

Greenways Program and Park Impact Fee Fund 2024 Annual Report

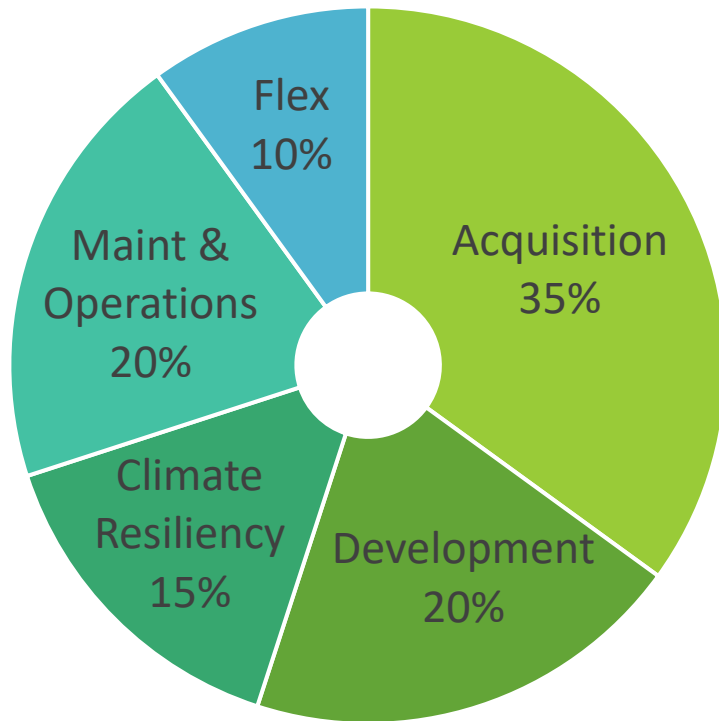
Bellingham City Council

May 5, 2025



Greenways 5 Levy

Greenways 5 resolution allocation guidelines



2024 total tax revenue	\$9,283,560
Acquisition	\$3,249,246
Development	\$1,856,712
Maintenance & Operations	\$1,856,712
Climate Resiliency	\$1,392,534
Flex	\$928,356

*An additional \$12.4M was carried forward from Levy 4 revenue

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 evaluates properties, visits properties, makes funding recommendations, and guides the implementation of strategic plan priorities.

Committee members:

- David Stalheim
- Dina Dickerson
- Jacob Stewart
- Kate McDonald
- Kelsey Wylie
- Neil Schaner
- Sarah Gardner
- Scott Foreman-Murray
- Zach Cook
- Council Rep: Skip Williams

Greenways Advisory Committee

2024 work plan



- Review and recommendation of potential property purchases
- Subcommittee recommendations
 - Trail connections and wayfinding
 - Climate resiliency
 - Equity
 - Community gardens

GAC subcommittee recommendations

Trail connections and wayfinding: Climate resiliency:

1. Wayfinding at trailheads and junctions
2. Map accessibility
3. Route guides
4. Corridor wide trail improvements
5. Additional trails

1. Trails
2. Trees
3. Infrastructure



GAC subcommittee recommendations

Equity:

1. Prioritize trails in underserved areas
2. Trails to/from schools
3. Access to park resources for vulnerable communities

Community gardens:

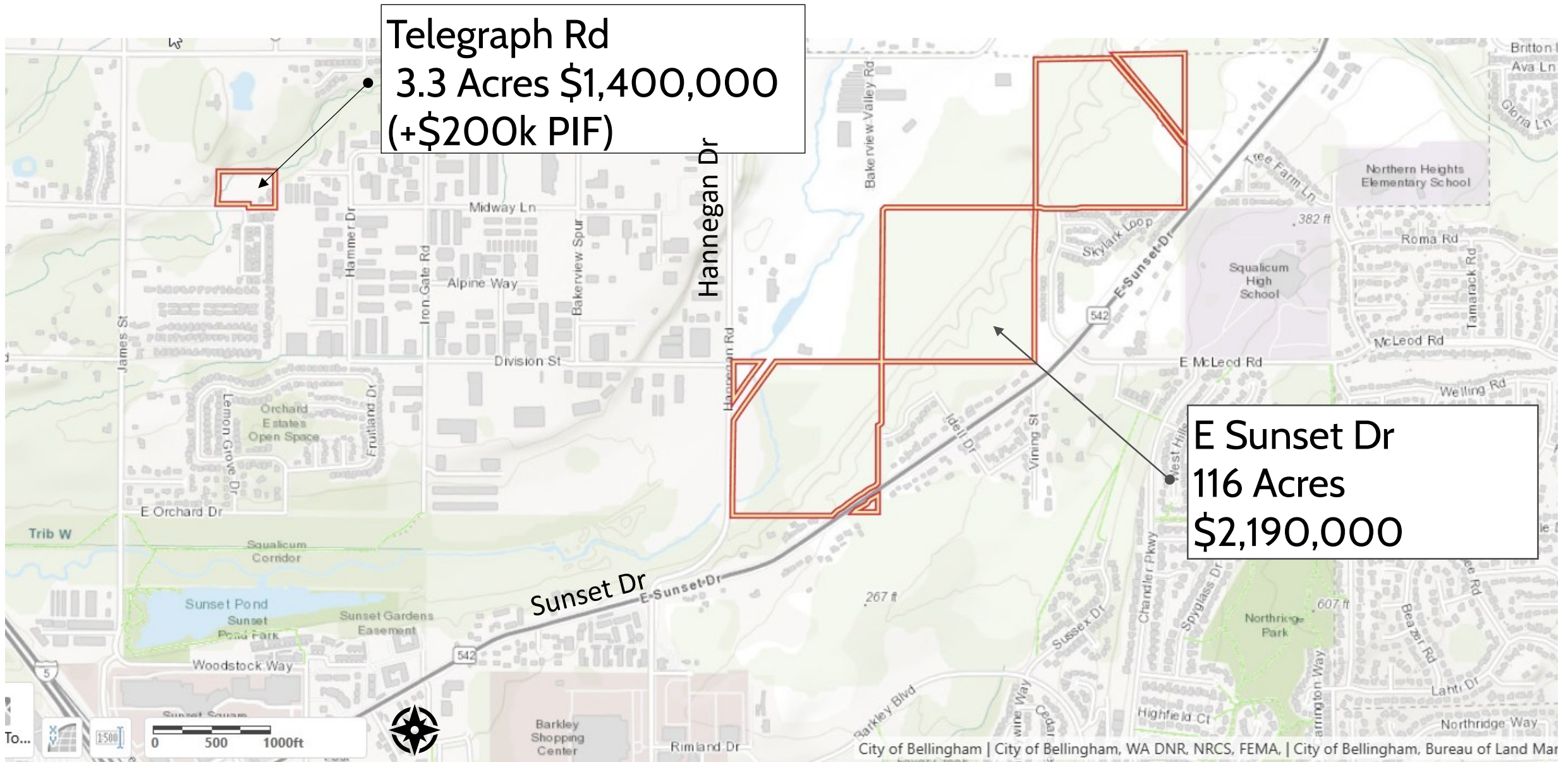
1. Survey neighborhood residents
2. Explore different models
3. Learn more about schools hosting community gardens
4. Connect waitlist with other garden opportunities



