

LAKE KENSINGTON NATURE PARK

CITY OF KYLE

OPEN HOUSE MEETING

AUGUST 21, 2025

MESA



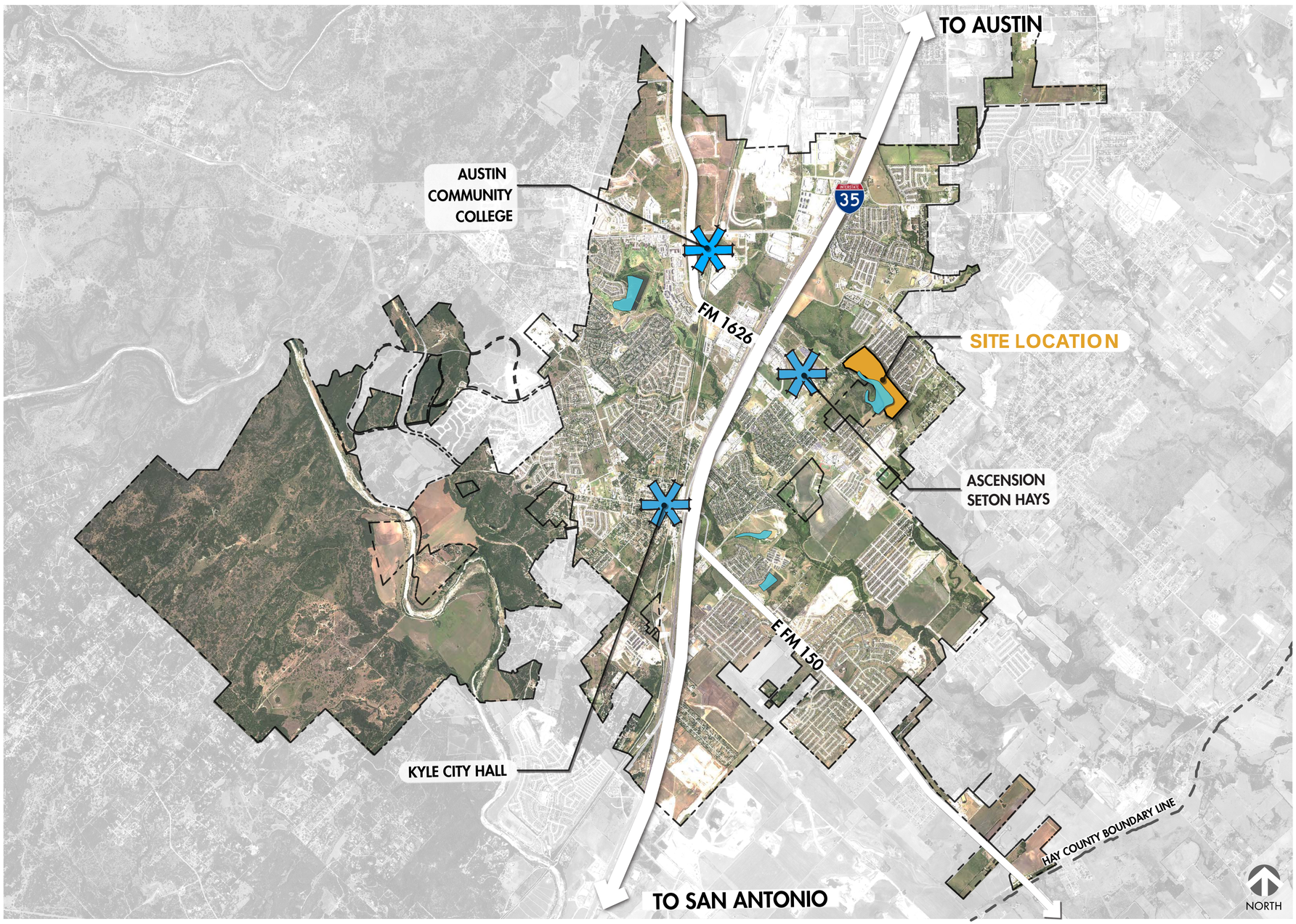
LAKE KENSINGTON KEY FACTS

Project Size: 115 Acres

Ecoregion: Part of the Northern Blackland Prairie ecoregion, known for fertile soils and diverse native plant species

Context: Surrounded by neighborhoods, schools, and healthcare facilities, offering strong potential for community access and recreation

Lake Kensington Function: As a Soil Conservation Service Reservoir, originally built for flood control, water storage, and erosion prevention.



