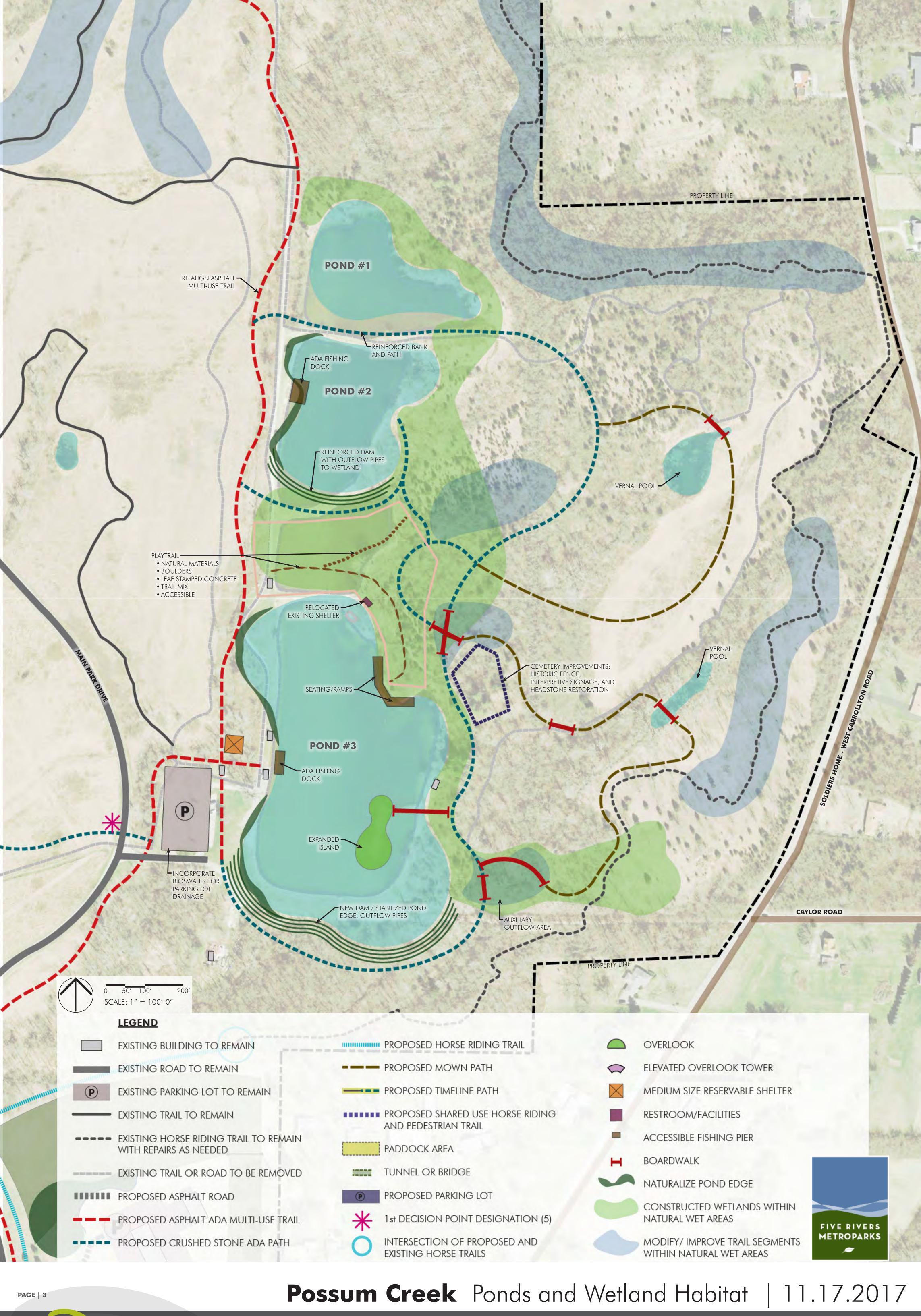
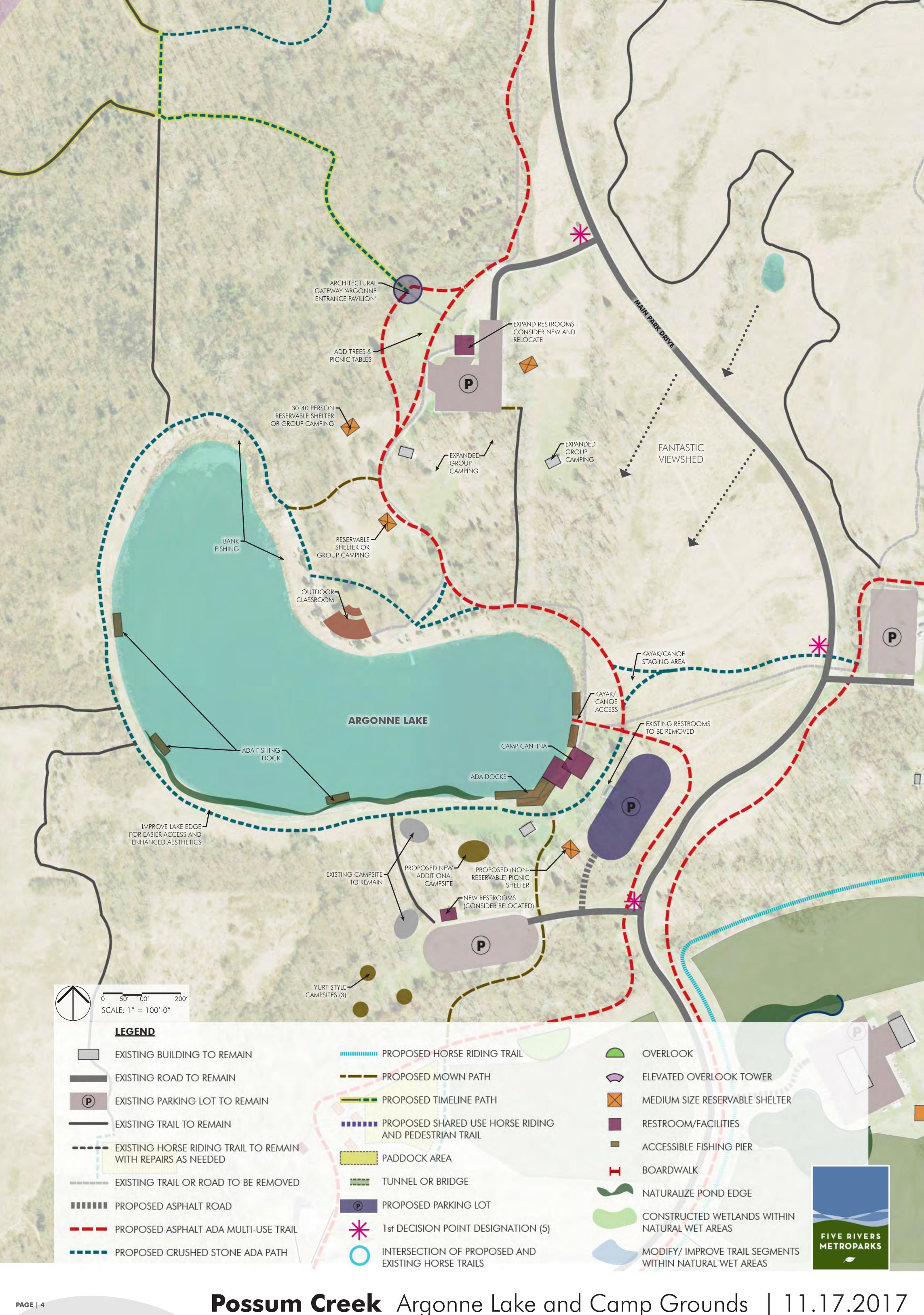
