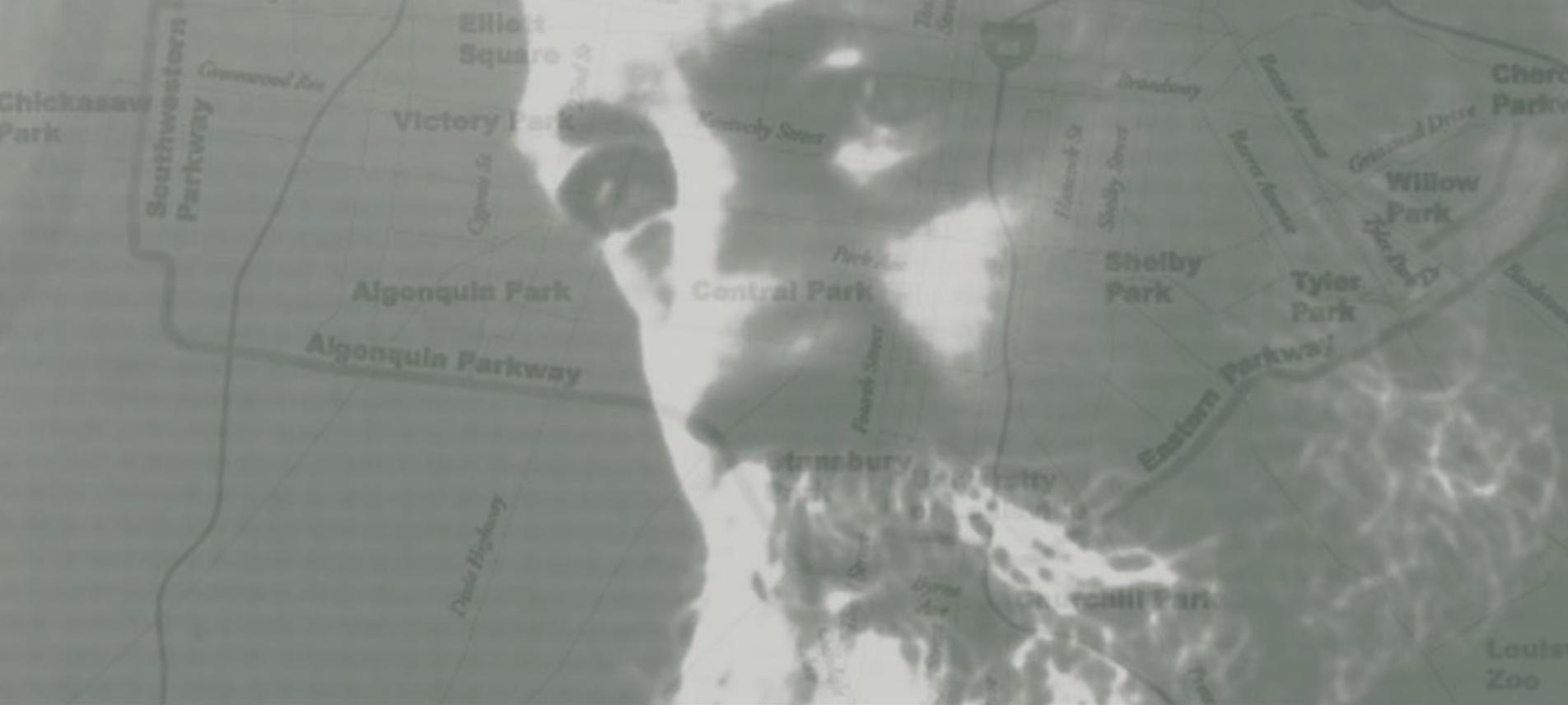




# Olmsted Parkways Multi-use Pathway System Master Plan

June 14, 2007: Public Meeting

*City of Parkersburg*



# WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS



# CITY OF PARKS INITIATIVE

## City of Parks

Portland Wharf Park Archaeological Interpretation  
K&I Bridge-Pedestrian Access  
Big Four Bridge-Pedestrian Access

