

PART 3

**COMMUNITY OPEN SPACE &
RECREATION MISSION**

The Neighborhoods

Allston-Brighton

Back Bay/Beacon Hill

Central Boston

Charlestown

Dorchester

East Boston

Fenway/Kenmore

Hyde Park

Jamaica Plain

Mattapan

Roslindale

Roxbury

South Boston

South End

West Roxbury



PART 3 • COMMUNITY OPEN SPACE & RECREATION MISSION

THE NEIGHBORHOODS:

Allston-Brighton

THE SETTING

History

Like many Boston neighborhoods, the Allston-Brighton area was established in the colonial era (1635) with land grants. A sparsely settled agricultural pattern prevailed until the filling in of the Back Bay and Kenmore Square areas in the late 1800s, by which time the Brighton stockyards had become the foremost cattle market in the region. Another important agricultural development in Brighton was the growth of horticulture: commercial gardens and extensive greenhouses covered many of the hills of Brighton. The Massachusetts Horticultural Society was founded in Brighton in 1829 and the area became well known for the many flowers and other decorative plants, fruit trees, and vegetables developed by Brighton growers. The grounds of Saint John's Seminary are the remains of an old estate orchard. In fact, some historians believe the first tomato in America was grown in Brighton.

In the late 1800s, the extension of streetcar lines – especially along the Commonwealth Avenue corridor – encouraged high quality residential development in Brighton, much of which remains today.

Proximity to the Charles River and the Boston & Albany Railroad encouraged construction of stockyards, slaughterhouses, and meatpacking operations in both Allston and the northern and eastern sections of Brighton. As the nation expanded westward and refrigerated railroad cars were introduced, regional stockyards, like those in Brighton, declined in importance. These cattle-related businesses were replaced over time by other industrial plants, commercial warehouses, and homes.

The Massachusetts Horticultural Society was founded in Brighton in 1829.



Smith Playground

After World War II, the Massachusetts Turnpike Extension further divided this neighborhood. Wider than the existing railroad tracks, the Pike added more noise and air pollution as it severed pedestrian links on either side. Proximity to expanding universities on all sides resulted in a considerable influx of students, coupled with younger families and immigrants from many lands. These changing population patterns in turn spurred much conversion of large-scale apartments and 19th century single family homes to smaller rental units and condominiums.

Demographics/Housing

Allston-Brighton’s 1990 population of 70,284 included Irish, Italian, Greek, Jewish, and more recently, Asian, Eastern European, African-American and Hispanic ethnic groups. The 1990 population total represented an 8.76% increase from the 1980 figure of 64,622, while the figure for 2000 is 69,648, a slight decrease (-0.09%) from the 1990 total.

While diversity is the order of the day as far as race/ethnicity is concerned in Allston-Brighton, two trends stand out: the decline in the white population and the rise in the Asian/Pacific Islander population. Allston-Brighton’s 1990 population was 73% white, 7% black, 9% Hispanic, and 10% Asian/Pacific Islander. In 2000, 69% were white, 4% black, 9% Hispanic, and 14% Asian/Pacific Islander. In the year 2000, the Census for the first time offered the choice of “multi-racial.” Three percent (3%) of the population identified themselves in this category. This new category may explain the 3% drop in the black population in this neighborhood from 1990 to 2000.

Socio-economic and demographic data bear out the image of Allston-Brighton as a neighborhood with a significant young adult-oriented population. The 1990 average age of local residents was 33.3 years, compared to a citywide average of 34.6 years. Allston-Brighton’s age profile shows that in 1990 12% of the population was 17 years of age or younger versus 19% for the city as a whole [the comparable figures for 2000 were 9% in Allston/Brighton versus 20% in Boston]; 48% of the neighborhood’s population is in the age group 18 to 29 years versus 31% for the city as a whole; 32% of the neighborhood’s populations is in the age group 30 to 64 years versus 39% for the city as a whole; 10% of the neighborhood’s population is in the age group 65 years and over versus 11% for the city as a whole.