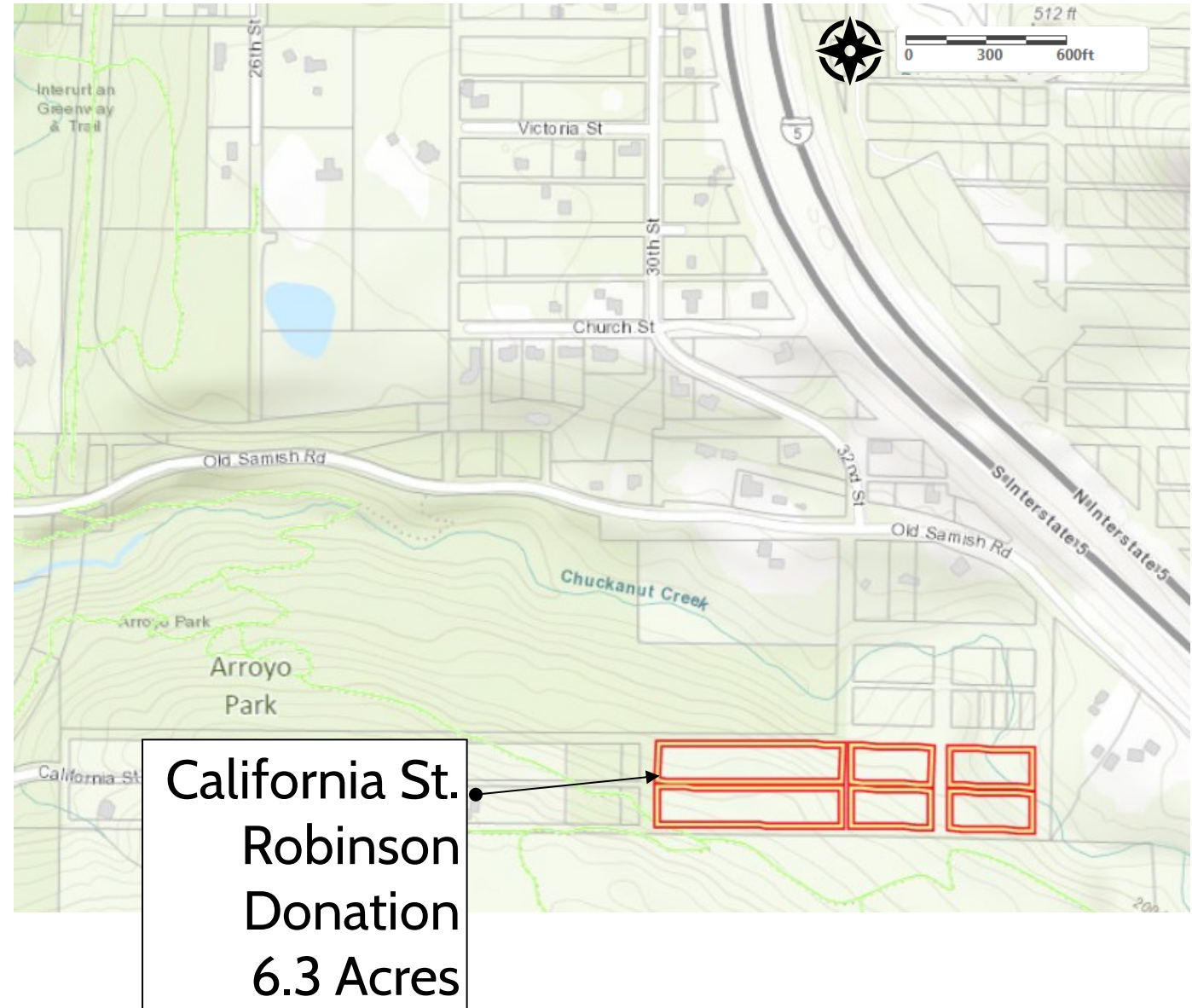
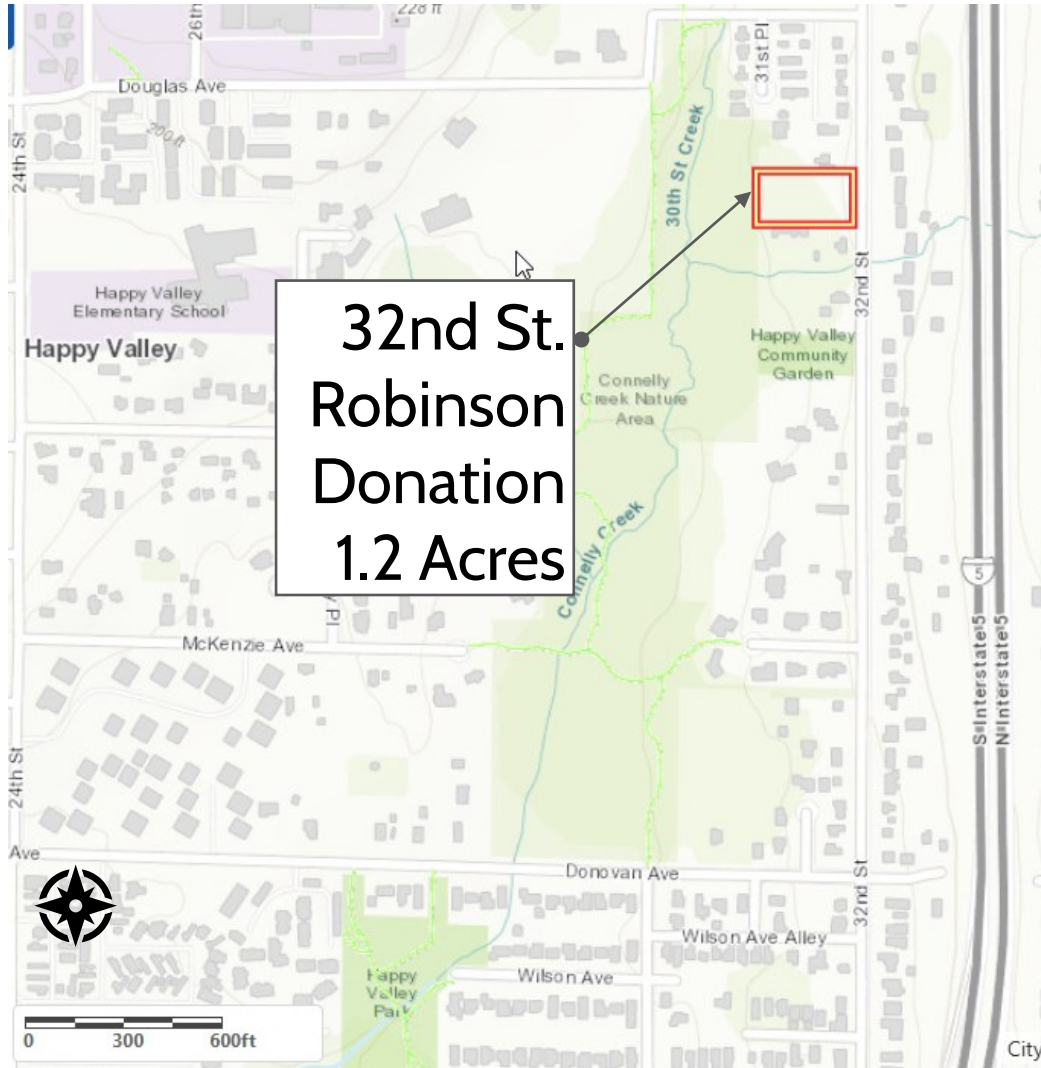
2024 Greenways property acquisitions



