Complete Streets Technical Assistance Program

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) Site Audit & Assessment Webinar: Naaman Williams Park, Franklin Township, NJ

October 2020

North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority

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Workshop Overview

- Housekeeping Issues
- Introductions
- CPTED Educational Workshop Recap
- Naaman Williams Park Community Survey
- Naaman Williams Park CPTED Site Audit and Assessments
- CPTED Recommendations
- Next Steps

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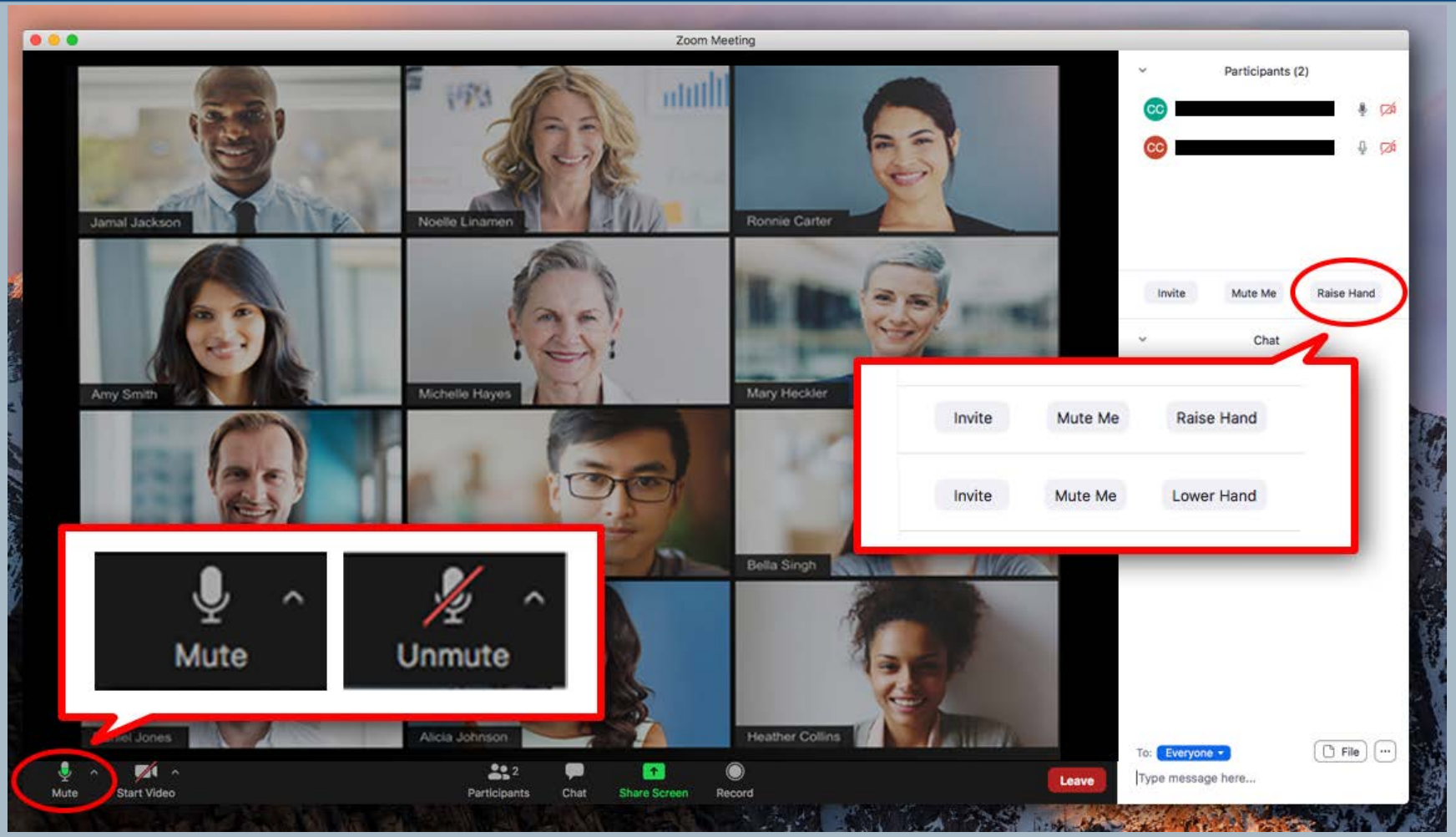
Housekeeping



Welcome to Zoom!

Introductions

- Project Partners
- First and Last Name
- Organizational Affiliation
- Did you attend the first CPTED educational workshop?

EDUCATIONAL WEBINAR RECAP:

Naaman Williams Memorial Park Educational Webinar Recap, August 2020

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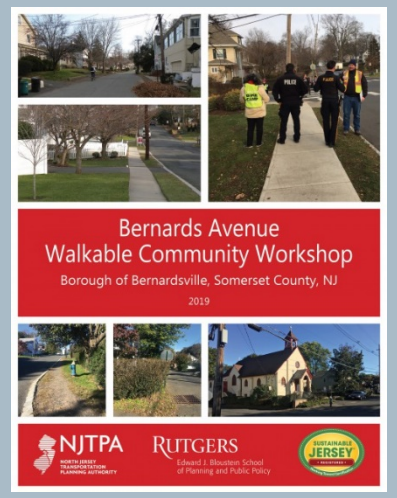
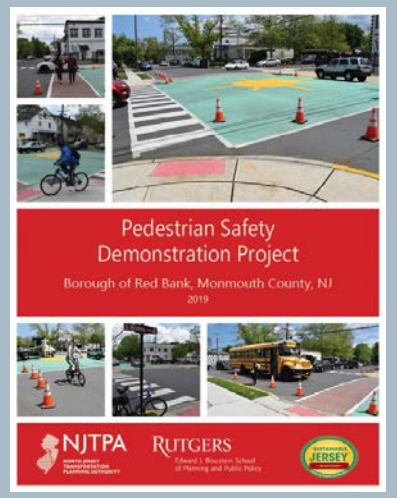
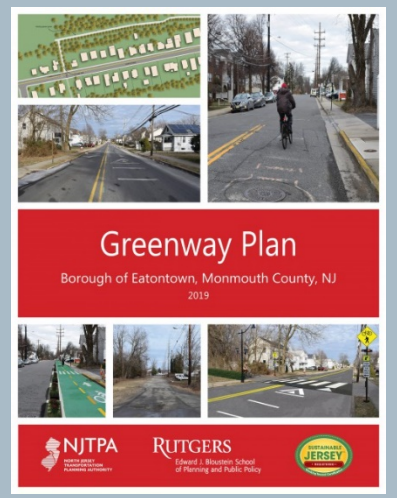
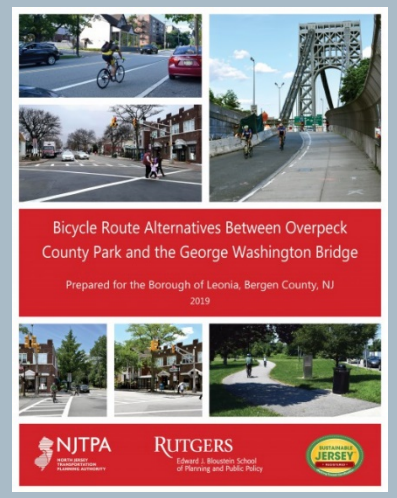
NJTPA Complete Streets Technical Assistance (CSTA) Program Overview

