



2025 Reservation Plans

Brookside, Garfield Park, Ohio & Erie
Canal, Washington, and West Creek

Reservations

September 18, 2025





SECOND CENTURY OF STEWARDSHIP

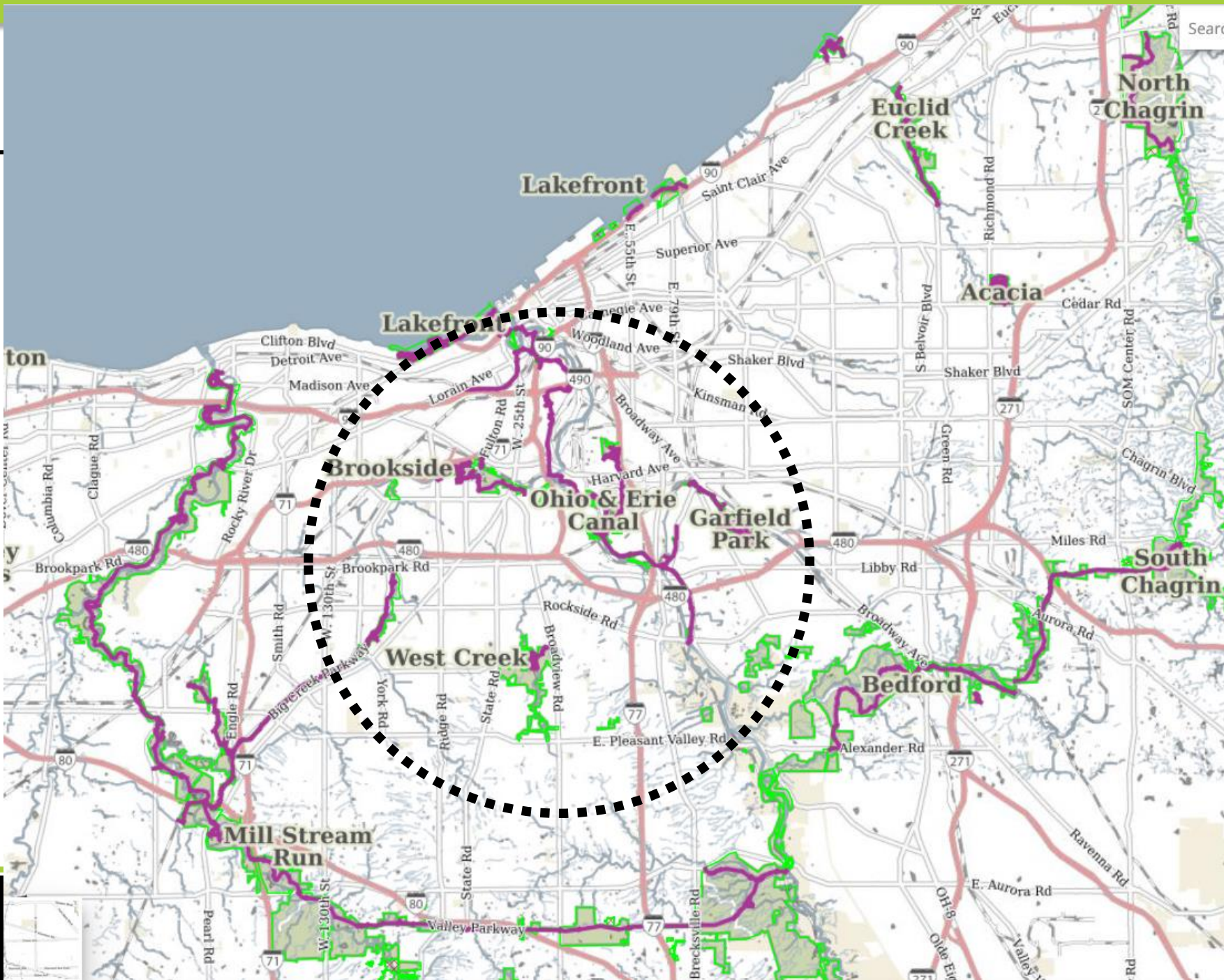
OUR MISSION

Protecting nature, connecting communities
and inspiring conservation of our world.



