

Stamford Citywide Parks Strategic Plan





Stamford Citywide Parks Strategic Plan

Welcome



Local Office Landscape & Urban Design

**Regional Analysis
Strategic Planning
Engagement**



James Lima Planning and Development

**Financial Planning
Case Studies**



Trust for Public Land

**Existing Park Assessment
10-Minute Walk Analysis**

Stamford Citywide Parks Strategic Plan

Strategic Plan Team

A group of people are working in a modern office. The office has large windows on the left and a wall covered in various landscape design photos and architectural renderings. Several people are seated at desks with computers, looking at their screens. One man in a blue jacket is standing and looking at a computer monitor. The overall atmosphere is professional and collaborative.

Local is a Brooklyn-based group of designers, researchers, and builders. Our approach to landscape design and planning emerges from a deep analysis of how contemporary life, our cities, and natural landscapes are constantly evolving.

local

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A vibrant, tree-lined city street scene. In the foreground, several people are walking, including a woman in a purple shirt and a woman in a black and white patterned top. In the middle ground, a group of cyclists is riding down the street. A sign in the center of the street reads "CANDIDATE ROW" and "I BIKE + I VOTE". The background is filled with lush green trees and a tall apartment building. The overall atmosphere is lively and community-oriented.

JLP+D embraces the economics of placemaking and puts forth transformative initiatives to create more vibrant, equitable, and resilient places for all.

JLP+D

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TPL works with cities across the country to create and protect nature-rich places, while focusing on health, equity, climate, and community.



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Mill River Park Collaborative is the 501(c)3 nonprofit responsible for growing and maintaining Stamford's central park.



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“Our vision is to create a vibrant, resilient, and equitable public open space network that can be enjoyed by all for generations to come.”

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Strategic Plan Vision

The following strategies guide the ongoing engagement, input, and strategic planning processes

empower



empower community voices

Engage with community members and essential stakeholders to gain a better understanding of Stamford's park system while re-imagining a strategy for the future.

connect



increase park equity and connectivity

By identifying critical areas in need, we can cultivate new forms of public open space while creating opportunities for equity that support under-served communities.

celebrate



celebrate and enhance our existing parks

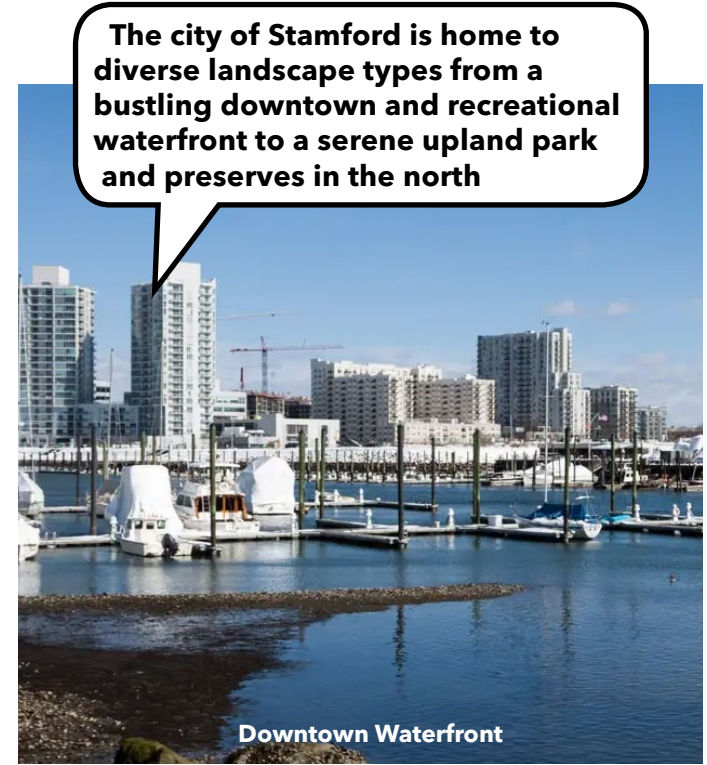
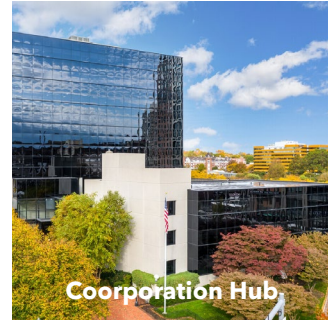
Caring for our parks begins by understanding everyday needs while preparing for future challenges such as climate change and market demands.

grow

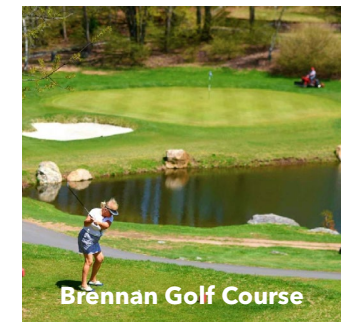
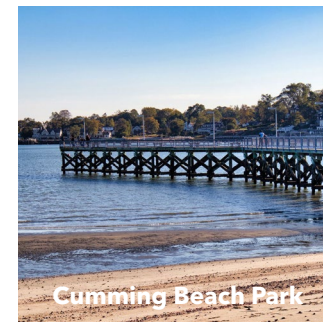
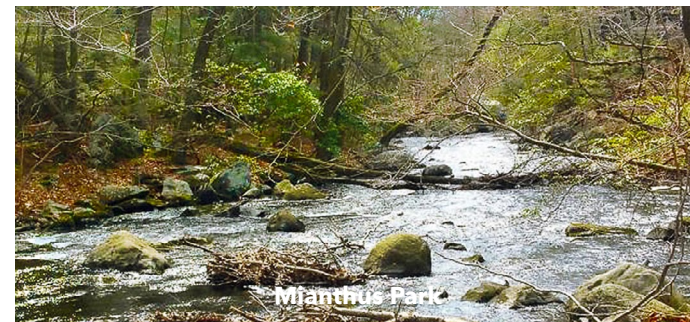
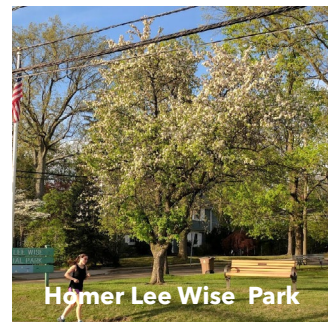
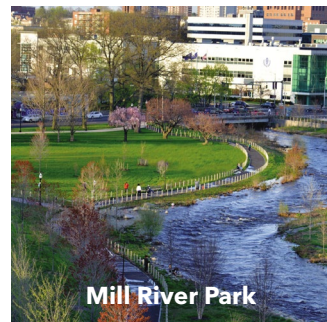


