

Park Pavilion

Providence Innovation District Park

Commission Meeting
August 17th, 2022

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1.

ARO Background & Process

ARO Background: Who We Are



ARO Background: Project Team



Kim Yao
FAIA, Principal



Adam Yarinsky
FAIA LEED AP, Principal



Kai Pedersen
AIA, Project Director



Daniel Kuehn
Project Manager

ARO Background: Relevant Experience



River Center, Kayak Pavilion, and Shade Structures, Beacon, NY



Union Square Pavilion Expansion, New York, NY

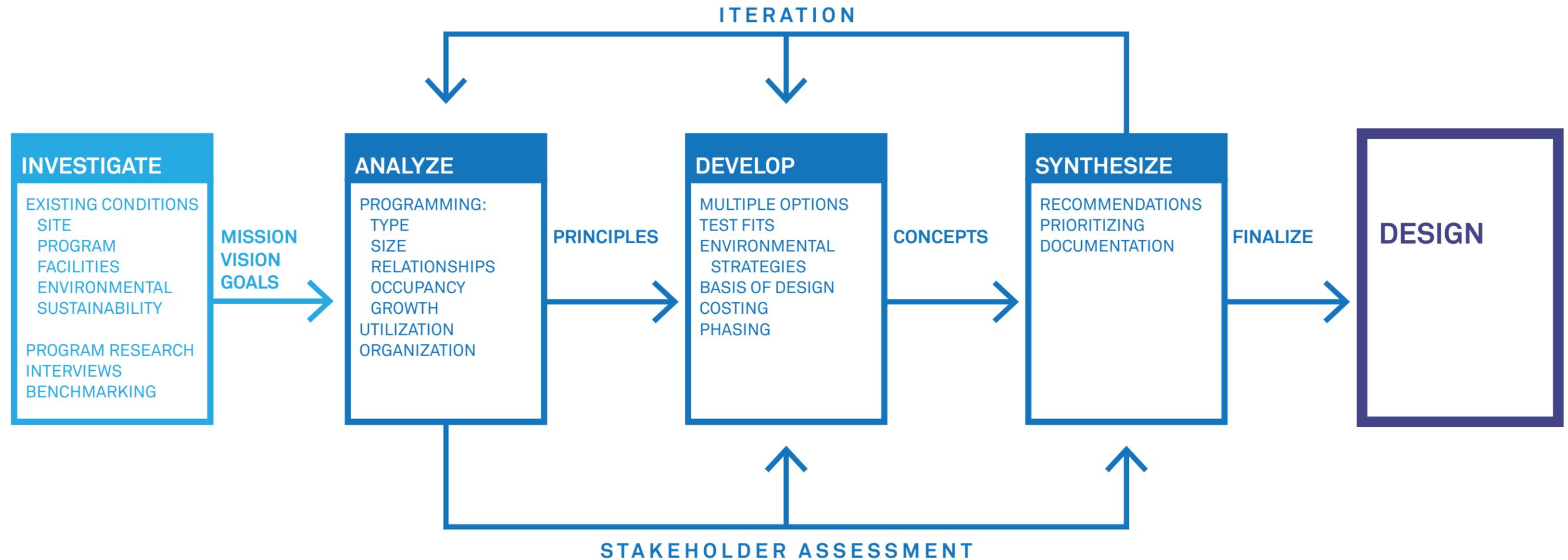


Boathouse, Maintenance + Operations Building, Brooklyn, NY

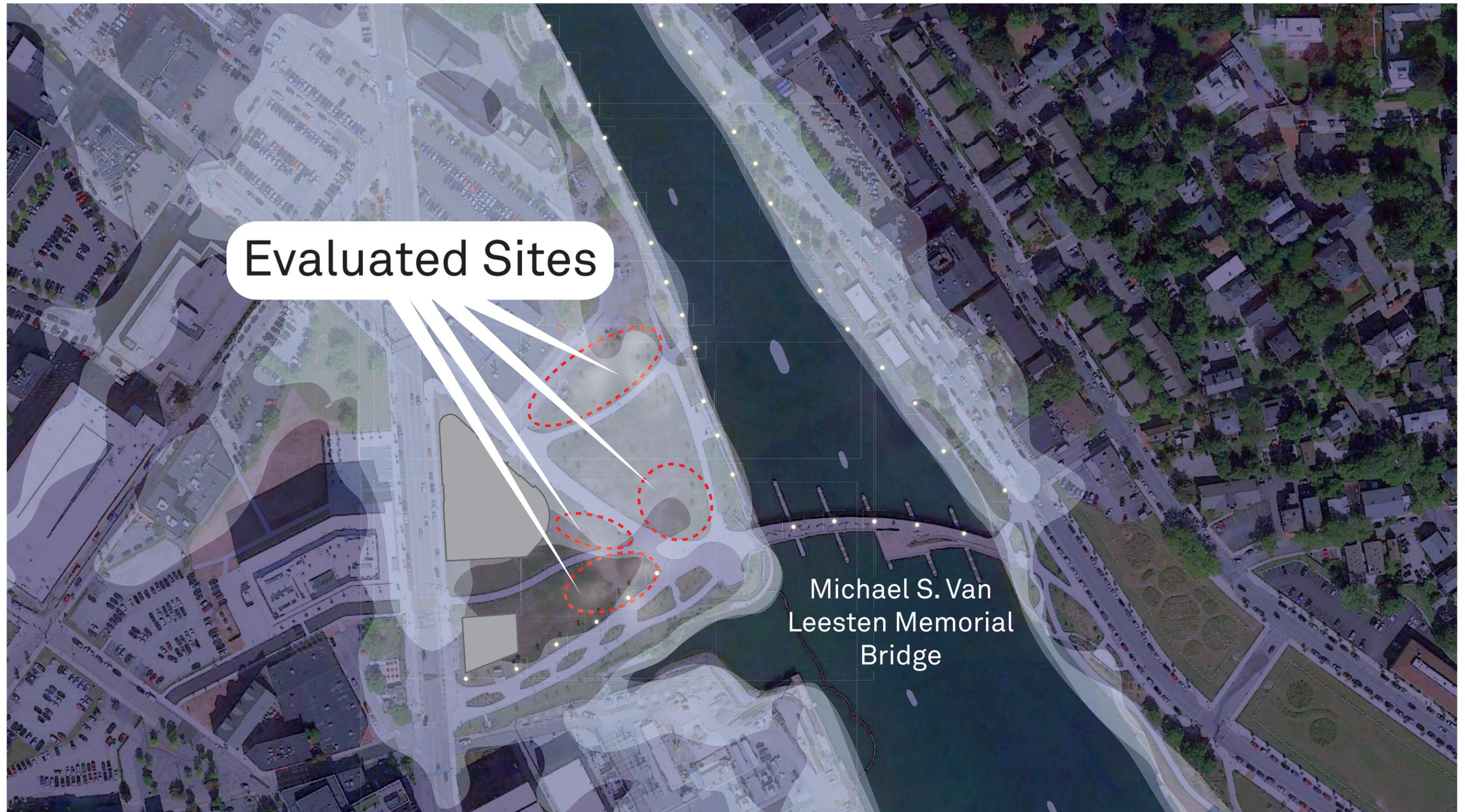


Flatbush Gateway, Entry Building, Dining Kiosk, and Event Space, Brooklyn, NY

Pre-Design Process: Framework for Project Goals



