

# Nissequogue River State Park Master Plan

Focus Group: Programming & Concessions

04.07.21



Parks, Recreation  
and Historic  
Preservation

NISSEQUOGUE RIVER STATE PARK MASTER PLAN

April 7, 2021



STARR WHITEHOUSE  
Landscape Architects  
and Planners PLLC



Cashin Associates, P.C.  
ENGINEERING • PLANNING • CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT



BAY ENVIRONMENTAL  
CONSULTING



# Agenda

- Welcome and introduction of project team (5 minutes)
- Project presentation (20 minutes)
- Breakout groups (45 minutes)
- Report back and closing (20 minutes)

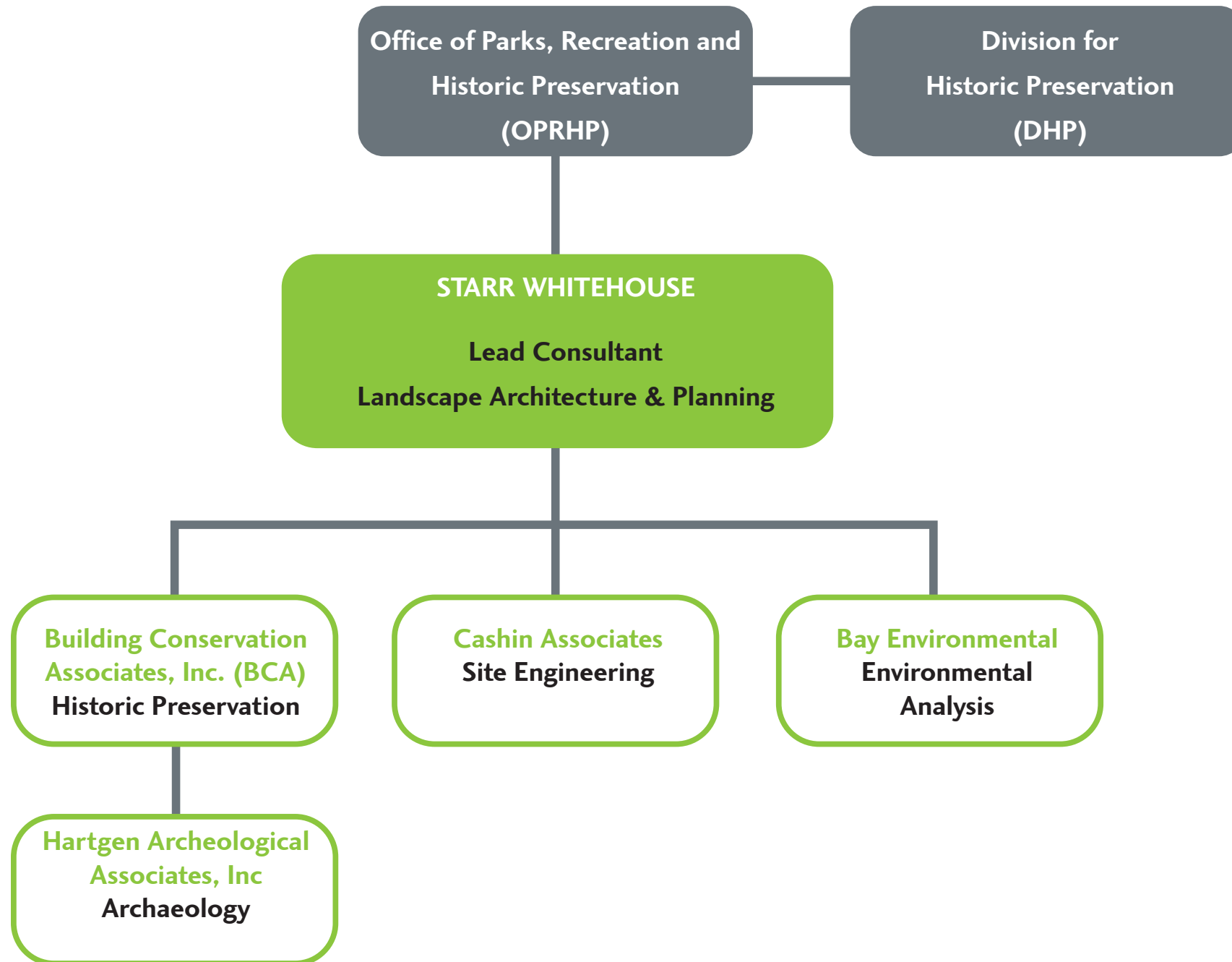
## ZOOM POINTERS

- Please list your name (and affiliation, if applicable) in your Zoom participant profile.
- Please remain muted, except during breakout group discussions



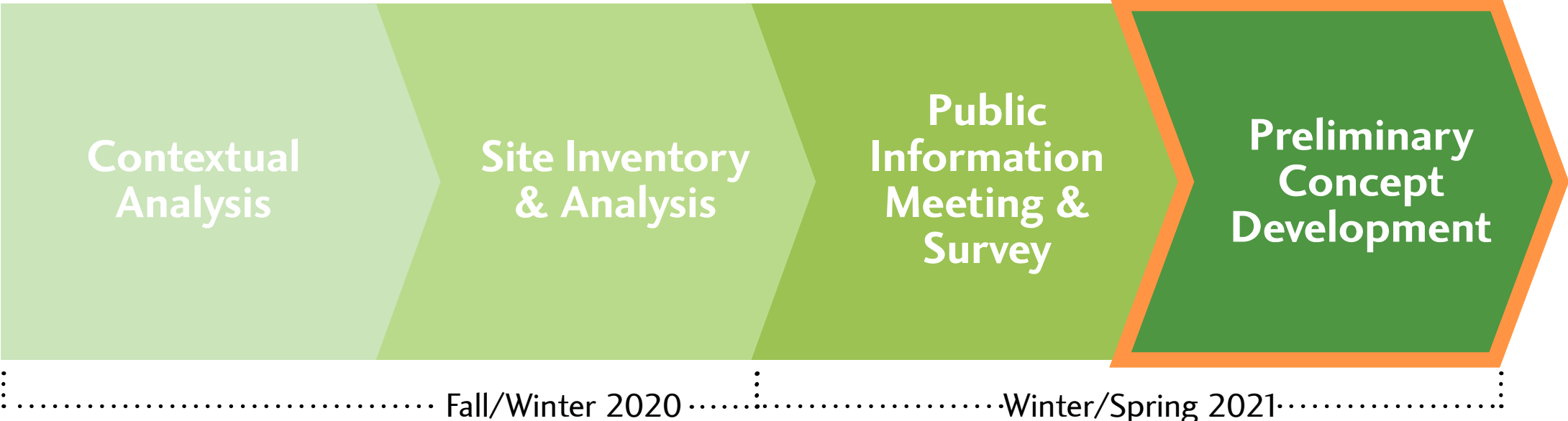


# Project Team

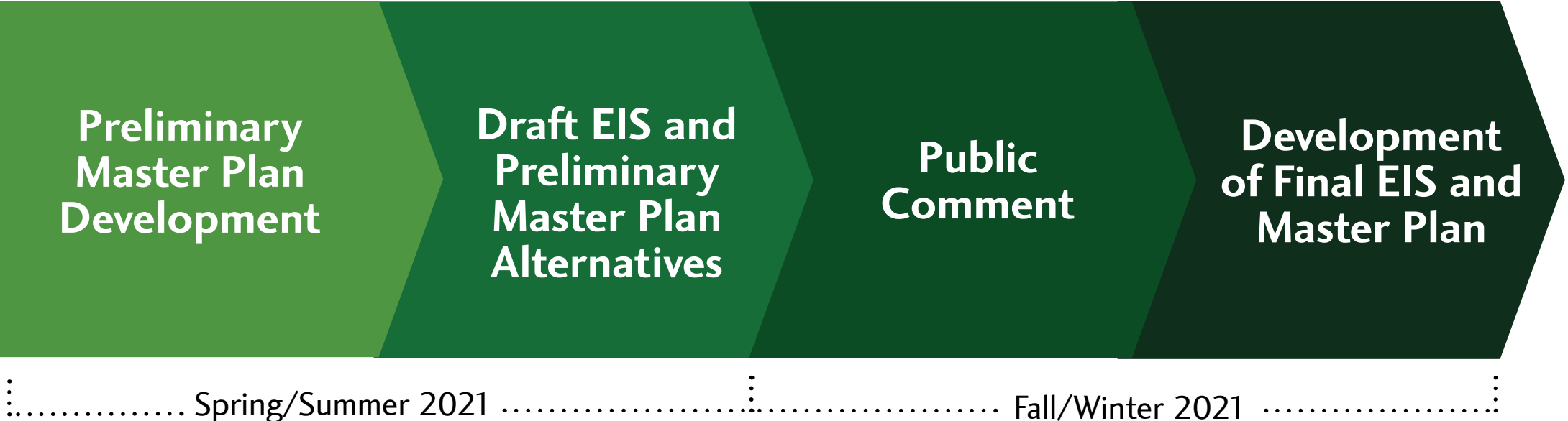


# Project Timeline

## PHASE I



## PHASE II





# Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) Goals

- Engage the public through programming.
- Reinvent and redesign the State's outdoor recreation system.
- Connect children and adults with nature and recreation by improving access to outdoor recreation opportunities.
- Inform the public about outdoor recreation opportunities.
- Build a 21st century green and resilient outdoor recreation system; repair and green aging infrastructure and open new facilities.
- Expand historic preservation efforts across the State, at the local and regional level, and cultivate pride of place.
- Expand and protect natural connections between parks and open space.
- Restore, conserve, and protect the State's biodiversity.



NEW YORK STATE  
**Statewide Comprehensive  
Outdoor Recreation Plan**  
Improving our Visitors' Experience through  
Inclusivity, Diversity and Resiliency

NEW YORK STATE OF OPPORTUNITY | Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

2020-2025



# Theme Goals: Programming and Concessions

- Provide opportunities for programs and concessions that complement the natural and historic qualities of the park.
- Offer educational, cultural, and recreational resources for visitors of all ages and abilities.
- Generate revenue to fund park maintenance and operations while supporting the local economy.
- Establish strategic partnerships to sustain adaptive reuse of historic buildings.
- Introduce programming to historic buildings that draws visitors and activates the park year round.
- Cluster programming nodes within the park's interior to minimize disturbance of ecological communities along the perimeter of the park.
- Enhance pedestrian and cyclist safety through traffic calming measures and improved lighting along roadways.



