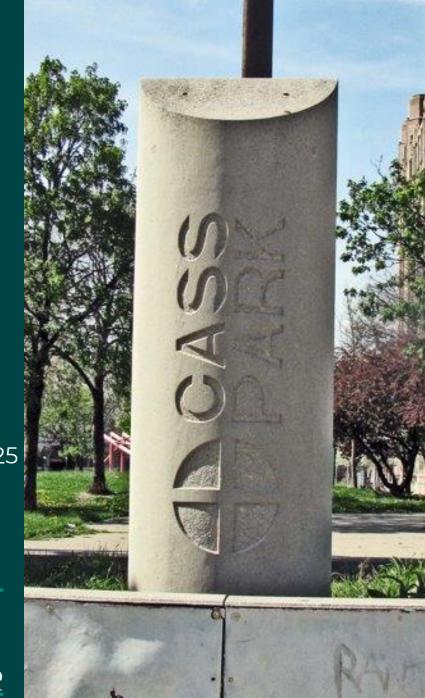
## CASS PARK: Community Engagement Summary

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH SCHEDULE:

- General Stakeholder Meeting Oct. 18, 2024
- Community Meeting #1 Nov. 14, 2024
- Stakeholder Meeting with Robert Burns Club Jan. 29, 2025
- Student Survey March through April 2025
- Stakeholder Meeting with Food Distribution Group Mar. 17, 2025
- Stakeholder Meeting with Cass Tech PTSA Mar. 20, 2025
- Community Meeting #2 Mar. 26, 2025





## CASS PARK: Community Engagement Summary

## **ENGAGED STAKEHOLDERS:**

- The Masonic Temple
- Mariners Inn
- Cass Tech Leadership, PSTA
- Chinatown Vision Committee
- Olympia
- Residents (from prev. community benefits group)
- Robert Burns Club
- Residents that live on the park (2714 Second)
- Park Users
- Food Distribution Group
- Cass Tech Students







## PARK IMPROVEMENTS AT CASS PARK



# WHAT WE HEARD: Who Responded

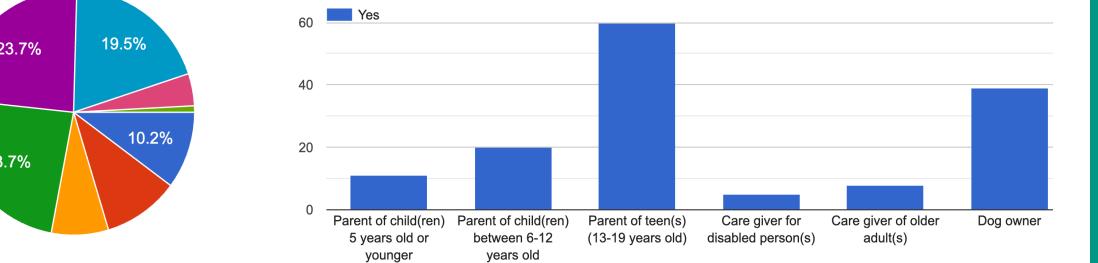
### SURVEY

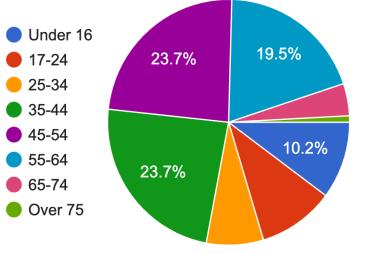
- 124 responses ٠
- Nearly a quarter were youth •
- Over half were parents of teens ٠
- Majority (70%) identified as African American •

### 11/14 COMMUNITY MEETING

Attendees representing:

- Cass Tech PTSA
- the Triangle Society
- Olympia Development
- **Robert Burns Club**
- the Masonic Temple
- the Planning Department
- **Chinatown Vision Committee**
- Neighborhood residents

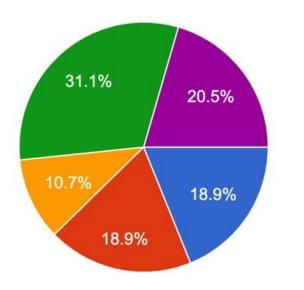




## **WHAT WE HEARD: Survey Results**

### Park Use:

- Most people walk (47%) or drive (41%) to the park, only 5% reported biking.
- The main concerns are:
  - #1) The park does not offer what people want (56%)#2) Safety issues (52%)
- Mix of how often people use the park:

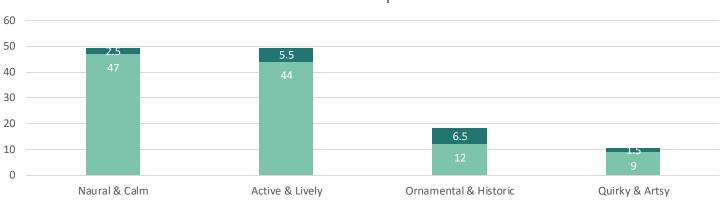




# WHAT WE HEARD: All Results

### Park Atmosphere:

ATMOSPHERE	Survey	Stakeholders	TOTAL
Natural & Calm	47	2.5	39%
Active & Lively	44	5.5	39%
Ornamental & Historic	12	6.5	14%
Quirky & Artsy	9	1.5	8%



#### Park Atmosphere

- $\rightarrow$  Evenly split between natural and active
- → Stakeholders were more supportive of ornamental/historic
- $\rightarrow$  + 11 write-ins of folks wanting a combination of atmospheres

#### **Passive vs Active:**

ACTIVE VS PASSIVE	Survey	Stakeholders	TOTAL
1	15		11%
2	15		<b>11</b> %
3	57	9	<b>49</b> %
4	23	5	<b>21</b> %
5	12		9%



Active vs Passive

 $\rightarrow$  Most respondents want a mix of passive and active spaces in the park

# WHAT WE HEARD: Community Meeting Summary

## What do you like best:

- Trees/shade
- Resting spot
- Historic
- Walkable
- Location (x2)
- Greenspace
- Burns statue

## One thing you would change:

- Lighting (x4)
- Trash
- Seating / communal spaces
- Study tables / education area
- Games area
- Tech chargers
- Walkways

#### Other notes:

- Trash concerns
- Pathway issues
- Add a water feature
- Provide seating
- Historical signage
- Infrastructure to support family-friendly events (farmers market, art fair, festivals, yoga)
- Vendor stage with electric
- Shelter/gazebo
- Education area
- Games area
- Consider solar
- Waiting/hangout area for students
- Open space for student activities (sports, arts, etc.)
- Burns Statue
  - Add interpretive sign
  - Protect it from traffic
  - Holes in base (old light sockets)

## **WHAT WE HEARD: Survey Results**

### Write-ins:

- Want event space for local groups, Mariner's Inn family BBQ, food distribution Sundays, Cass Tech student plays, etc., but NOT really large events with bright lighting or loud music.
- Want to keep the mature trees
- More and better seating, with a mix of more active hangout space and quiet restful areas
- Less focus on playing with younger kids and more on accommodating Cass Tech student programs, provide space for Cass **athletics**, soccer, running, etc.
- Requests for updated fitness equipment
- Mixed comments on dogs some say there are enough dog parks others ask that it be dog-friendly (but not a dog park)
- Currently not inviting, concerns with trash
- Mixed on supporting homeless population, versus not feeling comfortable in the park because of people sleeping in the park. Widespread support of the food distribution program

# **WHAT WE HEARD: Survey Results**

#### What would you like to do in Cass Park:

- #1) Socializing (76%)
- #2) Relaxing in nature (75%)
- #3) Exercising (59%)
- #4) Walking or biking (58%)
- #5) Playing with kids (40%)
- #6) Cultural programming (39%)
- #7) View art installations (38%)
- #8) Event space (27%)

### What are your top priorities for Cass Park?

- #1) Add gardens/landscaping (60%)
- #2) Add lighting (55%)
- #3) Fix walkways (52%)
- #4) Replace old seating (46%)
- #5) Create a hangout area (35%)
- #6) Install/repair art (31%)
- #7) Reimagine the historic fountain (31%)
- #8) Create a space for events (21%)
- #9) Add shade/shelters (20%)
- #10) Install educational signs (15%)

# WHAT WE HEARD: Community Meeting Results

#### Entries:

- View art x6
- Socialize x4
- Add gardens/landscaping
- Burns Statue
  - Repair statue x3
  - Protect it from traffic
  - Fix holes (old lights)

#### <u>Perimeter</u>:

- Add a walking loop x 6
- Make safe, beautiful, welcoming
- Play x2

#### <u>Center</u>:

- Add a central focal point x2
- Add a water feature x2
- Add gardens/landscaping
- Accommodate food distribution
- Watch events x7
- Cultural programs x4



