



1. BIG COTTONWOOD REGIONAL PARK

MASTER PLAN UPDATE

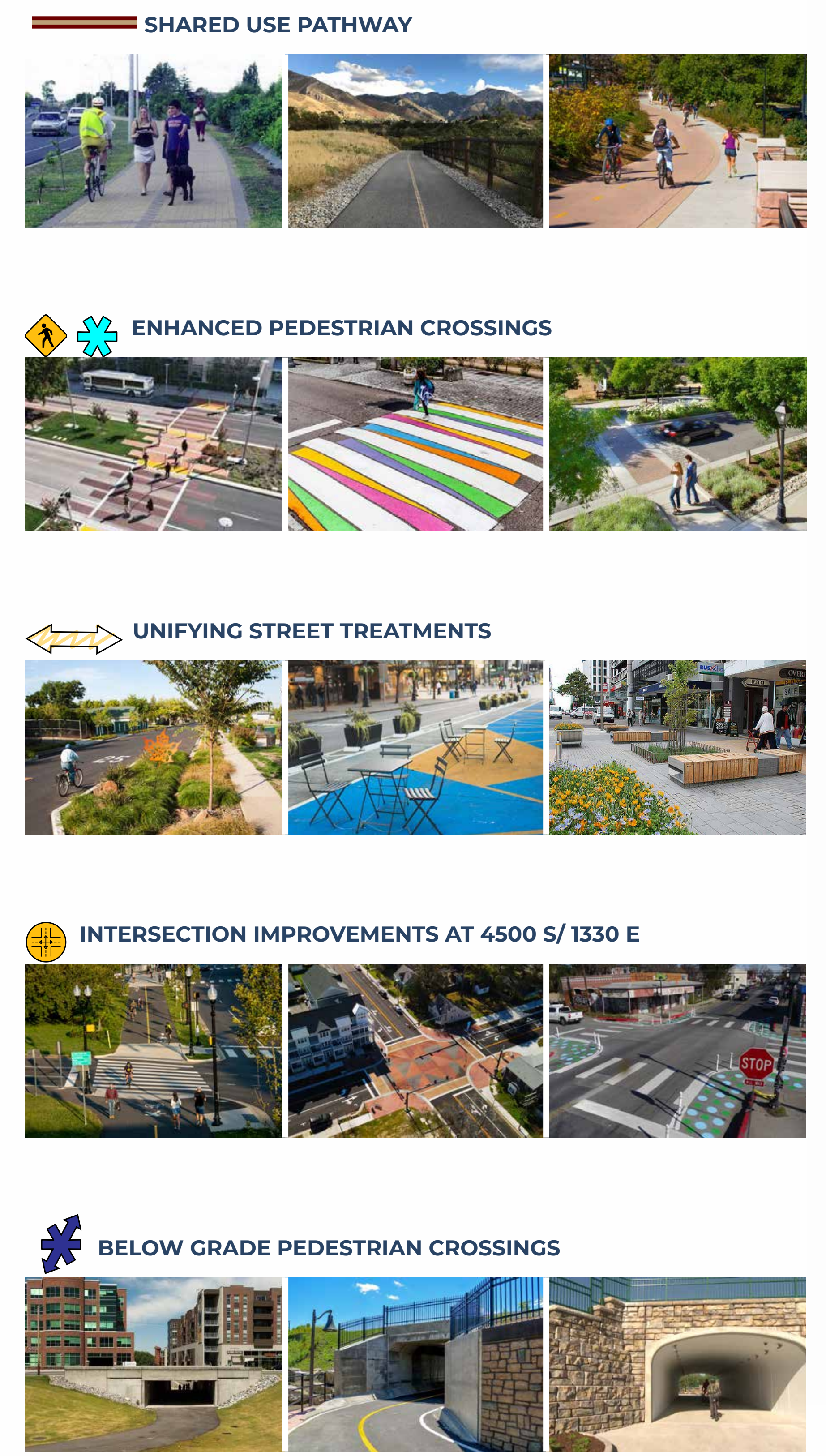
Project Overview

The current Big Cottonwood Regional Park Master Plan, which was completed in 2010, outlined a range of proposed enhancements aimed at improving the regional park. Despite the ongoing relevance of these proposals, the evolving interests and needs of the community necessitate a comprehensive update of the master plan. This update is essential in order to effectively guide the future development of the park and to establish realistic budgetary expectations.