4 properties
127 acres



North Bellingham



South Bellingham

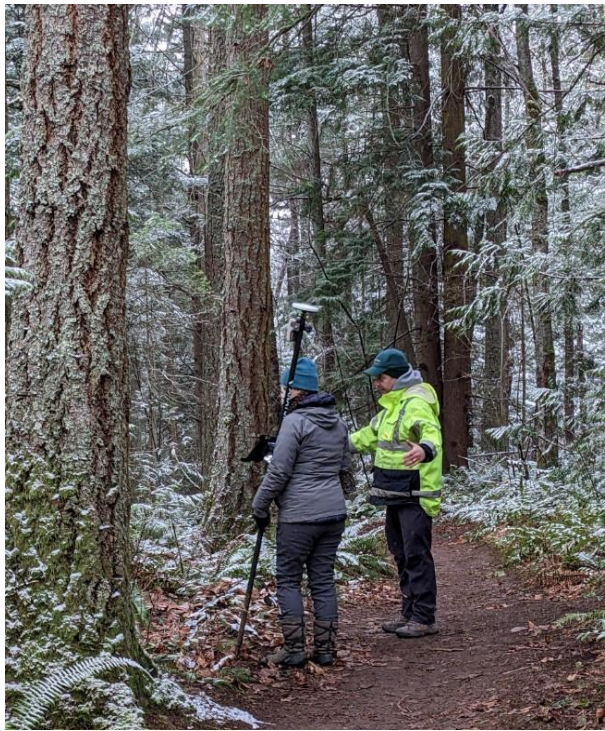
Acquisition spending summary

Levy 5 (2024 -)

