

**Halifax
North West**

Item 10.3.2

Halifax North West Trails Association

Opposition to Sports Facilities in
Mainland Common Park Passive Area



**Trails
Association**

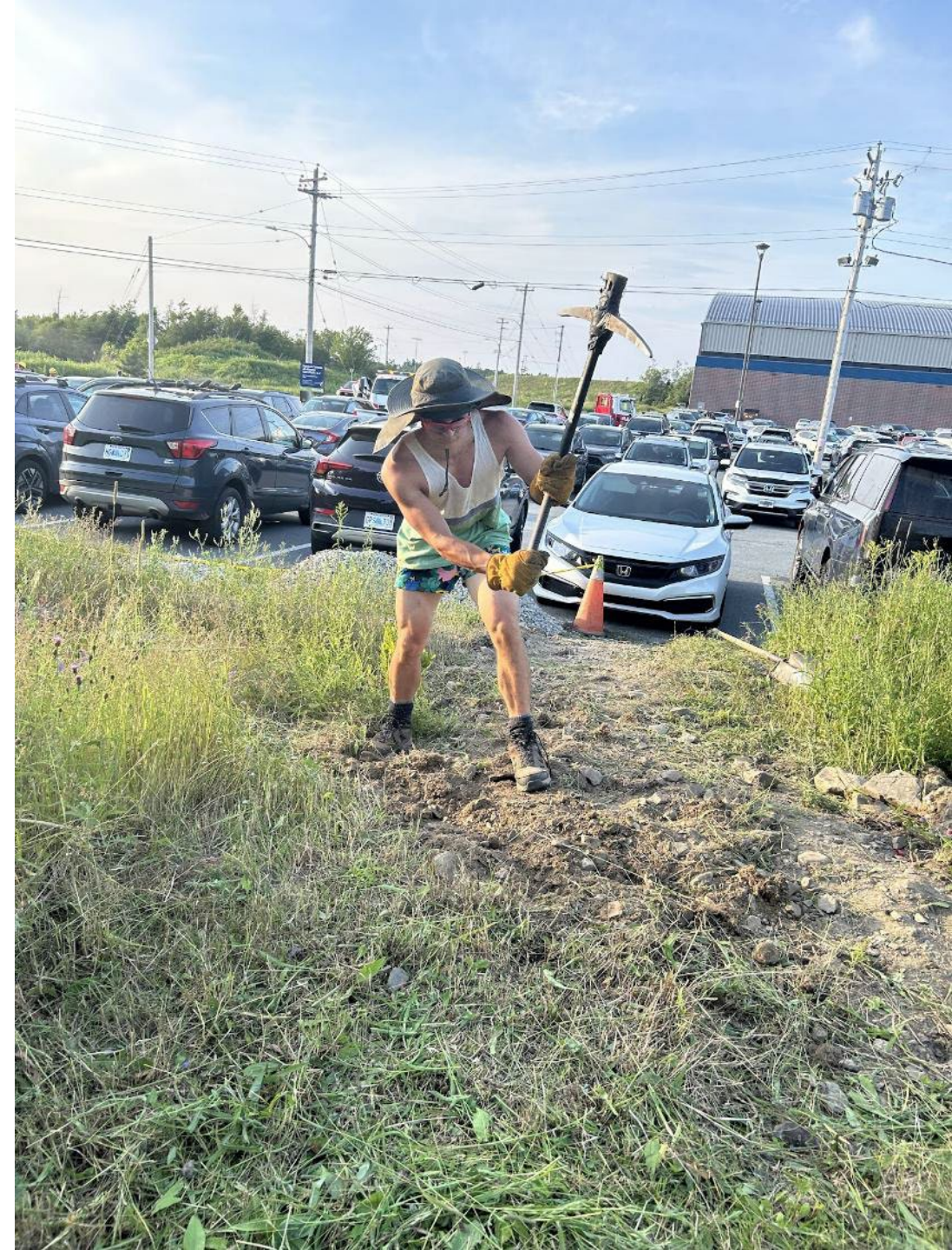


We Build Trails

- Newest addition to the Mainland Common Park Recreational Trail System
 - Opening Ceremony Jan 26, 2025
 - New trailhead located at 210 Thomas Raddall Dr
 - The exact same site as the proposed new pickleball facility

