## 9<sup>th</sup> School Site Selection

## SITE SELECTION STUDY UPDATE

JULY 26, 2016



## Tonight's Presentation



- 1. Why does Brookline need a new PK-8 elementary school?
- 2. What has Brookline been doing to address enrollment growth?
- 3. Recent Progress and Current Timeline
- 4. Site Selection Study Update: Jonathan Levi Architects
- 5. Discussion
- 6. Next Steps & Upcoming Meetings

Presentation available online at www.brookline.k12.ma.us/capitalprojects2

# Why does Brookline need a new K-8 elementary school?

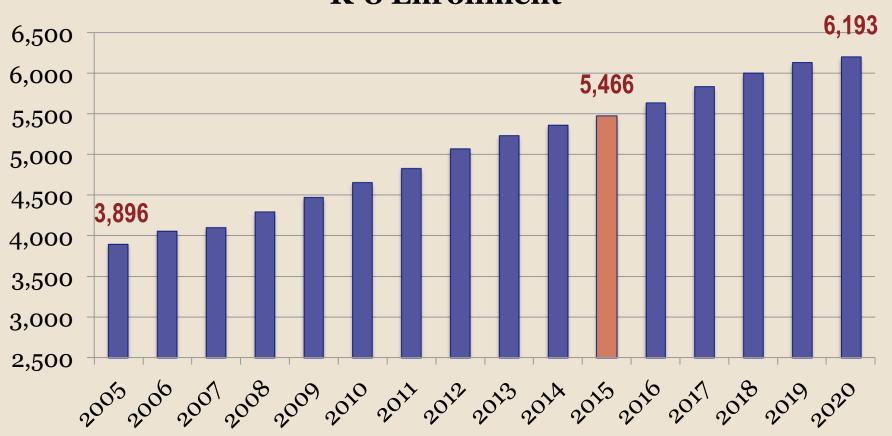
DRAMATIC AND ONGOING ENROLLMENT GROWTH



## **Dramatic Enrollment Growth**



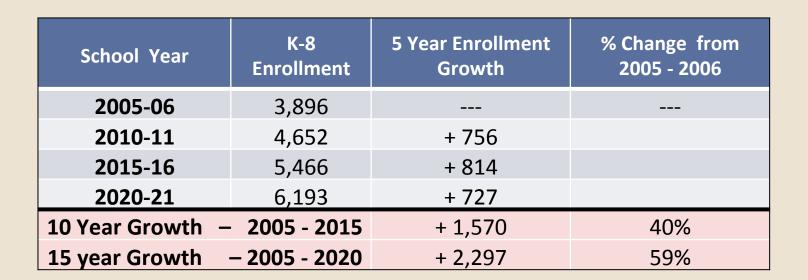
## **K-8** Enrollment





# The Public Schools of Brookline K-8 Enrollment 2005-2021





Since 2005: K-8 Enrollment Increase = the size of Baker School + Pierce School

In the next 5 years: K-8 Enrollment Increase = the size of Lawrence School



## Impact of "No-Decision"



## What will happen if we don't build a new elementary school?

- A shortage of 27 to 30 classrooms across the district at the K-8 level
- Undersized cafeterias will result in all K-8 schools starting lunch before 10:30 a.m. (2 schools do this now, and 2 more start before 11.)
- Inadequate core facilities such as gymnasiums and libraries will not be addressed
- Expand the use of expensive, short-term solutions such as modular classes and rental space.
- Class sizes continue to increase



## Impact of "No-Decision"





	2015-16	2020-21
Total K-8 Enrollment	5,466	6,193
Total Rooms Available	254	260
K-8 Class Size Average	21	24
Number of K-8 classes with 25 or more students	7	75+
Range in K-8 class size	17 to 27 students	18 to 30 students

# What has Brookline been doing to address expanding enrollment?



## Studies and Plans



- 2009 Facilities Master Plan created by MGT
  - Updated in 2011 with by MGT
- 2013 Brookline School Population and Capacity Exploration (B-SPACE) Committee
  - Included 2013 Feasibility Study by HMFH Architects
  - Resulted in recommitment to "Expand-in-Place" Strategy
- 2014 Override Study Committee Report included demographic projections done by MIT team
- Dec 2014 Civic Moxie commissioned to identify possible locations for 9<sup>th</sup> elementary school



## Expanding in Place: 2008 - 2015 BRO





- 54 classrooms added through the "Expand-in-Place" strategy since 2008 including but not limited to:
- 6 classrooms built at **Heath**
- 4 classrooms built at Lawrence
- 2 modular classrooms added at Baker
- 11 BEEP classes moved out of K-8 buildings into rental space
- 3 classrooms in rental space for **Pierce**
- 1 brand new school will be built at **Devotion** to add 12 classrooms



## Expanding in Place: 2008 - 2015 BRO



- Relocated administrative offices from school buildings into rental space
- Created new classrooms by dividing larger ones
- **Converted** hallways, locker rooms, and small rooms into substandard classroom spaces and administrative office space
- **Expanded** and utilized buffer zones to distribute enrollment increases across all schools to balance overcrowding
- Reclaimed classrooms dedicated to Extended Day and other programs
- Spending \$1 million annually for rental space for classroom and administrative offices

