

WORCESTER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

Evaluating Environmental Justice and Organizational Partnerships for Green Space in Worcester, MA

Supplemental Materials



Steven Dentato
Brandon Hima
William Kopellas

Advisor:
Professor Katherine Foo

Sponsor:
Park Spirit of Worcester, Inc.



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Part A—Authorship

Task	Completed by
Introduction	
Draft 1	Brandon Hima
Editors	Steven Dentato, William Kopellas
Title Page	Brandon Hima
Background	
Draft 1	Steven Dentato, William Kopellas
Editors	Brandon Hima, Steven Dentato, William Kopellas
Methodology	
Draft 1	Brandon Hima
Editors	Steven Dentato, Brandon Hima
Graphic	Steven Dentato, Brandon Hima, William Kopellas
Outreach	
Send emails to experts	Steven Dentato, Brandon Hima, William Kopellas
Coordinate organization interviews	Steven Dentato, Brandon Hima, William Kopellas
Draft specific interview scripts	Steven Dentato, Brandon Hima, William Kopellas
Interviews	Steven Dentato, Brandon Hima, William Kopellas
Reception (phone calls)	Steven Dentato, Brandon Hima
Results	
Data Analysis	Steven Dentato, Brandon Hima, William Kopellas
Draft 1	Steven Dentato
Editors	Brandon Hima, William Kopellas
Recommendations and conclusions	
Recommendations	William Kopellas
Conclusion	Steven Dentato, Brandon Hima, William Kopellas
Editors	Steven Dentato, Brandon Hima
Deliverables	
Content	Steven Dentato, Brandon Hima, William Kopellas
Design	Brandon Hima
Miscellaneous	
Reference and Citation Coordinator	Brandon Hima
Authorship Page	Brandon Hima
Supplemental Materials	Brandon Hima

Part B—Interview Consent Form

Informed Consent Agreement for Participation in a Filmed Interview (or photograph)

Steven Dentato, Brandon Hima, William Kopellas

Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Interactive Qualifying Project Video (or photograph) Document

Purpose: We are a group of student researchers from Worcester Polytechnic Institute's Worcester Community Project Center. We are working collaboratively with Park Spirit of Worcester, Inc. to positively promote and advocate for Worcester's parks. A requirement for the academic portion of our research is a video documenting attributes of each Worcester park. Your participation in this media production would be greatly appreciated and is entirely voluntary.

Thank you.

Procedures to be followed: We will be videotaping and photographing the parks that we visit and the interviews that we conduct for each park. Interview questions will vary by participant.

Risks to interviewee: No direct risks as a result of filming/photographing/quoting in the project report.

Record keeping and confidentiality: We are happy to keep any level of confidentiality in the postproduction of the video (e.g changing of voice, names, and displayed image). If you are interested, information concerning the published video can be provided at the conclusion of the media project. The resulting video document will be available to the public and will be published to Worcester Polytechnic Institute's Worcester Community Project Center webpage,

<https://wp.wpi.edu/wcpc/park-spirit-of-worcester-inc-branching-out/>

For more information about this recording contact:

Interviewer: Steven Dentato, Brandon Hima, William Kopellas Email: sdentato@wpi.edu, behima@wpi.edu, wjkopellas@wpi.edu (respectively)

The WPI Student Research Group Email: gr-ctermpparkspiritqip@wpi.edu

Corey Denenberg Dehner, WCPC Director/WROC Co-Director: cdehner@wpi.edu

Laura Roberts: WCPC Assistant Director, Interdisciplinary Global Studies Division: lroberts@wpi.edu

IRB Chair, Professor Kent Rissmiller, Tel. 508-831-5019, Email: kjr@wpi.edu

University Compliance Officer Jon E. Bartelson, Tel. 508-831-5725, Email: jonb@wpi.edu

Your participation in this interview is voluntary. Your refusal to participate will not result in any penalty to you or any loss of benefits to which you may otherwise be entitled. You may decide to stop filming at any time without penalty or loss of other benefits.

By signing below, you acknowledge that you have been informed about and consent to be a participant in the study described above. Make sure that your questions are answered to your satisfaction before signing. You are entitled to retain a copy of this consent agreement.

Participant Signature (If under 18)

Participant Name Printed

Date(mm/dd/yyyy)

Participant Signature (If over 18)

Participant Name Printed

Date(mm/dd/yyyy)

Signature of Person who explained interview

Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

Part C—Park Representatives and City Officials Interviews

Interview 1

Conducted on December 10, 2018

1. What is your role with the Worcester Parks Department?
 - Assistant commissioner of public works and parks, park recreation cemetery division 14000 acres, 61 parks, hope cemetery. All of forestry operations. Golf course and capital projects.
2. What are your goals for the Worcester Park Department?
 - High quality, park and rec experience for our residents. Lucky over last few years to increase number of construction projects and expanding projects to make facilities better. Used to be that they used to make cuts. 2004 lost 1/3 of staff. Always have the battle of that and increasing availability and accessibility and having a high quality.
3. How would you describe the Park's Department relationship with Park Spirit?
 - Park spirit before he got here helped help when prop 2.5 came. The city made huge cuts and park spirit helped them. Closing schools, turning off street lights. Initially helped fundraise and help this issue, and advocate for parks.
 - They look at them as a partner, yes Worcester owns, but they help with facilitation and events stuff that they cant do. By law they can't fundraise but they can do that. Continue to promote public parks
 - In general, use them as a vehicle to get public input, management, maintenance and programming, the facilities that have that non-profit more input, tend to be cared for better. Less vandalism. It helps them stay focused on their regular tasks. 10 little leagues, Babe Ruth, flag and tackle football. They all bring a different function, but they promote good activity in the parks.
4. What are Park Spirit's goals? How successful are they in accomplishing your goals.
 - Promote Worcester's public parks. They do a decent job. The website doesn't help that. In their conversations with the group, he can tell you what they want to do and what they are doing, but it is not publically available. Have it on their website, and have them reevaluate every year. If you redo it, you can better evaluate and achieve their goals. If you were to donate, what would it do? One thing that is beneficial, in January they should update objectives and goals for the year vs. just a general goal. Better for the users.
5. How does the Parks Department aid Park Spirit in their mission?
 - We aid park spirit by assisting them with the events. Ex. Bancroft tower. They assist them with security staff and landscaping. Also help them with the concerts; they supply the stage and other things for them that help save costs.

- Park spirit helps advocate for spending, they need letters of rec or assistance when needed. They give recreational programming functions with their ability to fundraise. They're on management and maintenance and park spirit programming. Although they do cleanups
 - Friends of newton hill- member of park spirit, 16 years. They have really made it what it is now. They do a lot of legwork on the maintenance side. Park and rec does not do much except general mowing of the newton square. They also do programming but more maintenance intensive.
6. How does Park Spirit aid the Parks Department?
- Help with stage stuff and that general maintenance, and they will generally have staff on site. The elm park concert series, they have staff with the bathrooms. Bancroft they just has the security. Anytime there is a bathroom open they're usually on site. Try to help to lessen their costs. Assist them in terms of promotion with them. Try to talk about it in their commission meeting. Through media
7. Does the Parks Department help park Spirit with event planning? Are you on site?
- We work with a whole bunch. All little leagues, Babe Ruth, sports leagues in general, CDCs and depending on neighborhoods, the neighborhoods groups and will communicate those as well. Other friends groups. (Institute) the historical neighborhoods. Depends on the local of the park and they will use that to try and get out the information. Use the groups and colleges and reach out in that fashion to try to get information and invite them to events.
8. Does the Parks Department work with any other organizations throughout Worcester?
- Some colleges better relationships than others. They know some marketing guys, or the CFO. Go to other colleges where they just go to president's office and just go to communication. WPI they work with alumni. They do a yearly cleanup with WPI. Depends on whom we know and where we know them and make relationships that ways. Works sometimes and doesn't work.
 - Partnerships are built on respect and trust. It's the results of what and the way they do it is what matters. These organizations have all built up that respect and honesty that developed that relationship. When bad things happen it negatively affects the relationship. Have to make sure that the volunteer groups are honest and trustworthy throughout the whole process. Have to understand where we are coming from and make an agreement. People who don't do that lose credibility and trust quickly.
 - They will generally just call the main office or just make a request or file a permit. Everyone follows the same process. If he needs something they will reach out. Sometimes he will take call and feed it to staff, but communication is both ways. Most of the times they take that route and don't bother mayor or city manager, and not back door it. IF he says no, then he understands political process, but he will try to make majority of requests work.
 - Most no's are we want to have a carnival in the park. Going to destroy the park. The majority is carnivals. Big Carnivals. Most everything else they

can work with and work around. They will generally get requests. Once they go through the process that it takes, they will start to ratchet up and most organizations will roll the things back and everything will become more reasonable. There is a lot that will go into 20000 people that they don't think about until park and rec gets involved.

Recommendations for Park Spirit

- Park Spirit is great and he wants us to help them. The website, a volunteer manual. Maybe there is a way so that contact info, and willing to help and then an easy contact. A donation wise, that makes it a little more easily accessible. Clarifying what they do and how they do it. And whatever they do we should have the city take a look at. It would be good to get a review by parks and rec and they might have something they want to clarify.

Interview 2

Conducted on January 28, 2019

A) Elm Park and B) Friends of Newton Hill at Elm Park

1. Can you provide us with a brief description of the park, including historical context, features, and key events?
 - One of the first publically owned parks in the country.
 - Used to be a swamp ground, but was redesigned by Homestead.
 - Initially, there was a horse race track and baseball field.
 - The other side of Elm Park was not developed. Now it is a downtown park that is easily accessible and one of the most used parks in Worcester.
2. Do you have any relationships or partnerships with other neighboring organizations?
 - Friends of Newton Hill are the community group. They are in charge of taking care of most things regarding Newton Hill. The city understands the role that Friends of Newton Hill plays in that park and trusts them to be good stewards of the park.
3. What are some organizations that you have worked with in the past regarding advancements to your park?
 - Friends of Dodge, Friends of Rogers Kennedy, Green Hill Park Association, Team Newton Hill Disc Golf Team, The Boynton
 - Blue Jeans Pizza (their biggest funder): Donates all of the profit from food sales at the concert series to the organization.

Park Spirit

1. What is Park Spirit of Worcester to you and what is their purpose?
 - Park Spirit advocates for all of Worcester's parks.
 - Groups like Friends of Newton Hill would not be possible because of the nonprofit status that they fall under because of Park Spirit.
2. Can you outline your past relationship with Park Spirit?
 - The most active group that works with Park Spirit.
3. Can you outline your current relationship with Park Spirit?
 - Continue to fall under their nonprofit umbrella.
 - Members of Friends of Newton Hill are also members of Park Spirit's board.
4. What are your organization's aspirations for a future partnership with Park Spirit?
 - Continue to maintain and improve Newton Hill.
 - Program the park to draw more people in while still maintaining a safe environment.

Understanding the Neighborhood

1. What is the average income class for the residents of the surrounding neighborhood?
 - Southern side of the park: low income neighborhood
 - Northern side of the park: upper-middle class neighborhood.
2. How would you classify the diversity of the surrounding neighborhood?
 - Worcester is very ethnically diverse in general and that applies to the areas that surround Elm Park.
 - The park is in the center of Worcester so it attracts all types of demographics.

Interview 3

Conducted on January 29, 2019

C) Coes Park

1. Can you provide us with a brief description of the park, including historical context, features, and key events?
 - Fully handicap accessible park with staff organized bathrooms that include changing tables.
 - Four season park. Activities include ice fishing and walking around the track.
 - Increased accessibility to Columbus Park by the new bridge.
2. Do you have any relationships or partnerships with other neighboring organizations?
 - Continue to work with the city to make improvements
 - Seven Hills Foundation is a major part of their success. They do maintenance at the parks and will run the operations in the new tavern once it is built.
 - Coes Zone Task Force, Watershed Association, Columbus Park Association, District Councilors
 - City Manager Edward Augustus and District 5 Councilor Wally were key initiators in the project.
 - Since Manager Augustus has come into the office priorities for the parks has increased.
3. What are some organizations that you have worked with in the past regarding advancements to your park?
 - Ninety-six different neighboring organizations were involved with fully funding the work to be done on the tavern.
4. On a scale of one to five, how well resourced or funded is your park?
 - Four, the city and sponsors have done an excellent job of providing the park with resources necessary to provide an accessible and positive park experience.
5. How would you describe the every day user of this park in a few words?
 - Multi-generational, walkers, runners, fishermen

D) Columbus Park

1. Can you provide us with a brief description of the park, including historical context, features, and key events?
 - This park is mostly used for swimming in the summer time.
2. What are some organizations that you have worked with in the past regarding advancements to your park?
 - The city tried to do a couple of projects to the park but there is no good access or electricity, which did not allow any advancement to get done.

- The city does not recognize it as a city beach.
3. How well resourced or funded is this park?
 - Very poorly resourced and funded.

E) Knights of Columbus Park

1. Can you provide us with a brief description of the park, including historical context, features, and key events?
 - There was a big issue with funding which made the city take control.
 - Initially wanted it to be a destination park with new turf and leagues but the neighborhood didn't back the idea.
 - They decided to keep the natural grass field and keep local sports leagues.
 - No accessible playground.

Park Spirit

1. What is Park Spirit of Worcester to you and what is their purpose?
 - Advocacy group primary dealing with the Elm Park and Newton Hill area.
 - Contribute volunteers and staff to run different events.
2. Can you outline your past relationship with Park Spirit?
 - They have become more available and accessible to these three parks.
3. What are your organization's aspirations for a future partnership with Park Spirit?
 - Continue to be available to park organizations and create opportunities for advocacy.
 - Each park is at a different developmental level, so look for ways for all of the park groups to have a shared vision for what the parks should look like around the city. Find ways to complement the needs of each neighborhood relating to their park.

Understanding the Neighborhood

1. What is the average income class for the residents of the surrounding neighborhood?
 - Low-middle class income neighborhoods. Gated and non-gated surrounding communities.
2. How would you classify the diversity of the surrounding neighborhood?
 - A very diverse area all around the three parks.

Interview 4

Conducted on January 31, 2019

F) Oread Castle Park

1. Can you provide us with a brief description of the park, including historical context, features, and key events?
 - The first park to have a fully funded master plan from the city.
 - The people that come to the park are generally walking distance away; designed to be a neighborhood park
 - The park has low accessibility and low visibility, hard to get there, no parking
 - Drop in summer camps, soccer leagues, basketball courts all happen at the park.
2. Do you have any relationships or partnerships with other neighboring organizations?
 - The initial movement to advocate for the park was done by neighboring residents.
 - Residents, Property owners, developers all got involved because they saw the benefit of creating a positive and safe community park.
3. What are some organizations that you have worked with in the past regarding advancements to your park?
 - Castle Park Task Force, REC Worcester, Worcester Tree Initiative, BSC Group, Preservation Worcester

G) University (Crystal) Park

1. Do you have any relationships or partnerships with other neighboring organizations?
 - Clark University is the leading partner. They have connected with this park through their PILOT agreement. They have donated over one million dollars to University Park.
 - Worked with a local artist to create a mosaic with children attending the park.
2. What are some organizations that you have worked with in the past regarding advancements to your park?
 - Mainly apply for grants. Currently have an approved two-year fifty thousand dollar grant to pay for increased security in the park, a youth outreach program that helps kids make connections, and events like outdoor movies and concerts.
 - Clark University conducted a study on perceived violent in Main South Worcester that reported an eighty-seven percent decrease in perceived violence in the area.
3. How well resourced or funded is your park?
 - The park is being funded by grants. It may not be sustainable but the completed master plan has made things easier.

