



**SHERWOOD PARKS BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**22560 SW Pine St., Sherwood, OR**  
**March 4, 2024**

**WORK SESSION**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Board Chair Scheirman called the meeting to order at 7:01pm
2. **BOARD PRESENT:** David Scheirman, Rodney Lyster, Jim Craig, Cory McLennan, Steve Munsterman, Brenda Kramer, Joy Kuczer

**STAFF PRESENT:** Community Services Director Kristen Switzer, Operation Supervisor Harry Banister, and Utility Manager Rich Sattler.

3. **ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA:** None.

4. **APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES:**

**MOTION: FROM CRAIG TO APPROVE THE FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES. SECONDED BY McLENNAN. MOTION PASSES.**

5. **CITIZEN COMMENTS:** None.

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

- Murdock Park Master Plan (Switzer):

Brett Hoornaert from Lango Hansen introduced himself and walked through a site analysis of Murdock Park. (Exhibit A). Discussion followed as Brett walked through the presentation.

Existing Site:

- Brett noted that the pond area does appear to be a wetland and that there will be restrictions and buffers we need to consider from Clean Water Services.
- It has been observed that older populations are frequent/predominant users of Murdock Park and as such, the park should account for this, providing benches, etc.
- There was a theme of building upon the existing features of the site, namely the pond, and enhancing and expanding them across the site. Providing access/observation to the pond, screening off the road, and emphasizing the nature of the park were identified as priorities from the Parks Board.
- The state of the existing trees was discussed, and it was noted that the existing cottonwoods are considered potential hazards and are a maintenance issue. The

Parks Board would support their removal on these grounds. It was also noted that a couple of black pines along the east path are scrawny and thus are not adding much to the park.

- It was noted that the east portion of the site has shallow bedrock that will need to be considered when planning site amenities. Is there an opportunity to expose this?

Amenities/Programming:

- Building on the nature theme, a desire to have a planting scheme that provides seasonal interest for as many months as possible was expressed.
  - It was confirmed that the addition of a restroom is a high priority.
  - Look for opportunities to expand the path network, making a network with distance markings.
  - To increase the seasonal use of the park, more, potentially small-scale, covered seating to protect users from the environment is desired.
  - Playful, conversational seating types and arrangements would add another type of gathering and level of design to the site and should be considered.
  - There was a preference expressed for nature play for the playground, in line with the idea of a quiet, serene nature park.
  - There was resistance to the addition of a larger scale sports court, such as basketball, as the noise/activity it would create would contrast with the desired theme of the park. Smaller scale programming, such as chess or ping pong tables would be considered appropriate. In general, programming elements that use less hard surfacing were considered desirable. The sports court should remain an option, however, so that the public can make a decision.
  - There was a strong emphasis on improving the overlook and access to the pond. Improvements would include a covered overlook with seating and a board walk that takes users out onto the water.
  - The style of elements that included natural materials, such as boulders, were preferred over more modern styles.
  - Where possible, amenities should include dogs in their planning. In particular, drinking fountains should include a dog fountain.
  - Additional amenities that should consider being added are a community bulletin board, land acknowledgements, and interpretive signage (potentially using OR codes).
- Tree Removal (Harry Banister):  
Banister reviewed Exhibits B with the Board.

**MOTION: FROM McLENNAN TO APPROVE REMOVAL OF THE RECOMMENDED TREES AT PIONEER PARK. SECONDED BY LYSTER. MOTION PASSES.**

**7. PARK MAINTENANCE REPORT (Banister)**

- Bricks installed at Veterans park. Eight bricks have been placed. Three more are in process. Just a reminder that the application is on the City website website. We plan to install twice a year- Spring and Fall.
- Bark dusting in all parks occurred last week.
- Open House for Murdock Park - March 21 at Art Center 6-7:30pm

**8. STAFF UPDATE (Switzer)**

- A Groundbreaking event has been scheduled for Tuesday, March 5<sup>th</sup> at 2pm for the Pedestrian Bridge. We hope to see you there.
- Mark your calendars for the Volunteer Appreciation Banquet on Thursday April 25th.

