



City of Durham



PRIORITY TRAILS
FOR A HEALTHY,
WELL-CONNECTED
DURHAM



DURHAM PRIORITY TRAILS

Trails in Durham provide residents with opportunities for transportation, recreation, and wellness, and strengthen connections within and between neighborhoods. Expanding and improving Durham's trail system will provide these opportunities and connections to a greater number of residents and can play an integral role in achieving goals of the City's Strategic Plan, Parks and Recreation Master Plan, and Trails and Greenways Master Plan.

Goal 3 of the City's Strategic Plan adopted in 2013 is Thriving, Livable Neighborhoods - "strengthen the foundation, enhance the value, and improve the quality and sustainability of neighborhoods." An expanded trail system will help make this goal a reality in neighborhoods throughout Durham.

Goal 1 of the Trails and Greenways Master Plan updated in 2011 is Connectivity:

"Plan trails and greenways with origins and destinations, to link residential areas with schools, parks, institutions, and shopping. Tie into the City's and County's systems of sidewalks, on-road bicycle routes, and transit to allow citizens a choice in their recreation and work commuting, and be consistent with adopted bicycle and pedestrian facility plans. The Durham network will connect with regional, state, and national trail systems wherever possible."

Recommendations of the 2013-2023 Parks and Recreation Master Plan are rooted in three key concepts: Connectivity, Sustainability, and Optimizing Current Facilities and Programs. An improved and expanded trail system ranks a high priority of this plan.

It is with these goals and key concepts in mind that the Durham Open Space and Trails Commission (DOST) and the City of Durham identified five priority trails that, when built, will have the greatest and most beneficial impact on residents where they live, work, and play in Durham.

The five priority trails are: Pearsontown Trail, Bryant Bridge North/ Goose Creek West Trail, Sandy Creek Trail, North Ellerbee Creek Trail, and Third Fork Creek Trail.

DURHAM PRIORITY TRAILS DEMOGRAPHICS

10.72 MILES OF TRAIL

27,135 PEOPLE

9,436 FAMILIES LIVING BELOW TWICE THE POVERTY RATE

9,889 HOUSEHOLDS WITH NO ACCESS TO A VEHICLE

6,660 YOUTH UNDER 18

22,017 PEOPLE OF COLOR

TOTAL: \$5,397,600

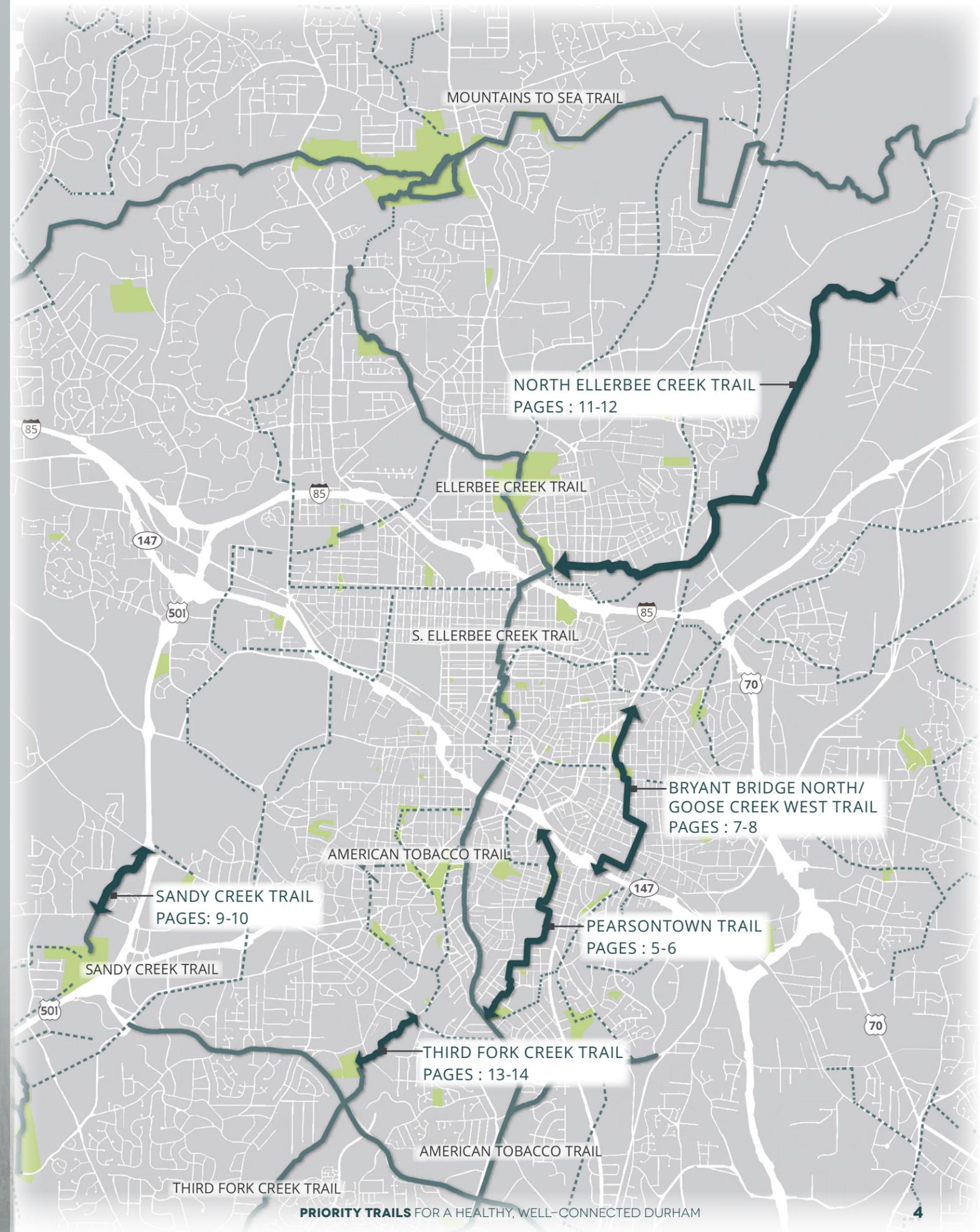
The goal of this brochure is to present a graphic and written guide for Durham's five priority trails. It outlines a feasible route for each trail and includes connection opportunities, demographic analyses*, and design and construction costs.

