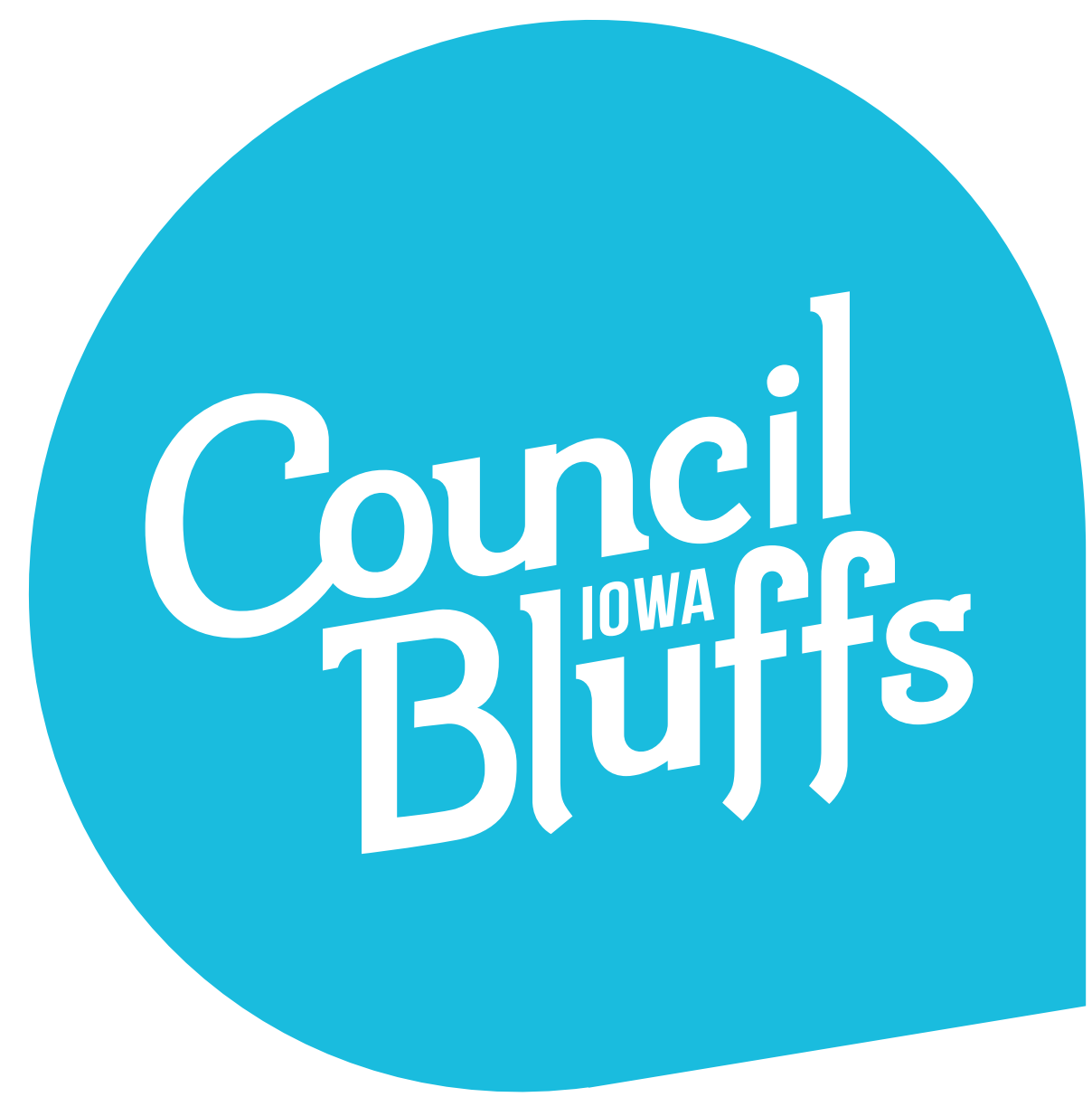




LINKAGES

MULTIMODAL CONNECTION & EXPANSION
PLANNING & ENVIRONMENTAL LINKAGES STUDY

WELCOME

Reimagining transportation between
downtown Council Bluffs and downtown Omaha



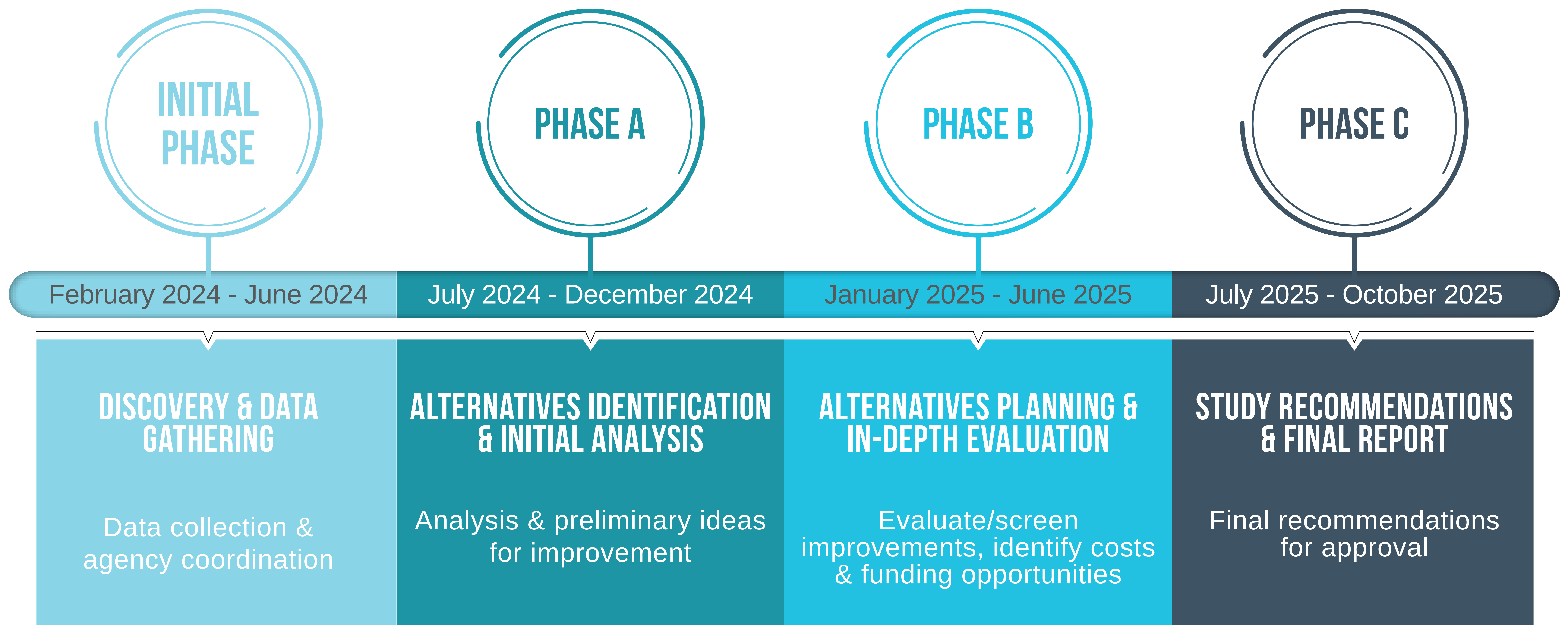
MAPA



<https://www.councilbluffs-ia.gov/2571/20157/Linkages-Study>

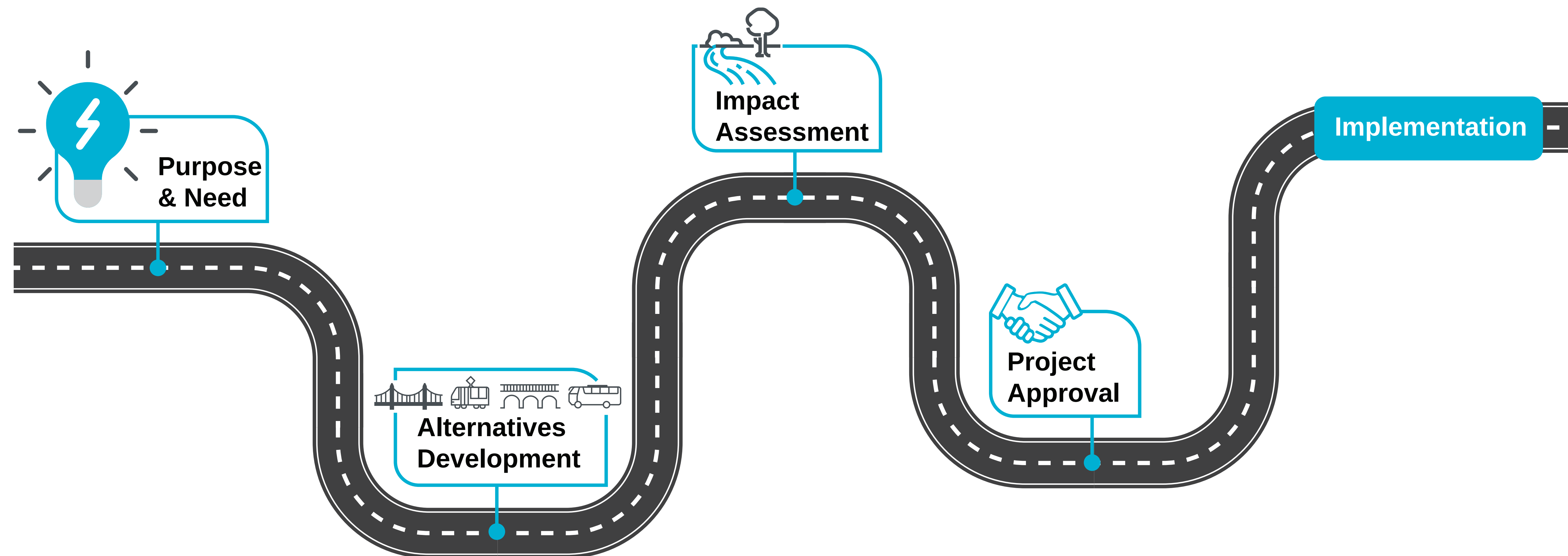
Public Workshop • October 2, 2024

PROJECT SCHEDULE



WHAT'S A "PEL" ?

THE LINKAGES STUDY IS A PEL STUDY. SO, WHAT'S A "PEL" ?



A Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) Study is a type of transportation study conducted at the corridor or subarea level prior to entering into the federal environmental (NEPA) and project design process. The PEL process is a valuable tool for creating efficiency in transportation project development and supporting agencies to collaborate and accelerate project delivery. PEL studies are often conducted when:

- A project is not yet well defined
- The study may result in multiple projects
- Project funding is not yet identified, but it is likely that a future project will seek federal funds
- There is need for early public engagement
