



# SWEDE HOLLOW PARK MASTER PLAN

Adopted September 13, 2019



McNeely Foundation  
Philanthropy • Legacy • Community



BUSH  
FOUNDATION



# SWEDE HOLLOW PARK | A NATURAL CORRIDOR

## Vision Statement:

Swede Hollow Park is a unique green space with a rich history located in the Dayton’s Bluff and Railroad Island neighborhoods. The master plan honors the natural, historical, and cultural elements to bring awareness of its significance in the City of Saint Paul. The plan is to maintain a natural corridor for a high quality ecosystem for the wellbeing of the people, flora, fauna, and water.





# SWEDE HOLLOW PARK

## A NATURAL CORRIDOR

### Goals & Priorities

#### 1. PARK INTERPRETATION & SIGNAGE

- + Natural, historical, & cultural stories
  - Migratory Bird Flyway, Dakota culture, Immigrants
- + Identify preferred sign locations
- + Connection to other destinations
  - Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary, Downtown Saint Paul, East Side Heritage, Hamm Park
- + Opportunity for creative public art

#### 2. ACCESS TO WATER

- + Daylighting Phalen Creek
- + Water quality with additional investigation on water source
- + Creative design by the water and education opportunity
- + Alternate trail type i.e. Boardwalk

#### 3. NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

- + Removal of invasive species i.e. Buckthorns, green ashes, Siberian elm, low quality vegetation
- + Enhance wildlife habitat i.e. Rusty Patched Bumble Bee, planting native plant species

#### 4. VISIBILITY/SAFETY

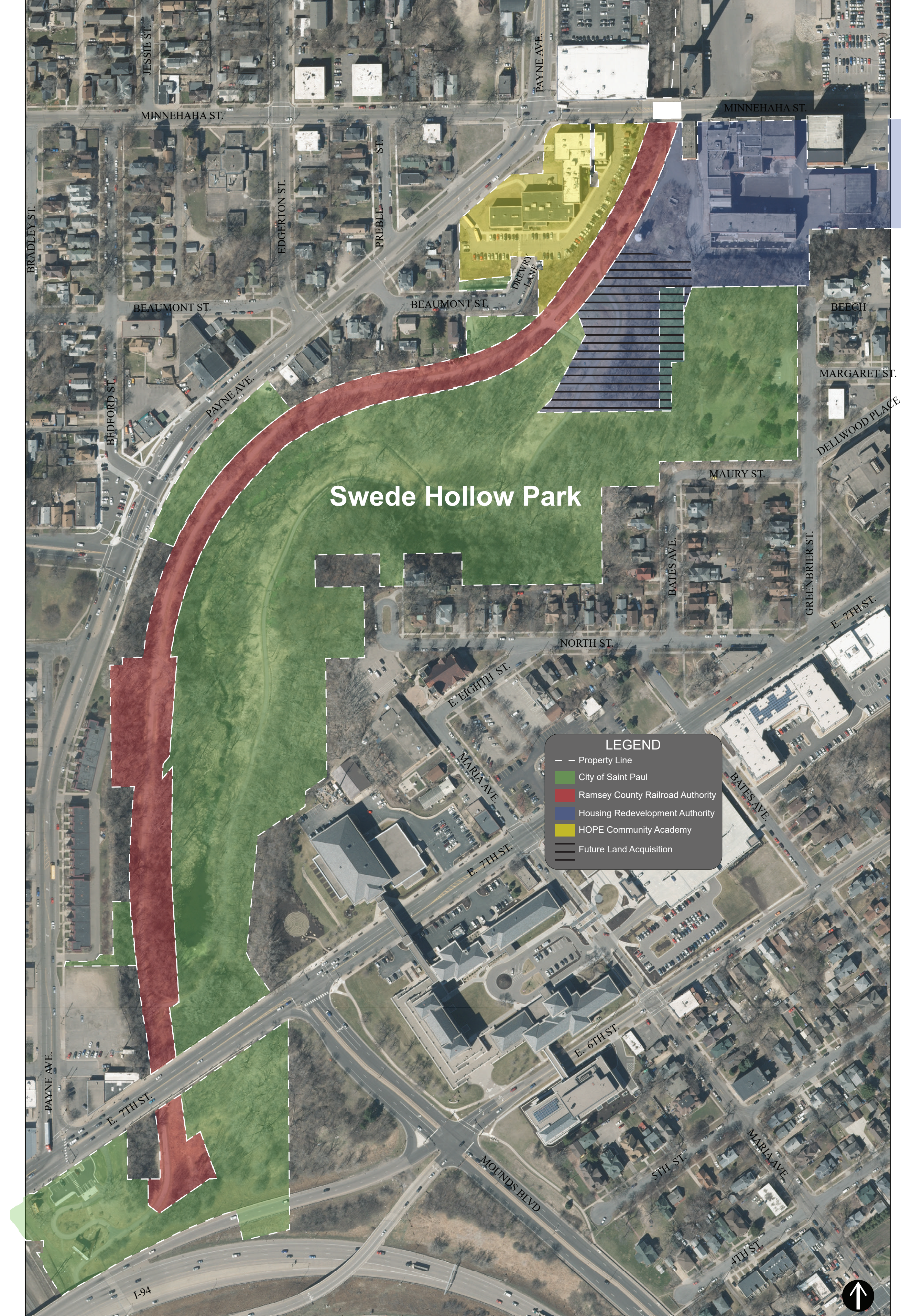
- + Lighting
- + Emergency Call-Boxes
- + Removal of low quality vegetation
- + Activating the park brings more awareness i.e. partnering with Planning & Economic Development (PED) to activate north part of the park
- + Provide equitable park access

