



City of Missoula and Missoula County



Open Space Planning Open House

FEBRUARY 6, 2018

The following slides contain the display board content from the open house. Please use boards to answer questions in accompanying questionnaire for Boards 2-6.

OPEN SPACE OPEN HOUSE

BOARD 1: PROJECT INTRODUCTION

BOARD 1

Introduction

Open Space Planning and Vision

OVERVIEW:

The City of Missoula and Missoula County are working together on an updated land use plan for Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Trails (PROST) in the Missoula Parks and Open Space Planning Region.

The 2018 open space planning process and open house are a distinct but interrelated part of this broader plan.

The goal of the open space open house and online participation is to gather input and ideas from the community for goals and priorities for open space conservation in Missoula. **Please use the accompanying questionnaire to answer questions related to the information on the following slides.**

The questionnaire contains questions related to Boards 2-6.

BOARD 1

Introduction

Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Trails (PROST)

Planning Timeline

BOARD 1
Introduction

Summer 2017

City of Missoula and Missoula County began process to update the Open Space Plan as part of the Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Planning Process

January 2018

Phase 1 - Focus Groups with key community stakeholders: business and industry, non-profits, neighborhoods, health, education and social welfare sectors, disability community, religious communities, minorities, local land use, wildlife and recreation experts, and City and County residents.

February-March 2018

Open Space Open House

Scientific public opinion survey to determine the needs and priorities of residents county-wide

Spring and Summer 2018

Throughout the spring, City and County staff, advisory boards and consultants, will review, collate, and summarize data from all surveys and meetings and begin drafting the plan. Findings and draft plan chapters will be presented at a public open house in late spring

Spring-Summer 2019

Phase 2 is slated for completion by spring 2019 and will include the following:

- Identification of potential inter-agency and public/private partnerships
- Evaluation of land, facilities, and program needs, maintenance services, park management, operations funding, as well as recreation program evaluations
- Updated GIS Mapping providing a visual reference for Level Of Service, Open Space Cornerstones, and other goals as determined by the process.



History of Missoula Open Space Planning

BOARD 1

Introduction

**August
1995**

Missoula City Council and County Commissioners adopted Missoula Area Open Space Plan as an amendment to the Missoula Comprehensive Plan

**November
1995**

City of Missoula Voters passed a \$5 million open space bond to help implement the open space plan.

2002

Missoula City Council and County Commissioners adopted the Missoula Area Open Space Plan as an amendment to the Growth Policy

2006

Missoula City Council and County Commissioners adopted the *Missoula Urban Area Open Space Plan Update*

**November
2006**

Missoula County voters passed a \$10 million dollar open space bond to continue implementing the open space plan.

**Summer
2017**

City of Missoula and Missoula County began process to update the Open Space Plan as part of the Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Planning Process



BOARD 2

QUESTIONS 1-2

OPEN SPACE OPEN HOUSE

BOARD 2

CHANGING CONDITIONS AND

EMERGING TRENDS AND

OPEN SPACE VISION

Changing Conditions and Emerging Trends

BOARD 2

Questions 1-2

- ♦ Population Growth

The population of the planning area has grown by 1,176 annually between 2000-2010

- ♦ Land ownership

Shifts in ownership of large blocks of forested land, new lands acquired by City of Missoula, and conservation organizations

- ♦ Land use

More lands protected by conservation easements and increasing development in City & County

- ♦ Recreation

Increasing recreation demands on rivers and trails, and growing interest in different activities

- ♦ Changing climate conditions

Temperatures are increasing, flood and fire regimes shifting

- ♦ Land use plans

The City and County have adopted new growth policies, and Missoula has adopted a new active transportation plan and Climate Action Plan

VISION STATEMENT

“The open space vision is to protect, expand and connect Missoula’s system of open space. This integrated system includes lands protected for habitat and natural resources, parks, historic and scenic values, agriculture, and trails. This vision helps shape our community’s character and guide growth.”

