

Northern Manhattan Parks

Master Plan:

PURPOSE OF THE PLAN

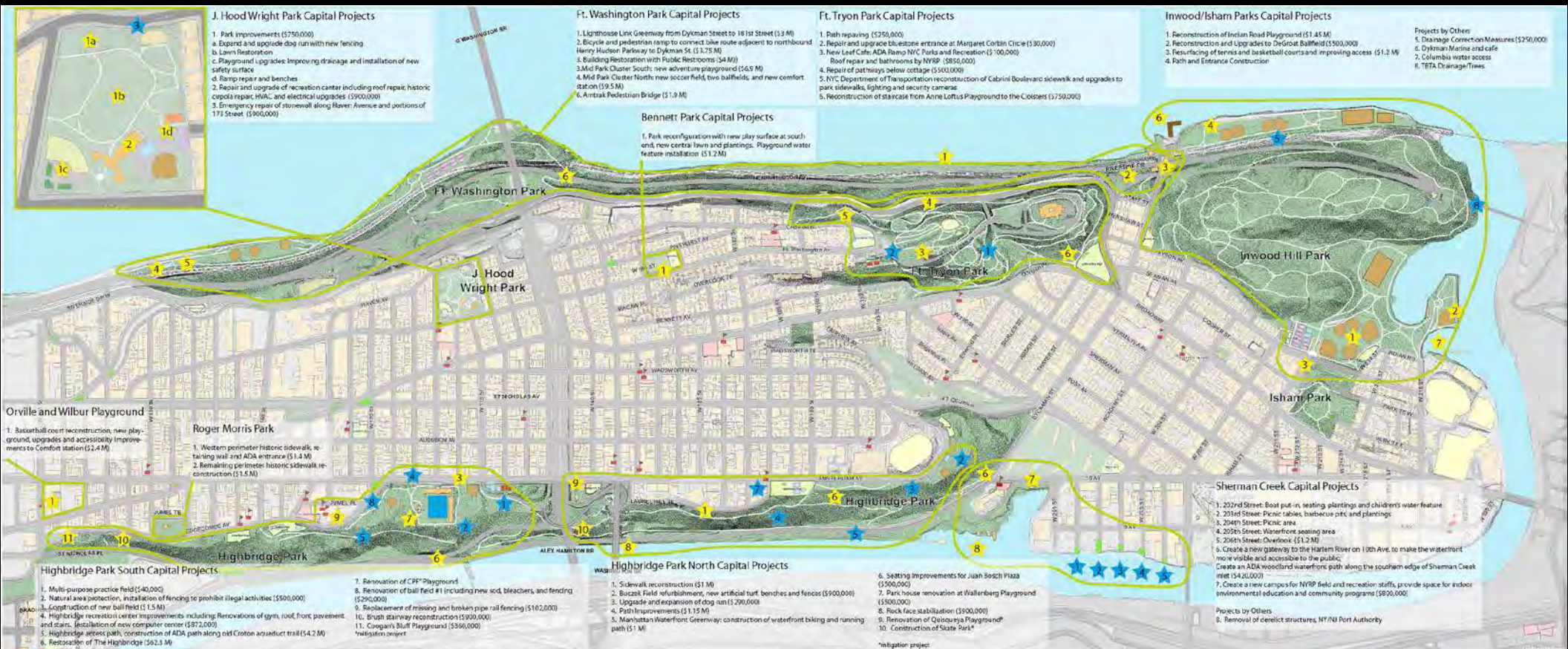
Make a plan that can be implemented over the next 20 years by coordinating the efforts of elected officials, NYC Parks, City agencies, community members and non-profit partners.



NYC Parks

Over \$150 million in capital projects have been recently completed or are underway

Identify and coordinate the next projects that will address community concerns and recreational needs as well as restore infrastructure and ecology.



Stitch the parks together as a system of ecological areas, scenic paths, bike routes, and river access points. Distribute recreational facilities needed by the whole community.

Neighborhood embraced by 5 major parks and 9 miles of shoreline

Ft. Washington

Ft. Tryon

Inwood Hill

Isham

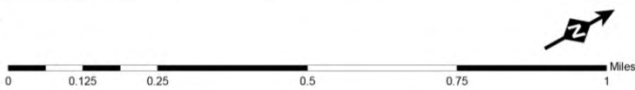
Highbridge

155th Street

Population 208,000 678 acres of parkland 3.2 acres per 1000 people

More than 20 groups are currently engaged in improving Northern Manhattan Parks

Advance the work of non-profit partners and volunteers.



Success of the Master Plan depends on:

1. Shared understanding of the park problems and community needs
2. Commitment to the proposed solutions, and to obtaining funding for them
3. Coordinated long-term effort between agencies, non-profit partners, community groups and elected officials to fund and implement projects



Northern Manhattan Parks

Master Plan: PLANNING GOALS



NYC Parks

Identify and address community concerns, waterfront design and access, pedestrian and bicycle circulation, recreational needs and preferences, as well as ecological and sustainability goals, community health and fitness, service and security problems.

Develop an in-depth understanding of community concerns, wishes and initiatives

Interview community members, non-profit groups and representatives of elected officials

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GreenTimes

Grown in Washington Heights, Inwood and the Bronx by the the Manhattan Times, the Bronx Free Press and their partners.



Your idea goes here...

by Laura Gabby

"We're talking to the local experts," said Adena Long, principal strategic planner at the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation. "We think it's better to engage people first."

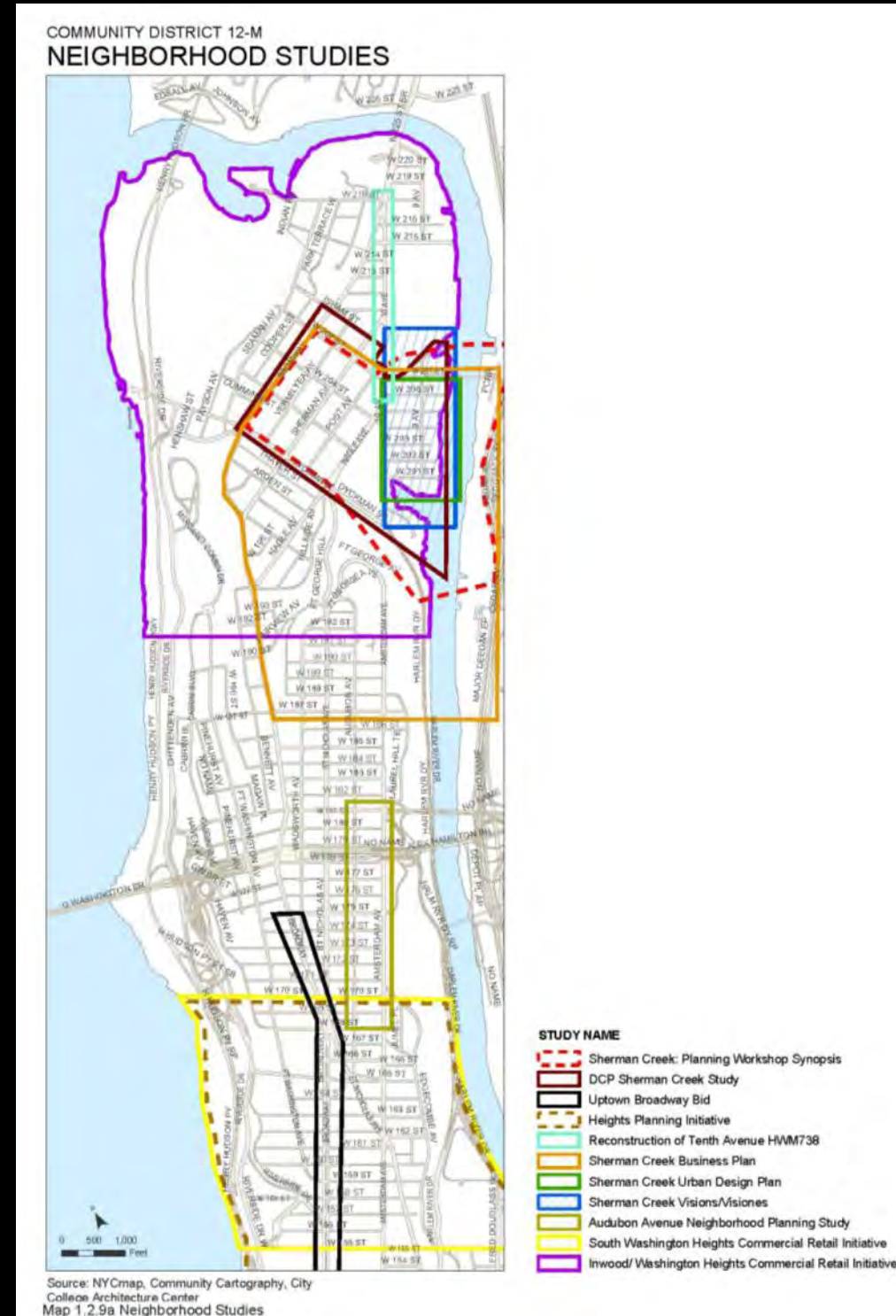
Long and Charles McKinney, principal urban designer at Parks, sat at a small table amidst an array of potted plants and flowers, on the roof of "the Arsenal" in Central Park, originally built to be a munitions depot for the national guard and later turned into the Parks Department's central offices.

