

Four Corners Project

Final Presentation

February 27, 2025

Clarksburg Community Center

Agenda: Final Presentation

6:00-6:15 | Reintroduction/Recap (Courteny)

6:15-7:00 | Concept Review by Site (Genevieve + Terry)

7:00-7:15 | Accessibility Features (Meg)

7:15-7:30 | Grant Landscape + Next Steps (Courteny)

Reintroduction/Recap

Four Corners Project: Clarksburg Team

- Bob Norcross – Select Board
- Lauren Norcross – Council on Aging
- Clebe Scott – Conservation Commission
- Jim Brandon – Conservation Commission
- Susan Brandon – Historic Commission
- Emily Rosselli – School
- Ron Boucher – Town Administrator
- Miranda Bona - Resident

Four Corners Project: Design Team

Berkshire Regional Planning Commission

Regenerative Design Group

Ecological Site Design, Resilience Planning, Agricultural Planning

Terry Reynolds

Civil Engineer

Meg Bandarra

Outdoor Accessibility Consultant

Flying Cloud

Art + Science Education

Four Corners Project: Objectives

Increase resiliency of the Four Corners Area to flooding and stormwater damage

Enhance Town Sites focus area to support more recreation and community events

Expand safe and accessible routes at and between the Community Center, Town Field, and the Elementary School

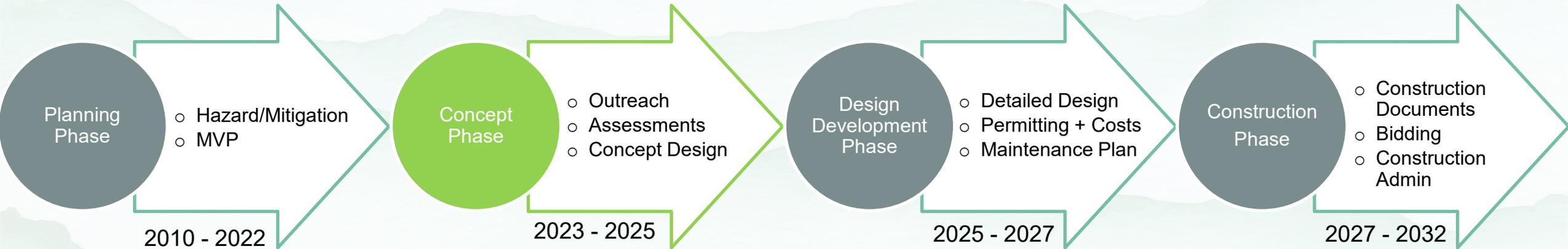
Review of MVP Funding + Parameters

Implement
climate
adaptation
actions

Incorporate
climate
change
data

Utilize **nature-**
based solutions
and reach
priority
populations

Four Corners Project: Big Picture Timeline



Four Corners Project: Concept Phase Timeline

Jan - Mar 2024

Phase One: Project Initiation +
Site Analysis

- Research
- Mapping + Assessments
- Project Team Site Walks

Mar – June 2024

Phase Two: Community
Engagement

- Design Workshops
- Coordination w/ School Group
- Community Site Walks

Sept 2024 – Mar 2025

Phase Three: Concept
Development

- Concept Development
- Listening Sessions
- Final Conceptual Design Packets

Concept Reviews by Site

Challenges

Concept Alternatives

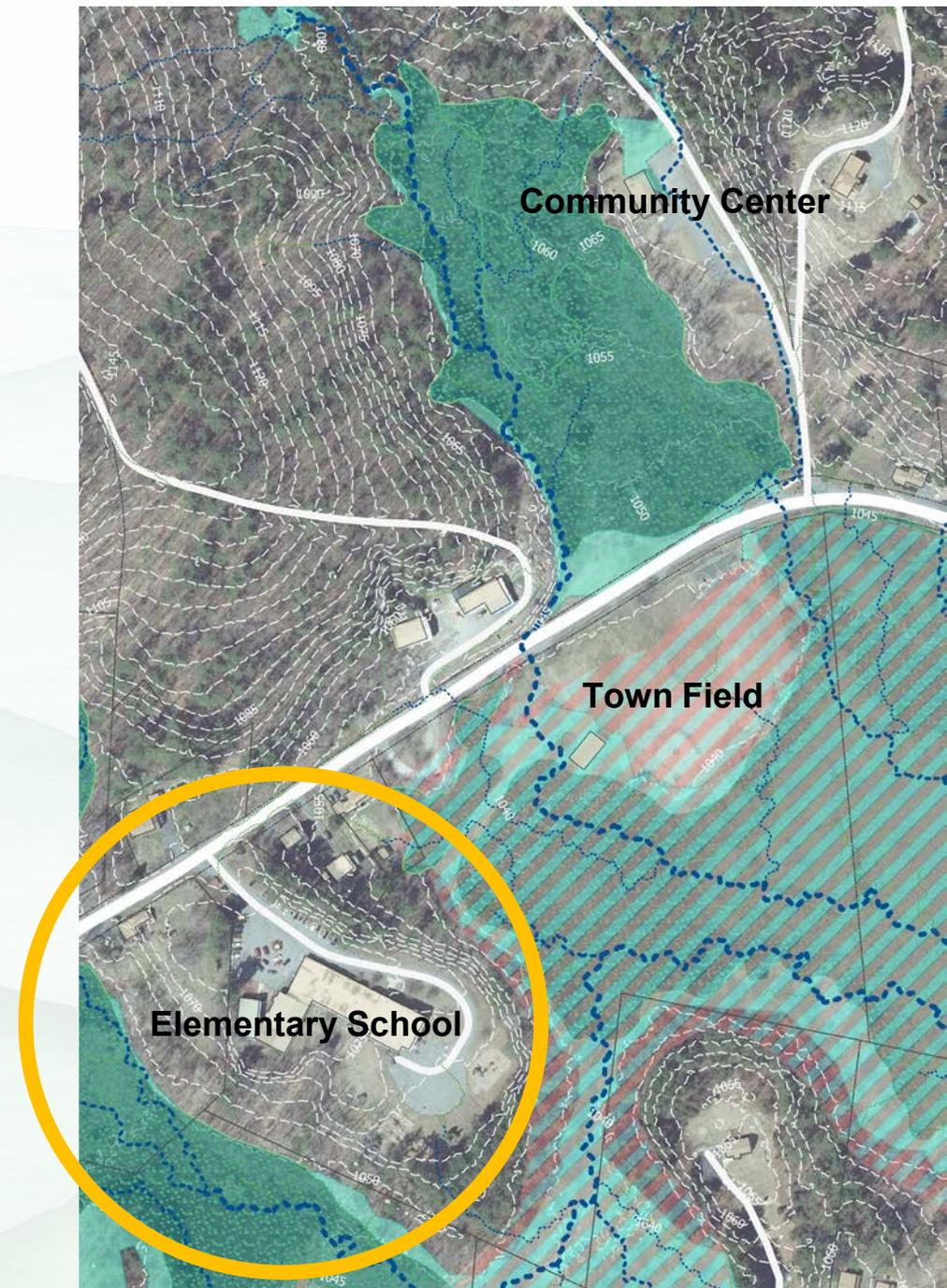
Community Feedback

Final Concept

Elementary School

Challenges

- Parking layout + lack of sidewalks limits safe + efficient use of the space
- Lack of stormwater infrastructure contributes to hillside and trail erosion to the north and east
- Staircase and trail (which double as an emergency evacuation route) into the wetland complex aren't universally accessible



Elementary School

Listening Session #1 - Concept Alternatives + Feedback

A

Love the accessible switchback to the town field

Like more parking at the school. Needed.

B

Love the boardwalk and platforms. Perfect for Field Day and nature walks.

