

PREFERRED CONCEPT PLAN | Ecology + Adventure



Mason Park Expansion + Church/Dodge Transportation Improvements

City of Evanston, IL

12.16.24



PREFERRED CONCEPT PLAN | Ecology + Adventure



RAIN GARDENS



NUT TREE GROVE



ROCK OUTCROPPINGS



NATIVE UNDERSTORY PLANTINGS + INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE



STONE SEATING



CITY OF EVANSTON STANDARD LIGHTING



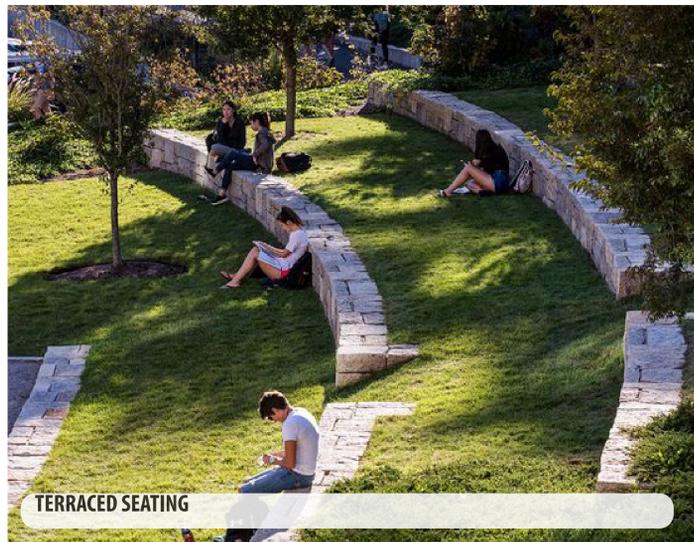
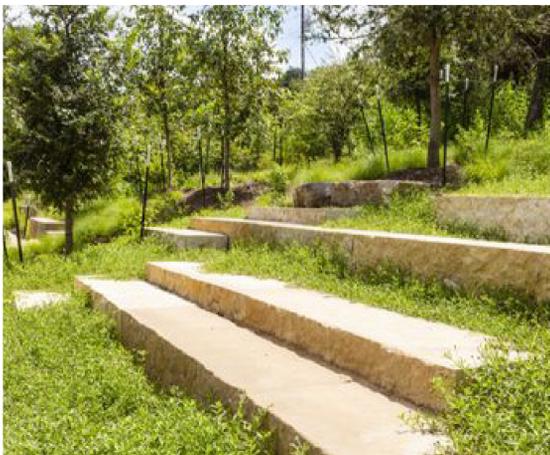
HILLSIDE PLAY, EMBANKMENT SLIDES AND CLIMBING FEATURES



HILLSIDE PLAY, EMBANKMENT SLIDES AND STEPS



MULTI-USE PATHWAY SURROUNDED BY NATIVE PLANTINGS, SIGNAGE + FURNISHINGS



TERRACED SEATING



OPPORTUNITY FOR PAINTED MURAL AT CONCRETE RETAINING WALL



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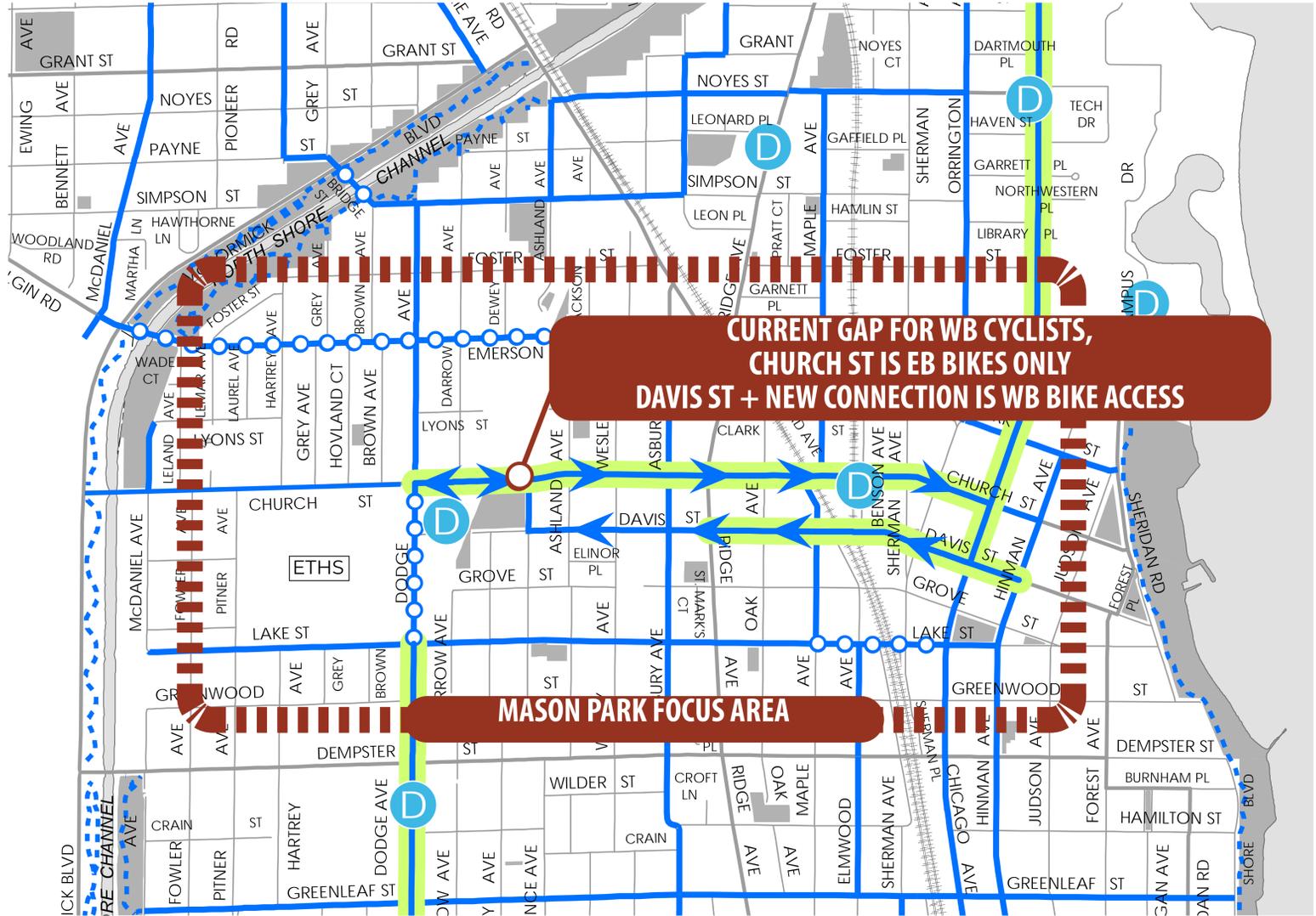


CONNECTIONS TO THE EVANSTON BIKE NETWORK

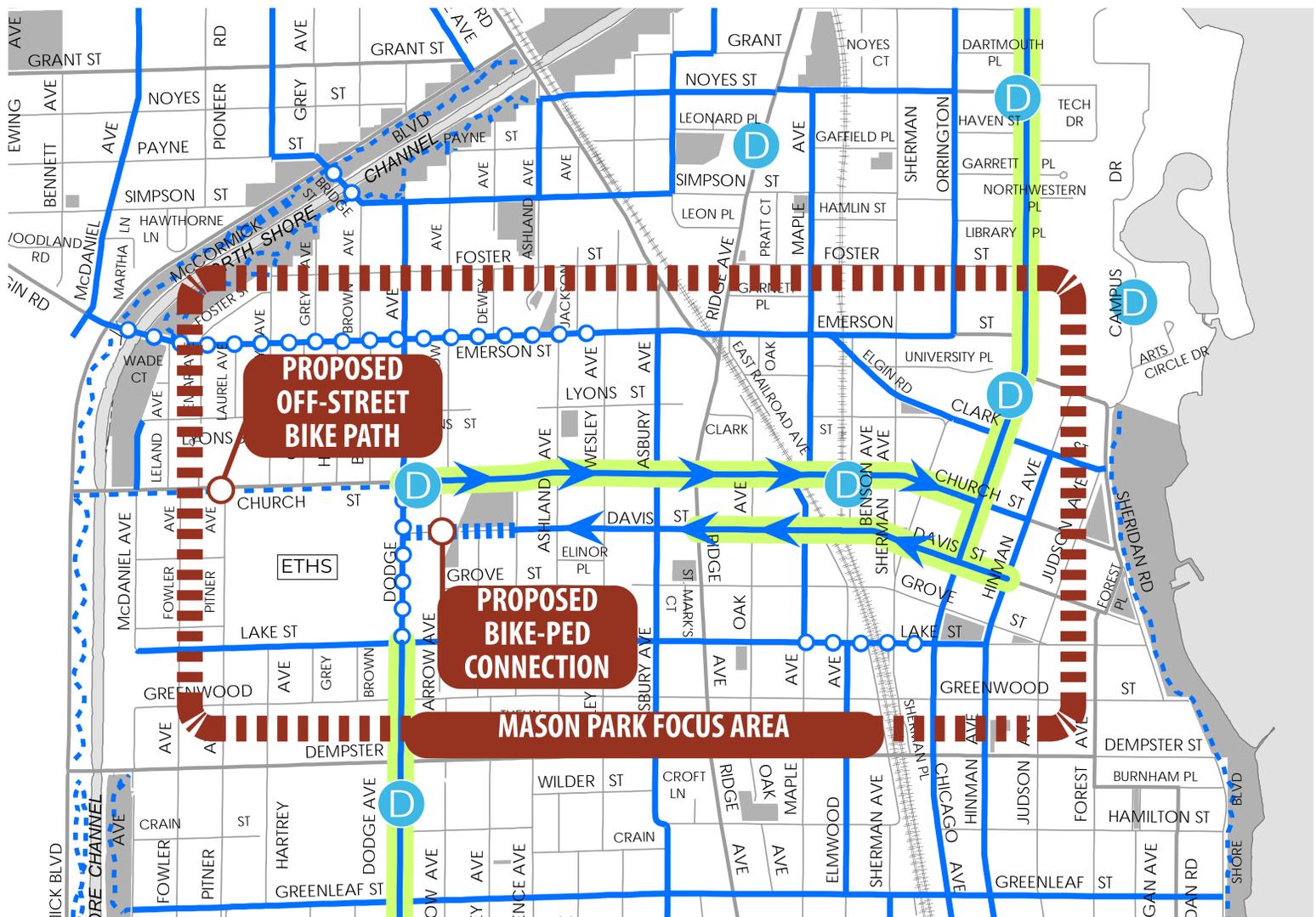
LEGEND

-  Divvy Bike Location
-  Protected Bike Lane
-  Bike Lane
-  Bike Route
-  Off-Street Bike Path
-  Main Road
-  Local Street
-  Railroad
-  Water
-  Park
-  City Boundary

