

Prepared by RAY DUNETZ LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | 179 Green Street, Boston, MA

Foot *of the* Rocks

MASTER PLAN

ARLINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS
OCTOBER 2022

Prepared for
THE TOWN OF ARLINGTON & OFFICE OF TOWN MANAGER

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ARLINGTON TOWN MANAGER'S OFFICE

Sandy Pooler, Town Manager

James Feeney, Deputy Town Manager

ARLINGTON COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT COMMITTEE

Susan Doctrow, Select Board Appointee

Alexander Franzosa, Select Board Appointee

Pamela Heidell, Conservation Commission Representative

Kin Lau, Redevelopment Board

Leslie Mayer, Park & Recreation Commission

Jo Anne Preston, Arlington Housing Authority

JoAnn Robinson, Historical Commission

Clarissa Rowe, Select Board Appointee

David Swanson, Select Board Appointee

FOOT OF THE ROCKS WORKING GROUP

Allan Tosti

Paul Fennelly

Clarissa Rowe

JoAnn Robinson

Angela Olzewski

RAY DUNETZ LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE, INC.

Ray Dunetz, Principal

Carol Moyles, Landscape Architect

Bart Zhang, Landscape Designer

Veronica Sosa-Dunetz, Graphics

Foot
of the
Rocks
MASTER PLAN

ARLINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS

OCTOBER 2022



The Foot of the Rocks Marker Old Schwamb Mill background Circa 1920 Postcard, Submitted by Jack Clark.

Table of Contents

PART 1

- 7 Introduction
 - Project Background
 - Project History Summary
- 8 Existing Conditions and Site Analysis
- 12 Project Goals

PART 2

- 13 Master Plan Approach
- 14 Public Input
 - Community Meeting #1- Findings, Site Analysis & Concept Design Options
 - Foot of the Rocks Working Group
 - Online Survey
- 15 Community Meeting #2- Concept Master Plan

PART 3

- 16 Master Plan Design
- 23 Master Plan Cost Estimate
 - Funding Sources
 - Recommended Next Steps

APPENDIX

- 25 Concept Design Options
- 27 Community Meeting Notes
- 31 Community Online Survey
- 57 Concept Master Plan
- 58 Final Master Plan Cost Estimate





Figure 1 -- Battle Road

PART 1

Introduction

The design team of Ray Dunetz Landscape Architecture (RDLA) has prepared this master plan design report for the Town of Arlington Foot of the Rocks historic landmark located at 1241 Massachusetts Avenue at the intersection of Massachusetts Avenue and Lowell Street. The goal of Community Preservation Act (CPA) funded project was to improve the Town-owned site while expanding recognition of Arlington's role in the significant battle which took place on the site on April 19, 1775.

This report summarizes the findings from the historic research, site analysis, input from the Foot of the Rocks Working Group and public meetings held during the design process. Meeting minutes, concept alternatives, master plan, master plan cost estimate (MPCE) and recommended next steps are included in the Appendix. The Town has also initiated an engineering and public engagement study for selected Massachusetts Avenue intersections including the intersection at Massachusetts Avenue and Lowell Street. Improvements and specific design recommendations for traffic safety and accessibility at the intersection as part of a separate study.

Project Background

The design team first conducted background research at the Robbins Library Local History Room and with members of the Arlington Historical Society. Writings, maps and photographs were collected to gain insight of the site's significance and transformation over time. The team assessed the existing configuration, topography, pedestrian and bicycle circulation, vegetation, utilities, accessibility, and adjacent uses. A historical context and site analysis were presented at the first community meeting to gather community input.

Project History Summary

The history of Foot of the Rocks is well documented and not included in our report. However, the site is an important historical landmark that recognizes the events of April 19, 1775. It's where the most intense confrontation on the afternoon of April 19, 1775 took place, when British soldiers retreating from Lexington and Concord were confronted at the Foot of the Rocks by over 1,700 local militia representing 35 companies from area towns. (Figure 1). The site's proximity to historic sites in Arlington such as the Old Schwamb Mill, the Benjamin Locke house and Jason Russell house creates an opportunity to commemorate and educate people about the importance of Arlington's role in the birth of a democracy. The Foot of the Rocks and the Jason Russell are two of the most important battle sites along the iconic Battle Road Scenic Byway, of which the Town of Arlington is a key member.

Existing Conditions and Site Analysis

The Foot of the Rocks site is located at the corner of Massachusetts Avenue and Lowell Street and is characterized by natural, built, and functional landscape features. It is a trapezoid shaped land parcel consisting of approximately 4,200 square feet (Figure 2). Massachusetts Avenue spans the southern edge of the site and Lowell Street spans the north side. A painted bicycle lane at Massachusetts Avenue is located directly south of the site. The western edge of the site is flanked by a private residential property.

The site is currently accessed from a concrete sidewalk at the southwest corner of the site and connects to a 4' wide brick sidewalk parallel to Massachusetts Avenue. The brick is in fair condition with some irregular jointing, cracking, and heaving and may not be deemed accessible (Figure 3). Four existing granite steps are located the east portion of the site and connect the brick sidewalk to a painted crosswalk at Lowell Street. The granite treads are in good condition. An informal dirt path exists on the west side of the town parcel. This direct path shows signs of erosion from people walking between Lowell Street and Massachusetts Avenue. Pedestrian circulation is limited to the parcel edges with no accessible ramp at the Lowell Street painted crosswalk.



Figure 2—Existing condition at Massachusetts Ave. looking west, January 2022

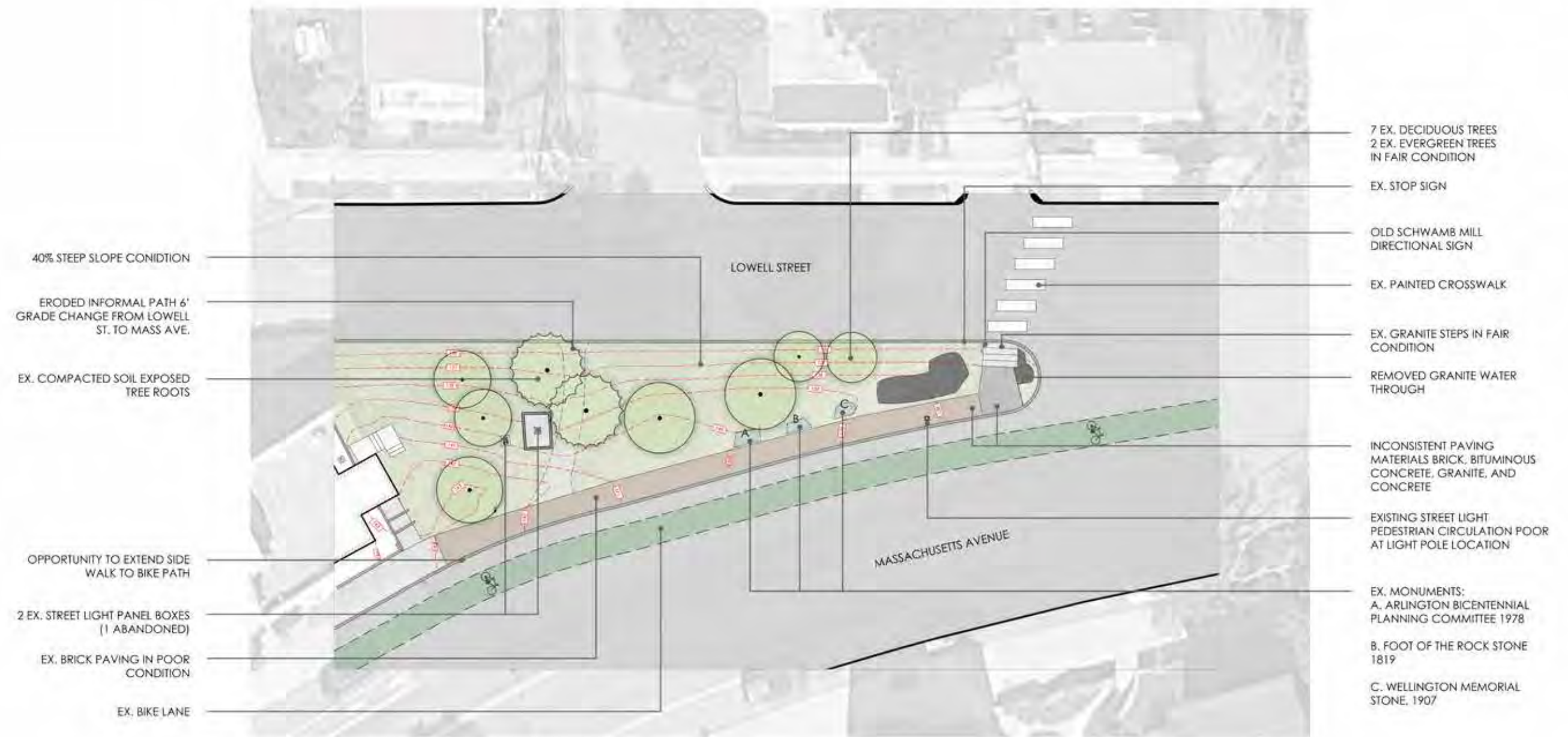


Figure 3 —Existing conditions Site Analysis

The highest topographical site elevation is located at the southwest portion of the site adjacent to Massachusetts Avenue. The land drops in the north direction approximately 6 feet to Lowell Street. The site also slopes approximately 5% east from this location to the road intersection at Massachusetts Ave. and Lowell Street.

A mix of deciduous and evergreen trees exist on the site. The largest trees are White Pines, and a Maple tree are located along the west portion of the property. Ornamental Pears and Amelanchier Trees are informally planted north of the brick walk and along Lowell Street. The site is predominantly lawn, which shows signs of erosion along the brick walk and dirt pathway. There is some evidence of volunteer plant growth near Lowell Street.

An array of historical markers and signs are located at the edge of the brick sidewalk. A stone horse trough is also located at the street intersection. The stone structure has been damaged after being hit by a vehicle. The Town plans to remove, repair and locate the stone structure to a prominent and more protected site in Arlington. Three large stone historical markers which commemorate the Foot of the Rocks Battle site are located at the edge of the brick sidewalk. The stone markers are in good condition.

One directional sign for the Old Schwamb Mill is located at the Massachusetts Avenue and Lowell Street intersection. There is also vehicular stop sign and pedestrian cross walk sign in this area.

An existing streetlight is located at the east end of the side at Massachusetts Avenue. The town light pole is a pedestrian obstruction as it is located directly in the middle of the 4' brick sidewalk. Two utility boxes are in the grass slope area at the west portion of the site. The smaller utility box is abandoned and can be removed. The larger one is an active telecommunication utility box that can be relocated as needed.

Project Goals

The goal of this master plan is to provide a concept which can provide a new park setting to commemorate the battle site and rich history of the area. To accomplish this goal identified by the Town and stakeholders the master plan incorporated the following five key elements:

■ One: Historic Interpretation

The Foot of the Rocks site provides a wonderful opportunity for educational outreach, gathering and passive park participation in a new public outdoor gathering space that fosters appreciation and educates visitors about Arlington's past.

■ Two: Accessibility and Safety

The visitor's experience is determined by the connections to and from the site via various transportation modes. Whether arriving by walking, biking, car and bus, the site should accommodate a clear and safe arrival and accessible circulation experience while connecting with the surrounding neighborhood and local businesses. The designs explored opportunities to improve crosswalk accessible connections to the site.

■ Three: Gathering Accommodation

Visitors traveling along the battle road to and from Concord / Boston pass through Arlington while learning about the exciting events of April 19, 1775, and the places that now define America's identity and culture. There are great opportunities to create a place that allows for future outdoor gatherings to learn about the Arlington historic places and its well-known residents.

■ Four: Flexible Space

The existing Foot of the Rocks memorial plaques are surrounded by a public open space that is underutilized, congested, and need of repair. This historic site offers exciting opportunities to connect visitors to its history and the landscape by offering gathering and passive areas in sun and shade.

■ Five: Sustainability

The current site suffers from soil compaction, erosion and is surrounded by paved streets and walkways. There are opportunities to introduce sustainable design solutions and elements which improve the existing landscape. The preservation of existing trees, new native plantings and a site drainage system that is adaptable to future storm frequency and intensity impacts offer sustainable design approaches.

Ultimately, striking the right balance between a passive park setting and historic interpretation for the Town's residents and visitors is critical to the successful design and eventual implementation of any proposed improvements for the Foot of the Rocks.

PART 2

Master Plan Approach

The design approach was based on an iterative and collaborative process that including obtaining a greater understanding of the issues and concerns and listening to the community and stakeholders before moving into the conceptual design. The approach included the following:

- Site walk with Foot of the Rocks working group and examination of existing conditions
- Review of existing plans and documentation
- Research and review historical information of the site
- Meetings with Town’s working group and Town Manager’s office
- One community meeting to present design concepts
- One online survey following the community meeting
- One final community meeting to present the Master Plan

The information gathered from the site’s existing character, identified goals and opportunities allowed the design team to create conceptual plans that meet the Town stakeholders’ objectives, reflect the community’s vision, and celebrate the site’s historic significance.



Figure 4 —1193 Massachusetts Avenue at Foot of the Rocks, 1898 Arlington Historical Society

Public Input

The design of the park was informed based on comments received in two public meetings held on April 14th and June 2nd of 2022. Both meetings were held remotely, recorded, and posted to the Town's website. In addition, information from an online survey was held to gather feedback for anyone who could not attend the first remote community meeting.

■ Community Meeting One - Findings, Site Analysis and Concept Design Options

The first community meeting was held on Thursday April 14, 2022, at 7:00pm. Members of the Town staff and Foot of the Rocks working group provided meeting introductions. RDLA reviewed the project timeline, historical context, and site analysis. Two concepts (Concept A and B) were presented along with precedent design images.

Each concept illustrated pedestrian improvements, new crosswalks, seating, interpretive signage, and plantings. The two concepts were depicted with a plan and views from Massachusetts Avenue and Lowell Street. Feedback on the alternatives was received from the community through an open discussion with attendees, Town staff and the design team. See Appendix for the conceptual options and community meeting one note.

■ Foot of the Rocks Working Group

Five meetings with the Working Group were held during the design process. The group is comprised of Town staff in Planning, Parks and Recreation, representatives from the Arlington Historical Society and local history enthusiasts. The group initiated the CPA funding, helped develop priorities, and provided feedback on design ideas. They also provided insight into the site and town and assisted with decision making between the community meetings.

