Systems, Performance, and Preference

- Ecological Systems Inventory
- Ecological Performance Targets
- Comprehensive Ecological Management Plan

#### Protecting Assets: Maintenance, Enforcement, and Governance

- Management & Governance Committee
- Interim Organizational Strategy
- Park Audit



- Financial Plan
- Asset Management Plan
- Enforcement Plan
- Safety Plan
- CHAP Designation

#### **Big Moves, Significant Capital: Major Facilities and Their Relationships**

- Overall Vehicular Circulation & Parking
- Community Garden

#### **Small Steps, Big Gains: Incremental Improvements**

- Lighting
- Walkway/Pavement Removal and Repair
- Furnishings and Site Amenities
- Landscape and Vegetation
- Controlled Mow Designed Experiments
- Park Gateways, Entrances, and Perimeter

#### **Staging Success: Programs, Events, and Logistics**

- Permitting
- Events and Program Promotions

#### **Medium Term**

Medium-term recommendations require greater organizational capacity and investment for implementation. In some instances, however, they may be executed in an expedited time frame should opportunities and/or resources emerge.

#### **Ecological at the Core: Systems, Performance, and Preference**

- Education & Interpretation

#### **Protecting Assets: Maintenance, Enforcement, and Governance**

- Park Leadership and Management Positions Management & Governance Committee
- Park Ranger Program

#### **Big Moves, Significant Capital: Major Facilities and Their Relationships**

- Active Core
- Boat Lake

- Promenade Restoration
- Public Restrooms

#### **Small Steps, Big Gains: Incremental Improvements**

- Site Elements
- Signage and Wayfinding

#### **Staging Success: Programs, Events, and Logistics**

- Designated Event Spaces
- Programming

#### **Long Term**

Long-term recommendations can require complex choreography to execute, which demand enhanced organizational capacity and/or resources. Other long-term recommendations represent lower priority actions, which can be extended to allow short- and medium-term goals the strategic focus required to be realized.

#### **Ecological at the Core: Systems, Performance, and Preference**

- Education & Interpretation, ongoing
- Comprehensive Ecological Management

#### **Protecting Assets: Maintenance, Enforcement, and Governance**

- Project Design and Implementation

#### **Big Moves, Significant Capital: Major Facilities and Their Relationships**

- Athletic Fields
- Existing Structures: Repurposing, Rehabilitation, or Removal
- Fountain

#### **Small Steps, Big Gains: Incremental Improvements**

- Habitat Core

#### **Staging Success: Programs, Events, and Logistics**

- Café and Food
- Off-Leash Dog Areas and Hours
- Bike Share Program
- Transportation Alternatives: Shuttle Service, Bus Stops, & Temporary Valet

## IMPLEMENTATION

### Early Implementation Partners

The potential implementation partners will vary depending upon the specific recommendation. Most recommendations will require a partnership among several partners, with one partner having the primary responsibility and additional responsibilities lying with different partners, depending upon the project or recommendation. The list below is a sample of implementation partners, but it is not exclusive. Additional partners should be added and explored.

- Adjacent neighborhoods/associations (e.g., Ellwood Park, Friends of Library Square, McElderry Park, Patterson Park Neighborhood Association, Washington Hill Community Association)
- Athletic Leagues (various)
- Baltimore Commission For Historical & Architectural Preservation (CHAP)
- Baltimore City Department of Planning (DOP)
- Baltimore City Department of Public Works (DPW)
- Baltimore City Department of Transportation (DOT)
- Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks (BCRP)
- BCRP Park Rangers
- Baltimore Community Foundation (BCF)
- Baltimore Ecosystem Study Long Term Ecological Research (BESLTER)
- Baltimore National Heritage Area (BHAA)
- Baltimore Office of Sustainability (BOS)
- Baltimore City Police Department (BCPD)
- Baltimore Tree Trust
- Bike Advocacy Groups
- C.A.R.E.
- CASA de Maryland
- Charm City Circulator
- Church Groups and Religious Institutions (e.g., Amazing Grace Lutheran Church, Sacred Heart of Jesus Church)
- City Commission on Aging—Adult Daycare Center
- Earth Stewardship Initiative (ESI) & Ecological Society of America (ESA)
- Education Based Latino Outreach (EBLO)
- Friends of Patterson Park (FoPP)
- Local Youth Programs
- Living Classrooms Foundation
- Maryland Port Administration
- Parks & People
- Patterson Park Audubon Center (PPAC)
- Patterson Park Dog Park
- Property Owners
- Schools and PTA Groups (e.g., Commodore John Rogers PTA, Cristo Rey Jesuit High School PTA, Hampstead Hill Academy PTA, Highland Elementary School, School Family Council, Highlandtown Elementary/Middle School, Patterson Park Charter School, William Paca PTA)
- Southeast Community Development Corporation (CDC)
- TreeBaltimore

### Implementation Matrix

As the Plan is implemented, an “Achievements” column can be added immediately following each of the strategies. As actions are completed, they can be moved into that column. Ideally, this would occur during an “Annual Master Plan Summit” among partners, using this Implementation Matrix as a guide for action. The Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks can effectively use the summit to grade their progress—giving themselves an “A” if they completed the action; a “C” if some progress has been made; and “N/C” if no progress has been completed. It is important to note that an “N/C” does not necessarily mean failure. In some cases, an action might not be completed because other actions became priorities or are necessary to complete prior to making any advancement, or that the dynamics of the particular project had changed. It is, therefore, important that the Implementation Matrix remain a fluid document.

The Implementation Matrix is a living, evolving tool. Additional information will develop and be identified as this plan’s recommendations are individually addressed. Information identified under Lead Organization, Potential Implementation Partner, Estimated Time Frame, and Sample Performance Metrics, as well as data in the “Potential Funding Mechanisms” columns, include preliminary ideas only. As Implementation Partners are identified and finalized, it will become their responsibility to further develop the tactics and metrics for success. In this regard, the Patterson Park Master Plan is and very much will be a community owned and implemented plan.

The full Implementation Matrix can be found below and on the following pages.

**Table 12.** Implementation Matrix

Strategy	#	Recommendation (Action Component)	IMPLEMENTATION CONSIDERATIONS				Time Frame	Sample Performance Metrics	FUNDING	BIG PICTURE
			Priority	Lead Organization	Potential Implementation Partner	Potential Funding Mechanisms			Recommendation Overlap	
<b>Ecological at the Core</b> <i>Systems, Performance, and Preference</i>	I-1	Ecological Systems Inventory	H	BCRP	BESLTER, PPAC, MRA Research, P&P, Yale Urban Ecology & Design Lab	S	# of ecological systems inventories (flora, fauna, hydrology, pedology)	NSF, MD DNR, NFWF, CBT, USFS	II 6B; III 4A	
	I-2	Ecosystem Performance Targets	H	BCRP	BESLTER, PPAC, MRA Research, P&P, Yale Urban Ecology & Design Lab	S	% of ecological systems inventories with performance targets	NSF, MD DNR, NFWF, CBT, USFS	I 4; IV 8-9	
	I-3	Comprehensive Ecological Management Plan	H	BCRP	BESLTER, PPAC, MRA Research, P&P, Yale Urban Ecology & Design Lab, Ecological Engineering Consultant	S	# of plans developed	NSF, MD DNR, NFWF, CBT, USFS	II 1; II 6C-D; III 4B; IV 7	
	I-4	Education and Interpretation	M	Audubon Society	BCRP, BHAA, FoPP, P&P	M, L	# of educational programs run	CBT, TKF Foundation, Town Creek Foundation	I 2; II 6; III 4; IV 5; IV 7-9; V 4B	
<b>Protecting Assets</b> <i>Maintenance, Enforcement, and Governance</i>	II-1	Management and Governance Committee	VH	BCRP	FoPP	O, S	# of participating members, # of committee meetings	Abell Foundation, Goldseker Foundation, BCF, Krieger Fund	I 3; II 2-10; V 2	
	II-2	Interim Organization Strategy	VH	BCRP	FoPP	S	# of partner organizations/people		II 1, 9	
	II-3	Park Leadership and Management Positions	H	BCRP	FoPP	M	# of new park employees		II 1	
	II-4	Park Audit	VH	FoPP	FoPP	S	# of completed audits		II 1, 6E	
	II-5	Financial Plan	VH	BCRP	FoPP	S	# of completed plans		II 1, 6F, 10; V 2, 5, 7	
	II-6	Asset Management Plan	<i>Building/Structure Maintenance</i>	H	BCRP	FoPP, PPPCS	S	# of completed plans	BCRP Budgets	II 1; III 2B-E, 2I, 6, 8; V 5
			<i>Park Hydrological Assessment + Stormwater Maintenance Plan</i>	H	BCRP	BOS, DPW	S	# of completed plans		I 1; II 1; III 4; IV 10
			<i>Turf/Lawn Management</i>	H	BCRP	FoPP, P&P, PPAC	S	# of completed plans		I 3; II 1
			<i>Vegetation Management</i>	H	BCRP	FoPP, P&P, PPAC	S	# of completed plans		I 3; II 1; IV 2, 7
			<i>Litter Management</i>	H	BCRP	FoPP, Living Classrooms, PPAC, PPPCS	S	# of completed plans		II 1, 4
			<i>Maintenance Funding</i>	H	BCRP	FoPP, P&P	S	# of completed plans		II 1, 5
			<i>Pathway Maintenance</i>	H	BCRP	FoPP	S	# of completed plans		II 1
	II-7	Enforcement Plan	H	BCRP	BCPD	S	# of completed plans	II 1, 9		
	II-8	Safety Plan	H	BCRP	BCPD	S	# of completed plans	II 1, 9		
II-9	Park Ranger Program	L	BCRP	BCPD	M	# of on-duty rangers, % reduction in conflict reports	BCRP Budgets, Grant Funding	II 1-2, 7-8		
II-10	Project Design and Implementation	H	BCRP	Design Consultant, FoPP, PPAC	L	# of RFP's, # of designed projects	BCRP Budgets	II 1, 5		
II-11	CHAP Designation	M	CHAP	BCRP	O, S	CHAP designation	DOP Budgets			



Strategy	#	Recommendation (Action Component)	IMPLEMENTATION CONSIDERATIONS				Time Frame	Sample Performance Metrics	FUNDING	BIG PICTURE
			Priority	Lead Organization	Potential Implementation Partner	Potential Funding Mechanisms			Recommendation Overlap	
Big Moves, Significant Capital Major Facilities and Their Relationships	III-1	Overall Vehicular Circulation and Parking	H	BCRP	DOT, FoPP, PABC	S	% reduction in car conflicts, # of new parking spaces	BCRP Capital Budgets, GEOBonds, Program Open Space, Metered Parking Revenue	III   2A, 5	
	III-2	Active Core	Park Drive	H	BCRP	DOT, FoPP, PABC	M		Full implementation	III   1
			Pool Facility	M	BCRP	FoPP	M		Full implementation	II   6A; III   8
			Primary Ice Rink Facility	M	BCRP	FoPP	M		Full implementation	II   6A
			Flexible Multi-Use Facility/ Seasonal Ice Rink	M	BCRP	FoPP	M		Full implementation	II   6A; III   8
			Recreation Center/Senior Center	H	BCRP	FoPP	M		Full implementation	II   6A; III   8
			Playground	H	BCRP	FoPP	M		Full implementation	
			Tennis Courts	H	BCRP	FoPP	M		Full implementation	
			Basketball Courts	H	BCRP	FoPP	M		Full implementation	
			Living Classrooms Building	L	BCRP	Living Classrooms	L		Full implementation	II   6A
	Linwood Dog Park	M	BCRP	Patterson Park Dog Park	M	Full implementation				
	III-3	Athletic Fields	H	BCRP	Athletic Leagues, FoPP	L	# of new athletic fields		III   8	
	III-4	Boat Lake	Boat Lake Assessment	H	BCRP	DPW, PPAC	M		water quality data (TDO, TSS, etc.)	I   1
			Boat Lake Maintenance Plan	H	BCRP	DPW	M		# of completed plans	I   3
			Boat Lake Enhancements	M	BCRP	DPW, PPAC	M	To be determined	I   4	
	III-5	Promenade Restoration	H	BCRP	FMOPL, FoPP	M	Full implementation	III   1		
	III-6	Existing Structures: Repurposing, Rehabilitation, or Removal	White House	H	Friends of Patterson Park	BCRP	M	Full implementation	II   6A; III   8	
			Casino Building	H	BCRP	PPAC	L	Full implementation	II   6A	
			Stables and Maintenance Buildings	H	BCRP	FoPP, PPAC	L	Full implementation	II   6A	
			Pagoda	M	FoPP	BCRP	L	Full implementation	II   6A	
Existing Virginia Baker Recreation Center			H	BCRP	PPPCS	L	Full implementation	III   8		
III-7	Fountain	H	BCRP	DPW	L	Full implementation				
III-8	Public Restrooms	M	BCRP	FoPP	M	# of new restrooms	II   6A; III   2-3, 6; V   1			
III-9	Community Garden	H	BCRP	FoPP	S	# of new garden plots				

Strategy	#	Recommendation (Action Component)	IMPLEMENTATION CONSIDERATIONS				Time Frame	Sample Performance Metrics	FUNDING	BIG PICTURE
			Priority	Lead Organization	Potential Implementation Partner	Potential Funding Mechanisms			Recommendation Overlap	
<b>Small Steps, Big Gains</b> <i>Incremental Improvements</i>	IV-1	Lighting	VH	BCRP	Exelon, BGE	S	# of new/repared lights	Capital Budgets, Safety Grants		
	IV-2	Park Gateways, <i>Gateways and Entrances</i>	H	BCRP	BCPSS, Community Associations, DOT, Schools, Residents	S	# of improved gateways/entrances	Capital Budgets, Grants	IV   5	
		Entrances, and <i>Park Perimeter</i>	H	BCRP		S	# of new trees planted	Capital Budgets, Grants	IV   6	
		Perimeter <i>Safe Routes to the Park</i>	M	BCRP		M	# of safe routes to the park	CDBG		
	IV-3	Walkway Pavement Removal and Repair	H	BCRP		BOS, Blue Water Baltimore, DPW, Maryland Port Administration	S	SF of pavement removed, SF of pavement repaired	Capital Budgets, Crowdfunding, Sponsorships	
	IV-4	Site Elements	H	BCRP	FoPP	M	# of added handrails, LF of upgraded fencing	Capital Budgets		
	IV-5	Signage and Wayfinding	M	BCRP	FoPP; Audubon Center	M	# of signs added	Sponsorships	I   4; IV   2	
	IV-6	Furnishings and Amenities	<i>Fixed Site Furnishings and Amenities</i>	H	BCRP	FoPP	S	# of benches added/repared, # of receptacles added, # of new water fountains	Crowdfunding, Sponsorships, Grants,	
			<i>Portable/Flexible Site Furnishings and Activities</i>	M	BCRP	FoPP	M	# of flexible furnishings introduced	Crowdfunding, Sponsorships, Grants,	
			<i>Bench/Chair Sponsorship Program</i>	M	BCRP	FoPP	M	# of sponsored chairs	Sponsorships	
IV-7	Landscape and Vegetation	H	BCRP	Landscaping Contractor(s), PPAC	S	# of trees planted, # of trees pruned, # of shrubs added	Grants, Mitigation Funds	I   3-4; II   6D; IV   9		
IV-8	Controlled Mow Areas/Designed Experiments	M	BCRP	Landscaping Contractor(s), PPAC	S	SF of controlled mow areas, # of designed experiments	Grants, Mitigation Funds, Research Funds	I   2; I   4		
IV-9	Habitat Core	M	BCRP	BESLTER, PPAC	L	SF of habitat added	Grants, Mitigation Funds, Research Funds	I   2, 4; IV   7		
IV-10	Water Management	M	BCRP	BOS, BWB, DPW, Maryland Port Administration	Ongoing	SF of stormwater management facilities	Capital Budgets, Mitigation funds	II   6		
<b>Staging Success</b> <i>Programs, Events, and Logistics</i>	V-1	Designated Event Space	H	BCRP	CASA de Maryland, Creative Alliance, FoPP	M	# of designated event spaces	BCRP Budgets	III   8	
	V-2	Permitting	H	BCRP	FoPP	S	# of permits provided	Permitting Revenues	II   1, 5	
	V-3	Event and Program Promotions	M	BCRP	BOPA, Community Associations	O, S	# of promoted events, # of event attendees	BCRP; FoPP; PPAC, Living Classrooms, P&P		
	V-4	Programming	<i>Program to Expand Park User Diversity</i>	H	BCRP	Community Associations, Cultural Groups, Residents, Schools	M	# of event attendees, % racial/ethnic/gender diversity of attendees	BCRP; FoPP; PPAC, Living Classrooms, P&P	
			<i>Youth Programs</i>	H	BCRP	BCPSS, Community Associations, Residents, Schools	M	# of youth programs, # of attendees	BCRP; FoPP; PPAC, Living Classrooms, P&P	I   4
			<i>Art in the Park</i>	M	BCRP	Arts Groups, Creative Alliance, Schools	M	# of new art pieces in park	Creative Alliance, MICA	
	V-5	Café and Food	M	BCRP	Private business	L	# of food vendors in park, \$ revenue of sales	Private Investment, Small Business Grants	II   5	
	V-6	Off-leash Dog Areas and Hours	L	BCRP	Community Associations, PPAC, Residents	L	# of off-leash dog hours, % visitor satisfaction	Grant Funding		
	V-7	Bike Share Program	L	BCRP	Private Bike Share organization	L	# of bikes rented	Grant Funding, DOT, BCRP Budgets	II   5	
V-8	Transportation Alternatives: Shuttle Service, Bus Stops, & Temporary Valet	M	DOT	BCRP; MTA, Charm City Circulator	L	# of riders	DOT			
V-9	Community Petition For Residential Permit Parking	M	Community	BCRP; DOT, PABC, Property Owners, Residents	L	TBD	N/A			

KEY	
Funding Level:	L/N = Low/No New Cost; \$ = Low; \$\$ = Medium; \$\$\$ = High
Priority	VH=very high priority; H=high priority; M= medium priority; L= Low priority
Time Frame:	Ongoing; Short: 1-5 years; Medium: 5-10 years; Long: 10+ years

## ESTIMATE OF PROBABLE PROJECT BUDGETS

Below is an estimate of probable project budgets for each of the recommendations outlined in the Master Plan. It is important to note that some recommendations will likely be implemented in phases, so the project budget would be divided among those phases. Additionally, some recommendations will not have an associated budget as they are neither a physical project nor a planning effort. These are identified with a "N/A."

**Table 13.** Strategy I Estimated Budget

STRATEGY I: ECOLOGICAL AT THE CORE	
1. Ecological Systems Inventory (Flora, Fauna, Hydrology, Soils)	\$ 112,000.00
2. Ecosystem Performance Targets	N/A
3. Comprehensive Ecological Management Plan	\$ 98,000.00
4. Education & Interpretation (annually)	\$ 65,000.00

**Table 14.** Strategy II Estimated Budget

STRATEGY II: PROTECTING ASSETS	
1. Management & Governance Committee	N/A
2. Interim Organization Strategy	N/A
3. Park Leadership & Management Positions	
a. Park Administrator (annually w/benefits)	\$ 200,000.00
b. Park Manager (annually w/benefits)	\$ 125,000.00
4. Park Audit	\$ 39,000.00
5. Financial Plan	\$ 130,000.00
6. Asset Management Plan	\$ 120,000.00
7. Enforcement Plan	\$ 35,000.00
8. Safety Plan	\$ 35,000.00
9. Park Ranger Program	\$ 150,000.00
10. Project Design and Implementation	N/A
11. CHAP Designation	N/A

**Table 15.** Strategy III Estimated Budget

STRATEGY III: BIG MOVES, SIGNIFICANT CAPITAL	
1. Overall Circulation	\$ 3,125,000.00
2. Active Core	
a. Park Drive	\$ 340,000.00
b. Pool Facility	\$ 200,000.00
c. Primary Ice Rink Facility (Demolition)	N/A
d. Flexible Multi-Use Space/Seasonal Ice Rink	\$ 600,000.00
e. Recreation Center/Senior Center	\$ 13,125,000.00
f. Playground	\$ 300,000.00
g. Tennis Courts (new & repairs)	\$ 1,170,000.00
h. Basketball Courts (repair)	\$ 520,000.00
i. Living Classrooms Building	N/A
j. Linwood Dog Park	\$ 75,000.00
3. Athletic Fields (6)	\$ 900,000.00
4. Boat Lake	
a. Assessment	\$ 32,500.00
b. Maintenance Plan	\$ 45,500.00
c. Enhancements	\$ 500,000.00
5. Promenade Restoration	\$ 1,695,000.00
6. Existing Structures: Repurposing, Rehabilitation, or Removal	
a. White House	\$ 1,250,000.00
b. Casino Building	\$ 1,000,000.00
c. Stables & Maintenance Buildings	\$ 1,500,000.00
d. Pagoda (Every 4 - 5 years)	\$ 60,000.00
e. Virginia Baker Recreation Center	\$ 2,500,000.00
7. Fountain	\$ 50,000.00
8. Public Restrooms	\$ 52,000.00
9. Community Gardens	\$ 53,000.00
» Ornamental Fencing Around Community Gardens	\$ 105,000.00

**Table 16.** Strategy IV Estimated Budget

STRATEGY IV: SMALL STEPS, BIG GAINS	
1. Lighting (200)	\$ 1,300,000.00
2. Park Gateways, Entrances and Perimeter	
a. Primary Entrances (5)	\$ 206,000.00
b. Secondary Entrances (8)	\$ 174,000.00
c. Park Perimeter	\$ 100,000.00
d. Safe Routes to the Park	N/A
3. Walkway Pavement Removal and Repair	
a. Main Carriageway (excluding promenade)	\$ 2,150,000.00
b. Other Walkways	\$ 300,000.00
4. Site Elements	
a. Fencing/Fencing Repair	\$ 195,000.00
b. Stairs/Handrails	\$ 409,000.00
5. Signage and Wayfinding	\$ 181,000.00
6. Furnishings and Amenities	
a. Fixed Site Furnishing and Amenities	
» Benches (58)	\$ 120,000.00
» Water Fountains (13)	\$ 169,000.00
» Trash Receptacles (24)	\$ 39,000.00
» Recycle Receptacles (24)	\$ 39,000.00
» Bike Racks (26)	\$ 34,000.00
b. Portable/Flexible Site Furnishings and Amenities	
(30 Café Tables, 150 chairs)	\$ 25,000.00
7. Landscape & Vegetation	
a. Trees (New/Replacement/Pruning)	\$ 528,000.00
b. Ornamental Plantings	\$ 200,000.00
8. Controlled Mow Areas	\$ 40,000.00
9. Habitat Core	N/A
10. Water Management (Bio-Retention, Rain Gardens, etc.)	\$ 860,000.00

**Table 17.** Strategy V Estimated Budget

STRATEGY V: STAGING SUCCESS	
1. Designated Event Spaces	
a. Primary Event Spaces	
» Pulaski Monument	\$ 1,200,000.00
» Pagoda Hill/White House Area	\$ 35,000.00
» Park Extension	\$ 35,000.00
b. Secondary Event Spaces	
» Virginia Baker Recreation Center	\$ 35,000.00
» Pavilions (Promenade and Central)	\$ 35,000.00
» Living Classrooms	N/A
» Active Core Flexible Multi-Use Area	\$ 35,000.00
c. Incidental Event Spaces	N/A
2. Permitting	N/A
3. Program & Event Promotions	\$ 20,000.00
4. Programming (Annually)	\$ 50,000.00
5. Café & Food	\$ 1,000,000.00
6. Off-Leash Dog Area & Hours	\$ 50,000.00
7. Bike Share Program	\$ 75,000.00
8. Transportation Alternatives (Shuttle) Annual (Weekends/Special Events)	\$ 500,000.00
9. Community Petition for Residential Parking Permit	N/A

**Table 18.** Total Estimated Budget

<b>TOTAL COST</b>	<b>\$ 40,446,000.00</b>
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The background features a large tree on the left side, with its branches and leaves visible through a semi-transparent grey overlay. A white hexagonal grid pattern is superimposed over the entire scene, with some hexagons containing white icons: a circular data visualization, a hierarchical tree structure, a network graph, a circular flow diagram with numbers 1, 2, and 3, and a pie chart. A thick white horizontal line is positioned above the main text.