Long and McKinney were discussing the

Build on the planning efforts of other agencies and groups

- Department of Transportation
- City Planning
- Department of Health
- New York Restoration Project
- Partnerships for Parks
- City College
- Parks Capital Projects
- Prior Parks Master Plans
- Natural Resources Group

Facilitate the formation of stewardship groups and partners who will assist with implementation



Make extensive use of internal experts:

- Partnerships for Parks
- Natural Resources Group
- Rangers
- Parks Inspection Program
- Operations division

Implement the
**21st Century Park
Design Guidelines**

Advance the goals of
PlaNYC

Advance the goals of the
**NYC Waterfront Plan
Vision 2020**

Incorporate the
**FIT City Active Design
Guidelines**

Northern Manhattan Parks

Master Plan: INFORMATION GATHERING

Learn what people know, what they are concerned about, what they are working on and what more they think can be done. Review existing studies, interview elected officials, leaders, Parks Department and external experts.



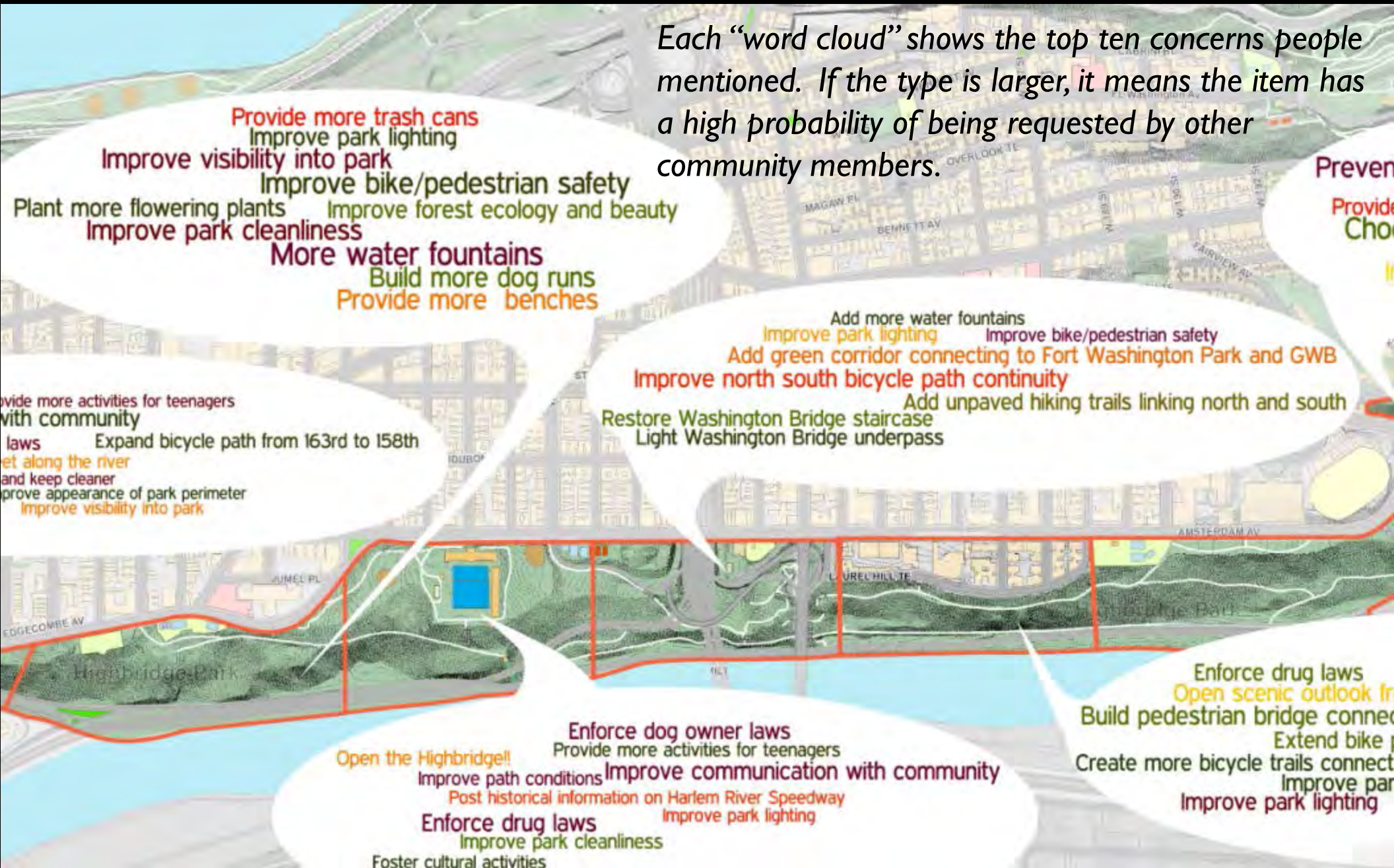
NYC Parks

We worked with Community Board 12 to develop a vision for the Master Plan:

1. Connect parks to neighborhoods through the creation of green corridors and prominent gathering spaces
2. Prioritize safe, well-maintained and accessible parks
3. Offer programming, features and amenities that will serve the community's needs and diverse interests
4. Protect the integrity of the natural environment, including the unique geology, forest, wildlife and wetlands
5. Provide safe and convenient access to bicycle and watercraft for both recreation and commuting
6. Advance design concepts that are relevant to the culture of the community

We used the Princeton Sociology department's web-site *ALL OUR IDEAS* to reach people who don't go to meetings

Each “word cloud” shows the top ten concerns people mentioned. If the type is larger, it means the item has a high probability of being requested by other community members.



