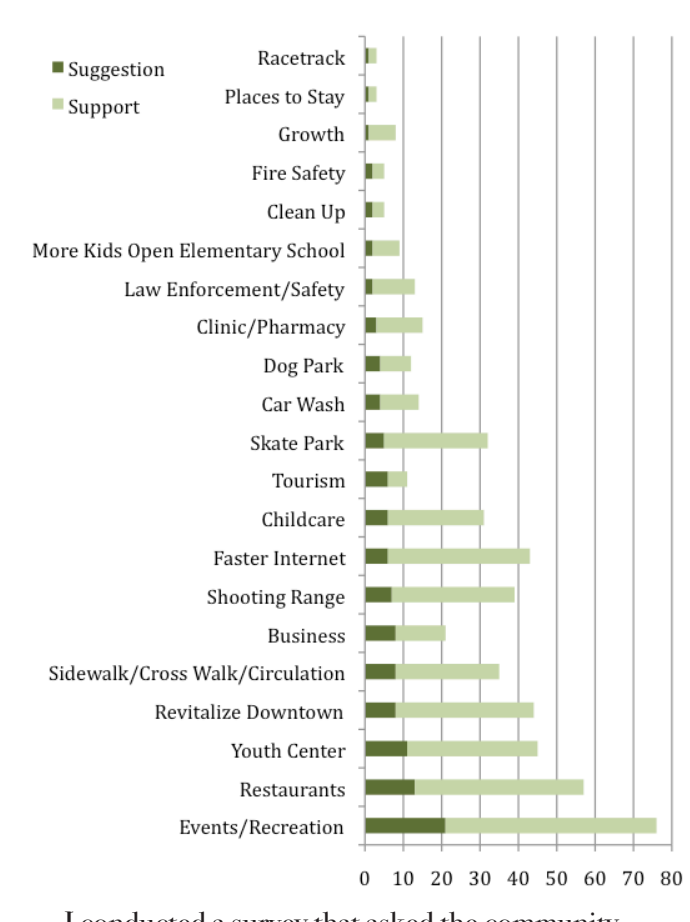
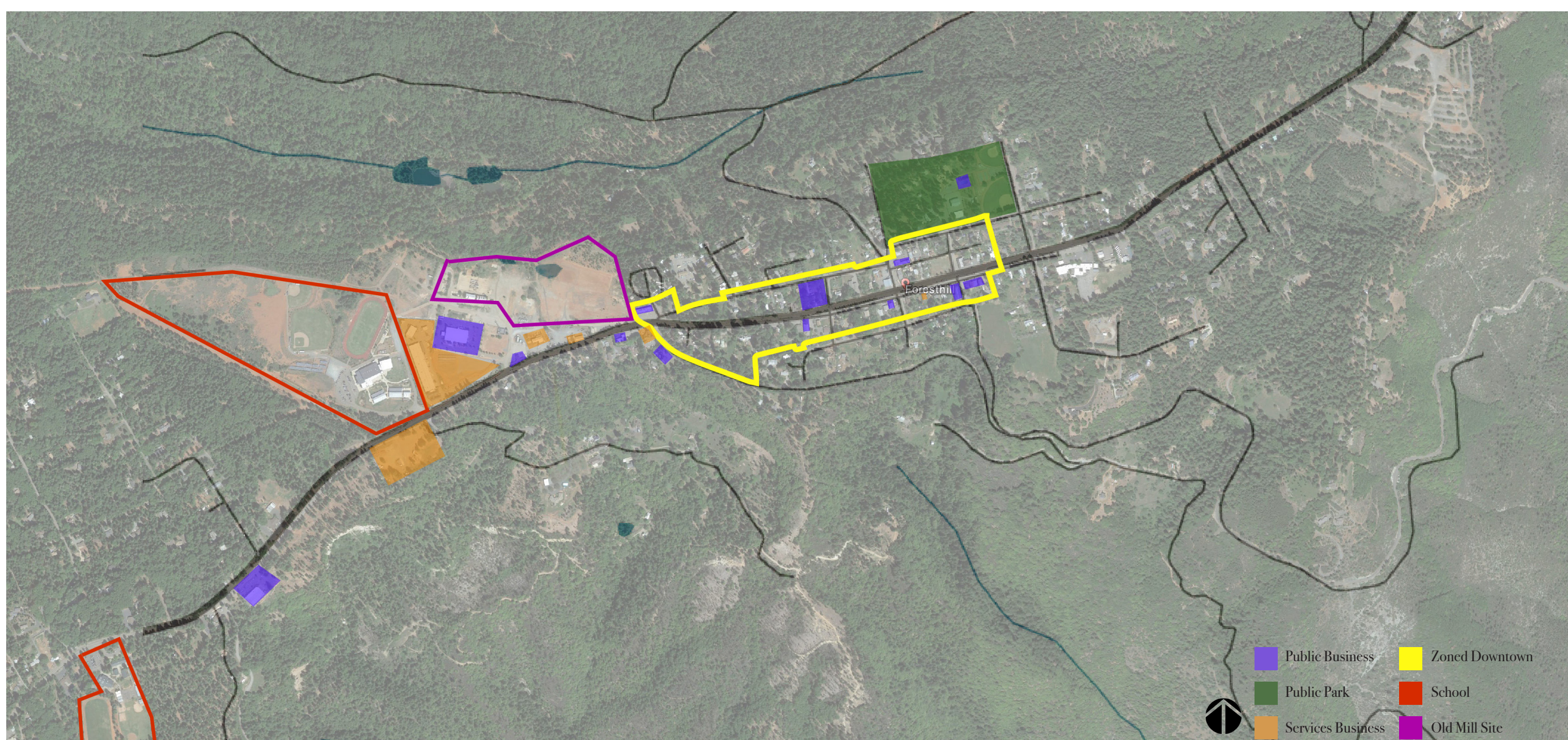


