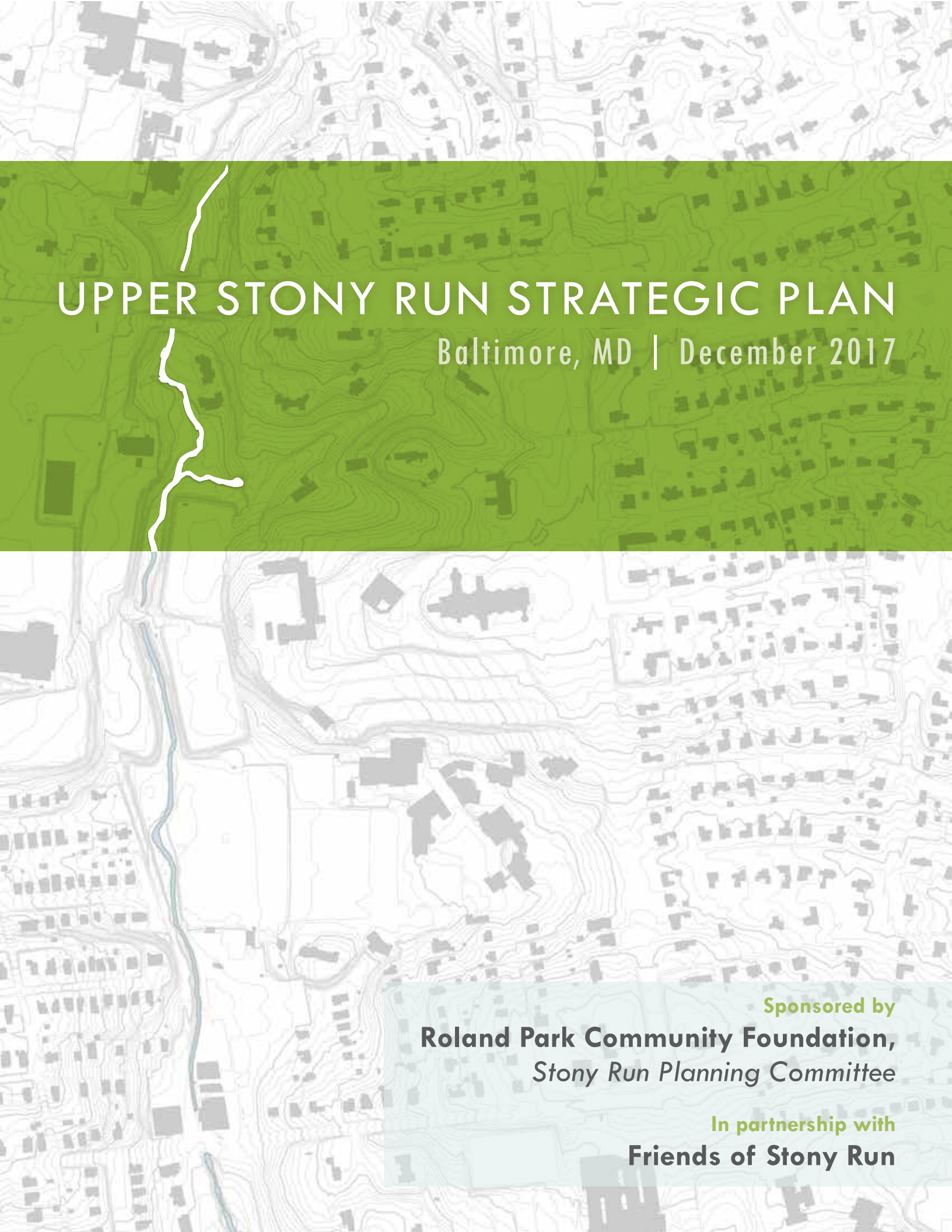


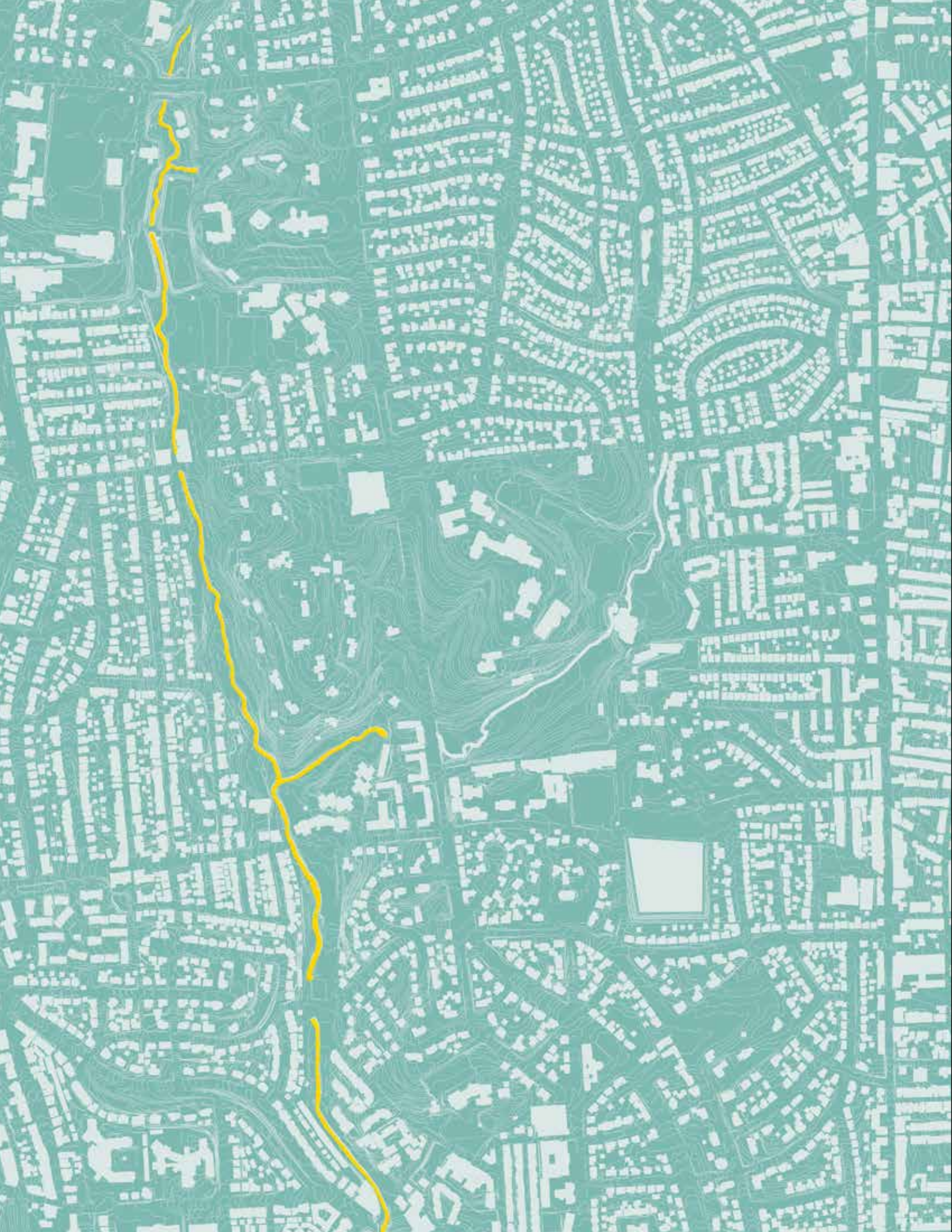


UPPER STONY RUN STRATEGIC PLAN

Baltimore, MD | December 2017

Sponsored by
Roland Park Community Foundation,
Stony Run Planning Committee

In partnership with
Friends of Stony Run



UPPER STONY RUN STRATEGIC PLAN

GILMAN SCHOOL TO OVERHILL ROAD

(Including recommendations to consider north to Northern Parkway and south to University Parkway)

Sponsored by
Roland Park Community Foundation,
Stony Run Planning Committee

In partnership with
Friends of Stony Run

DECEMBER 2017

Prepared by

MAHAN RYKIEL
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
URBAN DESIGN & PLANNING

CITY OF BALTIMORE

CATHERINE E. PUGH, Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS

REGINALD MOORE, Director
DR. RALPH W. E. JONES, JR. BUILDING
3001 East Drive - Druid Hill Park
Baltimore, Maryland 21217
410-396-7900

October 5, 2017

Ms. Mary Page Michel
Roland Park Community Foundation
P.O. Box 16214
Baltimore, MD 21210

Dear Ms. Michel,

On behalf of the Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks, it is with appreciation that I am writing to congratulate the Roland Park Community Foundation on the completion of the *Upper Stony Run Strategic Plan*. I am pleased to support the final plan. Through your hard work, devotion and financial resources, one of North Baltimore's great environmental and recreational assets, the Stony Run stream corridor and walking path, has a long-term vision and plan for improved and sustained vitality along its northern reaches. This plan can serve as a model for continuing the planning effort along the Lower Stony Run and Wyman Park.

With a thorough public outreach and engagement process, I am confident that this plan reflects the community's desires and needs. Additionally, I recognize the effort of your team to engage and consult our Department from the earliest stages of planning, and appreciate how the final plan carefully incorporates our comments.

Looking ahead, I am eager to see this plan implemented. The recommendations complement efforts of the City to continually enhance our valuable recreational amenities. Furthermore, the Department of Recreation and Parks is excited to be identified as an implementation resource. Through strengthening and building partnerships among communities, City agencies, and private individuals and organizations, we can together realize the shared goals of the City and its residents.

Many thanks for your hard work in developing this plan for the future of the Upper Stony Run.

Sincerely,

Reginald Moore
Director



CITY OF BALTIMORE

CATHERINE E. PUGH, Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Rudolph S. Chow, P.E., Director
Abel Wolman Municipal Building, 6th Floor
200 N. Holliday Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

September 7, 2017

Mary Page Michel, Chair
Roland Park Community Foundation
PO Box 16214
Baltimore MD 21210

Dear Ms. Michel,

First of all, I would like to thank the Roland Park Community Foundation and the Friends of Stony Run for your collective efforts to create the Upper Stony Run Strategic Plan. As you know, the Department of Public Works led the restoration of portions of the Upper Stony Run. We know how valuable this waterway is and appreciate your efforts to create a plan so that these protections and restorations can continue into the future. In order for Baltimore's open spaces and waterways to prosper, we need the commitment and vision of leaders like your organizations, as well as the dozens of community members and stakeholders who worked tirelessly in gathering data, attending meetings, and making recommendations.

We also want to thank you for including the Department of Public Works as a partner in the development of the strategic plan. We appreciate the opportunity to review the plan and make comments, and that you listened to our ideas and concerns and incorporated them into the final document.

Finally, we look forward to working in partnership to move the strategic plan forward. As the report states, it requires all sectors – private, public, and non-profit – working together to improve this important natural corridor. Good luck with your efforts to continue improving the Upper Stony Run.

Sincerely,

Rudolph S. Chow, P.E.
Director





Baltimore, Maryland www.stonyrun.org

February 5, 2017

Ms. Mary Page Michel
Roland Park Community Foundation
P.O. Box 16214
Baltimore, MD 21210

RE: Upper Stony Run Strategic Plan

Dear Ms. Michel:

As President of the Friends of Stony Run, I am writing in support of the Upper Stony Run Strategic Plan developed by Mahan Rykiel Associates. We have been a partner throughout the development of the plan and have participated in community meetings and focus groups from the beginning. As an organization we have used the Strategic Plan as guidance for developing our own priorities as we plan for our future goals and activities. We strongly support the plan and urge Baltimore City to adopt it.

Sincerely,

Friends of Stony Run

Craig Huntley, President

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Roland Park Community Foundation

Mary Page Michel, Chairman

Stony Run Strategic Plan Committee

Jack Carneal

Claudia Diamond

Elizabeth “Boo” Lunt

Many Thanks for Continued Support from:

Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks

Baltimore City Department of Public Works

Friends of Stony Run



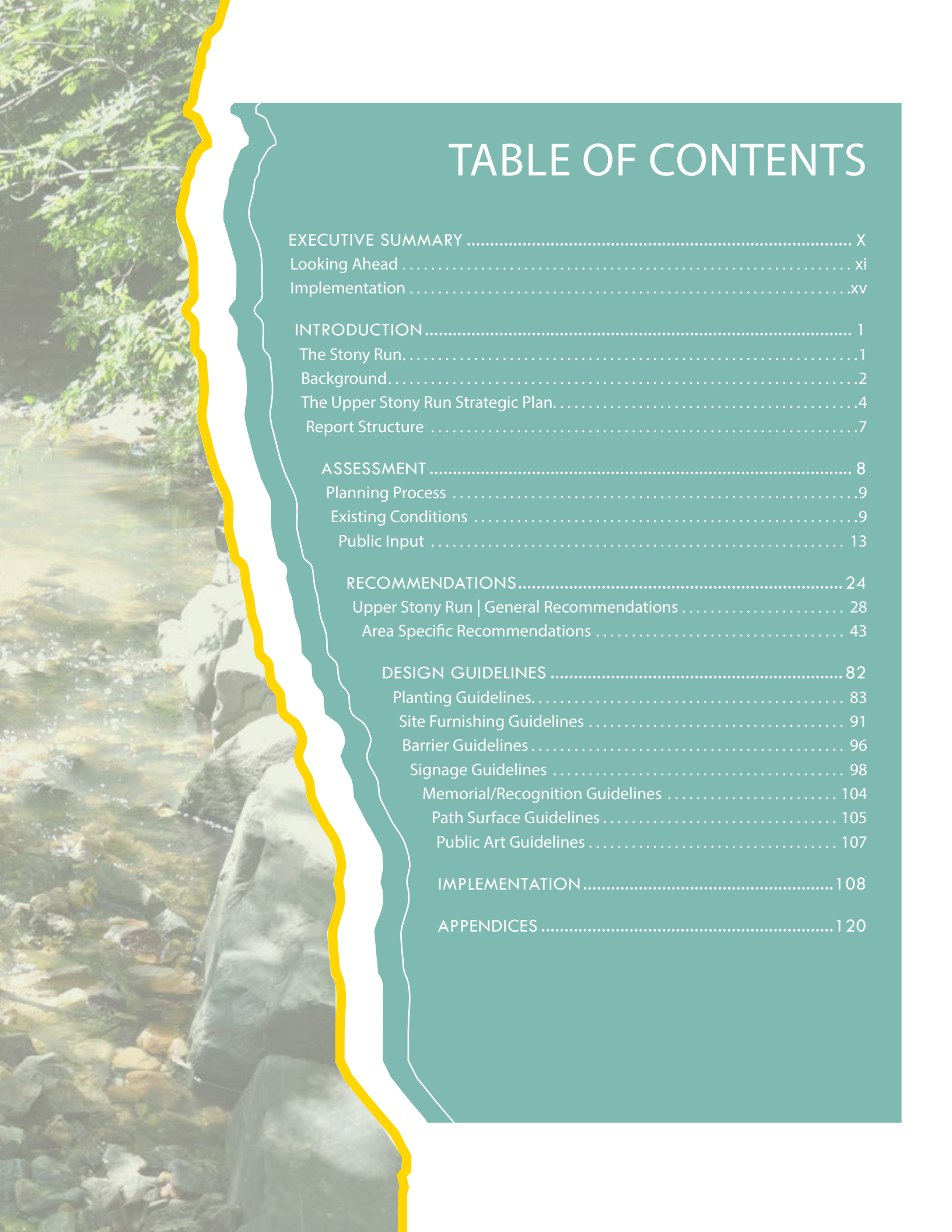


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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Tucked away among deep-rooted forest and between long-standing neighborhoods and institutions, the Stony Run meanders from Baltimore County into north Baltimore City. The stream and the adjacent parkland is a gem—an ecological enclave that has the potential to serve many different people while balancing the needs of the underlying ecosystem. With foresight and the intent to sustain this resource, a proactive and holistic planning effort was initiated for the upper section of the Stony Run (from Gilman School to Overhill Road) by the Roland Park Community Foundation, with support and input from council people, institutions, area leaders, and residents from over a dozen neighborhoods.

While the entire Stony Run corridor is a magnet for activity and recreation, it is not a clearly defined amenity. It is primarily characterized by passive woodland spaces, and passes through and alongside 15 neighborhoods, and is loved by many. This natural, somewhat undefined characteristic is both a boon and a burden. The landscape provides rich habitat for wildlife, stimulating scenery for recreation, and a lush contrast to the urban city within which it lives. As it exists currently between Gilman School and Overhill Road, the nearly two-mile path system is a connection between communities, institutions, businesses, and others.



Advocates and volunteers have dedicated countless hours to protecting and enhancing the Stony Run. However, without any one proprietor, or owner, volunteer efforts can become diluted; and the Stony Run, largely unattended as a whole, suffers from neglect. In order to meet the needs both of residents, who wish to enjoy the environment, and of the underlying natural ecosystem, which struggles to thrive, a plan for the long-term stewardship of the Stony Run is needed.



Looking Ahead

The *Upper Stony Run Strategic Plan* was initiated in 2015 as a means to protect and enhance the Stony Run and its associated open spaces. It follows on the heels of recent initiatives—the Roland Park Master Plan, stream restoration projects, the Stony Run Walking Path initiative, the construction of two bridges between University Parkway and Overhill Road, and collaborative partnerships—building upon prior work to guide stewardship efforts in the Park.

Following a 10-month public planning process, which included three public meetings, an opinion survey, walking tours, and online engagement opportunities, the Strategic Plan outlines the strategies and actions for enhancement, design guidelines for setting Park standards, and an implementation plan for improving the Stony Run. It is important to note that some of this plan's recommendations have been developed to a level where they can be immediately implemented. Other, more complex recommendations will require further engagement and/or the development of detailed drawings before they can be implemented.

Plan Scope

The scope of this Strategic Plan as funded by the Roland Park Community Foundation is for the section of Stony Run between Gilman School and Overhill Road. However, because there was broad participation of stakeholders from neighborhoods beyond Roland Park, and because more logical geographic boundaries exist, the Strategic Plan also includes for consideration recommendations that extend south to University Parkway and North to Northern Parkway.

It is important to note that because many of the recommendations of the Strategic Plan are applicable to both the Upper and Lower Sections, the hope is that this Strategic Plan can be used as a tool to leverage funding and support by other partners to extend the planning effort south to Sisson and 29th Streets.

Existing Opportunities

The Stony Run Strategic Plan has been shaped by an assessment of existing conditions and the collection of stakeholder input. The recommendations grew out of this research and are framed by the community's vision for Stony Run.

Additionally, the recommendations of this strategic plan are grounded in the following goals and objectives:

GOAL 1 | PROTECT AND IMPROVE ECOLOGICAL SYSTEMS

- A. Improve Water Quality and Stream Health
- B. Repair and Prevent Erosion
- C. Address Flooding and Stormwater Management
- D. Remove and Control Invasive Plants
- E. Maintain a Cohesive, Native Planting Palette
- F. Enhance Wildlife Habitat and Biodiversity

GOAL 2 | ENHANCE PARK LEGIBILITY AND COMFORTS

- G. Balance the Park's Presence as Part of an Overall Park System While Maintaining its Understated Character
- H. Stabilize and Enhance Walking Path and Surfaces
- I. Provide Appropriate Signage
- J. Provide Appropriate Furnishings
- K. Preserve the Diversity of Experiences Provided by Different Areas
- L. Promote the Park's Cleanliness

VISION

Stony Run is an urban oasis—an ecologically protected enclave appreciated and enjoyed year-round by people of all backgrounds, interests, and ages. It connects North Baltimore communities and welcomes visitors, serving as a friendly meeting ground and venue for primarily passive recreation and neighborhood events.

GOAL 3 | PARTNER, PROGRAM AND MAINTAIN

- M. Provide Balanced Programming and Opportunities for Engagement
- N. Identify and Adopt Stony Run-Specific Use Policies
- O. Enforce Rules and Regulations
- P. Develop and Nurture Partnerships
- Q. Discourage Negative Behavior

GOAL 4 | PROVIDE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

- R. Demonstrate the Value of Improvements Made
- S. Identify the Importance of Stream Renovation
- T. Partner with Schools, Advocacy Groups, and Others to Integrate Teaching Opportunities

Summary of Recommendations

The above goals and objectives inform a series of general policy-related, programmatic and physical recommendations for the entire corridor (Upper Stony Run), and specific recommendations organized around three segments of the Upper Stony Run– Northern, Central and Southern Segments. The recommendations are summarized on the following pages and described in detail throughout the body of the Strategic Plan.



UPPER STONY RUN | GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Physical Recommendations

- » G1 – Water Quality Testing
- » G2 – Stream Bank Repair
- » G3 – Pathway Stabilization and Repair
- » G4 – Invasive Plant Removal and New Plantings
- » G5 – Bird Box Project and Wildlife Habitats
- » G6 – Encroachment
- » G7 – Signage
- » G8 – Site Amenities
- » G9 – Property Line Demarcation

Policy Recommendations

- » G10 – Leash Policy
- » G11 – Bike Usage
- » G12 – Park Name and Recognition

Programming Recommendations

- » G13 – Gatherings/Events
- » G14 – Permitting
- » G15 – Tours
- » G16 – Memorials/Recognition Markers
- » G17 – Public Art
- » G18 – Capacity-Building
- » G19 – Strategic Plan Updates and Expanded Study Areas

UPPER STONY RUN | NORTHERN SEGMENT

- » N1 – Northern Parkway Gateway Area*
- » N2 – Gilman and Roland Park Elementary/Middle School Gateway
- » N3 – Deepdene Road Entrance
- » N4 – Colorado Avenue Entrance
- » N5 – St. Johns Road Entrance
- » N6 – Gladstone Avenue Entrance
- » N7 – Wyndhurst Avenue Gateway
- » N8 – Gilman to Wyndhurst Enhancement Projects
- » N9 – Wyndhurst Station Flooding
- » N10 – Related Projects

UPPER STONY RUN | CENTRAL SEGMENT

- » C1 – West Loop
- » C2 – East Stony Run Stream Restoration
- » C3 – Oakdale Meadow
- » C4 – Oakdale Road Entrance
- » C5 – Alpine Meadow
- » C6 – Demonstration Rain Garden
- » C7 – Retaining Wall Evaluation
- » C8 – Bolton Street Synagogue Tree Planting
- » C9 – Cold Spring Gateway
- » C10 – Stream Bank Repair
- » C11 – Wyndhurst to Cold Spring Enhancement Projects
- » C12 – Property Line Demarcation
- » C13 – Stream Channel Widening

UPPER STONY RUN | SOUTHERN SEGMENT

- » S1 – Linkwood Park Gateway
- » S2 – Linkwood Playground
- » S3 – Linkwood Park Embankment Planting
- » S4 – Linkwood Park West Edge
- » S5 – Linkwood Park Tree Planting Maintenance
- » S6 – Linkwood Park Boardwalk Crossing
- » S7 – Property Acquisition
- » S8 – Meadow Lane Invasive Removal and Planting
- » S9 – Property Line Demarcation
- » S10 – Overhill Gathering Space
- » S11 – Overhill Road Gateway
- » S12 – South Linkwood Park Enhancement*
- » S13 – Stream Bank Stabilization*
- » S14 – Pedestrian Bridge Crossing Areas*
- » S15 – Overhill to University Invasive Removal and Planting*
- » S16 – Walking Path along Linkwood Road*
- » S17 – Wyman Park Gateway*

*Outside of the scope, for consideration



Implementation

This Strategic Plan is a framework to guide improvements in Stony Run. Implementation of the recommendations will occur incrementally by a partnership among many groups and individuals, as outlined throughout the report and in a partners list provided on page 109. It is important to note that the Strategic Plan is intended to be a guiding, yet flexible document.

Some recommendations are at a point where they can be implemented immediately; whereas other, more complex or contentious recommendations will require further development prior to being implemented. Additionally, it is important to view this Strategic Plan as a “menu” of projects. Certainly, the recommendations would not all happen within the next 10 years. However, the strategies and actions serve as a guide. Similarly, opportunities may arise that have not been illustrated in this plan. The goals and objectives outlined within this document, nevertheless, can still be applied to these opportunities.

Priorities

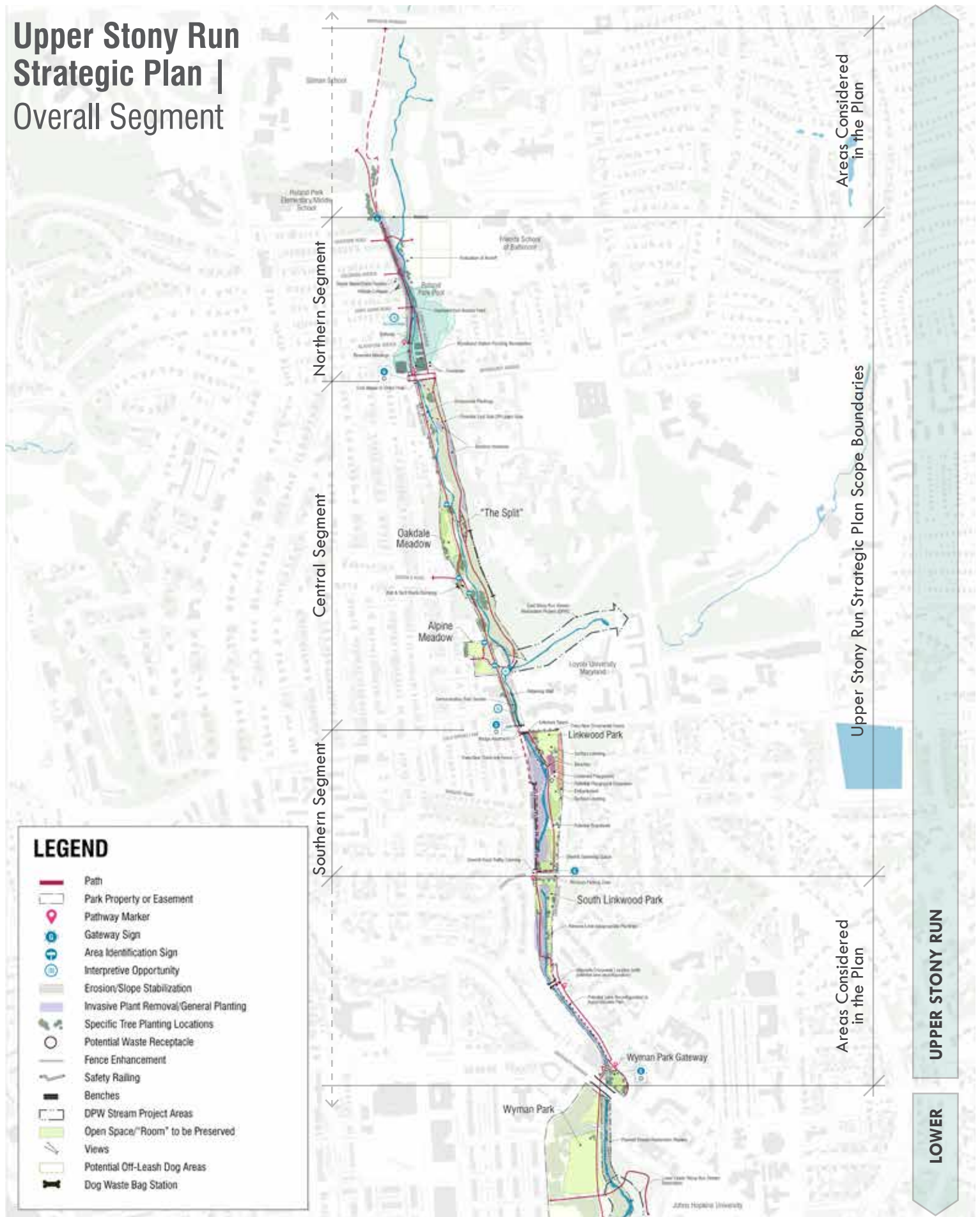
Some improvements are most critical for elevating the health and quality of the Stony Run. Recommendations that work towards such improvements are priorities. Priority projects are those related to:

1. Ecological enhancements, including improving water quality, path stabilization, accessibility, and safety improvements
2. Path stabilization, accessibility, and safety improvements
3. Repairing and preventing erosion of both the path and stream banks
4. Addressing flooding (short-term solutions as well as setting in place longer term solutions)
5. Invasive plant removal
6. Improving the riparian buffer with new and replacement plantings
7. Providing initial signage in key locations

Implementation Partners

The potential implementation partners will vary depending upon the specific project or recommendation. Most strategies and actions will require a partnership among several groups and/or individuals, with one partner having the primary responsibility and additional responsibilities lying with different partners. The list included in the body of this Strategic Plan is a sample of implementation partners to be engaged in Stony Run, but it is not exclusive. Other partners should be added and explored.

Upper Stony Run Strategic Plan | Overall Segment



Implementation Matrix

An Implementation Matrix is provided within the body of this Strategic Plan, Chapter 5. It is organized by the recommendation areas of the plan—general recommendations and specific recommendations for the northern, central, and southern segments of the Upper Stony Run. With this Implementation Matrix, it is important to note that recommendations, for the most part, will not be implemented all at once. Rather, they will be implemented in phases over many years. This is, in part, due to sequencing of actions required to achieve longer-term recommendations and availability of funding, but also tied to Strategic Plan priorities, described in Chapter 5. The time frames for each are categorized as Short (one to five years), Medium (five to ten years), Long (ten or more years), or ongoing.



INTRODUCTION

1

The Stony Run stream valley corridor is a significant asset in north Baltimore City, Maryland. The Stony Run watershed offers an unusual urban gem — a natural woodland experience in the midst of a developed urban area.

The stream valley serves as a local green space, a school connector, a community connector, an off-road transportation alternative, and an opportunity for environmental study. The path along the Stony Run lies within the watershed and serves as a green connection between universities, schools, parkland, shops, trails, and neighborhoods throughout north Baltimore City. While valued for the seclusion it offers, this green amenity is accessible and welcoming to visitors.

The Stony Run

The Stony Run is a wooded stream valley in North Baltimore City. From Northern Parkway to the Jones Falls Trailhead on Wyman Park Drive, a three-mile walking path runs alongside the stream—in the old rail bed of the Maryland and Pennsylvania Railroad—connecting neighborhoods, businesses, and institutions to one another. The Stony Run offers visitors a sense of connection with the area’s communities and rich history, and an opportunity to engage with nature.

Location

The Stony Run stream begins at the north, just within the Baltimore City boundary, and extends southward to the Remington Community, where the stream goes underground before connecting to the Jones Falls. In its winding travels, the Stony Run is surrounded by park lands along much of its length and which touch over a dozen communities. Additionally, the stream meanders between some of the nation’s leading higher learning institutions—Johns Hopkins University (JHU), Loyola University Maryland, and Notre Dame of Maryland University—and alongside area schools, such as the Bryn Mawr School, Gilman School, Roland Park Elementary/Middle School, the School of the Cathedral, Friends School of Baltimore, and the Greenmount School.

Touching many different communities, the Stony Run has become vitally important to the surrounding neighborhoods.

History

While the Stony Run landscape offers a lush, green refuge, it was not always a wooded enclave. In 1901, the Maryland and Pennsylvania (“Ma & Pa”) Railroad purchased land along the west side of the stream valley, operating a passenger and freight line between Baltimore and southern Pennsylvania from then until 1958. At the time, a trip from Baltimore to York, PA—a 49 mile trip, as the crow flies—took roughly four hours (Michel, 2014).

Shortly before 1926, the City acquired much of the land east of the railroad between Wyndhurst Avenue and University Parkway. This section of the valley became the present day Stony Run Park—including what is known as Linkwood Park. When the railroad ceased operation, its right-of-way passed into various hands, mostly adjacent property owners or the City (though, not necessarily into control of the Recreation and Parks Department).

The Stony Run Today

The public park lands are owned by the City and managed by the Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks (BCRP), while the stream itself is regulated by the Department of Public Works (DPW). The public lands and informal pedestrian walking path extend from the Gilman School property line in the north to Sisson and 29th Streets to the south. The “Upper Stony Run” (north of University Parkway) includes Linkwood Park and a series of smaller, informal open spaces. The “Lower Stony Run” (south of University Parkway) is comprised of Wyman Park along the entire western side of the stream and portions of the eastern side.

GREATER ROLAND PARK MASTER PLAN



Approved by the Baltimore City Planning Commission

February 17, 2011

Submitted By

The Communities of the Greater Roland Park Master Plan
5115B Roland Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21210

The Greater Roland Park Master Plan, published in 2011

FRIENDS OF
**Stony
Run**

Background

Roland Park Master Plan

In 2009, an initiative was launched to create a community-wide master plan for Roland Park and the surrounding neighborhoods. *The Greater Roland Park Master Plan*, approved by the City in 2011, put forth a number of open space recommendations, and improvements for Stony Run (Upper Stony Run) soon became among the plan's foremost projects (Michel, 2014). Among the Master Plan Vision were motivations that included a desire to preserve the area's natural landscape, ensure accessibility to neighborhood amenities and open spaces, encourage activities that promote a healthy quality of life and environmental stewardship, and foster strong civic engagement regarding community resources and decision-making. You may view *The Greater Roland Park Master Plan* online, through the Roland Park website: <http://www.rolandpark.org/MasterPlan.html>

Walking Path

Concurrent with the development of *The Greater Roland Park Master Plan*, community leaders from along the Stony Run began to collaborate on an effort to connect the existing path segments and develop a continuous three-mile route. A Stony Run Walking Path Committee was formed that, alongside landscape architecture firm Hord Coplan Macht, mapped the alignment of the path to follow the stream from the Roland Park Elementary/Middle School at the north, to where the path meets the Jones Falls Trail near 29th Street (Friends of Stony Run, n.d.). This effort also advanced the efforts of the Roland Park Community Foundation to work with the City to acquire private parcels along the stream for long-term public use as part of the Stony Run park system.

Partnerships

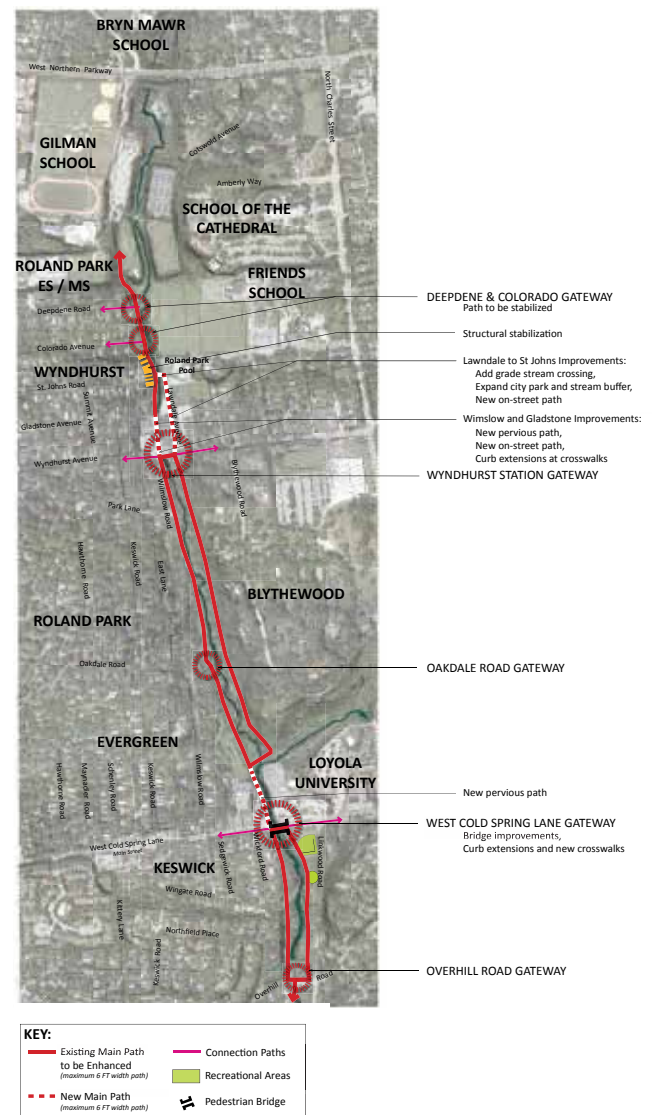
Several major City projects (such as stream restorations) along the Stony Run have already been implemented or are currently in the planning process. While the management and maintenance of Stony Run are ultimately

the responsibility of BCRP and/or DPW, partnerships with neighborhoods, institutions and other entities have truly been significant in making Stony Run the amenity it is today. For decades, the Stony Run has benefited from volunteer efforts to clean the stream and plant trees. At the same time, teachers have used the Stony Run as classrooms, while artists transform the Park into their canvas and gallery. Without these grassroots, bottom up efforts, the Stony Run would look much different today.

Similarly, some of the neighborhood associations along the Stony Run have entered into agreements with the BCRP whereby the community is granted permission to maintain their portion of the path and its public park spaces (Michel, 2014). These agreements, in addition to providing access and the ability to maintain the park spaces, provide the communities with eligibility to compete for a special collection of grant funds available from organizations in Baltimore City.

Additionally, in 2011, a grassroots effort organized by community leaders established Friends of Stony Run. The Friends of Stony Run (www.StonyRun.org) is a volunteer-based organization dedicated to the protection and enjoyment of the entire Stony Run stream valley. The organization is interested in fostering cooperation among all stakeholders in the area—neighborhoods, schools, government agencies, residents, animals, and plants. While the primary involvement of adjacent neighborhoods and institutions' may be limited to the care for, or stewardship of, the sections of the park and stream valley most closely associated with their boundaries, Friends of Stony Run serves as a mechanism to collaborate and coordinate stewardship efforts among the many different interests and along the length of the Stony Run. The organization is an alliance among more than 15 neighborhoods and institutions in North Baltimore.

As the City and stakeholders look to the future, ongoing partnerships are crucial to continue protecting and enhancing the Stony Run corridor.



The Stony Run Walking Path Plan



Stony Run stream restoration project. (Source: Department of Public Works)



Lower Stony Run stream restoration project

Stream Restoration

Within the past 15 years, the City completed two stream restoration projects along portions of the Upper Stony Run and along the segment of Lower Stony just south of University Parkway to address erosion issues, which impact the health of the Chesapeake Bay. In addition to managing stormwater flow, the work included planting native riparian and woodland plants along the banks to provide a riparian buffer for the stream. The stream restoration and concurrent sewer upgrades were reported to cost about \$10 million dollars in City, State and Federal funds. It is important that this large investment of public funds be protected by proper stewardship of the stream valley.

The stream restoration work also had important ancillary benefits not anticipated or called for in the contracts. The improvements to the Stony Run streambed and stream banks enhanced the Stony Run as a tremendous community asset. Formerly overgrown and difficult to traverse, this linear park has become a natural “Main Street,” bustling with pedestrian traffic during all seasons. Its popularity is a testament to how enhancements to the natural environment can make a community a better place to live.

