

Liberty State Park Revitalization Program: LSP-South Master Plan (Phase 2)

Design Task Force Meeting

May 21st, 2024

Agenda

Public Feedback Key Findings (Virtual Survey)

5/11 Open House Takeaways

LSP-South Program Opportunities: Southern Athletics Hub

**Integrating Active Recreation: Distribution of Facilities
Between LSP-North & South**

Parkwide Transportation Considerations

Revitalization Program Next Steps

Public Feedback Key Findings (Virtual Survey)

ARUP



WXY



Biohabitats

MATRIX **NEW** WORLD



Understanding the Public's Priorities

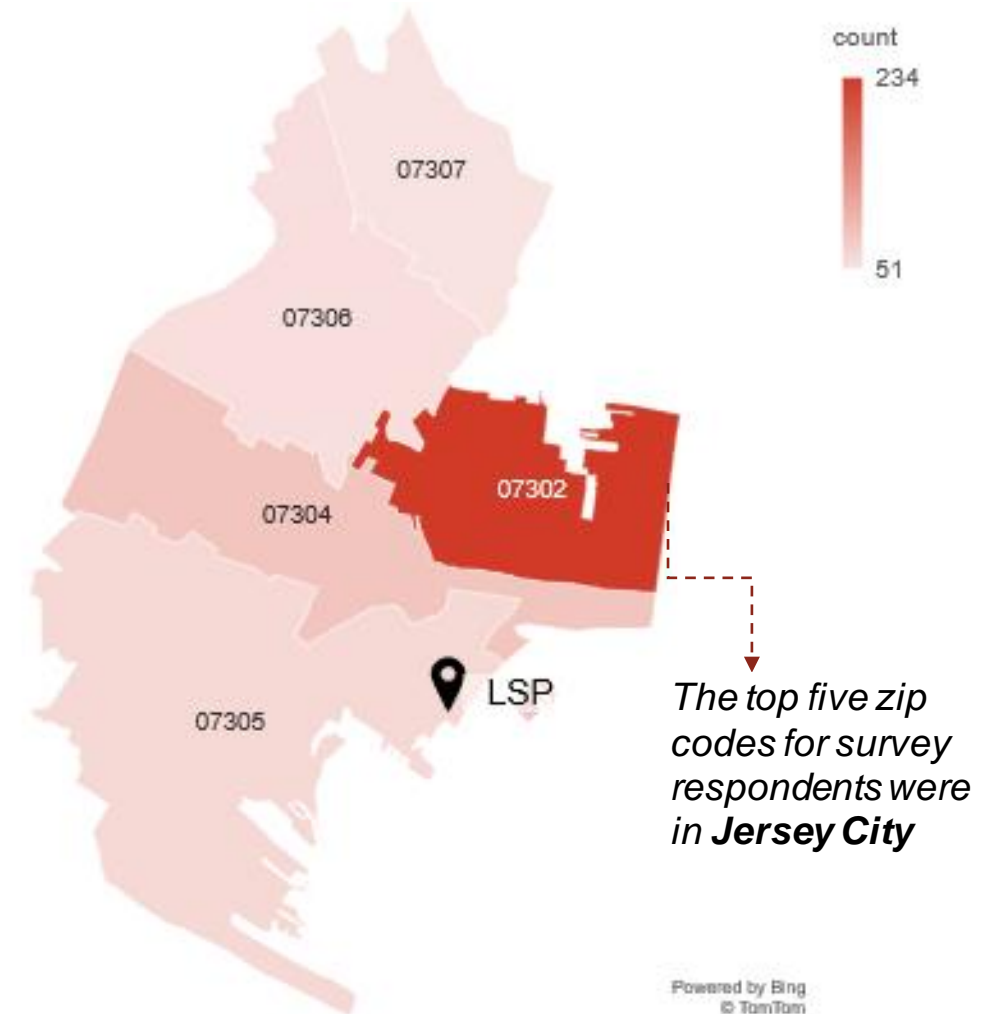
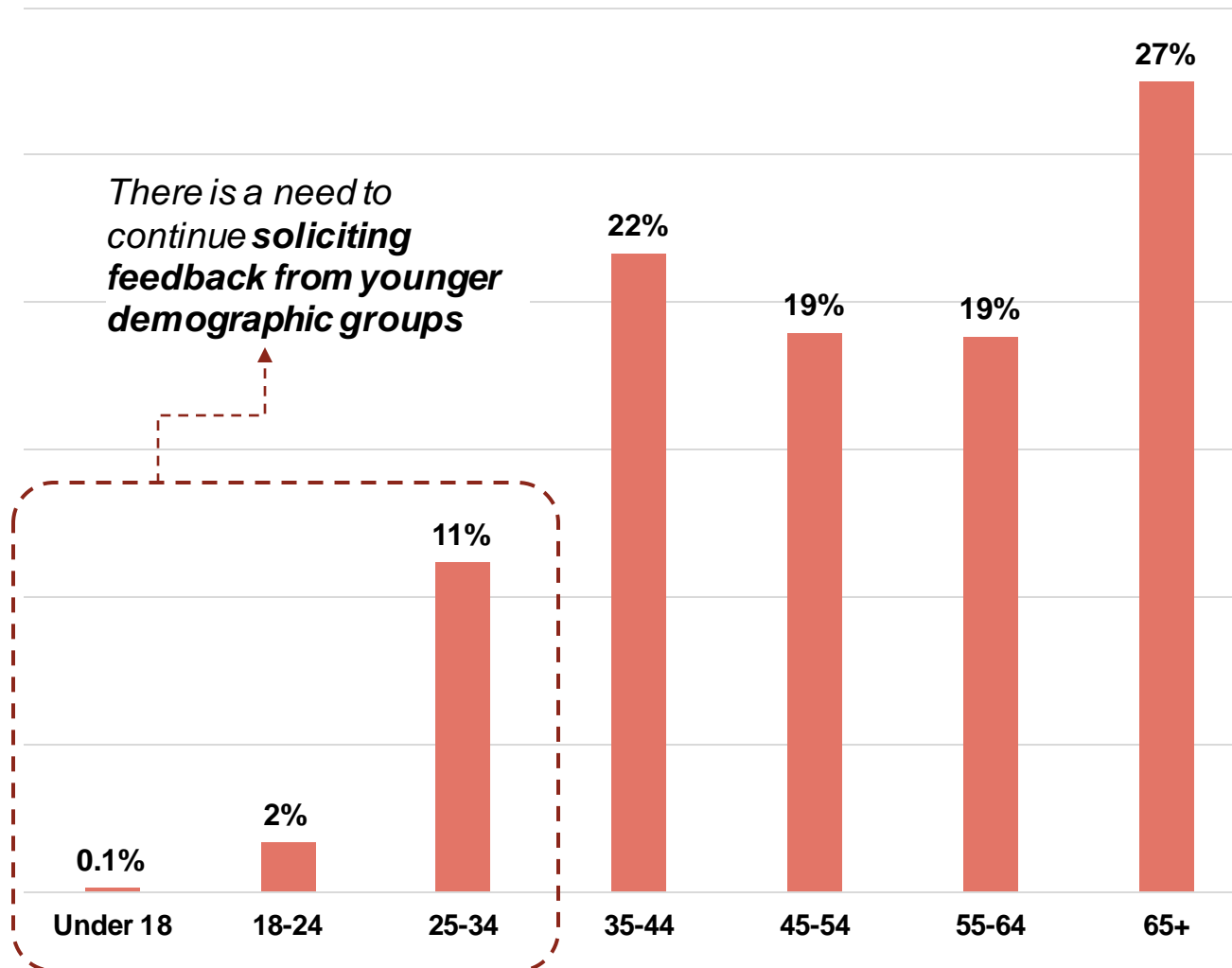
What do visitors want for LSP?



