



# Amesbury Elementary School Community Forum



**Amesbury, MA**

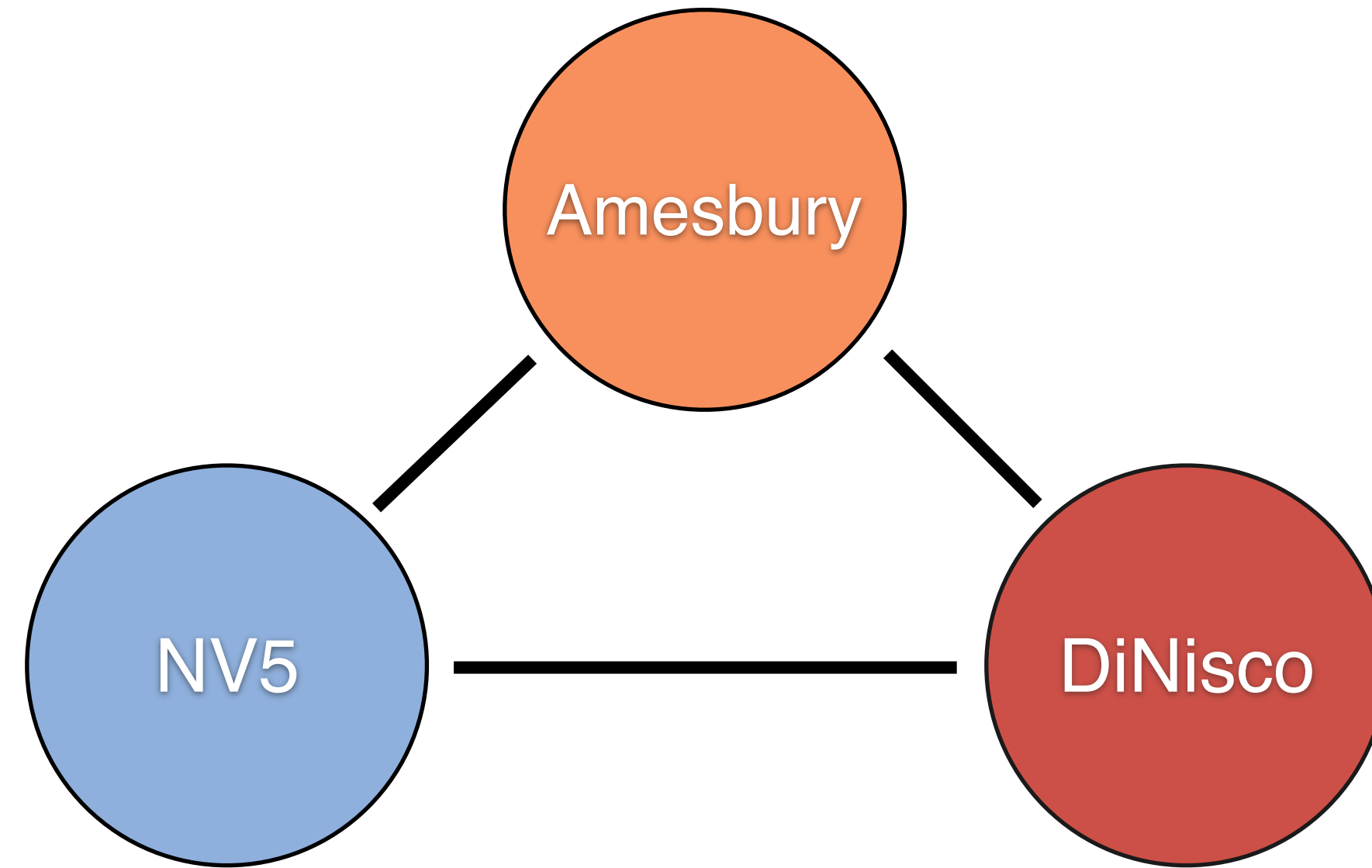
May 14, 2018

 **DINISCO DESIGN**  
architects + planners

# Team | Collaboration



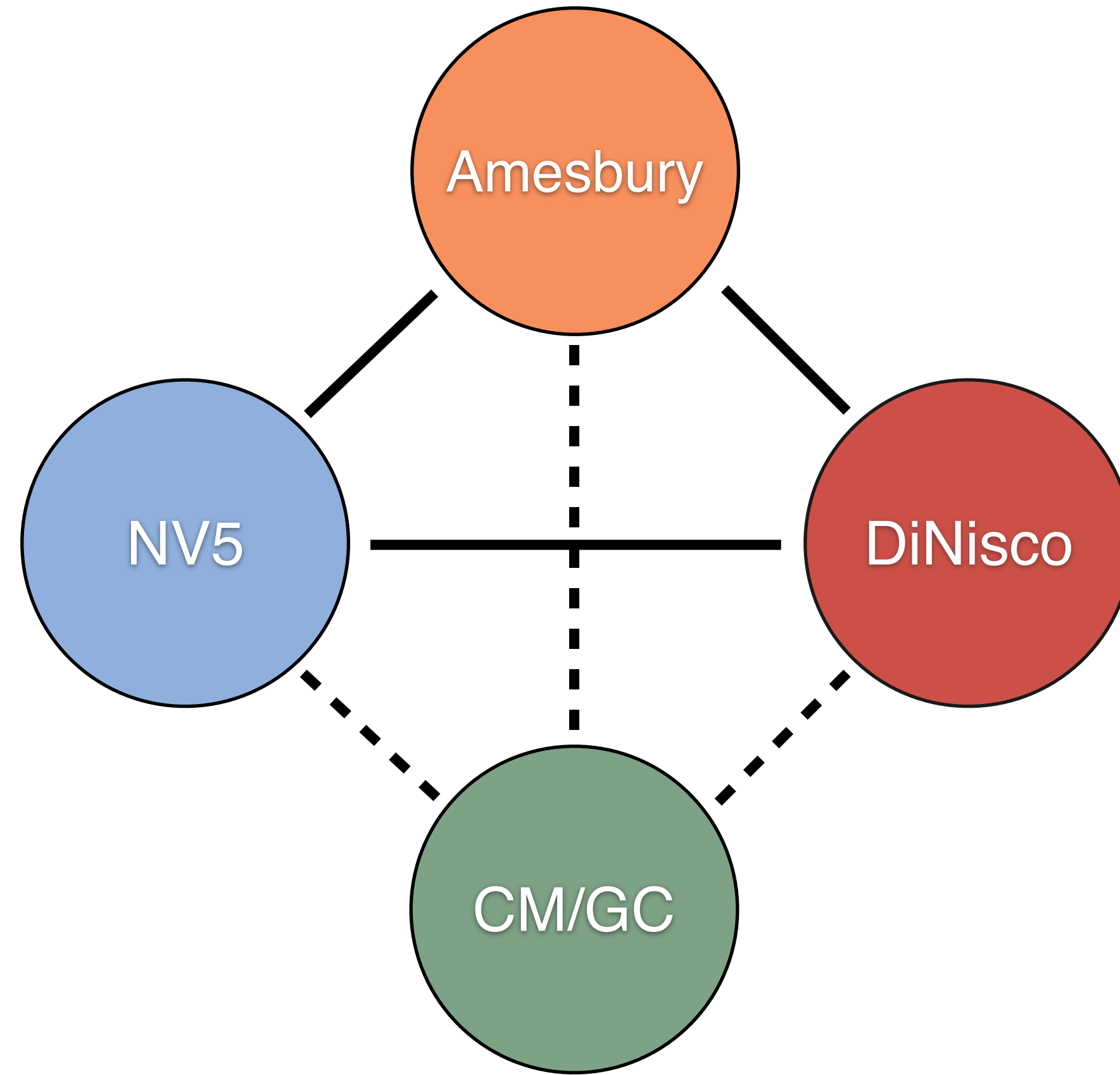
MSBA



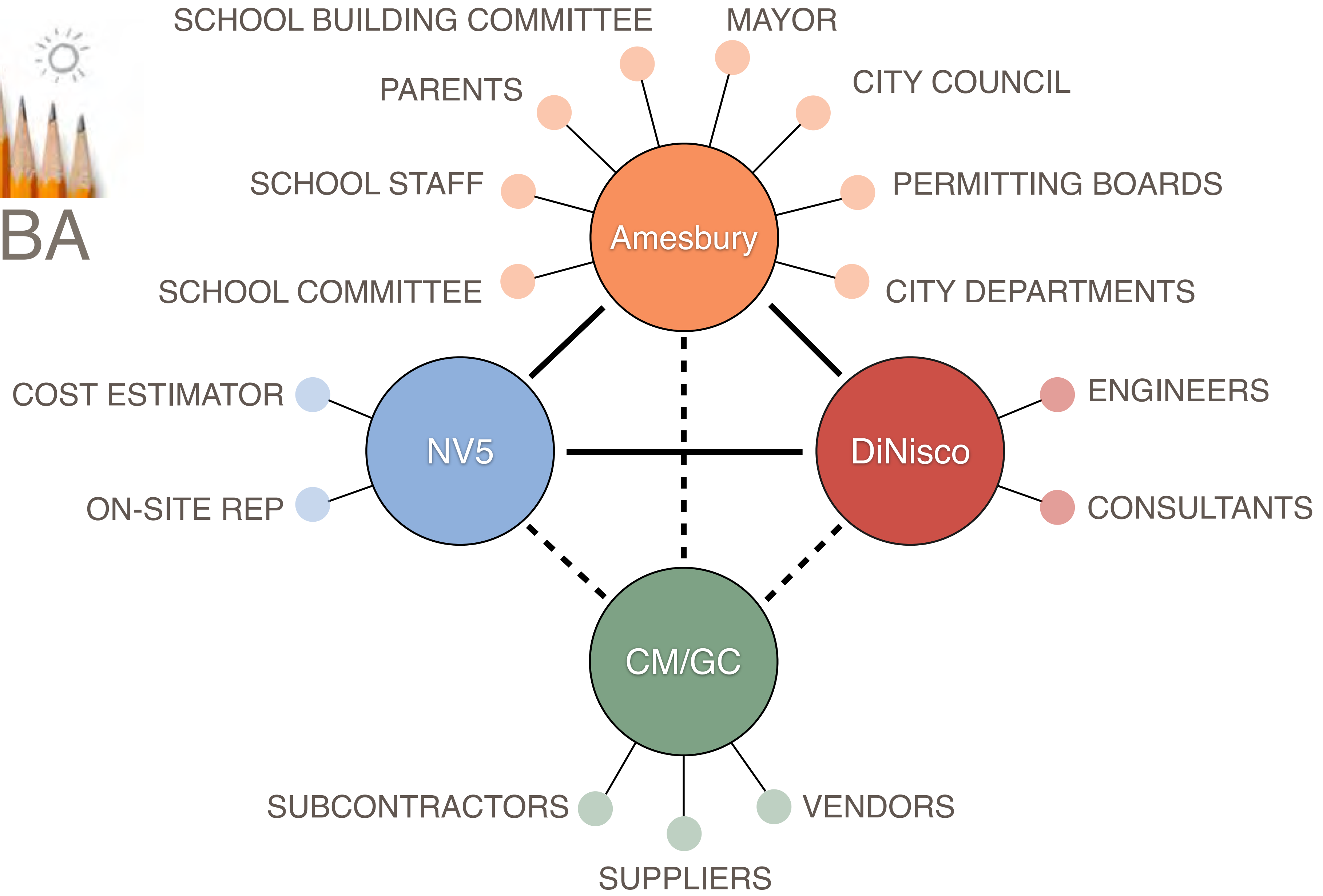
# Team | Collaboration



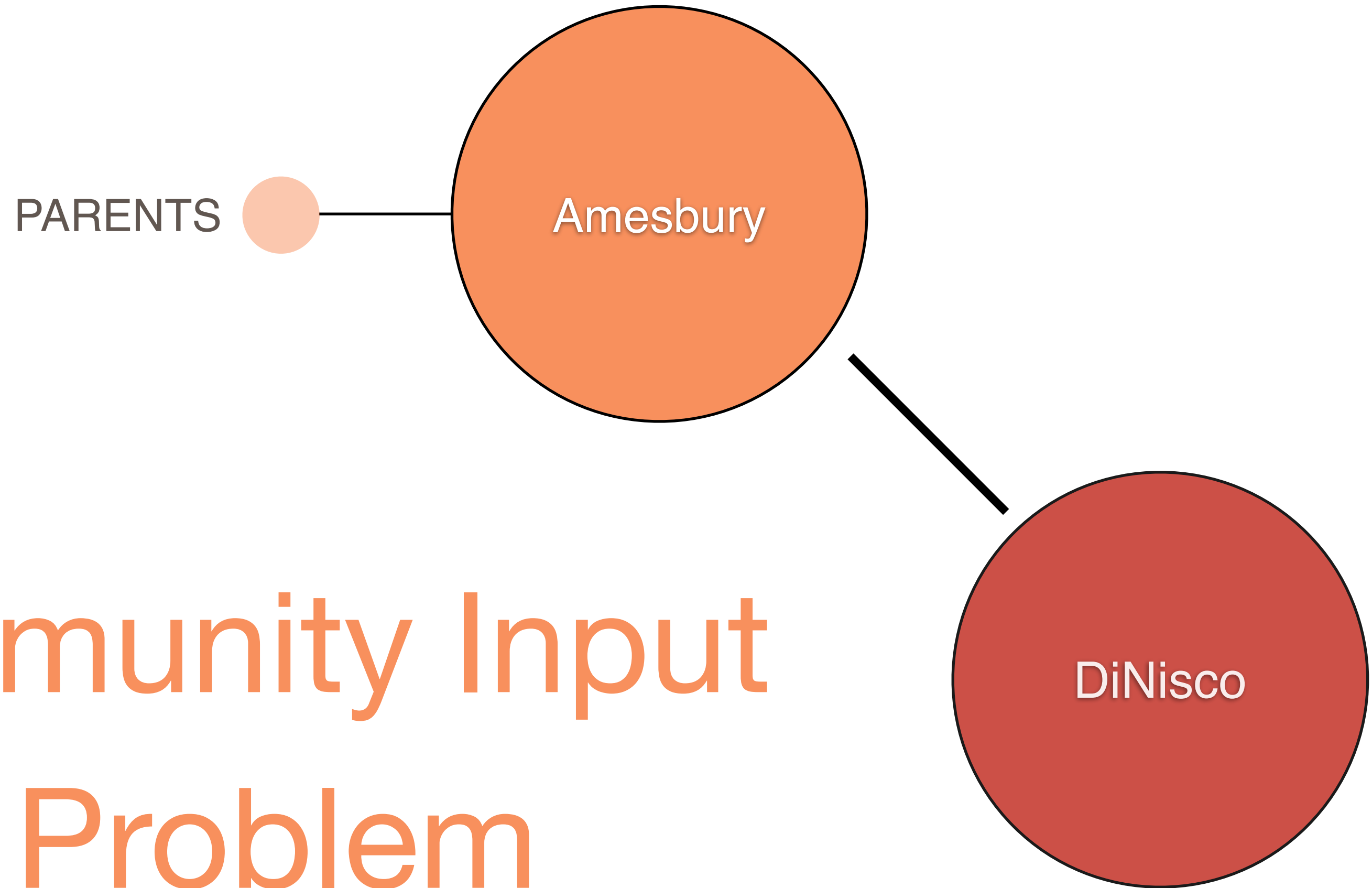