Pedestrian Bridges

In 2012, the Friends of Stony Run and the Stony Run Walking Path Committee collaborated with City and State officials to secure funding for the planning and implementation of two new pedestrian bridges. The Roland Park Community Foundation was also engaged in this effort. In October 2015, construction began on the bridge project, and completion is anticipated in November 2016.

The Upper Stony Run Strategic Plan

In 2014, the Roland Park Community Foundation sought out to develop a strategic plan for the Upper Stony Run—extending from Gilman School southward to Overhill Road, as recommended in *The Greater Roland Park Master*

Plan. Although spearheaded by the Master Plan Steering Committee, the Committee recognized that development of this plan must engage the diverse stakeholders along the stream in order to be successful. This includes adjoining neighbors, institutions, community associations, environmental organizations, Friends of the Stony Run and City agencies that all feel a stake in the future of the Stony Run.

The Committee solicited proposals for the development of the plan and selected Mahan Rykiel Associates of Baltimore to facilitate the strategic planning process, which began in earnest in May 2015. The project is funded by the Roland Park Community Foundation, and is supported by Friends of Stony Run.

Plan Scope

As described above, the scope of this Strategic Plan, as funded by the Roland Park Community Foundation, is for the section of Stony Run between Gilman School at the north and Overhill Road at the south. However, it is difficult to isolate one section of the corridor without considering adjacent and related sections. Additionally, the planning process included participation of community stakeholders and representatives of Friends of Stony Run from beyond the plan's limits. Therefore, the Strategic Plan includes for consideration recommendations that extend south to University Parkway and north to Northern Parkway.

University Parkway is a logical boundary between Upper and Lower Stony Run as this is where the character of the corridor (and extents of the associated public park land) changes significantly. The segment between University Parkway and Overhill Road is relatively narrow and more logically associated with the Upper Stony Run. South of University Parkway, the corridor is much broader and the stream is encompassed by Wyman Park and bounded on the east, almost exclusively, by the Johns Hopkins University Homewood Campus.

Conversely, at the northern end of the study area, the public park space associated with Stony Run ends ambiguously at

the Gilman School property line, with no direct connection to a public right-of-way; the remaining segment of the Stony Run (up to Northern Parkway) lies entirely within Gilman School property. This is not readily apparent, however, and Northern Parkway presents a logical upper boundary for considerations of this plan.

It is important to note that because many of the recommendations of the Strategic Plan are applicable to both the Upper and Lower Sections, the hope is that this Strategic Plan can be used as a tool to leverage funding and support by other partners to extend the planning effort south to Sisson and 29th Streets. This extended planning effort could then culminate with a companion plan to potentially be referred to as the *Lower Stony Run Strategic Plan*.

Purpose

The Stony Run Strategic Plan is a framework to guide stewardship efforts in the Park. While efforts to care for and enhance the stream and adjacent park spaces have grown somewhat organically over the years, a more concerted effort to fill the gaps along the path, improve community access, maintain the woodland ecology, promote responsible use of the path and associated park spaces, and coordinate individual stewardship efforts has been needed. This Strategic Plan is a tool to guide both short and long-term initiatives to protect and enhance the Stony Run. While the plan includes enough detail to guide many projects or efforts, many recommendations need to be considered more fully, vetted with adjacent communities, or detailed further before they can be implemented (or determined whether they should or should not be implemented).

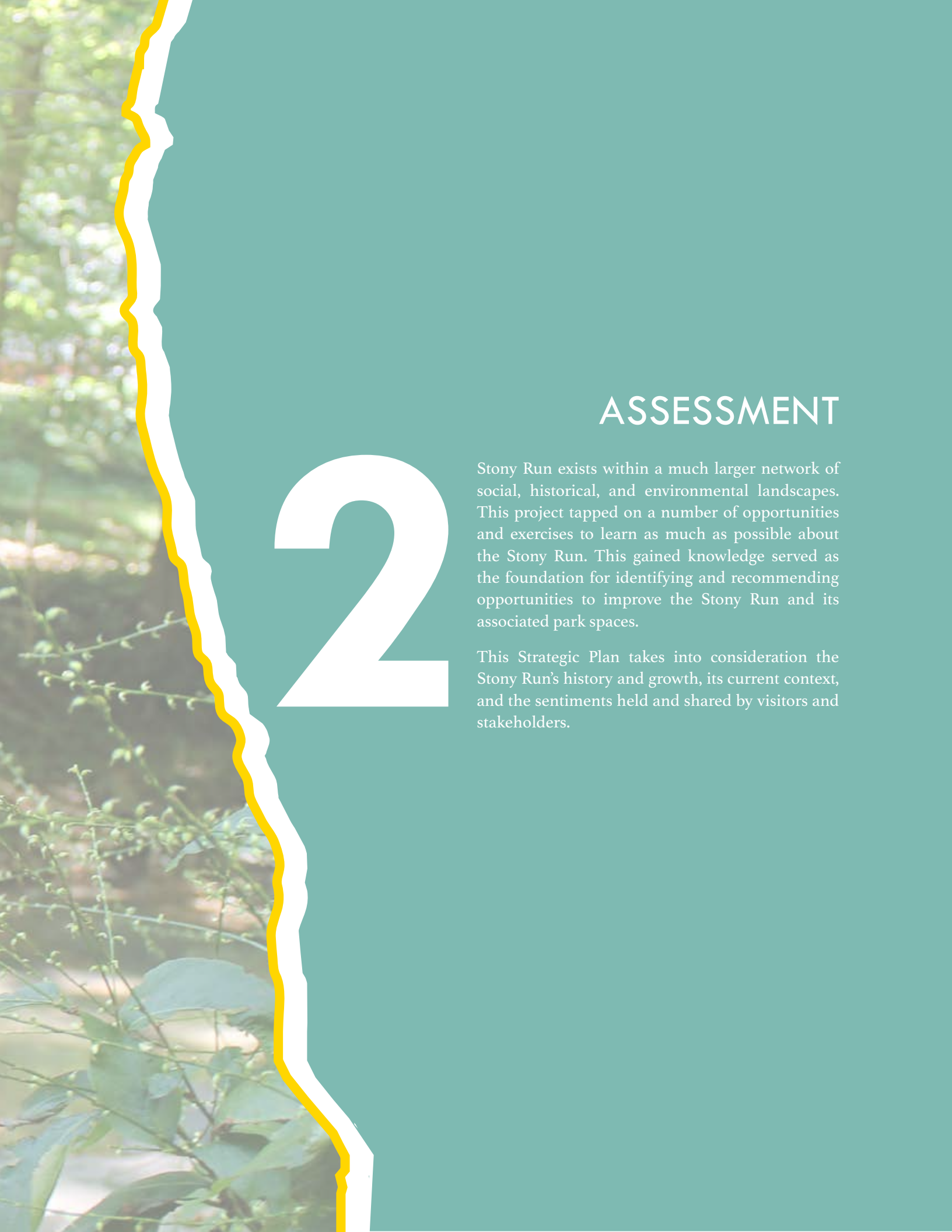
It is also important to view the plan not as a list of projects that must be implemented, but rather a guide so that when projects happen or when there is interest in leading an initiative, there is a framework to follow. While some recommendations might be quickly and easily implemented in the following year, the Stony Run Strategic Plan is not a detailed report of all work that will begin immediately; rather, it is a broad overview of potential improvements

to the Stony Run path, as suggested by local residents and stakeholders. The role of any master plan is to organize and codify potential improvements in the event that residents decide that a particular improvement or alteration needs to take place over the long-run, and does not serve as a checklist of immediate action. Using this plan as a guide, volunteers and stakeholders will be able to identify the needs of the Stony Run and align their available resources with proposed improvements. Before the plan's recommendation can be realized, the partners will need to raise and allocate funds for improvements, striving to implement the higher priority actions first.

Report Structure

This report is a summary of the planning and development of the strategic recommendations for the Stony Run. Provided in the chapters that follow are:

- » Assessment: an assessment and summary of input and site analysis;
- » Recommendations: a detailed presentation of the strategies and actions for enhancing the Stony Run;
- » Design Guidelines: standards for improving the Park; and
- » Implementation: a guide for implementing and completing the recommendations identified within this plan, including key partners.



2

ASSESSMENT

Stony Run exists within a much larger network of social, historical, and environmental landscapes. This project tapped on a number of opportunities and exercises to learn as much as possible about the Stony Run. This gained knowledge served as the foundation for identifying and recommending opportunities to improve the Stony Run and its associated park spaces.

This Strategic Plan takes into consideration the Stony Run's history and growth, its current context, and the sentiments held and shared by visitors and stakeholders.

Planning Process

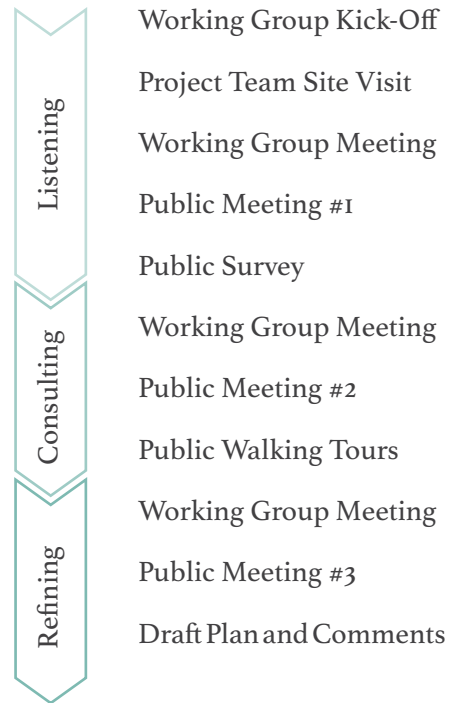
Project planning developed through three successive phases—from a pre-planning phase, through analysis and concept development, and finally to a period of refining and finalizing the Strategic Plan. Throughout the planning process, there had been numerous “touch points” for engaging stakeholders. Community members and other stakeholders were given the opportunity to provide their input via:

- » A project website and forum
- » A digital map for providing comments
- » Three public meetings
- » An online survey (also offered in a hard copy for those without computer access)
- » Walking tours of the project area
- » Online Draft Plan comment forum

Existing Conditions

On September 11, 2015, the project design team visited the Stony Run to walk the path in its entirety (upper and lower sections). While it was a warm and sunny day, this walk took place just a few days following heavy rainfall; the effects of this rainfall and heavy flooding were apparent by a visible high water line, noted by silt on the leaves, at the Lower Stony Run near Wyman Park Drive.

The project team observed a series of conditions during a site walk, described on the following pages.



Final Plan



The condition of the walking path is deteriorating in some areas



Invasive species, such as bamboo (pictured), have begun to take root along Stony Run

Path and Accessibility

- » Complete path network extending three miles and bordering communities, educational institutions, and commercial amenities
- » Visibility and access resulting from major roadways and smaller cross-streets
- » Eroding path surfaces on slopes and at high-traffic areas
- » Inconsistency in path surface materials
- » Path flooding and drainage issues
- » Disconnected path at major intersections
- » Locations with limited accessibility across the stream

Site Amenities

- » “Soft touch” and limited clutter adds to a more natural experience
- » Variety of bench styles, no consistent design standard
- » Inconsistent and unattractive signage

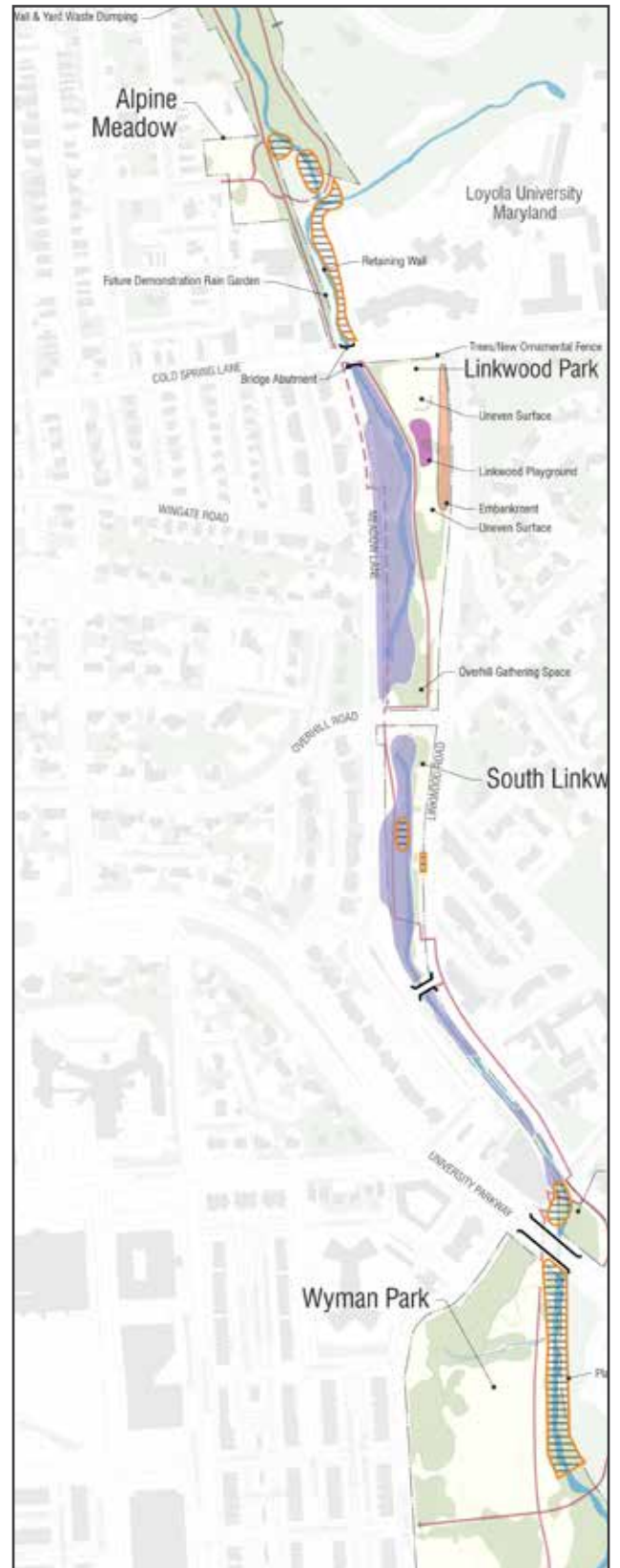
Ecology

- » Significant habitat area for birds and other wildlife
- » Extensive green network with mature vegetation
- » Invasive plant species throughout the corridor and particularly extensive in many areas of the Upper Stony Run
- » Areas in need of additional tree canopy, riparian buffer
- » Dead trees posing hazards near the walking path (additional dead trees internal to the woodlands were also noted and are beneficial, providing valuable habitat)
- » Inappropriate planting in some areas
- » Evidence of broken and/or repaired storm drain outfalls
- » Signage warning of poor water quality/stream health and presence of pollutants

Northern Half



Southern Half



LEGEND

-  Area of Erosion
-  Invasives
-  Flooding
-  Floodplain

Open Space

- » A variety of flexible, open space “rooms” that offer a complementary experience to the mostly wooded corridor
- » Sometimes ambiguous boundaries between public and private property

Programming

- » Open areas currently used effectively for both formal/informal programming
- » Areas that could accommodate low impact programming
- » Lack of a clear way to communicate upcoming events

Users

- » Draws diverse visitors — from college students to young families with kids to empty-nesters
- » Path used predominantly in a variety of positive ways (kids commuting to school on foot or on bike, leisure, hiking and running, dog walking—on and off-leash—and light biking)
- » Path occasionally used in some negative ways (bikes not yielding to pedestrians, off-leash dogs not controlled by owners)
- » Informal pick-up sports games within larger park spaces (Linkwood Park)
- » Heavy playground use at Linkwood Park

Miscellaneous

- » Yard waste dumping, particularly along Alpine Meadow and at the end of Oakdale Road
- » Encroachment of parking on the path along Wilmslow Road

Public Input

Public Meetings

The process utilized three public meetings. First, to introduce the community to the project, define the scope and timeline, and garner input to guide the planning process. The second public meeting, held five months later, was to report the findings from the survey and site visits to the public and to share preliminary recommendation themes. The final public meeting offered an opportunity to present an overview of the draft recommendations before finalizing the Plan.

PUBLIC MEETING NO. 1

47 community members and stakeholders attended the first public meeting, held on September 26, 2015. Attendees had the opportunity to identify challenges and opportunity areas using a map and sticker dot exercise (see these maps in the Appendix). This clearly revealed areas where community members had consistent or divergent viewpoints.

Another activity allowed attendees to indicate the elements of the Stony Run in need of the most attention. A total of 19 attendees participated in this exercise, and 47% felt that tree plantings and invasive removals were a priority, followed by path maintenance (26%) and understory planting (16%).

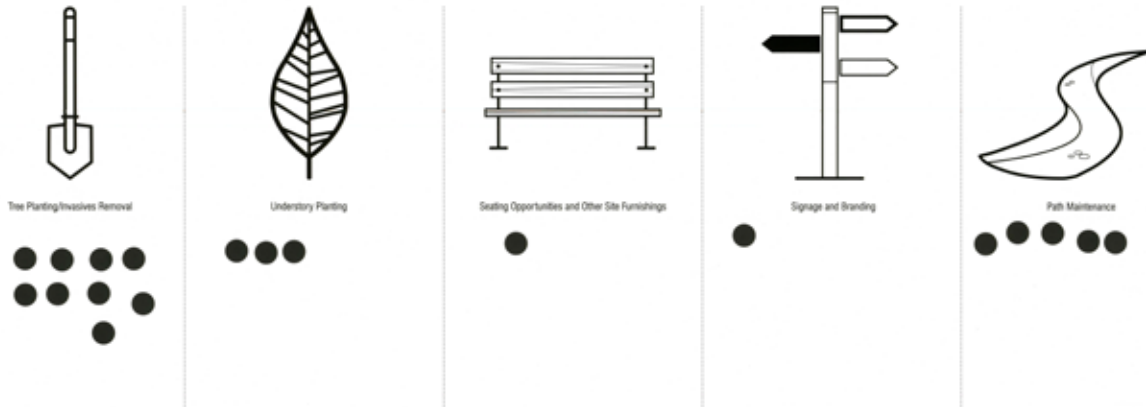
A visioning exercise asked attendees to note, in one to five words, their vision for Stony Run. The comments from this activity were as follows:

- » “Clean, safe natural environment with a trail for running”
- » “A safe bike and pedestrian trail”
- » “Charm, flowers, trees, benches”
- » “Natural native environment”
- » “More benches or places for older folk to rest while taking walk along the stream”
- » “A clean Stony Run which fulfills its full recreational potential”
- » “Clean water flowing always with no flooding”



Attendees at Public Meeting No. 1 map challenges and opportunities along the Stony Run

What will be the most significant INTERVENTION?



Attendees identified priority areas for improvements

In 1-5 words, what's your VISION for Stony Run?



Attendees described their vision for Stony Run

- » “Native habitat, no erosion, clean—no dog poop!”
- » “No erosion, green, no invasives”
- » “A good walk unspoiled”
- » “No invasives, no erosion, biodiversity”

Finally, at this public kick-off meeting, the project team provided a presentation of the project background, process, and purpose. Following the presentation, attendees participated in a group discussion to consider the Stony Run’s strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats, in addition to public feelings on signage and site furnishings. For instance, a cohesive signage standard, as expressed at this first public meeting, was considered a valuable addition to the Park if implemented in strategic locations.

From this group discussion, the project team learned that one of the Stony Run’s greatest strengths is the way that it unites many different neighborhoods, bringing people with very different backgrounds together. It does this by providing an alternative route for traveling between destinations, by offering natural beauty, and by providing a venue for educational, recreational, and historical enjoyment.

However, the Stony Run struggles in some areas; for instance, the Stony Run could better balance the needs of different users, while flooding and erosion, poor water quality, and the presence of invasive plants and poison ivy threaten the ability of visitors to truly appreciate the Park. Additionally, a lack of maintenance in certain regards, coupled with litter, graffiti, and vandalism, can spoil the landscape. At this meeting, the need for design standards for signage and site furnishings was discussed.

The input received at the first public meeting served as a guide for interpreting later input.



Stakeholders at Public Meeting No. 2 breakout into small group discussions

What do we call it?

Is anything missing in the vision statement?

What are your overall reactions?

What are your thoughts on dogs?

...your thoughts on trash cans?

...your thoughts on signage?

Any other comments or reactions?

Breakout groups were asked a series of questions to understand reactions to the emerging ideas

PUBLIC MEETING NO. 2

The second public meeting was held on February 27, 2016 and attended by over 57 individuals. This meeting summarized input and presented emerging ideas, a vision, and overarching goals. Analysis maps were generated based on site observations combined with input received at the first public meeting and through the online survey.

The presentation provided updates for ongoing projects such as property acquisition, pedestrian bridge construction, and forthcoming stream restoration projects. The project team also reported on the survey findings and input received up to that point before presenting the emerging themes and preliminary strategic plan ideas and engaging attendees in exercises to collect additional feedback.

Following the presentation, attendees were divided into 11 groups and answered seven questions. These 11 breakout groups refined the draft vision and provided reactions to certain recommendation areas. For instance, most agreed that the Park should be referred to “Stony Run”; while, related to dog activity in the Park, attendees were both supportive and weary of the potential for off-leash dog areas or hours. Similarly, attendees overwhelmingly supported the appeal of having a variety of bench and seating styles designed to fit the natural character of the Park. Some attendees noted that the recommendations didn’t address bikes (one way or the other) while others were concerned that some of the recommendations near Deepdene Road might be too heavy-handed with the preliminary suggestions of significant grading and a pedestrian bridge structure. Overall, attendees appreciated the cohesiveness of recommendations and confirmed a preference for a “light touch,” although how stakeholders defined “light touch” varied.

This meeting was held just a few days after a heavy rainstorm resulted in severe flooding at Wyndhurst Avenue and along Wilmslow Road. One of the breakout groups was organized around those who specifically wanted to discuss this recent flooding and coordinate efforts to work with the DPW to address flooding issues and include input as it related to the Strategic Plan.

PUBLIC MEETING NO. 3

The Stony Run Strategic Plan project held the third public meeting on the evening of Monday, May 23, 2016. Despite the pouring rain, the event still drew more than 40 community residents and stakeholders.

Attendees reviewed maps of the recommendations for Stony Run, as modified or developed further considering comments provided at the second Public Meeting. After presenting these draft recommendations, the project team opened the discussion to attendees, who provided feedback and opportunities for further clarifying the recommendations, which were crafted based on input received through two public meetings, an online survey, website engagement, and walking tours held earlier in the spring. While, overall, the plan recommendations were well-received, some comments (and subsequent comments) expressed concern over particular recommendations as they related to the locations identified for potential off-leash areas/hours (should they ever be legal in Baltimore City), the need for any signage in the Park, graffiti on the Wyndhurst bridge abutment, and allowing low-speed bike use along the path.

Survey

From September 29th through to December 1st, 2015, an online public survey was administered. This survey was available in hard copies for any individual who did not have access to a computer.

Specific questions are summarized below; for a more complete analysis of the survey, please refer to the Appendix.

VISITATION

In total, 431 individuals responded to the survey, representing more than 30 communities in the region, in addition to one out-of-state visitor. While most of those who completed the survey currently visit Stony Run, 2% of respondents were not visitors, but had interest in visiting Stony Run (Question 2). When non-visitors were asked for the reasons they did not visit Stony Run (Question 4), 19% voiced concern for safety, 19% expressed a desire for dedicated off-leash dog areas, 13%



The recommendation plans for each section were presented at Public Meeting No. 3



Stony Run Strategic Plan Citizen Survey

This survey is being administered as part of the Stony Run Strategic Plan effort, led by Allston Hybrid Associates and sponsored by the Roland Park Community Foundation. Its purpose is to determine how and where Stony Run is currently utilized, and by whom. It also aims to identify Stony Run's greatest amenities and challenges, and its complete need regarding future improvements.

While the focus of the Stony Run Strategic Plan and its recommendations is on the northern portion of the Stony Run—extending from Cromwell Road northward to Green School—the development of this plan will be most successful if it fully considers the stream's relationship to stakeholders and what challenges along the corridor. So please consider the entirety of the Stony Run and any associated back spaces while answering these questions.

Table 1. Seasonal Visitation

Winter	76%
Spring	98%
Summer	94%
Fall	98%
1-Season	1%
2-Seasons	4%
3-Seasons	21%
All Seasons	73%

mentioned unfamiliarity with the Park, while one individual mentioned that off-leash dogs frighten their child.

A total of 20% of the respondents visit Stony Run daily (Question 9), while 31% will visit several times a week—for a total of 52% of respondents visiting Stony Run at least once a week. Stony Run visitors demonstrated a preference for visiting the Park in the spring and fall seasons (each season attracting 98% of the respondents), while visitation drops to 94% in the summer and 76% in the winter (Question 8).

While 37% of respondents indicated that they do not ever avoid the Park for any particular reason, others have or would avoid the Park because of particular conditions (Question 12). For instance, 41% of respondents noted that they have avoided Stony Run because of a concern for safety. Somewhat related to that concern for safety, 31% of respondents noted that limited or insufficient lighting has prevented them from visiting the Stony Run. These were the two most significant deterrents, with the next largest barrier being a desire for dedicated areas for off-leash dogs, expressed by 6% of respondents.

Table 2. Function of Stony Run

	Primary	Secondary
Neighborhood/ Community Recreation Amenity	54.6%	27.0%
Citywide Recreation Amenity	17.0%	18.4%
Environmentally Protected Area	26.0%	49.4%
Unsure/Don't Know	1.9%	4.7%
Other	0.5%	0.5%

FUNCTION OF THE STONY RUN

When asked what the primary and secondary function of Stony Run were, a total of 55% of respondents believed the Stony Run functioned, first, as a neighborhood recreation amenity, while 26% believed its primary function was as an environmentally protected area. Conversely, while 49% of respondents believed the secondary function of Stony Run was an environmentally protected area, 27% of respondents saw the secondary function as a neighborhood recreation amenity. Fewer respondents (less than 20%) saw the Park's primary or secondary function as a citywide recreation amenity.

Most respondents noted their reason for visiting the Park being hiking or walking on the path, and nature appreciation, followed by relaxation/leisure, exercise, or dog walking. Understandably, the most appreciated element of Stony Run was the path, followed by its location and by the natural environment, it provides.

PRIORITIES

When asked about what improvements would be priorities for the Stony Run (Questions 29 and 30), a majority of respondents (61%) indicated that stream restoration was a priority. Other priorities included path improvements (54%), tree planting and maintenance (50%), Park clean-up (42%), providing waste receptacles (34%), and establishing dog areas (24%).

CONFLICTS

When asked if they had experienced or observed conflict in Stony Run or its associated park spaces (Question 18), more than half of respondents (224 individuals, or 53%) indicated that, yes, they had experienced/observed conflicts. However, in the following question (Question 19), 191 respondents selected the response “I have not experienced any conflict in Stony Run”—suggesting that only 33 of those “yes-sayers” from Question 18 had *experienced* conflict, while the other 191 had only *observed* conflict. Most of this conflict was cited as being related to litter/waste (33%) or conflicts with pets and/or pet owners (28%). The term “conflict” includes any incident which would detract from ones experience in Stony Run—including, but not limited to, the presence of litter, observed inappropriate behavior, conflicts between bikes and pedestrians, conflicts with off-leash dogs and the disruption of wildlife.

BIKES ON THE PATH

Bike-related comments noted that bikes can generate challenges along the path. At the same time, some respondents saw potential for increased bike accommodation (including the potential addition of bike parking at entrances for locals who arrive on bike — 2.6% of respondents arrive by bike). The path functions primarily as a pedestrian corridor, but many cyclists do enjoy it from time-to-time as an alternative route to biking on the street, for children traveling to and from school, and as a nice environment for leisurely rides.

Table 3. Conflicts Experienced

	Count	Pct. of Total
I have not experienced conflict in Stony Run	191	45%
<i>Littering, or presence of waste</i>	139	33%
<i>Conflict with pets/pet owners (e.g., off-leash dog, or pet waste)</i>	119	28%
<i>Environmental Degradation (e.g., illegal dumping)</i>	76	18%
<i>Vandalism</i>	72	17%
<i>Smoking or drinking</i>	40	9%
<i>Homelessness</i>	40	9%
<i>Inability to let dog(s) run off-leash</i>	30	7%
<i>Illegal and/or Illicit Activities</i>	24	6%
<i>General feeling of being unsafe</i>	18	4%
<i>Overcrowding due to activities</i>	15	4%
<i>Disruption of wildlife</i>	13	3%
<i>Excessive noise from other user(s)</i>	6	1%
<i>Prejudice, discrimination, and/or harassment</i>	2	0%
<i>Unsure/Don't Know</i>	3	1%
<i>Other</i>	38	9%
Respondents Describing Conflict	232	55%
Total Conflicts Experienced/Observed	635	

DOG USE

Many respondents explain that dogs being off-leash and dog waste are problems for the Park (26 of 41 dog-related comments were of a negative disposition). There are others, however, who enjoy dogs in the Park and believe that a dedicated off-leash area would be beneficial for both dog owners and non-owners alike — 24% of all respondents felt that a dog area was a priority (Question 29), with 6% believing it was the number one priority (Question 30).

Table 4. Opinions Regarding Current Signage

	Informational	Directional
Not enough signage	35%	40%
Satisfactory signage	39%	31%
Excessive signage	2%	4%
Unsure/Don't Know	24%	25%

SIGNAGE

In their open-ended comments, 21 respondents explicitly mentioned signage. Most saw signage as an opportunity, believing that signage would be helpful to convey path rules/laws, identify the Park and its entrances, direct visitors to the Park, provide information on the length and amenities of the path, and offer educational signage intended to convey environmental significance and the importance of caring for the Stony Run. Other comments emphasized that signage should be added sensitively to the site.

Signage is either insufficient or satisfactory to most, or they don't know their stance (Questions 25-26). Concerning informational, or interpretive, signage, most respondents believed that the current presence was satisfactory (39%) or not sufficient (35%); whereas most respondents felt that directional signage was insufficient (40%), and only 31% finding the current directional signage to be sufficient. Few (<5%) found the current presence of signage to be excessive.

While 5% of all respondents believed that signage reduction is a priority (Question 29), no one believed that reduced signage should be the top priority (Question 30). On the other hand, 13% of respondents believed that increasing signage is a priority (Question 29), and 7 respondents (2%) believed it was the top priority (Question 30). Related to signage, others mentioned graffiti as something needing to be managed.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

There was much to be learned from the opinion survey. Some of the most valuable lessons revealed:

- » While most see the Stony Run as serving primarily as a neighborhood park and environmentally protected area, some (specifically, less than a fifth of respondents) also see it as serving the larger region.
- » Most appreciate the Stony Run for its path, location, and nature; while the most disliked elements include site furnishings (whether or not due to a *lack of* or an *excessive* amount of, is not clear), overall cleanliness, and safety.
- » The Stony Run experiences heavy weekend use, with a visitor preference for mornings through to the evening (excluding late night or early morning). While there is significant usage year round, there is a slight drop in winter usage (a drop in 23 percentage points between the peak spring and fall seasons and the winter season).
- » More than half of respondents indicated either experiencing or observing conflict in the Stony Run.
- » Safety and lighting were the top two reasons for avoiding the park/path (but a large number also cited their personal schedule as impedance for visiting).
- » Volunteers in Stony Run appear to be a dedicated few, rather than the majority. That being said, many open-ended comments throughout the survey expressed interest and willingness to volunteer where possible.
- » Signage—both informational and directional signage—is either viewed as insufficient or satisfactory to most, with few respondents perceiving current signage as excessive.
- » Priorities for improving the Stony Run centered on stream restoration, path improvements, tree planting/maintenance, and improving the Park's overall cleanliness and appearance.



In total, the three site walks on March 12 drew more than 30 individuals

Site Walks

On the afternoon of Saturday, March 12, 2016, project lead, Tom McGilloway, led more than 30 individuals in a series of site walks along each of the Upper Stony Run's three segments. Stakeholders shared their stories, concerns, and ideas, and helped the project team understand nuances regarding Stony Run and their experiences with the park spaces. Some of the recommendations outlined in this plan such as providing property line demarcations (along Meadow Lane and behind Blythewood), addressing parking issues and traffic calming along Overhill Road, and identifying some historic interpretive opportunities (near St. Johns Road) came directly from participants on the tour. Some of the stakeholders participated throughout the walks in all three segments, while most participated in the segment adjoining their neighborhood. The recommendations described above came predominantly from participants who lived near that particular segment of Stony Run.

Public Comment Period

A public comment period (commenting was open from June 3rd until July 1st) offered an opportunity for residents and other stakeholders to review the draft plan and provide feedback. The draft plan was uploaded to the project website as a viewable and downloadable PDF. Commenting was available through a forum on the project website. In total, comments were provided by 34 individuals—and included, in addition to comments posted in the public forum, comments that were emailed to the project team or submitted via the website's contact form.

The comments offered by the public expressed both support and concern regarding the recommendations. Among the largest concerns, discussed by many, were comments related to recommendations for off-leash dog areas, accessibility, signage, and site furnishings (i.e., trash bins and doggie waste stations, benches, and including public art). Additionally, many comments pointed out that environmental improvements, which should be a priority, were not emphasized clearly in the document.

Most of the comments warranted only a minor change or a modification to the language to clarify the intent and specifics of individual recommendations (there were some comments, for example, that opposed recommendations that were in fact *not* being made in the plan, indicating a need for more clarity in the language of the report). One significant adjustment was a change to the proposed off-leash recommendation, explained here:

CHANGES TO OFF-LEASH DOG RECOMMENDATIONS

The Draft Plan identified three potential locations (Alpine Meadow, the “East Side Loop” in the Central segment, and Wyman Park – in Lower Stony Run) that could function as off-leash dog areas or areas with off-leash hours should existing laws which require dogs to be leashed at all times be modified in the future. Responsible dog owners presented this consideration as a means to address current (albeit illegal) use of Stony Run with off-leash dogs and to balance the desire of a strong number of individuals who supported appropriate off-leash use. Indeed, dog walkers (whether with leashed or unleashed dogs) are valuable to Stony Run as they provide “eyes on the park,” particularly during the early morning and evening hours, when many others are not present.

However, non-fenced off-leash areas/hours were strongly discouraged by the majority of stakeholders who participated in the presentation and review of the Draft Plan. Off-leash use was, in general, viewed as a potential threat to the ecological health of the Stony Run, and to the safety and comfort of park users, including children and other dogs.

Therefore, recommendations for off-leash areas/hours within the Upper Stony Run were removed from the Strategic Plan and replaced with the recommendation that leash laws should be enforced. An exception is related to Wyman Park where off-leash hours might be considered in the planning process for the Lower Stony Run Strategic Plan. Additionally, the Strategic Plan recommends that stakeholders, advocacy groups, etc. work with their elected officials to encourage the City to take a comprehensive look at off-leash laws and opportunities for fenced dog parks, off-leash areas/hours city-wide.



3

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Stony Run Strategic Plan has been shaped by an assessment of existing conditions and the collection of stakeholder input, as summarized earlier. The recommendations grew out of this research, recognize the need to maintain minimal human impact in the Stony Run, and are framed by the community's vision for Stony Run:

Stony Run is an urban oasis—an ecologically protected enclave appreciated and enjoyed year-round by people of all backgrounds, interests, and ages. It connects North Baltimore communities and welcomes visitors, serving as a friendly meeting ground and venue for primarily passive recreation and neighborhood events.

Additionally, the recommendations of this strategic plan are grounded in four primary goals:

1. Protect and improve ecological systems
2. Enhance park legibility and comforts
3. Partner, program, and maintain
4. Provide educational opportunities

All of the recommendations play an important role in the long-term protection of the Park and its function as a social, historical, and ecological gem within Baltimore City.

Goals and Objectives

Based upon stakeholder input and site review, the planning team identified four overarching goals and a series of objectives (lettered A through T) around which specific recommendations are organized.