#### 5. SPACE

- + Provide space to gather & events
- + Spiritual/Cultural healing space
- + Activating spaces with passive recreation & programming

#### 6. OTHER

- + Trail improvements
- + Public Art
- + Play Space



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Project Manager: Cheeneng Yang, [Cheeneng.Yang@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Cheeneng.Yang@ci.stpaul.mn.us) | (651) 266-6414  
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## MASTER PLAN GOALS & PRIORITIES





Swedehenge

Drewry Tunnel

- + Historical Bridge
- + Consult and work with Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) & Bridges Division for future improvements
- + Jurisdiction: Public Works, Bridges Division

Proposed ADA Ramp

Access

Central Gathering Space

Improve Staircase

Multi-use Overlook

Lighting

- + Low dim amber light along Bruce Vento Regional Trail
- + Option to automatically turn off when park closes
- + Park light on bluff (active space)
- + Emergency Call Box

Acquire Future Property

- + Recommendation to acquire property, if and when, private owners decides to sell

Signage

- + Interpretative Signs
- + Wayfinding Sign
- + Seating places

Bluff

- + Recommendation to remove large debris
- + Improve and stabilize slopes

Sewer Easement

Enhance Water & Wetland

- + Middle pond and lower pond are registered as National Wetlands
- + Enhance aquatic habitat for wildlife
- + Educational opportunities
- + Celebrate water - natural, historical, and cultural significance
- + Water feasibility study required for either water recirculation or water filtration

South Access via 7th/Payne Ave.

- + 7th Ave Bridge is a National Historic Civil Engineering Landmark
- + Future improvements involve HPC & Bridges division
- + Jurisdiction: Public Works, Bridges Division

Public Art

- + Creative artwork to celebrate the stories of the park
- + Bring awareness to the park i.e. gateways
- + Enhance park user experience

North Access via Bruce Vento Regional Trail

Future Land Acquisition

- + 3 acre land in Housing Redevelopment Authority (HRA) property transfer to City for parkland

Access from Greenbrier St.

