Joint Work Session
City Council
&
Parks and Recreation Board

October 24, 2023
6:30 P.M.

AGENDA
CROWLEY CITY COUNCIL &
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
JOINT WORK SESSION
OCTOBER 24, 2023 - 6:30 p.m.

Crowley City Hall
201 E. Main Street
Crowley TX 76028

Citizens may address the board members by filling out a blue "Citizen Participation" card to discuss any issue that is on the Agenda. Please turn in cards to the City Secretary. Speakers are limited to three minutes (if using a translator, the time limit will be doubled).

WORK SESSION – October 24, 2023- 6:30 P.M.

I. CALL TO ORDER OF THE CITY COUNCIL / ROLL CALL

II. CALL TO ORDER OF THE PARKS AND REC BOARD / ROLL CALL

III. DISCUSSION

1. **Review and discuss the proposed Bicentennial Park Master Plan Design.**

IV. ADJOURNMENT

I, the undersigned authority, do hereby certify that this Agenda of the Economic Development Corporation to be held on Oct 24, 2023, meeting of the governing body of City of Crowley is a true and correct copy posted on _____, 20_____ at _____ am/ pm at Crowley City Hall, a place convenient and readily accessible to the public at all times.

_____
Carol C. Konhauser, City Secretary

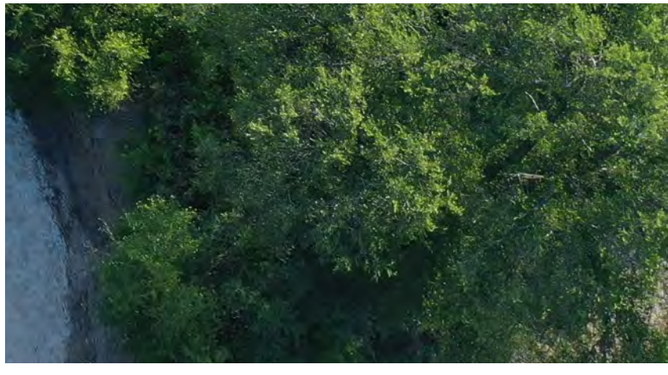
THE EDC AND CITY COUNCIL RESERVES THE RIGHT OF THE FOLLOWING:
1. ITEMS DO NOT HAVE TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE SAME ORDER AS SHOWN ON THIS AGENDA;
2. THE COUNCIL MAY CONTINUE OR RECESS ITS DELIBERATIONS TO THE NEXT CALENDAR DAY IF IT DEEMS IT NECESSARY.

The Crowley City Hall is wheelchair accessible and accessible parking spaces are available. Requests for accommodations must be made 48 hours prior to this meeting. Please contact the City Secretary's Office at (817) 297-2201 ext. 4000, or email ckonhauser@ci.crowley.tx.us for further information.

NOTICE: A quorum of the Crime Control and Prevention District Board of Directors will be present at this meeting; however, neither Board will take action on any items on this posted agenda.

****An agenda information packet is available for public inspection in the Crowley Library and on the City website, under Agenda Packets****

BICENTENNIAL PARK
RECOMMENDED MASTER PLAN
Crowley, Texas (September 2023)



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

MAYOR:

Billy P. Davis

CITY MANAGER:

Robert Loftin
Jack Thompson *(Assistant City Manager)*
Lori Watson *(Deputy City Manager)*

CITY COUNCIL:

Place 1 - Johnny Shotwell
Place 2 - Jerry Beck Jr.
Place 3 - Jesse D. Johnson
Place 4 - Jim Hirth
Place 5 - Jimmy McDonald
Place 6 - Scott Gilbreath

City Staff:

Cristina Winner *(Community Services Director)*
Matt Elgin *(Projects & Utilities Director)*
Tejali Mangle *(Planner)*
Mike Rocamontes *(Public Works Director)*

PARKS BOARD:

Jerry Beck *(Council Liaison)*
Julie Hepler *(Staff/Secretary)*
Place 1 - Brett Pohoreske
Place 2 - Alkena "Rene" Alford
Place 3 - James Hotopp
Place 4 - Jessica Blanchard
Place 5 - Anthony Camell
Place 6 - Lezo Foley
Place 7 - Darlene Hornback

TBG PARTNERS:

Seth Atwell *(Principal)*
Jodi House *(Principal)*
Mikel Wilkins *(Director of Sustainability)*
Jordan Clark *(Associate - Sustainability)*
Jeff Raudabaugh *(Environmental Graphics)*
Allyson Caruso *(Associate)*
Vanessa Ngo *(Associate)*
Alyssa Humarang *(Designer)*

BIOHABITATS

Vince Sortman
Susan Sherrod

SALCEDO GROUP

Michael Salcedo

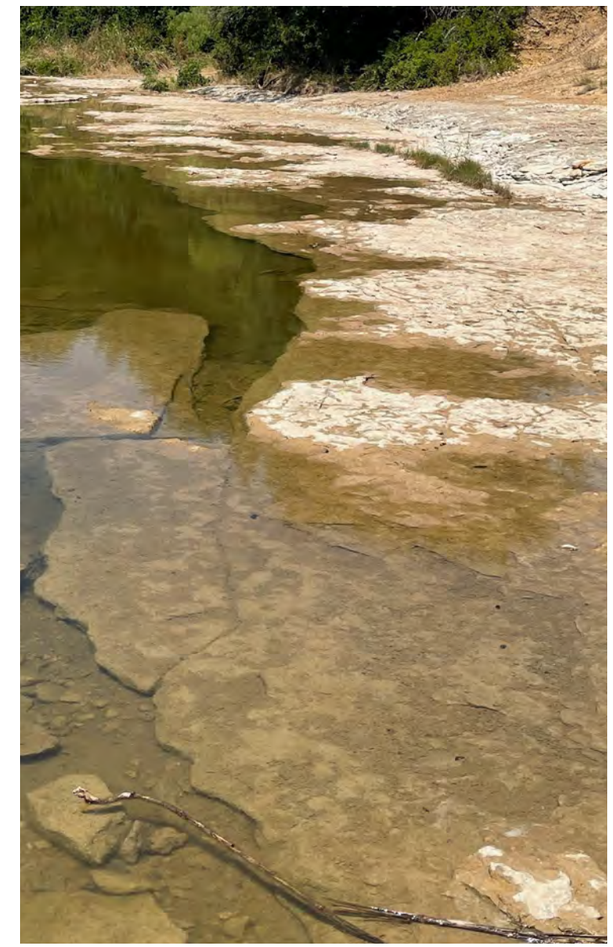
Luis Salcedo

David Nelson

HOUCK DESIGN

Dee Leekha-Houck

John Houck



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01 INTRODUCTION

SITE **OVERVIEW**

OVERVIEW:

A Regional Park for Crowley

Located approximately twelve miles south of downtown Fort Worth, Bicentennial Community Park encapsulates 92-acres of the native Texas landscape located in the Cross Timbers eroregion that extends from southern Kansas to central Texas. The park sits adjacent to Main Street serving a physical, as well as visual, connection to downtown Crowley. While the south end of the park has seen some development over the years in regards to programmed park amenities and disc golf, the northern half of Bicentennial has remained relatively untouched by surrounding development.

Oak woods and riparian woodlands rise out of the layers of lower Grayson marl and limestone bedrock that follow along the 6,000 linear feet of Deer Creek. This water from Deer Creek then flows into Village Creek which is a tributary to the West Fork Trinity River. Though most of creek is flowing on bedrock, there are several locations where large deposits have created deep pools upstream.

Patches of blackland prairie and tall grass prairie can be found along the expanse of wide open spaces and upland topography of the park. With planned development improvements within the City of Crowley moving forward and an ever growing population, the need to protect, share, and celebrate universal access to these natural features is a key of importance to the master planning design team.

TBG Partners, Biohabitiats, Salcedo Group, and Houck Design have worked alongside with the City of Crowley, City Parks Board, City Council and local residents to create a community-oriented master plan. This master plan not only looks at ways to create a network of park amenities and trails for visitors, but also looks at ways to preserve habitat and practice sustainable land use measurements. These practices will not only help to protect the remaining native landscapes but will also provide; inclusive public access to new trails and green spaces, improve the environmental health of Deer Creek, and provide outdoor educational opportunities to visitors near and far in Texas.

Bicentennial Community Park master planning process is grounded in community engagement where neighbors have a voice in creating a dynamic community space and informing park programming activities.

The goal is to create a community space that reflects the values of Crowley and the people who live and visit there. Around 75% of residents in Crowley live within a five mile radius of the park. By planning and designing for both the community and environmental assets, Bicentennial Community Park master plan addresses key outdoor and recreational needs of the community; from play areas with picnic tables, to health and wellness trails. This network of parks, tails, and nature preserves will not only serve local residents, but provide people with unparalleled access to the natural heritage of Bicentennial Park - and ensure that it is protected and celebrated for generations to come.

cresent springs dr
kerry st
vickie st
odell ln
deer creek
deer creek
washington dr
davis rd
kennedy dr
east paririe view rd
east glendate st
crouch
event center
mesquite
tree grove
deer creek
bovell dr
edison lane
heritage dr
lincoln lh
centennial pl
e mustang st
e mission st
e main street

SITE **HISTORY**

HISTORY:

A Growing Community

Established around 1848 as the Deer Creek Settlement, Crowley grew from a small pioneering community just south of Fort Worth, Texas. When Galveston, Colorado & Santa Fe Railroad Company constructed a rail line during the 1870s connecting Cleburne to Fort Worth, the settlement relocated about a mile west. The first train ran through Crowley on December 8, 1881.

An integral part of Crowley's growth, the railroad provided ease of shipping cattle and crops and access to transportation. Cattle were either loaded onto rail cars or unloaded and sent directly to stock pens. From there they went straight to an auction barn. A feed mill was built, and grocery and hardware stores soon opened. Records indicate that the first post office was housed in Hayes Brothers General Store and opened in 1883 followed by the establishment of the first railroad station in 1885. Crowley was officially on the map as a thriving town in 1951 with Chick Race elected as the first mayor. By the end of the 20th century, Crowley boasted approximately 8,000 residents. Since then, the population size has more than doubled.

-Images of Crowley by Sandie Isaacs; 2022

1951; Crowley officially becomes a town; first mayor elected named "Chick" Race

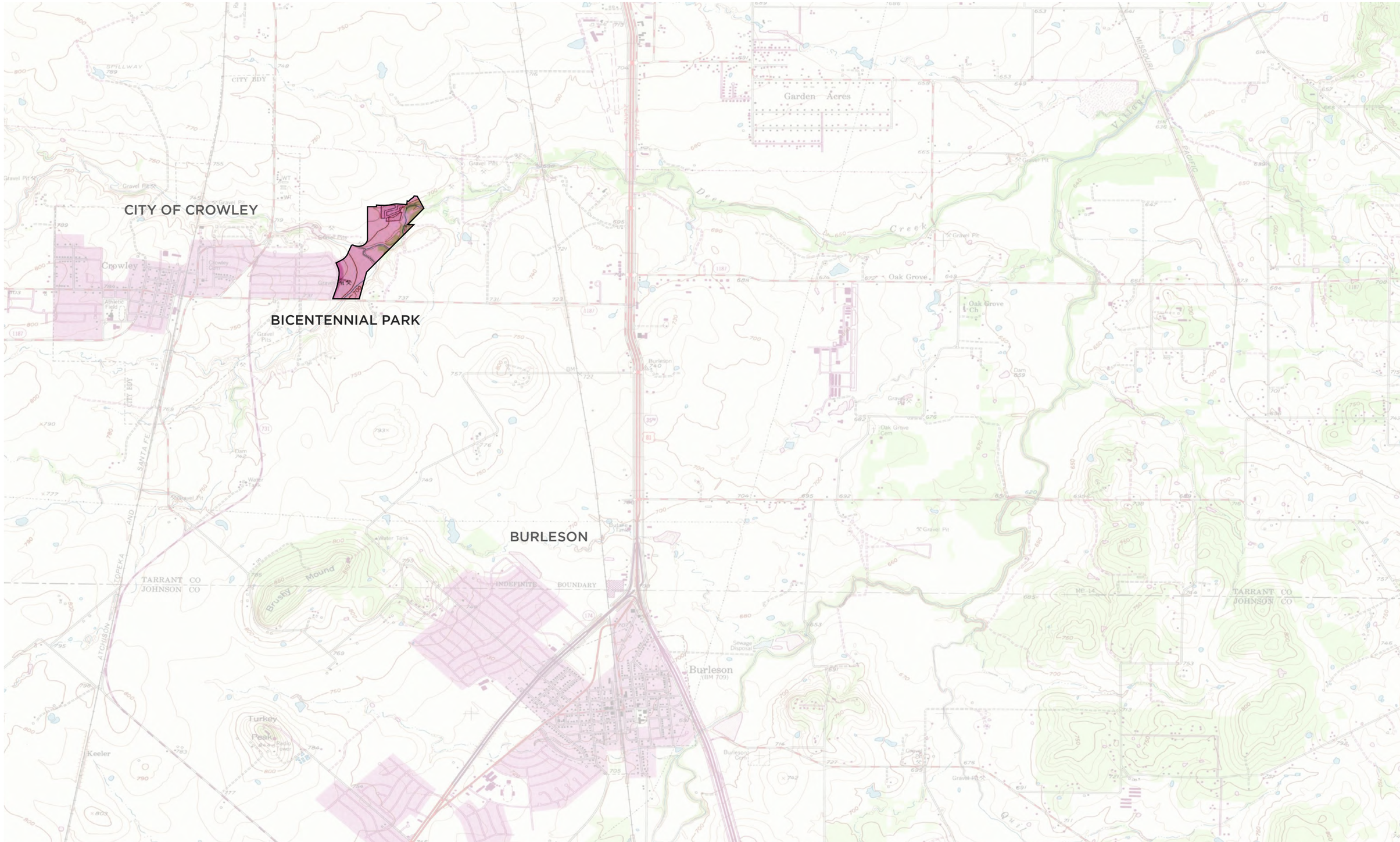
1981; 100 year time capsule buried at Bicentennial Community Park near the flag pole

1885; first railroad station is establised, moving the Deer Creek Settlement west towards the railroad

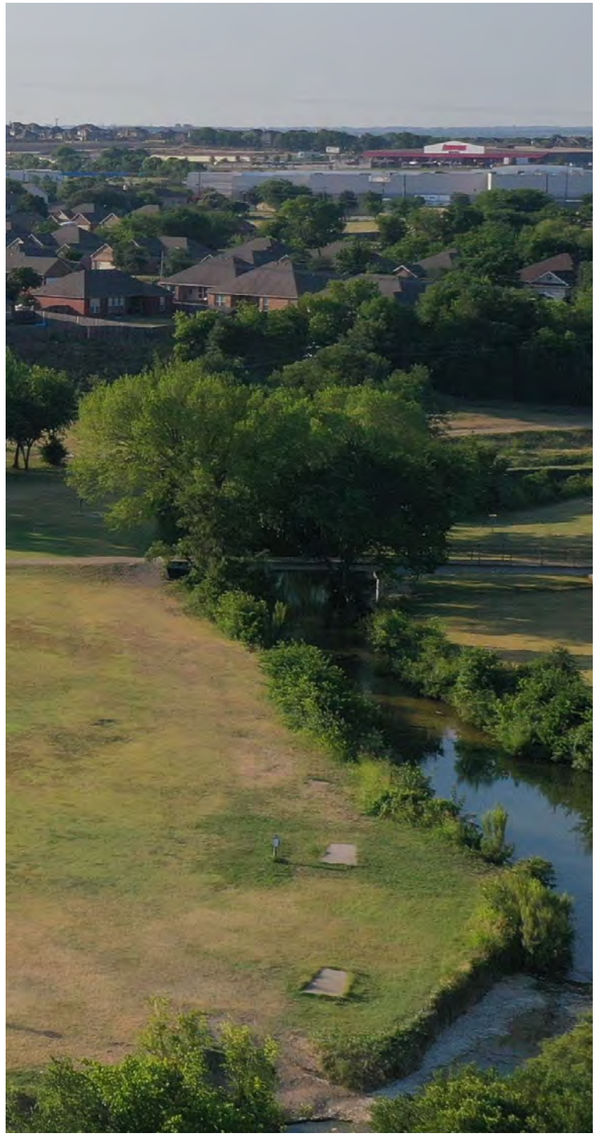
1971; Park board was establised to manage 10 acres; Town offically becomes a CIty

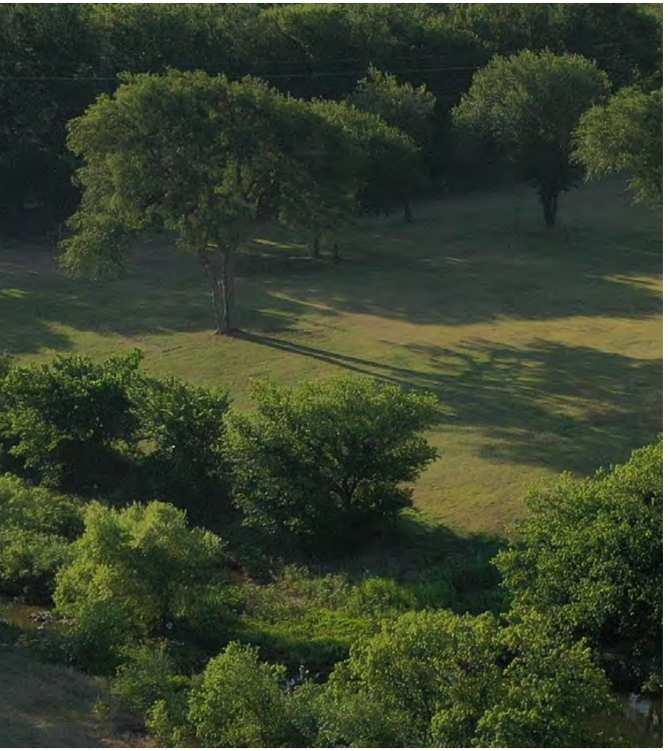
1848; a small pioneering community established the Deer Creek Settlement along Deer Creek

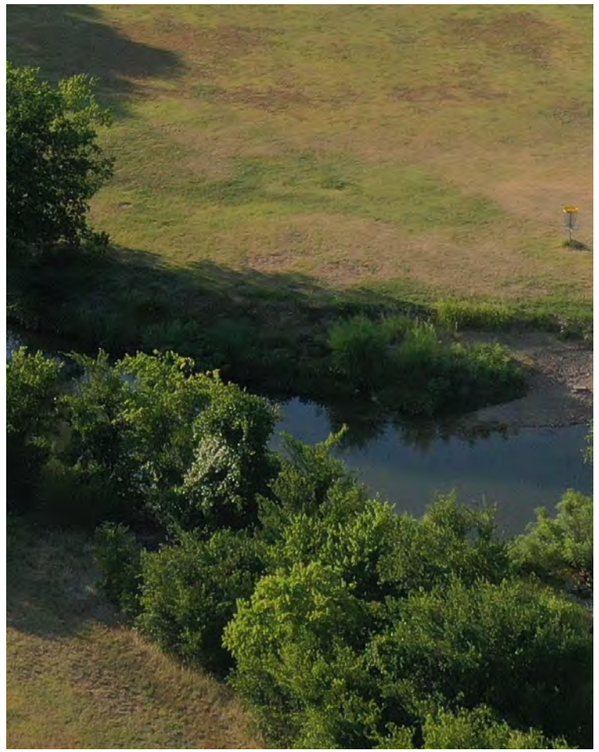
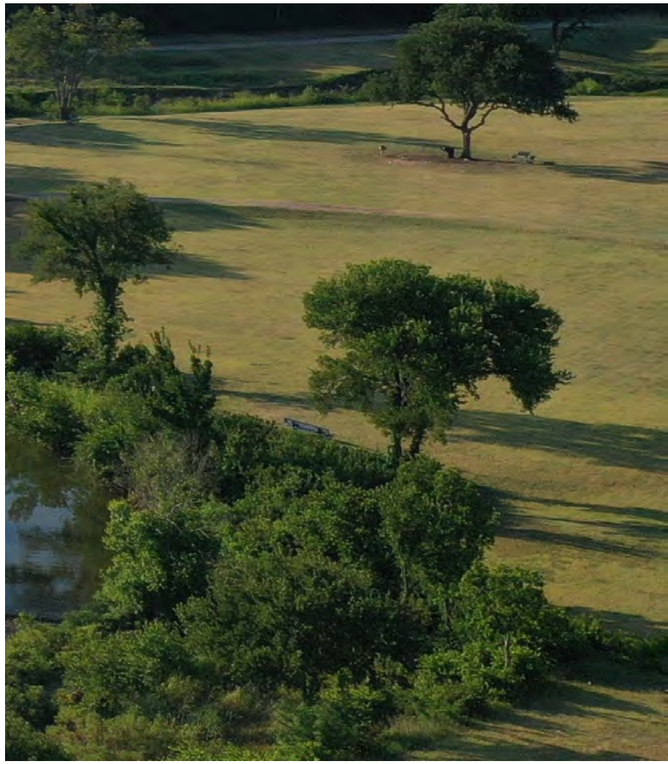
1965; Population increases from 500 residents in 1945 to 2,500 residents



Tarrant County Map; 1955





02 CONTEXT

LOCAL **CONTEXT**

FRAMEWORK:

Location & Residents

Located approximately twelve miles south of downtown Fort Worth, the City of Crowley is approximately 7 sq. miles in size and home to upwards of 19,000 people. Much of the land within Crowley is zoned for single family residential and future planned development. Agricultural, industrial, and general commercial land use sites are sprinkled throughout the city.

