

Greenways Program 2023 Annual Report

DRAFT - Bellingham City Council Parks & Recreation Committee

March 25, 2024



Greenways Advisory Committee

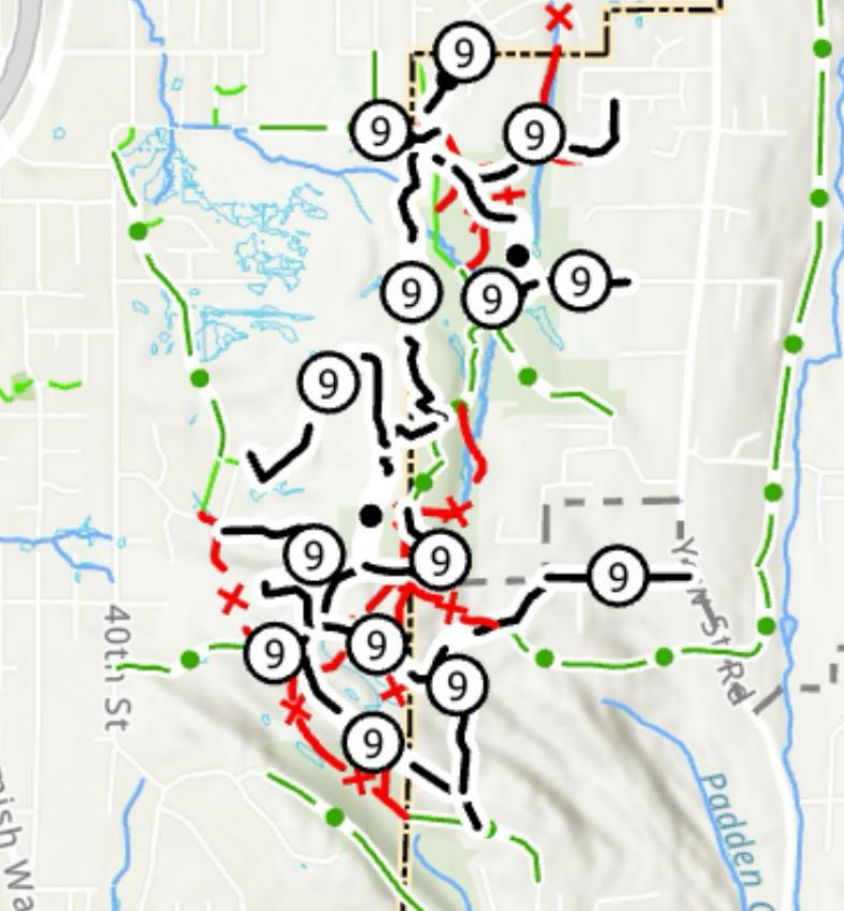


“To provide citizen advice to the City Council and the Parks & Recreation Department on implementing the intent and objectives of the greenway levies in a manner that best addresses current opportunities, conditions and needs.” (BMC 2.20.040)