Allston-Brighton Demographic and Housing Profile

POPULATION	
2000 Census	69,648
1990 Census	70,284
1980 Census	64,622
Population Growth/Decline, 1990-2000	-0.90%
Population Growth/Decline, 1980-1990	8.76%

RACE	1980 Census	1990 Census	2000 Census
White	55,314 85%	51,395 73%	47,835 69%
Black	2,558 4%	4,650 7%	3,110 4%
Hispanic	2,911 4%	6,413 9%	6,336 9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	3,745 6%	7,341 10%	9,611 14%
Other	736 1%	455 1%	2,756 4%

Allston-Brighton’s median household income was \$29,308, nearly identical to the citywide average of \$29,180. In addition, one-third (33%) of all Allston-Brighton households do not have a vehicle compared to 38% for the city as a whole. Some of these certainly are among the nearly 20,000 persons in the community who attend college. This represents 27% of the neighborhood population and 80% of the neighborhood’s total school-enrolled population versus the city’s nearly 85,000 total college students who represent 51% of Boston’s total school-enrolled population. This gives the Allston-Brighton community a significant youth-oriented culture, especially in terms of entertainment-related businesses.

The widespread presence of college students in the community, as well as the prevalence of rental housing—from large, multi-dwelling buildings on the Commonwealth Avenue corridor, to triple deckers, to the more recent garden apartments—means only 21% of housing is owner-occupied. This compares to 31% for the city as a whole. The impact of college students upon the community is further reflected by 47% of the population dwelling in non-family households, living as singles or roommates, compared to 28% across the city.

Housing in Allston-Brighton includes one-to-six family structures, row houses, garden apartments, and medium-rise apartment buildings, all in substantial numbers. This neighborhood has a much smaller single-to-multiple unit ratio than the city as a whole, 0.09 versus 0.19 respectively. The main concentration of units per structure is the mid-range of 3 to 49 units. Allston-Brighton has 62% of units in these 3 to 49 unit structures versus 58% for Boston. However, within this range, the 10 to 49 unit

AGE

2000 Census		
0-17 years	6,485	9%
18 and over	63,163	91%
1999 Census		
0-4 years	2,688	4%
5-9 years	1,822	3%
10-14 years	1,429	2%
15-17 years	1,027	1%
18-20 years	6,894	10%
21-24 years	13,957	19%
25-29 years	13,566	19%
30-34 years	7,430	11%
35-44 years	7,416	11%
45-54 years	3,516	5%
55-59 years	1,646	2%
60-64 years	1,775	3%
65-74 years	3,489	5%
75-84 years	2,622	4%
85 years and over	1,005	1%
Average Age (1990 Census)		33.3

SOCIO-ECONOMIC/HOUSING/DENSITY

Population 16 Years and Older, by Employment Status	
(1990 Census)	%
Employed in armed forces	less than 1
Employed civilians	65
Unemployed civilians	4
Not in labor force	31
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Median Household Income (1990 Census)	\$29,308
Occupied Units Ownership	
(1990 Census)	% Units
Owner occupied	21
Renter occupied	79

Number of Year Round Units in Structure	
(1990 Census)	% Units
Single units	8
Double units	15
3-9 units	23
10-19 units	19
20-49 units	20
50 or more units	13
All other	1
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Single/Multiple Unit Ratio	0.09

Household by Number of Vehicles	
(1990 Census)	% Households
No vehicles	33
1 vehicles	44
2 or more vehicles	23

Population Density	
	Persons per Square Mile
1980 Census	14,698.6
1990 Census	15,829.2
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Density Change 1980 to 1990	1130.6

Households by Age and Poverty Status	
(1990 Census)	% Households
Above poverty, under age 65	69
Above poverty, age 65 and over	13
Below poverty, under age 65	16
Below poverty, age 65 and over	2

HOUSEHOLDS

Households	
1990 Census	29,427
1980 Census	28,127
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Household Growth/Decline, 1980-1990	4.62%

Population by Household Type	
(1990 Census)	% Persons
Family households	46%
Non-family households	47%
Group quarters	6%

Households w/ One or More Persons Under 18 Years		
(1990 Census)	Households	%
All households	29,427	100%
No one under 18	25,391	86%
One or more under 18	4,036	14%

Households with Children by Type	
(1990 Census)	%
Married couple families	67
Other family, male head	6
Other family, female head	25
Non-family	2

Persons in Households		
(1990 Census)	Households	%
1 person households	10,304	35
2 person households	9,971	34
3 person households	4,461	15
4 person households	2,698	9
5 or more person hshlds	1,993	7
Average Persons per Household (1990 Census)		2.24

Family Type	
(1990 Census)	% Families
Married couple	69
Other family, male head	9
Other family, female head	22
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Families as a % of All Households	36%

structure is more heavily represented than the 3 to 9 unit structures in Allston-Brighton versus Boston: 39% of units are in 10 to 49 unit structures versus 20% for the city as a whole, while only 23% are in 3 to 9 unit structures versus a whopping 38% citywide. Therefore, with medium-range apartment units predominating, there is a greater dependence on public open space to meet the needs of a highly dense neighborhood: 15,829.2 persons per square mile versus 11,861.2 persons per square mile citywide.