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# // APPENDICES

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## APPENDIX A

### STAKEHOLDERS AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

During the summer 2014 through fall 2015 year-long planning process, the project team met with numerous stakeholders to garner input on Patterson Park regarding its assets, challenges, and opportunities. The team augmented this input with reconnaissance and professional observations.

Below is a list of stakeholder participants (not already identified in the Introduction section of this report). The list of participants does not include all attendees to public meetings, open houses, or Council/Planning Commission meetings.

#### General Outreach

Cynthia Gross, C.A.R.E.

Beth Myers Edwards, McElderry Park and Ellwood Park

Anthony Newman, Friends of Library Square

Katy Primosch, Washington Hill Community Association

Matthew Hornbeck, Hampstead Hill Academy

Ms. Fagan, Highland Elementary School

Ms. Lewis, Highland Elementary School

Chris Ryer, Southeast CDC

Zach Berliner, Highlandtown Elementary/Middle School

Stacy Place Tose, William Paca

Marc Martin, Commodore John Rogers

Jessica Gregg, Cristo Rey Jesuit High School

Pastor Gary, Amazing Grace Lutheran Church

Owen Andrews, CASA de Maryland, ESOL Program

Maritza Zavala-Smith, CASA de Maryland, After School Youth Program Coordinator

Miguel Vincente, Education Based Latino Outreach

Shakurah Charles, Tench Tilghman Elementary School

Karen Summerville, Creative Alliance

Father Wotjek, Sacret Heart of Jesus Church

### Focus Group Interviews

The following meetings were led by Professor Sidney Brower and Yijing He. This list does not include additional outreach meetings conducted by Kate Brower and Nyala Clyne.

Focus Group Interviews		
Number	Date	Meeting
1	12/11/14	Meeting with Rec Center Staff and User
2	12/17/14	Meeting with Friends of Patterson Park
3	12/21/14	Meeting with Maintenance Group
4	12/22/14	Meeting with Ice Rink Manager
5	12/23/14	Meeting with Permitting and Recreation Programming
6	2/12/15	Recreation Center Users
7	3/3/15	CASA di Maryland ESOL participants
8	3/7/15	Ice Rink Users
9	3/9/15	Dog Owners
10	3/13/15	CASA di Maryland Teen Mi Espac
11	3/17/15	B'MORE Healthy Latina/Latino Zumba Group at Recreation Center
12	3/26/15	CARE Community
13	5/13/15	Meeting with 3rd graders William Paca Public School
14	5/23/15	Meeting with Living Classroom
15	5/29/15	Senior Park Users
16	6/10/15	Rules Enforcement in Patterson Park - Police and Park Ranger
27	7/23/15	Audubon
28	8/15/15	Swimming Pool Staff & User
19	8/17/15	Cyclists
20	8/19/15	Tennis Player
21	8/21/15	Basketball Player
22	8/23/15	Permit Office - Event Area Study
23	8/24/15	Event Organizer - Event Area Study
Information Meeting		
Number	Date	Meeting
1	2/18/15	Meeting with McElderry Park Community Association
2	6/11/15	First Events Coordination Meeting
3	6/21/15	Meeting at Amazing Grace Lutheran Church
4	8/11/15	Second Events Coordination Meeting



## APPENDIX B

### FIELD SURVEY

For the purpose of this planning project, Yijing He, a student from the University of Maryland, Urban Studies and Planning Program, under the supervision of Professor Sidney Brower, conducted surveys on-location during fall 2014, winter 2015, spring 2015, and summer 2015.

Data about park seasonal usage was collected via a questionnaire, which was developed collaboratively by stakeholders, BCRP staff, event organizers, and the planning team. The questionnaire was administered at four times during the year, to find out how park use changes by season and to reach people who may only use the park at a certain times of the year. During each season respondents were asked to identify the activities and facilities they used in the park during the previous seven days.

The questionnaire included open-ended and multiple choice questions, about the park—its condition and problems, and about respondents' own activities, perceptions, and suggestions for improvement. Small changes were made after the fall and winter surveys in order to clarify questions which respondents felt were confusing, probe concerns that emerged in earlier responses, and reflect changes to seasonal program offerings (i.e. the swimming pool in summer, the ice rink in winter).

Survey administrators approached as many people as possible within pre-set time windows, on different days, at different times, and different locations within the park to gain input on the survey questionnaire. Additional questionnaires were administered at local community meetings and events in the park. Survey administrators did not target particular types of users (such as cyclists) or users at particular locations (such as the Recreation Center). All respondents were asked about all of their activities, in all locations in the park.

In total 819 completed questionnaires were returned, 511 administered by survey staff, and 308 by volunteers. The pages that follow offer a summary of this research.



## Seasonal Field Study of Patterson Park, Baltimore, Maryland

December 2015

Sidney Brower  
Yijing He



## Seasonal Field Study of Patterson Park in Baltimore, Maryland

*Urban Studies and Planning Program/University of Maryland/College Park  
Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks  
December 2015*

Seasonal Field Study of Patterson Park in Baltimore, Maryland. Dec 2015

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

#### Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks

Kate Brower	Urban Planner, Project Manager
Tim Almaguer	Contract Services Specialist
Eric Barlipp	Dog Park Coordinator/ Utilities Coordinator
Rashaan Brave	Chief, Youth and Adult Sports
Cassandra Brown	Recreation Center Director, V.S. Baker Recreation Center
Nyala Clyne	Intern
JoAnn Cason	Chief, Special Populations Unit
Ronnie Daniels	Assistant Park District Manager, Patterson Division
Tracey Estep	Chief, Recreation Center Operations
John Kirk	Recreation Programmer, Mimi DiPietro Family Skating Center
Elaina Kriz	Southside Aquatic Coordinator
Ronald Rudisill	Park District Manager, Clifton Division
Robert Wall	Chief of Recreation
Cortney Weinstock	Park Administrator, Permits Office

#### The Friends of Patterson Park

Jennifer Robinson	Executive Director
Katie Long	Program Director/Hispanic Liaison
Sandy Sales	Member

#### Living Classrooms Foundation

Maritza Rodriguez	Site Director, Patterson Park Youth Sports and Education Center
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#### Baltimore City Health Department

Rosalee Velenovsky	Center Manager, John Booth/Hooper Senior Center
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#### Those who participated in focus group discussions

Amazing Grace Lutheran Church  
Audubon Society  
Baltimore Police Department  
B'MORE Healthy Latina/Latino Zumba Group Basketball Players  
CARE Community  
CASA di Maryland  
Cyclists  
Dominic Mimi DiPietro Family Skating Center  
John Booth/Hooper Senior Center  
Living Classrooms  
Patterson Park maintenance crew

Patterson Park Public Charter School  
 Patterson Park Swimming Pool  
 Tennis Players  
 Virginia Baker Recreation Center  
 William Paca Public School

**Special thanks to the volunteers who helped to administer the questionnaires and to the park users who participated in our surveys.**

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Seasonal Field Study of Patterson Park in Baltimore, Maryland. Dec 2015

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**NOTE**

We use the following abbreviations throughout the report

- BCRP Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks
- FPP Friends of Patterson Park
- MRA Mahan Rykiel Associates

Those who are interested in obtaining complete source data, questionnaire forms and meeting notes can find them in the *Supplemental Report* contact Kate Brower at BCRP.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Patterson Park, situated in the heart of east Baltimore, is surrounded by residential neighborhoods whose populations are less Black and more Hispanic than they were at the time of the 1998 park master plan. This document reports the findings of a year-long study of park users, part of the process for updating the park master plan. Information comes from responses to seasonal on-site questionnaires that focused on all uses in the park except organized sports, and from discussions in focus groups and with key informants. The discussions were set up to broaden information obtained from the questionnaires and to compensate for the fact that minority users were under-represented in the on-site survey.

The results show that the park attracts users from various parts of the city and the county, but that most users come from the surrounding neighborhoods. The schools use the park as their playground and sports field. Local residents see the park as a local amenity, one that enhances the quality of their living environment. They walk to the park. They make up the core members of the Friends of Patterson Park and they volunteer for park-related activities such as assisting during events, cleaning up, and planting. The park is well used and well loved, although some Hispanics, and some African-American residents who live at some distance from the park, feel that that they are not welcome.

The park is used at all times of the year. The most frequently noted uses of the park are relaxing, walking, jogging, running, and dog walking. Most users come to the park 1-3 days a week in all seasons. Frequency of walking, jogging and running is consistent throughout the seasons. Spring sees an increase in cycling and sports activities. People in the winter are more likely to be engaged in sports and relaxing (the latter probably accounted for by a higher percentage of dog-walkers). There is an increase in cycling and playing with children in the fall. The areas most frequently mentioned by users in all seasons are the boat lake, playgrounds, and dog park. There are more references to the ice rink in the winter, Utz field in the fall, and the pagoda area and pool in the summer.

Certain concerns come up repeatedly: safety; the presence of trash; inadequate lighting, access to restrooms, and enforcement of park rules; too many cars entering, speeding and parking in the park; dogs that run off-leash; poor coordination among the various event organizers, and difficulty in finding out what programs are being offered. Users mention the poor condition of the paths, steps, walls, and fences, the drinking fountains that do not work, lack of access to restrooms, the hours of operation at the swimming pool and recreation center are inconvenient and confusing, the need for more benches and for marked bike lanes to avoid conflict between walkers/joggers and cyclists. Other than general/regular maintenance, some areas also have special needs: the tennis courts and playgrounds.

Users agree that there should be a recreation center in the park, but many do not know what programs are offered there, and many who once used the center do not use it at present. It needs to attract a

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wider membership. Many find the building unwelcoming and would like a new, up-to-date building, in a more accessible location. But others would like to see the present building renovated. Users also agree that an ice rink is needed in the park, but the present rink is in need of serious repair. Some feel it should be renovated, but others feel it should be relocated and rebuilt so that it can cater to professional teams. People generally agree that if it is enlarged it will attract more cars and would be better moved to another site, preferably one near the park.

Users have many suggestions for improvements in the park. Heading the list are requests for improved lighting (including night lighting of the tennis courts and swimming pool), more trash cans and benches, limited automobile access and parking, increased police presence, and better communication and enforcement of park rules especially those related to littering and leash laws. People would like to see permanent restrooms, but only on condition that there are suitable provisions for maintenance. There should be longer opening hours at the pool and the recreation center. Minority residents should be invited to participate in park activities and programming. Users would like to see more organized events and better coordination among event organizers and a central source of information about scheduled events. Event organizers would like to see utility connections at the major event sites.

The overall picture is one of a park that is much enjoyed and well used and that contributes to the livability of the surrounding neighborhoods. However, the park is not free of problems, and there are areas where improvements are needed.

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## A. USER STUDIES



## USER STUDIES

Two surveys, an online opinion survey and a year-long field study were administered as part of the park planning process.

### 1. Online Opinion Survey

The online opinion survey was conducted by Mahan Rykiel Associates early in the planning process to provide a snapshot of park users and uses, as well as user perceptions, preferences and visions for the park. For full description of the online opinion survey, see MRA's *Patterson Park Master Plan* report.

### 2. Field Study

The field study, documented in this report, built and elaborated on findings of the online opinion survey, gathering complimentary information over a one-year period, with seasonal data collected during the fall, winter, spring and summer seasons. Integration of the findings of both surveys occurred throughout the planning process. The field study consisted of seasonal field surveys, meetings with focus group and key informants, an event study and a master plan feedback survey

#### a. Seasonal Field Surveys

To collect data about park use we developed a questionnaire with English and Spanish versions (See *Appendix A* and *Supplemental Report*<sup>1</sup>), using the findings of the online opinion survey, and with input from local residents, staff of BCRP, event organizers, and MRA. The questionnaire was administered at four times during the year because we wanted to find out how park use changes by season, and because we wanted to reach people who may only use the park at certain times of the year. Each season we asked respondents to identify their activities and the facilities they used in the park during the previous seven days. This enables us paint a picture of park usage for each season. Not all questions were seasonal: we also repeated, throughout the year, a number of open- and closed-ended questions about the condition of and problems with the park, and about respondents' own activities, perceptions, and suggestions for improvement. Small changes to the questionnaire were made after the fall and then the winter surveys in order to clarify certain questions, probe concerns that emerged in earlier responses, and reflect changes in seasonal offerings (the swimming pool in summer, the ice rink in winter).

In administering the questionnaires we approached as many people as we could within the limits of our time and resources, on different days, at different times and different locations within the park,

<sup>1</sup> See the Note on Page V

and at local community meetings and events in the park. (See *Supplemental Report*<sup>2</sup>) We did not specially sample particular types of users (such as cyclists) or users at particular locations (such as the recreation center). Instead, we asked ALL respondents about ALL of their activities in ALL locations in the park.

In total we received 843 completed questionnaires: 518 administered by survey staff, and 325 by volunteers—residents of neighborhoods around the park. The seasonal numbers are: Fall 220, winter 129, Spring 252, Summer 242.

#### b. Meetings with Focus Groups and Key Informants

The questionnaire was aimed at general park users, but it is also important to hear from users who have special needs (such as seniors, cyclists), those involved in the management and operation of the park (such as the maintenance crew, the permits office), those who run programs in the park (such as the Audubon Society, Living Classrooms, and those who may be under-represented in the field survey (African-American and Hispanic groups). We held one- to two-hour focused discussions based on a prepared a list of topics for each group. Those who attended had been recruited through event organizers, local newsletters and webpages, community leaders, and posted notices. The size of the groups varied between two and twenty people. In addition, we met with individuals who have special knowledge and experience of the park and park users (such as the Friends of Patterson Park, local community leaders).

In all, we participated in 28 discussions with focus groups and key informants between 12/11/2014 and 8/24/2015 (See *Supplemental Report* for full focus interview notes).

#### c. Events Study

The questionnaires confirmed the popularity of organized events in the park. Each of these events requires that a permit application be submitted to BCRP, listing the location, and the estimated number of attendants, event site plan, etc. We obtained copies of 18 permits issued over the past year, and used the information on these permits to map the sites where events take place. We then approached key people responsible for issuing permits and organizing events to find out ways in which the sites could be improved.

#### d. Master Plan Feedback Survey

Towards the end of the study period (also the end of the planning process) we wanted to find out what people felt about various actions that were recommended in the draft master plan. Between 7/20/2015 and 8/24/2015 we placed Question Boxes with a short survey form, master plan draft plan

<sup>2</sup> See the Note on Page V

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map and flyers at major facilities in the park and at local libraries<sup>3</sup>. Respondents were asked to rank each recommended action according to its perceived urgency and indicate if they are willing to participate in future decisions about implementing the plan, or volunteer to assist in park activities. We also posted the survey online, and sent copies via community newsletters and mail lists. We received a total of 530 responses.

This survey allowed us to rank each of the recommended actions and also identified the contact information according to its perceived urgency. It also identifies and provides contact information for people who want to participate in the ongoing planning process.

<sup>3</sup> Enoch Pratt Free Library - Patterson Park Branch (158 N Linwood Ave, Baltimore, MD 21224)  
Southeast Anchor Branch Library (3601 Eastern Ave, Baltimore, MD 21224)

\*Page 6 omitted because it was blank.

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## B. FINDINGS



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**FINDINGS**

In reporting the field survey we include data from the questionnaire together with ideas, suggestions, and comments by key informants and members of focus groups.

**1. Who Responded to the Field Study?**

To find out whether the composition of the respondents is representative of the resident population in the surrounding area, we identified neighborhoods that, in whole or in part, are within walking distance of the park (0.5 mile), and then selected census districts that most closely contained these neighborhoods. These are shown on Figure 1.

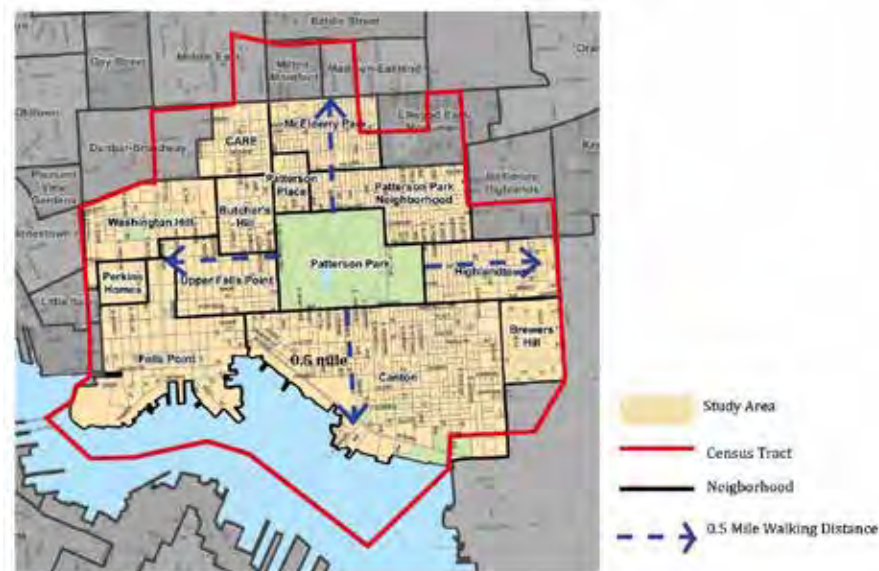


Figure 2 Neighborhood Map

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the population of the study area in 2012 was 47,842, down from 48,096 in 2000. During the same time period the percentage of African-American residents declined from 39% to 27%, while the Hispanic population increased from 7% to 12%.

Eight hundred and thirty two park users responded to the field survey, of these, 36% are male, and 64% are female. The survey did not include users under 18 years of age. Forty-two percent of those surveyed are between 18 and 35.

Table 1 shows that the age distribution of the survey matches quite well with that of the neighborhoods.

The majority of users (70%) walk or jog to the park, while 20% come by car. (Table 2)

Table 3 shows that most respondents live in the predominantly white neighborhoods of Patterson Park, Butcher's Hill and Canton. These neighborhoods are adjacent to the park.

	2010	Survey
Under 18	18%	1%
18-35	41%	42%
36-45	14%	28%
46-55	10%	11%
Over 55	17%	18%

Rank	Transportation	%
1	Walk/Jog	70%
2	Car	20%
3	Bicycle	3%
4	Bus	1%
5	More Than One	6%

Table 4 compares the composition of residents in the selected census districts with that of those who responded to the survey. It is clear that the survey over-represents white residents and under-represents African-Americans. We had anticipated this, and made an effort to compensate for it through meetings and discussions with members of the African-American community

<sup>4</sup> 2010 Census Summary File 1

**Table 3 Where the survey takers live**

Rank	Neighborhood	Number
1	Patterson Park	200
2	Butchers Hill	113
3	Canton	99
4	Highlandtown	80
5	Upper Fells Point	56
6	McElderry Park	18
7	Patterson Place	8
8	Washington Hill	5
	Other	141

**Table 4 Race and Ethnicity**

Race and Ethnicity	2000 Census <sup>5</sup>	2010 Census <sup>6</sup>	Survey
Percent of Residents - White	53%	47%	58%
Percent of Residents - Black/African-American (Non-Hispanic)	39%	27%	19%
Other	8%	14%	10%
ETHNICITY			13%
Percent of Residents - Hispanic	7%	15%	

**2. What Do People Do in the Park?**

Patterson Park is a city park, attracting users from many parts of the city and the neighboring county. But most park users, and also the most frequent users, are local people, most of whom get to the park on foot (see Table 2). Users recognize that it is a city park, but local residents see it also or primarily as a neighborhood park, and feel they should have a special say in its use and future. The park adds value to local property. The FPP (Friends of Patterson Park) refer to it as the *Best Backyard in Baltimore*. Local schools use it as their playground and sports field. People who are active in FPP and who volunteer to work in the park come mostly from the surrounding neighborhoods.

Tables 5 and 6 show that relaxing is the most frequently mentioned activity in the park, followed by walking/jogging/running and dog-walking. These are the major uses throughout the year and in all seasons except fall, when sports enters in the lead.

Table 7 shows the frequency of sporting activities as reported by all park users. Our information about sporting activities is necessarily incomplete because the survey obtained information about the sporting activities of general park users; it did not include people on the fields and courts who were actively engage in organized sport. We missed people who were ONLY playing sports.

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**Table 5 Activities in the Park (all year)<sup>11</sup>**

Rank	Activities	Percentage
1	Relaxing <sup>12</sup>	40.1%
2	Walk/Jogging/Running	16.5%
3	Sports <sup>13</sup>	13.3%
4	With Dogs <sup>14</sup>	12.0%
5	Playing With Children	9.5%
6	Cycling	4.3%
7	Swimming <sup>15</sup>	2.8%
8	Ice Skating <sup>16</sup>	1.2%
9	Sledding <sup>17</sup>	0.2%

**Table 6 Activities in the Park (by season)**

Rank	Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer
1	Relaxing	Relaxing	Relaxing	Relaxing
2	Sports	Walk/Jogging/Runnin	Walk/Jogging/Runnin	Walk/Jogging/Runnin
3	Walk/Jogging/Runnin	Sports	With Dogs	Playing With Children
4	With Dogs	With Dogs	Sports	With Dogs
5	Playing With Children	Playing With Children	Play With Children	Swimming
6	Cycling	Ice Skating	Cycling	Sports
7		Cycling		Cycling
8		Sledding		

**Table 7 Frequency of Playing Sports (by season)**

	Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer
4-7 days/week	8%	24%	28%	6%
1-3 days/week	92%	76%	72%	94%

<sup>11</sup> Note: Because each season brought a different set of responses, the numbers in each season must necessarily be viewed against a different total and so we report rankings rather than totals or percentages

<sup>12</sup> Relaxing includes sitting or lying, picnicking, bird watching, people watching, hanging out.