- Multiple agencies or jurisdictions may be the permitting authority for the project

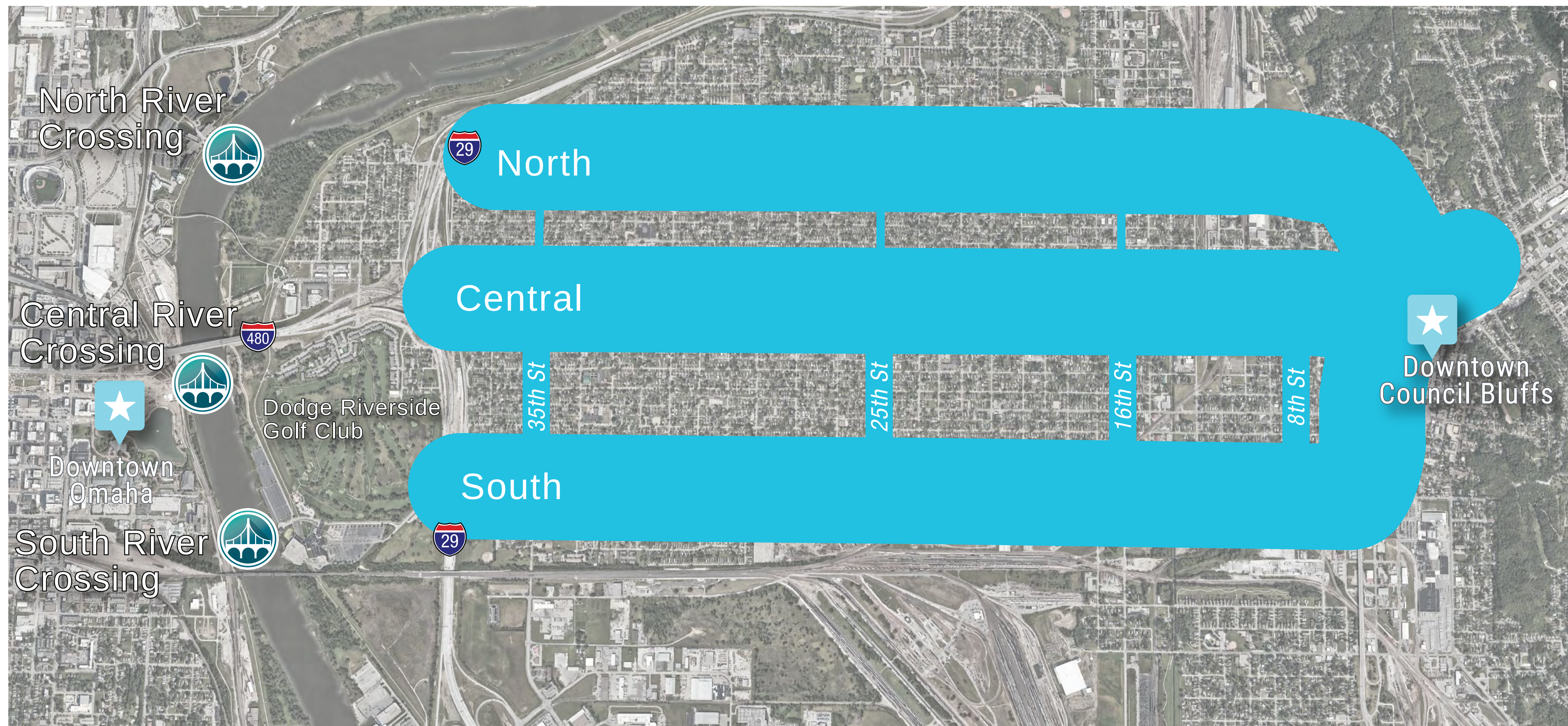
WHAT'S A "PEL" ?

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF PEL?



- Engage agencies and the community early in the process
- Minimize duplication of effort
- Streamline environmental review process to accelerate delivery of any future projects that result from the PEL study
- Create a more cohesive flow of information
- Build relationships and resolve differences on key issues early
- Better design of programs and projects to meet community's needs

RIVER CROSSING CONCEPTS



NORTH:

This concept would be a Missouri River crossing somewhere north of the Bob Kerry Pedestrian Bridge and tie into a northern location in Council Bluffs.

CENTRAL:

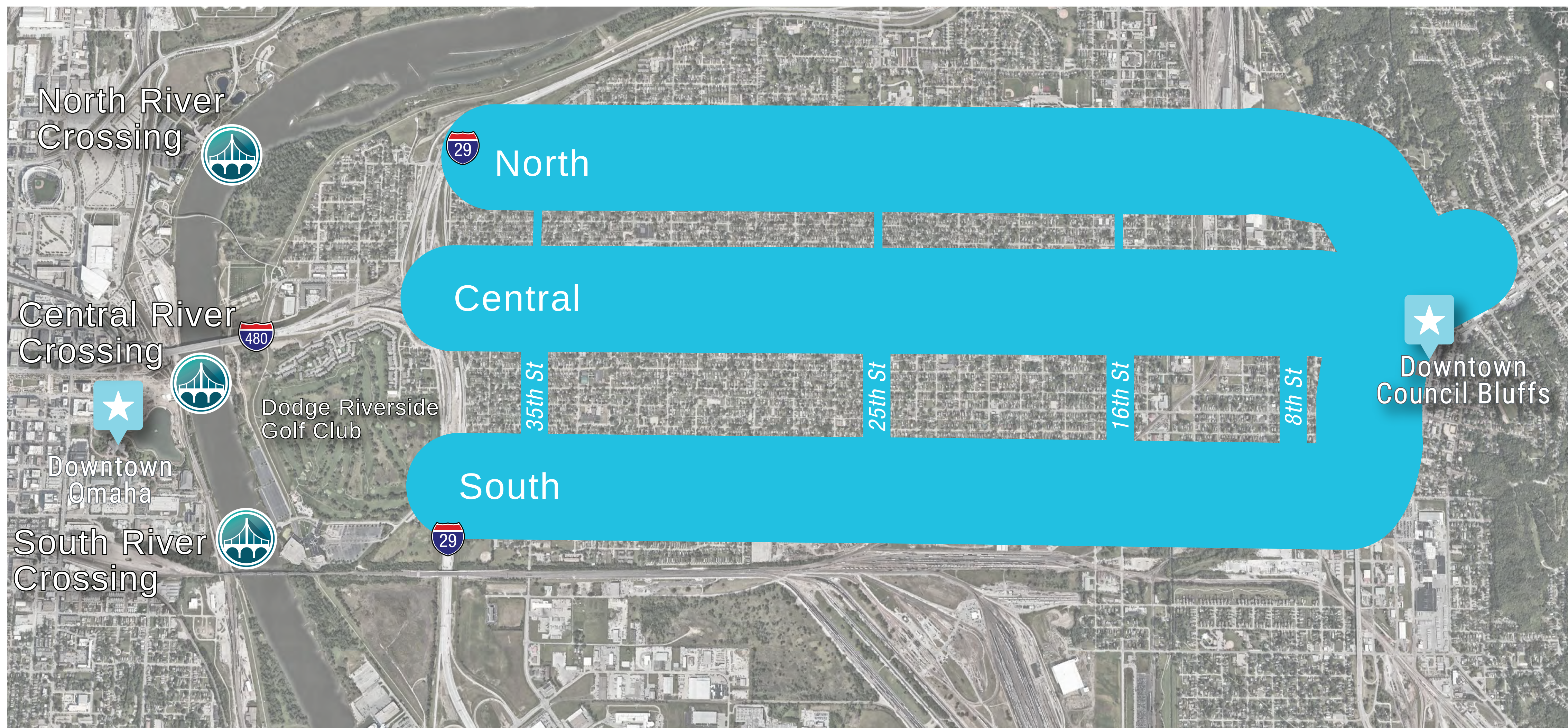
This concept would cross the Missouri River on the I-480 bridge or with a new crossing into Council Bluffs. This concept would connect the central portion of downtown Omaha, such as the Heartland of America Park, to an east-west corridor along I-480 or a new alignment through the north side of Dodge Riverside Golf Club.