C

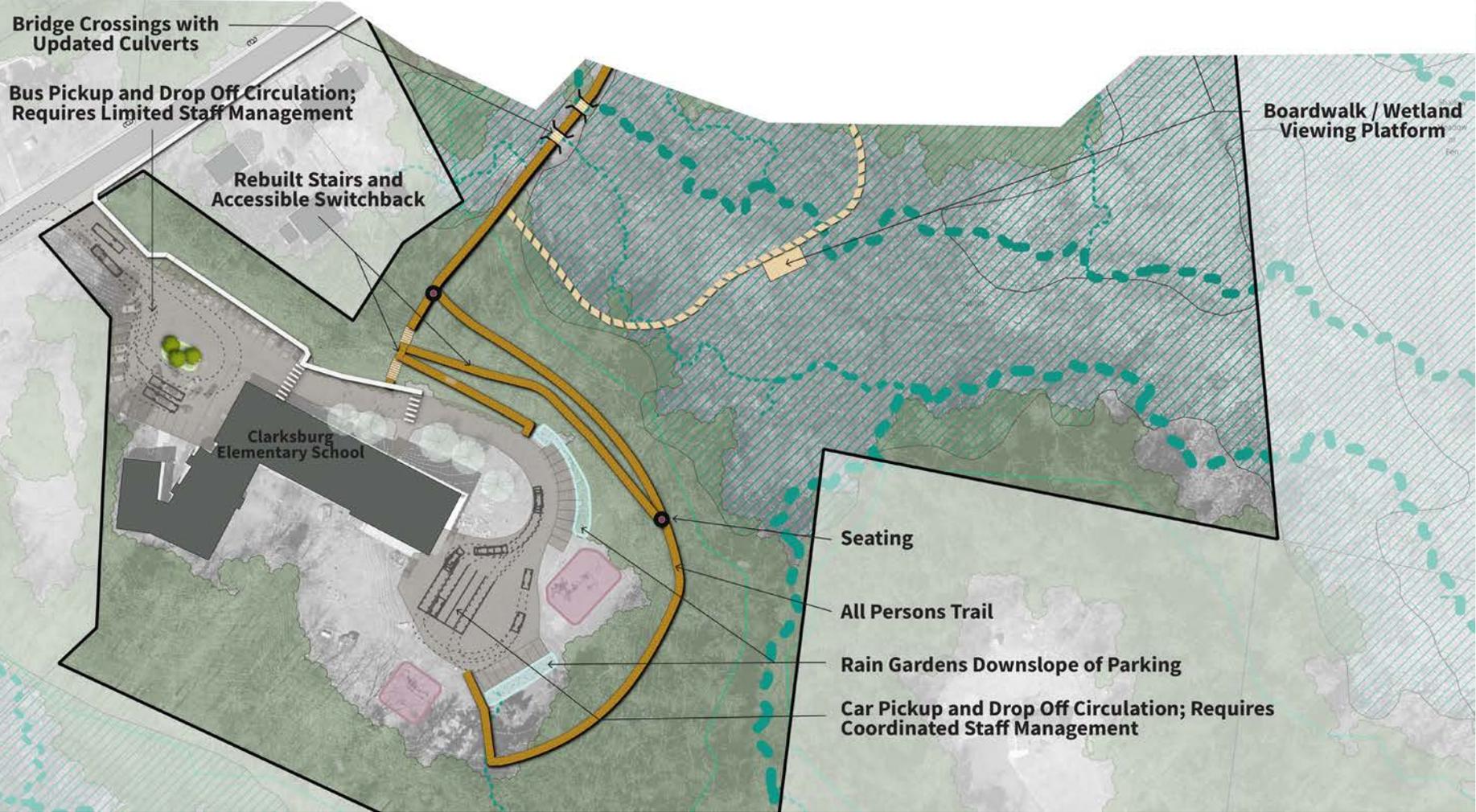
You lose parking at the school with the sidewalk.

Lots of money with the new road.

- Sidewalk
- All Persons Trail Access
- Boardwalk
- Tree Canopy
- Est. Wetlands (DEP)
- Predicted Wetlands

Elementary School

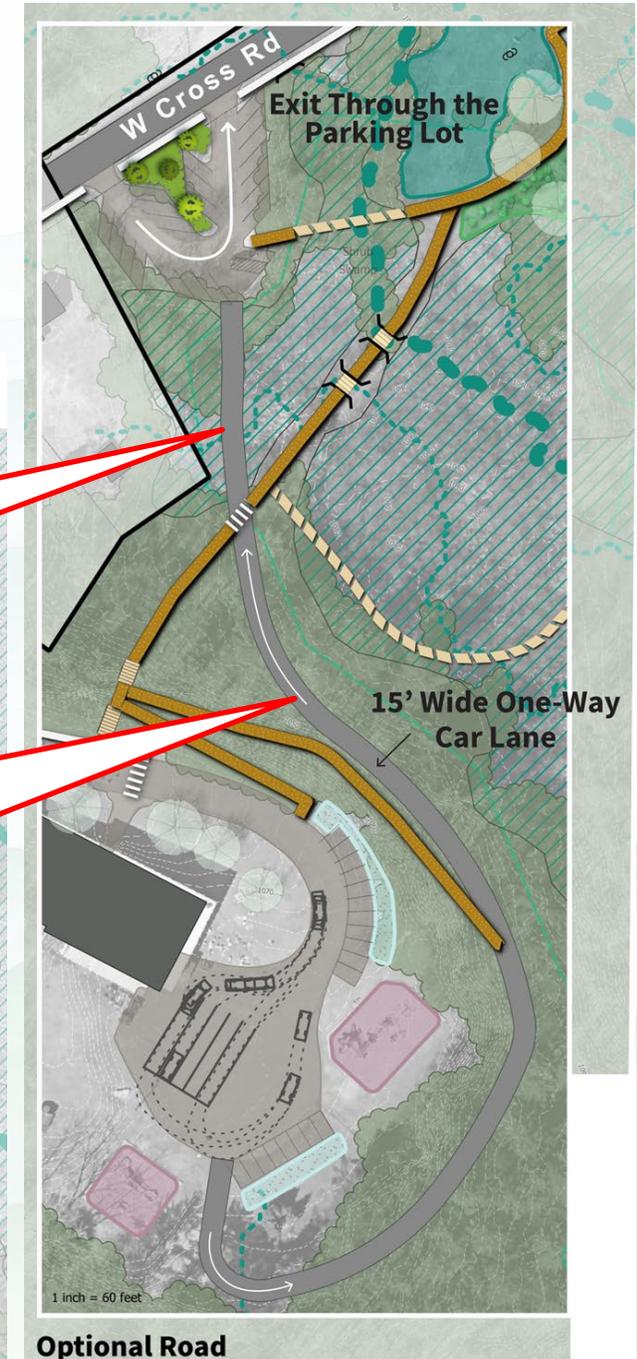
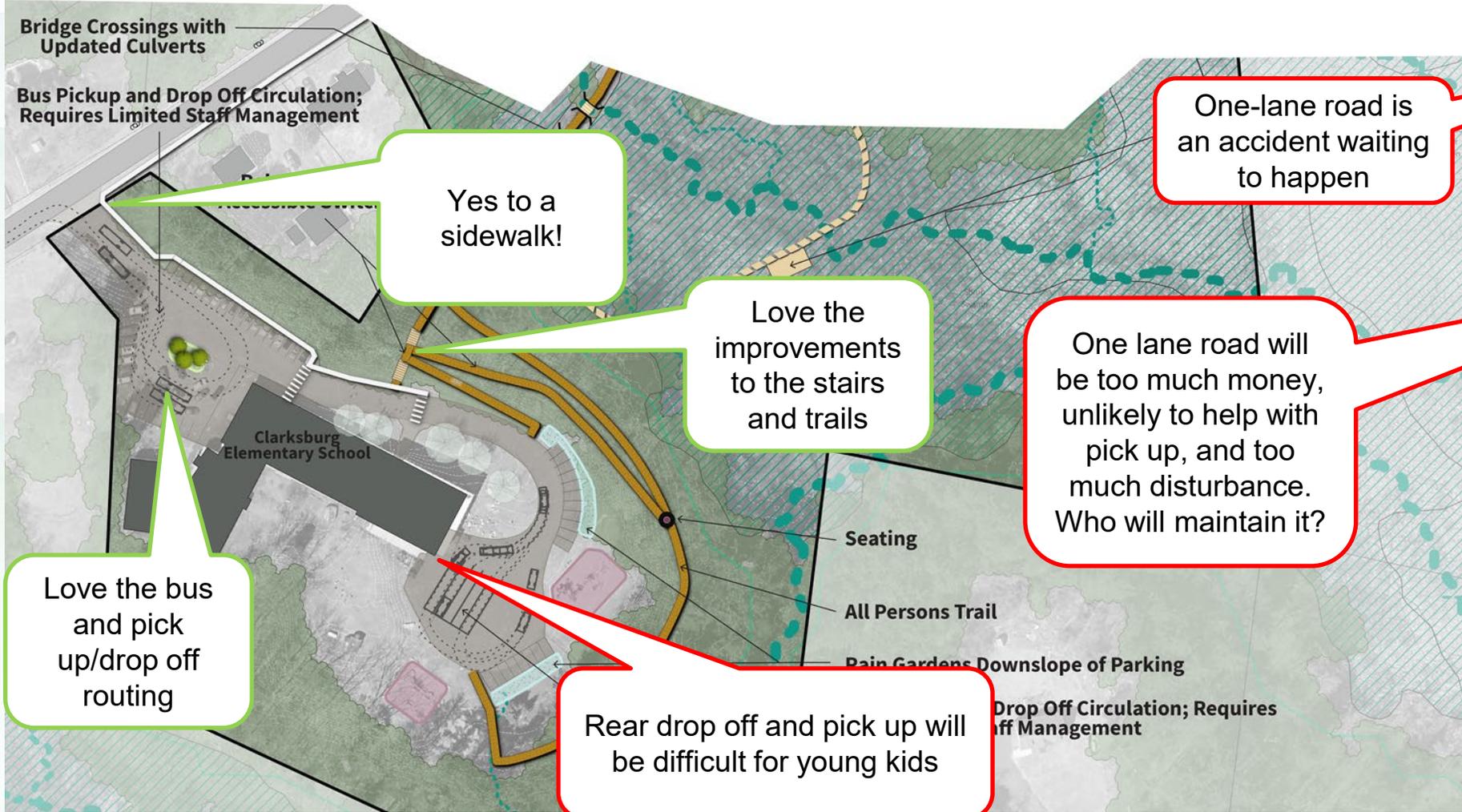
Listening Session #2 - Concept Alternatives + Feedback