MSBA



# Team | Collaboration



# Collaboration | Amesbury Community



Seek Community Input

Define the Problem

Identify Goals

# Collaboration | Amesbury Community

Welcoming and Transparent

Communication

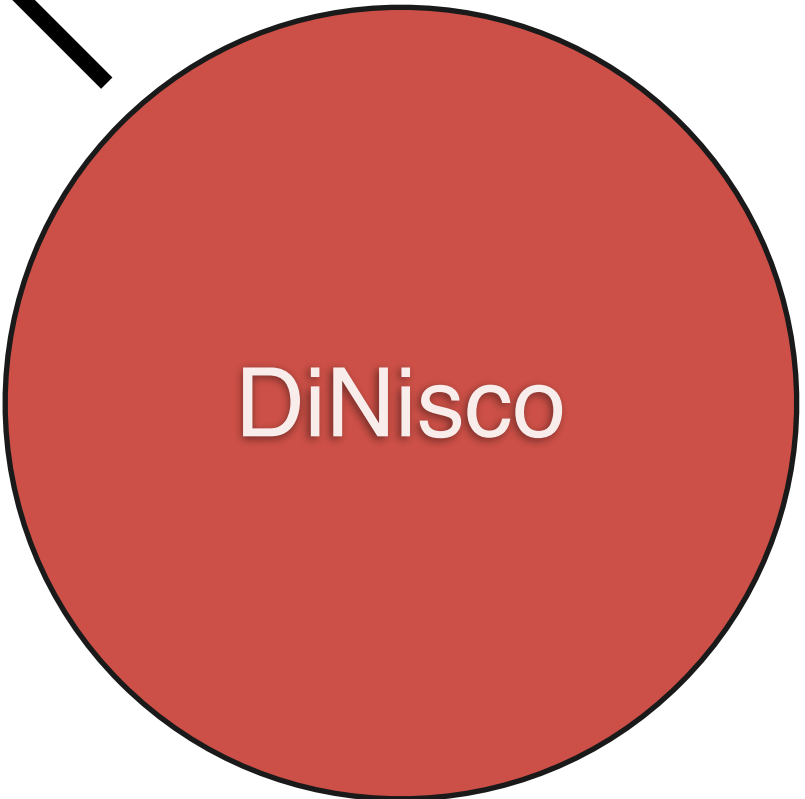
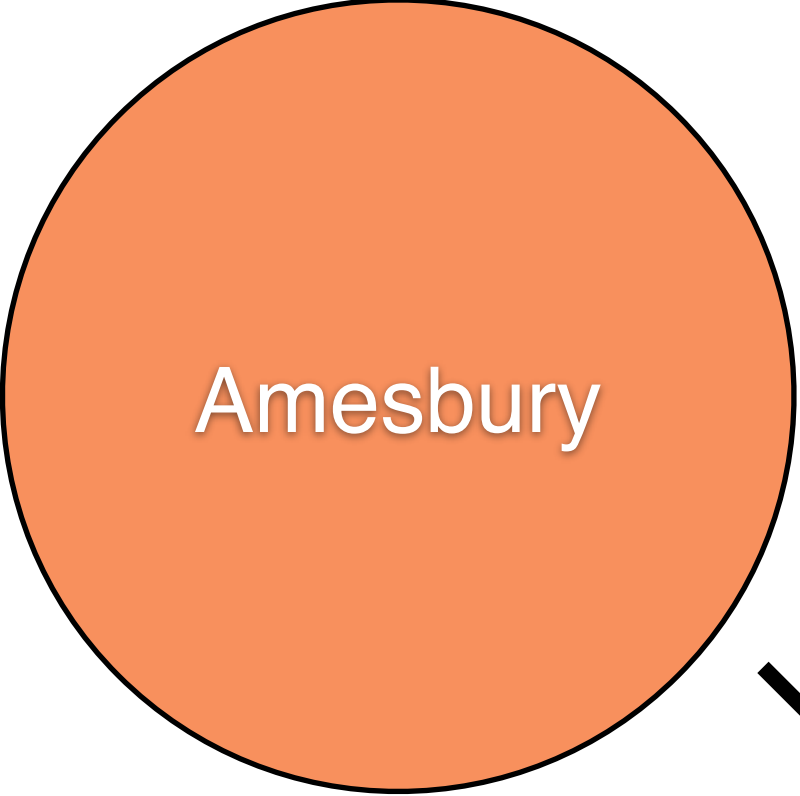
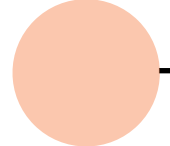
Workshops

