

Greenways Program 2023 Annual Report

Bellingham City Council Parks & Recreation Committee

March 25, 2024



Greenways Advisory Committee

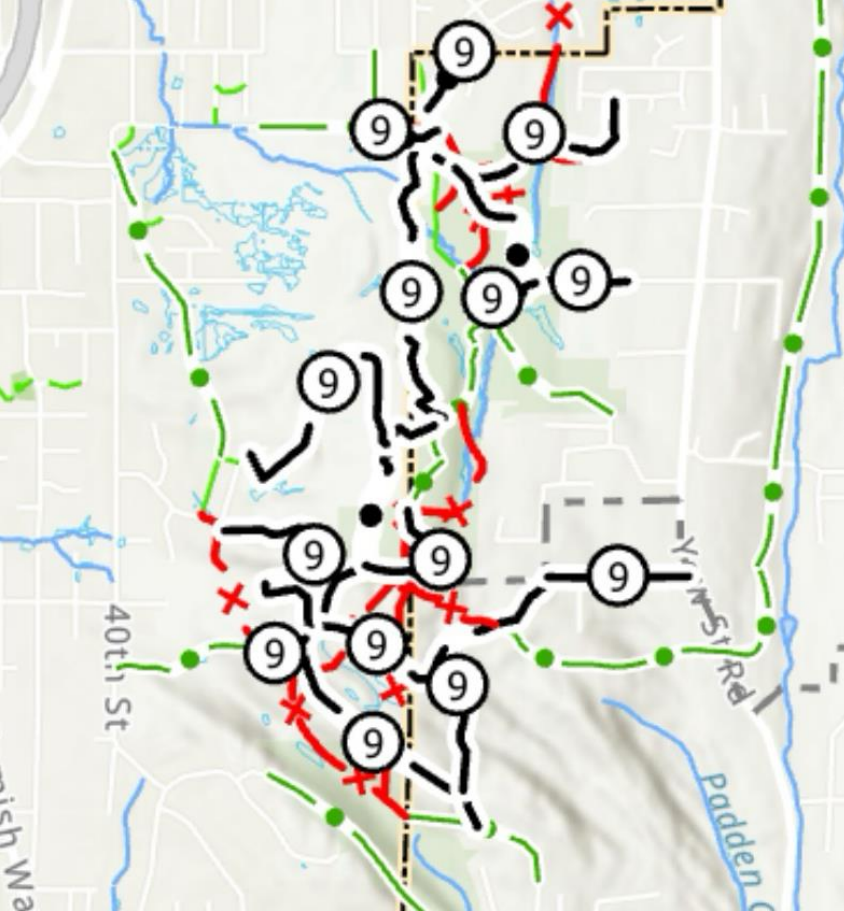


“To provide citizen advice to the City Council and the Parks & Recreation Department on implementing the intent and objectives of the greenway levies in a manner that best addresses current opportunities, conditions and needs.” (BMC 2.20.040)

