



City of Prescott

City Council - Study Session

August 25, 2026 | 2:00 PM
201 N Montezuma Street
Council Chambers, 1st Floor
Prescott, AZ 86301

AGENDA

The following Agenda will be considered by the **Prescott City Council** at its **Study Session** pursuant to the Prescott City Charter, Article II, Section 13. Notice of the meeting is given pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes, Section 38-431.02. One or more members of the Council may be attending the meeting through the use of a technological device.

Viewing & Participation

This meeting may be viewed on Channel 64, Facebook Live or on the City's website: [City of Prescott Live Meeting Feed](#)

Public comments for Council may be submitted through the City website: [Public Comment Form](#)

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **ROLL CALL**
3. **DISCUSSION**
 - A. Presentation & Discussion Regarding a Reconsideration of the West Granite Creek Park Conceptual Parking Design.
4. **ADJOURNMENT**

Upon a public majority vote of a quorum of the City Council, the Council may hold an executive session, which will not be open to the public, regarding any item listed on the agenda but only for the following purposes:

- (1) Discussion or consideration of personnel matters (A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(1));
- (2) Discussion or consideration of records exempt by law (A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(2));
- (3) Discussion or consultation for legal advice with the city's attorneys (A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(3));
- (4) Discussion or consultation with the city's attorneys regarding the city's position regarding contracts that are the subject of negotiations, in pending or contemplated litigation, or in settlement discussions conducted in order to avoid litigation (A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(4));
- (5) Discussion or consultation with designated representatives of the city to consider its position and instruct its representatives regarding negotiations with employee organizations (A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(5));

- (6) Discussion, consultation or consideration for negotiations by the city or its designated representatives with members of a tribal council, or its designated representatives, of an Indian reservation located within or adjacent to the city (A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(6);
- (7) Discussion or consultation with designated representatives of the city to consider its position and instruct its representatives regarding negotiations for the purchase, sale or lease of real property (A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(7)).

CERTIFICATION OF POSTING OF NOTICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that a copy of the foregoing notice was duly posted at Prescott City Hall on 8/20/26 at 11:00 a.m. in accordance with the statement filed by the Prescott City Council with the City Clerk.

Sarah M. Thornhill

Sarah M. Thornhill, City Clerk



TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA: August 25 Study Session
DATE: August 25, 2026
DEPT: Recreation Services
ITEM #: 3.A
SUBJECT: Presentation & Discussion Regarding a
Reconsideration of the West Granite Creek Park
Conceptual Parking Design.

ITEM SUMMARY

This item is for a discussion regarding an updated conceptual design for parking improvements at West Granite Creek Park. Staff is requesting City Council approval for the updated parking improvements which provides additional parking capacity while maintaining the park's natural character and improving accessibility for park visitors.

BACKGROUND

West Granite Creek Park was master planned in 2000 as a natural, pedestrian-oriented park and trailhead within the Prescott Greenways Trail system. The Master Plan envisioned limited vehicle access with an emphasis on open space, trail connectivity, and restoration of the Granite Creek corridor.

Over time, visitors began using an undeveloped dirt area adjacent to the splash pad for informal parking. While this practice improved access during periods of high visitation, it also resulted in soil compaction, vegetation loss, and conflicts with the intent of the adopted Master Plan.

During the February 11, 2025 Study Session, Council reviewed a conceptual design that proposed replacing the informal dirt parking area with a paved parking lot (Exhibit A). Following discussion, Council expressed concerns that the concept exceeded the intent of the 2000 Master Plan and directed staff to return with a revised concept that included limited parking, an ADA-accessible parking space, a passenger drop-off area, and restoration of the surrounding park area.

In response, staff worked with a local engineering firm to develop a revised conceptual plan. In addition, Prescott Alternative Transportation (PAT) and the West Granite Creek Park Coalition prepared an alternative restoration concept that emphasized reduced vehicle access and restoration of the park landscape.

At the October 28, 2025 Study Session, Council reviewed both concepts and directed staff to proceed with the design in Exhibit B, which balanced accessibility, limited parking, environmental restoration, and the goals established during the February Study Session. Council also directed staff to include funding for the project in the FY 2026/2027 Capital Improvement Program.