LEGEND

- Major Road
- City Boundary
- Project Area
- Landmark
- Water Body

SITE CONTEXT

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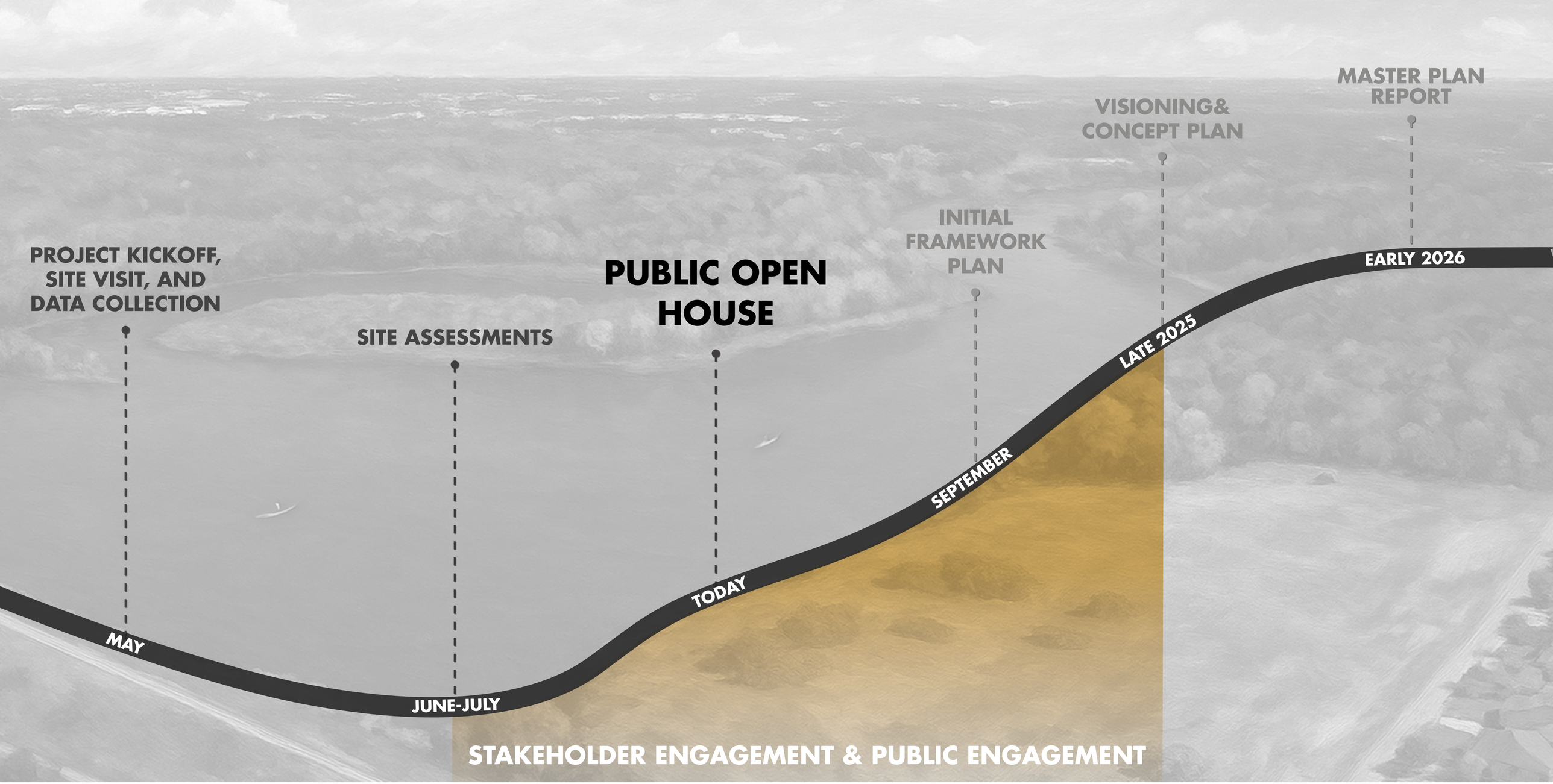
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PROS MASTER PLAN RECOMMENDED ACTIONS FOR LAKE KENSINGTON

- Following the recommended park classifications in this plan, officially classify the park as an undeveloped open space until it is developed.
- Leverage the property's size and **provide a wide variety of programming and amenities** that addresses the gaps identified in the standard-based and demand-based assessments of this plan.
- **Leverage the lake/pond to provide water recreation** that is unique from the programming offered at Lake Kyle and Linebarger Lake (e.g. mountain biking).
- **Establish trail, sidewalk, and bike path connections** throughout the site, across the road to Seton Park, and throughout the surrounding neighborhoods. **Ensure pedestrian safety** by implementing sidewalks, crosswalks, and traffic calming measures in the surrounding area.
- **Prioritize the protection of existing trees and habitat** throughout the design and construction processes by minimizing the development footprint.
- **Balance the needs of the nearby residents with the programming opportunities** surrounding the lake and natural habitats.