BOARD 2

Questions 1-2

OPEN SPACE OPEN HOUSE

BOARD 2 (CONTINUED)

A Comprehensive Open Space Model
for Missoula

BOARD 2

Corridors

Connect to the open space system

- Commuter Trails
- Recreational Trails
- Water Ways
- Wildlife Corridors

Anchors or Core Areas

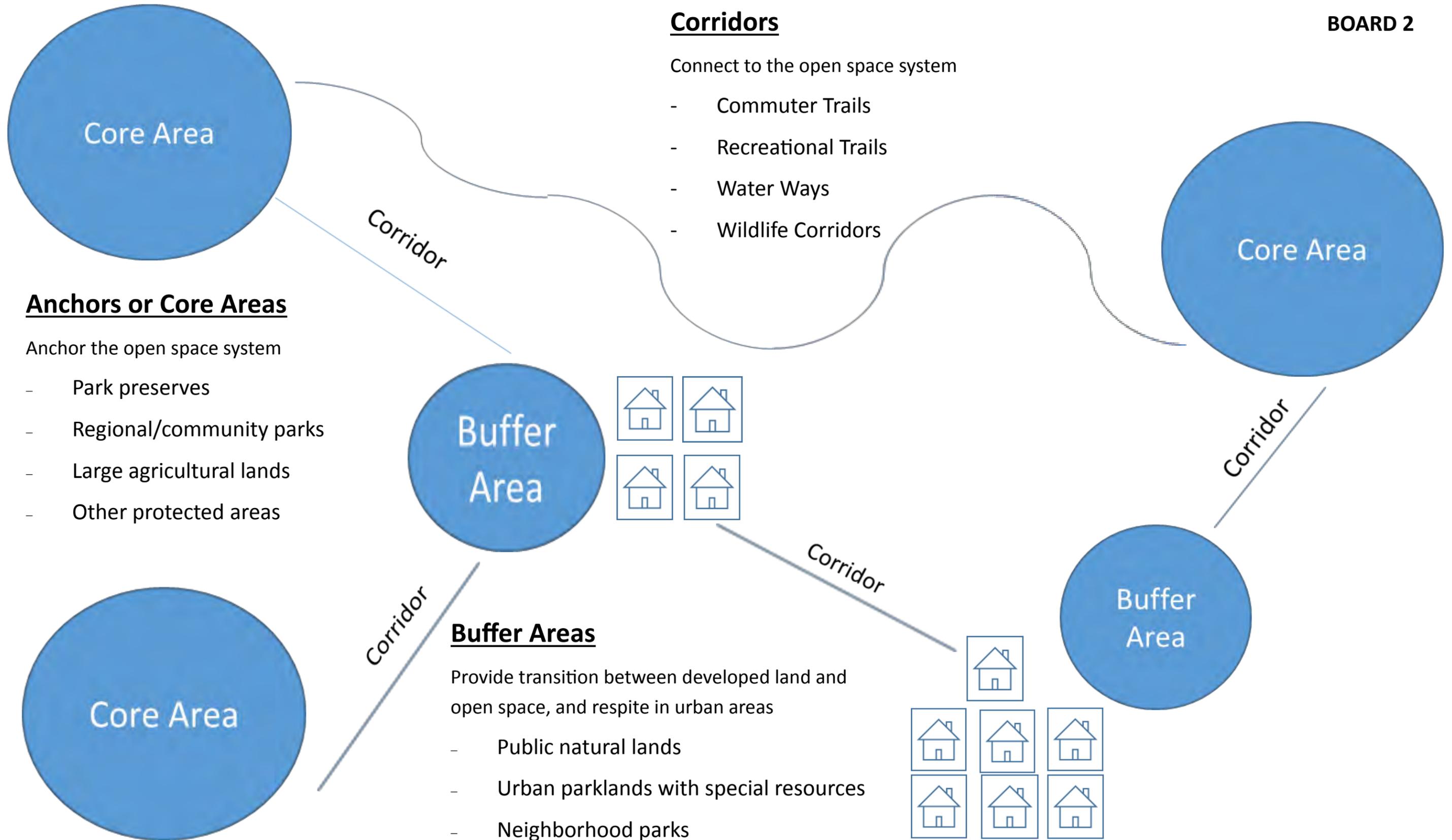
Anchor the open space system

- Park preserves
- Regional/community parks
- Large agricultural lands
- Other protected areas