■ Community Online Survey

A survey including Concepts A and B were made available by the Town of Arlington on May 4th, 2022 to the public. The survey was kept open through May 20th, 2022, to obtain input from meeting attendees and those who were not able to attend. There were approximately 30 meeting attendees and over 100 survey responses. Participants were able to comment directly on what they liked and disliked about each concept. Other concerns that were shared included circulation improvements, visibility, broader site interpretation and storm water management.

The results from the survey indicated that Concept B resonated with the participants, but there were elements in both concepts that people liked and disliked. The elements that respondents liked the most was a new park setting for gathering, respite and historical interpretation site features. The

least liked elements were the amount of pavement, removal of all existing plantings, surrounding traffic and parking conditions. In addition, storm water concerns were expressed as well as the need for a drinking water source for visitors.

■ **Community Meeting Two - Concept Master Plan**

A final community meeting was held on June 2nd, 2022, at 7:00pm. The Town Manager provided introductory remarks, project process and RDLA presented the Concept Master Plan. A copy of the concept master plan, views and sections can be found in the Appendix. A description of the concept design is outlined below.

Concept Master Plan highlights several updated site components:

- A new crosswalk at Lowell Street and Massachusetts Ave. is located near the west side of the park. The crosswalk provides a direct connection away from the road intersection and closer to Old Schwamb Mill at Mill Lane;
- Existing mature trees undisturbed by site regrading and a relocated telecommunications utility box is also indicated at the west portion of the park;
- A new water bottle filler was provided near proposed park seating and bike racks;
- New flush cobble paving at the base of the proposed stone plinth with inscription and relocation of banners to the existing street light pole and addressed concerns of sight lines near the street intersection;
- An on-site stormwater management system is proposed and located at the paved area near Massachusetts Ave.;
- Removal of the granite horse trough (Town will repair and move to another site);

Feedback on the concept master plan was received from meeting attendees, open discussion by the Town staff and design team. Community Meeting Two notes can be found in the Appendix A.

PART 3

Final Master Plan

The master plan was created based on the feedback received at the two public community meetings, online survey, and meetings with the Town staff and Foot of the Rocks working group. The focus of the master plan design is to create a new park dedicated to the April 19, 1775, events that took place at this location and celebrate Arlington's surrounding historic resources. The park can serve as a historic landmark gateway that tells the story of the Battle Road through Arlington and the Town's significant role in this country's history.

The significant site improvements include a fully accessible public open space where formal and informal gatherings can take place. The new park features of new accessible cross walks, pathways, existing and new plantings, an expanded paved area out to the painted bicycle lane along Massachusetts Avenue with outdoor seating and designated areas for site interpretation. The new park elements provide an outdoor canvas for public art opportunities that address civic engagement, building social capital and encourage civil discourse.

■ MASTER PLAN DESIGN

The following design objectives were developed by the master plan process and are incorporated into the master plan:

- Historic Interpretation;
- Accessibility, Safety and Gathering;
- Flexible space and Sustainable Approach;

Historic Interpretation

The historic interpretation of the site is built into the park master design with existing and new site elements. The existing Foot of the Rocks stone plaques are repositioned on the site to provide optimum site circulation and viewing near the intersection of Massachusetts Avenue and Lowell Street. A low retaining wall at the intersection incorporates a stone inscription "Foot of the Rocks, Battlefield" to announce arrival to the park from the east. It also protects park users near the street intersection and provides a level area for repositioning the Foot of the Rocks historical stone markers.

New educational features include a period cannon and stone inscription markers along Massachusetts Avenue mark events of April 19, 1775. A new park railing located at the upper park plaza accommodates approximate 100 linear of signage opportunities along the top of the rail and a free-standing kiosk allows visitors to gather around the interpretative sign

structure. The retaining wall can also be designed as interpretive public art park element. These new park elements can be further designed as part of public art program and ways to educate park visitors about this historic site and its surroundings. Two directional signs for the Old Schwamb Mill are recommended; one located at the street intersection, and one located at the Lowell Street cross walk to guide visitors to the historic mill on Mill Lane. New sign banners displayed on the existing streetlight provide additional interpretive signage opportunities and or to announce town events.

Accessibility, Safety and Gathering

The site has been expanded and regraded and designed to allow for universal access, safe circulation, and accommodation for public gatherings. A new sloped walk connects Lowell Street to an upper paved plaza adjacent to Massachusetts Avenue. The removal of a defunct utility box and relocation of an existing telecommunication box allows for the necessary site regrading to accommodate universal access improved circulation and expanded use of the park.

Two new crosswalks and a set of steps located at the west portion of the park provide a direct and improved pedestrian link from Lowell Street to Massachusetts Avenue. New park walkways and paved surfaces will be designed to meet and ensure long term ADA compliance standards. The paving threshold at the new crosswalks will include tactile warning pavers, to comply with ADA codes.

A new curb alignment parallel to Massachusetts Avenue provides more outdoor space for arrival and gathering at a park. The new curb is located adjacent to the existing dedicated bike path along Massachusetts Avenue. New bike racks at the southwest corner of the park provide safe parking for cyclists. In addition, a new water bottle filling station and trash/recycling provide improved site amenities for park users.

Current traffic patterns at the Massachusetts Avenue and Lowell Street intersection need to be considered as the master plan advances. The Town is conducting a separate traffic engineering study for this and the Appleton Street/ Massachusetts Avenue intersection. The master plan recognizes the potential expansion of the park reducing the paved intersection and will be coordinated with any future traffic and intersection improvements at this location.

An important master plan recommendation is to provide a prominent historic landmark along the Massachusetts Battle Road. The new park is intended to serve as an important destination as part of touring the Battle Road between Boston and Concord. It is designed to allow for informal small gatherings of up to approximately 50 visitors occupying the park.

Canopy deciduous trees will provide shaded areas in the summer months and sunny areas in winter. Wood benches with arm rests as well as stone backless benches provide a variety of outdoor seating options. Other park elements are included to allow for people passing through the park and gathering at historic markers and interpretive signage locations. The existing streetlight adjacent to Massachusetts Avenue will remain and new low-level lighting with programmed automatic shut off switches will provide supplemental landscape lighting at steps, pathways, and park features. The park lighting design will be further studied as the park design advances.

Flexible Space and Sustainable Approach

An important master plan objective is to design a park which is a flexible outdoor public space. The new park master plan provides opportunities for community education and wellness, a connection space for neighbors and visitors and a safe public gathering place. The Town of Arlington envisions the site as a small gathering place for families and local citizens and suggests offering different types of commemorative and celebratory events while also engaging and coordinating with local businesses.

Preserving existing plantings, a new on-site storm water management system and the addition of canopy trees and plantings all contribute to a sustainable approach in creating a new park. The preservation of existing trees in park areas not affected by regrading is recommended. A new modular suspended pavement with under drainage is proposed in the park plaza. This storm water management system allows for the infiltration of surface water run-off and directs the runoff to subsurface soils that can absorb the water and support tree growth.

New canopy trees located at the plaza will provide shade for visitors, mediate urban heat, and allow for evapotranspiration which improves air quality conditions. The removal of eroded soils on site is also recommended. New landscape areas consisting of native plantings with low maintenance attributes will enhance the overall visitor experience.