Inwood and Washington Heights at a Glance

Population

Total number of people living in Inwood and Washington Heights in 2000:

270,700

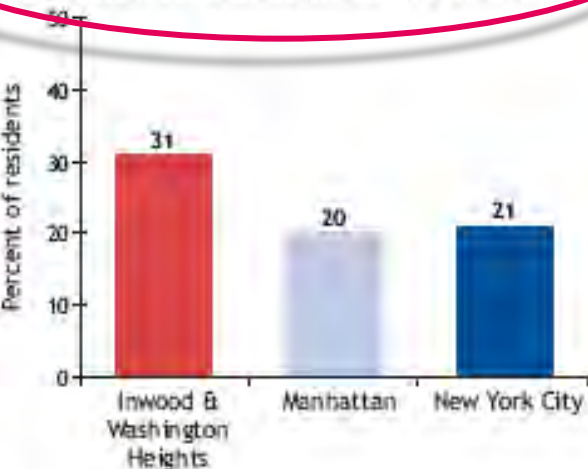
Age

People in Inwood and Washington Heights are similar in age to those in New York City overall

	Inwood & Washington Heights	Manhattan	NYC
0-17 years	26%	17%	24%
18-24 years	12%	10%	10%
25-44 years	32%	38%	33%
45-64 years	20%	23%	21%
65+ years	10%	12%	12%

Poverty

In Inwood and Washington Heights, the percent of residents living below the poverty level is higher than in Manhattan and NYC overall



26% of the population is under 17 years old

Inwood and Washington Heights residents aged 25 and older have completed fewer years of education than those in NYC overall

	Inwood & Washington Heights	Manhattan	NYC
Up to 8th grade	24%	10%	12%
Some high school, no diploma	21%	11%	16%
High school diploma	19%	14%	25%
Some college, no degree	18%	16%	20%
College graduate	18%	49%	27%

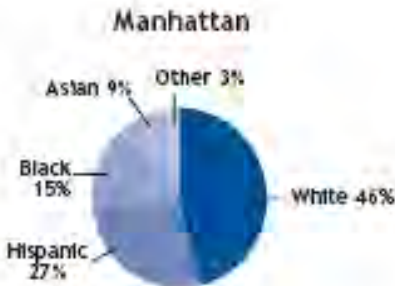
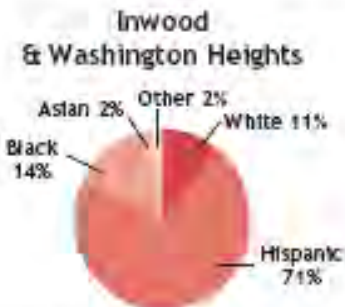
Foreign-born

More than half of Inwood and Washington Heights residents were born outside the U.S.

	Inwood & Washington Heights	Manhattan	NYC
	51%	29%	36%

Race / Ethnicity

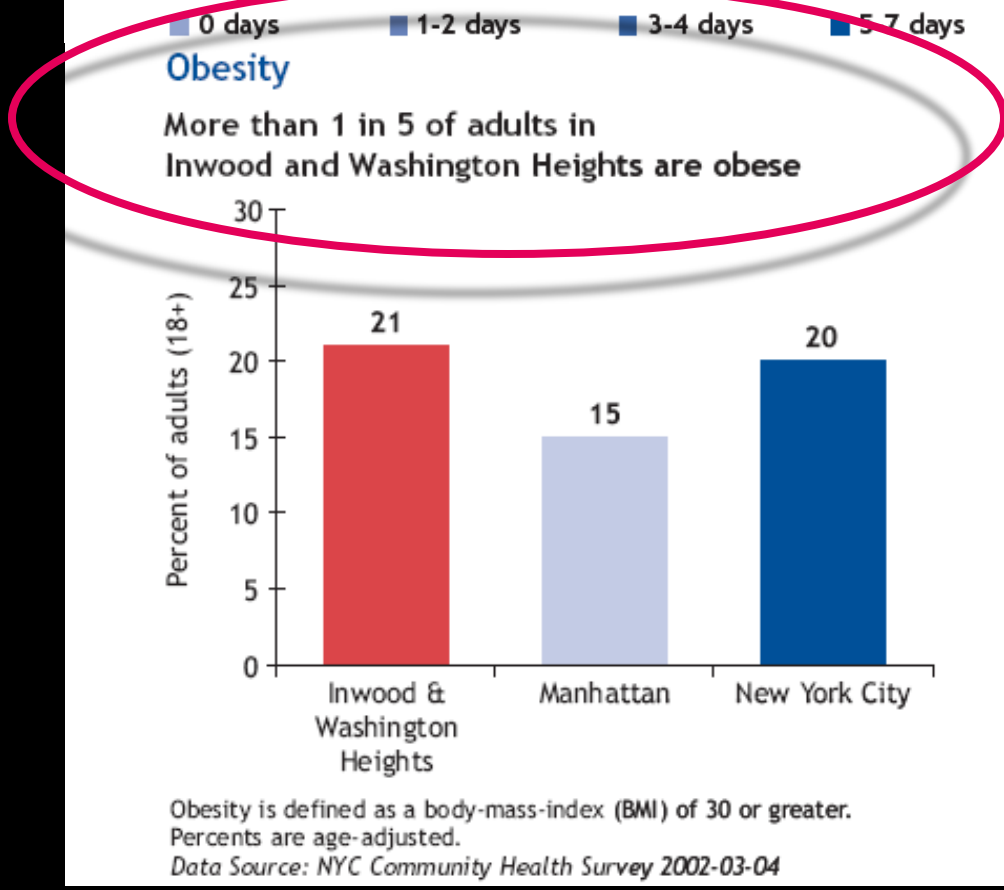
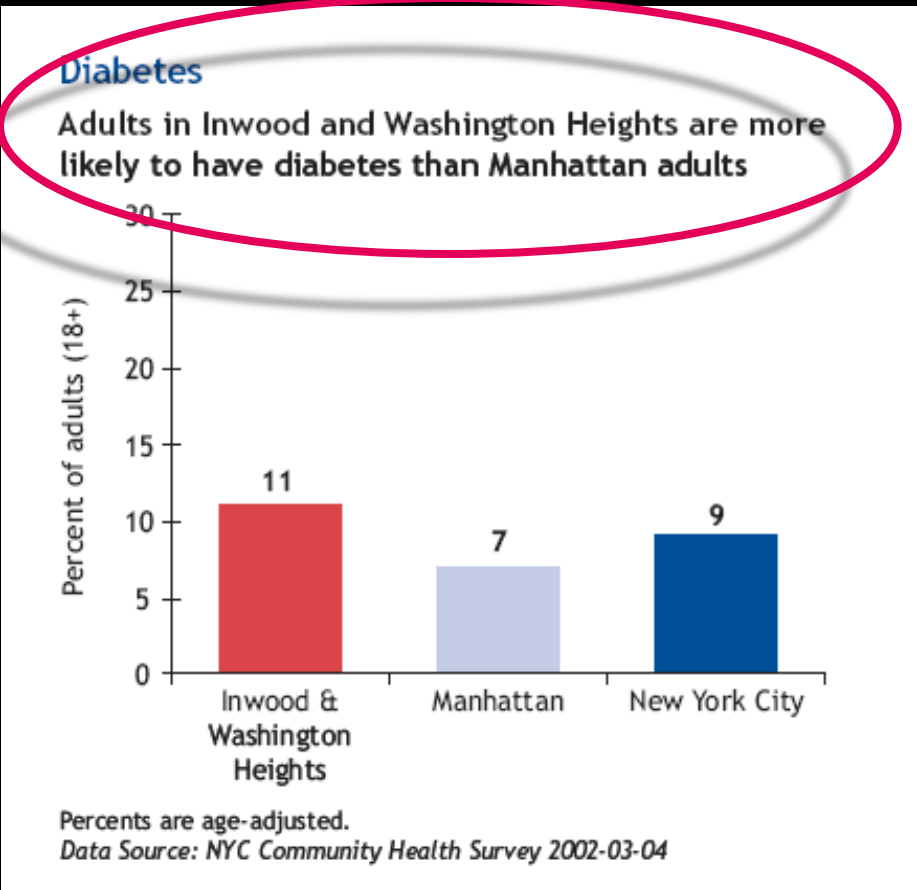
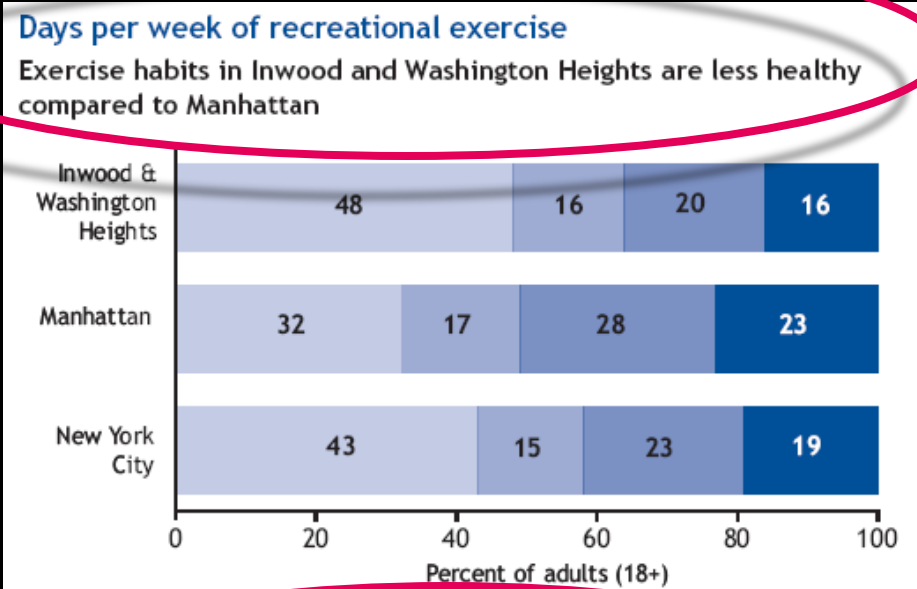
Inwood and Washington Heights have a much higher proportion of Hispanic residents than Manhattan and NYC overall