Metro Loop Parkway Connector

Ohio River Levee Trail Expansion

Riverview Park Expansion

Jefferson Memorial Forest Continued Expansion

Source: LOJIC



★ Funded capital projects

Waterfront Park-Phase III Expansion

River Road Recreation Corridor

Metro Loop Path

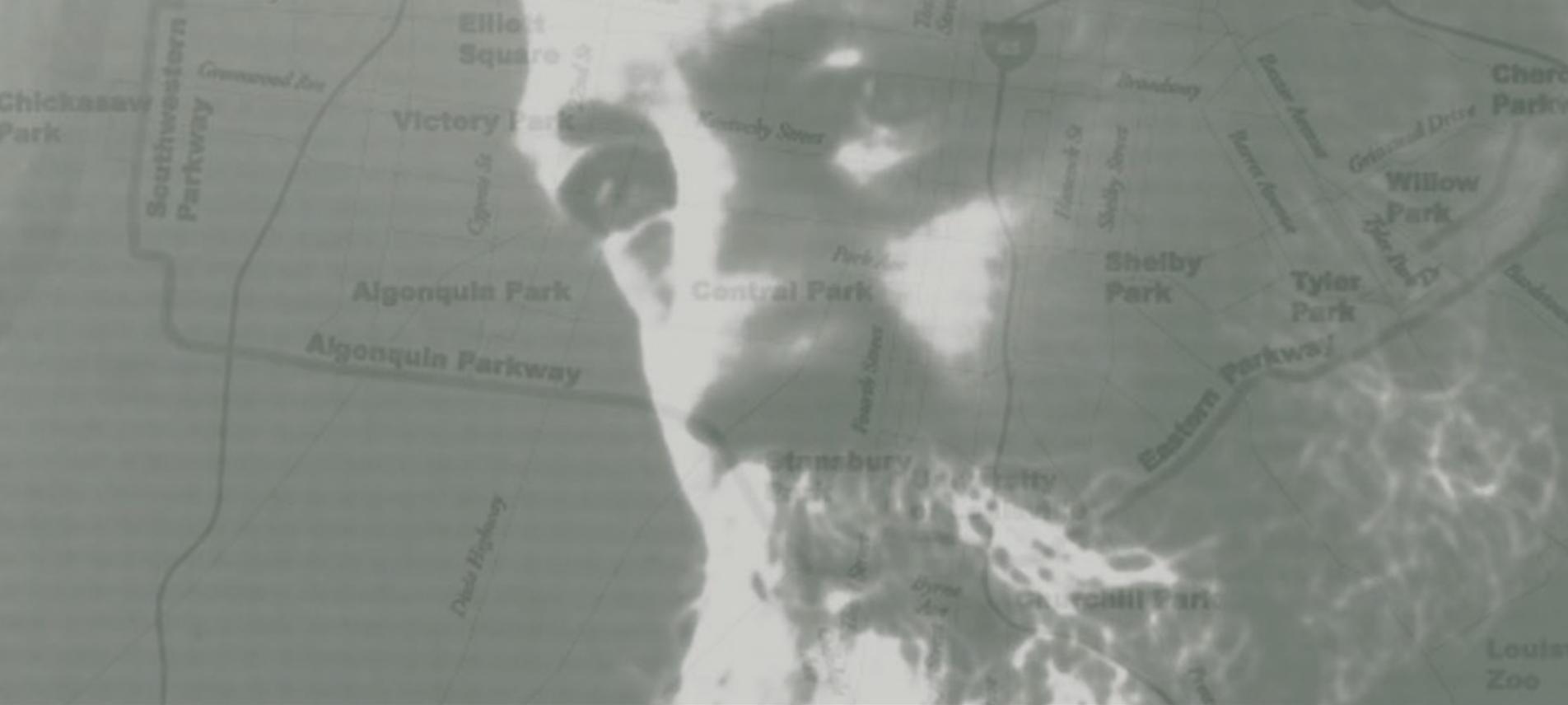
Floyds Fork Corridor Acquisition for Future Development