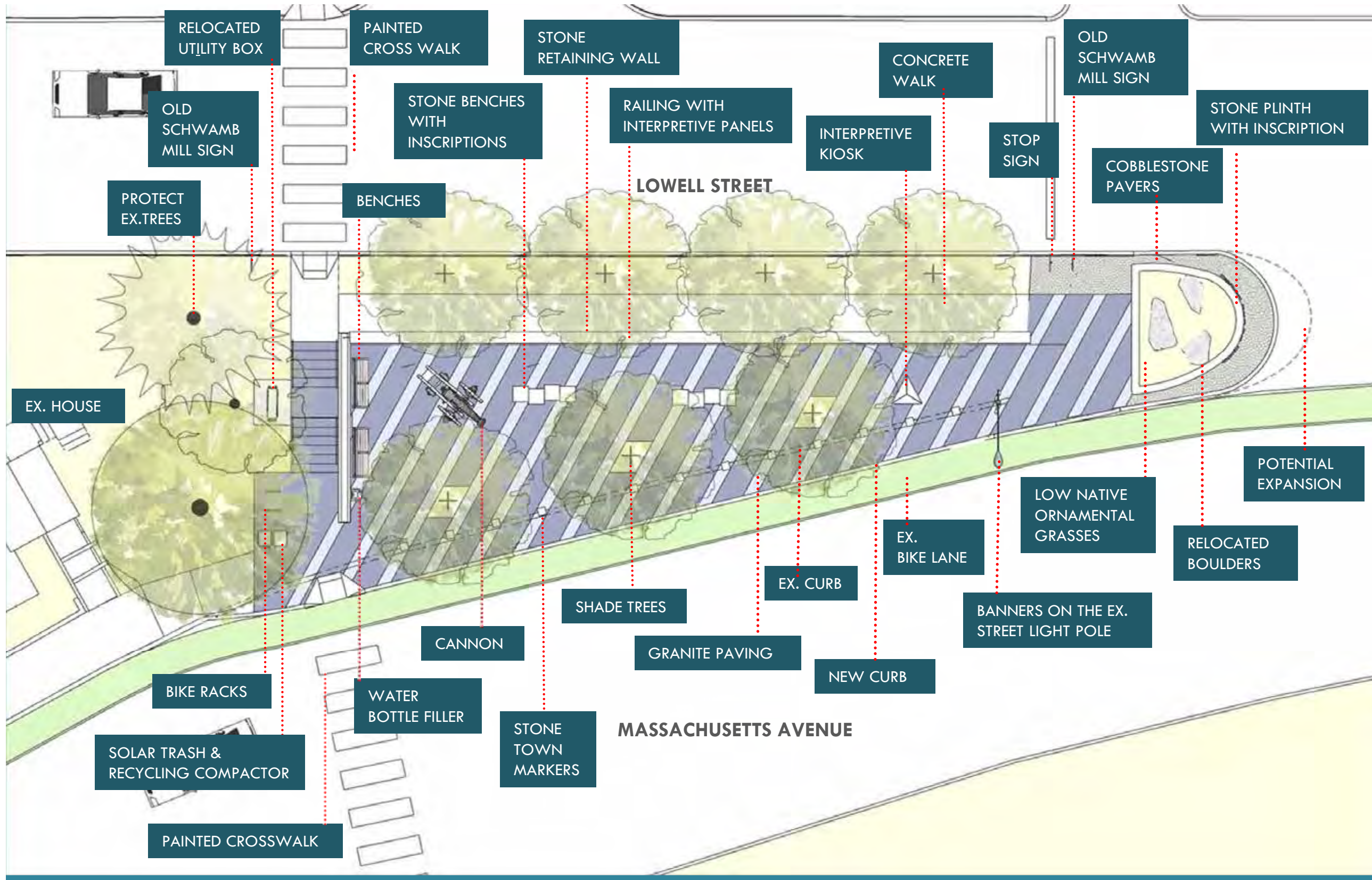


Figure 5 —Final Master Plan

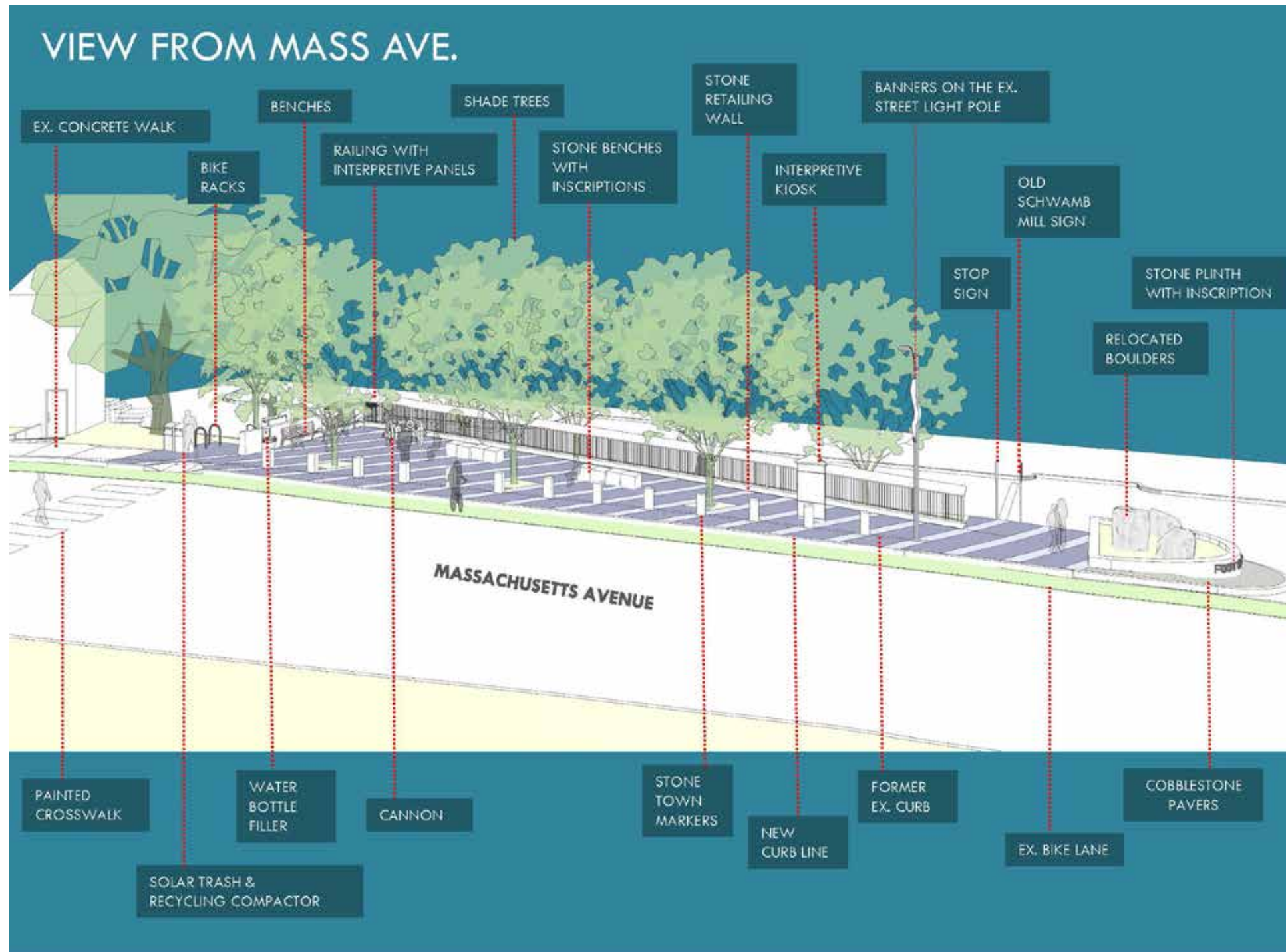


Figure 6 — View from Massachusetts Avenue



Figure 7 — View from Lowell Street

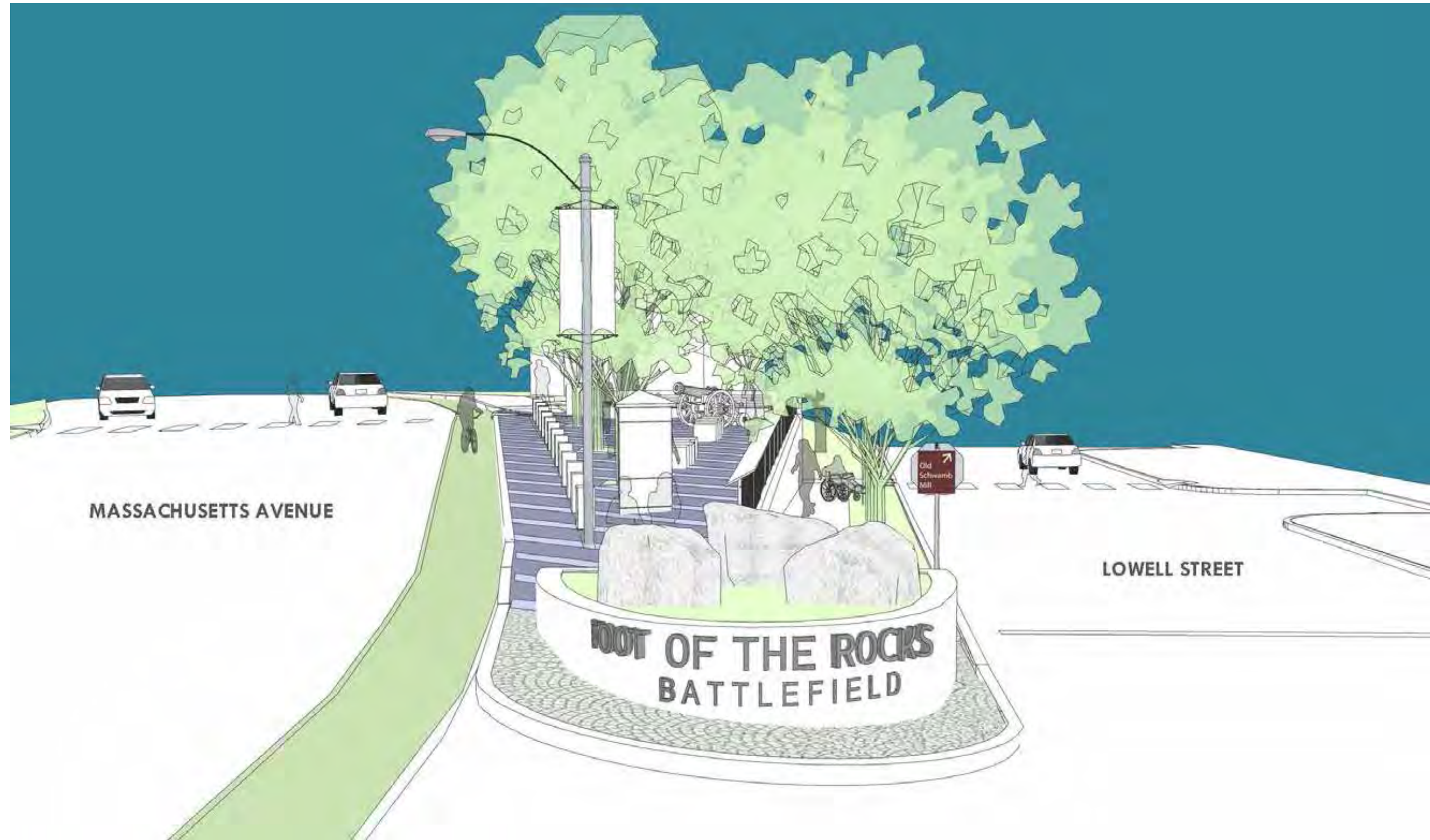


Figure 8 — View from Massachusetts Avenue heading west

■ MASTER PLAN COST ESTIMATE

The master plan cost estimate is based on the final concept plan, MASSDOT weighted unit prices and previous contractor bids from similar projects. The following should also be noted; costs and quantities are subject to change as the design develops, Costs for soil removal, park lighting, major infrastructure changes and major repairs are not included. The cost estimate line item labeled soft cost is an approximate budget number for design advancement and documentation as outlined in recommended next steps. A detailed cost breakdown of the total cost is provided in the Appendix.

■ FUNDING RESOURCES

The Town of Arlington adoption of the Massachusetts Community Preservation Act (CPA) and other local and national grants provide potential opportunities for the Foot of the Rocks Master Plan to advance and include the following:

- Town of Arlington Community Preservation project application(s)
- Town of Arlington Public Art Fund application(s)
- Freedoms Way Partnership Grant Program (part of the Freedom's Way National Heritage Area)
- American Battlefield Protection Program (The National Park Service Historic Preservation Funds)
- Semi quincentennial Grants pending site listing in the National Register of Historic Places (The National Park Service Historic Preservation Funds)

■ RECOMMENDED NEXT STEPS

The recommended next steps for the project will require collecting additional data to identify potential “red flags” or concerns and advancing the design to a schematic level suitable for further discussion with town departments, permitting agencies. We recommend this include the following:

Historic Interpretation Working Group: The final master plan identifies place holders for site interpretation. A separate working group comprised of representatives from Arlington historical arts and education communities as well as residents who represent diverse constituencies is recommended for developing historical interpretation content for the Foot of the Rocks Park.

Site Soil Evaluation: On-site investigation in the form of test pit infiltration test analyses in the locations of the proposed drainage chambers. The test pits will be used to determine subsurface soil conditions and to perform infiltration tests to assess the soil's capacity to infiltrate stormwater runoff.

Schematic Design: Based upon the additional data collected, the concept design would be revised, as necessary, and advanced to a CAD drafted schematic design level.

Additional Stakeholder Group and community informational meetings:

A final schematic design plan will be reviewed with the stakeholder group and presented to the community at a public meeting to answer questions. This will allow and provide an opportunity for neighbors, representative for accessibility and the community at large to provide comments and feedback. Following the schematic design phase, would be the design development and permitting process, which would include the following:

50% Design Development: Based upon the additional comments and feedback received from the stakeholder group and community the design will be advanced to a 50% Design Development level. This would include a full plan set with preliminary details. Concurrently, the designer will work with a town appointed working group to develop the interpretive graphics.

75% Design Development and Stormwater Analysis: Based upon the additional comments and feedback received from the stakeholder group the design will be advanced to a 75% Design Development level (suitable for permitting).

Additional Stakeholder Group and Community informational meetings:

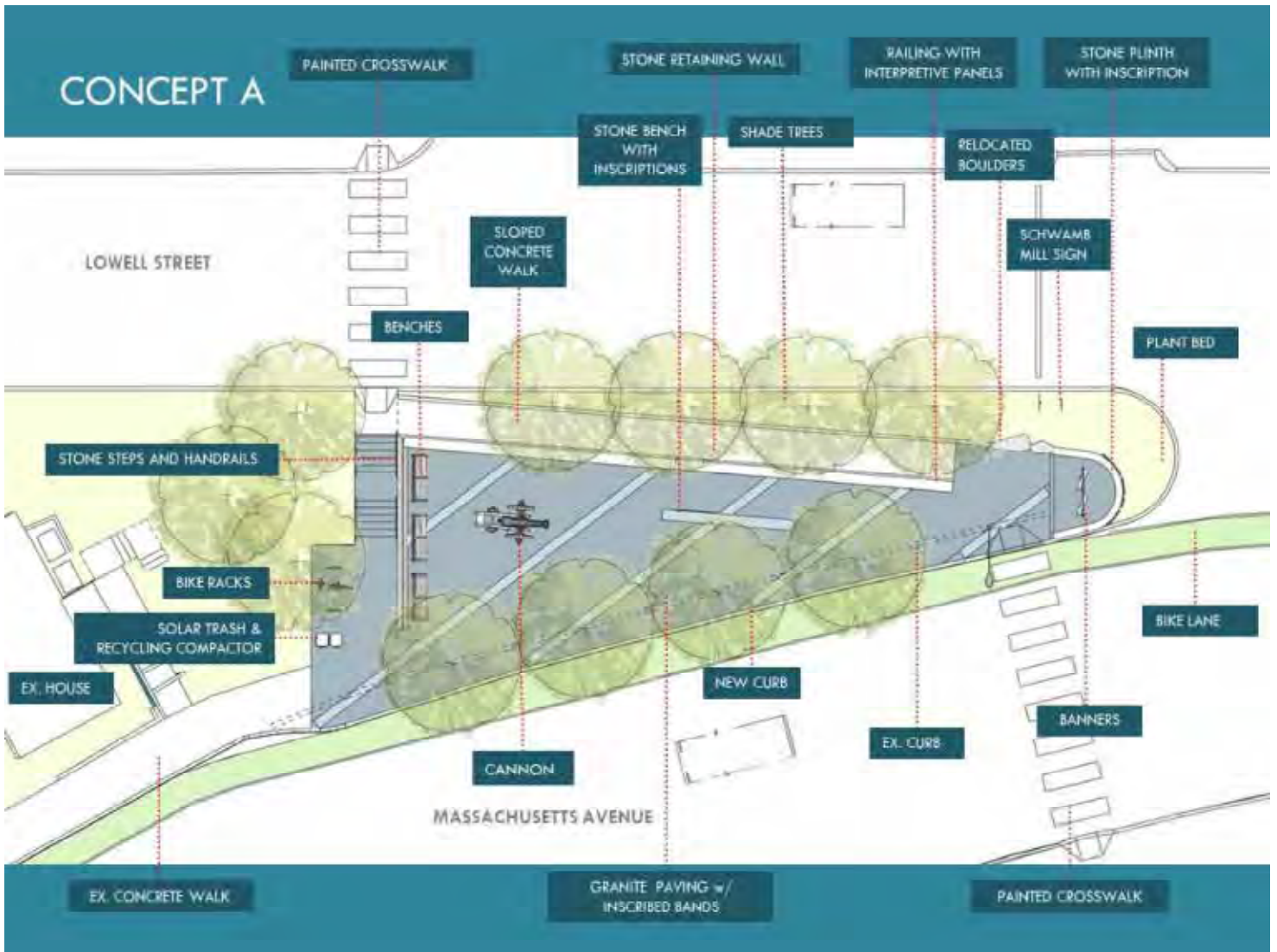
Both the 50% and 75% Design Development plans and details will be reviewed with the stakeholder group to solicit additional comments and feedback. The 75% design will also be presented to the community at a public meeting prior to submission for permitting.

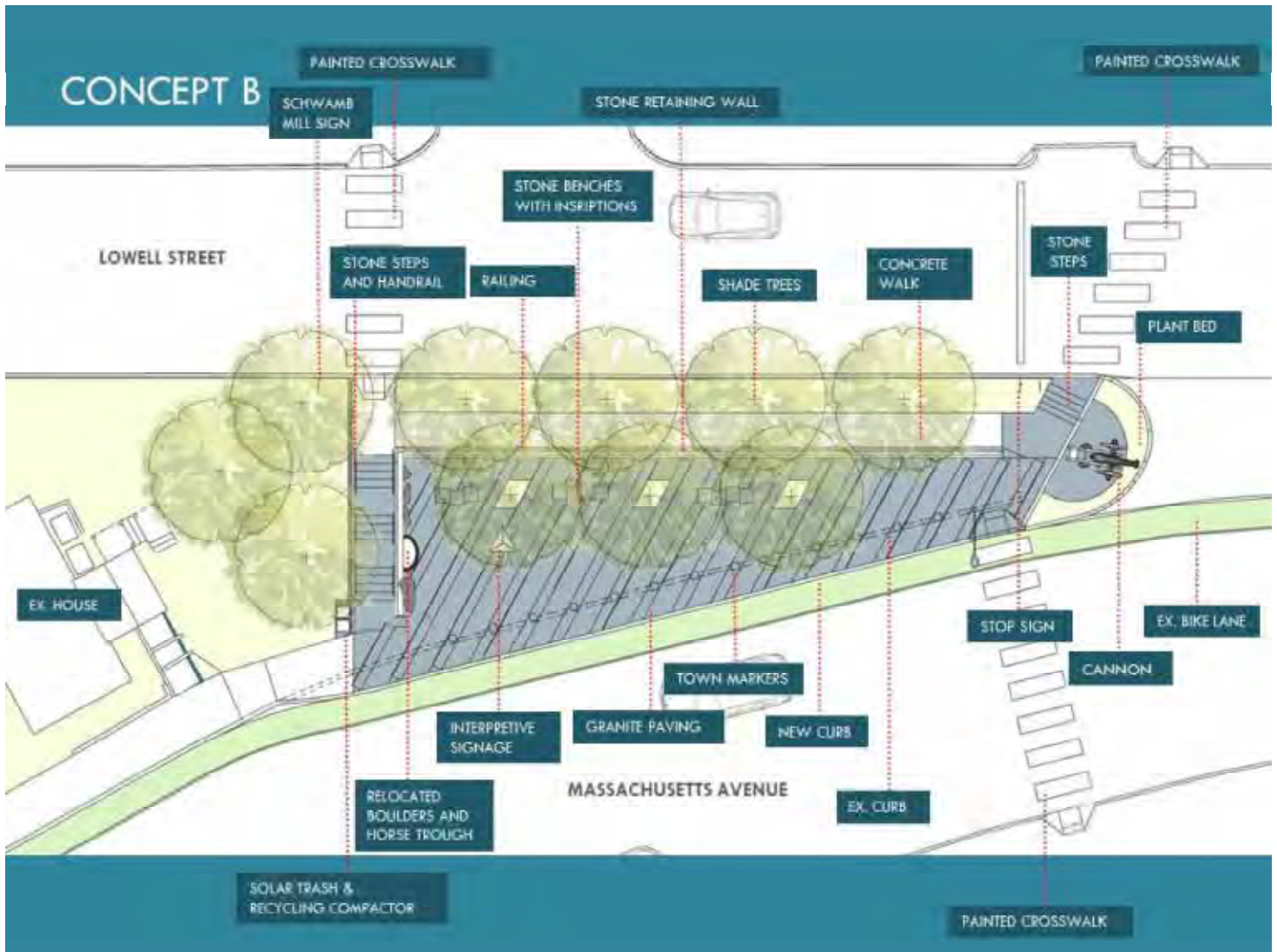
Construction Drawings & Bid Documents: Upon approval from the necessary permitting agencies, the design, details and specifications will be revised, as necessary, and advanced to a construction level suitable for bidding. A draft bid package will be submitted to the stakeholder group for final review and comment, prior to bidding.

