

Heritage Farm Master Plan Update

Refreshing the Farm's future plans

Patrick Lee, Legacy Lands Program Coordinator

Wednesday, April 24, 2019

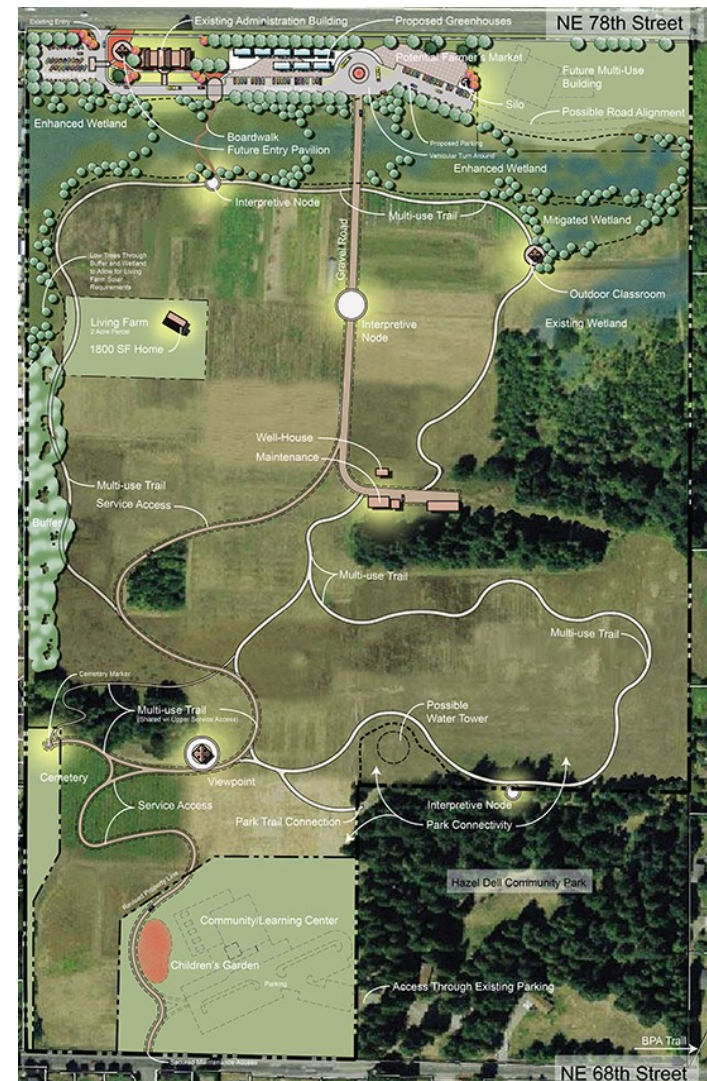


Adopted Master Plan

Adopted in 2010, the master plan proposed allocations for future spaces and uses.

The update process will:

- Review changes-to-date
- Review, validate or revise plan elements within guiding principles
- Review farm priorities



Guiding Principles for Master Plan

- Celebrate our agricultural heritage
- Maintain WSU's presence through programs, research & office facilities
- Showcase & promote sustainable agricultural & building practices
- Support agricultural research that supports sustainable farming practices
- Enhance community wellness & inspire life-long learning
- Promote community volunteerism
- Integrate a variety of activities & resources that provide community access



Guidance from County Council

- Major capital improvements will require outside funding
- Move Heritage Farm towards financial self-sufficiency
- Do not reconstruct the silo



Changes Since 2010 Master Plan

- Boundary line adjustment for Hazel Dell Park
- New parking lot constructed west of Admin building.
- New greenhouse constructed
- Living farm constructed elsewhere
- Cemetery boundary delineated
- Farm placed on Washington Historic Register, National Register of Historic Places & Clark County Historic Register
- Interpretive Trail Plan completed 2011
- Preservation and Maintenance Plan completed in 2018
- (Bud Van Cleve Community Room reducing need for community space.)