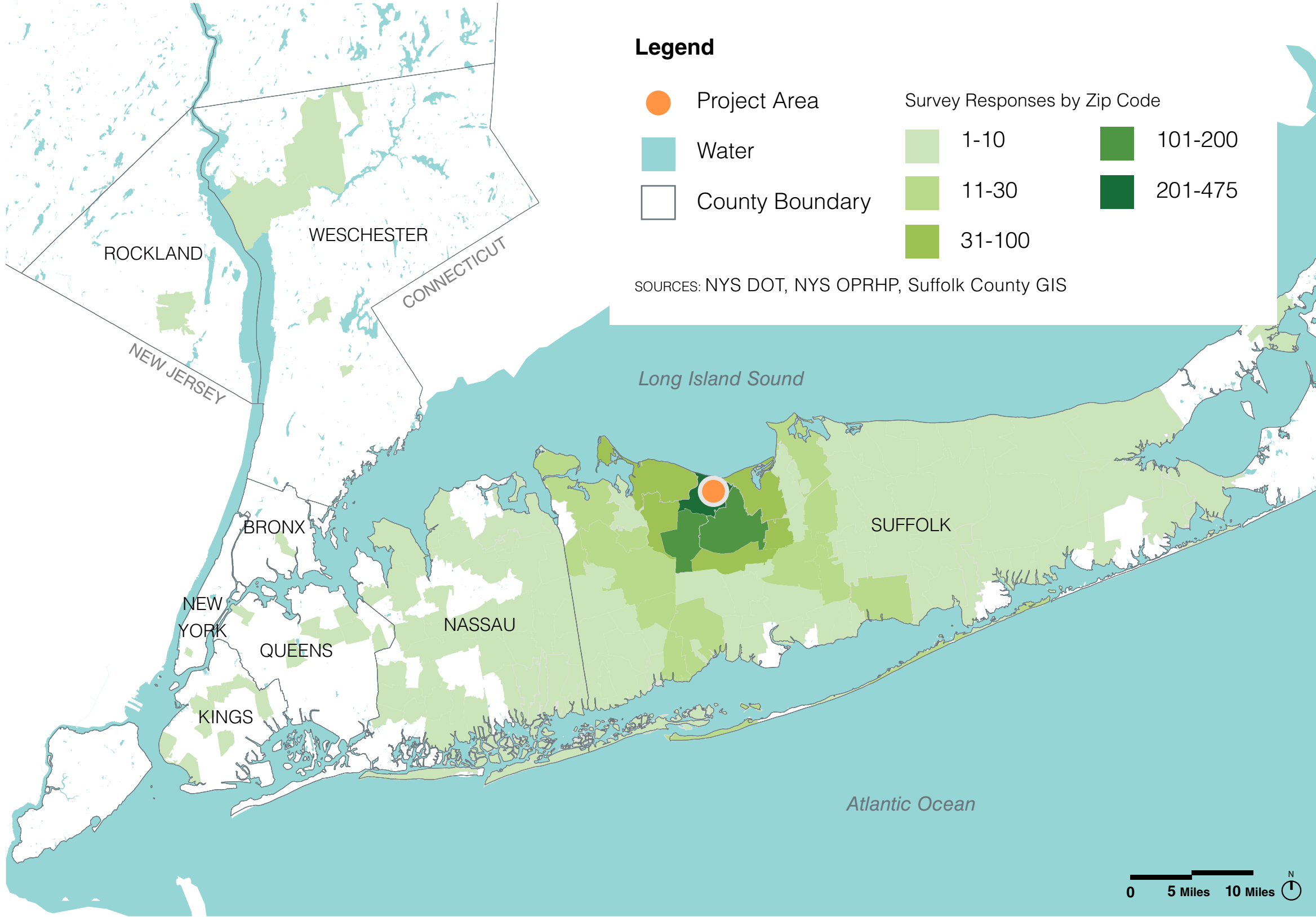
View north-courtesy of Smithtown Planning



# Survey Results by Location

The recreational needs assessment survey was available online from February 3 - 17:

- 1653 people took the survey
- 51% of respondents live in Smithtown
- 76% of respondents live within 10 miles of the park
- Residents from 10 New York counties reported visiting the park in the past year:
  - Suffolk
  - Nassau
  - Queens
  - Kings
  - New York
  - Westchester
  - Rockland
  - Sullivan
  - Albany
  - Brockport

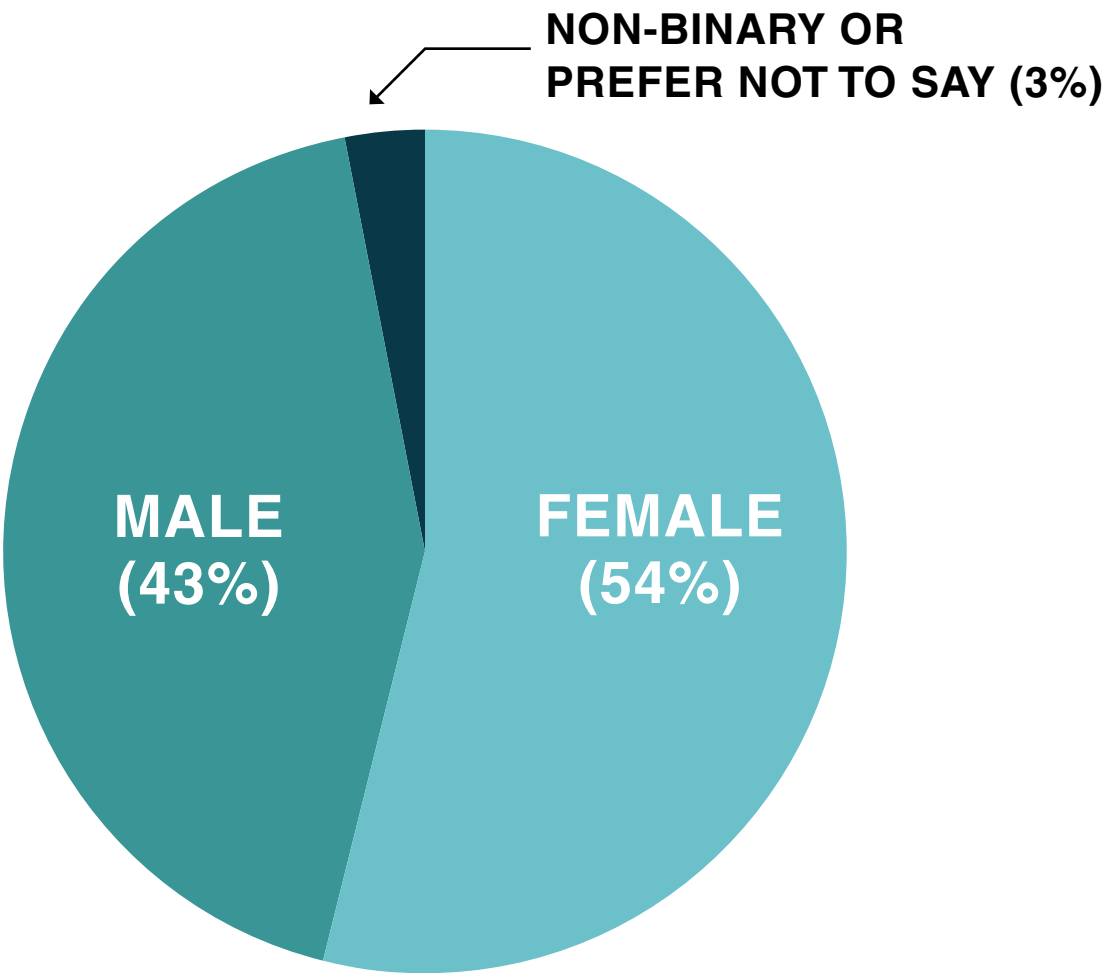




# Recreational Needs Assessment Survey Respondent Profile

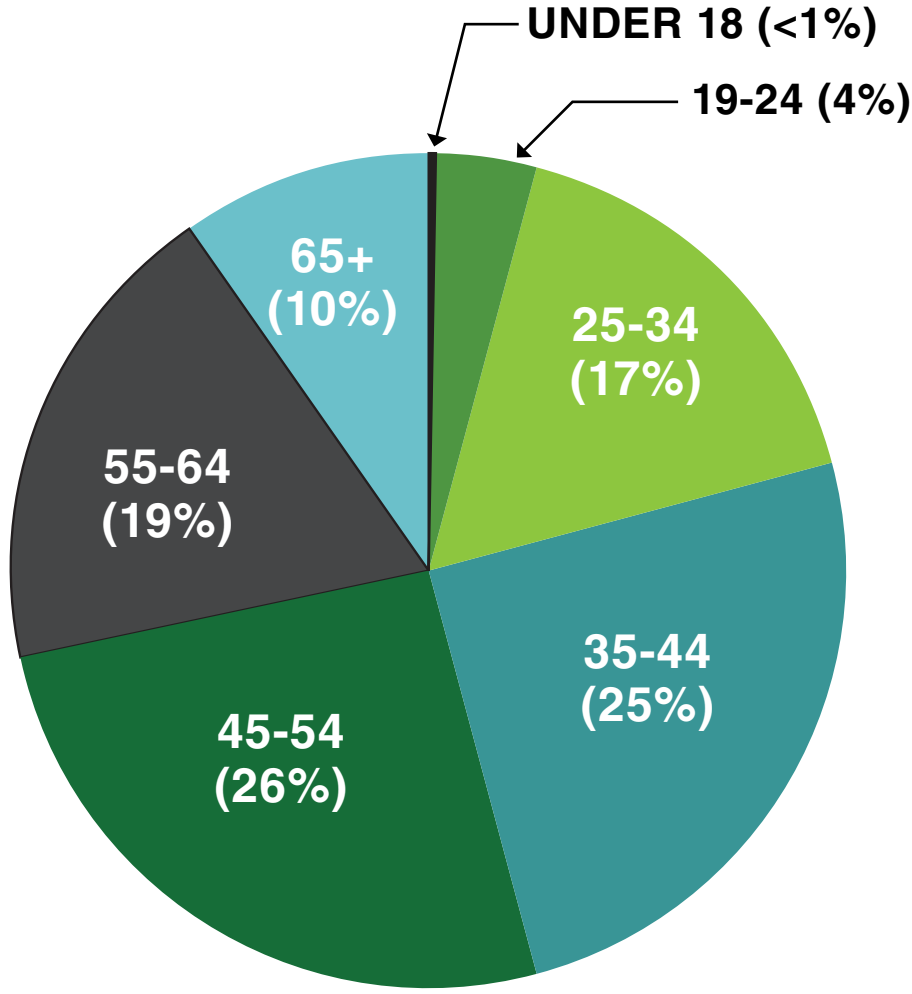
## RESULTS BY GENDER

- Female: 886 (54%)
- Male: 706 (43%)
- Non-binary: 8 (<1%)
- Prefer not to say: 53 (3%)