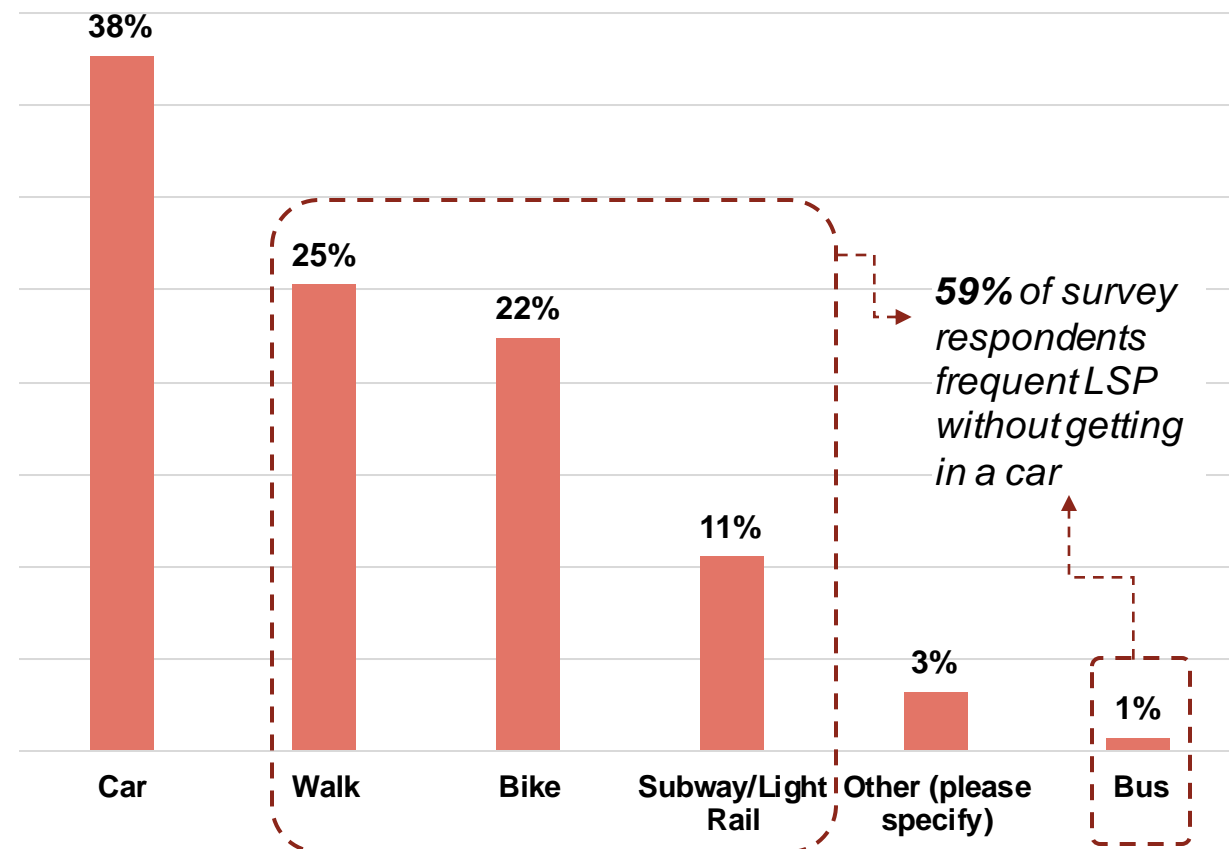
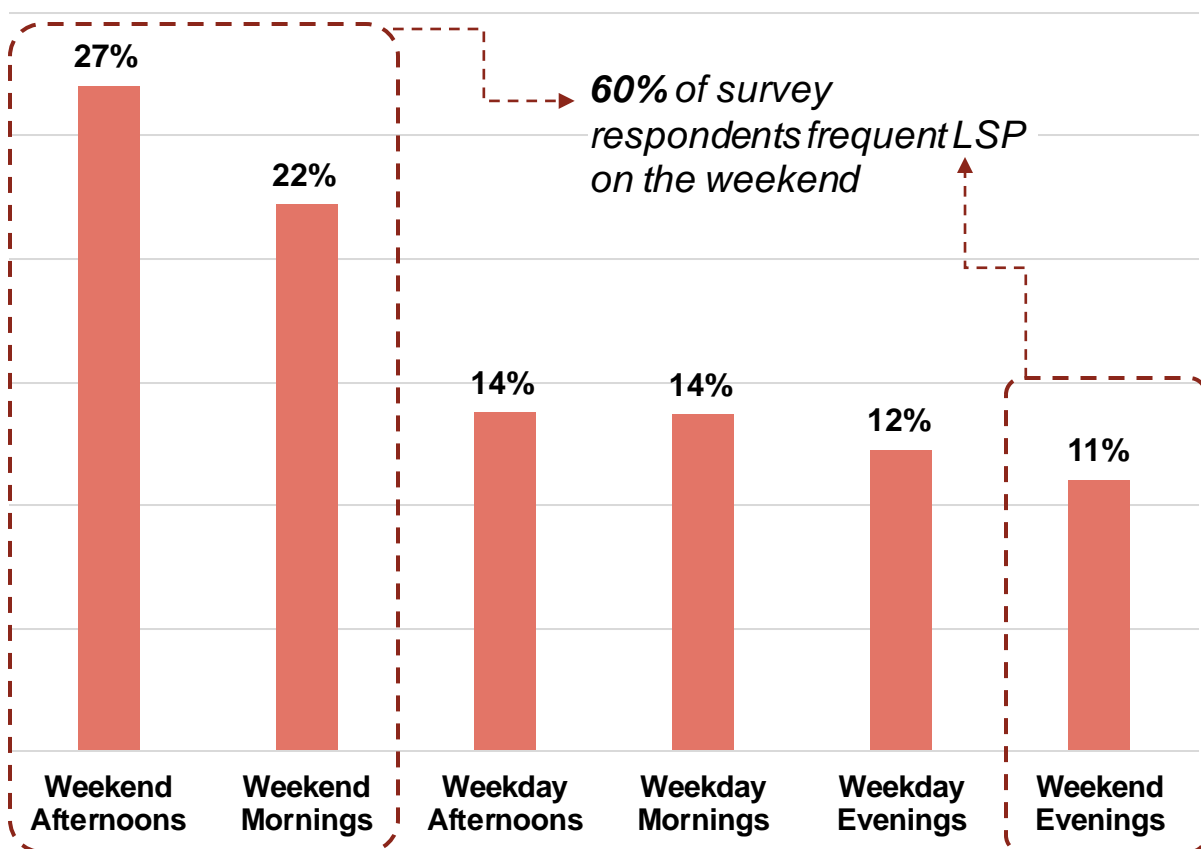
VIRTUAL SURVEY

- April 9th – May 12th
- Targeted survey questions to inform planning & design for LSP-South Phase 2 Master Plan
- +720 responses

Survey Respondent Demographics



When do you primarily visit LSP, and how do you typically travel to and from the Park?



How well do the following goals and themes for Liberty State Park's Southern Area and Waterfront resonate with you?

SOCIAL ACTIVATION



Embracing Rediscovery - Promoting health & wellness, a park for all abilities and ages, balancing nature and park activation

CONTEXTUAL HERITAGE

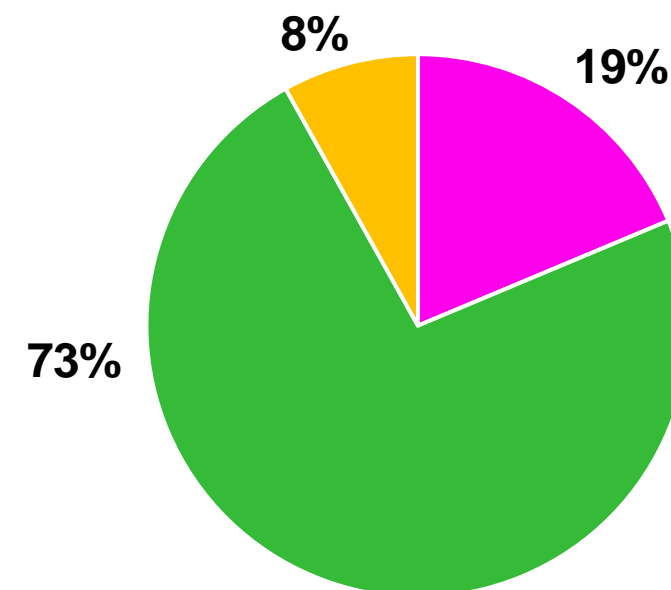


Celebrating Uniqueness - Renewing the waterfront's legacy, building on existing assets, and defining the waterfront's identity








ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH



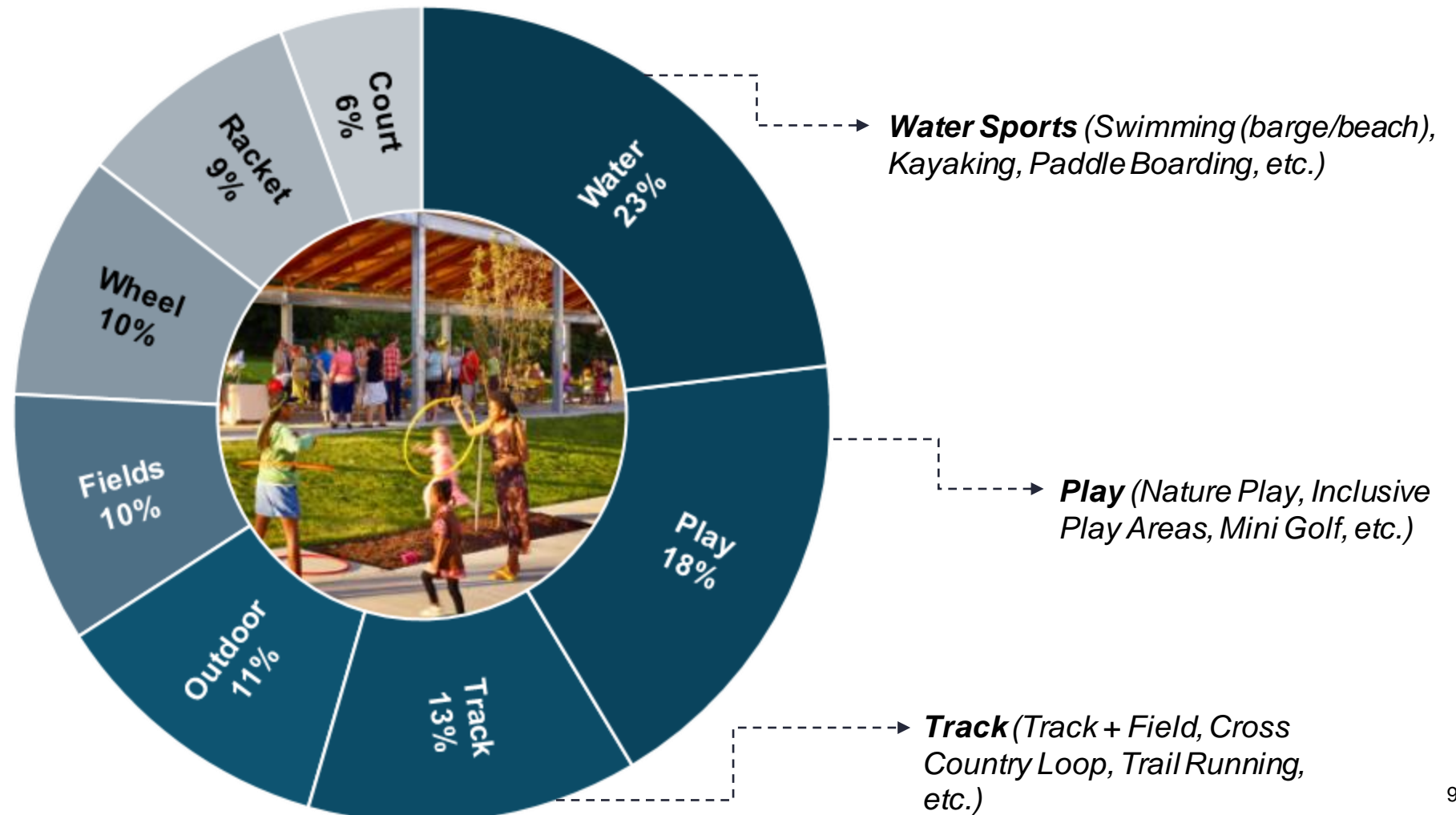
Centering Performance - Restoring ecosystems, protecting park assets, promoting nature-based solutions



