

BUENA VISTA PARKS AND TRAILS MASTER PLAN

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University of Colorado Denver, MURP Capstone 2022
Client: Town of Buena Vista



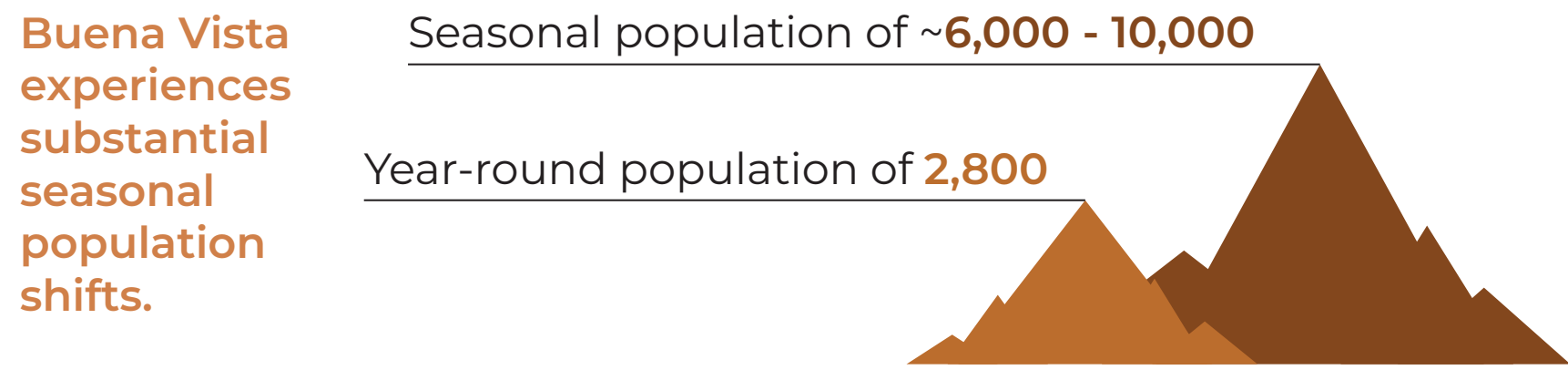
SURROUND YOURSELF
WITH WHAT MATTERS



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BV at a Glance

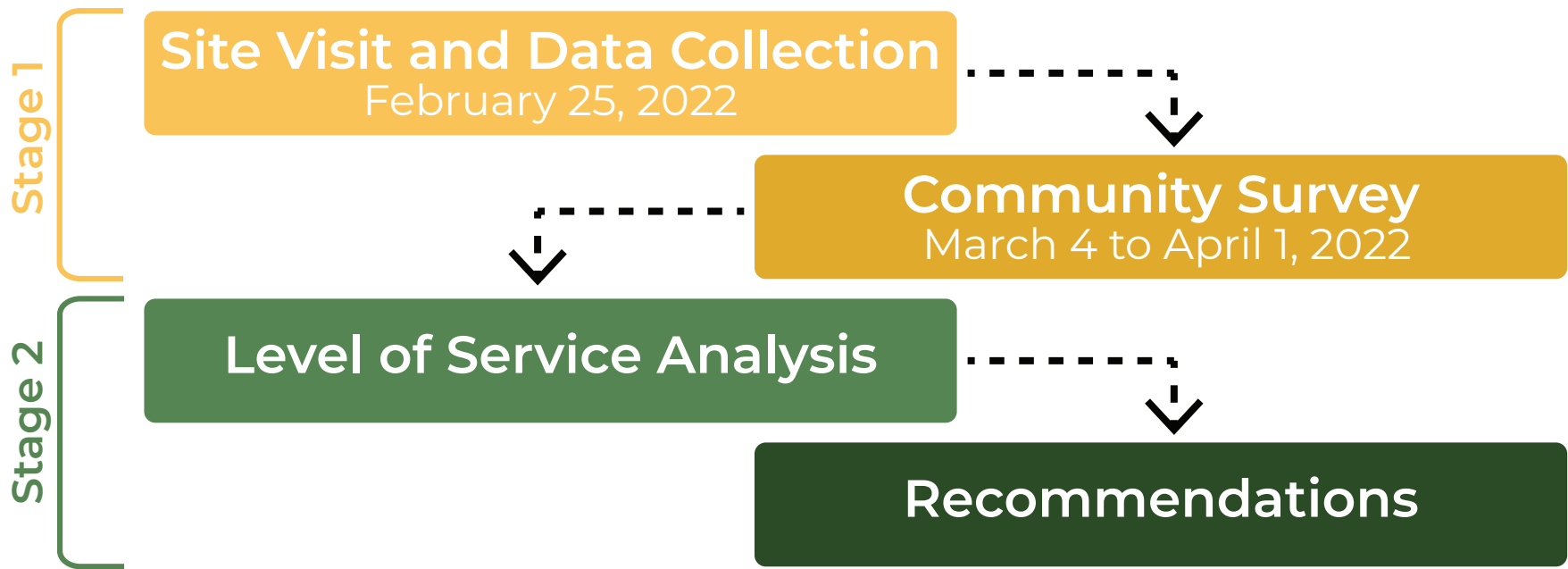
Located in the Arkansas River Valley only 2.5 hours away from Denver Metro, Buena Vista is a popular destination for outdoor recreation. The community aims to be a desirable place to **live, work, and play**.