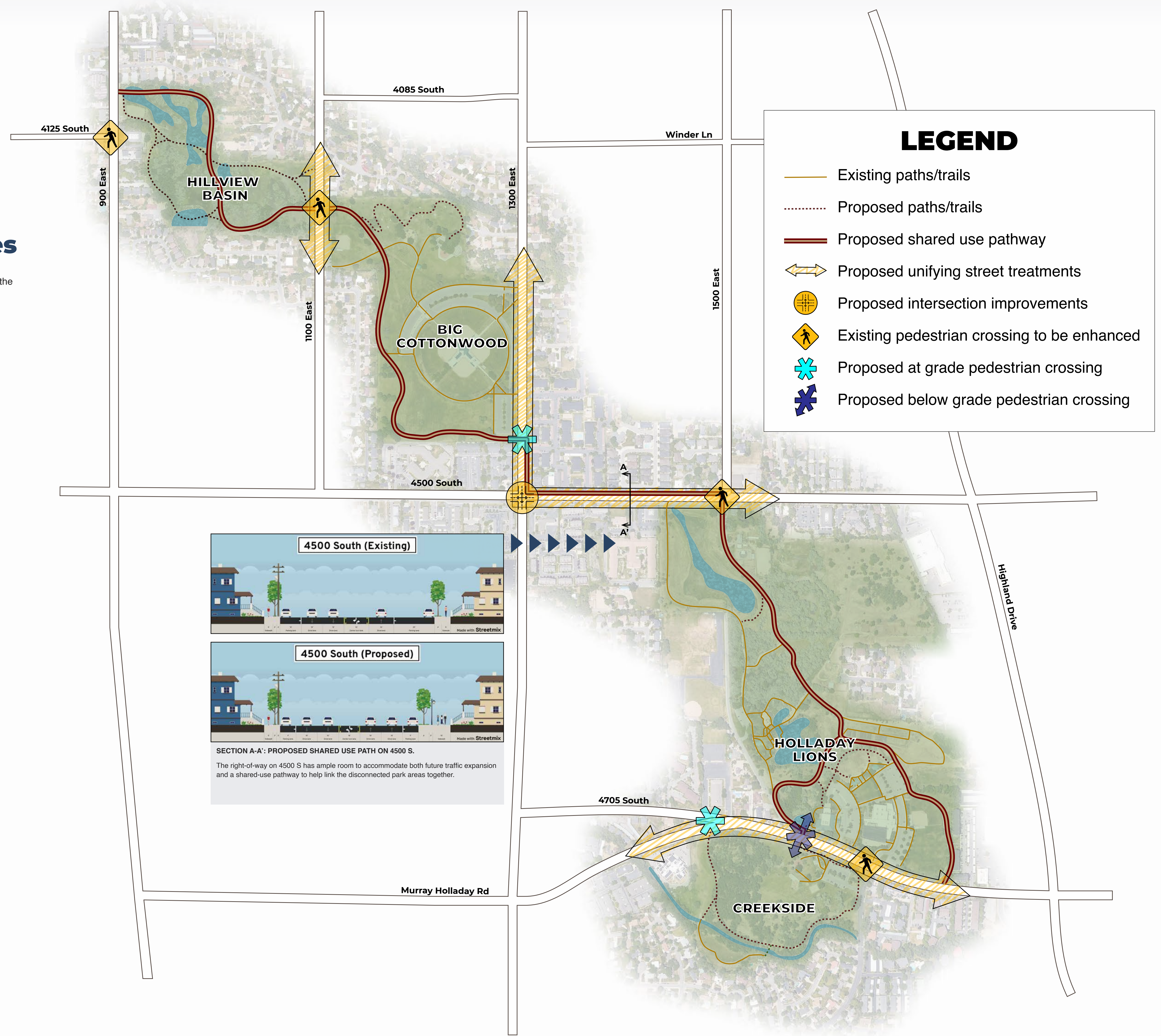
- MASTER PLAN UPDATE GOALS:**
1. Build on the goals and ideas established in the 2010 Master Plan.
 2. Improve and enhance park connectivity.
 3. Celebrate the park's current atmosphere, identity, and biodiversity through quality and responsive recreation design.
 4. Place special emphasis on the provision of inclusive park features and amenities.
 5. Improve and enhance desired amenities including paths, nature viewing opportunities, and unstructured play areas.

Park Connectivity Sample Images

The Big Cottonwood Regional Park Master Plan update focuses on improving connections between park areas for pedestrians and cyclists. The plan includes trail and path enhancements, presented in the corresponding map with sample images.