grow organizational structures

By understanding that sustainable parks begin with people, we can re-imagine organizational structures from the ground up in creating more efficient systems to better support our parks' future.



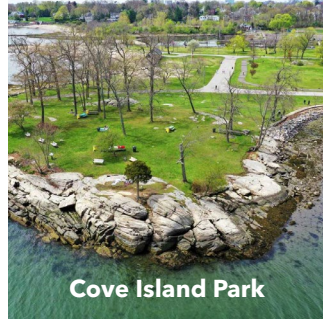
The city of Stamford is home to diverse landscape types from a bustling downtown and recreational waterfront to a serene upland park and preserves in the north



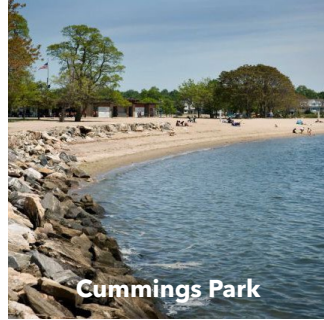
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The City of Stamford Today

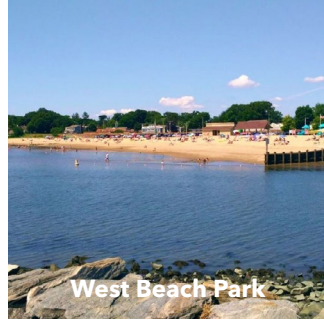
The city currently has over 30 public parks and over 40 open space types with a diverse collection of programs from sports to gardens offering opportunities to increase capacity, efficiency, and programming for the future!