PROJECT TIMELINE

LAKE KENSINGTON NATURE PARK

AUGUST 21, 2025

CITY OF KYLE ESTABLISHED 1880

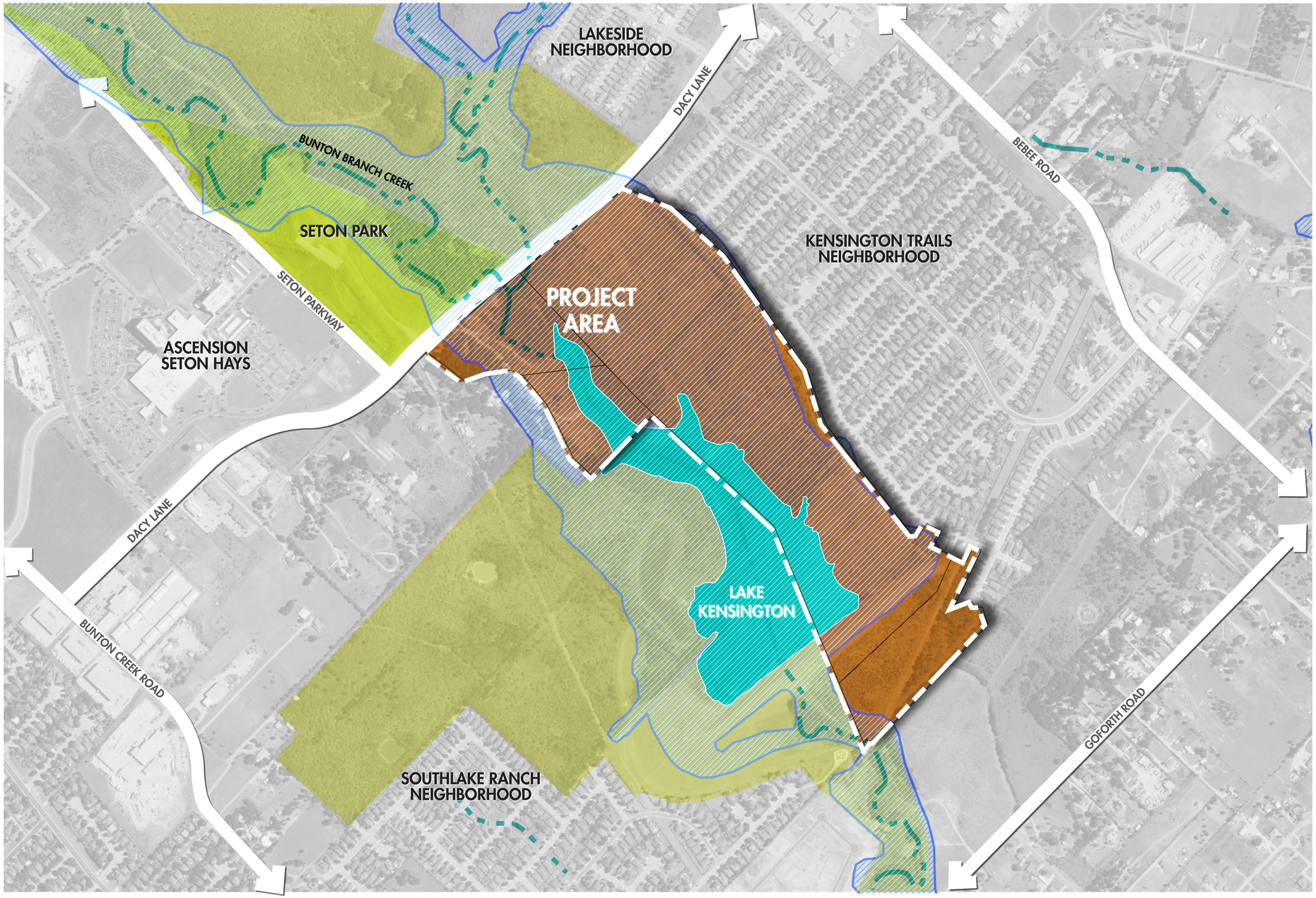
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Looking South from Lake Kensington onto Adjacent Private Property



View of Lake Kensington Looking North



LEGEND

- Project Area
- Major Existing Road Connections
- City Owned Open Spaces
- Privately Owned Open Spaces
- 100 Year Floodplain

SITE ADJACENT OPEN SPACES & FLOODPLAIN

LAKE KENSINGTON NATURE PARK

NORTH SCALE: 1"= 500'-0" 0' 500' 1000'

