



MUSKOSEEPI PARK

GRANDE PRAIRIE, ALBERTA

MASTER PLAN REPORT

APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL:

NOVEMBER 2ND, 2009



MESA



FOREWARD

We welcome you to the comprehensive vision for Muskoseepi Park. The Muskoseepi Parks Department, in collaboration with park stakeholders, has established this master plan to develop guidelines and strategies for the future development and preservation of this park for generations of future visitors.

This effort comes at a critical time in the future of Grande Prairie, one of the fastest growing cities in Alberta. The site where Centennial Park claims the east bank of Bear Creek has been a central gathering place even before Grande Prairie’s pioneer days. Grande Prairie’s settlement started around this creek meander and the town began to develop. The term “Centennial Park” was created in 1967 to commemorate the 100th birthday of Canada and then quickly became a popular site for community activities. Muskoseepi Park, a Cree word meaning “Bear Creek,” as we know it today did not come to concept until 1980 and officially opened in 1986. Through the “Urban Park Program,” early efforts of citizens and the Alberta Provincial Government shaped the park into the successful community landmark that it is today. This plan seeks to capitalize upon the legacy of public celebration and recreation in Muskoseepi Park and frame a vision for the next 50 years of this dynamic open space.

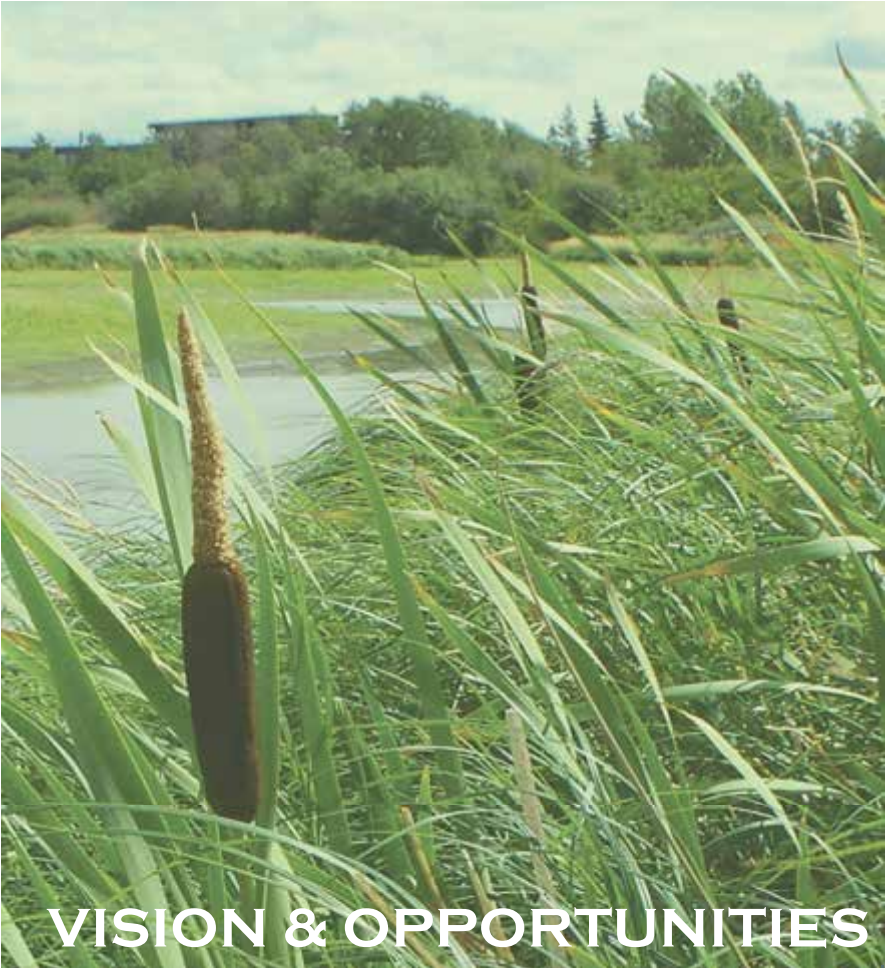
Grande Prairie citizens, user groups, and staff deserve a heartfelt thanks for the significant effort they undertook to help craft this vision. The interest, diligence and enthusiasm displayed in community meetings and throughout the course of this work should reassure the entire community of the value that will be derived from enhancing and preserving this valuable community asset.

Based on the recommendations included in this plan we will work diligently with the community over the coming years to implement this vision. It is our hope that when future generations experience Muskoseepi Park they will recognize the efforts of those whose vision made it possible. This is just the beginning of Muskoseepi Park’s preservation and we encourage all of Grande Prairie to work together to realize this initiative.



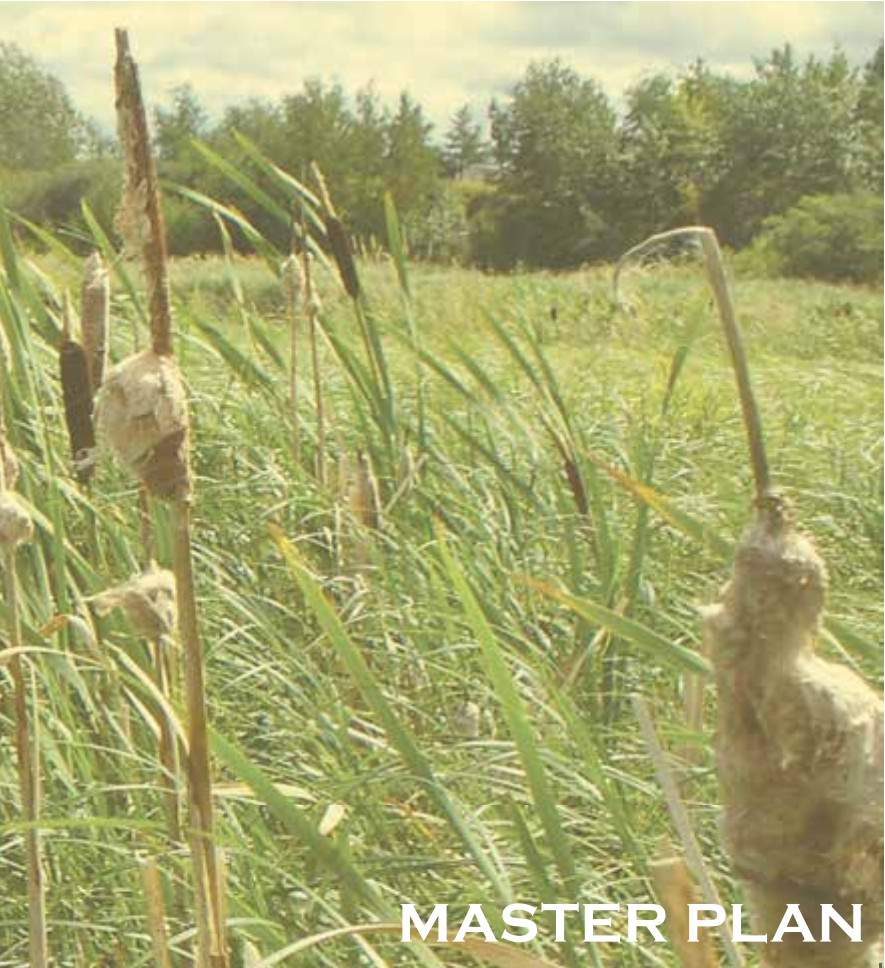
ASSESSMENTS

CONTEXT
RELATIONSHIPS
SENSITIVITY ASSESSMENTS
EXPERIENTIAL
THEREFORE STATEMENTS



VISION & OPPORTUNITIES

STAKE HOLDER INTERVIEWS
PUBLIC INPUT
PUBLIC SURVEYS
GOAL MATRIX
PRIORITIZED GOALS



MASTER PLAN

MASTER PLAN
PROJECTS
PROJECT PRIORITIES
IMPLEMENTATION

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INTRODUCTION

A city’s parks are a strong element in its overall sense of identity. Following approximately 20 kilometers along the Bear Creek corridor, Muskoseepi Park is Grande Prairie’s central green space with more than 1100 acres. The site is a testament to the foresight of the City leaders as it has been a community resource for many years. Even with the park’s previous success, its full potential has not yet been realized as the park is continuing to change and expand northward with new development.

The master plan for Muskoseepi Park creates a setting for multiple experiences. Muskoseepi Park will be an accessible destination where the public gathers for special events and civic celebrations. Individuals and families will exercise and escape the urban streetscape for an experience in the natural environment. Children will learn about the heritage of the land and see nature in action. The plan respects the past while responding to the variety of demands of the future citizens of the City of Grande Prairie.

In order to balance the desire for preservation and the need for park programming, the City has commissioned a new master plan for the site. This master plan will serve as a guide for all future development, land management, and programming of Muskoseepi Park. The goal of this effort is to provide a flexible yet firm vision that directs and balances public access and natural system conservation. Built upon a foundation of environmental analysis, this plan strives to convey a vision that reflects the regional character of Grande Prairie and an appreciation for the community values of preserving natural open space for future generations. This planning process is described as follows:



PROCESS OVERVIEW

This document represents the collaboration of a year long process to develop a planning vision. In order to create a comprehensive master plan, it is critical to step back and attain a full appreciation of the past and current scenario surrounding facilities, programs, and operations. The City staff and general public assisted with their input and suggestions regarding their personal experiences in the park.

The following outlines the general process of the Muskoseepi Park planning effort. The diagram (at right) depicts how each component of the process plays a role in realizing the final planning vision and the implementation strategy. Each of these steps is articulated in greater detail in the proceeding chapters

ASSESSMENTS & ANALYSIS

The process began with an inventory of the park’s character and its existing condition. This analysis included inventory of existing facilities, natural systems, buildings, site conditions, existing programs & activities, contextual relationships, connections to the community, and experiential analyses.

The design team also looked at how this master plan would relate to adjacent City planning initiatives. Numerous plans were coordinated with the analysis and design. These plans played a critical role in making connections to future planned areas.



INPUT PROCESS

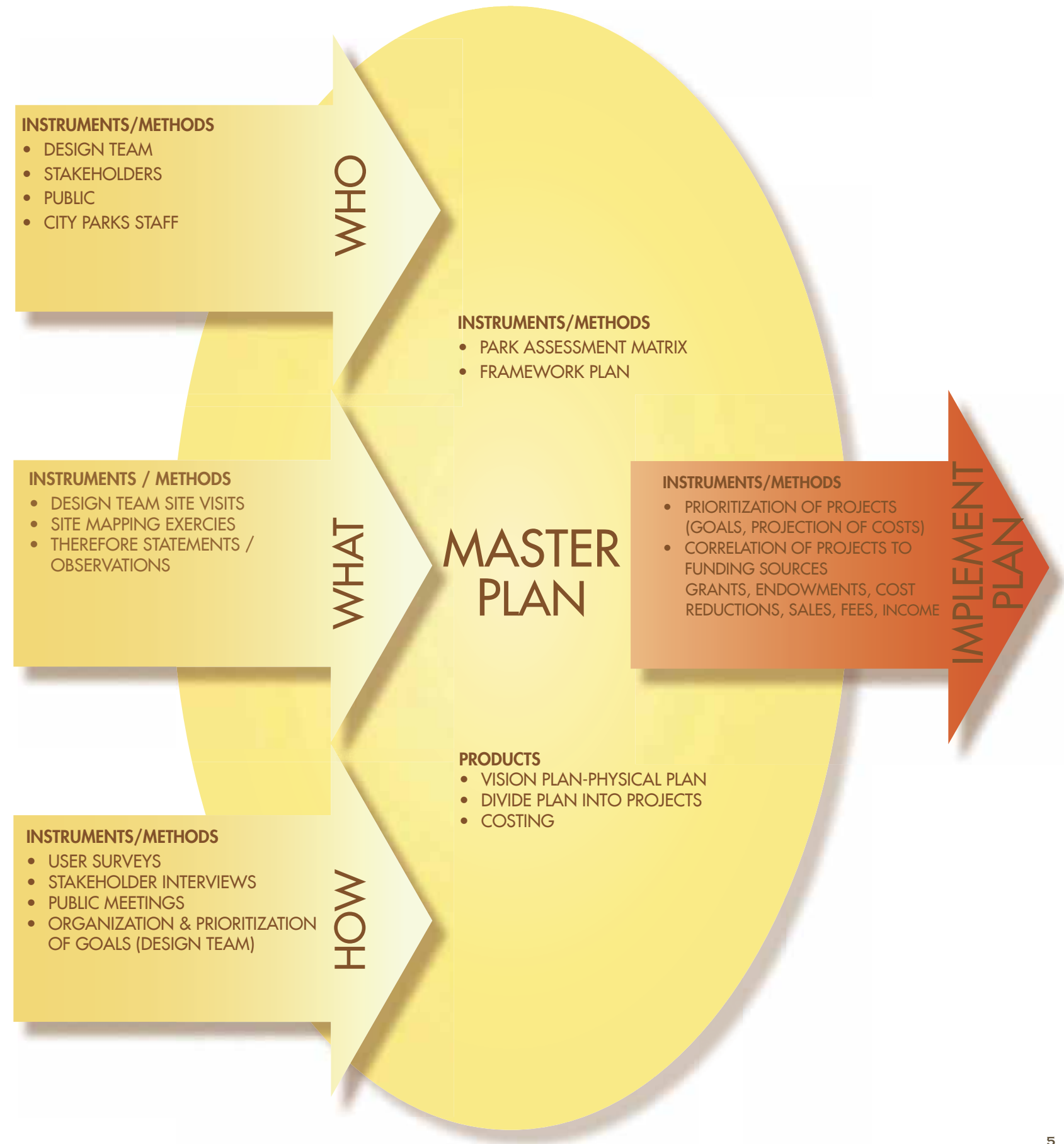
Public engagement is critical in the planning process, generating dynamic ideas and building consensus and ownership of the plan. Public input was invited to solicit concerns, comments, and suggestions about the park. City staff and multiple City departments were also invited for their perspective and comments on the park planning process. These were conducted via online surveys, general public meetings, and stakeholder group meetings. All comments were then compiled and consistently referenced when framing the project vision.

THE PLAN

The project vision addressed and was compared extensively to both the previously compiled assessments and community goals. These community goals outline ecological, program, and facility initiatives. The vision plan further divides the master plan into a series of attainable “projects” that are components of the whole. The vision plan is a flexible tool that guides all decisions regarding park development. While the plan is flexible and will continue to evolve over time, the strong framing principles of this master plan will guide the updating of priorities encountered over time.

This plan should be consistently referenced and reviewed as a guide and tool toward realizing the vision. This document ranks and categorizes all of the individual master plan “projects” into a priority framework that suggests phasing options and potential funding sources. Detailed line-item cost projections are included in the appendix for each project. Critical path and health-safety-welfare projects are highlighted. All of these tools strive to support the City of Grande Prairie with a realistic approach toward implementation.





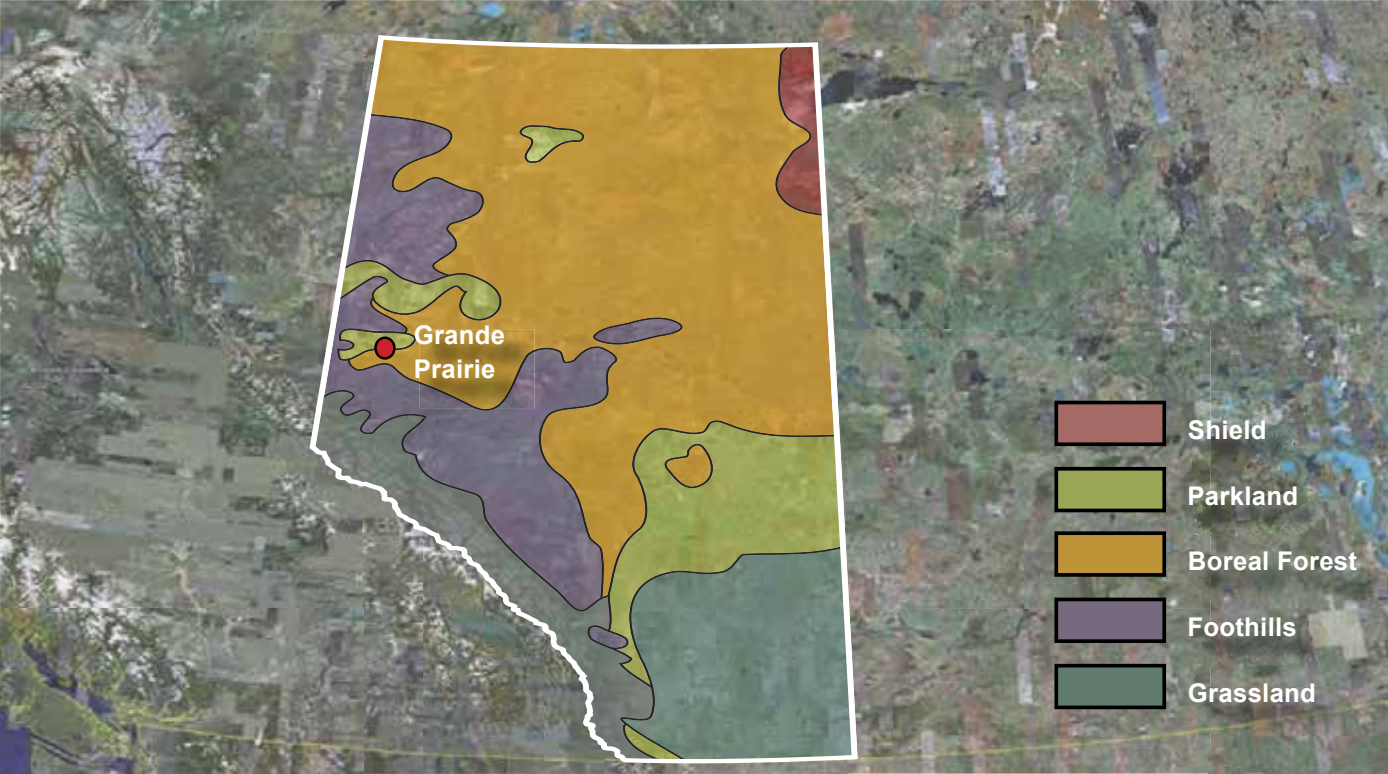




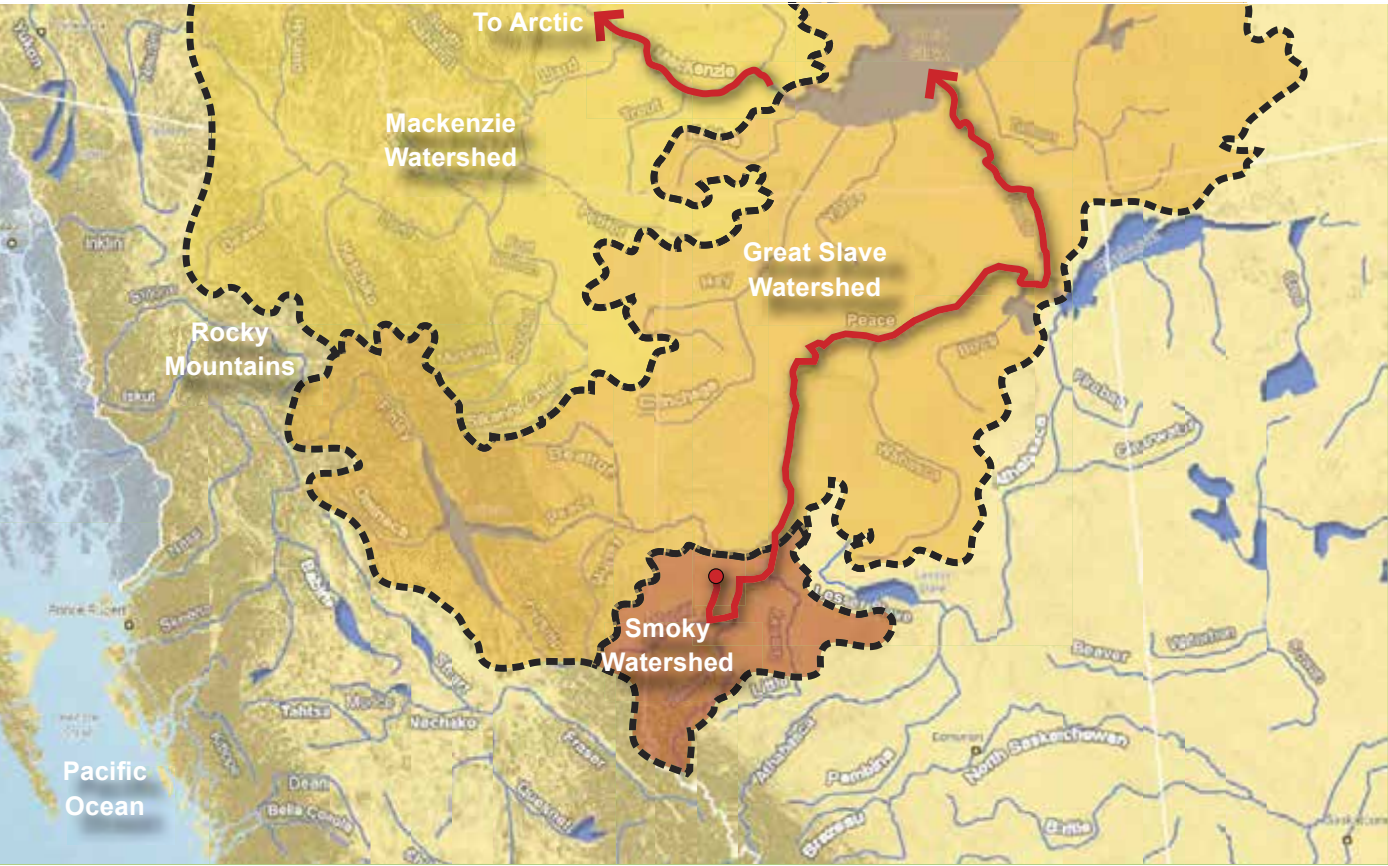
ASSESSMENTS



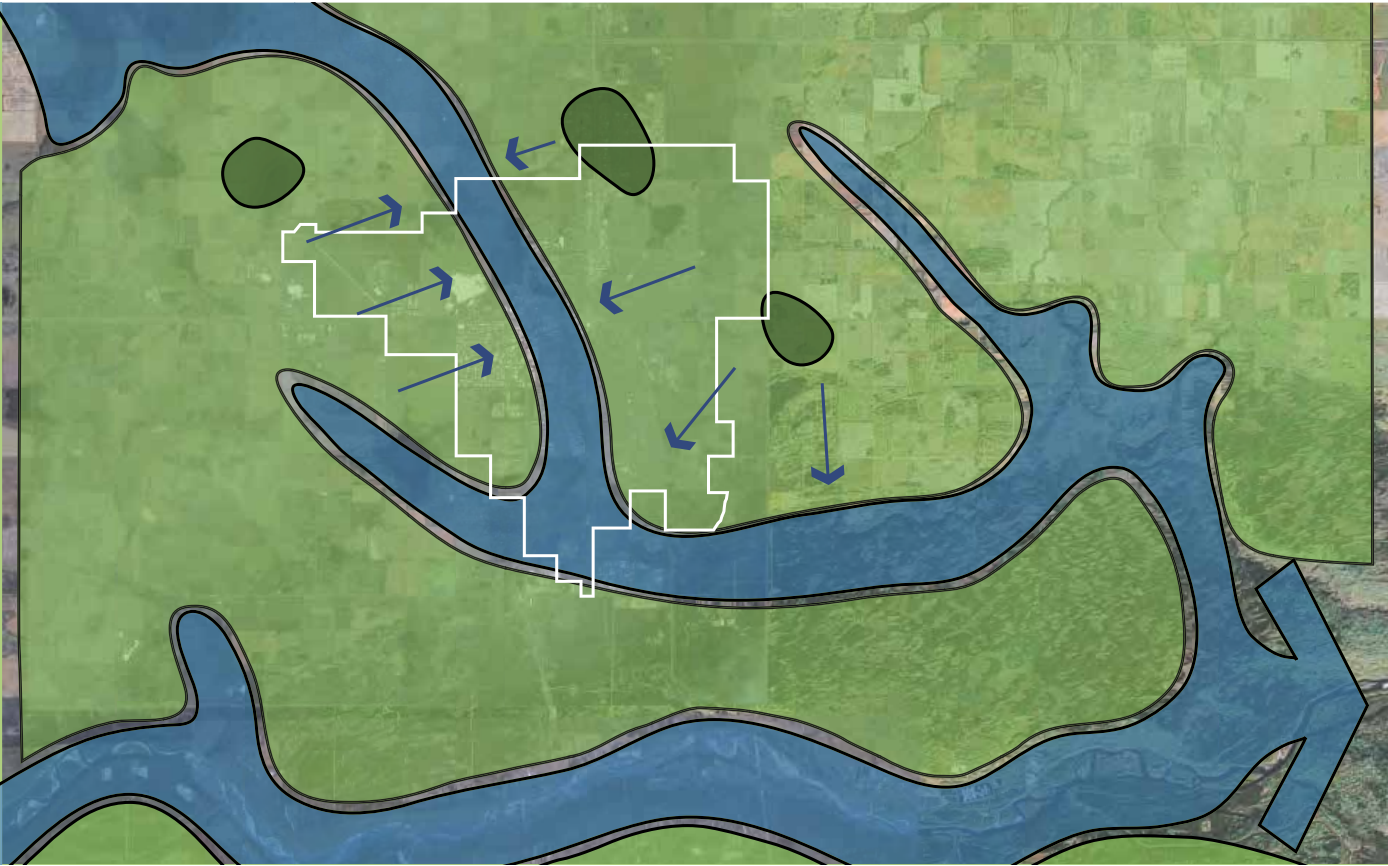
MIGRATORY PATTERNS



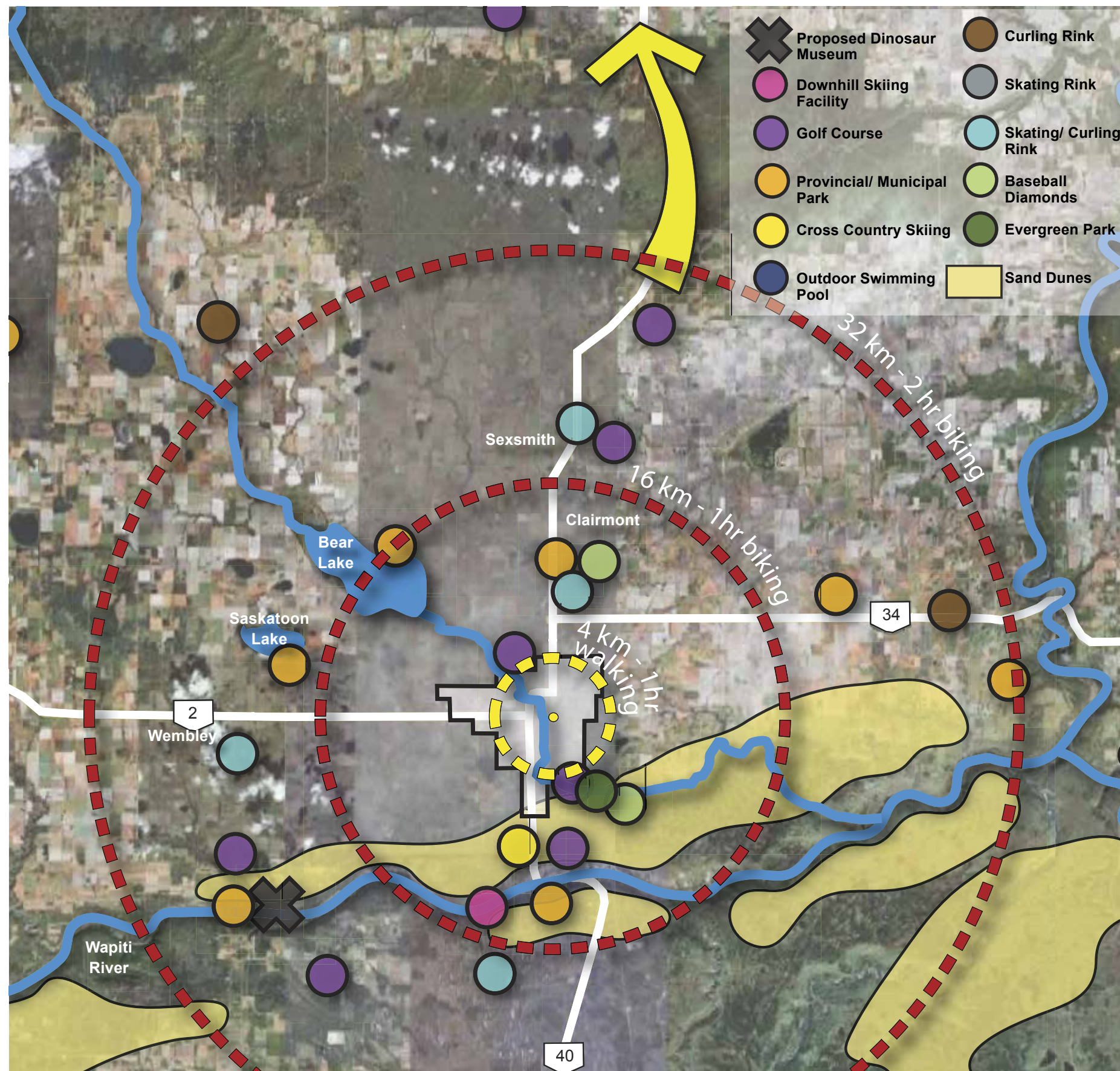
ECO REGION



WATERSHEDS



LANDFORMS



CONTEXT

NATURAL SYSTEM CONTEXT

Muskoseepi Park comprises significant landholding along the Bear Creek corridor that which can make a positive impact on natural systems both upstream and downstream of the park boundaries. Those opportunities should be capitalized upon as continued encroachment on public park lands and wildlife corridors are stressed due to current and future surrounding development.

To evaluate certain aspects of Muskoseepi Park's natural systems, it is imperative to comprehend the regional context. Knowing how Grande Prairie and Muskoseepi Park fit within these larger systems ensures that the plan complements, rather than conflicts with, the broader ecological context of Alberta.

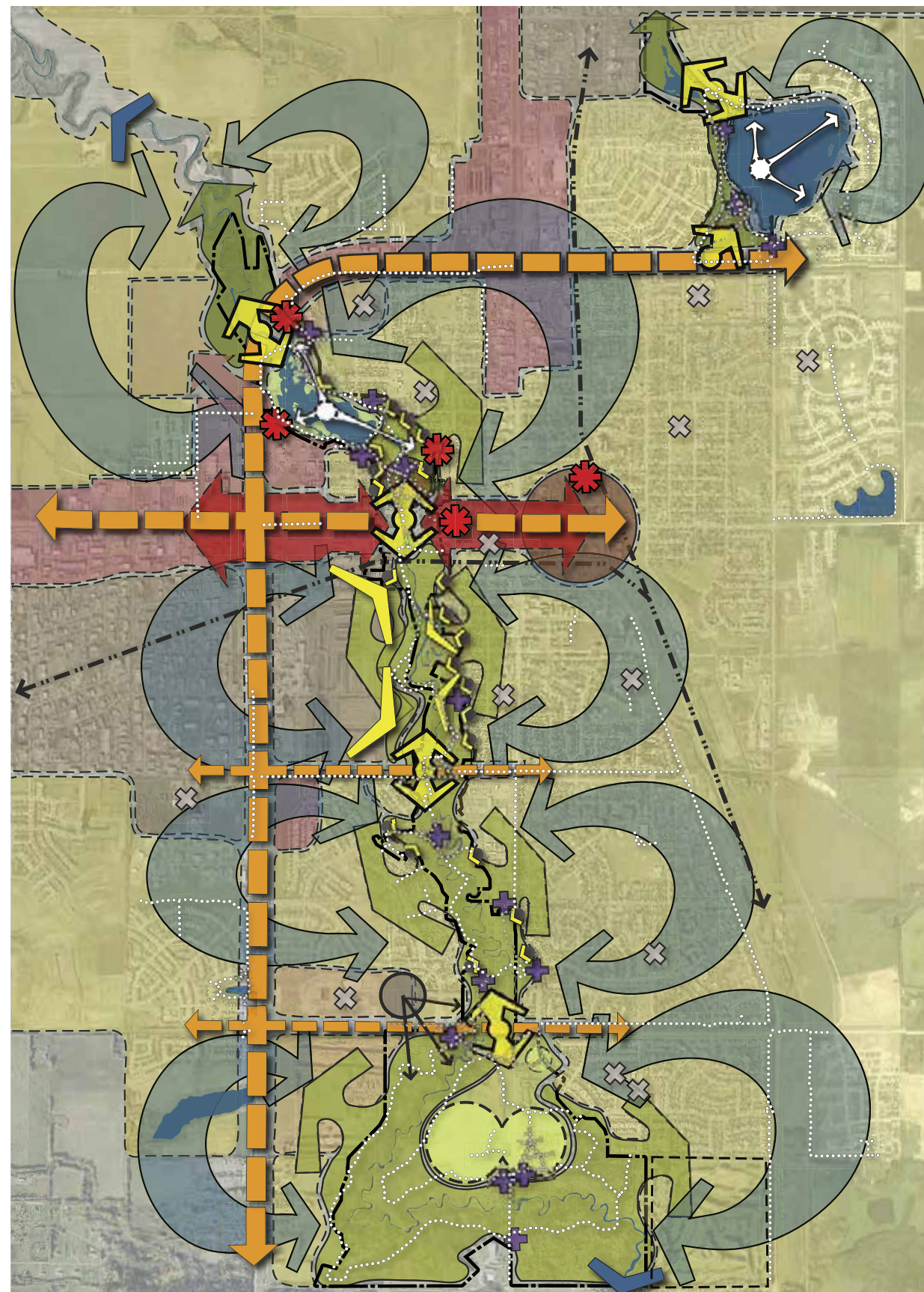
Of the various stakeholder meetings, the Peace Parkland Naturalists specifically spoke about migratory patterns and wildlife corridors. Muskoseepi Park is a significant corridor for **wildlife**, including **migratory birds** and waterfowl drawn to the creek and water bodies and wetland habitat. Several factors for day to day park maintenance will be crucial in ensuring habitat passage is secure. For example, to maintain bird cover, responsible mowing practices and preserved buffers must be implemented.









Muskoseepi Park is unique in its placement within Alberta's **eco regions**. In the South Bear Creek region, the transition from Parkland to Boreal Forest eco region becomes apparent with vegetation and wildlife changes. South Bear Creek transitions from open meadows to large forest cover with aspen, tamarack, pine, and black spruce trees. This should be incorporated into the overall interpretive and educational tools used in the park.

Shaping these eco regions are the **landforms** and **watersheds**. Grande Prairie sets within the Smoky River Watershed, several major watersheds upland before reaching the Arctic Ocean. This placement affords positive impacts on the larger system of water bodies downstream, including the potential for cleaner channels and encouragement of healthy wildlife. Muskoseepi Park can mitigate impacts of development along the corridor in Grande Prairie.

REGIONAL CONNECTIVITY

Since Grande Prairie is still growing, regional connectivity is crucial to understand. Outward connections to other recreational activities and regional attractions as well as inward connections to the park will be another layer in Muskoseepi Park's success. For example, the proximity of the park within a central radius allows visibility and accessibility for straightforward connections. To the left, the red dashed line illustrates how most residents of Grande Prairie can reach Muskoseepi Park within an hour of hiking.



-  Significant Structure
-  School
-  Interpretive Marker
-  Park
-  Residential
-  Commercial
-  Central Business District
-  Public Service/Institutional

PARK RELATIONSHIPS

Following the previous contextual analyses, a site specific park analyses was conducted. The first of these analyses is a park relationships map. To the left hand side of this page, you can see a variety of graphic elements symbolizing different items across the site and adjacent lands. The major organizing element of the park are the streets and bridges cutting through the site. The street arrangement divides the site into 5 zones, with a 6th additional zone being Crystal Lake.

SCHOOLS & SIGNIFICANT STRUCTURES

Scattered across the City are various schools and significant structures. These structures serve as benchmarks across the length of the site. Park users catch glimpses of architectural elements, such as a church steeple, when walking through the site, allowing orientation and sense of location. These structures were noted so as to capitalize on these views to create a stronger park experience and design.

School locations were particularly important to note because of potential connections to the park. With a park like Muskoseepi, there are multiple opportunities for outdoor education, nature walks, sports recreation, etc. Allowing for connections from these schools can help strengthen the school's curriculum as well as create positive uses for the park. Also, joint use could be allowed for school parking lots and sports fields to alleviate seasonal/event pressure that might occur at the park.

