

# Greenways Program 2022 Annual Report

Bellingham City Council

February 27, 2023



# Greenways Advisory Committee

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**“To provide citizen advice to the City Council and the Parks & Recreation Department on implementing the intent and objectives of the greenway levies in a manner that best addresses current opportunities, conditions and needs.” (BMC 2.20.040)**

The nine-member volunteer committee evaluate properties, develop maps, take field trips, and guide the implementation of strategic plan priorities.

## Greenways Advisory Committee

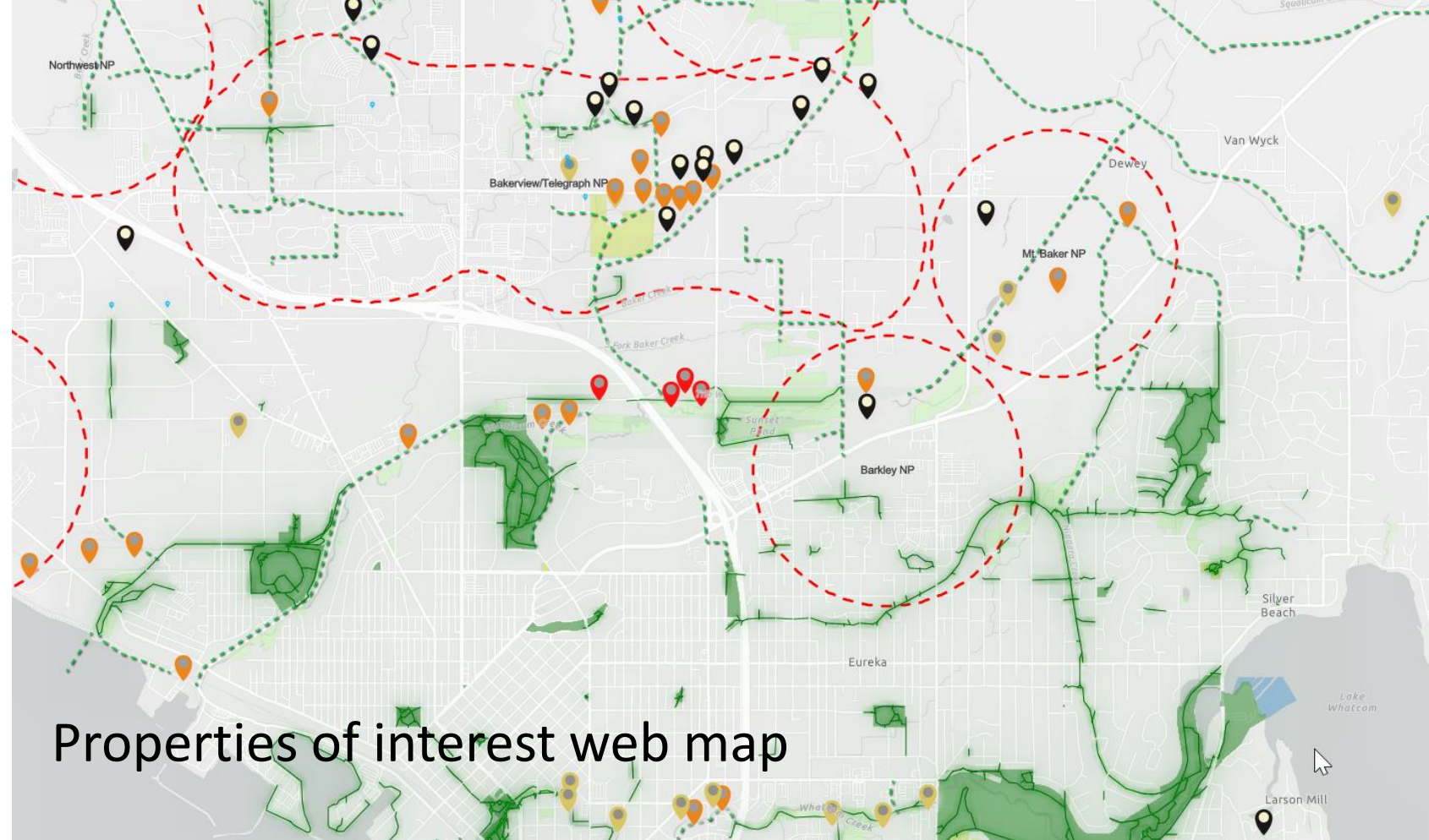
- Neil Schaner (Chair)
- Sarah Gardner (Vice-Chair)
- Jacob Stewart
- Dina Dickerson
- Scott Foreman-Murray
- Kate McDonald
- Caleb Savage
- David Stalheim
- Vacant
- Council rep: Skip Williams





## 2022 - 2026 Strategic Plan

Photo credit: Megan Travis



## Properties of interest web map

# Greenways Advisory Committee Highlights

## Greenways IV Levy

*Goal: “to acquire, improve, develop and maintain greenways, open space sites, parks, park facilities, and trails...”*