Pickleball Facility

- Proposed location of large pickleball facility would:
 - Destroy new trailhead and many metres of trail
 - Harm the goodwill of our volunteers created over many years
 - Irreparably damage the last large intact area of greenspace in Clayton Park



What We Do

- Halifax North West Trails Association is a not-for-profit, volunteer-run group that has been building, maintaining and advocating for trails for over 20 years.
- Our Active Transportation and Recreational trails are the Western side of Bedford Basin (Fairview, Clayton Park, West Bedford, Bedford South)
 - A growing area: many new residential developments, many newcomers, many families
- Thousands of people use these trails every day

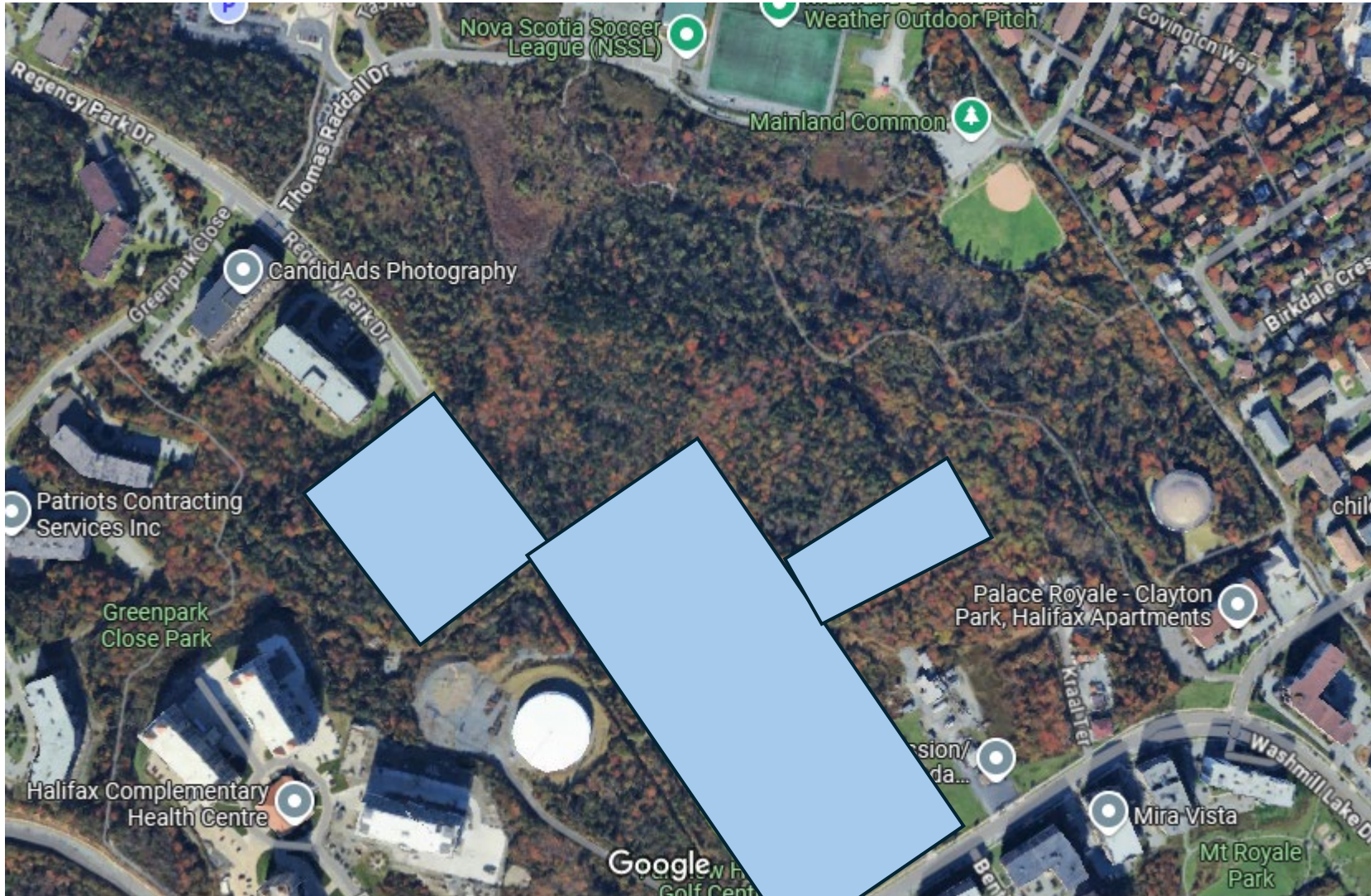


How We Do It

- Volunteer Board meets monthly
- \$5,000 annual grant from HRM Parks and Recreation administered through Transportation and Public Works
 - \$2,000 for Operations functions
 - \$3,000 for Maintenance activities
- Lots of help from Parks and Recreation
- Hundreds of local volunteers



Mainland Common Park Passive Area



- 23 h (57 acres)
- Acadian Forest
 - Bogs and wetland plants
 - Deer, squirrels, birds, pheasants, snakes
 - Large surface bedrock outcropping
- Surrounded by dense and growing population



Mainland Common Park Loop Trail