Jerry E. Abramson, Mayor  
Louisville Metro Council



**METRO**  
Parks



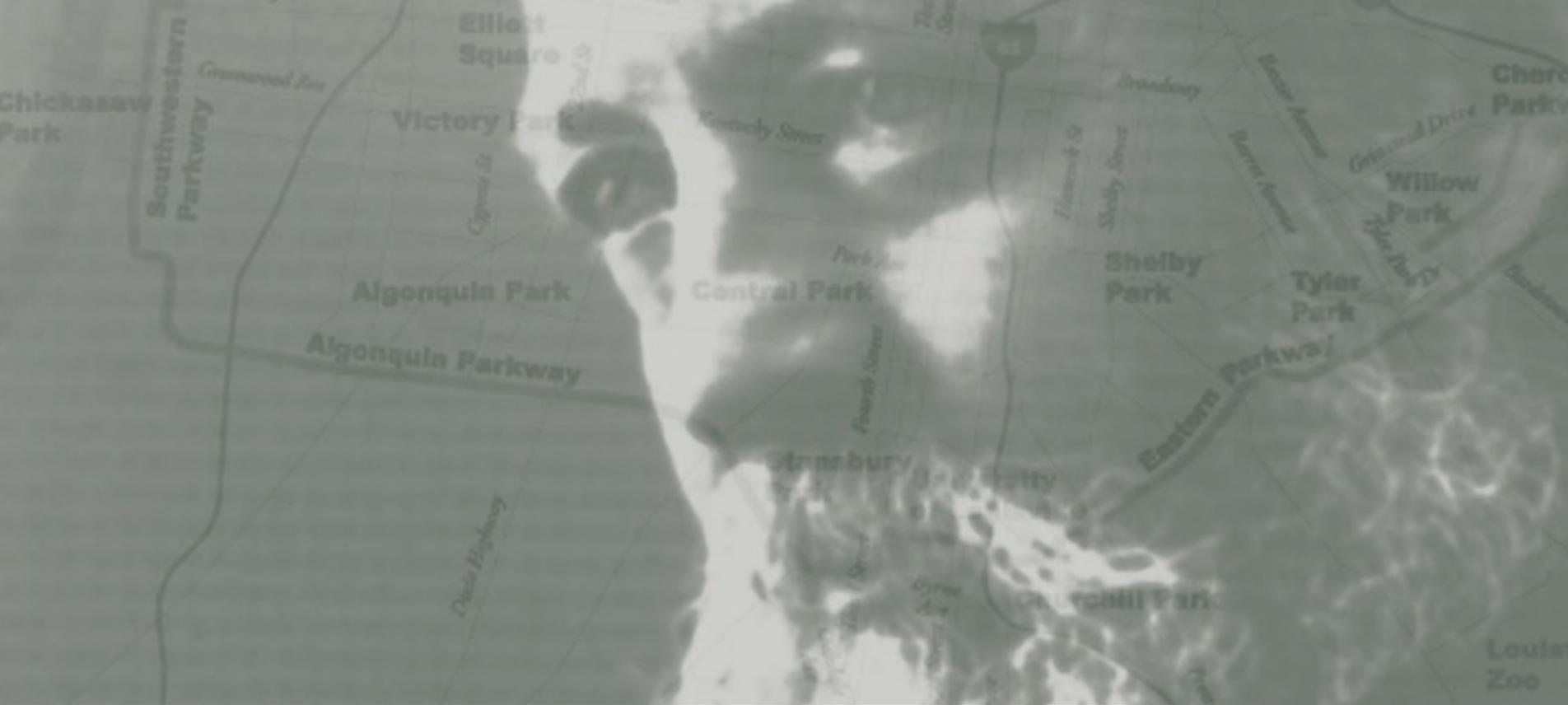


# INTRODUCTION AND PROJECT OVERVIEW



## AGENDA

- Welcome & Introduction
- Project Overview
- Legacy of Planning in Louisville
- The Olmsted Design Legacy
- Next Steps
- Why you are here
- Open House



# INTRODUCTION AND PROJECT OVERVIEW



# PROJECT OVERVIEW



## PROJECT PURPOSE:

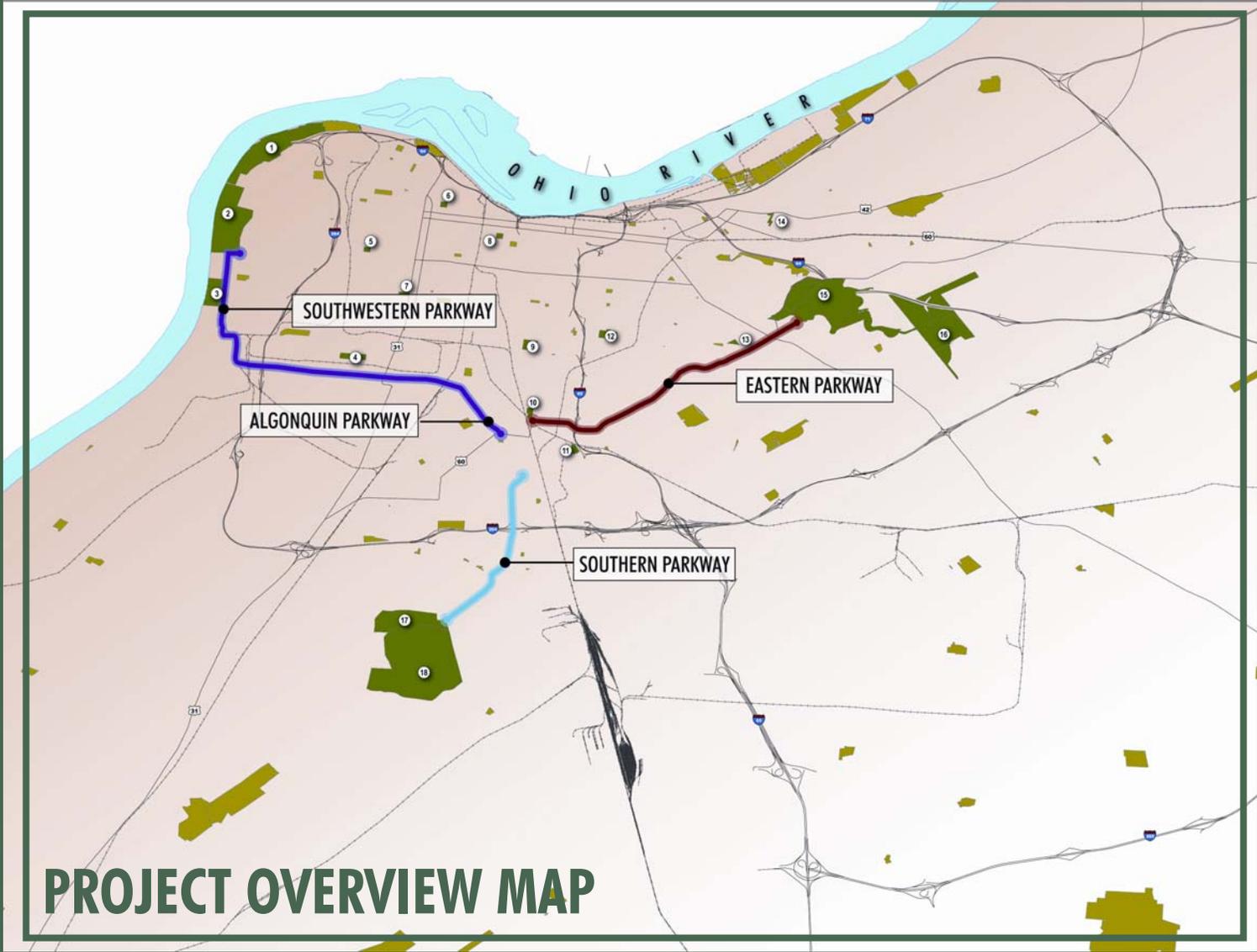
Incorporate a multi-use pedestrian pathway system into the historic context of the Olmsted parkways.