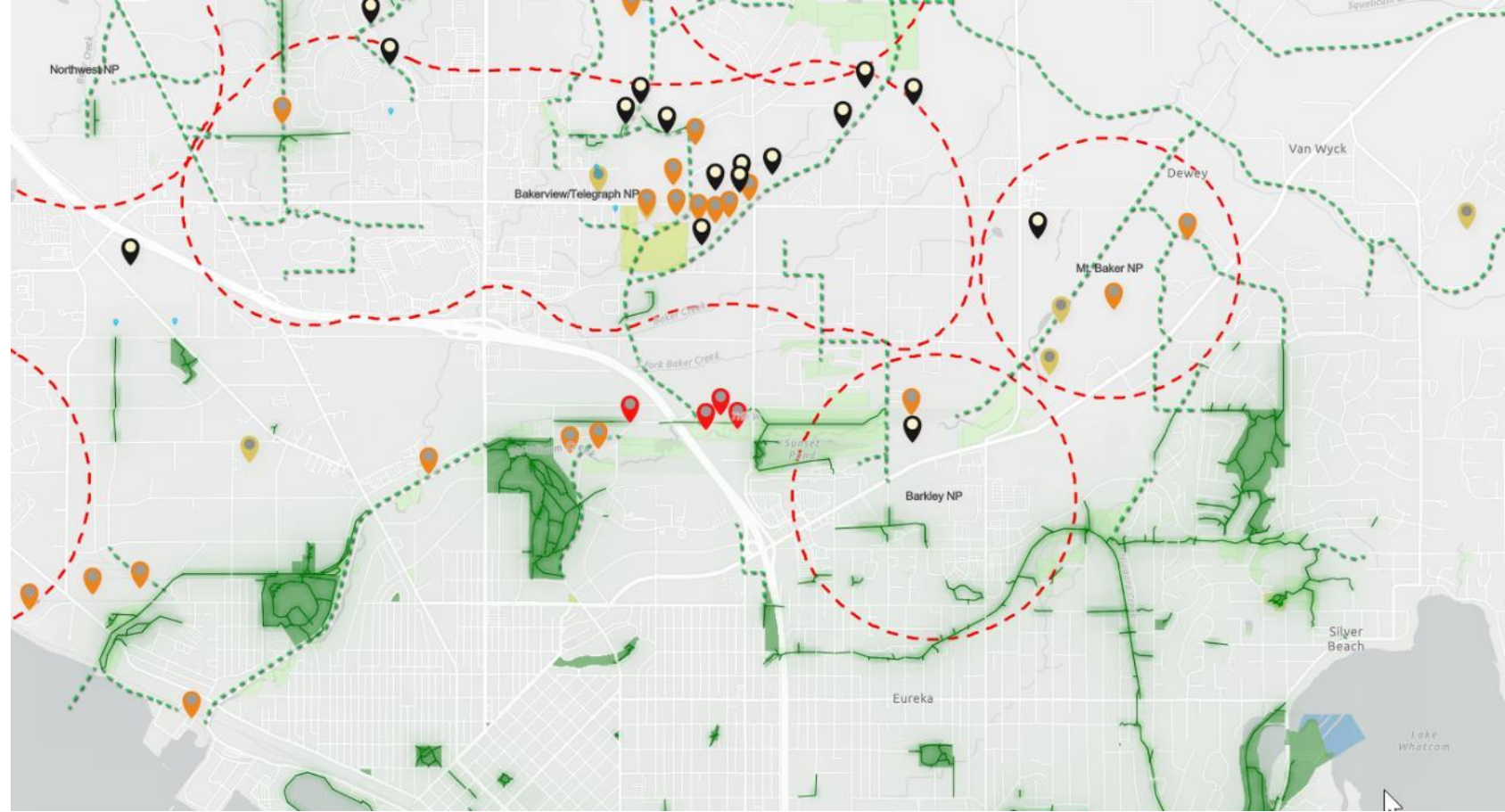
The nine-member volunteer committee evaluate properties, develop maps, take field trips, and guide the implementation of strategic plan priorities.