THE OPEN SPACE SYSTEM TODAY

Equity and Investment

Allston-Brighton has 332 protected acres in its inventory of parks, playgrounds, squares, malls, reservations, community gardens, and other open spaces. This gives this neighborhood a ratio of 4.76 acres of protected open space per 1,000 residents, compared to a citywide ratio of 7.43 acres per 1,000 residents. Urban wilds, college athletic fields, and other institutionally owned lands add another 156 acres of unprotected open space to this densely populated neighborhood.

The City of Boston has invested over \$2 million in improving and protecting 11 facilities in the past seven years through the city's Getting the Job Done capital improvement program (see table).

In addition to the renovations of ball fields, play lots, and other recreational features, the Parks Department has successfully managed a significant environmental restoration project. Gallagher Memorial Park contains the 10-acre Chandler Pond. A scenic and ecological asset, this pond was the subject of years of sedimentation from its urbanized watershed – both its immediate

**CAPITAL PROJECTS 1993-2000/
ALLSTON-BRIGHTON**

Cassidy Playground	\$	20,000
Chandler Pond	\$	650,00
Evergreen Cemetery	\$	20,000
Fidelis Way Playground	\$	100,000
Rogers (Galvin) Park	\$	261,000
Hardiman Playground	\$	183,60
Hobart Playground	\$	30,000
Hooker Street Playground	\$	197,000
Joyce Playground	\$	250,000
Market Street Burying Ground	\$	115,000
Shubow Park	\$	263,262
Total		\$2,089,862

environs in Brighton and a large part of northwestern Newton. The neighboring residents, organized into the Chandler Pond Preservation Society, had complained of odors, unsightly algae growth, and a fear that this water body would become a wetland throughout, and therefore less attractive to the area and less ecologically diverse. Mayor Menino stepped up with \$100,000 in seed money for a pond restoration/dredging project. With a subsequent contribution of \$400,000 placed by the state legislature in their budget, the state Department of Environmental Management gave a grant in that amount to the Parks Department for the pond dredging and restoration project. Once the project was well underway, the pond was found to have more sediment than originally expected which required additional expenditure by the city for the project. Dredging has added significant depth to the pond.



Boston Red Sox Hitting Coach Rick Down in Rogers Park, Brighton

Assessment

Allston-Brighton has a rich palette of public parkland and other contributing open spaces. City of Boston facilities include many neighborhood parks with play and sports facilities, an 18th century historic cemetery, a 19th century landscaped cemetery, one of the neighborhood's four community gardens, and passive areas such as Chandler Pond and the wooded part of Ringer Park. The urban wilds are numerous, helping to provide outlets for contact with nature. Parkland of historic and regional significance includes the MDC's Chestnut Hill Reservoir and Charles River Reservation. Commonwealth Avenue is notable as an historic boulevard and a link in the open space system. Retaining and protecting community access to open space owned by hospitals, schools, and religious organizations in Allston and Brighton, often taken for granted, will be an important issue in the future, especially as new uses are found and planned for some of these institutional sites.

Allston

This part of the community is situated between the Charles River and the east-west line composed of Commonwealth Avenue, Brighton Avenue, and North Beacon Street. Allston's internal spine consists of the Massachusetts Turnpike Extension and adjacent railroad tracks. The Harvard athletic complex, including Harvard Stadium, and the Harvard Business School campus anchors its northeast corner. Residential areas are largely clustered along the Turnpike/railroad track spine. Detached wood-frame housing predominates while there are brick apartment complexes and rowhouses along major streets. In-fill building of numerous garden apartments several decades ago has

The MDC's Charles River Reservation is a very significant regional and neighborhood recreational resource

increased population density while providing additional rental housing. The population is diverse and largely rental, including numerous college students.

