

April 2025

# Recreation Facilities Analysis

## Salmon Brook Park and Ahrens Park

### Town of Granby

GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc.

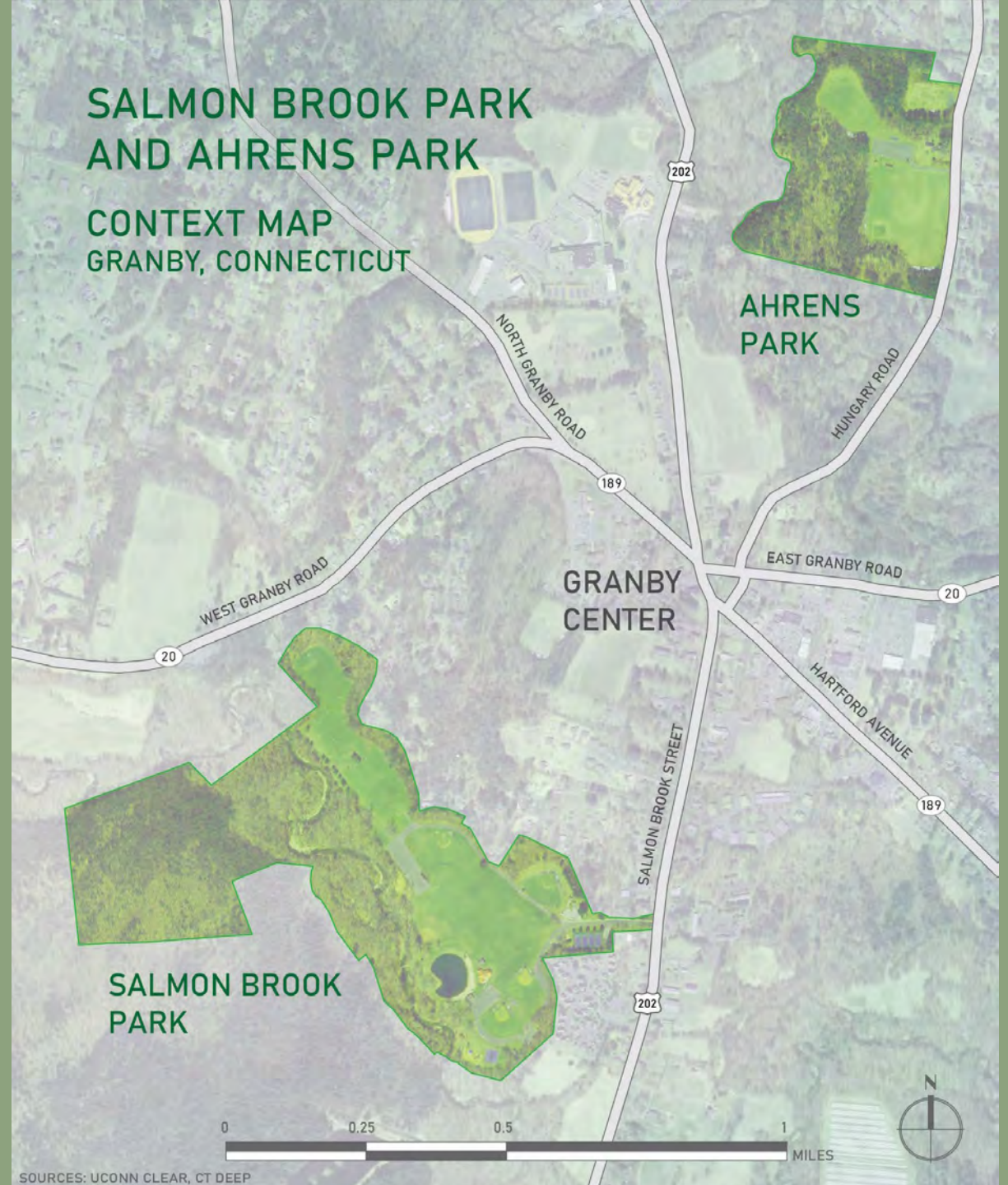


A photograph of a wooden boardwalk with railings leading through a forest of bare trees. The boardwalk is made of light-colored wooden planks and has a wooden handrail on both sides. The railings are made of vertical wooden slats. The forest is composed of many tall, thin trees without leaves, suggesting a late autumn or winter setting. The ground is covered with dry, brown leaves and some low-lying vegetation. The sky is visible through the trees, showing a clear blue color.

# Project Overview

# Project Overview

- 116-acre Salmon Brook Park is well-used, has a wide range of recreational amenities.
- 45-acre Ahrens Park offers additional open space, is less programmed



# Project Scope

- Site analysis
- Stakeholder Interviews
- **Public Engagement**
  - **Public Meeting #1: Developing a vision for Salmon Brook and Ahrens Parks**
  - **Online survey**
- Master Plan
  - Meeting #2: Presentation on draft Master Plan
  - Final Master Plan: Overall vision for Salmon Brook Park and Ahrens Park, and specific recommendations for site improvements and management

# Project Background



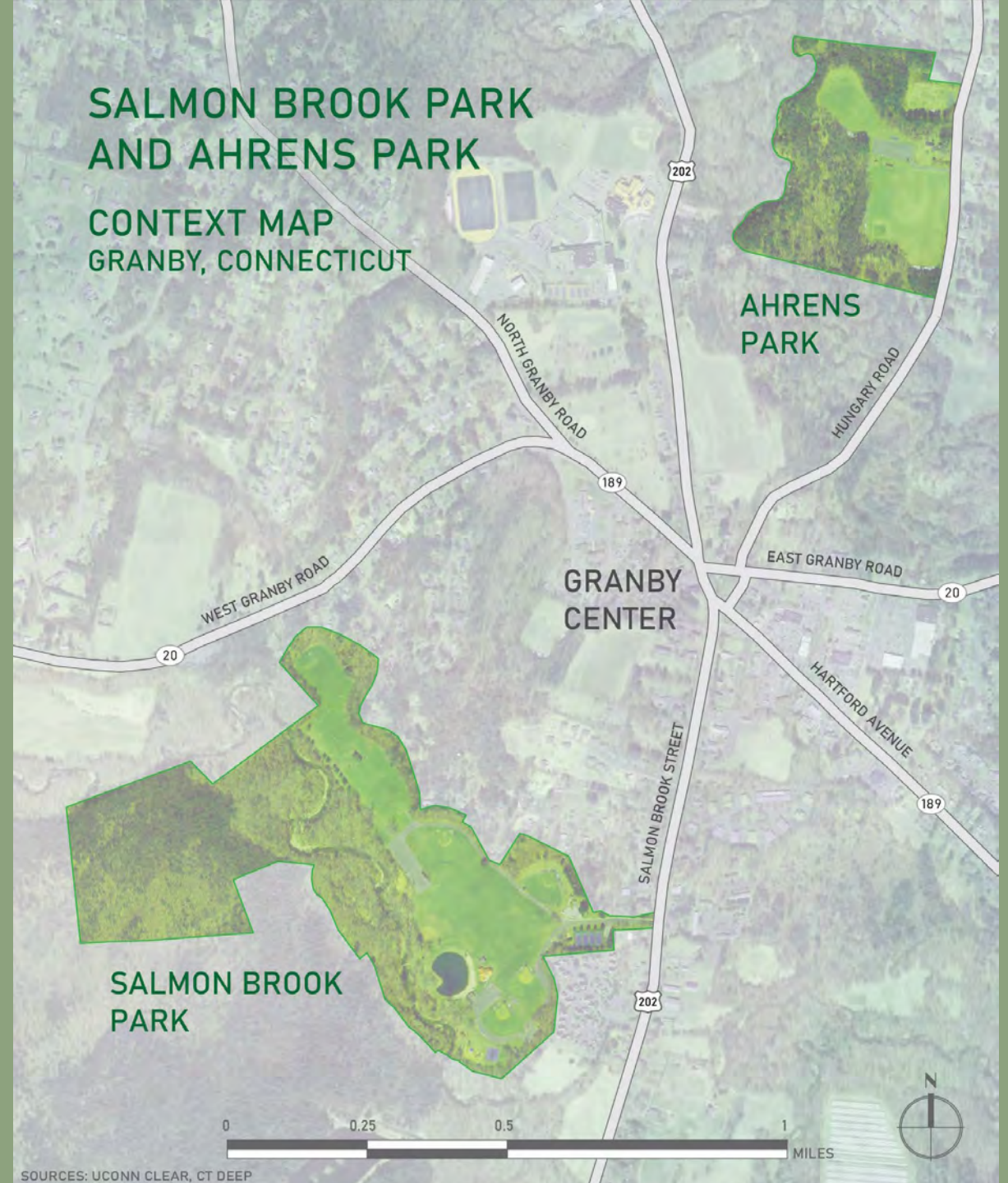
# History of the Parks

- **History of Salmon Brook Park:**

- Granby Hospital 1920-1928, included golf course for patients' use
- Golf course continued as a public amenity until 1945
- Was called "Open Spaces" until 2000s
- "Salmon Brook Park": Increased park improvements 2000s-onward

- **History of Ahrens Park:**

- Town acquired from Ahrens family in 2003
- Park opened in 2005



# 2022 Survey



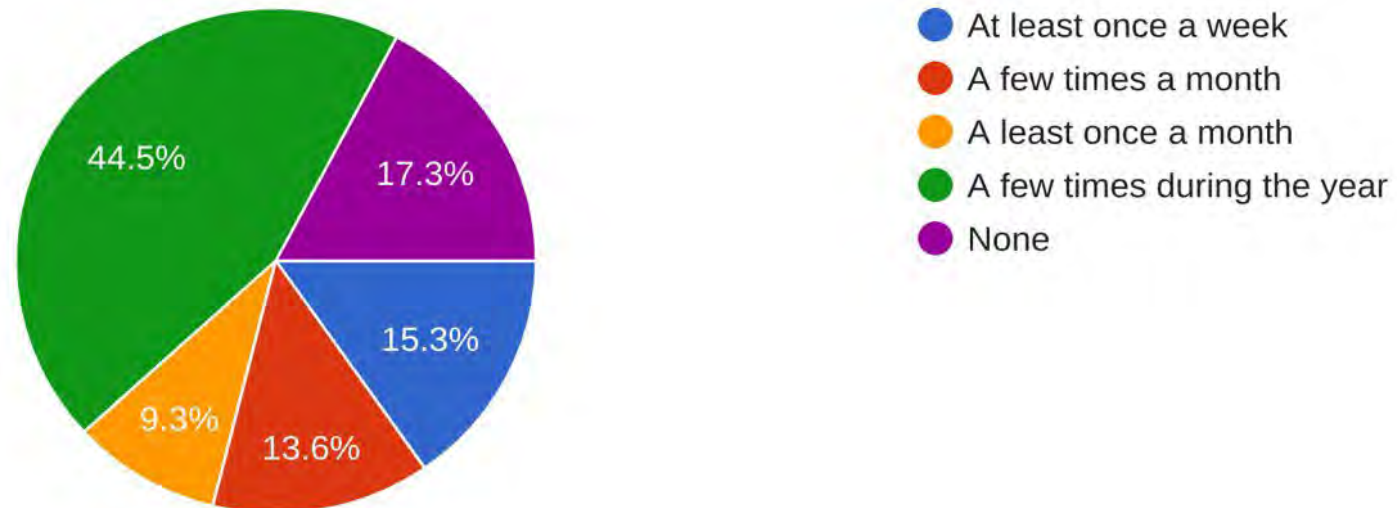
## GRANBY PARKS & RECREATION SURVEY

*Board of Selectmen Overview 1/3/2022*

# PROGRAM USAGE

5- Approximately how often did you or a members of your household participate in a Granby Parks and Recreation program in the last 12 months?

