

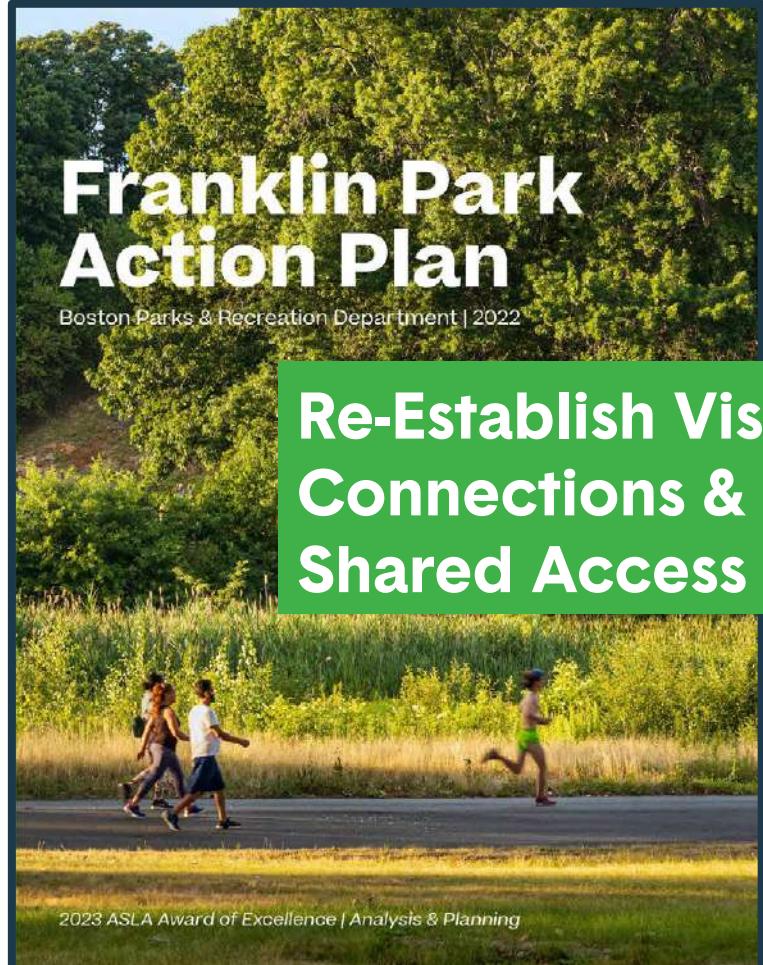


# White Stadium in Franklin Park

Imagining Better  
Alternatives for the  
Community



# The Community Shared Their Vision



# Franklin Park Action Plan

Boston Parks & Recreation Department | 2022

# Re-Establish Visual Connections & Shared Access

2023 ASLA Award of Excellence | Analysis & Planning

# Make Connections

## Remove Barriers & Share Resources

The Playstead fields and White Stadium are well-loved and heavily used for sporting events, camps, and festivals. White Stadium, which serves many nearby Boston Public Schools, was built within the northern half of The Playstead's open fields in the 1940s. Piecemeal additions of parking, fences, and walls to service and secure it have cut the stadium off from its context. Re-organizing field program and removing barriers can establish shared public access to the stadium (in coordination with Boston Public Schools) and make important spatial connections across the fields.

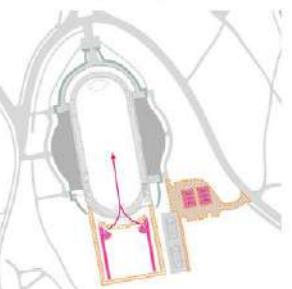
### FIELD AND WHITE STADIUM RECOMMENDATIONS

#### Re-Establish Visual Connections & Shared Access

- Remove chain link fences, central end-zone wall, and overgrown vegetation south of the stadium to regain a visual connection to the fields and beyond; if possible, consolidate track and field programme within the stadium walls to let the building sit within a large open lawn on all sides.
- Add a new 8' metal picket fence with access gate(s) in keeping with the main stadium entrance so it can be secured after hours; design with a porous material to maintain new visual connections.
- Open up the stadium and restroom facilities for shared public access and use during the day.



Overgrown vegetation and fences/walls block visual connections with White Stadium today.



#### Open Up White Stadium

Legend:

- Paths, Paving, Fences & Walls to be Removed (orange)
- Sports Courts & Field Activities to be Relocated (pink)
- Stadium Walls to Remain (grey)

#### Gain Efficiency in Field Layout

- Re-organize the field layout and permanent sports courts to preserve key views, to enhance spectatoring, and create better connections.
- Relocate the two basketball courts; remove the excess paving surrounding the existing courts. Protect existing mature trees.
- Maintain the two softball/baseball diamonds; if reconfigured, be conscious of backstop blocking views across the park or from spaces used for gathering and spectating.
- Continue to provide space for cricket, soccer, and sports for open play; reorganize their layout based on reservation data to minimize overlaps between sports at high use times of day; expand offerings if the demand exists and space allows.

#### Special Events

- Provide electric and water infrastructure as need to continue to host and better support the park's large events and festivals.