Providence Innovation District Park Pavilion: Site Evaluation



Michael S. Van
Leesten Memorial
Bridge

2.

Community Engagement

Community Engagement Event

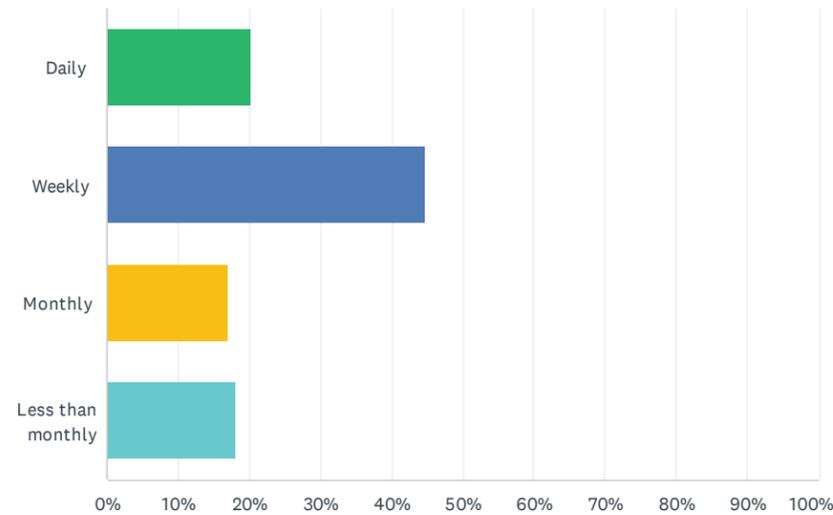
- The I-195 Redevelopment District and Architecture Research Office (ARO) hosted a public event in the western portion of Innovation District Park on June 16th, 2022.
- The event included park maps with interactive activities, hard copy surveys and links to online survey material, and conversations with community members and passersby.
- Approximately 40 community members participated in the interactive activities and engaged in conversations with members of the District and ARO.
- Approximately 110 community members responded to the physical and virtual surveys.

Providence Innovation District Park Pavilion: Community Engagement Event - June 16th, 2022