Current Farm Land Uses

Farm land is currently used by:

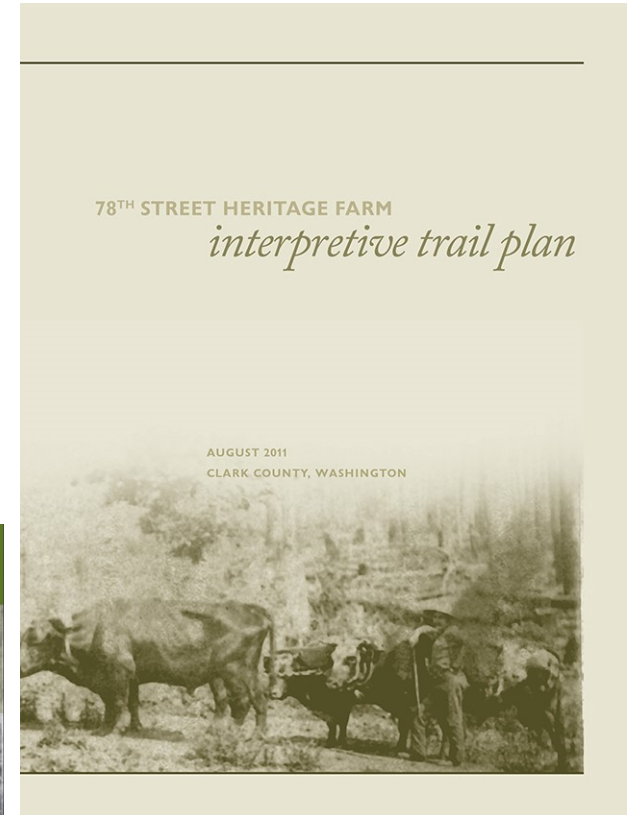
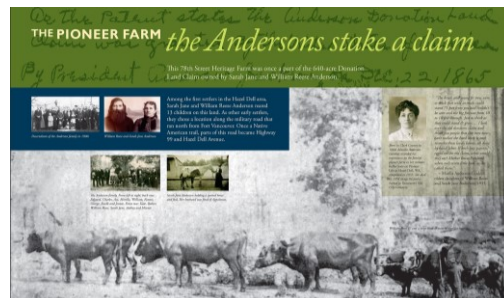
- WSU Extension
- Clark County Food Bank
- Master Gardeners
- Partners in Careers
- Community Gardeners
- PacNW Queen Bee Rearing Club
- Clark College



Interpret the Farm's Unique History

Interpretive Trail Plan – 2011

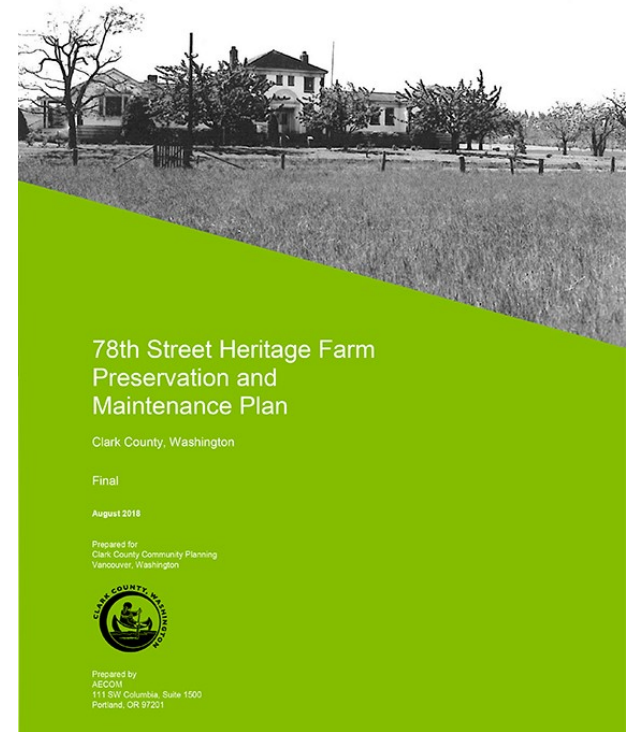
- Provides content for interpretive signs and proposed locations along the trail
- Helps commemorate Clark County's agricultural heritage