Cove Island Park



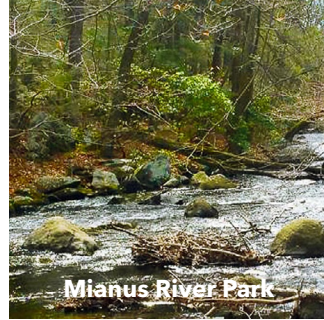
Cummings Park



West Beach Park



Mill River Park



Mianus River Park



Bartlett Arboretum



Scalzi Park



Cove Island Park



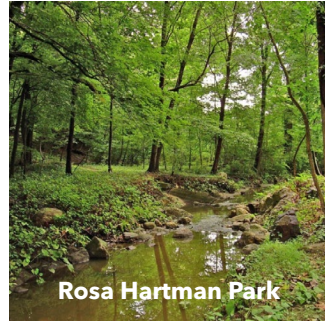
Kosciuszko Park



Scofieldtown Park



Dorothy Heroy Complex



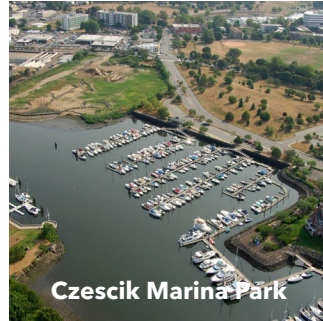
Rosa Hartman Park



John J. Boccuzzi Park



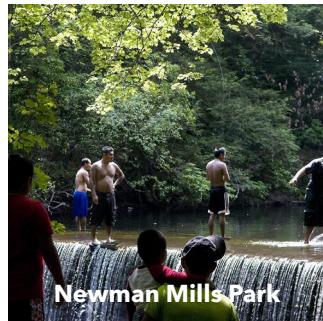
Woodway Park



Czescik Marina Park



Lione Park



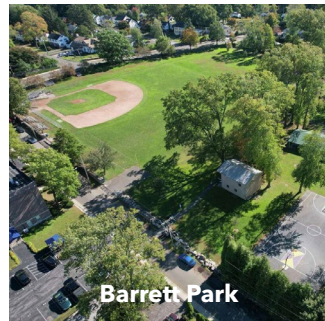
Newman Mills Park



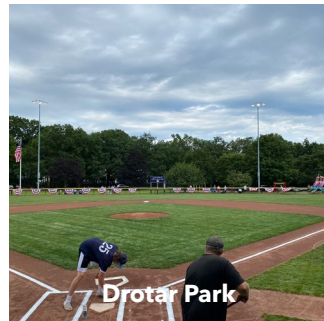
Fort Stamford



Chestnut Hill Park



Barrett Park



Drotar Park



Harbor Point Commons



Northrop Field



Carwin Park



Veterans Memorial Park



Jackie Robinson Park



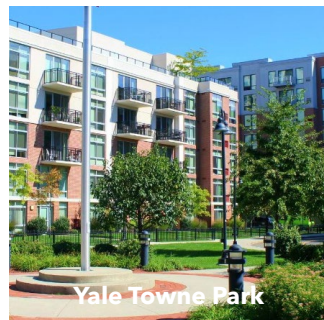
McKeithen Park



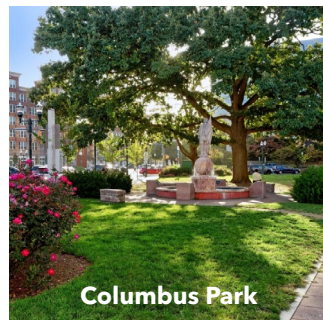
Homer Lee Wise Park



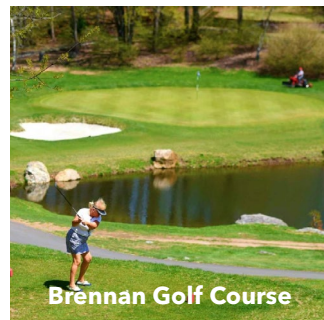
Kiwanis Park



Yale Towne Park



Columbus Park

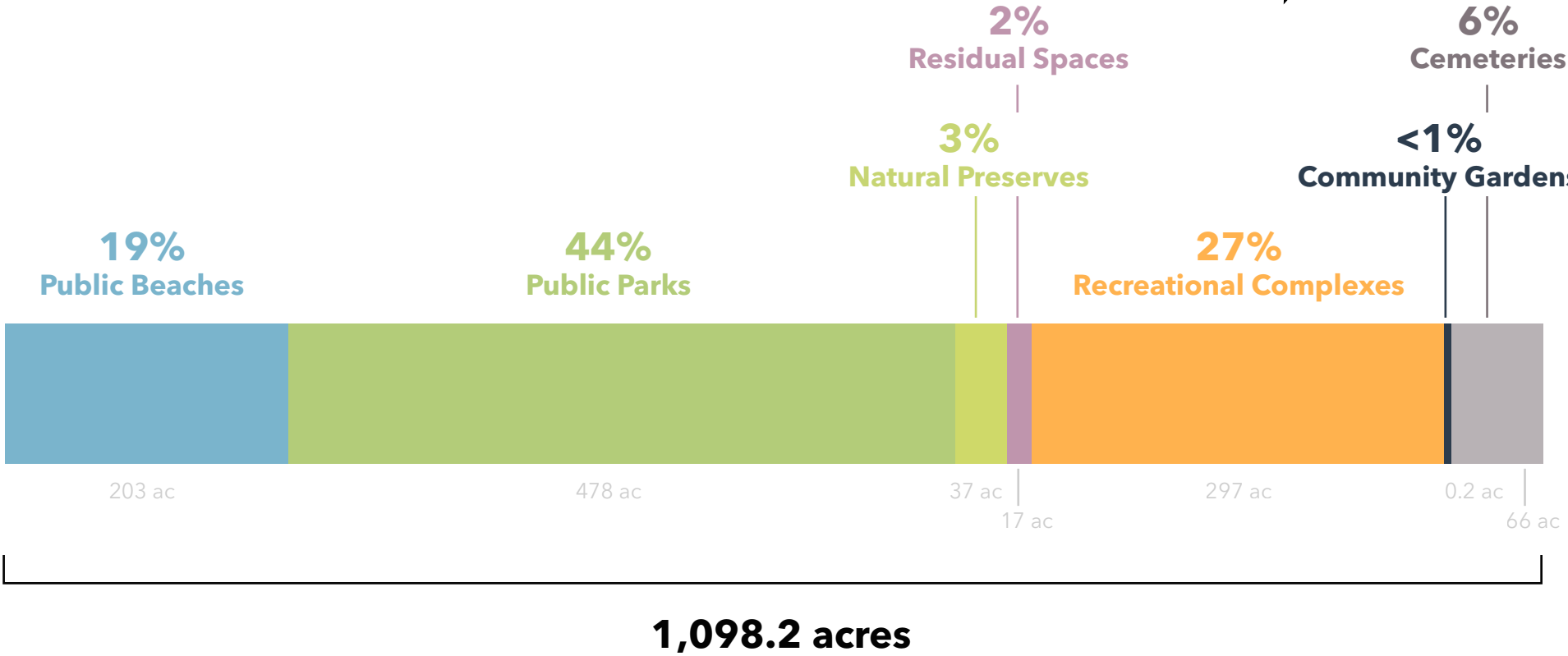


Brennan Golf Course

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Stamford's Public Parks

Stamford currently has over 1,000 acres of available open space! By taking stock of the current open space types we can begin to identify opportunities for increase park spaces in various neighborhoods...



We've identified the following open space typologies across the city, including...

203 acres

Public Beaches

- Cove Island Park
- Cummings Park
- West Beach

478 acres

Public Parks

- Mill River Park
- Mianus River Park and Glen
- Bartlett Arboretum
- Scalzi Park
- Sleepy Hollow Park
- Kosciuszko Park
- Scofieldtown Park
- Dorothy Heroy Complex
- Rosa Hartman Park
- John J. Boccuzzi Park (Southfield)
- Czescik Marina Park
- Lione Park
- Newman Mills Park
- Fort Stamford
- Edward Hunt & Chestnut Hill Park
- Barrett Park
- Drotar Park
- Harbor Point Commons Park
- Northrop Field
- Carwin Park
- Veterans Memorial Park
- Hatch Field
- McKeithen Park
- Homer Lee Wise Memorial Park
- Yale Towne Park
- Columbus Park
- Triangle Park
- Kiwanis Park
- Gateway Commons
- Cedar Street Playground
- Nemotin Park
- Friendship Basketball Court
- Harbor Point Dog Park
- Courtland Park (Stamford Dog Park)