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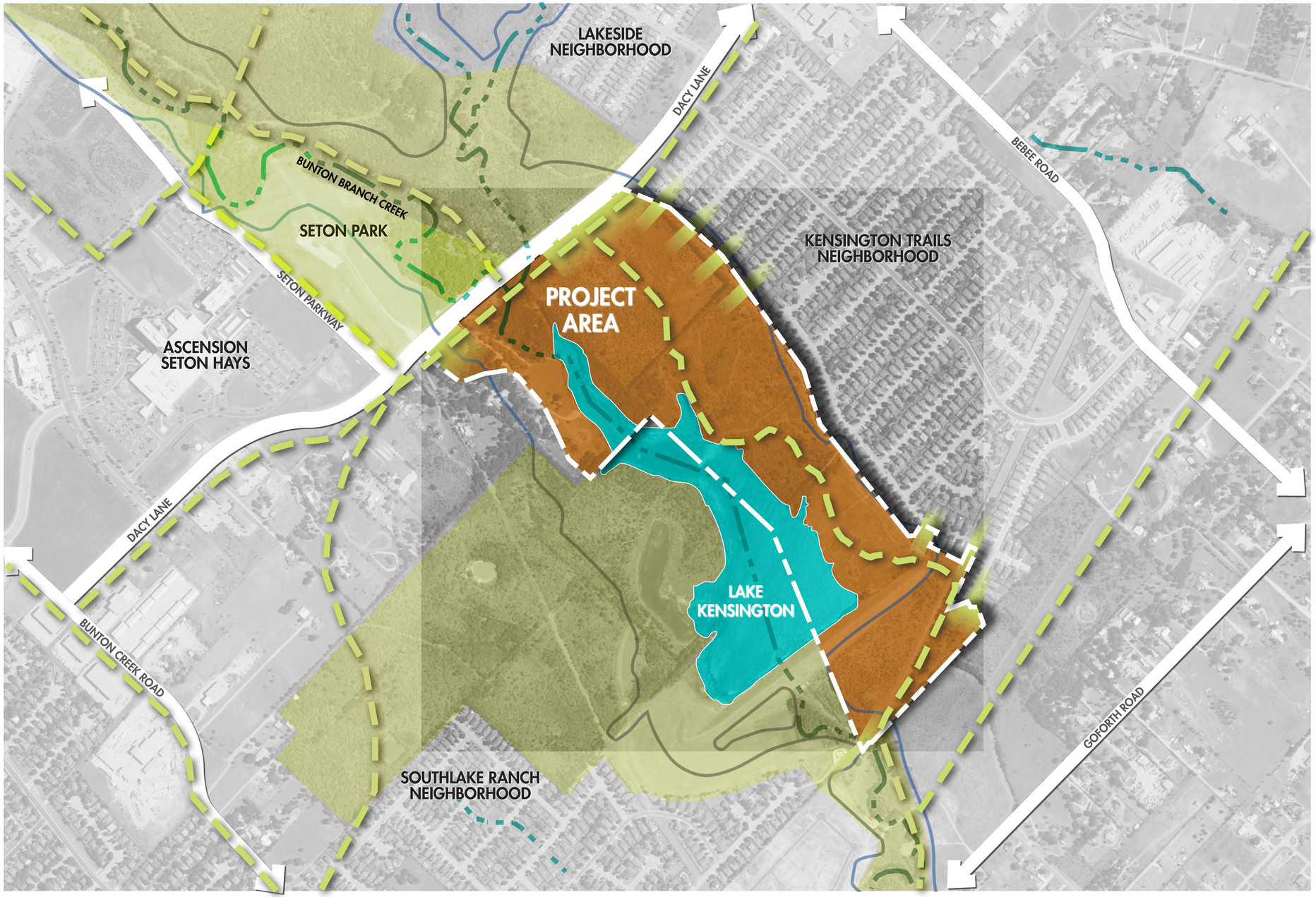
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South Dacy Lane Entry



North Dacy Lane Entry



LEGEND

- Project Area
- Major Existing Road Connections
- Existing Boundary Perforations
- Future Vybe Trail
- 100 Year Floodplain

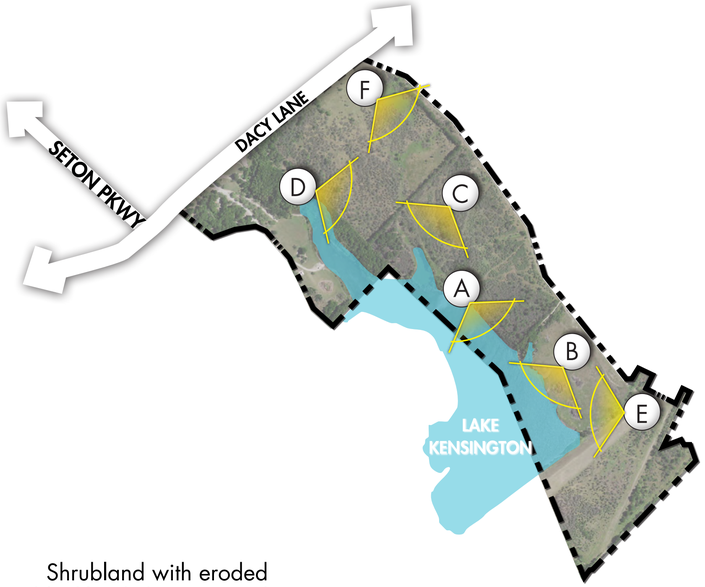
CONNECTIVITY & ACCESS POINTS

LAKE KENSINGTON NATURE PARK

NORTH SCALE: 1"= 500'-0" (0' 500' 1000')

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Developing riparian community with high vegetative cover and moderate diversity.

Cleared disturbed grassland. invasive species such as bastard cabbage are common and soil is disturbed.



Shrubland with eroded blackland characterized by mesquite and higher woody coverage.