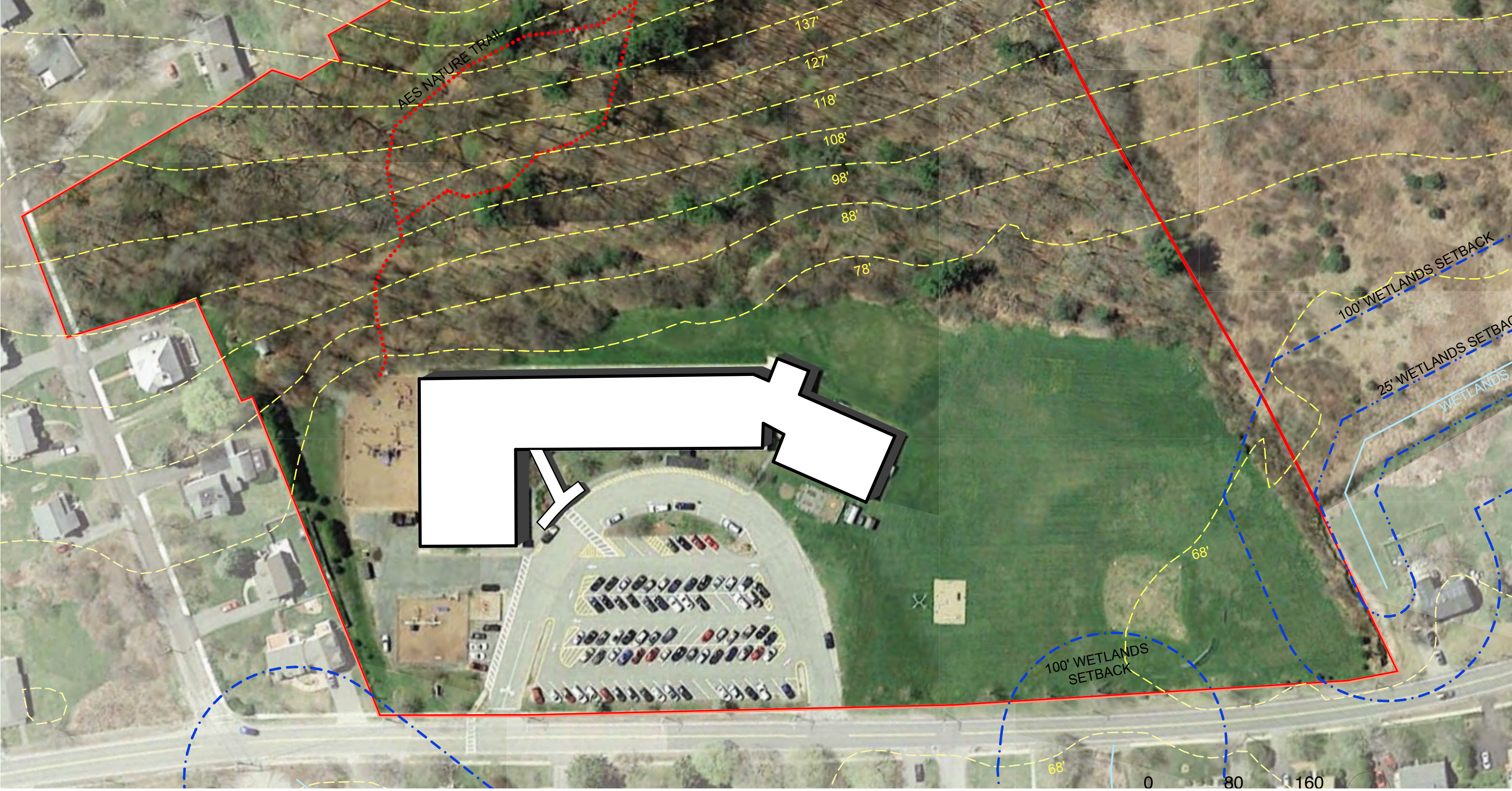
Consensus

Enriched Design



PARENTS





Amesbury's  
Educational Goals

Educational  
Programming

Master Plan

Grade  
Configuration  
Site Selection

# Amesbury Elementary School Project Overview

# Amesbury's Educational Plan | Goals








- District-wide grade structure evaluation
- Appropriate grade structures and relationships
- Flexible groupings and spaces
- Flexibility to accommodate enrollment changes



# Grade Configurations | District

700-855 Elementary Students

Current Configuration		PK	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	<b>Amesbury ES (400 students)</b>	●	●	●	●	●	●								
	<b>Cashman ES (430)</b>	●	●	●	●	●	●								
	<b>Amesbury MS (678)</b>							●	●	●	●				
	<b>Amesbury HS (591)</b>											●	●	●	●
	<b>Amesbury Innovation HS (31)</b>											●	●	●	●

# Grade Configurations | Proposed

700-855 Elementary Students

Scheme 1

	PK	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>Amesbury ES (220+PK)</b>	●	●	●	●	●	●				
Cashman ES (480+PK)	●	●	●	●	●	●				
Amesbury MS (678)							●	●	●	●

Scheme 2

	PK	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>Amesbury ES (410+PK)</b>	●	●	●	●						
Cashman ES (290)					●	●				
Amesbury MS (678)							●	●	●	●

Scheme 3

	PK	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>Amesbury ES (445)</b>					●	●	●			
Cashman ES (410+PK)	●	●	●	●						
Amesbury MS (508)								●	●	●

Scheme 4

	PK	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>Amesbury ES (410+PK)</b>	●	●	●	●						
Cashman ES (445)					●	●	●			
Amesbury MS (508)								●	●	●

Scheme 5

	PK	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>Amesbury ES (375+PK)</b>	●	●	●	●	●	●	●			
Cashman ES (480+PK)	●	●	●	●	●	●	●			
Amesbury MS (678)								●	●	●

- Create equity between schools
- Community support
- Move 5th grade?
- Provide space at Middle School

