

# **Request for Proposal**

# Shades Creek Greenway Phase I Environmental Site Assessment City of Birmingham

Submissions Due Friday, April 26, 2024, at 3:00 pm CST Email electronic proposal to carolyn.buck@freshwaterlandtrust.org

#### Introduction

The Red Rock Trail System is a network of existing and proposed greenways and bike lanes with a goal of connecting every resident in Jefferson County to a greenspace or alternative transportation route within one mile of their home. To date, there are 129 miles on the ground, with new trails opening throughout the network every year.

The 1.3-mile Shades Creek Greenway is a proposed City of Birmingham trail project that will connect residents of east Birmingham to the growing Red Rock Trail System. The planned asphalt trail will run parallel to Shades Creek, connecting the City of Mountain Brook's popular Irondale Furnace Trail to the City of Birmingham's Flora Johnston Nature Preserve via a multi-use trail. More detailed information about the proposed trail route and affected properties can be found in the attached "Shades Creek to Eastwood Trail" feasibility study.

On behalf of the City of Birmingham, Freshwater Land Trust is seeking a qualified environmental professional to conduct a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) on the planned Shades Creek Greenway. The Phase I ESA will evaluate the current and historic environmental conditions of the planned trail route to assess whether there is potential liability for contamination and if further testing is required. To our knowledge, this will be the first environmental assessment conducted on the site.

The Shades Creek Greenway Phase I ESA contract will be between the selected consultant team and the City of Birmingham; however, as the Project Manager, Freshwater Land Trust will serve as the project's primary contact and require a reliance letter.

#### Scope of Work

The chosen consultant must have qualifications and experience to perform the scope of work for the Phase I ESA. The Phase I ESA must be conducted in accordance with the Environmental Protection Agency's All-Appropriate Inquires (AAI) rule and the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) E1527-21 Standard Practice for Environmental Site Assessments.

The scope of work may include, but is not necessarily limited to, the following components as listed below:

- Perform a records review to obtain and review records that will help identify recognized environmental conditions in connection with the properties; including but not limited to federal, tribal, state, and local government records.
- Perform a records review of historical property use information (topographic maps, aerial photographs, fire insurance maps, existing reports, etc.).
- Perform an onsite reconnaissance of the property to obtain information indicating the likelihood of identifying recognized environmental conditions in connection with the properties.
- Perform interviews, including but not limited to, owners, occupants, and governmental officials to obtain information indicating recognized environmental conditions in connection with the properties.
- The identification of recognized environmental conditions constituted by the presence or likely presence of any hazardous substances on the property or into the soil, groundwater, or surface water of the property.
- Perform a desktop review to determine the likelihood of identifying cultural and/or historic resources, the presence of wetlands, and the presence of threatened or endangered species.
- Prepare a draft evaluation and report to the City of Birmingham and Freshwater Land Trust for review and comment prior to finalizing the report. Evaluations and reports are to include findings, opinions, conclusion, components, and recommendations. Once the draft is approved, the consultant will prepare and electronically submit the final report.

Provide expert witness services relating to Phase I ESA.

#### **Instructions for Request for Proposal Submission**

All proposals must be received electronically by <u>3:00 pm CST, Friday, April 26, 2024</u>. Direct proposals to Carolyn Buck at <u>carolyn.buck@freshwaterlandtrust.org</u> with the title "Shades Creek Greenway Phase I ESA- [Company Name]". Late submissions will not be accepted.

All expenses incurred while preparing and submitting a proposal are the sole responsibility of the Respondent. All responses, inquiries, or correspondence relative to the Request for Proposal, reports, and documentation submitted will become the property of the Freshwater Land Trust and City of Birmingham.

#### **Contents of Qualifications Response**

#### **Cover Letter**

Respondent should submit a Cover Letter, signed by the person authorized to negotiate and commit on behalf of the firm, that includes the following:

#### **Business Profile**

- 1. Name, Business Address, and Contact Information, as well as,
  - a. Legal Name of Respondent and D.B.A. (if applicable)
  - b. Previous Business Name (if applicable)
  - c. Form of Respondent (Corporation, Partnership, Joint Venture, LLC., Other)
  - d. Years in Business (under current business name)
  - e. Years of Experience Providing Services to Governmental Entities
- 2. Organization General Qualifications- Provide an overall description of the proposing firm including the scope of services, number of employees, and area(s) of specialization of the firm.
- 3. Information of Individuals of Consultant Team- Provide the names of each person comprising the proposed consultant team and include the title, classification, and the area of expertise each individual will bring to the project.
- 4. Statement of Understanding- Write a short summary of the project to demonstrate Respondent understands the project scope and expected deliverables.

#### **Project Approach**

Provide a project outline that lists and describes each of the tasks that will be performed by the consultant team to satisfy the Scope of Work outlined above.

#### **Relative Project Experience**

Provide three references from recent projects similar in size and scope to the Shades Creek Greenway Phase I ESA project. Include the name, title, phone number, and email address for each reference.

#### Availability

Indicate how soon work can be initiated on the Shades Creek Greenway Phase I ESA project once a contract has been executed, and the anticipated time it will take to complete the project. Preference will be given to consultants who are able to start within 21 business days from the executed contract.

