

Business Item 2020-244

Shingle Creek Regional Trail Master Plan

Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board

October 1, 2020

Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission

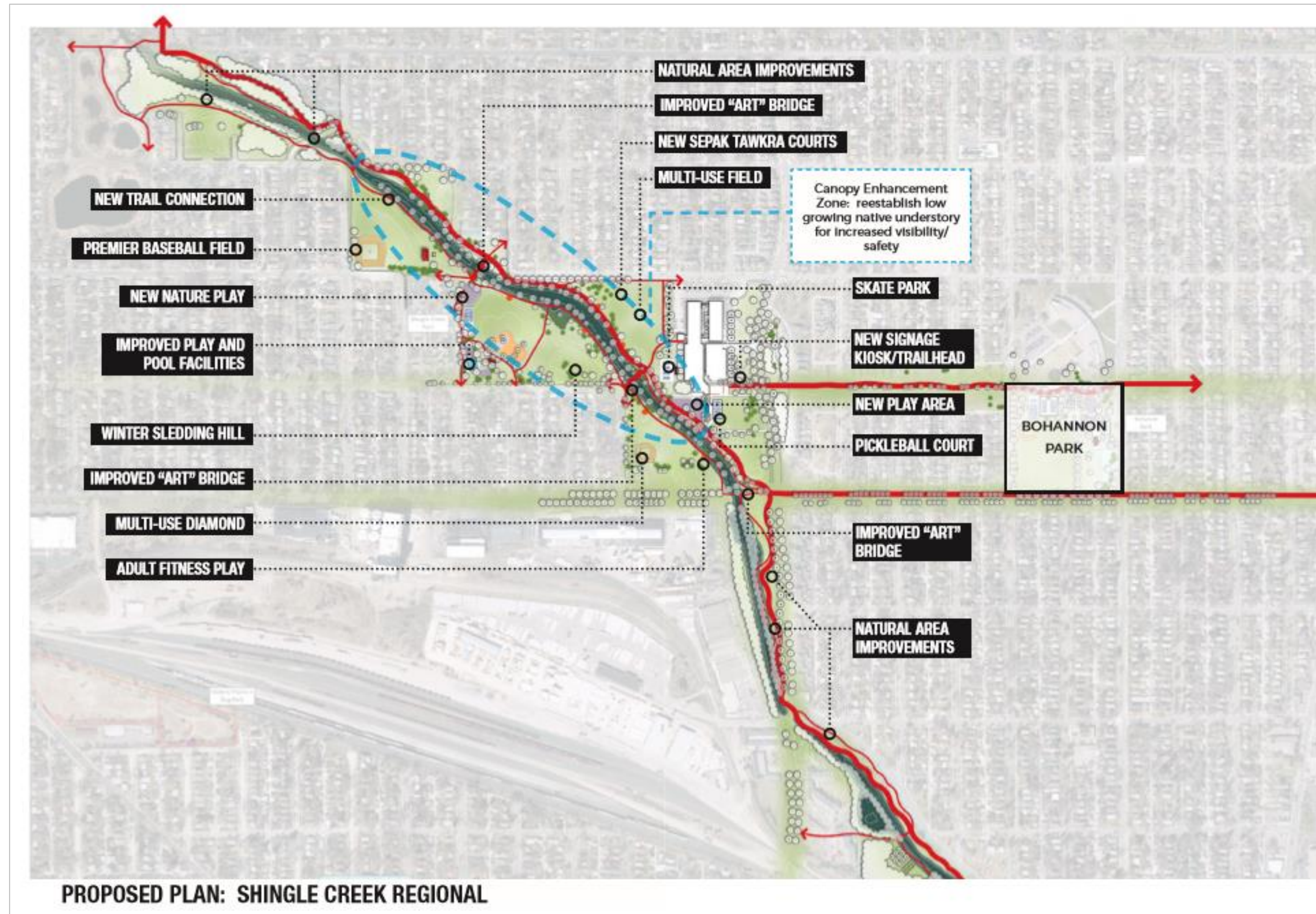


Community Engagement, Equity Analysis

- North Service Area Master Plan
- Shingle Creek Work Group
- Equity Analysis
 - Demographically older than other north side neighborhoods
 - Higher than average population of people of Asian descent
 - Specific equity considerations in the development concept address these two underserved groups.
 - Provide like facilities in different parts of the MPRB system, regardless of income levels near the parks



