



CAB CALLOWAY SQUARE

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY TO DATE



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

OVERVIEW

Public input and feedback are critical to creating a community-supported vision for Cab Calloway Square. Public participation ensures that the proposed concept plan addresses community concerns and ideas, fosters an inclusive and transparent planning process, identifies key opportunities and priority areas, and builds momentum to move the plan towards submission and implementation.

In March 2019, the consultant team led by Design Collective, Inc. was engaged by City of Baltimore Department of Planning to begin the Concept Master Plan. The process approach was structured on a series of four community engagement efforts to effectively examine, envision, and create plan recommendations for the study area.

A critical task for the first two efforts was to gather stakeholder input. This engagement was conducted through a variety of outreach methods, including two community workshops, an online survey, and updates through social media resources.

In April 2019, Design Collective, Inc., the City of Baltimore Department of Planning, and the Druid Heights CDC hosted Community Workshop #1 to provide a project overview and begin the public engagement process. Over 30 community members attended.

In May 2019, Community Workshop #2 was hosted on-site at the future park space for the Druid Heights community and surrounding neighborhoods, providing attendees an opportunity to meet the design team, lend input through various interactive exercises, review precedents and design strategies, and craft a vision for Cab Calloway Square. Over 100 community members attended.

A SurveyMonkey online survey was created and open for feedback from May 10 - June 10, 2019 to gain additional input. The survey received 50 responses.



PHOTOS FROM THE COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

COMMUNITY WORKSHOP #1 APRIL 2019

Comments from Community Workshop #1 are consolidated below.

CONCERNS

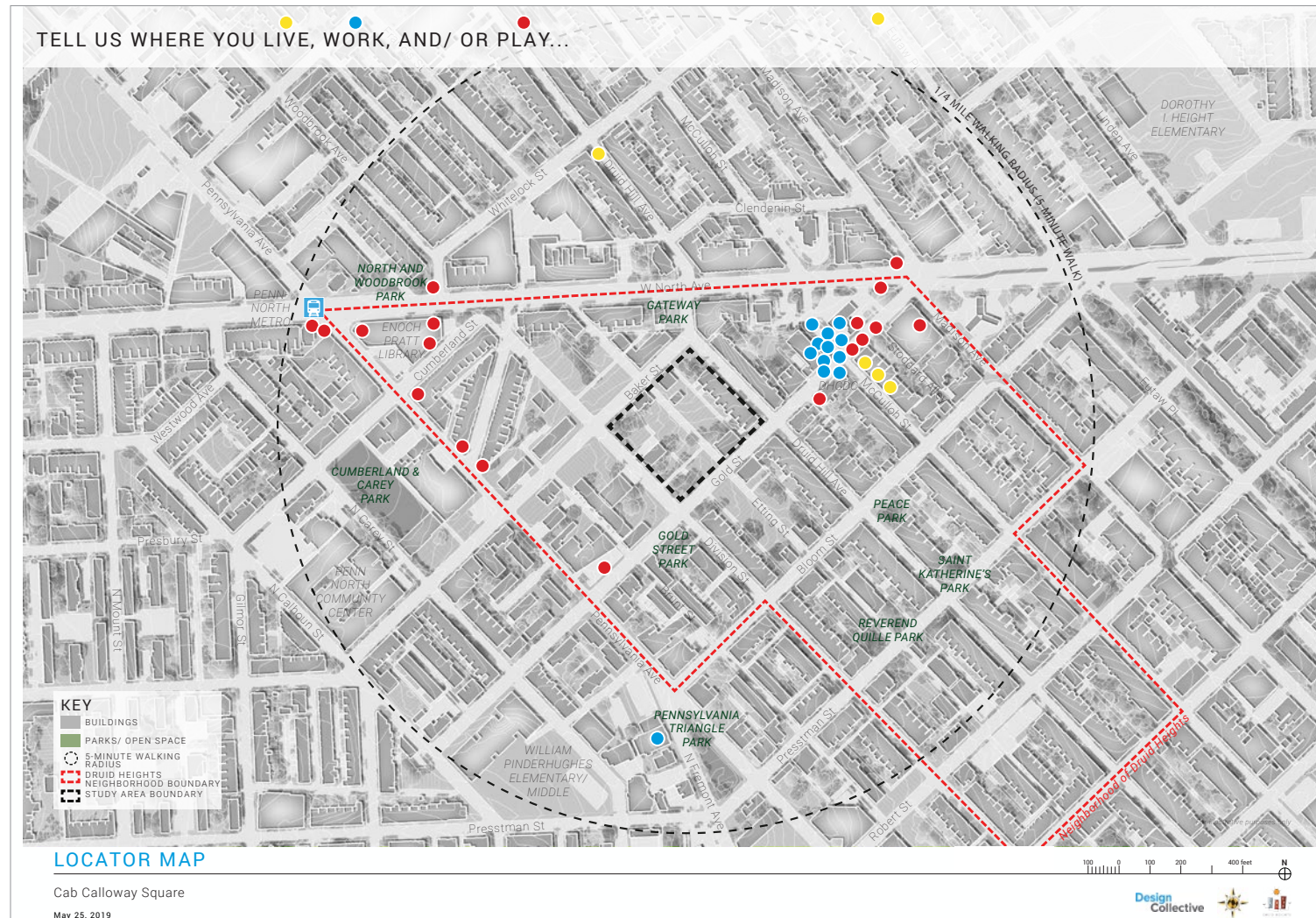
- » Too many adjacent park spaces
- » Negative impacts that exist in/around the study boundary (drug activity, vacant properties, public dumping, etc.)
- » Maintenance
- » Park name - "Cab Calloway Square"

VISIONS/ PRIORITIES

- » Spaces that promote gathering and social interaction
- » An open lawn that allows for passive and active recreation
- » Trees and plantings
- » Seating opportunities
- » Methods for safety and security
- » Maintenance strategies
- » Flexible spaces for modular structures that can serve a wide-range of uses
- » Emphasize and recognize history and prominent events and/or figures within the community
- » Amphitheater
- » Water feature (splash pad, pop jet fountain, etc.)
- » Recreation/ youth center that provides services, after-school programs, and amenities

PRECEDENTS

- » Lafayette Square
- » Patterson Park
- » Druid Hill Park
- » Eager Park
- » Bloom + Etting lot (free toys)



LOCATOR MAP (LEFT) AND PUBLIC INPUT RECEIVED (BELOW)

Public Workshop #1 offered the community an opportunity to meet the consultant team, understand the project scope and timeline, and provide their feedback regarding the strengths, weaknesses, and visions for Cab Calloway Square. To better understand specific interests and ensure participation throughout the study area, a locator map asked attendees to identify where they "live, work, and/or play". The community was encouraged to give specific feedback by providing comments on detailed maps of the study boundary and surrounding context.



GIVE US SOMETHING THAT WE WANT

- SNACK BAR FOR CHILDREN
- INCREASE OUR PROPERTY VALUE
- PROPERTY OWNERS WANT GREEN SPACE THAT IS TAKEN CARE OF
- LIVING CLASSROOMS - MADISON STREET
- WATER SPRINKLERS - KIDS PLAY
- KIDS NEED EXERCISE
- CREATE BEAUTIFUL BASIS
- THERE ARE BIGGER PROBLEMS THAN NEEDING OPEN SPACE, BUT A NICE PARK WILL BE A CHANGER
- BLOOM & ETTING - KIDS FREE TOYS
- LIVE PATTERSON & DRUID HILL PARK
- EAGER PARK

RUNNING CHILDREN

- ACCESSIBLE TO CHILDREN
- SHOULD PART OF THE PARK BE FENCED OFF TO PROVIDE SECURITY?
- MAINTENANCE
- DON'T PROVIDE HIDING SPACES
- CAN IT BE SOMETHING ELSE OTHER THAN A PARK?
- CONSIDER ACTIVITIES THAT ARE GOING ON ADJACENT TO PARK RIGHT NOW
- RIGHT NOW LOOKS LIKE VACANTS DUMP GRASS
- BENCHES TREES
- SWIMMING POOL
- DRUGS WILL BE PRESENT / TALK TO EACH OTHER

WHY ANOTHER PARK?