#### Proposed Fee for Scope of Work

Provide a budget and fee schedule, if applicable, for the proposed work outlined above.

#### **DBE/MBE Certification**

If applicable, list the Respondent, or subcontractor's, DBE or MBE certification and provide DBE Certification Form and proof of DBE status.

#### **Non-Collusion**

Respondent covenants and declares that it has not employed any person to solicit or procure this Agreement and that Respondent has not made, and will not make, any payment of any compensation for the procurement of this Agreement. The covenant contained herein shall survive the expiration or earlier termination of this Agreement.

#### W-9 Form

If the selected Respondent is not currently set up as a vendor in the City of Birmingham vendor file, Respondent will be required to submit a completed W-9 tax form prior to any award.

#### **Business License**

If awarded the Shades Creek Greenway Phase I ESA contract, the Respondent must provide the City of Birmingham a copy of his/her current City of Birmingham business license no later than seven (7) working days from receiving the award. Failure to submit the requested information will result in the notice of intent to award being revoked. A copy of the Respondent's license may be submitted along with the proposal.

#### **Evaluation**

Proposals will be reviewed by the Freshwater Land Trust and City of Birmingham staff. Proposals will be evaluated by the Respondent's relevant experience, qualified personnel, responsiveness, clear understanding of the project goals, and extent to which the services offered most closely match the needs of the Shades Creek Greenway Phase I ESA project.

#### **Notification of Award**

The successful Respondent will be notified by phone and written confirmation. Respondents whose proposals were not selected will be notified in writing. Freshwater Land Trust is not obligated to explain the results of the evaluation process to any Respondent.

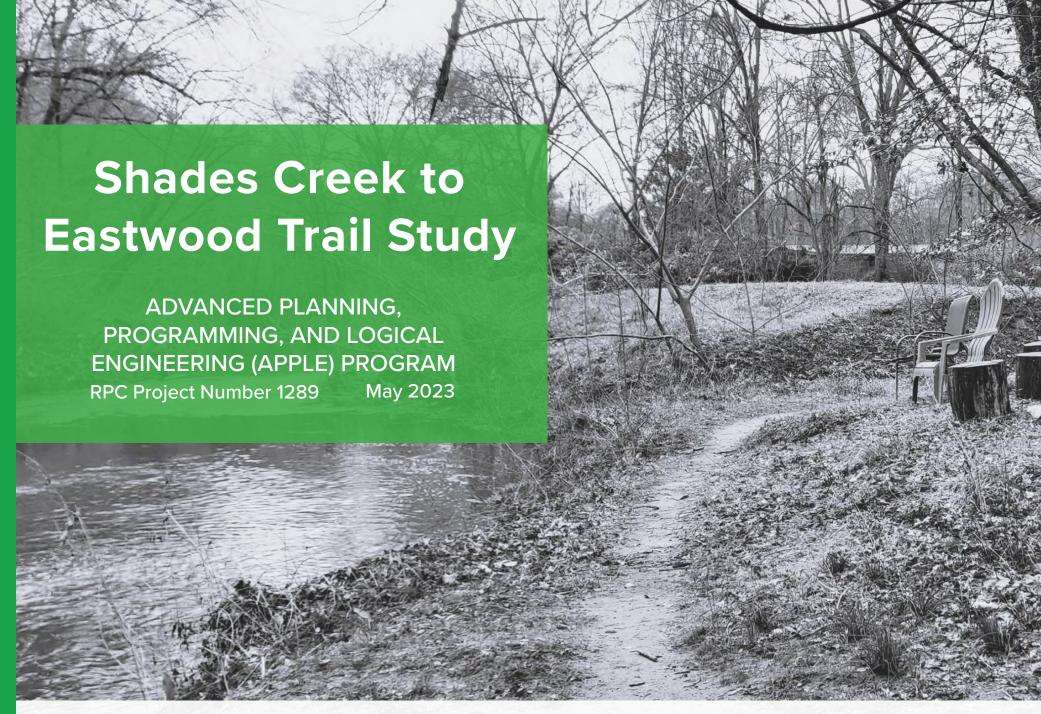
#### **Conditions Governing Responses**

The Shades Creek Greenway Phase I ESA is a Request for Proposals, not a Request for Contract; therefore, Freshwater Land Trust and the City of Birmingham reserve the right to:

- 1. Accept or reject any or all submissions, or portions, associated with this work, cancel the solicitation request prior to making an award for any reason or for no reason, or re-request proposals for this scope of work;
- 2. Require Respondent to clarify aspects of their proposal and/or approach via video conference or phone;
- 3. Waive or modify any irregularities in a submitted proposal;
- 4. Amend specifications contained within the RFQ after its release, with proper notification to all Respondents to provide an opportunity to modify responses to reflect the change; and
- 5. Negotiate with the successful Respondent.

# Inquiries

All inquiries should be made to Carolyn Buck at <a href="mailto:carolyn.buck@freshwaterlandtrust.org">carolyn.buck@freshwaterlandtrust.org</a> or at (205) 417-2777.