Park Connectivity Concept Map



Park Connectivity Strategies

- A. PARK BRANDING AND MANAGEMENT**
- The current name of Big Cottonwood Regional Park causes confusion among the public. Most people perceive Big Cottonwood Park as a separate developed area and do not recognize its relation to the other sub-areas. Additionally, the arrangement and character of the four park sub-areas are not seen by most park users as a single park, but rather as a chain of independent and unique spaces.
- To address this, it is recommended that BCRP be given a new unique name and treated as a Regional Park Complex rather than administered as a single unit. This master plan will still refer to Big Cottonwood Regional Park (the Park) by its current name, but the plan's recommendations are based on this paradigm shift in administration and the future development of each smaller park.
- B. PARK CONNECTIVITY**
- When asked to rate the importance of park connectivity, almost 65% of survey respondents considered it important for the future needs of the park system. The Big Cottonwood Regional Park Master Plan update will focus on improving connections between the four park areas, making it easier and safer for pedestrians and cyclists to access the entire park system. The plan includes ideas for trails, paths, street treatments, pedestrian crossing enhancements, and other connectivity strategies, which are presented in the corresponding map. Example images of these improvements are provided to help visualize potential options and strategies.
- C. TRAIL SYSTEM**
- Trails are essential for connecting park spaces and surrounding neighborhoods. They serve a dual purpose, forming part of the community's active transportation system and offering recreational opportunities for park users through activities such as walking, biking, and other small-wheeled recreation.
- ▶ **Multi-Use Trail** – this trail facility is intended to link the four park subareas together. The proposed route for this "spine" of the Park trail network generally runs from Murray-Holladay Boulevard through Holladay Lions and Big Cottonwood Parks to 900 East, with a section paralleling 4500 South and 1300 East between park units. The trail is intended to be a hard paved surface such as concrete or asphalt, 8-12 feet in width, and may also have a soft surface shoulder for runners. The trail should also be striped for two-way traffic and/or separated uses.
 - ▶ **Soft Surface Trails** – soft surface trails are intended to provide leisurely walking routes in less developed portions of the park. They are typically eight-foot wide and constructed of compacted crushed stone.
 - ▶ **Sidewalks** – paved sidewalks provide important connectivity between more developed park amenities. They may range in width depending on anticipated use. Most importantly, new sidewalks in the park should provide ADA-compliant accessible routes from buildings and parking areas to other developed portions of the park.
 - ▶ **Boardwalk** – boardwalks are to be used in place of pavement in sensitive wetland areas of the park. They may be constructed of wood or composite decking, and should generally be 5-8 feet in width, but may include expanded deck areas for overlooks and seating. Railings should be provided adjacent to areas of standing water.
 - ▶ **Mile Markers** – mile markers should be provided at standard intervals along key trail routes to provide distance measurements to trail users. This has been particularly requested in the Big Cottonwood area.
- D. PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS**
- The County should work closely with local municipalities and UDOT to oversee projects for pedestrian crossings and sidewalk improvements related to the Park. When an opportunity arises to collaborate with these other jurisdictions, the County should use these projects to enhance park access and pedestrian safety.
- It is recommended that traffic lights control pedestrian crossings of busy roads, as part of an intersection or independently. Additionally, a study should be conducted to potentially implement a grade-separated crossing under Murray-Holladay Boulevard to connect the Creekside and Holladay-Lions areas.
- E. PARK ENTRIES**
- Park entry points are crucial for guiding park users and should offer a clear welcome experience. Enhancements to these entry points should provide clear visual cues of arrival and be improved with amenities such as:
- ▶ Entry plazas
 - ▶ Seating Areas
 - ▶ Themed Plantings
 - ▶ Welcome Signage or Kiosks

