

Greenways Program 2022 Annual Report

Bellingham City Council

February 27, 2023



Greenways Advisory Committee

“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

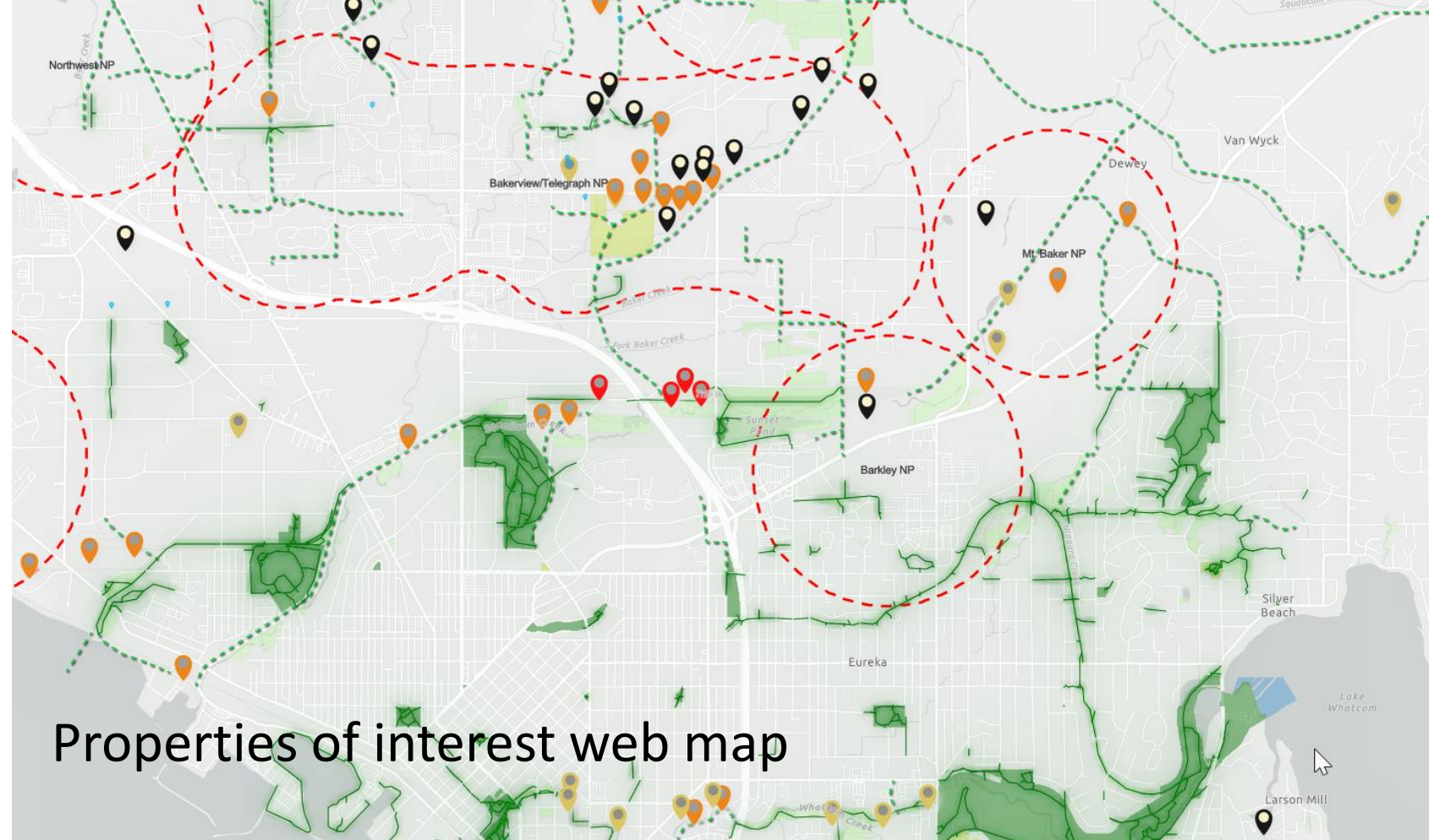
- Neil Schaner (Chair)
- Sarah Gardner (Vice-Chair)
- Jacob Stewart
- Dina Dickerson
- Scott Foreman-Murray
- Kate McDonald
- Caleb Savage
- David Stalheim
- Vacant
- Council rep: Skip Williams