- + Shared path in HRA property - require easement

Bluff Area

- + Picnic Area
- + Play Area
- + Wood Land Garden
- + Improve path network

Historical Remnants

- + Historical Significance
- + Community recommends remnants to be protected & obtain historical status
- + Consult with HPC for process which can be community driven

Natural Resources Management

- + Remove invasive species and low quality vegetation throughout park
- + Enhance wildlife habitat i.e. Rusty Patched Bumble Bee, Migratory Birds

#### LEGEND

- Property Line
- - - Sewer Easement
- ★ Park Access
- Proposed East Access Route
- Proposed North Access Route
- Future Bikeway
- Existing Trail
- Proposed Boardwalk
- Proposed Pedestrian Trail
- Proposed Trail Improvement
- ▨ Proposed Site Furnishings
- Existing Park Light
- Proposed Emergency Call Box
- Proposed Park Light
- Existing Park Signage
- ▮ Proposed Interpretive Sign
- ▮ Proposed Park Sign
- ▮ Proposed Wayfinding Sign
- ★ Existing Public Art
- ★ Proposed Public Art

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## MASTER PLAN

## PARK-WIDE RECOMMENDATIONS





Existing Park Light    Proposed Light



Proposed Park Signage



Existing Public Art: Swedehenge



Proposed Public Art Ideas



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## LIGHT | SIGN | ART

## PRECEDENT IMAGES







Source: Ramsey County 2009 Aerial Photo



August, 2011

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## Natural Resources Management

- + Removal of invasive and low quality vegetation.
- + Enhance wildlife habitat i.e. Rusty Patched Bumble Bee, Migratory Birds
- + Removal will most likely happen in phases. Future opportunities to coordinate and involve volunteers removal i.e. Tree Trust.
- + Target plant communities compiled by Friends of the Mississippi River in 2011.
- + Use document as a guide. More extensive work is required for site preparation when the time comes.
- + Swede Hollow Park documents are available on the project website.



## TARGET PLANT COMMUNITIES PARK-WIDE RECOMMENDATIONS





+ Future connection bikeway via Minnehaha St. & Margaret St.

- + Add 3 new park lights
- + 5 existing park lights

- + Open view to valley of the park
- + 700 SF (30' diameter) colored concrete

+ 3,000 SF



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## BLUFF AREA

# MASTER PLAN ENLARGEMENT



- + Destination point
- + Interpretation of garden
- + Currently maintained by Friends of Swede Hollow (FOSH)

- + Lighted paved path
- + Potential future federal funding
- + Easement required with Housing Redevelopment Authority (HRA)
- + Connects to regional trail, Minnehaha St., & future bikeways

- + Mill & Overlay
- + 5 parking stalls; ADA parking stall

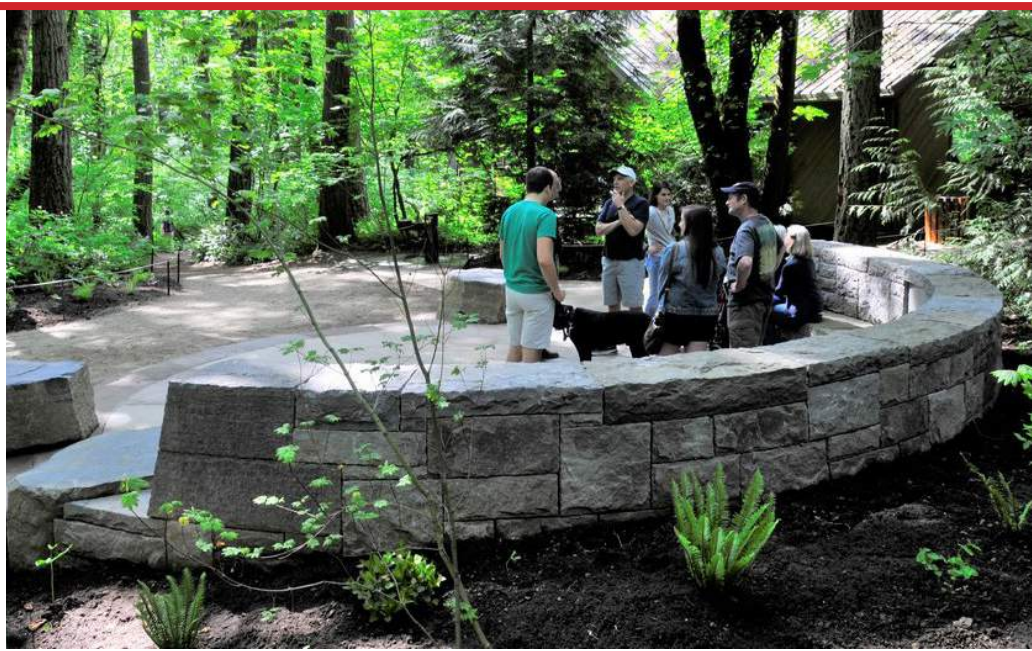
- + 7 picnic tables
- + 1 ADA picnic table