### MAXIMIZE PLAY FIELD AND COURT LAYOUT



#### Proposed Fields & Courts

The Playstead Fields  
Overflow Area

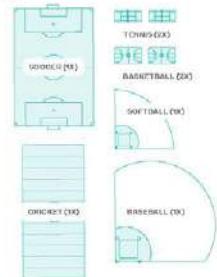
New Fence & Access Gate

① The Oval

② The Tailgate Edge

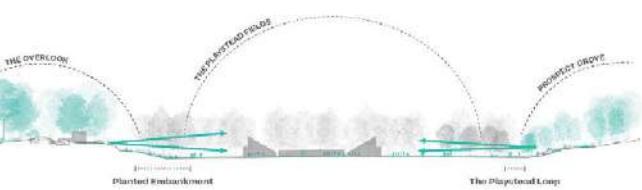
③ The Prospect Grove

④ White Stadium



With regular reservations throughout the Fall and Spring, The Playstead's fields are well-used. All fields and courts are relocated to improve efficiency; the fields should be regraded and soils engineered with sub-drainage to improve drainage and better withstand intensive use.

### OVERLOOKING THE CENTRAL FIELDS



312

Executive Park Action Plan

Recommendations | Amory Magnet Destination

313

Produced Through a Community Effort from 2019 to 2022

Franklin Park Action Plan p. 312-313

# 2024 City & Boston Unity Proposal



# February 2025 Community Alternative



# May 2025 Stadium Demolished by City



Image Credit: [MassLive](#), [Sebastian Restrepo](#)

# Public Stadium Program

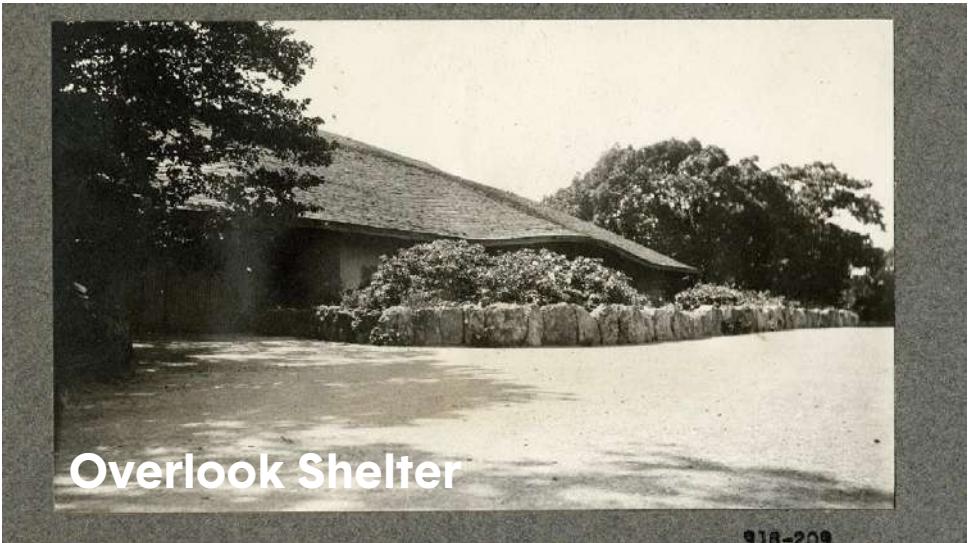
- ✓ Grass Field
- ✓ Running Track
- ✓ Scoreboard
- ✓ 5,000 seats
- ✓ Multi-purpose Rooms
- ✓ BPS Gym
- ✓ BPS Locker Room
- ✓ BPS Sports Medicine
- ✓ BPS Field Sports & Throwing Area
- ✓ BPS Athletics Office
- ✓ BPS Track & Field Equipment Storage
- ✓ BPS Team Sports Storage
- ✓ BPS Custodial Office
- ✓ Bike Storage
- ✓ Spectator Restrooms
- ✓ Public Restrooms
- ✓ Press Box
- ✓ Basketball Courts
- ✓ Pathway Lighting

# Private Stadium Program

- ✖ Private Beer Garden
- ✖ Seating Capacity for Professional Soccer
- ✖ Additional Utilities, Circulation, and Restrooms for Additional Capacity
- ✖ Private Storage Areas
- ✖ Private Event Media Center
- ✖ Private Professional Locker Rooms
- ✖ Private Professional Medical Rooms
- ✖ Private Club Seating
- ✖ Private Stadium Operations Rooms
- ✖ Bar & Lounge