**OLMSTED PARKWAYS MULTI-USE PATHWAY SYSTEM MASTER PLAN**

PUBLIC MEETING: June 14, 2007

# PROJECT OVERVIEW



The **HNTB**  
Team

**Louisville**  
METRO

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

### DESIGN PROCESS:

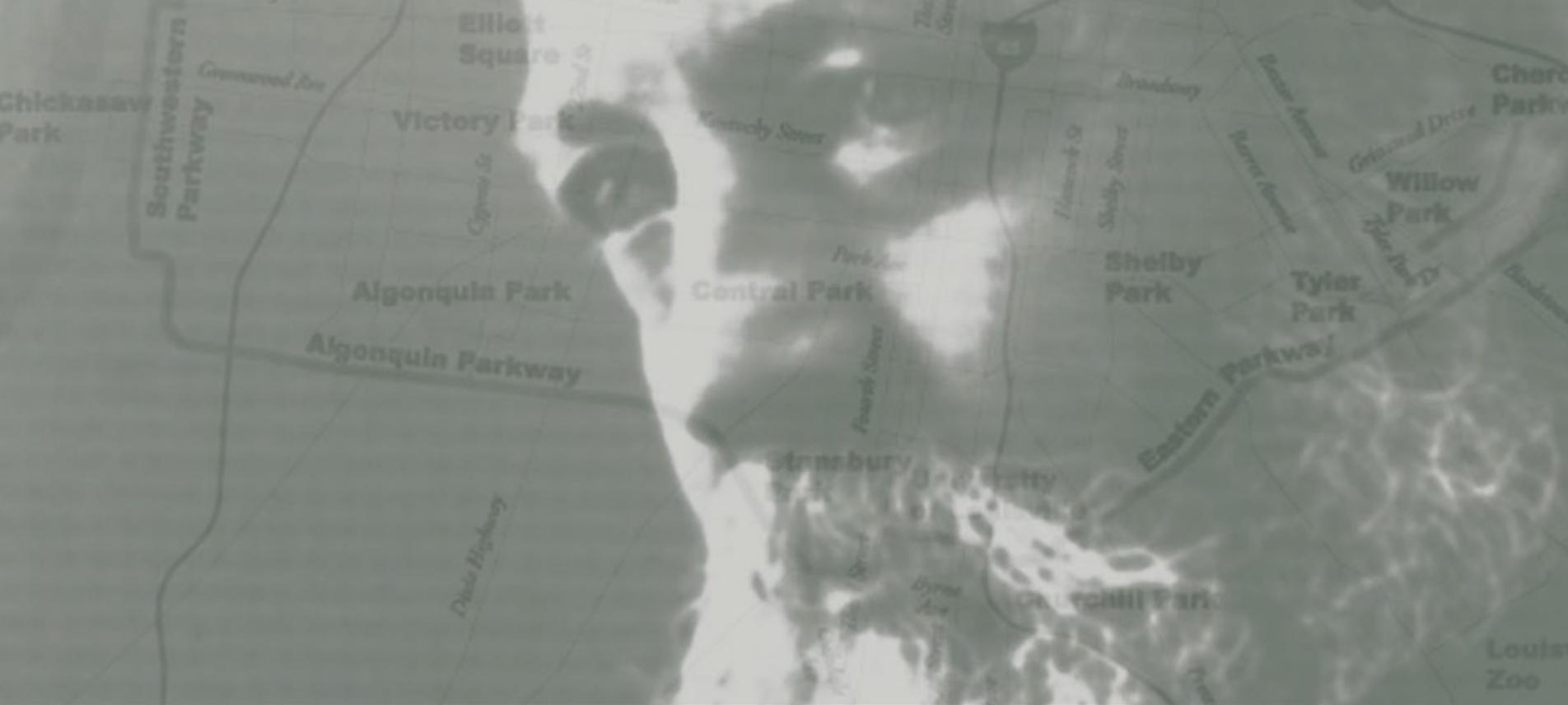
- Existing Conditions Analysis
- Opportunities & Constraints
- Historic research, tree inventory, urban design character
- Stakeholder & Public Input process
- Design Alternatives- including preliminary routes and amenities design
- Preferred Alternative
- Magnitude of Costs
- Action Plan/Priority Schedule