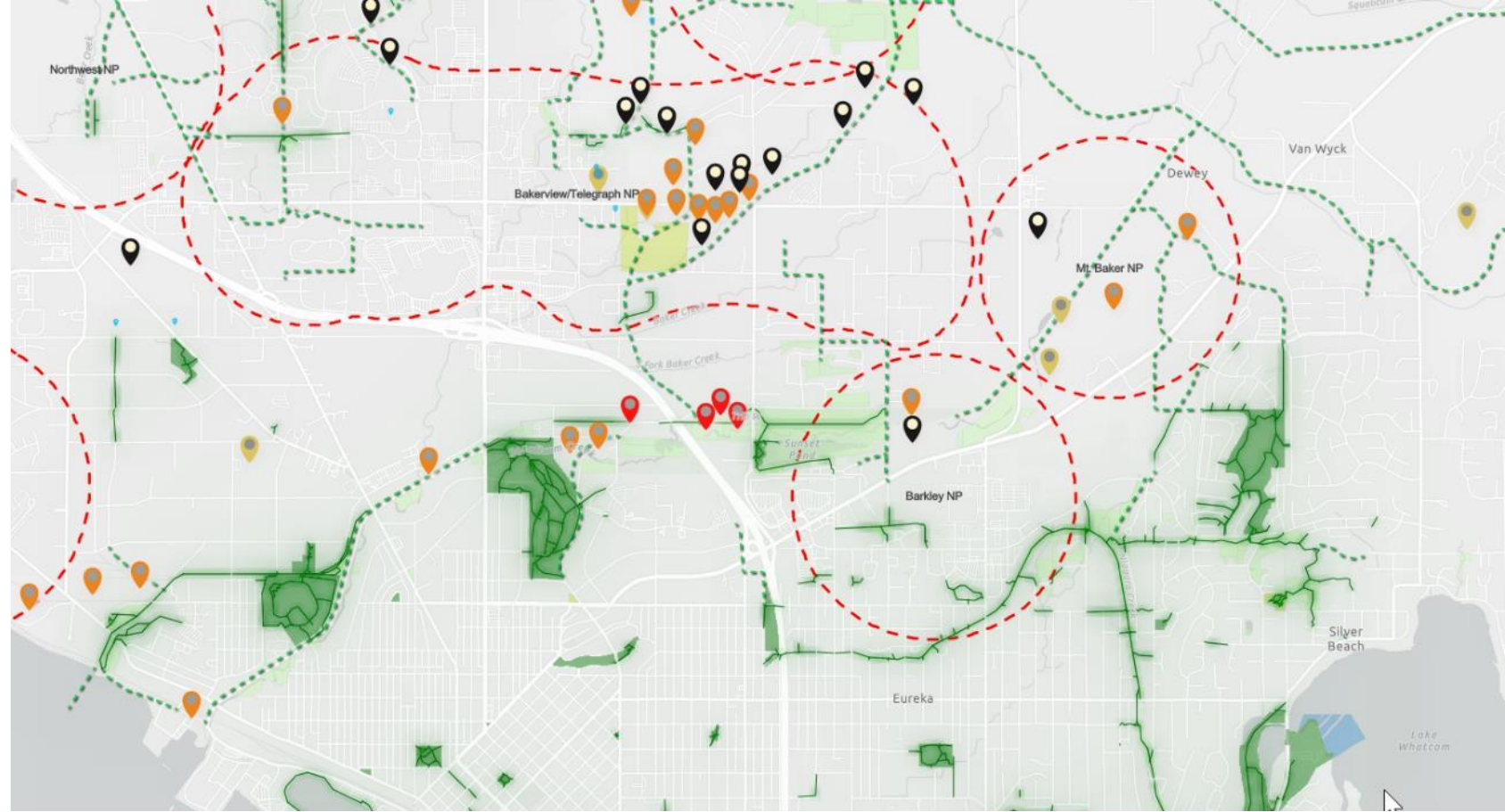
The nine-member volunteer committee evaluate properties, develop maps, take field trips, and guide the implementation of strategic plan priorities.

