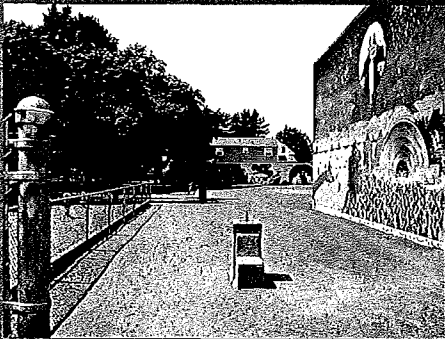


Master Plan for

Pellegrini Park

and Stearns Park

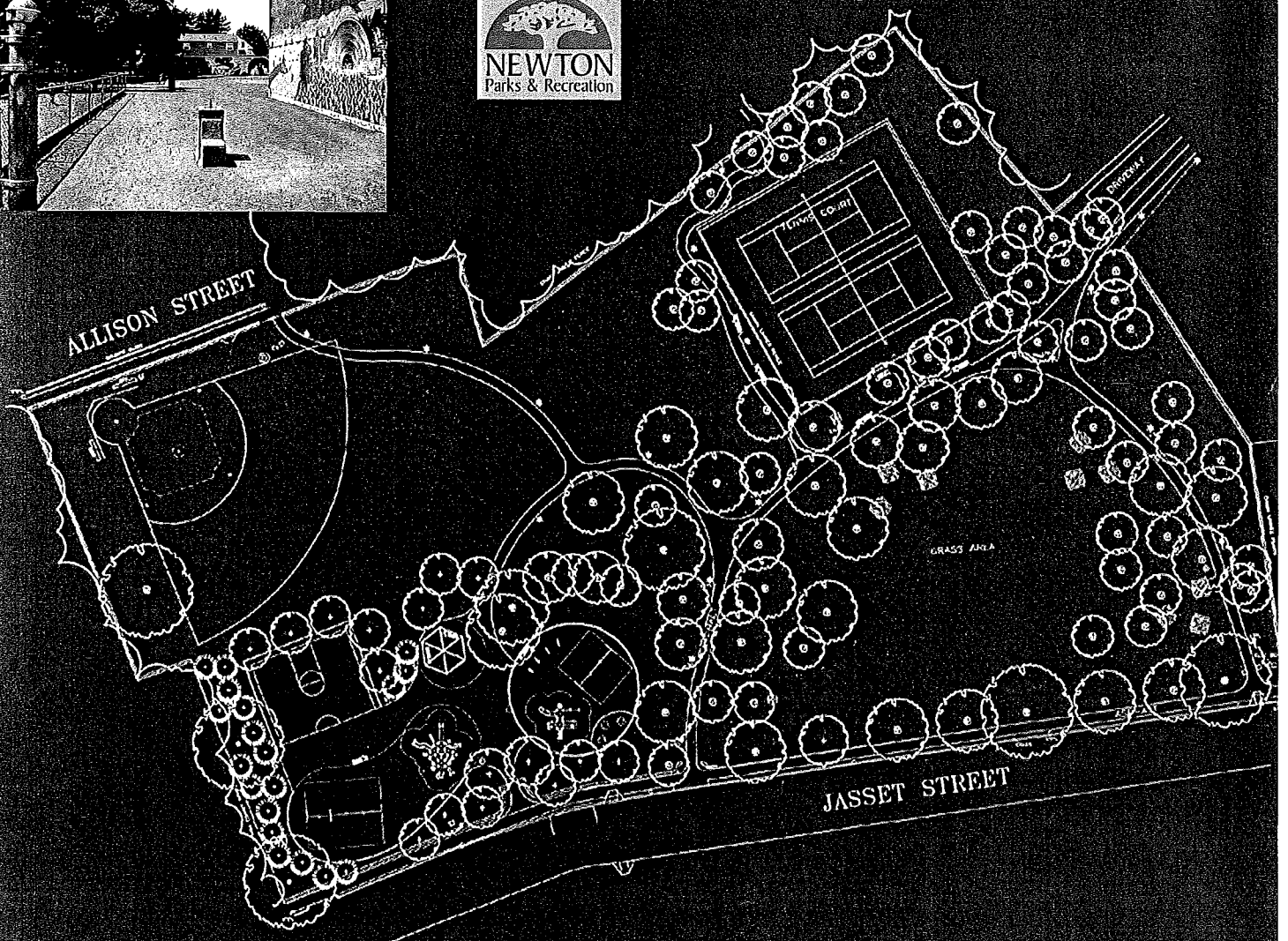
Newton, Massachusetts

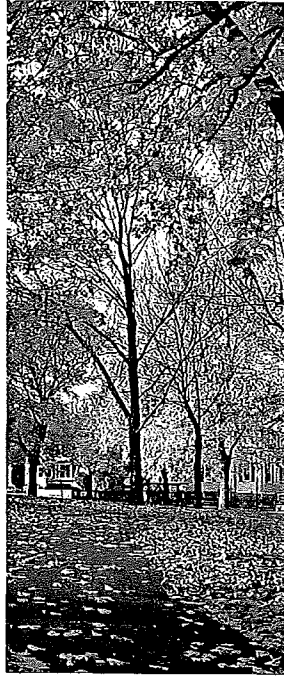
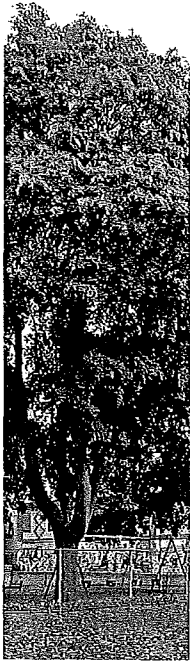


Prepared for
the City of Newton
Department of Planning and Development

By
Pressley Associates, Inc.
Cambridge, Massachusetts

September 26, 2005





Master Plan for

Pellegrini Park and Stearns Park

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Stearns & Pellegrini Parks Planning Process

The Pellegrini and Stearns Parks Master Planning process was initiated by the Newton Planning and Development Department in the spring of 2005.

Working with Pressley Associates of Cambridge, MA, the project began with the collection and analysis of existing data and site conditions. Pressley Associates compiled aerial photos and survey plans, which were overlaid to produce site analysis maps, since the survey were still in process. Extensive field observations were conducted at both parks to inventory site amenities locations and conditions. Additional observations of usage patterns, parking, plant material health, and park/neighborhood relationships were conducted. During this period a questionnaire based on park use was produced by the City of Newton and mailed to all residents of the neighborhoods surrounding the two parks. This information was compiled by department of planning and development and added to the inventory information.

In May of 2005, the first community meeting was held at the Pellegrini Gymnasium to introduce the process and discuss project goals with interested community members. Pressley Associates presented the findings of the park analysis process and results from the community questionnaire were presented by the City of Newton. There was a question and answer session which provided great insight into the community's desires.

In early June, 2005 a community workshop was conducted at the Pellegrini Gymnasium. Staff from the City of Newton and Pressley Associates divided the attendees into two working groups, one focused on each park. Templates of general park uses such as basketball, baseball, tennis, playground equipment, and picnicking were overlaid on the park plans and provided the opportunity for residents to move uses around and understand the relationship and requirements for each use. More specific feedback from the community on their vision for the two parks was gathered and allowed each group to explore all of the possibilities to improve current conditions and increase use of the parks.

With community input and an in depth understanding of the park functions in the current setting, the Pressley team generated two design options for Stearns Park and three design options for Pellegrini Park. The design options were shown to the community in late June, 2005. Again presented in separate groups by City of Newton and Pressley Associates staff, benefits and drawbacks of each design were analyzed. A general consensus was reached quickly on Stearns Park. However, due to its size and current uses, Pellegrini Park garnered extensive discussion and feedback from the community.

Based on the discussions and community desires gathered at the late June meeting, the Pressley team then combined the most desired design elements from all options and generated one site plan for each park. Subsequent meetings with the City of Newton Planning and Parks Departments were held to review feasibility of certain approaches with consideration of park management and maintenance issues. With the final refinement of the site plans complete, cost estimates were produced to assist in the funding process of the project. During this phase, detailed construction and management solutions were explored in order to efficiently improve the parks conditions.

The final meeting with the Parks and Planning Departments focused on the most marketable means to obtain funding for the construction. Various grant resources were examined and the site plans and cost estimates were divided into a phased set up.

PARK QUESTIONNAIRE

During spring and summer of this year, the City of Newton will be developing master plans for improvements at Stearns Park and Pellegrini Park, and public input is needed to make this effort successful. Please take approximately 5-8 minutes to complete this survey about parks in your neighborhood. **Your responses are anonymous. Please fill out this questionnaire and return it in the postage-paid envelope by May 6, 2005.** The results of the survey will be presented at the first of several park-planning meetings which is scheduled for Monday, May 16, 2005 at Pellegrini Gym at 6:30pm. For more information on this questionnaire or the master planning process, please contact Danielle Bailey in the Planning and Development Department at (617) 796-1139 or via email at dbailey@newtonma.gov or visit www.ci.newton.ma.us/parkplan.

SECTION 1: PERSONAL PROFILE

- A. On which street do you live? _____
- B. How long have you lived at this location? 0-5 yrs. 6-10 yrs. 11-20 yrs. over 20 yrs.
- C. How many people are in your household? _____
- D. Are there people under age 18 in your household? Yes No
 If yes, please indicate the age brackets: (check all that apply)
 0-4 5-9 10-14 15-18
- E. How many people over age 65 live in your household? _____

SECTION 2: STEARNS PARK & PELLEGRINI PARK USERSHIP INFORMATION

- A. Approximately how often do you visit these parks (non-winter times)?
- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>Stearns Park
(please check one)</p> <p>_____ Often: 3 or more times a week</p> <p>_____ 1-2 times a week</p> <p>_____ 1-2 times a month</p> <p>_____ Occasionally: more than 3 times a year</p> <p>_____ Rarely: 1-2 times a year or less</p> | <p>Pellegrini Park
(please check one)</p> <p>_____ Often: 3 or more times a week</p> <p>_____ 1-2 times a week</p> <p>_____ 1-2 times a month</p> <p>_____ Occasionally: more than 3 times a year</p> <p>_____ Rarely: 1-2 times a year or less</p> |
|---|--|
- B. What activities do you and your family engage in most often at these parks?
(you may check up to 5 activities for each park)
- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>Stearns Park</p> <p>_____ Outdoor Basketball</p> <p>_____ Chess/Checkers</p> <p>_____ Baseball/Softball</p> <p>_____ Tennis</p> <p>_____ Playground & Swings</p> <p>_____ Passive Recreation: relaxing, reading, etc.</p> <p>_____ Walking/Jogging</p> <p>_____ Pick-up sports: frisbee, football, bocce, soccer</p> <p>_____ Picnics</p> <p>_____ Events/Festivals</p> <p>_____ Other: _____</p> <p>_____ Other: _____</p> <p>_____ Other: _____</p> | <p>Pellegrini Park</p> <p>_____ Outdoor Basketball</p> <p>_____ Indoor Basketball</p> <p>_____ Baseball/Softball</p> <p>_____ Tennis</p> <p>_____ Playground & Swings</p> <p>_____ Passive Recreation: relaxing, reading, etc.</p> <p>_____ Walking/Jogging</p> <p>_____ Pick-up sports: frisbee, football, bocce, etc.</p> <p>_____ Picnics</p> <p>_____ Events/Festivals</p> <p>_____ Indoor Volleyball</p> <p>_____ Soccer</p> <p>_____ Other: _____</p> |
|---|--|

- C. How do you and your family typically travel to the park? (check all that apply)

Stearns Park

Method	Usually	Occasionally	Never
Walk			
Bike			
Drive			

Pellegrini Park

Method	Usually	Occasionally	Never
Walk			
Bike			
Drive			

- D. How do you rate your satisfaction with these parks in fulfilling your recreational needs?

(on a scale of 1-10, where 10 is most satisfied and 1 is not satisfied)

Stearns Park

- _____ Overall Satisfaction
- _____ Safety & Security
- _____ Accessibility & Mobility

Pellegrini Park

- _____ Overall Satisfaction
- _____ Safety & Security
- _____ Accessibility & Mobility

_____ Maintenance & Condition _____ Maintenance & Condition
 E. Would you be interested in joining a neighborhood group "Friends of Stearns Parks" or "Friends of Pellegrini Park"? (Sign-up sheets will be made available at each of the upcoming community meetings.)
 (indicate Yes, No or Maybe for each park)
 _____ Friends of Stearns Park _____ Friends of Pellegrini Park

SECTION 3: OTHER PARK USERSHIP INFORMATION

A. Do you and your family visit other parks besides Stearns and Pellegrini Parks?
 (check those that apply) _____ (more than once a week) _____ (more than once a month) _____ (1-2 times a year)

Neighborhood Parks	Visit Frequently	Visit Occasionally	Visit Rarely
Forte Park			
Magni-Coletti Park			
Boyd Park (behind Lincoln-Eliot School)			
Charles River Reservation			
Parks Outside my Neighborhood	Visit Frequently	Visit Occasionally	Visit Rarely

B. What are the main reasons for visiting parks outside of your neighborhood? (please check up to 3 reasons)
 _____ Organized sports
 _____ Special events
 _____ Visiting friends and family in other towns/neighborhoods
 _____ Convenience: closer to work, daycare, school, etc.
 _____ Different equipment and/or activities than available at neighborhood parks
 Please explain: _____
 _____ Better quality equipment and/or activities than available at neighborhood parks
 Please explain: _____
 _____ Other: _____

SECTION 4: IDEAS FOR IMPROVEMENT AT STEARNS PARK AND PELLEGRINI PARK

A. What equipment and/or activities do you consider to be working well that need little or no improvement? _____

B. What equipment and/or activities are NOT working well that need improvement? What suggestions do you have for improvement? _____

C. Are there any activities or pieces of equipment that you feel are unused, inappropriate, or redundant and should be removed completely to make room for other things or for more open space? _____

D. What else would you like to see added or changed that would make your park experience more enjoyable and would encourage people to use the parks more? _____

E. For each of the parks, please choose the items that need the most improvement:
 (please check up to 3 categories for each park)

Stearns Park	Pellegrini Park
_____ Playfields: baseball, etc.	_____ Playfields: soccer, baseball, etc.
_____ Playgrounds: interesting, age-appropriate, etc.	_____ Playgrounds: interesting, age-appropriate, etc.
_____ Accessibility: pathways, curb cuts, etc.	_____ Accessibility: pathways, curb cuts, etc.
_____ Security: sense of security, lighting, etc.	_____ Security: sense of security, lighting, etc.
_____ Landscaping & Beautification	_____ Landscaping & Beautification
_____ Park User Equipment: seating, bubblers, etc.	_____ Park User Equipment: seating, bubblers, etc.
_____ Other Site Equipment: fencing, signage, shelter	_____ Other Site Equipment: fencing, signage, etc.
_____ Courts: tennis, basketball, etc.	_____ Courts: tennis, basketball, etc.
_____ Parking/Bike Facilities	_____ Parking/Bike Facilities
	_____ Pellegrini Fieldhouse/Gymnasium

*Thank you for taking the time to help to improve the quality of parks in Nonantum!
 Feel free to attach an additional sheet of paper if you have other comments and suggestions.*

Section 1

Questionnaires Mailed

Total Mailing	1449
Date	4/22/2005
Responses	119
Rate	8.2%

# Streets in Mailing	66
# Streets Responded	40

Number of responses that focus only on one of the 2 parks

One Park	45
Both Parks	74
	119

37.8%

Section 1: Personal Profile

How long have you lived at this location?

0-5 yrs	31
6-10 yrs	18
11-20 yrs	19
over 20 yrs	48

How many people are in your household?

HH Size	Response
1	22
2	36
3	22
4	29
5	4
6	5

Avg. HH Size	2.76
--------------	------

Are there people under age 18 in your household?

Under 18	Response
Yes	49
No	70

41.2%

119

If yes, please indicate the age brackets: (check all that apply)

Age Groups	Response
0-4 yrs	20
5-9 yrs	21
10-14 yrs	11
15-18 yrs	7

How many people over age 65 live in your household?

Elderly	Response
1	24
2	18

42 35.3%

Section 2

Section 2: Park Usership Information

Approximately how often do you visit these parks (non-winter times)?

Stearns Park

Often: 3 or more times a week	18	15.1%
1-2 times a week	14	11.8%
1-2 times a month	9	7.6%
Occasionally: 3+ times a year	24	20.2%
Rarely: 1-2 times a year or less	31	26.1%
No response	23	19.3%
119		

Pellegrini Park

Often: 3 or more times a week	25	21.2%
1-2 times a week	17	14.4%
1-2 times a month	15	12.7%
Occasionally: 3+ times a year	24	20.3%
Rarely: 1-2 times a year or less	28	23.7%
No response	9	7.6%
118		

What activities do you and your family engage in most often at these parks?