Park Spirit

1. Can you outline your past relationship with Park Spirit?
 - Involved with the concert series. Sees the benefit that Park Spirit brings to the community.
2. What are your organization's aspirations for a future partnership with Park Spirit?
 - Focus on programming more of Worcester's parks and making them accessible to all people. Should be free, accessible, multigenerational, and ongoing.
 - Celebrate the history of parks and make that information available to everyone.
 - Find opportunities to hire paid staff.
 - Bring value to neighboring organizations by aligning their mission statement to yours
 - Have a map outlining certain features that parks have such as a playground or field.

Understanding the Neighborhood

1. What is the average income class for the residents of the surrounding neighborhood?
 - Main South Worcester: colored and Latino.
2. How would you classify the diversity of the surrounding neighborhood?
 - Main South Worcester: low income neighborhood
 - Park users vary in diversity.

Interview 5

Conducted on February 7, 2019

District 1

City Context and Park Management

1. Can you provide us with some background about yourself?
 - Works with a lot of nonprofit and volunteer organizations including women's empowerment programs and Little League coaching.
 - Holds strong beliefs that sports can relate to many important challenges such as physical and group therapy and dealing with stress and opioids.
2. Can you provide us with a brief description of your district and the parks that are in it, including historical context, features, and key events?
 - Some of the parks in the district are Burncoat Park, Tacoma Park, Indian Lake, and Indian Hill, which has an essential master plan.
3. What is the average income class for the residents in the district?
 - The district is divided with regard to wealth: Left side - affluent, Middle - Blue-collar, Right – retirees.
4. How would you classify the diversity of the surrounding neighborhood?
 - People in the district are paying attention to what is going on; they get about 6000 voters on Election Day.
 - No diversity in the district — Great Brook area: Color and Hispanic, Burncoat area: White, Salisbury: White
 - Description of the people in the district—Attentive, Energized, Giver
 - Everyone wants to get involved and try to help
 - Bell Pond Area — Lower socioeconomic class; Cleanest blue space in the city although yellow trash bags are thrown around the area.
5. An issue facing urban cities is that low-income communities, usually of color, lack green space. Do you feel that this statement holds true in Worcester? Have you seen this issue change in the past twenty to thirty years?
 - Ed Augustus has a vision for the city and it relates to the parks
 - There is an increased blue space initiative
 - Requires a bacteria test for each park
 - Master plans are treated like propose plans because they are not fully completed. Parks are split up into sections and fixed section by section when the funds are available

Park Spirit and Partnerships

1. What is Park Spirit of Worcester to you and what is their purpose?
 - Enhances parks (they are the trumpet sound).

- They do an outstanding job with Bancroft Tower.
 - Preserve and create awareness for neighborhoods and parks.
 - Their work such as concert series helps create a place to give back to families.
2. Can you outline your past relationship with Park Spirit?
 - Councilor connection to Park Spirit
 - Work as a liaison between Park Spirit and the City
 - Shore Drive Concert series
 - Park Spirit makes everything easier for all parties involved; they do the dirty work.
 3. What are some organizations that you have worked with in the past regarding advancements to your district's parks?
 - Planting the Seed Foundation, 365z Foundation, WalkBike Worcester
 - Bancroft Tower looks to the city.
 - Indian Lake are on their own and look to do everything themselves.
 - There is a project in the works to clear up space near the local YMCA (Shore Park).
 4. What are your organization's aspirations for a future partnership with Park Spirit?
 - Connect sports programs with parks.

Interview 6

Conducted on February 5, 2019

H) Shale St Playground and I) Holmes Field

1. Can you provide us with a brief description of the park, including historical context, features, and key events?
 - Overgrown public playground
2. Do you have any relationships or partnerships with other neighboring organizations?
 - They have a four-year grant from CSX.
 - They have raised over three million dollars for playground improvements.
3. What are some organizations that you have worked with in the past regarding advancements to your park?
 - Worked with the city on advancements to Holmes Field.
 - The city needs to see improvement on project funding.
 - The city wants to support them but there is an issue with a small piece of private land needed for the park.

Park Spirit

1. What is Park Spirit of Worcester to you and what is their purpose?
 - Concerned with Worcester's parks and want to preserve them.
2. Can you outline your current relationship with Park Spirit?
 - Working with Park Spirit on their current project to recreate the space.
3. What are your organization's aspirations for a future partnership with Park Spirit?

Understanding the Neighborhood

1. What is the average income class for the residents of the surrounding neighborhood?
 - Low-moderate income level.
2. How would you classify the diversity of the surrounding neighborhood?
 - Forty seven percent Latino, fifteen percent Color, six percent Asian, thirty two percent White.
 - Congested neighborhood with crime.

Interview 7

Conducted on February 6, 2019

District 5

City Context and Park Management

1. Can you provide us with some background about yourself?
 - Very familiar with Worcester.
 - Holy Cross BA and Clark MBA.
 - He has been a part of Parks commission and nonprofit boards in Worcester.
2. Can you provide us with a brief description of your district and the parks that are in it, including historical context, features, and key events?
 - Describes District 5 in terms of landmarks
 - Webster Square
 - Doherty Square
 - Worcester State University
 - District 5 has about a dozen parks
 - Newton Park, Harwood Park, Logan Field, Beaver Park, Boynton Park, Spillane Park/Field, Apricot Street Park.
3. What is the average income class for the residents of the surrounding neighborhood?
 - Income is varying with most of the people being middle class.
4. How would you classify the diversity of the surrounding neighborhood?
 - Ethnicity is mostly Caucasian
 - Hard working, committed, respectful.
5. Who holds the responsibility of certain park tasks such as maintenance? Is that the responsibility of the city, the Park's Department, neighborhood organizations, or anyone else?
 - The Parks Department has the primary responsibility to maintain parks in the area.
6. An issue facing urban cities is that low-income communities, usually of color, lack green space. Do you feel that this statement holds true in Worcester? Have you seen this issue change in the past twenty to thirty years?
 - The city allocates resources without regard for income or demographics and does a particularly good job of considering this.
 - Ed Augustus has identified specific ways to get resources for the parks.
7. How well resourced or funded are your district's parks?

- With the 2008 Economic Recession, Worcester parks were badly affected by the distribution of resources.
- Resources - 2 out of 5.
- There is only so much to go around so the goal is maintaining not improving.

Park Spirit and Partnerships

1. What is Park Spirit of Worcester to you and what is their purpose?
 - Collection of volunteers that helps with parks advocacy.
 - Rick Miller is vital to their success.
 - Steward for all of the parks.
2. What are some organizations that you have worked with in the past regarding advancements to your district's parks?
 - On the executive board for Coes Zone Task Force.
3. What are your organization's aspirations for a future partnership with Park Spirit?
 - To continue their mission they need a budget.

What they need to do is apply for grants for a good source of revenue and program more often.

Interview 8

Conducted on February 6, 2019

District 4

City Context and Park Management

1. Can you provide us with some background about yourself?
 - She has been in Worcester her whole life.
 - Glad to be a part of an administration that focuses on green space.
2. Can you provide us with a brief description of your district and the parks that are in it, including historical context, features, and key events?
 - Elm Park (most used), Castle Park, University (Crystal) Park, Crompton Park, Clifton Park
 - Green space is widely used by the community.
 - These parks are well funded.
 - Revitalized and all renovated.
 - Groups, organizations, and people are motivated to help.
3. How would you classify the diversity of the surrounding neighborhood?
 - Ethnically and economically diverse.
 - Each section of the district is different and historic in their own way; many varying experiences.
4. Who holds the responsibility of certain park tasks such as maintenance? Is that the responsibility of the city, the Park's Department, neighborhood organizations, or anyone else?
 - Not enough people to fully cleanup each park
 - City Manager has done a good job of adding more funding for park staff

Park Spirit and Partnerships

1. What is Park Spirit of Worcester to you and what is their purpose?
 - They create recreational and social opportunities.
 - Amazing concert series.
 - They are well connected with district parks.
2. What are some organizations that you have worked with in the past regarding advancements to your district's parks?
 - Main South CDC, REC, Farmer's Market, Holy Cross incorporates Clifton Park.
3. What are your organization's aspirations for a future partnership with Park Spirit?
 - Community clean up.
 - They should create more recreational opportunities for children.

Interview 9

Conducted on February 6, 2019

1. Can you provide us with some background about yourself?
 - Lived in Worcester my whole life. Went to school in Boston.
 - Ran City Council in 1997.
 - Eight years as mayor during four terms.
2. Can you provide us with a brief description of your district and the parks that are in it, including historical context, features, and key events?
 - There are lots of master plans but not a lot gets done. The master plan starts with the parks commission and then goes to a sub-commission. They complete a lot of the process by getting input from the community. They plan out the costs and create plans.
 - Added over \$50 million to parks over the last five years.
 - The Worcester Common, Hadwin Park, Castle Park, Shore Park, and Lincoln Square receive upgrades.
3. Who is Park Spirit to you and what is their purpose?
 - They have a presence in the Newton Hill area and they make it useful.
 - There is a lot of time and effort that gets put into their organization.
 - Parks serve as a great asset to the city. They improve the quality of life by creating recreational activities. Examples are sports and relaxation places. Entertainment can also be incorporated into parks. The Common is a great place for this.
4. Who is responsible for the maintenance of parks?
 - The Parks Department should do the maintenance. There are more people going into the parks and they are not funded well enough although there have been improvements over the last years.

Partnerships

- The Boys Club, FONH and Mass Audubon have been partners.
- Parks are funded by taxes and grants.

Worcester

- Worcester is growing in population. The popularity is increasing and this is important to provide jobs for people who come in.

Interview 10

Conducted on January 7, 2019

J) South Worcester Playground

1. Can you provide us with a brief description of the park, including historical context, features, and key events?
 - Formerly known as Maloney Field and Harry Sherry Field.
 - Used to be a place for events such as the Fourth of July bonfire. This activity brought neighborhoods together and allowed them to bond.
 - Baseball was a big deal, as people from all over would use the field to play in leagues.
 - Their building next to the field is used for a wide variety of things such as showers after games, birthday parties, concerts, movies, and plays.
2. Do you have any relationships or partnerships with other neighboring organizations?
 - We look to each out to most local businesses. It is important for them to invest in the parks as the condition of your park speaks about the neighborhood. Businesses want the neighborhoods that they are in to be positive, therefore, they will want to give back to the parks.
3. What are some organizations that you have worked with in the past regarding advancements to your park?
 - The city is a big help. They are providing \$250,000 over the next four years to renovate the park.
 - Robert Antonelli wrote a grant for the park for \$400,000.

Park Spirit

1. What is Park Spirit of Worcester to you and what is their purpose?
 - Advocates for all of the parks.
 - The ideal vehicle for investing into the parks because people will know the money is going directly to the parks.
2. What are your organization's aspirations for a future partnership with Park Spirit?
 - They should bring back their catalog of resources that could be bought for specific parks.
 - Speak to more neighboring businesses.
 - Many community parks need to work on advocacy.

Understanding the Neighborhood

1. What is the average income class for the residents of the surrounding neighborhood?
 -
2. How would you classify the diversity of the surrounding neighborhood?
 - There is a lack of community engagement. Most people do not know their neighbors.

Interview 11

Conducted on February 8, 2019

K) Morgan Landing

1. Can you provide us with a brief description of the park, including historical context, features, and key events?
 - Has a fully drawn out master plan by Beals & Thomas. Does not think that the community had involvement in what the master plan included.
2. On a scale of one to five, how well resourced or funded is your park?
 - This park is not well resourced.
 - 1 out of 5.
 - Volunteers do all of the mowing and trimming.
3. How would you describe the every day user of this park?
 - Frustrated.

L) Indian Lake Beach

1. Can you provide us with a brief description of the park, including historical context, features, and key events?
 - Has a fully drawn out master plan. Does not think that the community had involvement in what the master plan included.
2. On a scale of one to five, how well resourced or funded is your park?
 - This park is not well resourced.
 - 1 out of 5.
3. How would you describe the every day user of this park?
 - Neighborhood.

M) Shore Park

1. Can you provide us with a brief description of the park, including historical context, features, and key events?
 - Has a fully drawn out master plan. Does not think that the community had involvement in what the master plan included.
 - People that do not live in the surrounding neighborhood use the park. It would be ideal to have local residents visiting the park.
2. Do you have any relationships or partnerships with other neighboring organizations?
 - The local YMCA took the lead in fundraising for the park's capital improvements. The building was built but there were not many improvements made to the park. There has not been much change over time.
3. On a scale of one to five, how well resourced or funded is your park?
 - This park is not well resourced.
 - 1 out of 5.
4. How would you describe the every day user of this park?

- Inner-city
- Don't value the area because they are not involved.

Park Spirit

1. What is Park Spirit of Worcester to you and what is their purpose?
 - A community group that focuses on city parks.
 - Work to engage the community and allow different people to go to the parks, which add value and healthy living.
 - Parks use nonprofit umbrella to make improvements.
 - Want to help other organizations promote parks.
2. Can you outline your past relationship with Park Spirit?
 - Shore Park concert series.
3. What are your organization's aspirations for a future partnership with Park Spirit?
 - Outline the amenities that each park has for people to find recreational areas.
Example: Menu for public tennis courts in District 1.
 - Program different events at Shore Park because people in the district may not want to use the beach.
 - Create ways to ensure the positive use of the parks. Focus on community engagement to get locals to support their neighboring park as they have a greater connection to it.
 - Understanding key demographics is important to advocating for the parks.
Example: Shore Park has a lot of neighboring families. Possible place for a new playground.

Understanding the Neighborhood

1. What is the average income class for the residents of the surrounding neighborhood?
 - Middle-high income class
 - Some renters that are single or multi family homes.
2. Who is responsible for the maintenance of these parks?
 - Neighboring communities conduct day-to-day cleanup.
 - The city normally empties trash.

