

Chapter 3

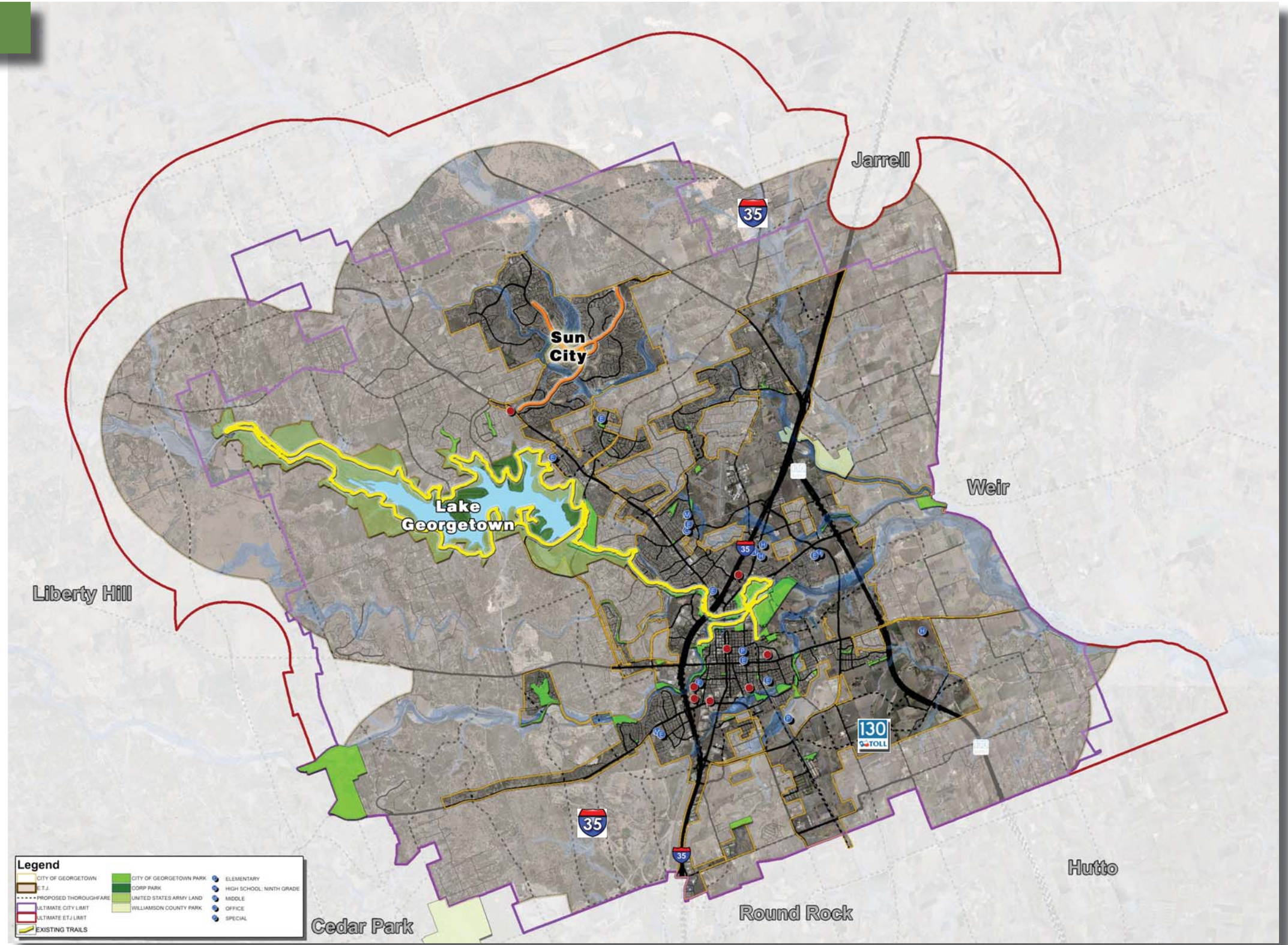
Existing and Proposed Trail Corridors

“For bicycle and pedestrian facilities to be truly functional as routes between work, home, school, libraries, parks, and shopping areas, they must be part of an interconnected network.”