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



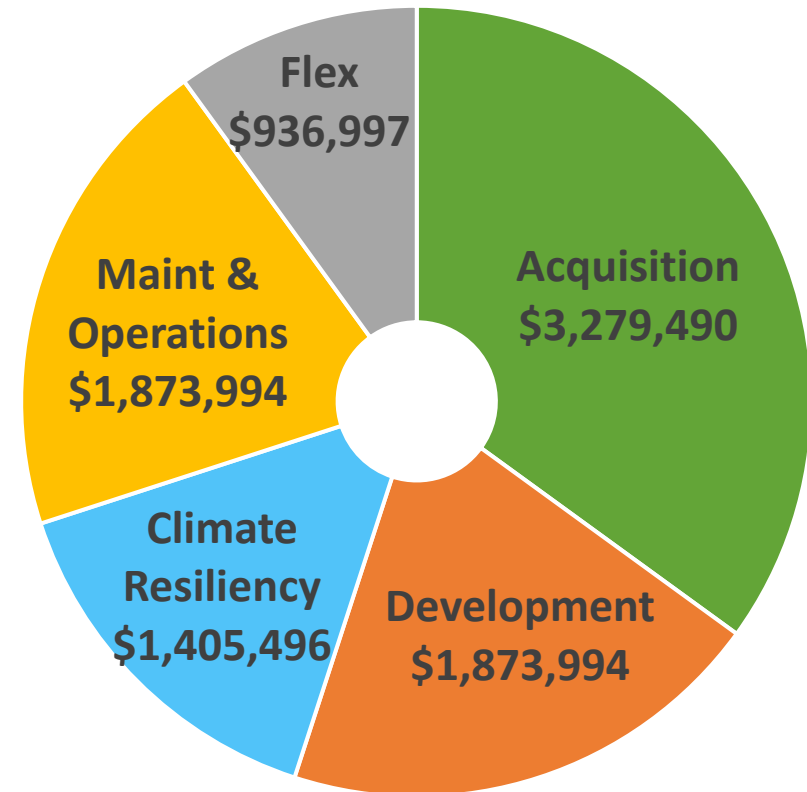
Properties of Interest Map

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

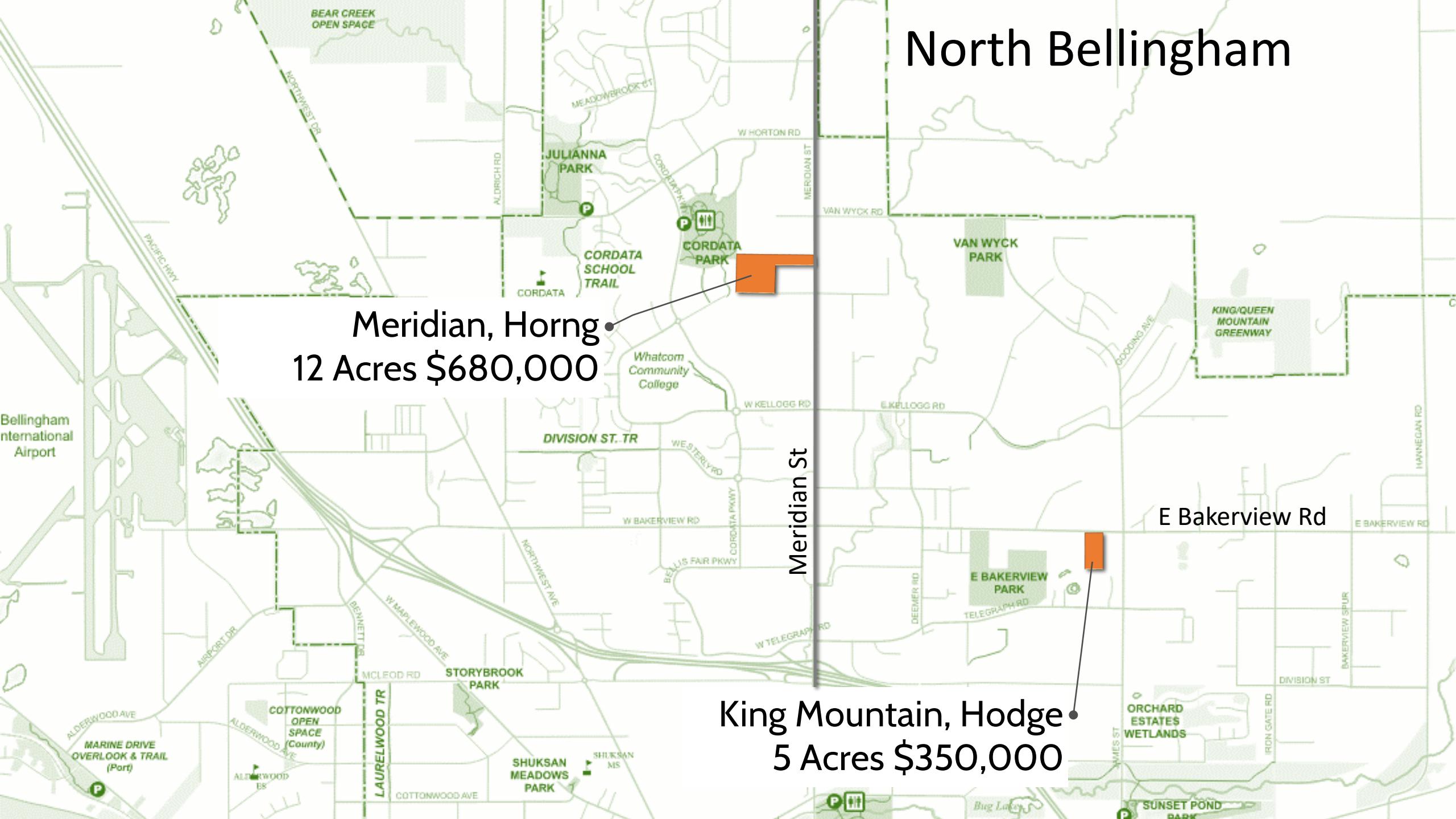
38 acres



North Bellingham

Meridian, Horng
12 Acres \$680,000