# TABLE OF CONTENTS

PROJECT SUMMARY	2
CONCEPTUAL TRAIL ALIGNMENT MAPS	10
CONCEPTUAL COST OPINION	25



Shades Creek

#### **Project Purpose**

Through the Regional Planning Commission (RPC) as part of an Advanced Planning, Programming, and Logical Engineering (APPLE) Study, the project team assessed trail feasibility and provided preliminary concept design for an approximately 1.27-mile multi-use trail along Shades Creek Greenway between the Flora Johnston Trailhead and Groover Drive / Shiloh Drive. Overall, the site provides amenable conditions for trail construction and is already accessed by local residents for recreation.

## **Project Location**

This trail study area connects existing trails at the Flora Johnston Nature Park to the Irondale Furnace Greenway. The project area is located along the north side of Shades Creek comprised of land primarily owned by the City of Birmingham. The project stretches between the Flora Johnston Trailhead at Elder Street and Groover Dr / Shiloh Drive. From there, trail users can utilize the existing sidewalks along Stone River Road and Shiloh Drive to connect to the Irondale Furnace Greenway.



Most of the corridor is flat with open space available for a trail.

#### **PROJECT SNAPSHOT**

Approximately

1.27 miles of Multi-use Trail



#### **Connects**

Flora Johnston Nature Park to Irondale Furnace Greenway



#### **Existing Conditions**

Shades Creek within the study area is already used in many places for recreation purposes; existing user-created trails and play areas were observed throughout the corridor. During the site assessment, the project team talked with a local resident who reported that she and many of the nearby residents frequently walk along the creek side.

Most of the corridor is flat and runs along the elevated creek bank. The area was observed immediately following a rainstorm and appeared well draining, with the exception of pooled water in low sections, just west of the Flora Johnston Trailhead. Approximately ¾ of the trail corridor is mostly open and free of vegetation. The remaining ¼ runs through small patches of vegetation including understory shrubs and mostly small (less than 12" Diameter at Breast Height) trees. The corridor is surrounded by green spaces, large trees, and a forest on the south side of the creek, creating a very scenic area for a trail.

The trail will need to cross two minor, seasonal drainages with approximately 15'-20' long boardwalks. Additionally, there is one major creek crossing between Mountain Dale Road and Swallow Lane (See photo to the right) that will require an approximately 40'-45' long span bridge.



Local residents already use the corridor and the adjoining green space as a recreation area. Adding a trail will provide an amenity for residents of all ages and abilities to enjoy.



A span bridge will be required to cross a creek that flows into Shades Creek.

#### **Project Recommendations**

The project identifies a conceptual alignment for an approximately 1.27-mile crushed gravel trail that traverses along the creek side. The preferred alignment will require easements or acquisition of portions of the eight privately-owned parcels. If city ownership or easements cannot be obtained, the project can be completed on existing city-owned parcels and easements alone, although the alignment will be less desirable and may increase disturbance to other existing private properties along the corridor. The concept plans on the following pages identify both a preferred alignment and public land alternative alignments to avoid private land.

A small, accessible gravel parking lot is proposed within a large, primarily flat open space at the terminus of Redwood Street. The other access points will be neighborhood access locations for residents walking or biking to the trailhead. At these public access points and small green spaces along the trail, park amenities, such as benches, pavilions, waste receptacles, and pet waste stations are recommended to create a linear park setting and neighborhood amenity. Neighborhood engagement is recommended to gather input on desired amenities.

Before addressing existing private fence encroachments, a full survey of the corridor should be performed to assess the full extent of the encroachments. With this information, the City of Birmingham and RPC will address next steps in terms of remediation of fence encroachments into city-owned property.



The future trail along Shades Creek is proposed as compacted gravel with a similar texture as the Irondale Furnace Greenway shown here.



This flat open space at the end of Redwood Street provides ample area for the development of 2-3 accessible parking spaces.

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# **Conceptual Trail Alignment**

#### **LEGEND**

- Existing Trailhead
- Park
- Parking

#### Conceptual Trail Recommendations

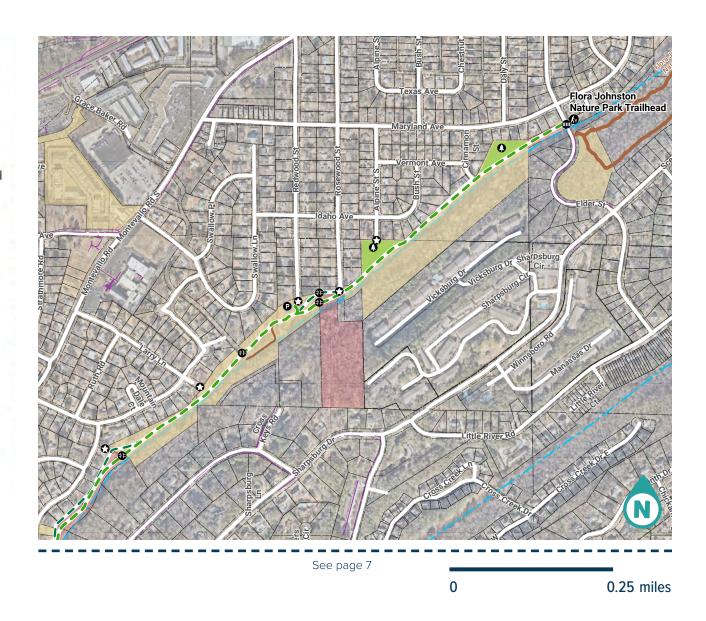
- Existing sidewalk / Conceptual On-street connection
- Conceptual Shades Creek Greenway preferred alignment
- Conceptual Shades Creek Greenway public land alternative
- Conceptual natural surface trail connection (requiring further study)