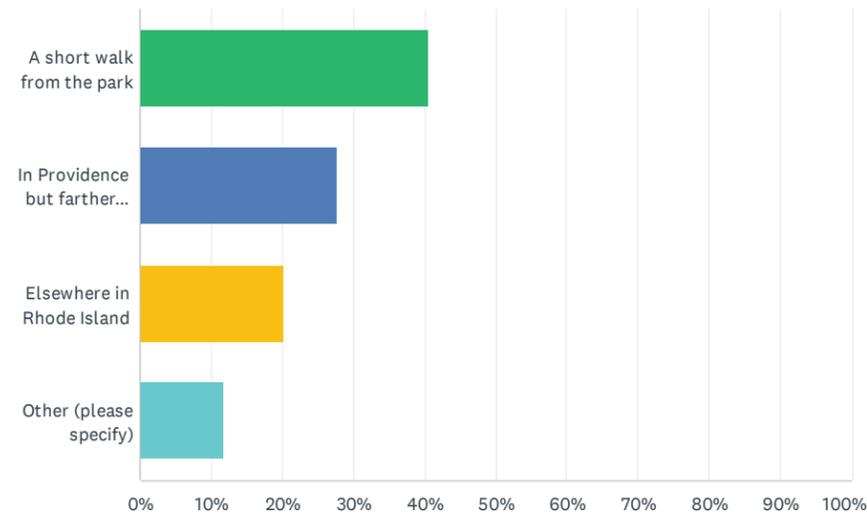


Providence Innovation District Park Pavilion: Community Survey

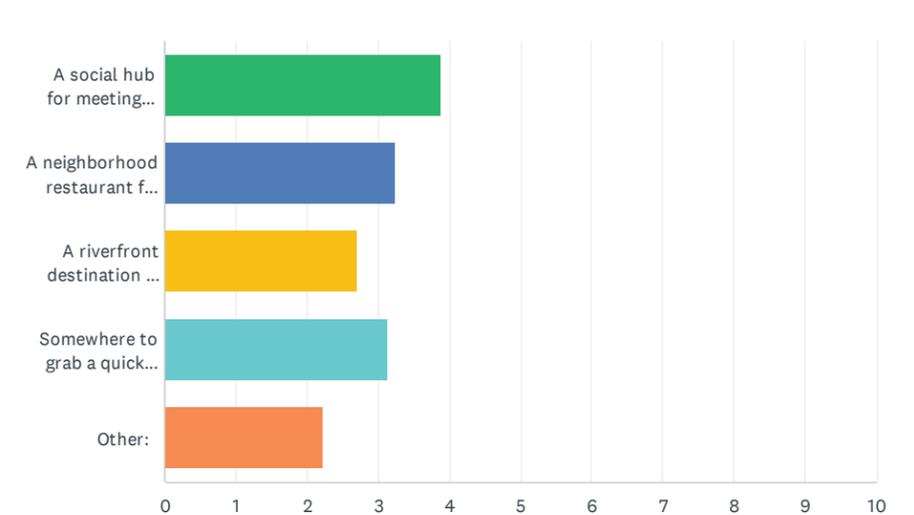
What best describes how often you visit the park?



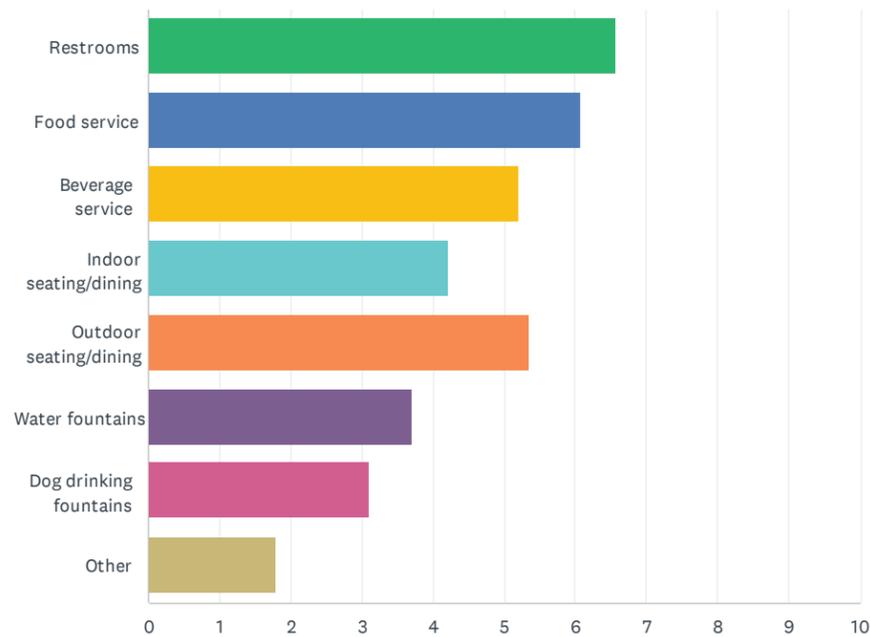
How close do you live to the park?



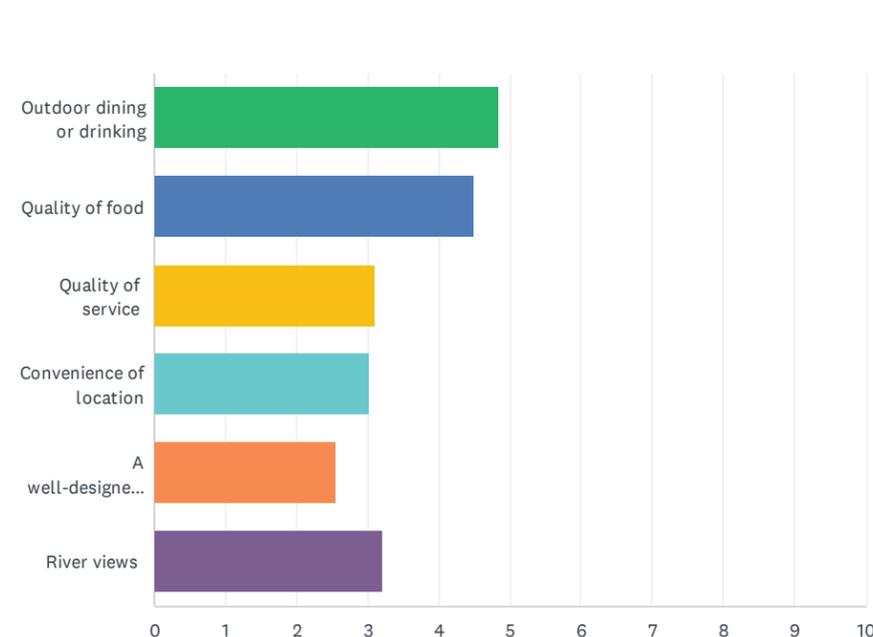
When thinking about eating or drinking in the park, do you envision...(Rank 1-5, with 1 being most important)