Reservation Plans

- Reservation Plans are a CAPRA-required component of the System Plan
- The plans move our six Core Goals to action.
 - They help connect expenditures to the System Plan
 - Tracking progress as we update the plans shows accountability
- Plans for each Reservation identify commitments to ongoing resource management and facility / infrastructure needs
- Plans are essential for the pursuit of grants and other outside funding



2025 Reservation Plan Updates - Internal Stakeholders

Brookside, Garfield Park, Ohio & Erie Canal, Washington Park, and West Creek Reservations

Name	Division	Title
Brian Zimmerman	Exec. Office	CEO
Joe Roszak	ParkOps	COO
Chris Kuhar	Zoo	Exec. Director of Cleveland Zoo
Katie Corr	Zoo	Director of Education & Engagement
Kristen Trolio	Devt	Director of Grants
Natalie Ronanyne	Devt	Chief Development Officer
Karen Kannenberg	Devt	Principal Giving Director
Anthony Joy	ITS	Chief Information Officer
Greg Keeney	ITS	Manager, Systems Dev't.
Rose Fini	Legal	Chief Legal Officer
Stephanie Kutsko	Legal	Sr. Real Estate Manager
Kyle Baker	Legal	Sr. Asst. Legal Counsel, Dir. of Real Estate
Kelly Manderfield	Marketing	Chief Marketing Officer
Linsey Saunier	Marketing	Brand & Advertising Director
Sam Cario	Marketing	Director of Special Events & Experiences
Kelly Coffman	P&D	Principal Planner
Sean McDermott	P&D	Chief Planning and Design Officer
Michele Crawford	P&D	Project Development Manager
Josiah Denson	P&D	Planner
Sara Byrnes Maier	P&D	Principal Planner
Laura Schuch	P&D	GIS Manager
Brandon Garman	P&D	Cartographer
Amanda Meier	P&D	Landscape Architect
Conner Karakul	P&D	Landscape Architect
P&D Intern	P&D	Intern
Liz Geith	ParkOps	Director of Parks - South
Chuck Engelhart	ParkOps	Director of Parks - East
Matt Krems	ParkOps	Director of Parks - West
Boyd Sharp	ParkOps	Park Manager - Brookside
Grant Hodge	ParkOps	Park Manager - Garfield Park
Jeremy Skaggs	ParkOps	Park Manager - OEC/Washington
Matt Hogan	ParkOps	Park Manager - West Creek
Jim Rodstrom	ParkOps	Director of Construction
Jarrod McCarthy	ParkOps	Director of Enterprise
David Donner	ParkOps/Golf	Director of Golf
Jenn Griesser	ParkOps/NR	Director of Natural Resources
Valerie Carter-Stone	ParkOps/NR	NR Area Manager - Central
Mary Rouse	ParkOps/OE	Director of Outdoor Experiences
Bethany Majeski	ParkOps/OE	Sr. Manager of Center Ops.
Terry Joyce	ParkOps/OE	OEC Manager (BD)
Jake Kudrna	ParkOps/OE	Center Manager (WSC)
Beth Kivela	ParkOps/OE	Sr. Manager of Community Programs
Rachel Nagle	ParkOps/OE	Outdoor Recreation Manager
Kelly Stillman	Police	Chief
Ken Schabitzer	Police	Captain
Charlie Moore	Police	Captain

Changes since 2017 Reservation Plans:

Reservation	2017 Acreage	2025 Acreage	Acreage Increase	% Growth
Brookside + Zoo	310	356	46	12.9%
Garfield Park	219	224	5	2.2%
Ohio & Erie Canal	372	405	33	8.1%
Washington Park	59	68	9	13.2%
West Creek	375	572	197	34.4%
Total:	1,335	1,625	290	17.8%