EXISTING BIKE NETWORK AND GAP FOR WESTBOUND CYCLISTS ALONG CHURCH STREET

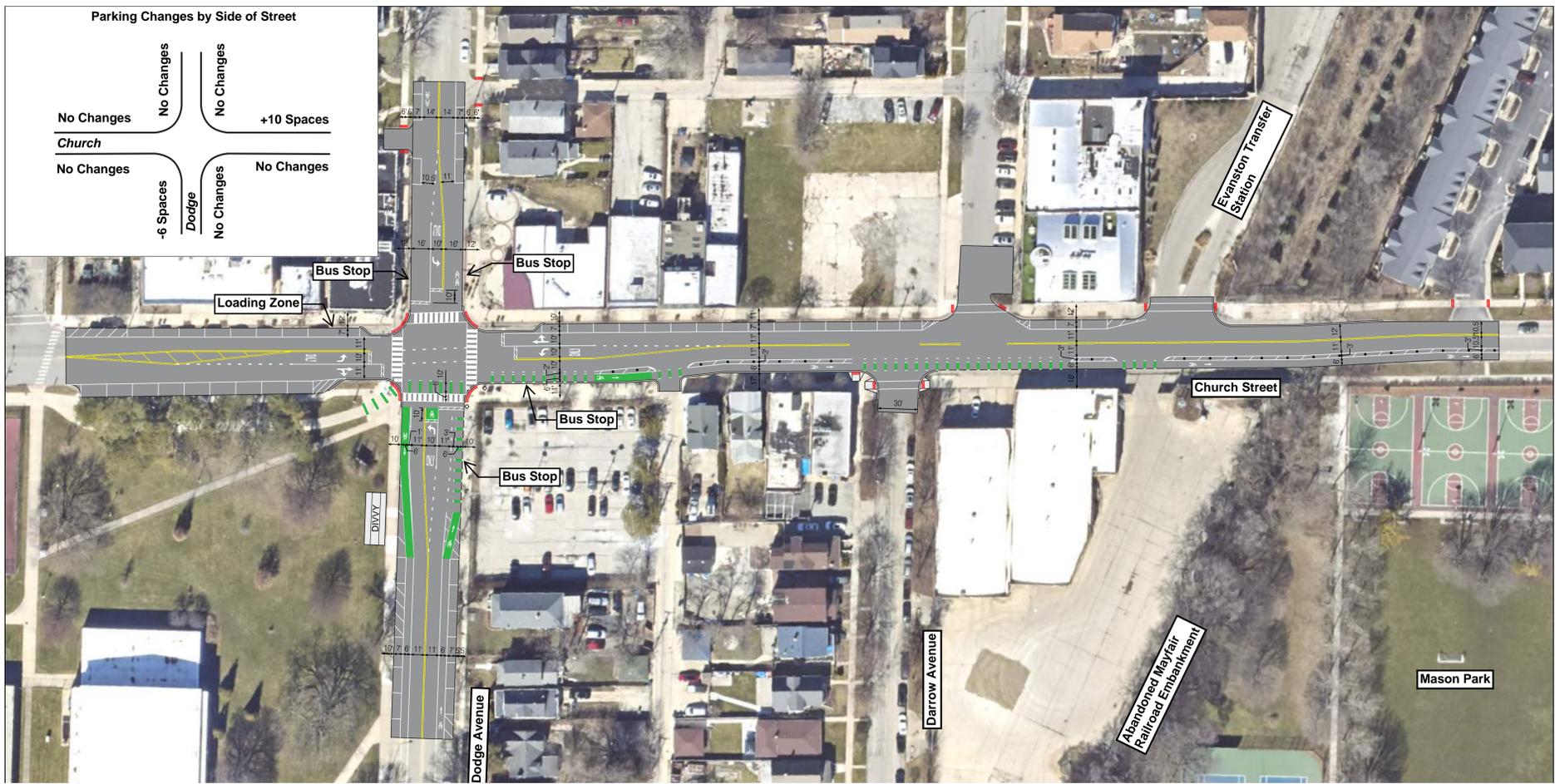


PROPOSED BIKE NETWORK IMPROVEMENTS ACCOMMODATE WESTBOUND CYCLISTS AT DAVIS STREET AND EASTBOUND CYCLISTS AT CHURCH STREET



CHURCH-DODGE INTERSECTION CONCEPT PLAN

PREFERRED CONCEPT PLAN



EXISTING CONDITIONS



SUMMARY OF COMMUNITY FEEDBACK REGARDING CHURCH + DODGE INTERSECTION

- CONCERNS**
- Flexible bollards do not provide enough protection.
 - No clear and safe way to navigate between Davis and Church Street westbound bike lanes.
 - Eastbound buses block bike lanes and car traffic.
 - Construction and reduced parking may impact businesses.
 - Concepts do not provide clear and safe bike route to and around ETHS.
 - Cost and taxpayer commitments.

- DESIRES**
- Provide dedicated left turn lanes at the intersection.
 - Provide curb protected bike lanes (similar to Sheridan Road) instead of flexible bollards.
 - Create well-connected, defined, and safe bike facilities.
 - Consider removing parking to prioritize bikes and buses and improve vehicle traffic flow.
 - Consider maintaining parking to support businesses.
 - Maintain westbound biking along Church - (Participants may not understand the westbound bike route would move to Davis St).
 - Address biker and pedestrian safety to and from ETHS.
 - Balance bike improvements with costs.

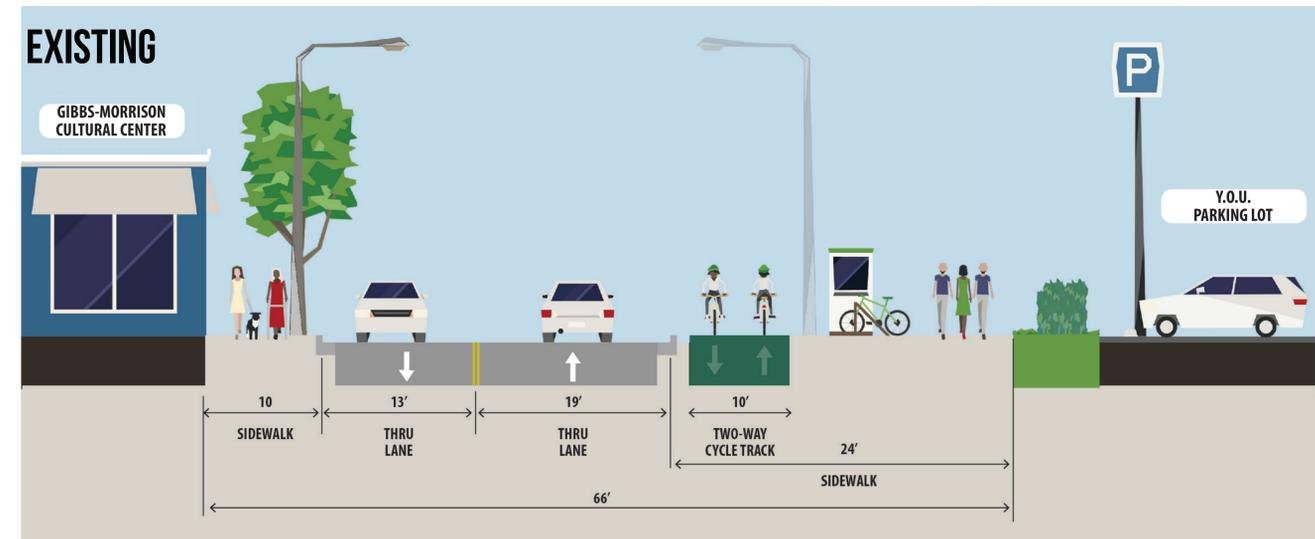
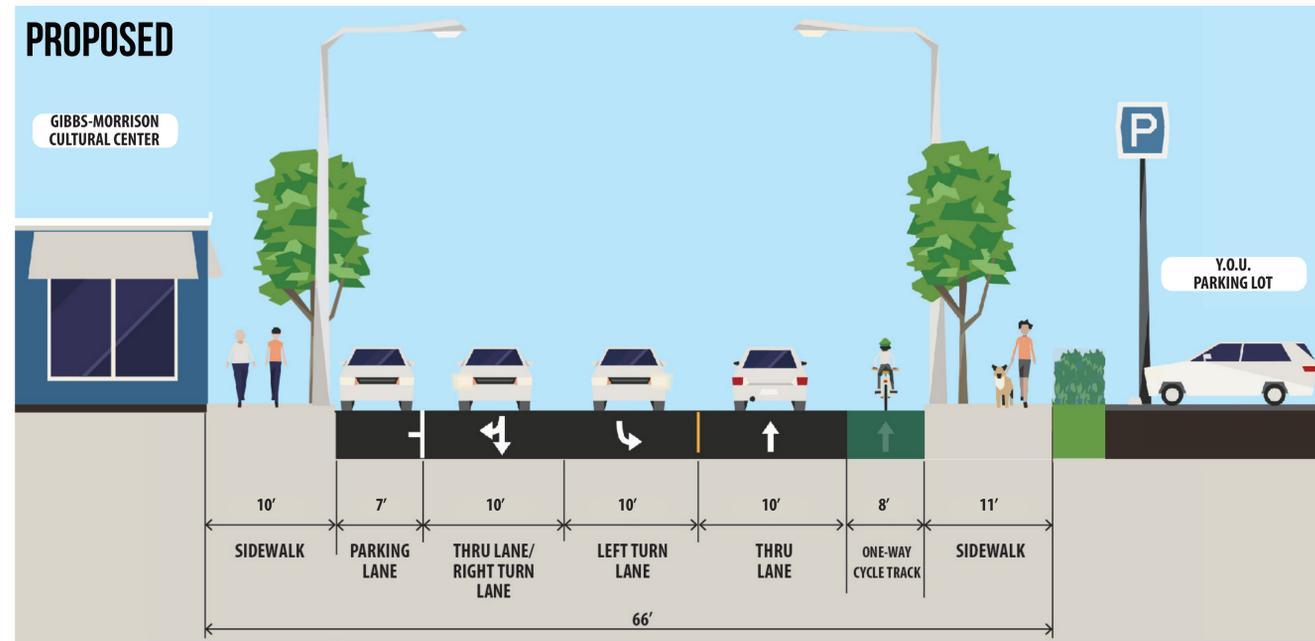


