An aerial photograph of a residential and commercial area. In the center, there is a large, irregularly shaped pond with a curved shoreline. To the left of the pond, there is a construction site with several pieces of heavy machinery, including a crane and excavators, and a large area of cleared land. To the right of the pond, there is a residential neighborhood with several houses and trees. In the top left corner, there is a large commercial building with a parking lot. The overall scene is a mix of urban development and natural features.

# Capital Cascades Trail Segment 4 Concept Plan

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City of Tallahassee, Florida  
September 2023

A background image showing a river with a bridge in the distance, surrounded by trees and a cloudy sky. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent white box containing text.

# Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency

315 S. Calhoun Street, Suite 450

Tallahassee, Florida 32301

## Consultant Team

**George and Associates, Consulting Engineers, Inc.**

**TSW**

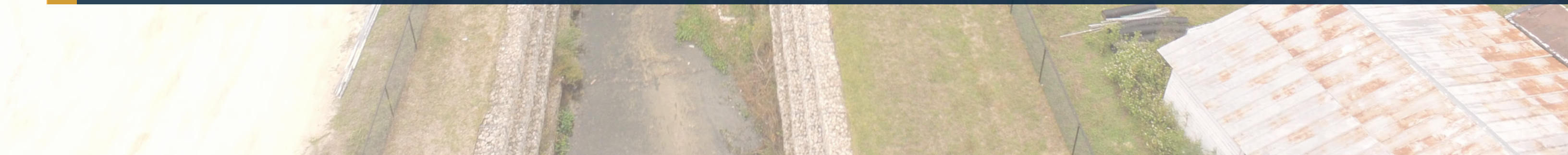
**Jones Edmunds**

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# Executive Summary



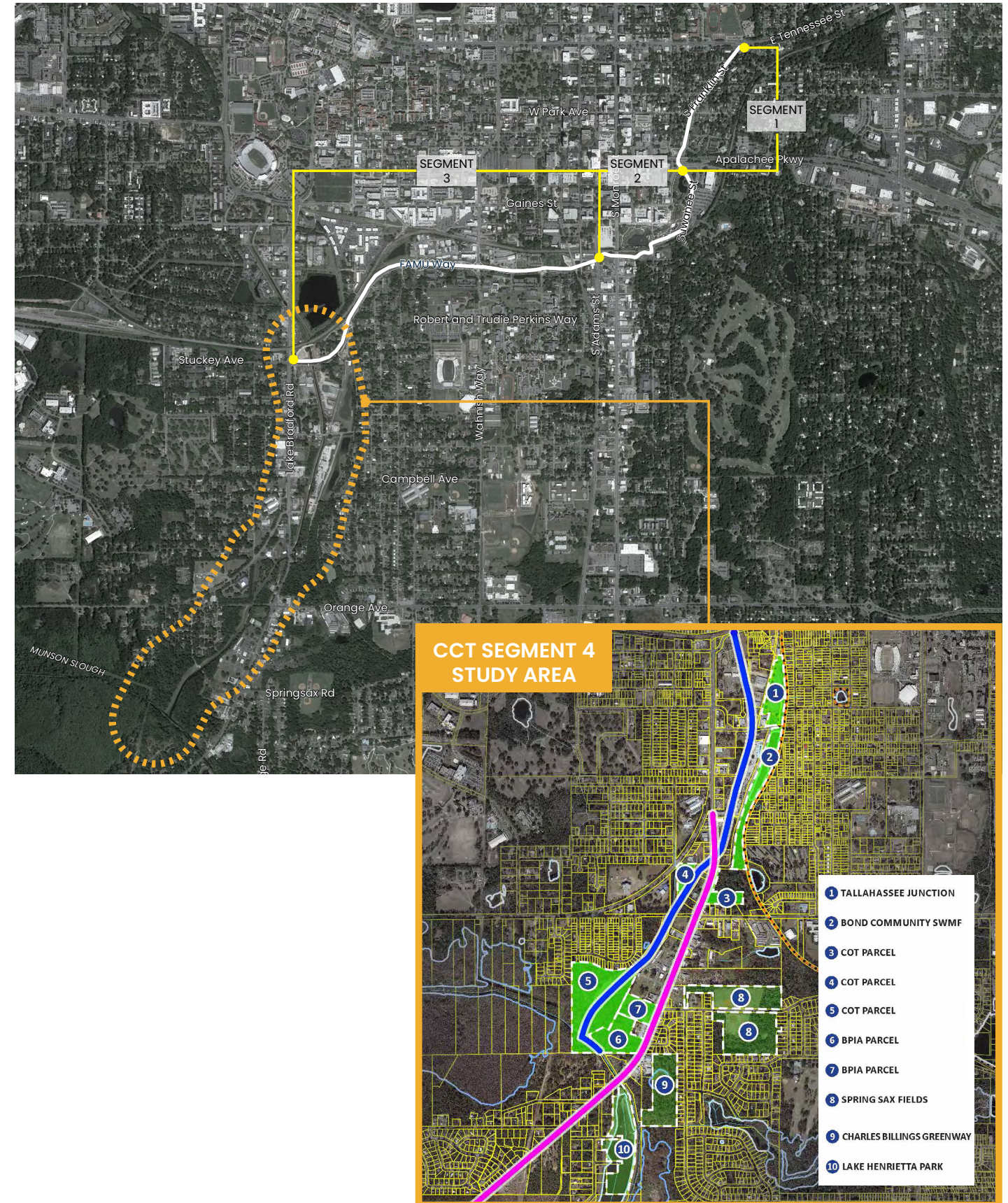
# Executive Summary

The Capital Cascade Trail (CCT) is a multi-faceted network of stormwater and recreation facility projects that create an urban linear greenway. The Capital Cascades Trail in its entirety, commences at Leon High School in downtown Tallahassee, traveling along Franklin Blvd to Cascades Park. Upon exiting Cascades Park, the project follows the St Augustine branch drainage ditch parallel to FAMU Way to the convergence of the St Augustine branch and Central Drainage ditch where CCT 4 begins. From that convergence, the project follows the Central Drainage ditch south to terminate at Lake Henrietta on the south side of Orange Ave. The CCT is separated into four distinct yet connected segments stretching across 4.25 miles. Since the IA Board's approval of the Capital Cascades Master Plan in 2005, Blueprint has completed a substantial number of projects, as part of Segments 1, 2, and 3 of the CCT providing recreational amenities, improving water quality, multi-modal infrastructure, and reducing area flooding. In all, these improvements represent an investment of more than \$57,000,000 and stretch approximately 2.5 miles.

The CCT improvements have won numerous awards and received accolades from many professional organizations, including two national awards, one in 2015 from the American Public Works Association, and another in 2016 from the American Planning Association. Franklin Boulevard, Cascades Park, the Cascades Connector pedestrian bridge, and Segment 3 have won many awards over the last 10 years from local and state sections of organizations such as the Urban Land Institute, Florida Landmarks Council and the National Association for the Preservation of African-American History and Culture, American Public Works Association, American Planning Association, and the American Institute of Architects.

Continuing on the success of past Capital Cascade Trail projects, CCT Segment 4 will complete the Master Plan by finishing the trail system from Leon High School to Lake Henrietta, providing amenities, trails, water quality enhancements, and flood mitigation. Segment 4 is approximately 1.7 miles long, beginning at the convergence of the Central Drainage Ditch and St. Augustine Branch, continuing south of Orange Ave. CCT Segment 4 will be constructed entirely within lands owned by the City and County, including land acquired in 2006 through a Florida Community Trust Grant. With the completion of Segment 4, the Capital Cascades Trail will represent a final investment of over \$71,000,000 creating recreational amenities and stormwater enhancement along 4.25 miles from downtown to south Tallahassee.

Capital Cascades Trail Segment 4 Concept Plan represents a collaborative community engagement effort with area residents, churches, and neighborhood associations within the southside community of Tallahassee as well as meetings with civic organizations and agency stakeholders such as the City of Tallahassee, Leon County, Florida Department of Transportation, Leon County School Board and Florida Communities Trust.



# Executive Summary (cont.)

Stakeholder input, stormwater modeling, the white paper findings, available water quality data, and watershed characteristics helped develop the CCT 4 Concept Plan and identify five principal objectives that reinforce the original goals of the 2005 Master Plan and distinguished distinctive programming components that are representative of the Southside of Tallahassee. The five principal objectives for the CCT 4 Concept Plan are improving water quality, flood mitigation, sediment removal, greenway and trail connectivity, and park development. The objectives and how they are met are further detailed below.

**Improving Water Quality:** Segment 4 is intended to complement upland and floodplain habitat management efforts to maintain water quality in the Lake Munson Basin. This will be achieved by minimizing impervious area and erosion and precluding development and other practices that may contribute significant sediment load. Improved water quality in the project area will be implemented by capturing untreated stormwater runoff from existing developed areas and executed through the installation of green stormwater infrastructure and low-impact development techniques.

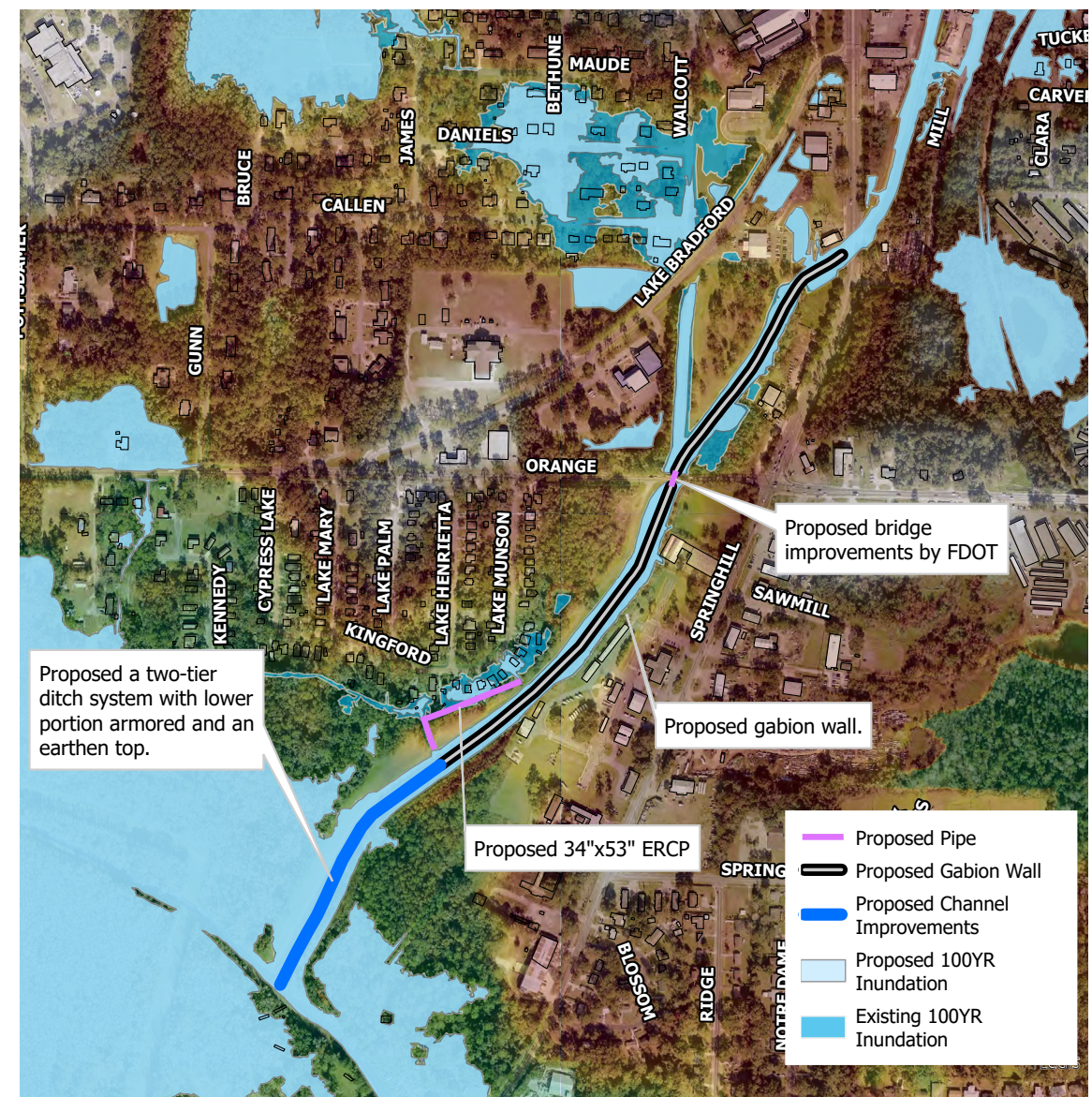
**Flood Mitigation:** A key component for Segment 4 is the establishment of an existing conditions stormwater model for the project area. This model includes the Central Drainage Ditch (CDD) and Saint Augustine Branch (SAB) watersheds. Results from the stormwater model confirmed the flooding issues known to occur within the two neighborhoods, Callen, and Liberty Park. Stormwater runoff from both neighborhoods discharge into the CDD, therefore, providing improvements to the CDD could in return improve or lessen the flooding issues for the neighborhoods.

Concepts within the CDD were developed and focused on identifying potential causes of flooding, possible solutions, and site constraints. A stormwater model was developed to evaluate each concept to mitigate flood conditions. The Recommended Concept incorporates the following:

- Installation of approximately 3,000 feet of gabion wall and a rock mattress from Springhill Road to south of Orange Avenue.
- Improve the Liberty Park stormwater outfall system
- Construction of approximately 1,200 feet of a two-tier ditch system south of Liberty Park
- Replacement of the bridge on Orange Avenue over the Central Drainage Ditch by FDOT

The Recommended Concept reduces the peak water-surface elevations in Liberty Park by 10 inches and in the Callen Neighborhood by 7 to 13 inches and reduces the number of existing inundated structures for 100-year, 25-year, and 10-year during an 8-hour design storm event.

RECOMMENDED CONCEPT	100-YR	25-YR	10-YR
EXISTING STRUCTURES IN FLOODPLAIN	33	18	7
EXISTING STRUCTURES REMOVED FROM FLOODPLAIN	15	14	7



# Executive Summary (cont.)

**Sediment Removal:** CDD conveys a significant amount of sediment to Munson Slough. Sources of sediment within the CDD are sediment conveyed by stormwater runoff as well as sediment created by erosion and bank collapse within the CDD itself. As CCT 4 is the only segment of the Cascades Trail along the Central Drainage Ditch (CDD) it provides the unique opportunity to directly improve and enhance the CDD. Bank stabilization of the CDD will stabilize the existing steep channel banks, thereby reducing erosion and bank collapse as sources of sediment. Bank stabilization will also decrease the vegetation in the channel and thereby the roughness, which allows increased velocity and flow. The increased speed at which the peak event moves through the CDD reduces the peak stage, as well as the duration of flooding.

**Greenway and Trail Connectivity:** CCT Segment 4 will provide greenway linkages to both light industrial and residential portions of the developed South Tallahassee urban area. Segment 4 will provide passive recreation opportunities for the neighborhoods of Callen, Liberty Park, Bond, and Jake Gaither by creating new pedestrian and bicycling routes from the St. Mark's Trail at Lake Elberta to Munson Slough at Lake Henrietta. Keeping in mind the sensitive natural environment, the maintenance and construction of all trails will be sited at points of minimal floodplain width to reduce disturbance and construction costs. The location of all trails will be sited to avoid environmental impacts.