- CSTA Program Background
  - 9 communities in 2019
  - 8 communities in 2020
  - Complete Streets and CPTED









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CPTED Literature Review

- Evidence to support increasing walking, biking, and park use through CPTED:
  - Active Transportation
  - Trails
  - Parks and Open Space
  - Community Engagement and Leadership Models

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NAAMAN WILLIAMS PARK PROJECT OVERVIEW

- Project Purpose
- Project Description
- Project Tasks:
  - Background Technical Memo
  - CPTED Educational Webinar
  - Two-phase CPTED Audit & Site Assessments
  - CPTED Community Survey
  - CPTED Municipal Webpage
  - Final Report & Recommendations

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design *(1ST)*

- CPTED is defined as ”the ***proper design*** and ***effective use*** of the built environment that can lead to a reduction in the fear and incidence of crime and improvement in the quality of life.” – C. Ray Jeffrey (1971)

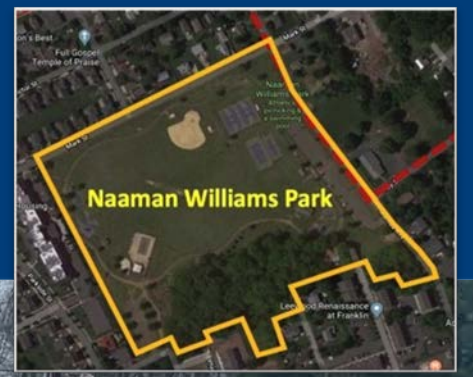
Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design *(2nd)*

- 2nd general CPTED is not a replacement for 1st generation CPTED.
- It is focused on community building and involvement to develop their self-policing capabilities, as people who are more actively involved in their communities are more likely to respond to an unacceptable activity in their area.

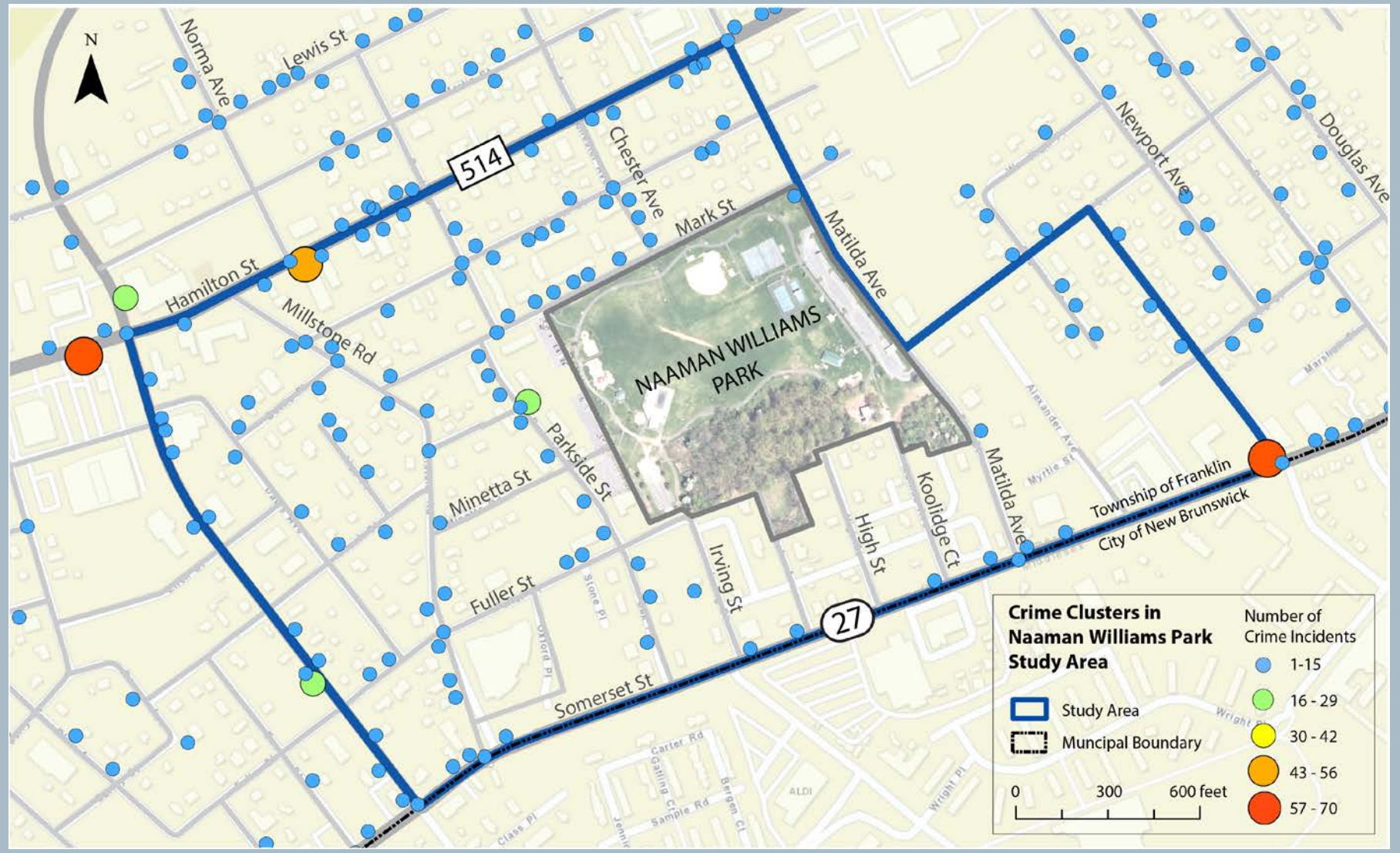
Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design *(3rd)*

- 3rd generation CPTED is defined as “adopting a holistic range of strategies addressing public health, sustainability, environment, and crime, in order to construct truly safe and high-quality environments.”