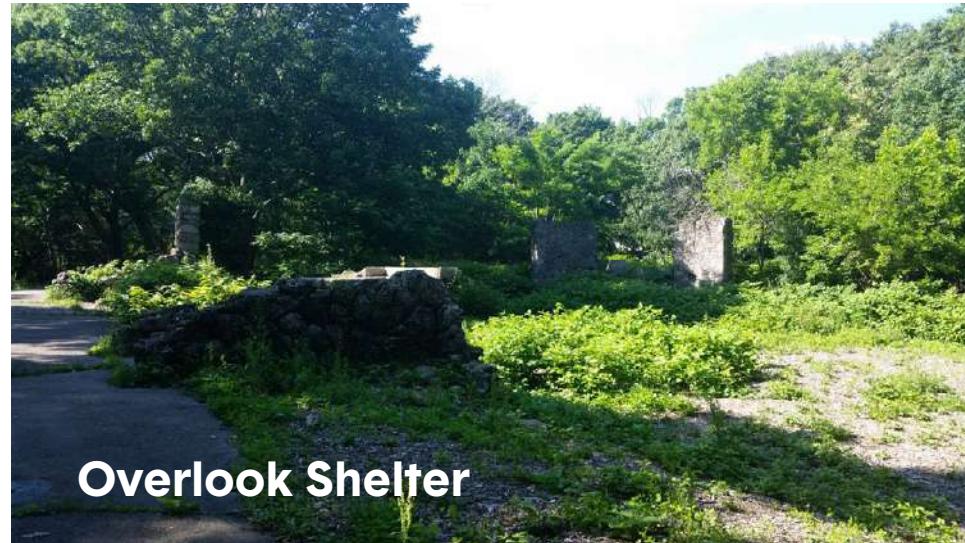
# Our Design Principles

- 1 Preserve All Trees
- 2 Openness and Accessibility
- 3 Prioritize the Needs of Local Users
- 4 Maximize Distinct Simultaneous Uses by Community
- 5 Preserve Landscape Quality and Character of Franklin Park
- 6 Promote Safety and Health