Greenways Advisory Committee

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



PRO Plan Amendment



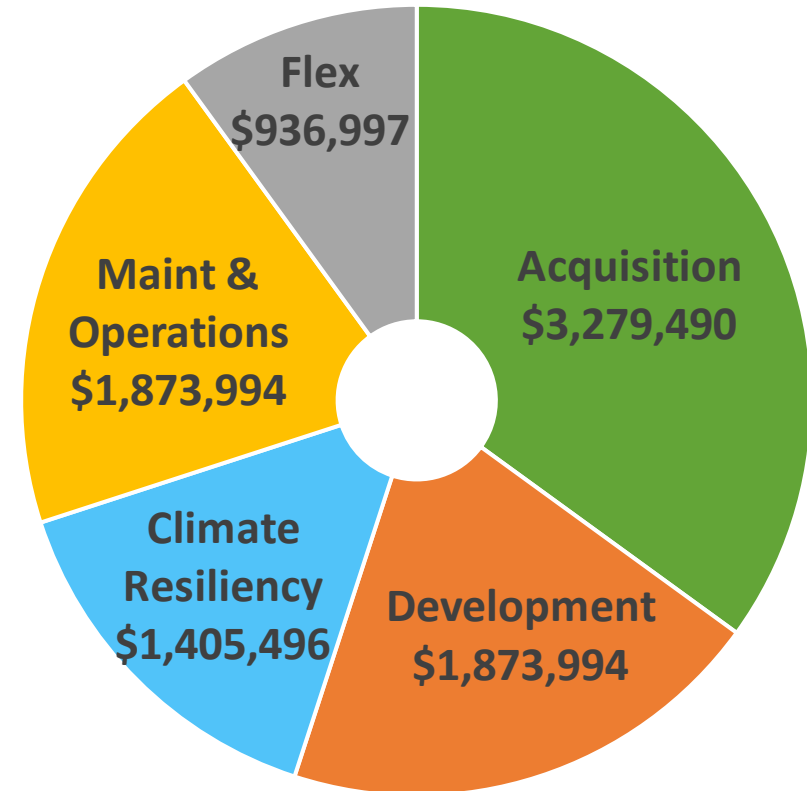
Properties of Interest Map

Greenways Advisory Committee Highlights

Greenways 5 Levy



2024 Anticipated Greenways 5 Revenue



Greenways Advisory Committee

2024 Actions

- Continued review of acquisition and development opportunities
- Trail connections and wayfinding
- Climate resiliency definition and actions
- Equity definition
- Community gardens
- Urban trees needs mapping

2023 Greenways Property Acquisitions

Greenways 4 allocation guidance:

*33% for land acquisition, including
trail connections*

6 properties

38 acres

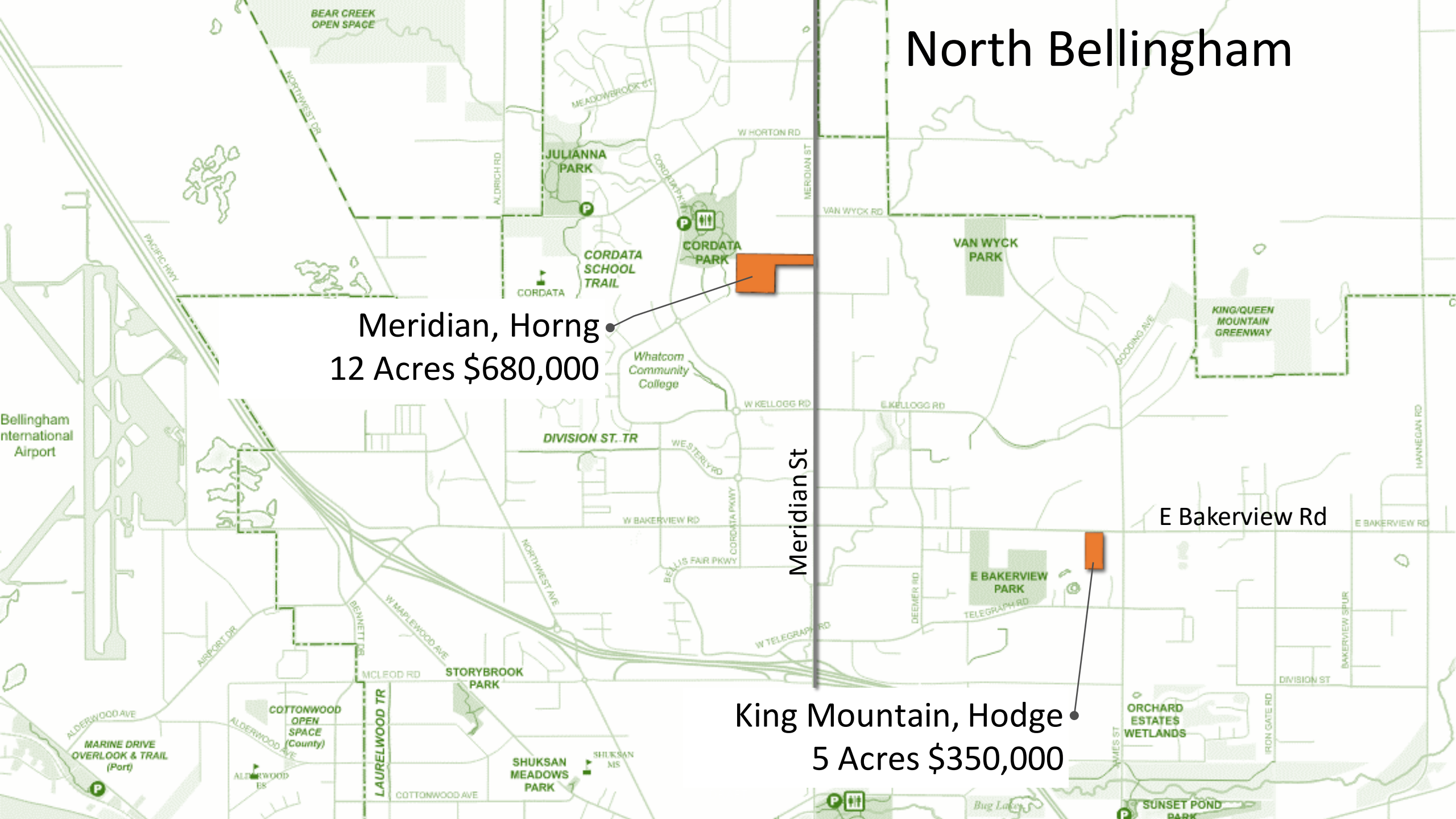
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North Bellingham