Construction: Upon review and approval of a qualified contractor through the public bidding process, construction will begin.

Appendix A

DESIGN CONCEPTS





Appendix B

COMMUNITY MEETING NOTES



RAYDUNETZ.COM
179 Green Street
Boston MA 02130
T 617.524.6265
F 617.522.5029
rd@raydunetz.com

MEETING NOTES

Date: April 14, 2022
Project: Foot of the Rocks Master Plan, Arlington, MA
Attendees: Jim Feeney, Deputy Town Manager
Foot of the Rocks Working Group
Community Participants
Ray Dunetz, RDLA

1. Introductions – Jim Feeney and Al Tosti
2. Presentation
 - a. RDLA presented project background and Concept A and B
3. Community Input
 - a. **Buses** – There were some concerns with bus drop-off parking along Mass. Ave. i.e., losing car parking spaces, idling fumes and creating difficulties for traffic. Apartment building across the street currently has moving vans use these spaces along Mass Ave.
 - b. **Granite Horse Trough** – Trough was donated from Robbins family. RDLA explained that other sites may be better suited for the trough to protect it from damage. One gentleman thought it should remain on site. A local historian, noted that the trough was re-located to this location from the First Parish Unitarian Church.
 - c. **Traffic Engineering** – Some attendees expressed concerns about the dangerous road(s) and corner condition at Mass Ave. and Lowell Street. Difficult turning movement here, traffic calming is needed. Could the park be extended into the “sea of asphalt”? Jim Feeney mentioned that there is a traffic engineering study for Appleton Street and Mass Ave. The consultant, Stantec, could review this corner as well. The study is just getting started.
 - d. **Parking** - Loss of parking along Mass Ave. would impact nearby residents. A better understanding of bus parking and cueing, etc. is needed.
 - e. **Trees** – There were two attendees that expressed concerns about removing trees. One resident supported the idea of the new trees that should be in keeping with the neighborhood.
 - f. **Accessibility** - Concern about the sloped walk taking up too much space from the park was expressed. Others supported the idea of a fully accessible site with walks under five percent. Some varying points were discussed regarding new pedestrian crosswalk locations.
 - g. **Cost** – Inquiry about the cost of this project RDLA responded it is still being developed.

- h. **Paving** – There was concern about the amount of impervious paving being proposed and it was suggested permeable paving or stone dust options should be explored.
- i. **Interpretative Signs** – RDLA stated that the intention was to provide numerous interpretation opportunities for development in the next round of design. A few people supported the idea of commemorating the concepts of what the minutemen were fighting for, but not the war itself. Some did not care for war imagery but supported other ways of commemorating April 19, 1775, (Cannon vs. Statuary). Ted Peluso mentioned information about the minuteman assembly should be included here. This site could be a prototype for connecting all the Arlington Battle Road sites together including commemorating Dr. Joseph Warren. Consider recognition of the Benjamin Locke house/store nearby.
- j. **Banners** – One gentleman did not care for the banners; another one liked the banners.
- k. **Brow Wall** – There seemed to be consensus that this was a good idea. Attendees liked the Foot of the Rocks signage on the wall to announce arrival to the battle site.
- l. **Schwamb Mill** – Location signage to the mill needs to be maintained. Use the site to interpret the history of Schwamb Mill as well. Use the organization to help write the history.
- m. **Concept A and or B Selection** – Not too much discussion. Doreen Stevens liked elements of each scheme. Most of the comments were supportive of elements from both options.

5.Adjourn

The author assumes this to be an accurate transcription of this meeting unless notified otherwise in writing from those present within fourteen calendar days.

Prepared By:



Ray Dunetz
Principal

Cc: Attendees, File



RAY DUNETZ
LANDSCAPE
ARCHITECTURE

179 Green Street
Boston MA 02130
T 617-524-6265
F 617-522-5029
rd@raydunetz.com

MEETING NOTES

Date: June 2, 2022
Project: Foot of the Rocks Master Plan, Arlington, MA
Attendees: Jim Feeney, Deputy Town Manager
Foot of the Rocks Working Group
Community Participants
Ray Dunetz, RDLA

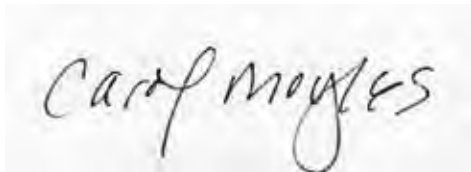
1. Introduction – Jim Feeney
2. Presentation
 - a. RDLA presented project background and Final Master Plan
3. Community Input
 - a. **Lighting** –There was a question about lighting for the park. RDLA stated that an existing streetlight is located along Massachusetts Ave. and proposed new lighting would consist of low level and night sky compliant fixtures.
 - b. **Water Bubbler**–A heat source associated with the proposed water bubbler was asked. The Town of Arlington is currently investigating the type of public water bubbler would appropriate for this site and other town locations.
 - c. **Trash and Recycling**– Both pros and cons of the trash/recycling on site were discussed during the meeting.
 - d. **Paving** – A question was raised about accessibility and proposed pavers for the site. RDLA stated the design incorporates ADA access with the use of appropriately designed pavement.
 - e. **Horse Trough** – Concern of the horse trough removal was expressed, RDLA and Jim Feeney explained the horse water trough will be repaired by the town and relocation at the First Parish Unitarian Church is currently being considered.
 - f. **Traffic Engineering** – Concern about traffic patterns was expressed. Jim Feeney mentioned that the master plan recognizes the potential changes at the Massachusetts and Lowell Street intersection. He stated the current traffic study and advancement of the master plan will coordinate on future intersection improvements.
 - g. **Cost** – Concern about the overall cost was expressed. A master plan cost estimate will be completed to determine a budget. Members of the working committee stated that funding sources both public and private will be sought for advancement of the project.

- h. **Interpretative Signs** – RDLA stated that the intention was to provide numerous interpretation opportunities for development in the next round of design. Concern about authentic fabrication of the cannon, its placement and location of the site was commented on from meeting participants. Historic interpretation in a focused and broader context needs to be integrated into future design advancement.
- i. **Local Business** – A question about how local businesses would be impacted by this project. The Town of Arlington envisions the site as a small gathering place for families and local citizens with different types of commemorative and celebratory events engaging and coordinating with local businesses.

5. Adjourn

The author assumes this to be an accurate transcription of this meeting unless notified otherwise in writing from those present within fourteen calendar days.

Prepared By:

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carol Moyles".

Carol Moyles
Landscape Architect
Ray Dunetz Landscape Architecture

Cc: Attendees, File

Appendix C ONLINE SURVEY RESULTS

What do you like about Concept A?	What do you like about Concept B?	What do you dislike about Concept A?	What do you dislike about Concept B?	Are there any other concerns you would like to share with the designers?	Are you an Arlington Resident?
Signage is clearer, more natural features				Great job!	Yes
	The cannon is up front. The crosswalk on Lowell Street lines up with the crosswalk on Mass Ave.		"Town markers" concept		Yes
I like the large "Foot of the Rocks" text visible to passersby and the banners.	it looks sunnier, for those cooler days		Seems easy to continue to pass by without noticing		Yes
I like that the space is much more intentional in it's utilization, that there are more trees for shade & greenery, and that there's artistry in the architecture.			the cannon pointing straight at oncoming cars is a bit offputting		Yes
	I like that the tree coverage feels more comprehensive and I *really* like that there's a more direct sidewalk if you are a pedestrian on the north side of Mass Ave. I probably wouldn't utilize that crosswalk on Mass Ave. I also like the prominence of the cannon -- it's fun.		Strongly dislike looking down the barrel of a cannon while on Mass Ave	The accessible crosswalk across Lowell should really be at the stop sign, rather than elsewhere.	Yes
		The Lowell St crossing feels out of the way for pedestrians and its location is not readily apparent to a pedestrian heading east on the north side of Mass Ave. I probably wouldn't utilize that crosswalk and would just cross the more direct path. Also, there's a tremendous amount of pavement at that intersection, so while I like the stone paving idea and the trees, I wish there was a way to incorporate more greenery. Maybe vines trained up a shade structure or something?		I think the intersection of Mass Ave and Lowell is dangerous and has too much pavement. The distance for a pedestrian to cross Lowell is very large and drivers do not slow down much at the intersection. I feel very positive about more paint on the bike lane as that is a slight incline where I often slow down a bit, but I really think the intersection should be narrowed, which would make me feel better about the additional paving in these proposals. I think the granite paving would be really pretty but I worry that it will make the corner feel like even more of a heat island of pavement. Could there be grass strips between some of the pavers or additional planters to add more greenery?	Yes
Improvement of sidewalks and access. Better trees.	Improvement of sidewalk and access. Better trees.	Banner adds nothing to sight. Cheap way out. Removal of the historic horse trough.		Lack of sense of terrain. Flattening of landscape. Removal of the historic horse trough.	Yes
Like bike racks incorporated into the plan, with adjacent bike lane and bikeway nearby. Like the trees and canon placement. Great to add crosswalk on Mass Ave at this location.	Like the two crosswalks on Lowell Street to promote pedestrian pathways along Mass Ave and also Lowell St (including better access to Old Schwamb Mill). Great to add crosswalk on Mass Ave at this location.	Only one crosswalk on Lowell St.	No bike racks. Would be good to include bike racks if possible to promote bike access.	It would be good to provide easy-reading signage/marker to indicate "Foot of the Rocks" place. This corner is like a neglected "no man's land" now.	Yes

What do you like about Concept A?	What do you like about Concept B?	What do you dislike about Concept A?	What do you dislike about Concept B?	Are there any other concerns you would like to share with the designers?	Are you an Arlington Resident?
Driving West on Mass. Ave., the site is clearly named.	It's clearer overall that the site is linked to a battle.	The curved bench invites skateboarding, which would create a new 'hang-out' and discourage use by those interested in the history of the site. I also dislike that the site as a whole will be paved: something that does not represent its appearance at the relevant historical time, and also is not sustainable/green. We don't need more hardscape.	Same criticism as for Concept A, regarding the hard paving, not only for the historic 'feel', but also to surround the onsite trees with a water-permeable surface and reduce heat. Again, we don't need more hardscape.	In general, a greener, park-like appearance, plus an analysis as to how to discourage skateboarding (on benches, ramps, marker stones, etc.) would be a good idea.	Yes
Park Benches. Name at end Foot of the Rocks instead of the canon			Don't like the stone pillars, makes it feel less like a space to be in.	Plant natives!	Yes
I like the banner instead of focusing on the canon. It feels more open and inviting.		Where is the horse trough?	Seems closed off. Don't like that the canon is the first thing you see.		Yes
stone benches, shade trees	location of canon front and center, relocated trough and rock	stone plinth	wheelchair ramp on Lowell St side	It's so near Ottoson Middle School, I worry about skateboarders and similar damage to your work	Yes
I really like the Name on the curved wall on the corner. I honestly never noticed that there was a park there! I also like the way the trees are spaced out. The interpretive railing seems more approachable than the tower option.	I like the placement of the canon on the corner.	The canon location seems random, not intentional.	The trees seem too close together. They don't look like they would provide as much shade as A.	I'd like to see the canon placed on the corner with the curved wall and signage.	Yes
plinth with name, bench	Nothing except the bench	canon, banner. (Replace the banner with a flagpole.)	canon at the front. no inscription showing the name, railing,	I don't like the canons. Why are they necessary? Why not stone walls rather than railings? How about some tables with the benches? Whichever plan is chosen, the site ought to carry the narrative of what happened on this spot on April 19, 1775. Visitors should want to linger and learn.	Yes
The front wall with the 'Foot of the Rocks' signage. The canon placement. Incorporation of the boulders	The stone posts on the Mass Ave side.	Too many trees.	Cannon placement. No boulders, rocks.		Yes
Tree cover	N9th stands out special	Removal of all softwoods	Removal of all softwoods		Yes

What do you like about Concept A	What do you like about Concept B?	What do you dislike about Concept A?	What do you dislike about Concept B?	Are there any other concerns you would like to share with the designers?	Are you an Arlington Resident?
I prefer A over B. I prefer a plant bed - preferably a swale or rain garden, on the corner which serves as the "front" of the space.	Keeping the horse trough.	Eliminating the horse trough and having bike racks.	The cannon on the corner is too prominent. We don't need the cannon to be the most prominent feature on the tip of the corner. Use the main corner for the signage and plantings. If there is a cannon, it can be someplace in the interior of the space.	I travel past this small park on a daily basis and am very glad it is going to be made into usable public space. There may be heavy use by Ottoson students on weekday afternoons -- they currently sit on the curbs across the street at Dunks after school but if there were benches nearby the park could become available and accessible to them which I believe is a good thing. It will be important to have sufficient trash receptacles and to ensure regular trash pickup and routine maintenance. Would be great if there is a way to link up with Ottoson somehow to involve students in learning about the historic significance of the spot so they would view the park as something to support.	Yes
The inscription at the base/ intersection.	Keeping the horse trough.	Eliminating the horse trough and having bike racks.	Not having the inscription at the intersection and having the cannon at the corner: it's too vulnerable to a potential car accident.		Yes
The railing with interpretive panels	It feels more accessible at the corner of the intersection. I like the town markers.	It feels very closed off at the corner.	There's less seating.		Yes
Bike racks and shade trees.	Stone benches with inscriptions and interpretative signage.	Banners and interpretative panels near railings.	Cannon placement	No	Yes