Stearns Park

Baseball/Softball	11	5.9%
Chess/Checkers	0	0.0%
Events/Festivals	11	5.9%
Other: Bocce, Biking, Dog Walking, Whiffleball	6	3.2%
Outdoor Basketball	20	10.7%
Passive Recreation	28	15.0%
Pick-up sports	9	4.8%
Picnics	9	4.8%
Playground & Swings	35	18.7%
Tennis	18	9.6%
Walking/Jogging	40	21.4%
total uses		187

Pellegrini Park

Baseball/Softball	8	3.6%
Events/Festivals	50	22.4%
Indoor Basketball	6	2.7%
Indoor Volleyball	1	0.4%
Other: Voting, Play Games, Dog Walking, Scooter, General Gym Use, Biking	8	3.6%
Outdoor Basketball	12	5.4%
Passive Recreation	24	10.8%
Pick-up sports	11	4.9%
Picnics	15	6.7%
Playground & Swings	41	18.4%
Soccer	4	1.8%
Tennis	11	4.9%
Walking/Jogging	32	14.3%
total uses		223

How do you and your family typically travel to the park? (check all that apply)

Stearns Park

	Freq.	Occ.	Nev.
Walk	82.4%	14.9%	2.7%
Bike	23.5%	41.2%	35.3%
Drive	27.0%	46.0%	27.0%

Pellegrini Park

	Freq.	Occ.	Nev.
Walk	83.3%	13.1%	3.6%
Bike	20.5%	48.7%	30.8%
Drive	25.0%	45.8%	29.2%

How do you rate your satisfaction with these parks in fulfilling your recreational needs?

Stearns Park

Overall Satisfaction	5.97
Safety & Security	6.32
Accessibility & Mobility	7.05
Maintenance & Condition	4.7

Pellegrini Park

Overall Satisfaction	6.76
Safety & Security	6.94
Accessibility & Mobility	7.58
Maintenance & Condition	5.95

Would you be interested in joining a neighborhood group "Friends of Stearns Parks" or "Friends of Pellegrini Park"?

Stearns Park

Answer	Response
Maybe	12 18.5%
No	39 60.0%
Yes	14 21.5%
65	

Pellegrini Park

Answer	Response
Maybe	19 23.2%
No	46 56.1%
Yes	17 20.7%
82	

Sections 3 & 4- Qualitative

Section 3: Other Park Usership Information

Other park comments

better equipment for 7+ kids
Better walking
bike paths, kayaking, hiking trails
Cleaner, no trash or glass
Different equipment at Albemarle Field
different equipment- shade- better taken care of- no trash around
Different levels of equipment- preschool (1-2 yrs) (2-4 yrs) (over 4 yrs)
Fishing, quiet time
foam soft mat for ground cover & picnic tables
Have a path to walk or run
Horace Mann has a wonderful play area, various equipment, fenced-in tot lot, near Albemarle pool
I walk along the River about once a week
more equipment for kids
more to play on for all ages
Much safer for my kids
My child is a monkey-bar acrobat.
My kids are getting too big for tot lot
Newer, cleaner, safer surface- not the terrible woodchips used everywhere in Newton
older children's equipment
other basketball courts, more open space
park on Watertown St just over Newton line- better equipment (How about that at good old Stearns)
playgrounds and parks are more attractive and have greater variety
Please fix up Boyd Park- Thanks.
Pool, water sprinklers, foliage
rubber flooring. Equipment newer & safer
Safety
soccer games
Soft ground in play area
sprinkler parks in Waltham and Watertown
Tennis
Tennis courts
The condition of Carr School is a disgrace.
The park on Watertown St was well rehabbed.
Water facilities
Also, in summer, fountains or water showers are available.
great equipment for toddlers & school age children
More age equipment to choose from
more children at site which daughter prefers
Newer, better- ground is rubberized, cleaner
newer, sponge ground
soft ruberr padding (as opposed to wood chips)
Some newer equipment. Nicer people & better behavior. Stearns Park needs more security- has more teen problems
The soccer net is too close to my house and the ball hits my house- it should be moved.

Sections 3 & 4- Qualitative

When we have little children visit, we go to the Horace Mann playground. It would be great to have that sort of facilities here.
--

Section 4: Improvement Ideas

What equipment and/or activities do you consider to be working well that need little or no improvement?

Basketball, baseball and children's play areas
Children's equipment
Children's swings
Don't use either park
Everything in each park needs some improvement
I like the basketball court at Stearns
infant swings & tot lot
Jungle gym
Pass by Stearns everyday. Seems well attended.
Play area
Play structures
Playground
playground
Playground equipment
Preschool equipment
Soccer games, high school games, playground
Some of my children went to Stearns School when it was used.
Sometimes I want to rake the leaves.
Swings
swings, benches
Swings, play structures
Tennis & benches in upper section of Stearns and baseball in lower section
Tennis nets at Pellegrini
The playground equipment is in good condition
The tot lot is adequate but more interesting equipment and better fencing would be a great help.
Tot lot
Tot lot swings work well with the kids.
Playground area

What equipment and/or activities are NOT working well that need improvement? What suggestions do you have for improvement?

More swings & bigger kid playground equipment
Stearns- needs work- fix equipment. Sewer problems at Pellegrini- rain backs up into the gym. Toilets overflow- needs work.
Surface Areas
Tennis & children's equipment
Equipment at Pellegrini could use updating although the children do love it. I would like to see different ground cover- not bark mulch/wood chips. Would like to see a softer mat type of ground cover.
Pellegrini could use a better or full basketball court. The one hoop they have gets a lot of use and the pavement is in bad condition.
New swings
Ball fields, lighting
Parks are for children, need more for youngsters age 2-9. Don't let any vehicles, cars, trucks park or ride on grassy areas.
Swimming pool

Sections 3 & 4- Qualitative

The play lot at Pellegrini is not safe for tots. I bring my kids there a lot but only let them use the swings- not the play yard.
Swings
Nothing
Wading pool. If you can't use it for children, put a fountain on it for a relaxing spot
Stearns: basketball court is old; tot lot is so-so; everything else needs improvement. Pellegrini: field is kept up due to league play; gym is old, rundown & bathrooms. Both parks: water bubblers do not work, please fix.
Mulch chips are terrible. They get into sandals and toddlers put into mouths. Not clean. Many times I have found broken beer bottles in the mulch chips and near swings. Parks should be kept clean weekly.
Stearns: Water fountain needs work- also the sun roof. The softball/baseball field needs to be leveled. The field has too many bumps that cause the ball to take odd hops. Also kids running could twist an ankle.
Stearns needs more teen control. More equipment for 7+ kids. Teen baseball becomes dangerous to smaller kids and adults. No mopeds- minimotorcycles. Better traffic control- i.e. stop people from racing down Jasset St at 50+mph. More patrolling and/or
The tennis courts at Stearns is a joke- no one uses it. It is a waste.
Some of the lights at Stearns Park are out along the walking path. The bulbs need to be replaced. Tennis courts need to be better cleaned
The Pellegrini field is in terrible shape. It is beaten down, grass is terrible. But as long as it is ruined every year by the carnival, any money the City puts into it will be wasted. The carnival should pay to have the field restored every year. I c
infant pool never has water or is accessible to children
Stearns needs more toddler activities in addition to preschool equipment. Safety harnesses needed on all swings
See-saw (needs to be raised up to right level)
Dog droppings- the signs do not work
Better grass, better kept tennis court. Better lighting at night in field.
Swings have ruts under them
Playground area, tennis court & gate
The sprinkler pool at Pellegrini looks dangerous and I've never seen it on.
Softball field
Tennis courts at Stearns need remodeling
New to neighborhood- don't use parks
New grass, trash receptacles
Some playground equipment could be changed or updated
Activities for seniors- arts, crafts, exercising- these were cut for this area. The gym needs improvements.
Stearns Park needs new overhang by tables- rusty! Pellegrini needs pool area to be closed in- dangerous for little ones.
I'm not sure, but you should check.
toilet facilities- people will use the bushes
Keep clean
Gate on tot lot needs to be repaired. Baseball field needs improvement badly. Sun roof needs repair
Cleanliness of park & maintenance of equipment.
Lighting- need additional lighting at top of park
Tennis courts at Stearns
Tennis courts in Stearns Park desparately need repaving. The roof of the covered seating area needs replacement. One basketball rim needs to be replaced.

Sections 3 & 4- Qualitative

At Stearns, need more picnic benches & trash barrels, more lighting for evening
Swings need updating and we could use additional swings. Additional items for small children ages 1-3.
New structures, new sponge ground, more challenging structures for 6-8 yr olds
The tennis courts need to be taken care of and free of pet poop, debris, etc. The seat & tables need TLC.
Basketball used sometimes until 11pm-2am. Very annoying for Jasset St residents. Residents must often close windows to drown out basketballs.
Complete new play equipment appropriate for toddlers. More frequent cleaning and litter removal. Lots of glass shards can be found in grassy areas.
Just needs to be cleaner
Tennis courts need much improvement
Too much dust
More playground equipment for both parks, sandboxes
Redo tennis courts at Stearns
The road needs the holes filled in. They are very dangerous to drive on- which causes problems for everyone

Are there any activities or pieces of equipment that you feel are unused, inappropriate, or redundant and should be removed completely to make room for other things or for more open space?

Basketball court. Forte Park has an exceptional double court with lights, parking & no residential homes.
Chess board at Stearns should be either repaired or removed.
Children's equipment
Equipment should be age appropriate. Equipment should be for small toddlers and older children.
Fenced-in pool- is it ever used?
I think the blue tot lot should be replaced.
No more Elvis Day or carnival that comes in July- they tear up the field
None
None
Nothing
Nothing
Pool at Pellegrini- remove it or at the very least lock gates so children cannot get in there.
Pool never used for children- just sits there.
Remove the carnival- it destroys the park, then the fields could be restored.
splash pool at Pellegrini- if we are not able to use space- it could be used for other equipment
Stearns: No, maybe the sunroof if it is not painted, repaired or replaced.
Tennis courts at Stearns.
The chess/checker tables in Stearns Park are not used and are in ill-repair. Some of the park benches are peeling and splintered and need to be replaced or repaired.
The rocking things don't seem to be used. Another see-saw would be nice. The wood chips are horrible.
The Stearns baseball field used to be used frequently but it is old and rundown now, grass is overgrown, no dirt on infield
Water area should be removed- it's a hazard to small children.

Sections 3 & 4- Qualitative

What else would you like to see added or changed that would make your park experience more enjoyable and would encourage people to use the parks more?

Updated equipment and nice landscaping
A bigger structure like the one at Boyd Park. There is a structure for the younger kids and one for the older kids.
Groom the back area
More senior friendly. Stearns Park has no sanitary facilities. Need bocce alleys.
Updated children's equipment
At Pellegrini- combine the playground with the swings into one fenced-in area. Get rid of the pool.
Stearns is not well maintained. I use this park daily with daycare children. I have to clean up trash every time.
More tables and chairs. A bocce court would be nice.
Beautifying will make them inviting and keep families in our neighborhoods. Grass, flowers, benches, etc. needed at both. More visitors lowers vandalism and destruction.
New flag pole with plantings, Signage re: dog use, information on using parks for family functions/resident use; more seating by tot lot & park
Comfortable benches
More seating areas
More seating, better upkeep of ball fields, better landscape
A safe structure for children to run, slide down and play on, for young children. I would like to see Pellegrini more "tot" friendly. There are a lot of little ones in the area who would use it more if it was safe.
Have games you can play indoors- not just basketball.
Water activities
Pellegrini basketball court should not be in parking lot. Play structure for older kids (11-18). Monkey bars. More swings. More pavement for biking, rollerblading, etc.
It would be nice to see the children's area have the cushion ground put on versus the wood chips.
More sitting
I wish it had an outdoor track for walking or jogging. This would attract older neighbors.
Better or improved tennis courts
Working water bubblers at all parks, especially for those hot humid days! Please check the water content also.
Clean & safe equipment
Stearns: Fix the ball field at Stearns Park! Could be a great softball field. Nice place to watch a game. Field needs improvement. Paint the backstop.
Concerts- live music at Magni Coletti
Better maintenance.
Some landscaping, planting of flowers would make it more attractive. Some flower beds.
Parks should all be more dog friendly. More trash containers are needed, especially on the Newton side of the Charles River Reservation. One of the things I love most about Newton is all the parks!
When our children were little, we would go to the park a lot, like once a week, although the facilities were very limited. We helped build the Horace Mann playground and a facility like that would be very nice here.
More picnic spaces and activities that we could bring our kids /grandkids to- like readings or puppet shows

Sections 3 & 4- Qualitative

Fill the concrete pool with sand at Pellegrini- would make great play area. Need more benches for seniors.
More trees & less concrete or crushed rock, more grass.
In Pellegrini, a track would be great. Just something paved around the park.
playground cleanup, dog dumping cleanup, add bike trail
Pellegrini needs benches inside tot lot. The wood chips need to be replenished or replaced with rubberized flooring. The wading pool needs to be redone and used or just taken out.
Place for skateboarding. More basketball hoops
Better landscaping, cleanliness and improved picnic facilities
Better lighting
I believe the space for the child wade pool could be changed into a water spray park similar to the parks that have been constructed in Waltham
Walking around the park
Infant seats for swing. Infant toys.
I'd like to see the ending of the meetings/discussion every single year on the carnival at Pellegrini. It's only once a year- for the ones opposed- let them go away on vacation or something!
It's a lovely park and my late father-in-law, who came to Newton in 1903, told me old man Stearns left the money for school and playground. My kids went to school there so did their late Father Robert Tocci.
More climbing structures & slides. More benches for parents. A better water fountain.
It's nice now, too residential to expand services much more
benches to sit on to watch soccer games
Keep lit and open longer
Removing the wood-like chips on play lot and adding a padded surface which some parks have. How about that in Nonantum?
Have grounds maintained better. Newton parks in other areas are much better maintained
Updated equipment, rubber surface, water park
All of the walkways need to be repaved and the dirt pathway by the baseball field needs to be paved.
A few tables and benches. Some evening lighting
sprinkler park please
Work out gear- for step ups, chin ups and the like. Moms can get a workout while the kids play. The Pellegrini Fieldhouse needs staff to run events and activities.
More police patrol. Teen gangs converge in the warm months and deter others from going into playground (especially in evenings).
More picnic tables. Nicer trash receptacles. Sponge/rubber surface beneath play equipment
More park benches
There is a pile of old wood, plastic tubs, old hoses, etc along the back fence of Stearns. Despite calls, this pile of trash has never been removed.

Section 4

Section 4: Improvement Ideas

For each of the parks, please choose the items that need the most improvement: (choose 3)

Stearns Park

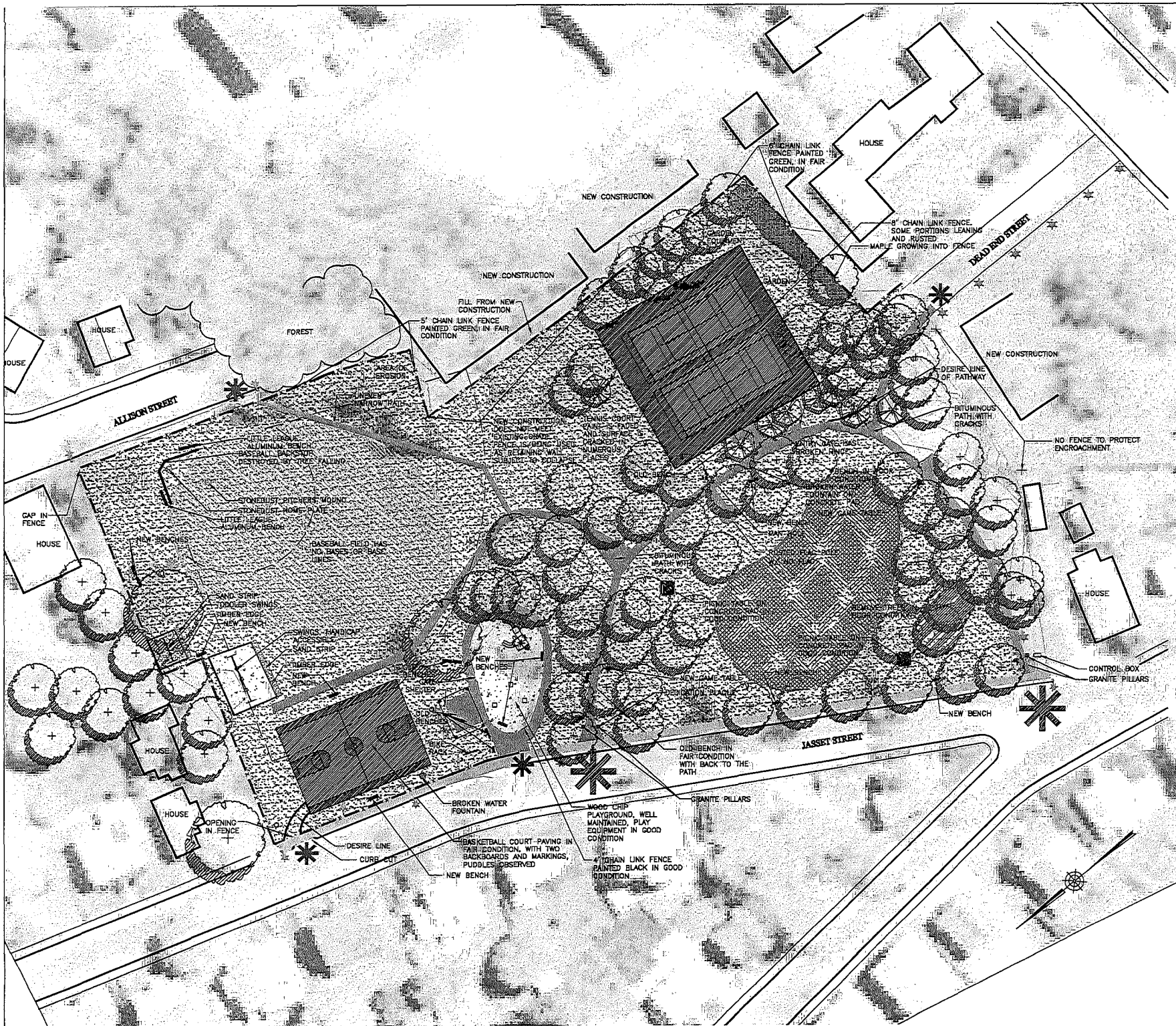
Accessibility:	11	6.4%
Courts:	14	8.1%
Landscaping & Beautification	45	26.0%
Parking/Bike Facilities	6	3.5%
Playfields: baseball, etc.	18	10.4%
Playgrounds:	23	13.3%
Security:	22	12.7%
Site Equipment:	8	4.6%
User Equipment:	26	15.0%