VIRTUAL SITE VISIT: NAAMAN WILLIAMS PARK



CRIME DATA: STUDY AREA



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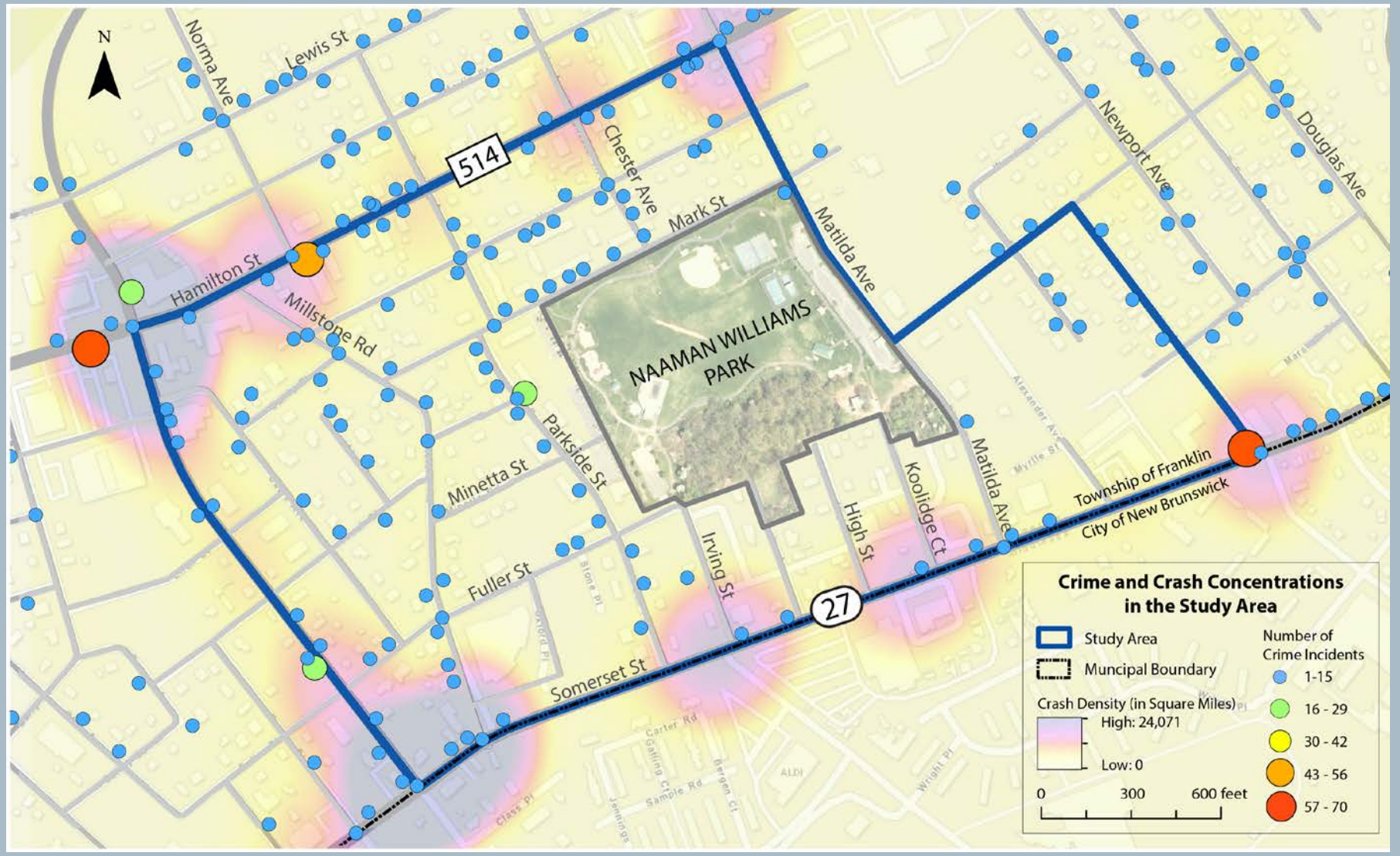
CRASH DATA: STUDY AREA

CRASH AND CRIME DATA (HOT SPOTS): STUDY AREA



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ZOOM BREAKOUT ROOMS

- **Zoom Breakout Room Discussion:**
  - Teams randomly assigned
  - 5 minutes per team *(time running concurrently)*
  - Keep it brief. No dominating the discussion
  - Assign one person to report out

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CPTED AUDIT & SITE ASSESSMENT CHECKLIST

Link: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfNlUKGlI4UkmJv6KtddNiBkFSJSgQnloIxExWJsYsMmGyJTw/viewform

QUESTIONS

SURVEY FINDINGS:

Naaman Williams Memorial Park Community Survey, 2019

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Naaman Williams Park Community Survey

Survey Results:

- 30 survey responses
- Majority of respondents were:
  - Male
  - 45 to 54 years old
  - High school or some college
  - Employed full-time
  - Black or African-American
  - Hispanic
  - Two or more cars in household
  - Somerset residents

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Community Survey: Frequency, Travel & Purpose

Survey Results:

- 5 or more times a week
- Less than 5 minutes; 15 to 19 mins
- Majority walk to the park
- Majority drive when they can’t walk
- Consider it ”very easy” to walk to the park
- Split on ease of bicycling to the park
- Purposes for visiting park:
  - Walk
  - Supervise or play with children
  - Relax
  - Socialize with friends & family

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Community Survey: Needs and Concerns

Survey Results:

- Important park features:
  - Parking lots/areas
  - Benches/places to sit and relax
  - Year-round restrooms
  - Streetlights along paths/trails
  - Picnic areas
  - Having soccer or baseball fields
- Concerns:
  - Being a victim of crime
  - Being stopped by police
  - Being attacked by animals/insects

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QUESTIONS

CPTED SITE AUDIT & ASSESSMENT PART I:

Naaman Williams Memorial Park Community CPTED Site Audit & Assessment

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Naaman Williams Park Community CPTED Audit

Community Site Audit Results:

- Noted Observations/Allegations:
  - Illegal dumping
  - Alcohol and drug use
  - Drug dealing, gun violence & gang activity
  - Overgrown vegetation/wetlands
  - Police harassment
  - Lack of security
  - Tensions between neighbors
  - Lighting spillage

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Naaman Williams Park Community CPTED Audit

Site Audit Recommendations:

- Installation of security cameras
- Routine Police Patrols
- Elimination of or fencing of Wetland areas
- Complete closure of the park
- Relocation of the park
- Organized community clean ups
- Installation of lighting in and around the park
- Make the wetlands more accessible

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QUESTIONS

CPTED SITE AUDIT & ASSESSMENT PART II:

Most Notable Observations and Recommendations

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CPTED: GENERAL IMPRESSIONS

- **What are your gut reactions to this park?**
- **How comfortable do you feel?**
- **What makes you feel this way?**

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CPTED: COMPLETE STREETS

Complete Streets are streets that are designed, operated, and maintained with all users and all abilities in mind.