**Park Development:** Incorporating passive parks into the Capital Cascade Trail Project is integral to the success of the project. Park concepts emphasize a balanced approach to social, environmental, and economic considerations. Different mixes of passive and active programming opportunities were considered. Three park sites were analyzed and identified and two were advanced for further development into final concepts: the Lake Bradford Rd Site, and the Springhill Rd Trail Connection + Enhancement. A third site - Springhill Rd Site North - was not advanced at this time due to probable but uncertain future development of surrounding parcels. This site will be a future phase of this project. The Lake Bradford Rd Site and Springhill Rd Site North were acquired through a Florida Communities Trust Grant and have specific requirements that are satisfied through the proposed concepts.

**Concept Plan Summary:** The Capital Cascade Trail Segment 4 Concept Plan is rooted in the initial goals and objectives of the original 2005 Capital Cascade Trail Master Plan. Completion of the Capital Cascade Trail Segment 4 Concept Plan will be the culmination of planning, design and construction spanning twenty years. Each individual segment is distinctive yet representative of its community. Segment 4 will enhance water quality, reduce neighborhood flooding, expand passive recreation opportunities for adjacent neighborhoods and lessen sediment impacts to Lake Henrietta and represents a \$71,000,000 investment in creating recreational amenities and stormwater enhancement along 4.25 miles from downtown to south Tallahassee.

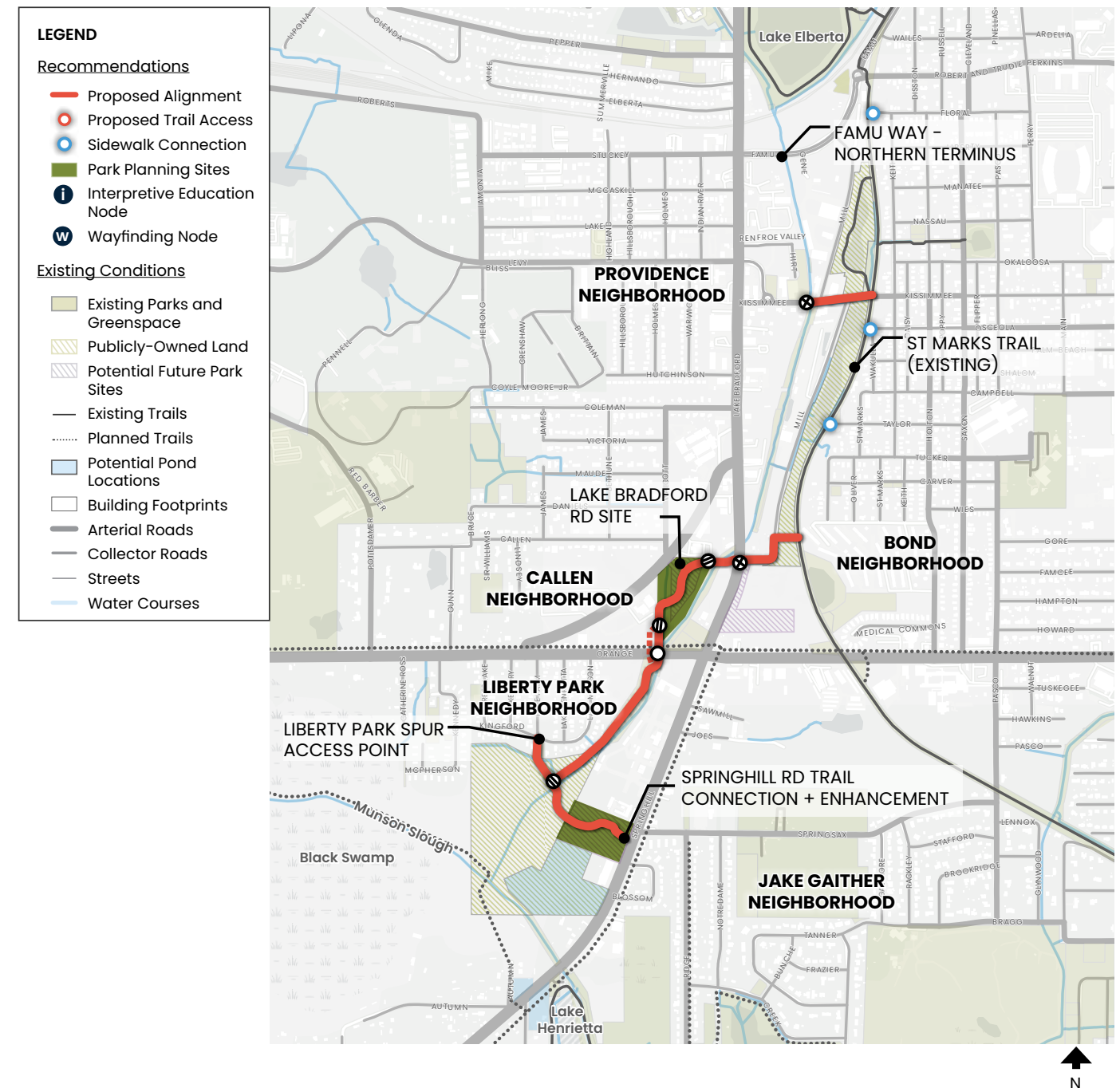
## Next Steps:

Fall 2023 – Fall 2024

Final Design & Permitting

Winter 2024/Spring 2025

Construction Begins





# 01 Project Overview

Project Background  
Planning Process  
Goals and Objectives





**SEGMENT 1**  
Franklin Boulevard  
Completed in 2014  
**8' x 12'**  
concrete box culvert  
**Two-Lane**  
road facility

**SEGMENT 2**  
Cascades Park  
Completed in 2014  
**2.3 miles**  
of paved pathways  
**Stormwater Facility**  
retention ponds & box culvert  
Capital Cascades Crossing  
and Pedestrian Bridge  
Completed in 2016  
**Solar Fabric Canopies**  
capture the sun's energy &  
provide shade

**SEGMENT 3**  
FAMU WAY  
Estimated Completion in 2024  
**Coal Chute Pond**  
stormwater retention pond  
**Skateable Art**  
skatepark symbolizing  
creativity and innovation  
**History and Culture Trail**  
honoring African American  
culture and communities

**SEGMENT 4**  
Estimated Completion in 2026  
**Water Quality**  
improvements  
**Greenway**  
interconnectivity

Capital Cascades Trail Segments Source: BPIA

# Project Background

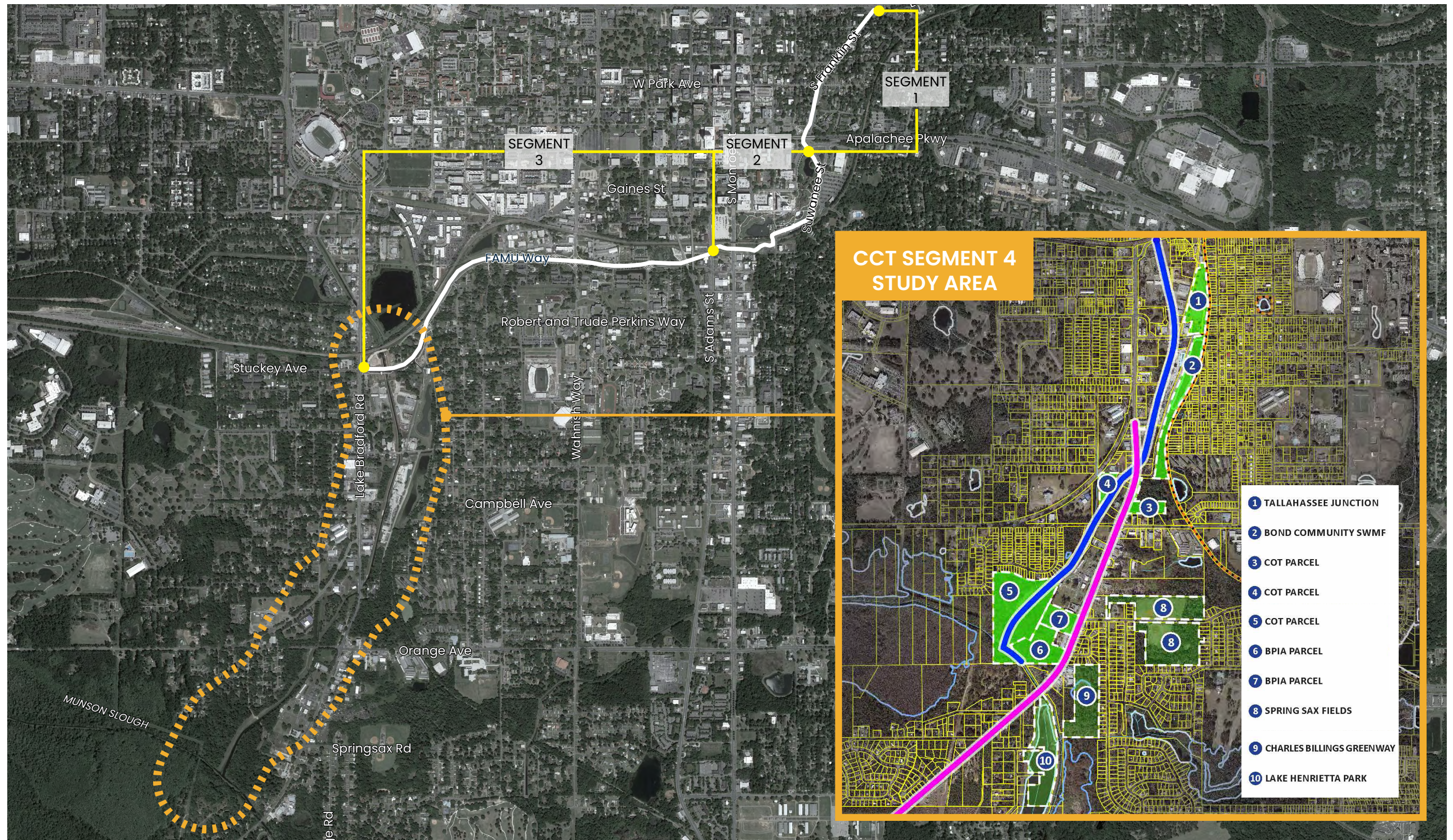
The Capital Cascades Trail (CCT) is a trail network within the City of Tallahassee, FL. It is a project by the Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency (BPIA) and is designed to provide a multi-faceted and multi-use stormwater and recreation facility as part of the trail network. The project is separated into four distinct, yet connected segments stretching across 4.25 miles of downtown Tallahassee.

Segments 1, 2, and 3 are completed or currently under construction. Segment 4 - currently undergoing planning - is approximately 1.7 miles in length, beginning at the convergence of the central drainage ditch and St. Augustine Branch, continuing south of Orange Ave.

With the completion of Segment 4, the Capital Cascade Trail will represent a final investment of \$71,000,000, creating recreational amenities and stormwater enhancement along 4.25 miles from downtown to south Tallahassee.

In 2021, BPIA retained George & Associates to provide the following planning, engineering, and design services which are the focus of this document:

- Determine the best alignment for the Segment 4 trail;
- Design stormwater solutions for the overall Segment 4 area; and
- Confirming locations, determining programming and providing conceptual designs for Segment 4 park amenities.

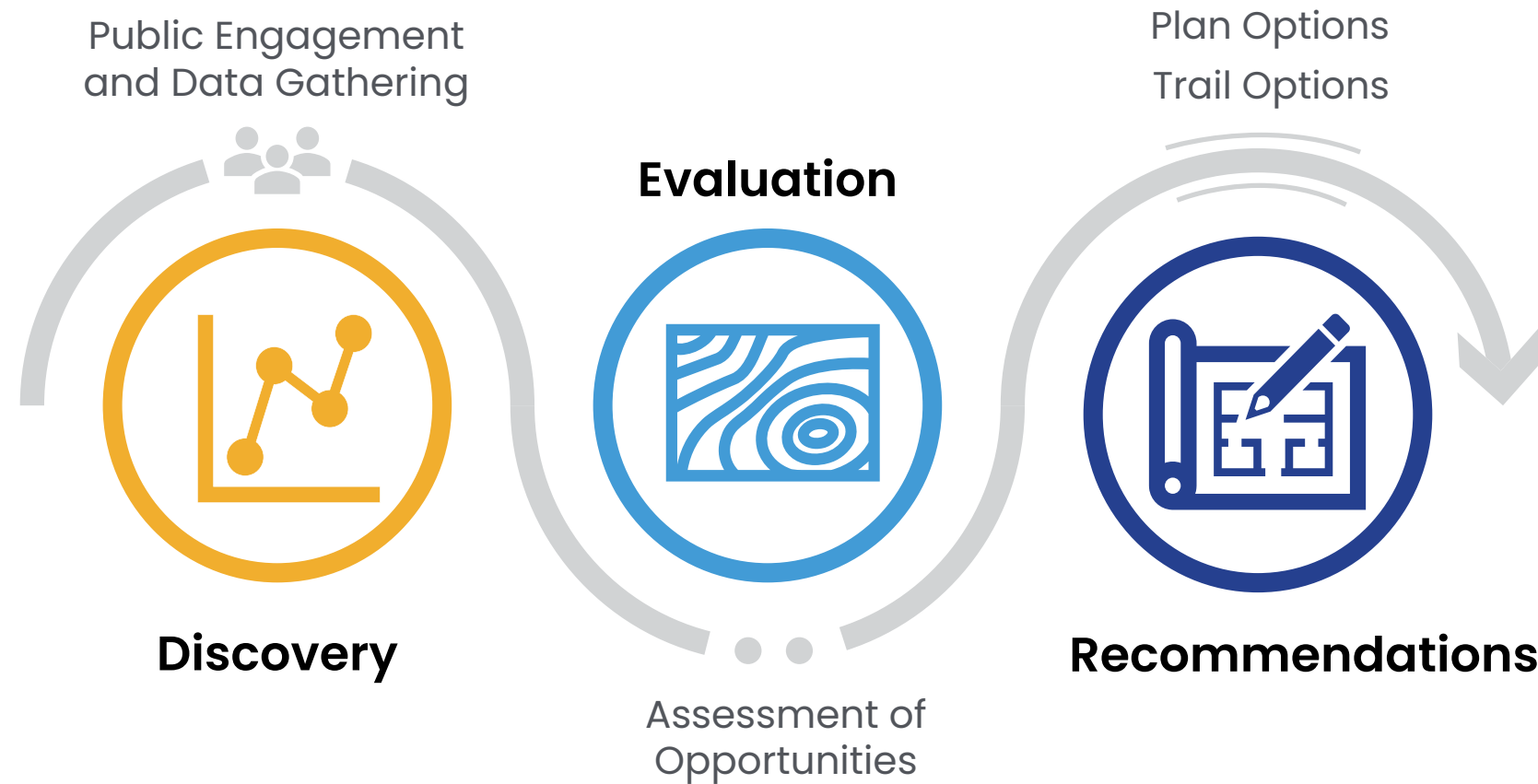


Capital Cascades Existing Trail Segments and Segment 4 Planning Study Area

# Planning Process

The planning process included three phases: discovery, evaluation, and recommendations. The discovery phase included public and stakeholder engagement, a review of previous planning efforts, and analysis of existing GIS data within the study corridor. Findings from the discovery phase formed the basis of the evaluation phase, where potential trail alignments were proposed and assessed against an established set of criteria. Additionally, two park concepts were developed and iterated during this time.






As a culmination of the planning efforts, a final trail alignment and two park site concepts were proposed. These are provided in the Recommendations chapter of this report.

