BOZEMAN MT

THE SUSTAINABILITY BOARD OF BOZEMAN, MONTANA

SB AGENDA

Wednesday, October 14, 2026

General information about the Sustainability Board can be found in our Laserfiche repository.

If you are interested in commenting in writing on items on the agenda please send an email to comments@bozeman.net or by visiting the Public Comment Page prior to 12:00pm on the day of the meeting. At the direction of the City Commission, anonymous public comments are not distributed to the Board or staff.
Public comments will also be accepted in-person and through Video Conference during the appropriate agenda items.
As always, the meeting will be streamed through the Commission's video page and available in the City on cable channel 190.
For more information please contact Natalie Meyer, nmeyer@bozeman.net

A. Call to Order - 6:00 PM

This meeting will be held both in-person and also using an online videoconferencing system. You can join this meeting:
Via Video Conference:
Click the Register link, enter the required information, and click submit.
Click Join Now to enter the meeting.

***Via Phone:** This is for listening only if you cannot watch the stream, channel 190, or attend in-person*
United States Toll
+1 346 248 7799
Access code: 934 9305 9514

B. Disclosures

C. Changes to the Agenda

D. Public Service Announcements

E. Approval of Minutes

E.1 Approve the September 9, 2026 Sustainability Advisory Board Minutes (Carlson-Ham)
Approve the September 9, 2026 Sustainability Advisory Board Minutes.

F. Consent Items

G. Public Comments on Non-agenda Items Falling within the Purview and Jurisdiction of the Board

This is the time to comment on any non-agenda matter falling within the scope of the Sustainability Board. There will also be time in conjunction with each agenda item for public comment relating to that item but you may only speak once per topic. Please note, the Board cannot take action on any item which does not appear on the agenda. All persons addressing the Board shall speak in a civil and courteous manner and members of the audience shall be respectful of others. Please state your name, and state whether you are a resident of the city or a property owner within the city in an audible tone of voice for the record and limit your comments to three minutes.
General public comments to the Board can be found on their ***Laserfiche repository page.***

H. Special Presentations

I. Action Items

J. FYI/Discussion

J.1 Northwest Bozeman Area Plan(Naumann)

J.2 Bozeman Creek Vision Plan - Work Session(Henderson)

K. Adjournment

This board generally meets on the second Wednesday of the month 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

Citizen Advisory Board meetings are open to all members the public. If you have a disability that requires assistance, please contact our ADA Coordinator, David Arnado, at 406.582.3232.

BOZEMAN MT

Memorandum

REPORT TO: Sustainability Board

FROM: Kesslie Carlson-Ham, Sustainability Program Analyst
Natalie Meyer, Sustainability Program Manager

SUBJECT: Approve the September 9, 2026 Sustainability Advisory Board Minutes

MEETING DATE: October 14, 2026

AGENDA ITEM TYPE: Minutes

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the September 9, 2026 Sustainability Advisory Board Minutes.

STRATEGIC PLAN: 1.2 Community Engagement: Broaden and deepen engagement of the community in city government, innovating methods for inviting input from the community and stakeholders.

BACKGROUND: In accordance with Commission Resolution 5323 and the City of Bozeman's Citizen Advisory Board Manual, all Boards must have minutes taken and approved. Prepared minutes will be provided for approval by the board at the next scheduled meeting. Staff will make any corrections identified in the minutes before submitting them to the City Clerk's Office.

UNRESOLVED ISSUES: None.

ALTERNATIVES: As suggested by the Board.

FISCAL EFFECTS: None.

Attachments:
09-09-2026 Sustainability Advisory Board.pdf

Report compiled on: October 8, 2026

THE SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING OF BOZEMAN, MONTANA

MINUTES

09/09/2026

General information about the Sustainability Board can be found in our Laserfiche repository.

A) 00:06:26 Call to Order - 6:00 PM

B) 00:09:00 Disclosures

C) 00:07:12 Changes to the Agenda

D) 00:07:25 Approval of Minutes

D.1 00:07:34 Approve the July 8, 2026 Sustainability Advisory Board Minutes
07-08-2026 Sustainability Advisory Board.pdf

00:07:58 Motion *to approve* Approve the July 8, 2026 Sustainability Advisory Board Minutes.

Kendra Kallevig: Motion

Erin D Jackson: 2nd

00:08:43 Vote on the Motion *to approve Approve the July 8, 2026 Sustainability Advisory Board Minutes.*
The Motion carried 4 - 0.

Approve:

Kristin Blackler

Kendra Kallevig

Brooke Lahneman

Erin D Jackson

Disapprove:

None

E) 00:11:02 Public Comments on Non-agenda Items Falling within the Purview and Jurisdiction of the Board

F) 00:11:16 Special Presentations

F.1 00:11:19 Water Conservation Division Special Presentation on Drought Management

G) 01:00:44 FYI/Discussion

G.1 01:00:54 Sustainability Division Updates

H) 01:22:29 Adjournment

This board generally meets on the second Wednesday of the month 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

BOZEMAN MT

Memorandum

REPORT TO: Sustainability Board

FROM: Chris Naumann, Sanbell
Shawn Kohtz, Director of Utilities

SUBJECT: Northwest Bozeman Area Plan

MEETING DATE: October 14, 2026

AGENDA ITEM TYPE: Plan/Report/Study

RECOMMENDATION: Work Session - No Action.

STRATEGIC PLAN: 4.3 Strategic Infrastructure Choices: Prioritize long-term investment and maintenance for existing and new infrastructure.

BACKGROUND: This planning effort is connected to the proposed Gooch Hill Sanitary Sewer Lift Station, which will provide the infrastructure necessary to support future development in this area. While the lift station is a separate engineering project, the Area plan will guide how this area develops after the lift station is operational. The Area plan will address potential land uses, transportation connections, parks and open space, public infrastructure coordination, and protection of natural resources.

The draft Area plan was published on October 8, 2026, on the Engage Bozeman project page.

UNRESOLVED ISSUES: None.

ALTERNATIVES: As suggested by the board.

FISCAL EFFECTS: None.

Attachments:
Northwest Bozeman Area Plan Sustainability Board Packet 101426.pdf

Report compiled on: October 8, 2026

Northwest Bozeman Area Plan

Sustainability Board Work Session

October 14, 2026

Area Plan Overview

The Northwest Bozeman Area Plan is the culmination of a long-range planning effort focused on approximately 3,000 acres in the northwest corner of the City's growth boundary.

The City of Bozeman initiated this planning effort in connection with the proposed Gooch Hill Sanitary Sewer Lift Station, which will provide the infrastructure necessary to support future development in this area. While the lift station is a separate engineering project, the Area Plan guides how this area develops after the lift station is operational. The Area Plan addresses potential land uses, transportation connections, parks and open space, public infrastructure coordination, and protection of natural resources.