EXISTING HERITAGE/INTERPRETATION

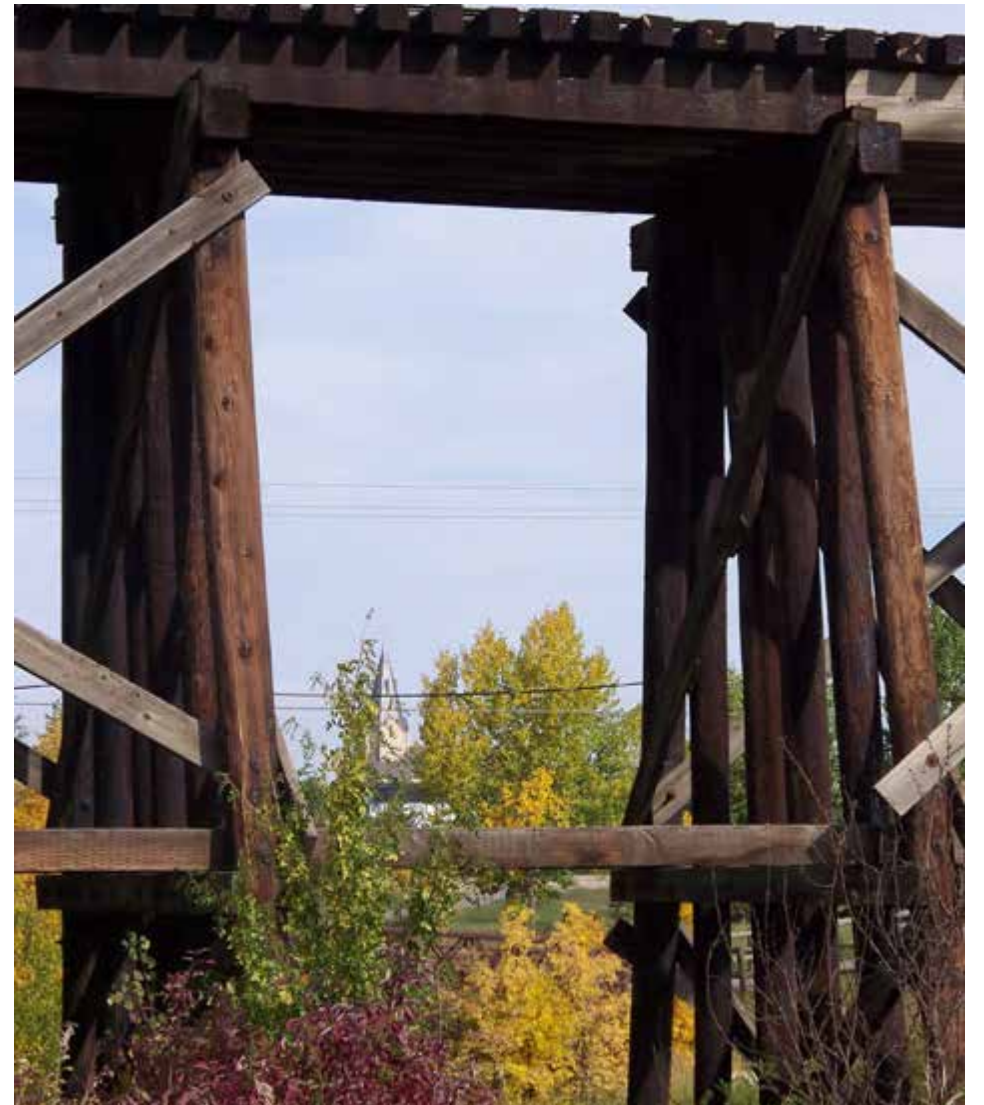
Existing heritage components and interpretation markers of the site were documented as well. On the map, these locations are marked with a purple cross sign. These symbols are representing existing signage across the site. For the master plan, these sites are important to be aware of for signage improvement or missed interpretation opportunities.

LAND USES

Land use for the adjacent properties is crucial to understand for the park planning. The majority of surrounding land is single family residential (see yellow zones on map). Near Centennial Park, there are possibilities to connect to the central business district (see brown tone circle). Knowing the type of land use will aide in determining appropriate scale, type, and necessity of connection into the park.

HYDROLOGY

With the landforms of Grande Prairie, the water flow directly affects the park. Not only does overland flow run into the park, but stormwater drainage pipes daylight into the park. This is diagrammed by the blue arrows on the map. This unique relationship places the park in a very reactionary state, usually resulting in internal issues such as erosion, caused by the off-site factors.

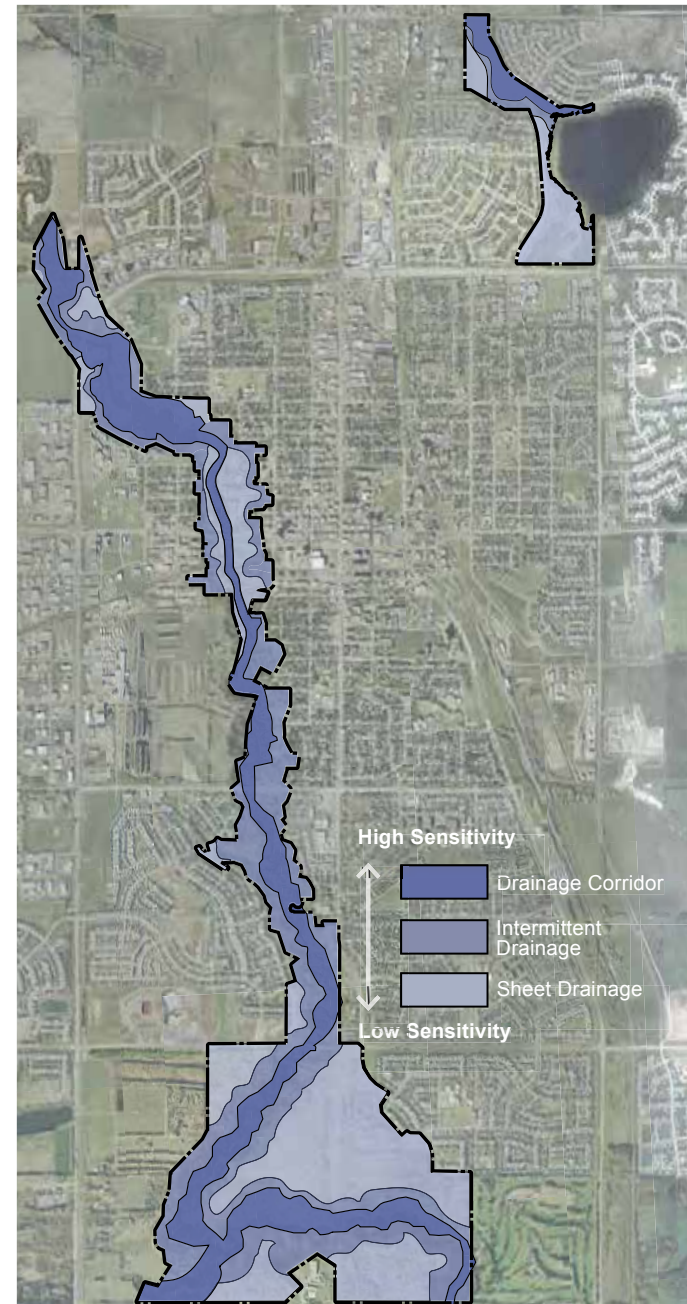




SENSITIVITY OVERLAYS

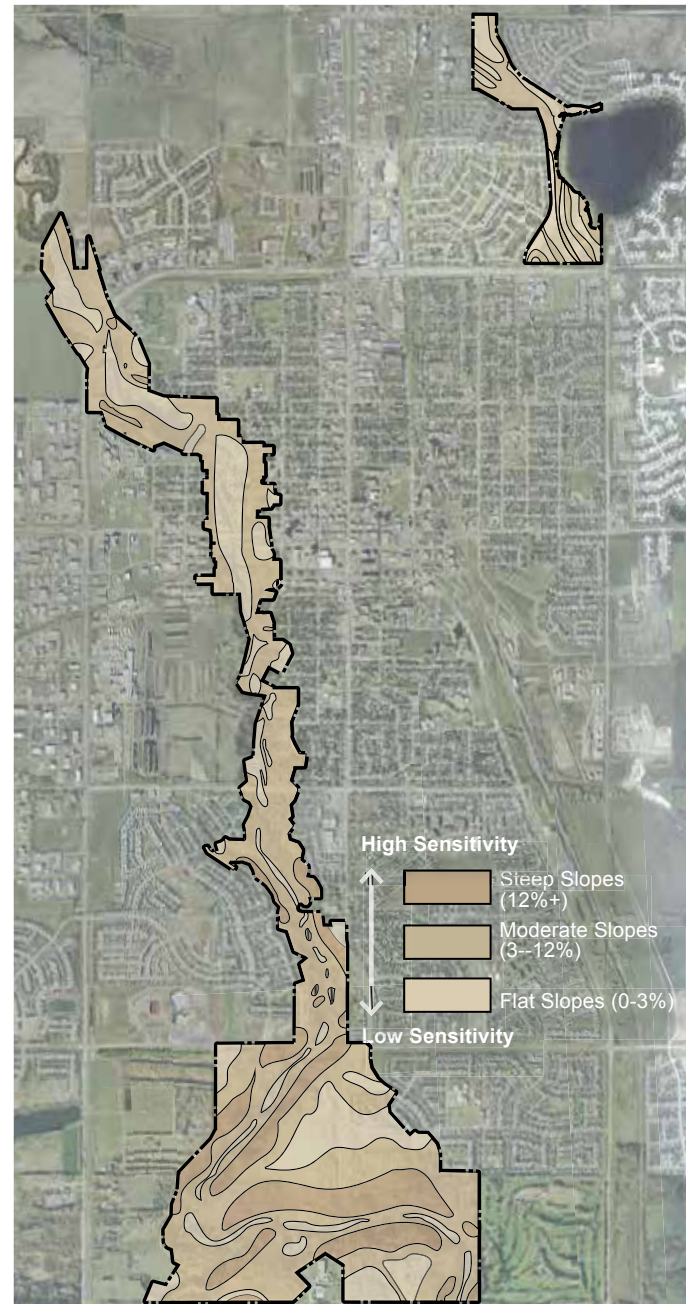
When evaluating a naturalized site for development of various program elements, it is critical to understand the impact that development will have upon natural resources. The team conducted a development sensitivity analysis by ranking various factors across the site. The rankings are decided upon by impact from development. This document serves as a graphic representation of the natural systems' sensitivity values within the park boundaries. It is important to note that areas of high sensitivity can (and should) have program development, but the type and impact of that development will be more restricted in those areas. Each of the following natural systems were studied in the field, evaluated, and ranked. Finally, the maps were overlaid into a composite map that depicts an overlay of all sensitivities.

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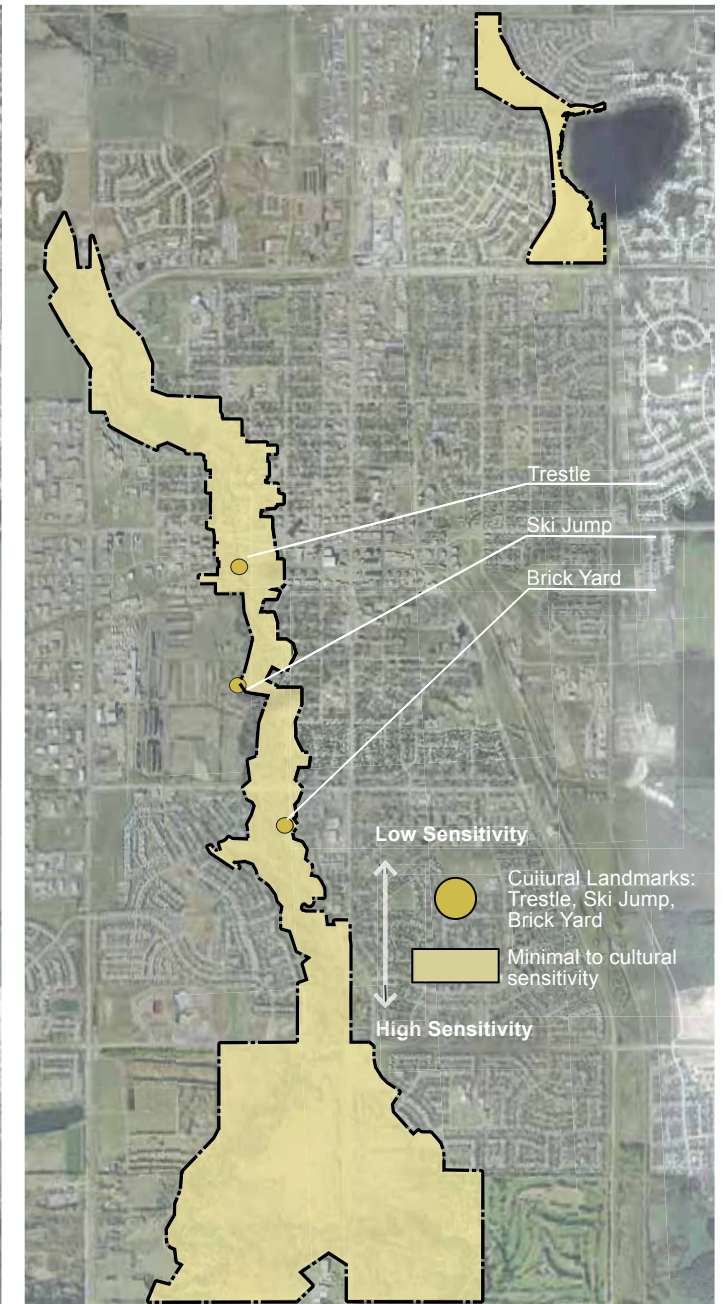
HYDROLOGY

The Hydrology Analysis ranks the movement of water across the site. Sheet flow was determined to be “minimally impacted” by development. Concentrated drainage was ranked as “moderate impact” since there would be a little more site disturbance to keep water away from structures. Drainage corridors and ponds were deemed “high impact” due to the habitat disturbance and general construction problems associated with building in a creek. With the nature of the site being a drainage corridor, a higher percentage of the site is deemed high sensitivity rather than low. The center of the creek and its immediate banks should all be avoided due to the added expense of construction in these zones that can convey a large amount of water directly after a storm event.



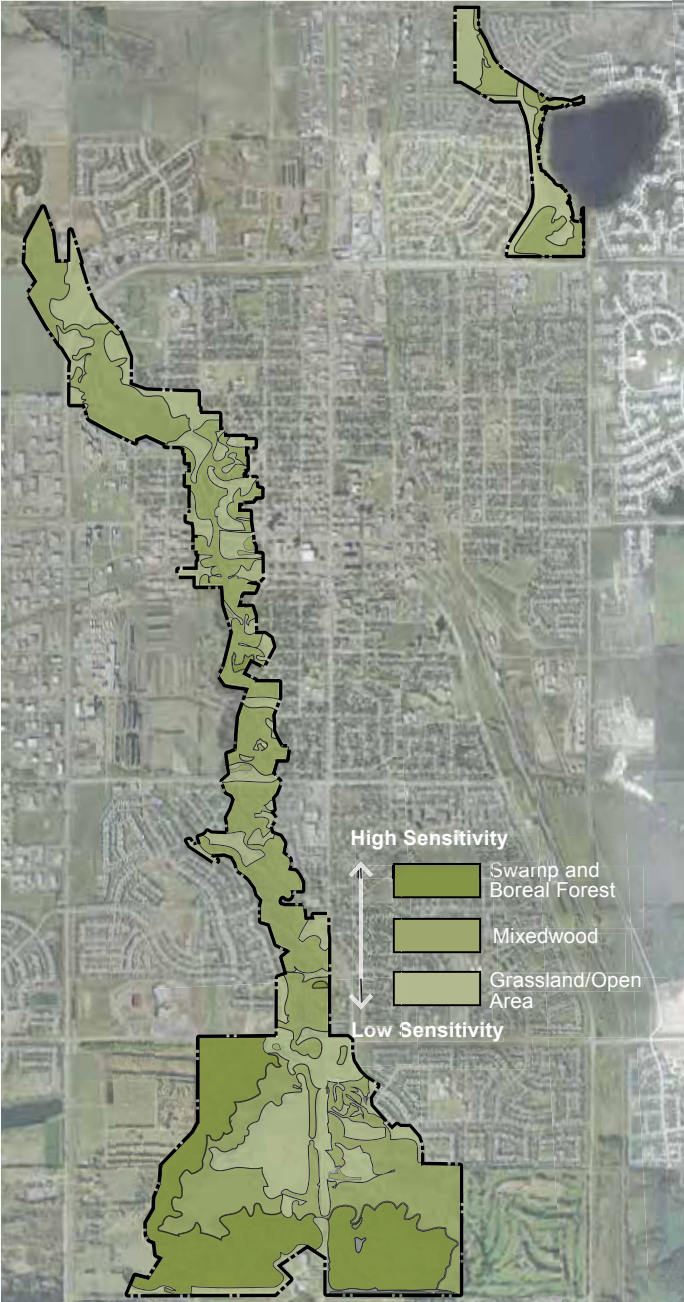
SLOPES

The Slope Analysis ranks the existing topography and the impact that development would have on the existing slopes. Slopes at and less than 3% ranked as low impact. Moderate slopes were 3% to 12% (a 12% slope is about one foot of rise in an eight foot section). Steep slopes (high impact) were ranked as all those over 12%. The steeper the slope, the more complicated construction becomes for retaining walls and footings. Steeper slopes are also more prone to erosion, which occur at a greater percentage in South Bear Creek.



CULTURAL

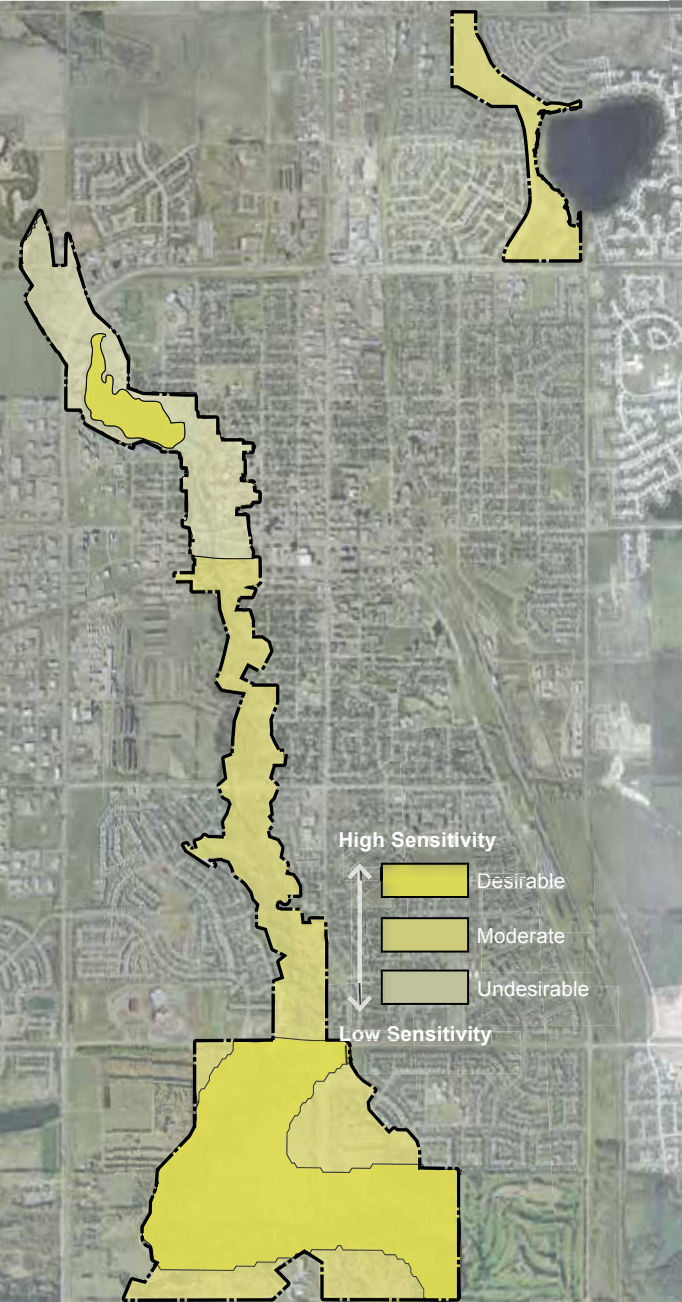
The Cultural Analysis documents existing cultural elements on the site, whether still physically visible or not. Using the Heritage Museum and Heritage Collaborative resources (“Historical Walking and Driving Tour” and “Grande Prairie Historic Inventory” articles), various activities and structures across the site was identified. Within the Muskoseepi Park site, there are three heritage sites. The first site is the trestle railroad bridge, built in 1910, which acts as a gateway element located just south of Centennial Park. The second is the ski jump, built circa 1920, is a landscape artifact where large groups previously enjoyed skiing and winter carnivals before the First World War. The third site is the Dalen Brick Yard, built circa



1922, is where most of Grande Prairie's structure's bricks were created. These sites may influence the plan through an interpretive program in conjunction with the museum and schools.

VEGETATION

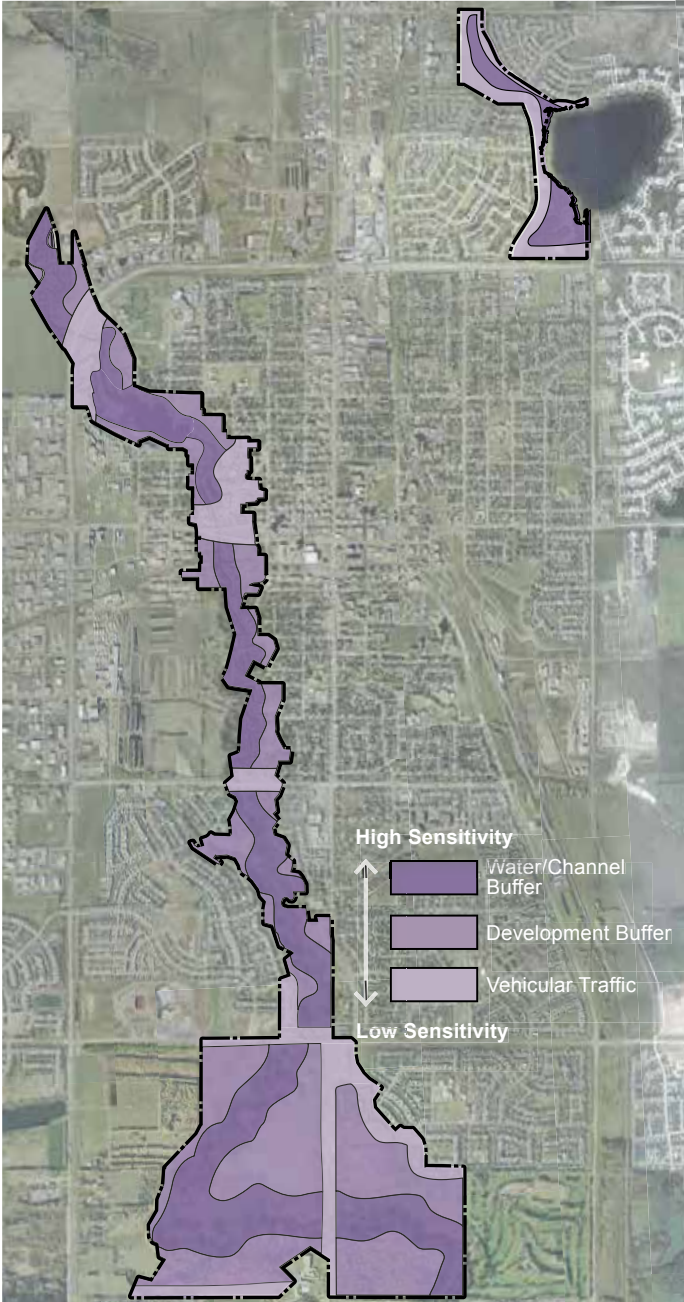
The Vegetation Analysis locates the plant associations on the site. Being in Parkland and Boreal Forest eco-regions, Muskoseepi Park has a diverse vegetation palette. Since most existing grassland and open areas (lightest green tone on map) have already been developed or disturbed, those zones received the lowest sensitivity ranking. Boreal Forest, which is most prevalent in South Bear Creek, received the highest sensitivity ranking for several factors.



One factor is that the forest provides the most cover for larger wildlife (see Ungulates analysis). Also, the Boreal Forest is a visual reminder of the distinct transition from the Provincial eco-regions, which interestingly occurs on the site.

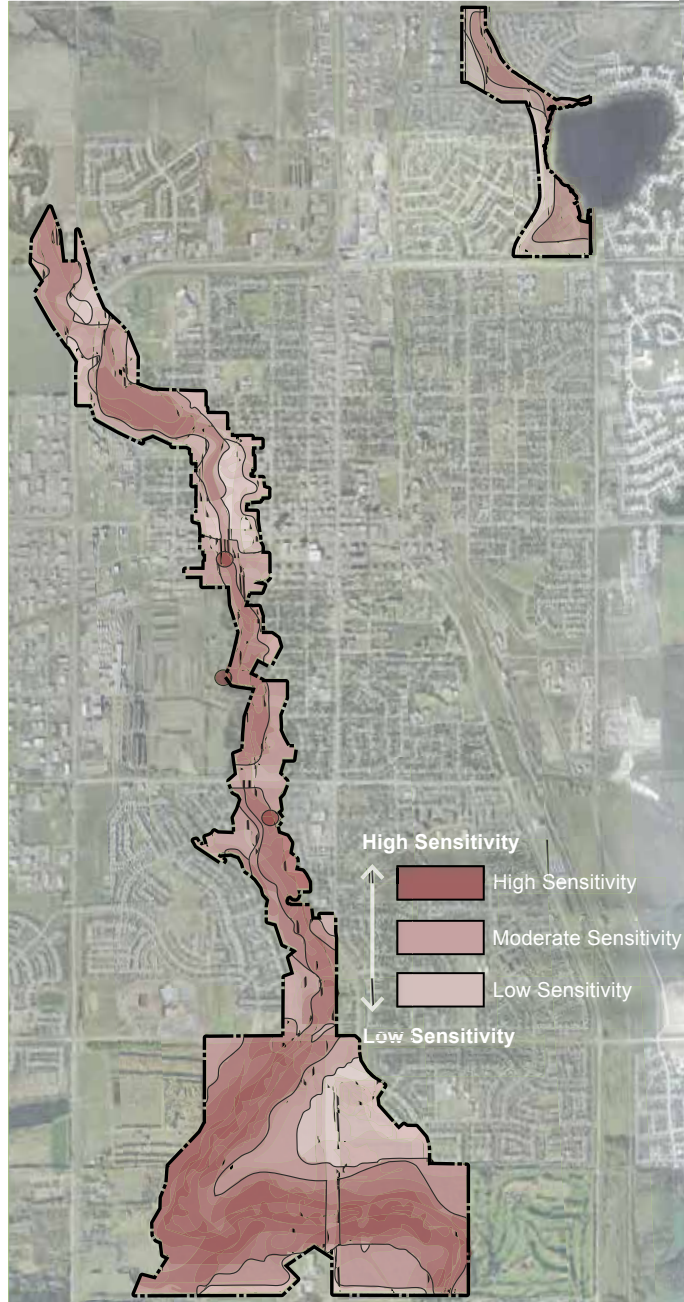
UNGULATES

The Ungulate Analysis locates preferred habitat for ungulate animal(s). Ungulates are defined as large, hooved mammals, including moose, elk, and deer. Again, as in the Vegetation Analysis, South Bear Creek exhibits the most vegetation cover for larger mammals. Ungulates also migrate toward larger water bodies for feeding.



TRUMPETER SWAN

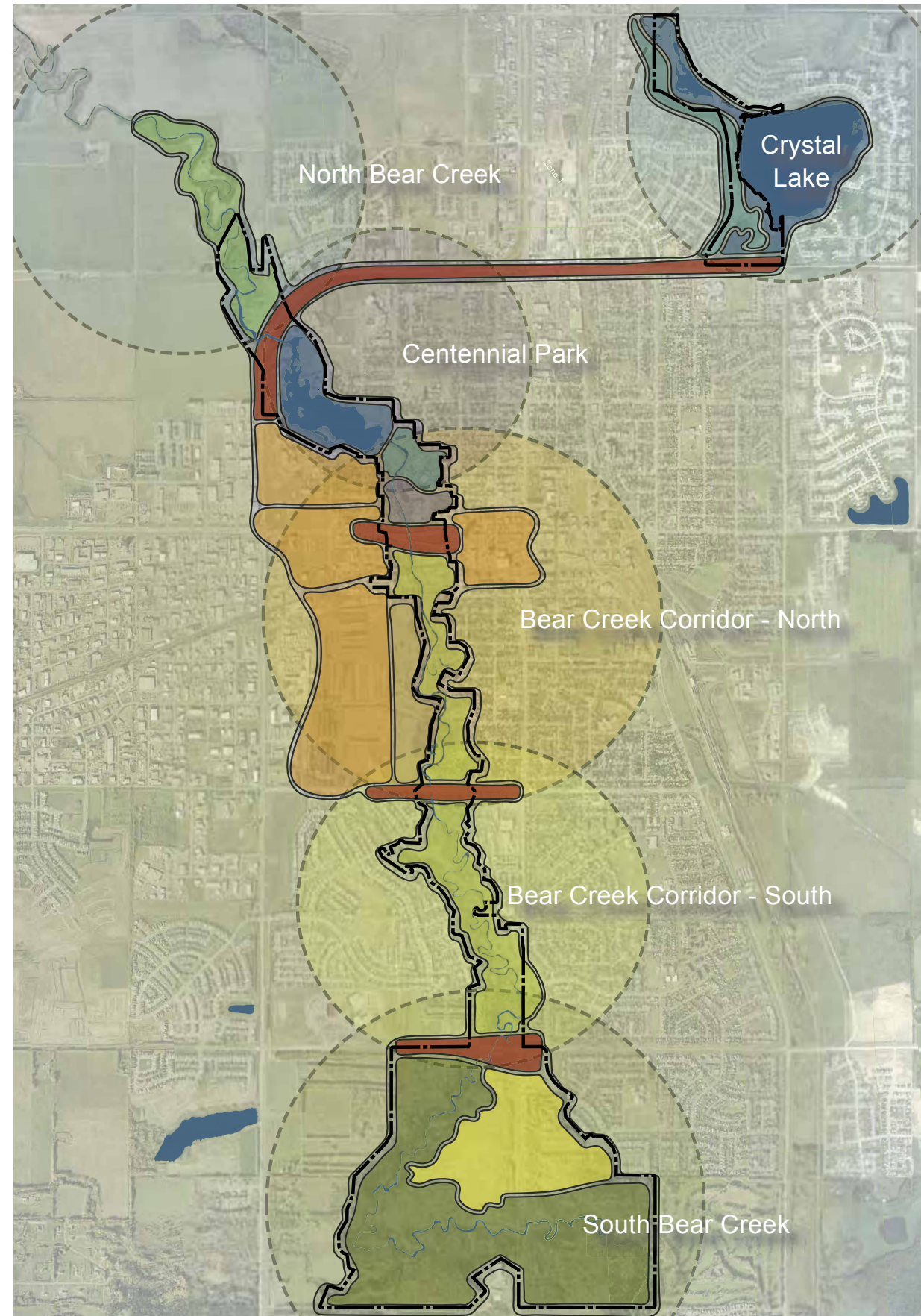
The Trumpeter Swan Analysis is one of importance because of its civic symbolism to Grande Prairie, "The Swan City." The City adopted the Trumpeter Swan as their symbol because its migration route and summer nesting grounds are nearby. Areas of water bodies or channels were the most desirable habitat for trumpeter swans, therefore being the most sensitive to development. Areas not desirable for habitat would be busy streets, any high activity areas, Crystal Lake nesting areas, and open meadows.



SENSITIVITY COMPOSITE

After evaluating each of these natural systems individually, their impacts are combined into one summary composite map. The Sensitivity Analysis of Muskoseepi Park identifies areas that would be of high, moderate, and minimal impact if developed. The summary overlay confirms that the areas of confluence from all natural systems lie along the creek corridors – the areas that have concentrated drainage flows, erosive soils, steep slopes, and the most mature tree growth. This analysis is an important tool in guiding development, but does not necessarily identify "no build" zones. Nor does it result in a "build here" endorsement. The intent is to identify the most sensitive areas as they relate to the natural systems present.





EXPERIENTIAL ASSESSMENTS

The Experiential Analysis examines the site as it is perceived by the casual visitor, without a detailed regard to the exact science or natural systems. Undoubtedly, the natural systems play a critical role in how the site is experienced, but the general public typically moves through the park without thinking about it in those terms. For example, a child walking through a meadow may not comprehend the natural systems at play, but she does understand the different feel between an open meadow and a dense thicket. This analysis simply breaks down the property as it is physically experienced by the visitor, describing zones within the property that people relate to and interact with on the experiential level. These “experiences” are important to consider (in addition to the natural systems to be discussed in a later chapter) when placing park program elements as they can be interpreted and capitalized upon to help convey the story of the property. For example, this analysis is particularly useful in laying out an interpretive trail that aims to provide a variety of learning opportunities.

SOUTH BEAR CREEK

South Bear Creek is the most secluded zone within all of Muskoseepi Park. With open meadow and preserved boreal forest, a contrast is created in this area. This zone is terminated abruptly by the street bridge overpass at 68th Avenue.

BEAR CREEK CORRIDOR -SOUTH

The “urban forest” within Bear Creek Corridor is characterized by steep banks and low, creek interactive trails. These steep banks tops are developed by residential homes overlooking the corridor.

BEAR CREEK CORRIDOR -NORTH

Similar to the “urban forest” in Bear Creek Corridor-South, the steep banks and low lying creek define the overall experience here. Also on the Western bank is CanFor timber industry. Noise, smells, and industrial views overwhelm the park user’s senses when passing through.

CENTENNIAL PARK

Defined by bridge overpasses at Highway 43 and 100th Avenue, Centennial Park is the most visible zone within Muskoseepi Park. This is due to its adjacency to downtown and its high level of programming activity. In contrast to a high level of programming, natural elements, such as wetlands, soften the experience within this zone.

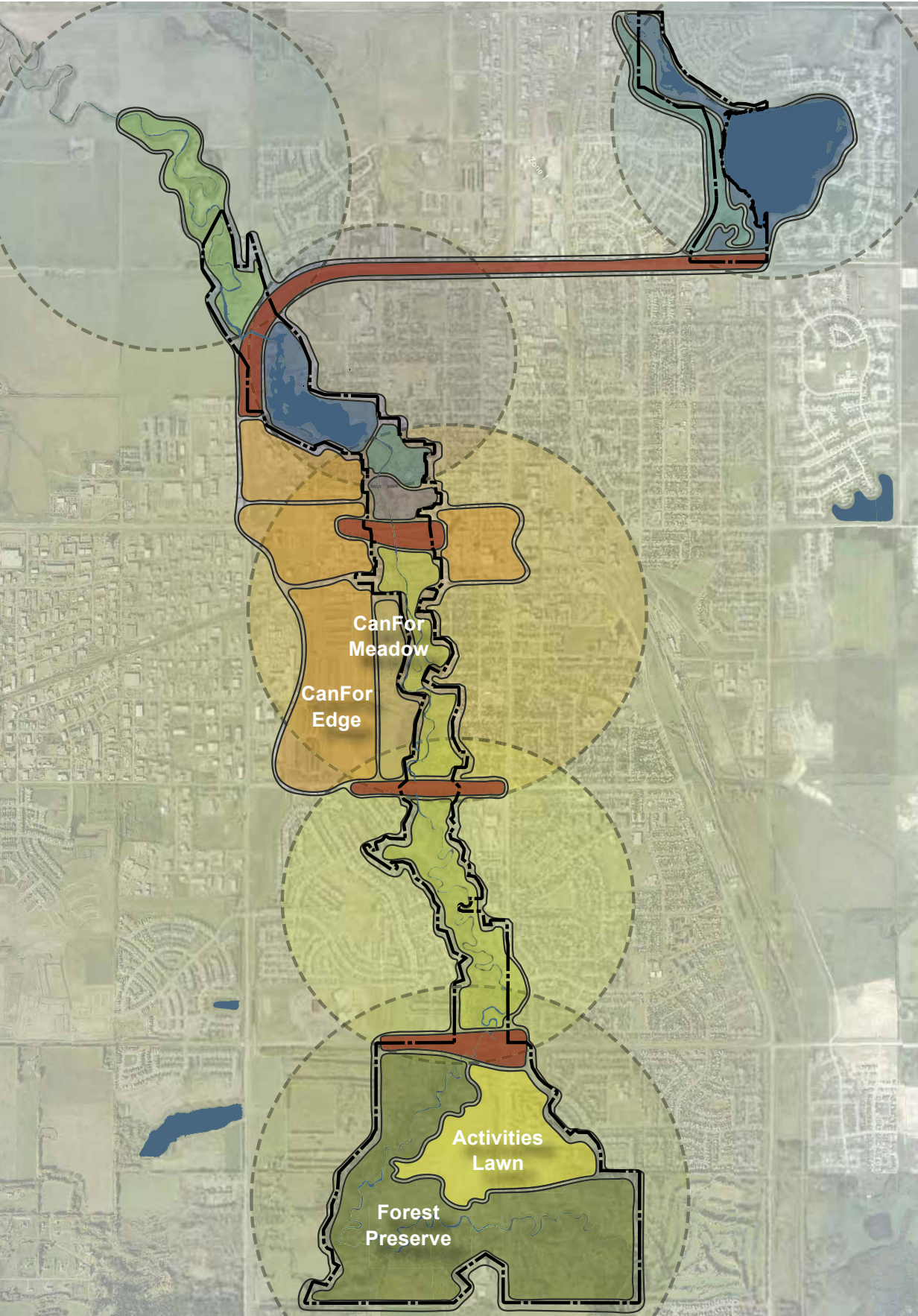
NORTH BEAR CREEK

With only a bridge overpass barrier to the south, North Bear Creek gestures northward, following the flow of Bear Creek. This area is characterized by marshy wetlands. Views surrounding the corridor are directed to open, previously cleared fields. This area will soon change with proposed residential developments approaching.

CRYSTAL LAKE

Crystal Lake, being physically separated from Muskoseepi Park by several City blocks, is a distinct experience. As the primary nesting ground for the Trumpeter Swans, a sense of quiet observation on the boardwalks draws park visitors into the site. Opposing views toward residential encroachment conflict with the natural features of the lake.





FOREST PRESERVE

This area of South Bear Creek is its signature habitat. The Boreal Forest preserve is a dense mix of aspen, spruce, and under-story brush. Park visitors walking through this zone experience a separation from the rest of the park and its developed boundaries. It is here that Bear Creek is the most sinuous in its form as many of the creek banks are eroded. With this sinuous form, the velocity of water flow through this area is much slower. These eroded banks give a sense of diverse topography change throughout South Bear Creek. Over time the creek centerline has evolved and created new forms, which leave behind old oxbows. These elements are essentially segments of non-flowing creek that have been closed by land.