# Recent Progress and Current Timeline

AIMING FOR A NEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TO BE BUILT BY FALL 2020



## Recent Progress 2015-2016



## October 2015

- Civic Moxie Report identified 26 possible sites with 6 identified as most promising;
- Board of Selectmen and School Committee voted:
  - Construction of a new elementary school as the preferred solution to address the ongoing enrollment growth; and
  - Staff to complete further due diligence on two of the six sites

## **November and December 2015**

- Neighborhood Association Meetings with members of BOS and BSC
- Two Open House Presentations with Q&A
- Public Hearing
- Joint BOS and BSC public meeting

## January - March 2016

- Two more joint BOS and BSC public meetings
- BOS, BSC, and Advisory Committee all vote to forego MSBA partnership to allow for greater flexibility on cost, design and timeline.
- Neighborhood Association Meetings continued
- Based on public input from October through January, Boards voted on further study of 3 sites: Village School, Beverly Road, and Baldwin/ Soule



## Recent Progress 2015-2016





- Planning Board
- Building Commission
- Park and Recreation Commission
- Advisory Committee and related subcommittees
- Preservation Commission
- Conservation Commission



## Ongoing Interdepartmental Work BROOKI



- Interdepartmental team will continue internal planning. For example:
  - Eminent domain/Legal acquisition
  - Land restrictions
  - Funding pathway
  - Continuing public input and feedback
  - Demographic and enrollment updates



## Path Towards Site Selection





- Architectural firm selected for Site Study
- May 18: School Committee hosted public meeting at Pierce School on Site Selection Study
- **June 14**: School Committee hosting public meeting to provide input to JLA
- **July 26**: Joint School Committee/Board of Selectmen meeting JLA shares progress update
- **August**: Study continues development of cost estimates, further refinement of site concepts, identification of site constraints and related costs
- August 16: BOS/BSC Executive Session on site costs



## Path Towards Site Selection



## September-October 2016: Site Selection Final Public Input

- **September 8**: School Committee/Board of Selectmen joint meeting for JLA presentation on completed Site Selection Study findings
- **September 14**: Open House on Site Selection Study brief presentation followed by discussion at stations
- September 22: Public Hearing on Site Selection Study
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## Best Case Scenario Timeline Set by BOS/BSC in December 2015



## **November 2016 – April 2017**

- Feasibility Study phase
- Public presentations and hearings

## May 2017 – October 2017

- Schematic Design phase
- Public presentations and hearings

## • Winter 2017

 Proposed Town Meeting & Debt Exclusion Override for Construction Funding

## • Fall 2017 to June 2018

Construction Drawings phase

### October 2018

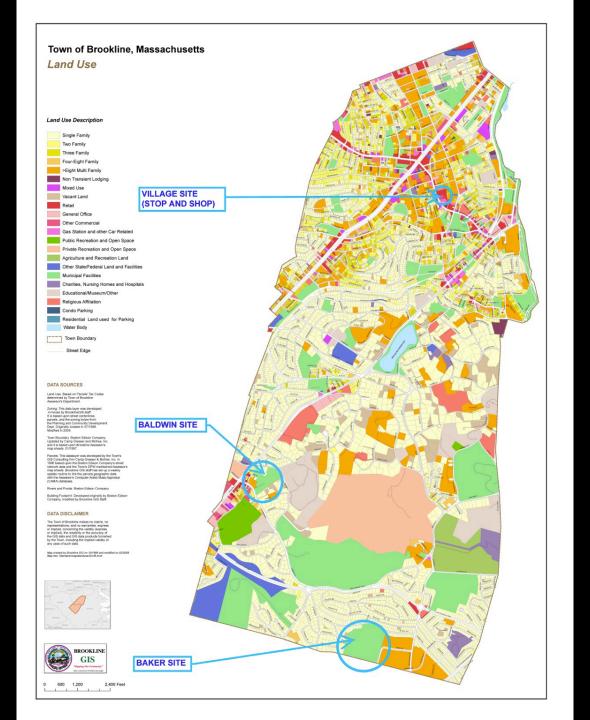
- Construction begins
- September 2020 New School Opens

## Site Selection Study: Update

### JONATHAN LEVI ARCHITECTS

REPRESENTED BY:

JONATHAN LEVI & PHILIP GRAY



#### Comments from June 14, 2016 Brookline 9th Elementary School Site Selection Study Kickoff Meeting

#### **General Comments:**

- What is purpose of feasibility study? To confirm through further study that chosen site is still appropriate.
- What is policy response to increased student population?
- How will finances work?
- Is there coordination with affordable housing? Yes.
- Have River Road and Gateway East been taken into consideration?
- Is Lincoln School an option for a middle school?
- Unpopular vote would have political repercussions.
- Will evaluation data be publicly available? Yes.
- Is there a height limit?
- Risk of a safety issue if alternative designs not fully studied.
- Need public community center.
- Use empty commercial space.
- Compare damage caused by each school option.
- Compare eminent domain costs for all options.
- Extended day program should be included in program in same location.
- Who at MIT did study?
- Can we have 35 kids in classrooms?
- Propose other sites Amory, behind Devo, southern half of TJ Maxx parking lot.
- If eminent domain available, why not on town land? Process must be transparent.