### Allocation Guidance:

- *42% for the development of properties purchased by the City*
- *33% for land acquisition, specifically including trail connections*
- *25% for the ongoing maintenance, operation, and capital replacement needs of park properties and facilities*



# 2022 Greenway Acquisitions

## Happy Valley

- Purchased .28 acres adjacent to Happy Valley NP in June 2022 for \$615,000 (\$415,000 of GW + \$200,000 of PIF)

## Post Point Heron Rookery

- Purchased May 2022 for \$1M using \$332,052 of Greenways funds

## Hoag's Pond/Interurban Greenway

- Purchased .23 acre in June 2022 for \$35,000
- Purchased .16 acre in November 2022 for \$7,205
- Donation of .16 acre in December 2022

## Chuckanut Creek

- Purchased 1.5 acres in December 2022 for \$550,000



# 2022 Greenway Acquisitions

## East Bear Creek

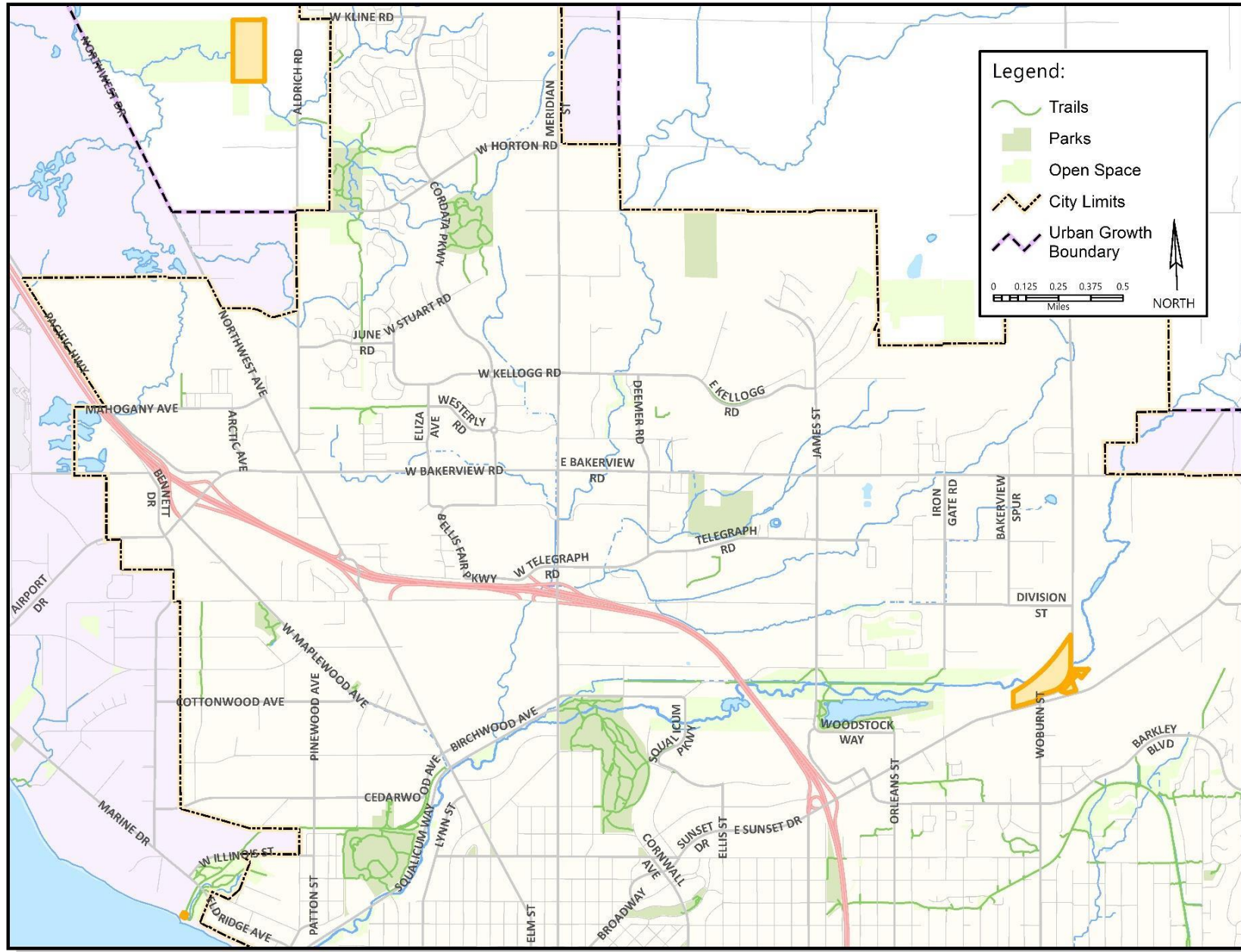
- Purchased 20 acres of forested wetland for \$357,500 to expand existing 80-acre open space site