173

Pellegrini Park

Accessibility:	10	5.2%
Courts:	13	6.7%
Fieldhouse/Gymnasium	12	6.2%
Landscaping & Beautification	43	22.2%
Parking/Bike Facilities	7	3.6%
Playfields: baseball, etc.	21	10.8%
Playgrounds:	28	14.4%
Security:	20	10.3%
Site Equipment:	5	2.6%
User Equipment:	35	18.0%


194

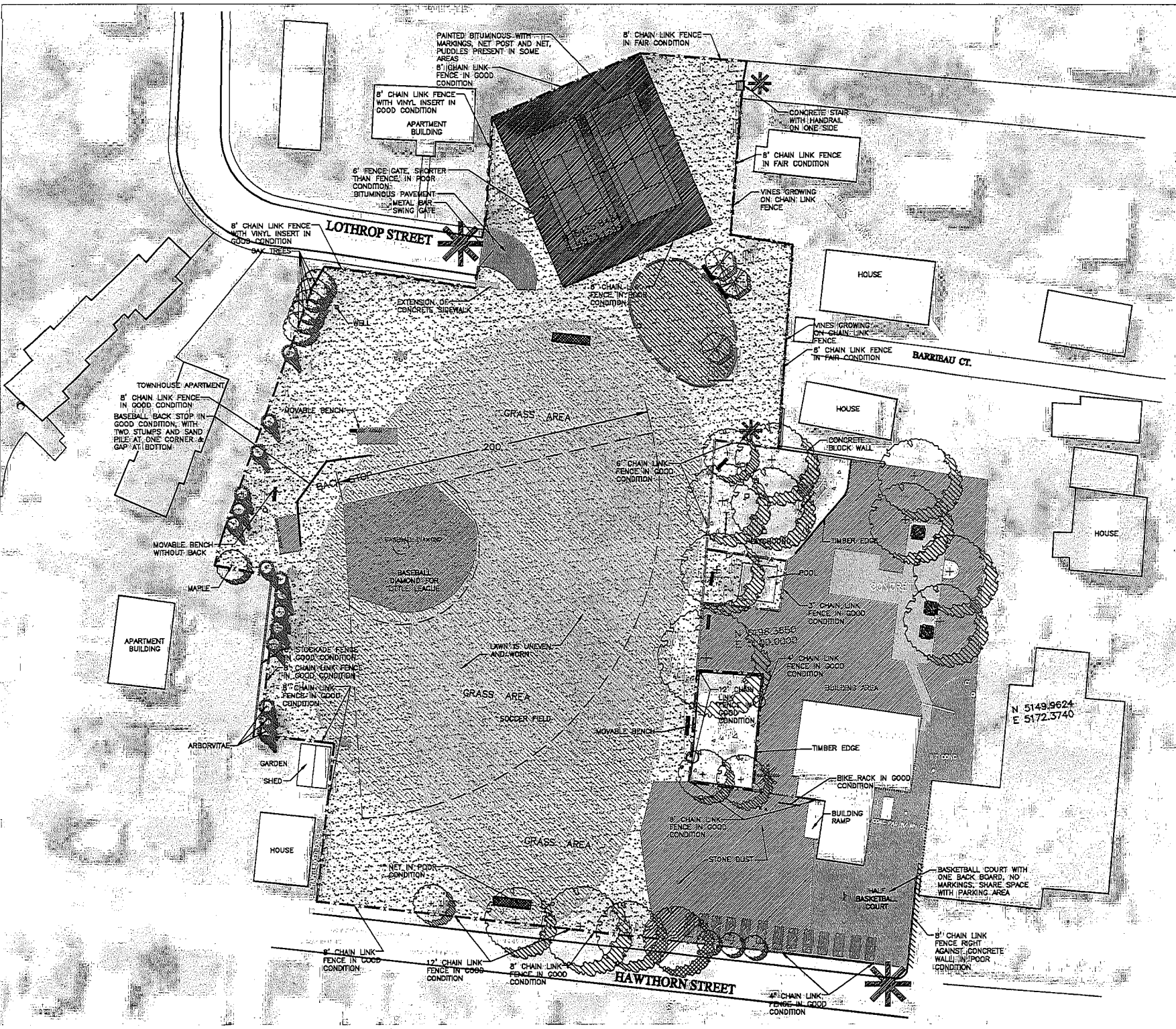


LEGEND


























-  LAWN
-  CONCRETE PAVEMENT
-  BITUMINOUS CONCRETE PAVEMENT
-  STONE DUST
-  SAND
-  WOOD CHIP
-  CHAIN LINK FENCE
-  BENCH IN POOR CONDITION
-  BENCH
-  GAME TABLE
-  PICNIC TABLE
-  WATER FOUNTAIN
-  SWING
-  OIL DRUM TRASH RECEPTACLE
-  BIKE RACK
-  BASKETBALL BACKBOARD
-  ENTRY SIGN & PILLAR
-  FLOOD LIGHT
-  STREET LIGHT
-  PATH LIGHT
-  MAJOR ENTRANCE
-  SECONDARY ENTRANCE
-  ACTIVE LAWN AREA
-  PASSIVE LAWN AREA
-  DECIDUOUS TREE
-  DECIDUOUS TREE IN POOR CONDITION
-  FLOWERING TREE

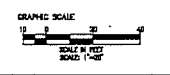
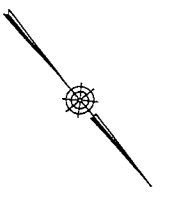



STEARNS PARK
SCALE AS NOTED MAY 14, 2000



LEGEND

-  LAWN
-  CONCRETE PAVEMENT
-  BITUMINOUS CONCRETE PAVEMENT
-  STONE DUST
-  CHAIN LINK FENCE
- 8" CHAIN LINK FENCE WITH VINYL INSERT
-  STOCKADE FENCE
-  ALUMINUM BENCH
-  PICNIC TABLE
-  SWING
-  OIL DRUM TRASH RECEPTACLE
-  BIKE RACK
-  BOLLARD
-  BASKETBALL BACKBOARD
-  SOCCER NET
-  FLOOD LIGHT
-  PENDENT LIGHT
-  MAJOR ENTRANCE
-  SECONDARY ENTRANCE
-  ACTIVE LAWN AREA
-  PASSIVE LAWN AREA
-  DECIDUOUS TREE
-  DECIDUOUS TREE IN POOR CONDITION
-  FLOWERING TREE
-  EVERGREEN
-  PARKING AREA



PELEGRINI PARK

SCALE AS NOTED MAY 18, 2005

Stearns & Pellegrini Parks Planning Meeting #1

Monday, May 16, 2005

6:30pm

Pellegrini Gymnasium, Hawthorn Street

City of Newton staff welcomed over 20 residents to the first of several park planning meetings and explained the intent of the master planning process. The Nonantum Advisory Committee, a resident-based group that provides guidance for the expenditure of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds in Nonantum, recommended that a comprehensive look be taken at the two main neighborhood parks in order to first establish a vision for each park and then work toward reaching that goal. The CDBG Program has been investing funds in Nonantum for over 30 years however many of the projects have simply addressed small isolated issues, particularly in the parks. This piece-meal approach has contributed to dissatisfaction by the residents and has left many unfulfilled recreational needs. The aim of this planning effort is to develop a plan that maximizes the recreational opportunities, minimizes any redundancies, and increases park user ship and satisfaction levels. Once the vision is created, it will be used to leverage the needed public and private dollars to execute the plans for both parks.

Staff relayed some of the results of the questionnaire. 127 of approximately 1450 surveys were received, about a 9% response rate (a 5% response rate is considered good so 9% is very positive). It was reported that the top three areas that need the most improvement at both parks are Landscaping and Beautification, Playground Equipment, and better Park User Equipment (such as benches, bubblers, picnic tables, etc.). The questionnaire responses were very useful in understanding the important issues at each park.

Staff then introduced Marion Pressley and Jay Emperor of Pressley Associates, Inc. who led the meeting by listing the current conditions of the park and took comments and suggestions from the residents.

STEARNS PARK COMMENTS

- Many area residents play at Casey Park in Watertown on Watertown Street. It is a good example of an ideal playground and ball field- has better safety surfacing, etc.
- Need to connect to the walkway next to the new senior housing and address the bad fencing, as parts of the fencing are inappropriately used as a retaining wall. The site has many entries all of which need study and improvement. The Stearns Place access is lighted to Watertown Street. Although the park has pedestrian lights, a desire to add more lighting in the park was also mentioned.
- There used to be a stairwell at the end of Los Angeles and Allison Streets- now the area is a mess.
- An area has been used for gardening in the past and the area is now derelict. Debris and garden equipment has been left in one area. The need to clean up/remove the debris and abandoned equipment was expressed.
- Address the damaged game table and consider a general upgrade of site furniture.
- Playground equipment needs more age diversity; especially for ages 7-11- should be more challenging. In the past, there used to be more things and games to play.
- Basketball can be a noise nuisance after dark- needs better police enforcement since all parks close at dusk. Basketball is good for teens and is used. Also need to encourage more play at Forte Park where it is more private.

- Tennis courts are used and wanted but need to be rehabilitated. They are occasionally misused as people close the gate and let their dogs run around- maybe remove gate? Sometimes other people, both children and adults, use the courts for different activities like hockey and batting practice. The courts are also used for tennis.
-
- The playground equipment and the wood chips are not accessible. Some of the swings are missing the safety straps. Equipment needs general upgrade. New equipment should be accessible and the safety surfacing should be the flat, rubber style. It has been witnessed that people have stolen the wood chips for their own private purposes.
- One difficulty about this park is the passive sloped sections, which make it difficult to use for new uses or to relocate existing uses such as basketball or playgrounds, which require level areas-, might need to think about taking out something to accommodate or expand another use or relocating some of the current uses.
-
- Grass is in poor shape and there is no definition of the infield. The field is used and one neighbor said he played on it as a child and he hoped it would remain. The area of the field, however, does not allow for a full field and balls are hit into the play area and the two swing areas. It was also mentioned that the field might be appropriate for wiffleball league play. This last week a large tree came down and took-out the backstop.
- Overall trees are in good shape and provide a lot of shade- some minor pruning could be done to open up the areas and allow more light in to these passive areas. But if more room is needed, might want to selectively remove some trees for a new use or expand an existing use.
- It was mentioned that the police do drive on the walkways when responding to a call, so the width of the walks and the quality of the pavement need to be considered
- There is a good example of a little league field in Watertown if you follow Bridge Street to the end- fence has an orange top and defines the space well.
- The lunch crowd often leaves a big mess. Need more trash receptacles or need to empty them more often.
- Parking is a concern here. There are three spots on Stearns Place at the top of the hill that aren't well marked anymore. The remainder of parking is on the street. The streets get very crowded. Some possible parking locations are at the end of Allison Street on the private vacant lot or taking some of the parkland and indenting the side of the park to allow for limited angled parking.
- Someone thought that the Stearns will have special restrictions on the park but staff has not been able to find this information.
- Overall the fencing around the park is in poor condition and one perimeter area has no fencing.

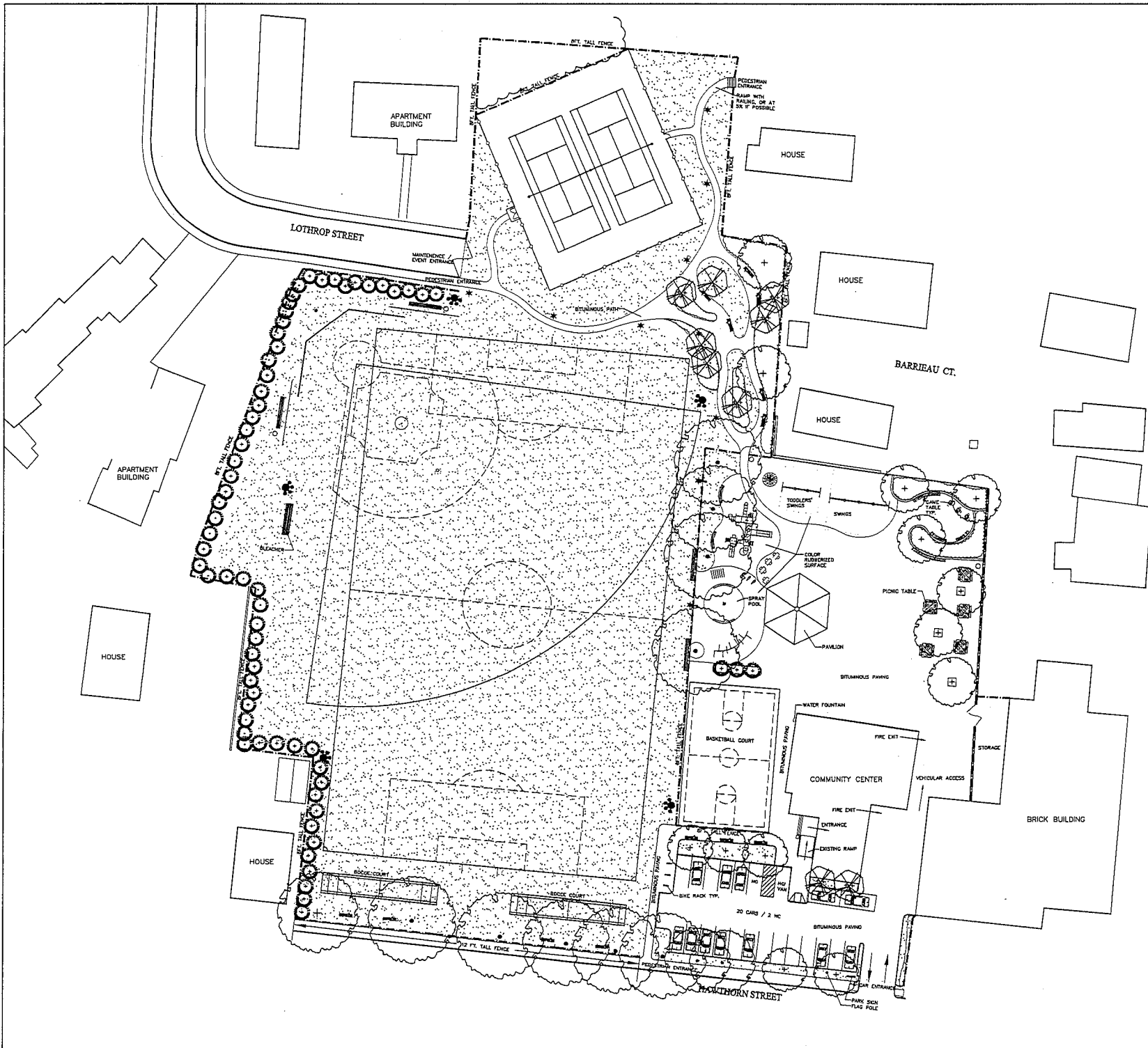
PELLEGRINI PARK COMMENTS

- The majority of this park is active recreation in the form of field sports. The soccer and softball fields overlap. It is believed that baseball is not permitted- only softball and little league.
- The tennis courts are in decent condition, but the fence around it is in poor shape. They are used. There is only a small passive recreation area near the tennis courts.
- Overall the fencing around the park is in good-fair condition.

- The fence in the playground area is not consistent in height and not tall enough in some sections to control soccer balls and baseballs.
- The playground has old equipment and the wood chip safety surfacing- the residents would like the rubberized safety surfacing. The playground is used by area daycares frequently.
- The stonedust portion of the parking lot should be paved in bituminous concrete and line painted. The lot should be defined with curbing so that people cannot go onto to the fields.
- The residents thought that outdoor basketball is important, but finding a separate location for it that is not on the parking lot is going to be a challenge. One option is to move it behind the building, but it is not very visible there.
- It was suggested to construct an overhead pavilion next to the building to provide shade and shelter during concerts, events, cookouts, etc. as had existed in the past.
- Shade is needed in the open area by the building and playground- more trees?
- Remove pool in exchange for a water play section like in Waltham.
- It was questioned if the drinking water ever gets tested.
- More games are needed for the teens, e.g. game tables, etc.
- Bocce is played in the inner court area, but it is not designated.
- When planning for new or relocated activities, it is important to be mindful of the abutters.
- Update the boiler, bathroom fixtures, and community room in the Field house.