Meridian, Horng
12 Acres \$680,000

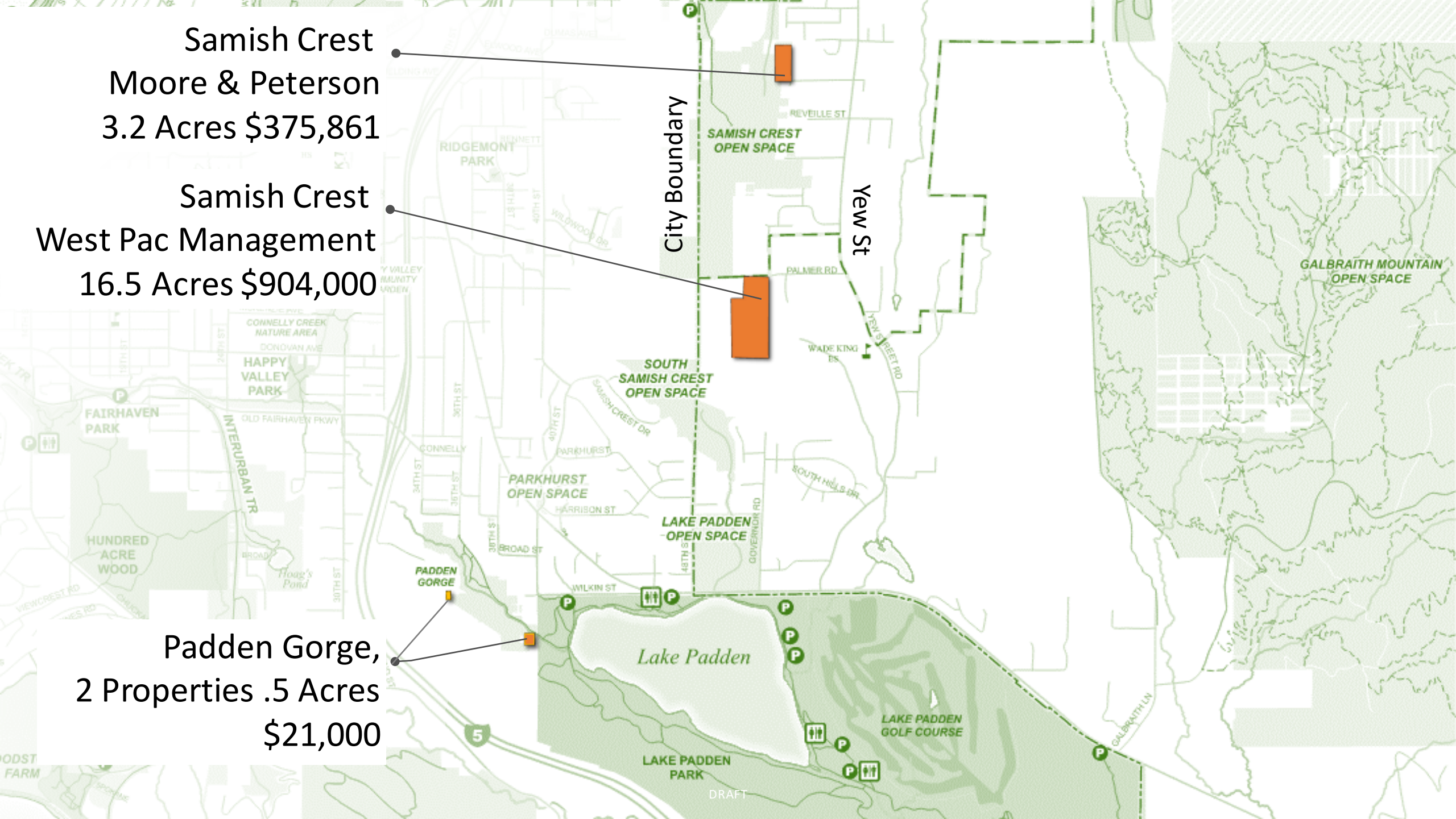
King Mountain, Hodge
5 Acres \$350,000



Samish Crest
Moore & Peterson
3.2 Acres \$375,861

Samish Crest
West Pac Management
16.5 Acres \$904,000

Padden Gorge,
2 Properties .5 Acres
\$21,000



Acquisition Spending Summary

2023 Annual

2023 Budget: \$ 2,500,000

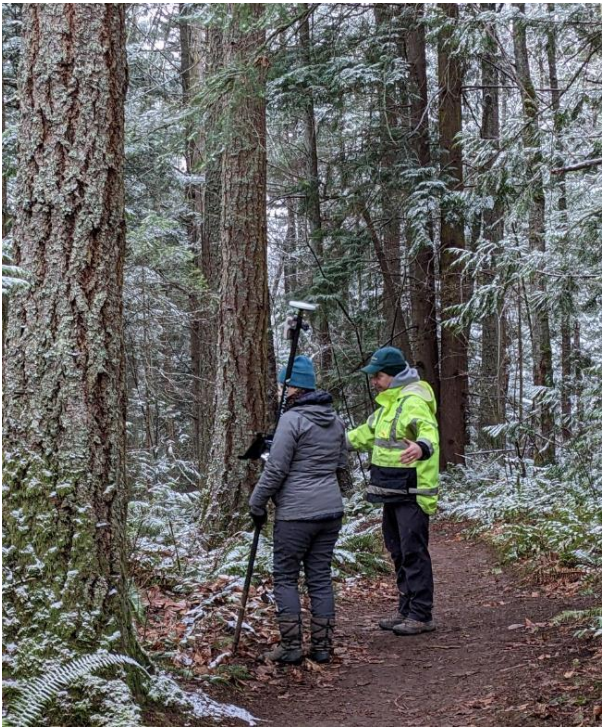
Expenditures: \$ 2,479,000

Balance: \$ 21,000

Levy 4 (2017 – 2023)

Revenue	\$ 14,832,273*
Expenditures	-\$ 11,290,047
Balance	\$ 3,542,226

* Includes carry over from Levy 3 balance



2023 Greenways Development



Greenways 4 allocation guidance:
42% for the development of properties purchased by the City

Development Spending Summary

2023 Annual

2023 Budget: \$2,715,000

Expenditures: \$ 1,303,000

Balance: \$1,412,000

Levy 4 (2017-2023)

Revenue

\$ 20,468,348*

Expenditures

-\$12,877,374

Balance

\$ 7,590,974

* Includes carry over from Levy 3 balance

2023 Maintenance

Greenways 4 allocation guidance:

25% for the ongoing maintenance, operation, and capital replacement needs of park properties and facilities

12 – Trails, Grounds & Facilities staff

4 - Forestry staff

4 - Stewardship staff

2 – AmeriCorps volunteers

Includes 5 partially funded staff



Stewardship Program



Community Gardens



Wetland Mitigation - Parks



Park Ambassadors



Volunteer Program

- 112 Community work parties with 5,516 volunteers
- 605 Yards of invasive species removed
- Planted 8,054 native plants and 461 yards of mulch
- 955 Students in our school environmental education programs



Maintenance Spending Summary

2023 Annual

2023 Budget: \$ 1,690,000

Expenditures: \$ 1,643,000

Balance: \$ 47,000

Levy 4 (2017-2023)