<sup>13</sup> Sports include baseball, basketball, softball, tennis, kickball, football (soccer), volleyball

<sup>14</sup> With dogs includes taking dogs to the park and to the dog park

<sup>15</sup> Summer only

<sup>16</sup> Winter only

<sup>17</sup> Winter only

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Most people play sports 1-3 days a week, with highest participation in the fall and summer months. There is increased frequency of use in winter and spring.<sup>18</sup>

Table 8 shows that people come to the park for relaxation 1-3 days a week in the fall, spring and summer. The numbers suggesting increased frequency in the winter may be because people who do other things in the other seasons (including sitting, lying, picnicking, cycling, dog-walking, playing with children) come to the park to relax in the winter. (See Tables 9-12)

Table 9 shows that most people come to the park to walk/jog/run 1-3 days a week in all seasons. However, a significant minority does it more often.

Table 10 shows that bikers use the park 1-3 times a week. A significant minority come more frequently in the fall and spring.

Table 11 shows that most people come to the playgrounds 1-3 days a week. Those who come more frequently are most likely to come in the fall and least likely in the summer.

Table 12 shows that most dog walkers are out 4-7 days a week in the fall, spring and summer. In the winter, they come less frequently—1-3 days a week.

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**Table 8 Frequency of Relaxing (by season)**

	Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer
4-7 days/week	26%	85%	31%	30%
1-3 days/week	74%	15%	69%	70%

**Table 9 Frequency of Walking/Jogging/Running (by season)**

	Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer
4-7 days/week	43%	45%	37%	44%
1-3 days/week	57%	55%	63%	56%

**Table 10 Frequency of Cycling (by season)**

	Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer
4-7 days/week	37%	18%	38%	15%
1-3 days/week	63%	82%	62%	85%

**Table 11 Frequency of Playing with Children at Playground (by season)**

	Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer
4-7 days/week	46%	23%	26%	16%
1-3 days/week	54%	77%	74%	84%

**Table 12 Frequency of Bringing a Dog to the Park (by season)**

	Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer
4-7 days/week	68%	43%	63%	67%
1-3 days/week	22%	57%	37%	33%

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### 3. What Facilities are most used?

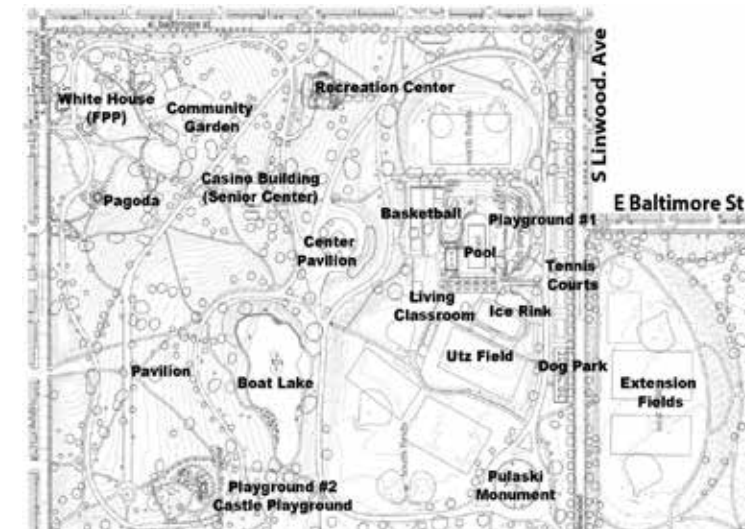


Figure 2 Patterson Park Facilities

Each season, people were asked what park facilities they had used in the past seven days. Tables 13 and 14 show that the boat lake, the playgrounds and the dog park are the most-used facilities throughout the year. In the summer, there is increased use of the pagoda area, but the swimming pool is perhaps less used than would be expected. In winter, as expected, there is increased use of the ice rink. We do not have an explanation for the sudden increased use of the Casino in the spring.

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**Table 13 Facility Use (all year)**

Rank	Facility	Percentage
1	The Boat Lake	21%
2	Playgrounds	17%
3	Dog Park	13%
4	Casino Building	8%
5	Ice Rink <sup>19</sup>	8%
6	Utz Field	7%
7	Virginia Baker recreation center	7%
8	Pavilions	7%
9	Community Garden	6%
10	Swimming Pool <sup>20</sup>	6%

**Table 14 Facility Use in the Park (by season)**

Rank	Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer
1	Playgrounds	Ice Rink	The Boat Lake	The Boat Lake
2	The Boat Lake	Dog Park	Casino Building	Pagoda
3	Utz Field	The Boat Lake	Playgrounds	Playgrounds
4	Dog Park	Playgrounds	Dog Park	Dog Park
5	Ice Rink	Recreation Center	Pavilions	Swimming Pool
6	Recreation Center	Utz Field	Recreation Center	Community Garden
7	Community Garden	Pavilions	Utz Field	Pavilions
8	Pavilions	Community Garden	Community Garden	Casino Building
9	Casino Building	Casino Building	Ice Rink	Utz Field
10			Pagoda	Recreation Center
11				Ice Rink

<sup>19</sup> Winter only  
<sup>20</sup> Summer only

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**4. What Are the Major Concerns that People Express?**

A number of concerns come up repeatedly in the surveys and focus groups. They are: safety, enforcement of park rules, feeling welcome, coordinating events, and communications.

**a. Safety**

Table 15 shows that trash is seen as a major problem in the park. This is discussed under *Section B-4-b Enforcement Of Park Rules*.

Fear of crime is a highly emotional issue, and it directly affects people’s use and enjoyment of the park. More than one in three see crime as a problem, and one in four is concerned about being harassed or threatened. People mention vandalism, drug dealing, car break-ins, unsupervised kids, and homeless people hanging out. The issue of homeless people in the park is a particularly difficult one to deal with because there is a question as to whether they are breaking the law, and whether removing them from the park will just shift them into the neighborhoods. The concern for safety extends beyond the boundaries of the park to the streets that lead to it.

Police are seen in the park only infrequently, and they are mostly seen in the mornings when few people are around. They are seldom seen on the weekends, evenings, and after dark when they are most needed. People complain that police mostly stay in their cars. They would prefer them to be on bikes or horseback. They complain that if called the police tend to be dismissive, and nothing gets done. Some African-Americans describe interaction with the police as hostile and feel that the police discriminate on the basis of race and economic and social status.

Safety concerns are closely tied to lighting: ninety-one percent of park users would like the lighting in the park to be improved. (See Table 15) The park is supposed to be closed after dark, but parts of the park are used at night (these include the dog park, sports fields, and jogging paths), and some winter programs at the recreation and other facilities end after dark.

**Table 15 Do you think the following is a problem in the park?**

Issue	Percentage
Trash	70%
Crime against persons	39%
Crime against property	34%
Harassment or threat	24%
Drunkenness	18%

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**b. Park Rules Enforcement**

Park rules—use restrictions—are listed on signs posted in the park. These rules include a requirement that all dogs outside the dog park to be on leash, all dog owners pick up after their dogs, no parking without a permit, and no littering. Most park users feel that they themselves are familiar with the rules, but that the signs are ineffective in communicating the rules to others. (See Table 16) They suggest that the rules be more prominently displayed. The police suggest including a note that the rules will be enforced by the police and the park rangers.

Park users are concerned that the rules are seldom enforced. People question whether the police are even familiar with the rules, and suggest a written document. Trash and littering are seen as major problems. (See Table 15) There are not enough cans, and those that are there are not cleared frequently enough. There is little enforcement of the rule requiring dogs outside the dog park to be on a leash. Police say that they will cite people with off-leash dogs, but that while they can easily identify illegal parkers by their car license-plates, they it is more difficult to identify the owners of off-leash dogs. They say that people parked in order to pick up their kids object to being told to move. Park rangers (only four for the entire city) are expected to be in the park from April through November, but they are not on a fixed schedule and are not frequently seen. They focus on parking and dog pick-up rather than safety issues and do not have the authority to issue fines. Their radios are not directly connected to police, so that by the time they reach the police and the police arrive, the offenders have disappeared.

Park users do not know where to go if they want to report infringements of the rules. (Table 16) Regular users may come to the maintenance yard to speak to crew members, but the crew is not assigned the a number of parks in the area in addition to Patterson Park, and is not always there—its schedule varies with the season, need, and activities in its district, and it does not work evenings and weekends. The recommended procedure is to call 311. This information should be clearly posted. Most people who need assistance call the FPP.

	<b>Are you familiar with the park rules?</b>	<b>Are users adequately informed about the park rules?</b>	<b>Are the park rules adequately enforced?</b>
<b>Yes</b>	78%	35%	21%
<b>No</b>	13%	39%	49%
<b>Don't Know</b>	8%	25%	29%

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**c. Automobile Traffic and Parking**

Table 17 shows that one out of two park users feels that there are too many cars in the park and too many cars parked without permits. Three quarters of park users feel that limiting automobile access to the park is a good idea. (See Table 29)

There are legitimate reasons for cars to be in the park. These include delivery of goods and supplies for special events and sports, dropping off and picking up kids and seniors, police on surveillance, maintenance and sanitation crews. The major auto magnets are sporting events, the pavilions, the ice rink in winter, and the pool in summer. Cars headed for the pavilions tend to get lost and drive around the park because there are no destination signs. Users complain that there is no enforcement of parking restrictions. We discussed this earlier in this section.

	<b>Cars are driving too fast in the park</b>	<b>Too many cars parking in the park</b>	<b>Too many cars without permits</b>
<b>Yes</b>	50%	50%	47%
<b>No</b>	36%	35%	22%
<b>Don't Know</b>	15%	14%	31%

**d. Park Maintenance**

Table 18 shows that park users are satisfied with the general maintenance of the park. They are less satisfied with the condition of the pathways and stairs, and the walls, fences and drinking fountains. There are too few drinking fountains and most of those are broken.

Sports fields	81%
Trees and grass	77%
Courts	75%
Buildings and pavilions	59%
Pathways and stairs	41%
Walls, fences and drinking fountains	36%

**e. Dogs**

Park rules require that all dogs in the park, outside the dog park, be on leash at all times. But off-leash dogs are an oft-cited problem. And not only by those who do not own dogs: 62% of all park users say off-leash dogs are a problem outside the dog park. Seventy-three percent of all park users complain

about owners who do not pick up after their dogs, and 38% of dog park users complain that they have problems with other dog owners. Fifty-eight percent of all park users favored enforced leash laws. Unfortunately, as reported earlier in this section, the laws are seldom enforced.

Off leash dogs are a problem	62%
Pick-up after dogs is a problem	73%
Necessary to enforce leash laws	58%
Dog owner's behavior has problem	38%

**f. Feeling of Exclusion**

Quite early we realized that we were not reaching a representative sample of African-Americans in the park. To compensate for this, we arranged a series of discussions in focus groups and with leaders in the African-American community, where we were made aware that some feel unwelcome in the park. As a result we added a “welcome” question (Do you feel that you are less welcome in the park than some other people?) to the questionnaire after the first (fall) survey.

Responses to this question are shown in Table 20. It seems that one in three Hispanic users feels unwelcome in the park. In our meetings in the Hispanic community, people told us that the language barrier keeps them from interacting with other users, but the unwelcome issue did not emerge and so we did not follow up on it.

However, in our meetings with leaders in the African-American community the matter of feeling unwelcome came up repeatedly. So it is perhaps surprising that the field survey should show that the feeling is no more prevalent among African-American than among White park users. The apparent contradiction may be explained by the fact that the field survey addressed park users; it did not reach people who do not use the park, and who may not use it because they feel unwelcome there. If this is the case, it has important policy implications. BCRP assigned a student intern, Nyala Clyne, to spend the summer of 2015 in the predominantly African-American neighborhoods north of the park, attending community meetings and interviewing park users and non-users. We incorporate some of her findings in the discussion that follows. (For the full report, see *Supplemental Report*<sup>22</sup>)

There are a number of reasons why some African-Americans feel unwelcome in the park: People remember the history of racial discrimination, and some experience racial prejudice in the park today. Some feel that events in the park do not cater to the special interests of African-American users. They are not represented in organizations and committees that make decisions about the park. Some do not

<sup>21</sup> Of dog park users  
<sup>22</sup> See the Note on Page V

know about events in the park because they do not have access to the Internet; they would like to see more printed notices and flyers. For some, their involvement in social issues such as job development and housing, takes precedence over involvement in the planning or operation of the park.

Some Spanish-speaking users also feel unwelcome in the park. They do not use, and some are even aware of, many of the amenities in the park. This is partly because of the language barrier, and partly because they feel discriminated against and victimized. They do not participate in typically American sports, such as basketball, because they do not know the rules.

FPP has a staff member assigned to work with the Spanish-speaking community. It was suggested that they also have a staff person assigned to work with the African – American community, and that they should enter into a discussion with both groups to find out why some feel unwelcome in the park, and what should be done to remedy the situation.

	White	Black	Hispanic
Yes, I feel less welcome	12%	12%	35%
No, I don't feel less welcome	88%	88%	65%

**g. Coordinating Events**

The park hosts a variety of events and programs offered by many organizations (including the FPP, Audubon, Living Classrooms, the Sports Leagues, the Recreation Center) and by individuals who have obtained permits (for private events such as birthday parties). Each organization puts out flyers, notices, emails, or listings on social media about its own programs, and there is little coordination among the various organizers, and park users do not know where to go for information about all happenings. FPP newsletter lists many but not all of the events. The City webpage is more comprehensive, but is not user-friendly.

BCRP has invited a series of regular meeting with all event organizers to discuss coordination of activities, program gaps and overlaps, and ways of relating offerings to users needs. And, as a first step, BCRP has produced a poster and brochure listing all activities schedules in the park during fall 2015.

**h. Communication**

There is no easy way to find out what is happening in the park. Users would like to have a central easy-to-use source, accessible to those who do not have Internet connection, where they can get information about all programs that are being offered at any one time. Some feel that this should be the responsibility of the Friends. Others think it should be BCRP or the Recreation Center. It would be useful to have this information, as well as that about activities in the surrounding communities,

posted in the park, More than two- thirds of park users are in favor of community notice boards. (See Table 29)

**5. Satisfaction with various facilities**

**a. Path and Plantings**



Figure 3 Path

Table 21 shows walkers, joggers, runners and cyclers match the table are generally satisfied with conditions in the park. There is, however, far less satisfaction with access to restrooms. The boat lake and the pagoda area are frequently cited as the best places for relaxing. Walkers, joggers, runners and cyclists mention the paths. Their suggested improvements are listed in *Section B-6 Suggestions for Improvement*.

Table 21 Satisfaction Responses by People Who Are Relaxing, Walking/Jogging/Running & Cycling		
1	The condition of the grass and plantings	95%
2	The general layout of the paths	82%
3	The balance between shady and sunny areas	75%
4	The condition of the paths and steps	72%
5	The availability and condition of restrooms	16%

**b. Boat Lake and Audubon Society**



Figure 4 Boat Lake

The boat lake is a combination of open water and a wetland habitat for fish, waterfowl, and songbirds. The boat lake is enjoyed by many for fishing, wildlife viewing, and educational programming.

The boat lake ranks each season as one of the most frequently mentioned facilities in the park. (See Table 13 &14) Uses include walking, watching the birds, and angling for fish. The Audubon Center maintains a habitat around the boat lake in coordination with FPP, and proposes a future extension of this habitat.

The Patterson Park Audubon Center is the local branch of National Audubon Society, the only one in the city. Its mission is to support and preserve the ecology of the site through educational programs and work actions. It offers programs that further its overall mission. Most participants in these programs walk to the park, but some come from a distance.

Audubon offers bird walks in the habitat, around the white house, and down the hillside. It provides outdoor programs in the park for elementary, middle and high school students. In the winter it takes its programs into the schools. Students earn service credits working with Audubon. Lack of bathrooms in the park is a concern, especially as it affects young children. There is a concern about safety in the park. (see Table 15 )Audubon also offers programs for adults and families, and organizes programs in conjunction with Living Classrooms (see *Section B-5-j Living Classrooms*). Most of its programs are free. Audubon needs more space for its offices and for classrooms and exhibitions. It sees the Casino building as the ideal location.



**c. Sports Fields/Courts**

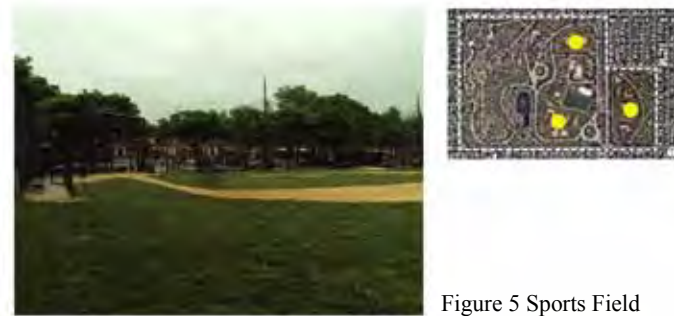


Figure 5 Sports Field

Patterson Park is highly used by sports leagues and for pick-up games. Sports fields include baseball, softball and football (soccer); sports courts include tennis, basketball and volleyball.

Table 16 shows that sports users are relatively satisfied with the location, condition and number of sports fields. They are less satisfied with the scheduling of games, and suggest that there be a board on the fields to list the programmed events and times. They are less satisfied with the seating arrangements, and not satisfied with access to restrooms.

In the summer there are long waiting lines at the tennis courts, and no system for making a reservation. No staff members are dedicated to manage the courts, to repair and adjust the nets. The park maintenance crew does not set foot in the courts. Two tennis courts were recently redone, but the others need resurfacing. They also need repair, because the surface of the courts is level or below that of the surrounding ground, and consequently sand is washed in by the rain, and it collects grass and leaves. Night lighting would make it possible for people to play after work in the fall and spring.

Rank	Category	Percentage
1	The location of the courts/fields in the park	81%
2	The number of courts/fields	60%
3	The condition of the courts/fields	60%
4	The scheduling of games	54%
5	The seating arrangements at the courts/fields	41%
6	The availability and condition of restrooms	17%

**d. Playgrounds**

Patterson Park has two very accessible playgrounds that provide hours of fun for children of all ages.



Figure 6 Playground #1

Playground #1, located inside the park near Linwood Avenue, was completely renovated in 2000. It has swings, slides, and climbing apparatus for the kids, as well as shaded benches for the adults. Conveniently located near the pool, ice rink, and tennis courts.



Figure 7 Playground #2

Playground #2 (Castle Playground) located inside the park near Eastern Avenue between Milton and Montford Avenues. The space is completely fenced in and includes separate play spaces for toddlers and older children plus an open area for running or tossing a ball. The slides and climbing equipment connect into the wall, making them handicap accessible.

Playgrounds are among the most frequently mentioned facilities in the park. Table 17 shows that playground users are highly satisfied with the facilities. There are comments, however, that the “Castle” playground needs renovation, and that there should be more trash cans and more shade. Playground users are not satisfied with access to restrooms. There are also problems with homeless people sleeping in the playgrounds and trashing them. FPP has undertaken regular cleaning of the playgrounds.

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1	The condition of playgrounds	99%
2	The equipment in the playgrounds	96%
3	The size of the playgrounds	95%
4	Supervision of children in the playgrounds	83%
5	The adequacy and condition of seating in the playgrounds	67%
6	The availability and condition of restrooms	29%

**e. Dog Park**

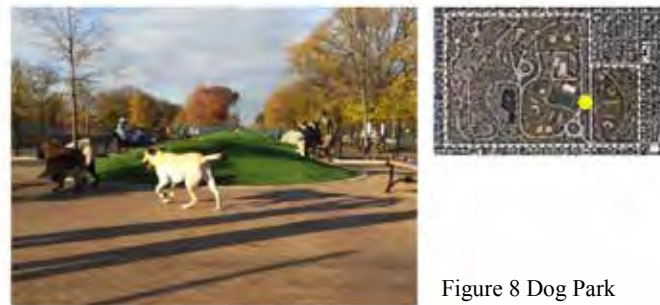


Figure 8 Dog Park

The dog park replaced the two southern-most tennis courts. One section of the dog park is for smaller and older dogs, the other is for larger dogs.

The dog park is a well-used facility all year round. It is used at night, mostly by shift workers. Sixty-five percent of dog-walkers use it, and 66% of them are satisfied with it. Despite a high level of satisfaction (see Table 24) there are some problems: the dog park is too small and is crowded on weekends and evenings, it needs repairs, additional seating, more shade, more grass, a higher level of maintenance, and access to restrooms. The lighting should be improved and the rules governing use need to be enforced. Young children should be allowed in only if they are well supervised.

1	The condition of dog park	90%
2	The equipment in the dog park	89%
3	The size of the dog park	68%
4	The adequacy and condition of seating in the dog park	57%
5	Supervision of children in the dog park	48%
6	Access to restrooms	30%

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**f. Ice Rink**



Figure 9 Ice Rink

The Dominic “Mimi” DiPietro Family Skating Center was built in 1967. The rink features public ice skating sessions, ice hockey, broomball, and sled hockey from October until March 30. The rink is full-sized measuring 200 by 85 feet and is equipped with a warm-up room, fireplace, concession stand and skate rental area, which makes this facility the perfect venue for private parties and group rentals.

The ice rink is one of only two public rinks in the city. The rink is the most frequently cited facility in the winter survey (see Table 14). Seventy percent of park users say that an ice rink is needed in the park; 54% of park users use it. It is open for skating from October through March, and is used in other months for floor hockey and broomball. It is used by youth groups, men’s and women’s hockey teams, figure skaters and the general skating public, many of whom come from some distance. The rink is leased out for private parties.

Ice rink users indicated that the building has structural and mechanical problems: the roof leaks, parking is a problem, the floor needs improvement, the equipment needs to be upgraded, and the entrance to the rink needs fixing. Despite these problems, users are satisfied with all aspects of the rink (see Table 25) except the hours of operation. They feel that it should open earlier in the morning so that people could come and practice before going to work.

There are two views about the future of the ice rink. One is that there needs to be a new, larger, state-of-the art, twin-rink facility located near I-95 where it will attract both city residents and folks from Columbia and DC in the south and from Aberdeen and Wilmington in the north. The other view is that the present facility, while old and not all that attractive, is adequate, affordable, and well maintained; it caters to a diverse set of users and serves as an important meeting place for local residents. In this view, the ice rink should remain, if not in the park then within the local area. The city should consider adding a seasonal outdoor rink in the park if the ice rink is relocated.

**Table 25 Satisfaction Responses by People who Use the Ice Rink (winter data only)**

1	The location of rink	96%
2	The seating arrangements at the rink	85%
3	The programs that are offered	83%
4	The scheduling of programs	83%
5	The condition of ice rink	83%
6	The availability and condition of restrooms	82%
7	The hours of operation	67%

**g. Swimming Pool**



Figure 10 Swimming Pool

The outdoor swimming pool operate from Memorial Day – Labor Day. The pool offers a toddler area, lap swim, aqua zumba, and swim lessons.

Table 26 shows that users in this group are satisfied with the location and condition of the pool. Eighty-nine percent of all park users say there is a need for a pool in the park. But the pool is underutilized and is used to capacity only on very hot days. This may be because people remember unruly behavior at the pool some years ago. There has been no trouble for some years now, but there is still a perception that the pool is unsafe and this discourages people from coming. Some people complain that the mornings are set aside for camp and other groups, and no other swimmers are allowed during that time even if the group is a small one. People are also discouraged because the pool closes for thirty minutes a day, during which time everyone must leave. The time of closure is different on different days and this causes confusion.