**9. COUNCIL LIAISON ANNOUNCEMENT:**

- None

**10. OTHER:** None

**11. ADJOURNED 8:12PM**



# PROJECT BACKGROUND

Exhibit A



The City of Sherwood has initiated the development of a Master Plan for Murdock Park and we want to hear from you. These boards have been prepared to begin the conversation with the community to learn how you use the park and understand the types of improvements and changes that you would like to see.

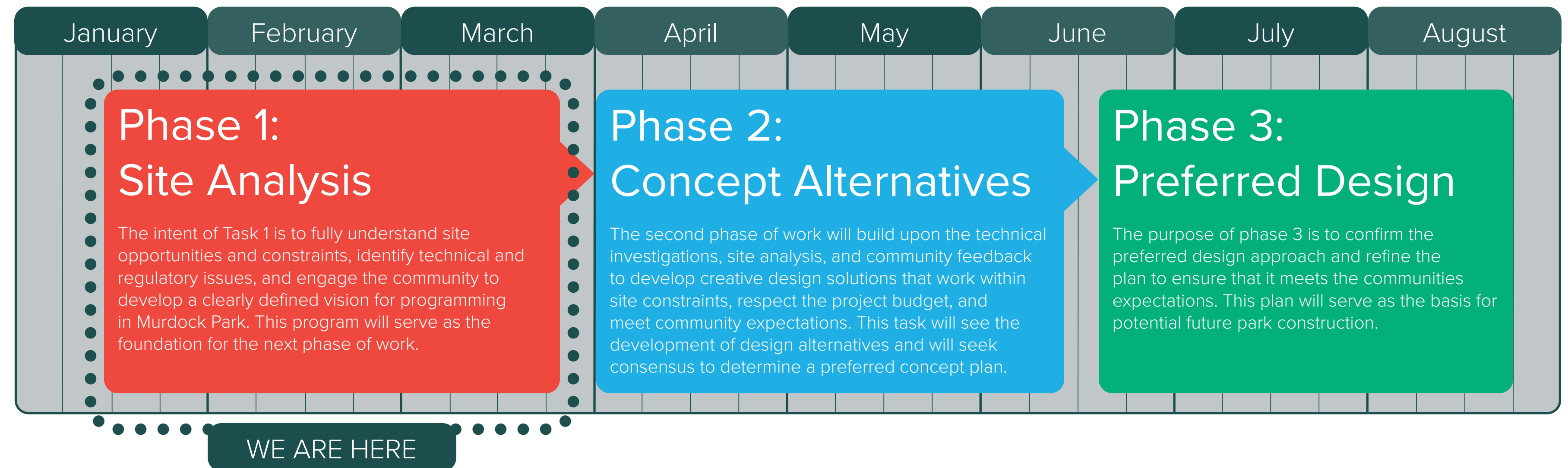
## PROJECT STATEMENT

The development of a master plan for Murdock Park is an opportunity to explore how this public space can be enhanced to enrich the lives of the citizens of the City of Sherwood. The master plan will be used to guide future improvements to the park and as such, it will be of the utmost importance that the plan is not only feasible, but that it is collaborative and firmly rooted in the values of the City of Sherwood. This process should result in a design for Murdock Park that is enduring and beloved by the community.

## PROJECT SCHEDULE

The Murdock Park Master Plan is anticipated to take 8 months to completion, during which time the public will have three opportunities to provide feedback. In this meeting, we are entering phase 1 of the project where we are gathering information and are seeking information and advice from the community regarding how the Master Plan for Murdock Park should take shape. These insights will inform the next phase of work where design concepts will be developed based on your feedback.

