

CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

Parks & Recreation Master Plan Updates

September 21, 2026

A 10-year framework for equitable, resilient and joyful public spaces.

Meeting Agenda



01 Welcome and Background

02 Mission, vision, and values

03 10 –Year CIP

04 Expanded Service Projects

05 Visionary Projects

06 Non-Resident Fees



Executive Summary

A concise view of the adopted plan, investment horizon and decisions ahead.

\$78.2M

10-year capital program

3

project tiers

10 YEARS

adopted April 7, 2025

SCOPE

Strategic framework • Financial plan • Major projects • Fee policy

Plan lens

Equity Resiliency Sustainability Community engagement

Mission, Vision, and Values

MISSION

To serve and enhance our community through inclusive spaces, recreational experiences, and exceptional public service.

VISION

Creating a happy, healthy community for all.

VALUES

- Professionalism**
- Accountability**
- Respect**
- Knowledge**
- Service**



Executive Summary

A concise view of the adopted plan, investment horizon and decisions ahead.

\$78.2M

10-year capital program

3

project tiers

10 YEARS

adopted April 7, 2025

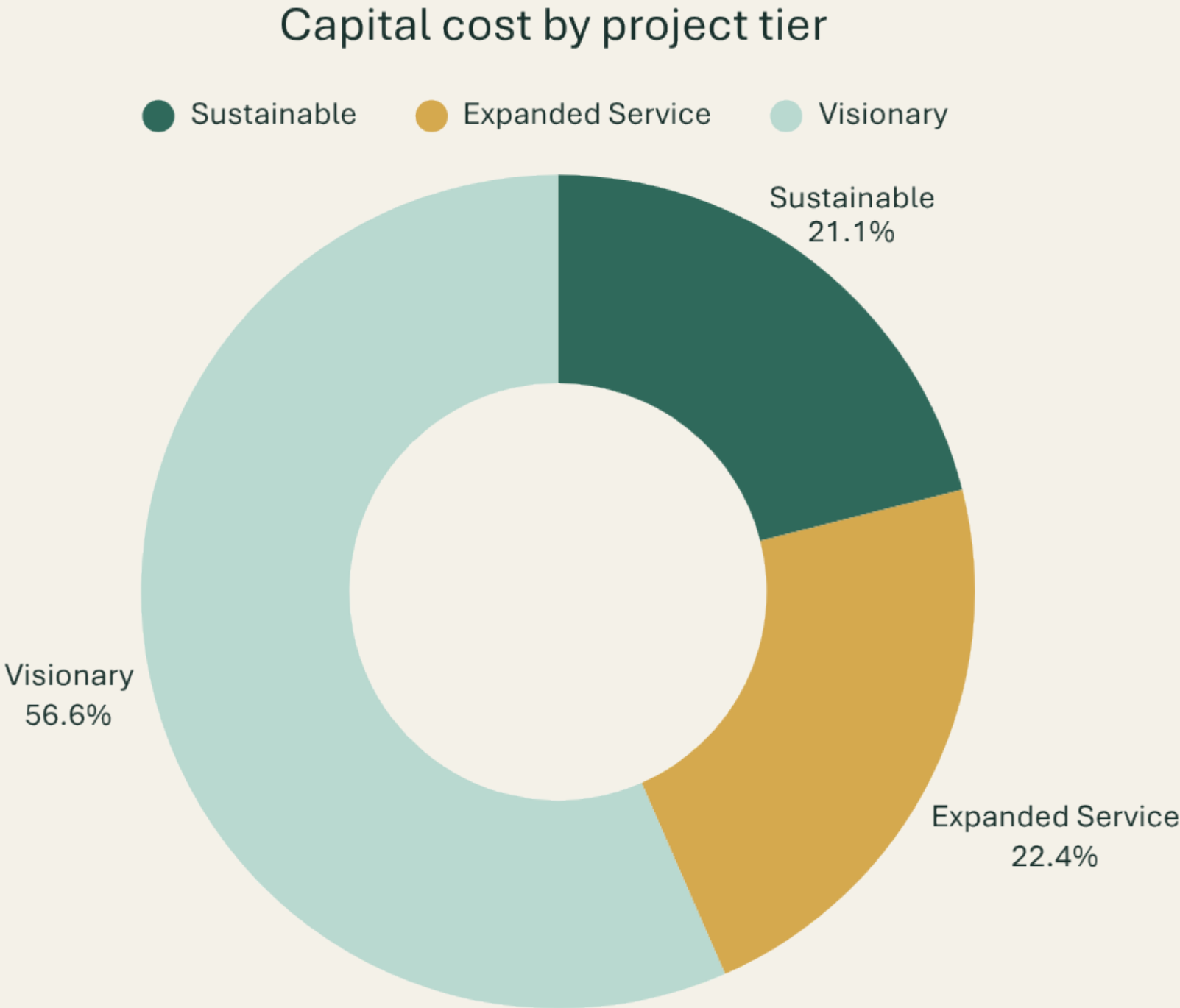
SCOPE

Strategic framework • Financial plan • Major projects • Fee policy

Plan lens

Equity Resiliency Sustainability Community engagement

\$78.18M across three ambition tiers



21%

SUSTAINABLE