Study Area Demographics

- *19,333 Total Population*
- *5,534 Households*
- *1,160 Children (Under 5)*
- *5, 800 Children (Under 18)*
- *1,933 Seniors (Over 65)*
- *1,233 Veterans*
- *60.5% White*
- *22.0% African American*
- *25.6% Hispanic*
- *11.1% Mixed Race*
- *2.5% Asian*

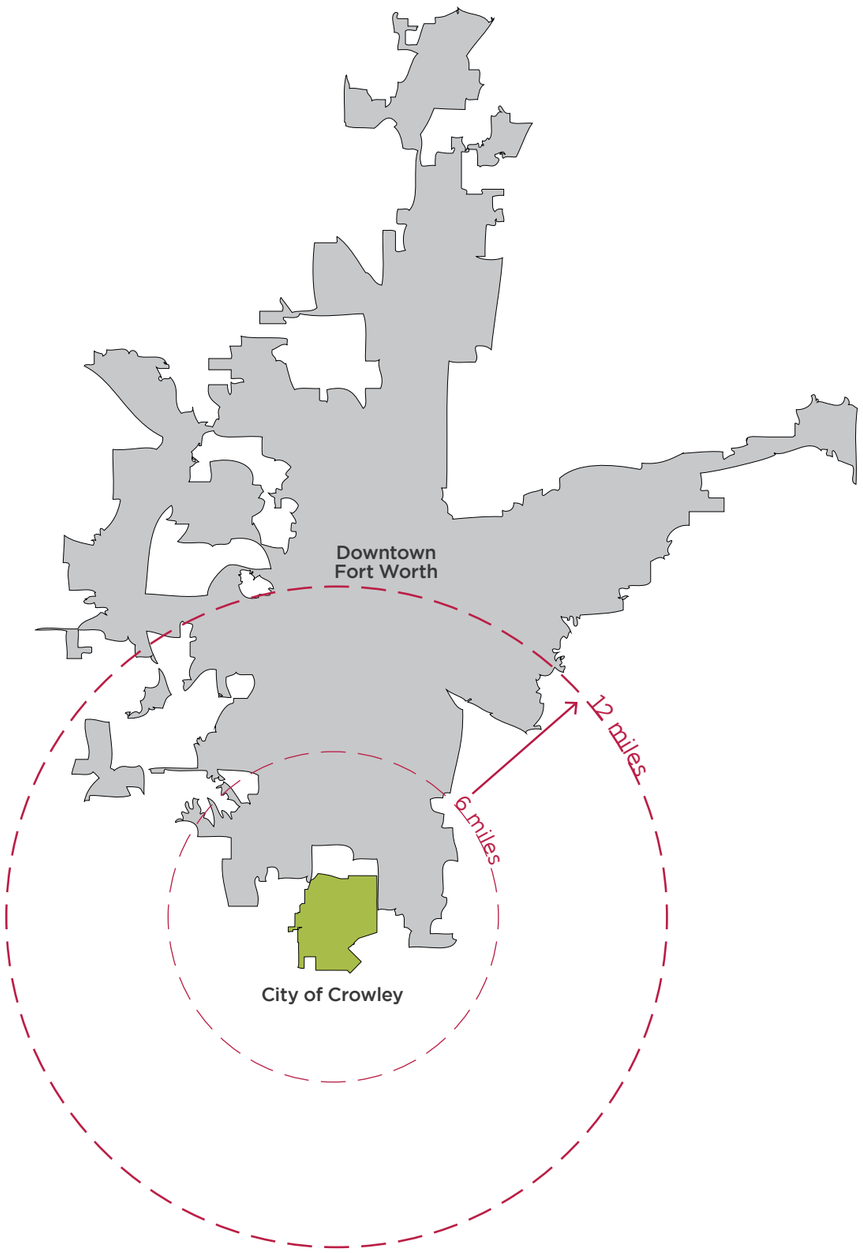
Existing Community Amenities

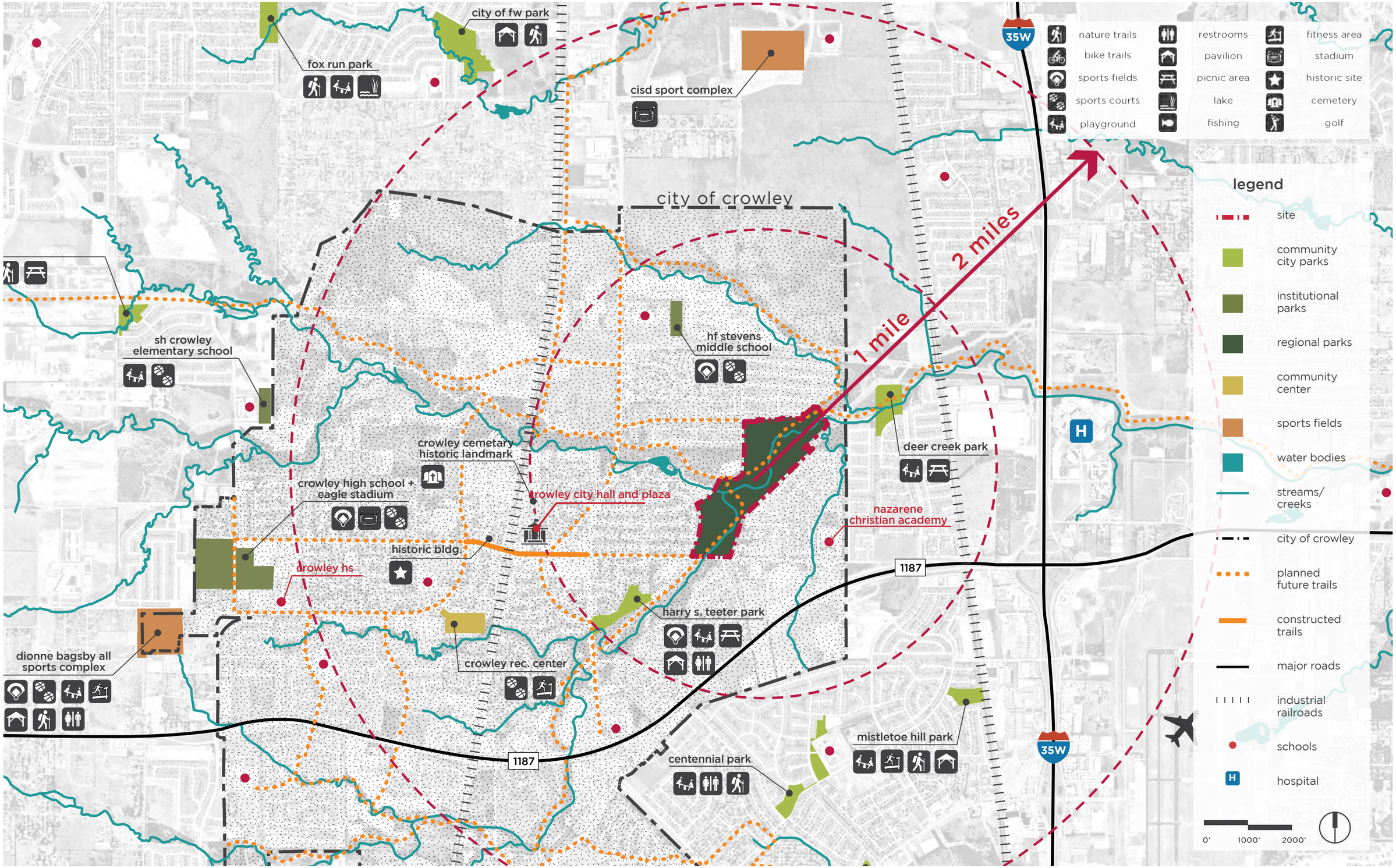
The map on page 17, illustrates important community features that are located within a two mile radius of Bicentennial Community Park. City Community features include; the number of city owned and privately owned parks, sports complexes, educational facilities, and historic landmarks.

By identifying the surrounding parks and amenities we can begin to identify missing programmatic elements within the community of Crowley that could be located in the master plan design for Bicentennial Park.

Connectivity

Improved planned connectivity and mobility throughout the City of Fort Worth and Tarrant County are important factors when looking at long term feasibility. Several of these planned future trails are identified through Crowley. More specifically, three of these regional trails intersect at Bicentennial Park.




city of fw park
fox run park
cisd sport complex
city of crowley
sh crowley elementary school
hf stevens middle school
1 mile
2 miles
deer creek park
crowley cemetary historic landmark
crowley high school + eagle stadium
crowley city hall and plaza
nazarene christian academy
historic bldg.
crowley hs
harry s. teeter park
dionne bagsby all sports complex
crowley rec. center
mistletoe hill park
centennial park
1187
35W
nature trails
bike trails
sports fields
sports courts
playground
restrooms
pavilion
picnic area
lake
fishing
fitness area
stadium
historic site
cemetery
golf
legend
site
community city parks
institutional parks
regional parks
community center
sports fields
water bodies
streams/ creeks
city of crowley
planned future trails
constructed trails
major roads
industrial railroads
schools
hospital
0'
1000'
2000'

HYDROLOGICAL **CONTEXT**

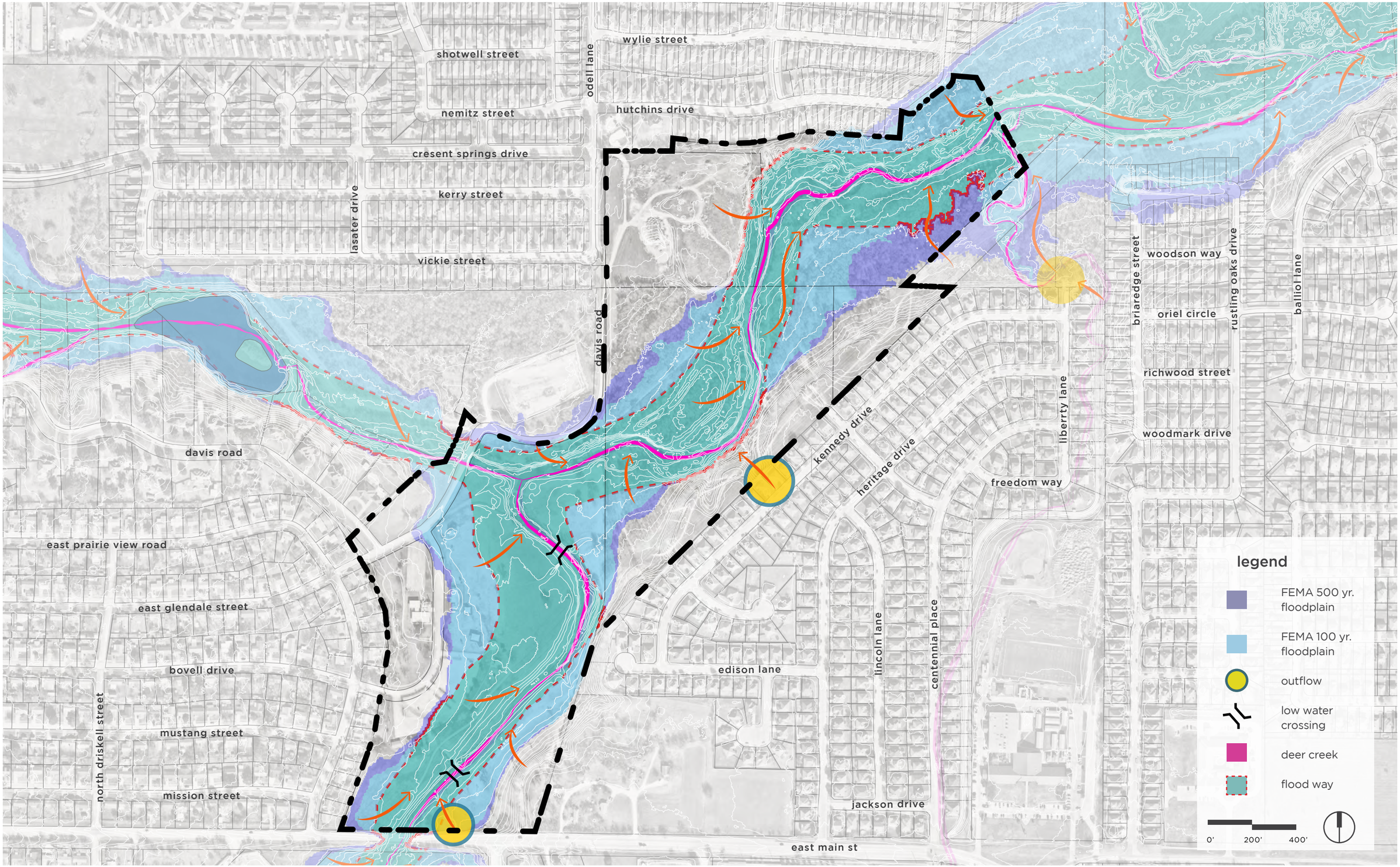
CONTEXT:

Deer Creek

Deer Creek acts as a corridor on site connecting different habitat typologies from open grassland areas in the south to forested swathes of tree canopy in the north.

The projects scope of Deer Creek within Bicentennial Park begins at Main Street and ends at the north park boundary where the Oncor electric utility lines cross the creek. The reach is roughly 6,000 linear feet while the drainage area to this portion of the creek is approximately 14.3 square miles. Land use in this watershed is comprised predominately of single family residential with some agricultural lands. Deer Creek is a tributary to Village Creek which is a tributary to the West Fork Trinity River.

The banks of Deer Creek are prone to flooding and need to be considered in regards to bank stabilization and riparian habitat restoration. Flood limits for 100 year and 500 year floodplain on represented on the map to the right along with the creek's flood way. More than over half of the site has the potential to flood and considering flood mitigation techniques is a goal for the master plan vision.


shotwell street
wylie street
odell lane
nemitz street
hutchins drive
cresent springs drive
kerry street
lasater drive
vickie street
davis road
davis road
woodson way
briaredge street
rustling oaks drive
oriel circle
balliol lane
richwood street
liberrty lane
woodmark drive
kennedy drive
heritage drive
freedom way
east prairie view road
east glendale street
bovell drive
edison lane
lincoln lane
centennial place
north driskell street
mustang street
mission street
jackson drive
east main st
legend
FEMA 500 yr. floodplain
FEMA 100 yr. floodplain
outflow
low water crossing
deer creek
flood way
0'
200'
400'

TOPOGRAPHIC **CONTEXT**

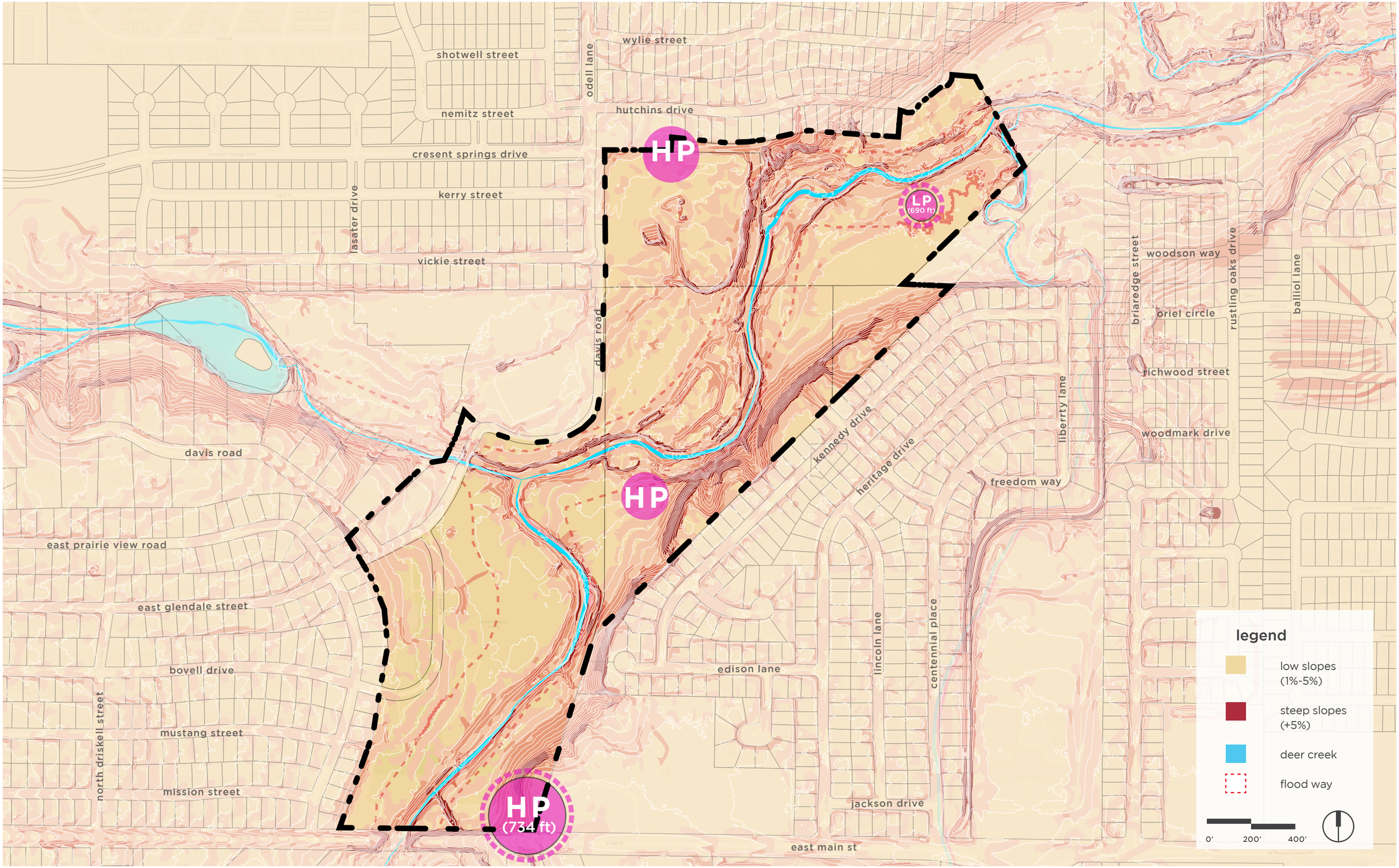
SLOPE:

Bicentennial Park is unique in the north Texas landscape displaying varying grade changes and slopes within its boundary. Low points follow along the creek corridor and high points are sprinkled through the park providing key views of the surrounding landscape.

High points and low points are mapped by looking at existing site contours. The low points indicate areas prone to flooding and thereby may not be best suited for all types of built and defined program. The higher the site, the less prone to flooding - thereby making it a sought after space for programming.

Theslopeanalysisonpage21visuallyrepresentsthis data.Thehigherslopesareexpressedwithdeeper red color tones while the areas of low slope are expressedwiththelightercolorsofyellowandorange.

Notable high points and low points on the site are identified with the pink dots. There are three high points identified within the park: in the south half of the park along Main Street, within the heart of the park, and on the north west corner, adjacent to Odell Lane and surrounding community.


shotwell street
wylie street
odell lane
nemitz street
hutchins drive
cresent springs drive
kerry street
lasater drive
vickie street
HP
LP
(690 ft)
davis road
woodson way
briaredge street
rustling oaks drive
balliol lane
oriel circle
richwood street
liberrty lane
woodmark drive
kennedy drive
heritage drive
freedom way
east prairie view road
east glendale street
bovell drive
edison lane
lincoln lane
centennial place
north driskell street
mustang street
mission street
jackson drive
HP
(734 ft)
east main st
legend
low slopes
(1%-5%)
steep slopes
(+5%)
deer creek
flood way
0'
200'
400'

ECOLOGICAL **CONTEXT**

VEGETATION:

Bicentennial Park is located in the Grand Prairie subregion (Level IV) of the Cross Timbres ecoregion (Level III). Five habitat types are mapped at the park based on Texas Parks & Wildlife. They are as follows;

Central Texas floodplain hardwood forest -
Mapped along the Deer Creek floodplain. Alluvial soils and sedimentation characterize this system.

Edwards Plateau oak hardwood slope forest-
Mapped in two discrete areas along the southeast boundary of the site. It occurs on calcareous slopes ranging greater than 20%.