What are your favorite destinations to visit in LSP-South?

					
<p>Hudson River Waterfront Walkway</p>	<p>Caven Point Beach</p>	<p>Nature Center</p>	<p>Picnic Sites</p>	<p>Flag Plaza / Liberation Monument</p>	
				<p>The Groves (Burma Road & Pesin Drive)</p>	<p>Green Ring</p>
<p>Richard J Sullivan Natural Area / South Cove</p>			<p>Green Park</p>	<p>Other (please specify)</p>	<p>Crescent Field</p>
<p>Boat Launch</p>			<p>West / Center / East Jetty & Kayak Launch</p>	<p>Pavilion Fields</p>	<p>Pesin Drive Grove</p>

What types of active recreation and athletics programming are most important to you (and your family)?



What is your ideal day at Liberty State Park's Southern Area and Waterfront (Phase 2)?

"I meet up with my friends who live in the area and we walk around, picnic, and enjoy the park. Bike riding for sure."

"A long walk along the waterfront with our 2 kids who have been enjoying the park since they can remember. Maybe fly a kite and picnic on the lawn. Nothing too fancy, just enjoying the beautiful wildlife and view. Enjoying the fresh air and natural surroundings. What more could anyone ask for?"

nature center
caven point
waterfront
bird watching
love
enjoying nature
natural
ellis island
picnic
water
open space
bike
long walk
nature
waterfront
hudson river

Do you attend any LSP specific activities or events?

"My family has attended the fireworks on 4th of July, daily walks/runs, picnic, recreational activities, etc. including those organized by the Nature Center. One of the favorite activities is the Horseshoe Crab walk to the Caven Point beach."

"I frequently visit LSP for recreational activities and also enjoy the cultural events that take place in the park (such as art festivals at the railroad terminal and music in the summer)."

recreational activities runs friends attend activities picnics nature walks picnic events bike bird watching 4th july fireworks social enjoy nature center caven point polo classic july fireworks concerts social walks

Are there any other types of active recreation we should consider for LSP-South?

"We should provide areas for the sports that are important to the children of today - it may not be the sports with which we grew up."

"I would like to see Liberty State Park stay as natural as possible."



5/11 Open House: What we Heard + Key Findings

ARUP



WXY



Biohabitats

MATRIX **NEW** WORLD



In-Person + Online

Open House Summary

**Tuesday,
April 9, 2024**

~200 participants*

*In-Person: ~125 + Zoom: ~75
Design Task Force
6:00 pm

**Saturday,
May 11, 2024**

OPEN HOUSE!

120+ participants

LSP-South Open House
1 Audrey Zapp Drive In-Person
11:00 am - 2:00 pm

Where & How we Reached the Community?

Outreach

A save the date flyer was distributed on social media and through email to local newsletters and local community groups with information about the event.



VIRTUAL SURVEY

728 responses

open for 1 month

An online survey was available to allow folks unable to attend the open house events to provide their input leading up to the event. The survey was available from April 10 - May 12.



Open House Preparations

Support Materials

Sign-In Sheets



Entry Survey

Liberty State Park Revitalization Program

May 11, 2024: LSP-South (Phase 2) Master Plan Open House



Open House Attendee Survey

What is your age range?

Please select one below:

- ☐ 0 - 10 years old
- ☐ 11 - 20 years old
- ☐ 21 - 30 years old
- ☐ 31 - 40 years old
- ☐ 41 - 50 years old
- ☐ 51 - 60 years old
- ☐ 61 - 70 years old
- ☐ 71+ years old
- ☐ Prefer not to share

For how long have you been visiting Liberty State Park?

Please select one below:

- ☐ 0 - 5 years (I am a newer neighbor / park user)
- ☐ 6 - 10 years
- ☐ 11 - 20 years
- ☐ 21 - 30 years
- ☐ 31 - 40 years
- ☐ 41 - 50 years (I have been coming to LSP since it opened)
- ☐ 51+ years (I came here before LSP opened in 1976)
- ☐ Prefer not to share

Are you affiliated with a group or organization that uses Liberty State Park regularly?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If yes, please share what group or organization below:

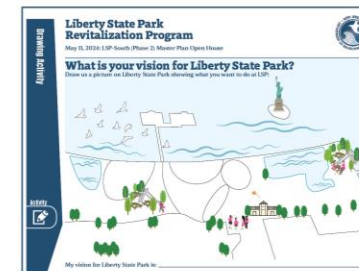
Survey

!?

QUESTION! What encouraged you to come out and participate in the LSP-South (Phase 2) Open House today?

Please share more about your interest and involvement today, or what you hope to share or learn:

Kid's Activity



Attendee Survey Results:

Age range:

3	0 - 10 years old
1	11 - 20 years old
5	21 - 30 years old
16	31 - 40 years old
17	41 - 50 years old
11	51 - 60 years old
17	61 - 70 years old
13	71+ years old

For how long have you been visiting LSP?

24	0 - 5 years (Newer neighbor / park user)
9	6 - 10 years
20	11 - 20 years
10	21 - 30 years
11	31 - 40 years
3	40+ years (Since LSP opened!)
6	50+ years (Before LSP opened in 1976!)

Key Takeaways

Of the attendees who responded to the survey:

+ The majority of attendees were in the 31-50 and 61+ age ranges.

+ 29% were newer neighbors / park users (0-5 years), with over 36% have been visiting LSP for over 20 years!

+ 33% of attendees were part of an organization or group that uses LSP regularly!

Are you affiliated with a group/organization that uses LSP regularly?

55 No **28** Yes If yes, please share what group or organization below:

+ Friends of Liberty State Park
+ Bike Jersey City (Bike JC)
+ Jersey City Senior Group
+ Camp Liberty
+ Educational Arts Team
+ Jersey City Parks Coalition
+ Hudson River Fisherman Association
+ Nimbus Dance

+ ANJEC (Association of NJ Environmental Commissions)
+ American Legion Post 419
+ Liberty Yacht Club
+ Dog Meet Up
+ Liberty Science Center
+ Jersey City Birds
+ Sierra Club
+ NJ Tree Foundation

NOTE

^ Note: some of the attendees chose not sign in and participate in the entry survey.

QUESTION!

What encouraged you to come out and participate in the LSP-South (Phase 2) Open House today?

Please share more about your involvement today, or what you hope to share or learn:

'see progress being suggested' 'curiosity' 'stumbled upon it' 'family/friend encouraged me to come'

'find our voice/voice our opinions' 'we like the revitalization plans, especially preserving natural habitats' 'sustainability, accessibility, trails, green infrastructure'
'to ensure LSP stays open, accessible and free to all' 'park health' 'i love to play in nature at LSP!'

'love the designs with a focus on nature preservation and community (local) amenities, and want to show our support' 'LSP is important to me as someone who lives in the neighborhood, I visit regularly and care about its protection' 'hope to learn the park will largely be left unaltered with focus on passive recreational and ecological improvements'

'new to JC as a resident, interested in what is happening to create an inclusive, involved, welcoming community' 'heard about it in a community newsletter' 'concern that the park will remain a sanctuary for children of all ages and backgrounds - natural ecology vital for climate and population'

'to make sure there are activities for kids to enjoy, and make sure it does not turn from a park to arena' 'I love this park! I want to see amazing things happen within this place. It's already beautiful with so much more potential!' 'new JC resident! Excited to have nature in my back yard' 'keep it free to the public and safe for animals' 'have been following for several years since LSP put the planning online, thank you!'

'such a great park... so much potential, how can we get it running... to support those in JC, Bayonne, Hoboken' 'concern revitalization may clutter park' 'keep it free and green!'