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

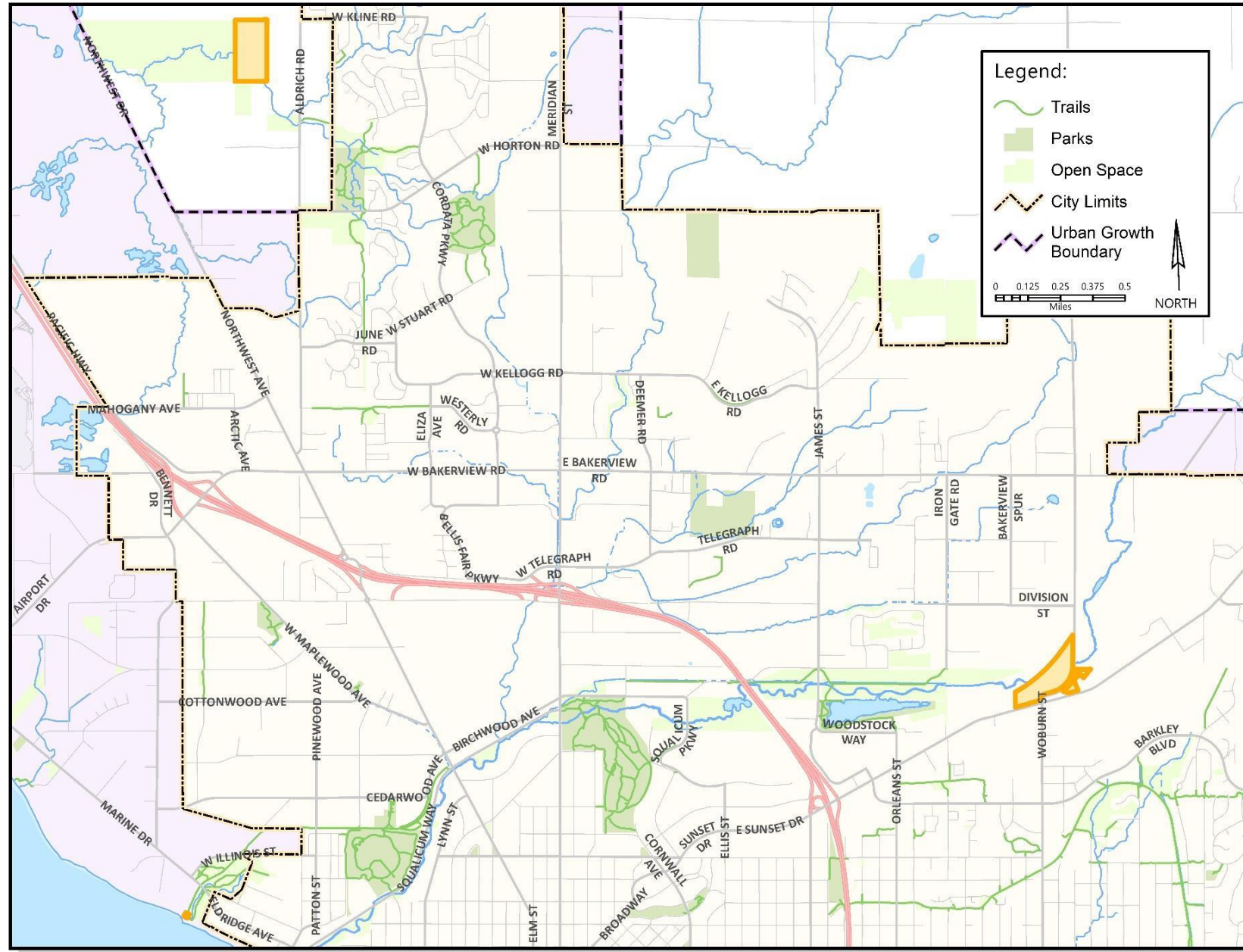
- Purchased 20 acres of forested wetland for \$357,500 to expand existing 80-acre open space site

