

City of Brooksville Parks and Recreation Master Plan

City Council Workshop – November 6, 2023



Brooksville
FLORIDA

AVRES

Agenda

1. Project Updates

- Phase 2 Report
- Public Engagement

2. Draft Master Plan

- Vision and Principles
- Citywide Parks and Trails System

3. Park Improvement Recommendations

- Existing Parks
- New Parks

4. Next Steps

- Grants and Funding
- Implementation Strategies
- Final Master Plan



Project Snapshot



Project Updates



Phase 2 Report

The Phase 2 work and report was completed in September. This work includes:

1. Public Outreach
2. Parks and Recreation Vision and Structure
3. Systemwide Parks and Recreation Improvements



BROOKSVILLE
PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN

Phase 2: Parks Master Planning and Design Ideation

September 2023

AVRES

BROOKSVILLE
PARKS AND RECREATION
MASTER PLAN

The cover features a collage of images: a park with a picnic table, a group of people looking at a map, and a child eating. It includes decorative orange and green diagonal stripes and the logos for AVRES and Brooksville Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

Online Survey 2: Survey Results

An online survey was created to gather feedback about the improvements conceptual plan for existing parks and new proposed parks. The feedback will inform the master planning and design ideation in Phase 3.

Dates: September 22 to October 16

Highlights:

1. Community members are in favor of the aquatic center at the regional park/sports facility.
2. Community members are in favor of the expanded trail and the community lawn and sports fields that were incorporated in the conceptual plan for community parks.
3. Community members are in favor of the sensory park designated areas.
4. A play area should be incorporated in the regional park/sports facility conceptual plan.
5. Community members are in favor of having passive activities and programming such as health-related programs, cooking classes, and art classes.
6. Community members expressed their desire to have the trail integrated within the parks accompanied with picnic shelters.
7. The mountain bike/BMX course proposed at the Quarry should be paired with the skate park and should be designated at one location.
8. There is a consensus that proposed parking may not be enough to withstand capacity issues.

Brooksville
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Phase 2 Idea Feedback Online Survey
Jerome Brown Community Center Conceptual Plan

Park Features: Expanded Community Center (gymnasium/courts) as a state-of-the-art facility with classrooms/offices/fitness center/basketball courts/volleyball courts/yoga and meditation space, flex space for innovation, STEM and STEAM programs, e-sports, after-school programs, art classes and educational programs.

SPORTS AND RECREATION

24. What feature(s) do you like most in the conceptual plan?

25. Is there an activity or feature you don't like?

26. Are there activities that you think should go together (that are not shown together)?

Next

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Member of the iGlobe Group

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Public Meeting 3: Non-traditional Engagement - Togetherhood Block Party

TO BE UPDATED AFTER NOV 4th EVENT

Draft Master Plan



City of Brooksville – Parks and Recreation



City Resident Needs + Economic Development

Parks and Recreation Master Planning Principles

1 Vibrant

Safe, accessible, and vibrant parks and recreation facilities, providing programs and events that meet the community's growing needs.

2 Equitable Access and Connectivity

Make existing and new parks accessible to all cross-sections and age groups with a wide range of active and passive recreational programs.

3 Context-Sensitive Design

Best park plans, designs, and programs are reflective of the City's history, culture, and heritage.

4 Resilient

Flexibly planned parks to adapt to the changing nature of sports and community interests and balance current and future demands.

5 Efficient

Integrated parks and recreation programming and maintenance to ensure parks and recreation services are provided in an efficient manner.

6 Health and Environment Focus

Focus on health and wellness amenities integrated with the City's natural environment and promoting environmentally sensitive practices.

7 Partnerships

Leverage public-private partnerships to ensure good stewardship of the City's parks and promote economic development.

