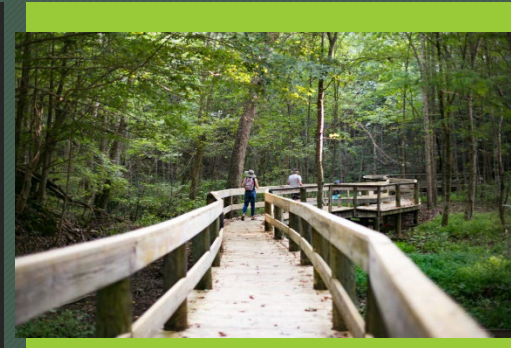


# Town of Jonesborough 2024 Parks & Recreation Project Proposal Presentation



# Census Population

## 2022 US Census Bureau estimates

### Town of Jonesborough

- Total Population: 5,954
- Total Households: 2,285

### Washington County

- Total Population: 134,236
- Total Households: 54,913



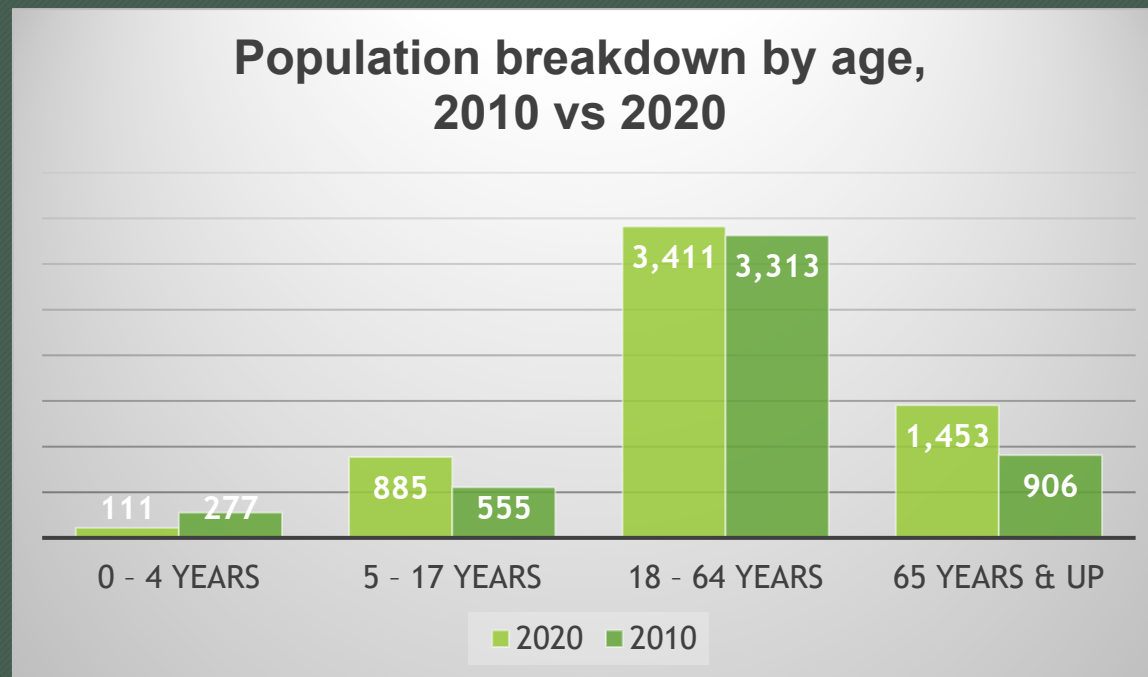
The Town of Jonesborough is located in Washington County.