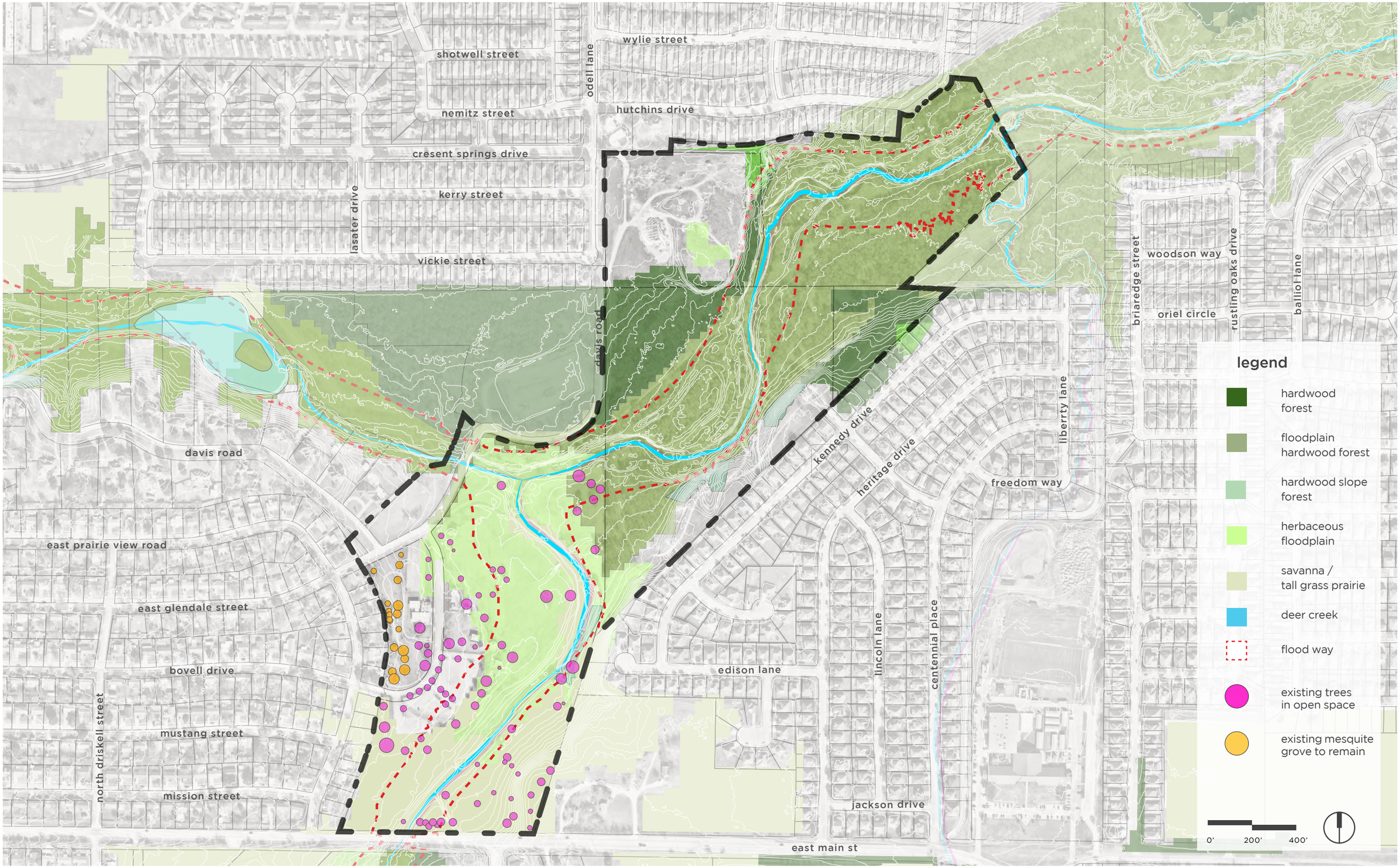
Central Texas herbaceous floodplain -
Mapped as areas maintained as lawn currently at the park and lacks woody species.

Edwards Plateau savanna -
Mapped as areas maintained as lawn currently at the park, species closely relate to underlying geology and management regimes.

Grand Prairie tall grass -
Mapped as areas maintained as lawn currently at the park, hallmark species are little bluestem and sideoats grama.

Vegetation coverage on site varies throughout the park with the south end of predominately being maintained as open grassland (Central Texas herbaceous floodplain, Edwards Plateau savanna, and Grand Prairie Tallgrass). Few existing trees remain within the space providing limited shade and respite from the summer Texas heat.

The north half of the park consists of large patches of Central Texas floodplain hardwood forest and Edwards Plateau oak hardwood slope forest. While the north half of the park provides ample shade and coverage, all five habitats contribute to the robust ecosystem of the park.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bovell drive
edison lane
lincoln lane
centennial place
north driskell street
mustang street
mission street
jackson drive
east main st
legend
hardwood forest
floodplain hardwood forest
hardwood slope forest
herbaceous floodplain
savanna / tall grass prairie
deer creek
flood way
existing trees in open space
existing mesquite grove to remain
0'
200'
400'

FLORA // **FAUNA**

SPECIES:

During a site visit in June of 2022, Biohabitats spent two days on site documenting a detailed list of their observations as it relates to flora + fauna. Their list includes:

Trees + Plants

- **Antelopehorn milkweed** *(Asclepias asperula)*
- **Bar ara's-buttons** *(Marshallia caespitosa)*
- **Bastard cabbage** *(Rapistrum rugosum)*
- **Beardtongue, Cobaea** *(Penstemon cobaea)*
- **Bindweed, field** *(Convolvulus arvensis)*
- **Bladderpod** *(Sesbania vesicaria)*
- **Bluestem, little** *(Schizachyrium scoparium)*
- **Bluestem, silver** *(Bothriochloa laguroides)*
- **Bristlemallow, Carolina** *(Modiola caroliniana)*
- **Buffalograss** *(Bouteloua dactyloides)*
- **Buttonbush** *(Cephalanthus occidentalis)*
- **Cattail, southern** *(Typha domingensis)*
- **Ceanothus, inland** *(Ceanothus herbaceus)*
- **Cheatgrass** *(Bromus tectorum)*
- **Clasping Venus' looking glass** *(Triodanis perfoliata)*
- **Clover, white** *(Trifolium repens)*
- **Coneflower, upright prairie** *(Ratibida columnifera)*
- **Copperleaf, hophornbeam** *(Acalypha ostryifolia)*
- **Cottonwood, Eastern** *(Populus deltoides)*
- **Creeper, Virginia** *(Parthenocissus quinquefolia)*
- **Daisy, Engelmann** *(Engelmannia peristenia)*
- **Daisy, straggler** *(Calyptocarpus vialis)*
- **Dandelion** *(Taraxacum officinale)*
- **Dayflower, whitemouth** *(Commelina erecta)*
- **Desert false indigo** *(Amorpha fruticose)*
- **Elm, American** *(Ulmus Americana)*
- **Elm, cedar** *(Ulmus crassifolia)*
- **Eryngo, Leavenworth's** *(Eryngium leavenworthii)*
- **Flatsedge** *(Cyperus sp.)*
- **Fogfruit, turkey tangle** *(Phyla nodiflora)*
- **Gaura, false** *(Stenosiphon linifolius)*
- **Gourd, buffalo** *(Cucurbita foetidissima)*
- **Grama, sideoats** *(Bouteloua curtipendula)*
- **Grass, green bristle** *(Setaria viridis)*
- **Grass, Texas winter** *(Nassella leucotricha)*
- **Greenbrier, saw** *(Smilax bona-nox)*
- **Greenthread, stiff** *(Thelesperma filifolium)*
- **Ground-plum** *(Astragalus crassicarpus)*
- **Groundsel, common** *(Senecio vulgaris)*
- **Gumweed, narrowleaf** *(Grindelia lanceolata)*
- **Hackberry, sugar** *(Celtis laevigata)*
- **Honeysuckle, coral** *(Lonicera sempervirens)*
- **Indian blanket** *(Gaillardia pulchella)*
- **Johnsongrass** *(Sorghum halepense)*
- **Madder, field** *(Sherardia arvensis)*
- **Marvel of Peru** *(Mirailis jalapa)*
- **Mesquite, honey** *(Prosopis glandulosa)*
- **Parsley, common hedge** *(Torilis arvensis)*
- **Pinkladies** *(Oenothera speciosa)*
- **Pistache, Chinese** *(Pistacia chinensis)*
- **Primrose-willow, floating** *(Ludwigia peploides)*
- **Pokeweed, American** *(Phytolacca americana)*
- **Primrose-willow, floating** *(Ludwigia peploides)*
- **Privet, Quihoui** *(Ligustrum quihoui)*
- **Puccoon, narrowleaf** *(Lithospermum incisum)*
- **Ragweed, giant** *(Ambrosia trifida)*
- **Rosinweed, white** *(Silphium albiflorum)*
- **Ruellia, violet** *(Ruellia nudiflora)*
- **Rushes** *(Juncus spp.)*
- **Sage, Texas** *(Salvia texana)*
- **Sedges** *(Carex spp.)*
- **Sesbania, bigpod** *(Sesbania herbacea)*
- **Snailseed, Carolina** *(Cocculus carolinus)*
- **Soapberry, Western** *(Sapindus drummondii)*
- **Soapberry, wingleaf** *(Sapindus Saponaria)*
- **Spotflower, oppositeleaf** *(Acmella repens)*
- **Spurge, nodding** *(Euphorbia nutans)*
- **Stillingia, Texas** *(Stillingia texana)*
- **Storksbill, Texas** *(Erodium texanum)*
- **Stretchberry/elbowbush** *(Forestiera pubescens)*
- **Sumac, fragrant** *(Rhus aromatica)*
- **Switchgrass** *(Panicum virgatum)*
- **Texas toothleaf** *(Stillingia texana)*
- **Thistle, Texas** *(Cirsium texanum)*
- **Tobacco, flathead rabbit** *(Diaperia prolifera)*

southern cattail

american elm

purple beardtongue

cedar elm

little bluestem

eastern cottonwood

buttonbush

hackberry

Trees + Plants

- **Vervain, Brazilian** *(Verbena brasiliensis)*
- **Vervain, Dakota mock** *(Glandularia bipinnatifida)*
- **Vine, lesser balloon** *(Cardiospermum halicacabum)*
- **Water-willow, American** *(Justicia americana)*
- **Willow, American water** *(Justicia americana)*

Insects

- **Bee, western honey** *(Apis mellifera)*
- **Beetle** *(Alaetrinus aciculatus)*
- **Beetle, spotted cucumber** *(Diabrotica)*
- **Big-eyed toad bug** *(Gelastocoris oculatus)*
- **Bluet, double-striped** *(Enallagma basidens)*
- **Bluet, familiar** *(Enallagma civile)*
- **Calligrapher, margined** *(Toxomerus marginatus)*
- **Clubtail, sulphus-tipped** *(Phanogomphus militaris)*
- **Dancer, blue-fronted** *(Argia apicalis)*
- **Dancer, dusky** *(Argia translata)*
- **Dancer, Kiowa** *(Argia immunda)*
- **Dancer, powdered** *(Argia moesta)*
- **Forktail, fragile** *(Forktail Ischnura posita)*
- **Firetail, desert** *(Telebasis salva)*
- **Hairstreak, gray** *(Strymon melinus)*
- **Hairstreak, great purple** *(Atlides halesus)*
- **Pearl crescent butterfly** *(Phyciodes tharos)*
- **Pondhawk, Eastern** *(Erythemis simplicicollis)*
- **Profane grass-veneer** *(Fissicrambus profanellus)*
- **Question mark butterfly** *(Polygonia interrogationis)*
- **Shara , Kern's o er** *(Euphoria kernii)*
- **Skimmer, neon** *(Libellula croceipennis)*
- **Skimmer, twelve-spotted** *(Libellula pulchella)*
- **Skimmer, widow** *(Libellula luctuosa)*
- **Skipper, fiery** *(Hylephila phyleus)*
- **Snout, fractured** *(Western Diastictis fracturalis)*
- **Swallowtail, pipevine** *(Battus philenor)*
- **Vine sphinx** *(Eumorpha vitis)*
- **Whitetail, common** *(Plathemis lydia)*

Fish

- **Mosquitofish, Western** *(Gambusia affinis)*

Mammals

- **Beaver, American** *(Castor canadensis)*
- **Skunk** *(Mephitis sp.)*
- **Squirrel, fox** *(Sciurus niger)*

Birds

- **Cardinal, Northern** *(Cardinalis cardinalis)*
- **Chickadee, Carolina** *(Poecile carolinensis)*
- **Dove, mourning** *(Zenaida macroura)*
- **Dove, white-winged** *(Zenaida asiatica)*
- **Flycatcher, scissor-tailed** *(Tyranus forficatus)*
- **Hawk, red-shouldered** *(Buteo lineatus)*
- **Heron, blue** *(Ardea Herodias)*
- **Heron, green** *(Butorides virescens)*
- **Jay, blue** *(Cyanocitta cristata)*
- **Mockingird, northern** *(Mimus polyglottos)*
- **Robin, American** *(Turdus migratorius)*
- **Sparrow, chipping** *(Spizella passerina)*
- **Sparrow, L n o n's** *(Melospiza lincolnii)*

Amphibians

- **Blanchard's cricket frog** *(Acris blanchardi)*

Reptiles

- **Lizard, Texas spiny** *(Sceloporus olivaceus)*
- **Turtle, pallid spiny softshell** *(Apalone spinifera)*
- **Watersnake, plain-bellied** *(Nerodia erytrogaster)*

Mollusks

- **Snail, decollate** *(Rumina decollate)*

western honey bee

american beaver

gray hairstreak

blue heron

fox squirrel

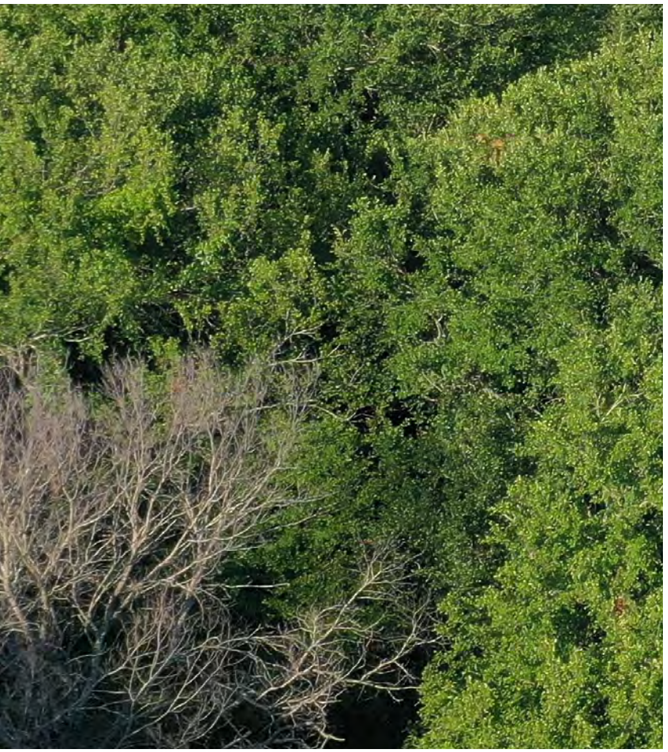
great purple hairstreak

texas spiny lizard

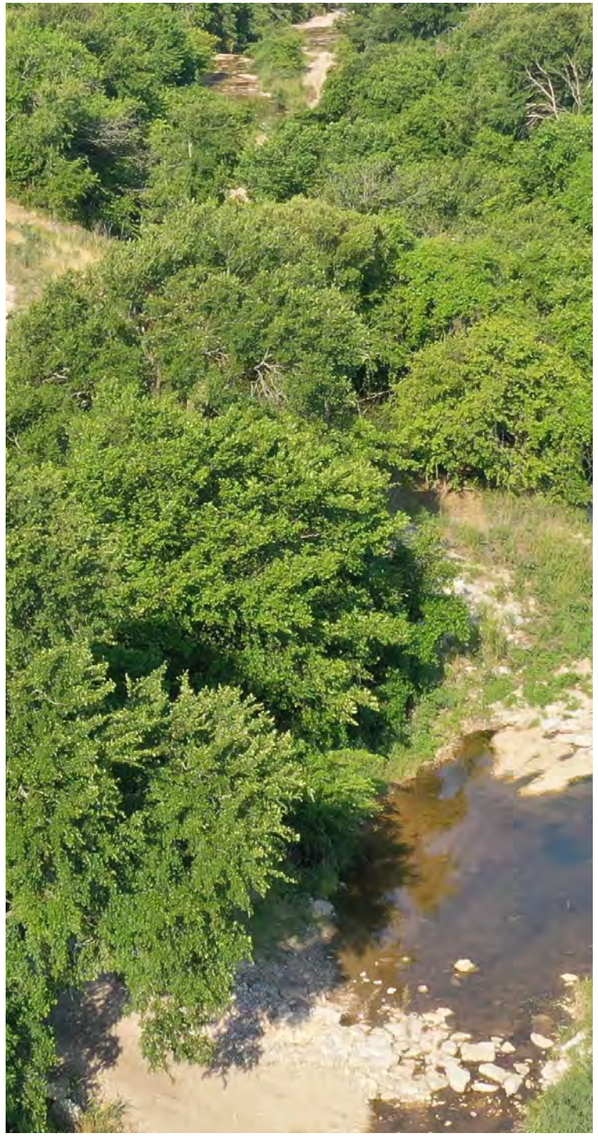
red shouldered hawk

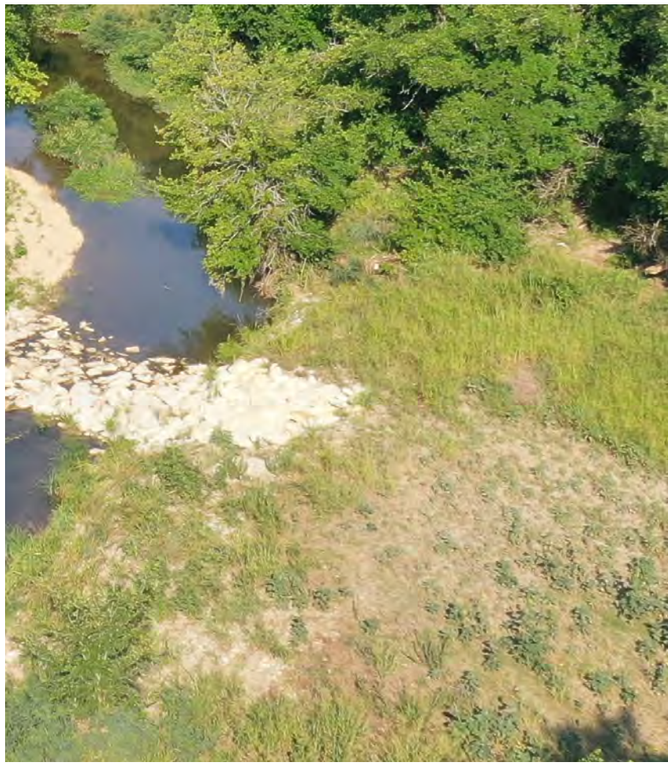
scissor-tailed flycatcher

plain bellied water snake



03 ANALYSIS





SITE **INVENTORY**

CURRENT SITE:

Park Program

Bicentennial Park's current conditions can be described as a "tale of two cities" in where the southern half of the park contains active program elements with little to no shade and the north half of the park holds little to no program with dense vegetation and canopy cover. A disc golf course runs through most of the park starting at the south end, close to Main Street, and making its way north through various landscapes and habitats. An Oncor electrical easement runs through the entire site where overhead electric lines are present that limit constructed amenities.

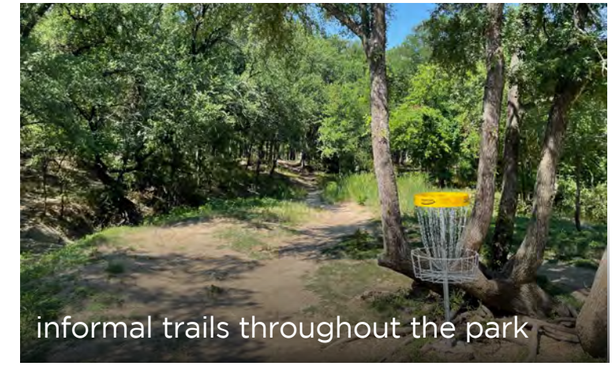
Park Circulation

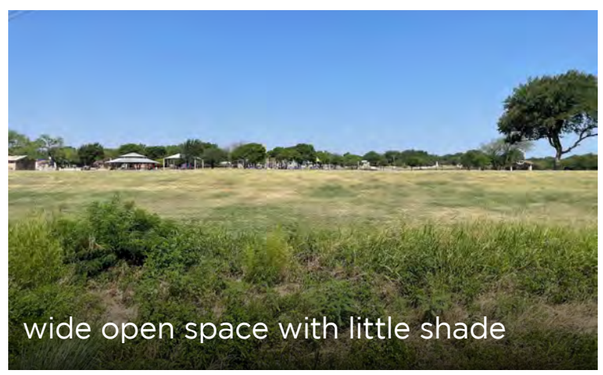
For visitors to access the park on any given day, primary vehicular access is obtained through the local neighborhoods surrounding the park. Bovell Drive acts as the dominant entry threshold with existing signage elements. Davis Road and East Prairie View Road serve as secondary vehicular access routes to the park.