- The **Boreal Forest** is an ecological resource that is unique to the Muskoseepi Park system and should be preserved from intensive development.
- The plan should **evaluate the appropriate level of accessibility** and access to this sensitive habitat.
- This zone is an example of the transition between two dominant regional habitat types (Prairie/north and Forest/south). This diversity should be interpreted as a transitional edge within the greater regional context of larger dominant habitat types. This transitional habitat is rapidly disappearing due to development. Any remnants should be preserved as a resource, because **ecotones are ecologically significant areas** which experience increased biodiversity.
- The City should encourage partnerships with future developers along this corridor to build a **mutually beneficial development plan** that creates added value for the park's neighbors while visually and ecologically respecting the resource that creates that value.
- The park and developers of nearby tracts should create a joint strategy to **minimize and mitigate the impacts of increased runoff** velocities and pollution from new construction on the park's borders.

ACTIVITIES LAWN

In contrast to the dense forest preserve, the activities lawn in South Bear Creek is comprised of open and softly rolling terrain. With distinctly cleared edges, and no evidence of naturalized ecotone, the transition between the forest and meadow is quite abrupt. In addition, there is a contrast in programming. The activities lawn contains a diversity of sports opportunities, which is what many visit Muskoseepi Park for. Elements include baseball/batting cages, RC track, RV camping, bandstand and trails.

- The current array of diverse **activities should be organized into a legible form** that receives visitors, assists with orientation, and eliminates the fractured form of the space.
- The arrival road, parking, and wide right-of-way sequence should be reviewed to **minimize the visual impact** of this scar in the landscape.
- **Road geometries should be studied** to provide a more park-like experience.
- **Support facilities** should be proposed to enhance the family experience of the ballfields (concessions, playgrounds, restrooms, etc.)
- **Maintenance and infrastructure needs** (including staging areas, equipment storage, and other requirements) of the entire park should be accommodated.
- The recreational components of the park should **create a stronger connection with other park facilities** (cultural, natural, and recreational).
- Each of the disparate activities in this zone should be evaluated in terms of experience, function, acreage requirements, and other criteria to **ensure that the best facility is being provided** for each (off leash dog park, RC racing venue, etc.)
- **Requirements for festivals** and special events should be examined.
- The **ecological aspects** and impacts of fertilization, irrigation, pesticides, and mowing of the ballfields should be studied as a component of an overall habitat strategy for the park (ex. open-space of ballfields as a component of bird habitat example)

CANFOR EDGE & MEADOW

West of the urban forest corridor, park users arrive at an open meadow. This open meadow is contrasted with a backdrop of the CanFor forestry plant. Noise and smells from large machinery force visitors to take notice. This space is an opportunity for regional and cultural interpretation.

- **Visual buffers** should be increased to mitigate the impact of the large industrial site on the western boundary of the park.
- The plan should **explore the experiential tie and relationship with the CanFor industrial site** as a contrast with the forest preserve qualities of the park site. Partnerships with CanFor should be explored in terms of mitigation and educational opportunities associated with the logging and lumber industry as well as reforestation and renewable and sustainable resource stewardship initiatives.
- The plan should explore uses for this parcel as a **transitional buffer** between the natural experience of the park and the industrial activities to the west.



CanFor Meadow/Edge



Activities Lawn



Forest Preserve



CanFor Meadow/Edge



Activities Lawn



Forest Preserve



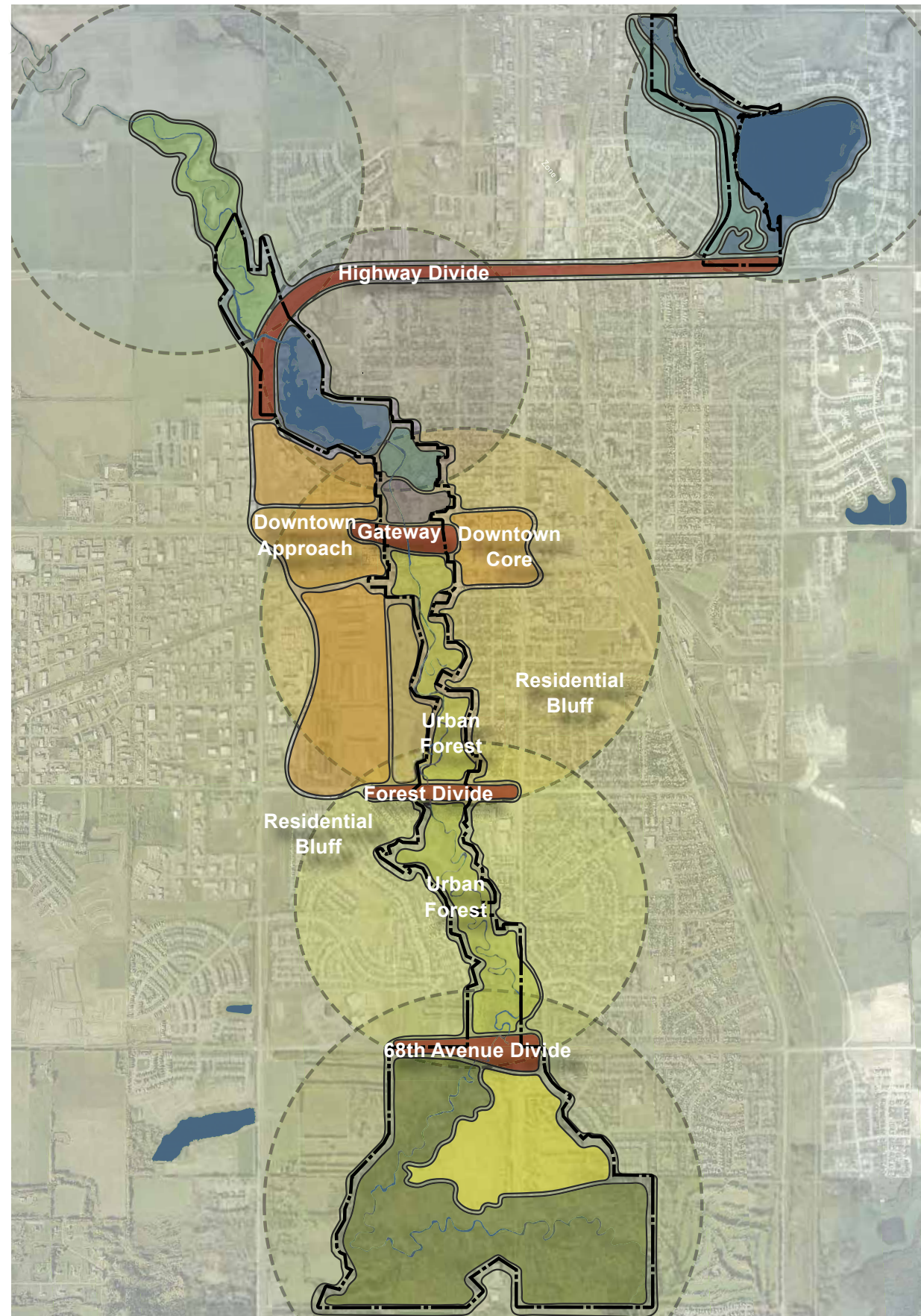
Activities Lawn



Activities Lawn



Forest Preserve



URBAN FOREST

Throughout the central spine of Muskoseepi Park, Bear Creek is enveloped by an “urban forest.” This forest acts as a residential buffer on the high side of the creek banks. This zone is given the title “urban forest” for it encroaching adjacent development.

- Due to the narrowness and steep slopes of this area, spatial requirements of program activities should be carefully evaluated in order to **not disrupt the natural habitat and reduce the impact of erosion** and other disturbances.
- The plan should evaluate **relationships with the residential context**, including views, buffers, pedestrian access, security, transitions, and edges.
- Historic elements that once were present in the park that are of **cultural significance should be noted and interpreted** in order to enhance the layered experience of Muskoseepi Park (brickyard, ski slope, etc.)
- A strategy should be devised to deal with **bandit trails**.

RESIDENTIAL BLUFF

Enclosing the urban forest, the residential bluff sets above Bear Creek corridor. Claiming the top of bank, residential backyards and fences are frequent views throughout the corridor. Neighborhood streets and sidewalks terminate at the park boundaries, creating connection opportunities.

- The plan should identify **appropriate buffers** between pedestrian trails in the park and the private residences outside the park.
- The plan should encourage logical and appropriate **pedestrian connections** and entry points from the neighborhoods on adjacent borders.
- The park should further **reach out to neighborhood parks**, schools, and other community destinations to encourage a **network of linkages** among similar facilities to promote healthy lifestyles and diversity of experiences.

HIGHWAY DIVIDE/FOREST DIVIDE / 68TH AVENUE DIVIDE

The primary organizational elements in Muskoseepi Park are the street crossings. Separating the site into six zones, the park is given distinct divisions of space. Each of these crossings serve as a gateway element into each zone.

- The plan should provide a strategy to **reknit the natural fabric of the Bear Creek Corridor** across the wide rights-of-way that physically and visually divide the sections of the park (natural systems and wildlife corridors).
- The plan should capitalize upon the crossings and endeavor to treat these “divides” as an **EVENT along the roads**

that the park crosses, allowing the park to cognitively reach beyond its boundaries. (i.e. a drive through the park rather than across it.) This will expand the influence of the park throughout the community.

- A landscape initiative should be instituted along the expansive right-of-way to **visually buffer and dampen the sound encroachment** into the park.
- Pedestrian underpass should be implemented to **safely provide access under the highway**.
- The **waterline bridge** at the 68th Avenue divide should be preserved and enhanced as an interesting landmark and gateway element to South Bear Creek. The experiential quality of this structure at such a height above the creek is unique to the Bear Creek corridor.

DOWNTOWN APPROACH/ GATEWAY & CORE

The gateway into the downtown core is a significant gateway as it is flanked by the trestle bridge. Approaching the downtown from the East, visitors are approached with a low sign wall. The experience in a car grants a quick view down the corridor and into the park. The single high-rise structure in the downtown core serves as a benchmark and orientation for park users.

- The plan should position Muskoseepi Park as the landmark entry statement into downtown Grande Prairie. This **proximity relationship** should be further strengthened so that the downtown sector and the park mutually benefit from each other’s presence.
- The unique widening of the roadway should be expressed in a manner that **celebrates arrival** at both the park and downtown Grande Prairie.
- The plan should capitalize upon the **railroad trestle as the southern boundary of the arrival gateway experience**.
- The trestle should claim its landmark status as the pedestrian portal to the southern area of the Bear Creek corridor, further defining the contrasting abrupt edge **transition between the primarily manmade areas of the park** (north of 100 Avenue) **and the primarily naturalized corridor** to the south.
- A **streetscape program of thematic elements** (sidewalks, furnishings, plantings, lighting, etc) should be developed (complementary with the Downtown Approach Zone) to further strengthen the connection, transition, and identity of both downtown and the park.



Downtown Approach/ Gateway



Downtown/Approach/Gateway



Urban Forest



Downtown Approach/ Gateway



Highway Divide



Urban Forest



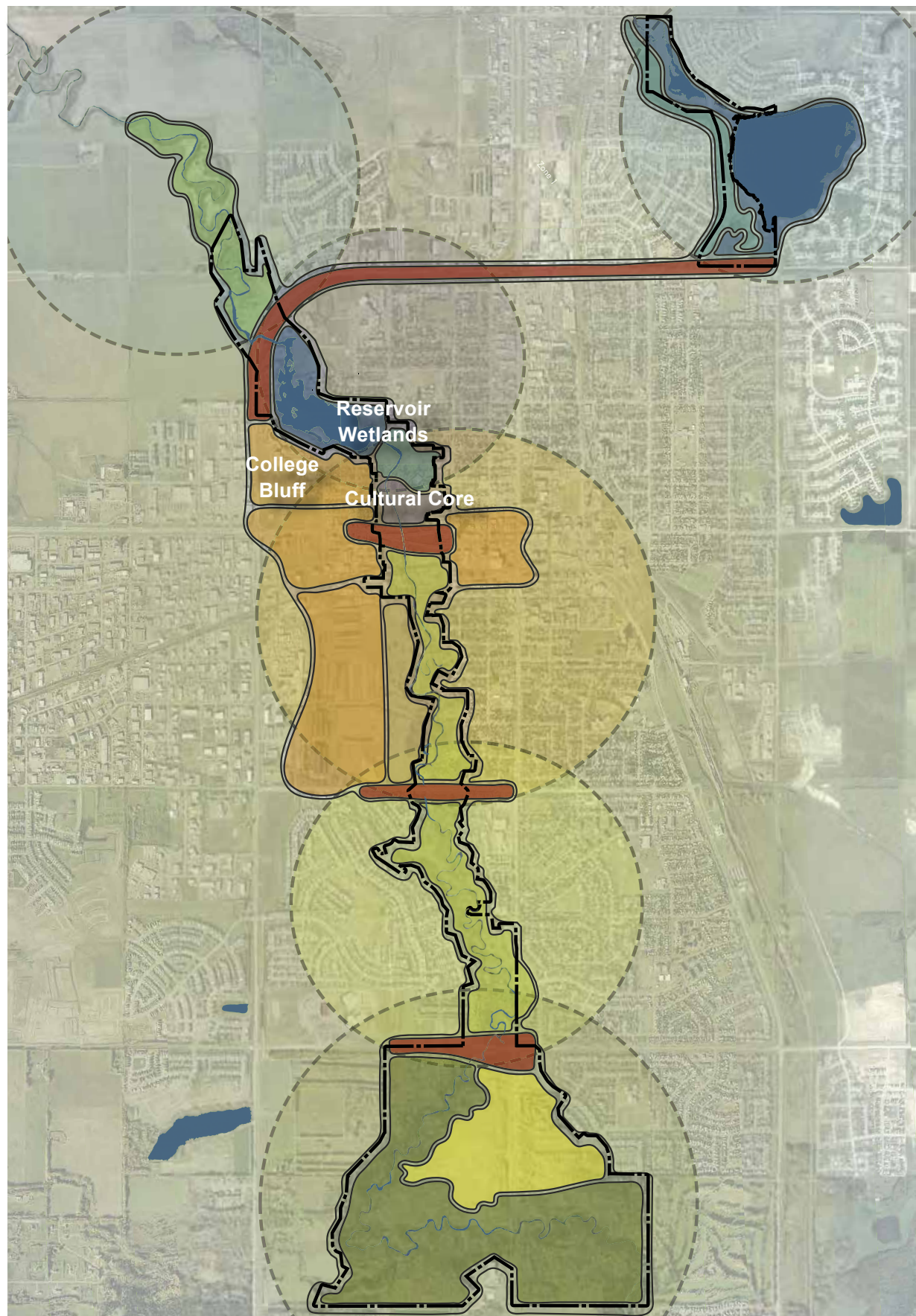
Downtown Approach/ Gateway



Highway Divide



Residential Bluff



CULTURAL CORE

Situated just north of the downtown gateway is the cultural core. With a cultural and historical focus, this area offers a different experience than the recreation and natural focus of the rest of the park. In addition to the cultural focus, a myriad of smaller program elements are scattered throughout the core. The arrival experience in the cultural core is disorganized and somewhat confusing with its multiple entrances. Due to its adjacency to downtown, this area is the most visible and also the most restricted on space.

- It is critical that this area of the park **maintain its cultural importance** as it relates to the legacy and storyline of Grande Prairie.
- The park should **embrace the culturally significant** neighborhood context and the previous settlement that occurred on site before the park was developed as an interesting component of the interpretive story.
- The master plan should **evaluate the existing pool facility** and propose a plan that positions the pool as a marketable destination that responds to the trends and needs of the community.
- The continuity among the primary assets in the Cultural Core should be addressed in a complementary (not necessarily matching) family of **materials and forms** that reinforce the significance of this zone.
- The visual clutter of the putt putt course, lawn bowling, and other **disparate uses should be organized** into an identifiable recreation location.
- Park management and **staff offices** should be relocated out of direct public access within the pavilion and into a facility best suited for operations of a park of this size and complexity.
- The **Golden Age Center** should be evaluated in terms of function, use, and location and how that structure and site can serve the interests of the park.
- A stronger **sense of arrival** to the Cultural Core at each of the multiple entries should be established that welcomes visitors to this primary entry portal to the greater Muskegon Park corridor.
- New **circulation and parking patterns** should be established that reconnect (rather than divide and detach) the amphitheater from the rest of the cultural core area.
- The presence of the Cultural Core should actively **engage downtown** to increase the “added value” partnerships of that proximity and the perception of an address “on the park” as a marketable asset.
- The Grande Prairie Museum is an important asset to the City as an archive of the cultural history of the community. The park plan should examine ways whereby the **museum may integrate its influence into the park experience** rather than in one isolated destination.

COLLEGE BLUFF

Overlooking the reservoir wetlands, the college bluff claims the southern bank of the reservoir. The boundary between the college and the park is blurred and the spaces run together, encouraging more interaction between students and the park. The architecture of the college creates interesting views in the surrounding area and offers pleasant backdrop across the reservoir.

- The Grande Prairie Regional College campus overlooks the wetland area, but does not attempt a strong pedestrian connection with it. Therefore, future plans for college expansion or remodeling should propose a strong **“front door presence” on the park** to better serve its students.
- The Grande Prairie Regional College campus currently does not engage the park as a resource for its students, staff, or any of its supporting programs. The plan should seek a partnership with the campus in order to **provide joint use spaces, amenities, and destinations** that can serve the students and park visitors alike.
- Other than the aesthetic landmark buildings on campus, the college creates a visually porous edge that “bleeds” off toward the distractions of Highway 43. **Views from the park across parking lots and between buildings should be buffered** to close this edge and preserve the integrity of the park and campus experience.
- The plan should attempt to **mitigate the presence of portable buildings** that are directly adjacent to the pedestrian trail.

RESERVOIR WETLANDS

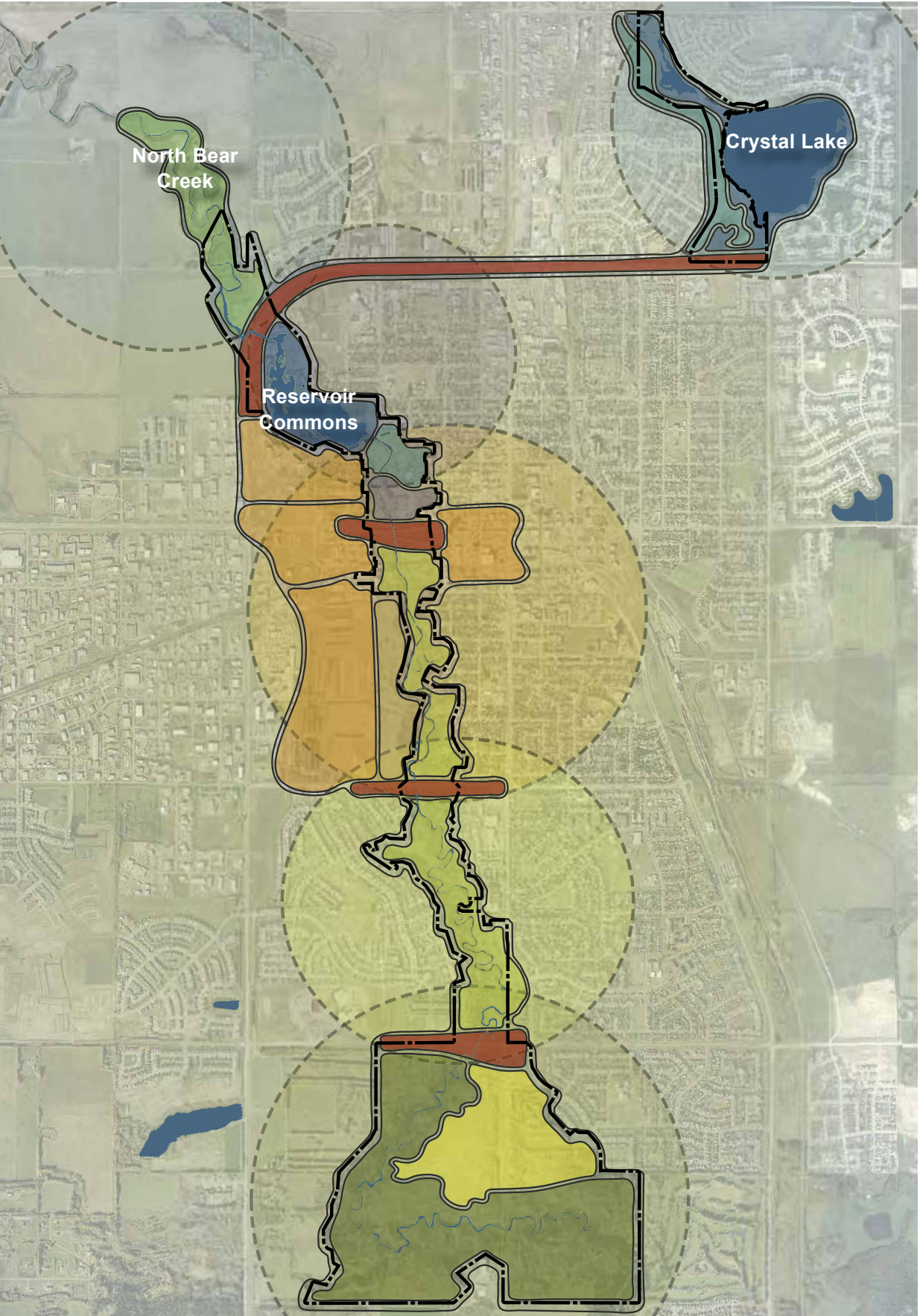
The reservoir wetlands comprises the area adjacent to the lake and is a lush, seasonal habitat of shallow aquatic vegetation. This serves as an attractor for seasonal migratory water fowl. Contrasted with the adjacent mown meadow, this area is quite lush with shoreline plantlife.

- **The RV park location is overwhelmed and dominated by the experience of Highway 43** and should be evaluated to determine the best use for that parcel and the best location for this program.
- The plan should strive to **eliminate unattractive distractions and barriers** within the park to forge better connections and blur the abrupt boundaries with the community and other incompatible edges (ex. west side RV park separated from the dump station on the east side).
- The **casual open lawn spaces** on the east side of the park should be preserved.
- The plan should endeavor to promote **low impact access to the water and wetlands** and preserve the sequential experience of bank, edge/marsh, and open water. This enhances the visual interest of the space and also encourages a

healthy habitat diversity that is critical for wildlife.

- The future program should **evaluate the use of active recreation** (boating, swimming,) within and near natural areas in an effort to reduce impact on the ecosystems and habitat.
- Disparate uses, such as the Prairie Art Gallery temporary museum and boat rental pavilion, should be either elevated to command a greater presence within the park or be collected/consolidated with a **constellation of similar related activities**.
- **Viewsheds** should be managed over time to maintain visual access to architectural landmarks that assist with orientation within the park (church steeple, college, skyscraper, and visitor center).





RESERVOIR COMMONS

The reservoir commons claims the green lawn south of the dam. This area supports festivals, local events, and celebrations. The hill on the dam is a popular point for exercise groups and individual training. With its open meadow and rolling hills, this area is a direct contrast to the forest and naturalized wetlands in the park.

- The park plan should **preserve the open quality** of this space that is one of the only rolling open meadows within the park.
- When the dam is repaired, considerations should be taken to **transform this utilitarian structure** into an aesthetic statement.
- The dam should be rebuilt to address the hydrologic requirements pertaining to the establishment of a **permanent water level** in the reservoir while also addressing the science of water release and constant flow back into the Bear Creek system downstream.
- Due to limited visibility, programs should be evaluated to **deter illegal activities**, alleviate security concerns, and **reduce vandalism**.

NORTH BEAR CREEK

North Bear Creek gestures northward, following the flow of Bear Creek. This area is characterized by marshy wetlands. Views surrounding the corridor are to open, previously cleared fields. This area will soon change with proposed residential developments approaching.

- The park should seek **northern connections** along the Bear Creek corridor to link the park with destinations beyond its boundaries.
- The City should encourage partnerships with future developers along this corridor to build a **mutually beneficial development plan that creates added value** for the park's neighbors while visually and ecologically respecting the resource that creates that value.
- Future developments adjacent to the park should seek to open access and visibility and encourage a **non-privatized experience** within the neighborhood context.
- **Logical connections** with the park should be evaluated as a component of the added value strategy.
- The park and developers of nearby tracts should create a joint strategy to minimize and **mitigate the impacts of increased runoff velocities** and pollution from new construction along the park's borders.

CRYSTAL LAKE

Crystal Lake, being physically separated from Muskoseepi Park by several City blocks, is a distinct experience. As the primary nesting ground for the Trumpeter Swans, a sense of quiet observation on the boardwalks draws park visitors into the site. Opposing views toward residential encroachment conflict with the natural features of the lake.

- The park should expand its influence to **claim a presence on 94th Street** and allow a drive experience through the park rather than next to it, including **forging a connection across the road** to the Northwest arm of the park.
- The entry sequence from 94th Street should welcome visitors, provide a **sense of arrival**, and be evaluated to promote views rather than a simple deposit into a parking lot.
- Parking and park amenities should be evaluated and provided in a manner that is visually and **ecologically sensitive** to its surroundings.
- Efforts should be made to mitigate and clean runoff from the surrounding community to **encourage a healthy lake and wetland ecosystem**.
- The master plan should examine appropriate **means and locations for access to the shoreline** and the lake itself which is the primary resource of the park.
- The master plan should study visibility and safety concerns in order to provide an appropriate level of **security for visitors** while preserving the natural and somewhat secluded experience of the lake.
- The lake should be capitalized upon as a public resource in a manner that is inviting to the community while **respecting the interests of the neighbors** on its immediate borders.
- The park should buffer the views of houses and fences from within the park while also providing visual access to the lake from the houses that surround it (**visual containment strategy**).
- The lake and wetland ecosystem should be managed in a way that promotes and **restores habitat** for swans and other wildlife.
- The plan should explore options to provide an **educational experience** that blurs the line between the natural systems and manmade elements.
- Crystal Lake should better integrate its programs and interpretive storyline to build a better cognitive **relationship with the greater Muskoseepi Park**.



Crystal Lake



Bear Creek North



Reservoir Commons



Crystal Lake



Bear Creek North



Reservoir Commons



Crystal Lake



Reservoir Commons



Reservoir Commons



A landscape photograph showing a golf course. In the foreground, a large, dark green evergreen tree is partially visible on the right side. The middle ground features a grassy field, likely a golf course, with some trees and a fence line. In the background, there are several buildings, including a large, light-colored one with a flat roof and some antennas. The sky is filled with dramatic, grey clouds. The overall tone is somewhat muted and overcast.

GOALS & OPPORTUNITIES

THE INPUT PROCESS

Over the course of the assessment and planning process, numerous individuals shared their personal experiences and commentary regarding Muskoseepi Park. Being the largest and most visited park in the city, much due interest was shared. The community’s comments and passion bore a great impact on the planning process as the design team was able to comprehend the depth of importance that this park holds within the community.

Of the innumerable conversations and conference calls over the course of this visioning process, all have been invaluable to building the vision. Of these, three particular avenues of input stand out as uniquely and most positively contributing to the plan:

STAKEHOLDER GROUPS

After initial site assessments, the design team held a series of group Stakeholder meetings. A list of the invited groups is located on page 29. After speaking with park staff, it was understood that these are the primary organizations that use or influence the park. Discussions at these meetings focused on the following criteria: (A full account of recorded comments is available for viewing in the appendix CD.)

- Description of the Organization
- Any Events or Festivals Hosted
- Relationship to Park
- Current Needs for Park Use
- Future Estimated Needs for Park Use
- Any Observations of Other Park Uses

SURVEYS

As an additional venue to gather input, the entire community of Grande Prairie was invited to participate in an online survey. This survey was a series of 30 questions, ranging from fill in the blank, open responses, and multiple choice. The design team felt this approach was successful with its 309 replies. These surveys were then compiled and grouped into similar responses. Across the 309 surveys, commons themes came to the surface. (A full account of recorded comments is available for viewing in the appendix.) These themes focused on elements such as:

- Trail Routing
- Nature Preservation
- Improving Park Facilities
- Safety
- Parking

PUBLIC INPUT MEETINGS

The last venue of input gathering was in the form of open forum public meetings. This scenario was offered to the entire community at three milestones across the course of the planning process. After each public input meeting the comments were weighed into the planning process and then brought back before the public again at a later date. (A full account of recorded comments is available for viewing in the appendix.) Throughout these three meetings, common themes rose to the surface. Just as in the survey venue, these themes are very similar.

- Expand the Park Northward
- Address water quality, runoff, habitat, diversity
- Keep South Bear Creek trails natural
- Incorporate sustainable & green practices as much as possible
- Be aware of new and future development surrounding the park

CONSOLIDATE GOALS

With the magnitude of Muskoseepi Park, an organized approach to consolidating input should be a priority. A plan of this magnitude must be built upon a foundation of guiding principles. These “goals” should grow from the assessments and address a range of ideals and initiatives. The team distilled all of the goals created in previous staff input sessions, stakeholder meetings, online surveys, and public meetings. Overlapping or similar goals were consolidated into one discussion point.

As a tool to guide the plan, however, they must be of the same magnitude and substance, so that the plan is not susceptible to minor elements overly influencing critical aspects of the overall master plan. To further this cause and ensure a proper hierarchy, “subset goals” were grouped under a broader topic. This eliminates the possibility of goals such as “need new trash cans” being equally considered against those such as “need new ball field complex.” This process resulted in ten primary goals, with varying numbers of supporting goals associated with each goal. These general themes are the foundation upon which to build the plan in the following chapters.

In the following pages, these consolidated goals are listed along with their associative subset goals.





STAKEHOLDER GROUPS

GROUP A

- Muskoseepi Advisory Committee

GROUP B

- South Peace ball association
- Wee Links Golf & Campground
- G.P. Wheelers
- G.P. Model Racers Association
- G.P. Aeromodelers Club

GROUP C

- Peace Parkland Naturalists Club
- Wapiti Striders
- Pioneer Museum Society
- Wapiti Whitewater Kayakers
- Chamber of Commerce
- G.P. Lawn Bowling Club
- Mini Links Golf
- Rotary Club of G.P.
- Prairie Art Gallery
- Piranhas Swim Club
- G.P. Friendship Centre

GROUP E

- G.P. Regional College
- Centre 2000
- G.P. Regional Tourism
- Golden Age Centre
- G.P. Skate Board Club

GROUP F

- G.P. Prairie Elks Lodge 285 Assoc.
- Downtown Assoc.

- St. Joseph's Catholic Church
- Ms Supercities Walk
- Press Run/Walk

GROUP G

- Walk for ALS
- SPCA Pets in the Park
- Gay & Lesbian Assoc. of the Peace
- Native Counselling Services
- Ecopeace Promotions

GROUP H

- Summer Slam Sports
- Native Bible Fellowship
- Big Brothers & Big Sisters
- G.P. Alliance Church
- Responsible Dog Ownership Celebration

GROUP J

- The Terry Fox Run
- Swan City Rotary Club
- Acpa Regionale
- Maple Sugar Festival
- Scouts Canada
- Lion's Club
- Bell Walk for Kids

GROUP K

- Church of Christ
- Duck Race
- Toys for Tots
- Hot Air Balloon Championships
- Wishmaker parade

SURVEY

- Do you see Muskoseepi Park as a space primarily for (check one):
 - ___ Nature
 - ___ Recreation
 - ___ Events/entertainment
 - ___ Sports/fitness
- What could be improved about the recreational and nature-based activities in the park?
- Total # of survey responses: 309

PUBLIC INPUT

- Expand the Park Northward
- Address water quality, runoff, habitat, diversity
- Keep South Bear Creek trails natural
- Incorporate sustainable & green practices as much as possible
- Be aware of new and future development surrounding the park

GOALS

1. Provide diversity in trail types and routes within the park

- Provide a **diversity of trail experiences** that are suitable for multiple users (paved, unpaved, walking, biking, wheelchair-friendly, nature trails, etc.)
- Provide a loop trail system on both sides of the creek to eliminate backtracking on the same route.
- Provide bridge connections that reinforce the **Muskoseepi aesthetic** and handle the user demand.
- Provide trail **connectivity to neighborhoods** and to the greater City trail network.
- Close gaps in trail loop (Rotary Campground segment, etc)
- **Lengthen trails** in South Bear Creek
- Determine an appropriate **trail hierarchy** for pedestrians, bikes, dogs, etc.
- Provide an **interpretive / educational nature trail** experience.
- Provide trail amenities: mileage markers, striped lanes, furnishings, signage, maps, etc.
- Provide a **fitness trail** with exercise stations.
- Develop a **snow management strategy** that clears some trails for jogging and maintains others for cross country skiing and snowshoeing.



2. Establish standards for Natural Area Preservation & Restoration

- **Preserve natural and open space** areas of the park and seek opportunities to return some developed areas to a more natural state.
- Ensure preservation of the park through **legislation** that protects the park from development proposals for perpetuity. (bird sanctuary, ecological preserves, etc.) (policy)
- Implement a **holistic creek & pond restoration strategy** to cleanse urban runoff before it gets to the creek, enhance water quality, and encourage healthy habitat in the creek and pond. Examples may include rain gardens, sediment catchments, and other means.
- Create a holistic **erosion control** and eroded bank restoration program.
- Increase plant and animal habitat viability in the creek.
- Restock the pond with fish when appropriate.
- **Restore water quality** in the creek and pond for swimming.
- Implement a **forestry management** strategy that promotes more trees and ensures a healthy environment (including fire hazard strategy).
- Repair reservoir / dam / spillway to better allow for canoeing on the creek.



3. Provide a balance of sports with nature

4. Improve the sense of security and safety

- Develop and **enforce a strategy** to deal with homeless presence in the park (policy)
- Heighten security to deal with drugs, alcohol, vandalism, and graffiti in the park. (policy)
- Increase park bike and other patrols
- **Provide lighting** within the park and along trails
- Enforce the ban on motorized vehicle recreation within the park.(policy)

5. Improve park cleanliness

- Implement community park clean up days (policy)
- Provide trash receptacles and recycle bins that are emptied regularly
- **Fix damaged and vandalized structures** and furnishings, including graffiti removal.

6. Improve access, parking, & legibility within park

- Provide a **park-wide identity and wayfinding system** that is up-to-date and easy to navigate (includes signs and maps).
- Develop an **interpretive program** for the park, including educational signage, nature maps, tree and plant labels in certain areas, etc.
- Provide **parking options** that are easy to find and provide proper capacity at appropriate locations (including Centennial Park area)



7. Decrease encroachment on park boundaries and extend the park along the creek.

- Explore opportunities to **expand the park northward and southward** along the Bear Creek Corridor.
- Seek **logical connections** and park opportunities into new developments adjacent to the park.
- Implement a **park buffer strategy** that protects the experience and ecological integrity of the upper banks from development encroachment.
- Decrease commercialization within the park.