## RESULTS BY AGE

- Under 18: 6 (<1%)
- 18-24: 65 (4%)
- 25-34: 276 (17%)
- 35-44: 414 (25%)
- 45-54: 426 (26%)
- 55-64: 307 (19%)
- 65+: 159 (10%)





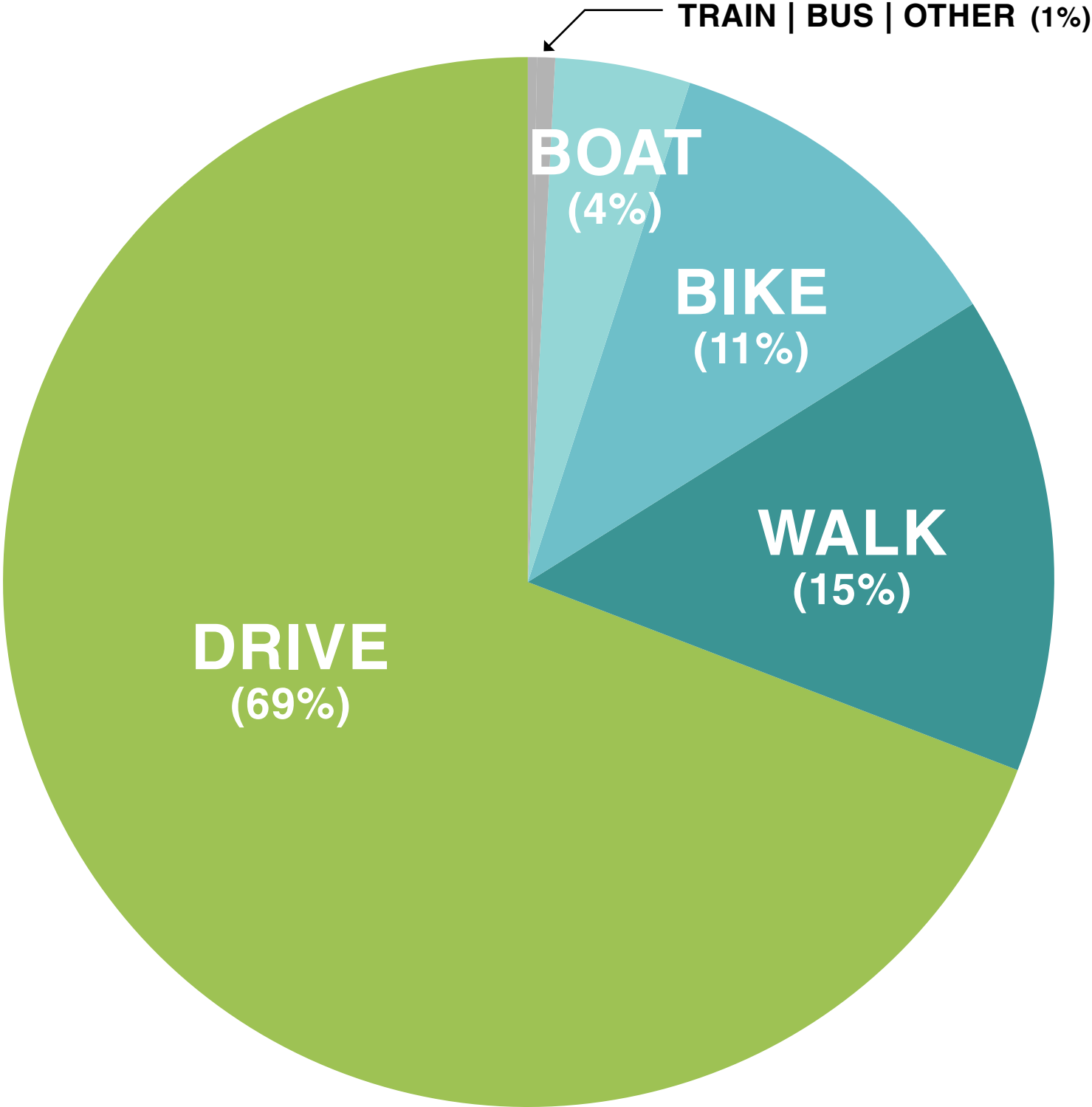
# Recreational Needs Assessment Survey Results

## How do you get to the park?

Total Respondents: 1,240

69% of respondents said they drive to the park.

14% of respondents walk to the park.





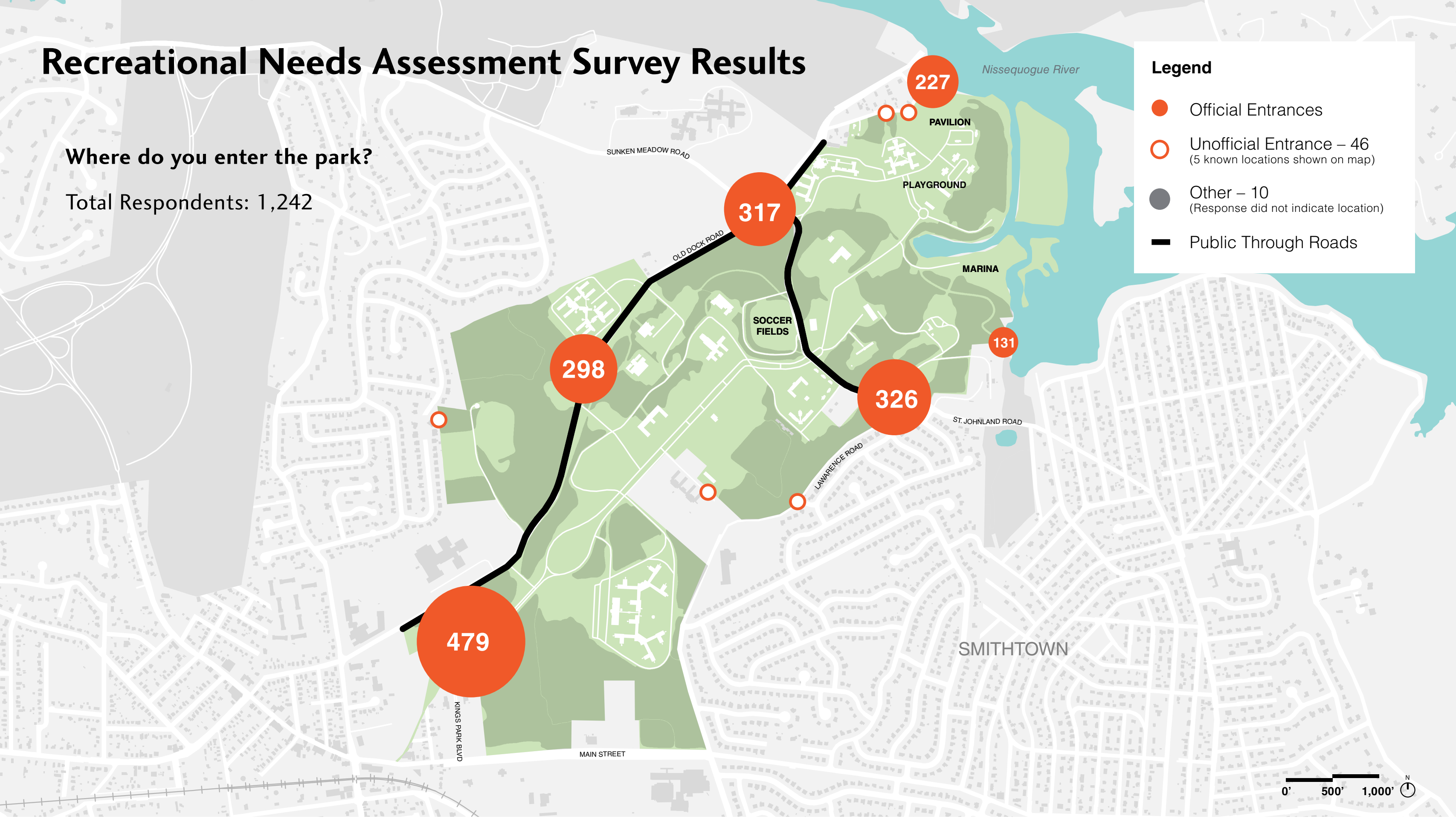
# Recreational Needs Assessment Survey Results

Where do you enter the park?

Total Respondents: 1,242

**Legend**

- Official Entrances
- Unofficial Entrance – 46  
(5 known locations shown on map)
- Other – 10  
(Response did not indicate location)
- Public Through Roads





# Recreational Needs Assessment Survey Results

What activities would you like to see at the park?

