



Newton Parks, Recreation and Culture Department

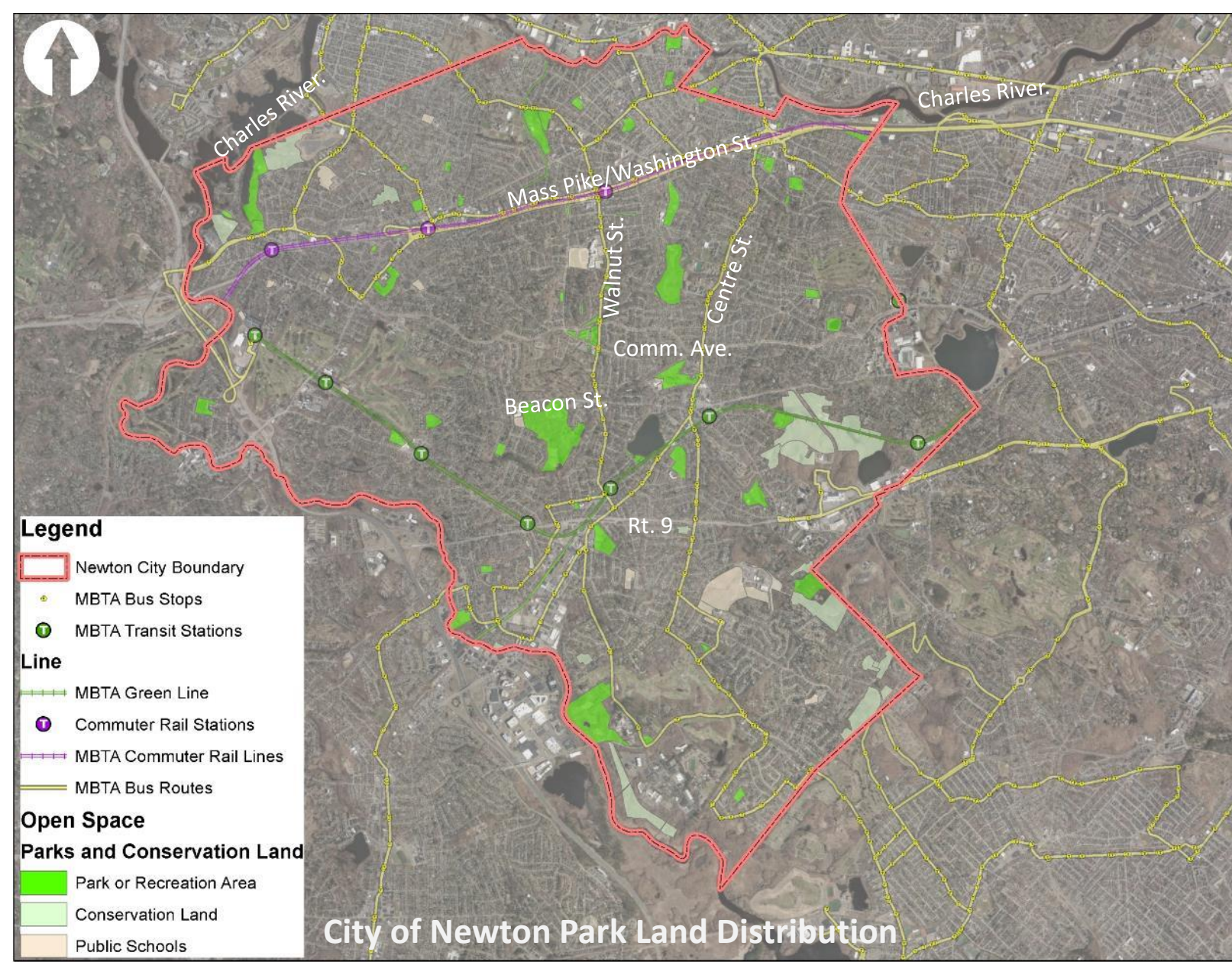
Athletic Fields Capital Improvement Plan

Community Preservation Committee July 13th, 2021

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Agenda

- 1 Parks, Recreation & Culture Overview
- 2 Field Improvement Goals & Prioritization Criteria
- 3 5-Year Athletic Field Capital Project Geographic Distribution
- 4 3-Year Site Specific Preliminary Improvement Goals
- 5 DRAFT Designer Requirements
- 6 DRAFT Project Schedule + Next Steps



