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NATURE IN THE CITY

CHALLENGING THE STATUS QUO

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CITY OF FORT COLLINS NATURAL AREAS

09.10.18



ROADMAP

- WHO'S MISSING?
- WHY NIC?
- BACKGROUND
- WHAT WE DO
- LESSONS LEARNED
- WHAT DO YOU THINK?



PREFACE

- ASPIRATIONAL TALK
- OUR EXPERIENCE
- NOT A “BETTER THAN...” TALK
- WE ARE TODDLERS
- NOMENCLATURE - NATURE VS NATURAL SPACE VS NATURAL AREA VS OPEN SPACE



Do you have a program focused on urban nature, on or off of City/County owned lands, in your community?

Yes!

Maybe?

No



What word(s) do you think about when you think about urban nature?

WHY NIC?



80%



Urban

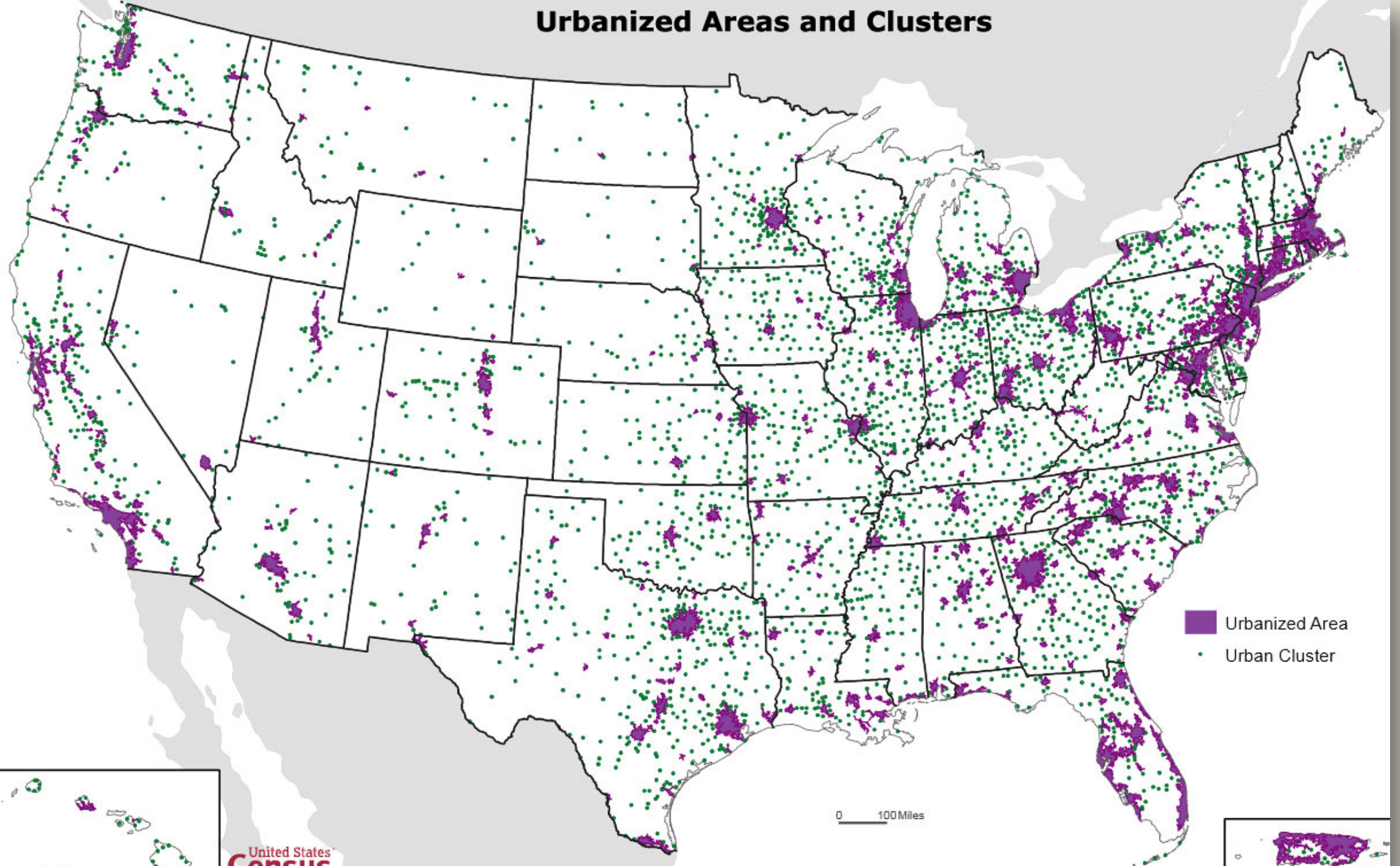
20%



Rural

US Census - 2010

Urbanized Areas and Clusters

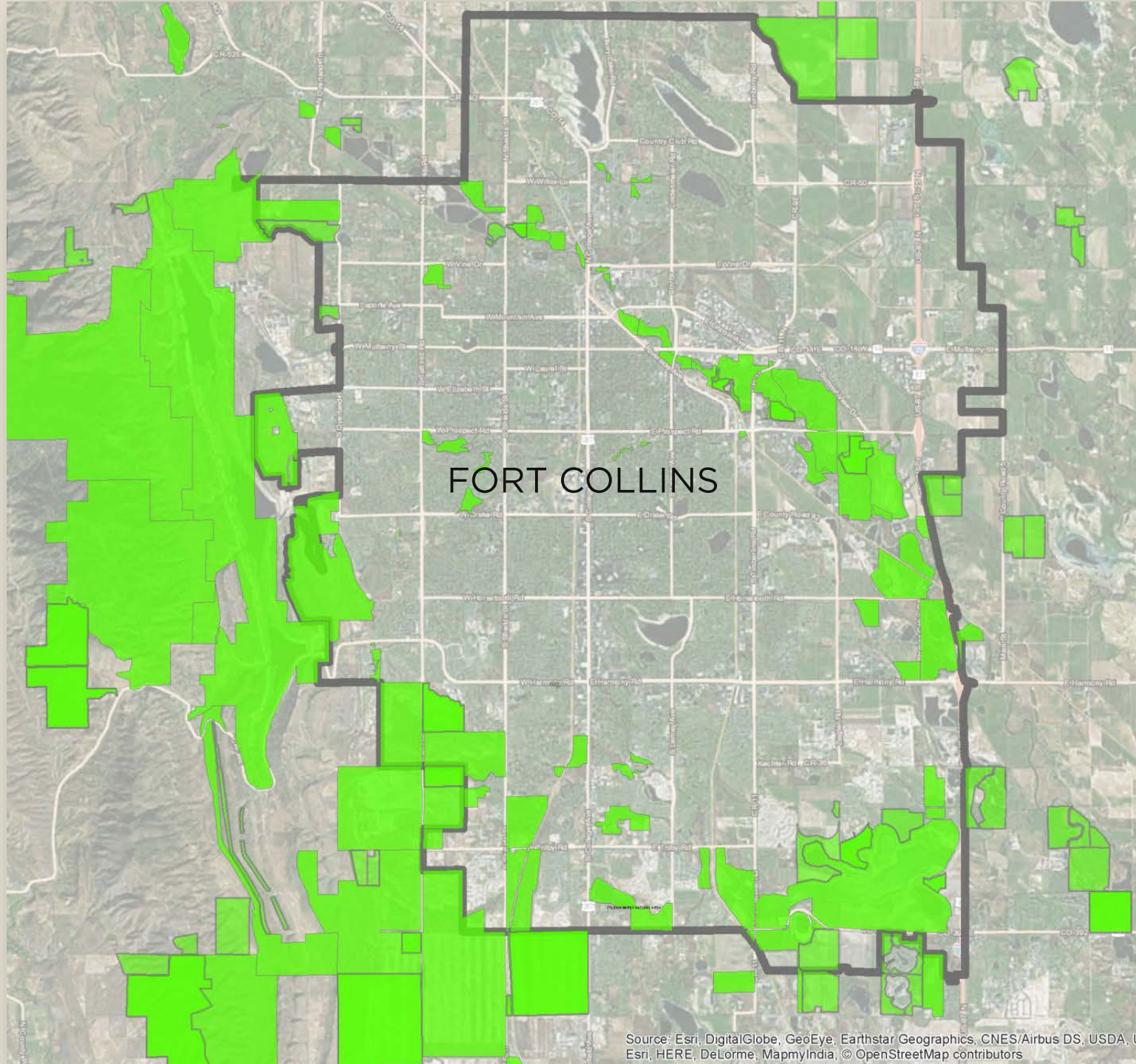


United States
Census
Bureau

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census Urban Area Delineation Program



sharoncook.com



FORT COLLINS

Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, UEsri, HERE, DeLorme, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors





NOW



**BUILD
OUT**



**BUILD
OUT**

OR

connectivity

access



NOW

NIC ORIGIN

- BORN IN PLANNING SERVICES
- DESIGN GUIDELINES
- STRATEGIC PLANNING (2014-2015)
- NIC STRATEGIC PLAN (2015)