# PROJECT OVERVIEW



## COMMUNITY INPUT PROCESS:

- Community Advisory Group (CAG)
  - Bus Tour of Parkways
  - 4 meetings
- Technical Advisory Committee
  - Specific Issues
- Key Stakeholder Interviews
- Public Meetings (2)



# THE LOUISVILLE LEGACY: Planning in River City



# OLMSTED PARKWAYS MULTI-USE PATHWAY SYSTEM MASTER PLAN

PUBLIC MEETING: June 14, 2007



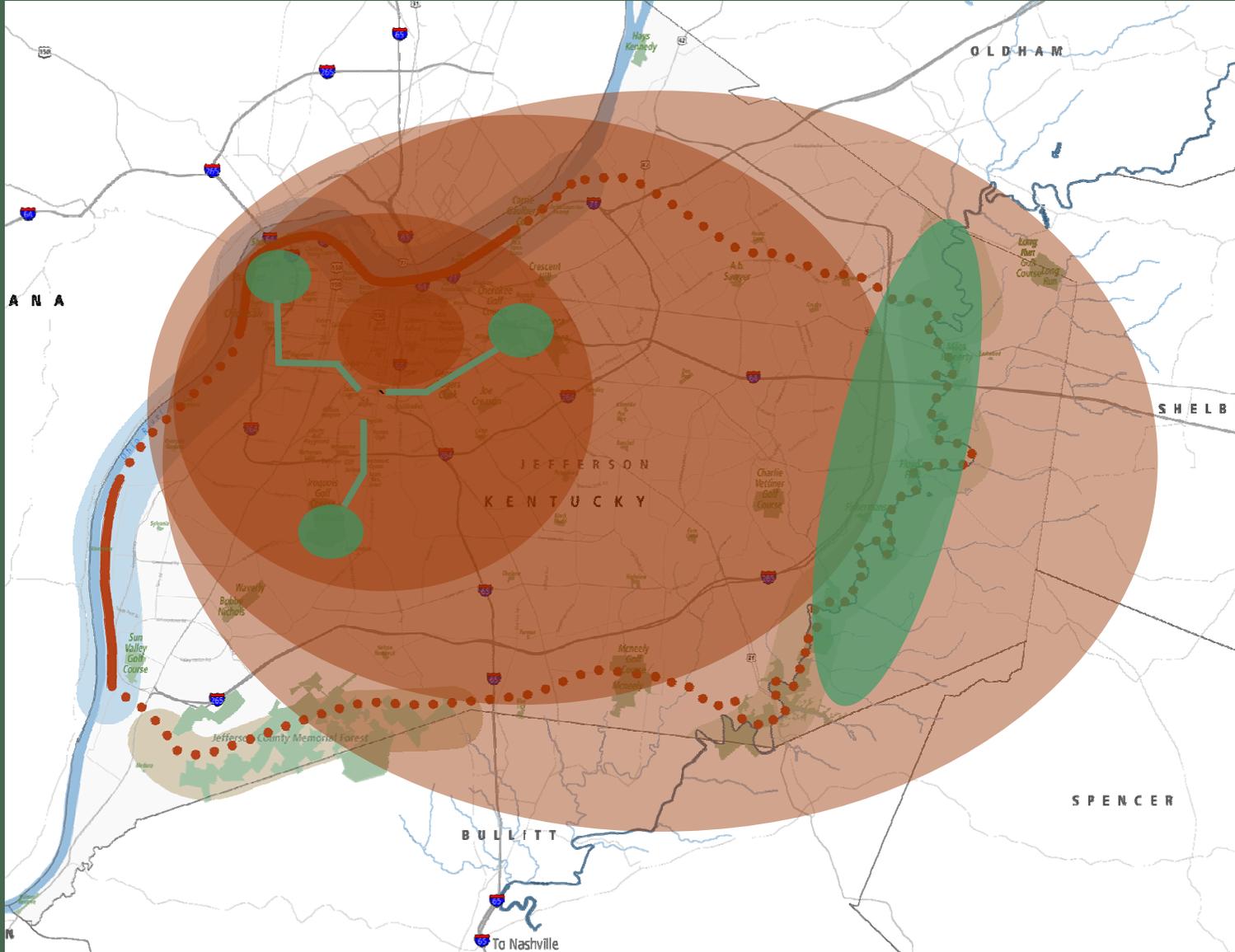
## THE LOUISVILLE LEGACY: Planning in River City