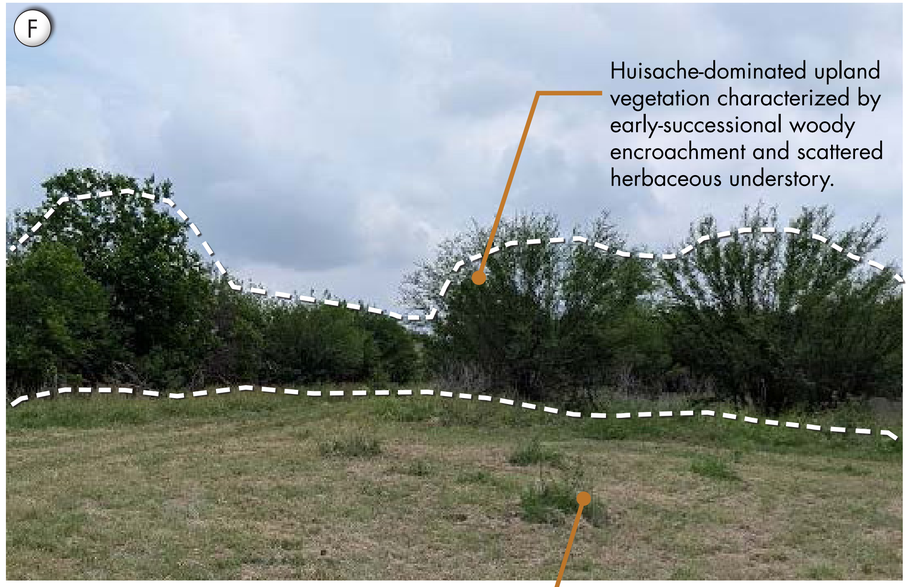




Bottomland areas contain a combination of early successional hackberry, elm woodland, riparian herbaceous communities, and wetland communities.



Dam is dominated by invasive species such as king ranch bluestem and johsongrass.



Huisache-dominated upland vegetation characterized by early-successional woody encroachment and scattered herbaceous understory.

Converted land with early successional and introduced species such as king ranch bluestem, johnson grass, and perennial ryegrass.

CURRENT ECOLOGICAL CONDITION

LAKE KENSINGTON NATURE PARK

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	RESOURCE CONCERN	APPLICATION REGULATIONS	RECOMMENDED ACTION	WHEN ACTION IS NECESSARY
WATER & HYDROLOGY	**Waters of the U.S.**	CWA (USACE)	Avoidance; Pre-construction Notification; NWP or IP authorization	If fill, grading, or structures are proposed in delineated WOTUS
	Waters of the State	TPWD	Early coordination with TPWD WHAB; Sand, Gravel, Marl permit	If in-channel disturbance or substrate removal is proposed, or streambed is altered
	Floodplain	Hays County Ordinance FEMA	Avoidance; Floodplain Development Permit (FDP)	If construction occurs within mapped FEMA Zone A floodplains or alters base flood elevation
	Stormwater	TPDES SWPPP	Submit NOI; Implement SWPPP; install and maintain temporary and permanent BMPs	If >1 acre of land is disturbed during construction or site is subject to local MS4 requirements
	Groundwater/Aquifers	PCCD TCEQ	Well permitting (if needed); coordinate with PCCD for water resource and stormwater management; consider reservoir protection measures	If groundwater development, stormwater discharge, dredging, or significant subsurface work is proposed within the PCCD boundary or near the Lake Kensington SCS reservoir
HABITAT & WILDLIFE	**Tricolored Bat**	ESA (USFWS)	Acoustic survey or formal consultation; avoid roost/ tree loss and fragmentation	Due to probable listing, measures are recommended if vegetation removal or construction occurs anywhere in Zone 1 (year-round activity zone)
	Monarch Butterfly	ESA	Preserve milkweed; reseed nectar plants; minimize herbicide use	Measures are voluntary while species remains a candidate for listing
	MBTA Protected Birds	MBTA	Avoid breeding season (Mar–Aug); pre-clearance nesting surveys; maintain buffers	If vegetation clearing or ground disturbance is proposed during nesting season
	Species of Greatest Conservation Need	TPWD	Pre-construction surveys; WHAB and/or KSAT coordination; relocation under Scientific Permit	If habitat is present and take may occur or if dewatering/in-water work will occur
	Federal ESA-listed Species	ESA (USFWS)	Habitat assessments; presence/absence surveys; initiate consultation if necessary	If project overlaps with habitat or range of federally listed species and effects cannot be ruled out
CULTURAL & HISTORICAL	**Cultural Resources**	NHPA Local preservation ordinance	Conduct survey and evaluate dam; consult with THC if needed	If federal funding, permits, or approvals trigger Section 106 or state coordination is requested

ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE SITE

LAKE KENSINGTON NATURE PARK

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ADJACENT AREAS

NORTH WOODY CREEKWAY
- Between two distributary channels of Bunton Branch Creek.
- Meandering creek with riparian plants.
- Feels separate from nearby neighborhoods.

DACY LANE CROSSING
- Four-lane road and bridge over Woody Creekway.
- Fast traffic and plain design make it easy to miss.

STORMWATER BASIN
- Collects runoff and reduces flooding.
- Provides limited habitat value.

KENSINGTON TRAILS ADJACENCY
- The suburban character of the houses visually encroaches on the site.
- Vegetation is mostly invasive.
- If park activities are on the east side, nearby rooftops will impact views.