8. Improve / Add park facilities as necessary

- Improve facilities and **expand ballfield capacity** at South Bear Creek.
- Provide better activities at **South Bear during winter**
- Improve winter recreation opportunities
- Tobaggoning, sledding, ice skating, hockey, cross country skiing, snowshoeing, etc.
- Increase **opportunities at Crystal Lake**
- Consider size, location, appropriate additions, expansions, and renovations to existing active recreation venues:
- Skatepark (including expansion opportunities)
- Upgrade park amphitheater
- **More playgrounds** that are age appropriate for different groups
- Significantly upgrade / expand mini-golf facility
- Water access and amenities at the reservoir for recreation, including automobile accessible canoe launch.
- More basketball courts for tournaments
- Concessionaires within the park – including boat and bike rentals
- **Improve tennis courts**



- Diversify locations of recreational opportunities (i.e. not all downtown)
- **Add new recreational facilities** - go cart track, bumper boats, paintball, bmx, model airplane field, drum circles, more basketball courts (tournaments), Frisbee golf course, rec center, squash, badminton, healing circles, indoor recreational facility, volleyball
- Consider appropriate additions of **passive recreation venues**
- Provide **wildlife observation stations** / blinds
- Consider appropriate additions of amenity & support services:
- Provide open gathering areas and open air pavilion(s) at different sizes for families and other special events
- Provide **more bathroom facilities** spread through the park
- Provide **better concessions**, including healthy food choices at the pavilion (policy)
- Provide better and more **furnishings** (benches, picnic tables, water fountains, etc.) in a variety of areas
- Install **solar panels** at pavilion
- Add flower beds
- Provide a homeless area
- Upgrade swim facilities to meet community needs
- Consider options for an **updated pool facility** that meets the user demand and offers a variety of experiences (including waterslides, spray parks, wading pools, and shade options).
- Consider allowing the pool to remain open for a longer season (policy)

9. Evaluate Appropriate Programs & Activities within the Park

- Provide a diverse array of age appropriate music, theater, cultural, and entertainment special events that appeal to various user groups, including kids, teens, and families. (policy)
- Provide more weekend and evening events, and advertise / promote them (policy)



- Provide new activities - outdoor yoga, adventure races, orienteering, activities directed toward teens (policy)
- Provide more **educational guided nature activities** – trail walks, geology, bird watching, stewardship, etc.
- Provide a range of clubs (ex. arts, yoga) and lessons (ex. canoe) walking clubs for new moms, seniors, young kids, etc. (policy)
- Provide **more competitions / tournaments** – kites, volleyball, etc. (policy)
- Increase the functionality and draw to Centre 2000 and the Museum.
- skatepark
- reduce number of ball diamonds
- Evaluate lawn bowling – not much use
- Evaluate model car track
- Evaluate Horseshoe pits
- Evaluate Golf
- Evaluate Summerslam
- Evaluate Mountain bike events
- Evaluate Rotary Campground

10. Establish Park Operations & Maintenance Standards

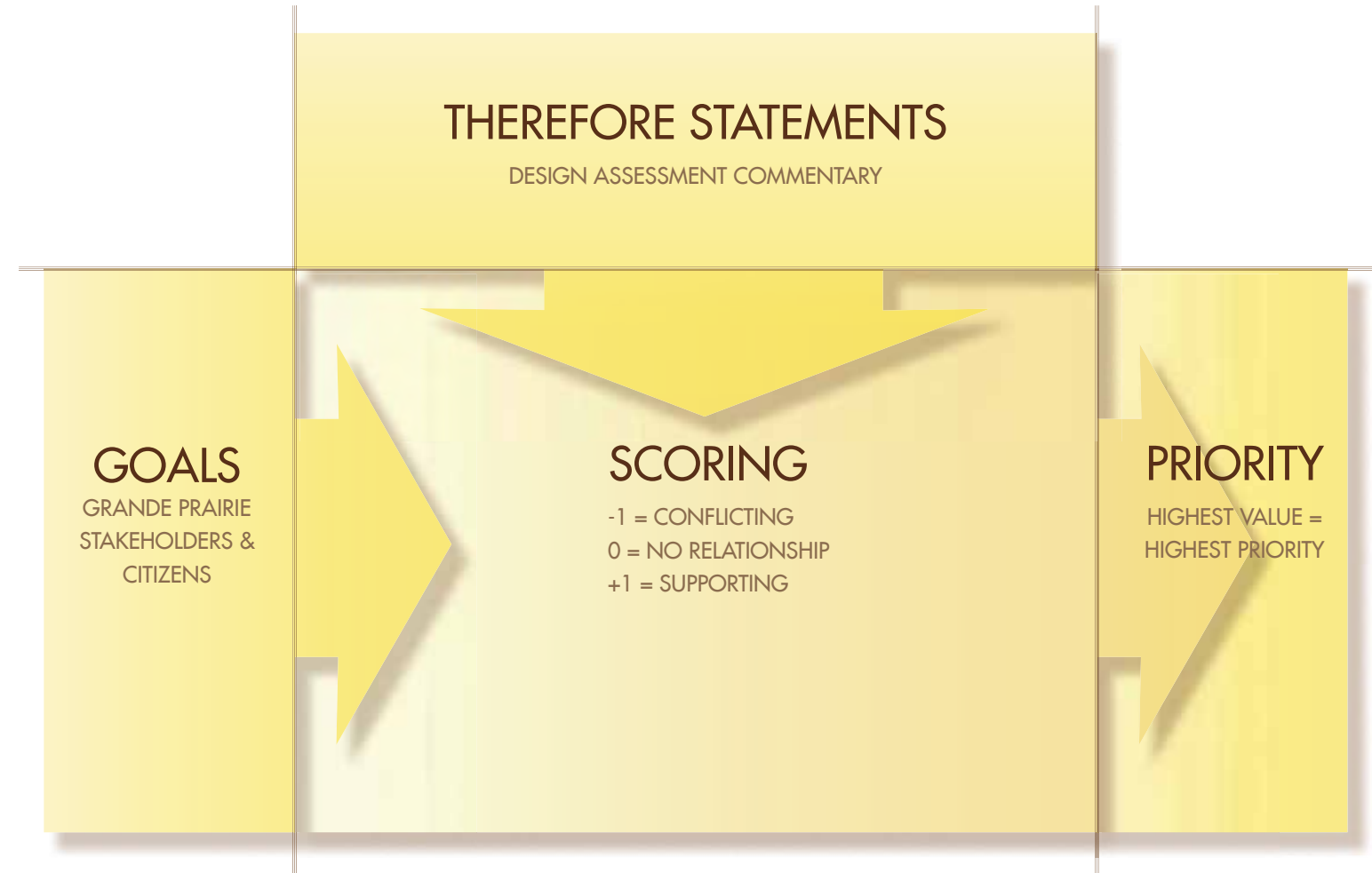
- Winter clearing of trails
- Extend hours of pavilion
- Establish a **management strategy for dogs** within the park
- Provide appropriate facilities and experiences for dogs
- Off-leash dog parks with hills, trees, lights, shelters, and furnishings in different areas of the park.
- Off-leash dog trails
- Provide dog-friendly amenities for dogs-on-leash areas



THE MATRIX

A simple set of goals does not define a structure around which to organize a master plan. A system of hierarchy and priorities is necessary to guide the decision making process. In order to propose the most strategic project initiatives, the design team prepared a matrix comparison of goals and planning agenda. This evaluation process is critical to planning success, and results in a defensible tabulation of which initiatives are the most “strategic” vs. “popular.” The goals are placed into a matrix that compares them with the “therefore” statements derived from the consultant’s analysis findings. Goals were assessed using numerical values that related to the manner in which they interfaced with the “therefore” statements (“1” for supporting, “0” for no relationship, and “-1” for non-supporting or contradictory affects). Through assessment of these values, each goal received a cumulative score, thereby allowing the consultant team to derive a priority list of goals. This ranking is a starting point, and certain intangible “non-scoreable” elements certainly affect the final weighting of influences in the plan. That being said, this matrix process is a non-biased means to achieving a system-wide assessment of all goals and design initiatives. These goals are systematically referenced for the remainder of the planning process as the vision for the property is refined.

The following page represents the final hierarchy organization of the goals.

[illegible]

RANKED GOALS

1. Improve access, parking, & legibility within park (46)

- Provide park-wide identity and wayfinding system
- Develop an interpretive program
- Provide appropriate capacity parking options

2. Provide a balance of sports with nature (35)

3. Evaluate Appropriate Programs & Activities within the Park (32)

4. Provide diversity in trail types and routes within park (31)

- Provide a loop trail system
- Provide trail connectivity to neighborhoods
- Provide an interpretive nature trail experience

5. Establish standards for Natural Area Preservation & Restoration (29)

- Expand natural and open space areas
- Implement a creek restoration strategy to enhance water quality

6.Improve / Add park facilities as necessary (24)

- Improve facilities South Bear Creek
- Improve winter recreation opportunities
- Add new recreational facilities
- Consider additions of passive recreation
- Consider an updated pool facility

7. Decrease encroachment on park boundaries and extend the park along the creek (21)

- Explore opportunities to expand the park along the Bear Creek Corridor
- Seek logical connections into new developments
- Implement a park buffer strategy

8. Establish Park Operations & Maintenance Standards (20)

9.Improve the sense of security and safety (17)

10.Improve park cleanliness (13)

MUSKOOSEPI PARK MASTER PLAN, GRANDE PRAIRIE, ALBERTA																		
		CRYSTAL LAKE												BEAR CREEK NORTH				
	MUSKOOSEPI PARK GOAL STATEMENTS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
1	Provide diversity in trail types and routes within park.	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0
2	Establish standards for Natural Area Preservation & Restoration	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
3	Provide a balance of sports with nature	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	Improve the sense of security and safety	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
5	Improve park cleanliness	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	Improve access, parking, & legibility within park	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
7	Decrease encroachment on park boundaries and extend the park along the creek.	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1
8	Improve / Add park facilities as necessary	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	Evaluate Appropriate Programs & Activities within the Park	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
10	Establish Park Operations & Maintenance standards	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS		2	2	5	4	4	3	2	5	0	3	3	1	3	2	3	2	2

FOREST				CANFOR EDGE & MEADOW				RESIDENTIAL BLUFF				ACTIVITIES LAWN				FOREST PRESERVE				GENERAL CONDITIONS				TOTALS																		
Forest is a wooded area with a variety of trees, including deciduous and coniferous. It is a natural habitat for many animals and plants. The forest is a valuable resource for the community and should be protected.				Canfor Edge & Meadow is a natural area with a mix of grass, shrubs, and trees. It is a habitat for many birds and insects. The area is a valuable resource for the community and should be protected.				Residential Bluff is a natural area with a mix of grass, shrubs, and trees. It is a habitat for many birds and insects. The area is a valuable resource for the community and should be protected.				Activities Lawn is a natural area with a mix of grass, shrubs, and trees. It is a habitat for many birds and insects. The area is a valuable resource for the community and should be protected.				Forest Preserve is a natural area with a mix of grass, shrubs, and trees. It is a habitat for many birds and insects. The area is a valuable resource for the community and should be protected.				General Conditions are the overall state of the area, including the health of the trees, the amount of grass, and the presence of insects. These conditions are important for the health of the ecosystem.				Totals are the sum of all the values in the table. They represent the overall state of the area and are used to compare different areas.																		
2	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	
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MASTER PLAN

MASTER PLAN CONCEPT

The master plan vision for Muskoseepi Park seeks to develop guidelines and strategies for the development and preservation of this park for generations of future visitors. The plan seeks to proactively capitalize upon the unique attributes of the park in a manner that addresses the numerous goals discussed in the previous chapters. Numerous assessments influenced the vision, and their findings are summarized here for future reference. Each contributed to the foundation of the plan, and all were routinely referenced in the planning process. Also valuable to the assessments were the public and staff input. The following overview serves to describe the primary concepts and overlapping agenda that work together in achieving the vision. Above all the master plan strives to protect the essence of what has made Muskoseepi Park a success.

OVERARCHING INITIATIVES

Throughout the planning and design process, common themes occurred. Instead of describing each common theme with individual projects, it is described here in summary. As a rule, these elements should be a common thread throughout the master plan design project implementation.

Habitat

The primary identity and success of Muskoseepi Park is due to its accessible natural features. To lose or lessen the force behind what makes this park special would be a disservice to the community. Because of the corridor form of the park, its availability of water, and landscape cover, wildlife migration should be considered in every addition or development implemented inside or even adjacent to the park. Diverting or cutting off this wildlife traffic could eventually phase out any sightings of these animals and affect regional patterns. A common ground should be accepted as a “shared” park for both recreational activity as well as wildlife habitat. An example of this would be implementing a boardwalk to allow for trail use in a marshy area without re-grading the marsh for an at-grade trail.

The first step in every implementation project should be to evaluate wildlife habitat, both stationery and migrational. These habitat assessments should be conducted by a consultant familiar with the regional wildlife. Before beginning construction, the trail or planned structure should be staked in the field. This will allow the ecologist to more effectively evaluate exact spatial/buffer concerns. Healthy buffers should be implemented in all projects. If sensitive habitat is found after staking, the trail should be re-aligned to appropriate areas. If re-routing is necessary, all efforts should be made to adhere to the master plan vision of trail hierarchy.

Architectural Guidelines

For both existing and proposed structures in the master plan, a common styling should be present across the site, whether for a small storage facility, restroom, or nature center. Depending on the building use, naturally a proportional degree of detail and expense are implemented. Even so, a family of material and styling should be followed. It is important that this styling not be duplication, but rather a style vernacular with freedom to make distinctions in design according to building program and usage needs. Styling should focus on being complementary rather than duplicated.

These standards are the basis of all new buildings, future renovations, interior design, and site elements. Visitors should see no visual inconsistencies or anything inappropriate for in this setting. A successful continuity of structures will create a timeless experience that endures for the next 100 years of the community.

The family of materials used shall be natural, utilize local and regional materials, and consider “found” or recycled materials. This design vernacular should be continued wherever possible. It may add cost to some projects but save money on others. Appropriate materials will allow for the buildings to “blend in” with the park rather than over-power park views.

In addition to the building aesthetic, a sustainable building approach should be attained. When designing these structures, opportunities should be sought for energy efficiencies, recycled materials, and using local materials. LEED certified structures in Muskoseepi Park, through the Canada Green Building Council, would be a great teaching tool for school groups as well as the community. The overall attitude toward these structures should be a learning experience rather than just a shell to house an activity.

Accessibility

Although with the age of the buildings and magnitude of the site, site topography and space restrictions will make it difficult to make Muskoseepi Park fully accessible, this should be an eventual goal. Accessibility accommodations do not simply assist the wheelchair bound and the elderly, however. Ramps also assist young families with strollers and all park users with a more casual and easy transition of grade. Incidentally, stair-free transitions also help building maintenance and service staff in daily operations. Retrofit solutions tend to look and feel like they are afterthoughts and add-ons. Accessible routes should be fully integrated into the buildings and landscape so that they become unnoticed as a “special” accommodation and seamless for all guests.

A long-term goal should be to replace all obtrusive retrofit ramps with less visible, longer approaches with natural ground materials (stone, crushed stone, etc.) and gentler slopes that do not require unsightly railings.

Landscape

Throughout the master plan vision, landscape restoration and improvements serve as a common thread. Re-forestation, ecotone implementation, and rain gardens will aide in encouraging healthy wildlife habitat as well as preserving and enhancing the natural aesthetic of the park.

Re-forestation of previously cleared Boreal Forest requires needed shelter and cover for wildlife. Forest areas also serve as buffers between park uses that perhaps have high noise levels, or undesirable views. Re-forestation is also used in the master plan as a general buffering of streets and parking lots.

Ecotone implementation throughout the park entails softening the transition from open meadow to dense forest. Ecotone establishment introduc-

es various woody shrubs and grasses for a more gradual evolution between plant communities. Increased ecotones also provide the greatest habitat diversity.

Rain gardens should be constructed in parking areas, along street trail right of ways, and along any disturbed area where possible. The general concept is to catch water before it reaches the creek and/or reservoir. Implementation will need to be at a higher elevation than the floodway and also work with watershed patterns to capitalize on the most runoff possible. It is important to note when designing these systems that they are not only functional, but are also meant for aesthetic value. Although City policy avoids water at street edges, this park rain garden condition is critical to preservation of slopes, creek bank health, and water quality.

Note: A local ecologist should be consulted for proper native plant material choices in all of these landscape initiatives. All invasive species should be identified by an ecologist and then removed from the park

Connectivity

A critical element toward a park’s success is connectivity. Straightforward connections from surrounding neighborhoods, business districts, and downtown shopping will allow Muskoseepi Park to serve a wider base of Grande Prairie citizens. These connections should directly link into the overall system-wide trail system.

In addition, connecting to future developments will be just as important, if not more so toward the park’s success. With developments being in the planning phase, opportunities arise for joint planning between the park and the developer. For example, a buffer at the creek could double as dedicated green space while allowing the park more space for habitat and stabilized bank slopes.

A host of previously adopted City and developer plans were incorporated into the design team’s visioning for the park. Such plans as the Municipal Development Plan, Area Structure Plans, Downtown Redevelopment Plan, Heritage Museum Walking Tour, Alberta Recreation Corridor & Trails Classification System, as well as several others played a part in making connections to future planned areas.

Culture Preservation

With the rich history of Muskoseepi Park, cultural preservation is a pertinent factor in the years to come as landmarks and remnants in the landscape begin to fade. Paying reverence toward these remnants can be realized through interpretive stations, signage, walking tours, etc. All projects within Muskoseepi Park should adhere to and support the Heritage Management Plan - a general plan to preserve heritage sites within the City. With the multiple layers of history present in the site (aboriginal, industrial, recreational), historians should be consulted for correct and sensitive interpretation. The Heritage Museum resource should be capitalized upon with all historical matters on the park.



NATURAL SYSTEMS.....



INTERPRETATION.....



SUSTAINABILITY.....



CONNECTIVITY.....



ECONOMICS



RECREATION.....

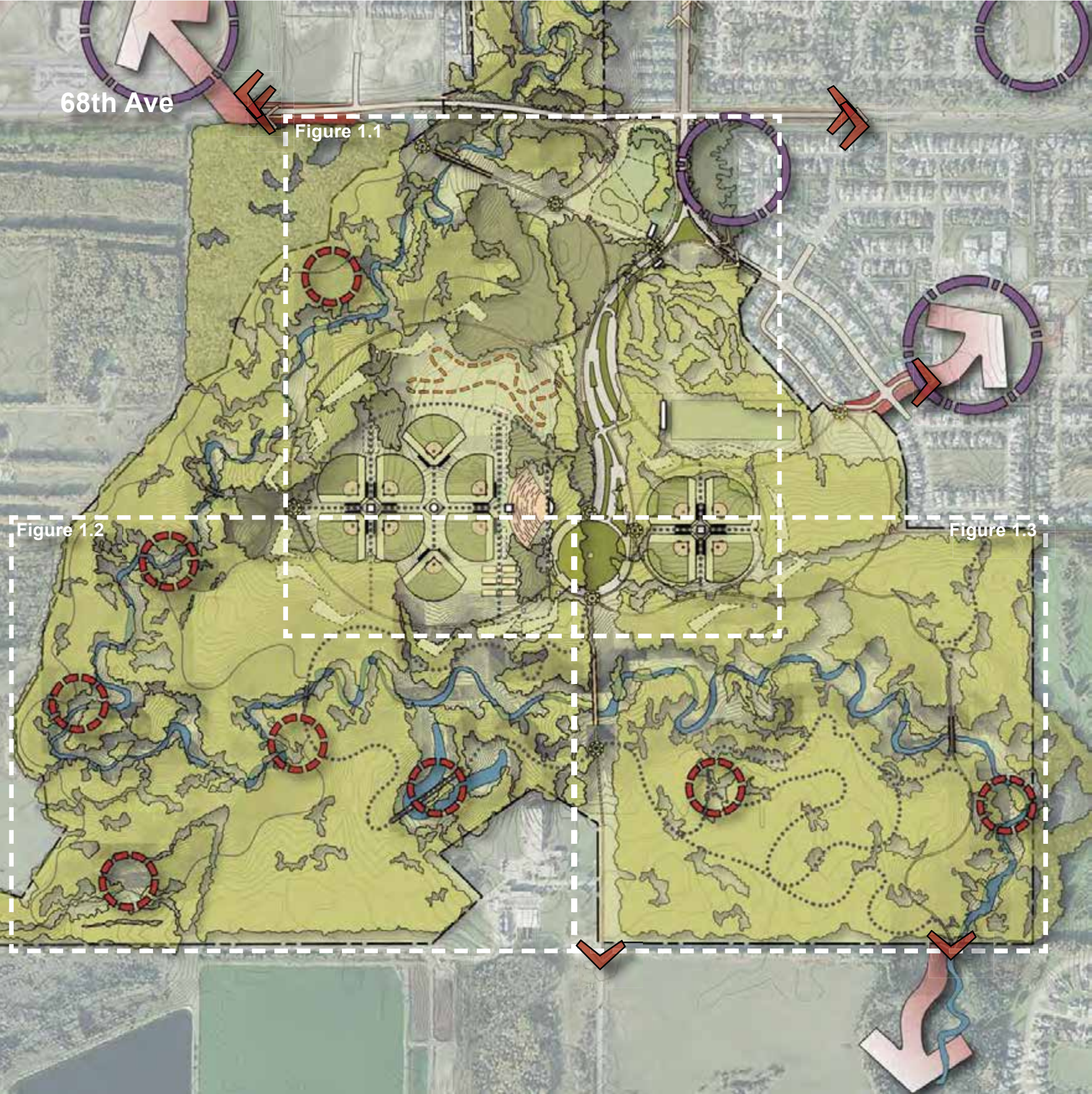




SOUTH BEAR CREEK

Anchoring Muskoseepi Park on the southern end, South Bear Creek claims the largest land area as well as the most diversity in recreational and trail usage. The most interesting factor of this site is its distinct transition from Parkland prairie to Boreal Forest eco region. A balance of active recreation along with passive recreation must be sought in South Bear Creek to balance its natural beauty along with the need for active space. Its part within the greater master plan vision entails a series of eighteen projects. As seen in the next chapter, these projects are ranked in terms of priority. Because of South Bear Creek’s size, the area is divided into three enlargements for a greater understanding of detail (see Figure 1.1, 1.2, & 1.3).

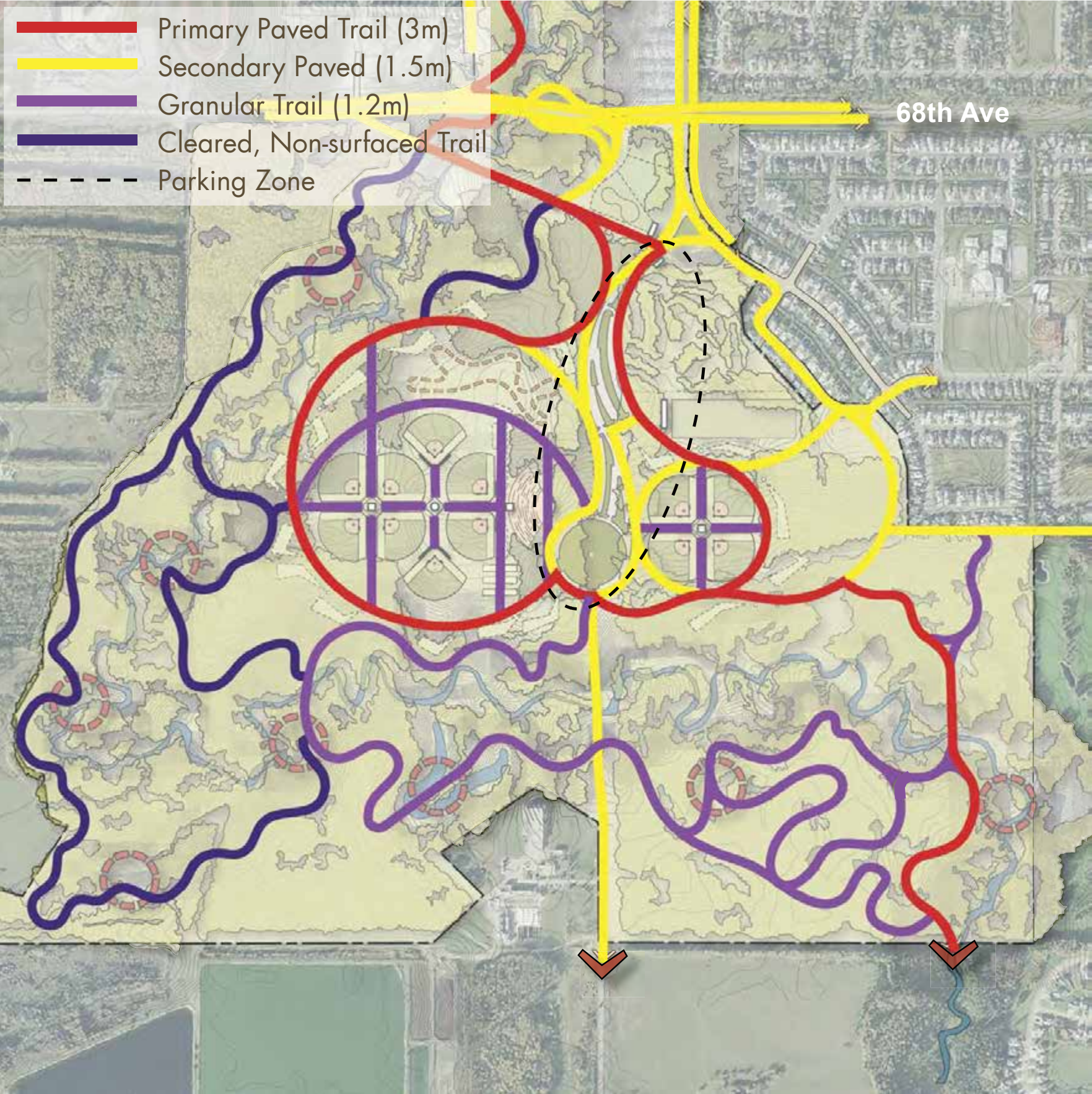
1. Drive & Parking	\$962,240
2. Drive & Parking - Secondary Trail	\$49,200
3. Baseball Field Complex A	\$3,860,000
4. Baseball Field Complex A - Nature Trail & Playground	\$381,940
5. Baseball Field Complex A - Architecture & Infrastructure	\$415,000
6. Baseball Field Complex A - Amphitheater	\$250,000
7. Baseball Field Complex A - Landscape	\$191,250
8. Baseball Field Complex B	\$1,877,990
9. Baseball Field Complex B - Architecture & Infrastructure	\$472,750
10. Baseball Field Complex B - Landscape	\$156,250
11. Frisbee Golf	\$15,000
12. Trail System - Primary Trail	\$1,396,617
13. Trail System - Natural Trail	\$343,617
14. Trail System - Landscape & Interpretive Zones	\$230,770
15. Golf Area	\$440,100
16. Dog Park & RC Area	\$155,000
17. BMX Course	\$94,050
18. BMX Pavilion	\$175,500

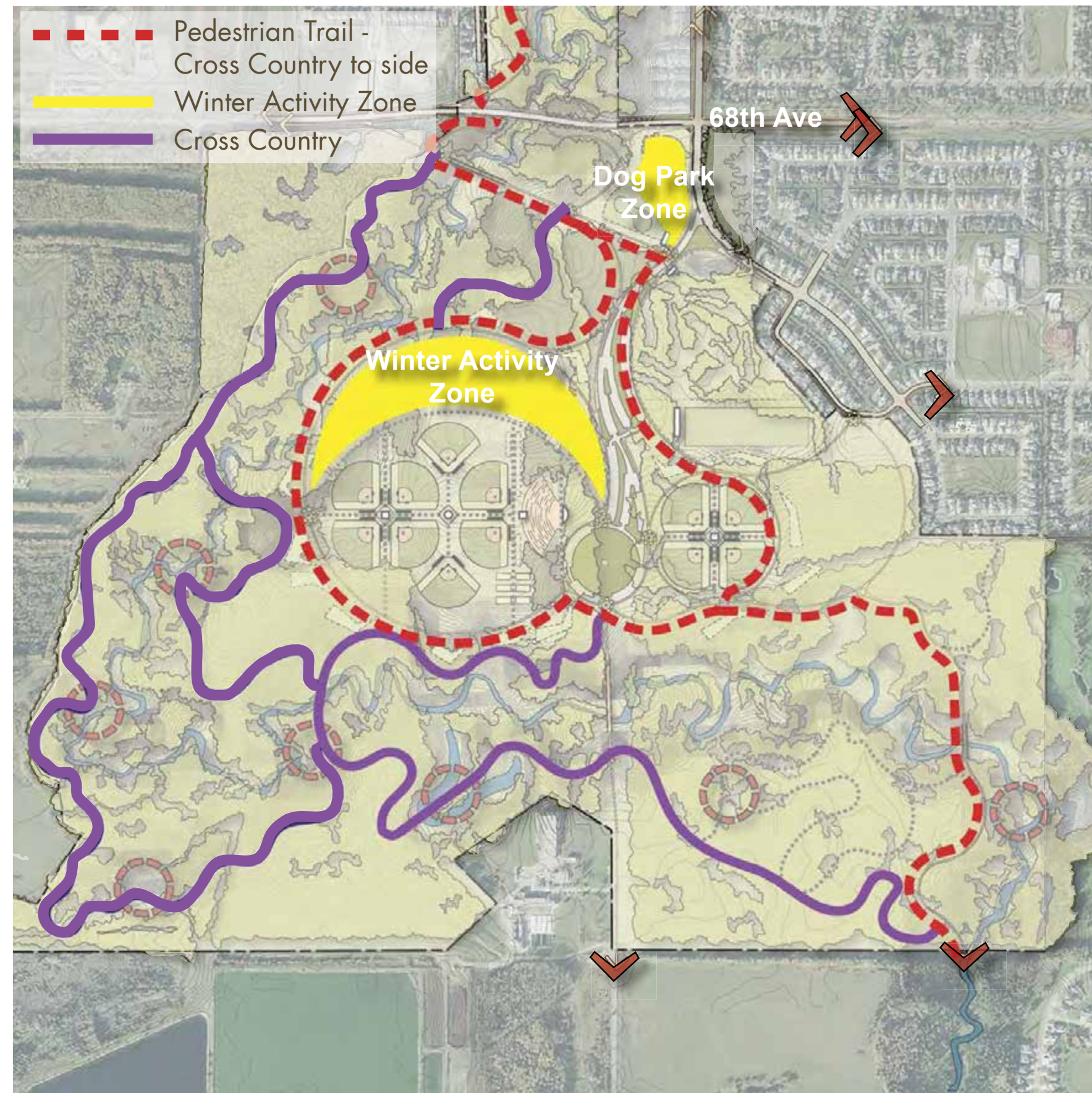


SOUTH BEAR CREEK TRAIL HIERARCHY

The South Bear Creek trail system is the only zone in Muskoseepi Park that contains all five trail types. Being the most active sports-oriented zone, it has several trail experiential options. The primary trail connects the site north and south and expands to connect each of the baseball complexes. Secondary trails connect the neighborhood streets and parking areas to the primary. The nature trails connect the smaller elements such as the individual baseball fields, amphitheater, and interpretive zones. Cleared, non-surfaced trails occur in the most sensitive habitat where there is very minimal clearing.

The City of Grande Prairie should strive to align with the “Alberta Recreation Corridor & Trails Classification System” for continuity in design, layout, trail types, and materials. When the City connects to County trails, this will allow for matching standards and an overall smooth transition from City to County.





SOUTH BEAR CREEK SEASONALITY

The ability to use Muskoseepi Park year-round is essential to the citizens of Grande Prairie. In terms of seasonality, South Bear Creek is the best area for a diversity of wintertime use. This area allows for winter pedestrian hiking, snowshoeing, cross country skiing, and dog parks. The use of quads and snow mobiles should be discouraged in this area, as they can be destructive in a sensitive habitat like South Bear Creek. The cross country skiing in this area is in two distinct areas. One is hidden in the forest, using the cleared hiking trails and the other is along the larger primary trail. Cross country skiing parallels the pedestrian in separate lanes along the primary trail. Maintenance and promotion of these winter activities are crucial to year round success of the park.



SOUTH BEAR CREEK PROJECTS

1. Drive & Parking \$962,240

As 100th Street begins to turn westward, an intersection and drive leading into South Bear Creek is proposed. This gradual, sweeping arch drive allows for a scenic, “park drive” experience. As park visitors are led away from the busy streets on this meandering drive, they are welcomed to the largest preserved area of forest within Muskoseepi Park. This new alignment softens the harsh lines of the utility easement. Pull-in parking along the drive accommodates 773 cars and economizes construction. Within the drive islands are rain gardens for water percolation and sediment removal. The terminus of the drive ends in a round-a-bout drop off for quick access to a multitude of activities. The drive layout utilizes existing clear zones and proposes reforested edges for habitat/ecotone diversity.

2. Drive & Parking - Secondary Trail \$49,200

The secondary trail parallels the entry drive and provides access to all amenities. The trail directs users toward various activity venues within South Bear Creek as well as connecting into the greater trail hierarchy system. This alignment increases pedestrian safety as it is a defined circulation. Drive aisle crossings occur at specific, delineated locations to ensure safety.

3. Baseball Complex A \$3,860,000

The first baseball complex, which is also the larger of the two (8 fields), occurs within the existing cleared area. The previous alignment is changed for a more efficient use of space and to increase the number of fields. Its location within the larger primary trail system allows for easy access and visibility. Implementation of these fields will require adherence to the Canadian Federation of Amateur Baseball field size and design requirements to ensure qualifying tournament play.

4. Baseball Complex A - Architecture & Infrastructure \$415,000

The new fields here are supported by new concession stands and restrooms at the center of the four-plex. The styling and design of these structures should adhere to the Architecture Identity Guidelines listed on page 36. With its plaza paving and location within the complex, the architecture serves as a central gathering and social space for players, fans, families, and park users.

5. Baseball Complex A - Nature Trail & Playground \$381,940

Within the primary trail circle, tertiary trails connect pedestrians to the activity venues via nature trails. During tournament usage, space is available along these north to south connector trails for vendors and tents. Along the nature trail through Complex A, a playground is proposed at the central axis intersection. Playground and volleyball program elements allow for a more diverse family friendly experience for multiple age groups during games.

6. Baseball Complex A - Amphitheater \$250,000

A new events amphitheater claims the eastern terminus of the trail axis. This seating arrangement accommodates a diversity of group sizes, ranging from a small class up to 1500 people at full capacity. This size flexibility affords the opportunity for large concerts and shows, supporting Summer Slam and other local festivals. This site also

Refer to Figure 1.1 , Bottom Right, for Project Locations.



Figure 1.1



includes a projector/sound room and restrooms with the same stone pattern and styling as the stone band seating. With the restored boreal forest as the backdrop to the proposed bandshell/stage, the views of nature take precedence over the built environment in South Bear Creek.

7. Baseball Complex A - Landscape **\$191,250**

In previously disturbed areas, a boreal forest restoration plan is introduced. As well as forest plantings, an “ecotone” overlay planting should occur as a critical component of healthy wildlife habitat. This is accomplished through a progression of plantings from meadow to forest, rather than a harsher mown transition. A local ecologist should be consulted for the implementation of this strategy.

8. Baseball Field Complex B **\$1,877,990**

Similar to Complex A, Complex B proposes a realignment of fields for a more efficient use of space. This alignment follows existing cleared zones and preserves all tree lines. With all home plates radiating out from one point, an obvious and simple central gathering space is created. Its location within the larger primary trail system allows for easy access and visibility. Implementation of these fields will require adherence to the Canadian Federation of Amateur Baseball field sizes and design regulations.

9. Baseball Field Complex B - Architecture & Infrastructure **\$472,750**

Utilizing the existing structure footprint, the design proposes an outwardly focused structure that equally serves all fields in the complex. The architecture in Complex A is comprised of concession stands and restrooms. The styling and design of these structures should adhere to the Architecture Identity Guidelines listed on page 36. With its plaza paving and location within the complex, the architecture serves as a central gathering and social space for players, fans, families, and park users.

10. Baseball Field Complex B - Landscape **\$156,250**

In previously disturbed areas, a boreal forest restoration plan is introduced. As well as forest plantings, an “ecotone” overlay planting should occur as a critical component of healthy wildlife habitat. This is accomplished through a progression of plantings from meadow to forest, rather than a harsher mown transition. A local ecologist should be consulted for the implementation of this strategy.

11. Frisbee Golf **\$15,000**

Tucked away into the forest is an 18 hole frisbee golf course. This course fades into the forest, with the basket being the only visible built element. Golf holes should route around the proposed activities in South Bear Creek. Clearing should only occur unless absolutely necessary to accommodate game play while preserving the forest experience.

12. Trail System - Primary Trail **\$1,396,617**

The key purpose of South Bear Creek’s primary trail system is to connect pedestrians north to south. This connection is within the park as well as outward to larger City and County trail systems. If these regional systems are not present, the trail and park should position itself in a manner that will accommodate these future connections. In this area, the trail also diverts in a loop around Baseball Complex A to carry larger groups during special events and tournaments.



Refer to **Figure 1.1**, Page x, for Project Locations.

13. Trail System - Natural Trail **\$343,617**

The key purpose of South Bear Creek’s natural trail system is to connect smaller spaces within the larger system. There are two types of natural trails in South Bear Creek. The first, as seen by the dotted black line, is a granular, regional material. The second trail, as seen by the thin solid black line, is a small, cleared trail for the most natural form of hiking within Muskoseepi Park. With minimal clearing and narrow footpaths, these trails will be the least obtrusive and are visually discreet.

14. Trail System - Interpretive Zones **\$230,770**

In South Bear Creek, eight diverse interpretive stations are proposed. These points occur along the trail to capture and interpret different aspects of the site, such as boreal forest, creek habitat, wildlife corridor, forest habitat, oxbows, forest meadow, ungulates, and hydrologic natural systems. These interpretive stations should be tucked into the landscape and positioned in a way that capitalizes on the most effective views for the pertaining educational topic. With space large enough to accommodate a small class, seating should be arranged in a manner that provides a learning atmosphere. Local ecologists and school district teachers should be consulted for corresponding curriculum, teaching material, and capacity facilitation commentary.

15. Golf Area **\$440,100**

The golf driving range area claims the tree line of the existing boreal forest. Using the same clearing zone, the range has minimal development footprint. To create a better defined tee box area for range users, a pavilion is proposed on the western edge of the range. For efficient use of facilities and maintenance, a shared maintenance building is proposed between the “Wee-Links” course and surrounding South Bear Creek activities. Both the “Wee-Links” course and the Driving range should be enclosed with fencing for safety and to keep stray golf balls within a defined area.

16. Dog Park & RC Area **\$155,000**

Positioned at the entry point into South Bear Creek is a dual use dog park and RC area. Accommodating both large and small breed dogs in separate fenced areas, multiple users are allowed to comfortably use the park. Features within the dog park, such as fountains, benches, and obstacle courses should be usable in all seasons. The RC course, adjacent to the dog park, uses the existing cleared zones and is shaped by the surrounding trail system. Grading and landscape should be appropriate for these sports while providing an engaging and imaginative experience for visitors.

17. BMX Course **\$94,050**

Situated between the primary and nature trails system, the BMX course alignment is shaped within previously cleared zones. With the rugged nature of this activity, various experience levels (training, recreational, and competition) are provided by different areas of difficulty. Defined access and maintenance are crucial throughout the seasons for an enjoyable and safe course. Appropriate safety guidelines should be posted and considered during the design of this special use facility.

18. BMX Pavilion **\$175,500**

For the necessary maintenance of a BMX course, a separate maintenance structure is proposed to accommodate all the tools, material, and equipment necessary. The styling and design of this structure should adhere to the Architecture Identity Guidelines listed on page 36.



Refer to Figure 1.1, Page x, for Project Locations.



12. Trail System - Primary Trail (continued) **\$1,396,617**

The key purpose of South Bear Creek's primary trail system is to connect pedestrians north to south. This connection is within the park as well as outward to larger City and County trail systems. If these regional systems are not present, the trail and park should position itself in a manner that will accommodate these future connections. In this area, the trail also diverts in a loop around Baseball Complex A to carry larger groups during special events and tournaments.

13. Trail System - Natural Trail (continued) **\$343,617**

The key purpose of South Bear Creek's natural trail system is to connect smaller spaces within the larger system. There are two types of natural trails in South Bear Creek. The first, as seen by the dotted black line, is a local granular material. The second trail, as seen by the thin solid black line, is a small, cleared trail for the most natural form of hiking within Muskoseepi Park. With minimal clearing and narrow footpaths, these trails are the least obtrusive and are visually unobtrusive.