37 acres

Natural Preserve

- Woodway Park
- Chestnut Hill Road Bird Sanctuary
- Woodley Road Bird Sanctuary

17 acres

Residual Spaces

- Gerli Park
- Vincent Horan Park
- Waterside Park
- Rotary Park
- Rippowam Park
- Levine Site (Finch Flood Plain)
- Gus Edson Park
- Daskam Park
- St. John's Park
- Latham Park
- Carpinella Park
- De Preta Park
- E.A. Connell Heritage Park
- Greenwich Avenue Park
- Hope Street Island Park
- Saunders Park
- Marilyn Trefry Park

297 acres

Recreational Complexes

- E. Gaynor Brennan Golf Course
- Stamford Museum & Nature Center
- Sterling Farm Golf Course
- Terry Conners Ice Rink

0.2 acres

Community Garden

- Fairgate Farms

66 acres

Cemetery

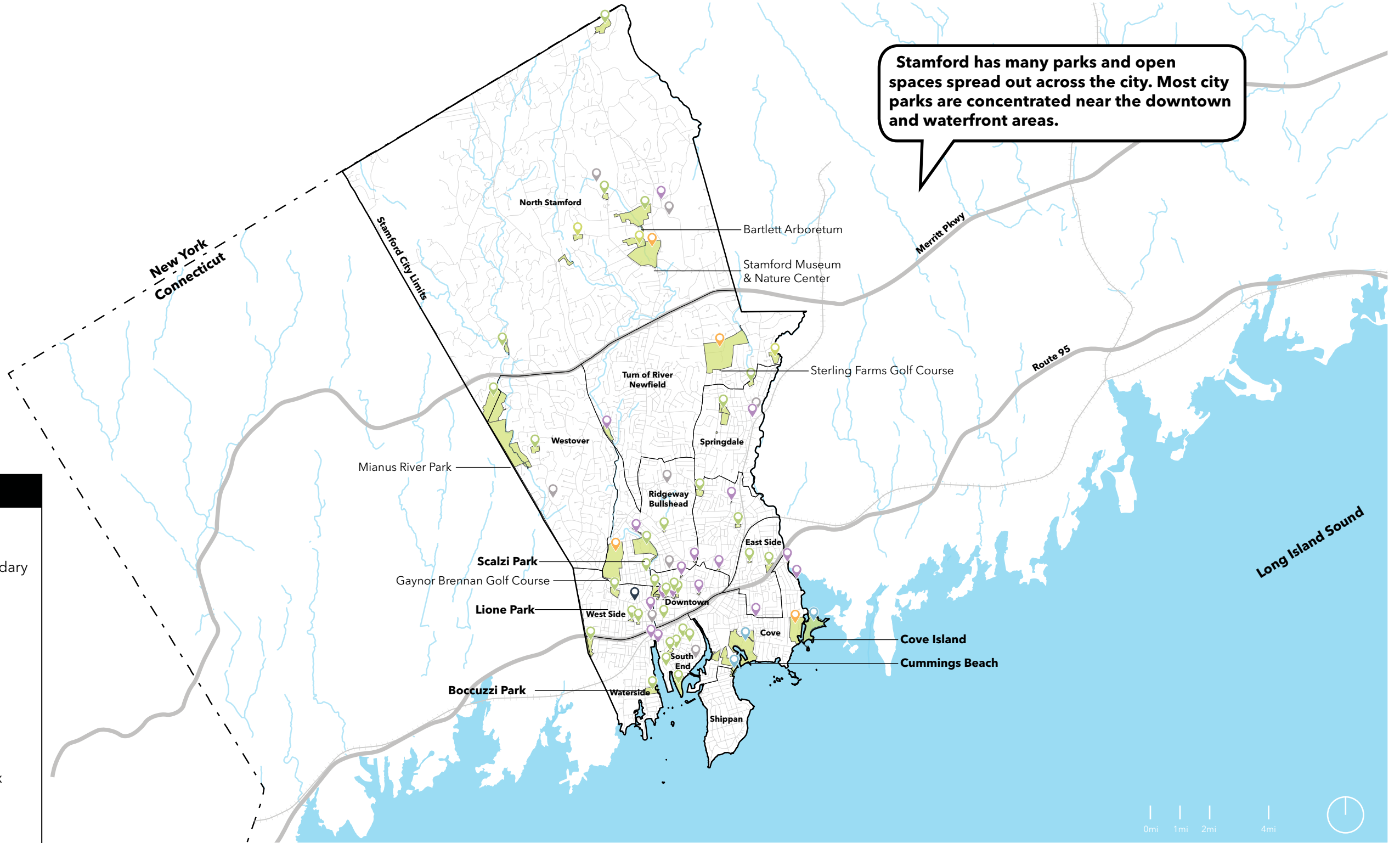
- West Stamford Cemetery
- Hope St. Old Burying Ground
- North Stamford Cemetery
- Queen of Peace Cemetery
- St. John Cemetery (Northfield)
- Westover Cemetery
- Woodland Cemetery
- Fairfield Memorial Park

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Stamford's Public Open Spaces