647 responses



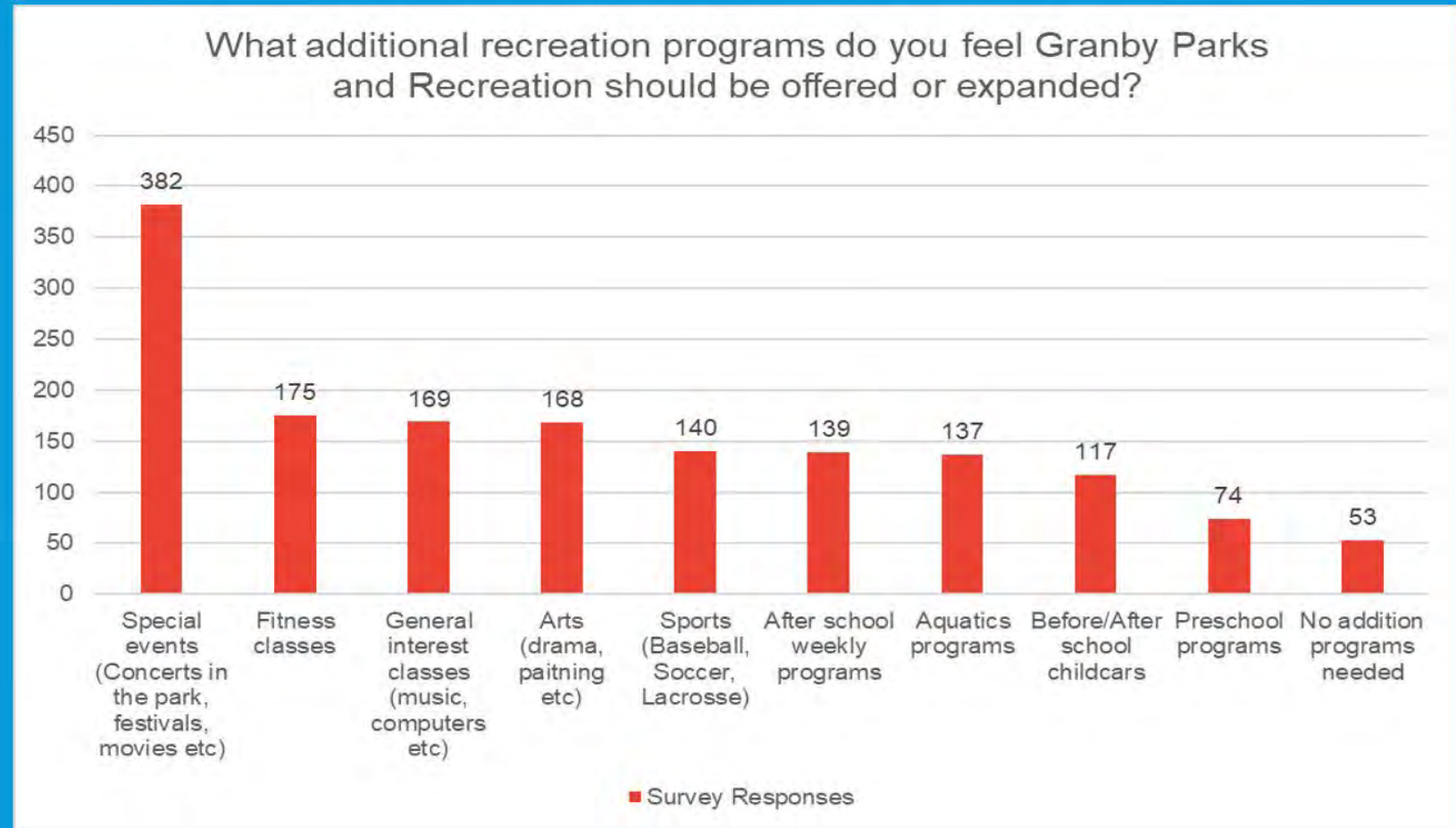
# PROGRAM EXPANSION OPPORTUNITIES

## 1. Special Events

*(concerts, festivals, and movies in the park) \**

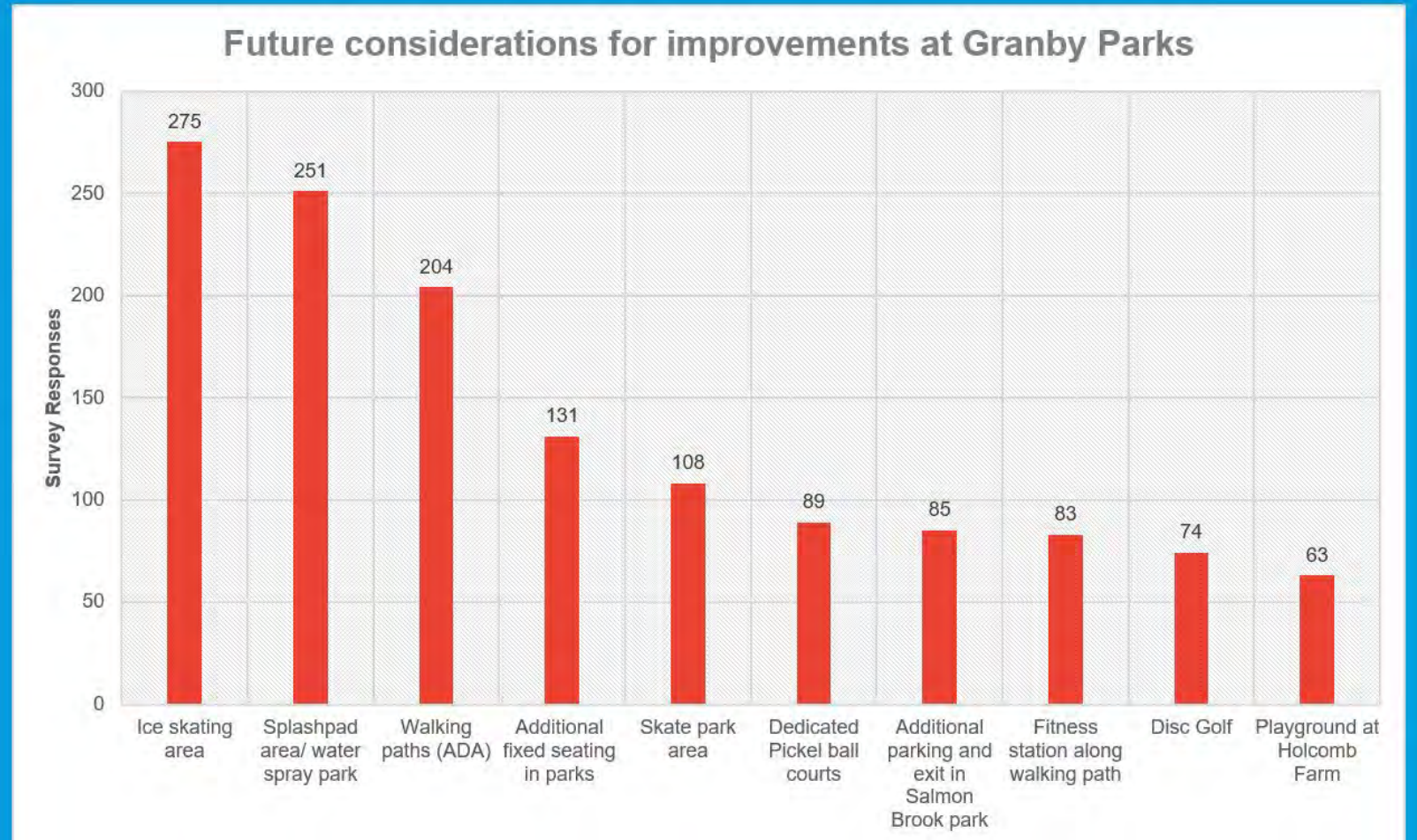
## 2. Fitness classes

## 3. General interest classes *(music, computers etc.)*



# TOP IMPROVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

1. Ice skating area
2. Splashpad/water spray park
3. Walking paths  
(*ADA accessible*)



# Recent Improvements



# Master Plan Goals

- Identify potential park improvements, and suitable locations
  - Possible ideas: contemplative garden, splash pad, skating, skateboarding
  - ADA accessibility
- Identify potential redundancies, conflicting uses, capacity limitations
  - Potentially relocating certain features
- Site analysis: landscape, infrastructure, climate, etc
- **Create a long-term Master Plan for both parks**
- Identify approximate timeframe, cost, permitting, etc



# Existing Conditions

# Salmon Brook Park



# Salmon Brook Park



202

20

WOODCLIFF DRIVE

PENDLETON ROAD

WEST GRANBY ROAD

COTTONWOOD CT

BOXWOOD CT

0 250 500 1,000 FEET



# Salmon Brook Park



WOODCLIFF DRIVE

202

20

WEST GRANBY ROAD

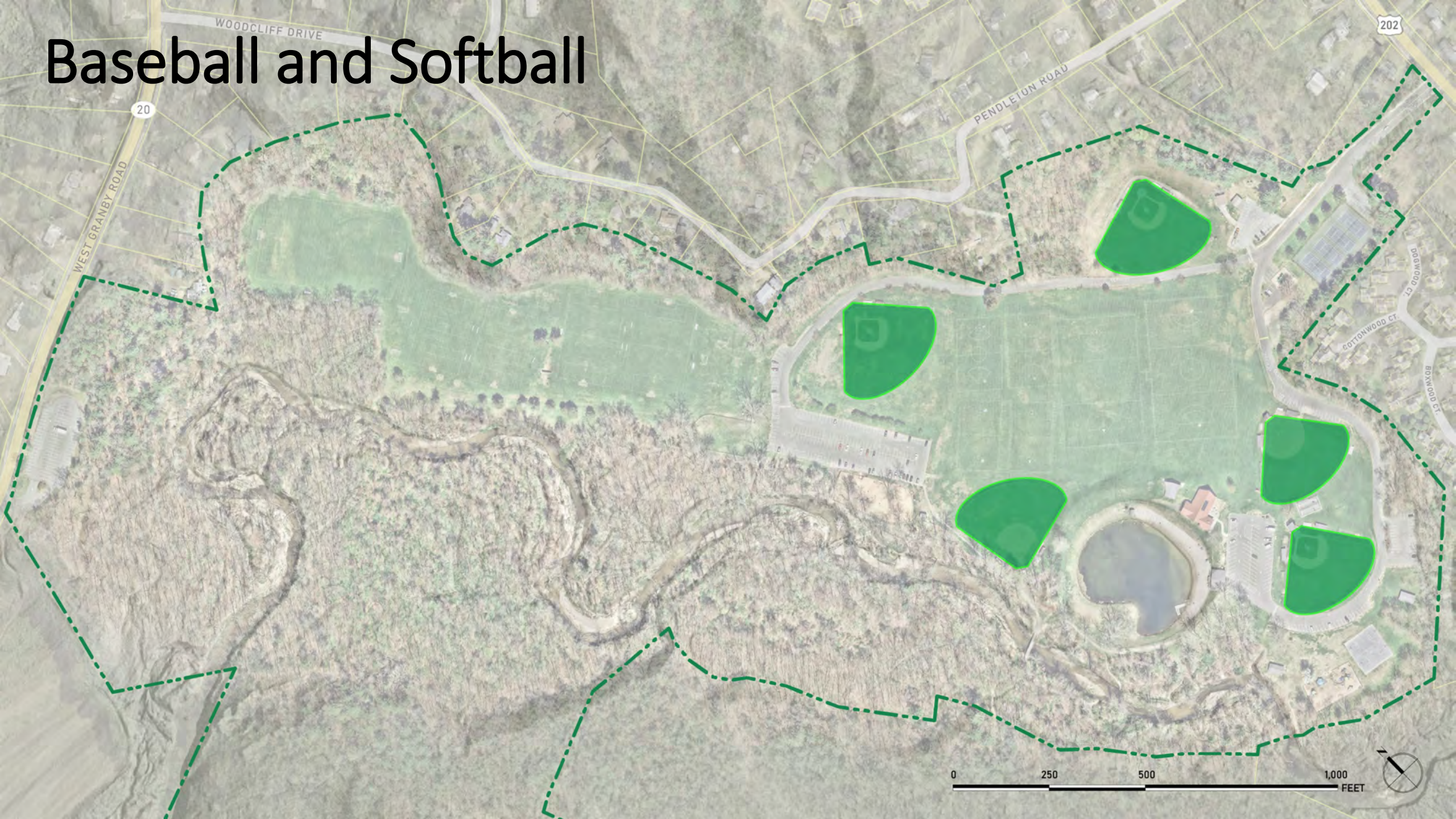
PENDLETON ROAD

COTTONWOOD CT  
BOXWOOD CT

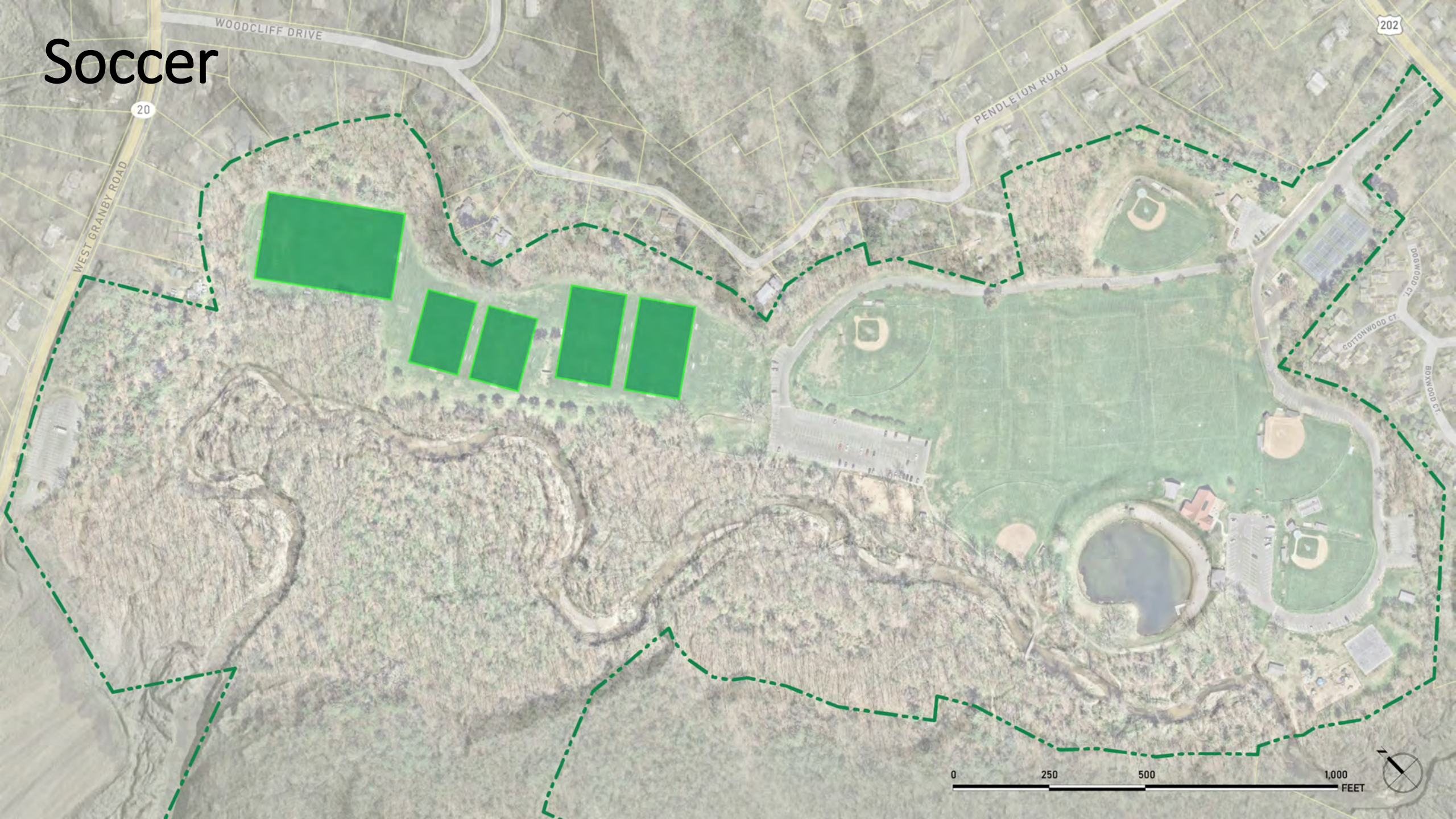
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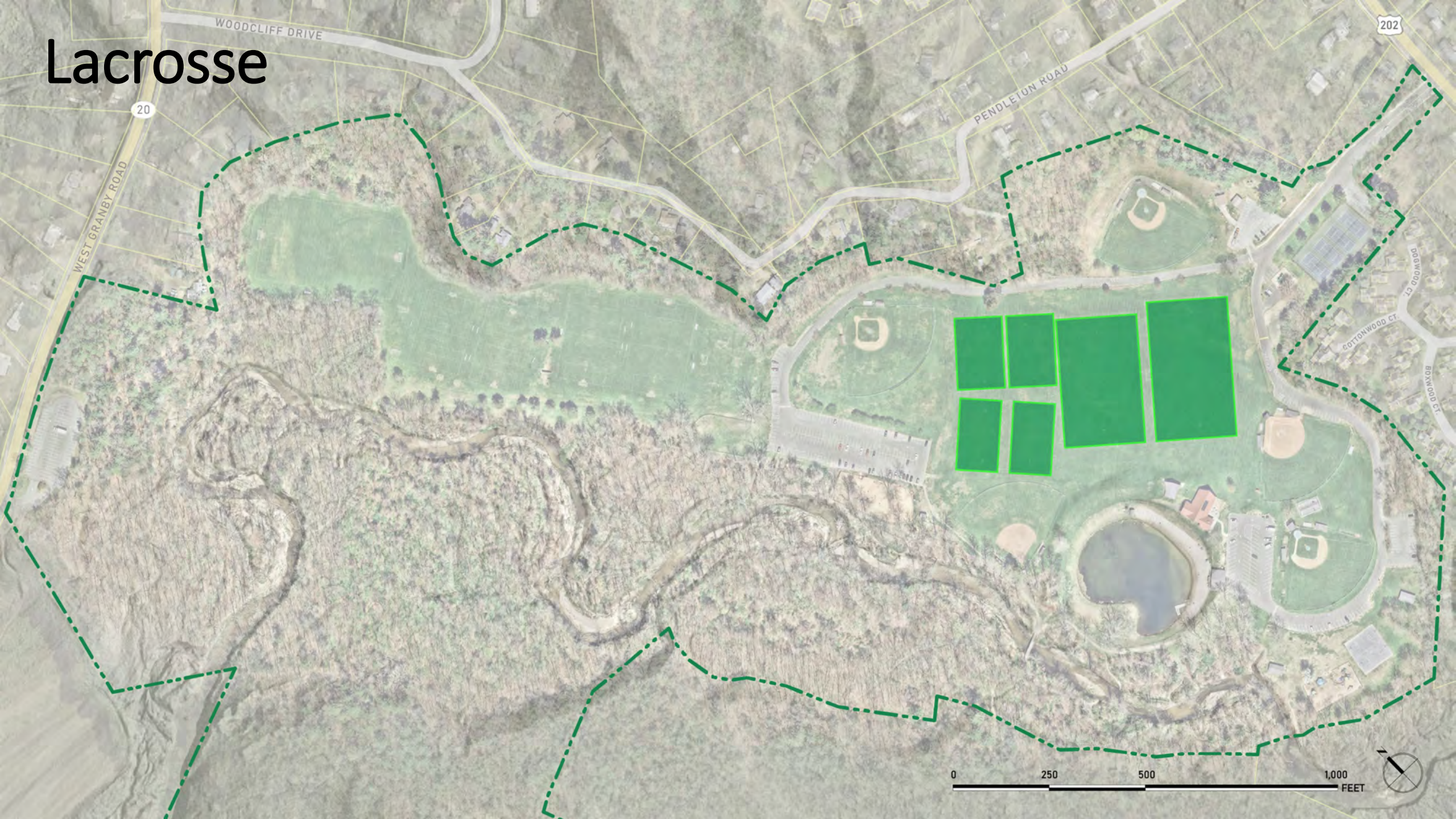
# Baseball and Softball