GOAL 1 | PROTECT AND IMPROVE ECOLOGICAL SYSTEMS

- A. Improve Water Quality and Stream Health
- B. Repair and Prevent Erosion
- C. Address Flooding and Stormwater Management
- D. Remove and Control Invasive Plants
- E. Maintain a Cohesive, Native Planting Palette
- F. Enhance Wildlife Habitat and Biodiversity

GOAL 2 | ENHANCE PARK LEGIBILITY AND COMFORTS

- G. Balance the Park's Presence as Part of an Overall Park System While Maintaining its Understated Character
- H. Stabilize and Enhance Walking Path and Surfaces
- I. Provide Appropriate Signage
- J. Provide Appropriate Furnishings
- K. Preserve the Diversity of Experiences Provided by Different Areas
- L. Promote the Park's Cleanliness

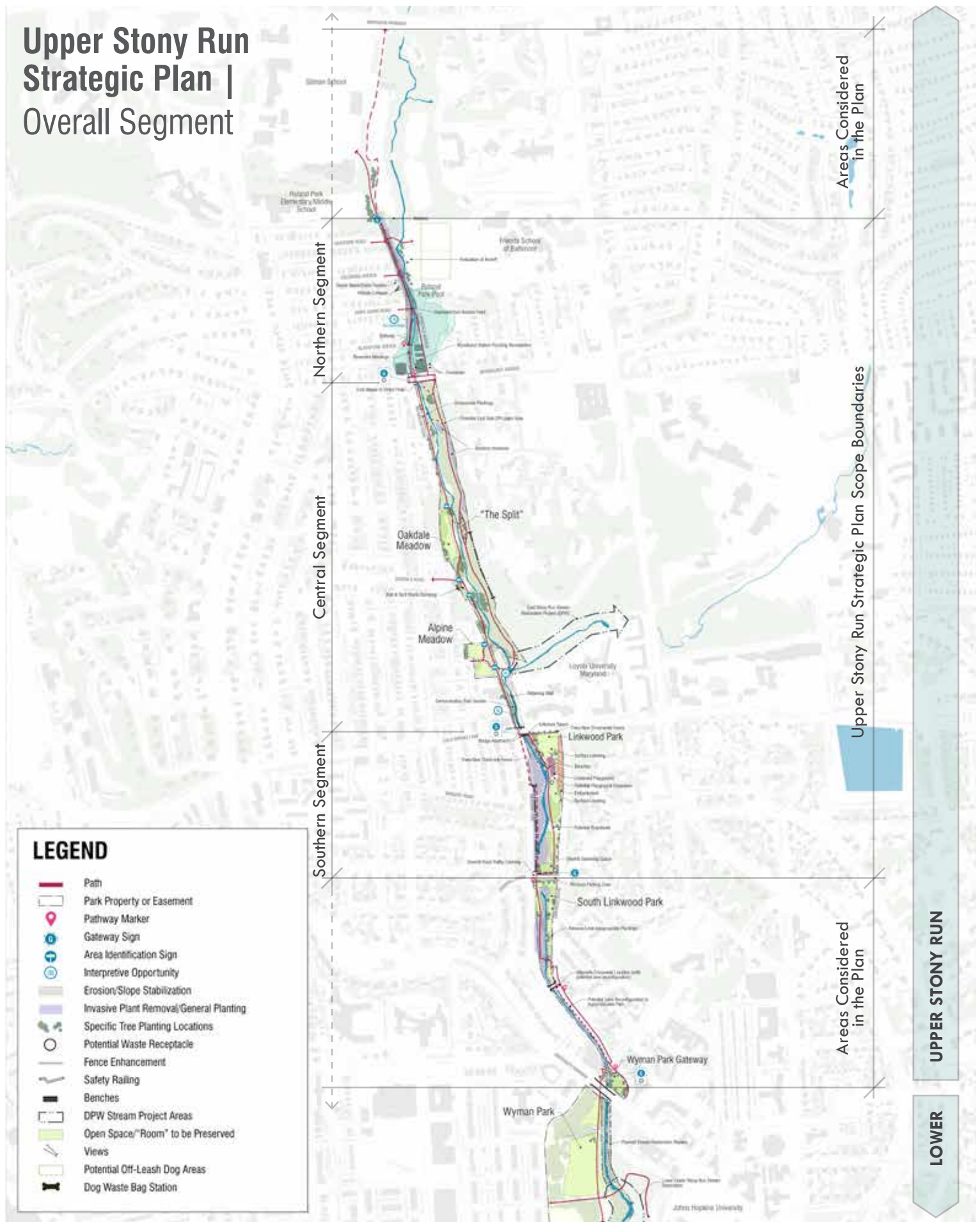
GOAL 3 | PARTNER, PROGRAM AND MAINTAIN

- M. Provide Balanced Programming and Opportunities for Engagement
- N. Identify and Adopt Stony Run-Specific Use Policies
- O. Enforce Rules and Regulations
- P. Develop and Nurture Partnerships
- Q. Discourage Negative Behavior

GOAL 4 | PROVIDE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

- R. Demonstrate the Value of Improvements Made
- S. Identify the Importance of Stream Renovation
- T. Partner with Schools, Advocacy Groups, and Others to Integrate Teaching Opportunities

Upper Stony Run Strategic Plan | Overall Segment



Recommendations

Recommended strategies for achieving the goals are outlined on the following pages and include physical, policy-related, and programmatic recommendations. Some apply to the entire Upper Stony Run corridor (from Gilman School to Overhill Road) and are organized below under “General Recommendations,” while others are organized by geographic area within the Upper Stony Run (Northern Segment—Gilman School to Wyndhurst Avenue; Central Segment—Wyndhurst Avenue to Cold Spring Lane; and Southern Segment—Cold Spring Lane to Overhill Road). Considerations for areas outside of the focus of this strategic plan (north to Northern Parkway and south to University Parkway/Lower Stony Run) are identified as such. Many of the recommendations outlined in this plan and in the Design Guidelines are applicable to the entire Stony Run Corridor and could be used as a framework for future planning efforts along the Lower Stony Run.

It is important to note that some of the recommendations have been developed to a level where they can be directly implemented using this plan. Other, more complex recommendations will require further community engagement and/or the development of detailed drawings before they can be implemented. Additionally, it is important to strike the right balance between maintaining the natural character of the Stony Run while recognizing the need to provide some amenities for user comfort and information. While ecological recommendations are a priority and appear towards the top of the list of recommendations, when and how the recommendations are implemented will depend on available resources and interdependencies with other recommendations. Furthermore, with the exception of those recommendations that protect and enhance ecological aspects of Stony Run, it is not the intent that all the recommendations are necessarily implemented; rather, as needs or interests arise for specific purposes, the recommendations provide appropriate guidance.

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

- G1 | Water Quality Testing
- G2 | Stream Bank Repair
- G3 | Pathway Stabilization and Repair
- G4 | Invasive Plant Removal and New Plantings
- G5 | Bird Box Project and Wildlife Habitats
- G6 | Encroachment
- G7 | Signage
- G8 | Site Amenities
- G9 | Property Line Demarcation
- G10 | Leash Policy
- G11 | Bike Usage
- G12 | Park Name and Recognition
- G13 | Gatherings/Events
- G14 | Permitting
- G15 | Tours
- G16 | Memorials/Recognition Markers
- G17 | Public Art
- G8 | Capacity-Building
- G19 | Strategic Plan Updates and Expanded Study Areas

Upper Stony Run | General Recommendations

Physical Recommendations

G1 | WATER QUALITY TESTING

Continue to utilize volunteers and work with the DPW and other partners to monitor water quality within all areas of the Stony Run (including those areas outside of public park lands, north of Northern Parkway) and to report issues to the City's 311 Service System. This includes regular monitoring of stormwater outfalls (including those that have been repaired) and tracing sources of any pollution. One program that has proved successful in augmenting DPW's regular monitoring of water quality is Blue Water Baltimore's Outfall Screening Blitz (OSB).

Discharge into streams represents a significant source of pollutants. Volunteers work with Blue Water Baltimore in finding and fighting pollution issues throughout the City's watersheds. Volunteers and Blue Water Baltimore staff walk sections of streams in order to find and report sewage leaks and illicit discharges that enter the stream from the stormwater outfall system. Participants collect water quality samples at these outfalls and perform laboratory tests on them in order to find out what's really being discharged from our storm water pipes. It is important to note that in order to be eligible for OSB events, volunteers must have already taken the Adopt-A-Stream/Outfall Screening Blitz training through Blue Water Baltimore.

So far in 2016, the program has started with the Stony Run and successfully found and reported a sewage leak in the Stony Run, north of Northern Parkway. The leak was from a sewer lateral from a residence and had been dumping raw sewage into the stream for a significant period. Blue Water Baltimore worked with DPW who took quick action to repair the problem. The quick action was the result of public pressure and partnerships among Blue Water Baltimore and volunteers from the surrounding neighborhoods and Friends of Stony Run. While the leak was outside of the

scope of this Strategic Plan and not within public park lands, the upstream location negatively affected all areas downstream of the leak.

Additionally, work with the local schools to determine how they can be a partner in testing water quality and working with DPW and Blue Water Baltimore. Currently, many of the schools utilize the Stony Run for science classes and sustainability committees. There is an opportunity for students to collect and analyze water quality data over the years to monitor stream health. The schools could provide their data to DPW and Blue Water Baltimore to assist their efforts.

G2 | STREAM BANK REPAIR

Regularly monitor and report stream bank deterioration to DPW. Additionally, monitor DPW's execution of maintenance of stream restoration projects that are implemented by DPW. In spite of recent stream restoration projects, there are areas of the Stony Run where the stream bank is showing signs of erosion. This will continue to worsen if not addressed appropriately and in a timely manner. Specific areas are identified and discussed in the area-specific recommendations later in this chapter.

G3 | PATHWAY STABILIZATION AND REPAIR

Regularly address spot erosion (not associated with the stream banks, as described above) along the walking path before areas deteriorate further. Utilize the guidelines outlined in the *US Department of Agriculture (USDA) Trail Construction and Maintenance Notebook* and the guidelines at the end of this Strategic Plan regarding how to appropriately maintain the walking path, address erosion, and create a smooth, stabilized, and predominantly unpaved walking surface. While most of the walking path is considered a “natural path” and does not need to meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements, sections of it should be made as accessible as is feasible to allow for use by people with disabilities. For example, the new pedestrian bridges being installed south of Overhill Road are designed with accessible surfaces and approach grades. As pathway



A Sewage-pipe leak received a short-term remedy



The Trail Construction and Maintenance Notebook

maintenance occurs, efforts should be made to remove protruding stones and roots, level uneven surfaces, and improve drainage so mulched areas can revert to a packed-earth surface for improve accessibility, comfort, and safety.

G4 | INVASIVE PLANT REMOVAL AND NEW PLANTINGS

Continue to remove invasive plants and replace with native plantings along Stony Run. Invasive plants are located throughout Stony Run. The intensity of invasive growth and presence varies from area to area, with the most concentrated areas located in the Central Section, along the stream and to the west along Meadow Lane. Other intensive areas are along the stream south of Overhill Road. Large stands of bamboo exist along the east side of the Central Section, particularly adjacent to property lines.

Generally, managing extensive areas of invasive plants involves either mechanical control methods or chemical control methods, both of which are summarized below. The appropriate method of control will depend upon plant species and extent of the invasive plant coverage.

- » Mechanical Control: Mechanical control is the preferred method of invasive plant removal, particularly in areas of limited coverage, as it does not involve the use of chemicals, special licensing, etc. This method could utilize professional or volunteer resources; however, it does require significant physical labor. Mechanical controls include:
 - Pulling and Digging: Using tools to remove plants and as much of the root system as possible. This is best done when the ground is moist and the plants are easier to remove.
 - Suffocating: This can be done for herbaceous plants and small seedlings using plastic to cover an area—keeping it covered for approximately two years. This will suffocate all of the plants and allow the area to be planted with appropriate plants.
 - Cutting/Mowing: This method works for areas that can be treated often and can be mowed

up to six times per year to interrupt the plant's ability to photosynthesize.

- » **Chemical Control:** Herbicides can be the most effective means of treating invasive plants but require proper use to avoid negative health and environmental impacts. This method is best left to professionals and for areas with excessive coverage where volunteer and mechanical control methods are not practical. Additionally, Maryland and Baltimore City regulations must be followed and the effort must be in accordance with the pesticide regulation section of the Maryland Department of Agriculture.

To achieve invasive recommendations, collaborate with BCRP Forestry Division's Weed Warriors Program to raise funds that can support a coordinated invasive plan management strategy. Having a coordinated strategy will ensure that resources are used wisely, and sites can be maintained after the initial invasive removal. Additionally, consider coordinating with BCRP's Parks Division on a project affiliated with the Conservation Job Corps (CJC) and AmeriCorps programs.

G5 | BIRD BOX PROJECT AND WILDLIFE HABITATS

Work with volunteers to continue to support the program to plan for, construct, and monitor bird boxes throughout Stony Run, and encourage programs to provide wildlife habitat for additional species. Bird boxes are necessary because the dead trees that birds have relied on for nesting are often cut down for safety reasons; the goal of this project is to provide alternate places for birds to nest and raise their young. The initial phase of The Bird Box Project was recently implemented by a local resident, student, and Friends of Stony Run board member, Claire Wayner, and was inspired by the American Birding Association's Young Birder of the Year Contest. Funds from the Baltimore Bird Club's Conservation Committee were used for the boxes and were constructed with fellow students from Baltimore Polytechnic Institute's environmental club and Boy Scouts Troop 1000. The bird boxes were hung on trees and fences



Claire Wayner (left) and Alice Nelson (right) of Friends of Stony Run, following installation of the a Bird Box



Bird boxes built for the Stony Run



Carolina Chickadee (top left), House Wren (top right), and a White-breasted Nuthatch (bottom) (Image credit: allaboutbirds.org)

along the entire Stony Run with consideration for protection from predators, such as raccoons, snakes, cats, etc.

Now that the first phase bird boxes have been installed, the plan is to monitor the boxes to see if there is any activity and to see which birds frequent various bird boxes based on the size of the openings. All but two of the mounted bird boxes were designed for Carolina Chickadees and House Wrens. To experiment, one bird house was mounted in a field habitat with a hole large enough for Eastern Bluebird and another mounted deep in wooded habitat with a hole big enough for White-breasted Nuthatch.

If there is evidence of nesting activity, future plans include expanding the project to include more bird boxes of a greater diversity. The plans also include incorporating more student groups in building and monitoring the boxes in order to teach others about the importance of bird boxes. Additional plans may include mounting a camera in a

successful nest box and to share live video feed of a bird nest with local advocacy groups, neighborhood associations and other stakeholders. As the bird box project is implemented, identify future opportunities to provide additional wildlife habitat areas, such as bat habitats. Consider the potential of designating the area as a National Wildlife Federation Certified Wildlife Habitat.

G6 | ENCROACHMENT

Encroachment of private property activities into park space can have a negative impact on the Stony Run and is a concern of BCRP. Care should be given to preventing the following activities:

- » **Inappropriate Plantings:** While appropriate for private gardens or more formal parks, ornamental plantings do not have a place in most areas of the Stony Run, in spite of the good intentions of those planting them. In particular, planting of invasive plants can be quite harmful to the ecosystem of the park and care should be taken by adjacent property owners to avoid invasive plants—especially plants that can spread into the park—in their own yards.
- » **Yard Waste Disposal:** Several areas of Stony Run and its associated park spaces have been convenient for dumping yard waste. While this yard waste is primarily comprised of branches and tree limbs and does not harm the environment, it can be unsightly and detract from the overall experience of park users. The primary areas where this has been observed include behind the wall (park side) at the end of Oakdale Road, along the boundary between Alpine Meadow and the walking path (and further to the south, outside the boundary of this strategic plan, along the woodland edges of Wyman Park, adjacent to Tudor Arms Avenue, Beech Avenue and Gilman Terrace).
- » **Parking:** There are no off-street parking resources located within the Upper Stony Run park property; most users access the park by foot, bike or nearby on-street parking. Parking and driving within Stony Run has not appeared to be a problem, particularly since



Residential dumping of yard waste along the Park

wood bollards have been installed around Linkwood Park where there has been the highest demand for parking. The exception is along Overhill Road where cars are parking in the lawn adjacent to the street, creating ruts and bare spots. Recommendations for this area are addressed later in this report.

Communities and volunteers should coordinate with BCRP's Park Rangers for assistance in addressing parking encroachment and dumping issues, where possible.

G7 | SIGNAGE

As needs arise, provide limited gateway, informational, regulatory and temporary signage to identify Stony Run as a public park, provide information about rules, important contact information to report problems or volunteer, accommodate visitor safety and provide interpretation while taking care not to “over sign” the park. For the most part, signage should be located adjacent to street right-of-ways (at park entrances) and not internal to the park. Signage must utilize and be coordinated with current BCRP standards for park signs. Specific areas where signs should be considered are included under the recommendations for each segment and additional information for signage and sign types is included in Chapter 4, Design Guidelines.

G8 | SITE AMENITIES

As needs arise, provide limited site amenities within and adjacent to Stony Run to accommodate user comfort and safety and support park maintenance. These amenities may include site furnishings such as benches, trash receptacles and pet waste bag dispensers; and protective barriers such as fencing, bollards and railings. As with signage, these amenities should be used sparingly. Specific locations to be considered are included under the recommendations for each segment and additional information is included in Chapter 4, Design Guidelines.

G9 | PROPERTY LINE DEMARCATION

Use boundary markers, designed of metal and/or stone to discreetly delineate the property line between Stony Run

and adjacent private properties where the boundary is not evident. During one of the park walks as part of this strategic planning process, stakeholders suggested incorporating simple, unobtrusive property line markers to help identify the park boundary which would help volunteers and City agencies understand limits of responsibilities and activities related to caring for the Stony Run. This will also ensure the privacy of adjacent property owners. For more information, refer to Chapter 4, Design Guidelines.

Policy Recommendations

G10 | LEASH POLICY

Post and enforce Baltimore City leash laws, which require dogs to be leashed at all times throughout all areas of Stony Run. Additionally, include rules and regulations—as well as phone numbers to call to report problems—on Park signage, as outlined in the Design Guidelines. Most importantly, work with dog owners to promote responsible dog behavior among other dog owners.

Additionally, encourage elected officials, BCRP, and other partners to explore a city-wide strategy to address the need for dedicated off-leash areas throughout the city, including potential fenced dog parks, designated off-leash areas, or areas with designated off-leash hours.

While the current leash laws are clear, it is important to note that there are strong feelings that responsible dog owners should be able to enjoy Stony Run with dogs off leash, in addition to strong feelings from many Stony Run stakeholders that dogs should be on leash at all times. In the past, the City has worked with groups to explore the creation of fenced dog parks within certain parks, such as Patterson and Latrobe Parks. While there are no public areas along the Stony Run large enough (and free from other programming requirements) to accommodate a fenced dog park, the planning process for Stony Run included in the draft plan the potential future exploration of two areas within the Upper Stony Run as potential off-leash areas—or areas with limited off-leash hours—should the City ever consider provision of such facilities. These areas included Alpine Meadow and the east side path (“East Side Loop”) within the



Areas identified as potential off-leash locations



Dogs are currently encountered in the park both on- and off-leash

Central Segment. Both areas allow for some separation from the main walking path.

During the presentation and review of the draft plan, however, significant opposition was raised about having off-leash designations for these two areas. Some stakeholders opposed off-leash facilities anywhere along Stony Run while some only opposed off-leash designations in the areas closest to their neighborhood. These sentiments mirror sentiments in other parks throughout the city and demonstrate the challenges associated with this issue. The recommendation for future consideration of off-leash facilities within the Upper Stony Run has, therefore, been removed from the plan.

A third area was also identified as a potential for off-leash hours. The recreation fields in Wyman Park, just south of University Parkway (and outside the scope of the Upper Stony Run, but accessible from the Upper Stony Run), was seen as a potential dog area. The fields in Wyman Park are under a 99-year lease by JHU for use as intramural fields. The area functions “unofficially” as an off-leash dog area. For this purpose, it functions well because the site is large and sets low, contained by topography on three sides. While, for the most part, this area functions well as a dog park, there have still been problems and conflicts between off-leash and leashed dogs, other park users, and Hopkins sports teams. Several years ago, a committee was formed, including representatives from JHU, to explore off-leash hours for these fields. The discussions seemed to stop because of little support for off-leash hours from the City. Experimenting with off-leash hours here still has some validity, particularly when the pedestrian bridge is in place north of University Parkway—which will make this space much more accessible to residents from the north, along the Upper Stony Run. Any consideration of this area, since it is outside the scope of the Upper Stony Run Strategic Plan, needs to include conversations with the appropriate stakeholders as part of any planning process for the Lower Stony Run Strategic Plan.

G11 | BIKE USAGE

Per the *Greater Roland Park Master Plan* (approved by the City Planning Commission in 2011) and the planning effort associated with the Stony Run Walking Path, this plan recommends formalizing the policy stating that the primary path along the Stony Run should be promoted as a “walking path; however, there should be no purposeful restrictions on biking, nor further policy modifications for the accommodation of bikes. While casual, low-impact biking along the path may continue, particularly as children use the path as a route to school, Stony Run should not be promoted as a bike trail, nor programmed as part of an off-road bike network. Guidelines addressing appropriate casual bike use and courteous behavior between cyclists and pedestrians, as well as the need for sensitive usage to reduce erosion, should be included on Park signage, as outlined in the Design Guidelines. In particular, cyclists must yield to pedestrians and ride only when conditions (e.g., muddy paths) won’t create additional erosion. Consider working with stream and bike advocacy groups to develop appropriate-use rules. For reference regarding this topic, the [Sustainable Trails Coalition](#) strives to strike a balance between different users, ensuring that path networks “can be enjoyed by all and is sustainable for future generations.”

In the *Baltimore City Bike Master Plan*, adopted in March 2015, the Stony Run is marked as a cycletrack bike facility. Additionally, while BCRP had not yet implemented such recommendations, the Stony Run was identified as a potential future location for a mountain bike route. Coordination is needed between City agencies (i.e., BCRP and the Department of Transportation (DOT)) and area residents to further clarify the intention of the path and how the site should be referenced in the Bike Master Plan. Groups should work with BCRP Capital Division (along with Permits, Volunteers, and Parks divisions of BCRP) to make the appropriate decision regarding the use of bicycles on the walking path, including the potential for certain daily time periods or not at all. BCRP will post the Park Rules or Trail Guidelines Signs (and be responsible for enforcement). Once this is completed, BCRP communications office can promote the decision.

G12 | PARK NAME AND RECOGNITION

Forming an identity is a necessary first step for creating park synergies, as an identity will establish the area as a recognizable and unified amenity. Formalize the name of the corridor park (from Gilman School to 29th Street) as “Stony Run,” with associated park spaces noted as being “*in association with*” Stony Run. Associated park spaces include:

- Oakdale Meadow (at Stony Run)
- Alpine Meadow (at Stony Run)
- Linkwood Park (at Stony Run)
- Wyman Park (at Stony Run) — *For consideration during development of the Lower Stony Run Strategic Plan*

Additionally, increase the awareness and recognition of Stony Run as a park that is part of a larger open space network by including it in the listing of parks on the BCRP website.

Programming Recommendations

Programming is already occurring within Stony Run and is important for the vitality of the park. Because the Stony Run is primarily a passive, natural space, programming needs to be at a scale and intensity that is appropriate to the park, to the specific areas within it, and to its ecology. Specific recommendations include:

G13 | GATHERINGS/EVENTS

Flexible, open spaces along the Stony Run can occasionally be utilized as venues for gatherings or events. Some spaces might serve this purpose better than others, including:

- » Linkwood Park: Few spaces within the Upper Stony Run can accommodate large gatherings. Linkwood Park is the most appropriate for large events as it offers good visibility, is accessible from nearby streets, and has large, flexible open spaces. Additionally, there may be an opportunity to collaborate with adjacent institutions to share parking resources. For example, the Keswick Community uses Linkwood Park for its Memorial Day picnic. Additionally, Friends of Stony

Run recently hosted a family-friendly, ecologically-oriented Urban Bird Festival featuring games, crafts, bird walks, and live birds of prey from the Carrie Murray Nature Center. Event organizers encouraged participants to walk or bike; however, they also collaborated with Bolton Street Synagogue, who provided limited parking.

- » The smaller spaces within Linkwood Park, particularly south of Overhill Road, are appropriate for small, neighborhood-scale gatherings.
- » Alpine Meadow: Alpine Meadow is a smaller area, where the focus should be on neighborhood-scale/low impact events. Any events held here should be coordinated with the Evergreen Association who, in agreement with the City, maintains this public space.

As the Stony Run is City-owned parkland, use of its spaces is open to the public, and not limited to the immediate neighborhoods. All groups wishing to host an event in Stony Run would follow the same BCRP park permitting procedures.

G14 | PERMITTING

Programming must follow Baltimore City permitting requirements. For details, refer to the BCRP Park Event Permits webpage: bcrp.baltimorecity.gov/rec-parks-permits

G15 | TOURS

The entire Stony Run corridor is appropriate for “light footprint” events such as walking tours—whether they are recreational, nature-based, or history based. Continue to program bird-watching tours, tours highlighting the Ma and Pa Railroad history, and general park tours, particularly those that highlight the sensitive ecological system.

G16 | MEMORIALS/RECOGNITION MARKERS

Memorials and/or recognition markers in the form of plantings, dedication of structures (such as bridges), benches, and/or public art can be effective ways to recognize outstanding leaders and volunteers within the community,



Project Walking Tours, March 12, 2016



Bench



Druid Hill Park tree sculptures by Mark Acton

particularly those who have been dedicated to the protection and enhancement of Stony Run. Placement of memorials/recognition markers and their appropriateness must be considered, however, in order for them not to detract from the natural environment of Stony Run or the unique qualities of some of its spaces. Memorials/recognition markers should be discreet and should be utilized in rare cases with Friends of Stony Run serving as the facilitator to help individuals and organizations identify appropriate locations and guide them through any necessary City approvals. Additional information related to memorials is included in Chapter 4, Design Guidelines.

G17 | PUBLIC ART

Bring together local artists, the arts community, and Baltimore's public arts commission (as part of the Baltimore Office of Promotion & the Arts (BOPA)) together to work with the BCRP Volunteers Office to explore ways in which to appropriately include public and environmental art within Stony Run and to develop a Park Project Intent Description.

While there has been limited discussion regarding public art within Stony Run (as part of this strategic plan), the arts are evident in many of the unique benches found within the Park, particularly within Alpine Meadow. Work with Friends of Stony Run to help facilitate with the City in approving a limited number of works of art to be exhibited in the Stony Run, should there be interest. Explore appropriate opportunities to incorporate public art throughout the corridor, encouraging art that is respectful of and complementary to the natural setting and that is less vulnerable to vandalism. Examples may include:

- » Artful Play: If the playground at Linkwood Park is expanded, consider sculptural play elements that serve as sculpture (particularly nature-oriented) as well as play equipment.
- » Sculpture: Consider keeping dead tree trunks intact to transform into sculpture, similar to what had been created by artist Mark Acton in Druid Hill Park.

- » Seating: With the exception of designated spaces for the BCRP bench standard, continue to utilize neighborhood and local craftspeople to create seating from wood and/or stone.
- » Bridge Abutments: Existing bridge abutments (currently painted white) that face the street could be painted to better highlight their simple “panel and frame” design or as mural panels to highlight the Stony Run.
- » Fencing: In high visibility areas, such as near the playground, art can be incorporated into fence panels or woven into chain link or by using metal cut-outs.
- » Temporary and Permanent Art: Consider both temporary and permanent installations.



Bridge abutments provide an opportunity for public art

It is important to note that this recommendation is to help guide the incorporation of public art into Stony Run, as and if interest emerges. The intent is not to artificially impose art. For specific recommendations related to public art, refer to Chapter 4, Design Guidelines.

G18 | CAPACITY-BUILDING

Implementation of many of the recommendations described in this strategic plan depends upon partnerships and volunteer efforts. Continue to build the volunteer base from within all of the communities bordering the Stony Run. Partner with City agencies and organizations, and with adjacent academic institutions (and their students) to train volunteers on a variety of activities such as water quality testing, invasive plant removal, planting and watering, trail building, etc.

G19 | STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATES AND EXPANDED STUDY AREAS

Regularly review and update the Strategic Plan and expand the plan to include adjacent areas. Specifically:

- » Using the Implementation Matrix provided in Chapter 5, review the Upper Stony Run Strategic Plan annually to identify progress, reconfirm or re-establish priorities and recognize new information that may influence

the recommendations of the plan. Every five years, work with Friends of Stony Run, BCRP, DPW, and the Roland Park Community Foundation to provide updates to the plan.

- » Work further with partners that may include Gilman School, Friends School, BCRP, DPW, and Friends of Stony Run, among others, to provide an update to the plan to officially include the section of Stony Run on Gilman's property (up to Northern Parkway).
- » Work further with partners that may include the Tuscany Canterbury and lower part of the Roland Park neighborhood to provide an update to the plan to officially include the section of Stony Run between Overhill Road and University Parkway.
- » Work with partners that may include Friends of Stony Run; BCRP; DPW; JHU; and the Wyman Park, Wyman Park South, Hampden, Stone Hill and Remington Communities to extend the planning effort south of University Parkway to 29th and Sisson Streets and develop the Lower Stony Run Strategic Plan.

Area Specific Recommendations

The following recommendations are described for specific segments of the Upper Stony Run and can be used to guide project implementation—whether by volunteers, professionals, or a combination of both. The projects are not listed in order of priority, rather, geographically from north to south within each segment. Some elements are described within one project, but are common to multiple projects. These elements can be implemented incrementally within individual projects, or along the Upper Stony Run’s entirety, as one complete project. For example, park signs can be implemented one-by-one if funding is limited. Alternatively, a project could implement all proposed signage, in multiple locations, at once.

Upper Stony Run — Northern Segment

The northern segment of the Upper Stony Run, between Wyndhurst Avenue and Gilman School, is the narrowest section of the Park and is characterized by a mostly level and straight pathway atop an embankment that slopes steeply on the west to the adjacent neighborhoods and on the east to the Stony Run. This physical makeup of the path here hints to the Stony Run’s history as a railroad corridor. Because several adjacent streets terminate at Stony Run, this is the most “porous” section of pathway, with multiple access points over a fairly short distance. These access points, combined with the steep slopes, make it difficult to control erosion while simultaneously maintaining access. This segment of Stony Run also ends with uncertainty at the Gilman School property line, where the boundary between public and private space is not clear. As this segment is the farthest upstream, particular care should be given to reducing runoff and pollutants entering the stream, both here and from points further north. Specific recommendations for the northern segment are described below:

N1 | NORTHERN PARKWAY GATEWAY AREA (OUTSIDE OF SCOPE – FOR CONSIDERATION ONLY)

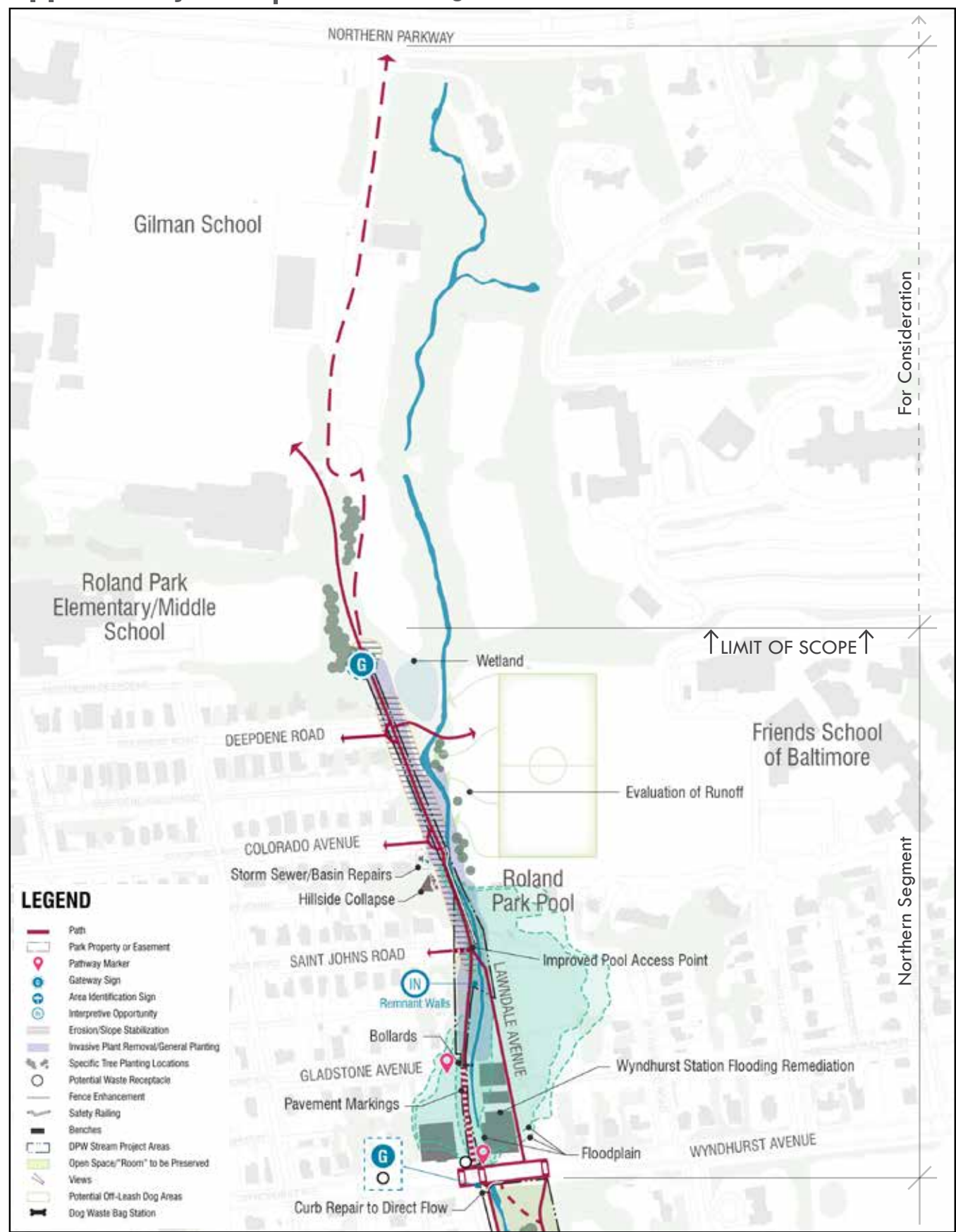
Collaborate with Gilman School to explore the feasibility of extending and designating the Stony Run Walking Path up

NORTHERN RECOMMENDATIONS

- N1 | Northern Parkway Gateway Area*
- N2 | Gilman and Roland Park Elementary/Middle School Gateway
- N3 | Deepdene Road Entrance
- N4 | Colorado Avenue Entrance
- N5 | St. Johns Road Entrance
- N6 | Gladstone Avenue Entrance
- N7 | Wyndhurst Avenue Gateway
- N8 | Gilman to Wyndhurst Enhancement Projects
- N9 | Wyndhurst Station Flooding
- N10 | Related Projects

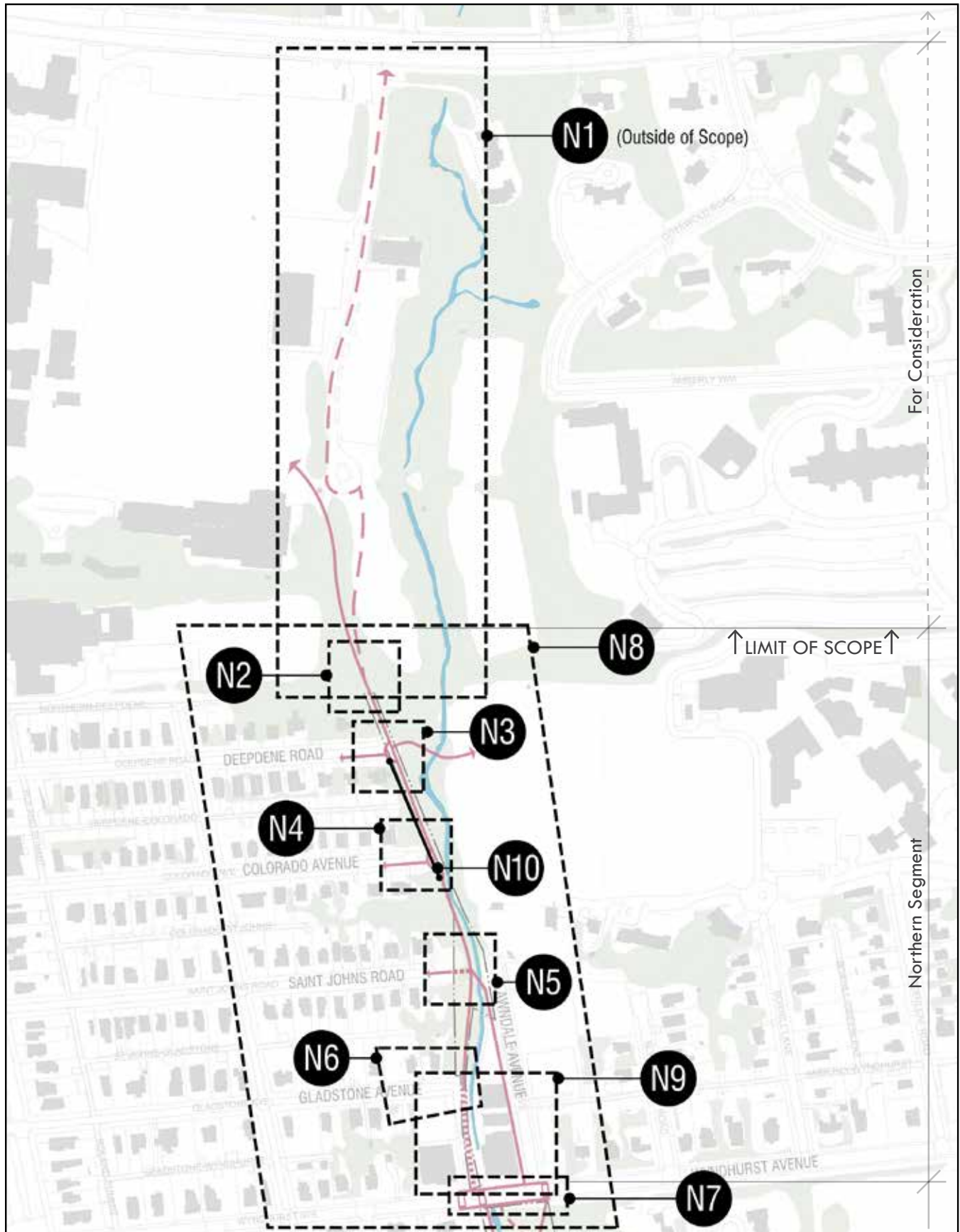
*Outside of the original scope, for consideration

Upper Stony Run | Northern Segment



Proposed Plan, Upper Stony Run Northern Section

Upper Stony Run | Northern Segment



Recommendation Key Plan, Upper Stony Run Northern Section



The path as it enters Gilman School's property

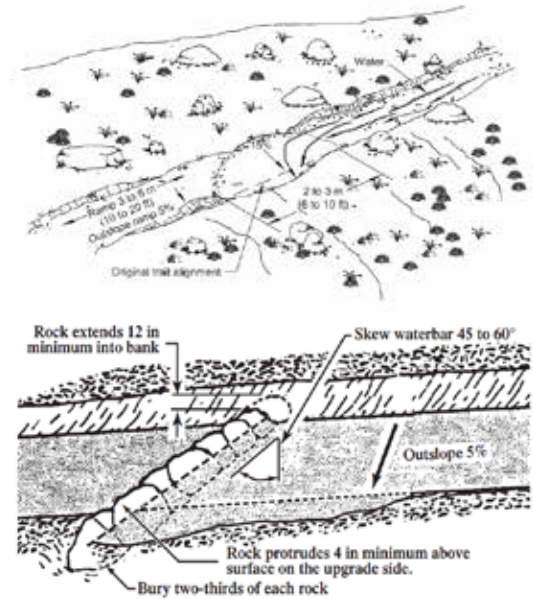
and through the campus to end on the south side of Northern Parkway. This would make the path more accessible to Bryn Mawr School and the neighborhoods to the north. This could be achieved in the form of an easement and new sidewalks and/or pavement markings through the parking lot, or a pathway closer to the stream. It is important to note that no discussions were had with Gilman School regarding this potential. The recommendation is to work with them to explore potential, considering the following:

1. **Pathway Alignment:** Work with the school to determine the best location for the path extension.
2. **Access Agreements:** Work with the school to determine the appropriate language and terms of usage in the form of an access agreement.
3. **Invasive Plant Removal:** Work with the school to remove invasive plants, including invasive plants north of the Friends School property (refer to recommendation G4 for additional invasive removal guidance).
4. **Tree Plantings:** Work with the school to enhance the path experience with additional tree plantings. Collaborate with the adjacent schools to solicit students and families as volunteers for tree planting. Additional tree planting assistance can be provided by TreeBaltimore, CJC, AmeriCorps, and/or Youth Works programs.
5. **Gateway Sign:** Consider a Gateway Sign at Northern Parkway, with a clear description that this path segment is on private property (refer to the Design Guidelines).