OLMSTED PARKWAYS MULTI-USE PATHWAY SYSTEM MASTER PLAN

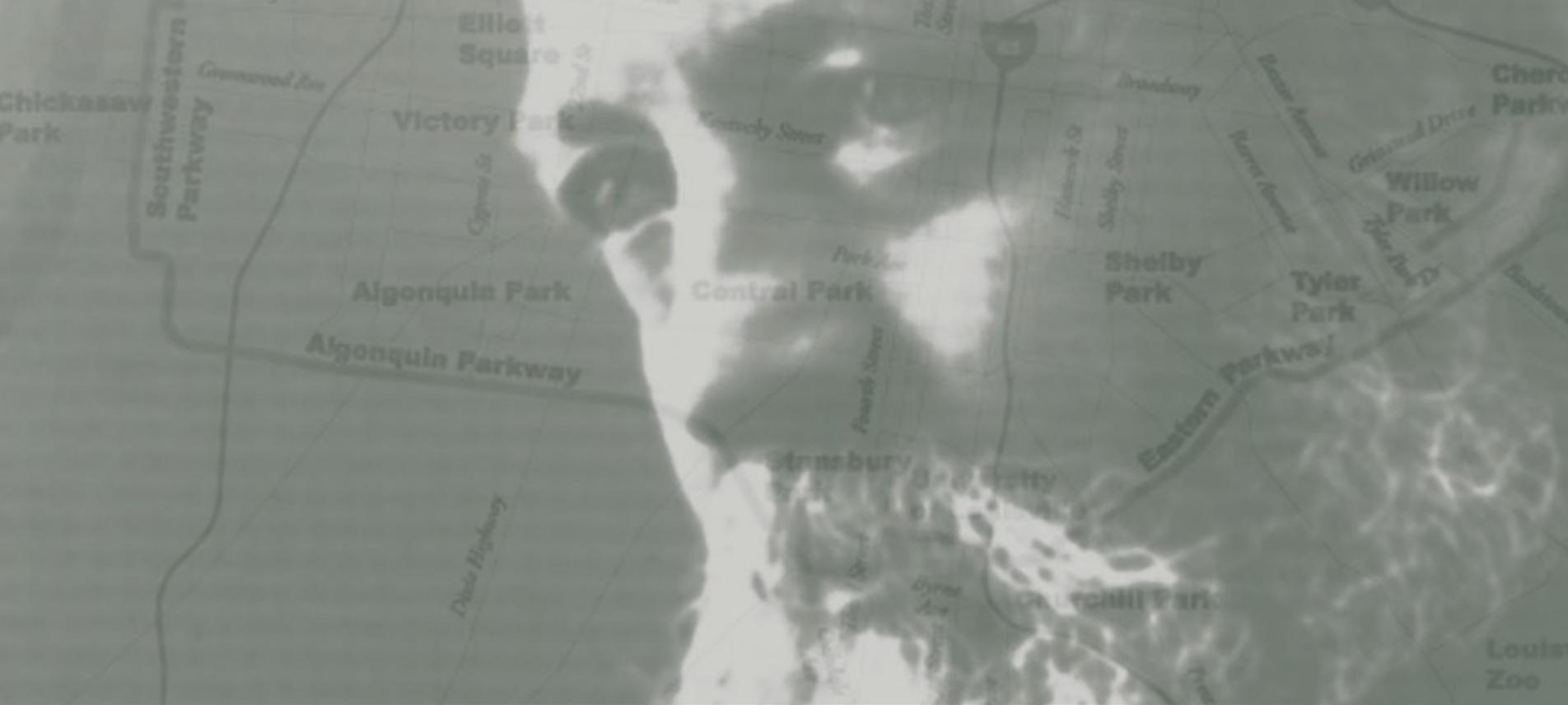
PUBLIC MEETING: June 14, 2007

# THE LOUISVILLE LEGACY: Planning in River City



The **HNTB** Team

**Louisville** METRO



# THE OLMSTED LEGACY IN LOUISVILLE



## THE OLMSTED LEGACY

### LOUISVILLE PARKWAYS ARE A CULTURAL LANDSCAPE

USA defines as-- A geographic area associated with a historic event, activity, or person, a master work, or exhibiting other cultural or aesthetic values.

At the most basic level, a landscape influenced by humanity. We preserve those where the combined work of nature and humanity have value.

*National Park Service defines four general types:*

- historic sites
- **historic designed landscapes**
- historic vernacular landscapes
  - ethnographic landscapes

# THE OLMSTED LEGACY



## SIGNIFICANCE:

The meaning or value ascribed to a cultural landscape based on the National Register criteria. Stems from association and integrity.

Louisville's Olmsted Park System is listed on the National Register as the work of recognized masters, Olmsted firm 1891 to 1930s.

## THE OLMSTED LEGACY

### LANDSCAPE CHARACTER- DEFINING EXPERIENCE

A prominent or distinctive aspect, quality or characteristic of a cultural landscape that contributes significantly to its physical character.