## BNSF Easement

- Permanent access easement at Little Squalicum Park purchased for \$19,233

## Squalicum Creek Corridor

- Purchased 17.5 acres in September 2022 for \$300,000



# Acquisition Spending Summary

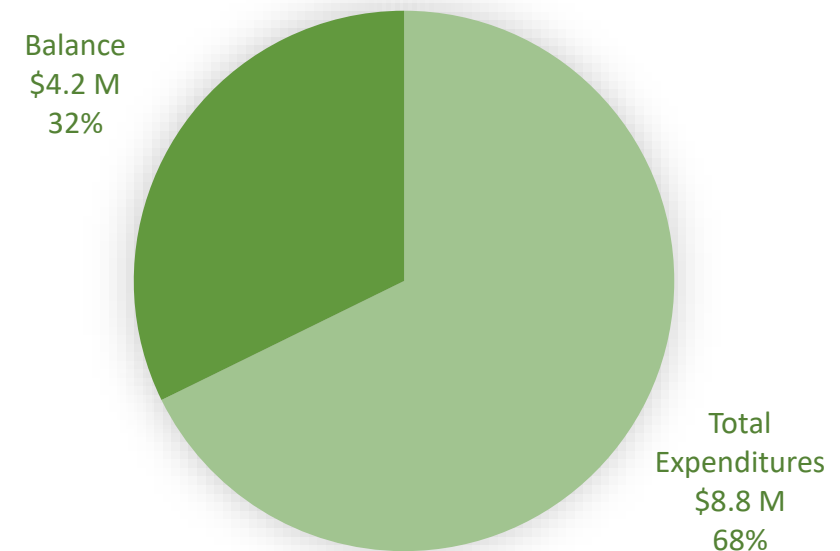
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2022 Spending: \$ 2,168,932

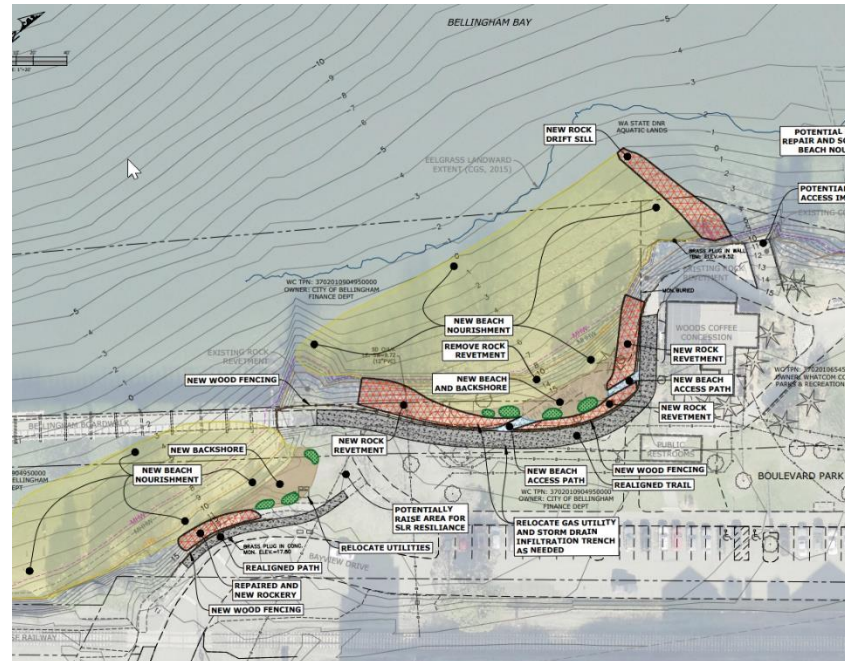
## Levy IV total through 2022

Revenue	\$13,006,589
Expenditures	-\$8,810,381
Balance	\$4,196,208

Acquisition 2017 - 2022



# 2022 Greenways Development Projects



# Development Spending Summary

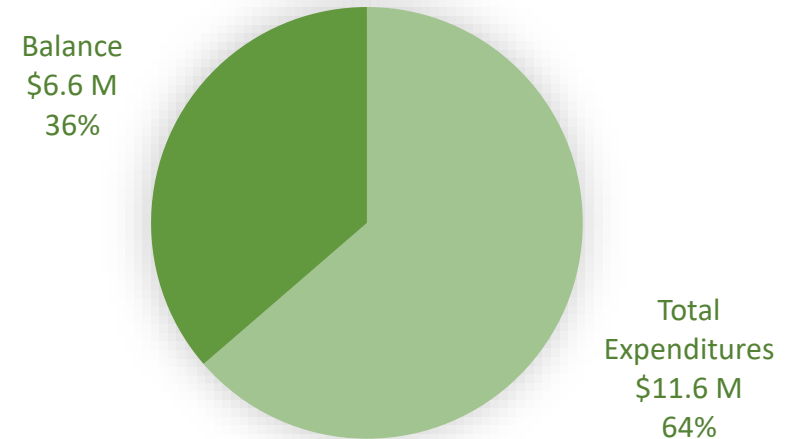
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2022 Spending: \$507,621