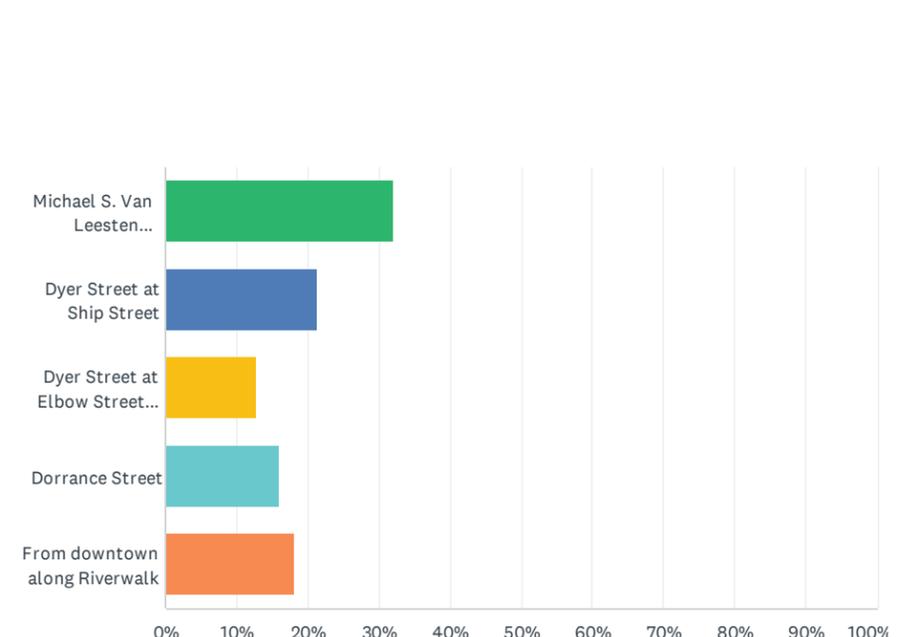
How important are the following potential features of the new building? (Rank from 1-8 with 1 being most important)



What would be the biggest factors that would attract you to the park's restaurant? (Rank 1-6 with 1 being most important)



When I visit the West side of the park, I typically enter from?

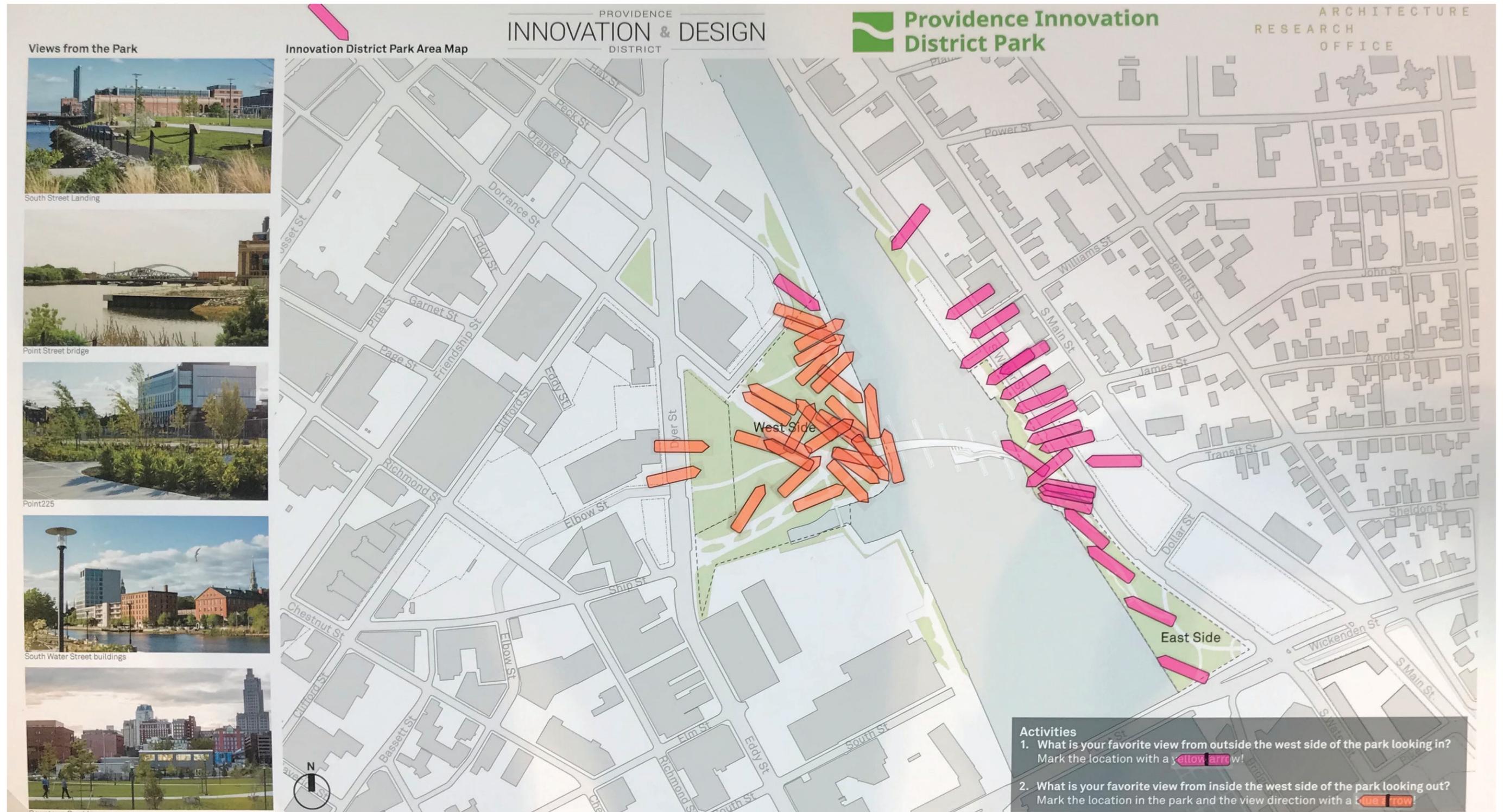


This is only a sample of questions and responses. The district collected information not only relevant to the Pavilion, but for future park programming as well. Survey results will be summarized and shared by the district separately.