The pool is used by people of all ages and different ethnic groups. Most walk there, but some come from as far as Baltimore County. Users say it needs more seating, and shade structures at both the main and kiddie pools. They suggest separate hours for younger children (who must be supervised), teens, and adults. They note that some children are excluded from the pool because they do not have the appropriate swim attire

The pool closes at 7 pm, which is early for working adults and for those who may want to swim after a sporting event and early in mornings. Lighting would allow for evening events, which would be a big attraction.

**Table 26 Satisfaction Responses by People Who Use the Pool (only in summer)**

1	The location of the pool	90%
2	The condition of the pool	81%
3	The programs that are offered	61%
4	The scheduling of programs	45%
5	The seating arrangements at the pool	42%
6	The availability and condition of restrooms	41%
7	The hours of operation	32%

**h. Recreation Center**



Figure 11 Recreation Center

The Virginia S. Baker Recreation Center is located inside the park at 2601 E. Baltimore Street (near Luzerne and Baltimore). It is a hub of activity with a complete year-round schedule of programs. The building was built in 1974. It includes a large multi-purpose room, gymnasium, game room, meeting room, kitchen, and computer lab. BCRP manages the building and runs programs including Fun Camp for children (age 5-11) in summer, after-school and evening programs including tutoring, crafts, dance, karate, aerobics, basketball, and volleyball. The recreation center is used for community meetings and private parties. The city’s hiring process discourage new program because it takes long time to qualify any new program leaders. Other organizations, such as FPP yoga, zumba and salsa classes, but they find that new programs are discouraged by the City’s slow hiring process.

The function of the recreation center is not well known by the public. Table 27 reveals sobering information that over a third of park users do not know what goes on there. Some do not know it exists. Park users were asked whether they had used the recreation center in the past and whether they use it at present. Table 28 shows that only 7% of park users use the center at present, although 40% have used some time it in the past (many to attend community meetings). This sharp decline is true of

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all groups: among Hispanics use has dropped from 30% to 3%; among African-Americans from 30% to 6%; and among Whites from 36% to 9%. Despite this low rate of use, 80% of park users think there should be a recreation center in the park— it is important for children and youth to have a place to go.

Certainly, the present building is not welcoming. Visibility from the street is poor, the entrance is hidden and forbidding, and outside lighting is virtually nonexistent. Some people are reluctant to walk there at night. There are no windows, so passers-by cannot tell what is going on inside or indeed whether or not the building is open. Inside, the resources are inadequate and the equipment is outdated. The staff does not engage directly with local community groups or with local schools, and uses little more than flyers to promote its programs so that only people who use the center regularly know what they are offering. The program information on the recreation center’s website is outdated, people are not familiar with the opening hours, the entrance doors are kept locked, and there are no signs at the entrance. FPP lists some of its programs (mainly events organized through FPP) in its newsletter.

The Recreation Center needs to attract a wider membership. To do this it will have to compete with commercial recreation facilities in the general area (10% of park users say they attend a gym elsewhere (Table 27). The staff at the center has ideas for improvements; these include a pleasant and well-equipped fitness room, longer operating hours, job-training programs, resume writing, GED training, interviewing skills, gym classes for adults and kids, and cooking classes.

Many park users feel that the recreation programs should be moved to a new, up-to-date building, in a more accessible location in the park. Others believe that the present building should be renovated because its location is convenient to the African-American children and youth who live north of the park and who make up most of the present users.

Rank	Reason	Percentage
1	Don't know what activities occur there	37%
2	Attend a gym elsewhere	10%
3	Does not cater to my age group	10%
4	Condition of the center	10%
5	Lack of interested programs	9%
6	Safety concerns	7%
7	Not suitable hours of operation	7%
8	Center is too far from home	5%
9	Not interested in recreational activities	4%

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	Have you ever used the rec center?	Do you use the rec center at present?
Total	40% (323/808)	7% (43/610)
White	36% (164/459)	9% (30/319)
Black	30% (42/139)	6% (7/114)
Hispanic	30% (32/105)	3% (2/72)

**i. Casino Building**



Figure 12 Casino Building

John Booth/Hooper Senior Center is housed in the Casino building, located in the center of the park. It aims to meet the physical, emotional and social needs of seniors through programming and services that promote wellness, foster a sense of independence and self-worth, enhance the quality of life for all, and promote a positive image of aging.

Some seniors come as many as five days a week, although attendance varies depending on other commitments such as doctors’ appointments. While some senior events are held outside, adjacent to the building, most seniors do not venture further into the park. Some live near the park, but most live further away. No one walks to the Center; people drive, carpool, take taxis, or use the MTA bus for the disabled. Consequently, close-by parking is a major concern.

Many park users feel that the senior programs should be moved and incorporated into a new recreation center building, but most seniors are unhappy with the idea of sharing a facility with recreation; they feel that kids are unruly and out of control and will knock them down. They like being in the Casino. If they are to be moved, they would like their own building, or at least their own separate entrance and area to store their supplies.

**j. Living Classrooms**



Figure 13 Living Classrooms

Living Classrooms lease its building in the park and has the right to use Utz Field. It offers an after-school program, exercise and sports programs for middle-schoolers every weekday and Saturday mornings throughout the year, and an adult exercise program every Saturday. Neighborhood schools use Utz field for their games. There is no fee for Living Classrooms programs.

Users say that safety is an issue. Some winter programs end after dark, and kids do not feel safe walking home. The police may offer an escort but cannot be relied on regularly to do so. Parents drive into the park to watch the games and to pick up their kids, and don't seem to know that they are not allowed to drive in and park in the park.

**6. Suggestions for Improvement**

Park users were given a list of possible improvements in the park and asked to rate each item according to whether they thought it was a *Good Idea (G)*, *Bad Idea (B)* or *Neutral (N)*. The items on the list came from informal discussions with park users or were of special interest to BCRP. The results are shown on Table 29. (Table shows Percentage by which good ratings exceed bad ratings)

Rank	Suggestion	% Difference	Good	Bad	Neutral
1	Improve lighting in the park	91%	92%	1%	7%
2	Provide additional trash cans	84%	87%	3%	10%
3	Enforce park rules (as identified on park signs)	75%	77%	2%	3%
4	Provide more benches	74%	80%	6%	14%
5	Provide permanent restrooms (other than porta-potties)	71%	79%	8%	13%
6	Add community notice boards in the park	68%	72%	4%	24%
7	Limit automobile access to the park	66%	77%	11%	12%
8	Organize more events, such as festivals, holiday events	65%	70%	5%	25%
9	Enforce leash laws in the park	58%	68%	10%	23%
10	Close some of the existing roads	55%	68%	13%	19%
11	Provide seating at athletic facilities	38%	52%	14%	34%
12	Create a system for reserving tennis and basketball courts	35%	47%	18%	35%
13	Provide an indoor swimming pool	29%	47%	18%	35%
14	Provide a food concession with table & chairs in the park	29%	52%	23%	25%

The most contentious ideas (most *bad idea* ratings) are items 10 – 14. Respondents' comments indicated that they are unnecessary (costs too high) or will create problems (who will manage the concession? Food concession will generate more trash, more events will generate more traffic, and homeless people will use facilities). These five items are the same ones about which many people do not feel one way or another.

At the top of the list are the same items that come up again and again in respondents' written comments and in discussions—lighting, trash cans, enforcement of rules, benches, and restrooms.

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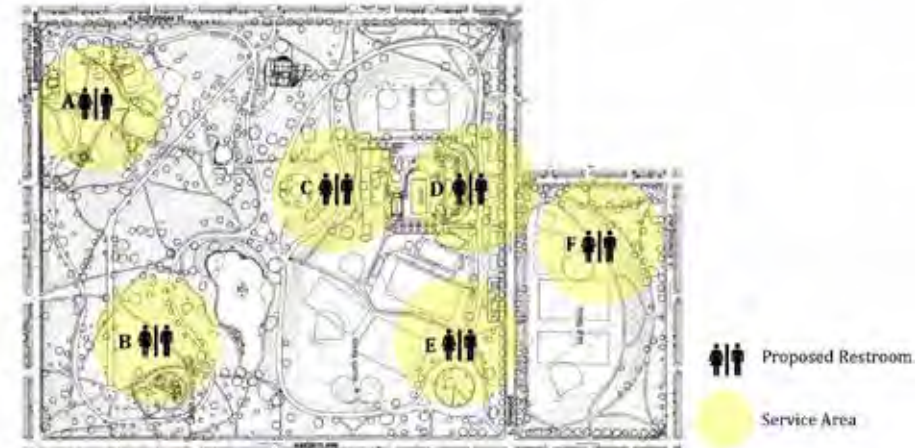


Figure 14 Desirable Restroom Locations

Lack of access to restrooms is a frequent comment in the study. Several park facilities (the white house, recreation center, swimming pool, casino building, living classrooms, and ice rink) have restrooms, but they are not accessible to general park users. Occasional portable restrooms are provided at major event sites and in some locations, but people complain that they are often locked and not clean. Seventy-nine percent of users (Table 29) indicated that they would like to see permanent restrooms, but only on condition that there is adequate maintenance. Event organizers/sports leagues prefer portable restrooms because the rentals come with regular maintenance. Also, the individual units can be locked which is important for control.

Figure 14 shows how the present lack of access to restrooms could be remedied. Location A to serve the white house/ pagoda/ water fountain area; location B to serve the playground #2 (castle playground #2)/ smaller pavilion/ boat lake area; location C to serve the center pavilion/ basketball areas; location D to serve the tennis courts/playground #1/ area; and location E to serve the Pulaski Monument/ dog park/sports fields area. Location F would serve the extension field. (The pool area has been suggested as the site for a new recreation center. If the building is designed with outside access to restrooms, it could satisfy the access need in location D)

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Figure 15 Desirable Lightning Area

As discussed in *Section 4.4.1 Safety*, many park users mention the need for night lighting. This raises a contradiction because while the park is officially closed at night, some people do use the park after dark, some fields are lit at night, and there are requests for additional night use, particularly for the tennis courts, swimming pool, dog park, and recreation center. Figure 14 indicates the area that users have indicated, should be made available for night use.

## C. EVENTS STUDY



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## EVENTS STUDY

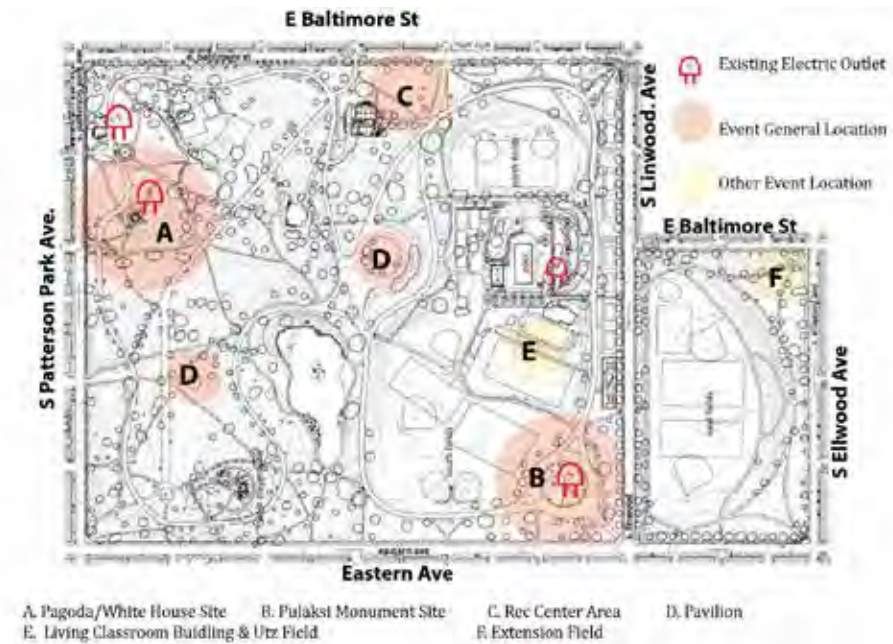


Figure 16 Event General Location Map

Organized events are held in the park throughout the year. There is such a demand to hold events at Patterson Park that applications are backed up for a year. Sixty-five percent of park users say they would like more events. (See Table 29) We wanted to know where these events take place and whether the event sites are satisfactory or should be improved.

Figure 15 shows the general locations in the park where events take place. Each event requires a permit from the permits office of BCRP. We obtained copies of 18 permits issued during the year. These list information about each event, including the nature of the event and its site requirements, program, expected attendance, number of automobiles anticipated, and utility needs.

With this information, we mapped the boundaries of each event. Figure 16 shows these boundaries. The boundaries and details of each event are presented in *Supplemental Report*<sup>23</sup>.

<sup>23</sup> See the Note on Page V

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Figure 17 Event Site Boundaries (for details of events shown, see *Supplemental Report*<sup>24</sup>)

### 1. General Issues

We approached key people responsible for permitting and organizing events and asked them whether and how each of the event sites could be improved. We list first the general issues and then the issues at each location. (Figure 16)

There is an electrical connection at site B, but the voltage is not high enough for food trucks. Events at site A can draw power from the white house and the pagoda, and those at site C from the recreation center. But the city rate for electricity is currently so high that organizers prefer to bring their own generators, and these are noisy and polluting.

There are no water connections at the event sites; organizers must bring water in containers. Participants at events need functioning drinking fountains.

The issue of electricity and water supply raises the possibility of overuses and misuse, so there needs to be staff on site to supervise. Water and electricity connections should be metered to avoid attracting homeless people.

At present, permitting requires a map showing the location of booths, tables, stages, and service trucks. But permitting should also require details of general parking, including the location of on-site and off-site parking, and a description of complementary services such as shuttle buses.

<sup>24</sup> See the Note on Page V

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Currently, people who want to organize an event at one of the pavilions can go to the BCRP website for information about its capacity, features, and limitations. For the benefit both of future event organizers and the permit office, the website should be expanded to include this kind of information for each activity site.

### 2. Pagoda/White House/Fountain site

This area has great natural resource and historical associations. It is ideal for events where the grass and planting will not be harmed, such as concerts and fairs. The largest event attracted 10,000 attendees (for example, *Taste of Three Cities*). There were 75 portable toilets, and up to 100 cars parked on the streets. Currently, events draw power from the white house and the pagoda. The permits office defers to FPP for all activities at this site.

### 3. Pulaski Monument site

This is where most permitted events take place because of the paved surface, ease of access, and on-street parking. If events need to be ticketed, the area is easy to fence off. The largest event was the *Latino Fest*, which attracted 10,000 people over two days. There were 16 portable toilets. A section of Linwood Ave. was closed. The permit office does not allow events with more than 10,000 attendees on this site.

The permitted area is restricted to the pavement, but it is not well defined and events often spill out onto the playing fields. There need to be some methods or feature such as bushes or trees, to mark and separate the event area from the fields. The site gets crowded, and it would be helpful if people could use the grass area around the monument for a stage and seating. There is an electrical connection, but it is seldom used because the fees are so high.

### 4. Recreation Center site

The area around the building is suitable for events; it is relatively flat and visible from the street. Currently, there are four to six events a year. The largest event attracted 200 people (for example, *Baby Fest*). People use outlets and bathrooms in the building. The permits office defers to the recreation center staff in scheduling events on this site.

Events adjacent to the recreation center can use bathrooms in the building. At the new location it would be useful to have bathrooms with outside access.



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### 5. Pavilions

The two pavilions are permitted for private parties. Those using the pavilions sometimes have trouble locating them, so it would be good to have clearly marked access routes. The permits office allows parking for two cars during an event, but additional cars often park illegally. Park users complain that parties can be noisy.

### 6. Living Classrooms

Living Classrooms runs its own programs and leases out its facilities. The permits office is not always notified about planned events.

### 7. Extension Field

The BCRP Office of Youth & Sports is in charge of the extension field, and the permits office does not schedule events there. However, the site has good access and a level surface and would be a good place for events.

### 8. Paths (the Loop)

Additional drinking fountains are needed along the paths for races and parades. The largest events (for example, *Bike Jam*, *Brigance Brigade*) drew 1,500 people. There were 20 portable toilets. Parts of Linwood Ave., Eastern Ave. and, Boston Street were shut. Parking was in area lots and along the streets. Sometimes, the event Use the casino parking lot—handicapped parking provisions A shuttle service was provided.

For more information about these and other events at each site, see *Supplemental Report*<sup>25</sup>.

<sup>25</sup> See the Note on Page V

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## D. MASTER PLAN FEEDBACK SURVEY



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### MASTER PLAN FEEDBACK SURVEY

Between July 20 and August 24, 2015 we placed a short survey form with Suggestion Boxes in local libraries and major facilities in the park. The main purpose of the survey was to find out what priority people placed on various actions that were being proposed in the draft master plan. We also handed out the survey at focus group meetings and park events, and posted it online. The survey form was provided in English and in Spanish. (For the survey and other findings, see *Appendix B*; for the full report, see *Supplemental Report*<sup>26</sup>).

Table 30 presents the findings in the form of weighted averages, where a score of 3 means very necessary, 2 means somewhat necessary, and 1 means not necessary.

Table 30 Proposed Actions		
Rank	Answer Options	Rating Average
1	Repair and/or provide additional lighting	2.83
2	Develop a financial plan to ensure ongoing park maintenance and	2.81
3	Conduct regular review of park maintenance needs	2.74
4	Maintain and manage the natural habitat	2.67
5	Evaluate park environmental health	2.57
6	Centralize communication about park programs to the public	2.55
7	Repair and/or provide additional furnishings (e.g. benches, drinking	2.51
8	Protect and enhance general landscape, vegetation & plants	2.49
9	Repair/improve existing pathways/paving (e.g. for pedestrians,	2.46
10	Consider new uses for the Casino and existing recreation center	2.40
11	Improve infrastructure (e.g. water, electric, etc. ) for events in these	2.36
12	Provide/conduct ecological education and research	2.31
13	Improve publicity of park activities and events	2.31
14	Establish Patterson Park administrator and manager positions	2.31
15	Establish an inventory of nature resources	2.30
16	Rehabilitate key park structures (White House, monuments, entrances,	2.30
17	Simplify the permitting process	2.21
18	Renovate/improve athletic areas (e.g. field improvements, court	2.21
19	Make the park more accessible (e.g. public transit, crosswalk	2.09
20	Designate specific areas in the park for events	2.08
21	Construct new facilities (recreation/senior center, ice rink, etc.)	2.08
22	Designate park areas that are primarily active (e.g. sports, major events	1.99
23	Improve park user data collection	1.98
24	Provide off leash dog hours in specific areas (with enforcement)	1.98

<sup>26</sup> See the Note on Page V

Seasonal Field Study of Patterson Park in Baltimore, Maryland. Dec 2015

We received a total of 530 responses: 21 from the suggestion boxes, 24 from focus groups, 46 from park events, and 439 online. Ninety percent of the respondents are white and live in predominantly white neighborhoods such as Butchers Hill, Patterson Park, and Canton. Less than 4% are African American, and under 3% are Hispanic. This confirms the problem we have had to reach these groups.

We asked the 530 respondents whether they use the park. Forty-eight people do not. Written comments in the master plan feedback survey echo the major concerns raised in the field survey: 16 referred to fear of crime (for example, I don't feel safe there), 13 to location (for example, not close to home), 6 to maintenance and physical conditions (for example, not clean, lack of facilities), and 9 to personal reasons (very busy),

We asked the respondents where they live. Twenty-two people live in non-adjacent city neighborhoods (including Federal Hill, Locust Point and Mount Vernon) and 11 live outside the city (including Baltimore County, Belair, and Sparks). This confirms our earlier finding that park is used mostly by neighborhood people, but it is also used by people who live far afield.

When asked about their willingness to participate in further planning activities, 44% indicated that they would provide additional information or participate in future discussions. About the same percentage indicated that they would volunteer to work in the park. Almost 90% said that they would attend events in the park. (Table 31)

Asked about the best way to be informed (Table 32), 90% mentioned social media, 30% said printed material, and 40% chose community newsletters.

Seasonal Field Study of Patterson Park in Baltimore, Maryland. Dec 2015

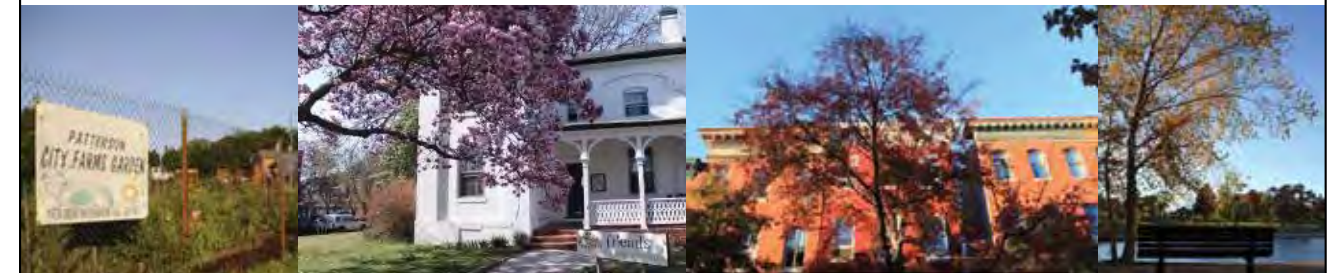
<b>Table 31 Get Involved reorder</b>		
<b>Answer Options</b>	<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
Attend park events	89.60%	327
Volunteer to beautify the entrances	43.80%	160
Help publicize park events & programs in your community	31.50%	115
Participate in a discussions about developing a the management entity for of the park	24.90%	91
Be a Park Ambassador to provide information and to make the park more popular and welcoming	18.60%	68
Help raise additional funds for large capital projects	7.10%	26
Other (please specify)		9
Answered question		365
Skipped question		163

<b>Table 32 Information about the Park and Upcoming Park Projects</b>		
<b>Answer Options</b>	<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
Social media	89.7%	391
E- blast	40.1%	175
Posters/fliers displayed at libraries, local stores and schools	30.0%	131
Outreach meeting	13.8%	60
Community newsletter	39.2%	171
Other?		14
Answered question		436
Skipped question		92

\*Page 48 omitted because it was blank.

Seasonal Field Study of Patterson Park in Baltimore, Maryland. Dec 2015

## E. CONCLUSIONS



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Seasonal Field Study of Patterson Park in Baltimore, Maryland. Dec 2015

## CONCLUSIONS

This is the fourth study of Patterson Park by University of Maryland faculty and students: previous studies were completed in 1994, 1995, and 1998. The 1995 study, like the present one, was conducted for Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks and was part of the planning process that led to the development of a park master plan, at that time the 1998 plan by Rhodeside and Harwell.