N2 | GILMAN AND ROLAND PARK ELEMENTARY/ MIDDLE SCHOOL GATEWAY

The gateway into Stony Run from Gilman School and Roland Park Elementary/Middle School (RPEMS) lacks clarity—the line between private and public property is not evident here and the public park lands end without connecting to any other public right-of-way. Signage should be utilized to announce the Stony Run as public park space at its boundary with these schools. Additional enhancements at this gateway should address erosion on the path surface and include new plantings.

1. **Runoff Control:** Work with schools to investigate runoff from the adjacent fields and school properties for potential debris (such as rubber pellets from artificial turf) to determine potential remediation.
2. **Path Surface Stabilization:** Stabilize the pathway where it slopes from Gilman School property into the Park. Guide surface water off the path utilizing “Rolling Grade Dips” (preferred) or “Rock Waterbars” as outlined in the *USDA Trail Construction and Maintenance Notebook*. If waterbars are utilized, it is important to regularly clear sediments and debris from the drainage channel.
3. **Lower Field Tree Planting:** The woodland edge along Gilman’s property (adjacent to the training tower) is in poor condition. Supplement the edge with new plantings of canopy trees, understory trees, and native shrubs, not to extend into the fenced RPEMS athletic area. Any plantings on school property will need to be coordinated with the appropriate institution and any landscape master plans that they have in place. Additional tree planting assistance can be provided by TreeBaltimore, CJC, AmeriCorps, and/or Youth Works programs.
4. **Dog Waste Station:** Consider providing a dog waste bag dispenser in conjunction with the gateway sign.
5. **Property Line Demarcation:** Provide property line marker indicating the boundary between public and private land. Refer to Chapter 4, Design Guidelines.
6. **Gateway Sign:** Provide a Gateway Sign at the entrance to the walking path, north of Deepdene Road. The sign should be double-sided and include the name “Stony Run,” in addition to rules and regulations, an overview map of Stony Run, important contact numbers, and a community message board.



A “Rolling Grade Dip” (Top) and a “Rock Waterbar” (Bottom), two alternate recommendations in the *USDA Trail Construction and Maintenance Notebook*

N3 | DEEPDENE ROAD ENTRANCE

The Stony Run entrance at Deepdene Road is, perhaps, the most severely impacted by foot traffic. Because the Walking Path crosses an east-west connecting path to



Deepdene Road Crossing, Existing Conditions

Friends School of Baltimore, years of foot travel in both directions has lowered the path surface at this intersection. Most stakeholders and nearby residents have expressed a preference for solutions that do not lower the grade of either pathway because of concerns with flooding. Stakeholders also desire a “low key” entrance. Develop a detailed design that takes into consideration the following:

1. Sloped Path: Continue to maintain a sloped pathway connection, without steps, at the northern sidewalk of Deepdene Road. Utilize “Rolling Grade Dips” (preferred) or “Rock Waterbars” as outlined in the *USDA Trail Construction and Maintenance Notebook* if necessary to prevent surface erosion (see illustrations).
2. Stone Steps: On either side of the walking path, utilize local stone, characteristic of the area, to construct steps at the connecting Friends School path. Use construction methods described in the *USDA Trail Construction and Maintenance Notebook*. Construct the steps in a manner that allows the walking path to be raised slightly in this location.
3. Slope Stabilization: Utilize a rock retaining wall or bio-engineered techniques for slope stabilization near this intersection. Bio-engineered techniques will allow the anchored slopes to become vegetated over time and appear as natural as possible.
4. Planting: Continue to supplement the existing woodland with native trees and shrubs. In particular, utilize plants with seasonal interest near the connection to Deepdene Road to highlight the entrance.



Deepdene Road Crossing, Existing Conditions



N4 | COLORADO AVENUE ENTRANCE

Maintain a “low-key” entrance to Stony Run from Colorado Avenue. The emphasis here should be on removing invasive plants and replacing them with native trees and shrubs.

1. Sloped Paths: Continue to maintain sloped pathway connections to the sidewalks on both sides of Colorado Avenue. Utilize “Rolling Grade Dips” (preferred) or “Rock Waterbars” as outlined in the *USDA Trail Construction and Maintenance Notebook* if necessary to prevent surface erosion.
2. Remove Invasive Plants: Continue to remove invasive or noxious plants (such as Poison Ivy) in conjunction with the new planting, described above. Consider a coordinated volunteer effort among neighbors and Friends of Stony Run.
3. Planting: Continue to supplement the existing woodland with native trees and shrubs. In particular, utilize plants with seasonal interest near Colorado Avenue to highlight the entrance. (Neighborhood representatives and Friends of Stony Run recently worked together with DPW to coordinate the planting of more than 20 trees in this area as part of an urgent storm drain repair project. This was a good example of how partnerships can have a positive impact on Stony Run).



Colorado Avenue entrance

N5 | ST. JOHNS ROAD ENTRANCE

Maintain a “low-key” entrance to Stony Run from St. Johns Road. The emphasis here should be on removing invasive plants, planting native trees and shrubs, and improving the connection to the Roland Park Pool.

1. Stair Enhancements: Maintain, repair, and/or replace (as necessary) the existing steps connecting St. Johns Road with the Stony Run Walking Path.
2. Pool Access: Construct stone steps or utilize another pathway design on the steep hillside path leading to the Roland Park Pool to improve access while addressing erosion.



St. Johns Road entrance



Gladstone Avenue entrance

N6 | GLADSTONE AVENUE ENTRANCE

Improve the appearance of the Gladstone Avenue Entrance to provide a clear visual connection to the continuation of the Stony Run Walking Path north of the parking lot at Wyndhurst Station.

1. **Pathway Marker:** Consider the use of a pathway marker, using the standards outlined in the Design Guidelines to identify the Stony Run Walking Path and to provide wayfinding markers to nearby destinations such as the nearby schools, the pool, the Roland Park commercial district, and other sections of the Stony Run.
2. **Planting:** Continue to enhance the planting in this area with additional native trees and shrubs. Locate plants to frame views of the path, particularly from the south, to identify the continuation of the path north of the parking lot.
3. **Barrier Replacement:** Replace the guardrail at the northern end of the parking lot with wood bollards, consistent in style with those used elsewhere along the Stony Run and as described in the Design Guidelines.

N7 | WYNDHURST AVENUE GATEWAY

Identify the Wyndhurst Avenue crossing, as with other street crossings along the Stony Run, as a major Park gateway.



Wyndhurst Avenue gateway area today

1. **Pathway Marker:** Using the standards outlined in the Design Guidelines, provide a pathway marker on the north side of Wyndhurst Avenue to identify the continuation of the Stony Run Walking Path through the parking lot.
2. **Trash Receptacles:** Coordinate with the DPW to provide trash receptacles on both sides of the path at Wyndhurst Avenue.
3. **Dog Waste Station:** Provide a dog waste bag dispenser and trash receptacles near the gateway sign to encourage park users to clean up after their pet.
4. **Graffiti Removal:** Work with volunteers to remove the graffiti on the Wyndhurst Avenue bridge abutment that is obscuring the mural project. Work with the artist and surrounding community to determine if the

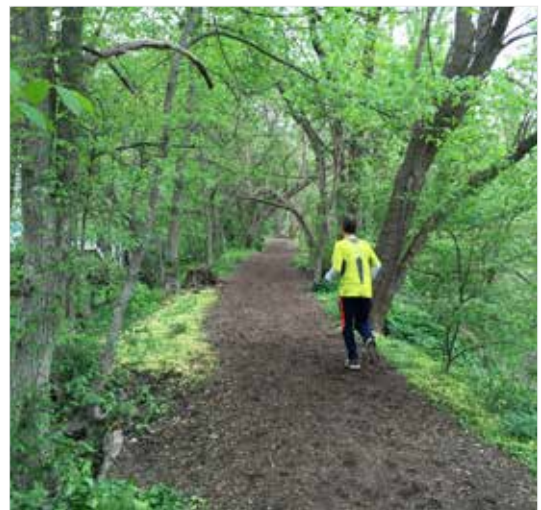
mural should be restored or removed, or if a new one should be created.

5. Student Drop-Off: Per the Roland Park Master Plan, work with Wyndhurst Station property owners to explore a student drop-off area for students walking to school via the Stony Run Walking Path.
6. Gateway Sign: Using the standards outlined in the Design Guidelines, provide a Gateway Sign at the entrance to the walking path on the south side of Wyndhurst Avenue. The sign should be double-sided and include the name “Stony Run,” in addition to rules and regulations, an overview map of Stony Run, important contact numbers, and a community message board.

N8 | GILMAN TO WYNDHURST ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS

The projects below are for those areas of Upper Stony Run–Northern Segment that are between Park entrances, as described above. Some of these projects may be folded into nearby entrance projects or can serve as individual projects.

1. Wetland Protection: Work with Friends School to continue to protect and enhance the wetland on their property, near the Deepdene Road Access.
2. Path Surface Stabilization: In the short-term, continue mulching of the path surface by Tuxedo Park’s North Stony Run Green Team. Because this section of path is primarily level, mulch does not wash away as easily as it would along other, sloped sections of the path. Mulching, however, still does require on-going maintenance in the form of replenishment. Over the long term, consider returning to a packed earth path surface, grading to improve drainage and removing protruding rocks as needed to maintain a fairly smooth surface.
3. Railings: Install wood post-and-rail safety fencing along the edge of the path in the vicinity of the storm drain culvert south of Colorado Avenue (refer to Chapter 4, Design Guidelines).



Mulched Path

4. **Embankment Stabilization/Bank Armoring:** Stabilize the embankment, particularly between St. John's Lane and Colorado Avenue, using bio-engineering techniques. As part of this effort, revisit the recommendations outlined in RK&K's "Colorado Avenue Drainage Investigation at the Upper Stony Run Restoration Project," submitted to the DPW in December 2007. Since this study, some additional private property was acquired and is now part of BCRP's park property. This effort should also focus on repairing the storm drain outfall to eliminate the standing pool of water.
5. **Invasive Plant Removal and Planting:** Remove invasive plants prevalent in the area—including Multiflora Rose, Privet, Poison Ivy, and others. Remove invasive plants at a time when they can be immediately or soon after replaced by new, native plants. Consider a coordinated volunteer effort among neighbors, schools and Friends of Stony Run. (Refer to recommendation G4 for additional invasive removal guidance.)
6. **Friends School Planting and Invasive Removal:** Work with Friends School to remove invasive plants and replace with native planting on portions of their property adjacent to the Stony Run. Any project on school property must be coordinated with the school and should take into consideration any landscape master plans that the school has.
7. **Pathway Delineation:** Work with the property owners at Wyndhurst Station to use pavement markings to delineate the Stony Run Walking Path as it passes through the existing surface parking lot. This will provide visual continuity between sections of the path between Wyndhurst and Gladstone Avenues. The markings could be an opportunity to incorporate public art. This should be explored with adjacent schools.
8. **Wall Structure Interpretation:** The remnant walls and abutments located in the Stony Run, between Gladstone Avenue and St. Johns Road, provide clues to the corridor's railroad past. Consider providing



Remnant walls at the northern section

interpretive signage near this feature or in association with the Wyndhurst Station.

9. Seating: While areas are limited because of embankments on both sides of the walking path, consider locating some seating/resting spots along this section of the path. Large boulders or unique bench designs, as used in the central section of the Upper Stony Run, would be appropriate, as described in the Design Guidelines.

N9 | WYNDHURST STATION FLOODING

Flooding at Wyndhurst Station has been a serious problem, particularly in recent years with increasingly intense storms. The problem is particularly apparent north of Wyndhurst Avenue, where several businesses are flooded with each major storm. With recent curbing and sidewalk projects along Wyndhurst, flooding has begun to affect Wilmslow Road. The inherent problem is that these buildings and associated parking lots are located within the Stony Run floodplain, so flooding is an unfortunate reality. Additionally, water tends to back up on the north side of the culvert. A hydraulic evaluation study will determine the extent of current opportunities and constraints. As an additional challenge, a nearby dumpster broke loose during a recent storm, washed into the channel, and blocked the culvert, resulting in severe flooding and erosion of the Wilmslow Road pavement. A network of neighborhood associations and nearby property owners worked effectively with DPW to address some of the issues; however, flooding will continue in the future without significant interventions.

Meet regularly with DPW, the Baltimore City Office of Sustainability hazards planner and other City agencies to thoroughly study the flooding problem and determine short and long-term solutions that could minimize the impacts of flooding (two meetings have occurred since July 2016). Efforts may include:

1. Research City files to compile and review previous roadway and stream-related construction projects.
2. Work with property owners to ensure objects are secured and will not break loose during storms.



Cloudburst flooding at Wyndhurst Station, June 21, 2016

3. Clear debris buildup between the existing curb and curbs of the recently installed “bumpouts” to maintain drainage flow along the street gutters and/or remove new curbs if they are determined to be a problem. Report debris build-up using the City’s 311 Service System.
4. Post signage warning of flood risks at the parking lot.
5. Relocate the dumpster farther from the stream bed.
6. Identify long-term solutions and identify projects to include in the Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) funding.

N10 | RELATED PROJECTS

During walking tours, stakeholders reported concerns with the storm sewer in the alley between Deepdene and Colorado Avenues, parallel to the walking path where the outfall is located south of Colorado Avenue. While addressing this issue is beyond the scope of this Strategic Plan, the outfall does nevertheless affect the Stony Run. To address this storm sewer issue, work with DPW to review stakeholder concerns, identify any problems that might exist, and potential solutions, including those that might be on private property.

Upper Stony Run — Central Segment

The central segment of the Upper Stony Run, between Wyndhurst Avenue and Cold Spring Lane, contrasts greatly with the northern segment. This segment is significantly wider and contains walking paths on both sides of the Stony Run, creating a “loop”, that offers a variety of experiences and opportunities to cross the Stony Run via stepping stone ‘bridges.’ The predominantly wooded area, here, is accented by small, sunny clearings—including Oakdale and Alpine Meadows. Additionally, this is the only section of the Upper Stony Run with homes facing directly onto the Park (along Wilmslow Road), illustrating how closely the Stony Run is integrated into the adjacent neighborhoods. In contrast, the Blythewood neighborhood to the east offers private but no public access to the park, and the deep wooded lots convey a sense that the Park is much more remote than it actually is. Specific recommendations for the central section are described below:

C1 | WEST LOOP

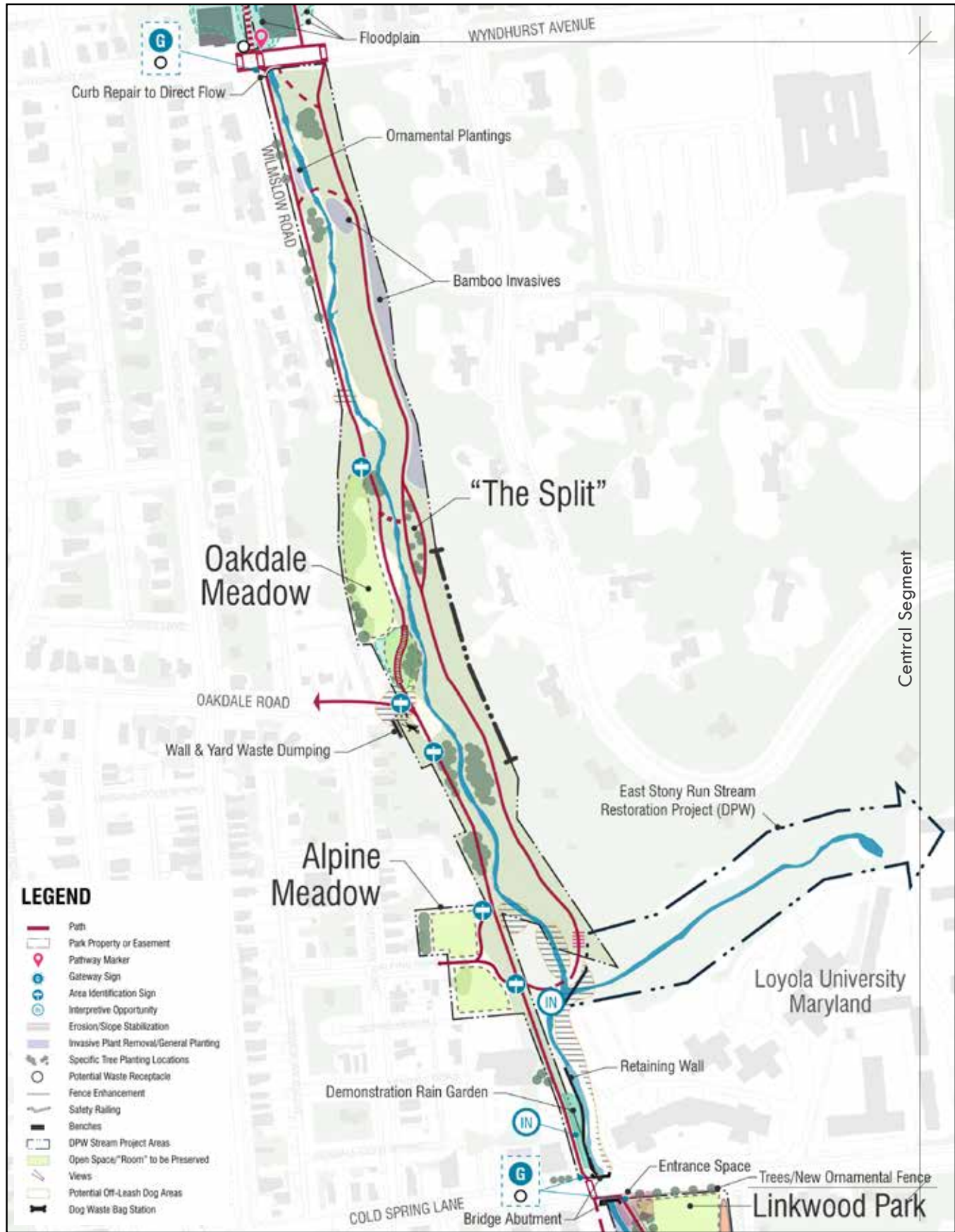
The section of path parallel to Wilmslow Road, on the west side of the stream, is unique within the Park and is closely integrated into the adjacent neighborhood of Roland Park. Many stakeholders have identified it as their favorite part of the Stony Run because of the well-tended gardens located between the path and Wilmslow Road, within the street right-of-way. Recommendations for this section of the path include:

1. **Surface Stabilization:** The pathway surface here is composed of course aggregate stones, is very rough, and is somewhat difficult to walk along. Work to replace the course aggregate with finer material to create a smoother surface.
2. **Erosion:** Repair erosion leading from the path into the stream at the southern end of Wilmslow Road.
3. **Exotic/Invasive Plant Encroachment:** In some areas, ornamental and invasive plants (daylilies) are encroaching into the stream embankment between the stream and the path. Care should be taken to contain ornamental plants within the confines of gardens and to avoid planting invasive plants, which can be harmful to the natural ecosystem.

CENTRAL RECOMMENDATIONS

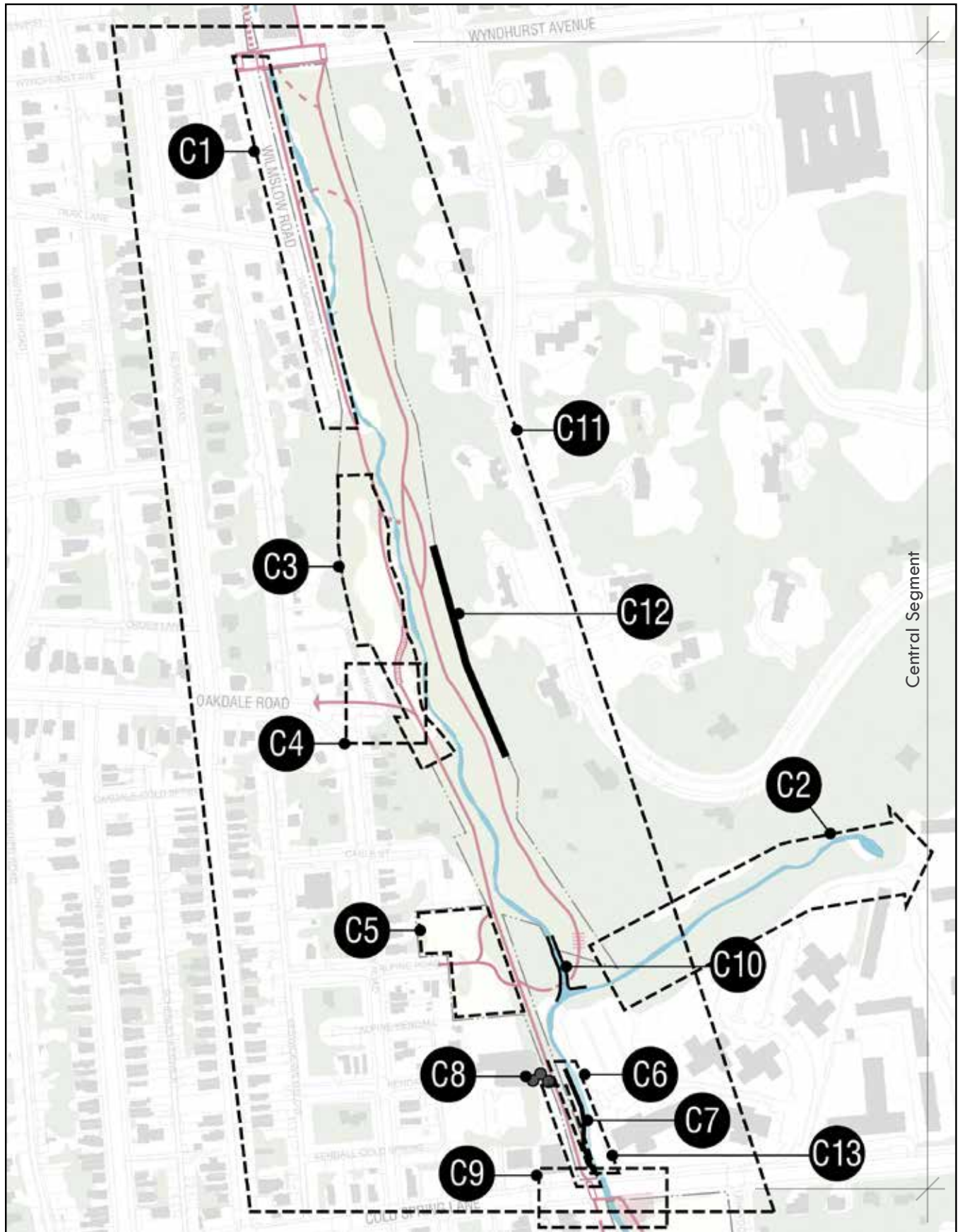
- C1 | West Loop
- C2 | East Stony Run Stream Restoration
- C3 | Oakdale Meadow
- C4 | Oakdale Road Entrance
- C5 | Alpine Meadow
- C6 | Demonstration Rain Garden
- C7 | Retaining Wall Evaluation
- C8 | Bolton Street Synagogue Tree Planting
- C9 | Cold Spring Gateway
- C10 | Stream Bank Repair
- C11 | Wyndhurst to Cold Spring Enhancement Projects
- C12 | Property Line Demarcation
- C13 | Stream Channel Widening

Upper Stony Run | Central Segment



Proposed Plan, Upper Stony Run Central Section

Upper Stony Run | Central Segment



Recommendation Key Plan, Upper Stony Run Central Section (Note: Recommendation C6 does not appear on this plan as it is being reviewed)



Parked cars sometimes block the path

4. **Tree Planting:** Consider planting a few additional canopy trees between the pathway and the street edge to vary tree canopy heights. Place trees in areas where their shade will not negatively impact existing gardens.
5. **Parking Encroachment:** Parking on the gravel pad at the southern end of Wilmslow Road often blocks the flow of circulation along the walking path. This pad appears to be located within the street right-of-way. Work with the DOT to confirm the ownership of this property and, if it is within the public right-of-way, provide bollards along the path or signage to prevent cars from blocking the flow of pedestrian movement along the walking path. If this pad exists for private use, work with the property owner to develop a solution.

C2 | EAST STONY RUN STREAM RESTORATION

Stream restoration is currently underway for the East Stony Run, which runs east behind Loyola College. The project is under construction on Johns Hopkins property, north of the Loyola campus and east of North Charles Street. Continue to work regularly with DPW to request updates so that the details of the project can be communicated to nearby residents. Additionally, it's important for the community to remain informed about this project and how it might inform or leverage other enhancement projects in the Upper Stony Run.

C3 | OAKDALE MEADOW

Oakdale Meadow is a gem along the Stony Run. The clearing provides a sunny contrast to the woodland character of most of the Upper Stony Run corridor, particularly north of Cold Spring Lane. The meadow is naturally divided into two “rooms”—the larger space in the north and a smaller room to the south. The area between the two spaces is wet throughout much of the season. During much of the year, the wet marshy area, believed to be the result of an underground spring, expands and covers much of the smaller, southernmost clearing. This wet area creates a natural boundary between the two rooms. It is important to maintain the clearings as open, sunny spaces in contrast to the other



Oakdale Meadow plan, detail showing planting locations. Refer to Overall Plan for a legend.

shaded areas of Stony Run. Focus any new plantings around the edges of the spaces to further define them. Develop detailed design plans for this area with consideration of the following:

1. **Wetland Planting:** Replace much of the lawn in the wettest portions of the site with low native plantings that can withstand the moisture as well as seasonal dry spells.
2. **Boardwalk:** Replace the temporary wood planking with a low boardwalk through the wet portion of the meadow. The boardwalk should be in scale with the pathway; however, consideration constructing it so that it could accommodate small maintenance vehicles if necessary. Although a boardwalk will require some maintenance, allowing the landscape to function as it wants (that is, as a wetland) will protect the ecological value of the Meadow while reducing future vulnerability to standing water. Utilize the guidelines outlined in the *USDA Trail Construction and Maintenance Notebook*.
3. **Planting:** Enhance the west edge of the northern clearing with native understory trees—such as Flowering Dogwood and Eastern Redbud—and additional native canopy trees. The edge might also be supplemented with native shrubs that offer seasonal interest.
4. **Tree Pruning:** Prune some of the lower branches of the trees closest to the path to remove branch hazards for path users.
5. **Identification Sign(s):** Consider placing a simple sign that identifies Oakdale Meadow at each end of the space. This could provide an orientation point for users as well as elevate the importance of Oakdale Meadow as a space that needs to be protected. Design the sign in accordance with the Design Guidelines.

C4 | OAKDALE ROAD ENTRANCE

This project can be implemented separately from the Oakdale Meadow enhancements described above; however,



Oakdale Meadow



Sample path boardwalk, Canaan Valley State Park, WV

the two projects should be designed together. The design should consider the following:

1. Erosion: Stabilize the pedestrian connection from Oakdale Road to the walking path to prevent additional erosion. Utilize the guidelines outlined in the *USDA Trail Construction and Maintenance Notebook*.
2. Dog Waste Station: Provide a dog waste bag dispenser near the entrance to encourage park users to clean up after their dogs.
3. Yard Waste Cleanup: The area behind the wall at the base of Oakdale Road has served as an illegal dumping ground for yard waste. While the wall screens this from view from Oakdale Road, it presents a negative image from within the Park. Remove the yard waste, enhance the area with native shrubs, and discourage additional dumping.
4. Identification Sign: Consider a sign that identifies Oakdale Meadow, using the standards outlined in the design guidelines.



Yard waste being dumped behind the wall at Oakdale Meadow



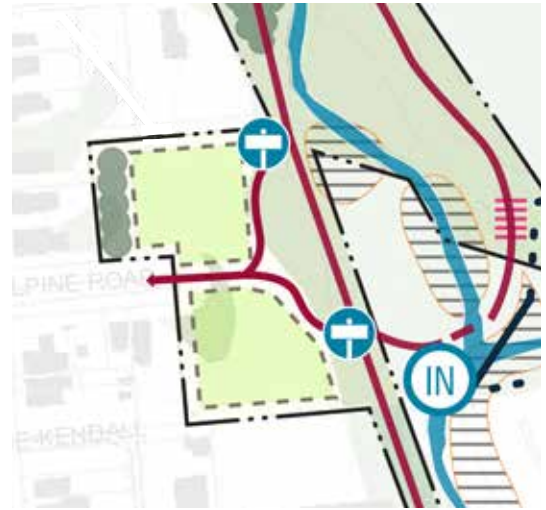
Yard waste being dumped at Alpine Meadow

C5 | ALPINE MEADOW

Like Oakdale Meadow to the north, Alpine Meadow (also referred to as “Evergreen Meadow”) is a unique open space along the Stony Run and one of the few large gathering areas that can be programmed to support neighborhood events and passive recreation. Similar to Oakdale Meadow, Alpine Meadow naturally divides into two “rooms” while still functioning as one overall space. This subtle distinction of spaces is a positive feature of the Park space and should be maintained. Overall, the space is well maintained by the Evergreen Association and needs little enhancement; however, consideration might be given to the following:

1. Path Entrances: Repair the erosion of the two path entrances into Alpine Meadow from the main walking path, using guidelines in the *USDA Trail Construction and Maintenance Notebook*. In particular, reconstruct the stone steps at the southern entrance which can be hazardous, particularly to older park users who may have trouble navigating them.

2. **Tree Planting:** Consider additional tree planting along the western edge of the northern-most “room” to provide stronger spatial definition between Alpine Meadow and the adjacent private property.
3. **Spatial Definition:** Maintain the spatial definition of two separate “rooms,” as defined (approximately) by the centerline of Alpine Road. Most new tree planting should occur along the edges of each of these rooms rather than “filling” the spaces with trees.
4. **Dog Waste Station:** Provide dog waste bag dispensers at one or several entrances into Alpine Meadow to facilitate cleaning up after one’s dog.
5. **Yard Waste Cleanup:** Much of the boundary between Alpine Meadow and the walking path has served as a dumping ground for yard waste. While this refuse is organic and is mostly not visible from within Alpine Meadow, it presents a negative image from along the walking path and misrepresents Alpine Meadow as private property and not part of the larger Stony Run. Remove the yard waste, enhance the edge with native shrubs, and tree plantings and discourage additional dumping.
6. **Identification Sign(s):** Consider providing signs (or a single sign) to identify Alpine Meadow at the entrance to the space from Alpine Road and/or at the two entrances along the walking path. There is currently a wood sign identifying “Stony Run Park” made by a volunteer in the community. This sign matches the unique benches in the area and could remain; however, any new signs should follow the sign standards as outlined in the design guidelines.



Alpine Meadow plan, detail showing planting locations. Refer to Overall Plan for a legend.



Alpine Meadow features two, distinct “rooms,” split at the Alpine Road entrance



A demonstration rain garden will separate the path from the Professional Building



Plan drawings of the potential rain garden

C6 | DEMONSTRATION RAIN GARDEN

A demonstration rain garden is currently being designed along the east side of the parking lot just north of Cold Spring Lane. The rain garden will capture stormwater run-off from the parking lot before it reaches and enters the stream and improve the ecology of the area. Specific elements include:

1. **Bio-Retention Facility:** A new bio-retention facility will be located between the parking lot and the pathway.
2. **Tree Planting:** Additional canopy trees should be planted to enhance the narrow woodland edge between the path and the stream.
3. **Fence Replacement:** If the construction budget allows, some sections of the existing silver chain link fence will be replaced with black chain link fence (black is visually less prominent) to replace sections of fence that has been impacted by adjacent trees. If the project budget does not allow for the fence replacement, the fence should be replaced later as a separate project.
4. **Interpretive Signs:** The existing interpretive sign should be updated to incorporate sign standards as outlined in the Design Guidelines.

C7 | RETAINING WALL EVALUATION

A significant retaining wall is located along the Stony Run, adjacent to the demonstration rain garden described above. While the wall appears to be stable, some sections are impacted by the roots of adjacent trees. The wall should be monitored by the property owner on a regular basis.

C8 | BOLTON STREET SYNAGOGUE TREE PLANTING

Work with Bolton Street Synagogue to explore planting one to three canopy shade trees between the walking path and their building. Currently, the hillside lawn is planted with several low, understory trees. Canopy trees, on the other hand, would help to better integrate the building into the woodland setting.



The Bolton Street Synagogue building

C9 | COLD SPRING GATEWAY

The Stony Run corridor is highly visible from Cold Spring Lane. There is an opportunity to provide more visibility to the amenity and increase awareness of the walking path and the Park to those passing by in cars, on bikes, or on foot. As a result of the *Greater Roland Park Master Plan*, a new crosswalk will be installed by the DOT, making the crossing of the walking path more visible to motorists. Additional enhancements might consider:

1. **Street Tree Planting:** Work with the property owner of the University Pharmacy (northwest corner of Cold Spring Lane and the walking path) to explore planting tall-canopy street trees along their frontage sidewalk. Canopy trees would still allow for visibility of storefront windows, would provide shade for this south-facing façade, and would provide scale for pedestrians along the sidewalk.
2. **Trash Receptacles:** Coordinate with the DPW and provide trash receptacles on the north side of Cold Spring Lane along the Stony Run Path.
3. **Dog Waste Station:** Provide a dog waste bag dispenser near the trash receptacle to facilitate park users to clean up after their pet.
4. **Bridge Abutment Painting:** The bridge abutments along Cold Spring Lane are constructed of formed concrete, resulting in a series of “panels” along the length of each abutment; currently they are painted white. Consider working with DOT to coordinate painting these (accenting the panels and the “frames”) to improve their appearance. This could also be a project that involves a local artist to create a feature out of the abutments that further helps to brand the Stony Run or the neighborhood.



Existing condition at the Professional Building



Bridge abutment along Cold Spring Lane, potential for public art

C10 | STREAM BANK REPAIR

Repair the stream bank just north of its confluence with the East Stony Run.

C11 | WYNDHURST TO COLD SPRING ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS

The above recommendations address specific projects along the central segment of the Upper Stony Run. In addition to these, several projects occur at multiple locations along the corridor. These projects can be addressed in phases or in conjunction with other nearby projects.

1. **Path Surface Stabilization:** The surface of the path varies throughout the central section. Unlike the northern section, where volunteers have regularly maintained a mulched surface, the central section contains several path segments with protruding rocks and uneven surfaces. Work with BCRP and volunteers to remove protruding rocks and create a smoother surface. Utilize the *USDA Trail Construction and Maintenance Notebook* for guidance in creating the most appropriate trail surface.
2. **“The Split”:** The path along the east side of the stream divides for a short distance, about midway along the central section of the Upper Stony Run. This area has a unique quality, offering path users a variety of experiences—along a more heavily traveled route or along a quieter, more contemplative side-path. Consider planting additional native trees and shrubs within the “island” formed by the split and providing additional seating along the path segment closer to the stream.
3. **Bamboo Removal:** There are two stands of Bamboo along the central section. A smaller stand is located just south of Cold Spring Lane, on the east side of the stream, and a much larger stand extends along the eastern boundary of the Park and appears to straddle both public and private land. Work with adjacent property owners to remove the Bamboo or, at a minimum, contain it so that it does not spread further.
4. **Seating:** Incorporate additional seating in the form of boulders or uniquely designed benches along the pathway as described in Chapter 4, Design Guidelines.



“The Split”



Bamboo in Stony Run

C12 | PROPERTY LINE DEMARCATION

During the planning phase site walks, stakeholders suggested that it would be helpful to delineate the boundaries between public and private property with simple markers where the boundary is not always clear. Some areas are not maintained or managed because of confusion as to property ownership. While much of the eastern property line (adjacent to Blythewood) is clearly delineated by walls and/or fences, some segments lack barriers, making delineation unclear. Clarifying the property line will ensure privacy for adjacent property owners and help volunteers understand where to direct their efforts. Refer to Chapter 4, Design Guidelines.

C13 | STREAM CHANNEL WIDENING

The stream channel becomes quite constricted between the Loyola University property line and the Bolton Street Synagogue/Cold Spring Lane commercial properties. Collaborate with the University to explore the long-term potential of reconfiguring the surface parking lot to allow for a widening of the stream channel. Though this may or may not be feasible in the near term, the concept should be explored from time to time as campus development plans continue to evolve.



Existing edge, demonstrating unclear property line



Existing channelization

SOUTHERN RECOMMENDATIONS

- S1 | Linkwood Park Gateway
- S2 | Linkwood Playground
- S3 | Linkwood Park Embankment Planting
- S4 | Linkwood Park West Edge
- S5 | Linkwood Park Tree Planting and Maintenance
- S6 | Linkwood Park Boardwalk Crossing
- S7 | Property Acquisition
- S8 | Meadow Lane Invasive Removal and Planting
- S9 | Property Line Demarcation
- S10 | Overhill Gathering Space
- S11 | Overhill Road Gateway
- S12 | South Linkwood Park Embankment*
- S13 | Stream Bank Stabilization*
- S14 | Pedestrian Bridge Crossings*
- S15 | Overhill to University Invasive Removal and Planting *
- S16 | Walking Path along Linkwood Road*
- S17 | Wyman Park Gateway*

*Outside of the original scope, for consideration

Upper Stony Run — Southern Segment

Like the central segment, the southern segment of the Upper Stony Run (from Cold Spring Lane to Overhill Road) offers a variety of experiences, including a path on each side of the stream between Cold Spring Lane and Overhill Road. Linkwood Park is the centerpiece of this section and is the largest open gathering area along the Stony Run, north of University Parkway. It is an open, linear park that includes the only active recreation facilities (a ballfield and playground) along the Upper Stony Run. The public park space is at its widest here, with significant frontage along Cold Spring Lane, and serves as an important meeting space for North Baltimore residents and Loyola University students. Like the smaller Alpine and Oakdale Meadows, Linkwood Park is divided into a series of “rooms.” This spatial definition should be preserved and enhanced. Specific recommendations for the entire southern segment, including Linkwood Park, are described below:

S1 | LINKWOOD PARK GATEWAY

Because of its significant frontage along Cold Spring Lane, Linkwood Park should project a positive image and serve as a premier gateway to the Stony Run. Following is a description of the project elements that should comprise the gateway. Ideally, these elements would be implemented all as one project; however, most can be phased in as individual projects.

