



Date of Board P&C: September 7, 2022

## Community Engagement Assessment

*Please fill out this form if your project, program, or initiative includes community engagement. All Community Engagement Assessments should be filed as Petitions and Communications with the MPRB Board of Commissioners and submitted to the MPRB Engagement Portal on SharePoint.*

**Staff Lead:** Daniel Elias

**Division/Department:** Planning

**Level of Engagement:** Inform

**Project, Program, or Initiative Name:** Bethune Park Improvements

**Project Description (100 words recommended):**

The Bethune Park Improvements project generally includes a new baseball diamond, designed to 15U and up levels, and an accessible route from the parking lot to the new baseball diamond player seating areas. Basketball rehabilitation will be coordinated between this capital project and the Asset Management Court Rehabilitation program. Other improvements may include additional shade at the wading pool and trail rehab where bituminous trails are in disrepair. The scope of this project is guided by the North Service Area Master Plan.

The baseball field planned for Bethune Park “would replace the one at North Commons and would likely be the new home of the North High School teams.” The North Commons Improvements project is underway and there is a strong likelihood that the baseball fields in the NW corner of North Commons Park will be removed. Because of this proposed removal, the Bethune Park baseball field has been prioritized as a key project feature included in this scope.

Review the criteria to determine the level of engagement that your program, project, or initiative falls under. Provide an explanation of how your project meets the criteria in the Justification section below.

Level of Engagement	Inform	Consult	Involve	Partner
<b>Engagement Goal</b>	To provide stakeholders with factual, accessible, balanced, and timely information to help them understand the project, program, or initiative.	To obtain stakeholder feedback on project, initiative, or program analysis, alternatives, or decisions.	To work directly with stakeholders throughout the process to ensure that perspectives are consistently understood, considered, and reflected in project, program, or initiative decisions.	To partner with stakeholders in each aspect of decision making in order to develop and implement collaborative project, program, or initiative solutions.
<b>Criteria to Determine Level of Engagement</b> (Which level of engagement best describes your project?)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This is a decision that should be based on technical, operational, or safety constraints only.</li> <li>This is a project, program, or initiative that does not result in a change in the type, location, or extent of the current facility or service.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This project takes place in a park that has been master planned.</li> <li>This a new city-wide initiative or program.</li> <li>This is a new public policy or public policy update.</li> <li>The outcome is likely to change based on community input.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This project requires a CAC.</li> <li>This project does not have other policy guidance such as an existing master plan or public policy.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This program, project, or initiative is being developed in partnership with another agency or organization.</li> </ul>
<b>MPRB Promise</b>	MPRB will keep you informed.	MPRB will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge feedback, work to integrate stakeholder feedback into the alternatives, and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will work with stakeholders for advice and innovation in formulating solutions and to incorporate recommendations to the extent possible.	The MPRB and partner entity will be accountable to their roles as negotiated in the partnership and regularly evaluate overall success of the partnership.
<b>Examples of project types</b>	Repaving a parking lot, cutting down a tree, beach or swimming pool closures, ADA improvements, rehab	Approved master plan design implementation, city or service area wide program development, public policy development, Participatory Project Scoping	Master plans, any process that includes a formal public body making recommendations.	Jointly owned and/or operated facilities, co-creation, public/private partnership, community led projects.

This engagement grid was adapted from the IAP2 International Federation 2014 Public Participation Spectrum.

**Justification (100 words recommended):**

The scope of the Bethune Park Improvements project is guided by the North Service Area Master Plan. The baseball field planned for Bethune Park “would replace the one at North Commons and would likely be the new home of the North High School teams.” The North Commons Improvements project is underway and there is a strong likelihood that the baseball fields in the NW corner of North Commons Park will be removed. Because of this proposed removal, the Bethune Park baseball field has been prioritized and participatory project scoping is not recommended. Staff will provide stakeholders with factual, accessible, balanced, and timely information to help them understand the project, program, or initiative.

**For projects, programs, or initiatives that fall under the Inform category of engagement:**

Staff will work with Communications to create a series of GovDelivery emails announcing the project and the project scope. Staff will meet with stakeholder groups, specifically the leadership of the Phyllis Wheatley Community Center, the Bethune Community School and the local neighborhood organization (Northside Residents Redevelopment Council). On-site signage will also be utilized to bring awareness to the project. Planning staff will coordinate with Athletics staff to ensure that the new field will meet the needs of the community.