Revenue (35%)	\$ 3,249,246
Levy 4 carry over	\$ 3,542,226
Expenditures	-\$ 3,674,408
Balance	\$ 3,117,064

Greenways 5 allocation guidance:

35% for land acquisition including the completion of trail connections as designated in the Greenways Strategic Plan and Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan



2024 Greenways development



Development spending summary

Levy 4 (2024 -)

Revenue (20%)	\$ 1,856,712
Levy 4 carry over	\$ 7,590,974
Expenditures	-\$1,405,989
Balance	\$ 8,041,697

Greenways 5 allocation guidance:

20% for the development of properties purchased by the City consistent with the Greenways Strategic Plan and Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan

Staff: \$296,598
Projects: \$1,103,950

2024 Maintenance

Staff:

- 3 FT, 2 seasonal - facilities
- 2.5 FT - urban parks
- 5 FT, 2 seasonal - trails
- 5 FT - urban forestry

Projects:

- Fairhaven Village Green restroom
- Fairhaven Park sport court
- Maritime Heritage Park boardwalk



Maintenance spending summary

Levy 5 (2024 -)

Revenue (20%)	\$ 1,856,712
Levy 4 carry over	\$ 1,311,585
Expenditures	- \$ 1,610,579
Balance	\$ 1,557,718

Greenways 5 allocation guidance:

*20% for the ongoing maintenance,
operation, and capital replacement needs
of park properties and facilities*

Staff: \$1,466,805
Projects: \$143,774

Stewardship Program



Community gardens

- New King Mountain Community Garden
- Stewardship Coordinator position



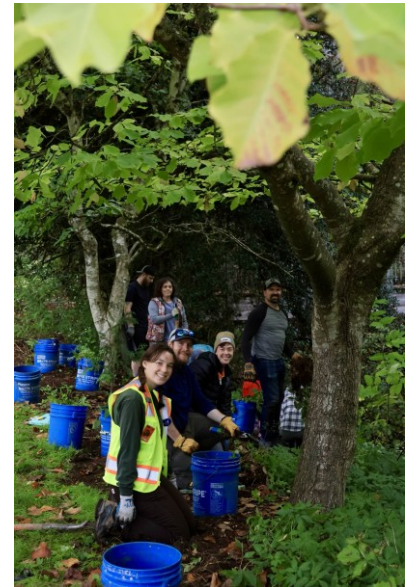
Park Ambassadors

- 5,400 hours of public outreach and assistance, education, event support, litter pickup, graffiti removal, and park monitoring and reporting



Volunteer Program

- 119 volunteer events with 3,239 volunteers and 13,524 hours of service
- Planted 3,010 native trees and shrubs
- Updated Park Steward Program