Construction costs have been calculated based on NCDOT 2015 standards. Costs are projected to increase 5% a year based on current construction cost increases and include land acquisition estimates. Each trail project includes a 20% contingency.

* The numbers listed above are the combined demographics for all five trails. Due to the proximity of the trails to each other, some of the trails' demographics overlap.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

THIS PROJECT WAS MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH A COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE DURHAM OPEN SPACE AND TRAILS COMMISSION AND THE CITY OF DURHAM. SPECIAL THANKS TO THOSE WHO PARTICIPATED IN THIS PROJECT: RHONDA B. PARKER, ROSETTA RADTKE, ANNETTE SMITH, TYLER WARING, HELEN YOUNGBLOOD, BETH TIMSON, AND JOHN GOEBEL.



PEARSONTOWN TRAIL

This trail begins at the Elmira Avenue Park, just to the east of that park's junction with the American Tobacco Trail. It proceeds north through College View neighborhood until it reaches the NC Central University Campus (NCCU), where it connects to a wide pedestrian-and bike-friendly sidewalk through campus. The existing section of trail between Elmira Park and NCCU will be upgraded. The proposed trail extension then moves north along Grant Street, connects to Grant Park and the surrounding residences, and passes through the abandoned Fayette Place housing development; it ends at Hayti Heritage Center. The Southside neighborhood is a three block walk from the northern start to the trail. A future spur of the trail could follow Grant Street under the Durham Freeway connecting to the proposed light rail station and the John Avery Boys and Girls Club.