Community Survey Summary

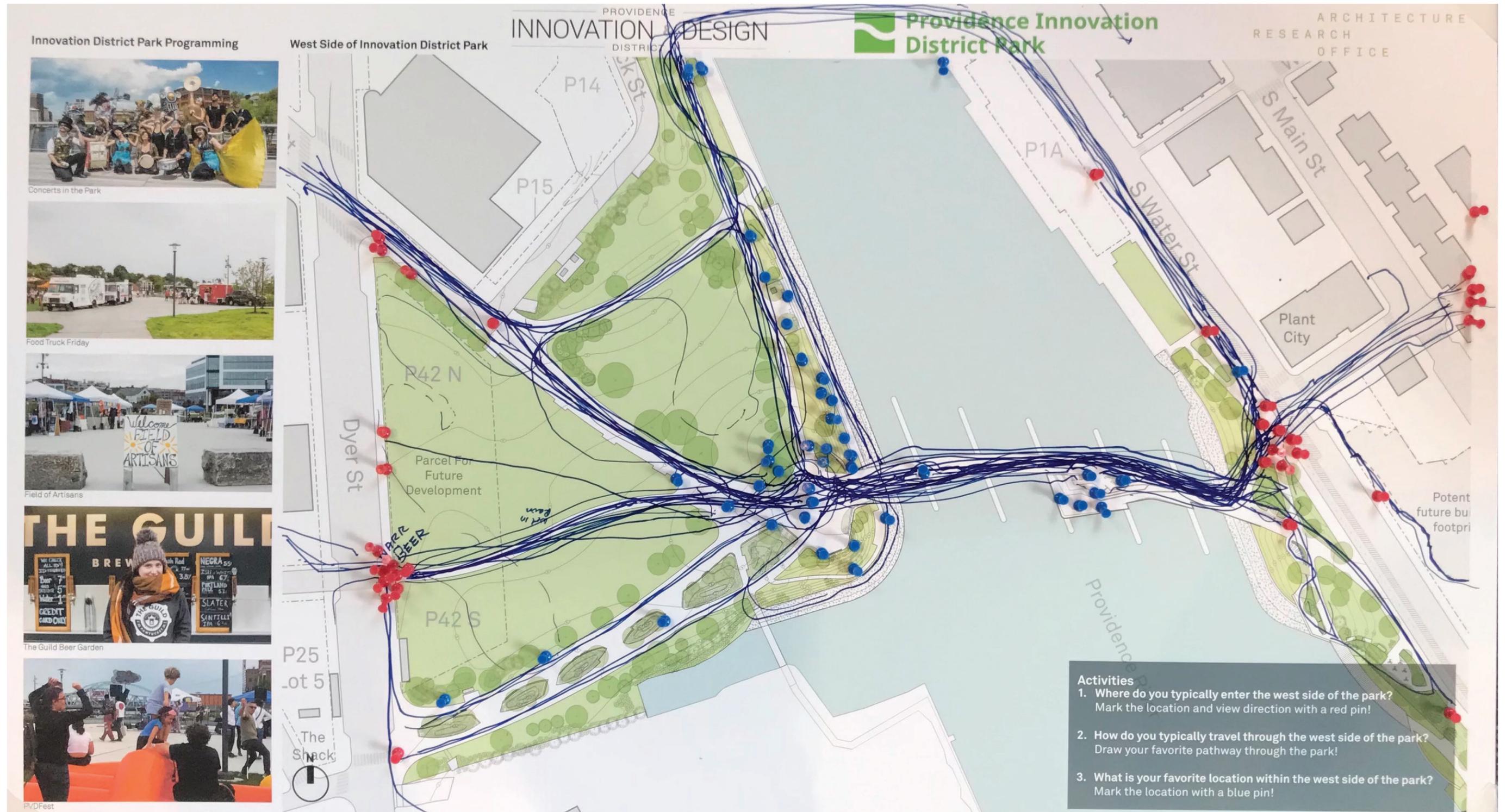
- 60% of people surveyed **walk to the park** and 40% **live a short walk away**.
- 55% of people surveyed enter from the **Michael S. Van Leesten Memorial Bridge** and **Dyer St. at Ship St.**
- 40% people surveyed **visit the park for 30 minutes to an hour**.
- Favorite activities are to **relax, exercise**, and to **eat & drink in the park**.
- 85% of people surveyed believe that a **food & drink facility** will lengthen their stay in the park.
- 60% of people surveyed believe that **park restrooms** will lengthen their stay in the park.
- Most people view **restrooms, food & service, and outdoor dining** as the most important features for a new park building.
- The most important attractions to a park restaurant would be **outdoor dining and drinking**, as well as a **social hub for meeting friends and coworkers**.

Community Engagement: Site Views



This activity map prompted participants to indicate their favorite views into and out of the park. Favorite views into the park were from the park's east side and South Water Street. Favorite views out of the park were primarily of the Providence River, the river bridges, and waterfront; Downtown; College Hill; and the East Side of Innovation District Park. No views in to or out of the Jewelry District were noted.

Community Engagement: Circulation



This activity map prompted participants to indicate their most commonly used entrance into the park, their most commonly used pathway through the park, and their favorite location in the existing park. The activity and supporting survey responses found Elbow and Ship Streets to be the most common western entrances. Favorite park locations trended towards the edges of the park, primarily the waterfront, whereas the expanse of the western lawns of the park were largely utilized.