MAINTAINING RURALITY...DEFINING THE LINES

Kelsey Zoller

Senior Capstone Project 2017



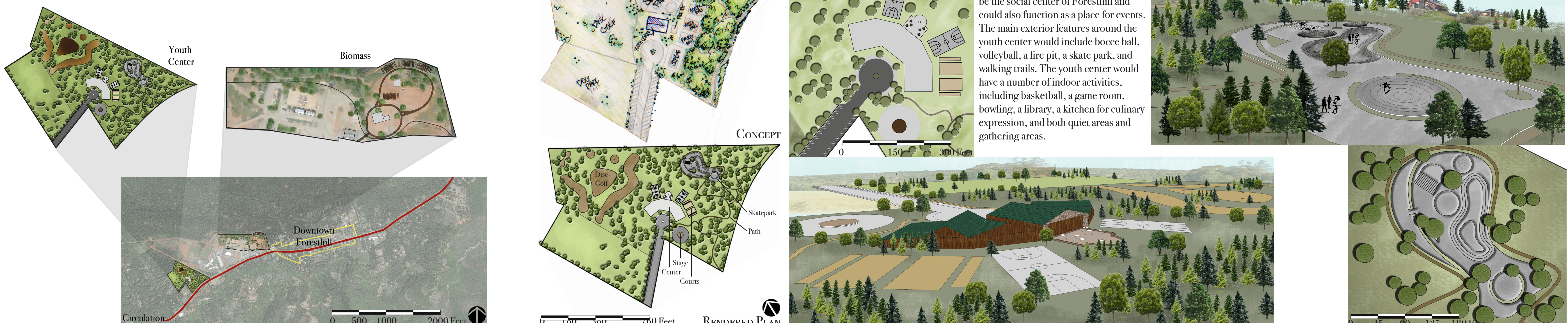
GOALS

1. To attract both residents and tourists to downtown Forest Hill and along Forest Hill road by increasing walkability and safety through an interconnected circulation system.
2. To encourage the younger generation to reside in Forest Hill and inspire them to care for the community through involvement, recreation and social spaces.
3. To revitalize Forest Hill through the use of landscape design, green space, meticulous development, and circulation in order to improve the business and restaurant economy.

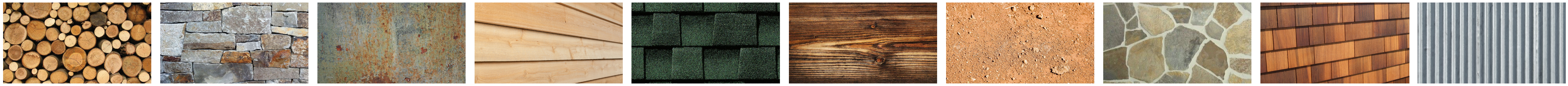
I conducted a survey that asked the community about what is lacking in Forest Hill. The responses flew in and many were similar or repeated by multiple people. The survey was posted to a community page called Forest Hill Helping Forest Hill on Facebook. I received sixty comments and a number of responses or likes for the comments. The graph compiles the main comments in dark green. The light green represents the number of "likes" or the amount of support for each comment.

Forest Hill is located in Placer County in Northern California between the North and Middle Fork of the American River. Year-round recreation cycles are dependent on the weather and includes hiking, running, cycling, camping, fishing, hunting, boating, sledding, mudding and riding both horses and ATV vehicles. Transportation in Forest Hill is unique for two main reasons. Forest Hill Road does not have a single traffic light and it is a dead end road about thirty miles past downtown.