Safe, Accessible, and Vibrant Parks System



1



7



2



6



3

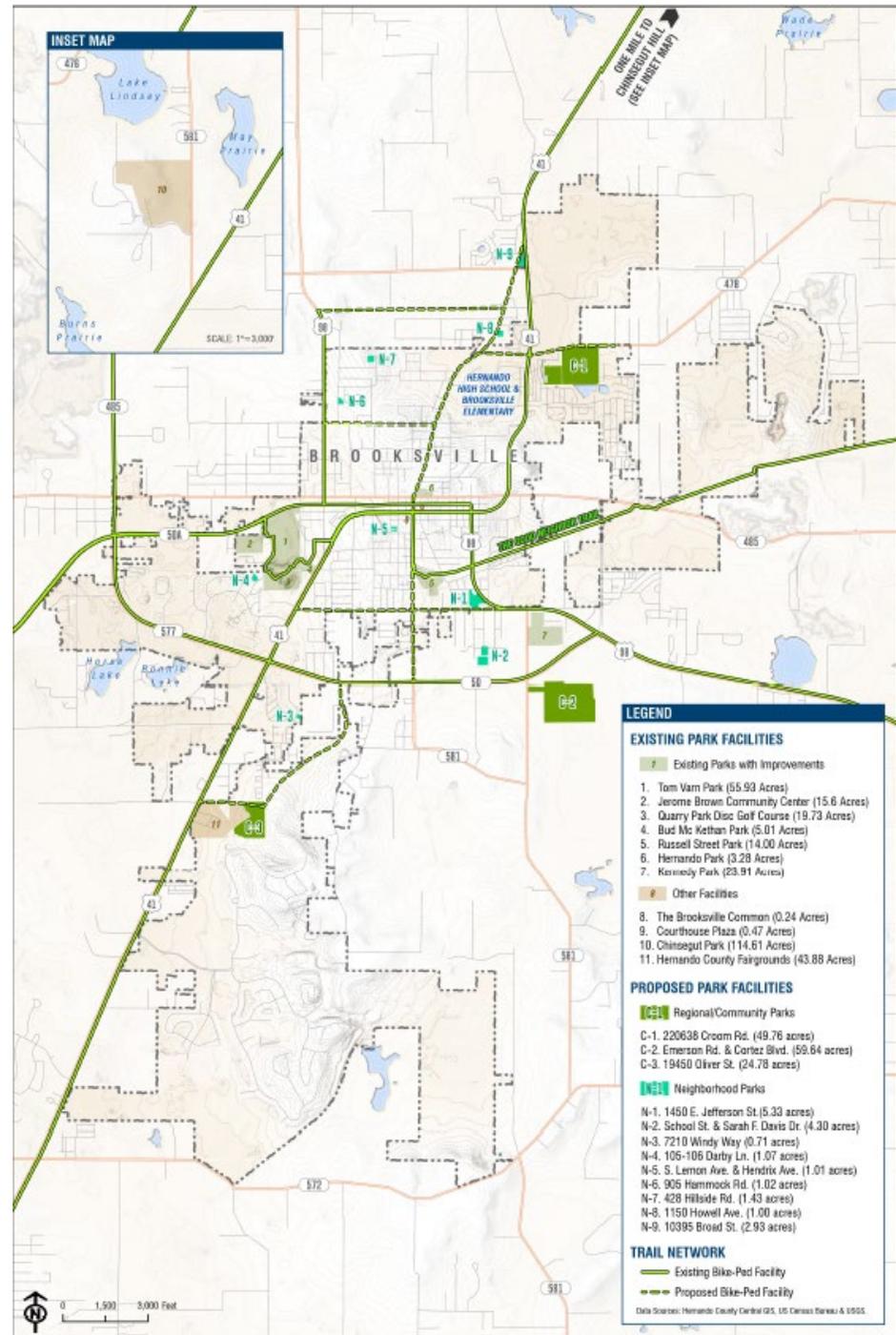


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