The purpose of the Area Plan is not to maintain the status quo, but to thoughtfully envision the area's transition over time as growth continues. The Area Plan aligns with the Bozeman Community Plan and other adopted City plans to ensure future development reflects community priorities and citywide goals.

The Northwest Bozeman Area Plan is not a development plan but rather a long-range vision plan. The Area Plan provides general guidance and does not establish regulations. The Area Plan does not require property owners to develop their land. It does not dictate when development will occur. Property owners retain the right to decide whether, when, and how they pursue development, subject to applicable city regulations.

The area plan serves as a long-range vision that helps protect natural resources, guides infrastructure improvements, and facilitates land use decisions as growth occurs over time.

In short, the goal of the Northwest Bozeman Area Plan is to proactively shape one of Bozeman's key growth areas before development occurs.

Existing Conditions

The Northwest Bozeman Area Plan boundary includes approximately 3,000 acres south of Interstate 90 between Bozeman and Belgrade. Most of the planning area is

outside of the current Bozeman city limits consisting of private property primarily used for agriculture. The planning area also includes numerous residences along the eastern boundary including the Valley Center and Northwest Crossing subdivision.

The planning area contains dozens of natural and man-made water courses. Most notably Aajker and Baxter Creeks traverse this geography south to north with McDonald Creek crossing the southwest corner of the planning area. Numerous primary and secondary irrigation ditches crisscross this area. A significant amount of wetland and riparian habitat flank these water courses.

The topography is relatively flat, gently sloping from south to north with elevations ranging between 4,500 and 4,750 feet above sea level. There are several small areas with slopes greater than 25% along parts of Harper Pucket Road, Baxter Creek, and a few abandoned railroad spurs.

Very few paved roads bisect the planning area. The primary north-south roads include Cottonwood, Harper Pucket and Hidden Valley. The primary east-west corridors include East Valley Center, Baxter Lane, Oak Street, and Durston Road. Almost no City services for water and sewer exist within the planning area.

Area Plan Location

The Northwest Bozeman Area Plan boundary was determined by the portions of the two drainage basins to be partially services by the Gooch Hill Sewer Lift Station; more specifically, the northern portion of the Aajker Creek basin and the western half of the Lower Baxter Creek basin.

The planning area is defined by the existing and future road network. East Valley Center Road establishes the entire length of the northern plan boundary. The eastern and southern plan boundary align with Durston Road, Oak Street, Cottonwood Road, Cattail Street, and the potential future extension of Ferguson Avenue north back to East Valley Center. The western plan boundary runs north-south approximately one-half mile east of Love Lane.

Approximately 250 acres of the planning area is currently included in the Bozeman city limits located northwest of the Cottonwood and Oak intersection. The remaining 2,750 acres of planning area falls within the jurisdiction of Gallatin County. Gallatin County zoning designations within the planning area include in order of prevalence: unzoned, RR/A, AS, R-MH, and RS.

There are several other overlapping jurisdictions. Most of the planning area is within the Central Valley and Hyalite Fire Districts. Bozeman Elementary and Highs School District #7 covers much of the planning area with a small portion of the Belgrade Elementary and High School District #44 overlapping the northwest corner.

Planning Context

The Northwest Bozeman Area Plan geography is included within numerous jurisdictional planning boundaries including the City of Bozeman Community Plan, the Triangle Community Plan, and the newly formed Gallatin Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization.

The primary purpose of the Area Plan is to provide land use guidance when any of the private properties within the planning boundary are annexed into the City of Bozeman. Therefore, the Area Plan is primarily based upon the goals of the Bozeman Community Plan.

Community and land use planning in Montana is defined and governed by the 2023 Montana Land Use Planning Act. A land use plan, commonly called a community plan or growth policy, establishes community goals related to land use, housing, natural resources, economic development, public facilities, and local services. State law allows for the adoption of area plans that are consistent with the overall land use plan. The current City of Bozeman land use plan was adopted as the 2025 Bozeman Community Plan. The Community Plan establishes the fundamental vision for guiding the continued growth of the community and articulates the citizenry's priority to maintain Bozeman as "a flourishing, safe, healthy, and a vibrant place to live, work, and raise a family."

The Northwest Bozeman Area Plan directly supports and advances the seven themes established in the Bozeman Community Plan.

1. A Resilient City
2. A City of Unique Neighborhoods
3. A City Bolstered by Downtown and Complimentary Districts
4. A City Influenced by Our Natural Environment, Parks, and Open Lands
5. A City that Prioritizes Accessibility and Mobility Choices
6. A City Powered by its Creative, Innovative, and Entrepreneurial Economy
7. A City Engaged in Regional Coordination

The Area Plan incorporates by reference the content of the Community Plan for detailed information and projections relating to socio-cultural demographics, economic development, and infrastructure planning, in addition to the adoption and amendment processes. The Northwest Bozeman Area Plan will become an amendment to the Bozeman Community Plan. As such, the process to formulate and adopt the Area Plan meets the land use plan requirements established by state law.

Vision Overview

The Northwest Bozeman Area Plan vision is to protect existing natural resources to the greatest extent possible while thoughtfully planning for the public infrastructure and private development to meet the needs of a growing community.

The 2025 Bozeman Community Plan and the 2020 Triangle Community Plan provide the foundation upon which the Northwest Bozeman Area Plan was built. These guiding documents capture the diverse perspectives of Gallatin Valley residents and articulate the common values around community resilience, vibrancy, and sense of place.

More specifically, the Area Plan vision is informed by identifying the planning objectives, reflecting on the Community Plan themes, determining applicable future land use designations, and applying the framework elements. These components are described below and considered in more detail throughout the plan.

Planning Objectives

The Northwest Bozeman Area plan is structured around five planning objectives. These objectives reflect community values and guide future growth in ways that create safe, resilient, and inclusive neighborhoods. The following objectives were informed by the initial community engagement.

- Collaborate with partners to ensure alignment with adopted community plans
    - Considering the numerous overlapping jurisdictions and planning boundaries, it is imperative that the Area Plan build upon the proceeding planning processes. The goal is to apply the lessons learned from other plans to this particular geography.
- Engage the community to identify shared values to be reflected in the Area Plan
    - Community engagement helped guide and inform the Area Plan vision, planning objectives, and recommendations. The planning area has unique characteristics that resonate with the community and create a strong sense of place.
- Protect natural resources and sensitive lands within the regulatory framework
    - The quantity and quality of water courses, wetlands, and riparian habitat add tremendous ecological, social, and cultural value to the Gallatin Valley. Impacts to these natural resources should be minimized to the greatest extent possible.
- Plan infrastructure to provide access for vehicles, bicyclists, and pedestrians and sufficient capacity for public utilities
    - Future growth and annexation will require constructing a cohesive multimodal transportation network that accommodates vehicles,

bicyclists, and pedestrians. Public and private utilities will align with the transportation network.