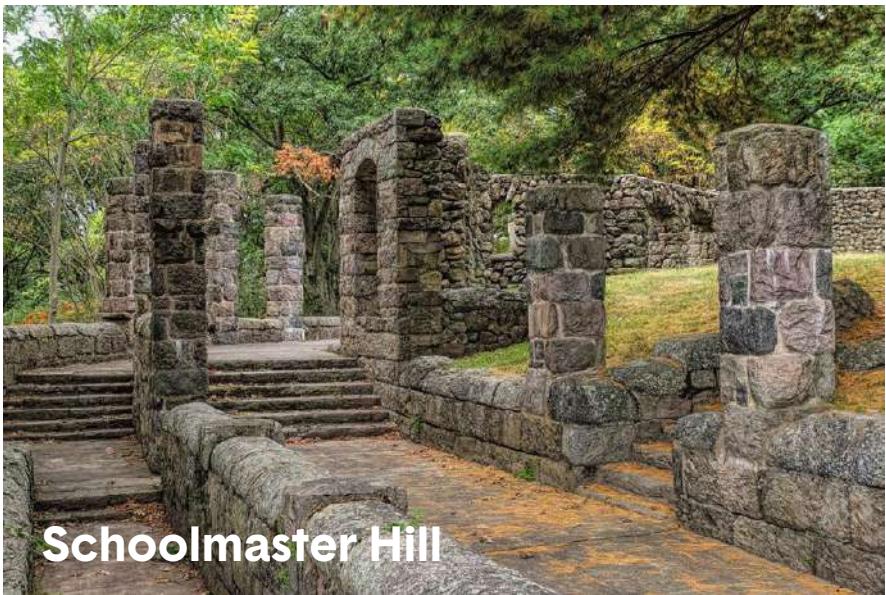


**Overlook Shelter**

318-208



**Overlook Shelter**



**Schoolmaster Hill**



**Sargent's Folly**

# Community Idea For Alternative

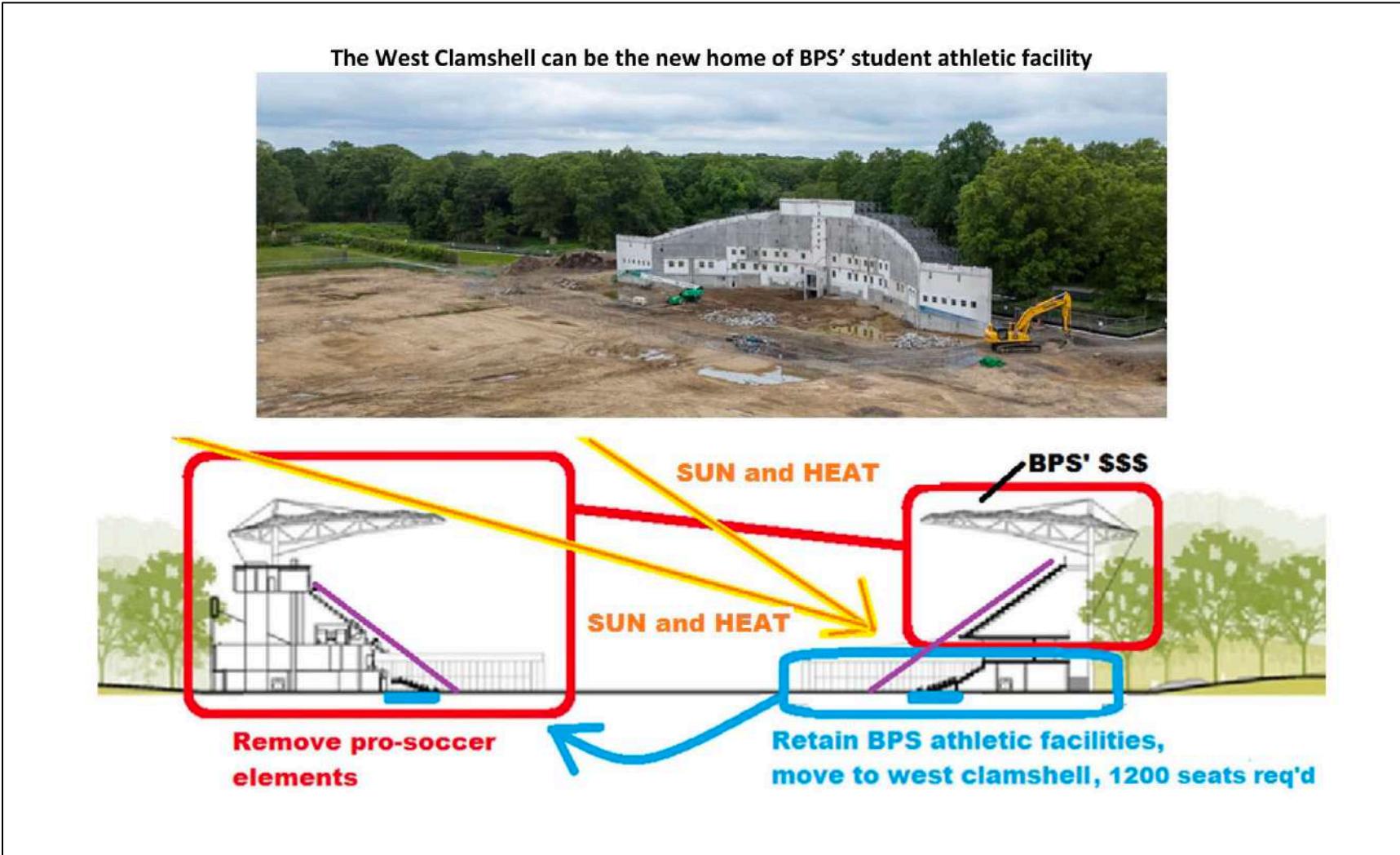
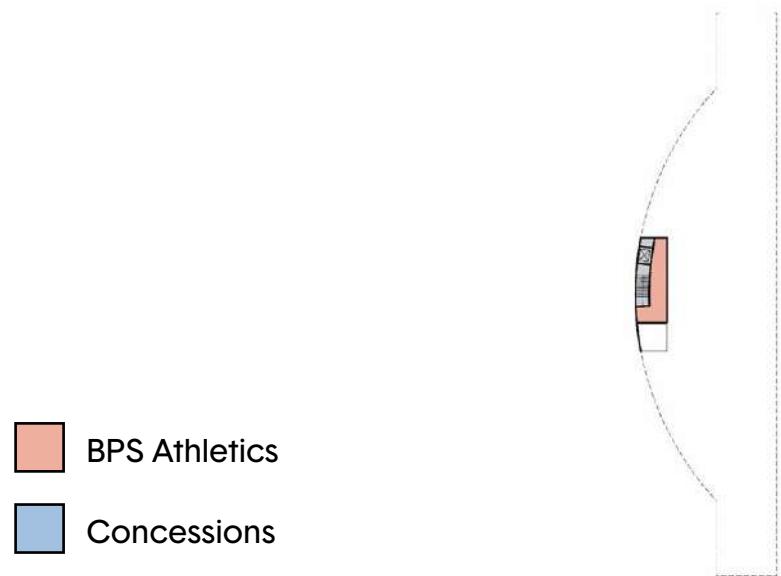