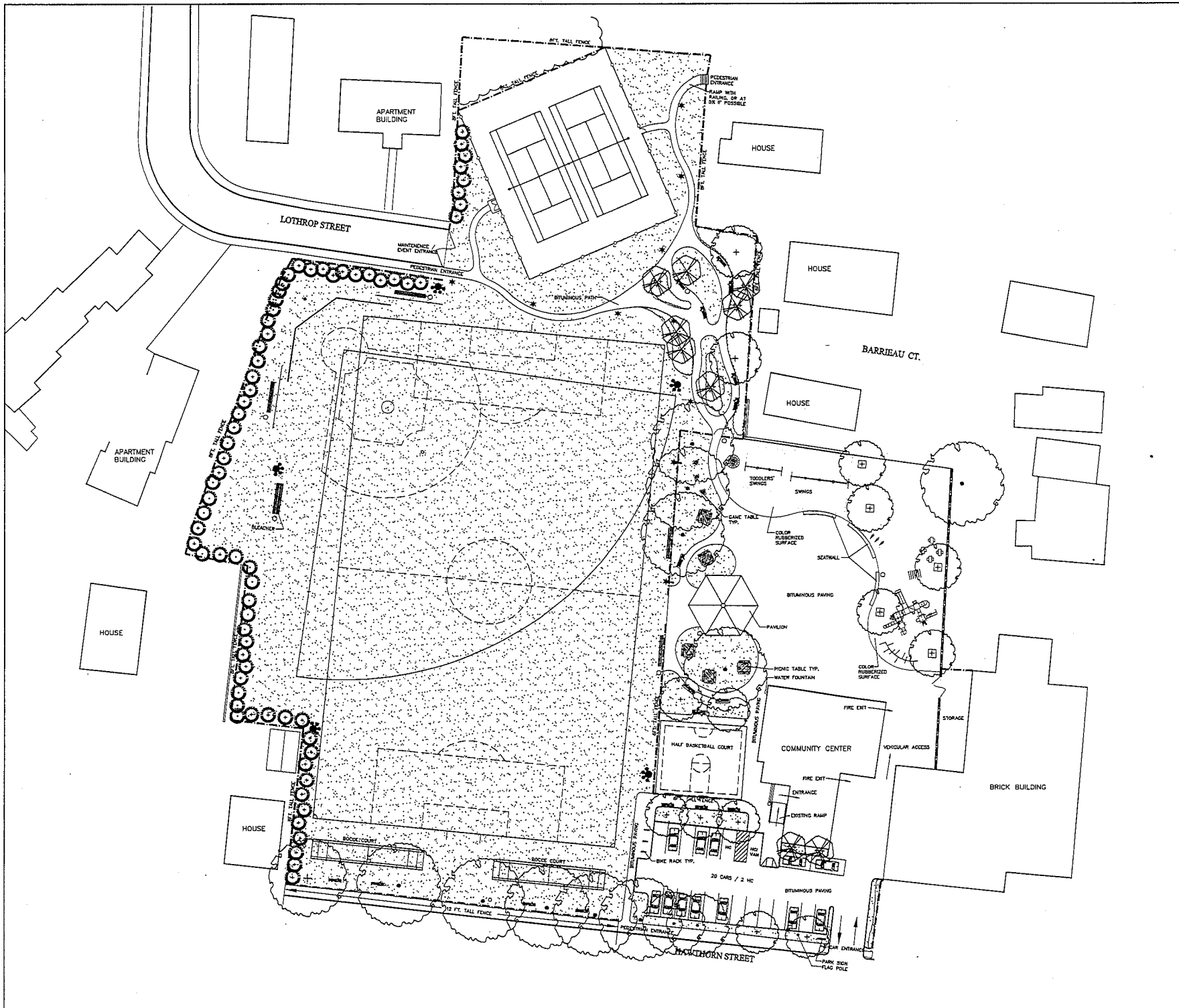
The next meeting is a design workshop on Thursday, June 2, at 6:30pm and the third meeting will be Wednesday, June 22 at 6:30pm. Notices will be mailed shortly.

Improvements to
Pellegrini Park
 Newton, Massachusetts
 June 22, 2005



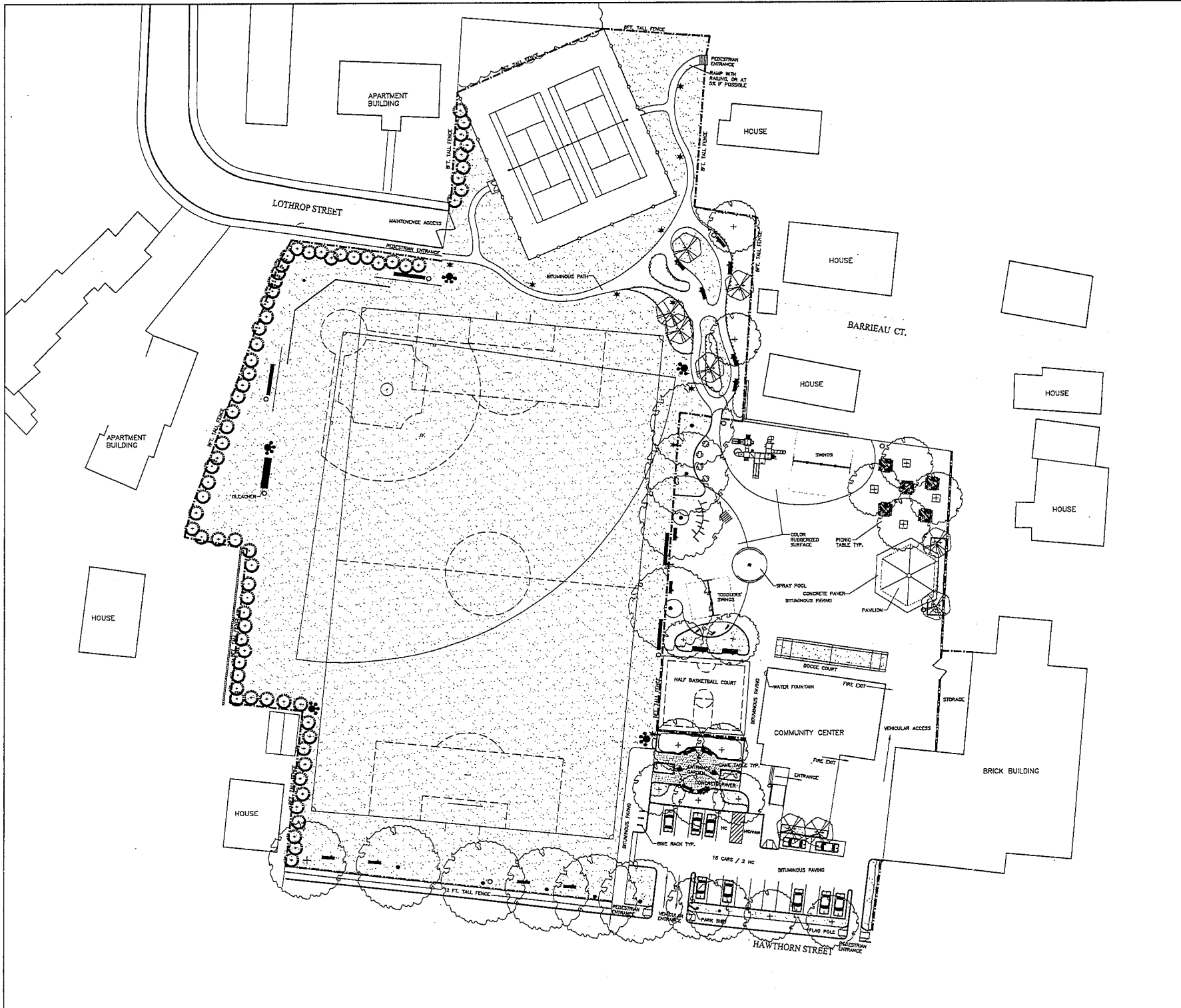
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Option B



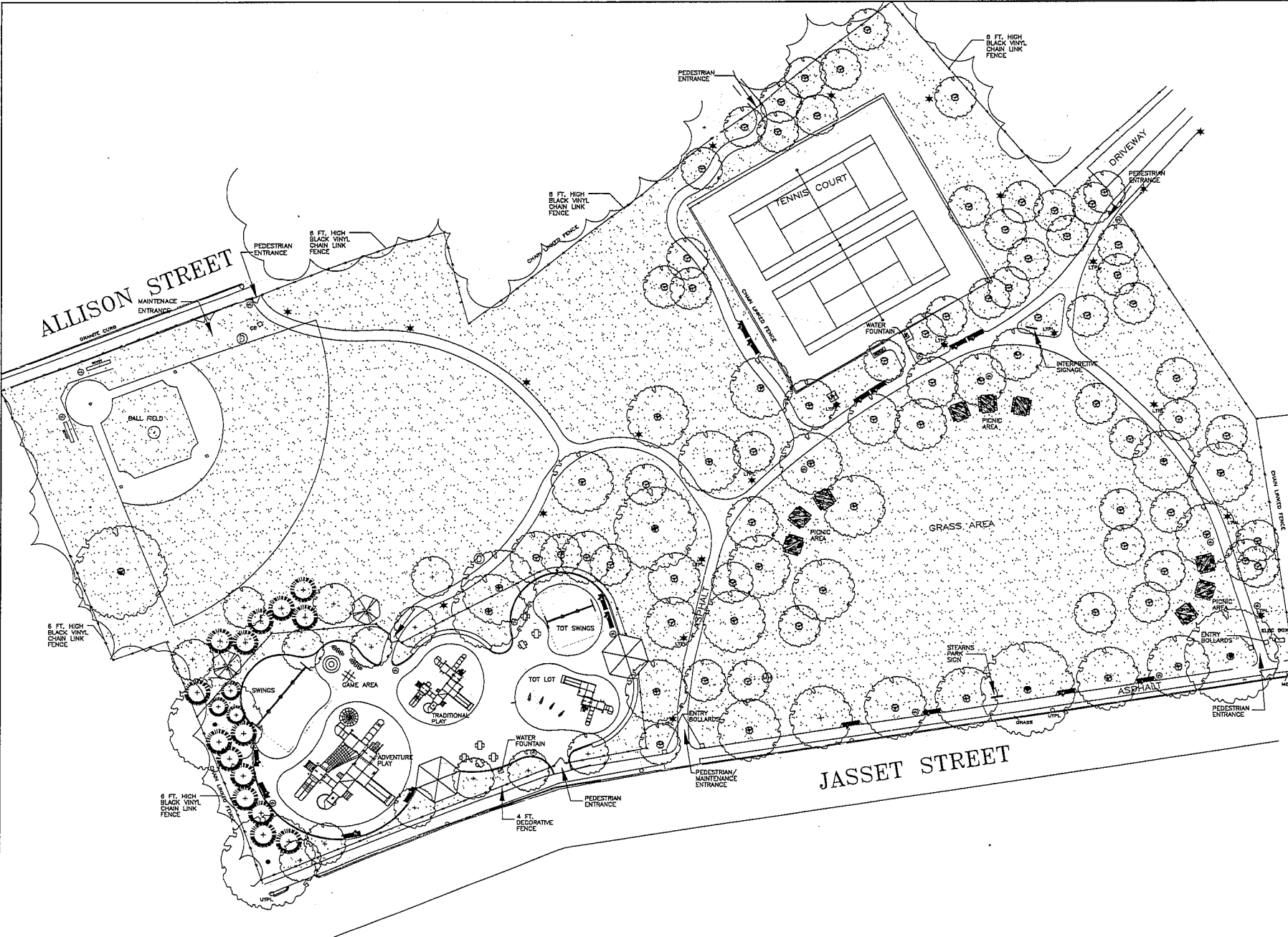
Improvements to
Pellegrini Park
Newton, Massachusetts
June 22, 2005

DRAWING TITLE:	
SCALE: 1"=20'	NORTH
DATE: June 22, 2005	
DRAWING NUMBER:	
Option C	




Improvements to
Pellegrini Park
Newton, Massachusetts
June 16, 2005

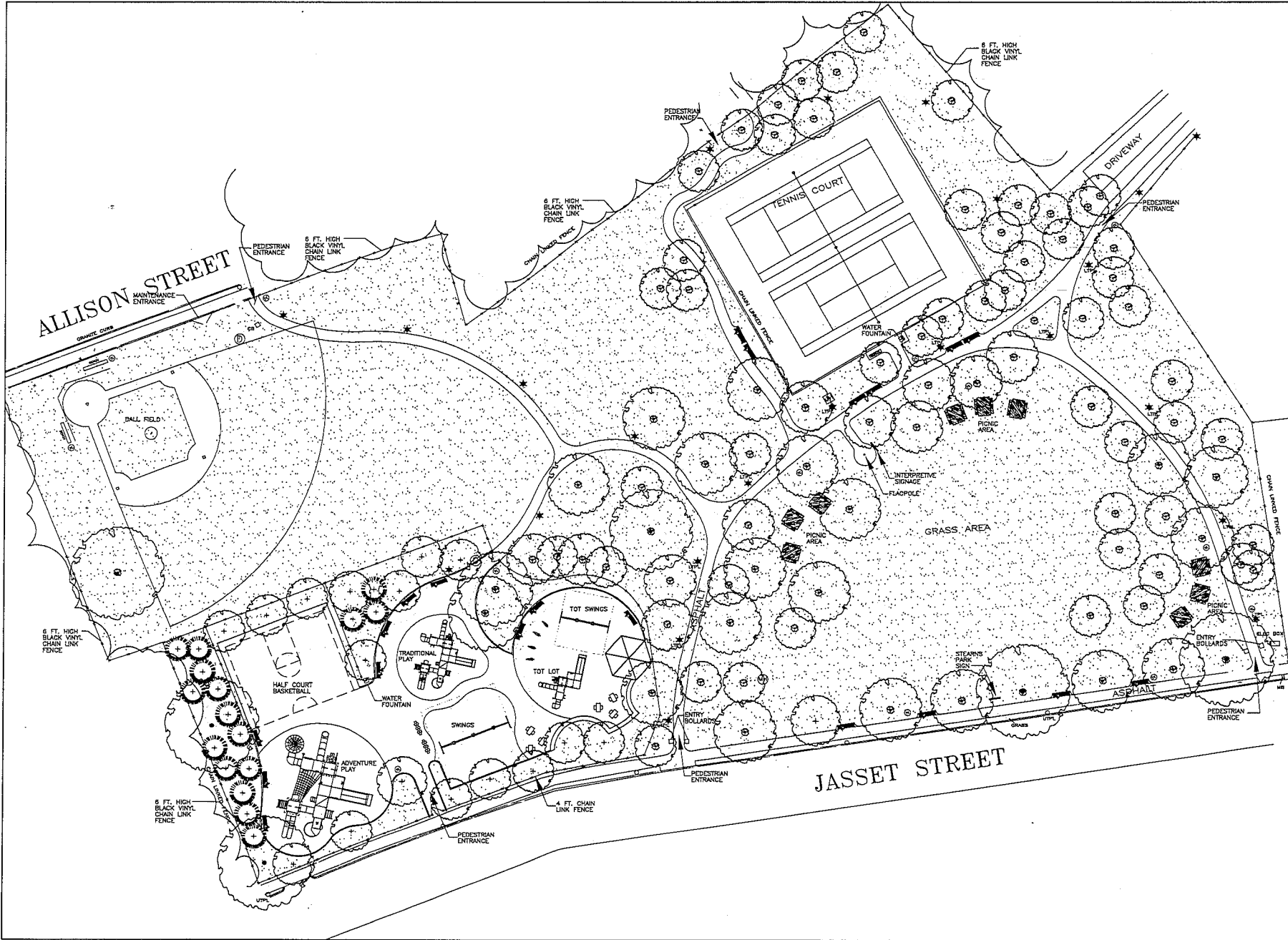
DRAWING TITLE	
SCALE	1" = 10'
DATE	June 16, 2005
DRAWING NUMBER	
Option D	



Improvements to
Stearns Park
Newton, Massachusetts
June 22, 2005

DRAWING TITLE		NORTH 
SCALE	1"=30'	
DATE	June 22, 2005	
DRAWING NUMBER		

Option A



Improvements to
Stearns Park
Newton, Massachusetts
June 22, 2005

DRAWING TITLE

SCALE: 1"=20'
DATE: June 22, 2005

DRAWING NUMBER



Option B

Stearns & Pellegrini Parks Planning Meeting #2
Thursday, June 2, 2005
6:30pm
Pellegrini Gymnasium, Hawthorn Street

Many residents reconvened to further plan the future of Stearns Park and Pellegrini Park. Site visits were done in each park prior to the meetings to aid in the planning effort. Residents were asked to divide into two groups, one dealing with Stearns Park and the other with Pellegrini Park. Attendees were shown scaled maps of the parks and given scaled templates of various uses, such as basketball courts, little league fields, and typical playground spaces. The point of the exercise was to show that in finite areas, only so many uses can exist. For example, if one new use were to be added, then another use might need to be removed. The groups were also able to peruse through catalogs of park equipment to see the range of equipment available.

Marion Pressley of Pressley Associates, Inc. led the Pellegrini Park small group, aided by Hongfei Chen of Pressley Associates, Inc. and Amy Yuhasz of the City of Newton. Jay Emperor of Pressley Associates, Inc. led the Stearns Park team, aided by Danielle Bailey of the City of Newton. Parks and Recreation Department representatives were Tom Cahill and Carol Schein.