Parks, Recreation & Culture Overview:

- Manage and oversee nearly 600 Acres of park land with varying recreational interests including:
 - Aquatic facilities
 - Tracks & Fields
 - Trails
 - Playgrounds
 - Field houses & community centers
 - Hard courts
 - Passive areas
 - Outdoor exercise equipment
 - Wooded areas
 - Outdoor challenge courses
 - Dog parks
 - Splash pads
 - Historic significance
 - Wetlands and waterways
- Spread across all Villages and Wards

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Parks, Recreation & Culture Department Field + Park Improvement Goals

- *Improve quality and quantity of usable multiuse/multipurpose fields*
- *Improve accessibility in parks*
- *Establish standardized park design details to better manage operation & maintenance*
- *Invest equitably in Newton's Athletic Fields + Parks across the city*

Parks, Recreation & Culture Department Field Project Prioritization Criteria

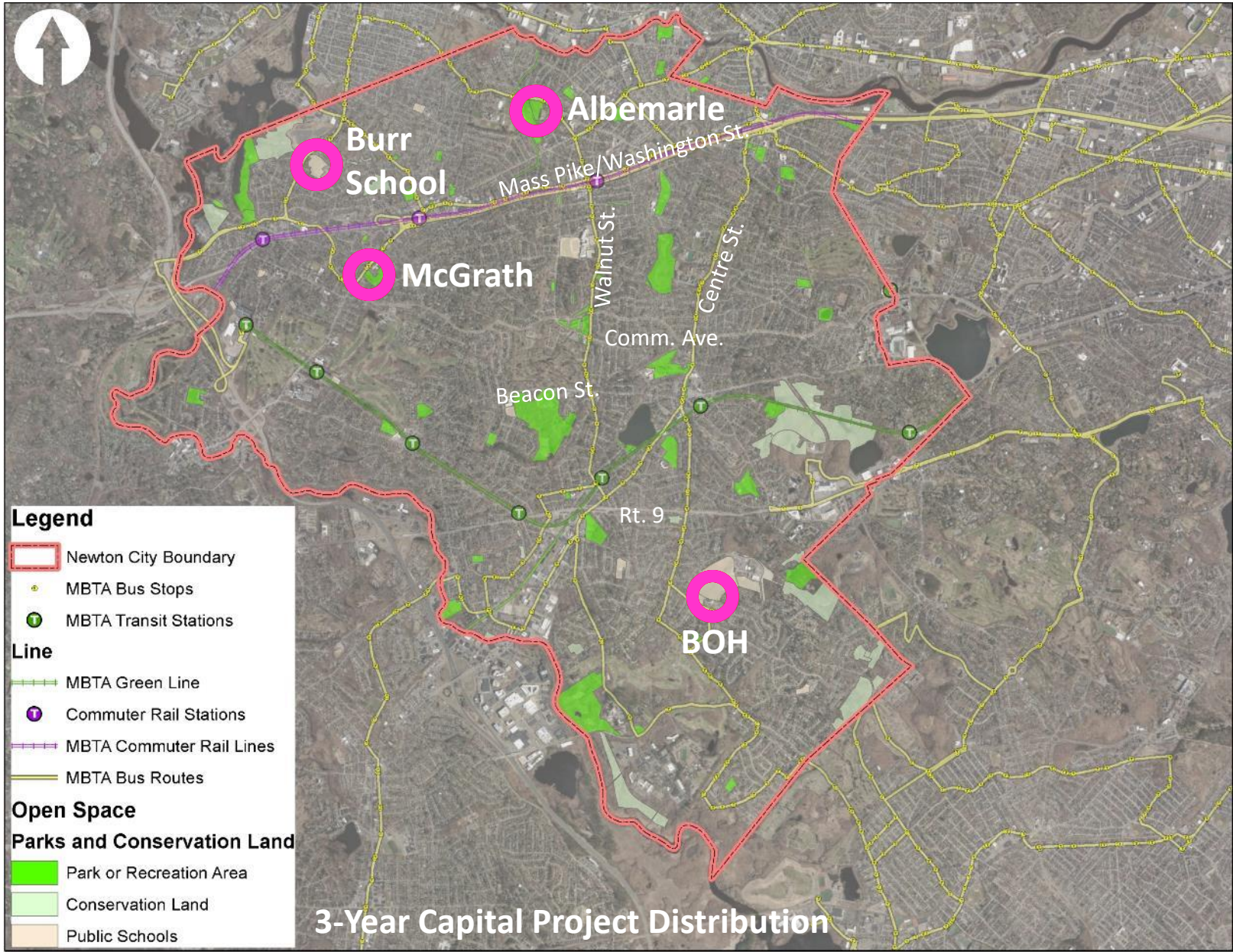
- *Potential for greatest city-wide benefit*
- *Project sequencing: prioritize new fields being brought online first*
- *Bandwidth: Balancing concurrent projects against staff time*
- *Potential for expansion of multiuse fields*
- *Expanding evening play (light improvements/ additions)*
- *Player safety*
- *Integrated with other projects in a park area (e.g., path at McGrath, Gath Pool renovation)*