1. Entrance Space: At the arrival to the Park from Cold Spring Lane and along the walking path, create a small forecourt or entrance space to provide more transition between the sidewalk and Linkwood Park. The entrance space would include the gateway sign, described above, and the trash receptacle and dog waste bag dispenser, described below. This space would also be appropriate for focal planting that provides seasonal interest.
2. Street Tree Planting: Provide street trees (canopy shade trees to allow for and frame views into the Park) along Cold Spring Lane. These street trees should be upright in form and set back so that they do not interfere with

overhead utility lines. The street tree planting may consider either regularly-spaced trees of one species or an informal arrangement of multiple species. Small ornamental trees should not be used, as they would block views into the Park.

3. Ornamental Fencing: Replace the chain link fencing along Cold Spring Lane with black ornamental fencing, as outlined in Chapter 4, Design Guidelines.
4. Trash Receptacles: Coordinate with DPW and provide trash receptacles on the south side of Cold Spring Lane along the Stony Run Path at the entrance space as described above.
5. Dog Waste Station: Provide a dog waste bag dispenser near the trash receptacle to encourage park users to clean up after their pets.
6. Gateway Sign: Using the standards outlined in Chapter 4, Design Guidelines, provide a Gateway Sign at the entrance to the walking path on the south side of Cold Spring Lane. The sign should be double-sided and include both the names “Stony Run” and “Linkwood Park,” in addition to rules and regulations, an overview map of Stony Run, important contact numbers, and a community message board for information such as volunteer opportunities.



Existing condition along south side of Cold Spring Lane

S2 | LINKWOOD PLAYGROUND

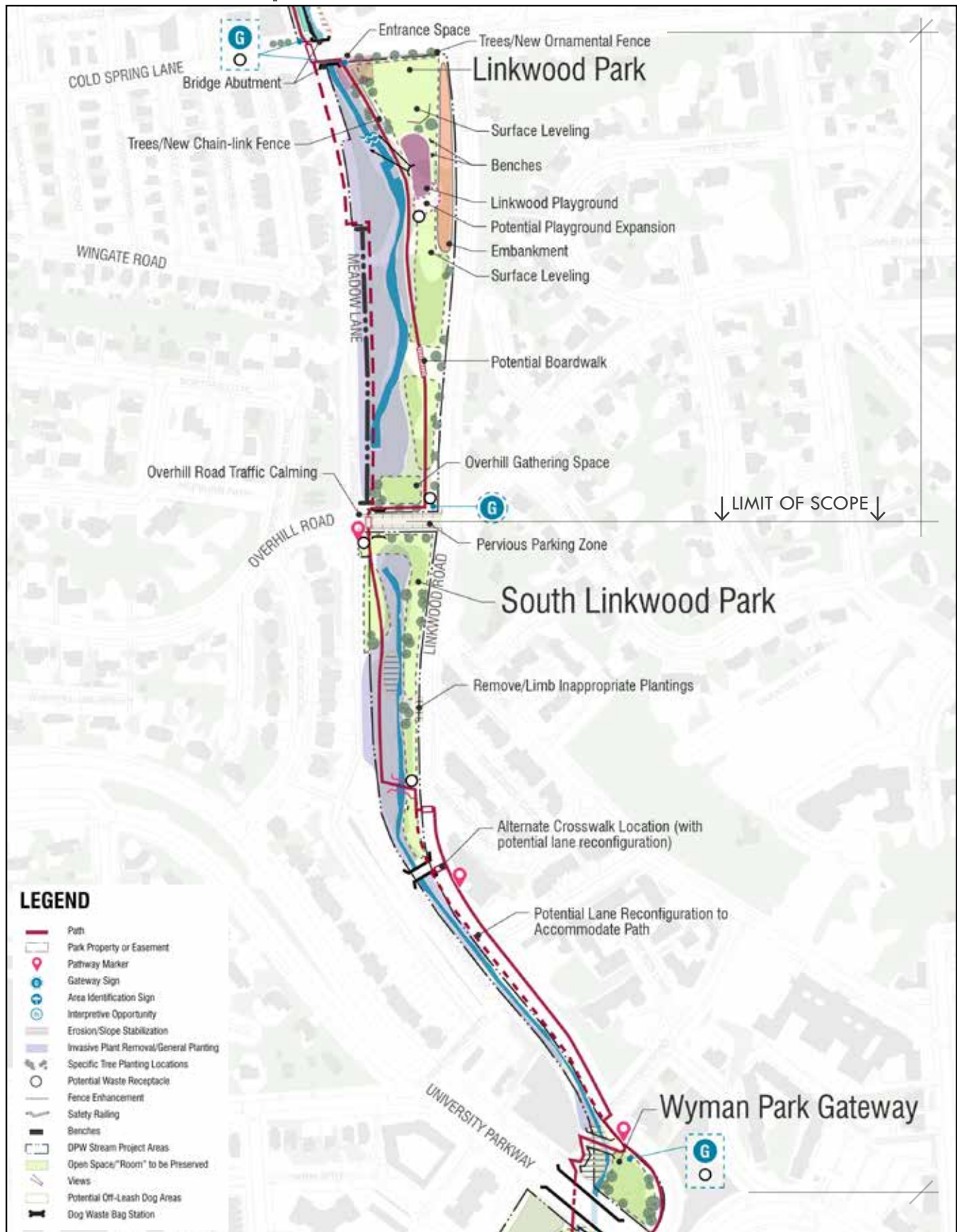
The playground within Linkwood Park is heavily used and serves as an important social and play area for families. While the playground is mostly in good condition, the following enhancements may be considered, particularly at such time that improvements are needed.

1. Surface Leveling: The grassy play areas near the playground are uneven. Fill and seed holes, ruts, and other uneven surfaces to create a level surface.
2. Playground Surface: Stakeholders prefer to maintain a mulch surface for the playground, rather than a rubber surface. Should BCRP standards and ADA requirements dictate a rubber surface; a neutral tone should be selected to fit in with the natural setting.



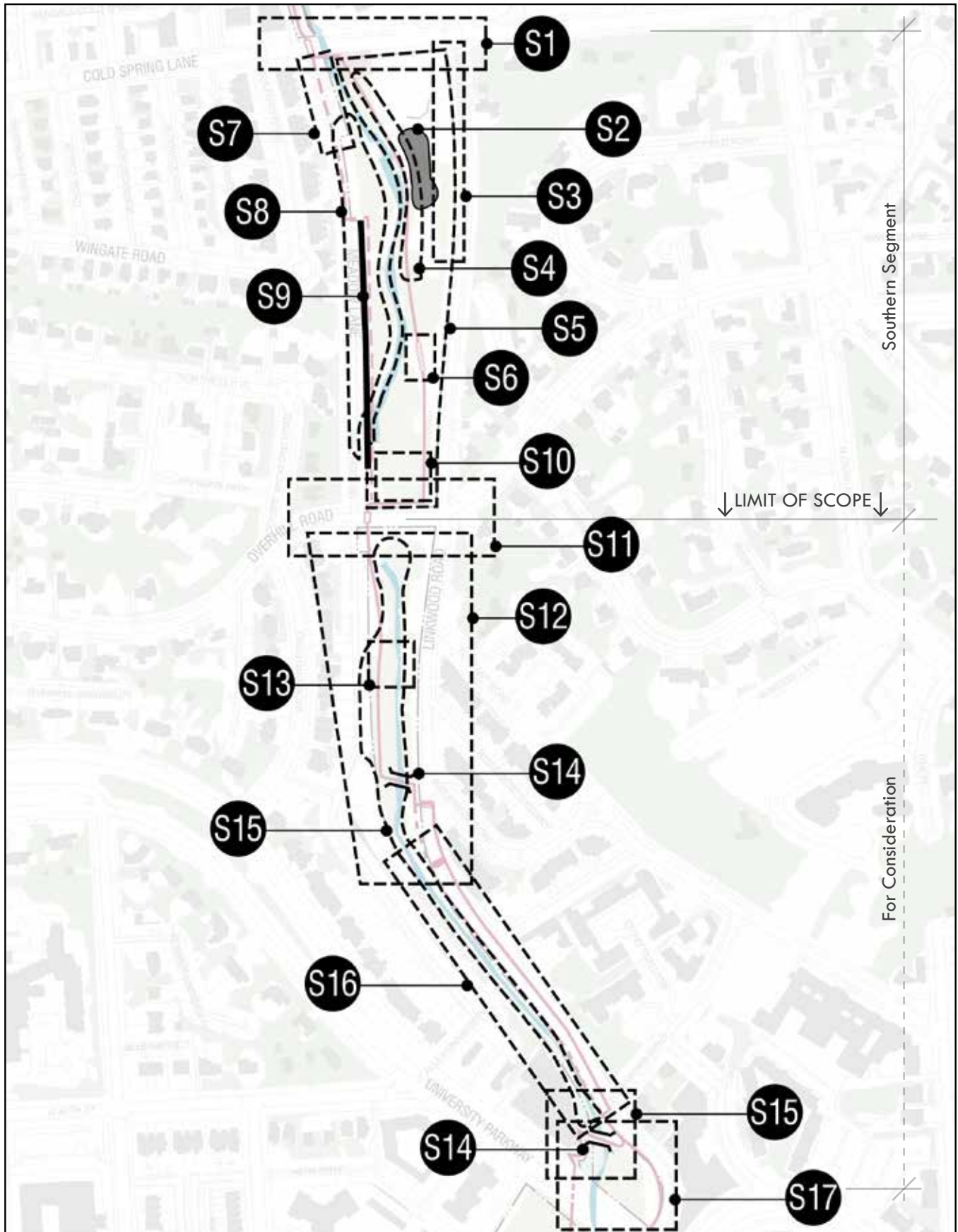
Linkwood Playground

Upper Stony Run | Southern Segment



Proposed Plan, Upper Stony Run Southern Section

Upper Stony Run | Southern Segment



Recommendation Key Plan, Upper Stony Run Southern Section



Detailed plan of Linkwood Park recommendations. Refer to Overall Plan for a legend.

3. **Trash Receptacles:** Provide additional trash receptacles in the playground area, away from the benches. The trash receptacles should utilize the standards outlined in Chapter 4, Design Guidelines. Existing trash cans should be replaced with the same standards. This is the only location along the Stony Run where trash cans should be provided internal to the Park (rather than at street crossings, such as Wyndhurst Avenue, Cold Spring Lane, Overhill Road, and University Parkway).
4. **Dog Waste Station:** Provide a dog waste bag dispenser near one of the trash receptacles to encourage park users to clean up after their pets.
5. **Seating:** Provide additional benches near the playground, particularly on the east side. Benches in this area should utilize the BCRP standard bench, as outlined in Chapter 4, Design Guidelines. Over time, replace the benches on the west side of the playground with BCRP standard benches.
6. **Identification sign:** Provide a sign identifying the playground, using the standards outlined in the design guidelines.
7. **Playground Expansion:** While there has been no indication that the playground needs to expand, maintain flexibility for expansion to the south, should expansion be needed in the future. For this expansion, consider incorporating art and/or nature-based play instead of the existing, traditional play equipment.

S3 | LINKWOOD PARK EMBANKMENT PLANTING

A steep embankment runs along the western side of Linkwood Road, just south of Cold Spring Lane. This steep embankment is currently maintained as mowed lawn. As an alternative, consider maintaining this as a “limited mow” area or replanted as a meadow to minimize maintenance on the slope and to add biodiversity to the Stony Run ecosystem. Should a meadow be planted or the area maintained as a limited mow area, care should be given to provide a mowed-edge along Linkwood Road so that the meadow treatment appears intentional.

S4 | LINKWOOD PARK WEST EDGE

The western boundary of Linkwood Park, particularly from the playground northward, is characterized by extensive invasive plant growth and damaged chain link fencing. The walking path parallels this rather unattractive edge. There is an opportunity to enhance both the planting and the fencing and to better engage the pathway.

1. **Slope Fencing Replacement:** Replace the northern section of black chain link fencing (damaged by falling trees) with new black chain link fence. Set the fence back into the wooded edge as much as possible.
2. **Plant Removal and New Planting:** Remove the vines that are overtaking the trees and remove the invasive plants. Supplement the existing woodland with new canopy and understory trees. Plant an occasional canopy tree or groups of trees on the east side of the walking path to allow for the experience of moving in and out of the edge, rather than just along the edge. Understory trees should only be planted on the west side of the path and should be selected to add seasonal interest and habitat value.
3. **Stream View:** There is a minor waterfall and long view of the stream along this section of the Stony Run which provides visual as well as audible, trickling water interest to the Park experience near the playground. When planting new trees, take care to preserve or frame views to this part of the stream.

S5 | LINKWOOD PARK TREE PLANTING AND MAINTENANCE

In addition to the tree planting along the west edge of Linkwood Park, as described above, plant trees throughout Linkwood Park so that there are replacements as existing mature trees continue to decline. It is important that tree planting occurs mostly along the edges of the “rooms” to maintain flexible open spaces. In some areas, such as around the playground, it is appropriate to create a tree grove in which most of the space has a continuous tree canopy; however, views underneath the canopies should be unobstructed and the trees spaced far enough apart



Potential limited-mow area at Linkwood Park



Example of a limited-mow edge on a slope in Blandair Park, Howard County



The small waterfall at Linkwood Park



Linkwood Park, path along the western edge



Dead tree in Linkwood Park



A tree stump was used to create a sculpture in Druid Hill



Area of poor drainage in Linkwood Park



Meadow Lane invasive species growth

to maintain a lawn area. Specific considerations for tree planting include:

1. Linkwood Road Street Trees: Plant occasional canopy trees near the street edge of Linkwood Road to be established as mature trees continue to decline and. These trees will help define the open spaces associated with the Park, and should be planted in an informal arrangement rather than regularly spaced.
2. Replacement Trees: Plant “replacement trees” near declining trees throughout Linkwood Park.
3. Dead Tree Hazard: While dead trees provide habitat value, the existing dead tree north of Overhill Road is leaning toward the walking path and should be removed. Consideration might be given to retaining a section of the trunk for carving into a sculpture, as has been done in Druid Hill Park.
4. Tree Pruning: Prune the grouping of River Birch located between “rooms” to allow for filtered views from one space to the other.

S6 | LINKWOOD PARK BOARDWALK CROSSING

Remove a portion of the path paving where drainage and sediments currently wash over the pathway north of Overhill Road to install a low boardwalk (similar to that proposed for Oakdale Meadow) to maintain a dry walking surface and provide a varied experience for path users. Alternatively, if a boardwalk is not feasible, explore other options to improve drainage and eliminate silt buildup on the pathway.

S7 | PROPERTY ACQUISITION

Continue to explore, over time, property acquisition or donations along Meadow Lane near Cold Spring Lane. While current property owners may not be interested in giving up their portion of property on the east side of Meadow Lane, this may change over time as properties change ownership.

S8 | MEADOW LANE INVASIVE REMOVAL AND PLANTING (COLD SPRING LANE TO OVERHILL ROAD)

North of Overhill Road, the west side of the stream is characterized by significant invasive plant growth

(particularly English Ivy) and low quality woodlands. Develop a plan for a large scale invasive plant removal project corresponding with new planting to improve the ecology and aesthetics of this area. The scale of invasive plant coverage warrants a professional effort and the potential use of herbicides. The plan should also include “replacement planting” of new native canopy and understory trees and shrubs. For this project to be successful, volunteers would be needed to keep new plantings watered and free of vines. Invasive removal could also start as a volunteer effort with the focus being on the edges of the woodland where invasive plants, such as Paper Mulberry, are encroaching upon open spaces.

S9 | PROPERTY LINE DEMARCATION

During the planning phase site walks, stakeholders suggested that it would be helpful to delineate the boundaries between public and private property with simple markers where the boundary is not always clear. The east side of Meadow Lane, north of Overhill Road is one such area. Clarifying the property line will help volunteers understand where to direct their efforts.

S10 | OVERHILL GATHERING SPACE

The small plateau on the north side of Overhill Road is the site of a former underground reservoir and forms a small gathering area and unique space within the corridor.

1. Use additional tree plantings around the perimeter of the space to further define it as a room.
2. Remove the invasive plants (primarily Paper Mulberry) that are encroaching upon the space. In particular, clear the invasive trees between the space and Meadow Lane and replace with appropriate native canopy trees.

S11 | OVERHILL ROAD GATEWAY

1. Pathway Marker: Consider the use of a pathway marker on the south side of Overhill Road, near Meadow Lane, using the standards outlined in Chapter 5, Design Guidelines to identify the Stony Run Walking Path.
2. Bridge Repair: Repair the concrete “bridge” abutments along Overhill Road.

BEYOND THE SCOPE

In 2014, the Roland Park Community Foundation sought out to develop this strategic plan for the northern portion of the Stony Run, extending from Overhill Road northward to Gilman School. Although spearheaded by the Greater Roland Park Master Plan Steering Committee, the development of this plan recognized the need to engage the diverse stakeholders along the stream in order to be successful. This includes adjoining neighbors, institutions, community associations, environmental organizations, Friends of the Stony Run and City agencies that all feel a stake in the future of the Stony Run. Similarly, the recommendations within this Plan extend further north — to Northern Parkway — and further south — to the Wyman Park Gateway — in order to form complete segments of the Stony Run, bounded by major roadways.



Overhill gathering space atop the old reservoir



Cars currently park on the grass at Overhill Road



Example of parallel parking on permeable pavers



Example of parallel parking on permeable pavers

3. **Parking Lane:** Visitors to Linkwood Park currently park on the grass along Overhill Road between Linkwood Road and Meadow Lane, creating ruts and bare areas where lawn cannot be maintained. Rather than prevent cars from parking here, consider creating a parallel parking zone behind the curb on the south, and possibly the north sides of the street using permeable pavers. Should this be pursued, the pavers should visually contrast with the street and should be set back from each corner of the intersection so that cars do not block the pedestrian crossings of Overhill Road. It is important to note that currently there is no parking on the north side of Overhill Road. This proposal would provide expanded paved surface (in the form of pavers) so that parking on both sides would still allow for two-way traffic circulation. It should be noted that this idea came from stakeholders during the site walk; however, other stakeholders are strongly against providing parking along Overhill Road. If this project is considered, further vet the concept with the adjacent community and DOT to determine the feasibility and the final design.
4. **Traffic Calming:** In addition to the parking described above, which will help calm traffic, work with the DOT to explore other traffic-calming measures along Overhill Road to slow traffic. Consider marked crosswalks or speed tables incorporated within crosswalks.
5. **Trash Receptacles:** Coordinate with the DPW and provide trash receptacles on both the south and north sides of Overhill Road along the Stony Run Path, near the gateway signs.
6. **Dog Waste Station:** Provide a dog waste bag dispenser near the trash receptacles to encourage park users to clean up after their pets.
7. **Gateway Signs:** Using the standards outlined in Chapter 4, Design Guidelines, provide a Gateway Sign at the entrance to the walking path on the northwest corner of Overhill and Linkwood Roads and on the Southeast corner of Overhill Road and Meadow Lane. The sign should be double-sided and include both the

names “Stony Run” and “Linkwood Park,” in addition to rules and regulations, an overview map of Stony Run, important contact numbers, and a community message board for information such as volunteer opportunities.

S12 | SOUTH LINKWOOD PARK ENHANCEMENTS (OUTSIDE OF SCOPE – FOR CONSIDERATION ONLY)

The open spaces south of Overhill Road are also part of Linkwood Park; however, many people tend to think of Linkwood Park as only the portion between Overhill Road and Cold Spring Lane. While narrower than the northern portion of Linkwood Park, the southern portion is also defined by a series of open “rooms,” a few on each side of the stream that provide for a variety of flexible, passive open spaces.

1. **Tree Planting:** Plant additional canopy shade trees to reinforce the individual rooms/spaces. Understory trees should also be planted along the wooded stream edge; however, they should not be planted along the street edge where their low canopies would block views into the Park.
2. **Plant Maintenance:** Selectively prune the trees and remove the shrubs along the Linkwood Road near Tuscan Road. The shrubs are overgrown and, in combination with the low tree limbs, block views into the Park.
3. **Invasive Plant Removal:** Continue to remove invasive plants throughout this area and replace with appropriate native vegetation. Invasive plants in this area include Privet, Japanese Honeysuckle, and Bamboo, among others. (Refer to recommendation G4 for additional invasive removal guidance.)
4. **Seating:** Consider additional benches in this section of Linkwood Park, particularly ones to replace the benches removed for the recent pedestrian bridge construction. As with the northern section of Linkwood Park, the BCRP standard bench should be used, as outlined in the Design Guidelines.



Benches removed for the bridge construction

S13 | STREAM BANK STABILIZATION (OUTSIDE OF SCOPE – FOR CONSIDERATION ONLY)

There is evidence of undercutting of some of the stream banks located roughly across from the intersection of Linkwood Road and the Tuscany/Ridgemedede alleyway. Additionally, work to ensure that any stream banks damaged during the construction of the pedestrian bridges be restored as part of that project.

S14 | PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE CROSSING AREAS (OUTSIDE OF SCOPE – FOR CONSIDERATION ONLY)



Pedestrian bridge construction

Two pedestrian bridges are currently under construction with construction anticipated to be complete by November 2016. This project is funded through Program Open Space and is the result of significant work by numerous partners. Much credit goes to the Stony Run Walking Path Committee, led by Tuscany Canterbury resident Anne Perkins, Delegates Maggie McIntosh and Sandy Rosenberg, and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (MDNR). While the project contract includes the bridges, path connections to the bridges (and associated boardwalks), new planting, and restoration of site conditions as they were prior to construction, additional efforts may be required by volunteers once the project is complete. These efforts may include:

1. **Pathway Marker:** Consider the use of a pathway marker using the standards outlined in Chapter 4, Design Guidelines to identify the Stony Run Walking.
2. **Additional Planting:** Additional canopy trees, understory trees, and shrubs may be planted in the project areas to supplement project planting. Give care to maintain and frame views to the bridges for ease of wayfinding. Ensure implementation of the planting plan that was included as part of the bridge construction drawings upon completion of bridge construction.
3. **Watering and Mulching:** New plantings are generally covered by a one-year warranty period; however, volunteers should keep an eye on the project and make sure this is happening during dry spells and report to

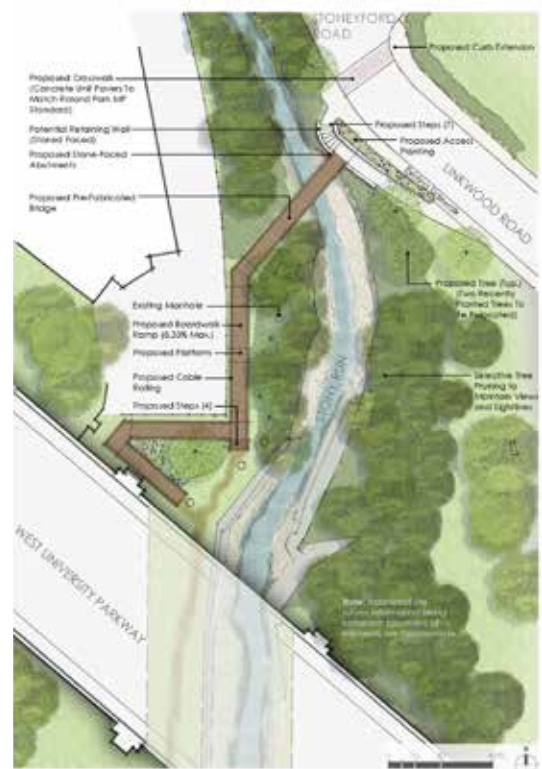
BCRP if it is not. After one year, volunteers should continue to water and mulch new plantings, at least through the second year until plants are established.

4. **Invasive Plant Control:** Even with new planting, the disturbance resulting from the construction may encourage additional invasive plants. Volunteers should work to keep the invasive plants under control until other plants are established. It will be particularly important to keep new plantings free of vines.
5. **Seating:** Once the bridges are in place, it may be appropriate to add additional benches near the access points to the bridges. Benches on the Linkwood Road sides of the bridges (within Linkwood Park and within the northern end of Wyman Park, described below) should utilize the BCRP standard bench as outlined in the Design Guidelines.
6. **Recognition Marker:** The pedestrian bridges were the result of the dedicated efforts of public and private officials, identified above. One or both bridges would be logical candidates to include a small recognition plaque if there is interest.

S15 | OVERHILL TO UNIVERSITY INVASIVE REMOVAL AND PLANTING (OUTSIDE OF SCOPE – FOR CONSIDERATION ONLY)

Similar to areas north of Overhill Road, both sides of the stream between Overhill Road and University Parkway are characterized by significant invasive plant growth and low quality woodlands.

1. **Rooms:** Respect existing open spaces and “rooms.” Avoid “filling” the spaces with new plantings – emphasize planting along the edges of the spaces.
2. **Invasive Removal:** Develop a plan for a large scale invasive plant removal project corresponding with new planting. The scale of invasive plant coverage warrants a professional effort and should include planting of new native canopy and understory trees and shrubs.
3. **Volunteers:** For this project to be successful, volunteers would be needed to keep new plantings watered and



free of vines. Invasive removal could also start as a volunteer effort with the focus being on the edges of the woodland where invasive plants such as Privet, Multiflora Rose, English Ivy, Norway Maple, and Japanese Honeysuckle are encroaching upon open spaces.

S16 | WALKING PATH ALONG LINKWOOD ROAD (OUTSIDE OF SCOPE – FOR CONSIDERATION ONLY)



Existing conditions, Linkwood Road path

The stretch of Upper Stony Run between Stoneyford Road and Ridgemedede Road is the narrowest section of the stream corridor and is constrained by private parking lots on the west side and Linkwood Road on the east side. Consequently, there is very little space to accommodate the walking path. Several concepts for the walking path and its alignment through this area have been explored and should continue to be explored with the adjacent Tuscany-Canterbury Community and adjacent property owners. It is important to note that these options need much more detailed study. These include:

1. **Existing Sidewalk:** This option is the least impactful and would utilize the existing sidewalk along the east side of Linkwood Road. This sidewalk, however, is narrow and not ADA-compliant. Street lights and sign posts are located within the narrow sidewalk area, obstructing access for many. One approach would be to develop “bump-outs” for relocation of the poles outside of the sidewalk area. These bump-outs could also accommodate planting. A less expensive approach would be to utilize the bump-outs as the path around the pole obstructions so that the lights and posts could remain in place. This would affect approximately three-to-five parking spaces. Should the existing sidewalk be designated as the walking path, the pavement surface would need to be leveled and repaired in several areas.
2. **Lane Reconfiguration:** A second option is to eliminate the parking lane between Stoneyford Road and the entrance into Linkwood Apartments and shift the travel lanes to the east to accommodate a walking path on the



Potential lane reconfiguration

west side of the street with either pavement markings or a relocated curb. This would affect approximately 27 parking spaces (observations revealed that all of these spaces are occupied on a Saturday with a JHU game event, while on a typical Saturday, approximately 12 spaces were occupied, primarily near Stoneyford Road).

It is important to note that both options described above should be viewed as considerations only. Their feasibility needs to be explored with the Department of Transportation and the surrounding community.

S17 | WYMAN PARK GATEWAY (OUTSIDE OF SCOPE – FOR CONSIDERATION ONLY)

A small portion of Wyman Park extends north of University Parkway in the form of a sloping, open green space. This pleasant, mostly visual open space presents a positive gateway image along Linkwood Road and an attractive foreground to the University Parkway bridge structure. With the development of the pedestrian bridges, described above (one of which is located within this portion of the Park), this area has the potential to be a more useful Park space. Specific recommendations include:

1. **Additional Planting:** Maintain the open space, but better define it with additional canopy trees along Linkwood Road. Provide understory trees with seasonal interest along the wooded stream edge.
2. **Planting Bed:** A small planting bed will be incorporated adjacent to the stone stairs accessing the bridge from the north. Work with volunteers to plant and maintain with perennials.



Wyman Park Gateway

3. **Trash Receptacles:** Coordinate with DPW and provide trash receptacles along Linkwood Road near the bridge entrance and across from Stoneyford Road.
4. **Dog Waste Station:** Provide a dog waste bag dispenser near the trash receptacle closest to the bridge to encourage park users to clean up after their pets.
5. **Gateway Sign:** Using the standards outlined in the Design Guidelines, provide a Gateway Sign along Linkwood Road near the bridge landing. The sign should be double-sided and include both the names “Stony Run” and “Wyman Park,” in addition to rules and regulations, an overview map of Stony Run, important contact numbers, and a community message board for information such as volunteer opportunities.
6. **Public Art:** consider incorporating public art into the Gateway space to take advantage of the visibility of the location.

The recommendations and considerations of this Strategic Plan do not extend to the Lower Stony Run, south of University Parkway. Many of the recommendations for the Upper Stony Run, however, are applicable to the Lower Stony Run; stakeholders should consider working with partners to continue the planning effort to include a Lower Stony Run Strategic Plan.



4

DESIGN GUIDELINES

Following are design standards that should be utilized for enhancement projects along the Stony Run. Because Stony Run is a public park within the Baltimore City Park system, many of the design guidelines follow the standards utilized by that department. Other guidelines are specific to the unique quality of Stony Run. The intent is to develop an overall cohesiveness to the park without “over designing” it and to provide guidelines to those implementing enhancement projects.

The following guidelines and design standards are provided here:

1. Planting
2. Site Furnishings
3. Barriers
4. Signage
5. Memorials
6. Path Surface
7. Public Art

PLANTING

Planting Guidelines

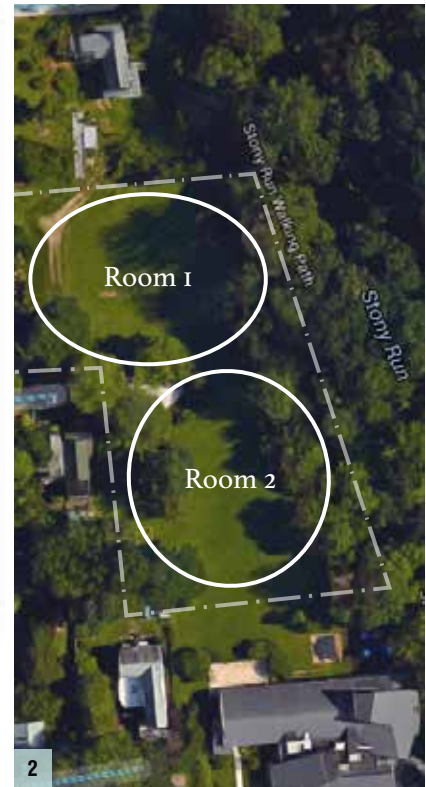
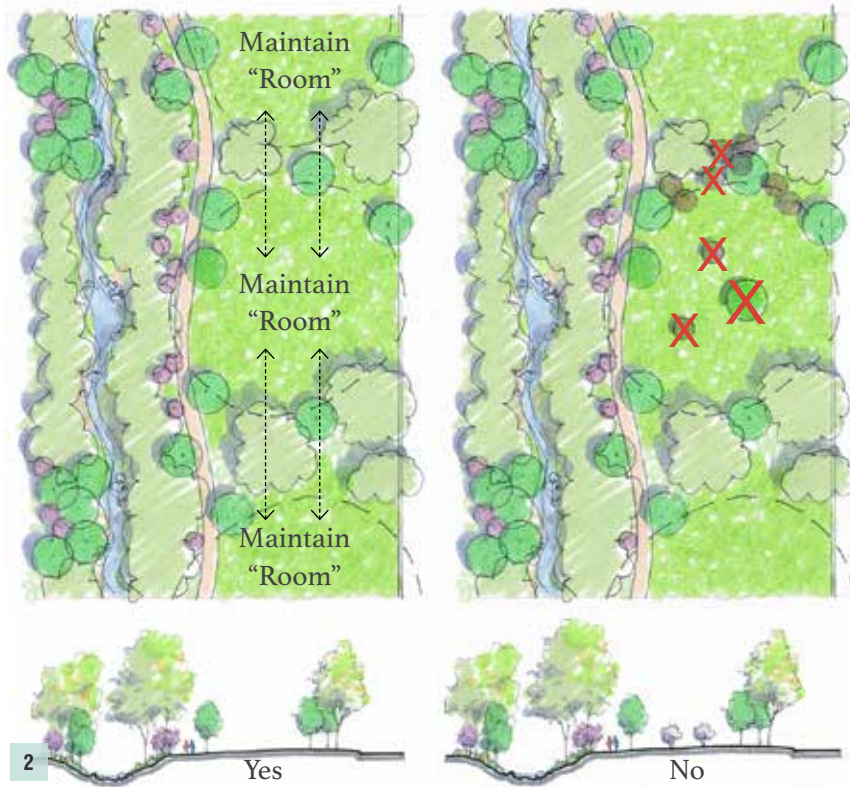
General Planting Guidelines

The following general planting guidelines should be followed along the Stony Run:

1. As invasive plants are removed, replace soon after with appropriate native plants.
2. Emphasize the use of native plants.
3. Where there are gaps in the riparian buffer fill those gaps with trees to extend the canopy.
4. Respect the inherent character of open spaces, including Oakdale Meadow, Alpine Meadow, Linkwood Park (several spaces), and Wyman Park Gateway. Avoid “filling” open spaces and use planting to enhance the edges of spaces.
5. Within open spaces, and along street edges, emphasize the use of tall canopy trees that allow filtered views beneath the canopies into the park spaces as opposed to low branching or ornamental trees that block important views.
6. Utilize understory trees offering seasonal interest along woodland edges.
7. Utilize native shrubs, groundcovers and perennial plantings offering seasonal interest in areas where they will make the most impact such as park/open space entrances, near seating areas and at the termination of vistas. Avoid formalized planting designs and incorporate these plants naturally into the landscape.



Instead of low branching or ornamental trees (top), tall canopy trees should be planted along edges and within open spaces



1: LOW-MOW EDGE AT DRUID HILL PARK (LEFT) AND BLANDAIR PARK (RIGHT) — Limited Mow Area Edge Treatment. Application: Along Linkwood Road, south of Cold Spring Lane. **2:** PLANTING OPEN SPACES ("ROOMS") — Application: Oakdale Meadow, Alpine Meadow, Linkwood Park (multiple spaces), Wyman Park Gateway. Existing vegetation (Typ.). Shade and understory tree planting to fill open areas within riparian buffer (Typ.). Keep new understory planting along woodland edges (Typ.). Use new shade tree planting to ultimately replace declining trees and reinforce edges of space (Typ.).

Northern Segment



Central Segment



Southern Segment



Open spaces to be preserved

In addition to coordinated neighborhood efforts, assistance for tree planting projects can be provided by TreeBaltimore, CJC, AmeriCorps, and/or Youth Works programs.

Invasive Plants to Remove

Numerous invasive plants exist throughout Stony Run and should be removed or contained using methods outlined in the recommendations of this plan. Some of the invasive plants that are most common and should be targeted for removal include:

- » Chinese elm
- » Paper mulberry
- » Norway maple
- » Privet
- » Multiflora rose
- » Bamboo
- » Baltic ivy
- » Lesser celandine
- » Porcelain Berry

To achieve invasive recommendations, collaborate with BCRP Forestry Division's Weed Warriors Program to raise funds that can support a coordinated invasive plan management strategy. Having a coordinated strategy will ensure that resources are used wisely, and sites can be maintained after the initial invasive removal. Additionally, consider coordinating with BCRP's Parks Division on a project affiliated with the Conservation Job Corps (CJC) and AmeriCorps programs.

Recommended Plants

Following is a suggested—but not complete—plant list for new plantings throughout Stony Run. Unless noted otherwise, most of the tree species are currently identified as “recommended” in the *Baltimore City Landscape Manual* (the “landscape manual”). The landscape manual allows for additional tree species with permission by the Planning Department. These additional species are also identified. As the landscape manual will likely be updated from time to time, new planting should conform to the most current version. Additional species, not listed, may be approved by the Planning Department.