What do you like about Concept A?	What do you like about Concept B?	What do you dislike about Concept A?	What do you dislike about Concept B?	Are there any other concerns you would like to share with the designers?	Are you an Arlington Resident?
<p>The overall floor plan for the space. How it protects pedestrians at the intersection of Mass and Lowell. It has better visibility for drivers as well. The crosswalk on Lowell looks better than it is now.</p>	<p>Concept B has better cross walks. New crosswalks at this intersection crossing both Lowell st and Mass ave are needed at this intersection.</p>	<p>I'm not sure that it will actually fit in that space. There is a lot of land to fill in to get the landing shown.</p>	<p>The cannon impairs driver's visibility. The outside curb is too low and it isn't safe for pedestrians.</p>	<p>I live a few houses from this intersection on Peirce St.</p> <p>This is a dangerous intersection both for pedestrians and drivers. Currently drivers from Lowell stop considerably past the line for the stop sign because that is the only way to see cars on Mass ave. Pedestrians have to cross right at the stop sign because that is where the sidewalk is. Safety should be the first priority.</p> <p>As you noted in the presentation this site has changed over the centuries. Usability should be prioritized over monuments.</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>I like the Foot of the Rocks signage on the stone plinth, and I like the cannon as a feature of the park. I also think the interpretive signage is a plus</p>	<p>I like the town markers.</p>	<p>Nothing</p>	<p>I don't like the cannon out on the road like that. It's kind of a weird image to have on a roadside. I do like the historical aspect of its presence, but I think it would be better as a park feature.</p>	<p>I am happy that we are making more effort to highlight our role in the American Revolution.</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Foot of the Rocks sign/wall; rocks/boulders by ramp on Lowell St side.</p>	<p>Inclusion of crosswalk & steps at the east end of the park at the stop sign..Cannon at east end of</p>	<p>Lack of steps & crosswalk at stop sign at east end. Boring concrete retaining wall.</p>	<p>Lack of visual interest along Lowell St side. Signage? Depicted position of cannon - might be a little shocking to a approaching vehicles..</p>	<p>Retaining wall looks to be a plain concrete wall in both designs; thinking it should mimic the stacked stone walls that surround the Jason Russell house & provide some visual interest to the Lowell St side. Perhaps place a bike rack along Lowell St side for those coming from the Minuteman bike path.. I miss the horse trough..why was it taken apart when the redesign is still in the design planning stage?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>railing with interpretive panels</p>	<p>Placement of cannon; open access from Lowell Street</p>	<p>I don't like the banners up front- looks like a sailboat coming West from Mass Ave.</p>	<p>Seeming lack of historical information?</p>	<p>My overall question/interest is how to make the monument 'sticky' for visitors, esp. those on the younger side (up through college age). How do we enable people to engage/interact with the monument rather than just pass through. As a middle school teacher, this is always my lens and I worry that this work will culminate in a nice & incredibly thoughtful space but not necessarily an impactful / long- lasting one. I'd like to have a chance to input on that if possible.</p>	<p>Yes</p>

What do you like about Concept A?	What do you like about Concept B?	What do you dislike about Concept A?	What do you dislike about Concept B?	Are there any other concerns you would like to share with the designers?	Are you an Arlington Resident?
Park layout and Foot of the Rocks sign; benches	2 crosswalks on Lowell St: use of the old horse trough	Only 1 crosswalk on Lowell	The cannon pointing at you when you come north on Mass Ave.	Can we save the current trees that are there? Thank you for doing this appreciated work!	Yes
The Foot of the Rocks sign at the front--identifies the site, memorable	the pavement, if it's something other than concrete (as it appears to be). Grass would be nice, but hard to maintain	not much	the cannon on the corner	Whatever we do with this site, it can't be a space like Lexington Green, which is a really great space for remembering and commemorating what happened--and it was the beginning, after all, while Foot of the Rocks was on the way back. I've long been aware of the much larger scope and impact of the Foot of the Rocks battle, but I've never been able to figure out how to get the touring public interested in it with no worthy place for them to go and commemorate what happened. This project is a good step, and will improve the possibilities, but after 10 years of trying to think about and do something for Arlington as a tourist destination, I've concluded that it's not ever really going to happen. Longfellow and the beauty of Lexington Green and the Old North Bridge are not going to be nudged aside. And where do you park the buses? Sell the souvenirs? Find a restroom? Get away from the traffic?	Yes
I like the wall that says Foot of the Rocks on it, and the more subtle placement of the cannon. The position of the boulders is closer to their current position, where it appears they have been for a long time.			The cannon position is too aggressive and seems pointed toward drivers coming down Mass Ave.		Yes

What do you like about Concept A?	What do you like about Concept B?	What do you dislike about Concept A?	What do you dislike about Concept B?	Are there any other concerns you would like to share with the designers?	Are you an Arlington Resident?
Nothing it's expensive and quite useless	Nothing. It's expensive and quite useless	Everything. It's expensive, a waste of public funds at a time when the town is looking for an override. And it has a cannon. Did cannons have anything to do with the battle at the Foot of Rocks? It also cuts into Mass Ave. Your artists conception has more pedestrians than cars. That a fabulous bit of propaganda. What are you going to do when someone crashes into the wall with the lettering? Who's going to clean the litter and graffiti off the cannon?	Everything. It's expensive, a waste of public funds at a time when the town is looking for an override. And it has a cannon. Did cannons have anything to do with the battle at the Foot of Rocks? It also cuts into Mass Ave. Your artists conception has more pedestrians than cars. That a fabulous bit of propaganda. What are you going to do when someone crashes into the cannon? Who's going to clean the litter and graffiti off the cannon?	Yes. In both depictions, you show 25ish ft. trees. Either you're going to transplant in VERY large trees and spend a ton of money doing it, or you're going to plant little ones that take decades to become the trees we already have. By then, frost, and weather will have deteriorated the park. So just about the time the bonds are paid off, the town will want to do it again. There are nice, decent sized trees already on the site. Leave them alone. I have a different idea. Fix the sidewalk. The town has a great sidewalk crew. They can handle it. Make it concrete, poured before September. Make it stamped concrete if you just can't tolerate the thought of something durable, simple, and relatively inexpensive. Move the light pole to the back of the sidewalk. Take out the abandoned electrical box. Leave everything else as is. It's fine the way it is. There will not be any tour busses pulling up to hang around in the park. They don't even come to the Jason Russell house.	Yes
the Foot of the Rocks sign, the seating			the cannon too visible from the street, the repetitive bollards (town signs? the upright things in a row don't look appealing in the rendering)		Yes
Front wall with the name on it. More green space.	Two crosswalks, cannon.	Only one crosswalk, a lot of concrete.	A lot of concrete.	Would prefer more grass/natural. Would be cool to bring back the stacked rocks.	Yes
Stone plinth with inscription	The location of the boulders/ trough	Existing boulders/trough don't seem very prominent	Without the plinth with inscription, it's not clear what you are seeing from the street level.		Yes
Bike racks, relocated boulders.	View traveling west looks open and inviting.	Do not like wall and large flag in view traveling west.		I really like the crosswalk across Mass Ave in both concepts. Also like stone steps from Lowell Street to Mass Ave.	Yes

What do you like about Concept A?	What do you like about Concept B?	What do you dislike about Concept A?	What do you dislike about Concept B?	Are there any other concerns you would like to share with the designers?	Are you an Arlington Resident?
Not much	That the crosswalks are more accessible and convenient creating less "j-walking".		I don't like a canon!	I'd prefer single granite blocks for seating or benches without a long section to prevent skaters. Having additional historical information there or the use of QR codes would be nice. Keep the original granite fountain in the space, even if repurposed.	Yes
I like concept A for leveling the existing slope, the cannon in the back of the property, steps going down to Lowell St. near the existing building and again at the point of the site. The wheel chair accessibility from the top level down to Lowell street which is away from the main entrance of Lowell street.	Stone seats	Wooden benches that need repair over time. Maybe metal ones would last longer. Missing the horse trough placement somewhere.	I do not like the placement of the cannon. I see that getting hit by cars. The slope around the front is problematic for walkers and wheelchairs. The whole site is sloped down which can make it hard for visitors to walk on. The placement of the wheelchair slope is not good.	Are you planning on removing parking along the sidewalk? Currently, there are many cars and trucks that park along that section to go to the surrounding businesses. Taking away 6-7 spots will be difficult.	Yes
		Missing the trough		Several years ago I sent a detailed set of ideas to the Battle Rd Cmte that attempted to take a larger view and integrate Arlington sites with those in Cambridge, Lexington, and Concord. I received one reply, from a former member of the Select Board, and no acknowledgement at all from the Cmte. My point was that we should leverage our geographical location and history to take advantage of the tourist draws already in place in those other communities. So whatever is decided at the Foot of the Rocks, fine, but how does the overall development of the Battle Rd work with that larger picture?	Yes
Prominent signage "Foot of the Rocks" at the corner and bike racks in back.			A big weapon being pointed at oncoming traffic.		Yes

What do you like about Concept A?	What do you like about Concept B?	What do you dislike about Concept A?	What do you dislike about Concept B?	Are there any other concerns you would like to share with the designers?	Are you an Arlington Resident?
I like the name on the corner.			I don't care for the cannon on the corner.	no both designs are very nice. Just want to say I was born and brought in Arlington.	No
I especially like the relocation of the crosswalk further back, and the cohesive integration of the stairs and ramp. Also, the plant bed, and stone base with inscription at the very corner makes excellent decorative use and offers some protection	I like the town markers for decoration, sharing with the canopy trees.	Not so much dislike, but would prefer the town markers from Concept B incorporated in this design	The prominence of the cannon I do not like. Also, the horse trough fountain really doesn't work. I think it should be retired.	The reconfiguration of Lowell St intersection and Appleton St, while separate, should present cohesively when all is done.	Yes
Additional benches, bike racks, I like the lettering FOOT OF THE ROCKS/	The additional stone steps and crosswalk.	Concerns about visibility merging from Lowell St onto Mass Ave.	I would have to pull all the way into the crosswalk in order to see oncoming traffic from Mass Ave.	Merging onto Mass Ave is a nightmare coming from Lowell St.. Because of the extreme angle, you have to swivel your head back and forth to see traffic from both directions, which has led to some close calls. I also wouldn't want any newly planted trees to further reduce visibility. Perhaps it needs to go a step further than just a crosswalk on Mass Ave, like even a traffic signal or raised crosswalk? Also, I am 100% in favor of protected bike lanes, like the new bollards on Mass Ave in Cambridge (near the Arlington border) or a full-on curb.	Yes
I like how it's contained/presented with the stone plinth from the Mass Ave. perspective, LOVE that there will be a crosswalk - it's long overdue!	I like that the horse troughs are incorporated (unless I'm missing them in A?). LOVE that there will be a crosswalk - it's long overdue!	Missing the horse trough?	The cannon being right on the corner makes me nervous that it could be damaged again in another accident	Hoping that all signage and inscriptions will be accessible and include braille.	Yes
Much more congenial in appearance.		This neither a natural or peaceful gathering place.	The cannon is to militaristic. Spot is neither a natural or peaceful gathering place.	Need to figure out how to avoid becoming a gathering place for drinking or pot smoking.	Yes
The general aesthetics of the design are lovely and it's great that would be accessible. The bike rack is nice too. I like the removal of the cross walk on Lowell that is right at the intersection. It's never seemed very safe because visibility is tricky there.	Similar comments as to Concept A but I like A better.	Not a big fan of the cannon in either concept. I think it would be more interesting to focus on the people involved in the battle rather than the weaponry.	Don't like that the 2nd crosswalk still exists on Lowell, dislike the cannon. Aesthetically, I prefer A.	n/a	Yes

What do you like about Concept A?	What do you like about Concept B?	What do you dislike about Concept A?	What do you dislike about Concept B?	Are there any other concerns you would like to share with the designers?	Are you an Arlington Resident?
I like the Foot of the Rocks sign that is clearly visible while driving by.	I like the cannon front and center- this makes it very clear that this site is historical	The cannon is hard to see. in a subordinate position.			Yes
I like the obvious sign reading "Foot of the Rocks" to help identify the location.	I like that the cannon is in an easily visible position if traveling west down Mass Ave.		There is no clear signage that identifies the location's name from a distance.	I hope that the existing boulder with plaque will not be removed.	Yes
	I like the bollards used in Concept B			I think you should redesign it to eliminate the Lowell and Mass ave intersection altogether. Lowell should terminate at Locke St and Locke should continue all the way to Mass ave. Turning onto Mass ave from Lowell is dangerous due to the extremely sharp angle and elevation change; there's hardly any visibility at all.	Yes
These look the same, except for the location of the canon. Q: Were there canon at the battle here?				A drinking fountain would be a real plus, and would help to make this an actual destination	Yes

What do you like about Concept A?	What do you like about Concept B?	What do you dislike about Concept A?	What do you dislike about Concept B?	Are there any other concerns you would like to share with the designers?	Are you an Arlington Resident?
<p>Not much. See below for more comments.</p>	<p>Not much. Keeps the current crosswalk on Lowell St. I live in the neighborhood and this is a frequently used walkway.</p>	<p>There's no way to walk around the east end of the park to cross Lowell Street. Redesign that area so one can walk from Dunkin Donuts straight across to Lowell Street and head east, as shown in Concept B.</p>	<p>The cannon -- I would not want to drive along Mass Ave and have a cannon in my face!</p> <p>Instead, please replace the water trough/planter in that location. That structure is also a piece of Arlington history and offers the opportunity for seasonal flower plantings to greet visitors to the intersection.</p>	<p>I don't like either of the concepts. I think the whole plan is overkill for such a small, difficult to access space. There is no safe parking nearby. The Lowell-Mass Ave intersection is dangerous and people drive too fast down Mass Ave through there already. Even bikes and pedestrians have a hard time maneuvering the area. The Town recently installed the bike lane and made other improvements at the Appleton intersection to address safety and access. The Town is still grappling with how to improve the safety of the entire Mass Ave corridor, from east of Forest Street through this complex intersection. Is Dan Arnstutz, Transportation Planner, part of your committee? He should be consulted. I recognize that the goal is to make the site more interesting, update the historic signage, and make it more accessible for people to learn about the history. That's fine.</p> <p>BUT, both designs seem to destroy all the existing trees and take up too much of a very small space with a ramp -- I do appreciate the need for ADA accessibility. That accessibility can be provided on the Mass Ave side without also altering the Lowell Street side and shrinking the park even more than it is already. The ramp also creates an unattractive wall facing Mill Lane and the historic Old Schwamb Mill. Keep it simple... both plans are way too overdesigned for such a small space.</p> <p>Replace the sidewalks, replace or upgrade the historic markers, level off part of the park area along the Mass Ave side for walking and seating, keep some of the existing trees along the Lowell Street side (two nice Amelanchier) !! Keep the crosswalk at the east end of the park across Lowell Street.</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Overall design, visibility of Foot of Rocks sign from Mass Ave</p>	<p>Stone benches, placement of boulders and horse trough</p>	<p>Not sure how well interpretive panels will hold up over time.</p>	<p>Placement of cannon</p>	<p>Could you please add a ramp instead of stairs to one of the entrances? It is very hard to use the current stairs with a stroller (or a wheelchair). Thanks for your consideration!</p>	<p>Yes</p>