PROPOSED PROTECTED EASTBOUND BIKE LANE FOR CHURCH STREET, EAST OF DODGE AVENUE (SOUTH SIDE OF THE ROAD)



SITE SECTIONS | EXISTING + PROPOSED

SECTION 1: CHURCH STREET EAST OF DODGE AVENUE, LOOKING EAST

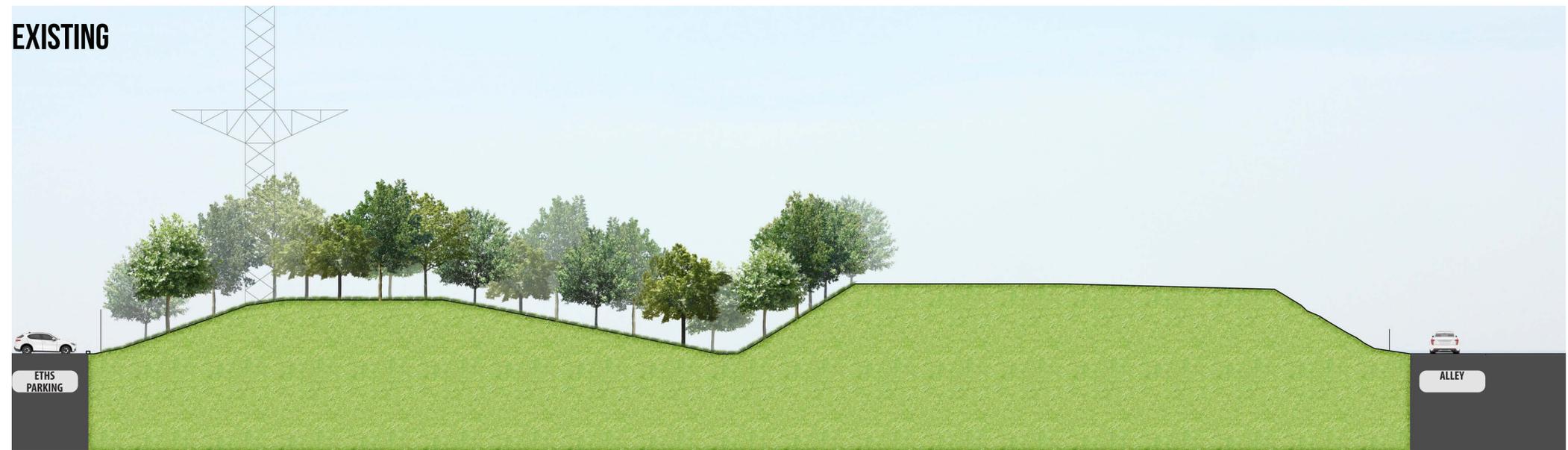


SECTION 2: EMBANKMENT BETWEEN EAST / WEST DAVIS STREET, LOOKING SOUTH

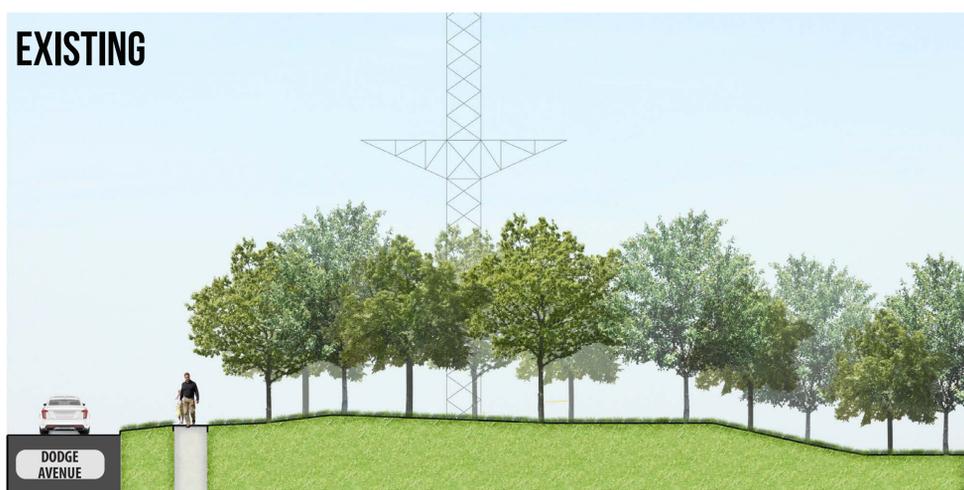


SITE SECTIONS | EXISTING + PROPOSED

SECTION 3: EMBANKMENT BETWEEN ETHS (NORTH) PARKING LOT AND MASON PARK / ALLEY (EAST), LOOKING NORTH



SECTION 4: LAKE STREET OPEN SPACE, LOOKING NORTH



PREFERRED CONCEPT PLAN | Ecology + Adventure



Birds eye view looking southwest across new Davis Street plaza to ETHS



View looking west through Davis Street plaza to ETHS



View looking east through Davis Street plaza to Mason Park and neighborhood

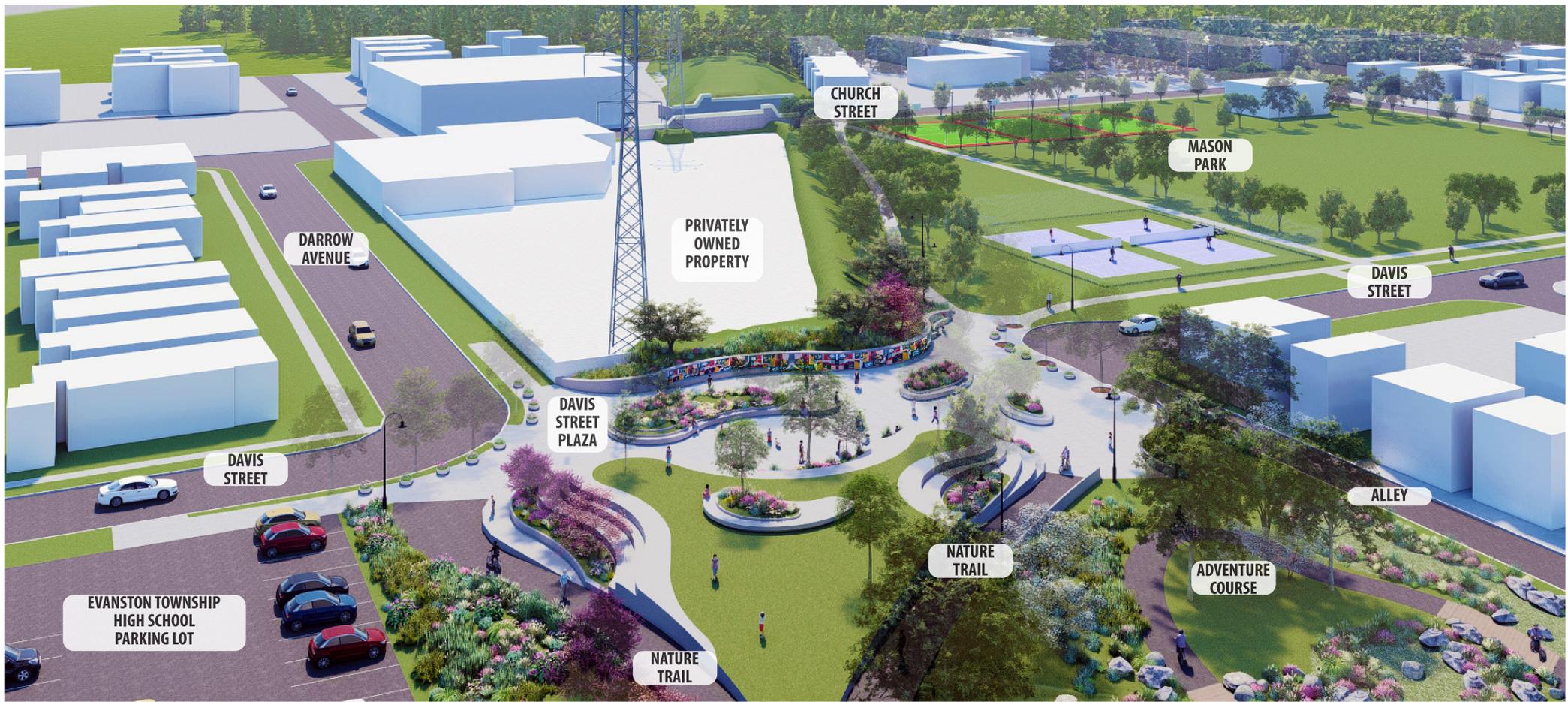


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Birds eye view looking north to the proposed nature trail, adventure course and Davis Street plaza



Birds eye view looking north to the proposed Lake Street plaza and nature trail



Mason Park Expansion + Church/Dodge Transportation Improvements City of Evanston, IL