Planning Process

Kick-off: March 27th

Initial Drafts & Discuss Area Plans: May 29th

Area Concept Plans: July 18th

Draft Plans: early September

Introduce to Board: September 18th

Community Open Houses: October

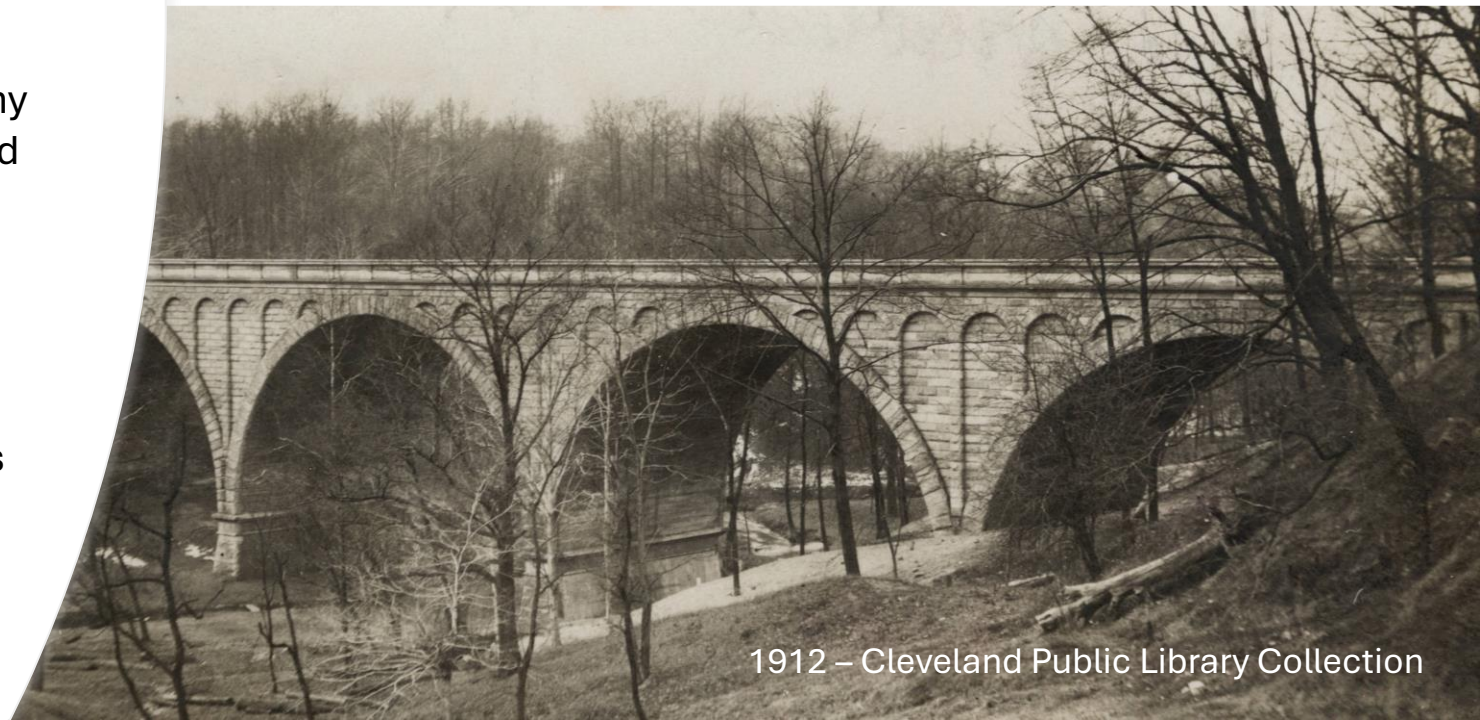
Review Input / Final Recommendations: late October

Present for Board Review: November 20th



Washington Park Timeline

- 1899 – Park established by the City of Cleveland
- 1910 - Bridge constructed over the 80' deep Burke Brook ravine
- 1948 – Bridge demolished for I-77 construction, bisecting the park
- 1967 – Republic Steel filled the ravine with construction debris, creating today's flat topography
- 1970 – Cleveland Metropolitan Schools constructed the greenhouse and classrooms
- 2003 – Cleveland Metroparks opens Washington Reservation and Washington Park Golf Course in partnership with First Tee of Cleveland
- 2023 – Cleveland Metroparks lease expanded to include an additional 8 acres of the former campus



Common Themes

Our internal stakeholder team provided input including:

- This year's parks in Cuyahoga County's core are a combination of long-term protection and newer areas focused on restoration
- Trails and community connections are priorities for park users
- The Towpath Trail serves as a spine, linking to many secondary trails
- The parks provide respite from surrounding developed areas
- Natural resource management focuses on restoration and managing invasive species



- Brighton Park and the Treadway Creek trail improve access to the Towpath; partner to address remaining gaps
- Create a gateway highlighting Cleveland Metroparks Zoo at the Pearl Road - Wildlife way intersection
- A new natural surface trail between Wildlife Way and E. 38th St. will improve neighborhood access to the zoo
- Study improvements to existing ballfields
- Improve trail connections between the valley and Park Dr.