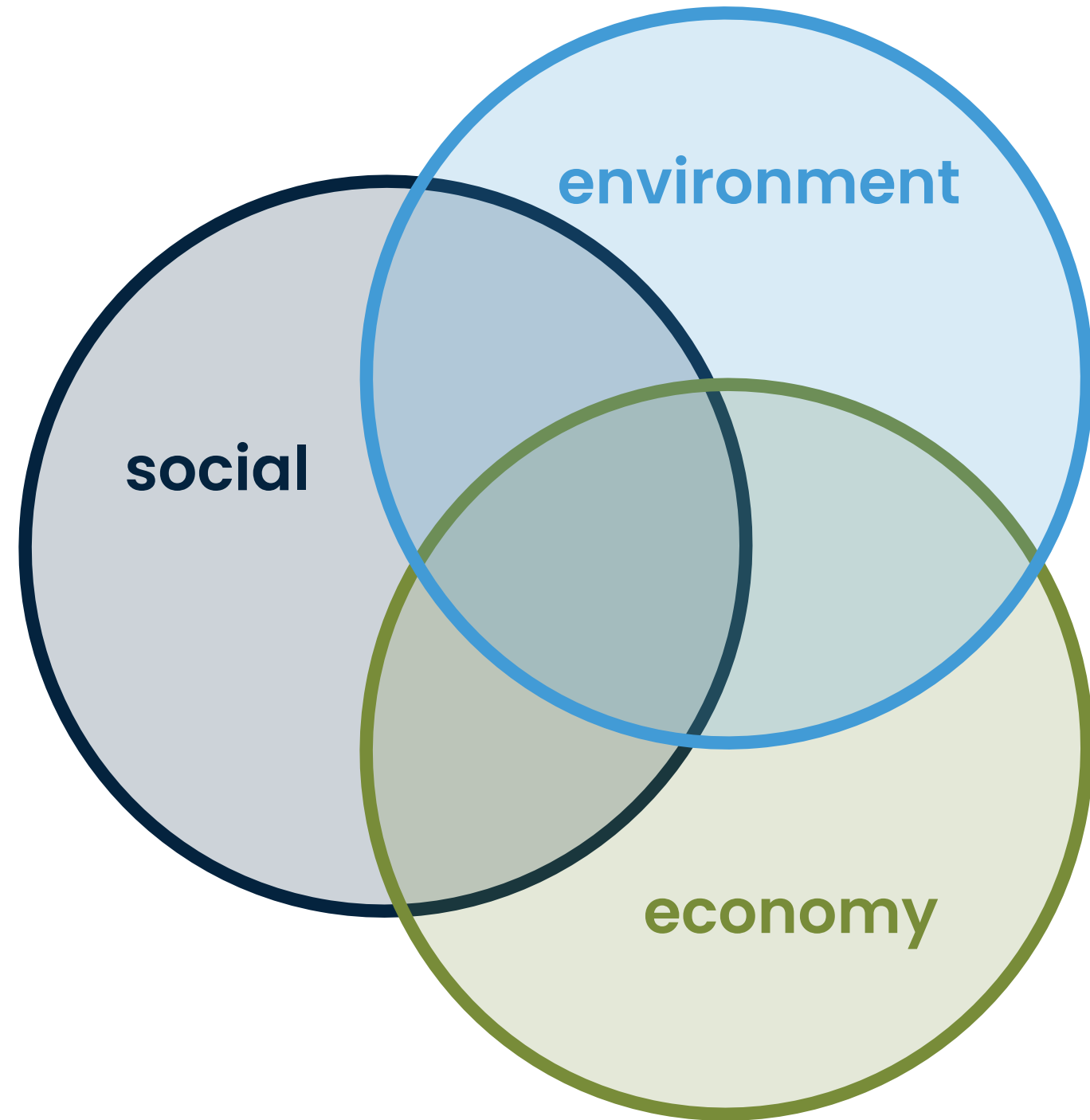


# Goals and Objectives

The overarching goals for the project are to invest in parks and trails that heal the environment, educate the public about environmental and cultural opportunities within the corridor, promote healthy communities, and provide equitable access to open space.

Specific objectives include:

-  Improving water quality
-  Lowering flood stages where feasible
-  Providing multimodal interconnectivity
-  Providing recreational amenities for the public
-  Reducing sediment and trash in the corridor



The background of the slide is a photograph of a river. In the foreground, there is a wide, light-colored sandbar or gravel bar in the middle of the river. The water flows around the bar, creating some white foam. The banks are lined with green grass and various trees, some with bare branches. The sky is bright and clear.

# 02 Discovery and Evaluation

Discovery  
Evaluation



# Discovery

The planning team engaged with the following stakeholder groups:

- City of Tallahassee
- Leon County
- Florida Department of Transportation
- Leon County School Board
- Area Residents
- Area Churches
- Greater Bond Neighborhood
- Liberty Park/Callen Neighborhoods
- Jake Gaither Neighborhood
- Capital City Cyclists
- Joint City/County Bicycling Workgroup
- Florida Communities Trust
- An open house held on February 2, 2023 was attended by over 200 community members.

Key themes are highlighted on the next page.

**Include neighborhood history**

**Plant edible fruit trees**

**Supply extra trees for shade along trail**

**Remove existing invasive exotic vegetation.**

**Provide neighborhood & interpretive signage**

**Connect with existing and future bike trails**

**Protect, restore, and preserve the natural biotic communities on the project site.**

**Connect with adjacent neighborhoods**

**Establish speed limit for electric mobility devices**

**Install storm water facilities that function as recreational and habitat amenities.**

**Add more trash cans**

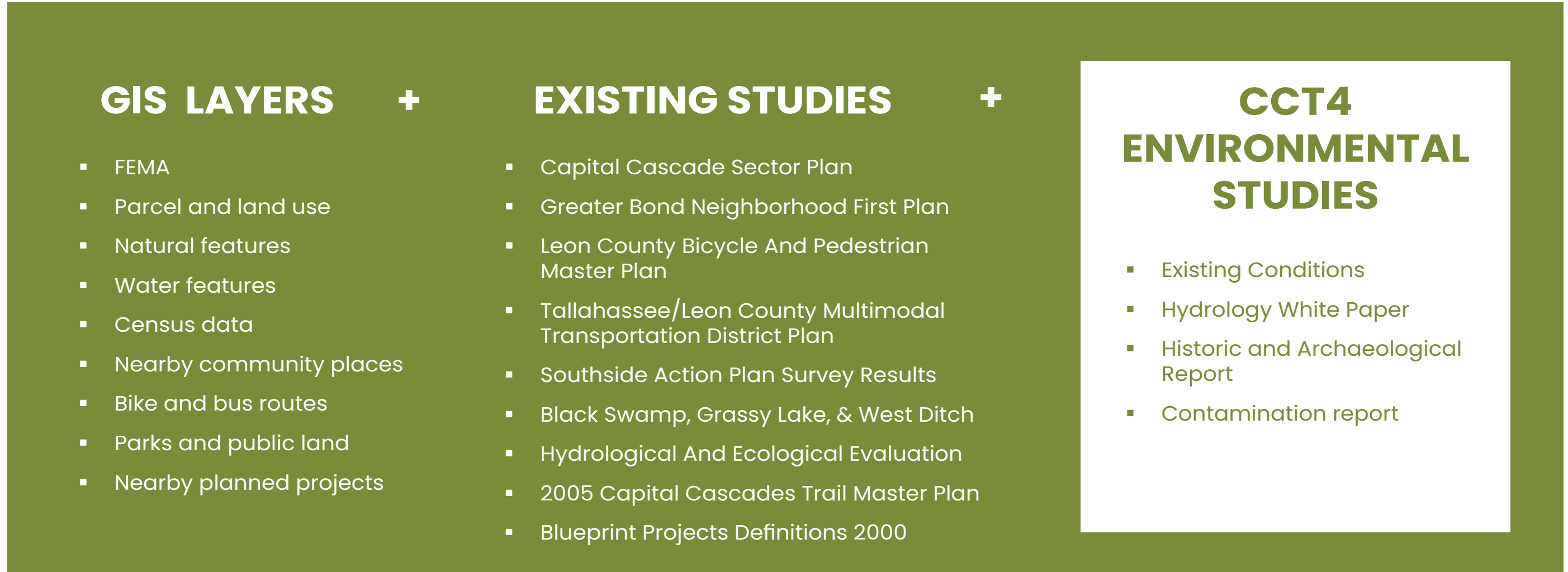
**Install lights along the trail for safety**

**Restore disturbed wetlands.**

**Furnish picnic tables and chairs**

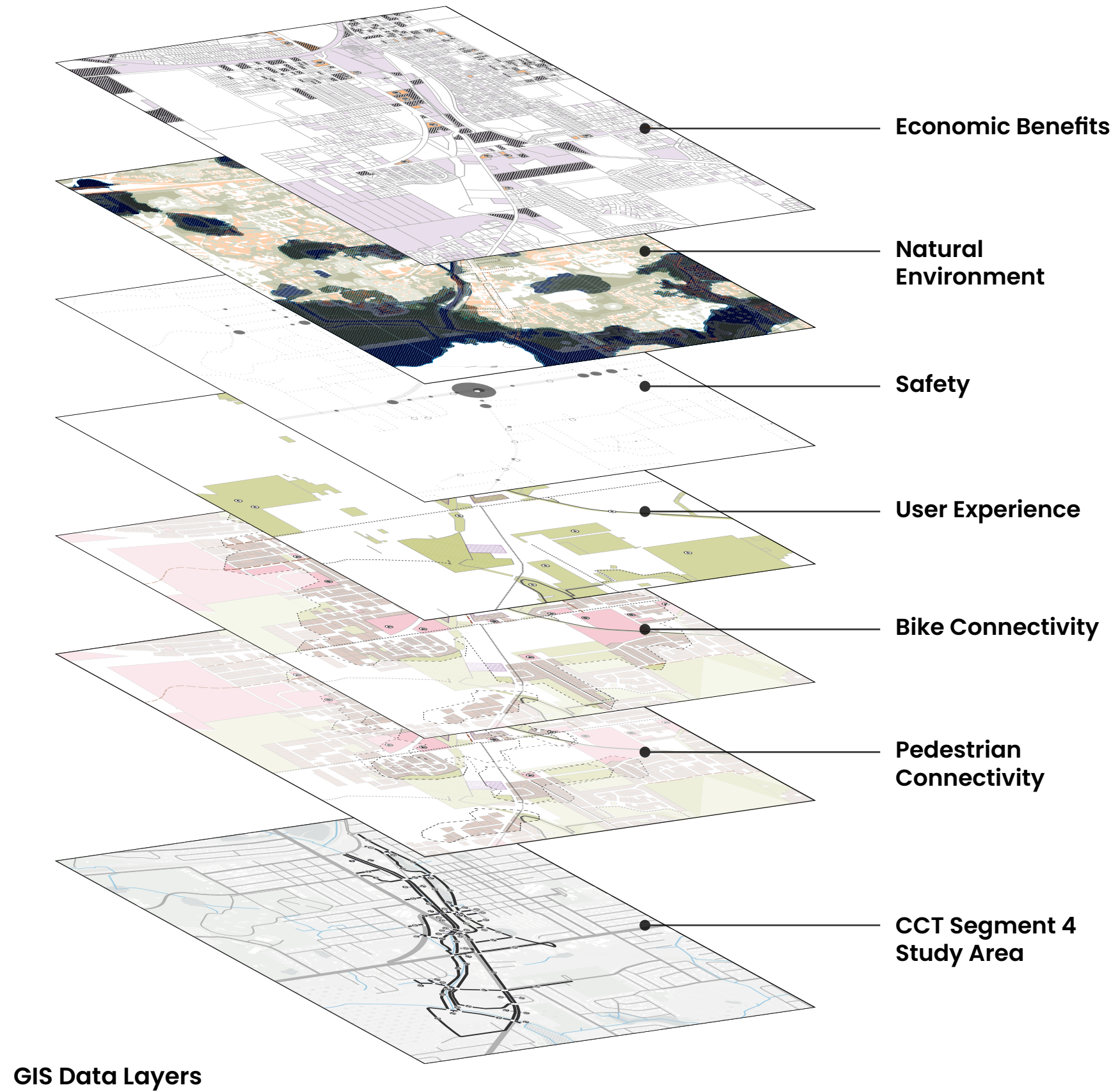
**Stakeholder Input Received**

As a part of the study the design team looked at a wide variety of inputs including technical information, past studies, and environmental studies completed as part of the CCT 4 planning efforts. This helped to frame the existing conditions, challenges, and opportunities within the Segment 4 study area.



**Existing Data and Studies Reviewed**







View south from Kissimmee Street bridge



View of Kissimmee Street bridge from the north



View of east bank of central drainage ditch from west bank just south of Orange Ave



Northwest view of Munson Slough from Springhill Rd



View of St. Marks Trail facing south from Kissimmee St



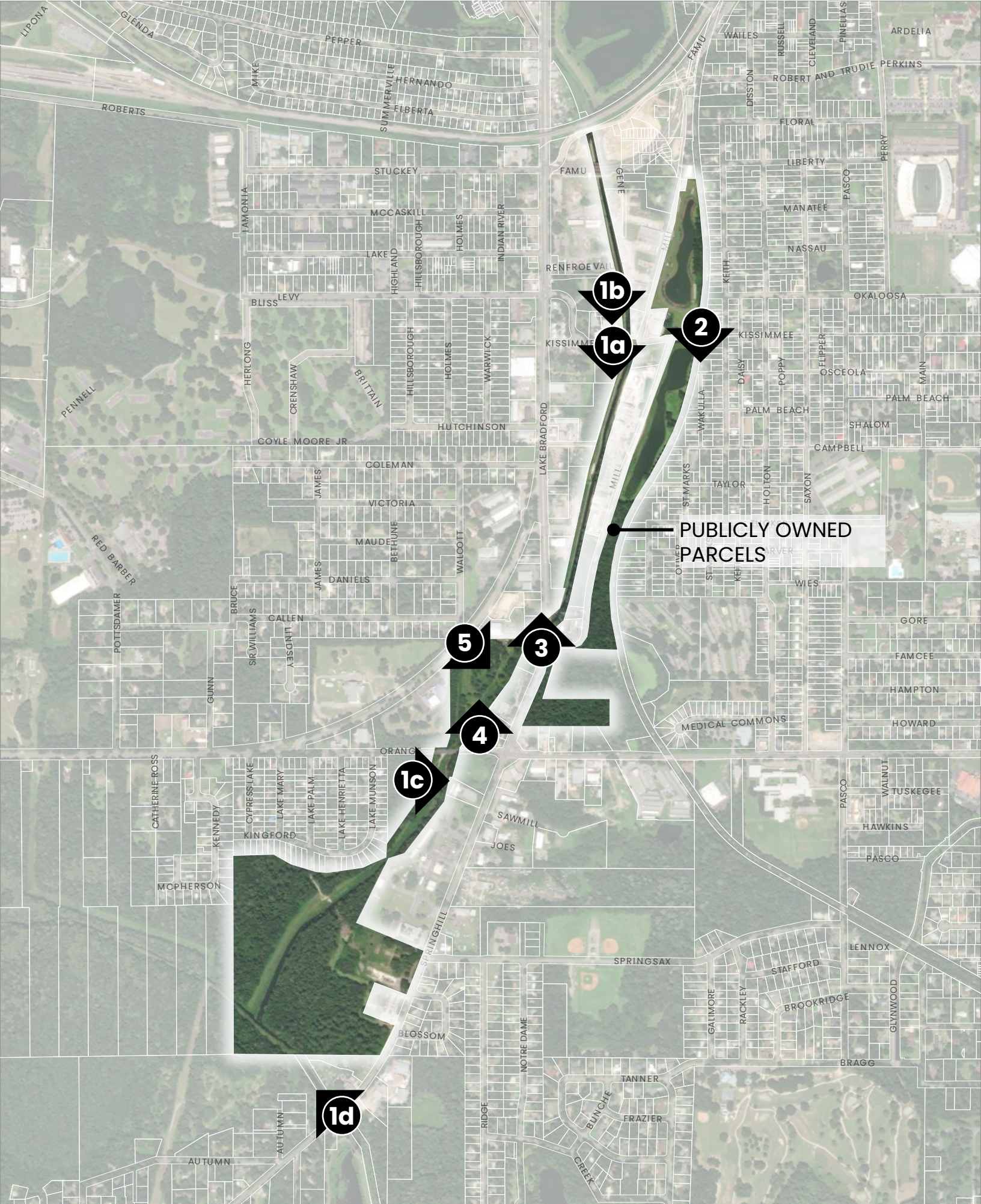
View under Springhill Rd bridge facing north



View into future park site at Lake Bradford Rd from Orange Ave



View into future park site at Lake Bradford Rd



Site visits to the CCT Segment 4 corridor revealed a number of challenges within the study area. Key issues around the publicly owned parcels are shown on the map and noted below.