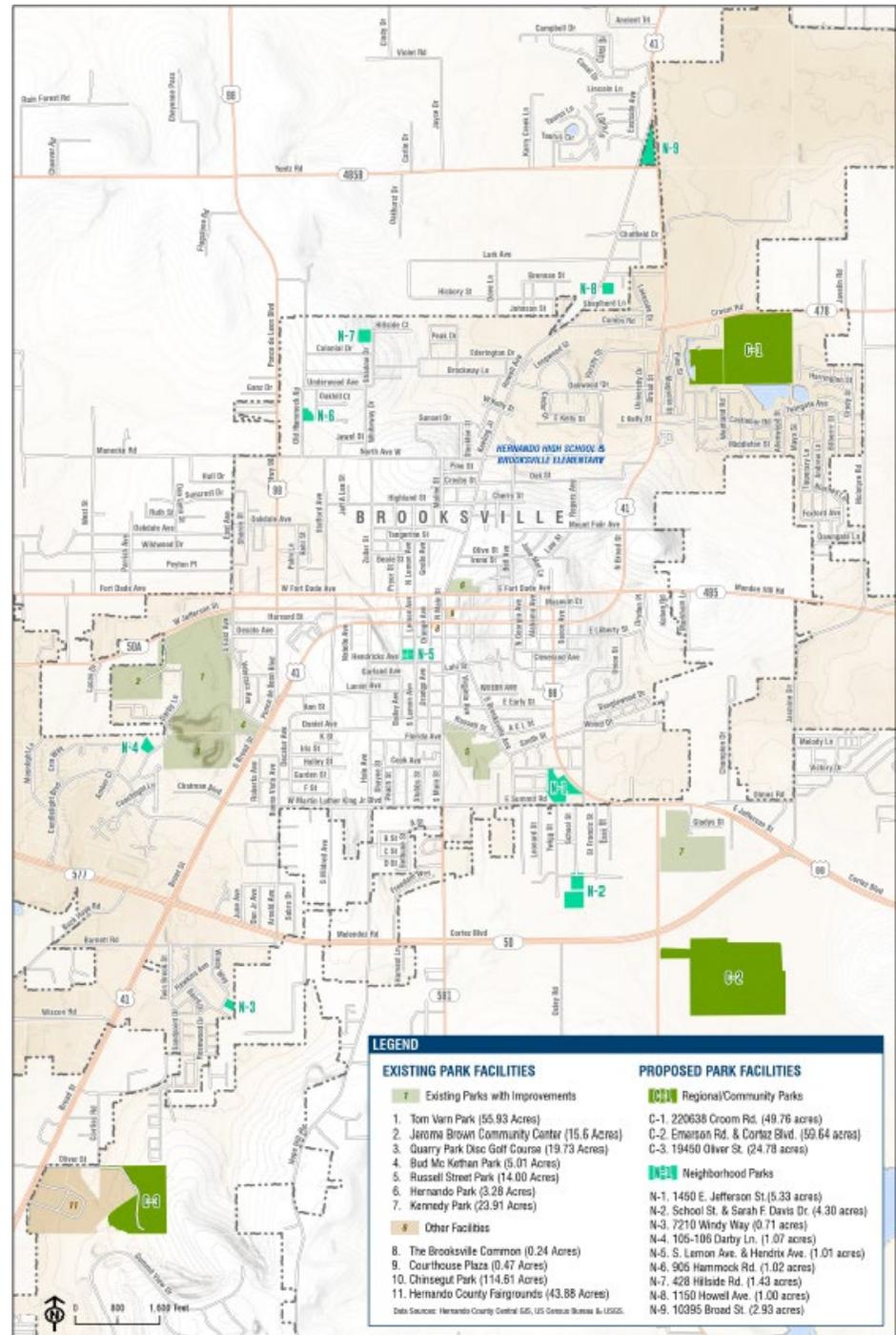


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Systemwide Parks and Trails Network Map