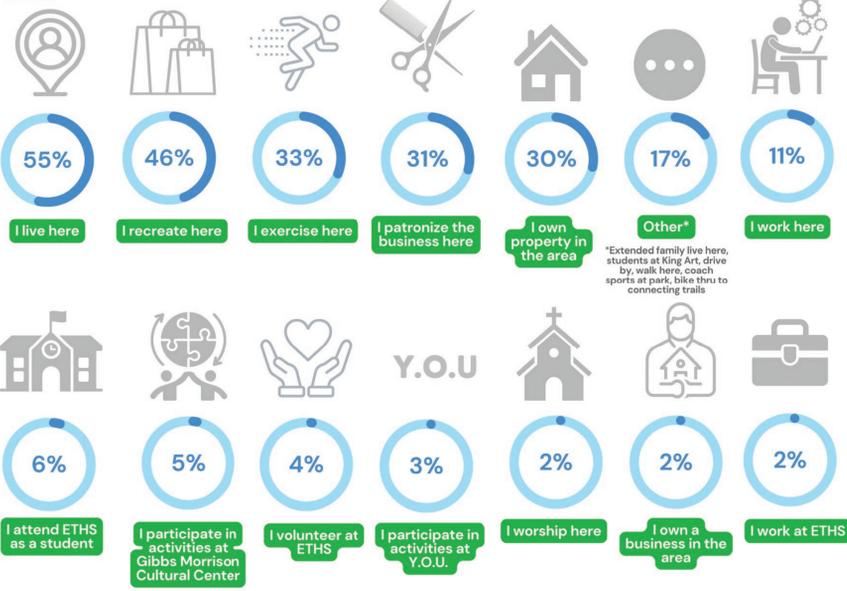
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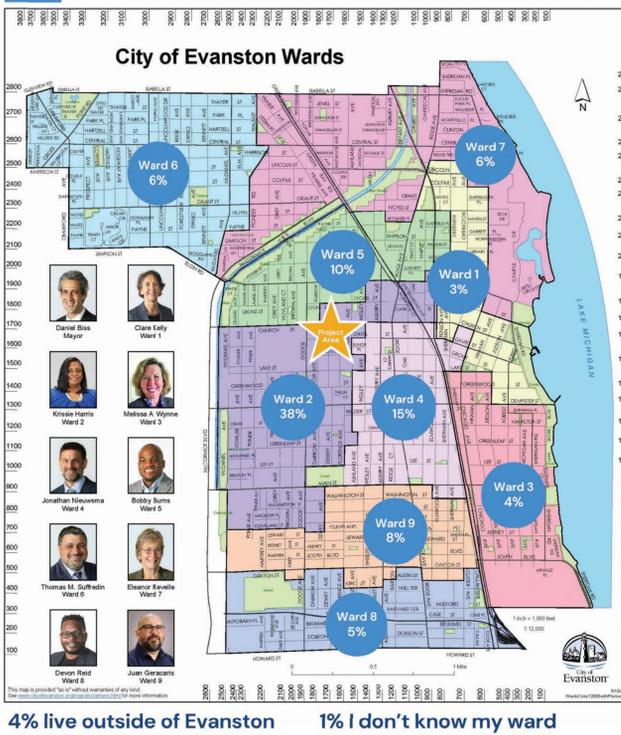
The purpose of Survey #1 was to hear feedback about issues and opportunities within and surrounding the Mason Park study areas.

Demographics

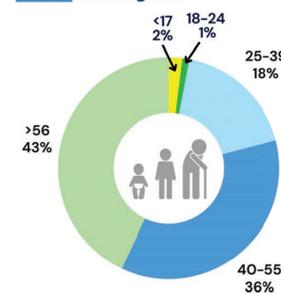
Q1 How are you connected to the Mason Park and Church-Dodge area? (Select all that apply)



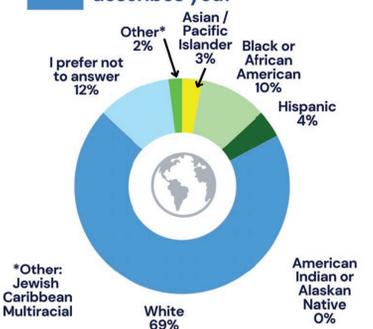
Q2 Please identify your neighborhood below (Select One)



Q3 What age group do you belong to?

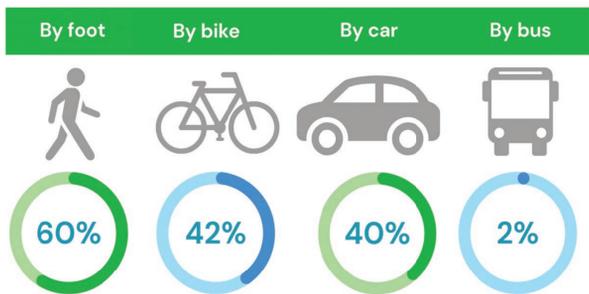


Q4 Which race or ethnicity best describes you?

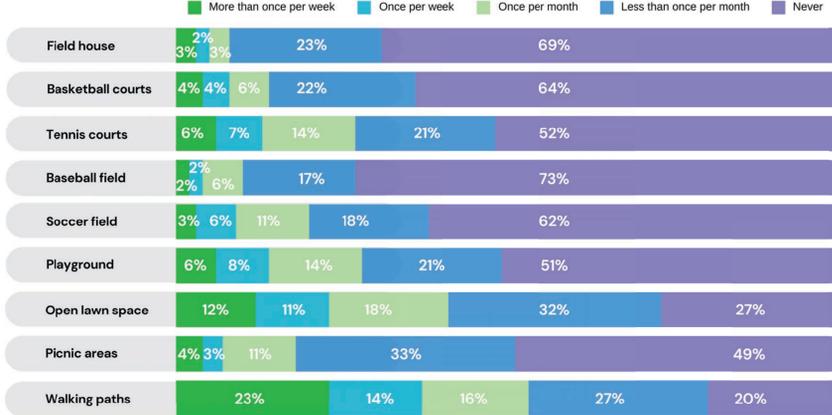


Existing Mason Park

Q5 How do you currently access Mason Park? (select all that apply)

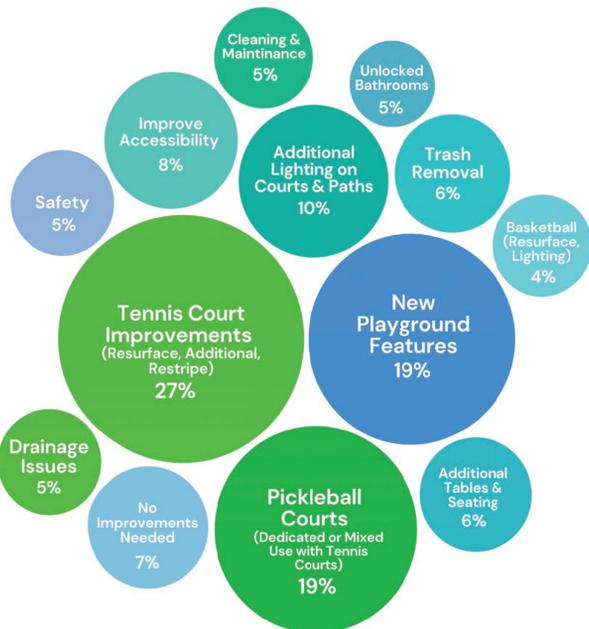


Q6 Below is a list of facilities at Mason Park. Please identify how frequently you and/or your family use these facilities.



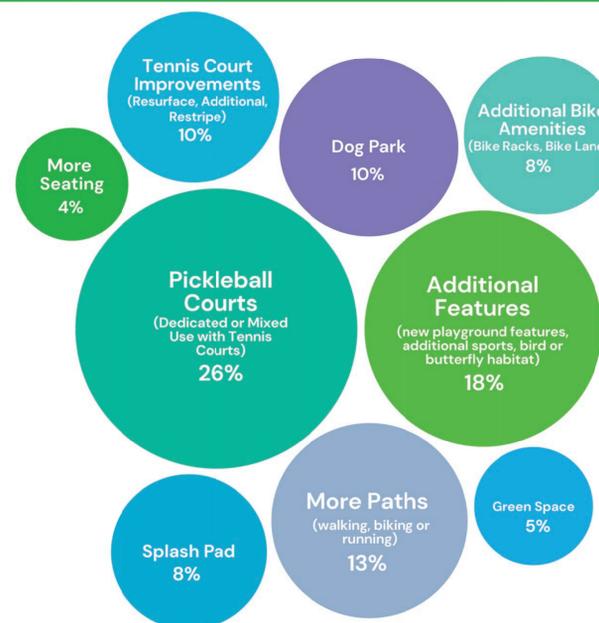
Q7 Are any improvements needed to the existing facilities at Mason Park?

Keywords reiterated the most are highlighted in the circles below; the size of the circles indicates the frequency/popularity of the response. Some community provided inputs are listed below



Q8 Do you have suggestions for additional recreational functions or features to be added to the Mason Park area?

Keywords reiterated the most are highlighted in the circles below; the size of the circles indicates the frequency/popularity of the response. Some community provided inputs are listed below



"Better lighting at night - we should be using Dark Sky approved lighting to keep the light focused on the ground."
 "Yes, there needs to be more frequent maintenance and cleaning in the area - there is a lot of trash laying around and things are generally dirty"
 "The baseball field is in horrid shape and constantly collects water even in the lightest rain. It becomes a giant mud pit that is both unplayable and very messy"
 "New playground equipment and a splash pad would be awesome"
 "The tennis courts are cracked and need resurfacing. These courts are most often used for pickleball and not tennis, so it would make sense to convert them to dedicated pickleball courts. 4 (maybe 6?) pickleball courts could replace the 2 tennis courts. If the footprint were expanded, this could potentially be 6-8 pickleball courts, with the embankment proving a good wind block. This is a centrally located park could provide better access to pickleball for Evanston residents."

"Additional pickle ball courts and perhaps bocce ball courts, an inexpensive and international sport that will appeal to large segments of our diverse population."
 "Circle or semicircle of benches that would be inviting for older residents as they walk the pathways, watch sports from a distance. It would be great to have a motion-activated splash fountain! Not everyone goes to the lakefront to cool off and there are no outdoor pools in Evanston—a neighborhood feature like this would be amazing"
 "Green space is good"
 "Better biking connectivity between West bound biking on Davis to the two way lane on Church west of the park"



The purpose of Survey #1 was to hear feedback about issues and opportunities within and surrounding the Mason Park study areas.

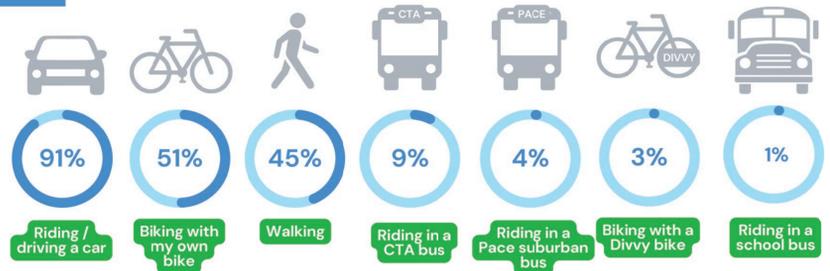
Church-Dodge Intersection Area

Q9 How frequently do you use the Church-Dodge intersection area? (select one)

Every day
Multiple times per week
Once per week
Once every two weeks
Once per month
Less than once per month
Never



Q10 What modes of travel do you use? (select all that apply)



1% Other: Skateboard

Q11 Describe any concerns you may have when traveling through the Church - Dodge Intersection area. (select all that apply)



13% of Respondents reported 'other' concerns, including the following responses:

"Intersection needs marked no left turns when school starts/stops with enforcement to ease traffic backups."
 "It never seems safe."
 "Too many people double park waiting/dropping off kids and too much stop and go traffic due to crossing guards and pedestrians crossings."