- 1** Limited existing right-of-way in several areas of the Central Drainage Ditch
- 2** Lack of distinction/branding between Capital Cascades Trail and other nearby trails
- 3** Limited clearance for access under Lake Bradford Rd bridge
- 4** The locations of two converging drainage features creates an island effect which limits access options to the City-owned future park site at Lake Bradford Rd
- 5** Lake Bradford Rd is the only at-grade entrance to the future park site at Lake Bradford Rd

Issues Identified via Site Visits

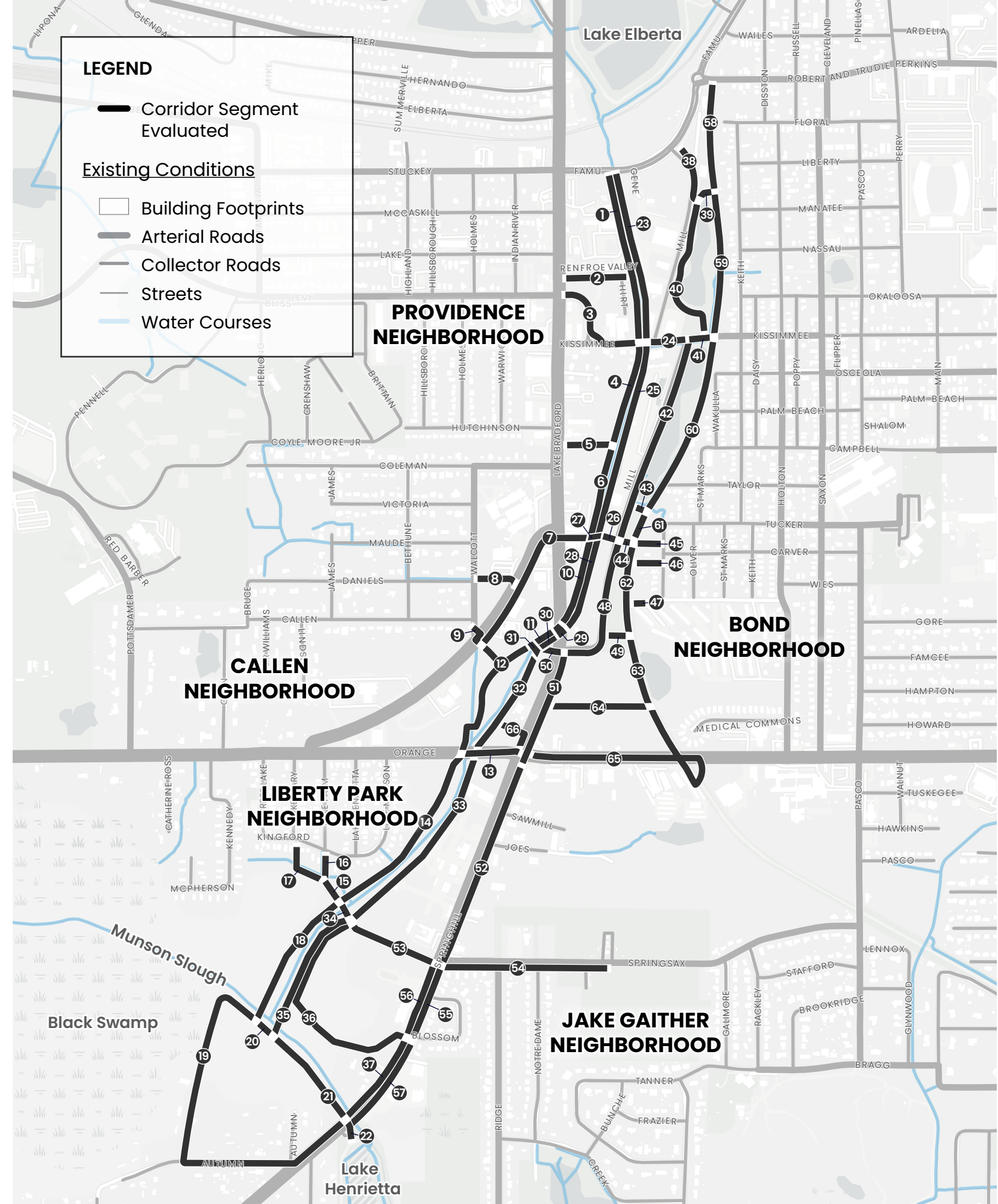
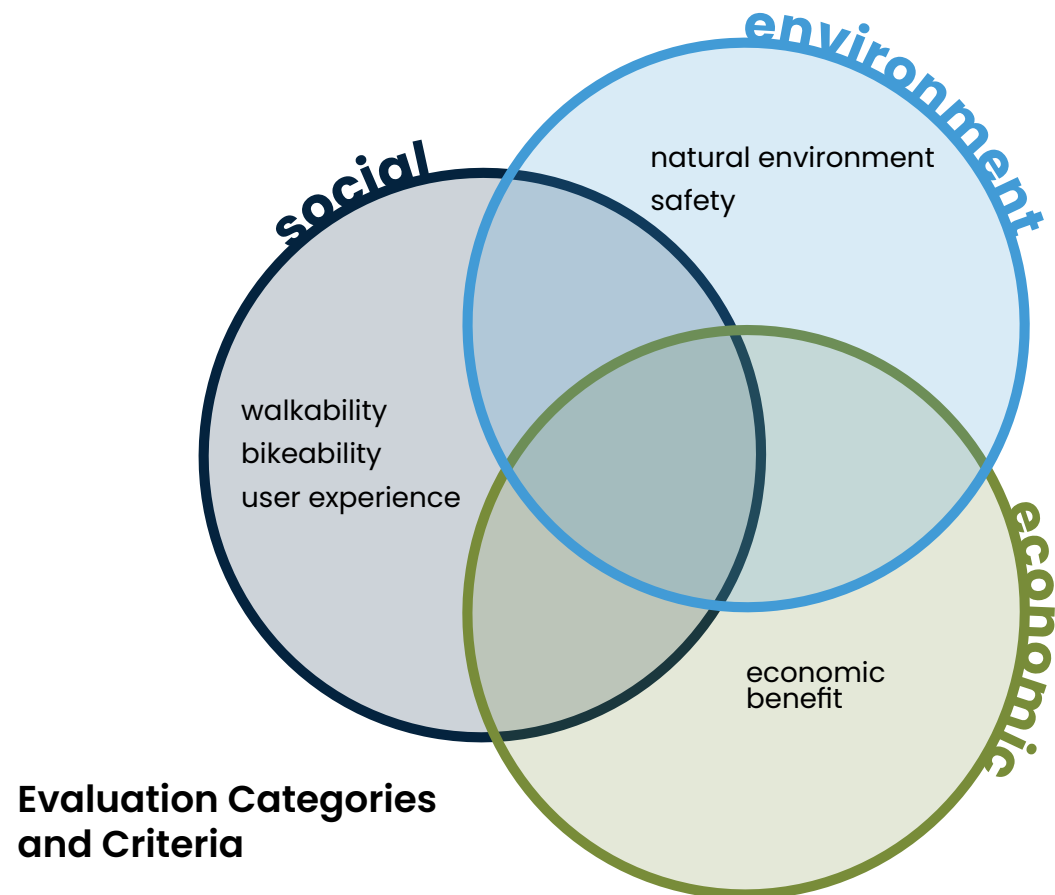


# Evaluation

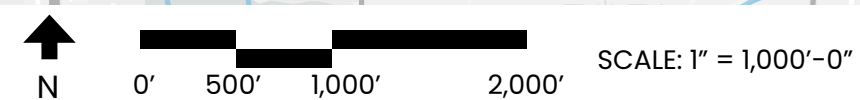
## Trail Alignment and Neighborhood Connectivity

The alignment evaluation began by identifying 66 viable corridor segments within the overall CCT Segment 4 study area, including segments along existing roadways, trails, and drainage ditch. Six evaluation criteria were established within the categories of social, environmental, and economic considerations.

An evaluation matrix was used to score each segment quantitatively based on data and observations from the segment. This formed the basis for the five potential routes advanced for further evaluation, and final selection of the preferred alignment.



Initial Corridor Segments Identified

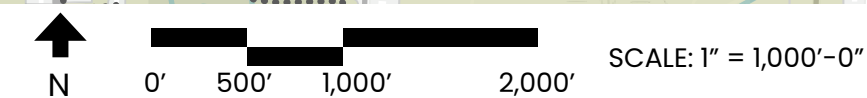


	User Experience	Pedestrian Connectivity	Bike Connectivity	Natural Environment	Safety	Economic Benefit	Total
<b>A</b> Canal West to Munson	5.6	2.7	3.3	5.8	7.7	6.0	31.2
<b>B</b> Canal West to Springhill	5.0	2.6	3.0	6.2	8.2	6.5	31.5
<b>C</b> Canal East to Munson	5.7	3.0	3.8	4.8	8.5	7.3	33.2
<b>D</b> Junction Park to Mill St to Canal East to Springhill	4.9	3.3	3.5	6.7	8.9	5.3	32.6
<b>E</b> St. Marks Trail to Canal East to Springhill	4.9	2.5	2.8	6.9	8.7	4.6	30.4
<i>Average</i>	5.2	2.8	3.3	6.1	8.4	6.0	31.8

Alignment Scores



Five Alignments Considered

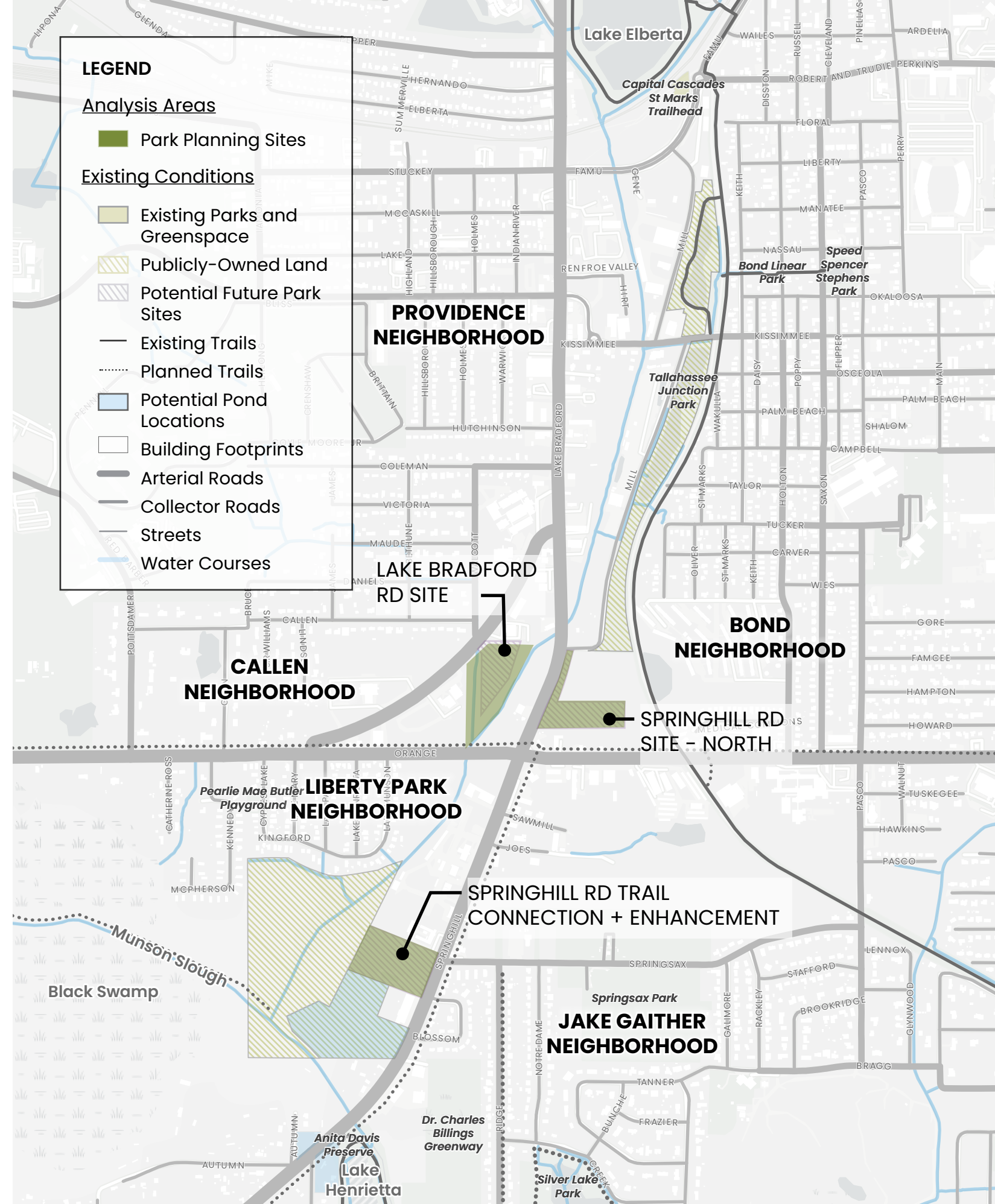


## Park Planning

The framework underlying site analysis emphasized a balanced approach to social, environmental, and economic considerations. At the intersection of all three, an important goal for the park design was to create interactive opportunities for public education.

The planning team identified opportunities and constraints for each of the sites through site visits and desktop analysis. The analysis revealed how well each site connects to surrounding neighborhoods and planned projects, its capacity for stormwater treatment, opportunity for tree canopy preservation, and more.