This northeast portion of the larger community has fewer neighborhood parks. The disorganized growth of Allston has resulted in difficult community access to existing parklands as well as a general lack of green space in the community.

The MDC's Charles River Reservation is a very significant regional and neighborhood recreational resource – used by picnickers, canoeists, kayakers, boaters, runners, walkers, bicyclists, and community gardeners. The MDC has recently rebuilt Artesani Playground, the children's play lot in the Herter Park section of the Reservation. Neighborhood access to the Reservation however is difficult at some points across the Massachusetts Turnpike and Soldier's Field Road.

The new master plan for the Charles River Reservation will present future opportunities to improve access to this important facility. Other recommendations include creating a new visitor center at Herter Park with interpretive sites and a nature loop, new ornamental plantings at the bridge landings and the clearing of riverbank vegetation for new scenic vistas, the improvement of the moat in Herter Park for better public access to the water, and a new amenity cluster and food concession at Herter Park.

In addition to the inventory of public recreational lands, Harvard University's Allston campuses include open space and a sports complex. With sizable land purchases in Allston by Harvard in the past decade, it is hoped that the community will also benefit by improvements to the public realm in scenic, passive, and recreation facilities that will result from development of these new holdings.

Brighton

Larger in area than Allston, Brighton stretches south to Brookline, west to Chestnut Hill, and north to Newton. Thoroughfares, commercial centers, institutional campuses, and varied residential sub-neighborhoods visually delineate it. Industrial and commercial facilities predominate only along Brighton Avenue and North Beacon Street on the northern Allston border. Except for Commonwealth Avenue and Chestnut Hill Avenue, with their large apartment and condominium blocks, Brighton's neighborhoods are defined mostly by detached wood-frame single- and multiple-unit houses.

The larger open spaces in Brighton are generally clustered in the central area between Commonwealth Avenue and the Cambridge Street-Washington Street corridor. Running through the most densely populated areas of both Allston and Brighton is Commonwealth Avenue, which includes the B-line trolley of the MBTA. Several MBTA bus lines also serve Allston-Brighton.

This helps enable good access to the parks in this central area, as well as in the southwest corner of the sub-neighborhood. The C-line trolley terminus at Cleveland Circle also serves this southwest corner.

Brighton has a generally good distribution of existing neighborhood parks. It has great variety in its open space as well, including such resources as Evergreen Cemetery and Chestnut Hill Reservoir. Increased street greening, such as along Commonwealth Avenue, is a major objective, as is using thoroughfares to link and strengthen the area's open space system as a whole.

The recent move of the Allston-Brighton branch of the YMCA from its location next to Rogers Park westward to a location in Oak Square next to Hardiman will likely place additional use and pressure on Hardiman. Additional city resources may be needed to address this pressure.

Another focus area is the proposed re-use of the historic pump station buildings across Beacon Street from the Chestnut Hill Reservoir. There is a historic landscape surrounding these buildings that should be the target of preservation in redevelopment proposals to be submitted to the site's disposition agency.

Unprotected urban wilds represent 15% of the neighborhood's acreage of all open space. Almost all of the wilds are owned by institutions rather than publicly held.

In this highly dense sub-neighborhood, as in the Allston-Harvard situation, much available open land is held by institutions. Working with these institutions to preserve and make accessible some part of these lands in future developments will be a key approach to addressing the open space needs of this neighborhood, whether for scenic, ecological, passive, or active recreation opportunities.

Chandler Pond itself has recently been restored, but the surrounding landscape needs improvements. The Urban Wilds Initiative of the Parks Department, with support from the Chandler Pond Preservation Society, conducted a pilot project along a portion of the Lake Shore Road shoreline. Under the direction of the Initiative's consultant, volunteers planted emergent wetland vegetation along the shoreline edge to replace the eroding lawn-oriented shoreline that exists along that side of the pond. It has so far been successful in taking hold in the newly planted area. Further work along this line, as well as other techniques to decrease pollution into the pond from the watershed, will help improve water quality and maintain the pond depths achieved through the recent dredging project. Capital improvements to the landscape (i.e., Gallagher Memorial Park) will be scheduled.



Chandler Pond itself has recently been restored, but the surrounding landscape needs improvements.