Mason Park Expansion (Former Railroad Embankment)

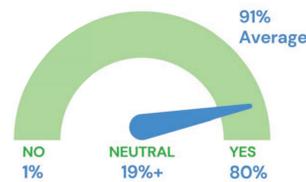
Q12 Describe your perception of the embankment area. (select one)



10% of Respondents reported 'other' perceptions, including the following responses:

"Cuts the neighborhood in half, some security concerns for students, under used."
 "It seems useless and is a barrier."
 "green space for birds; Provides greening and privacy for my neighborhood."
 "It certainly can be improved with walking and or biking trails while still maintaining much of the dense greenery."
 "both ugly and overgrown and poses safety security, and rodent concern."

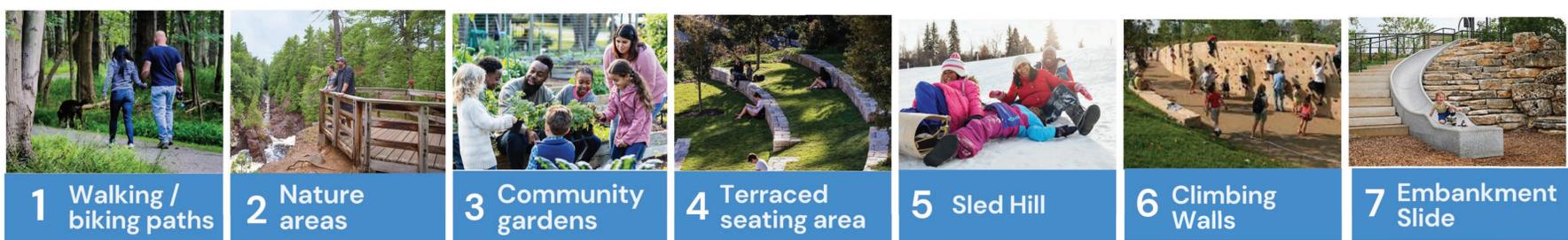
Q13 The City is evaluating the feasibility of providing a walking / biking path through the embankment at Davis Street. Below is an example of this concept. Would this feature be of value to the neighborhood?



Q14 The Edible Acre Community Garden is currently located at the southeast corner of Dodge Avenue and Davis Street. The City and Evanston Township High School are evaluating the feasibility of relocating the Edible Acre Community Garden to a larger property at the northeast corner of Dodge Avenue and Lake Street. In your opinion, would this relocation and expansion be of value to the neighborhood?



Q15 The embankment area offers potential for expanded open space opportunities. Below is a list of potential uses. Please rank these functions in the order of your preference (drag your most preferred to the top of the list)



Open-Ended Comments

Q16 Do you have any other suggestions for expanded open space opportunities? Please enter them here.

Key Themes:

- Build upon the naturalized character of the site and incorporate sustainable materials and practices. Preserve quality trees, incorporate native plantings and invite birds and wildlife.
- Incorporate safety measures and additional lighting as practical.
- Accommodate multi-generational community users, residents, local businesses and ETHS students/staff.
- Plan for continued cleaning and maintenance of the area.
- Establish walking paths and connections that bring the community together and connect us with the natural environment.

"Maintain and prune existing trees in the park, especially on the hill."
 "I would love to see the city incorporate sustainable materials and solutions into this project."
 "A combination of walking path with community garden would serve students and the residents."
 "Trash cans need to be available please to keep the spaces nice. Open areas without trash cans exponentially decrease their beauty and value b/c layers of trash sets the scene."
 "Native plantings, bird or nature preserve."
 "I think the embankment area has a lot of potential for naturalized areas. I myself enjoy walking through it, but think it definitely needs to be cleaned. Most of the trees are dead, but we could plant new ones. It would be very nice and pretty if we did that. People could volunteer to help clean it out and re-plant trees and plants, and it would be a nice community project."

Q17 If you have any additional comments about this project, please add them here.

Key Themes:

- Alleviate traffic congestion at Church / Dodge.
- Establish clearer bike routes and connections along Church Street.
- Improve pedestrian connections throughout the area, including safer passageways between the neighborhoods and ETHS.
- Make use of this opportunity to connect with the natural surroundings and unique neighborhood.
- Continue open lines of communication with the community and general interest for this project.

"Great ideas!! Very excited to see some of the ideas put forward about 15 years ago bearing fruit. I like the idea of an opening in the embankment so that high school students have an easier—and less dangerous—access to the high school than Dodge and Church intersection. But I worry about security at night."
 "Reconfigure the bike lanes on Church Street. They need to be marked better as do the car lanes."
 "Let's connect our neighborhoods!"
 "I think it's important to be more inclusive to the people who live on the west side of the embankment, and it should be a HIGH priority to create a safe pathway through the woods to the high school. It's ridiculous that hasn't been a priority a long time ago with SO many kids cutting through there every day, in all weather conditions. I also think the park serves as a natural habitat for wildlife, and that should be kept as is. Also, the garbage disposal company needs to stay hidden. It's ugly, noisy, and stinky. We certainly don't want that to be an even bigger nuisance."



The purpose of Survey #2 was to delve further into design concepts and to obtain preferences about the (3) concepts presented.

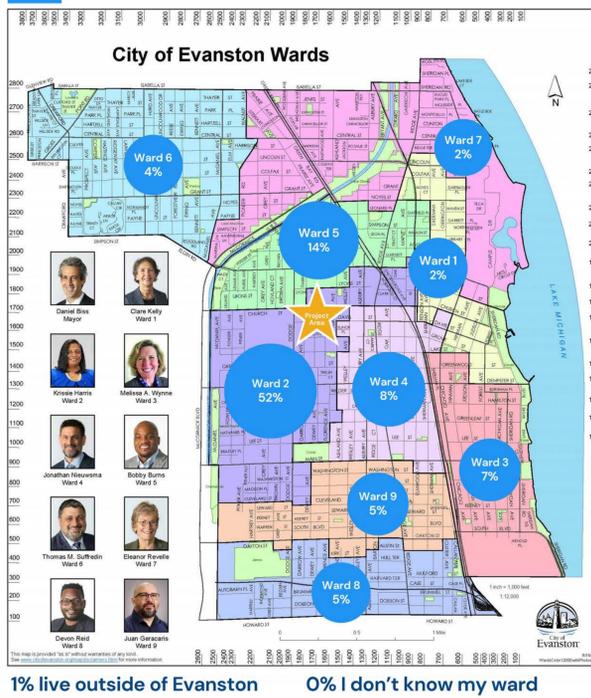
Demographics

Q1 How are you connected to the Mason Park and Church-Dodge area? (Select all that apply)



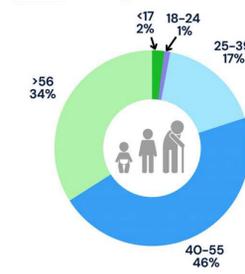
*Evanston resident, I drive or bike through the area, current or future parent of a ETHS student, drop off/pick up kids at ETHS, I am a steward of a nearby natural area.

Q2 Please identify your neighborhood below (Select One)

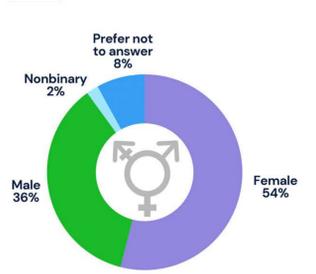


1% live outside of Evanston 0% I don't know my ward

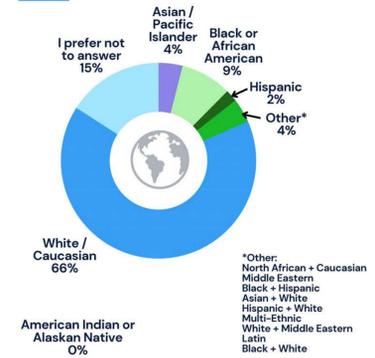
Q3 What age group do you belong to?



Q5 Please identify your gender.

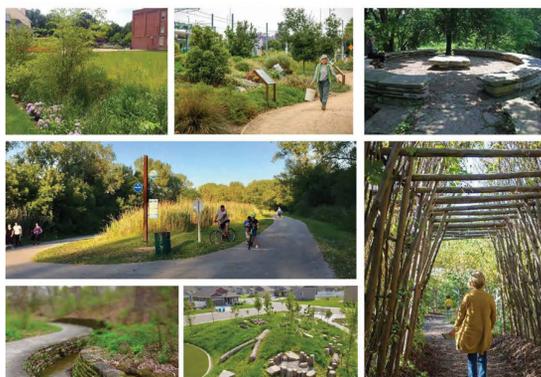


Q4 Which race or ethnicity best describes you?



*Other: North African + Caucasian Middle Eastern Black + Hispanic Asian + White Hispanic + White Multi-Ethnic White + Middle Eastern Latin Black + White

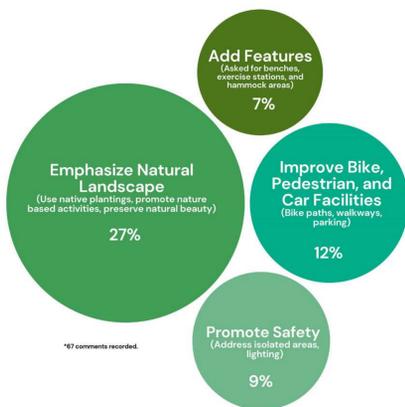
Proposed Ecological Plan



Q6 Please rank the Ecological Plan features in order of your preference.



Q7 Please share any additional comments you may have about the Ecological Plan Concept



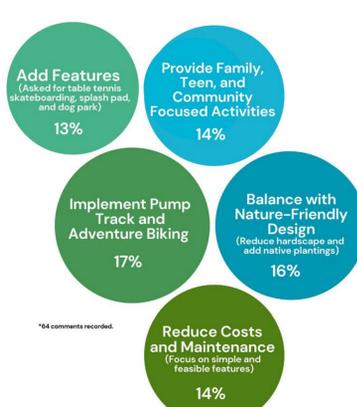
Proposed Hillside and Adventure Plan



Q8 Please rank the Hillside and Adventure Plan features in order of your preference.