- Woodchip surface trail built by HNWTA and HRM Parks and Recreation
 - 2005-2006
 - 1 km
- Covers less than half of the park
- Let's extend the trail system



Why Trails?

- Physical and mental health
- Nature and quiet
- Used by all ages, abilities and economic status



Why We Need to Extend the Trail Network

- Open the park to more people
- Provide access to Thomas Raddall Dr. and Regency Park Dr.
- Protect delicate forest habitat

Planning the New Trail System

- Planning began Summer 2019
- Partners:
 - Cobequid Consulting
 - \$2,000
 - Upland Design Studio
 - \$10,000
 - Many volunteer hours
 - No cost

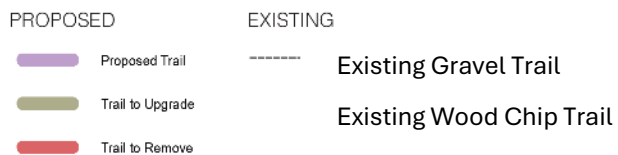
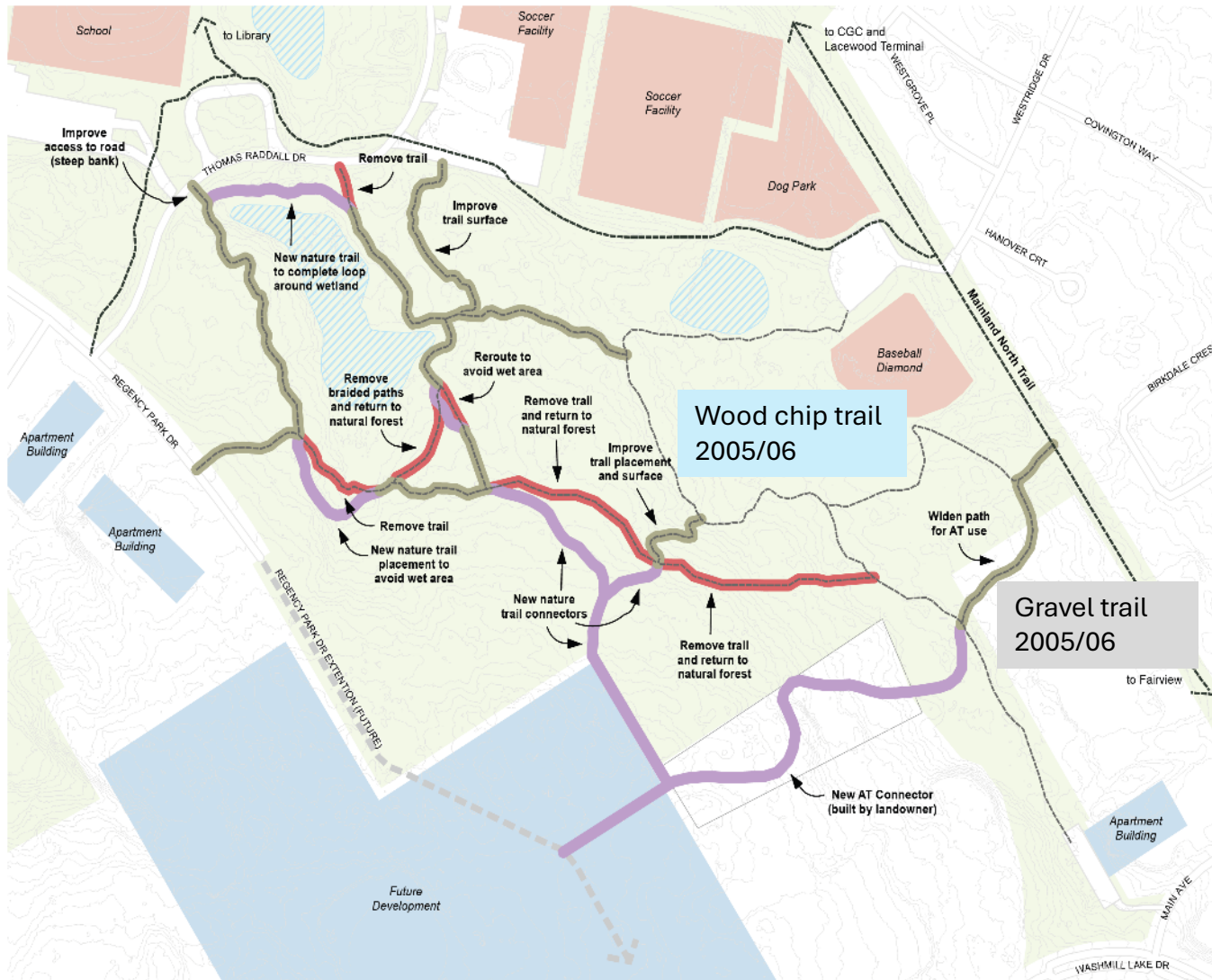