- Promote a mix of land uses to enhance economic health and community vitality
    - The vision is to facilitate a diversity of services and amenities within or near new residential neighborhoods. Having convenient and proximate access to everyday needs reduces traffic and environmental impacts.

Framework Elements

The Northwest Bozeman Area Plan is structured around four framework elements that inform the alignment of natural resources, public infrastructure, active transportation, and future land uses. The purpose of the framework is to ensure that any future development on this land will create desirable neighborhoods that will thrive through a mix of uses, active transportation, unique identity, and natural resource protection.

The Natural Resources framework element identifies streams, ditches, wetlands, associated setback areas, and slopes exceeding 25 percent. These natural resources and environmental features represent important community assets within the planning area. Mapping these resources helps inform where future infrastructure and development should be directed to minimize impacts and preserve sensitive landscapes.

The Active Transportation framework element incorporates a network of shared use paths and natural trails to provide opportunities for non-motorized recreation and commuting. Paved shared use paths will typically follow the collector and arterial street network. Natural surface trails will align with watercourses and natural areas when possible.

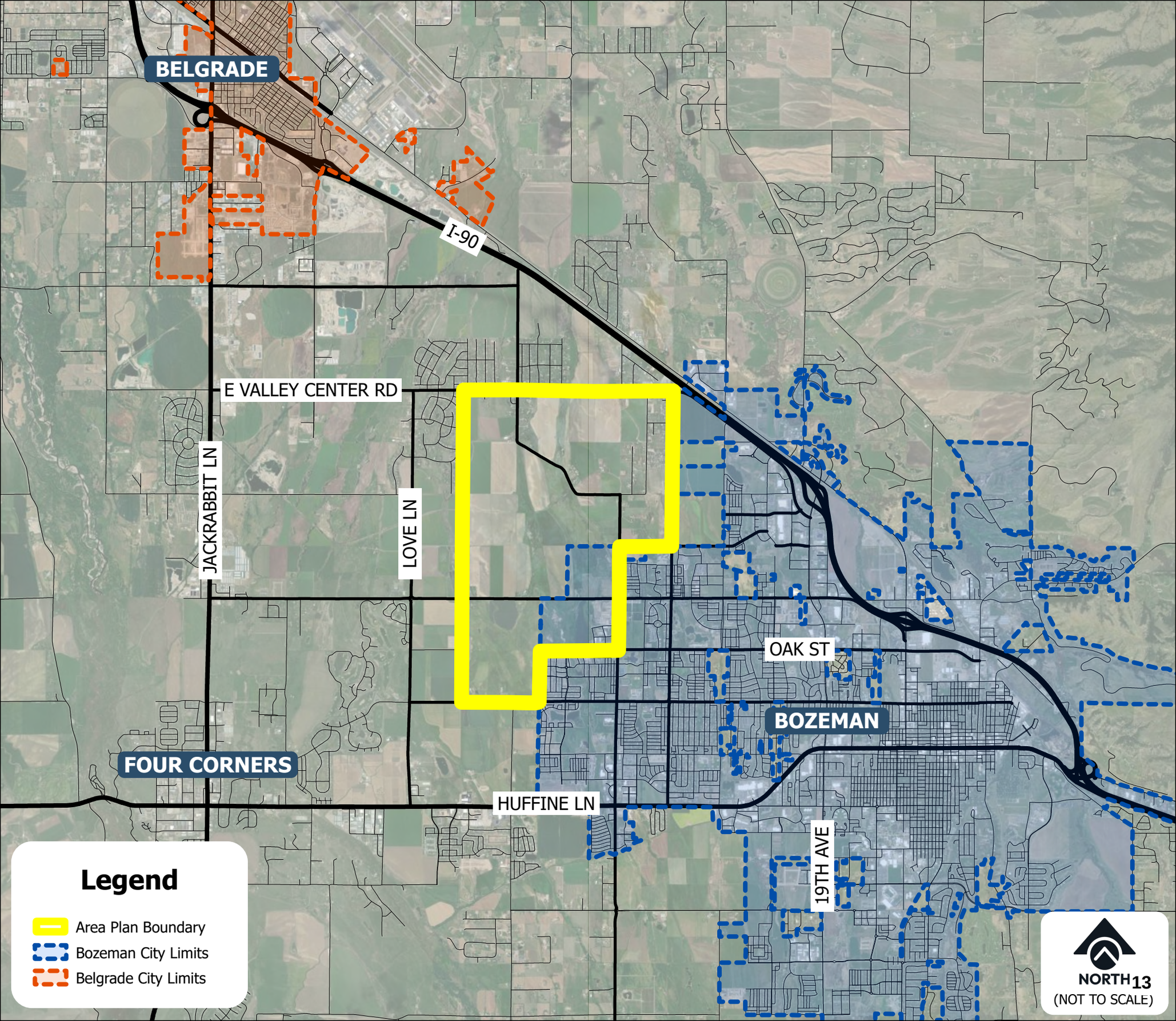
The Public Infrastructure framework element proposes a system of primary streets, water mains, sewer mains, and stormwater facilities. These infrastructure corridors are aligned to provide connectivity and distribution of services while minimizing natural resource impacts.