Maintain core assets and service

22%

EXPANDED SERVICE
Increase reach and quality

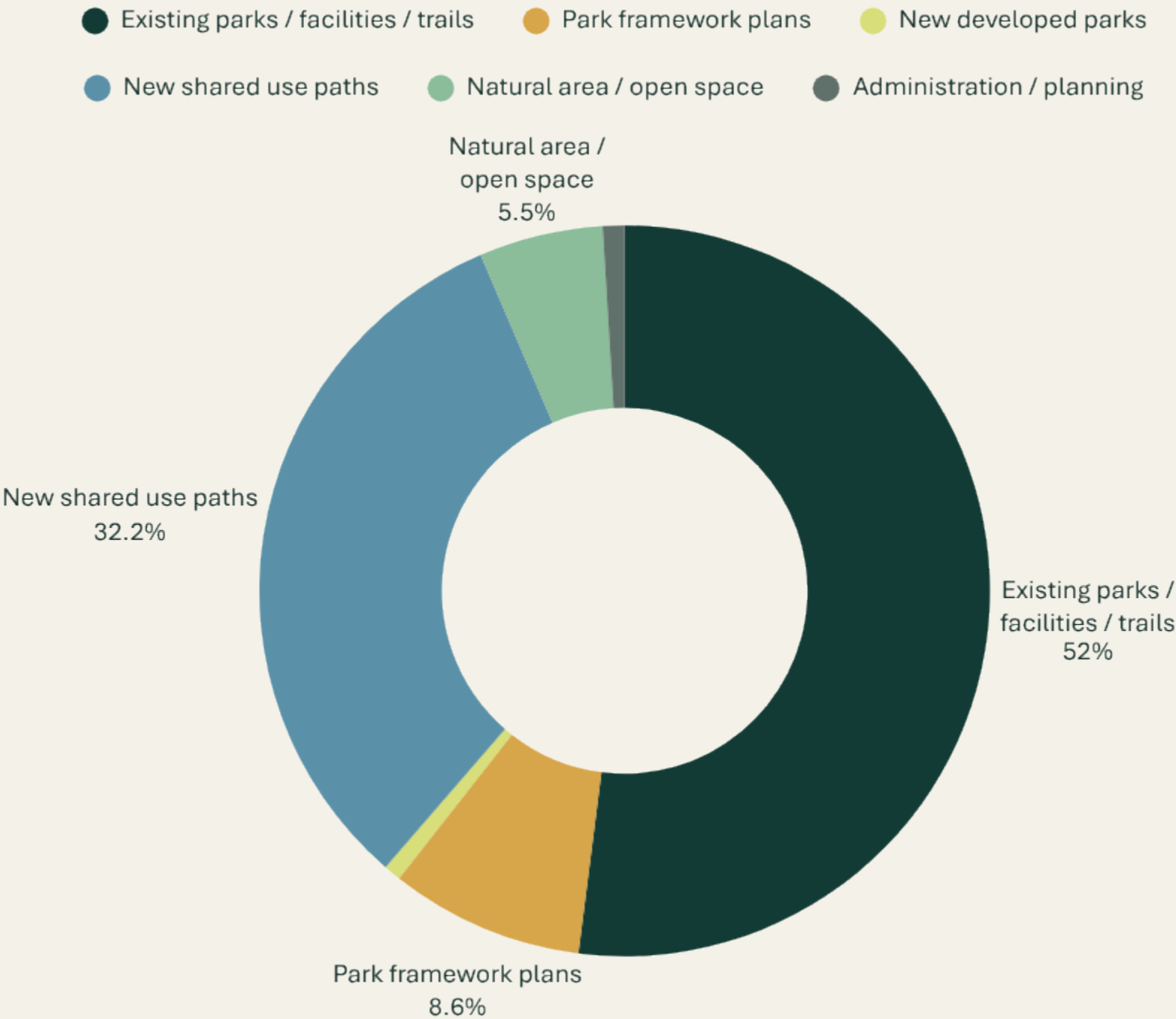
57%

VISIONARY
Transformative long-range concepts

Bucket	Estimated Total Cost	Percentage of Total
Sustainable Projects	\$ 16,468,750	21%
Expanded Service Projects	\$ 17,491,750	22%
Visionary Projects	\$ 44,219,172	57%
Total	\$ 78,179,672	100%



Capital Improvement by Project Type



52%

Existing developed parks, facilities & trails

32%

New shared use paths

Project Type	Estimated Total Cost	Percentage of Total
Existing Developed Parks/Facilities/Trails	\$ 40,667,000	52%
Park Framework Plans	\$ 6,697,500	9%
New Developed Parks	\$ 600,000	1%
New Shared Use Paths	\$ 25,174,172	32%
Natural Area/Open Space Parks	\$ 4,291,000	5%
Administrative/Planning	\$ 750,000	1%
Total	\$ 78,179,672	100%



10-Year Capital Improvement Plan

FY27–FY31 | First five years

Project	FY27	FY28	FY29	FY30	FY31
Downtown Mall Tree Management Plan, Phase 1: A1	\$ 591,250	\$ 1,773,750	\$ 476,967	\$ 953,934	\$ 476,967
Master Plan (S): Washington Park Restroom Renovation	\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Master Plan (E): Washington Park Master Planning and Implementation	\$ -	\$ 250,000	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000	\$ -
Master Plan (E): Market Street Park Master Planning	\$ -	\$ 300,000	\$ 656,250	\$ 250,000	
Pen Park Sewer Connection	\$ -	\$ 592,000	\$ 660,000	\$ 167,000	\$ -
Pen Park Tennis Courts Reconstruction	\$ -	\$ 572,500	\$ 385,000	\$ -	\$ -
Meadowcreek Gardens Plot Renovation	\$ -	\$ 240,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Master Plan (S): Forest Hill Park Restroom Upgrades	\$ -	\$ 200,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Master Plan (V): Adaptive Center Feasibility Study	\$ -	\$ 200,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Master Plan (S): Greenleaf Park Improvements	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 531,250	\$ -	\$ -
Master Plan (E): Meadow Creek Valley New Playground	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 312,500	\$ -	\$ -
New Dog Park	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 150,000	\$ -	\$ -
Master Plan (S): Forest Hills Park Lighting Improvements	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 62,500	\$ -	\$ -
Master Plan (S): Starr Hill Park Improvements	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 106,250	\$ -
Master Plan (E): Azalea Park West Master Plan	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 93,750	\$ -
Master Plan (S): Fifeville Park Fitness Court	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 235,000
Master Plan (S): Rives Park Improvements	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 503,750
TOTAL	\$ 1,091,250	\$ 4,128,250	\$ 3,734,467	\$ 2,070,934	\$ 1,215,717