'hear other residents' feedback' 'want to show support for flexible space' 'giving a voice to community and personal priorities for LSP' 'regular cyclist in the park space' 'prioritize nature' 'just moved here'

Event Photos

Open House Summary

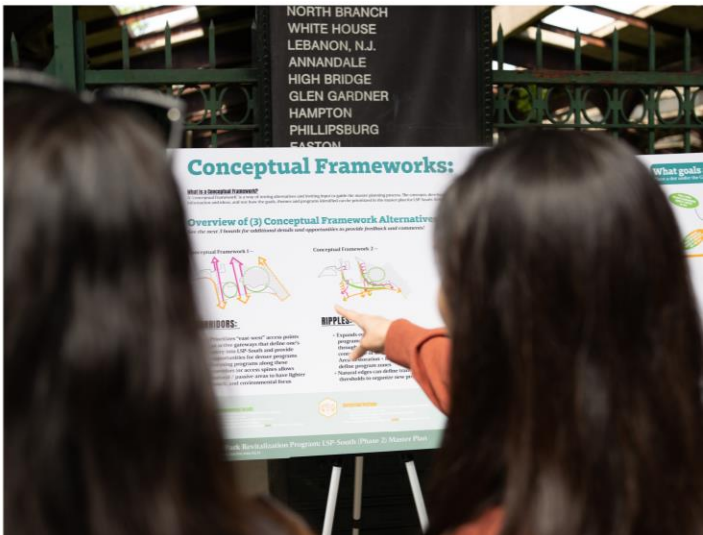
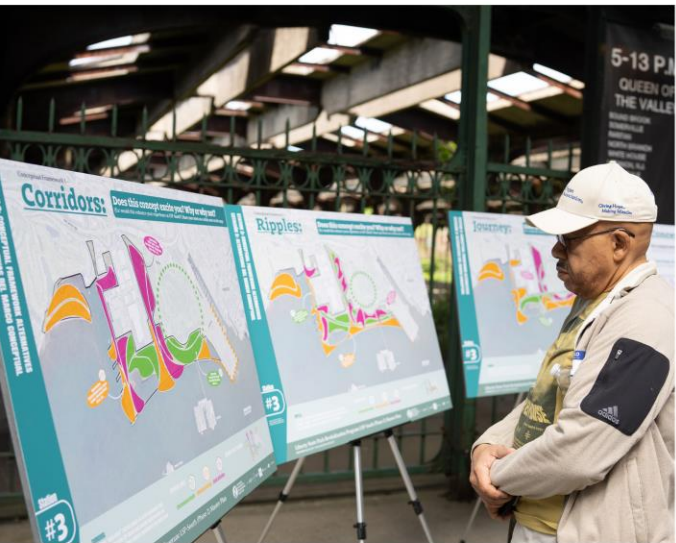
Thank you!
to everyone who participated
in-person and virtually!



Event Photos

Open House Summary

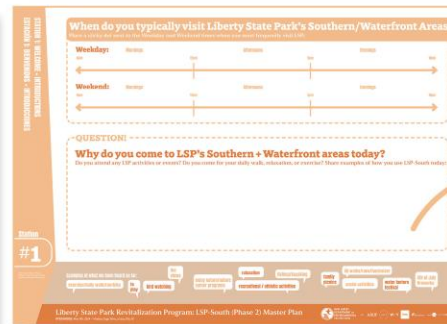
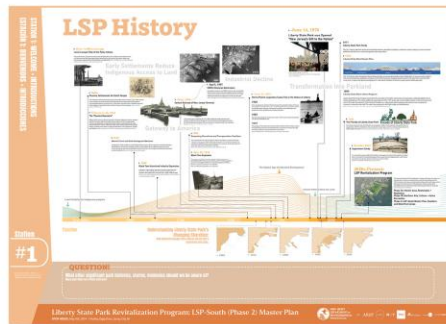
Photos provided by: NJDEP, Jimmy Douglas



Takeaways + Key Findings

STATION 1: Welcome

Station 1 welcomed guests to the open house event, the process, and worked to situate the context and focus of the engagement on the LSP-South (Phase 2) zone, sharing a timeline of significant histories, maps from existing conditions analysis, sharing back what was heard to date, and asking questions about how/when people use LSP's Southern Area and Waterfront today.



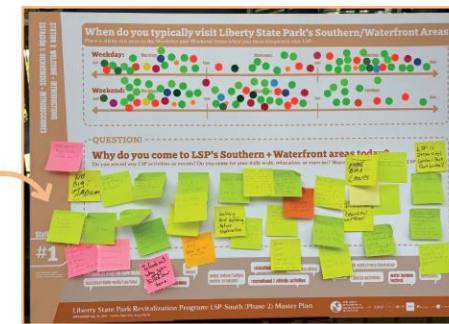
Key Themes / Findings

+ Station 1 received great feedback, identifying existing conditions + needs, including:

Desires to restore and conserve natural habitats and green space w/ more nature and more trees, including: there are few existing places to be in the shade, specifically on walkways or benches
Balancing places to relax, walk and bike with concerns around traffic (and parking)
Park infrastructure: desire for more restroom facilities
Questions if there are ways to facilitate more, or different habitats: 'seals were here!'

+ Other comments proposed to formalize 'existing' conditions / uses (present and past), to create places to: swim/sit on a beach, learn (signage/programs), play, and recreate

When you do typically visit Liberty State Park's Southern / Waterfront Areas?



Weekdays throughout the day, and Weekend mornings and afternoons are LSP's Southern and Waterfront Areas most frequently used times.

VIRTUAL SURVEY 4/10-5/12	
The 728 responses from the April 10th - May 12th Virtual Survey found that:	
OF WEEKDAY Votes:	
Weekday Mornings	34.4% (259 votes)
Weekday Afternoons	34.6% (260 votes)
Weekday Evenings	30.9% (232 votes)
OF WEEKEND Votes:	
Weekend Mornings	36.8% (420 votes)
Weekend Afternoons	44.8% (511 votes)
Weekend Evenings	18.3% (209 votes)



Why do you come to LSP's Southern + Waterfront areas today?

Most users come to LSP's Southern + Waterfront areas for passive uses today, some unstructured recreation, and many are looking for new programs to enhance their experiences at LSP-South:

- + **Walking / Daily Walk: +25 sticky notes**
Daily walk, sometimes visit nature center
Walk on sidewalk in front of Marina
Enjoying peace and beauty, watching ships
Spending time outside
Running, Exercise, Run/Walk my dog
- + **Bike Riding/Cycling: +14 sticky notes**
Biking in nature with wonderful river views
- + **Birdwatching: +9 sticky notes**
- + **Picnic/Social Gatherings: +5 sticky notes**
- + **Nature Observation: +5 sticky notes**
Wildlife, get "out" of the city, explore

- + **Relaxing: +3 sticky notes**
To get fresh air, relax, peace and space
- + **Playgrounds: +2 sticky notes**
- + **Photography: +2 sticky notes**
- + **Enjoying Flowers: +2 sticky notes**
- + **Green Space: +2 sticky notes**
- + **Water Enjoyment: +2 sticky notes**
- + **Others, including:**
Sitting on a bench and having peace, people watching, sightseeing, reading (need more bigger/taller shade trees), and connections to Caven Point

Takeaways + Key Findings

STATION 2: Programming

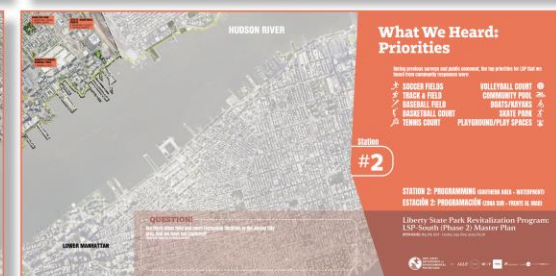
Station 2 was interested in understanding programming for the future of LSP-South. The station shared back an analysis of existing facilities at the scale of Jersey City in a large table map, as well as results from previous surveys in 2021 that discussed the possibility of active recreation / athletics to understand how priorities have changed.



Key Themes / Findings

+ General support expressed for different typologies of experiences and uses in the LSP-South Master Plan that could transform the experience of visitors coming to LSP. As fields, courts, active recreation and athletics programs are introduced, there is a strong desire that those programs are free, accessible, and integrated into the larger park in cohesive and unique ways that consider the park's environmental focus, and appropriate buffers and adjacencies

There is strong preference for a mix of activities that make recreation inclusive
Not just one sport, one season, but how to incorporate flexibility



Key Takeaways

- + The table map offered a unique opportunity for Open House attendees to understand the inventory of spaces adjacent to and in proximity to LSP



Takeaways + Key Findings

STATION 2: Programming



Field and Track programs / activities you want to see at LSP-South (by # of votes):

- Cross Country/Trail Run (32)
- Flex/Multi-Use Fields (26)
- Soccer Fields (13)
- Track + Field (8)
- Baseball Field (5)

Football, Softball, and Cricket were also mentioned, including other suggestions:

Free sports (keep it free!)
Space for high school sports
Preference for incorporating these programs into park atmosphere (not looking like a sporting complex)
Space to play in areas you pick (flex fields)

VIRTUAL SURVEY 4/10-5/12

The Virtual Survey (728 survey responses) ranked the types of active recreation and athletics programming that were most important to respondents and their families - this survey served as a baseline for the May 11th Open House:

3	TRACK	13.1% (223 votes)
5	FIELDS	9.9% (169 votes)



Court and Racket sports or activities you want to see at LSP-South (by # of votes):

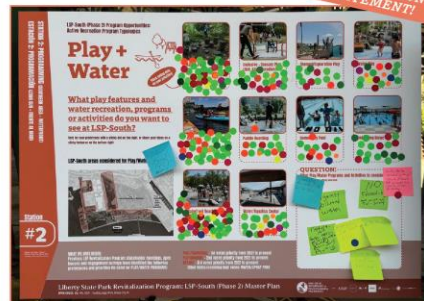
- Multi-Sport Courts (21)
- Beach Volleyball (19)
- Pickle Ball Courts (18)
- Badminton (15)
- Tennis Courts (14)