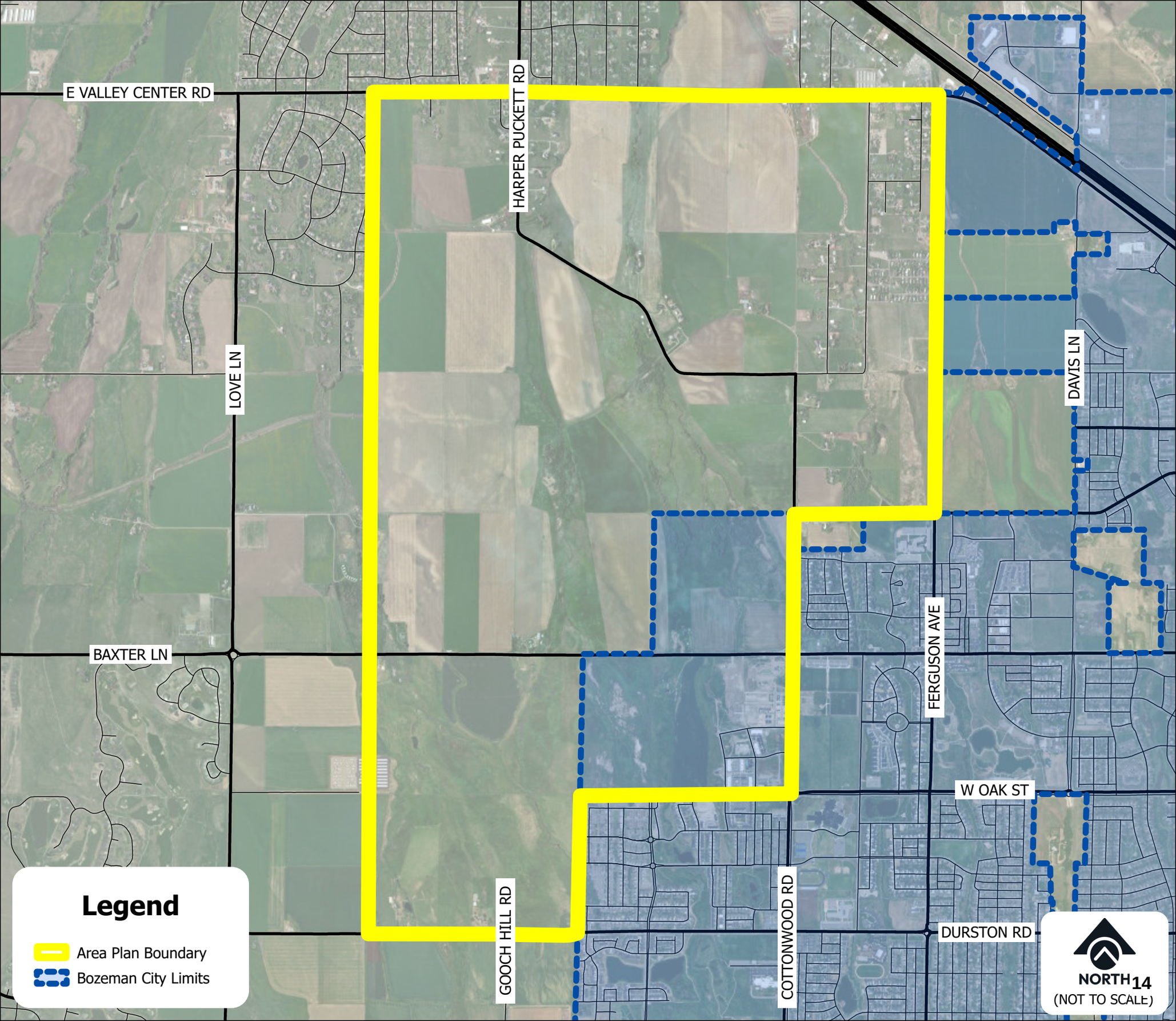
The Future Land Uses framework element revises the Community Plan Future Land Use Map to appropriately locate the various land uses. The locations were determined using a suitability analysis in ArcGIS to collocate the more intense and commercial oriented land uses along primary transportation corridors and at major street intersections.

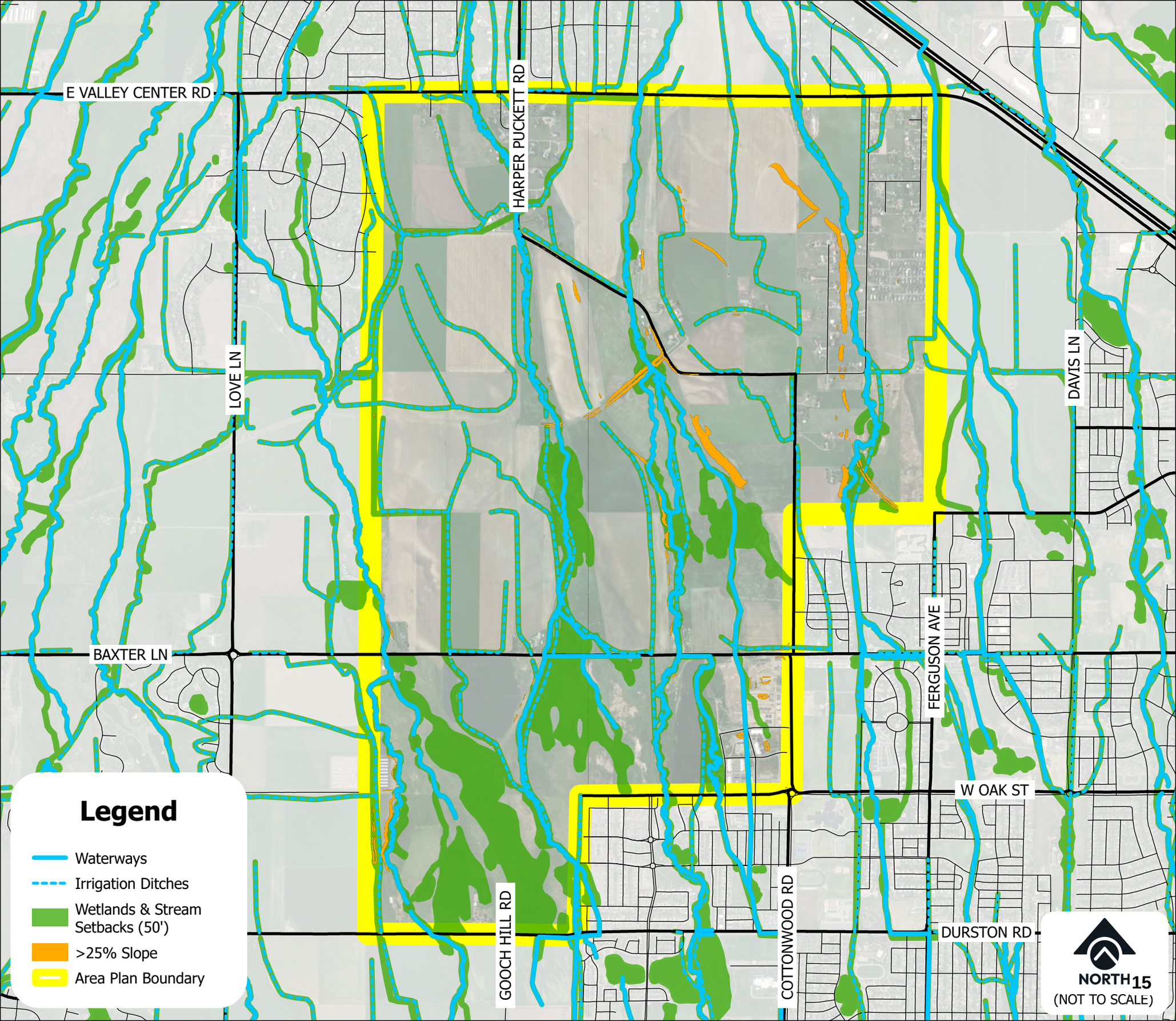
All four element layers are combined and create a comprehensive framework to guide future development. Natural resources establish the base. Public infrastructure creates corridors for travel and utilities while minimizing impacts. The active