Q9 Please share any additional comments you may have about the Hillside and Adventure Plan Concept



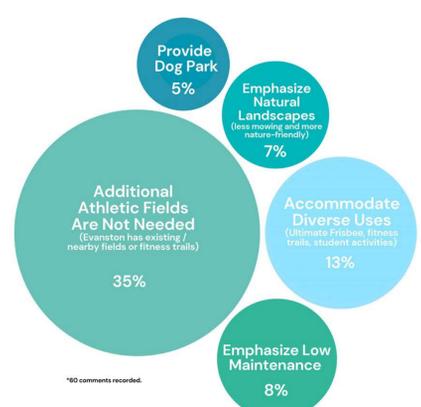
Proposed Open Green Space Plan



Q10 Please rank the Open Green Space Plan features in order of your preference.



Q11 Please share any additional comments you may have about the Open Green Space Concept



"This approach is the most appropriate for climate resilience. Naturalized plantings minimize use of resources and provide cooling and health benefits."
 "Please encourage green space without hardscapes. We are losing green space to structures and paving the parks."
 "The existing Mason Park is a very active, sport centered park. I think this redeveloped area should be more passive-enjoyment opportunities."
 "This is an excellent choice to bring more wildlife and native birds and insects into the area."

"Putting a bike pump track here would be an excellent addition to the city and compliment the skatepark with regards to the wide variety of users looking for these kinds of skate/bikes/scooter/roll amenities."
 "I don't think an adventure bike course is needed, and it will interfere with those who will use the space for walking and running."
 "This sounds fun for kids but less accessible for older neighbors or neighbors with disabilities."
 "I think this version would also be good for teens which I think is something that's worth keeping in mind since it's so close to the high school."
 "It looks like far too much concrete and stone, and not enough green space."

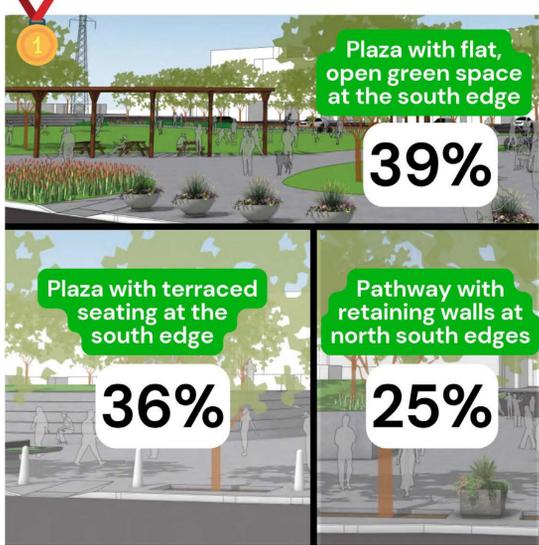
"Existing Mason fields are underutilized. More fields won't be as useful as other options."
 "It would be preferable to have an area that requires less mowing and is more environmentally friendly (and frankly, less boring than just flat open grassy park)."
 "This is the design that I prefer. Having the open green space maximizes the varied uses of the space."
 "I would really like to see some ultimate frisbee fields."



The purpose of Survey #2 was to delve further into design concepts and to obtain preferences about the (3) concepts presented.

Area 1: Davis Street pedestrian + bike connection

Q12 Select your preferred concept for Area 1: Davis Street pedestrian + bike connection



Area 2: South Mason Park Green Space

Q13 Select your preferred concept for Area 2: South Mason Park Green Space



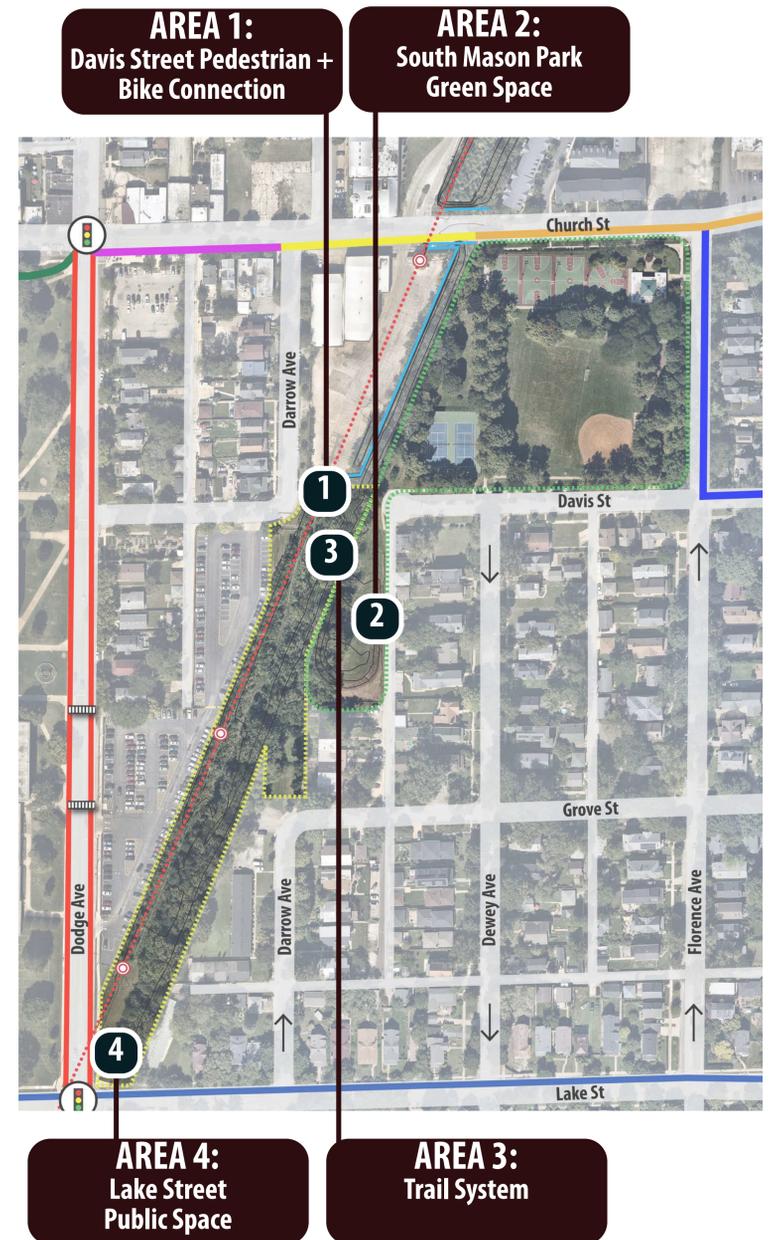
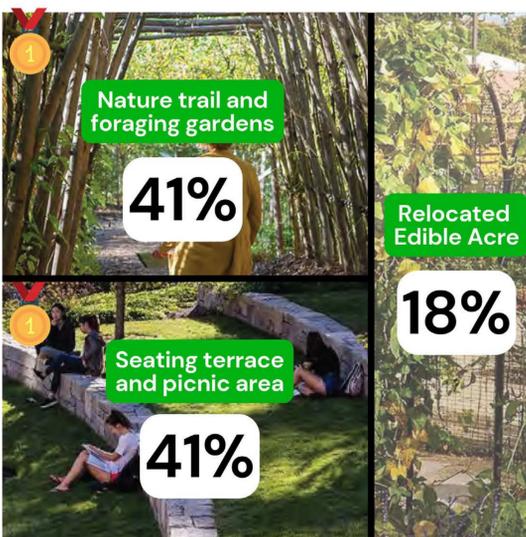
Area 3: Trail System

Q14 Select your preferred concept for Area 3: Trail System



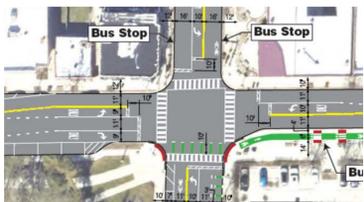
Area 4: Lake Street Public Space

Q15 Select your preferred concept for Area 4: Lake Street Public Space



Church Street / Dodge Avenue Intersection

Q16 Provide your comments about the Church Street / Dodge Avenue MINIMUM Concept (No curb realignment).



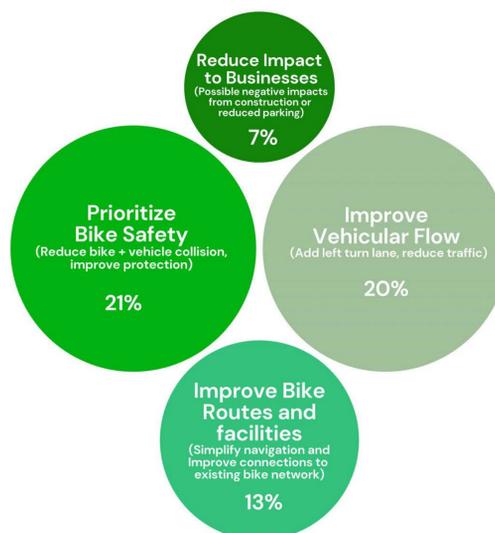
Q17 Provide your comments about the Church Street / Dodge Avenue MAXIMUM Concept (Curb realignment).



- CONCERNS**
- Flexible bollards do not provide enough protection.
 - No clear and safe way to navigate between Davis and Church Street westbound bike lanes.
 - Eastbound buses block bike lanes and car traffic.
 - Construction and reduced parking may impact businesses.
 - Concepts do not provide clear and safe bike route to and around ETHS.
 - Cost and taxpayer commitments.
- DESIRES**
- Provide dedicated left turn lanes at the intersection.
 - Provide curb protected bike lanes (similar to Sheridan Road) instead of flexible bollards.
 - Create well-connected, defined, and safe bike facilities.
 - Consider removing parking to prioritize bikes and buses and improve vehicle traffic flow.
 - Consider maintaining parking to support businesses.
 - Maintain westbound biking along Church - (Participants may not understand the westbound bike route would move to Davis St).
 - Address biker and pedestrian safety to and from ETHS.
 - Balance bike improvements with costs.

Church Street / Dodge Avenue Intersection

Key themes from open ended responses are highlighted in the circles below. The size of the circles indicates the frequency of the responses, organized by theme.



"Flexible bollards do not do enough to protect cyclist and keep the bike lane free of parked cars. I would much rather see all parking spaces here removed so we can prioritize buses and bikes over private automobiles."

"This removes street parking from in front of the shops on NW corner of Dodge and Church. It seems to me that those shops rely on quick and easy parking availability for their businesses to thrive."