Buffer Areas

Provide transition between developed land and open space, and respite in urban areas

- Public natural lands
- Urban parklands with special resources
- Neighborhood parks
- Gardens



OPEN SPACE OPEN HOUSE

BOARD 3

OPEN SPACE SYSTEM TYPES

Open Space Types

BOARD 3
Question 3

Conservation lands

- Managed primarily for natural resource and habitat values, comprise much of the core areas

Parkland/Developed Parks

- Managed primarily for active and passive recreation, serve as buffers between developed areas and core areas

Historic or Scenic

- Preserved for historic or scenic purposes

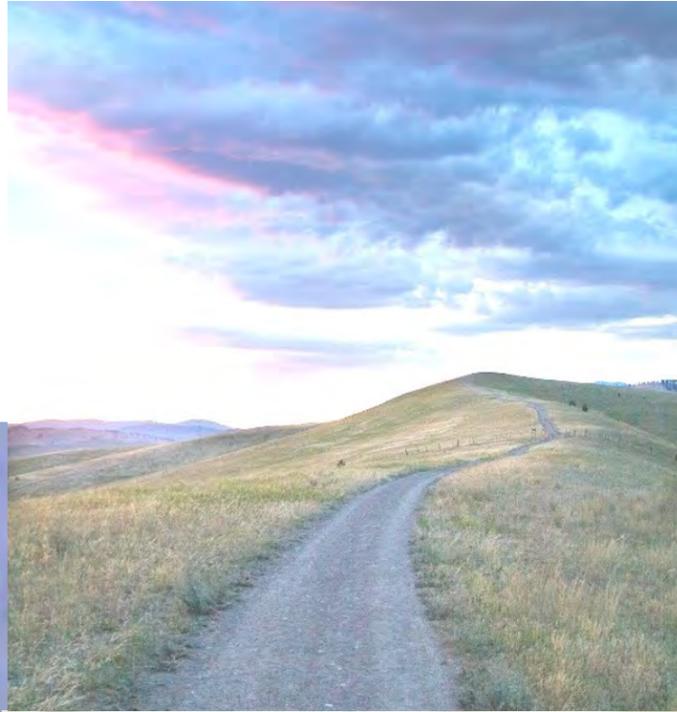
Agricultural lands

- Contain working farms, ranches or forests or important agricultural soils

Corridors

- Connect the open space system. Includes commuter and recreational trails, greenways, waterways, and wildlife corridors.

Conservation Lands



Parkland/Developed Parks



Historic or Scenic





Agricultural Lands

Corridors



BOARD 4

Questions 4-5

OPEN SPACE OPEN HOUSE

BOARD 4

PRIORITIES AND VALUES

Open Space Values

- ◆ Ecosystem Services (flood control, water quality, air quality)
- ◆ Wildlife Habitat, Corridors, and Fisheries
- ◆ Aesthetic Values
- ◆ Recreation Opportunities
- ◆ Quality of Life & Health Benefits
- ◆ Economic Benefits
- ◆ Shaping Growth
- ◆ Restorative/Psychological Benefits
- ◆ Agricultural Production
- ◆ Education
- ◆ Cultural & Historical Values
- ◆ Other?

Open Space Priorities

- ◆ Public land
- ◆ Conserved private land
- ◆ Public access
- ◆ Recreational trails
- ◆ Commuter trails
- ◆ Urban Parks
- ◆ Wildlife habitat
- ◆ Scenic Views and Vistas
- ◆ Agricultural Lands
- ◆ Wildlife corridors
- ◆ River access
- ◆ Riparian areas
- ◆ Other?

