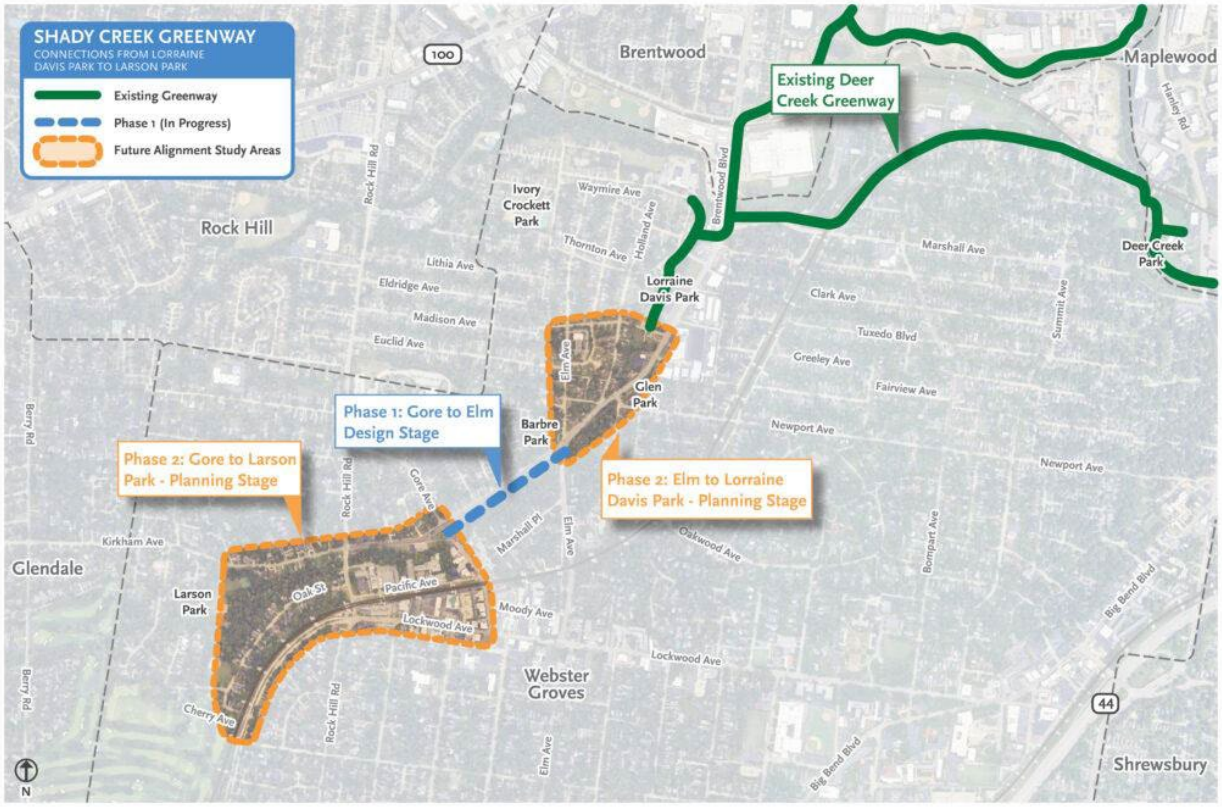
1. What is the Shady Creek Greenway project?

Great Rivers Greenway is developing a regional network of greenways (140 miles and counting!) across St. Louis City, St. Louis County, and St. Charles County. Greenways provide safe, accessible connections for people walking, biking, and rolling between neighborhoods, parks, and other community destinations.

The Shady Creek Greenway is a planned greenway through Webster Groves that will connect to this larger regional network. The first phase is being designed along Kirkham Avenue between Elm Avenue and Gore Avenue, with construction expected to begin in late 2027. This will be done in conjunction with work the St. Louis Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD) is already undertaking along Kirkham Avenue.

2. What are the phases of the Shady Creek Greenway project?

The first phase is intended to become part of a longer Shady Creek Greenway through Webster Groves. The project team is currently exploring potential routes north of the Elm-to-Gore segment toward Lorraine Davis Park (and the existing Deer Creek Greenway) and south toward Larson Park.



Potential routes were presented at the September 10, 2026 community open house and continue to be evaluated and refined. No route has been finalized. Please refer to the project map above for the general areas currently under consideration.

3. Will the greenway impact the Shady Creek Nature Sanctuary?

The greenway will not extend into the Shady Creek Nature Sanctuary. Some work adjacent to the sanctuary, including limited tree removal, will be necessary, but any trees removed as part of the project will be replaced with new native trees and other plants that will complement the unique natural environment of the Shady Creek Nature Sanctuary.

The greenway will create new opportunities for people to experience, appreciate, and learn about the sanctuary. Planned improvements may include educational and interpretive signage and places where greenway users can pause and engage with the surrounding natural environment.

4. What will happen to the tree-lined median along Kirkham Avenue?

As part of the Metropolitan Sewer District project with the City of Webster Groves, the existing median along this portion of Kirkham Avenue will be removed, independent of the greenway project.

The space created by the median removal allows for the greenway to be built with new plantings and landscaping between Kirkham and the Shady Creek Nature Sanctuary. The segment is being designed with a buffer between the road and the greenway, which will incorporate new plantings and landscaping.

5. Could the greenway require use of my property?

We do not have eminent domain authority. The segment along Kirkham between Elm and Gore does not require the acquisition of any private property, and if a future route requires easements, we will work directly with the individual property owner(s).

Future routes are still being evaluated, and no final property impacts have been determined. See the updated project map above for the areas and potential alignments currently under consideration.

6. How is intersection and railroad crossing safety being addressed?

Crossing safety is always one of the major factors considered as potential greenway routes are evaluated. Community members have raised concerns about several intersections and railroad crossings along the corridor, and the project team will take this feedback and identify appropriate crossing updates based on the final route, traffic conditions, and engineering analysis.

7. How are steep hills and accessibility being considered?

Accessibility is a key consideration when designing greenways. Grade is an important factor in evaluating potential routes, particularly where community members identified steep hills that could make walking, biking, using a wheelchair or pushing a stroller difficult. Accessibility, available right-of-way, and other design constraints are considered together as the routes are refined.