# Soccer



# Lacrosse



202

20

WEST GRANBY ROAD

WOODCLIFF DRIVE

PENDLETON ROAD

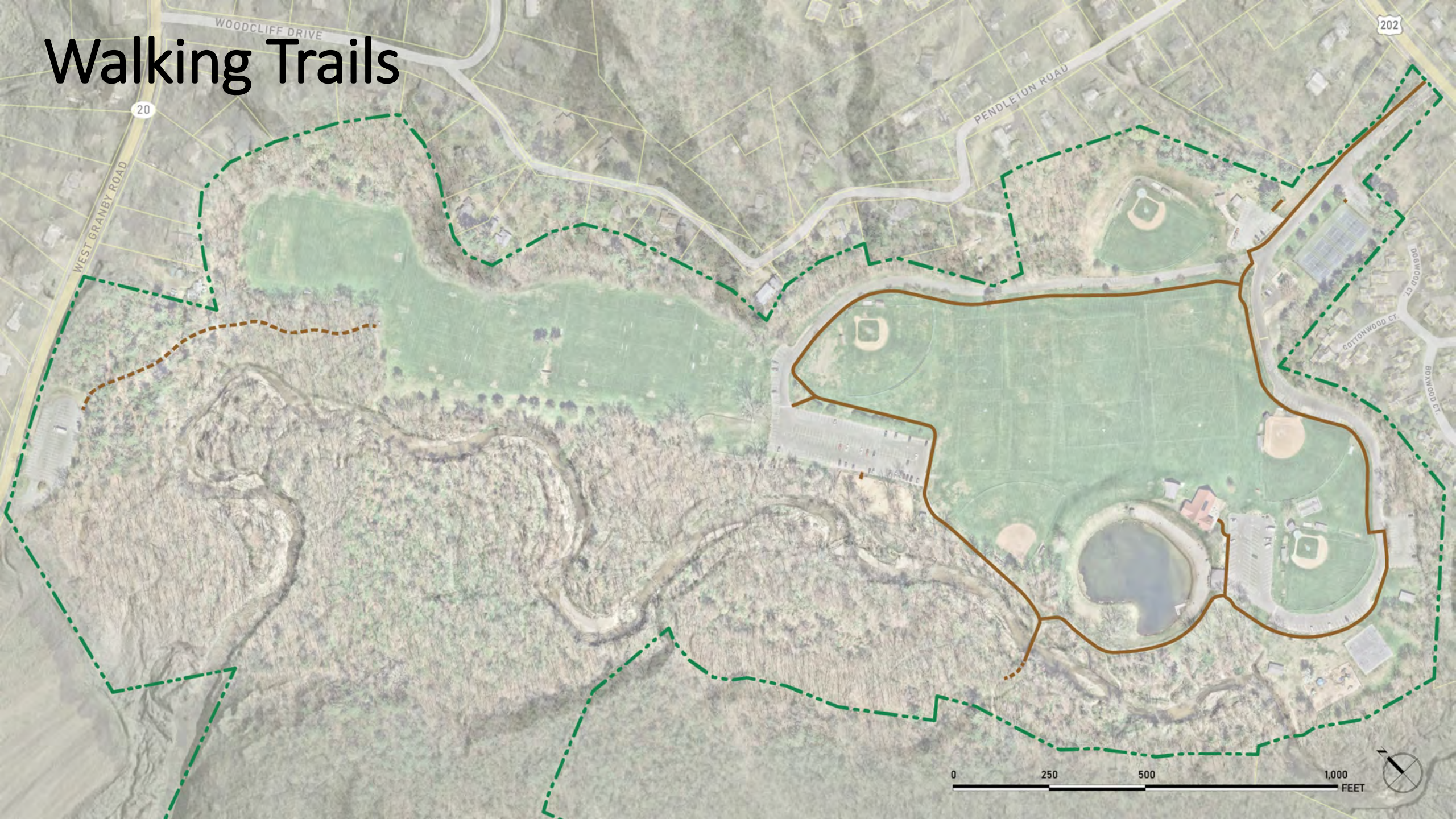
COTTONWOOD CT

BOXWOOD CT

0 250 500 1,000 FEET



# Walking Trails



# Parking Areas



0 250 500 1,000 FEET



# Buildings and Pavilions



# Playgrounds



WOODCLIFF DRIVE

202

20

WEST GRANBY ROAD

PENDLETON ROAD

ROBINWOOD CT

COTTONWOOD CT

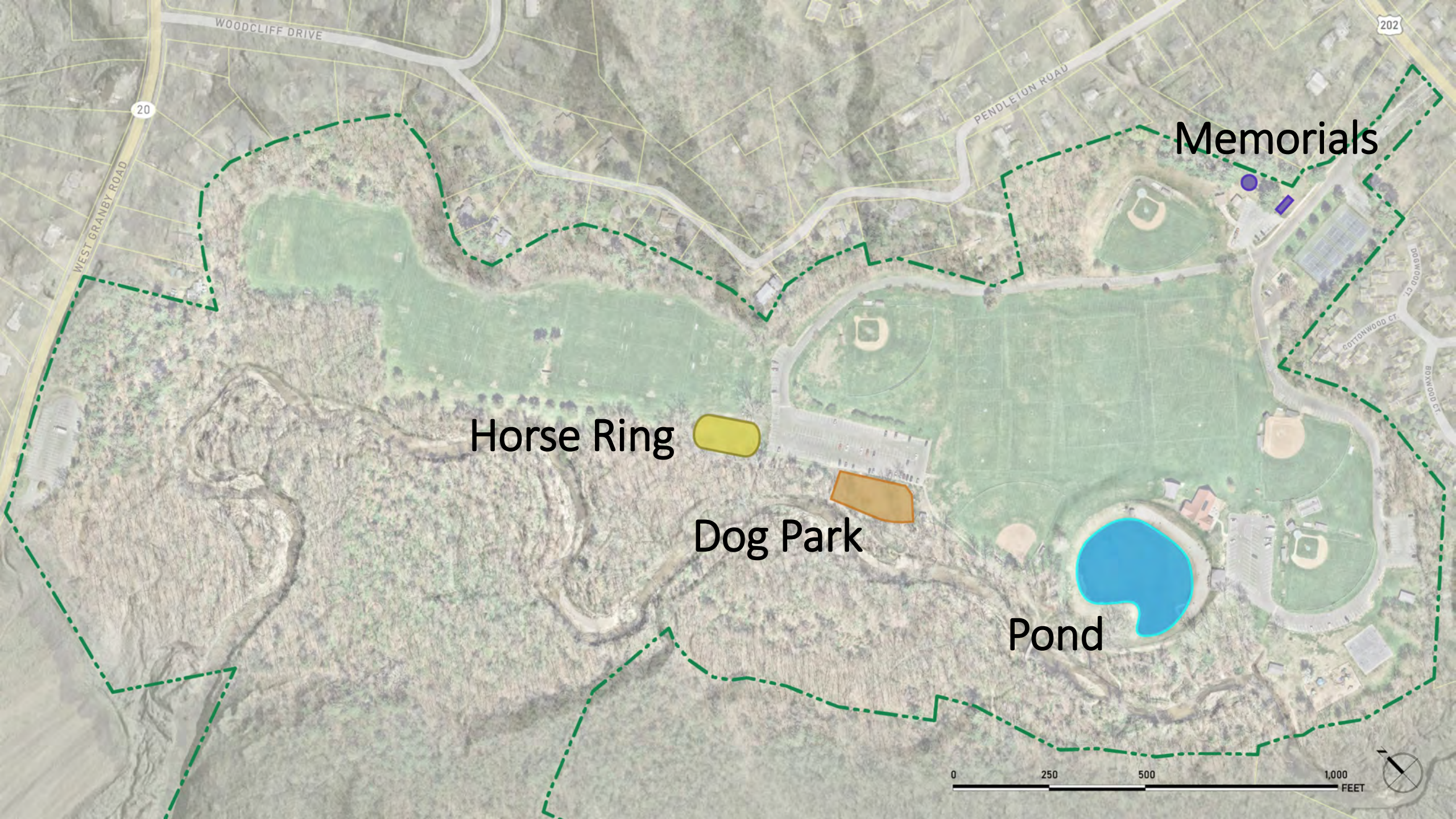
BOXWOOD CT

0 250 500 1,000 FEET



# Tennis and Basketball





WOODCLIFF DRIVE

202

20