Activity Boards Summary (1)

- Favorite views into the park were from the park's east side and South Water Street.
- Favorite views out of the park were: Providence River, the river bridges, and waterfront; Downtown; College Hill; and the East Side of Innovation District Park. No views into or out of the Jewelry District were noted.
- The activity and supporting survey responses found Elbow and Ship Streets to be the most common western entrances in to the park.
- Favorite park locations trended towards the edges of the park, primarily the waterfront, whereas the expanse of the western lawns of the park were largely found to be unutilized.
- The southern promenade of the park appears to be underutilized, suggesting that activation of the southern promenade could be encouraged by future development.

Providence Innovation District Park Pavilion: Community Feedback

Pavilions in Other Cities:



Brooklyn Bridge Park, Brooklyn



Madison Square Park, New York



Domino Park, Brooklyn



Logan Square Park, Philadelphia



Pier 26, New York

PROVIDENCE INNOVATION & DESIGN DISTRICT

Providence Innovation District Park

ARCHITECTURE RESEARCH OFFICE

Pavilions in Other Cities: I C E



Rice University, Houston



Space Farms, New Canaan



Shelby Farms, Memphis



Pier 26, New York



Pier 26, New York

Community Feedback Sticky Notes:

- TRANSPARENT!
- Bring the outside IN with walls that pivot or retract.
- OPEN (garage doors, in + outdoors) GLASS
- Lots of (native) plants
- POROUS! (PARK PROGRAM)
- No chain foods
- flexible indistrusive storage well-maintained year-round
- Interior is a flex space - interesting and occupiable even when not in use as food service.
- lots of good seating areas
- accessible to all of Providence's residents
- light-filled incorporates natural world (sunflowers + lavender) - usable in winter
- flexible indistrusive storage well-maintained year-round
- Modular well-situated affordable
- FLEXIBLE OPTIONS
- Blue history environment connect to water
- Handicap Accessible
- Low profile like this!
- Healthy Not precious locally owned affordable culturally diverse
- NO QR CODES! PEOPLE!!
- OPEN
- BEES
- LOCAL!!!
- Beating Vistas
- green roof!
- Flexible Plan
- Lots of glass!!
- A PLACE THAT'S BEING USED
- Light open, dessert
- Windows on the river for wintertime!
- removed from the bridge to help draw people into the park
- Bringing back the Sunflower patch or a small community garden Next to it
- INDOOR / OUTDOOR
- Igloos in winter! Open concept w/ grass -> not much winter strong lights
- open air Save our sunflower garden plants + trees dog friendly picnic tables water views
- The building should be open year round and feel like it adds to the open space storage space should be incorporated!
- and drink a variety of beer-free laces to sit where people can meet with other pick friendly food + activities
- Structures that reflect the history of Providence AND the ocean

Activity:

1. What words do you hope will describe the future food and beverage pavilion in the West Side of Innovation District Park? Use the stickies to share words that describe the pavilion in the space above! (examples: light filled, inviting, flexible, intimate, accessible, sustainable, open, etc...also, see examples of pavilions in other cities to the left and right)

This activity map prompted participants to add sticky notes with words and ideas that they hope would describe the future park pavilion. Images of pavilions from around the country were included as ways to discuss ideas, approaches, and possibilities. A summary is included on the subsequent pages.

Providence Innovation District Park Pavilion: Feedback Summary

Proposed Building

Interior is a flexible space	Storage	Building should be minimal so the landscape prevails
Flexible plan	Low profile	Beautiful Vistas
Bring the outside IN	Well-painted	Modular
Building should add to the open space	Igloos in Winter!	Bring back the Sunflower Patch or small community garden next to it

Building Materials

Not too much concrete	Light, open	Green roof
Lots of glass	Open concept with glass	Light filled
Windows on river side for wintertime!	Transparent	

Ecology

Lots of native plants	Porous! (Farm fresh)	Connect to water
BEES	Incorporates natural world	

Historical Context

Structures that reflect the history of Providence	Blend history + environment	LOCAL!
---------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------	--------

Accessibility

Handicap accessible	Building should be open all year	Interesting and occupiable when not in use as food service
Usable in Winter	Lots of good seating areas	Accessible to all of Providence's residents
Flexible & Inclusive	Removed from the bridge to help draw people into other parts of the park	

Vendor

Variety of gluten-free food	No chain foods	Affordable
Kid friendly, food + activities	No QR codes	Places to sit where people can meet each other

Activity

1. What words do you hope will describe the future food and beverage pavilion in the West Side of Innovation District Park? (examples: light filled, inviting, flexible, intimate, accessible, sustainable, open, etc..)

Activity Board Summary (2)

- The community responded positively to the potential of a new park pavilion.
- The community prefers a building that is **light and open, porous**, providing **beautiful vistas** of the park that retains connections to the **riverside** and **water**.
- The community hopes the pavilion will be **flexible** and will support a **variety** of activities.
- The community hopes the building will harmonize with the park's landscape and **bring the outside in** while supporting activities in surrounding **open space** and incorporates park plans for **lots of native plants**.
- The community hopes the pavilion will provide many **good seating areas** that are **usable in winter** and **accessible to all of Providence's residents**.
- The community hopes the pavilion will acknowledge the **local and historical context of Providence**.
- The community hopes the pavilion is **affordable, kid friendly, and accessible**.

3.

Siting & Analysis

Existing Park



This plan depicts the park in its current configuration, including the planted trees and vegetation in the park. This plan will be adjusted in the future in response to planned programs in the park.

Proposed Park Pavilion Siting



The Providence Innovation District Park Pavilion is proposed to be sited in this central location of the park.