What do you like about Concept A?	What do you like about Concept B?	What do you dislike about Concept A?	What do you dislike about Concept B?	Are there any other concerns you would like to share with the designers?	Are you an Arlington Resident?
Less clutter, simpler.	There is still room to rebuild the horse trough. The foot of the rocks had a short battle in its much longer history as the wood supply for Cambridge and transportation artery to Lowell.	The cannon is pointed in the wrong direction. The British regulars were defending their retreat toward Charlestown and so fired their cannon at the minutemen who were following and enveloping them. The cannon should be pointed generally westward, not eastward. Cannon balls have been found over the years in the vicinity of Mill Brook.	The horse trough isn't easily accessible to horses still in harness with their wagons.	Yes	Yes
The openness	the openness	I like it	I don't like the cannon as the first thing one will see coming up Mass Ave	no	Yes
The plant bed.	Nothing. We don't need a park and all that extra stuff there.	The cannon and excessive stuff added.	The cannon and unnecessary stuff added.	We don't need a park there on that small strip of land. Just put back the horse trough, plant some flowers, and get rid of the dangerous bricks surrounding it. We don't need to draw unnecessary pedestrians, bicyclists, and park goers to that small intersection, making it more difficult for the drivers to pull out into oncoming traffic. Make it pleasing to the eye for people to view in passing, not as a destination or hangout.	Yes
the trees	keeping the horse trough	It looks like there is no pedestrian flow along Mass Ave. Also, the design seems to require effective snow removal off the steps in winter for the design to work as proposed.	It looks like there is no pedestrian flow along Mass Ave. Also, the design seems to require effective snow removal off the steps in winter for the design to work as proposed.	After watching the changes made at the Arlington Reservoir, I am concerned that the proposed changes to the Foot of the Rocks will result in a similarly bare and sterile landscape. Arlington is becoming more and more urbanized, with higher buildings and shallower setbacks, and in that context, it makes it more important, it seems to me, to foster lush oases of vegetation and to try to preserve natural beauty. I am concerned that these designs do not do those things.	Yes

What do you like about Concept A?	What do you like about Concept B?	What do you dislike about Concept A?	What do you dislike about Concept B?	Are there any other concerns you would like to share with the designers?	Are you an Arlington Resident?
The trees.	Keeping the horse trough, and the trees.	The Cannon and apparent lack of sidewalk along Mass ave.	The Cannon and apparent lack of sidewalk along Mass ave.	I strongly encourage the designers not to remove the horse trough as it has been a staple of the foot of the rocks for decades. It's possible (likely) that young kids will attempt to climb on the canon. Perhaps it should be placed on grass instead of granite paving.	Yes
I like the placement of the shade trees, the placement of the benches, the plant bed, and that the canon isn't right out front.	It looks nice from Lowell Street.	Nothing	I dislike the canon right out front, the town markers where trees could be, and the placement of the trees (which is slightly different than concept A).		Yes
banners and view from Mass Ave traveling west	raised town markers	paving inscriptions	cannon at the point of the park		Yes
Like the name - foot of rocks - as seen coming west on Mass Ave Ample benches	Space between existing house and park.	Banners	Banners		Yes
Interpretive railings easier to access; cannon off the street (little kids will want to climb on it, parents take pictures making off street safer)	Town markers	Not a fan of the banners	Horse trough; cannon feels disconnected to space		Yes
Nothing. Too crowded with junk. Too obvious and modern. Please wait.	Almost nothing. Please wait.	Everything.	Almost everything. Please wait.		Yes

What do you like about Concept A?	What do you like about Concept B?	What do you dislike about Concept A?	What do you dislike about Concept B?	Are there any other concerns you would like to share with the designers?	Are you an Arlington Resident?
Love the bike racks, shade trees, cannon placement	I prefer this one. The stone bollards and benches look better. The interpretive signage and other elements give it a more historic feel.	Hardscaped surface	Hardscaped surface	<p>Absolutely do not fill this area with concrete. It will complicate stormwater management, make the neighborhood hotter, and detract from the character of the area, where this is the only open green space on the block.</p> <p>Adding a crosswalk at the rear steps is a great idea that I strongly support. The intersection is dangerous with poor sight lines for all who use the street. It will require traffic calming mechanisms to keep that second crosswalk safe. Drivers race off Mass Ave to do a straight shot down Lowell at top speed. They won't be looking for pedestrians or careful about that second crosswalk unless there is physical infrastructure to prevent them from gunning it.</p> <p>Similarly, on Mass Ave, I love the idea of moving the bike lane in to border the sidewalk. This will also require physical infrastructure to prevent parking in the lane. Drivers already use the no-parking zone there, which is dangerous to all who use that intersection, and they commonly intrude into the bike lane.</p>	Yes
				<p>I look at this site from my kitchen window. While I agree that both plans are an improvement I have concerns. It has been much safer navigating by car since the horse drink fountain has been taken down and the bike lane has been added. It looks like both plans allow parking on Mass Ave. along the park and it concerns me for the reasons mentioned prior.</p> <p>I hope that is considered heavily in either plan.</p> <p>Also, it is difficult to image updating the space and have tourists look at the dilapidated house on corner of Lowell and Locke. I am not sure what the Town can do about that. Either plan with a cross walk to the Dunkin Donuts side of the street is progress.</p>	Yes

What do you like about Concept A?	What do you like about Concept B?	What do you dislike about Concept A?	What do you dislike about Concept B?	Are there any other concerns you would like to share with the designers?	Are you an Arlington Resident?
	Incorporates horse trough	Does not include horse trough?	Would cannon be a historical artifact? Will it be protected/maintained? Would rather the site not glorify instruments of war.		Yes
More prominent signage/site marking for the Foot of the Rocks	I do not like concept B	The cannon. There is no record of a cannon at this battle.	The cannon. There is no record of a cannon at this battle.	I'm concerned about the crosswalks proposed in this area. This is an area where there have been a number of crashes, some fatal. More careful planning and consideration into pedestrian amenities and safety in this area.	Yes
Shady space, rear stairs, bikeracks	Shady space, rear stairs, bikeracks	Paving inscriptions because they'll get worn away. Confusing look like a tripping hazard. Too much concrete. In "foot of the rocks" the most prominent part will be "of the"	The threatening angle of the cannon. Too much concrete.	Pedestrian safety concerns across Lowell street.	No
Wall with Foot of the Rocks noted			Cannon	This is a site where people died -- does the design invite contemplation on this and honoring their lives and deaths?	Yes
Overall, I'm happy with both. I enjoy the thoughtfulness regarding a bike rack with Concept A.	I can take either one. However, I love the placement of the cannon in concept B, this makes it more visible to the public.	The bike rack may present an issue with theft.	1) Lack of bike rack. 2) Although I mentioned LOVING where the cannon is placed, I'm also concerned that a car crash may break the cannon due to being near the road.	I hope that there is some subtle lighting for the evening.	Yes
	I think the second crosswalk on Lowell St. will be necessary given the amount of foot traffic coming down from Ottoson School and the Dunkin Donuts. I think people, including a lot of 12 and 13 year olds, will want to make that crossing at the corner regardless of whether there is a crosswalk there or not, so probably better to plan for that from a safety standpoint.	Not crazy about the banner. Seems the plinth inscription identifies the site.		Will the existing large pines be removed for the project? I can see the new deciduous shade trees planned in the mock ups. Are you thinking large shade trees, like pin oaks, or something smaller?	Yes

What do you like about Concept A?	What do you like about Concept B?	What do you dislike about Concept A?	What do you dislike about Concept B?	Are there any other concerns you would like to share with the designers?	Are you an Arlington Resident?
signage on west-facing wall	seems more of an intentional public space instead of an extension of street, with the markers making a wall	It would be a huge shame to pave the area. Could the majority of the area be raised bed gardens, shrubs, etc.? Arlington already has very little green space, so could we avoid paving over what we have? Also the big banner in Concept A seems like tacky overkill; a bit of lettering on the low stonework plus the trees above is certainly more to my taste.	outward-facing cannon -- kids are going to want to play on this and this design puts them right on the street	Perhaps separate out two groups of stonework: (a) those about the battle, and (b) those about other folks. Also it is a shame to lose the positioning of the horse-watering trough, as it erases a bit of the pre-car history of Arlington.	Yes
It is simple, not fussy. Repositioning the sidewalk seems like a good idea.	I can't think of anything	It would be a huge shame to pave the area. Could the majority of the area be raised bed gardens, shrubs, etc.? Arlington already has very little green space, so could we avoid paving over what we have? Also the big banner in Concept A seems like tacky overkill; a bit of lettering on the low stonework plus the trees above is certainly more to my taste.	Just about everything - very fussy, too many details, etc. Also I think pointing a cannon directly down Mass Ave seems a little aggressive.		Yes
shade trees, new cross walk, bike racks, handrail on stone steps, inscribed bands on granite	shade trees, cross walk, hand-rail with steps,	trash and recycling compactor, removal of old trees, no mention of road safety or Native American history, no green infrastructure, no mention of native plants,	trash and recycling compactor, removal of old trees, cannon, stop sign location	will there be a water supply for the plant bed, history of landscape (plants) restore to forest, meadow or community garden? trees to absorb air pollution for people sitting on benches, traffic calming, lighting, current path - how people are walking thru the site now	Yes
I like the "Foot of the Rocks" inscription facing out to Mass Ave at the narrow end of the space, the bike rack, having both stone and regular benches.	That there are two painted crosswalks on Lowell st, the location of "the Rocks", and having an interpretive sign	The location of "the Rocks" seems awkward being right at the top of the sloped walk	Having the cannon facing out onto Mass Ave at the narrow end. No bike rack or regular benches.	Does there need to be a cannon? Were cannons even used at this particular battle? And even if yes, just seems like something that's not needed. Maybe some other sort of sculpture would be better - that kids could also climb all over ;). We live fairly close to this spot and look forward to it being a nicer space.	Yes
The open feeling and the layout of the trees. It feels more open and inviting than concept B.	The steps next to the cannon.	Nothing	The town markers. Not sure what purpose they serve and just add more concrete. I'd rather focus on the trees than the concrete.	Anything to add more green space.	Yes
Safety -- Concept A is the preferred option as it features correct placement of crosswalks (two only) and cannon (set back away from the intersection)	Concept B is not preferred; three crosswalks to confusing and unsafe! The cannons is in a dangerous spot.	Nothing -- Concept A is the preferred option	Safety -- Concept B has incorrect placement of crosswalks and cannon! (the cannon should not be at the point of the intersection); the crosswalk over Lowell should be set back between Locke Street and Mill Lane.	These crosswalks need a blinking 'on-demand' pedestrian crossing signal lights.	Yes
I like the and that it seems bigger than what's there now.	I like the trees and that it seems bigger than what's there now.	From Mass Ave it looks like a ship which doesn't seem to fit with the theme.	Don't really like the cannon - seems too obvious.	I wouldn't pave the area or have it be a hard surface. I'd make it more like a meadow with plants that were native to the area in 1775 and have that be a part of the theme.	Yes

What do you like about Concept A?	What do you like about Concept B?	What do you dislike about Concept A?	What do you dislike about Concept B?	Are there any other concerns you would like to share with the designers?	Are you an Arlington Resident?
I like that it keeps the existing boulders. They are part of the history.	How are you supposed to walk on the sidewalk on Mass. Ave.? I like the stone plinth, but it needs to allow pedestrians to walk on *either* side. Also, minor issue, but the banners seem unnecessary.	Not crazy about the cannon pointing directly at Mass. Ave. traffic. Might be upsetting for some people. I'm not opposed to a cannon on the site, just the prominence. Also, I don't like the modern interpretive signage - keep the old boulders, they have history.	I'd prefer more grass. Trees are good, but it still feels very urban if it's all paved over. But above all, please, PLEASE allow pedestrians to walk unimpeded on Mass. Ave. Otherwise you'll get people walking in the bike lane - the path of least resistance.	Yes	Yes
It seems just like B except for the corner treatment with the gun.	The flat open area, which is just like A.	The ramp. Couldn't a sidewalk do the job equally well?	The gun. If artillery was used here (was it?) it was used by the regulars, not the militiamen. It seems like it's celebrating the wrong side in the battle, if such a gun was used at all there.	The corner will continue to be hit by drunk drivers. Be prepared.	Yes
Cleaner aesthetic	Really? That space can support that many trees? Is the triangular space to extend further into Mass Ave?	Unsure of safe sightlines for traffic coming toward Mass Ave on Lowell. How high is the border fence?	Seems clunkier.	I think that whatever design should be simple and flexible enough to serve as a template for other important April 19 sites--Old Burying Ground; Sam Whittemore's last stand; Cooper's Tavern; Black Horse Tavern. What happens to trees that are there? One of current trees is quite wonderful. I think there should be a leveling & enlarging of flat interior space to serve as community meeting place. Is there thought given to provision of parking for visitors to read signage?	Yes
I like the existence of the bike racks. However, I live about 4 doors down, so wouldn't use them myself. I'd like to think others would?	Do the non-stone benches have any shade?	It appears to have less seating than Concept A.	I mentioned in the first session, but will mention again: my use of the "desire line" through the site is because it is the easiest access from Mass Ave west of the site to the Minuteman Path/Schwamb Mill. Both concepts feature a painted crosswalk from the site to Dunkin' Donuts across the street, but I'm truly unsure how many people are using this location as a crossing to Dunkin' versus a more direct route to the mill/bike path. That said, I like the painted crosswalk across Lowell street for this reason.	Yes	Yes