Project Objectives

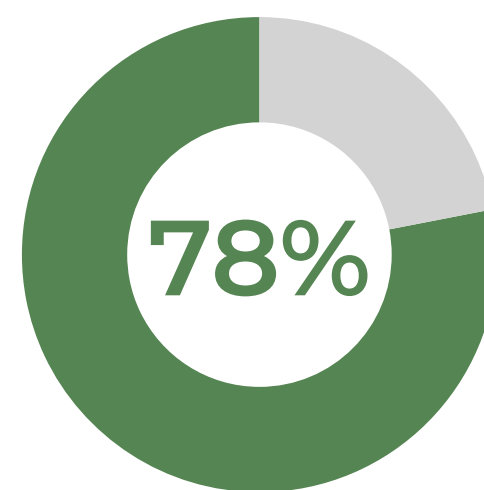
- 1 Update infrastructure and amenities inventory
- 2 Identify gaps in the parks and trails system
- 3 Provide illustrative maps for public use

Timeline

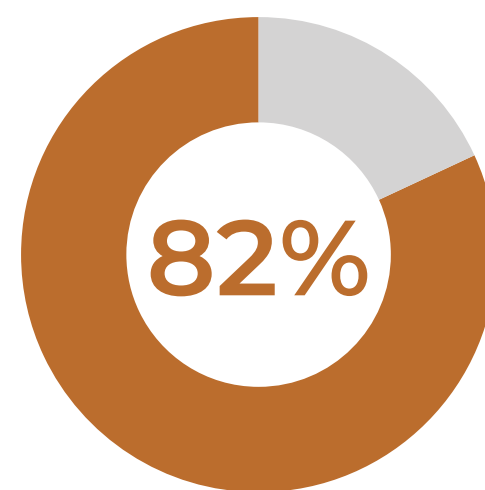


Community Survey

97 responses from BV residents on how they use the parks and trails systems.



believe that Buena Vista should prioritize maintaining and improving existing parks