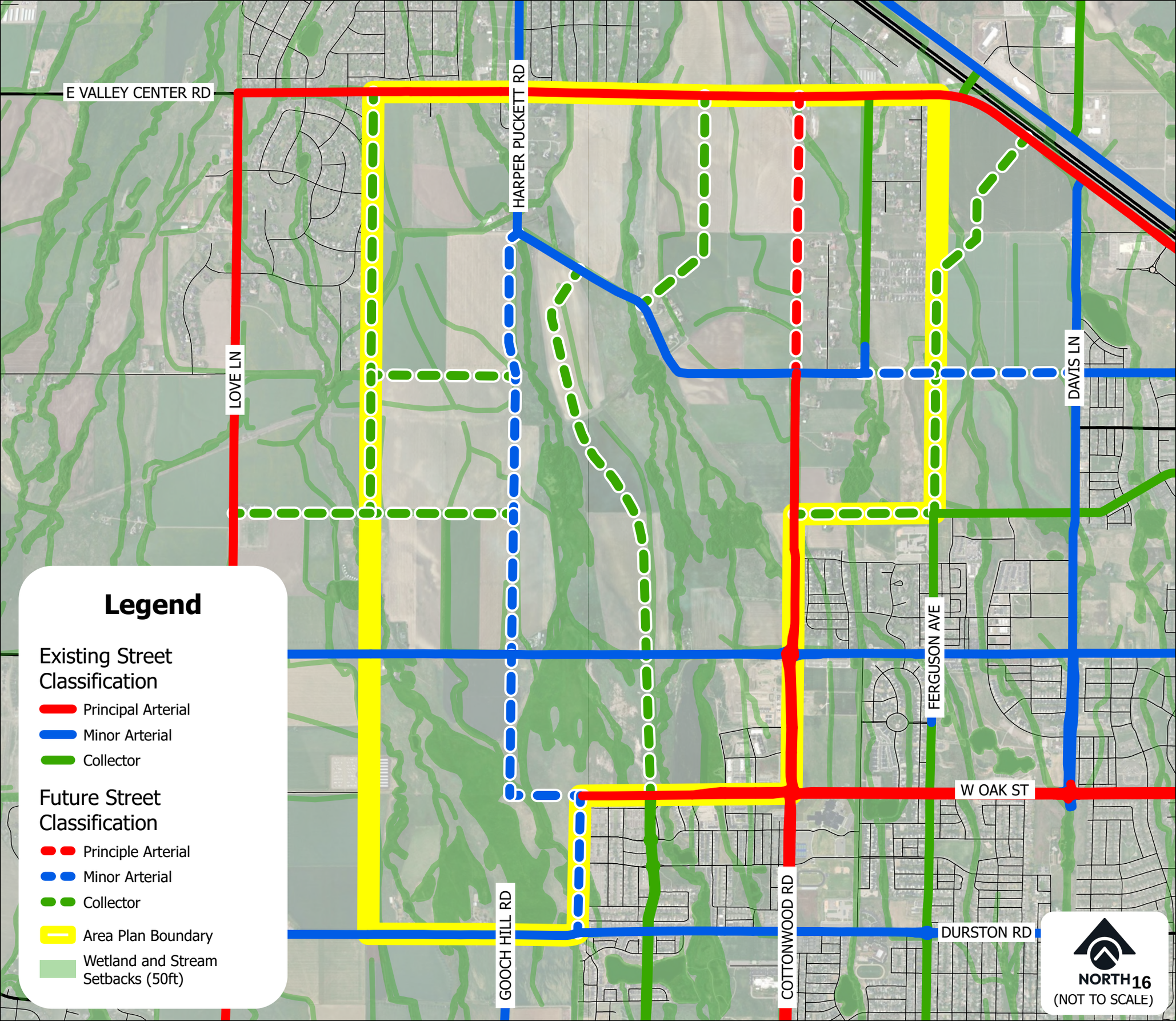
transportation system provides dedicated space and efficient connectivity for bicyclists and pedestrians. And, finally, future land uses are designated in the most suitable areas for the given densities.