- WHAT INVESTMENTS WOULD COME FROM THIS PARK?
- WHERE ARE REC CENTERS? WHERE DO KIDS GO AFTER SCHOOL?
- LARGE PARK: YOUTH CENTER FOR BASKETBALL PING PONG MODULAR STRUCTURE?
- GATEWAY PARK - SEPARATE FROM CAB CALLOWAY PARK
- PLACE WHERE PEOPLE CAN GATHER & TALK



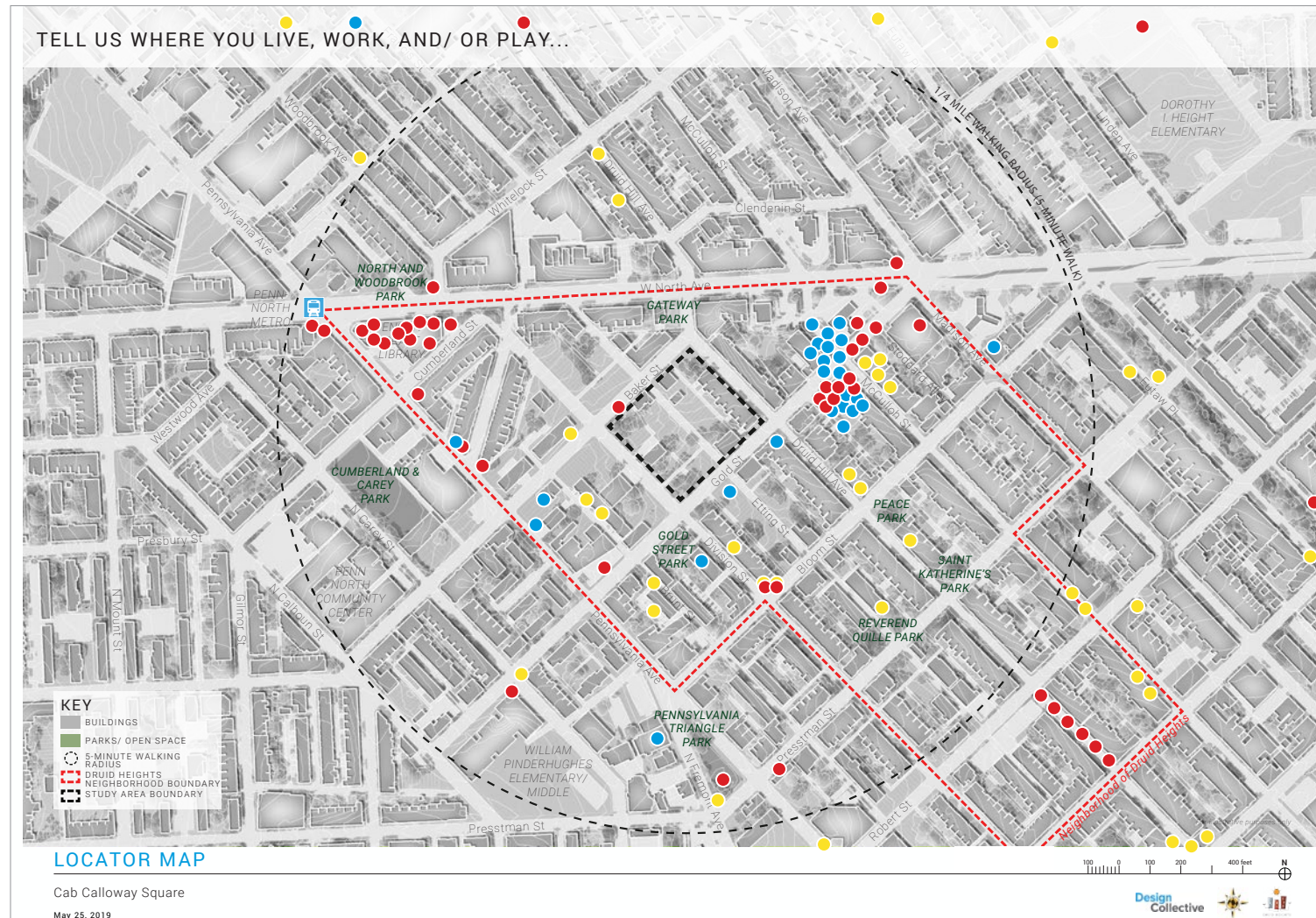
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

COMMUNITY WORKSHOP #2 MAY 2019

Comments from Community Workshop #2 are consolidated by the five break-out stations that were provided at the event. These include:

- » AMENITIES & ACTIVITIES
- » PARK & OPEN SPACE TYPES
- » PLANTING TYPES & STORMWATER
- » FURNITURE, FIXTURES & HARDSCAPE
- » KID'S STATION

Each station consisted of precedent boards discussion, feedback, and comments. The images and design strategies that received the most positive feedback are tallied and highlighted on the following pages. The input will be evaluated by the design team to help influence and generate two concept plans for Cab Calloway Square that will be reviewed by the community in July 2019.



LOCATOR MAP (LEFT) AND PHOTOS OF THE BREAK OUT STATIONS (BELOW)

Public Workshop #2 consisted of an outdoor event hosted on-site by the design team to engage the Druid Heights community and surrounding neighborhoods. Attendees had the opportunity to visit five break-out stations focused on Amenities & Activities; Park & Open Space Types; Planting Types & Stormwater; Furniture, Fixtures & Hardscape; and Kids Play. Residents and visitors were encouraged to lend their input through various interactive exercises regarding precedents, design strategies, and visions for Cab Calloway Square.



LOCATOR MAP DOCUMENTING PARTICIPANTS' CONNECTION TO THE PARK SITE

CAB CALLOWAY SQUARE | COMMUNITY WORKSHOP #2

WELCOME!!!
Today's Community Workshop is being hosted by the Baltimore City Planning Department, the Druid Heights CDC, and Design Collective to listen and learn from the community. This is a day for you to share your thoughts about the design of Cab Calloway Square and hear your neighbors through a collaborative planning process. We encourage you to visit each station, meet the design team, review precedents, ask questions, and provide your feedback to shape the ultimate vision for this future park.

1 SIGN-IN
Please provide us your name, organization, and a way to contact you for updates and upcoming events.

2 SURVEY
Grab a survey, fill it out, and return it to one of our volunteers. If you'd rather complete it online, you can do so through Survey Monkey at: www.surveymonkey.com/r/GC97SDT. Please provide us your feedback by June 10, 2019.

3 PASSPORT
All adults, please grab a passport! Visit all 4 Stations and provide your thoughts and opinions. Make sure a volunteer at each station punches your passport. You must have a completed passport to pick up your food and drink!

MAP + IMPORTANT LOCATIONS
The map below shows the location of the 4 Stations, Kid's Area, Food & Drink, Music, Raffle, and Restrooms.

EVENT SUMMARY

12:45-1 PM	ON-SITE SIGN-IN
1-1:30 PM	CDC ANNOUNCEMENTS + INTRODUCTIONS
1:30-3 PM	BREAK OUT STATIONS + OUTDOOR EVENT

STAY IN TOUCH!
For more updates and further information, please visit:
www.druidheights.com and www.facebook.com/DruidHeightsCommunityDevelopmentCorporation

Cab Calloway Square
May 25, 2019

HISTORY OF CABELL "CAB" CALLOWAY III IN WEST BALTIMORE

A notable singer, dancer, actor and popular entertainer from 1923 until his death in 1994, Cabell "Cab" Calloway III was born in Rochester, New York, in 1907. At the age of 6, Cab and his family moved to 1817 Druid Hill Avenue, where they lived with his father's parents. Shortly after Cab's father's death in 1913, they moved to live with his mother's parents a short distance away. His mother remarried and by 1920, their blended family moved to the Wilson Park neighborhood, where Cab first took voice lessons. In 1924, the Calloway/ Fortune family moved to 1306 Madison Avenue. Cab's sister, Blanche, left home in 1920 to join the first of a series of cabaret troupes, where she became one of the top entertainers in the 1920's, 1930's and 1940's. Cab went to college in Chicago where he joined his sister's band and began his own international musical career.

Having been vacant for a long period of time, the house at 2316 Druid Hill Avenue (and the rest of the houses on this side of the block) cannot be easily rehabbed. These houses are scheduled for demolition in order to create a green space for the entire community. In an effort to preserve the history and honor the work of Cab Calloway, the Druid Heights CDC is working with the City of Baltimore to name the park in his honor and reuse or incorporate some of the building's materials into the park design.

HOW DO YOU SEE CAB'S LEGACY BEING HONORED HERE?

Cab Calloway Square
May 25, 2019



EVENT INFORMATION (ABOVE LEFT) AND HISTORY OF CABELL "CAB" CALLOWAY III (ABOVE RIGHT)

