



Legislative Update

April 21, 2026

- State update
- Federal update
- Capitol visits tomorrow
- RZ Plus ribbon cutting – April 29
- Remaining Funds For Thompson County Park Phase II Master Plan Improvements
- Other items?



Remaining Funds For Thompson County Park Phase II Master Plan Improvements

Georg Fischer

Assistant County Manager- Physical Development

April 21, 2026 General Government and Policy Committee Meeting

- 2023 appropriation language states that the \$2M would be used for design.
- Approximately \$1.2M remains after the completion of schematic design.
- An amendment would allow use of the balance for final design AND construction of one or more of the designed projects.

2023 Design Funding



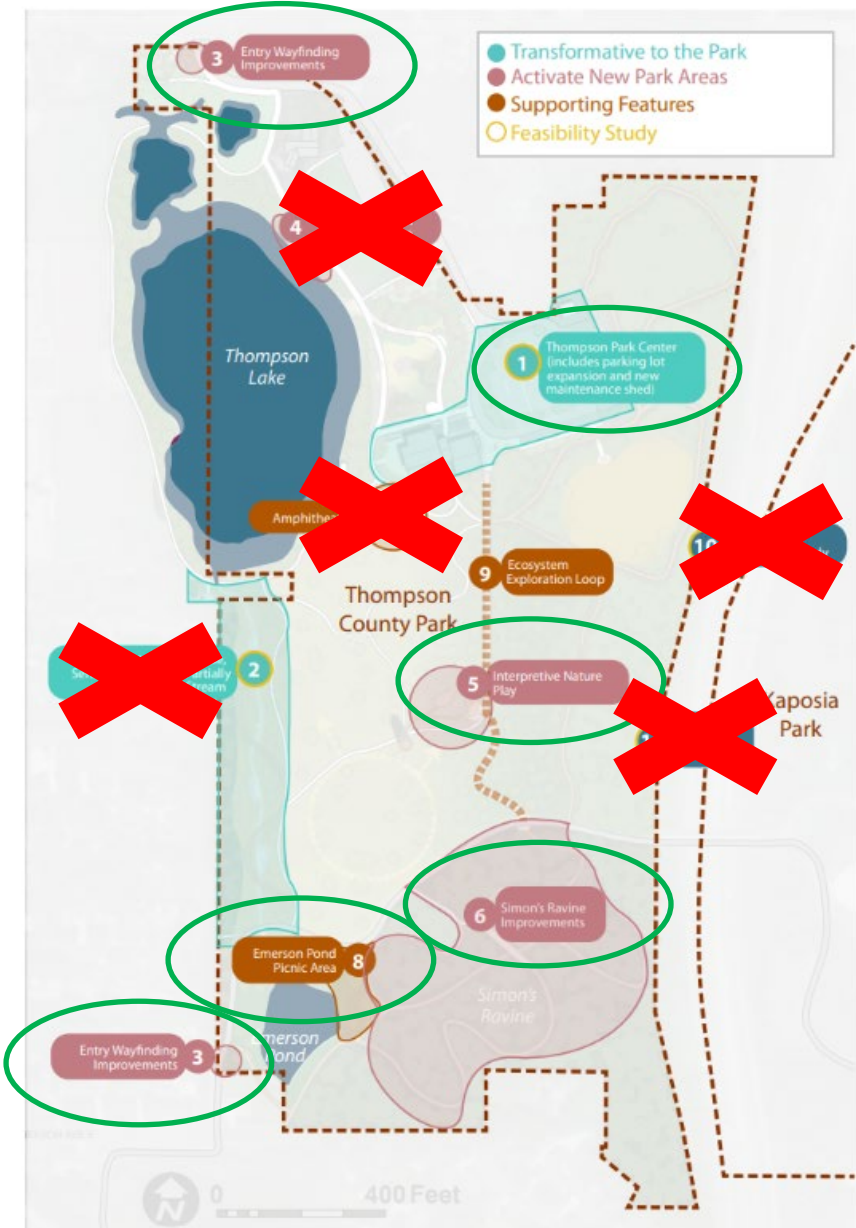
- Schematic Design
 - Dakota Lodge Renovations and Improvements and Parking Lot Expansion
 - Amphitheater
 - Wayfinding Improvements
 - Accessible Trail Loop & Nature Play
 - Simons Ravine Trails(Bridge and Overlook with Trail Upgrades)
 - Emerson Pond Picnic Area (Greenway Rest Area)
 - Pollinator Promenade, Sensory Garden, and Partially Daylighted Stream
 - Paddle Launch
 - Playground Shade
 - Land Bridge and Sound Mitigation