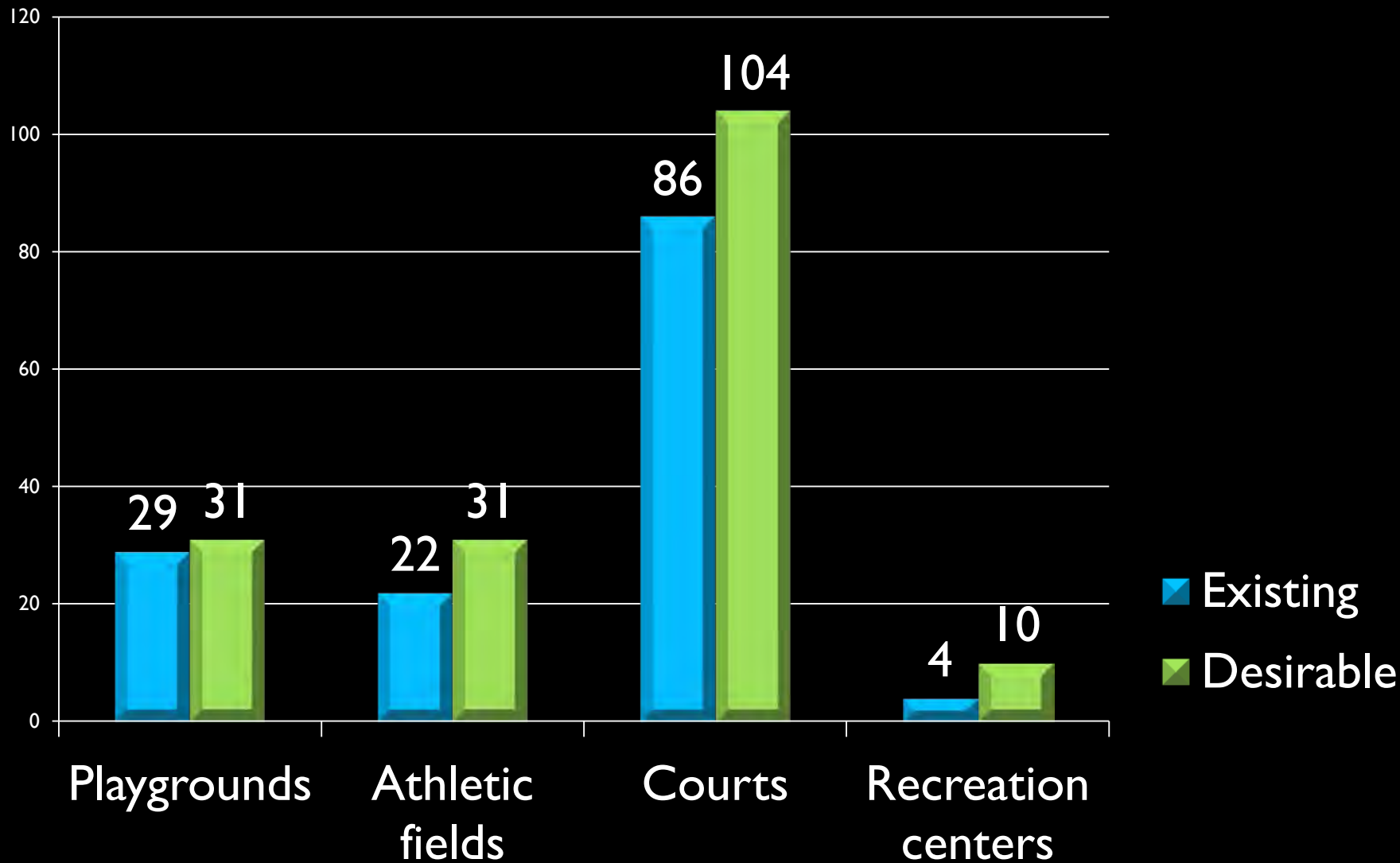
More than 1 in 5 adults are obese

48% of the adults do not get physical exercise

Adults in Inwood and Washington Heights are more likely than those in the rest of New York City to develop diabetes



Compared the levels of service recommended by the New Yorkers For Parks “Open Space Index,” to the quantity of existing facilities. The community would benefit from additional fields, courts and indoor recreation space.