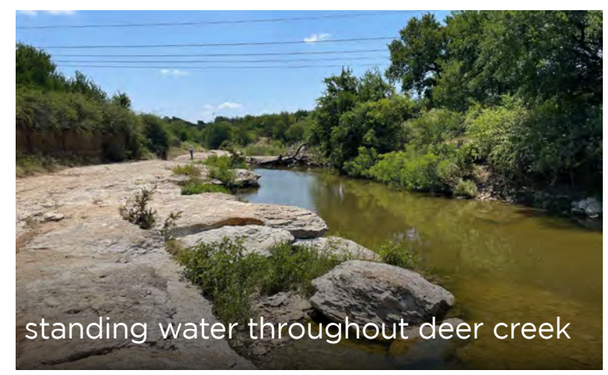
Most of the trails internal to the park tend to be informal as guests have created pedestrian desire lines when moving between existing program elements.

shallow bedrock upstream

tree canopy on north end of site


informal trails throughout the park


wide open space with little shade


standing water throughout deer creek

stromatolites,fossilsidentifiedonsitewithin deer creek

overhead utilities throughout site

vantage points with ridge line

steep slopes & erosion

odell ln
cresent springs dr
deer creek
deer creek park
disc golf course
oncor property
utility easement
gas well
deer creek
disc golf course
deer creek
davis rd
e prairie view rd
splash pad
crouch event center
mesquite tree grove
bovell dr
disc golf course
time capsule approx. location
1 mile to downtown
e main street
gas well
legend
existing buildings + structures
land-use (open space)
land-use (forested)
land-use (parking)
land-use (industrial)
deer creek
flood way
overhead utilities
paved trails
unpaved trails
future planned trails
water crossings
outflows
trail heads
vehicular entries
vehicular circulation
maintenance access
0'
200'
400'
800'

OPPORTUNITIES // **CONSTRAINTS**

OPPORTUNITIES:

Bicentennial Park presents many opportunities when looking at social and ecological improvements for the master plan. In regards to circulation, the park's adjacency to Main Street provides an opportunity to create more of a presence and defined sense of arrival. The existing social trails can be expanded upon to connect throughout the park.

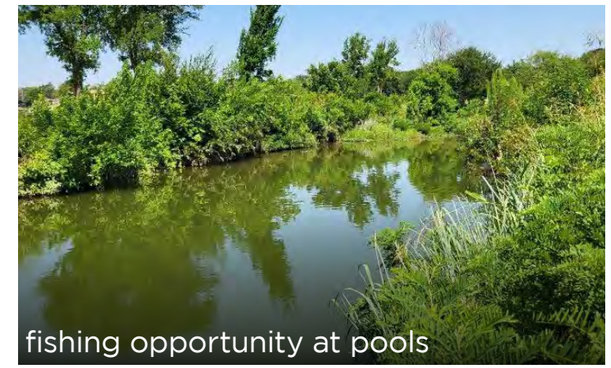
When looking to Ecology, multiple locations along Deer Creek are ideal for wetland restoration and creek bank stabilization. The upland ridge along the Oncor easement provides an opportunity to restore the habitat to herbaceous native prairie landscape, expand tree canopy for seasonal

CONSTRAINTS:

Where there are opportunities there are also constraints. The lack of shade in the south half of the park will limit opportunities for park program. The existing program that currently exists within half of the park tends to conflict with social trails and natural habitats with community members noting that pieces are dated. The overhead electrical lines with Oncor will limit the space directly below for any future park programming or reforestation efforts.

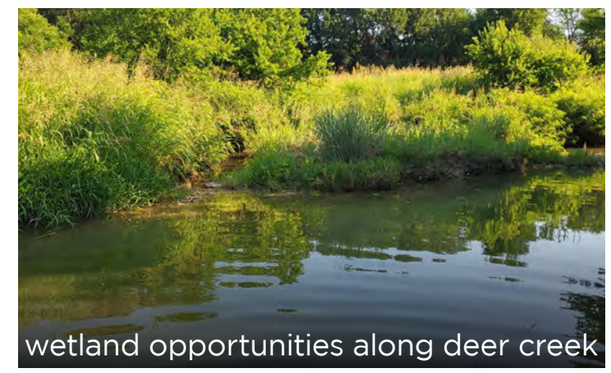
restore the upland in ROW to herbaceous native prairie

mown lawn ideal for recreation


fishing opportunity at pools

align trails according to existing social trails and desire lines

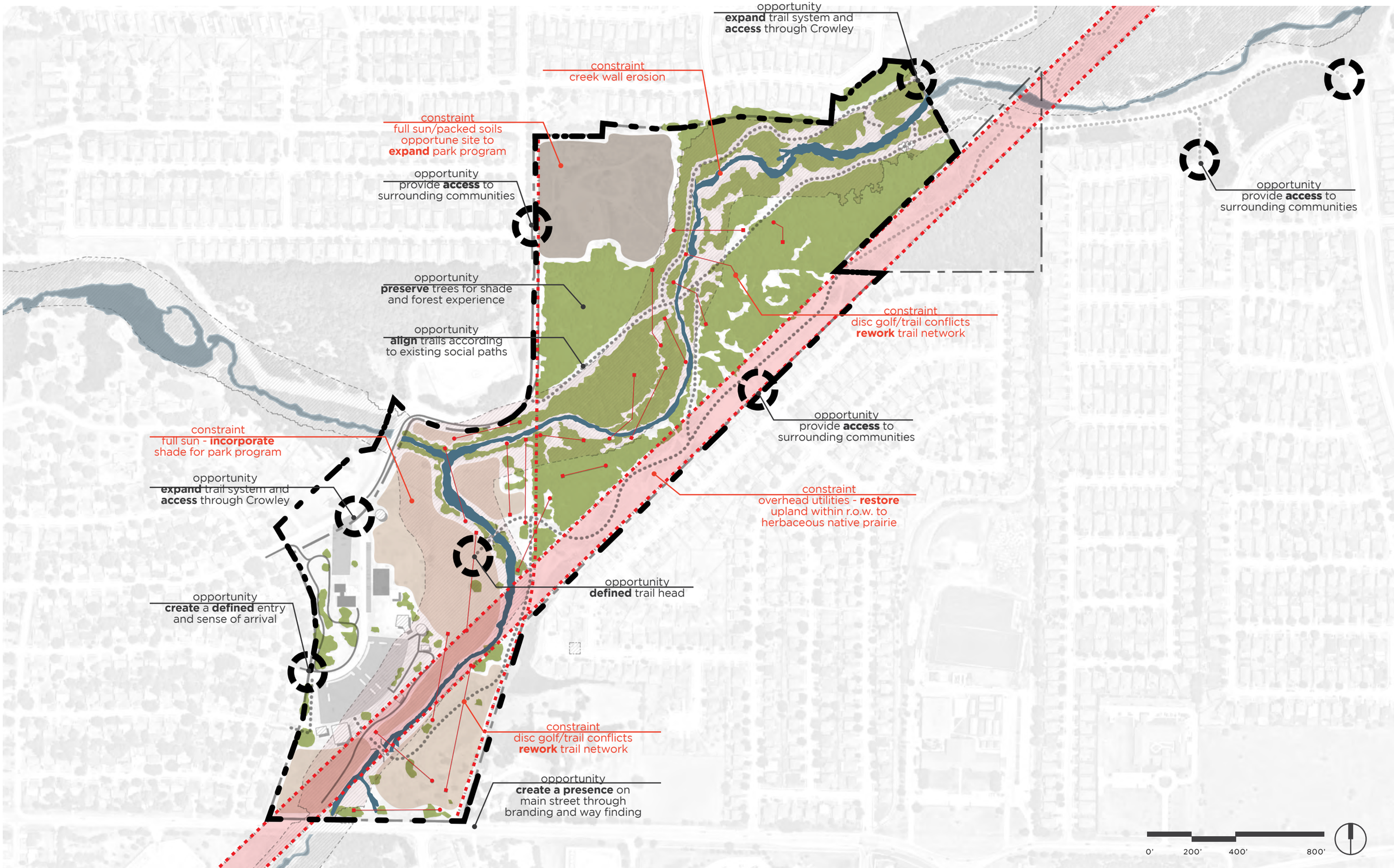
maintain groves of trees for "intermediate" forest experience

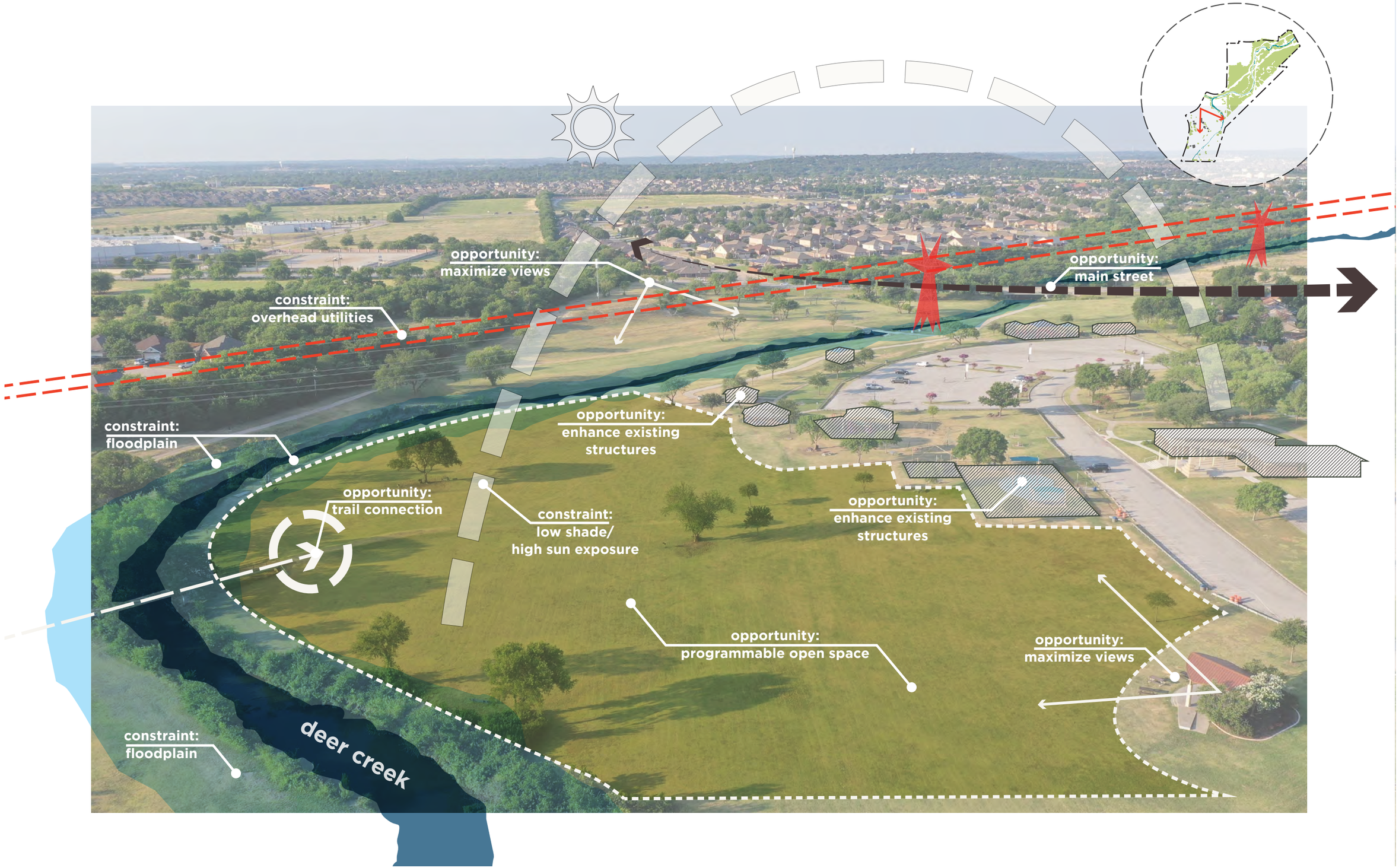

wetland opportunities along deer creek

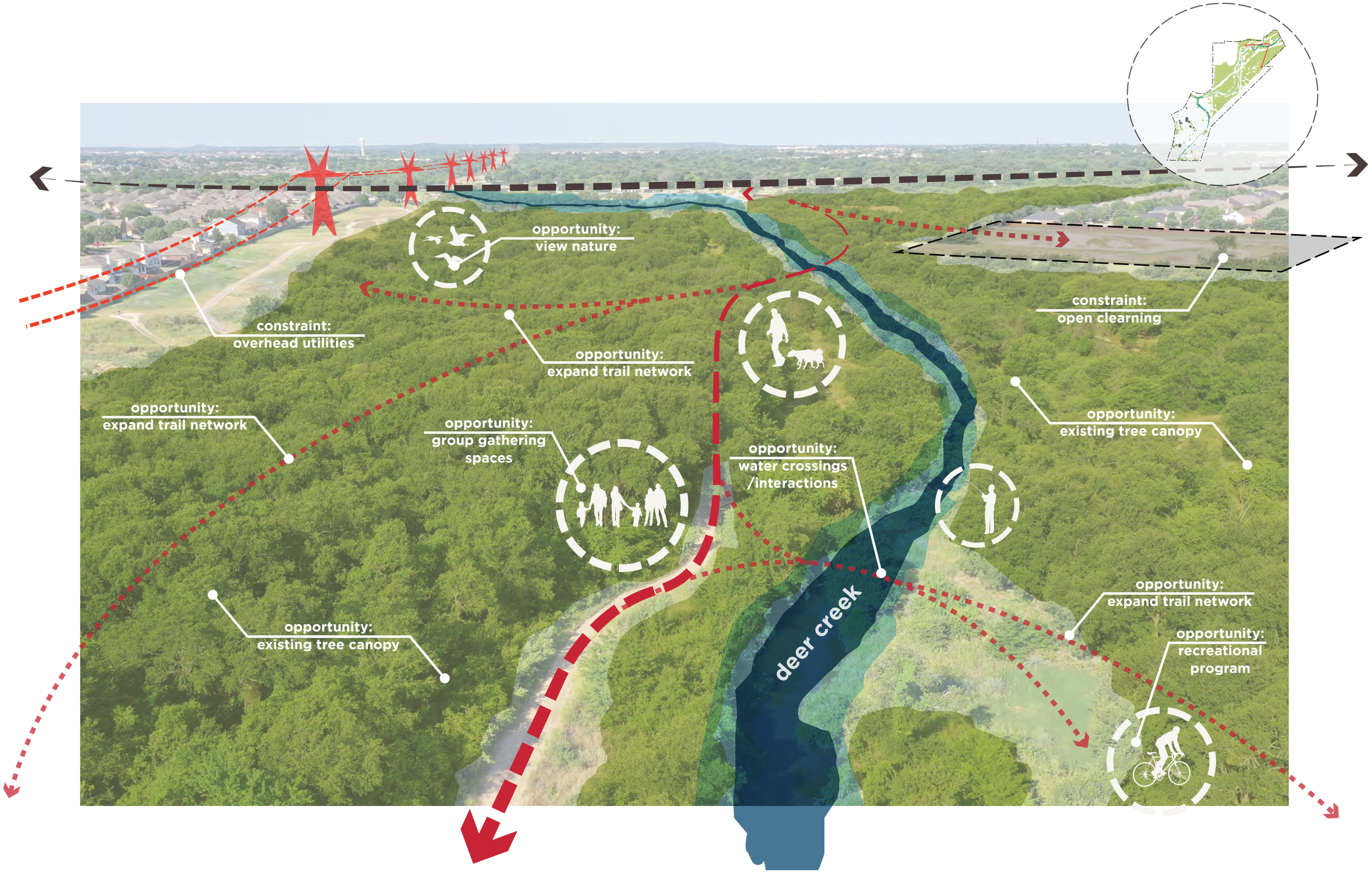
restore species habitats throughout the entirety of the park

protect / showcase stromatolites, "living fossils" to visitors

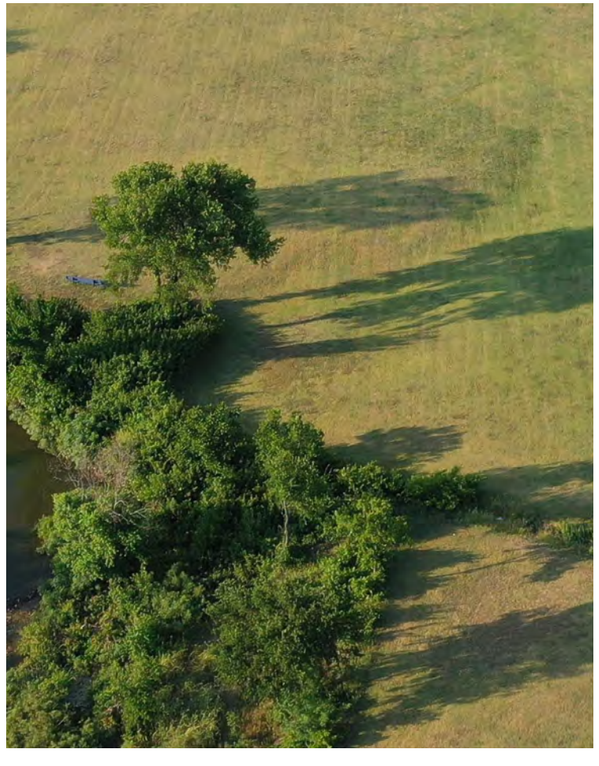
vertical structure of canopies is ideal for wildlife opportunities

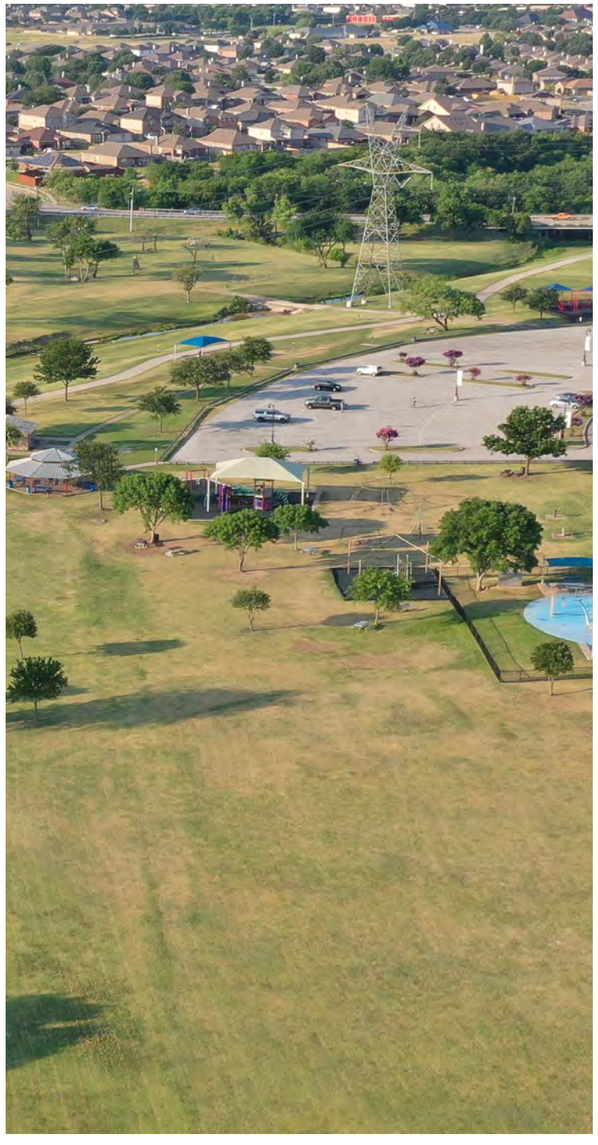

opportunity
expand trail system and
access through Crowley
constraint
creek wall erosion
constraint
full sun/packed soils
opportune site to
expand park program
opportunity
provide **access** to
surrounding communities
opportunity
provide **access** to
surrounding communities
opportunity
preserve trees for shade
and forest experience
opportunity
align trails according
to existing social paths
constraint
disc golf/trail conflicts
rework trail network
opportunity
provide **access** to
surrounding communities
constraint
full sun - **incorporate**
shade for park program
opportunity
expand trail system and
access through Crowley
constraint
overhead utilities - **restore**
upland within r.o.w. to
herbaceous native prairie
opportunity
defined trail head
opportunity
create a **defined** entry
and sense of arrival
constraint
disc golf/trail conflicts
rework trail network
opportunity
create a presence on
main street through
branding and way finding
0'
200'
400'
800'


opportunity:
maximize views
constraint:
overhead utilities
opportunity:
main street
constraint:
floodplain
opportunity:
enhance existing
structures
opportunity:
trail connection
constraint:
low shade/
high sun exposure
opportunity:
enhance existing
structures
opportunity:
programmable open space
opportunity:
maximize views
constraint:
floodplain
deer creek


opportunity:
view nature
constraint:
overhead utilities
opportunity:
expand trail network
constraint:
open clearning
opportunity:
expand trail network
opportunity:
group gathering
spaces
opportunity:
existing tree canopy
opportunity:
water crossings
/interactions
opportunity:
existing tree canopy
opportunity:
expand trail network
opportunity:
recreational
program
deer creek

04 ENGAGMENT





ENGAGEMENT **STRATEGIES**

OVERVIEW:

Bicentennial Community Park Master Planning process is grounded in community engagement where neighbors have a voice in creating a dynamic community space and informing programming activities. Our goal is to create a community space that reflects the vales of Crowley and the people who live there.

ACTIVITIES:

Engagement activities at large community events (Celebration of Freedom) focused on learning programmatic elements visitors enjoyed about Bicentennial Park along with aspects they would change.

An online survey was utilized in addition to community events as a platform for community members to vote in detail on specific program features that go into planning a park along with a platform to express concerns with the existing park.

1 knowledge mapping

Using pinned flags, members and guests of the community marked on a map which program elements they would like to see incorporated into Bicentennial. Each color flag represented a programmatic category.

2 programming feedback

Guests were shown examples of other parks and landscapes surrounding the Fort Worth metroplex along with opportunities for different types of park programming. Each person was given a set of green dots that they could place on the images they liked.