## Levy IV total through 2022

Revenue	\$18,144,750
Expenditures	-\$11,551,041
Balance	\$6,593,708

## Development 2017-2022



# Maintenance Spending

7 - Trails/Grounds & Facilities staff

4 - Forestry staff

3 - Stewardship staff



# Maintenance Spending Summary

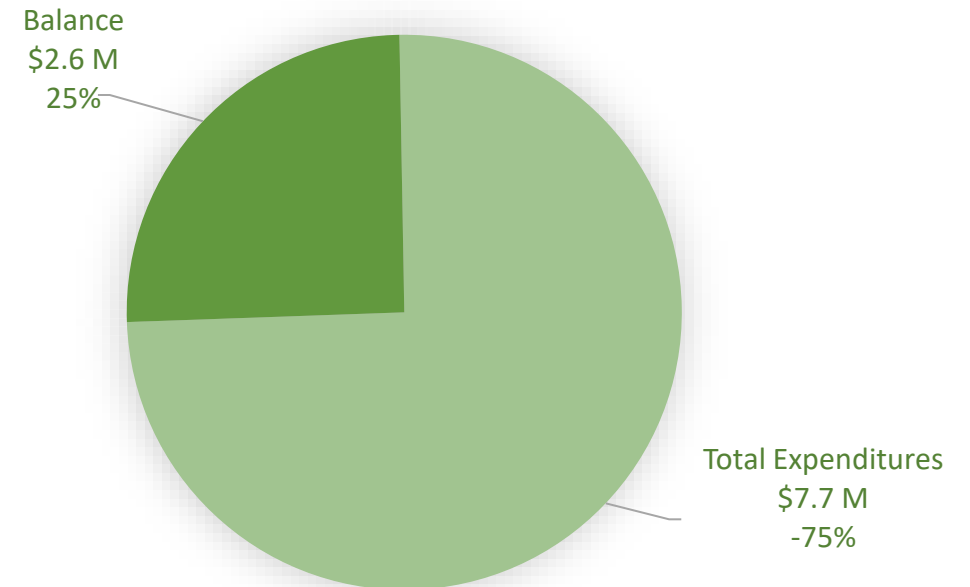
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2022 Spending: \$1,124,198

## Levy IV total through 2022

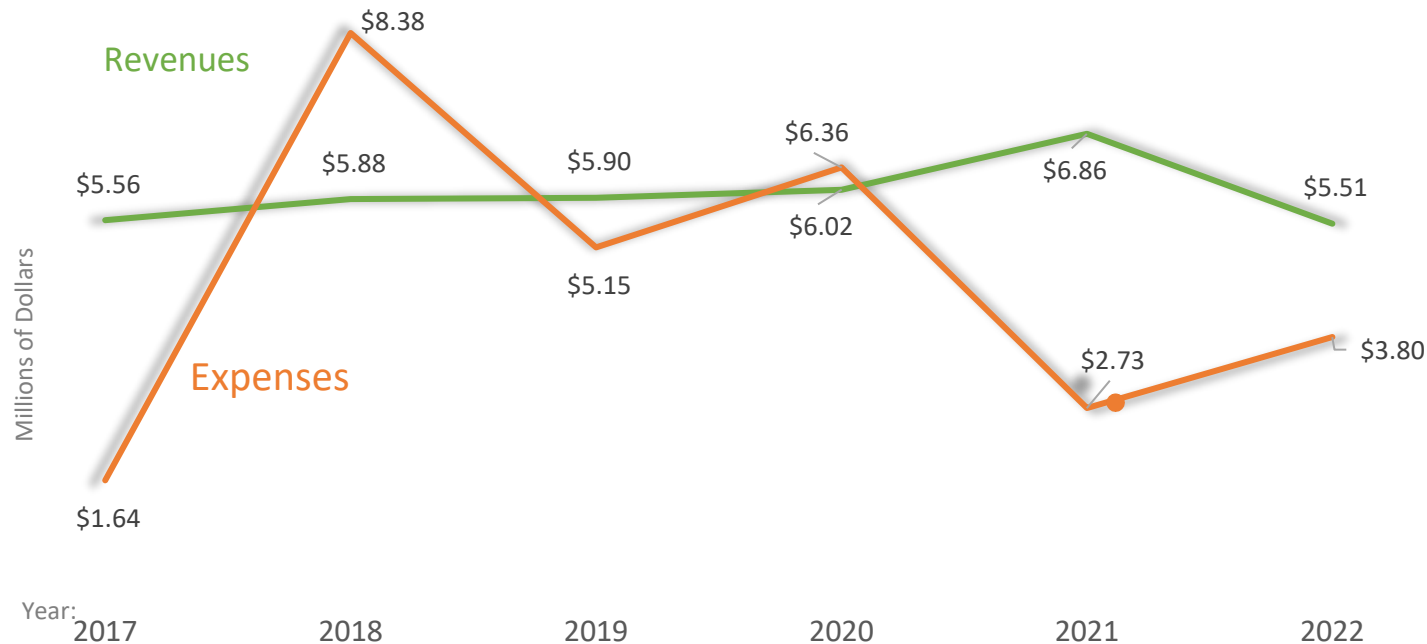
Revenue	\$10,371,644
Expenditures	-\$7,749,230
Balance	\$2,622,413