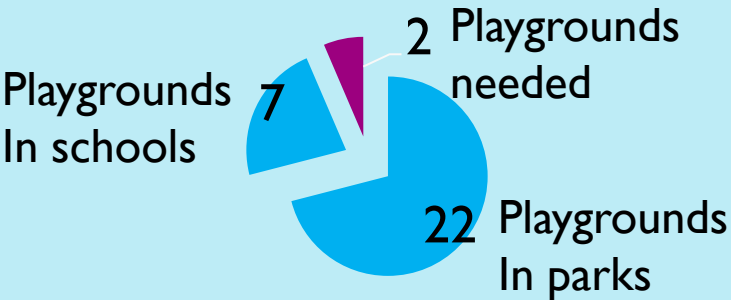


Based on the 2000 census population of 208,414 — 53,600 of whom are under 17

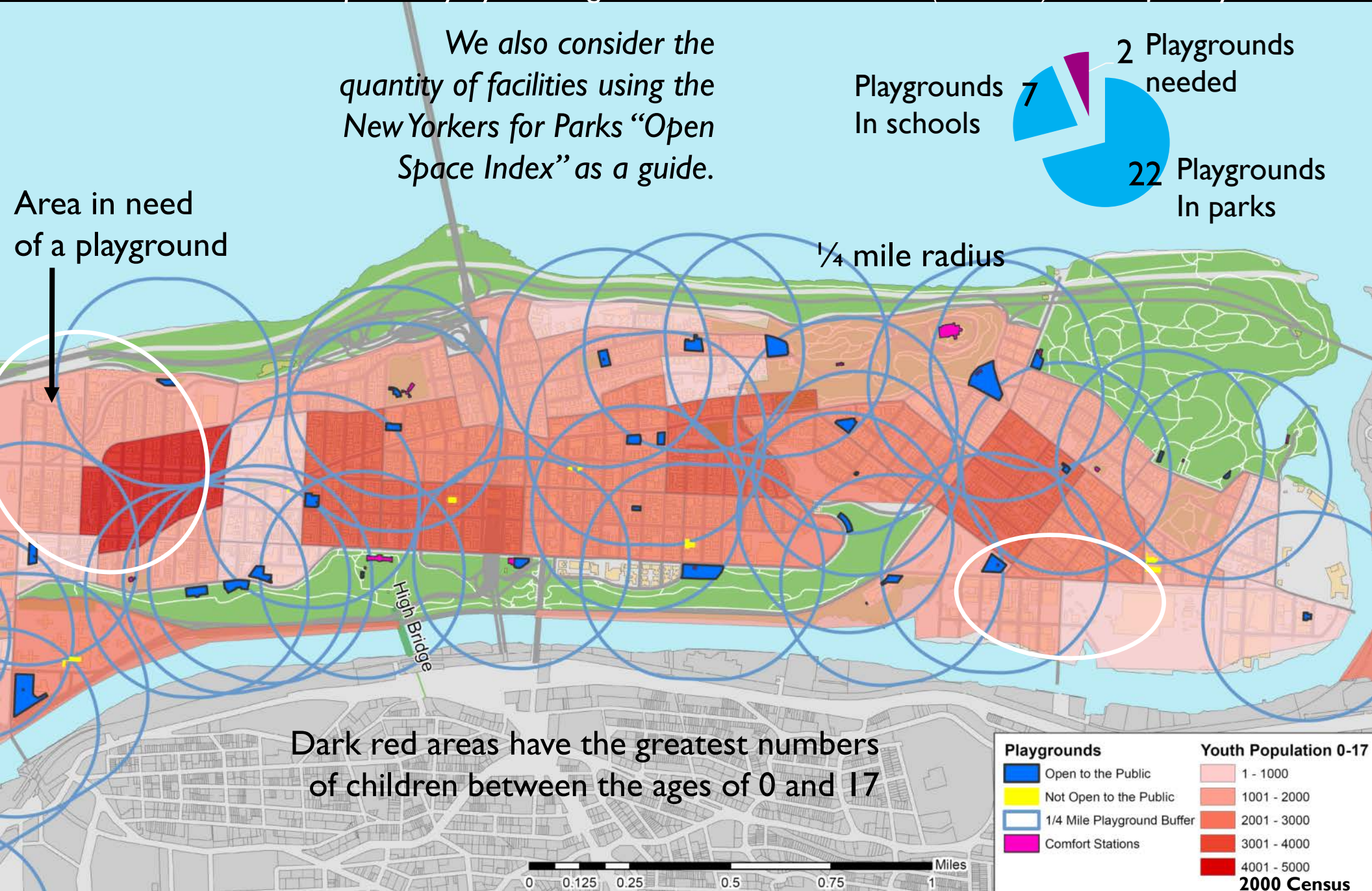
We assess recreational adequacy primarily by walking distance.

It is desirable to have a playground within a ten minute (¼ mile) walk of every residence

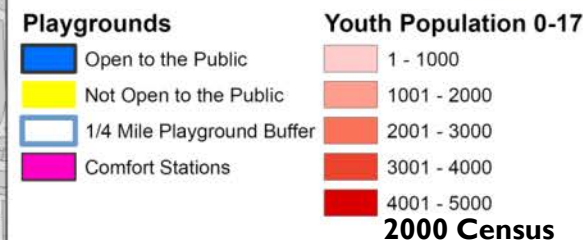
We also consider the quantity of facilities using the New Yorkers for Parks “Open Space Index” as a guide.