Volleyball Courts, Basketball, Handball, Ping-Pong were also mentioned, along with:

Desires to be cautious of the overall percentages of use of spaces - balancing program / nature
Spaces for organized league play or lessons
Alternate programs, including:
Chess Park, Horseshoe Pit, Bocce Ball

While racket and court received the lowest totals of the priority responses, they remain program types to consider:

7	RACKET	8.9% (151 votes)
8	COURT	5.6% (96 votes)



Play and Water programs / activities you want to see at LSP-South (by # of votes):

- Nature Play (45)
- Waterfront Beach (43)
- Kayaking (38)
- Inclusive/Sensory Play (23)
- Water/Aquatics Center (21)

Water Play (19), Swimming Barge (18), Paddle Boarding (16), Community Pool (14), and Themed/Exploration Play (14) also received top votes, with suggestions:

Fishing Pier (with Bait Shop)
Kayak Rentals (with Kayaking as a program)
Beach as a place to gather, not just swim/wade
Desire to balance / integrate with nature

Water and Play were the top priorities amongst the 728 responses received, totaling over 40% of combined votes:

1	WATER	23.1% (393 votes)
2	PLAY	18.3% (312 votes)



Outdoor/Adventure and Wheel sport programs you want to see at LSP-South (by # of votes):

- Bike Path (48)
- Ice/Roller Skating (29)
- Bouldering (17)
- Ziplines (17)
- Skate Park Plaza/Bowl (15)

Mountain Biking (13), Ropes Course (13), Rock Climbing (9), Parkour + Free Running (9), and Pump Tracks (8) also received attention, with suggestions for:

Bike Rental / City Bike Stands
Consideration for people with disabilities
Free seasonal activities / focus including:
Sledding, Skating, Fishing

The top responses from the April 10th - May 12th Virtual Survey (728 survey respondents) found that:

4	ADVENTURE	11.4% (194 votes)
6	WHEEL	9.7% (165 votes)

Key Themes / Findings

+ In both the virtual survey (April 10th - May 12th) and the in-person Open House (May 11th) findings, **Play + Water** activities received top votes for LSP-South:

This included nature play (as a top priority, emphasizing LSP's environmental focus through programming), activities to activate the waterfront, and inclusive/sensory play

+ **Track + Field** programs and activities, specifically: the idea of flexible / multi-use fields received top votes

Cross-Country, Trail Running, Soccer Fields, a Track, and Baseball Fields were key programs

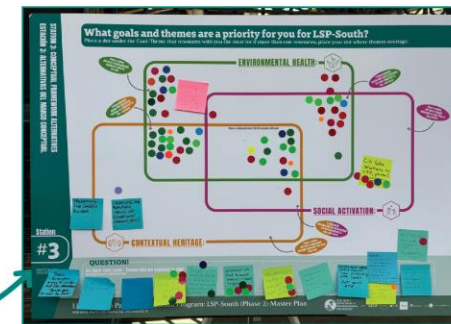
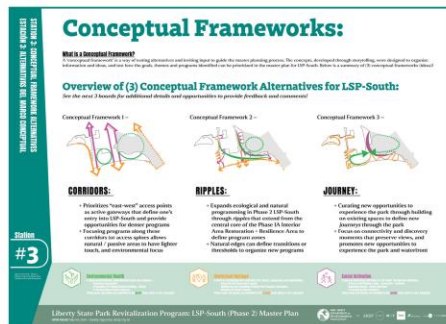
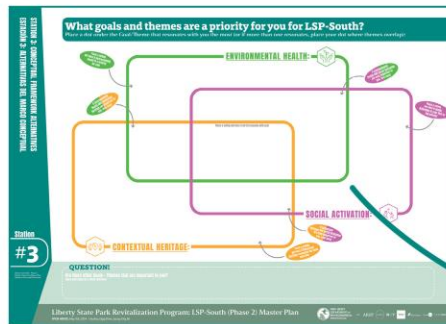
+ People are also excited for **Adventure + Wheel** programs to support bike paths, climbing opportunities, skate options, as well as opportunities to introduce flexible **Court + Racket** options to expand program types

+ Seasonality was a key topic!

Takeaways + Key Findings

STATION 3: Frameworks

Station 3 presented various goals and themes for LSP-South to understand the public's priorities for the Southern Area and Waterfront. Attendees were asked how the goals/themes resonated with them, exploring them through three conceptual framework alternatives to convey how they could be applied to create unique experiences for the LSP-South Master Plan.



What goals and themes are a priority for you?

- + Resounding positive feedback and support for the topic of Environmental Health - with a focus on greenery, nature, resiliency, cooling, ecosystems
- + Support received for an integration of the three goals presented (with an emphasis on active park features being integrated, and not built at the expense of environmental health desired)
- + Maintaining flexibility of park spaces while providing amenities for specific

- activities (distinguishing/buffering)
- + Celebrating the waterfront was a key subtheme within Contextual Heritage and Social Activation
- + Social activation should be inclusive of all age ranges and for activities, all skill levels, as well as abilities (inclusivity)

Other goals/priorities shared:

Access, Circulation, Parking, Infrastructure, and Safety were other goals/themes and priorities

Key Themes / Findings

- + Across all boards in Station 3, the goal / theme of **Environmental Health** was resoundingly a top priority amongst those surveyed (from the 4/10-5/12 Virtual Survey and at the 5/11 in-person Open House)
- + The three conceptual framework alternatives invited meaningful feedback and conversations around the role, context, and flexibility of programming at LSP-South, and what could enhance the character of the park's southern and waterfront areas

Key Takeaways

- + When prioritizing goals + themes across categories:
- + Environmental Health received the most number of votes, both individually, as well as across other categories paired with it

VIRTUAL SURVEY 4/10-5/12

The April 10th - May 12th Virtual Survey asked respondents:

Which of the following goals and themes for Liberty State Park's Southern Area and Waterfront resonates with you the most (pick one - your top priority):

- 1 Environmental Health (533 votes)
- 2 Social Activation (136 votes)
- 3 Contextual Heritage (59 votes)

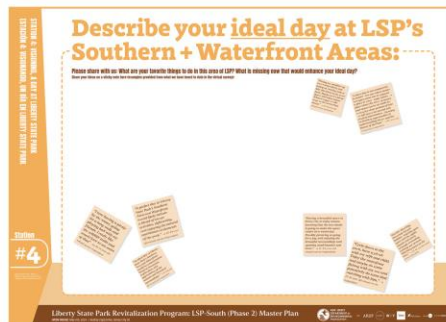
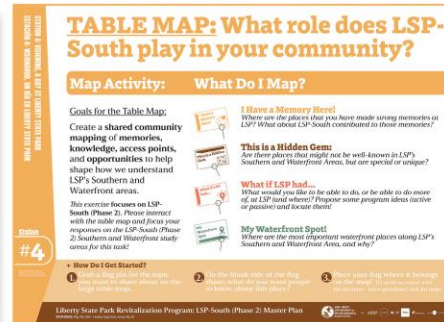
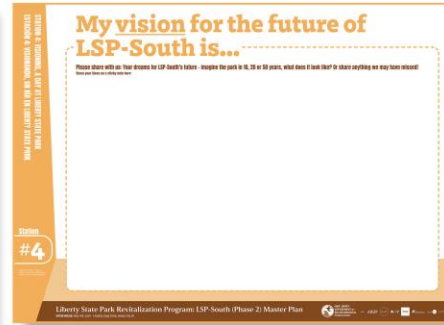


As a precursor to the May 11th Open House, the Virtual Survey wanted folks to prioritize a top goal. Then at the Open House, we allowed more nuanced voting on how priorities could be identified across multiple goals and themes for the LSP-South area.

Takeaways + Key Findings

STATION 4: Visioning

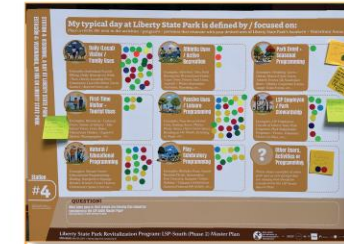
Station 4 was focused on visioning – identifying priorities for the future of LSP and creating opportunities to dream about the future of the park space. This station asked attendees to consider how they primarily use the park today, how the park could be more inclusive and accessible, and understand what an ideal day at LSP would be.



Key Themes / Findings

+ Station 4 convened a number of conversations around the balance of programs, as well as the preservation of the quality of waterfront spaces that currently exist

+ A focus on nature, the environment, and the support of daily activities and needs, while protecting important natural areas is a key focus shared amongst respondents



My typical day at Liberty State Park is defined by / focused on:

Attendees were asked to think about the types of uses, or user groups that align with their typical day at LSP, and what defines that experience:

25 Daily (Local) Visitor / Family Uses

25 Passive Uses / Leisure Programming

17 Natural / Educational Programming

10 Play + Celebratory Programming

9 LSP Employee / Park Stewardship

5 First-Time Visitor + Tourist Uses

3 Athletic Uses / Active Recreation

3 Park Event + Seasonal Programming



NOTE
Inclusivity, accessibility, and safety could be additional goals and themes for LSP-South.

How can LSP be a more inclusive and accessible park?