Maintenance 2017 - 2022

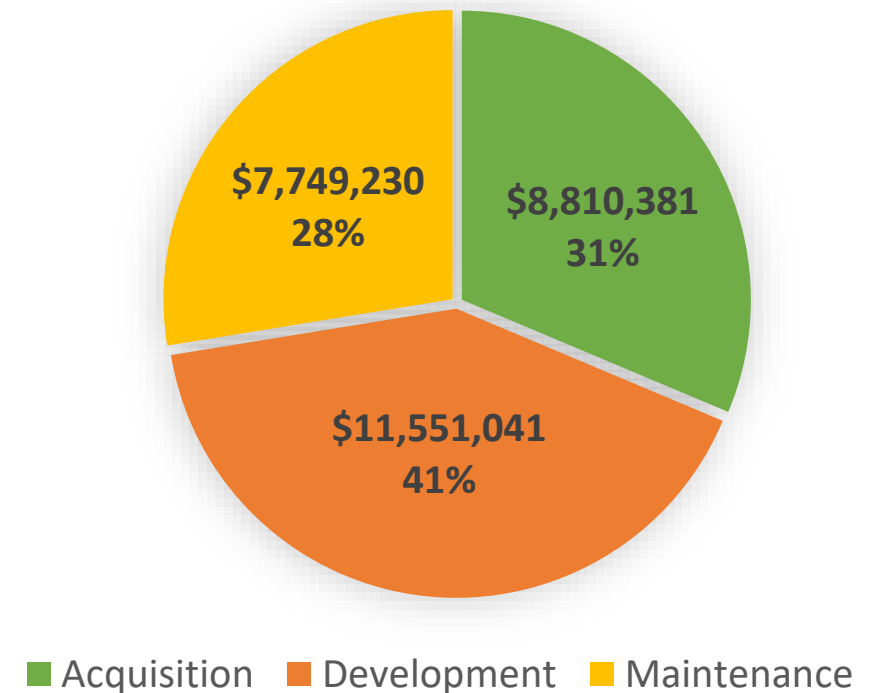


# Greenways Levy IV Spending to Date

## Greenways Annual Expenses and Revenues



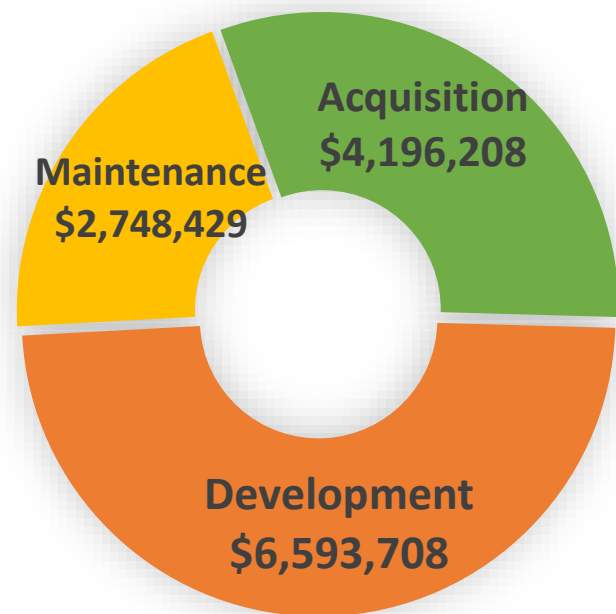
## Actual Fund Expenditures 2017-2022



Expenditure Total: \$28,110,653

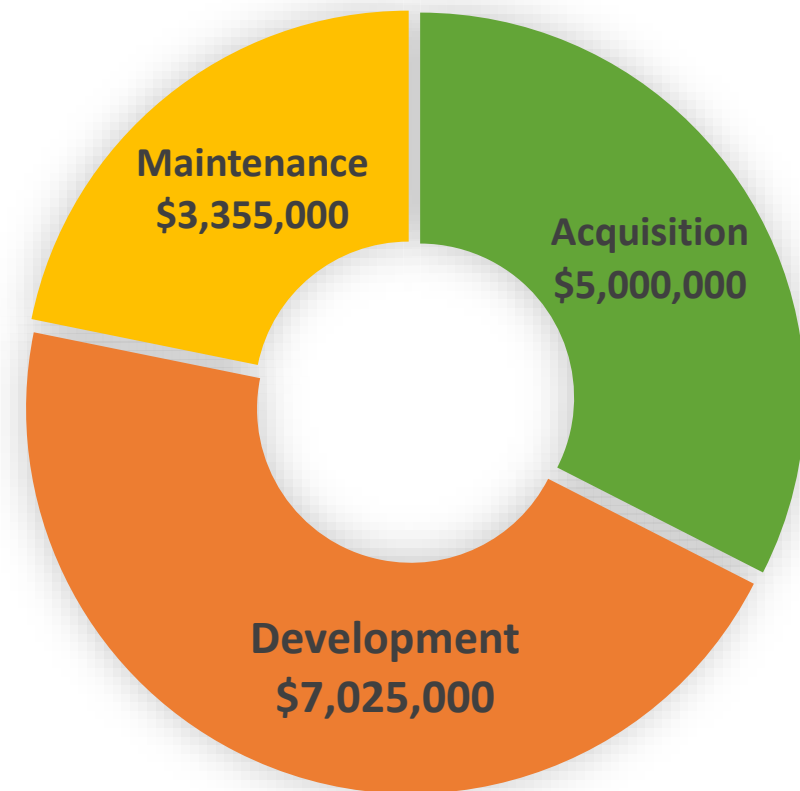
# Greenways Fund Budgeted Expenses

Levy 4 Fund Balance



Existing Balance: \$13,538,345

Budgeted Expenses



■ Acquisition ■ Development ■ Maintenance

2023-2024 Budget: \$15,380,000

A photograph of a dirt path winding through a dense forest. Sunlight filters through the thick canopy of green trees, creating a dappled light effect on the path and the surrounding foliage. The path leads towards a brighter area in the distance, possibly a clearing or a body of water.

Looking forward to 2023 and beyond

# Greenways Advisory Committee Work

**Properties of Interest  
Mapping** = targeted  
acquisitions and streamlining  
acquisition process

**Improving connectivity** with  
review of “green-gray” trail  
connections

**Levy V Priorities**



# 2023 Maintenance Funding...

- Repair Arroyo Park bridges
- Additional staff for grounds, trails, and urban forestry
- Fund Stewardship Program
- Volunteer program
- Wetland mitigation and plant maintenance
- Community garden improvements + expansion