WEST GRANBY ROAD

PENDLETON ROAD

Memorials

Horse Ring



Dog Park



Pond

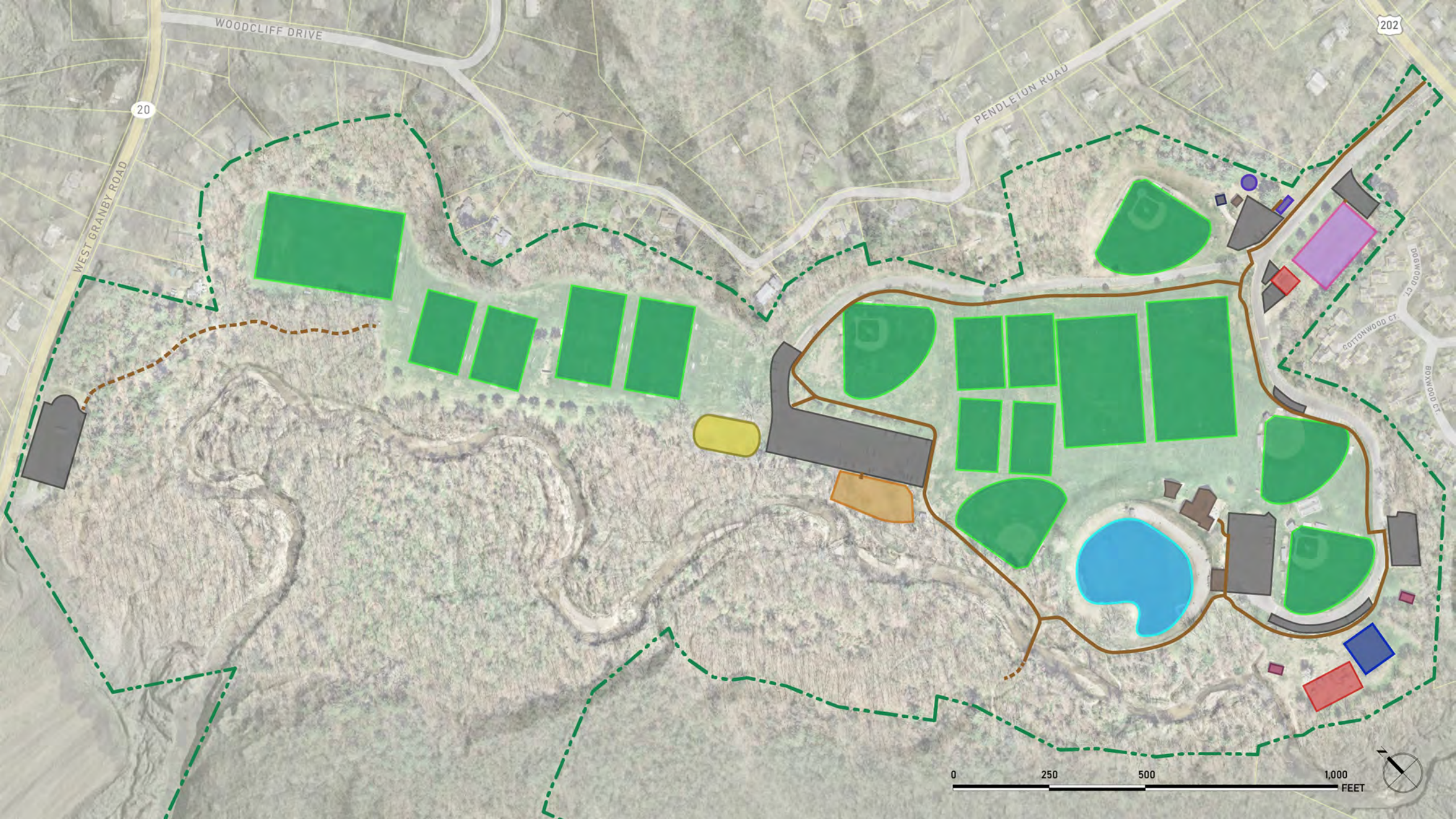


COTTONWOOD CT

BOXWOOD CT

0 250 500 1,000 FEET





WOODCLIFF DRIVE

202

20

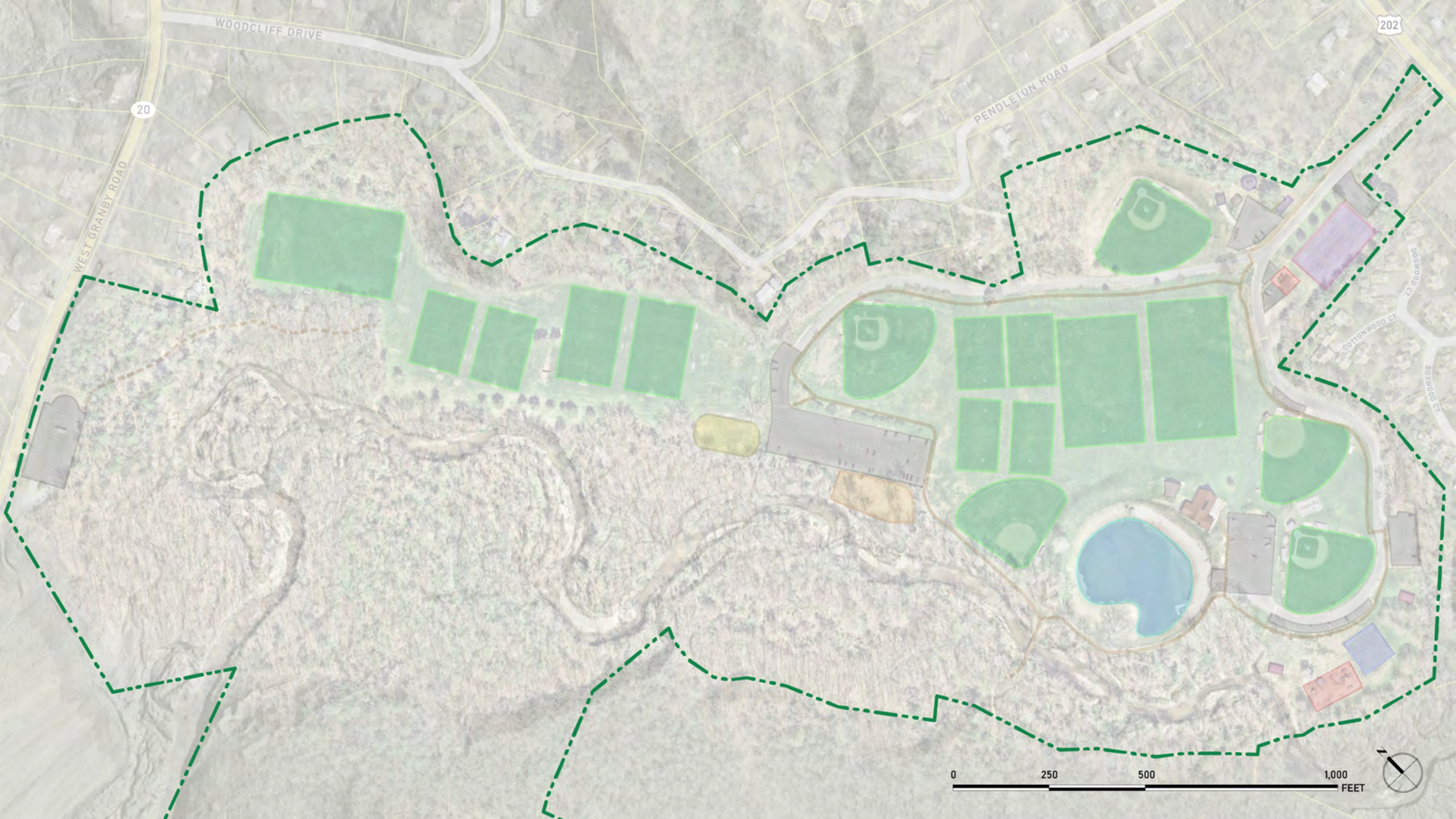
WEST GRANBY ROAD

PENDLETON ROAD

COTTONWOOD CT

BOXWOOD CT

0 250 500 1,000 FEET



WOODCLIFF DRIVE

202

20

WEST GRANBY ROAD

PENDLETON ROAD

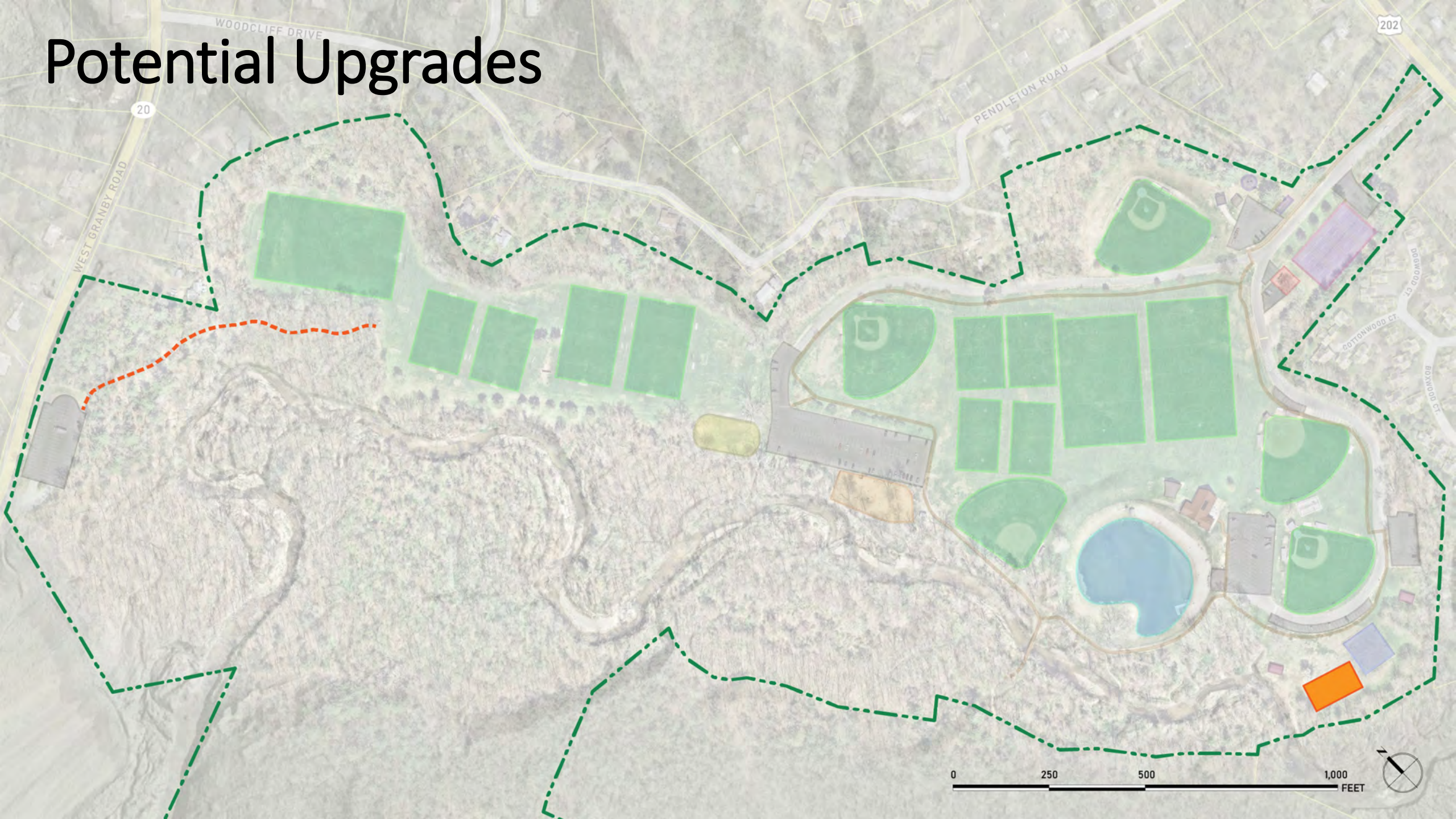
COTTONWOOD CT

BOXWOOD CT

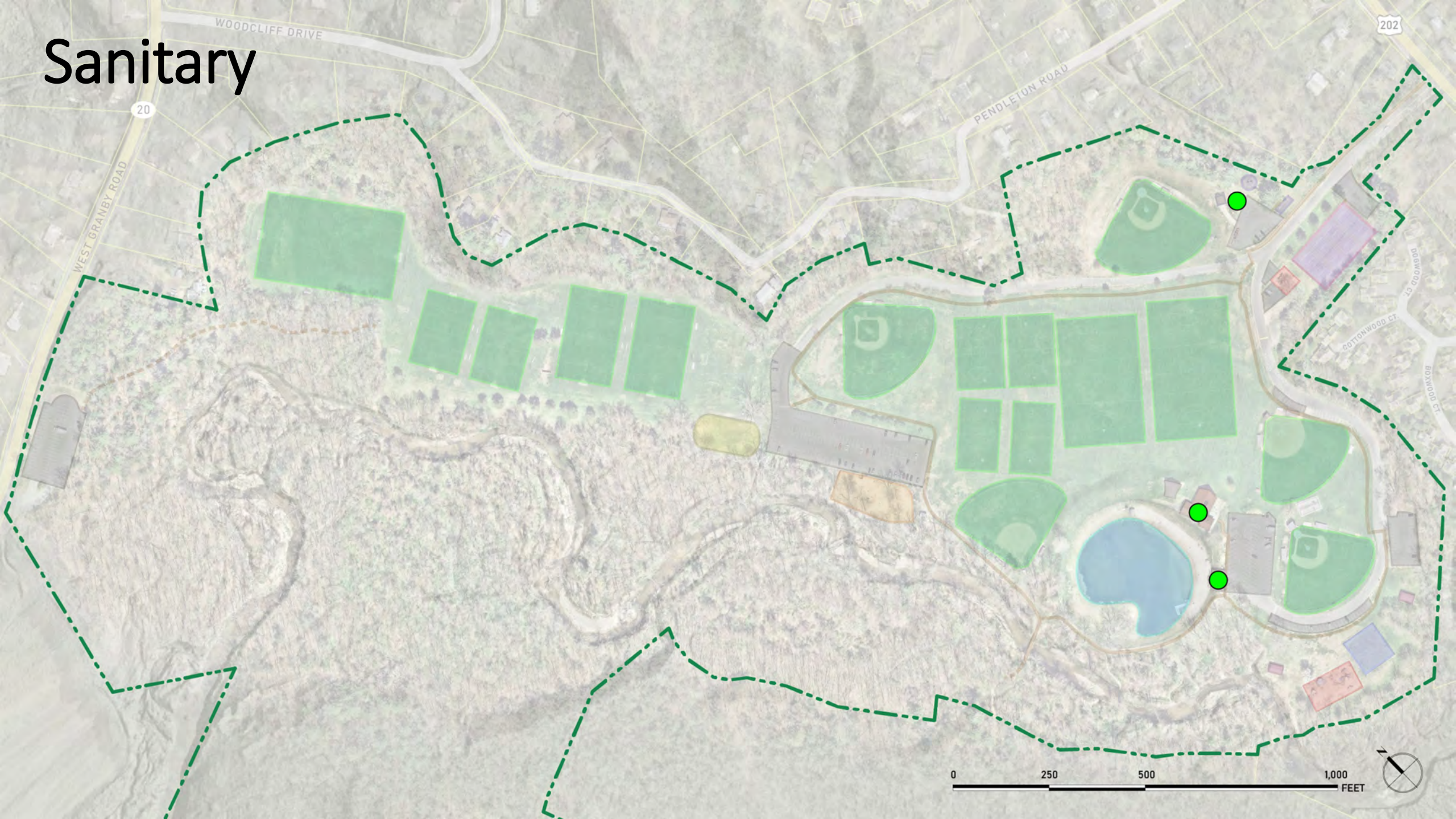
0 250 500 1,000 FEET