3. BIG COTTONWOOD

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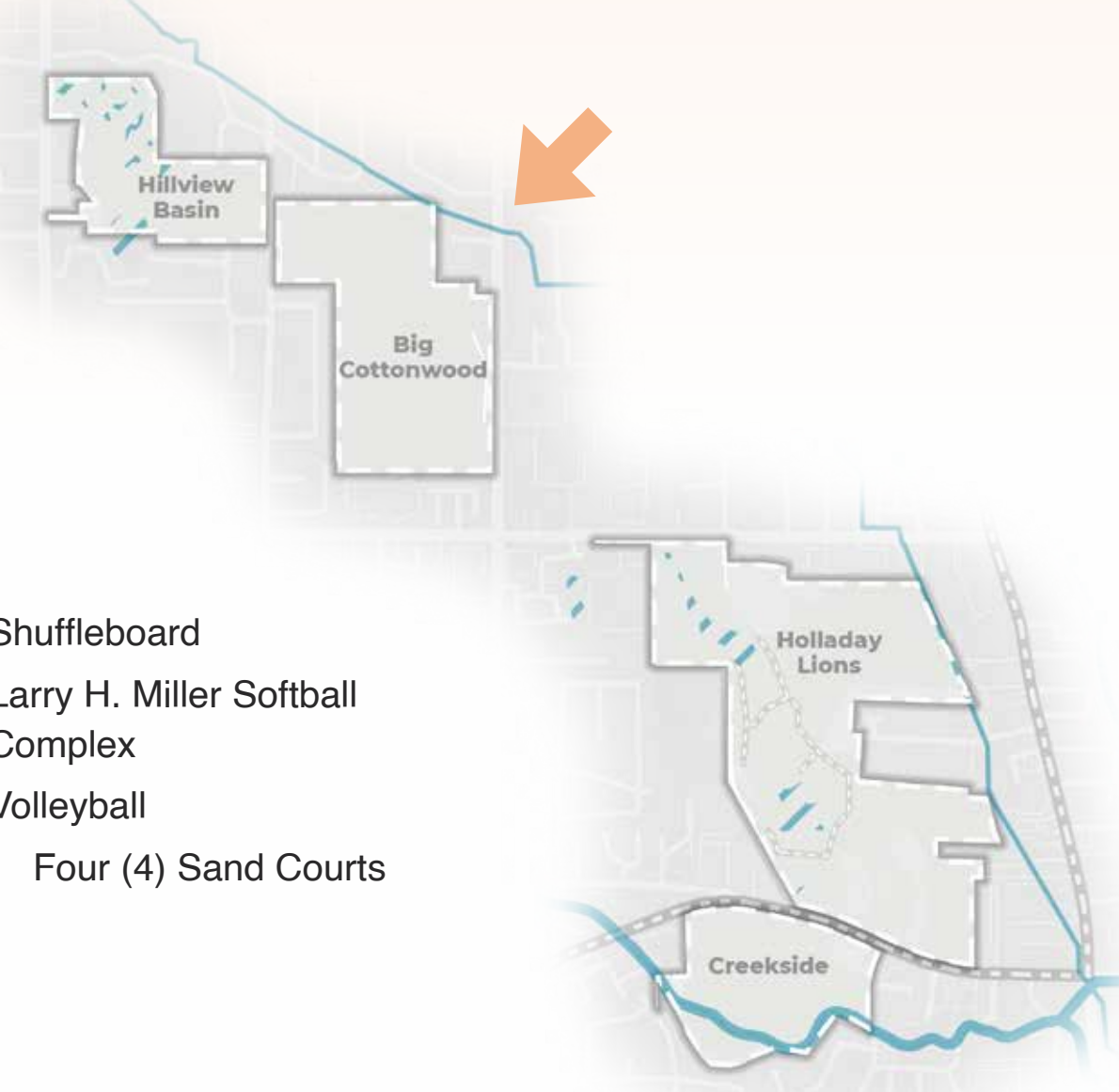
Big Cottonwood 47.5 ACRES

Area Snapshot

The Big Cottonwood area, positioned directly southwest of Hillview Basin, stands as the second largest park segment. It comprises two main areas: the Big Cottonwood pavilion and the Larry H. Miller Softball Complex. The Big Cottonwood pavilion is characterized by historic design elements and amenities — many of which are outdated or in need of maintenance. The softball complex is in good condition however the space outside the complex is inefficient and lacks clear programming.

Existing Park Amenities

- ▶ Restrooms
- ▶ Pavilion
- ▶ Seats 210
- ▶ Eight (8) 16' tables
- ▶ Four (4) 8' tables
- ▶ Electrical outlets and lights
- ▶ Amphitheater-style seating area
- ▶ Picnic Tables and Benches
- ▶ BBQ Stands
- ▶ Walking/Jogging Paths
- ▶ Playground
- ▶ Sports Field
- ▶ Baseball
- ▶ Softball
- ▶ Shuffleboard
- ▶ Larry H. Miller Softball Complex
- ▶ Volleyball
- ▶ Four (4) Sand Courts



PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS



Softball Complex Area

The Larry H. Miller Softball Complex is a relatively new facility and well-used. As a core amenity of the park, it is intended to remain as a key softball venue for the region. Proposed enhancements for the softball complex include:

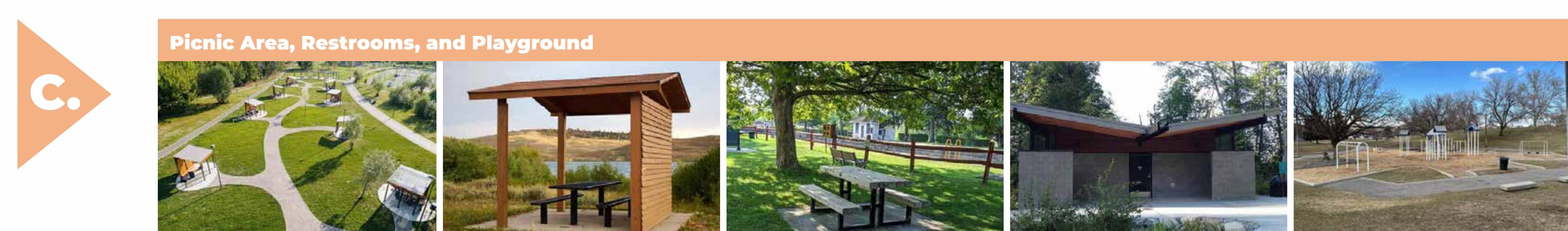
- ▶ Installation of a small playground off the southwest corner of the softball complex.
- ▶ Additional trees in spectator areas to provide shade.
- ▶ Expand existing parking southeast of the softball complex.