Amanda Eaken and Joshua Hart, *Tunnels on Trails*, 2001

Existing Trails in Georgetown

There are already existing trails in Georgetown that loop through San Gabriel Park following the north fork of the San Gabriel River and continue looping around Lake Georgetown. Also many of the existing parks have looped walking trails in them. The goal of this plan is to connect the existing trails with other recreation, residential, and public facilities throughout the community. The purpose is to create a well connected trail system that reaches all residents and destinations in Georgetown.





Existing San Gabriel Park trails



Existing Lake Georgetown trails



Other existing trails in Georgetown

Opportunities for Trails in Georgetown

Georgetown has many corridors that lend themselves to creating a citywide system of trails. There is Lake Georgetown, the San Gabriel River system, and the creeks that feed into the river which continue throughout the city. Enhancing trail opportunities throughout the city will not only preserve open space, it will provide an alternate mode of transportation for the residents.

Opportunities to create trails and linear parks in Georgetown have been repeatedly noted in public input efforts throughout this planning process. Citizen support and desire to continue building these facilities is very high, and points to the need to make trail building a very high priority over the next five to ten years.

The trail alignments shown on the following pages are conceptual in nature and are intended to convey desired linkages between key destinations throughout Georgetown. Many potential trail alignments are on lands that may be further developed in the future, and those trails may not be implemented until that development occurs. Trails are typically shown along drainage corridors where greenbelts with trails can be created. In some cases, the development plan for those areas may suggest alternative trail corridors; if so, these can be presented to City staff for review and as changes to the overall trails plan.

Trail development to be lead by the City of Georgetown, but with potential private partnership assistance is shown in red. Trail development to be lead by non-city of Georgetown, private entities or developments are shown in blue.

Costs shown in this document are at a very early level of design, and will vary as more detail is added. The costs shown here are only intended to convey a sense of the order of magnitude of the trail costs.



Proposed Trails for Georgetown

This section presents a citywide network of trails, representing the most important trails to be built. Using prioritization criteria tailored specifically to Georgetown, those key trails are then divided into segments and prioritized. Cost projections were prepared for each of the recommended segments, allowing for the preparation of an “Action Plan” for trail implementation. These corridors were selected to meet the goals established by the planning effort, and to reflect citizen comments and desires received during the extensive public input process. Those goals included:

Connectivity – trails considered in this plan should have a purpose. They are not simply scenic walks through a park, but are intended to link destinations that would be most frequently used by residents of Georgetown. Those include schools, recreation facilities and parks, nearby retail area, civic uses, downtown, and finally major places of employment.