Following Council's direction, the West Granite Creek Park Coalition initiated restoration efforts within the park during the spring of 2026.

Proposed Concept Revision

During the summer of 2026, staff monitored parking operations during peak splash pad use and observed continued parking congestion and limited availability of accessible parking.

Based on those observations, staff, working with a local engineering firm, developed an updated conceptual plan that better addresses current operational needs while remaining consistent with Council's previous direction.

The revised concept, Exhibit C includes:

- Improvements to the existing paved parking lot.
- Increased parking capacity to better accommodate seasonal demand.
- Relocation of the ADA-accessible parking space closer to the splash pad and park amenities.
- Evaluation of an optional designated passenger drop-off area.
- Preservation of the park's natural character while minimizing impacts to open space.
- The revised concept adds approximately 6 – 7 additional parking spaces.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

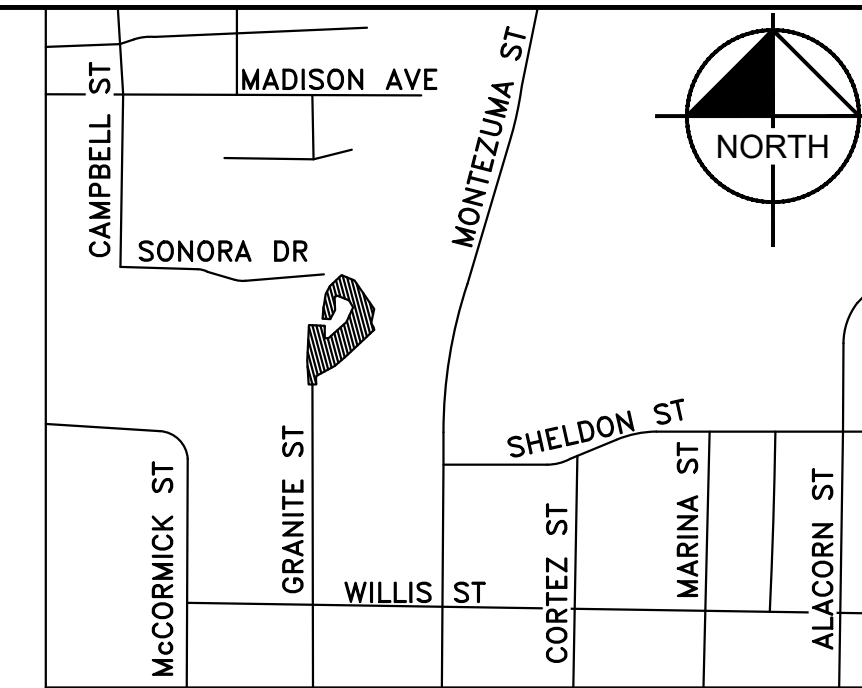
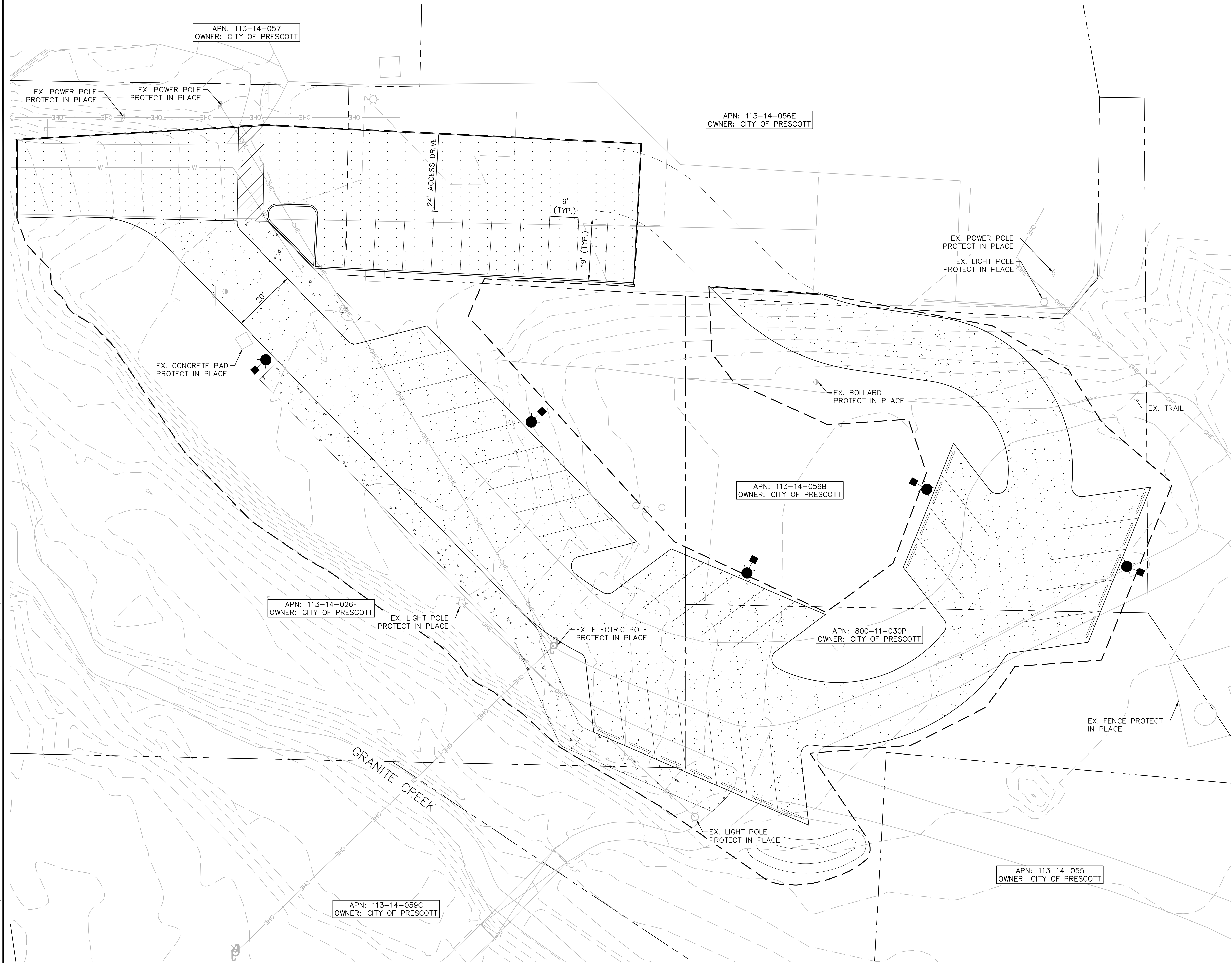
City Council approved \$500,000 in the FY 2026/2027 Capital Improvement Program for parking improvements at West Granite Creek Park.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