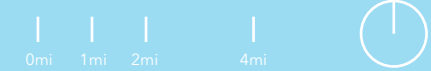
LEGEND

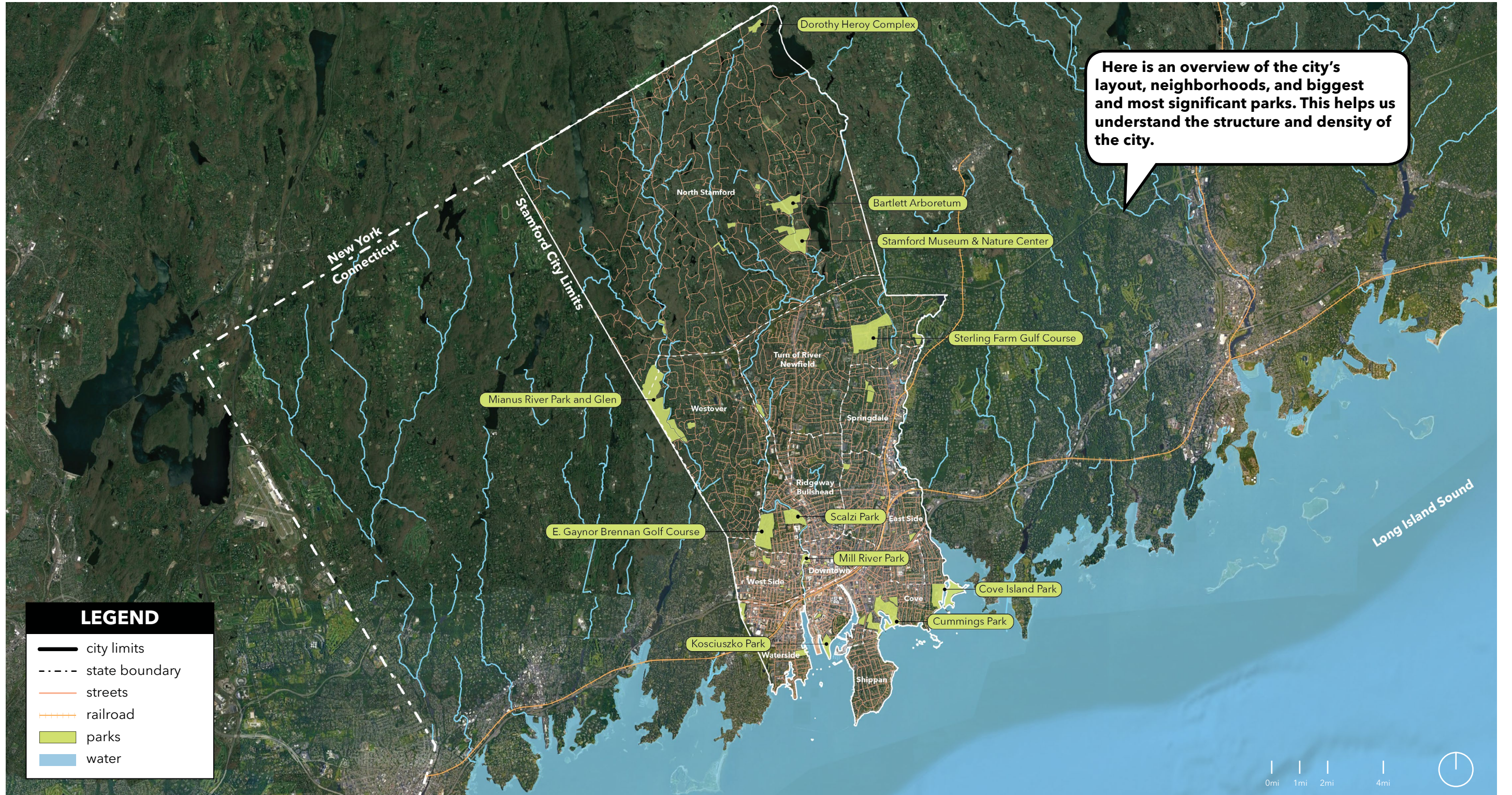
- state boundary
- city boundary
- neighborhood boundary
- water
- +++ railroad
- highways
- streets
- 📍 public beach
- 📍 public park
- 📍 natural preserve
- 📍 residual space
- 📍 recreational complex
- 📍 community garden
- 📍 cemetery



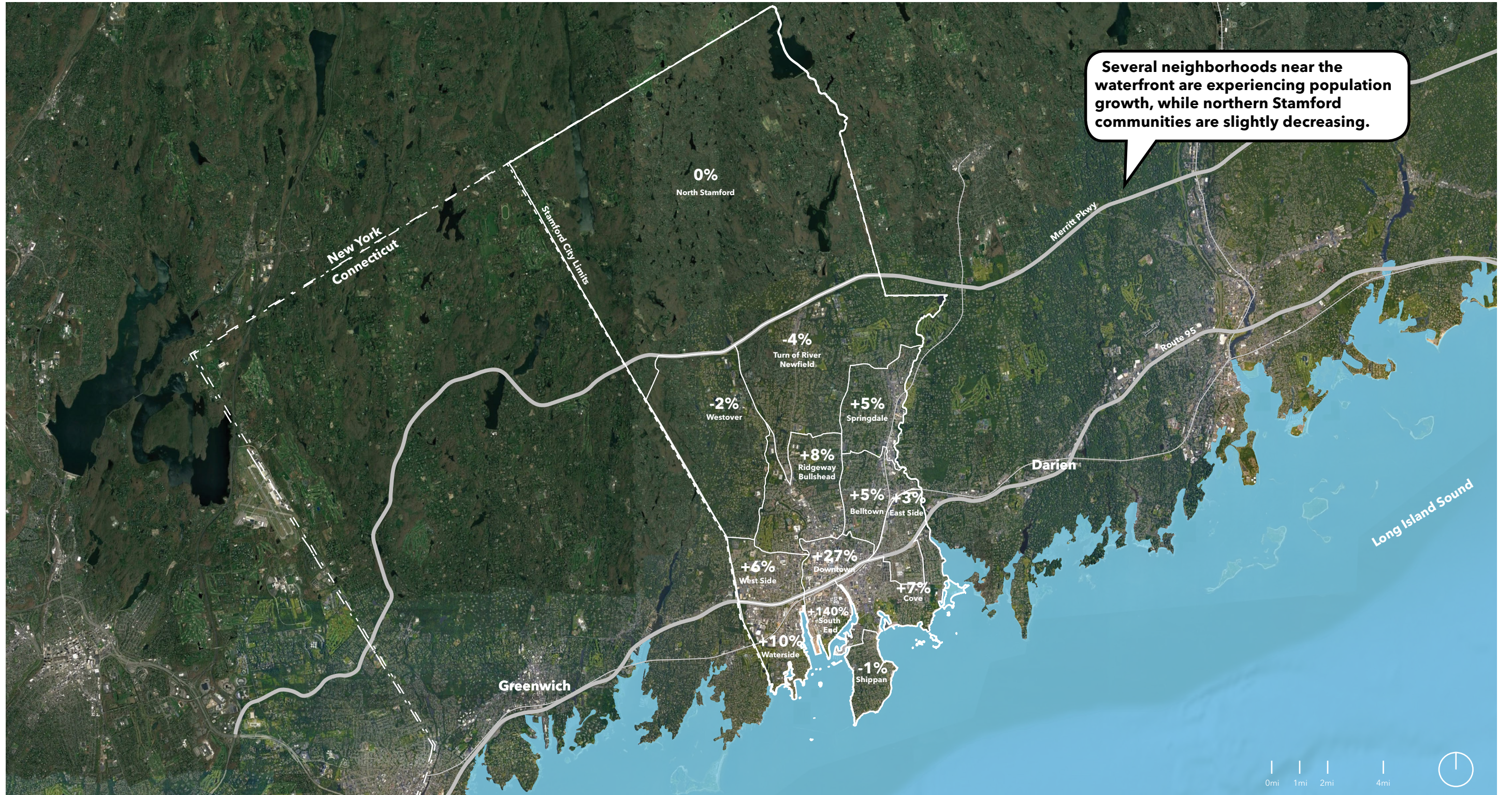
Stamford has many parks and open spaces spread out across the city. Most city parks are concentrated near the downtown and waterfront areas.