- New Sidewalk



ADA Ramp Access

- + Paved access
- + Coordinate with HCA Building Company
- + Jurisdiction: HCA Building Company



Multi-use Overlook

- + Open view to creek
- + 1,960 SF (50' diameter)
- + Space can be used for healing, education, & celebration - design to reflect history of the park
- + Access to aggregate trails (crushed gravel)

Northern Primitive Trails

- + 3'-4' Trails (crushed gravel)
- + Creates access to creek
- + 0.19 miles of new hiking trail

Create Riffles

- + Provide a variety of water movement
- + Enhance aquatic habitat by a variety of water movement



Creek Crossings

- + Access to water
- + Interaction with water

Creek Outlet

- + Continuous water flow
- + Reduce dredging
- + Enhance water quality & habitat in middle pond

Trail Improvement

- + Approx. 4,000 SF of trail improvement
- + Capitol Region Watershed District (CRWD) recommendation to raise trail in addition with daintile to prevent water from sitting on trail surface

BEAUMONT ST.

REWRY LANE

Bee Lawn

- + Transform approx. 39,800 SF of turf
- + Add aggregate trail for exploration & education opportunities
- + Remove large boulders
- + Open view to creek inlet
- + Enhance habitat for pollinators



Trail Improvements

- + Bituminous Trail approx. 7,200 SF

Centralized Plaza

- + Seatwalls for seating
- + 1,664 SF (46' DIA.)
- + Design idea to relate to Dakota culture



Creek Inlet

- + Open and improve view to creek
- + Close Public Works stormsewer
- + Feasibility study required for water filtration or water recirculation