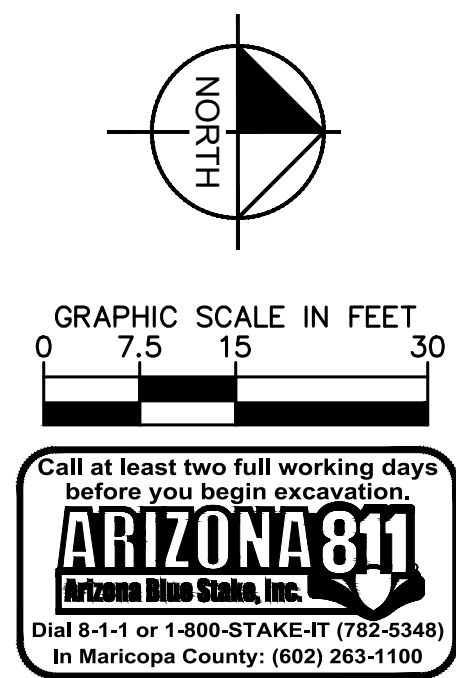
This item is for discussion only. No formal action will be taken.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Exhibit A
2. Exhibit B
3. Exhibit C
4. West Granite Creek Park Parking Presentation



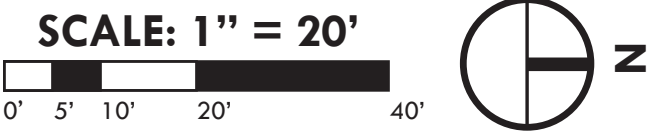
VICINITY MAP
NOT TO SCALE

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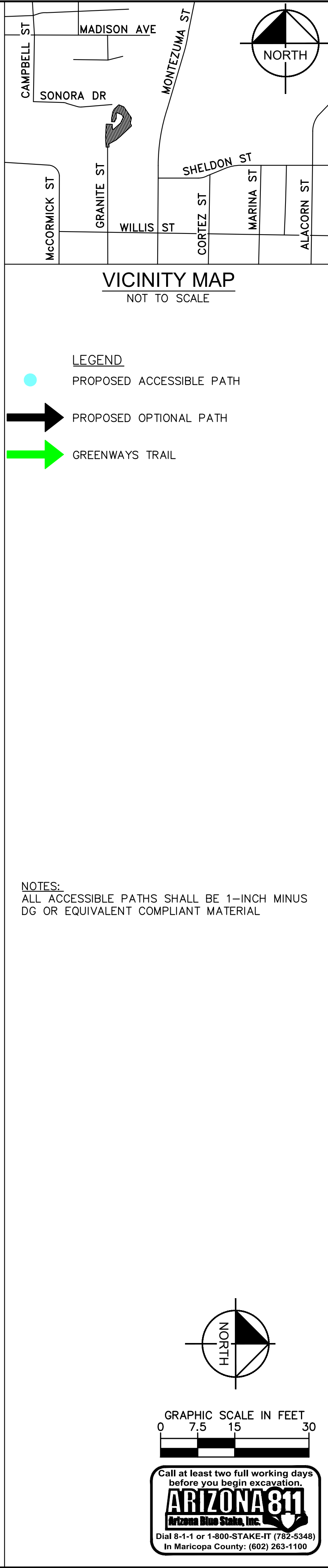
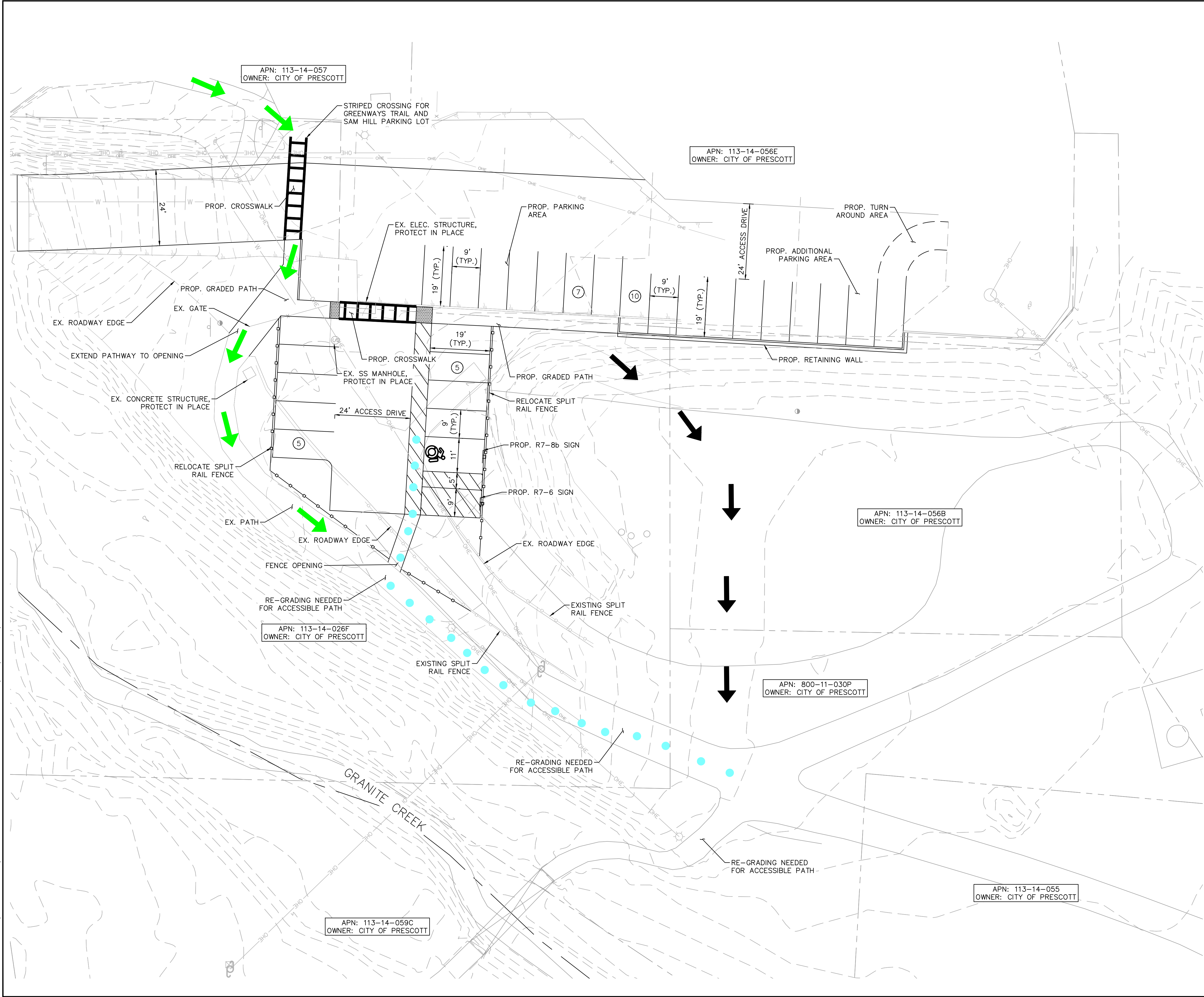