MAJOR TREES

(Recommended in the *Baltimore City Landscape Manual*)

- » *Acer negundo* | Box Elder
- » *Acer rubrum* 'Armstrong' | Armstrong Red Maple
- » *Acer rubrum* 'October Glory' | October Glory Red Maple
- » *Acer rubrum* 'Red Sunset' | Red Sunset Red Maple
- » *Acer saccharum* 'Legacy' | Legacy Sugar Maple
- » *Aesculus x carnea* 'Briotii' | Briotii Red Horsechestnut
- » *Aesculus hippocastanum* | Common Horsechestnut
- » *Betula nigra* 'Heritage' | Heritage River Birch
- » *Carpinus caroliniana* | American Hornbeam
- » *Celtis occidentalis* | Common Hackberry
- » *Cladrastis lutea* | American Yellowwood
- » *Gymnocladus dioica* (female) | Kentucky Coffee Tree (female)
- » *Juglans nigra* | Black Walnut

- » *Liquidambar styraciflua* 'Rotundaloba' | Rotundaloba Sweetgum
- » *Liriodendron tulipifera* | Tulip Poplar
- » *Nyssa sylvatica* | Blackgum
- » *Oxydendrum arboreum* | Sourwood
- » *Platanus x acerifolia* | Bloodgood London Planetree
- » *Platanus occidentalis* | American Sycamore
- » *Quercus alba* | White Oak
- » *Quercus bicolor* | Swamp White Oak
- » *Quercus coccinea* | Scarlet Oak
- » *Quercus imbricaria* | Shingle Oak
- » *Quercus macrocarpa* | Bur Oak
- » *Quercus palustris* | Pin Oak
- » *Quercus phellos* | Willow Oak
- » *Quercus rubra* | Northern Red Oak
- » *Tilia cordata* 'Greenspire' | Greenspire Little Leaf Linden
- » *Tilia americana* 'Redmund' | Redmund Linden
- » *Tilia tomentosa* | Silver Linden
- » *Ulmus americana* 'Liberty' | Liberty American Elm
- » *Ulmus americana* 'New Harmony' | New Harmony American Elm
- » *Ulmus americana* 'Princeton' | Princeton American Elm
- » *Ulmus americana* 'Valley Forge' | Valley Forge American Elm

ADDITIONAL MAJOR TREES

(Not listed in the Baltimore City Landscape Manual but native to the Maryland Piedmont and non-invasive *)

- » *Fagus Grandifolia* | American Beech
- » *Carya ovata* | Shagbark Hickory

MINOR TREES

(Recommended in the Baltimore City Landscape Manual)

- » *Aesculus pavia* | Red Buckeye
- » *Amelanchier canadensis* | Serviceberry
- » *Cercis canadensis* | Eastern Redbud
- » *Chionanthus virginicus* | White Fringetree
- » *Cornus florida* | Flowering Dogwood
- » *Magnolia virginiana* | Sweetbay Magnolia

ADDITIONAL MINOR TREES

(Not listed in the Baltimore City Landscape Manual but native to the Maryland Piedmont and non-invasive*)

- » *Sassafras albidum* | Sassafras

EVERGREEN TREES

- » *Ilex opaca* | American Holly

SHRUBS

(Recommended in the Baltimore City Landscape Manual for slope stabilization)

- » *Clethra alnifolia* | Summersweet
- » *Comptonia peregrina* | Sweetfern
- » *Cornus racemosa* | Gray Dogwood
- » *Itea virginica* | Virginia Sweetspire
- » *Myrica pensylvanica* | Northern Bayberry
- » *Rhus aromatic* | Fragrant Sumac
- » *Vaccinium angustifolium* | Lowbush Blueberry
- » *Viburnum acerifolium* | Maple-Leaved Arrowwood

ADDITIONAL SHRUBS

(Not listed in the Baltimore City Landscape Manual but native to the Maryland Piedmont and non-invasive*)

- » *Corylus americana* | American hazelnut

- » *Hamamelis virginiana* | Witch Hazel
- » *Hypericum densiflorum* | Dense St. John's Wort
- » *Rhododendron maximum* | Great Rhododendron, Rose Bay
- » *Rhododendron viscosum* | Swamp Azalea
- » *Viburnum dentatum* | Southern Arrowwood
- » *Viburnum prunifolium* | Black Haw Viburnum

HERBACEOUS

(Recommended in the Baltimore City Landscape Manual for slope stabilization)

- » *Asclepias tuberosa* | Butterflyweed
- » *Coreopsis verticillata* | Threadleaf Coreopsis
- » *Eupatorium purpureum* | Green-stemmed Joe-Pye Weed
- » *Rudbeckia fulgida* | Orange Coneflower
- » *Rudbeckia hirta* | Black-Eyed Susan
- » *Symphiotrichum ericoides* | Heath Aster
- » *Symphiotrichum laevum* | Smooth Aster

ADDITIONAL HERBACEOUS

(Not listed in the Baltimore City Landscape Manual but native to the Maryland Piedmont and non-invasive*)

- » *Baptisia australis* | Blue false indigo
- » *Baptisia tinctoria* | Wild indigo
- » *Chrysopsis mariana* | Maryland golden aster
- » *Cimicifuga racemosa* | Black Snakeroot
- » *Coreopsis verticillata* | Threadleaf Coreopsis
- » *Dicentra cucullaria* | Dutchman's breeches
- » *Dicentra eximia* | Wild Bleeding Heart
- » *Eupatorium dubium* | Joe-Pye Weed
- » *Eupatorium fistulosum* | Trumpetweed
- » *Geranium maculatum* | Wild Geranium

- » *Helianthus divaricatus* | Woodland Sunflower
- » *Lobelia cardinalis* | Cardinal Flower
- » *Mertensia virginica* | Virginia Bluebells
- » *Phlox divaricate* | Woodland Blue Phlox
- » *Podophyllum peltatum* | Mayapple
- » *Polemonium reptans* | Jacob's ladder
- » *Senecio aureus* | Golden Ragwort
- » *Senna marilandica* | Maryland Wild Senna
- » *Smilacina racemosa* | False Solomon's Seal
- » *Solidago caesia* | Blue-Stemmed Goldenrod
- » *Thalictrum dioicum* | Early Meadow Rue
- » *Tiarella cordifolia* | Foamflower
- » *Trillium grandiflorum* | White Trillium
- » *Verbena hastata* | Blue Vervain

* Listed in U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, *Native Plants for Wildlife Habitat and Conservation Landscaping, Maryland: Piedmont*. Refer to this excellent source for additional plants and for information regarding ideal growth conditions, height, color, and bloom season.

Prohibited Plants (Baltimore City Landscape Manual)

TREES

- » *Acer platanoides* | Norway Maple
- » *Ailanthus altissima* | Tree of Heaven
- » *Albizia julibrissin* | Silktree
- » *Broussonetia papyrifera* | Paper Mulberry
- » *Eleagnus angustifolium* | Russian Olive
- » *Eleagnus umbellate* | Autumn Olive
- » *Fraxinus americana* spp. | White Ash
- » *Fraxinus pennsylvanica* spp. | Green Ash
- » *Morus alba* | White Mulberry
- » *Paulownia tomentosa* | Princess Tree
- » *Pyrus callryana* | Callery Pear (all cultivars)
- » *Quercus acutissima* | Sawtooth Oak
- » *Salix x sepulcralis* | Weeping Willow
- » *Ulmus parvifolia* | Chinese Elm
- » *Ulmus pumila* | Siberian Elm

SHRUBS

- » *Berberis thunbergii* | Japanese Barberry
- » *Euonymus alatus* | Winged Euonymus
- » *Hibiscus syriacus* | Rose of Sharon
- » *Lonicera* spp. | Bush Honeysuckle
- » *Ligustrum* spp. | Blunt-leaved Privet
- » *Rosa multiflora* | Multiflora Rose
- » *Rubus phoenicolasius* | Wineberry
- » *Spiraea japonica* | Japanese Spiraea

GRASSES

- » *Bamusa vulgaris* | Common Bamboo
- » *Cortaderia selloana* | Pampass Grass
- » *Polygonum japonicum* | Japanese Knotweed

- » *Miscanthus sinensis* | Japanese Silver Grass
- » *Phyllostachys aurea* | Golden Bamboo
- » *Phyllostachys bambusoides* | Japanese Timber Bamboo
- » *Pseudosasa japonica* | Arrow Bamboo
- » *Sorghum halepense* | Johnsongrass

VINES AND GROUNDCOVERS

- » *Akebia quinata* | Five-Leaf Akebia
- » *Ampelopsis brevipedunculata* | Porcelain Berry
- » *Hedera helix* | English Ivy
- » *Liripe spicata* | Creeping Liriope
- » *Lonicera japonica* | Japanese Honeysuckle
- » *Polygonum perfoliatum* | Mile-a-Minute Vine
- » *Pueraria lobata* | Kudzu
- » *Solanum dulcamara* | Oriental Bittersweet
- » *Vinca minor* | Vinca, Periwinkle
- » *Wisteria floribunda* | Japanese Wisteria

HERBACEOUS

- » *Cirsium arvense* | Canada Thistle
- » *Humulus japonicas* | Japanese Hops
- » *Lythrum salicaria* | Purple Loosestrife
- » *Ranunculus ficaria* | Lesser Celandine, Buttercup

PLANTING

Strategies	G4, G6, N1, N2, N3, N4, N6, N8, C1, C3, C5, C6, C8, C9, S1, S3, S4, S5, S8, S10, S12, S14, S15, S17
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1



2



3



4

SAMPLE APPROPRIATE PLANTING — [1] Willow Oak, [2] Witchhazel, [3] Dogwood, and [4] Aster.

FURNISHINGS

Site Furnishing Guidelines

Site furnishings should be utilized throughout Stony Run to provide comfort to park users but in a manner that is sensitive to protecting the natural character of the park. Site furniture should utilize a combination of Baltimore City park standard benches as well as uniquely crafted and/or “natural” seating; Baltimore City park standard trash/recycle receptacles and pet waste bag dispensers (no Baltimore City standard).

Benches

Benches ensure that the park is welcoming and accommodating to individuals of all activity levels, and are an important amenity particularly for elderly visitors. For “formalized” park spaces near roadway frontages, utilize the BCRP bench standard. For naturalized areas (the majority of the park), utilize custom artist-crafted seating and natural seating including logs, stumps and large boulders. Seating utilizing natural features should maintain a minimum seating height of 18” with some higher (such as boulders) to accommodate older park users who may have trouble with regular seating heights. Avoid commercial benches that appear to be a standard but are not.



BCRP STANDARD BENCH

Specification	Model #57-60PL, Dumar 6' Bench with backrest. Support color to be black and recycled plastic slat color to be 'Cedar'
Locations	Linkwood Park Wyman Park Gateway
Strategies	S2, S12, S14

Northern Segment



Central Segment



Southern Segment



Potential locations for BCRP standard benches in the Stony Run, limited to the southern segment



ARTIST-DESIGNED & NATURAL SEATING	
Specification	Varies
Locations	Naturalized areas of Stony Run Alpine & Oakdale Meadows
Strategies	N8, C11

CUSTOM SEATING TO AVOID — Notes: Avoid bench “standards” that do not follow BCRP standard bench. For areas outside of Linkwood Park and Wyman Park Gateway, where custom designs are utilized, avoid “typical” bench styles such as these and focus on artistic /natural seating.

Trash/Recycle Receptacles

Trash and recycle receptacles are to be limited to areas with major street crossings and at the Linkwood Playground. Baltimore City standards will be utilized; “Bigbelly” solar –powered compactors are encouraged and should be coordinated with Baltimore City DOT (for street cans) and Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks (for cans at playground).

Pet Waste Bag Dispensers

Pet waste bag dispensers (not those with waste receptacle attached) may be used at key entrance locations throughout the park as identified in the plan. They should only be provided in areas where volunteers can commit to refilling with bags.



Trash can locations



BCRP SINGLE CAN STANDARD

Specification	SD-42 by Victor Stanley (SD-242 [double] pictured); color: black
Locations	Wyndhurst Avenue Cold Spring Lane Linkwood Playground Overhill Road
Strategies	N7, C9, S1, S2, S11, S17



PET WASTE STATION

Specification	First one installed should set the standard and should look similar to the one pictured below. BCRP preferred model from Zero Waste USA, black or dark green color (pictured above in green)
Strategies	N2, N7, C4, C5, C9, S1, S2, S11, S17



BIGBELLY TRASH CANS

Specification	Bigbelly smart waste system; color: dark green or black
Locations	Same as above, if being used in place of standard waste receptacles
Strategies	Same as above



Barrier Guidelines

Barriers include fencing, bollards and railings are needed in select areas throughout the park adjacent to some roadways, steep slopes and adjacent to some outfall structures.

Fencing

Fencing should predominantly utilize black chain link in most areas as is currently being done. In one area, along the Linkwood Park frontage of Cold Spring Lane, a black ornamental fence should be utilized to replace the existing chain link. In woodland areas where the pathway is adjacent to a steep slope, rustic, 2-3 rail safety fencing should be utilized.



CHAIN LINK FENCING	
Specification	Chain Link Fencing (Black)
Locations	Throughout Stony Run (Discreetly integrated into landscape)
Strategies	C6, S4



ORNAMENTAL FENCING	
Specification	Black solid metal (similar to that pictured above) to be determined at the time of project detail
Locations	Cold Spring Lane Frontage
Strategies	S1



RUSTIC 2-3 RAIL SAFETY FENCING	
Locations	Woodland Areas (adjacent to walking path, along steep slopes)
Strategies	N8

Bollards

Heavy wood bollards are currently being utilized along some roadway frontages of Stony Run in both the Upper and Lower Sections. The existing bollard should set the standard for future bollard use.



WOODEN BOLLARDS

Locations	Where needed (along roadway frontages and street ends)
Strategies	N6, C1

Railings

In some areas, such as adjacent to stone steps, handrails may be needed. In these instances, the railing should be designed with the steps and appropriate for the site condition. The color should be black to minimize the visual impact.



HAND RAILINGS

Locations	Where needed (adjacent to steps)
Strategies	N3

SIGNAGE

Signage Guidelines

Signage should provide identification and information while being careful not to “over sign” the park. Because Stony Run is a public park, signage should utilize and/or be coordinated with Baltimore City park standards. Private signage (e.g., real estate advertising) should not be posted in the Park. Proposed signage primarily includes the variety described below.

Gateway Signs

Gateway Signs are to be located at major street crossings and at the north end of the walking path, where the public park meets Gilman School. Gateway signs should be two-sided and may include a map of Stony Run (either an overall map or detailed map of the adjacent section), park hours, rules and regulations, a message board for information such as volunteer opportunities, contact information/websites for key City Departments and relevant park advocacy groups, such as Friends of Stony Run, Blue Water Baltimore, etc.



Example of how a gateway sign utilized the BCRP standard in Wyman Park Dell



Example showing how a smaller gateway sign could utilize BCRP standards in Stony Run



Gateway Sign. Application: Roland Park Elementary/Middle School and Gilman School Gateway to Stony Run, Wyndhurst Avenue, Cold Spring Lane, Overhill Road, and Wyman Park Gateway. (Conceptual Design)

GATEWAY SIGN	
Specification	BCRP Standard, modified
Locations	Gilman/Stony Run Boundary Wyndhurst Avenue Cold Spring Lane Overhill Road Linkwood Road at Wyman Park Gateway/Pedestrian Bridge
Strategies	G2, N1, N2, N7, S1, S11, S17

Area Identification Signs

Area Identification Signs may be used to identify significant areas within the park to help with user orientation, provide enhanced visibility of specific park areas and provide points of reference (particularly in emergency situations).



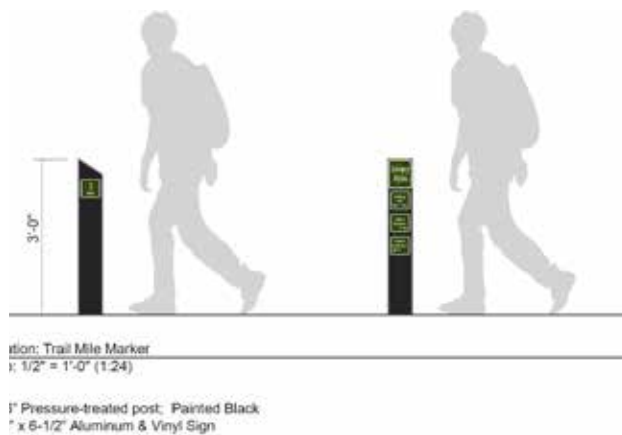
AREA IDENTIFICATION SIGN	
Specification	BCRP Standard, modified
Locations (Potentially)	Oakdale Meadow Alpine Meadow Linkwood Park/Playground
Strategies	G7, C3, C4, C5, S2

Pathway Markers

Pathway Markers are fairly discreet bollards that may be considered where some signage is needed for wayfinding (particularly where the walking path is disjointed) or identification but where it needs to be low-key. Suggested locations are described in the report recommendations, however, additional locations may also be considered in the future as needs are determined. The image below is adapted from one of the Baltimore City park standards.



Sample Pathway Marker in Stony Run



PATHWAY MARKER	
Specification	BCRP Standard, modified
Locations	Throughout Stony Run, as needed
Strategies	G7, N6, N7, S11, S14

Interpretive Signs

Interpretive Signs may or may not be used throughout Stony Run; however, should they be considered, they should follow the Baltimore City park standard design. They may be used to highlight cultural/historic aspects of Stony Run, ecological aspects, etc.—particularly in highly visible areas. Some suggested interpretive opportunities are identified in the recommendations.



INTERPRETIVE SIGN	
Specification	BCRP Standard, modified
Locations	Select throughout Stony Run, as needed
Strategies	G7, N8, C2, C6, S10

Property Line Demarcation

While this may not be a sign, some form of discreet property line marker, such as a boundary marker, may be considered to identify boundaries between private and public property, where it isn't evident. The marker should be simple and utilize a low or flush stone and/or metal design. The design of the initial marker shall set the standard for additional markers.

Memorial/Recognition Signs

Memorial /recognition signs, if used, should be used sparingly and should be designed to complement the sign standards and may include a graphic element that is unique to the memorial/recognition. Additionally, memorials/recognition markers may be identified with discreet markers mounted flush with the grade or simple plaques affixed to a structure or bench (refer also to the description of memorials below). The design of the initial marker used should set the standard for future markers. Any new memorial sign should complement the sign standard developed in these guidelines.

Temporary Signs

Temporary signs may be needed from time to time to identify awareness of recent plantings, hazards, upcoming events, etc. These signs should be constructed of "Coroplast" (corrugated plastic sheets), printed to match the sign standards. Coroplast signs can last a relatively long time and may also be considered for other park signage until such time that permanent signs can be funded and installed.



Existing Steve Pedersen Memorial Trail (Lower Stony Run/Wyman Park)



An example of a temporary sign in Prospect Park (Brooklyn, NY)



MEMORIAL SIGNAGE

Locations	Throughout Stony Run, in select areas
Strategies	G16



TEMPORARY SIGNS

Locations	Throughout Stony Run, as needed
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Memorial/Recognition Guidelines

In rare instances, memorials or recognition markers may be established to recognize individuals or groups who have made significant contributions to the protection and success of Stony Run. To avoid potential “memorial clutter,” the following guidelines should be followed:

- » Memorials or recognition markers located within public property should follow applicable Baltimore City guidelines and be coordinated with the Department of Recreation and Parks.
- » Friends of Stony Run should be the facilitators for the development of memorials/recognition markers and coordination with the City.
- » Memorials/recognition markers may include trees, groves of trees, meadows, special planting areas, sculpture, dedication of structures such as bridges, and short paths leading off of the main walking path.
- » The design should utilize a natural/woodland park theme, in character with the Stony Run setting.
- » Non-plant memorials should utilize wood, stone and/or “rusticated” metals.
- » Memorial/recognition marker locations may include gateway areas, near pathway intersections, at specific structures being dedicated, and along *edges* of spaces.
- » Memorials/recognition markers should not be placed in the middle of an open space nor utilize ornamental plants that are out of character with the natural setting.
- » Signage and/or markers associated with any memorial should follow the signage guidelines described above.

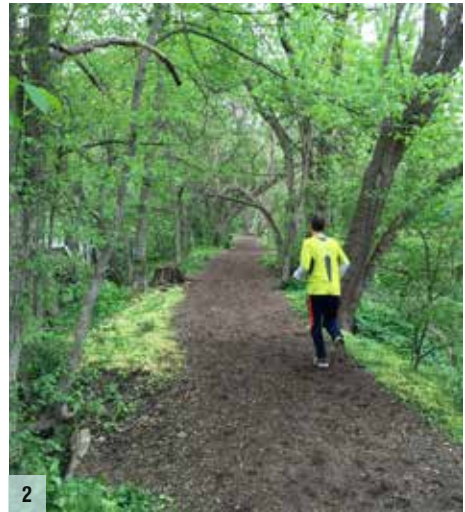
PATH SURFACE

Path Surface Guidelines

The walking path surface varies throughout the Stony Run; however, it should be primarily comprised of packed earth. Some natural surface sections of the path are quite smooth while others are course with rock and tree root obstructions. Course surfaces should be replaced with smoother natural surfaces and obstructions should be removed to the extent possible. In general, the guidelines outlined in the *USDA Trail Construction and Maintenance Notebook* should be followed for any pathway improvements. Following is a description of the different pathway surfaces and where they are appropriate.

- » Pavement (Asphalt): Upper Stony Run—Linkwood Park (Cold Spring Lane to Overhill Road) only (as currently exists).
- » Mulch: Upper Stony Run North Section between Gilman School and Wyndhurst Avenue. This section of path is flat and mulched regularly by the Tuxedo Park community. While mulching is not sustainable as it requires regular re-mulching, this works well in this area (and any other flat sections of path) as long as there are volunteers willing to do this. Over time, this area should transition to a more sustainable surface such as packed earth/stone dust.
- » Boardwalk: Oakdale Meadow, Linkwood Park and potentially other areas in Lower Stony Run (to be determined as needed as part of a Lower Stony Run Strategic Plan).
- » Packed Earth/Stone Dust: Remaining Sections of walking path.
- » Pavement Markings: Parking lot on the east side of Stony Run, between Wyndhurst and Gladstone Avenues and potentially through Gilman School parking lot (depending upon feasibility of working with the school to develop a path easement, outside the scope of this plan).





1: PAVEMENT (Asphalt) — Application: Formal park spaces, such as Linkwood Park. **2:** MULCH PATH — Application: Gilman School to Wyndhurst Avenue. **3:** BOARDWALK — Boardwalk over wet areas. Application: Oakdale Meadow and Linkwood Park. Pictured: Canaan Valley Resort State Park (Davis, WV). **4:** PACKED EARTH/STONE DUST — Application: where currently used. **5:** PAVEMENT MARKING — Application: Wyndhurst Station/Meadow Lane.

PUBLIC ART

Public Art Guidelines

Public art occurs in a few locations within Stony Run (the benches in Alpine Meadow and the mural at the Wyndhurst Avenue bridge). There is the potential to include more, provided it is compatible with the natural woodland character of the park. Following are some guidelines related to public art.

- » Public art may be in the form of benches, natural sculpture, fencing, playground equipment and/or murals (associated with the sidewalk-side of roadway bridge parapet walls).
- » Public art should be compatible with the natural character of Stony Run and should relate to the context in which it is located. It should reflect a natural aesthetic—crafted using materials found in nature, and/or be temporary in nature.
- » Public art should be incorporated as functional elements as much as possible such as seating, bird boxes, play equipment, reimagining of tree trunks, etc.
- » With the exception of public art associated with park gateways (along public road right-of-ways), public art should be discreet and integrated into the natural setting. It should not call a lot of attention to itself.
- » Public art does not include graffiti work, which should be discouraged.





5

IMPLEMENTATION

This Strategic Plan is a framework to guide improvements in Stony Run. Implementation of the recommendations will occur incrementally by a partnership among many groups and individuals, as outlined throughout the report and in a partners list within this chapter. It is important to note that the Strategic Plan is intended to be a guiding, yet flexible document.

Some recommendations are at a point where they can be implemented immediately; whereas other, more complex or contentious recommendations will require further development prior to being implemented. Additionally, it is important to view this Strategic Plan as a “menu” of projects. Certainly, the recommendations would not all happen within the next 10 years. However, the strategies and actions serve as a guide. Similarly, opportunities may arise that have not been illustrated in this plan. The goals and objectives outlined within this document, nevertheless, can still be applied to these emergent opportunities.

Priorities

The recommendations outlined in this report provide a connected set of actions to steward and guide investment in Stony Run in a way that maximizes its value to nearby residents, the City, and the environment. Implementation priorities have been identified to streamline execution, assist in resource allocation, and simplify decision-making. However, in approaching the priorities below, it is important that implementation partners be ready to adapt to emerging (and possibly unexpected) opportunities. Keeping the larger Strategic Plan vision in mind while staying flexible in implementation will enable the Park and its stewards to capitalize on new funding streams, innovative partnerships, political alliances, and other yet-to-be determined resources that can accelerate the execution of the Strategic Plan.

Some recommendations are more critical for elevating the health and quality of the Stony Run and its associated park spaces. These priority recommendations are related to:

1. Ecological enhancements, including improving water quality
2. Path stabilization, accessibility, and safety improvements
3. Repairing and preventing erosion of both the path and stream's banks
4. Addressing flooding (short-term solutions as well as setting in place longer term solutions)
5. Removing invasive plants
6. Improving the riparian buffer with new and replacement plantings
7. Providing initial signage in key locations

Immediate First Steps

Once the plan is officially adopted, there are a series of immediate actions which will help set this strategic plan up for long-term success. These include:

1. Friends of Stony Run will review priorities and recommendations identified on the Implementation Matrix as “short-term” with relevant implementation partners to determine next steps for those specific recommendations.
2. Friends of Stony Run will work with Roland Park Community Foundation to organize a “plan launch” event to celebrate the adoption of the plan and identify initial implementation efforts for the coming year. The event may be a “stand alone” event or done in conjunction with another event such as the pedestrian bridge ribbon cutting.
3. Friends of Stony Run will work with key partners to share the strategic plan with the broader network of partners. This may occur through website links, speaking at neighborhood association meetings, meeting with leadership at partner organizations and institutions, etc.
4. Friends of Stony Run will establish an annual “Stony Run Strategic Plan Summit” process to review the plan, make course corrections and record implementation progress.

Implementation Partners

Implementation of the Strategic Plan will depend upon a wide range of public and private partners; the responsibility will not fall upon any one organization or entity. In particular this plan seeks to empower the adjacent neighborhoods and community associations to be involved in the implementation of the recommendations and strategies along their segment of the Stony Run and/or to coordinate with the appropriate lead partners. In many instances, Friends of Stony Run, which is comprised of representatives from most neighborhoods along the Stony Run, will play a key role in facilitating implementation among the lead

partners and other partners. In other instances, Friends of Stony Run will serve as the lead partner. The list of potential partners is broad, however, the actual partners for each recommendation will vary depending upon the specific recommendation. Potential partners are listed below, with primary partners highlighted in bold.

- » **Adjacent Neighborhoods/Associations** (i.e., Roland Park, Evergreen, Blythewood, Keswick, Wyndhurst, Homeland South, Guilford, The Orchards, Woodbrook, Tuscany-Canterbury, and the Loyola/Notre Dame Campuses for the Upper Stony Run; and Wyman Park, Hampden, Wyman Park South, Johns Hopkins Homewood, Remington, and Stone Hill for the Lower Stony Run)
- » Audubon Society
- » **Baltimore Bird Club**
- » Baltimore Commission For Historical & Architectural Preservation (CHAP)
- » Baltimore City Department of Planning (DOP)
- » **Baltimore City Department of Public Works (DPW)**
- » **Baltimore City Department of Transportation (DOT)**
- » **Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks (BCRP)** –Divisions noted in the matrix
- » BCRP Park Rangers
- » Baltimore City Forestry Board
- » Baltimore Community Foundation (BCF)
- » Baltimore Ecosystem Study Long Term Ecological Research (BESLTER)
- » Baltimore Office of Promotion and the Arts (BOPA)

- » Baltimore Office of Sustainability (BOS)
- » Baltimore City Police Department (BCPD)
- » Baltimore Tree Trust
- » Bike Advocacy Groups (To help enforce proper bike conduct and steer programmed bike events away from Stony Run)
- » Blue Water Baltimore (BWB)
- » **Bolton Street Synagogue**
- » Boy Scouts (Troop 1000)
- » Church Groups and Religious Institutions (e.g., Bolton Street Synagogue)
- » **Friends of Stony Run (FSR)**
- » Local Youth Programs
- » Living Classrooms Foundation
- » Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA) Community Arts Partnership
- » Parks & People Foundation
- » **Property Owners**
- » **Roland Park Community Foundation**
- » **Schools and PTA Groups** (e.g., The Bryn Mawr School, Friends School, Gilman School, Roland Park Elementary/Middle School)
- » Sustainable Trails Initiative
- » TreeBaltimore
- » Trout Unlimited
- » Universities (i.e., Johns Hopkins University, Loyola University Maryland, and Notre Dame of Maryland)

Additional partners should be added and explored during implementation.

Implementation Matrix

An Implementation Matrix is provided within this chapter (pp. 112-117). It is organized by the recommendation areas of the plan—general recommendations and specific recommendations for the northern, central, and southern segments of the Upper Stony Run. With this Implementation Matrix, it is important to note that recommendations will not be implemented all at once. Rather, the matrix serves as a guide so that the recommendations can be implemented in phases over many years as priorities are addressed and resources become available. The time frames for each are categorized as Short (one to five years), Medium (five to ten years), Long (ten or more years), and/or Ongoing. As the plan is implemented, the “Status” column can be filled in annually as implementation progress is made.

As each action is completed, any progress and achievements can be marked in the Status column. Ideally, this would occur during the “Annual Strategic Plan Summit” among partners, using this Implementation Matrix as a guide for future action and next steps. This summit can be used to grade progress—giving a strategy an “A” if the action is completed; a “P” if some progress has been made or the action is in the early planning stages; and “N/P” if no progress has been completed. It is important to note that an “N/P” does not necessarily mean failure. In some cases, an action might not be completed because other actions became priorities or must be completed prior to making advancement, or that the dynamics of the particular project had changed.

It is, therefore, important that the Implementation Matrix remain a fluid document. It is a living, evolving tool. Additional information will develop as this Plan’s strategies are individually addressed. Material identified under the Potential Partners and Estimated Time Frame columns include preliminary ideas only. As Implementation Partners are identified and finalized, it will become their responsibility to further develop the tactics and metrics for success. In this regard, the Stony Run Strategic Plan is and very much will be a community-owned and implemented plan. Finally, the Implementation Matrix serves as a mechanism that will

facilitate revisiting the Plan and its recommendations year after year—not only to track progress, but also to revise any recommendations to suit new and evolving circumstances.

The full Implementation Matrix is provided on the following pages.

					Funding		
Strategy * = Outside of the original scope, for consideration	Action(s)	Status	Key Potential Partners (Lead in Bold)	Estimated Time Frame	Funding Level	Potential Funding Mechanisms	STRATEGY OVERLAP
Upper Stony Run General Recommendations							
G1 Water Quality Testing	Monitor Water Quality and Report Issues		FSR BWB, DPW, Trout Unlimited	S, O			G18
	Train Volunteers for Quality Testing Events		FSR BWB, Trout Unlimited	M			
G2 Stream Bank Repair	Monitor and Report Stream Bank Deterioration; Repair		FSR DPW, Schools	S, O			N5, N8, C10, S13
G3 Pathway Stabilization and Repair	Regularly Address Pathway Spot Erosion; Stabilize Path Surface		BCRP (Capital) Boy Scouts, FSR	S, O			N2–4, N8, C1, C3–4, C11, S6
G4 Invasive Plant Removal and New Plantings	Remove Invasive Plants and Replace with Native Plantings		FSR BCRP (Parks, Forestry, CJC/ AmeriCorps), TreeBaltimore	S, O			N2–4, N6, N8, C1, C3, C5–6, C8–9, C11, S1, S4–5, S8, S10, S12, S14–15, S17
G5 Bird Boxes and Wildlife Habitats	Continue Program for Building Bird Boxes		Baltimore Bird Club FSR, Boy Scouts Troop 1000, Polytechnic Students	S, O			G18
G6 Encroachment	Discourage Neighbors from Planting Invasive Plants		BCRP (Forestry-Weed Warriors, Park Rangers, CJC/AmeriCorps) BWB, FSR, Neighborhoods	S			C1, C4–5
	Eliminate Dumping of Yard Waste			M			
G7 Signage	Provide Limited Signage, As Needed		BCRP (Capital) FSR	S, O			G10–12, N1–2, N6–7, N9, C3–6, S1–2, S11, S17
G8 Site Amenities	Provide Limited Site Amenities, As Needed		BCRP (Capital) FSR	M, O			N6–8, C4–5, C9, C11, S1–2, S4, S11–12, S14, S17
G9 Property Line Demarcation	Delineate Public/Private Boundaries		FSR Neighborhoods, Property Owners	M-L			N2, C12, S9
G10 Leash Policy	Post and Enforce Baltimore City Leash Laws		BCRP Dog Owners, FSR, Neighborhoods	S, O			G7
G11 Bike Usage	Promote as “Walking Path”		FSR BCRP (Capital, et al.), Bikemore, Sustainable Trails Initiative	S, O			G7
	Provide Guidelines for Courteous and Appropriate Park Use			S			
G12 Park Name and Recognition	Formalize the Name as “Stony Run” — adjacent park spaces to be noted as in association with Stony Run		BCRP FSR	S			G7
	List the Park on Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks (BCRP) website		BCRP (Communications) FSR	S			
G13 Gatherings/Events	Occasionally Utilize Flexible, Open Spaces (i.e., Linkwood Park and Alpine Meadow) as Neighborhood Event Venues		Neighborhoods BCRP (Permitting), FSR	S, O			G14–15, C5, S1–2, S11–12, S17
G14 Permitting	Continue to Follow City permitting requirements		BCRP (Permitting)	O			G13
G15 Tours	Continue to Program Park Tours		FSR Baltimore Bird Club, Trout Unlimited, Other	O			G13
G16 Memorials/Recognition Markers	Facilitate Placement and Design of Memorials/Recognition Markers		FSR BCRP (Capital)	O			S14
G17 Public Art	Respond to Interest in Appropriate Art Opportunities with Local Artists		FSR BCRP (Volunteers Office), BOPA, DOT, Local artists, MICA Community Arts Partnership	L			N7, C9, S17, THROUGHOUT
G18 Capacity-Building	Build Volunteer Base from Adjacent Communities		FSR, Neighborhoods, Schools, Universities	S, O			G1, G5
G19 Strategic Plan Updates and Expanded Study Areas to Lower Stony Run			BCRP (Capital), FSR Gilman School, JHU	S-M			N1, S12–17

Key	
Status	A = Completed; P = In-progress; N/P = No progress
Time Frame	O = Ongoing; S = Short (within the first year); M = Medium (within 5 years); L = Long-term (within 10 years or longer)
Partners	BCRP: Baltimore City Recreation & Parks DOT: Department of Transportation DPW: Department of Public Works FSR: Friends of Stony Run For a full list of partner abbreviations, refer to page 109

Strategy	Action(s)	Status	Key Potential Partners (Lead in Bold)	Estimated Time Frame	Funding		STRATEGY OVERLAP
					Funding Level	Potential Funding Mechanisms	
* = Outside of the original scope, for consideration							
Upper Stony Run — Northern							
N1 Northern Parkway Gateway Area* (Pathway Alignment, Access Agreements, Invasive Plant Removal, Tree Plantings, Gateway Sign)	Initial Discussions and Exploration of Strategy		FSR Gilman School	S			G2, G7–9, G19, N2, N8
	Implementation of Discussed Actions		FSR Gilman School	M-L			
N2 Gilman and Roland Park Elementary/Middle School Gateway (Runoff Control, Path Surface Stabilization, Lower Field Tree Planting, Dog Waste Station, Property Line Demarcation, Gateway Sign)	Design		Neighborhoods BCRP (Capital), Schools	S			G2–4, G7, N1, N7–8, C4–5, C9, S1–2, S9, S11, S17
	Implementation		BCRP (Capital), Neighborhoods Boy Scouts, FSR, TreeBaltimore	M			
N3 Deepdene Road Entrance (Sloped Path, Stone Steps, Slope Stabilization, Planting)	Design		BCRP (Capital), Neighborhoods	S			G2–4, N8
	Implementation		BCRP (Capital), Neighborhoods	M			
N4 Colorado Avenue Entrance (Sloped Paths, Remove Invasive Plants, Planting)	Design		RPCF BCRP (Capital)	S			G2–4, N8
	Implementation		Neighborhoods FSR	M			
	Planting		Neighborhoods FSR	S			
N5 St. Johns Road Entrance (Stream Enhancements, Pool Access)	Design		Neighborhoods BCRP (Capital)	S			G2–3, N8
	Implementation		Neighborhoods BCRP (Capital)	M			
N6 Gladstone Avenue Entrance	Pathway Marker		FSR BCRP (Capital)	M			G4, G7, N7–8
	Planting		FSR Neighborhoods	S-M			
	Barrier Replacement		BCRP (Capital)	M-L			
N7 Wyndhurst Avenue Gateway	Pathway Marker		BCRP (Capital) FSR	M			G3, G7–8, N6, N8–9
	Trash Receptacles		DPW FSR	M			
	Dog Waste Station		FSR Neighborhoods	M			
	Graffiti Removal		Neighborhoods FSR	S			
	Student Drop-off		Schools DOT, Neighborhoods	L			
	Gateway Sign		BCRP (Capital) FSR	M			

Key	
Status	A = Completed; P = In-progress; N/P = No progress
Time Frame	O = Ongoing; S = Short (within the first year); M = Medium (within 5 years); L = Long-term (within 10 years or longer)
Partners	BCRP: Baltimore City Recreation & Parks DOT: Department of Transportation DPW: Department of Public Works FSR: Friends of Stony Run For a full list of partner abbreviations, refer to page 109

					Funding		STRATEGY OVERLAP
Strategy * = Outside of the original scope, for consideration	Action(s)	Status	Key Potential Partners (Lead in Bold)	Estimated Time Frame	Funding Level	Potential Funding Mechanisms	
N8 Gilman to Wyndhurst Enhancement Projects	Wetland Protection		Schools DPW, FSR	M, O			G1–4, G9, N1–7
	Path Surface Stabilization		BCRP (Parks, CJC/AmeriCorps) Boy Scouts, FSR, Neighborhoods	M			
	Railings		BCRP (Capital) FSR	S-M			
	Embankment Stabilization		BCRP (Parks, CJC/AmeriCorps) DPW	S-M			
	Invasive Plant Removal		FSR BCRP (Parks, CJC/AmeriCorps)	S, O			
	Friends School Planting and Invasive Removal		Friends School FSR	M			
	Pathway Delineation on Pavement		BCRP (Parks, CJC/AmeriCorps), Property Owners FSR	M			
	Wall Structure Interpretation		FSR BCRP (Capital)	L			
	Seating		Neighborhoods FSR	M-L			
N9 Wyndhurst Station Flooding	Compile and Review Prior Related Construction Projects		DPW	S			G7, N8
	Secure Loose Objects		Property Owners	S			
	Clear Debris		DOT (debris at bumpout), DPW (debris at storm drain), Property Owners	S, O			
	Post Warning Signage		Property Owners FSR, Neighborhoods, Office of Sustainability	S			
	Relocate Dumpster		Property Owners	S			
	Identify Long-Term Solutions		DPW FSR, Neighborhoods	S-L			
N10 Related Projects	Storm Sewer Repairs (Between Colorado and Deepdene)		DPW	L			
Upper Stony Run — Central							
C1 Wilmslow Road Path	Surface Stabilization		FSR BCRP (Parks, CJC/AmeriCorps), Boy Scouts	M			G3–4, G6, C11
	Erosion Control		BCRP (Parks, CJC/AmeriCorps) DPW, FSR	M			
	Exotic/Invasive Plant Encroachment		Property Owners FSR, BCRP (Forestry-Weed Warriors, Volunteers Office)	M			
	Tree Planting		FSR Neighborhoods, TreeBaltimore	S-M			
	Parking Encroachment		BCRP (Park Rangers), DOT FSR	M			
C2 East Stony Run Stream Restoration			DPW FSR	S-M			G2
C3 Oakdale Meadow (Wetland Planting, Boardwalk, Planting, Tree Pruning, Identification Sign)	Design		BCRP (Capital) FSR, Neighborhoods	S			G3–4, G8
	Implementation		BCRP (Capital) FSR, Neighborhoods	M			

Key	
Status	A = Completed; P = In-progress; N/P = No progress
Time Frame	O = Ongoing; S = Short (within the first year); M = Medium (within 5 years); L = Long-term (within 10 years or longer)
Partners	BCRP: Baltimore City Recreation & Parks DOT: Department of Transportation DPW: Department of Public Works FSR: Friends of Stony Run For a full list of partner abbreviations, refer to page 109