A number of things have remained essentially unchanged over the past twenty years. Despite significant demographic changes in the neighborhoods that surround the park—wealthier and increasingly Hispanic—users still think of Patterson as a neighborhood park and they use it extensively for leisure-time activities. Safety was a concern in 1995, as were park lighting, enforcement of leash laws, improved maintenance, increased police presence, limited automobile access, reduced parking in the park, the provision of rest rooms, and additional trashcans and benches. Users in 1995 also identified feelings of exclusion: in telephone interviews 29% of respondents agreed with the statement that not everyone is welcome in the park. Today this feeling is expressed both by African-American and Hispanic users. These same issues show up in the present surveys.

While many of the present concerns date back to 1995 and before, much has changed in Patterson Park. Examples include the complete redesign and renovation of boat lake, the creation of the dog park, the realization of the Friends of Patterson Park, and the ongoing involvement of local residents. The park is far more active and lively than it was twenty years ago. It has a full program of events, which has given rise to a need for coordination among event organizers and for a central source of information about scheduled events.

Park users have participated in the current planning process and they are expected to participate in the continuing process of developing the recommendations of the master plan. Several contentious issues are still to be resolved: whether the present the recreation center should be renovated or rebuilt, and if rebuilt whether it should remain in its present location; whether the ice rink should be renovated or rebuilt, whether it should be enlarged, and whether it should be moved out of the park. There is also a need to reach out to African-American and Spanish-speaking users and to involve them in decisions about the future direction of the park.

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\*Page 52 omitted because it was blank.

Seasonal Field Study of Patterson Park in Baltimore, Maryland. Dec 2015

## F. APPENDIX



53

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**A Seasonal Survey Form**

We include here the form for the summer survey. Small changes were made in other seasons in order to clarify certain questions, probe concerns that emerged in earlier responses, and reflect changes seasonal offerings. Please see *Supplemental Report*<sup>27</sup> for all four seasonal forms. The form was provided in English and Spanish.

**Summer Questionnaire**

Patterson Park Seasonal Survey 2015 SUMMER 6/15 # \_\_\_\_\_

Interviewer: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_ AM PM  
 Location of survey: \_\_\_\_\_

**QUESTIONS FOR ALL USERS**

*We are conducting a survey as part of the master planning process for Patterson Park. We began the survey in the fall of 2014, and are continuing it in the winter, spring and summer of 2015.*

*THIS IS THE SUMMER SURVEY*

**Did you participate in the online survey in the fall?**  
 Y N

**Have you participated in this survey before—in the fall/winter or spring? (We do not mean the online survey).** Y N

**IF YES**  
*This survey differs from the previous surveys in several respects:  
 Some questions refer to park use in SUMMER.  
 Several questions have been added or clarified based on responses to the earlier surveys.*

**Would you like to answer the survey again?**

**IF NO**  
*We encourage you to follow the progress of the park plan on the website at  
[www.pattersonparkmasterplan.weebly.com](http://www.pattersonparkmasterplan.weebly.com) (English)  
[www.pattersonparkplanmaestros.weebly.com](http://www.pattersonparkplanmaestros.weebly.com) (Spanish)  
 At this stage we are exploring ideas that came out of earlier surveys and meetings, and we welcome your continued participation and comments.*

**IF YES**  
*Please continue with survey.*

**0. Are you familiar with any of the initial ideas about Patterson Park Master Plan? If yes, what are your thoughts about these ideas so far?**

Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

**1. GENERAL OPINIONS ABOUT THE PARK**

**1-1. What follows are some issues raised in the earlier surveys. In your opinion, are any of the following problems or concerns in the park? (Y= Yes, N= No, DK=Don't Know)**

**DOGS**

<sup>27</sup> See the Note on Page V

Patterson Park Seasonal Survey 2015 SUMMER 6/15 # \_\_\_\_\_

**Do you own a dog(s)?**

Off leash dogs are a problem	Y	N	DK
On leash dogs are a problem	Y	N	DK
Pick-up after dogs is a problem	Y	N	DK
The dog park has problems	Y	N	DK
Other?	_____		

Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

**AUTOMOBILE TRAFFIC**

Cars are driving too fast in the park	Y	N	DK
Too many cars (parking) in the park	Y	N	DK
Too many cars without permits	Y	N	DK
Other?	_____		

**Please provide the information about WHERE & WHEN you see automobiles as a problem.**

\_\_\_\_\_

**OTHER USERS**

Harassment/threat is a problem	Y	N	DK
Drunkenness is a problem	Y	N	DK
People throwing trash is a problem	Y	N	DK
Noise is a problem	Y	N	DK
Other?	_____		

Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

**CRIME**

Crime against persons (e.g. mugging) is a problem	Y	N	DK
Crime against property (e.g. theft) is a problem	Y	N	DK
Other?	_____		

Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

**PARK RULES**

Are you familiar with the park rules?	Y	N	DK
Are users adequately informed about the park rules?	Y	N	DK
Are the park rules adequately enforced?	Y	N	DK

**Comment and suggestions:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**1-2. Here is a list of some features in Patterson Park. For each, please tell me if you think it is WELL MAINTAINED. (T=True, F=Fault)**

The buildings and pavilions are well maintained	T	F
---	---	---

Seasonal Field Study of Patterson Park in Baltimore, Maryland. Dec 2015

Patterson Park Seasonal Survey 2015 SUMMER 6/15

The walls, fences and drinking fountains	T	F
The pathways and stairs	T	F
The sports fields	T	F
The courts	T	F
The trees and grass	T	F

1-3. Here are some suggestions for changes in the park. In your opinion, is the suggestion a Good idea, a Bad idea, or are you Neutral?

Suggestions	G	B	N
Provide a food concession with tables & chairs in the park			
Limit automobile access to the park			
Provide more benches			
Organize more events, such as festivals, holiday events			
Provide an indoor swimming pool			
Provide permanent restrooms (other than port-o-potties)			
Provide additional trash cans			
Provide seating at athletic facilities			
Close some of the existing roads to traffic			
Improve lighting in the park			
Enforce leash laws in the park			
Enforce rules identified on park signs			
Add community notice boards in the park			
Create a system for reserving tennis and basketball courts			
Other _____			

Please explain if you have any concerns relating to the above suggestions.

1-4. Do you feel that you are LESS WELCOME in the park than some other people? Y N

Explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Seasonal Field Study of Patterson Park in Baltimore, Maryland. Dec 2015

Patterson Park Seasonal Survey 2015 SUMMER 6/15

2. ACTIVITIES IN THE PARK IN THE PAST SEVEN DAYS

Please finish the corresponding section(s) if you did the following activities in the park in the past seven days.

- A SPORTS (basketball, base-ball, softball, tennis, kickball, football, soccer, volleyball)
- B RELAXING AND EXERCISING
  - RELAXING (sitting, lying, picnicking, bird watching, people watching, hanging out)
  - WALKING/JOGGING/RUNNING
  - CYCLING
- C PLAY WITH CHILDREN
- D ACTIVITIES WITH DOG(S)
- E SWIMMING POOL

A Sports

A1. Did you participate in a SPORT in the past 7 days?

IF YES PUT AN "X" NEXT TO ALL THAT APPLY. (E.g. if you played basketball in the past 7 days, put an "X" in the first column. Also put an "X" in the corresponding columns if you played after dark and if the activity was sponsored. For example, by a sports club)

	Engaged in this activity?	After dark?	Sponsored?
Basketball			
Softball			
Tennis			
Kickball			
Football			
Soccer			
Volleyball			

A2. During this time of year, how often in an AVERAGE WEEK do you spend playing a sport?

6-7 days/week 4-5 days/week 2-3 days/week 1 day/week or less

A3. As someone who enjoys playing a sport in the park, are you satisfied with:

The number of courts/fields	Y	N	DK
The condition of the courts/fields	Y	N	DK
The location of the courts/fields in the park	Y	N	DK
The availability and condition of restrooms	Y	N	DK
The scheduling of games	Y	N	DK
The seating arrangements at the courts/fields	Y	N	DK

If you say you are not satisfied with any of the courts/fields, please indicate which, and why you are dissatisfied.

Seasonal Field Study of Patterson Park in Baltimore, Maryland. Dec 2015

Patterson Park Seasonal Survey 2015 SUMMER 6/15/

# \_\_\_\_\_

**ADD FOR TENNIS ONLY**

A4. Do the trees interfere with play?                    Y    N    DK

A5. Would you be interested in tennis lessons?        Y    N    DK

**B. Relaxing and Exercising**

B1. Did you relax and/or exercise in the park in the past 7 days, and did you also do it after dark?  
(PUT AN "X" NEXT TO ALL THAT APPLY)

		Did this activity?	After dark?
Relaxing	Sitting or Lying		
	Picnicking (grilling, using picnic tables, eating)		
	Bird watching		
	People watching		
	Hanging out		
Walk/Jogging/Running			
Cycling			

Other activity(s)? Is it sponsored?  
Define: \_\_\_\_\_

B2. During this time of year, how many days in an AVERAGE WEEK do you spend on each activity that you have did?

	How often? (circle the answer that apply)			
Relaxing	6-7 days/week	4-5 days/week	2-3 days/week	1 day/week or less
Walking/Jogging/Running	6-7 days/week	4-5 days/week	2-3 days/week	1 day/week or less
Cycling	6-7 days/week	4-5 days/week	2-3 days/week	1 day/week or less

B3. For each activity that you circled, do you think conditions in the park can be IMPROVED?

	Y or N or DK	Explain
Relaxing		
Walking/Jogging/Running		
Cycling		

B4. Are there sometimes conflicts between people engaged in these activities in the park?

Y    N    DK

IF YES,

5

Seasonal Field Study of Patterson Park in Baltimore, Maryland. Dec 2015

Patterson Park Seasonal Survey 2015 SUMMER 6/15/

# \_\_\_\_\_

	What conflicts?
Relaxing	
Walking/Jogging/Running	
Cycling	

B5. How would you rate each of the following; would you say it is Good, Fair, Poor or Don't Know?

The condition of the paths and steps	G	F	P	DK
The condition of the grass and plantings	G	F	P	DK
The balance between shady and sunny areas	G	F	P	DK
The availability and condition of restrooms	G	F	P	DK
The general layout of the paths	G	F	P	DK

Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

**C. Play with Children**

C1. Did you play with children in the park in the past 7 days, and did you also do it after dark?  
(PUT AN "X" NEXT TO ALL THAT APPLY)

	Did this activity?	After dark?
Playing with Children		

IF YOU BRING YOUR CHILDREN TO THE PLAYGROUND IN PAST 7 DAYS, PLEASE FILL OUT THIS SECTION

C2. During this time of year, how often in an AVERAGE WEEK do you spend in the playgrounds?

6-7 days/week 4-5 days/week 2-3 days/week 1 day/week or less

C3. How would you rate each of the following; would you say it is Good, Fair, Poor or Don't Know?

The condition of playgrounds	G	F	P	DK
The equipment in the playgrounds	G	F	P	DK
The size of the playgrounds	G	F	P	DK
Supervision of children in the playgrounds	G	F	P	DK
The adequacy and condition of seating in the playgrounds	G	F	P	DK
Access to restrooms	G	F	P	DK

Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

C4. Do you have any other comments/suggestions relating to playgrounds?

Explain: \_\_\_\_\_

6

Seasonal Field Study of Patterson Park in Baltimore, Maryland. Dec 2015

Patterson Park Seasonal Survey 2015 SUMMER 6/13

**D. Activities with Dog(S)**

THIS SECTION IS ONLY FOR PEOPLE WHO BRING DOGS TO THE PARK

D1. Did you bring your dogs to the park in the past 7 days, and did you also do it after dark? (PUT AN "X" NEXT TO ALL THAT APPLY)

Bring the dog(s)	Did this activity?	After dark?

D2. During this time of year, how often in an AVERAGE WEEK do you take your dog to the park? (Including in the dog park and elsewhere in the park)

6-7 days/week 4-5 days/week 2-3 days/week 1 day/week or less

D3. As a dog owner, do you USE the dog park? Y N

D4. Are you SATISFIED with the dog park? Y N DK

D5. Do you think the dog park could be IMPROVED? Y N DK

IF YES, EXPLAIN: \_\_\_\_\_

D6. As a dog-owner,

Do you have any problems with the way the dog park functions? Y N DK

IF YES, EXPLAIN: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any problems with dogs in the park outside of the dog park? Y N DK

IF YES, EXPLAIN: \_\_\_\_\_

D7. Do you have any problems with other dog owners in or outside the dog park? Y N DK

Do you have any problems with people who do not own dogs? Y N DK

Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

D8. How would you rate each of the following; would you say it is Good, Fair, Poor or Don't Know?

The condition of the dog park	G	F	P	DK
The equipment in the dog park	G	F	P	DK
The size of the dog park	G	F	P	DK
Supervision of children in the dog park	G	F	P	DK
The adequacy and condition of seating in the dog park	G	F	P	DK
Access to restrooms	G	F	P	DK

D9. Do you have any other comments/suggestions relating to dogs in the park?

Seasonal Field Study of Patterson Park in Baltimore, Maryland. Dec 2015

Patterson Park Seasonal Survey 2015 SUMMER 6/13

Explain: \_\_\_\_\_

**E. Swimming Pool**

E1. During this time of year, how often in an AVERAGE WEEK do you use the swimming pool?

6-7 days/week 4-5 days/week 2-3 days/week 1 day/week or less

E2. During this time of year, how long in an AVERAGE DAY do you stay in the swimming pool?

Under 30 mins 31-60 mins 61-120 mins More than 120 mins

E3. As someone who enjoys swimming, are you SATISFIED with:

The condition of the pool	Y	N	DK
The location of the pool	Y	N	DK
The availability and condition of restrooms	Y	N	DK
The programs that are offered	Y	N	DK
The scheduling of programs	Y	N	DK
The seating arrangements at the pool	Y	N	DK
The hours of operation	Y	N	DK

Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

**2. FACILITIES**

2-1. What FACILITIES in Patterson Park did you use in the past 7 days either as an active user or as an observer? (PUT AN "X" TO ALL THAT APPLY)

FACILITY	Used them?
Virginia Baker Recreation Center	
Playgrounds	
Community Garden	
Casino building	
Pavilions	
Boat Lake	
Utz Field	
Swimming Pool	
Ice Rink	
Pagoda	
Dog Park	
Other	
Define:	

2-2. Do you think there is a need for these facilities IN THE PARK?

8



Seasonal Field Study of Patterson Park in Baltimore, Maryland. Dec 2015

Patterson Park Seasonal Survey 2015 SUMMER 6/19

FACILITY	Y	N or DK	Why or why not?
Virginia Baker Recreation Center			
Ice Rink			
Swimming pool			

2-3. What other facilities do you think are needed IN THE PARK?

Define & Explain:

3. ACTIVITIES AT ANY TIME IN THE PAST

Now, we have a few questions about your use of the Recreation Center at present and in the past, not just the past seven days.

Virginia Baker Recreation Center

3-1. At any time, did you use the Recreation Center either to participate in programs or to attend community functions? Y N

IF YES

Describe

3-2. Do you use the Recreation Center at present? Y (SKIP TO 3-4) N

3-3. IF NO, what are the reasons you DO NOT PRESENTLY use the Recreation Center?

Reason	Check all that apply
Don't know what activities occur there	
Not interested in recreational activities	
Center is too far from home	
Safety concerns	
Condition of the center	
Lack of interested programs	
Not suitable hours of operation	
Attend a gym elsewhere	
Does not cater to my age group	
Other:	
Define:	

Comment:

3-4. If the Recreation Center were to be improved, what improvements would you like see?

Improve facilities and/or equipment?

Seasonal Field Study of Patterson Park in Baltimore, Maryland. Dec 2015

Patterson Park Seasonal Survey 2015 SUMMER 6/19

Suggestions

Improve hours of operation?

Suggestions

Improve program offerings?

Suggestions

IF YOU WANT TO IMPROVE PROGRAM OFFERINGS

What are the best DAYS/TIMES for the types of programs you suggest?

(CIRCLE ALL THAT APPLY)

Days of week: Weekdays (Mon-Fri) Weekends (Sat-Sun)

Times of Day: Early Morning (before 8am) Morning (8-noon)  
Afternoon (noon-6pm) Evening (after 6pm)

Other improvements?

4. INFORMATION ABOUT YOURSELF

4-1. Sex M F

4-2. What neighborhood do you currently live in?

Butchers Hill Patterson Park Fells Prospect  
Canton Upper Fells Point Highlandtown  
Washington Hill Downtown McElderry Park  
Fells Point CARE

Other (please specify)

Not sure

IF NOT SURE, what is your zip code?

4-3. What was your mode(s) of getting to the park today?

Walk/jog Car  
Bicycle Taxi  
Bus Other

4-4. What age category do you fit in?

Age
Under 18
18-35
36-45
46-55
Over 55

4-5. What race/ethnicity do you consider yourself?

Race/Ethnicity

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Patterson Park Seasonal Survey 2015 SUMMER 6/13

Hispanic	
White (not Hispanic)	
Black	
Asian	
Other:	
Refuse	

We encourage you to follow the progress of the park plan on the website at [www.pattersonparkmasterplan.weebly.com](http://www.pattersonparkmasterplan.weebly.com) (English) [www.pattersonparkplanmaestra.weebly.com](http://www.pattersonparkplanmaestra.weebly.com) (Spanish) At this stage we are exploring ideas that come out of earlier surveys and meetings, and we welcome your continued participation and comments.

Other Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Please leave your contact information if you are interested in sharing more of your ideas or in joining a focus group to discuss park concerns.

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

THAT COMPLETES THE SURVEY. THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME.

Please return the filled questionnaire to the White House near the E Lombard St. Patterson Park entrance or contact [giuliahe0130@gmail.com](mailto:giuliahe0130@gmail.com).

Seasonal Field Study of Patterson Park in Baltimore, Maryland. Dec 2015

## B Patterson Park Master Plan Feedback Survey Form

### Share Your Ideas about the Future of Patterson Park

#### PERSONAL INFORMATION

1. How often do you use the Park? (Circle the answer)  
 6-7 days/week 4-5 days/week 2-3 days/week 1 day/week or less  
 If you don't use the park, why not?

2. What race/ethnicity do you consider yourself?  
 Hispanic White (not Hispanic) Black Asian Other (or Prefer not to say): \_\_\_\_\_

3. What neighborhood do you currently live in?  
 Butchers Hill Patterson Park Fells Prospect  
 Canton Upper Fells Point Highlandtown  
 Washington Hill Downtown McElderry Park  
 Fells Point CARE Ellwood Park  
 Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

PRIORITIZE THE IMPLEMENTATION  
 Here are some suggestions for improvements included in the draft of Patterson Park Master Plan. For each, please indicate whether you think it is "Very Necessary to be Done" (VN), "Somewhat Necessary to be Done" (SN) or "Not Necessary" (NN)

	VN	SN	NN
<b>I. MAINTENANCE, ENFORCEMENT AND GOVERNANCE</b>			
Establish Patterson Park administrator and manager positions			
Conduct regular review of park maintenance needs			
Centralize communication about park programs to the public			
Develop a financial plan to ensure ongoing park maintenance and management			
<b>II. MAJOR FACILITY INVESTMENT</b>			
Designate park areas that are primarily active (e.g. sports, major events etc.) and more leisurely (relaxation, picnic, concerts etc.)			
Make the park more accessible (e.g. public transit, crosswalk improvements and traffic calming measures, etc.)			
Rehabilitate key park structures (White House, monuments, entrances, etc.)			
Construct new facilities (recreation/senior center, ice rink, etc.)			
Consider new uses for the Casino and existing recreation center buildings			
<b>III. INCREMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS</b>			
Repair and/or provide additional lighting			
Repair and/or provide additional furnishings (e.g. benches, drinking fountains) & way finding (park signage)			
Repair/improve existing pathways/paving (e.g. for pedestrians, bicycles)			

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	VN	SN	NN
Renovate/improve athletic areas (e.g. field improvements, court resurfacing)			
Protect and enhance general landscape, vegetation & plants			
Provide off leash dog hours in specific areas (with enforcement)			
<b>IV. PROGRAMS, EVENTS, AND LOGISTICS</b>			
Designate specific areas in the park for events			
Improve infrastructure (e.g. water, electric, etc.) for events in these areas			
Simplify the permitting process			
Improve park user data collection			
Improve publicity of park activities and events			
<b>V. PRESERVE THE NATURAL HABITAT &amp; ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION</b>			
Establish an inventory of nature resources			
Evaluate park environmental health			
Maintain and manage the natural habitat			
Provide/conduct ecological education and research			

**GET INVOLVED**

The final master plan will be completed in October 2015. Once completed, there will be many projects to implement and implementation will depend upon many partnerships. Would you like to be involved? If so, in what way? Please check all that interest you.

- Be a Park Ambassador to provide park information and to make the park more welcoming.
- Participate in discussions about developing a management entity for the park
- Volunteer to beautify the entrances
- Help publicize park events & programs in your community
- Help raise additional funds for large capital projects.
- Attend park events

Other? \_\_\_\_\_

**INFORMATION ABOUT THE PARK AND UPCOMING PARK PROJECTS.**

What are the best ways to communicate with you and your neighbors in the future as we move forward to implement park projects?

- Social media
- Community newsletter, please identify \_\_\_\_\_
- E-blast
- Posters/fliers displayed at libraries, local stores and schools
- Outreach meeting

Other? \_\_\_\_\_

Please write in your contact information if you would like to be informed about the future of the park projects.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please place the completed form in the suggestion box. Thank you.



## APPENDIX C

### SUPPLEMENTAL DATA ANALYSIS

The charts and graphics included in this section supplement Online Opinion Survey data to expand upon the summary presented in the Assessment Chapter. A significant amount of research and analysis had gone into this planning effort, not all of which had been explained in the body of this report.

#### Maps and Diagrams

Additionally, the maps included in this appendix are complementary to the analyses and recommendations detailed within this report.