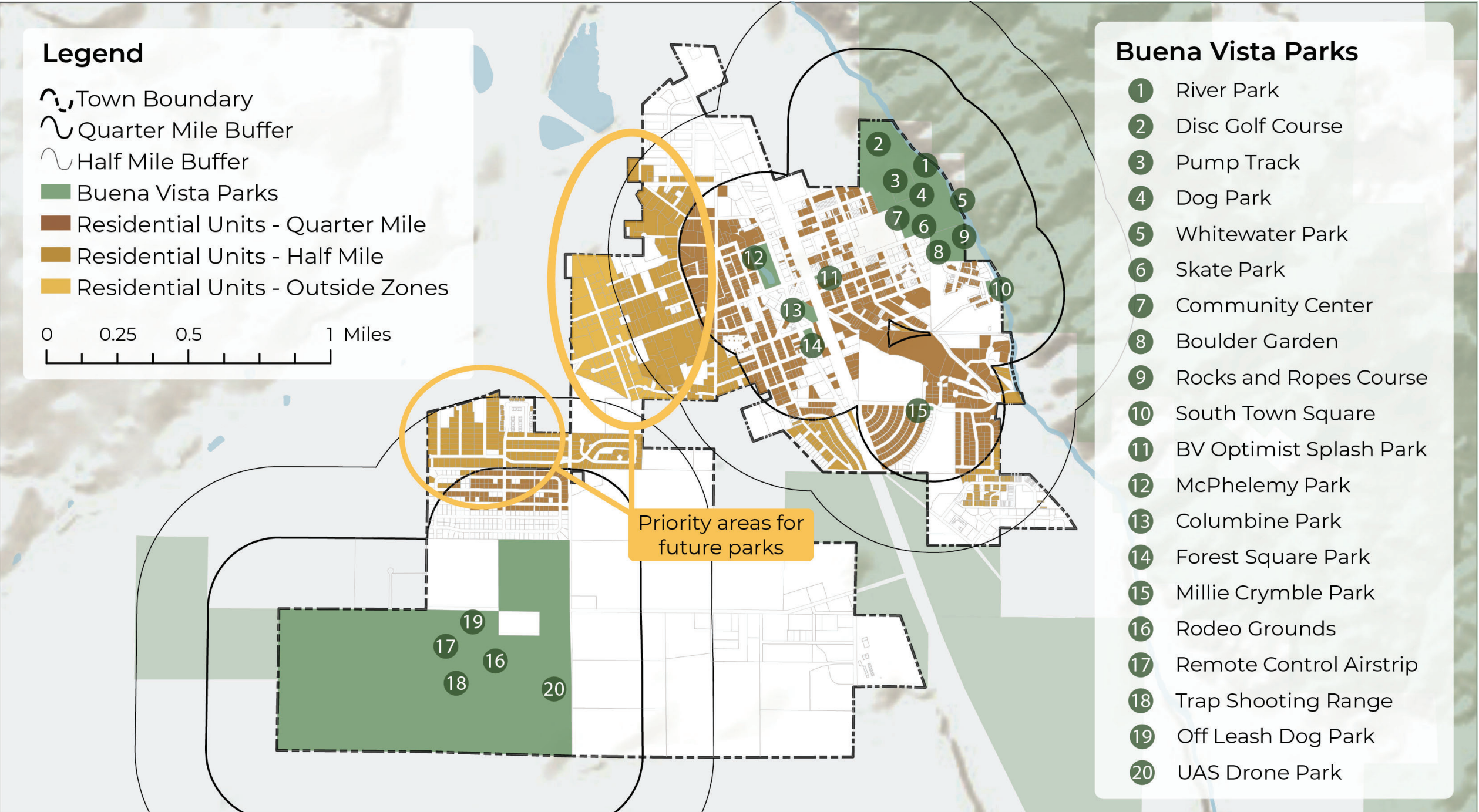
agree that the trails system is easy to access from where they live

Top comments from respondents include:

1. More trail connections
2. Increased maintenance
3. Safety improvements

Parks

The existing park system consists of 20 unique community, neighborhood, pocket, and special use parks. The Recreation Department's vision is "to serve the local community by facilitating affordable and inclusive recreation opportunities." Similarly, the Comprehensive Plan wishes to provide high-quality community services including well-maintained parks, create a **clean and safe community** with a **defined sense of place**, and **encourage stewardship** and sustainable practices.