10-Year Capital Improvement Plan

FY27–FY31 | First five years

Project	FY32	FY33	FY34	FY35	FY36
Downtown Mall Tree Management Plan, Phase 1: A1	\$ 476,967	\$ 506,000	\$ 1,012,000	\$ 506,000	\$ 506,000
Master Plan (E): Tonsler Park Master Planning	\$ 250,000	\$ 727,500	\$ 727,500	\$ -	\$ -
Master Plan (S): McGuffey Park Basketball Court Conversion	\$ 77,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Master Plan (S): Meade Park Restroom Improvements	\$ 775,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Master Plan (S): Belmont Park Improvements	\$ -	\$ 718,750	\$ 718,750	\$ -	\$ -
Master Plan (E): Pen Park Pickleball Courts	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 750,000	\$ -	\$ -
Master Plan (E): Court Square Master Planning	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250,000	\$ 340,000	\$ 340,000
Master Plan (E): Azalea Park West Improvements	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 581,250	\$ 581,250
Begin Master Plan Update	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500,000	\$ -
Master Plan (E): Ragged Mountain Canoe/Kayak Launch	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 775,000
TOTAL	\$ 1,579,467	\$ 1,952,250	\$ 3,458,250	\$ 1,927,250	\$ 2,202,250

FY27 Low-Cost / High-Impact

Early investments that improve comfort, identity and everyday use.

01 **Washington Park Restroom**
Schematic design finalized; completion Spring 2026.



02 **Signage Plan**
Three monument sign designs with Burruss Signs.



03 **Site Furnishings**
Benches, picnic tables, grills, trash and dog-waste stations.



Playground Highlights

FY27–FY33 investment sequence



Project	FY27	FY28	FY29	FY30	FY31	FY32	FY33
Greenbrier Elementary	\$ 150,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Master Plan: Fifeville Park	\$ 150,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Meade Park: Surfacing	TBD	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Master Plan: Forest Hills Park	\$ -	\$ 700,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Summit Elementary	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Riverview Park	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Master Plan: McIntire Park	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 175,000	\$ -	\$ -
Master Plan: McGuffey Park	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 175,000	\$ -	\$ -
Master Plan: Jackson-Via Elementary	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 387,500	\$ -
Master Plan: Tall Oaks Elementary	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 387,500
TOTAL	\$ 300,000	\$ 700,000	\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000	\$ 350,000	\$ 387,500	\$ 387,500

Connect the missing links

\$4.54M

Meadow Creek Valley Trail • FY27

YMCA Link / 250 Bypass — \$376K FY27

Pollocks Branch Bridge — \$440K FY27

West McIntire Trail — \$500K FY28

Holmes to Park Street — \$500K FY31

Charlottesville Shared Use Paths Project Status - 2026 -

Active Trails (Near Construction)

- A - Lower Meadow Creek - .5
- B - YMCA Link - 250 Bypass - .1
- C - Upper Meadow Creek - 1 mile
- F - Jordan Park (Middle Moores)

Developing Trails (In design)

- A - River Link - .2 mile
- B - Michie Drive/Hydraulic - .25 mile
- C - Railroad Tunnel
- D - 5th Street (VDOT)