2020 Demographic Comparison		Jonesborough	Tennessee	USA
Population	Annual Growth Rate	1.58%	.85%	.5%
	Projected Growth Rate (2018-2040)	14%	15.8%	13.6%
Households	Number of Households (2015 - 2019)	2,064	2,597,292	120,756,048
	Average Household Size	2.24	2.51	2.62
Age Segment Distribution	0 - 4 years	1.9%	6%	6%
	5 - 17 years	17%	22.1%	22.3%
	18 - 64 years	24.8%	16.7%	16.5%
	65 years & up	48.8%	51.2%	50.8%
Race Distribution	White	94%	78.4%	76.3%
	Black/African American	4.3%	17.1%	13.4%
	Asian	1.3%	2.0%	5.9%
	2 or More Races	.5%	2.0%	2.8%
	Hispanic/Latina	1.8%	5.7%	18.5%
Income Characteristics	Per Capita Income	\$29,617	\$29,859	\$34,103
	Median Household Income	\$56,550	\$53,320	\$62,843

<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/washingtoncountytennessee>;  
<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/jonesboroughtowntennessee>?

# Target Demographics

Development of recreation trails will serve all of Jonesborough's demographics in some capacity, providing connectivity to parks and downtown Jonesborough.



# Public Recreation Activities

Development of multi-use recreation trails, a continuation of the Lost State Scenic Walkway, to begin at Mill Spring Park in downtown Jonesborough east to Stage Road Park to and south to southeast to connect Duel Lane. Trails would provide access for residents along and in close proximity to proposed trail routes to walk to parks and historic downtown shops, restaurants and Jackson Theatre.



