

Master Plan for the Cheltenham Badlands

Public Meeting #3 – Site Concepts

June 1, 2016

Museum Planning Partners



Agenda

- Sign-in 7:00
- Presentation of site plan Options and interpretive opportunities (Dillon/MPP) 7:10 – 7:45 PM
- Questions and Answers (Dillon/OHT) 7:45 – 8:15 PM (This time is for general questions and comments. Opportunity for one on one with team to discuss concepts during Open House)
- Review Display Panels in Open House Format/ Complete Comment Forms 8:15 PM-9:00 PM
- Meeting adjourns at 9:00 PM

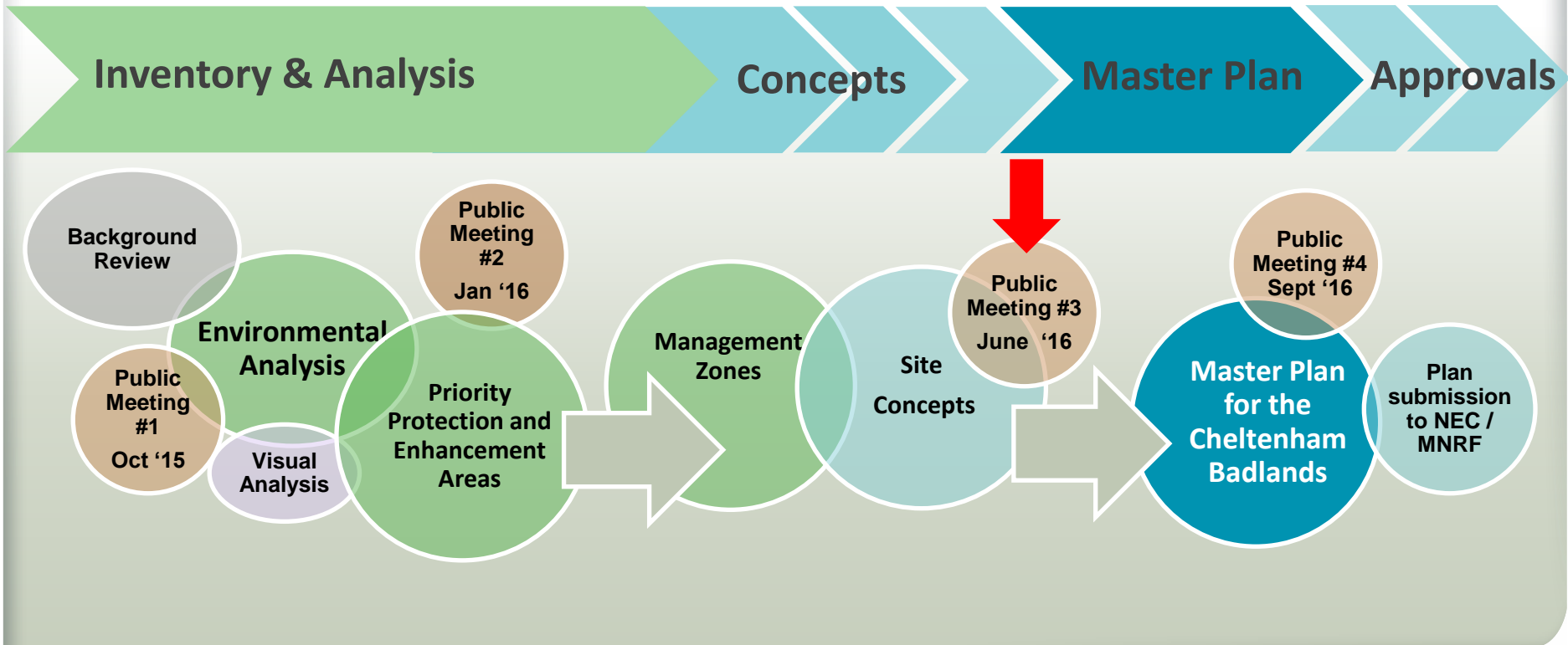


Study Update

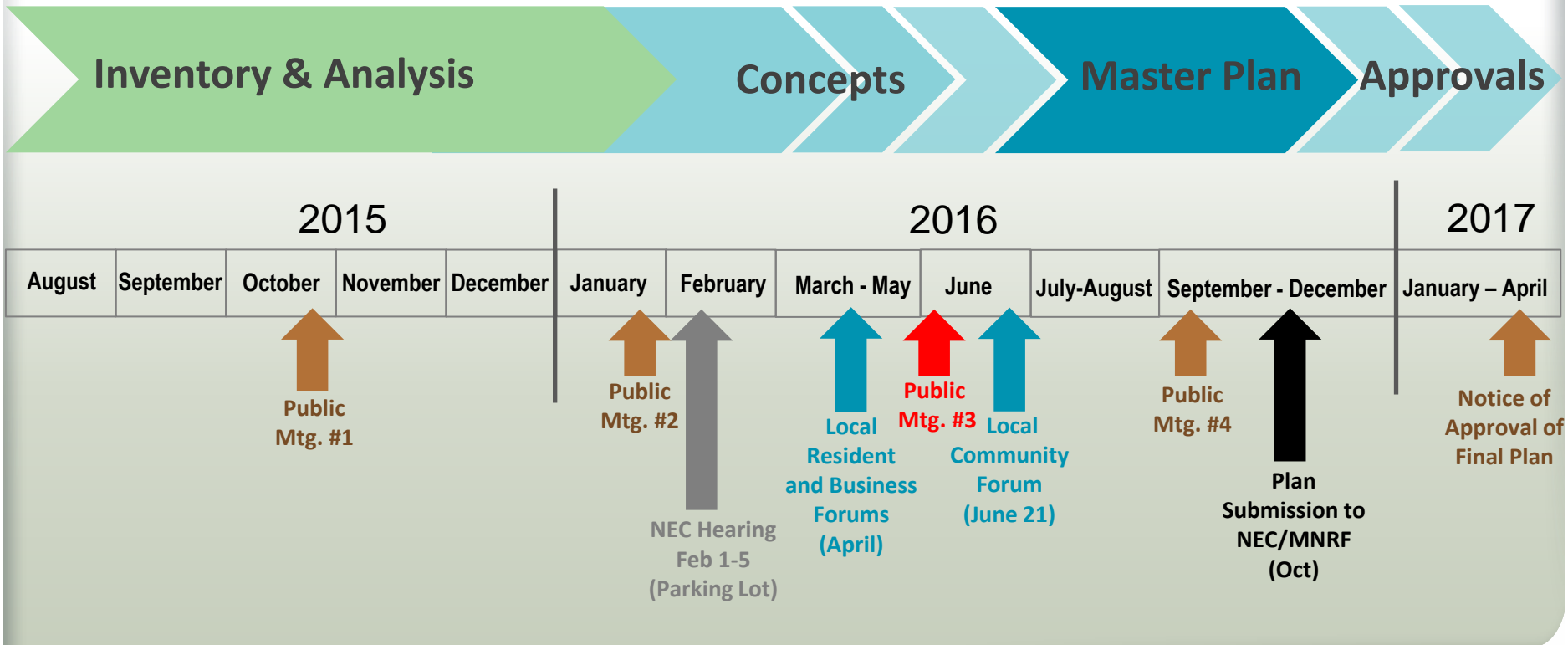
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Study Process