# Master Plan | Considerations

Amesbury

Equity

Grade configurations

Sites

Availability of land

Population proximity

Barriers/impediments

Traffic

Validation/community support

Consolidation

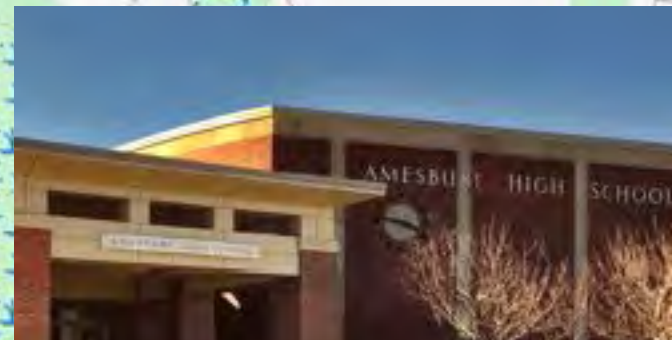
Campus Concept



Amesbury ES



Cashman ES

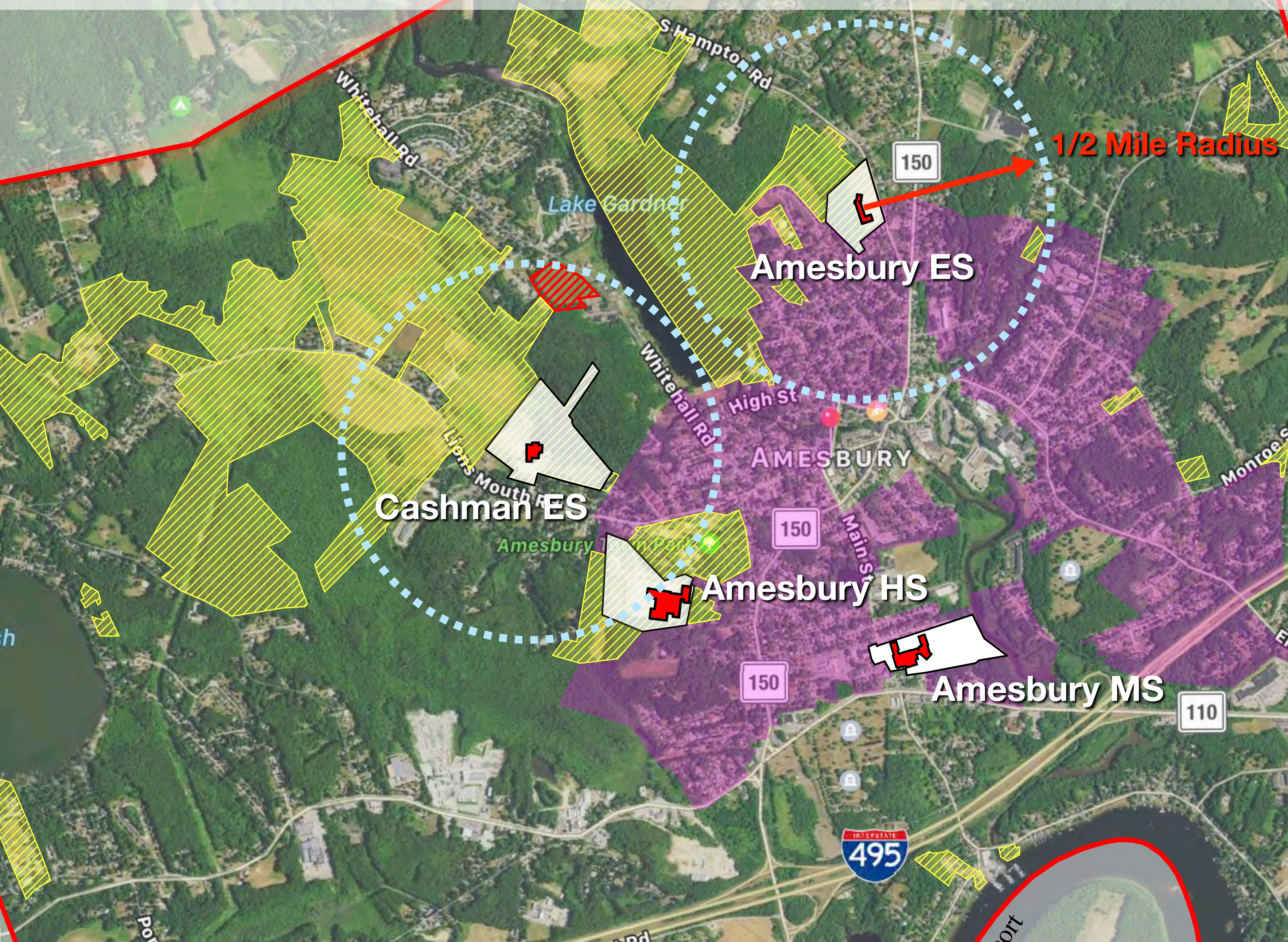


Amesbury HS



Amesbury MS

# Potential Sites | City Owned Property



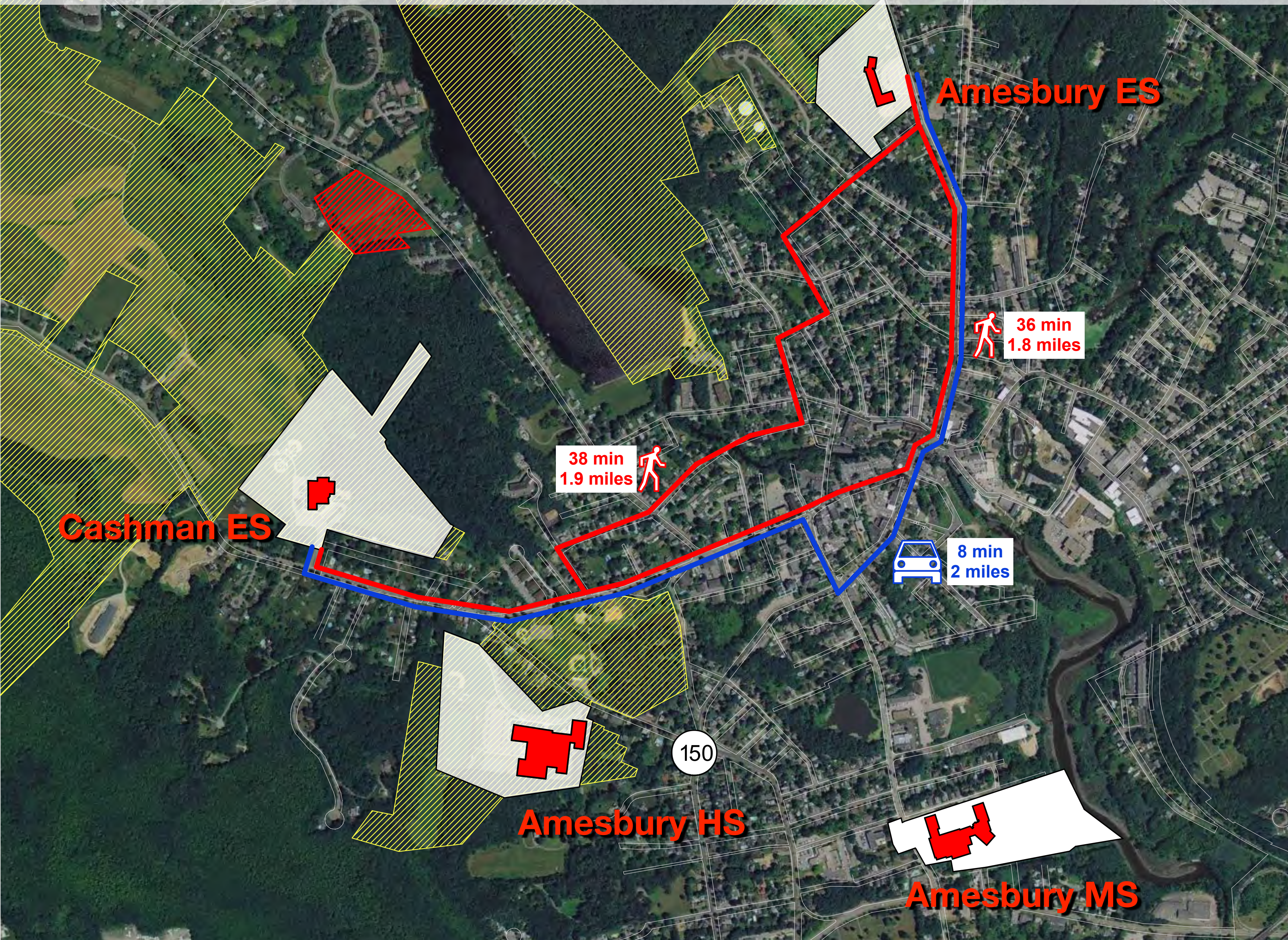
 Open space conservancy

 City owned property

 High-density population

 Interstates

# Site Selection | Considerations



- Minimize traffic impact to existing neighborhood
- Maximize on-site parking
- Facilitate drop off/pedestrian areas
- Connect to walking routes

# Site Selection | Evaluation Criteria

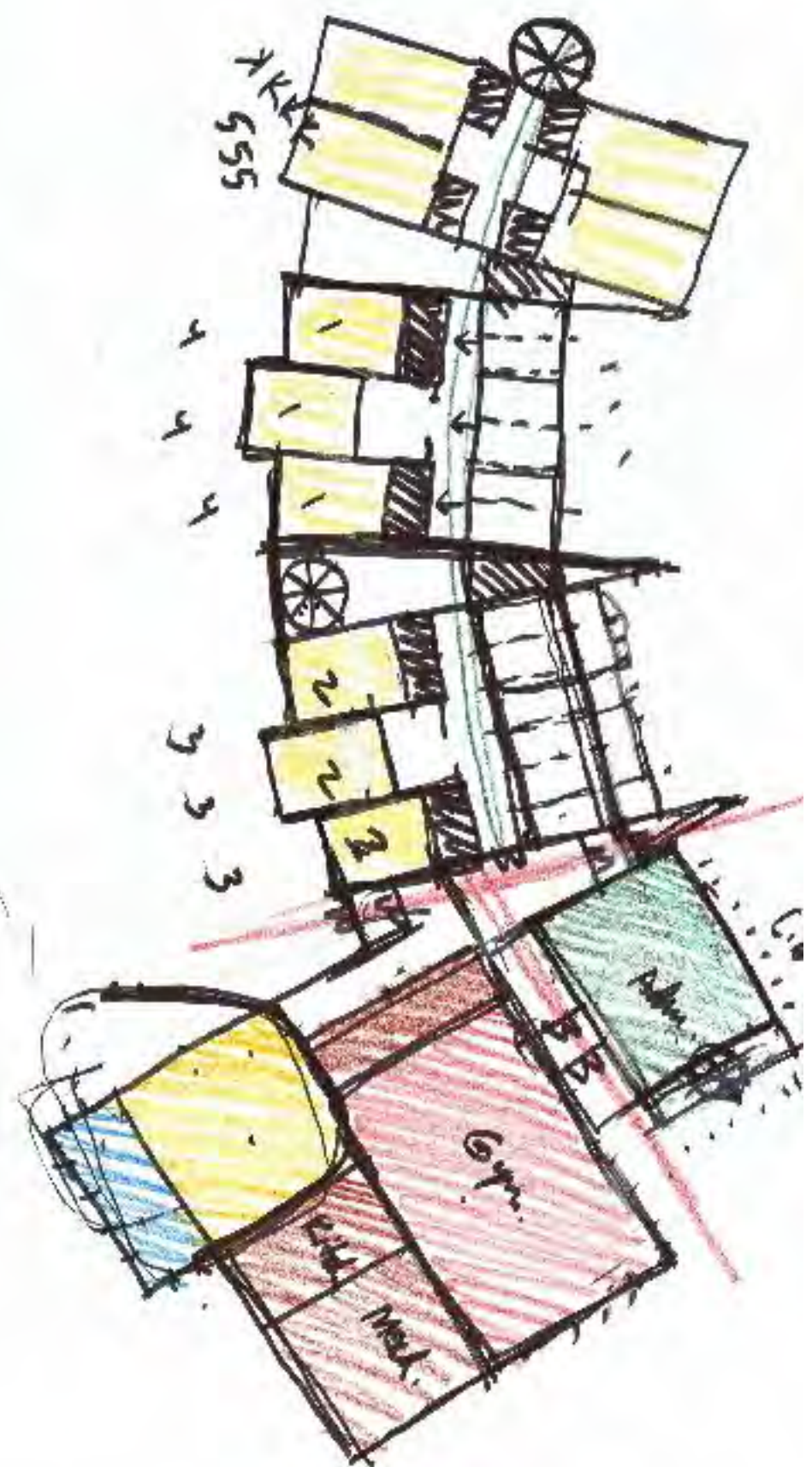
Evaluation Criteria	Actual Value	Max. Value
<b>1. Location</b>		<b>25</b>
1.1 Geographic Location/Demographics	-	5
1.2 Neighborhood	-	5
1.3 Transportation	-	5
1.4 Community/Political	-	10
<b>2. Accessibility</b>		<b>10</b>
2.1 Vehicular	-	5
2.3 Barrier Free	-	5
<b>3. Parcel Characteristics</b>		<b>15</b>
3.1 Adequate Size	-	5
3.2 Parcel Configuration	-	5
3.3 Parcel Restrictions	-	5