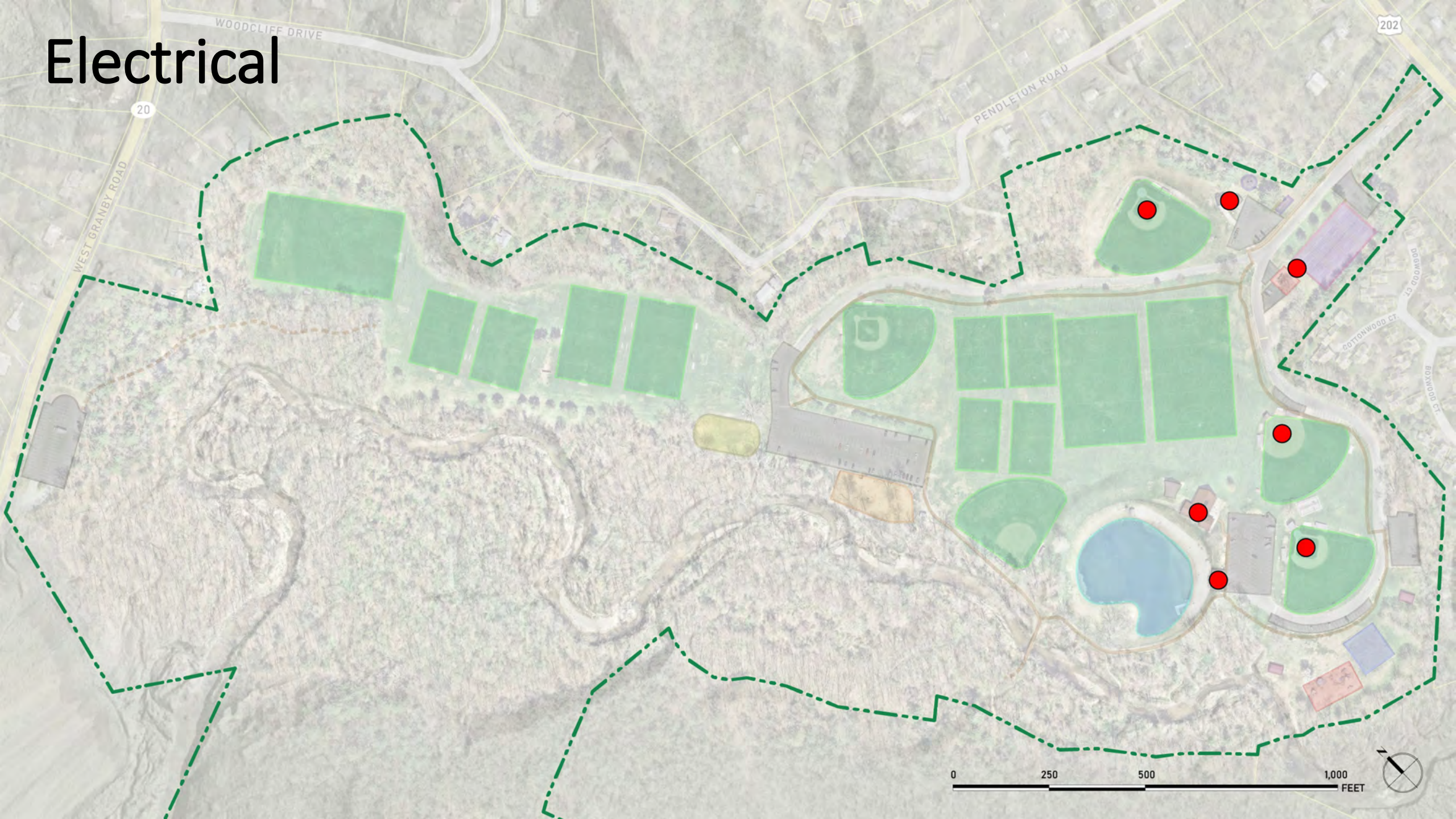
# Potential Upgrades



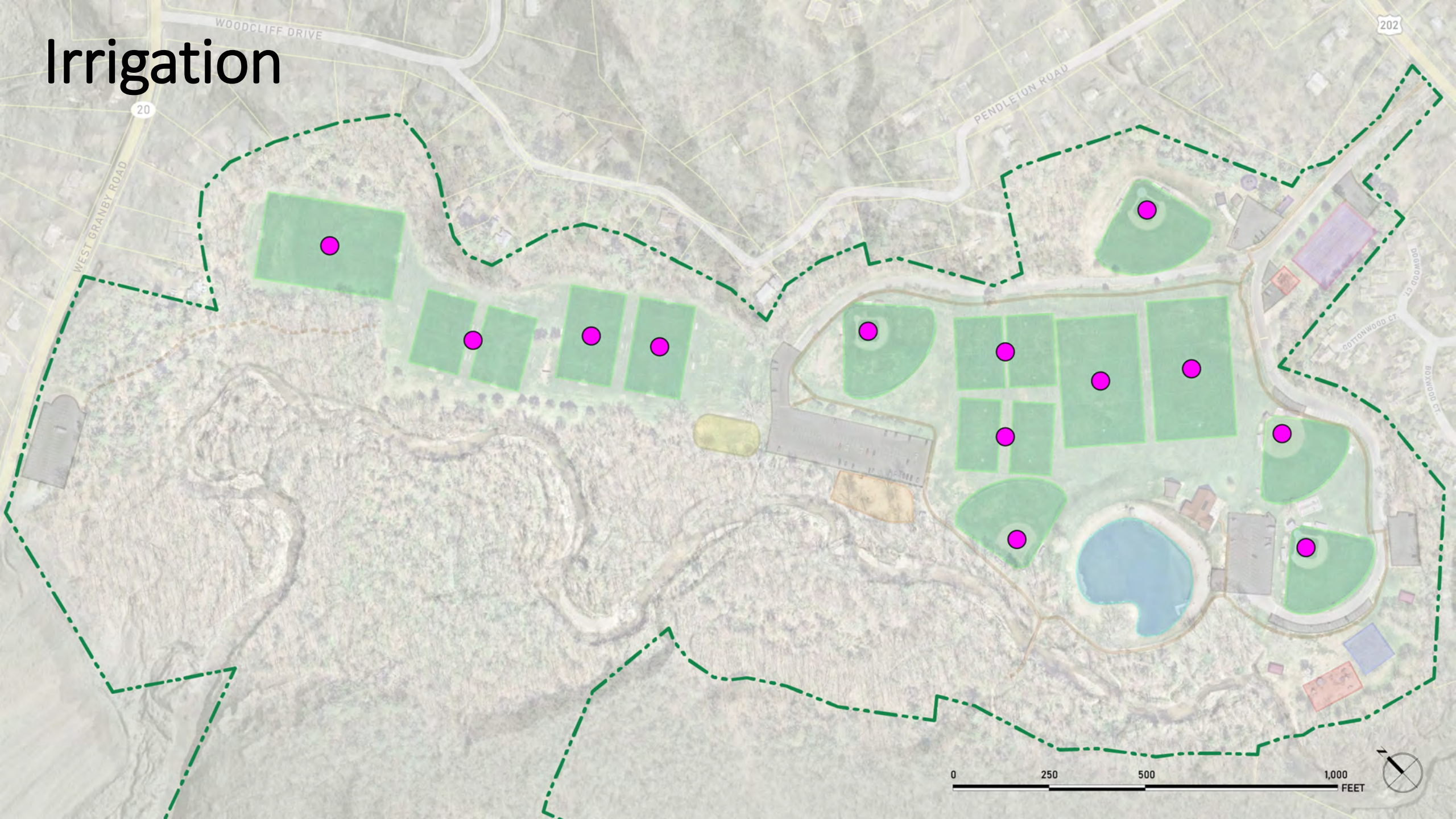
# Sanitary



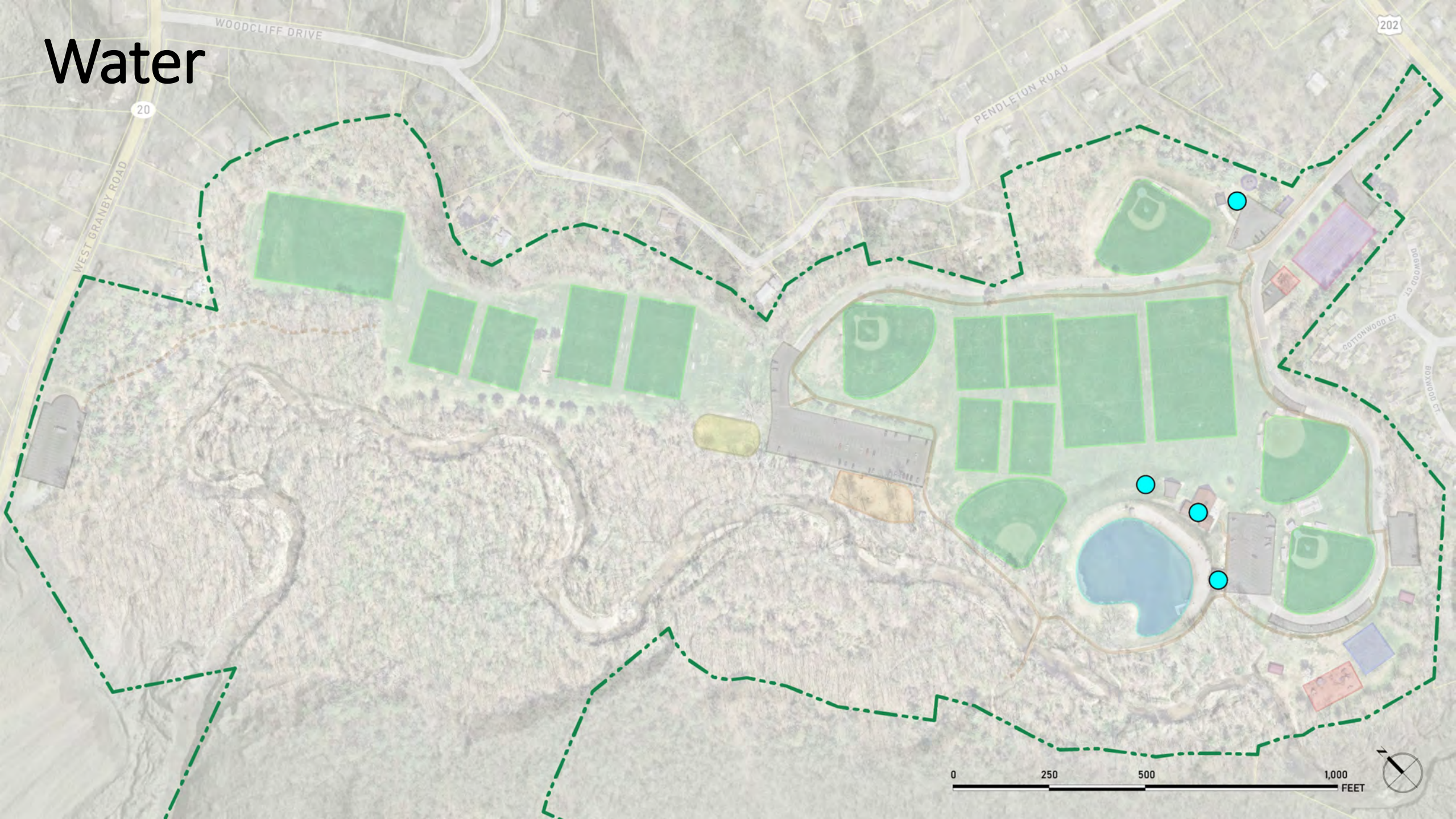
# Electrical



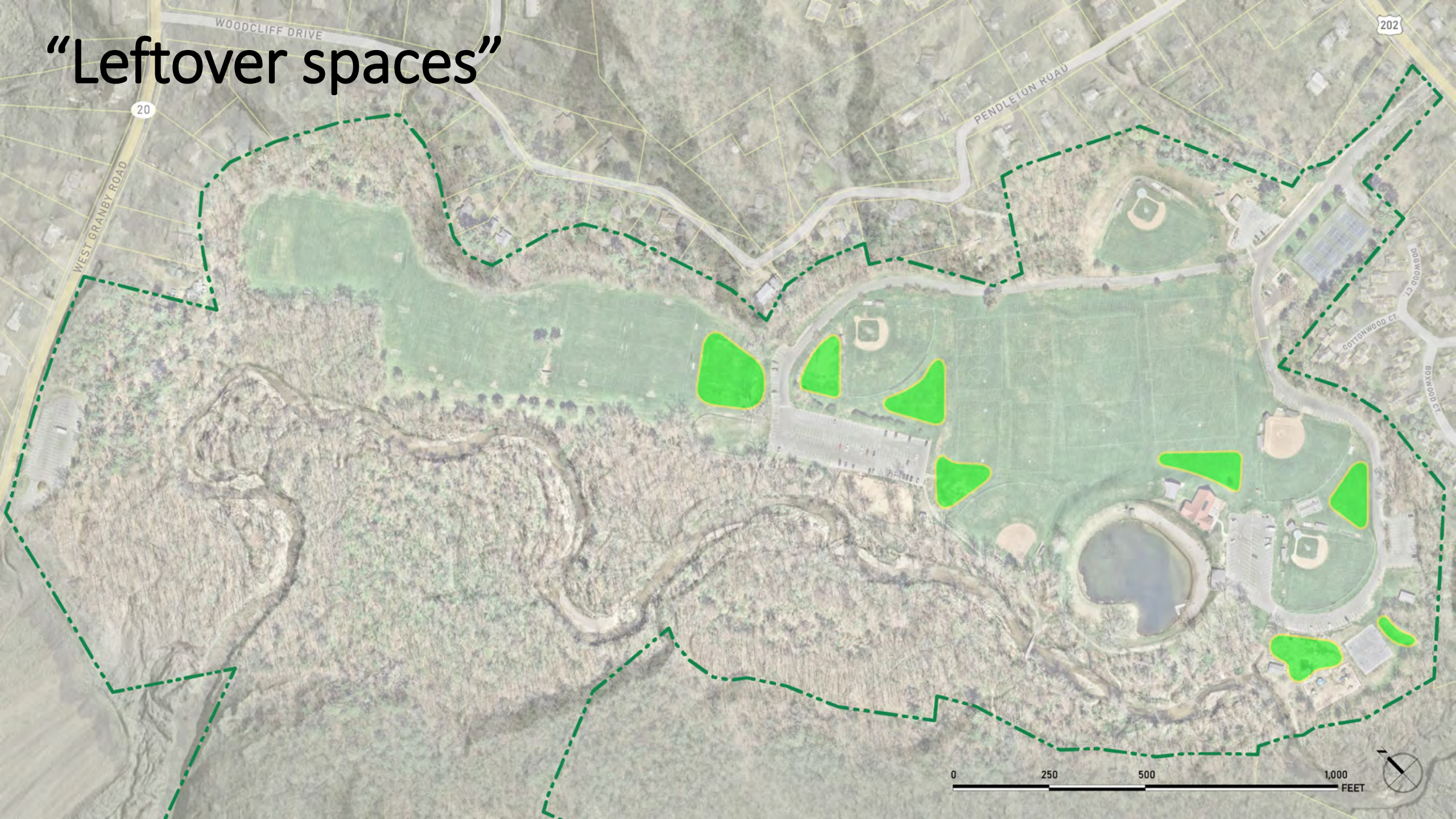
# Irrigation



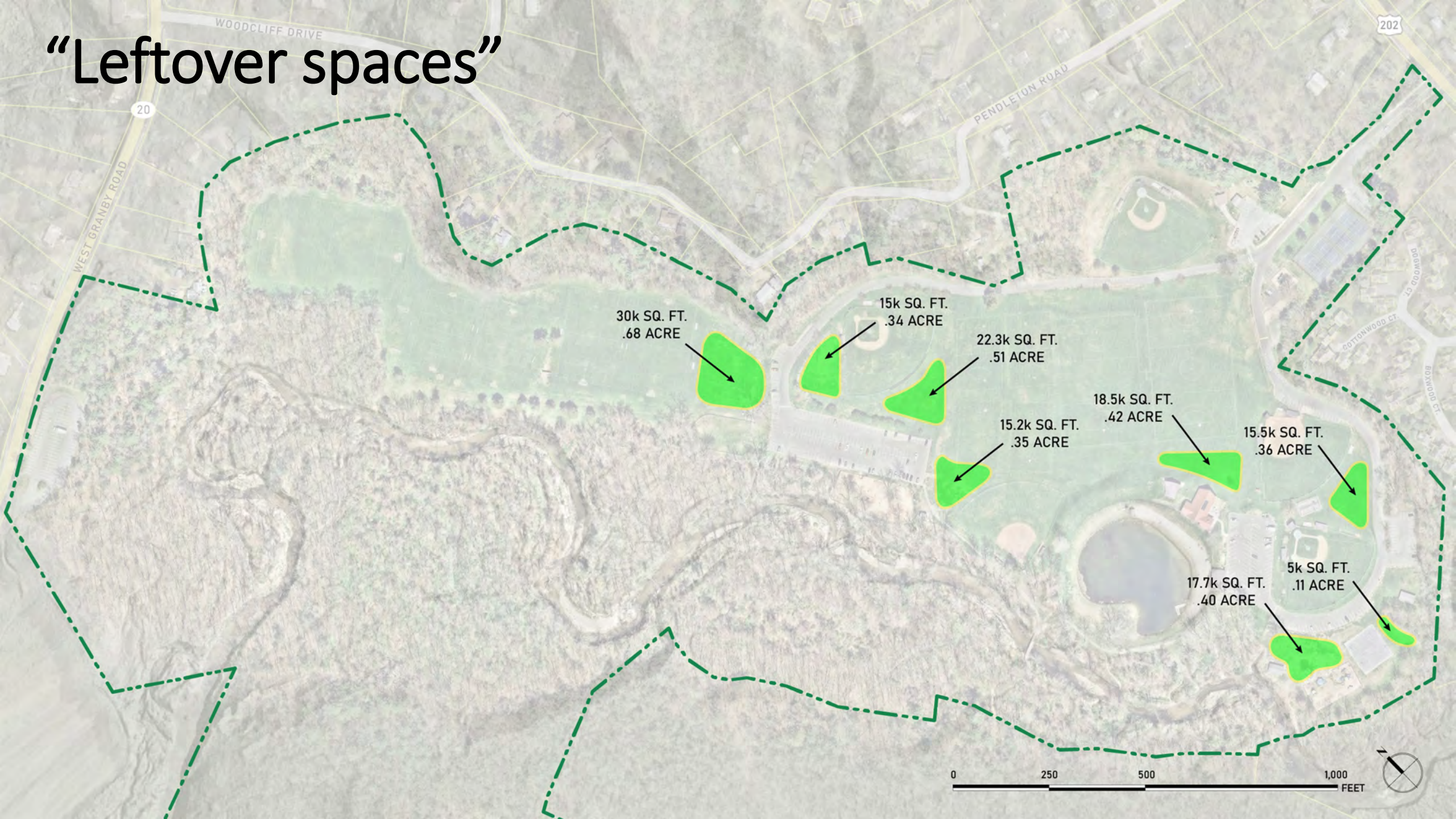
# Water



“Leftover spaces”



# "Leftover spaces"



# Flood-prone area (approximate)





WOODCLIFF DRIVE

202

20

WEST GRANBY ROAD

PENDLETON ROAD

COTTONWOOD CT.

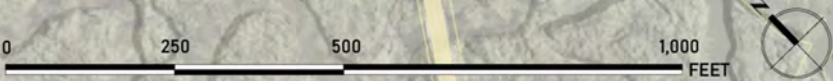
DOGWOOD CT.

BOXWOOD CT.