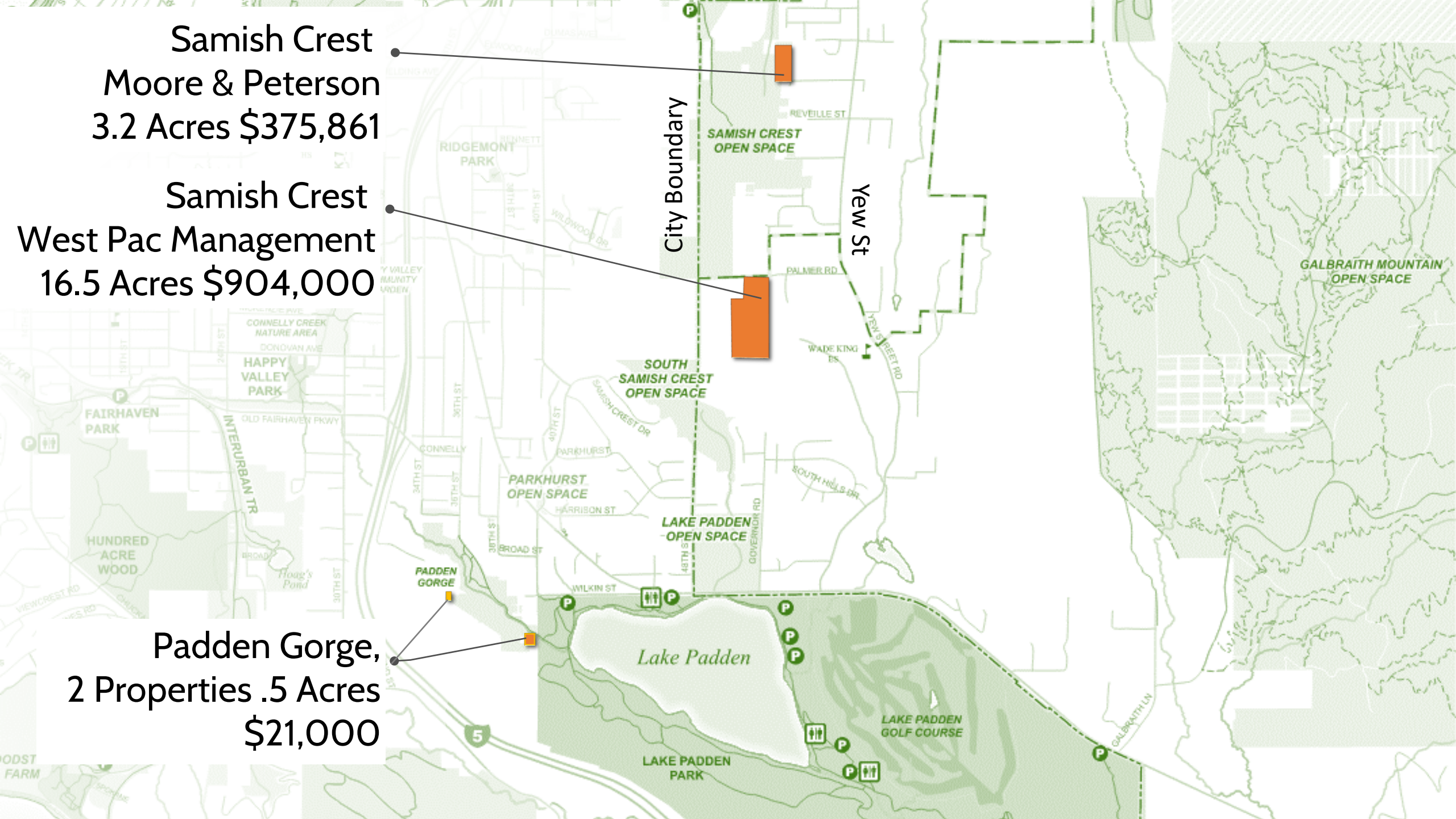
King Mountain, Hodge
5 Acres \$350,000



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

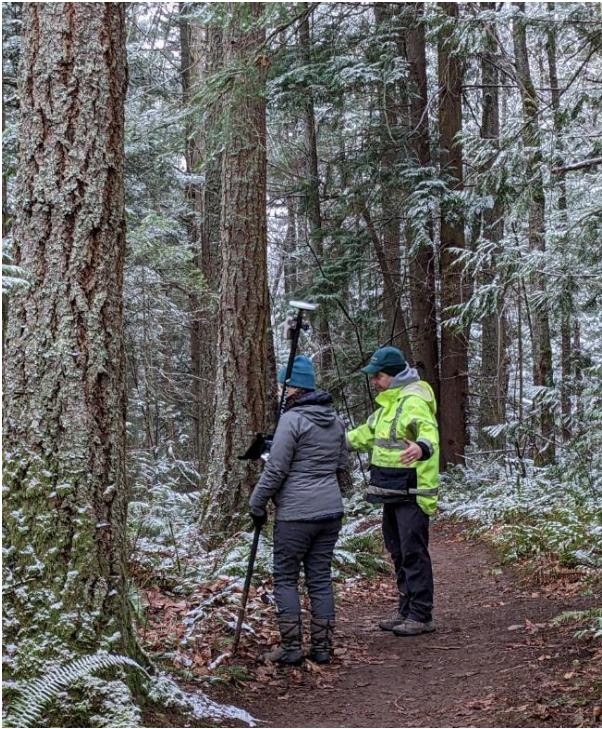
Expenditures: \$ 2,479,000

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

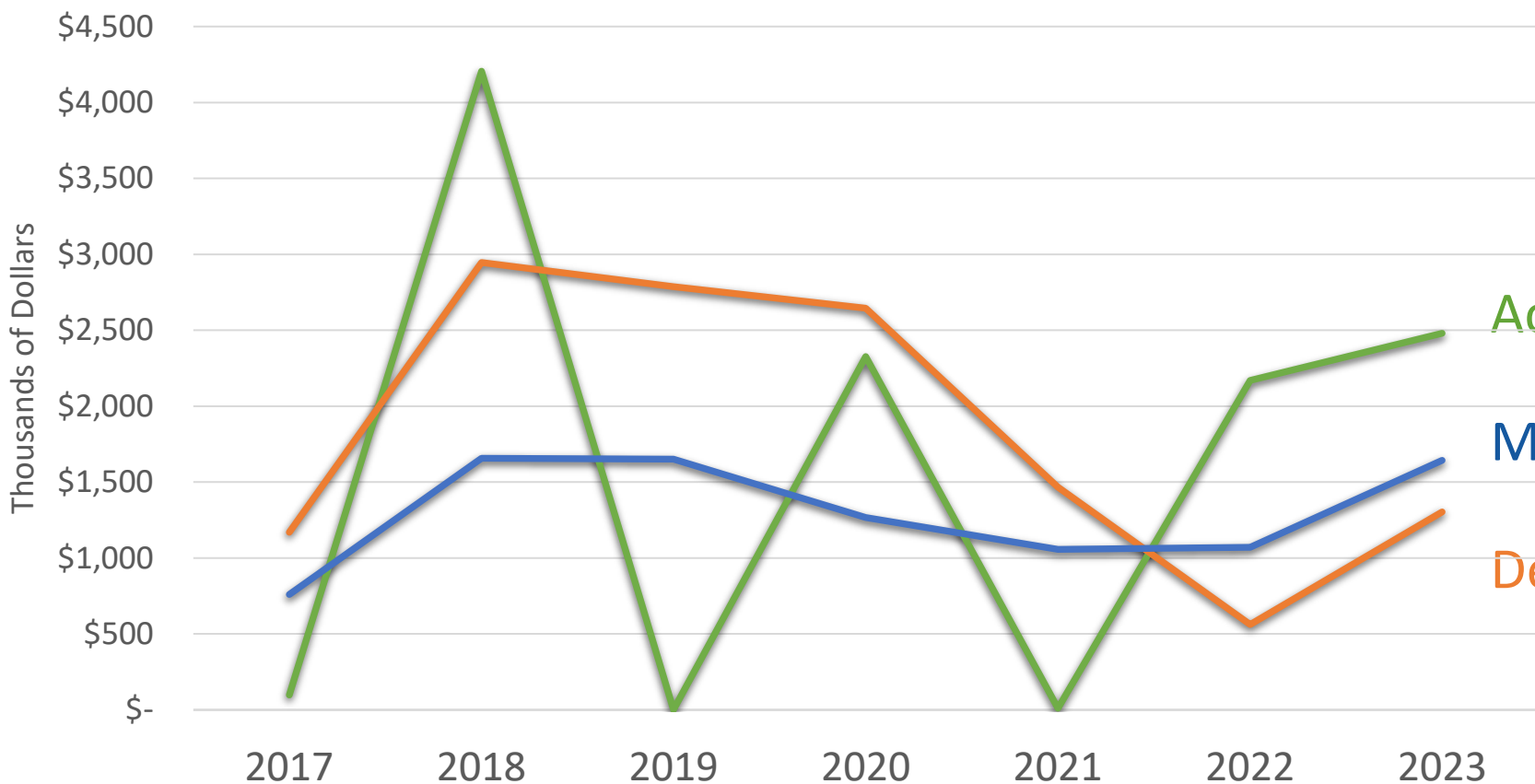