					Funding		
Strategy * = Outside of the original scope, for consideration	Action(s)	Status	Key Potential Partners (Lead in Bold)	Estimated Time Frame	Funding Level	Potential Funding Mechanisms	STRATEGY OVERLAP
C4 Oakdale Road Entrance	Erosion Stabilization		BCRP (Parks, CJC/AmeriCorps) FSR, Neighborhoods	M			G3, G6–8, C3, C11
	Dog Waste Station		Neighborhoods BCRP (Park Rangers, et al.), FSR	M-L			
	Yard Waste, No Dumping		BCRP (Park Rangers, et al.), Neighborhoods FSR	S-M			
	Identification Sign		BCRP (Capital) FSR, Neighborhoods	M			
C5 Alpine Meadow	Path Entrances		Neighborhoods FSR	M			G3–4, G6–8, C11
	Tree Planting/Spatial Definition		Neighborhoods FSR	S-M			
	Dog Waste Station		Neighborhoods FSR	M-L			
	Yard Waste, No Dumping		BCRP (Park Rangers, et al.) FSR, Neighborhoods	S, O			
	Identification Sign		BCRP (Capital) FSR, Neighborhoods	M			
C6 Demonstration Rain Garden (Bio-retention Facility, Tree Planting, Fence Replacement, Interpretive Signs)	Design		BCRP (Capital) FSR	S			G1, G3, G7, C9, C11
	Implementation		FSR	S			
C7 Retaining Wall Evaluation	Regularly Monitor the Wall		Property Owner DPW, FSR	O			C6
C8 Bolton Street Synagogue Tree Planting	Explore Planting Shade Trees		Bolton Street Synagogue FSR	S-M			G4, C6
C9 Cold Spring Gateway	Street Tree Planting		Property Owners DOT, FSR	M-L			G4, G7–8, C6, C11, C13
	Trash Receptacles		DPW	M			
	Dog Waste Station		Neighborhoods FSR	M			
	Bridge Abutment Painting		FSR DOT	L			
C10 Stream Bank Repair	Repair Stream Bank North of East Stony Run Confluence		Property Owner DPW	S, O			G2
C11 Wyndhurst to Coldspring Enhancement Projects	Path Surface Stabilization		BCRP (Parks, CJC/AmeriCorps) Boy Scouts, FSR	S-M			G3–4, G8, C1–13
	"The Split"		FSR	M-L			
	Bamboo Removal/Containment		Property Owners FSR	M, O			
	Seating		Neighborhoods FSR	M-L			
C12 Property Line Demarcation	Delineate Public/Private Boundaries		BCRP (Parks, Capital) FSR, Property Owners	M-L			G9
C13 Stream Channel Widening	Explore Long-term Potential for Parking Lot Reconfiguration		Loyola DPW	L			C9

Key	
Status	A = Completed; P = In-progress; N/P = No progress
Time Frame	O = Ongoing; S = Short (within the first year); M = Medium (within 5 years); L = Long-term (within 10 years or longer)
Partners	BCRP: Baltimore City Recreation & Parks DOT: Department of Transportation DPW: Department of Public Works FSR: Friends of Stony Run For a full list of partner abbreviations, refer to page 109

					Funding		
Strategy * = Outside of the original scope, for consideration	Action(s)	Status	Key Potential Partners (Lead in Bold)	Estimated Time Frame	Funding Level	Potential Funding Mechanisms	STRATEGY OVERLAP
Upper Stony Run — Southern							
S1 Linkwood Park Gateway (Entrance Space, Street Tree Planting, Ornamental Fencing, Trash Receptacles, Dog Waste Station, Gateway Sign)	Design		BCRP FSR, Neighborhoods	M			G3–4, G7–8, G12, C9, S2
	Implementation		BCRP FSR, Neighborhoods	M			
S2 Linkwood Playground	Surface Leveling		BCRP (Capital)	M			G3–4, G7–8, S1
	Playground Surface		BCRP (Capital)	M			
	Trash Receptacles		BCRP (Parks)	S			
	Dog Waste Station		Neighborhoods FSR	M			
	Seating		BCRP (Capital) FSR	L			
	Identification Sign		BCRP (Capital) FSR	M			
	Playground Expansion (Design and Implementation)		BCRP (Capital)	L			
S3 Linkwood Park Embankment Planting	Maintain the Steep Embankment as a “Limited Mow” Area		BCRP (Parks), FSR	S-M			G4, S1–2
S4 Linkwood Park West Edge	Enhance Western Boundary Planting and Fencing		BCRP (Capital), FSR	M			G4, G8, S5
	Slope Fencing Replacement		BCRP (Parks, CJC/AmeriCorps)	M			
	Invasive Plant Removal and New Planting		FSR (Parks, CJC/AmeriCorps) BCRP	M			
S5 Linkwood Park Tree Planting and Maintenance	Tree Planting Throughout Linkwood Park		BCRP (Forestry-Weed Warriors, et al.) FSR	M			G4, G18, S1–4, S6
	Linkwood Road Street Trees		FSR BCRP (Forestry-Weed Warriors, et al.), TreeBaltimore	M			
	Replacement Trees		FSR BCRP (Forestry-Weed Warriors, et al.)	S, O			
	Dead Tree Hazard Removal		BCRP (Forestry-Weed Warriors, et al.)	S, O			
	Tree Pruning		BCRP (Forestry-Weed Warriors, et al.), FSR	S			
S6 Linkwood Park Boardwalk Crossing	Install a Low Boardwalk		BCRP (Capital)	L			S2, G3
S7 Property Acquisition	Continuing Exploring Property Acquisition		BCRP (Capital), FSR	S, O			G9
S8 Meadow Lane Invasive Removal & Planting (Cold Spring Lane to Overhill Rd.)	Develop and Implement Large Scale Invasive Plant Removal Plan		BCRP DPW, FSR	M			G4
S9 Property Line Demarcation	Delineate Public/Private Boundaries		BCRP (Capital, Parks) FSR, Property Owners	M-L			G9
S10 Overhill Gathering Space	Perimeter Tree Plantings		FSR Neighborhoods	S-M			G4, S11
	Remove Invasive Plants		FSR	S, O			

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Partners	BCRP: Baltimore City Recreation & Parks DOT: Department of Transportation DPW: Department of Public Works FSR: Friends of Stony Run For a full list of partner abbreviations, refer to page 109

					Funding		
Strategy * = Outside of the original scope, for consideration	Action(s)	Status	Key Potential Partners (Lead in Bold)	Estimated Time Frame	Funding Level	Potential Funding Mechanisms	STRATEGY OVERLAP
S11 Overhill Road Gateway	Pathway Marker		BCRP (Capital) FSR	M			G4, G7–8, S10
	Bridge Repair		DOT BCRP (Capital), Neighborhoods	L			
	Parking Lane		BCRP (Capital), DOT	M			
	Traffic Calming		DOT	M-L			
	Trash Receptacles		DPW	M			
	Dog Waste Station		Neighborhoods FSR	M			
	Gateway Sign		BCRP (Capital) FSR	M			
S12 South Linkwood Park Enhancements*	Tree Planting		FSR	S-M			G4, G8, S11, S13
	Plant Maintenance/Pruning		FSR BCRP (Parks, Forestry-Weed Warriors, CJC/AmeriCorps)	S			
	Invasive Plant Removal		BCRP, FSR	S, O			
	Seating		BCRP (Capital) FSR	M-L			
S13 Stream Bank Stabilization*	Address Stream Embankment Failure/Repair Any Damaged Streambanks		Property Owner DPW	S			G2
S14 Pedestrian Bridge Crossings*	Pathway Marker		BCRP (Capital) FSR	M			G3, G7–8, S12, S15
	Additional Planting		FSR	M			
	Watering and Mulching		Contractor, FSR	S			
	Invasive Plant Control		FSR BCRP (Parks, Forestry-Weed Warriors, CJC/AmeriCorps)	S, O			
	Seating		BCRP (Capital) FSR	M-L			
	Recognition Marker		FSR	S-M			
S15 Overhill to University Invasive Removal and Planting *	Planting (Respect Existing Open Space Rooms)		FSR BCRP (Volunteers Office)	O			G4, S14
	Invasive Removal		FSR BCRP (Parks, Forestry-Weed Warriors, CJC/AmeriCorps)	M-L			
S16 Walking Path Along Linkwood Road* (Improvement(s) to Existing Sidewalk or Lane Reconfiguration)	Design		BCRP (Capital), DOT Neighborhoods	M			G3, S14
	Implementation		BCRP (Capital), DOT Neighborhoods	L			
S17 Wyman Park Gateway*	Additional Planting		FSR	M			G4, G7–8, G17, S14
	Planting Bed		FSR, Neighborhoods	S			
	Trash Receptacles		DPW	M			
	Dog Waste Station		Neighborhoods FSR	M			
	Gateway Sign		BCRP (Capital) FSR	S			
	Public Art		FSR BCRP (Volunteers Office), BOPA	L			

Key	
Status	A = Completed; P = In-progress; N/P = No progress
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The background of the page is a photograph of a dirt path winding through a lush green forest. Sunlight filters through the dense canopy of trees, creating dappled light on the path. On the left side of the image, there is a vertical teal-colored band with a white, torn-paper-like edge separating it from the rest of the page.

APPENDICES

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APPENDIX A | RESOURCES

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APPENDIX B | ABBREVIATIONS

ADA		Americans with Disabilities Act
BCF		Baltimore Community Foundation
BCRP		Baltimore City Recreation and Parks Department
BESLTER		Baltimore Ecosystem Study Long-Term Ecological Research
BOPA		Baltimore Office of Promotion & the Arts
BOS		Baltimore Office of Sustainability
BSA		Boy Scouts of America
BWB		Blue Water Baltimore
CHAP		Baltimore Commission for Historical & Architectural Preservation
CIP		Capital Improvements Plan
DOP		Baltimore City Department of Planning
DOT		Baltimore City Department of Transportation
DPW		Baltimore City Department of Public Works
FSR		Friends of Stony Run
JHU		Johns Hopkins University
MDNR		Maryland Department of Natural Resources
OSB		Outfall Screening Blitz
RPEMS		Roland Park Elementary/Middle School
USDA		United States Department of Agriculture

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Exercises from Public Meeting 1 | Strengths & Challenges

- Strength
- Challenge



Stony Run Strategic Plan | Northern Section

100 50 0 100 Feet

1 inch = 40 feet
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Exercises from Public Meeting 1 | Strengths & Challenges

- Strength
- Challenge



Stony Run Strategic Plan | Central Section

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Exercises from Public Meeting 1 | Strengths & Challenges

- Strength
- Challenge



Stony Run Strategic Plan | Southern Section

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1 inch = 40 feet

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Comments from Public Meeting Number 2

WHAT IS IT: What do we call Stony Run? Stony Run? Stony Run Park(s)? Other?

1	[No written answer]
2	[No written answer]; [From discussion: “Stony Run” is good; in favor of formal classification of north, central, south]
3	Stony Run
4	[No written answer]
5	[No written answer]
6	Stony Run—Fine, no big deal
7	Stony Run
8	[No written answer]
9	Stony Run; “_____” at Stony Run (e.g., Linkwood Park at Stony Run, Alpine Meadow at Stony Run, etc.)
10	Stony Run
11	Stony Run

VISION: Is anything missing in the vision statement?

“Stony Run is an urban oasis—an ecologically protected enclave appreciated and enjoyed year-round by people of all backgrounds, interests, and ages. It is a connection among communities within North Baltimore and welcomes distant visitors from throughout the city, serving as a friendly meeting ground and venue for primarily passive recreation and neighborhood events.”

1	[No written answer]
2	[No written answer]

3	“Stony Run is an urban oasis—an ecologically protected enclave appreciated and enjoyed year-round by people of all backgrounds, interests, and ages. It is a connection among communities within North Baltimore and welcomes distant visitors from throughout the city, serving as a friendly meeting ground and venue for primarily passive recreation and neighborhood events.” - Consider removing the word “distant,” or change to “all” - Consider removing “from throughout the city” “...ages. It features a pathway that connects North Baltimore communities and welcomes visitors, serving...”
4	[No written answer]
5	[No written answer]
6	[No written answer]
7	“Stony Run is an urban oasis—an ecologically protected enclave appreciated and enjoyed year-round by people of all backgrounds, interests, and ages. It is a connection among communities within North Baltimore and welcomes distant visitors from throughout the city, serving as a friendly meeting ground and venue for primarily passive recreation and neighborhood events.”
8	[No written answer]
9	Perfect!
10	“Stony Run is an a forested urban oasis—an ecologically protected enclave appreciated and enjoyed year-round by people of all backgrounds, interests, and ages. It is a connection among it serves as a pathway between communities within North Baltimore and welcomes distant visitors from throughout the city, serving as a friendly meeting ground and venue for primarily passive recreation and neighborhood events.”
11	[No written answer]

3	“Stony Run is an urban oasis—an ecologically protected enclave appreciated and enjoyed year-round by people of all backgrounds, interests, and ages. It is a connection among communities within North Baltimore and welcomes distant visitors from throughout the city, serving as a friendly meeting ground and venue for primarily passive recreation and neighborhood events.” - Consider removing the word “distant,” or change to “all” - Consider removing “from throughout the city” “...ages. It features a pathway that connects North Baltimore communities and welcomes visitors, serving...”
4	[No written answer]
5	[No written answer]
6	[No written answer]
7	“Stony Run is an urban oasis—an ecologically protected enclave appreciated and enjoyed year-round by people of all backgrounds, interests, and ages. It is a connection among communities within North Baltimore and welcomes distant visitors from throughout the city, serving as a friendly meeting ground and venue for primarily passive recreation and neighborhood events.”
8	[No written answer]
9	Perfect!
10	“Stony Run is an a forested urban oasis—an ecologically protected enclave appreciated and enjoyed year-round by people of all backgrounds, interests, and ages. It is a connection among it serves as a pathway between communities within North Baltimore and welcomes distant visitors from throughout the city, serving as a friendly meeting ground and venue for primarily passive recreation and neighborhood events.”
11	[No written answer]

OVERALL REACTIONS: Elements you like? Elements you dislike?

1	[No written answer]
2	[No written answer]
3	- Mix of formal and eclectic seats. Formal benches probably best located in formal areas. - Consider incentivizing local artists to construct seating. Perhaps some design guidance is needed.
4	[No written answer]
5	[No written answer]
6	- Water quality? Consistent? Not! 100 year old sewer system - Bollards — not enough! (ex. Oakdale, driving in area) - Trail maintenance needed, highly traveled (bikers, joggers, strollers, walkers)
7	- keep north above Cold Spring wild. - don't provide promotion - no trash cans
8	[No written answer]
9	- more information on the plan for biking was waned - survey results: pleased to hear about what priority for most was
10	We like the cohesiveness and the way the park/ trails ties neighborhoods together.
11	- Consistent signage - Creative benches—stone, wood, natural creative - Trash cans ok, on major entrances/exits - Boardwalk on meadow - Bikers ok on the path—don't restrict - Off-leash dog hours—ok—don't make too short a period of time - Have guidelines for invasive species removal so neighborhood groups know how to help.

DOGS: Designated off-leash hours in specific areas? Waste bag dispensers?

1	[No written answer]
2	[No written answer]; [From discussion: In favor of off-leash proposals, but dogs should be kept under control]
3	If a dedicated dog park cannot locate in the study area, 1) dog poop collectors should be located along with 2) trash cans.
4	[No written answer]
5	[No written answer]
6	• Unleashed dogs (concerned) • Dog waste station, good idea, who cleans it up?
7	• keep dogs on leashes • mixed: early hours=no; mostly not support hours • yes, but...who's responsible?
8	[No written answer]; [From discussion: many dog owners, culture of responsible dog walking. Off-leash hours idea is interesting; the law is the law, so unsure; table understands both sides; dog waste is an issue]
9	• Off-leash hours in specific areas—sounds good. • Waste bag dispensers? Yes! • How do we negotiate the issue with the law. The law already says off leas is illegal. If somebody calls, law will have to respond • Enforcing leash laws during certain... • hours: 6am-9am, 5pm-7pm; less law enforcement during this time? • areas: Linkwood Park Playground, where signage is clear for leash law. • pick up laws!
10	Hot button issue. We like self-regulating but it can get too much. Could try designated hours and times on a trial basis
11	• Waste bag dispensers—good idea able to add recycled newspaper bags. • off-leash hours ok

TRASH CANS: At streets and playgrounds? “Take trash with you”?

1	[No written answer]
2	[No written answer]; [From discussion: trash cans encourage overflow, so would want people to take it with them. In north of Stony Run, that's the case]
3	Located at gateways, end of streets. Couple with dog poop bag receptacles. Relocate existing trash can(s) at Linkwood Park AWAY from seating and play area. Stinky!
4	[No written answer]
5	[No written answer]
6	• Strategic spots
7	• Who will pick up? • Ok if in designated areas.
8	[No written answer]
9	[No written answer]
10	We like the idea of trash cans at street entrances.
11	yes

SIGNAGE: To be provided in areas shown (currently proposed at entrance points and in areas where interpretive signage may contribute to the experience of the path or an element)? Other areas?

1	[No written answer]
2	[No written answer]; [From discussion: concern over amount of signage, would want it limited]
3	Minimal
4	[No written answer]
5	[No written answer]
6	[No written answer]
7	• Don't go overboard • “small” • graffiti • who maintains?

8	[No written answer]; [From discussion: less signage for the neighborhood parks]
9	[No written answer]
10	[No written answer]
11	- like consistent signage - not too much - educational signage is important

OTHER THOUGHTS?

1	[No written answer]
2	[No written answer]
3	- Accessible parking spaces somehow incorporated into Linkwood Park? - Instances where boardwalk becomes the sole pathway, it should be wide enough to accommodate bikes and possibly maintenance buggies.
4	[No written answer]
5	[No written answer]
6	Keep it natural
7	- Bikes—erosion considerations - Change in Deepdene elevation - flooding concerns - already suffered through regrading project (can't read last four words)
8	[No written answer]; [From discussion: wanted more discussion of bike usage and how that gets negotiated, wanted more information]
9	-An annual invasive removal native plantings that is named in memorial, Michael Beer Memorial
10	[No written answer]
11	Who is responsible for debris removal? Builds up north of Linkwood and lower bridges. Flooding in other areas. Lower end of Wickford Road floods because of storm drain backups.

Reporting Back: Top 3 Thoughts

Please select only three (3) overall points you would like to report back to the group.

NO. 1

- [No written answer]
- [No written answer]
- name the place Stony Run
- [No written answer]
- [No written answer]
- trash cans, employment program
- Deepdene to Cold Spring — keep as wild and natural as possible; don't understand proposal to "welcome distant visitors"
- [No written answer]
- [No written answer]
- [No written answer]
- keep in natural-consistent signage

NO. 2

- [No written answer]
- [No written answer]
- predominantly informal nature of Stony Run should be complemented by informal planting, furnishings, etc.
- [No written answer]
- [No written answer]
- Bollards to keep vehicular traffic out
- no off-leash dogs, or, waste bag dispensers; who's responsible?
- [No written answer]
- [No written answer]
- [No written answer]
- dogs- off hours, waste stations

NO. 3

1. [No written answer]
2. [No written answer]
3. local artists can be employed to create seating (within design guidelines yet to be drafted).
4. [No written answer]
5. [No written answer]
6. surface integrity of path
7. regrading of Deepdene, flooding bad experience with previous regrading.
8. [No written answer]
9. [No written answer]
10. [No written answer]
11. Trash cans, ok on major roads

APPENDIX D | ONLINE SURVEY

From September 29th through to December 1st, 2015, an online public survey was administered. This survey was available in hard copies for any individual who did not have access to a computer.

The following pages contain the questions of the online survey.

Stony Run Strategic Plan Citizen Survey

This survey is being administered as part of the Stony Run Strategic Plan effort, led by Mahan Rykiel Associates and sponsored by the Roland Park Community Foundation. Its purpose is to determine how and when Stony Run is currently utilized, and by whom. It also aims to identify Stony Run's greatest amenities and challenges, and to compile input regarding future improvements.

While the focus of the Stony Run Strategic Plan and its recommendations is on the northern portion of the Stony Run—extending from Overhill Road northward to Gilman School—the development of this plan will be most successful if it fully considers the stream's relationship to stakeholders and sites elsewhere along the corridor. So please consider the entirety of the Stony Run and any associated park spaces while answering these questions.

There are 5 pages of questions. PLEASE COMPLETE ALL 5 PAGES. Your answers will not be collected until you submit the survey on the final page (once you do submit, you may return to edit your answers at a later date). Estimated time to complete the survey is 5-10 minutes.

We'll begin by collecting some information to reveal who does or does not visit Stony Run, and conclude by asking questions about how, when, and why users visit Stony Run.

DEADLINE: All survey responses must be submitted by October 26th.

* Required

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1OLEZDWre2_-u_0M-yCCkAwL6OBcxKs1_-f9C6Ju5X... 9/25/2015

1.

Where do you live in relation to the trail? *

Please select the geographic location of your home.

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Blythewood
- ☐ Evergreen
- ☐ Guilford
- ☐ Hampden
- ☐ Homeland South
- ☐ Keswick
- ☐ North Roland Park/Poplar Hill
- ☐ Roland Park
- ☐ Remington
- ☐ Stone Hill
- ☐ The Orchards
- ☐ Tuscany-Canterbury
- ☐ Woodbrook
- ☐ Wyman Park
- ☐ Wyman Park South
- ☐ Wyndhurst
- ☐ Johns Hopkins Homewood Campus
- ☐ Adjacent Neighborhood Not listed above
- ☐ Other Location in Baltimore City
- ☐ Baltimore County
- ☐ Other Location in Maryland
- ☐ Other State
- ☐ Other:

2.

Do you visit Stony Run and its associated park spaces? *

Please indicate whether or not you have or do visit Stony Run.

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Yes *Skip to question 6.*
- ☐ No *Skip to question 3.*

*Skip to question 6.***What are your reasons for not visiting Stony Run?**

Because you answered "no" to the previous question, the next series of questions will identify why do you no visit Stony Run.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1OLEZDWre2_-u_0M-yCCkAwL6OBcxKs1_-f9C6Ju5X... 9/25/2015

3.

For what reason(s) do you avoid visiting Stony Run and/or its associated park spaces? *

Please select ALL that apply.

Check all that apply.

- ☐ Experienced conflict with other user(s)
- ☐ Concern for safety
- ☐ Limited/insufficient lighting
- ☐ Limited/insufficient signage/wayfinding
- ☐ Limited/insufficient restroom facilities
- ☐ Limited/insufficient seating options
- ☐ Limited/insufficient waste receptacles
- ☐ Limited/insufficient bike racks/facilities
- ☐ Unsure/Don't Know
- ☐ Poor maintenance
- ☐ Difficulty traveling from home to Stony Run
- ☐ Challenges with ADA Accessibility
- ☐ Conflicts with other users
- ☐ Desire for dedicated areas for off-leash dogs
- ☐ Other:

4.

Have you ever experienced/observed any problem(s) or conflict(s) in Stony Run or associated park spaces? *

See the next question for examples of conflict.

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Unsure/Don't Know

5.

If you answered yes to the above question, how would you describe the problem(s) and/or conflict(s) experienced?

Please select ALL that apply.

Check all that apply.

- ☐ I have not experienced conflict in Stony Run
- ☐ Littering, or presence of trash
- ☐ Environmental degradation (illegal dumping)
- ☐ Vandalism
- ☐ Overcrowding due to activities
- ☐ Conflict with pets/pet owners (e.g., off-leash dog, or pet waste)
- ☐ Inability to let dog(s) run off-leash
- ☐ Disruption of wildlife
- ☐ Smoking or drinking
- ☐ Excessive noise from other user(s)
- ☐ General feeling of being unsafe
- ☐ Homelessness
- ☐ Prejudice, discrimination, and/or harassment
- ☐ Illegal and/or Illicit Activities
- ☐ Unsure/Don't Know
- ☐ Other:

Skip to question 20.

When do you visit Stony Run?

The next set of questions will identify when Stony Run is utilized.

6.

How do you most often travel to Stony Run and/or associated park spaces? *

Please select the mode of transportation you use most often to get to Stony Run.

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Walk
- ☐ Bike
- ☐ Car
- ☐ Public Transportation
- ☐ Other:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1OLEZDWre2_-u_0M-yCCkAwL6OBcxKs1_-f9C6Ju5X... 9/25/2015

7.

In general, do you visit alone (including with a pet), or with others? *

Please select the most appropriate response that describes a typical visit.

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Alone
- ☐ With Others
- ☐ Unsure/Don't Know
- ☐ Prefer Not to Say

8.

During which seasons do you visit Stony Run and/or its associated park spaces? *

Please select all that apply

Check all that apply.

- ☐ Winter
- ☐ Spring
- ☐ Summer
- ☐ Fall

9.

On average, how often do you visit Stony Run and/or its associated park spaces? *

Please indicate the frequency, in general, of your visits to Stony Run.

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Daily
- ☐ Several Times a Week
- ☐ Several Times a Month
- ☐ Several Times a Year
- ☐ Once a Year/Occasionally
- ☐ Unsure/Don't Know

10.

At what times do you visit Stony Run and/or its associated park spaces? *

Please indicate the time(s) of day, during weekdays or weekends, that you generally visit.
 Mark only one oval per row.

	Both Weekdays and Weekends	Weekdays Only	Weekends Only	Never at this time
Early Morning (before 9 am)	☐	☐	☐	☐
Morning (9 am - 12 pm)	☐	☐	☐	☐
Early Afternoon/Lunch (12 pm - 2 pm)	☐	☐	☐	☐
Late Afternoon (2 pm - 5 pm)	☐	☐	☐	☐
Evening (5 pm - 8 pm)	☐	☐	☐	☐
Late Night/After Hours (8 pm onward)	☐	☐	☐	☐

11.

Are there times of the day that you prefer NOT to visit Stony Run and/or its associated park spaces? *

Please indicate the time(s) of day, during weekdays or weekends, that you AVOID visiting for any reason.
 Mark only one oval per row.

	Both Weekdays and Weekends	Weekdays Only	Weekends Only	I never avoid this time
Early Morning (before 9 am)	☐	☐	☐	☐
Morning (9 am - 12 pm)	☐	☐	☐	☐
Early Afternoon/Lunch (12 pm - 2 pm)	☐	☐	☐	☐
Late Afternoon (2 pm - 5 pm)	☐	☐	☐	☐
Evening (5 pm - 8 pm)	☐	☐	☐	☐
Late Night/After Hours (8 pm onward)	☐	☐	☐	☐

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12.

For what reason(s) do you avoid visiting Stony Run and/or its associated park spaces? *

Please select ALL that apply.

Check all that apply.

- ☐ Experienced conflict with other user(s)
- ☐ Concern for safety
- ☐ Limited/insufficient lighting
- ☐ Limited/insufficient signage/wayfinding
- ☐ Limited/insufficient restroom facilities
- ☐ Limited/insufficient seating options
- ☐ Limited/insufficient waste receptacles
- ☐ Limited/insufficient bike racks/facilities
- ☐ Unsure/Don't Know
- ☐ Poor maintenance
- ☐ Difficulty traveling from home to Stony Run
- ☐ Challenges with ADA Accessibility
- ☐ Conflicts with other users
- ☐ Desire for dedicated areas for off-leash dogs
- ☐ Other:

How do you spend your time at Stony Run?

The next set of questions aims to understand how time is spent at Stony Run.

13.

What do you believe to be the PRIMARY FUNCTION of Stony Run? **Mark only one oval.*

- ☐ Neighborhood/Community Recreation Amenity
- ☐ Citywide Recreation Amenity
- ☐ Environmentally Protected Area
- ☐ Unsure/Don't Know
- ☐ Other:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1OLEZDWre2_-u_0M-yCCkAwL6OBcxKs1_-f9C6Ju5X... 9/25/2015

14.

What do you believe to be the SECONDARY FUNCTION of Stony Run? **Mark only one oval.*

- ☐ Neighborhood/Community Recreation Amenity
- ☐ Citywide Recreation Amenity
- ☐ Environmentally Protected Area
- ☐ Unsure/Don't Know
- ☐ Other:

15.

What activities do you do in Stony Run and/or associated park spaces? **Please select ALL that apply.**Check all that apply.*

- ☐ Hiking/walking
- ☐ Dog Walking
- ☐ Exercise or jogging
- ☐ Cycling
- ☐ Relaxation and leisure
- ☐ Nature appreciation
- ☐ Special Events
- ☐ Playground
- ☐ Gardening
- ☐ Picnicking
- ☐ School-based programs
- ☐ Volunteering
- ☐ Senior Activities
- ☐ Unsure/Don't Know
- ☐ Other:

16.

Do you ever participate in events or organized programs in Stony Run and/or associated park spaces? **Mark only one oval.*

- ☐ Often
- ☐ Sometimes
- ☐ Rarely
- ☐ Never
- ☐ Unsure/Don't Know

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1OLEZDWre2_-u_0M-yCCkAwL6OBcxKs1_-f9C6Ju5X... 9/25/2015

17.

If you indicated yes to the above question, please state the activity and/or group?

For example, volunteer programs with Project Clean Stream, or trout release with the Maryland Chapter of Trout Unlimited. If you've not participated in an event or program, please skip to the next question.

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18.

Have you ever experienced/observed any problem(s) or conflict(s) in Stony Run or associated park spaces? *

See the next question for examples of conflict.

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Unsure/Don't Know

19.

If you answered yes to the above question, how would you describe the problem(s) and/or conflict(s) experienced?

Please select ALL that apply.

Check all that apply.

- ☐ I have not experienced conflict in Stony Run
- ☐ Littering, or presence of waste
- ☐ Environmental Degradation (e.g., illegal dumping)
- ☐ Vandalism
- ☐ Overcrowding due to activities
- ☐ Conflict with pets/pet owners (e.g., off-leash dog, or pet waste)
- ☐ Inability to let dog(s) run off-leash
- ☐ Disruption of wildlife
- ☐ Smoking or drinking
- ☐ Excessive noise from other user(s)
- ☐ General feeling of being unsafe
- ☐ Homelessness
- ☐ Prejudice, discrimination, and/or harassment
- ☐ Illegal and/or Illicit Activities
- ☐ Unsure/Don't Know
- ☐ Other:

What does or does not work well at Stony Run?

The next set of questions seeks to understand Stony Run's assets and challenges.

20.

Are there specific sites, locations, or areas that you ENJOY the most?

If yes, please explain.

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21.

Are there specific sites, locations, or areas that you AVOID using?

If yes, please explain.

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22.

What section(s) of Stony Run and the associated park spaces do you utilize? *

Please select ALL that apply.

Check all that apply.

- ☐ The entire Stony Run corridor and adjacent park spaces
- ☐ Northern Parkway to Wyndhurst Avenue
- ☐ Wyndhurst Avenue to Cold Spring Lane
- ☐ Cold Spring Lane to Overhill Road
- ☐ Overhill Road to University Parkway
- ☐ University Parkway to Craycombe Avenue
- ☐ Craycombe Avenue to 36th Street
- ☐ 36th Street to Wyman Park Drive
- ☐ N/A
- ☐ Other:

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23.

What one section of Stony Run and associated park spaces do you MOST utilize? *

Please select only one.

Check all that apply.

- ☐ The entire Stony Run corridor and adjacent park spaces
- ☐ Northern Parkway to Wyndhurst Avenue
- ☐ Wyndhurst Avenue to Cold Spring Lane
- ☐ Cold Spring Lane to Overhill Road
- ☐ Overhill Road to University Parkway
- ☐ University Parkway to Craycombe Avenue
- ☐ Craycombe Avenue to 36th Street
- ☐ 36th Street to Wyman Park Drive
- ☐ N/A
- ☐ Other:

24.

On a scale of 1-5, with 5 being extremely well maintained, how would you rate the maintenance? **Mark only one oval.*

	1	2	3	4	5	
Poorly Maintained	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	Exceptionally Well Maintained

25.

How would you describe the current INFORMATIONAL/INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE in Stony Run? *

E.g., educational signs that explain stormwater runoff.

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Not enough signage
- ☐ Satisfactory signage
- ☐ Excessive signage
- ☐ Unsure/Don't Know

26.

How would you describe the current IDENTIFICATION & DIRECTIONAL SIGNAGE in Stony Run? *

E.g., "Welcome to Stony Run," or "Friends School, in 0.1 Mile"

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Not enough signage
- ☐ Satisfactory signage
- ☐ Excessive signage
- ☐ Unsure/Don't Know

27.

What 3 things do you APPRECIATE most about Stony Run and/or associated park spaces? *

Please select your TOP THREE (3) answers only.

Check all that apply.

- ☐ Location
- ☐ Accessibility
- ☐ Connectivity among open spaces and neighborhoods
- ☐ Trail/Path
- ☐ Site furniture (lighting, seating, waste receptacles, bike racks, etc.)
- ☐ Wildlife/Natural environment
- ☐ Cleanliness
- ☐ Safety
- ☐ History
- ☐ Sense of community
- ☐ Available programs and organized activities
- ☐ Limited number of programmed and/or structured activities
- ☐ I do not appreciate anything about Stony Run
- ☐ Unsure/Don't Know
- ☐ Other:

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28.

What 3 things do you DISLIKE most about Stony Run and/or associated park spaces? *

Please select your TOP THREE (3) answers only.

Check all that apply.

- ☐ Location
- ☐ Accessibility
- ☐ Connectivity among open spaces and neighborhoods
- ☐ Trail/Path
- ☐ Site furniture (lighting, seating, waste receptacles, bike racks, etc.)
- ☐ Wildlife/Natural environment
- ☐ Cleanliness
- ☐ Safety
- ☐ History
- ☐ Sense of community
- ☐ Available programs and organized activities
- ☐ Limited number of programmed and/or structured activities
- ☐ I do not dislike anything about Stony Run
- ☐ Unsure/Don't Know
- ☐ Other:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1OLEZDWre2_-u_0M-yCCkAwL6OBcxKs1_-f9C6Ju5X... 9/25/2015

29.

What are your priorities for Stony Run and its associated park spaces? *

Please check ALL that apply.

Check all that apply.

- ☐ Available park staff
- ☐ Bathrooms
- ☐ Seating/tables
- ☐ Children's play equipment
- ☐ Cleaning/litter removal
- ☐ Dog areas
- ☐ Drinking fountains
- ☐ Gardens and flowers
- ☐ Improved accessibility
- ☐ Lighting
- ☐ Waste/recycling receptacles
- ☐ Paths/trail improvements
- ☐ Public art
- ☐ Recreation/athletic opportunities
- ☐ Security
- ☐ Increased signage
- ☐ Less signage
- ☐ Design standards for volunteer efforts, memorial plantings, site furniture, etc.
- ☐ Tree planting/maintenance
- ☐ Stream restoration
- ☐ Unsure/Don't Know
- ☐ Other:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1OLEZDWre2_-u_0M-yCCkAwL6OBcxKs1_-f9C6Ju5X... 9/25/2015

30.

What is your TOP priority for Stony Run and its associated park spaces? *

Please select the most important priority for improving Stony Run.

Check all that apply.

- ☐ Available park staff
- ☐ Bathrooms
- ☐ Seating/tables
- ☐ Children's play equipment
- ☐ Cleaning/litter removal
- ☐ Dog areas
- ☐ Drinking fountains
- ☐ Gardens and flowers
- ☐ Improved accessibility
- ☐ Lighting
- ☐ Waste/recycling receptacles
- ☐ Paths/trail improvements
- ☐ Public art
- ☐ Recreation/athletic opportunities
- ☐ Security
- ☐ Increased signage
- ☐ Less signage
- ☐ Design standards for volunteer efforts, memorial plantings, site furniture, etc.
- ☐ Tree planting/maintenance
- ☐ Stream restoration
- ☐ Unsure/Don't Know
- ☐ Other:

31.

Do you have any other comments that you would like to add about Stony Run or this Strategic Planning Effort?

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32.

Are there partner organizations which may provide support implementing plan's recommendations?

Please suggest any and all organizations who might have interest in being a partner (e.g., Friends of Stony Run, Baltimore City Recreation and Parks, Area Businesses, Neighborhood Associations, etc.)

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We appreciate your feedback!

Thank you so much for your input. As a final step, please provide us with some information about yourself. This will help us better understand the responses by grouping people and amplifying the voice of that group.

33.

What is your age? *

Please select your age group.
Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Less than 14 years
- ☐ 15-19
- ☐ 20-24
- ☐ 25-34
- ☐ 35-44
- ☐ 45-54
- ☐ 55-59
- ☐ 60-65
- ☐ 66+
- ☐ Prefer Not to Say

34.

Do any children under the age of 18 live in your household? *

Please indicate whether there are any children in your home.
Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

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35.

What is your gender identity? *

Please select the option that most accurately describes your gender identity.

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Female
- ☐ Male
- ☐ Prefer Not to Say
- ☐ Other:

36.

What is your race? *

Please indicate your race.

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ White
- ☐ Black or African American
- ☐ American Indian or Alaska Native
- ☐ Asian
- ☐ Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander
- ☐ Two or More Races
- ☐ Prefer Not to Say
- ☐ Other:

37.

What is your ethnicity? **Mark only one oval.*

- ☐ Hispanic or Latino (of any race)
- ☐ Not Hispanic or Latino
- ☐ Prefer Not to Say

38.

What is your employment status? *

Please note your employment status

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Employed, 1 Full-Time Position
- ☐ Employed, 1 Part-Time Position
- ☐ Employed, 2 or More Part-Time Positions
- ☐ Unemployed, Looking for Work
- ☐ Unemployed, Not Actively Looking for Work
- ☐ Retired
- ☐ Unable to Work, Disabled
- ☐ Prefer Not to Say
- ☐ Other:

39.

What is your annual household income? *

Please select the income bracket of your combined household income.

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ \$25,000 or Less
- ☐ \$25,000 to \$40,000
- ☐ \$40,000 to \$60,000
- ☐ \$60,000 to \$75,000
- ☐ \$75,000 or More
- ☐ Prefer Not to Say

40.

(Optional) We may have follow up questions based on the input we receive. If you are comfortable with being contacted, please provide your name and a preferred method of contact.

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Survey Population

	Total	Pct.
Total Number of Surveys	431	
Total Number of Visitors	423	98%
Total Number of Non-Visitors	8	2%

Respondent Demographics

Q1. Where do you live

Neighborhood	Count
Roland Park	90
Guilford	60
Hampden	50
Evergreen	40
Tuscany-Canterbury	30
Wyman Park	25
Wyndhurst	25
Keswick	21
Remington	17
Adjacent Neighborhood Not listed above	13
Blythewood	8
Other Location in Baltimore City	8
Stone Hill	6
OTHER: Tuxedo Park	6
North Roland Park/Poplar Hill	5
Homeland South	4
The Orchards	4
OTHER: Charles Village	4
OTHER: Medfield	3

Baltimore County	2
OTHER: Homeland	2
Woodbrook	1
Wyman Park South	1
Johns Hopkins Homewood Campus	1
Other State	1
OTHER: Alonsoville	1
OTHER: Coldspring Newton	1
OTHER: Ednor Gardens	1
OTHER: Hoes Heights	1
Other Location in Maryland	0
TOTAL	431

Q2. Do you visit?