GARFIELD PARK RESERVATION

PARK PLAN

SEPT 2025

OVERALL NOTES

- Garfield Park Reservation will continue to function as a hub of community wellness and activity with newly improved and expanded facilities and programs
- Continue to work with neighbors on natural resources projects and drop in programs. Protect historical features, improve circulation, and expand opportunities for recreation
- Improve bike and pedestrian access to expand the service area of the park

MILL CREEK FALLS

- Refer to Area Plan; open views into the park and add restroom and play area. Reconfigure access to better focus on the waterfall once area roadway projects occur.
- Mill Creek Falls becomes an important connection and transition point between the Slavic Village Downtown Connector Trail and existing park trails and connections to the south and southwest
- Work with ODOT, RTA, and other partners to simplify traffic patterns and improve bicycle and pedestrian connectivity in the area

E.131ST - MLK TRAIL CONNECTION

- Explore potential connections to the southeast and north along East 131st upon ODOT's completion of the White House Bridge replacement
- Long term, explore potential of Wheeling and Lake Erie Railroad Corridor and partnership opportunities with Calvary Cemetery

GARFIELD PARK PRESCHOOL AND PARKING

- Continue successful programming
- Improve parking lot lighting
- Develop trail connection between Broadway and the Garfield Parkway Loop Trail. Utilize existing sidewalk and reduce impacts from adjacent parking by installing parking blocks or reconfiguring curb.

WINDY RIDGE PICNIC AREA

- Reconfigure drive and parking
- Add flush restroom and trailhead amenities to help activate trail to Mill Creek Falls

TROLLEY TURN AREA

- Continue to manage and monitor new plantings

IRON SPRINGS PICNIC AREA

- Consider nature play or play structure
- Reduce mowing; add woodland edge and pollinator plantings

GARFIELD PARKWAY LOOP TRAIL

- Add fitness zone or stations

WOLF CREEK VALLEY

- Continue tree plantings and forest restoration efforts
- Create trail node and interpret Iron Springs remains (dates to late 1800s)

GARFIELD POND & PROGRAM CENTER

- Activate new program center with a variety of public programs including fishing and paddle sport 'try-its'

WHITE HOUSE BRIDGE/ BROADWAY RAILROAD OVERPASS

- Continue coordination with ODOT project and connect to pending trail facility along the south side of the new bridge

MILL CREEK

- Expand upstream protection efforts
- Remove berms at channel and reduce culverted portions
- Mitigate stream erosion
- Remove industrial access