Funding for the Trail System

- Parks and Recreation
 - \$50,000
- Councilors
 - \$17,000
- NS CCTH
 - \$4,000
- Chebucto West Community Health Board
 - \$2,000

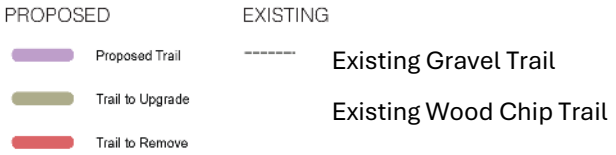
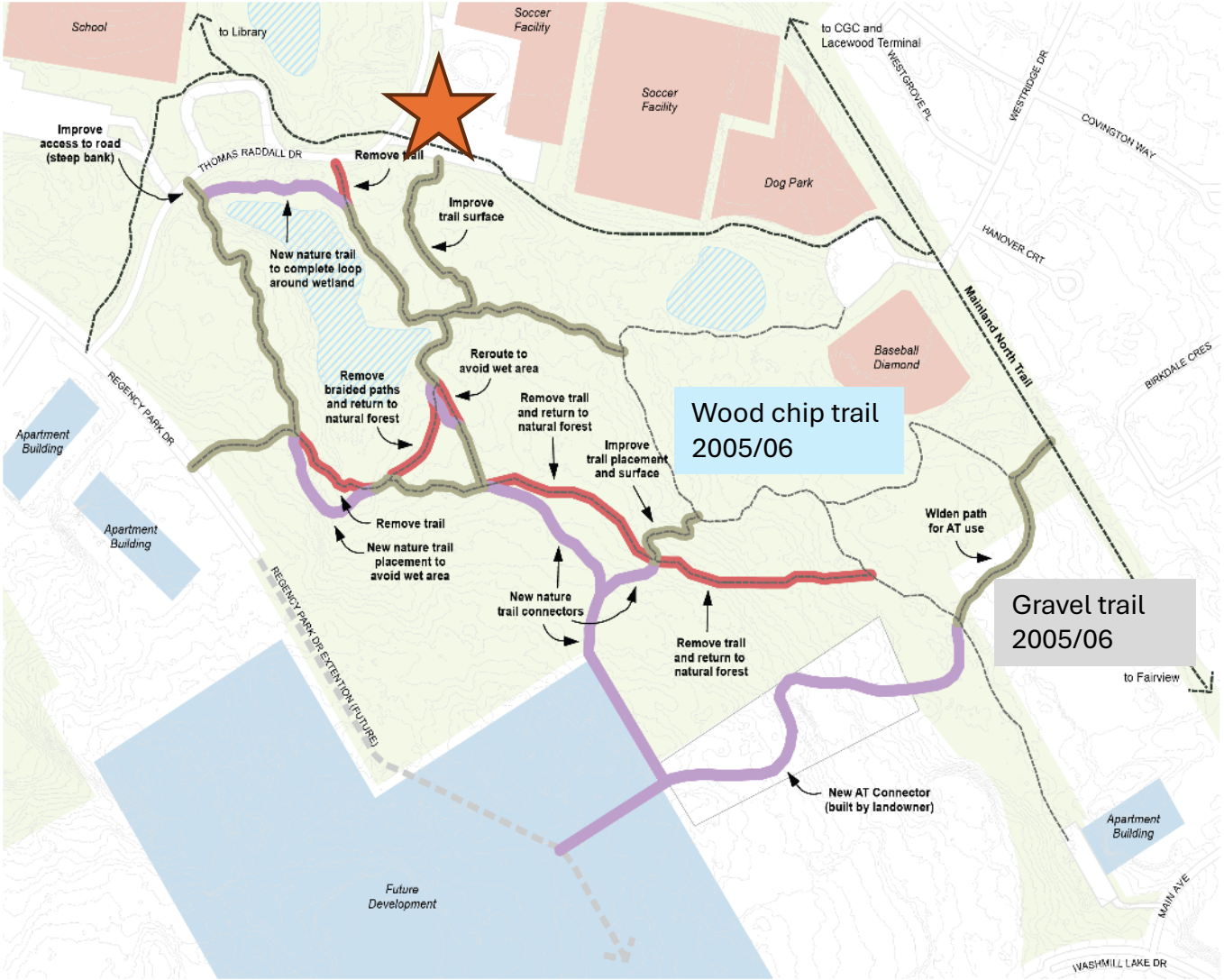


Our Recreational Trail Network Plan



- Designed by Upland Studio and Cobequid Consulting
- A series of looping interconnected recreational trails totaling 2 km
 - Some new trails, some improved trails, some remediated trails
- 3 new trailheads
- Signage and benches