Interview 12

Conducted on February 19, 2019

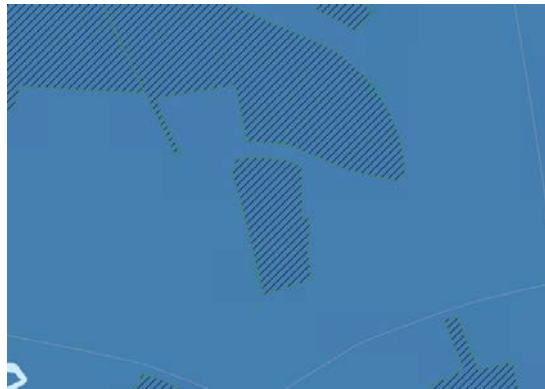
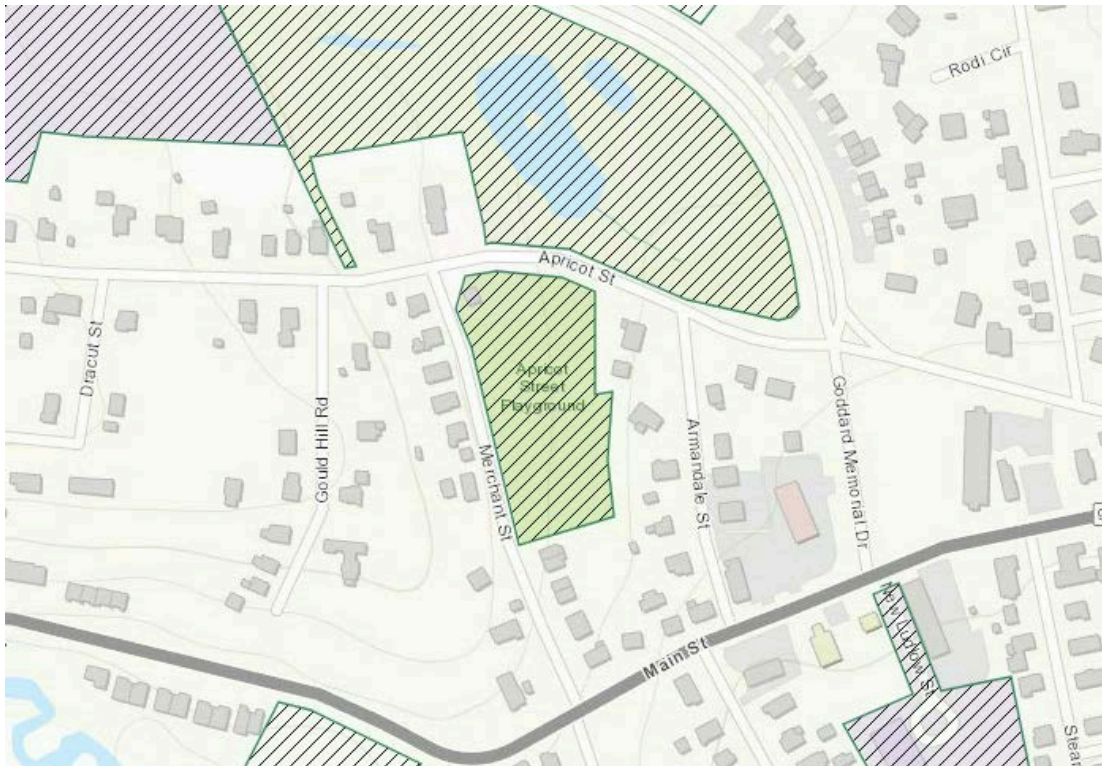
Edward M. Augustus Jr.

- Notable parks that have been improved during the past five years are Castle Park, Betty Price Playground (presents a neighborhood with a great socio-economic challenge), South Worcester Playground, and Crompton Park is next.
- Other projects include giving \$600,000 to the Canterbury Street School Playground (low income area).
- The city wants as many parks as possible to get a master plan. This allows people to get input as to what they want to see. The city uses them to try and attend to the communities needs. Despite this, there are issues that come up such as drainage, violence on the area, or general safety issues. There are also special occasions that require immediate attention, therefore, causing the plans to deviate.
- The demographics of the city are changing and that means the people's needs are changing.
- Built a new turf soccer field at Glodis Field on the east side of Worcester where there are more economic challenges. There are plans to build one on the west side as well.
- Offer free programming at parks in the form of summer programs. All ages and demographics attend the nine to five sessions and do all sorts of age specific activities. These events help activate the spaces and create awareness.
- Advancements at Blackstone Park include a boardwalk to create more offerings for different people.
- There is never going to be enough in the budget to attend to all sixty-one parks. Everyone involved with green space in Worcester needs to get involved.
- Understanding demographics is key to identifying what people need and then creating opportunities to attend to their needs. There needs to be a connection between the organizations and the community.
- Park Spirit advocates for all of the parks. They fill in the programming gaps that bring in a different group of people. The city would not be able to gather the resources available to put on events such as the concert series or open up Bancroft Tower.
- Park Maintenance is everybody's responsibility. The city should initiate the maintenance process and have done so by doubling the amount of park stewards. The friend's groups feel a certain responsibility to help their park and may want to do certain things themselves.
- The city looks to buy equipment that improves the efficiency of the maintenance.
- The city has an ongoing relationship with the police department. They have a say with regards to park planning. They give advice on positions of gates, cameras, lights, and visibility.
- The mentality for parks in Worcester has changed. Parks were seen as a luxury and now they are being viewed as a necessity. Green spaces give people opportunities to escape the urban environment.

- Park Spirit should continue to work on communication with the city and other green space organizations. They should provide input and suggestions park plans, ideas, and programs. Look for more opportunities to collaborate and coordinate conversations frequently.
- Hosting annual events will create community conversations and allow people to understand what is going on in their neighborhood.

Part G—Spatial Analysis Mapping

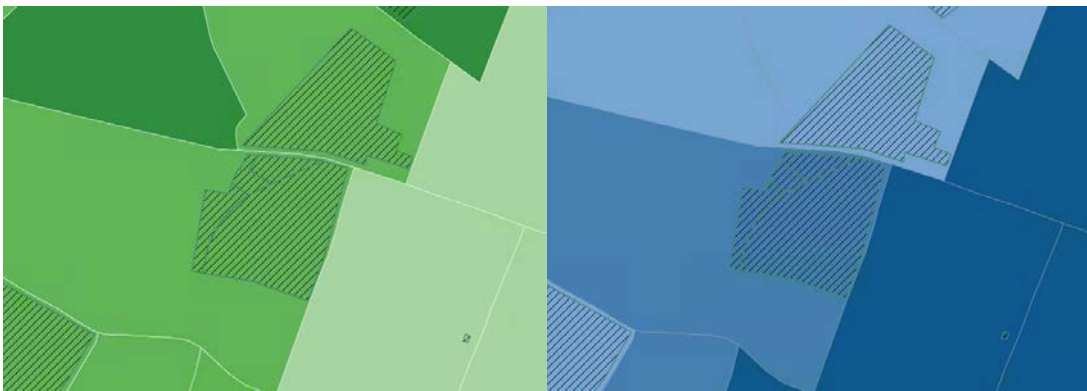
1. Apricot St Playground



2. Banis Park



3. Beaver Brook Park



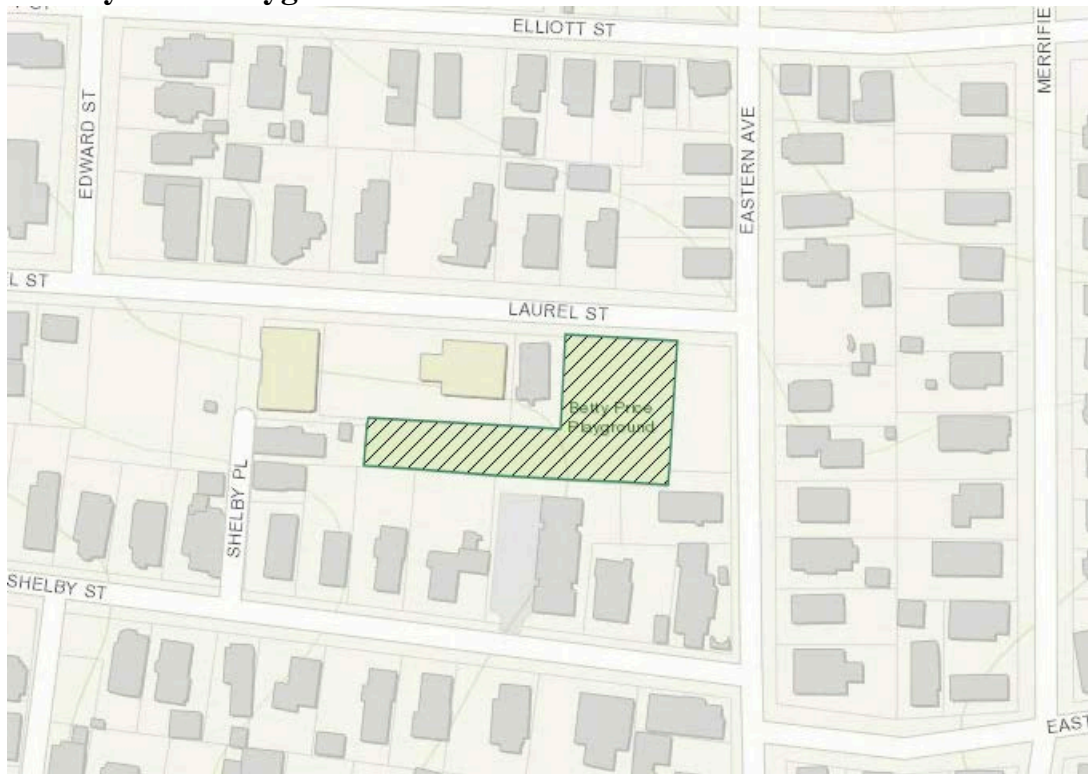
4. Bell Hill Park (Chandler Park)



5. Bennett Field



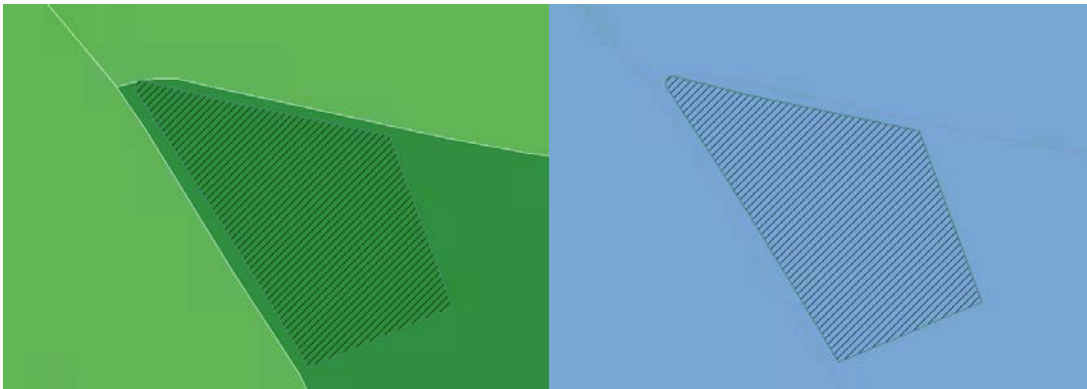
6. Betty Price Playground



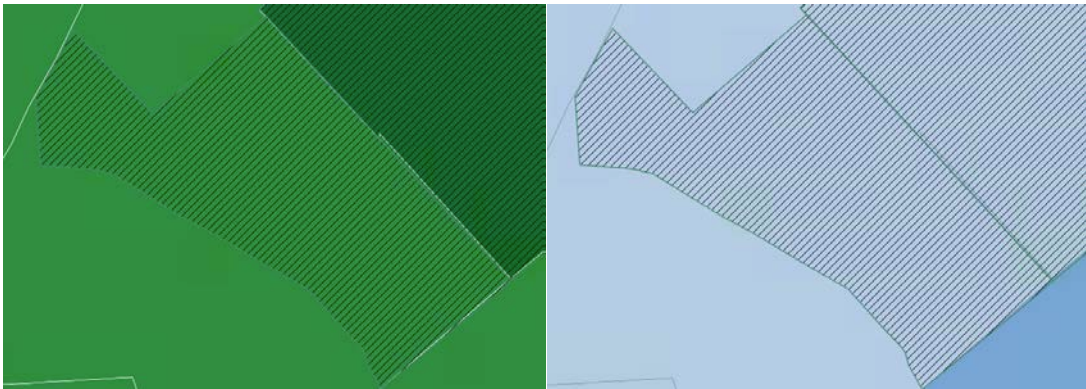
7. Binienda Beach (Coes Park)