#### **Design Considerations**

- Access
- Crosswalk
- o Park
- Parking
- Bridge / Boardwalk

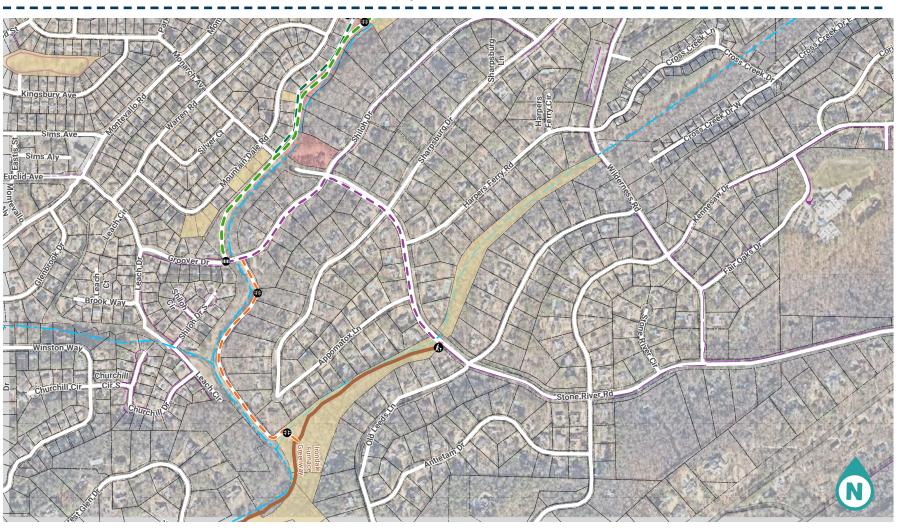
#### **Base Data**

- Private Parcels along Shades Creek
- Public Parcels
- Building Footprints
- --- Streams
- Existing Trails
- Parcels



# **Conceptual Trail Alignment (continued)**





0.25 miles

#### **Access Points**

At the east end of the corridor, the Flora Johnston Trailhead provides a small gravel parking area with approximately 7-8 spaces. This public access point serves an ideal starting point for those who choose to drive to the trailhead. Along the creek corridor, there are nine potential public access points (Cinnamon Street, Alpine Street, Rosewood Street, Redwood Street, Larry Street, Larry Lane, Mountain Dale Road, Monarch Avenue, and Groover Drive). These can serve as neighborhood access and in some cases be developed into additional trailhead parking areas.

#### **Land Ownership Considerations**

Most of the trail corridor lies within land owned by the City of Birmingham. The preferred trail alignment crosses eight private parcels. Starting from the eastern end of the trail, the preferred trail alignment would traverse the following private parcels:

- One parcel of private land along Elder Street just across from the Flora Johnston Trailhead
- One parcel of private land near Rosewood Street that extends across the creek
- The other six private parcels extend east from Mountain Dale Road and Monarch Avenue. The preferred alignment would exist across the creek from the homesite which is substantially elevated along the ridgeline. In fact, these property owners live in the City of Mountain Brook with small portions of their property being composed of a separate parcel within the City of Birmingham. These property owners currently have taxable property in both cities. Landowners cannot access the space without crossing Shades Creek.

Multiple private fence encroachments were observed onto City of Birmingham land in many cases also spanning a city sewer easement. (See photo on the right)



Rosewood Street access point



There are a few occurrences of private fences encroaching onto City of Birmingham land and the sewer easement. A full corridor survey is recommended to full assess the extent of these encroachments.

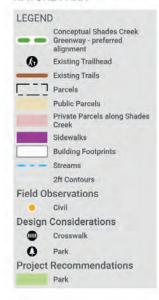
### **Future Study Recommendations**

Where the proposed trail ends at Groover Drive / Shiloh Drive, there is an opportunity to create a natural or gravel surface trail connection along Shades Creek to connect to the Irondale Furnace Greenway. This area is heavily vegetated with an approximately 30-60% side slope. Further study is recommended to assess the feasibility of constructing a natural or gravel surface trail connection. This would create a preferred connection between the Irondale Furnace Greenway and the proposed Shades Creek trail alignment. See pages 19, 23, and 24 for a conceptual trail alignment and future study area.



A future natural surface trail could tie into this portion of the Irondale Furnace Greenway.