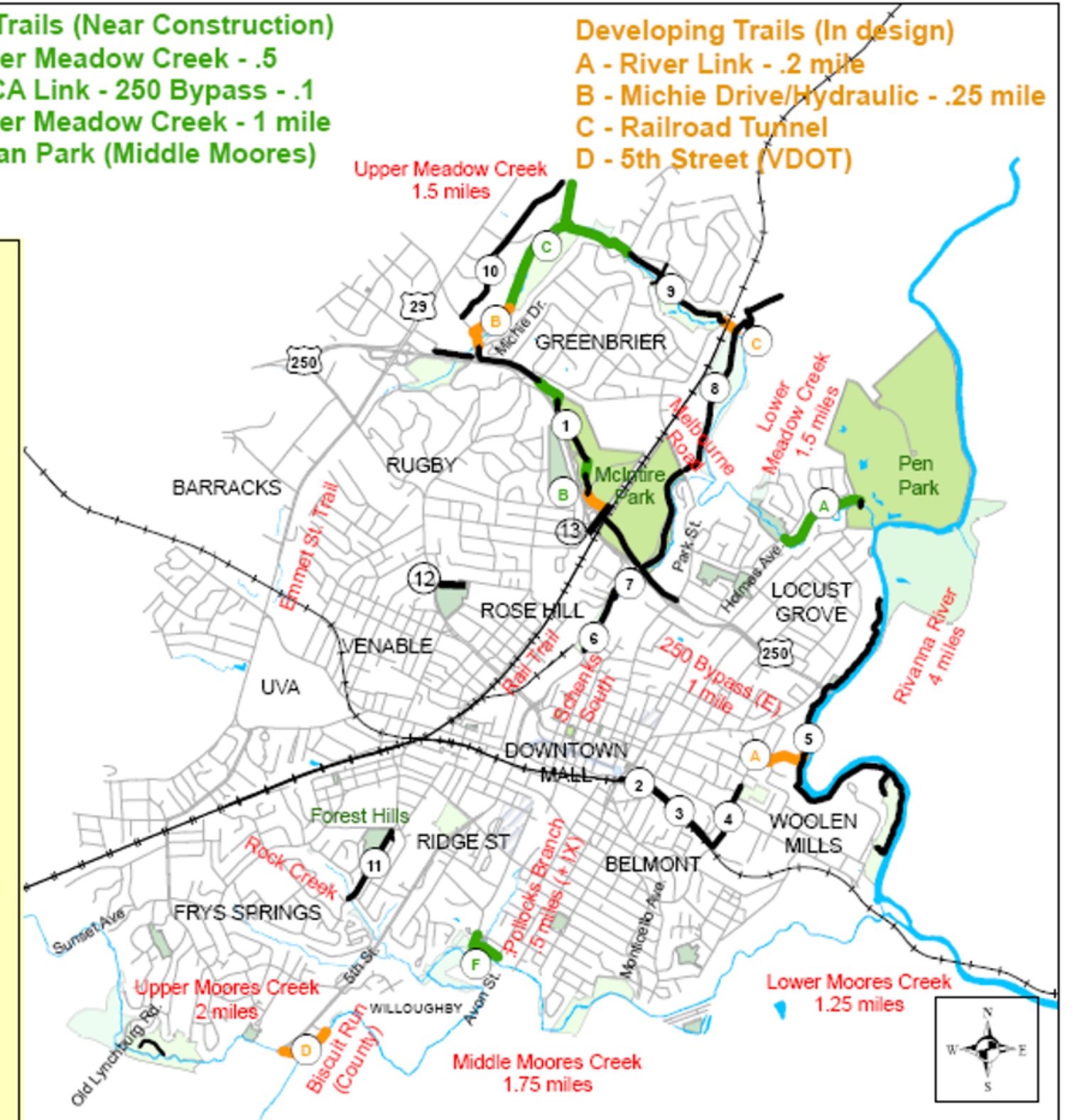
Legend

City Trails STATUS

- Active (construction with 1 year)
- Developing (Engineering phase)