Smith Playground

In addition to new parkway tree plantings and the clearing of riverbank vegetation for new scenic vistas, the new master plan for the Charles River Reservation calls for “an entirely new fifteen-acre park ... fronting on the river with three direct links to the Brighton neighborhood.” (From the Executive Summary, *Charles River Basin: The Second Century*.) The MDC has major tasks to accomplish before the proposed new park will be ready to open: “acquisition of land, removal of the old MDC pool facility, and moving the parkway back from the river.”

Yet it is worth striving for, as this new park will add considerable access to the Charles River Reservation from Brighton, which currently has limited access. It will also provide much-needed opportunities for flexible field arrangements for local sports enthusiasts.

THE NEXT FIVE YEARS

One important goal will be to continue and expand public/institutional partnerships to protect and enhance recreational opportunities for community members. Efforts to make Allston greener and improve pedestrian and bicycle access to existing parklands need to continue. Rehabilitation of the Charles River Reservation, particularly its pathways and shoreline, is a community goal as well as a master plan goal. The rehabilitation should take place along with improved access from the community to this regional park. The re-greening of the Commonwealth Avenue spine needs to be implemented once transportation funding for the arterial reconstruction is in place. A comprehensive approach with an emphasis on improving the Chestnut Hill Reservoir/historic pump station area as a gateway to Boston would benefit the entire community. Environmental improvements at Chandler Pond were recently completed and can serve as a model for upgrading other green and open spaces with community support.

Opportunities

Allston

- Develop an Allston greening plan. Focus on the southern boundary thoroughfares, pedestrian and bicycle access to and among parks, and opportunities for public open space at Allston Landing North such as BRA and community recommendations for active recreational facilities. Improvements to the Massachusetts Turnpike right-of-way, particularly along Lincoln Street, need to be made to reduce noise and screen the highway from view.
- Support Metropolitan District Commission master plan implementation efforts to provide recreational opportunities

and access to them in keeping with the historic character of the Charles River Reservation and to meet its extraordinary maintenance needs. Improve the recreational paths and shoreline to the level of quality in other parts of the Reservation.

- Work with Harvard University to create more community benefits from its existing open spaces and sports complex. Urge the provision of open space amenities in future developments on Harvard University land to reduce impacts on existing public resources. Provide community and public realm benefits from new Harvard developments to mitigate impacts and to better integrate these new developments with the surrounding community.
- Continue to fund capital rehabilitation of city park facilities as needed in the capital renewal cycle, such as at Hooker, Penniman, and Portsmouth.
- Preserve the parkway landscape character of Soldiers Field Road/Storrow Drive through zoning setbacks and height limitations for properties along their edge. Seek preservation of open space along the parkway's inboard edge, especially at Soldiers Field.
- Create an Outreach Partners program parallel to the Park Partners program to stimulate community recreational activities on non-publicly owned land. Encourage and assist universities and other institutions, developers, and businesses in planning and implementing recreational programming, maintenance, and capital projects. Offer technical assistance regarding planning and design for development that also protects existing open space or creates new neighborhood park facilities.
- Support new community-based Park Partner programs using Oak Square as a model.

Brighton

- Strengthen Brighton's existing public open space system. Explore opportunities such as strengthening the connections with surrounding parks, cemeteries, and urban wilds along Commonwealth Avenue, Market Street, and Chestnut Hill Avenue, and planting more street trees along Warren and Washington Streets.
- Design for the re-greening of Commonwealth Avenue using the BRA plan and the original Olmsted plan for guidance. Provide seating and other amenities for specific areas as requested by the community.
- Continue to fund capital rehabilitation of city park facilities as needed in the capital renewal cycle, such as at Cassidy, Chandler Pond (landscaping), Hardiman, McKinney, and Ringer.