Preserve the Farm's Unique History

Preservation & Maintenance Plan completed in August 2018

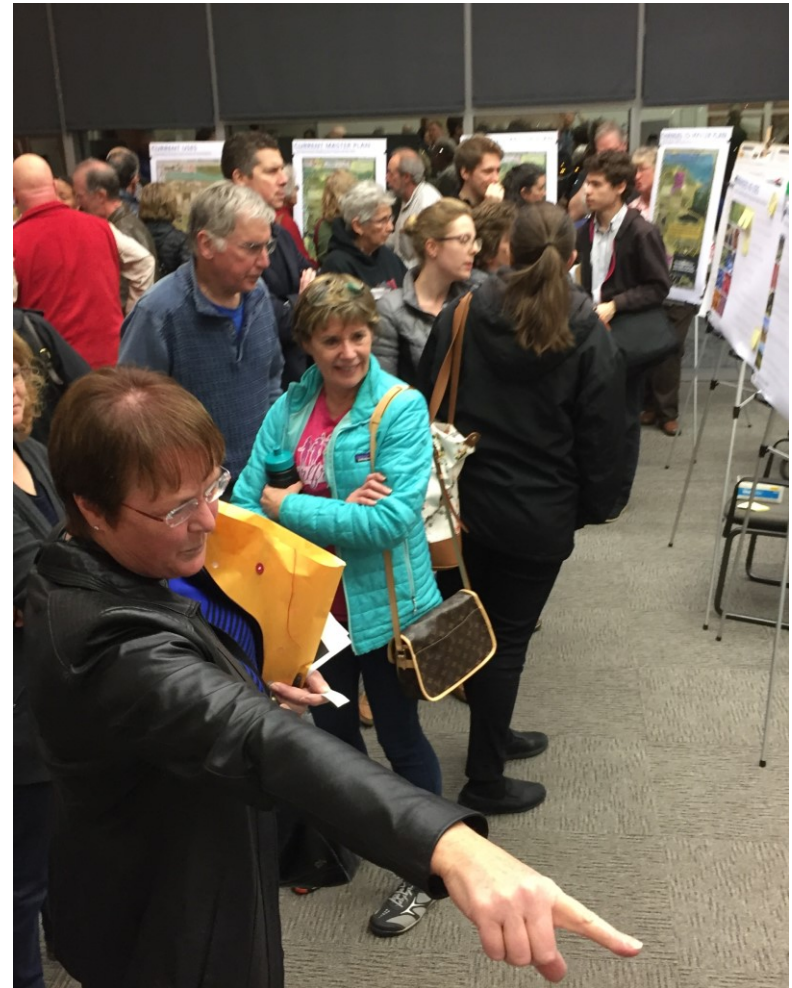
- Identifies which historic structures should be preserved, adapted for re-use, etc.