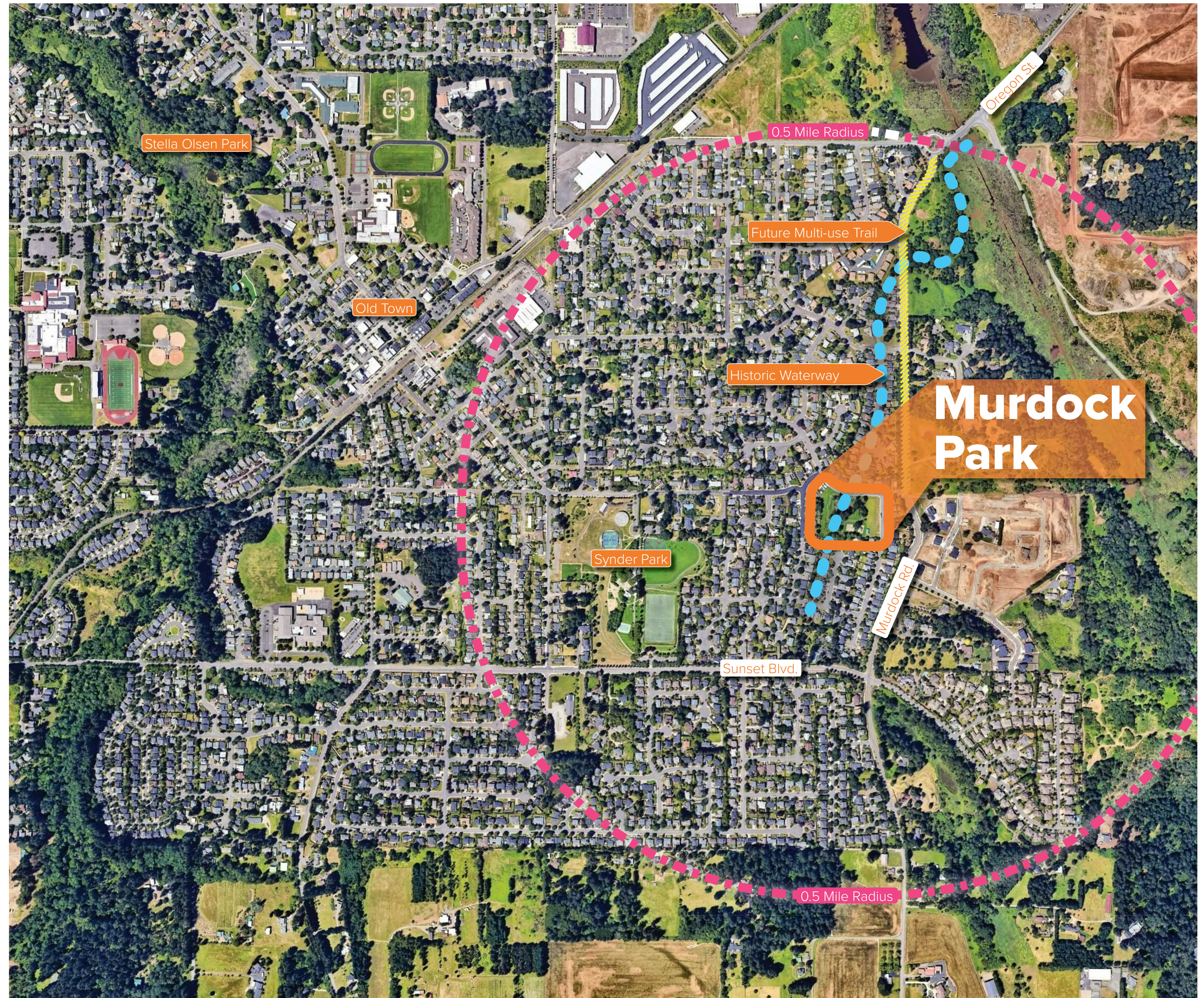
The project began in January 2024 and is anticipated to wrap up by the end of August 2024. See the schedule below for more information on the master plan process.