- Work with the BRA to develop an open space preservation strategy for institutional lands with open space or natural resource values. Approach institutions and the community with a partnership concept for future implementation.
- Seek improvements to Hardiman Playground if the need arises due to the YMCA relocation next door. Renovate the play lot there.
- Advance a watershed-based approach to protecting water quality at Chandler Pond. Schedule capital funds to rehabilitate the path and other passive features of the park. Continue the shoreline re-vegetation and stabilization begun through the recent Urban Wilds Initiative pilot project. Maintain selected “get-down” areas where fishing enthusiasts and others can get down to the water’s edge without disturbing the wetland shoreline edge plantings.
- Work with the MDC to investigate the feasibility of making the Chestnut Hill Reservoir a more accessible resource at the water’s edge. Determine if there can be at least a segment of the shoreline where people can approach the water’s edge within the context of a supervised, programmed use.
- Maintain the integrity of the landscape surrounding the historic Chestnut Hill pump stations. Make this a key requirement in Requests for Proposals issued for redevelopment of the site.
- Create an Outreach Partners program parallel to the Park Partners program to stimulate community recreational activities on non-publicly owned land. Encourage and assist universities and other institutions, developers, and businesses in planning and implementing recreational programming, maintenance, and capital projects. Offer technical assistance regarding planning and design for development that protects existing open space or creates new neighborhood park facilities.
- Support new community-based Park Partner programs using Oak Square as a model.
- Encourage the MDC’s creation of a new 15-acre park for the Brighton area called for in the Charles River Reservation master plan.

Community Priorities

- Provide more ball fields and practice areas, additional dedicated soccer fields and practice areas, and additional play areas for young children.
- Continue to utilize the Park Department’s Open Space Acquisition Program to examine, and if found suitable, acquire new open spaces in the community to complement existing resources. Support acquisitions of urban wilds and natural areas to preserve nature in this densely populated neighborhood.

- Safeguard the city’s ongoing capital improvements in neighborhood parks with adequate maintenance and supplement city maintenance capabilities with community and institutional assistance as needed.
- Move forward with plans to replace the Ringer Park play area with a safer and ADA compliant facility. Clear out and clean up the backside of the hill.
- Renovate the children’s play lots at McKinney, Hooker/Sorrento, Hobart, and Penniman/Hano. Rehabilitate the ball field and resurface the basketball court at Penniman/Hano.
- Complete capital rehabilitation of Portsmouth Street Playground with ball field renovation, irrigation system, and fencing.
- Provide more passive park amenities along Commonwealth Avenue as part of a general Commonwealth Avenue redevelopment effort. Remove dead trees and replant with new, hardier trees. Have the MDC maintain plantings on the traffic island near Boston College.
- Maintain the area of the running path at Chestnut Hill Reservoir in good condition, focusing especially on public safety and visibility.
- Preserve the landscaping around the two Chestnut Hill pumping stations, regardless of their final uses.
- Provide more community gardens while working with such organizations as Garden Futures for the training of gardeners and supply of critical resources such as water, compost, and trash removal.
- Coordinate efforts between the community, the ParkARTS Program, and the Boston Art Commission regarding appropriate installation and care of public art in parks.
- In the face of increased dog ownership, expand enforcement and signage to regulate the use of dogs in parks and playgrounds. Increase public awareness of water quality impacts on the Charles from stormwater contaminated by dog waste.
- Coordinate maintenance of the improved streetscape on Brighton Avenue/Cambridge Street/Washington Street between the Parks and Recreation Department and the Public Works Department to insure its aesthetic and community economic development values.
- Support community efforts, such as that of the Chandler Pond Preservation Society, to limit Canada Goose visitation of Chandler Pond as one means to improve water quality.



Hobart Playground



Cassidy Playground

FACILITIES

ALLSTON-BRIGHTON

Parks, Playgrounds & Athletic Fields

Site Name	Acreage	P	Ownership	BB	SB	LL	FB	SC	BK	TN	SH	PL	WS	CS	CR	FH	FN	HB	HS	LC	PA	PK	RG	VB	AR	CG	NT	Other	
Boston College Athletic Fields	9.71		Private																										
Boston University																													
Ball Diamond	1.67		Private																										
Boyden Park	1.90	●	MDC									1																	
Cassidy Playground	9.44	●	Parks	1	2		1		2												1	1		1					
Chandler Pond (Gallagher Memorial Park)	18.88	●	Parks																		1								Path
Commonwealth Avenue Mall	5.80	●	Parks																						1				
Fidelis Way Park	5.06	●	Parks						2		1	1									1								
Hardiman Playground	1.48	●	Parks			1			1		1																		
Hobart Park	0.83	●	Parks						1		1	1									1								
Hooker Street Playground	1.00	●	Parks									1	1								1								
Joyce Playground	1.31	●	Parks						1		1	1									1								
McKinney Playground	5.94	●	Parks	1	1	1			1		1	1									1								
Nickerson Field (Boston University)	6.34		Private																										
Penniman Road Play Area	0.76	●	Parks						1		1										1								
Portsmouth Street Playground	4.29	●	Parks	1	1				1		1																		
Reilly Playground	6.85	●	MDC																										Rink, Pool, Path
Ringer Playground	12.38	●	Parks			1			2	2	1										1								
Rogers Park	8.20	●	Parks	1	1		1	1	2	2	1											1							
Shubow Park	0.73	●	Parks									1									1								
Smith Playground	14.00	●	Parks	1	2	2	2	2	2		1	1									1	1		1					
Soldiers Field (Harvard University)	61.87		Private																										