3-Year Capital Project Distribution:

- Albemarle Park/ Russ Halloran Sports and Recreation Complex
- Burr School
- Brown/Oak Hill Fields
- McGrath Park

TOTAL: 4 Sites



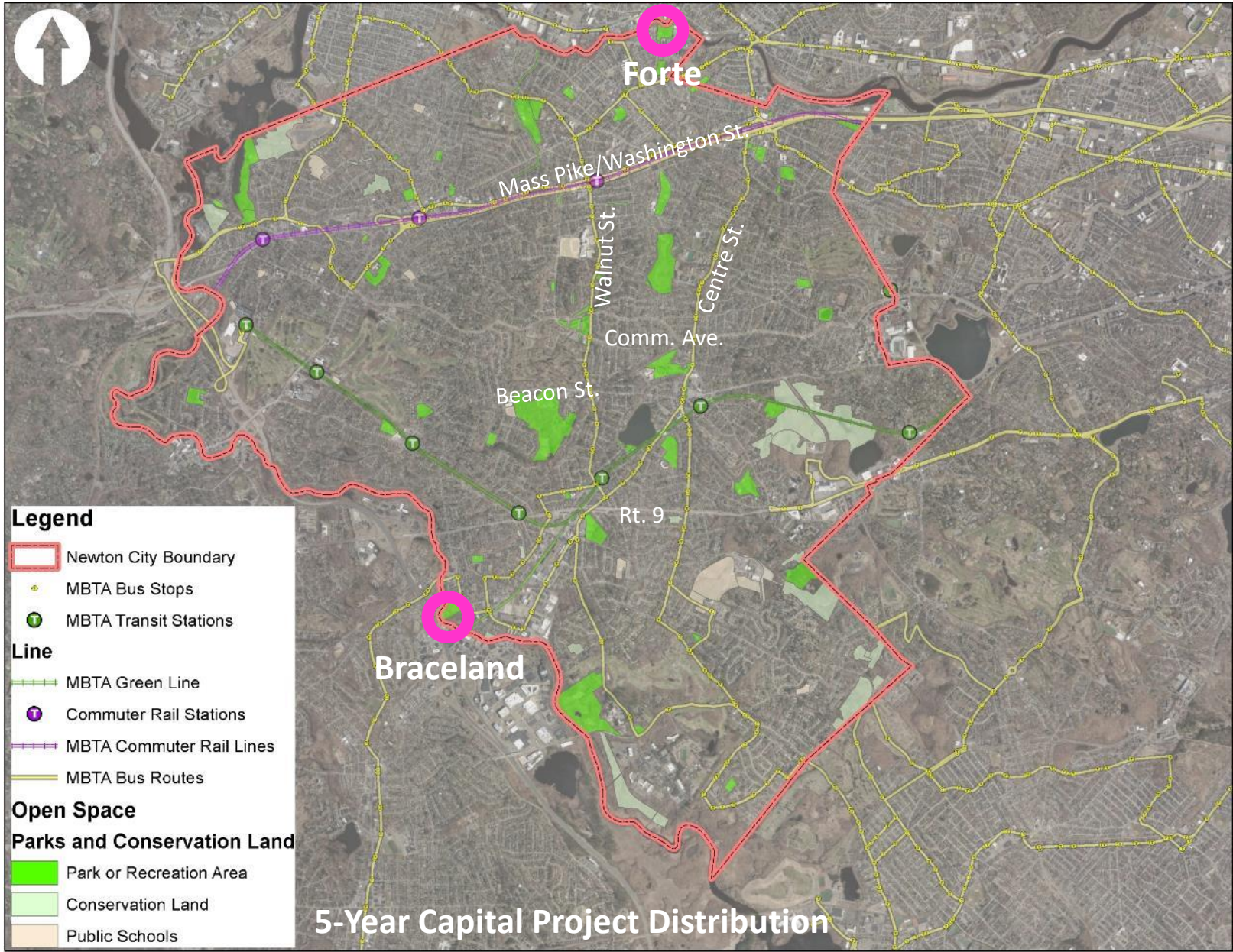
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5-Year Capital Project Distribution:

- Bobby Braceland 'Upper Falls' Playground
- Forte Park

TOTAL: 2 Sites



5-Year Capital Project Distribution

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Russ Halloran Sports & Recreation Complex at Albemarle

24.9 ACRES

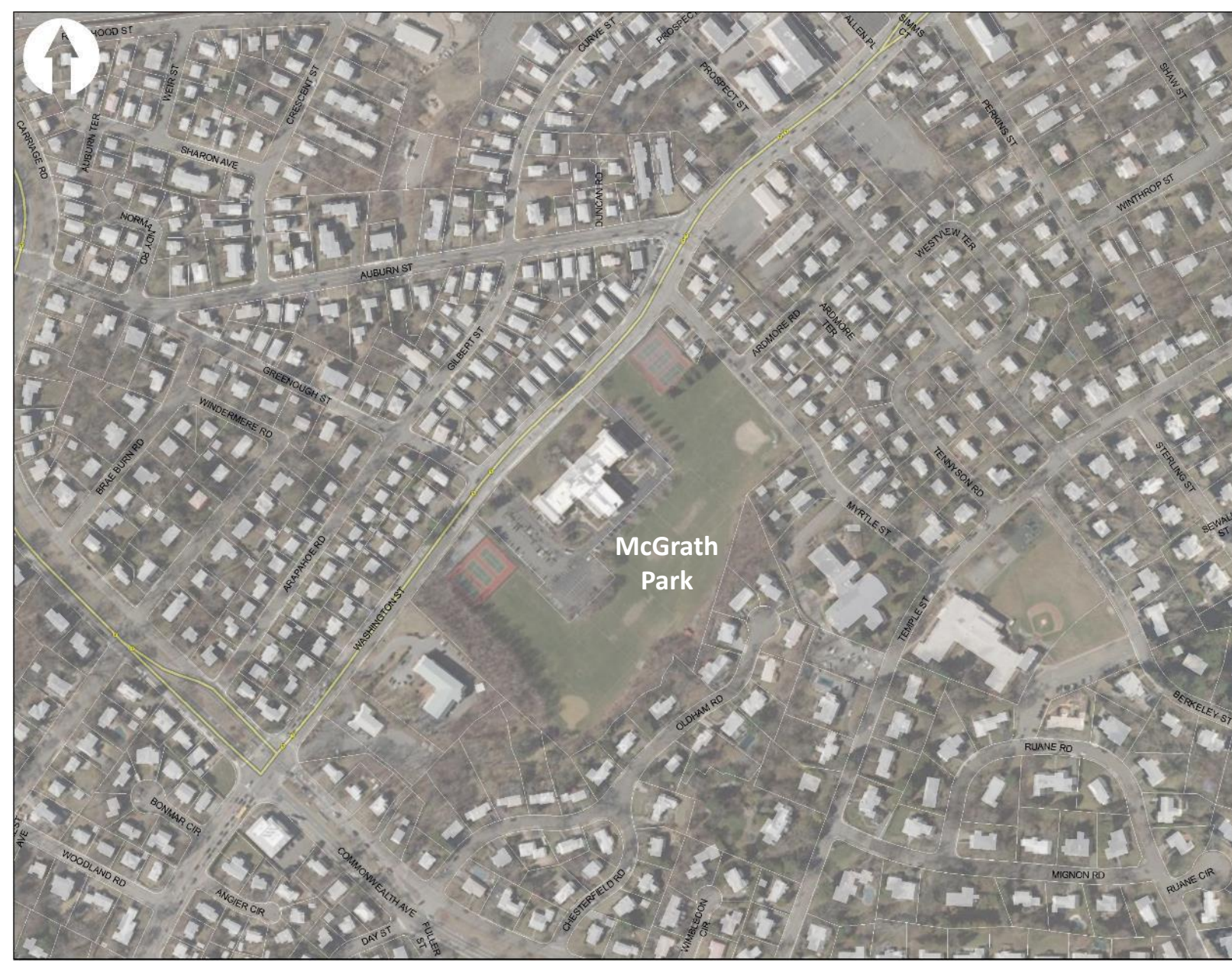
Ward: 2

Improvement Goals

- Develop 25% schematic design for entire site ensuring:
 - Maximized field & site layout for efficiency in use*
 - Improved accessibility*
 - Developed a phased plan for improvements*
 - Phase 1 – relighting, field reconfiguration & accessibility improvements*
 - Additional phases – To be determined during design process*
- Develop construction bid-ready documents for **PHASE 1** to include:
 - Installation of new sports lighting and infrastructure for future lighting expansion*
 - Some reconfiguration of fields*
 - Improved accessibility*
 - Additional scope to be determine by public process*

Approximate Construction Budget: 3.2M

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Richard J. McGrath Park

10.1 ACRES

Ward: 3

Improvement Goals

•Develop construction bid-ready documents for

Improvements to include:

- New accessible perimeter path (CDBG Funded)
- Reconfigured courts to maximize field efficiency
- Removed underutilized backstops and infield
- Expand irrigation system to areas where ballfield have been removed
- Properly located and designed lacrosse practice wall (Wall construction cost to be funded by LAX league)
- Caliper tree replacement for any tree removals required

Approximate Construction Budget: \$500,000

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Athletic Fields Capital Improvement Plan



Burr School

10.1 ACRES

Ward: 4