Acquisition **\$11.3M 33%**

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:

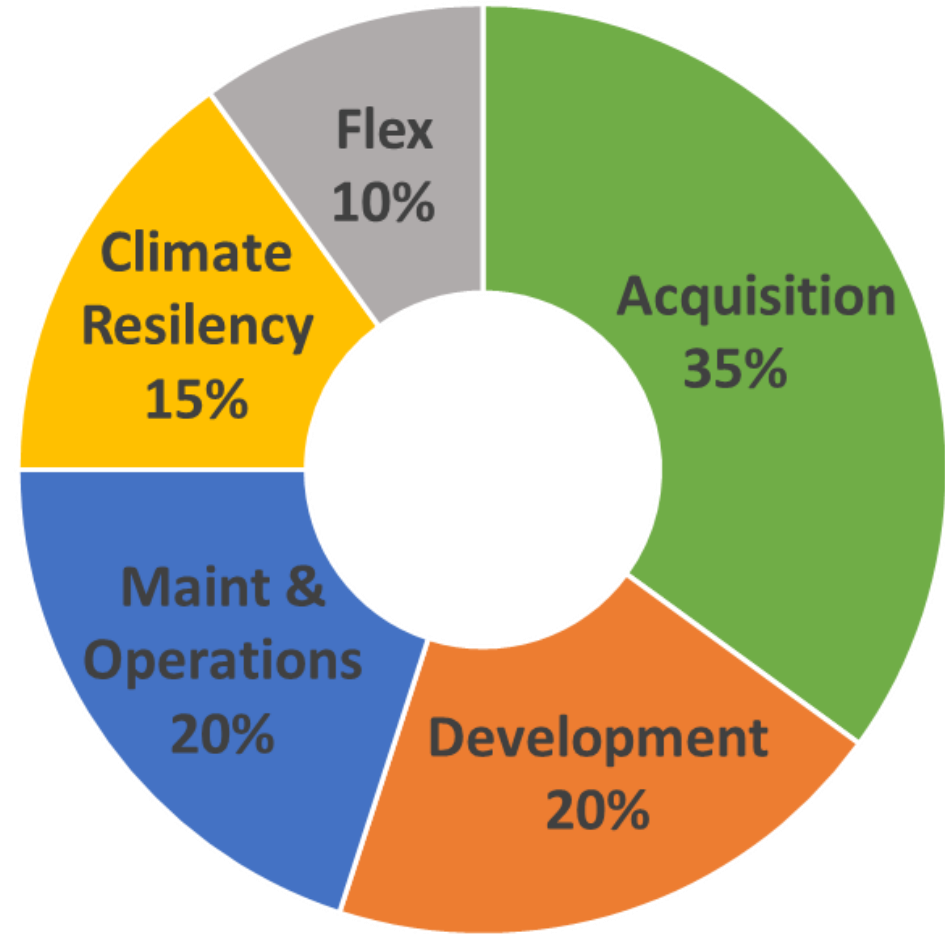
\$12.5M

Projected 2024 levy revenue:

\$9.3M

Adopted 2024 GW budget:

\$12.9M



Levy 5 Spending Categories

A photograph of a dirt path winding through a dense forest. The path is light brown and leads towards a bright, open area in the distance, possibly a clearing or a body of water. The trees are tall and have thick green foliage, creating a canopy over the path. The lighting is soft, with dappled sunlight hitting the ground.