Revenue	\$ 10,416,476*
Expenditures	- \$ 9,104,890
Balance	\$ 1,311,585

* Includes carry over from Levy 3 balance

Greenways Levy 4 Summary

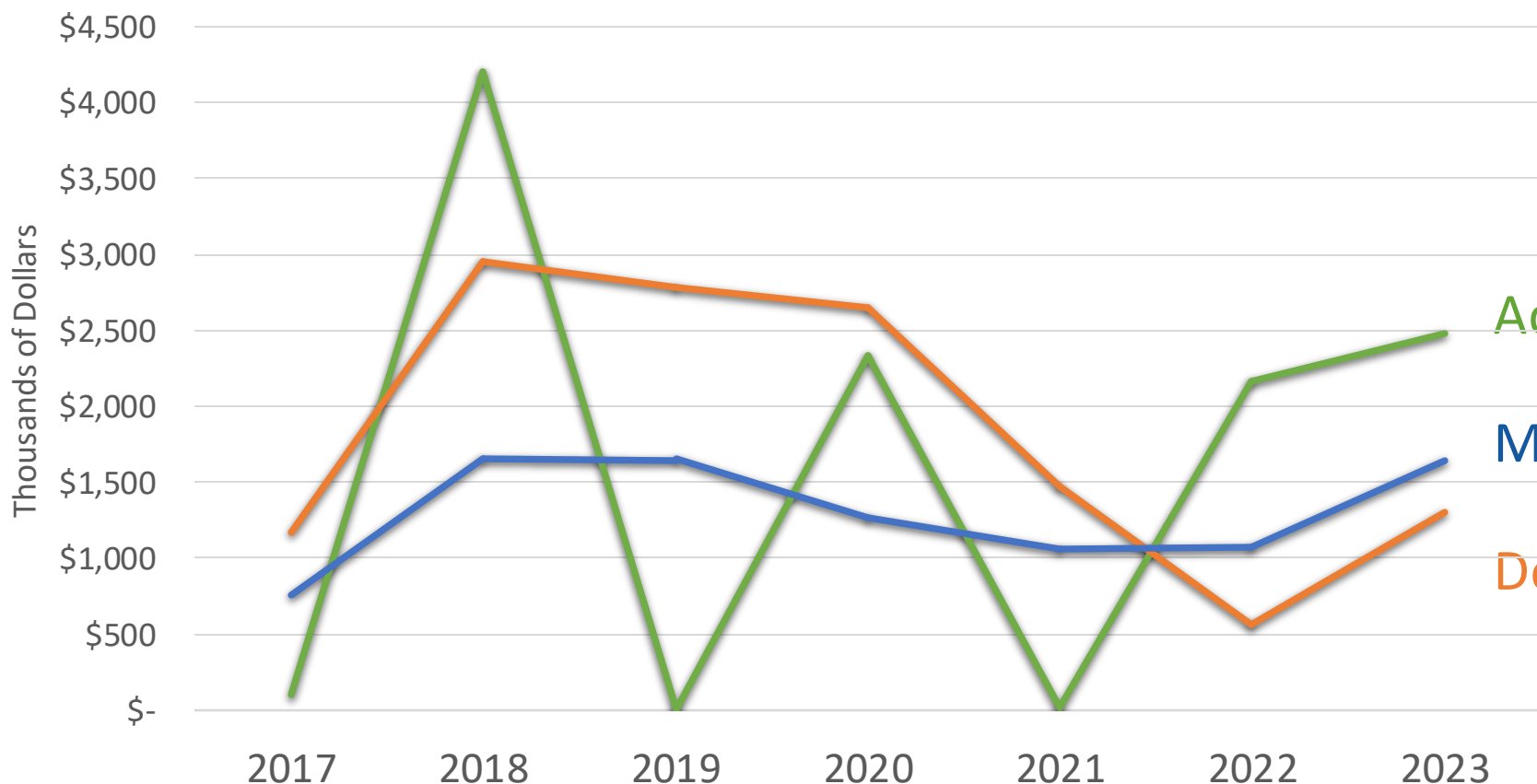
Total Revenue*

\$45M

Expenditures

Acquisition	\$11.3M	33%
Maintenance	\$9.1M	27%
Development	\$12.9M	39%
Levy 4 Total	\$33.3M	100%

Spending by Levy Category Over Time



*Revenue includes carry over from Levy 3 balance

Greenways Fund Balance and Revenue

Existing balance:

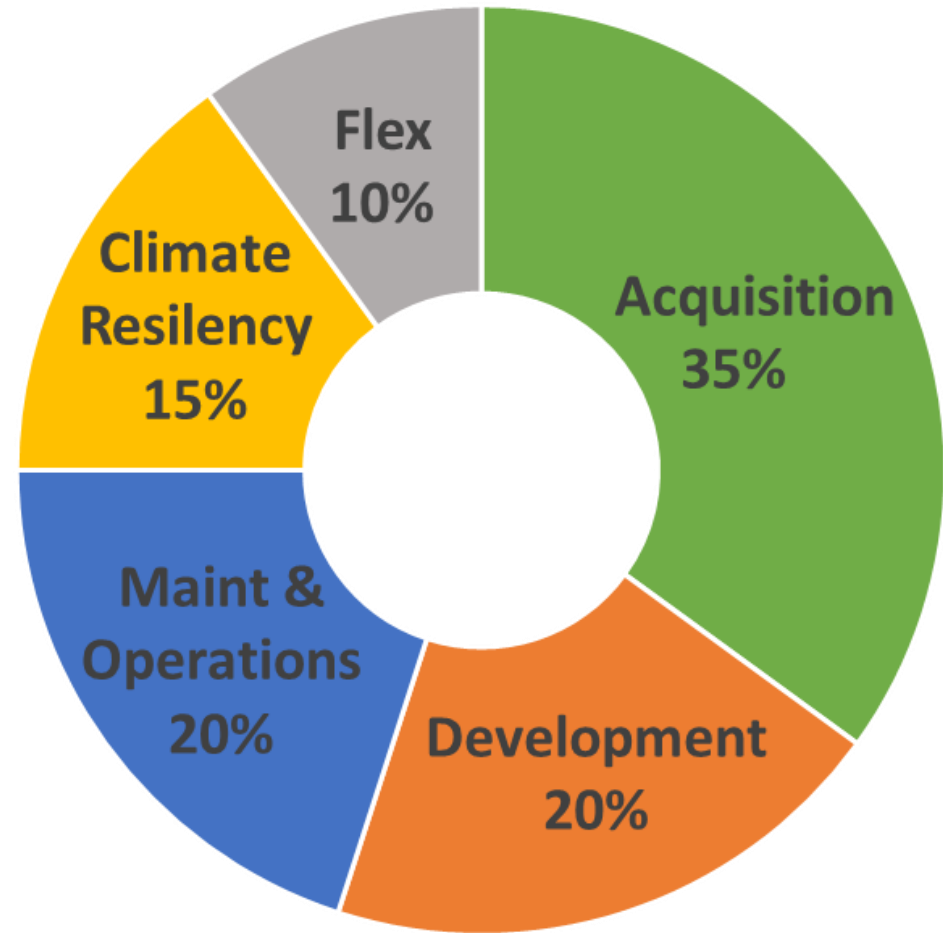
\$12.5M

Projected 2024 levy revenue:

\$9.3M

Adopted 2024 GW budget:

\$12.9M



Levy 5 Spending Categories

A photograph of a dirt path leading through a dense forest. The path is light brown and leads towards a bright opening in the trees in the distance. The trees are tall with thick green foliage, creating a canopy effect. The lighting is bright, suggesting a sunny day.

Looking forward to 2024 and beyond...

2024 Greenways funded projects

- Pier at Little Squalicum Park
- Hundred Acre Wood Phase 1
- Boulevard Park shoreline improvement
- Salish Landing Phase 1 design
- Community garden improvements
- Fairhaven Park sport court repairs
- Woodstock Farm fencing and cultural resources management plan
- Arroyo Park trail bridge
- Bloedel Donovan community building reroof
- Maritime Heritage Park boardwalk rehab and trail decommissioning
- Bear Creek Open Space trailhead



A lush forest scene with a stream, moss-covered trees, and autumn foliage. The background is a dense forest with a small stream flowing through it. The trees are covered in moss, and the ground is covered with fallen leaves and ferns. The overall atmosphere is serene and natural.

2024 Maintenance Funding

Additional staff for:

- Facilities maintenance
- Graffiti/vandalism response
- Urban forestry
- Supervision



Cordata Park



Bloedel Donovan Park



Storybrook Park



Greenways Program 2023 Annual Report

Presented by: Neil Schaner, Kate McDonald, Laine Potter, and
Peter Gill