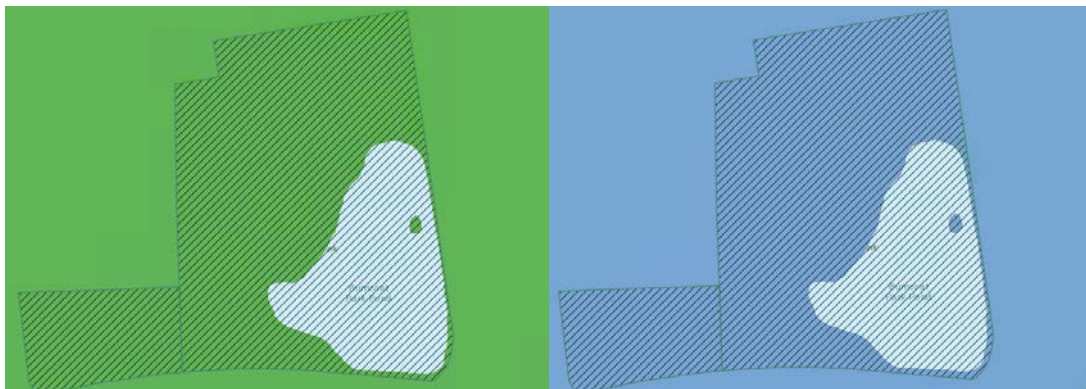
8. Blithewood Park



9. Boynton Park



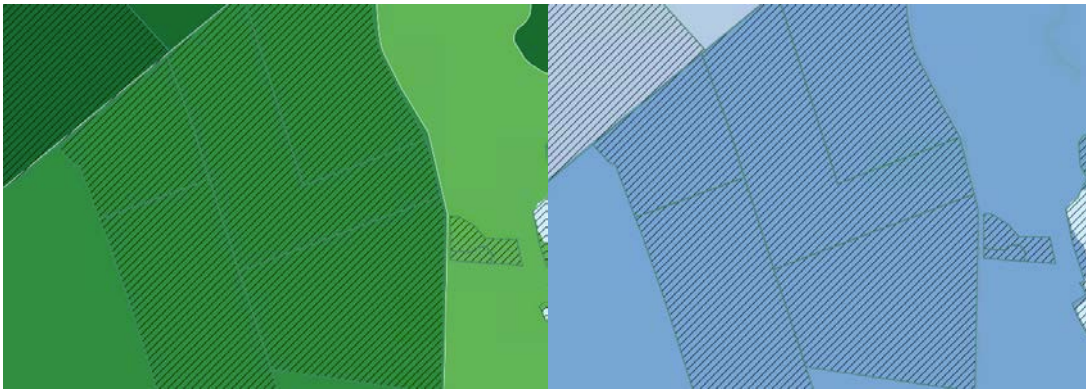
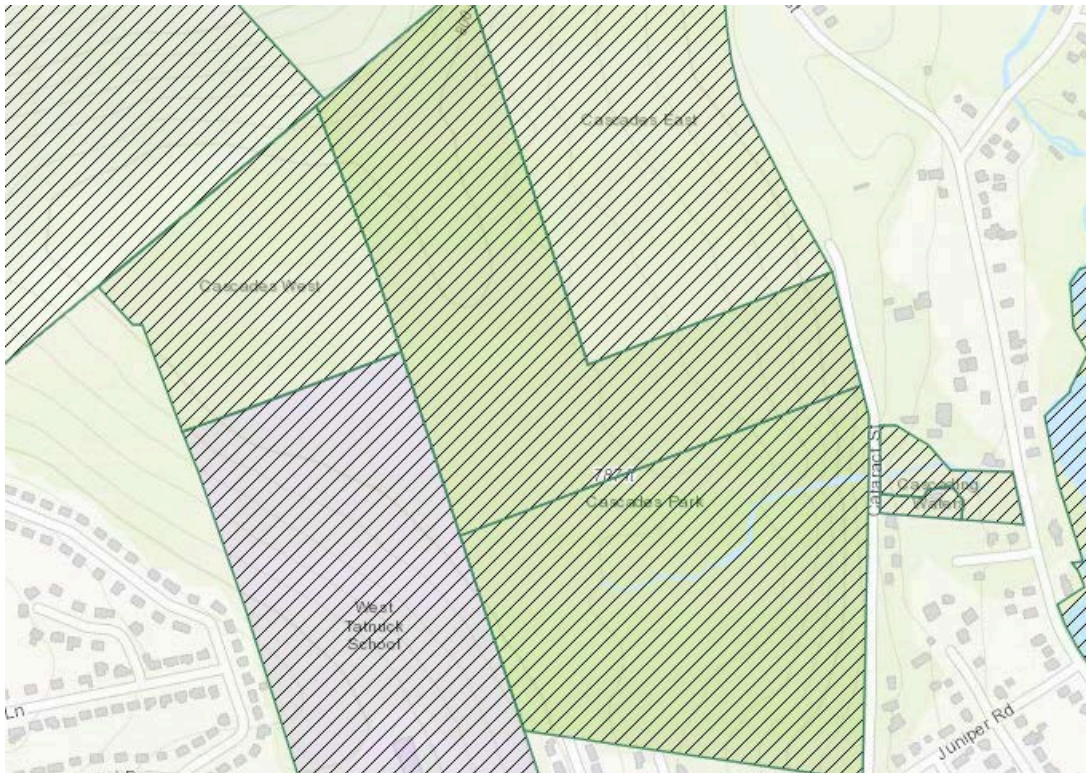
10. Burncoat Park