Improvement Goals

•Develop feasibility study and 25% schematic design for field area to include:

- Maximized field and site layout for increased permitted field space
- Improved accessibility
- Assessed potential environmental concerns

•If feasible, develop construction bid-ready documents to include:

- Regraded and properly developed field area
- Installed Irrigation
- Reconfigured safe routes to school path and 4c tree planting
- Reconfigured ball diamonds and other amenities within field area
- Improved drainage

Approximate Construction Budget: \$500,000

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Brown/Oak Hill Fields

11.3 ACRES

Ward: 8

Improvement Goals

•Develop feasibility study and 25% schematic design for field area to include:

- Maximized field and site layout for increased permitted field space
- Improved accessibility
- Assessed potential environmental concerns

•If feasible, develop construction bid-ready documents to include:

- Regraded field area
- Expanded Irrigation
- Reconfigured ball diamonds and other amenities within field area
- Improved accessibility
- Improved drainage

Approximate Construction Budget: \$500,000

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Athletic Fields Capital Improvement Plan

Additional Projects

- We have several other athletic improvement projects that are in the works
 - *Forte: Soccer Leagues conducting a feasibility study for artificial turf conversion; developer-funded relighting*
 - *NNHS: Tiger Stadium Lighting project is under consideration*
 - *Replace 3 turf carpets at both High Schools (on CIP over next 5 years)*
 - *Increased Maintenance: additional seeding, fertilizing, and aeration, etc.*