# Public Recreation/Programs

## Existing Amenities

- **Mill Spring Park** in downtown Jonesborough is categorized as a passive park which houses a gazebo and restroom facilities (previously funded through LPRF grant) as well as the Storytelling Resource Place that provides a resource library on all things Storytelling related. The park also includes a parking lot that, along with the public restrooms, would act as a trail head location.
- **Stage Road Park**, located just outside of the downtown district and also funded through an LPRF grant, contains a playground for children ages 2 - 12 years, a pavilion, tennis/pickleball court, walking trails and public restrooms. In addition, the park includes an extensively landscaped area that serves as a bioretention area to filter out stormwater sediment to prevent runoff into Little Limestone Creek, that runs alongside the park.



# Public Recreation/Programs along Lost State Scenic Walkway Extension

## Proposed Developments

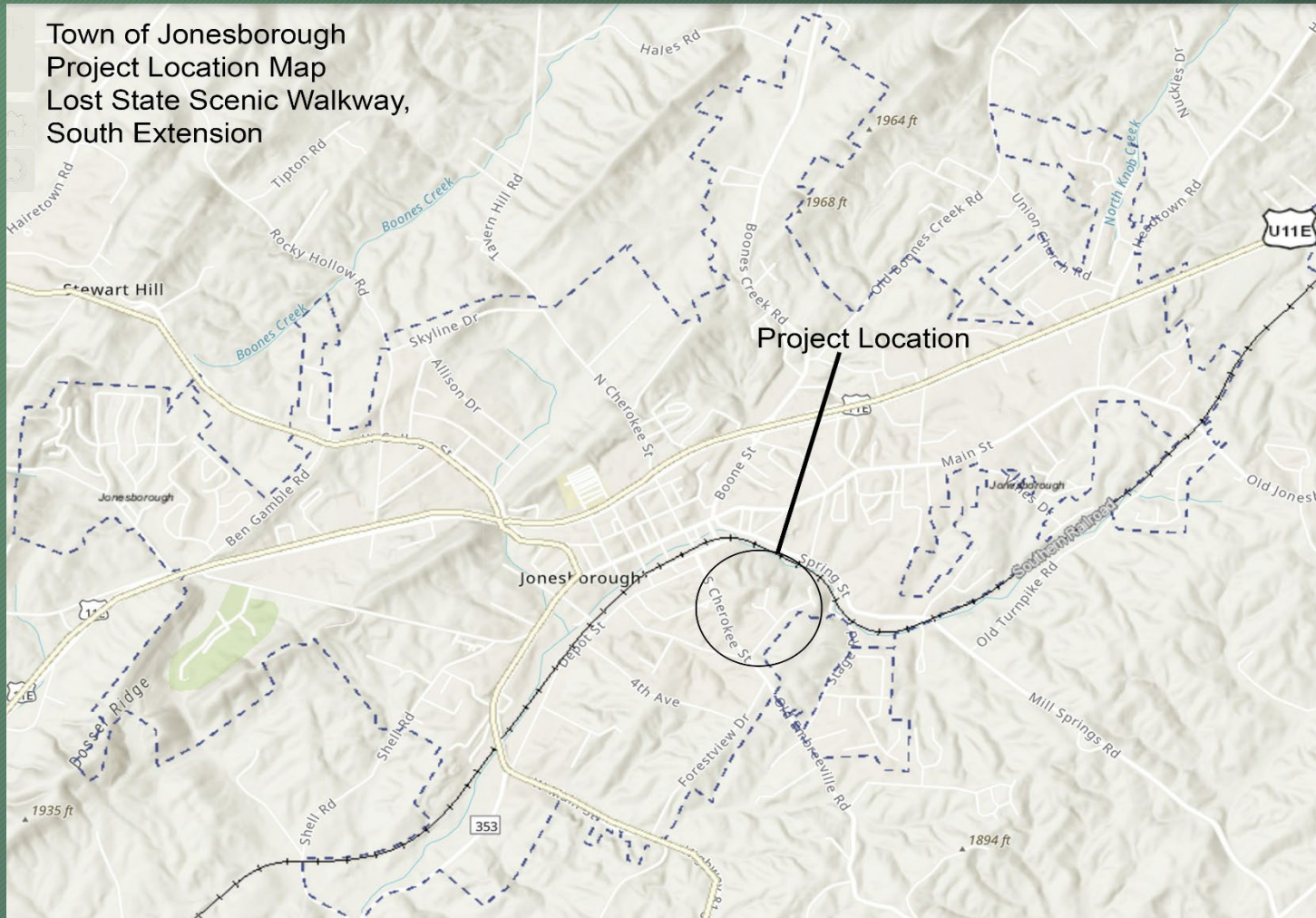
- Development of recreation trails to extend east and south to southeast of existing Mill Spring Park
- Pedestrian bridge to cross Little Limestone Creek at two locations