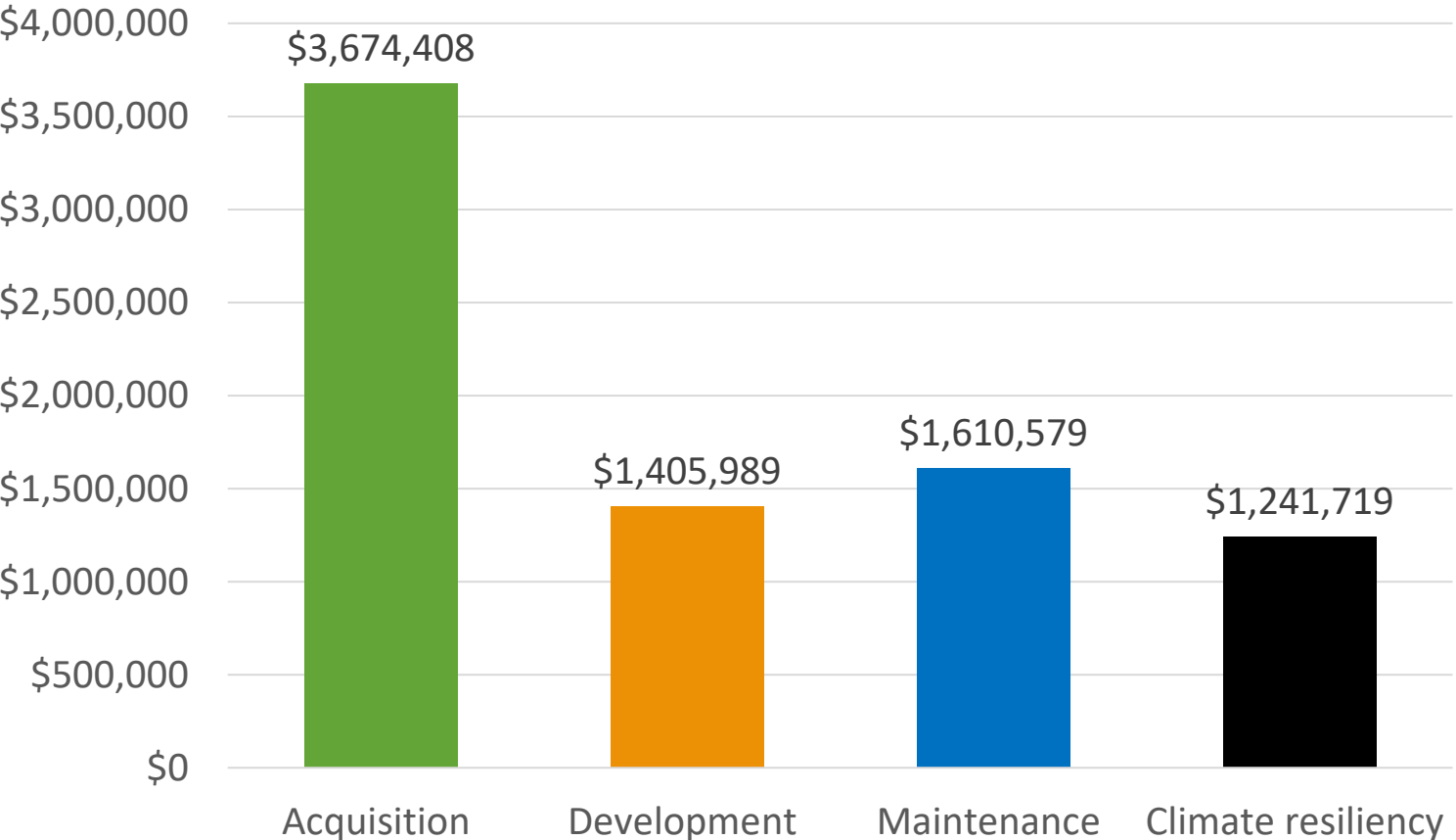
Climate resiliency spending summary

Levy 5 (2024 -)	
Revenue	\$ 1,392,534
Levy 4 carry over	NA
Expenditures	- \$ 1,241,719
Balance	\$ 150,815

Greenways 5 allocation guidance:
*15% for reducing emissions and increasing
the climate resiliency of City park
properties and facilities*