RED OAK PICNIC AREA

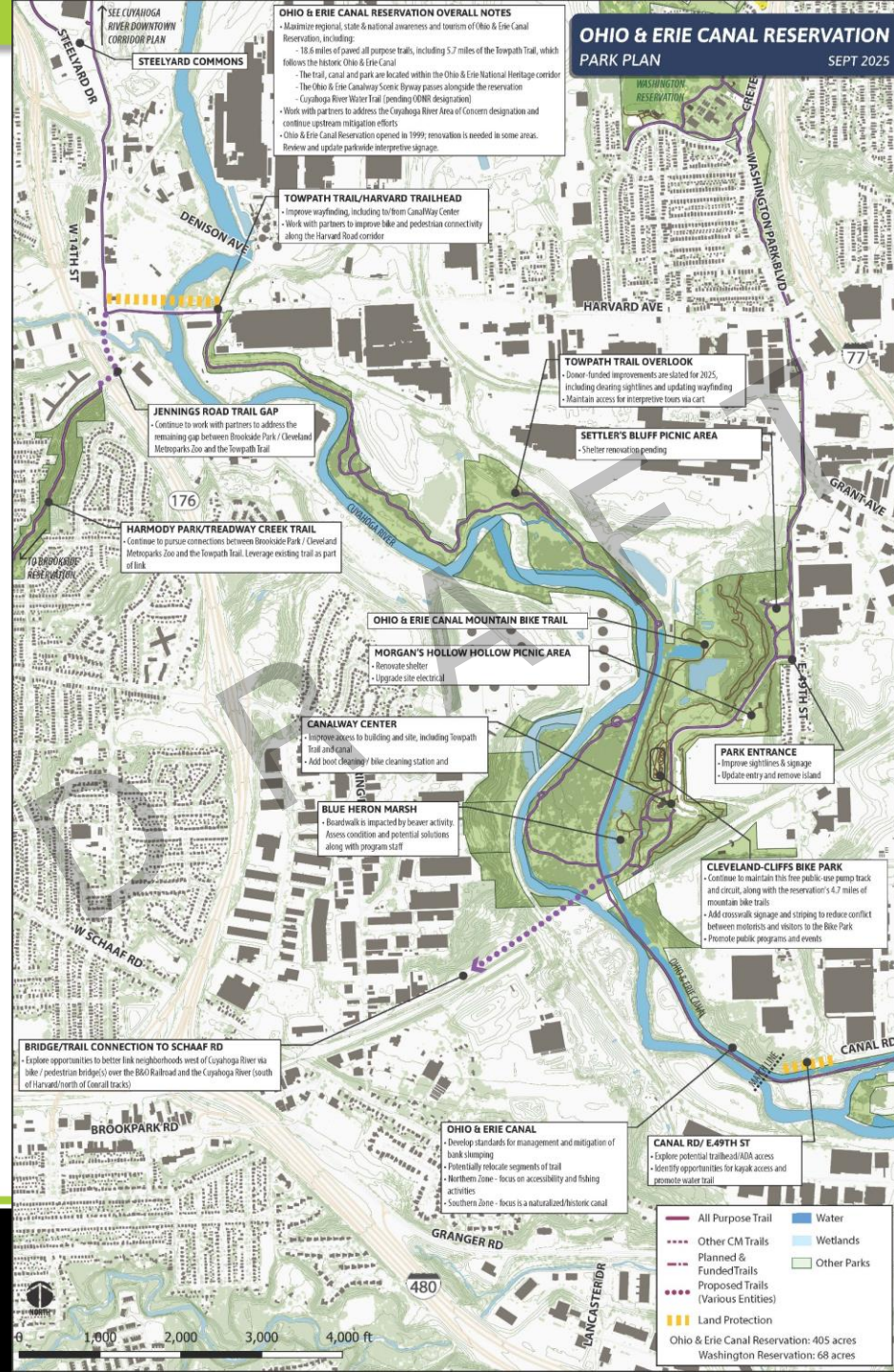
- Update play structure
- Study facility expansion to better integrate into neighborhood

MILL CREEK CONNECTOR AND GARFIELD BLVD CONNECTOR TRAIL

- Refer to Ohio & Erie Canal page for connection to Towpath
- Address maintenance challenges at vegetated wall along Mill Creek Connector near Racis Park

- Continue successful programs at new facilities
- Daylight portion of Mill Creek
- Improve visibility of Mill Creek Falls area
- Update wayfinding and awareness as Garfield Blvd. Connector Trail is completed
- Continue trail improvements and neighborhood connections
 - Booth Avenue Connector / Slavic Village Downtown Connector
 - Broadway / White House Bridge replacement