Image Credit: Allan Ihrer

# Revised Design

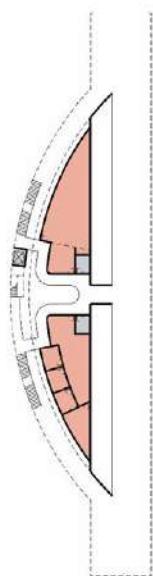
## Program Layout Plan

**Total Area: 37,500 sf**

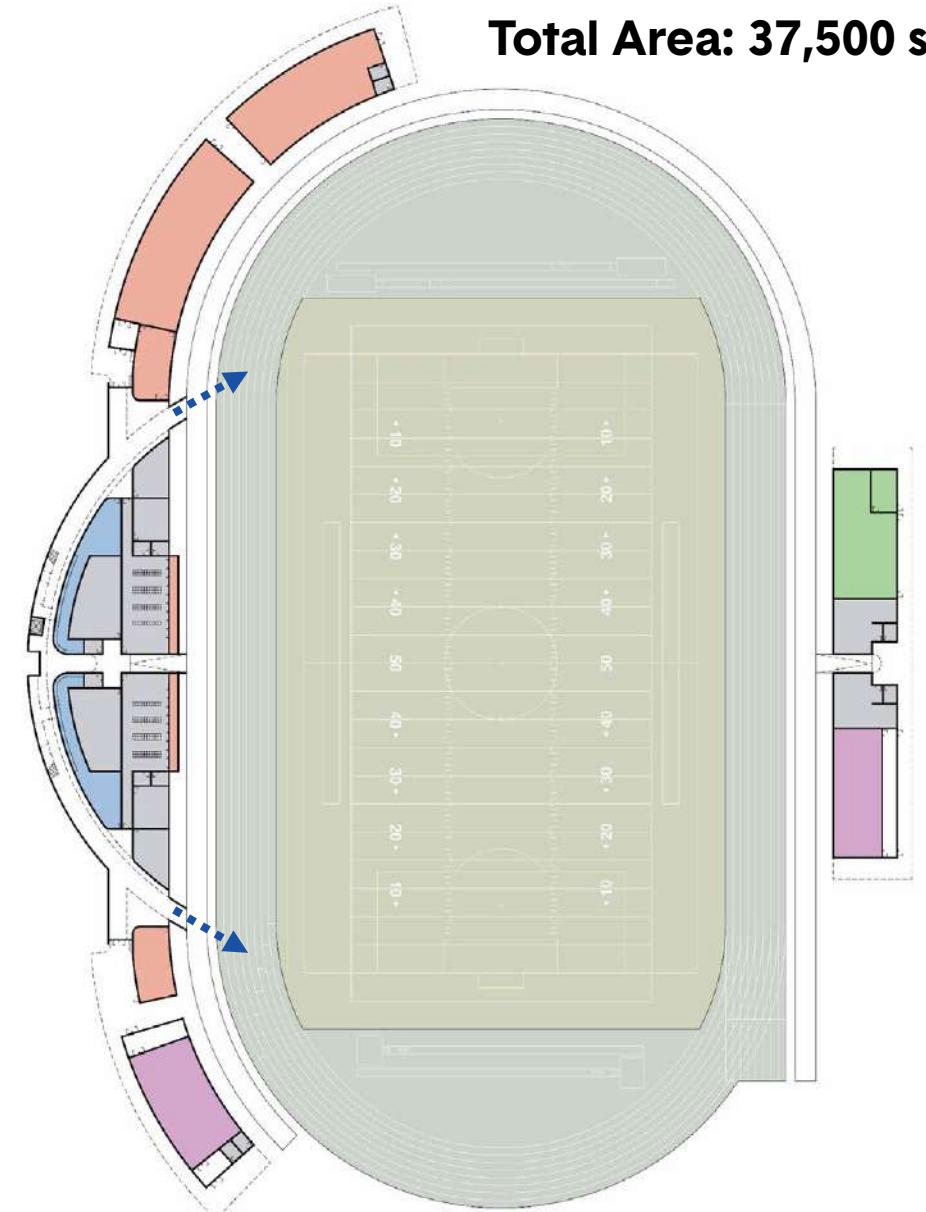


BPS Athletics  
 Concessions  
 Multi-Purpose Rooms  
 Groundskeepers  
 Lockers, Restrooms, & Mechanical

**Level 3**  
Press Box & Balconies



**Level 2**  
Admin Suites & Access to Middle Concourse



**Level 1**





**Rebuild West Grandstand with Expanded Uses**  
**\$39.6 million**

**Replace Track & Field**  
**\$5.9 million**

**New East Grandstand with Park and Community Uses**  
**\$9.0 million**

**Site Improvements**  
**\$10.1 million**

**Total: \$64.6 million**

## Rebuild West Grandstand with Expanded Uses

**\$39.6 million**

- New Stands, Seating, and Structure
- Add One Story Wings Housing BPS & Community Programming
- Fully Modern Structure & Systems
- Preserve Remaining Clamshell Wall

### Benefits

- + Respect Historic Wall and Park space
- + Maintain Height of Buildings
- + State-of-the-Art BPS Athletic Facility

## Replace Track & Field **\$5.9 million**

- Replace 6-lane Track with 8-lane track
- New Natural Field Sized for High School Soccer and Football
- New Irrigation
- New Goal Posts
- New Fencing
- New High Mast Lighting
- New LED Scoreboard

### Benefits

- + Prioritize Student Needs

## New East Grandstand with Park and Community Uses **\$9.0 million**

- New Stands, Seating, and Structure
- New One-story Building Housing Additional Restrooms and Program
- Incorporates Facilities Maintenance Spaces

### Benefits

- + Lower Height Helps Stadium Blend with Park
- + Provide Additional Community Uses

**Total: \$64.6 million**



## Site Improvements

**\$10.1 million**

- Drainage Infrastructure Improvements
- New Bioretention Areas
- New Paths
- Restore Disturbed Lawn Areas
- New Groundcover Plantings
- New Tree Plantings
- New Pedestrian Lighting