Park and Pavilion Views



The proposed siting of the pavilion preserves access to the Providence Riverwalk and uninterrupted views to Providence River. Additionally, the pavilion would capitalize on views out of the park, while retaining views to neighboring Providence in other parts of the park.

Circulation Network



The Park Pavilion is proposed to sit at the intersection of a number of major circulation pathways, including the Providence Citywalk and the Providence Riverwalk. The Providence Riverwalk will connect to the Jewelry District waterfront via a new pedestrian bridge on the southern edge of the park in the near future. The pavilion will function as an attractive hub at the confluence of these major spokes of circulation to attract pedestrians during all seasons.

Activation of Plaza and Park Zones



The Park Pavilion will help provide permanent pedestrian scale and program to the currently undefined western expanse of the park, while acting as a catalyst for attracting continued activity to the park's central plaza and adjacent green spaces, and preserving the north lawn for large scale events. The design of the park pavilion may also work to inform nearby development in the future.

Park Pavilion



The proposed Park Pavilion site and other planned development near the west side of Innovation District Park.

Providence Innovation District Park Photos



The Park Pavilion will help provide permanent pedestrian scale and program to the currently undefined expanse of the park, while acting as a catalyst for attracting continued activity to the park's central plaza and adjacent green spaces, and preserving the north lawn for large scale events and passive leisure near the river.

Protected View Corridors



Three protected view corridors pass through the west side of Innovation District Park. These view corridors shall be an uninterrupted physical extensions of the existing right-of-way width and geometry of Peck, Dorrance, and Ship Streets, and extend to the riverfront edge.

Flood Projections



The pavilion should be designed for longevity and respond to potential impacts of future sea level rise*, future high tides, and potential riverine flooding.

* Note: High tide water mark depicted in blue is at mean high tide in 2100 with a projected 3.86ft rise in sea level (NOAA, 2022). These projections do not incorporate operation of the Fox Point Hurricane Barrier.

Potential Development and Activity



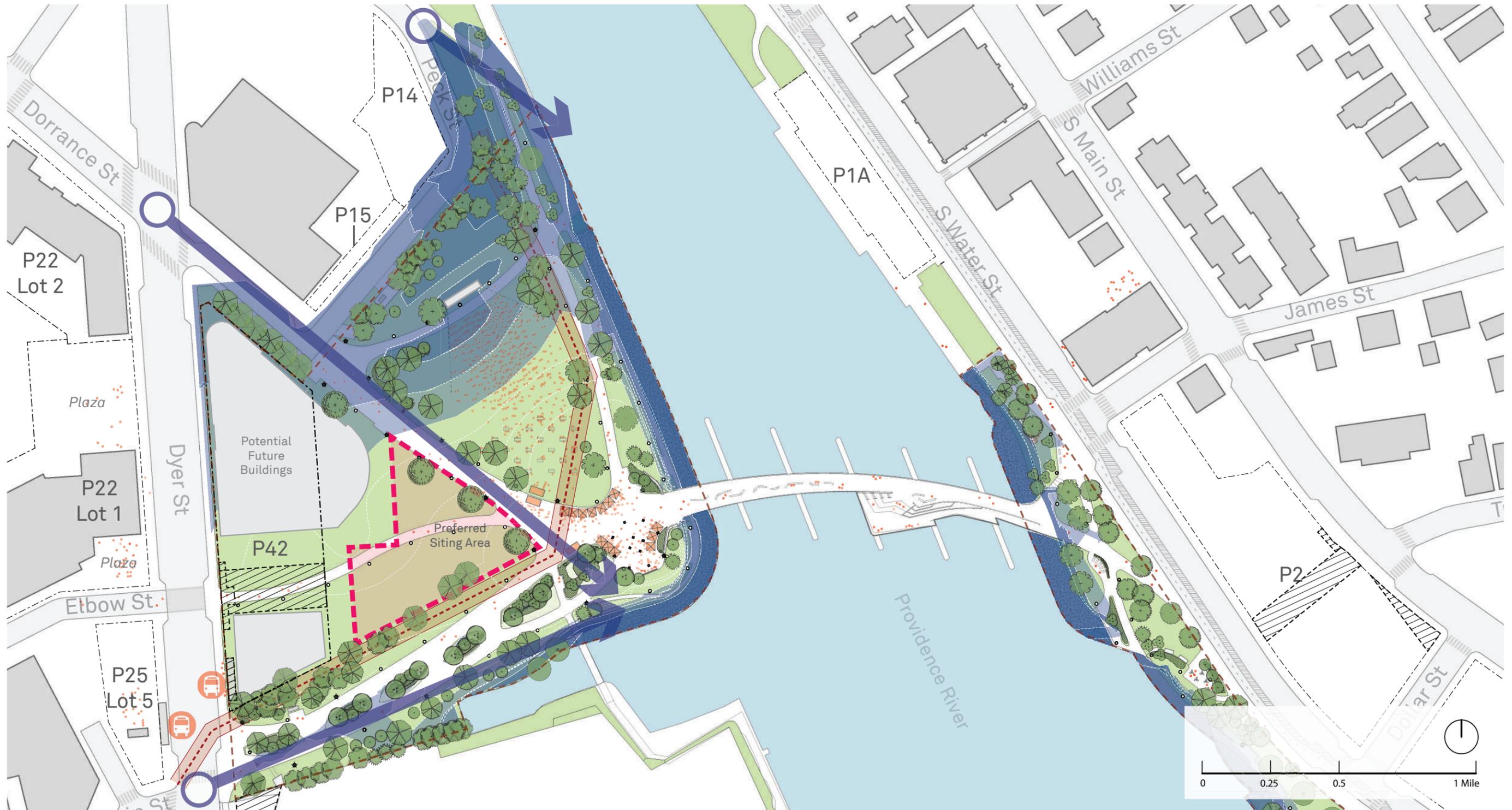
The pavilion will need to anticipate future planned development in and around the park, as well as other regularly planned activities within the park.