#### <u>NW Quad:</u>

- Relax x5
- Socialize x2

#### <u>NE Quad</u>

- Cultural programs
- Watch events x2
- Socialize
- Exercise

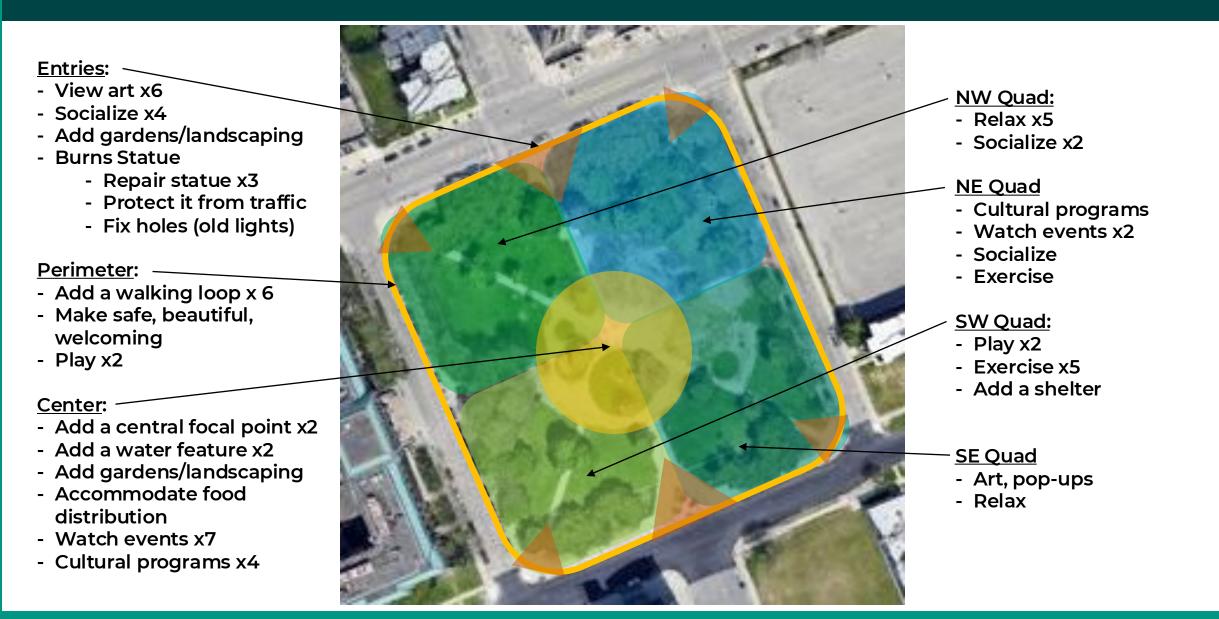
#### SW Quad:

- Play x2
- Exercise x5
- Add a shelter

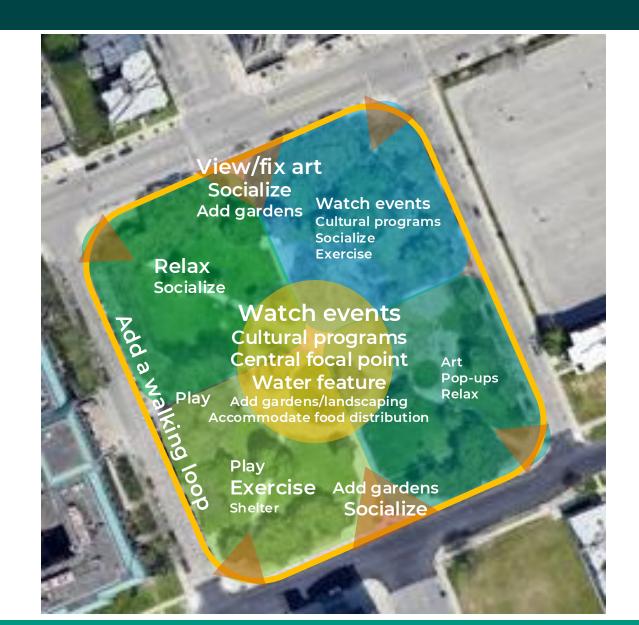
#### <u>SE Quad</u>

- Art, pop-ups
- Relax

# WHAT WE HEARD: Community Meeting Results



## WHAT WE HEARD: Community Meeting Results



# WHAT WE HEARD: Targeted Outreach

### Robert Burns Club:

- Keep statue where it is, historical location
- Statue only needs cleaning
- Non-historic base needs repair (especially the nonfunctioning lighting elements)
- Want to protect the statue from future car hits (caused the base to be skewed)\
- Positive about the plan for the park

### Cass Tech PTSA:

- Want amenities that reflect what Cass students and families would use: charging stations, exercise equipment, esp. stationary bikes
- Create places for student to hang out, possible stage for small performances
- Connections look into motorized scooter or city bike station in the park
- Overall like the concept and plan, excited for the upcoming improvements

### Food Distribution Group

- Has served food on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month in Cass Park for over a decade
- Uses the middle of the park because it has open space and concrete, would be willing to move (and not drive vehicles in the park) if there was a space on the eastern edge that could accommodate them
- Snow can be an issue, relocating to the edge of the park could help
- Their ideal park would include: space for picnics and bbq's, gardens with flagrant flowers and plants, "little grace notes" amidst a harder edge space, hang out space