VISION

- CONNECTED NETWORK
- PUBLIC/PRIVATE LANDS
- EQUITY/INCLUSION
- EASY ACCESS
- FUNCTIONAL HABITAT



NIC PROGRAM GOALS



Access

+



Connectivity

+

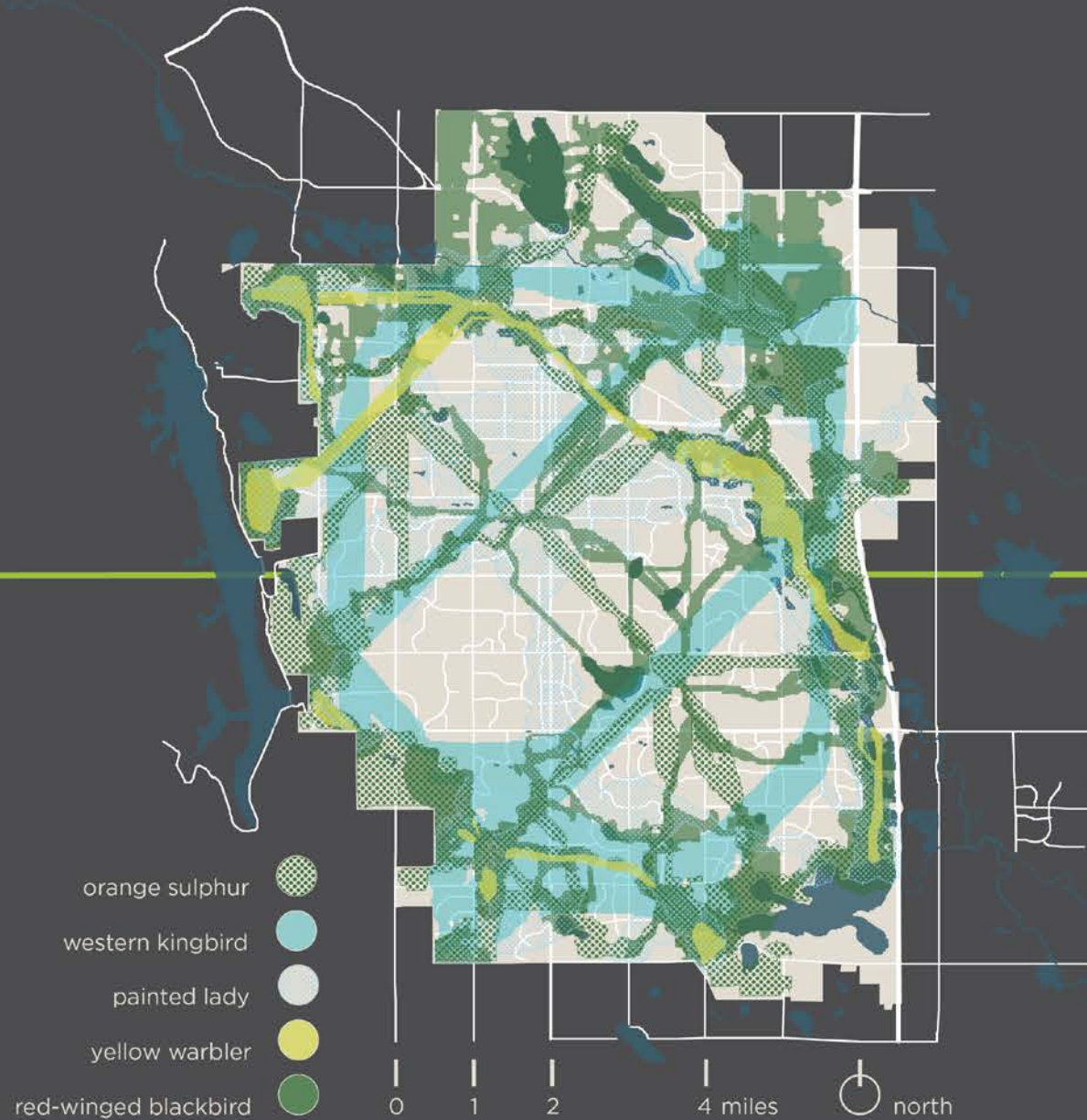


Stewardship

FOUNDATIONS

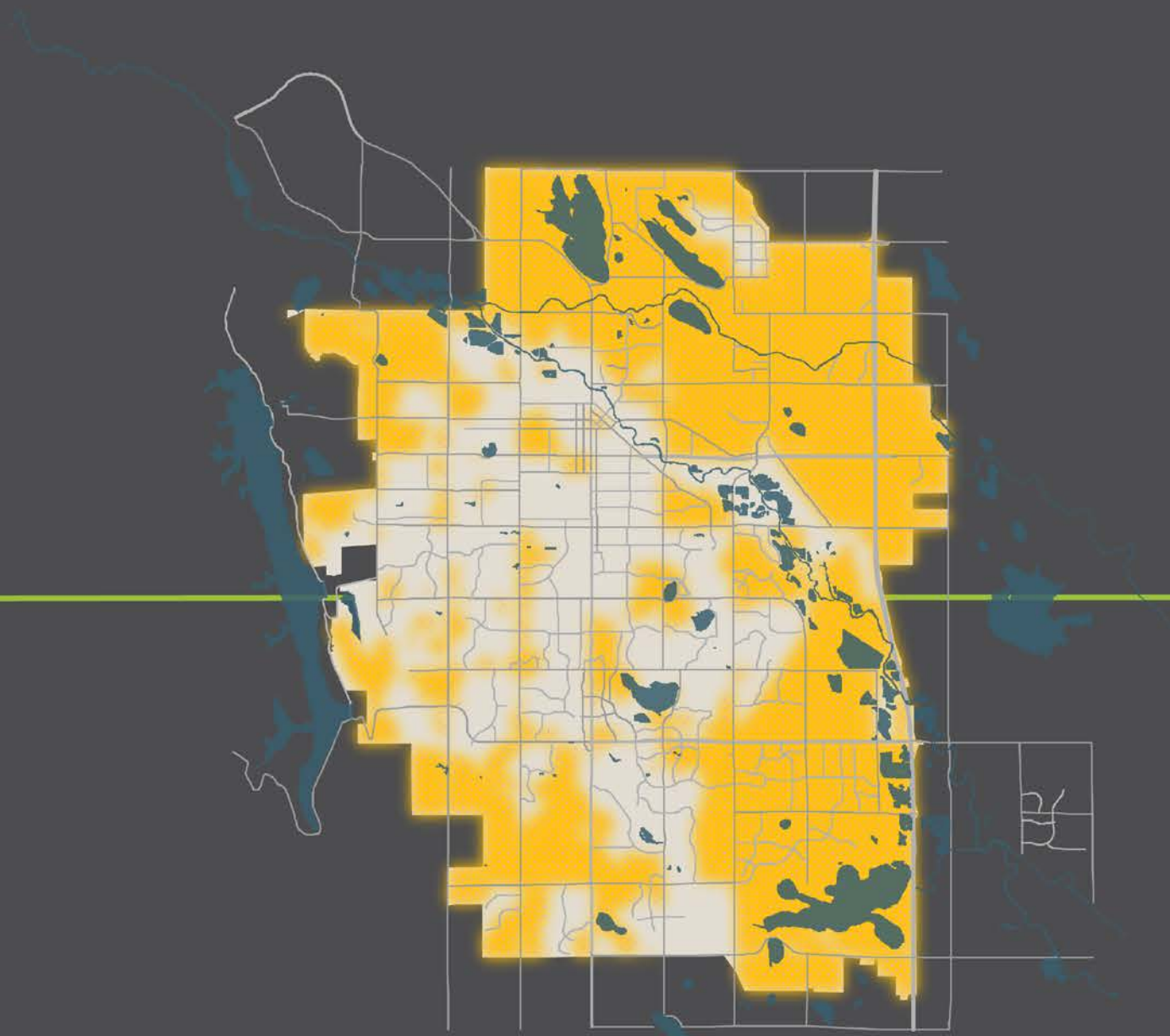


WILDLIFE CONNECTIVITY



ACCESS GAPS

> 10 minute walk to nature ● 0 1 2 4 miles ○ north