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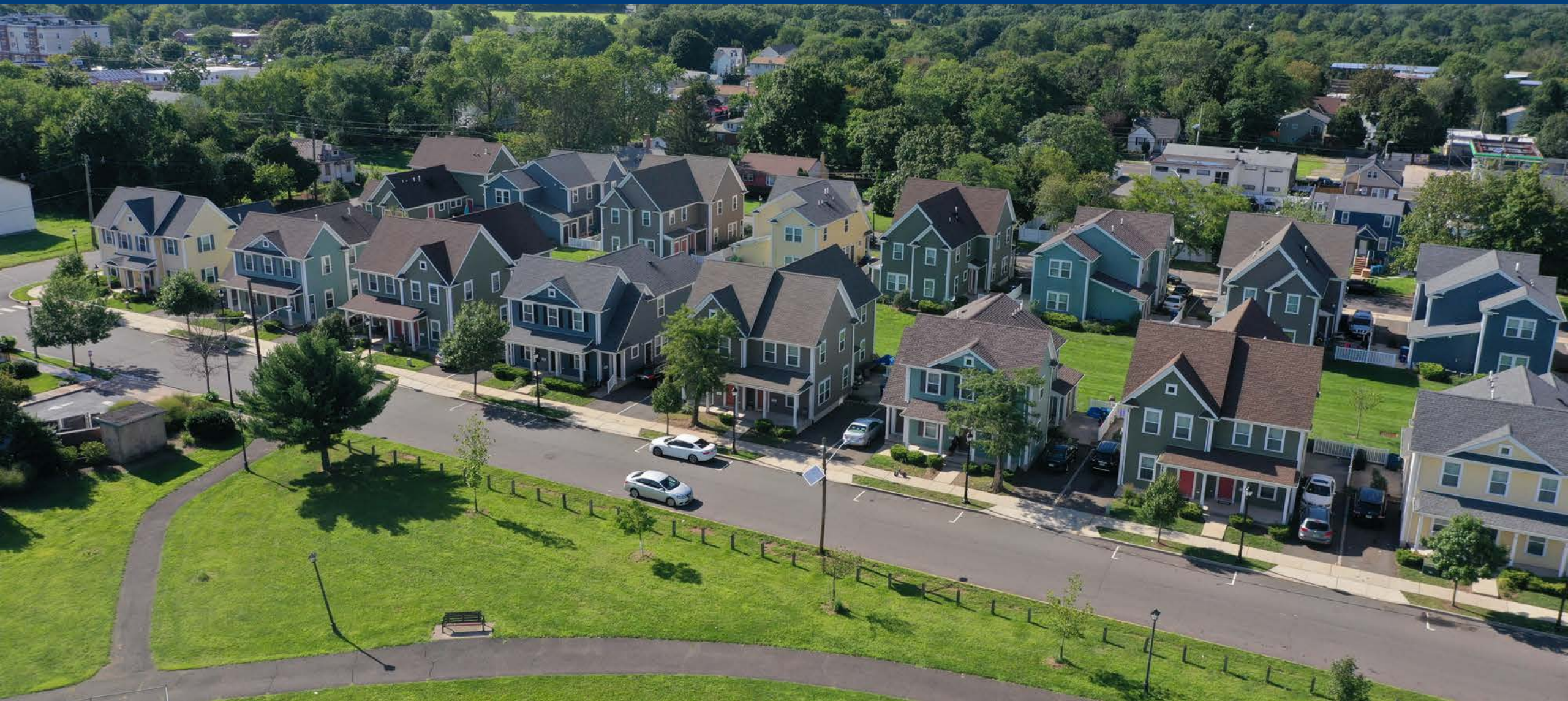

CPTED: COMPLETE STREETS

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CPTED: NATURAL SURVEILLANCE

- **Natural surveillance is “the placement of physical features, activities, and people in a way that maximizes visibility.”**
- Designing landscapes that allow clear, unobstructed views of surrounding areas

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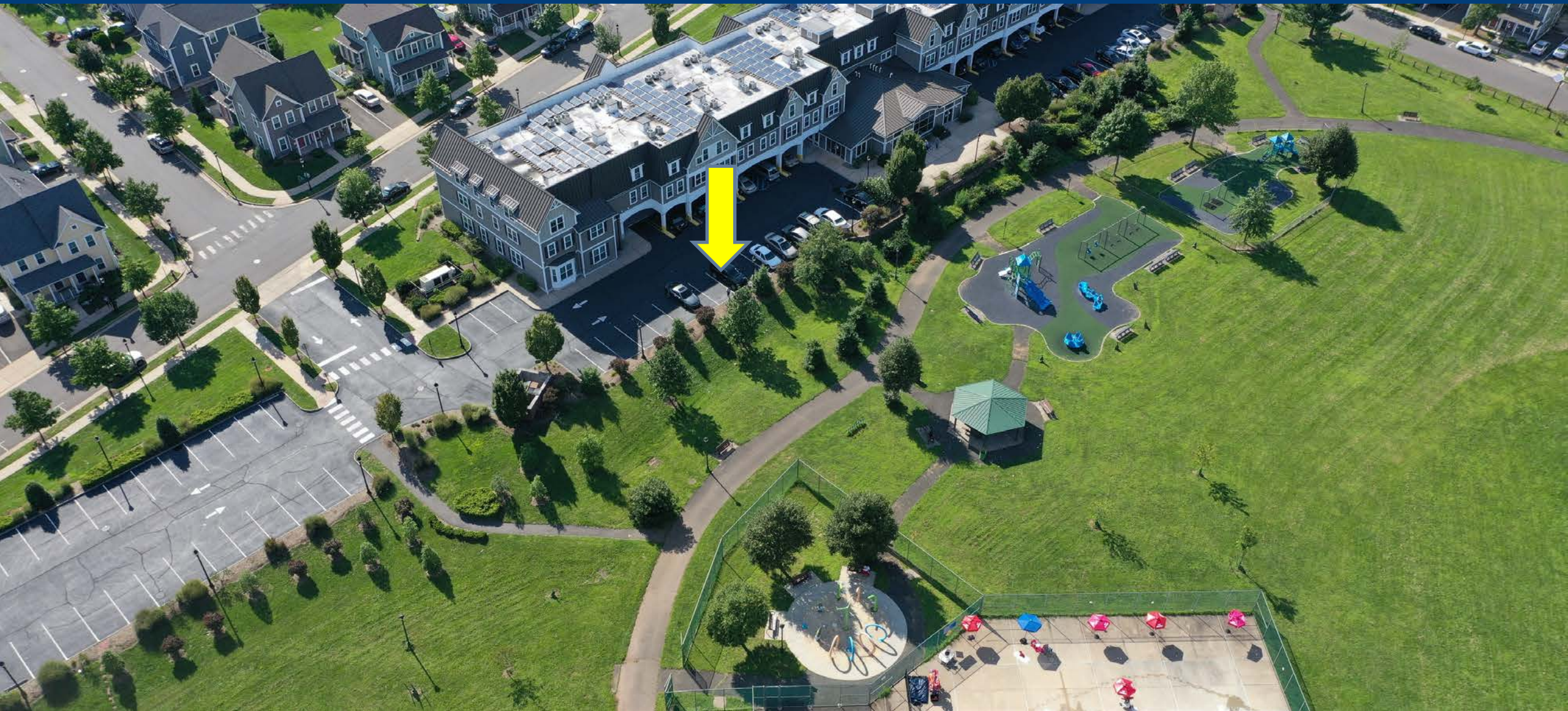