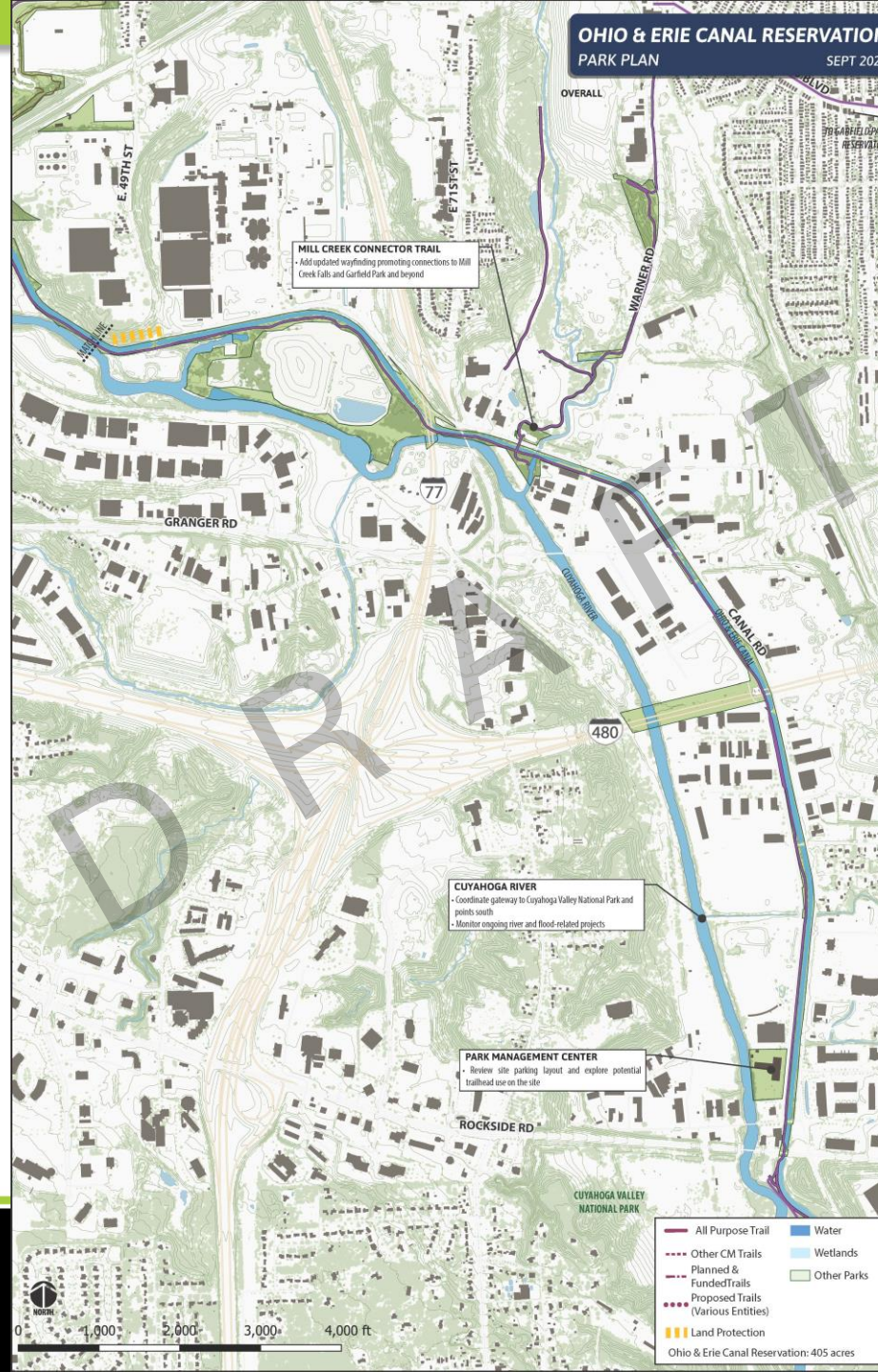


Ohio & Erie Canal Reservation

- Continued work with partners in the Cuyahoga River Area of Concern to remove or remediate Beneficial Use Impairments
 - The return of bald eagles and river otter highlight the improved health of the corridor
- Continued stewardship of the Towpath Trail and Ohio & Erie Canal National Heritage Area
 - Key corridor linking downtown Cleveland to Cuyahoga Valley National Park
 - A spine for numerous trail spurs and community connections
- Recent expansion of mountain bike facilities
 - Cleveland-Cliffs Bike Park pump track
 - Expansion of mountain bike trails geared for various skill levels