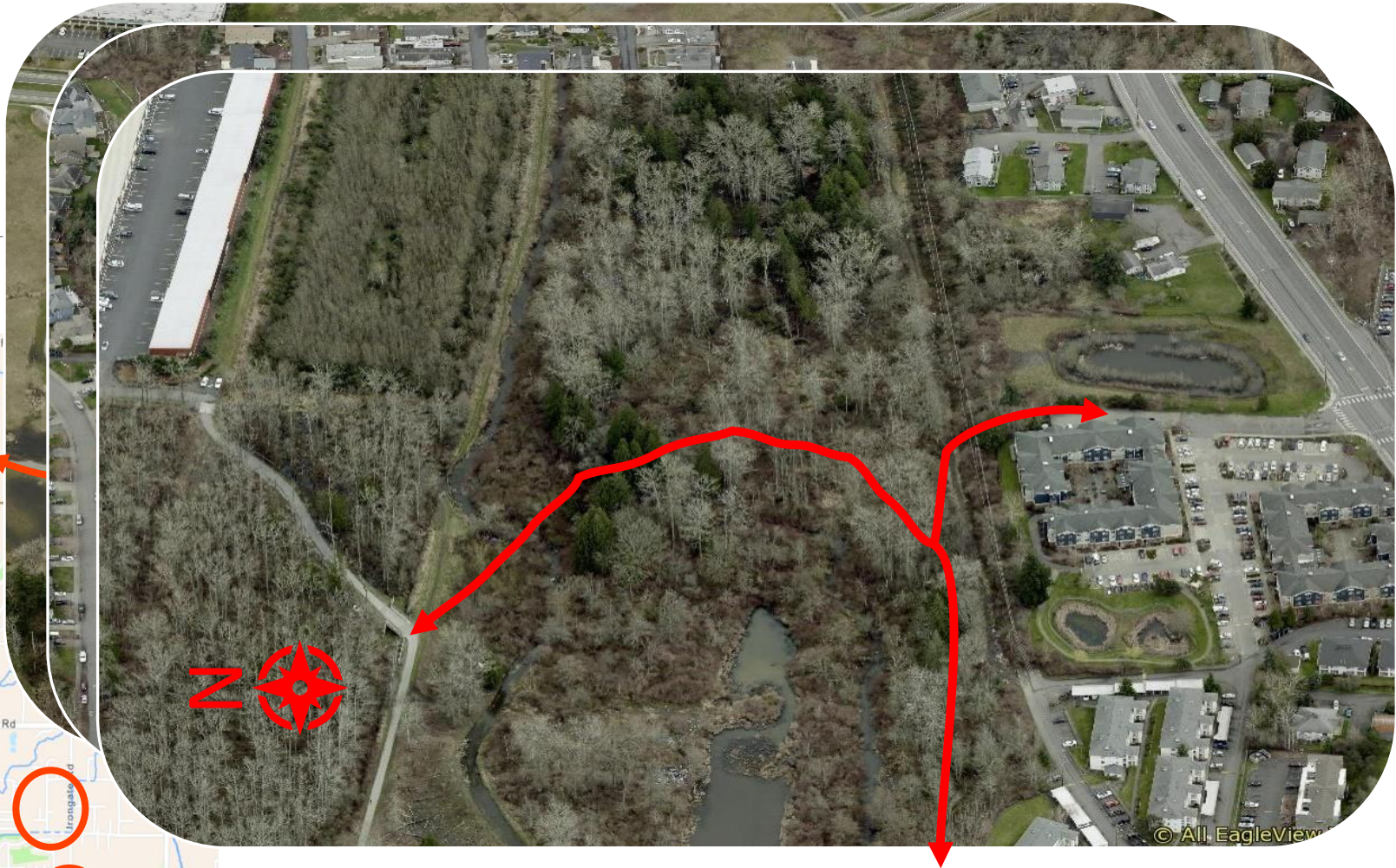
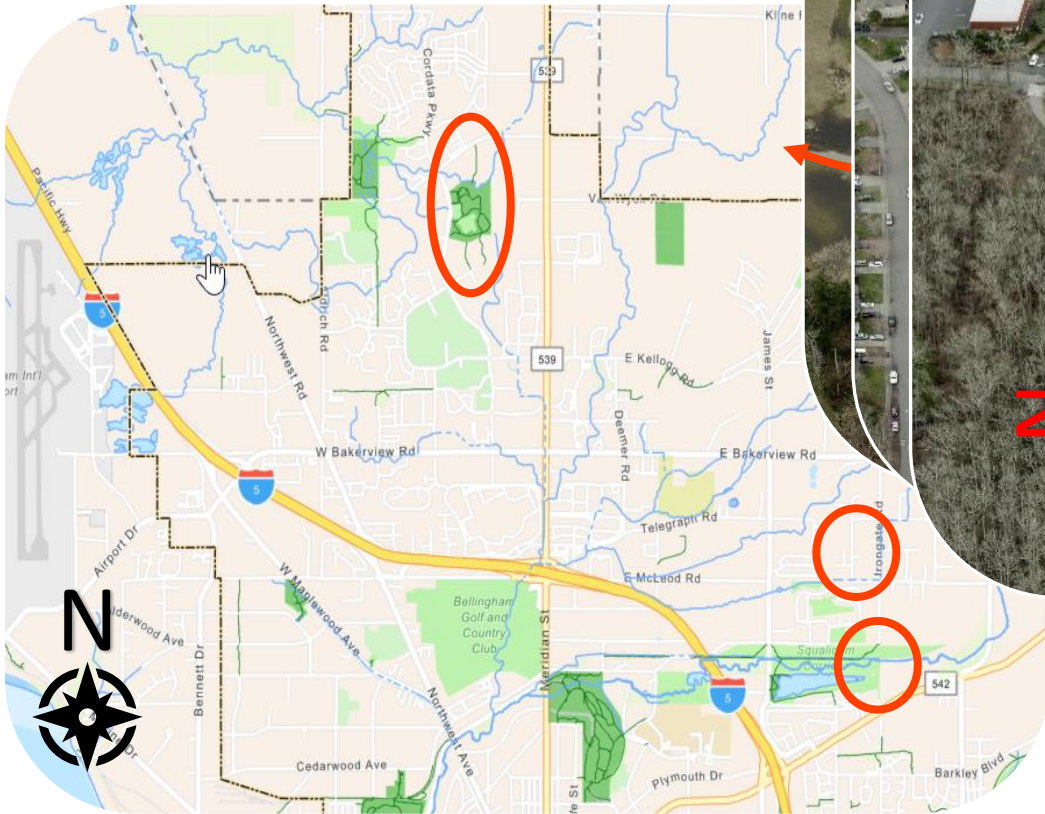
Photo: Zach Griffin, 2019



## 2023 Design & Development

- Pier at Little Squalicum Park construction
- Hundred Acre Wood Phase 1
- Boulevard Park shoreline improvement
- Salish Landing Phase 1 design