MAP 1: CONNECTION TO FLORA JOHNSTON NATURE PARK





# SHADES CREEK **GREENWAY**

**EXISTING CONDITIONS** AND CONCEPTUAL TRAIL ALIGNMENT **ALTERNATIVES** March 2023







A crosswalk with improved landing area is necessary to connect to the parking area at Flora Johnston Natue Park. Improve drainage

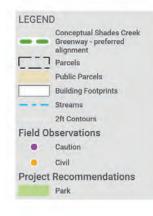


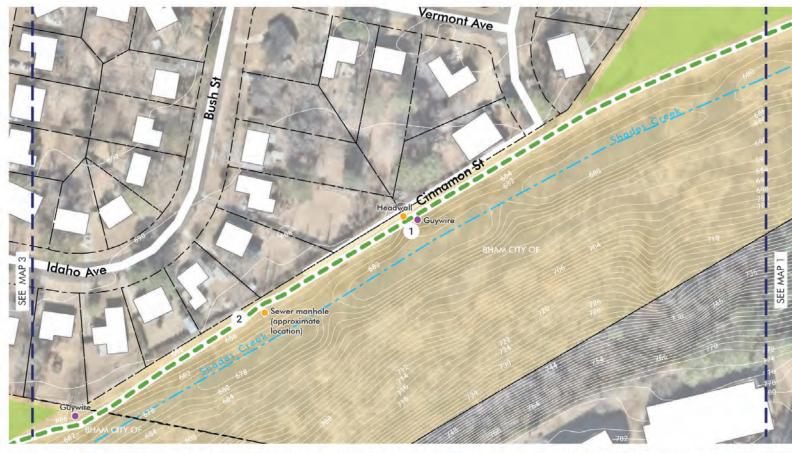
2 Proper drainage will be needed. An easement will be required here through privately-owned land.



Potential neighborhood passive park along the future trail.

MAP 2: CINNAMON ST





# SHADES CREEK GREENWAY







MAP 3: ALPINE ST





# SHADES CREEK **GREENWAY**

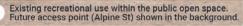
**EXISTING CONDITIONS** AND CONCEPTUAL TRAIL ALIGNMENT **ALTERNATIVES** March 2023









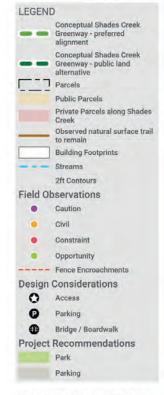






Potential access at Rosewood St. Trail can be sited on the south side of the cul-de-sac to avoid utilities.