Evaluation Criteria	Actual Value	Max. Value
<b>4. Environmental</b>		<b>10</b>
4.1 Wetlands / Floodplains	-	5
4.2 Pollution	-	5
<b>5. Site Development</b>		<b>27</b>
5.1 Utilities	-	4
5.2 Topography	-	4
5.3 Soils	-	4
5.4 Stormwater Management	-	5
5.5 Play fields / Greenspace	-	6
5.6 Costs	-	4
<b>6. Phased Construction</b>		<b>13</b>
6.1 Phased Construction	-	13
<b>Total Value</b>		<b>100</b>

# Amesbury | Neighborhood Analysis



- Neighborhood identity
- Architectural scale
- Contextual massing
- Civic pride

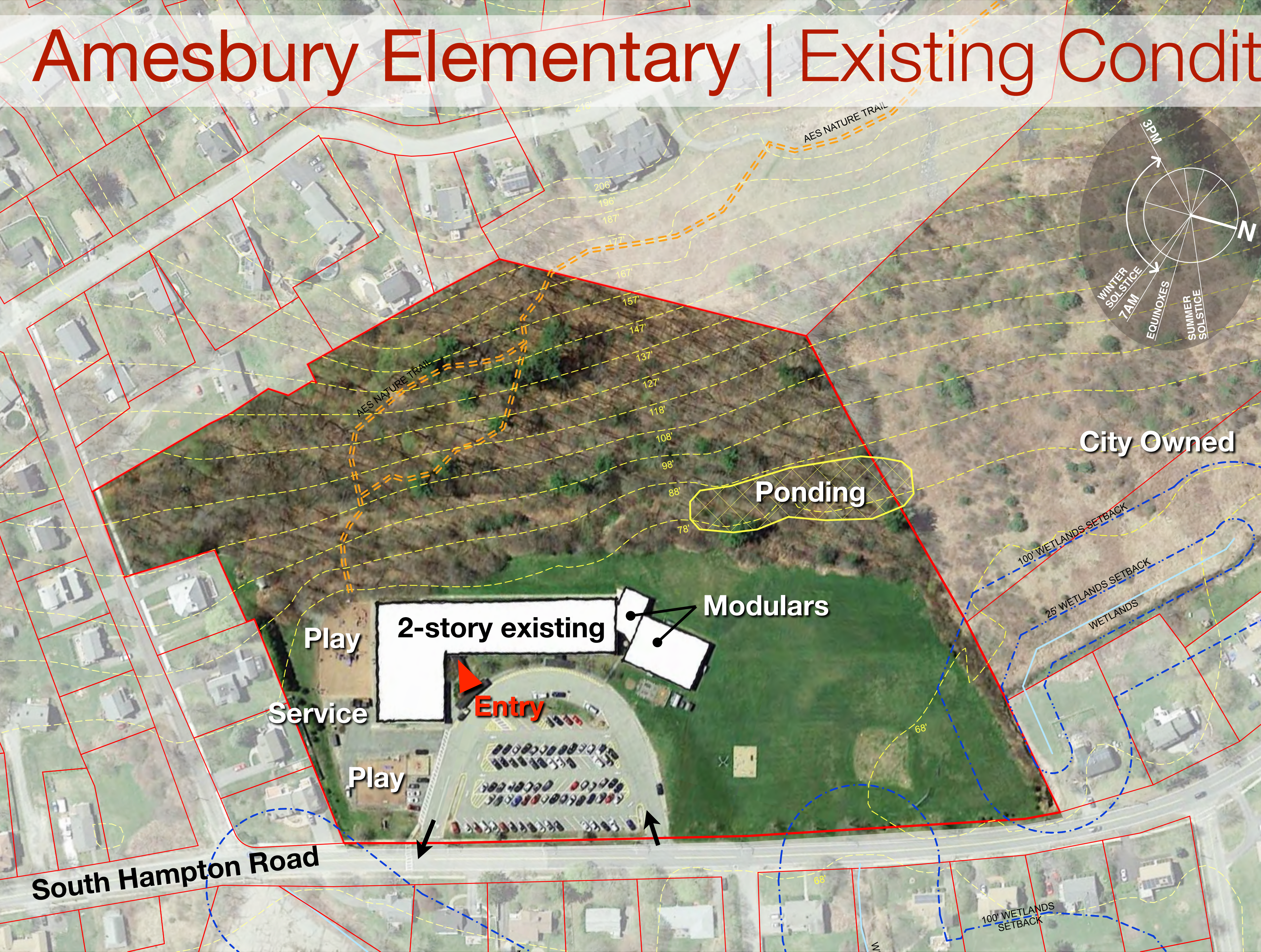


Program  
Considerations  
Site Selection  
Proposed  
Concepts

# Amesbury Elementary School Conceptual Design



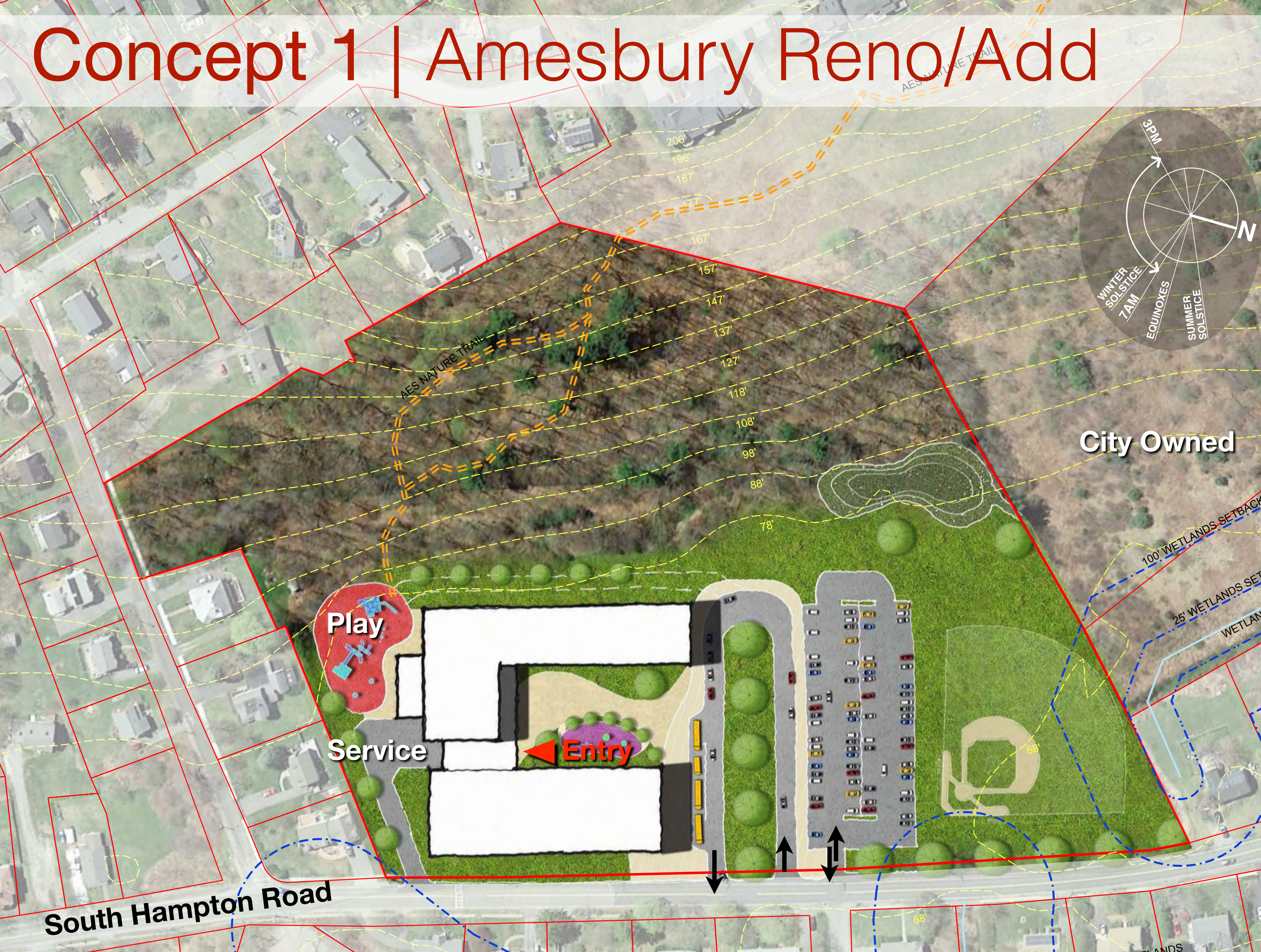
# Amesbury Elementary | Existing Conditions