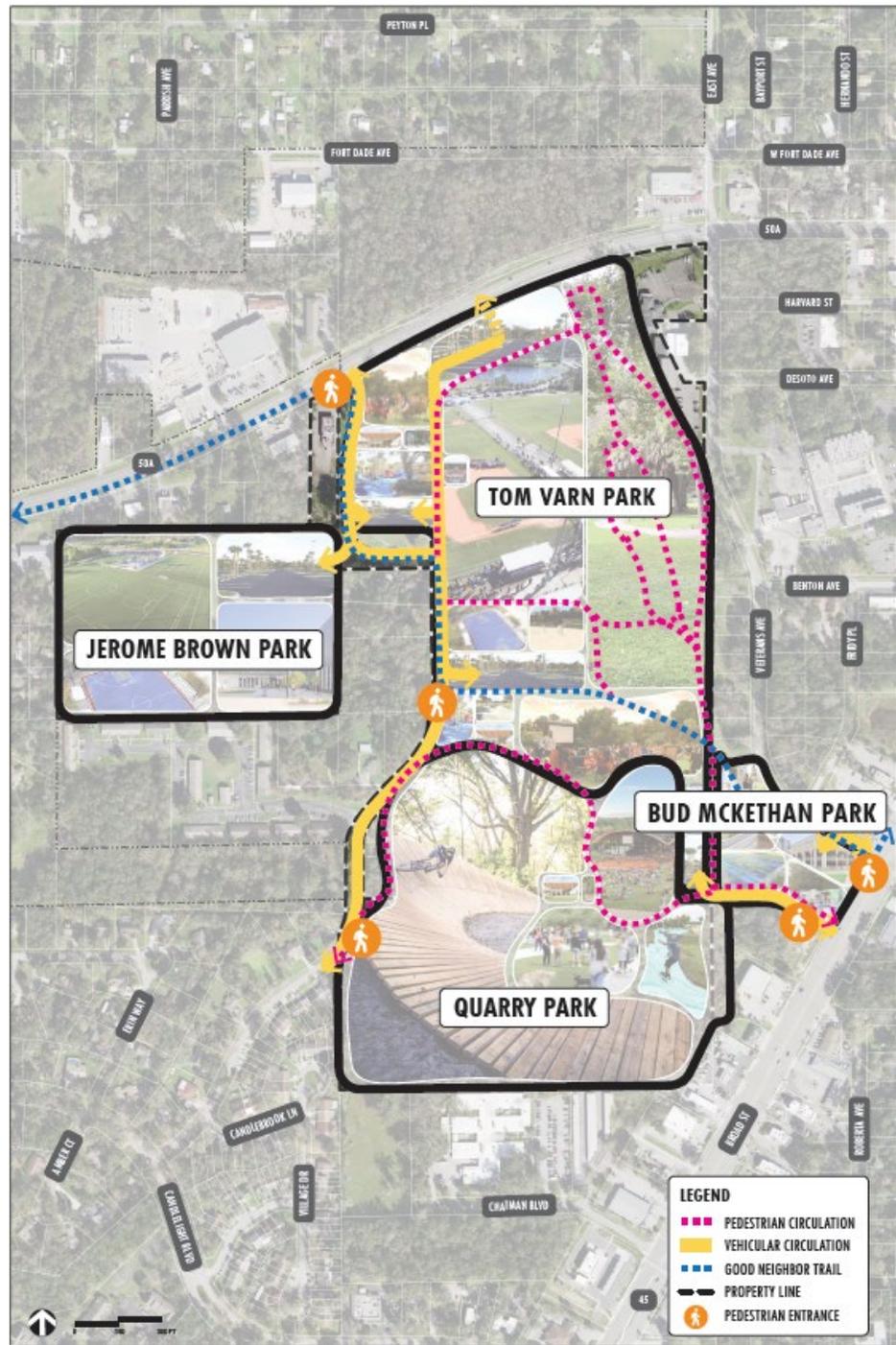
Parks and Recreation Facilities Plan



Park Improvement Recommendations



“West Side Parks”