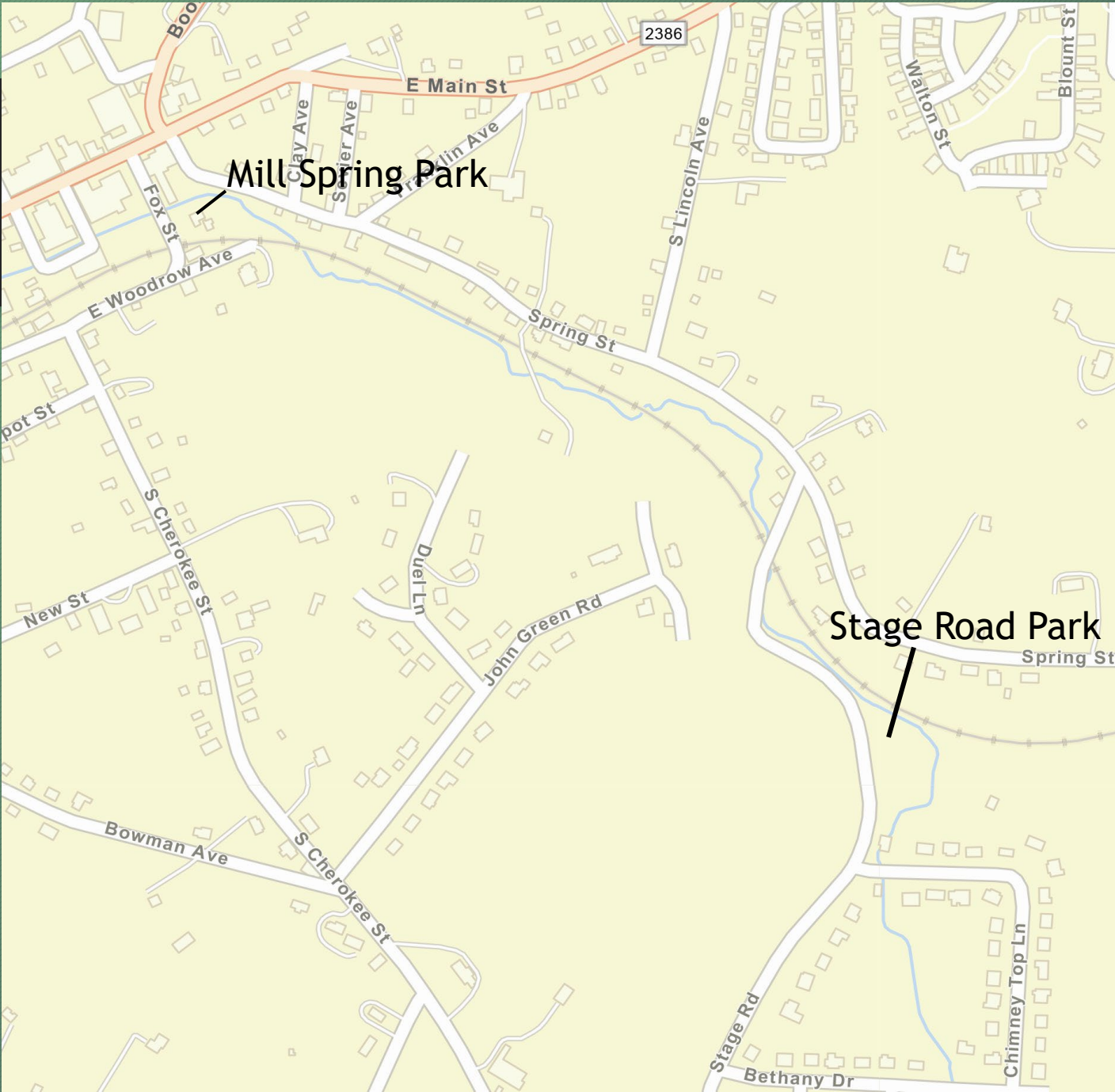
## Future Developments

- Potential educational opportunities within an undeveloped portion of the property that is heavily forested
- Wildlife observation area

# Project Location Map

## LSSW, South Extension





Mill Spring Park

Stage Road Park



# Positive Community Impact LSSW, South Extension

- Addresses the needs identified through Needs Assessments conducted as part of 2022 Parks and Recreation Master Plan
- Expands existing Lost State Scenic Walkway recreation trail
- Improve public health by encouraging outdoor physical activity, including walkways and rubberized track
- Fosters working relationship between the Town and residents along proposed project location

# Goal of Project

## LSSW, South Extension

- Addresses needs as identified in the 2020 Recreation Master Plan
- Extend the existing Lost State Scenic Walkway and connect Stage Road Park to downtown
- Provide walkway connection to downtown for residents along South Cherokee Street
- Foster relationship with community members along proposed project location
- Integrate undeveloped, heavily forested area just outside the heart of downtown into the recreation trail system
- Expand recreation activities and programs to underserved area of town
- Increase quality of life by providing recreation opportunities for residents

# State Comprehensive Recreation Plan Objective: Advocacy and Education

- Jonesborough's proposed project would create an extension of the Lost State Scenic Walkway, south of downtown. The trail would connect Mill Spring Park, located in downtown, to Stage Road Park, and residences in between. The connection to Stage Road Park would also include a connection to Mountain View Estates, located directly adjacent to the park and contains approximately 124 single family homes. It will also create a connection to residential homes along South Cherokee Street.
- Extension of the Lost State Scenic Walkway will provide a means for expanding programming to promote healthy living, increasing quality of life.

# State Comprehensive Recreation Plan Objective: Advocacy and Education

Goal: Advocate for improved connectivity and access

Jonesborough's proposed project is creating a recreation trail connection between two parks, one park that currently has no pedestrian access to it. In addition, a new spur trail would provide pedestrian access to residential areas south of the downtown area, providing a way for residents to walk into downtown and to Jonesborough parks.

Goal: Create partnerships for distributing educational resources and education

There are a number of residents/partners within the project area who have approached the Town, voicing their need for pedestrian access. Word-of-mouth is a viable way to educate other residents about the recreation resources available in the community. Those resident's support of the project will also help cultivate ownership to the Town's recreation resources, giving them personal responsibility for the success of the programs.