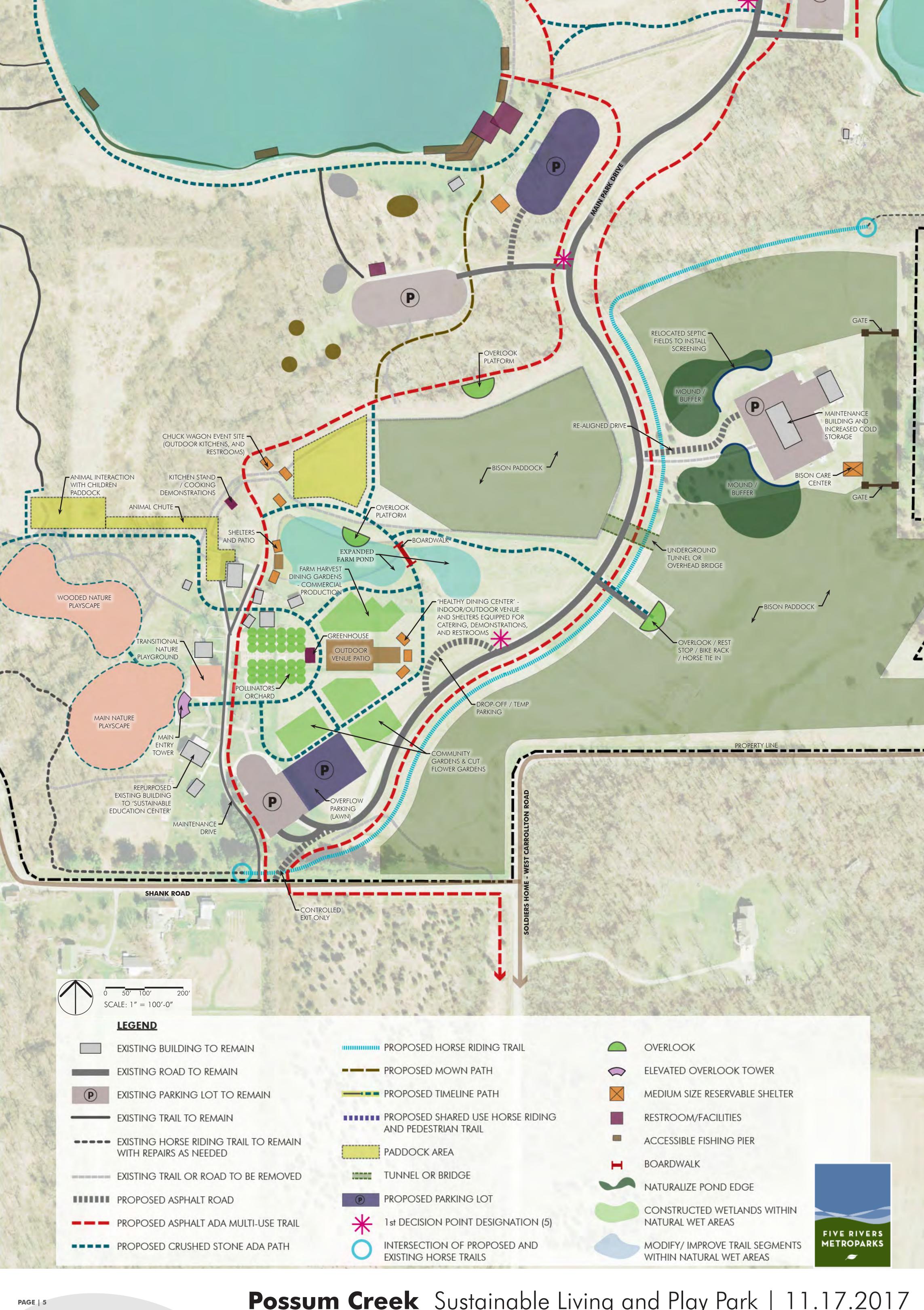