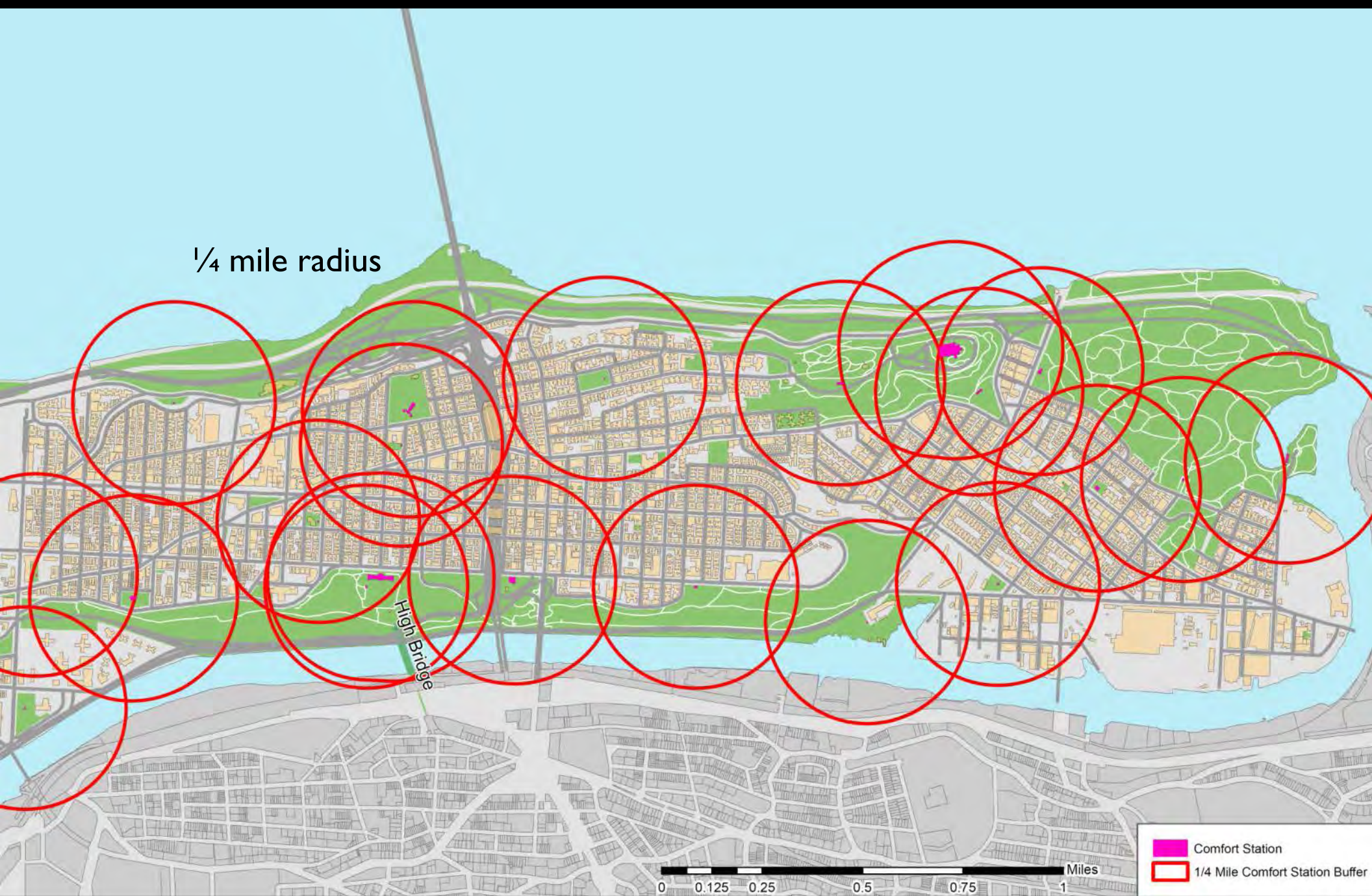
Area in need of a playground



Dark red areas have the greatest numbers of children between the ages of 0 and 17



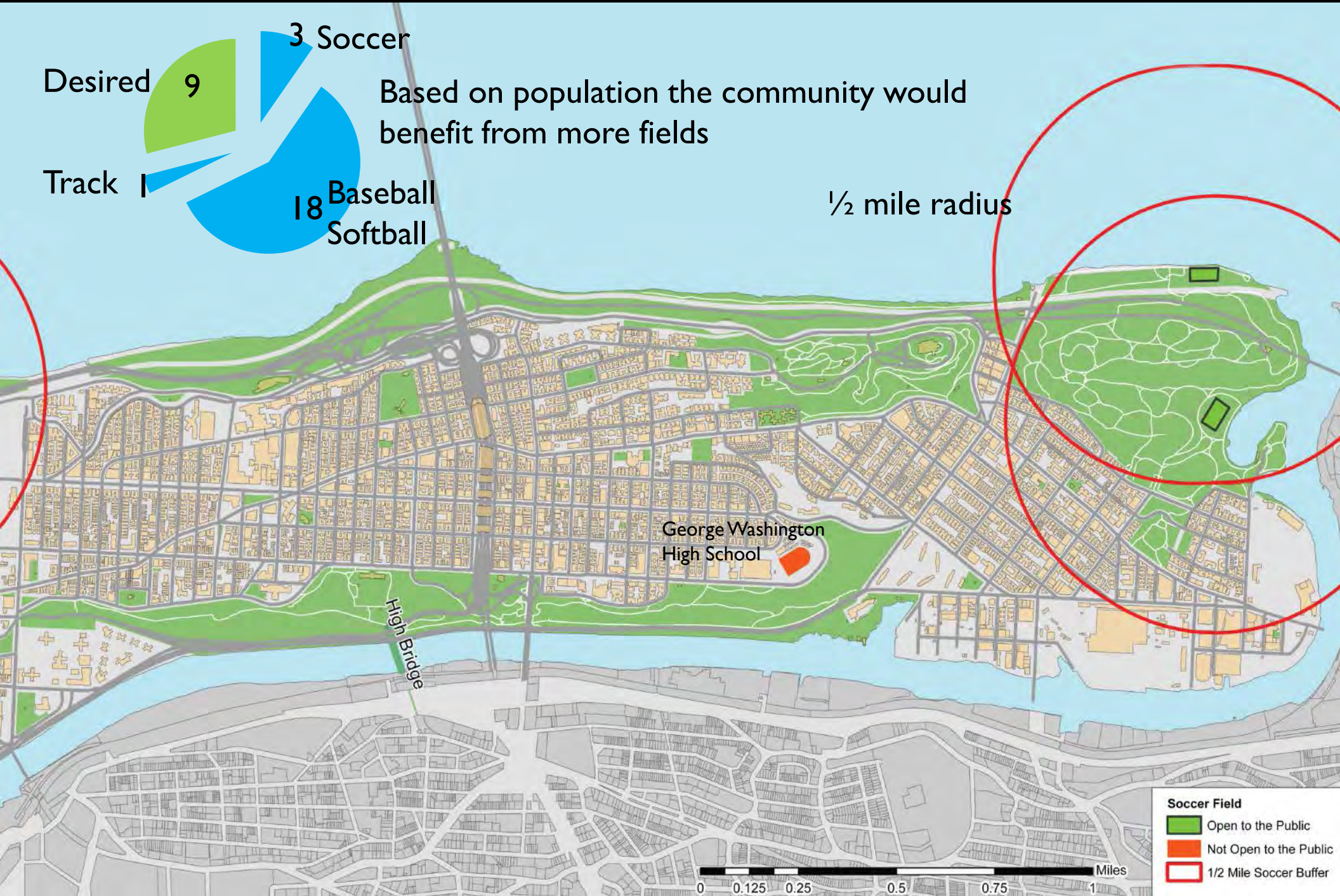
It is desirable to have a comfort station within playgrounds and within a ten minute (1/4 mile) walk from recreation areas