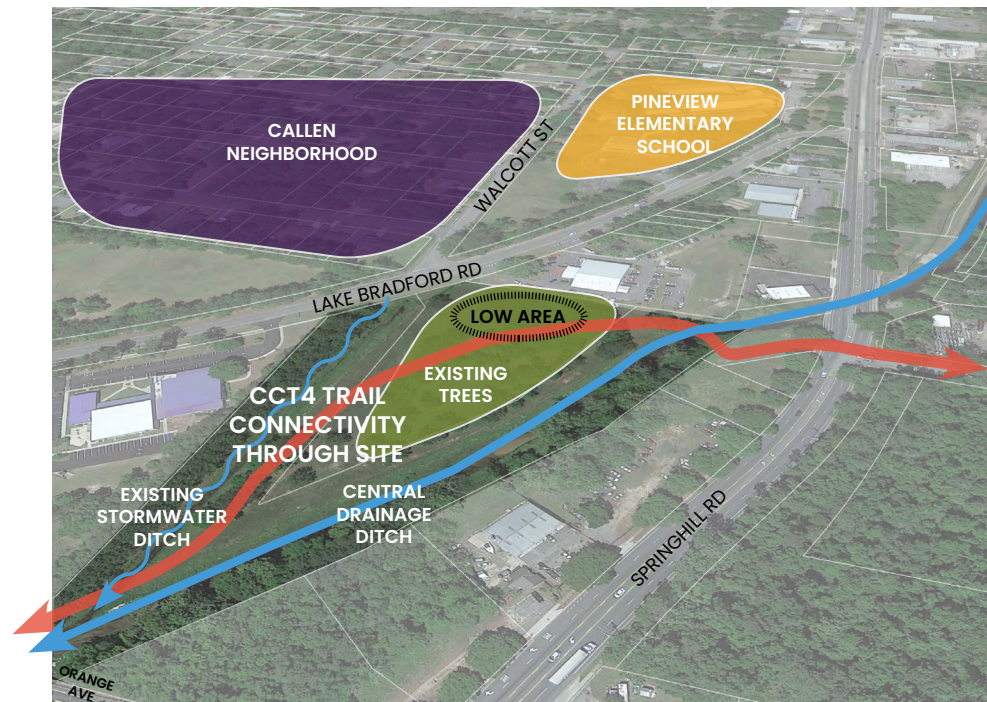
The vision for park planning was to create park space that heals the environment, educates the public, promotes healthy communities, and provides equitable access to open space.



Sites for Park Planning

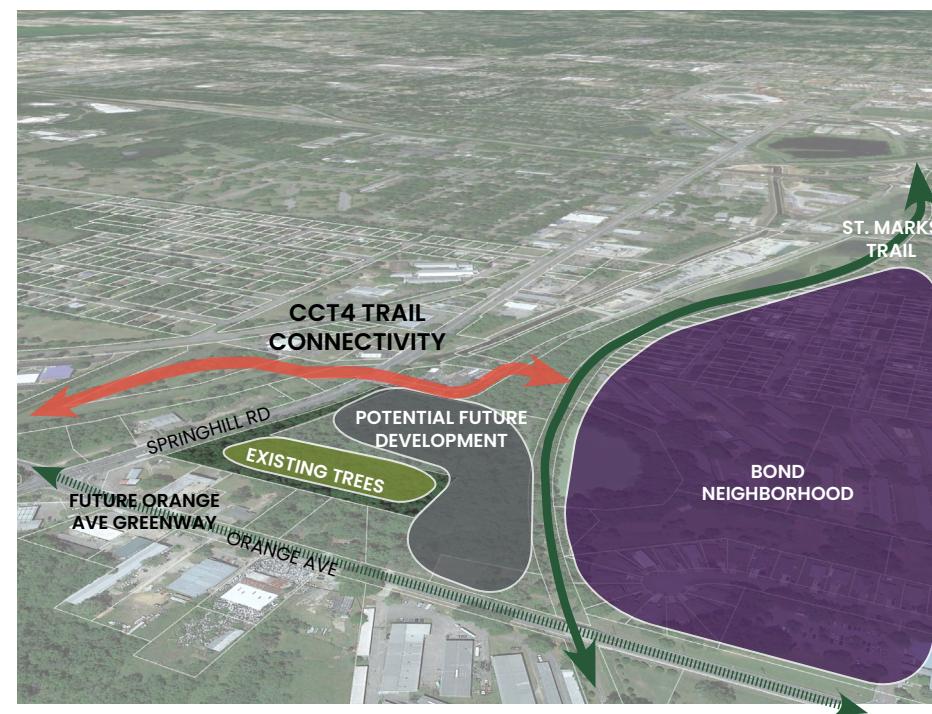


**Lake Bradford Rd Site**



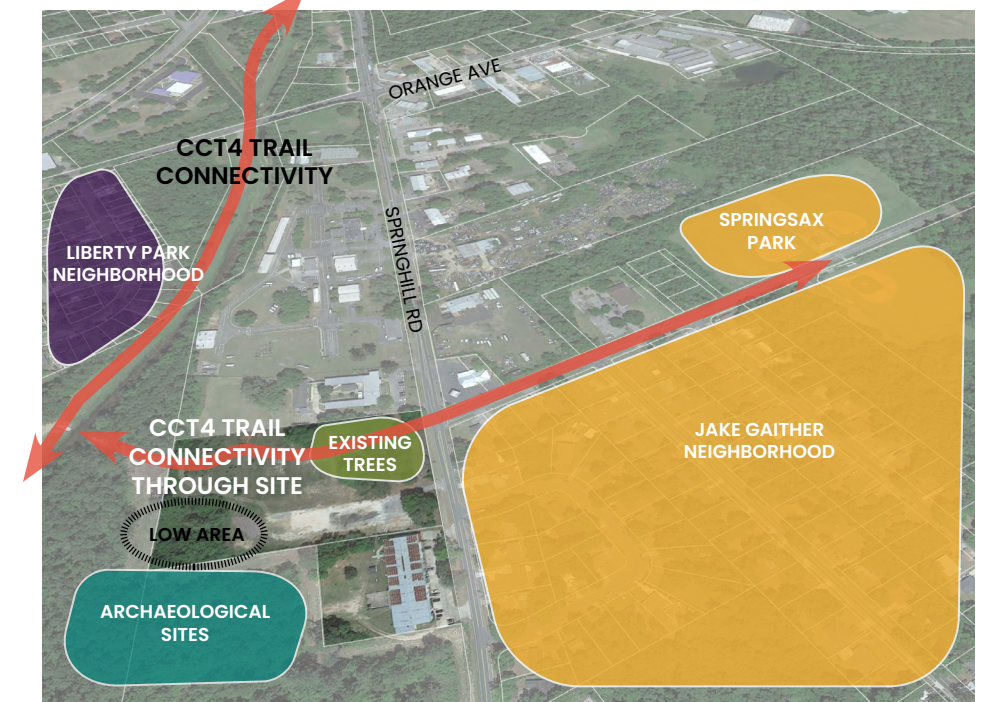
- Proximity to Callen neighborhood and Pineview Elementary School
- Direct connection to CCT 4 trail

**Springhill Rd Site - North**



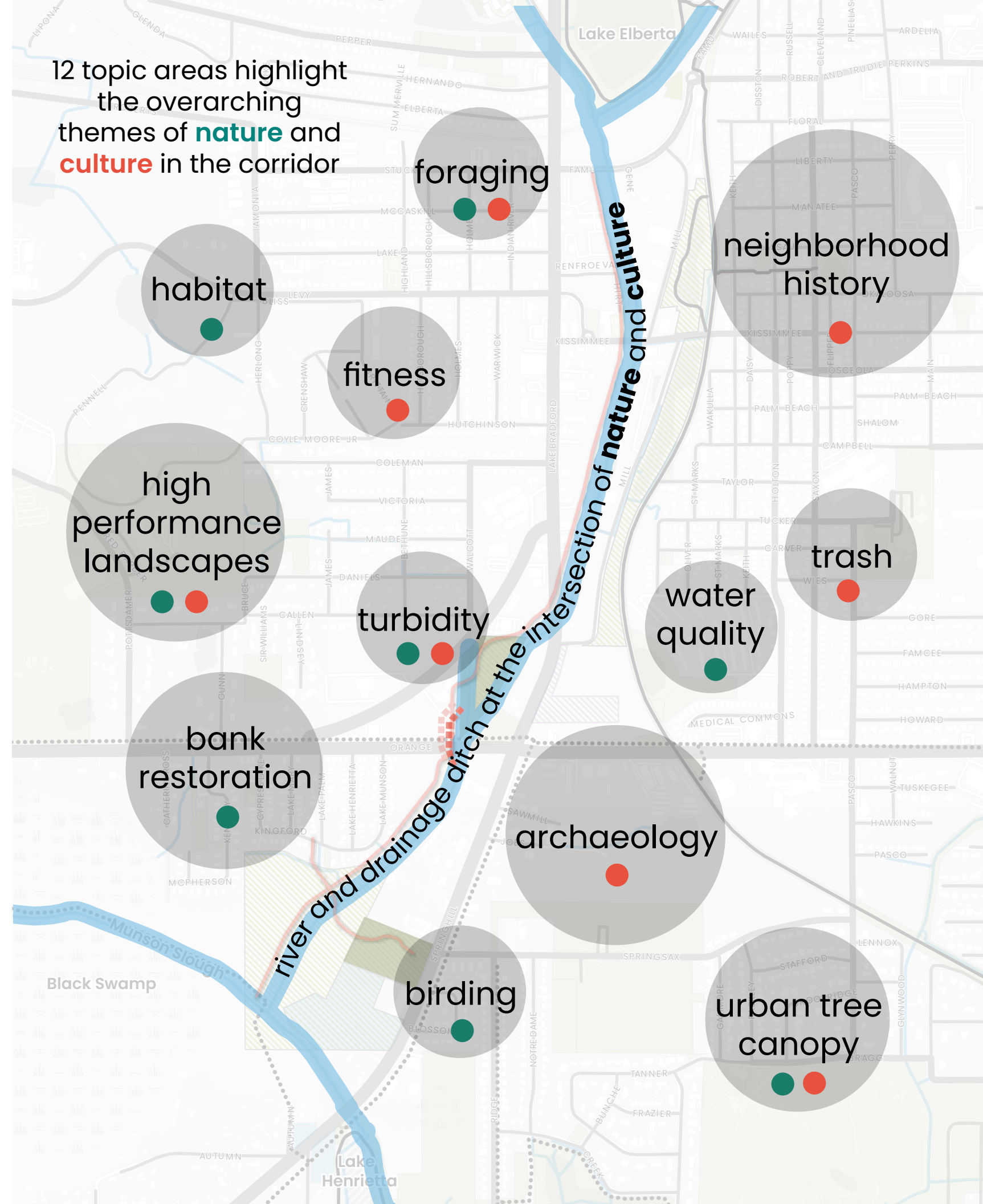
- Proximity to Bond neighborhood, future Orange Ave Greenway, and potential future development site
- Direct connection to CCT4 trail

**Springhill Rd Trail Connection + Enhancement**



- Proximity to Liberty Park neighborhood and Springsax Park
- Direct connection to CCT4 trail

12 topic areas highlight the overarching themes of **nature** and **culture** in the corridor



## Interpretive Education

Interpretive education around the existing Capital Cascades trail segments and the CCT Segment 4 study area were inventoried via desktop review of Google Earth streetview. The goal of this effort was to identify what types of signage or other interpretive elements exist, what format they are presented in, and what types of information they are conveying. A variety of interpretive features placed by a variety of entities were found throughout the study area.

### IDENTIFYING OPPORTUNITIES IN THE CORRIDOR

Twelve topic areas of relevance to the corridor were identified as opportunities for interpretive education. Each of these topic areas fall into the category of nature and/or culture, and often overlap between topic areas.





## PRECEDENTS AND EXAMPLES

Given the importance of public education for the Capital Cascades project, the design team looked at precedents for interpretive education beyond the study area. Beyond traditional signage, there are opportunities to engage park and trail visitors in a number of creative ways, shown in images to the right.

Use of recycled glass, plastic, and rubber in paving and furnishings



Visual/tactile feature highlighting local habitat



Engravings that highlight waterline for 100-year storm



Signage accompanied by interactive feature, explaining the water treatment process

## Wayfinding

Wayfinding elements around the existing CCT segments and the Segment 4 study area were inventoried via desktop review of Google Earth streetview, review of the City of Tallahassee (COT) Wayfinding Signage System Plan, and in coordination with the COT Planning Department. Traditional wayfinding elements such as maps, pedestrian pointers, and mile markers are present throughout the study area. Additionally, neighborhoods within the corridor often have their own final and/or neighborhood banner to help distinguish the district from surrounding areas. Two neighborhoods within the Segment 4 area - Bond and Providence - have their own logos. Furthermore, the City of Tallahassee is currently installing six banners within the Bond neighborhood with neighborhood branding.

Given that the City's standards govern the look and feel of wayfinding elements throughout the City, the future CCT Segment 4 wayfinding elements should also conform to this standard design. Examples of existing sign types are shown to the right, and identified on the map on the next page.



Trail counter and marker at S. Monroe St pedestrian bridge.



Pedestrian kiosk along FAMU Way utilize the City of Tallahassee Wayfinding Standards and include neighborhood final for the Florida A&M University.



Map/wayfinding station located within Cascades Park branding aligns with that of the rest of Cascades Park.

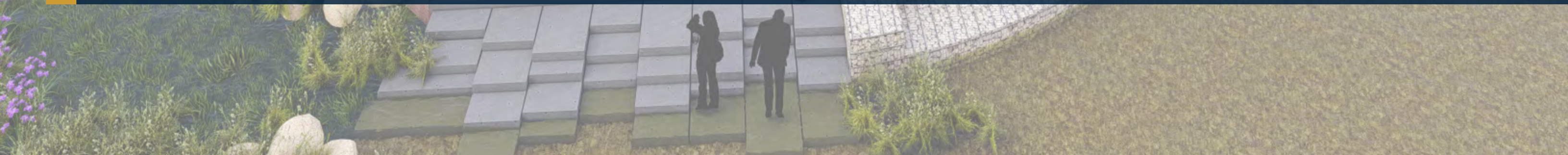


Approx. Locations of Existing Wayfinding Signage along Capital Cascades project



# 03 Recommendations

- Overview
- Proposed Alignment
- Stormwater Elements
- Trail Elements
- Park Planning
- Cost Summary



# Overview

The project recommendations includes four main components: trail alignment planning, park planning, interpretive education, and wayfinding.