- ~17 Ac. site
- ~10 Ac. usable
- Steeply sloping
- Wetlands
- Water ponding
- Poorly draining soils
- High water table
- Complex stormwater design

# Concept 1 | Amesbury Reno/Add

~450 students (max. pop)  
80,000 SF



## Pros

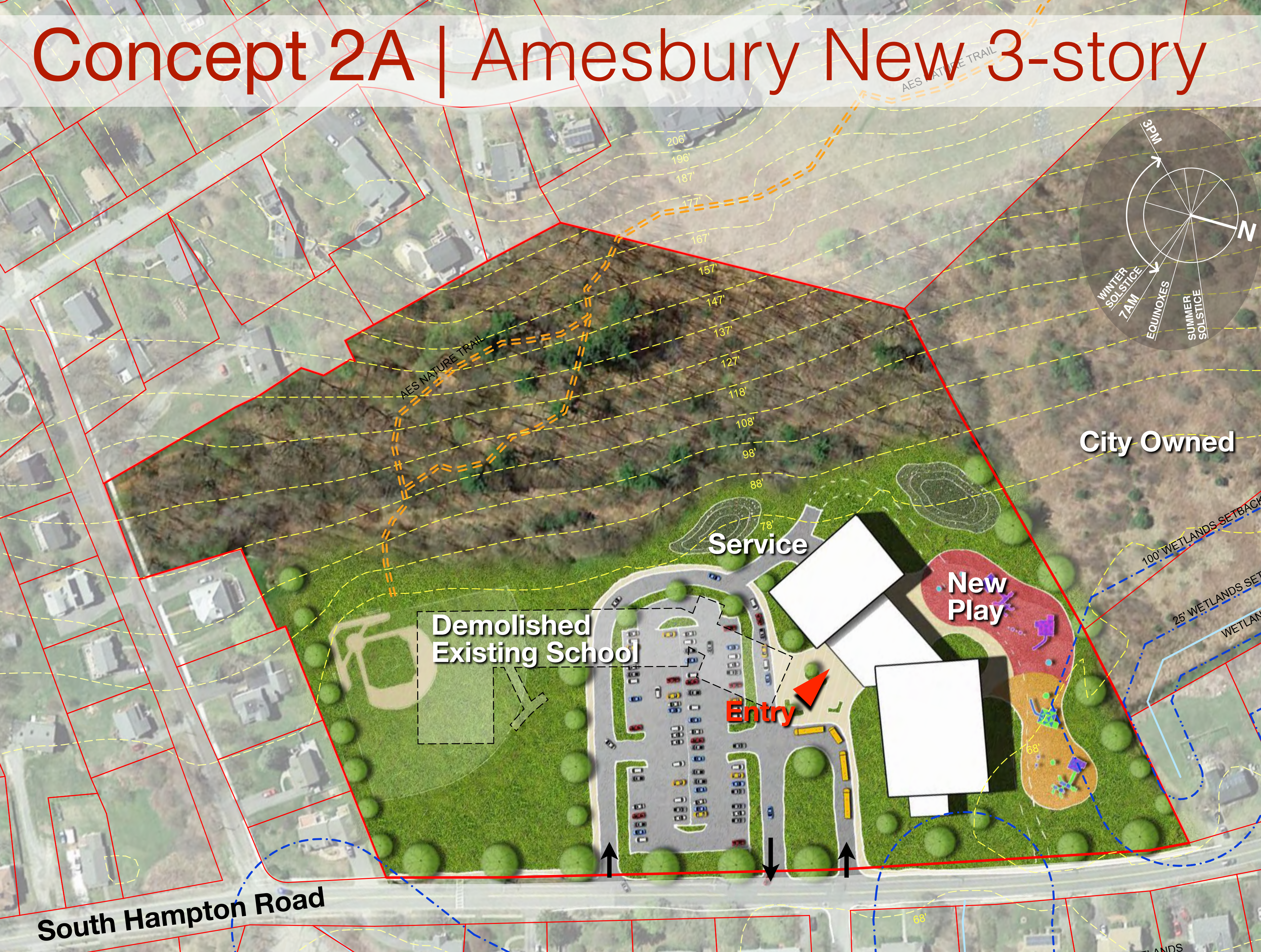
- Same neighborhood
- Re-use existing building
- Improved drop off and parking
- Least wetland impact

## Cons

- Phased construction
- Maximum disruption
- Program compromises
- Loss of green space
- Increased impervious
- Solar orientation

# Concept 2A | Amesbury New 3-story

~450 students (max. pop)  
80,000 SF



## Pros

- Same neighborhood
- New building
- Solar orientation
- Reduced footprint
- Least impervious surface
- Maximized green space
- Expanded play areas
- Improved on-site traffic

## Cons

- Construction on occupied site
- Fields separated from play areas
- Wetland setbacks

South Hampton Road

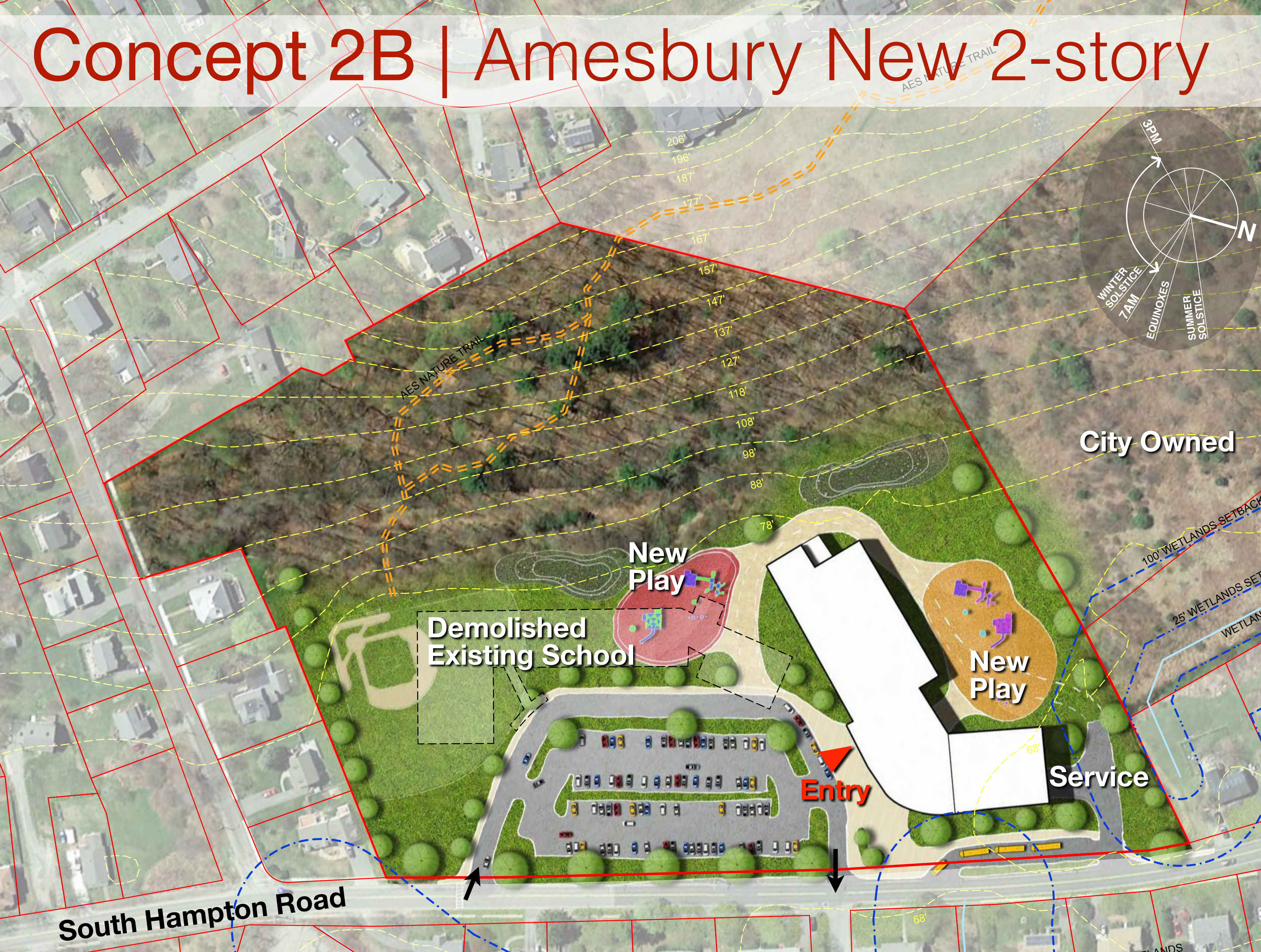
# Concept 2A | Amesbury New 3-story

~450 students (max. pop)  
80,000 SF



# Concept 2B | Amesbury New 2-story

~450 students (max. pop)  
80,000 SF



## Pros

- Same neighborhood
- New building
- Preferred layout PK-2
- Expanded play areas
- Improved on-site traffic

## Cons

- Construction on occupied site
- Potential retaining wall
- Front gym elevation

South Hampton Road

# Concept 2B | Amesbury New 2-story

~450 students (max. pop)  
80,000 SF



# Cashman Elementary | Existing Conditions



- ~36 Ac. site
- ~11 Ac. usable
- Tiered/sloping
- Wetlands
- Intermittent streams
- Well draining soils
- Potential ledge
- Little League complex
- Traffic congestion