Study Timeline



Guiding Principles for the Cheltenham Badlands

Conservation of the property's cultural and natural heritage values.

Safety for all individuals who visit the site.

Improved **accessibility** for those who wish to access the site.

Enhanced opportunities for **interpretation** and **public education**.



Summary of Inventory, Analysis and Public Input

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Stage 1

Inventory & Analysis

- Review of past technical studies and site assessments, supplemented by field investigations.
- Assessment of resources and management issues for: **Natural Heritage, Cultural Heritage, Recreation, Visual Resources, and Visitor Management.**
- Priority Protection Areas evaluation and mapping.
- Recommended Management Zones (NEPOSS).
- Development considerations.

Visitor Management Approach

Badlands Feature

- Restrict physical public access to the Badlands topography to viewing only due to physical impacts (erosion and compaction) and social impacts (sense of crowding, interruption of views).

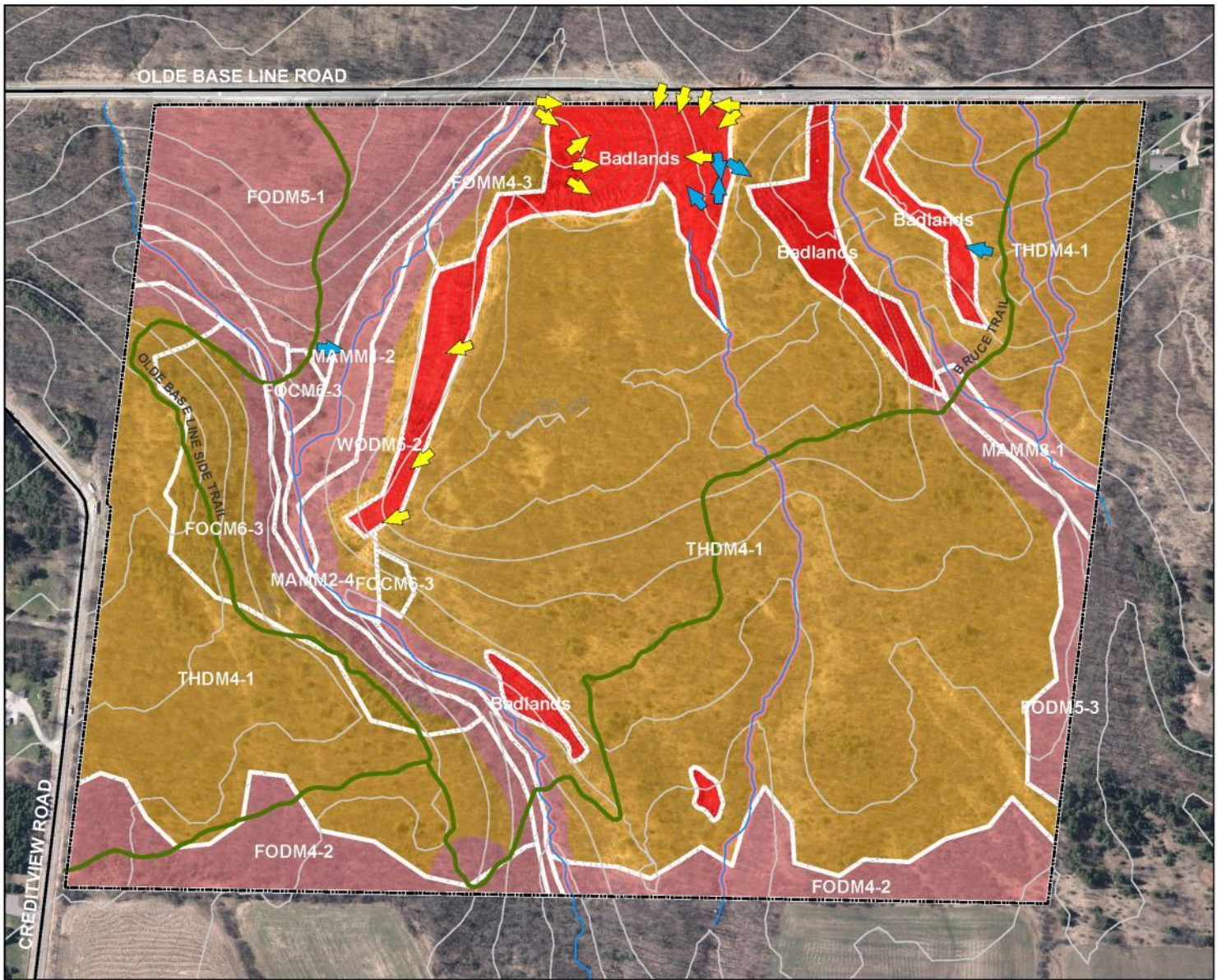
Natural Areas

- Control access via a managed system of trails/footpaths, platforms, boardwalks, fences, etc.
- Limit trails and visitor support facilities to the most resilient areas.

Visitor Management Approach

Trails & Viewing Areas

- Consider social carrying capacity (comfort level of users), visual impacts and physical impacts of any new infrastructure.
- Incorporate loop trail(s) to enhance visitor experience.
- Design visitor experience to ensure good pedestrian flow.
- Develop trails to suit local conditions, volume of users and desired experience.
- Incorporate interpretive and educational messaging.