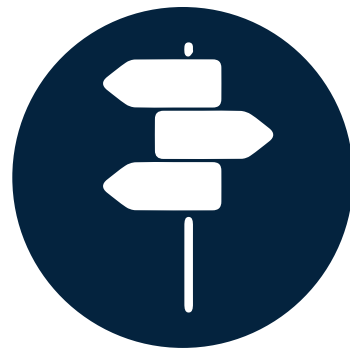
## Programming Layers



Trail Alignment Planning



Park Planning



Trail Elements




- Interpretive Education Node
- Wayfinding Node

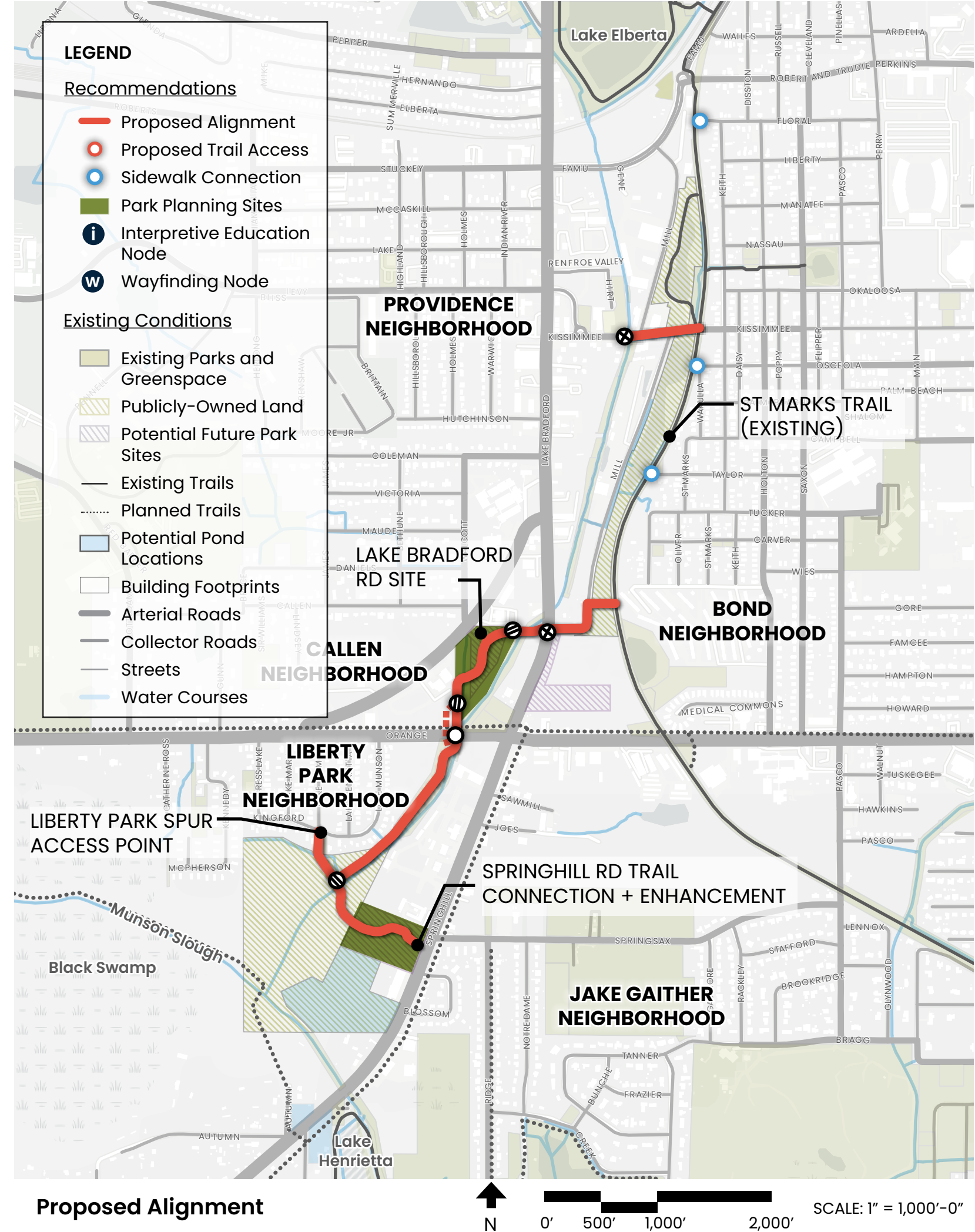


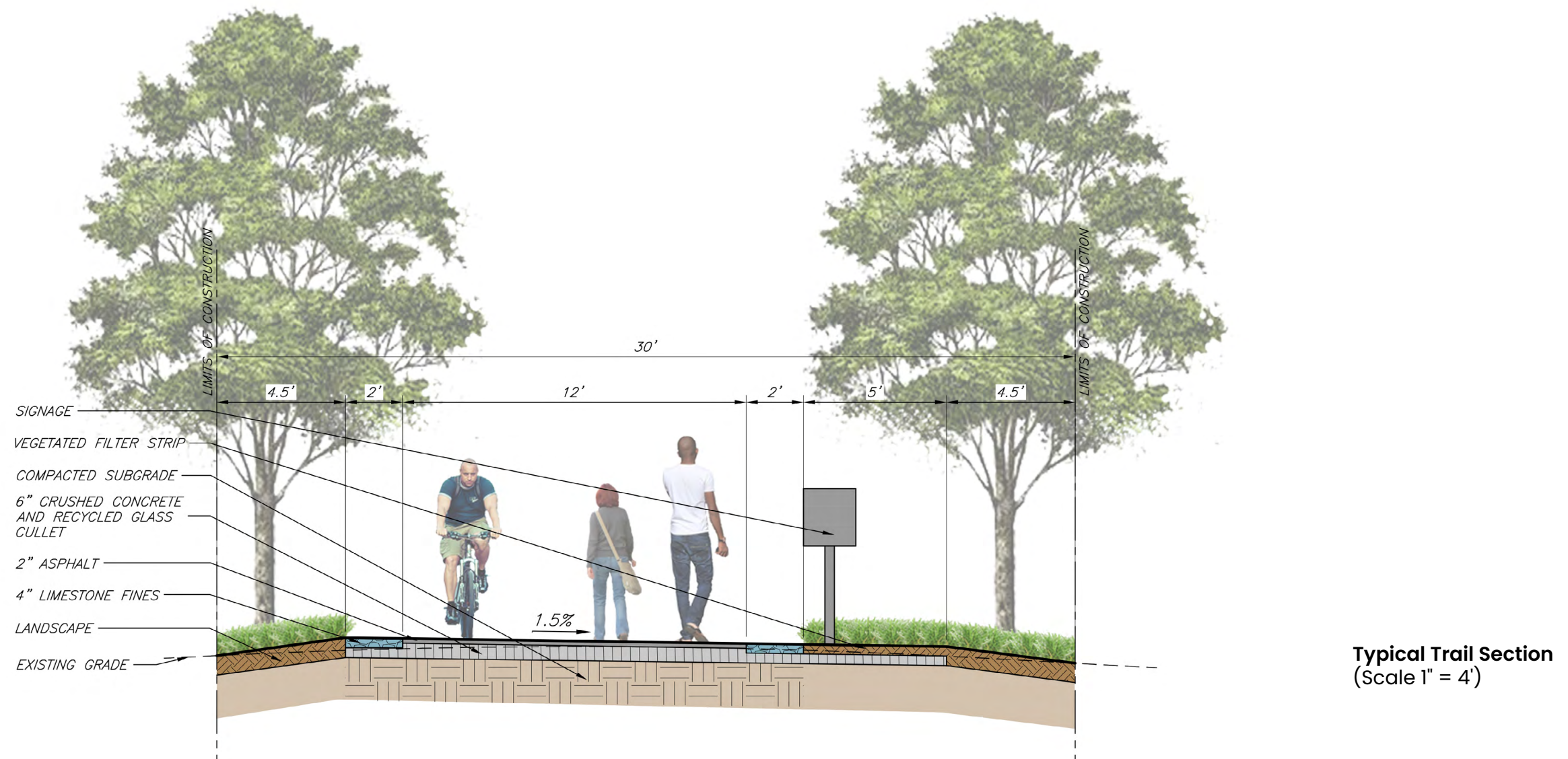
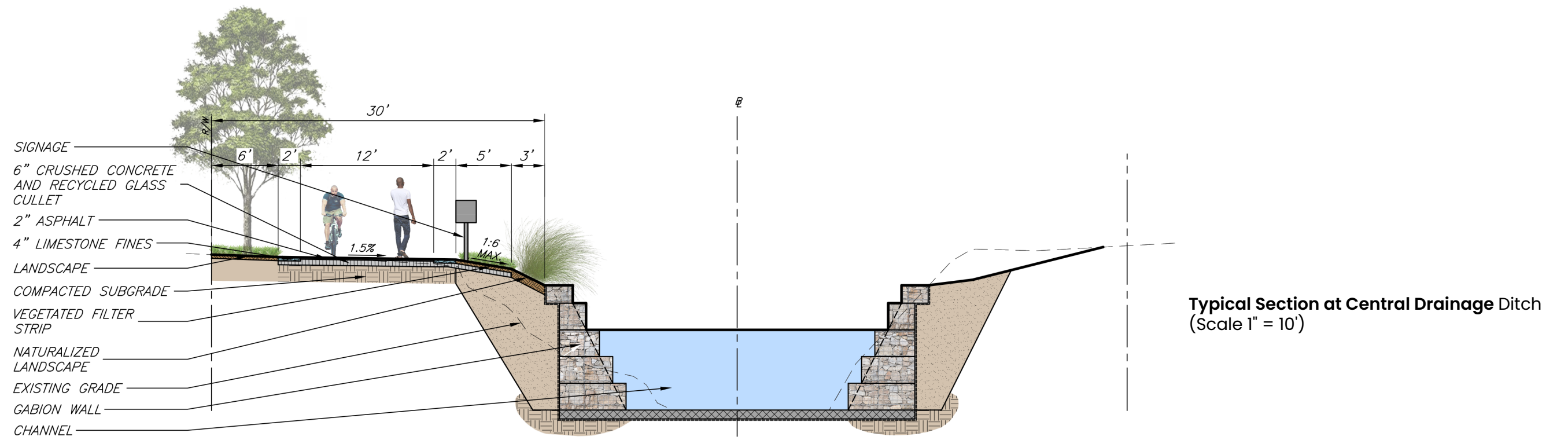
# Proposed Alignment

The proposed alignment balances goals of healing the environment, promoting healthy communities, and providing equitable access. Beginning at the south end of CCT3 segment, the trail follows the Central Drainage Ditch from FAMU Way and continues south of Orange Ave. It passes through the Bond neighborhood and provides proximity to the several other neighborhoods such as Providence, Callen, Liberty Park, and Jack Gaither. The trail is located on public land for the entirety of its length.

The trail development will follow these guiding principles:

-  **Improving water quality:** The trail will be constructed using Low Impact Development (LID) features like biofiltration strips, bioswales, to treat first flush of stormwater.
-  **Lowering flood stages where feasible:** The trail will be constructed using Low Impact Development (LID) features like infiltration trenches to capture and infiltrate runoff created by the trail construction.
-  **Reducing Trash in the Corridor:** The trail will be constructed using local recycled materials to the greatest extent possible. Material may include glass cullet in lieu of aggregate fill, recycled asphalt, high slag content concrete, and high recycled content site furniture.





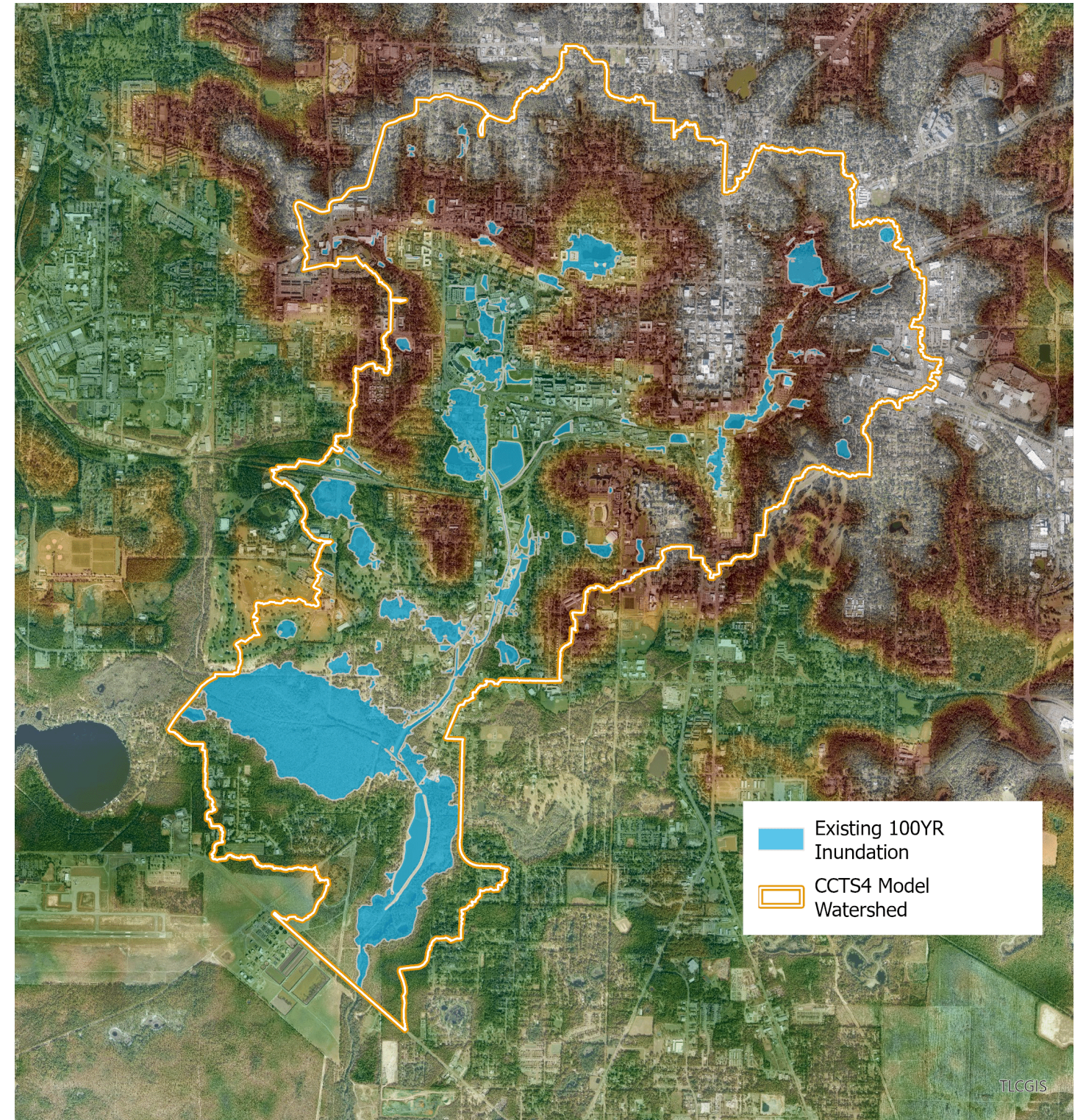
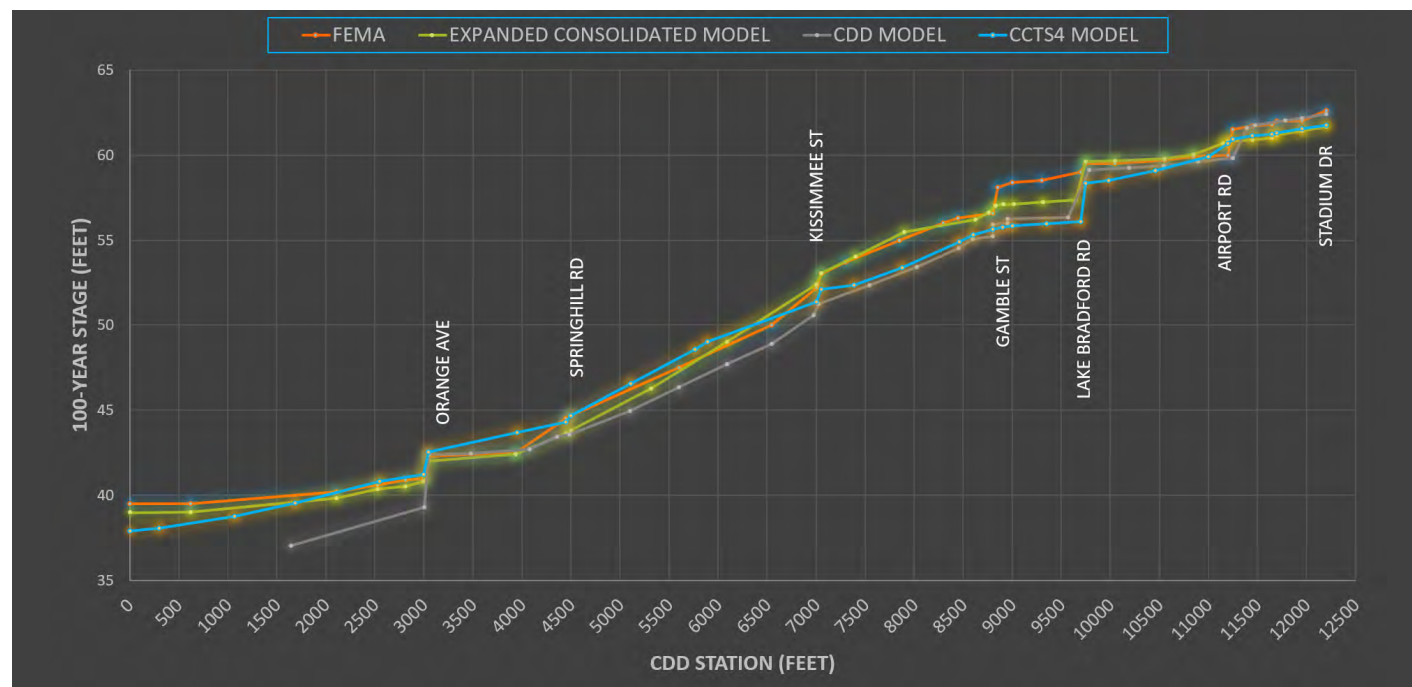
# Stormwater Analysis

## Existing Conditions

The Capital Cascade Trail Segment 4 project corridor footprint is near the downstream end of the Central Drainage Ditch (CDD). The project watershed includes the CDD watershed and the Saint Augustine Branch (SAB) watershed and covers approximately 8 square miles.