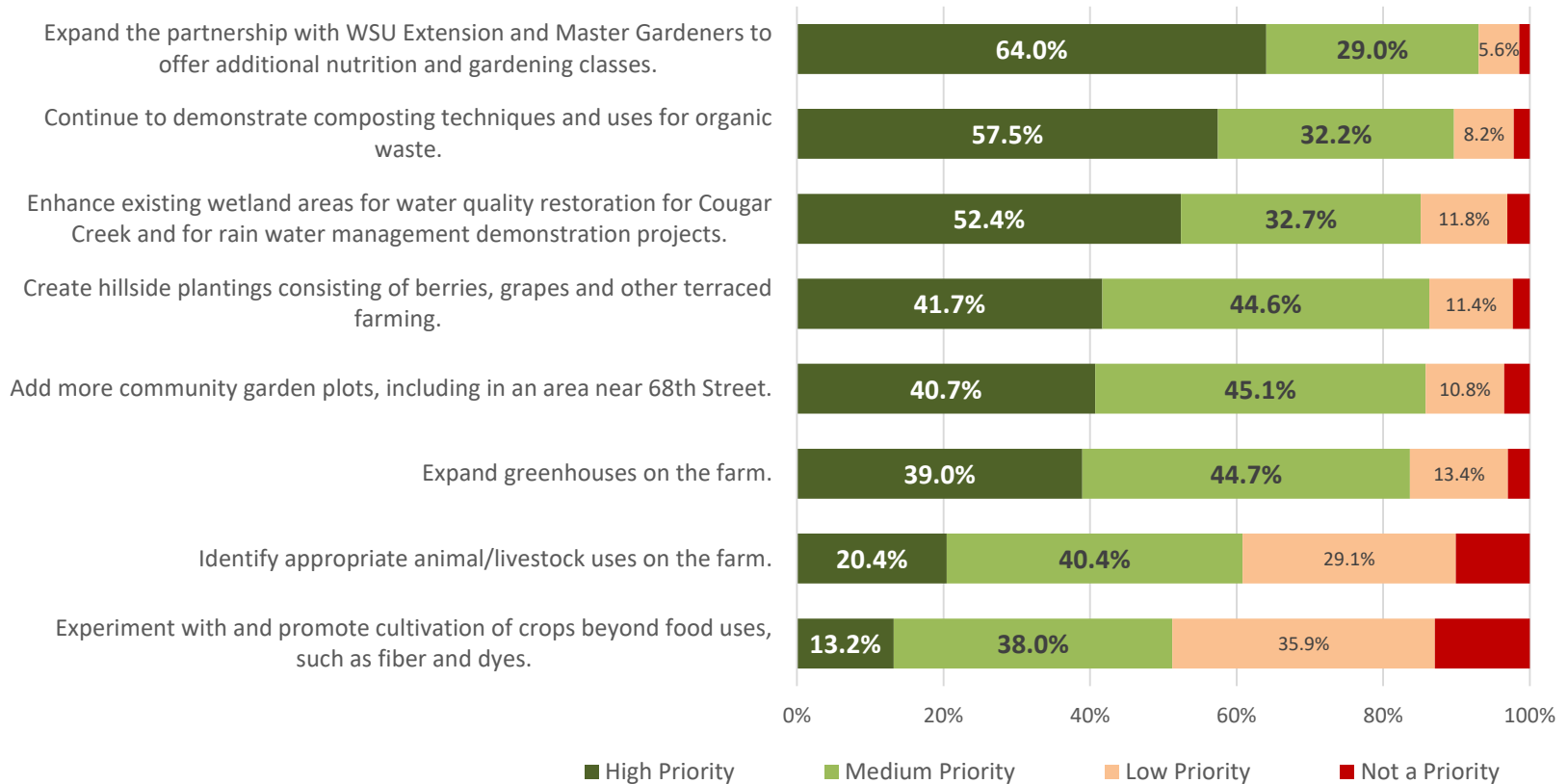
Public Engagement Process

Community input guided the project:

- Online Survey – mid-January to mid-March 2019
- Community Meeting #1 – January 31
- Community Meeting #2 – April 10
- Heritage Farm Advisory Team #1 - January 9
- Heritage Farm Advisory Team #2 – February 28
- Heritage Farm Advisory Team #3 – March 28, 2019
- Email blasts & social media