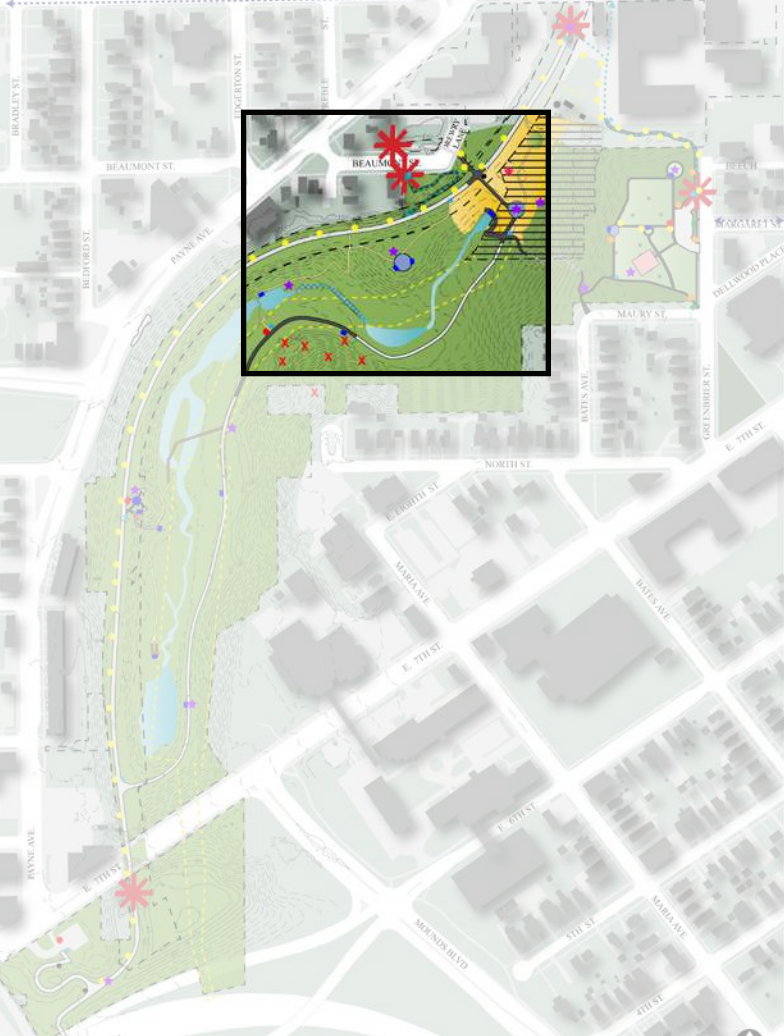
Creek Confinement

- + Increase water movement & visibility

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Map Key



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MIDDLE SWEDE HOLLOW

MASTER PLAN ENLARGEMENT







**Southern Primitive Trail**  
+ 3'-4' aggregate trail (crushed gravel)

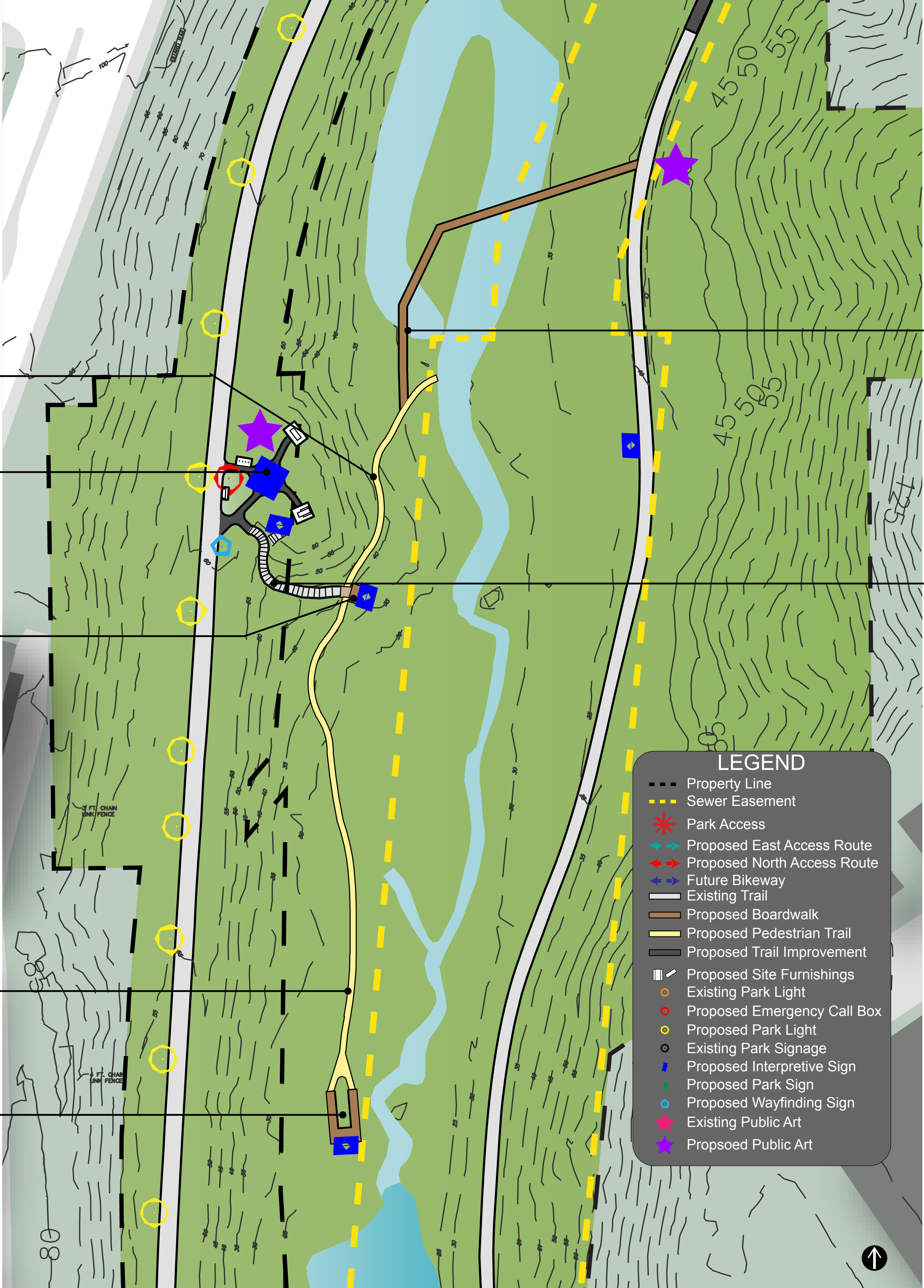
**Informal Gathering**  
+ Aggregate Path  
+ 3 Bicycle Racks  
+ 1 Fix-it Station  
+ Interpretative Signs  
- 4-Sided Kiosk  
+ 1 ADA Picnic Table and 2 benches