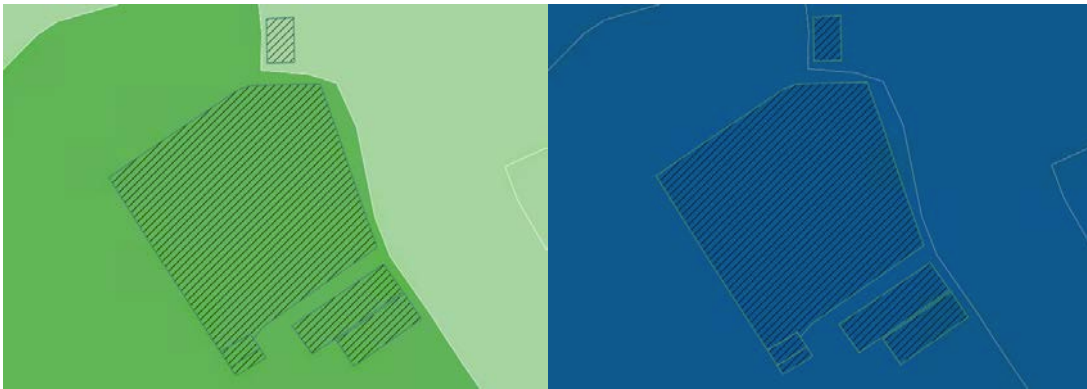
11. Burncoat Street Playground



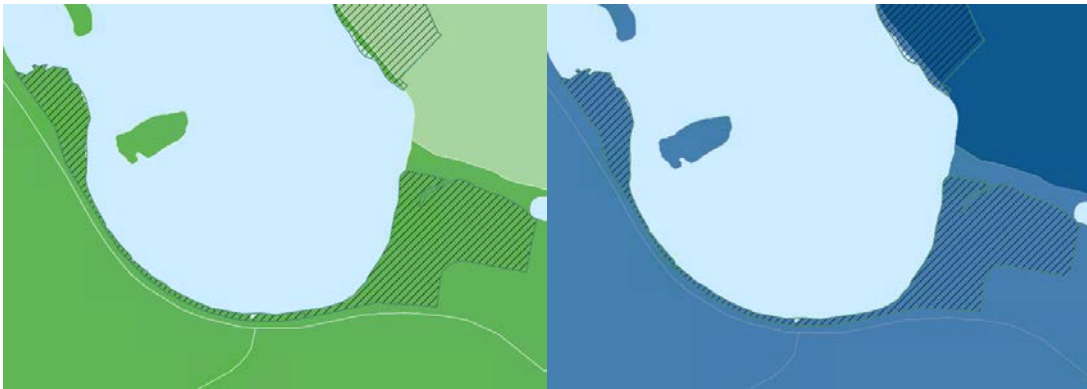
12. Cascades Park



13. Castle Park



14. Coes Knife Park



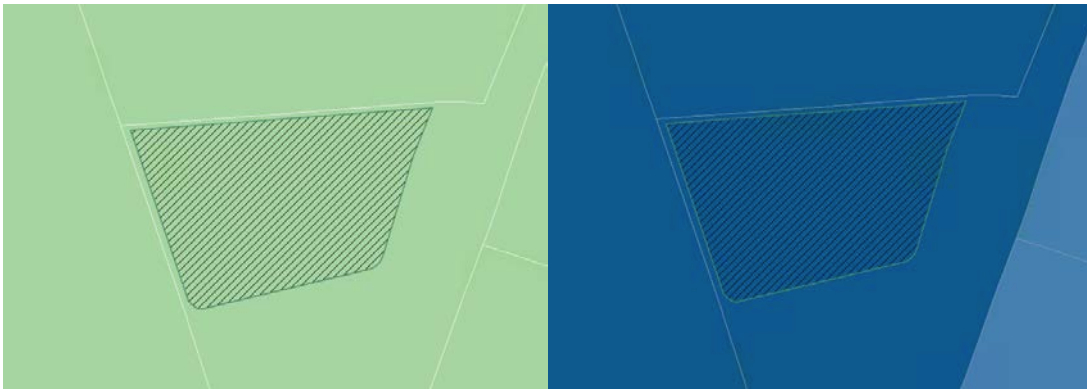
15. Columbus Park



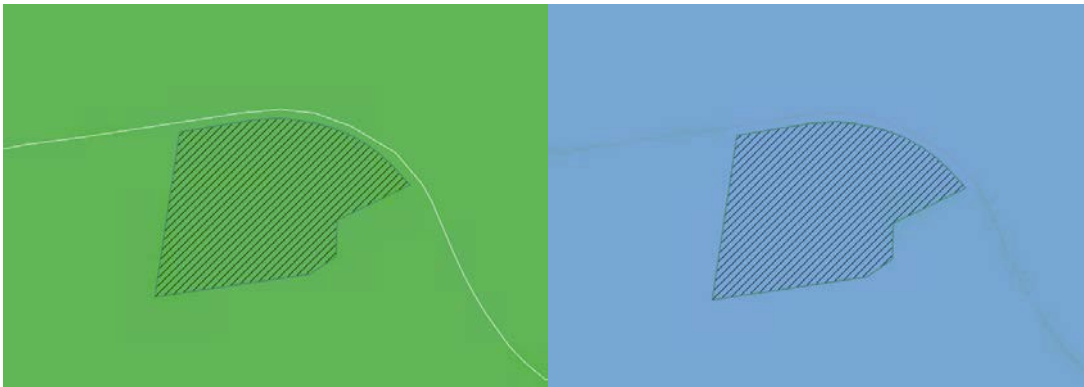
16. Cookson Park



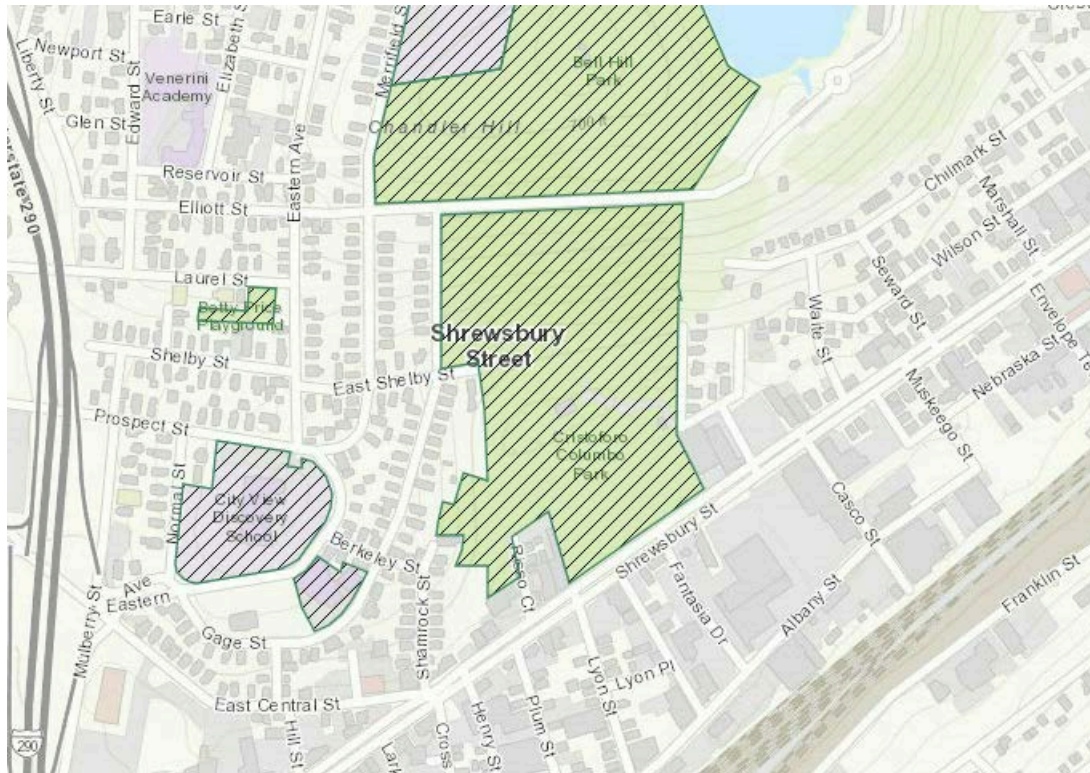
17. Crompton Park



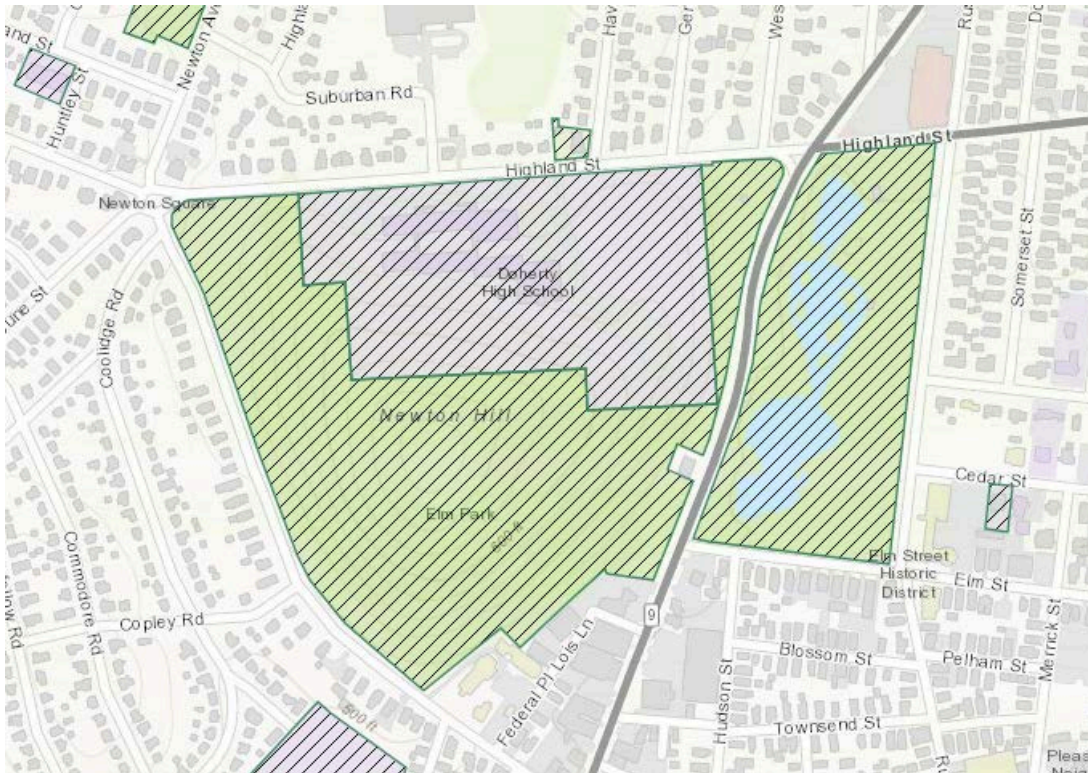
18. Dodge Park



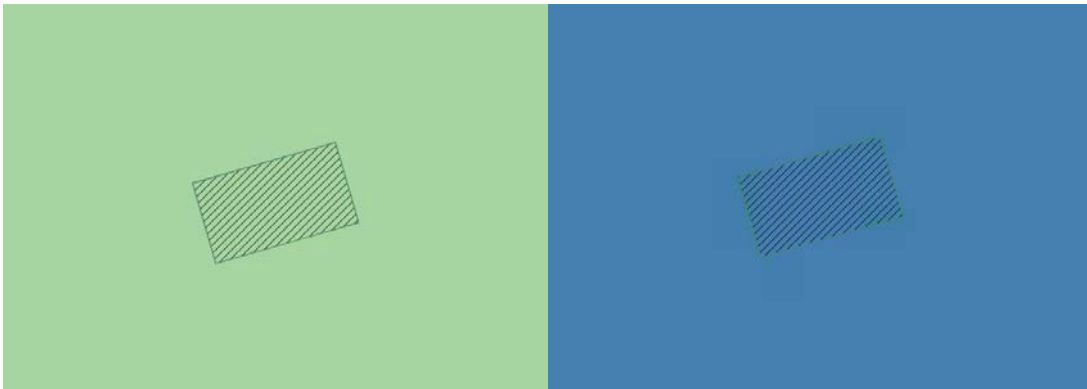
19. East Park



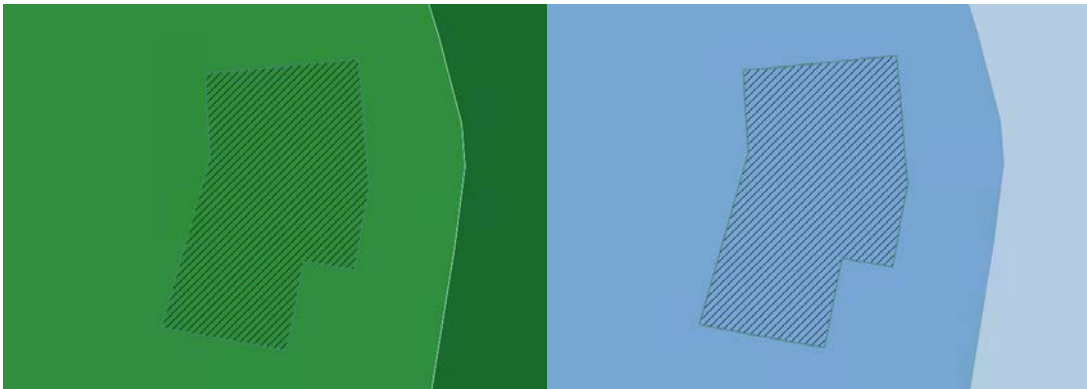
20. Elm Park



21. Fairmount Square Park



22. Farber Field



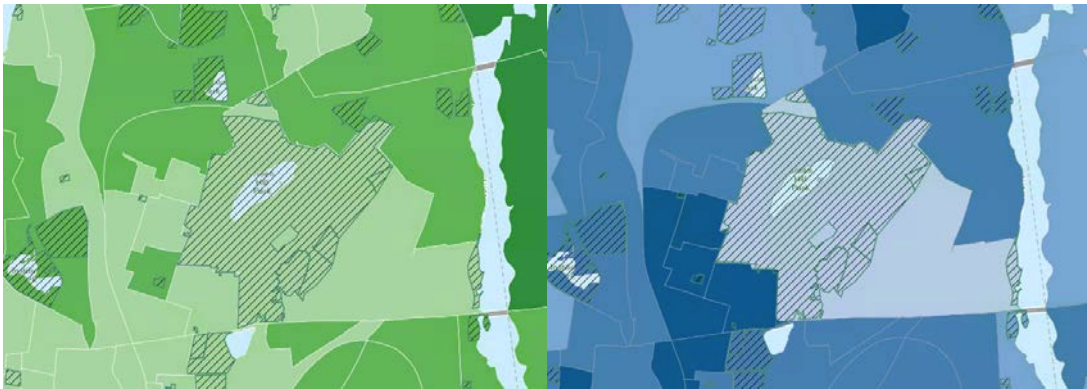
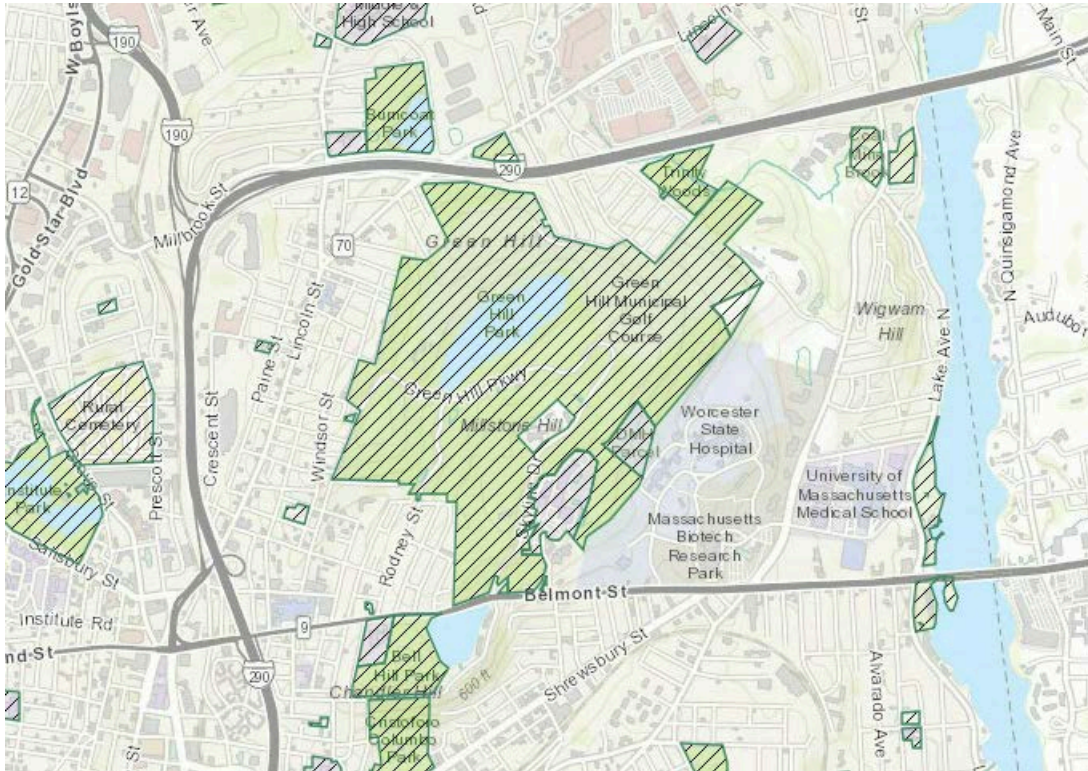
23. Grant Square Park