CONNECTIONS

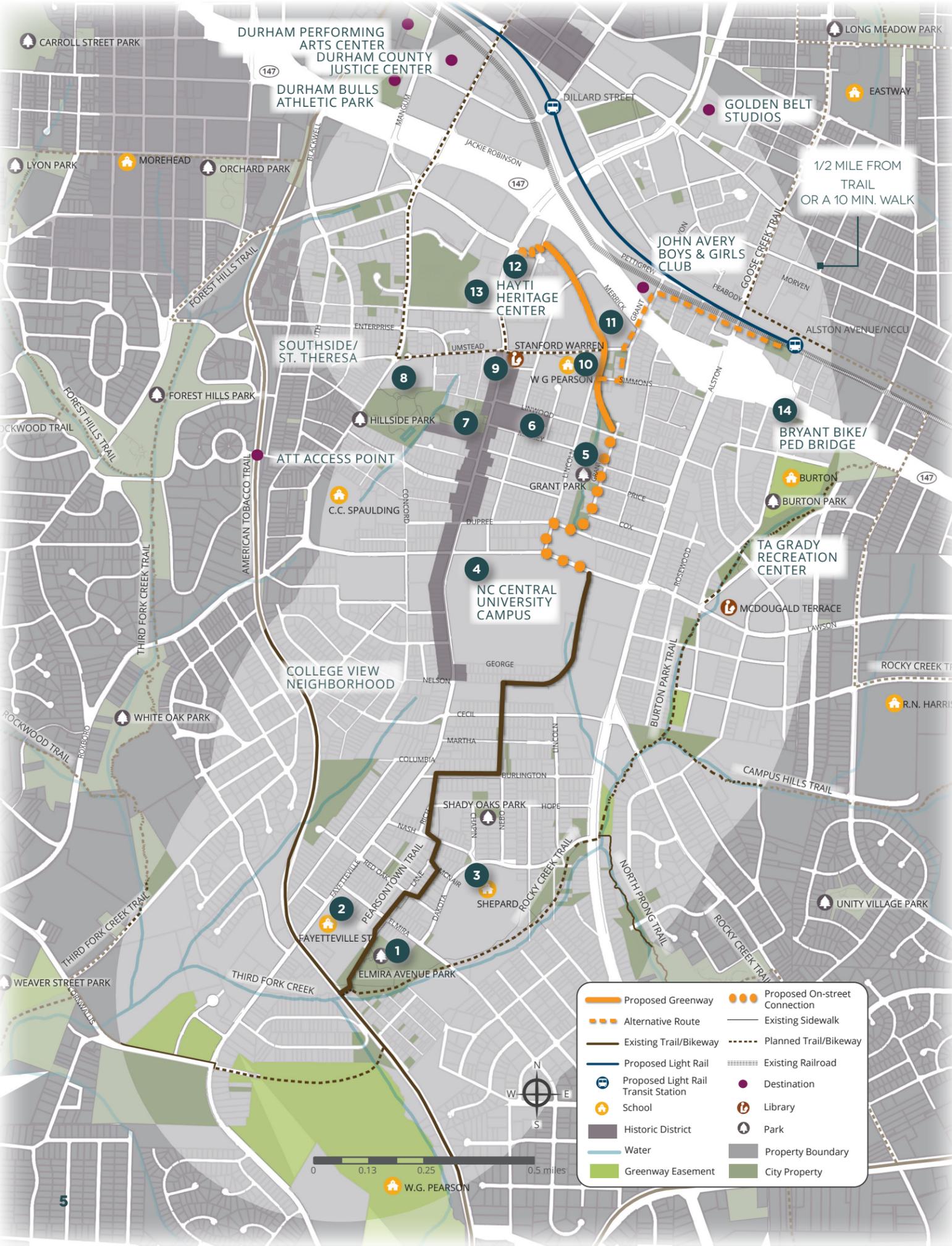
- 1 Elmira Avenue Park
- 2 Fayetteville Street Elementary School
- 3 Shepard Middle School
- 4 NC Central University Campus
- 5 Grant Park
- 6 Lincoln Community Health Center
- 7 WD Hill Recreation Center
- 8 Whitted Middle School
- 9 Stanford L. Warren Branch Library
- 10 WG Pearson Magnet Middle School
- 11 Former Fayette Place Housing Development
- 12 Hayti Heritage Center
- 13 Heritage Square Commercial District
- 14 Bryant Bike and Pedestrian Bridge

DEMOGRAPHICS

Overall Population: **6,983**
 Households without Cars: **610**
 Youth under 18: **1,242**
 Low-Income Households: **3,577**
 People of Color: **6,853**

DISTANCE AND COST

Approximate Length: **2.34 miles**
 2,400 ft. Concrete Sidewalk: **\$90,300**
 2,500 ft. Asphalt Greenway: **\$503,200**
 1 Pedestrian & Bike Bridge: **\$60,000**
 2 mi. On-Street Bike Routes & 20 High-Visibility Crosswalks: **\$61,100**
 Land Acquisition Cost: **\$171,000**
 Minor Items (landscaping & signage): **\$107,200**
 Design & Construction Cost: **\$164,400**
2015 ESTIMATE TOTAL COST: \$1,157,200



BRYANT BRIDGE NORTH/ GOOSE CREEK WEST TRAIL

R. Kelly Bryant Bridge, completed in 2010, allows neighborhoods on both sides of Durham Freeway to reconnect. Upgrades to sidewalks and on-street facilities north of the bridge will provide a safe pedestrian and bike route to Pettigrew Street, the location of the proposed Light Rail Station and current Durham Green Flea Market. The trail will move north along Goley Street and connect to Eastway Avenue for residents to enjoy the Goose Creek restoration. The trail will follow along Goose Creek, creating a green thread that will link three Durham parks: Long Meadow Park, East End Park, and Drew-Granby Park. The trail could also serve as a connector to the proposed Duke Beltline.