remaining vacant parcels



0

1

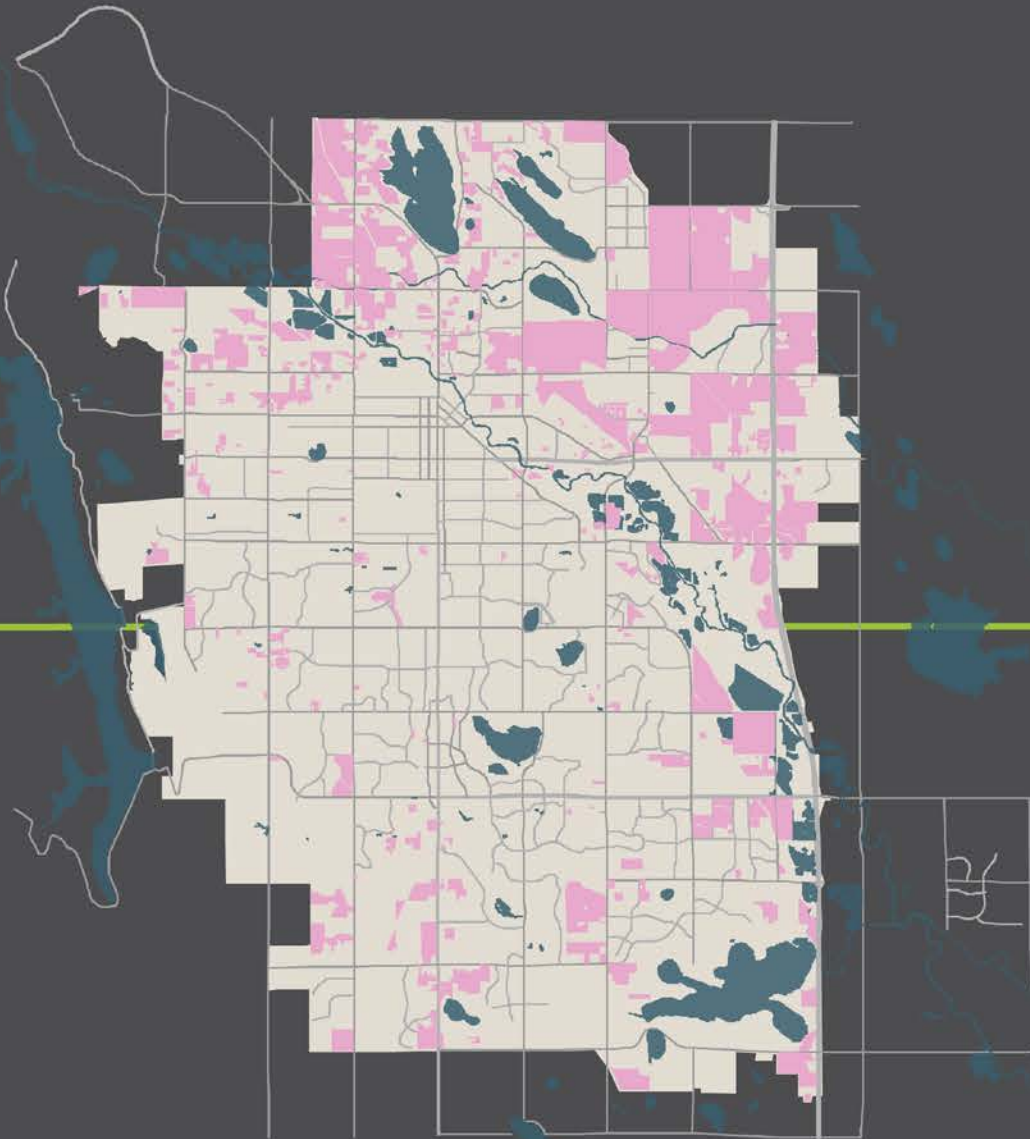
2

4 miles



north

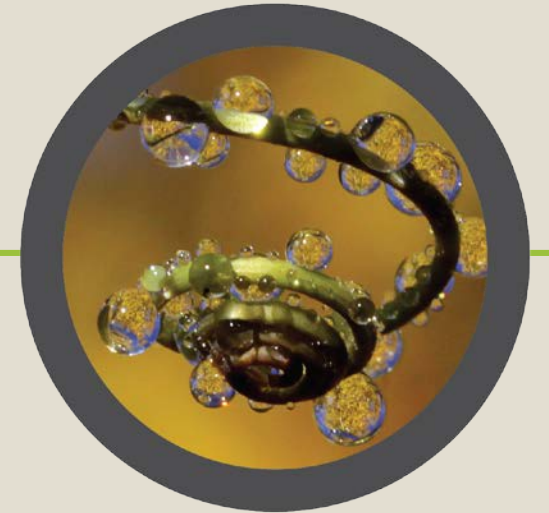
VACANT LANDS





WHAT WE DO

- BIODIVERSITY MONITORING
- ON-THE-GROUND PROJECTS
- POLICY
- OUTREACH/EDUCATION/TRAINING
- ACCESSIBILITY/EQUITY















GATEWAY NATURE!





POLICY PARTNERSHIP!

- PLANNING SERVICES
- DEPARTMENTAL BMPs
- LONG RANGE PLANNING
- DEVELOPMENT REVIEW
- LAND USE/BLDG CODES



LESSONS LEARNED

- BROAD SCOPE!
- BUILD IT YOURSELF
- “THIS IS NOT NATURE!”
- LEVERAGE STAFF CAPACITY
- ACCESSIBILITY
- GATEWAY NATURE
- DEDICATED FUNDING
- STRAT PLAN IS KEY
- THE RIGHT METRICS ARE ESSENTIAL





What word do you think about when you think about urban nature?

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

- WHAT MAKES YOU EXCITED?
- WHAT MAKES YOU UNCOMFORTABLE?
- WHAT ARE WE MISSING?
- WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN THIS SPACE?
- HOW RECEPTIVE WOULD YOUR COMMUNITY/ORG BE TO NIC?



THANKS!

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