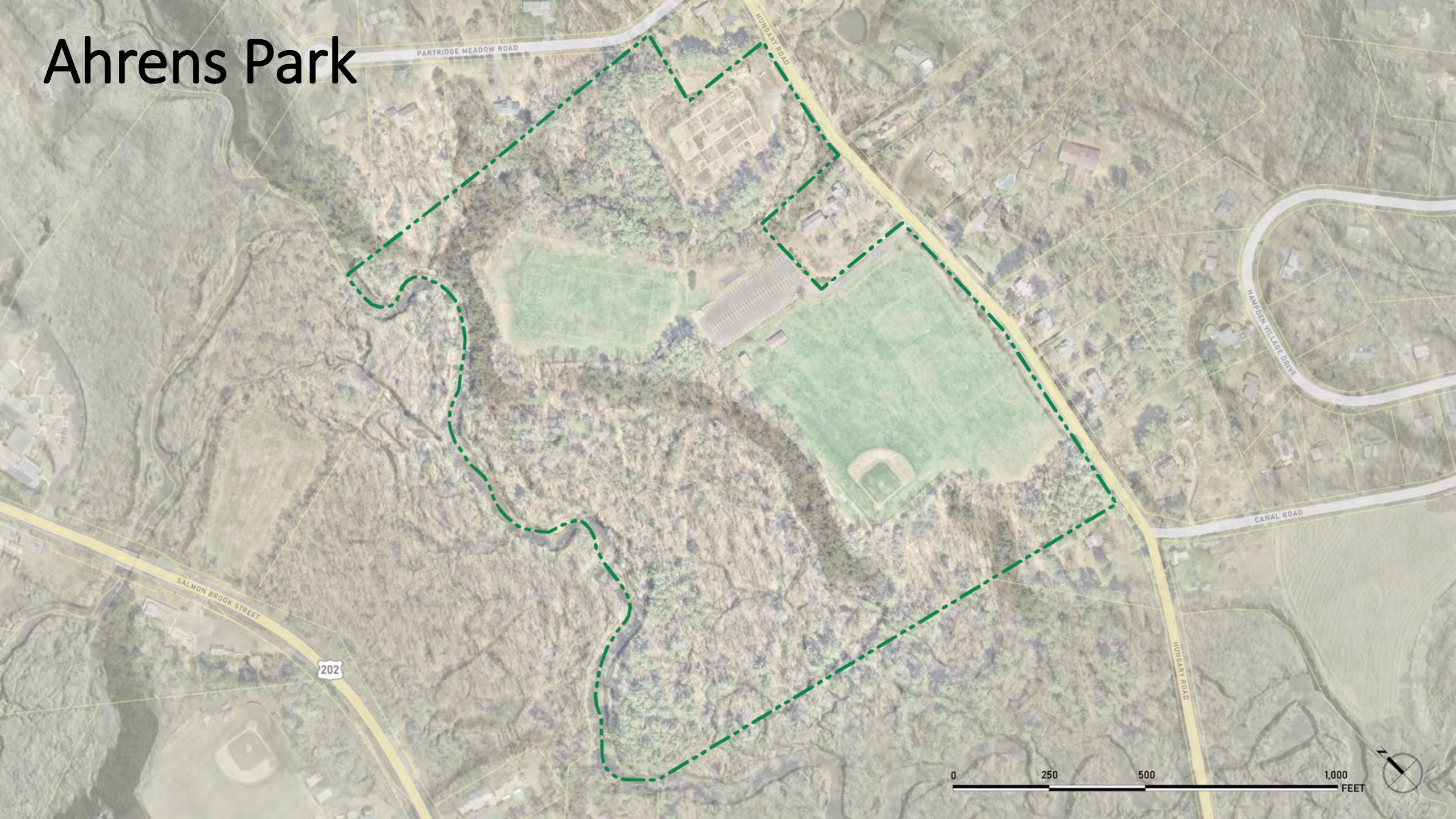
# Ahrens Park

This aerial map shows Ahrens Park, a large green field with a baseball diamond, situated in a wooded area. The park is bordered by Partridge Meadow Road to the north, Hungart Road to the east, and Salmon Brook Street to the south. A winding stream flows through the park's western side. Surrounding the park are residential areas with houses and other green spaces. A yellow line, likely a utility or boundary line, runs along Hungart Road and Salmon Brook Street. A road sign for Highway 202 is visible near Salmon Brook Street.