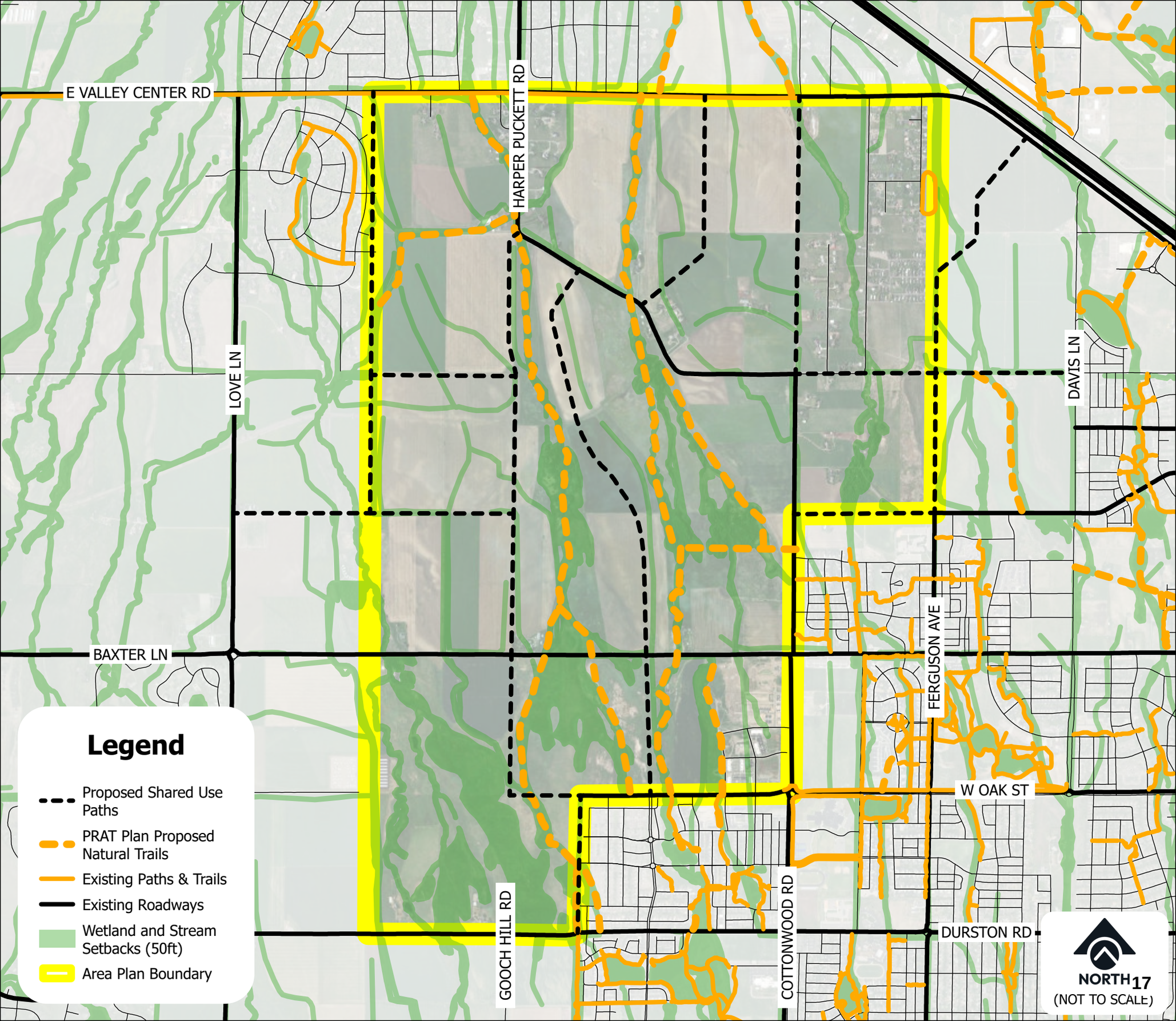
--FRAMEWORK MAPS ON FOLLOWING PAGES--

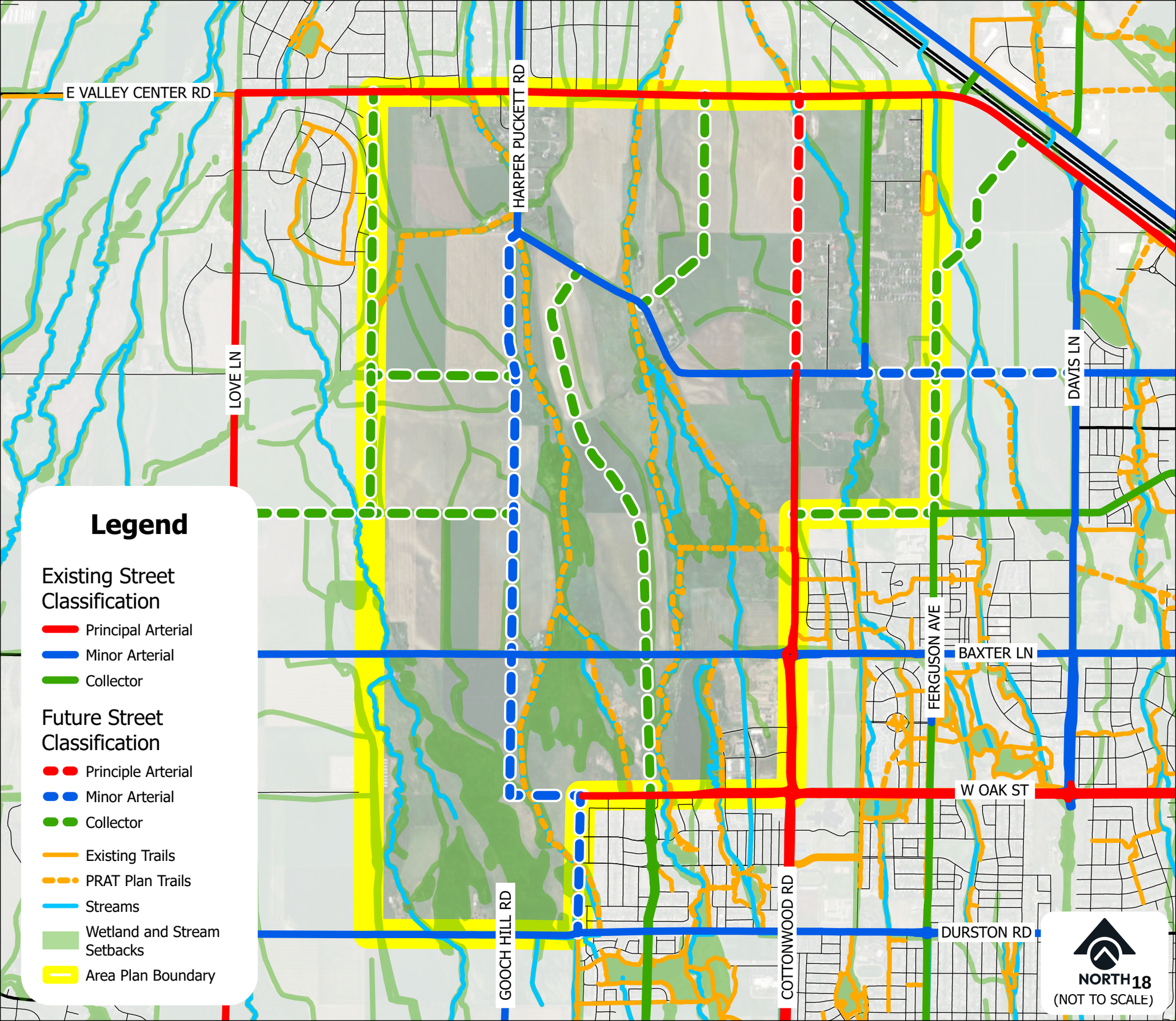

BELGRADE
I-90
E VALLEY CENTER RD
JACKRABBIT LN
LOVE LN
OAK ST
BOZEMAN
FOUR CORNERS
HUFFINE LN
19TH AVE
Legend
Area Plan Boundary
Bozeman City Limits
Belgrade City Limits
NORTH
13
(NOT TO SCALE)