Our Recreational Trail Network Plan



- Phase 1
 - Completed 2024
 - 300 m

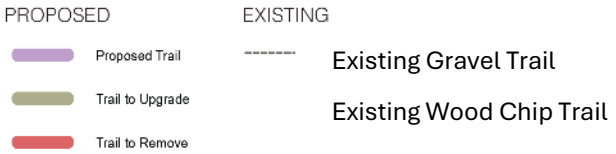
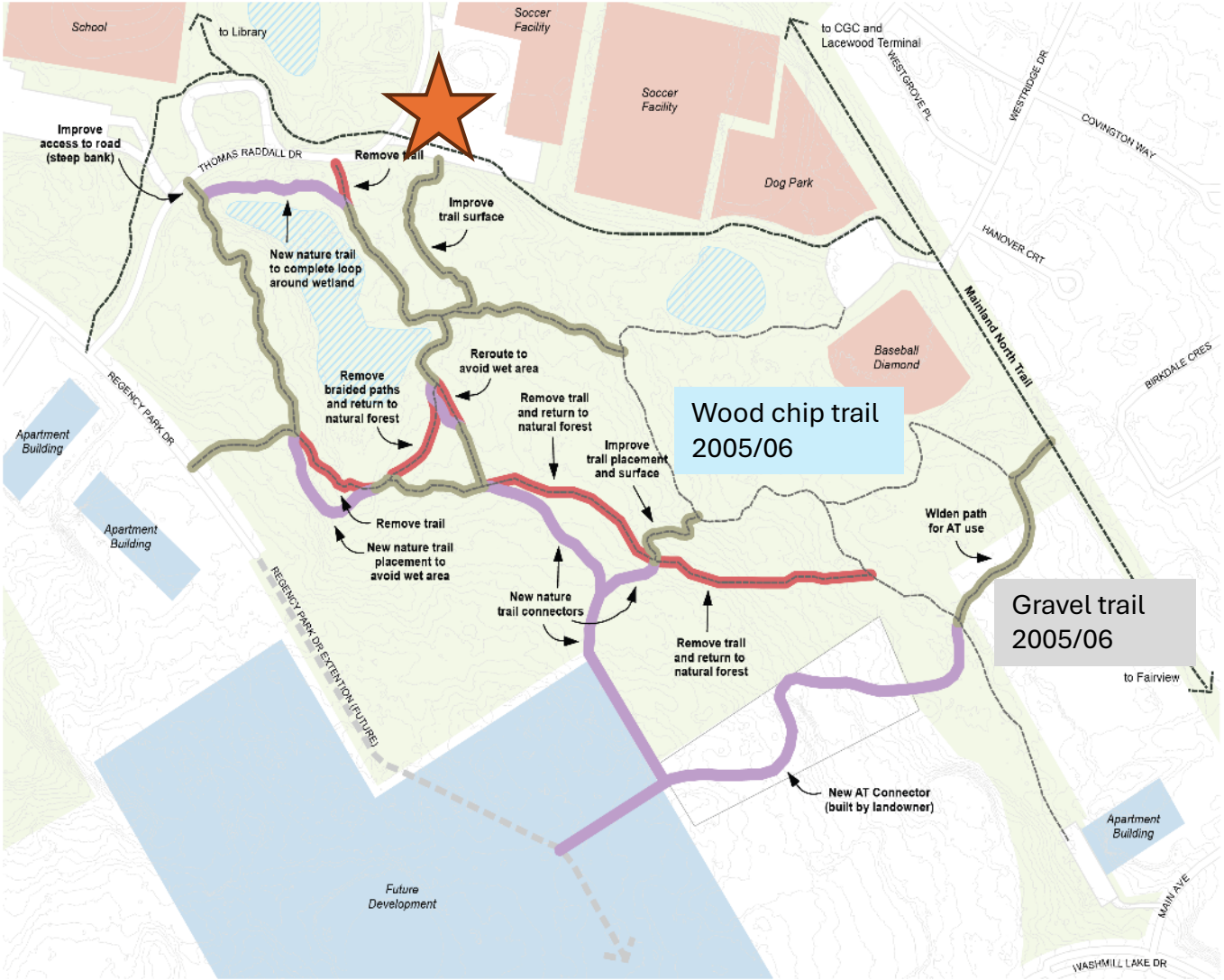
Phase 1 Construction

- 300 m trail
 - 4 layers of rock aggregate
 - New drainage piping in wet area
- New trailhead
 - 210 Thomas Raddall Dr.
- Connects to loop trail
- Built over 2024
- All volunteer hand labour
- Cost: \$5,000