CONNECTIONS

- 1 Bryant Bike & Pedestrian Bridge
- 2 Proposed Alston Light Rail Station
- 3 Durham Green Flea Market
- 4 Holton Career & Resource Center
- 5 Eastway Elementary School
- 6 Goose Creek Restoration Project
- 7 Proposed Alston Avenue Improvements
- 8 Long Meadow Park
- 9 East End Park
- 10 Drew/Granby Park

DEMOGRAPHICS

Overall Population: **7,170**

Households without Cars: **911**

Youth under 18: **2,249**

Low-Income Households: **6,609**

People of Color: **6,730**

DISTANCE AND COST

Approximate Length: **1.84 miles**

1,150 ft. Concrete Sidewalk: **\$73,600**

3,800 ft. Asphalt Greenway: **\$620,300**

1 mi. On-Street Bike Routes &
12 High-Visibility Crosswalks: **\$34,700**

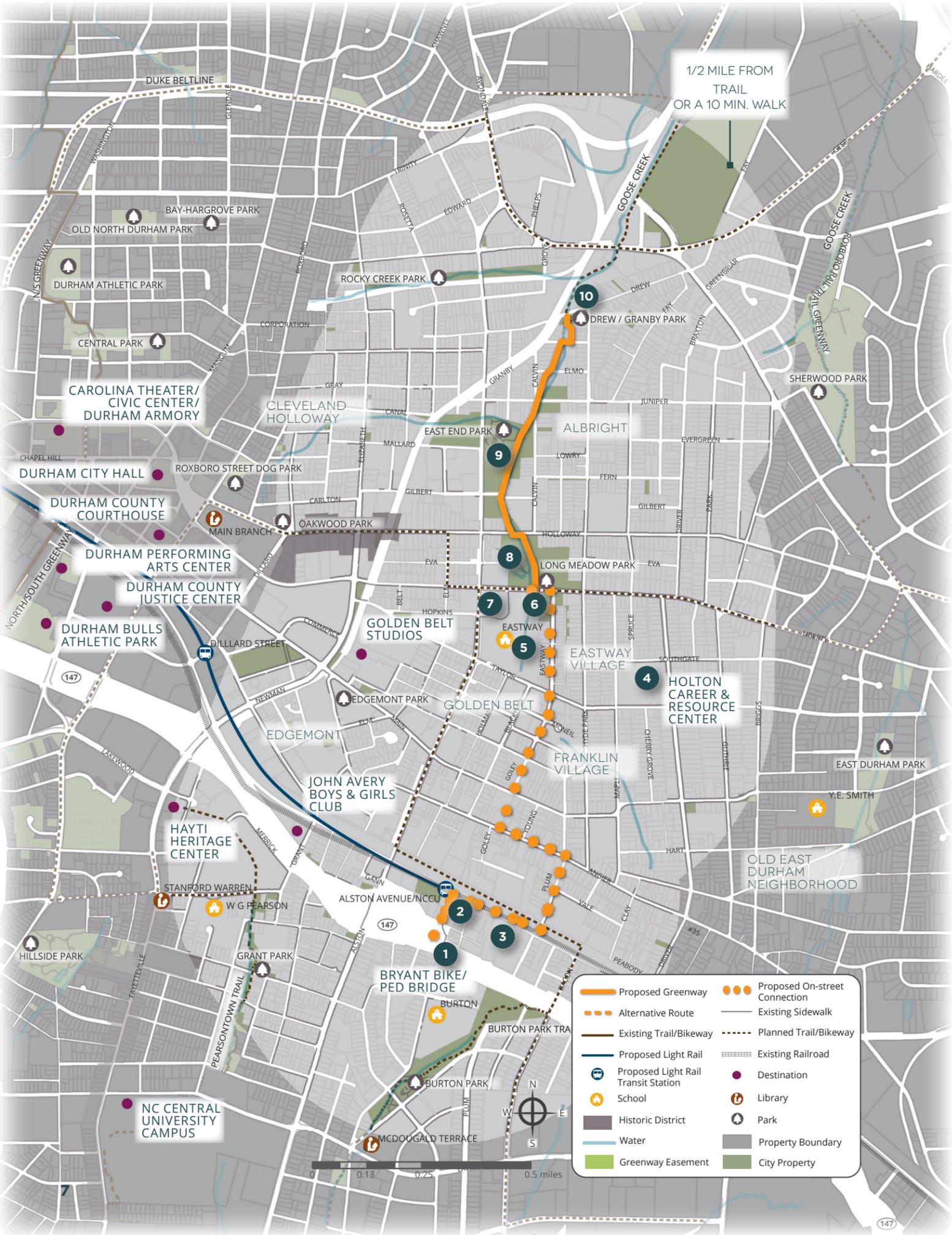
2 Pedestrian & Bike Bridges: **\$160,000**