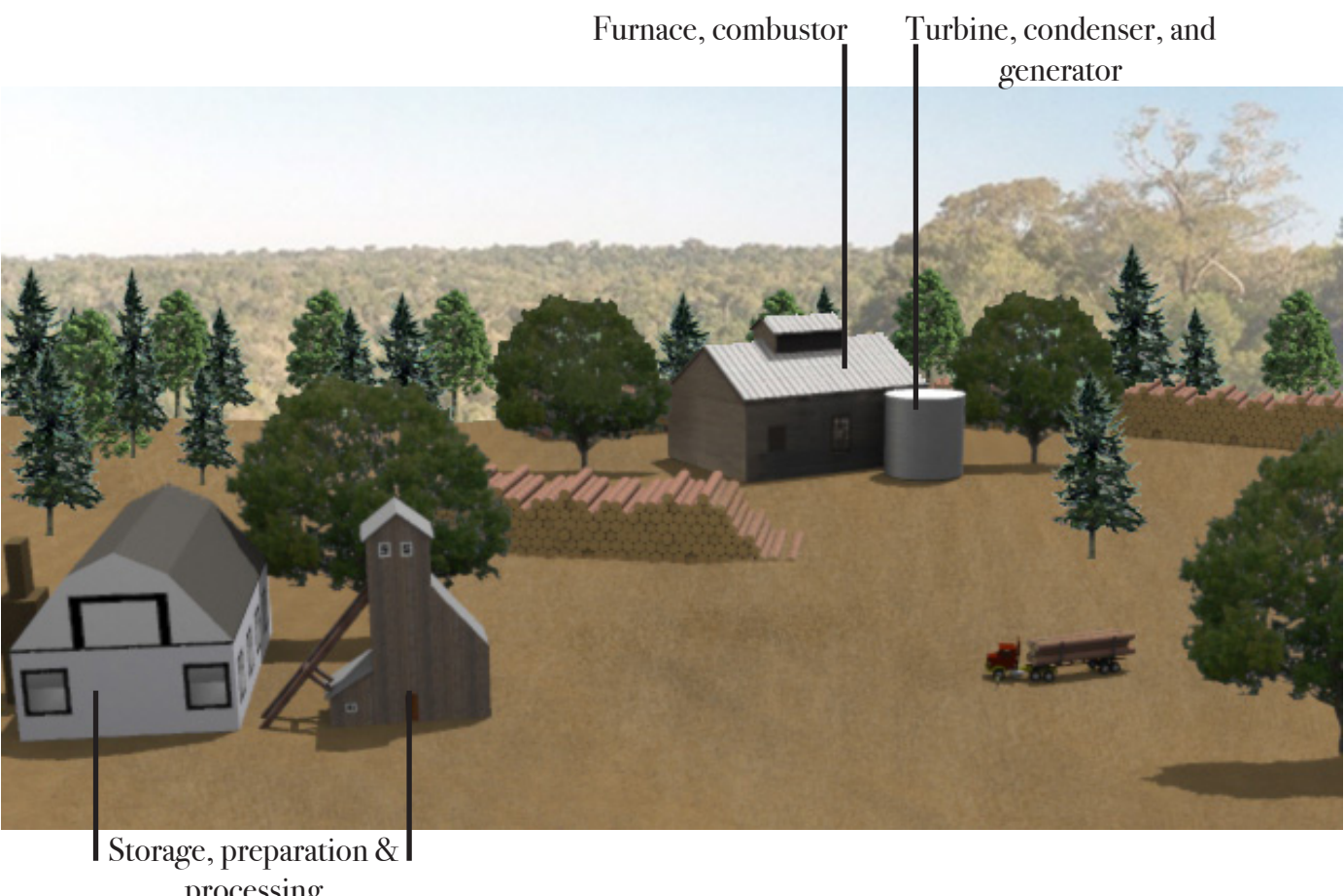
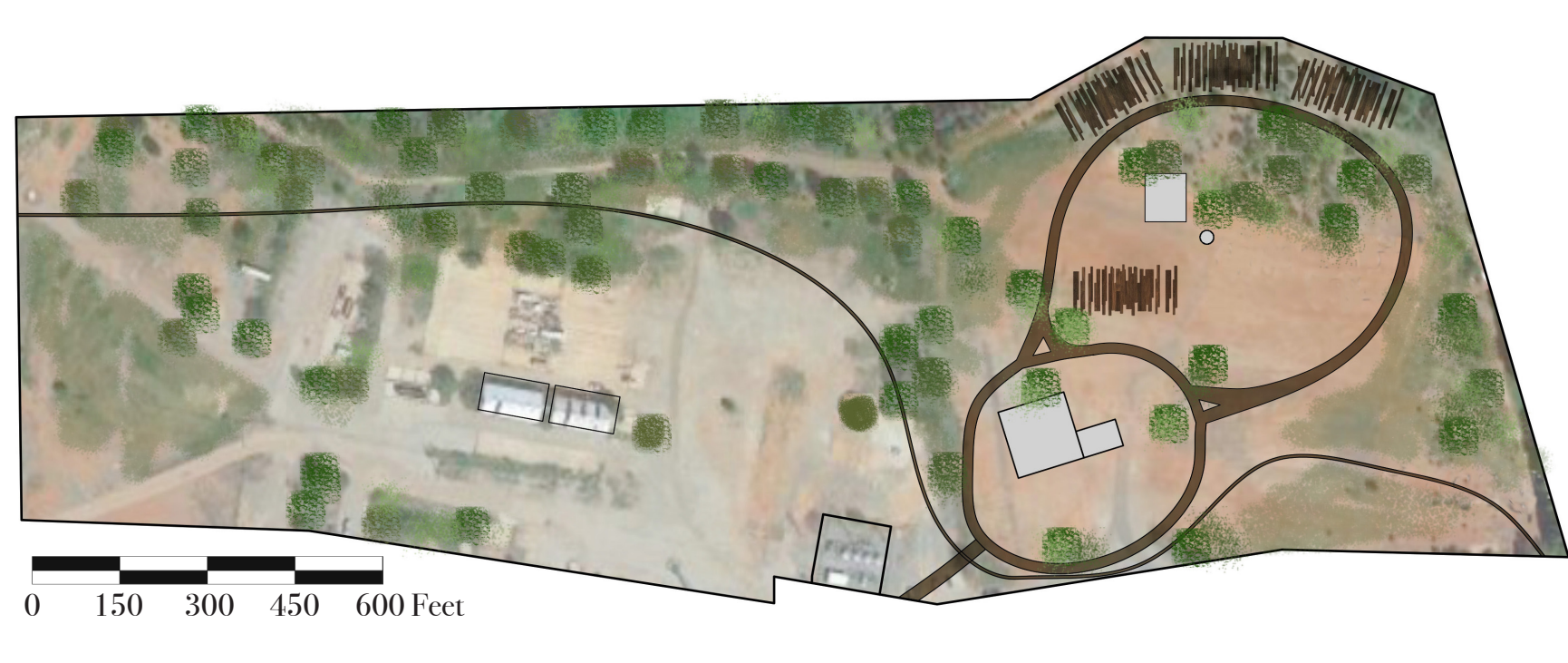
YOUTH CENTER