SOUTH:

This concept would cross the Missouri River on the Union Pacific Railroad bridge or a new crossing. This crossing would connect the southern end of downtown Omaha near the Old Market and tie into Council Bluffs near Harrah's Council Bluffs Hotel and Casino or the south side of Dodge Riverside Golf Club.

MULTIMODAL CORRIDOR CONCEPTS



NORTH:

This corridor concept would run through the northern portion of the study area somewhere between Avenue H and Avenue D. This corridor concept would likely use a north-south street like 7th Street or 8th Street to enter downtown Council Bluffs.

CENTRAL:

This corridor concept would run through the center of the study area somewhere between Avenue C and 3rd Avenue. This corridor concept may use Broadway, the FIRST AVE corridor, or another pathway.



SOUTH:

This corridor concept would run through the southern portion of the study area somewhere between 5th Avenue and 10th Avenue. This corridor would likely use a north-south street like 6th Street or Pearl Street to enter downtown Council Bluffs.

TRANSIT TYPES

STREETCAR



SERVICE SCHEDULE

- Operates all day with frequent service (every 5-15 minutes)
- Schedule assumes delays

CAPACITY

- Single car (120 passengers)
- 1,440 passengers/hour
- Can operate with multiple cars

SPEED

- Speed of street in which it operates - 20-35 mph
- Max Speed - 45 mph

LOCATION

- Central Business Districts
- Neighborhood-Friendly

TRANSIT TYPES

BUS RAPID TRANSIT (BRT)



CORRIDOR-BASED BRT

**SERVICE
SCHEDULE**

- Short wait times
 - Peak: every 10 minutes
 - Off-peak: every 10-20 minutes
- Bidirectional services for a substantial part of weekdays (>14 hours)
- Utilizes traffic signal priority

CAPACITY

- 70 passengers/bus

SPEED

- Speed of street in which it operates - 25 - 45 mph

LOCATION

- Separated right-of-way not required for entirety of corridor
- Requires investment in specific corridor



FIXED GUIDEWAY BRT

- Short wait times
 - Peak: every 5 minutes
 - Off-peak: every 10-20 minutes
- Bidirectional services for a substantial part of weekdays (>14 hours) & weekend days (>10 hours)

- 70 passengers/bus
- 210-420 passengers/hour

- Speed of street in which it operates - 25 - 45 mph

- Majority of project operates in a separated right-of-way dedicated for public transportation use
- Requires investment in a single route within a defined corridor

TRANSIT TYPES

LIGHT RAIL

NOTE: Light rail is not feasible or being considered for this project

SERVICE SCHEDULE

- High capacity and demand
- Peak hour focused (ever 10-15 minutes) with less frequency off-peak (every 20-30 minutes)

CAPACITY

- 1-4 cars (125 passengers/car)
- 12,000 - 15,000 passengers/hour

SPEED

- Max speed - 55 mph

LOCATION

- Suburbs
- Downtown
- Bi-directional in same corridor



CONSIDERATIONS



DIRECTIONS:

Place dots on the project opportunities that are most important to you.
You get **FIVE** dots. Spread them out or put them all in one.

PROVIDE SAFE AND RELIABLE MOBILITY AND TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS FOR:

Aging
populations

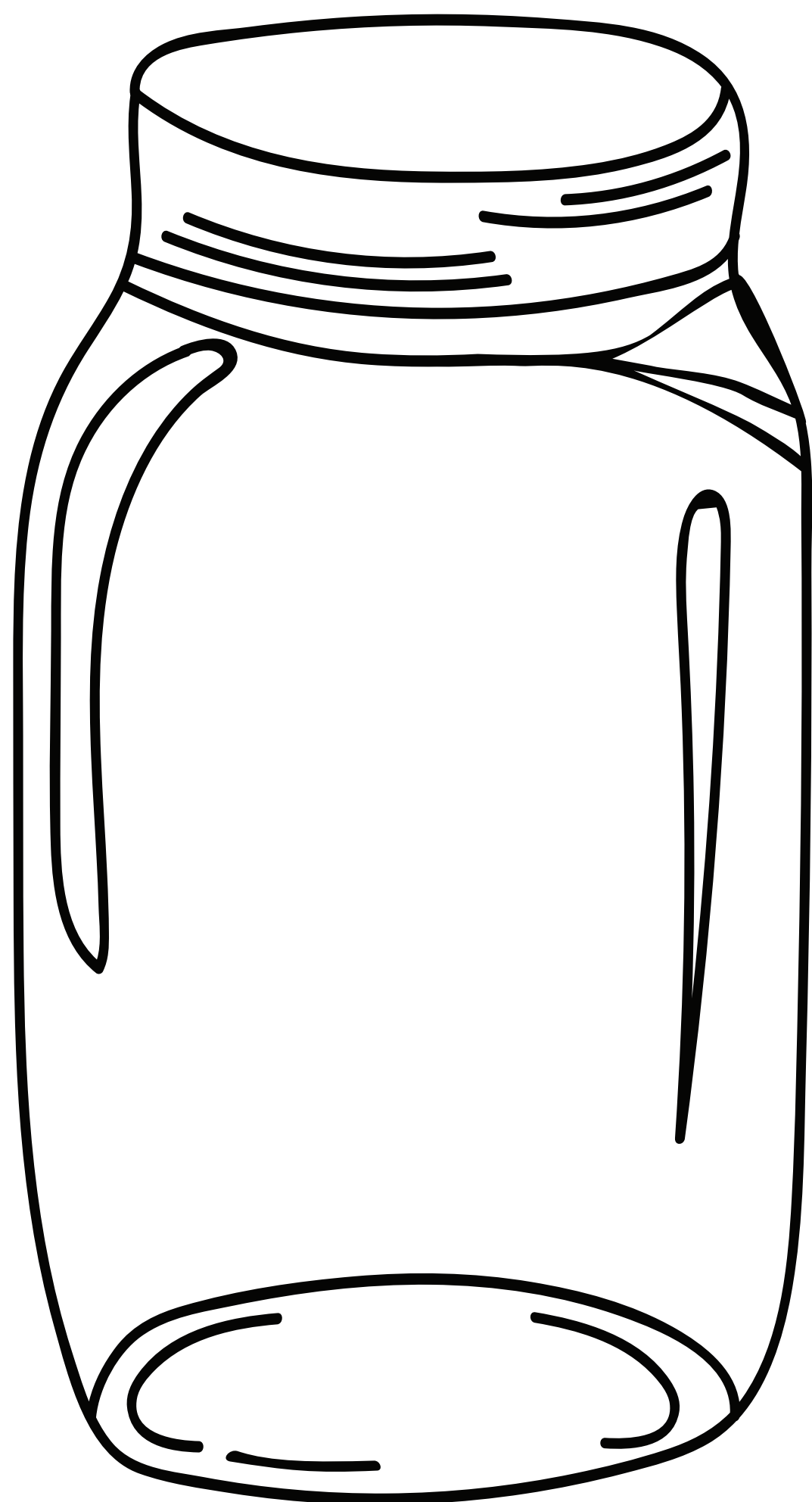
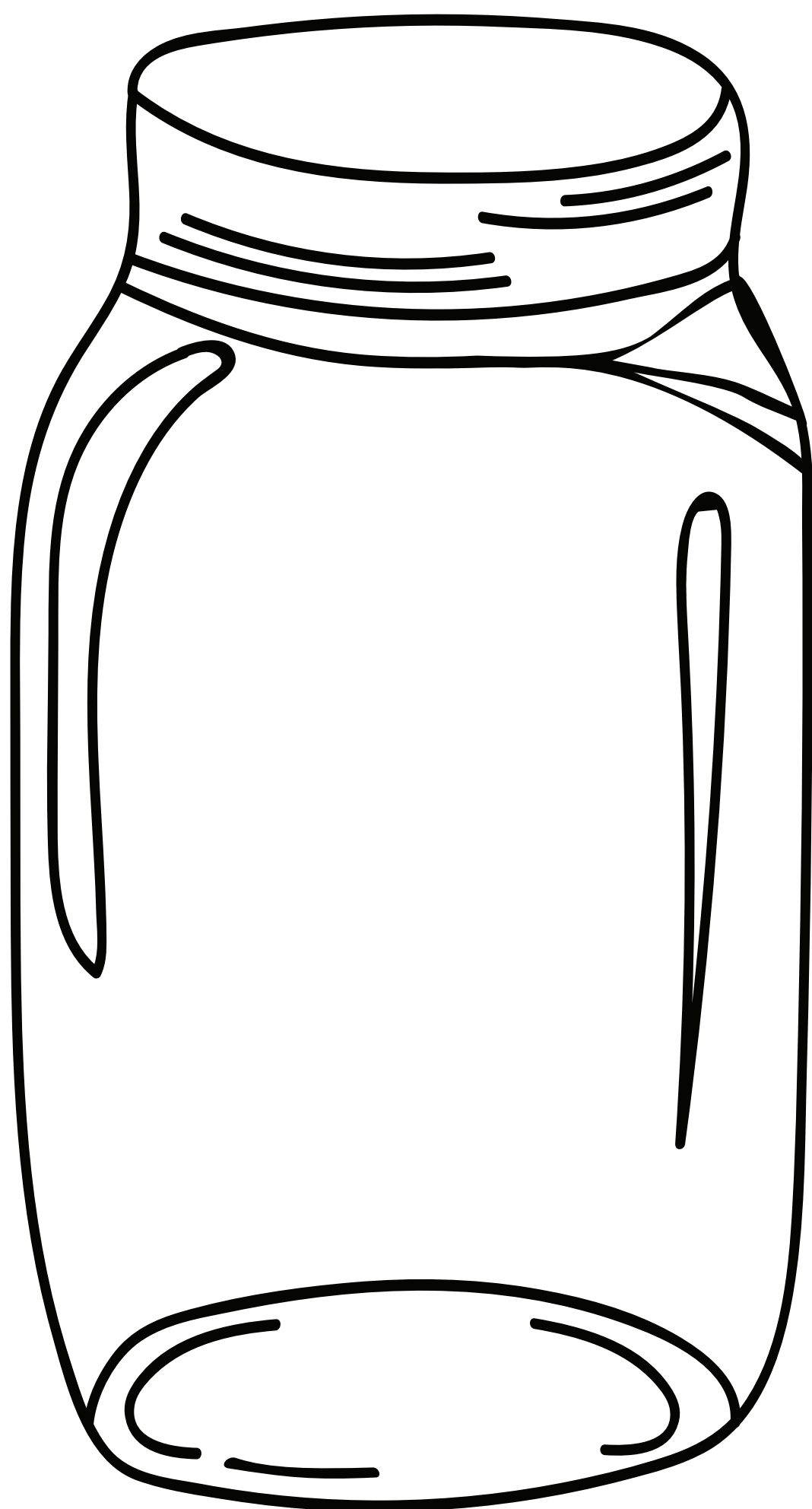
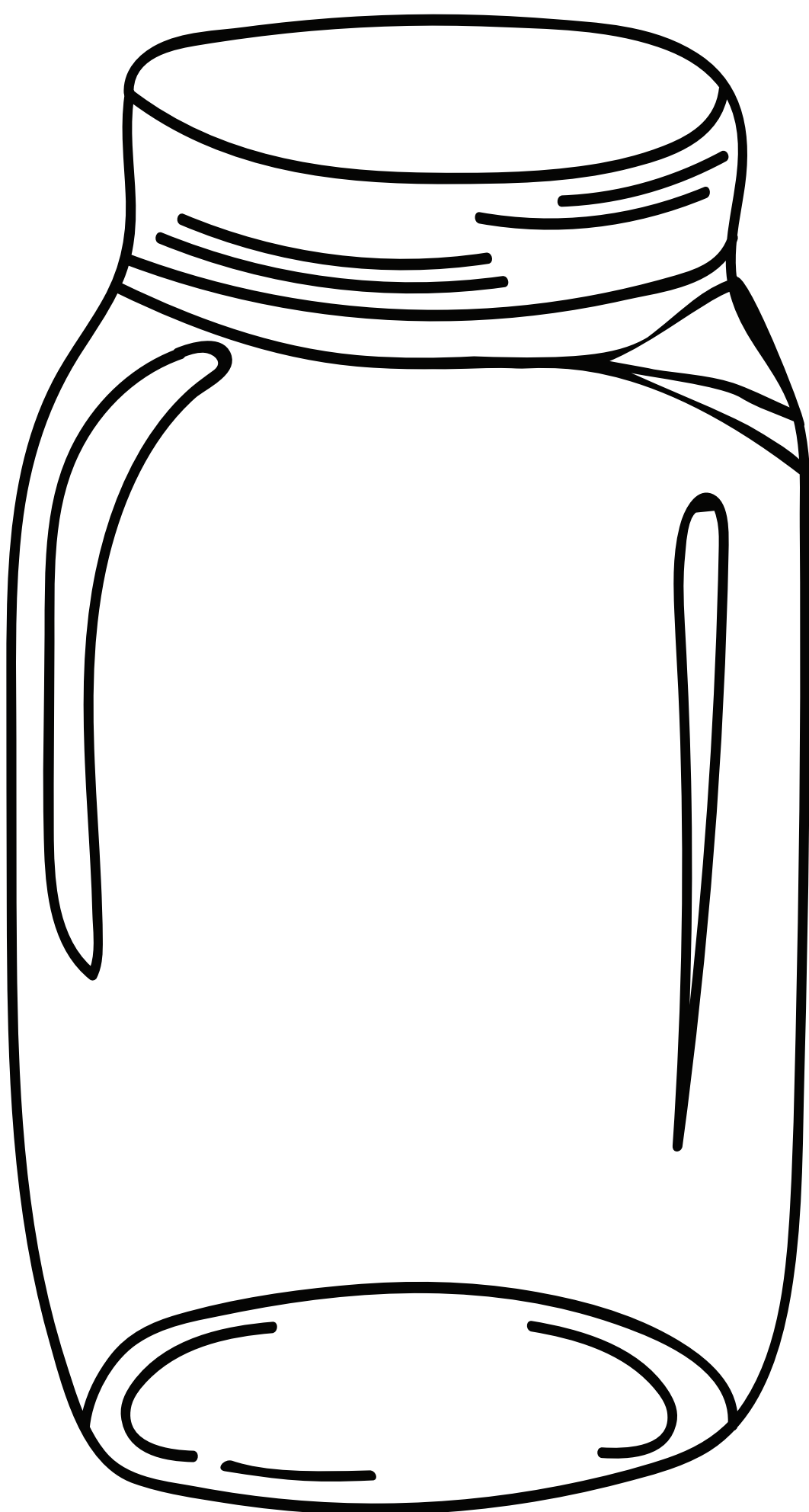