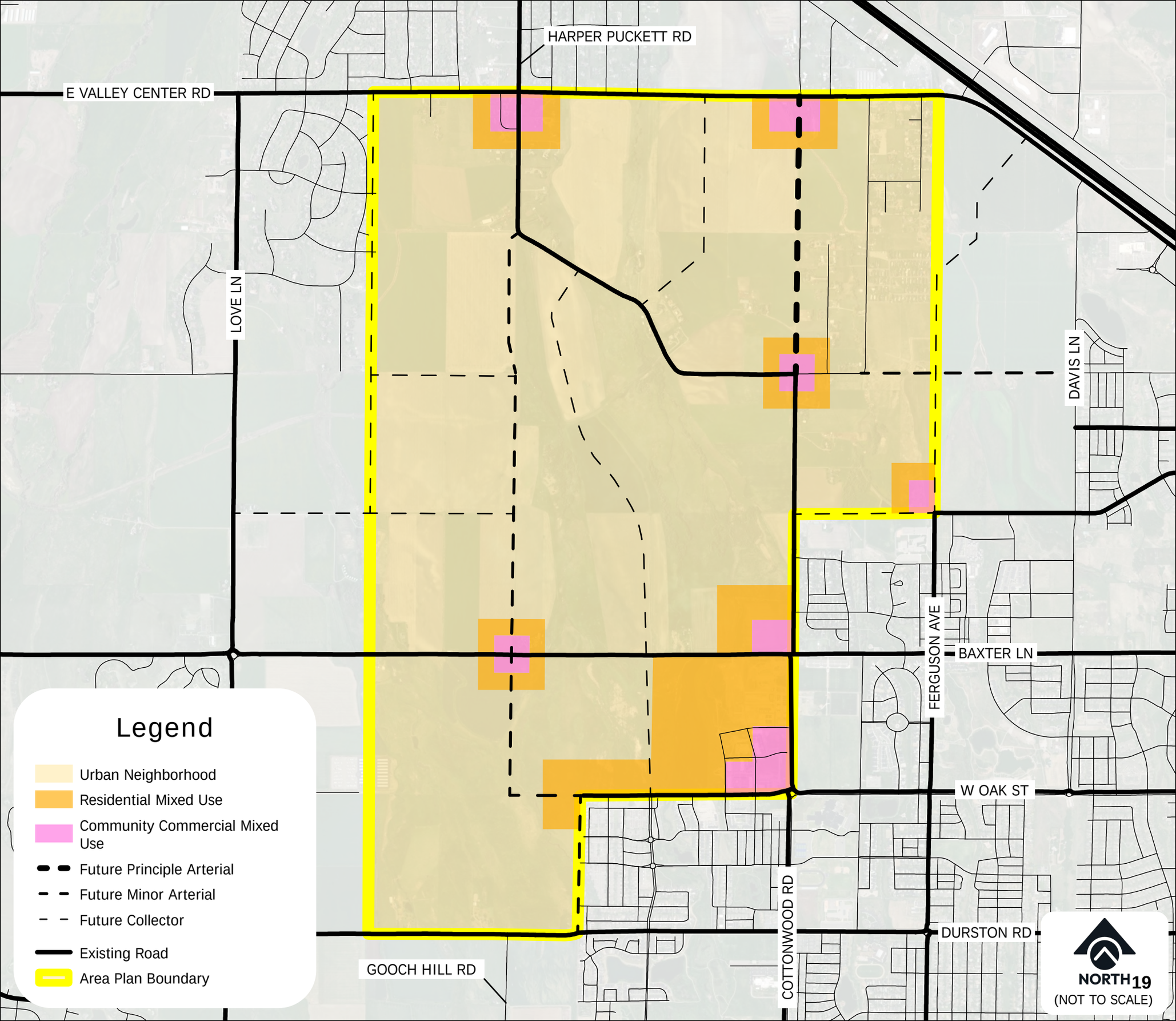

E VALLEY CENTER RD
HARPER PUCKETT RD
LOVE LN
DAVIS LN
BAXTER LN
FERGUSON AVE
W OAK ST
GOOCH HILL RD
COTTONWOOD RD
DURSTON RD
Legend
Area Plan Boundary
Bozeman City Limits
NORTH
14
(NOT TO SCALE)


E VALLEY CENTER RD
HARPER PUCKETT RD
LOVE LN
DAVIS LN
BAXTER LN
FERGUSON AVE
W OAK ST
GOOCH HILL RD
COTTONWOOD RD
DURSTON RD
Legend
Waterways
Irrigation Ditches
Wetlands & Stream Setbacks (50')
>25% Slope
Area Plan Boundary
NORTH
15
(NOT TO SCALE)


E VALLEY CENTER RD
HARPER PUCKETT RD
LOVE LN
DAVIS LN
FERGUSON AVE
W OAK ST
GOOCH HILL RD
COTTONWOOD RD
DURSTON RD
Legend
Existing Street Classification
Principal Arterial
Minor Arterial
Collector
Future Street Classification
Principle Arterial
Minor Arterial
Collector
Area Plan Boundary
Wetland and Stream Setbacks (50ft)
NORTH
16
(NOT TO SCALE)


E VALLEY CENTER RD
HARPER PUCKETT RD
LOVE LN
DAVIS LN
BAXTER LN
FERGUSON AVE
W OAK ST
GOOCH HILL RD
COTTONWOOD RD
DURSTON RD
Legend
Proposed Shared Use Paths
PRAT Plan Proposed Natural Trails
Existing Paths & Trails
Existing Roadways
Wetland and Stream Setbacks (50ft)
Area Plan Boundary
NORTH
17
(NOT TO SCALE)


E VALLEY CENTER RD
HARPER PUCKETT RD
LOVE LN
DAVIS LN
FERGUSON AVE
BAXTER LN
W OAK ST
GOOCH HILL RD
COTTONWOOD RD
DURSTON RD
Legend
Existing Street Classification
Principal Arterial
Minor Arterial
Collector
Future Street Classification
Principle Arterial
Minor Arterial
Collector
Existing Trails
PRAT Plan Trails
Streams
Wetland and Stream Setbacks
Area Plan Boundary
NORTH
18
(NOT TO SCALE)


HARPER PUCKETT RD
E VALLEY CENTER RD
LOVE LN
DAVIS LN
FERGUSON AVE
BAXTER LN
W OAK ST
COTTONWOOD RD
DURSTON RD
GOOCH HILL RD
Legend
Urban Neighborhood
Residential Mixed Use
Community Commercial Mixed Use
Future Principle Arterial
Future Minor Arterial
Future Collector
Existing Road
Area Plan Boundary
NORTH
19
(NOT TO SCALE)

BOZEMAN MT

Memorandum

REPORT TO: Sustainability Board

FROM: Jon Henderson, Assistant City Manager

SUBJECT: Bozeman Creek Vision Plan - Work Session

MEETING DATE: October 14, 2026

AGENDA ITEM TYPE: Plan/Report/Study

RECOMMENDATION: Bozeman Creek Vision Plan - Work Session

STRATEGIC PLAN: 6.6 Habitat: Work with partner organizations to identify at-risk, environmentally sensitive parcels contribute to water quality, wildlife corridors, and wildlife habitat.

BACKGROUND: The Bozeman Creek Vision Plan was approved as a City Commission priority on August 6th, 2024 via Resolution 5626 and further recognized in the 2025-2026 City Commission Priorities Work Plan adopted on June 23, 2026, in support of the following goals:

- Enhance flood mitigation efforts
- Improve water quality & ecological health
- Increase access and connectivity to parks & trails
- Support economic vitality opportunities
- Strengthen community connection to a vital resource

This project builds on previous work such as the 2012 Bozeman Creek Enhancement Plan, the 2020 Bozeman Creek Analysis Technical Assistance Grant Report, the 2023 Gallatin Valley Sensitive Lands Protection Plan , and the 2025 Bozeman Creek Flood Mitigation and Reclamation Preliminary Engineering Report, among other important efforts.

On December 9th, 2025, the City Commission adopted a Resolution approving a formal Community Engagement Plan, incorporating feedback received during an introduction to the project through a Special Presentation on October 7th, 2025.

PORT Architecture and Urbanism, LLC was selected following a competitive Request for Proposals and subsequently contracted under a Professional Services Agreement approved on January 27, 2026.

Furthermore, the City of Bozeman has partnered with SeeBozemanCreek in an effort to leverage the power of community-led interests towards a

holistic approach to achieving shared goals among a wide range of constituents.