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



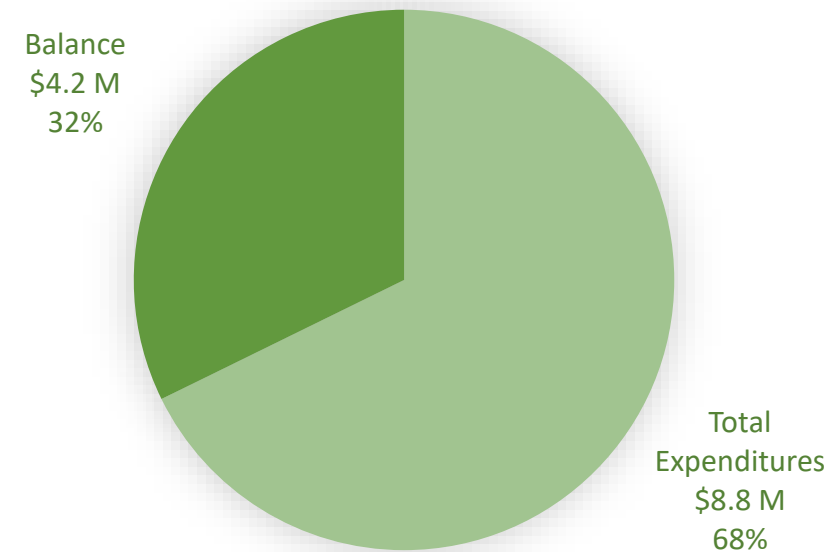
Acquisition Spending Summary

2022 Spending: \$ 2,168,932

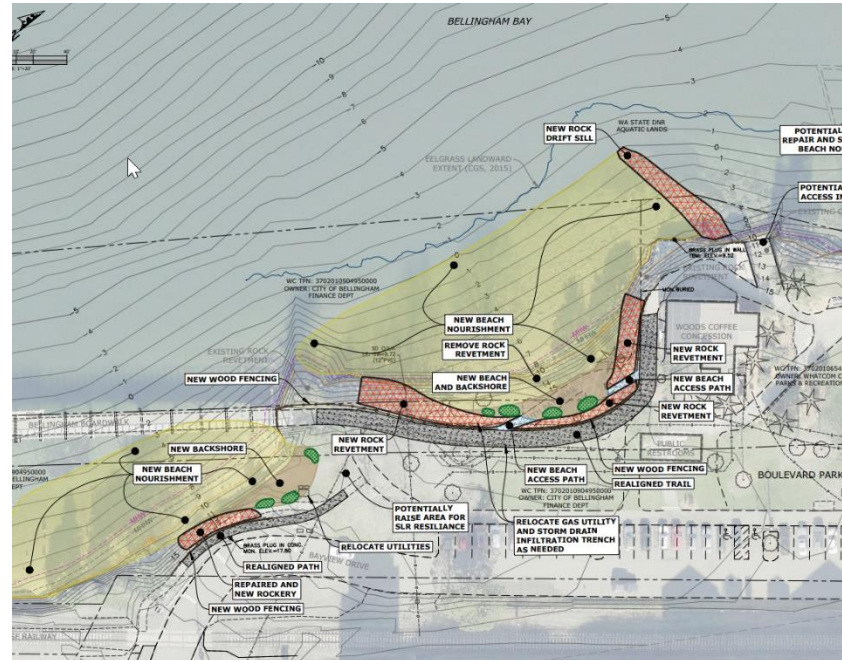
Levy IV total through 2022

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

Acquisition 2017 - 2022



2022 Greenways Development Projects