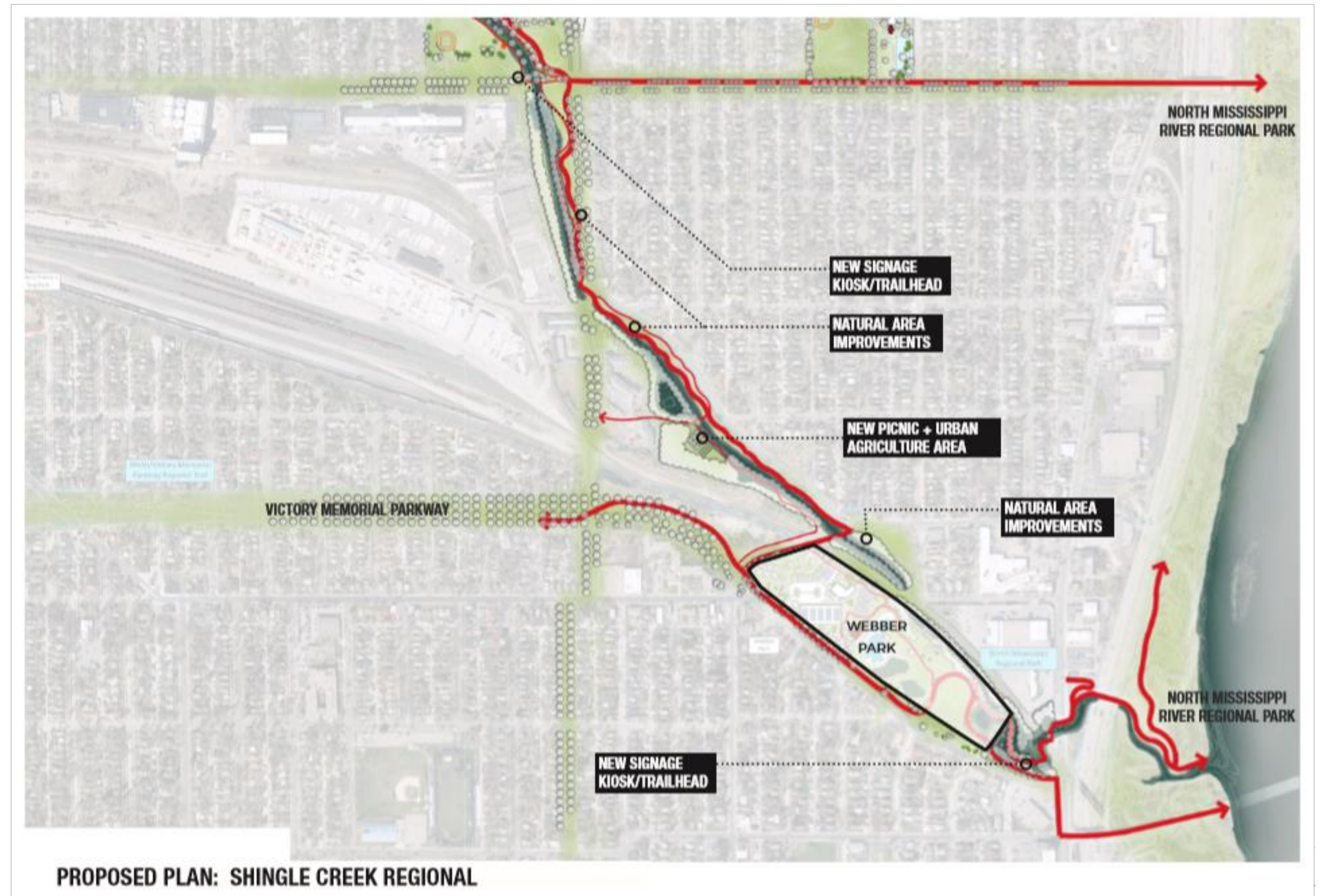
Overall Regional Trail Development Concept