Existing Park Improvements

Tom Varn Park

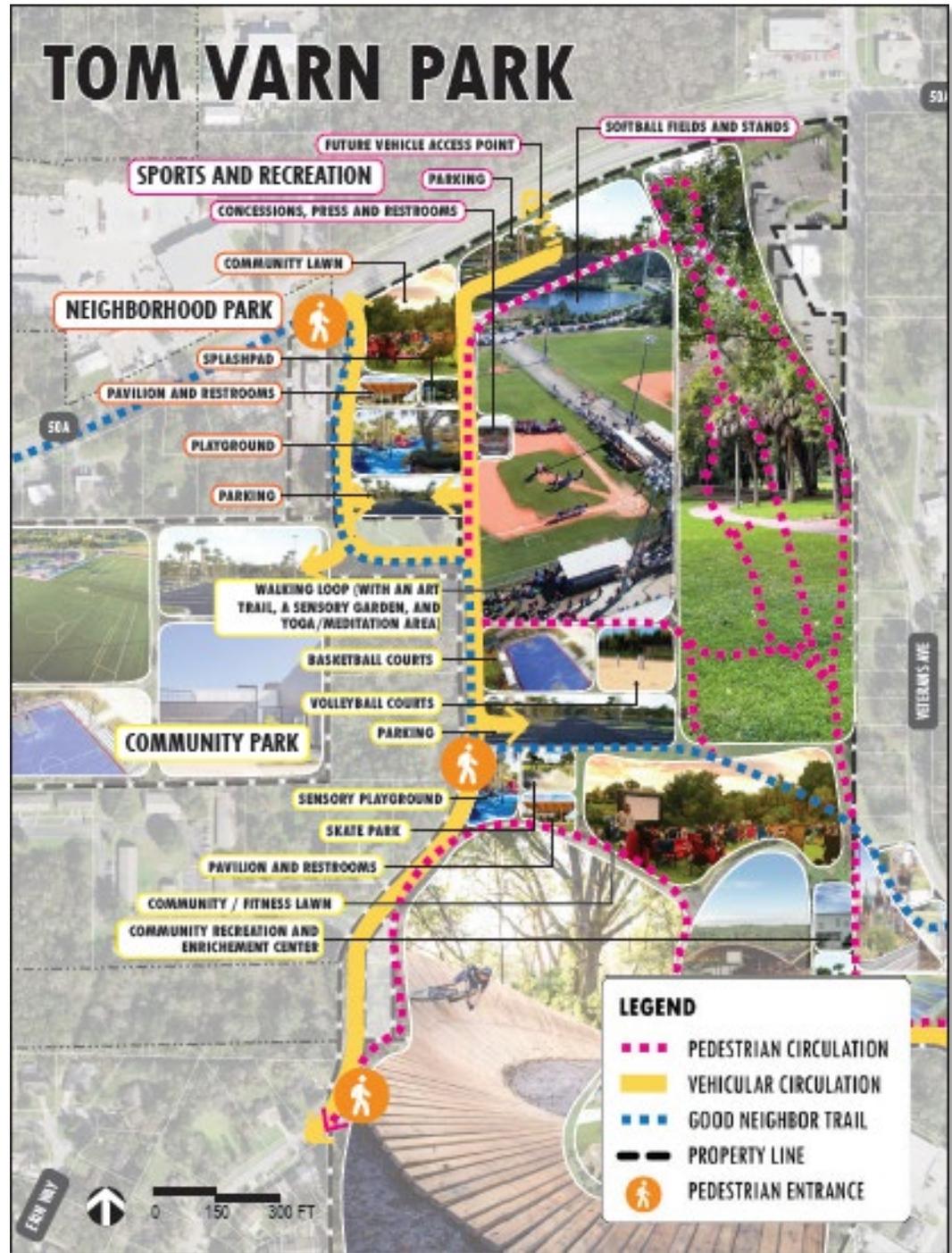
PROGRAM / DESIGN BRIEF

- Enhance the existing facilities.
 - Enhanced event area for Arts in the Park and other community events
 - Bleachers at the stadium
 - Update the existing outdoor exercise equipment and add more
 - Facilities for volleyball
 - Picnic areas
 - Restrooms
 - Integrate the proposed splash pad
 - Integrate the trail extension through the park and connection to SR 50A
- Incorporate neighborhood park facilities within the larger park.
- Add wellness areas – yoga, tai-chi, meditation.
- Incorporate a butterfly garden.
- Incorporate a community garden.
- Diversify to sports field to include athletic and soccer fields.



Existing Park Improvements

Tom Varn Park Concept



Existing Park Improvements

Jerome Brown Community Center

PROGRAM / DESIGN BRIEF

- Expand the recreation center (gymnasium/courts) as a state-of-the-art facility to include:
 - Classrooms
 - Offices
 - Fitness center
 - Basketball courts
 - Volleyball courts
 - Yoga and meditation space
- Expand offerings in the center to include:
 - Flex space for innovation
 - STEM and STEAM programs
 - E-sports
 - After-school programs
 - Art classes and educational programs