Land Acquisition Cost: **\$32,000**

Minor Items (landscaping & signage): **\$132,800**

Design & Construction Cost: **\$200,700**

2015 ESTIMATE TOTAL COST: \$1,254,100



SANDY CREEK TRAIL

Sandy Creek Park is a destination park for viewing birds and wildlife in their native habitat and is a Monarch Way Station. Opening the trail to the north enables more park users to get to the park by foot or bike. The current trail runs from Sandy Creek Park north to Pickett Road. The proposed extension would move northward, across Pickett Road, with the installation of a high visibility crosswalk. The trail will follow along the southeast side of Sandy Creek behind the Colony Park and Beach Hill communities. A majority of easements along this section of the trail have been granted and/or are on record.

CONNECTIONS

- 1 Sandy Creek Park
- 2 Emerald Pond Retirement Community
- 3 Structure House Treatment Facility
- 4 Durham Academy
- 5 Beach Hill Community
- 6 Colony Park Community
- 7 Duke Forest
- 8 Planned Cornwallis on-street bike route
- 9 Carter Community Charter School
- 10 Cornwallis Road Park

DEMOGRAPHICS

Overall Population: **1,339**

Households without Cars: **18**

Youth under 18: **237**

Low-Income Households: **29**

People of Color: **272**

DISTANCE AND COST

Approximate Length: **0.77 miles**

Asphalt Greenway: **\$546,300**

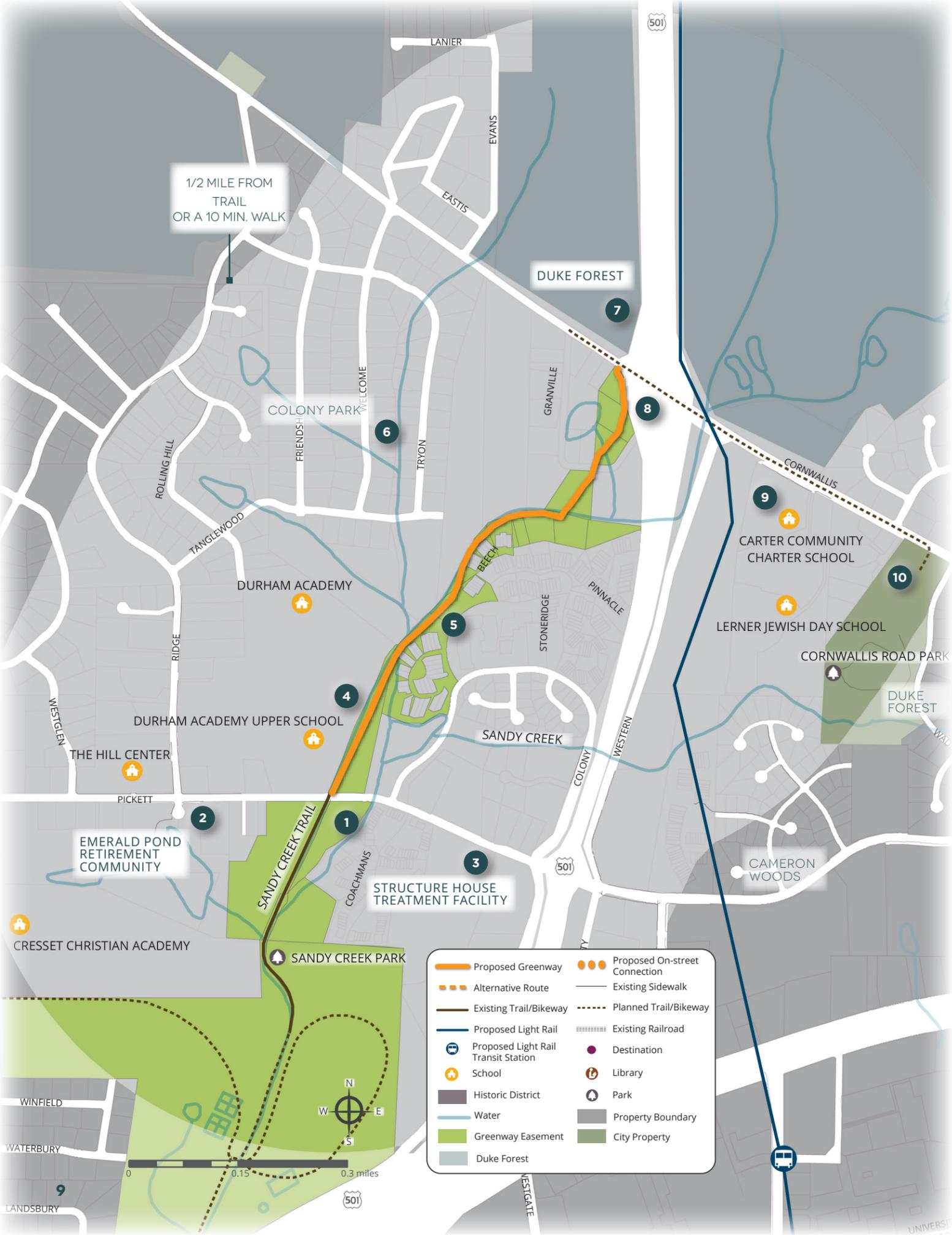
1 High-Visibility Crosswalk with Rapid Fire Beacons: **\$18,600**