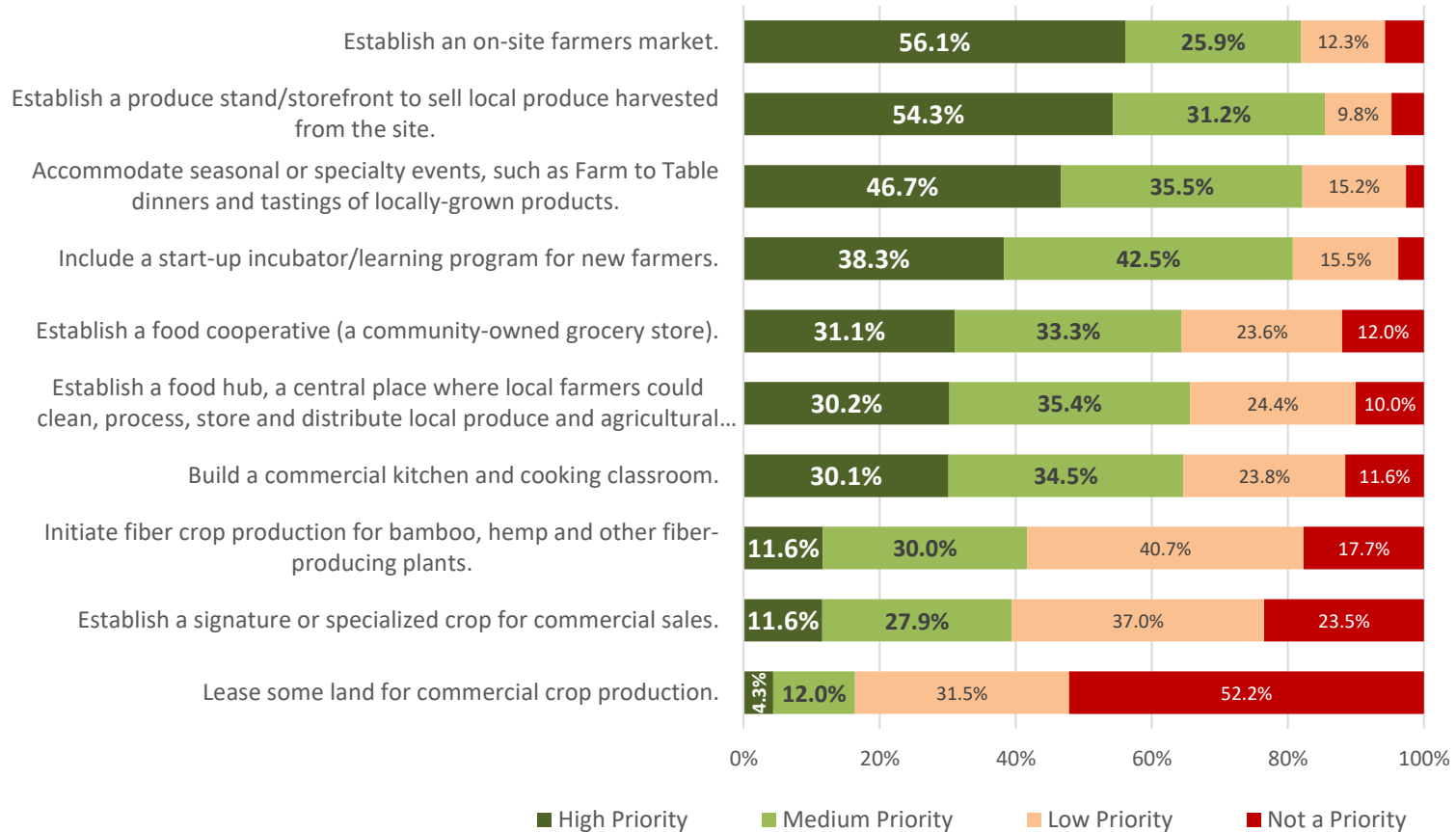
Survey of Farm & Garden Priorities



93% prioritized more WSU Extension & Master gardener programs



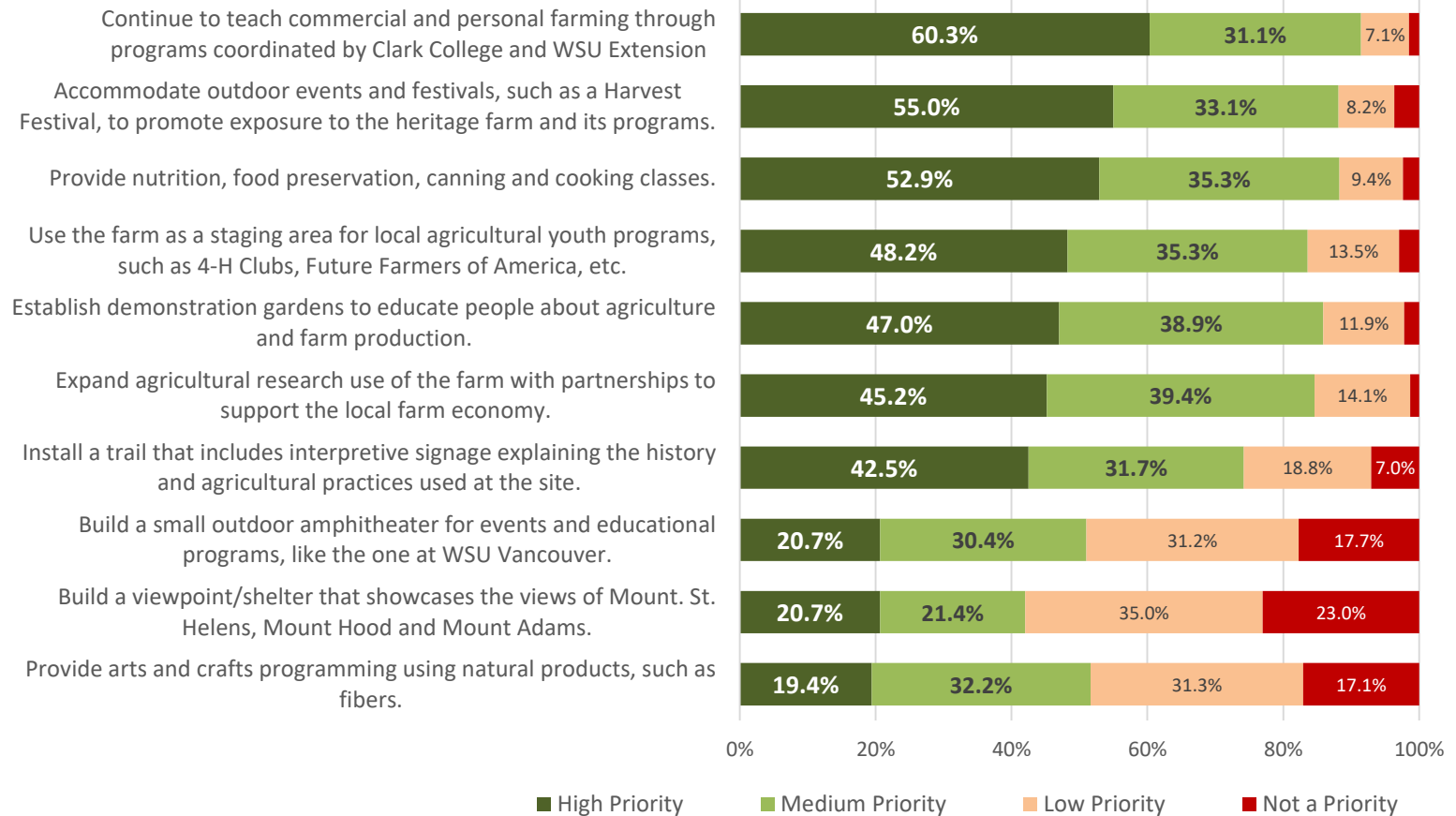
Survey of Business Development Ideas



82% prioritized establishing a farmer's market on the Farm