MAP 4: REDWOOD ST

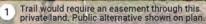


# SHADES CREEK **GREENWAY**











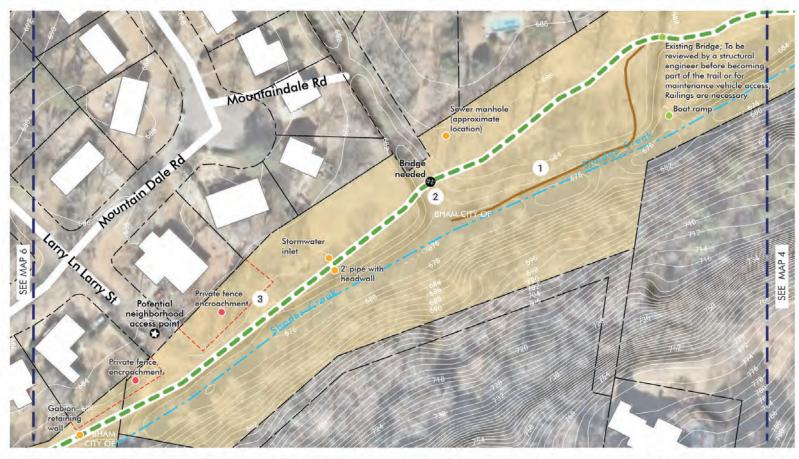






MAP 5: MOUNTAINDALE ROAD





# SHADES CREEK GREENWAY





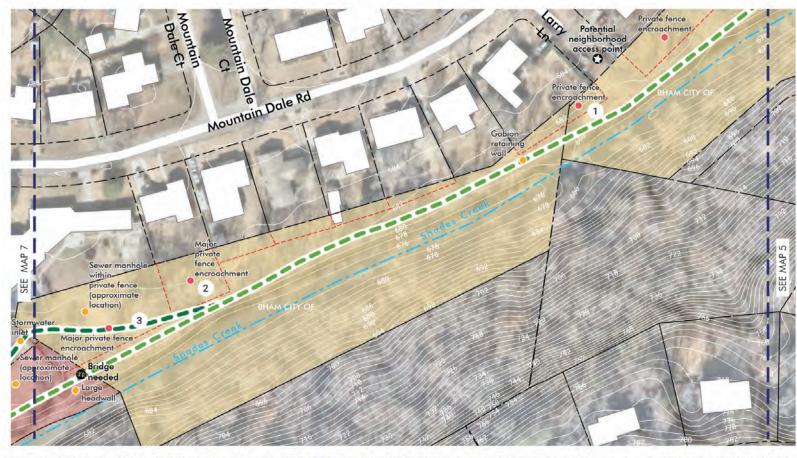






MAP 6: MOUNTAINDALE ROAD AND LARRY ST





# SHADES CREEK GREENWAY



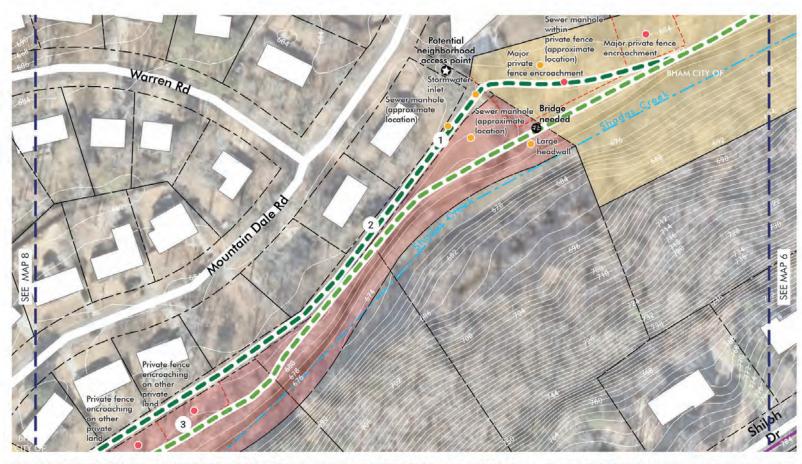






MAP 7: MOUNTAINDALE ROAD AND WARREN ROAD





# SHADES CREEK **GREENWAY**





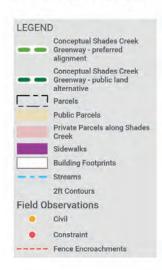


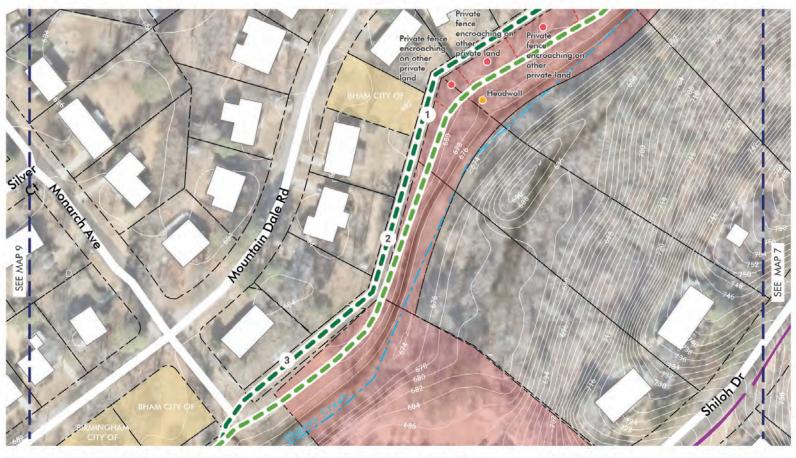






MAP 8: MOUNTAINDALE ROAD AND MONARCH AVE