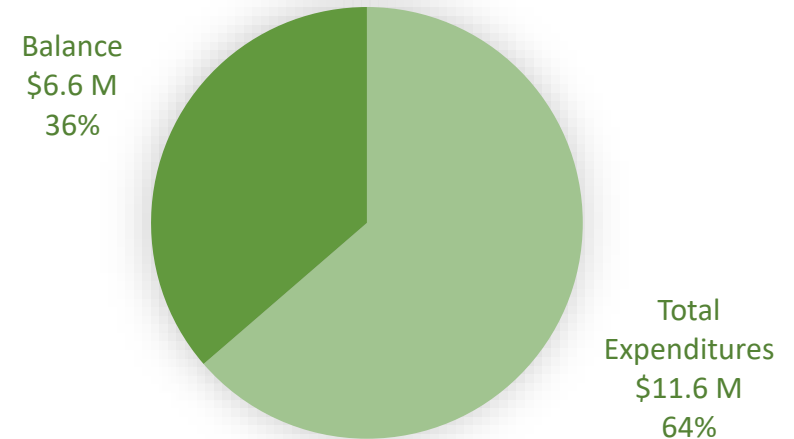
Development Spending Summary

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



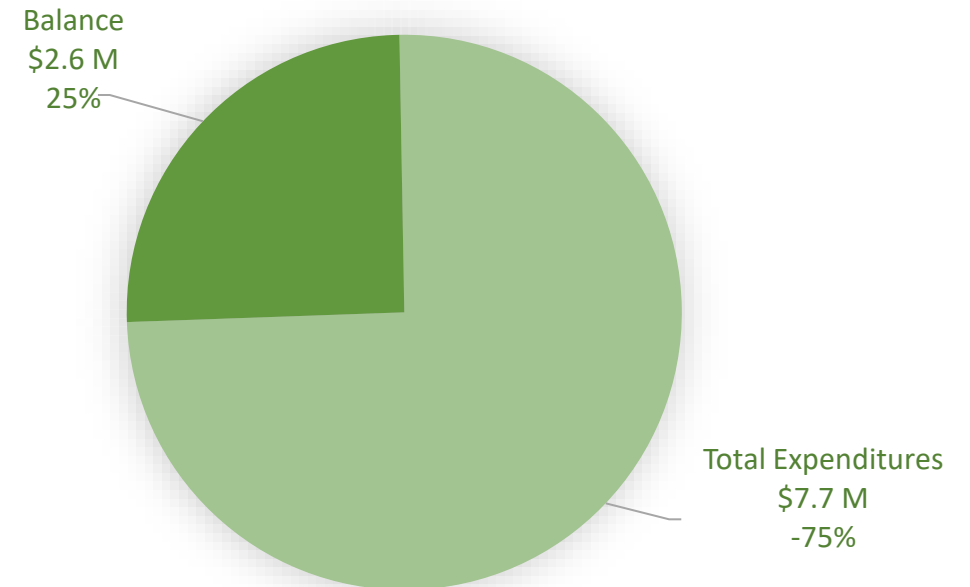
Maintenance Spending Summary

2022 Spending: \$1,124,198

Levy IV total through 2022

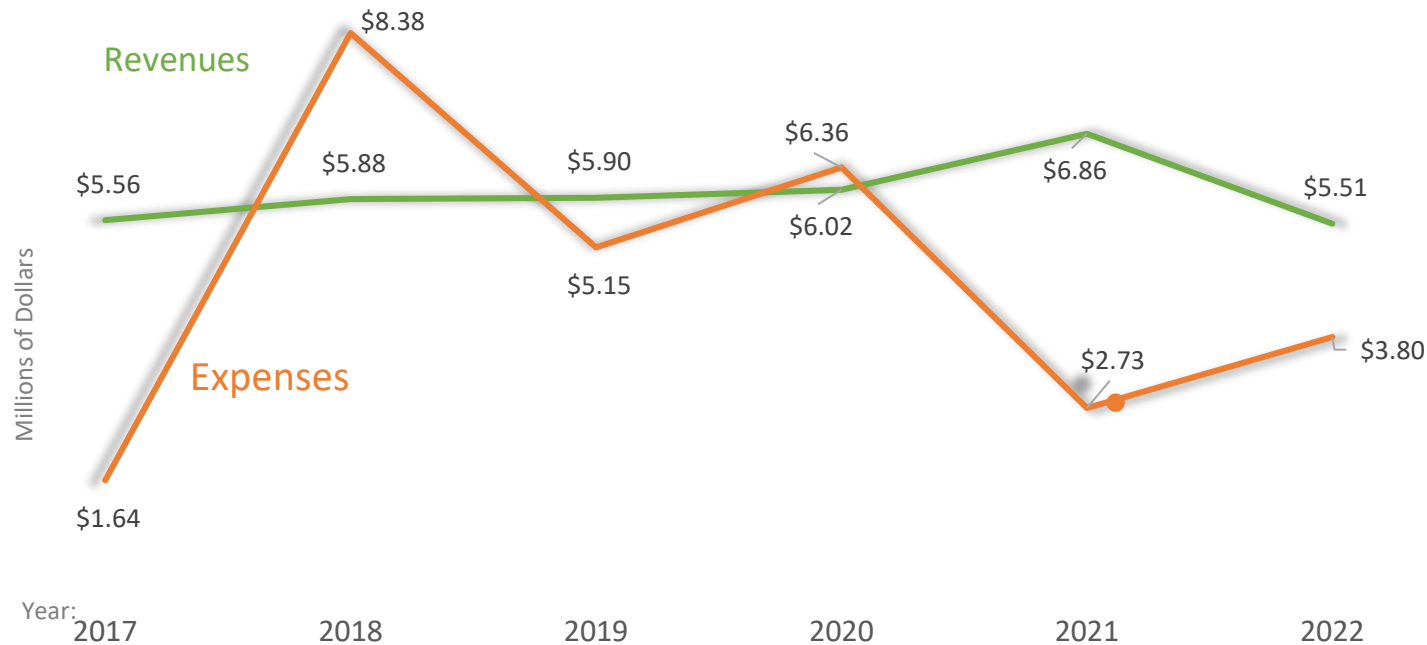
Revenue	\$10,371,644
Expenditures	-\$7,749,230
Balance	\$2,622,413