WEST GRANITE CREEK PARK EXHIBIT

OCTOBER 2025



- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| A PICK UP/DROP OFF AREA | D GREENWAYS TRAIL ORIGINAL ALIGNMENT | G PLAY BOULDERS AND LOGS |
| B SIDEWALK CONNECTION | E PICNIC TABLES | H KIDS' ADVENTURE TRAIL |
| C PARKING LOT WITH 20 SPACES | F SLIDE | I NATURAL CLIMBING WALL |

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West Granite Creek Park Conceptual Design Consideration



Recreation Services
Department

Recent History

2020

- West Granite Creek Master Plan was approved.
- Land and Water Conservation Funds used to purchase the property for outdoor recreation and support facilities.

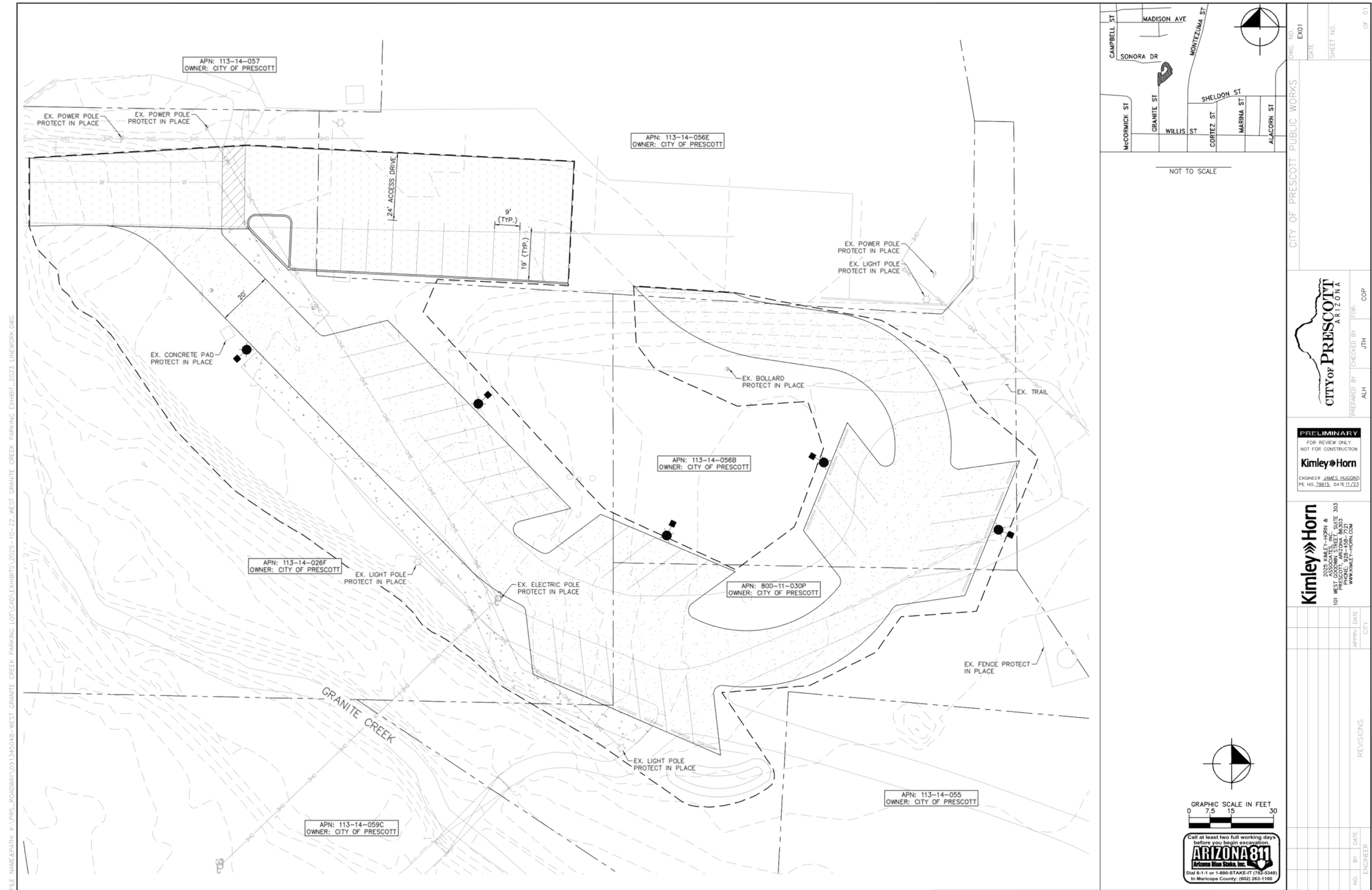
2021

- Hilton Garden Inn Hotel was completed and included the installation of a Splash Pad, per 2019 development agreement.
- West Granite Creek Park gradually became a parking area for people visiting the splash pad and, subsequently, a quasi-trailhead.

2025-2026

- February 2025-Study Session, Recreation Services proposed a parking concept plan (exhibit A in this presentation) that included 44 parking spaces, lighting, trail realignment and landscaping. Council gave direction to return with revised plan to restore the park, develop a dropoff zone and ADA parking.
- November 2025 Study Session, two parking concepts were presented and Council supported the engineered design (exhibit B in this presentation).
- Fiscal Year 26/27, CIP funding for parking improvements is approved.
- Today, Recreation Services staff is bringing a third options for consideration.