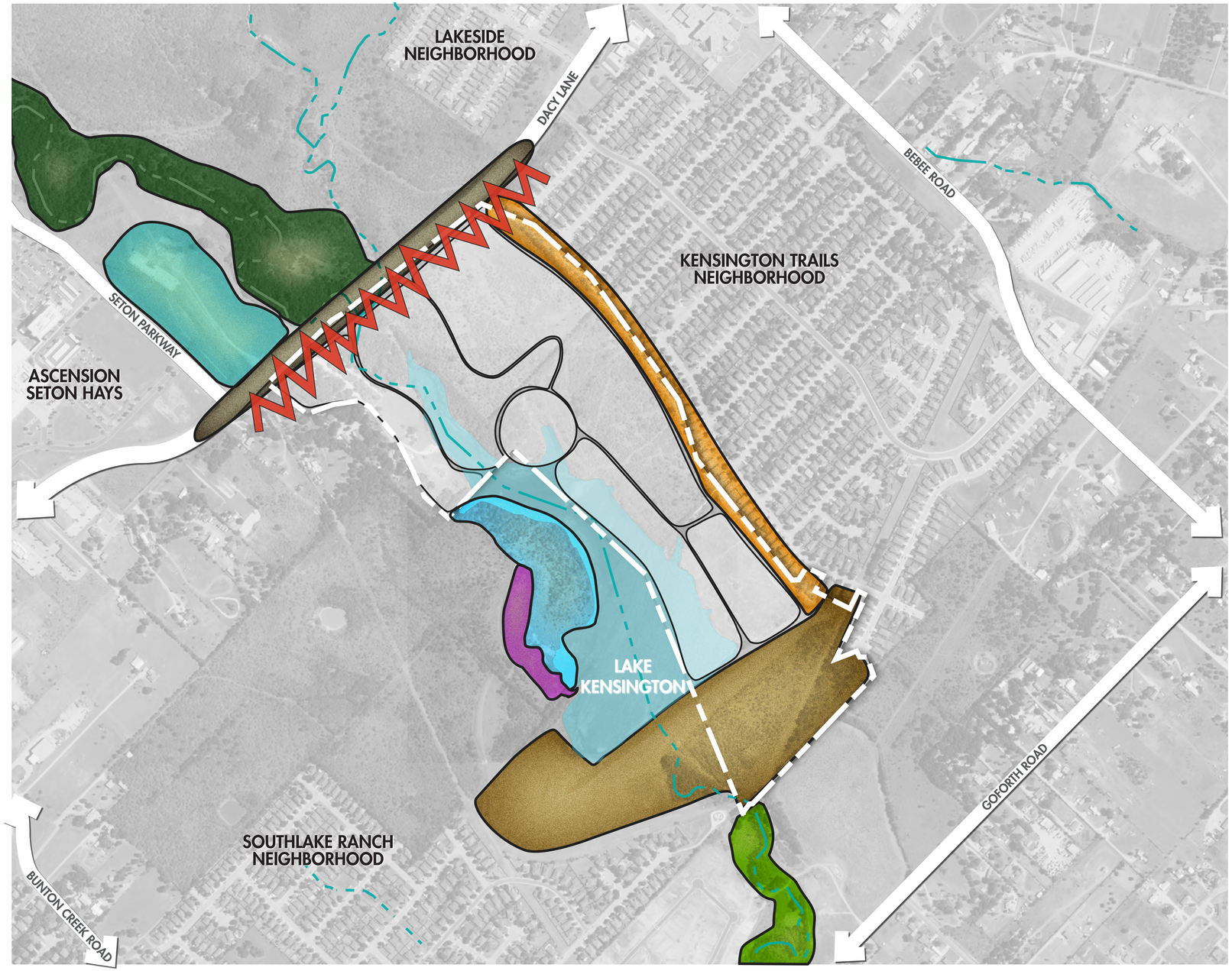
WESTERN SHORE
- Natural edge with wildlife viewing and walking opportunities.
- Panoramic views across the lake.

BARROW PIT
- Seasonal wetland area.
- Habitat for birds, fish, and insects.

DAM & SPILLWAY
- Key high point with panoramic views..
- Low ecological value.
- Possible spot for trails or recreation.

SOUTH WOODY CREEKWAY
- Creek lined with dense woods.
- Private ownership limits public access, park connections, and offsite links.
- Important for habitat, erosion control.

PHYSICAL AND AUDITORY BARRIER



EXPERIENTIAL MAP

LAKE KENSINGTON NATURE PARK

NORTH SCALE: 1"= 500'-0" 0' 500' 1000'

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INTERNAL AREAS

NORTH WOODY CREEKWAY
- Between two distributary channels of Bunton Branch Creek.
- Meandering creek with riparian plants.
- Feels separate from nearby neighborhoods.

SUCCESSIONAL PASTURE
- Former ranchland with native volunteer trees, but considered invasive to the grassland.
- Provides access to the site via a ranch gate and stone walls.
- A concrete trail on the south edge leads to a fire pit overlooking the lake.