# Ahrens Park



# Ahrens Park



PARTRIDGE MEADOW ROAD

HUNGARY ROAD

HAMPDEN VILLA DE DRIVE

CANAL ROAD

SALMON BROOK STREET

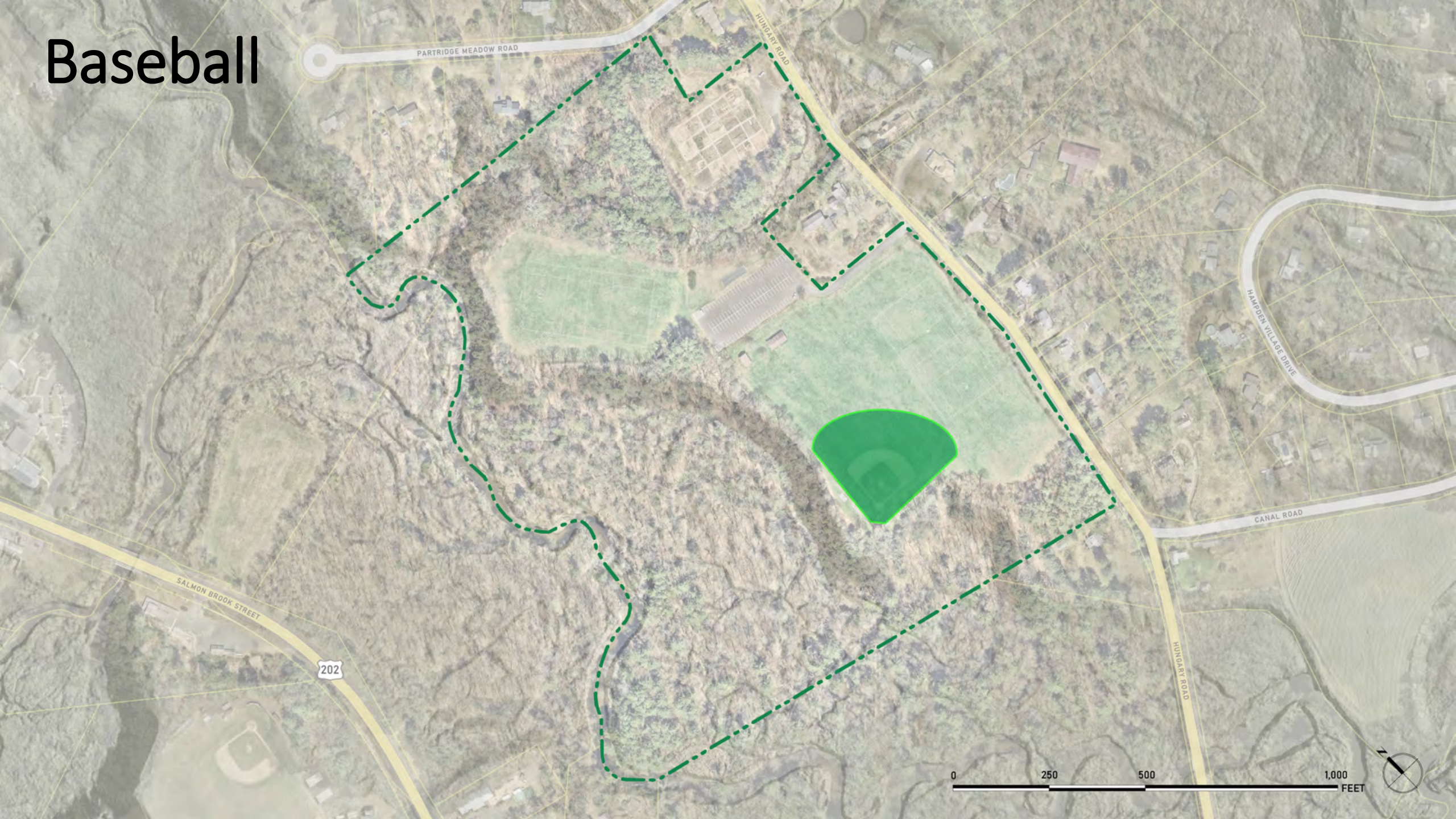
202

HUNGART ROAD

0 250 500 1,000 FEET



# Baseball



PARTRIDGE MEADOW ROAD

HUNGART ROAD

HAMPDEN VILLA DE DRIVE

CANAL ROAD

SALMON BROOK STREET

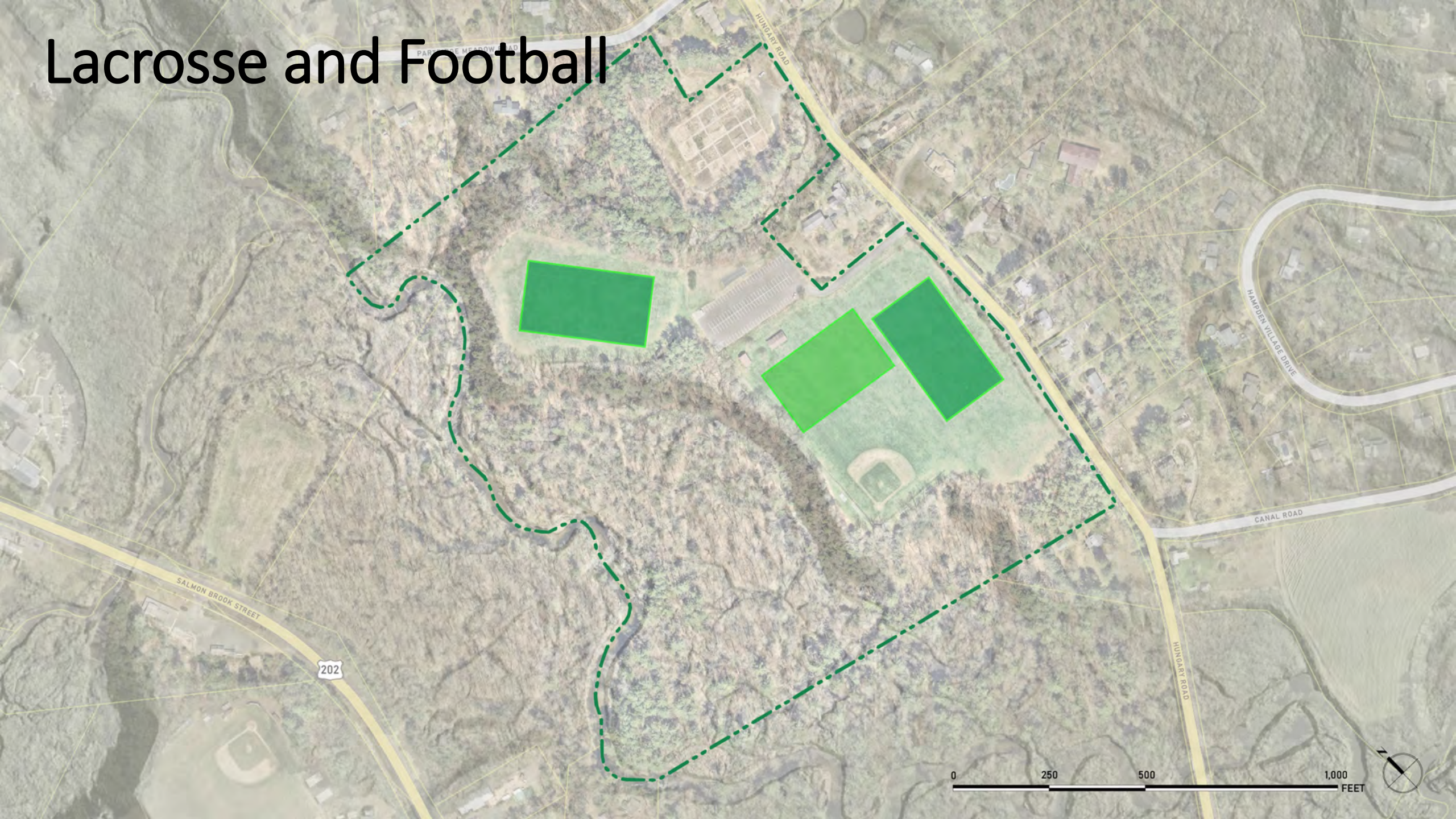
202

HUNGART ROAD

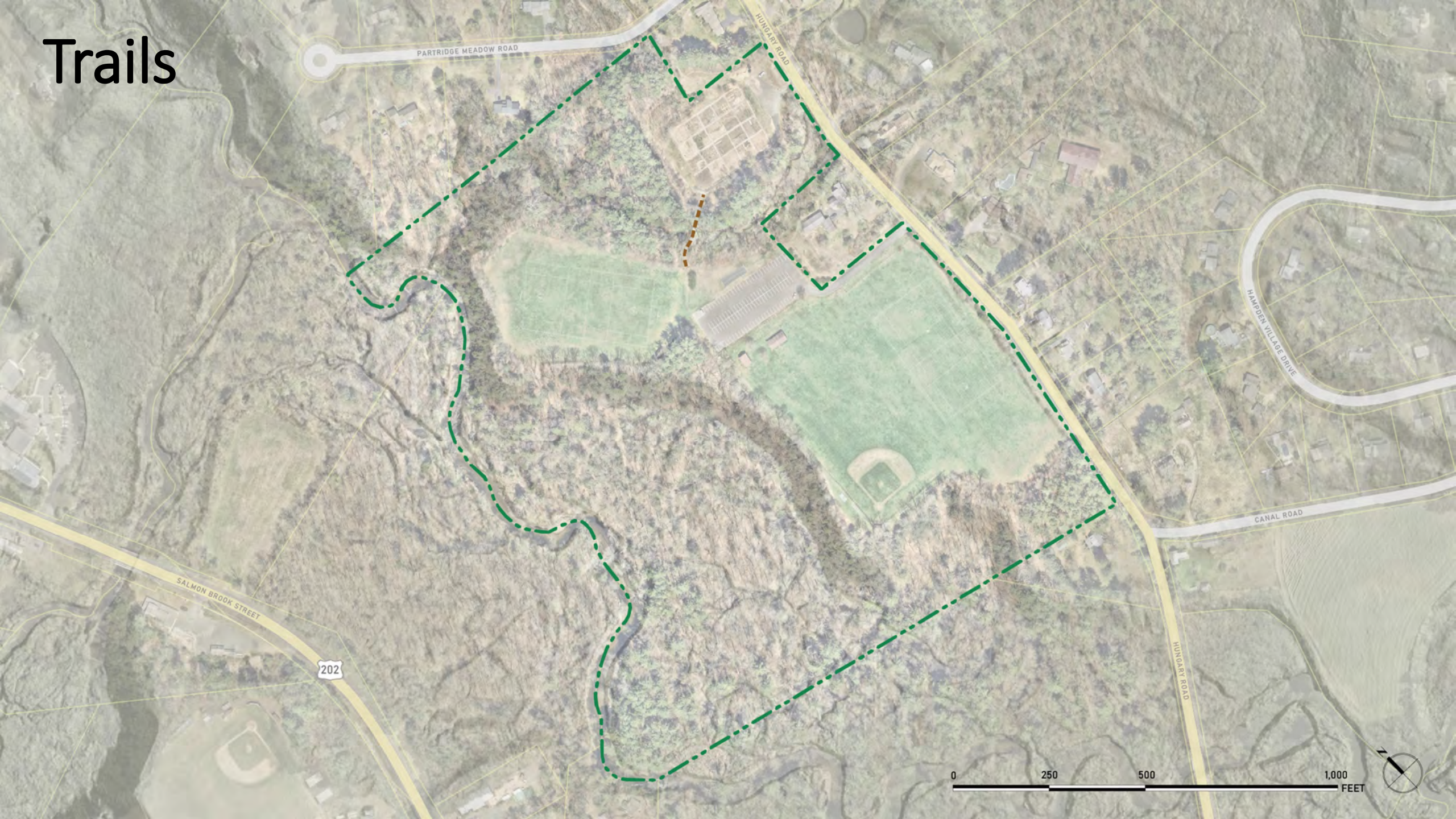
0 250 500 1,000 FEET



# Lacrosse and Football



# Trails



PARTRIDGE MEADOW ROAD

HUNGART ROAD

RAMPTON VILLA DE DRIVE

CANAL ROAD

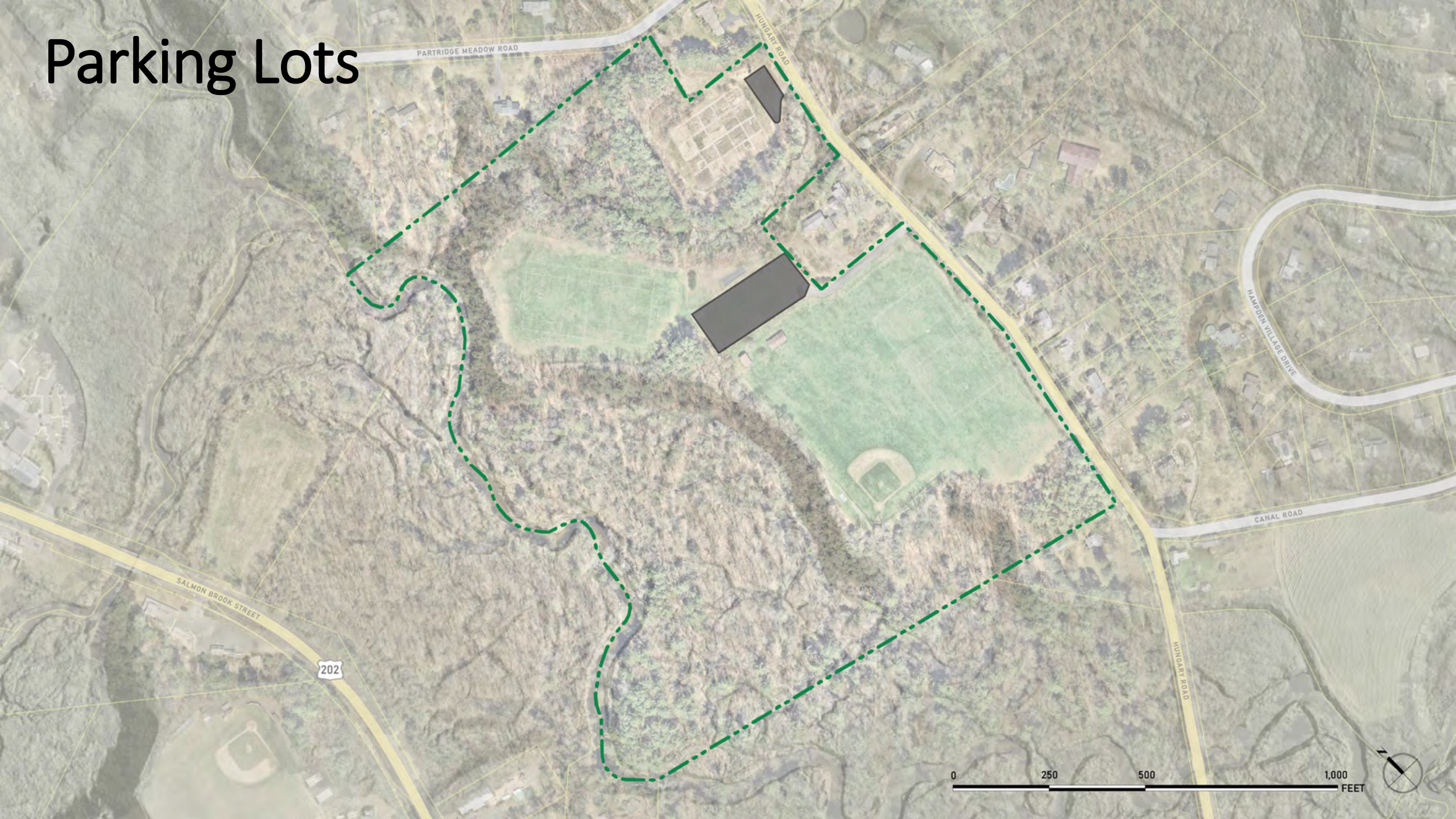
SALMON BROOK STREET

202

0 250 500 1,000 FEET



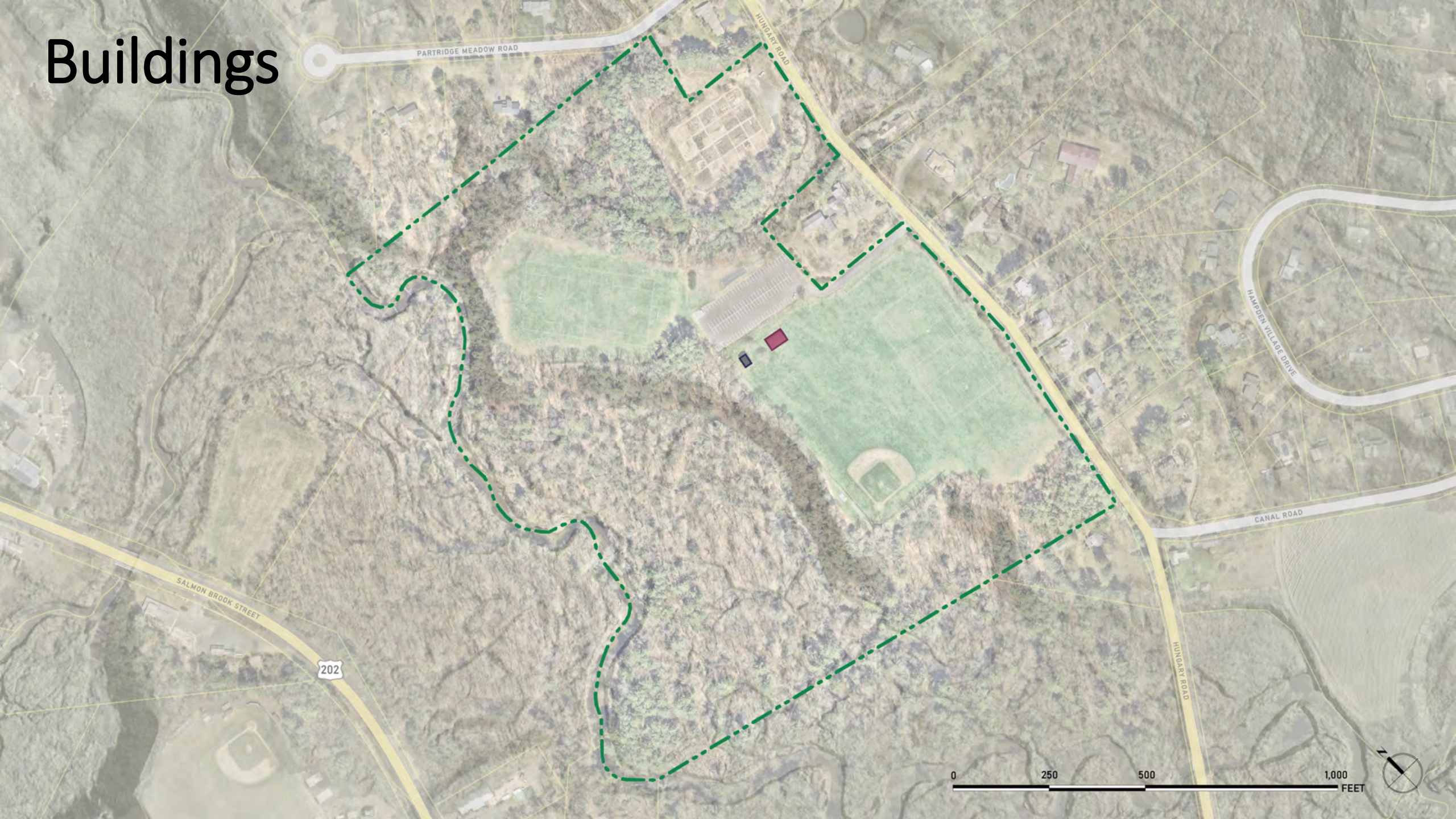
# Parking Lots



0 250 500 1,000 FEET



# Buildings



PARTRIDGE MEADOW ROAD

HUNGART ROAD

HAMPDEN VILLAGE DRIVE

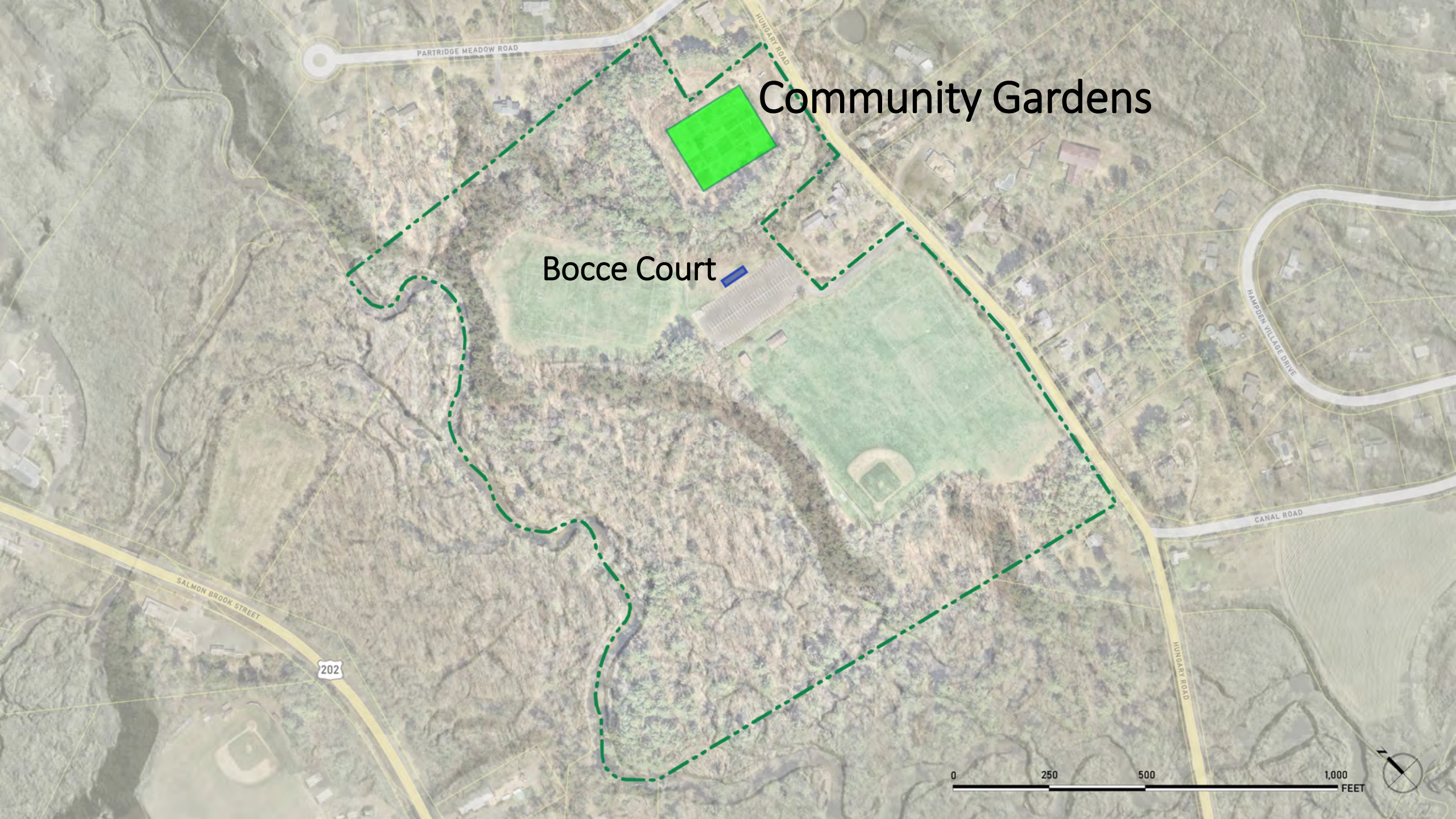
CANAL ROAD

SALMON BROOK STREET

202

HUNGART ROAD

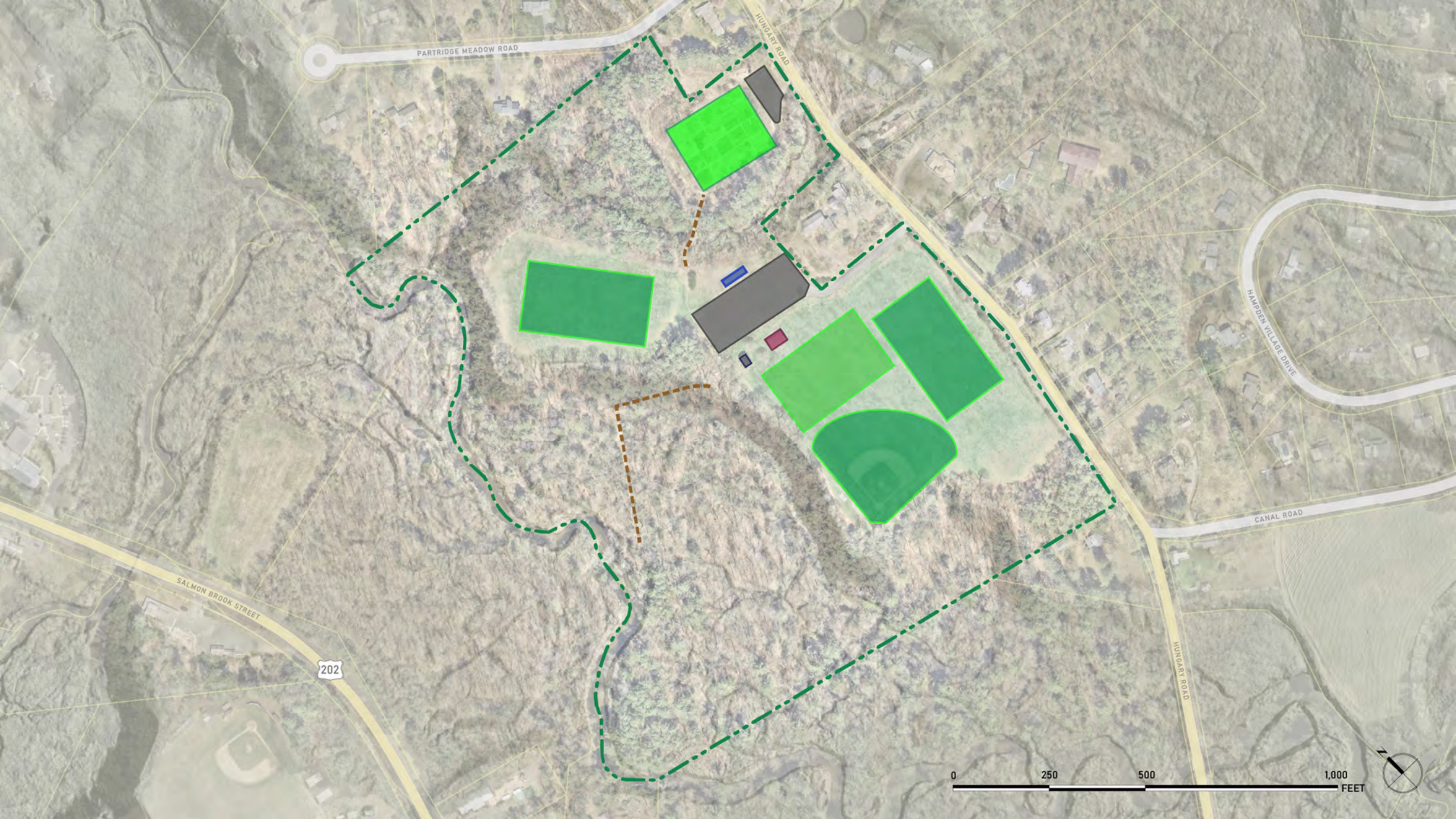
0 250 500 1,000 FEET



Community Gardens

Bocce Court

0 250 500 1,000 FEET



PARTRIDGE MEADOW ROAD

HUNGART ROAD

HAMPDEN VILLAGE DRIVE

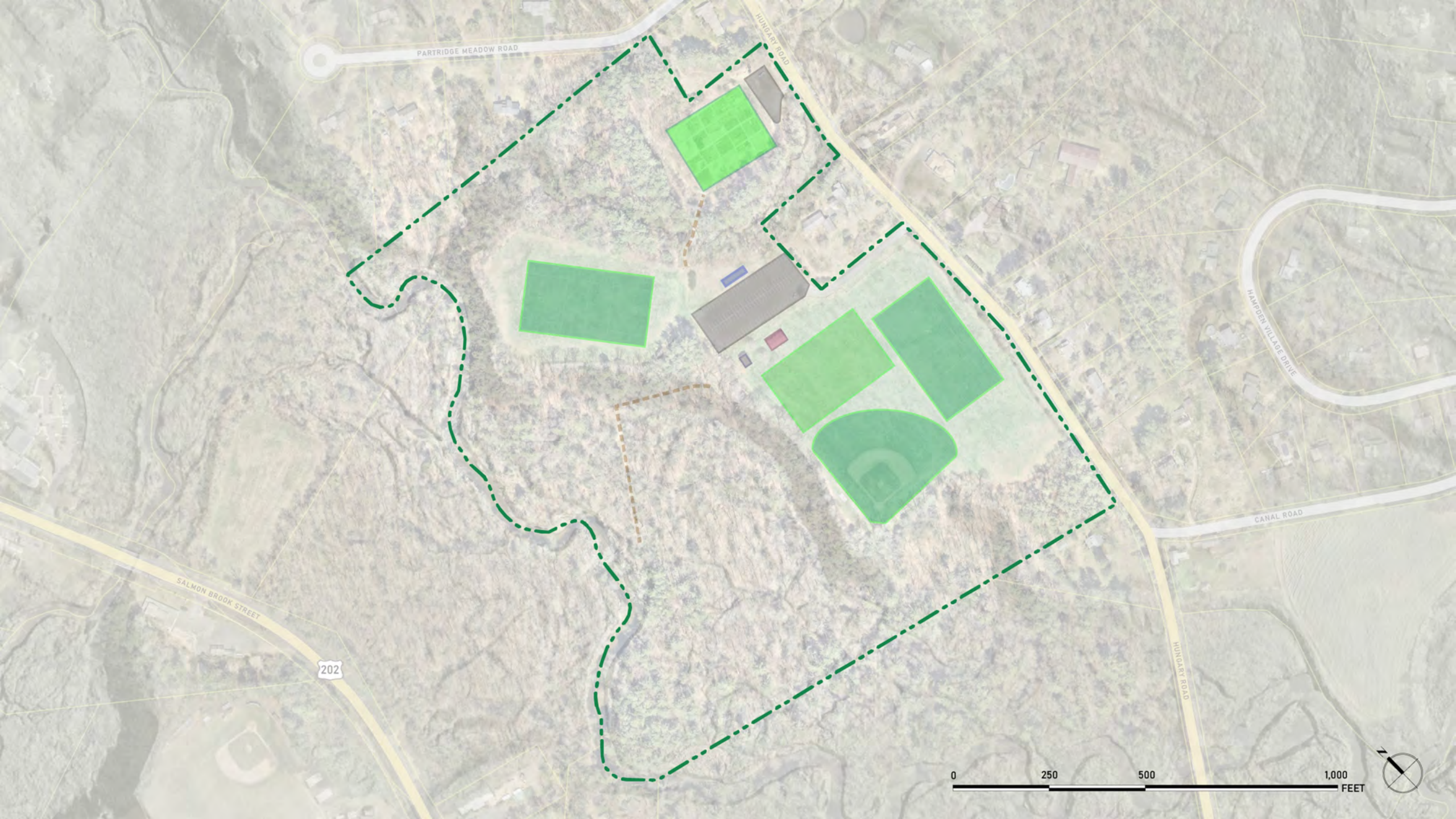
CANAL ROAD

SALMON BROOK STREET

202

0 250 500 1,000 FEET





PARTRIDGE MEADOW ROAD

HUNGART ROAD

HAMPDEN VILLAGE DRIVE

CANAL ROAD

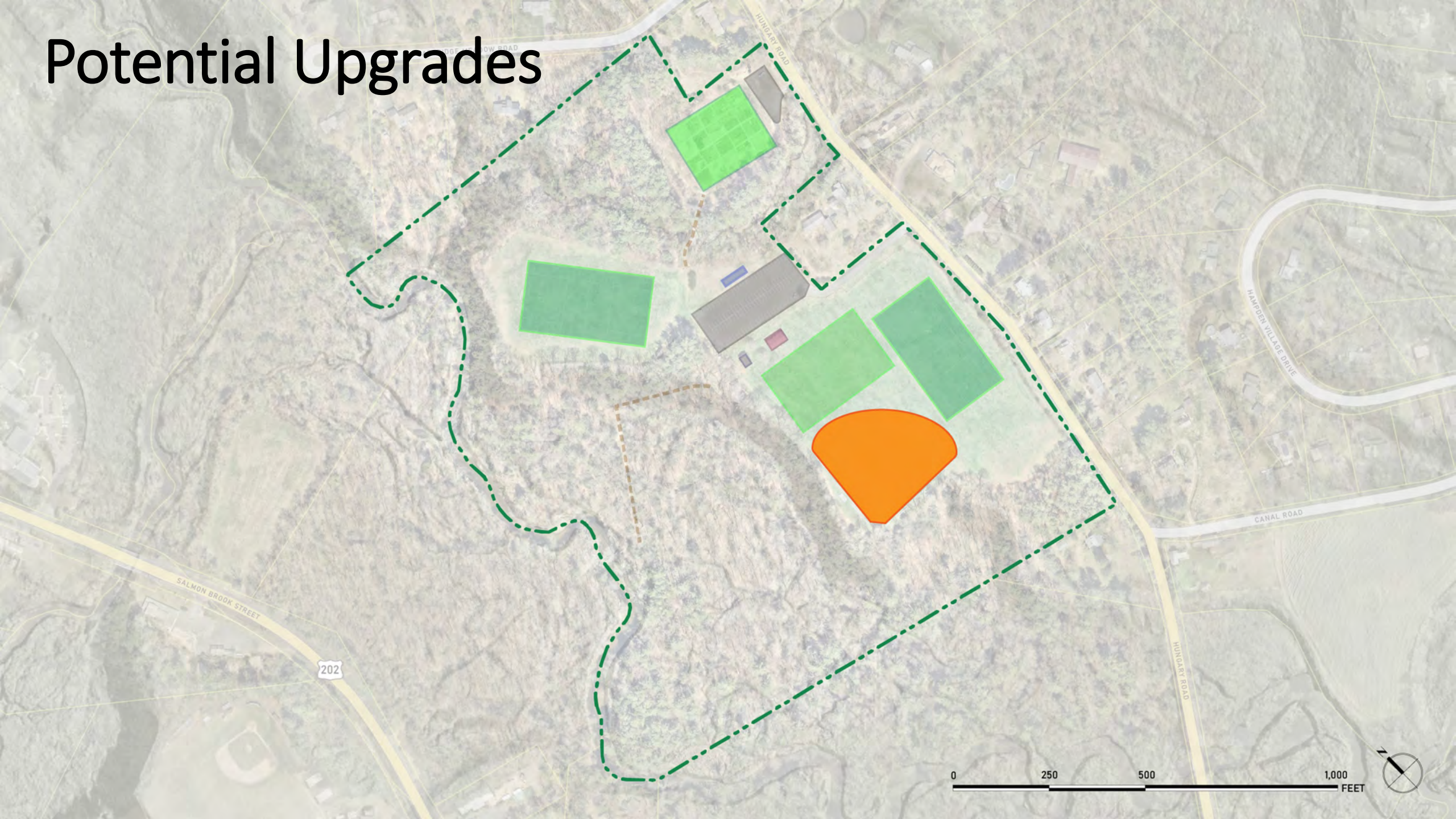
SALMON BROOK STREET

202

0 250 500 1,000 FEET



# Potential Upgrades



SALMON BROOK STREET

202

HUNGART ROAD

HAMPDEN VILLA DRIVE

CANAL ROAD

HUNGART ROAD

0 250 500 1,000 FEET





PARTRIDGE MEADOW ROAD

HUNGART ROAD

HAMPDEN VILLAGE DRIVE

CANALS ROAD

SALMON BROOK STREET

202

HUNGART ROAD

# Challenges



# Challenges

- Coordinating many facilities, periodic updates
- Flood-prone area in south end of Salmon Brook Park
- Identifying locations for new park facilities:
  - Limited available space in Salmon Brook
  - Use of Ahrens Park



*Erosion on unpaved path to Rt 20 parking lot*



*Playground in flood-prone area*





# Opportunities

# Opportunities

- Underutilized space at Ahrens, could locate new facilities there