What do you like about Concept A?	What do you like about Concept B?	What do you dislike about Concept A?	What do you dislike about Concept B?	Are there any other concerns you would like to share with the designers?	Are you an Arlington Resident?
positioning of the cannon, stone plinth with inscription	granite paving	concrete paving	the cannon pointed at oncoming traffic	ensuring clear visibility for cars attempting to access Mass Ave from Lowell St.	Yes
Cannon inside park. More interpretive space on rock & rail. Bike racks & benches. No cross walk at fork on Lowell. It's too close to prior crazy intersection. Plant bed in front with large signage on wall at fork.	Not much although Horse Trough is interesting.	Lack of drainage with low ground cover between granite "floor". Will it be slippery?	Lack of drainage with low ground cover between granite "floor". Will it be slippery? Cross walk at fork on Lowell St. Cannon in front. Too many stairs.	Lack of drainage with low ground cover between granite "floor". Will it be slippery?	Yes
the plinth with inscription, cannon, benches, trees	interpretive signage, cannon, benches, trees, the retention of the old boulder markers	bike racks, seems an odd place	I can't figure out what 'town markers' are, but it makes the design look cluttered.		Yes
The canon	The canon	We don't need MORE HARD SURFACES or FENCING!!!	SEE ABOVE. Also, seating is superfluous. This is not a sit-down type of park. It's TINY!	Much more plants & flowers with minimal walkway/pavers.	Yes
The stone plinth at the corner clearly showing what this place is about. The space looks roomy. Shade trees.	Shade trees.		The pedestrian crosswalk at the end of Lowell Street. It seems redundant to have two crosswalks within such a short distance. At the end of the street may not be an ideal location for a crosswalk. I have been there as a pedestrian and don't feel safe crossing there as cars are always trying to make a turn very quickly and they look like they are coming at you even when they intend to stop right before.		Yes
Greater room allowed for interpretation, preservation of the boulders nearly in situ	Only that the horse trough, a gift of the Robbins sisters, is conserved	LOSS OF THE HORSE TROUGH	Cannon is too far from interpretation to be relevant and understandable	If you MUST introduce a new element, non-period element (don't know why it can't be addressed in the interpretation) the cannon MUST BE AN AUTHENTIC REPRODUCTION of what Lord Percy trained on the Colonials. PLEASE INCLUDE its carriage and mount.	Yes

What do you like about Concept A?	What do you like about Concept B?	What do you dislike about Concept A?	What do you dislike about Concept B?	Are there any other concerns you would like to share with the designers?	Are you an Arlington Resident?
I find concept A lacking historic preservation. I do like that trash bins are tucked away at the very end. I would like a flag pole with mast arms to be returned to the site instead of banners.	Love the cannon placement and horse water trough/boulder placement. Love the stone benches with inscriptions too. Love the shade trees.	banners, railings with interactive panels, front curved sign and bike racks. If bike racks are installed they should be far away from the beauty of this space. have regular trash barrels instead of compactors. I don't like the placement of the boulders.	Street light should be replaced with a more decorative one. front planting bed should somehow be incorporated in front.	I would love to see a flag pole with mast arms installed here. I think it would really add to the historic preservation and provide dignity for those who this area is in honor of. Add decorative lighting to signify importance of space and as a deterrent to vandals. Illuminate flag pole. Use trash / recycling receptacles to match other historic areas in town like cutter house site.	Yes
		what happened to the pile of rocks?? isn't that the point/focus here? why not put a large pile of rocks (like in the historical photos) on the south corner with a large flagpole in the middle w/a large US flag?	the line of stones look like grave markers or bollards; not particularly unique. doesn't reflect the large pile of rocks from the older photos.		Yes
The stone Plinth with inscription communicates and identifies the site better then just seeing a cannon.			Less trees than A. I'm not sure if I really dislike it per say, but I seem to just like A better.	I like in the old photos, it seems like the site used to have a flag pole with a US flag. Since it is a historical site, if possible, I think it would be appropriate to have a US flag like so many other historical sites around.	Yes
benches and stone markers with inscriptions. trees, plantings, and stone walls.	trees, interpretative sign post, stone posts, cannon out front, horse trough and boulders placement.	banners in front. trash compactors. don't like placement of boulders, don't like big sign in front. bike racks need to be kept away from site really. I think i like placement but not really sure.	need to add a flag pole. need to add more plantings. create a more historic look.	I have lived in Arlington for over 50 years. I would like to see a more historic look to the area and a nice place to sit and learn history. Like concept B but need to add a flag pole and lighting.	Yes
I like the banner and placement of the boulders.	I like the cannon up front.	Cannon is too out of site, like an afterthought, feels more like a play structure for kids to climb on.	Generally just less excited by design, dislike where boulders are.		Yes

What do you like about Concept A?	What do you like about Concept B?	What do you dislike about Concept A?	What do you dislike about Concept B?	Are there any other concerns you would like to share with the designers?	Are you an Arlington Resident?
Keeping the trees and adding benches	cannon and trees	Walk across Mass Ave at the end of the block, don't think the side walk on Lowell is necessary-as there is one on the other side of the road that wheel chair can use that then the cross walk at the corner near the liquor store- park will be tiny	I don't think the side walk on Lowell is necessary-as there is one on the other side of the road that wheel chair can use then the cross- park will be tiny unless you bump out to take some of the parking there on Mass Ave	More native plants please, new path if you can't skip it - should be permeable pavement, This is across from Dunkin Donuts- add two person table/ checker table. Crossing the street here is difficult. Move the Mass ave cross walkway from the corner to the other side(where the stair is located to be safer, Easier to wrap around the handicap access from the corner to the stair entrance for the park. A lot of high speed driving on Mass Ave makes it a difficult merge off of Lowell to Mass ave this may be confounded by cross walk on Mass Ave Will there be a light?	Yes
Cannon is nearly hidden. (was a cannon used then?)	Crosswalk on Lowell at Mass Av. Able to walk around the base at Mass Av/Lowell St.	Removes too much greenery. Crosswalk too far back. Huge cement wall at Mass Av/Loweel St base, with no sidewalk to walk in front of it.	Removes lots of greenery. Cannon too visible. (was a cannon used then?)	I have no idea how long this is, or how much of a change this is from the existing greenery. it's really hard to see the information boxes on the computer!	Yes
Prominent Foot of the Rocks sign at the corner, some seating faces interpretive panels, more space for interpretive signage, existing memorial boulders still visible from the street, large banners, shade trees, benches, trash/recycling, addition of cannon, addition of interpretive signage, use of granite		Lack of safety barriers for park visitors, no crosswalk at the end of Lowell St or access to the park from that corner, no horse trough, lack of signage/ identification on most of Lowell St wall	Existing memorial boulders are less visible from the streets, lack of banners & prominent name sign, lack of signage/ identification on most of Lowell St wall		Yes

What do you like about Concept A?	What do you like about Concept B?	What do you dislike about Concept A?	What do you dislike about Concept B?	Are there any other concerns you would like to share with the designers?	Are you an Arlington Resident?
It seems easier to understand the history behind the event that took place there. I also like the stone plinth at the corner.	Nothing -- it's crazy!		It's completely bananas to have a cannon pointed directly at people coming up Mass Ave.	There was no cannon there before. Why is that being included? Were cannons used in this battle? Wasn't it practically hand-to-hand guerrilla combat? This seems like a really odd choice.	Yes
prominent site name		The cannon.	prominence of the cannon / glorification of weaponry	There is no cut through for the mobility impaired- just a pedestrian staircase. Staircase not necessary, not please add a (graded) ramp for those challenged by stairs and accordingly are most in need of the shortcut across Mass and Lowell that this site can offer.	Yes
I like the stone plinth as the first thing you see. I also like the bike racks.	Not much	Nothing	I don't like the cannon up front	No	Yes
The comparative openness along Mass Ave is attractive. The bike parking is a valuable addition given the lack of this resource in the neighborhood. Adding crosswalks (especially across Mass Ave) would be very useful in connecting this space to the various businesses, the mill, and schools in the area. The banner, if done tastefully, would be a nice visual approaching the main Arlington Heights business district.	The prominence of the cannon is very attractive and this use of the point of the area opens the space up visually to the rest of the neighborhood.	The stone plinth with inscription is a bit blunt in comparison to the subtlety of other historical site markers in the area.	I'm unsure what the "town markers" are... would be nice to have clarification here.	I realize that the project area is defined by the current scope. That being said, it would be great to get ideas from this design process on how to integrate potential newly created space between the corner store and 11/13 Lowell St that could result from squaring off the turn to Lowell St. This idea has come up as part of the ongoing project as Mass/ Appleton.	Yes
The interpretative sign railing. The view is more visually interesting looking head on because of the enclosing sign wall.			It seems to prioritize the cannon because of the head on view.		Yes

What do you like about Concept A?	What do you like about Concept B?	What do you dislike about Concept A?	What do you dislike about Concept B?	Are there any other concerns you would like to share with the designers?	Are you an Arlington Resident?
<p>I like all of concept A. I know some people at the first meeting felt that the trees should not be removed, but I feel that the new park requires complete look and saw new plantings and new trees are appropriate</p>	<p>Interpretive signage</p>	<p>Our biggest concern with both concept A and concept B is the location of the crosswalk. As we understand it, that crosswalk would bring people directly in front of our apartment property, across the street from this park. It indicates there will be a stop sign, but will there be flashing lights with it also? Will there eventually be traffic lights? Maintaining parking spaces in front of our property is critical.</p>	<p>I don't think concept B is as inviting a look as A. I especially dislike the points, where the two roads diverged. Having a cannon there is not a welcoming sign.</p>	<p>Again, our biggest concern is the location of the crosswalk. In the possible elimination of parking in front of our apartment property. Likely wouldn't sit here unless it was a bit more if a protected "oasis"</p>	<p>Yes</p>
	<p>Location of trees provide coverage of area rather than at perimeter of area</p>	<p>All the cement, no fence protection from cars on mass ave</p>	<p>All the cement, no fence protection from cars on mass ave, stone markers are a bit of an improvement over concept A</p>		<p>Yes</p>
<p>It appears to me that there are more trees and plantings in Concept A. I also like the stone plinth and inscription at the end point of the park area. I appreciate that the design includes accessibility ramps.</p>	<p>I appreciate that the design includes accessibility ramps. The placement of the canon</p>	<p>I do not like the cannon being included and featured. I think the significance of the location can be discussed and appreciated without the inclusion of a weapon. For both, so much of the original setting is gone, there's no real way to improve it.</p>	<p>I do not like the cannon being included and featured, especially so prominently in Concept B. I think the significance of the location can be discussed and appreciated without the inclusion of a weapon.</p>	<p>In either design, I would like to see the addition of some sort of structure to protect people from inclement weather. The PowerPoint presentation suggests that this area will serve as a bus stop in addition to a memorial. If this is true, it's really important to include a structure which provides ample protection in a welcoming space for multiple people with many types of needs (wheelchairs, walkers, etc). The lack of shelters at bus stops in Arlington is notable.</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>The sign Flat Ada accessible</p>	<p>N/a</p>	<p>N/a</p>	<p>Same Not Ada accessible</p>	<p>Waste of time A speed bump should be added to slow traffic on mass ave</p>	<p>Yes</p>

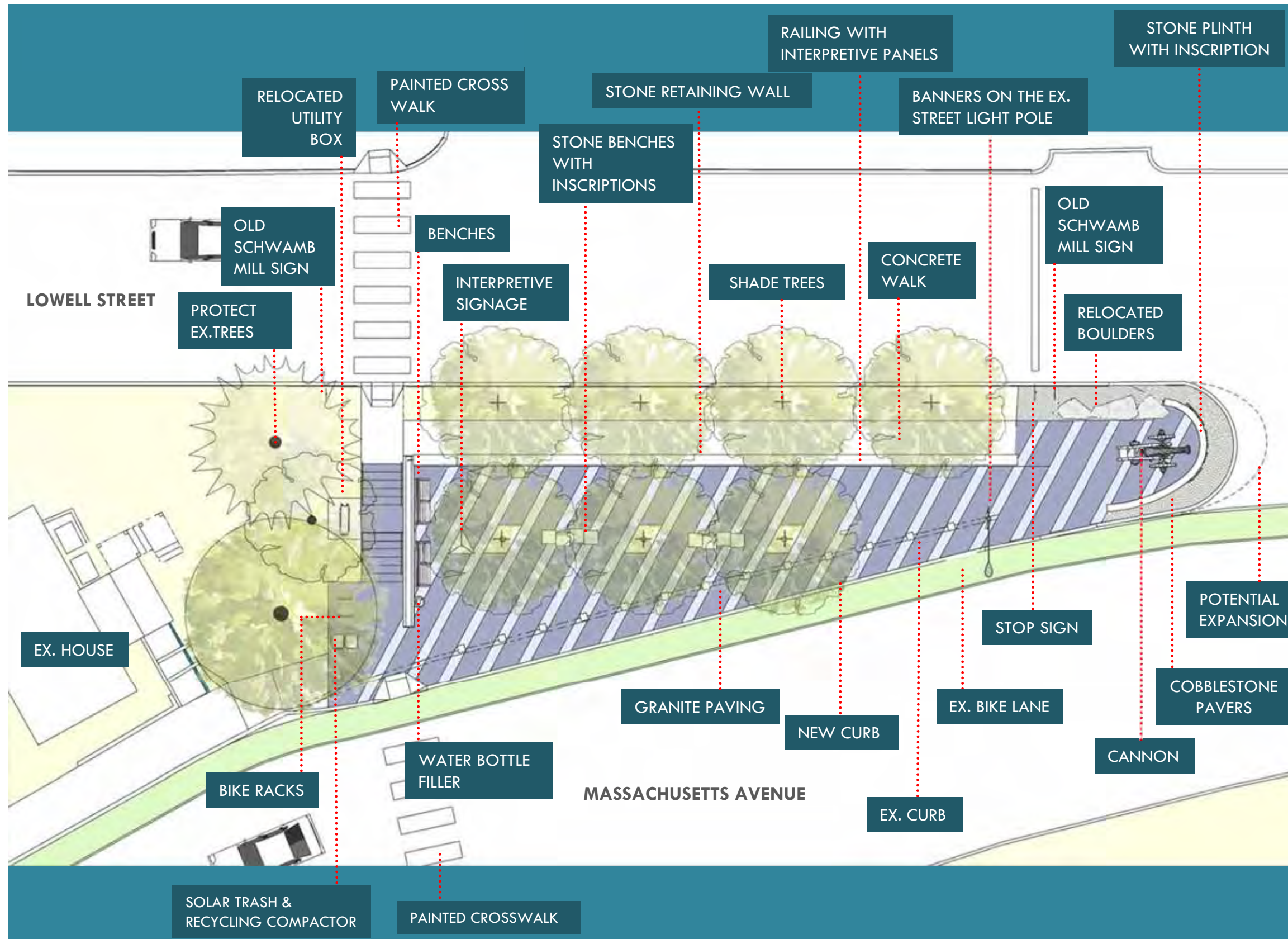
What do you like about Concept A?	What do you like about Concept B?	What do you dislike about Concept A?	What do you dislike about Concept B?	Are there any other concerns you would like to share with the designers?	Are you an Arlington Resident?
Plinth with inscription at the front	Relocated boulders, interpretive signage style, stone benches, general openness from Mass Ave side.	Banners seem unnecessary	Not a huge fan of the cannon at the intersection corner, possibly nicer if raised up & combined with plinth design from concept A?	Whatever the design it's important drivers can see clearly when emerging from Lowell St	Yes
I like the hanging banners at the front	I think the cannon placement is great and think this design is better for sight coming from Lowell street turning left on to mass Ave	The rock placement is not prominent enough. Considering rocks was all that used to be there many years ago	No flags and town markers all along the side are ugly Cannon as the focal point.		Yes
Signage at front. Moved crosswalk. More seating.	Town markers creating another barrier to curb.	Can more flat space be reclaimed at the tip of the triangle/intersection?		Anything to stop the drivers from hitting it? Or slowing traffic?	Yes
Trees, retaining wall making useful, flat space to sit.	Trees, retaining wall making useful, flat space to sit. Extra marked crosswalk: I think this is a desire line and nice to accommodate it in the plan.		Will people cross from Dunkin Donuts? The crosswalk doesn't align with that desire route.		Yes
Explicit inclusion of bike racks	The placement of the cannon is much more visible. Pedestrian access to the space and adjacent sidewalks seems better.	Lack of crosswalk across Lowell St. at the intersection with Mass Ave	Seems to have fewer trees running along Mass Ave side of the space		Yes
The location is clearly marked for passers-by, and the site is contained.	The town markers are a nice touch, and the prominent cannon is eye-catching.	The design makes it feel a bit like a nicely designed plaza rather than a historical site. The cannon and historical markers should be more prominent.	The site doesn't feel contained, and it does not grab the eye like Concept A does. The proposed design does not distinguish the site from its surroundings.	I would like to see both concepts include more historical touches. For example, a few life-sized statues of Menotomy Minutemen and British soldiers might be a very nice touch that would be popular with visitors.	Yes
The plinth	Less crowded	Too crowded	The exposed cannon will last about two weeks before defacement.	Where is the bus stop that now is overwhelmed by Ottoson students?	Yes
Bike racks, trees, bench placement, interpretive signage	Two entrances on Lowell, trees, canon placement, town markers as barriers to the roadway	Banners, stone plinth doesn't seem to work with the topology	Boulder placement, stone benches with inscriptions seems unnecessary, interpretive signage	Granite pavers seems extravagant - are there durable, permeable alternatives. Boulder placement seems awkward in both concepts.	Yes