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

AMENITIES & ACTIVITIES

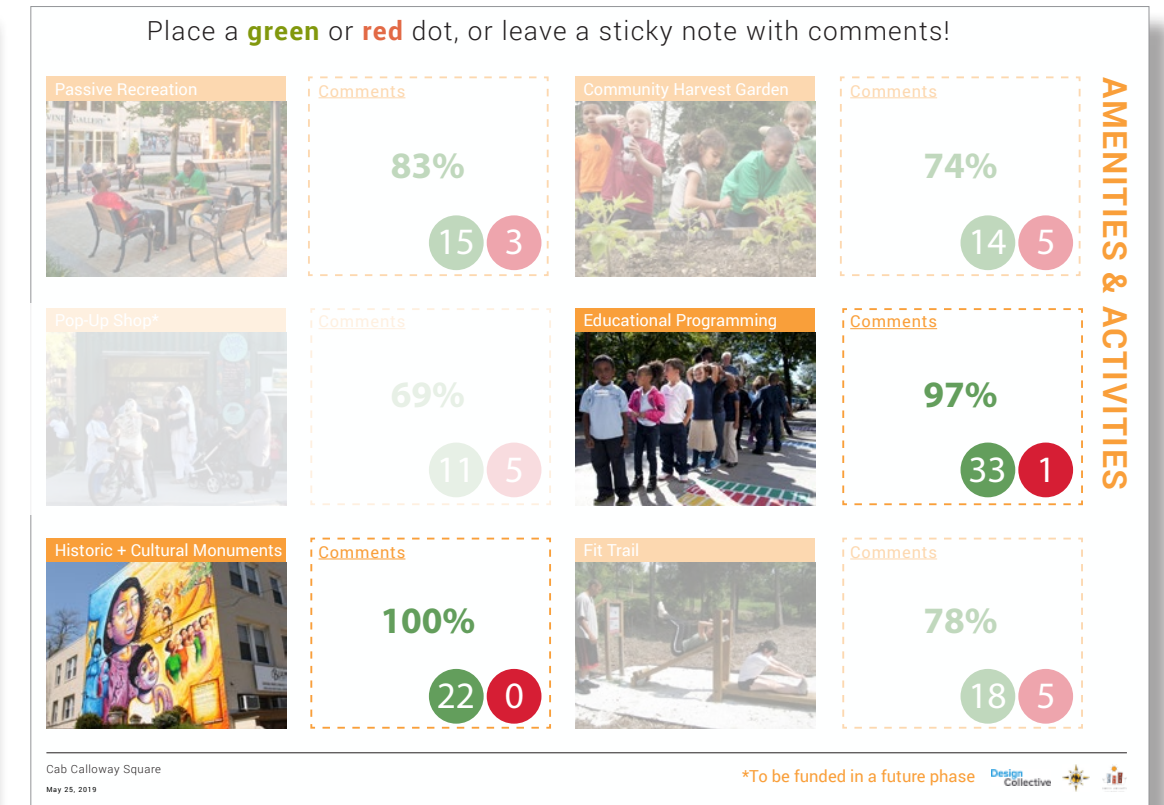
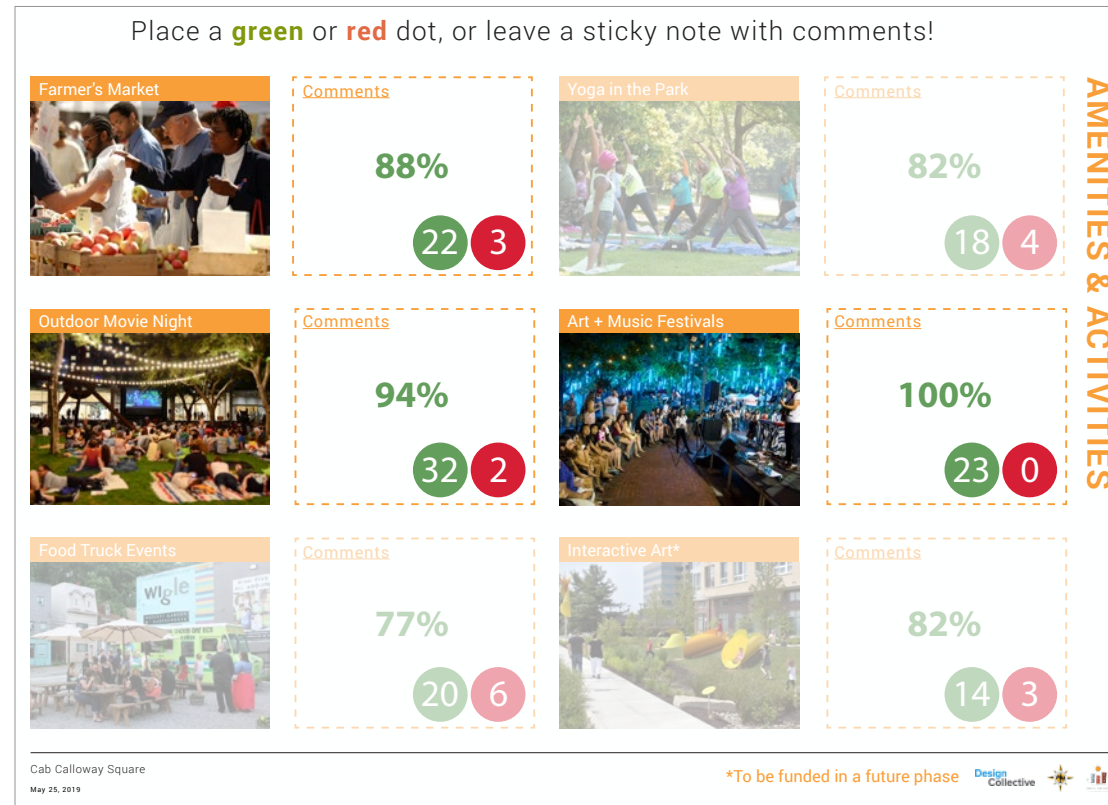
Specific comments included:

VISIONS

- » Opportunities for quiet reflection and passive recreation that encourages socialization
- » Activities that promote health and education for adults and children
- » Programmed events that bring the community together in a positive way
- » Wall of quotes
- » Mural of Cab and Blanche Calloway
- » Establish a maintenance strategy

CONCERNS

- » Consider time of day for all events
- » Permanent structures may attract the wrong activities and require upkeep/ maintenance
- » Community garden infestation and abuse
- » Events that promote alcohol and drug use



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

PARK & OPEN SPACE TYPES

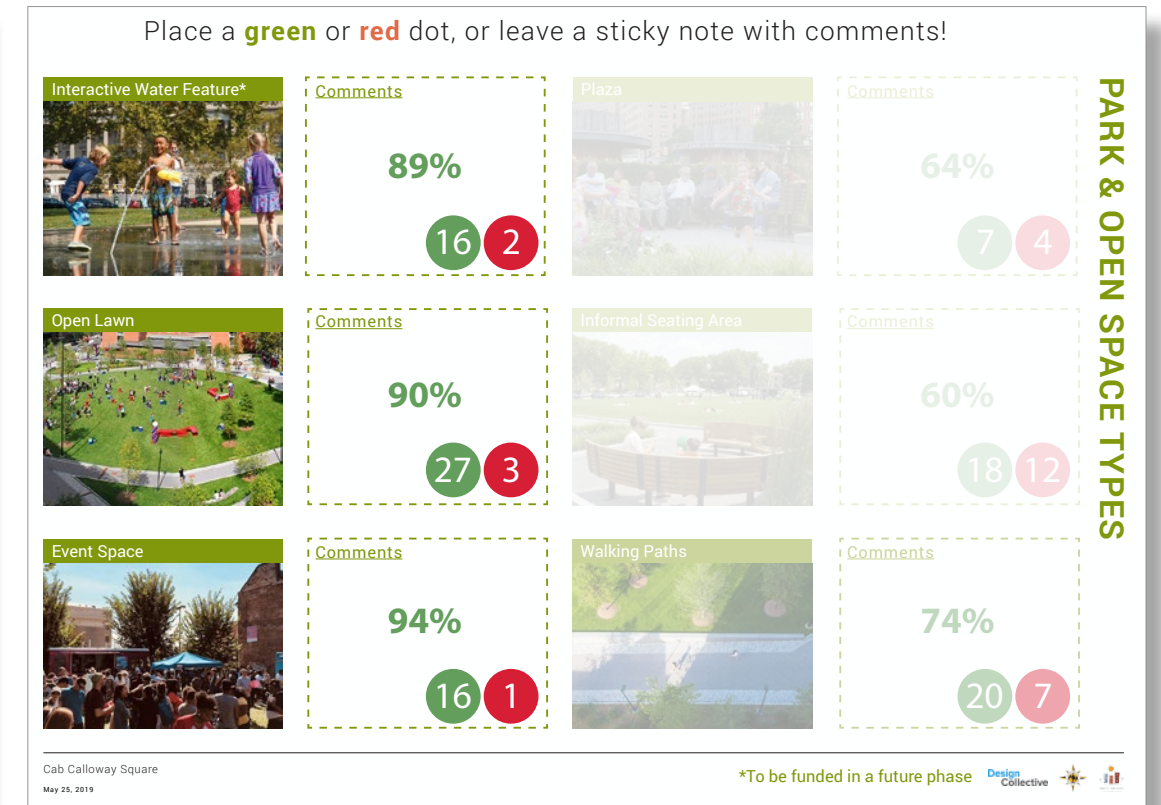
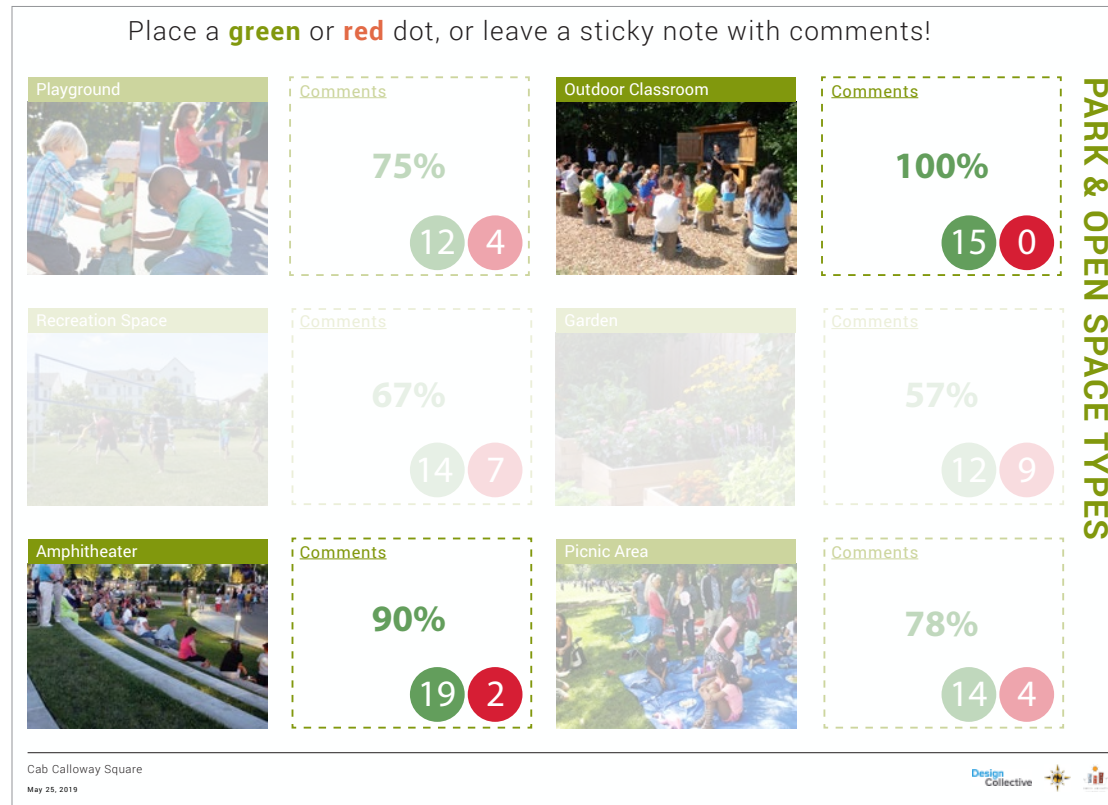
Specific comments included:

VISIONS

- » Event spaces that allow for festivals centered around music, food, health, religion, etc.
- » Organized spaces that bring the community together
- » Moveable outdoor classrooms
- » Checker tables
- » Water features for children

CONCERNS

- » Seating will promote illegal activities
- » Too many playgrounds in proximity



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

PLANTING TYPES & STORMWATER

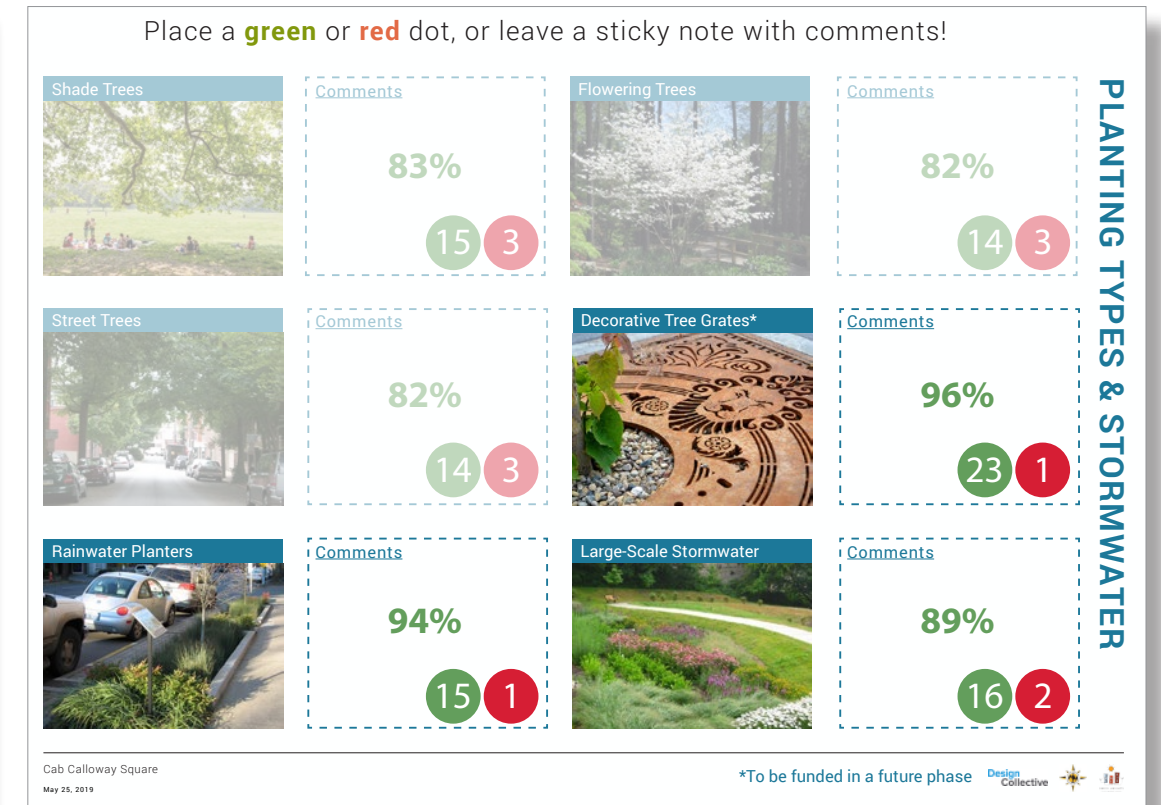
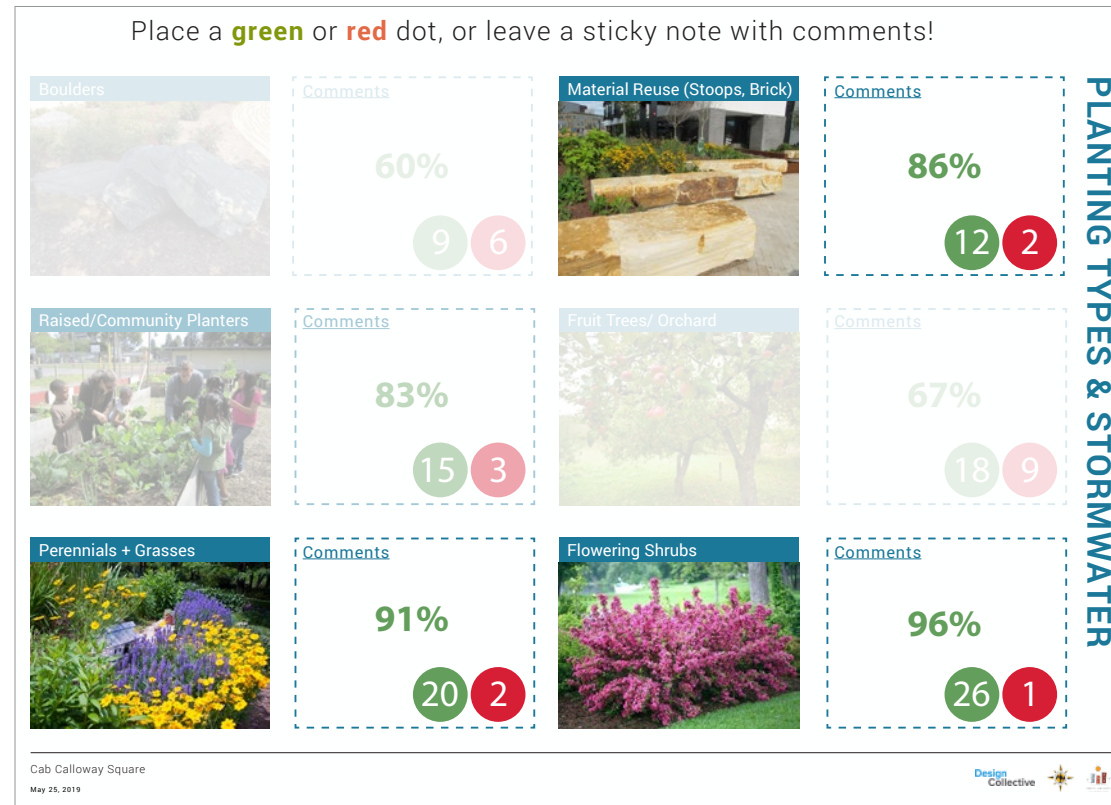
Specific comments included:

VISIONS

- » Wide range of flowering trees in a variety of colors
- » More compelling streetscape and street trees
- » Thoughtfully placed shade trees to help keep cool in summer

CONCERNS

- » Seating and shade elements can promote loitering and wrong type of congregation
- » Consider maintenance and management of planting elements



