



**DONALD R. GREBIEN  
MAYOR**



March 31, 2025

Director Terrence Gray  
Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management  
235 Promenade Street  
Providence, RI 0908

Dear Director Gray,

This letter and the accompanying public survey report serve as a follow-up to the National Park Service (NPS) letter and subsequent request in August for additional community feedback regarding the Morley Field revitalization project.

In response, the City of Pawtucket engaged Statecraft Strategies to conduct a survey aimed at gauging residents' sentiments about the redevelopment of Morley Field. The attached report summarizes the results that reflect strong community support for the proposed redevelopment.

Key insights from the survey indicate that 72% of respondents expressed excitement about the project, 86% anticipated frequent use, and an overwhelming 93% stated they would visit the space weekly. These results reinforce the necessity and enthusiasm for the revitalization efforts.

We believe that this comprehensive outreach and positive public response, together with our prior significant public engagement, sufficiently addresses the request for community input. We would like to finalize the NPS process immediately and move forward with the revitalization project. After you have had a chance to review the survey, please confirm this and advise as to the next steps.

As always, please do not hesitate to reach out if you require any additional information.

Sincerely,

Donald R. Grebien  
Mayor  
City of Pawtucket

Cc:  
National Parks Service  
Honorable Pawtucket City Council



82 Church Street Bristol, RI 02809

## Prepared For: City of Pawtucket

March 21, 2025

Statecraft Strategies is pleased to present this survey report to the City of Pawtucket, aimed at providing valuable insights into residents' sentiments regarding the Morley Field Project. Morley Field's closure, prompted by environmental contamination, has spurred the city to propose a comprehensive plan involving site investigation, cleanup efforts, development opportunities, and enhancements to local recreational facilities. Furthermore, the City of Pawtucket's recent acquisition of land at Riverside Cemetery for redevelopment as recreational space underscores its commitment to community well-being.

Collaborating closely with the city, Statecraft Strategies conducted a thorough assessment to gauge the sentiments of residents directly affected by the project. This report serves as a tool for the city to better understand and address the concerns and preferences of its constituents, ultimately fostering informed decision-making and community engagement.

## Summary

A survey was conducted targeting 483 individuals, resulting in 14 respondents, equating to a 3% response rate. The survey focused on gathering feedback regarding the redevelopment project at Morely Field. Key findings revealed strong support for the project, with 72% expressing excitement, 86% indicating they would utilize the space frequently, and an impressive 93% stating they would use it on a weekly basis. The data collected clearly demonstrates overwhelming support for the project among the respondents.

## Survey Overview

We sent out the survey by mail inviting residents to take part in an online survey that focused on their sentiments regarding the Morley Field Project. The survey was crafted in partnership with members of Mayor Donald R. Grebien's Administration. In agreement with the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, we collectively determined that an online platform would be the most effective method for conducting the survey. After finalizing the questions, we utilized Survey Monkey to create a polished and professional survey.

**Target Audience:** The audience was selected based on their geographical location and proximity to the current Morely Field site and approved by the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management. It was crucial for both the city and stakeholders to gain insight into the perspectives of those who would be most affected by any proposed changes or enhancements to Morely Field.

The analysis of property owner data revealed that a majority of the properties in this area are owned by Limited Liability Companies (LLCs) or individuals residing out of state. It is presumed that these individuals are investors or landlords. In order to collect information from local residents, we utilized the active voter file to pinpoint the appropriate individuals. This effort yielded a total of 483 individuals and 353 distinct mailboxes. Given the nature of such lists, we anticipate that some information may be outdated. Therefore, we have included the phrase 'or current resident' on each label to minimize the likelihood of returned mail.

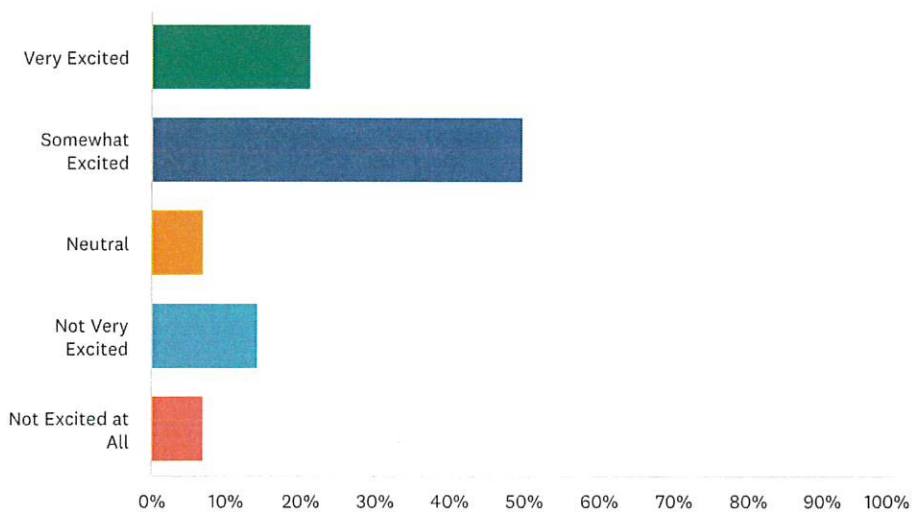


The letter was printed, folded, and inserted into envelopes. It was then sealed, stamped with a first-class stamp, and sent out through the US Post Office on Montgomery Street in Pawtucket on February 18, 2025. The deadline for completing the survey was set for March 14, 2025.