Total Respondents: 1,642

## Top 5 Activities (% of respondents)

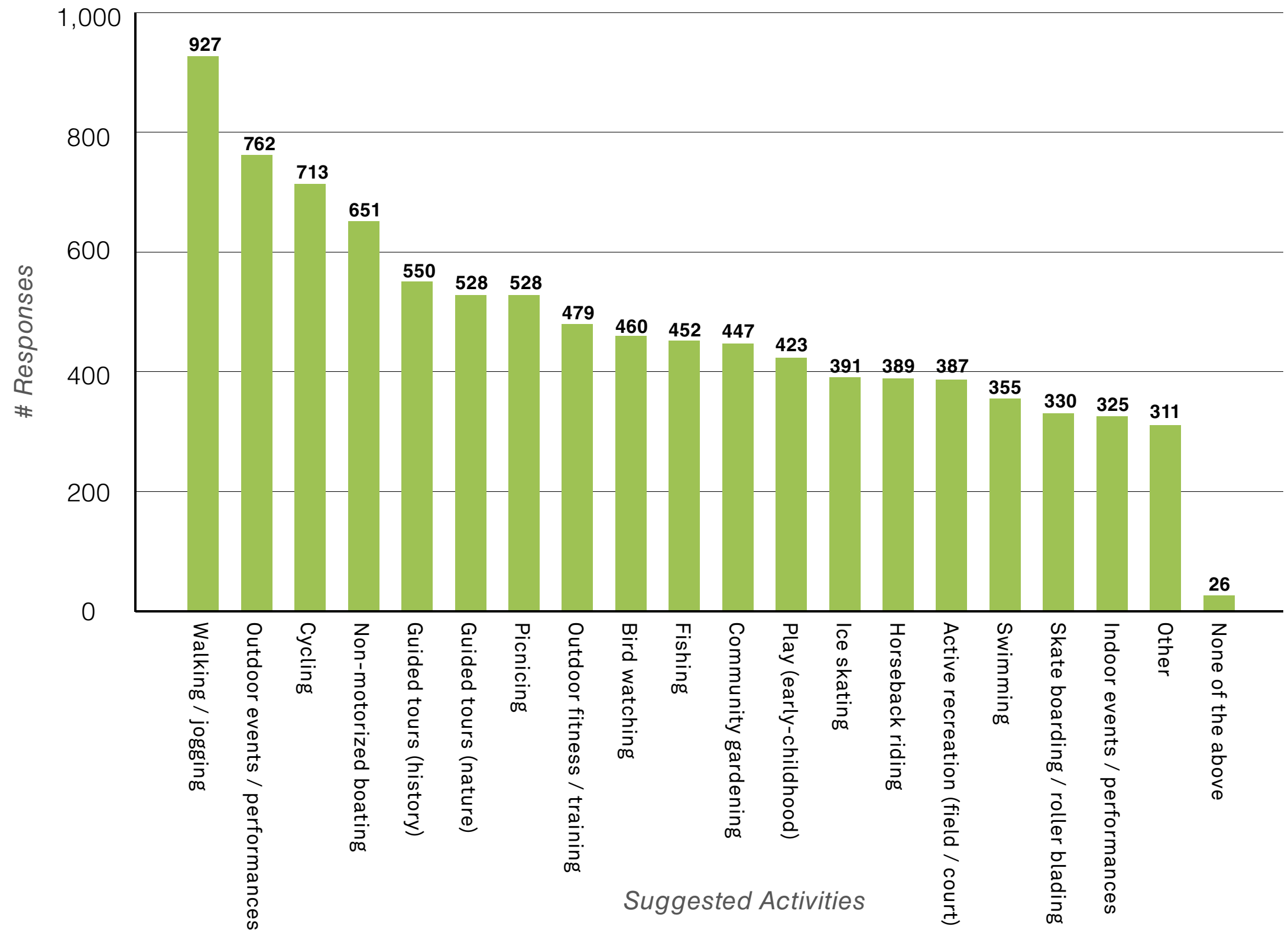
Walking / Jogging (56%)

Outdoor Events / Performance (46%)

Cycling (43%)

Non-motorized Boating (40%)

Guided Tours (33%)





# Recreational Needs Assessment Survey Results

What amenities would you like to see at the park?

Total Respondents: 1,643

## Top 10 Amenities (% of respondents)

Pedestrian Trail System (55%)

Bike Trail System (54%)

Multi-use Trail System (38%)

Restored Natural Habitat (38%)

Lighting (35%)

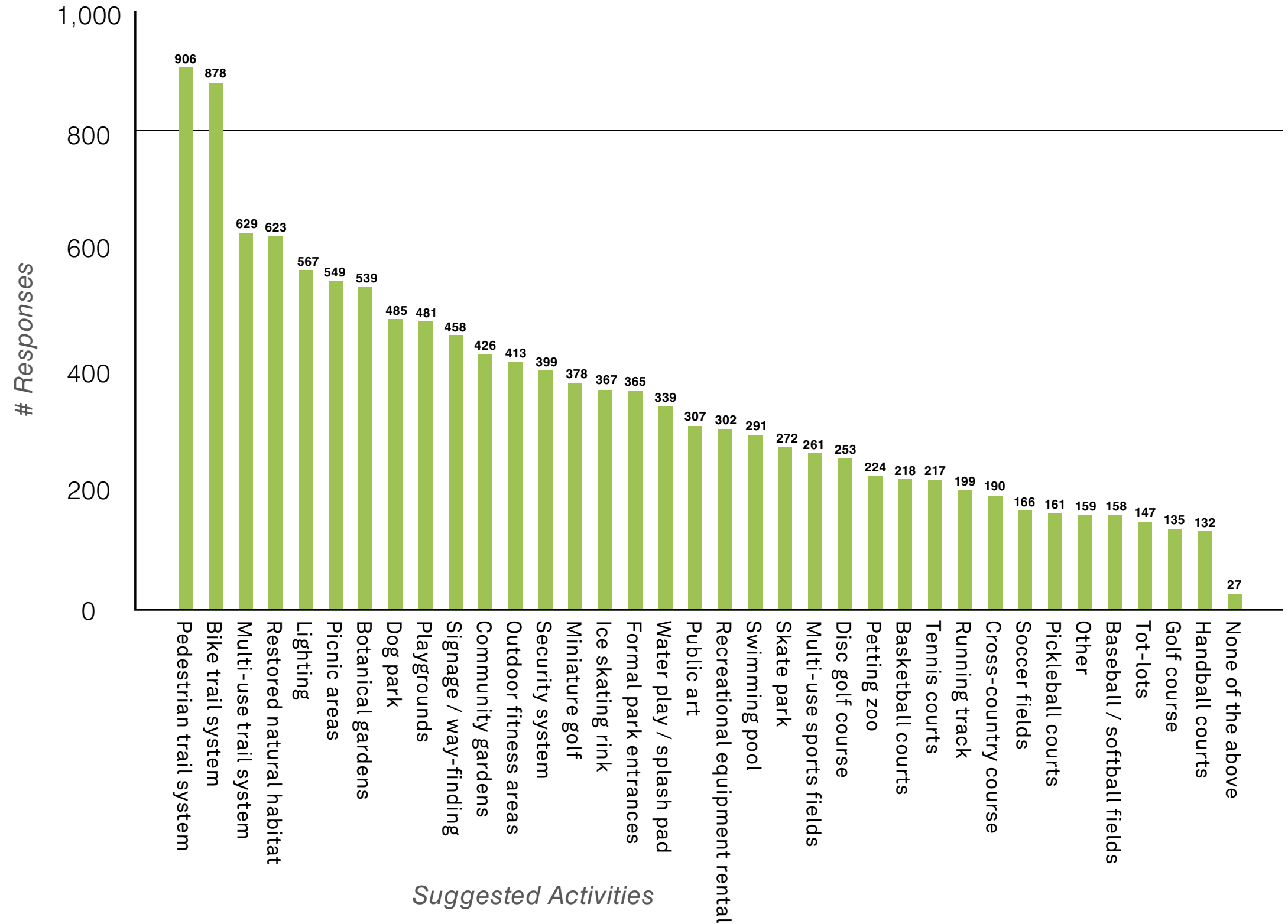
Picnic Areas (33%)

Botanical Gardens (33%)

Dog Park (28%)

Playgrounds (29%)

Signage / Wayfinding (28%)





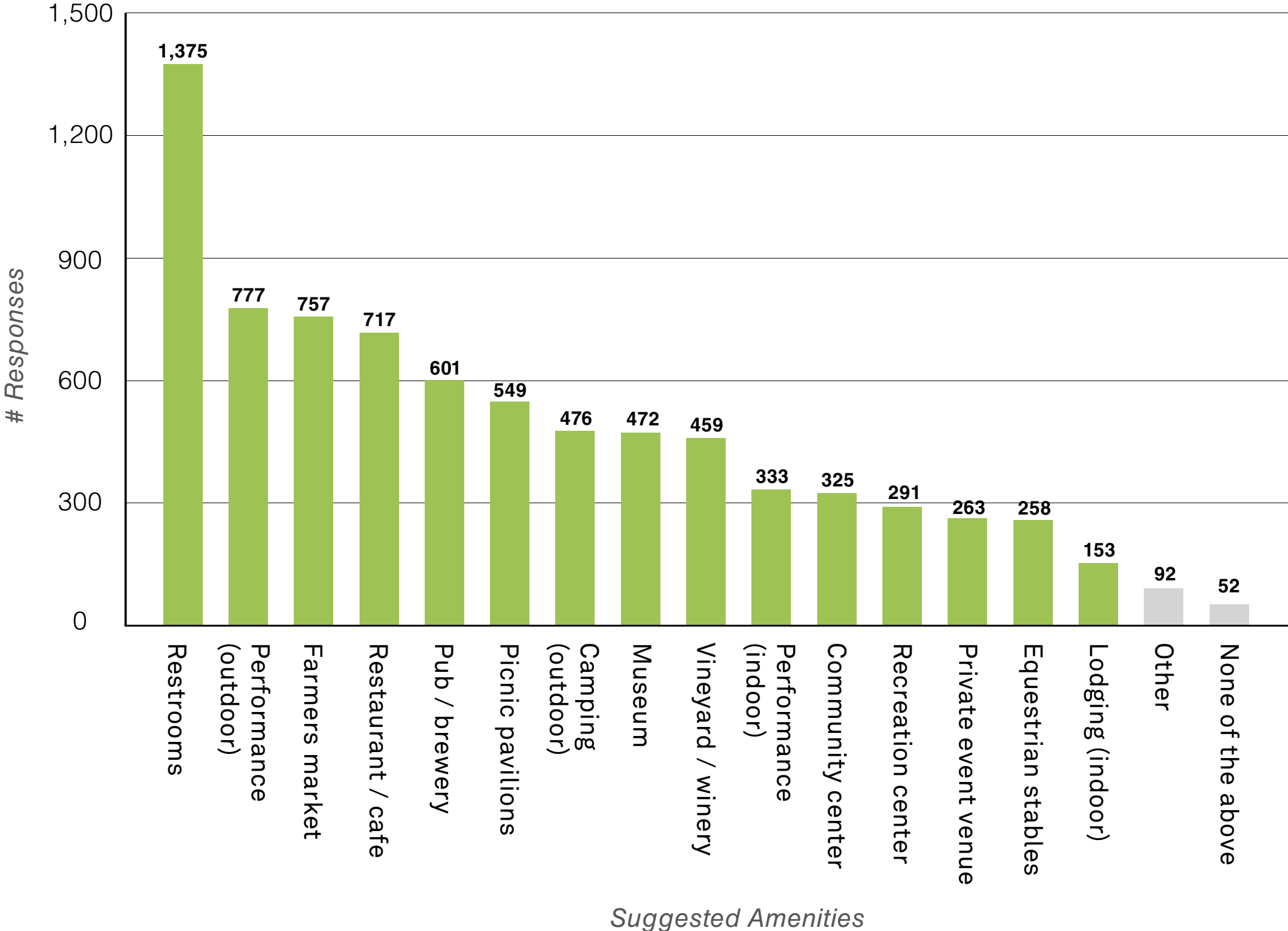
# Recreational Needs Assessment Survey Results

What facilities would you like to see at the park?