14. Trail System - Interpretive Zones (continued) **\$230,770**

In South Bear Creek, eight diverse interpretive stations are proposed. These points occur along the trail to capture and interpret different aspects of the site, such as boreal forest, creek habitat, wildlife corridor, forest habitat, oxbows, forest meadow, ungulates, and hydrologic natural systems. These interpretive stations should be tucked into the landscape and positioned in a way that capitalizes on the most effective views for the pertaining educational topic. With space large enough to accommodate a small class, seating should be arranged in a manner that provides a learning atmosphere. Local ecologists and school district teachers should be consulted for corresponding curriculum, teaching material, and capacity facilitation commentary.



Refer to Figure 1.2 , Bottom Left, for Project Locations.

12. Trail System - Primary Trail (continued) **\$1,396,617**

The key purpose of South Bear Creek’s primary trail system is to connect pedestrians north to south. This connection is within the park as well as outward to larger City and County trail systems. If these regional systems are not present, the trail and park should position itself in a manner that will accommodate these future connections. In this area, the trail also diverts in a loop around Baseball Complex A to carry larger groups during special events and tournaments.

13. Trail System - Natural Trail (continued) **\$343,617**

The key purpose of South Bear Creek’s natural trail system is to connect smaller spaces within the larger system. There are two types of natural trails in South Bear Creek. The first, as seen by the dotted black line, is a local granular material. The second trail, as seen by the thin solid black line, is a small, cleared trail for the most natural form of hiking within Muskoseepi Park. With minimal clearing and narrow footpaths, these trails are the least obtrusive and are visually unobtrusive.

14. Trail System - Interpretive Zones (continued) **\$230,770**

In South Bear Creek, eight diverse interpretive stations are proposed. These points occur along the trail to capture and interpret different aspects of the site, such as boreal forest, creek habitat, wildlife corridor, forest habitat, oxbows, forest meadow, ungulates, and hydrologic natural systems. These interpretive stations should be tucked into the landscape and positioned in a way that capitalizes on the most effective views for the pertaining educational topic. With space large enough to accommodate a small class, seating should be arranged in a manner that provides a learning atmosphere. Local ecologists and school district teachers should be consulted for corresponding curriculum, teaching material, and capacity facilitation commentary.



Refer to Figure 1.3, Bottom Right, for Project Locations.

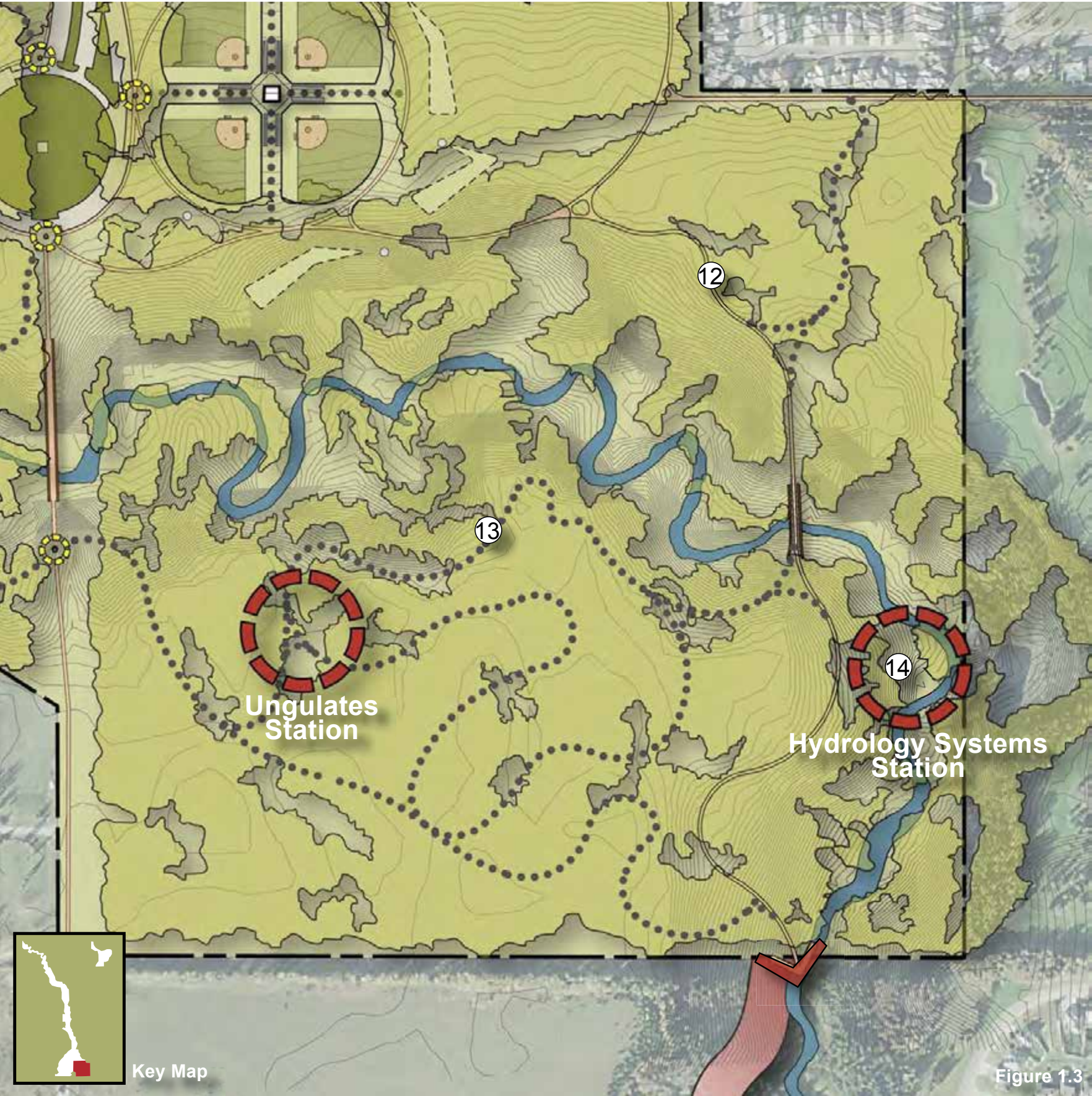
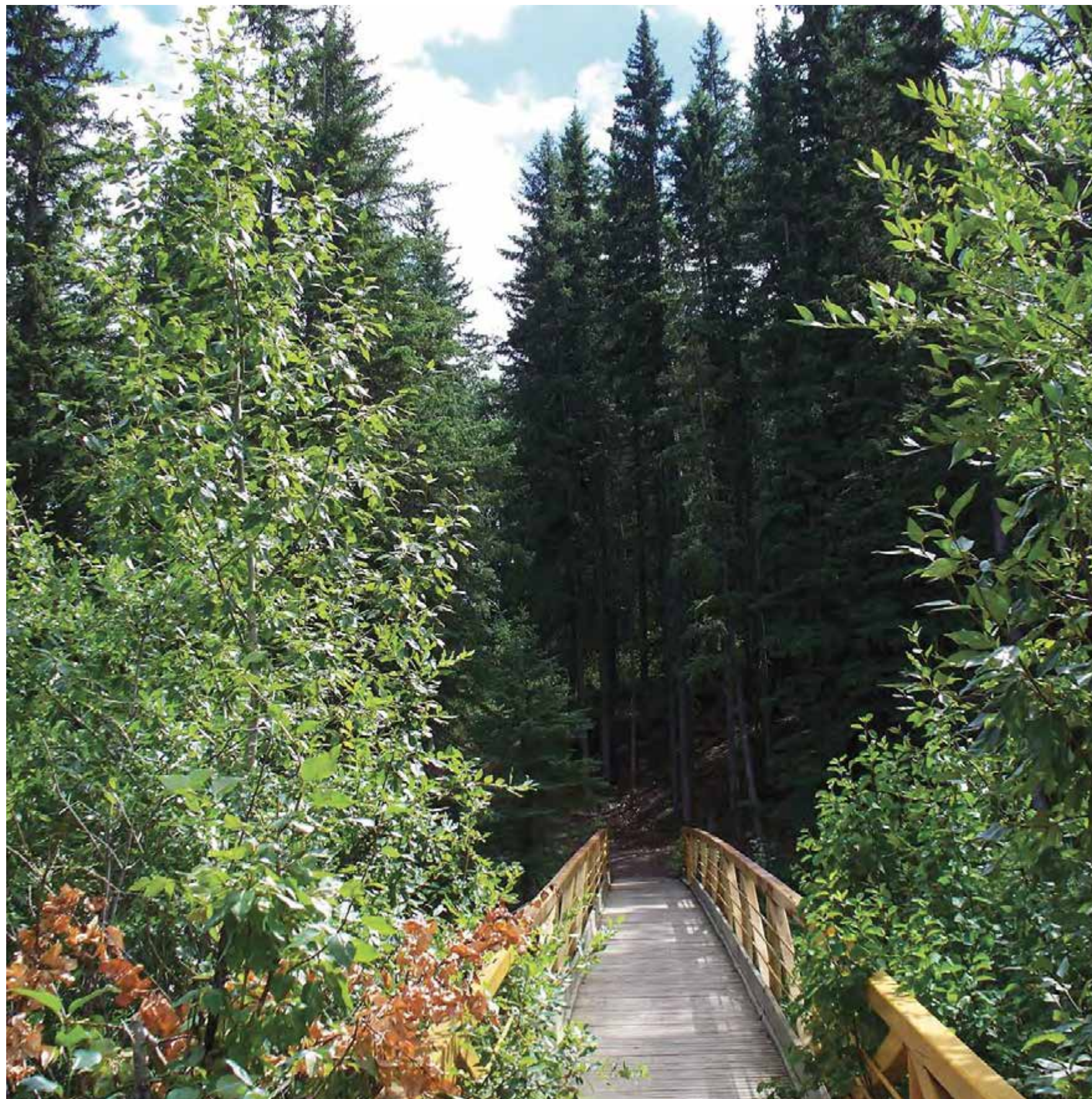


Figure 1.3





BEAR CREEK CORRIDOR - SOUTH

Moving upstream and northward, Bear Creek Corridor-South claims the narrow passage-way between residential bluffs on the east and west. Being such a narrow corridor, most proposed activities include trail systems and loops. Its part within the greater master plan vision entails a series of five projects. As seen in the next chapter, these projects are ranked in terms of priority. Because of Bear Creek Corridor-South's length, the area is divided into two enlargements for a greater understanding of detail (see Figure 2.1 & 2.2).



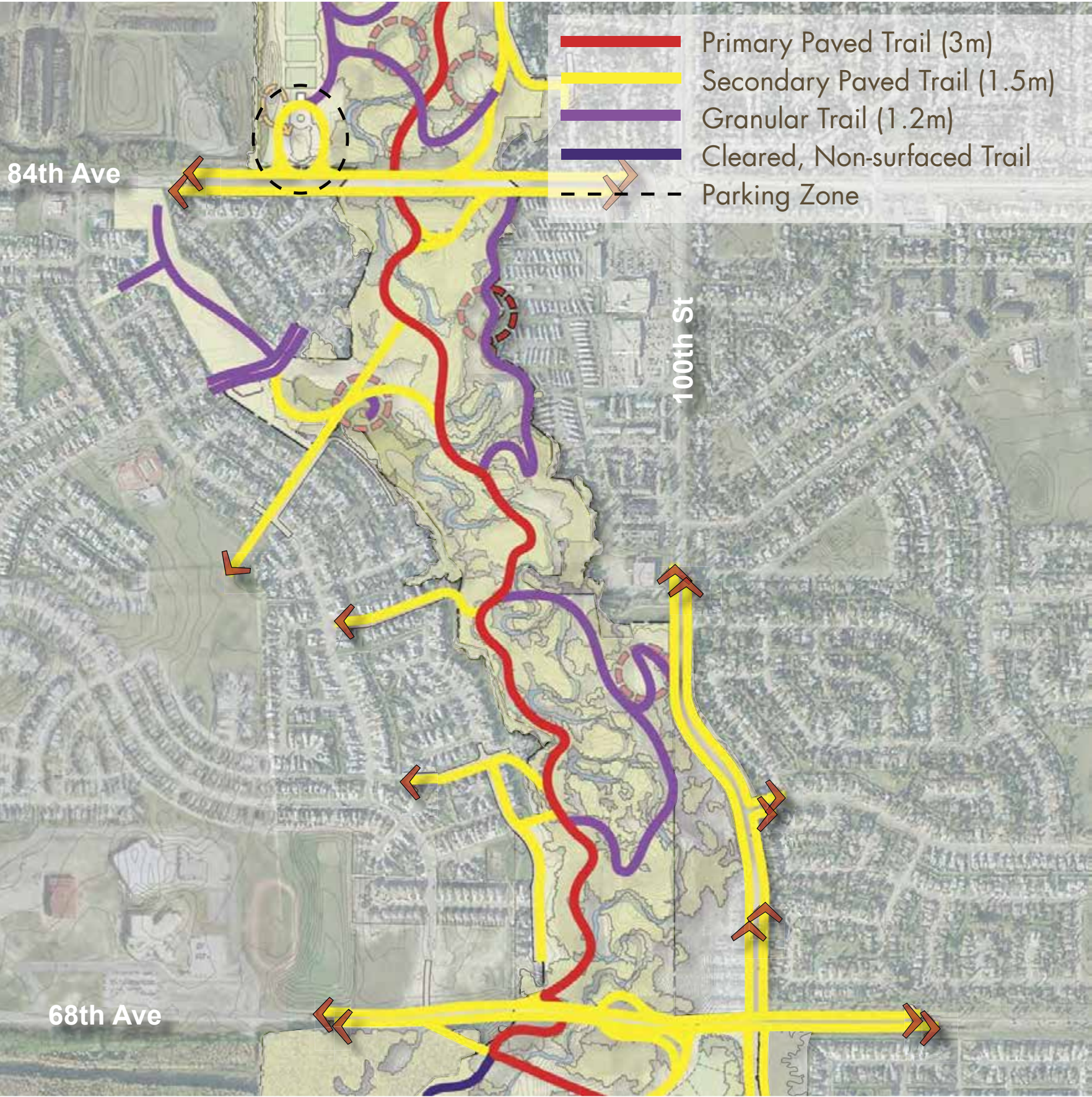
1. South Corridor - Primary Trail	\$564,357
2. South Corridor - Secondary Trail	\$262,018
3. South Corridor - Nature Trail	\$153,450
4. South Corridor - Rain Garden	\$100,315
5. Interpretive Stations (3)	\$45,000



BEAR CREEK CORRIDOR - SOUTH TRAIL HIERARCHY

Throughout Bear Creek’s narrow corridor, trail hierarchy is crucial to avoid user confusion. Being such a narrow passage and a largely passive recreation zone (pedestrian hiking), alignment and material choices are essential for a responsible route through the corridor. The primary trail purpose in Bear Creek is to connect the park north to south. A secondary consideration is to create trail loops, connecting each side of the creek.

The City of Grande Prairie should strive to align with the “Alberta Recreation Corridor & Trails Classification System” for continuity in design, layout, trail types, and materials. When the City connects to County trails, this will allow for matching standards and an overall smooth transition from City to County.



BEAR CREEK CORRIDOR - SOUTH SEASONALITY

Awareness of seasonality restraints and opportunities in Bear Creek is essential to a year-round diversity of park experiences. Opportunities in Bear Creek include pedestrian hiking along the cleared primary trail, cross country skiing, and sledding at the well-known toboggan hill. Along the primary trail, a cross country skiing route will parallel the pedestrian trail. Maintenance and promotion of these winter activities are crucial to year-round success of the park. Restraints within this area include limitations on snow removal with steeper slopes and space with the narrow corridor.



BEAR CREEK CORRIDOR - SOUTH PROJECTS

1. South Corridor - Primary Trail \$564,357

Working with current trail alignments where possible, the primary trail system in Bear Creek connects pedestrians north to south within the park. Trailhead markers, referenced on the map by the yellow dashed circles, connect these primary trails into the larger hierarchical system. In addition, a series of kilometer markers are proposed for trail hikers and runners on the primary trail. Appropriate buffers and/or easements to adjacent land uses and residential back yards should be designed when aligning these trails.

2. South Corridor - Secondary Trail \$262,018

In Bear Creek, the key purpose of the secondary trail is to connect surrounding park uses and neighborhoods to the overall trail system. These secondary trails also connect pedestrians to the larger City and County trail systems. A delineated location for these connector trails is crucial to ensure park user safety.

3. South Corridor - Nature Trail \$153,450

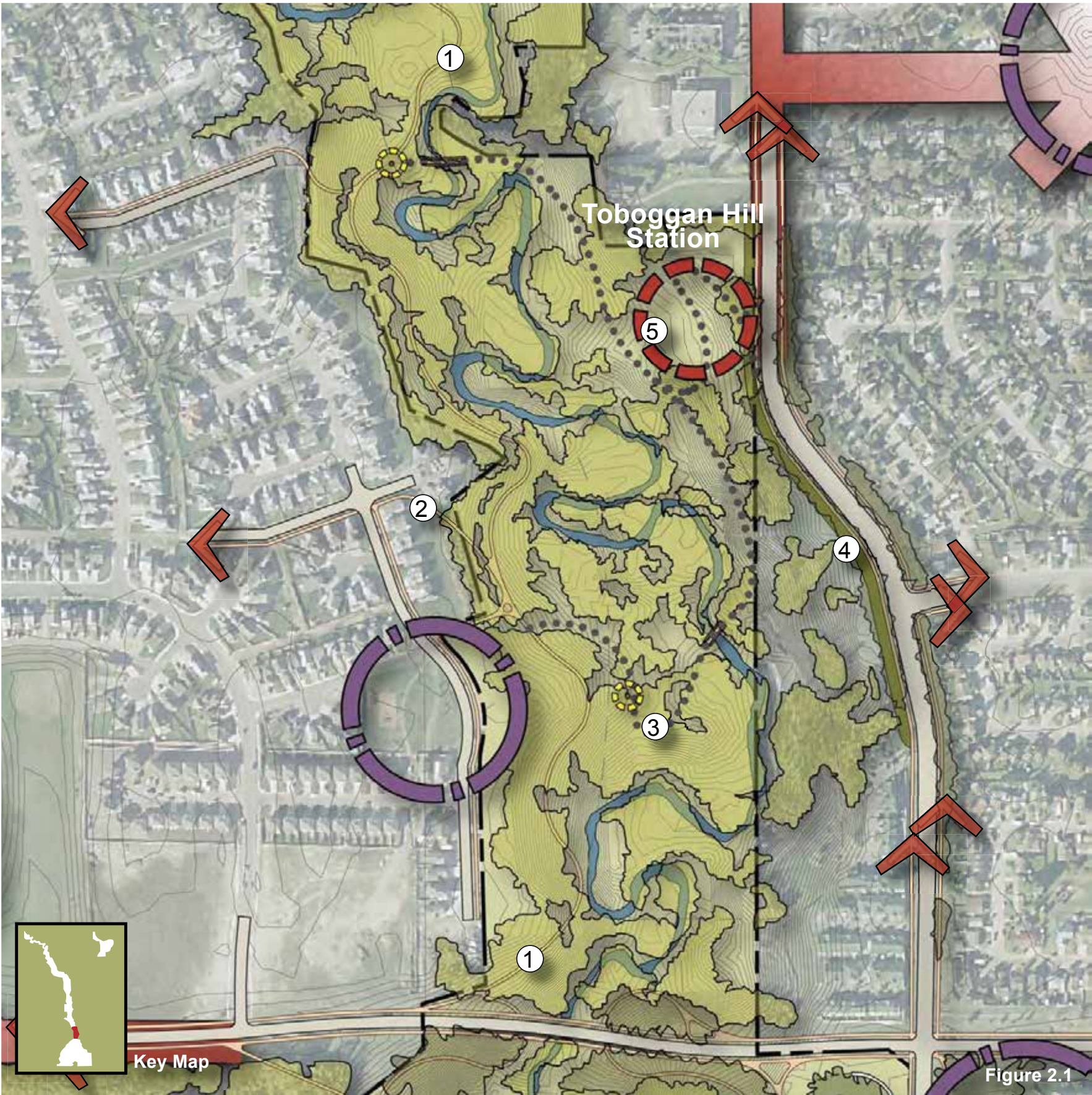
New nature trails in Bear Creek parallel the creek on the eastern side to complete a loop system along with the primary trail. Also, the nature trails diverge from the loop to connect interpretive stations and the secondary trails along the neighborhoods. These trails propose minimal clearing and should route around existing tree stands. Appropriate buffers and/or easements to adjacent land uses and residential back yards should be designed when aligning these trails.

4. South Corridor - Rain Garden \$100,315

A consistent feature across the park is rain gardens, a system for catching water runoff to allow settlement of pollutants before running into the creek. In this portion of Bear Creek, rain gardens should be implemented along the edges of the streets along the higher banks to catch and slow down runoff. Utilizing native plantings, erosion will be mitigated as well as limit pedestrian access to controlled points.

5. Interpretive Stations \$45,000

In Bear Creek, three diverse interpretive stations are proposed. These spots occur along the trail to capture and interpret different cultural and natural aspects of the site, such as the Toboggan Hill, Brickyard, and Storm Water Outfall. These interpretive stations should be tucked into the landscape and positioned in a way that capitalizes on the most effective views for the pertaining station subject matter. With space large enough to accommodate a small class, seating should be arranged in a manner that encourages a learning atmosphere. Local ecologists and school district teachers should be consulted for corresponding curriculum and teaching material.



Refer to Figure 2.1 Bottom Right (Page x) & Figure 2.2 Bottom Right (Page x) for Project Locations.

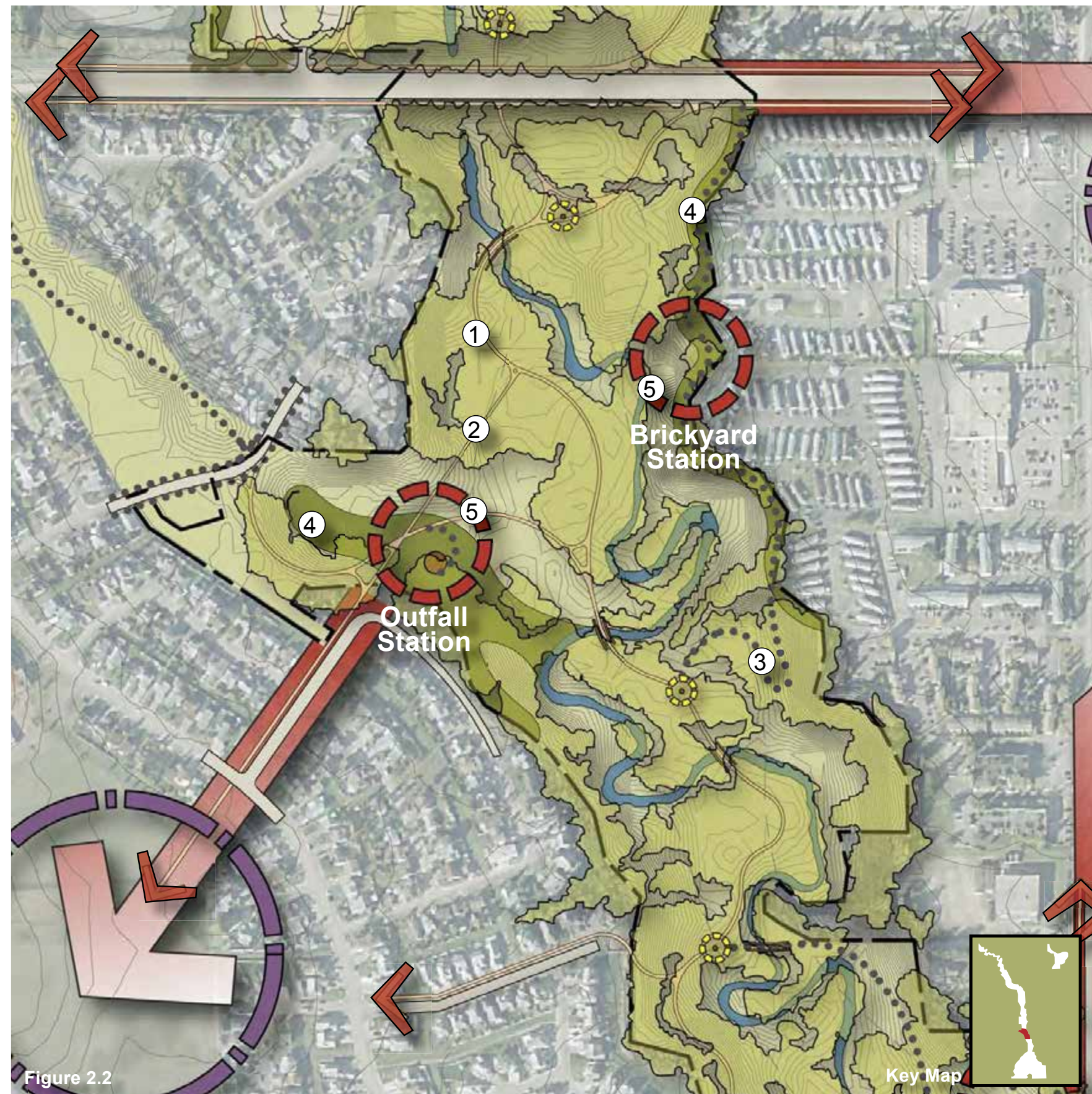


Figure 2.2

Key Map



BEAR CREEK CORRIDOR - NORTH

Moving northward, Bear Creek Corridor-North claims the narrow passageway between residential bluffs and the CanFor plant. Being such a narrow corridor, most proposed activities include trail systems and loops. Its part within the greater master plan vision entails a series of nine projects. As seen in the next chapter, these projects are ranked in terms of priority. Because of Bear Creek Corridor-North's length, the area is divided into two enlargements for a greater understanding of detail (see Figure 3.1 & 3.2).



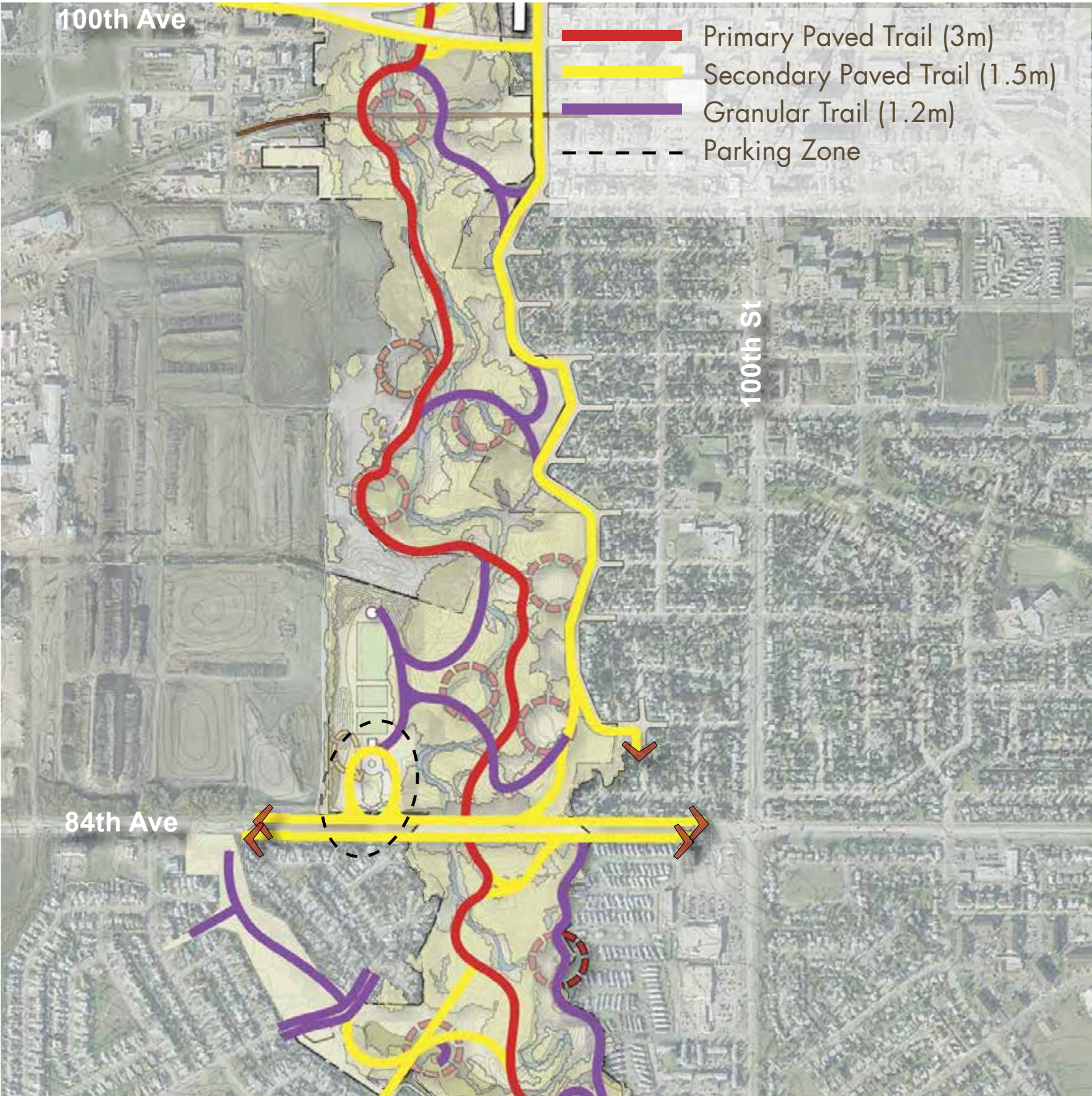
1. Soccer Fields	\$302,144
2. Soccer Area - Maintenance & Secondary Trail	\$119,694
3. Soccer Architecture, Paving, & Utilities	\$284,550
4. Soccer Area - Nature Trail	\$83,522
5. North Corridor - Primary Trail	\$417,608
6. North Corridor - Secondary Trail	\$129,480
7. North Corridor - Nature Trail	\$181,950
8. North Corridor - Landscape	\$191,885
9. Interpretive Zone	\$105,000

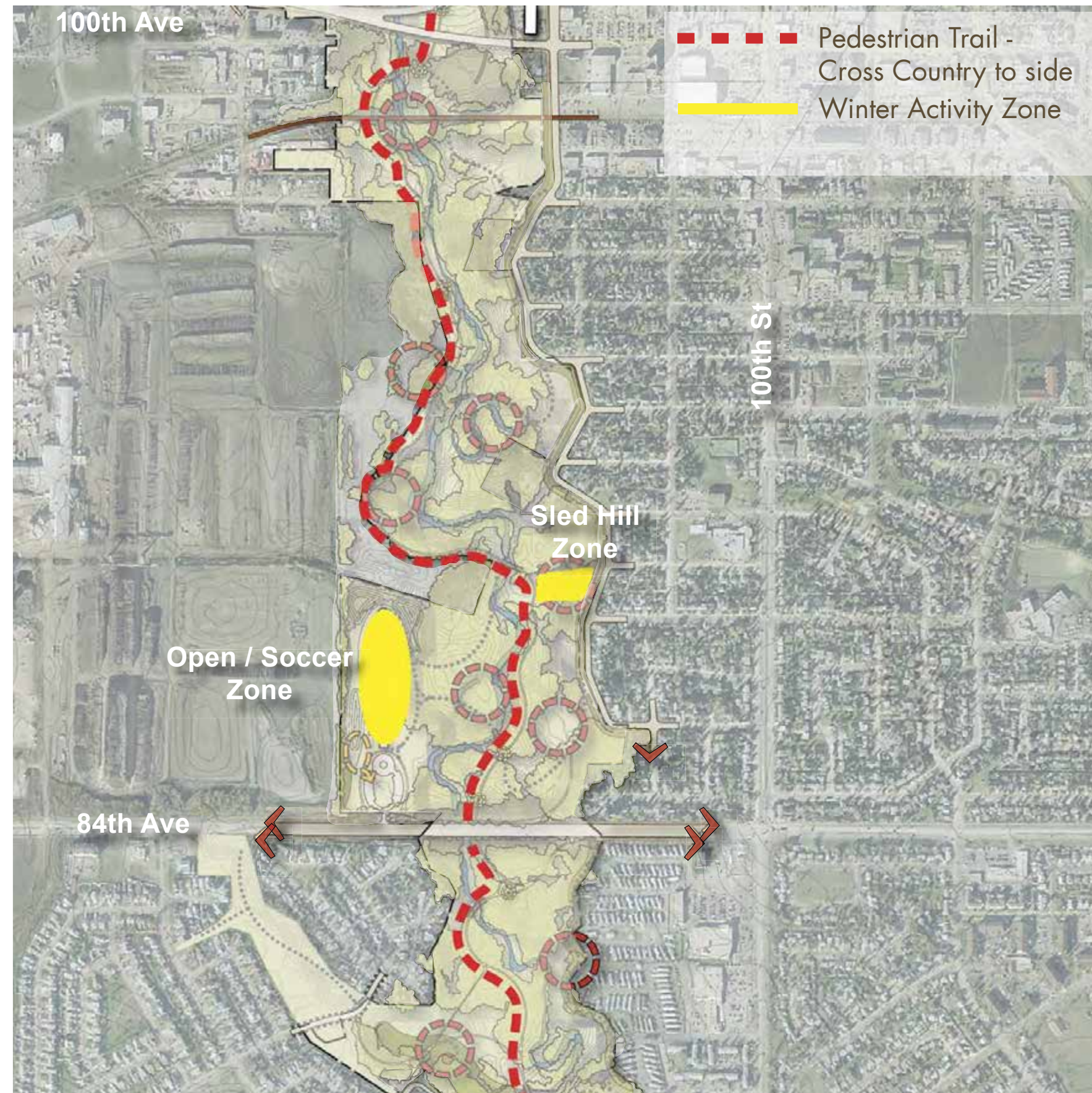


BEAR CREEK CORRIDOR - NORTH TRAIL HIERARCHY

As with Bear Creek Corridor-South, the North segment’s user legibility in trail hierarchy is crucial. Being such a narrow passage and a largely passive recreation zone (pedestrian hiking), alignment and material choices are essential for a responsible route through the corridor. The primary trail purpose in Bear Creek is to connect the park north to south. A secondary consideration is to create trail loops, connecting each side of the creek.

The City of Grande Prairie should strive to align with the “Alberta Recreation Corridor & Trails Classification System” for continuity in design, layout, trail types, and materials. When the City connects to County trails, this will allow for matching standards and an overall smooth transition from City to County.





BEAR CREEK CORRIDOR - NORTH TRAIL SEASONALITY

Awareness of seasonality restraints and opportunities in Bear Creek is essential to a year-round diversity of park experiences. Opportunities in Bear Creek include pedestrian hiking along the cleared primary trail, cross country skiing, and sledding at the well known toboggan hill. Along the primary trail, a cross country skiing route will parallel the pedestrian trail. Maintenance and promotion of these winter activities are crucial to year round success of the park. Restraints within this area include limitations on snow removal with steeper slopes and space with the narrow corridor.



BEAR CREEK CORRIDOR - NORTH PROJECTS

1. Soccer Fields \$302,144

Adjacent to the CanFor plant, a soccer field complex is proposed. The primary focus of this area is to create an open meadow aesthetic, while still being able to accommodate two half size soccer fields along with one full size field. Earthen berms surround the meadow to buffer the harshness of the CanFor plant, which could also double as sloped spectator seating. Implementation of these soccer fields will require coordination with local sports organizations and schools regarding specific size needs.

2. Soccer Area - Secondary Trail & Park Maintenance Yard \$119,694

In the proposed soccer complex, the secondary trail connects pedestrian street traffic to the parking lot and into the pavilion. This trail connection allows for the surrounding neighborhoods to enter the park without having to walk across the creek to the eastern side of the park. A delineated location for these connector trails is crucial to ensure park user safety. The maintenance yard is located adjacent to the soccer parking. This location allows for shared paved drives, which allows for reduced costs and reduced impervious material in the creekway. This facility should be a joint use facility with Muskoseepi Park maintenance and Grande Prairie park satellite maintenance, with priority given to Muskoseepi maintenance. Parks staff should determine final usage agreement. This facility could also be used as future Park Administration offices. In addition, this soccer area can expand to include an alternate dog park facility.

3. Soccer Architecture, Paving, & Utilities \$284,550

The architecture at the soccer complex includes a restroom/concession building and outdoor pavilion. Sitting as the two ends of an axis, these structures create a “great lawn” aesthetic with the open meadow. In addition to soccer events and tournament support, these structures support day to day use for the entire park. The styling and design of these structures should adhere to the Architecture Identity Guidelines listed on page 36. The parking lot drive terminates in a round-a-bout drop off for quick access to the soccer complex, which is also a trail head to the overall trail system. The drive layout utilizes existing clear zones and proposes reforested edges for habitat/ecotone diversity. Viability for drive access off of 84th Avenue should be assessed by City traffic engineers when beginning this project.

4. Soccer Area - Nature Trail \$83,522

Diverging from the secondary paved trail, the nature trail connects the fields and architecture of the soccer complex. This trail also meanders through the existing tree cover and through the proposed earthen berms. Along the edges of this area are rain gardens and bioswales to collect runoff. This allows settlement of pollutants before running into the creek as well as mitigating erosion.



Refer to **Figure 3.1 Bottom Right** (Page x) & **Figure 3.2 Bottom Right** (Page x) for Project Locations.