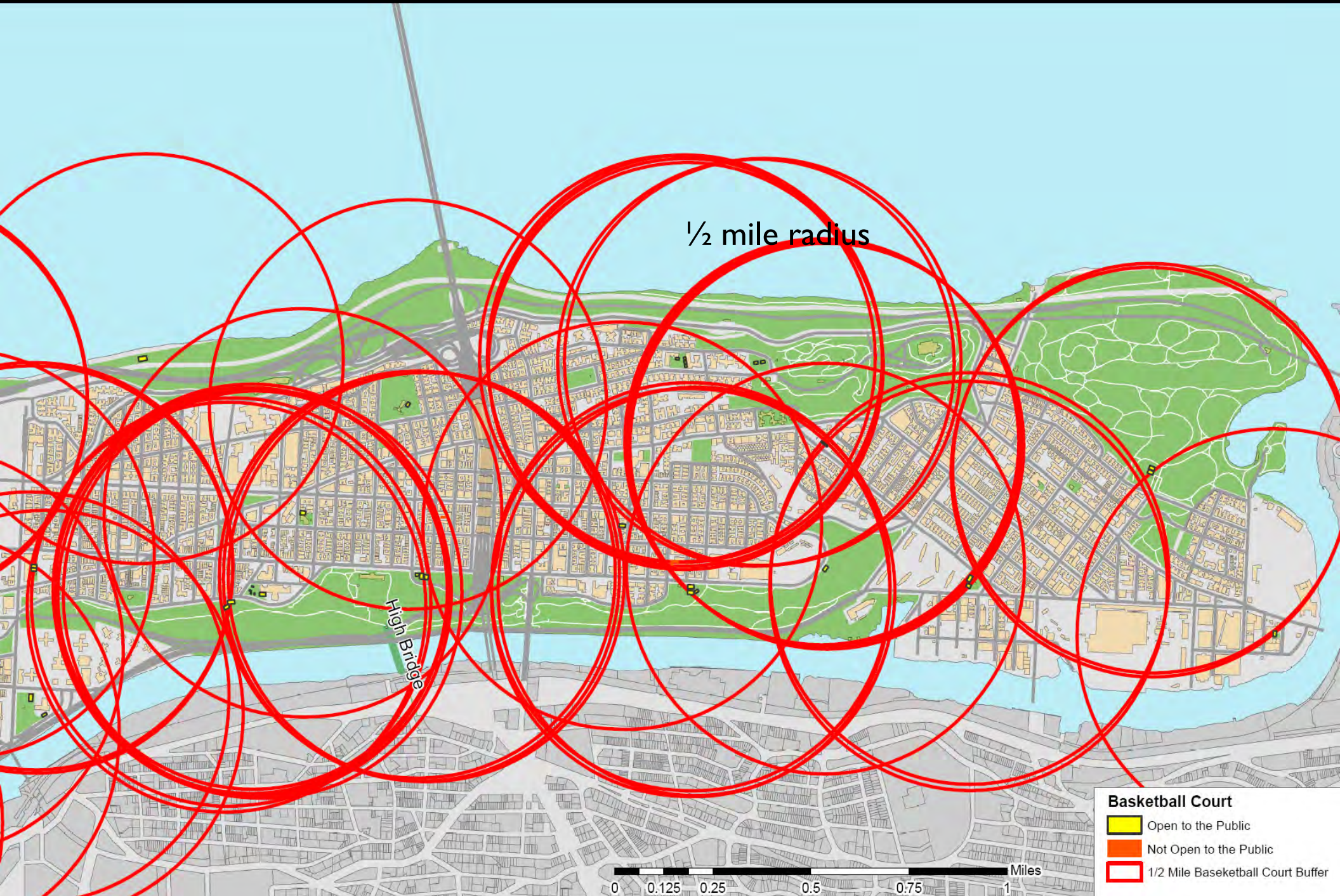
Northern Manhattan Parks 2030 Master Plan

Fields: Soccer

It is desirable to have athletic fields within a twenty minute (1/2 mile) walk of every residence

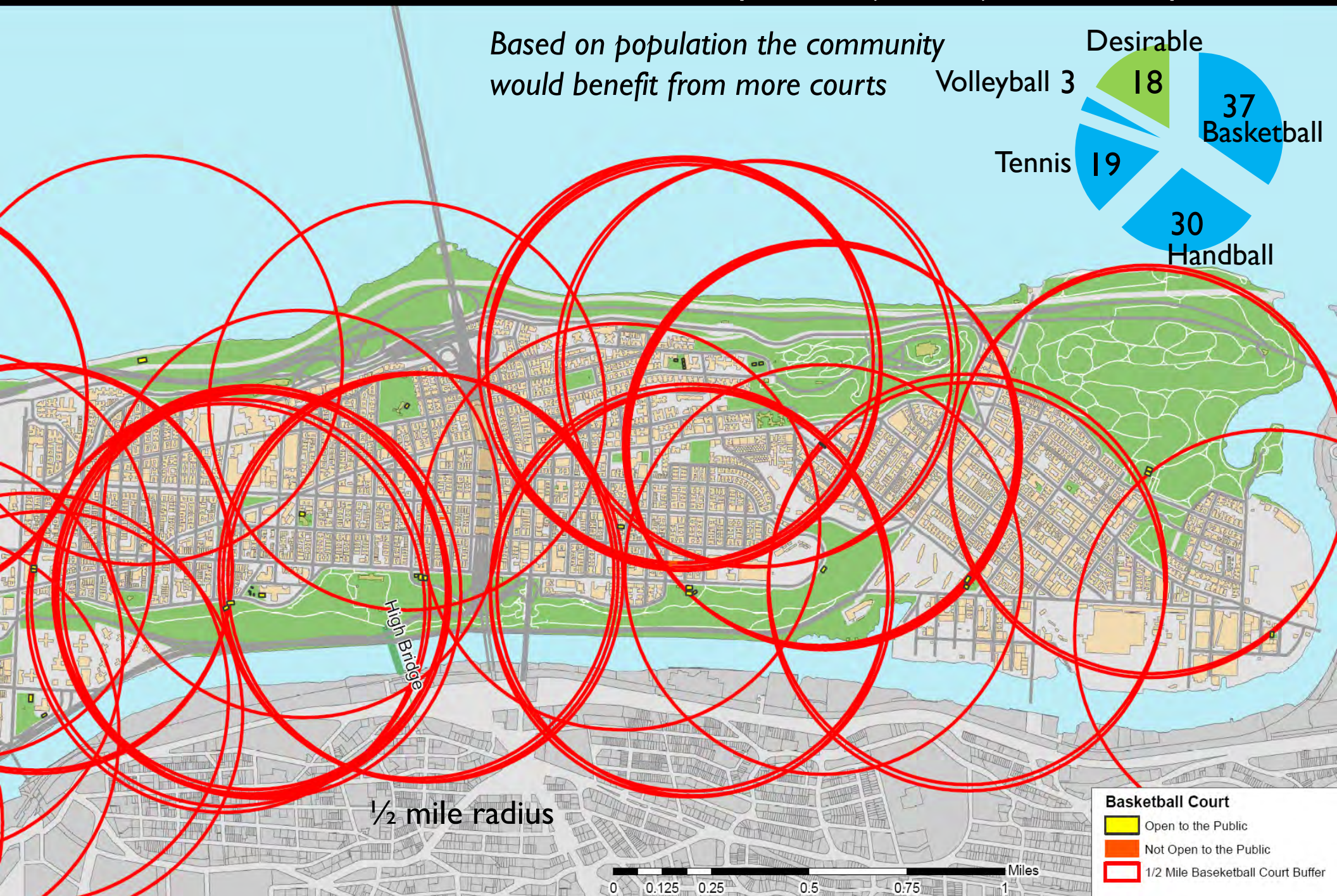
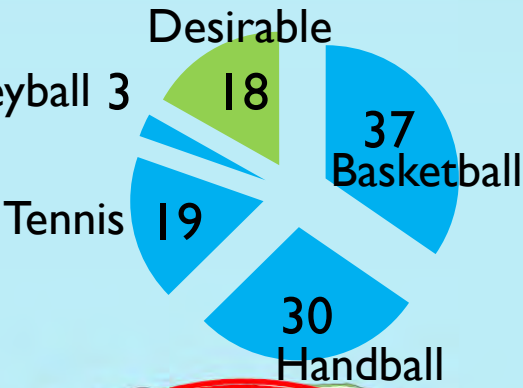


It is desirable to have athletic fields within a twenty minute (1/2 mile) walk of every residence