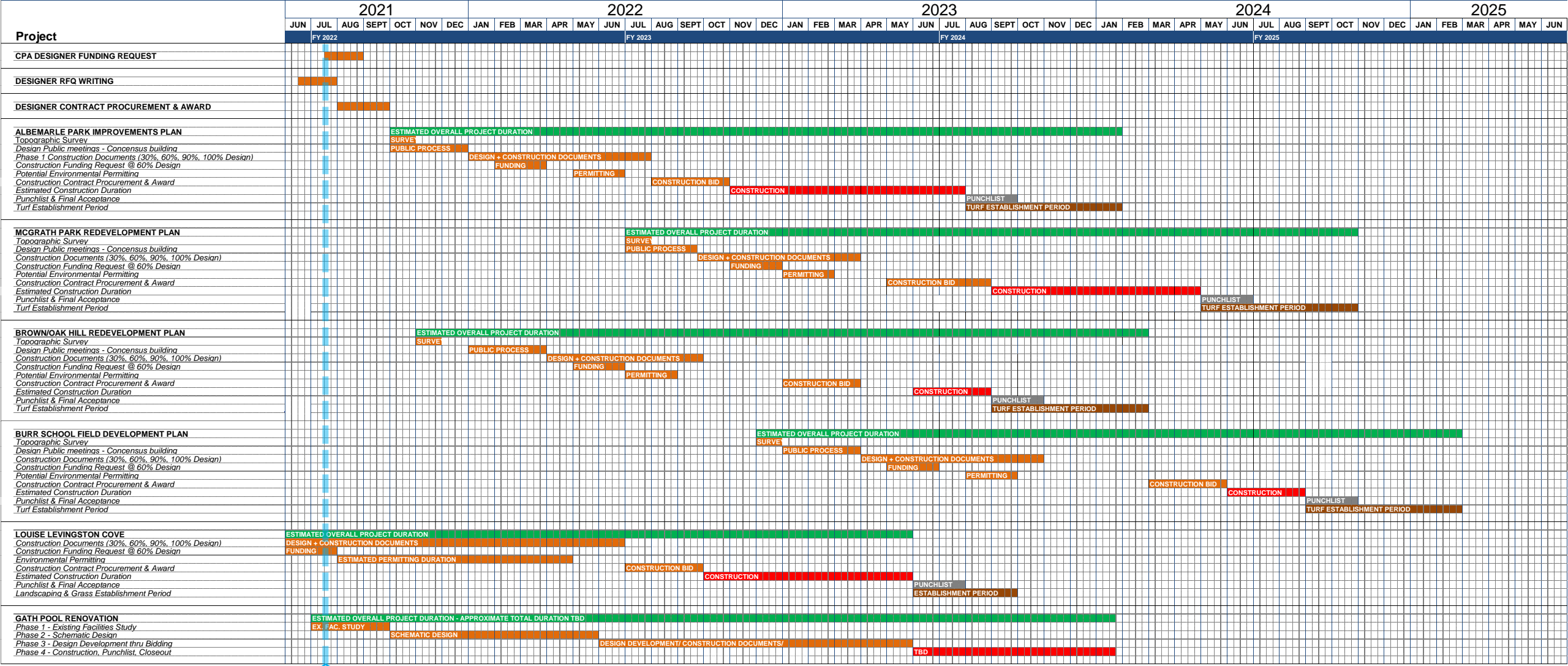
DRAFT Park & Athletic Field Engineering and Landscape Architecture Services Requirements

Basic Scope and requirement:

- Basic consultant requirements:
 - *Must be registered Landscape Architects or Engineers in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts*
 - *Must demonstrate expertise in:*
 - *Athletic field and park development*
 - *Accessible and inclusive design*
 - *Electrical engineering*
 - *Site engineering, drainage, and landscaping*
 - *Quality products – successfully designed and managed parks, playgrounds, and fields*
 - *Minimizing unknowns whenever possible*
 - *Project fast tracking*
- Basic Design Services:
 - *Site analysis, Feasibility studies, Design development plans, Landscape plans, Construction documents, Engineer's Cost estimates, Construction observation, and punch list review*
- **Design Services CPC funding request: \$400,000**
 - *Approximate Design funding allocation per site:*
 - *Russ Halloran Sports & Rec. Complex @ Albemarle – \$200,000*
 - *McGrath Park @ Warren House – \$50,000*
 - *Burr School Fields - \$50,000*
 - *Brown/Oak Hill Field - \$50,000*
 - *Allocate remaining contingency funds, if any, toward Braceland & Forte Parks*

Projects

Conservative Timeline



We are here!

Next Steps

- ~~Present to Parks and Recreation Commission and Athletic Field Sub-Committee~~
- Present to CPC/ Request Funds for 1st 3 years of project design/engineering
- Hire design/engineering contractor
- Public Hearings and meetings as necessary to move projects forward
- Present projects to CPC when designed
- Continue to build out the project list beyond year 5
- Continue to Engage with Sport Groups on Supplemental Projects & Funding

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Questions and Discussion

For additional questions and input please contact: athleticfields@newtonma.gov