Potential Construction



- Schematic Design
 - **Dakota Lodge Renovations and Improvements and Parking Lot Expansion**
 - ~~Amphitheater~~
 - **Wayfinding Improvements**
 - **Accessible Trail Loop & Nature Play**
 - **Simons Ravine Trails (Bridge and Overlook with Trail Upgrades)**
 - **Emerson Pond Picnic Area (Greenway Rest Area)**
 - ~~Pollinator Promenade, Sensory Garden, and Partially Daylighted Stream~~
 - ~~Paddle Launch~~
 - ~~Playground Shade~~
 - ~~Land Bridge and Sound Mitigation~~

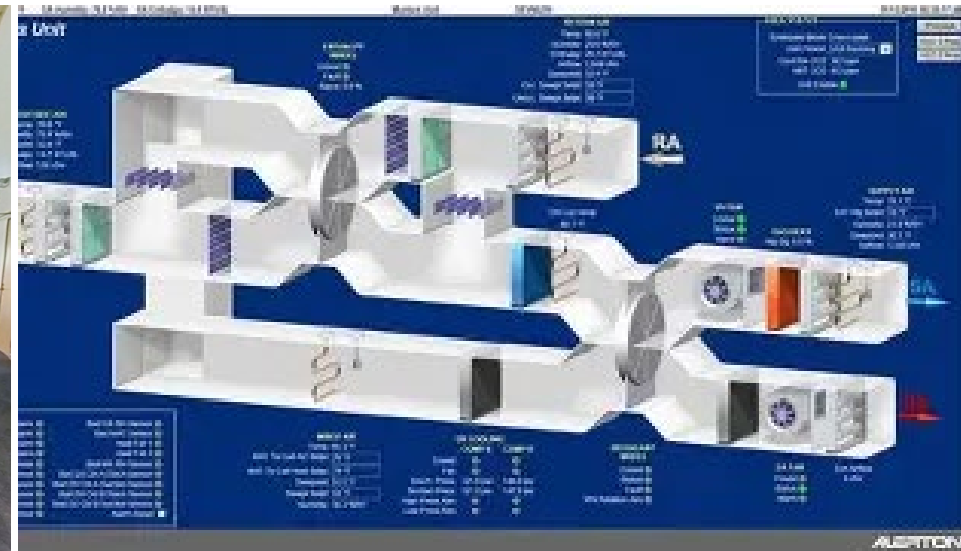
Project Locations



Dakota Lodge Improvements: \$265K



- New Mechanical Controls: ~\$40K
- LED Lighting Retrofit: ~\$225K
 - Up to \$1,500 annually savings (15% savings)