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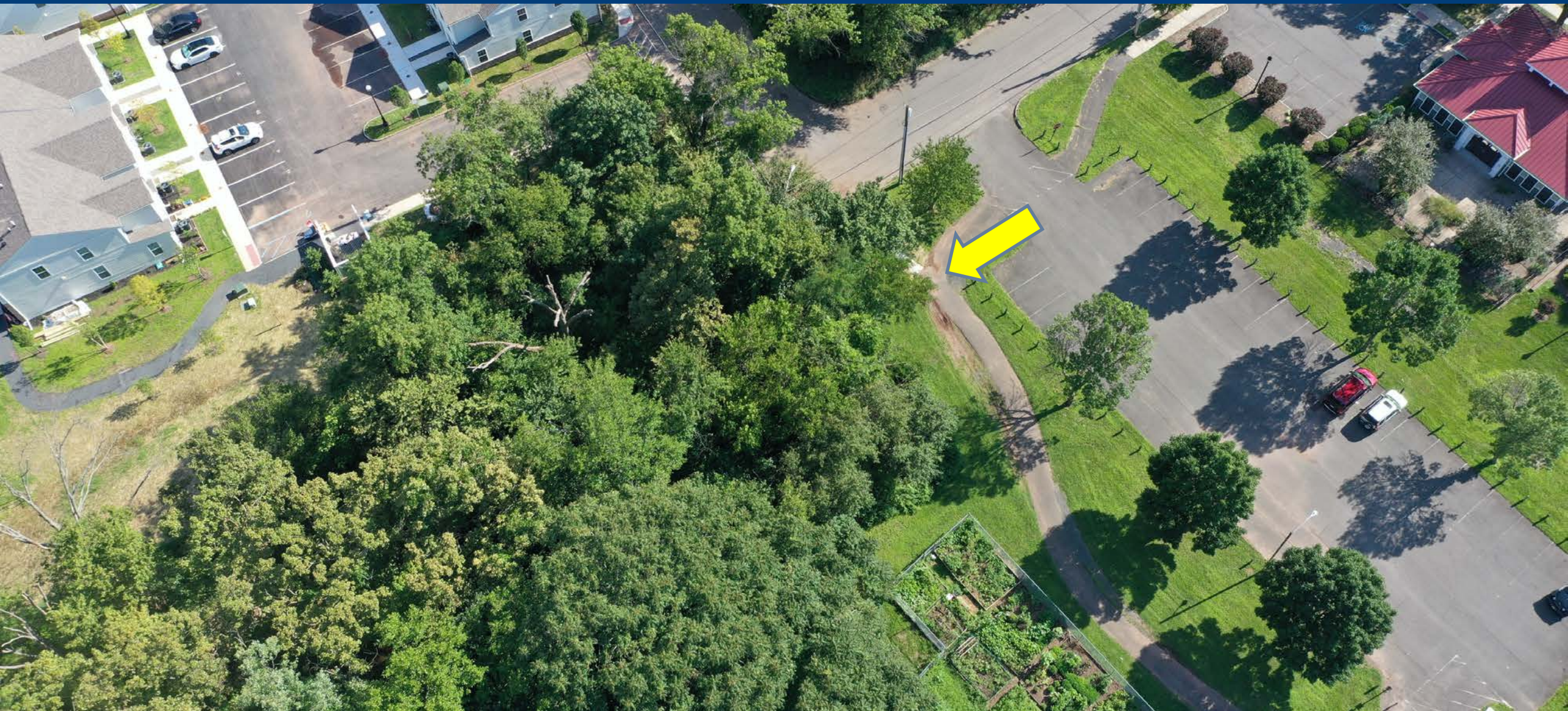

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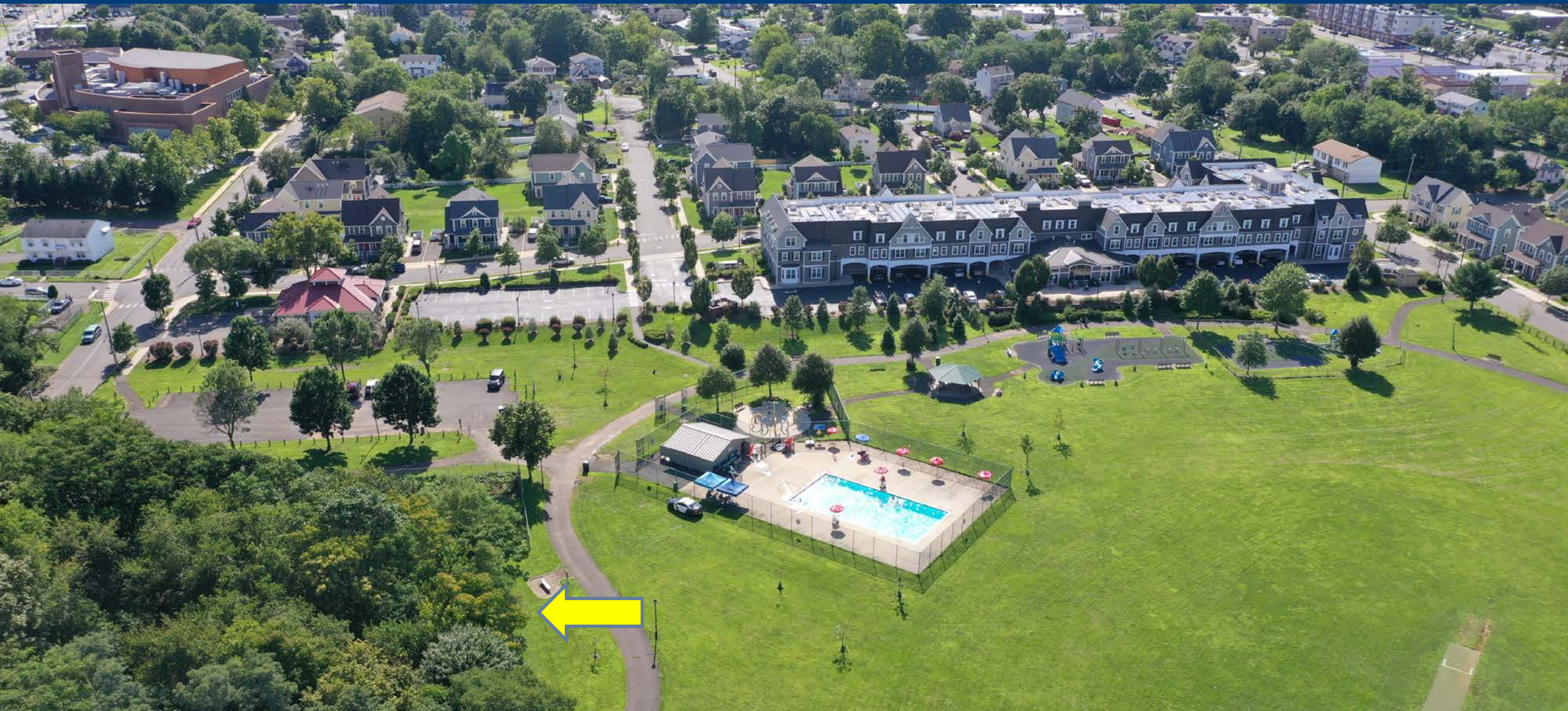