Existing Park Improvements

Jerome Brown Community Center Concept



Bud McKethan Park

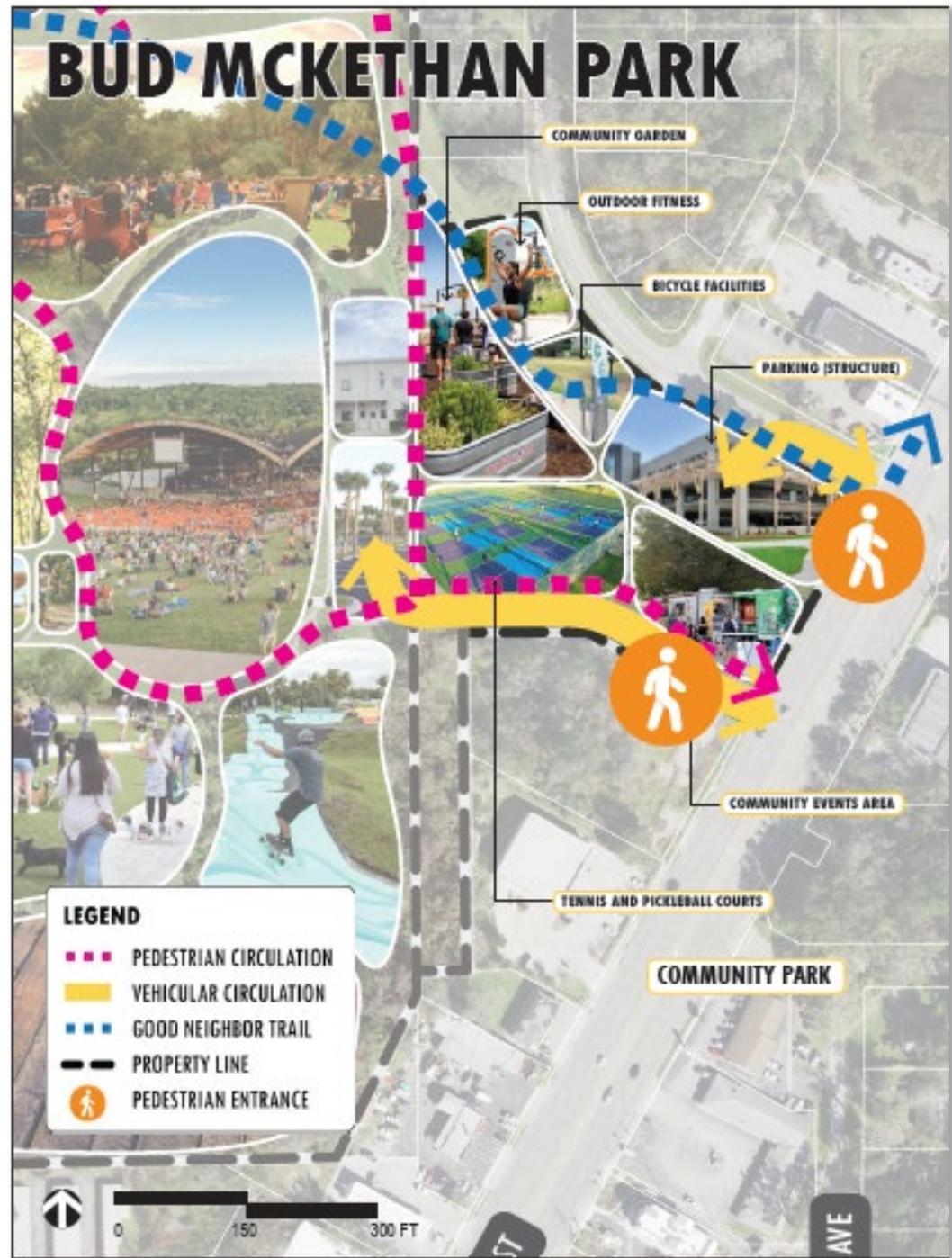
PROGRAM / DESIGN BRIEF

- Playground with sensory garden.
- Look into the viability of adding a skate park near the tennis courts (existing concrete pad).
- Pickleball.
- Tennis (improved and more).
- Area to support events in the Quarry – food truck park.
- Upgrade Enrichment Center (County facility) – wine bar, gift shop, restrooms, etc., light show projection on this façade.
- Integrate art in the quarry and with the Enrichment Center.
- Make the restrooms more accommodating and ADA compliant.



Existing Park Improvements

Bud McKethan Park Concept



Existing Park Improvements

The Quarry Park

PROGRAM / DESIGN BRIEF

- Incorporate an amphitheater/stage capitalizing on the grade for large events.
- Integrate bike and BMX riding circuit (sports tourism) in association with the trail extension.
- Space for more family programs.
 - Spooky Halloween
 - Walk-in-the-park
 - BBQ events
 - Block parties
- Relocate or restrict disc golf to specific times or repurpose a portion of the driving range to accommodate more events.
- Restrict dog park activities to specific areas for safety.



Existing Park Improvements

The Quarry Park Concept



Existing Park Improvements

Russell Street Park

PROGRAM / DESIGN BRIEF

- This park is envisioned as the second small family and event space in the proximity of downtown. Upgrade park and incorporate activities for families.
 - Children's play area with splash pad
 - Farmers market
 - Scavenger hunt
 - Integrate art in the park
 - Improve lighting
 - Have better parking
 - Security measures such as security cameras
- Make the park a nature park – birdwatching
- Have environmental programs – nature classroom
- Incorporate boardwalk nature trail
- Heritage themed event space – leverage rail museum and historic theme. Align improvements with Public Works improvement project currently underway.



Existing Park Improvements

Russell Street Park Concept



Existing Park Improvements

Hernando Park

PROGRAM / DESIGN BRIEF

- Programs geared toward kids and urban visitors.
- Update playground.
- Art classes and educational programs associated with the Arts Council.
- Events and programming geared toward older community.
- Facility upgrades:
 - More restrooms
 - More lighting
 - Security measures such as security cameras
 - Existing bandshell – open performance area as an attraction for downtown, karaoke, etc.
- Consider other urban activities – mini golf, etc.