### Benefits

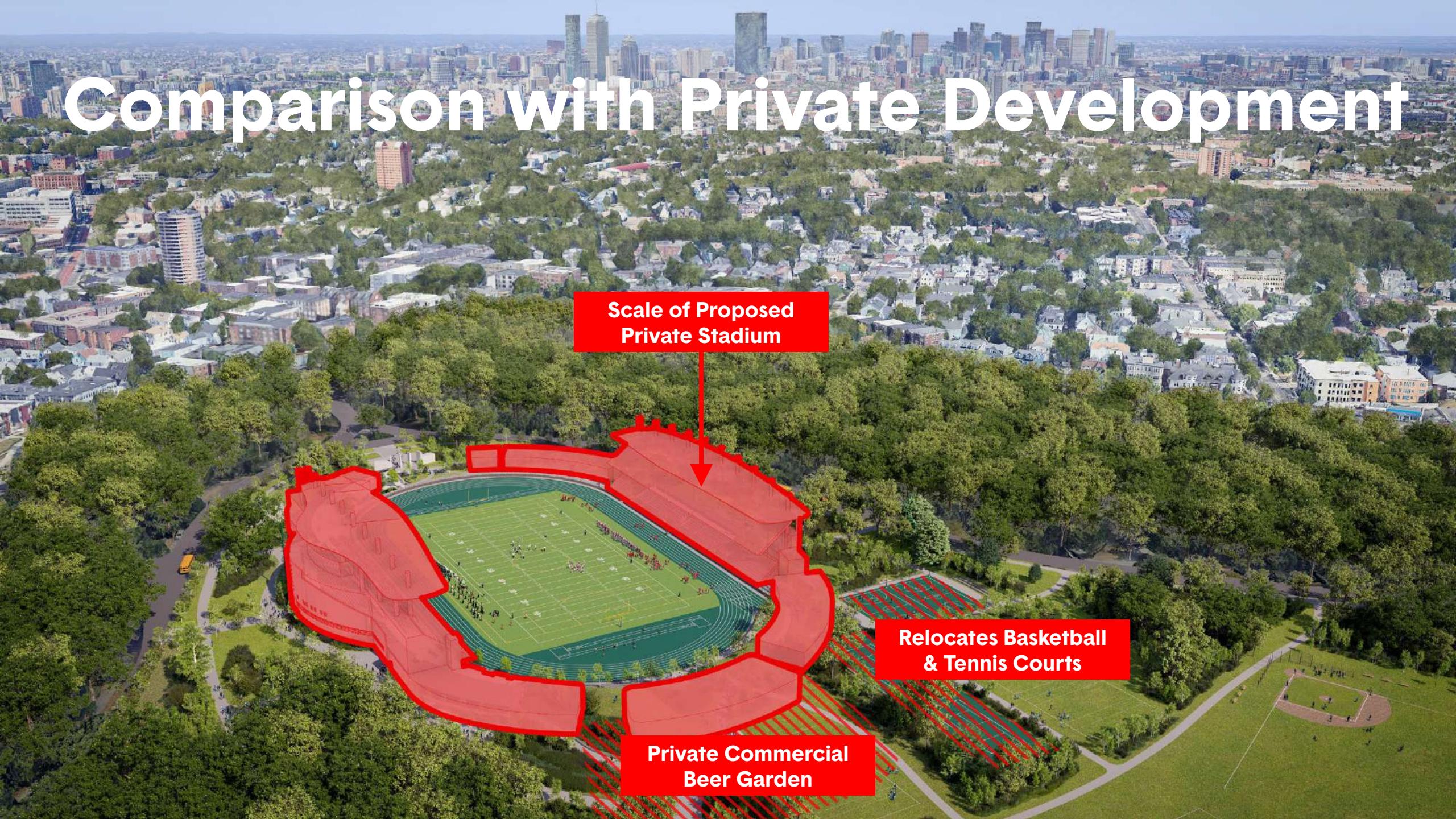
- + Expand Tree Canopy & Groundcover Restoring Disruption of City Demolition
- + Improve Connection to Playstead
- + Preserve Existing Sports Courts

# Phasable & Scalable

**Potential First Phase:**  
Approximately \$12 million  
Rebuild Track & Field, Access  
Path, and Adjacent Landscape  
As Soon As Possible