Optional Road

Elementary School

Listening Session #2 – Consolidated Concept + Feedback



Elementary School

Final Concept

Accessibility + Safety:

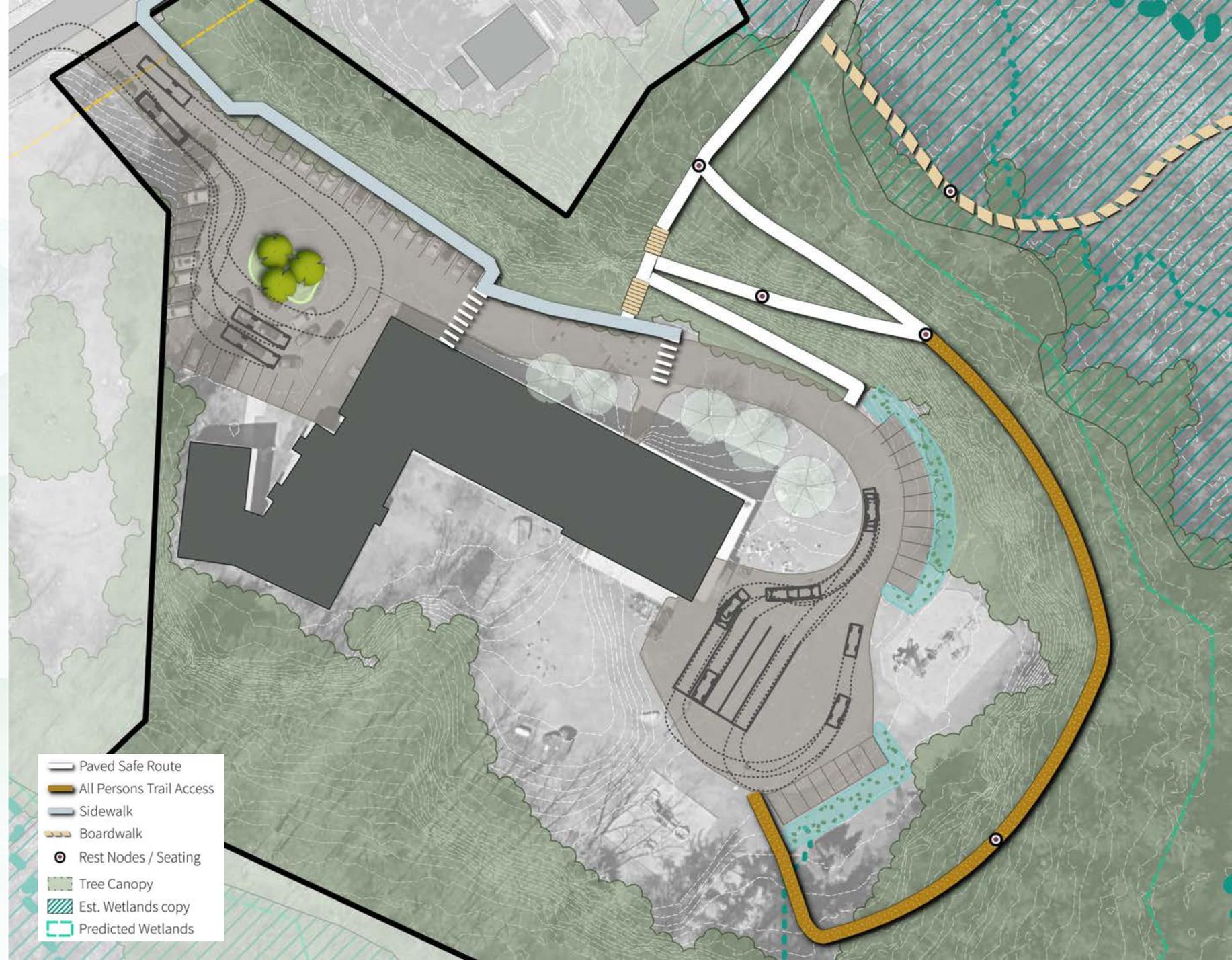
- Trail/stair improvements for year-round accessibility and emergency access
- Sidewalk connectivity to other town sites
- Suggested traffic flow revisions
- Expanded + more legible parking

Stormwater Management:

- Infiltration areas in parking lot

Recreation:

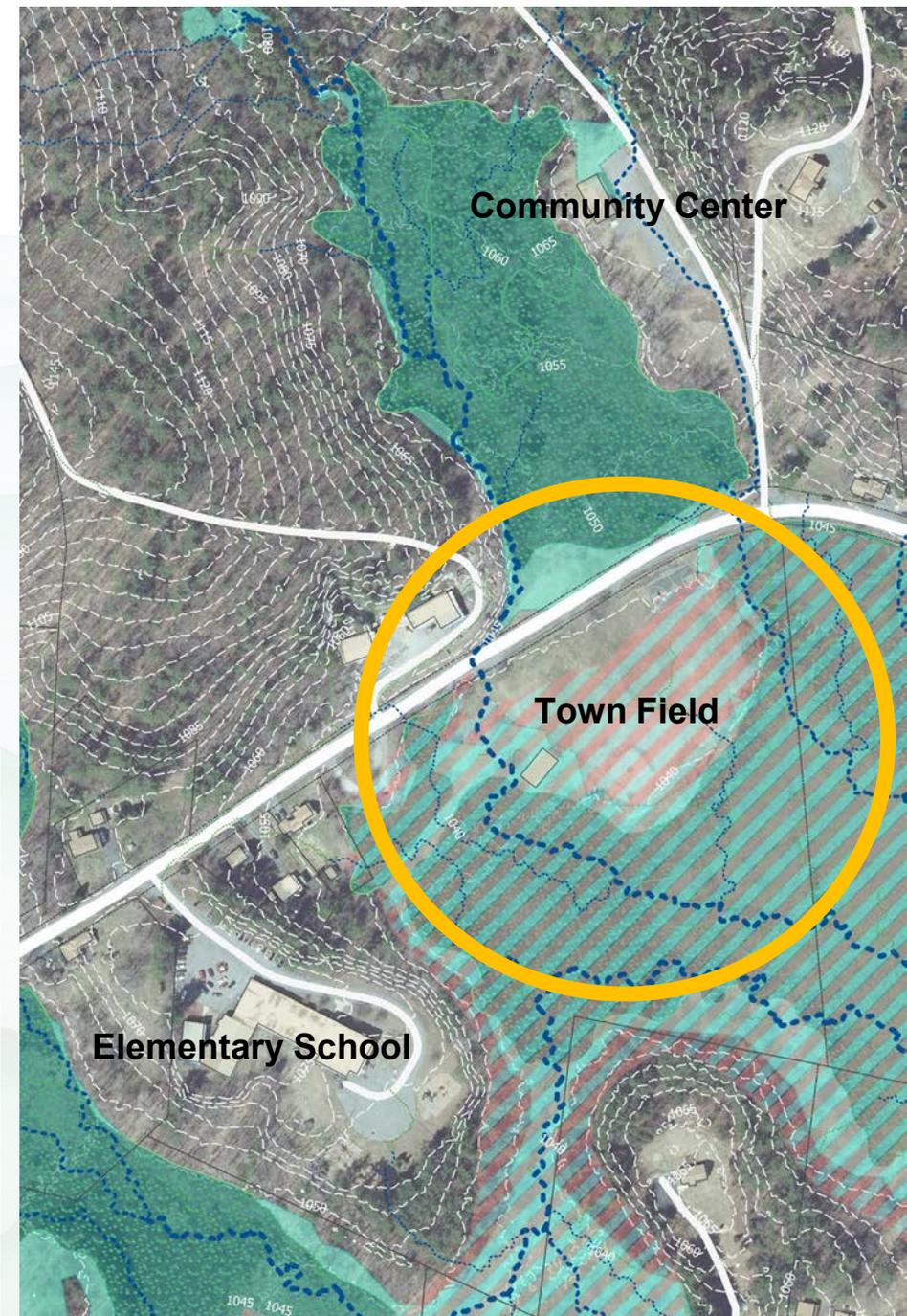
- Improved trails + connectivity to other amenities



Town Field

Challenges

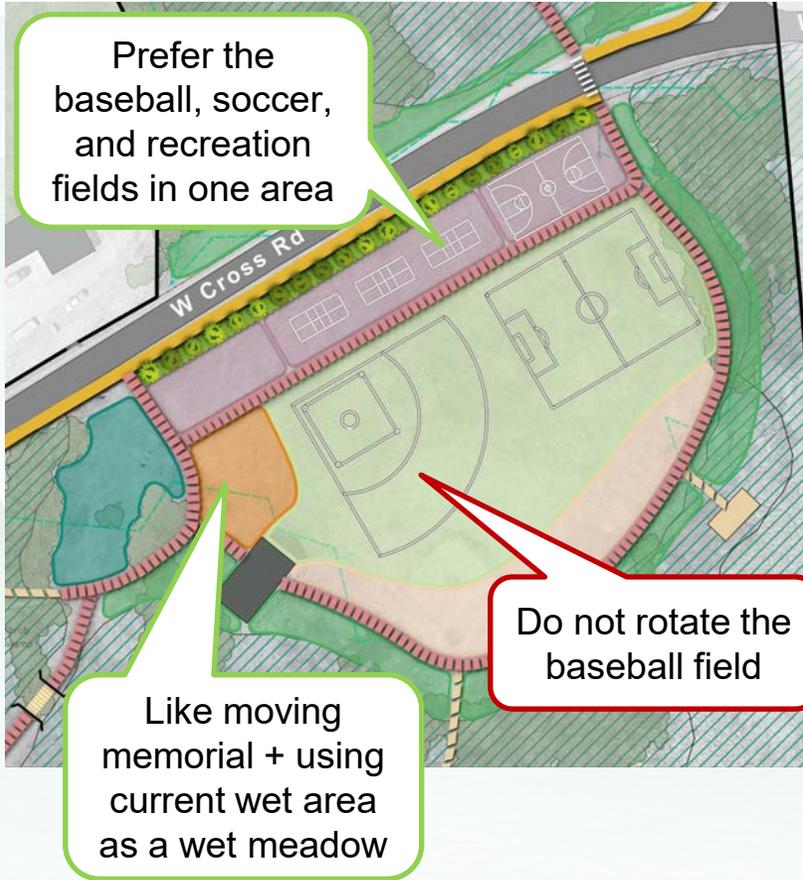
- High water table + poor drainage limit use of field
- Lack of defined + accessible recreational amenities
- Lack of accessible parking, pathways, and connectivity