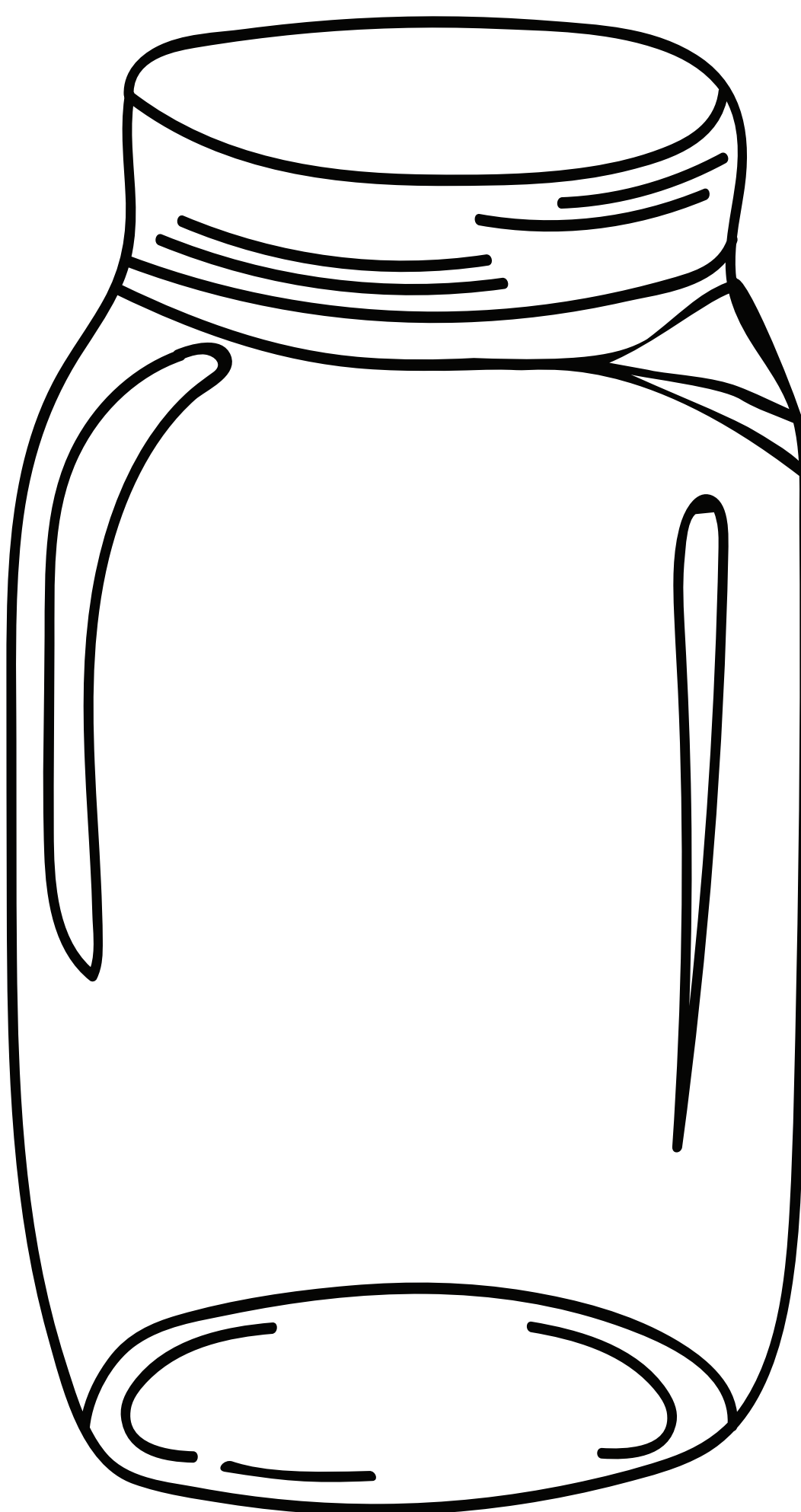
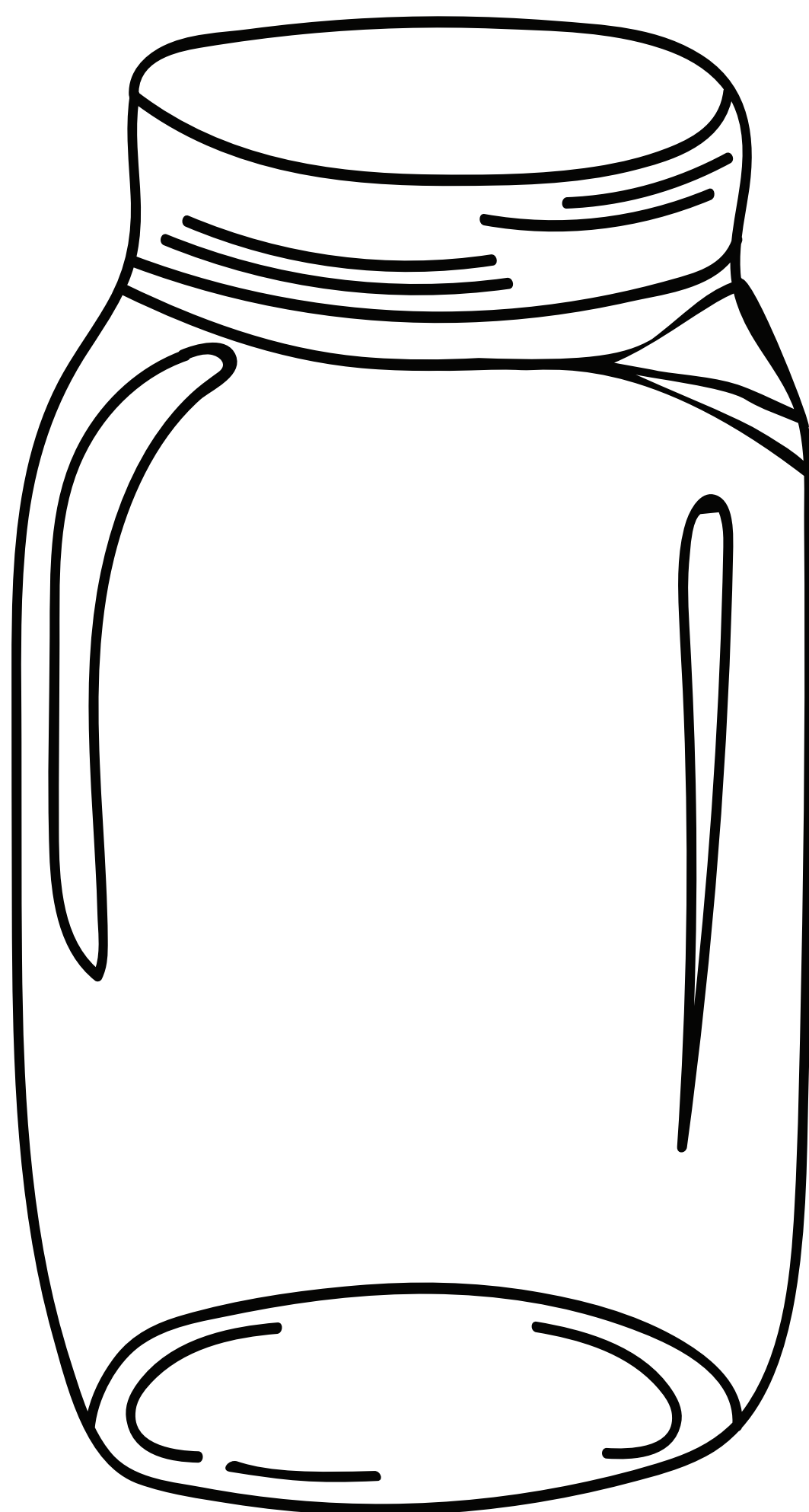
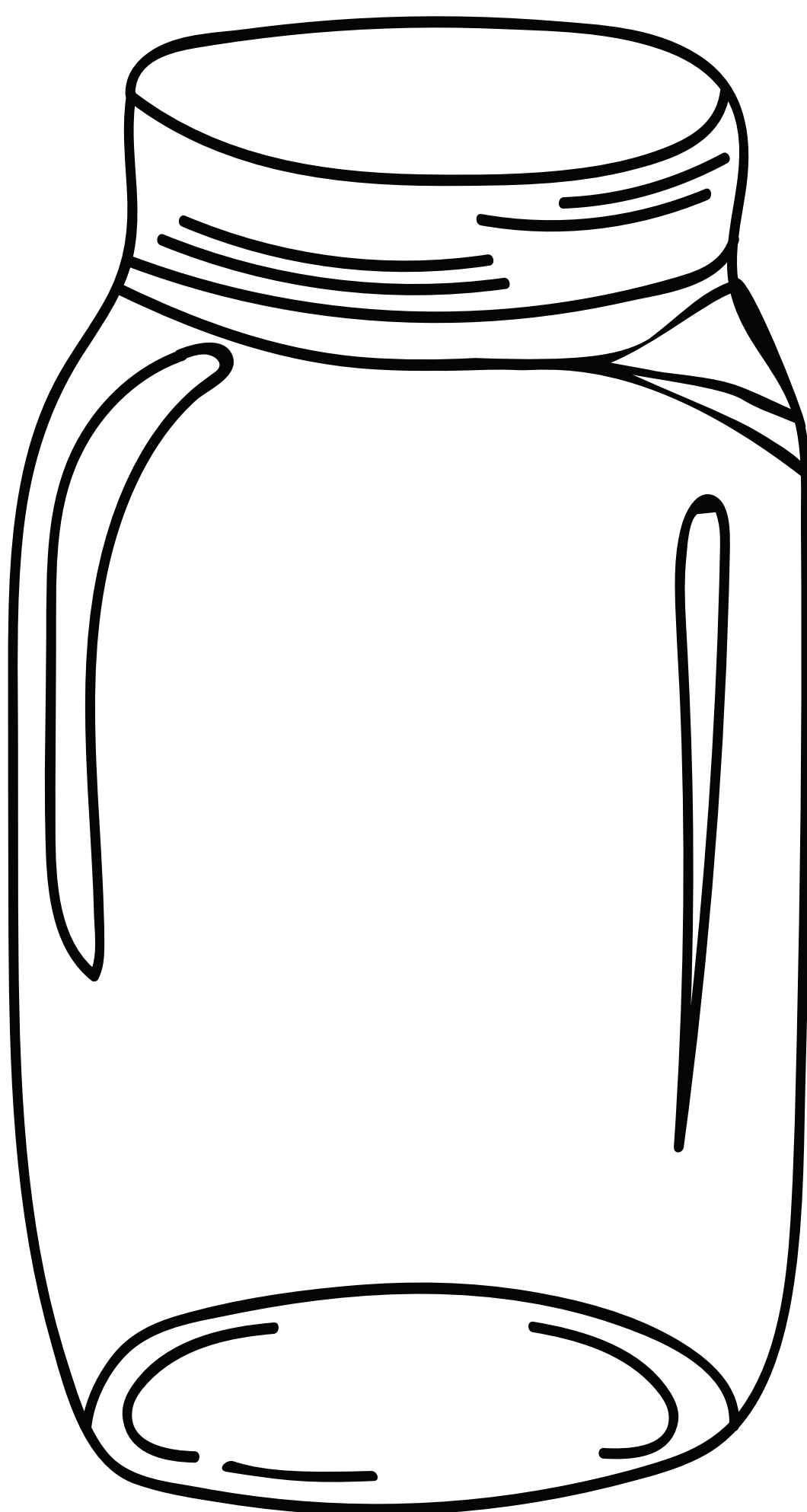
Minority and/or
immigrant
populations