# SHADES CREEK GREENWAY

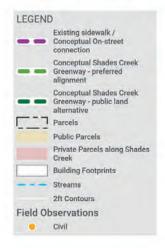


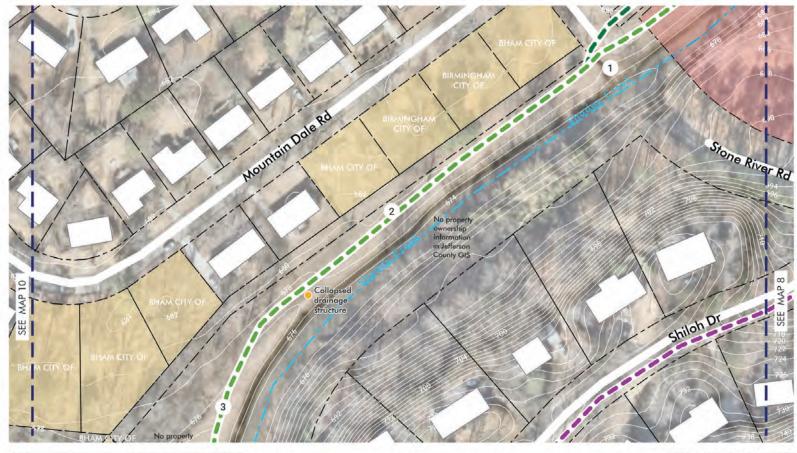






MAP 9: MOUNTAIN DALE ROAD NEAR GROOVER DR





# SHADES CREEK **GREENWAY**







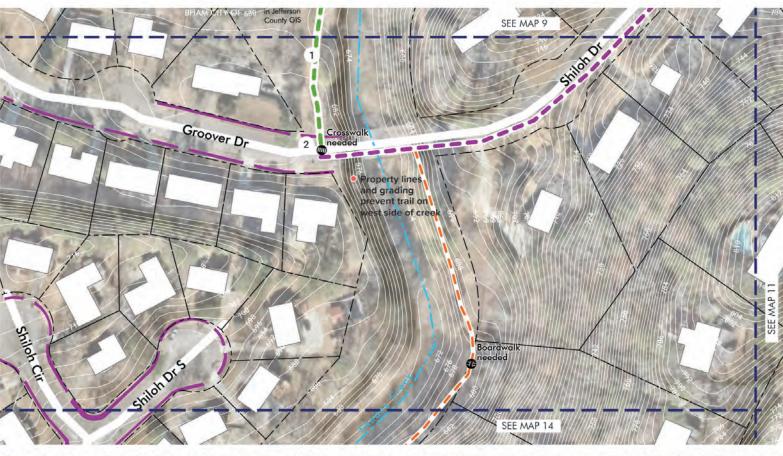






MAP 10: GROOVER DR





# SHADES CREEK **GREENWAY**

**EXISTING CONDITIONS** AND CONCEPTUAL TRAIL ALIGNMENT **ALTERNATIVES** 

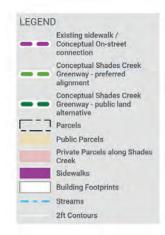


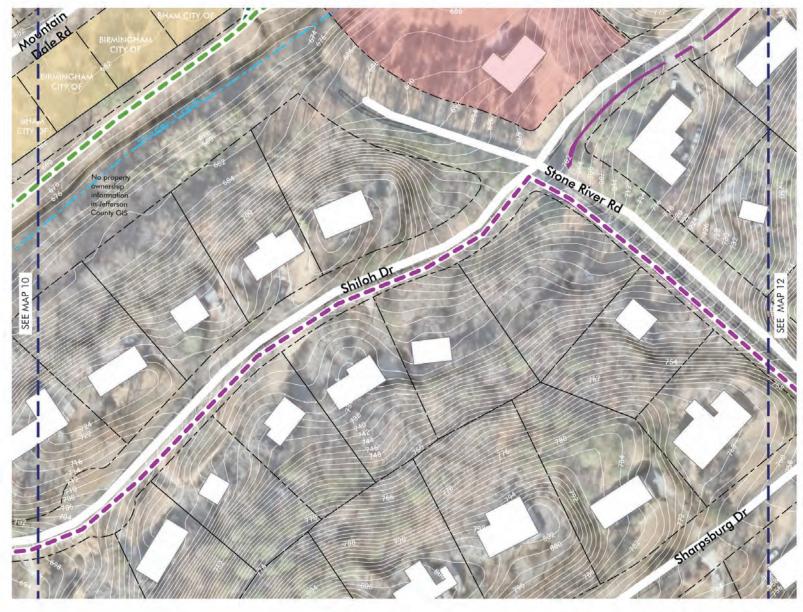




2 Looking east along Shiloh Drive. Fast-moving, downhill traffic travels quickly around that curve where the van is located in this picture.