Existing Trails

- Azalea Park, Existing
- Forest Hills - Orangedale, Existing
- Greenbrier Crossing, Existing
- 1 - 250 Bypass - 1.5 mile
- 2 - Water Street - .25 mile
- 3 - Coal Tower - .25 mile
- 4 - Meade Avenue - .3 mile
- 5 - Rivanna River Trail - 2 mile
- 6 - Schenks Branch - .25 mile
- 7 - McIntire Road - .25 mile
- 8 - John Warner Parkway - 1.5 mile
- 9 - Meadow Creek - .5 mile
- 10 - Hillsdale Drive - .75 mile
- 11 - Forest Hills Trail - .25 mile
- 12 - Washington Park - .1 mile
- 13 - Rugby Ave - .2 mile



This map is for planning purposes only and is not official, nor does it provide legal information

Connect the missing links

Project	FY27	FY28	FY29	FY30	FY31
YMCA Link for 250 Bypass Trail	\$ 375,800	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Lower Meadow Creek Trail	\$ 455,352	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Pollocks Branch Bridge	\$ 440,376	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Meadow Creek Valley Trail	\$ 4,542,308	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
West McIntire Trail A&E and construction	\$ -	\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Cedar Hill Park improvements	\$ -	\$ 125,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Botanical Garden Segment	\$ -	\$ 301,700	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Land Acquisition	\$ -	\$ 75,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Michie Drive ADA trail A&E and construction	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 400,000	\$ -	\$ -
Culvert improvements Hydraulic and 250	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 75,000	\$ -	\$ -
Railroad tunnel study advancement	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 60,000	\$ -	\$ -
Kenwood Drive	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000	\$ -	\$ -
Land Acquisition	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 75,000	\$ -	\$ -
Holmes to Park Street A&E and stone dust trail	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 75,000	\$ -
Land Acquisition	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 75,000	\$ -
Construct Holmes to Park street trail and bridge	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500,000
Disc Golf suspension bridge	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50,000
Land Acquisition	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 75,000
TOTAL	\$ 5,813,836	\$ 1,001,700	\$ 620,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 625,000

Market Street Park: Swords Into Plowshares

FRUIT & SEEDS

A baobab art tree anchors an amphitheater, flexible plaza and event lawn—supported by benches, picnic tables, preserved mature trees and renewed planting.

A distributed approach could extend elements to Washington, Belmont, Forest Hills or Tonsler parks.