A series of work sessions were held in February and April of 2026 with a wide variety of constituents, including Neighborhood Association representatives, Downtown Board members, Downtown property & business owners, Watershed Council leadership, SeeBozemanCreek Advisory Committee members, City staff, and others to begin exploring a number of project and policy options. Key takeaways included:

- A vision for Bozeman Creek should be in alignment with broader ecological context
- Emphasize quality of life improvements tied to enhanced ecosystem services
- Bozeman is becoming amenitized, which is not always aligned with community needs/goals
- The state and local legislative context is unique and nuanced
- A catastrophic flood event is not an 'if', but a 'when'

On June 2, 2026 a public open house was held at Soroptimist Park to give the community an opportunity to provide feedback on a number of "big ideas" that were generated through previous engagement, as described above.

On July 14, 2026 the City Commission conducted a Work Session which provided a summary of efforts completed to date, including a review of the proposed recommendations, and an opportunity to provide overall guidance.

On July 20, 2026 the Community Development Citizen Advisory Board provided input on the Bozeman Creek Vision Plan with a focus on preliminary zoning and planning policy recommendations.

On August 8, 2026 a public open house was held at Bogert Park to provide the public will have an opportunity to review a Draft Vision Framework Plan during the annual SLAM Festival.

On October 14, 2026 the Sustainability Citizen Advisory Board will have an opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback that will help shape a draft Vision Plan.

A final public event will be held in November to provide an opportunity for clarification and affirmation prior to the City Commission's consideration of approval of the Bozeman Creek Vision Plan in December.

Beyond the Vision Plan, several strategies will be considered for implementation, further described in the attached memo titled "Bozeman Creek Planning Next Steps Guidance".

Additional information can be found on the City's Engage Bozeman website, where citizens can subscribe to regular updates.

UNRESOLVED ISSUES: None.

ALTERNATIVES: As directed by the City Commission.

FISCAL EFFECTS: Funding for this effort has been allocated in the FY26 approved budget as a three-way split between the Parks Maintenance District, the Stormwater Fund, and the Public Works Administration Fund for a total of $150,000.

Attachments:
Bozeman Creek Planning Next Steps Guidance.pdf

Report compiled on: August 7, 2026

port

June16, 2026

Jon Henderson
Assistant City Manager
City of Bozeman

MEMO: Bozeman Creek Planning Next Steps Guidance

Dear Jon—

This memo outlines potential considerations for next steps related to the Bozeman Creek Vision Plan following the conclusion of the current scope or work on or around December 15, 2026, and coinciding with anticipated City Commission approval of the plan's proposed recommendations. As we are only roughly halfway through the Vision Plan process/schedule, the exact specificity of next steps is not yet clear. But given the direction the project is going, we can anticipate work needed in the following areas.

FLOOD MITIGATION

- Additional flood bypass and hydraulic structure modeling
- Development of implementation sequencing and preferred permitting path evaluation
- Coordination with local, state, and federal agencies having jurisdiction
- Exploration of water rights status and pursuit of rights transfer if necessary
- Development of Schematic Design (30%) for Mill Ditch and/or main channel hydraulic structure renovation or replacement

DOWNTOWN CREEKSIDE PARKS

- Schematic Design (30%) for Downtown Creekside Park(s)
- City Hall, Rouse Parking and Street, and/or Bogert Park
- Adjacent property owner coordination
- URA/Downtown BID coordination

NEW TRAILHEADS/PATHS/CONNECTOR PROJECTS

- Schematic Design (30%) for individual project
- Property Owner coordination
- Neighborhood group coordination
- Adjacent property owner coordination

port

ENGAGEMENT

- Continued engagement with SeeBozemanCreek Advisory Group
- Ongoing meetings with Downtown Businesses, Neighborhood Groups, Montana State University, and other stakeholders
- Ongoing Small Group and Open Public Workshops
- Bozeman Creek Vision Plan Website Content

COST ESTIMATION

- Formal Cost Estimation of Phase 1 project components
- Preparation of exhibits in support of costing evaluation
- Estimates would be incorporated into schematic design for projects described above and below

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

- Support for development of precise policy language to be incorporated into City of Bozeman Unified Development Code, zoning or similar
- Further development of policies related to setback incentivization, right of first refusal upon sale listing, establishment of city acquisition fund, and/or administration of creek maintenance

GRANT SUPPORT

- Preparation of visual exhibits, technical information, and narrative description for public and philanthropic grant applications
- Materials above related to both Planning and Capital Construction Grant Pursuit
- Note that provision of schematic design or further development as described above will often be necessary to secure larger capital construction grants
- Assistance in identifying/vetting and coordinating with new project-focused grant writer (CoB or SBC hire)

CAPACITY BUILDING

- Development of collaboration structure for establishment of Public Private Partnership between City of Bozeman and non-profit partner
- Coordination/support for See Bozeman Creek (or similar) being stood up as a registered 501(c)3 in order to function as project administrator (conservancy or friends of group) on behalf of the City of Bozeman

ADDITIONAL PLANNING/DESIGN STUDIES

- Urban design plans for redevelopment of city-controlled properties not directly touching the creek

- Examples could include identified considerations including City of Bozeman Public Works sites (creek-oriented affordable housing) and/or existing City of Bozeman Parks (sponge infrastructure)

We understand that your intent is to include capital costs for Bozeman Creek projects in the FY2028 budget which we agree is an appropriate goal. However, we would caution that there is significant additional work necessary following completion of the Vision Plan to have a clear sense of what that capital ask should be, specifically what it will support, and the particularities of the permitting and construction path necessary to complete the initial phase of work. With this in mind, our recommendation is that the City of Bozeman look to set aside an amount in FY27 commensurate with what was identified in the FY26 budget (+/-$150,000) to support development of selected aspects of the work described above during this next year's time-frame. Please note that all work described above cannot be completed in full for this amount alone.

The specifics of what we would recommend undertaking following completion of the Vision Plan will come into greater focus as our work moves into the fall of this year (Task 5). However, holding this amount for next year will assure that progress on the Creek's transformation is able to continue and that the City of Bozeman will not have to remobilize to continue this work after an extended pause that would risk loss of momentum.

We anticipate that different aspects of the work described above would be undertaken with different combinations of subconsultants, with PORT serving as the lead and coordinating entity for the identified work undertaken on the City of Bozeman's behalf. Collaborating consultants would likely include additional engineering, cost estimating, permitting, and restoration ecology beyond the current PORT and RIO ASE team

We would also point out that setting this amount aside for FY27 would allow these funds to potentially be identified as matching amounts for future partnerships with local philanthropic support and/or applications for grants, substantially expanding the impact of this funding. This ongoing buildup of a network of public-private support will help sustain the necessary work to deliver on the project's long term five-part goal set as described in the original RFP.

Please let us know if you have any questions or require any clarification. We would be happy to discuss these items in further detail at your convenience if that was of use to you.

END OF MEMO