Open Spaces Across Stamford

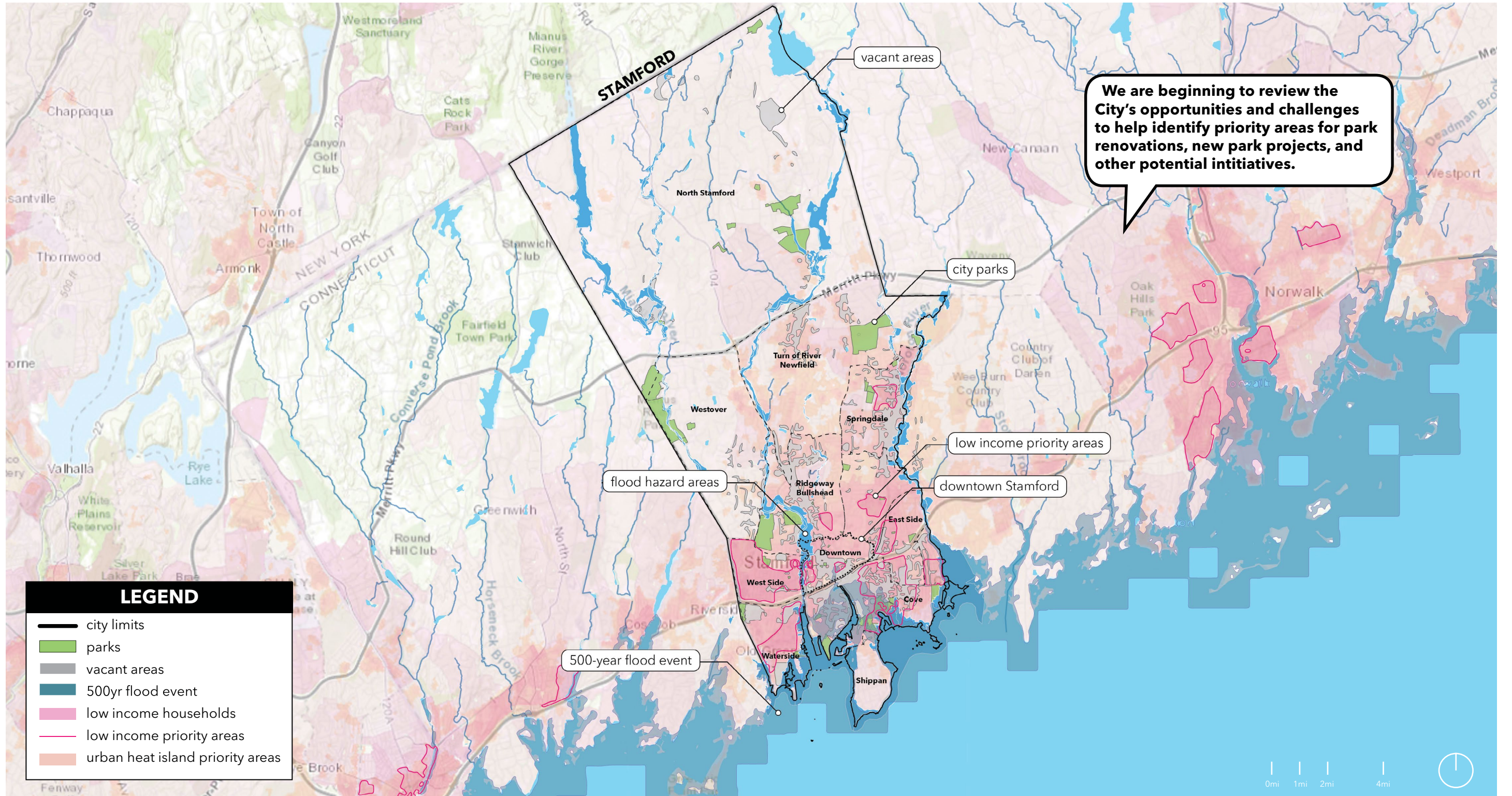




City of Stamford Park Overview



City of Stamford Population Change 2010-2020



We are beginning to review the City's opportunities and challenges to help identify priority areas for park renovations, new park projects, and other potential initiatives.