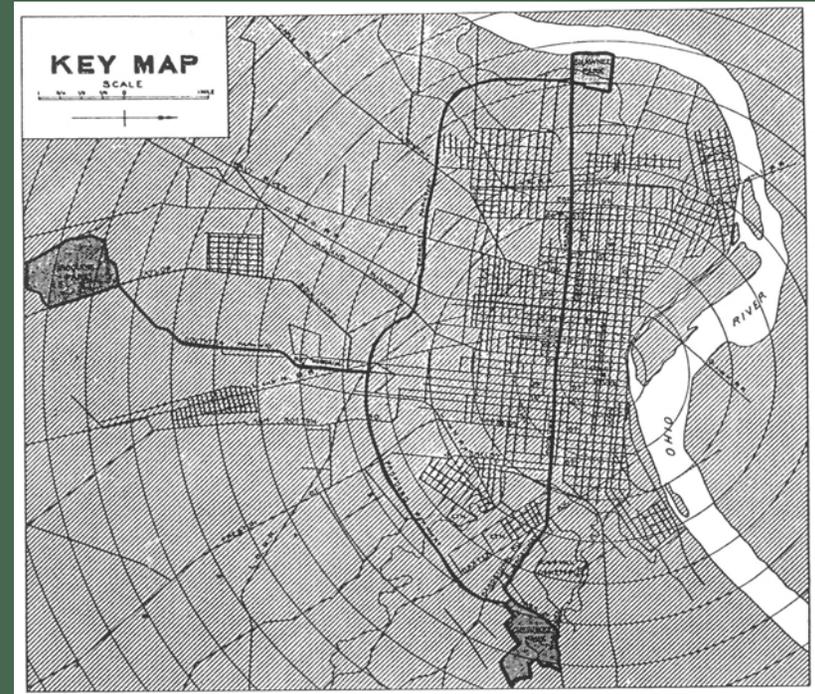
- Land Use Patterns
- Spatial Organization & Visual Relationships
- Topography, Natural & Human Shaped
- Vegetation, land cover typology
- Circulation, drives, paths, parking
- Water Features & Drainage
- Structures, habitable & Not
- Site Furnishings & Objects
- Materials, Details

# THE OLMSTED LEGACY

## FOCUSING ON PARKWAYS- OLMSTED VISION

Developing 3 Distinct Parks with a System of Interconnecting Parkways

- Southern (Grand Boulevard) Connecting to Iroquois Park
- Eastern, Curving East to Cherokee Park
- Western Sweeping Southwest to Chickasaw & Shawnee Parks
- Broadway intended as City Street Link to City Center



1897 Key Map, FL & JC Olmsted, with labels added

## THE OLMSTED LEGACY

### PARKWAYS WERE UNIQUE WITHIN THE CITY

- Intended for pleasure traffic not commercial uses
- Service drives for delivery / residential access
- 120 to 200 Feet Wide to Accommodate
  - Central Drive for gracious pleasure travel
  - Two Tree Planted Green Medians with pedestrian, bicycle, bridle paths
  - Service drives for abutting owners
  - Grass Verges to each side with trees, walks



Southern Parkway 1928 Aerial

## THE OLMSTED LEGACY

### FOCUSING ON PARKWAYS: OLMSTED QUOTES

- The enormous development in the use of cycles suggests that one or both of the two 14 foot ways be dedicated to the exclusive use of bicycles. 15 Oct 1896  
Olmsted, Olmsted & Eliot
- For wherever there is an opportunity for separate paths we notice that the bicycle riders are more and more urgent to obtain them. 23 Oct 1896
- As to the side roads, they were never intended for continuous or through traffic. . . semi- private approaches
- The surface needs to be screened into coarse and fine, in layers, the fines mixed with local clay loam enough to bind. 26 Aug 1898
- Ruff Memorial, now Wayside Park, layout revised to accommodate access by bicycles. 13 Sept 1897