Staff: \$446,149
Projects: \$795,571

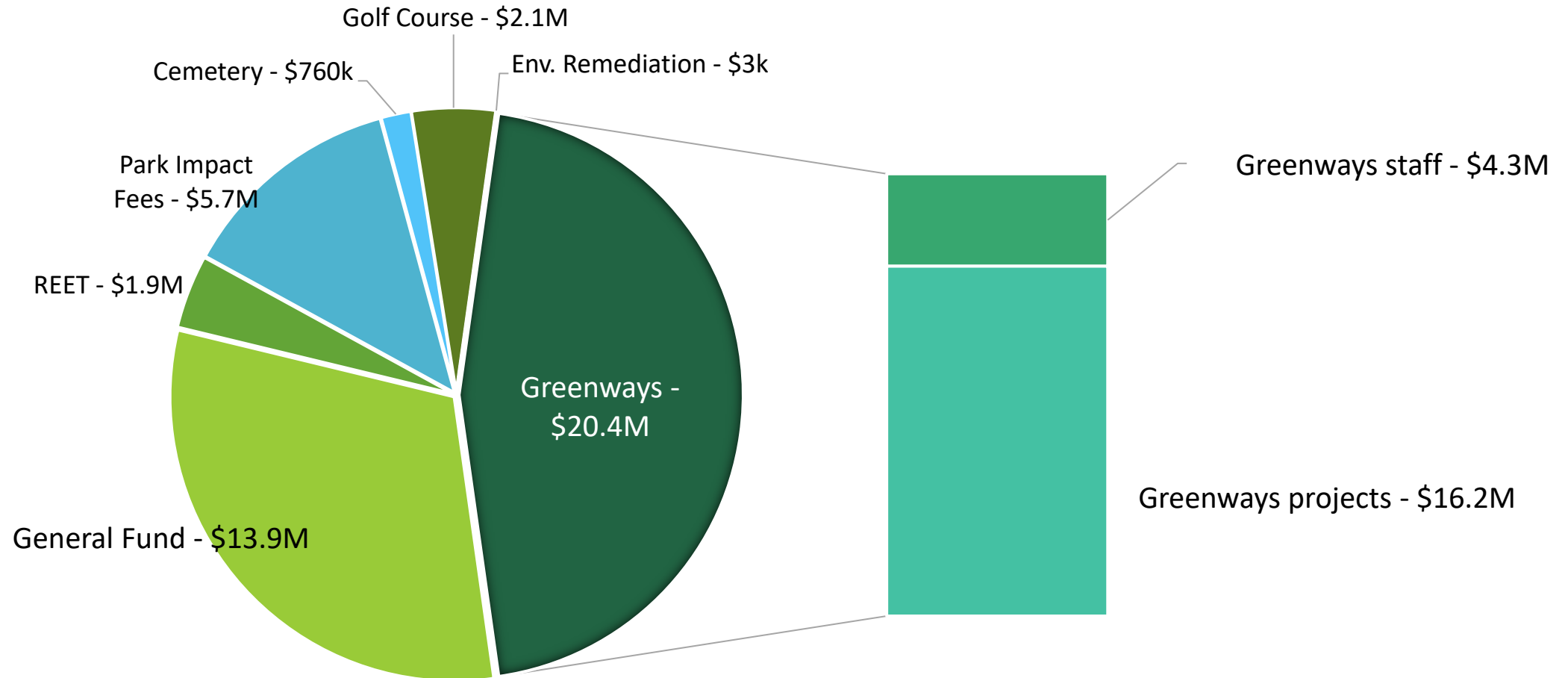
Greenways Levy 5 spending summary



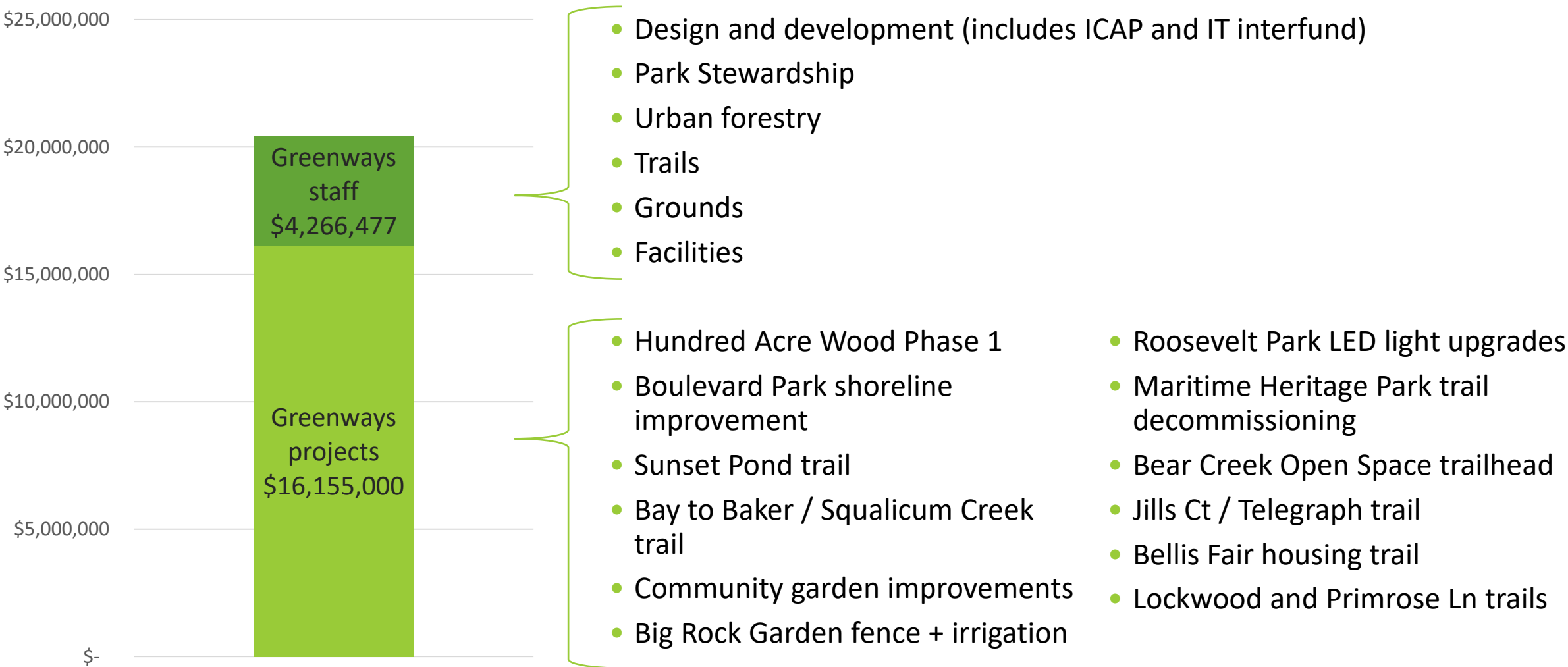
2024 total expenses:
\$7,921,464

Acquisition	46%
Maintenance	21%
Development	18%
Climate resiliency	16%

2025 Parks & Recreation Dept. budget

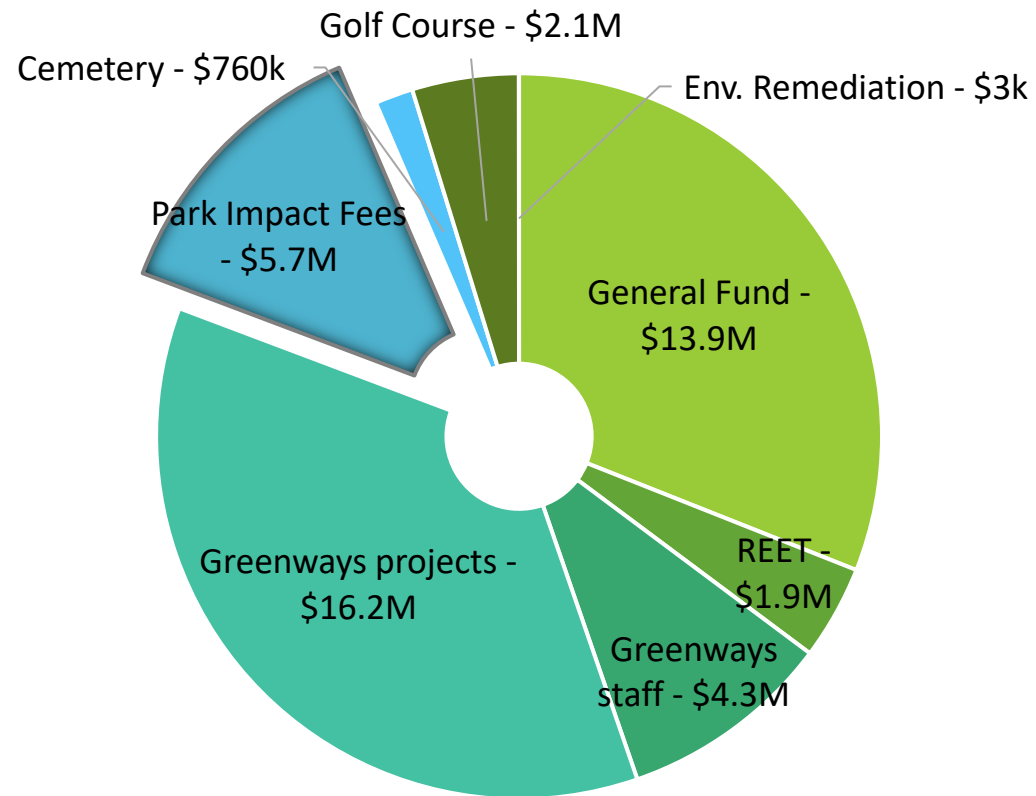


2025 Greenways fund budget



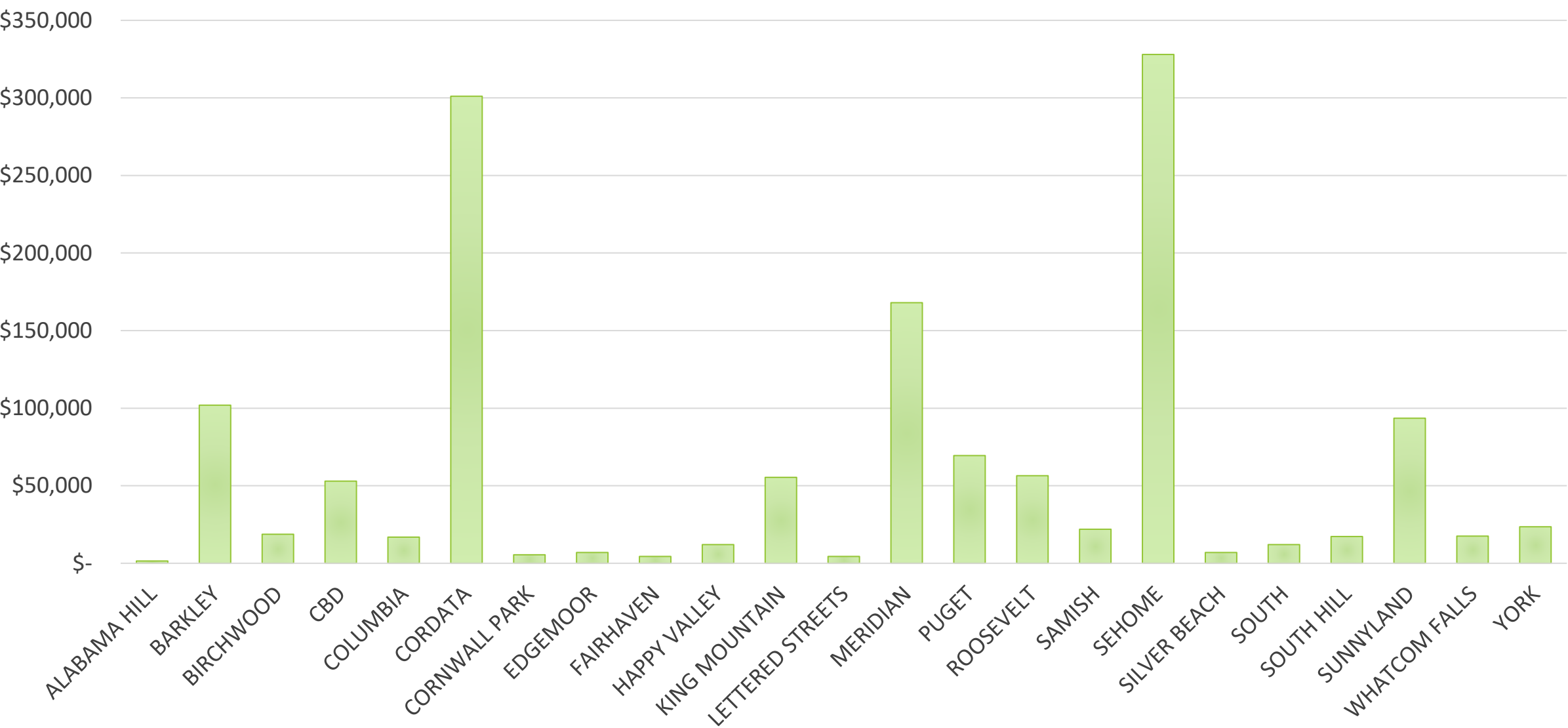
Park impact fee fund

2025 Dept. budget



- Acquisitions, expansions, or capital improvements within the city or impact fee service areas
- Not for maintenance or operations
- Spent consistent with the capital facilities plan
- Spent in the order in which they were collected and spent or encumbered within 10 years
- No more than 2% of the funds used for administration costs

