



Photo Credit: Chris Rucinski

Mary Soo Hoo Park on The Greenway Receives Family-Friendly Upgrades

Following community input, the Rose Kennedy Greenway Conservancy undertook enhancements to create a family-friendly green space

June 11, 2024 - Boston, MA - The [Rose Kennedy Greenway Conservancy](https://www.rosekennedygreenway.org/) today announced the completion of upgrades to Mary Soo Hoo Park on The Greenway, located in Boston's Chinatown. Community surveys informed the changes to the park which help make it a green, family-friendly space.

In 2022, the Conservancy conducted a community survey for members of the Chinatown community to learn what improvements they wanted to see to Mary Soo Hoo Park. The organization found that community members wanted a place to safely be with children, meet friends, and participate in other recreational activities. The community felt there was a lack of seating, playspace, greenery, and community activities.

With this information, the Conservancy began work on enhancing the park to create a welcoming, community-driven space in collaboration with landscape architects, masons, and other contractors.

"As a Board member, neighborhood resident and mom of four, I'm really excited about these new, family-friendly improvements to Mary Soo Hoo Park," says Linda See, Conservancy Board Member. "It's a welcome addition to this important and beloved space where the community

comes to gather and play, and a fantastic tribute to Mary Soo Hoo's legacy and dedication to improving the quality of life for the entire Chinatown community and beyond."

Enhancements include:

- Updates to the fence enclosure
- Two musical instruments for children to play with
- A balance structure & safety surfacing
- Six new benches and one new picnic table
- A new tree planting
- Eight plant containers
- One trash receptacle and one recycling receptacle

"The heart of the upgrades at Mary Soo Hoo Park is the Chinatown community's feedback regarding key hopes and concerns," says Rex Tzen, Capital Projects Manager at the Conservancy. "Two extensive online surveys, one in-situ event, and meetings with the Soo Hoo family and other partners provided invaluable design direction and culminated in the furnishing selections and layout present today. Focusing on young children and their caretakers, the upgrades at Mary Soo Hoo Park intend to create a space that is safe, fun, and relaxing."

Photos of the complete project are available [here](#).

Funding for this project was made possible through private sources, including the Greenway Business Improvement District and MassDOT.

About The Greenway and the Greenway Conservancy

The Greenway is a contemporary public park in the heart of Boston. The Greenway welcomes millions of visitors annually to gather, play, unwind, and explore. The Conservancy has sole responsibility for managing all aspects of the Rose Kennedy Greenway, including horticulture,

programming, public art, maintenance, and capital improvements. The majority of the public park's annual budget is generously provided by private sources.

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