Maintenance 2017 - 2022

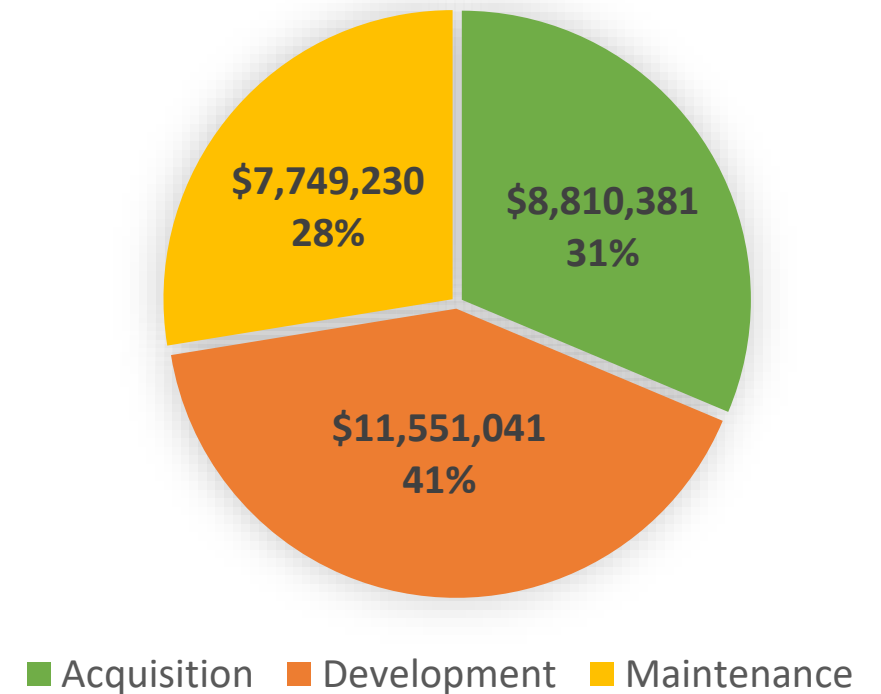


Greenways Levy IV Spending to Date

Greenways Annual Expenses and Revenues



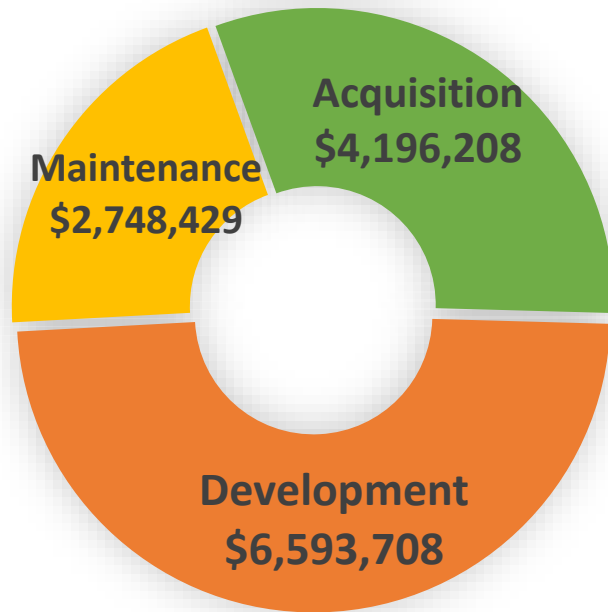
Actual Fund Expenditures 2017-2022



Expenditure Total: \$28,110,653

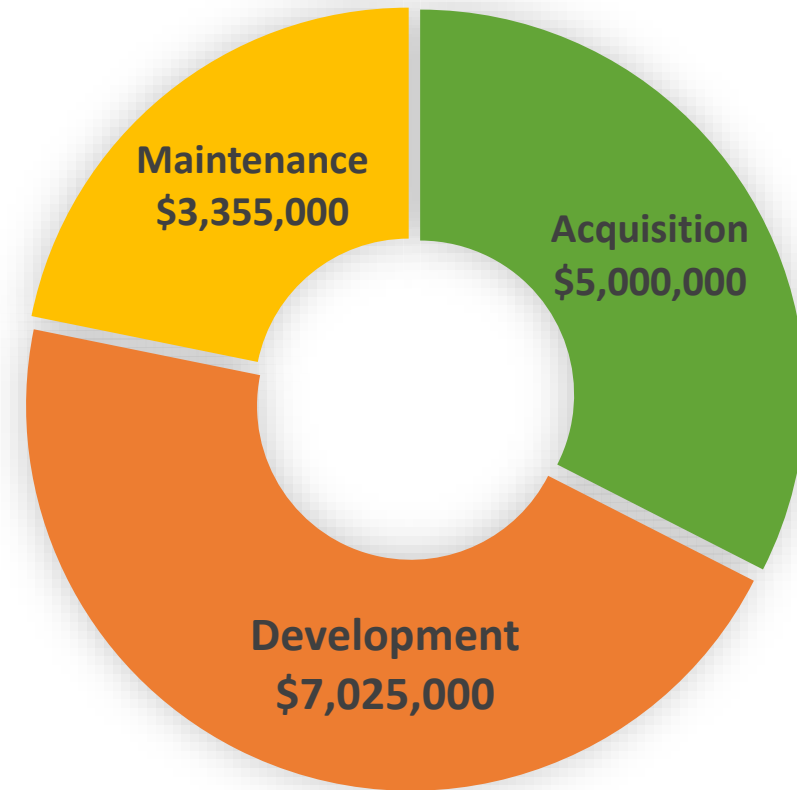
Greenways Fund Budgeted Expenses

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. The overall mood is peaceful and hopeful.