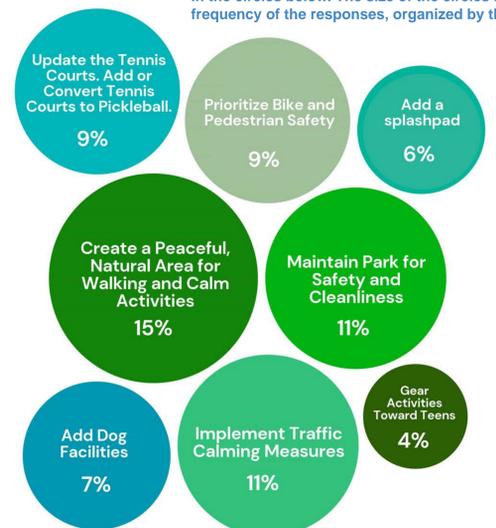
"Eastbound bus still blocks lane. Lots of potential conflict between pedestrians and cyclists getting on and off the bus and walking/biking on the sidewalk."

"I really like the curb bump outs. This will slow traffic through the intersection for bike and pedestrian safety, but the left turn lanes will provide more efficiency for a net benefit for all users."

Open-Ended Comments

Q18 If you have any additional comments about this project, please add them here.

Key themes from open ended responses are highlighted in the circles below. The size of the circles indicates the frequency of the responses, organized by theme.



"Those of us who chose to live near a quiet, open, tree-filled park are not looking for a lot of additional activities, traffic, congestion, and noise."

"The green space south of Dodge should cater to nature, peacefulness, perhaps a fitness route - but definitely wildflowers, foraging, trails, and a healthy, quiet refuge away from Mason park and ETHS activities."

"I think pedestrians and biking should be priorities in the decision making process."

"Transform some available green space into a designated dog area since existing dog owners are using the tennis courts and open sports fields improperly."



PUBLIC MEETING #1 KEY TAKEAWAYS

PUBLIC MEETING DATE + TIME:

April 10, 2024, Evanston Township High School, 6:00 – 8:00 pm

PUBLIC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Project information and meeting announcements uploaded to the City of Evanston project website.
- Printed flyers posted in Mason Park + Gibbs Morrison Cultural Center.
- Emailed announcements provided to Evanston Township High School (ETHS), Youth Opportunity United (Y.O.U.), the 2nd Ward Offices and to all survey respondents who provided email addresses (approximately 250 individuals).
- Printed flyers mailed to approximately 561 households surrounding Mason Park.

Approximately 40 people attended Public Open House #1.

MASON PARK EXPANSION AND CHURCH/DODGE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS

Wednesday, April 10th
6:00pm - 8:00pm
Evanston Township High School (ETHS)
1600 Dodge Avenue, Evanston, Room N112
Enter the Building at Entrance #1, located in front of ETHS on Dodge Ave
Parking is available along Dodge Ave and in Parking Lot #1 (accessed from Dodge Ave)

Join us at the public open house to hear outcomes of the community survey, review existing conditions and participate in design visioning activities.

For more information, please visit the project webpage at the link below or scan the QR code with your smart device
www.cityofevanston.org/MasonChurchDodge



PUBLIC FEEDBACK ORGANIZED BY PROJECT AREA FOLLOWS BELOW:

EXISTING MASON PARK



RANKED IMPROVEMENTS:

Participants voted on desired improvements. The highest ranked improvements are at the top of the list.

1. Add Bioswales / Rain Gardens - 24 votes
2. Add Terraced Seating - 21 votes
3. Enhance Existing Field House / Bathrooms - 16 votes
4. Add Fitness/ Exercise Stations – 8 votes
5. Add a Dog Park – 7 votes
6. Use Existing Slope for an Embankment Slide – 6 votes
7. Add Play Mounds – 6 votes
8. Use Existing Slope for a Climbing Wall – 5 votes
9. Use Existing Slope for a Sled Hill – 5 votes
10. Enhance / Replace Playground Equipment – 3 votes
11. Add Pickleball – 1 vote

COMMENTS SUMMARY:

1. Expand field house programs (music, dance, gardening programs + classes)
2. Update restrooms and expand open restroom hours
3. Repair vending machine and lighting at field house columns
4. Implement on-street parking time limit near tennis courts
5. Add trail through trees (near embankment)
6. Add goal posts for football
7. Add frisbee course
8. Provide a designated dog area
9. Add water fountains, bike racks, picnic tables, and benches

MASON PARK EXPANSION AREA



RANKED IMPROVEMENTS:

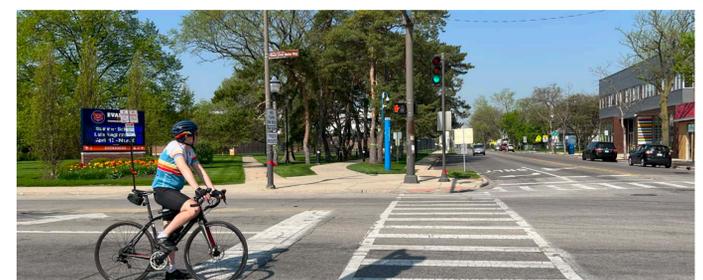
Participants voted on desired improvements. The highest ranked improvements are at the top of the list.

1. Nature Trail – 24 votes
2. Urban Trail – 16 votes
3. Community Garden/Demonstration Garden – 11 votes
4. Overlook – 11 votes
5. Boardwalk/Benches – 11 votes
6. Shaded Seating – 8 votes
7. Nature Based Play – 7 votes
8. Fitness/Exercise Stations – 2 votes
9. Bench Swings – 2 votes
10. Sculpture Garden – 2 votes

COMMENTS SUMMARY:

1. Maintain open spaces and disincentivize illegal behaviors
2. Protect trees, establish native plantings
3. Develop a green walkway space along and across the hill
4. Develop a community garden and free farm stand for people experiencing food insecurity
5. Develop Lake/Dodge for public green space
6. Maintain sledding opportunities
7. Provide safe bike/ped connections to ETHS via Davis
8. Establish a pathway from Davis to Darrow
9. Establish a marked crossing across Church St
10. Bury, move overhead electric lines
11. Clean up trash and debris, especially around the transfer station
12. Remove graffiti at benches and lights

CHURCH-DODGE INTERSECTION



RANKED IMPROVEMENTS:

Participants voted on desired improvements. The highest ranked improvements are at the top of the list.

1. Protected bike lane – 19 votes
2. Bus Shelter + Amenities – 9 votes
3. Marked Bike Lane – 6 votes
4. Bus Bulbs – 4 votes
5. Bike Repair Station + Bike Racks - 3 votes

COMMENTS SUMMARY:

1. Calm speeding traffic throughout the intersection
2. Provide (left) turn lanes in all directions and update traffic signals
3. Consider no turn on red during peak times
4. Prohibit cars illegally using bike lanes
5. Explore feasibility to enhance bus infrastructure for southbound 93 + 206 stop
6. Improve bike connections through and east of the intersection. The two-way bike lane is confusing
7. Provide westbound bike infrastructure between Florence and Mayfair
8. Transition to planned future Church Street bike facility west of Dodge
9. Provide protected bike lanes and consider parking protected bike lanes
10. Provide pedestrian countdown timers
11. Consider a diagonal crossing cycle for pedestrians.
12. Consider raised crosswalks
13. Evaluate Divvy bike usage and whether this location is appropriate



PUBLIC MEETING #2 | KEY TAKEAWAYS

PUBLIC MEETING DATE + TIME:

July 9, 2024, Evanston Township High School, 6:00 – 8:00 pm

PUBLIC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Project information and meeting announcements uploaded to the City of Evanston project website.
- Printed flyers posted in Mason Park + Gibbs Morrison Cultural Center.
- Emailed announcements provided to Evanston Township High School (ETHS), Youth Opportunity United (Y.O.U.), the 2nd Ward Offices and to all survey respondents who provided email addresses via (2) surveys (approximately 350 individuals).
- Printed flyers mailed to approximately 561 households surrounding Mason Park.

Approximately 50 people attended Public Open House #2.

MASON PARK EXPANSION AND CHURCH/DODGE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS

PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE #2



Tuesday, July 9th
6:00pm - 8:00pm
 Evanston Township High School (ETHS)
 1600 Dodge Avenue, Evanston, Room N112
 Enter the Building at Entrance #1, located in front of ETHS on Dodge Ave
 Parking is available along Dodge Ave and in Parking Lot #1 (accessed from Dodge Ave)

Join us at the public open house to review preliminary concept plans and to provide your feedback.

For more information, please visit the project webpage at the link below or scan the QR code with your smart device
www.cityofevanston.org/MasonChurchDodge



PUBLIC FEEDBACK ORGANIZED BY PROJECT AREA FOLLOWS BELOW:

INPUT ACTIVITY:
 USE (1) STICKER TO SELECT YOUR PREFERRED CONCEPT FOR EACH AREA BELOW

ECOLOGICAL CONCEPT	HILLSIDE + ADVENTURE CONCEPT	OPEN GREEN SPACE CONCEPT
AREA 1: DAVIS STREET PEDESTRIAN CROSSING		
pathway bordered by retaining walls (8)	terraced seating at the south (13)	flat open green space at the south (7)
AREA 2: SOUTH MASON PARK GREEN SPACE (SOUTH OF DAVIS)		
nature play + open lawn area (17)	hillside play + adventure course (7)	open lawn + flexible recreational fields (9)
AREA 3: TRAIL SYSTEM		
nature trail + interpretation (26)	adventure course (6)	fitness trail (7)
AREA 4: LAKE STREET PUBLIC SPACE		
nature trail + foraging gardens (11)	relocated Edible Acre + community gardens (9)	seating terrace + picnic area (10)

Mason Park Expansion + Church/Dodge Transportation Improvements
 City of Evanston, IL

AREA 1:
 Terraced seating at the south: 13 votes
 Pathway bordered by retaining walls: 8 votes
 Flat open green space at the south: 7 votes

AREA 2:
 Nature play + open lawn area: 17 votes
 Open lawn + flexible recreational fields: 9 votes
 Hillside play + adventure course: 7 votes

AREA 3:
 Nature trail + interpretation: 26 votes
 Fitness trail: 7 votes
 Adventure course: 6 votes

AREA 4:
 Nature trail + foraging gardens: 11 votes
 Seating terrace + picnic area: 10 votes
 Relocated Edible Acre + community gardens: 9 votes