Subterranean Gas Service Line



All parts of the pavilion structure and roof must be five feet away from a major high-pressure gas service line running beneath the park. Relocation of this gas line would be cost prohibitive.

Preferred Building Siting Area



While there are many architectural and urban rationales for positioning the pavilion at the proposed location, a review of other factors such as: park landscape, future development, park activity, infrastructure, view corridors, and environmental conditions reassert that the area west of the park plaza is the preferred pavilion site.

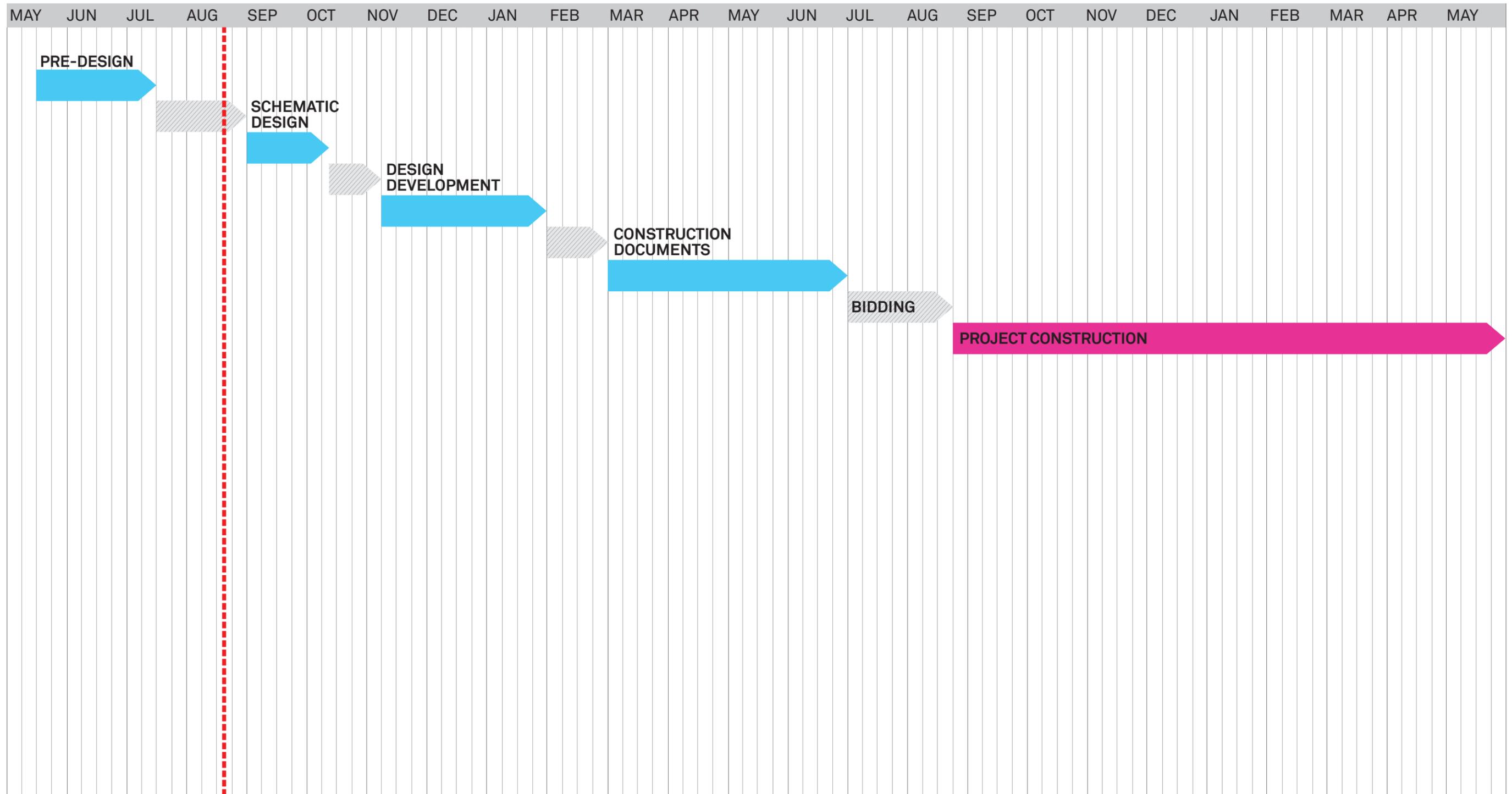
Siting Summary

- The proposed Park Pavilion siting will help provide permanent pedestrian scale and program to the currently undefined expanse of the park, while acting as a catalyst for attracting continued activity to the park's central plaza and adjacent green spaces, and preserving the north lawn for large scale events and passive leisure near the river.
- The proposed Park Pavilion siting retains access to Providence River frontage, views into and out of the park, while maximizing pavilion and park views to neighboring Providence.
- The Park Pavilion's proposed siting is at the intersection of major pedestrian pathways, embracing existing circulation routes through the park, while anticipating future expansion of the Riverwalk to the south.
- The proposed Park Pavilion siting addresses the existing configuration and activity of the park, while planning for future development and programming.
- The proposed Park Pavilion siting respects infrastructural and environmental factors incumbent on Innovation District Park.

4.

Next Steps

Project Schedule



Thank you.