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

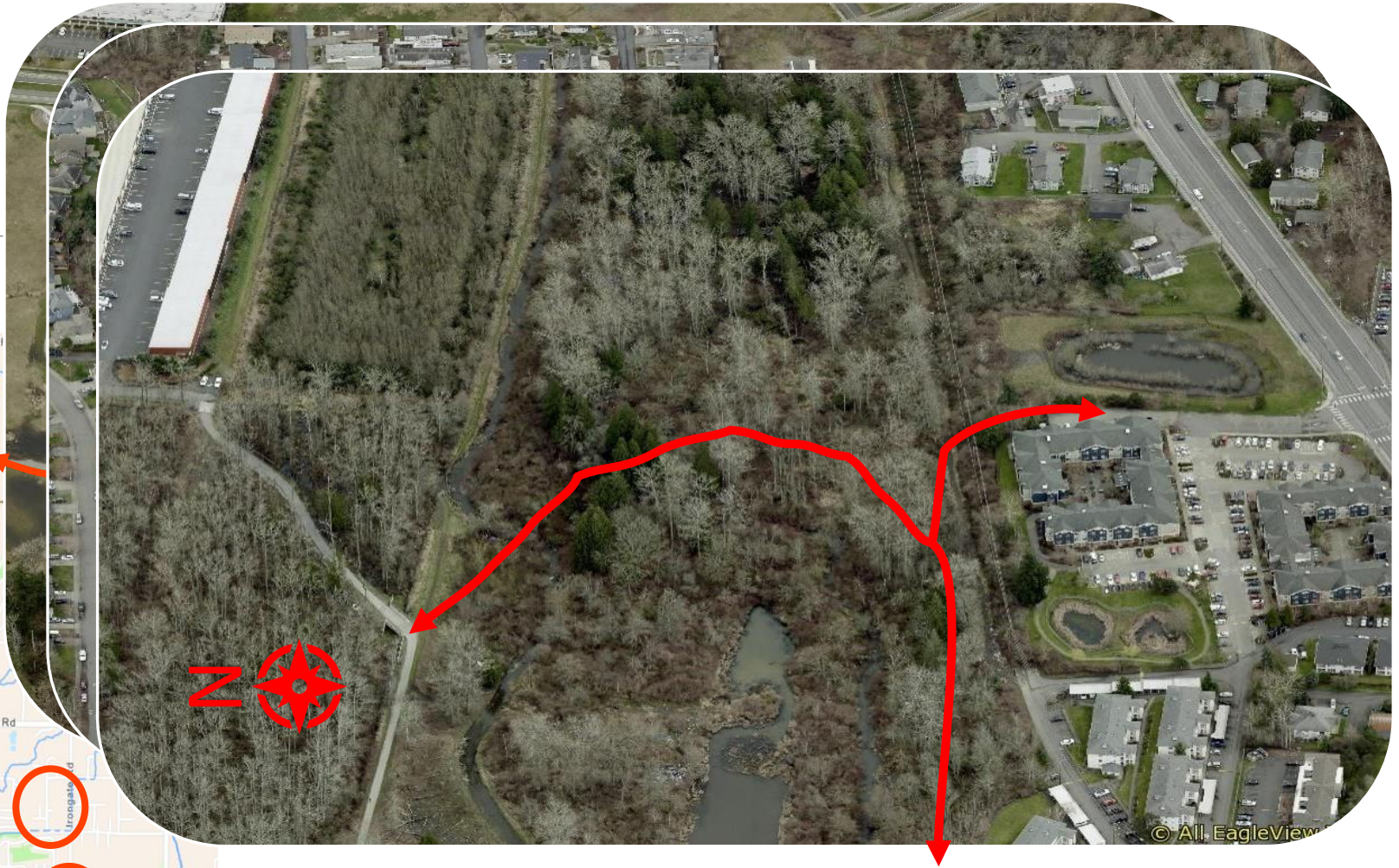