Possum Creek Main Entry and Prairie Drive | 11.17.2017





Possum Creek Argonne Lake and Camp Grounds



Possum Creek Sustainable Living and Play Park | 11.17.2017

POSSUM CREEK METROPARK

555.85 acres

Possum Creek MetroPark consists largely of former farmland that is going through the process of natural succession. Significant natural features include Possum Creek and its floodplain in bottomland hardwoods, two mature beech woodlots, and numerous created ponds and wetlands. Over 100 acres of degraded farmland and dumps have been cleared and planted into native Ohio prairie. The prairie took years to establish, but now thrives on the poor ground. It is currently one of the largest and most diverse planted prairies in Ohio.

Although the land that is now Possum Creek MetroPark has been dramatically changed by past land use, it stands today as a splendid example of what can be achieved with proper stewardship and restoration, and is a delightful place for the naturalist, hiker, or family.

Goals:

- 1. To preserve the existing mature woodlands. Control of honeysuckle and other invasive species in designated areas
- To permit natural succession to occur in the designated areas to maximize forest size and minimize edge effect within large tracts. Reintroduction and planting of native mast species in designated areas to augment succession and ensure a diverse future forest.
- 3. To protect and manage the existing tall grass prairie plantings to reflect a southwest Ohio prairie remnant.
- 4. To manage meadows to maximize habitat for grassland nesting birds.
- 5. To maintain sufficient border of transition vegetation between meadow and forest, referred to as the "edge"plants and animals. To maintain sufficient edge/thicket habitat, a transitional habitat important to many types of wildlife. Reintroduction of native shrubs in designated areas to promote re-establishment of these species.
- 6. To manage special habitats such as pond/lake edge vegetation, wetlands, and ponds.
- 7. To manage Argonne Lake for wildlife habitat and recreational fishing.
- 8. To design and maintain hiking and horse trails to maximize the experience of the user and integrity of the managed habitats.