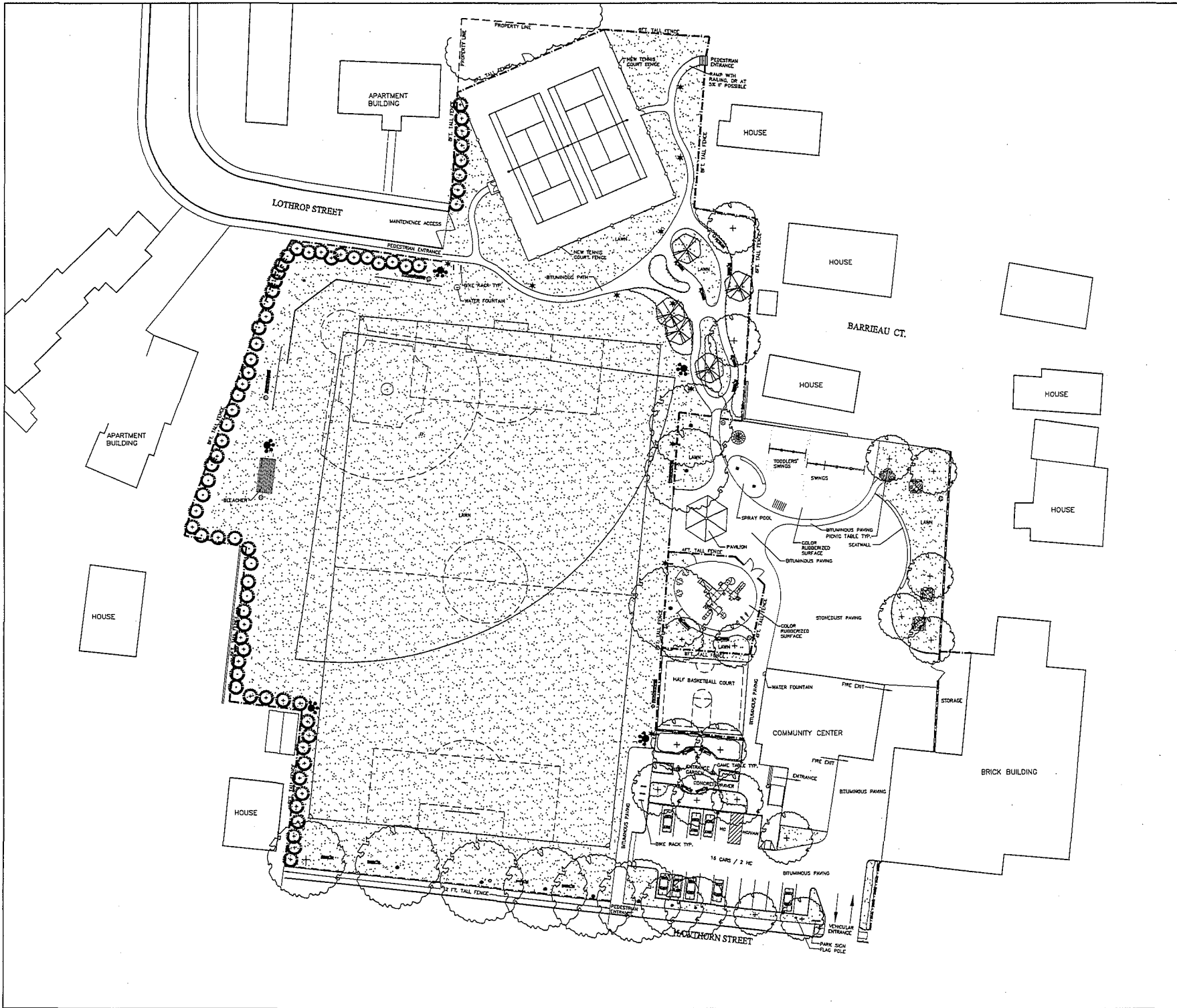
STEARNS PARK COMMENTS

- The current ball field is undersized according to regulations. A regulation little league was significantly larger and would encroach upon the current location of the playground and basketball court. Tom Cahill of Parks and Recreation stated that undersized field can still be considered playable. The residents were supportive of keeping the field where it is and at the same size. Keeping the field small encourages more use by children and youth, though an adult wiffleball league may want to use the space. The ball field location was experimented with, especially because of the evening sun but no other position was more advantageous. The ball field should be restored and a new backstop installed.
- The residents valued the open space in the upper section of the park and did not want to place any uses in it, other than passive activities such as picnic tables and benches.
- The group would like an expanded and consolidated play area. The new play area should have the rubberized safety surfacing and be defined with a combination of fencing, berming and landscaping/shrubs. The berming and landscaping should consider safety as the play areas are close to the street. Additionally, the play area and equipment should be accessible. The new equipment should be interesting, diverse, and challenging to younger and older children. Seating should surround the play area. Some shaded sections are very important, both for seating and for the playground. The existing shade shelter is in poor shape and kids can climb on top of it. One possible solution is to use canvas canopies, as seen in the patio of the new senior apartment. The drinking fountain should be replaced- it does not work.

- The trees in the park are great but pruning and removal of dead branches are needed, especially around walkway near playground.
- Because the group did not want to get rid of the tennis courts, the ball field, and the open space, and desired to expand play area, there is not enough room to keep the basketball court. The group tried many different locations but none were ideal. There are a couple basketball courts, literally down the street in Forte Park. These courts are in good shape but are underutilized. Also, Pellegrini Park and Boyd Park will have basketball.
- Both sets of swings should be removed and relocated (or be replaced with new equipment) to the area where the basketball court is now located. Relocating the swings is wise because it is currently in the way of the ball field.
- All pathways should be replaced and made handicapped accessible, where possible. A new pathway should be installed around to connect to the Nonantum Village Place/Lafayette Green walkway. A better pathway needs to be created that leads to Alison Street.
- The pathway lighting should be continued along each part of the walkway, where possible. The athletic lighting should be removed.
- The group would like more and upgraded (more attractive) trash receptacles. Currently, there are too few receptacles and too far between. The lunch crowd generates a lot of trash.
- The residents would like more picnic benches, with a few tables in each cluster. The wooden benches must all be replaced with a better, more durable bench.
- Replace the border fencing with new fencing.
- Re-stripe front parking spots on Stearns Place. Landscape Watertown Street entrance to make more attractive and inviting. General clean up of this area.
- Need park signage that explains park rules, including park closing at dusk and dog rules.

PELLEGRINI PARK COMMENTS

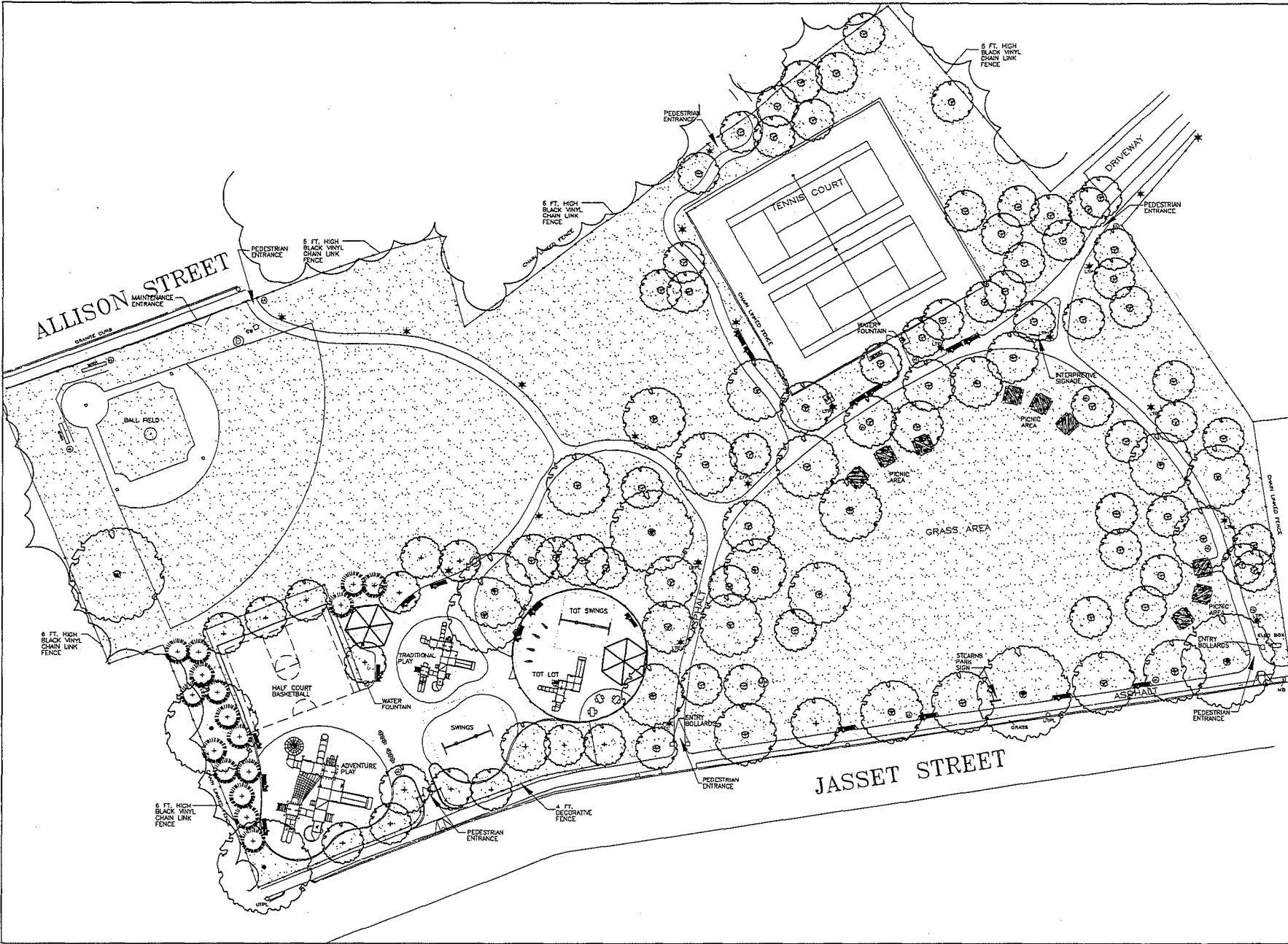
- There is no path from Lothrop Street to the play areas. Residents entering the park through this entrance have to walk across the grass.
- Dog owners often do not clean-up after their dogs and leave it lying on the play fields where people playing sports may walk in it/fall in it. It was suggested that dog sleeves (special trash bags) and a designated barrel be installed.
- Many people spoke in favor of a water play area. The park on Newton Street in Waltham was mentioned as an example of a nice one.
- The paved space in the back of the building should be kept versatile so that it may be used for a variety of activities.
- Several people spoke in favor of new rubberized play surfacing for the play areas.
- Installation of a covered storage area was suggested. It was pointed out that there is a storage area on the north side of the building, but it is not covered.
- It was suggested that a canopy or other covering/shelter be installed for part of the paved area to offer shade during the summer and protection from the rain. It was suggested that a portable shelter be installed so it could be moved around/taken down depending on the need for it at the time.
- Bleachers are needed for the play fields. Right now there is no place for spectators to sit.
- More picnic tables are needed.
- Accessibility is needed throughout the park.



Improvements to
Pellegrini Park
Newton, Massachusetts
July 07, 2005

DRAWING TITLE	
SCALE	1"=20'
DATE	July 07, 2005
DRAWING NUMBER	
Revision	





Improvements to
Stearns Park
Newton, Massachusetts
June 22, 2005

DRAWING TITLE:

SCALE: 1"=40'

DATE: JUN 22, 2005

DRAWING NUMBER:

Site Plan

NORTH

Stearns & Pellegrini Parks Planning Meeting #3

Wednesday, June 22, 2005

6:30pm

Pellegrini Gymnasium, Hawthorn Street

Nearly thirty people gathered to review the master plan design options for Stearns Park and Pellegrini Park. The first part of the meeting was an overview of each of the schemes (2 plans for Stearns, 3 for Pellegrini). After generally explaining the plans, based on a series of in-depth resident input, the residents were asked to divide into two groups, one concentrating on Stearns Park and the other on Pellegrini Park, in order to fine tune the details.

Marion Pressley of Pressley Associates, Inc. led the Pellegrini Park small group, aided by Hongfei Chen of Pressley Associates, Inc. and Amy Yuhasz of the City of Newton. Jay Emperor of Pressley Associates, Inc. led the Stearns Park team, aided by Danielle Bailey of the City of Newton. Parks and Recreation Department representatives were Tom Cahill and Carol Schein.

STEARNS PARK COMMENTS

- The residents nearly unanimously supported Option B, the version with the half basketball court. Many noted how they saw the courts used frequently and would like to continue this use but on a smaller scale.
- For the playground section, the attendees would prefer to see concrete instead of bituminous concrete on the non-safety surfacing sections. They believed that the bituminous concrete would be too hot in the summer for kid's play. (Pressley would not advise the use of concrete. It is not a good surface for children playing, which is why you will not find it in playgrounds. Injuries would double and triple, the expansion and control joints are a hazard, and the surface needs to be non-slip (broom finish) so it would also be more likely to injure children's knees and elbows. We have shade structures and major tree planting that will provide shade so the bituminous will not be melting in the heat. If color is the issue the area can have color surfacing as one would have in a tennis court.)
- There was a request that accessible curb cuts be placed on both sides of the street by the park entrances, which will also necessitate crosswalks.
- The group thought that the flag pole should be removed since it would need to be lighted and maintained.
- It would be better if one more shade pavilion could be sited between the basketball court and the traditional playground.
- It was mentioned that there can't be three swings per bay anymore so the revised plan should reflect this. This would mean that either two sets of two would be provided or only one set of two.
- Some of the attendees thought that vines would be a nice touch on the fencing around the little league field, but maintenance of them might be an issue.
- It was suggested that the tot lot should be fenced for safety and control to allow local nursery schools to utilize this area for their charges.
- The ball field should be regraded so that it doesn't pool each spring. It was reported that a family of ducks comes every year.

- One resident requested a connection to, and clean up of the vacant area at the end of Allison Street that connects to the Stop & Shop complex.
- Trash cans should not be moveable.
- Seat wall material should be evaluated for safety near the tot lot. Perhaps seat walls should be eliminated from the tot lot area and only be provided for the older children's play areas.

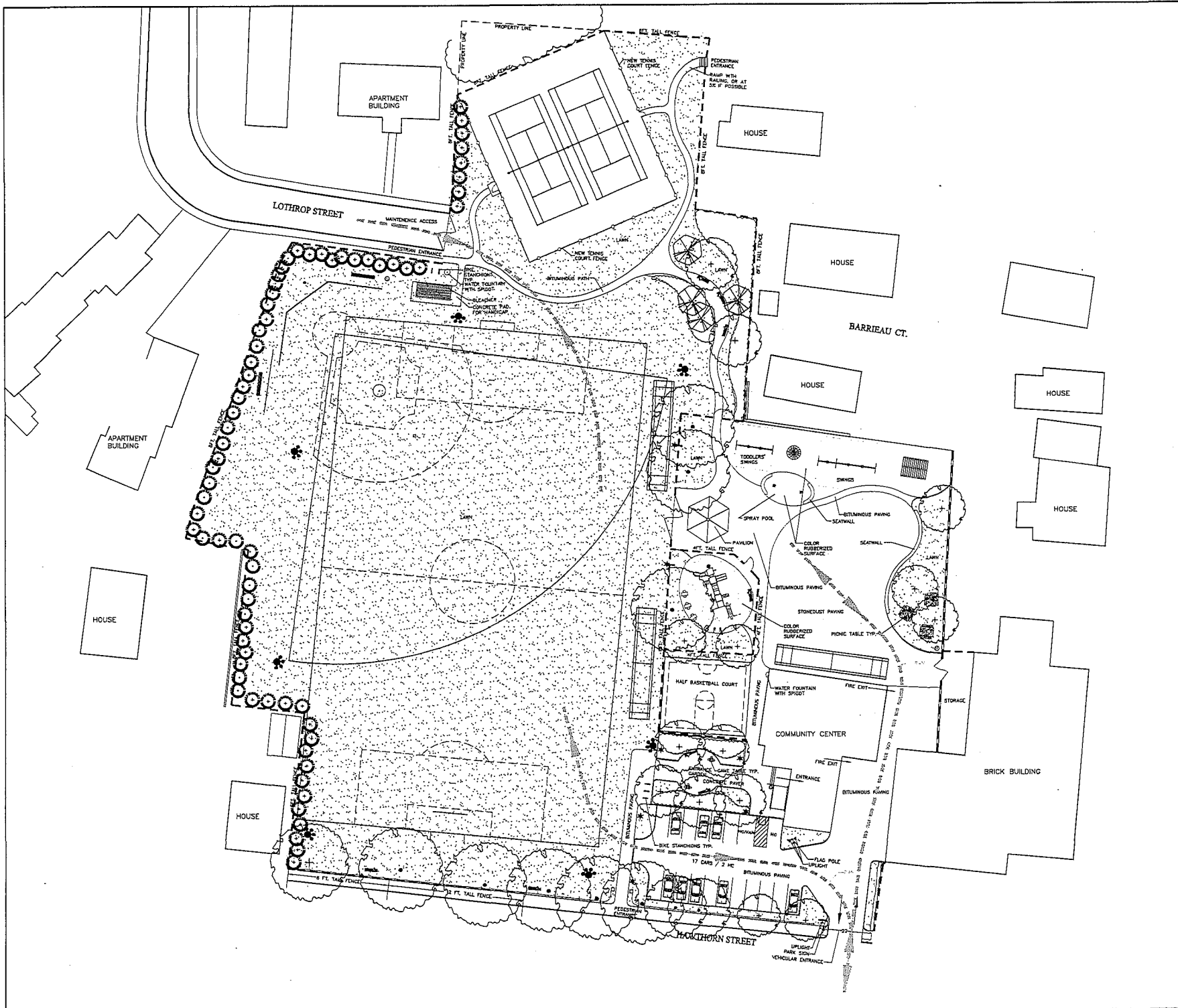
PELLEGRINI PARK COMMENTS

- There should only be one entrance for vehicles along Hawthorn Street. The preferred location for the entrance was the present location, because the neighbor opposite the other proposed location felt that it would impact her driveway.
- We will probably need to remove the three parking spaces closest to the vehicular entrance off of Hawthorn Street and move the traffic island to allow for fire truck access and for the access of large trucks during events such as the carnival. Also the curb along the field may be a problem for event trucks to negotiate over. A temporary ramp may be needed for vehicles to gain access from the parking lot on to the playing fields.
- Bollards should be placed by the pedestrian entrance along Hawthorn Street to keep vehicles including motorcycles from entering that way. A separate pedestrian entrance is needed to allow pedestrians to walk to the building without having to walk through the parking lot. This is a health safety issue.
- The seating areas at the building entry and the proposed work to make the area accessible were good ideas.
- A drinking fountain should be located within easy access of the softball and soccer fields in addition to restoring the fountain mounted on the building.
- There are water drainage issues in the neighborhood and they particularly impact the field area. These issues need to be addressed along with plans for other improvements. The underground utility system is a Department of Public Works issue, which impacts the park as well as the basements of adjacent residences.
- The proposed bocce courts should be eliminated in the area adjacent to the soccer field as well as behind the building. One option is to leave the space behind the building a stonedust surface, with the exception of the walkways and resilient surfacing under the play structures and at the waterplay. Informal bocce can continue to be played there as it is currently if it is stonedust. This however may be an issue for the resilient surfacing, since the stonedust will move to this area and make the surface slippery for the children. The areas would need to be swept on a regular basis to keep the play areas free of stonedust. The stonedust may also be an issue for the waterplay and will be an issue for storm drainage structures, which will fill with stonedust and need to be cleaned out on a regular basis. If curbing is used to separate stonedust from resilient surfaces the area will not be universally accessible.
- The bike racks shown near the playing fields might get in the way of carnival equipment, so they will be relocated to be out of the path of the event trucks. Additional bike racks can be added at the pedestrian entrance at Lothrop Street.
- One neighbor felt that the play structures should be fenced off from the rest of the area so the nursery schools that use the area can insure the safety of their changes.
- The entrance at Lothrop Street should only be used for maintenance and pedestrian access, not event access. The current fencing configuration and the maintenance gate should be rehabilitated as required. The residences in this area are concerned about restricting entry during events and are also concerned about noise from the ballfield

relocation. The screening of this area from their view as well as noise mitigation is desired.