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

FURNITURE, FIXTURES & HARDSCAPE

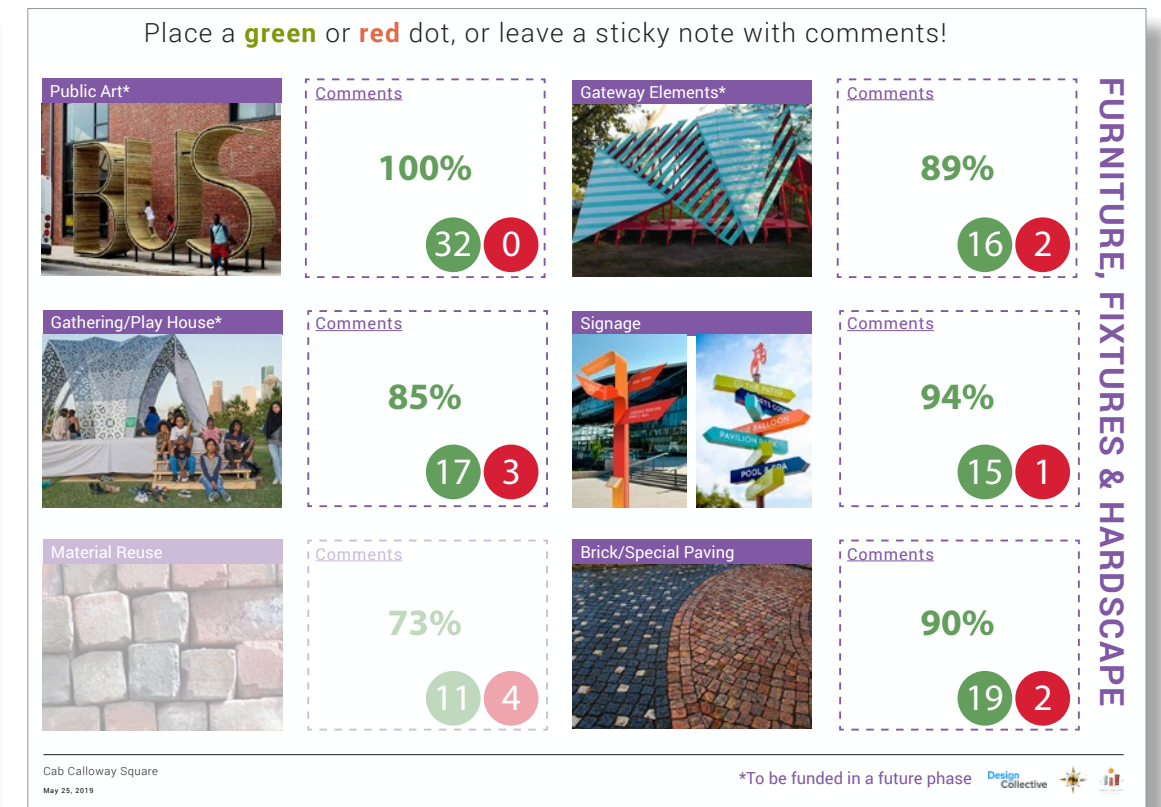
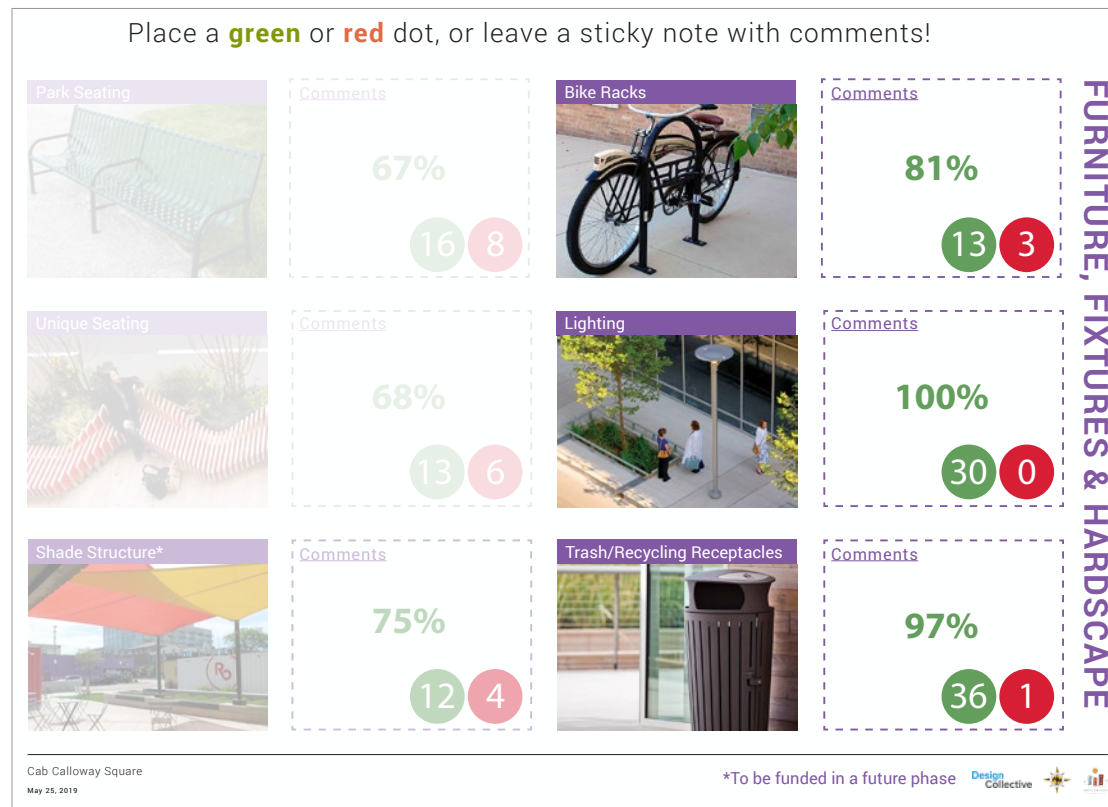
Specific comments included:

VISIONS

- » Lighting that promotes safety and walkability
- » Gathering/ shade structures placed within close proximity to playground equipment
- » Brick and special paving to create unique and interesting patterns
- » Consider historical or interpretive signage
- » Establish a maintenance plan for trash collection

CONCERNS

- » Hardscape materials that can become loose and thrown
- » Seating can attract undesirable activities, like drug activity



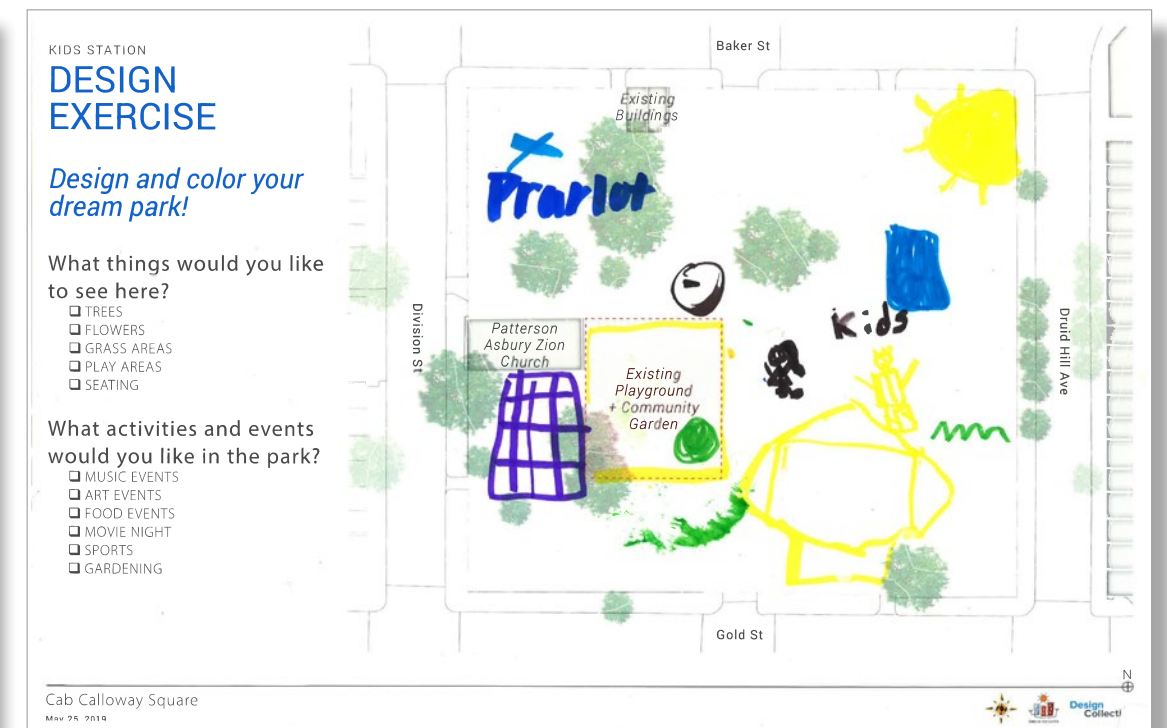
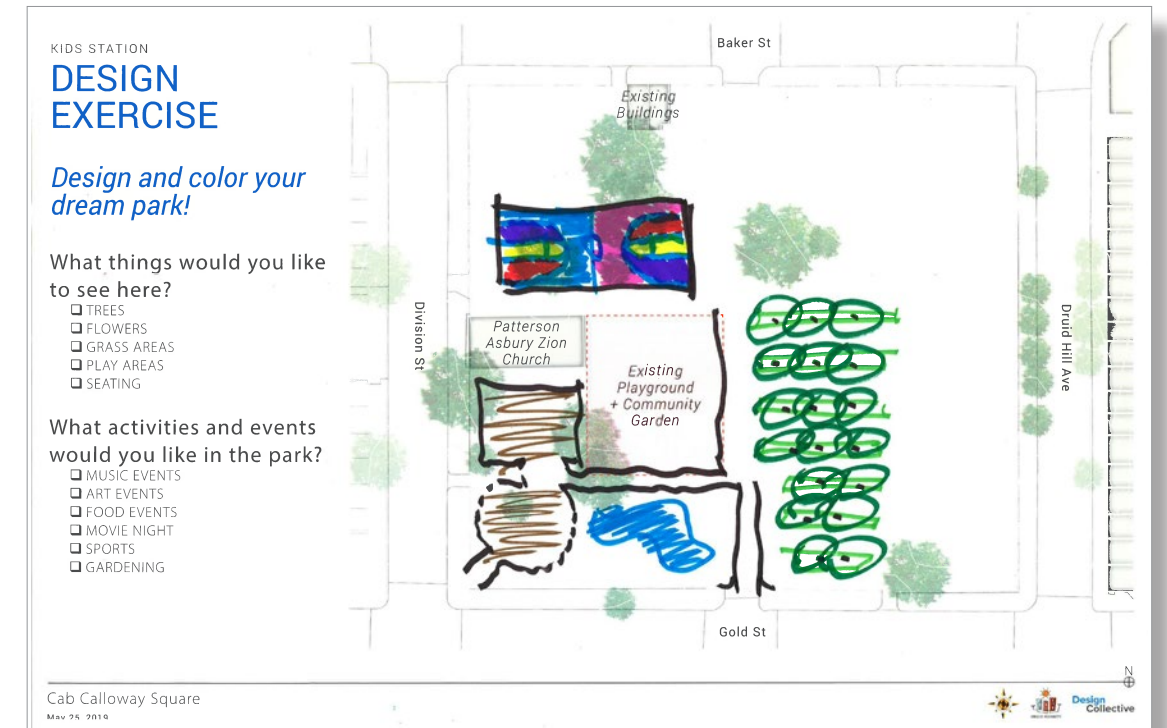
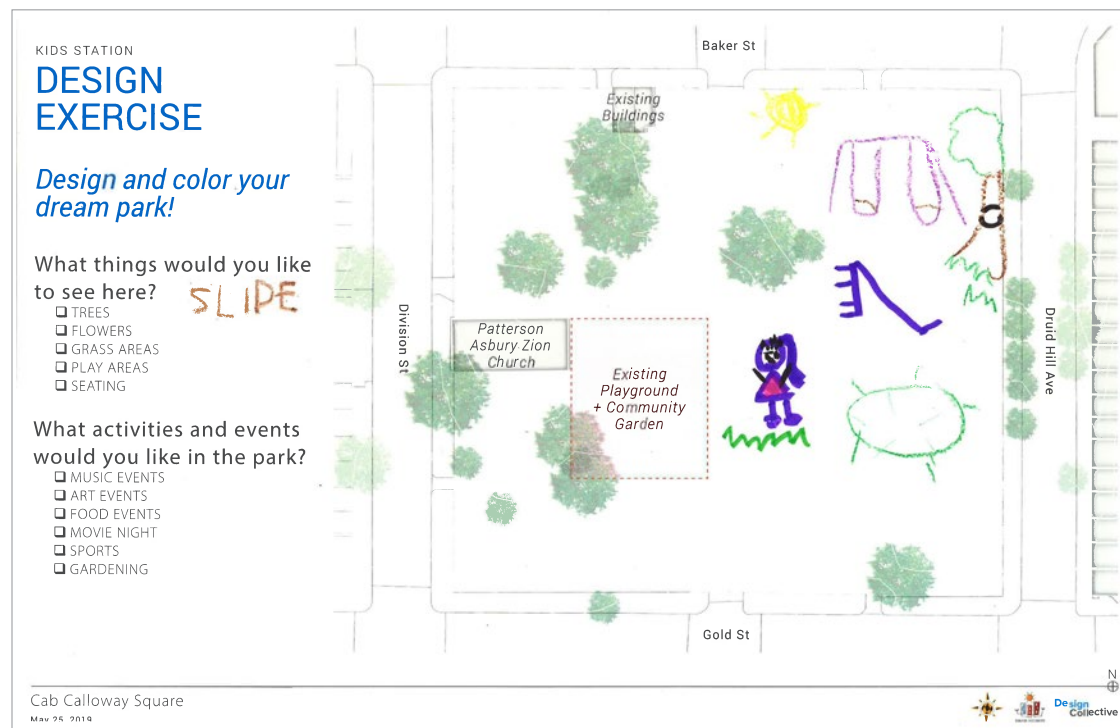
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