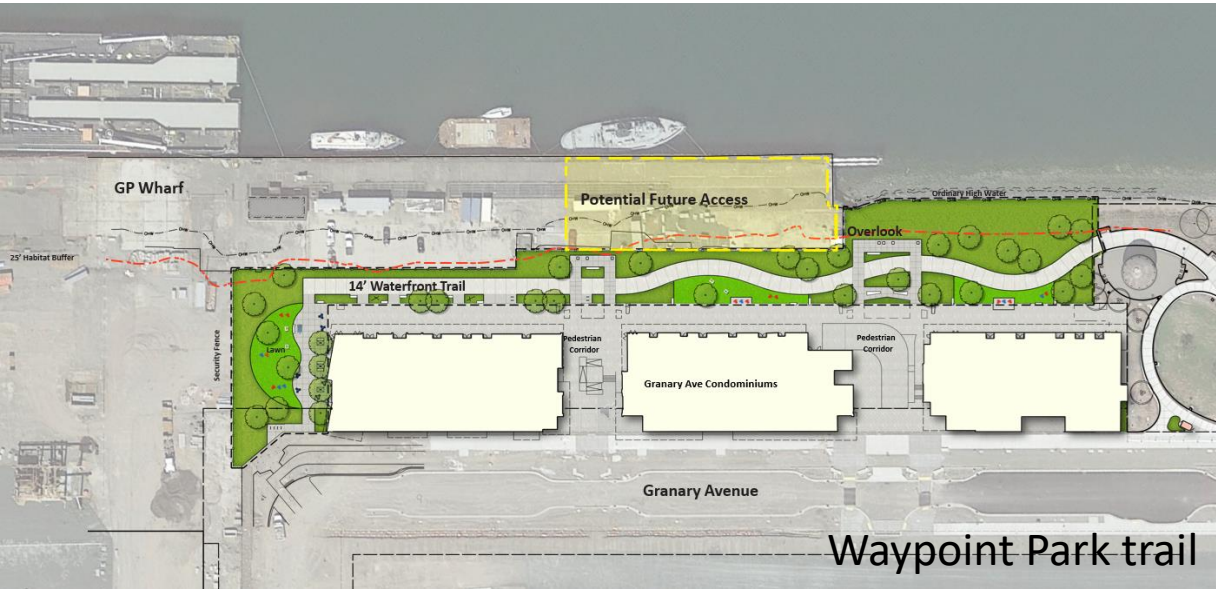
# Trail Development



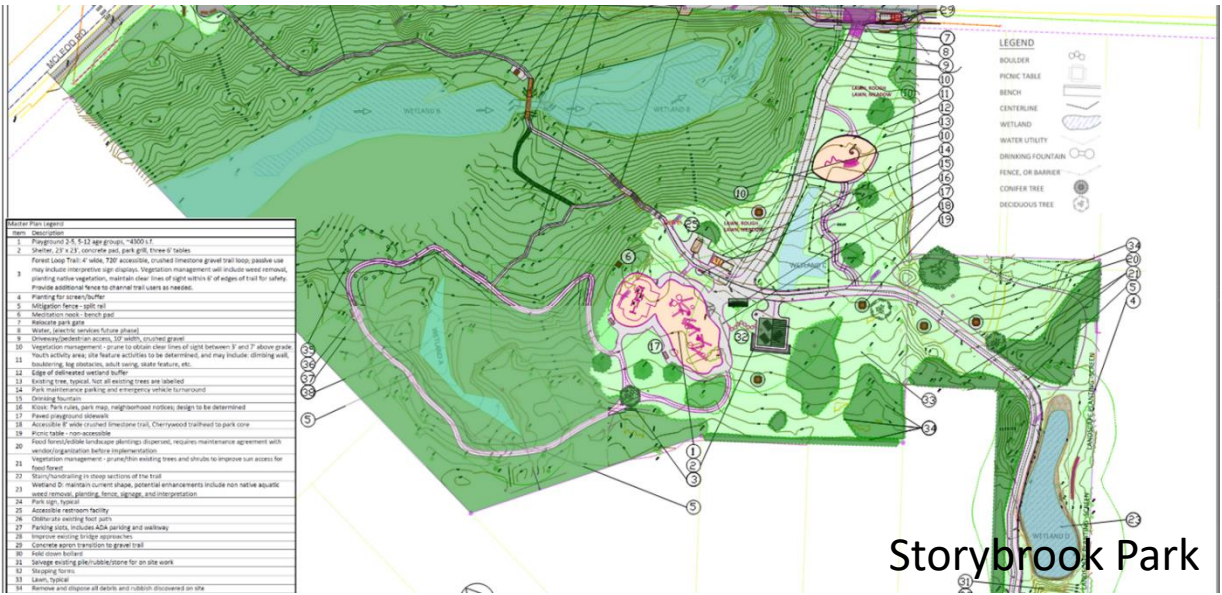
- Cordata Park trail, W Stuart Rd to W Horton Rd
- Jills Court, Division St to Telegraph Rd
- Sunset Pond loop trail, Racine St to Iron Gate Rd



Cordata Park



Waypoint Park trail



Storybrook Park



Whatcom Falls trestle

# Greenways Program 2022 Annual Report

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