- There are issues with the fumes coming from Clay Chevrolet. This should be considered when deciding where to place play structures, picnic tables, the pavilion etc. This issue has been a major concern for the neighborhood.
- Several people supported a half-court basketball court instead of a full-court. It was also important to separate play structures for children from the basketball court.
- There is an obstructed or crushed pipe under the parking lot in front of the building that should be repaired if that area is repaved. In general upgrading of utilities should be budgeted for along with other improvements. The runoff from the proposed paved parking lot should be prevented from overflowing to the street.
- The location for the pavilion was discussed. It was generally felt that if it could be located adjacent to both the area at the rear of the building and the recreation field that it would provide for greater use. The pavilion is also recommended for multiple usages by combining it with playground as shade structure as well as stage for events.
- The relocation of the ballfield and the resizing of the soccer field and relocation of soccer goals were well received. Buffer plantings and replacement of eight foot height fence and replacement of the entire fence along Hawthorn Street at the soccer field with a twelve foot height fence were also received well. There was also a request for increasing the height of the fence to say fifteen foot height. The area along the parking lot would not be fenced, but a grass median with large shade trees would be maintained.
- Mural maintenance should be considered with other improvements.
- The cap on the back wall (where the Elvis mural is) needs to be replaced.
- The owner of the property adjacent to the green mesh fence needs to landscape the area on his side of the fence as he agreed to when the new wall and fence were being installed. The Parks and Recreation Department will contract the Law Department to pursue the matter.
- The community desires a spray park, but the P&R Dept. lacks the resources to carry the water costs associated with keeping it running. Even the simplest of water features will require some other community funding source be used to cover the yet-to-be-determined yearly water costs.
- Overall, most people present seemed to like the area around the building in, with the inclusion of a spray area, in Option C. They like the playing field improvements as shown in Option D.

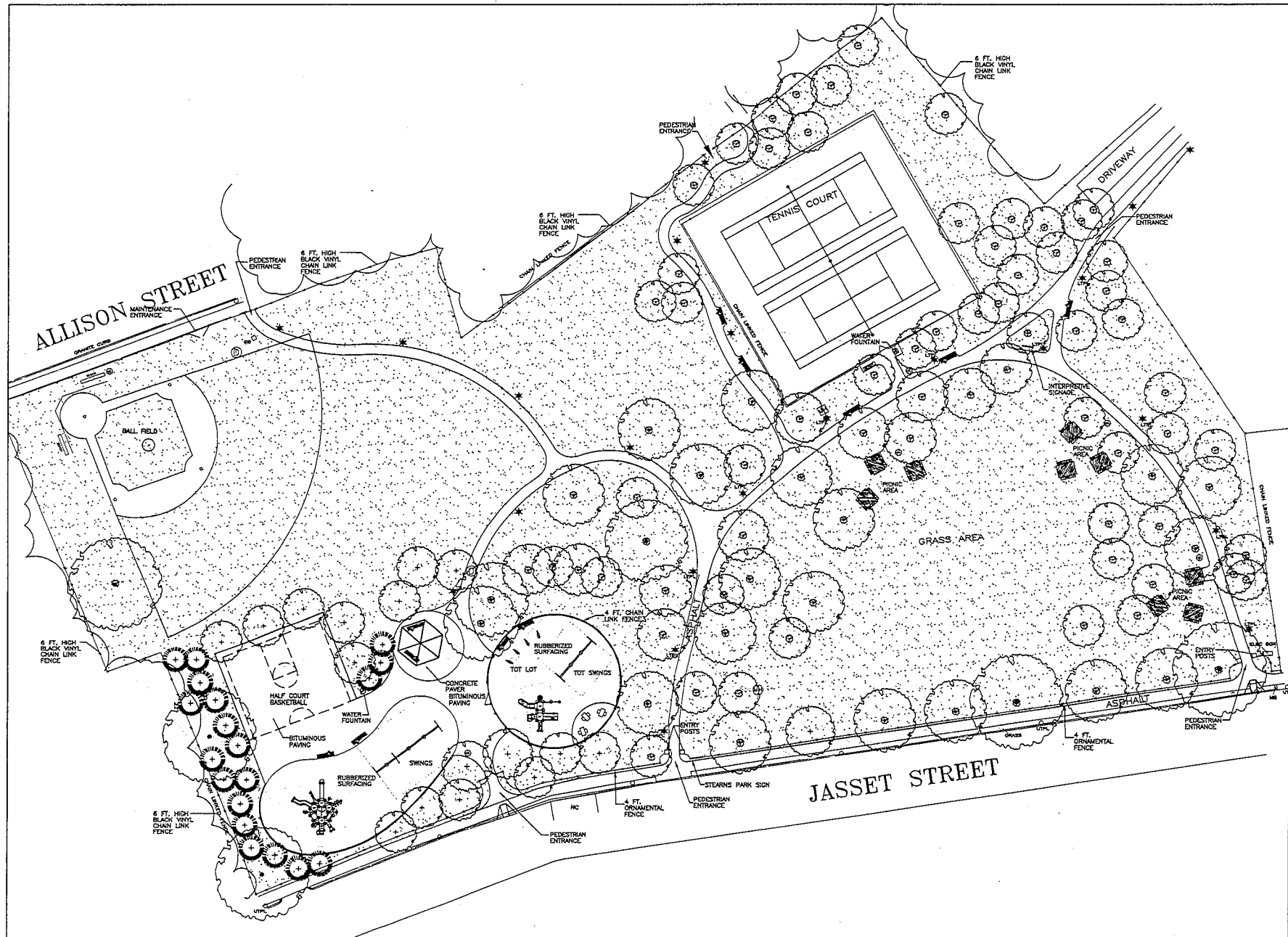
The next meeting will be the unveiling of the master plans for each park. The date will be set for later this summer.



Improvements to
Pellegrini Park
Newton, Massachusetts
July 07, 2005

DRAWING TITLE	
SCALE 1"=20'	NORTH
DATE July 22, 2005	
DRAWING NUMBER	
Revision	

Improvements to
Stearns Park
Newton, Massachusetts
June 22, 2005



DRAWING TITLE:

SCALE: 1"=50'	NORTH
DATE: July 22, 2005	

DRAWING NUMBER:

Revision

Stearns & Pellegrini Parks Master Plan Recommendations

These recommendations were determined during a thorough community input and site analysis process.

Stearns Park

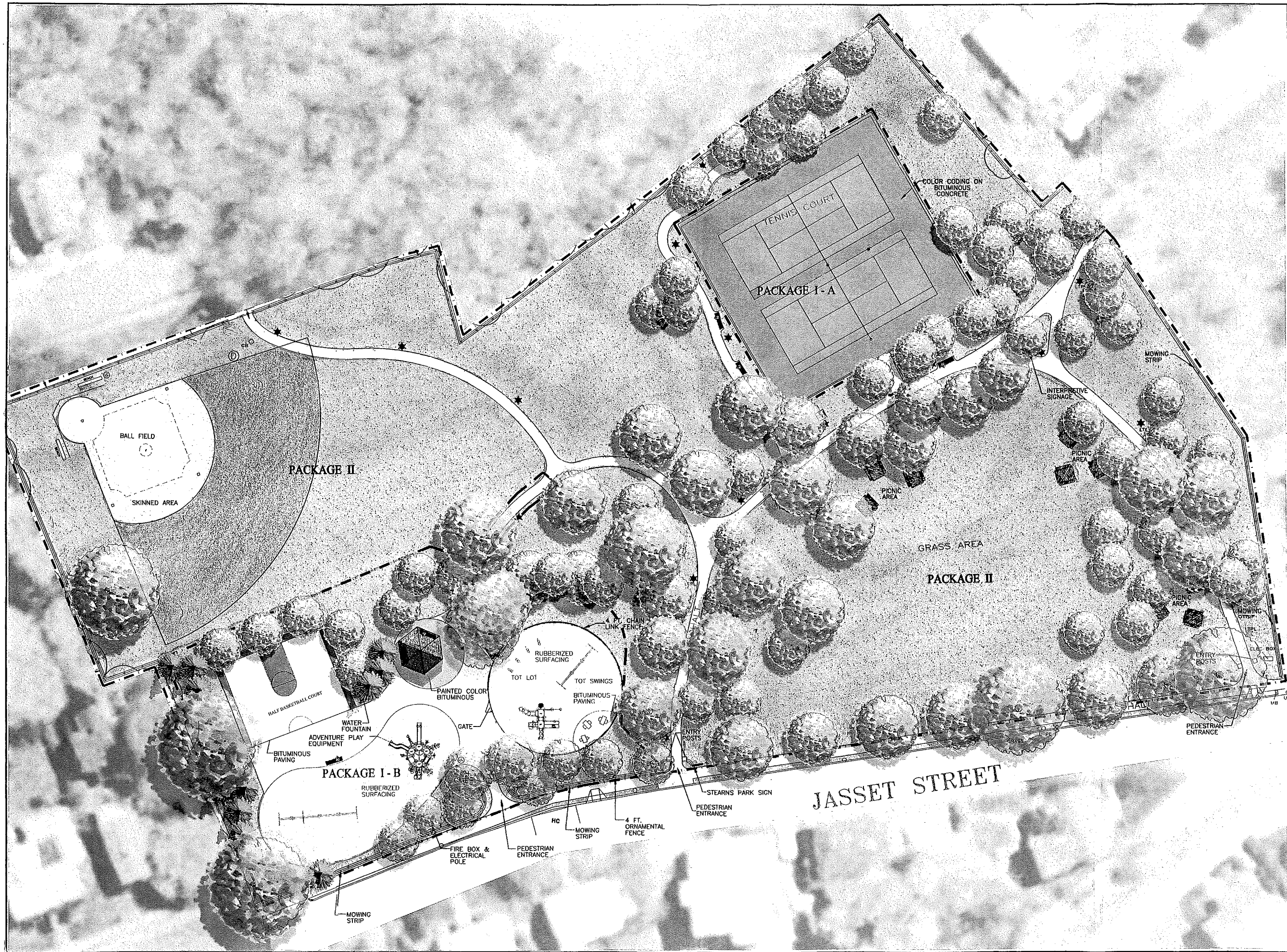
- Restore the existing ball field by installing a new backstop and hydraseeding the lawn area.
- Install 3 groups of picnic tables at the open space in the upper section of the park.
- Expand playground area: The new play area should have rubberized safety surfacing and be defined with a combination of fencing, berming and landscaping/shrubs. The design of the berming and landscaping should take safety into consideration as the play areas are close to the street. Additionally, the play area and equipment should be accessible. The new equipment should be interesting, diverse, and challenging to both younger and older children. A pavilion at the play area is recommended to replace the existing shade shelter that is in poor condition. Two benches are installed at the play area and two installed under the pavilion. The drinking fountain should be replaced with new one.
- The trees in the park need pruning and removal of dead branches is needed, particularly around the walkway near the playground.
- Downsize the basketball court to a half court and relocate it to the northwest corner of the playground.
- Both sets of swings should be removed and relocated (or be replaced with new equipment) to the new play area.
- All pathways should be replaced and made handicapped accessible, where possible. A new pathway should be installed around the tennis courts also. The pathway leading to Alison Street should be reconstructed.
- The pathway lighting should be continued along all of the walkways, where possible. The athletic lighting at the basketball court should be removed.
- Four new trash receptacles are installed as shown on plan.
- The wooden benches shall be replaced with better, more durable benches. New benches are added along the new path connecting to the Nonantum Village Place/Lafayette Green walkway.
- Replace the border fencing with new chain link fence.
- Re-stripe front parking spots on Stearns Place. Landscape Watertown Street entrance to make more attractive and inviting. General clean up of this area.
- Install park signage at the entrance along Jasset St. and illustrative signage in the park as shown. Relocate existing plaque to the corner Jasset St. entrance.
- Accessible curb cut is placed on both sides of the street by the park entrances, which will also necessitate crosswalks.
- Three pedestrian entrances are installed along Jasset St. Enhance the image of the park by installing 4' high ornamental fence all the way along Jasset St. and granite posts and park sign accent the entrances.
- One dedicated handicapped space is located on the street close to playground entrance.
- Remove the flag pole.
- 4' height chain link fence to be installed along the tot lot with gate.
- The ball field should be regraded so that it doesn't pool each spring.

- Install mowing strip along most of the fence.
- Restore existing tennis court by re-surfacing, painting and installing new fence, gates net and posts.
- Plant evergreen trees along edge of the playground and basketball court to screen.
- Remove existing vegetable garden at southeast corner of the park.