Total Respondents: 1,640

**Top 5 Facilities (% of respondents)**

- Restrooms (84%)
- Outdoor Performance (47%)
- Farmers Market (46%)
- Restaurant / Cafe (44%)
- Pub / Brewery (37%)



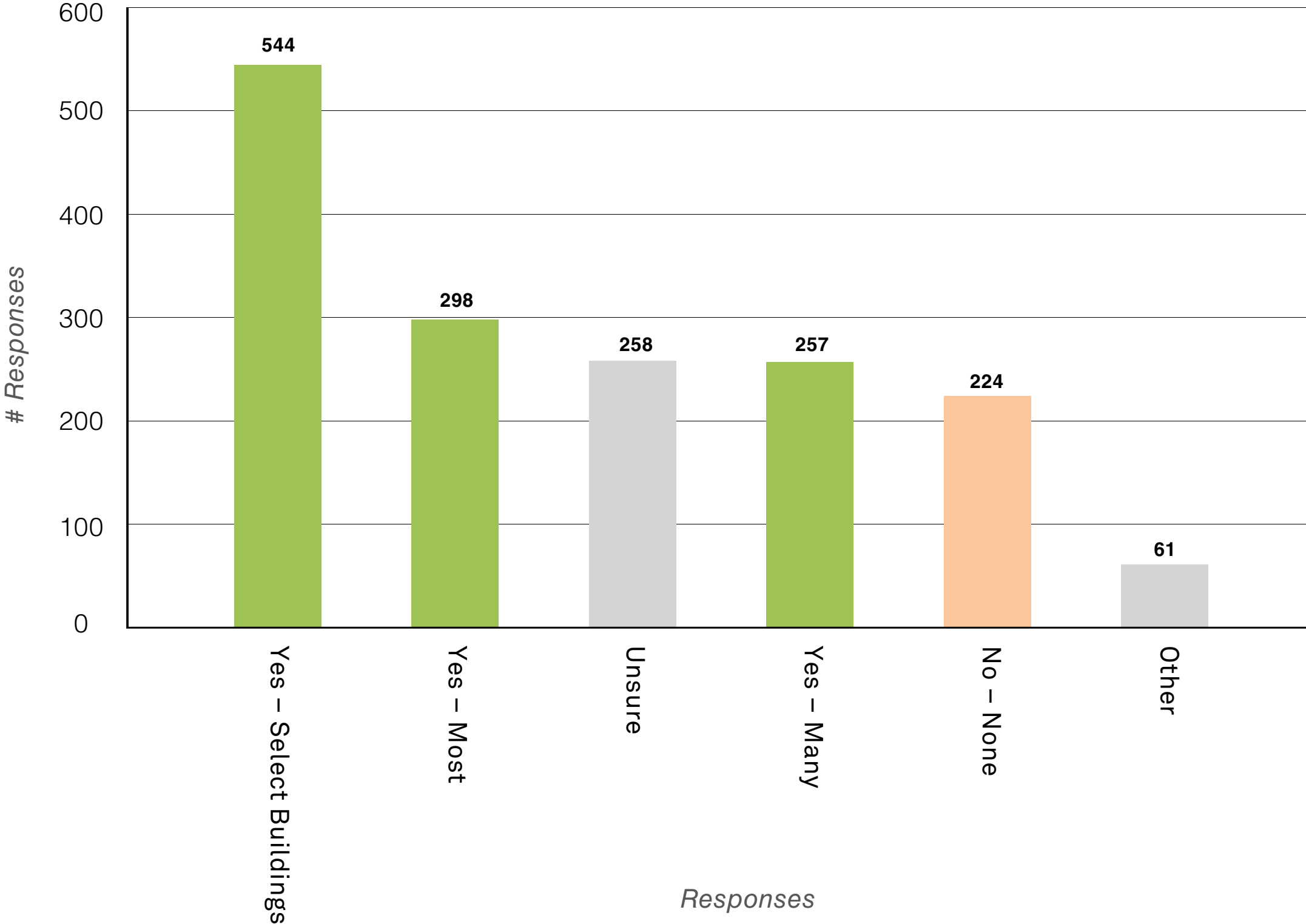


# Recreational Needs Assessment Survey Results

Does your vision for the future of Nissequogue River State Park include keeping and reusing the existing buildings?

Total Respondents: 1,642

67% of respondents said that some number of existing buildings should be retained and reused.



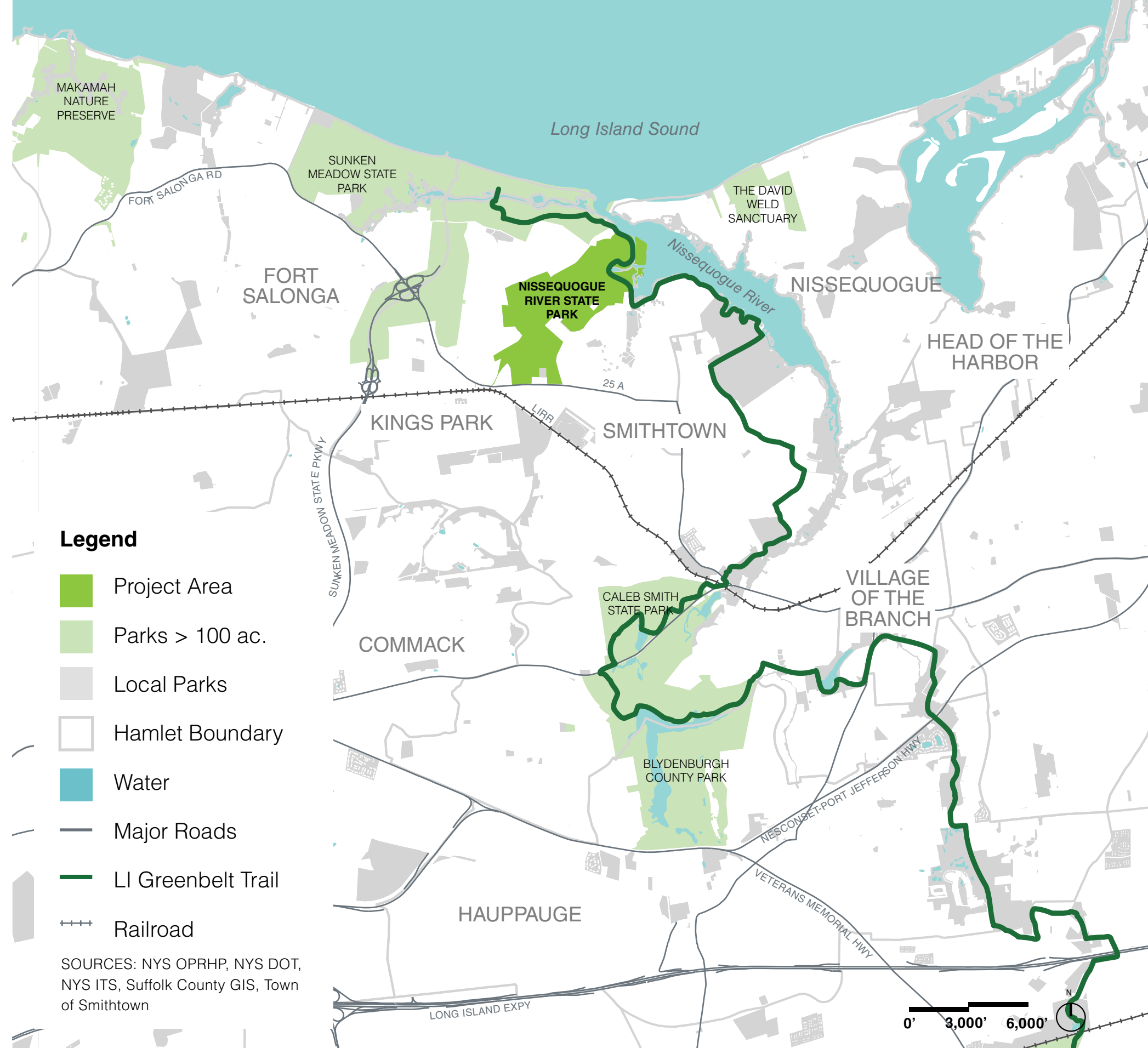


# Local Park Context

There are several 100+ acre parks and public open spaces located within 5 miles of Nissequogue River State Park.