- Support to let process play out let architect study how site may be improved.
- Village Site already close to 3 schools – how about Lynch, Hebrew Academy, Hebrew College, Prescott Street?

#### Village (Stop and Shop) Site:

#### **Stop and Shop Comments:**

- Community needs Stop and Shop.
- Stop and Shop serves full range of residents, and delivers, how long would it be closed if a mixed use solution is to proceed at the site?
- Stop and Shop also has good prices.
- Grocery stores need to be available without need for a car.
- Large concentration of seniors around Stop and Shop. Removal would limit their freedom.
- Affordable groceries are a needed resource.
- Concern about even temporary closing of Stop and Shop. Can an answer on Stop and Shop be made more quickly?
- How will Town make up loss of commercial tax revenue producing use?
- How much would parking be reduced by school?
- Will Stop and Shop be allowed to expand after project?
- Stop and Shop has supported Brookline community, donated to food pantry, removing it would

- be a tragedy for elderly and residents on a budget.
- Is Stop and Shop amenable to this?
- Removal of Stop and Shop would harm entire community – old and young.

#### Other Village Site Comments:

- Coolidge corner already has several schools.
- Remove Village Site from consideration.
- We don't need a cluster of 4 schools - traffic a concern. Already overburdened

#### **Baker Site:**

- Baker site a mixed use possibility?
- If Baker, not 2 competing schools on same property. Preserve open space. Traffic and parking a concern; emergency egress planning is necessary.
- Baker should be considered with Hancock Village as part of study, benefit of open space, access, and distance from other schools.

#### **Baldwin Site:**

No Comments

#### **BROOKLINE 9TH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SITE SELECTION STUDY**

## Site Research Topics

#### 1) Location Factors

- Traffic Impacts Site, local, Town-wide
- Safe Access for Walking/ Biking
- Access to Public Transportation
- Central to Student Density and Growth
- Compatibility with School System Portfolio
- Community Use
- Townscape Improvement
- Sustainability

#### 2) Site Size and Configuration

- School Footprint/ Educational Goals
- Playgrounds, Recess and Fields
- Drop-off/Pick-up Cueing
- Bus Access
- Service Access-Deliveries, Refuse
- Separation of Pedestrians and Vehicles
- Overall Student Safety
- Security
- Topography
- Impact to Neighbors
- Community Access/Use Indoor and Outdoor

- Existing Building Potential For Adaptive Reuse
- Wetlands
- Underground Obstacles
- Hazardous Materials
- Landscape Conservation
- Run-off
- Sustainability-Daylighting/Orientation