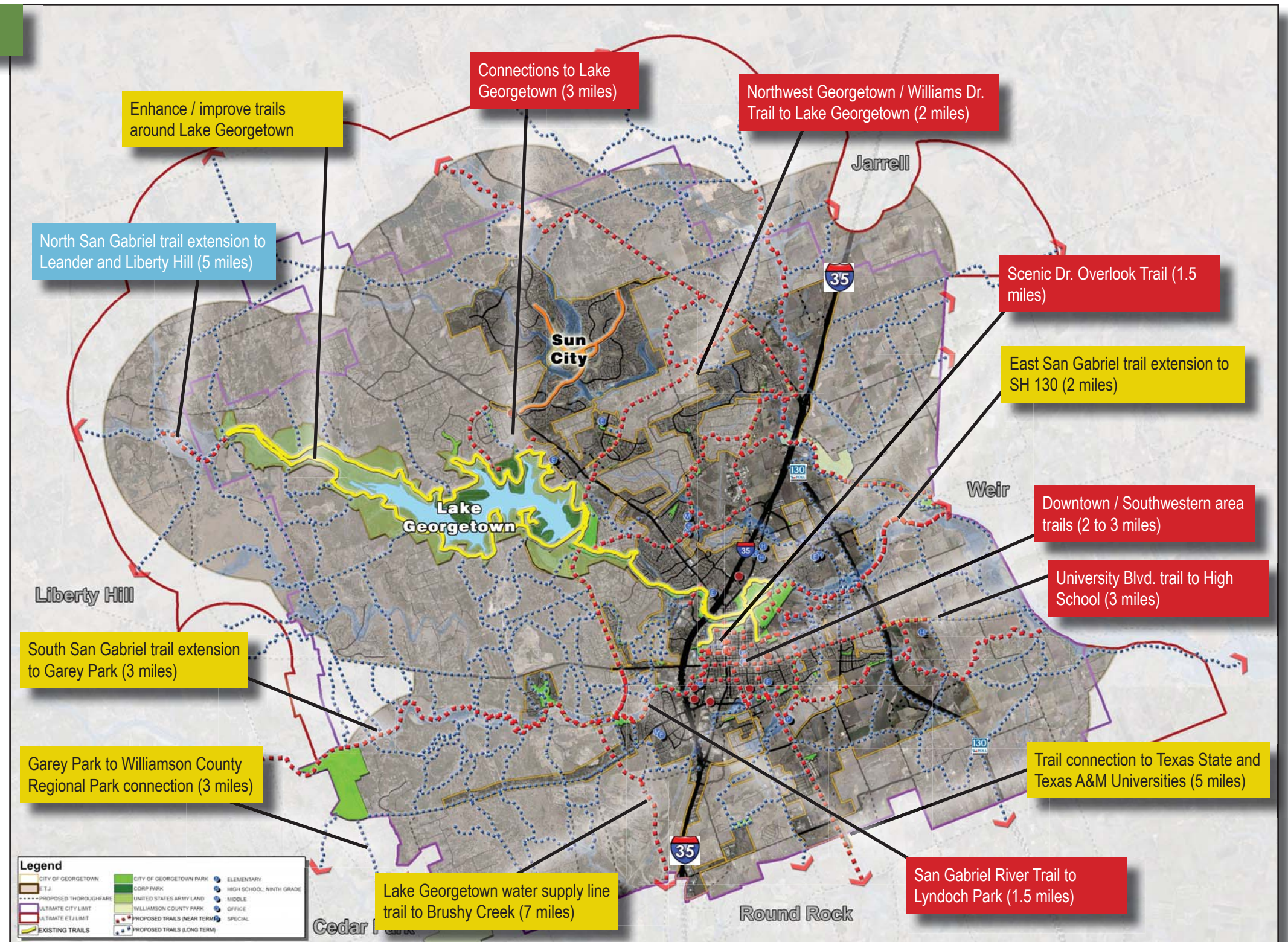
Planning for an entire system – these trails are intended to be key pieces that someday link all of Georgetown together.

Create meaningful segments – significant sections should be built, so that they can immediately become highly used and effective pieces of the overall system. Segments need to be built in a way that sequences connections. Individual random pieces should not be left unconnected for very long.

Create partnerships – many segments can be built by new developments. Even if planning for those developments is in an advanced stage, modifications should be considered to implement key components of this plan, so as to create an overall better final plan for the city. Homeowner Associations and other entities can also play a major role in implementing some segments.

Initial prioritization on trails in the incorporated city limits – the immediate focus will be on trail segments within the city limits of Georgetown. Trails in the extra territorial jurisdiction can be implemented in the future or independently by developers or homeowners.

The major system of trails in the city is shown on this page. More detail of proposed trail corridors is given on the following pages.



Trails were divided into the following corridors:

- Berry Creek Corridor
- Northwest
- North Fork Corridor
- Middle Fork Corridor
- Southwest
- Southeast
- South San Gabriel River Corridor