Market Street Park

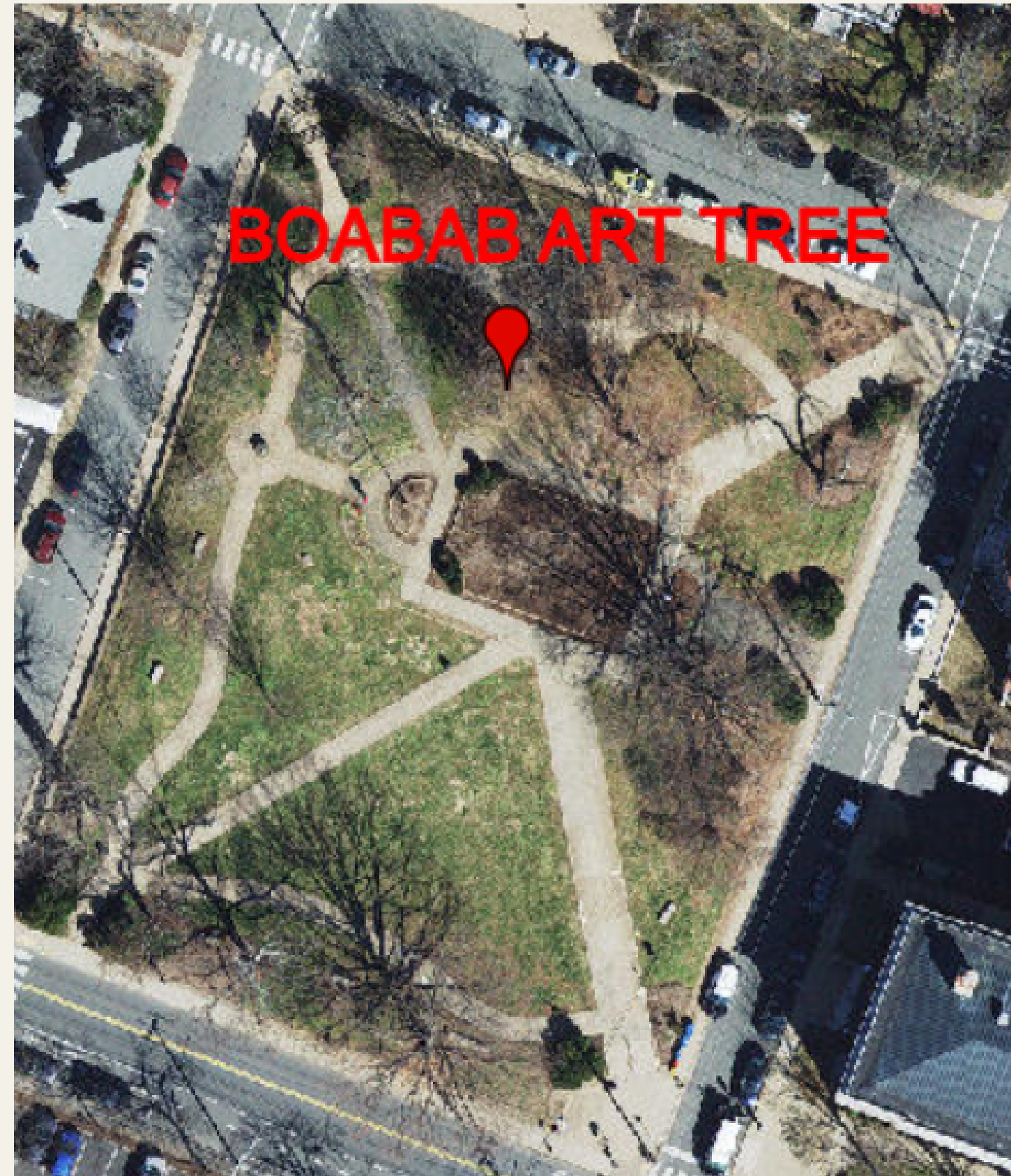
Improvements

- 1. Amphitheater steps to 2nd Street
- 2. Benches and picnic tables in wooded grove on north end of park
- 3. Multi-purpose plaza with decorative surface in central area
- 4. Open event lawn on south half of park
- 5. Benches on meandering path around edge of park
- 6. Existing mature healthy trees preserved
- 7. Improved landscaping