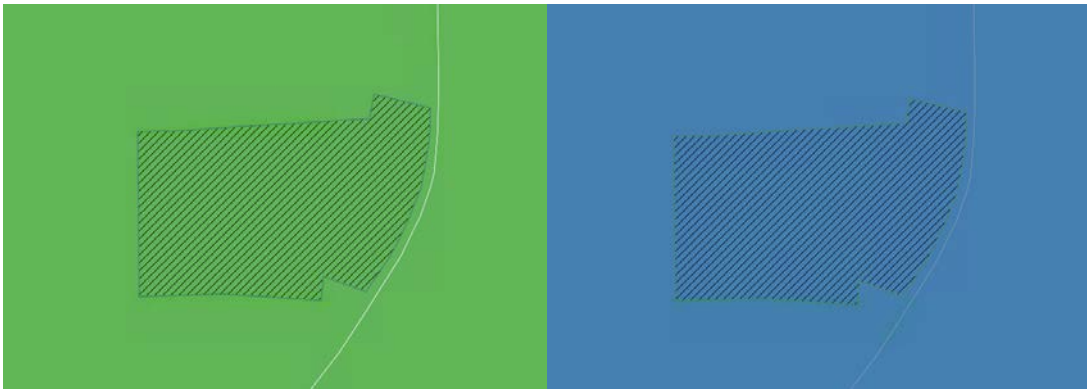
24. Great Brook Valley Playground

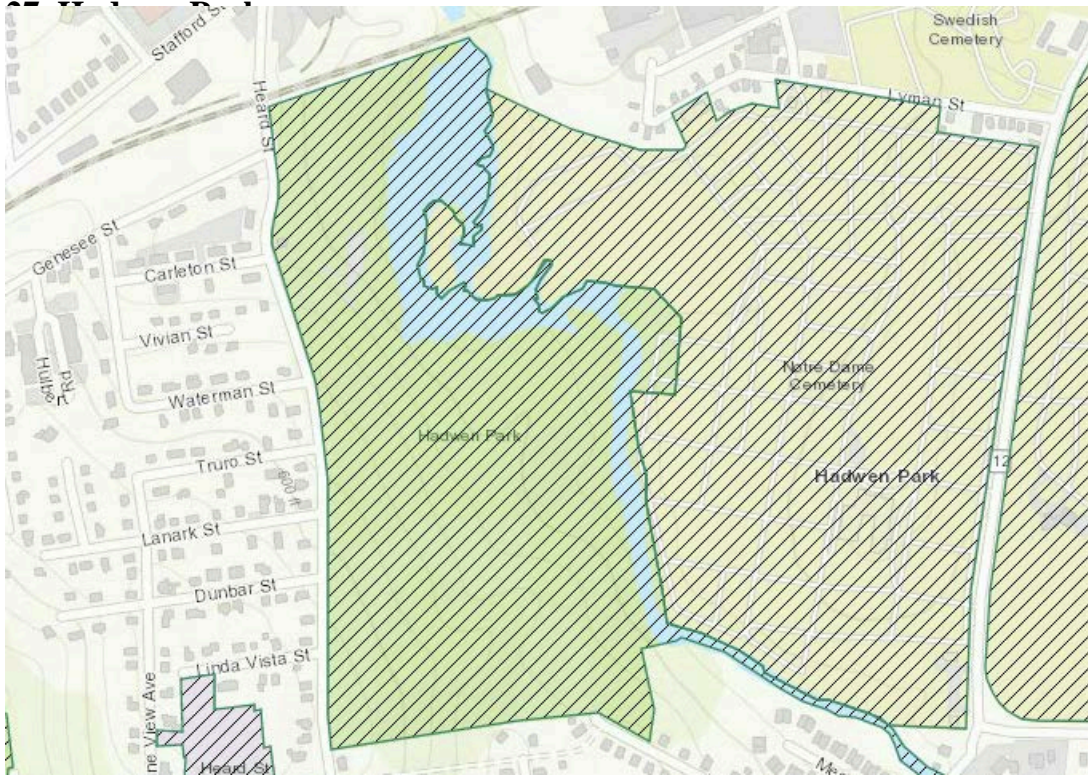


25. Green Hill Park

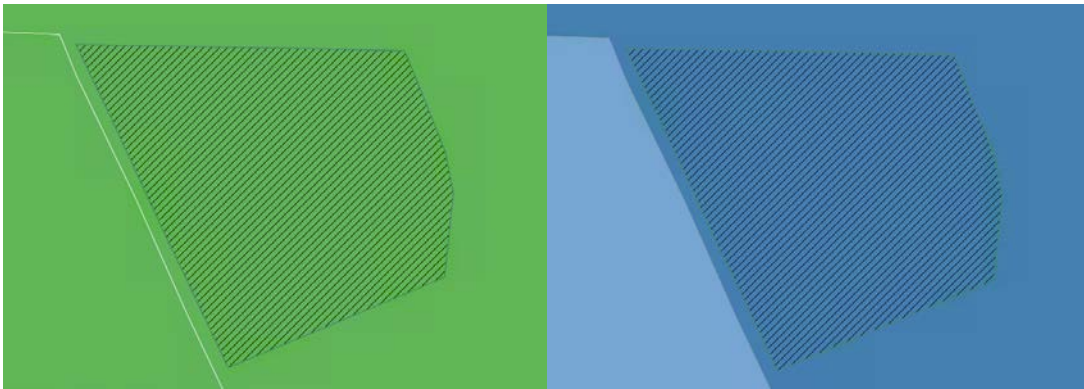


26. Greenwood Park

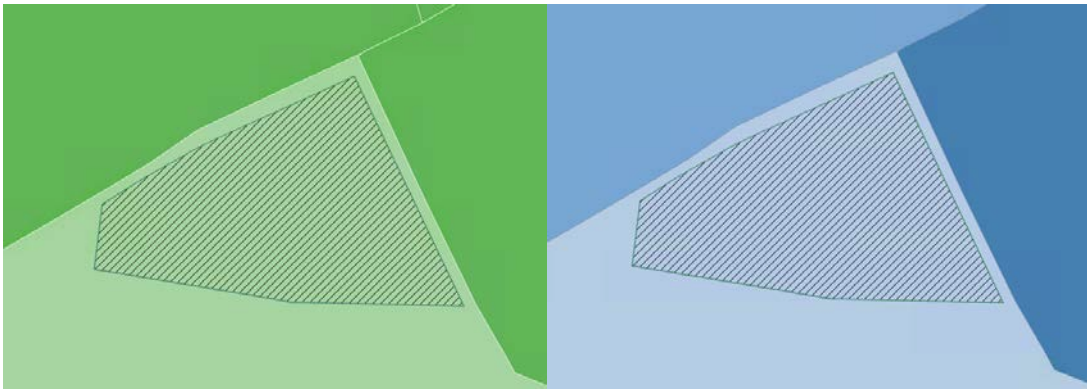




28. Harrington Field



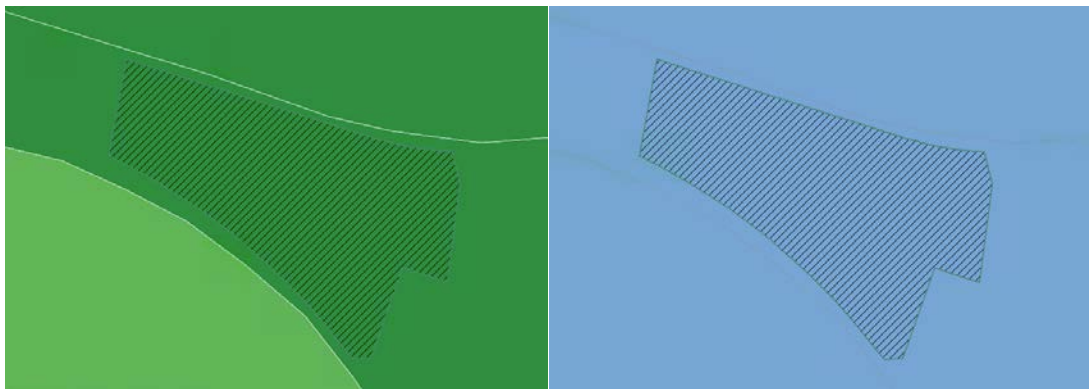
29. Holland Rink Playground



30. Holmes Field



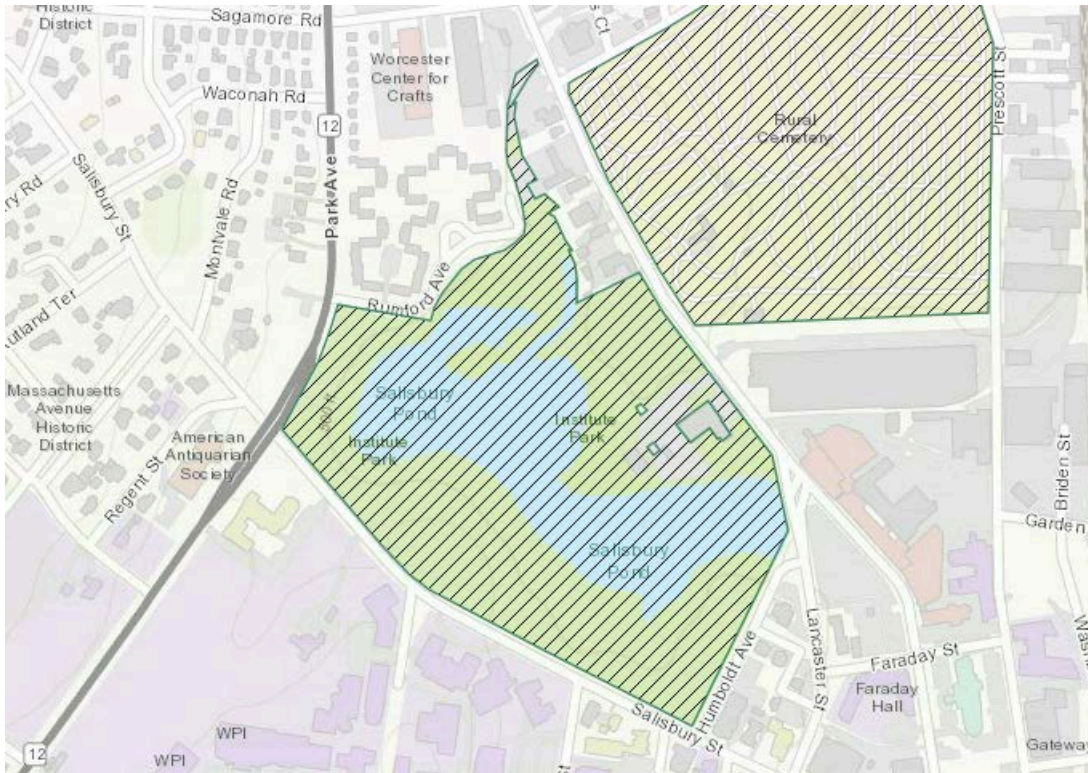
31. Indian Hill Park



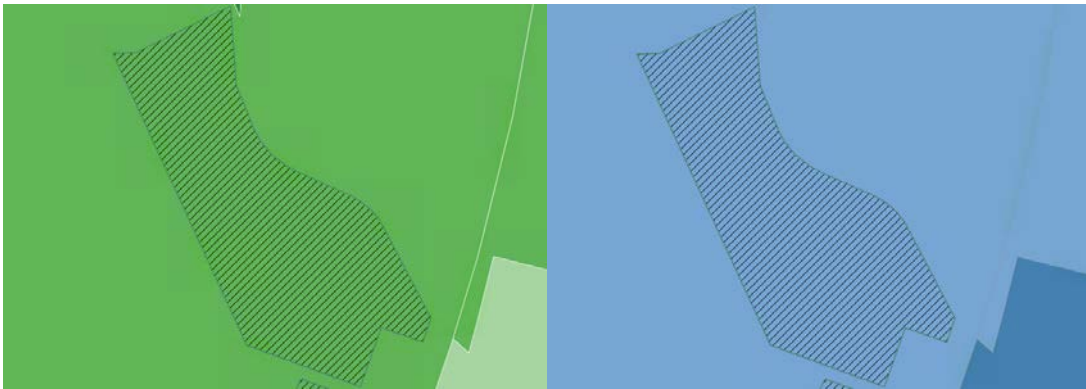
32. Indian Lake Beach



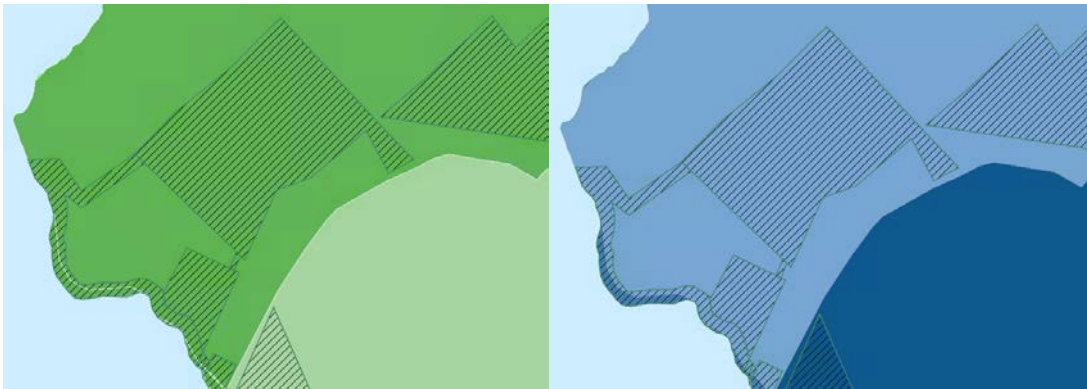
33. Institute Park



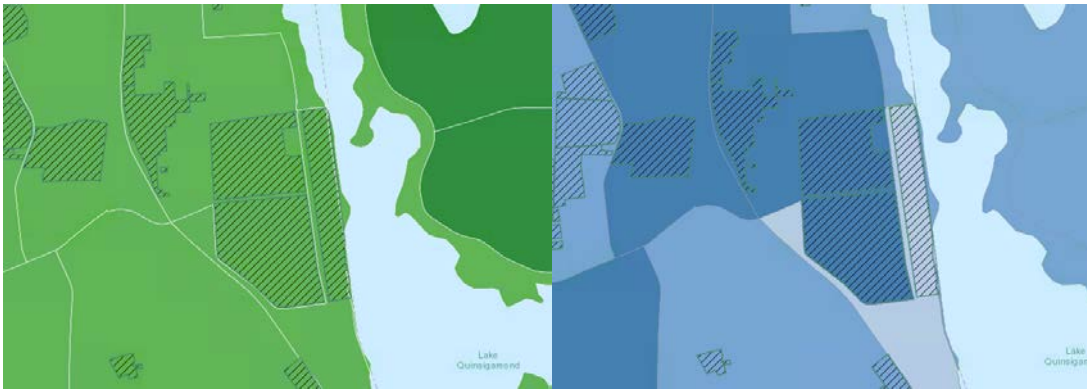
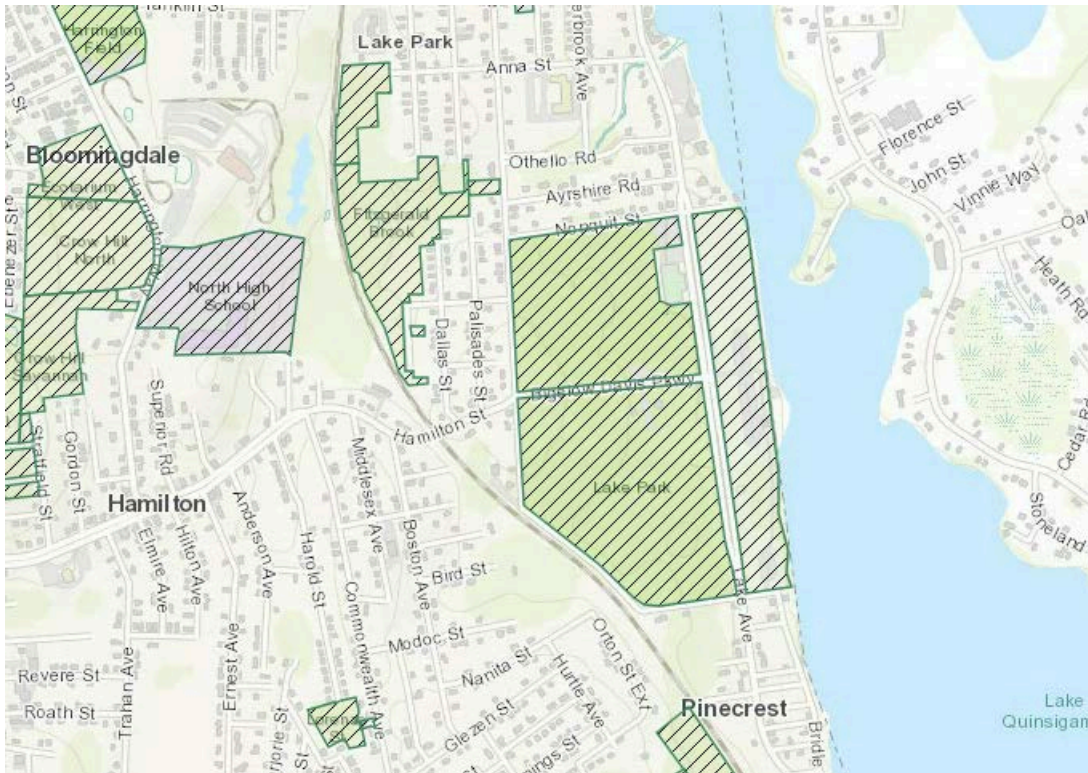
34. Kendrick Field



35. Knights of Columbus Park



36. Lake Park



37. Lakeview Playground



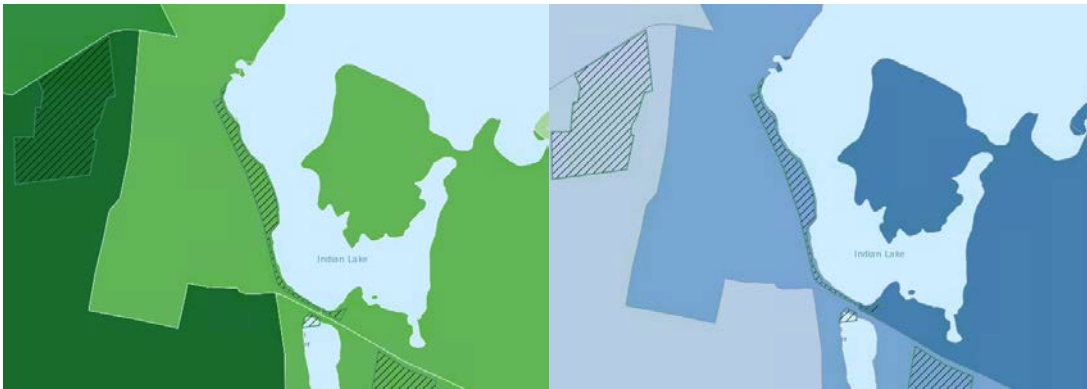
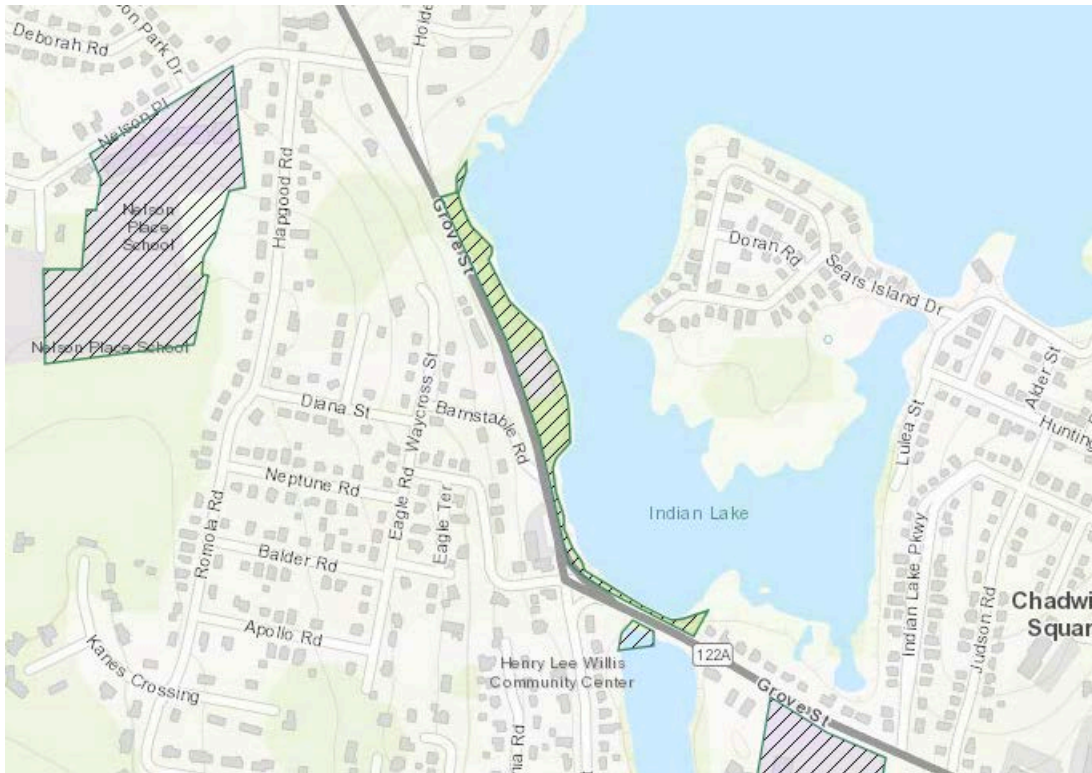
38. Logan Field



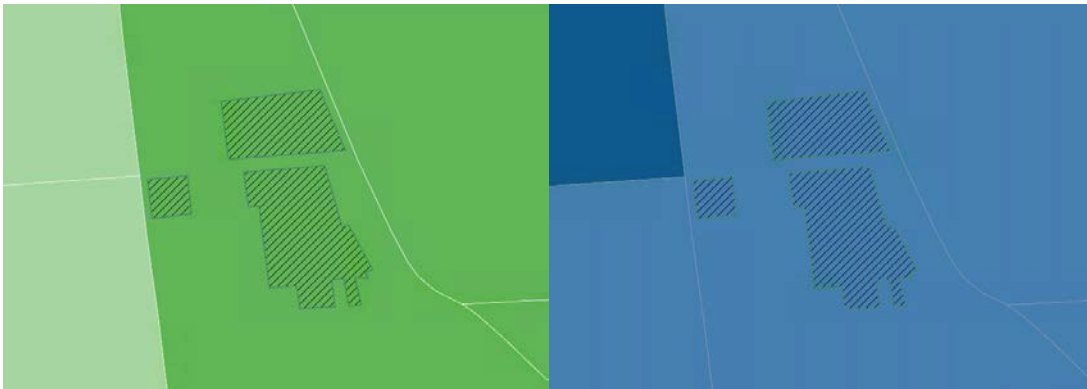
39. Middle River Park (Blackstone Gateway)