Existing Park Improvements

Hernando Park Concept



Existing Park Improvements

Kennedy Park

PROGRAM / DESIGN BRIEF

- Rehab existing recreation center to have classrooms for education programs (County is proposing a new roof).
 - STEM
 - Cooking classes
 - Health programs
 - Dance hall
 - Basketball
- Expand and build on existing programs to make use of underutilized spaces in the park to provide facilities for more organized sports (current baseball).
- Introduce a skate park.
- Improve the playground and make it ADA compliant and add turf area for children.



Existing Park Improvements

Kennedy Park Concept



Existing Park Improvements

Neighborhood Park

PROGRAM / DESIGN BRIEF

- Picnic pavilions and benches
- Multi-generational exercise stations
- Multi-use outdoor courts
- Inclusive playground
- Lighting
- Walking path
- Shaded areas
- Restrooms
- Character and theme reflective of the surrounding neighborhood



Community Park

PROGRAM / DESIGN BRIEF

- Multi-use sports fields – softball, baseball, athletics, and soccer
- Active recreation courts – pickleball, basketball, volleyball, handball
- Water facilities, pool, and splash pad
- Performance stage/ bandshell, pavilions, and picnic areas
- Inclusive playground
- Sensory garden with arts programming
- Dog park
- Community garden
- Passive outdoor recreation space and trails with multi-generational exercise equipment
- Recreation Center – public or private partnership with facilities such as multi-use courts – basketball, handball, pickleball, flex space, meeting spaces, exercise equipment, gym, pool, locker rooms