1 Pedestrian & Bike Bridge: **\$100,000**

Design & Construction Cost: **\$153,000**

Minor Items (landscaping & signage): **\$99,700**

2015 ESTIMATE TOTAL COST: \$917,600



NORTH ELLERBEE CREEK TRAIL

The North Ellerbee* Creek Trail is a proposed natural surface walking trail that has the potential to link the Mountains to Sea Trail to the Beaver Marsh Nature Preserve. Much of the corridor is owned by the Army Corps of Engineers, the City of Durham, or Ellerbe Creek Watershed Association (ECWA). This section of the trail will end at the ECWA Glennstone Nature Preserve with future prospects to connect to the Mountains to Sea Trail. There are many scenic stretches along the creek, including a heron rookery located on City Property just off the trail.

CONNECTIONS

- 1 Ellerbee Creek Trail
- 2 Club Boulevard School
- 3 Northgate Park
- 4 Beaver Marsh Nature Preserve
- 5 Location of proposed trailhead with parking
- 6 Glennstone Nature Preserve
- 7 Blue Heron Rookery
- 8 Mountains to Sea Trail

DEMOGRAPHICS

Overall Population: **7,675**

Households without Cars: **292**

Youth under 18: **2,080**

Low-Income Households: **3,682**

People of Color: **5,555**

DISTANCE AND COST

Approximate Length: **5 miles**