Parkways, Reservations & Beaches

Site Name	Acreage	P	Ownership	BB	SB	LL	FB	SC	BK	TN	SH	PL	WS	CS	CR	FH	FN	HB	HS	LC	PA	PK	RG	VB	AR	CG	NT	Other	
Charles River Reservation	92.85	●	MDC		1		1	1				1	1									6		1					Rink, Pool, Boat Landing, Ped/Bike Path, Public Theater, Community Rowing
Chestnut Hill Reservoir	116.10	●	MDC										1																Ped Path
Leo M. Birmingham Parkway	6.97	●	MDC																			1							

Malls, Squares & Plazas

Site Name	Acreage	P	Ownership	BB	SB	LL	FB	SC	BK	TN	SH	PL	WS	CS	CR	FH	FN	HB	HS	LC	PA	PK	RG	VB	AR	CG	NT	Other	
Brighton Square	0.51	•	Parks																										
Commonwealth Plaza	0.16		MTA																										
Cunningham Park	0.18	•	Parks																										
Fern Square	0.04	•	Parks																										
Jackson Square	0.12	•	Parks																										
Oak Square	0.27	•	Parks																										
Public Grounds	0.50		COB																										
Wilson Park	0.10		COB/PWD																										

Cemeteries & Burying Grounds

Site Name	Acreage	P	Ownership	BB	SB	LL	FB	SC	BK	TN	SH	PL	WS	CS	CR	FH	FN	HB	HS	LC	PA	PK	RG	VB	AR	CG	NT	Other	
Evergreen Cemetery	13.88	•	Parks																										
Market Street Burying Ground	0.41	•	Parks																										

Community Gardens

Site Name	Acreage	P	Ownership	BB	SB	LL	FB	SC	BK	TN	SH	PL	WS	CS	CR	FH	FN	HB	HS	LC	PA	PK	RG	VB	AR	CG	NT	Other	
Charles River Community Garden	0.33	•	MDC																										
Chestnut Hill Reservoir Garden	0.11	•	MDC																										
Christian Herter Garden	0.50	•	MDC																										
Penniman Road Garden	0.17	•	Parks																										