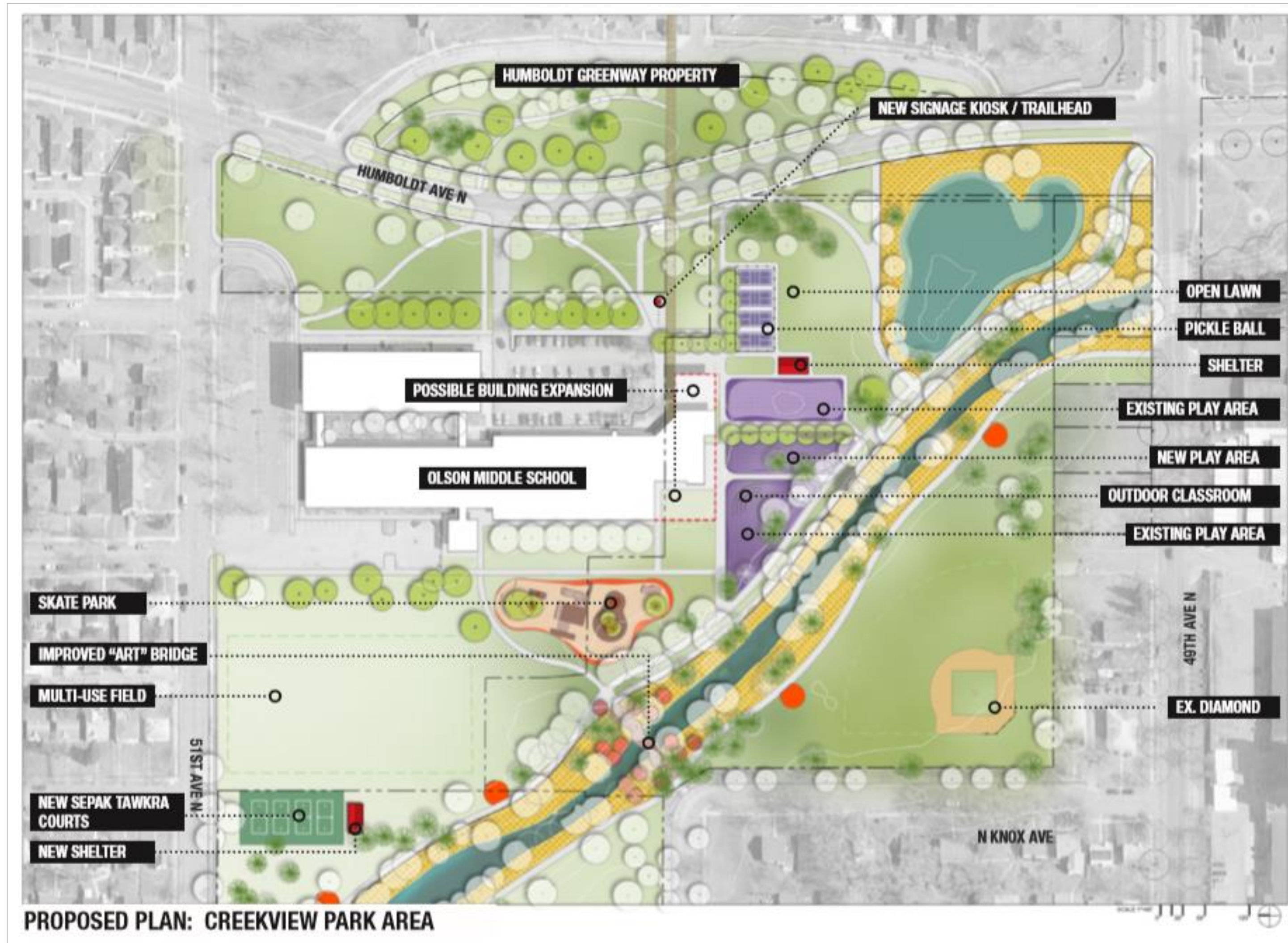
- Targeted changes in the three main use areas of the trail corridor
- Master plan outlines all development proposed whether or not certain items would be allowable under regional or state funding
 - Supplemental information
- Creek Corridor
- Creekview Park Area
- Shingle Creek Park Area