# Comparison with Private Development



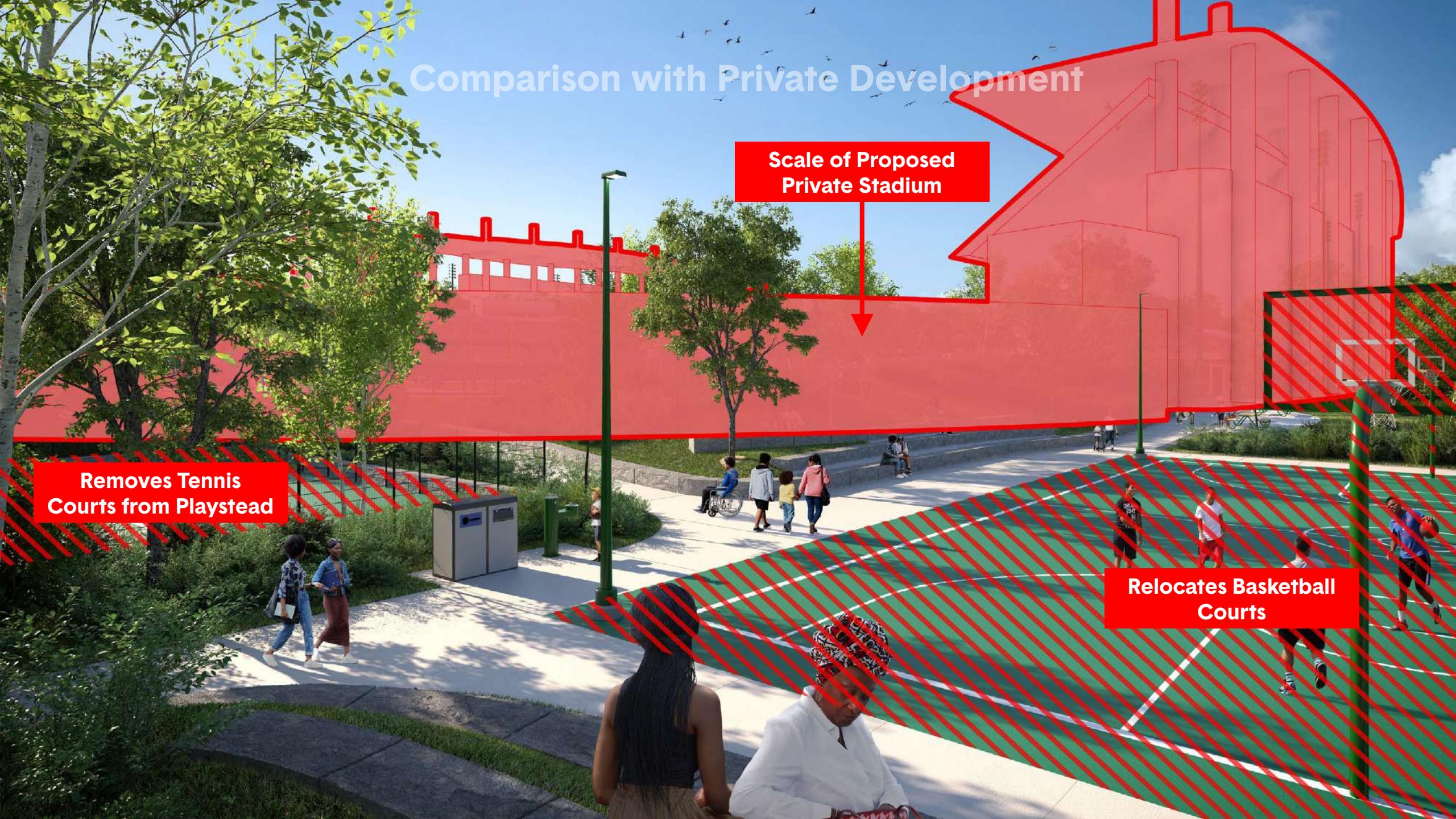
# Concept for Public Alternative



# Concept for Public Alternative



# Comparison with Private Development



# Concept for Public Alternative



# Concept for Public Alternative

**New Programming  
Accessible to Park**

**Improved Visual  
Connections**



# Concept for Public Alternative



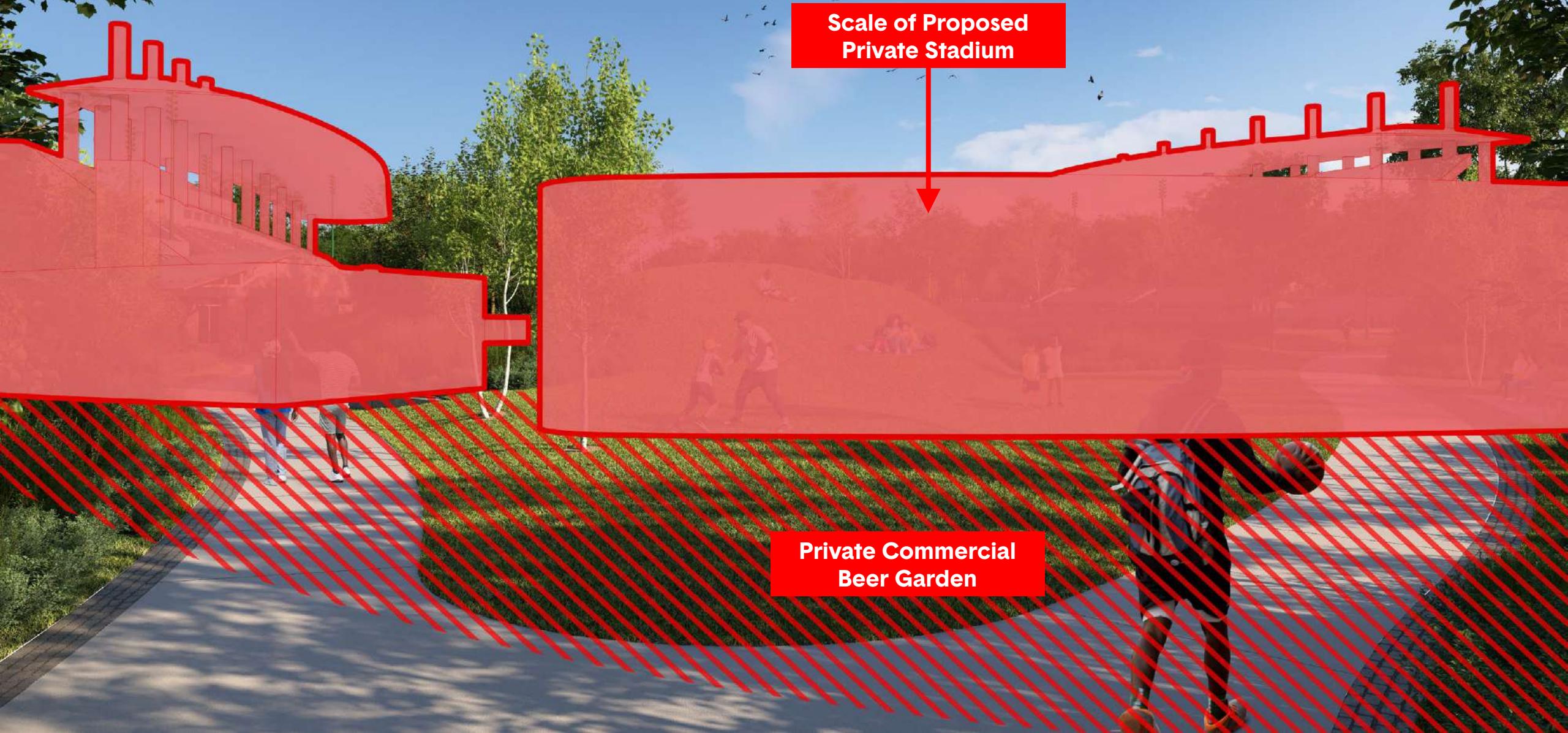
# Concept for Public Alternative

**Heated Public Restrooms  
and Public Event Space**

**Seating Slope of Stands  
Doubles As Sledding Hill**



# Comparison with Private Development



# Concept for Public Alternative



# Concept for Public Alternative

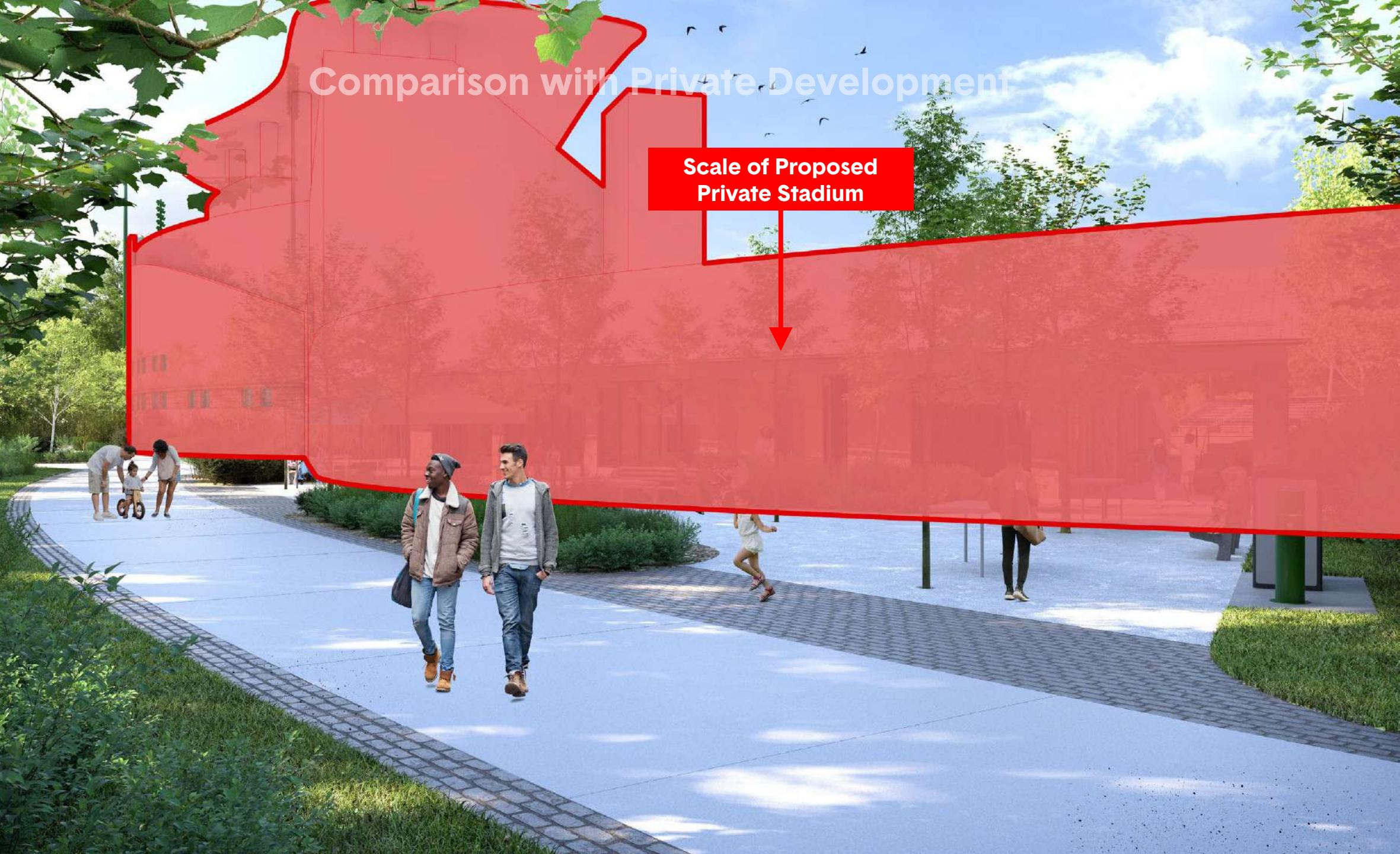
New Buildings Provide  
Community and BPS Uses

Provide Public  
Restrooms and  
Drinking Fountains



# Comparison with Private Development

Scale of Proposed  
Private Stadium



# Concept for Public Alternative



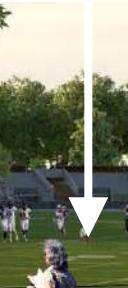
9/12 at 6:00pm

# Kick-off Time of Second Game of the High School Football Season

Formal Seating Sized for High School Events



West Grandstand Shades Field For Games



Terraced Landscape Seating for Higher Capacity Events



Concept for Public Alternative



9/12 at 6:00pm

**Kick-off Time of Second Game of the High School Football Season**

**View Fully Obstructed By  
Private Stadium**

**Comparison with Private Development**

# Concept for Public Alternative



9/19 at 7:15pm  
O'Bryant vs Boston Latin



Concept for Public Alternative

9/19 at 7:15pm  
~~O'Bryant vs Boston Latin~~

Scale of Proposed  
Professional Stadium

No High School Football  
Games Until End of Season

Comparison with Private Development