These include:

- Sunken Meadow State Park (1,288 acres)
- Blydenburgh County Park (627 acres)
- Caleb Smith State Park (548 acres)
- Makamah Nature Preserve (160 acres)
- David Weld Sanctuary (125 acres)



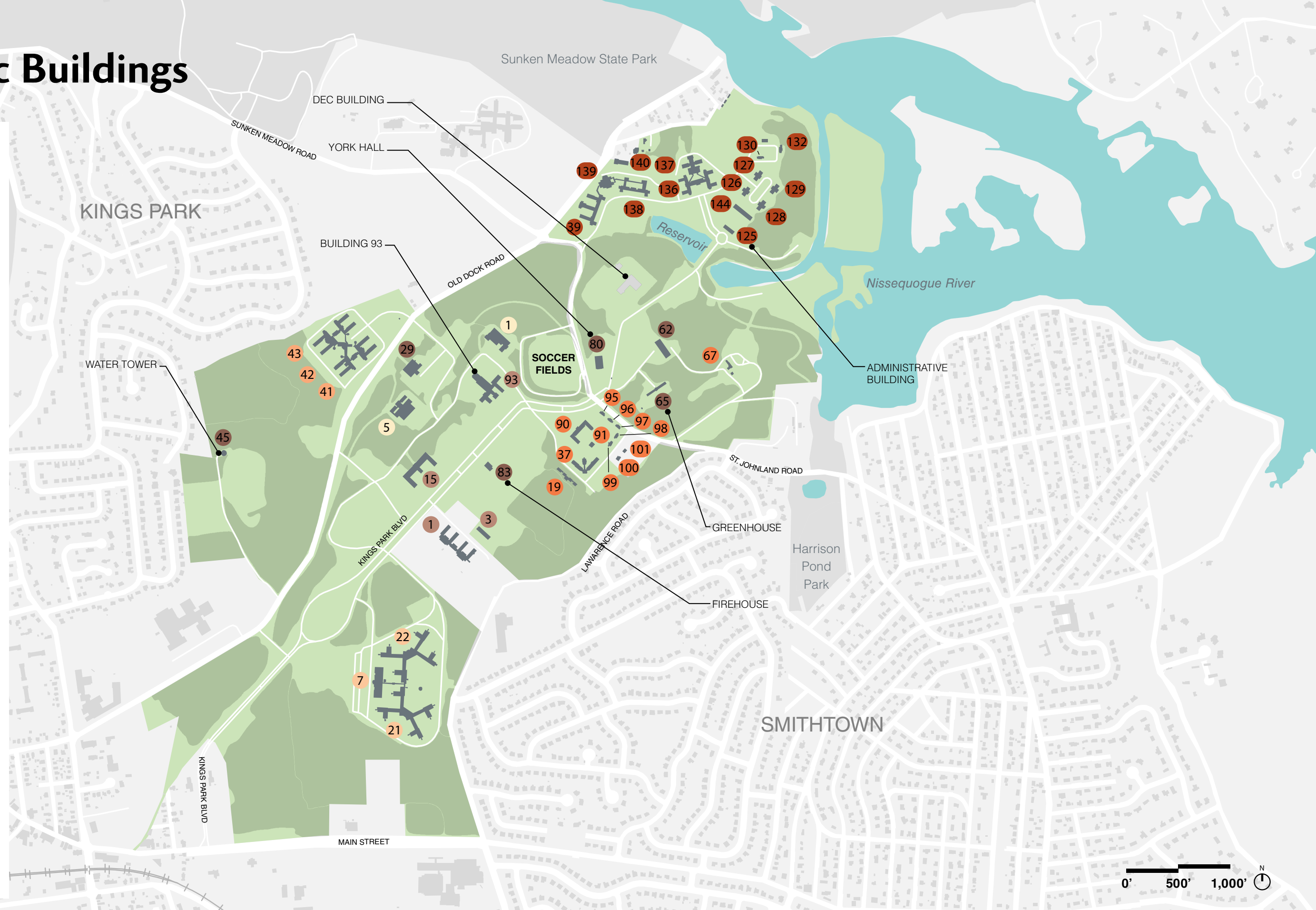


# Extant Historic Buildings

## Legend

- Open Areas
- Woodland
- Historic Building
- Other Buildings
- Water
- Veterans' Memorial Hospital Unit
- Macy Home & Employee Housing
- Interwar Wards
- Group 4 Wards
- Laundry
- Postwar Wards & Surgical Tower
- Miscellaneous

SOURCES: NYS OPRHP, NYS DOT, NYS ITS, Suffolk County GIS, Town of Smithtown, Cashin Associates, P.C., Building Conservation Associates, Inc.





# Extant Building Typologies



Administration Building (Building 125)



York Hall (Building 80)



Building 93



Doctor's Cottages (Buildings 95-101)



Old Laundry Building (Building 5)









Firehouse (Building 83)



# Topography (10' contours)

## Legend

-  Open Areas
-  Woodland
-  Local Parks
-  Buildings
-  Water
-  10' Contours

SOURCES: NYS OPRHP, NYS DOT, NYS ITS, Suffolk County GIS, Town of Smithtown, Cashin Associates, P.C.



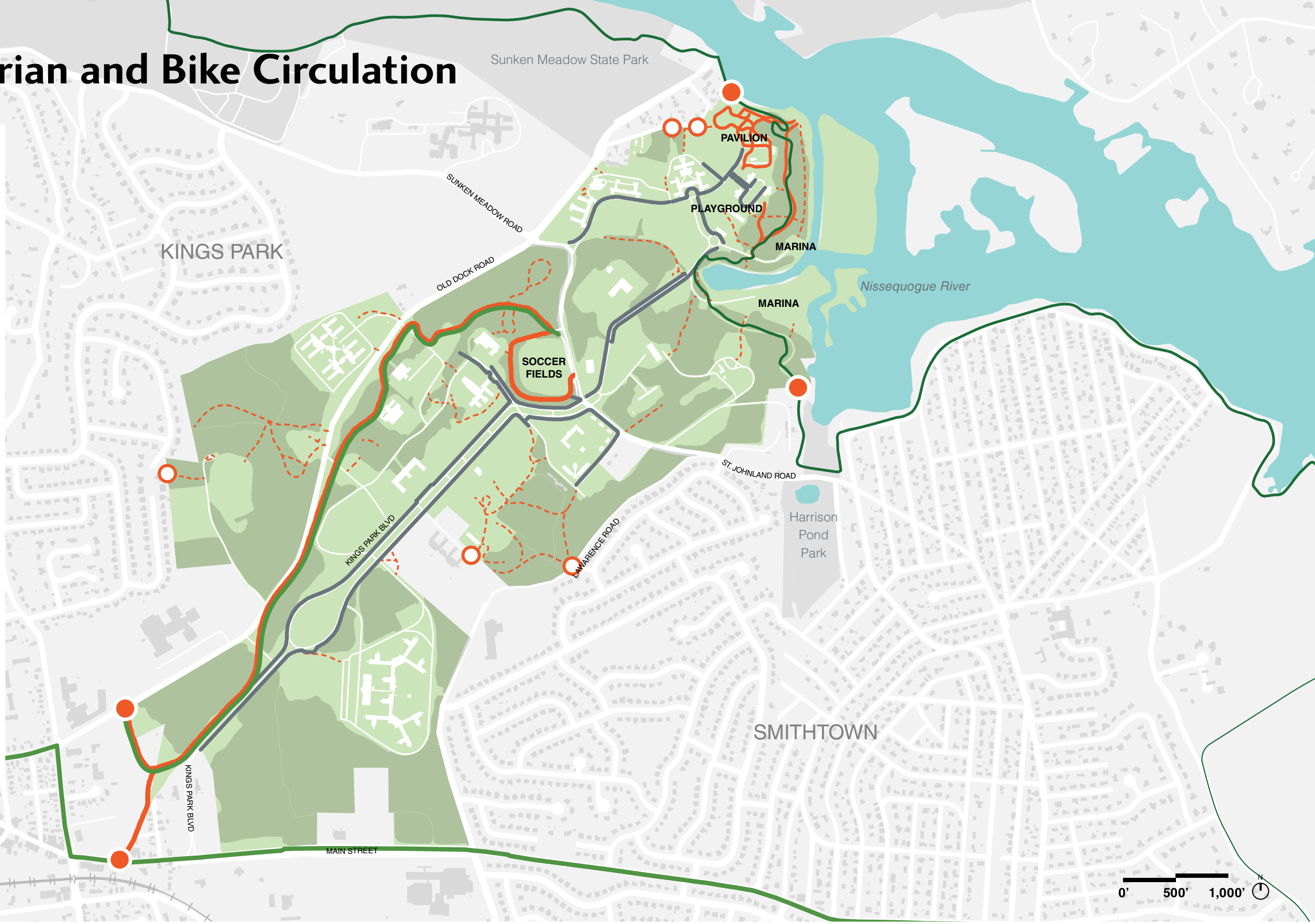


# Existing Pedestrian and Bike Circulation

## Legend





- Primary Trails
- Secondary Trails
- Old Trails
- Park Sidewalks
- Local Bicycle Routes
- LI Greenbelt Trail
- Open Areas
- Woodland
- Buildings
- Water
- Primary Entrances
- Secondary Entrances

SOURCES: NYS OPRHP, NYS DOT, NYS ITS, Suffolk County GIS, Town of Smithtown, Cashin Associates, P.C.