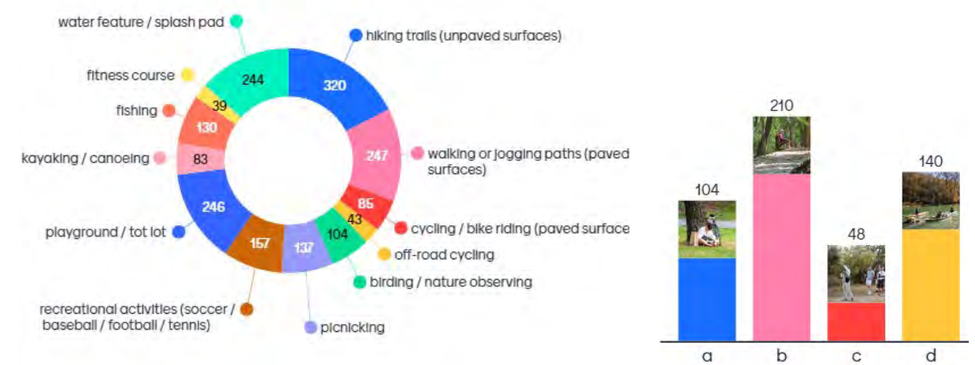
Overall, community members enjoyed Trinity Park in Fort Worth for its accessibility with Dream Park along with the extensive trail system it provides to users. In regards to park program, the common themes of and inclusive-family friendly park that is safe with ample shade and amenities was a top priority to most users.

3 online survey

TBG created and administered a web-based survey to explore desired park and trail types, programming features, and community needs within the City of Crowley.

The survey was distributed through a QR code and promoted on the cities website for two weeks in July 2022.

what are your favorite outdoor activities?



what is most important to you as it relates to Bicentennial Park?

how people would program bicentennial park

relaxation
bird watching/relax in nature / reading/kayaking/fishing/art

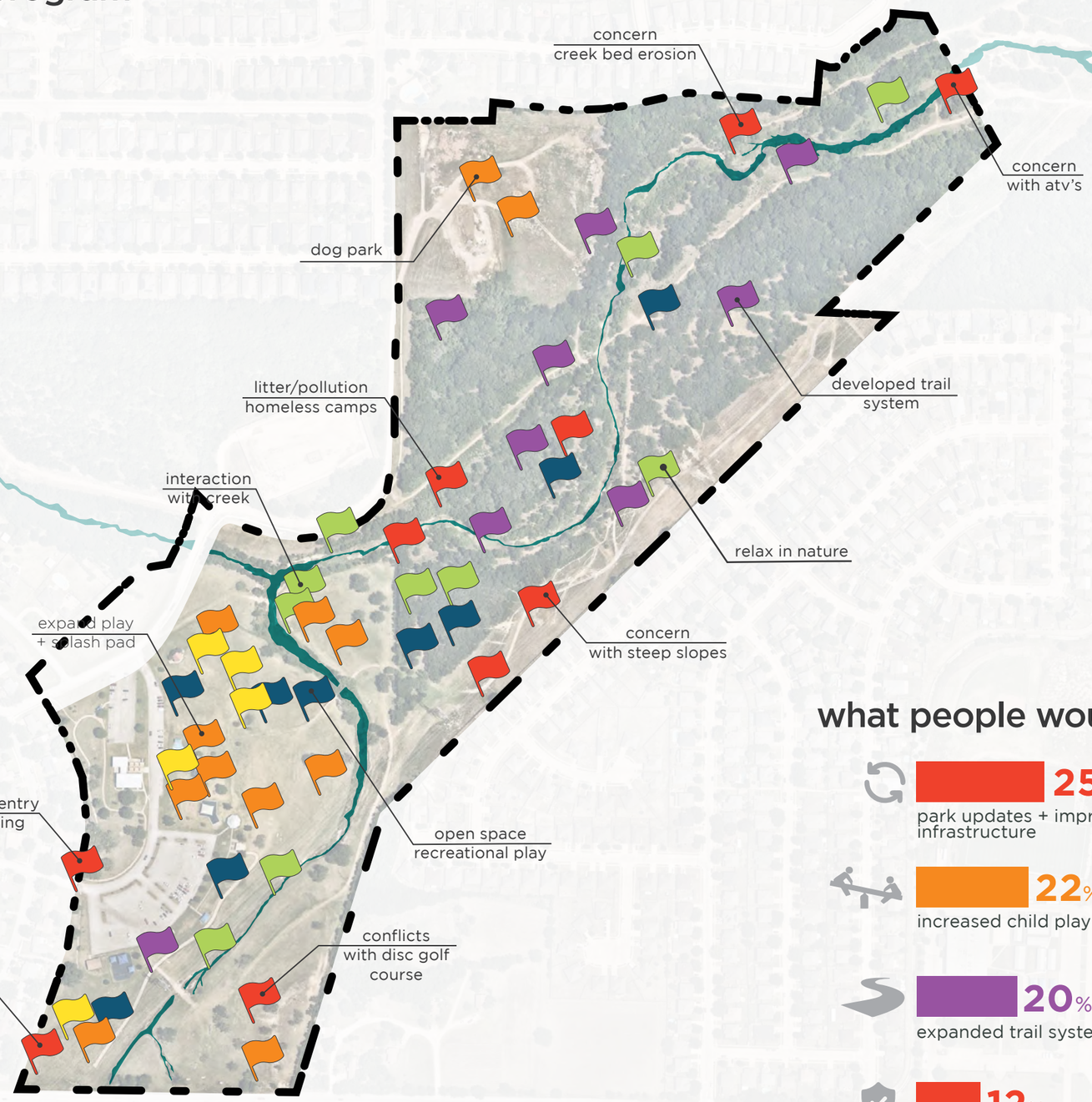
social
play date/picnics/dog park/ edu. classes/get-togethers

recreation
field day/disc golf/open field sports/ court sports/adventure course

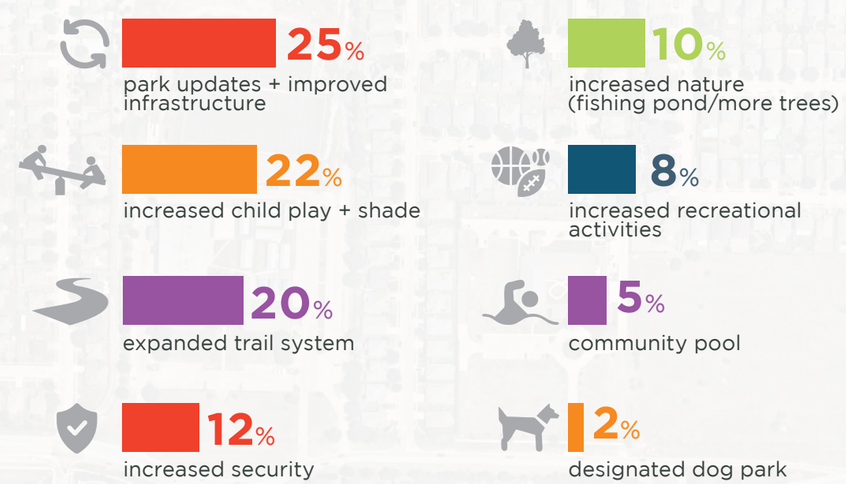
seasonal
concerts/celebrations/markets / outdoor movies/holiday events

wellness
hiking/walking /jogging/ cycling /fitness courses/yoga

concern
areas of improvement/ areas of concern/places to avoid



what people would change



respondent profile

945 completed survey

72% age group (26 - 49)

37% lived in Crowley 10+ years

77% live less than 5 miles from bicentennial

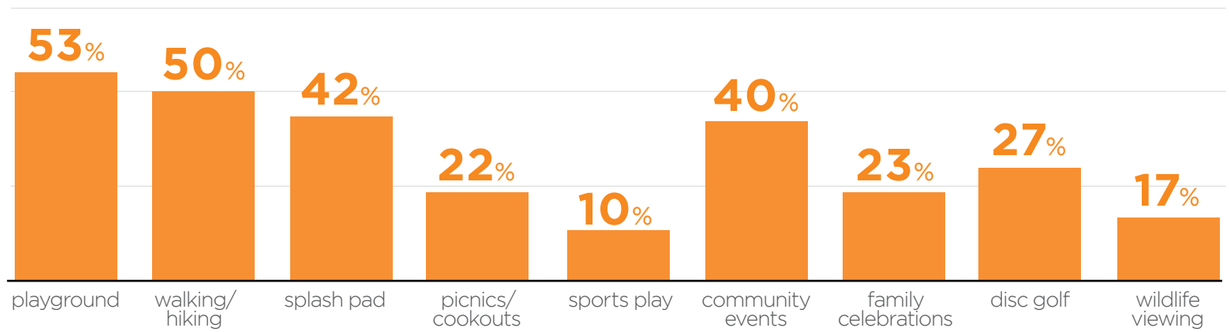
40% visit park several times a month / **40%** visit park several times a year

82% drive to bicentennial

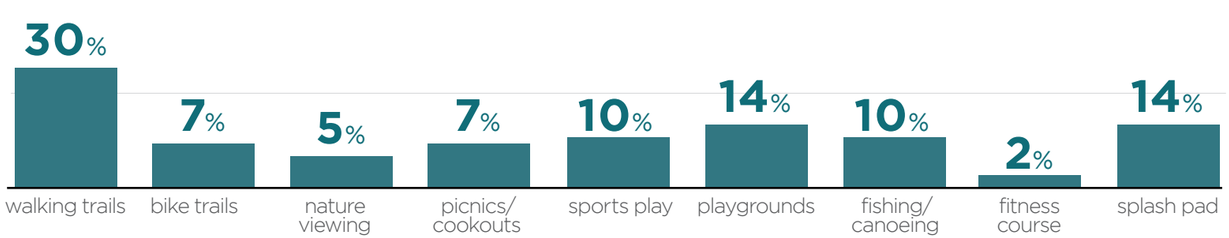
75% spend 1 - 3 hrs. outdoors (per visit)

Bicentennial Community Park Master Planning process is grounded in community engagement where neighbors have a voice in creating a dynamic community space and informing programming activities. The goal is to create a community space that reflects the vales of Crowley and the people who live and visit there.

why people visit bicentennial park



favorite outdoor activities



activities people would NOT like to see

16% sports fields

17% atv trails

22% noise

13% disc golf (conflicts)

10% dog park

25% infrastructure

concerns regarding bicentennial park

12% environment + wildlife

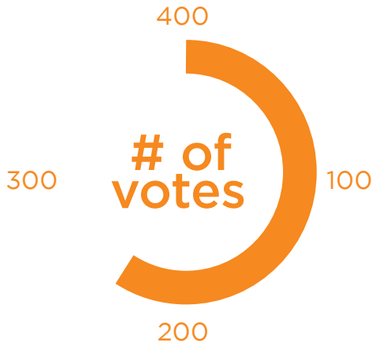
40% safety + security

20% crime

8% accessibility

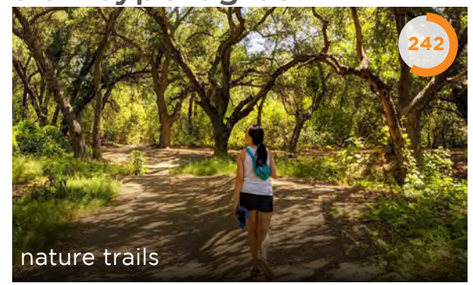
12% maintenance/ outdated structures

8% litter + pollution

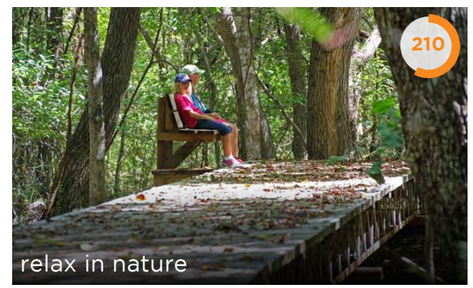


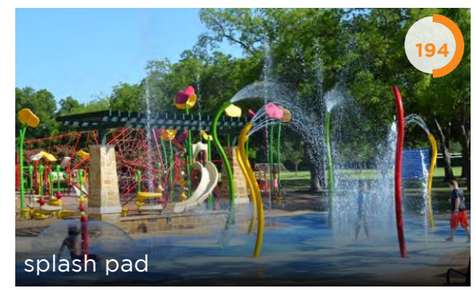
nature areas

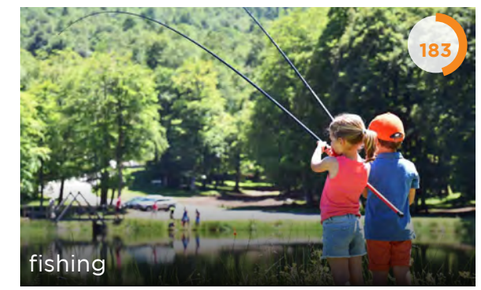
trail typologies

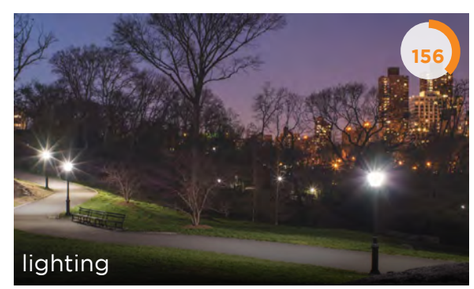


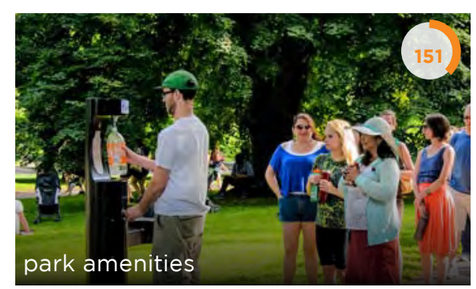
park program

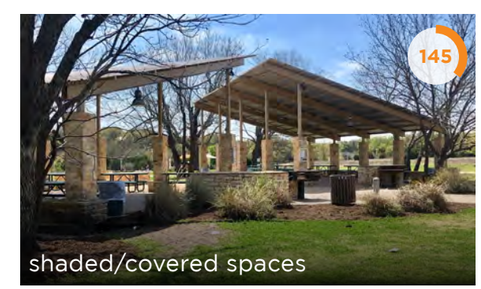


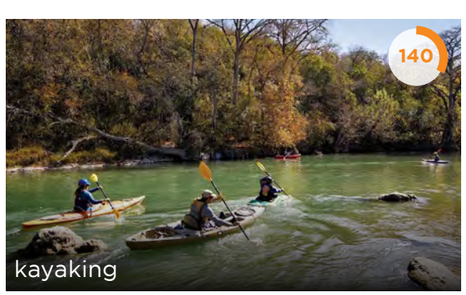


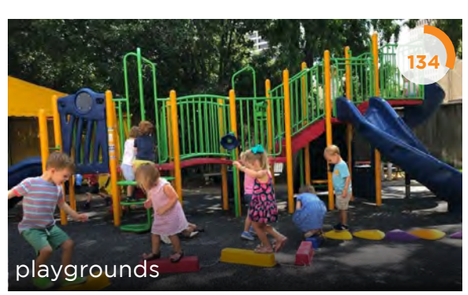


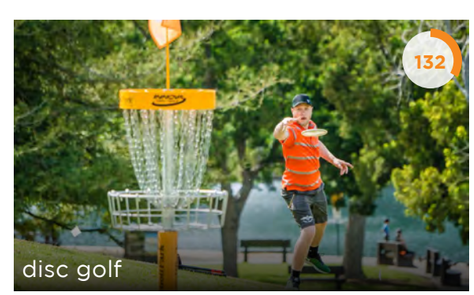


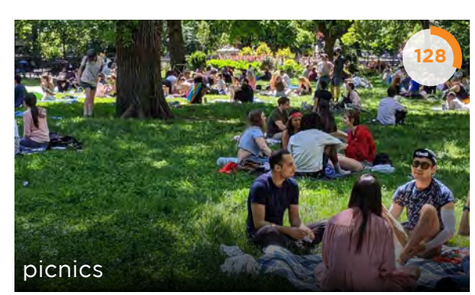


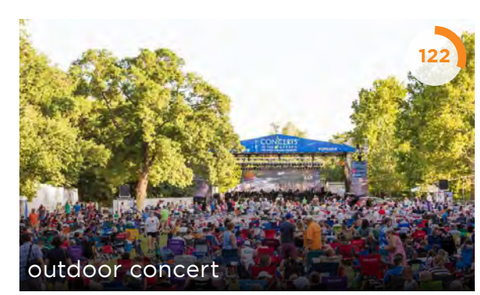


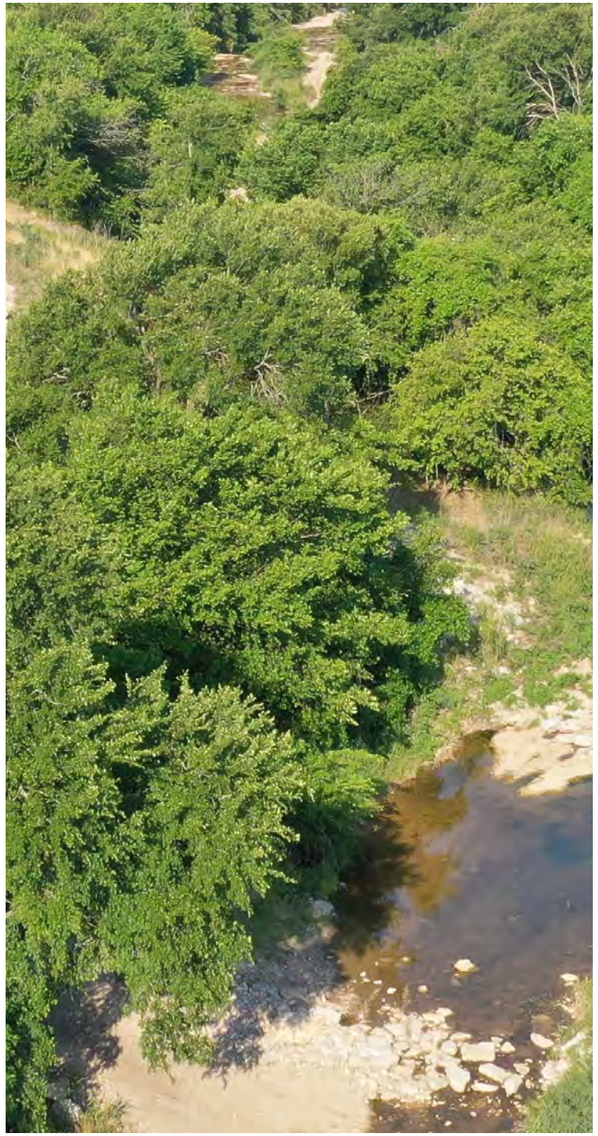


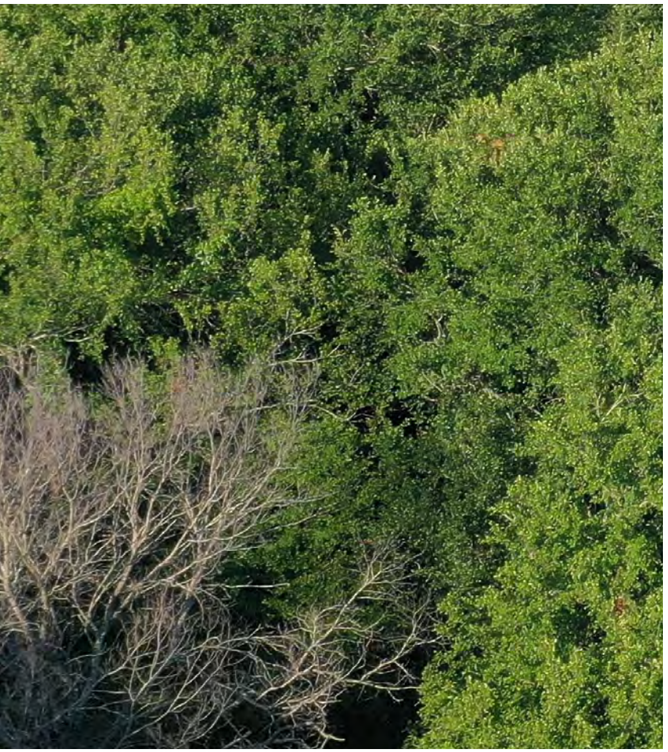




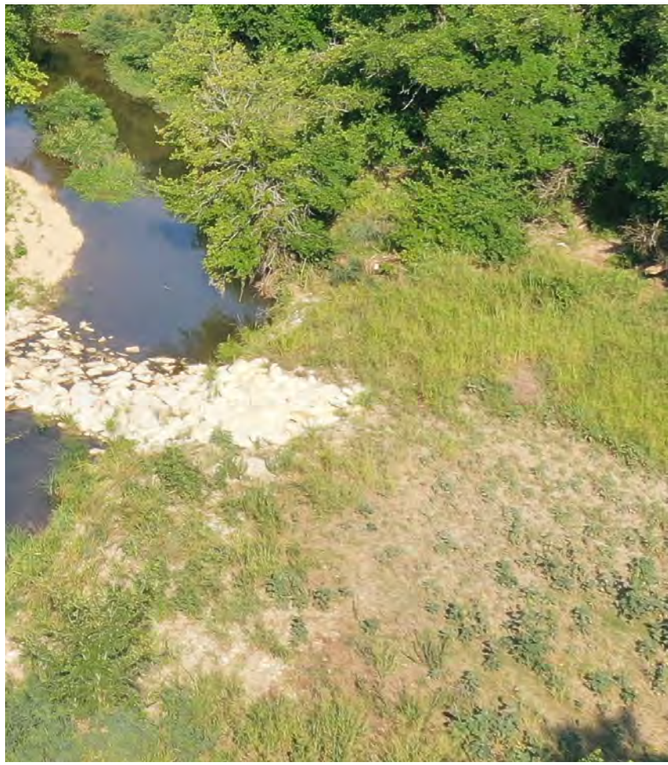








05 FRAMEWORK MASTER PLAN



THEMES // **PROGRAMMING**

THEMES:

The **C.O.R.E** master plan looks to re-engage Bicentennial Community Park through a defined **experiential system** that begins at the south end of the park along Main Street and travels up to the northern end of the site. As the user **traverses** through this experiential system, different themes are identified that correlate with evolving **programmatic** elements.