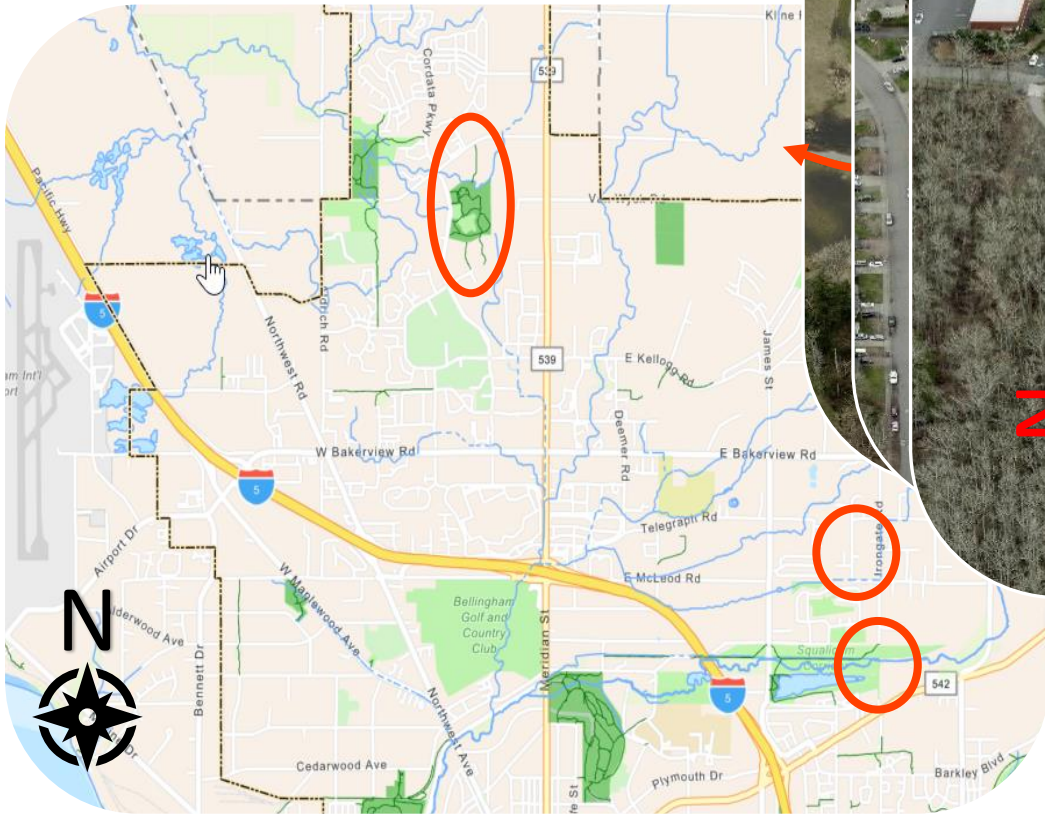
Photo: Zach Griffin, 2019



