About this document:

This document contains backstories to be given to the students participating in the greenway classroom exercise. After presenting the greenway project decision to be made, split the class into groups of 3 or 4, and each group gets one stakeholder perspective to discuss.

Local Business Owner

- You all own and operate shops in the more urbanized areas, where more people live, walk around, and work.
- You hope that the greenway will make it easier for its users to arrive at your store.
- You might hope that the greenway will bring back nature into the heavily developed urban centers (downtown).

Wildlife Enthusiast

- You enjoy exploring the natural areas and observing wildlife there.
- You know that the lakes and ponds are great places to see water birds, like herons and ducks, and also turtles, fish and coyotes.
- You might hope that the greenway will make it easy for you to walk or bike between natural areas for wildlife viewing.

City Council Member

- You are elected officials, which means you are responsible for making decisions in the best interest of the people who live in your area.
- You want the best pilot section possible that moves the city toward the 2025 sustainability plan, which includes equal access to resources, conservation of open space, and economic development.
- In particular, you hope the greenway will provide opportunity to recreate for people who currently have limited access to parks.
Neighborhood Parent Association
- You are a group of fairly young parents. Your kids range from toddlers to tweens (2-11 years old).
- You want your kids to grow up in a safe, fun, clean environment.
- You might hope the greenway will provide you and your kids access to places to exercise so you can teach them how to stay active and healthy.

Environmental Scientists
- You study various aspects of the environment, for example, how healthy the forest is, how clean the air and water are, how big the wildlife populations are.
- You know that natural ecosystems do better if there are connections between the natural areas.
- You hope the greenway will increase the amount of natural area between existing areas of forest and grass.

City Bicycling Club
- As bicyclists, you need safer routes than many of the streets provide. Some streets lack bike lanes.
- A greenway could help you more easily commute between home, school, work, and fun.
- It is nicer to bike under the shade of trees or along the water, rather than on the street, which gets pretty hot especially in summer.