BOARD 4
Questions
4-5

OPEN SPACE OPEN HOUSE

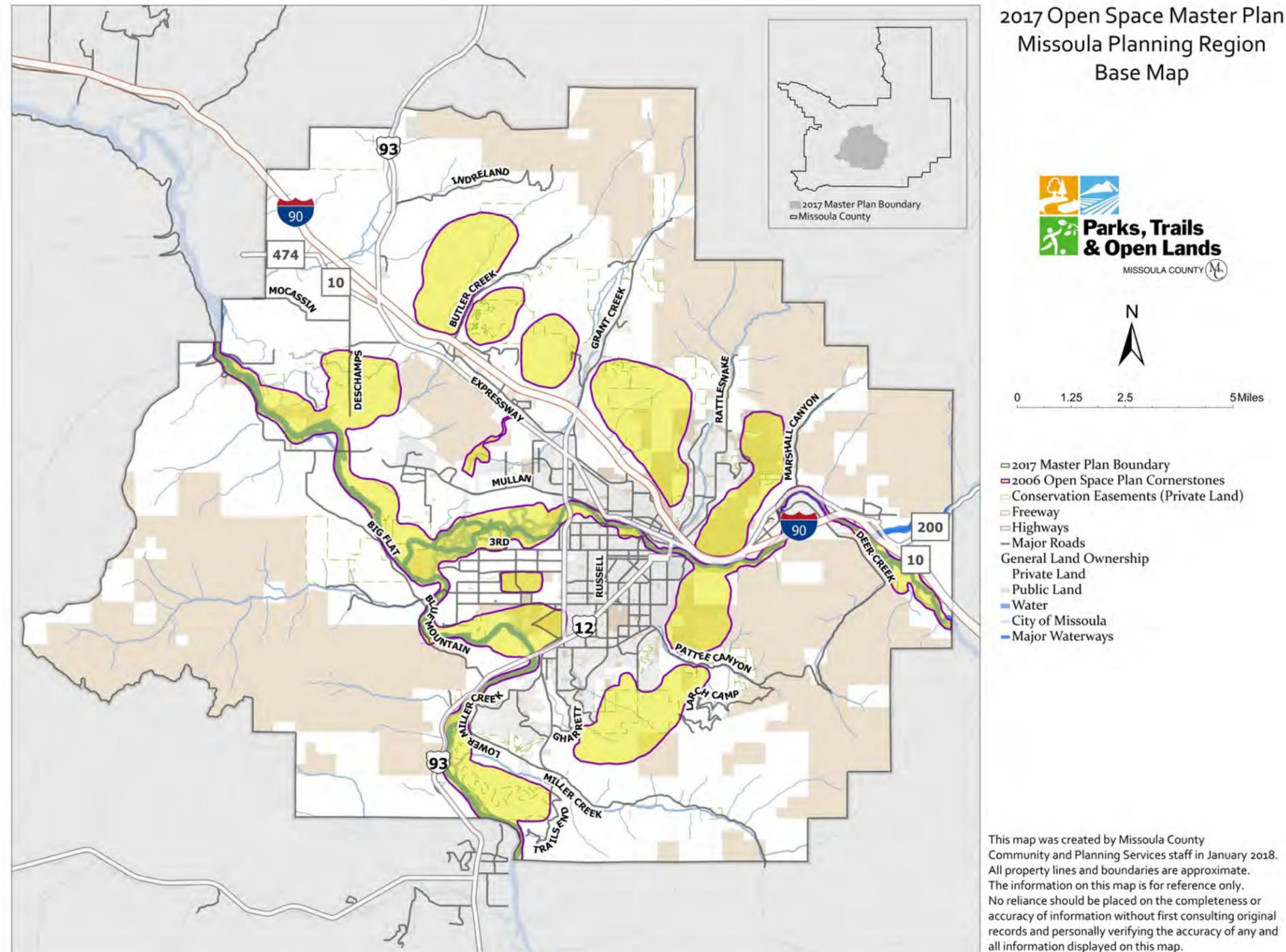
BOARD 5

CORNERSTONES

BOARD 5
Interactive
Map

Cornerstones

BOARD 5
Interactive
Map



Click [here](#) for an interactive version of the map

OPEN SPACE OPEN HOUSE

BOARD 6

NEXT STEPS

BOARD 6

Questions 6-7

Next Steps and Final Thoughts

Thank you for your participation in helping guide the future of open space in Missoula. Your input is invaluable for our planning.

If you would like to provide additional feedback on any aspect of this project, please visit:

www.missoulaparks.org

www.missoulacounty.us/parks-trails

BOARD 6

Questions 6-7