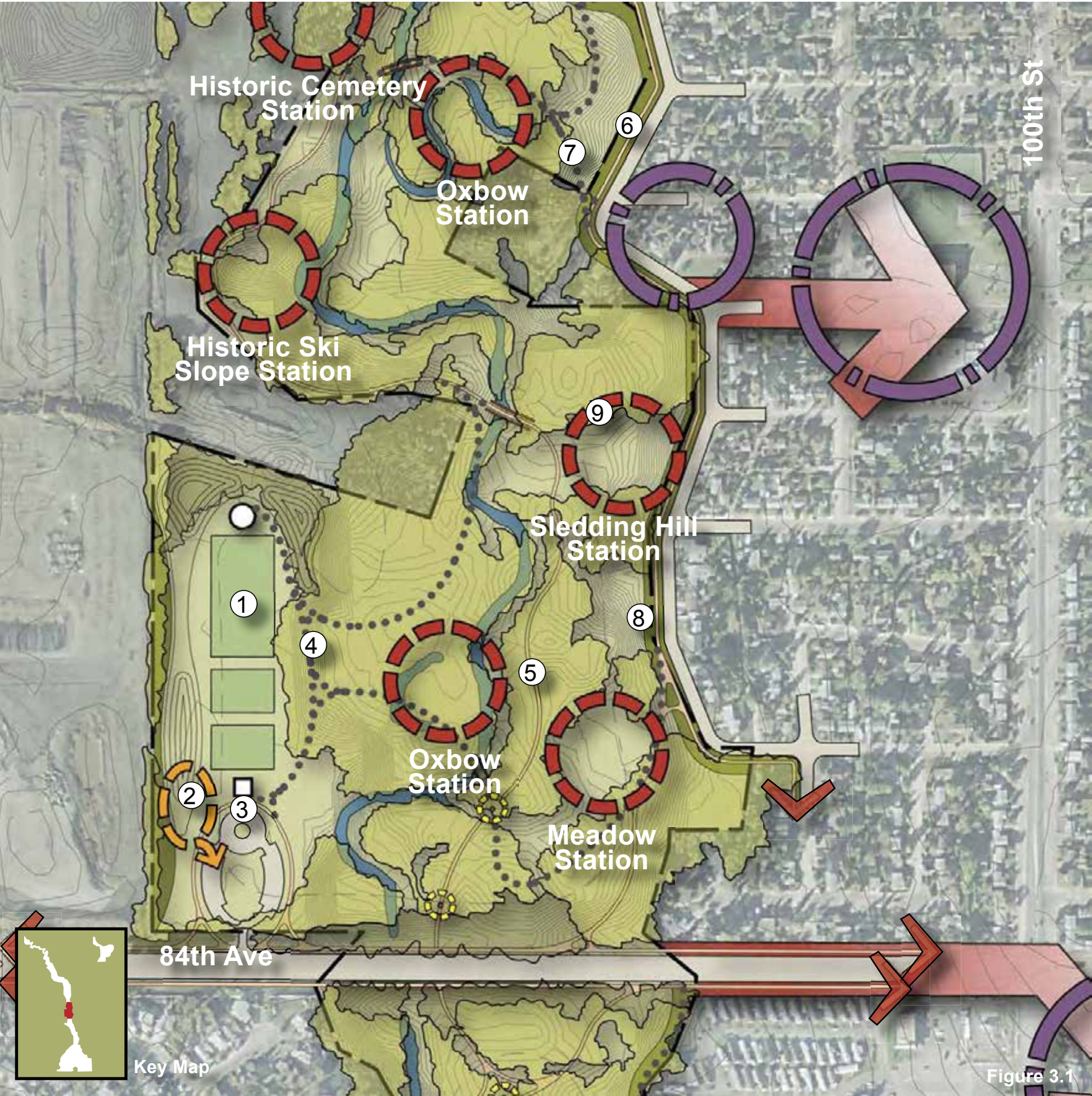


Figure 3.1

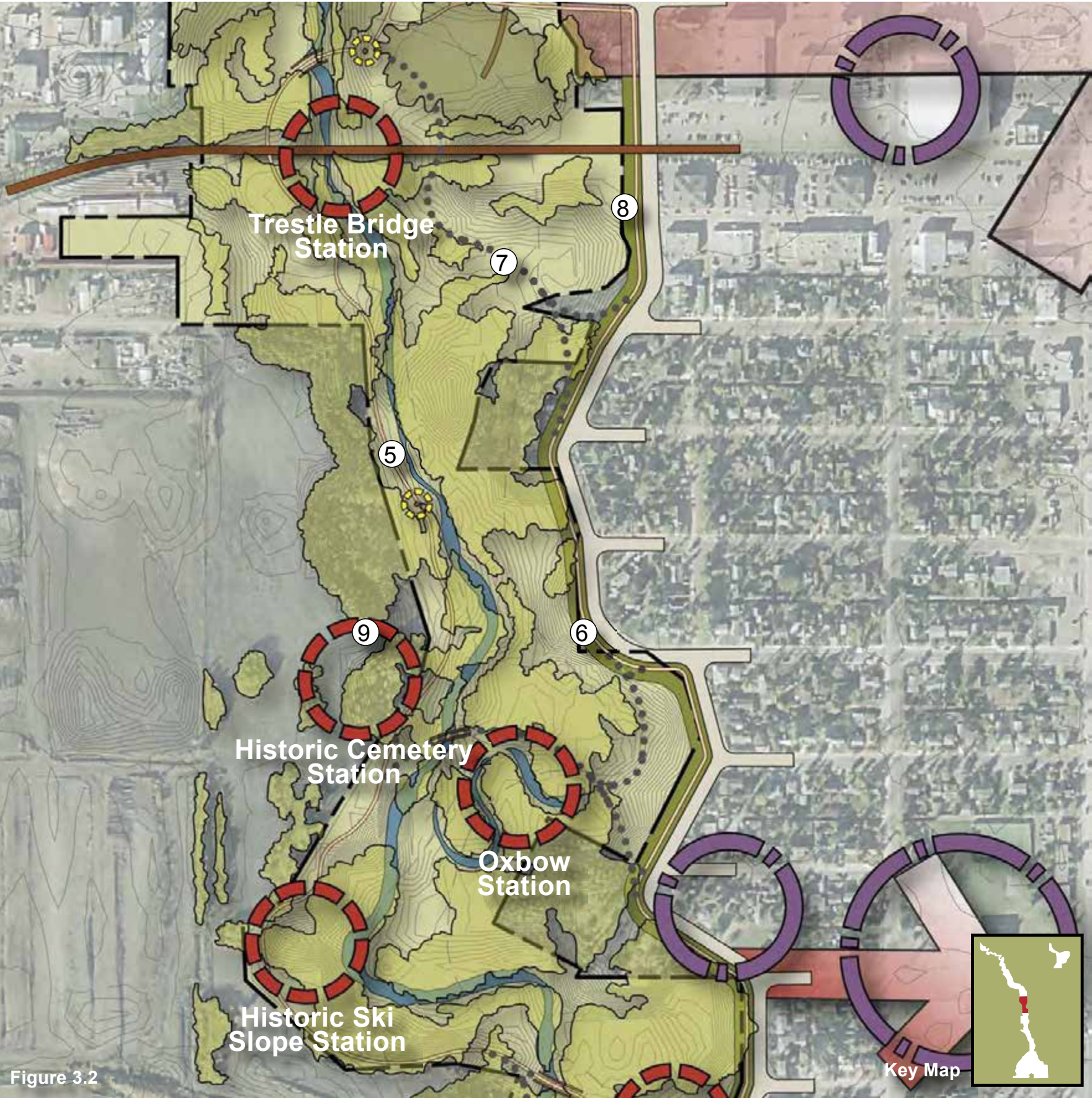


Figure 3.2

5. North Corridor - Primary Trail **\$417,608**

As with Bear Creek Corridor-South, the primary trail's key goal is to connect pedestrians north to south within the park. Trail heads occurs at trail diversions, where a loop is created. This primary trail follows current trail alignments where possible to minimize its development footprint. Appropriate buffers and/or easements to adjacent land uses and residential back yards should be designed when aligning these trails.

6. North Corridor - Secondary Trail **\$129,480**

The secondary trail in Bear Creek Corridor-North serves two purposes, one to connect north to south for the adjacent neighborhoods and the second as a loop trail within the park. This neighborhood trail is crucial for safety as well as connecting to the downtown (north). Implementation on these trails should include coordination with City traffic engineers for compliance within the street right of way and future street expansions. Appropriate buffers and/or easements to adjacent land uses and residential back yards should be designed when aligning these trails.

7. North Corridor - Nature Trail **\$181,950**

The nature trails in Bear Creek parallel the creek on the eastern side to complete a loop system along with the primary trail. Also, the nature trails diverge from the loop to connect interpretive stations and the secondary trails along the neighborhoods. These trails propose minimal clearing and should route around existing tree stands. Appropriate buffers and/or easements to adjacent land uses and residential back yards should be designed when aligning these trails. Although City policy avoids water at street edges, implementation of rain gardens at trail edges is critical to the preservation of slopes and creek health.

8. North Corridor - Landscape **\$191,885**

Consistent features across the park are rain gardens, systems for catching water runoff to allow settlement of pollutants before running into the creek. In this portion of Bear Creek, rain gardens should be implemented along the edges of the streets along the higher banks to catch runoff. Utilizing native plantings, erosion will be mitigated as well as limit pedestrian access to controlled points. Although City policy avoids water at street edges, this park rain garden condition is critical to preservation of slopes, creek bank health, and water quality.

9. Interpretive Zone **\$105,000**

In Bear Creek Corridor-North, seven diverse interpretive stations are proposed. These points occur along the trail to capture and interpret different cultural and natural aspects of the site, such as the Meadow, Creek Oxbow, Sledding Hill, Historic Ski Slope, and Historic Cemetery. These interpretive stations should be tucked into the landscape and positioned in a way that capitalizes on the most effective views for the pertaining educational topic. With space large enough to accommodate a small class, seating should be arranged in a manner that provides a learning atmosphere. Local ecologists and school district teachers should be consulted for corresponding curriculum, teaching material, and capacity facilitation commentary.



CENTENNIAL PARK

Moving northward, Centennial Park acts as the central core and hub of activity to Muskoseepi Park. The two larger zones of activity are the reservoir and the Commons. The reservoir contains more passive programming and larger open meadows. Paired with the high programming of the Commons, the two create a balance for park users. The more active Commons area entails programming for sports, recreation, culture, and historical interpretation. This wide diversity of uses explains why this node along the creek is the most highly used. The master plan vision for this area capitalizes on this aspect and encourages better connections and better organized spaces. Centennial Park's part within the greater master plan vision entails a series of seventeen projects. As seen in the next chapter, these projects are ranked in terms of priority. Because of Centennial Park's size, the area is divided into two enlargements for a greater understanding of detail (see Figure 4.1 & 4.2).

1. RV Park Site Work	\$100,791
2. RV Park	\$185,175
3. Elks Lodge Paving	\$422,306
4. Lake - Primary Trail	\$311,552
5. Lake - Secondary Trail & Parking	\$269,125
6. Lake - Wetland Shelf Planting Expansion	\$321,050
7. Lake - Interpretive Zones	\$60,000
8. Lake - Spillway Reconstruction	\$150,000
9. Commons - Landscape	\$177,973
10. Commons - Entry Monument Sign	\$50,000
11. Commons - Trails	\$339,362
12. Commons Parking Lot	\$599,020
13. Commons - Amphitheater & Utilities	\$313,040
14. Golden Age Center	\$178,556
15. Swim Center	\$4,156,445
16. Swim Center Utilities	\$250,000
17. Heritage Museum Area	\$207,992

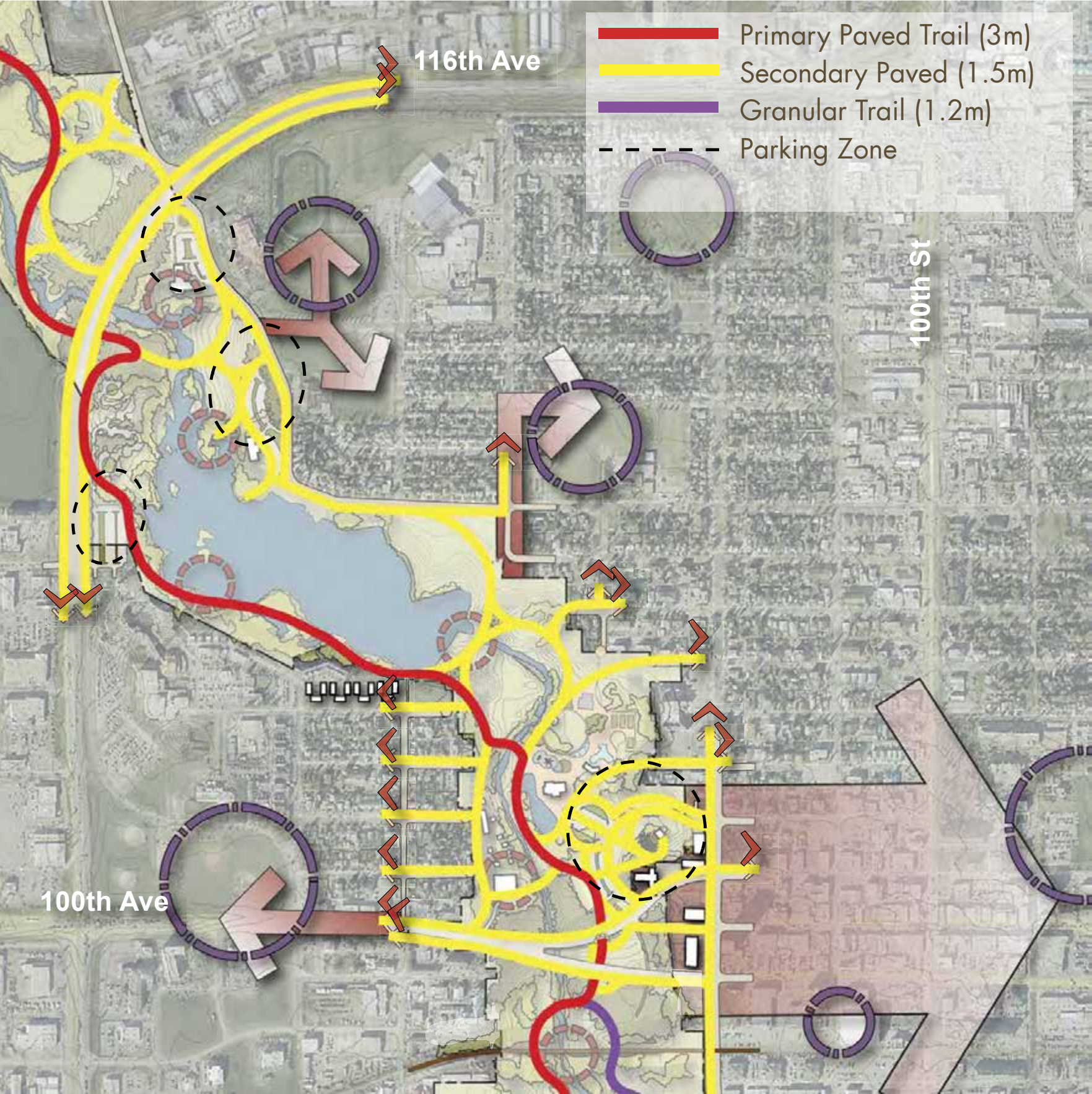


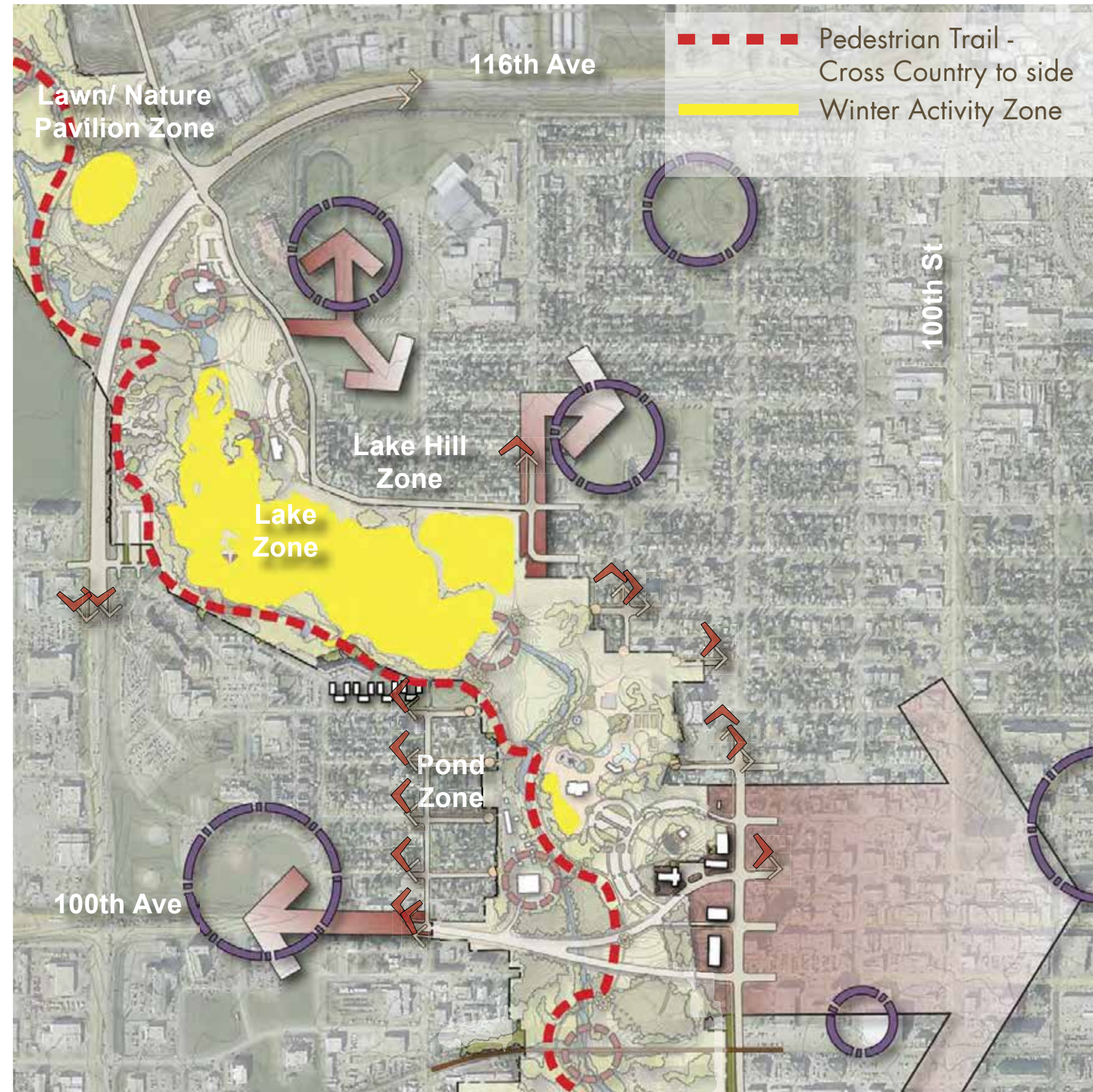
CENTENNIAL PARK

TRAIL HIERARCHY

The trail hierarchy of Centennial Park is largely comprised of secondary paved trails. Being the most developed zone within Muskoseepi Park, all trails are paved and are used as connectors to surrounding neighborhoods, parking, and to the primary north/south trail. Where trails diverge and connect into different classifications of trails (primary to secondary) a trail head or marker should be implemented for user legibility.

The City of Grande Prairie should strive to align with the “Alberta Recreation Corridor & Trails Classification System” for continuity in design, layout, trail types, and materials. When the City connects to County trails, this will allow for matching standards and an overall smooth transition from City to County.





CENTENNIAL PARK

SEASONALITY

With Centennial Park being the core of the park development and daily use, year-round usage is elemental in the park's success. Being a "tighter" space in its design and development, more extreme winter sports, such as snow mobiling are not as appropriate. More family and kid friendly activities are proposed in the core, such as ice skating, sledding, and hiking. Along the primary trail, a cross country skiing route will parallel the pedestrian trail. Maintenance and promotion of these winter activities are crucial to year-round success of the park.



CENTENNIAL PARK PROJECTS

1. RV Park Site Work \$100,791

Directly east of where Highway 43/108th Street cut through the park, a reorganized RV Park is proposed. To create a more cohesive space that allows for safer trail connections, buffering from the road, privacy, and an overall better experience, a revised alignment will be necessary. This new alignment should meander through existing tree stands and previously cleared areas. Partial demolition of the previous facility will be necessary to implement the new design. A landscape restoration plan in disturbed areas will be needed to mitigate erosion and siltation running into the reservoir.

2. RV Park \$185,175

After site work is completed, the parking drive and bays should be implemented. In addition to the paving, the choice for alignment and street offset distance is important toward an enjoyable camping experience. This buffer will be even more important when Highway 43 widens to six lanes in the future. To connect the RV park to the rest of Muskoseepi Park, secondary trails are proposed. Integrated into the parking islands are rain gardens for catching water runoff which then allows settlement of pollutants before running into the creek.

3. Overflow Parking \$422,306

On the northeastern bank of the reservoir, a larger overflow parking lot adjacent to the Elk's lodge is proposed. Pending the demand for temporary, event overflow parking, a joint use Agreement should be negotiated between the Elks Lodge and the Park. Working with the existing topography, the parking lot should direct traffic from 100th Street down toward the Lodge. To screen traffic from 100th Street, a small buffer should be integrated into the parking. Also within these islands are rain gardens to aide in water infiltration and cleaning.



Refer to Figure 4.1 Bottom Right for Project Locations.

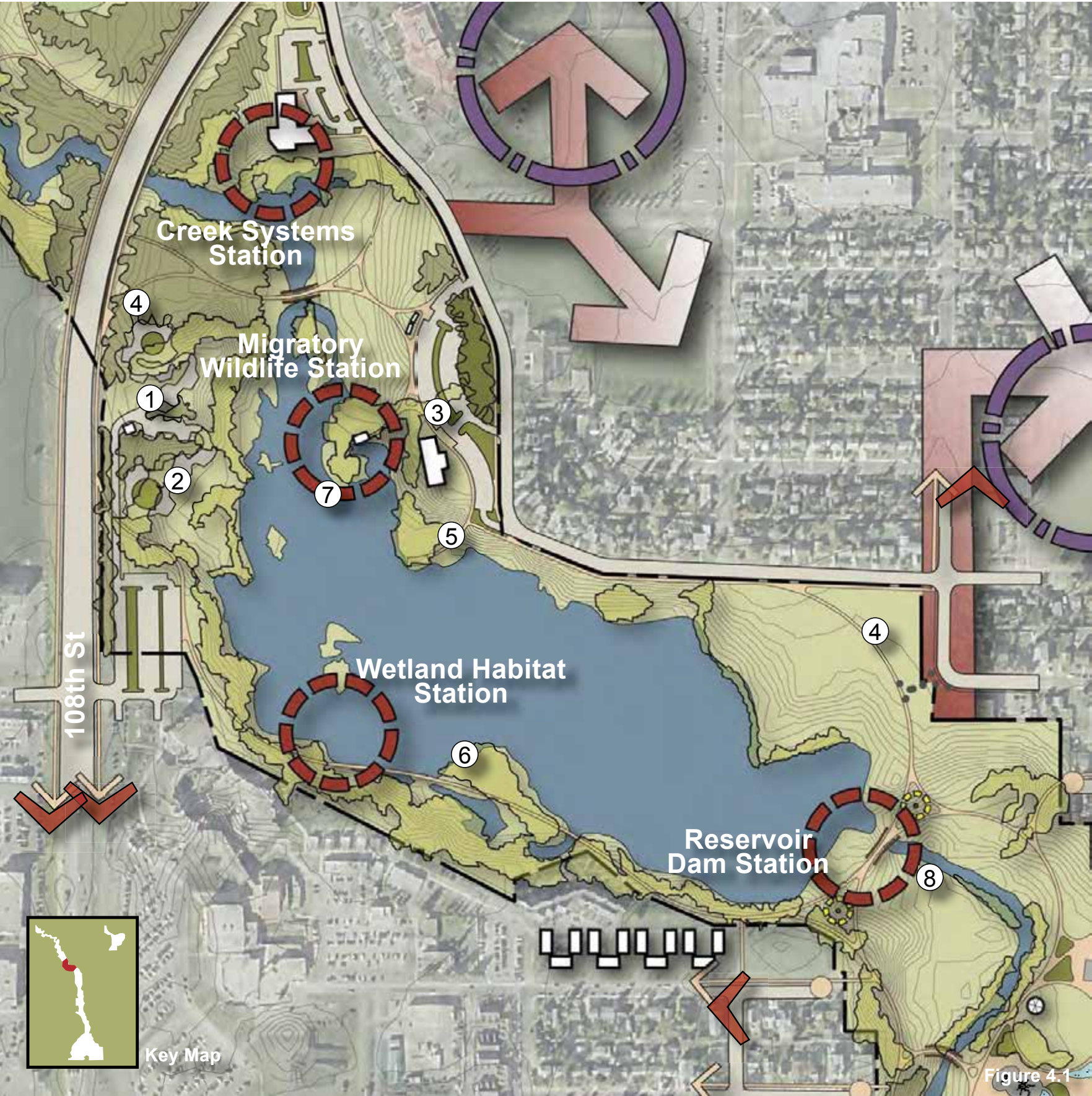


Figure 4.1



4. Lake - Primary Trail **\$311,552**

The primary trail in Centennial Park connects it to the Bear Creek Corridor and North Bear Creek zones. Marking the “gateways” into Centennial Park, the primary trail creates an underpass connection at the 116th Avenue and 100th Avenue bridges. In areas of narrow banks and high flood plains, boardwalks are proposed. Engineered, detailed design of these structures will need to take place when implementing these trails. Where possible, existing trail alignments should be used to minimize the development footprint within the corridor.

5. Lake - Secondary Trail **\$269,125**

The secondary trail in Centennial Park completes trail loops with the primary trail as well as connecting adjacent neighborhoods into the park. This trail type also diverges off the main trail to the interpretive stations on the Lake edges. In these scenarios, a boardwalk will need to be used. Engineered, detailed design of these structures will need to take place when implementing these trails. Where possible, existing trail alignments should be used to minimize the development footprint within the corridor.

6. Lake - Wetland Shelf Planting Expansion **\$321,050**

Currently on the Reservoir, there are a few areas of wetland plants. To increase wildlife habitat and water quality, an expansion in planting is proposed. A local ecologist should be consulted to design and choose appropriate, native wetland plant material. A larger wetland habitat will draw in wildlife as well as prevent erosion/siltation of the reservoir.

7. Interpretive Zones **\$60,000**

Sitting as the gateway and entry element into Centennial Park, is the Centre 2000. With its amazing views into the park, the Grande Prairie Museum & Heritage Discovery Center holds great potential for historic and natural system interpretation. Trails should connect into Centre 2000 and its proposed outdoor interpretive classroom, from within the park as well as from the surrounding districts and neighborhoods. Also along the reservoir, four diverse interpretive stations are proposed. These points occur along the trail to capture and interpret different cultural and natural aspects of the site, such as Wetland Habitat, Migratory Wildlife, Reservoir Dam, and Creek Systems. These interpretive stations should be tucked into the landscape and positioned in a way that capitalizes on the most effective views for the pertaining educational topic. With space large enough to accommodate a small class, seating should be arranged in a manner that provides a learning atmosphere. Local ecologists and school district teachers should be consulted for corresponding curriculum, teaching material, and capacity facilitation commentary.

8. Reservoir - Spillway Reconstruction **\$750,000**

On the southern edge of the reservoir, the existing dam is in disrepair. As part of the master plan, it is proposed that this element to the reservoir be reconstructed and then used as a teaching element in hydrological systems.

9. Commons - Landscape **\$177,973**

The landscape within the Centennial Park Commons area primarily focuses on preservation and re-forestation. Large masses of forest are proposed to aide in street noise and visual buffering. These masses surround and envelop proposed and existing activities to create a stronger sense of space. Open meadows were also preserved south of the reservoir dam, where several groups use the rolling meadow for exercise and organized events. Integrated into the parking islands are rain gardens for catching water runoff which then allows settlement of pollutants before running into the creek.

10. Commons - Entry Monument Sign **\$50,000**

Facing the entrance into Grande Prairie’s downtown, a long entry sign welcomes visitors into the park as well as visitors to the City. Acting as a retaining wall, the entry sign wall hold up the high banks of the corridor. A stand of boreal forest serves as the backdrop to this sign wall, welcoming you into the City. The styling and design of this structure should adhere to the Architecture Identity Guidelines listed on page 36.

11. Commons - Trails **\$339,362**

The trail system throughout Centennial Park Commons primarily serves as connections from the parking lot and street right of way to the primary trail loop system. These trails should utilize existing bridge locations as well as existing trail alignments where possible. Tying in with trail head markers, these trails direct park users to the greater park trail system.

12. Commons Parking Lot **\$599,020**

Serving the central hub of the park, the central parking lot positions itself just southeast of the Centennial Park Commons. Two parking zones allow for easy access to different parts of the park. One zone serves the park pavilion area and the other serves the general park trail and venue use. The arching forms of the parking lot provide a circular drop off zone for Commons users. Utilizing two entrance/exit points, the parking lot is able to follow graceful forms around the Golden Age Center and Amphitheater.

13. Commons - Amenities **\$843,040**

Throughout the Commons zone, a diverse range of amenities are proposed. These include an updated amphitheater, projector room, playground, mini golf, bocce ball, spray park, plaza paving, and pavilion. Utilizing the existing cleared meadow, stone band seating (similar to the South Bear Creek amphitheater) is proposed. Accessible routes will need to made available when implementing this element. In the circular Commons meadow, a small pavilion is added for activities such as small family gatherings or birthday parties. Plaza paving acts as a cohesive element tying all elements together.



Refer to Figure 4.2 Bottom Right for Project Locations.



Figure 4.2



14. Golden Age Center **\$192,056**

Sitting behind the existing Golden Age Center is an enlarged and updated parking lot. With the existing parking lot undersized and awkward in circulation, an update was necessary. This parking lot can be used as shared parking between the Golden Age Center and adjacent venues. Reforestation as a buffer is implemented on the western side of the center to buffer sight lines to the commons parking lot. The Golden Age Center organization should consider adhering to the Architecture Identity Guidelines listed on page 36 for the facades of their building.

15. Swim Center **\$2,156,445**

Within the Commons district, the swim center is proposed for upgrades. The existing pool is enlarged to include a lap pool with side wading pools. Surrounding the south-west edge of the pool is a “pool house,” which includes changing rooms, restrooms, and concessions. The styling and design of this structure should adhere to the Architecture Identity Guidelines listed on page 36.

16. Swim Center Utilities **\$250,000**

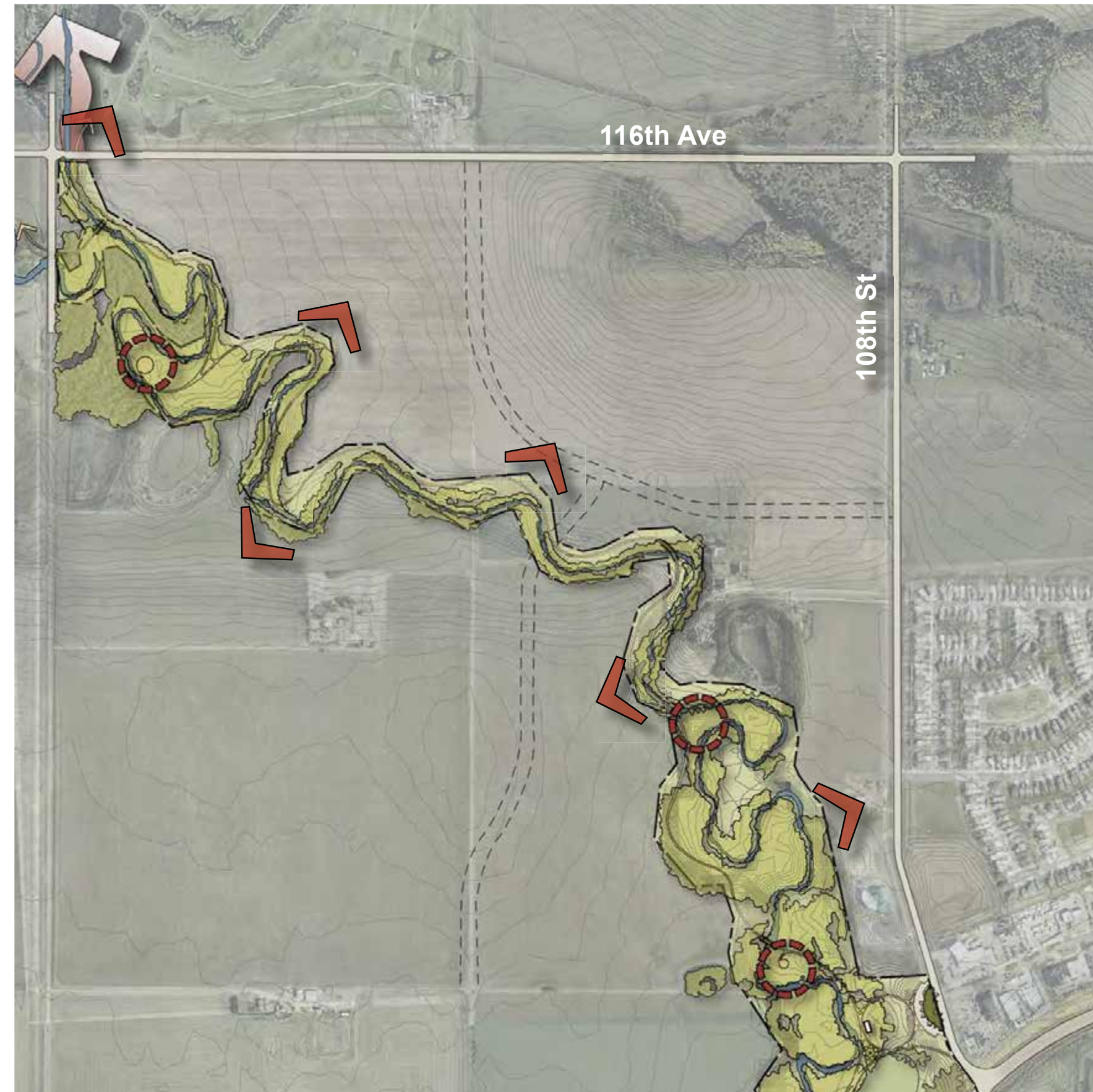
At the swim center, all utilities will need updating for the pools, spray park and lighting. An aquatics engineer should be consulted when implementing this swim center.

17. Heritage Museum Area **\$207,992**

Across Bear Creek from the park pavilion, is the Heritage Museum. Being a separate entity from the City of Grande Prairie park’s system, it is important that the Heritage Museum have its own entrance and parking from the Commons. The Commons parking is meant to serve as overflow parking for the museum. Approaching the museum from the Bear Creek bridge, the entrance plaza welcomes park users into the museum. Within this plaza, a series of interpretation stations are proposed to orient users within the site and introduce them to the museum. From this plaza, acting as a trail head, access to the trail system can be found. Future expansion opportunities for the museum village is limited due to slope stability to the north.