Historic Pavilion Area

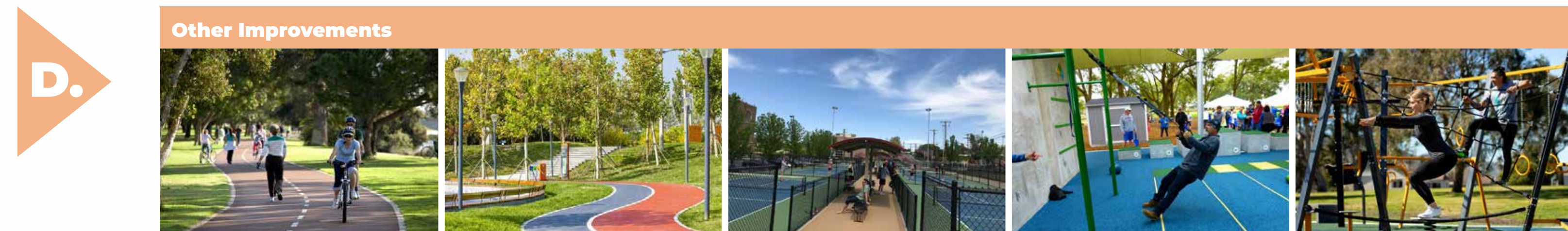
The historic pavilion area is architecturally significant and intended to remain. It is recommended that some investment be made into rehabilitating the structure, including structural repair, weatherproofing, upgraded electrical services, and new furnishings, so it can best serve another generation of group gatherings. Proposed improvements for the pavilion area include:

- ▶ Restore the existing historic pavilion/one of the fire pits.
- ▶ Upgrade adjacent areas with contemporary games and activities such as cornhole, ping pong, foosball, and gaga ball, while retaining the hexagonal walls and seating elements that complement the pavilion.
- ▶ Upgrade the volleyball court to a full-size sand court and integrate it with surrounding activities.



Picnic Area, Restrooms, and Playground

- ▶ Install paved, accessible walking paths to improve access.
- ▶ Plant additional large shade trees and install smaller picnic shelters.
- ▶ Upgrade existing restroom.
- ▶ Updates to the existing playground are currently underway.



Other Improvements

- ▶ Install a shared-use pathway (linking all four park segments).
- ▶ Install eight pickleball courts north of the softball complex.
- ▶ Integrate an outdoor gym area south of the northwest baseball field to provide additional recreational amenities to adult age-groups. The existing baseball field in the northwest portion of the park is to remain and be rehabilitated, including new fencing and seating areas as required.
- ▶ Expand existing parking near the outdoor gym.