# State Comprehensive Recreation Plan Objective: Collaboration and Partnership for Economic Success

## Goal: Develop Partnerships

Historically, when it has come to recreation development, the Town has taken a lead in forming partnerships, big and small, to make projects successful. This project will require cooperation with and joint ownership by residents along the project route.

In the past, the Town has worked with the Washington County Highway Department, who has their own asphalt plant, to utilize their asphalt at a lower cost than what is typically available through other asphalt plants in the area. The Town also has its own asphalt paver that is specific for developing recreation trails.

## Goal: Identify Communication Strategies

Jonesborough has a Tourism and Marketing Director, a Website Manager, and a Social Media Coordinator on staff, and the programs, activities and facilities associated with Lost State Scenic Walkway are highlighted in Jonesborough's quality on-going marketing and communication program.

# State Comprehensive Recreation Plan Objective: Conservation

Goal: Develop direct land conservation policies and strategies that address each of the three focal areas to ensure equity and inclusion and meet to diverse needs of Tennesseans.

Conservation of lands and water for healthy ecosystems and communities

A large portion of the proposed walkway is around the perimeter of a 12 acre tract of undeveloped, forested land, just south of Jonesborough's downtown. In an effort to preserve as much of the forested area as possible, the Town will be working with the property owner to zone the land PRD (Planned Residential District) which requires 30% of the land to remain a green space.

Collaborative actions to enhance local tourism

The development of an arboretum within the preserved green space will not only provide educational opportunities but will attract visitors to the area.

Helps to ensure underserved communities have access to parks and outdoor recreation facilities.

The pedestrian connection to the parks and downtown will help connect underserved residents.

Develop a land acquisition and stewardship plan for outdoor recreation

Jonesborough's project increases the Town's land for parks and recreation activities.

# State Comprehensive Recreation Plan Objective:

Inclusivity, Diversity, Equity, Access, Affordability

Goal: Ensure that all parks will be places where all communities can engage with nature in positive ways

Jonesborough takes seriously its responsibility in providing services, programs, activities, and events that serve all segments of its population, and intentional efforts are made to attract and engage minorities and to ensure access to the disabled. Lost State Scenic Walkway, South Extension will meet ADA requirements where required and all programming will seek a diversity in participation.

# Means & Funding For Development

- TDEC Recreation Trails Program Grant
- Remaining Match from Town of Jonesborough (value of land, labor and equipment, cash)



# Suitability, Location, & Topography for Development of Project

- The trail will connect two well-used parks in Jonesborough and a spur of the trail will connect to populated area towards the south of downtown
- A large portion of the trail will be located within a well-forested tract of land
- A portion of the trail will be located adjacent to Little Limestone Creek, requiring two pedestrian bridges
- Near residential areas, close proximity to downtown

# Programming Plans for Site LSSW, South Extension

- Highlight pedestrian routes for walking or biking to school as part of the Walk to School Program
- Offer wildlife/bird watching programs through the Jonesborough Senior Center
- Integrate the walkway extension in the Senior Center's walking program that encourages participants to engage in healthy living and increase exercise through walking

# Project Timeline

## LSSW, South Extension

- Submit Pre-Application March 2024
- Submit Application May 2024
- Receive Funding Award August 2024
- Construction Spring 2025
- Project Close-out Fall 2025

# Project Design Elements

## LSSW, South Extension

- **Existing, Mill Spring Park**
  - Parking lot
  - Public Restrooms
  - Gazebo
  - Walkway connection to downtown
- **Existing, Stage Road Park**
  - Parking lot
  - Public Restrooms
  - Playgrounds, Tennis Court
  - Walking Trails
- **Expansion of Lost State Scenic Walkway would link the two parks and make a connection to downtown, bringing together a large number of residential neighborhoods south of downtown**

# Project Design Elements

## LSSW, South Extension

- **Access**

- Permanent easements obtained from private property owners

- **Ease of Maintenance**

- The Town of Jonesborough has constructed and currently maintains other recreation trails in Town, including trails funded through Local Park and Recreation Fund Grant

# Budget

## LSSW, South Extension

**Total Project Value: \$490,000**

Recreation Trail

Two pedestrian footbridges

Fencing for safety measures