# SITE CONTEXT













The 2021 City of Sherwood Parks and Recreation Master Plan classifies Murdock Park as a neighborhood park. These types of parks are intended to provide close-to-home recreation opportunities for nearby residents who typically live within walking and bicycling distance of the park.





# 2021 PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN

## Legend

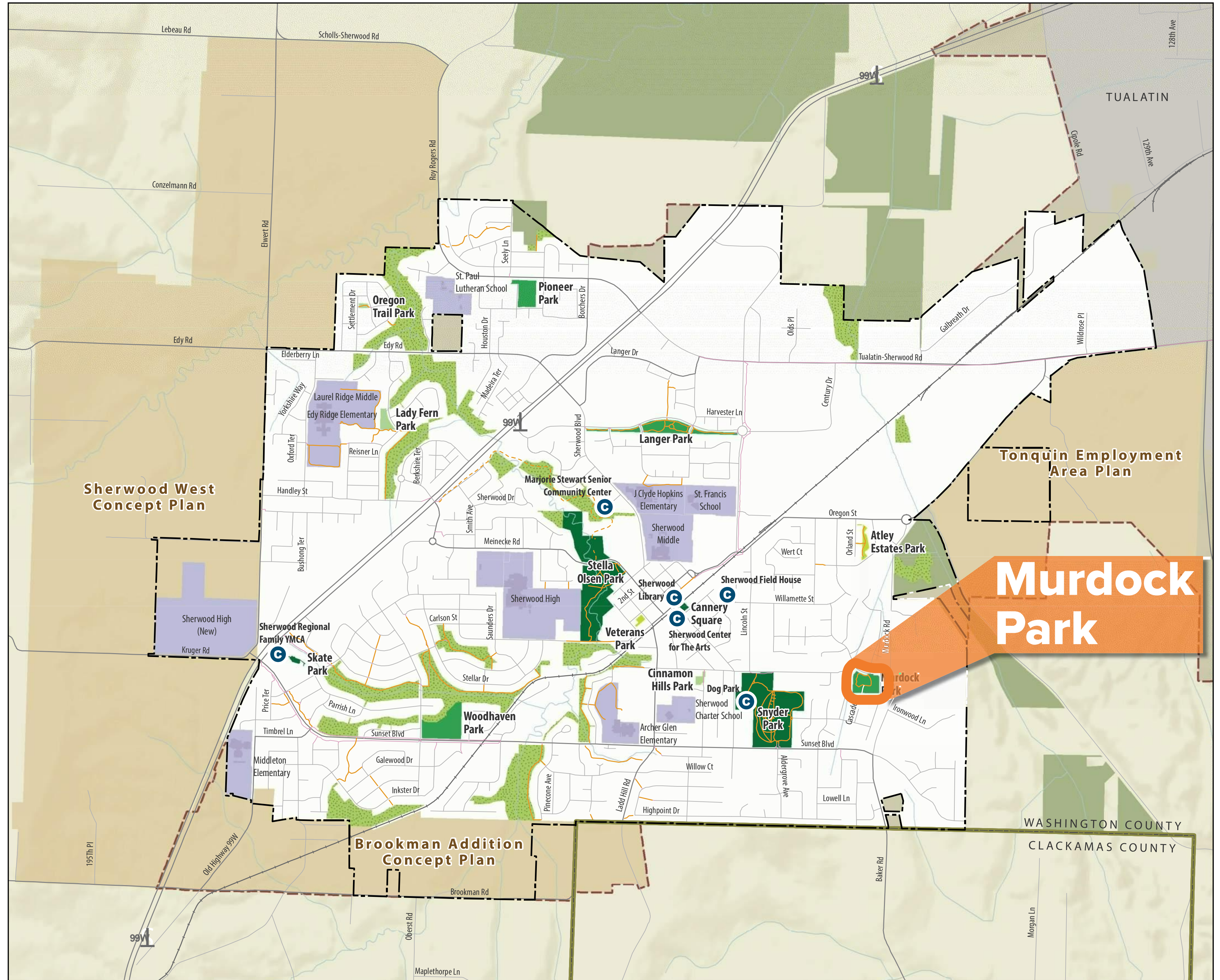
 Community Park	 Natural Areas	 Trails and Paths	 Other Facilities
 Neighborhood Park	 City of Sherwood Owned Natural Areas	 Existing Trails	 Community Facilities
 Pocket Park	 Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge	 Future Trails	 Schools
 Open Space		 Separated Bike Paths	
 Concept Plan Areas			



