

PARKS & OPEN SPACES

Introduction

National “Cap Over Park” projects offer valuable insights about integrating intensive planting, recreation, and public amenities on structure. Each project should also be evaluated for approach to planting soils, irrigation, and drainage design, as The Stitch project seeks to maximize growing media, establishment, and resilience. The following summarizes some key comparisons between national precedents and The Stitch. **On this display board you will find a discussion of parks and open space, along with related opportunities and challenges. Once you've read these sections, take a look at the “Questions to Consider” and share your answers with the team!**

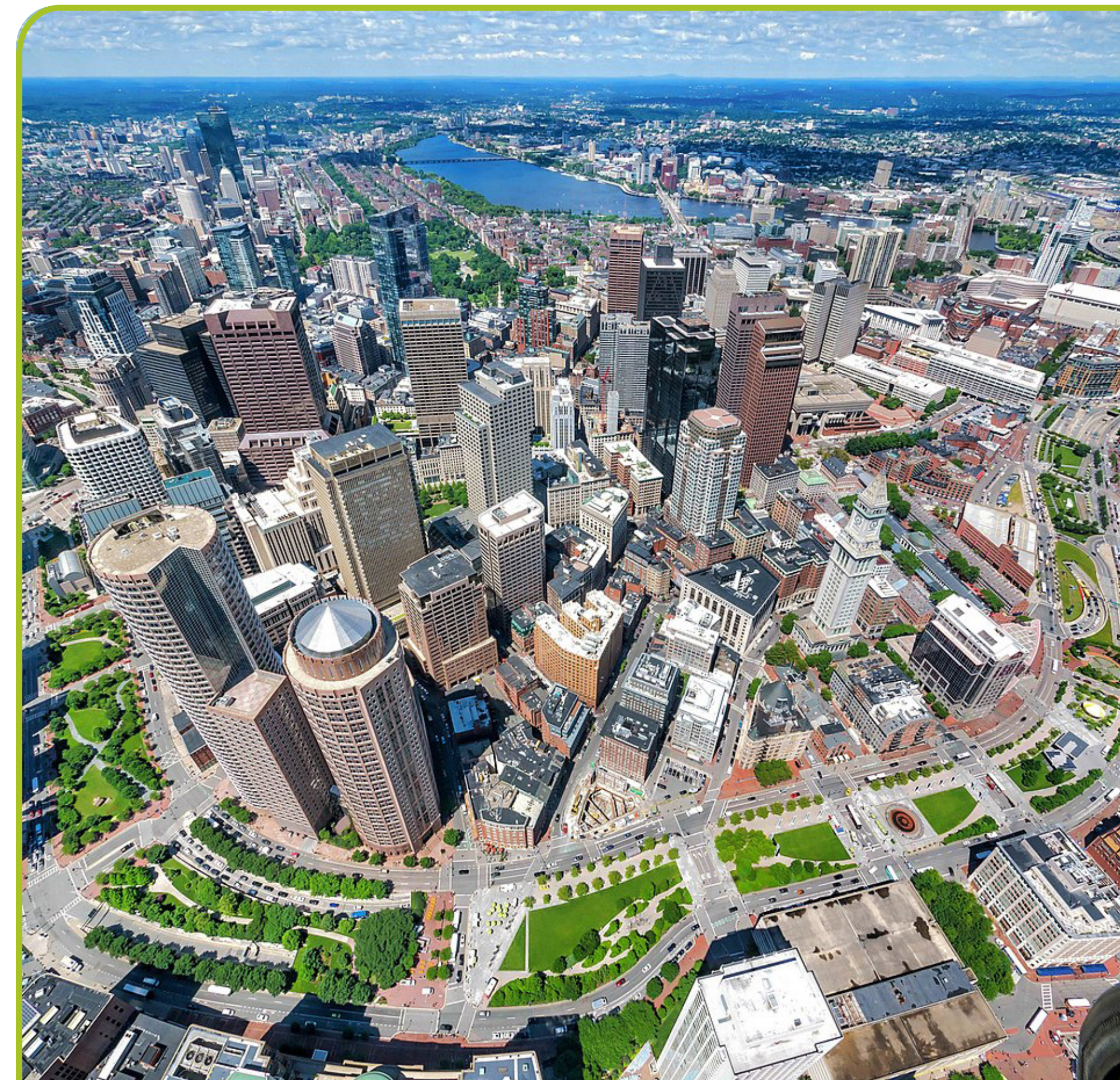
Park Precedents

Key comparisons between Penn's Landing Park and the Stitch include:



Penn's Landing Park , Philadelphia, PA

- A single landscape that stretches from Central City across the highway to the Delaware River, traversing significant grade change, compared to the Stitch.
- The area with the most significant tree plantings is actually over the highway itself, not on terra firma. All-season programming includes splash pad, ice skating rink, event lawn, public gardens, and destination playground.
- Integrates between existing neighborhood, and new development north of the project site. Park constructed in advance of mixed-use waterfront development.



Rose Kennedy Greenway, Boston, MA

Key comparisons between The Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy Greenway and the Stitch include:

- Narrower open space than the Stitch, but comparable distances between numerous road crossings.
- Leverages proximity to urban edges and active ground floor for Food & Beverage (F&B) / restroom support.
- The abundance of open lawns and tree-lined edges help to define the signature landscape, while maintaining a diversity of open space programming from block to block.
- Large range of amenities – splash pads, public art, urban gardens, and event lawns.

Key comparisons between Kyle Warren Park and the Stitch include:



Klyde Warren Park, Dallas, TX

- Smaller total area, and only one street crossing within the park – comparable to a portion of the Stitch.
- Park edge is designed for screening, enclosing a central open lawn. Connectivity to urban edges is primarily focused at cross walks and viewsheds from tall buildings.
- Southwest has limited integration with adjacent neighborhoods; concealed / screened off ramp is also a barrier between park and northern neighborhood.
- Food and beverage provided in large pavilion within park itself.



Discovery Green, Houston, TX

Key comparisons between Discovery Green and the Stitch include:

- Central location directly adjacent to the city's Central Business District with high-rise office, hotel, and residential land uses.
- Proximity to high-capacity transit routes.
- Many amenities including a restaurant, coffee shop, pavilion, splash pad, playground, and water feature.
- Multiple tree-lined promenades that connect all sides of the park help to facilitate movement through the park, while providing a comfortable environment for dwelling.

Opportunities & Challenges

Opportunities

- 1) Create a signature public open space and year-round destination.**
- 2) Expand Atlanta's Urban Forest by increasing tree canopy coverage within the Stitch area.**
- 3) Connect the Stitch to existing open spaces & destinations.**

Challenges

- 1) Creating a cohesive space despite multiple street crossings.**
- 2) Ensuring sufficient soil depth over deck structure for shade trees.**
- 3) Creating a seamless transition to surroundings.**

Questions to Consider

1

What do you want to see and do at the Stitch?

2

What one word best describes how you'd like the Stitch to look or feel?

3

What is your favorite park in Atlanta? Or anywhere? And why?

Atlanta Parks



Walton Spring Park

John Calhoun Park

Piedmont Park

Centennial Olympic Park

November 15, 2023

Community Kick-off & Visioning Workshop