Market Street Park: fruit, seeds and civic life

BOABAB TREE



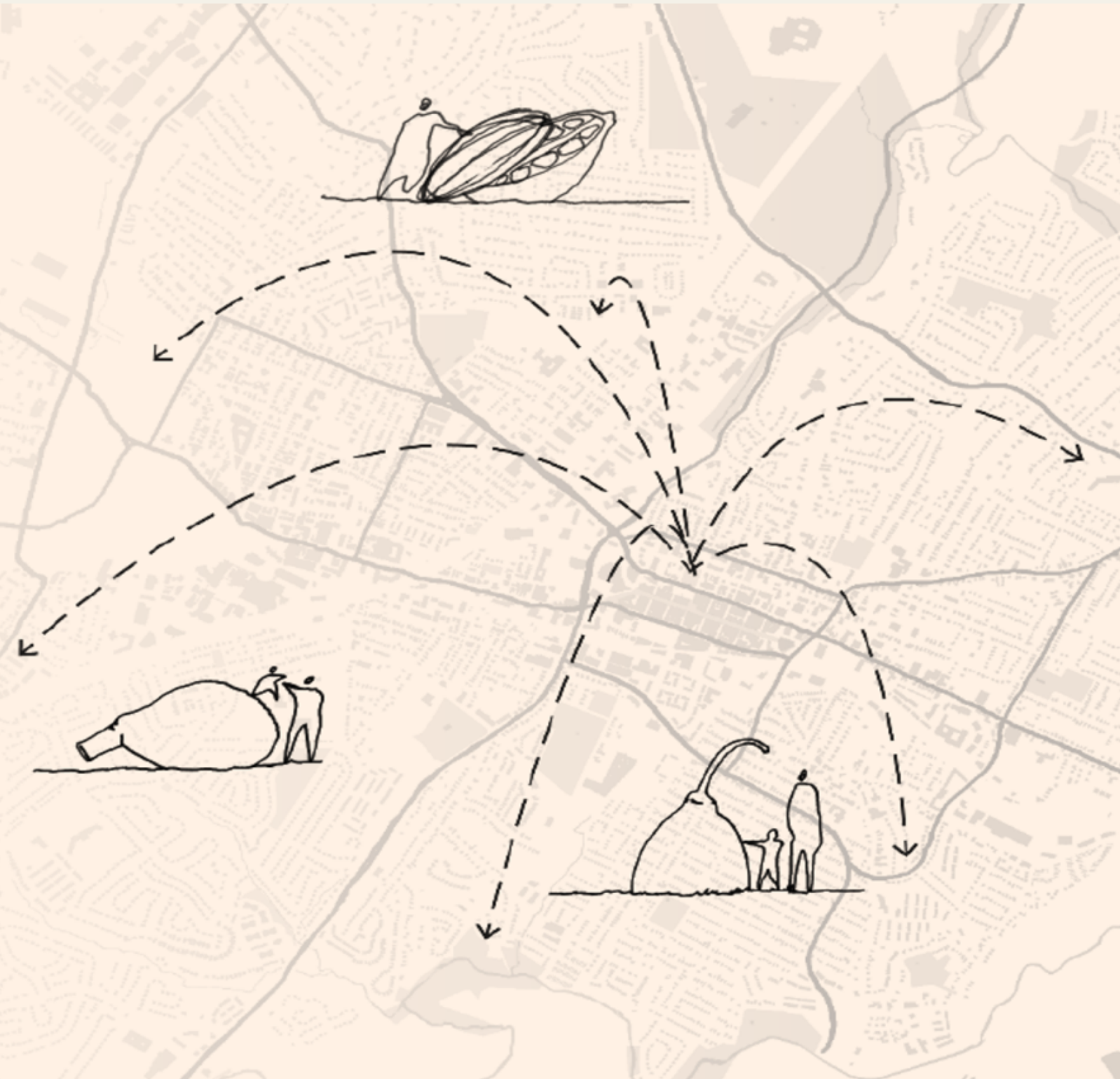
fruit, seeds and civic life

FRUIT & SEEDS

PLANT: FRUIT & SEEDS

Sculptures representing the life-giving fruit of the baobab, enlarged to measure roughly 8 feet long and 5 feet wide, extend the welcoming spirit of the mother tree. Variations of flowers, fruit, and seeds distribute the power of reclamation in public spaces, empowering community members to challenge injustice and imagine alternative futures.

While the project is anchored at Market Street Park, this distributed approach would bring sites across the city into dialogue with one another and the project. Publicly selected sites could include other city parks such as Washington, Belmont, Forest Hills, or Tonsler.



Swords into plowshares



BELMONT PARK

Baobab Art Seed • a place for reflection and community healing



FOREST HILLS PARK

A richer park experience through art, shade and gathering

Adaptive Recreation Center

Not a committed construction project.

A study of joyful, barrier-free recreation: splash pad, sensory and hide-and-seek play, adaptive swings, balance challenge, adult mobility area, treehouse, ground-level merry-go-round, ziplines and freestyle track / play tower.

Accessibility is the design brief—not an add-on.





Resident vs. Non-Resident Fee Parity

A consistent policy for equity, clarity and predictability



Staff found gaps in shelters, facility rentals, adult leagues and some admissions.
Most programs already use separate rates.
The Advisory Board supported advancing this community-input item.

QUESTIONS



THANK YOU