Survey of Educational Priorities

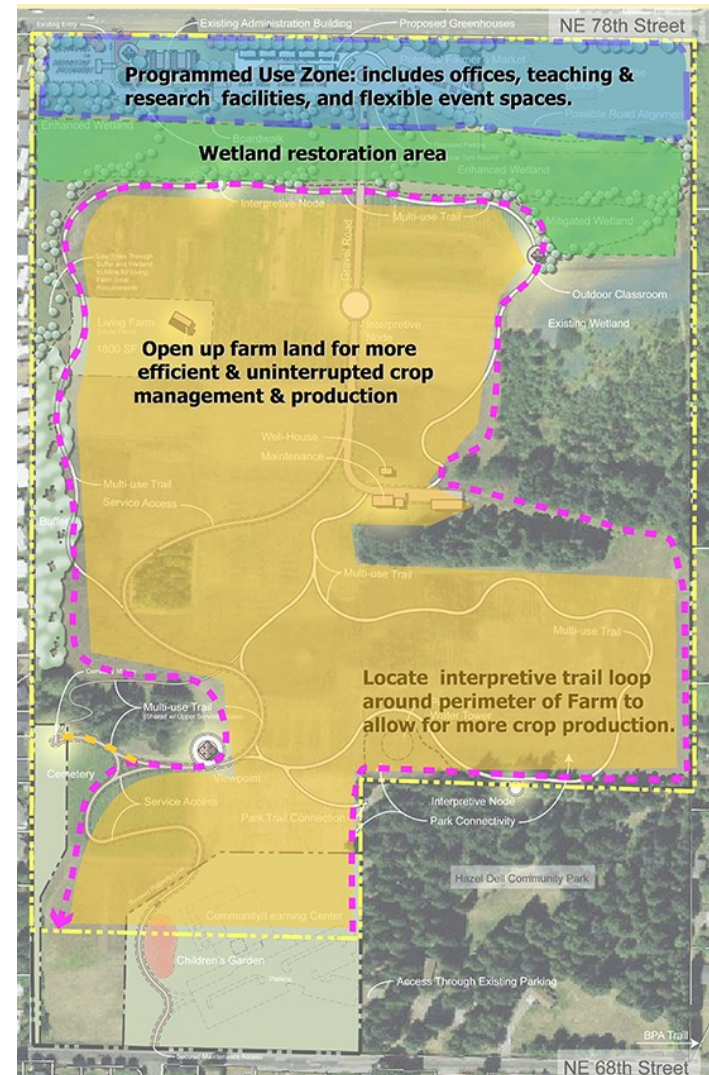


91% prioritized farming education programming



Proposed Master Plan Update

The master plan update acknowledges recent changes and directs future improvements for the historic farm.