PROGRAMMING:

Each zone of the C.O.R.E master plan has distinct program elements from active to passive that correlate to the districts identity for users as they experience the site. The south end of the site predominately focuses on a centralized notion where users can gather and participate in group activities. This centralized area serves as the "hub" and main point of entry to the park and incorporates the most "robust" built program. As the user travels north, the center of the park is rooted around outdoor and recreation themes from adventure parks to nature play that start to blend the natural and built environments. Towards the tail end of the park, defined programmatic elements are limited and are more up to interpretation. Thus, encouraging user to explore and engage at their own will.

C 'centralized'

The communal hub or front door of the park where social gathering activities take place. This south end of the project incorporates a variety of defined active and passive programming that ranges in size to accommodate diverse user groups.

- *Flex / Program Lawn*
- *Inclusive Park Play (all ages)*
- *Splash Pad*
- *Visitor Amenity Center (with Restrooms)*
- *Expanded Mesquite Grove*
- *Informal Gathering Spaces (Grills + Pavilions)*
- *New Park Entrance off of Main Street*
- *Defined Trail Network*

O 'outdoor'

The threshold of the built programmable environment to the natural experiential environment. Program spaces begin to take on a natural feel in both form and materiality.

- *Nature Park (Older Kids)*
- *Stream Crossings + Interactions*
- *Lookout Points*
- *Tree Houses*
- *Small Gathering Nodes*
- *Educational Learning Opportunities*
- *Outdoor Classroom*
- *Defined Trail Network*

R 'recreation'

The heart of the site where guests can immerse themselves in active or passive recreational program within the natural beauty of the landscape. Recreational programming responds to the natural topography of the site.

- *Adventure Park*
- *Dog Park (Large & Small)*
- *Flex Open Space*
- *Disc Golf*
- *Restroom Facility*
- *Trail Network + Nodes*
- *Small Gathering*
- *Canopy Tree Walk*

E 'exploration'

The north end of the site where the natural environment is the showcase. Created programmable activities are limited here to encourage visitors to enjoy the existing diversities of the park.

- *Diverse Trail Network + Typologies*
- *Wetland Boardwalk*
- *Fishing Holes*
- *Trail Nodes*
- *Small Gathering*
- *Creek Crossings*

Centralized

Outdoor

Recreation

Exploration

GUIDING **PRINCIPLES**

FRAMEWORK:

Design Guiding Principles

Through the discovery and analysis process along with various community engagement opportunities, the design team was able to identify areas of focus for the master plan. These guiding principals are grounded in environmental and social benefits for the community and establish the framework master plan vision. These six guiding principals include:

1. A secure park to enjoy everyday throughout the year

Creating a park where visitors can feel safe anytime of the day, each day of the year is of the upmost importance. Guests need to have a sense of comfort ability within the park when engaging in programmatic activities or exploring.

2. Preserve and celebrate the parks native Texas landscape

Bicentennial Park has a robust and diverse ecosystem with five habitat typologies within the park boundary. It is important to protect and celebrate these natural resources with strategic land use planning.

3. A park that welcomes all and is accessible to all its visitors

Create and promote a park for all age groups and all backgrounds. Bicenntenial is a park for all within and outside of Crowley.

4. Increase park program and amenities

Thoughtfully weave user experiences from active to passive throughout the park to appeal to a diverse user group.

5. Deter litter and pollution to crate an engaging environment

Promote and celebrate the native Texas landscape within the park by creating a sense of ownership with guests.

6. Improved circulation and access within the park and out to Crowley

Expand upon key circulation networks and entry nodes to promote accessibility to the park for all user groups.

SAFE
a secure park to enjoy each day every year

ACTIVE
increased park program & amenities for visitors

NATURAL
preserve + celebrate the sites ecological beauty

CLEAN
deter litter + pollution to create an engaging environment

INCLUSIVITY
a park that welcomes all and accessible to all visitors

CONNECTIVITY
improved circulation and access within and to the park

SUSTAINABILITY **PRINCIPLES**

VEGETATION, HABITAT, AND SOIL

- **preserve existing forest** + wetland areas
- establish **native planting along stream** + allow wetland vegetation to mature
- **restore** low-maintenance **prairie** in upland areas
- **restore habitat** for monarch butterfly + whooping crane and other native species
- use **dark-sky friendly** lighting
- create **soil management** plan
  - align new trails to existing social trails
  - **fire-wise** landscaping
  - design to minimize

WATER MANAGEMENT

- establish **natural buffers** for streams + water bodies
- manage 100% of **runoff** from impervious surface + altered terrain
- minimize new **impervious surface**
- retrofit parking + structures with **green stormwater infrastructure**
- **reduce water use** for irrigation

ENERGY, MATERIALS, AND RESOURCES

- use salvaged, regional, and/or recycled-content materials
- reduce outdoor **energy consumption**
- target on site solar **energy production** for 50+% of outdoor site electricity
- **waste management plan** for park area
- initial **o+m** plan
- plan to minimize or re-purpose **construction materials**

SOCIAL WELLBEING + QUALITY OF LIFE

- **maximize shade** on site and preserve existing shade
- secure, convenient **bicycle parking** + maintenance station
- create environmental **education opportunities**
- **community garden** area
- outdoor spaces that encourage **social connection**
- design and program support outdoor **physical activity**
- create **accessible, legible, safe** outdoor spaces

FRAMEWORK **MASTER PLAN**

GUIDING DESIGN:

Layout

The framework master plan looks to identify from a functional use the high level locations for program and initial circulation paths. With the themes identified in the C.O.R.E concept along with the design guiding principals mentioned previously, amenity features and trail networks were strategically placed within the park.

A majority of the defined active program is located in the southern half of the park to take advantage of the wide open spaces that contain limited natural habitat and are out of the floodway. These programmatic elements are clustered together for user experience and create the central "hub" of the park. As visitors make their way northward, programmatic elements appear less and are strategically placed within ecological opportunities to preserve wildlife habitat.

An expanded circulation system is worked through to connect the entirety of the park to expose guests to varying ecologies and site amenities. Trail typologies range from built to natural as guests progress through the park aligning with the themes of exploration and discovery.

exploration
recreation
odell ln
cresent springs dr
proposed parking
play park
dog park
dog park (large)
garden
trail node
small gathering
fishing hole
tree house
small gathering
utility easement
oncor property
deer creek
deer creek
trail node
tree house
outdoor
proposed parking
adventure park
adventure park
node
nature play
tree house
fishing spot
kennedy dr
davis rd
central
e prairie view rd
open/flex lawn
node
splash pad
playground
picnic
e glendale st
crouch event center
mesquite tree grove
grills
bovell dr
picnic
proposed park entry
grills
tree house
e main st
e main st
legend
land-use (forest existing)
land-use (forest restoration)
land-use (meadow restoration)
land-use (parking)
land-use (wetland / creek edge restoration)
deer creek
flood way
amenity center
overhead utilities
paved trails
unpaved trails
future planned trails
boardwalks
water crossings
0'
200'
400'
800'

FRAMEWORK // **PROGRAM**

program matrix

active program

- *open/flex lawn:* 150,000 sqft. or 3.5 acres
- *playground (early childhood):* 55,000 sqft. or 1.25 acres
- *splash pad:* 15,000 sqft.
- *nature play (school age play):* 15,000 sqft.
- *adventure park (teen & adult):* 150,000 sqft. or 3.5 acres
- *dog park (large):* 75,000 sqft. or 1.7 acres
- *dog park (small):* 30,000 sqft.

passive program

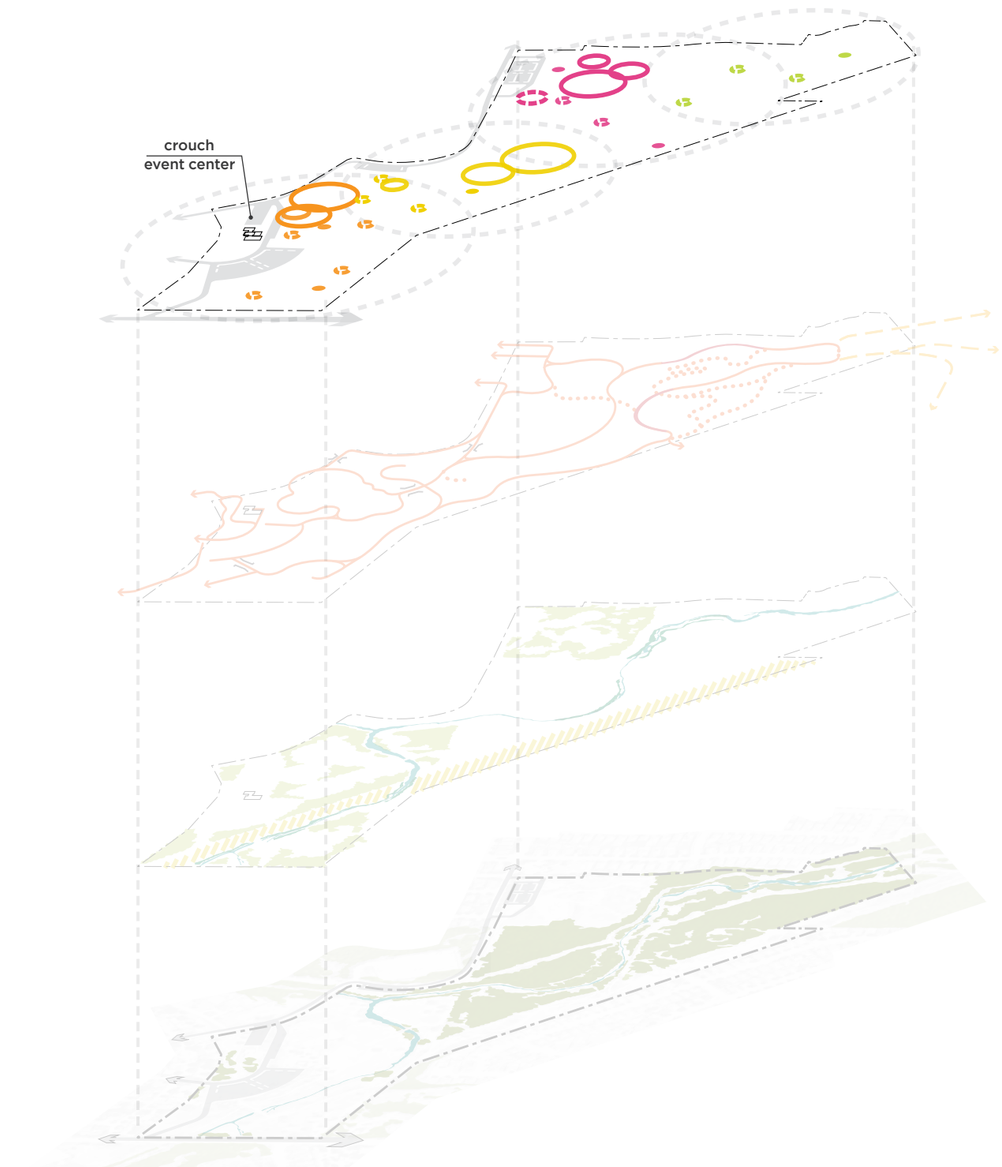
- *designated grill areas (2):* 5,000 sqft.
- *picnic areas / small gathering (2):* 5,000 sqft.
- *creek interaction points (2):* 5,000 sqft.
- *fishing holes (2):* 2,500 sqft.
- *trail node / small gathering (4):* 5,000 sqft.

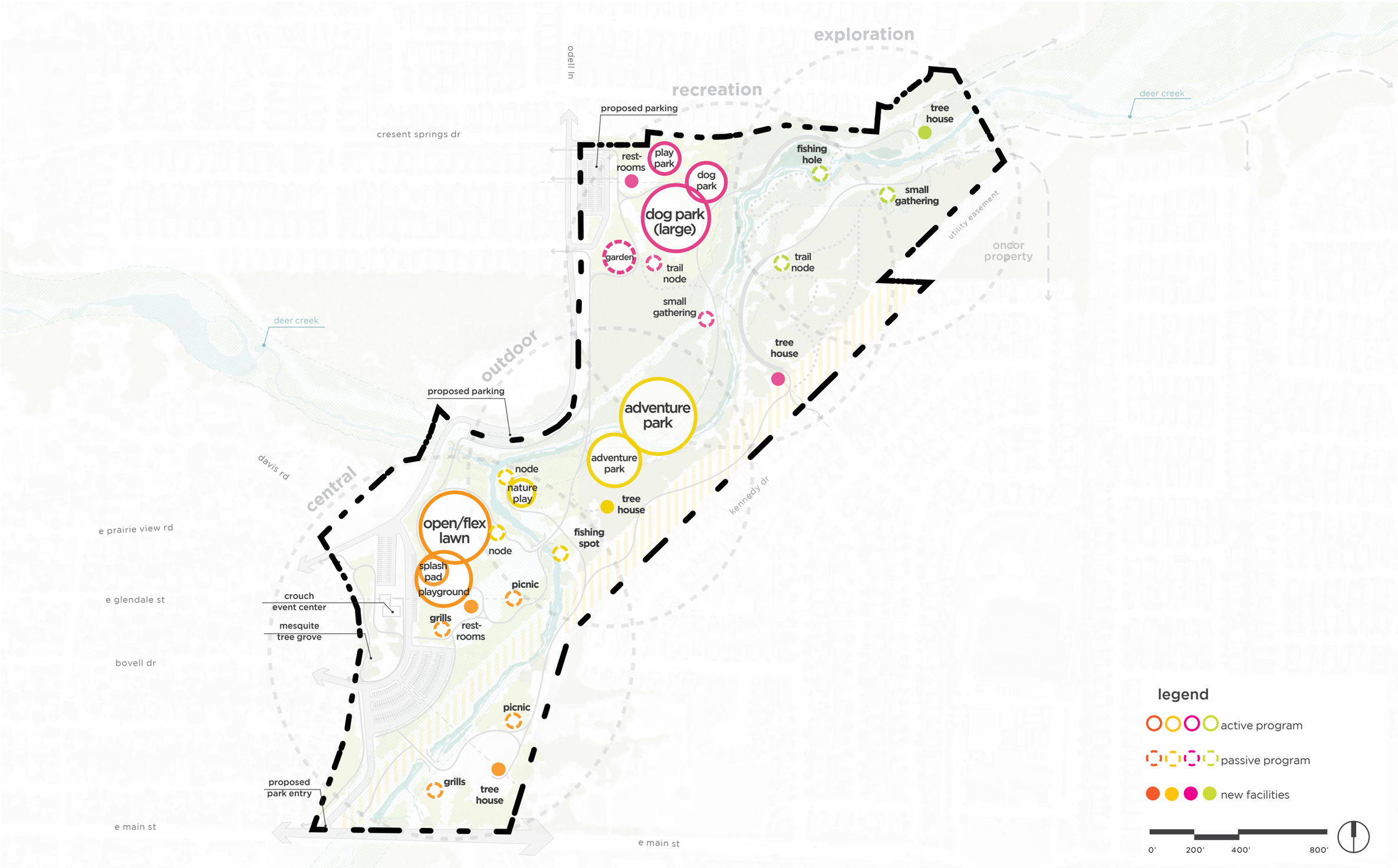
new facilities

- *park amenity building (restrooms / changing stations)(2):* 8,000 sqft.
- *treehouse / pavilion (4):* 1,500 sqft.

additional parking

- *current parking spaces:* ~250
- *additional parking spaces:* 80




exploration
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rest-rooms
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dog park (large)
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trail node
small gathering
fishing hole
tree house
small gathering
utility easement
oncor property
trail node
tree house
deer creek
deer creek
proposed parking
adventure park
adventure park
node
nature play
tree house
fishing spot
kennedy dr
davis rd
e prairie view rd
open/flex lawn
node
splash pad
playground
picnic
e glendale st
crouch event center
mesquite tree grove
grills
rest-rooms
bovell dr
picnic
proposed park entry
grills
tree house
e main st
e main st
legend
active program
passive program
new facilities
0'
200'
400'
800'

FRAMEWORK // **TRAIL NETWORK**

trail matrix

paved trails

- *hardscape typology (concrete):* *16,600 lf. or 3.2 miles*

boardwalk

- *elevated trails (wood):* *1,200 lf. or .04 miles*

nature and mountain

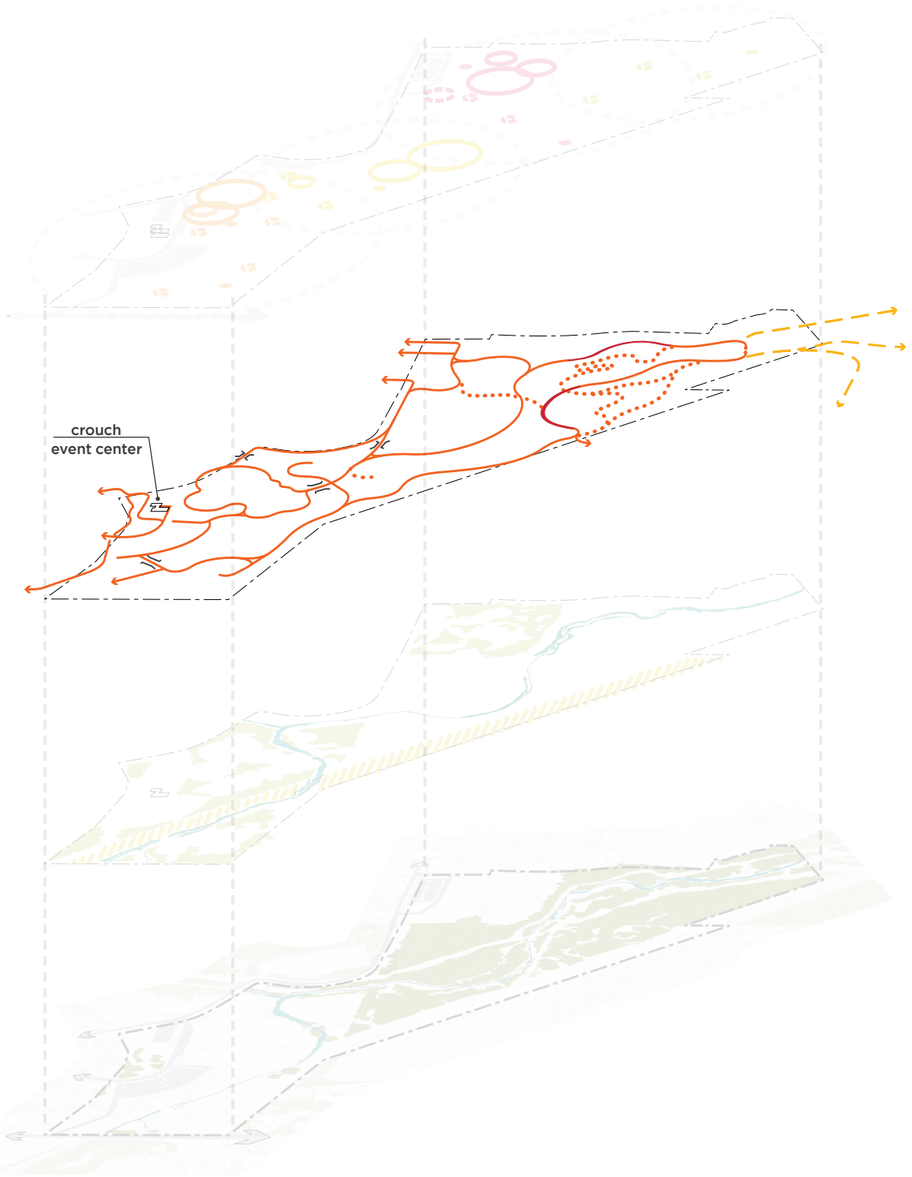
- *unpaved typology (mulch or dirt):* *4,200 lf. or .75 miles*