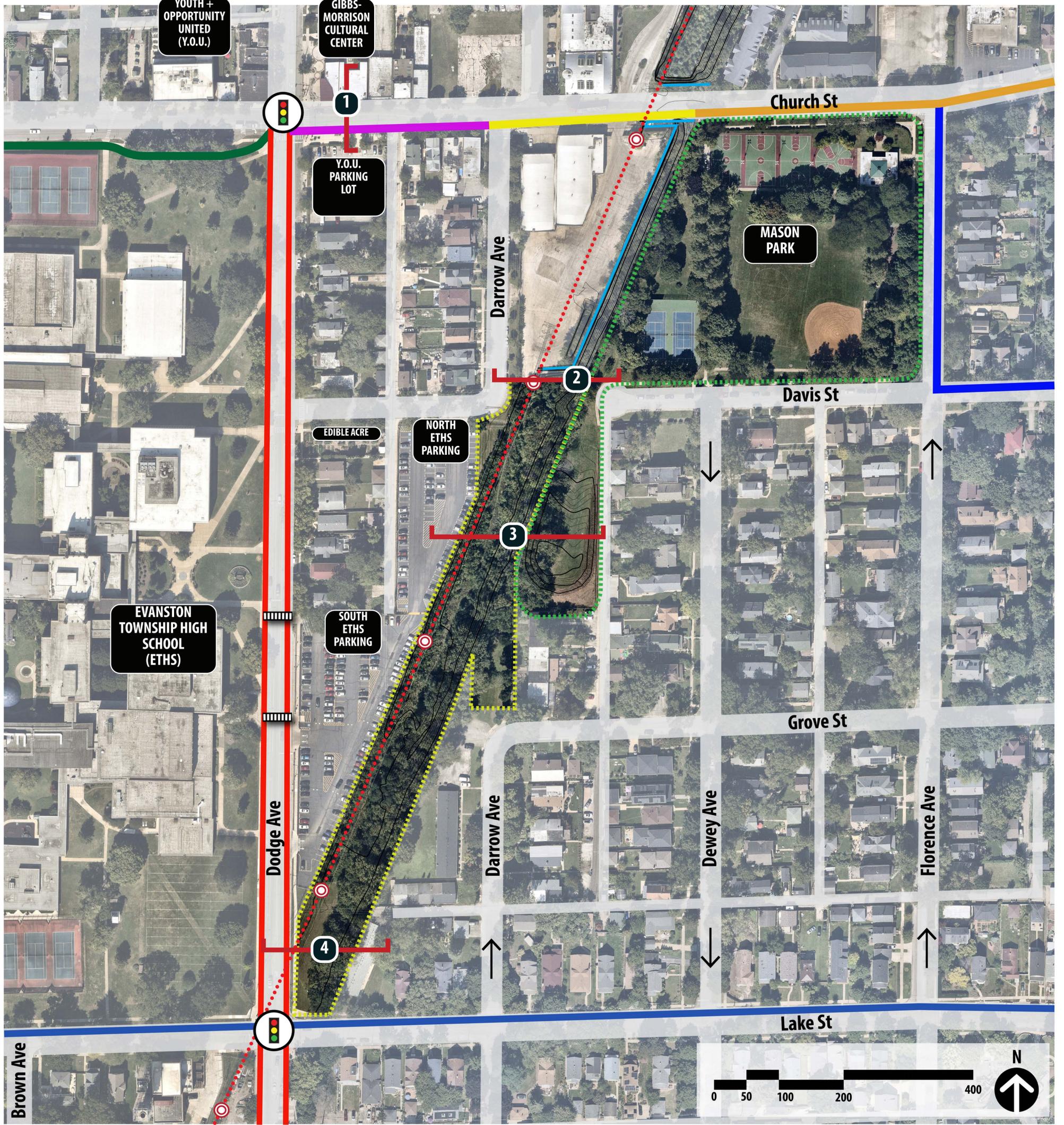
COMMUNITY COMMENTS + KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Culture and diversity:**
 - Allow for fun and play;
 - Be vibrant and showcase culture.
- Open space and recreation:**
 - Keep our green spaces!
 - Maintenance ability will need to determine choices;
 - Like the multi-use space for a variety of activities and sports;
 - Create spaces for students to gather, perform + produce art;
 - Kids and teens need a place to gather after school;
 - No one uses fitness trails along lakefront;
 - No Edible Acre at Lake and Dodge. Will attract vermin/rats.
- Church Street / Dodge Avenue improvements:**
 - Combine Dodge / Church concepts for safety + efficiency;
 - Pedestrian and bike only for Davis/Dodge intersection. No cars!!
 - Create more parking on Church for businesses;
 - Left turn arrow @ Church and Dodge;
 - The more students that don't need a car to get to school, the better traffic will be.
- Bike and pedestrian connectivity:**
 - Opportunity to relocate Waste Management and make more trails north along railroad space to invite Ward 5 into the space and walk to school;
 - I really like that these designs are for pedestrians and bikers – Not cars. This will be a special place!
 - Bikers need to move freely in a straight line at Davis;
 - Lincoln Park bike way is a traffic jam - we don't want that;
 - Evanston 150: one of top 10 ideas was using Mayfair diagonal as walking/cycling space to connect SW to NE parts of town.
- Safety:**
 - Safety and visibility to and from the high school is important;
 - Maximize visibility to and from the green spaces.
- Sustainability:**
 - Follow CARP - use public spaces for stormwater management;
 - Use bioswales to reduce street flooding.



EXISTING CONDITIONS | MAP

-  Existing Traffic Signal
 -  Existing Mid-Block Crossing
 -  Embankment Wall
 -  Mason Park Expansion Area
 -  Existing Mason Park
 -  ComEd High Tension Tower/Overhead Wires
 -  Section Elevations (See Section Exhibits)
-
- Bike Facilities**
 -  Existing Signed Bike Route
 -  Existing Bike Lane
 -  Existing Protected Bike Lane
 -  Existing Off-Street Cycle Track (2-Way)
 -  Existing On-Street Cycle Track (2-Way)
 -  Existing Bike Path
 -  Existing Bike Route



EXISTING CONDITIONS | SITE PHOTOS



Mason Park Entrance at Church / Florence
(View South)



Basketball Courts
(View West)



Tennis Courts
(View North)



Playground
(View North)



Park Building
(View West)



Baseball / Soccer Field
(View West)



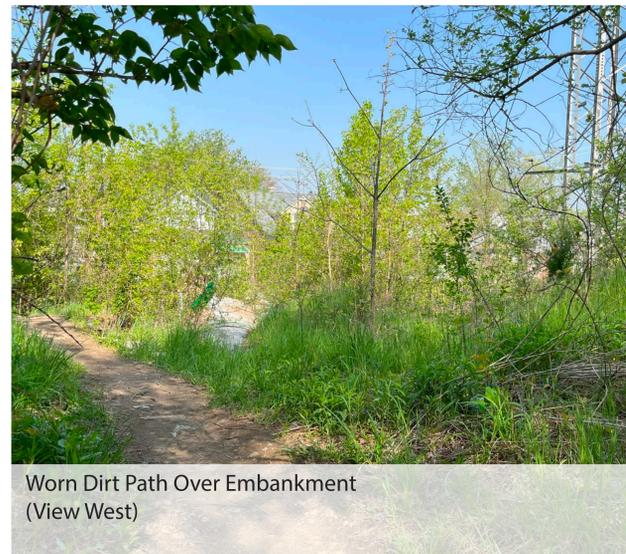
Basketball Court + Soccer Field
(View South)



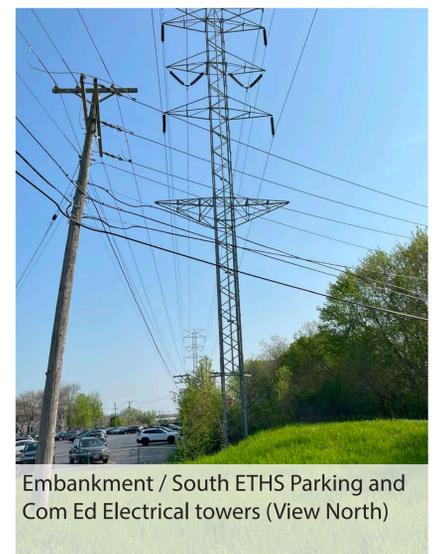
Davis St Along Mason Park Property /
Base of Embankment (View South)



Worn Dirt Path Over Embankment
(View West)



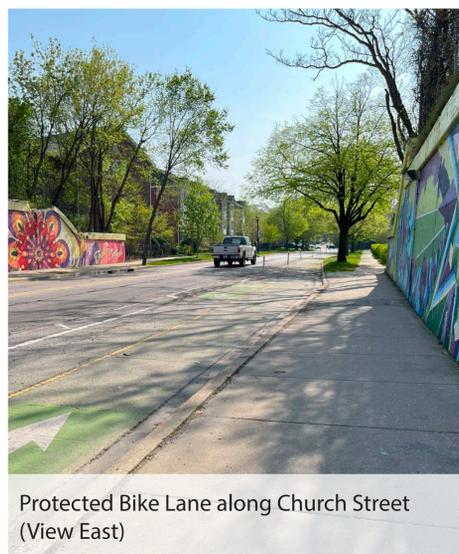
Worn Dirt Path Over Embankment
(View West)



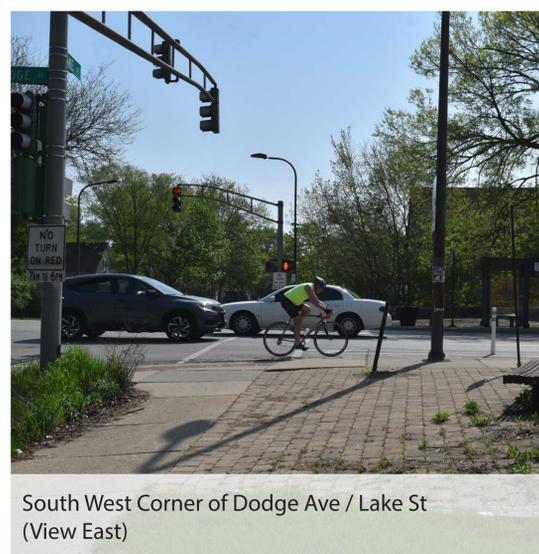
Embankment / South ETHS Parking and
Com Ed Electrical towers (View North)



Off-Street Cycle Track Along Church St at
Dodge Ave (View West)



Protected Bike Lane along Church Street
(View East)



South West Corner of Dodge Ave / Lake St
(View East)



Intersection of Dodge Ave / Church St
(View West)



Mason Park Expansion + Church/Dodge Transportation Improvements City of Evanston, IL

12.16.24