Pellegrini Park

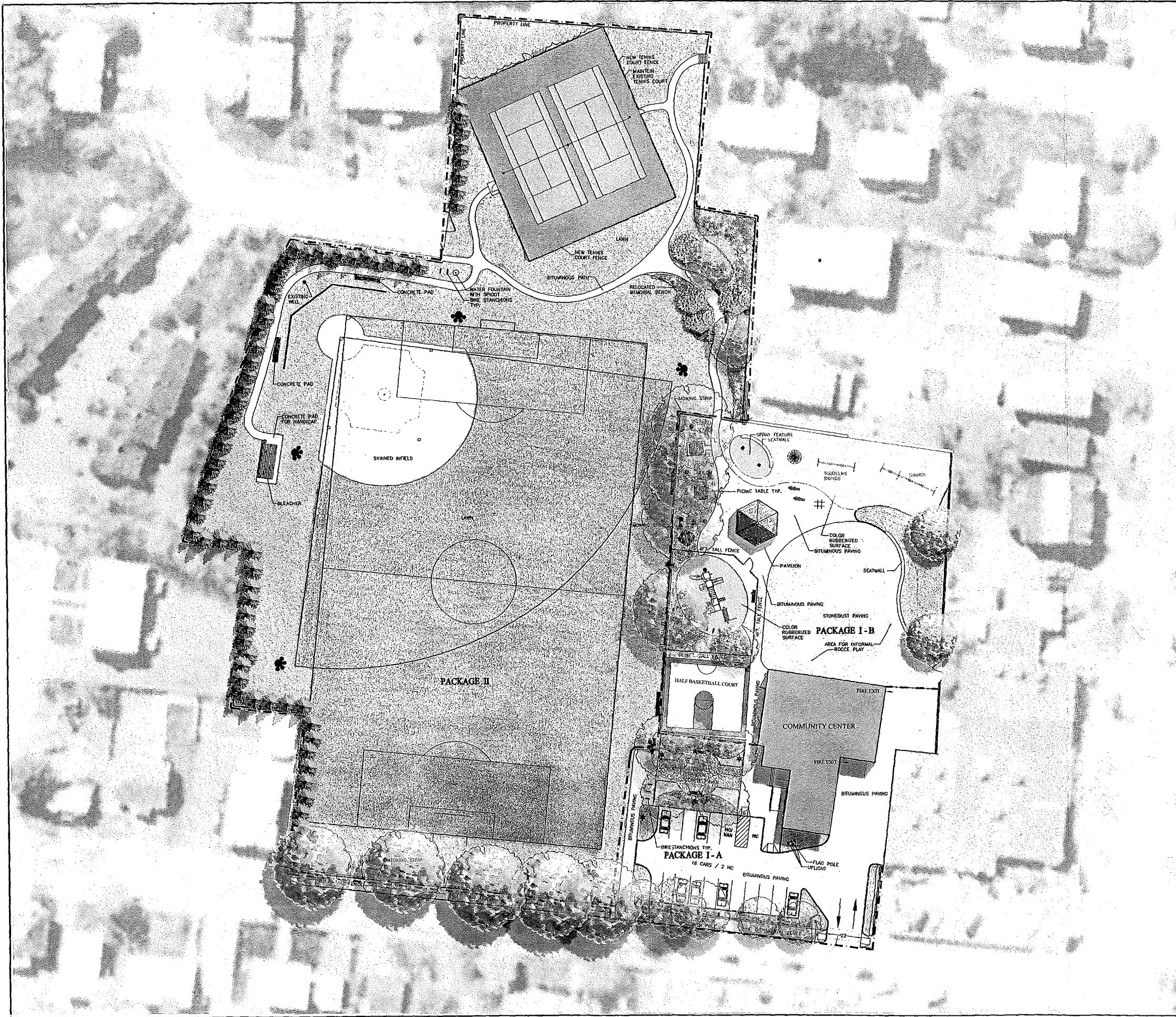
- The present vehicular entrance along Hawthorn Street is to remain and become wider by removing the three parking spaces closest to the entrance and moving the traffic island to allow for fire truck access, as well as access of large trucks during events such as the carnival. Two handicap ramps are installed at the sidewalk approaching the vehicular entrance. Also the curb along the field may be a problem for event trucks to negotiate over. A temporary ramp will be needed for vehicles to gain access from the parking lot on to the playing fields.
- There is an obstructed or damaged pipe under the parking lot in front of the building that should be repaired if that area is repaved. In general, upgrading of utilities should be budgeted for along with other improvements. The runoff from the proposed paved parking lot should be prevented from overflowing to the street.
- A separate pedestrian entrance along Hawthorn Street is needed to allow pedestrians to walk to the building without having to walk through the parking lot. Bollards are placed by the pedestrian entrance to keep vehicles including motorcycles from entering that way. This is a health safety issue.
- The seating and community garden area with two benches and cluster of existing and newly planted trees at the building entry and proposed work is created to make the area accessible.
- Define the parking area with granite curb and dedicate 16 painted parking spots and 2 handicap parking with 2 accessible ramps. Remove the existing half basketball court from the parking area.
- Relocate the existing flag pole close to the entrance of community center and light it with three uplights.
- Install park sign at the vehicular entrance.
- Install 4' ornamental fence along the parking lot in the planting strip, connecting park sign and granite bollard at the pedestrian entrance.
- Protect and include existing trees in the planting median along parking lot with newly planted trees to separate sidewalk and parking lot.
- Emphasize the pedestrian entrance by installing 2 granite bollards with ornamental fence.
- Install lighting along the pedestrian entrance path and in the entrance garden area.
- A half basketball court is located next to the entrance garden and by the side of community center. It is fenced off from both the garden and tot lot.
- A drinking fountain is located within easy access of the softball and soccer fields in addition to restoring the fountain mounted on the community center building. Spigots are installed in both water fountain.
- Dedicate an area for tot lot along the soccer field and fence it off from the rest of the park. Existing toddler's play structure will be relocated to this area with some new play equipments.
- Locate the pavilion between tot lot and older children's play areas at the rear of the building. The pavilion is also recommended for multiple usages by combining it with playground as shade structure as well as stage for events.

- The water drainage issues in the neighborhood need to be addressed along with plans for other improvements. The underground utility system is a Department of Public Works issue, which impacts the park as well as the basements of adjacent residences.
- Leave the space behind the building a stonedust surface, with the exception of the walkways and resilient surfacing under the play structures and at the waterplay. Storm drainage structures in the area need to be cleaned out on a regular basis.
- Install 3 picnic tables in the mulched area under the tree canopy by the edge of soccer field.
- Three new trash receptacles are installed as shown on plan.
- A spray park is installed by the entrance of quite garden in the play area.
- One set of Toddlers' swing and one set of regular swing are included in the play area with handicap accessibility.
- Curvilinear granite seatwall and curb along with the enclosed lawn area are laid out by the existing retaining wall separating the park from the nearby single family houses.
- The area at east side corner of the soccer field is dedicated as quite garden area with densely planted shrubs, flowering trees, benches (with one relocated memorial bench) and a pedestrian path connecting the Lothrop St. entrance with playground.
- All the play areas are pour-in-place rubber surface.
- Replace the existing fence and gates along tennis courts, protect the court surface and net and poles to remain.
- Install bike racks at the pedestrian entrance at Lothrop Street and Hawthorn St.
- The entrance at Lothrop Street should only be used for maintenance and pedestrian access, not event access. The current fencing configuration and the maintenance gate should be rehabilitated as required. Evergreen trees are planted to screen this area from the nearby residents' view.
- Relocate the ball field, install new backstop and concrete pad for players' benches, resize the soccer field, relocate soccer goals and install two new players' benches along the fence by play area.
- Field needs to be regarded to drain properly, hydraseeding is recommended to perform after intensive use.
- Install new lighting for the fields after conducting field lighting study and meet the city codes.
- Install path system to connect Lothrop St. entrance, 2 tennis court entrance, play area and entrance from the nearby single family house development.
- Install a bleacher and path connecting it with the Lothrop St. entrance.
- Install buffer plantings and replace all existing eight foot height fence and twelve foot height fence along Hawthorn Street at the soccer field.
- Mowing strips are installed along most of the fences as shown on the plan.
- Pruning and removing of dead branches of trees along the soccer field is highly recommended.
- Mural maintenance should be considered with other improvements.
- The cap on the back wall (where the Elvis mural is) needs to be replaced.
- The owner of the property adjacent to the green mesh fence needs to landscape the area on his side of the fence as he agreed to when the new wall and fence were being installed. The Parks and Recreation Department will contract the Law Department to pursue the matter.



Improvements to
Stearns Park
Newton, Massachusetts
Aug. 22, 2005

DRAWING TITLE	
SCALE: 1"=20'	
DATE: Aug. 22, 2005	
DRAWING NUMBER	
Site Plan	



Improvements to
Pellegrini Park
Newton, Massachusetts
Aug. 22, 2005

DRAWING TITLE

SCALE 1"=30'

DATE: Aug. 22, 2005

DRAWING NUMBER

Site Plan

NORTH

Pellegrini Park

Schematic Design

04086.00

Aug. 22, 2005



Total SF:	194,317	SUBTOTAL:	\$1,360,891
COST:	\$1,565,025	CONTINGENCY @ 15%:	\$204,134

COST/SI	\$8.05	3 PACKAGES TOTAL:	\$1,565,025
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	Quantity	UNIT	UN Price	Amount
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PACKAGE I - A (ENTRANCE AREA)

SITE PREPARATION

Site Preparation	21,359	SF	0.50	\$10,680
General Conditions	1	LS	2000.00	\$2,000

SITE PREPARATION SUBTOTAL \$12,680

CURBING & PAVING - 02500

Pedestrian Bituminous Paving	2,224	SF	3.50	\$7,784
Vehicular Bituminous Paving	11,587	SF	4.00	\$46,348
Pedestrian Concrete Paving	351	SF	4.50	\$1,580
Concrete Paver	1,099	SF	16.00	\$17,584
Granite Curb	689	LF	35.00	\$24,115

CURBING & PAVING SUBTOTAL \$97,411

SITE IMPROVEMENTS

Trash Receptacle	1	EA	900.00	\$900
Pedestrian Path Light	5	EA	5000.00	\$25,000
Uplight	4	EA	900.00	\$3,600
Bench	2	EA	1200.00	\$2,400
Granite Bollard (4.5' x 1.5' x 1.5')	2	EA	1000.00	\$2,000
Pi Bike Rack	3	EA	400.00	\$1,200
Granite Stair	24	LF	65.00	\$1,560
Handrail	38	LF	75.00	\$2,865
Park Sign	1	EA	1500.00	\$1,500
4' Steel Fence	137	LF	100.00	\$13,700
Line Painting	410	LF	1.00	\$410
Drainage Allowance	1	LS	20000.00	\$20,000
Spigot	1	LS	1500.00	\$1,500

SITE IMPROVEMENTS SUBTOTAL \$76,635

LAWNS - 02930

Hydroseed	3,512	SF	0.50	\$1,756
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LAWNS SUBTOTAL \$1,756

PLANTING - 02940

Deciduous Tree 5"	6	EA	1400.00	\$8,400
Shrubs	181	EA	60.00	\$10,860
Vines	88	SF	3.00	\$264

PLANTING SUBTOTAL \$19,524

PACKAGE I - A SUBTOTAL \$208,005

CONTINGENCY @ 15% \$31,201

PACKAGE I - A TOTAL \$239,206

PACKAGE I - B (PLAYGROUND AREA)

SITE PREPARATION

Site Preparation	30,723	SF	0.50	\$15,362
General Conditions	1	LS	4000.00	\$4,000

SITE PREPARATION SUBTOTAL \$19,362

RESTORATION

Restore Mural	1	LS	5000.00	\$5,000
Recap Block Wall	69	LF	150.00	\$10,350

RESTORATION SUBTOTAL \$15,350

CURBING & PAVING - 02500

Pedestrian Bituminous Paving	8,056	SF	3.50	\$28,196
Pour-in-Place Rubberized Surface	7,541	SF	25.00	\$188,525
Mulch	3,550	SF	1.00	\$3,550
Granite Curb	132	LF	35.00	\$4,620
Stonedust	8,913	SF	1.00	\$8,913
Mowing Strip (1.5' Wide)	245	LF	6.75	\$1,654

CURBING & PAVING SUBTOTAL \$235,458

SITE IMPROVEMENTS

Basketball Posts, Backboard, Goal & Net	1	EA	1053.00	\$1,053
Trash Receptacle	1	EA	900.00	\$900
Drinking Fountain	1	EA	5180.00	\$5,180
Bench	1	EA	1200.00	\$1,200
Granite Seatwall with Footing	72	LF	450.00	\$32,400
Concrete Seatwall	32	LF	400.00	\$12,800
Picnic Table with Concrete Pad	3	EA	3000.00	\$9,000
Pavilion	1	EA	34396.00	\$34,396
Swing	1	EA	7667.00	\$7,667
Play Table & Bench	3	EA	595.00	\$1,785
Climber	1	EA	8954.00	\$8,954
Spring Rider	4	EA	1448.00	\$5,792
Spring Rider See-Saw	1	EA	2616.00	\$2,616
Toddlers' Swing	1	EA	3580.00	\$3,580
Play Equipment (Wayfarer II, GameTime)	1	EA	22998.00	\$22,998
Water Play Equipments	1	EA	41792.00	\$41,792
8' Vinyl Chain Link Fence	303	LF	60.00	\$18,180
7' High, 4' Opening Single Swing Gate	1	EA	1000.00	\$1,000
4' Chain Link Fence	164	LF	40.00	\$6,560
4' High, 4' Opening Single Swing Gate	1	EA	600.00	\$600
Basketball Court Color Coating	2,688	SF	0.50	\$1,344
Drainage Allowance	1	LS	10000.00	\$10,000
Spigot	1	LS	1000.00	\$1,000

SITE IMPROVEMENTS SUBTOTAL \$230,797

LAWNS - 02930

Hydroseed	2,881	SF	0.50	\$1,441
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LAWNS SUBTOTAL \$1,441

PLANTING - 02940

Deciduous Tree 5"	3	EA	1400.00	\$4,200
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PLANTING SUBTOTAL \$4,200

PACKAGE I - B SUBTOTAL \$506,607

CONTINGENCY @ 15% \$75,991

PACKAGE I - B TOTAL \$582,598

PACKAGE I (I-A&I-B) TOTAL \$821,804

PACKAGE II (SPORT FIELD)

SITE PREPARATION

Site Preparation	138,584	SF	0.50	\$69,292
General Conditions	1	LS	4000.00	\$4,000

SITE PREPARATION SUBTOTAL \$73,292

CURBING & PAVING - 02500

Pedestrian Bituminous Paving	3,794	SF	3.50	\$13,279
Pedestrian Concrete Paving	528	SF	4.50	\$2,376
Mowing Strip	205	LF	6.75	\$1,384

CURBING & PAVING SUBTOTAL \$17,039

SITE IMPROVEMENTS

Player's Bench	4	EA	336.00	\$1,344
Bleacher	1	EA	1166.00	\$1,166
Backstop	1	EA	3012.00	\$3,012
Soccer Goal & Net - Pair	1	EA	1809.00	\$1,809
Trash Receptacle	1	EA	900.00	\$900
Field Light	7	EA	25250.00	\$176,750
Drinking Fountain	1	EA	5180.00	\$5,180
Bench	1	EA	1200.00	\$1,200
Pi Bike Rack	2	EA	400.00	\$800
8' Vinyl Chain Link Fence	1,146	LF	60.00	\$68,760

12' Vinyl Chain Link Fence	88	LF	80.00	\$7,040
10' Vinyl Tennis Court Chain Link Fence	446	LF	60.00	\$26,760
Tennis Court Gate (4' Wide, 7' High)	3	EA	1000.00	\$3,000
Drainage Allowance	1	LS	70000.00	\$70,000
Spigot	1	LS	1500.00	\$1,500

SITE IMPROVEMENTS SUBTOTAL \$369,221

LAWNS - 02930

Hydroseed	104,509	SF	0.50	\$52,255
6" Crush Stone Underdrain & Filter Fabric	100,071	SF	0.75	\$75,053

LAWNS SUBTOTAL \$127,308

PLANTING - 02940

Deciduous Tree 7"	1	EA	3500.00	\$3,500
Deciduous Tree 5"	2	EA	1400.00	\$2,800
Evergreen Tree 10-12'	49	EA	500.00	\$24,500
Flowering Tree	1	EA	600.00	\$600
Shrubs	467	EA	60.00	\$28,020

PLANTING SUBTOTAL \$59,420

PACKAGE II SUBTOTAL \$646,280

CONTINGENCY @ 15% \$96,942

PACKAGE II TOTAL \$743,221

Stearns Park

Schematic Design

04086.00

Aug. 22, 2005



Total SF:	147,040	SUBTOTAL:	\$841,899
COST:	\$968,184	CONTINGENCY @ 15%:	\$126,285

COST/S	\$6.58	3 PACKAGES TOTAL:	\$968,184
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	Quantity	UNIT	UN Price	Amount
PACKAGE I - A (TENNIS COURT)				
<u>SITE PREPARATION</u>				
Site Preparation	11,578	SF	0.50	\$5,789
General Conditions	1	LS	2000.00	\$2,000
SITE PREPARATION SUBTOTAL				\$7,789
<u>CURBING & PAVING - 02500</u>				
Pedestrian Bituminous Paving	12,195	SF	3.50	\$42,683
CURBING & PAVING SUBTOTAL				\$42,683
<u>SITE IMPROVEMENTS</u>				
Tennis Nets(2) & Net Posts(3)	1	EA	1500.00	\$1,500
Drinking Fountain	1	EA	5180.00	\$5,180
Tennis Court Gate (4' Wide, 7' High)	1	EA	1000.00	\$1,000
Tennis Court Fence -10' High	420	LF	60.00	\$25,200
Court Color Coating	11,376	SF	0.50	\$5,688
SITE IMPROVEMENTS SUBTOTAL				\$38,568
PACKAGE I - A SUBTOTAL				\$89,040
CONTINGENCY @ 15%				\$13,356
PACKAGE I - A TOTAL				\$102,395

PACKAGE I - B (PLAY AREA)

<u>SITE PREPARATION</u>				
Site Preparation	24,257	SF	0.50	\$12,129
General Conditions	1	LS	2000.00	\$2,000
SITE PREPARATION SUBTOTAL				\$14,129
<u>CURBING & PAVING - 02500</u>				
Pedestrian Bituminous Paving	6,583	SF	3.50	\$23,041
Pour-in-Place Rubberized Surface	7,387	SF	25.00	\$184,675
Granite Curb	297	LF	35.00	\$10,395
Mowing Strip	222	LF	6.75	\$1,499
CURBING & PAVING SUBTOTAL				\$219,609
<u>SITE IMPROVEMENTS</u>				
Basketball Posts, Backboard, Goal & Net	1	EA	1053.00	\$1,053
Trash Receptacle	1	EA	900.00	\$900
Drinking Fountain	1	EA	5180.00	\$5,180
Bench	4	EA	1200.00	\$4,800
Pavilion	1	EA	29700.00	\$29,700
Swing	1	EA	5000.00	\$5,000
Play Table & Bench	3	EA	595.00	\$1,785
Spring Rider	4	EA	1448.00	\$5,792
Toddlers' Swing	1	EA	3580.00	\$3,580
Play Equipment (Asterope GXY 913)	1	EA	39825.00	\$39,825
Play Equipment (TotTime-Rascal)	1	EA	10855.00	\$10,855
4' Chain Link Fence	199	LF	40.00	\$7,960
4' High, 4' Opening Single Swing Chain Link Gate	1	EA	600.00	\$600
4' Decorative Steel Fence	225	LF	100.00	\$22,500
4' High, 4' Opening Steel Fence Gate	1	EA	1000.00	\$1,000
Drainage Allowance	1	LS	10000.00	\$10,000
SITE IMPROVEMENTS SUBTOTAL				\$150,530
<u>LAWNS - 02930</u>				

Sod and 6" loam	8,004	SF	1.50	\$12,006
LAWNS SUBTOTAL				\$12,006
<u>PLANTING - 02940</u>				
Deciduous Tree 7"	2	EA	3500.00	\$7,000
Deciduous Tree 5"	14	EA	1400.00	\$19,600
Evergreen Tree 10-12'	19	EA	500.00	\$9,500
PLANTING SUBTOTAL				\$36,100
PACKAGE I - B SUBTOTAL				\$432,374
CONTINGENCY @ 15%				\$64,856
PACKAGE I - B TOTAL				\$497,230
PACKAGE I (I-A&I-B) TOTAL				\$599,625

PACKAGE II (PARK AREA)

<u>SITE PREPARATION</u>				
Site Preparation	111,315	SF	0.50	\$55,658
General Conditions	1	LS	4000.00	\$4,000
SITE PREPARATION SUBTOTAL				\$59,658

<u>CURBING & PAVING - 02500</u>				
Pedestrian Bituminous Paving	6,396	SF	3.50	\$22,386
Mowing Strip	1,056	LF	6.75	\$7,128
CURBING & PAVING SUBTOTAL				\$29,514

<u>SITE IMPROVEMENTS</u>				
Player's Bench	2	EA	336.00	\$672
Backstop	1	EA	3012.00	\$3,012
Trash Receptacle	3	EA	900.00	\$2,700
Pedestrian Path Light	9	EA	5000.00	\$45,000
Bench	4	EA	1200.00	\$4,800
Entrance Granite Bollard	2	EA	1000.00	\$2,000
Relocate Entrance Bollard	2	EA	500.00	\$1,000
Park Signage	1	LS	2500.00	\$2,500
Illustrative Signage	1	LS	1000.00	\$1,000
Picnic Table with Concrete Pad	9	EA	2600.00	\$23,400
6' Vinyl Chain Link Fence	1,170	LF	50.00	\$58,500
6' High, 20' Opening Double Swing Gate	1	EA	2400.00	\$2,400
Drainage Allowance	1	LS	25000.00	\$25,000
SITE IMPROVEMENTS SUBTOTAL				\$171,984

<u>LAWNS - 02930</u>				
Hydroseed	106,061	SF	0.50	\$53,031
LAWNS SUBTOTAL				\$53,031

<u>PLANTING - 02940</u>				
Deciduous Tree 7"	1	EA	3500.00	\$3,500
Deciduous Tree 5"	2	EA	1400.00	\$2,800
PLANTING SUBTOTAL				\$6,300
PACKAGE II SUBTOTAL				\$320,486
CONTINGENCY @ 15%				\$48,073
PACKAGE II TOTAL				\$368,559

Maintenance Standards

In these performance standards, maintenance activities have been classified under Levels I, II, and III depending on intensity and frequency of work with Level I maintained at a high level of care while Level III is maintained in a more natural state. The activities have been categorized into three general areas – landscape features, recreation features, and general features.