Low-
income
populations

Students,
teachers, and
staff

People with
disabilities

Healthcare



CONSIDERATIONS



DIRECTIONS:

Place dots on the project opportunities that are most important to you.
You get **FIVE** dots. Spread them out or put them all in one.

PROVIDE SAFE AND RELIABLE MOBILITY AND TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS TO:

Entertainment
venues and
districts

Jobs anywhere
between downtown
Council Bluffs and
downtown Omaha

REDUCE:

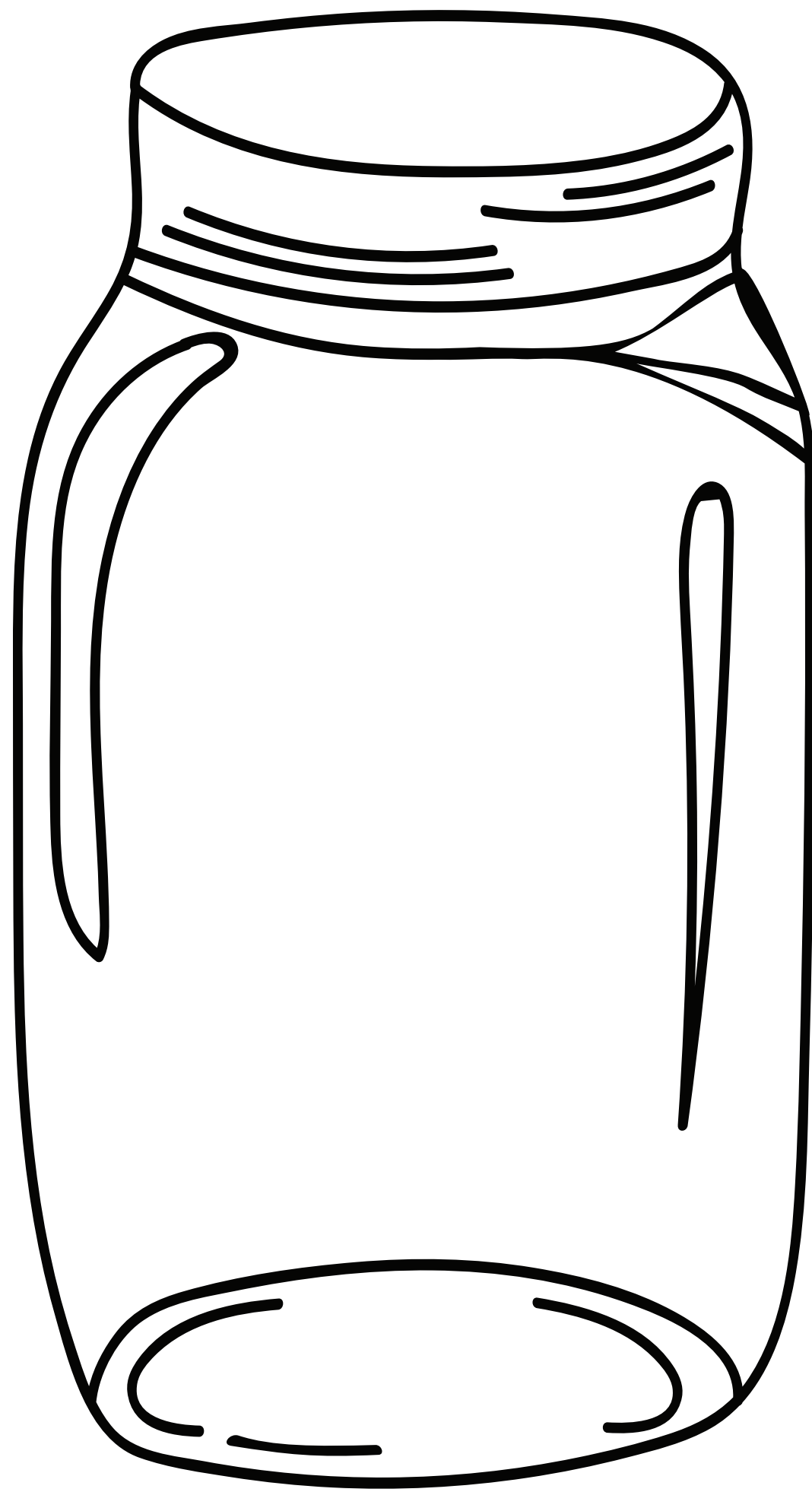
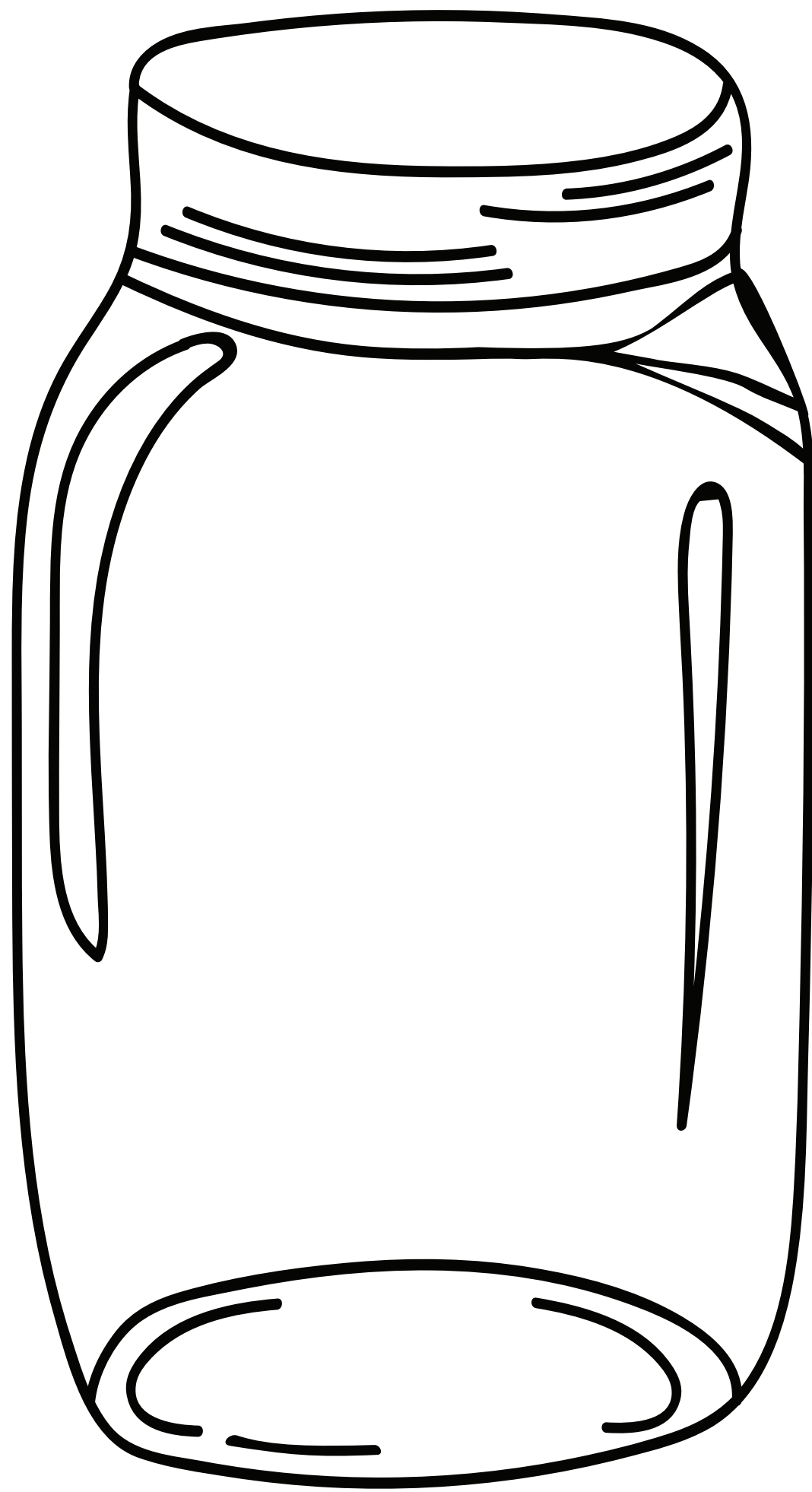
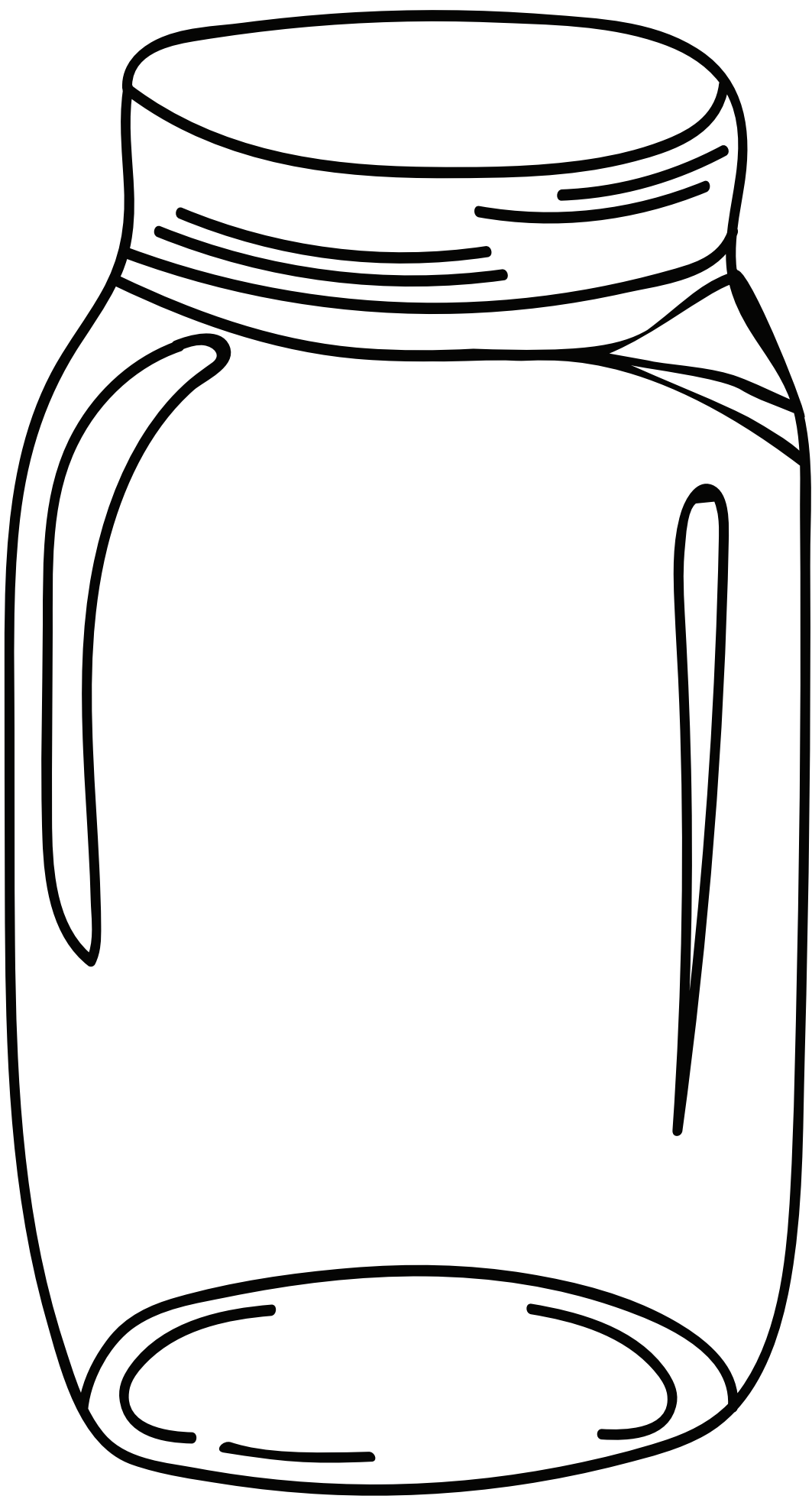