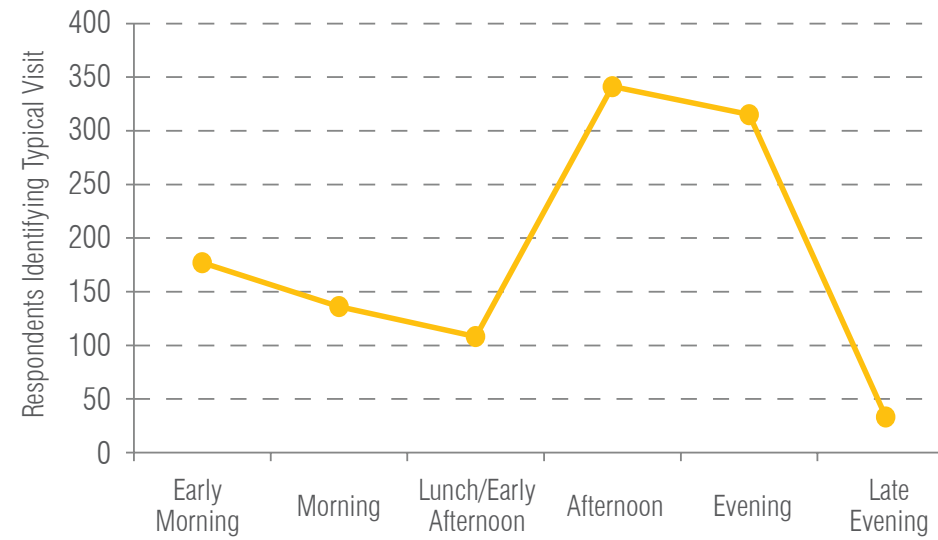


Fig. 39. Preferred Visitation Time of Day

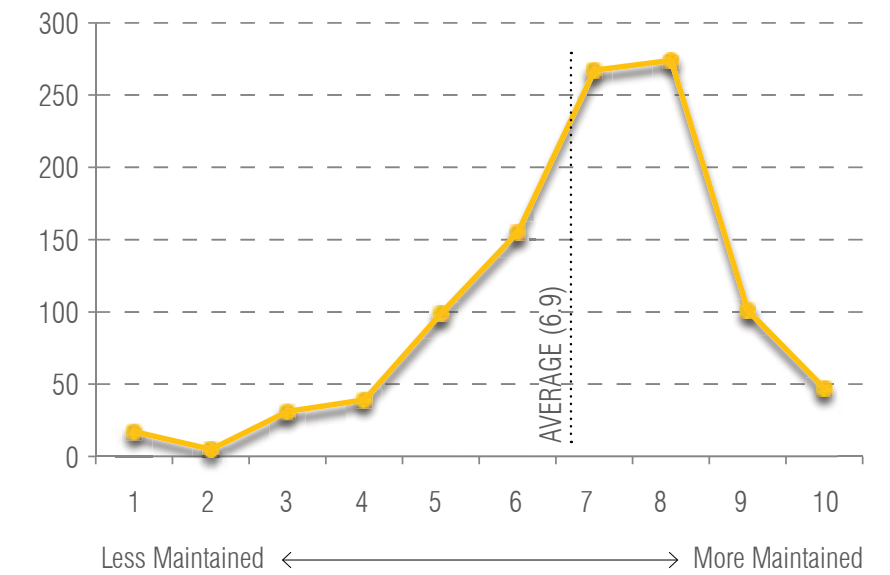


Fig. 40. Perception of Maintenance

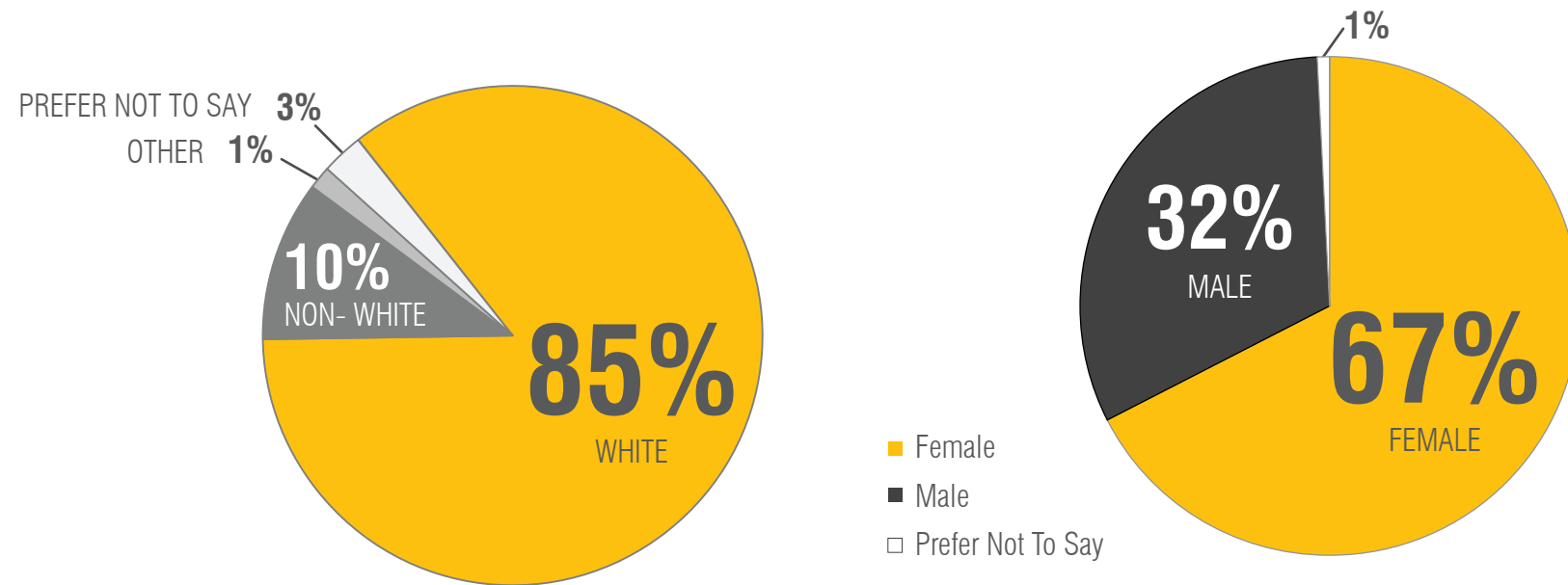


Fig. 37. Respondents' Identified Race

Fig. 38. Identified Gender of Respondents

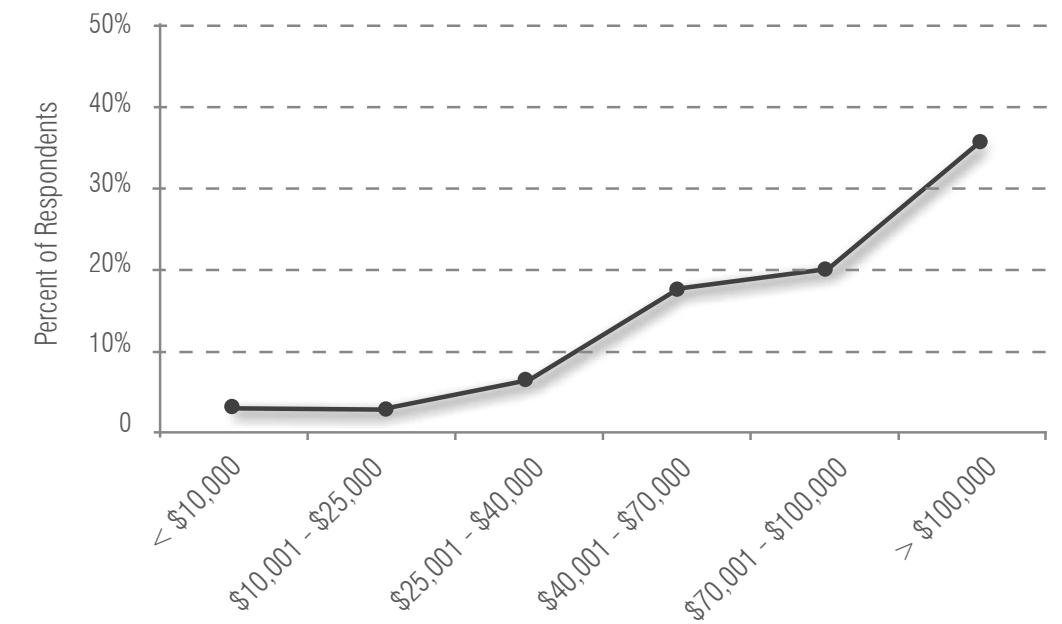


Fig. 41. Respondent Income

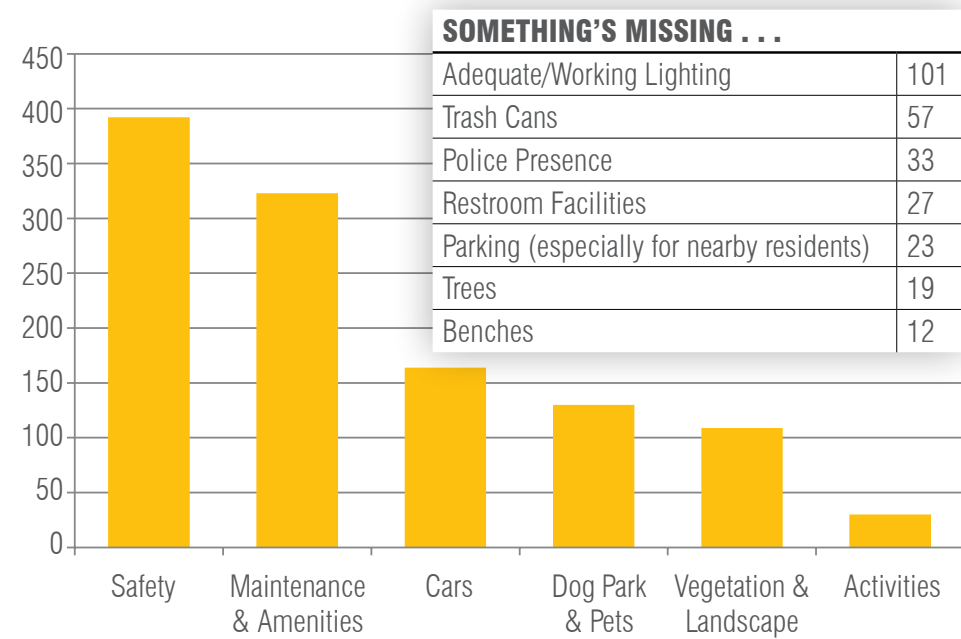


Fig. 42. Most Disliked Characteristics

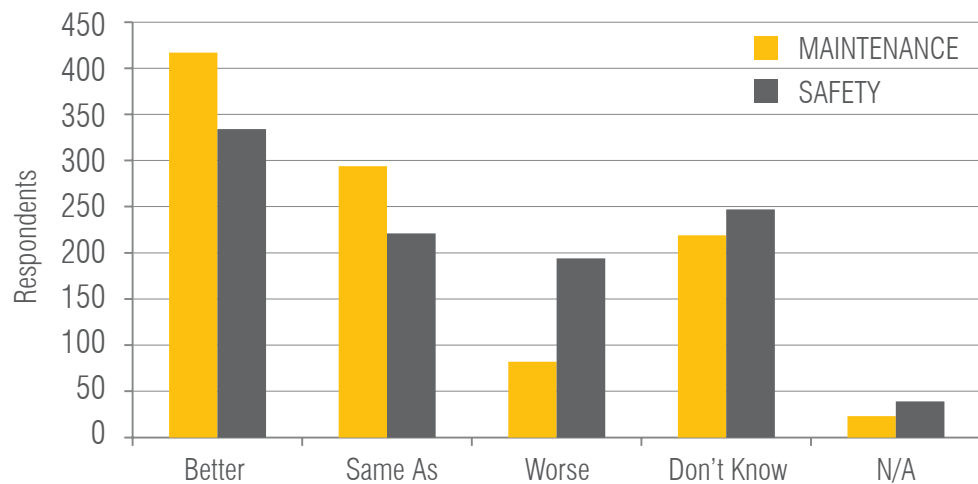


Fig. 43. Perception of Park Compared to Other City Parks

Table 19. Identified Conflicts

<b>DOGS</b>	<b>166</b>
Off the leash dogs	117
Dog Poop	23
Desire for free roam of dogs	9
Improved Dog Area needed	8
Other Dog Conflict	7
Dislike Dogs	2
<b>USER BEHAVIOR</b>	<b>136</b>
Unsupervised Teens/Youth	80
Drunkenness	16
Disrupting Wildlife	12
Inappropriate Behavior	11
Excessive noise	10
Prejudice	6
Smoking	1
<b>PARK ENVIRONMENT</b>	<b>59</b>
Litter	44
Rule Enforcement	8
Lighting	5
Maintenance	2

<b>CRIME &amp; SAFETY</b>	<b>211</b>
Harassment	51
Fear for Safety	39
Homelessness	31
Crime Reports	24
Crime Incidents	20
Illicit Activities	16
Nighttime Concerns	13
Vandalism	11
Morning Concerns	6
<b>CARS &amp; PATHWAYS</b>	<b>144</b>
Driving Cars	81
Fast and Aggressive Bikers	23
Pathways- Conflicts between pedestrians, cyclists, motorists, and others	22
Parked Cars	8
Car Parking Needed	6
Resident Parking	2
Cars in the Park, in general	2
<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>54</b>
Crowded Sports Amenities	26
Permit Conflicts	8
Sport Activity Interference	8
Dislike Events	8
Dislike Sports	3
Other Sport Conflict	1
<b>OTHER</b>	<b>5</b>
Other Conflict	5

**Table 20.** Preference If One Thing Could Change

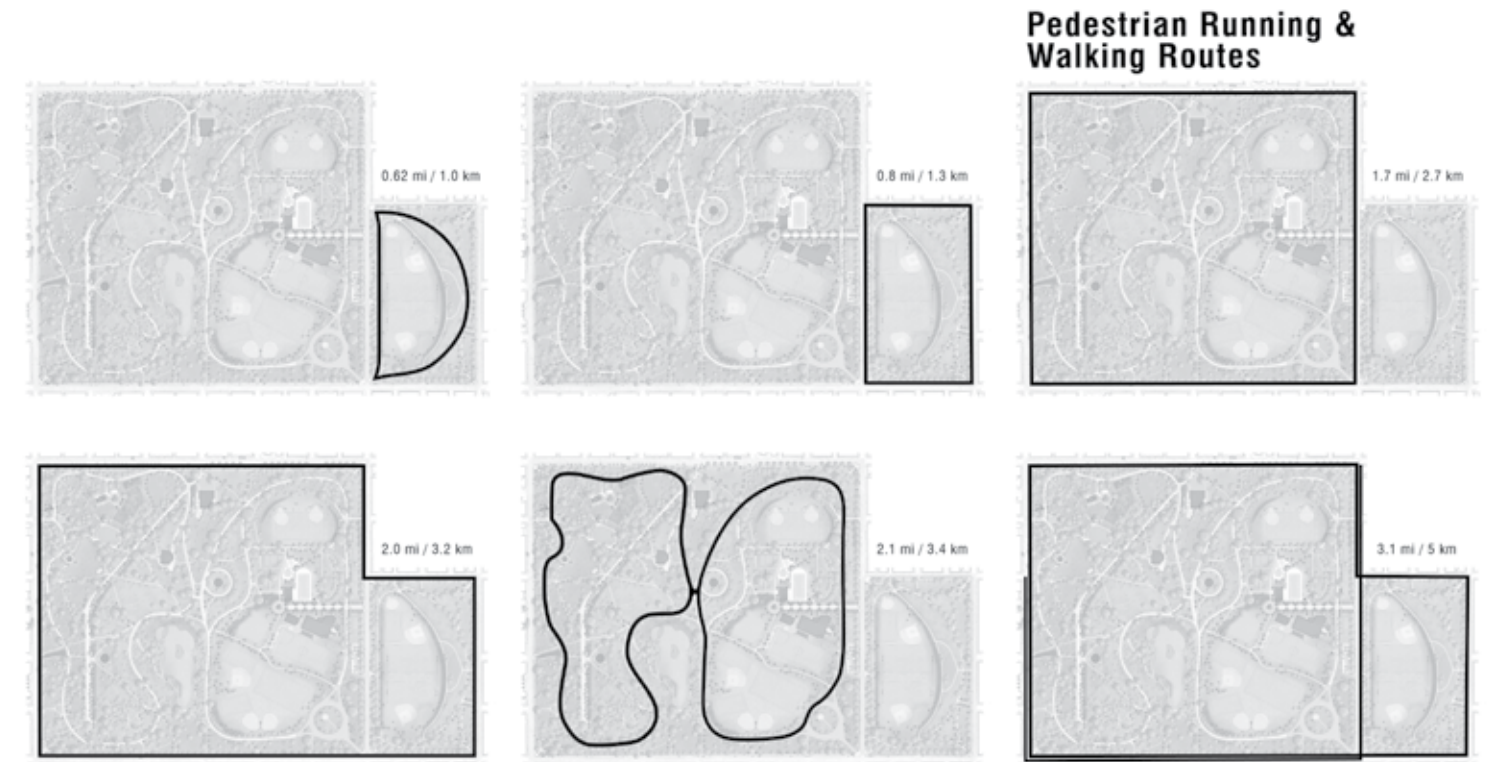
<b>Safety</b>	<b>189</b>
<b>Improve Existing Amenities</b>	<b>140</b>
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	<b>137</b>
<i>Trees</i>	74
<i>Maintenance</i>	22
<i>Entrances</i>	13
<i>Volleyball</i>	12
<i>Permit</i>	5
<i>Disc golf</i>	5
<i>Biodiversity</i>	2
<i>Bike share</i>	2
<i>Amphitheater</i>	1
<b>Driving and Parking</b>	<b>133</b>
<b>Site Furniture</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>Additional Amenities</b>	<b>34</b>

**Table 21.** Identified 5-10 Year Needs

<b>Increase Lighting</b>	<b>111</b>
<b>Improve Pathways</b>	<b>106</b>
<b>Increase Activities &amp; Programming</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>Increase Safety</b>	<b>69</b>
<b>Added Restrooms</b>	<b>46</b>
<b>Lake Enhancements</b>	<b>46</b>
<b>Increase Tree Canopy/Replace Trees</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>New &amp; Additional Benches</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Renovate/Improve Ice Rink</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>Increase Parking</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>Expand/Improve Dog Park</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Enforce Laws &amp; Park Rules</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Improve Rec. Center</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Add Trash Receptacles</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Drinking Water Fountains</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Add Volleyball Courts</b>	<b>9</b>

**Table 22.** Improvement Wishlist Recommendations

<b>Programmed Activities</b>	<b>278</b>
<b>Lighting</b>	<b>206</b>
<b>Security Improvements</b>	<b>69</b>
<b>Restrooms</b>	<b>68</b>
<b>Trash Removal and Cans</b>	<b>65</b>
<b>More Trees</b>	<b>55</b>
<b>Fitness/Exercise Equipment/Yoga Classes</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>Seating Opportunities</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>Park Maintenance Program</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>Removal of Cars</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Youth Programs</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>Parking</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Additional Tennis Courts</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Kid-Friendly Programs and Facilities</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Expanded/Improved Dog Park</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Restaurant/Café</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Larger Community Garden</b>	<b>10</b>



**Fig. 44.** Bike and Pedestrian Circulation



### Major Event Spaces

-  Existing Linear Event Space
-  Existing Regional Event Space
-  Potential Special Event Node



Fig. 45. Major Event Spaces

### Recreation Areas

-  Passive Recreation Zone
-  Active Recreation Zone

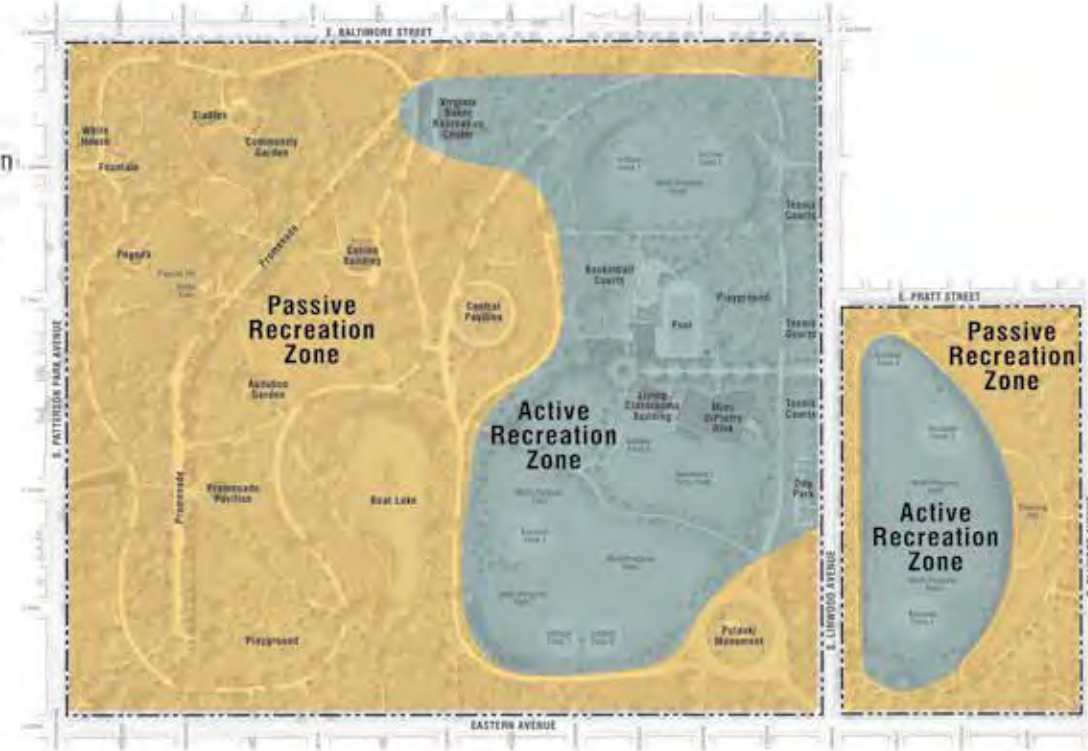


Fig. 46. Recreation Areas

### Habitat Areas

-  Existing Habitat
-  Priority 1 Restoration Site
-  Priority 2 Restoration Site
-  Priority 3 Restoration Site
-  Priority 4 Restoration Site
-  Proposed Hardscape Conversion To Habitat



Fig. 47. Habitat and Vegetation Areas

### Restricted Views

-  Slopes Restrict Views From Street Level
-  Important Vistas to Maintain

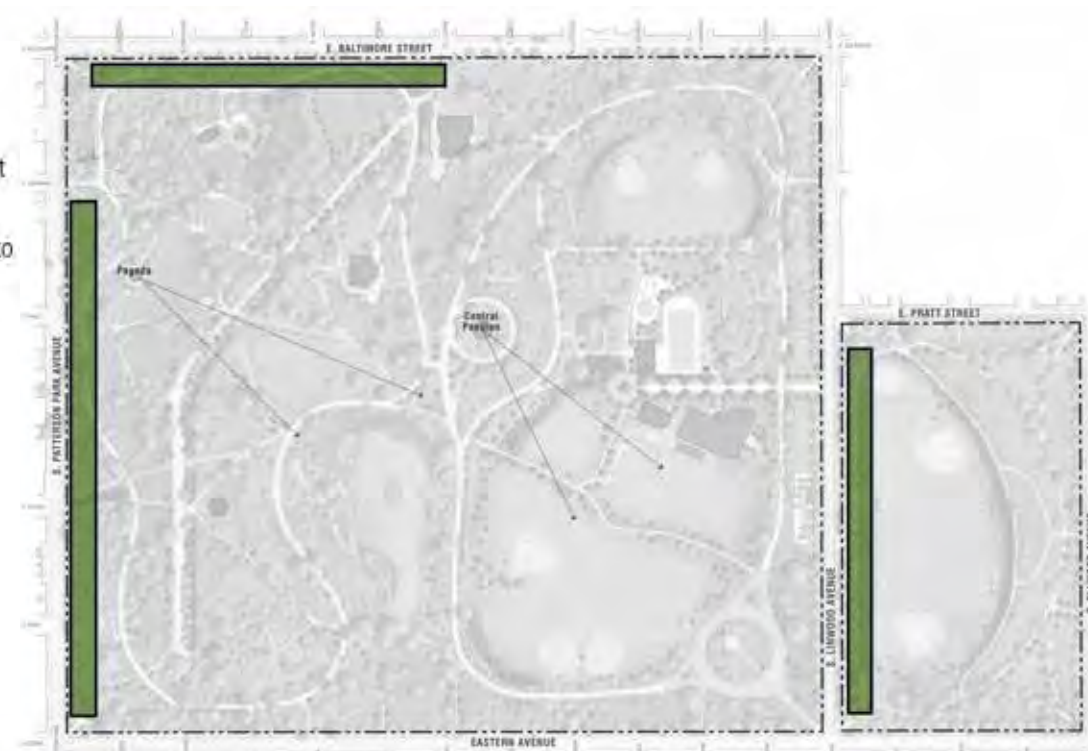


Fig. 48. Restricted Views

## APPENDIX D

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### REPORT ON THE PERCEPTIONS AND USE OF PARK BY AFRICAN AMERICAN RESIDENTS

In meetings with leaders in the African-American community, a matter of feeling unwelcome in the Park came up repeatedly. BCRP assigned a student intern, Nyala Clyde, to spend the summer of 2015 in the predominantly African-American neighborhoods north of the Park and attend community meetings, interviewing Park users and non-users. Some of her findings are incorporated in the discussion in Chapter 2, and are represented in their entirety here.