WEST EDGES AREA
- Abuts a neighboring residence.
- Suburban context with a white steel horse fence between the residential and storage buildings and the park site

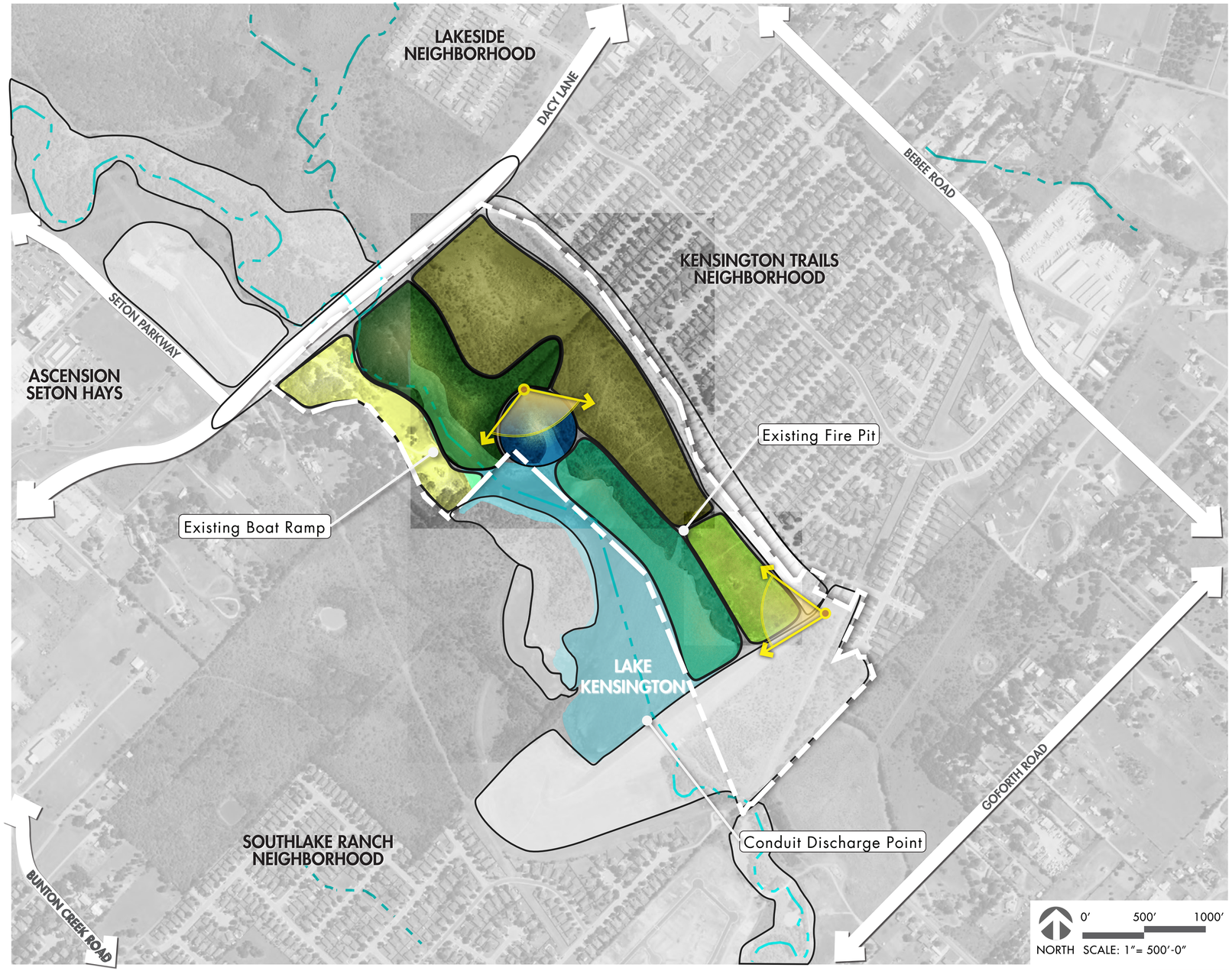
OLD STOCK TANK
- Picturesque area.
- May be utilized as a unique demonstration area.
- Shaded bank with depth appears to be shallow.

EASTERN SHORE
- Affords ample access to the lake both visually and physically.
- Invites visitors to experience the lake.

SOUTH MEADOW
- Below the Successional Pasture and adjacent to the North Dam Face.
- The character is open with a few large piles of brush previously cleared.

Clear views into neighborhood; few existing trees.

ELEVATED VIEWSHED



EXPERIENTIAL MAP

LAKE KENSINGTON NATURE PARK

0′ 500′ 1000′
NORTH SCALE: 1″= 500′-0″

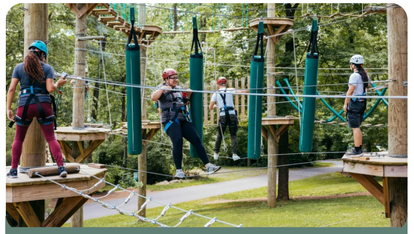
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MULTI-FUNCTIONAL SPACES

Outdoor parks that offer a variety of activities in one space are becoming increasingly popular. Consider a design that **includes features such as hiking trails, picnic areas, playgrounds, sports fields, and nature walks.**



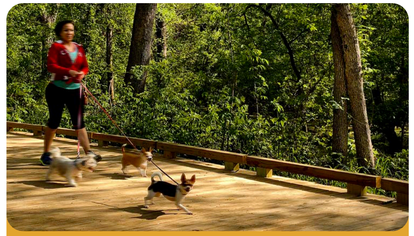
ADVENTURE ACTIVITIES

Adventure activities involving some level of risk or challenge are on the rise. This could include **zip lining, rock climbing walls, and obstacle courses.** Consider incorporating some of these activities to attract thrill-seekers.