CHELTENHAM BADLANDS

**FIGURE 9:
PRIORITY PROTECTION AREAS**

LEGEND

- PROPERTY BOUNDARY
- WATERCOURSE
- ROADS
- MAJOR CONTOURS 5M
- MINOR CONTOURS 1M
- VIEWS OF BADLANDS
- OTHER VIEWS INTERNAL TO THE SITE

PRIORITY PROTECTION LEVELS

- 1
- 2
- 3



0 12.5 25 50 75 100 Meters

MAP DRAWING INFORMATION:

MAP CREATED BY: MK
 MAP CHECKED BY:
 MAP PROJECTION: NAD 1983
 UTM ZONE 17N

PROJECT: 15-2394
 STATUS: DRAFT
 DATE: 12/03/15



Public Consultation to Date

Online Survey (500+ responses): Questions on potential site amenities; willingness to visit without access to Badlands.

Public Meeting #1 (30 attendees, 17 respondents): Questions on potential site amenities (individual); Site opportunities mapping exercise (table groups).

Public Meeting #2 (30 attendees, 5 respondents): Feedback on site analysis and Priority Protection Areas; Discussion of site development and management.

Residents Forum (60 attendees): Discussion of parking, trails, interpretation, and site management.

Business Forum (20 attendees): Discussion of parking, shuttles, cross-marketing, and tourism.

Online Survey

Ranking of amenities “to support visitation “ (500+ respondents)

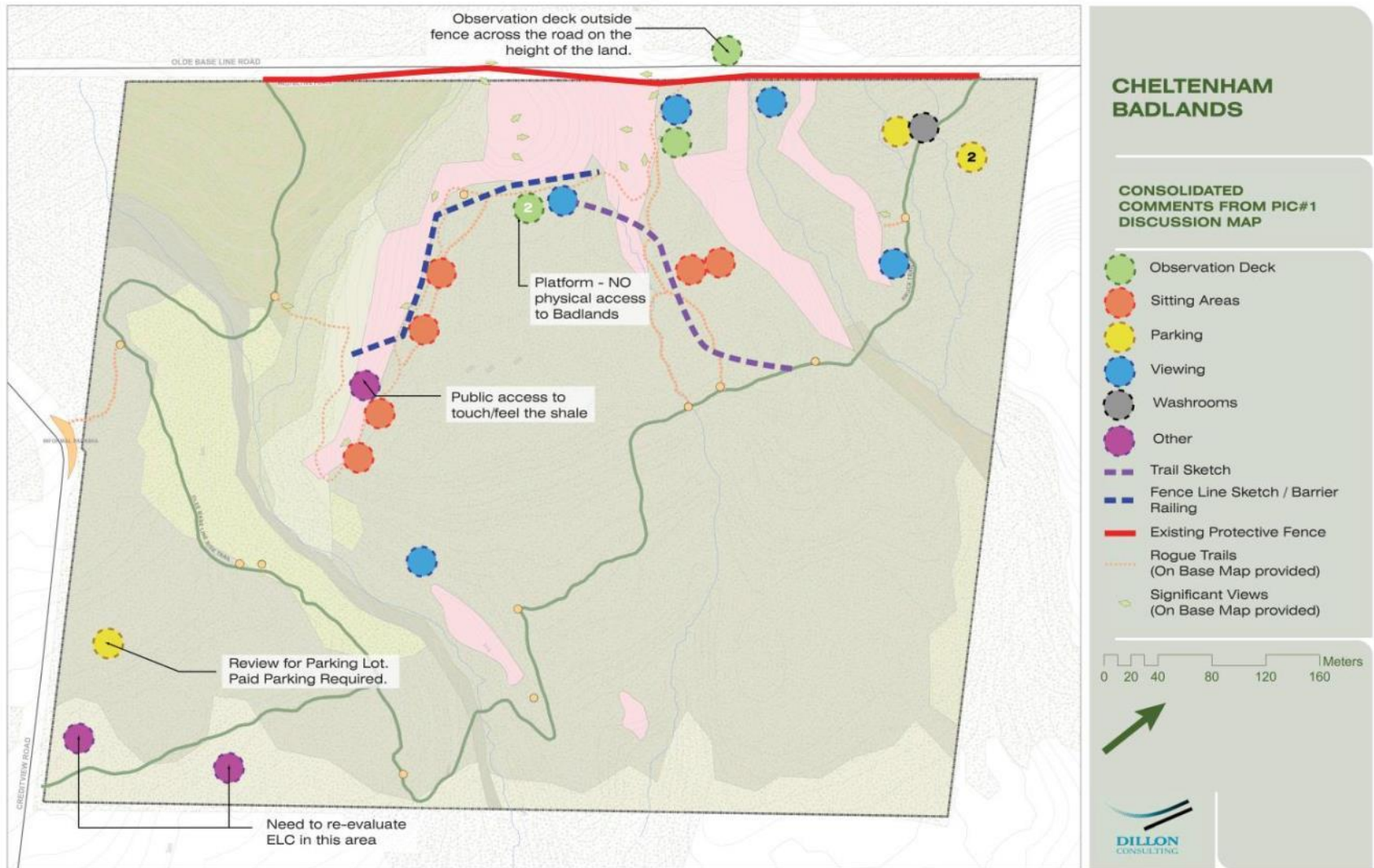
(% = Important, Very Important responses)

- Reconfigured/improved trails/pathways (73%)
- Observation decks/towers (70%)
- Interpretive/educational installations (on-site) (57%)
- Interactive zones (areas to physically experience the topography) (53%)
- Park furniture (benches, garbage cans, bike racks, etc.) (52%)
- Interpretive/educational materials (web-based) (45%)
- Washrooms (30%)
- Shuttle services from local sites (18%)
- Guided tours (13%)

Public Meeting #1

- Support for fencing of Badlands and establishment of viewing area(s) (16/16).
- Support for reconfigured / expanded trails (14/16).
- Support for natural environment protection/management (16/16)
- Support for educational/interpretive information: on-site and web-based (12/16)
- Support for and against on-site parking.
- Need for overall traffic management plan for the area and to design for pedestrian/vehicular safety.
- Consideration of fee-based visitation (parking or gate fee).