Town Field

Listening Session #1 - Concept Alternatives + Feedback

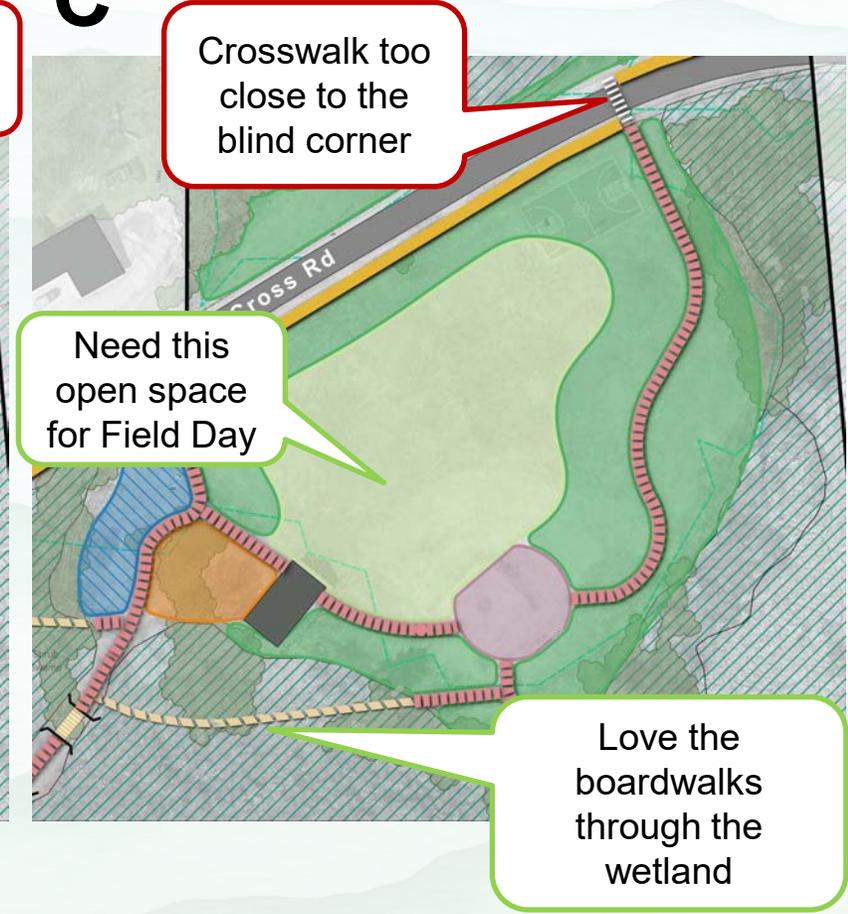
A



B



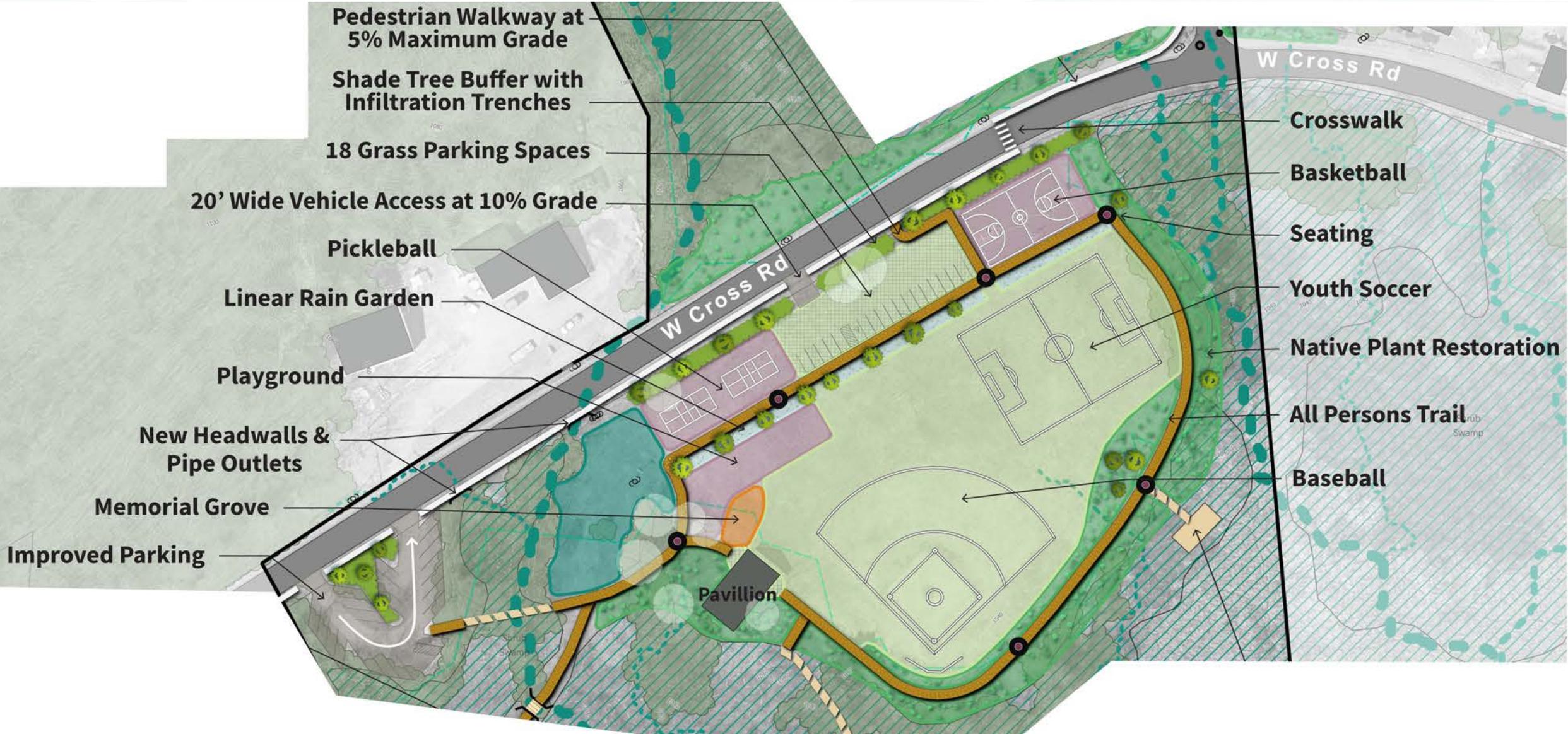
C



Sidewalk	Tree Canopy
All Persons Trail Access	Est. Wetlands (DEP)
Boardwalk	Predicted Wetlands

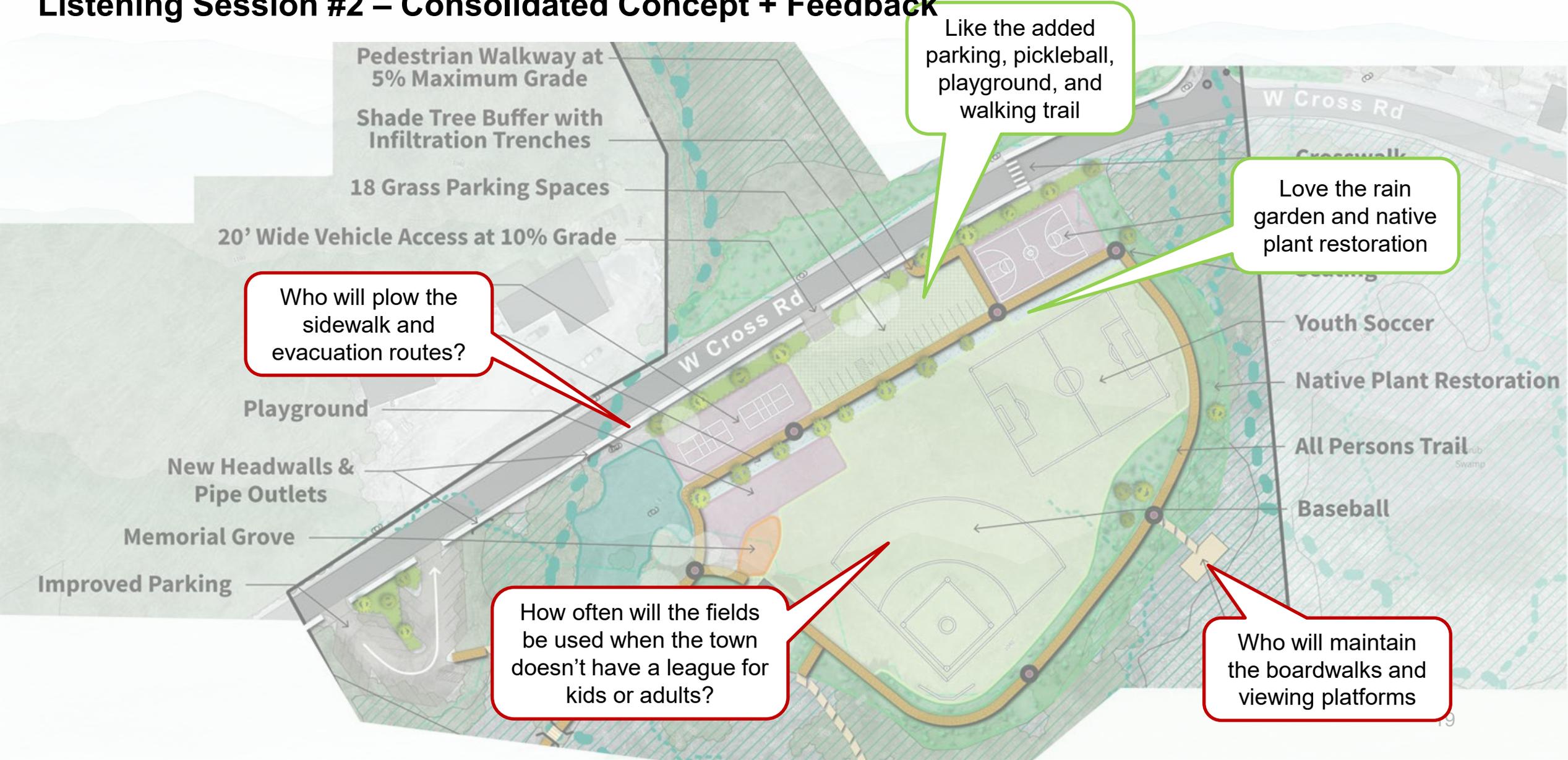
Town Field

Listening Session #2 – Consolidated Concept + Feedback



Town Field

Listening Session #2 – Consolidated Concept + Feedback



Town Field

Final Concept

Accessibility + Safety:

- Trail improvements/expansion for year-round accessibility and emergency access
- Sidewalk connectivity to other town sites
- Expanded + more legible parking
- Flag, veteran's memorial, and Christmas tree moved to higher ground + nearer pavilion

Stormwater Management:

- Grading, soil, and subsurface improvements to Town Field
- Integration of trees, restoration plantings, and constructed infiltration zones

Recreation:

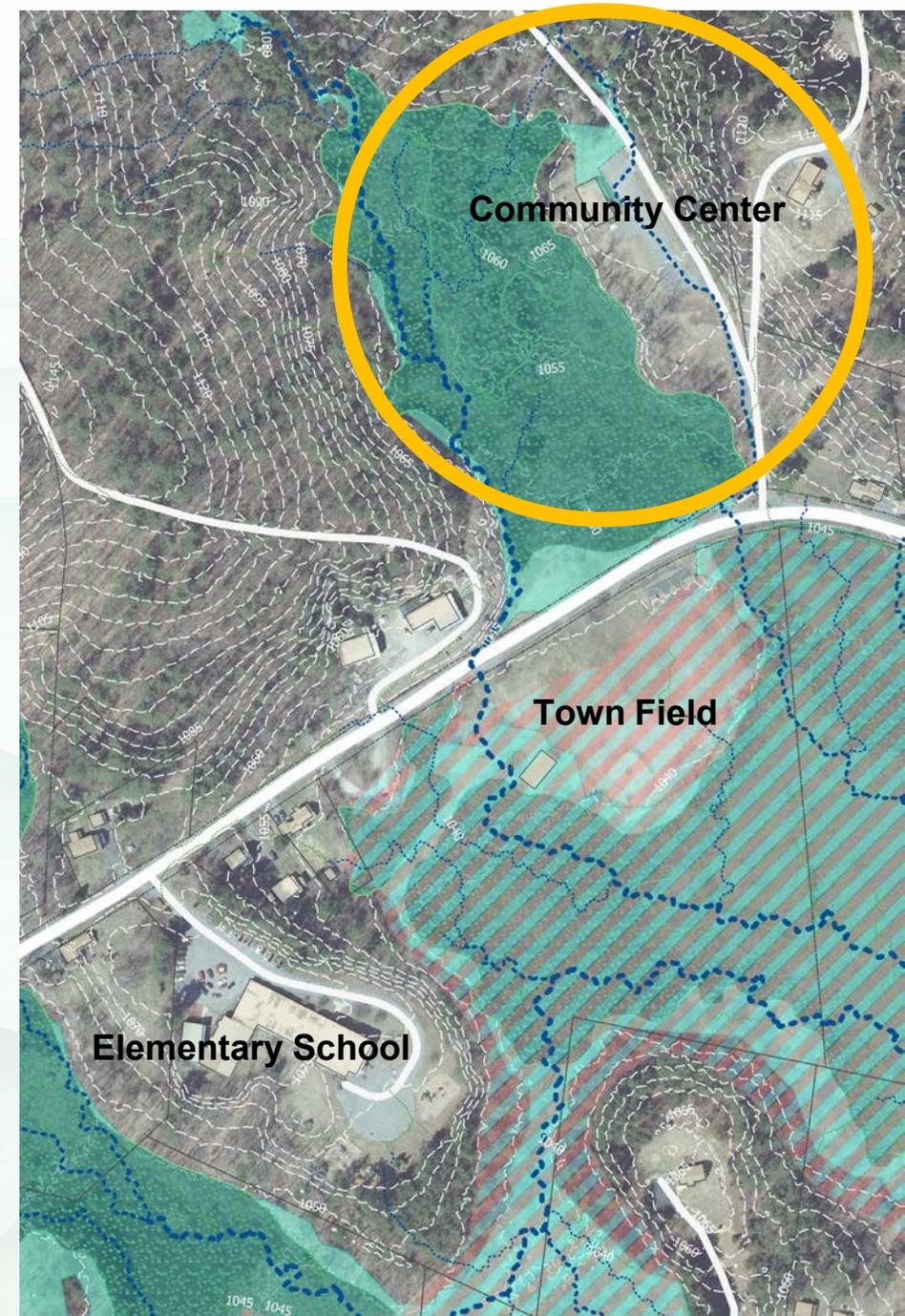
- Improved trails + connectivity to other amenities
- Playground, pickleball, and circuit trails



Community Center

Challenges

- Detention basin is poorly designed
- Grades around building don't allow stormwater to be diverted or infiltrated effectively
- Surrounding landscape and parking lot could be used more effectively/efficiently
- Not universally accessible from other points in the project focus areas