KIDS STATION

A kid's table with activities - including drawing and modeling exercises - helped participants begin to envision how the park may be used, as well as create energy and activity around the future park space.

VISIONS

- » Trees and flowers
- » Play Areas; Slide
- » Music Events
- » Food Events; Grill/ BBQ
- » Sports
- » Gardening

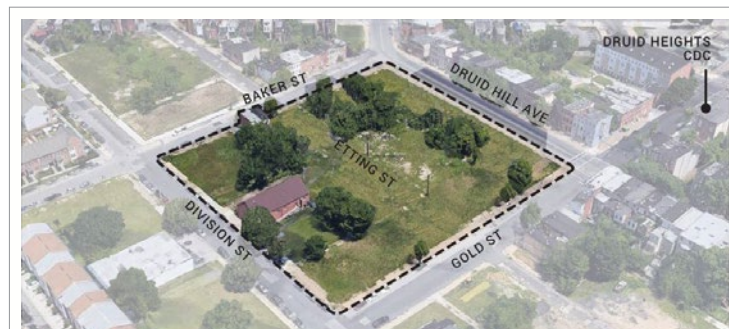


COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

SURVEY MAY-JUNE 2019

A written survey was used to expand community engagement efforts. This 10-question survey was available from May 10th to June 10th 2019, both online (SurveyMonkey) and in print at the DHCDC and Community Meetings #1 and #2. The digital SurveyMonkey link was advertised by DHCDC and posted on social media as well.

While not every individual comment is documented in this summary, comments from the 50 survey responses are consolidated on the following pages.



Cab Calloway Square — Design Survey

A new park is coming to the Druid Heights community!

As part of the Baltimore Green Network Vision for the City, the Department of Planning has identified the block bounded by Baker Street, Druid Hill Avenue, Gold Street, and Division Street as a future **3-acre park space** for the neighborhood. (For more information on the site, please visit www.druidheights.com.)

Community feedback is critically important for the park's design. As a member of the Druid Heights community, **we need to know what you think, and what you'd like to see here!**

Please take a few minutes to answer the following survey questions. **The deadline to respond is June 10, 2019.**

OK

1. What is your connection to the Druid Heights Community?

I live here

I work here

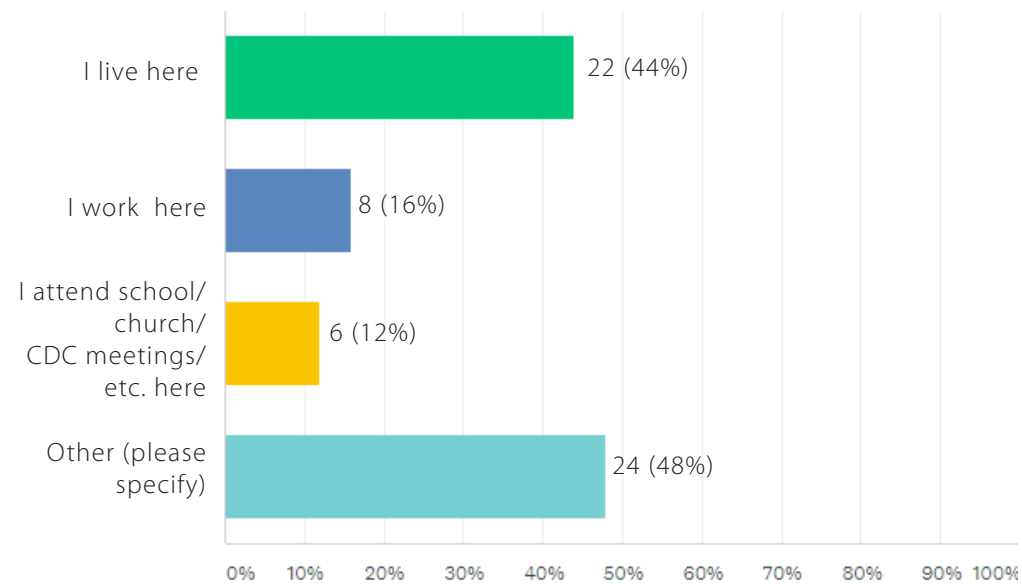
I attend school/church/CDC meetings etc. here

Other (please specify)

0 of 10 answered

1. WHAT IS YOUR CONNECTION TO THE DRUID HEIGHTS COMMUNITY?

(50 responses)



Other (please specify) responses:

- » 8 respondents live elsewhere in Baltimore
- » 3 respondents once lived or worked in Druid Heights
- » 3 respondents have friends/family nearby
- » 2 respondents volunteer nearby
- » 2 respondents visit nearby
- » 2 respondents are historic preservationists
- » 1 respondent is a designer
- » 1 respondent is an investor in the area
- » 1 respondent is from Germany

2. WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT DRUID HEIGHTS THAT CAN BE CELEBRATED IN THIS SPACE?

(47 responses)

"I love the stories of how Cab's gang, including Thurgood Marshall, Teakle Lansey, Willie Adams and many others, hung out on Druid Hill and North avenue, and sometimes got into trouble ... All of these unrecognized icons could be celebrated in this park."

"It needs to be celebrated as the heart of the West Side Black community."

"Beautiful architecture, even if deteriorated. Teaming with history; Cab Calloway house and other places celebrating African American cultural history."

Common Themes:

- » History, specifically African American history and culture (15 responses)
- » Historic homes and architecture (13 responses)
- » The people - family/neighborhood feel, sense of community (10 responses)
- » Cab Calloway's life and legacy, and Jazz History at large (7 responses)
- » Local neighborhood and Baltimore City culture and history (5 responses)
- » A desire to preserve historic homes and to not tear down the Cab Calloway home (4 responses)
- » Proximity to downtown (2 responses)
- » Potential for green space (2 responses)
- » Affordable housing, murals, and dirt bikes (1 response each)

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

3. WHAT HISTORY SHOULD WE HONOR?

(49 responses)

"We need to tell the stories about early prominent members of Old West Baltimore and their contributions to the development of Black West Baltimore such names as Reverend Harvey Johnson, Harry Cummings, Robert Coleman, Raymond Coastes, Thomas Smith, Harry Brown. To highlight Marcus Garvey, Billie Holiday, and the Arch Social Club's early connections to Baltimore and the Pennsylvania Avenue Corridor. To play a role in preserving the history of our cultural artists and entertainers who performed at the many Club's and Theatre on Pennsylvania Avenue."