Public Meeting #1 (table discussions)



Public Meeting #2

- Concern over the plan for / location of Olde Base Line parking lot.
- Need for planting buffer to screen parking lot.
- Support for/against a parking lot on Creditview Road (as both alternate and additional).
- Need for overall traffic management plan for the area.
- Support for and against allowing access on the Badlands.
- Potential need for additional fencing.
- Interest in additional opportunities for public involvement and representation on the CBMPT.

Local Residents Forum

- Interest in additional opportunities for public involvement.
- Interest in additional representation on the CBMPT.
- Support for and against parking on-site and shuttle buses.
- Need for traffic enforcement.
- Support for cross marketing, i.e. market Badlands as regional tourism opportunity and “turn traffic into tourism”.
- Support for environmental education experience.
- Need to explore entry/parking fees.
- Support for expansion of trails and looped trails.
- Need to explore timing of site re-opening.
- Identify optimal property manager (e.g., CA, Ontario Parks etc.).

Local Business Forum

- Strong support for quick re-opening of the site.
- Strong support for on site parking.
- Strong support for shuttle bus system.
- Need for broader tourism and marketing strategy.
- Need to identify optimal property manager (e.g., CA, Ontario Parks etc.).
- Interest in an additional local community forum.
- Concerns with business interests clashing with residents.
- Interest in commercial photography opportunities.

Key Take-Aways: Site Development

- Public access (to Badlands) should be limited to viewing only.
- Parking is controversial (opinions include opposition to, and support for more parking on-site).
- Site conservation and environmental experience should be considered.
- Support for enhanced and looped trails system (limiting to less sensitive natural areas).
- Provide opportunities for interpretation / photography and other art pursuits.

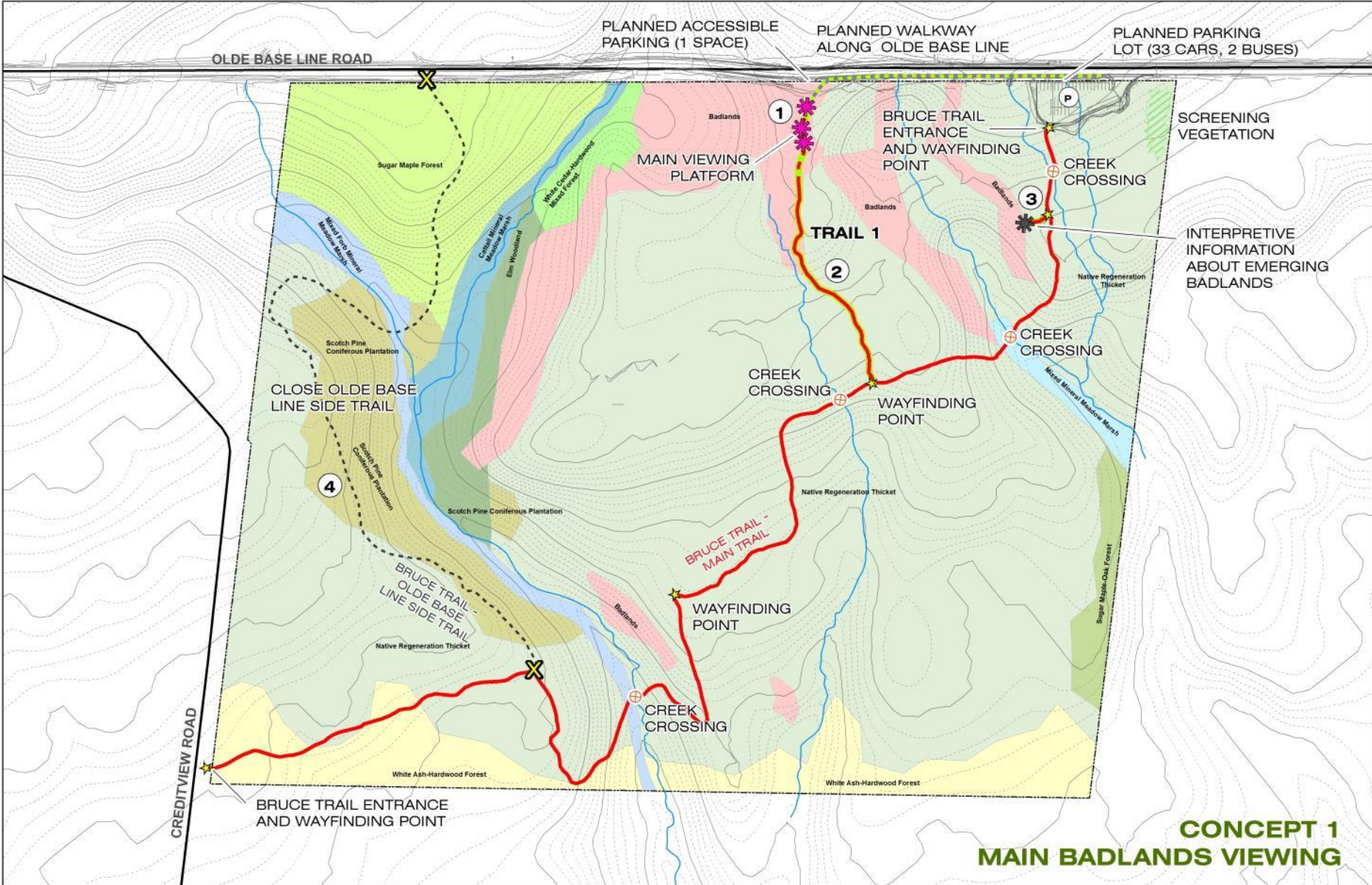
Key Take-Aways: Site Management

Master Plan (report) recommendations need to address:

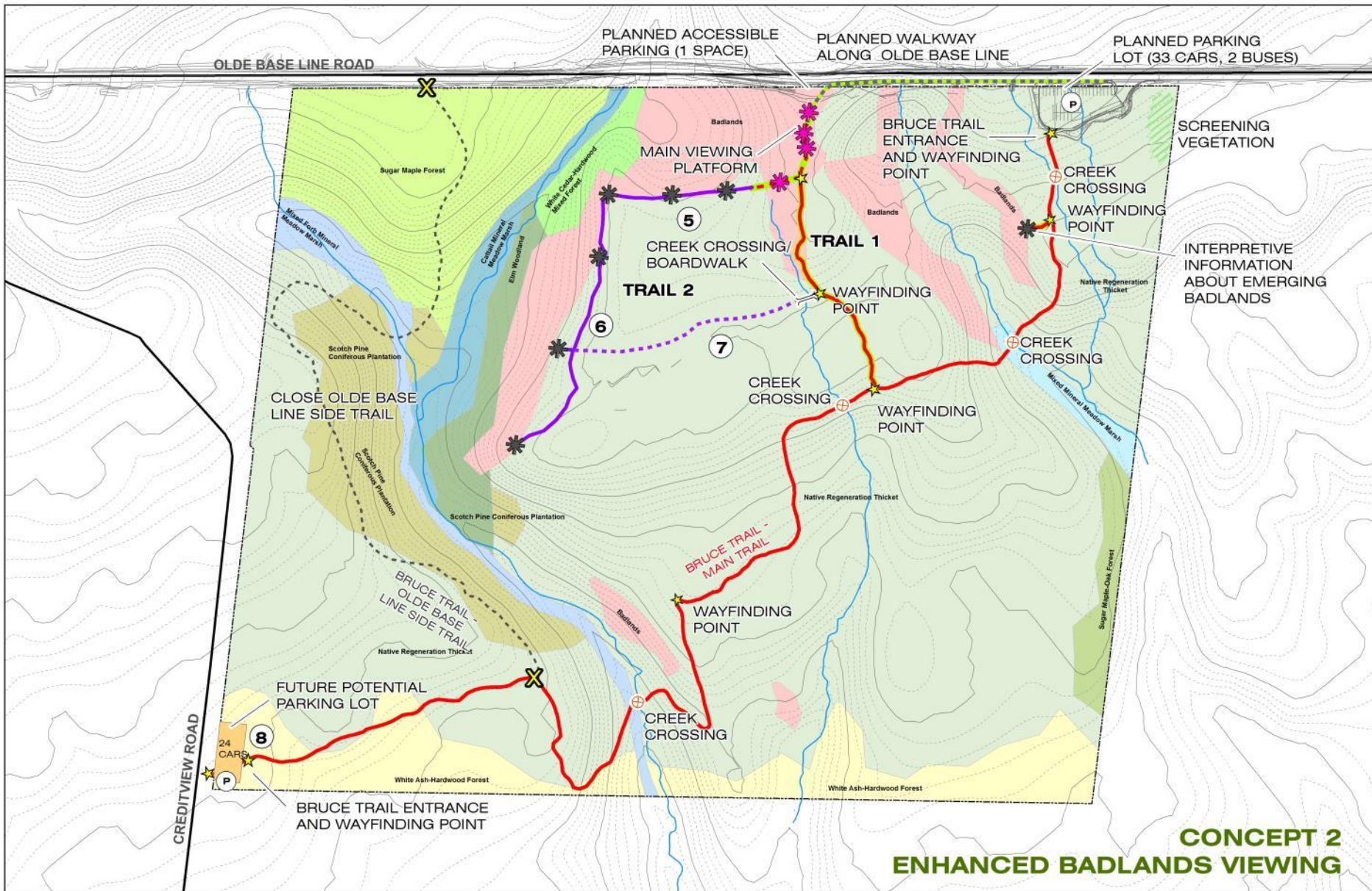
- Environmental issues e.g. Ash Borer;
- Sustainable visitation. Consider periodic closures of trails, parking lot, shuttles, enforce parking/traffic regulations;
- Fee-based visitation e.g. parking or gate fee;
- Site marketing, and cross-marketing;
- Responsibilities for site management and operations.