MAP 11: SHILOH DR





# SHADES CREEK GREENWAY





MAP 12: STONE RIVER ROAD AND SHARPSBURG DR





# SHADES CREEK GREENWAY





MAP 13: CONNECTION TO IRONDALE FURNACE GREENWAY



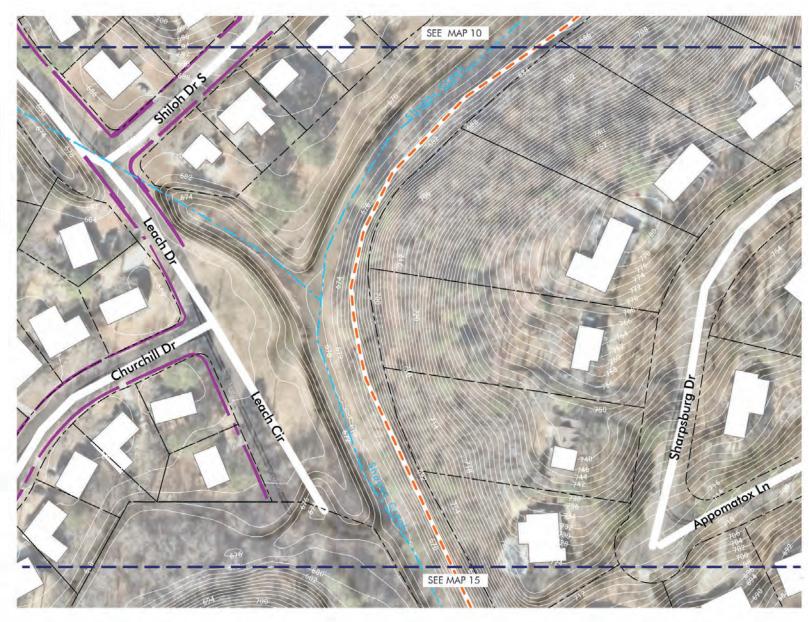


# SHADES CREEK GREENWAY

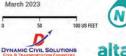


MAP 14: WEST OF SHARPSBURG DR





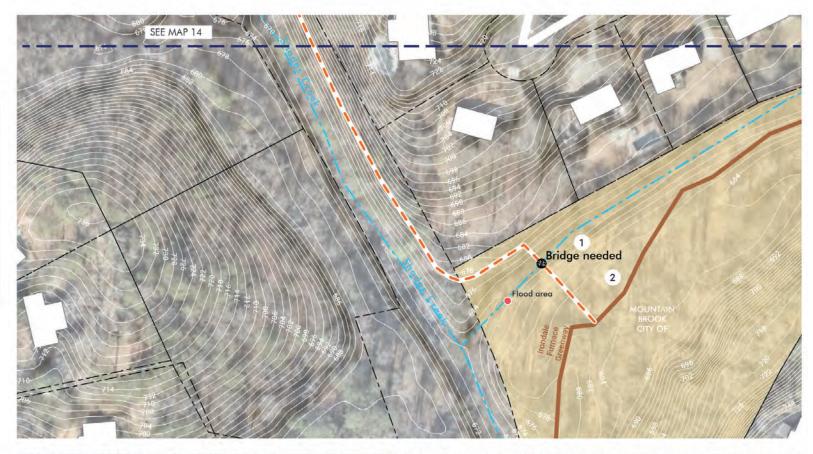
# SHADES CREEK **GREENWAY**





MAP 15: TRAIL **CONNECTION TO IRONDALE FURNACE TRAIL** 





# SHADES CREEK **GREENWAY**













#### **PLANNING ESTIMATE**

DESCRIPTION: SHADES CREEK GREENWAY (FLORA JOHNSTON PARK TO THE IRONDALE FURNACE GREENWAY)

TOTAL LENGTH: 1.27 MILES

PROJECT NUMBER: 2023-023 COUNTY: JEFFERSON

CITY BIRMINGHAM

ESTIMATE BY: SK

DATE: 5/15/2023

REVISED:

CHECKED BY: BMB

ГЕМ NO.	DESCRIPTION	UNIT	QUANTITY	UNIT PRICE	AMOUNT
01A002	CLEARING AND GRUBBING (MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE BID \$)	LS	1	\$45,000.00	\$45,000.00
10A000	UNCLASSIFIED EXCAVATION	CUYD	3500	\$50.00	\$175,000.00
10D001	BORROW EXCAVATION (LOOSE TRUCKBED MEASUREMENT)	CUYD	250	\$50.00	\$12,500.00
30B003	AGGREGATE SURFACING (ALDOT #57)	TON	1400	\$70.00	\$98,000.00
30B004	AGGREGATE SURFACING (ALDOT #810)	TON	1350	\$70.00	\$94,500.00
00A000	MOBILIZATION	LS	1	\$107,600.00	\$107,600.00
18A000	CONCRETE SIDEWALK, 4" THICK	SQYD	40	\$60.00	\$2,400.00
18B003	CONCRETE DRIVEWAY, 6" THICK (INCLUDES WIRE MESH)	SQYD	65	\$100.00	\$6,500.00
18C001	DETECTABLE WARNING SURFACE	SQFT	100	\$60.00	\$6,000.00
18D000	CURB RAMP	SQYD	100	\$300.00	\$30,000.00
37A000	FENCE RESET	LF	1500	\$75.00	\$112,500.00
50A000	TOPSOIL	CUYD	1000	\$50.00	\$50,000.00
680A001	GEOMETRIC CONTROLS - SURVEY	LS	1	\$60,000.00	\$60,000.00
	BENCHES	EACH	10	\$3,500.00	\$35,000.00
	TRAILHEAD KIOSK AT ELDER STREET	LS	1	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00
	NEIGHBORHOOD ACCESS POINT TRAIL SIGNAGE	EACH	6	\$1,500.00	\$9,000.00
	PET WASTE STATIONS	EACH	5	\$3,000.00	\$15,000.00
	TRASH RECEPTACLES	EACH	5	\$3,000.00	\$15,000.00
	BOLLARDS AT ACCESS POINTS	EACH	30	\$3,000.00	\$90,000.00
	TEMPORARY TRAFFIC CONTROL	LS	1	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
	RECTANGULAR RAPID FLASHING BEACON	EACH	4	\$15,000.00	\$60,000.00
	PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE	LF	40	\$3,500.00	\$140,000.00
	BOARDWALK	LF	50	\$2,000.00	\$100,000.00
	DRAINAGE ALLOWANCE	LS	1	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00
	EROSION CONTROL ALLOWANCE	LS	1	\$105,000.00	\$105,000.00
	MINOR ITEMS (5%)	LS	1	\$72,600.00	\$72,600.00
	CONSTRUCTION COST SUBTOTAL				
	CONTINGENCIES			20.0%	\$305,000.00
	UTILITIES (ABOVE GROUND)				\$0.00
		CONSTRUCTION COST TOTAL (2023)			\$1,830,000.00
	INFLATION FACTOR	2	2 YEARS 8.0%		
		CONSTRUCTION COST TOTAL (2025) \$			
	DESIGN AND PERMITTING 10.0%				
	CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION				
	TOTAL ESTIMATED PROJECT COST (2025)				

NOTE:

ESTIMATE IS NOT BASED ON AN ENGINEERING DESIGN, AND IS FOR PLANNING PURPOSES ONLY.

BASED ON 2023 UNIT PRICES. ESCALATION ADJUSTMENTS MUST BE APPLIED FOR OTHER YEARS.

DOES NOT INCLUDE RIGHT-OF-WAY.

UNDERGROUND UTILITY COORDINATION/RELOCATION COSTS UNKNOWN AND NOT INCLUDED.