Creek Corridor

- Trails
 - Continuous ped trails; improve trail crossings and wayfinding
- Bridges
 - Reconstruct as artistically inspired and designed
- Creek + Veg
 - In-creek water quality and aesthetic improvements
 - Canopy enhancement zone
 - Touch the creek moments



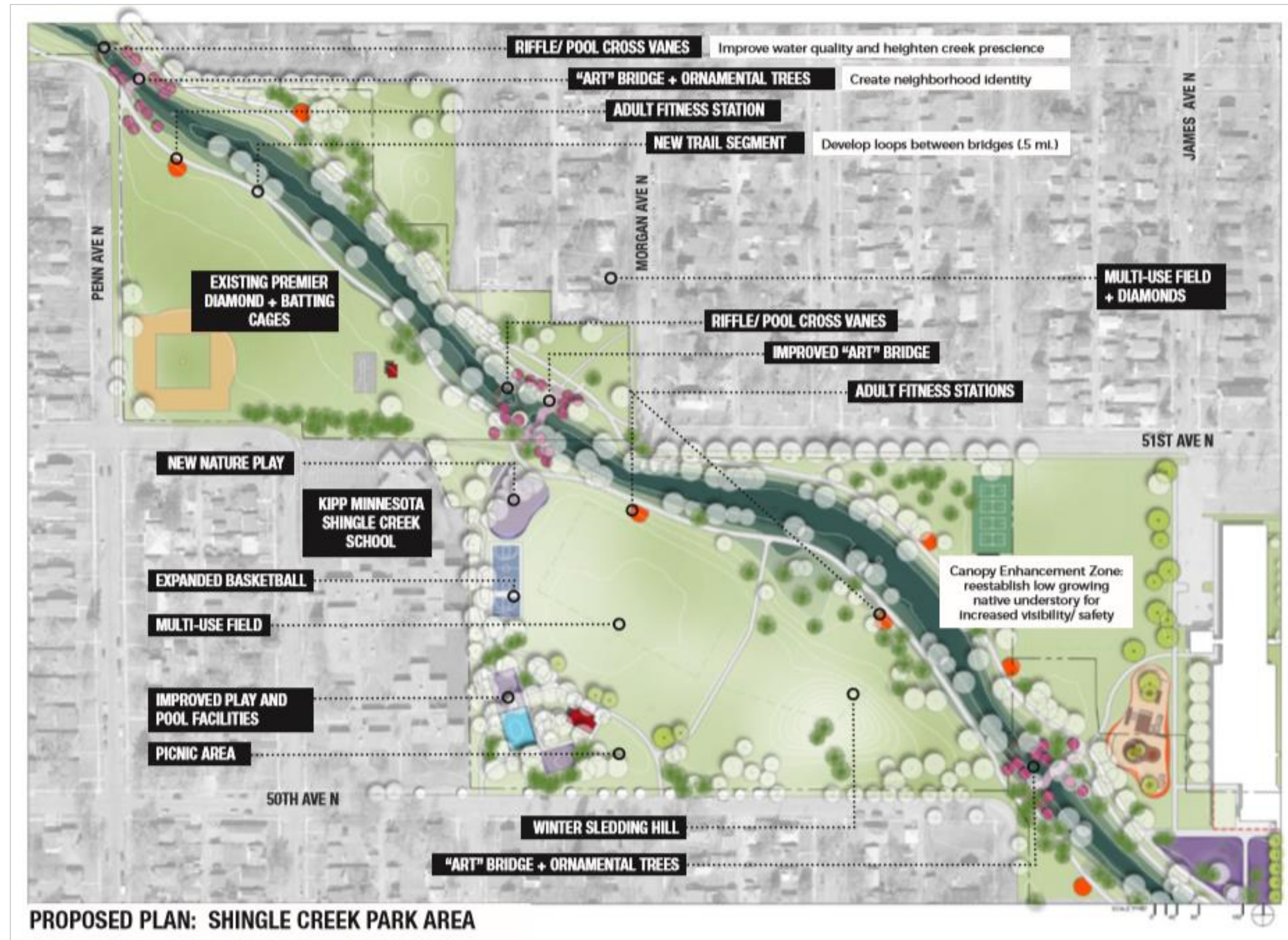
Creekview Park Area



- Will remain organized mainly as it is today with the addition of a few specialized facilities meant to draw new users of underserved demographics to the regional trail
- Play area
- Skate park
- Pickle-ball courts
- Sepak tawkra courts