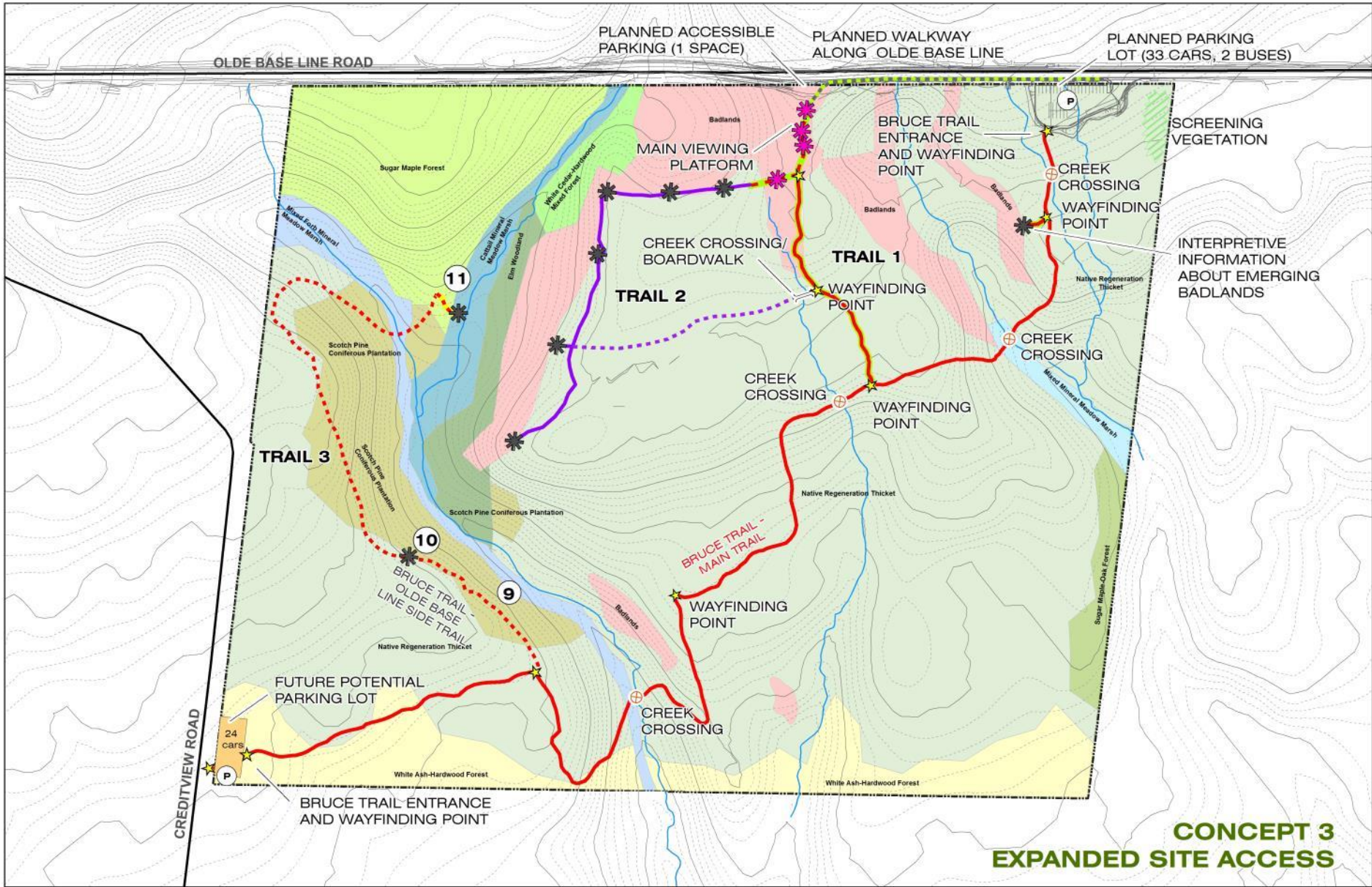
Preliminary Site Concepts



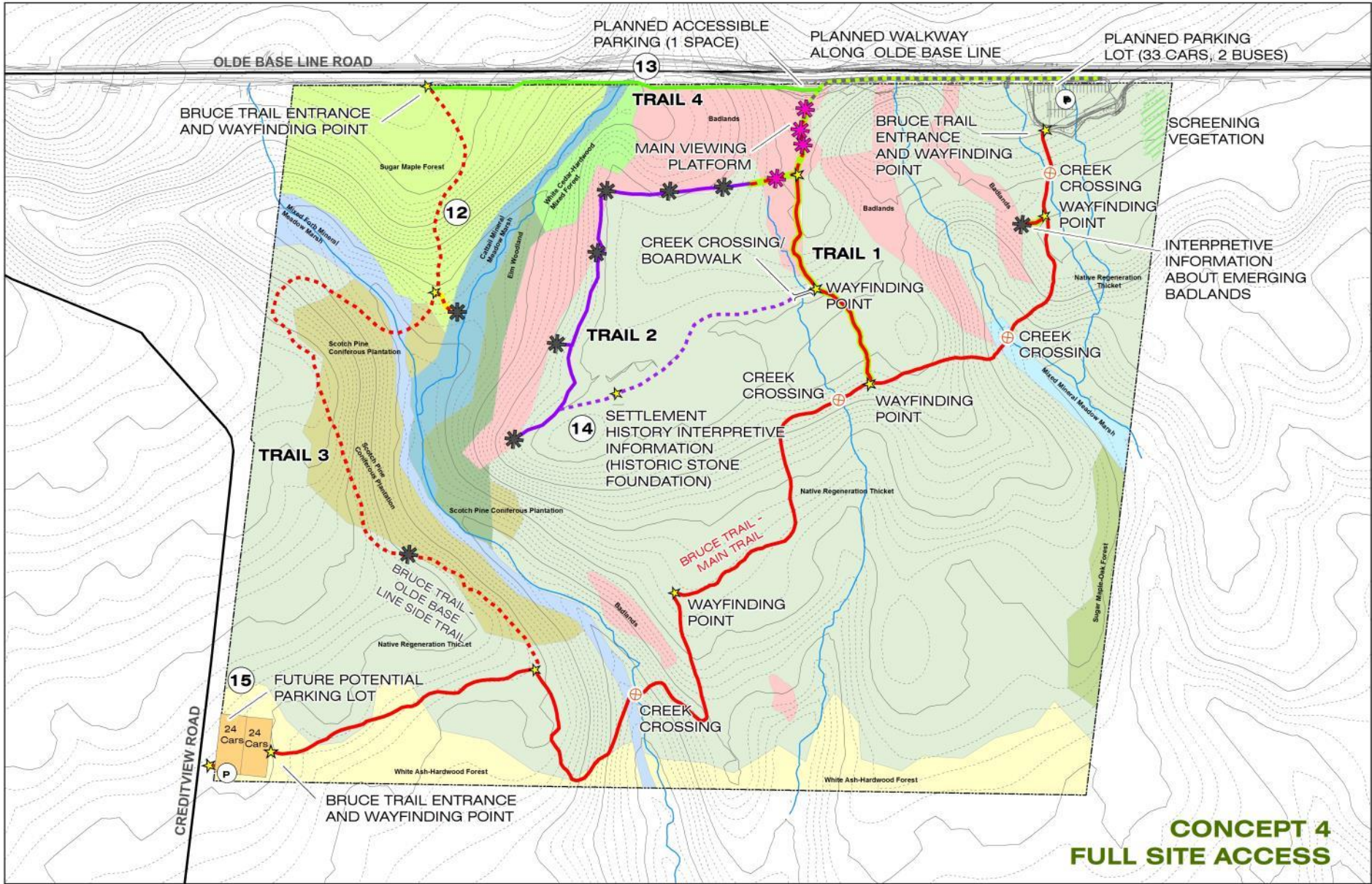
**CONCEPT 1
MAIN BADLANDS VIEWING**



**CONCEPT 2
ENHANCED BADLANDS VIEWING**



**CONCEPT 3
EXPANDED SITE ACCESS**

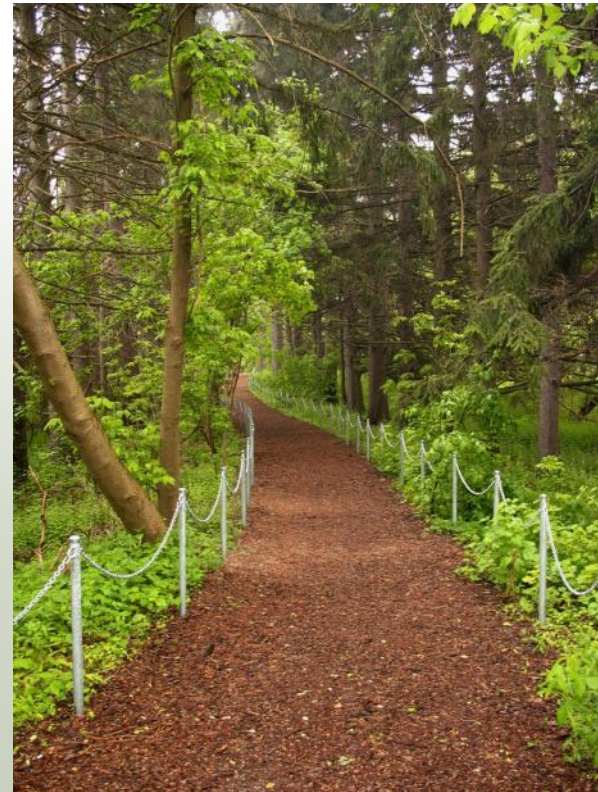


**CONCEPT 4
FULL SITE ACCESS**



Examples of Trails and Viewing Areas

Trail System



Trail System



Viewing Areas



Viewing Areas



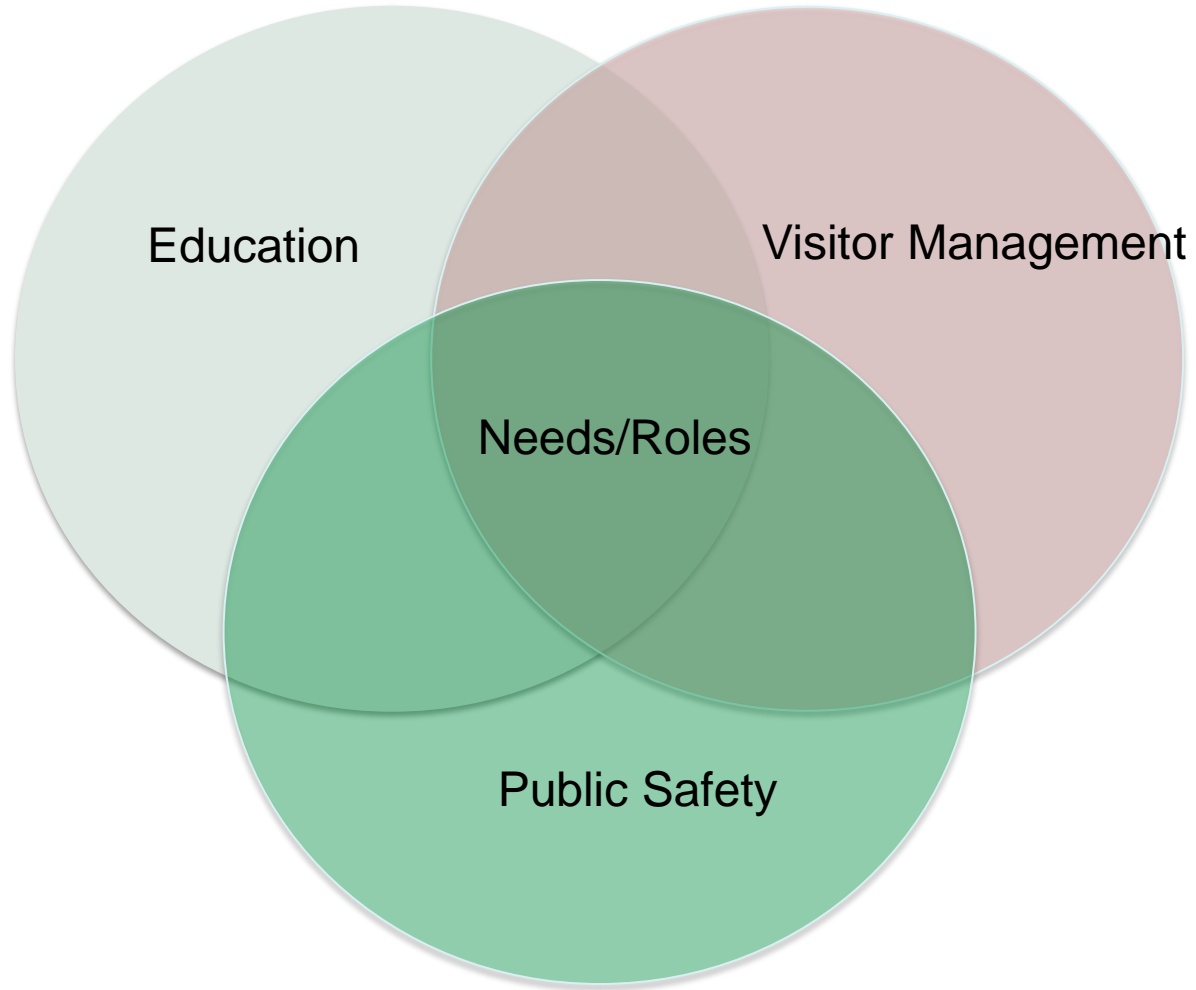


Interpretation and Education

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Building Blocks

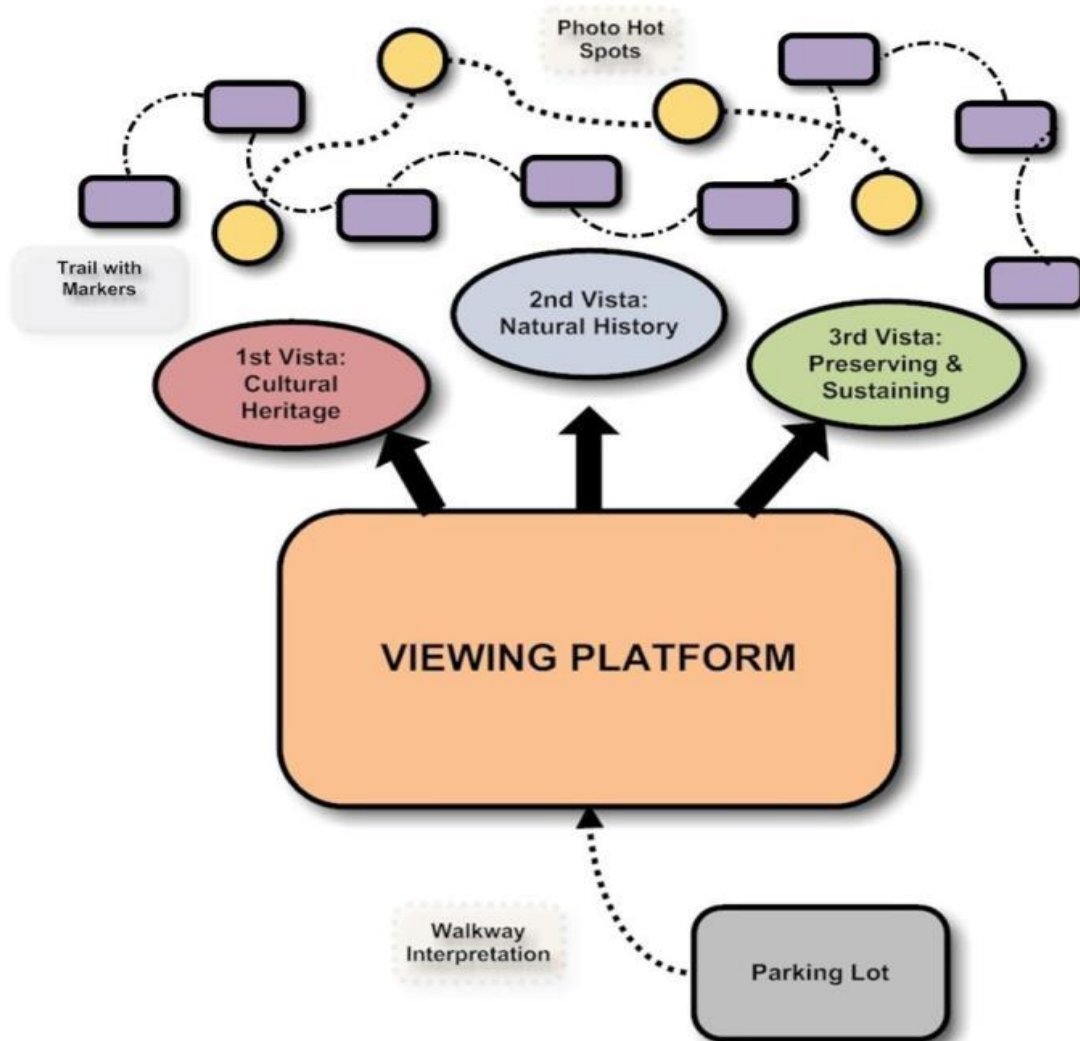


Interpretive Goals of the Master Plan

- Educate the visitor on: Badlands cultural and geological history; natural environment; Bruce Trail.
- Encourage shared stewardship of this important natural legacy.
- Assist in managing large groups of people in a natural setting in a safe, efficient manner.



Potential Components



Parking Lot and Trail Entrances