4 mi. Natural Surface Trail: **\$491,200**

1 Trailhead with 10 Parking Spaces: **\$48,400**

2 High-Visibility Crosswalks with Rapid Fire Beacons: **\$40,900**

1 Pedestrian & Bike Bridge: **\$200,000**

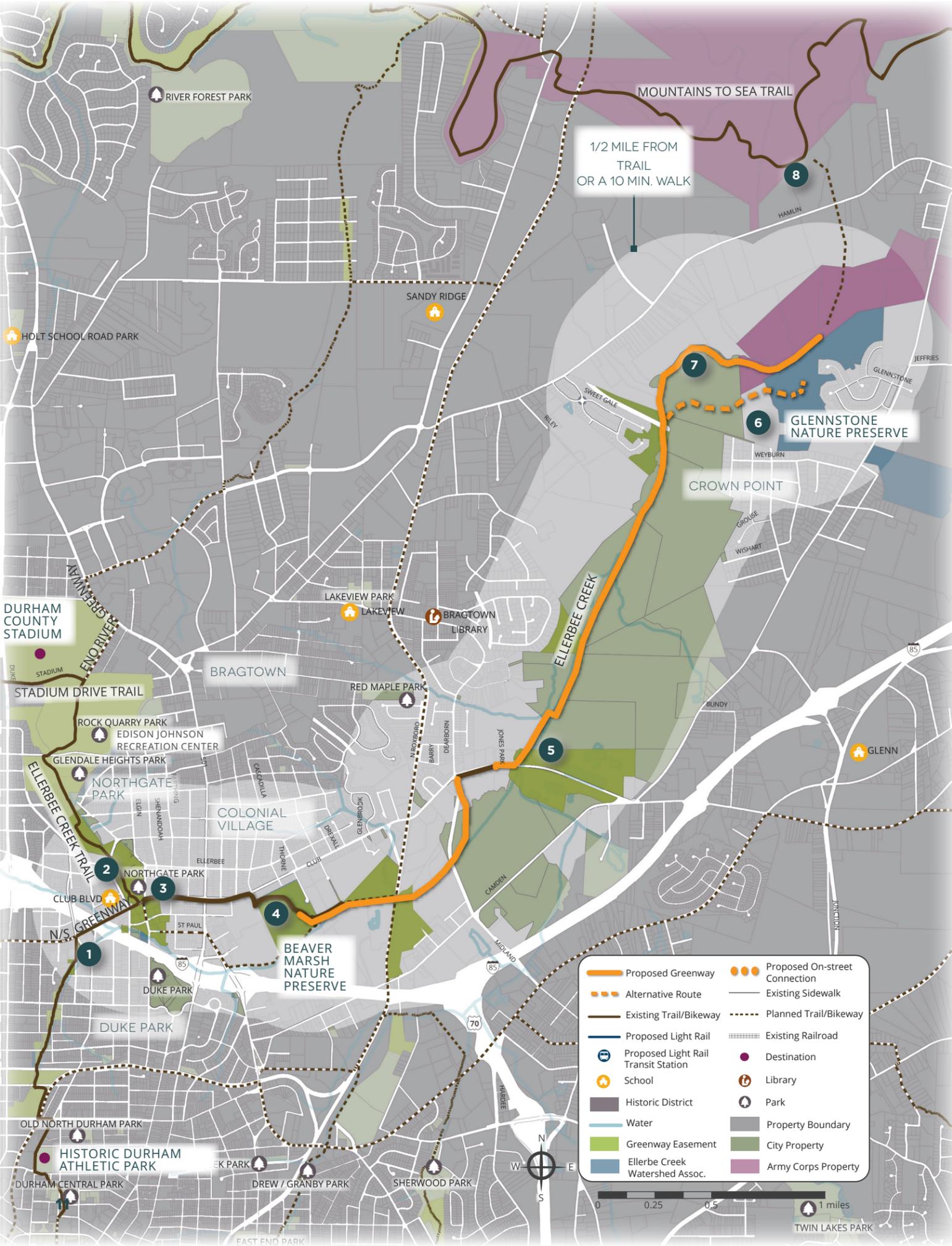
Land Acquisition Cost: **\$54,000**

Minor Items (landscaping & signage): **\$117,100**

Design & Construction Cost: **\$179,500**

2015 ESTIMATE TOTAL COST: \$1,131,100

* The City of Durham spells Ellerbee with two e's while The Ellerbe Creek Watershed spells Ellerbe with one.



THIRD FORK CREEK TRAIL

Third Fork Creek Trail begins at Garrett Road Park and ends at Southern Boundaries Park. The proposed extension of Third Fork Creek Trail will connect to existing trail in Southern Boundaries Park. The trail will continue along the northwest side of Third Fork Creek, crossing wetlands and streams that will most likely require boardwalks or bridges. The trail continues to Cornwallis Road, and a sidewalk continues along the north side of Cornwallis to Fayetteville for an easy connection to the American Tobacco Trail (ATT) at Pilot. The sidewalk also crosses Fayetteville Street onto WG Pearson Elementary School Property for another potential connection to the ATT.