4. HOLLADAY LIONS

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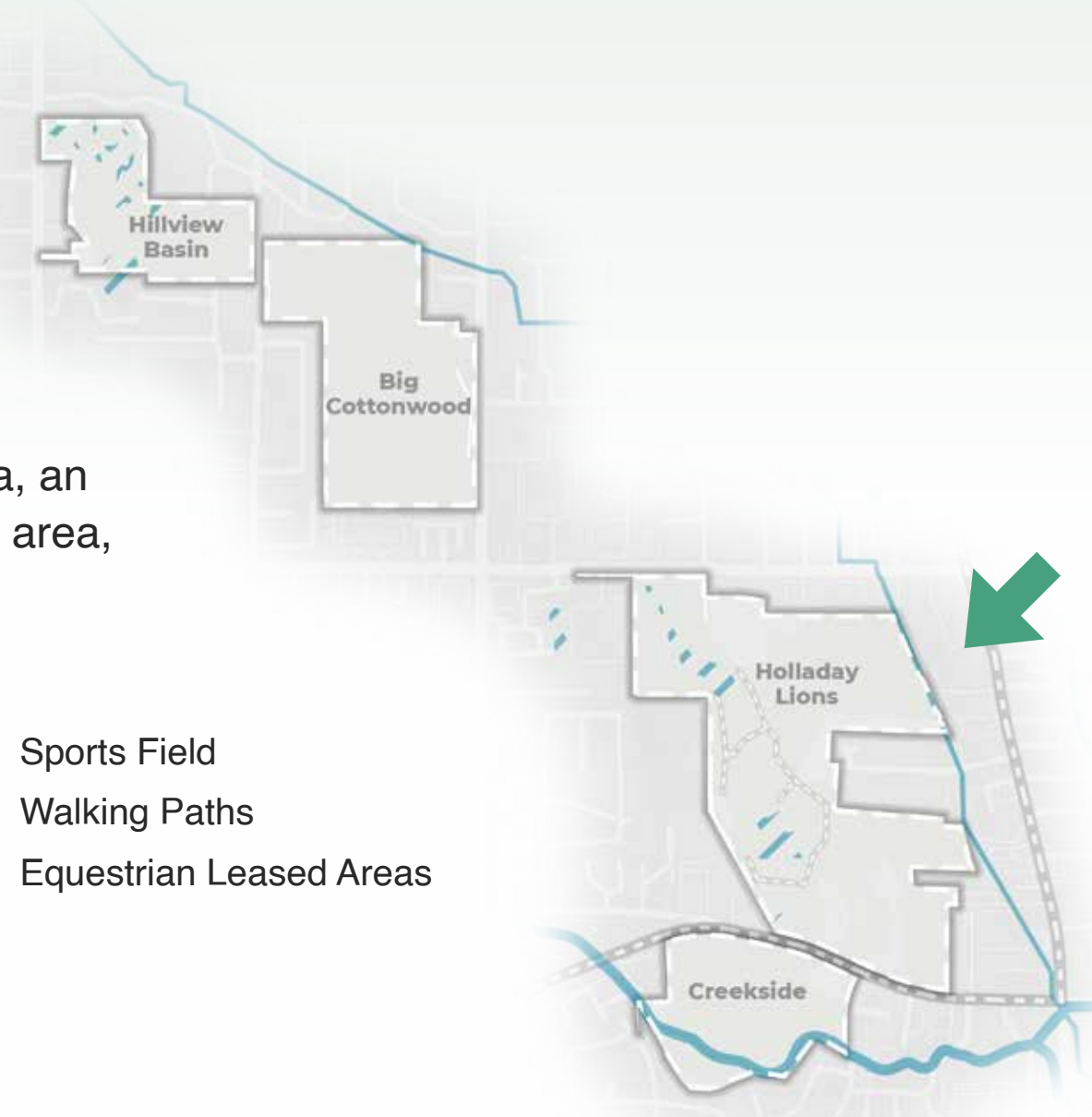
Holladay Lions 89.1 ACRES

Area Snapshot

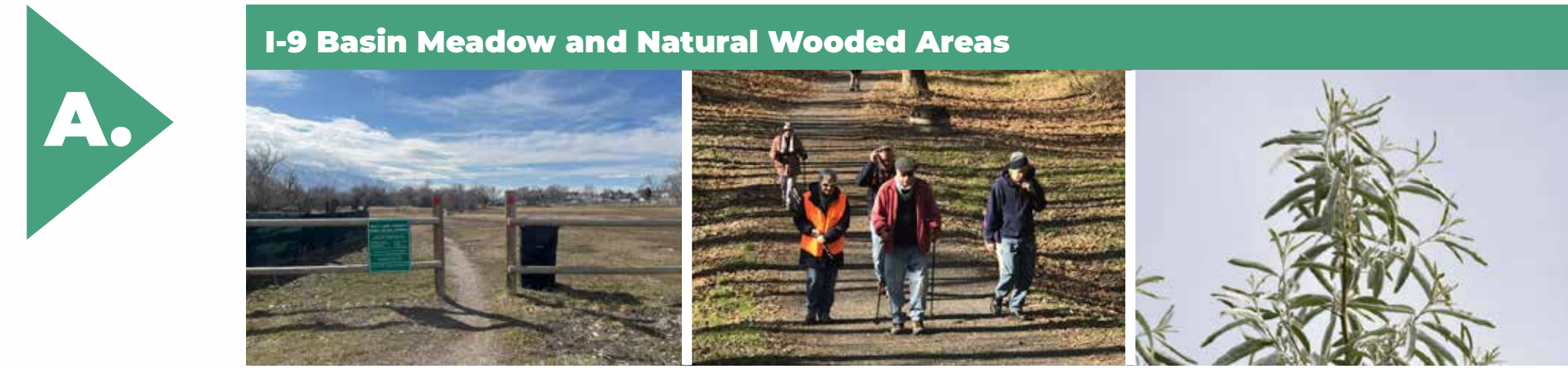
The Holladay Lions area is the largest park segment at nearly 90 acres and is composed of six main areas: a meadows/basin area, an equestrian area, a wetland area, an urban farm area, a densely vegetated wetland area, and a sports field area.