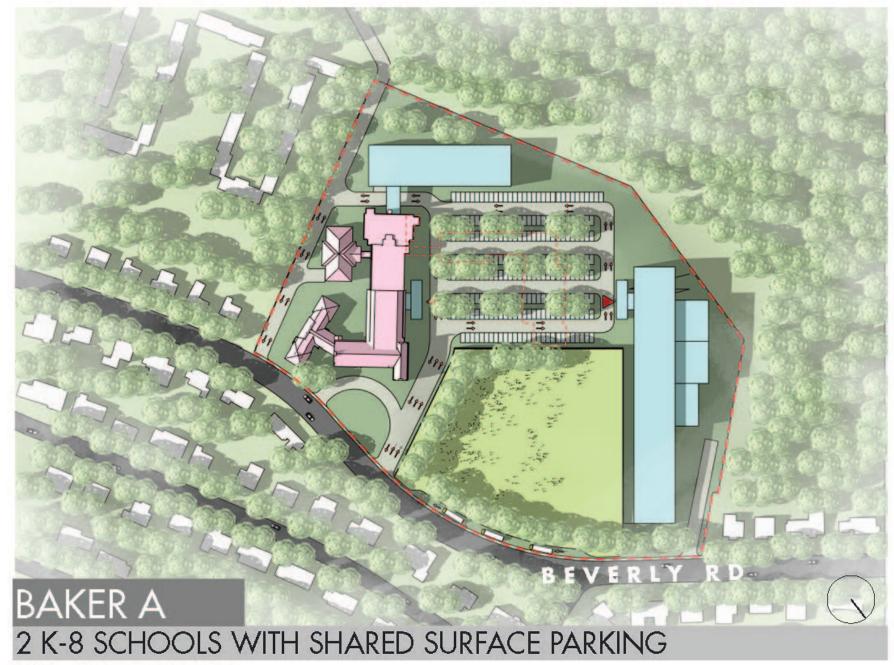
#### 3) <u>Cost</u>

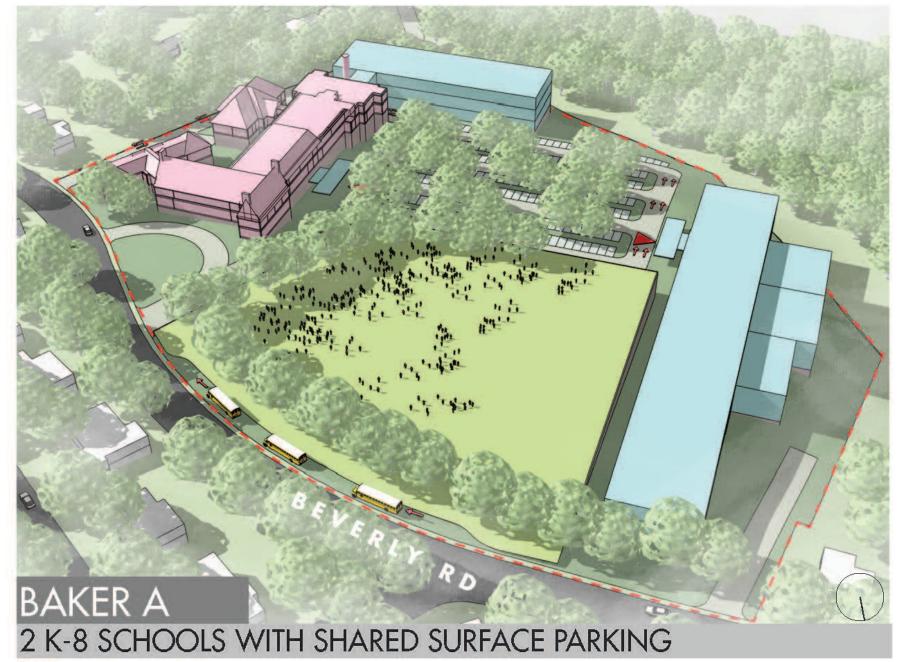
- Construction Cost Premiums/Savings
- Moving Costs
- Temporary Occupancy Costs
- Total Project Cost
- Long Term Operating Costs
- Long Term Maintenance/Repair