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

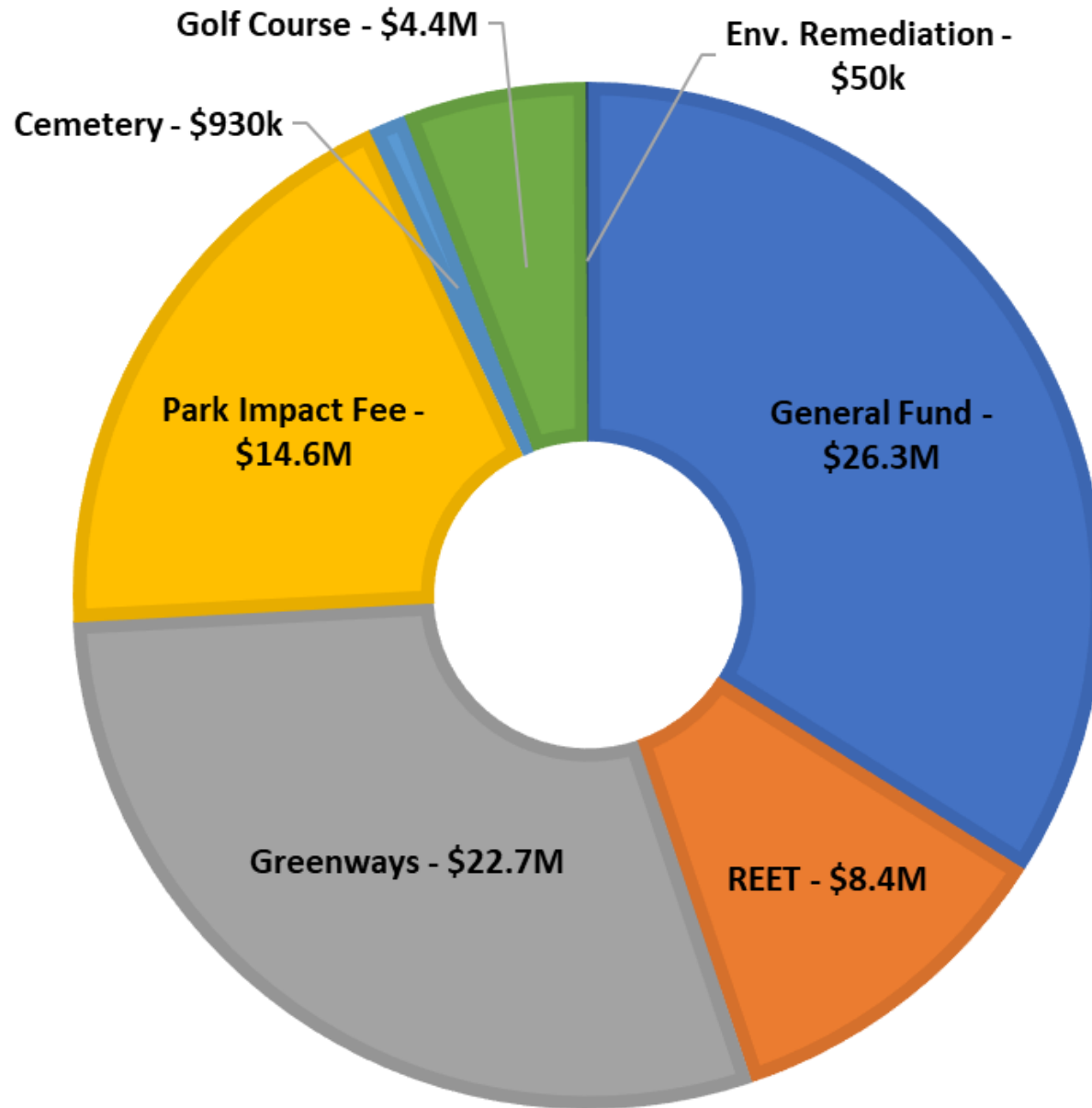


A lush forest scene with a stream, moss-covered trees, and autumn foliage. The image is a composite of two photos: the left side shows trees with yellow and green autumn leaves, while the right side shows moss-covered tree trunks and ferns. A semi-transparent white box is overlaid in the center, containing text.

2024 Maintenance Funding

Additional staff for:

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



2023-24 Parks & Recreation Dept. Budget



Cordata Park



Bloedel Donovan Park



Storybrook Park





Greenways Program 2023 Annual Report

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