Existing Park Amenities

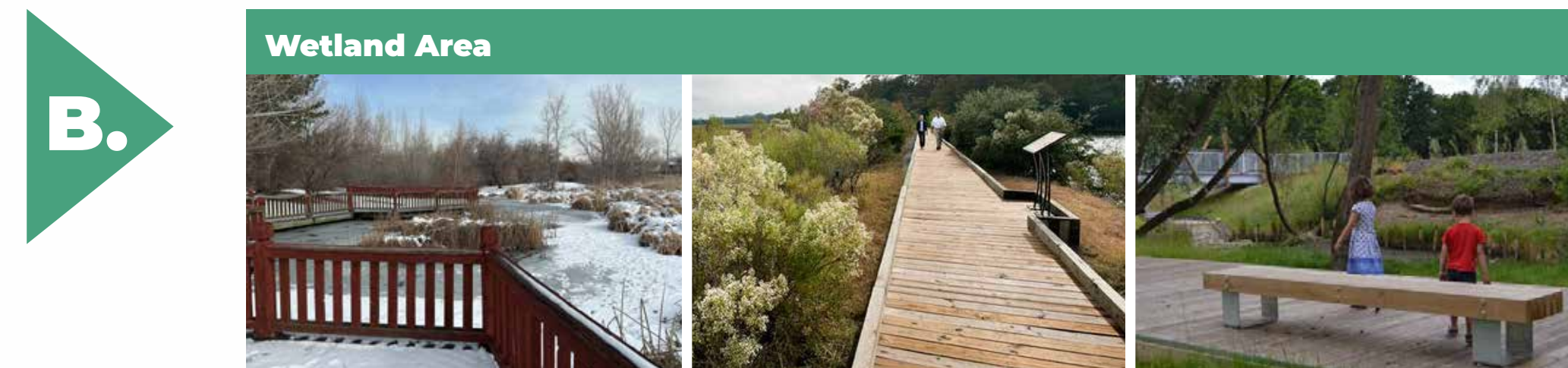
- ▶ Recreation and Senior Centers
- ▶ Restrooms
- ▶ Farming/ Gardening
- ▶ Playground
- ▶ Sports Field
- ▶ Walking Paths
- ▶ Equestrian Leased Areas



PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS



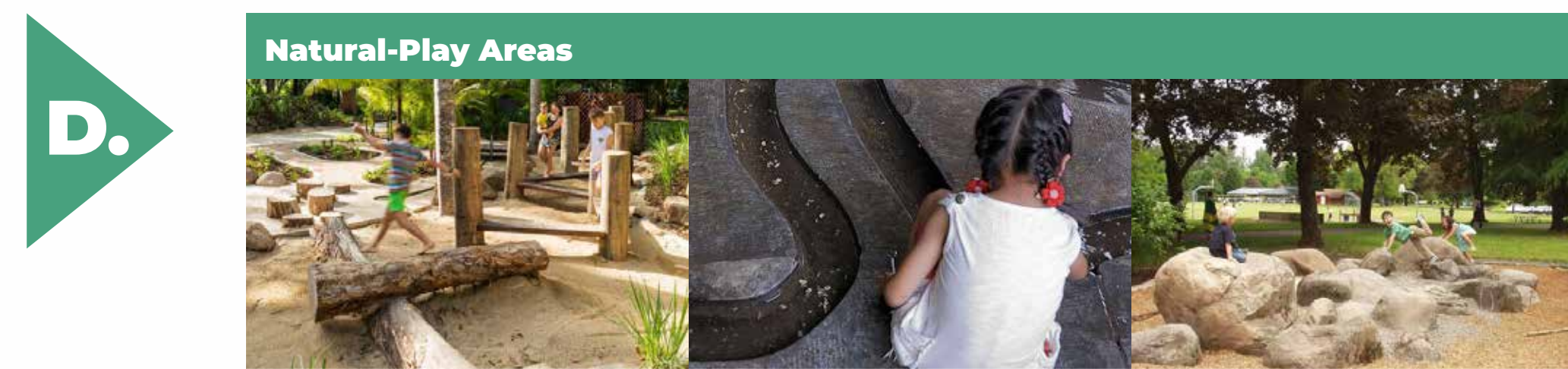
- ▶ The meadow at the north end of Holladay Lions serves as a vital component for stormwater management and is designated to remain undeveloped. A proposed trail connection along the west side of the meadow aims to create a complete loop circuit.
- ▶ The naturalized wooded areas north of the wetlands offer significant open space and ecological advantages. However, many of the tree species in these areas, such as Russian olive, Siberian elm, and tamarisk, are invasive non-natives. To address this, a phased succession strategy is recommended to restore native tree species while preserving canopy and coverage. Existing walking paths are to be maintained, with the addition of a new system of soft-surface walking paths where necessary.



- The wetland areas in Holladay Lions play a crucial role in providing ecosystem services to the region, such as stormwater management and habitat for a diverse range of species. It is important to protect and enhance these natural areas by removing invasive species and restoring native vegetation. Before undertaking any restoration efforts, it is recommended to coordinate with a biologist. Proposed wetland area improvements include:
- ▶ Retain and enhance user access.
 - ▶ Rehabilitate boardwalk overlook.
 - ▶ Incorporate soft-surface walking paths and additional boardwalk trails.
 - ▶ Provide seating areas and interpretive signage along the walking paths.