Proposed Master Plan Update

The master plan update acknowledges recent changes and directs future improvements for the historic farm.



North Section - Enlarged



The Farm's infrastructure is concentrated in the northern portion along 78th Street. Potential infrastructure expansion is driven by demand and fiscal support for capital improvements. Wetlands are restored for enhanced water quality value. Connections provide access to the perimeter public trail loop.



Maintain and expand agricultural uses

- **Continue & increase agriculture & horticulture programs**
- **Provide space for potential infrastructure to support farm produce marketing, harvest events, etc.**
- **Expand greenhouses as demand increases**
- **Provide more community garden plots**



Improve water quality – Restore the wetlands

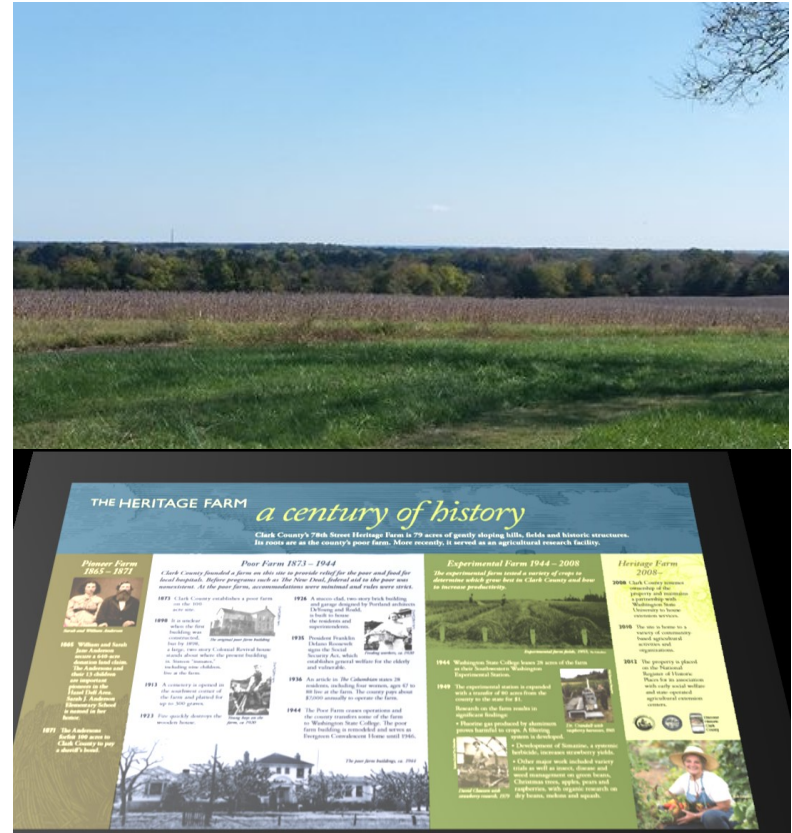
- **Create a wider natural wetland buffer**
- **Actively convert land cover to native wetland landscape**
- **Interpret the value of wetlands and their relationship to water quality.**
- **Install boardwalk across restored wetlands for access and interpretation**



Walking the historic farm



Loop trail will connect the farm to the neighboring community and encourage healthy physical activity.



The interpretive signs along the trail will help connect the visitor to the County's agricultural heritage.



A Phased Approach

- **Farm capital improvements will require outside funding**
- **Some improvements may be subsidized or supported by grants, gifts and sponsorships**
- **Potential users and their available resources may drive the timing and implementation of phased improvements**
- **A future master plan for Hazel Dell Park would help identify best connections to the Farm and 68th Street.**



Short Term Financial Steps

- Introduce additional public amenities through grants and volunteer efforts
- Increase social media marketing
- Review lease provisions and fee structures
- Work closely with the Friends of Heritage Farm to strengthen their capacity to support the farm
- Work closely with non-profit partners to attract grants and sponsorships



Longer Term Financial Steps

- Host additional special events at the farm with a fiscally neutral or profitable sponsorship/vendor structure
- Support Friends of the Farm Foundation in building a broad membership/donations/sponsorship base and stewardship endowment
- Engage public/private partnerships in constructing significant new capital improvements, such as the flex space, in order to broaden programs and public access to the farm



Thank you!

Comments and questions

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