

FPC recommendations regarding White Stadium and the City's response

During February 20 – March 8, 2024, [Franklin Park Coalition](#) (FPC) conducted a community survey of over 700 people to learn more about park users' attitudes regarding the White Stadium project. The methods and findings of the survey were presented in a public "report back" on March 19, 2024, and the report is posted [here](#).

Based on the survey responses, FPC's Board of Directors identified a series of concrete recommendations for how to improve the BPS/BUSP proposal to better meet the needs of park users and address concerns about the project. These recommendations – 57 discrete recommendations across 9 categories – were based on FPC's analysis of the survey data, information gleaned from the City's public meetings, public discussion of the proposal, the written proposal plans, and engagement with park advocates and neighborhood groups.

On March 25, 2024, FPC shared these recommendations with the City and in the subsequent weeks met with officials in the Mayor's Office policy team, Department of Parks and Recreation, and Boston Planning and Development Agency. The tables below provide a summary of the recommendations and the City's response. "Yes" means that the City has already addressed these recommendations in their plans. "Happy to explore" are areas where the City has expressed enthusiasm for the idea. "Let's discuss" are areas where the City's current plans do not precisely align with the recommendation. A detailed list of the recommendations is available upon request.

1. TABULATION OF CITY RESPONSES TO FPC RECOMMENDATIONS

	"Yes"	"Happy to explore"	"Let's discuss"	TOTAL
Traffic and Parking	8	4	3	15
Impact on Existing Park Activities	2	1	0	3
Investment in Park and Action Plan	4	1	2	7
Public Access & Community Use	8	1	1	10
Green Space Preservation	4	0	2	6
Noise, Light, Litter, Disruption	4	0	0	4
Equity, Inclusion, Justice	3	2	0	5
Governance & Community Oversight	3	0	0	3
Transparency & Community Engagement	4	0	0	4
TOTAL	40	9	8	57

2. SUMMARY OF CITY’S RESPONSES TO FPC RECOMMENDATIONS

CATEGORY	AREAS OF ALIGNMENT	OUTSTANDING CONCERNS
Traffic and Parking	City has been very responsive and has made provision to adapt as issues are identified.	We would like to see complete exclusion of shuttles from the park.
Impact on Existing Park Activities	Scheduling prioritizes existing major park events and BPS games.	Need stronger commitments around limits on daytime scheduling.
Investment in Park and Action Plan	City's new design process has prioritized integration and alignment with the FPAP	Still need clear commitments around leveraging the stadium to raise funds to support the park
Public Access & Community Use	Community access to stadium will increase <u>dramatically</u> with this project; city has committed to community-led activities (e.g. cultural events) and no commercial events	City's RFP allows for selling naming rights to the stadium, which we believe would not be in the spirit of the park as a public asset.
Green Space Preservation	City has engaged in careful planning and investment in landscaping, tree planting, and limiting paving	Massing of East Grandstand has been substantially reduced, but BPS facilities could be further reduced from a park perspective
Noise, Light, Litter, Disruption	Documented commitments to limit amplified music, fake noise; directional lighting; post-event clean-up.	We have not yet reviewed the details of these commitments.
Equity, Inclusion, Justice	Commitments to employ people from local communities and contract with MWBE; opportunities for events initiated by community groups;	Continued community engagement is needed; the City has done much better with this, but more is needed.
Governance & Community Oversight	The Stadium will NOT BE PRIVATIZED; it will remain a public facility under the control of BPS. City to establish park-wide governance structures and a stadium-specific community governance group.	City's commitments are spread out over a number of MOUs and legal agreements, which the City has started to document (some are in progress); we will need assistance reviewing this documentation.
Transparency & Community Engagement	City has been very responsive in revising the proposal. Their "rebooted" community engagement includes translation in 3 languages, outreach to neighborhood groups, and a slate of public meetings on transportation and design.	We will continue to work with the City to ensure the White Stadium project uplifts Franklin Park, protects existing park uses, and advances the Franklin Park Action Plan.