## Key Findings

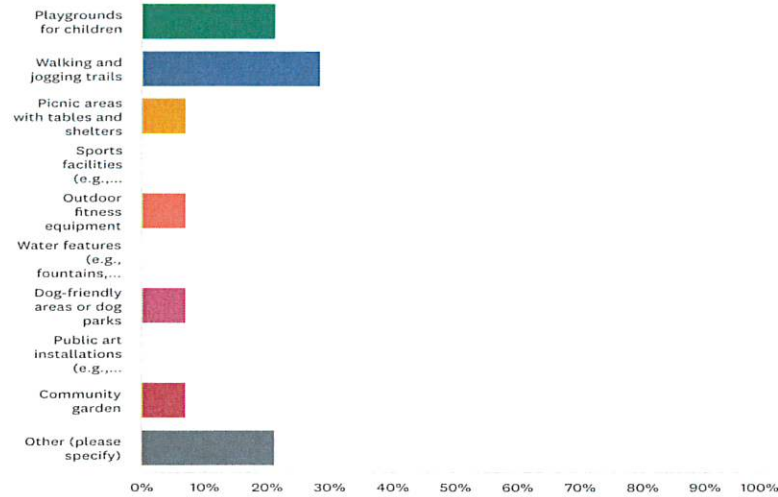
The responses were overwhelmingly in favor of redevelopment of Morely Field.

- 72% of respondents were excited/somewhat excited by the conceptual plan for the redevelopment of Morely Field.



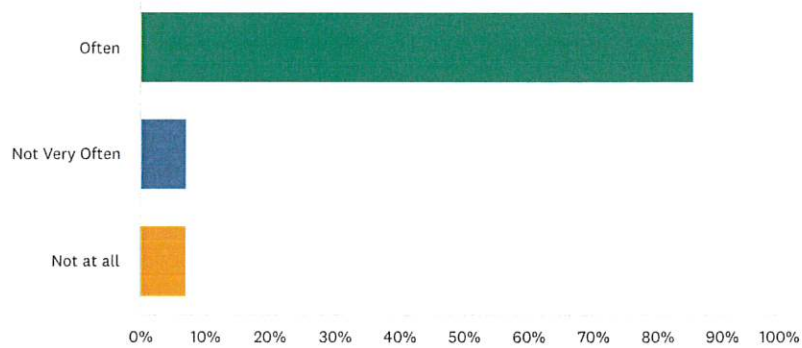
Most respondents used the field recreationally before the field was closed. Activities included organized sports, casual recreational activity, walking, and being in a green space.

- When asked what types or amenities or features residents would like to see added or improved upon the results varied:

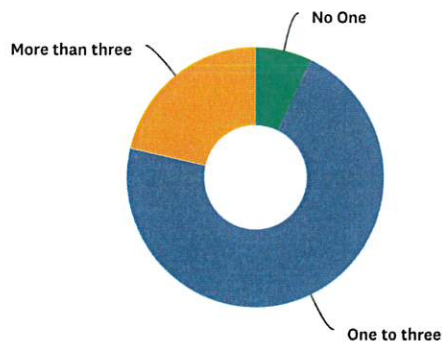


The respondents that chose 'other', wanted to select multiple options, and one asked for picnic tables and a water fountain.

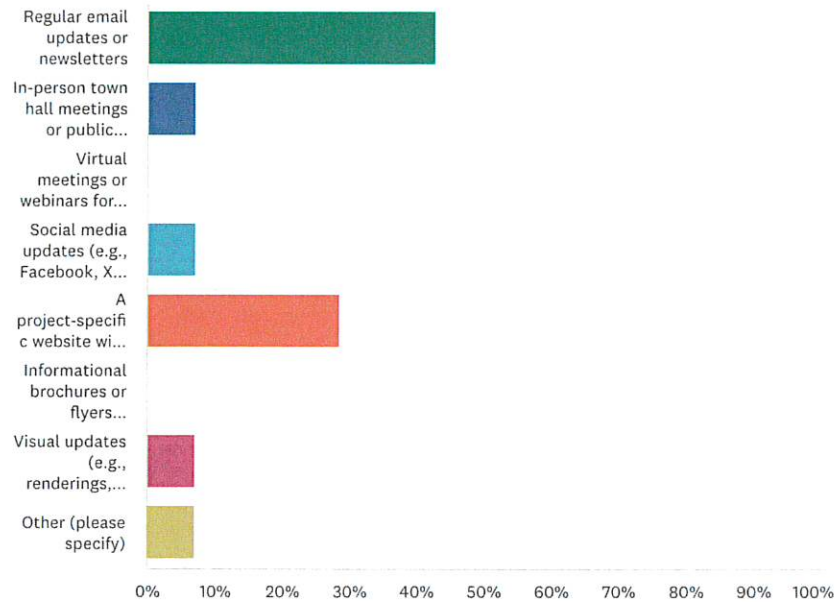
- 86% of respondents said that once the area was revitalized, they would anticipate using it often.



- 93%, an overwhelming majority, said they would likely use the park at least weekly.



We also asked how people wanted to receive information and updates about Morely Field redevelopment and other projects. A majority said: via email updates and newsletters and a project specific website.



## Conclusion

This survey, conducted in coordination with and sent to the recipients agreed upon with Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management was designed to have the most engagement with the park and the proposed revitalization project. The data gathered unequivocally indicates that residents are in favor of the proposed redevelopment of Morley Field.