NORTH BEAR CREEK

As the northernmost and farthest upstream, North Bear Creek is the most undeveloped portion of Muskoseepi Park. With future developments planned along the creek, the character of this space will change dramatically. Opportunities are presented with this development. Coordination with developers should be sought to provide better connections and buffers for optimal experience for both the park and development users. North Bear Creek's part within the greater master plan vision entails a series of five projects. As seen in the next chapter, these projects are ranked in terms of priority. Please refer to Figure 5.1 for a greater understanding of these projects



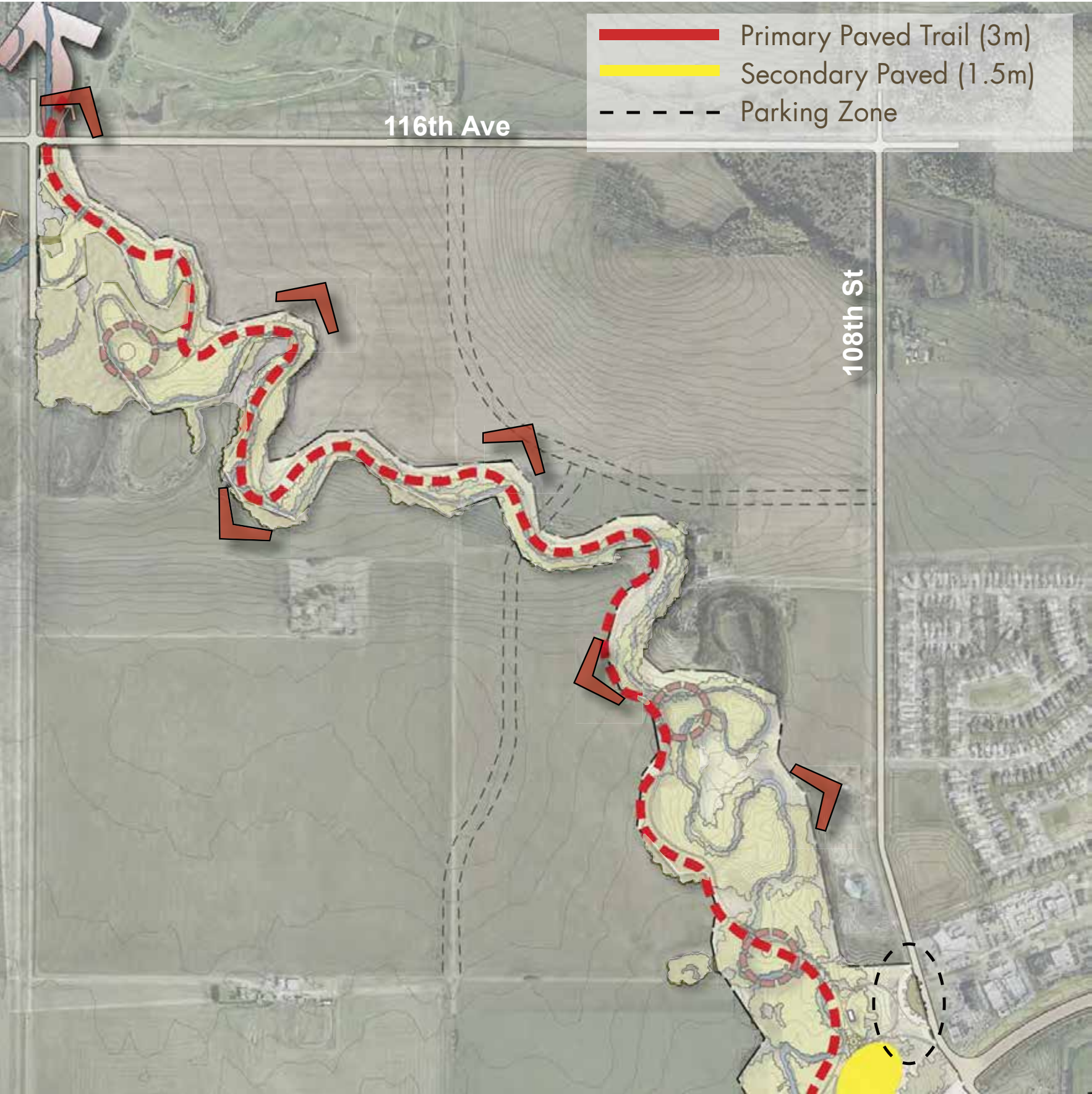
1. Nature Pavilion Area Site Work	\$110,000
2. Nature Pavilion Area Trails	\$169,725
3. Nature Pavilion Architecture & Paving	\$384,309
4. North Bear Creek Corridor	\$969,120
5. North Bear Creek Interpretive Zone	\$45,000

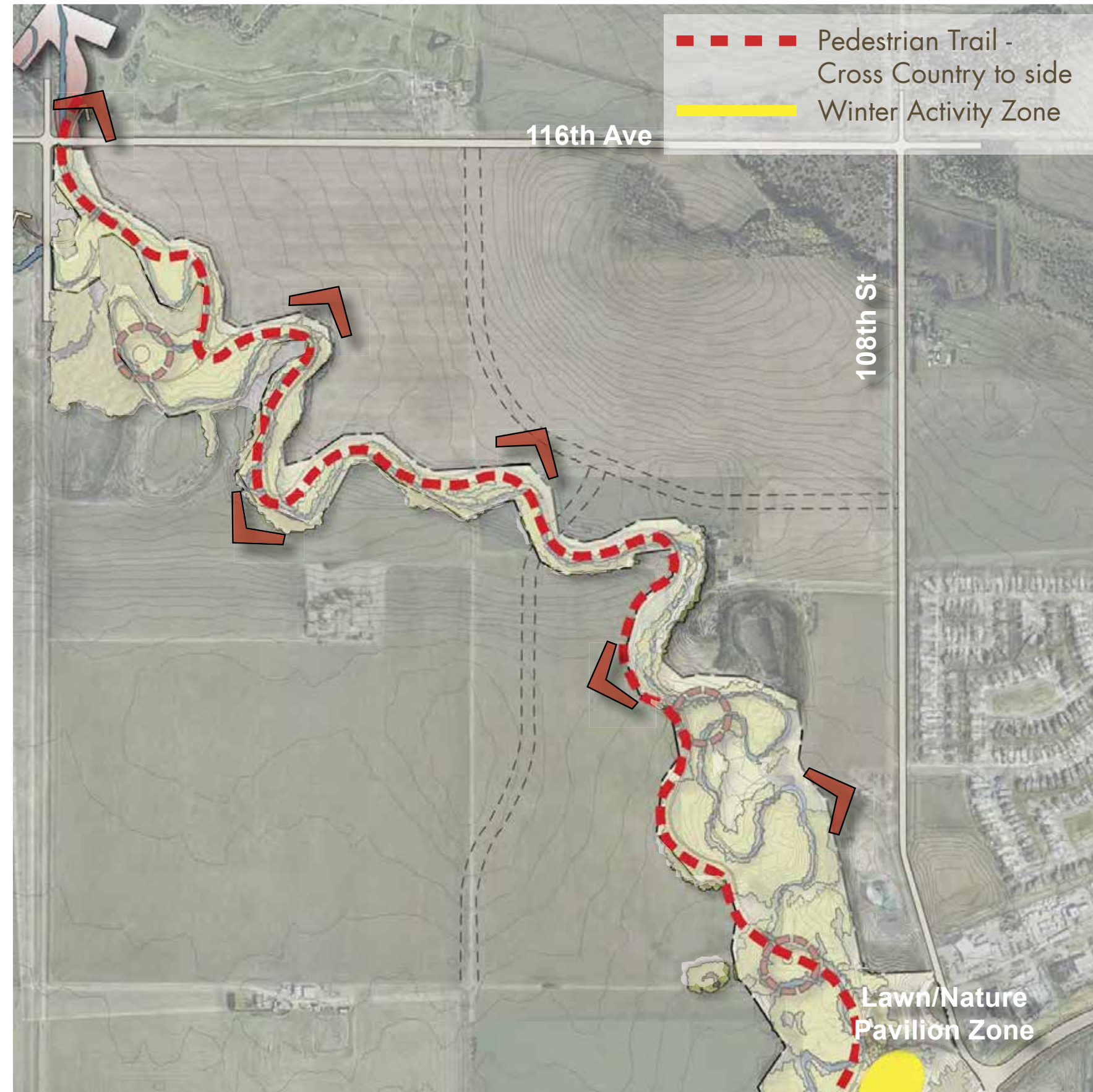
NORTH BEAR CREEK

TRAIL HIERARCHY

North Bear Creek is the least diverse zone in terms of trail hierarchy. With its narrow corridor, a primary north to south trail is all the site affords. In the few areas of nature interpretation, a secondary trail diverges from the primary trail. It is crucial that since this is the north terminus of Muskoseepi Park, the trail should allow for future connections northward when the park expands.

The City of Grande Prairie should strive to align with the “Alberta Recreation Corridor & Trails Classification System” for continuity in design, layout, trail types, and materials. When the City connects to County trails, this will allow for matching standards and an overall smooth transition from City to County.





NORTH BEAR CREEK SEASONALITY

With the nature of North Bear Creek and its narrow corridor, a cross country and pedestrian hiking trail should be the focus for wintertime activity. In this area of the park it is important to not try to incorporate every activity possible when it is available in other portions of the site. Maintenance and promotion of these winter activities are crucial to year-round success of the park.



NORTH BEAR CREEK PROJECTS

1. Nature Pavilion Area Site Work

\$110,000

As the primary trail passes under the Highway 43 underpass, the trail leads to a nature pavilion. Here, park users can just rest and view the corridor or engage with the site and learn about its natural systems through interpretive signage. At this stopping point, a nature pavilion is proposed. Also, adjacent to the nature pavilion, a small nature playground is proposed to accommodate a diverse range of age groups. The layout and placement of these elements should route within existing tree lines to minimize site clearing.
2. Nature Pavilion Area Trails

\$169,725

Secondary trails diverge from the primary north-south trail toward the Nature Pavilion. These trails terminate into a larger paved gathering space adjacent to the pavilion. If wetland areas are present when routing this trail, boardwalk material should be used.
3. Nature Pavilion Architecture & Paving

\$384,309

The Nature Pavilion should be tucked into the landscape and positioned in a way that capitalizes on the most effective views for the area. With space large enough to accommodate a small class, seating should be arranged in a manner that encourages a learning atmosphere. The styling and design of the pavilion structure should adhere to the Architecture Identity Guidelines listed on page 36. The pavilion parking lot entry/exit is located off of 108th street. A natural aesthetic is retained by utilizing rain gardens and a re-forested central island.
4. North Bear Creek Corridor

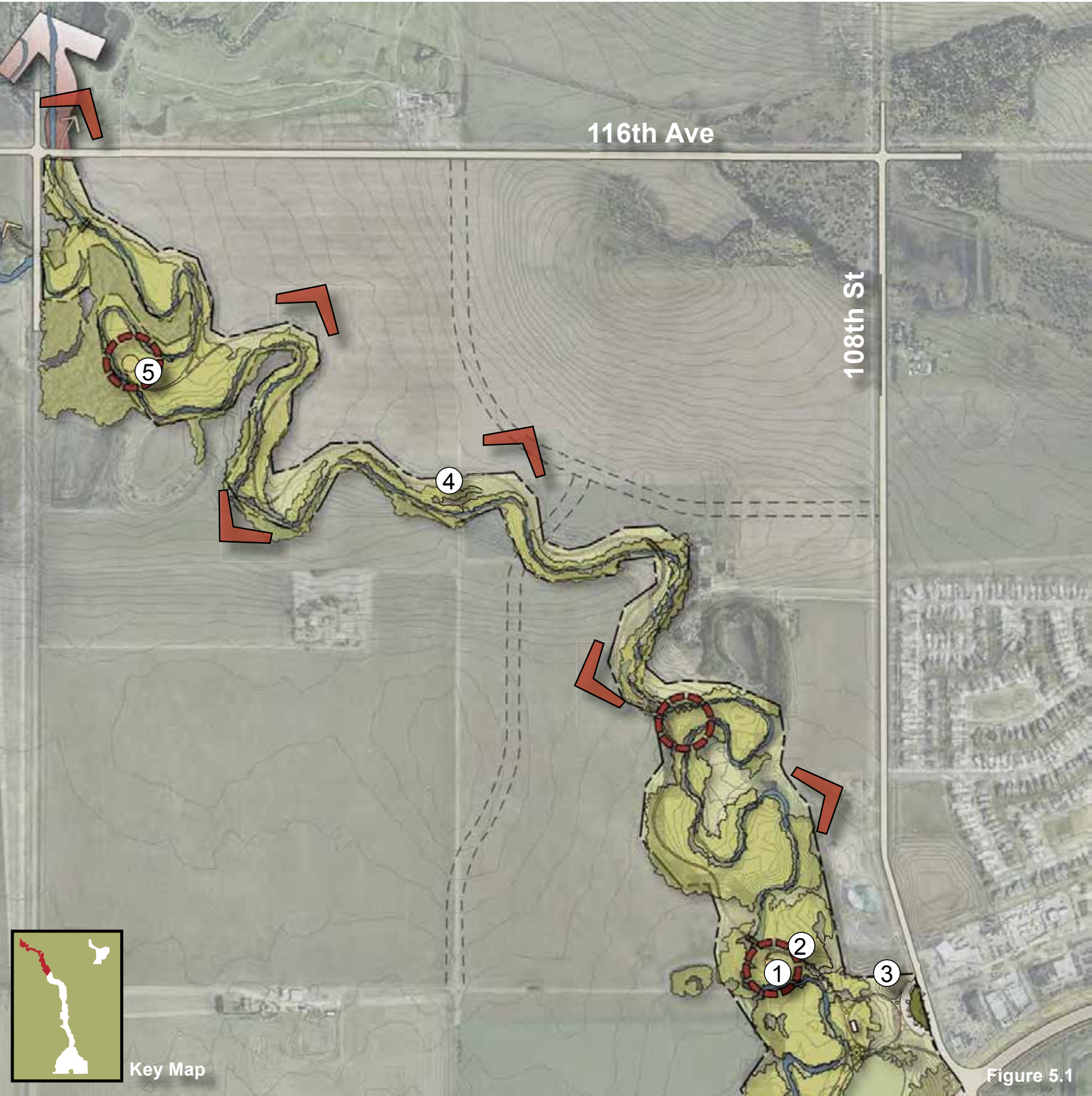
\$969,120

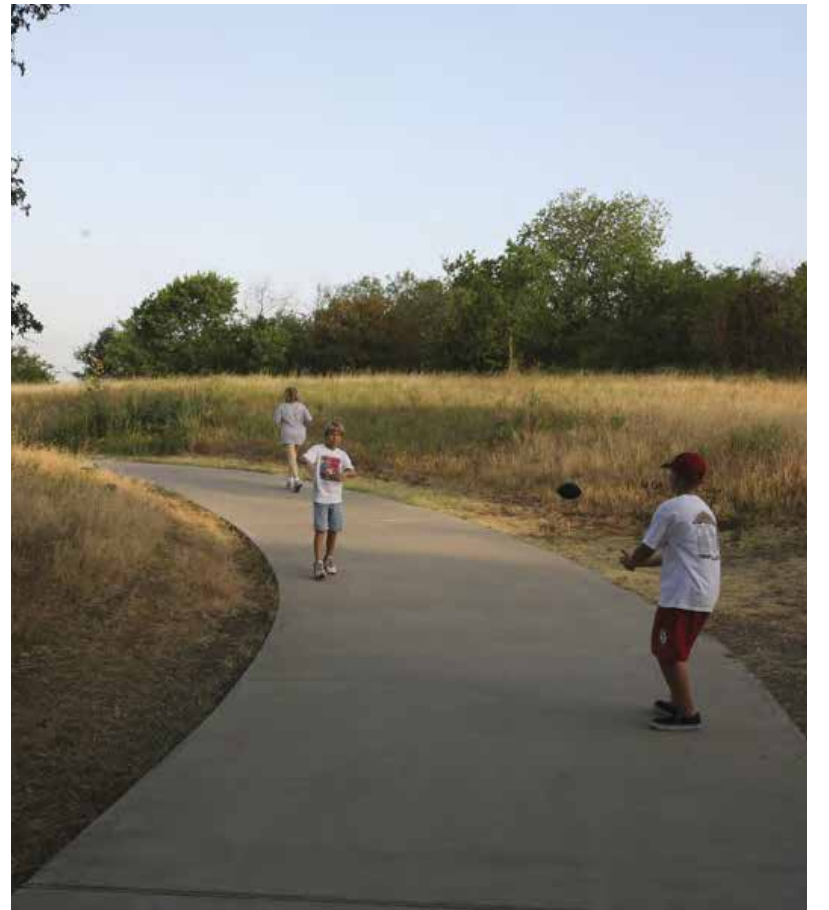
With the limitations of the North Bear Creek area being its narrow corridor, a north to south trail system is the primary focus. This primary trail system connects Centennial Park to the northern tip of Muskoseepi Park current boundaries. It is important that this trail alignment position itself in a manner that allows for future expansion up the creek corridor. Being an undeveloped area currently, it is crucial that when development does come, that “ER” zoning be proactively identified and that development does not encroach to the top of Bear Creek’s banks. This will aide in preservation of wildlife passage and habitat. In addition, as the future hospital site gets built northeast of the park, planning for future connections should be considered as well.
5. North Bear Creek Interpretive Zone

\$45,000

Along the primary trail, an interpretive station occurs to capture different cultural and natural aspects of North Bear Creek. These interpretive stations should be tucked into the landscape and positioned in a way that capitalizes on the most effective views for the pertaining educational topic. With space large enough to accommodate a small class, seating should be arranged in a manner that provides a learning atmosphere. Local ecologists and school district teachers should be consulted for corresponding curriculum, teaching material, and capacity facilitation commentary.

Refer to Figure 5.1 Bottom Right for Project Locations.









CRYSTAL LAKE

Divided by several City blocks, Crystal Lake functions as a separate park. Since wetlands and swan nesting habitats are such a priority, minimal development is proposed here. A loop trail with neighborhood connections bring park users to sensitively experience each unique attribute of the park. Crystal Lake's part within the greater master plan vision entails a series of four projects. As seen in the next chapter, these projects are ranked in terms of priority. Because of Crystal Lake's size, the area is divided into one enlargement for a greater understanding of detail (see Figure 6.1).



1. Nature Trail
2. Dog Park
3. Architecture & Pavement
4. Landscape

CRYSTAL LAKE TRAIL HIERARCHY

Trails within Crystal Lake are at a smaller scale than those within most of Muskoseepi Park. Being a nature oriented park, these trails are secondary trails paired with smaller nature trails. Trails here should route within existing clearing zones. The secondary paved trails serve the purpose of connecting outside neighborhoods while the nature trails connect spaces within the park. In Environmental Reserve areas (i.e. northwest wetlands) trails will be considered if deemed appropriate in that area with minimal impact to the environment. In park land adjacent to neighborhoods, partnerships should be made with homeowners to ensure appropriate alignments and connections are created.

The City of Grande Prairie should strive to align with the “Alberta Recreation Corridor & Trails Classification System” for continuity in design, layout, trail types, and materials. When the City connects to County trails, this will allow for matching standards and an overall smooth transition from City to County.





CRYSTAL LAKE SEASONALITY

Wintertime use for Crystal Lake has a very passive recreation focus. Utilizing the nature trail, there are opportunities for cross country skiing and hiking around the lake. On the eastern shore of the lake, it is important to note trail implementation and wintertime usage are dependent upon wildlife evaluation (swan nesting). Near the park entry, more family friendly activities include visiting the nature center interpretation exhibits and boardwalk overlook.



CRYSTAL LAKE PROJECTS

1. Nature Trail **\$292,295**

The trails in Crystal Lake area are comprised of secondary trails and nature trails. The secondary trails key purpose is to connect the neighborhoods and street right of ways into the site. The nature trails connect the smaller areas within the site. This nature trail creates a continuous loop around the lake with the north east section of the trail passing through the residential neighborhood. On the north east corner, an area to note is the homestead that currently claims a piece of the lake frontage. It is in the City's plans to acquire this land through a Municipal Government Board ruling. A future trail is planned here to complete this loop around the lake. It is important to note that this trail connection is dependent upon wildlife evaluation (swan nesting). In park land adjacent to neighborhoods, partnerships should be made with homeowners to ensure appropriate alignments and connections are created.

2. (n/a)

3. Architecture & Pavement **\$557,925**

Terminating the trail axis from the entry drive is a Nature Center. This structure, along with surrounding boardwalk, is nestled on the lake edge, seeming to float above the water. The alignment and angle of the structure should be positioned in a way that capitalizes on the most effective views for the area. Local ecologists and school district teachers should be consulted for classroom size needs and curriculum needs. The styling and design of the pavilion structure should adhere to the Architecture Identity Guidelines listed on page 36. The entry drive and parking should route around existing trees lines to create a meandering entry drive experience. A circular loop drop off terminates on axis with the entry trail and nature center.

4. Landscape **\$102,588**

The landscape focus at Crystal Lake is largely on re-forestation of buffers and rain gardens. Along Lakeland Drive, both edges of the street are re-forested for a more substantial visual buffer from the adjacent neighborhood and park entry drive. Rain gardens are incorporated within the parking islands, for water cleaning and filtration before reaching Crystal Lake.



Figure 6.1







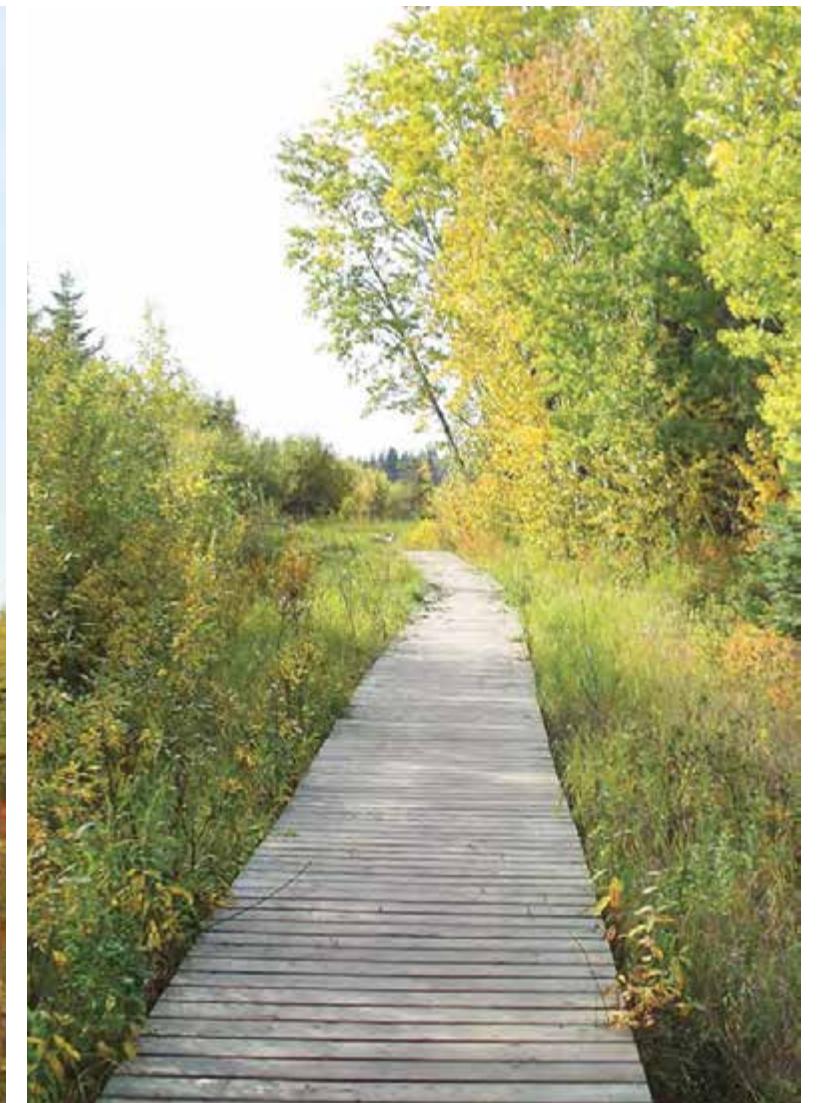
IMPLEMENTATION STANDARDS



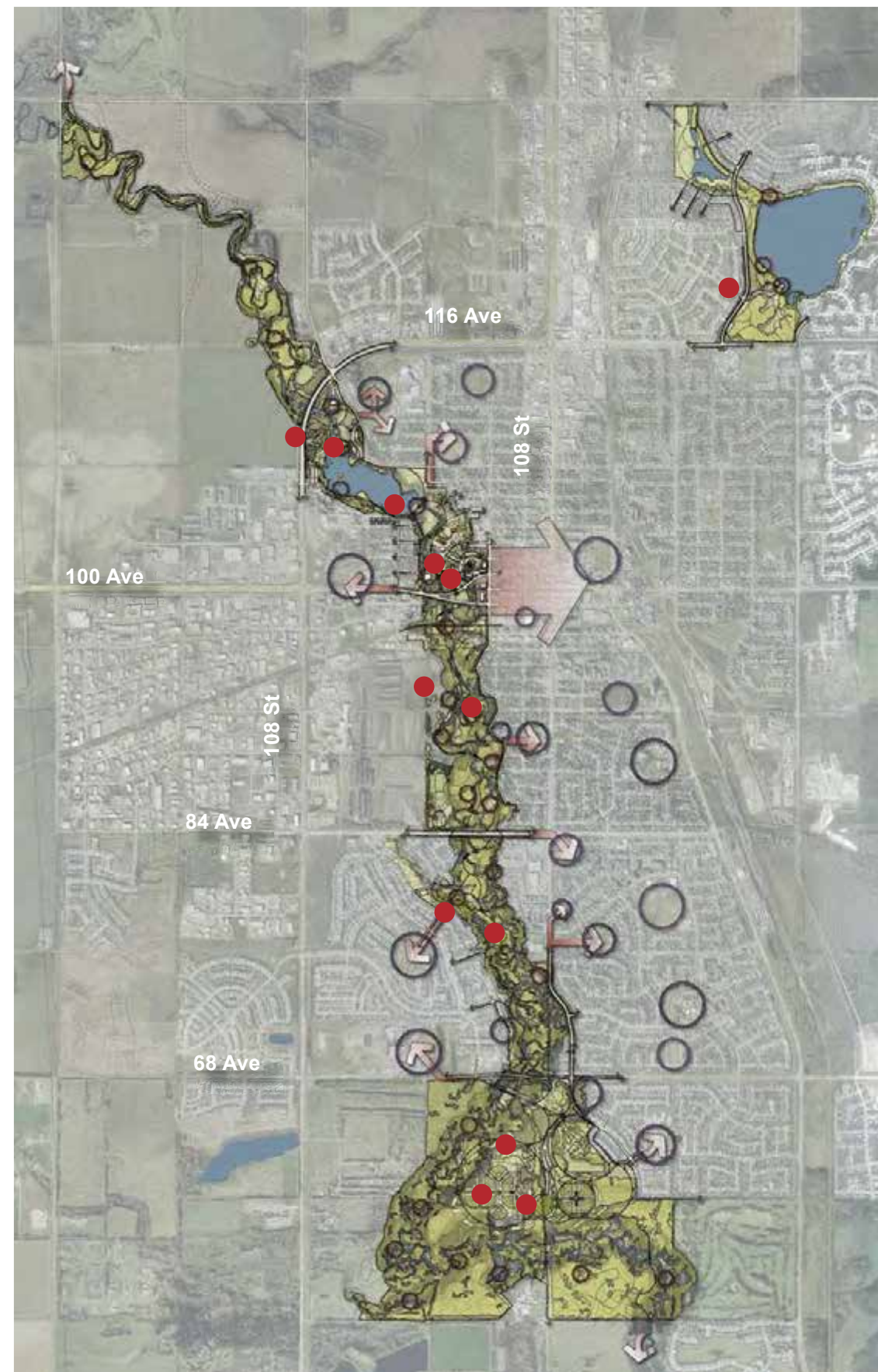
PROJECT PRIORITY SUMMARY

In order for the master plan vision to be realized, the numerous projects outlined on the previous pages must be systematically organized into a strategic implementation plan. The planning team devised a phasing strategy that relates projects to their overall effectiveness toward realization of the entire master plan vision. Each project previously described in the master plan chapter was weighed against each master plan goal (see goal priority list on page 33). The criteria for each ranking was whether or not project implementation would satisfy each individual goal. The rankings were then tallied and projects listed accordingly. In addition, projects with liability, health, safety, and welfare concerns “trumped” even the highest ranking projects in the matrix. The design team advises these projects be of primary concern and priority when beginning implementation.

The following pages list and locate phased projects according to their assigned priority.



[illegible]



HEALTH, SAFETY, & WELFARE / ECOLOGICAL THREAT

Centennial Park

- C-1 RV Park Site Work
- C-2 RV Park
- C-3 Overflow Parking
- C-8 Reservoir Spillway
- C-9 Commons - Landscape
- C-14 Golden Age Center

Bear Creek

- B-4 South Corridor - Landscape/ Rain Garden
- B-12 North Corridor - Landscape/ Rain Garden

South Bear Creek

- S-2 Drive & Parking - ADA Access Parking
- S-4 Baseball Field Complex "A"
- S-7 Baseball Field Complex "A" - Amphitheater
- S-15 Trail System - Landscape & Interpretive Zones

Crystal Lake

- L-4 Landscape/ Rain Garden





PRIMARY

- North Bear Creek**
 - N-2 Nature Pavilion Area Trails
 - N-3 Nature Pavilion Architecture & Paving
 - N-4 Corridor Trail
 - N-5 Interpretive Zone
- Centennial Park**
 - C-7 Lake Interpretive Zone
 - C-11 Commons - Trails
- Bear Creek**
 - B-2 South Corridor - Secondary Trail
 - B-3 South Corridor - Nature Trail
 - B-7 Soccer Area - Nature Trail
 - B-9 North Corridor - Secondary Trail
 - B-10 North Corridor - Nature Trail
 - B-12 Interpretive Zone
- South Bear Creek**
 - S-5 Baseball Field Complex "A" - Nature Trail & Playground
 - S-14 Trail System - Nature Trail





SECONDARY

North Bear Creek

- N-4 Nature Pavilion Area Site Work

Centennial Park

- C-5 Lake - Secondary Trail & Parking
- C-10 Commons - Entry Monument Sign
- C-12 Commons - Parking Lot
- C-15 Swim Center Upgrades
- C-16 Swim Center Amenities
- C-17 Heritage Museum Area

Bear Creek

- B-5 Soccer Fields
- B-6 Soccer Area - Maintenance & Secondary Trail

South Bear Creek

- S-1 Drive & Parking
- S-2 Drive & Parking Secondary Trail
- S-6 Baseball Field Complex "A" - Arch & Infrastructure

- S-8 Baseball Field Complex "A" - Landscape
- S-9 Baseball Field Complex "B"
- S-10 Baseball Field Complex "B" - Arch & Infrastructure
- S-11 Baseball Field Complex "B" - Landscape
- S-12 Frisbee Golf Course
- S-16 Golf Area
- S-17 Dog Park Area
- S-18 BMX Course
- S-19 BMX Pavilion/ South Bear Maintenance

Crystal Lake

- L-2 Dog Park Area
- L-3 Architecture & Pavement





MAINTENANCE

Centennial Park

- C-4 Lake - Primary Trails
- C-6 Lake - Wetland Shelf Planting Expansion
- C-13 Commons - Amphitheater & Utilities

Bear Creek

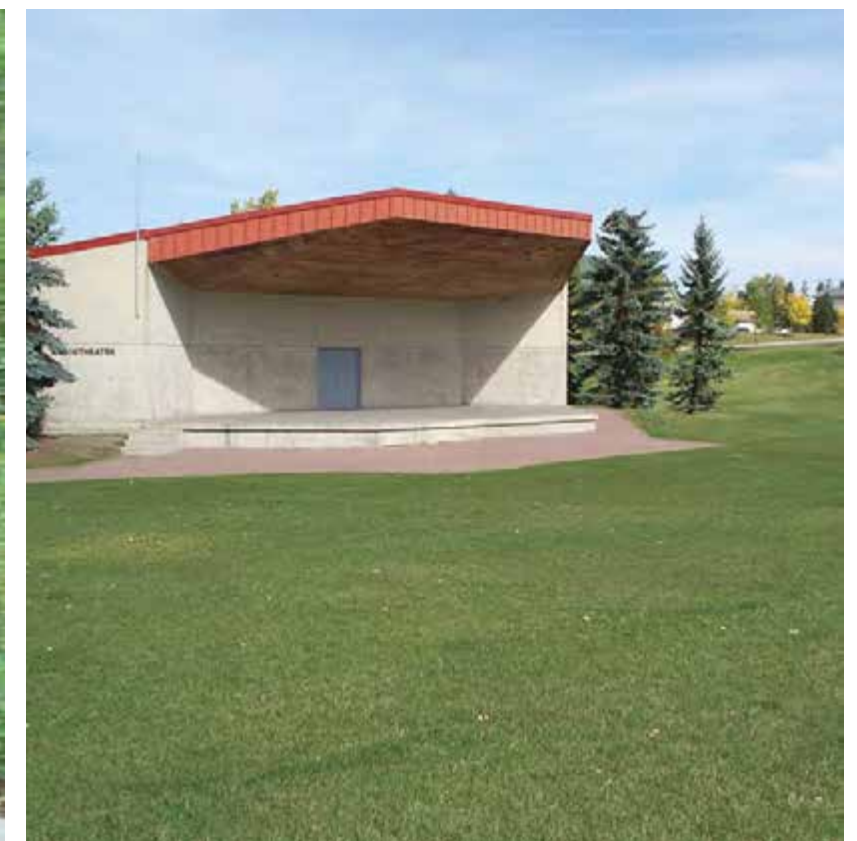
- B-1 South Corridor - Primary Trail
- B-8 North Corridor - Primary Trail

South Bear Creek

- S-13 Trail System - Primary Trail

Crystal Lake

- L-1 Nature Trail



CREDITS

CITY OF GRANDE PRAIRIE
MUSKOSSEPI PARK, PARKS DEPARTMENT
Laurie Barry - Operations Manager
Muskosepi Park Staff

GRANDE PRAIRIE GOVERNMENT
Dwight Logan - Mayor
Greg Scerbak - City Manager
Gladys Blackmore - Alderman
Bill Given - Alderman
Helen Rice - Alderman
Lorne Radbourne - Alderman
Yad Minhas - Alderman
Elroy Deimert - Alderman
Alex Gustafson - Alderman
Dan Wong - Alderman

GRANDE PRAIRIE PARKS DEPARTMENT
Josy Burrough - Parks Manager
Lindsey Juniper - Parks Planner
Caroline Huber - Parks Administrator Co-ordinator
Jim Donnelly - Integrated Pest Management

CONSULTANTS
Trenton Perrot - Heritage Resources Department
Bob Buckle - Heritage Collaborative

DESIGN TEAM
Mike Frazee, MESA
Andrew Duggan, MESA
Ellen Calhoun, MESA

PHOTOGRAPHY
All site and project photos, unless otherwise noted, were taken by MESA and City of Grande Prairie

Stock Images courtesy of www.Flickr.com





SUMMARY

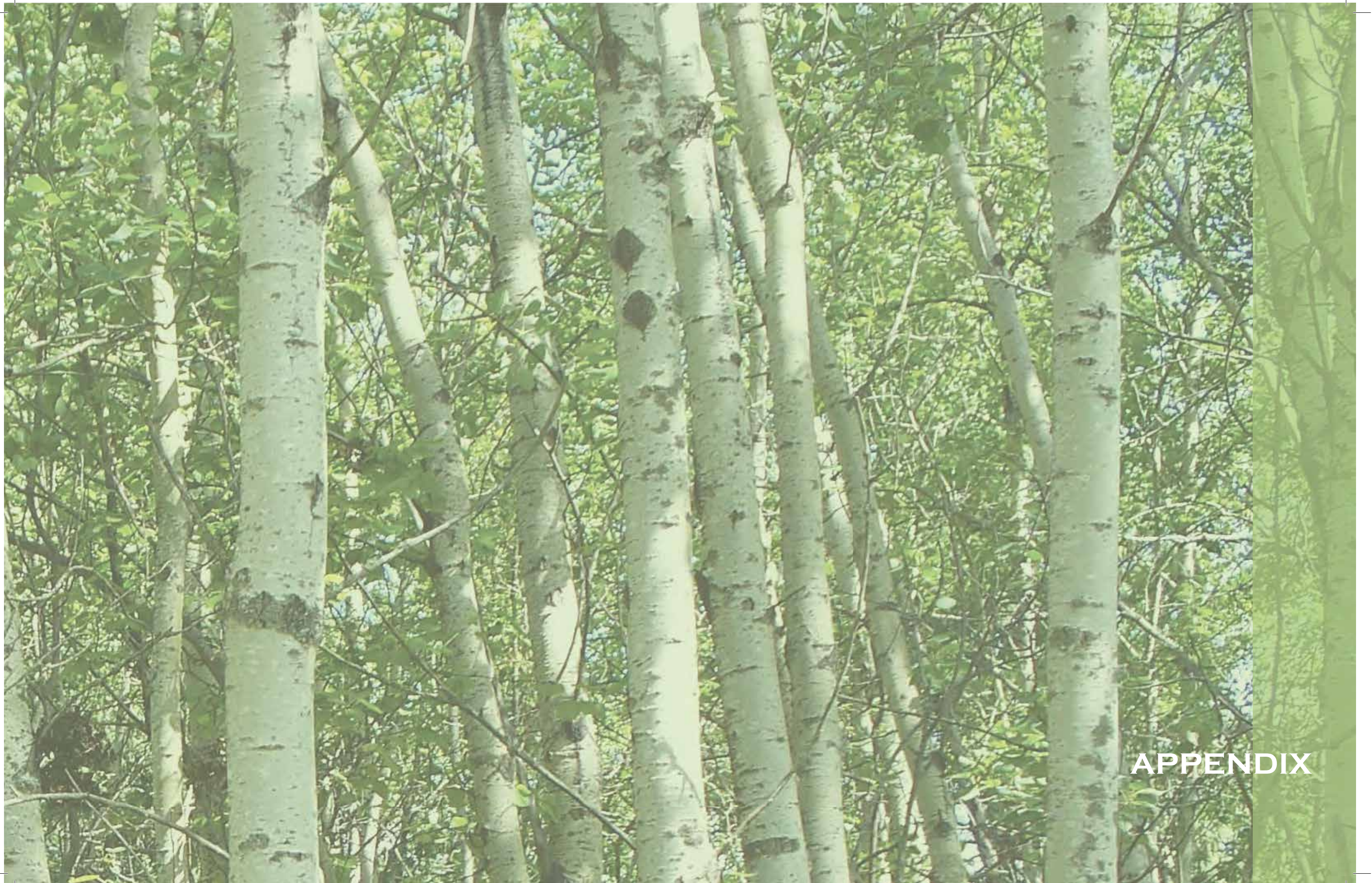
Thank you for your interest in the comprehensive vision for Muskoseepi Park. The Muskoseepi Park Department, in collaboration with park stakeholders, has established this master plan to develop guidelines and strategies for the future development and preservation of this park for generations of future visitors.

Special appreciation and gratitude should be given to the Muskoseepi Park Pavilion Department, Grande Prairie City Council, Grande Prairie Parks Department, Park Stakeholders, staff, and the Grande Prairie community. All those who offered their input, concern, and overall passion about Grande Prairie open space made a lasting contribution to the future legacy of this special park along Bear Creek.

Based on the recommendations included in this plan we will work diligently with the community over the coming years to implement this vision. The realization of this plan for Muskoseepi Park demands a long term dedicated approach. To attain this vision, the suggested strategy for implementation should be considered for project priorities and phasing. It is our hope that when future generations experience Muskoseepi Park they will recognize the efforts of those whose vision made it possible. This is just the beginning of Muskoseepi Park’s preservation and we encourage all of Grande Prairie to work together to realize this initiative.