The Master Plan for Murdock Park is a result of the 2021 City of Sherwood Parks and Recreation Master Plan, which has provided a framework to guide the City in setting priorities and making decisions about parks, trails, open space, natural areas, recreation facilities, and programs as well as providing design guidelines for parks and facilities.

The following recommendations were made for Murdock Park:

- Create a master plan to guide improvements.
- Enhance the play experience, including incorporating nature play elements and climbing features. Consider relocating the play area to the north of the shelter.
- Consider adding a sport court.
- Create a longer walking loop with a measured distance.
- Add more native vegetation around the stormwater pond and develop a picnic area or small picnic shelter overlooking the pond.
- Convert turf not being used for recreation to ecolawn or drought resilient plants to reduce mowing needs and increase landscape complexity.
- Plant more shade trees.
- Add a restroom.
- Add more recreation amenities consistent with design guidelines for neighborhood parks.





# EXISTING CONDITIONS

Which elements of Murdock Park are most important to you?

1 Pond



2 Pathways



3 Pond Overlook



4 Drainage Swale



5 Swale Crossing



6 Benches



Murdock Park features amenities such as a playground, multi-use walkways, covered picnic shelter, benches, picnic tables, flexible use lawn areas, and a stormwater retention pond with natural elements and an observation deck.

7 Park Sign



8 Restroom



9 Swing Set



10 Playground



11 Picnic Shelter



12 East Lawn





# SITE ANALYSIS

A fundamental step in creating a successful plan for the future of Murdock Park requires an understanding of the opportunities and constraints of the existing park. This plan illustrates some of the site features, environmental factors, and park elements that will affect how potential future improvements will be implemented.

## Legend

- Area of Moderate Slopes**  
 These areas are sloped enough that consideration will be needed for any programming in these spaces. Maintaining accessible pathways through these areas could require some re-grading.
- Area of Steep Slopes**  
 These areas are sloped steeply and could potentially require significant re-grading in order to make these areas viable for park programming.
- Pathway Accessibility**  
 These highlighted sections of pathways do not meet the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards for accessibility due to the slopes being too high.
- There are only two pathway entrances into the park, from the north and the south, limiting accessibility into the park. In addition, there is no paved pathway to the picnic shelter.
- Fences at Property Line**  
 The west and south boundaries of the park back onto houses with fences along the property line. Site activities must be designed in a manner that minimizes disturbance to neighbors.
- Tree Condition**  
 These trees are in good condition.
- These trees are in okay condition, however they are showing signs of stress or have the potential to become safety and/or maintenance concerns.
- These trees are in poor condition. Although not currently safety concerns, they show signs of decline and should be monitored.
- Existing Culvert**  
 The existing culvert is near the end of its design life. As such, there are opportunities to reconsider this crossing and related chain link fences.
- Wetland Setback**  
 The pond will be regulated by Clean Water Services, meaning that there will be a 50 ft. planted buffer. This buffer will have strict requirements on the types of programming that can occur in this zone.

Are there any other issues that we should consider?





# GUIDING PRINCIPLES



Based on direction from the 2021 Parks and Recreation Master Plan, the following guiding principles have been established as a starting point for this study.

## Provide Green Solutions:

Add more native vegetation around the stormwater pond, convert turf not being used for recreation to ecolawn or drought resilient plants, increase landscape complexity, and plant more shade trees.