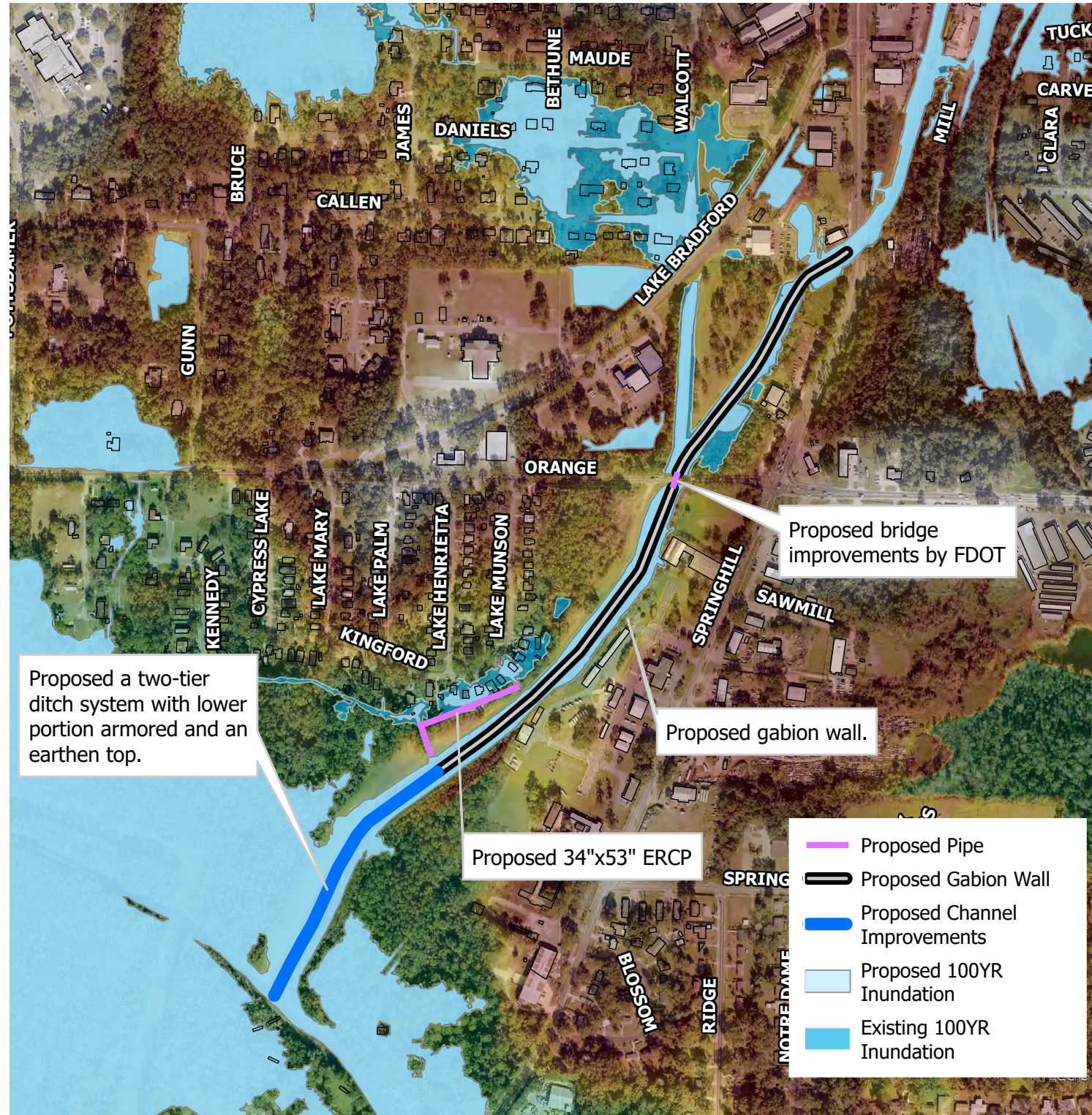
The physical landscape of the project watershed is heavily urbanized and includes most of downtown Tallahassee, Florida State University (FSU), Florida A&M University (FAMU), and surrounding residential and commercial areas. Most of the urbanized area was developed before modern stormwater regulations; therefore, little on-site stormwater attenuation or treatment is provided at the watershed scale. However, the community has invested in several stormwater retrofit projects in the area that provide stormwater attenuation. Significant stormwater retrofit facilities include the Florida State University–City of Tallahassee Regional Stormwater Facility (FSU–COT RSF); Coal Chute Pond, Smokey Hollow Pond, and Boca Chuba Pond in Cascades Park; and Lake Anita to name a few. Blueprint is also currently constructing a new stormwater retrofit facility as part of the CCT Segment 3D-B project, which includes a wet-detention pond. Collectively, eighteen stormwater and water quality projects have been constructed within the CDD watershed, representing a \$144,000,000 capital investment by the City, County and Blueprint.

The focus of model development and verification was the 100-year design storm. The CCTS4 model predictions are spatially similar in extent to the FEMA effective map. Within the modeled watershed for the 100-year design storm. The CCTS4 predicted flood extents are similar to the community’s understanding of the 100-year flood risk throughout the watershed.



CCTS4 Watershed – Model Development





Flood Improvement – Liberty Park, Channel, and Future Bridge Improvement

# Stormwater Analysis

## Recommended Concept

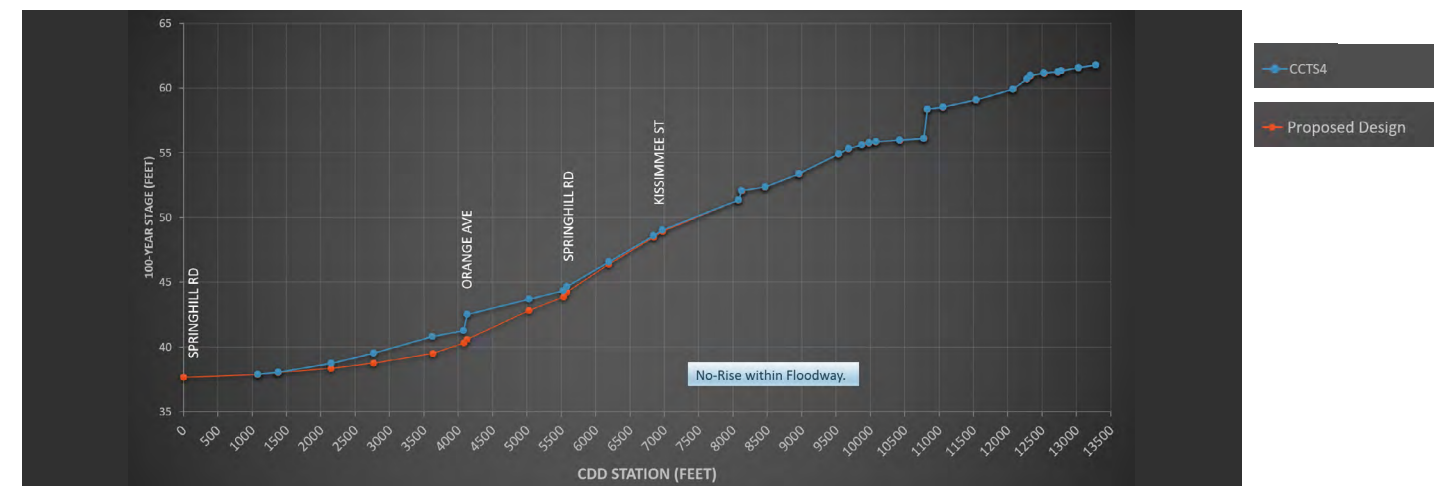
Stormwater analysis of the proposed Capital Cascade Trail Segment 4 improvements must demonstrate no adverse impacts within the regulated 100-year floodway and floodplain. Conceptual Park Designs and Trail Alignments increase impervious area and displaced floodplain storage within the Central Drainage Ditch watershed. A series of stormwater models were developed to verify no adverse impacts of the CCTS4 improvements as well as implement infrastructure concepts that could reduce flood impacts for the neighborhoods of Liberty Park and Callen, improve water quality, and minimize channel erosion within the Central Drainage Ditch. This helps accomplish the project goals.



Infrastructure improvements incorporated within the Central Drainage Ditch include modifying the existing stormdrain outfall for the Liberty Park Neighborhood and constructing a gabion wall system that will reduce sediment within the Central Drainage Ditch from Springhill Road to south of Orange Avenue, which increases velocities within the channel and in return reduces the flood stages in the adjacent neighborhoods.

The Recommended Concept reduces the peak water-surface elevations in Liberty Park by 10 inches and in the Callen Neighborhood by 7 to 13 inches, and reduces the number of existing inundated structures for 100-year, 25-year, and 10-year during an 8-hour design storm event. The table below summarizes the numbers of existing structures that will experience reduced flooding during specific rain events and the surface profile comparison below demonstrates a “No-Rise” within the 100-year flood plain for all improvements.

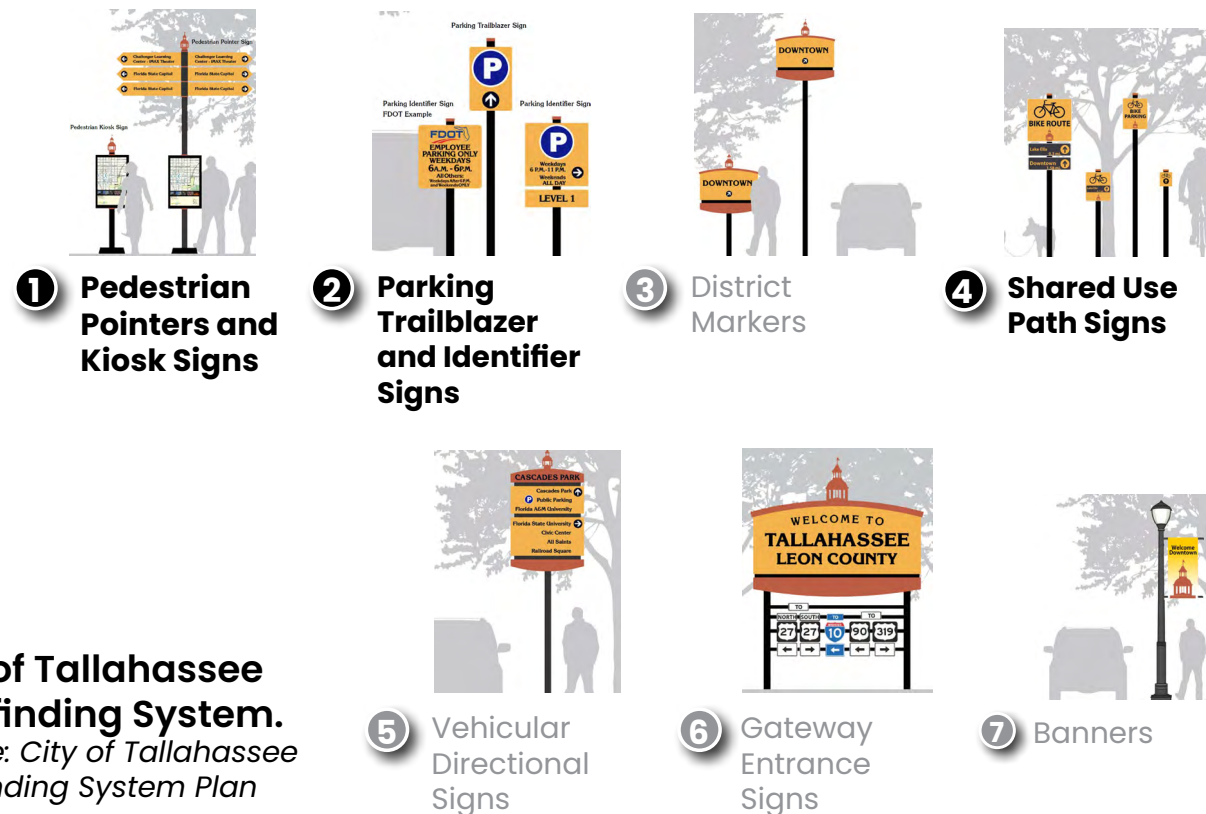
RECOMMENDED CONCEPT	100-YR	25-YR	10-YR
EXISTING STRUCTURES IN FLOODPLAIN	33	18	7
EXISTING STRUCTURES REMOVED FROM FLOODPLAIN	15	14	7



# Trail Elements

## Wayfinding

The City of Tallahassee has adopted a wayfinding system plan that designates style and content of directional signage citywide. CCT Segment 4 wayfinding elements will conform to this plan, and include the following: pedestrian pointers and kiosk signs, parking trailblazer and identifier signs, shared use path signs, and banners. Where nearby neighborhoods have existing logos, those will be incorporated into the banner or final design.



**City of Tallahassee Wayfinding System.**  
Source: City of Tallahassee Wayfinding System Plan








Wayfinding Elements

## Interpretive Signage at Parks

Interpretive features will be constructed using local recycled materials to the greatest extent possible, and incorporate playable and interactive elements.

Seven interpretive education nodes are proposed throughout the trail:

-  **Neighborhood History**
-  **Trash**
-  **Urban Tree Canopy** - to be located east of Springhill Road, corresponding with COT urban tree canopy protection areas;
-  **Birding** - to be located just south of Orange Ave along Robert White Williams Birding Trail; and
-  **Habitat** - to be located near trail terminus south of Orange Ave

Additional interpretive education nodes are proposed outside of the trail alignment at the two park sites, and are discussed in the following pages.