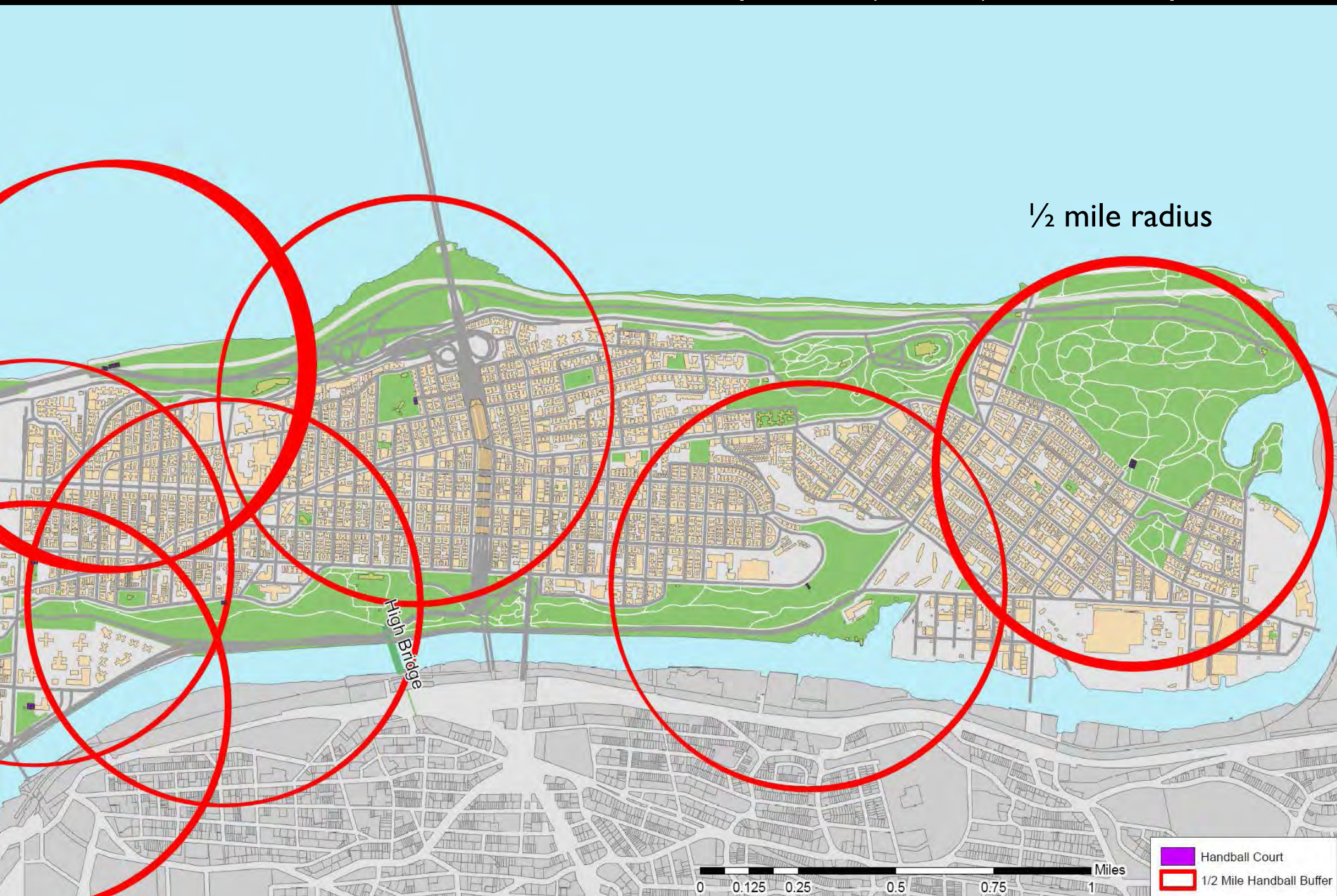


It is desirable to have ball courts within a twenty minute (1/2 mile) walk of every residence

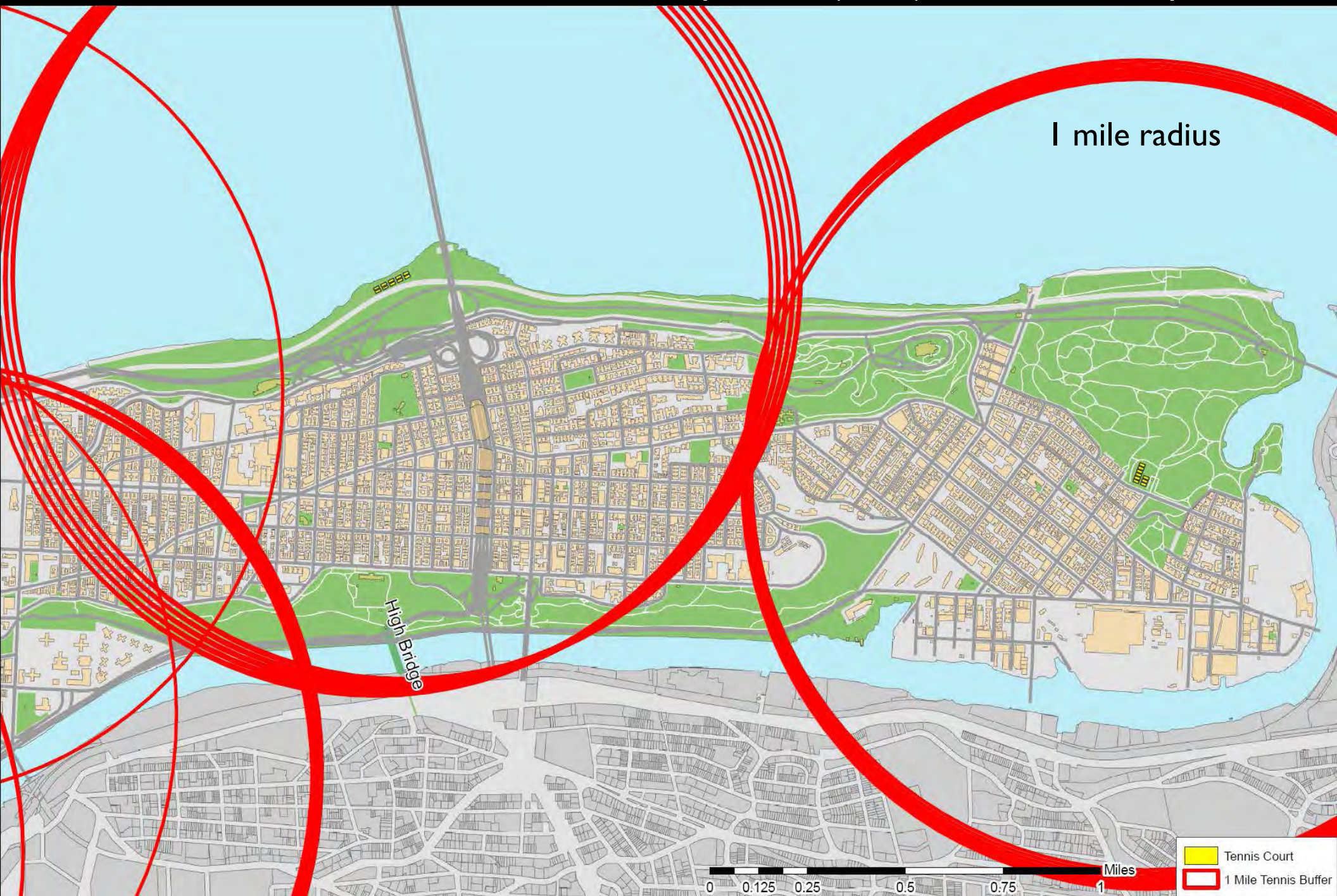
Based on population the community would benefit from more courts



It is desirable to have ball courts within a twenty minute (1/2 mile) walk of every residence



It is desirable to have tennis courts within a thirty minute (1 mile) commute of every residence



It is desirable to have a recreation center within a thirty minute (1 mile) commute of every residence

Based on population the community would benefit from more interior recreation space