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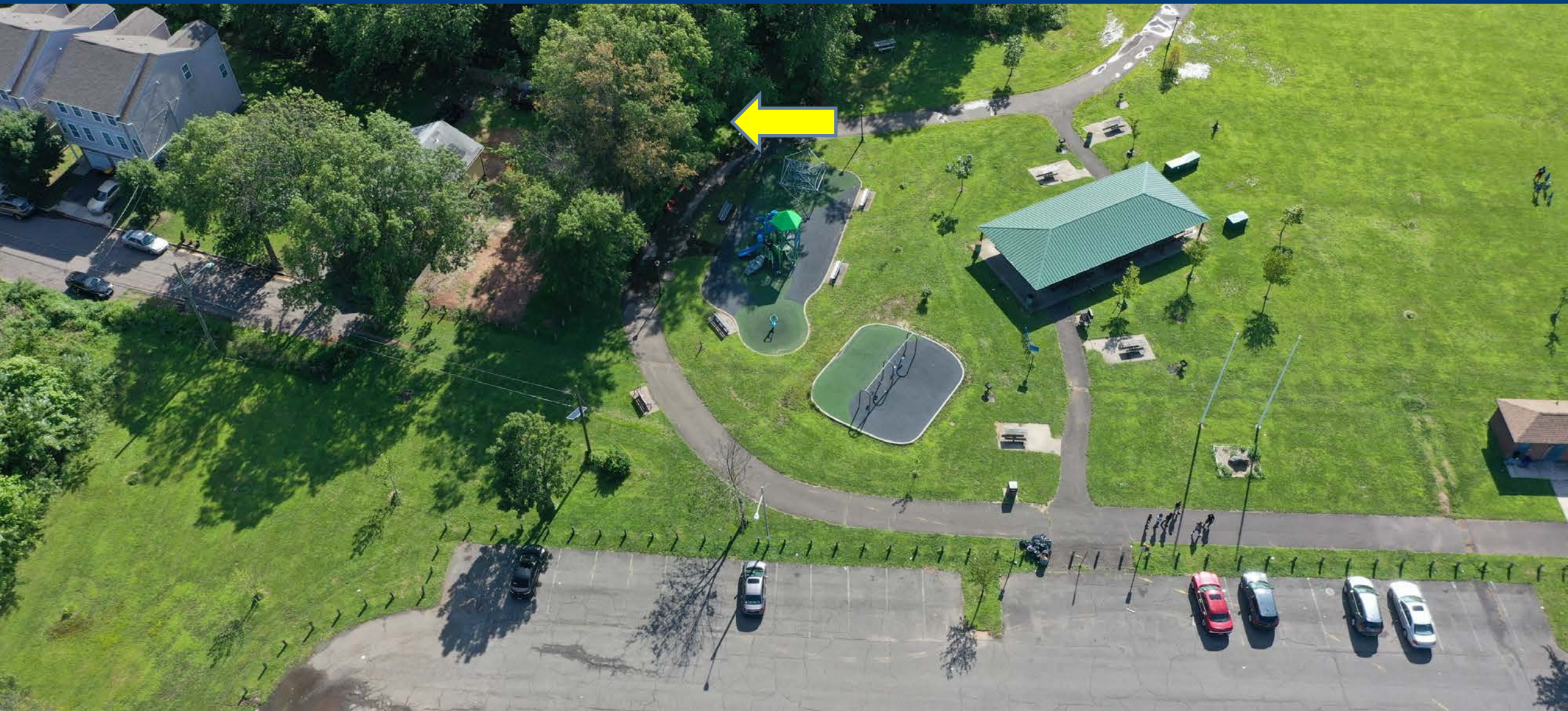

QUESTIONS

CPTED: NATURAL ACCESS CONTROL

- **Natural access control means "controlling access to a site."**
- It can be controlled by:
  - Ensuring entrances are visible
  - Defining entryways
  - Highlighting the main entrance
  - Marking public walkways/paths
  - Installing a wayfinding system

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CPTED: NATURAL ACCESS CONTROL

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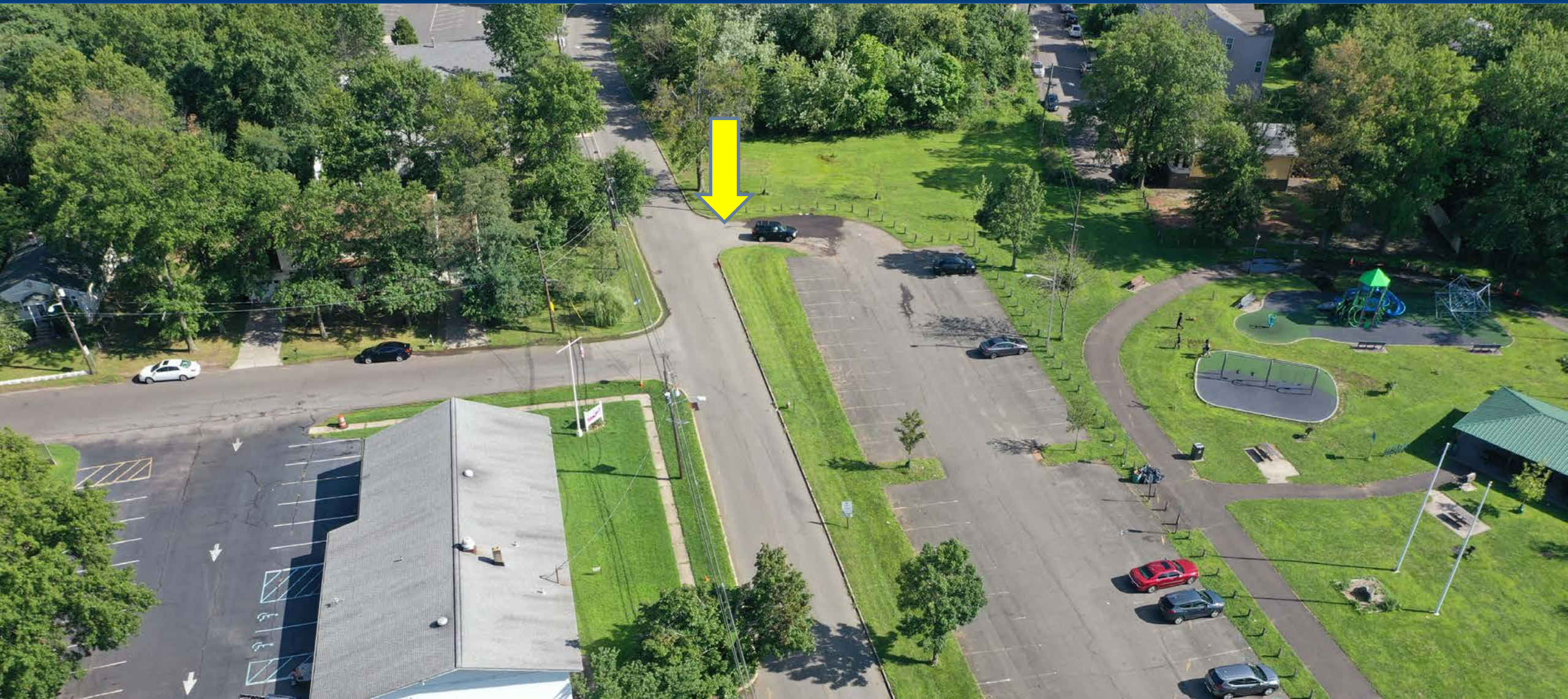