**Observation Deck**  
+ Opportunity for future interpretative signage  
+ Opportunity for future seating



**Southern Primitive Trail**  
+ 3'-4' Aggregate Trail

**Boardwalk & Observation Deck**



**LEGEND**

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- ★ Existing Public Art
- ★ Propsoed Public Art



**Boardwalk**  
+ Access near water  
+ Connects to other park trail

**Timber Staircase**  
+ Add railings



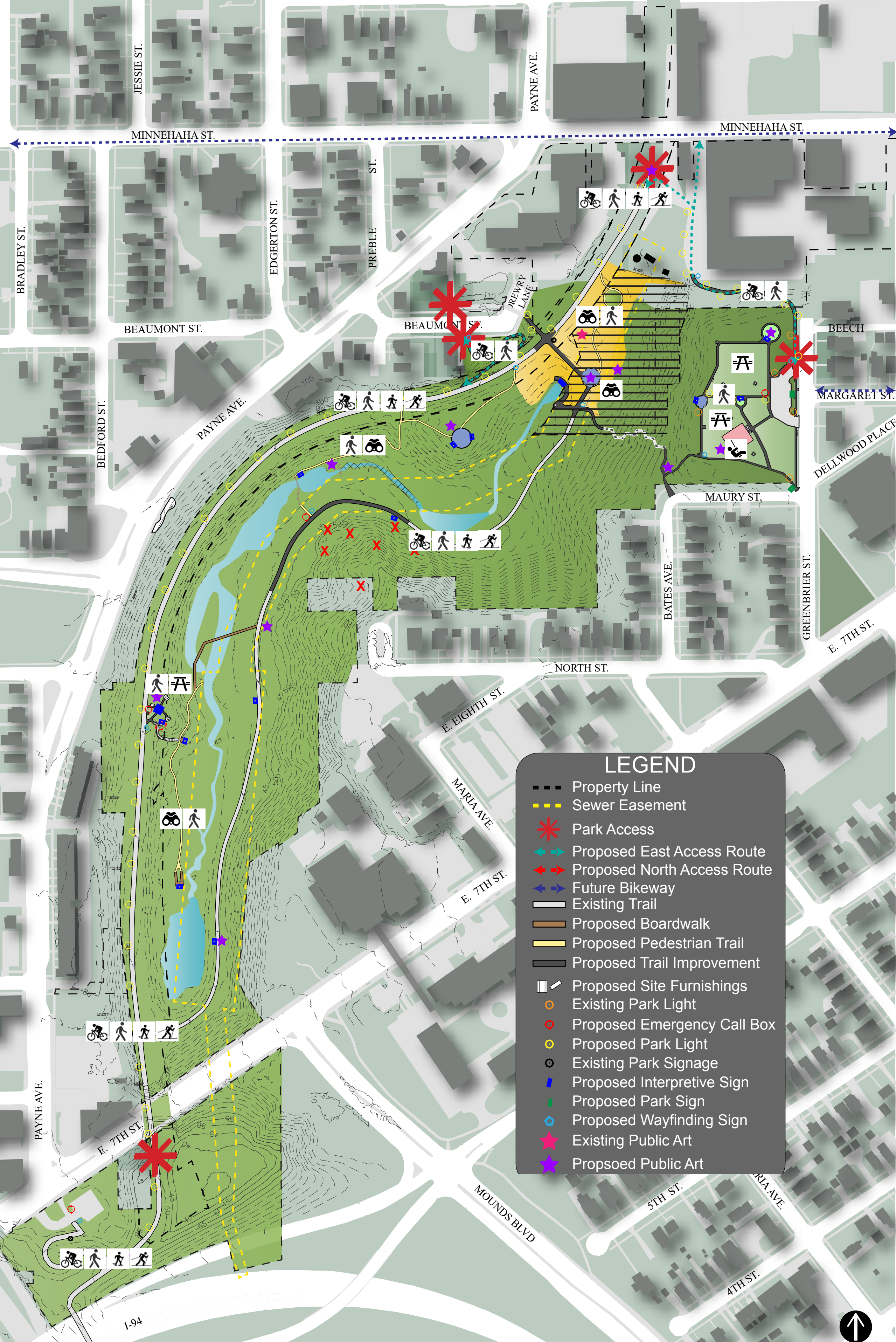
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# LOWER SWEDE HOLLOW MASTER PLAN ENLARGEMENT