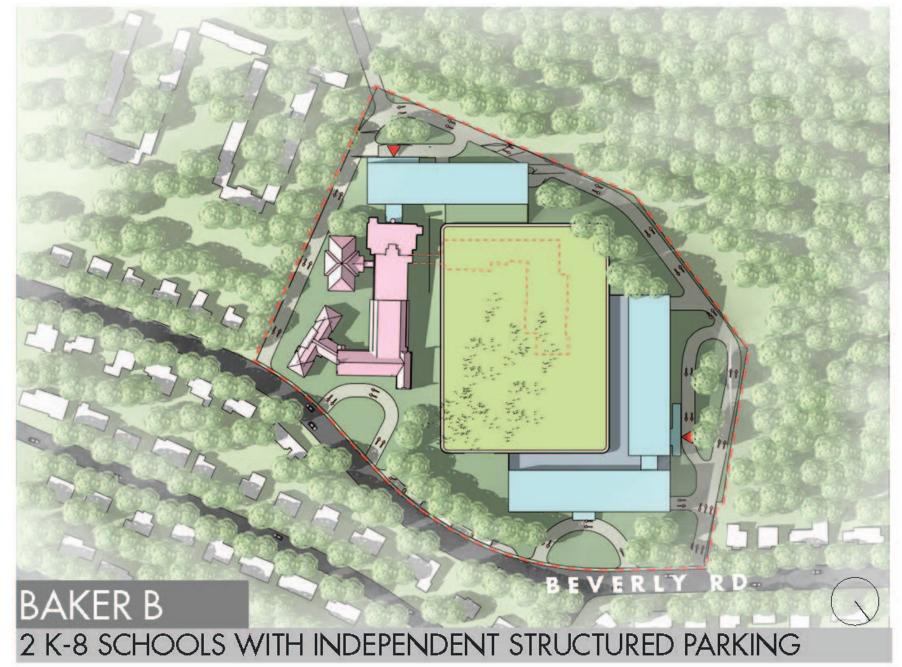
#### 4) Schedule and Cost Risk Factors

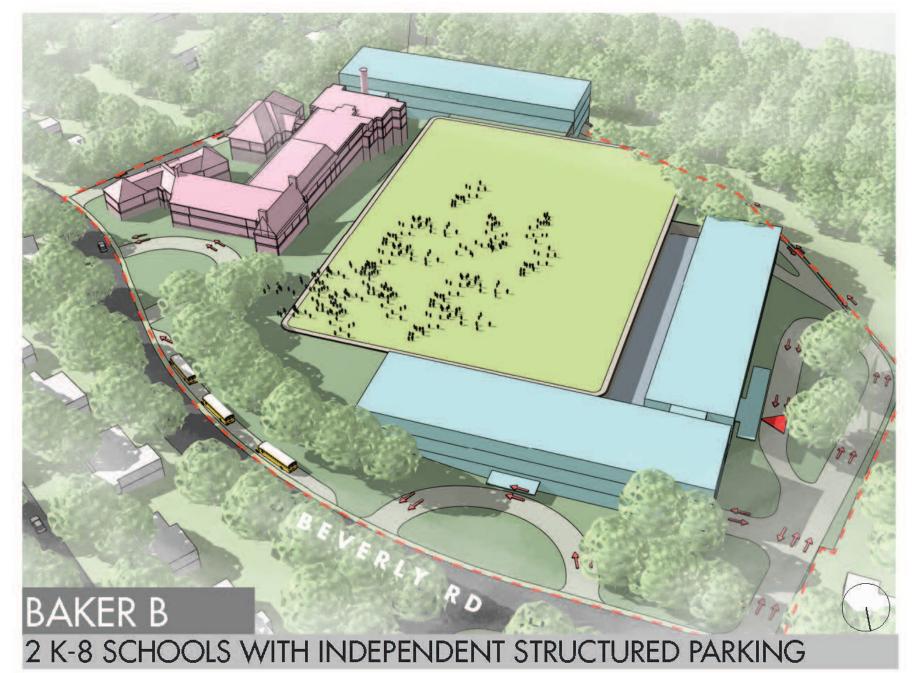
- Hazardous Material Removal
- Construction Phasing
- Construction Schedule
- Acquisitions
- Deed Restrictions
- Permitting