"Please stop tearing down monuments that could bring a much needed economic boon to the community."

Common Themes:

- » Cab Calloway, his house, and/or Jazz and Music cultural history (18 responses)
- » African American history and Black Excellence (13 responses)
- » All history in the area (6 responses)
- » History of the community and local residents (5 responses)
- » Don't tear down historic structures (4 responses)
- » Historic homes and architectures (4 responses)
- » Civil Rights and Activism in West Baltimore (4 responses)
- » The recent uprising / unity of black people in a troubling time (2 responses)
- » Growth and progress (1 response)
- » Martin Luther King, Jr. (1 response)
- » The local community marching band (1 response)

4. WHAT COULD BE IMPROVED ABOUT DRUID HEIGHTS? WHAT NEIGHBORHOOD CHALLENGES SHOULD WE TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION AS WE DESIGN THE PARK?

(48 responses)

"Any viable Park needs to be surrounded by active uses and eyes on the park. A badly maintained or supervised park becomes a liability."

"A Park is fine but not to detriment of the neighborhood history which should include preservation of homes in the area."

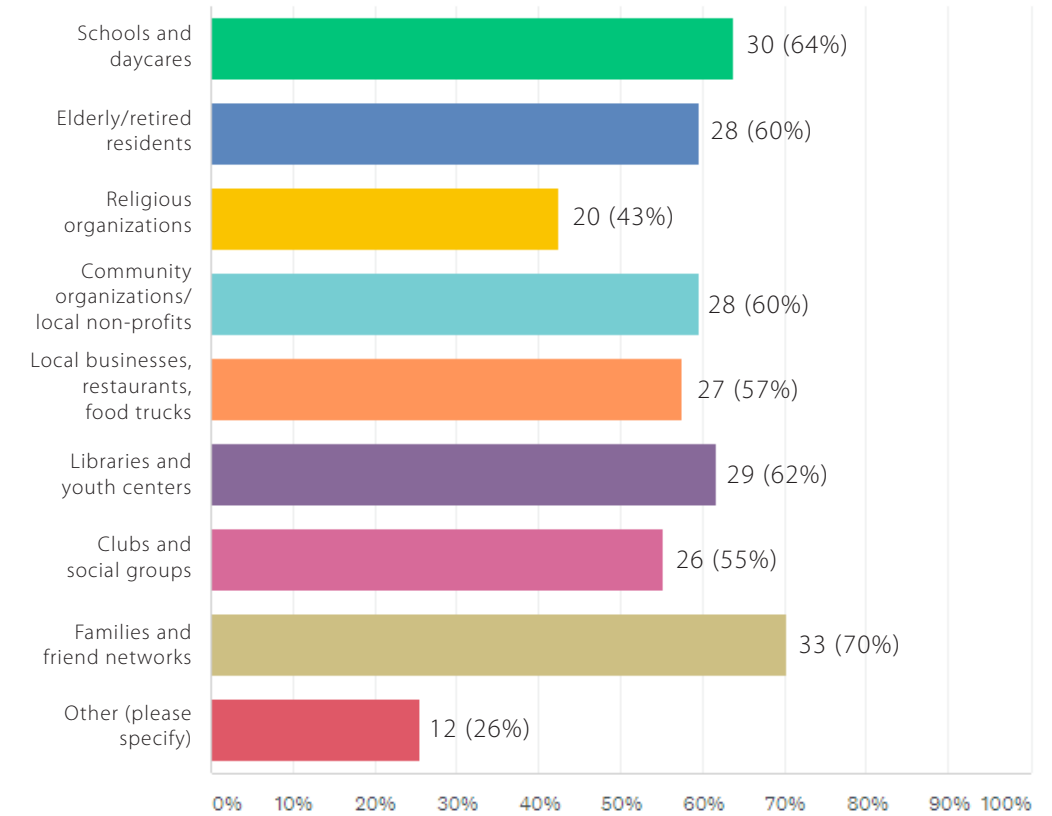
"Persistent vacant and boarded housing, lack of quality housing in renovated historic homes, persistent trash, not enough residents to support lively amenities, lack of landlords acting in good faith, lack of good local jobs that build wealth and prosperity over time."

Common Themes:

- » Preserve homes and do not tear down historic structures (8 responses)
- » Deal with drug activity (8 responses)
- » Better housing, investment, and more residents (7 responses)
- » Eyes on the street, safety, security (7 responses)
- » Cleanliness and trash (6 responses)
- » More activities for kids and youth (6 responses)
- » Better economic opportunity, jobs, and businesses (6 responses)
- » Reduce vacancy and blight (5 responses)
- » More places for community and getting people together (4 responses)
- » Cab Calloway Museum (2 responses)
- » Stronger institutions (2 responses)
- » Leave it how it is (2 responses)
- » Change everything (2 responses)
- » More trees (1 response)
- » Preserve and celebrate history (1 response)
- » Connect to other neighborhoods (1 response)

5. WHAT GROUPS DO YOU THINK COULD BENEFIT FROM DEDICATED OUTDOOR SPACE AT CAB CALLOWAY SQUARE?

(47 responses)



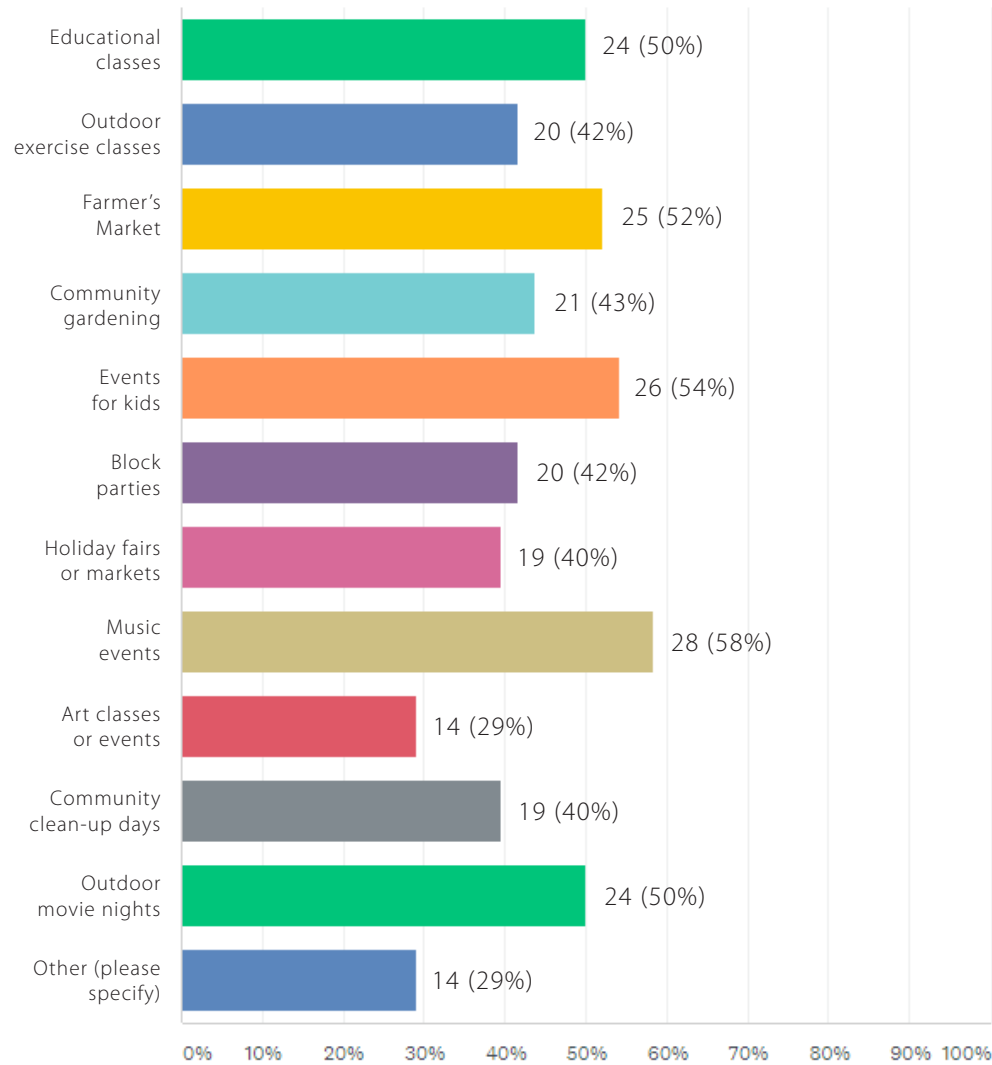
Other (please specify) responses:

- » 3 respondents said the park could benefit everyone
- » 3 respondents said the park would benefit none of these groups
- » 2 respondents said they couldn't answer the question
- » 1 respondent said the park could benefit job fairs
- » 1 respondent said the park could benefit birds and animals
- » 1 respondent said the park could benefit a National Park Heritage Trail and Tours
- » 1 respondent said the park could benefit Cab Calloway's interests, like food, economics, and joy in life

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

6. WHAT EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE AT CAB CALLOWAY SQUARE? PLEASE PICK YOUR TOP 5.

(48 responses)



6. CONTINUED

Other (please specify) responses:

- » 2 respondents said to let the community decide about events and activities
- » 2 respondents suggested senior citizen events
- » 2 respondents wanted to see the preservation of historic homes on and near the site
- » 2 respondents suggested murals or signage honoring Cab Calloway and other Jazz Era musicians
- » 1 respondent suggested Jazz Era outdoor movie nights
- » 1 respondent suggested nature walks
- » 1 respondent suggested kids activities
- » 1 respondent suggested Tai Chi
- » 1 respondent said that they use Druid Hill Park
- » 1 respondent said anything is fine as long as everyone has a place to live
- » 1 respondent suggested no activities
- » 1 respondent said don't build the park

7. DESCRIBE A PARK THAT YOU LIKE. WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT IT AND HOW DOES IT MAKE YOU FEEL? IS THERE ANYTHING FROM THAT PARK WE COULD INCLUDE AT CAB CALLOWAY SQUARE?