## Promote Health and Accessibility:

The park should be a place for people of all ages, abilities, and recreation interest.

## Enhance the Play Experience:

Build upon the existing playground and incorporate additional amenities, such as nature play elements and climbing features. Consider the location of elements to create a playful space that inspires joy.

## Improve and Expand Park Amenities:

The Plan for Murdock Park must provide recreation amenities consistent with design guidelines for neighborhood parks, such as a picnic shelter overlooking the pond, a restroom, a sport court, and an enhanced path network with additional connections, a longer loop, and embedded measured distances.

## Elevated Park Design:

The design of Murdock Park should inspire delight and be enduring and meaningful to the residents of Sherwood. Opportunities to express Sherwood's identity by integrating cultural, historic, and place-based art and interpretation should be capitalized on.





# PROVIDE GREEN SOLUTIONS

Which natural elements are most important to you?



Increasing plant diversity / add more variety of plants



Protecting existing trees



Providing sustainable lawns



Use natural materials throughout the park



Enhancing the stormwater pond with native plantings



Adding new shade trees



# PROMOTE HEALTH AND ACCESSIBILITY

What types of park elements would make Murdock Park more welcoming to you?



More seating



Quiet places in nature



Places for community gatherings



Accessible pathways with more connections to park amenities and the neighborhood



Public restroom



# ENHANCE THE PLAY EXPERIENCE

What type of play areas would you like to see most?



Nature Play



Modern Play Features



A combination of nature and modern



Inclusive Play



Flexible Lawn Space



Mounds or Landforms



# IMPROVE AND EXPAND PARK AMENITIES

What types of amenities would you like to see added to Murdock Park?



Basketball Courts



Ping-Pong Tables



Four Square



Chess Tables



Expanded path network with measured distances



Drinking Fountains



Public Restroom



Small Scale Seating Areas



Places to Lounge



Exercise Equipment



# ELEVATED PARK DESIGN

What types of special design elements would like to see in Murdock Park



Covered seating and/or flexible seating



Public art



Informal seating area incorporated into the landscape



Central gathering space



Interpretive signage



Pond paths/boardwalk



Informal seating around the pond



Improved pond overlook



Tree Removal Pioneer Park  
March 2024

March 4, 2024



# Pioneer Park



## HALSTEAD'S ARBORICULTURE CONSULTANTS

www.halsteadsarbor.com

P.O. Box 1162 • Tualatin, OR 97062  
(503) 245-1383

January 31, 2024

ATTN: Mr. Trey Hoekstra  
City of Sherwood  
15527 SW Willamette Street  
Sherwood, OR 97140  
(503) 625-0679 fax

*Reference:* Tree Assessment  
*Location:* Pioneer Park Behind 20693 SW Lavender Ave. Sherwood, OR  
*Subject:* Oregon Bigleaf Maple

*Per your request, I inspected one Oregon bigleaf maple (Acer macrophyllum) located at Pioneer Park to determine the tree's condition.*

**Description:** One Oregon bigleaf maple (*Acer macrophyllum*). The tree's height is approximately twenty-seven feet tall with a trunk diameter of twelve-inches as measured four and a half feet above ground level. The canopy spreads measure approximately sixteen feet in diameter.

**Evaluation:** The health of tree is poor as indicated by below normal bud development. The structure of the tree is rated fair to poor, due to one large wound along the main stem. The wound exhibits good forming wound wood however severe decay was found in the main trunk.