LEGEND

- city limits
- parks
- vacant areas
- 500yr flood event
- low income households
- low income priority areas
- urban heat island priority areas

500-year flood event

flood hazard areas

low income priority areas

downtown Stamford

city parks

vacant areas

Composite Map



Certain Parks experience urban stressors such as...

Crowding:

Cove Island Park, West Beach, Scalzi Park, Lione Park

Crime:

Jackie Robinson Park, Cummings Park, Scalzi Park,

Scalzi Park, Cummings Park, Lione Park

Flooding:

Cove, Boccuzzi, Cummings Park, Scalzi Park



Several parks and beaches in the city can get very crowded.



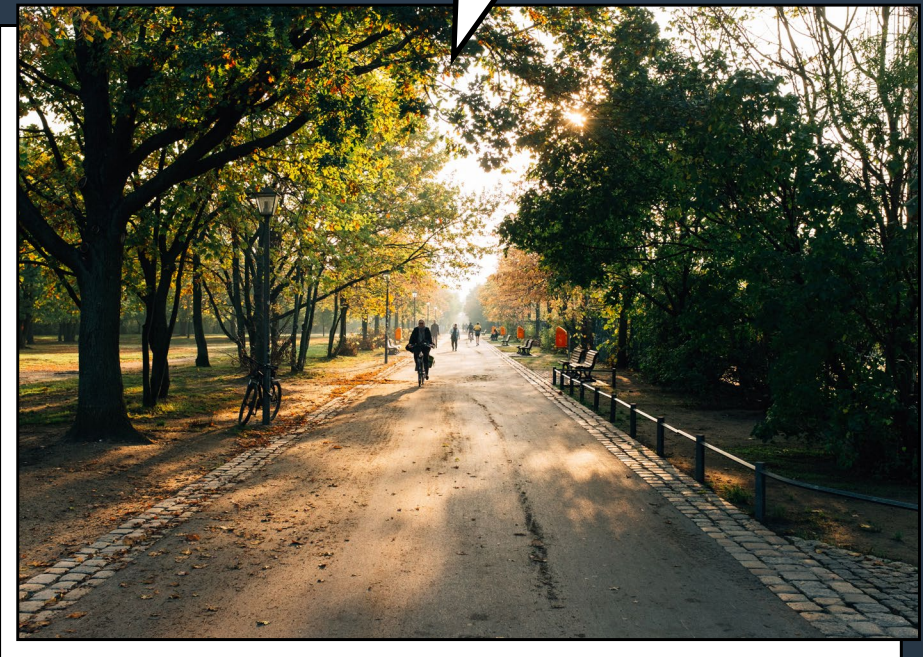
The City's Parks Department is looking at...

- Opportunities and measures to raise additional funds.
- Maintenance requirements for greenways.

The Parks and Forestry Departments combine maintenance requirements with the Department of Transportation on greenways.



The Parks Department is interested in raising additional funds to better support public parks.



The City of Stamford has ample corporate and personal philanthropic interest, as well as non-profit partnership park models.

The City would like to see...

- **Integration of non-profit organizations with Parks Department.**
- **Self-funded projects.**
- **Ballots including fiscal policy measures.**

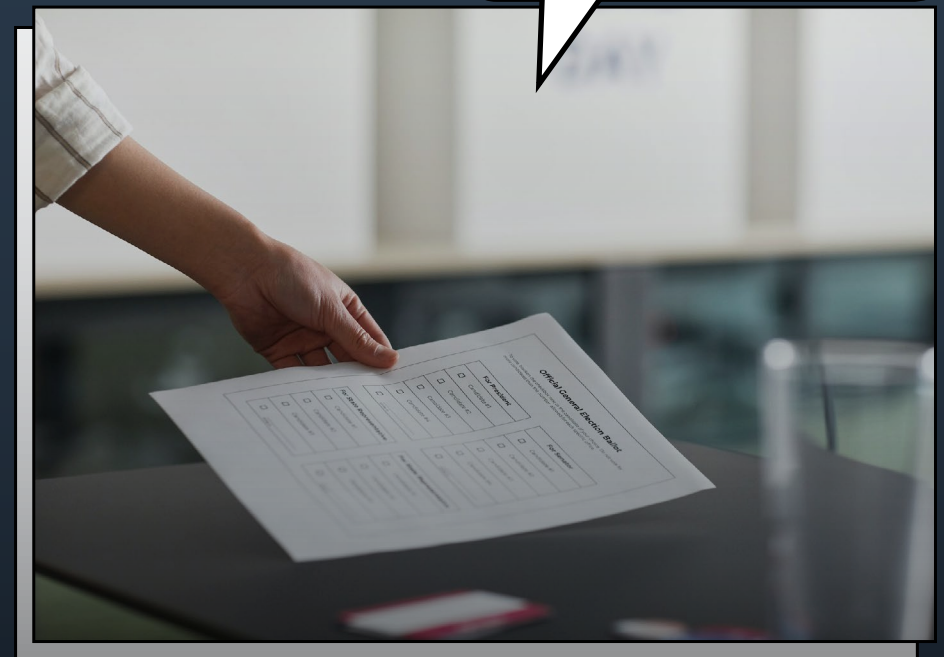


More parks projects can be self-funded by generating revenue.

There can be a seamless integration of non-profit organizations with the Parks Department.



Ballots can include options to vote on fiscal policy measures.



TOPIC 1: COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTIONS, PHILANTHROPY, AND DONATIONS (ADOPT-A-PARK AND PARK SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMS)

- **CASE STUDY #1A: New York City Parks Foundation**

The New York City Parks Foundation exemplifies the value of establishing an umbrella non-profit that manages private and volunteer groups with varying capacities while also generating revenue through access to additional sources of private and philanthropic support.