South San Gabriel River Trail leading to Blue Hole Park



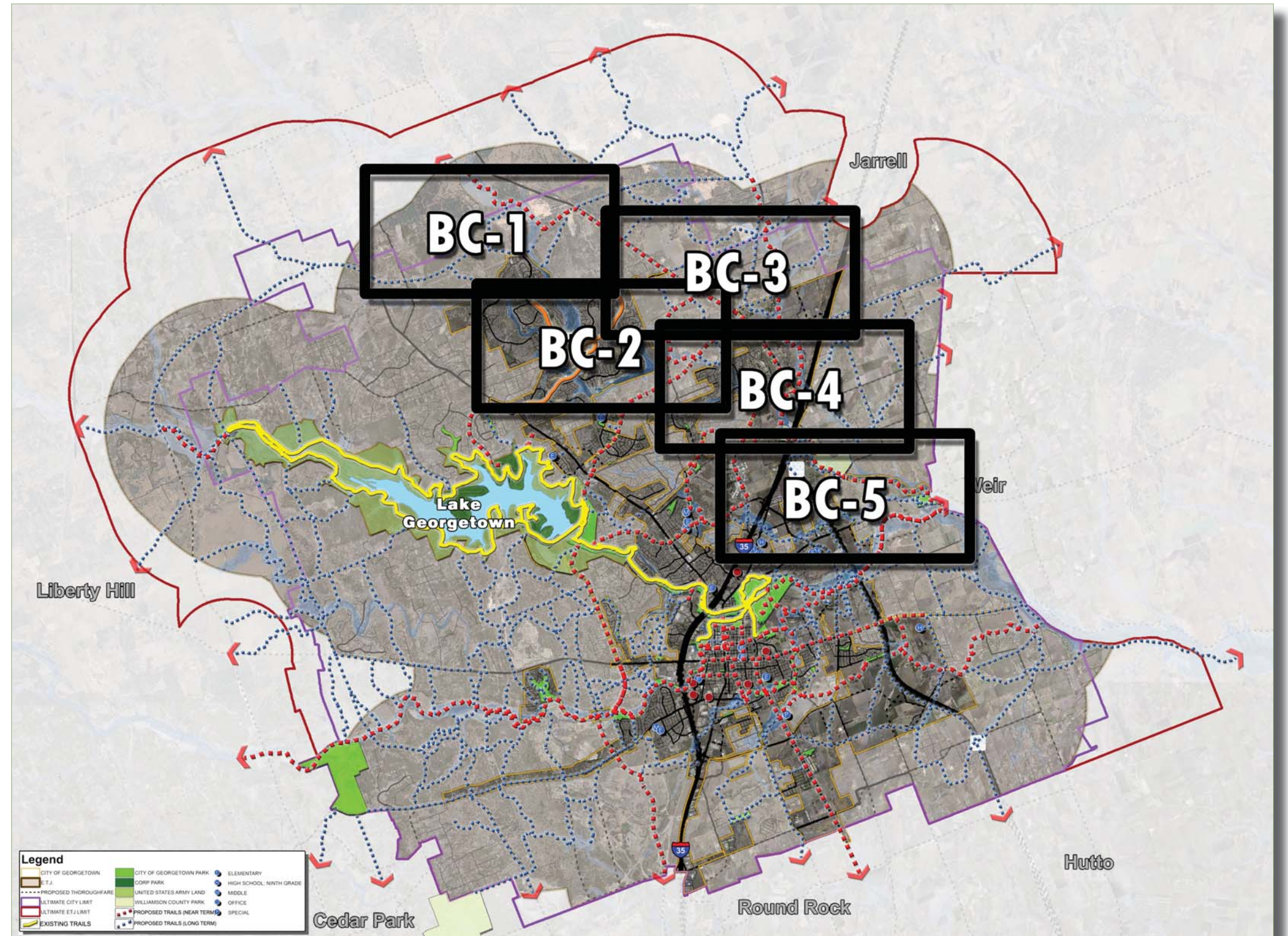
Berry Creek Corridor

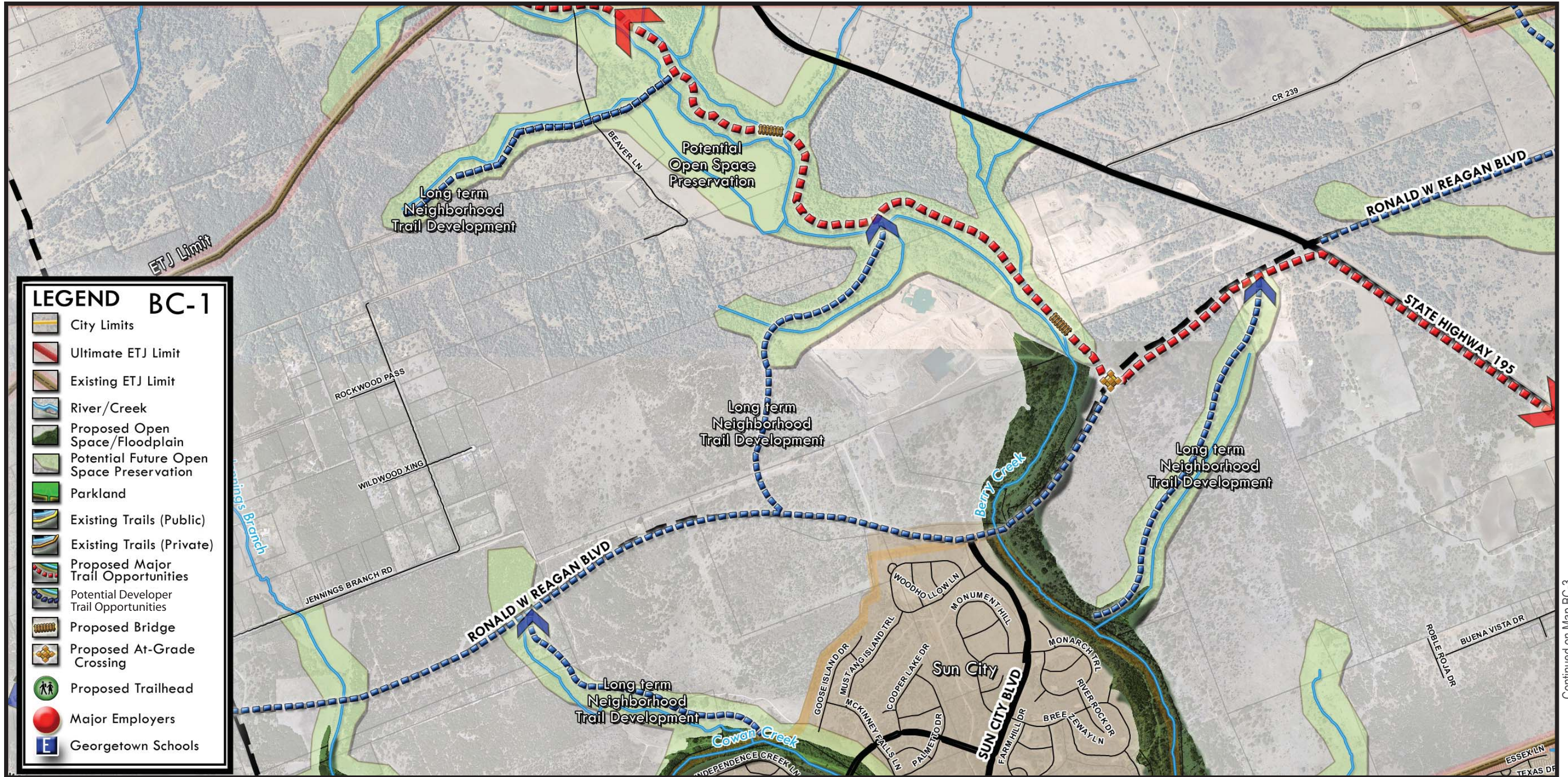
There is expected to be significant growth in the northern portion of this corridor. With trail development along this creek and the surrounding corridor, the future population will be connected to area schools and Berry Springs County Park.

Major crossings include:

- Major crossing at IH-35 to connect Villages of Berry Creek Park to Berry Springs County Park.
- Major crossing at IH-35 to connect Georgetown ISD Ninth Grade Campus to neighborhoods on the west side of IH-35.
- Major crossing at SH 130 to connect Georgetown ISD Ninth Grade Campus to Pecan Branch Park.