+ Considerations for different disabilities and user needs - one comment stated to consider playgrounds and noise that excludes neurodivergent users

+ More spread out picnic areas, and considerations of access to picnic tables (not just wheelchair accessible ones) that prioritize level paths/walkways for mobility device users

+ More (adequate) bathrooms around the park, and in more frequent locations

+ Protected (passive) bike lanes, and bike share opportunities would make LSP more accessible

+ Access to LSP from parking / light rail station and public transportation to the park - free shuttle service / trolley / bikes / bike share (in and around the park) were recommended with suggestions for alternate parking solutions (under the highway?)

+ Parking is important for folks with mobility needs - one comment stated that reducing parking would reduce their park access - shuttles from remote lots are okay, if they provide accessible options, and as long as funds for them continue and they remain free (an electric shuttle?)

+ More affordable / cheap food options for visitors

Takeaways + Key Findings

STATION 4: Visioning

Table Map

Station 4 invited participation in a community mapping exercise. Visions for LSP-South focused on: continuous walking/biking experiences, nature activities (birdwatching, wildlife observation), large lawn (social interaction, relaxing), active amenities (athletics, recreation), and playgrounds (for all ages / abilities)

STATION 4: VISIONING - A DAY AT LIBERTY STATE PARK

TABLE MAP: What role does LSP-South play in your community?

Map Activity: What Do I Map?

Goals for the Table Map:
Create a shared community mapping of memories, knowledge, access points, and opportunities to help shape how we understand LSP's Southern and Waterfront areas.

This exercise focuses on LSP-South (Phase 2). Please interact with the table map and focus your responses on the LSP-South (Phase 2) Southern and Waterfront study areas for this task!

+ How Do I Get Started?

1. Grab a flag pin for the topic you want to share about on the large table map.
2. In the blank side of the flag, write what you want people to know about this place!
3. Place your flag where it belongs on the map! Try to be accurate with the location. More questions? Ask for help!

I Have a Memory Here!
Where are the places that you have made strong memories at LSP? What about LSP-South contributed to those memories?

This is a Hidden Gem:
Are there places that might not be well-known in LSP's Southern and Waterfront Areas, but are special or unique?

What if LSP had...
What would you like to be able to do, or be able to do more of, at LSP (and where)? Propose some program ideas (active or passive) and locate them!

My Waterfront Spot!
Where are the most important waterfront places along LSP's Southern and Waterfront Area, and why?

Liberty State Park Revitalization Program: LSP-South (Phase 2) Master Plan

^ What was mapped?



Key Themes / Findings

+ The most-used flags were the “What if LSP had...” flag (62 mapped) and the “I have a Memory Here!” flag (40 mapped), identifying the following top 5 key themes and takeaways:

Access (Getting to the Park), Circulation, Traffic and Parking

“What if LSP had...” flag and “I have a Memory Here!” flags referencing:

- + Incorporating features like a bike trail (that connects to adjacent neighborhoods / cities), shuttle buses, multi-use walkways would be beneficial to the park experience
- + Traffic and overall circulation is a concern for park users, especially during events, but there is recognition that it is also difficult to get around the park without a car - more focus on safe connections and pedestrian (walking) and cyclist (biking) experiences would be appreciated

Camp Liberty

“I have a Memory Here!” or “This is a Hidden Gem” flags reference Camp Liberty experiences:

- + Camp Liberty is a beloved place for the community and LSP park users

Caven Point

All comments referenced Caven Point with a “This is a Hidden Gem” flag:

- + A beautiful, peaceful, natural area - how to preserve for habitat, ecology and observation?

Nature + Environmental Health

This topic received comments across all themes and flags:

- + There is a lot of existing wildlife at LSP - including: birds, fish, crabs and seals, and opportunities to enhance and promote wildlife, habitat, and nature-based education programs

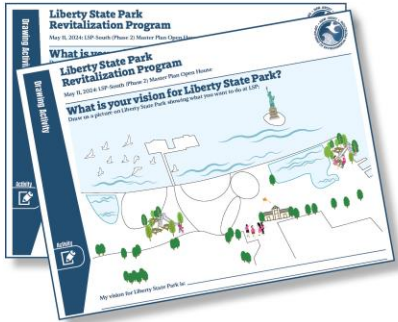
Programs, Facilities + Existing Passive Uses

All comments on programs + facilities were shared on “What if LSP had...” flags, while existing Passive Uses received “Memory” and “Hidden Gem” flags:

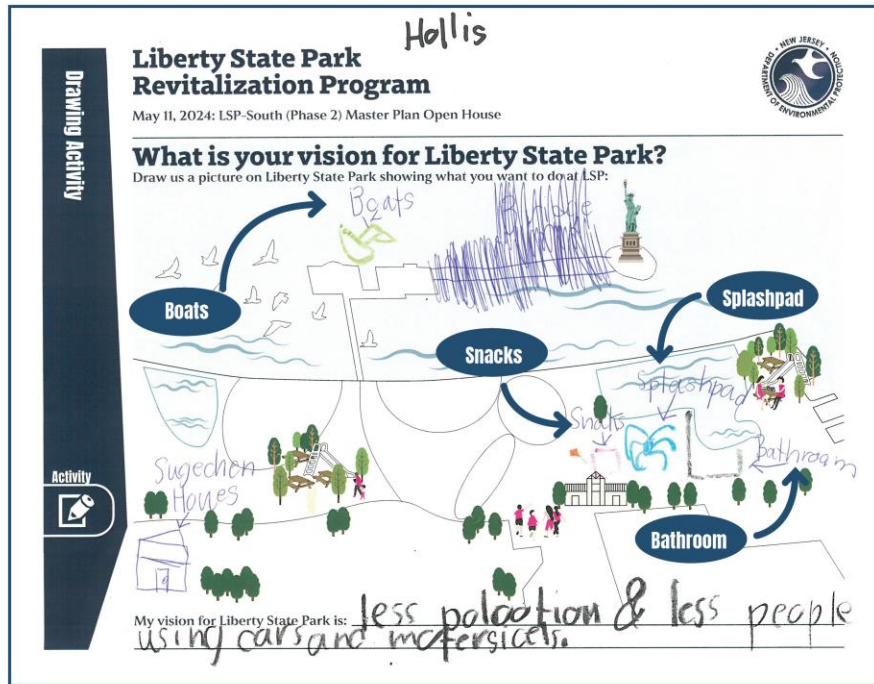
- + Most proposals for programs and facilities were thinking about future desired uses for park users at LSP (from movie nights, to free concerts, to active, passive, recreational and educational programming - others referenced better signage (entry gateways specifically))
- + There is an expressed desire/need for additional restroom facilities
- + There are conflicting views on the types of active recreation / athletics programs in LSP-South, with collective preference for them away from the waterfront edge
- + The majority of surveyed users come to LSP to walk, run, bike ride, spend time with family and friends, picnic, and most would like to see additional programmatic offering/opportunity
- + There is a strong preference for not over-programming LSP-South and finding a balance of programs and uses with appropriate buffers between zones
- + More shade is a priority for these uses
- + Many park users have experienced / celebrated significant life events and moments at LSP: grew up here, a place to escape during COVID, ice cream with my children, 5k race, used to come here with my kids (now adults), my son got married here, I got engaged here

Takeaways + Key Findings

Kid's Visioning Activity

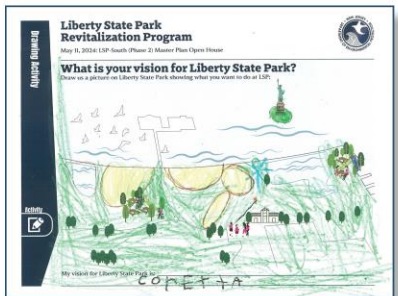


^ A Kid's Activity was provided at Station 4 to invite feedback from younger attendees at the Open House!

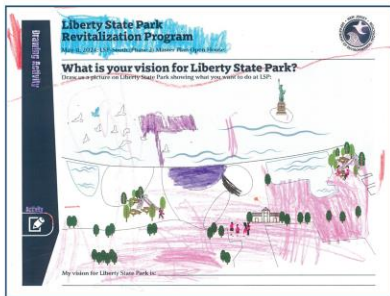


Hollis' Vision for Liberty State Park ^

**“Less pollution
& less people
using cars and
motorcycles.”
- Hollis**



^ Coretta's Vision for Liberty State Park



^ An un-named Vision for Liberty State Park

What We Heard (5/11 Open House Takeaways + Key Findings):

The Conceptual Framework Alternatives station and the Visioning station received a significant amount of feedback at the May 11th Open House for LSP-South. Each individual scheme received comments related to what did (or did not) excite people about the concept, as well as how it would impact their experiences at LSP. The Frameworks also served as inspiration for attendees to share their own visions and ideas. Across all of the stations, the following priorities were shared:

- + A desire for organizational clarity in the Master Plan - an approach that allows varied experiences, flexible uses and a chance for discovery
- + A preference for a strong continuous environmental core or backbone to the park to expand access to nature (Environmental Health)
- + Maintaining a continuous waterfront zone for park visitors
- + A balance of active and passive recreation (and a desire to consider passive experiences - walking, relaxing, reading, sitting on a bench enjoying a view - with the same focus as active and athletics programs)
- + Play as an important amenity for park-goers (nature, accessible, etc)
- + A desire for considerable flexible open lawn space to be maintained at the waterfront for flexible/self-defined use
- + Enhancing the use of the piers on the south waterfront (jetties)
- + Maintaining spaces of oasis within the park and to provide noise buffers from potential future louder activities and vehicular zones
- + A desire to enhance entry access at the existing two entrances for all modes of transportation: transit, bike, pedestrian, vehicular - and internal circulation
- + Considerations for park infrastructure, concessions, circulation, and understanding how the park can provide access, while also negotiate pedestrian/cyclist and vehicular conflicts