40. Morgan Landing



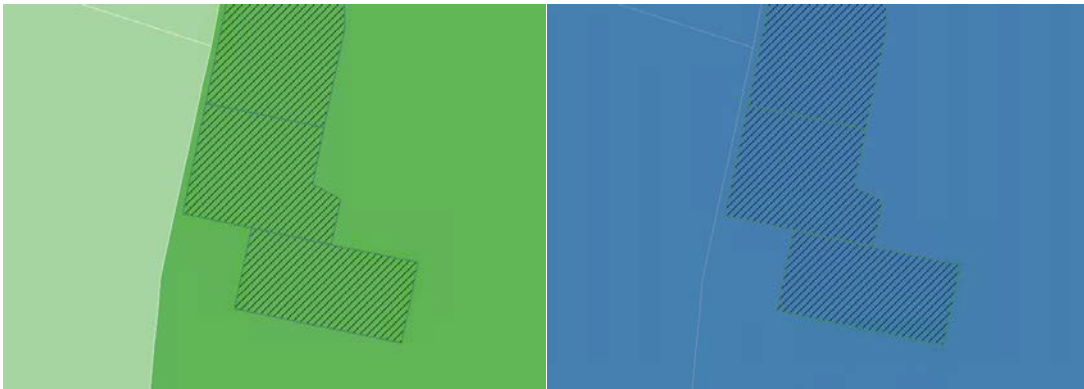
41. Mulcahy Field



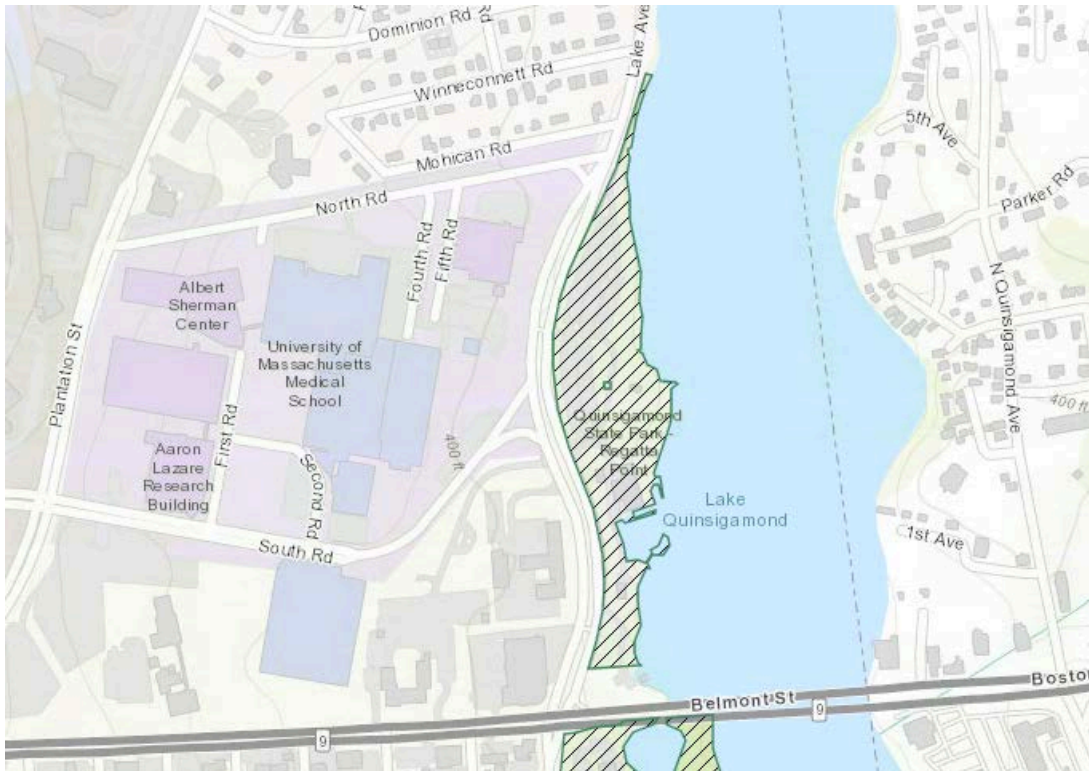
42. Oakland Heights Playground



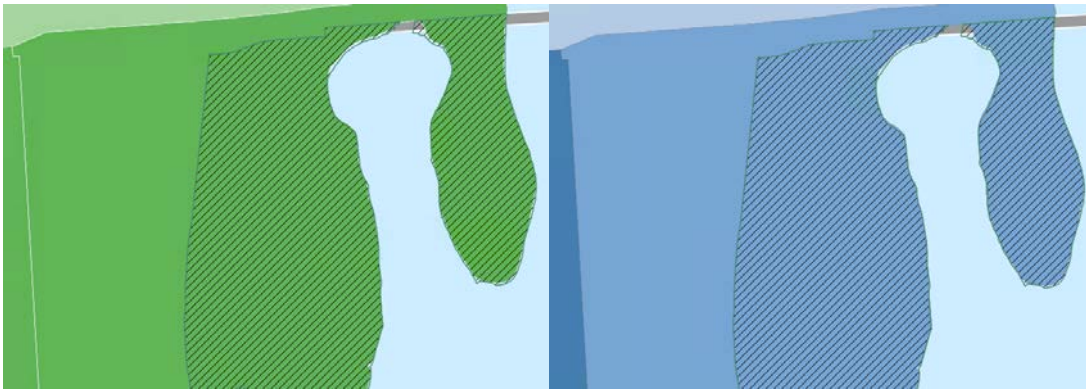
43. Providence Street Playground



44. Quinsigamond Street Playground



45. Ramshorn Island



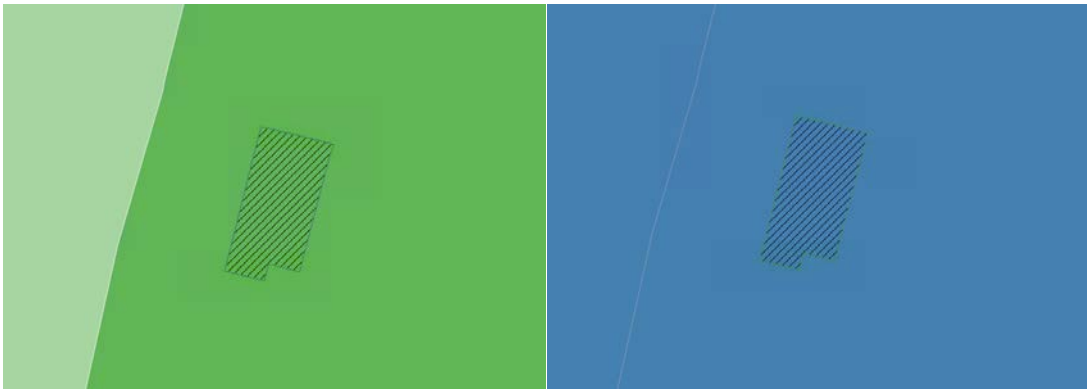
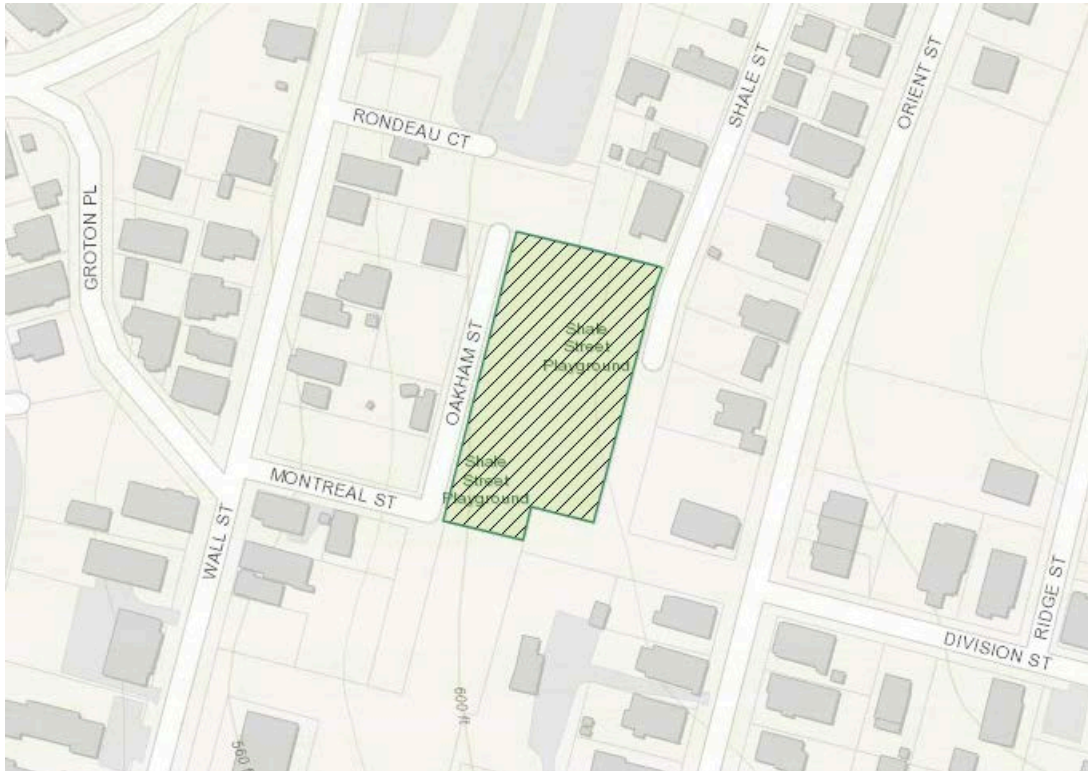
46. Rockwood Field