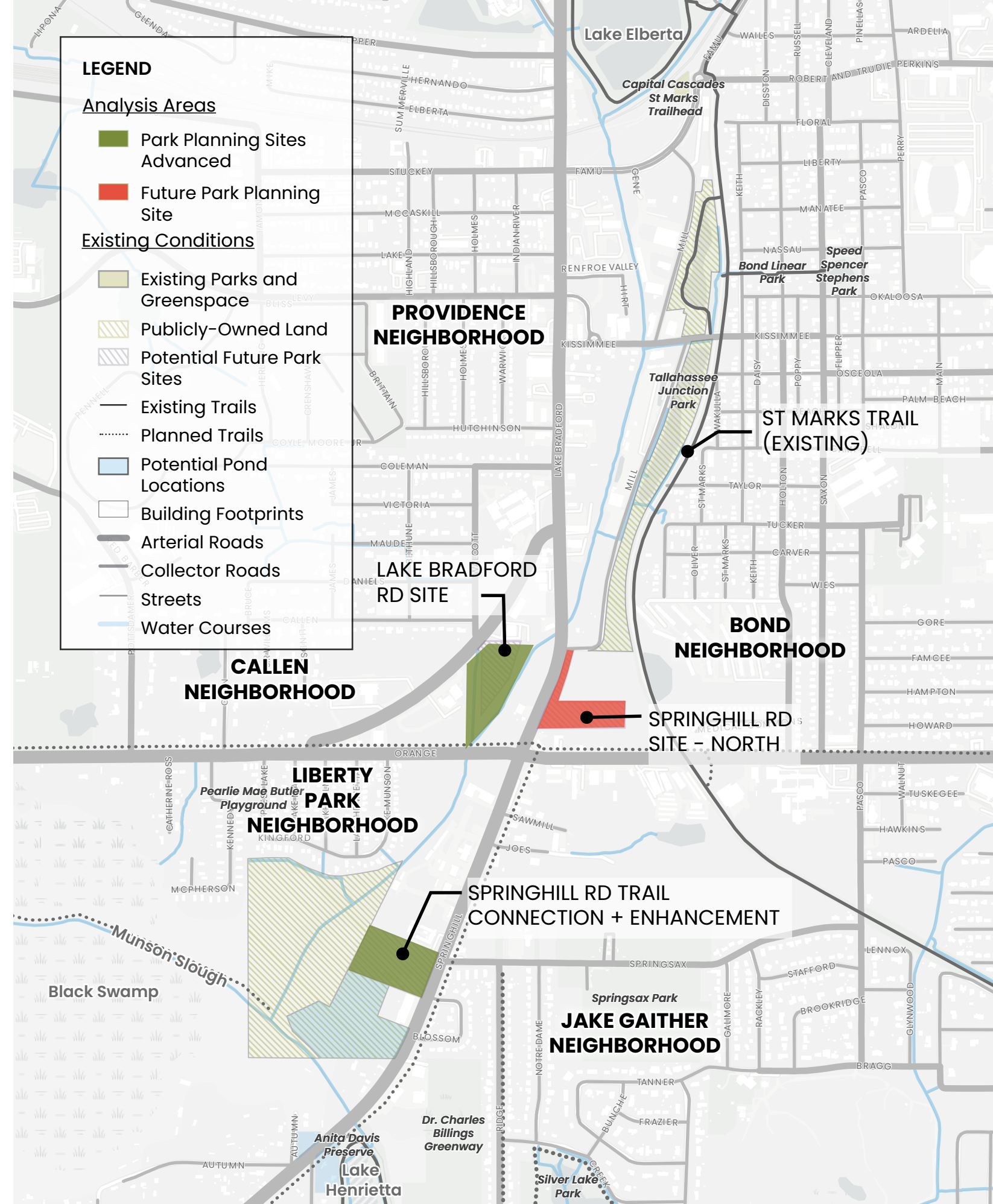


# Park Planning

The planning team developed multiple preliminary concept options for each site that emphasized a balanced approach to social, environmental, and economic considerations. The options tested different mixes of passive and active programming opportunities. Two of the sites were advanced for further development into final concepts: the Lake Bradford Rd Site, and the Springhill Rd Trail Connection + Enhancement. The third site - Springhill Rd Site North - was not advanced at this time due to probable but uncertain future development of surrounding parcels. This site will be a future phase of this project.

As part of the planning process the following guiding principles were developed to guide the park development:

- **Comply with all Florida Communities Trust grant requirements**
- **Store and treat off-site stormwater** where feasible to help lower corridor flood impacts and improve water quality
- **Incorporate interactive educational components** focusing on water quality, healthy communities, and other topic areas of local significance
- **Preserve 100% of viable trees on site**, maximizing new canopy coverage to the greatest extent feasible in support of the Tallahassee Urban Forest Master Plan
- **Minimize impervious surface** to the maximum extent possible
- **Minimize use of potable water** for irrigation
- **Restore habitat** for pollinating insects, native birds, and bats
- **Incorporate food productive landscapes** where feasible



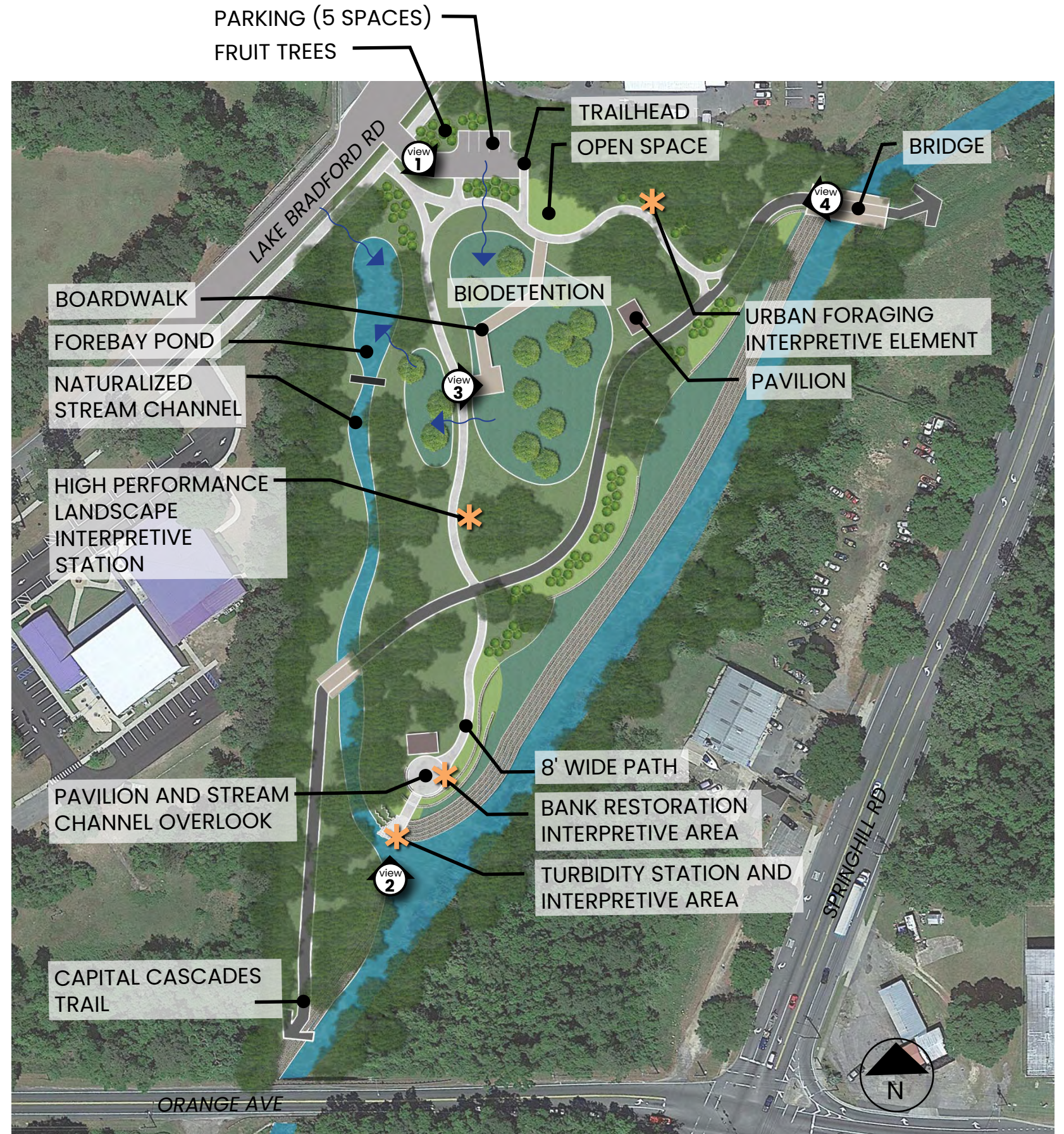
Sites for Advanced for Park Planning



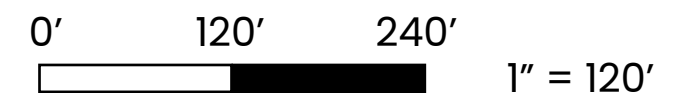
## Lake Bradford Road Site

The Lake Bradford Road Site will become a public open space with integrated elements to improve water quality, reduce runoff, and educate the community. These objectives will be achieved through a series of site enhancements including a bioretention area that collects and filters off-site stormwater, bank stabilization enhancements to adjacent canals, and a loop trail with a series of interactive interpretive stations. Four interactive education zones are proposed for the site, focusing on: bank restoration, high performance landscapes, turbidity, and urban foraging.

The site will be revegetated with native, habitat supporting landscape, and fruit trees for urban foraging. Bike/pedestrian and limited vehicular access will be provided to the site via the CCT segment 4 trail and Lake Bradford Road.



Lake Bradford Road Site Conceptual Plan



















Lake Bradford Road Site View 1. Overall Site



**Lake Bradford Road Site View 2. Boardwalk**



Lake Bradford Road Site View 3. Northeast Entrance

- |   |   |   |  |
|---|---|---|--|
|    | <b>Plum</b> <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 0 2px;">N</span><br>( <i>Prunus angustifolia</i> )<br>*Gulf Beauty |    | <b>Satsuma Orange</b><br>( <i>Citrus unshiu</i> )  |
|    | <b>Apple</b><br>( <i>Malus domestica</i> )<br>* Carter's Blue, Gala, Honeycrisp   |    | <b>Blueberry</b> <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 0 2px;">N</span><br>( <i>Vaccinium darrowii</i> )  |
|    | <b>Mulberry</b> <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 0 2px;">N</span><br>( <i>Morus rubra</i> )                     |    | <b>Pineapple guava</b><br>( <i>Feijoa sellowiana</i> )   |
|   | <b>Meyer Lemon</b><br>( <i>Citrus meyeri</i> )  |   | <b>Pear</b><br>( <i>Pyrus communis</i> )<br>* Pineapple and Golden Boy varieties   |
|  | <b>Kumquat</b><br>( <i>Citrus japonica</i> )  |  | <b>Pecan</b> <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 0 2px;">N</span><br>( <i>Carya illinoensis</i> )   |
|  | <b>Dwarf Fig</b><br>( <i>Ficus carica</i> var.)   |  | <b>Chestnut</b> <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 0 2px;">N</span><br>( <i>Castanea mollissima</i> ,<br><i>Castanea crenata</i> ,<br><i>Castanea dentata</i> *) |
|  | <b>Pawpaw</b><br>( <i>Asimina triloba</i> )   |  | <b>Persimmon</b><br>( <i>Diospyros kaki</i> )  |

**Proposed Landscape Planting List for Fruit Tree Grove** N = native

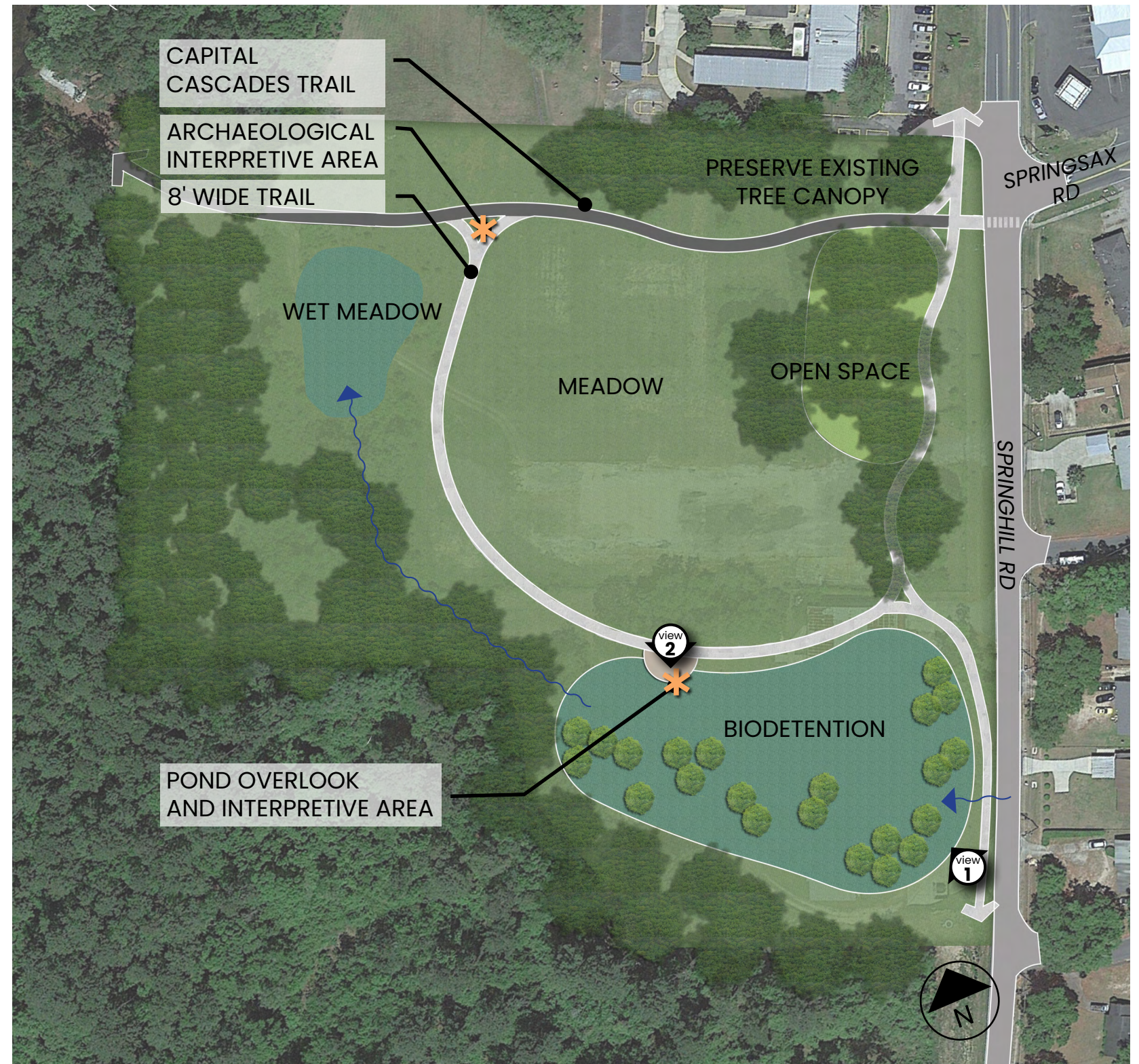
\* Although compromised by pervasive disease, American chestnut (*Castanea dentata*) could be a good choice for their cultural and educational value. The species' significant history is a great topic for interpretive education.



## Springhill Rd Trail Connection + Enhancement

The Springhill Rd Trail Connection + Enhancement will become a large passive public open space with a loop trail and a direct connection to the Capital Cascades Trail. Much of the site will be developed as native habitat, preserving the existing canopy and revegetating disturbed areas with native landscape. An integrated stormwater bioretention feature with cypress trees will be developed on the south side of the site to collect and clean off-site stormwater from Springhill Road before it enters Munson Slough.

Two interactive education zones are proposed for the site, focusing on stormwater bioretention features and archaeology.



Springhill Rd Trail Connection + Enhancement  
Conceptual Plan





**Springhill Rd Trail Connection + Enhancement View 1. Overall Site**



**Springhill Rd Trail Connection + Enhancement View 2. Overlook and Pond Area**

# Cost Summary

<b>SUMMARY OF PROBABLE COST CAPITAL CASCADE TRAIL SEGMENT 4</b>	
LAKE BRADFORD ROAD SITE	\$1,593,000
SPRINGHILL RD TRAIL CONNECTION + ENHANCEMENT	\$1,393,000
TRAIL CONSTRUCTION	\$5,195,000
BANK STABILIZATION	\$7,506,000
WATER QUALITY	\$587,000
FLOOD MITIGATION - LIBERTY PARK - CALLEN NEIGHBORHOOD	\$157,000
<b>PRE-CONSTRUCTION GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$16,431,000</b>

*INCLUDES TWENTY-PERCENT CONSTRUCTION CONTINGENCY*