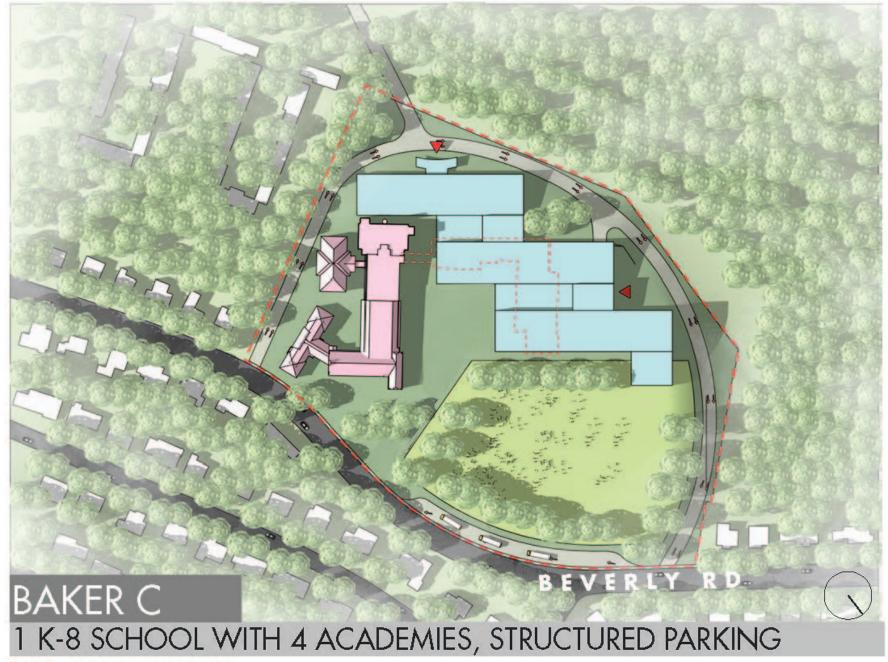


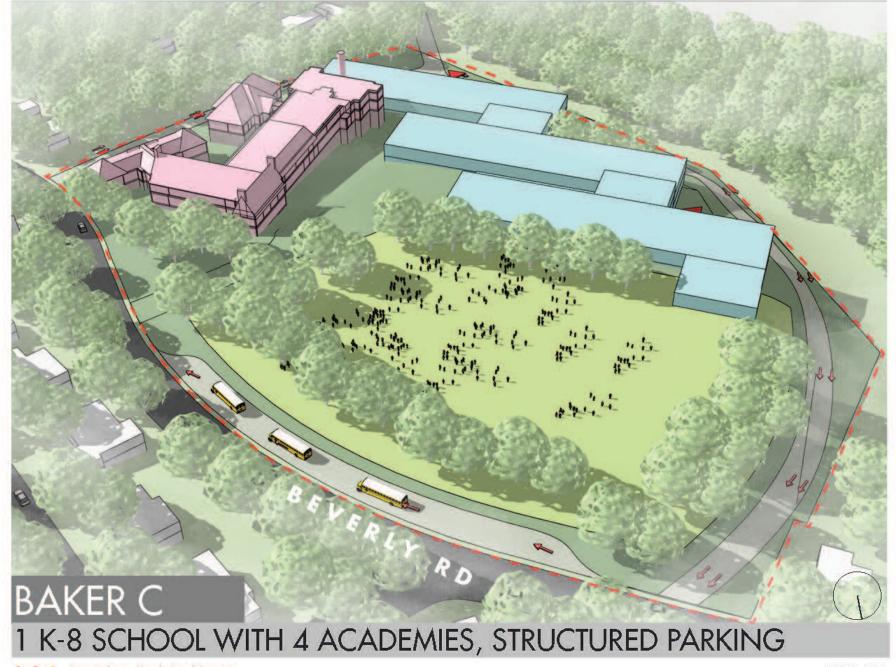
















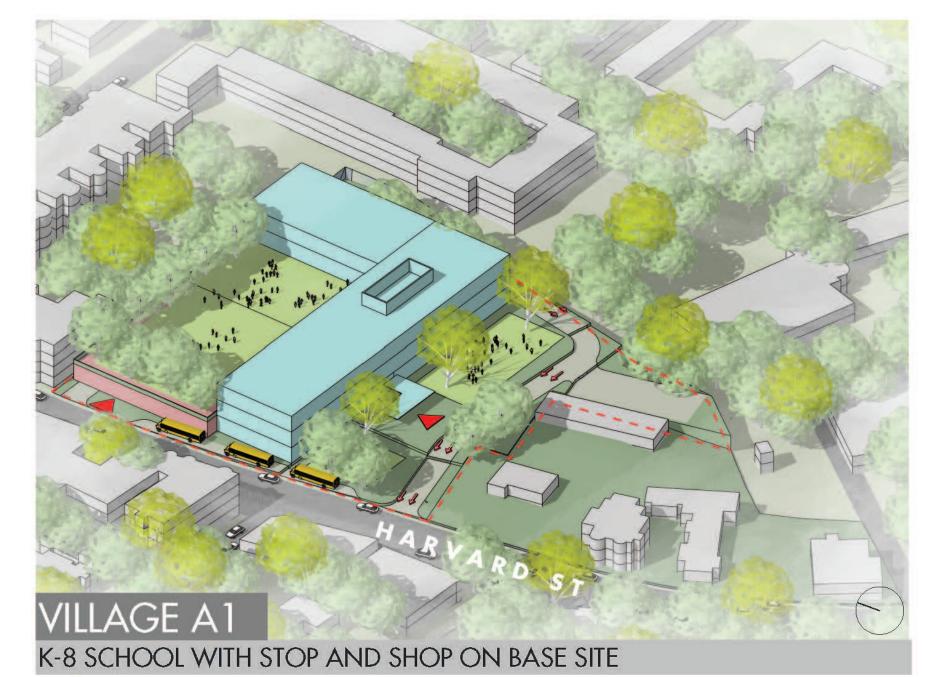






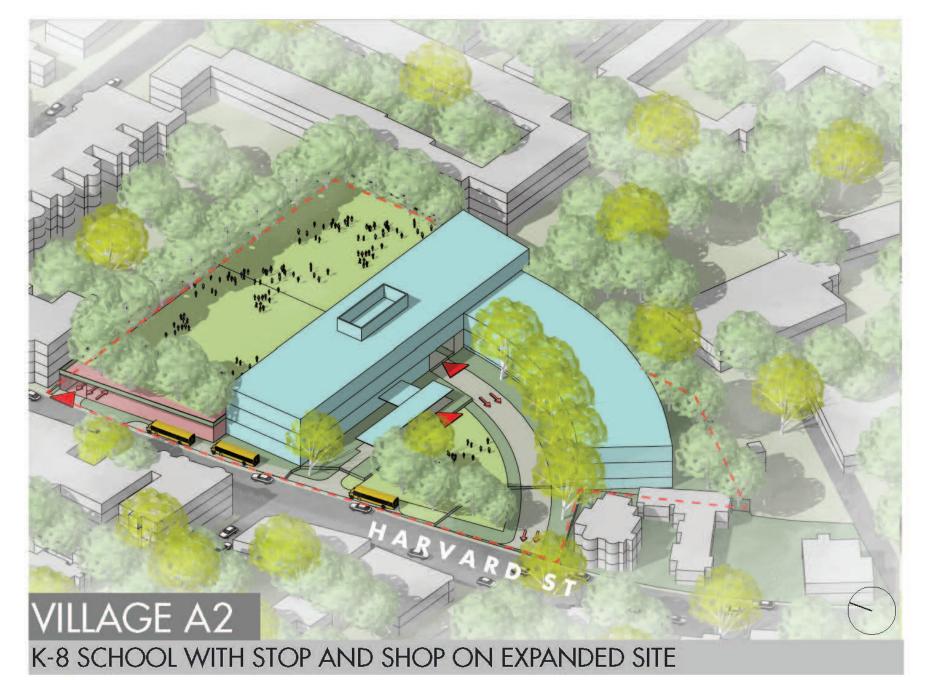




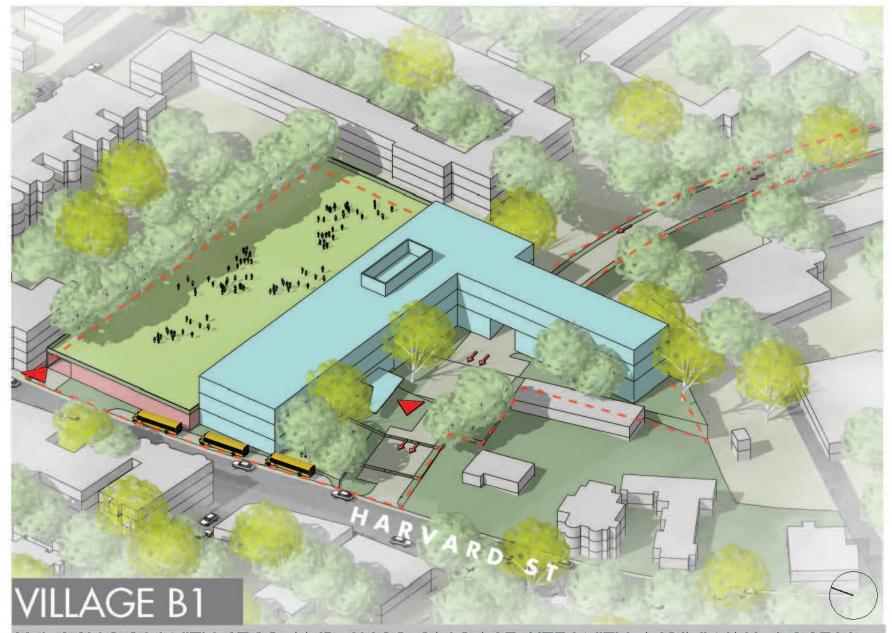


MAN Jonathan Levi Architects





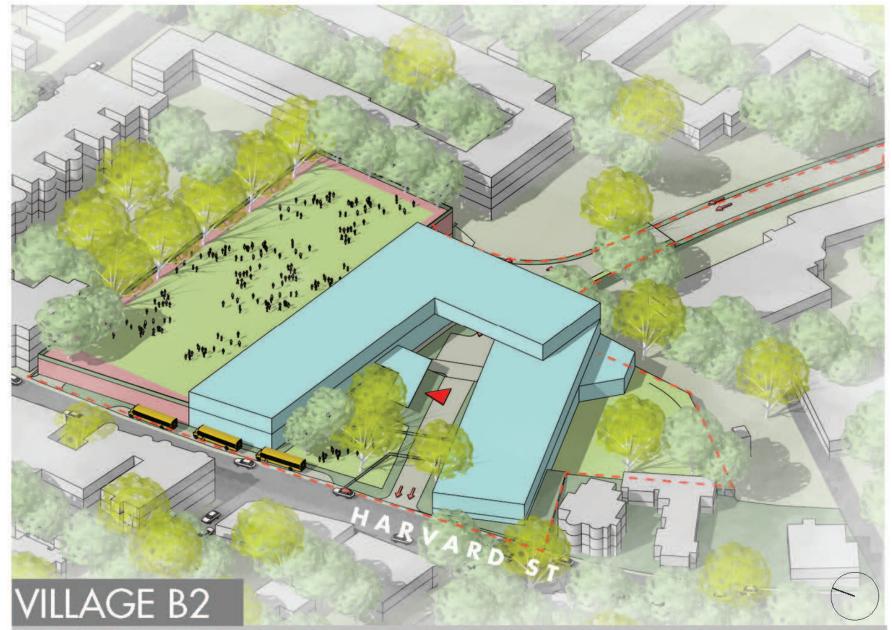




K-8 SCHOOL WITH STOP AND SHOP ON BASE SITE WITH ASPINWALL ACCESS

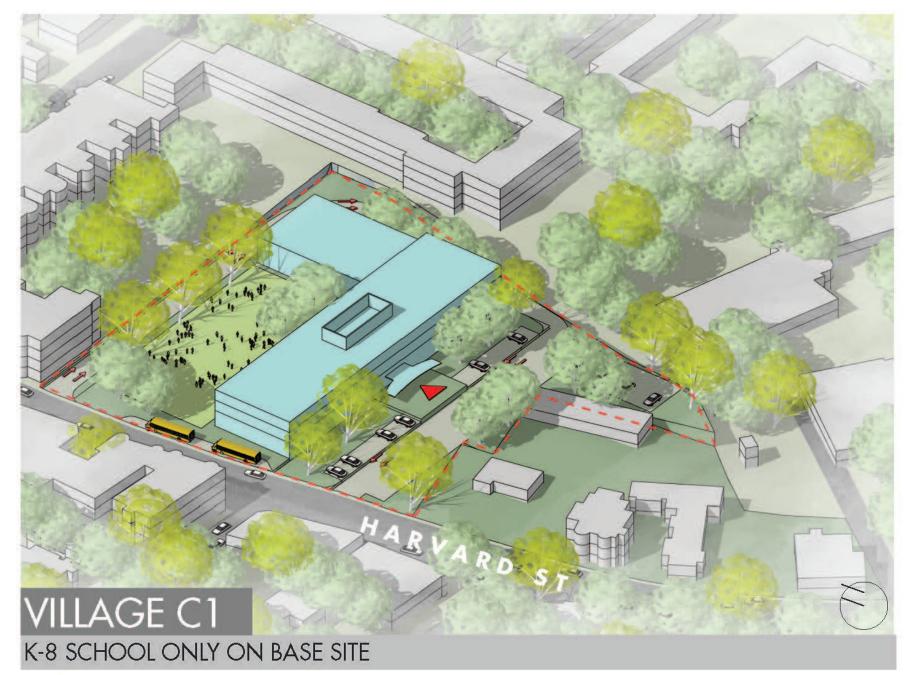


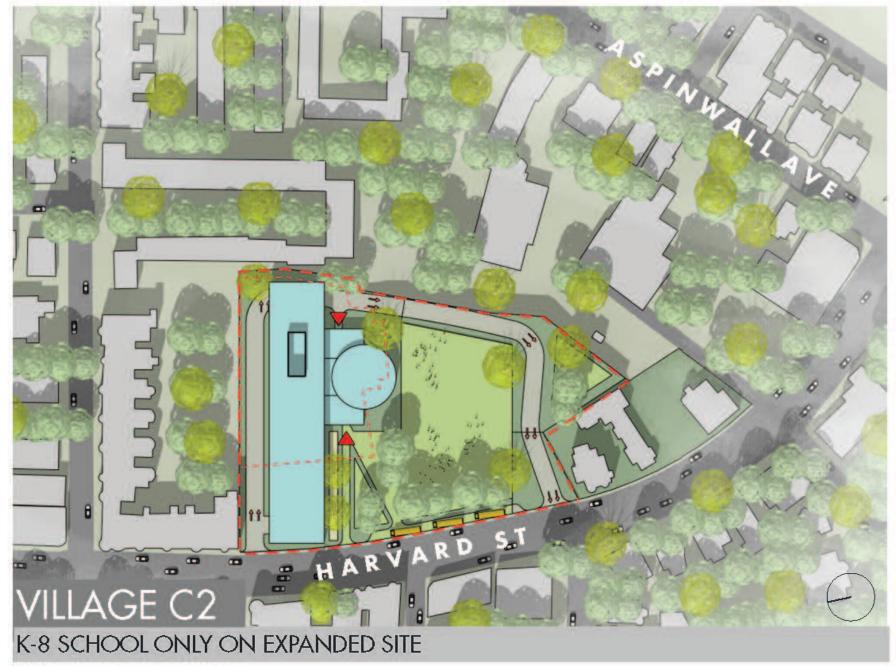