Total 2024 PIF revenue = \$1,397,112

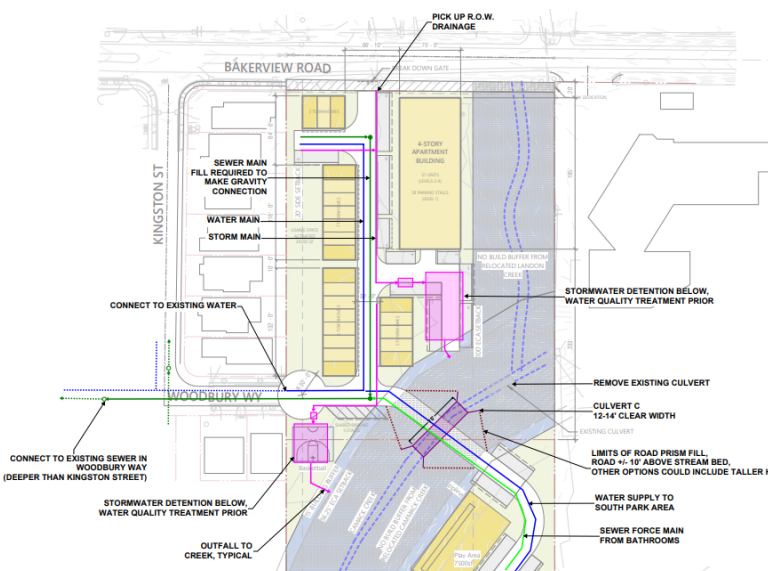




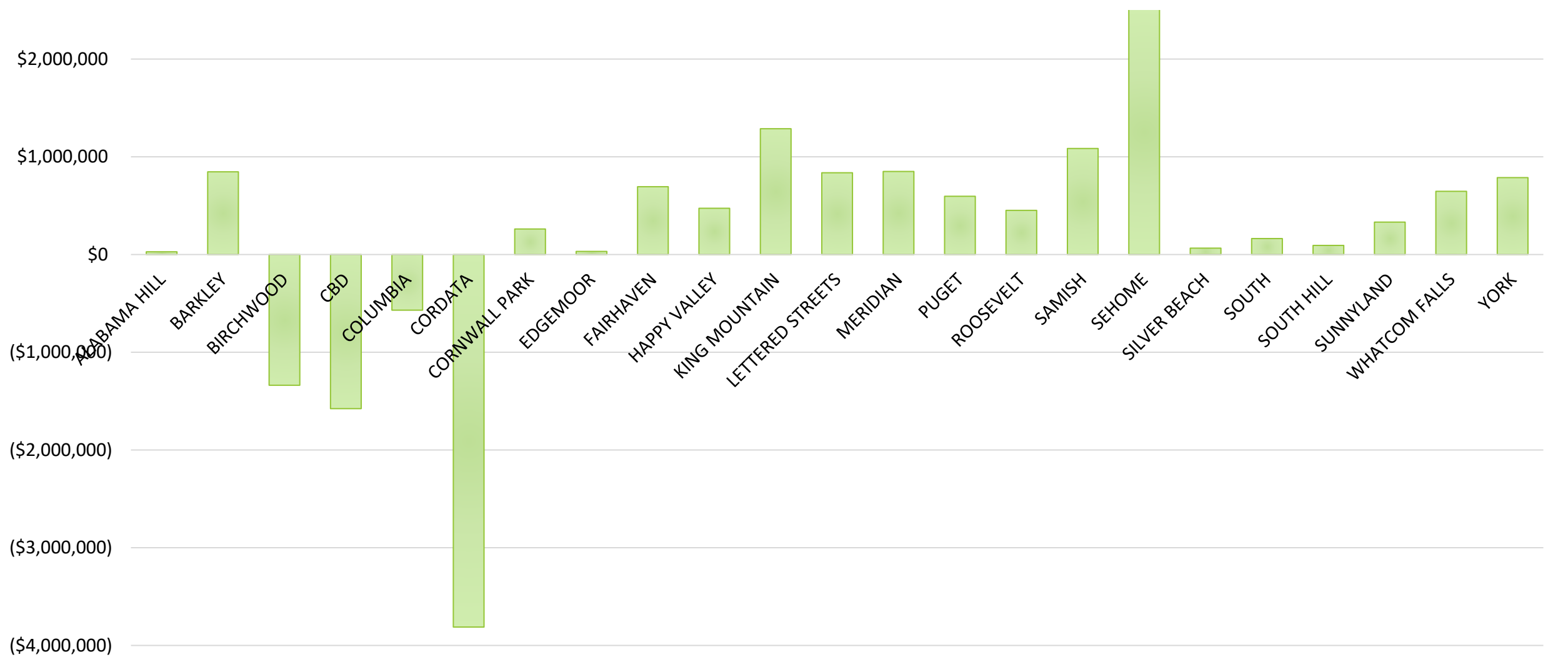
Community Activity Hub



Total 2024 PIF expenditures = \$2,382,647



2024 year end neighborhood balances



2025 PIF funded projects

- Storybrook Park phase one
- Sportsplex upgrades
- Civic athletic complex master plan
- Sunset Pond trail construction
- Bakerview Neighborhood Park master plan and infrastructure design
- Fairhaven Park pavilion and picnic shelter assessment
- Playground replacement at Rock Hill and Bloedel Donovan Parks
- 27th St right-of-way trail (complete)
- Bloedel rowing dock assessment
- PROS Plan update



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