Community Center

Listening Session #1 - Concept Alternatives + Feedback

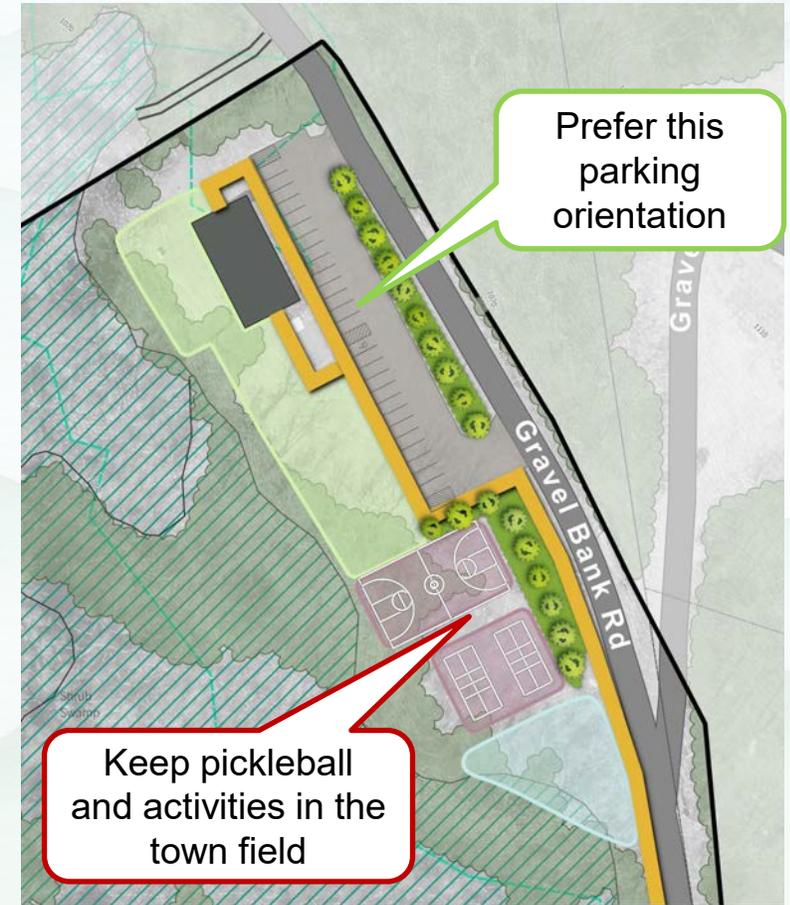
A



B



C



- Sidewalk
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Community Center

Listening Session #2 -
Concept Alternatives +
Feedback



Community Center

Listening Session #2 -
Concept Alternatives +
Feedback



Community Center

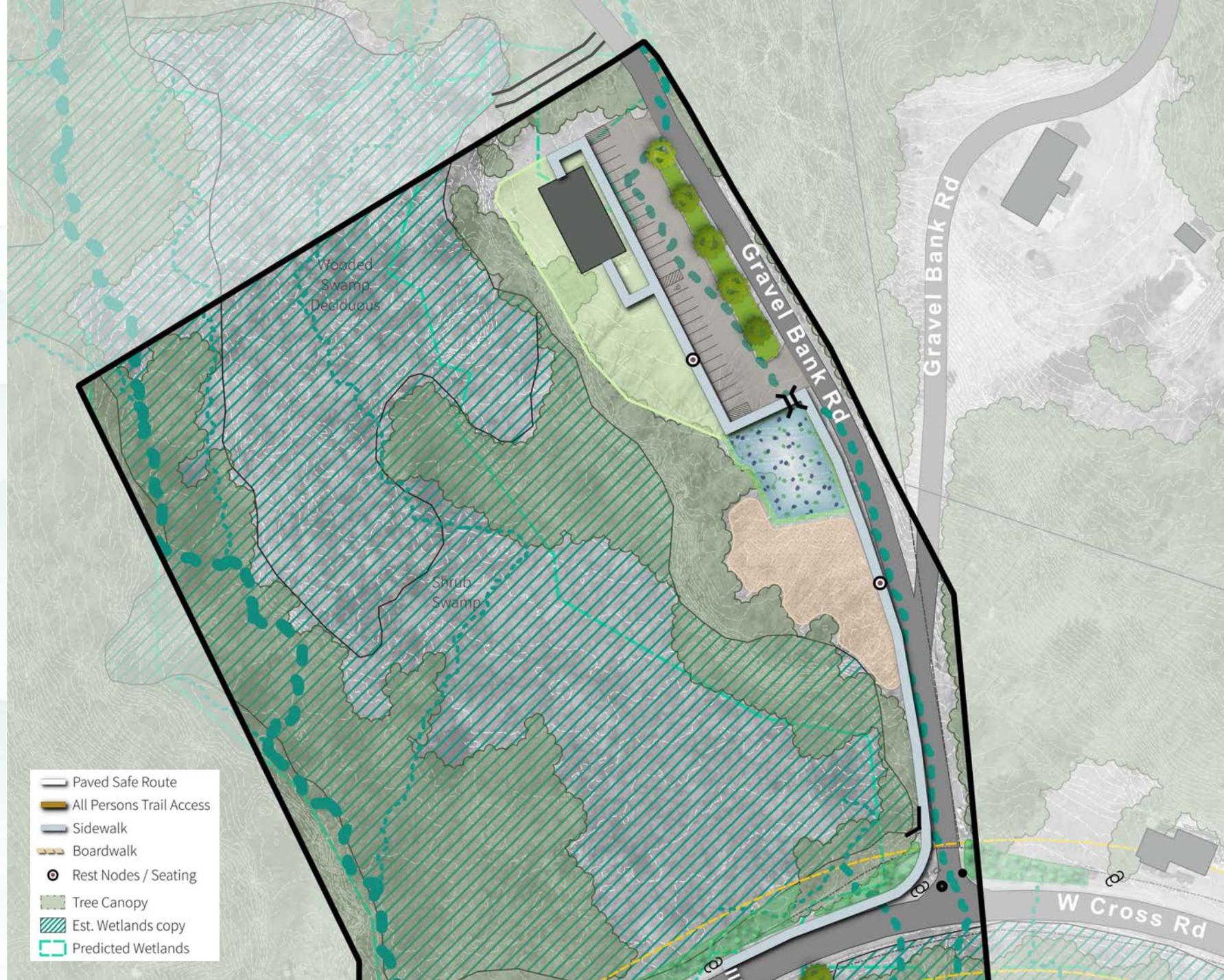
Final Concept

Accessibility + Safety:

- Sidewalk connectivity to other town sites

Stormwater Management:

- Regrade parking lot to route stormwater from north end of parking lot to the bioretention basin
- Resize/reshape and vegetate bioretention basin
- Install berm north of parking lot to divert flow from Gravel Bank into forested wetland



Accessibility Features

- What reviews have been done throughout the process
- What features were integrated to increase accessibility
- Short Q&A

Four Corners

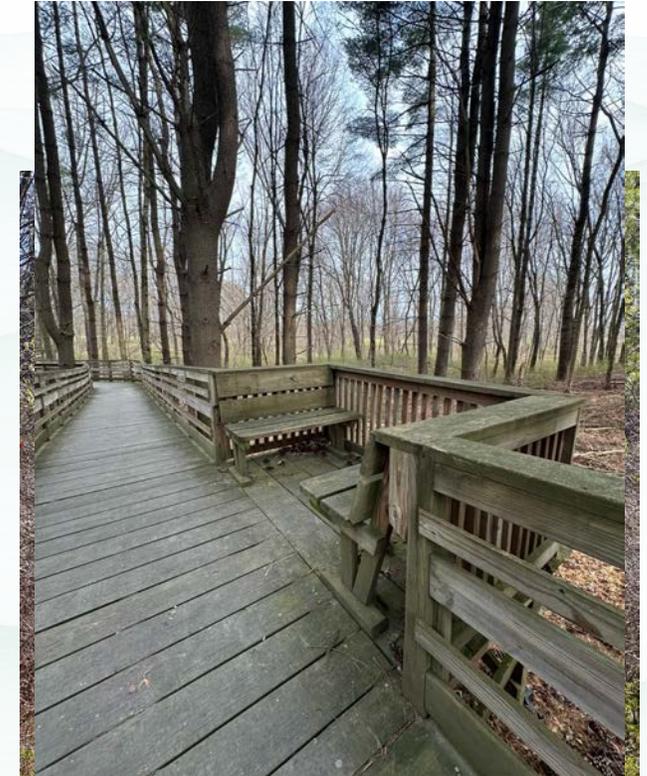
Meg Bandarra, Outdoor Accessibility Consultant



Project History

April '24 Community Meeting:
What/Why an Accessible Trail

April '24 Site Visit:
Community Center
Field
School

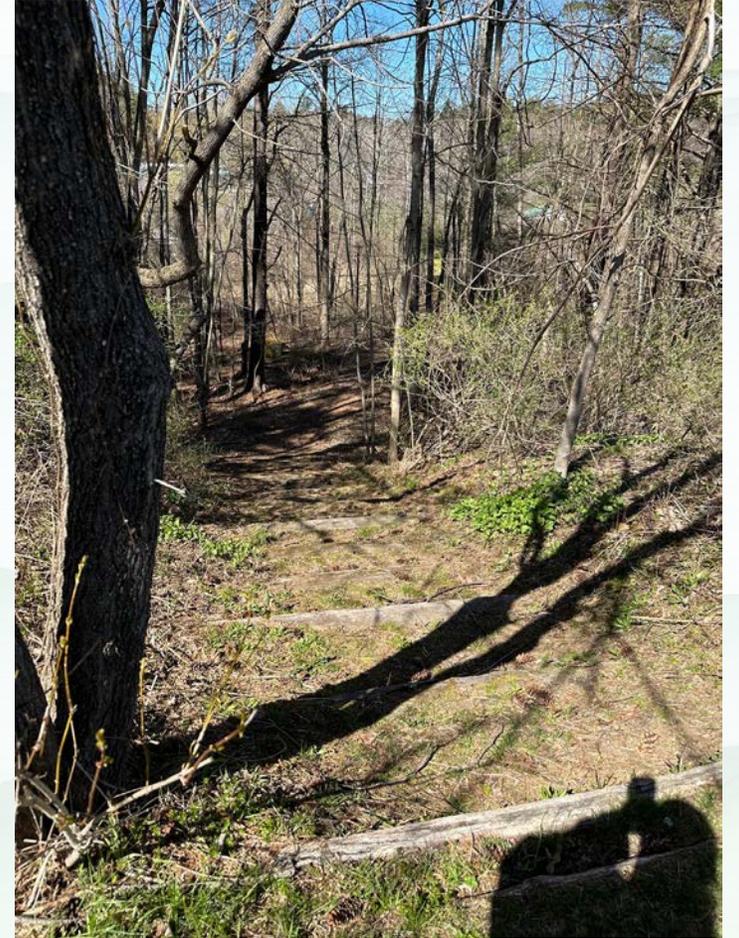
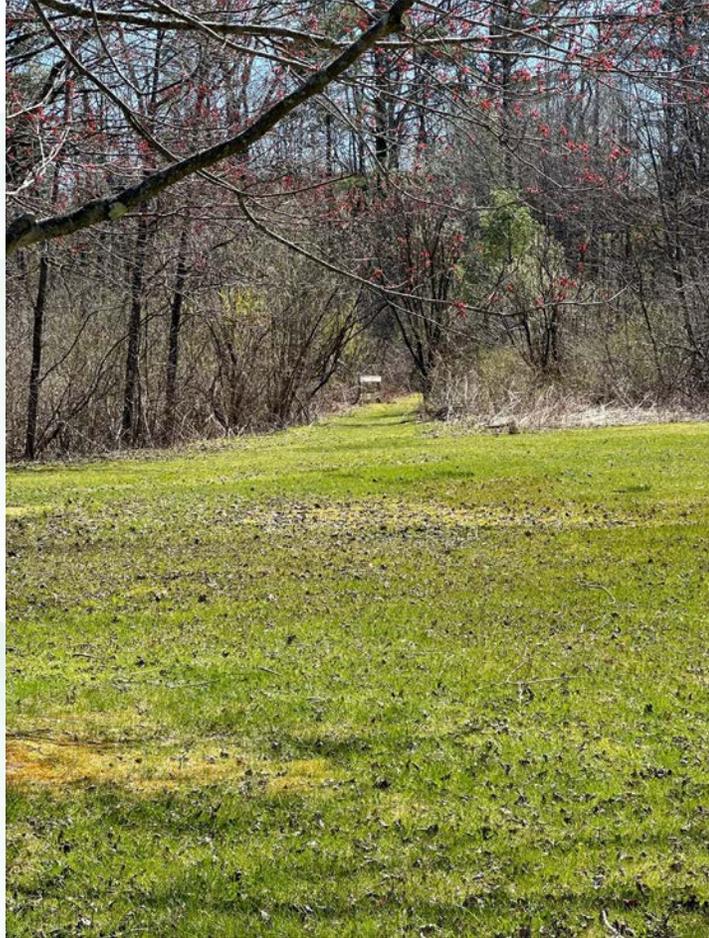