(37 responses)

"A great park has space that is multi-functional (not designated for single use). It has amenities that help maintain it and welcome users of the park."

"Druid Hill Park. It's relaxing."

"Look at the history and design of the similarly scaled green squares in West Baltimore."

"Sumter Park in Bolton Hill, it isn't overly complicated and is used by folks to play soccer, playground, bocce, great "backyard" for the homes that back up to the park."

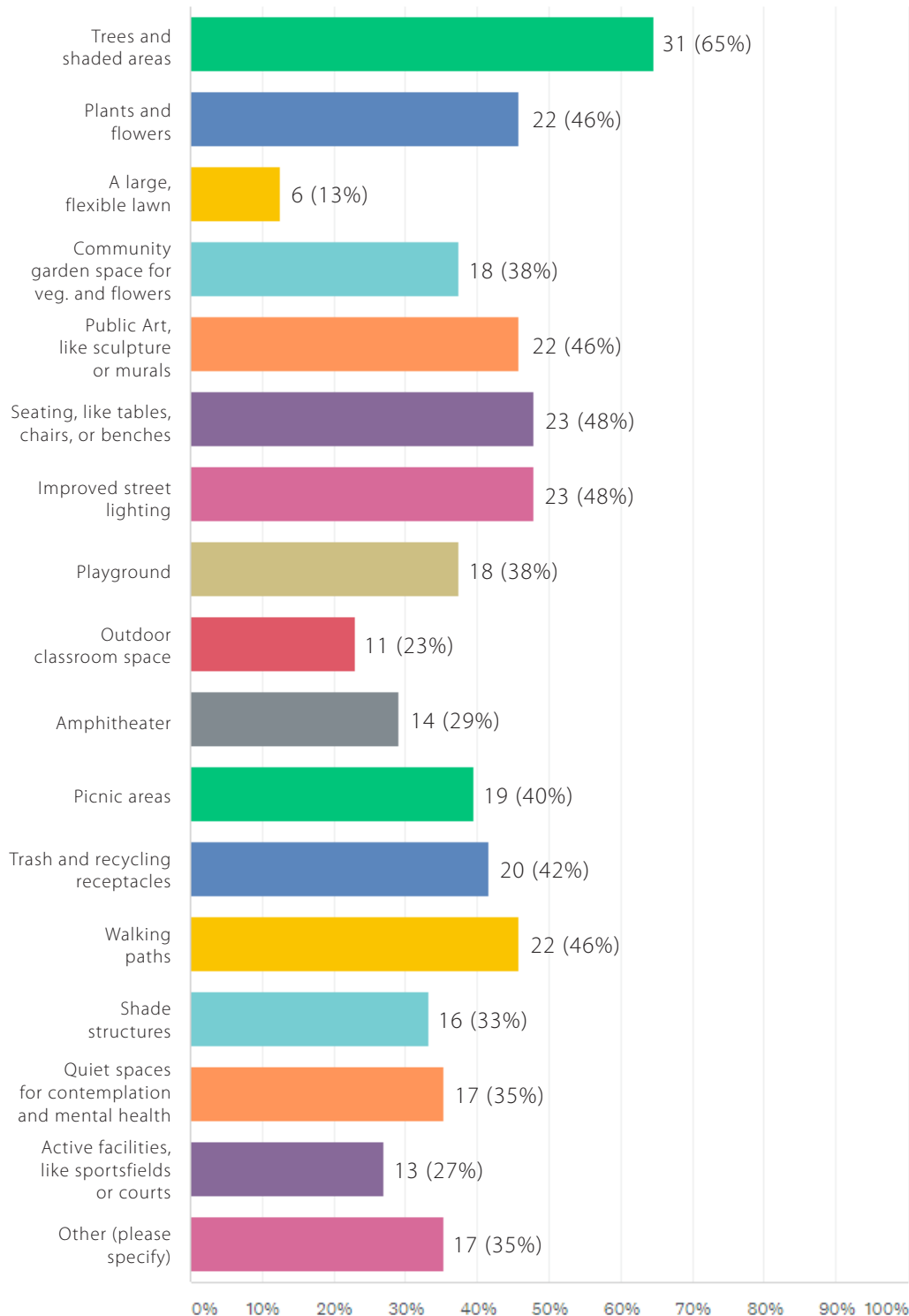
Common Themes:

- » Keep the Cab Calloway house and other historic homes on Druid Hill Ave (8 responses)
- » Druid Hill Park: relaxing, large-scale, historic, beautiful natural area (5 responses)
- » Space for markets, events, or gatherings (3 responses)
- » Water or ponds (3 responses)
- » Consider maintenance/safety (3 responses)
- » Statues/mural/arts (2 responses)
- » Patterson Park: gazebo, water, "Friends of" community organization (2 responses)
- » Eager Park (2 responses)
- » Sumter Park: simple, backyard feel for the community (1 response)
- » Colburn Park: weddings, events, classes, plant nursery (1 response)
- » Herring Run: discgolf (1 response)
- » Henry Highland Garnet Park: well maintained and policed (1 response)
- » East 33rd YMCA: playground, and gates that lock at night (1 response)

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

8. WHAT ELEMENTS WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO SEE AT CAB CALLOWAY SQUARE? PLEASE PICK YOUR TOP 10.

(48 responses)



8. CONTINUED

Other (please specify) responses:

- » 4 respondents proposed keeping Cab Calloway's former home at 2200 Druid Heights Avenue
- » 2 respondents suggested a Cab Calloway Museum
- » 2 respondents proposed keeping or rehabbing the existing homes on the even side of Druid Heights Avenue
- » 1 respondent suggested flex space for outdoor events
- » 1 respondent suggested a fountain
- » 1 respondent suggested a nursery
- » 1 respondent suggested space for food trucks
- » 1 respondent suggested a community composting space
- » 1 respondent suggested space for musicians
- » 1 respondent suggested cameras
- » 1 respondent suggested no elements
- » 1 respondent replied that this park would only be used by drug dealers

9. WHAT IS YOUR VISION FOR CAB CALLOWAY SQUARE? WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE HERE?

(45 responses)

"Especially I would like to see that Cab Calloway be a musical place where people enjoy gathering together to have a bite to eat and talk to each other. I would love a schedule of activities so that I could plan to bring my granddaughter."

"No drugs in area, kids playing, having fun without violence."

"A vital urban Square in the tradition of Baltimore's and Savannah's squares."

"Cab Calloway's house preserved."

Common Themes:

- » Keep the Cab Calloway home as a museum, center, or other park asset (7 responses)
- » Prevent drug-selling (6 responses)
- » Markets, events, activities, concerts (6 responses)
- » Keep and renovate the existing homes (6 responses)
- » Simple and beautiful open green space for the community to relax in together (5 responses)
- » Inclusive community gathering space (4 responses)
- » Musical activities or music center (4 responses)
- » Well-maintained, safe, and supervised (4 responses)
- » Murals, art, statues (3 responses)
- » Kids and youth activities or youth center (3 responses)
- » Historical homages (2 responses)
- » Resources for the community (2 responses)
- » A community-informed design (2 responses)
- » Playspaces (2 responses)

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

10. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

(23 responses)

"Any ideas for improving the area and preserving the memory of this historic figure will be great."

"I would love for this to turn into a destination spot for people visiting Baltimore. Show the great contribution that Baltimore has given to the art of Jazz."

"Green spaces are wonderful, but this city suffers from the loss of too many historic buildings that provide context and meaning. Please consider a cultural center for youth and a museum instead."

Common Themes:

- » Don't demolish the historic homes on Druid Hill Avenue (8 responses)
- » Don't demolish the Cab Calloway home (5 responses)
- » Let's get the process started and do what we can to support the new park (4 responses)
- » Keep the Cab Calloway home and incorporate it into the park as a museum, cultural center, or park office (2 responses)
- » Use the park as an opportunity to celebrate and commemorate Druid Heights' history (2 responses)
- » Please go back to the drawing board (1 response)
- » Anyone who can't follow the park rules should be prohibited (1 response)

PLEASE NOTE:

THIS SUMMARY CURRENTLY INCLUDES INFORMATION FROM COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS 1 & 2, AND THE SURVEY, COVERING EFFORTS FROM APRIL - JUNE 2019.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT WILL CONTINUE THROUGHOUT THE CONCEPT DESIGN PROCESS, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2019, AND THIS DOCUMENT WILL BE UPDATED WITH THAT INFORMATION.