NATURE-BASED ACTIVITIES

Many people are looking to reconnect with nature and **engage in outdoor activities that promote sustainability. Consider incorporating green spaces, gardening areas, and nature walks.**



DOG-FRIENDLY SPACES

Dog ownership is on the rise, and many people are looking for outdoor spaces where they can bring their furry friends. Consider incorporating a dog park, **dog-friendly walking trails or policies.**



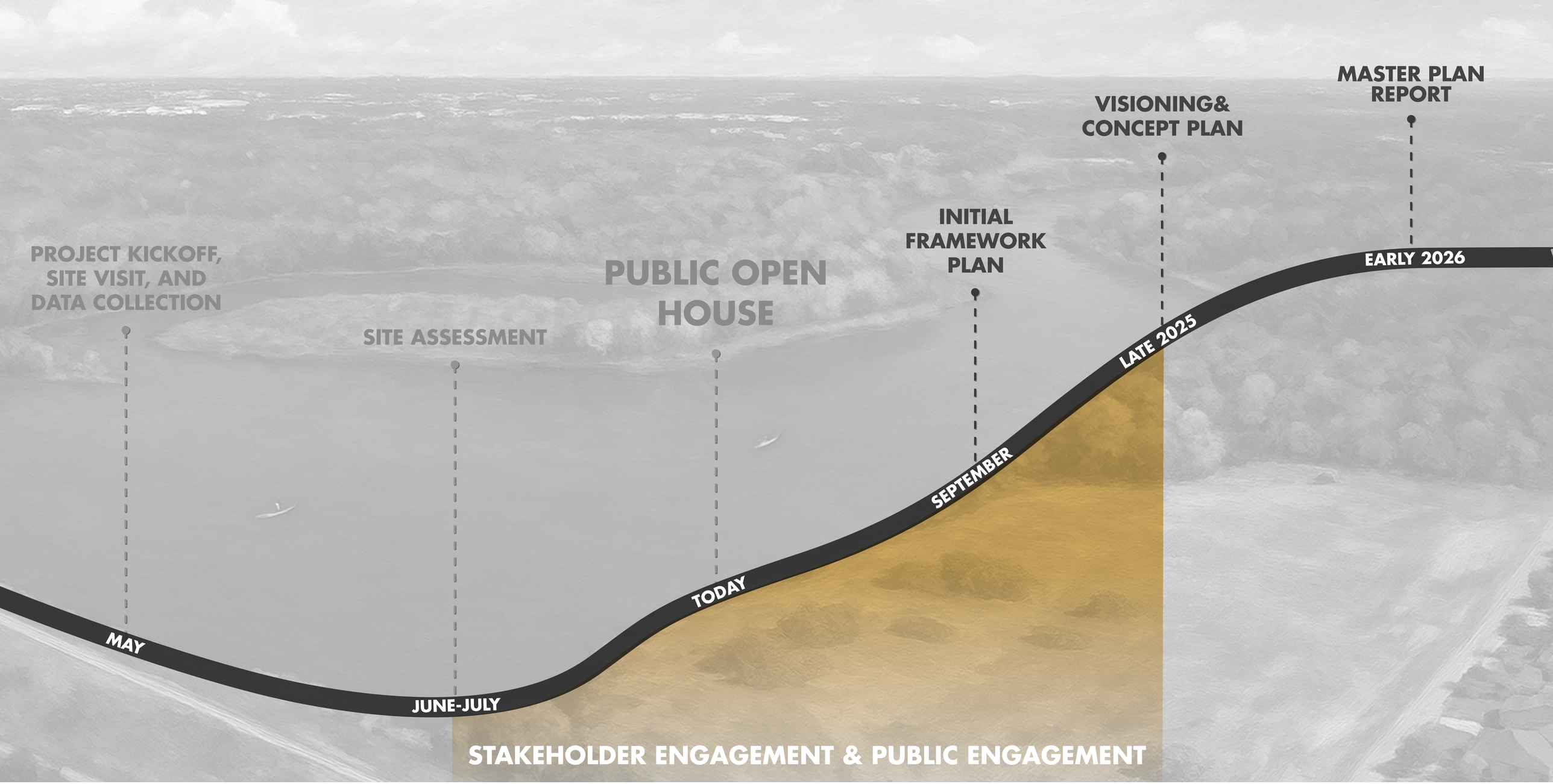
FITNESS AND WELLNESS

People are increasingly interested in maintaining their physical and mental health, and outdoor parks can provide the perfect setting for fitness and wellness activities. **Consider incorporating yoga and fitness classes, outdoor gym equipment, and meditation areas.**



SOCIAL GATHERING SPACES

Parks are often a gathering place for friends and families, and many people are looking for spaces where they can come together and socialize. **Consider incorporating picnic areas, amphitheaters, and community event spaces.**



NEXT STEPS

LAKE KENSINGTON NATURE PARK

AUGUST 21, 2025



Q&A, FOLLOWED BY STATIONS