	Count	Pct.
Yes	423	98%
No	8	2%
TOTAL	431	100%

Q3. Reasons for Avoiding (Non-Visitors)

Reasons for Avoiding
relatively new to area. No one mentioned it. Went for first time after Sept. 26th meeting
Experienced conflict with other user(s), Desire for dedicated areas for off-leash dogs
Desire for dedicated areas for off-leash dogs
Not clearly marked as a park
Not a park go-er
other outdoor areas used
Concern for safety, Desire for dedicated areas for off-leash dogs
Unsure/Don't Know

Q4. Experiencing Conflict (Non-Visitors)

	Count	Pct.
Yes	3	38%
No	5	63%
TOTAL	8	100%
<i>This question was asked again of visitors, see Q18.</i>		

Q5. Problems/Conflict Details (Non-Visitors)

Problem(s) and/or conflict(s) experienced
As I wasn't anticipating a walk last Sat. I was wearing improper shoes for the occasion. No fault of Stony Run.. People, however, should be advised to wear proper shoes/sneakers

Conflict with pets/pet owners (e.g., off-leash dog, or pet waste), Disruption of wildlife, Prejudice, discrimination, and/or harassment
Prejudice, discrimination, and/or harassment
I have not experienced conflict in Stony Run
Conflict with pets/pet owners (e.g., off-leash dog, or pet waste)

Q6. Mode of Arrival (Visitors)

	Count	Pct.
Walk	354	83.7%
Bike	11	2.6%
Car	36	8.5%
Public Transportation	0	0.0%
Other	2	0.5%
Run/jog*	20	4.7%
TOTAL	423	100%
<i>*Added as its own category because of large number of "other" responses.</i>		

Q7. Visiting Alone or With Others (Visitors)

	Count	Pct.
Alone	204	48.2%
With Others	215	50.8%
Unsure/Don't Know	3	0.7%
Prefer Not to Say	1	0.2%
TOTAL	423	100%

Q8. Seasons for Visiting (Visitors)

	Count	Pct.
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Winter	320	76%
Spring	416	98%
Summer	397	94%
Fall	414	98%
1-Season	6	1%
2-Seasons	19	4%
3-Seasons	89	21%
All Seasons	309	73%
<i>n</i> = 423		

Q9. Frequency of Visiting (Visitors)

	Count	Pct.
Daily	86	20%
Several Times a Week	133	31%
Several Times a Month	129	30%
Several Times a Year	66	16%
Once a Year/Occasionally	8	2%
Unsure/Don't Know	1	0%
TOTAL	423	100%

Q10. Times Visited (Visitors)

	Early Morning	Morning	Early Afternoon	Late Afternoon	Evening	Late Night/After Hours

Both Weekdays and Weekends	123	147	119	191	198	34
Weekdays Only	45	25	17	23	37	7
Weekends Only	41	139	140	110	36	5
Never at this time	120	39	53	42	71	236
No Answer	94	73	94	57	81	141
<i>n</i> = 423						

Q11. Times Avoided (Visitors)

	Early Morning	Morning	Early Afternoon	Late Afternoon	Evening	Late Night/After Hours
Both Weekdays and Weekends	53	11	6	3	48	260
Weekdays Only	6	5	8	10	3	0
Weekends Only	4	7	9	6	2	4
Never at this time	235	261	262	264	242	107
No Answer	125	139	138	140	128	52
<i>n</i> = 423						

Q12. Reasons Avoided (Visitors)

	Count	Pct. Of Total
Experienced conflict with other user(s)	9	2%
Concern for safety	170	41%
Limited/insufficient lighting	128	31%
Limited/insufficient signage/wayfinding	11	3%
Limited/insufficient restroom facilities	11	3%
Limited/insufficient seating options	11	3%
Limited/insufficient waste receptacles	11	3%
Limited/insufficient bike racks/facilities	4	1%
Unsure/Don't Know	11	3%
Poor maintenance	15	4%
Difficulty traveling from home to Stony Run	2	0%
Challenges with ADA Accessibility	1	0%
Conflicts with other users	11	3%
Desire for dedicated areas for off-leash dogs	25	6%
I do not avoid visiting for any reason	154	37%
Other	17	4%
TOTAL	591	N/A **

n = 423*

*This question was not asked of the "pilot" respondents.

**Respondents were permitted to select more than one reason.

OTHERS

Flooding at the Oakdale entrance

I have young children who go to bed at 8 so I try to be home before then.

Not interested after dark

I avoid the park altogether after storm water problem/sewer line break; I don't avoid at night, I just don't go then

It's really dark late at night. But that's OK.

No explicit reason for not wanting to go, just far away and post dinner.

like the isolation of the trail but not in the dark

Bedtime

I have a dog that doesn't do well with other dogs

muddy trail

At work

Evenings are dedicated to dinner and bedtime routine

No time during weekdays or evenings.

Too many kids running amok

Construction, darkness

I am asleep

The only reason I don't visit at night is the kids are in bed by then!

Q13-14 Stony Run's Function (Visitors)

	Primary		Secondary	
	Ct.	Pct.	Ct.	Pct.
Neighborhood/Community Recreation Amenity	231	54.6%	114	27.0%
Citywide Recreation Amenity	72	17.0%	78	18.4%
Environmentally Protected Area*	110	26.0%	209	49.4%
Unsure/Don't Know	8	1.9%	20	4.7%
Other:*	2	0.5%	2	0.5%
TOTAL	423	100%	423	100%
*Includes one "other" comment that said "nature preserve."				
**All blanks were changed to "other" and combined with remaining "others."				

Q15. Activities (Visitors)

	Count	Pct.
Hiking/walking	382	90%
Dog Walking	222	52%
Exercise or jogging	247	58%
Cycling	69	16%
Relaxation and leisure	266	63%
Nature appreciation	323	76%
Special Events	33	8%
Playground	91	22%

Gardening	20	5%
Picnicking	35	8%
School-based programs	16	4%
Volunteering	44	10%
Senior Activities	2	0%
Unsure/Don't Know	0	0%
Other*	10	2%
TOTAL	1760	N/A**

n = 423

* "Improving the Park" was counted as "Volunteering," while "Running" was counted toward "Exercise or Jogging."

**Respondents were permitted to select more than one reason.

OTHER

bird watching
commuting by bike; cross-country skiing the path when it snows
use path to walk to work
non-vehicular paths to travel
Meet friends
music playing
Take kids to play in stream
I want to run on it but can't due to roots and rocks
Fishing
Fishing

Q16. Organized Activities (Visitors)

Often	3%
Sometimes	17%
Rarely	25%

Never	49%
Unsure/Don't Know	6%

Q17. Groups/Programs (Visitors)

Activities/Groups
Stream Cleanups, Blue Water Baltimore
Project clean stream, WP improvement volunteer projects.
Project Clean Stream
clean ups, tree planting, weed removal
volunteer
Volunteer activities with FSR; special seasonal events with various groups
Regular park maintenance and stream clean-up (which is an endless process) as a concerned citizen and resident who lives DIRECTLY ON Stony Run park. I plan to work with Friends of Stony Run more often in future as well. Roland Park Elementary Middle School also sometimes has informal parents meet-ups w/ K and 1st grade children, etc., that we attend. I would attend more events in the park if they happened, particularly for families who live in Roland Park community. Also did fishing in the stream when there was an organized trout fish release; my kids had so much fun "fishing"!!! (although I really worried they could get sick from giardia in the water, or fecal matter from dogs, humans, runoff, trash waste/ litter/dumping, etc.) I have even found condoms floating in the creek when cleaning trash from it.
fish stocking

TCNA organized events and Project Clean Stream
Clean up
worked with Jones Falls Watershed to restore and maintain an area of the park for 10 years
Trout Unlimited, trail maintenance
Project Clean Stream with Loyola University
My kids did a soccer program for preschoolers there, and we used to have a playgroup that met at the playground, but that was 10 years ago.
RPEMS Fun Runs (during school hours) and RPEMS After School Running Club
Trout Release
trout release with Trout Unlimited
Tree Baltimore
Clean ups
but would like to, just have had conflicts with some of the dates.
Clean ups and nature walks
Project Clean Stream
community association party
Neighborhood get-togethers, Clean Stream
Trout release event
Trout release
I organize the annual Project Clean Stream for Evergreen
I took my boys down to try the trout fishing event last year
I have lead multiple RPEMS school based nature walks and clean ups by.
Tree planting
Evergreen community events
Fishing events

Evergreen neighborhood activities
Evergreen community events in the community green space between Stony Run Park / Wilmslow / Synagogue
prior volunteer activities, unsure of organizing group
My daughter has attended nature camp at Gilman the past two summers, and she has spent a majority of that time at stony run.
Stream clean up
Project Clean Stream
Evergreen community events like Halloween parties
B'more active
I participate in the North Stony Run Green Team, which conducts invasives removals, trash cleanups, and trail mulchings. We also participate in Project Clean Stream and other Blue Water Baltimore sponsored clean ups.
Project clean stream
Improvement projects with volunteers
we have participated in clean-up activities.
trout release and playground update
I hosted a yoga class in the park, and organized picnics and baseball games.
Clean Stream
When we used to live in Evergreen, we did some park/stream clean ups
Project Clean Stream and other restoration activities
project clean, and neighborhood picnics, and musical programs

My kid's classroom socials on the playground
Blue water Baltimore native plant conservation landscaping projects along trail
Friends of the Dell
Project Clean Stream
Have not participated yet, but would like to.
Project Clean Stream volunteer, Trout unlimited fisherchild parent, Cycling group cleanup/ maintenance
I have volunteered in plantings, stream cleaning and invasive removal
Through Friends School, once with the Wyndhurst Association to spread mulch.
1. Mulching trail north of Gladstone Ave. 2. Invasive removal north of Gladstone Ave.
Neighborhood Picnic
THIS MASTER PLAN PROCESS.
trout release and a stream event a while ago
Project clean stream
Clean up
Project Clean Stream Trout Unlimited
I work at Loyola at we host a stream clean every year for Stoney Run, but near/on campus.
walks by neighborhood/community guides
Tours and beautification
Stream cleanup
Evergreen community activities

Planting. In the past worked with Michael Beer to get rid of some invasive species, but have been unable to complete the Weed Warrior program since then.
Project Clean Stream, Evergreen neighborhood party, Halloween party and Easter egg hunt, trout unlimited release day, etc.
Evergreen Community Association Project Clean Stream
Clean ups, planting, community celebrations
Evergreen picnics
Clearing vines and invasives.
Wyndhurst Assoc. mulching, cleanups
Invasive plant removal and mulching.
Trail maintenance
Spreading mulch.
Clean up efforts
We've fished with the kids and participated in a clean up.
Volunteer activities
My property backs up to Stony Run Park, between Cold Spring Lane and Wyndhurst. When Dr. Beer was active in coordinating activities for the park, I often participated, and make an effort to take care of the park that borders my property. I am happy to continue helping.
I have planted and mitigated invasives there for 10 years
Trout release
project clean stream as a community assn activity
walking tour with knowledgeable guide (nature walk and a walk to outline history of Ma & Pa RR

Our bookgroup will meet in the summer in the Stony Run/Wyman Park area.
trout release
Attended the trout release in Spring 2015
Trout Unlimited
Project Clean Stream Spring cleanup. The Maryland Chapter of Trout Unlimited is horrible- I cannot believe they are permitted to release an introduced species into the stream for the sole purpose of "entertainment" while the animals and the stream both suffer. Animals do not exist for our entertainment- this behavior is base and immoral.
Clean up
Trout release
North Stony Run Green Team maintenance events (in conjunction with Weed Warriors and Project Clean Stream and Blue Water Baltimore)
Trout Unlimited events
Would if I knew about them.
clean stream as well as many of us as neighbors have weekend clean up, prune days
Just about all activities since I moved here in 1996.
Clean Streams
Not aware of any formalized activities...
Playgroups for young children
Several years ago I lead a tree planting effort in Stony Run in my Keswick neighborhood. We planted over 200 MD native trees and removed invasive plants. It was a 3-year effort, funded by grant money.
trail maintenance

project clean stream, weed warrior
During the major restructuring of the stream bed I lobbied to save the trees, and keep the wild nature intact.
Clean ups, planting with Michael Beer, school activities with students
Have not been able to volunteer due to scheduling concerns, but would when available.
Project clean stream
School programs (stream Clean up, invasive plant survey, water quality tests) thru Friends and RPEMS.
trout unlimited
Trout unlimited
Fishing with Trout Unlimited. Not sure what other events there are in the RP area of Stony Run.
Clean up
Friends of Stony Run Clean Up
Trout release
Stream cleanup with Friends of Stony Run and Blue Water Baltimore.
Trail maintenance

Q18. Experiencing Conflict (Visitors)

	Count	Pct.
Yes	224	53%
No	10	2%
Unsure/Don't Know	189	45%
TOTAL	423	100%

Q19. Conflict Details (Visitors)

	Ct.	Pct.
I have not experienced conflict in Stony Run	191	45%
Respondents Describing Conflict	232	55%
Total Conflicts Experienced/ Observed	635	
<i>Littering, or presence of waste</i>	139	33%
<i>Conflict with pets/pet owners (e.g., off-leash dog, or pet waste)</i>	119	28%
<i>Environmental Degradation (e.g., illegal dumping)</i>	76	18%
<i>Vandalism</i>	72	17%
<i>Smoking or drinking</i>	40	9%
<i>Homelessness</i>	40	9%
<i>Inability to let dog(s) run off-leash</i>	30	7%
<i>Illegal and/or Illicit Activities</i>	24	6%
<i>Overcrowding due to activities</i>	15	4%
<i>Disruption of wildlife</i>	13	3%
<i>Excessive noise from other user(s)</i>	6	1%
<i>General feeling of being unsafe</i>	18	4%
<i>Prejudice, discrimination, and/or harassment</i>	2	0%
<i>Unsure/Don't Know</i>	3	1%
<i>Other**</i>	38	9%

* No response/blanks were counted as "I have not experienced conflict in Stony Run"

** Other comments were also counted toward pre-identified categories, where an overlap was obvious (e.g., graffiti is a form of vandalism).

Q20. Enjoyed Sites

	Ct.	Pct.
Path (includes the term trails)	99	21.9%
Wyman Park	19	4.2%
Wyman Park Dell	1	0.2%
Stream (including reference to water, creek, etc.)	51	11.3%
Bridges	9	2.0%
Pool	1	0.2%
Nature (including references to wooded areas, wildlife, general appreciation of landscape, isolation, tranquil, etc.)	40	8.8%
Beach (area south of Wyndhurst)	1	0.2%
Playground	28	6.2%
Linkwood Park (and mention of Linkwood Road)	12	2.6%
North Segment (Northern Parkway to Wyndhurst)	25	5.5%
Central Segment (Wyndhurst to Cold Spring)	59	13.0%
Southern Segment (Cold Spring to University Parkway)	13	2.9%
Lower Segment (South of University Parkway)	15	3.3%
Meadow	10	2.2%
Stepping Stones (including mention of rocks and stream crossings)	13	2.9%
Wetlands	1	0.2%

Bench (including appreciation for places to sit)	7	1.5%
Dog	22	4.9%
Baseball	1	0.2%
Fields	7	1.5%
Open Space	8	1.8%
Boardwalk	1	0.2%
Sound garden	1	0.2%
Kids	9	2.0%
TOTAL	453	100%
*Not everyone who responded answered the question; most respondents, however, gave more than one answer.		

Q21. Avoided Sites

	Ct.	Pct.
Path (includes the term trails)	12	5.5%
Wyman Park	4	1.8%
Wyman Park Dell	1	0.5%
Stream (including reference to water, creek, etc.)	8	3.7%
Bridges	20	9.2%
Pool	1	0.5%
Outfall	5	2.3%
Flooding	6	2.8%
University Parkway Bridge	14	6.4%
Street Crossing	11	5.0%
North Segment (Northern Parkway to Wyndhurst)	5	2.3%
Central Segment (Wyndhurst to Cold Spring)	6	2.8%

Southern Segment (Cold Spring to University Parkway)	6	2.8%
Lower Segment (South of University Parkway)	18	8.3%
Meadow	4	1.8%
Stream Crossing	4	1.8%
Wetlands	1	0.5%
Loyola	2	0.9%
Dog	19	8.7%
Homeless	4	1.8%
Fields	4	1.8%
Neighbors (unwelcoming)	3	1.4%
Muddy	12	5.5%
Contaminated Areas (including sewage complaints)	9	4.1%
Kid-Related	1	0.5%
Safety (explicit use of term safe [evening concerns are separate])	9	4.1%
Evening, concerns with darkness	5	2.3%
Erosion	5	2.3%
trash	4	1.8%
Entrances	3	1.4%
Not Bike-Friendly	2	0.9%
Invasives	1	0.5%
Loitering	1	0.5%
Graffiti	1	0.5%
Rodents	1	0.5%
Narrow	2	0.9%
Maintenance	2	0.9%
Overgrown	2	0.9%
TOTAL	218	100%

*Not everyone who responded answered the question; most respondents, however, gave more than one answer.

Q22. Section(s) Utilized

	Count	Pct.
The entire Stony Run corridor and adjacent park spaces	149	34.6%
Northern Parkway to Wyndhurst Avenue	135	31.3%
Wyndhurst Avenue to Cold Spring Lane	216	50.1%
Cold Spring Lane to Overhill Road	173	40.1%
Overhill Road to University Parkway	125	29.0%
University Parkway to Craycombe Avenue	77	17.9%
Craycombe Avenue to 36th Street	78	18.1%
36th Street to Wyman Park Drive	99	23.0%
N/A	1	0.2%
Other:	0	0.0%
TOTAL	1053	N/A*

n = 431

*Respondents were permitted to select more than one reason.

Percentages are calculated using total number of survey respondents (431), not total number of sections identified.

Q23. Most Utilized Section

	Count	Pct.
The entire Stony Run corridor and adjacent park spaces	41	10%
Northern Parkway to Wyndhurst Avenue	35	8%
Wyndhurst Avenue to Cold Spring Lane	164	38%
Cold Spring Lane to Overhill Road	52	12%
Overhill Road to University Parkway	21	5%
University Parkway to Craycombe Avenue	25	6%
Craycombe Avenue to 36th Street	12	3%
36th Street to Wyman Park Drive	64	15%
N/A	7	2%
Other*	10	2%
TOTAL	431	100%
n = 431		
*All "Other" responses were actually respondents who wanted to indicate more than one section.		

Q24. Perception of Maintenance

Scale	Count	Pct.
1	10	2%
2	47	11%
3	137	32%
4	200	46%

5	37	9%
TOTAL	431	100%

Q25. Informational/Interpretive Signage

	Ct.	Pct.
Not enough signage	151	35%
Satisfactory signage	166	39%
Excessive signage	10	2%
Unsure/Don't Know	104	24%
TOTAL	431	100%

Q26. Identification/Directional Signage

	Ct.	Pct.
Not enough signage	173	40%
Satisfactory signage	133	31%
Excessive signage	17	4%
Unsure/Don't Know	108	25%
TOTAL	431	100%

Q27. Top 3 Appreciated Elements

	Ct.	Pct.
Location	259	60%
Accessibility	141	33%
Connectivity among open spaces and neighborhoods	131	30%
Trail/Path	323	75%
Site furniture (lighting, seating, waste receptacles, bike racks, etc.)	1	0%

Wildlife/Natural environment	246	57%
Cleanliness	24	6%
Safety	29	7%
History	14	3%
Sense of community	56	13%
Available programs and organized activities	0	0%
Limited number of programmed and/or structured activities	11	3%
I do not appreciate anything about Stony Run	0	0%
Unsure/Don't Know	3	1%
Other	0	0%
TOTAL	1238	N/A*
n = 431		
*Respondents were permitted to select more than one reason. Percentages are calculated using total number of survey respondents (431), not total elements identified.		

Q28. Top 3 Disliked Elements

	Count	Pct.
Location	0	0.0%
Accessibility	13	3.0%
Connectivity among open spaces and neighborhoods	17	3.9%
Trail/Path	21	4.9%
Site furniture (lighting, seating, waste receptacles, bike racks, etc.)	69	16.0%
Wildlife/Natural environment	2	0.5%
Cleanliness	63	14.6%

Safety	44	10.2%
History	2	0.5%
Sense of community	4	0.9%
Available programs and organized activities	11	2.6%
Limited number of programmed and/or structured activities	20	4.6%
I do not dislike anything about Stony Run	212	49.2%
Unsure/Don't Know	39	9.0%
Other*	57	13.2%
TOTAL	574	N/A**
OTHERS		
Dog	24	5.6%
Vegetation	2	0.5%
Users	3	0.7%
Water	5	1.2%
*One blank was changed to "Unsure/Don't Know"; some others were also added to categories in which their comments were a good fit, thereby being counted twice.		
**Respondents were permitted to select more than one reason. Percentages are calculated using total number of survey respondents (431), not total elements identified.		

OTHERS
dogs off leash
Water quality
lack of pedestrian walkway across Cold Spring Ln [trail/path]
dogs off leash, dog waste
overgrown [vegetation]

folks need to pick up their trash and dog poop.
off leash dogs
Site furniture (lighting, seating, waste receptacles, bike racks, etc.), Off Leash Dogs
lack of connectivity. It would be nice to have it connected to wyman park and to the schools that back on to the northernmost portion of the stoney run.
Dogs off leash
Dogs walking off leash
Safety, Unleashed dogs
Graffiti
Unleashed dogs! Also that water is not safe for kids to contact.
sewage smell [water]
Not welcoming to non-residents
I'd like more trash cans [Site furniture (lighting, seating, waste receptacles, bike racks, etc.)]
condition of baseball diamond
Odor of the water sometimes
Cleanliness, The fact that we keep spending money and cannot keep raw sewage out of it. The other thing I don't like is the parking mess at Linkwood Park.
Site furniture (lighting, seating, waste receptacles, bike racks, etc.), Safety, too many dog parks
Cleanliness, Safety, Dogs
Inappropriate use by Loyola students. [users]
muddy paths [trail/path]
bike and runner traffic, invasive plants [vegetation], dog waste

could use a walkway over the muddy areas [trail/path]
Bikes on the path, off leash dogs
Stinky stream [water] smell
Cleanliness, too many dogs
People allowing dogs off leash
That \$\$\$ was spent on failed stream restoration
invasive plant species
Dogs off leash illegally, defecating in the park
Unleashed dogs are a CONSANT problem for runners and children.
graffiti
all the folks who block the street with parking
Signage
Rocky paths [trail/path]
The kids that use the big rectangular stone near the synagogue to drink and smoke. However, I don't think that's stopable, and they aren't too bad. [users]
Need to repair erosion since stream was reengineered. Need to remove fallen trees from stream. Need to reduce size of storm lines into stream
questionable condition of water after heavy rain
Site furniture (lighting, seating, waste receptacles, bike racks, etc.), Safety, dogs off leash
Poor surface for running . Apples falling from trees could fall
unsafe water
South of overhill sometimes feels unsafe [safety]
unruly dog owners

I wish there were more trash cans to prevent litter [Site furniture (lighting, seating, waste receptacles, bike racks, etc.)]
some parts of path are eroded and there are steep drops on the edge; some sections have rocky and hard to walk on [trail/path]
people parking and distroying grass and creating road hazard
Don't like crushed stone in path, would prefer soft mulch [trail/path]
Site furniture (lighting, seating, waste receptacles, bike racks, etc.), Safety, large number of dogs off leash
We need more mulch and to take other measures to deal with mud [trail/path]
trash and pollution [cleanliness]
Unleashed dogs
the exit from south end to cold spring lane
The neighbors
Need more seating [Site furniture (lighting, seating, waste receptacles, bike racks, etc.)]
Only the stone path surface [Trail/Path]

Q29. Priorities

	Count	Pct.
Available park staff	7	2%
Bathrooms	32	7%
Seating/tables	39	9%
Children's play equipment	50	12%
Cleaning/litter removal	181	42%
Dog areas	102	24%

Drinking fountains	44	10%
Gardens and flowers	76	18%
Improved accessibility	31	7%
Lighting	69	16%
Waste/recycling receptacles	148	34%
Paths/trail improvements	232	54%
Public art	46	11%
Recreation/athletic opportunities	40	9%
Security	75	17%
Increased signage	56	13%
Less signage	22	5%
Design standards for volunteer efforts, memorial plantings, site furniture, etc.	38	9%
Tree planting/maintenance	217	50%
Stream restoration	265	61%
Unsure/Don't Know	10	2%
Other*	12	3%
TOTAL	1792	N/A**

*"Other" comment regarding a pedestrian walkway was also included in count for Paths/Trail Improvements.

- "Other" comments (2) regarding desire for dogs to be kept on a leash, or that people know it is a leash park, were also included in count for Dog Areas.

- "Other" comment regarding bathrooms was also included in priority for Bathrooms.

**Respondents were permitted to select more than one priority. Percentages are calculated using total number of survey respondents (431), not total number of priorities identified.

OTHERS

Vine removal
Pedestrian walkway across Cold Spring Lane
dogs kept on leash
make no changes!
polite, considerate users
environmental concerns
Bathroom or port a potty
Just leave it alone, please. It does not need any more improvements.
drainage in some areas
Leave it alone
None
make sure people know it is a leash park

Q30. TOP priority

	Count	Pct.
Available park staff	0	0%
Bathrooms	5	1%
Seating/tables	0	0%
Children's play equipment	9	2%
Cleaning/litter removal	20	5%
Dog areas	25	6%
Drinking fountains	2	0%
Gardens and flowers	3	1%
Improved accessibility	3	1%
Lighting	8	2%
Waste/recycling receptacles	18	4%
Paths/trail improvements	89	21%
Public art	2	0%

Recreation/athletic opportunities	7	2%
Security	18	4%
Increased signage	7	2%
Less signage	0	0%
Design standards for volunteer efforts, memorial plantings, site furniture, etc.	2	0%
Tree planting/maintenance	45	10%
Stream restoration	103	24%
Unsure/Don't Know	15	3%
Other:	50	12%
TOTAL	431	100%
<i>*Because this question was looking for the TOP priority, all "other" comments were kept as other—even if they clearly belonged in a provided priority category (e.g., stream erosion belongs in stream restoration).</i>		

OTHERS
Pedestrian walkway across Cold Spring Lane
Water cleanup
dogs kept on leash
Fixing eroding areas, stabilizing the path, pulling invasives
Consequences for OFF LEASH dogs
Make no changes!
Paths/trail improvements, Less signage, Less manmade everything
polite, considerate users
environmental concerns, sewage leaks
Vine removal
Keep it wild

Keeping raw sewage out of it.
environmental preservation
invasive plant removal, planting of natives appropriate to stream site--everything else is fine as it stands from my perspective
for dog owners to not take over
Protect from erosion
Enforcement of leash laws for dog walkers.
Like it as is.
Leaving it as it is
Path maintenance do we over age 25 can run
Fixing discontinuity of trail from Linkwood to South of University Avenue
Keep it for walking
Bike parking
a place for dogs to be off leash
No trespassing
None
Need more seating
Less development of any sort - leave it alone

Q31. Additional Comments

For additional comments, refer to the stand-alone summary of the survey.

Q32. Partner Organizations

SUGGESTED PARTNERS
Area schools nearby...

Blue Water Baltimore, All neighborhood associations, Parks and People, TreeBaltimore, Baltimore Green Works, Baltimore Office of Sustainability, Live Baltimore, Visit Baltimore, DNR, MDE, Center for Watershed Protection, Chesapeake Bay Foundation, others.
BWB, P&P, Boy Scouts, WPCA, HCC
Carnegie Institution of Embryology (which is on the park!) as well as Johns Hopkins University (Homewood Campus Krieger School of A&S, Engineering)
Friends of Stony Run (I would think!), Baltimore City Parks and Rec., maybe even Baltimore County if we develop a plan to finally connect our park to Lake Roland Park (aka Robert E Lee Park)?
Johns Hopkins,
you know who they are
Don't know.
Friends of SR
If we could identify specific needs,we could present a request to Loyola for student volunteers to do community service.
Tree Baltimore, Blue Water, Parks and People
don't know
Friends of Stony Run
Any businesses that are location along the run (Wyndhurst Station ,e.g.) Eddie's, in fact any business in Roland Park. Johns Hopkins, their students /athletes run through the park regularly.
Rec and Parks; Friends of Stony Run; area schools; Blue Water Baltimore
The Police to cite people with dogs off leash

Neighbors along the trail should be involved (e.g., Wickford Road/University Parkway has a very active group of neighbors who participate in stream cleanups, etc.). Roland Park Civic League and Roads and maintenance should also be involved, as well as the Guilford and tuscany-canterbury community organizations.
Baltimore City Recreation and Parks
The adjacent and area schools.
BES/Carey Institute
Neighborhood Associations.
Blue Water Baltimore and Friends of Stony Run.
Rails-to-Trails Conservancy - (Jim Brown - jim@railstotrails.org) , Blue Water Baltimore, Parks & People Foundation, Baltimore Urban Wilderness Coalition, Bikemore. Baltimore Rec & Parks
Blue Water Baltimore, Weed Warriors (with Baltimore City)
Baltimore City Recreation and Parks Parks and people
BCRP, Baltimore tree trust, BWB, P & P, Boy Scouts, JHU, Loyola, Local schools, WPCA, HCC
Blue Water Baltimore
Blue Water Baltimore, Rec and Parks, Parks and People, JOHNS HOPKINS
If they can get the job done and protect the ecosystem (human and non-human), that's all I care about.
Friends of Stony Run, Baltimore City Recreation and Parks, local restaurants e.g. The Dizz
Blue Water Baltimore
all of the above

Blue Watwr Baltimore Tree Baltimore Parks and people
Greater Remington Improvement Association (GRIA)
Parks andPeople Foundation
Blue water Baltimore Baltimore tree keepers
Don't know
Blue Water Baltimore
Baltimore City Recreation and Parks, Blue Water Baltimore
Parks & People Foundation, Baltimore Tree Trust, Maryland Native Plant Society
Friends of Wyman Park Dell
Given the number of university students who use the path, perhaps one or more of the universities could contribute to, for instance, building a bridge at Linkwood and University.
Blue Water Baltimore, churches in the area...
I am a member of a Friends of Stony Run. In spring this year I was talking to the people from Park and Recreation, who were persuading me that if we will register the trail at Stony Run as a nature trail, it can be maintained by the relevant organization. At this point only the paved path from Overhill to the Linkwood playground is registered as a trail. I am not sure how much additional regulations will come from registering it a a trail (our community will not be happy about any additional regulations). Natalia Drichko
Not that I know of

Blue water baltimore
Blue Water Baltimore
Loyola University Maryland
Blue water Baltimore
Please use a reputable Landscape Architect, who has experience working with communities, to develop design standards. Volunteer efforts, while well meaning, often result in poorly designed and poorly built and maintained plantings, site furniture, etc. I've this over and over again--what could be a remarkable and wonderful park experience ends up feeling pieced together and quickly worn out.
Loyola, Friends, Gilman , cathedral, JHU
n/a
all of the above...
Wyndhurst Association. Hopefully not Recreation and Parks which would overdo everything.
Blue Water Baltimore, Friends School
Poplar Hill Parks, Inc, c/o Harry Quigley 900 Bellemore Road 21210 hquigley@jhmi.edu
Don't know
z
Calvert School JHU Scouting groups?
Blue Water Baltimore
Why make such a big deal out of it. What is your agenda??

I do think that the private schools and JHU should be BIG players in this effort. The educational opportunities are massive.
Don't know
Not that I can think of
blythewood associatio
Blythewood Association
I
Guilford Assoc., Roland Park Association, nearby independent schools, JHU, Loyola U,
The residents that back up to Meadow Lane did a cleanup along our stretch last year. A dumpster was arranged by somebody. Perhaps this could be a model for other neighborhoods where not only a dumpster is supplied but some education about removing invasives and guidance on environmentally-safe stump-killing methods is provided prior to the volunteer event. We have a bamboo problem that will require more than just our hand tools!
Get Johns Hopkins to do more. They invested a huge amount in a plan to redo San Martin Drive only to realize that they had not checked with the neighborhood about how they felt about losing parking spaces. Their plan for making the it safer for cycling was stupid. The plan is dead as far as I can tell. What a waste. They have \$\$ to spare apparently, but they should be encouraged to spend it better.
Blue Water Baltimore, Parks & People
Friends School of Baltimore, Stony Run Friends Meeting, Friends of Stony Run, Bolton Street Synagogue

BWB, Baltimore Tree Trust, Sacres Spaces
GRIA, Bikemore, MORE, Wyman Park South, JHU
Roland Park Community Foundation.
No, I don't have particular opinions on any of these.
Just keep it simple and LOCAL---- very local ---- and not let the city get involved too deeply.
Stony Run Friends Meeting Blue Water Baltimore
Remington Neighborhood Alliance Greater Remington Improvement Association Seawall Development
Maryland Audubon Society Maryland Sierra Club Johns Hopkins student groups Blue Water Baltimore

Q33. Age of Respondent

Age	Count	Pct.
Less than 14 years	0	0%
15-19	1	0%
20-24	4	1%
25-34	69	16%
35-44	102	24%
45-54	100	23%
55-59	44	10%
60-65	46	11%
66+	60	14%

Prefer Not to Say	5	1%
TOTAL	431	100%

Q34. Children at Home

Response	Count	Pct.
Yes	172	41%
No	251	59%

Q35. Gender Identity

Gender	Count	Pct.
Female	245	57%
Male	169	39%
Prefer Not to Say	16	4%

Q36. Race

Race	Count	Pct.
White	373	87%
Black or African American	6	1%
American Indian or Alaska Native	0	0%
Asian	5	1%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	1	0%
Two or More Races	5	1%
Prefer Not to Say	39	9%
Total	431	100%

All comments in the "other" category were not provided to clarify race, rather, to express a desire to not answer the question. These responses, therefore, were changed to "Prefer not to say."

Q37. Ethnicity

Ethnicity	Count	Pct.
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	12	3%
Not Hispanic or Latino	357	83%
Prefer Not to Say	62	14%
Total	431	100%

Q38. Employment Status

Employment Status	Count	Pct.
Employed, 1 Full-Time Position	292	69%
Employed, 1 Part-Time Position	23	5%
Employed, 2 or More Part-Time Positions	16	4%
Unemployed, Looking for Work	4	1%
Unemployed, Not Actively Looking for Work	12	3%
Retired	47	11%
Unable to Work, Disabled	0	0%
Prefer Not to Say	16	4%
Other		
A- Student	3	1%
B- Stay-at-Home Parent	4	1%
C- Self-Employed	4	1%
D- Full Time & Part Time	2	0%
TOTAL	423*	100%
*This question was not asked of the “pilot” respondents.		

Q39. Income

Income	Count	Pct.
\$25,000 or Less	0	0%
\$25,000 to \$40,000	11	3%
\$40,000 to \$60,000	23	5%
\$60,000 to \$75,000	19	4%
\$75,000 or More	273	65%
Prefer Not to Say	97	23%
TOTAL	423*	100%
*This question was not asked of the “pilot” respondents.		

Q40. Contact Information

Withheld

APPENDIX E | PUBLIC COMMENT

The following table summarizes input provided during the Public Comment window in June 2016.

TOPIC	CONCERN FOR...	SUPPORT FOR...	TOTAL	NOTES/NATURE OF THE TOPIC
Signage	17	9	26	A wide spectrum of feelings. Overall, there's a desire to limit signage as much as possible, while still offering an opportunity to convey important park-related information.
Off-leash Dogs	12	2	14	While some support off-leash recommendations, the overall feeling was that Stony Run is an inappropriate location for off-leash areas due to ecological, safety issues.
Public Art	7	5	12	Public art was confused with graffiti by some, and seen as an opportunity for vandalism by graffiti by others. Any art in the Stony Run should benefit the natural landscape.
Pathway Improvements	0	10	10	Comments generally support improvements to the pathway, but encourage exploration of alternative and long-term solutions (e.g., limited mulching).
Clutter	9	0	9	There is a strong desire to keep any improvements "low-key" and to not over clutter Stony Run.
Parking	3	3	6	Accessible parking is needed; limit new parking, do not encourage parking on residential streets.
Water Quality	0	6	6	Water quality is a priority.
Invasive Plant Removal	1	5	6	While addressing invasives should not be the priority of the plan, there are many areas in need of invasive removal.
Bikes in Stony Run	1	4	5	Overall, bikes should not be discouraged, but no further accommodation is necessary.
Ecological Health	0	5	5	Ecological health of the Stony Run is a priority.
Accessibility	0	5	5	Too little attention given to accessibility improvements.
Flooding	5	0	5	Flooding is a significant challenge, any recommendation to address flooding was encouraged.
Planting	1	4	5	Additional plantings were supported, overall, as long as open spaces are maintained.

TOPIC	CONCERN FOR...	SUPPORT FOR...	TOTAL	NOTES/NATURE OF THE TOPIC
Graffiti/Vandalism	4	0	4	Existing graffiti was seen as a challenge in Stony Run, and there was concern for providing future opportunities for vandalism through signage and public art.
Volunteers	0	4	4	Volunteers are a resource to be emphasized in the plan.
Stormwater Runoff	4	0	4	More discussion of capturing runoff needed.
Property Demarcation	2	1	3	The need for property demarcation was not clear; any demarcation should blend into the landscape.
Programming	2	1	3	Inappropriate programming can threaten the Park.
Benches	0	2	2	Benches are an opportunity for enhancing user comfort.
Children	0	2	2	Children use the path to get to school, sometimes on bikes. They are to be considered further in the recommendations.
Wetland Areas	1	1	2	The wetland adjacent to Deepdene is a valuable ecosystem, but needs to be restored. The wetland at Oakdale Meadow presents a challenge for the path.
Sewage	2	0	2	Sewage leaks are a tremendous challenge and need to be fully addressed in the long-term.
Yard Waste	1	1	2	Stakeholders discussed the value and detriment of yard waste dumped along the Stony Run
Litter	2	0	2	Litter is problematic, and recommendations to address litter were supported.
Trash Cans	0	2	2	Trash cans were feared to mean increased clutter, but seen as an opportunity to reduce litter in Stony Run.
Maintenance	1	0	1	Maintenance needs to be further considered and discussed
Memorials	1	0	1	Memorials should be discouraged as they can quickly oversaturate the landscape.
Safety	0	1	1	Safety was not a significant consideration for the plan, but should be considered.
Liability	1	0	1	Liability is not clear. Note: the community associations and friends groups are not responsible for injury inflicted while using the Stone Run Path, which is public property.

APPENDIX F | ASSESSMENT DIAGRAMS



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