Wayfinding Improvements: \$250K

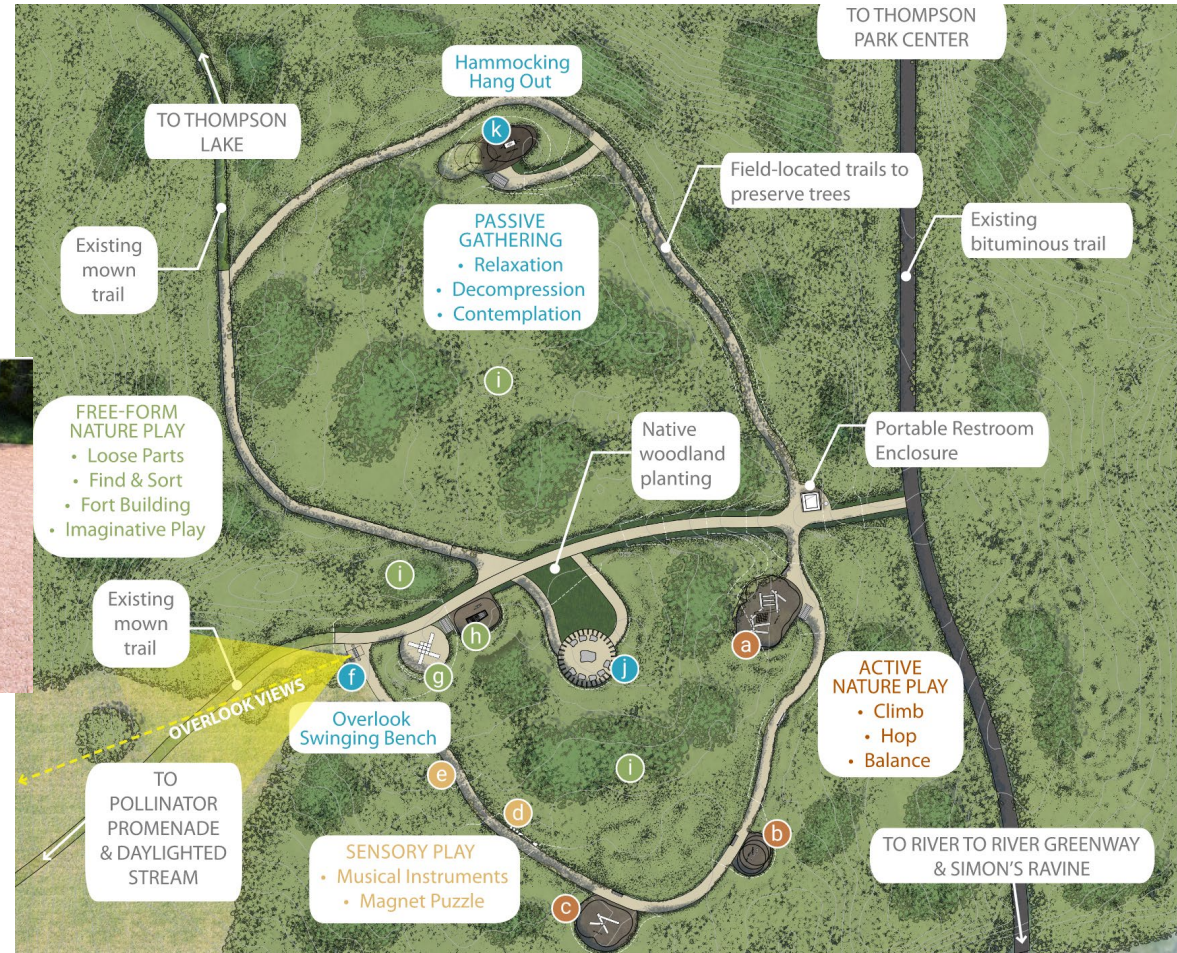


SPERL STREET ENTRY ~\$125K

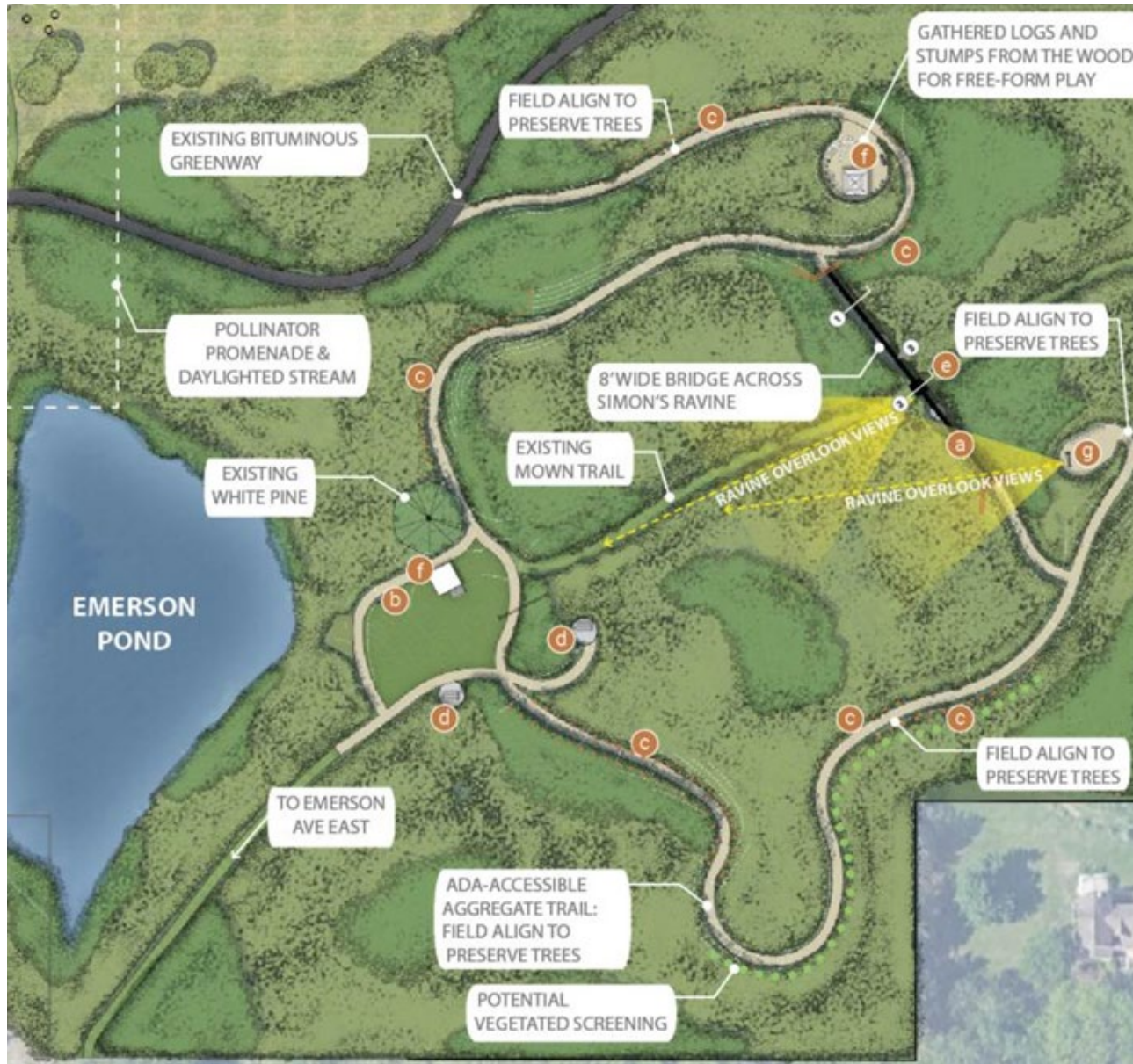


BUTLER AVENUE ENTRY ~\$125K

Accessible Trail and Nature Play: \$800K



Simon's Ravine Trails & Emerson Pond Picnic Area: \$2.25M Total



- Phase 1: Picnic Shelter, Trails and Overlook: \$1.1M
- Phase 2: Ravine Bridge: \$1.15M

County Board Direction



Project Name:	Estimated Project Cost:
Dakota Lodge Improvements: Mechanical Controls	\$40,000
Dakota Lodge Improvements: LED Lighting	\$225,000
Wayfinding Improvements: Sperl Street Entry	\$125,000
Wayfinding Improvements: Butler Avenue Entry	\$125,000
Accessible Trail & Nature Play	\$800,000
Simons Ravine & Emerson Pond Phase 1: Picnic Shelter and Trails	\$1,100,000
Simons Ravine Phase 2: Ravine Bridge and Overlook	\$1,150,000
TOTAL	\$3,565,000
Staff Recommendation Total	\$1,190,000

Up to \$1.2M available

Bold: Staff recommendation

Amphitheater