- Visitor arrival and wayfinding.
- Opportunities to introduce interpretive themes.



Viewing Areas

- Main viewing deck and interpretive installation.
- One viewing platform with distinct areas or a series of linked platforms.
- Sections may be visited as stand alone areas, but information at each will build upon the other.



Tactile Elements

- Design features such as texture boxes.
- Allows people to experience the look and feel of the Queenston Shale.
- Can be incorporated into the design of the viewing platform.

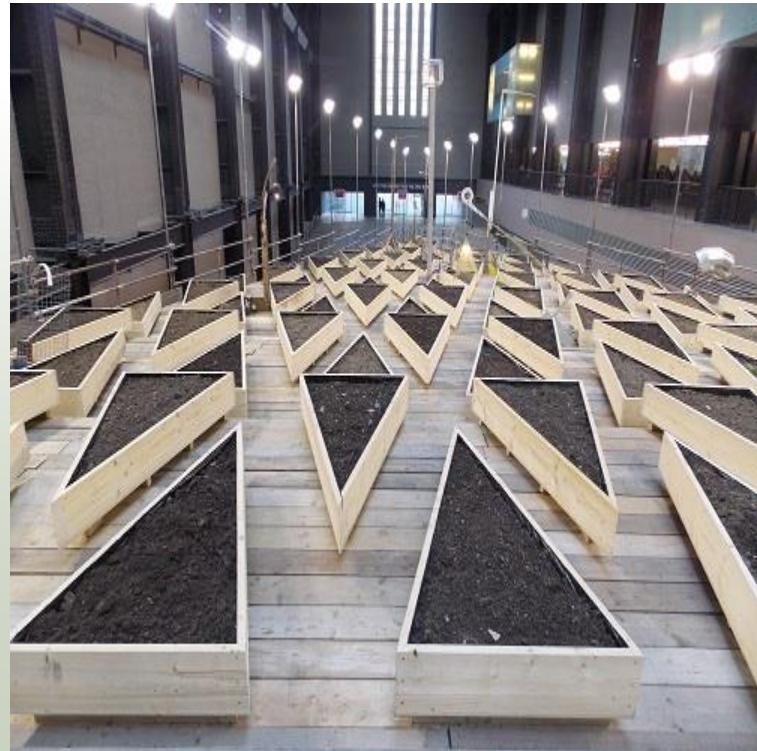


Photo 'Hot Spots'

- Key viewing spots to take photos/videos of the Badlands and surrounding area.
- Interpretive information about the vista may be provided.



Trail System Markers

- Designed to portray themes about the Badlands.
- Reminders of need for sustainability and stewardship.
- Could also serve as trail way-finding and information markers (e.g. distance).



Pre and Post Interpretive Information

- Information about the Badlands via a dedicated website and social media platforms.
- Specific visitor information including parking/visitor tips.
- Interpretive information, including information for educators and tour groups.



Questions/Comments?

Open House

Your input will help in determining a preferred site plan for the Cheltenham Badlands.

Exercise #1 – Sticker Dot Voting

Use the coloured dots provided to indicate your support for the various illustrated elements or features of the Concepts on either the large format plans displayed in the room, or on the 11x17 copies.

- Green dots = Agree
- Yellow dots = Somewhat Agree
- Red dots = Disagree
- Sticky notes = Written Comments

Exercise #2 – Cheltenham Badlands Concept Evaluations

- Complete individual Concept Evaluation Sheets

Please return the concept evaluation sheets to the meeting facilitator or via email to the OHT at programs@heritagetrust.on.ca or fax at 416-314-5979 by Wednesday June 15, 2016.