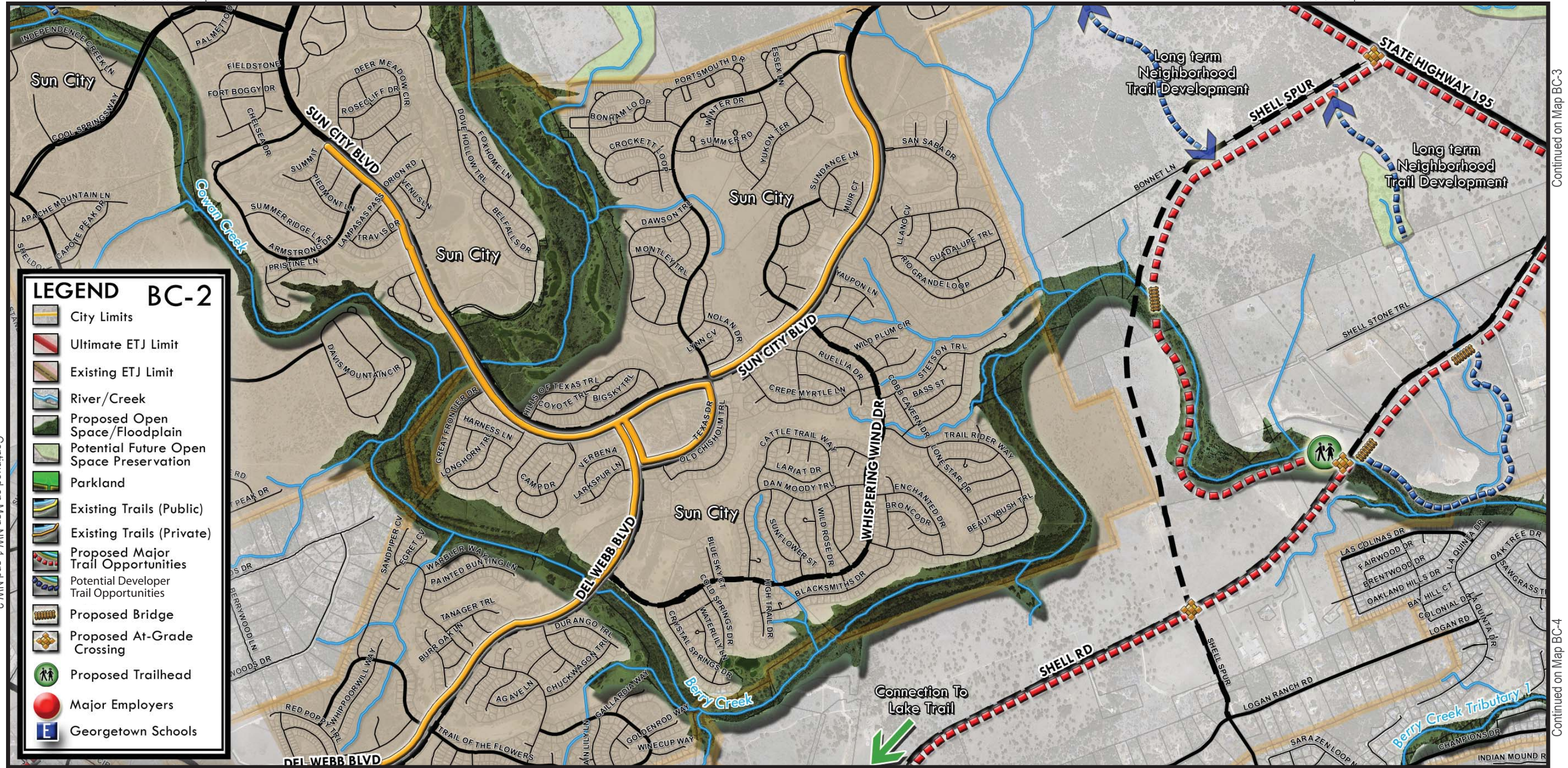


“Trail and greenway alignments are approximate, and are intended to show general geographic locations. Trail alignments are conceptual and demonstrate a future need for citywide and neighborhood area connectivity through potentially preserved open spaces. Precise trail alignments and decisions should be made as more detailed planning, consultation and design occurs.”