Older Adults

Small Children

People with Disabilities

Those Recovering From Injury or Illness



Project History

Drafted A Site Visit Report:

- Outlined barriers that I encountered
- Made general recommendations on how the area could be more accessible

Review of Town ADA Assessment:

- To learn where broader municipal goals may interact with this project

Design Concepts

Review and Feedback

Recommendation Goals:

- An accessible evacuation route connecting the school to the Community Center
- Provide universally accessible recreation opportunities
- Maximize access to community resources for all
- Include accessible design in new features
- A high-quality nature/recreation experience.

Accessible Design Features

- Incline: (aka grade): Max 5% (per RDG), the use of switchbacks allows the trail to climb the hill at a gentler pace.
- Width of path: 6ft, this allows users to pass comfortably and two people to travel side-by-side, including those with mobility devices.
- Connection: A year-round evacuation route. A path to all the features, amenities, and sites.
- Surface: Crushed stone, boardwalks, pavement?
- Seating: Frequent resting intervals, especially on hills and at boardwalk viewing platforms.
- Experience: Passive recreation for everyone
- Parking: More parking, more accessible parking. Safer more accessible surface.

What Comes Next

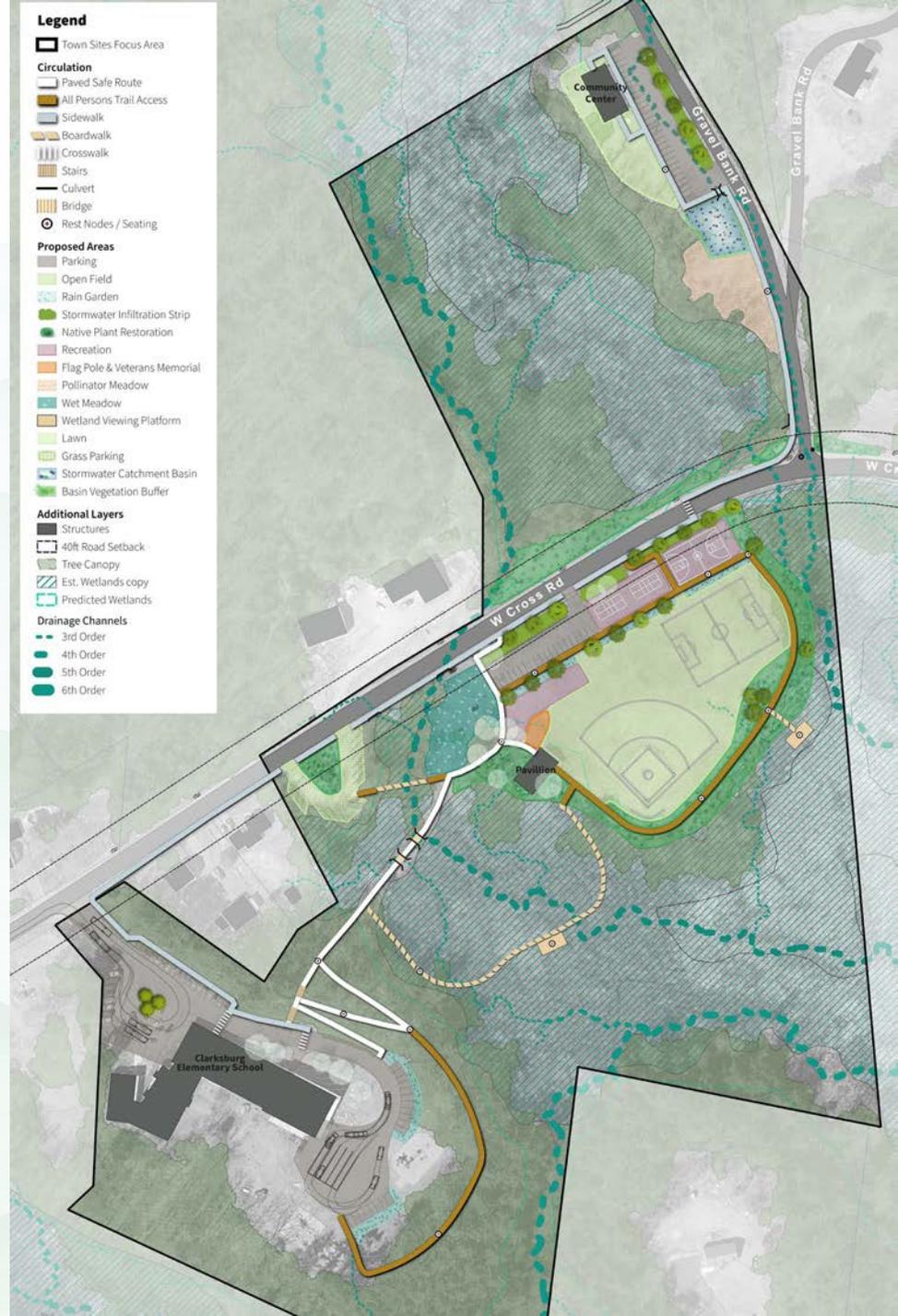
More detailed designs and consideration for how those details impact accessibility.

- What will benches and seated resting areas look like.
- Finalizing the surface, specifying materials.
- Trail access information and signage.
- Are there other features? e.g. Sensory components, non-visual way finding, educational signage.
- How many accessible parking spaces will there be?
- Consideration for other site features.
- Details of current conditions, and what it will take realize th



**Thank You For
Sharing
Your Ideas and Hopes
For This Space!**

Final Concept Discussion



Grants Landscape + Next Steps

What's Happening with Grants?

Concept
Phase

Design
Development
Phase

We are here

Construction
Phase

Maintenance
Phase

Municipal
Vulnerability
Preparedness
(MVP)

2023-2025

MassDOT Safe Routes to School

- Sidewalks along roadways

MVP

- Design and permitting of other elements including trail, recreation elements, & stormwater controls.

2025-2027

Safe Routes to School

- Sidewalks along roadways

MVP

- Stormwater controls, landscaping

PARC

- Recreation elements. benches, pickleball, etc.

MassTrails

- Trails, viewing platforms, maintenance equipment

ADA Improvement

- ADA improvements between trails and rest of town – school, pavilion, senior center

Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation

2027 - 2032

Have more thoughts? Get in touch

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413-442-1521 x26

Or contact anyone on the core team:

Bob Norcross – Select Board
Lauren Norcross – Council on Aging
Clebe Scott – Conservation Commission
Jim Brandon – Conservation Commission
Susan Brandon – Historic Commission
Emily Rosselli – School
Ron Boucher – Town Administrator
Miranda Bona - Resident