Regional Park/ Sports Facility

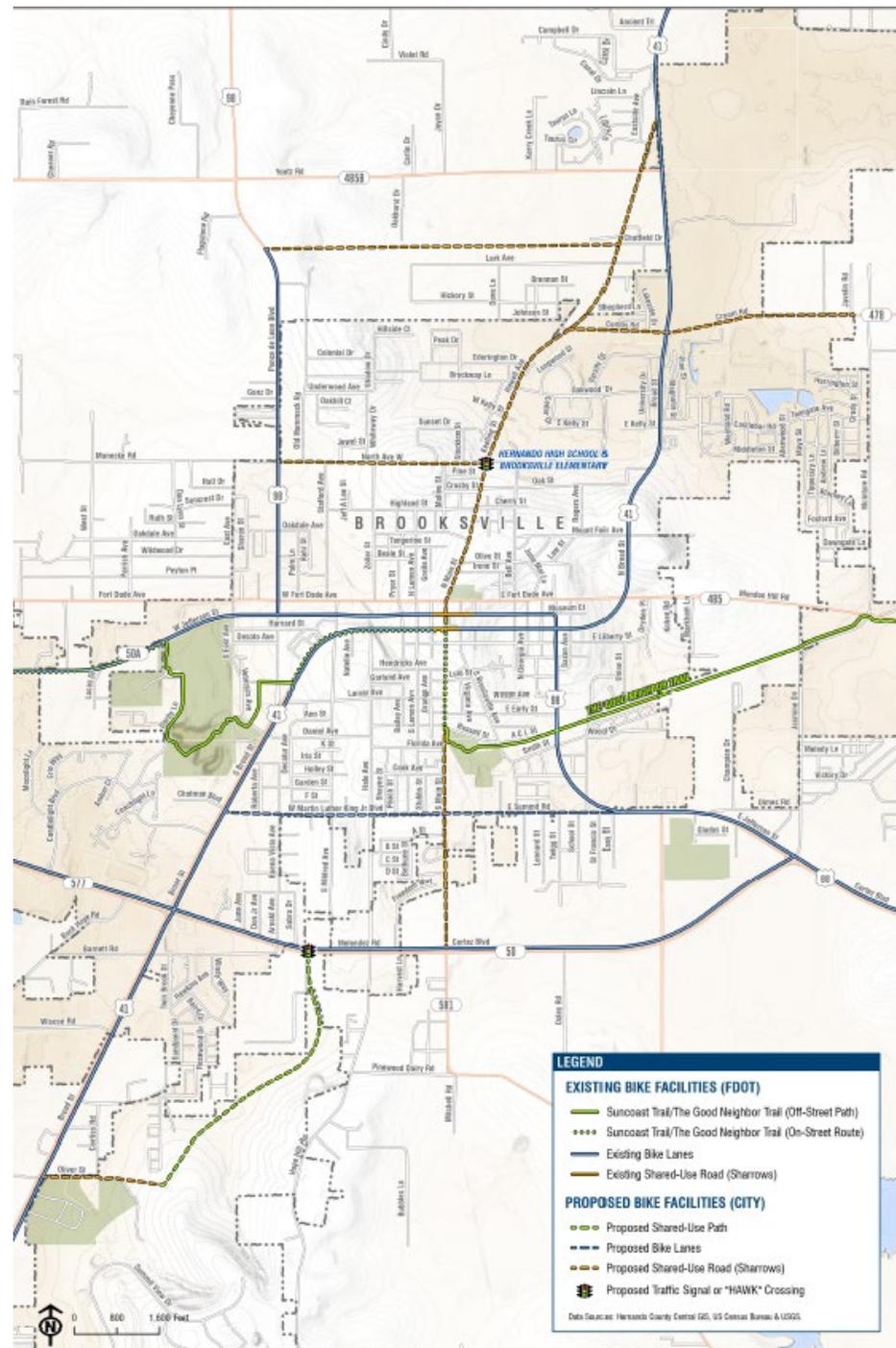
PROGRAM / DESIGN BRIEF

- Aquatics center
- Multi-use fields – softball, baseball, athletics and soccer focused
- Sport fields
- Stadium seating or bleachers
- Stage/open event space – commercial aspect – food trucks or food courts
- Passive outdoor recreation space and trails
- Restrooms
- Recreation Center – public or private partnership with flex space, meeting spaces, exercise equipment, gym, pool, locker rooms
- Multi-use courts – basketball, handball, volleyball, pickleball



City Trail Network Expansion and Bike-Pedestrian Network

- Build upon the new “Trail Town” designation.
- Leverage trail expansion currently underway.
- North-South trail within existing right-of-way that connects the Good Neighbor Trail to downtown and neighborhoods in the north and south for wider citywide bike connectivity.
- New trail segments to integrate neighborhoods and make connections to pocket parks along:
 - Dedicated easements
 - Roads that have right-of-way space and are conducive to shared use



GOOD NEIGHBOR TRAIL



ADJACENT LAND COVER VARIES

FURNISHING
ZONE

TRAIL CORRIDOR

TRAIL KIOSK
AND BIKE REPAIR

ADJACENT LAND COVER VARIES

Next Steps



Grants and Funding

- The City could pursue a robust funding strategy to implement the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.
- Project Knowledge and Education. Grant programs, including state and federal funding programs, focus on funding clear objectives and outcomes.
- Explaining the city parks and recreation master plan in terms of economic benefits, transportation opportunities, public health, and access to parks and nature all play a role in securing funding.
- The following is an initial list of grants that the City may wish to pursue to implement the City's Parks and Recreation Master Plan and future sports initiatives.

A complete list of funding sources will be available in the Master Plan Report.

Grant Program	Agency	Summary	Maximum Request	Program/Cost Share
FEDERAL PROGRAMS				
Federal Recreational Trails Program	FWHA (through FDEP)	The federally funded Recreational Trails Program of the United States Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) provides competitive, matching-grant funds to renovate, develop, or maintain recreational motorized, nonmotorized, and mixed-use trails and trailside facilities. Trail planning is NOT an eligible expense for this Program (62S- 2.072(4)(e) F.A.C.)	\$1,000,000	The more match provided, the more points awarded
Land and Water Conservation Fund	FDEP	LWCF is a competitive program that provides grants for acquisition or development of land for public outdoor recreation use. Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) administers the program on behalf of the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service. Enclosed buildings and structures (except restrooms, restroom/concession buildings and bathhouses) are ineligible.	Announced prior to the application period	50/50
Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant Program	DOT	The program funds removing, retrofitting, or mitigating transportation facilities like highways or rail lines that create barriers to mobility, access, or economic development through technical assistance and grant funding for planning and capital construction projects that reconnect communities and improve peoples' lives.	\$198,000,000	80% RCP Community Planning Grants funds 20% local match

Next Steps

- Continue community engagement for input and feedback:
 - Online Survey 3 for Draft Master Plan Feedback
 - Council, Community, and Stakeholder feedback
 - Project updates on City’s website and social media.
- Ongoing engagement with City staff to finalize ideas and plans.
- Draft Master Plan – November 2023
- Final Master Plan – December 2023



<https://www.cityofbrooksville.us/386/Parks-and-Recreation-Master-Plan>