LSP-South Programming: Southern Athletics Hub

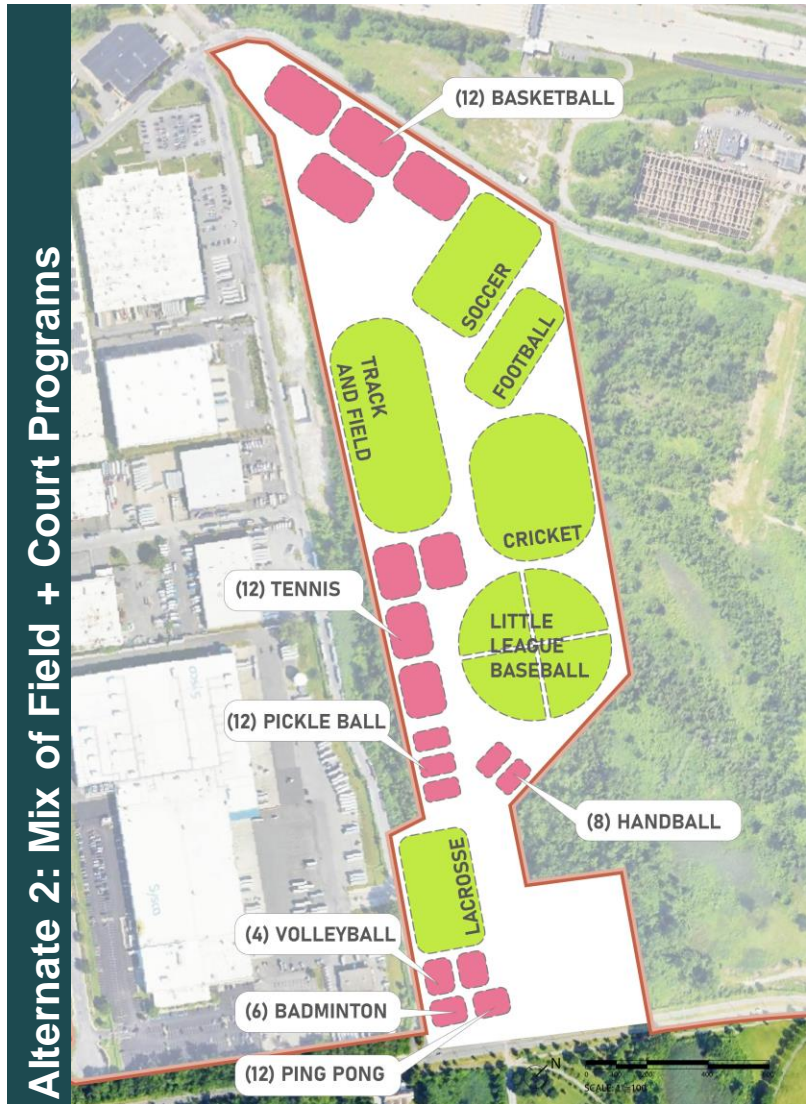
Zoom: Southern Athletics Hub

The Context



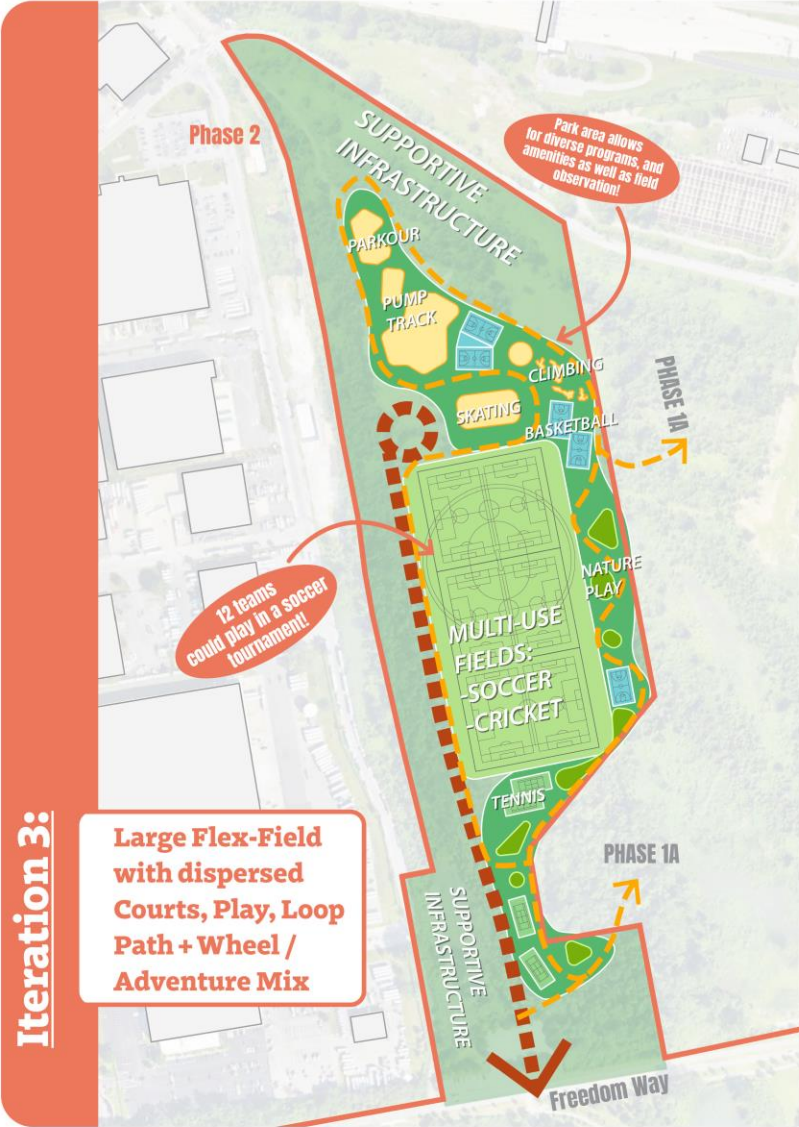
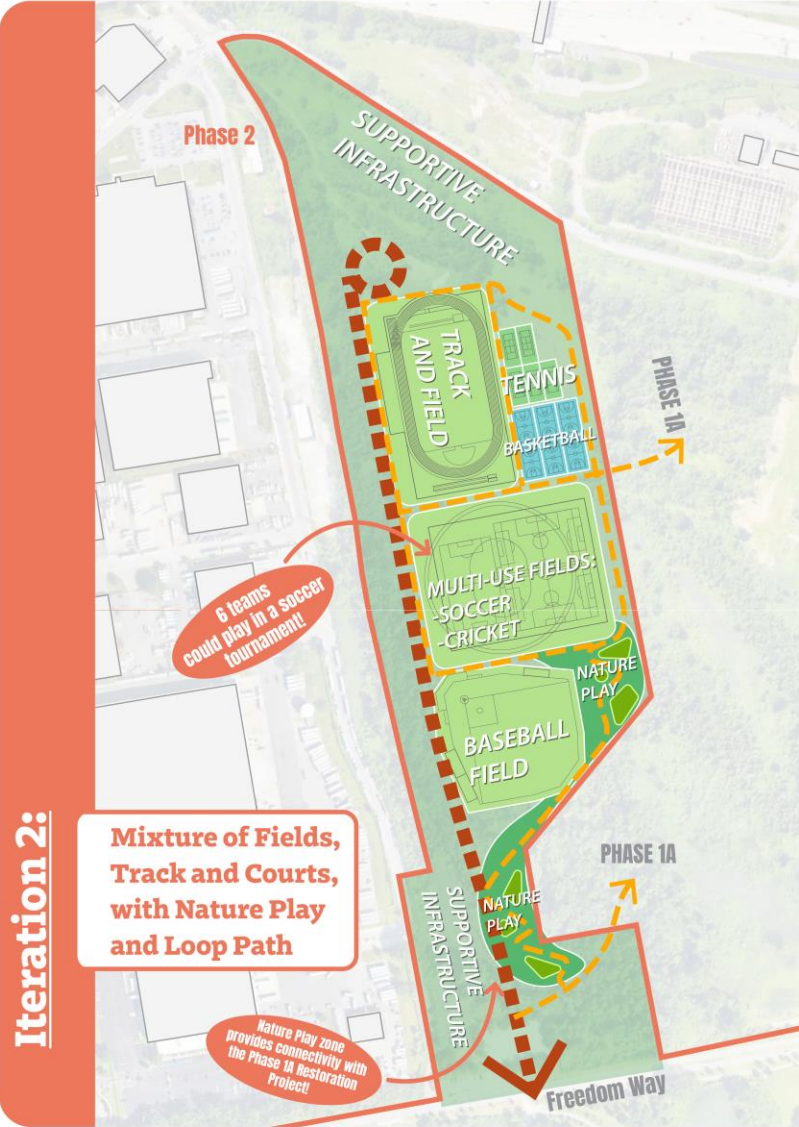
Southern Athletics Hub

Athletics + Rec Scale Studies: What you saw last (April 9th Design Task Force Meeting)



Southern Athletics Hub: Updated Iterations

Athletics + Rec Scale Studies: Updates based on 4/9 Feedback



Southern Athletics Hub

Iteration 1: Focus on Fields + Play

DESCRIPTION:

Feedback from 4/9 - Alternate 1 (max field program density)
Too dense for this zone - explore opportunities to create experience while still providing capacity for athletics and active programs