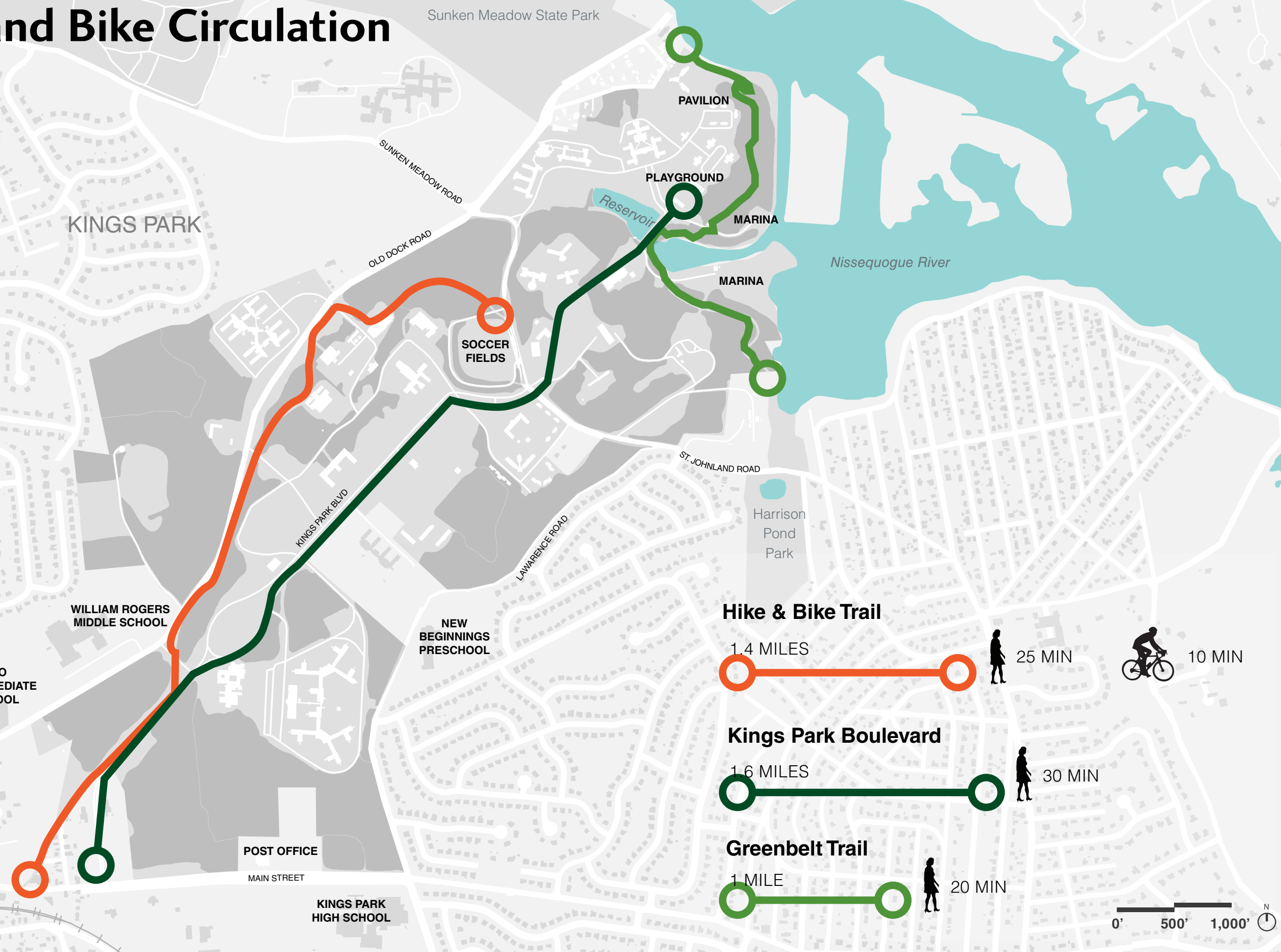


# Existing Pedestrian and Bike Circulation

## Legend

-  Woodland
-  Local Parks
-  Buildings
-  Water

SOURCES: NYS OPRHP, NYS DOT, NYS ITS, Suffolk County GIS, Town of Smithtown, Cashin Associates, P.C.



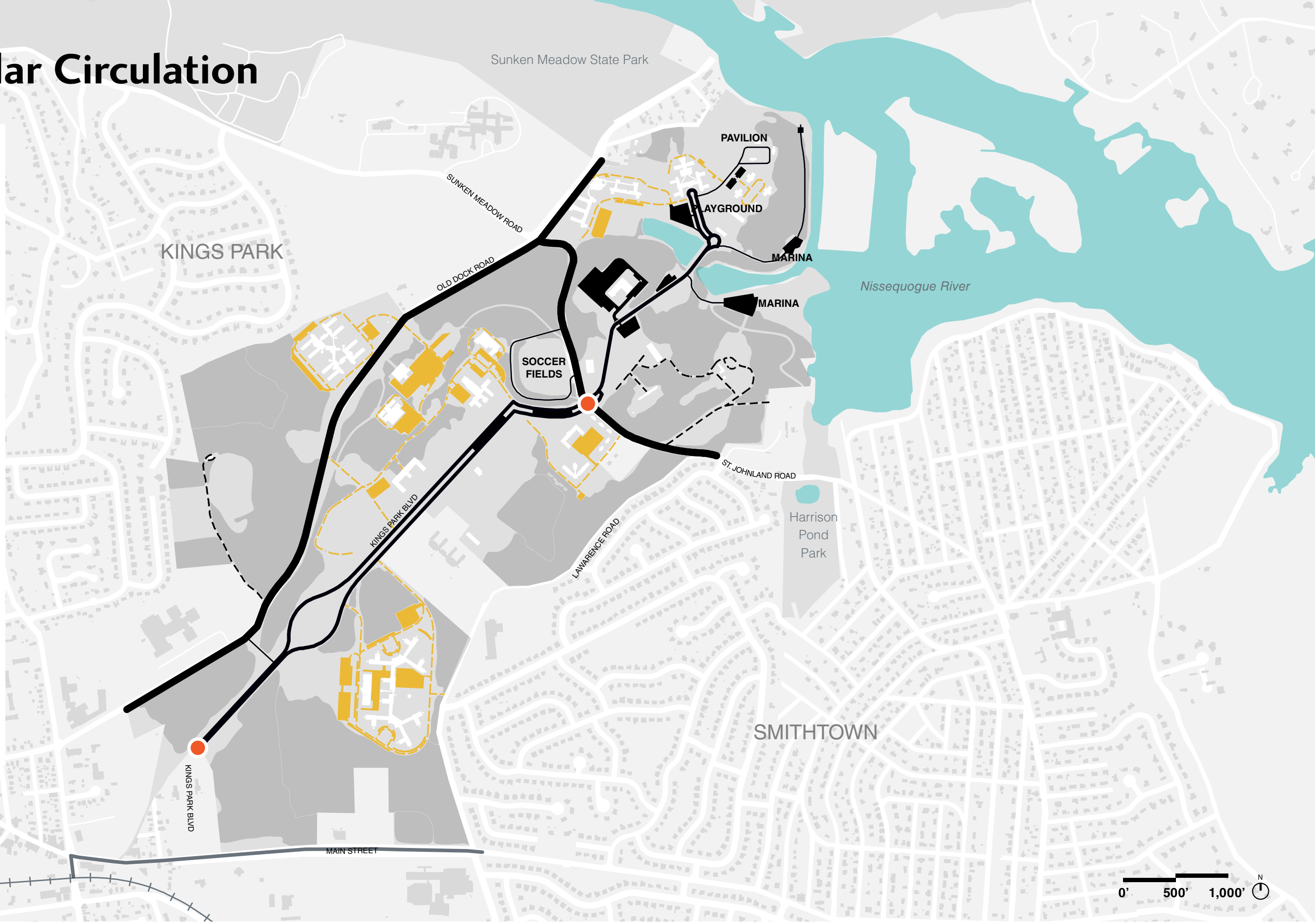


# Existing Vehicular Circulation

## Legend

- Primary Entrances
- Public Through Roads
- Primary Roads
- Secondary Roads
- Maintenance Roads
- Active Parking Lots
- Closed Park Roads
- Inactive Parking Lots
- LIRR
- Bus Route
- Woodland
- Local Parks

SOURCES: NYS OPRHP, NYS DOT, NYS ITS, Suffolk County GIS, Town of Smithtown, Cashin Associates, P.C.









# Existing Ecological Communities

## Legend



### FOREST HABITATS

-  Successional Mesophytic Forest
-  Mesophytic Forest
-  Degraded Area
-  Successional Old Field

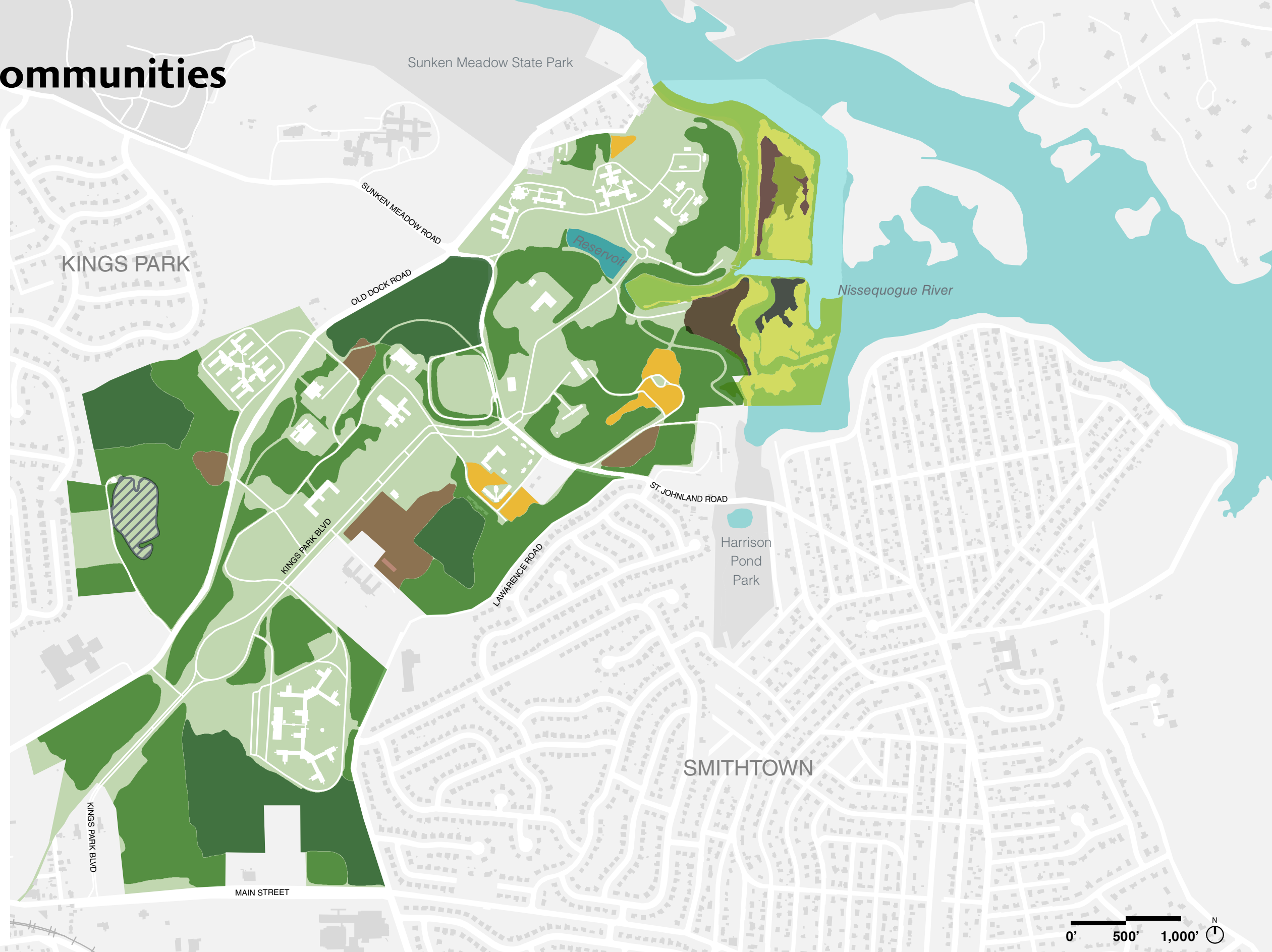
### COASTAL HABITATS

-  Freshwater Pond
-  Littoral Zone
-  Coastal Shoals, Bar and Mudflats
-  Intertidal Marsh
-  High Salt Marsh
-  Dredge Soil