The youth center and park would be the social center of Forest Hill and could also function as a place for events. The main exterior features around the youth center would include bocce ball, volleyball, a fire pit, a skate park, and walking trails. The youth center would have a number of indoor activities, including basketball, a game room, bowling, a library, a kitchen for culinary expression, and both quiet areas and gathering areas.



ECONOMIC BIOMASS FACILITY



With the seasonal wildfire threat, defensible space is incredibly important to the town of Forest Hill and surrounding areas. Biomass is organic material that can be converted to energy through an intense process of burning. The heat produced can be used to create electricity through the use of turbines. The community of Forest Hill has been in support of a biomass center for a number of years, therefore it would be ideal for there to be a community-owned biomass center. This would create revenue for the town in addition to functional energy. Not only would revenue be produced, but also, Forest Hill could be cleared of the dangerous vegetative fuel that increases the risk of wildfires each year. Rather than linger on the forest floor, this vegetative waste can be modified to energy and town revenue. The ideal location for this biomass center would be the historic mill site located between the high school and downtown area in Forest Hill. This site is relatively flat and currently is a vacant industrial zoned space.

INTEGRATED CIRCULATION MAP



The new integrated circulation route would be a 3.5 mile path that would be a 12 foot wide paved two-lane bike path starting at the Forest Hill Bridge and following along Forest Hill Road, ending at the turnoff for Sugarpine Lake. This path would have motion activated light poles in order to minimize the amount of light pollution in Forest Hill but maximize safety. The lights along this path would encourage the historic character of the town and be made of solid cedar posts and lantern style lights. In addition to the bike path, an unpaved trail would follow along it for pedestrians. Three new crosswalks are proposed to interconnect the proposed circulation system. Cedar posts will mark the crosswalks and there will be blinking motion-activated string lights to increase the safety for pedestrians.