Urban Wilds & Natural Areas

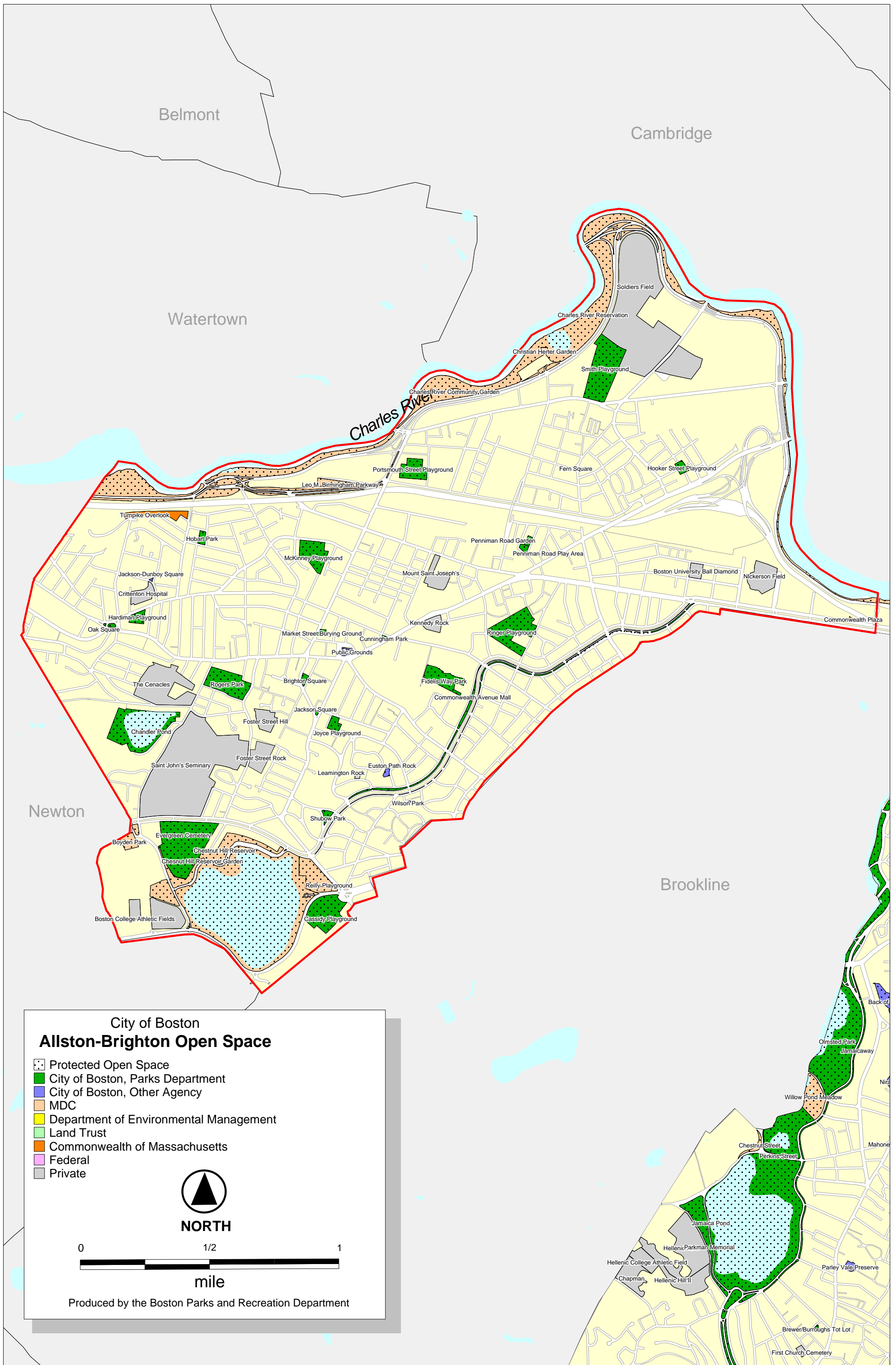
Site Name	Acreage	P	Ownership	BB	SB	LL	FB	SC	BK	TN	SH	PL	WS	CS	CR	FH	FN	HB	HS	LC	PA	PK	RG	VB	AR	CG	NT	Other	
The Cenacles	17.50		Private																										
Crittenton Hospital Urban Wild	2.92		Private																										
Euston Path Rock	0.39	•	BCC																										
Foster Street Rock	3.40		Private																										
Kennedy Rock	2.20		Private																										
Leamington Rock	0.18		Private																										
Mt. St. Joseph's Fields	4.19		Private																										
St. John's Seminary Campus	42.25		Private																										
Turnpike Overlook	2.93		MTA																										



Hobart Park

Legend

P Protected	TN Tennis Court	FN Fountain	VB Volleyball Area
BB Baseball Field	SH Street Hockey	HB Handball	AR Artwork/Monuments
SB Softball Field	PL Children's Play Lot	HS Horseshoes	CG Community Garden
LL Little League Field	WS Water Spray Feature	LC Lacrosse	NT Nature Trail
FB Football Field	CS Concessions	PA Passive Area	
SC Soccer Field	CR Cricket Field	PK Parking Area	
BK Basketball Court	FH Field House	RG Rugby Field	



Belmont

Cambridge










Watertown

Charles River

Newton

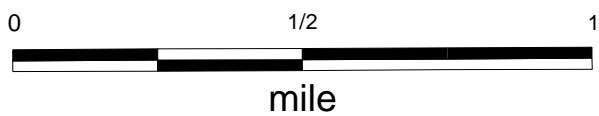
Brookline

**City of Boston
Allston-Brighton Open Space**

-  Protected Open Space
-  City of Boston, Parks Department
-  City of Boston, Other Agency
-  MDC
-  Department of Environmental Management
-  Land Trust
-  Commonwealth of Massachusetts
-  Federal
-  Private



NORTH



Produced by the Boston Parks and Recreation Department