Continued on Map BC-1

Continued on Map BC-3



Continued on Map NW-1 and NW-2

Continued on Map BC-3

Continued on Map BC-4

Continued on Map NW-2

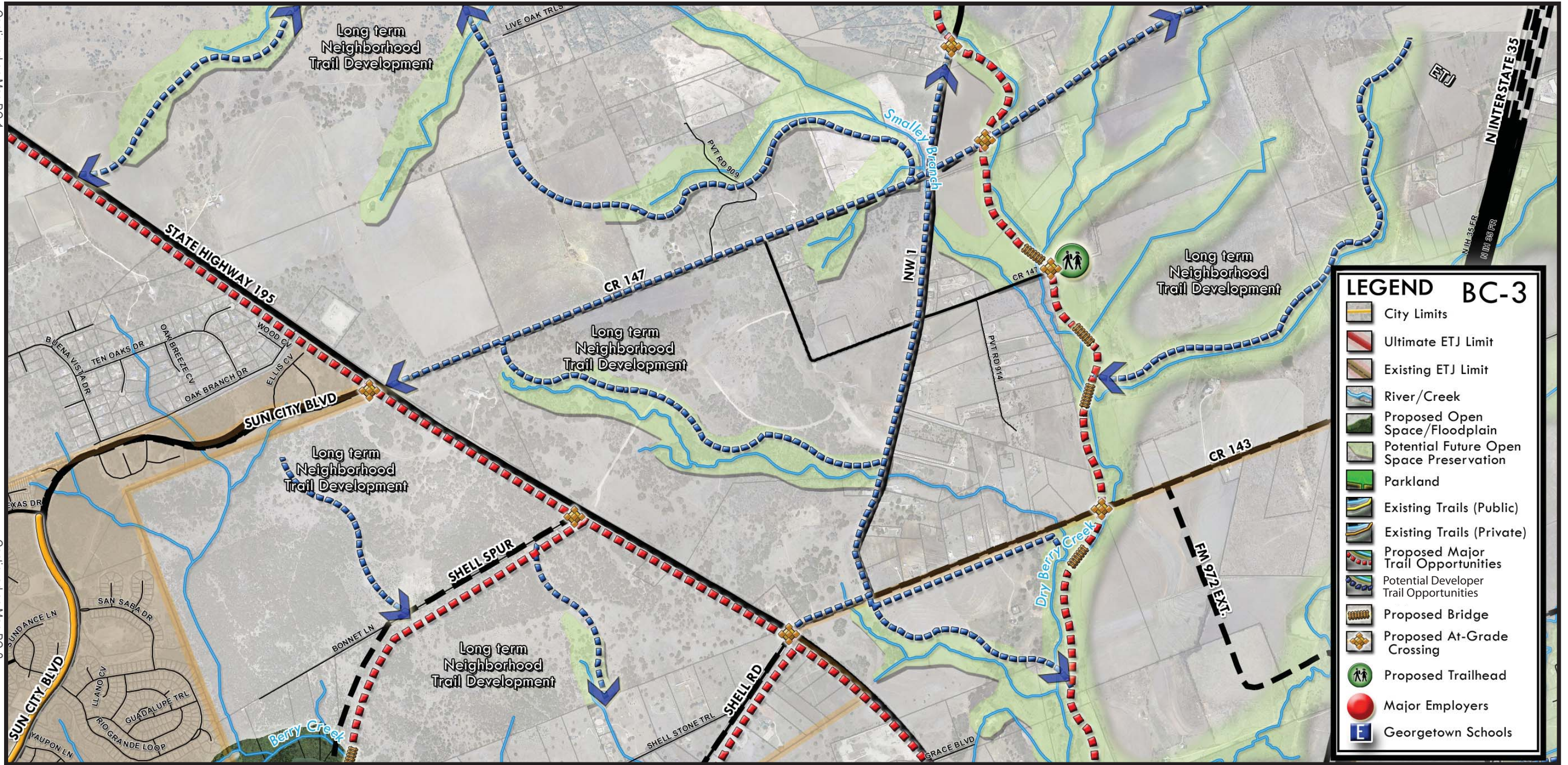


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Continued on Map BC-1

Continued on Map BC-2



Continued on Map BC-2

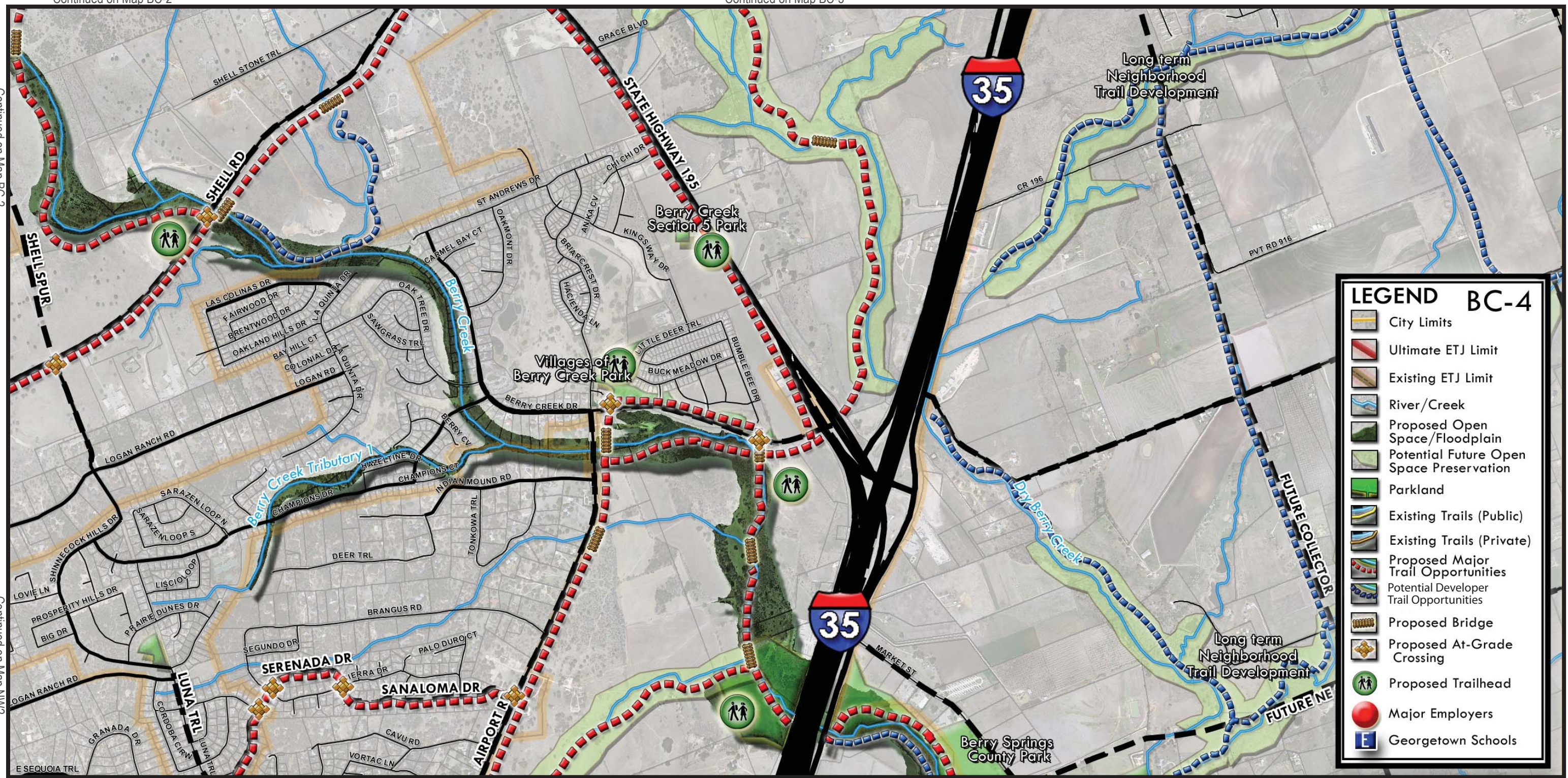
Continued on Map BC-4

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Continued on Map BC-2

Continued on Map BC-3



LEGEND BC-4

- City Limits
- Ultimate ETJ Limit
- Existing ETJ Limit
- River/Creek
- Proposed Open Space/Floodplain
- Potential Future Open Space Preservation
- Parkland
- Existing Trails (Public)
- Existing Trails (Private)
- Proposed Major Trail Opportunities
- Potential Developer Trail Opportunities
- Proposed Bridge
- Proposed At-Grade Crossing
- Proposed Trailhead
- Major Employers
- Georgetown Schools



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Continued on Map NF-3



Continued on Map SG-6

Continued on Map SG-5

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Northwest

The trails in the northwest will connect the residents to Lake Georgetown as well as area schools and the Village Park and Pool.

Major crossings include:

- A major crossing will be needed of Williams Dr. to provide access from the northwest neighborhoods to Lake Georgetown.