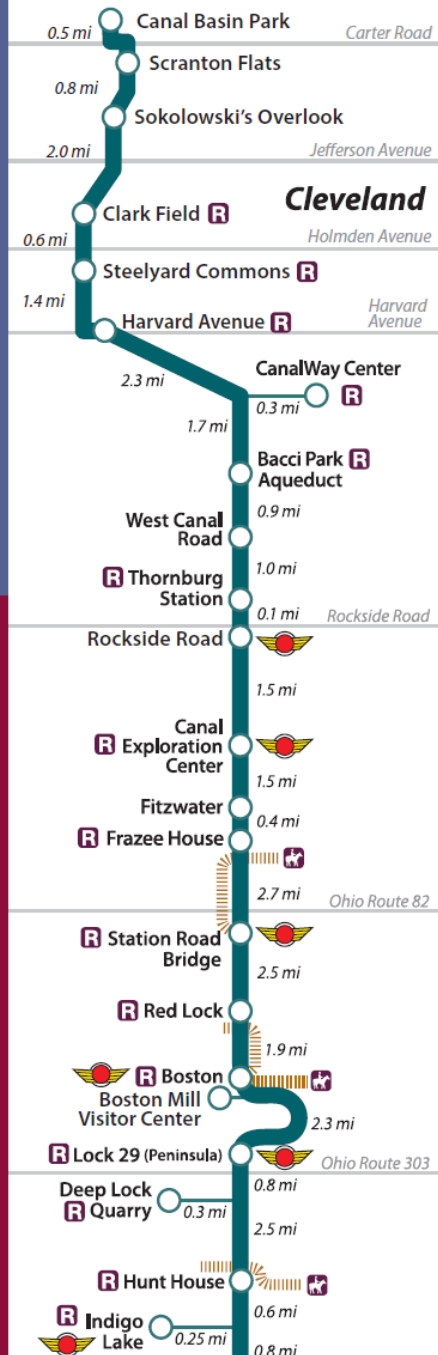
Ohio & Erie Canal Reservation

- Continued stewardship of the Towpath Trail, which also serves as northeast Ohio's segment of the Ohio to Erie Trail, linking the Ohio River to Lake Erie
- Addition of Park Management Center
- Pending completion of all purpose trail link along Garfield Boulevard to connect Garfield Reservation to the Towpath



Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail

Cleveland Metroparks



DRAFT

- EXISTING ALL PURPOSE TRAILS
- PROPOSED TRAIL OR BOARDWALK PROJECTS
- MEMORIAL BRIDGES LOOP CONSTRUCTION 2026
- CLEVELAND METROPARKS
- PENDING REDEVELOPMENT
- OTHER PARKS/GREEN SPACE
- NON-PROFIT RECREATION
- OTHER DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS



OVERALL NOTES

Update amenities and programs to optimize use by surrounding neighborhoods and increase active use of the park

SLAVIC VILLAGE DOWNTOWN
CONNECTOR TRAIL SOUTH

- Continue coordination as the City of Cleveland constructs of the Slavic Village Downtown Connector Trail South
- Include wayfinding and a small trail node at the intersection of E 48th Street and Independence Road
- Partner to improve bike and pedestrian links identified in the Cuyahoga Greenways Plan

NORTH OPEN AREA

- Continue to maintain mowed field

INDEPENDENCE RD

ARBORVIEW PICNIC AREA

- Add flush restrooms
- Consider adding fitness elements
- Create loop trail

SEE AREA PLAN

CURRENT WORK SITE

- Continue to coordinate current NEORSO construction through 2027 and the implementation of site improvements upon completion

EXPANDED PARK CORE

- See Area Plan for areas added to the park in 2023
- Explore repurposing existing structures and improve site circulation

DRIVING RANGE, CLUBHOUSE,
AND PARKING

- Explore opportunities to expand driving range and parking capacity
- Renovate bunkers and greens