APPENDIX

MASTER PLAN DEVELOPMENT									
DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT	PRICE	BUDGET DETAIL	HEALTH, SAFETY & WELFARE	FINANCIAL	SECONDARY	MAINTENANCE	NOTES
PERMITS, PLATTING, PreDEVELOPMENT, FEES									
Plat Submittal Permt				\$0.00					To Be Determined
Professional Consultant Fees				\$0.00					
Wetland Mitigation				\$0.00					
Building Permit				\$0.00					
PERMITS & PLATTING SUBTOTAL TO BE PROVIDED BY CIVIL									
N. BEAR CREEK									
Nature Pavilion Area Site Work									
Playground	1	ls	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00			\$50,000.00		Allowance
Mass Grading	1	ls	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00			\$30,000.00		
Drainage	1	ls	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00			\$10,000.00		
Nature Pavilion Area Site Work Total									
Nature Pavilion Area Trails									
Secondary Paved Trail	1,500	lin	\$87.50	\$131,250.00			\$131,250.00		Asphalt, 1.5 meters wide
Secondary clearing and grading	1,500	lin	\$10.25	\$15,375.00			\$15,375.00		
Landscape Restoration	3,000	sqm	\$2.70	\$8,100.00			\$8,100.00		Native Seed Mix along trail edges
Site Lighting	1	ls	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00			\$30,000.00		
Electrical Supply And Distribution	1	ls	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00			\$15,000.00		
Nature Pavilion Area Trails Total									
Nature Pavilion Arch. & Paving									
Outdoor Nature Pavilion	1	ls	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00			\$100,000.00		
Parking Drive & Parking Spots	2,270	sqm	\$27.70	\$62,879.00			\$62,879.00		Asphalt, Upgrade to Concrete \$70/sqm, Porous Concrete \$91.50
Sanitary Pipe	1	ls	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00			\$25,000.00		
Water Supply And Distribution	1	ls	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00			\$30,000.00		
Canopy Trees	60	tr	\$5,000.00	\$300,000.00			\$300,000.00		
Shrubs and Groundcover	1,500	sqm	\$21.52	\$32,280.00			\$32,280.00		
Lawn	13,500	sqm	\$2.70	\$36,450.00			\$36,450.00		Hydromulch
Reforestation	1	ls	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00			\$50,000.00		Bare Root Seedlings
Nature Pavilion Arch. & Paving Total									
North Bear Creek Corridor									
Drainage	1	ls	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00			\$10,000.00		
Primary Trail	4,000	lin	\$135.00	\$540,000.00			\$540,000.00		Asphalt, 3 meters wide
Primary Trail clearing and grading	4,000	lin	\$20.50	\$82,000.00			\$82,000.00		
Boardwalk/ bridges	170	lin	\$1,078.00	\$183,260.00			\$183,260.00		
Trail Signage	1	ls	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00			\$20,000.00		
Signage	1	ls	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00			\$5,000.00		
Landscape Restoration	8,000	sqm	\$27.70	\$221,600.00			\$221,600.00		Native Seed Mix along trail edges
North Bear Creek Corridor Total									
North Bear Creek Interpretive Zone Total									
N. BEAR CREEK SUBTOTAL									
CENTENNIAL PARK									
RV Park Site Work									
Demo of Parts of Existing Pavement	1	ls	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00				
Mass Grading	1	ls	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00				
Drainage	1	ls	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00				
Signage	1	ls	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00				
Landscape Restoration	1,680	sqm	\$2.70	\$4,536.00	\$4,536.00				Native Seed Mix along trail edges
Rain Garden	1,000	sqm	\$2.70	\$2,700.00	\$2,700.00				Native Wetland Fringe Plant Seed
RV Park Site Work Total									
RV Park									
Parking Drive & Parking Spots	3,500	sqm	\$45.00	\$157,500.00	\$157,500.00				Asphalt, Upgrade to Concrete \$70/sqm, Porous Concrete \$91.50
Secondary Paved Trail	340	lin	\$41.00	\$14,000.00	\$14,000.00				Asphalt, 1.5 meters wide
Secondary clearing and grading	540	lin	\$10.25	\$5,535.00	\$5,535.00				
RV Park Total									
Elks Lodge									
Mass Grading	1	ls	\$75,000.00	\$75,000.00	\$75,000.00				
Drainage	1	ls	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00				
Parking Drive	3,300	sqm	\$45.00	\$148,500.00	\$148,360.00				Asphalt, Upgrade to Concrete \$70/sqm, Porous Concrete \$91.50
Parking Spots	3,050	sqm	\$45.00	\$137,250.00	\$137,250.00				Asphalt, Upgrade to Concrete \$70/sqm, Porous Concrete \$91.50
Secondary Paved Trail	875	lin	\$87.50	\$76,437.50	\$76,412.50				Asphalt, 1.5 meters wide
Secondary clearing and grading	875	lin	\$10.25	\$8,968.75	\$8,958.75				
Site Lighting	1	ls	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00				
Elks Lodge Park Total									
Lake- Primary Trail									
Primary Trail	1,160	lin	\$135.00	\$156,600.00				\$156,600.00	Asphalt, 3 meters wide
Primary Trail clearing and grading	1,160	lin	\$20.50	\$23,780.00				\$23,780.00	
Landscape Restoration	1,160	sqm	\$2.70	\$3,132.00				\$3,132.00	Native Seed Mix along trail edges
Drainage	1	ls	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00				\$5,000.00	
Trail Signage	1	ls	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00				\$50,000.00	
Primary Trail Boardwalk	40	lin	\$1,078.00	\$43,120.00				\$43,040.00	
Signage	1	ls	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00				\$5,000.00	
Site Lighting	1	ls	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00				\$10,000.00	
Lake- Primary Trail Total									
Lake- Secondary Trail									
Secondary Paved Trail	2,500	lin	\$87.50	\$218,750.00			\$158,750.00		Asphalt, 1.5 meters wide
Secondary Trail- Boardwalk	75	lin	\$540.00	\$40,500.00				\$40,500.00	
Secondary clearing and grading	2,500	lin	\$10.25	\$25,625.00				\$25,425.00	
Drainage	1	ls	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00				\$7,500.00	
Signage	1	ls	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00				\$5,000.00	
Landscape Restoration	3,500	sqm	\$2.70	\$9,450.00				\$9,760.00	Native Seed Mix along trail edges
Electrical Supply And Distribution	1	ls	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00				\$15,000.00	
Lake- Secondary Trail & ParkingTotal									
Lake-Wetland Shell Planting Expansion									
Lake- Interpretive Zones									
May be incorporated on multiple years									

DESCRIPTION	MASTER PLAN DEVELOPMENT				INITIAL SAFETY & WELFARE	CORRIDOR	SECONDARY	MAINTENANCE	NOTES
	QUANTITY	UNIT	PRICE	BUDGET DETAIL					
Lake Spillway Reconstruction	1 ls		\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00				May be incorporated on multiple years.
Commons-Landscape									
Canopy Trees	100 ea		\$700.00	\$70,000.00	\$70,000.00				
Shrubs and Groundcover	3,800 sm		\$21.52	\$81,784.00	\$81,784.00				
Drainage	1 ls		\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00				
Landscape Restoration	4,840 sm		\$2.70	\$13,236.00	\$13,236.00				Native Seed Mix along trail edges
Rain Garden	3,450 sm		\$2.70	\$9,315.00	\$9,315.00				Native Wetland Fringe Plant Seed
Commons-Landscape Total				\$77,975.00	\$77,975.00				
Commons- Entry Monument Sign									
Entry Monument Sign	1 ls		\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00			\$0.00		
Entry Monument Sign Lighting	1 ls		\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00			\$10,000.00		
Commons- Entry Monument Sign Total				\$50,000.00			\$50,000.00		
Commons-Trails									
Primary Trail	480 lm		\$136.00	\$64,800.00		\$64,800.00			Asphalt, 3 meters wide
Primary Trail clearing and grading	480 lm		\$20.50	\$9,840.00		\$9,840.00			
Secondary Paved Trail	1,990 lm		\$67.50	\$134,325.00		\$134,325.00			Asphalt, 1.5 meters wide
Secondary clearing and grading	1,600 lm		\$10.25	\$16,397.50		\$16,397.50			
Trail Signage	1 ls		\$80,000.00	\$80,000.00		\$80,000.00			
Interpretive Zone	4 ea		\$15,000.00	\$60,000.00		\$60,000.00			
Commons-Trails Total				\$339,362.50		\$339,362.50			
Commons-Parking Lot									
Parking Drive	6,530 sm		\$45.00	\$294,750.00			\$294,750.00		Asphalt, Upgrade to Concrete \$70/sm, Porous Concrete \$91.50
Parking Spots	5,300 sm		\$45.00	\$238,500.00			\$238,500.00		Asphalt, Upgrade to Concrete \$70/sm, Porous Concrete \$91.50
Signage	1 ls		\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00			\$15,000.00		
Site Lighting	1 ls		\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00			\$30,000.00		
Sanitary Pipe	1 ls		\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00			\$25,000.00		
Commons-Parking Lot Total				\$593,000.00			\$593,000.00		
Commons- Amenities									
Amphitheater Seating	1 ls		\$200,000.00	\$200,000.00			\$200,000.00		
Amphitheater projector room	60 sm		\$2,142.00	\$1,285.20			\$1,285.20		
Sanitary Pipe	1 ls		\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00			\$25,000.00		
Water Supply And Distribution	1 ls		\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00			\$30,000.00		
Electrical Supply And Distribution	1 ls		\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00			\$15,000.00		
Playground Upgrades	1 ls		\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00			\$30,000.00		
Spray Park Upgrades	1 ls		\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00			\$100,000.00		
Pizza Pavilion	60,000 sm		\$15.00	\$900,000.00			\$900,000.00		
Pavilion	1 ls		\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00			\$100,000.00		
Commons- Amenities Total				\$1,445,000.00			\$1,445,000.00		
Golden Age Center									
Mass Grading	1 ls		\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00				
Drainage	1 ls		\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00				
Parking	1,530 sm		\$45.00	\$68,850.00	\$68,850.00				Asphalt, Upgrade to Concrete \$70/sm, Porous Concrete \$91.50
Rain Garden at Parking	5,000 sm		\$2.70	\$13,500.00	\$13,500.00				
Secondary Paved Trail	575 lm		\$67.50	\$38,812.50	\$38,812.50				Asphalt, 1.5 meters wide
Secondary clearing and grading	575 lm		\$10.25	\$5,893.75	\$5,893.75				
Site Lighting	1 ls		\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00				
Golden Age Center Total				\$140,950.25	\$140,950.25				
Swim Center									
Swim Center & Pool Upgrade/ Replacement	1 ls		\$2,000,000.00	\$2,000,000.00			\$2,000,000.00		Allowance, includes: pools, slides, restroom/changing room, etc.
Secondary Paved Trail	900 lm		\$41.00	\$36,900.00			\$36,900.00		Asphalt, 1.5 meters wide
Secondary clearing and grading	900 lm		\$10.25	\$9,225.00			\$9,225.00		
Trees	60 ea		\$700.00	\$42,000.00			\$42,000.00		
Shrubs and Groundcover	3,630 sm		\$21.52	\$78,126.00			\$78,126.00		
Swim Center Total				\$2,165,445.00			\$2,165,445.00		
Swim Center-Amenities									
Spray Park	1 ls		\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00			\$150,000.00		Allowance
Site Lighting	1 ls		\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00			\$30,000.00		
Sanitary Pipe	1 ls		\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00			\$25,000.00		
Water Supply And Distribution	1 ls		\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00			\$30,000.00		
Electrical Supply And Distribution	1 ls		\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00			\$15,000.00		
Swim Center-Amenities Total				\$260,000.00			\$260,000.00		
Heritage Museum Area									
Primary Trail	215 lm		\$136.00	\$29,220.00			\$29,220.00		Asphalt, 3 meters wide
Primary Trail clearing and grading	215 lm		\$20.50	\$4,407.50			\$4,407.50		
Secondary Paved Trail	825 lm		\$67.50	\$55,687.50			\$55,687.50		Asphalt, 1.5 meters wide
Secondary clearing and grading	825 lm		\$10.25	\$8,456.25			\$8,456.25		
Secondary Trail-Boardwalk	80 lm		\$336.00	\$26,880.00			\$26,880.00		
Trail Signage	1 ls		\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00			\$10,000.00		
Interpretive Zone	1 ea		\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00			\$15,000.00		
Trees	30 ea		\$700.00	\$21,000.00			\$21,000.00		
Drainage	1 ls		\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00			\$5,000.00		
Shrubs and Groundcover	600 sm		\$41.52	\$24,912.00			\$24,912.00		
Landscape Restoration	2,000 sm		\$2.70	\$5,400.00			\$5,400.00		Native Seed Mix along trail edges
Heritage Museum Total				\$107,962.25			\$107,962.25		
CENTENNIAL PARK SUBTOTAL				\$5,440,826.75	\$5,440,826.75		\$4,375,820.50	\$517,800.00	
BEAR CREEK CORRIDOR									
South Corridor - Primary Trail									
Boardwalk bridges	30 lm		\$1,076.00	\$32,280.00					
Primary Trail	2,000 lm		\$155.00	\$310,000.00					Asphalt, 3 meters wide
Primary Trail clearing and grading	2,000 lm		\$20.50	\$41,000.00					
Primary Trail Boardwalk bridges	115 lm		\$1,076.00	\$123,740.00					
Drainage	1 ls		\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00					
Trail Signage	1 ls		\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00					
South Corridor - Primary Trail Total				\$504,357.50				\$504,357.50	
South Corridor - Secondary Trail									
Secondary Paved Trail	3,325 lm		\$67.50	\$224,437.50					Asphalt, 1.5 meters wide
Secondary clearing and grading	3,325 lm		\$10.25	\$34,081.25					
Drainage	1 ls		\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00					
South Corridor - Secondary Trail Total				\$262,018.75				\$262,018.75	
South Corridor - Nature Trail									
Nature Trail	2,310 lm		\$26.30	\$60,753.00					1.2 meters wide, decomposed granite
Nature Trail clearing and grading	2,310 lm		\$9.30	\$21,483.00					
Interpretive Zone	3 ea		\$15,000.00	\$45,000.00					
Landscape Restoration	10,650 sm		\$2.70	\$28,755.00					Native Seed Mix along trail edges
South Corridor - Nature Trail Total				\$155,991.00				\$155,991.00	
South Corridor - Rain Garden									
Drainage	1 ls		\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00					
Rain Garden	33,450 sm		\$2.70	\$90,315.00					Native Wetland Fringe Plant Seed
South Corridor -Rain Garden Total				\$100,315.00				\$100,315.00	
Soccer Fields									
Adult Soccer Field	1 ls		\$117,000.00	\$117,000.00					Hydromulch, irrigation, & Fine Grading
Youth Soccer Fields	2 ls		\$41,000.00	\$82,000.00					Hydromulch, irrigation, & Fine Grading
Soccer Parking Drive	3,630 sm		\$25.00	\$90,750.00					Gravel
Soccer Parking Spots	1,650 sm		\$25.00	\$41,250.00					Gravel
Rain Garden	5,025 sm		\$2.70	\$13,567.50					Native Wetland Fringe Plant Seed
Soccer Fields Total				\$282,147.50				\$282,147.50	

COST ESTIMATE

DESCRIPTION	MASTER PLAN DEVELOPMENT			HEALTH, SAFETY & WELFARE	ENVIRONMENT	SECONDARY	MAINTENANCE	NOTES
	QUANTITY	UNIT	PRICE					
Soccer Area - Maintenance & Secondary Trail								
Maintenance Facility	1	ls	\$75,000.00	\$75,000.00				
Secondary Paved Trail	400	lin	\$67.50	\$27,000.00				Asphalt, 1.5 meters wide
Secondary clearing and grading	400	lin	\$10.25	\$4,100.00				
Rain Garden	5,000	sqm	\$2.70	\$13,504.50				Native Wetland Fringe Plant Seed
Soccer Area Total				\$116,604.50		\$119,994.50		
Soccer Arch. - Paving & Utilities								
Concession Stands & Restrooms	2	ea	\$75,000.00	\$150,000.00				
Soccer Parking Drive	2,500	sqm	\$25.00	\$62,500.00				Upgrade to Concrete
Soccer Parking Spots	1,050	sqm	\$25.00	\$26,250.00				Upgrade to Concrete (\$70/sqm)
Sanitary Pipe	1	ls	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00				
Water Supply And Distribution	1	ls	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00				
Electrical Supply And Distribution	1	ls	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00				
Soccer Soccer Arch. & Paving Total				\$254,500.00		\$254,500.00		
Soccer Area - Nature Trail								
Nature Trail	925	lin	\$26.30	\$24,327.50				1.2 meters wide, decomposed granite
Nature Trail clearing and grading	925	lin	\$8.20	\$7,585.00				
Nature Trail Boardwalk	1,150	lin	\$430.00	\$494,500.00				
Landscape Restoration	800	sqm	\$2.70	\$2,160.00				Native Seed Mix along trail edges
Soccer Area - Nature Trail Total				\$528,572.50		\$528,572.50		
North Corridor-Primary Trail								
Primary Trail	1,940	lin	\$139.00	\$269,100.00				Asphalt, 3 meters wide
Primary Trail clearing and grading	1,940	lin	\$20.50	\$39,770.00				
Primary Trail Boardwalk/ bridges	75	lin	\$1,076.00	\$80,700.00				
Trail Signage	1	ls	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00				
Landscape Restoration	1,940	sqm	\$2.70	\$5,238.00				Native Seed Mix along trail edges
North Corridor - Primary Trail Total				\$417,808.00		\$417,808.00		
North Corridor - Secondary Trail								
Secondary Paved Trail	2,400	lin	\$41.00	\$98,400.00				Asphalt, 1.5 meters wide
Secondary clearing and grading	2,400	lin	\$10.25	\$24,600.00				
Landscape Restoration	2,400	sqm	\$2.70	\$6,480.00				Native Seed Mix along trail edges
North Corridor - Secondary Trail Total				\$129,480.00		\$129,480.00		
North Corridor - Nature Trail								
Nature Trail	1,200	lin	\$26.30	\$31,560.00				1.2 meters wide, decomposed granite
Nature Trail clearing and grading	1,200	lin	\$8.20	\$9,840.00				
Nature Trail - Boardwalk/ bridges	30	lin	\$430.00	\$12,900.00				
Secondary Paved Trail	2,400	lin	\$41.00	\$98,400.00				Asphalt, 1.5 meters wide
Secondary clearing and grading	2,400	lin	\$10.25	\$24,600.00				
North Corridor - Nature Trail Total				\$177,300.00		\$177,300.00		
North Corridor - Landscape								
Canopy Trees	150	ea	\$450.00	\$67,500.00				3" B&B
Reforestation	1	ls	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00				Bare Root Seedlings
Rain Garden	37,000	sqm	\$2.70	\$99,900.00				Native Wetland Fringe Plant Seed
North Corridor - Landscape Total				\$117,400.00		\$117,400.00		
Bear Creek North Interpretive Zone Total								
	7	ea	\$15,000.00	\$105,000.00		\$105,000.00		
BEAR CREEK CORRIDOR SUBTOTAL				\$1,445,972.70	\$1,445,972.70	\$1,445,972.70	\$1,445,972.70	
S.BEAR CREEK								
Drive and Parking								
Mass Grading	1	ls	\$70,000.00	\$70,000.00				
Drainage	1	ls	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00				
Parking Drives	15,000	sqm	\$25.00	\$375,000.00				Gravel
Parking Spots	12,000	sqm	\$22.00	\$264,000.00				Gravel
Secondary Paved Trail	900	lin	\$41.00	\$36,900.00				Asphalt, 1.5 meters wide
Secondary clearing and grading	900	lin	\$10.25	\$9,225.00				
Canopy Trees	100	ea	\$700.00	\$70,000.00				
Rain Garden	25,000	sqm	\$2.70	\$67,500.00				Native Wetland Fringe Plant Seed
Drive and Parking Total				\$962,625.00		\$962,625.00		
Drive and Parking ADA								
Parking Spots	600	sqm	\$28.00	\$16,800.00				6" concrete
Drive and Parking ADA Total				\$16,800.00		\$16,800.00		
Drive and Parking- Secondary Trail								
Secondary Paved Trail	900	lin	\$41.00	\$36,900.00				Asphalt, 1.5 meters wide
Secondary clearing and grading	900	lin	\$10.25	\$9,225.00				
Drive and Parking - Secondary Trail Total				\$46,125.00		\$46,125.00		
Baseball Field Complex 'A'								
Ball Fields	4	ea	\$250,000.00	\$1,000,000.00				Playing Field, Fence, Backstop, Dugout, Stands
Field Lighting	4	ea	\$200,000.00	\$800,000.00				
Concrete Plaza	1,800	sqm	\$30.00	\$54,000.00				4" Standard Concrete
Mass Grading	1	ls	\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00				
Site Lighting	1	ls	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00				
Baseball Field Complex 'A' Total				\$1,884,000.00	\$1,884,000.00			
Complex 'A'-Nature Trail & Playground								
Nature Trail	2,620	lin	\$26.30	\$68,906.00				1.2 meters wide, decomposed granite
Nature Trail clearing and grading	2,620	lin	\$8.20	\$21,496.00				
Playground	1	ls	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00				
Drinking Fountain	10	ea	\$6,500.00	\$65,000.00				
Utilities	1	ls	\$75,000.00	\$75,000.00				
Volleyball Court	0	ea	\$11,000.00	\$0.00				includes concrete court, poles & net
Complex 'A'-Nature Trail & Playground Total				\$251,900.00		\$251,900.00		
Complex 'A' Architecture & Infrastructure								
Concession Stands & Restrooms	2	ea	\$75,000.00	\$150,000.00				Allowance, Bleachers, Trash receptacles, benches, shade structures
Site Furnishings	1	ls	\$210,000.00	\$210,000.00				
Drainage	1	ls	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00				
Sanitary Pipe	1	ls	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00				
Water Supply And Distribution	1	ls	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00				
Electrical Supply And Distribution	1	ls	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00				
Complex 'A' Architecture & Infrastructure Total				\$405,000.00		\$405,000.00		
Complex 'A' Amphitheatre								
Amphitheater	1	ls	\$200,000.00	\$200,000.00				
Amphitheater projector room	1	ls	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00				
Complex 'A' Amphitheatre Total				\$250,000.00	\$250,000.00			
Complex 'A' - Landscape								
Trees	100	ea	\$700.00	\$70,000.00				
Shrubs and Groundcover	2,500	sqm	\$48.50	\$121,250.00				
Complex 'A' - Landscape Total				\$191,250.00		\$191,250.00		
Complex 'B' - Fields & Secondary Trail								
Ball Fields	4	ea	\$250,000.00	\$1,000,000.00				Playing Field, Fence, Backstop, Dugout, Stands
Field Lighting	4	ea	\$200,000.00	\$800,000.00				
Secondary Paved Trail	300	lin	\$47.50	\$14,250.00				Asphalt, 1.5 meters wide
Secondary clearing and grading	300	lin	\$10.25	\$3,075.00				
Mass Grading	1	ls	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00				
Baseball Field Complex 'B' Total				\$1,917,360.00		\$1,917,360.00		

DESCRIPTION	MASTER PLAN DEVELOPMENT				REALITY SAFETY & WELFARE	CONSERVATION	SECONDARY	MAINTENANCE	NOTES
	QUANTITY	UNIT	PRICE	BUDGET DETAIL					
Complex 'B' Architecture &Infrastructure									
Concession Stands & Restrooms	1 ea.		\$75,000.00	\$75,000.00					
Concrete Trails	970'lm		\$36.00	\$35,112.00					3m wide
Site Lighting	1 ls		\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00					
Site Furnishings	1 ls		\$75,000.00	\$75,000.00					Allowance Trash receptacles, benches, shade structures
Drainage	1 ls		\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00					
Sanitary Pipe	1 ls		\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00					
Water Supply And Distribution	1 ls		\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00					
Electrical Supply And Distribution	1 ls		\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00					
Nature Trail	800'lm		\$26.30	\$21,150.00					1.2 meters wide, decomposed granite
Nature Trail clearing and grading	800'lm		\$8.20	\$6,560.00					
Concrete Plazas	1,480'lm		\$50.00	\$74,000.00					
Drinking Fountain	2 ea.		\$6,500.00	\$13,000.00					
Utilities	1 ls		\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00					
Complex 'B' Architecture &Infrastructure Total				\$275,760.00			\$-72,000.00		
Complex 'A' - Landscape									
Trees	90 ea.		\$700.00	\$63,000.00					
Shrubs and Groundcover	3,500'sm		\$46.30	\$162,050.00					
Complex 'A' - Landscape Total				\$225,050.00			\$150,000.00		
Frisbee Golf Course	1 ls		\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00			\$15,000.00		include holes, signage and all appurtenances
Trail System - Primary Trail									
Primary Trail	7,550'lm		\$135.00	\$1,019,250.00					Asphalt, 3 meters wide
Primary Trail clearing and grading	7,550'lm		\$20.50	\$154,775.00					
Primary Trail Boardwalk/ bridges	150'lm		\$1,078.00	\$161,700.00					
Trail Signage	8 ea.		\$2,000.00	\$16,000.00					
Trail System - Primary Trail Total				\$1,201,725.00				\$1,200,000.00	
Trail System-Nature Trail									
Native Trail	6,350'lm		\$5.15	\$32,702.50					1.2 Meter Wide Native Soil Trail
Native Trail clearing and grading	10,000'lm		\$8.20	\$82,000.00					
Nature Trail	3,270'lm		\$26.30	\$86,001.00					1.2 meters wide, decomposed granite
Nature Trail clearing and grading	3,270'lm		\$8.20	\$26,814.00					
Nature Trail - Boardwalk	270'lm		\$430.00	\$116,100.00					
Trail System -Nature Trail Total				\$243,617.50		\$448,819.50			
Trail System - Landscape & Interpretive Zones									
Interpretive Zone	3 ea.		\$15,000.00	\$45,000.00					
Landscape Restoration	15,100'sm		\$5.70	\$86,170.00					Native Seed Mix along trail edges
Reforestation	1 ls		\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00					Seedlings
Drainage	1 ls		\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00					
Trail System - Primary Trail Total				\$200,170.00			\$10,170.00		
Golf Area									
Driving Range Pavilion	325'sm		\$540.00	\$175,500.00					
Wee-Link Building	100'sm		\$240.00	\$24,000.00					
Wee-Link & Driving Range Fence	1,420'lm		\$130.00	\$184,600.00					
Golf Area Total				\$400,100.00			\$-40,100.00		
Dog Park Area									
RC Track	1 ls		\$75,000.00	\$75,000.00					
Dog Park	1 ls		\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00					Fence, water fountains, trash receptacles, picnic tables, etc.
Monument Sign	1 ls		\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00					
Monument Sign Lighting	1 ls		\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00					
Mass Grading	1 ls		\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00					
Drainage	1 ls		\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00					
Sanitary Pipe	1 ls		\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00					
Water Supply And Distribution	1 ls		\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00					
Electrical Supply And Distribution	1 ls		\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00					
Dog Park Area Total				\$135,000.00			\$135,000.00		
BMX Course									
BMX Course	1,210'lm		\$65.00	\$78,650.00					
Landscape Restoration	2,000'sm		\$2.70	\$5,400.00					Native Seed Mix along trail edges
Drainage	1 ls		\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00					
BMX Course Total				\$94,050.00			\$14,050.00		
BMX Pavilion Total	325'sm		\$840.00	\$175,500.00			\$175,500.00		
S. BEAR CREEK TOTAL				\$1,482,974.50	\$410,000.00	\$-25,300.00	\$-25,300.00	\$1,396,617.50	
CRYSTAL LAKE PARK									
Crystal Lake- Nature Trail									
Nature Trail	5,110'lm		\$26.30	\$134,393.00					1.2 meters wide, decomposed granite
Nature Trail clearing and grading	5,110'lm		\$8.20	\$41,882.00					
Boardwalk/ bridges	200'lm		\$430.00	\$86,000.00					
Trail Signage	1 ls		\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00					
Crystal Lake- Nature Trail Total				\$292,275.00				\$292,275.00	
Crystal Lake Dog Park Total	1 ls		\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00				\$50,000.00	Fence, water fountains, trash receptacles, picnic tables, etc.
Crystal Lake Architecture & Pavement									
Parking & Drive	5,475'sm		\$25.00	\$141,875.00					Gravel
Nature Center	1 ls		\$200,000.00	\$200,000.00					
Interpretive Zone	3 ea.		\$15,000.00	\$45,000.00					
Secondary Paved Trail	3,000'lm		\$67.50	\$202,500.00					Asphalt, 1.5 meters wide
Secondary clearing and grading	2,200'lm		\$16.25	\$35,750.00					
Crystal Lake Architecture & Pavement Total				\$587,900.00				\$587,900.00	
Crystal Lake- Landscape									
Trees	50 ea.		\$700.00	\$35,000.00					
Shrubs and Groundcover	2,400'sm		\$21.50	\$51,640.00					
Drainage	1 ls		\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00					
Landscape Restoration/Rain Garden	2,200'sm		\$2.70	\$5,940.00					Native Seed Mix along trail edges
Crystal Lake- Landscape Total				\$102,580.00	\$102,580.00				
CRYSTAL LAKE PARK TOTAL				\$1,002,805.00	\$612,580.00			\$390,225.00	
HS&W SUBTOTAL					\$5,548,380.00	\$2,645,400.00			
PRIMARY SUBTOTAL									
SECONDARY SUBTOTAL							\$10,427,111.25		
MAINTENANCE SUBTOTAL								\$3,916,404.50	
TOTAL PROJECT SUBTOTAL				\$25,700,101.00	\$5,748,980.00				
CONTINGENCY @ 25%				\$6,425,025.25	\$1,437,245.00				
CONTRACTOR PROFIT & OVERHEAD @ 10%				\$2,570,010.10	\$574,898.00				
GRAND TOTAL				\$34,695,136.35	\$7,761,123.00				

*** Does not include City permit fees and Construction Administration and Observation.

*** All unit prices, allowances, and total costs are valid for thirty (30) days. MESA Design Group reserves the right to revise this estimate after such time.

*** All of the above costs are considered preliminary and are based on broad assumptions within the context of available base information. Civil Infrastructure and all numbers should be reviewed throughout the design phase as site surveys are conducted and the project approach is refined.

COST ESTIMATE

MUSKOSEEPI PARK MASTER PLAN SURVEY 2008

The City of Grande Prairie invites you to participate in the future vision of Muskoseepi Park.

We value your comments and suggestions and look forward to your input as we develop a master plan for this important resource to the Grande Prairie community.



General Park Use

1. Do you see Muskoseepi Park as a space primarily for (check one):
- ☐ Nature
 - ☐ Recreation
 - ☐ Events and Entertainment
 - ☐ Sports and Fitness

2. What three things do you value the most about Muskoseepi Park?

1st: _____
2nd: _____
3rd: _____

3. What is your least favorite aspect of the Park?

4. What three things would you change at Muskoseepi Park?

1st: _____
2nd: _____
3rd: _____

5. What is your favorite summer activity in the park?

6. What is your favorite winter activity in the park?

Trail Use

7. Do you use the trails in Muskoseepi Park?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No (please skip question 8 below)

8. How do you experience the trails? (check all that apply)

- ☐ Bicycle
- ☐ Walk
- ☐ Jog/run
- ☐ Other: _____

9. Where do you usually enter the park?

10. How do you get to the park?

- ☐ Drive
- ☐ Walk
- ☐ Bicycle
- ☐ Other: _____

11. If you drive to the park, what is your opinion of the availability of parking?

12. What section of trail do you:

- Like the most? _____
Why? _____
- Like the least? _____
Why? _____

13. What types of trail improvements would you like to see in the park?

Recreational Amenities

14. Which recreational amenities you currently use? What do you like the most about them? (check all that apply)

Amenities I use	What I like the most	Amenities I use	What I like the most
<input type="checkbox"/> Ball facilities	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Toboggan hill	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Off leash dog park	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Tennis courts	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor Pool	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Basketball courts	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Skateboard park	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Playground	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Model car track	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Asphalt trails	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Kayak/canoe launch	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Natural surface trails	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Lawn bowling	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Skating pond	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Mini-golf	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Horseshoe pits	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Wee Links Golf & Campground, & Driving Range	_____		

15. What could be improved about the recreational and nature-based activities in the park?

16. What new recreational or nature-based programs that you would like to see offered in the park?

17. What programs or events would you like to see removed from the park?

18. What is the quality of the park-hosted events (New Year's Eve, Family Day, Easter, Canada Day, Halloween)?

Non-Recreational Programs & Facilities

19. What non-recreational amenities do you use? What is the best and worst thing about each of them? (check all that apply)

Non-Recreational amenities I use	The best things about them	The worst things about them
<input type="checkbox"/> Pavilion bathrooms	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Pavilion concession	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Amphitheater and summer concerts	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Crystal Lake facilities	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Centre 2000	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Rotary Campground	_____	_____

20. What facilities do you rarely or never visit? Why? _____

21. What new programs, activities, or facilities would you like to see offered in the park? _____

Events

22. What seasonal or annual special events or fundraisers do you participate in that are held in the park?

23. How could they be improved? _____

Other

24. What do you think of the quality of maintenance in the park?

25. Should an area be set aside in the park for the homeless?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No (If no, please skip question 26 below.)

26. Where should a homeless area be set aside?

27. What are your suggestions for the City on how to address the homeless situation in the park?

28. Currently a proposal has been submitted to the City to develop the east half of the natural area of South Bear Creek into a golf course. How do you feel about this?

29. Do you have any additional comments about the park?

Your Information

30. How far do you live from the park? (check one)

- ☐ less than one kilometre
- ☐ 2 to 5 kilometres
- ☐ over 5 kilometres

31. What age range are you in?

- ☐ Less than 15
- ☐ Between 15 and 22
- ☐ Between 22 and 34
- ☐ Between 34 and 50
- ☐ Between 50 and 65
- ☐ Over 65

32. Do you have children?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

33. Contact Information (optional)

We may want to contact you about your input to this survey. If it is OK to do that, please provide your name and contact information below.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Thanks for your contribution to the future vision of Muskoseepi Park!

Completed surveys can be dropped off at any City recreation facility and City Hall before October 25, 2008.

MUSKOSEEPI PARK MASTER PLAN SURVEY 2008

Response Status: Completes
Filter: No filter applied
Nov 03, 2008 8:26 AM PST

General Park Use

tabulated
responses

open
responses
(see pdfs)

1. Do you see Muskoseepi Park as a space primarily for (check one):

Nature	135	44%
Recreation	123	40%
Events and Entertainment	16	5%
Sports and Fitness	30	10%
Total	304	100%

2. What three things do you value the most about Muskoseepi Park?

298 Open Responses - Varied

3. What is your least favorite aspect of the Park?

266 Open Responses - Varied

4. What three things would you change at Muskoseepi Park?

268 Open Responses - Varied

5. What is your favorite summer activity in the park?

293 Open Responses - Varied

6. What is your favorite winter activity in the park?

271 Open Responses - Varied

Trail Use

7. Do you use the trails in Muskoseepi Park?

Yes	294	98%
No	7	2%
Total	301	100%

8. How do you experience the trails? (check all that apply)

Bicycle	206	68%
Walk	269	89%
Jog/run	130	43%

Other, please specify	66	22%
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9. Where do you usually enter the park?

293 Open Responses - Varied

10. How do you get to the park?

Drive	185	61%
Walk	192	63%
Bicycle	150	49%
Other, please specify	21	7%

11. If you drive to the park, what is your opinion of the availability of parking?

225 Open Responses - Varied

12. What section of trail do you:

270 Open Responses - Varied

13. What types of trail improvements would you like to see in the park?

233 Open Responses - Varied

Recreational Amenities

14. Which recreational amenities you currently use?

Ball facilities	61	20%
Off leash dog park	85	28%
Outdoor Pool	177	59%
Skateboard park	34	11%
Model car track	15	5%
Kayak/canoe launch	36	12%
Lawn bowling	18	6%
Mini-golf	140	47%
Wee Links Golf & Campground, & Driving Range	113	38%
Toboggan hill	184	62%
Tennis courts	66	22%
Basketball courts	51	17%
Playground	137	46%
Asphalt trails	278	93%
Natural surface trails	217	73%
Skating pond	146	49%
Horseshoe pits	25	8%

15. What do you like the most about each recreational amenities?

198 Open Responses - Varied

16. What could be improved about the recreational and nature-based activities in the park?

186 Open Responses - Varied

17. What new recreational or nature-based programs that you would like to see offered in the park?

151 Open Responses - Varied

18. What programs or events would you like to see removed from the park?

114 Open Responses - Varied

19. What is the quality of the park-hosted events (New Year's Eve, Family Day, Easter, Canada Day, Halloween)?

214 Open Responses - Varied

Non-Recreational Programs & Facilities

20. What non-recreational amenities do you use? (check all that apply)

Pavilion bathrooms	232	87%
Pavilion concession	149	56%
Amphitheater and summer concerts	144	54%
Crystal Lake facilities	112	42%
Centre 2000	133	50%
Rotary Campground	21	8%

21. What is the best thing about each of them?

179 Open Responses - Varied

22. What is the worst thing about each of them?

121 Open Responses - Varied

23. What facilities do you rarely or never visit? Why?

183 Open Responses - Varied

24. What new programs, activities, or facilities would you like to see offered in the park?

129 Open Responses - Varied

Events

25. What seasonal or annual special events or fundraisers do you participate in that are held in the park?

172 Open Responses - Varied

26. How could they be improved?

90 Open Responses - Varied

SURVEY RESULTS

Other

27. What do you think of the maintenance in the park?

244 Open Responses - Varied

28. Should an area be set aside in the park for the homeless?			
Yes	91	31%	
No	199	69%	
Total	290	100%	

29. If so, where should a homeless area be set aside?

165 Open Responses - Varied

30. What are your suggestions for the City on how to address the homeless situation in the park?

233 Open Responses - Varied

31. Currently a proposal has been submitted to the City to develop the east half of the natural area of South Bear Creek into a golf course. How do you feel about this?

281 Open Responses - Varied

32. Do you have any additional comments about the park?

173 Open Responses - Varied

Your Information

33. How far do you live from the park? (check one)			
less than one kilometre	114	38%	
2 to 5 kilometres	128	43%	
over 5 kilometres	57	19%	
Total	299	100%	

34. What age range are you in?			
Less than 15	3	1%	
Between 15 and 22	30	10%	
Between 22 and 34	108	36%	
Between 34 and 50	103	34%	
Between 50 and 65	49	16%	
Over 65	7	2%	
Total	300	100%	

35. Do yo have children?			
Yes	174	58%	
No	126	42%	
Total	300	100%	
36. Contact Information (optional) We may want to contact you about your input to this survey. If it is OK to do that, please provide your name and contact information below.			
166 Open Responses - Varied			