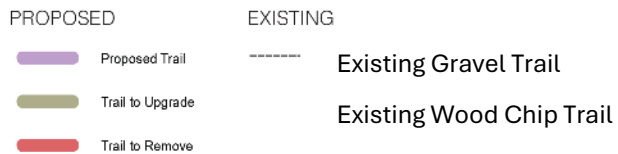
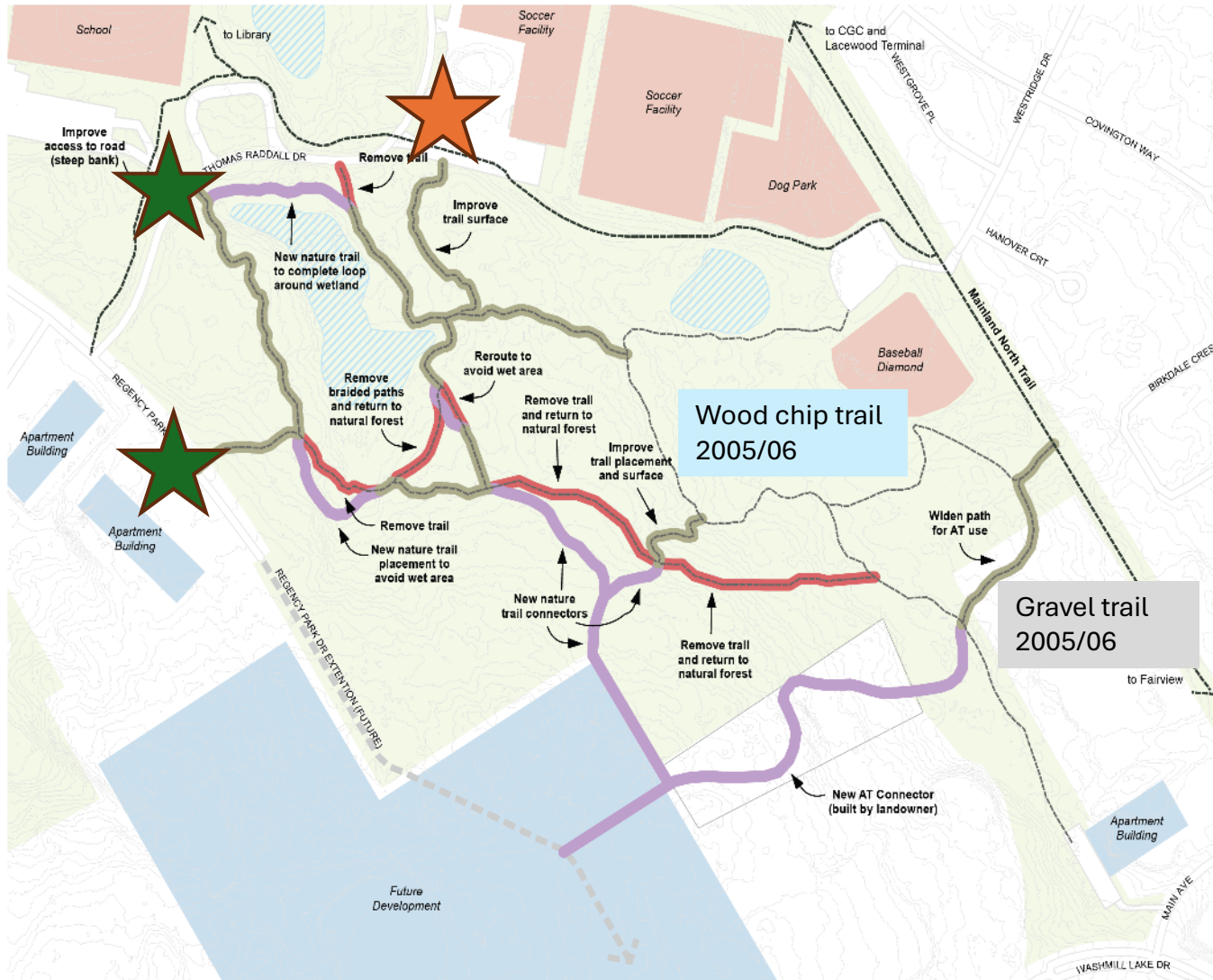