Findings

Service area analysis shows:

61% of residents live within a quarter mile of a park

95% of residents live within a half mile of a park

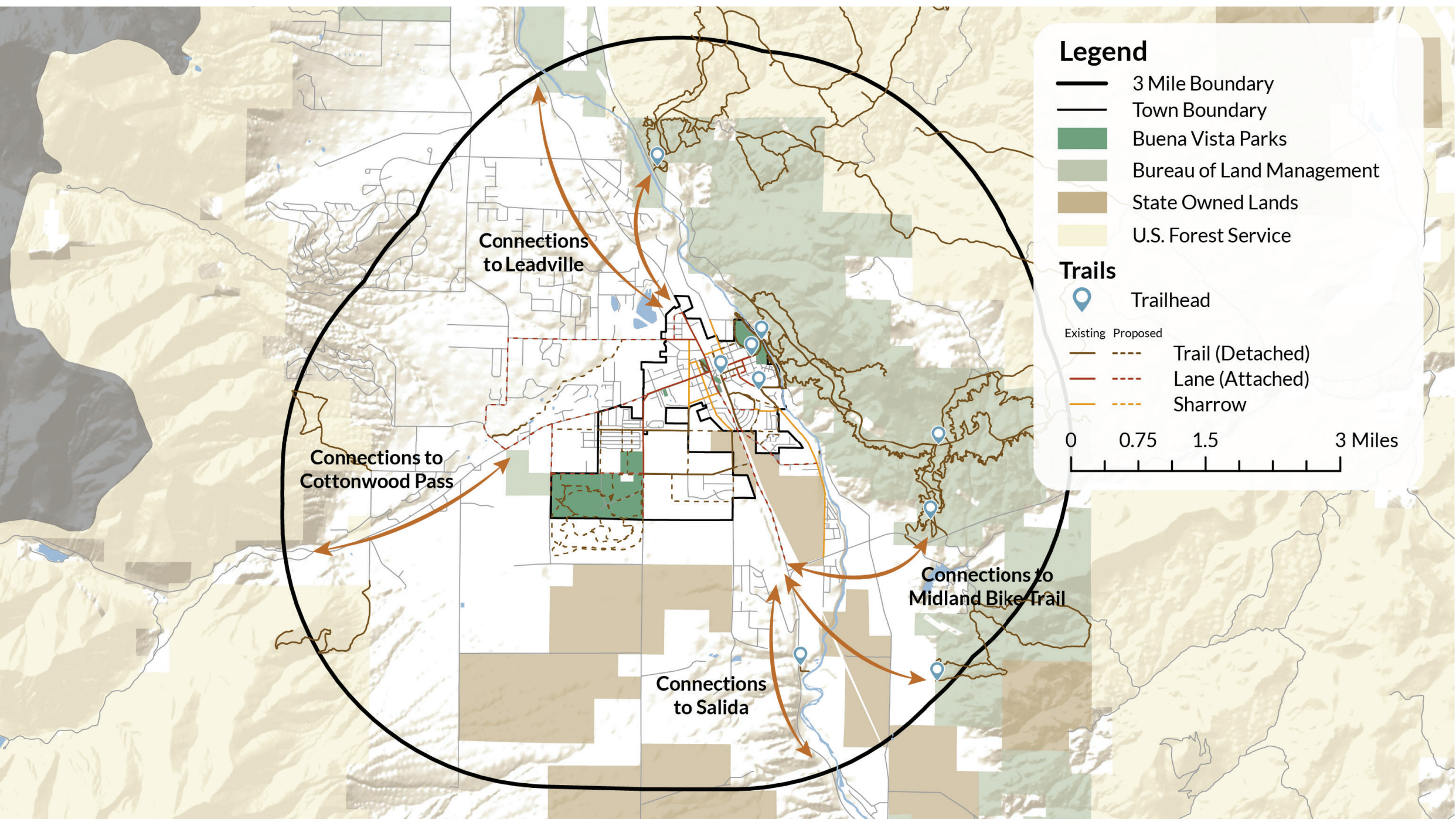


Recommendations

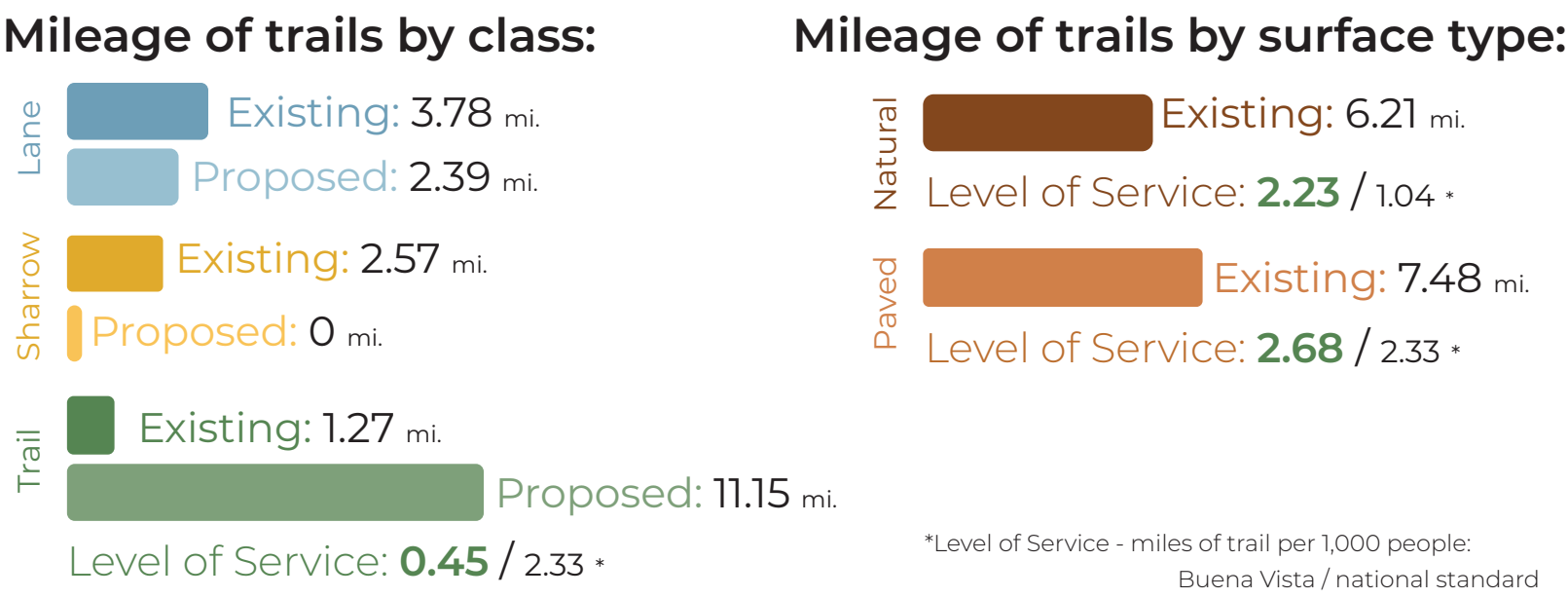
1. Service
Goal: Ensuring that all residents are within a 10-minute walk from a park
Goal: Provide typology appropriate facilities at all parks
2. Maintenance
Goal: Provide regular maintenance and upkeep of parks facilities

Trails

Trails provides safe, non-motorized connectivity within communities. Trails can serve as **functional transit routes** or **recreational pathways**. Within the municipal boundaries of Buena Vista there are 13 miles of dedicated trails including bike lanes and sharrows. With seven miles, **half of the town trails are paved** and the remaining **six miles are natural paths**. The 3-Mile Plan area includes an additional 19 miles of trails.



Findings



Recommendations

1. Connectivity
Goal: Expand the local and regional trail network and create links to key community destinations.
2. Safety
Goal: Ensure trail users feel safe and protected when using the local trail network.
3. Maintenance
Goal: Maintaining the existing facilities to enhance user experience.