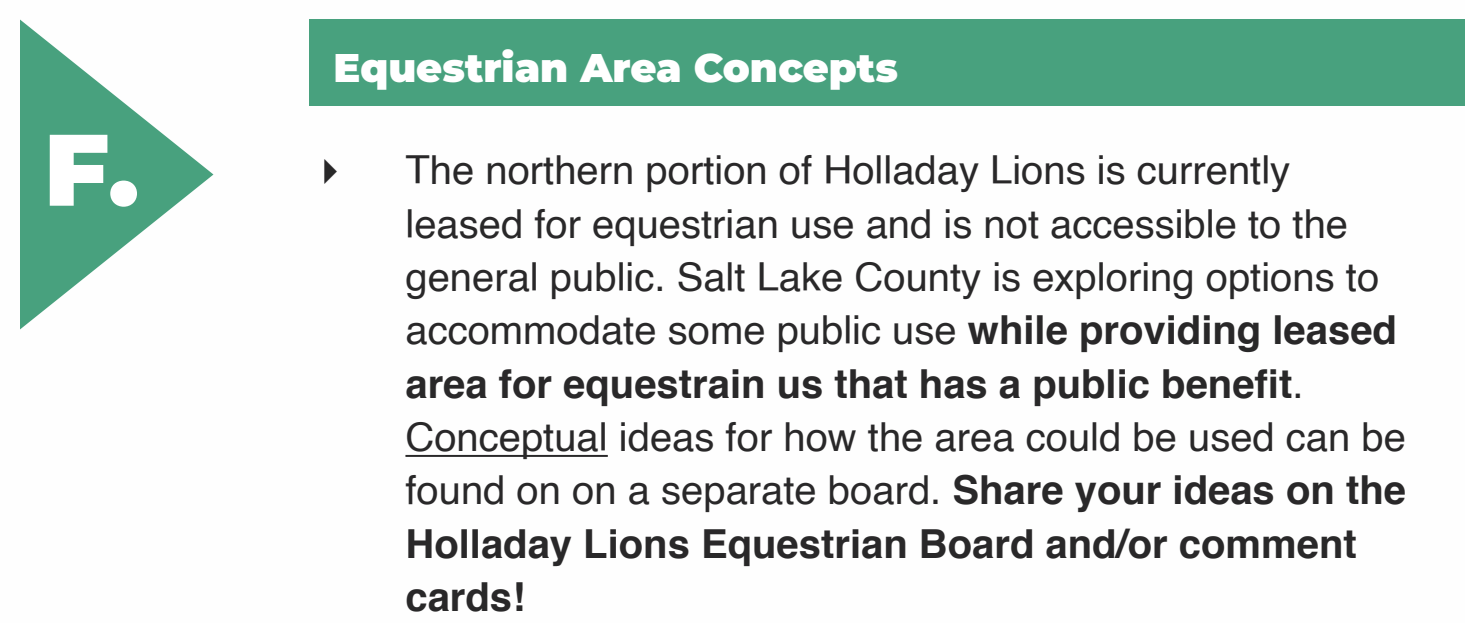
- ▶ The urban farm north of the recreation center is leased by a neighboring charter school and will largely remain and will remain as a lease for agricultural use with a public benefit.
- ▶ The large stand of trees to the east of the urban farm includes a stand of historic Gambel Oak Trees. It is recommended that these trees be protected and supplemented with additional trees and soft-surface pathways for public exploration.
- ▶ The existing baseball field east of the recreation center will become part of the multi-use field, expanding the programmable multi-use space.



- The playground area adjacent to the wetland overlook is dated and in need of upgrade. Rather than replacing the structure with traditional equipment, nature-based play equipment should be considered to complement the surrounding natural area, using wood, boulders, and ropes as primary materials. An additional natural play area could be installed near the existing restroom. Proposed playground area improvements include:
- ▶ Upgrade existing playground to nature-based play equipment
 - ▶ Explore incorporation of interactive water play with the adjacent small stream.
 - ▶ Restore the fountain on the north side of the play area.
 - ▶ Upgrade existing restroom.



- ▶ A destination inclusive playground is proposed to be constructed north of the recreation center parking lot, adjacent to the Lions Club building. This large playground will include equipment for a range of age groups, with a focus on inclusive and accessible play elements.



- ▶ The northern portion of Holladay Lions is currently leased for equestrian use and is not accessible to the general public. Salt Lake County is exploring options to accommodate some public use while providing leased area for equestrian use that has a public benefit. Conceptual ideas for how the area could be used can be found on a separate board. Share your ideas on the Holladay Lions Equestrian Board and/or comment cards!