OLMSTED PARKWAYS MULTI-USE PATHWAY SYSTEM MASTER PLAN

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# THE OLMSTED LEGACY

## SOUTHERN PARKWAY CHARACTER



## THE OLMSTED LEGACY

### KEY HISTORIC CHARACTER ELEMENTS OF LOUISVILLE PARKWAYS



Southern Parkway 1928 Aerial

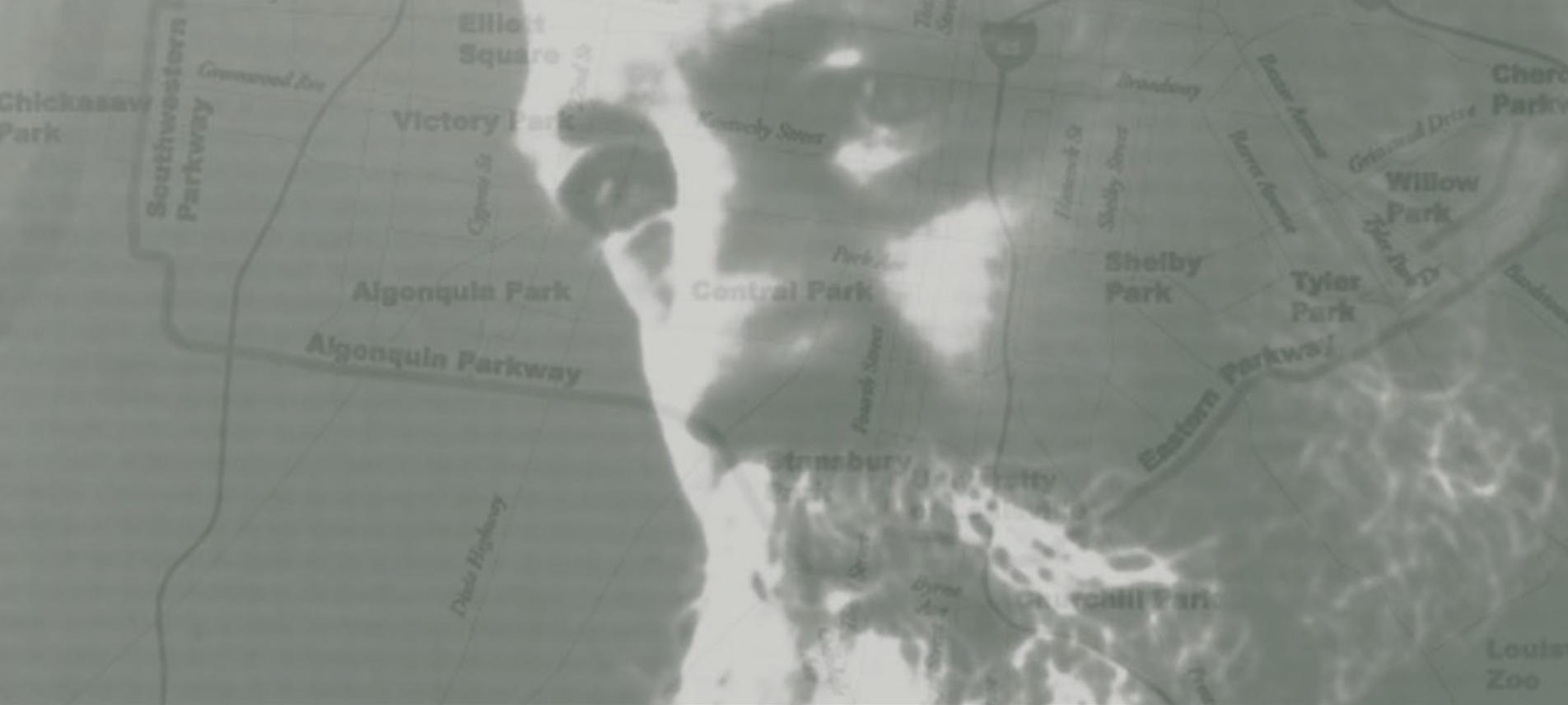
- Formal Green Corridors- scenic drive through city linking parks
- Central Drive - balanced layout with green space both sides
- Service Drives - local access only, not through traffic
- Gracious Drive- no speeding, calm traffic
- Broad scale- Tree canopy verticality, space with dappled light
- No clutter- all elements in harmony, no 'look at me" elements
- Composition -subordinate to the concept of continuous green

## THE OLMSTED LEGACY

### MASTER PLAN PRINCIPLES:

- All actions must be guided by respect for the inherent landscape quality of each park and the parkway system. The historic Olmsted design shaped places for public enjoyment, guided by the unique qualities of each park. Current efforts must renew and respect this legacy.
- Natural processes are the foundation of these resources. All decisions must sustain these processes so that natural systems are preserved and enhanced.
- These parks and parkways form a unique component of the city fabric, a contributing factor to the quality of life for all citizens. Future efforts must understand the parks system large setting, both in terms of community perception and physical environment.
- People of all ages and abilities should be able to enjoy a variety of recreational opportunities that can be supported by the landscape and facilities.
- Ultimately, the character and quality of these parks and parkways will depend on how they are managed. Skills, training, staffing, volunteer coordination and a stable funding base are needed to ensure the fulfillment of these principles over time

*1993, Authored by Andropogon Associates & Heritage Landscapes*



**THE NEXT STEPS... Why you are here...**



## PROJECT OVERVIEW

### NEXT STEPS:

- Develop preliminary parkway trail routes and alternatives
- Develop concepts for amenity design
- Present alternatives to CAG
- Finalize route and amenity design
- Determine costs
- Develop action plan for implementation
- Present final design to staff and CAG
- Present final design at community meeting
- Prepare final master plan report

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

### *WE NEED YOUR INPUT:*

- Please browse the exhibits and provide feedback on the materials you are viewing
- Provide feedback and information for each parkway
- Members of the design team and staff will be available to discuss any comments you may have and to assist you with providing your feedback.



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