DRIVING RANGE

FIRST TEE

- Continue coordination for programming needs

WASHINGTON BLVD STREETSCAPE

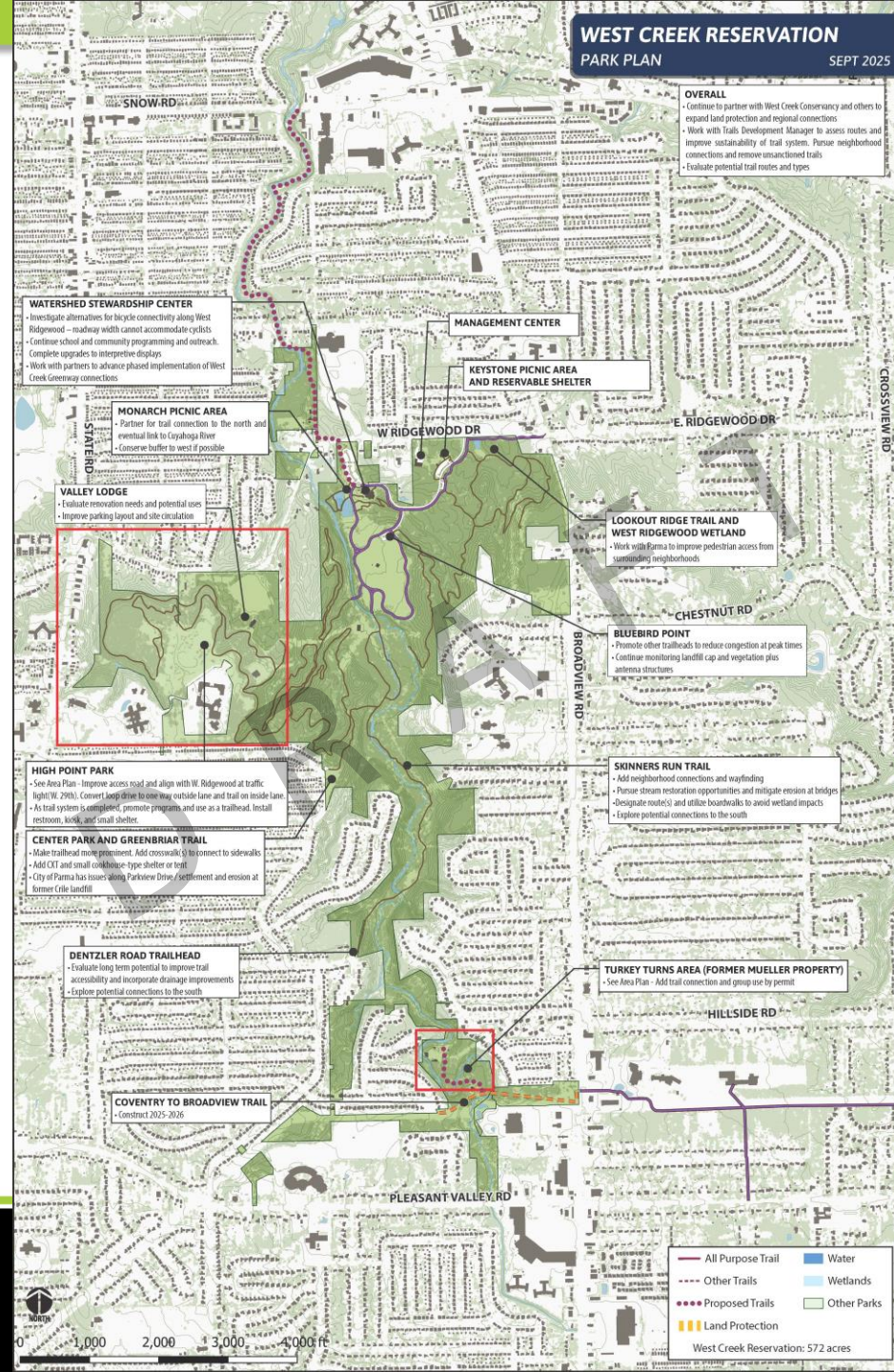
- Add street trees and crosswalks along Washington Blvd
- Update triangular island and USS Maine Memorial

All Purpose Trail
 Other CM Trails
 Planned & Funded Trails
 Proposed Trails (Various Entities)
 Land Protection
 Washington Reservation: 68 acres

0 100 200 300 400 500 ft

Washington Reservation

- Expansion added 9 acres to the park
- First Tee facility improvements / expansion
- Site restoration at former temporary classrooms
- Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District Southerly Tunnel construction at main parking area through 2027
- Regional connections – Slavic Village Downtown Connector – South design and neighborhood coordination in partnership with the City of Cleveland
- Golf Course – adding parking and expanding driving range



West Creek Reservation

- Dynamic expansion added nearly 200 acres to the park, a 34% increase
- High Point Park
 - Mountain bike trail development, working to improve vehicular access
 - Padua wetland restoration
 - Potential renovation of lodge
- Trail development
 - Lookout Ridge Trail and Overlook
 - Mountain bike trail development
- Regional connections – Coventry to Broadview all purpose trail under construction

2025 Reservation Plan OPEN HOUSES

Cleveland Metroparks invites you to join our staff for Community Open Houses as part of the 2025 Reservation Plan updates! Each meeting will take place from 5:30-7:00 p.m. with a short presentation at 6:00.

Open Houses

Staff will host six community open houses in October to share the draft plans and gather feedback from the community.

Park Reservation Open Houses:

Brookside

Wednesday, October 1

Brookside Valley Shelter

4101 Park Drive
Cleveland, OH 44144

Ohio & Erie Canal and Washington

Tuesday, October 7

CanalWay Center

4524 E. 49th Street
Cleveland, OH 44125

Garfield Park

Thursday, October 9

Garfield Pond Program Center

11410 Broadway Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44125

West Creek

Thursday, October 16

Watershed Stewardship Center

2277 W Ridgewood Drive
Parma, OH 44134

Rivergate & Flats

Monday, October 20

Merwin's Wharf

1785 Merwin Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44143

5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Presentation at
5:30 p.m.

All Reservations

Wednesday, October 22

Virtual 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Register at
clevelandmetroparks.com/2025plans



Brookside Reservation



Ohio & Erie Canal Reservation



Washington Reservation



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2024 Shelter Bookings – All Reservations