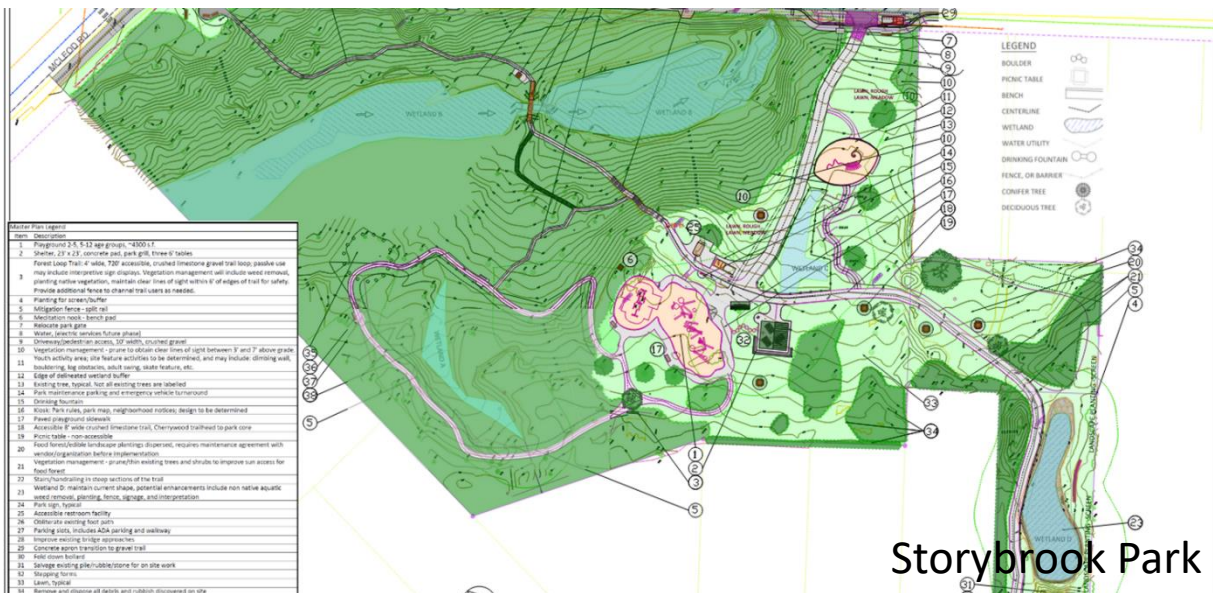
2023 Design & Development

- 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



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