Shingle Creek Park Area

- Minimal change under the proposed design
- Winter sledding hill is unchanged
- Wading pool, play area and restroom building refurbished in current locations
- Basketball court expanded to include a half-court facility
- Nature play area added

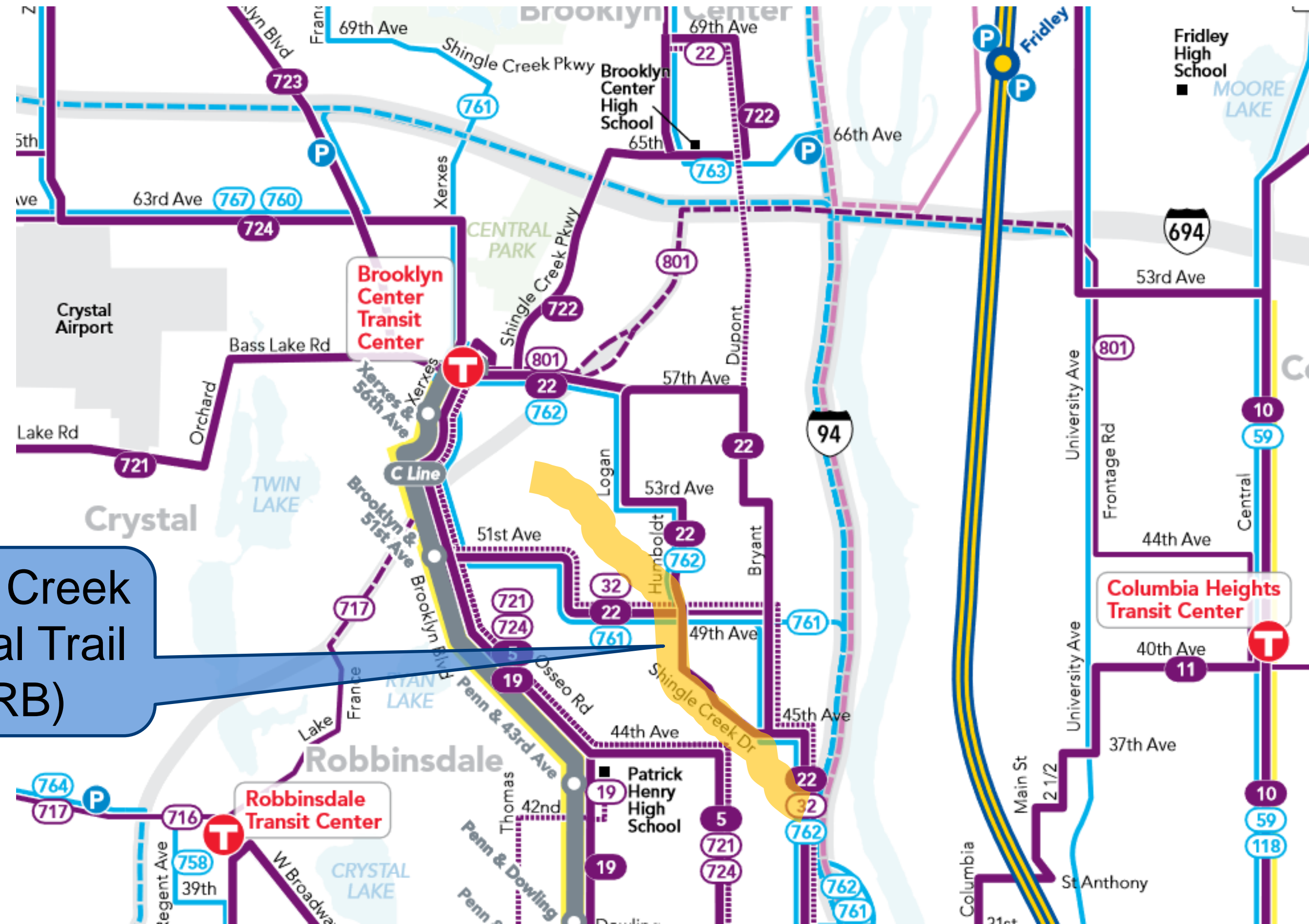


Transit Connections



- Metro Transit routes 5, 19, 22, 32, 721, 722, 724
- Brooklyn Center Transit Center
- C Line