### PERCEPTIONS AND USE OF PATTERSON PARK BY AFRICAN AMERICAN RESIDENTS NORTH OF THE PARK

By  
Nyala Clyde  
Towson University  
Summer 2015

#### Overview

During the summer from May through August 2015, I worked as an intern with Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks (BCRP) as part of the Patterson Park Master Planning process with the following research objectives:

- To better understand why African American residents in neighborhoods predominantly north of Patterson Park do not feel welcome in the park.
- To identify what aspects of the park make people feel unwelcomed and to recommend future strategies to address this issue as part of the master plan.
- To research online calendar and printed brochure models used by other groups that could be adapted by BCRP to provide a more coordinated approach to promoting events in Patterson Park to the public that are provided by multiple organizations.

#### Research Methodology

The research focused on gathering feedback and information from both park users and non-park users from the predominantly African American communities and neighborhoods north of Patterson Park. The following methods were used to collect information:

- Participated in community meetings with local organizations north of Patterson Park.
- Interviewed 30 park users and non-park users with an opinion based survey.
- Interviewed local community members active in community development.
- Observed and participated in coordination meetings among different organizations providing programming in Patterson Park.
- Observed and participated in meetings with the Patterson Park Steering Committee as part of the Patterson Park Master Planning process.
- Worked with the Friends of Patterson Park, a non-profit organization that hosts concerts, events, programs and leads volunteer maintenance efforts in the park.

The following is a list of organizations that participated and provided input to the research:

#### Community Associations/Church/Organizations

- C.A.R.E Community Association : Cleaning, Active, Restoring, Efforts
- McElderry Park Community Association
- Amazing Grace Lutheran Church
- Banner Neighborhood Association
- Friends of Patterson Park



- New Harvest Ministries

Additional qualitative data and interviews were conducted at the following community events:

Community Events

- McElderry Park Block Park: Spoke with the Vice President, Mr. Eugene Brown
- Library square- National night out on Linwood Ave: Surveyed residents
- Men and Families Center (MFC) back to school block party and supply give away: Interviewed and surveyed residents
- Church service at Amazing Grace Lutheran church : Meeting with church members and Pastor Gary

**Opinion Based Survey**

Thirty (30) surveys were conducted with residents along streets north of Patterson Park, south of Orleans Street. Residents were interviewed at corner stores and in the front of their homes. Interviews were conducted on the following streets: North Patterson Park Ave, Glover Street, North Port Street, North Bradford Street, Milton Ave, Linwood Ave and E. Fayette Street.

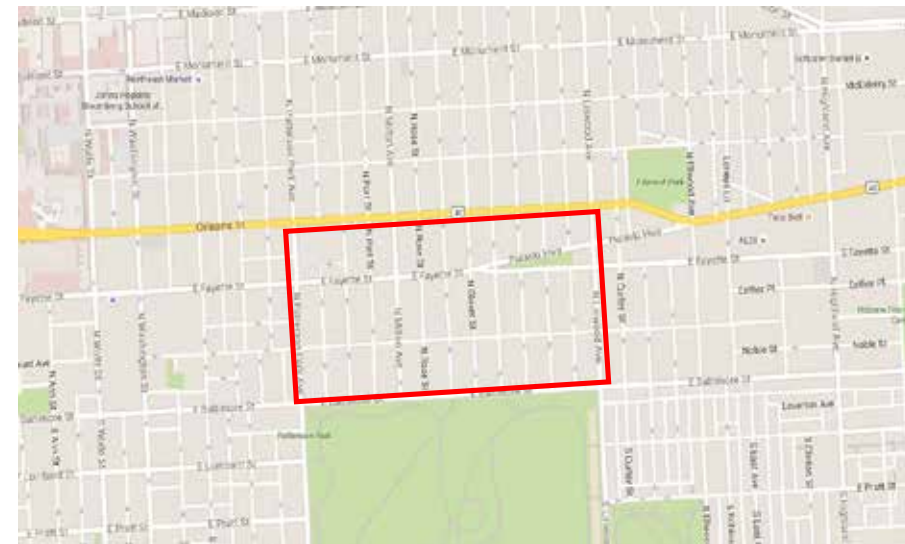


Figure 1: Area Surveyed North of Patterson Park

Most of the residents interviewed were 18 years and older. The response from the residents under age 18 was not high, with just a 3% response data from the survey.

The chart below indicates the age range of the African American respondents.

Age Categories	No of People
18-35	9
36-45	8
46-55	7
over 55	5
Under 18	1
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>30</b>

Generally, most residents south of Orleans Street felt that the park was fine the way it is and did not have any issues with feeling uncomfortable or unwelcome using Patterson Park. One woman stated that she and her neighbors take their children to the park together. They did not feel that going to the park or spending time in the park was an issue, this could be because of their close proximity to the park. They also did not have any suggestions with regard to changes to make the park feel more user friendly. Below are the totals from the survey:

- 95% of residents had no issue, unwelcoming or unfriendly experiences in the park.
- 5% of residents (seniors over 55) had negative or unfriendly experiences in the park in the past and they continue to associate those negative perceptions with the park today

Another question on the survey, posed the following question: “Were there any instances where you felt less than welcome in the park? Please explain”.

The initial response from the majority of residents in the community south of Orleans Street was that they did not have any unfriendly experiences in the park. However, in the interviews conducted with senior African American (over 55) men, some responses indicated that they had not felt welcomed in Patterson Park in the past, but that things have changed since then and their past experiences did not prevent them from going to Patterson Park currently. Reasons expressed for their positive feelings about the park were due to overall social changes in the enforcement of laws concerning discrimination, prejudice and hate crimes, which has made going to the park safer and more secure than it had been for them years or decades ago.

In addition, residents suggested they would be interested in attending the following types of events in Patterson Park:

*Types of Events*

- Carnivals
- Flea Markets
- Creative Arts for Children
- Indoor Pool
- Midnight Madness; a basketball event

- GED classes
- Parenting classes
- Skate board area

### Findings and Analysis

Overall, the following themes emerged from analysis of the data collected from the surveys, and interviews with local organizations and area residents:

**Exclusion from Park Planning and Decisions:** Many organizations including C.A.R.E, McElderry Park, and the Banner Neighborhood Association indicated that they felt excluded from planning and decision making in the park's progress and affairs. While BCRP invited representatives from these organizations to participate as members of the Patterson Park Master Plan Steering Committee and have included them in regular email correspondence about the planning process, only one member of these associations attended a few meetings.

One of the issues may be the lack of access to email; however, BCRP was able to correspond via email to set up meetings with representatives from these organizations. Additionally, I scheduled interviews and meetings by email correspondence as well as telephone calls. Overall, my correspondence with the organizations was positive; and members were very willing to meet and discuss their concerns.

Another issue may be community representatives' lack of comfort with attending such planning meetings, given that they have not been included in past and their concerns have been ignored. One of the leaders of the C.A.R.E association suggested that "board positions be offered to other communities" and what was needed was "real inclusion and consideration of African American viewpoints". In many cases, the main focus of these organizations is on job development, crime prevention, housing and other issues. Park planning has not seemed to be as important a need. In addition, a number of the local organizations and residents do not consider the location of the park to be within their immediate neighborhood.

**Racial Prejudice/Lack of Belonging:** The McElderry Park Community Association and the members of Amazing Grace Lutheran Church expressed that they sense racial prejudice by other park users. The camping director at New Harvest Church mentioned that she took her summer camp to the pool and observed many White pool users exiting the pool after they arrived. She felt this was directly connected to White pool users' lack of comfort with African Americans. This perception is interesting considering that a high percentage of pool users at Patterson Park are African American. The sense of racial prejudice may perhaps be tied to unfriendly pool staff or other pool users.

This perception may also be tied to past events of racial discrimination in and around Patterson Park. A few seniors and older community members, aged mostly 45 and over, talked about a history of racial discrimination in Patterson Park, when they were run out of the park or assaulted. While these events occurred over 20 years ago, some members still associate these experiences with the park today, and others do not.

**Negative Police Interactions:** The McElderry Park Community and Amazing Grace Lutheran Church raised issues regarding police interactions with members of their community with regard to Patterson Park. Both groups noted that there have been incidents when police have harassed and intimidated youths visiting Patterson Park. They felt the reason that they were targeted was due to their race and socio-economic status.

**Park Distance and Barriers to Access:** Residents mentioned the lack of safety for children to walk to the park due to dangerous intersection crossing situations across wide, busy streets such as Orleans Street. Others perceived the park to be out of their neighborhood and therefore not a resource for them.

**Lack of Events/Programs of Interest to the African American Community:** Some respondents suggested that a number of the events, such as the summer concerts that Friends of Patterson Park organizes, do not have music offerings that appeal to their community. The concert series did offer a jazz selection, but the African American community felt that music such as Rhythm and Blues (R&B) would appeal to a wide audience of African Americans.

**Inadequate Communication/Promotion of Park Events:** Most residents felt that communication and promotion of park events and programs is lacking. In several meetings, members, seniors especially, noted that they do not have access to the internet and therefore are not aware of park events. People would like to see more printed information and communication made available to them. Some of the residents north of the park have low incomes and do not have a computer in their home or access to the internet. Many residents do not have smart phones or sufficient enough data plans to access online information about the park.

**Differs in Perceptions between Residents South and North of Orleans Street:** Survey results indicated that African American perceptions about Patterson Park differed depending where they lived relative to Orleans Street. Residents living closer to the park, south of Orleans Street, felt comfortable using the park and had relatively no feelings of being unwelcome in the park. However, residents living north of Orleans Street did not feel that they were welcome to come and use the park. Some of this difference may be attributed to distance from the park and differences in socio-economic levels.

Conversations and interviews with African American residents living in closer proximity to the park but not past Orleans Street along Port, E. Fayette, and Rose Street as well as along North Patterson Park and N. Linwood Avenues provided different feedback to those living a few blocks further north of Orleans Street. Residents on the blocks south of Orleans Streets indicated that they had no issues with feeling unwelcome to use Patterson Park. North of Orleans Street, however, residents felt differently. I was told by the leader of the McElderry youth association that responses north of Orleans street are different because neighborhood residents further north are more disadvantaged than those living closer to the Park.

### Recommendations

When asked what could be done to encourage people to use the park and make it more friendly to African American residents, community organizations, residents and church members suggested the following:

- Programs to target youths, for young girls, such as Fashion Shows and Dance
- Improve the interaction/relations between the police and the African American community
- Educate/Promote the programs that are offered in the park
- Include African American viewpoints in planning decisions for Patterson Park
- Offer more cultural events related to food and music
- Offer computer literacy programs and tennis lessons
- Consistently engage and have outreach to the African American community by providing printed details on events and programs to community associations, churches, libraries and schools
- Include a more diverse music selection at concerts such as Hip Hop, Soul, and R&B to attract a wider generation of residents
- Make events affordable
- Provide or host events that are health related such as wellness checks and job fairs

Other suggestions for outreaching to African American residents north of Orleans Street may involve a more proactive approach to promoting park programs directly to the community associations, churches and schools. This could be done by BCRP staff regularly attending community meetings to promote park programs as well as distribute flyers and posters about events.

Another effort, currently in process is to develop a seasonal list of park programs offered by all providers in Patterson Park. Efforts are currently underway for fall 2015 posters and brochures to highlight various BCRP facilities such as the recreation center, the ice rink and other programs offered by the Audubon Society, Friends of Patterson Park and Living Classrooms.

### Conclusion

While Patterson Park faces racial and socio-economic challenges to equity of use and participation, these challenges are citywide. The neighborhoods surrounding and adjacent to Patterson Park include diverse populations of White, African American and growing Hispanic and Asian residents. These neighborhoods also differ socio-economically and committees representing the community interests in the park should make a special effort to be inclusive of all these diverse groups of residents. Similarly, park programs should reflect these diverse community interests, with a focus on teens, young adults, middle-aged residents and families. Promotion of these programs should also be provided in multiple languages.

Regular communication using print media, email and telephone outreach to community representatives, schools, churches, and in person attendance at monthly community meetings and events is important to provide more information about ongoing park events and programs to residents, especially those who are living further away from the park. It is equally important to communicate that the park is welcome and open to all.

## APPENDIX E

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### PATTERSON PARK TREE INVENTORY SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Maintenance Data:

There are 1716 total trees. 35 were identified as dead and 66 were recommended for removal, that's including the dead trees. There are 464 recommended prunings and out of these only 116 were identified as priority prunings. Out of the total of 1716 trees, 1601 were identified as either good to fair condition, with the largest amount identified as good (1246 trees), and 1177 trees identified with no tree maintenance work required at this time. That is over 68% of the total trees. We also identified 16 stumps that need to be removed.

#### Synopsis of Species Data:

There were 56 different tree genera in the park. This is a large number, but 47.9% were represented by three genera: Quercus (Oaks), Acer (Maples), and Tilia (Lindens). Little leaf lindens were by far the highest represented species with 167 trees followed by Red Maples with 137 and Ash, either White or Green with 101. Another note is that less than 5% of the trees were represented by an evergreen genus with Pinus having the most (34 trees). Little leaf lindens are not only one of the larger represented species in number but also in size. Out of the tree species that have at least ten individual trees in the park, the L.L. linden has the second highest average DBH at 22.5in. This is second to the leader Ginkgo with an average DBH of 26.6in, but larger than, White oak at 20.1 in, American Linden at 18.7in, and Japanese Pagoda Tree at 18.7 in.

It is also important to note that the Faxinus genus currently makes up 5.9% of the trees in the park with a total of 101 trees. The species make up is either Green or White ash with a size range of 2 in to 42 in dbh and 10 to 60 feet in height, with averages of 15.7 in. dbh and 34.1 ft heights.

#### Data Corrections

In January 2015 we will conduct a follow-up field assessment of select trees that are in question, including a few size measurements and trees with missing data. In addition we will re-evaluate five trees currently not recommended for removal.

#### Initial Observations

Although the Urban Forestry Division will provide a full tree maintenance plan – together with other landscape recommendations, we do have a few highlights to point out at this time:

- a. Emerald ash borer has arrived in the City, so plans for treatment and/or removal and replacement need to be in place by spring 2015. The Division is about to forward an Emerald Ash Borer Response Plan for Baltimore, which will include a number – but not all – of Patterson Park's ash trees.
- b. In areas of the park, lindens comprise a virtual monoculture – usually something to be avoided from a tree health standpoint. However, the committee may wish to consider if there is historical significance to these plantings before continuing with them or switching to alternative species.
- c. We saw no outstanding need for a large scale tree replacement project, based on our finding that over two-thirds of the existing trees required no immediate attention.
- d. However, we will provide in our final report suggestions for additional groves of trees should the committee desire additional woody ornamentals for wildlife habitat or storm water retention.

Jaleel Nash, Urban Forester

Recreation and Parks – Urban Forestry Division

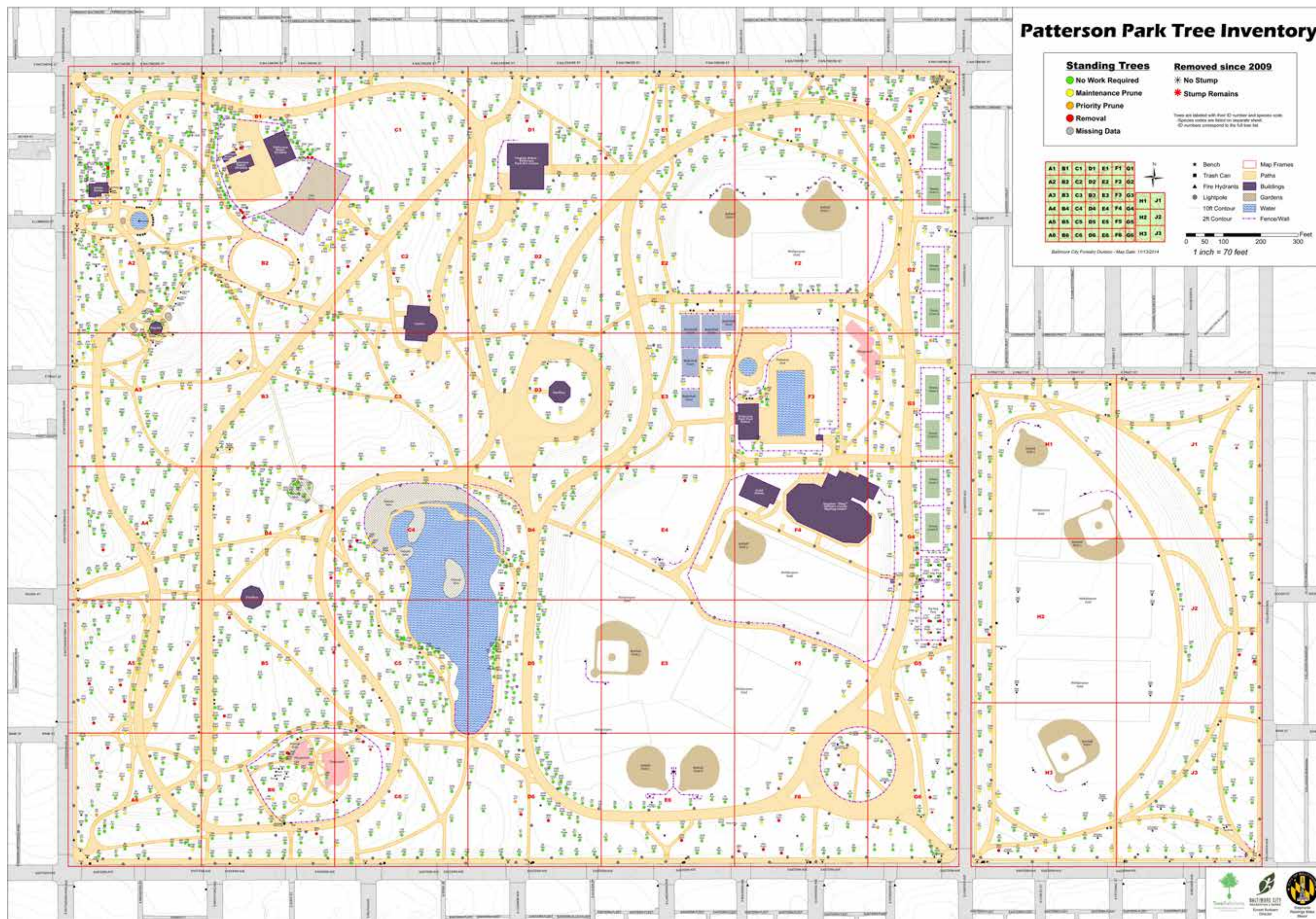


Fig. 49. Patterson Park Tree Inventory

## APPENDIX F

### CURRENT BCRP SITE FURNISHING STANDARDS

The table below details the current Baltimore City Recreation and Parks Department standards for site furnishings. New site amenities in Patterson Park should comply with these standards, and the identification of new standards should be explored where no standard currently exists.

**Table 23.** BCRP Site Furnishings Standards

Furnishing	Standard
Benches	Model #57-60PL, Dumar 6' Bench with backrest. Support color to be black and recycled plastic slat color to be 'Cedar'
Trash Receptacles	SD-242 by Victor Stanley
Drinking Fountains	Haws Model No. 3377FR pedestal-mounted with freeze-resistant valve, with operating system (1-775-359-4712), pedestal color is black
ADA-compliant Picnic Tables	Model #77-68-1 PL, DuMor ADA Picnic Table. Support color to be black and recycled plastic slat color to be 'Cedar'
Dog Waste Bag Dispensers	Currently no BCRP standard; preferred model from Zero Waste USA, black color
Bike Racks	Currently no BCRP standard
Exercise Stations	Currently no BCRP standard
Moveable Picnic Tables	Currently no BCRP standard
Moveable Seating	Currently no BCRP standard

## APPENDIX G

### EARTH STEWARDSHIP INITIATIVE

The Earth Stewardship Initiative (ESI), which coincides with the annual meetings of the Ecological Society of America (ESA), allows ESI student fellows connect with local experts and leaders to identify and develop recommendations for real-world projects.

In August 2015, ESI engaged fellows in Baltimore for six days on various projects, including the Patterson Park Master Plan. Recommendations focus on integrating research through a bottom-up, grassroots process. This active approach encourages ESI student fellows to engage members of the community to generate more impactful recommendations. For Patterson Park, some of those recommendations included creating “no-mow zones” within grassy areas and introducing new plant species to increase biodiversity, particularly related to birds, within the Park.

On the pages that follow, we’ve included the final presentation given by the six student fellows working on the Patterson Park project in August.