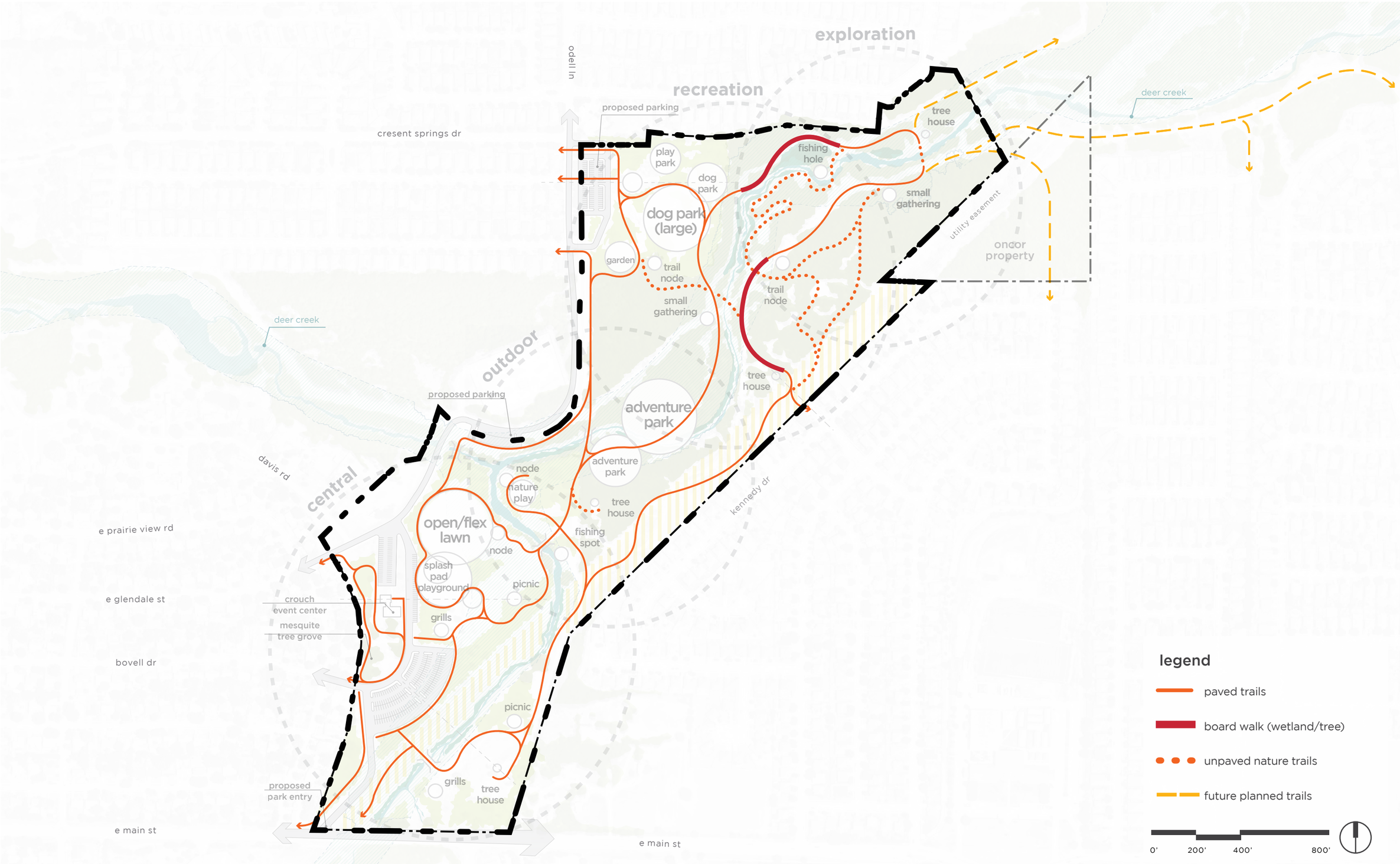
future trails

- *paved or unpaved typology:* *tbd*

bridge

- *proposed water crossing (new or improved crossings):* *4*




exploration
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proposed parking
deer creek
tree house
fishing hole
play park
dog park
dog park (large)
small gathering
utility easement
oncor property
garden
trail node
trail node
small gathering
tree house
adventure park
adventure park
proposed parking
davis rd
node
nature play
tree house
kennedy dr
open/flex lawn
fishing spot
e prairie view rd
node
splash pad playground
picnic
e glendale st
crouch event center
mesquite tree grove
grills
bovell dr
picnic
proposed park entry
grills
tree house
e main st
e main st
legend
paved trails
board walk (wetland/tree)
unpaved nature trails
future planned trails
0'
200'
400'
800'

FRAMEWORK // **HABITAT**

vegetation matrix

reforested areas

- new tree growth: *625,000 sqft. or 14 acres*

meadow/grassland

- small shrubs, grasses, flowering perennials *450,000 sqft. or 10 acres*

riparian / creek edge restoration

- small shrubs, wetland vegetation: *55,000 sqft. or 1.25 acres*

exploration
recreation
outdoor
central
odell ln
cresent springs dr
proposed parking
play park
dog park
dog park (large)
garden
trail node
small gathering
fishing hole
tree house
small gathering
utility easement
oncor property
trail node
deer creek
deer creek
adventure park
tree house
proposed parking
adventure park
node
nature play
tree house
fishing spot
kennedy dr
davis rd
open/flex lawn
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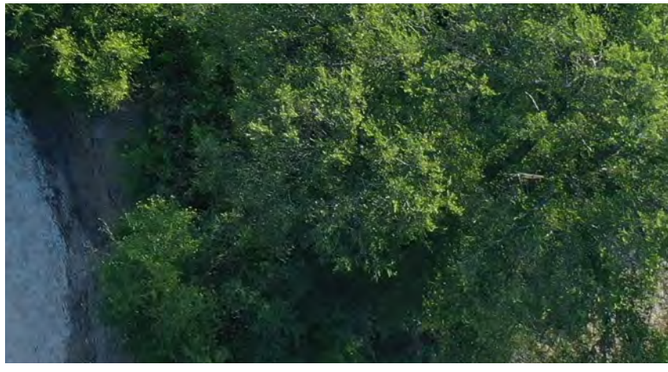
splash pad playground
picnic
e prairie view rd
e glendale st
crouch event center
mesquite tree grove
grills
bovell dr
picnic
tree house
grills
proposed park entry
e main st
e main st
legend
forest restoration
meadow/grassland restoration
wetland/creek edge restoration
0'
200'
400'
800'

06 RECOMMENDED MASTER PLAN



MASTER PLAN // **RECOMMENDATION**

MASTER PLAN:

Overall Vision

The vision for Bicentennial Community Park Master Plan is grounded in the key takeaways from site analysis studies and robust community driven engagement processes that were established during the framework master plan process. The vision serves as a guide to the redevelopment of the park that is best known for its "Celebration of Freedom" event every July and for hosting the growing sport of disc golf within the growing community. The design team looked into ways to expand these rooted community connections through diverse program activities and experiences.

The abundance of diverse natural habitats and Deer Creek are key narratives of the master plan which seek to tie proposed program and educated park users on the importance of these ecologic communities. The park offers opportunities for guests to engage with the creek through informal creek crossings, boardwalks, and fishing holes while a series of diverse trail networks and lookout points offers the ability for guest to engage with the forest canopy and showcase views throughout the park.

The recommended master plan looks at ways to respect and highlight the vibrant natural Texas landscape of the cross timbers while engaging visitors on the importance and preservation of sensitive habitats found throughout the park.

Design

A proposed entry drive off of Main Street will not only provide immediate access to the park for guests but will also create a physical tie to downtown Crowley. Off of this entry drive experience, the main central lawn and proposed play areas are slated to serve as the communal "hub" of the project where planned programmatic elements take place. These play elements are envisioned to be all inclusive and reach out to all age groups. Proposed infrastructure is strategically placed to respect the creek's flood way while provided key park amenities including play zones, splash pads, restrooms, changing stations, shaded picnic areas, and a large performance pavilion that sits on the central lawn.

Further into the park, programmatic elements meet with the outdoors and take on a more natural tone in form and function. Site amenities in this zone will highlight the natural features though outdoor learning nodes, zip line through the tree canopy, informal creek crossings, and tree houses that take advantage of site views.

The north west corner of the site is re imagined to serve not only as a site amenity to the latter half of the park but also to tie into the adjacent community. Site amenities in this zone include a proposed restroom facility, dog park, shaded seating areas, and informal flex lawn.

A diverse trail network connects all proposed site amenities while taking visitors through the five ecological habitats that can be found within the park. Collectively, through proposed programmatic site amenities and experiences with nature, Bicentennial Community Park will be positioned to stand out from other regional parks.

Focus Areas

Major focus areas, highlighted with perspectives to follow in the subsequent pages include:

1. Central Lawn "Hub"
2. Education Node
3. Trail Network & Typology

This master plan is a recommendation as to where various program elements can occur within the park. Subsequent design for each phase will provide an opportunity for a more in-depth study to bring these high level ideas to life.

odell ln
cresent springs dr
kerry st
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davis rd
e prairie view rd
e glendale st
bovell dr
e mustang st
e mission st
e main st
kennedy dr
0'
200'
400'
800'
Legend
A New Park Entry
B Vehicular Drop Off
C Amenity Facility
D Sustainable Parking with Bioswales
E Expanded Mesquite Grove
F Central Lawn
G Splash Pad
H All Inclusive Play
I Event Pavilion
J Picnic Pavilion
K Overlook
L Creek Interaction
M Creek Crossing
N Outdoor Classroom
O Adventure Play (Zip Line)
P Wetland Boardwalk
Q Tree Canopy Walk
R Dog Park (Large/Small)
S 70's Park
T Flex Lawn
U Fishing Hole
V Nature Trails

MASTER PLAN // **CIRCULATION**

TYPOLOGIES:

Defined Loop

A minimum 12' concrete trail creates two loops of circulation through the park. The smaller of the two loops is located predominately around the central lawn in the south portion of the park. This loop is great for guests who prefer shorter walking trails. This loop also will help for seasonal events allowing for vendor set up and maintenance access. The second loop is located in the north half of the park and ties into the small loop at the event lawn. This loop will take guests through the diverse ecological habitats specified in the previous pages along with provide access to all park amenities.

Nature Trails

Narrower, unpaved trails make up most of the northern half of the site respecting existing habitats. These trails are intended for guests to explore at their own pace and instill a sense of discovery.

Wetland Boardwalk

Boardwalks are strategically integrated into the circulation network to provide access and showcase the riparian ecosystem and creek edge. These boardwalks provide nodes for small gathering and fishing.

Canopy Boardwalk

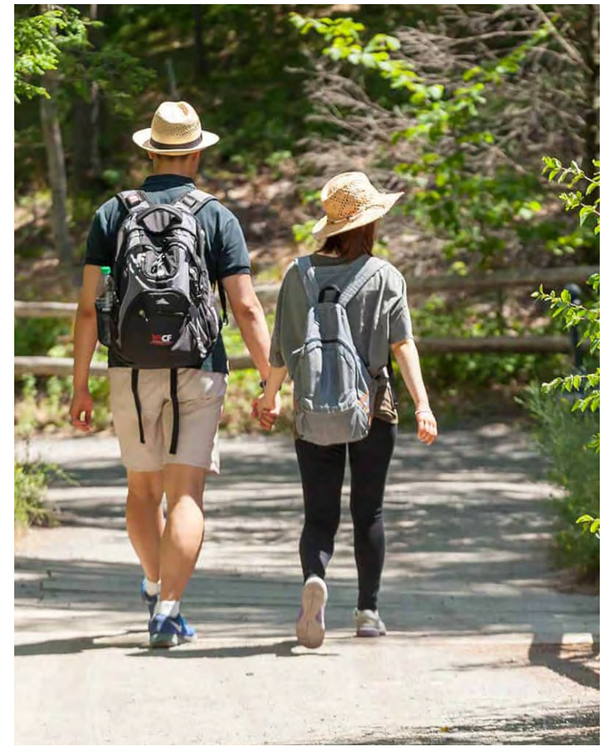
A tree canopy is integrated along the eastern edge of the project taking advantage of the steep slopes while showcasing the existing tree canopy. Not only will this trail route provide universal access to guests but will also highlight the hardwood forest ecology with educational and birding opportunities.

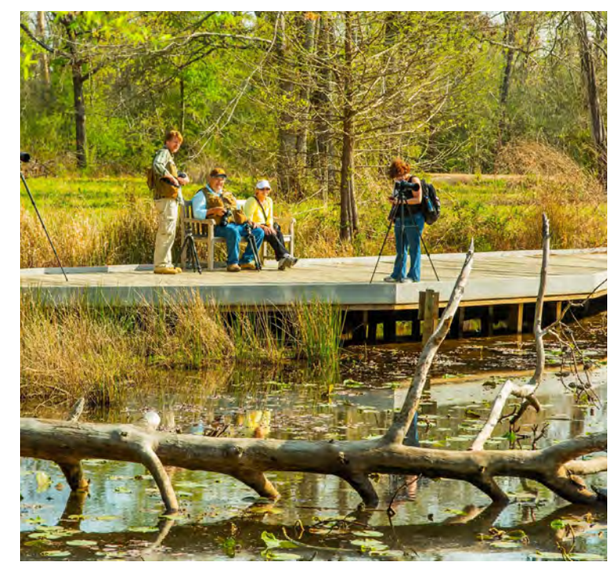
Formal Creek Crossings

Existing creek crossing are utilized within the proposed trail network to reduce site impact along the creek. Two new crossing are proposed at strategic locations along the creek to complete the circulation network.

Informal Creek Crossings

Informal crossings are placed along Deer Creek throughout the center and northern areas of the park. These crossings are intended to have minimal impact on the creek with stepping stones while contributing the guest experience of exploration and discovery.





exploration
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dog park (small)
play park
dog park (large)
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adventure park
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fishing spot
outdoor classroom
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crouch event center
e glendale st
mesquite tree grove
playground
picnic pavilion
bovell dr
small gathering
grills
tree house
e main st
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proposed park entry
legend
paved trails (10' to 12')*
paved trails (6' to 8')*
board walk (wetland/tree)*
unpaved nature and mountain bike trails
informal creek crossings
vehicular route*
*All paved trails to be ADA accessible
0'
200'
400'
800'

MASTER PLAN // **HABITAT**

RESTORATION:

Reforestation

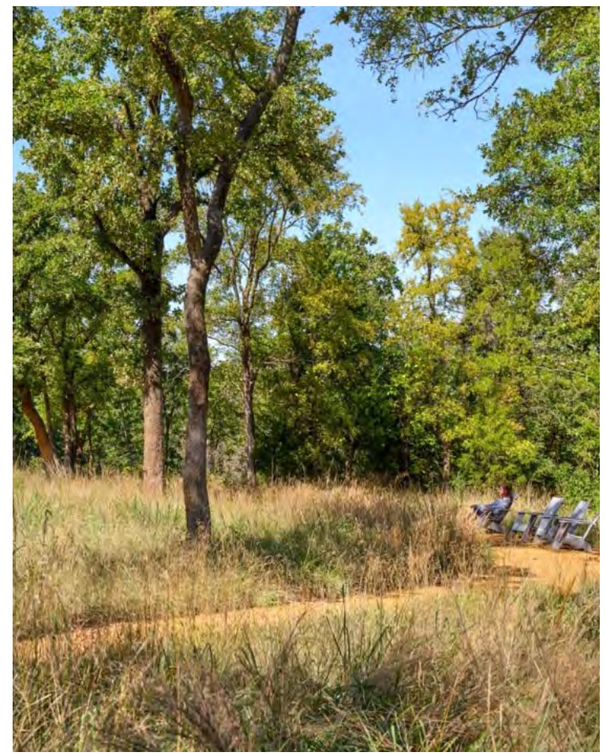
New tree planting's are proposed predominantly in the southern half of the park where tree canopy is limited. Clusters of trees are strategically placed to avoid utility conflicts while restoring habitat. Groupings of trees will help define park spaces set aside for planned park program and provide shade to guests. Tree species selection to include a diverse plant pallette for seasonal interest and habitat.

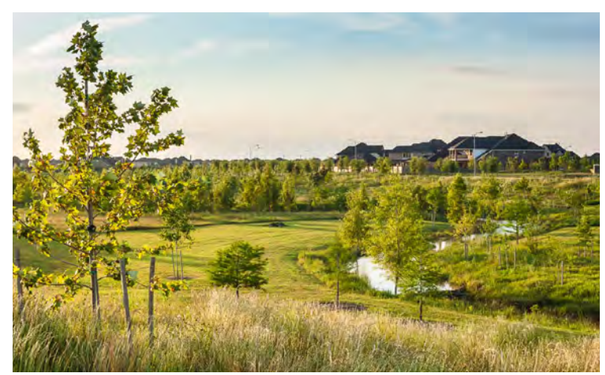
Grassland / Prairie

In an effort to practice sustainable land use measures and reduce the amount of manicured grass along the creek, grassland restoration is proposed. In areas where limitations occur such as the Oncor easement, grassland and prairie restoration will be instrumental in creating additional habitats for wildlife to grow.

Riparian Edge / Bank Stablilzation

Key areas along Deer Creek have been identified for riparian restoration. These restoration efforts will play a hand in stabilization of the creek bank while contributing to the health of Deer Creek.





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outdoor classroom
picnic
tree house
gathering spot
splash pad
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crouch event center
mesquite tree grove
playground
picnic pavilion
small gathering
grills
tree house
legend
forest restoration
existing tree canopy
manicured lawn
prairie/grassland restoration
wetland/creek edge restoration
0'
200'
400'
800'

MASTER PLAN // **CENTRAL HUB**

DESIGN:

Arrival Experience

With the integration of a new entrance off of Main Street and re-configured parking, guests experience a defined arrival sequence that leads them to the front door "hub" of the park. Existing park entrances will remain open for secondary access points. Parking is laid out to accommodate accessibility to all users and flexibility for events to take place while integrating bioswales to collected stormwater runoff before it enters the creek. Drop off's are designed to create easy access for families.

Welcome Plaza

The welcome plaza integrates several key site amenities within close proximity to one another grouping complimentary program. A proposed building facility will host expanded restrooms and changing stations while providing an opportunity for some shaded seating. This plaza serves as the "front door" to the park with integrated signage and way finding.

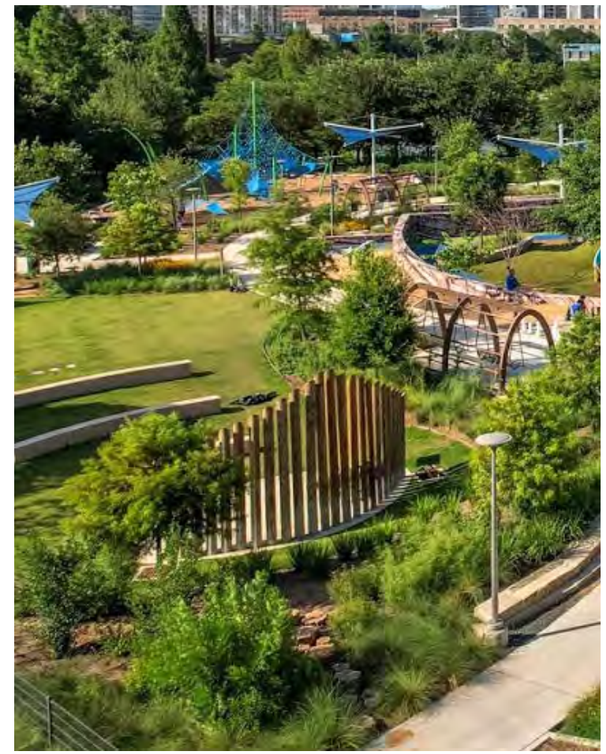
Play Zones

Play areas are split up into an expanded splash pad to the left of the plaza and active play to the right. Within the active play zone, areas are divided up into additional program spaces targeted to specific age groups while maintaining inclusivity and access to all users.

Central Lawn

A large manicured lawn is the canvas for the south portion of the park where amenities are placed along its perimeter and tie into the welcome plaza. An event pavilion is placed out of the flood way to accommodate large events like the "Celebration of Freedom" event in July with smaller shaded picnic spots for small gathering. A secondary planted grassland can be utilized for spill over program for events that require tent set up and staging.

A 12' trail loops the lawn and expands into a diverse trail network that takes guests north, into the park. Nodes are strategically placed along this loop trail to provide areas of small group gathering and respite.



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Legend
A Entry Plaza
B Vehicular Drop Off
C Restroom Facility
D All Inclusive Play
E Play Berms
F Central Lawn
G Splash Pad
H Entry Sign
I Picnic Pavilion
S Flex Event Outdoor Space
J Event Pavilion with Stage
L Water Feature
M Loop Trail
N Secondary Lawn
O Creek Access
P All Inclusivce Play
Q Creek Crossing
R Parking
Amphitheater stairs

BICENTENNIAL
PARK & NATURE PRESERVE

Key Map | Central Hub

MASTER PLAN // **DISCOVERY**

DESIGN:

Educational Opportunities

Bicentennial Community Park boasts a rich landscape with several key ecological habitats to highlight and inform guests and tie with local schools. A planned outdoor learning classroom is placed on site, close to the central lawn for easy access. The outdoor classroom takes advantage of Deer Creek with opportunities for visitors to go down and interact with the creek through fishing piers and informal crossings. Ample shade and seating is integrated to sustain larger gatherings.