- Opportunities for more efficient uses of space at Salmon Brook
- Both parks have parking, restrooms, infrastructure
- Parks well-utilized by community and in good condition overall



*Ahrens Park restroom*



*Ahrens Park fields*

# Opportunities

## New Recreational Features?

- Misting/ Cooling
- Splash Pad
- Fitness Equipment
- Skate Park
- Pump Track



# Opportunities

## Making Space?

- Re-arranging sports fields to free up space?
- Efficiencies with times of year, underutilized fields at Ahrens?
- Relocating any features to Ahrens?



# Opportunities

## Improving Sports Fields?

- Adding lights?
- Adding/ improving bleachers?



# Opportunities

## New Landscape Features?

- Shade Structures
- Trees
- Pollinator Gardens
- Food Forests
- Benches, Picnic Tables
- Upgraded Nature Trails



# Opportunities

## Playground Upgrades?



# Discussion



# Discussion Questions

- What new recreational facilities would you like to see at the parks?
- What are the most valuable aspects of the parks to you?
- Are there particular issues you think need to be addressed in the parks?
- Would you be open to relocating any park elements to Ahrens Park?
- Any other questions or comments?

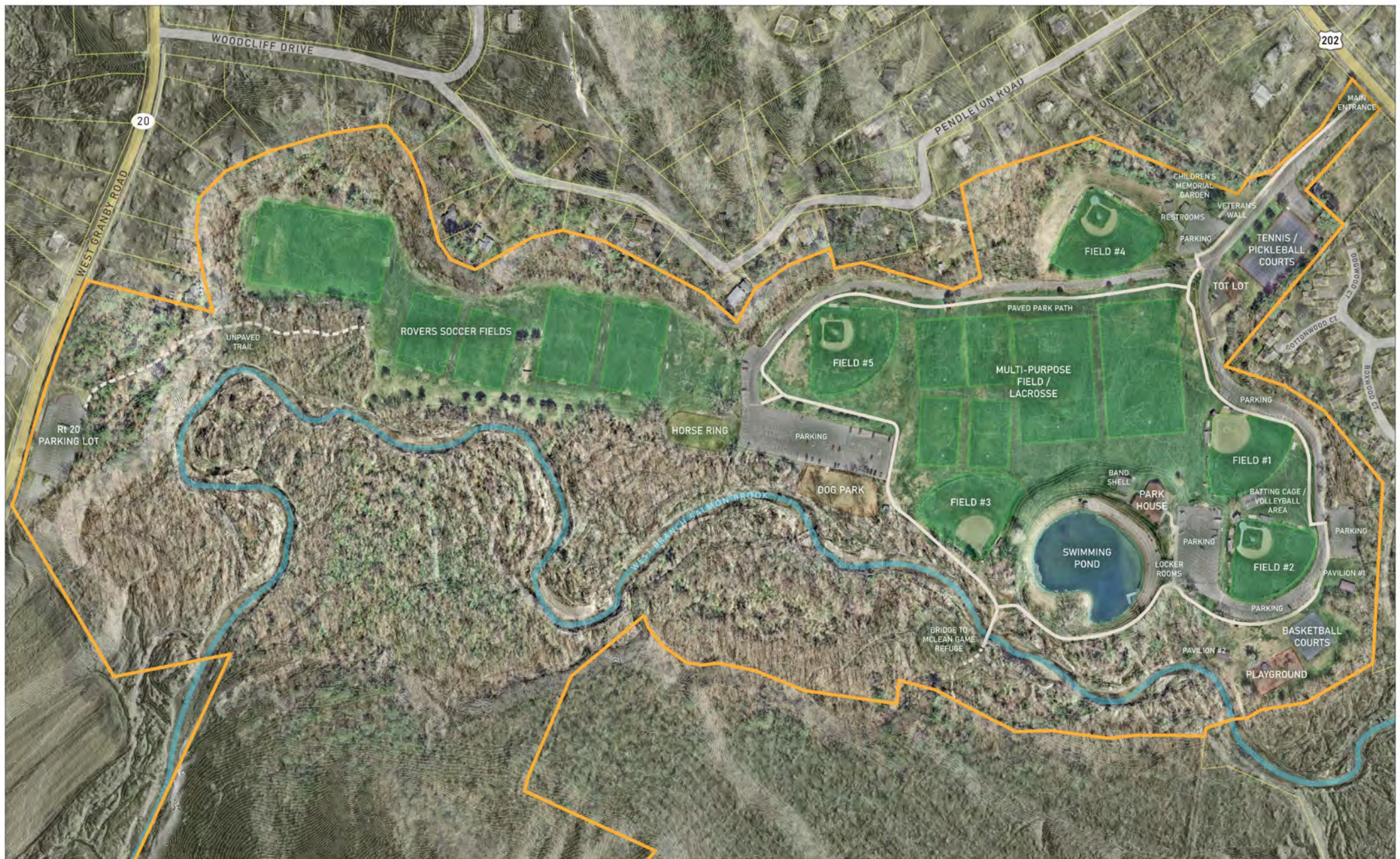


# Thank You!

- Next Steps:
  - Take the online survey!
  - GZA to draft Master Plan
  - Follow up public meeting to share draft Master Plan
  - Finalize Master Plan
- We'll stick around to talk informally – ask us questions!
- Feel free to add sticky note comments to maps

Take the online survey!





**SALMON BROOK PARK - EXISTING CONDITIONS**  
**TOWN OF GRANBY, CT**

04/01/2025

Prepared by GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc.  
 Project Number 15.0167378.00



SOURCES: UCONN CLEAR, CT DEEP, CNES, NEARMAP



**AHRENS PARK - EXISTING CONDITIONS**  
**TOWN OF GRANBY, CT**

04/01/2025

Prepared by GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc.  
 Project Number 15.0167378.00



SOURCES: UCONN CLEAR, CT DEEP, CNES, NEARMAP