QUESTIONS

CPTED: TERRITORIAL REINFORCEMENT

- **Territorial reinforcement "refers to people's sense of ownership."**
- The use of physical attributes that express ownership
- Examples: fencing, pavement treatments, signage & landscaping

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CPTED: TERRITORIAL REINFORCEMENT

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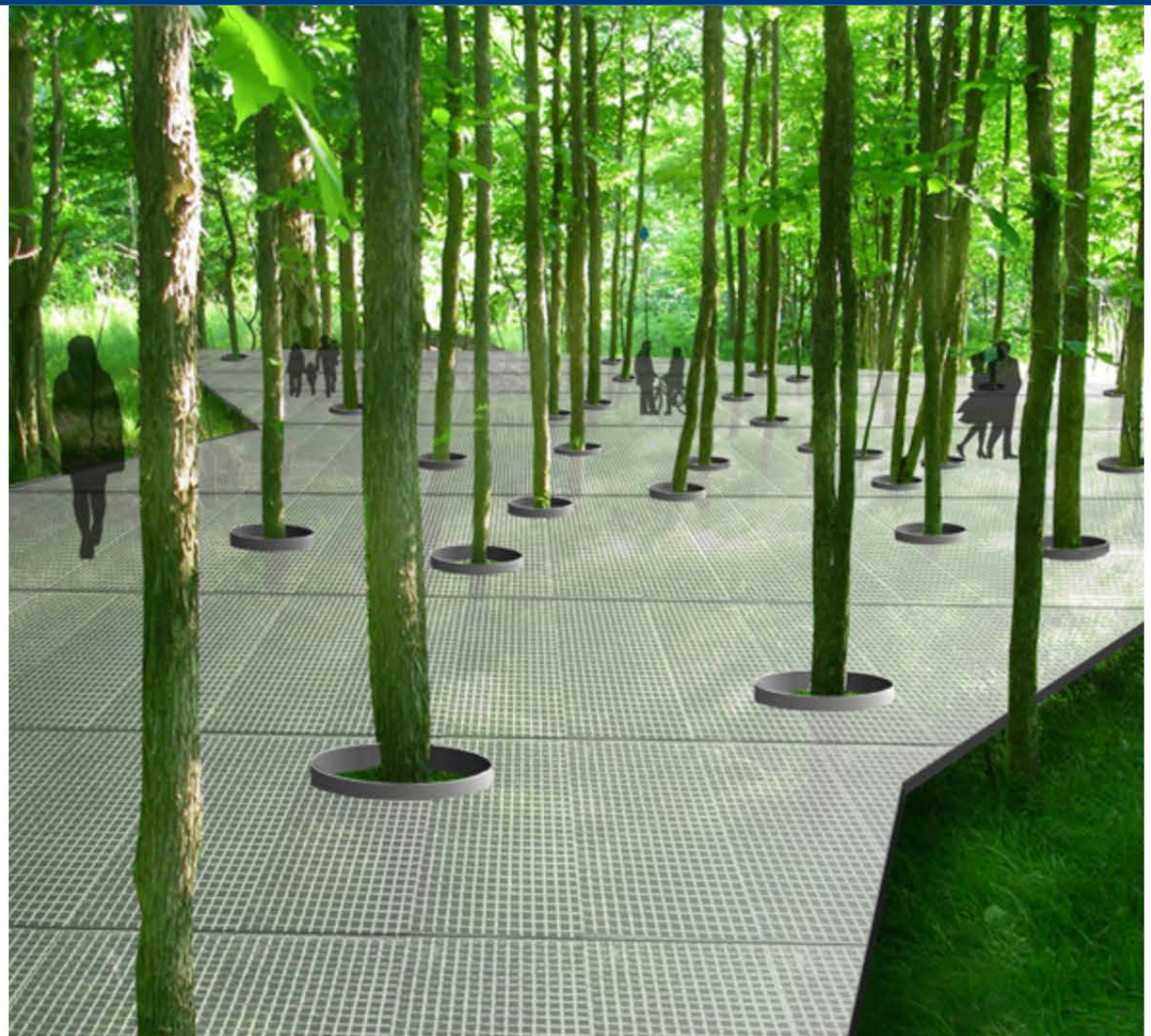
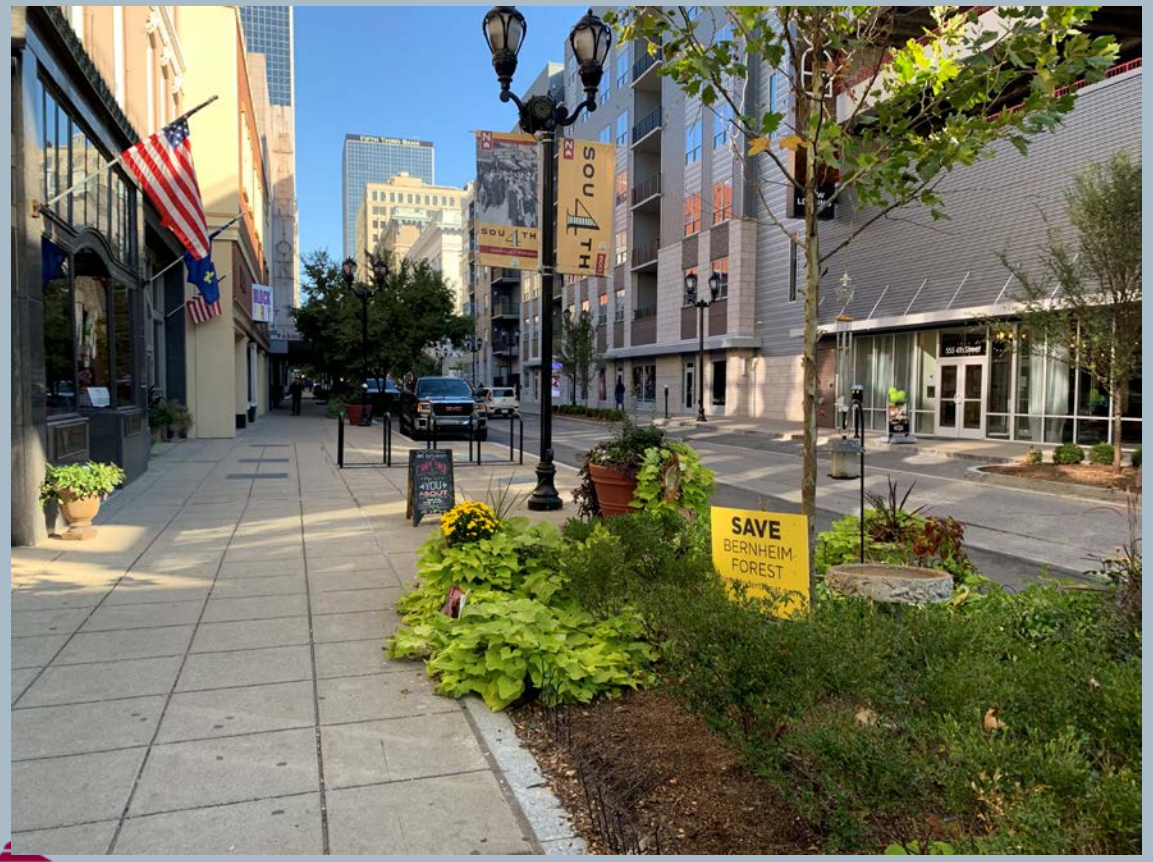