# Patterson Park

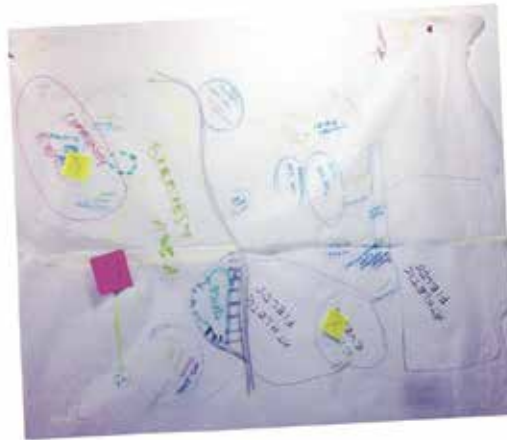
Jane Karetny  
Kellie Knight  
Breanna Powers  
Allyson Salisbury  
Ben Scott  
Alicia Thomas







### Patterson Park Current social uses

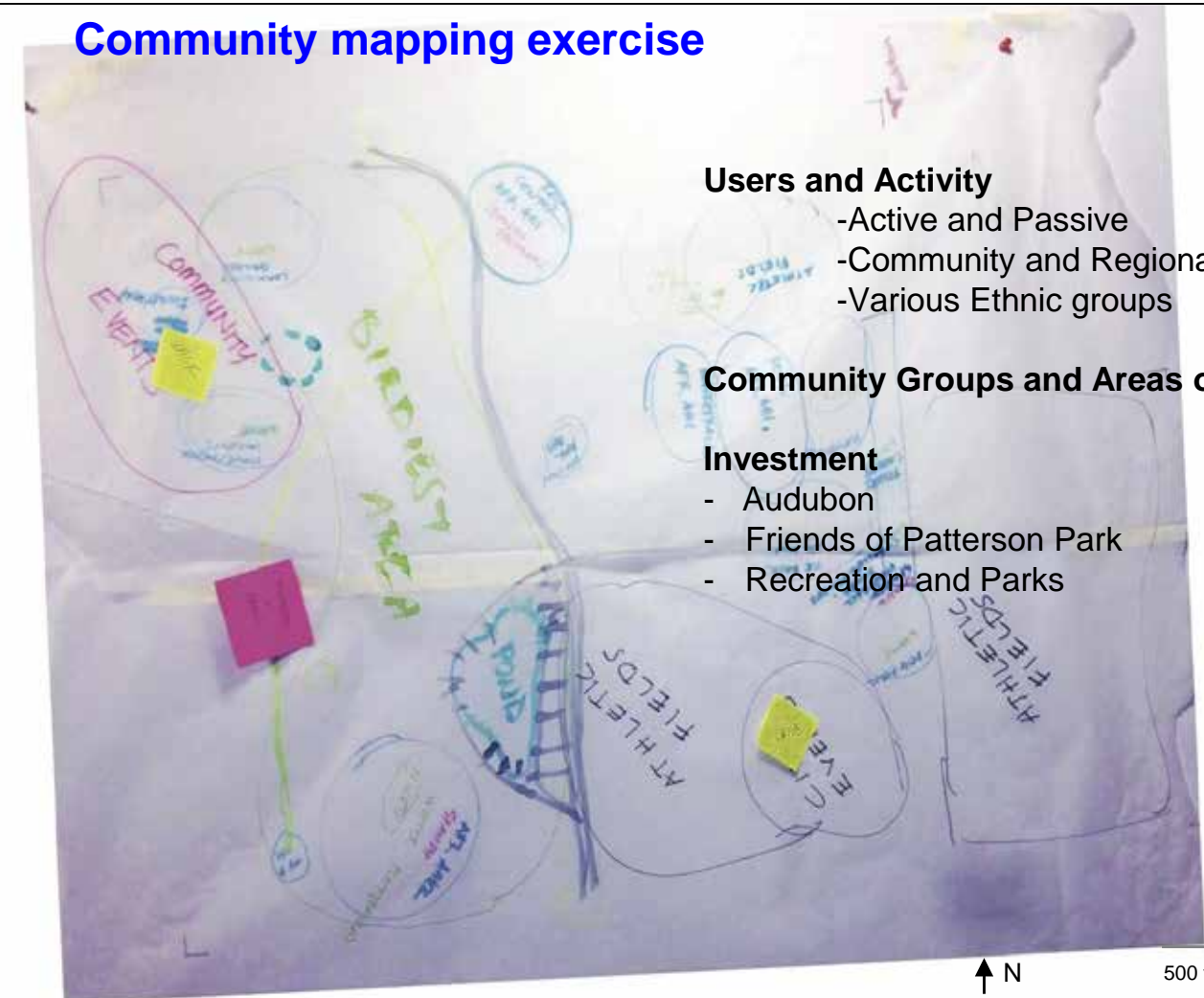


- Active & Passive**  
 Sports Fields  
 Walking  
 Running  
 Cycling  
 Community Garden

- Programming**  
 Nature Tours  
 Seniors programs  
 Concerts

Areas of use by type identified by community groups

### Community mapping exercise



**Users and Activity**

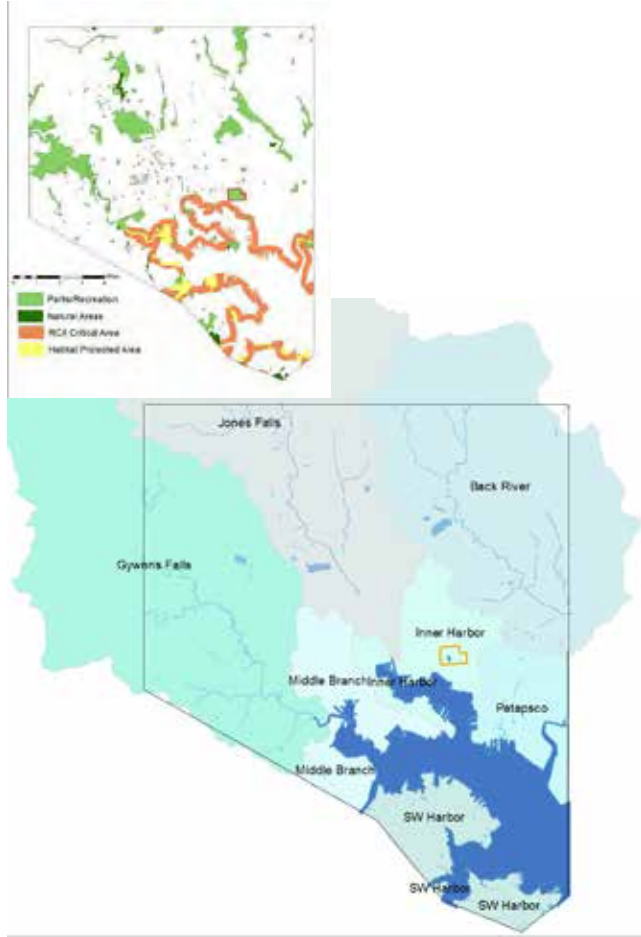
- Active and Passive
- Community and Regional
- Various Ethnic groups

**Community Groups and Areas of**

**Investment**

- Audubon
- Friends of Patterson Park
- Recreation and Parks

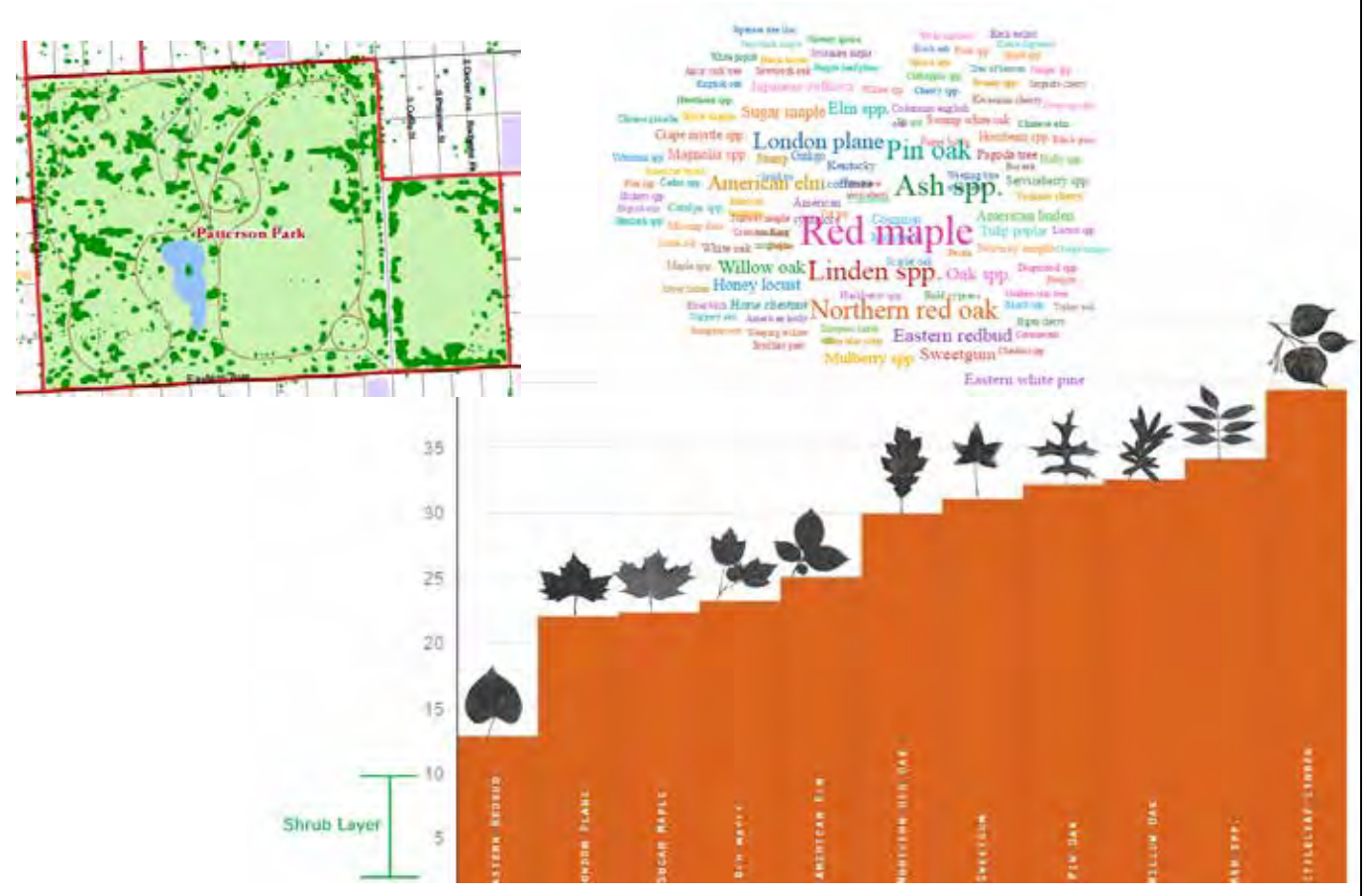
### Patterson Park Current ecology



### Community Priorities

- Birds
- Trees/Plants
- Water

### Patterson Park Current urban forest character



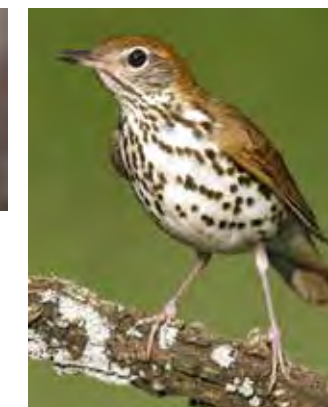
### Maryland Birds and canopy



### Baltimore Birds

#### Species of concern

- Wood Thrush
- Wood Cock
- Black and Blue Throated Warbler
- Chimney Swift
- Baltimore Oriole



### Patterson Park Biodiversity concept



Diverse Habitat

Supports Diverse Species



### Patterson Park Existing



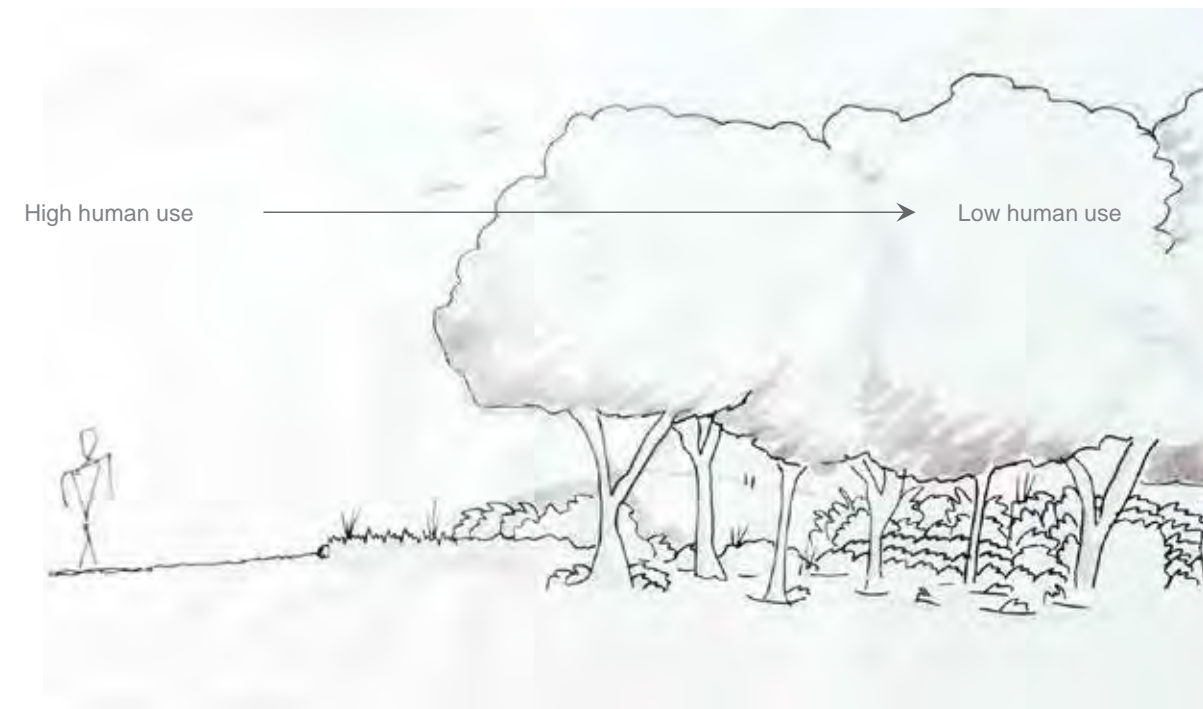
↑ N 500 ft

### Patterson Park Proposed Bird Core



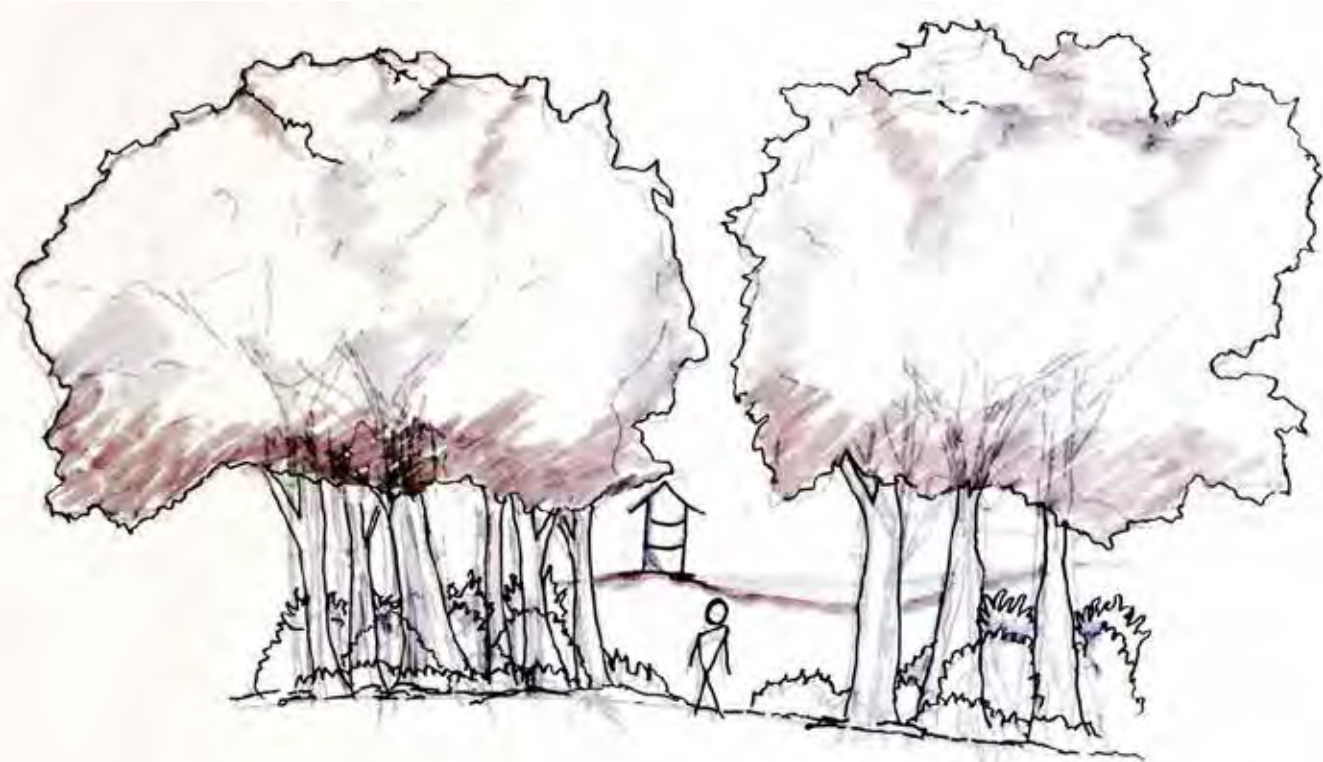
↑ N  
500 ft

### Patterson Park Proposed Bird Core



Conceptual section depicts path with mown edge, managed grassy edge, and dense interior

### Patterson Park Proposed Edge

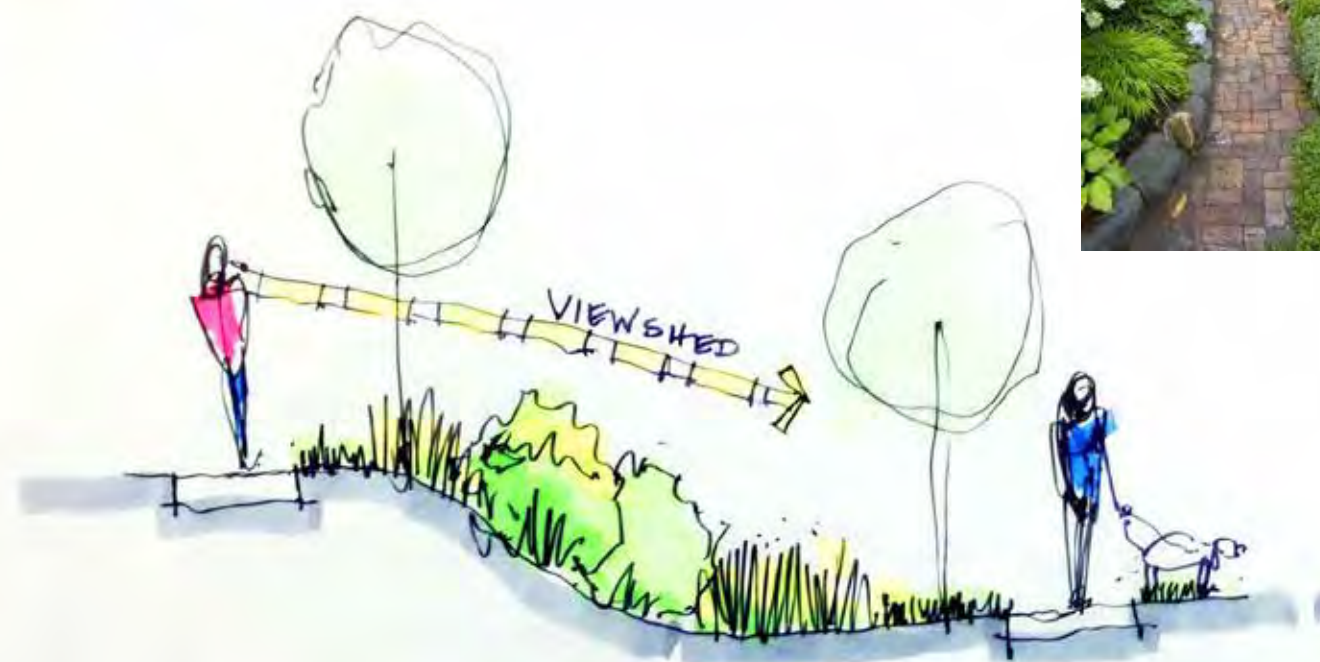


Conceptual section depicts retained circulation and framing technique for visibility  
Human presence is lowered; pet presence is regulated

### Patterson Park Proposed Edge

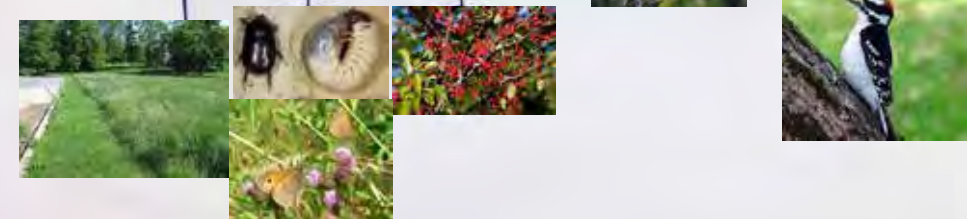


### Patterson Park Proposed Edge



Conceptual section of retained viewsheds ensuring visitor comfort within the newly vegetated landscape

### Patterson Park Proposed Bird Core Forest Structure



### Patterson Park **Conceptual plant palette**

#### Meadow



New England aster    Cardinal flower    Bee balm    Goldenrod    Little bluestem

#### Shade Trees



**SHRUBS**  
American beech    White oak    Red oak    Black gum    Red maple



Chokeberry    Lowbush blueberry    Spicebush    Viburnum    Winterberry

### Patterson Park **Bird Core** Designed Experiments

How does the establishment of bird core change .....

- >citizen science- emphasis of community involvement through science and art
- >opportunities to tie in broader baltimore connectivity  
Joan and Charles (from BES) proposed idea about looking at avian travel



designed experiment:

**How does the creation of a bird core  
type forest in an urban park  
change...**

## ...bird population

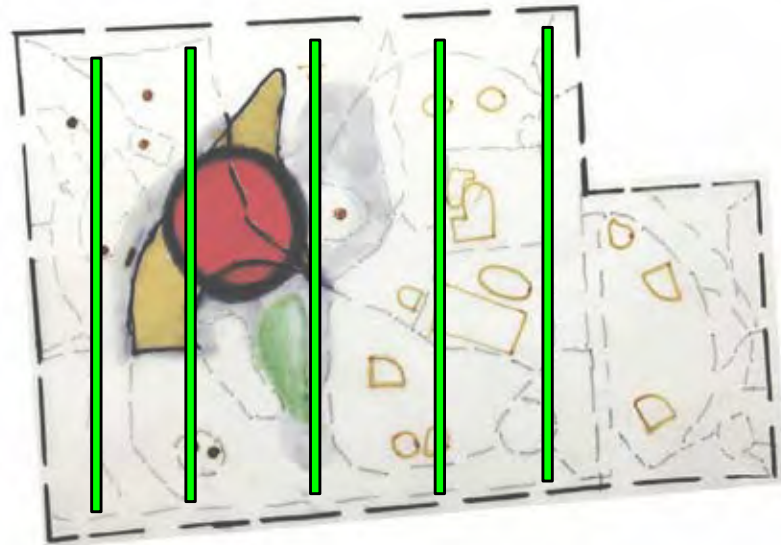


▲ Bird Sampling Site



500 ft

# Trees and Shrubs



■ Tree Transects



↑ N  
500 ft

# Plant Populations



■ Plant Quadrat Sampling



↑ N  
500 ft

# Aerial Insect populations



↑N  
500 ft

# Ground insect population



↑N  
500 ft

# Soil conditions



▲ Soil Samples (every 5 years)



↑ N 500 ft

# Park use and activities



▲ User Activity Observations



↑ N 500 ft

## Linking science and culture through art

Mary Miss  
*Flow: Can You See the River*





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