**Results:** Due to the tree's poor condition, target zone and consequences of failure, I recommend the tree be removed.

*If further information is needed, please call.*

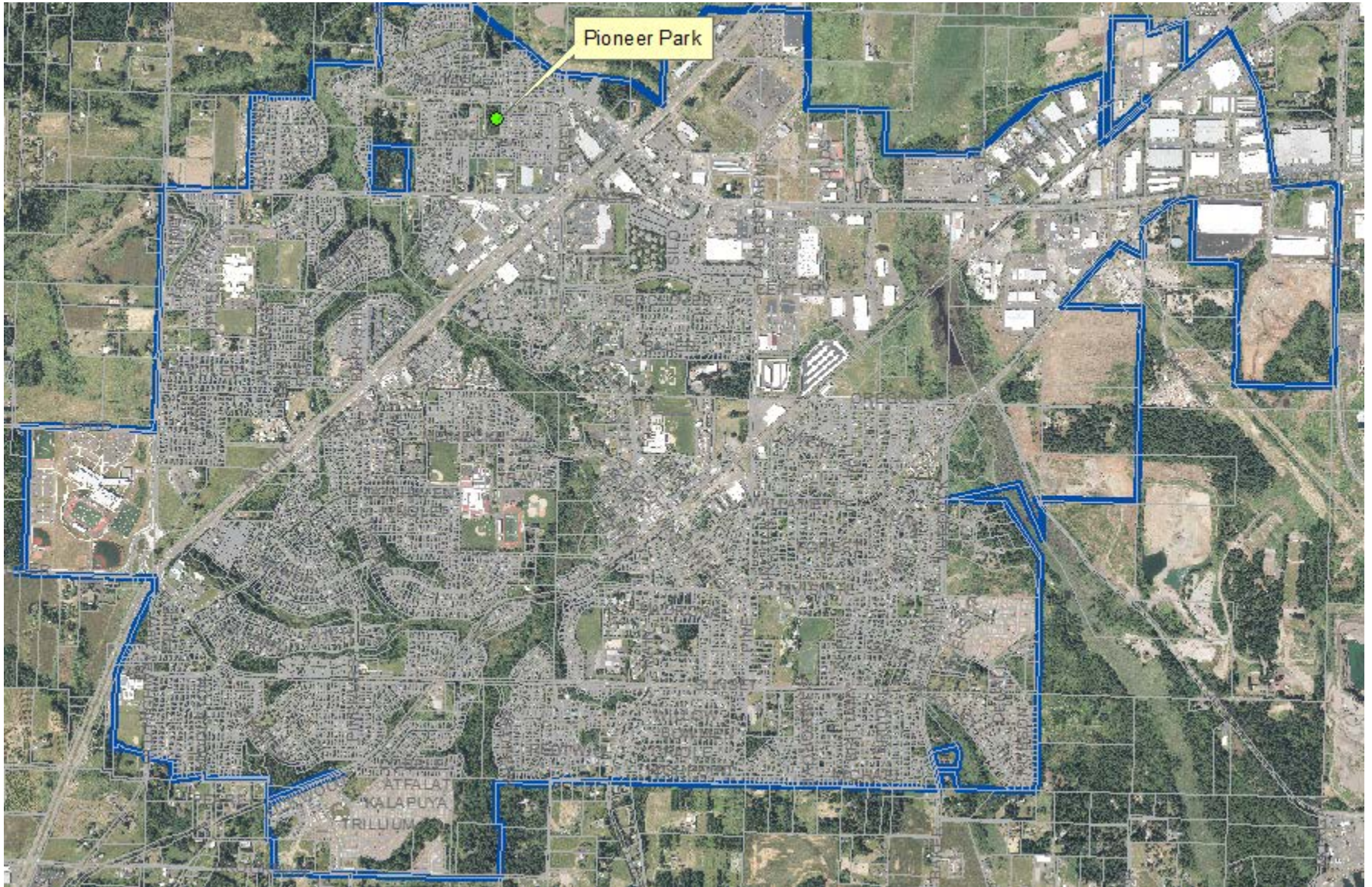
Sincerely,

Matthew Evans  
ISA Certified Arborist PN-9760A  
ISA Member/PNW ISA Member

"Specialists in the Care and  
Preservation of Trees"

- Remove 1 Oregon Bigleaf Maple due to poor condition and decay in the main trunk
- Plant back a replacement tree within the Park





Tree Removal Location