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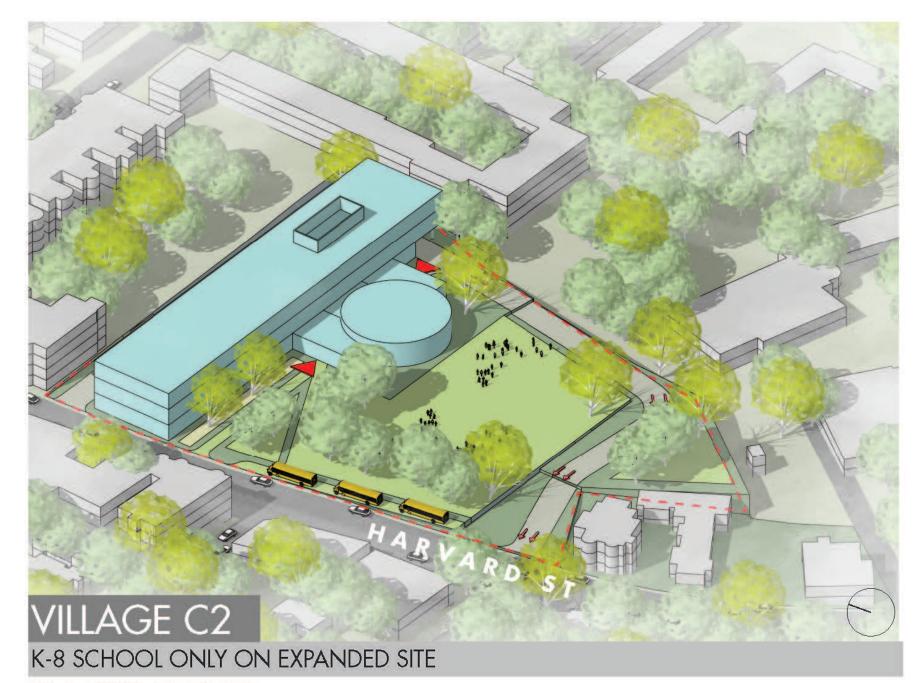


K-8 SCHOOL WITH STOP AND SHOP ON EXPANDED SITE WITH ASPINWALL ACCESS









## Next Steps

# THE PATH TOWARDS FINAL SITE SELECTION



### **Upcoming Public Meetings**



#### September-October 2016: Site Selection Final Public Input

- **September 8**: School Committee/Board of Selectmen joint meeting for JLA presentation on completed Site Selection Study findings
- **September 14**: Open House on Site Selection Study brief presentation followed by discussion at stations
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#### **Next Public Meeting**

**September 8** – Joint Board Meeting – Presentation of Site Selection Study

#### For ongoing updates

www.brookline.k12.ma.us/capitalprojects

#### To provide input

www.brookline.k12.ma.us/capitalprojects Look for "email a question or comment" link

#### **Upcoming Meetings**

To be notified of upcoming School Committee meetings, sign up at www.brooklinema.gov/list.aspx