This Iteration includes capacity for:

FIELDS:

- (1) Track and Field,
- (1) Baseball Field,
- (1) Multi-use field to accommodate:
 - (2) Full Size Soccer Fields,
 - (4) Half Size Soccer Fields,
 - (1) Cricket Ground

PLAY:

Nature Play Zone to create a transition between Phase 1A + Phase 2

Iteration 1:



Southern Athletics Hub

Iteration 2: Mixture of Fields, Courts + Play, and Loop Path

DESCRIPTION:

Feedback from 4/9 - Alternate 2 (mix of field + court programs)
Positive feedback, appreciation for the diversity of recreation types
but wanted to see them organized more as an experience

This Iteration includes capacity for:

FIELDS:

- (1) Track and Field,
- (1) Baseball Field,
- (1) Multi-use field to accommodate:
 - (1) Full Size Soccer Fields,
 - (3) Half Size Soccer Fields,
 - (1) Cricket Ground

COURTS (concentrated):

- (6) Basketball Courts + (5) Tennis Courts

PLAY:

Nature Play Zone to create synergies with Phase 1A

This Iteration also incorporates a Cross Country / Bike Loop

Iteration 2:



Southern Athletics Hub

Iteration 3: Flex-Field with dispersed Courts, Play, Loop Path + Adventure

DESCRIPTION:

Feedback from 4/9 - Alternate 3 (flex fields, courts and adventure/play)
Excitement around the possibilities for this space as supportive for multiple types of active recreation, athletics and enjoyment

This Iteration includes capacity for:

FIELDS:

- (1) Large Multi-use Field to accommodate:
 - (3) Full Size Soccer Fields,
 - (6) Half Size Soccer Fields,
 - (1) Cricket Ground, or baseball, etc.

COURTS (distributed):

- (5) Basketball Courts + (4) Tennis Courts

PLAY:

Nature Play Zone to create synergies with Phase 1A and introduce parkour, pump tracks, skating, climbing and adventure opportunities

This Iteration also incorporates a more natural Cross Country / Bike Loop

Iteration 3:



Takeaways + Key Findings

STATION 2: Programming



Key Themes / Findings

- + When explained that the diagrams were focused on a projection of values to apply to the Southern Athletics Hub (rather than a specific site plan), there was a general acknowledgment that a large flexible field would likely satisfy the most needs, and serve the most people (creating a balance of uses for various users and their needs)
- + There was also a strong desire to create a green buffer / threshold through this zone, to continue the park's environmental focus, but also allow flexible adjacent uses

ITERATION 1 COMMENTS:

- + Least support for this scheme (3 votes)
- + Questions around dedicating this space to sports versus nature, and the seasonality of programs as 'limited use', and use of lights
- + Desire to differentiate activities in Phase 1B and Phase 2, and keep playing fields away from the waterfront (wind, views, etc.)

ITERATION 2 COMMENTS:

- + Some support for this scheme (8 votes)
- + Additional questions around using space for 'limited, seasonal' uses
- + Sentiments that this is the best 'athletics focused' option, but also support for a comment that "less is more", and this represents more of a "complex" than folks are comfortable with

ITERATION 3 COMMENTS:

- + Most support for this scheme (19 votes), and positive response to mix of activities and balance of spaces and uses, and most flexibility and variety of all seasons
- + Desire to incorporate track and cross country in addition to other mix of uses
- + Priority = inclusive recreation (not just single-sport uses), serve different users
- + Preference to focus on nature play as a unique opportunity in this zone
- + "The same space serves more here"



Which iteration are you most excited by? And Why?

There was general consensus around the idea that a "sports complex" (a number of fields without other use potential, and limited seasons of use) were not desired, and that siting various programs with a focus on how park users could experience these programs surrounded by nature would be beneficial to pursue.

Key Takeaways + Findings:

- + The idea of 'free play' (from a cost, multi-use and pick-up / family perspective) is preferred - ensuring flexible public use, not just tournaments or leagues
- + Desires to ensure LSP remains a one-of-a-kind space for visitors and park users, and how that can be applied to this zone
- + Along the Morris Pesin Drive, Open House attendees were interested in how this zone would tie into larger park connectivity and connections to transit
- + Attendees remarked that opportunities to activate and renovate the jetties would be particularly exciting, including: jetties for fishing, spaces for children's exploration, swimming pool/barge opportunity near the jetties, a kayak boat house and large jetty to be adjacent to each other, and support new program

Southern Athletics Hub: Updated Iterations

How we are incorporating feedback and input from 4/9 Design Task Force and 5/11 Open House:

DESCRIPTION:

Based on the 4/9 and 5/11 feedback:

This update explores:

FIELDS:

- (1) Track + Field
- (1) Medium Multi-use Field accommodates:
 - (2) Full Size Soccer Fields,
 - (4) Half Size Soccer Fields,
 - (1) Baseball Field (or Cricket)w/ flex 'free play' dedicated space!

COURTS (distributed):

- (1) Multi-Sport Court (w/ 2 Basketball)
- (3) Tennis Courts + (5) Pickleball Courts

PLAY:

Nature Play Zone to create synergies with Phase 1A and introduces parkour, pump tracks, skating, climbing and adventure opportunities and incorporates loop paths

5/11 Iteration 3:



5/21 Updates:





Integrating Active Recreation: Distribution of Facilities Between LSP-North & South

ARUP



WXY



Biohabitats

MATRIX **NEW** WORLD



Integrating Active Recreation Parkwide

What active recreation programs will be implemented in LSP-North & South?

LSP-NORTH PROGRAMMING

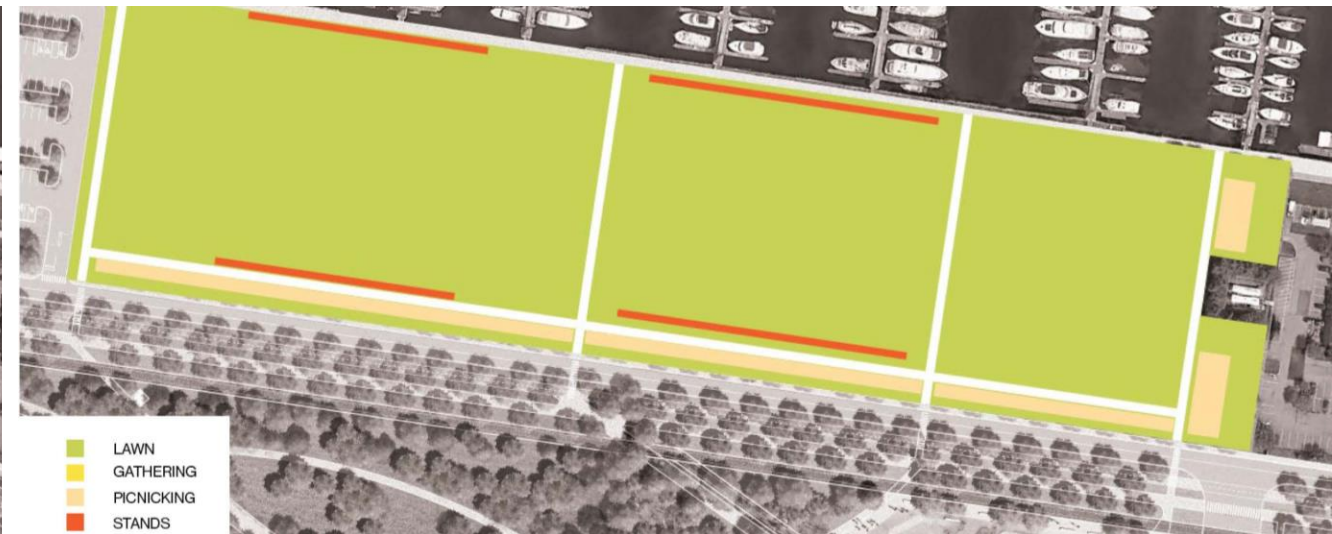
- Support for development of ball fields and courts that are of reasonable scale, well-maintained, and managed to ensure broad public accessibility and avoid disruptions to natural park features
- Concerns that overdevelopment of athletics in LSP-North could create logistic challenges, such as added traffic and parking congestion, and increased demand on waste management infrastructure due to sporting events

LSP-SOUTH PROGRAMMING

- More space for parking, circulation, and larger active recreation programming
- Programming elements balance 1B, including track & field amenities, additional ball fields & courts, multi-use fields, nature play, and cricket fields
- Important to ensure programming is flexible and accommodates various recreational programs

LSP-North Active Recreation Programming

The Alternatives



LSP-North Active Recreation Programming

What are your recommendations?

NORTH SHORE ATHLETICS



SOUTH SHORE ATHLETICS



LSP-North Active Recreation Programming

What are your recommendations?

NORTH SHORE ATHLETICS



LSP-North Active Recreation Programming

What are your recommendations?



Phase 1B Terminal Programming

What are your recommendations?

TRAIN SHED AERIAL VIEW



VIEW A: COURTYARD, LOOKING TOWARDS CRNJ TERMINAL HEAD HOUSE



Revitalization Program Next Steps

ARUP



WXY



Biohabitats

MATRIX **NEW** WORLD



Bringing it All Together

PHASE 1A: Interior
Restoration + Resilience



PHASE 1B: Northern Arts,
Culture, Active Recreation



PHASE 2: Holistic Long-Term
Master Plan (LSP-Southern
Areas + Waterfront)





Thank You!

ARUP



WXY



Biohabitats

MATRIX **NEW** WORLD