CONNECTIONS

- 1 Southern Boundaries Park
- 2 Barnhill Street and location of proposed trailhead with parking
- 3 Cornwallis Road
- 4 Weaver Street Recreation Center
- 5 American Tobacco Trail

DEMOGRAPHICS

Overall Population: **6,525**

Households without Cars: **444**

Youth under 18: **1,624**

Low-Income Households: **3,091**

People of Color: **5,126**

DISTANCE AND COST

Approximate Length: **0.77 miles**

Asphalt Greenway: **\$359,500**

240 ft. Boardwalk: **\$120,000**

1 Pedestrian & Bike Bridge: **\$140,000**

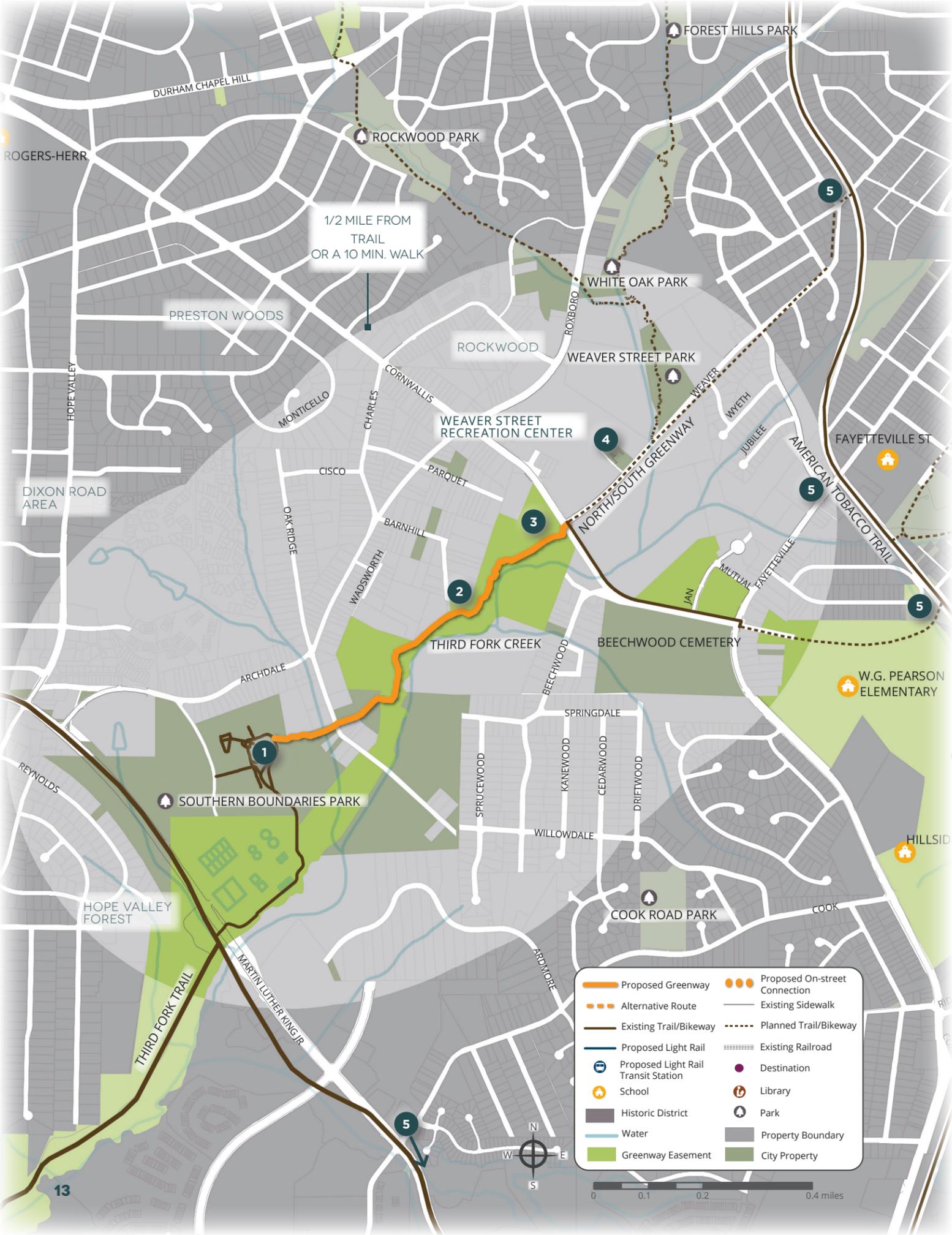
1 Trailhead with 10 Parking Spaces: **\$32,000**

2 High-Visibility Crosswalks, 1 with Pedestrian Refuge and Rapid Fire Beacons: **\$27,900**

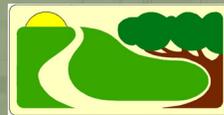
Minor Items (landscaping & signage): **\$101,900**

Design & Construction Cost: **\$156,300**

2015 ESTIMATE TOTAL COST: \$937,600



Durham Priority Trails



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