- **CASE STUDY #1B: Jacksonville Memorial Park Adopt the Park Program**

The Memorial Park Association in Jacksonville, Florida highlights the financial capabilities of administering an adopt-a-park program with multiple contribution tiers.

TOPIC 2: CORPORATE SPONSORSHIPS AND ADVERTISING REVENUE FOR FACILITIES

- **CASE STUDY #2: Community Ice Rink Advertising and Sponsorship Programs**

The community ice rink case study demonstrates the revenue potential of both the physical advertising throughout the facilities and through the sponsorship of local sports teams.

TOPIC 3: FISCAL POLICY MEASURES TO RAISE FUNDS FOR PARKS AND FACILITIES

- **CASE STUDY EXAMPLE #3A: Philadelphia Beverage Tax**

The Philadelphia Beverage Tax (PBT) funds the rehabilitation of parks through the Philadelphia Rebuild Program.

- **CASE STUDY EXAMPLE #3B: San Jose Park Impact Fees**

The San Jose Park Impact Fee program imposes a fee structure on residential development to fund capital parks projects.



Summary

Summary of community engagement cycle, public input, and outcomes of the public outreach process.



Workshop

Virtual workshop for hands-on participation and collection of thoughts and ideas.



Recorded Video

Pre-recorded video explaining the project and process the team is following, the objectives, and items to follow.

These are some tools available for us to use during this community engagement process.



Virtual Presentation

Virtual presentation to the stakeholders with the project overview and progress and key takeaways from the public outreach.



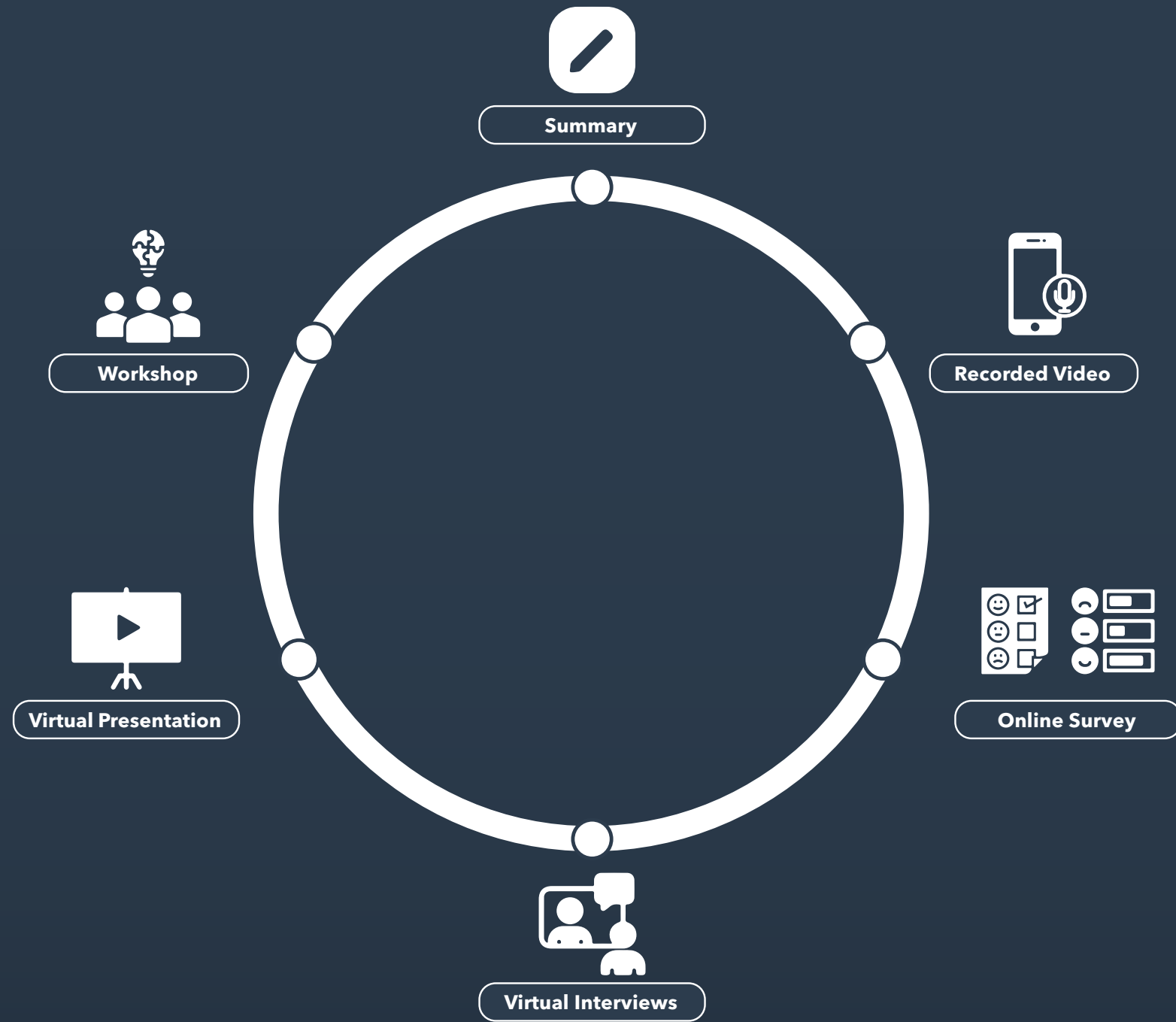
Online Survey

Curated questionnaire to be shared with the audience and fill out online.



Virtual Interviews

Small group or one-on-one interviews with stakeholders to gain specific information.



We see this as a cyclical process that can be repeated as needed, as we gain new information from your feedback.

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Embracing the Community Engagement Process



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Thank you!