What do you like about Concept A?	What do you like about Concept B?	What do you dislike about Concept A?	What do you dislike about Concept B?	Are there any other concerns you would like to share with the designers?	Are you an Arlington Resident?
Cannon isn't as prominent	I like the the town markers on the Mass Avenue side.	It does not have interpretive signage.	Prominence of cannon	This a lovely concept and I have noticed with similar parks that they get damaged by misuse especially from skateboards and people doing tricks on the benches etc like in Allston. What other ways could this park be identified as being a place for public use but not be damaged?	Yes
I like that is has a clear sign displayed when driving West on Mass Ave and passing Lowell Street.			The canon could be a place where it could be it by a vehicle like the accident that happened last year.		Yes
Railing with interpretive panels, location of cannon, stone plinth	Location of relocated boulders	Banners! too much pavement	Town markers, location of cannon facing into street too much pavement	This is a lot of impervious and heat absorbing surface to add to this site. I'd like to see consideration of preserving the existing trees, allowing for more in-ground plantings, and limiting the paved-over surface area. And as a friend pointed out, why the cannon? War memorials (and this falls somewhat into that category, IMO) must walk a line between remembrance and glorification. I think the display of weaponry tilts it toward glorification, and would much prefer not to see this element at the site. Let's keep it green and shady and inviting, not a heat-gathering island between two stretches of black asphalt!	Yes

What do you like about Concept A?	What do you like about Concept B?	What do you dislike about Concept A?	What do you dislike about Concept B?	Are there any other concerns you would like to share with the designers?	Are you an Arlington Resident?
Nothing	Nothing	<p>All non permeable surfaces. Why are the existing trees all gone? Where would one sit? How long will it take the trees as conceptualized to grow to this size? Why are we commemorating a war with a large weapon pointed out at the community (cars, pedestrians)? What will the panels commemorate and what/who will be included and not mentioned? How will this site serve our community going forward? Why would anyone stop here--no place to sit, linger, eat a snack. How will this be a thoughtful consideration of the entirety, the complexity, the cost of war even with the "positive" outcomes? How does this design at all support or create an ecology integrating birds, insects, earth and plants and flowers? How will this not require sand or salt to keep ice free, and how will this impact runoff into the road and storm drains? How will this create a concentrated heat island? This doesn't feel like a future forward approach. This doesn't feel like a space that honestly lays bare the sacrifices and the costs of war, of indigenous erasure, the healing we all need as descendants/inheritors of a country founded on war and slavery and genocide. How does this physically/geographically connect us to place, ancestors, future generations and the wisdom we need to cultivate? I encourage you not to build just another typical stone and static myth-building monolith. I encourage you to consult thoughtfully with those in our community who have personally experienced and escaped war, who are historically and currently un-and-under represented, and young people (under 30) who are inheriting the legacies we seek to enshrine and are very clear eyed about what changes and growth we need to make.</p>	See above	<p>This process was very quiet and not widely publicized. None of my neighbors were aware of this process or decision making. I hope you will pause and consider a bigger and broader consultation and conversation with many diverse members of our community. Thanks for your work on this- I think we can do much much more.</p>	Yes
				<p>I don't believe that we should be spending money to do this right now. What is the benefit for Arlington? Huge buses parking there and leaving their motor running while tourists file out of the bus to take a picture and then back in and leave for Lexington? This will not benefit our businesses or residents. It will not bring in any money. If you are going forward, please make sure it is representative of the full scope of history and who participated in it - ie. not just white men.</p>	Yes

What do you like about Concept A?	What do you like about Concept B?	What do you dislike about Concept A?	What do you dislike about Concept B?	Are there any other concerns you would like to share with the designers?	Are you an Arlington Resident?
<p>1) The planting bed, but that element needs to be expanded and reenvisioned not as a contained "planter" planting space in the middle of concrete, but as a more naturalized space.</p> <p>2) The wheelchair accessibility ramp - but the wall built along it makes that access very impersonal and sterile, especially for someone traversing it at wheelchair height. Nothing to see but a wall. Once you've gotten past the wall on that approach I see little in this design to invite people into the space. I predict most users will simply continue on their way across Mass Ave having just been shunted around the space.</p> <p>The trees and the planter.</p>	<p>1) The two cross walks - one forward crosswalk (able-bodied foot traffic) and second crossing (for ramp foot traffic).</p> <p>2) The steps leading from Lowell street toward the next cross walk. (The orientation angle of these steps at least angles the pedestrian view toward the space.) The area across the tip of the triangle is currently how the space is used most - a route for crossing both streets.</p> <p>3) The wheelchair accessibility ramp - but the wall built along it makes that access very impersonal and sterile, especially for someone traversing it at wheelchair height. Nothing to see but a wall.</p> <p>Two cross walks. The horse trough.</p>	<p>I like nothing about either plan in the space itself, except for the attempt to include at least some plants in plan A. Both remove and de-emphasize the point of this historical space ... the central rock. Such rocks defined spaces in colonial times. They were used as survey points. This rock marked the scene of a battle. Both plans barricade people out of the space from the Lowell St. side rather than inviting people in. Both increase concrete in the form of walls and pavement.</p> <p>No attention seems to have been paid to landscaping beyond planting rows of new trees of unnamed species that will not look as pictured for perhaps 20 years. Both plans appear to involve paving the entire triangle. This appears to be a return to 60's designs that increase impervious surface and remove opportunities for storm water to percolate at a time when the Arlington engineering department is attempting to do the opposite. To use a space like this, people need to feel invited. Concrete usually doesn't have that effect on me.</p> <p>Take a look at a similar area designed in similar fashion where the large new apartment complex meets the bike path at Mill St. Despite sheltered areas and seating, I never see people using that space.</p>	<p>I like nothing about either plan in the space itself, except for the attempt to include at least some plants in plan A. Both remove and de-emphasize the point of this historical space ... the central rock. Such rocks defined spaces in colonial times. They were used as survey points. This rock marked the scene of a battle. Both plans barricade people out of the space from the Lowell St. side rather than inviting people in. Both increase concrete in the form of walls and pavement.</p> <p>No attention seems to have been paid to landscaping beyond planting rows of new trees of unnamed species that will not look as pictured for perhaps 20 years. Both plans appear to involve paving the entire triangle. This appears to be a return to 60's designs that increase impervious surface and remove opportunities for storm water to percolate at a time when the Arlington engineering department is attempting to do the opposite. To use a space like this, people need to feel invited. Concrete usually doesn't have that effect on me.</p> <p>Take a look at a similar area designed in similar fashion where the large new apartment complex meets the bike path at Mill St. Despite sheltered areas and seating, I never see people using that space.</p>	<p>Why didn't you include a picture of the current site on this form? What better way to improve a historical site than to return at least a portion of it to native plantings and preserve the natives that stand as monuments in their own right to the past (the white pines). Removing green space in Arlington and in that area where little green space exists along Mass Ave. seems to go against modern trends in urban planning for spaces like that. I'd like to see a natives pocket park concept added to the mix. Plants represent history better than concrete does, and a story could be told about things like 1) native plants used for medicinal purposes during colonial time 2) what a particular long-lived tree in Arlington has seen in its lifetime.</p>	<p>Yes</p>
					<p>Yes</p>

Appendix D CONCEPT MASTER PLAN



Appendix E

FINAL MASTER PLAN COST ESTIMATE

Ray Dunetz Landscape Architecture, Inc.
10/28/2022

ITEM	QTY	UNIT	UNIT PRICE	SUBTOTAL	TOTAL
024113 Site Preparation					
Construction fence	320	LF	\$ 10	\$ 3,200	
Filter barrier	170	LF	\$ 12	\$ 2,040	
Remove ex. trees and stumps	11	EA	\$ 1,250	\$ 13,750	
Sawcut ex. bituminous concrete	260	LF	\$ 5	\$ 1,300	
Remove ex. bituminous concrete paving	650	SF	\$ 4	\$ 2,600	
Remove ex. brick paving	650	SF	\$ 8	\$ 5,200	
Salvage ex. granite curbing	160	LF	\$ 10	\$ 1,600	
Salvage ex. utility boxes and foundations	1	Allow	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	
Salvage ex. granite steps	40	SF	\$ 20	\$ 800	
Salvage ex. foot of the rocks boulders and plaques	1	LS	\$ 800	\$ 800	
Salvage post signs	3	EA	\$ 150	\$ 450	
					\$ 41,740
033000 Cast in Place Concrete					
New concrete retaining wall	108	LF	\$ 450	\$ 48,600	
					\$ 48,600
044000 Stone Masonry					
New granite block benches with inscriptions	11	EA	\$ 2,500	\$ 27,500	
New stone wall veneer	375	SFF	\$ 150	\$ 56,250	
New wall capstone	107	LF	\$ 150	\$ 16,050	
New granite plinth with inscription	75	SFF	\$ 250	\$ 18,750	
New granite steps with concrete base	84	LF	\$ 300	\$ 25,200	
New boulders	1	LS	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	
Reinstall foot of the rocks boulders	1	LS	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	
New granite bollards	13	EA	\$ 1,000	\$ 13,000	
					\$ 159,750
260000 Electrical					
New lighting	1	Allow	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	
New banner attachments on ex. pole	1	Allow	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	
Relocate ex. utility box and footing	1	Allow	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	
New transformer	1	Allow	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	
					\$ 42,000
310000 Earthwork					
Rough Grading	1	Allow	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	
Common fill	25	CY	\$ 45	\$ 1,125	
Remove excavated material	220	CY	\$ 50	\$ 11,000	
					\$ 22,125
321000 Paving and Surfacing					
New bit. conc. paving patch	200	SF	\$ 10	\$ 2,000	
New concrete paving	720	SF	\$ 10	\$ 7,200	
New granite pavers on conc. slab	2,050	SF	\$ 65	\$ 133,250	
Reset existing straight granite curb	132	LF	\$ 30	\$ 3,960	
New radial granite curb	34	LF	\$ 70	\$ 2,380	
New detectable warning pads	2	EA	\$ 400	\$ 800	
					\$ 149,590

Ray Dunetz Landscape Architecture, Inc.
10/28/2022

ITEM	QTY	UNIT	UNIT PRICE	SUBTOTAL	TOTAL
323000 Site Improvements					
Install ex. plaques on new stone veneer wall	1	LS	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	
New metal barrier railing	107	LF	\$ 300	\$ 32,100	
New metal handrails at steps	44	LF	\$ 150	\$ 6,600	
New interpretive signs at top of guardrail	1	Allow	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	
New wood benches	2	EA	\$ 3,000	\$ 6,000	
New solar trash and recycling receptacles	1	Allow	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000	
New bike racks	2	EA	\$ 1,500	\$ 3,000	
					\$ 87,200
329000 Lawns and Planting					
Silva cells at new trees (1,100 CF/tree in pavement)	3,300	CF	\$ 18	\$ 59,400	
New trees at 3" cal	11	EA	\$ 1,200	\$ 13,200	
New salt tolerant shrubs at 3' oc	80	EA	\$ 125	\$ 10,000	
Planting soil	120	CY	\$ 60	\$ 7,200	
					\$ 89,800
			Subtotal	\$ 640,805	
			10% General Conditions	\$ 64,081	
			Subtotal	\$ 704,886	
			10% Overhead and Profit	\$ 70,489	
			Subtotal	\$ 775,374	
			20% Contingency	\$ 128,161	
			Subtotal	\$ 903,535	
			Soft Costs	\$ 100,000	
			GRAND TOTAL*	\$ 1,003,535	

*Assumes 2024 Construction. Assume 5% Escalation per year if not built in 2024.