# Concept 3 | Cashman New 3-story

~450 students (max. pop)  
80,000 SF



## Pros

- New building
- Campus creation
- Consolidated busing
- Improved on-site traffic
- Amesbury school site available for other use

## Cons

- Construction on occupied site
- Rebuilding existing infrastructure
- Wetlands
- Single access drive
- Traffic congestion
- Loss of city fields
- Reduced green space
- Substantial regrading



# Concept 3 | Cashman New 3-story

~450 students (max. pop)  
80,000 SF



# Woodsom Farm Site



# Woodsom Farm Site | Existing Conditions



- ~80 Ac. site
- ~30 Ac. usable
- Flat topography
- Wetlands
- Pond and streams
- Well draining soils
- Walking trails
- City fields

# Concept 4 | Woodsom New 3-story

~450 students (max. pop)  
80,000 SF

## Pros

- New building
- Campus creation
- Retains all fields
- Pedestrian access to Cashman
- Parking for rec. use
- Amesbury school site available for other use
- On-site queuing

## Cons

- Building on open space
- Infrastructure
- Additional neighborhood traffic
- Wetland remediation/replication
- Outside of current Amesbury ES area



# Concept 4 | Woodsom New 3-story

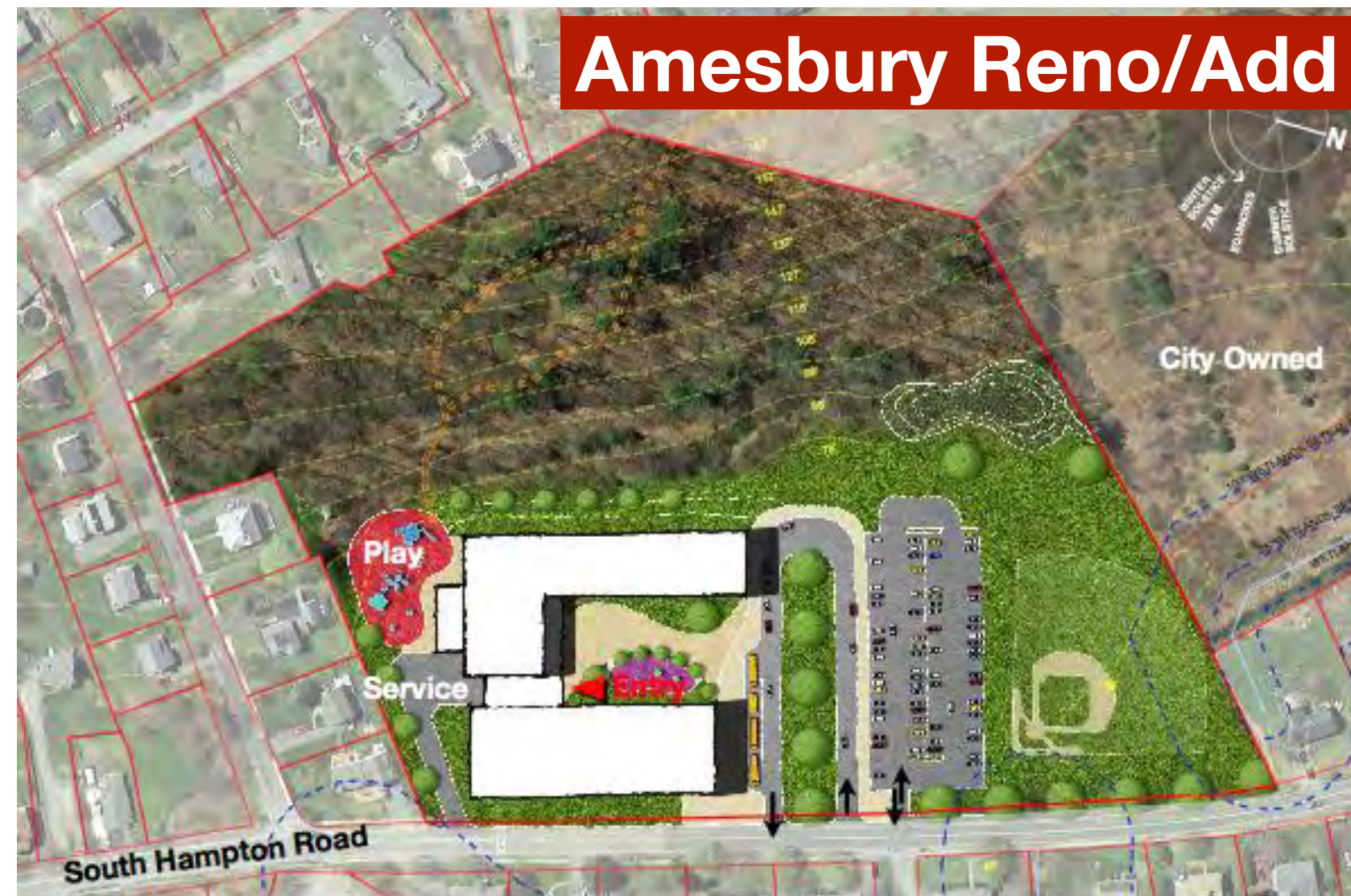
~450 students (max. pop)  
80,000 SF



# Concepts

~450 students (max. pop)  
80,000 SF

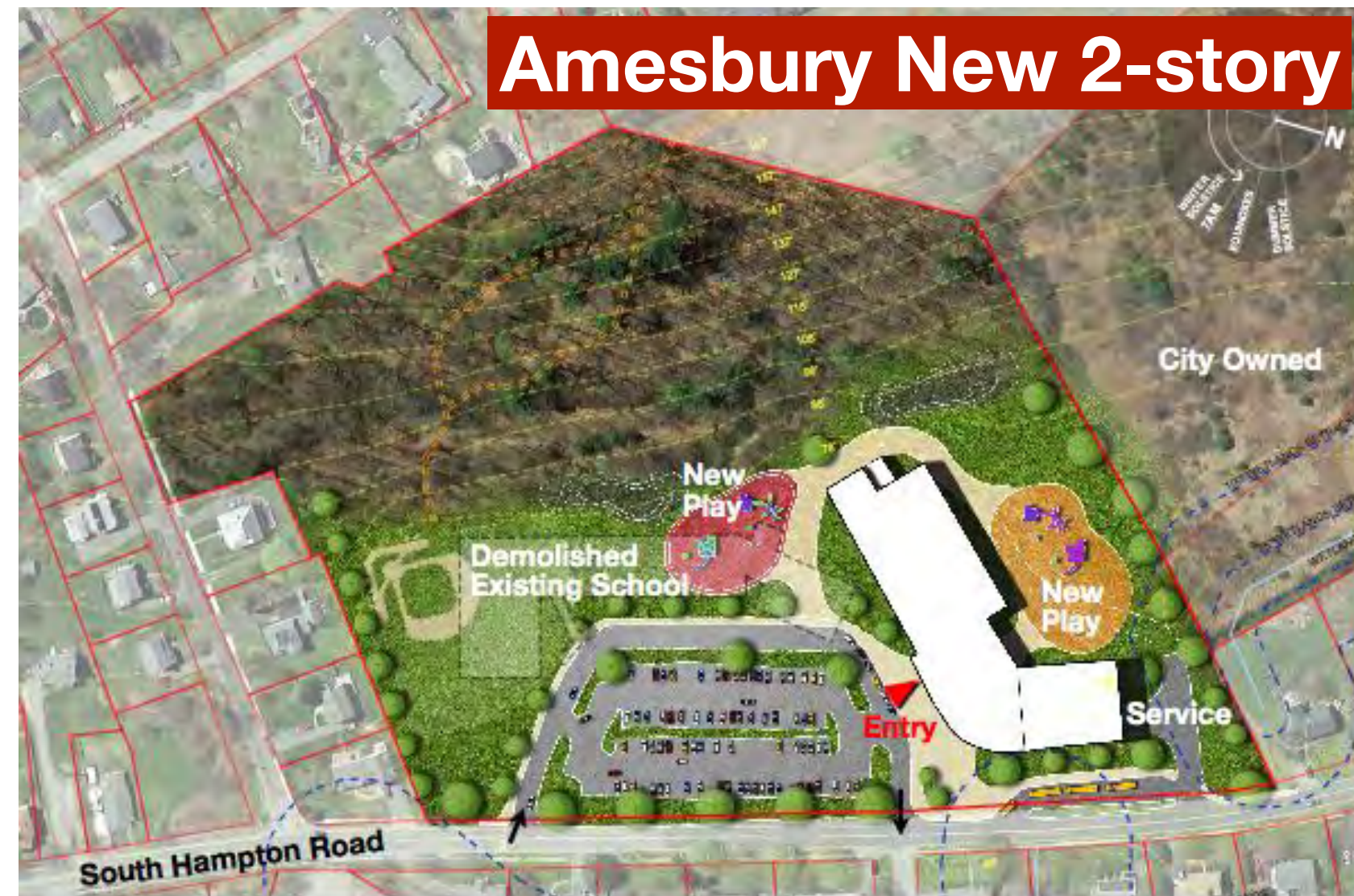
### Amesbury Reno/Add



### Amesbury New 3-story



### Amesbury New 2-story



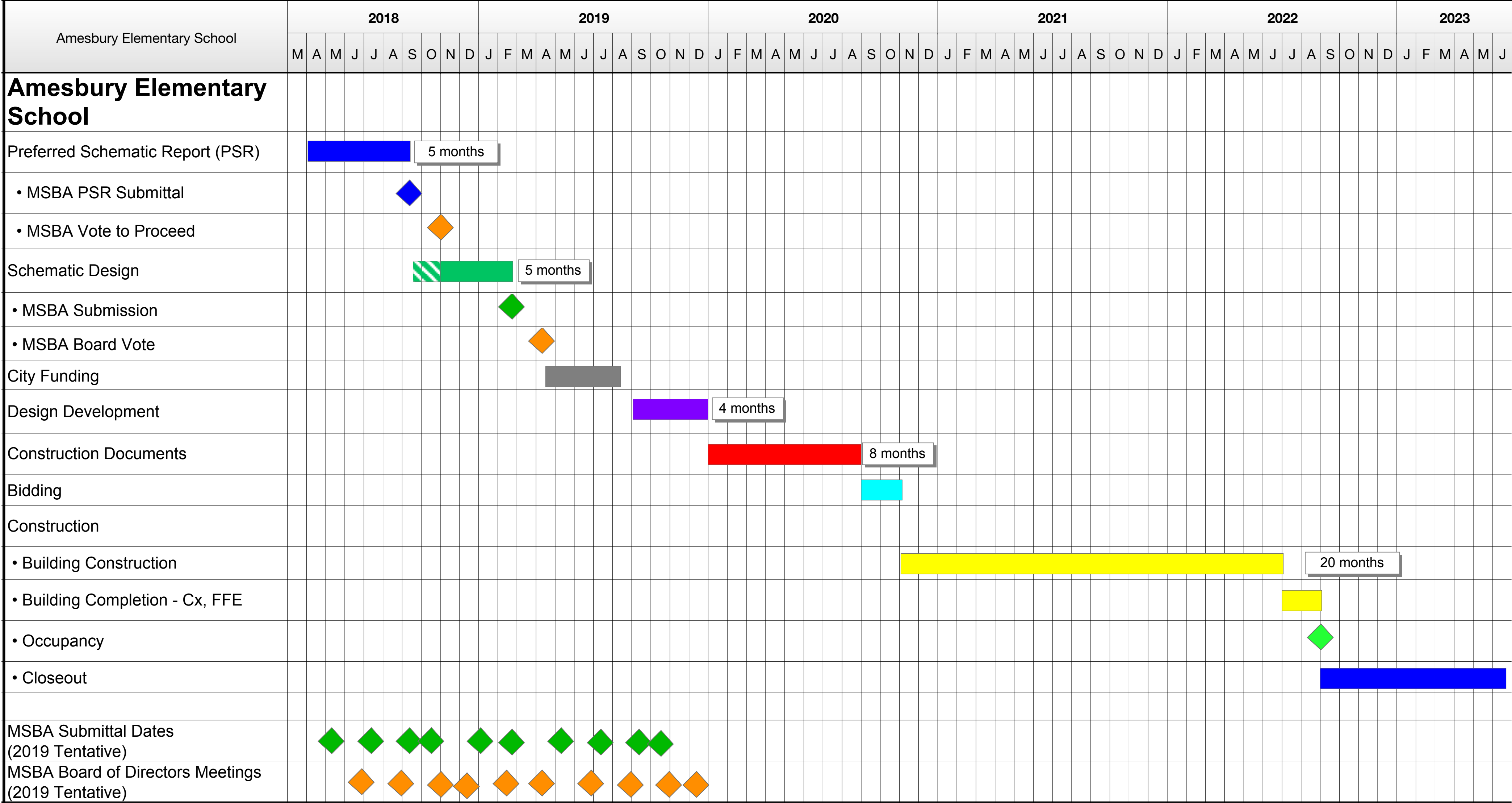
### Cashman New 3-story



### Woodson New 3-story



# Project Schedule



# Community Input | Survey

## Evaluation Criteria

1. Do you feel the existing elementary school facilities in Amesbury are adequate?
2. How important is providing adequate educational space for the children of Amesbury?
3. How strongly do you value "neighborhood schools" over a centralized school?
4. Would you support bringing the 5th grade to the elementary school level instead of remaining at the middle school?