Walking/Hiking



Bicycle



Cross Country Skiing



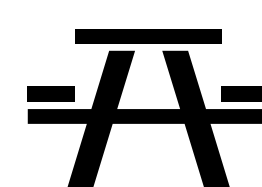
Snowshoeing



Wildlife Observation



Play Area



Picnicking



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## MASTER PLAN

## PASSIVE RECREATION & PARK AMENITIES





# TOP 5 FUTURE PROJECTS

1	Water Feasibility Study	\$88,000.00
2	Historical Remnants	\$15,200.00
3	Oak Savanna or Bee Lawn	\$55,000.00
4	Swede Hollow Creek Restoration (Upper, Middle, Lower Pond)	\$1,000,000.00
5	Lower Aggregate Trails (Southern Aggregate Trails)	\$30,000.00

\*Assumptions: Cost are based upon 2019 pricing. Costs do not include inflation. Community advisory committee assisted in ‘ranking’ the list of priority projects. Factors such as funding, sequencing, and logical combination with other city projects may shift the rankings.\*



# OTHER FUTURE PROJECTS

6	Lighting - Regional Trail	\$600,000.00
7	Greenbrier Access	\$970,000.00
8	Staircase	\$750,000.00 - \$1,000,000.00
9	Mid-Aggregate Trails <small>(Northern Aggregate Trails)</small>	\$64,000.00
10	Wood Land Garden	\$44,000.00
11	Boardwalk	\$250,000.00
12	Bluff Overlook	\$580,000.00
13	Multi-use Overlook	\$81,000.00

14	Nature-based Playground	\$300,000.00
15	Informal Gathering Space	\$70,000.00
16	Centralized Plaza	\$160,000.00
17	Park Signage <small>(Wayfinding &amp; Interpretation Signage)</small>	\$121,000.00
18	Future Land Acquisition	TBD
19	Parking Lot	\$100,000.00
20	Overall Natural Resources Management	\$500,000.00
21	ADA Ramp	\$450,000.00 - \$550,000.00

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## RANKED MASTER PLAN PROJECTS





# POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES

## Federal Funding:

- + Federal Transportation Grants
- + North American Wetlands Conservation Act Grants Program

## State Funding:

- + Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Clean Water Partnership Grant
- + MN Metro Greenways Ecological Restoration
- + MN Department of Natural Resources Grants
- + Legacy Funds

## Local Funding:

- + Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
- + Capital Improvement Budget (CIB)
- + Capitol Region Watershed District (CRWD)
- + Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)
- + Saint Paul Parks Conservancy
- + McNeely Foundation
- + Conservation Corp

## Volunteer/Partnerships:

- + Friends of Swede Hollow (FOSH)
- + Tree Trust
- + Great River Greening
- + Urban Roots
- + Lower Phalen Creeek Project (LPCP)



# GRACIAS - UA TSAUG - TOKSA AKE - THANK YOU

Thank you for your participation and your ongoing support in the Swede Hollow Park Master Planning process!



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