Shingle Creek Regional Trail (MPRB)



Estimated Project Costs

Implementation Components	Estimated Costs
Development	\$19,479,205
Annual operations	\$57,500

- The largest component of the estimated development cost is renovating and adding new walking paths and bicycle trails.
- The estimated annual operations cost represents a \$21,000 decrease in operational costs, as compared with current operations costs.



Rationale for Proposed Action

- The Shingle Creek Regional Trail Master Plan is consistent with the requirements of the:
 - *2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan*
 - Planning Strategy 1
 - Recreation Activities and Facilities strategies 1-3
 - Other Council policies



Pause and Discuss

- In the specific context of the Shingle Creek Regional Trail corridor, Council staff are recommending support for the amenities identified as “Regional” in the “Evaluation of Amenities” portion of Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board’s “Clarification of Submittal” memo (see Attachment 1, pgs. 2-3).
- Are there any amenities in the memo that require additional discussion?




Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council:

1. Approve Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board's Shingle Creek Regional Trail Master Plan, including the supplemental information provided in the "Clarification of Submittal of Shingle Creek Regional Trail Master Plan" letter dated September 2, 2020.
2. Require the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, prior to initiating any new development of the regional trail corridor, to send preliminary plans to the Environmental Services Assistant Manager at the Metropolitan Council's Environmental Services Division.

SHINGLE CREEK REGIONAL TRAIL



INTRODUCTION

Shingle Creek Regional Trail runs approximately 2.52 miles through the very northernmost neighborhoods of the city. It connects to the Three Rivers Park District portion of the Shingle Creek Regional Trail at the northern city limit and travels southeasterly along Shingle Creek to North Mississippi Regional Park and Victory Memorial Parkway at Webber Park. It includes lands on either side of Shingle Creek, which cuts at an angle across the city grid, and a paved multi-use trail that crosses and recrosses the creek, using either roadway bridges or dedicated ped/bike bridges. Two major use areas feature more neighborhood-oriented facilities, but even these are within the regional trail boundary and are so covered in this master plan. Shingle Creek Regional Trail does not have an adopted regional trail master plan. For the purposes of this plan, Shingle Creek should be considered a "destination regional trail," as it includes numerous facilities that draw people to it, and features land area beyond simply the trail corridor itself.

PARK HISTORY

The first petition from citizens for a park along Shingle Creek came to the park board in 1905, but that petition was targeted at land that later became Camden (Webber) Park. With the acquisition and development of Camden Park on the creek in 1908, there was little demand for more parks in the neighborhood for many years.

In 1930 the park board received a petition from residents of the area for plans and estimates for the acquisition and development of Shingle Creek from Webber Park to the city limits. The park board extended the concept, asking park superintendent Theodore Wirth to prepare plans for Shingle Creek from Webber Park to its source. In 1931 Wirth presented the requested plans and estimates—and that was the last heard of Shingle Creek for another fifteen years. In a discussion of a proposed Hennepin County park authority, however, Wirth did produce a map in the 1930 annual report that showed the possible park developments in northwest Minneapolis and the northwest suburbs. He marked Shingle Creek on that map as a proposed acquisition within the city of Minneapolis and recommended a parkway along the entire length of the stream to Eagle Lake.

The impetus to acquire Shingle Creek as a park eventually came not from the park board or residents of the neighborhood, but from the city sewer department and city council. Following World War II Minneapolis experienced a severe shortage of housing and one area of the city that had yet to be developed for housing was the area of northwest Minneapolis surrounding Shingle Creek. The area hadn't been developed because it was low, swampy land. The solution, in the eyes of city officials, was to lower the bed of Shingle Creek to drain the entire region and make it dry enough for housing construction. The city agency that could do it was the park board.

MINNEAPOLIS PARK AND RECREATION BOARD 249 NORTH SERVICE AREA MASTER PLAN Shingle Creek Regional Trail Master Plan