### OTHER

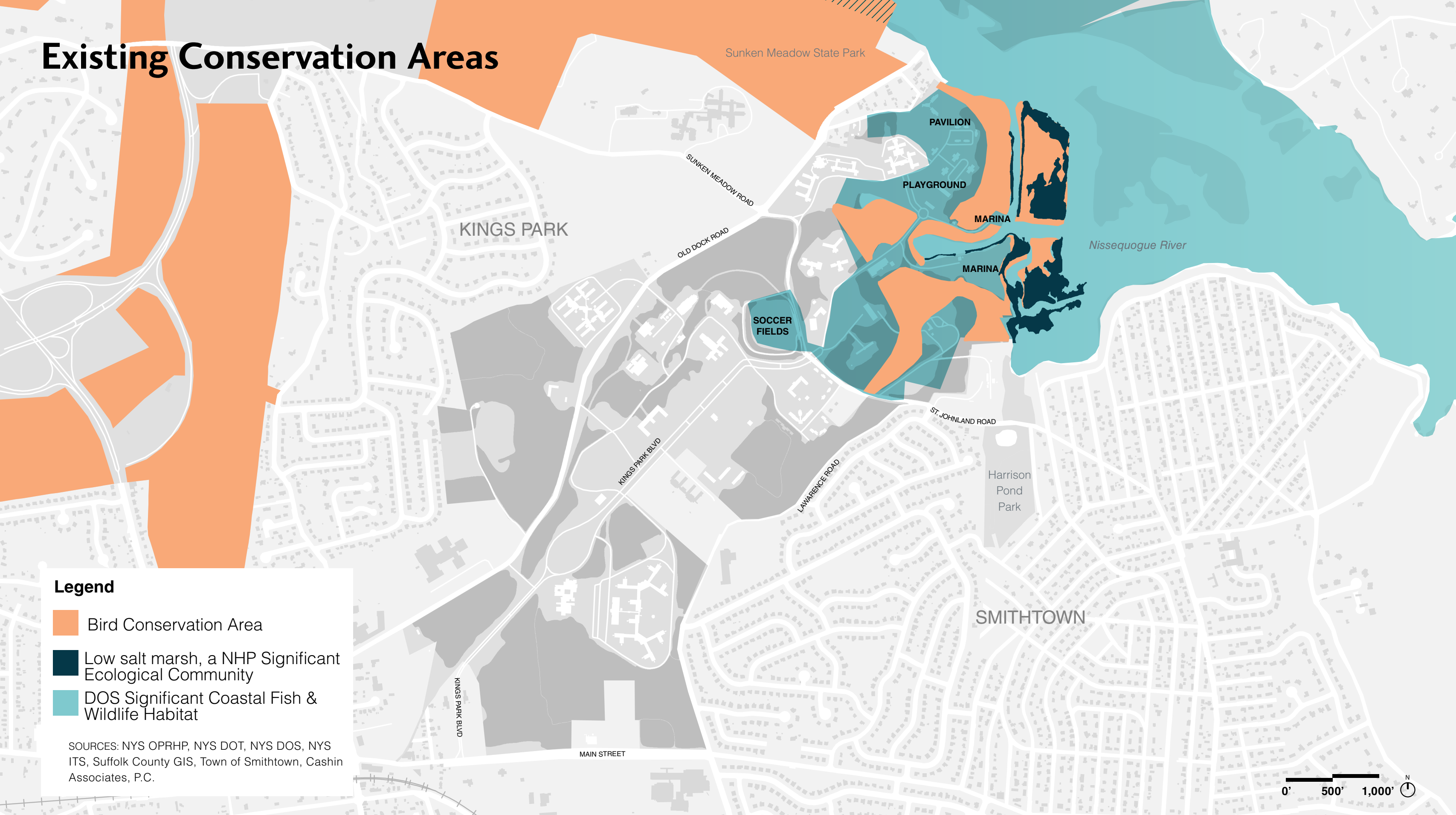
-  Ashfield
-  Open Areas

SOURCES: NYS OPRHP, NYS DOT, NYS ITS, Suffolk County GIS, Town of Smithtown, Cashin Associates, P.C.









# Existing Conservation Areas





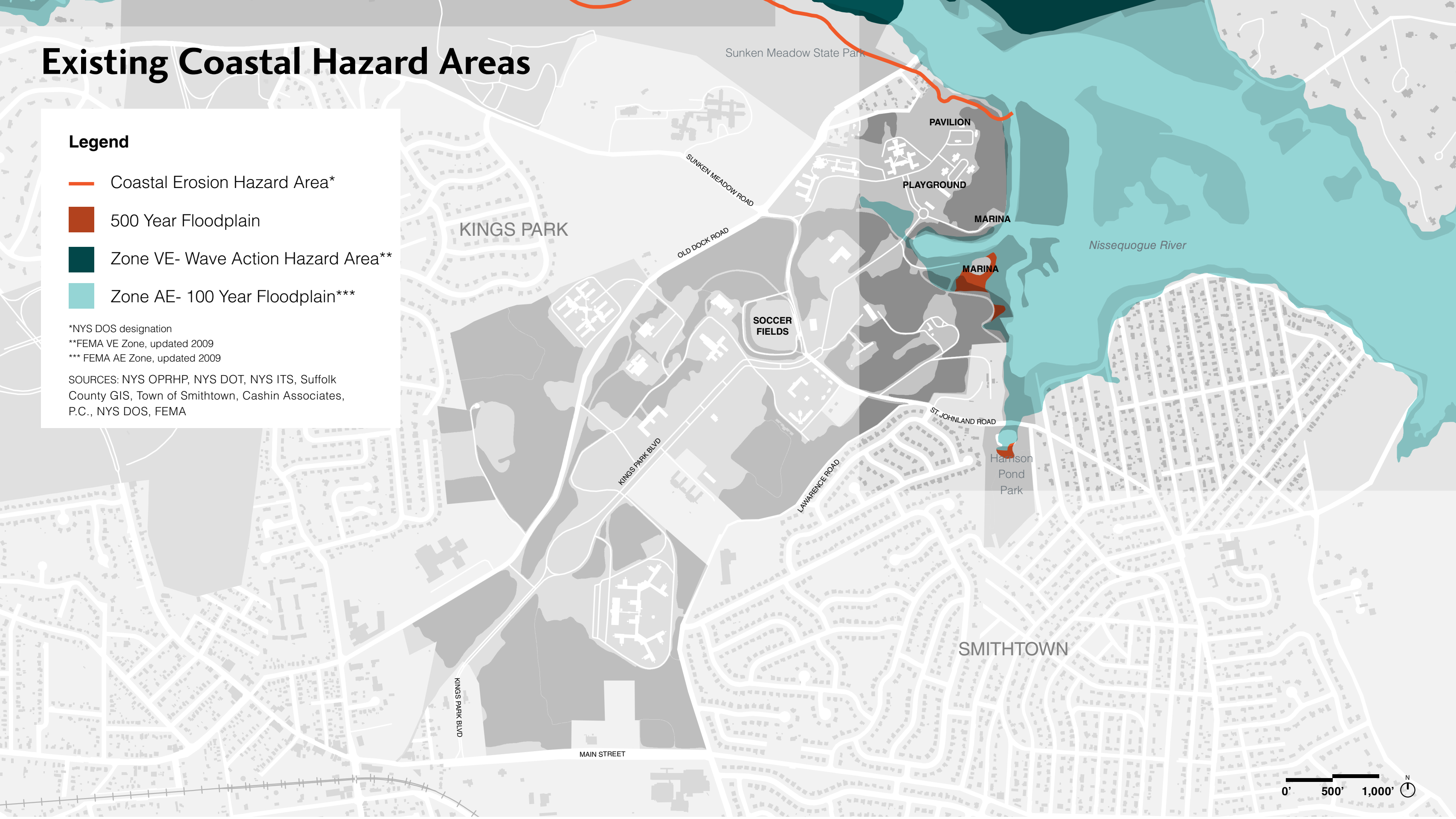
# Existing Coastal Hazard Areas

## Legend

-  Coastal Erosion Hazard Area\*
-  500 Year Floodplain
-  Zone VE- Wave Action Hazard Area\*\*
-  Zone AE- 100 Year Floodplain\*\*\*

\*NYS DOS designation  
 \*\*FEMA VE Zone, updated 2009  
 \*\*\* FEMA AE Zone, updated 2009

SOURCES: NYS OPRHP, NYS DOT, NYS ITS, Suffolk County GIS, Town of Smithtown, Cashin Associates, P.C., NYS DOS, FEMA





# Precedent Images: Programming (For discussion only)



Public art



Craft fairs & markets



Botanical garden



Indoor performances



Outdoor performances



Festivals



# Precedent Images: Concessions (For discussion only)



Equipment rentals



Dining



Historic building tours



Ice skating



Kayak and canoe rentals



Disc golf



# Next Steps and Contact

- EIS scoping and comment period: May - June 2021
- Release of draft Master Plan and DEIS: Summer 2021

Contact the project team at:

**[NissequogueRiver.Plan@parks.ny.gov](mailto:NissequogueRiver.Plan@parks.ny.gov)**

To access additional information about the Nissequogue River State Park Master Plan/EIS, visit:

**<https://parks.ny.gov/inside-our-agency/master-plans.aspx>**





**Thank You!**



**Parks, Recreation  
and Historic  
Preservation**

**NISSEQUOGUE RIVER STATE PARK MASTER PLAN**

April 7, 2021



**STARR WHITEHOUSE**  
Landscape Architects  
and Planners PLLC