LANDSCAPE FEATURES

Turf Maintenance:

Without mowing, most turf grasses will grow to heights of 2' to 3' feet. Limiting turf to 2" to 2 ½" (for athletic fields) puts tremendous stress on the plant and increases the level of necessary inputs, especially irrigation. Turf that is cut higher (3"-4") is better able to withstand the pressures of foot traffic, equipment traffic and drought. Proper mowing practices and equipment minimize this stress. Grass clippings are to be left on all turf areas including athletic fields. This practice will decrease fertilizer requirements, increase the health of the turf's root system, and eliminate the need for disposal or composting of grass clippings. All turf areas should be aerated at least twice each year.

The soil in the landscape is the most important natural resource in the park as it sustains all plant life, including trees, shrubs and especially turf grass. Soil tests need to be done in selected areas on an annual basis. Without the information from a soil test, all management decisions regarding the soil result in guesswork. Soil tests should be conducted in early spring (March). Soil pH for turf should be between 6.0-6.5. Base saturation for potassium (K) should be 2-4%; magnesium (Mg) should be approximately 14%; and calcium (Ca) should be 60-70%. The equipment is an integral part of turf maintenance and must be maintained on a regular basis. It should be lubricated, with blades sharpened to ensure clean cut and reduce wear and tear on the engine. The desired output related to various equipment is as follows:

580D Groundsmaster	20sec / 1000 s.f.
Tractor & Flail	1.2min / 1000 s.f.
Gravelly / Hydromower	6.0min / 1000 s.f.
Lawnmower	9.0min / 1000 s.f.
Line Trimmer	20.0min / 1000 s.f.
Tractor w/aerator or spreader attachment	1.0min / 1000 s.f.
Walk behind aerator or spreader	6.0min / 1000 s.f.

1) Turf Level I: Mowed to height of 3" every 5-7 working days. Annually, the turf is evaluated for restoration, aeration, overseeding, disease, and fertilizer treatment. Soil tests in selected areas are performed annually and mineral soil amendments (Limestone, potassium fertilizer, etc.) should be applied if necessary in accordance with soil testing results. Before lime applications are made, the soil should be aerated. Nitrogen application of 1lb. /1000 square feet should be made as necessary in the spring (late April). Phosphorous fertilizers should not be applied near water surfaces. Phosphorous-containing fertilizers contribute to eutrophication of water and the growth of aquatic weeds. Turf restoration (overseeding) is carried out with a slice-seeder, during the months of late August through September if necessary. When turf is restored, a snow fence is erected to protect the grass. The performance standard is set at less than 2% trash visible with a 0% trash tolerance goal.

2) Turf Level II: Mowed to height of 4" every 7-12 working days. The soil is tested and lawn areas are fertilized as required by testing results and some weeds and bare spots are acceptable, but routinely corrected. Less than 5% trash with 0% trash tolerance goal.

3) Turf Level III: Mowed to height of 4.5" every 14-18 working days. This turf requires no fertilizer, no irrigation, occasional repair, some weeds are tolerated, and it can be allowed to wear out and grow through rest cycles. Less than 5% trash with 0% trash tolerance goal.

Weed Control:

Weed control can be applied at curb lines, fence lines, clearance along steps, cracks/ crevices, around trees, mulched planting beds, infields, and public health hazard areas (poison ivy infested areas). It can be done either mechanically using sprayers, line trimmers, and other turf maintenance equipment or manually by hand weeding, by weed wacker, ice scrapper, flat tree spade shovel, etc. All pesticide application must be performed under Massachusetts Pesticide Control Act of 1978; all chemicals shall be approved by the Conservation Commission and applications must be documented. The desired output with regard to equipment and personnel is as follows:

Spray with small sprayer	40min / 1000 s.f.
Spray with truck sprayer	14min / 1000 s.f.
Trim with line trimmer	20min /1000 s.f.
Weed (manually)	60min / 1000 s.f.

Shrub and Groundcover Planting Area Maintenance:

Shrubs and groundcovers provide numerous functions and are a vital part of the park landscape. When properly selected and maintained, they serve as focal points, accents, help control circulation, and provide an aesthetic appearance, complimenting and enhancing the surrounding park landscape.

The annual maintenance program for new and established plants depends on the type of plant material and the skill levels of the personnel responsible for the work. Shearing of shrubs is to be discouraged except in the most formal areas such as the rose garden at Winthrop Square. Hand pruning is always preferred in order to maintain the natural character of the plant species.

1) Planting Areas Level I: Less than 10% weeds and 5% deadwood in bed. This includes formal hedges and shrub beds. These features surround formal spaces within the parks. They have a manicured formal appearance usually reflecting the nature of the space they surround. The shrub species will be kept pruned on a regular basis and in general the maintenance will be of a high level. Shrub beds and small trees are edged and mulched each spring. Shrub beds are maintained and weeded monthly. Shrub beds and small trees are watered as required. Trash removal completed minimum of once per week.

2) Planting Area Level II: Less than 10% weeds and 10% deadwood in bed. This includes informal hedges and shrub beds. They have a more bushy irregular appearance in keeping with their surroundings and a much lower level of maintenance. These hedges look reasonable if kept untrimmed. Shrub beds and small trees are edged and mulched each spring. Shrub beds are maintained and weeded every other month. Shrub beds and small trees are watered as required. Trash removal is completed bi-weekly.

3) Planting Area Level III: Less than 10% invasive species. These areas typically abut woodland areas and are more naturalistic areas that serve to provide a visual screen or buffer between intensively used areas and wildlife habitat. Use is typically low level and informal. The shrubs are allowed to achieve their natural form. The shrubs will rarely be pruned and species will be chosen that will flourish in the particular site and light conditions and will grow to the desired height without any pruning or shaping. Shrub beds and small trees are edged and mulched biannually. Shrub beds are maintained and weeded two times per year. Trash removal completed once per month.

Trees/Woodland Maintenance:

Implementation of regular trees in grass and woodland tree maintenance program that will preserve the health and structural integrity of park trees is included in this task. All trees will be inspected seasonally and treated according to the integrated pest management requirements. More than any other landscape element, trees provide the most prominent visual component in the landscape. Tree preservation and management involves the protection of the canopy, trunk and roots. Trees in public parks are subject to intensive visitor use. Over time this use can have severe impacts. Ongoing public use includes the following:

- Compaction and lack of soil fertility begins to change the soil both physically and chemically.
- Rainwater begins to runoff (causing soil erosion) rather than percolating down through the soil and to the plants' roots.
- Groundcover materials such as turf are lost or damaged.
- Exotic invasive species begin to seed in the woodlands (such as Ailanthus, Rhamnus, Norway Maple, Malus, Euonymus, Berberis, Celastrus, Ampelopsis) and the character of the woodland begins to deteriorate. Native invasive species such as Black Cherry and Black Locust also seed and should be removed.
- Native shrubs and native understory trees are lost.
- Older native trees cannot compete for nutrients and water and begin to decline – tops die back.
- Areas become so impacted that users begin to seek other locations.

Park managers must be vigilant to spot these trends early and initiate corrective practices such as liming, fertilization, corrective pruning and keeping mulched walking paths well mulched with composted wood chips. The removal of exotic invasive species is an intensive recurring task. Smaller plants can be hand pulled. However, the most effective strategy for eradication is cutting and spraying the freshly cut stump with a small quantity of triclopyr. All chemicals need to be pre-approved and applications must be documented. Brush should be chipped and blown into the forest if possible, or in turf areas. Wood chips should be composted in another location. Age diversity in the canopy layer is a long-term goal. Ideally the trees should be of all ages with every stage present from newly established plants to past maturity.

Tree Maintenance Level I: Less than 5% invasive species and less than 5% deadwood. These areas are characterized by grass and shrubs under trees on gently rolling topography. It is a pleasant open area for sitting in, picnicking or walking through. The nature of the topography is critical as the grass must be capable of being mown 3-4 times annually. Walking paths through the long grass can be cut shorter and more often. The actual frequency of mowing depends on the density of the tree canopy and park setting. Trees are inspected and

pruned as necessary for health and safety biannually, and thinned out every five years. Trash is collected weekly.

Woodland Level II: Less than 10% invasive species and less than 10% deadwood. These areas are natural areas and serve to provide a visual screen or buffer to more intensively used areas and habitat for wildlife. Use is typically low and informal. They require a low level of maintenance, but a high level of skill for management and implementation of work. The objective in the forest areas is to sustain a continuous tree cover with the area being regenerated naturally. Both the canopy and understory will be managed on a 10-year cycle. Natural regeneration may, on occasion, be enriched by planting if the desired species do not regenerate naturally. Trees are safety pruned every five years; hazard trees are removed as required. Trash pickup as required.

RECREATIONAL FEATURES

Athletic Field Maintenance:

Athletic fields require a high level of daily maintenance to provide safe playable field surfaces. They must be mowed to a height of 2.5 to 3" with zero infield depressions. The trash must be removed daily, infield dragged once /week from April to August backstops and seating repaired, fields relined as needed, turf mowed weekly and irrigated regularly. Each infield must have a stockpile of 1 to 2 tons of clay for repairs. Each ball field should have a foul pole down the left and right field lines and must be painted a visible color visible from the backstop. Bleachers placed on bituminous concrete or concrete pads allow easier cleaning and maintenance.

The home plate must be installed just below grade within the backstop area. The point of the plate will align the first and third base foul lines. The field must be maintained at 1% grade from the base of the pitchers mound or the center of the infield to the outfield edge. Dragging must occur from the outer edge towards the mound. Poor dragging practices take soil into the grass building a lip between the turf and the infield, thus restricting positive drainage. The desired output related to equipment and personnel for athletic fields is as follows:

Dragging	25min / infield
Repair mounds / holes	60min / field

Court Maintenance:

Court surfaces must be cleared of debris using a manual or mechanical method. The lines must be painted every year by April. Fencing problems such as holes in the fabric, bottom fabric turned up, missing line posts, clamps, tension bars, tie wires, exposed sharp edges of fabric, etc that could be hazardous to public use must be addressed in a timely manner. The grounds must be conditioned each spring as per the game played on the courts. Game components such as nets, goals, backboards, braces, posts and other hardware must be checked and maintained on a regular schedule. The desired output related to equipment and personnel is as follows:

Pick trash	2.4min / 1000s.f.
Hand sweeping	30.0min / 1000s.f.
Sweep / blower (turf)	5.0min / 1000s.f.
Trash vacuum	10.0min / 1000s.f.
Blow / sweep (tennis court)	12.0min / 1000s.f.
Blow / sweep (basketball / street hockey)	7.0min / 1000s.f.
Line painting	35.0min / 1000s.f.

Installation / removal (tennis net)	10min / net
Installation / removal (basketball net)	15min / net

Playground Maintenance:

All playgrounds should be cleaned and debris removed using manual or mechanical method a minimum of twice a week depending on the time of year and use. Play equipment and site amenities such as benches, tables, shelters, and trash receptacles must be painted yearly after being wire brushed to remove loose or chipping paint. The play equipment must be checked periodically for the following:

- Visible cracks, bending, warping, corrosion, rusting or breakage of any component
- Worn swing hangers, S-hooks, and or swings chains
- Damaged, loose swing seat or seats with sharp edges
- Accessible sharp edges or corners on any equipment
- Loose and/or missing hardware
- Splintered, cracked or deteriorated wood
- Broken or missing rails, steps, rungs, seats
- Tripping hazards such as roots, rocks, etc.

The desired output with regard to personnel using the following equipment is as follows:

Pick trash	2.4min / 1000s.f.
Hand sweeping	30.0min / 1000s.f.
Sweep (blower)	5.0min / 1000s.f.
Trash vacuum	10.0min / 1000s.f.
Paint equipment	60.0min / piece

GENERAL FEATURES

Structures:

All buildings and structures should be inspected and their condition recorded annually. New work necessary because of changes in use should meet the state building code. Alterations for accessibility should be carefully designed. Work required to stabilize the structures, prevent vandalism, and prevent insect or animal damage should be considered a high priority and implemented immediately.

All structures are assumed to be Level I; however the particular problem or situation may necessitate a specific response. Small, routine in-house repairs are done within 3-5 working days. Contracted repairs are assessed within 3-5 working days. Annual maintenance is done yearly. The Standards pertain to structures of all materials, construction types and sizes. Standards for Preservation:

- The existing condition of structures will be evaluated to determine the appropriate level of intervention needed. Where the severity of deterioration requires repair or limited

replacement of a distinctive feature of a structure, the new material will match the old in composition, design, color, and texture.

- Chemical or physical treatments, if appropriate, will be undertaken using the gentlest means possible. Treatments that cause damage to existing materials will not be used.

Furnishings:

Maintenance of park site furnishings includes:

- Bench maintenance – repair, replacement, painting
- Trash cans – emptying, repair, replacement
- Light poles – replace bulbs, painting, realigning
- Drinking Fountains – cleaning, repair, turn on & off
- Graffiti Removal

Regular maintenance of the park's site furnishings is an important task, which is often overlooked or only done on an emergency basis. Keeping park furnishings in good repair makes for a more inviting and usable park. The furnishings should be inspected weekly and routine repairs done within 3-5 working days.

The City should consider standardized furnishing which will reinforce the signature character of the parks for the city while adding visual continuity of green space. In addition, maintenance is easier if there are one or two bench styles instead of five or six. Repairs are more likely to be done with "available materials" or not done at all when too many options exist.

Paths and Paved Surfaces:

1) Paved Surfaces Level I: Less than 2% in degraded condition. Sweeping, cleaning and washing of surfaces done weekly so there is no accumulation of sand, dirt or leaves accumulated.

2) Paved Surfaces Level II: Less than 5% degraded condition. Paths should be cleaned when there is a noticeable accumulation of debris.

3) Path Maintenance: Less than 5% degraded condition. Repair stone dust and asphalt paths, including minor repairs, grading and potholing as necessary.

Trash Removal:

The park system should be clean and free from trash and litter. Trash receptacles should not be overflowing and litter should be kept to a minimum. Maintenance affects appearance of the park and sanitary conditions, including litter pick-up and collection of trash from receptacles.

1) Trash Removal Level I: Zero overflowing cans; minimum servicing of once a day 7 days/week. To maintain no overflowing cans it may require more than one servicing/day and event or special use may dictate more frequent cleaning.

2) Trash Removal Level II: Zero overflowing cans; minimum servicing of once a day 5 days/week. Event or special use may dictate more frequent cleaning. Event or special use may dictate more frequent cleaning.

3) Trash Removal Level III: Zero overflowing cans; minimum servicing of 2 to 3 times/week. Litter barrels should be emptied up to 3 times per week from April through October and weekly during the winter. Event or special use may dictate more frequent cleaning.

Graffiti Removal:

Maintenance standards for Graffiti removal are followed unless they involve a historic structure that requires historic preservation notice or authorization.

- 1) **Graffiti Removal Level I:** Graffiti removed within 24 hours.
- 2) **Graffiti Removal Level II:** Graffiti removed within 48 hours.