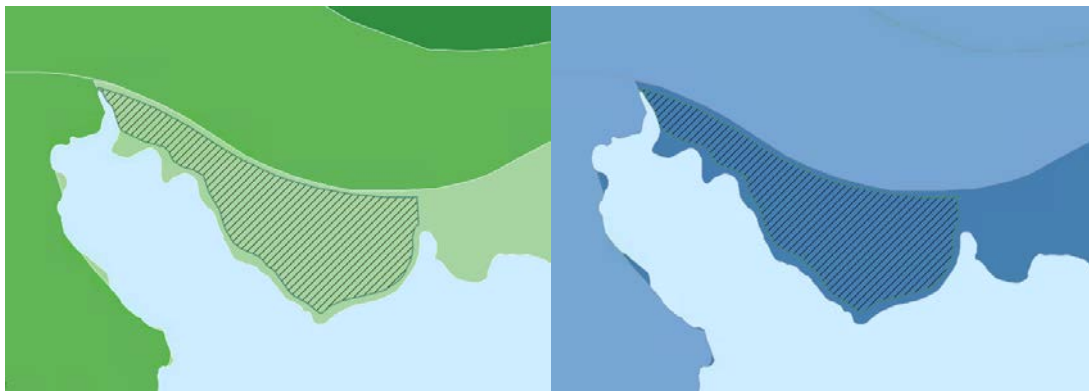
47. Salisbury Park



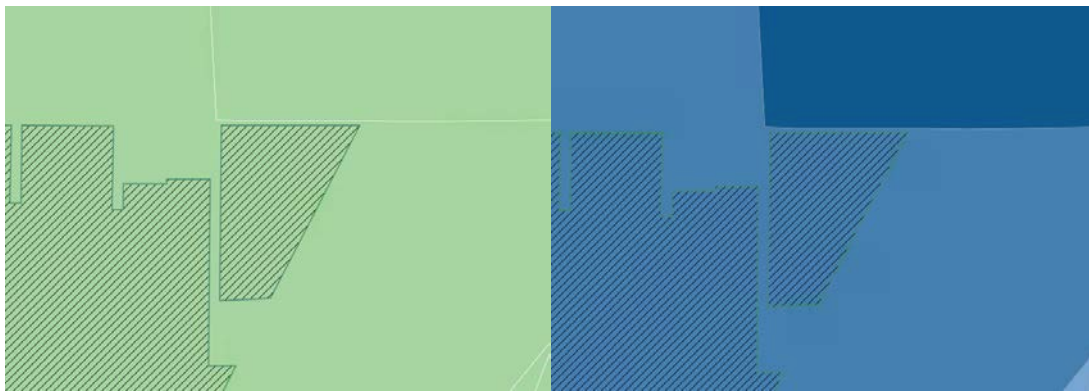
48. Shale Street Playground



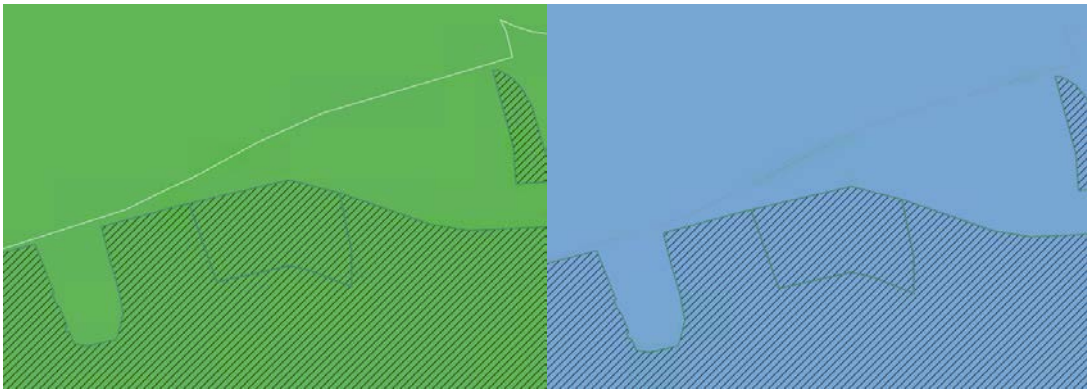
49. Shore Park



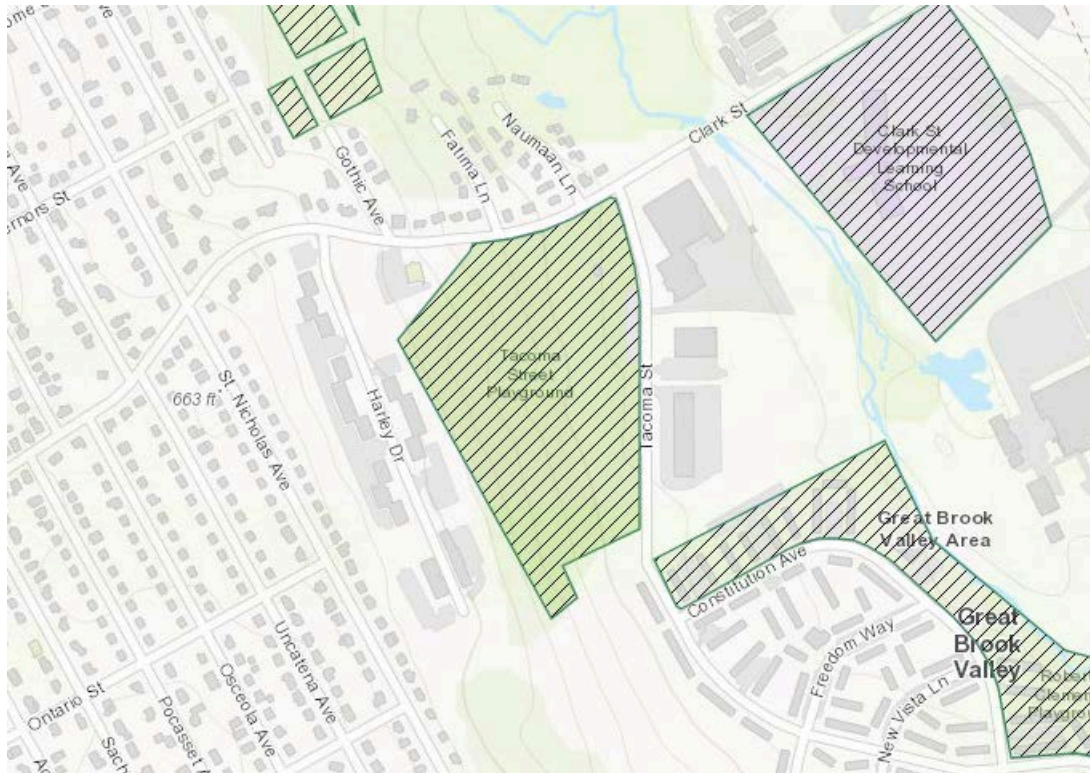
50. South Worcester Playground



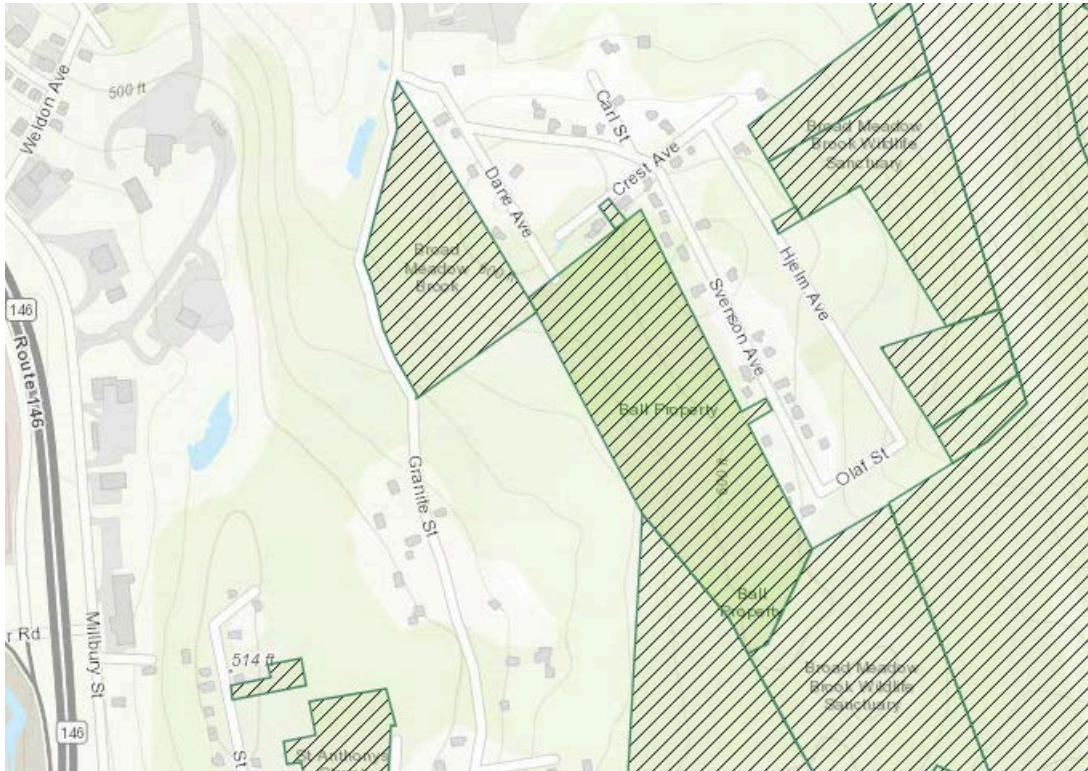
51. Spillane Field



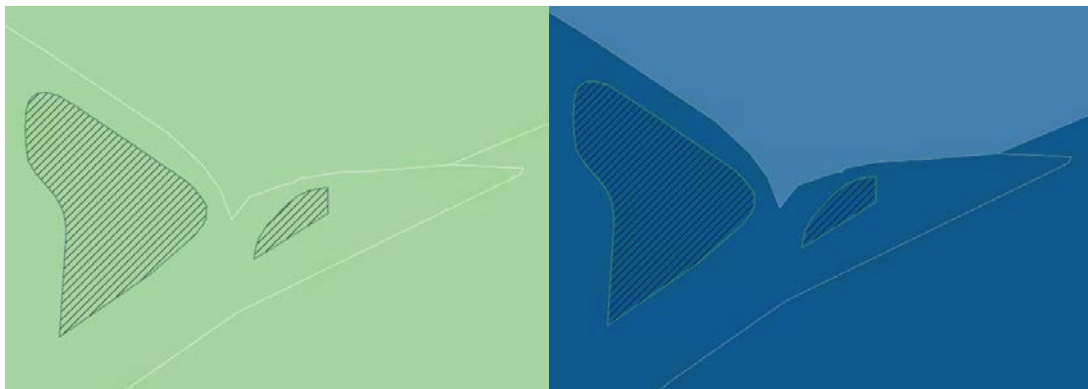
52. Tacoma Street Playground



53. The Ball Property



54. The Downtown Dog Park



55. The Korean War Memorial



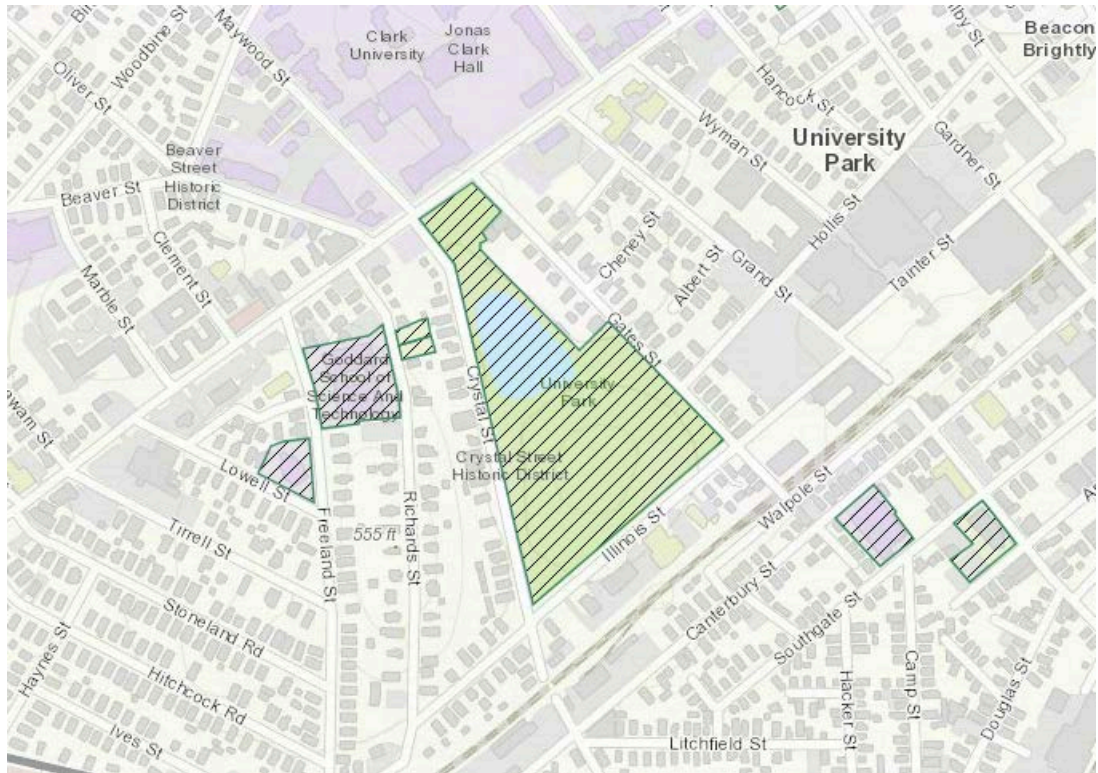
56. The Worcester Common



57. Ty Cobb Field



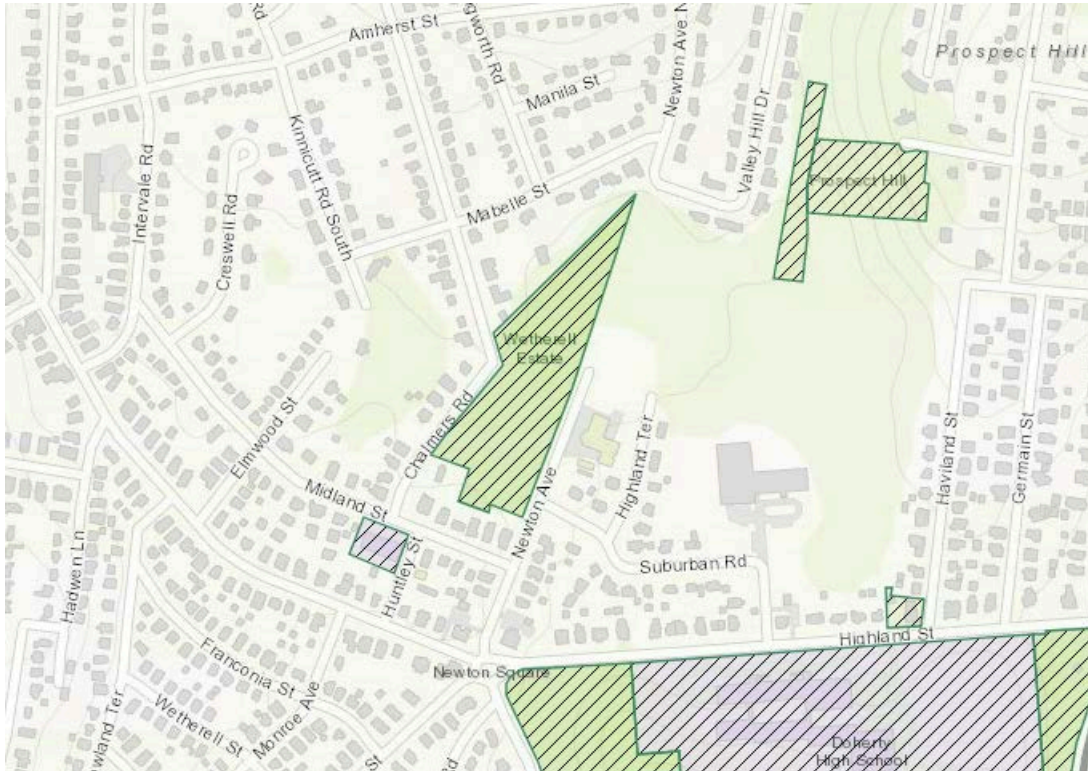
58. University Park



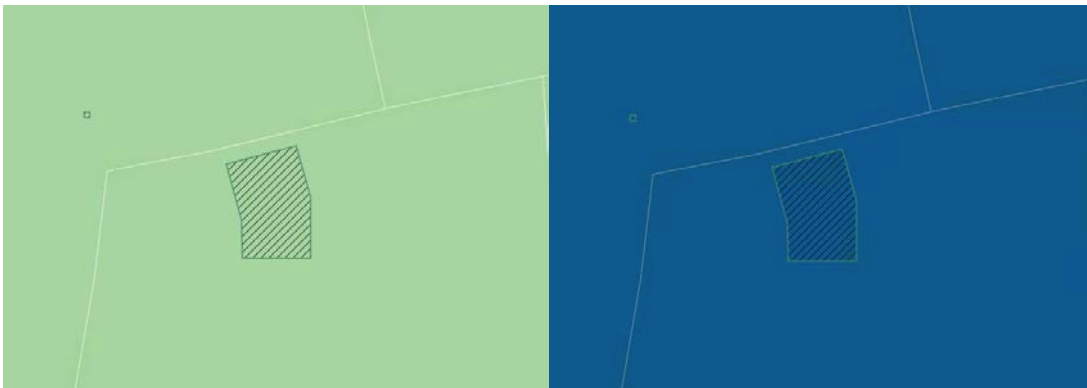
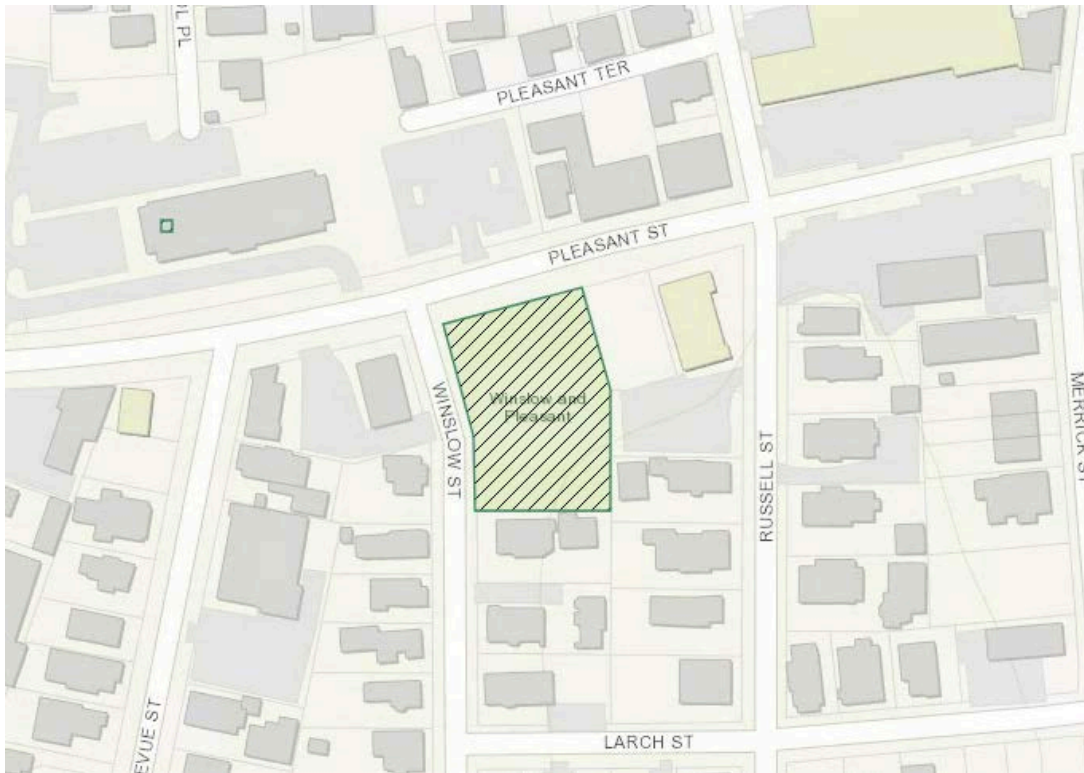
59. Vernon Hill Park



60. Wetherell Park (Duffy Field)



61. Winslow Park



Part H— Additional References

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