February 2025 Design Exhibit A





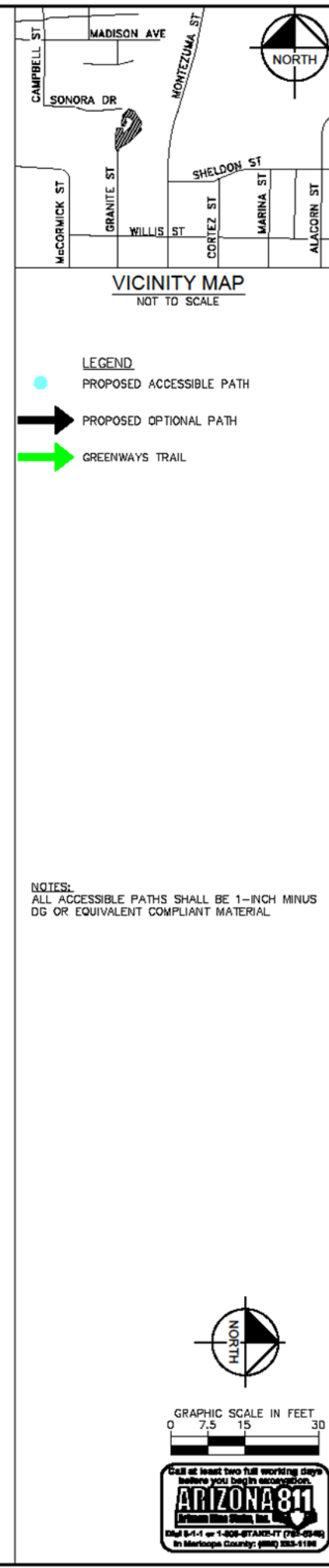
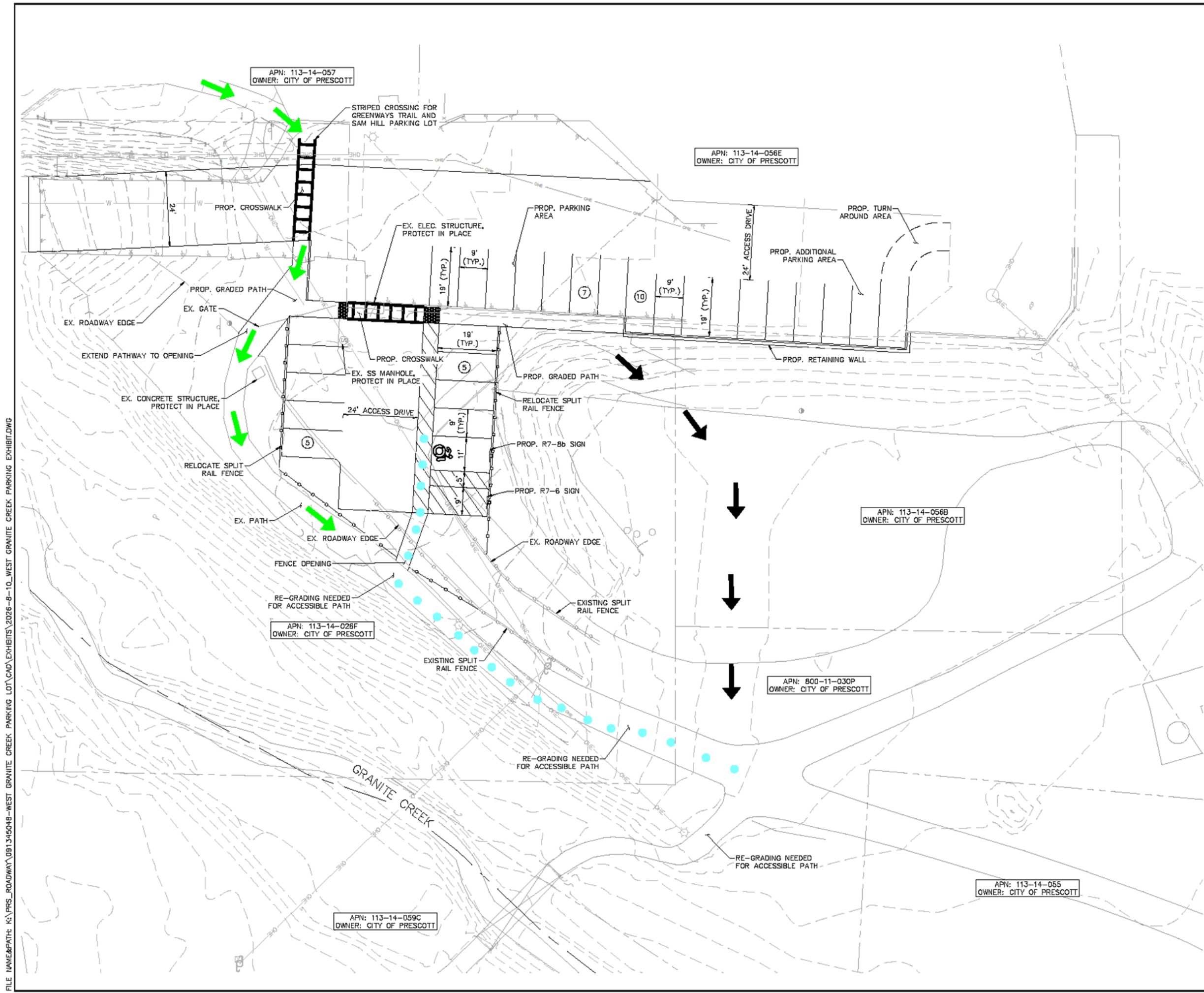
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CIP #: 24-103

REVIEW:

WEST GRANITE CREEK

Questions