5. How important is "equity" between the two current elementary schools, as it applies to having equal facilities available to students?
6. Would you support reorganizing the grade structures of the elementary schools to provide equity, for instance, having one school serve grades PK–2 and the other serve grades 3–5?



# Community Input | Survey

Evaluation Criteria
7. How important is a new/improved Amesbury Elementary School building?
8. How strongly do you feel about exclusively building (either new or additions/renovations) on the Amesbury Elementary School Site?
9. Would you support building a new Elementary School elsewhere in Amesbury? The existing Amesbury Elementary School site could be used for other municipal use?
10. Would you support building on the Cashman Elementary School Site, to create a "campus" of nearby centralized schools (if enrollment is revised to PK-2 and 3-5)?
11. Would you support building on a portion of the Woodsom Farm land, near Cashman, to create a "campus" of nearby centralized schools (if enrollment is revised to PK-2 and 3-5)?
12. Do you live in the Amesbury Elementary School neighborhood or the Cashman Elementary School neighborhood?
Do you have any additional comments regarding aspects of Amesbury Elementary School project?

# Community Input | Survey

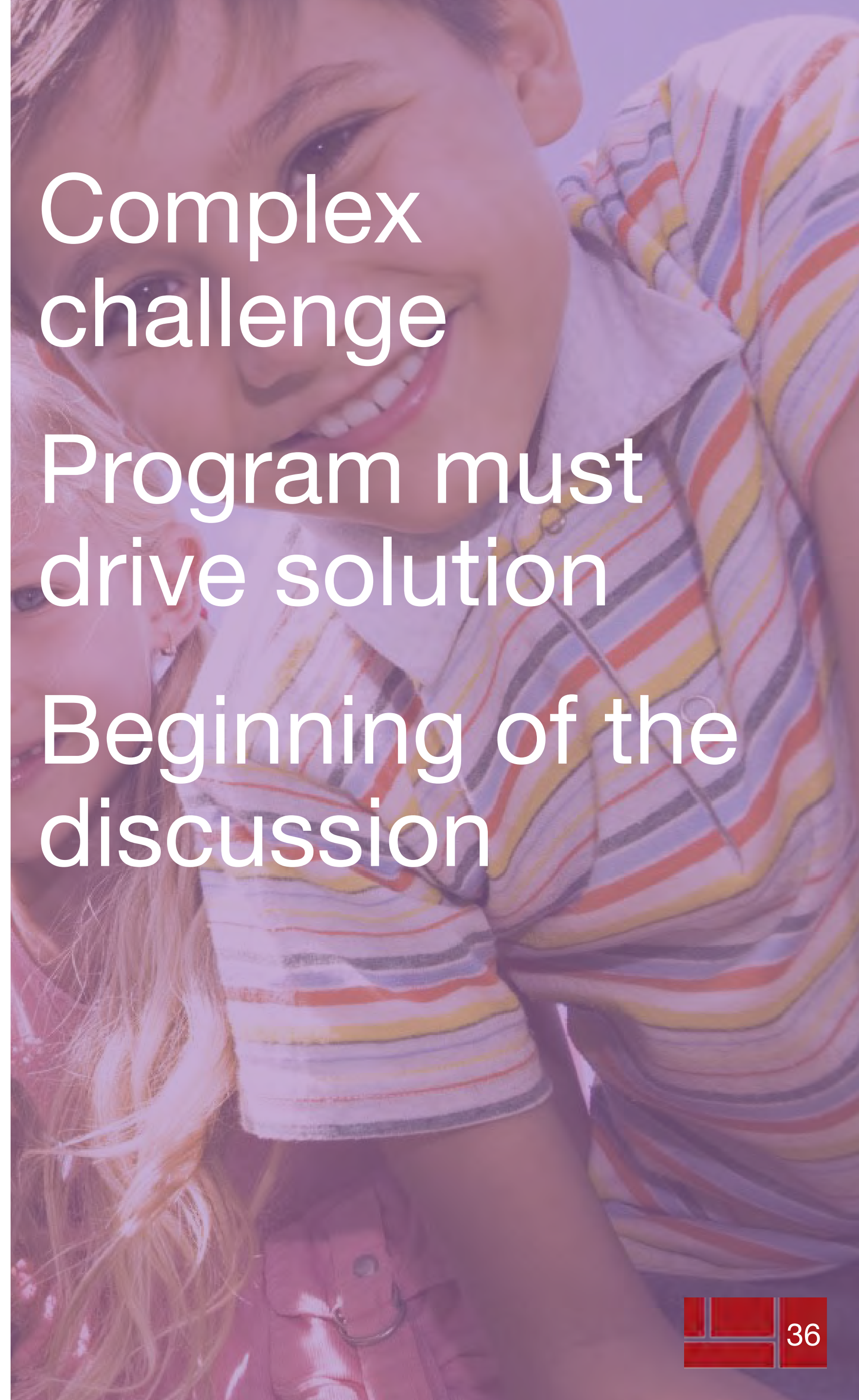
**We welcome your input to determine the solution for a new Amesbury Elementary that will best benefit the community. Please complete the survey.**

Community Survey link available on:

- Amesbury Public Schools Website
- City of Amesbury Website
- DiNisco Design's Facebook and Twitter Pages  
**#AESSurvey**

**<https://goo.gl/forms/AkCwMgITFd3BtGtq2>**





Complex  
challenge

Program must  
drive solution

Beginning of the  
discussion

**Closing Thoughts**