Our Recreational Trail Network Plan

- Phase 1
 - Completed 2024
 - 300 m
- Phase 2
 - Scheduled for 2025
 - 500 m

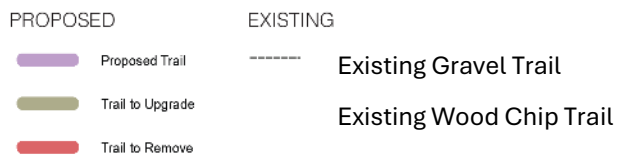
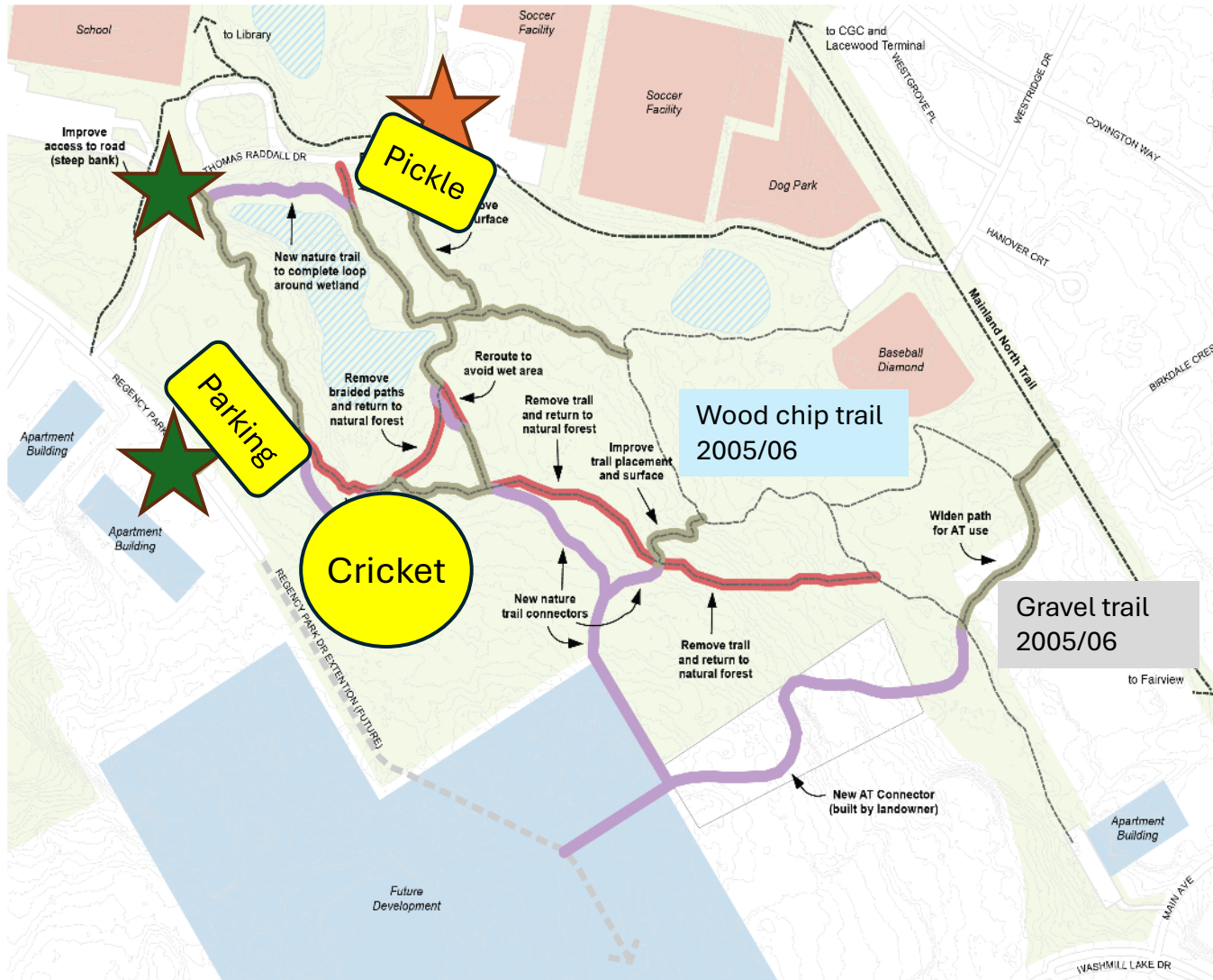


Our Recreational Trail Network Plan



- Phase 1
 - Completed 2024
 - 300 m
- Phase 2
 - Scheduled for 2025
 - 500 m
- Future Phases
 - 2 trailheads
 - 1.5 km trails
 - Connections to new development

Our Recreational Trail Network Plan



- Proposed pickleball and cricket facilities will destroy:
 - 2 trailheads
 - 1 km of existing and planned trails
 - The integrity of the forest
 - Our hearts
- Mainland Common Passive Area must remain intact

Save Our Trail Network Keep the Passive Area Passive