QUESTIONS

CPTED: MAINTENANCE & MANAGEMENT



- **Image maintenance and management** is “properly maintaining and managing a space that indicates active involvement of, and guardianship and ownership among legitimate users.”

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CPTED: MAINTENANCE & MANAGEMENT

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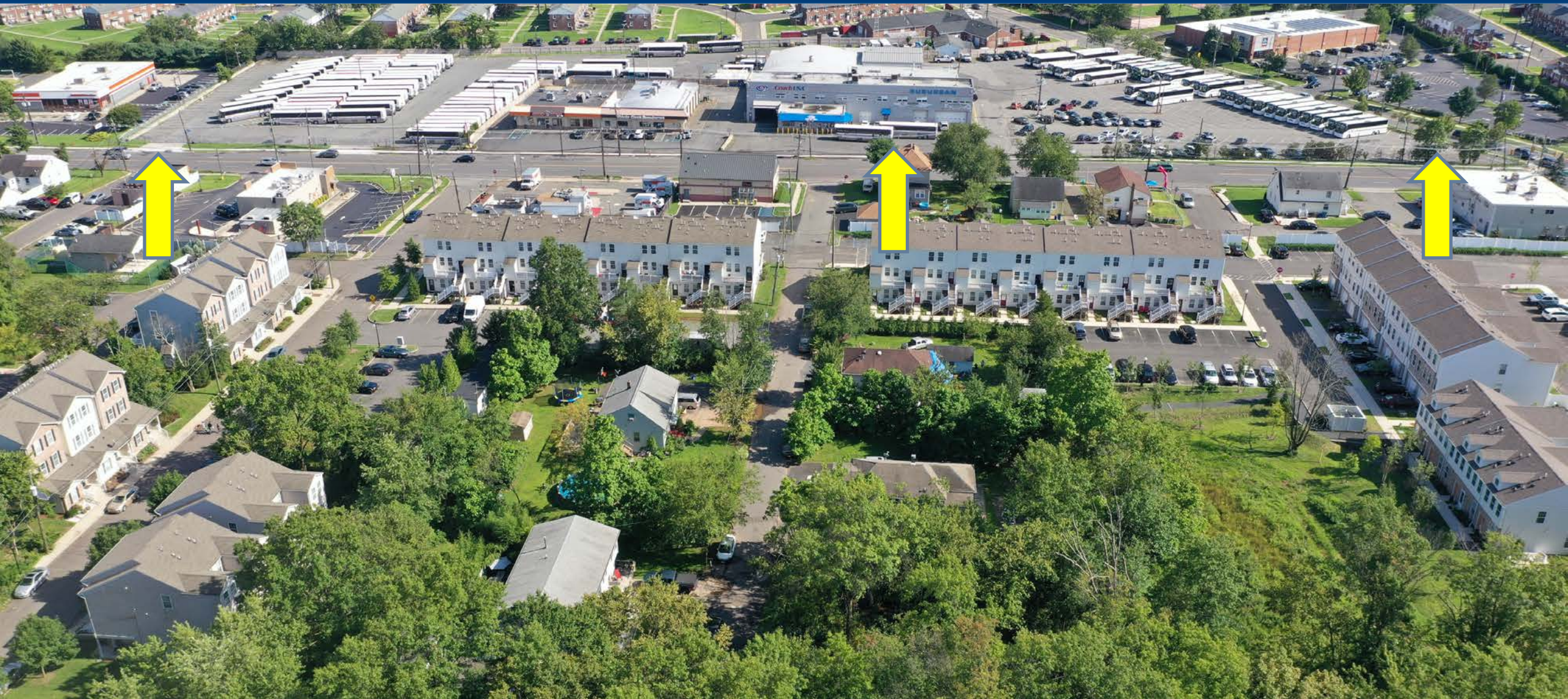
CPTED: OTHER CONSIDERATIONS



QUESTIONS

INSTITUTIONALIZING CPTED

- **Develop a CPTED Task Force or Action Committee**
  - Law Enforcement
  - Public Works
  - Code Enforcement
  - Parks and Recreation
  - Community Residents
  - Business Leaders
- Adopt a CPTED Ordinance/Resolution
- Fully incorporate into planning, development review, etc.

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Safety Strategies: Select Innovative Programs

- Movies in the Park (Vanier, Canada)
- Parks After Dark (LA County, CA)
- Houlihan Park (Planada, CA)
- Homestead Park (Youngstown, OH)
- CAN DO Houston (Houston, TX)
- Block Clubs (Chicago, IL)
- Village Green Park (Macon, GA)
- Summer Night Lights (Los Angeles, CA)
- Bryant Park (New York, NY)

Safety Strategies: Factors to Consider in Creating Safe Parks

- Locate programmed activities near the park perimeter
- Bring food concessions along the park edge
- Maximize human presence
- Create programming and physical design
- Develop activities beyond those organized sports facilities & playgrounds
- Offer a variety of tours or events
- Address safety perceptions

Safety Strategies: Illegal Park Dumping

- Address conditions that encourage it
- Increase the effort
- Increase the risk of getting caught
- Reduce the rewards: deny financial benefits
- Reduce provocations
- Remove excuses
- Develop web-based dump site database
- Encourage adoption and cleanup
- Provide education
- Implement monitoring program

Safety Strategies: People Living in Parks

- Utilize an empathetic approach
- Collaborate with other community leaders
- Deploy a cross-agency and cross-sector response
- Make existing facilities safer and more useful
- Address the public perception of homelessness
- Owning your role as a conduit of services
- Embracing the power of positive programming
- Investing in staff training

QUESTIONS

THANK YOU AND NEXT STEPS

We appreciate you taking time out of your busy schedules to join us today.

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Send additional comments and suggestions to:
heaslya@tcnj.edu

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