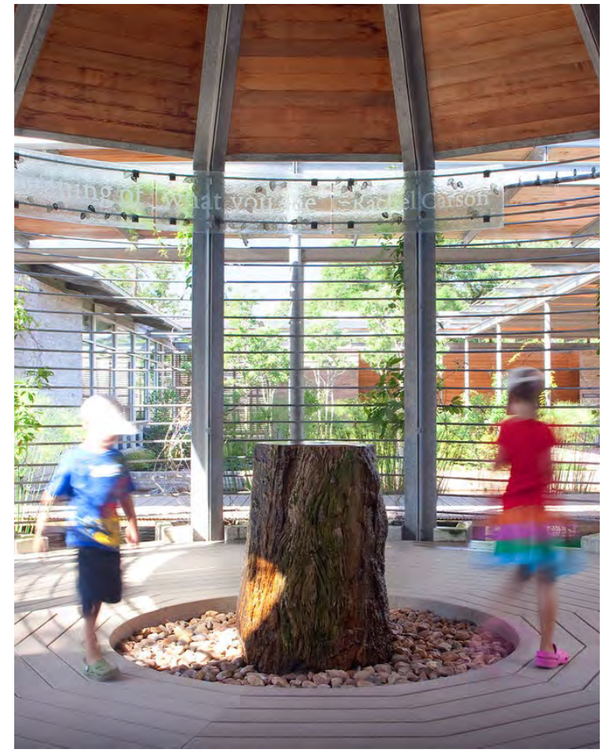
Adventure Play

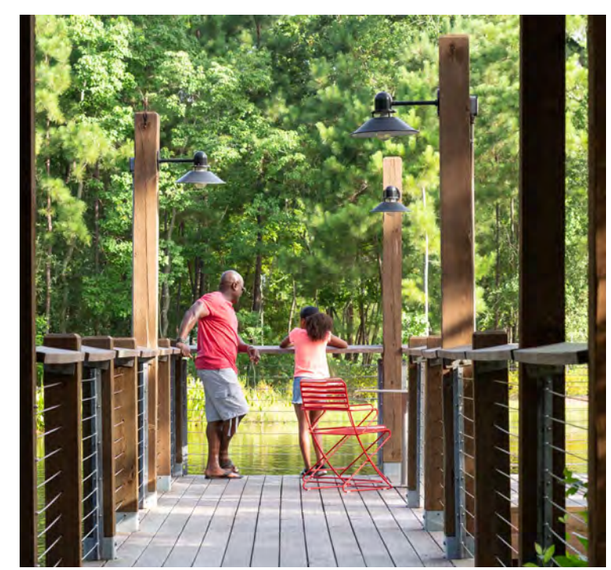
Continuing the themes of play and engagement throughout the park, an adventure course that showcases the existing tree canopy on site is proposed. This amenity will not only provide a sense of play to older age groups but will also highlight the hardwood forest canopy that dominates the northern half of the site.

Tree houses provide an opportunity for exploration and highlight key view sheds throughout the park. These tree houses are envisioned to contain an interactive component to them propelling the sense of wonder to guests.

Habitat

Areas throughout the park are tagged for habitat preservation based on previous studies of site analysis and existing conditions. The Oncor easement that runs along the ridge line to the east of the park is planned to restore the area to a native grassland habitat with meandering trails. Along Deer Creek, riparian restoration and bank stabilization are noted to contribute to the health of the stream. Areas where tree canopies are lacking, reforestation efforts are identified to create more shade on site while expanding wildlife habitat.





G
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M
0'
50'
100'
200'
Legend
A Outdoor Education
B Fishing Hole
C Creek Crossing
D Tree House
E Loop Trail
F Adventure Park
G Tree Canopy Walk
H Nature Trail
I Riparian Restoration
J Grassland Restoration
K Boardwalk
L Creek Crossing
M 70s Park

Key Map | Discovery District

MASTER PLAN // **EXPLORATION**

DESIGN:

Trail Network

An expanded trail network is laid out like a web connecting guests throughout the park to passive and active program along with showcasing the five ecological habitats that can be found on site. Trail typologies corollate to each habitat to inflict minimal footprints while still providing a means of access to guests.

Program

While program is limited on the norther portion of the park, informal opportunities for rest and gathering are placed along the diverse trail network. Program is arranged to take advantage of the natural ecological systems with creek interactions, overlooks, crossings, and explorative play highlighting the environment.

A
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C
D
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G
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J
K
0'
50'
100'
200'
Legend
A Wetland Boardwalk
B Fishing Hole
C Creek Crossing
D Loop Trail
E Tree Canopy Walk
F Nature Trail
G Trail Node
H Riparian Restoration
I Dog Park
J Picnic Pavilion
K Creek Stabalization

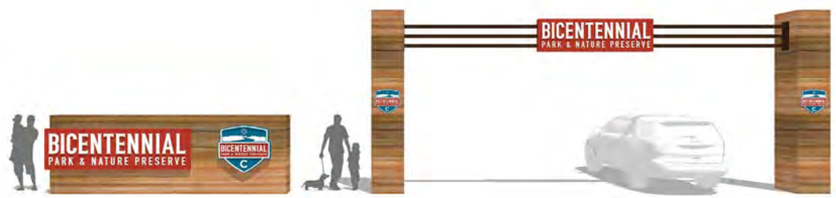
Key Map | Exploration

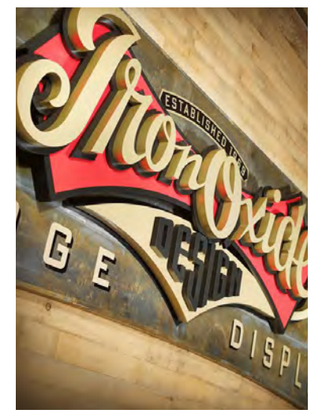
FRAMEWORK // **WAYFINDING**

OVERVIEW:

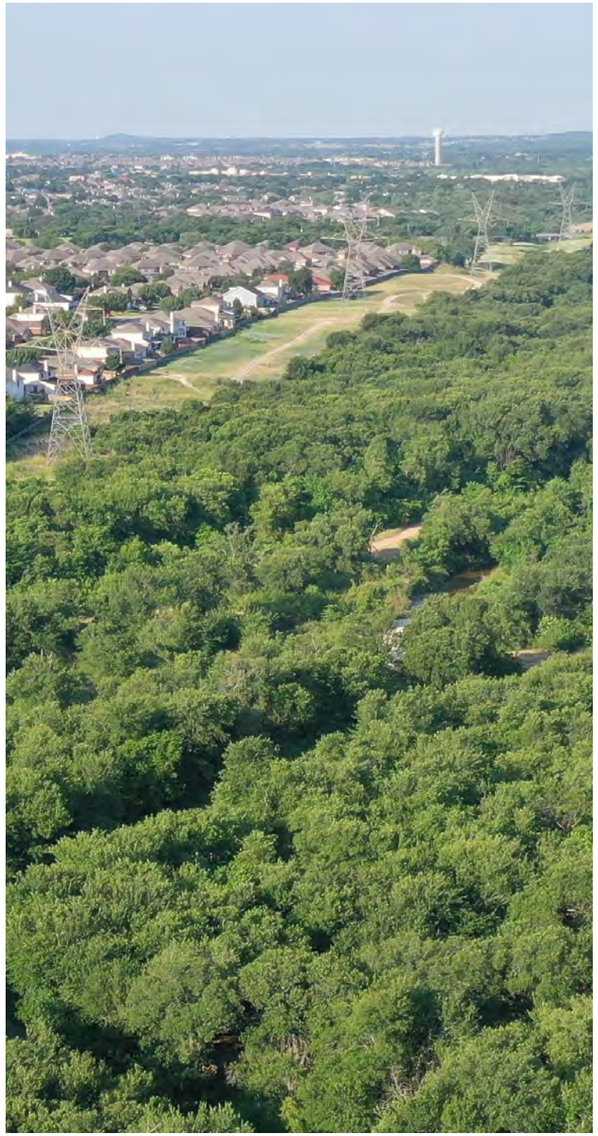
The signage and wayfinding plan for Bicentennial Park draws inspiration from the natural beauty of the surronding Texas landscape, echoing the forms seen through state and national park signage throughout the coutnry. The design team has curated a collection of inspirational imagery, seamlessly integrating elements that harmonize with the park's surroundings. While the preliminary design forms are for exploration only and not to be taken literally, they serve as a starting point for further refinement. By aligning with the aesthetic language of national parks, the signage will establish a cohesive visual identity, evoking a sense of unity and belonging within the park's vast expanse.

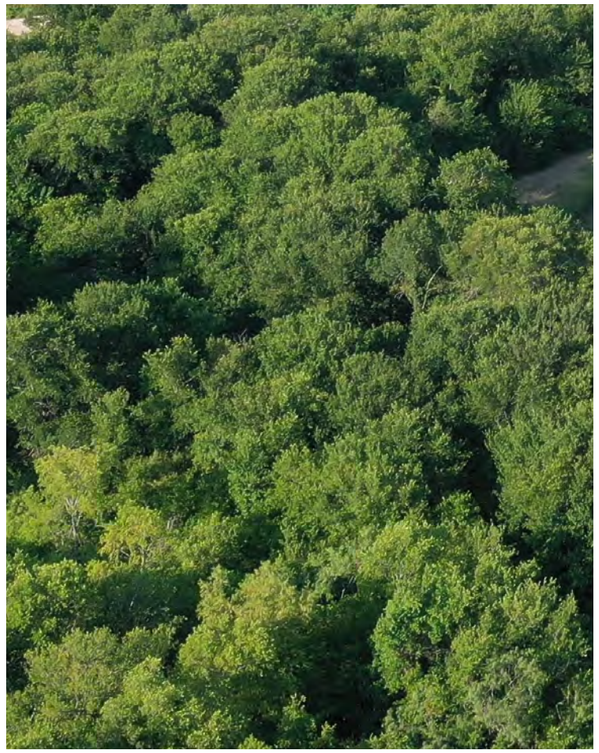
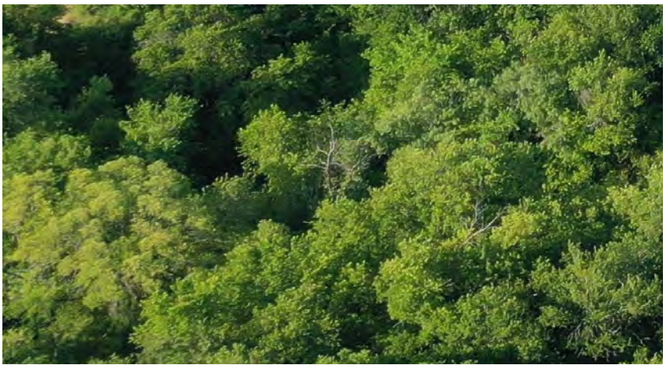
The signage layout on the right goes into comprehensive detail, encompassing a range of sign types, including trailhead markers, educational signage, and pedestrian directional signs, all carefully designed to enhance the overall user experience. This thoughtfully crafted plan aims to not only provide clear direction but also create a visual journey that complements the park's natural splendor and proposed programmatic elements.



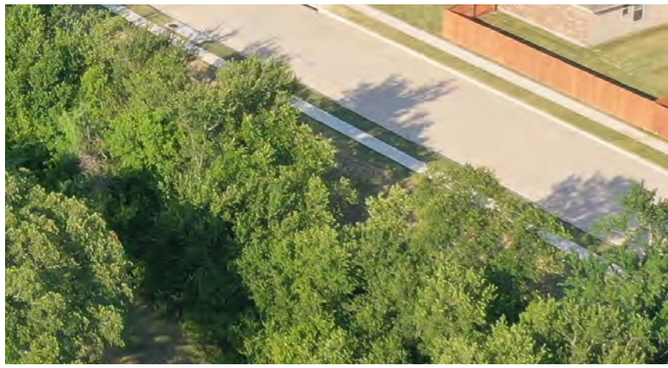


exploration
recreation
outdoor
odell ln
cresent springs dr
davis rd
e prairie view rd
e glendale st
bovell dr
e main st
e main st
kennedy dr
utility easement
oncor property
crouch event center
mesquite tree grove
legend
entry monument / threshold (qty 5)
pedestrian directional sign (qty 8)
freestanding educational sign (qty 7)
trail head / rules sign (qty 6)
0'
200'
400'
800'



07 IMPLEMENTATION



IMPLEMENTATION // **COSTING**

OVERVIEW:

A preliminary costing and phasing exercise has been undertaken to provide a rough idea of how much money is required to build the park in the recommended master plan. Priorities to the park are associated with each of the zones.

A Southeast Corner (Main St)

- *seating + picnic areas*
- *outdoor grills*
- *overlook structure*
- *hike + bike trails*
- *reforestation*

B Deer Creek (South - Northwest)

- *disc golf course*
- *riparian buffer*
- *landscape clearing*
- *drive improvements*
- *shade trees + ornamental trees*

C Southeast Corner (Main Street)

- *entry drive*
- *entry branding + signage*
- *main street trail connection*
- *parking lot improvements*
- *shade trees + ornamental trees*
- *bioswales*

D West End

- *expanded mesquite grove*
- *landscape improvements*
- *picnic area*
- *program lawn*
- *parking lot improvements*

E West Central

- *drive improvements*
- *expanded parking*
- *hike + bike trails*
- *splash pad*
- *playground*
- *amenity building with restrooms*
- *shade pavilions*
- *event pavilion*
- *event lawn*
- *seating nodes*
- *creek interactions*
- *outdoor classroom*

F Central Woodlands

- *adventure course*
- *tree house*
- *landscape clearing*

G East End (Oncor Easement)

- *hike + bike trail*
- *neighborhood access*
- *landscape improvements*

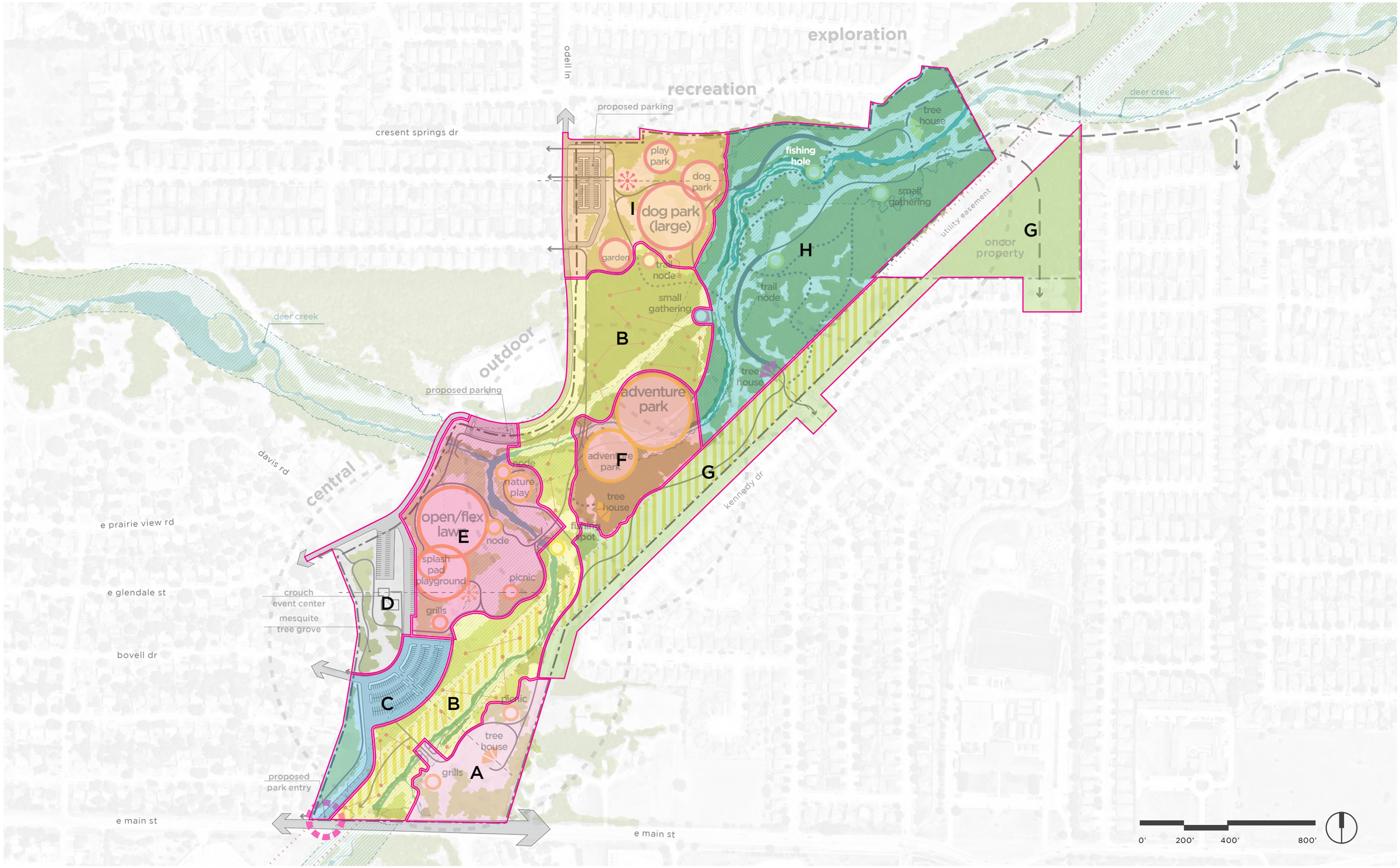
H North Woodlands

- *hike + bike trail*
- *fishing holes*
- *seating areas*
- *wetland + canopy boardwalks*

I Northwest Industrial Site

- *parking lot*
- *dog park (large + small)*
- *restroom facility*
- *flex lawn*

ZONE	LOCATION	SIZE OF AREA (ACRES)	PROGRAM INCLUSIONS	COST EVALUATION	PRIORITY
A	Southeast Corner (Main St)	5.26 ac.	seating areas overlook structure hike / bike trails	$$$	moderate
B	Deer Creek (South - Northwest)	18 ac.	disc golf course riparian buffer landscape clearing drive improvements	$$	low
C	Southwest Corner (Main St)	5.29 ac.	entry drive street parking existing parking lot improvements	$$$	high
D	West End	5.36 ac.	seating at existing mesquite grove existing landscape improvements	$	low
E	West Central	10.19 ac.	drive impovements parking lot hike / bike trails splash pad playground pavilion restrooms amphitheater / event lawn seating area creek interaction	$$$$	high
F	Central Woodlands	6.13 ac.	adventure course landscape clearing	$$	low
G	East End (oncor easement)	17 ac.	hike / bike trail neighborhood access landscape improvements	$	moderate
H	North Woodlands	24.55 ac.	hike / bike trails fishing holes seating areas boardwalks	$$$	moderate
I	Northwest Industrial Site	9.56 ac.	parking lot playground dog park (l/sm) restrooms community garden hike / bike trail	$$$$	high


exploration
recreation
odell ln
cresent springs dr
proposed parking
play park
dog park
dog park (large)
I
garden
trail node
small gathering
fishing hole
tree house
small gathering
utility easement
oncor property
G
H
trail node
deer creek
deer creek
outdoor
B
tree house
adventure park
proposed parking
davis rd
central
node
nature play
adventure park
F
G
tree house
kennedy dr
e prairie view rd
open/flex lawn
E
node
fishing spot
splash pad playground
picnic
e glendale st
crouch event center
mesquite tree grove
D
grills
bovell dr
C
B
picnic
tree house
grills
A
proposed park entry
e main st
e main st
0'
200'
400'
800'

IMPLEMENTATION // **SUMMARY**

ENVIRONMENTAL GRANTS

WaterSMART

Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Program (Bureau of Reclamation) 17 States West of Mississippi River are eligible

https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/aquatic/index.html

Inflation Reduction Act – Urban and Community Forestry (likely available again June 2024)

- *Protect, enhance, and expand equitable urban tree canopy cover to maximize community access to human health, social, ecological, and economic benefits particularly in disadvantaged and nature-deprived communities. Improve and increase access to parks and nature in communities.*
- *Encourage long-term urban forest planning, assessment, and management.*
- *Encourage proactive and systematic maintenance and monitoring of urban trees and forested natural areas to improve forest health; assess risk to forests from pests, disease, and adverse climate impacts; and formulate adaptive management strategies to improve forest resilience.*

https://www.fs.usda.gov/sites/default/files/UCF-IRA-NOFO-04122023.pdf

State Wildlife Grants (SWG) US Fish and Wildlife

Good habitat and ecosystem restoration opportunities

Contact: Will Amy
505.248.7468
will_amy@fws.gov

https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/state-wildlife-grants-swg

North American Wetlands Conservation Act Grants:

https://www.fws.gov/service/north-american-wetlands-conservation-act-nawca-grants-us-small

2023 Eligibility: north-american-wetlands-conservation-act-us-eligibility-criteria_2.pdf

Clean Water State Revolving Fund Programs (Texas Water Development Board) 319 Grants (Nonpoint source management program)

Park is located within a watershed that is under a Watershed Protection Plan so it should be eligible for CWA funds. Texas Water Development Board traditionally funds large scale flood mitigation projects but are increasingly under pressure to fund restorative projects like Bicentennial Park nature based infrastructure components.

https://www.epa.gov/cwsrf/about-clean-water-state-revolving-fund-cwsrf#eligibilities

https://www.epa.gov/cwsrf

PARKS GRANTS

Texas Parks and Wildlife annual grants for small/medium cities

TRANSPORTATION GRANTS

Texas Parks and Wildlife annual grants for small/medium cities

TXDOT Transportation Alternatives Program: Need to have some level of design of a regionally connected trail at least 30% complete by next year's round of applications. Repeats annually.

THANK YOU!