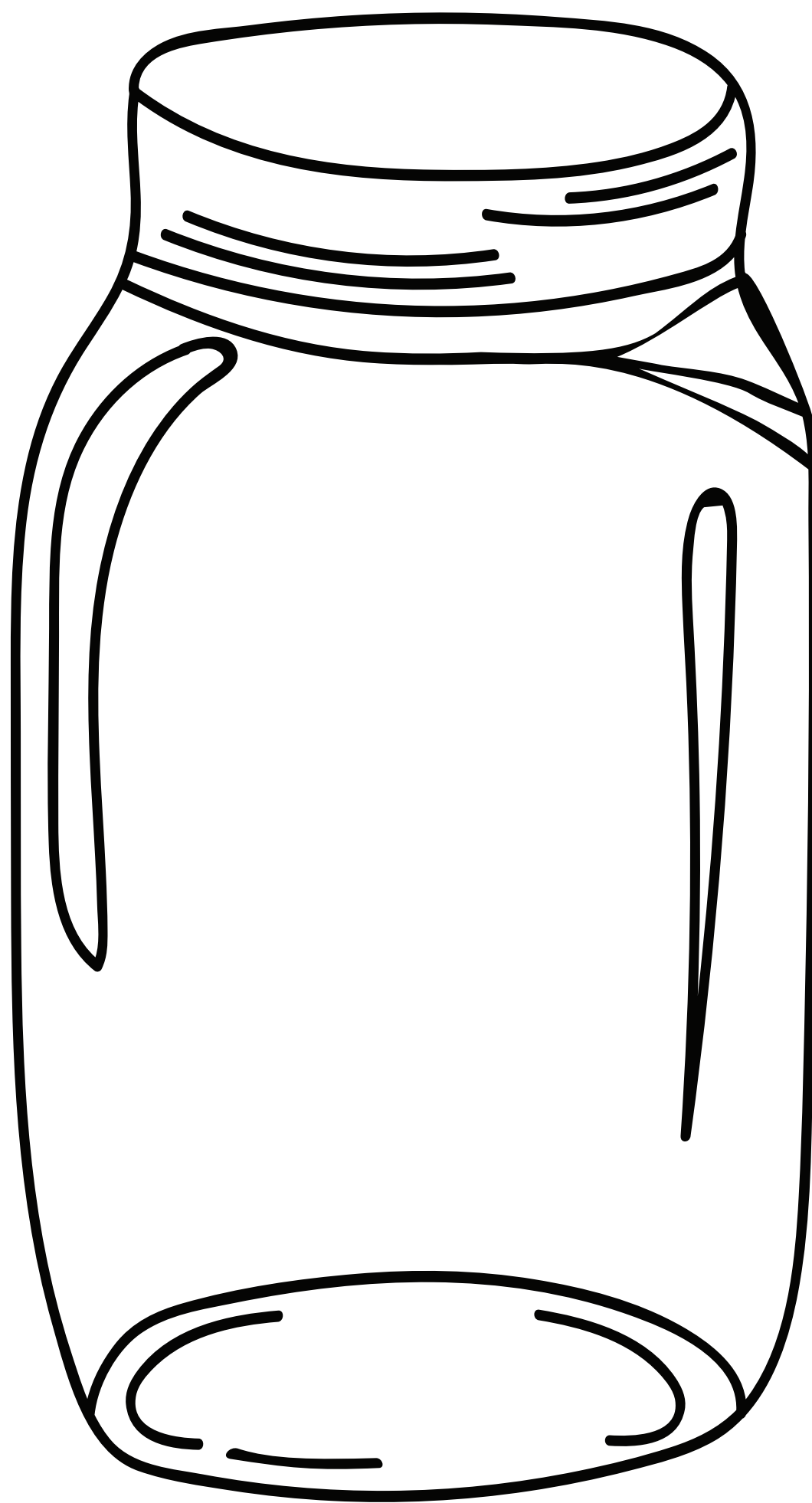
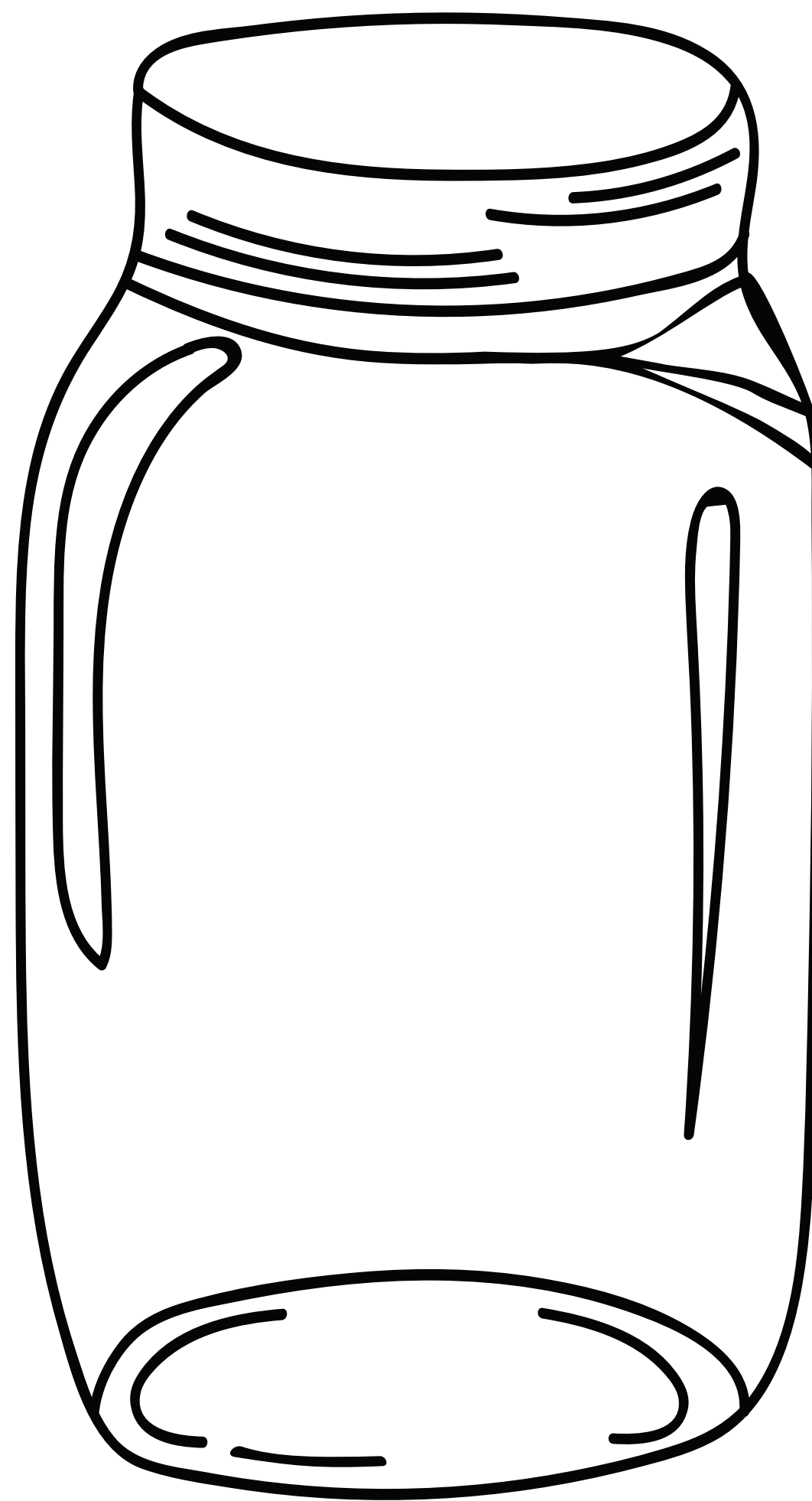
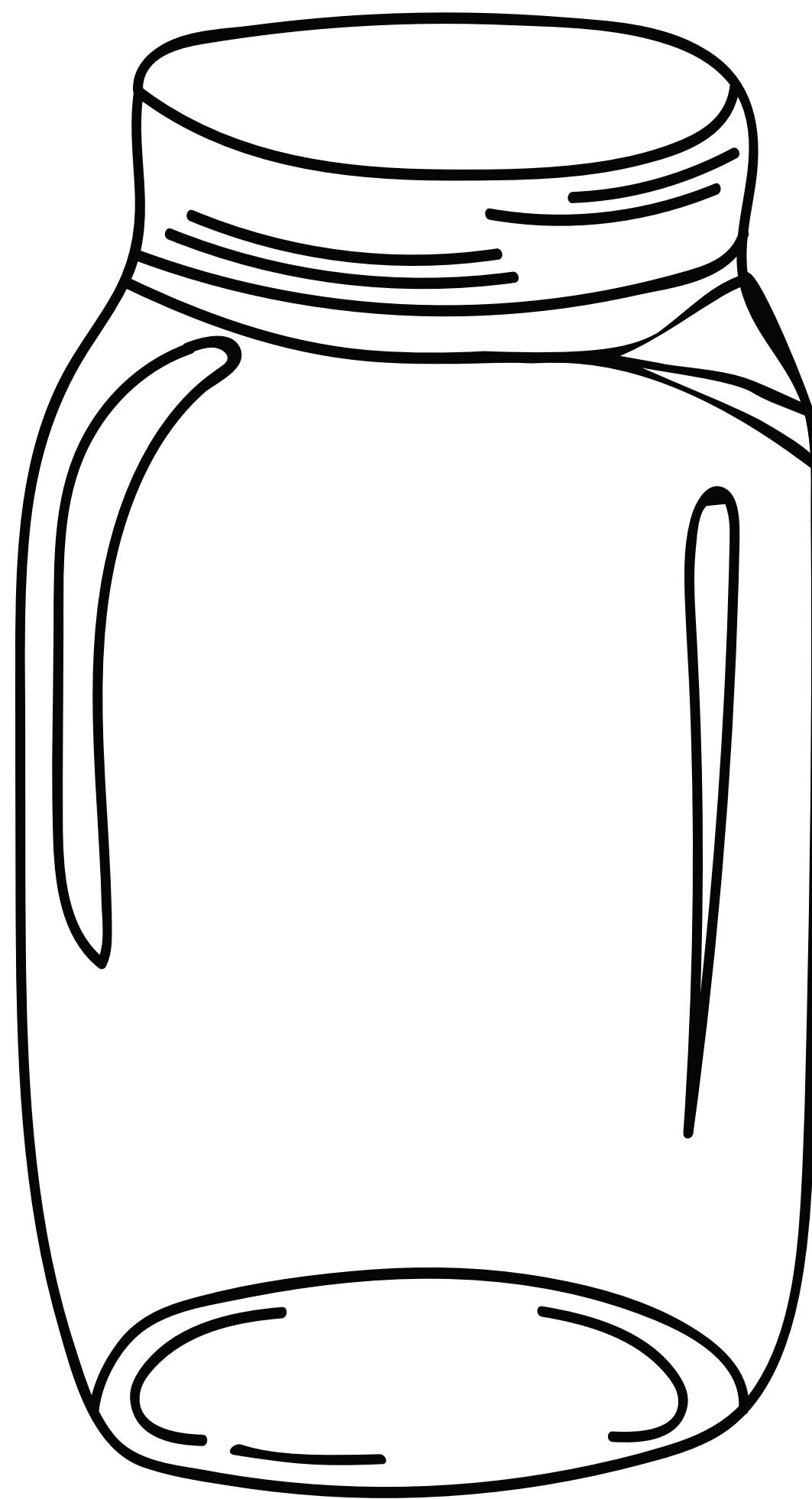
Traffic volume
and
congestion

Parking
demand

IMPROVE:

Safety of travel
by all modes

Access to
walking,
biking, and
recreation
opportunities



CONSIDERATIONS



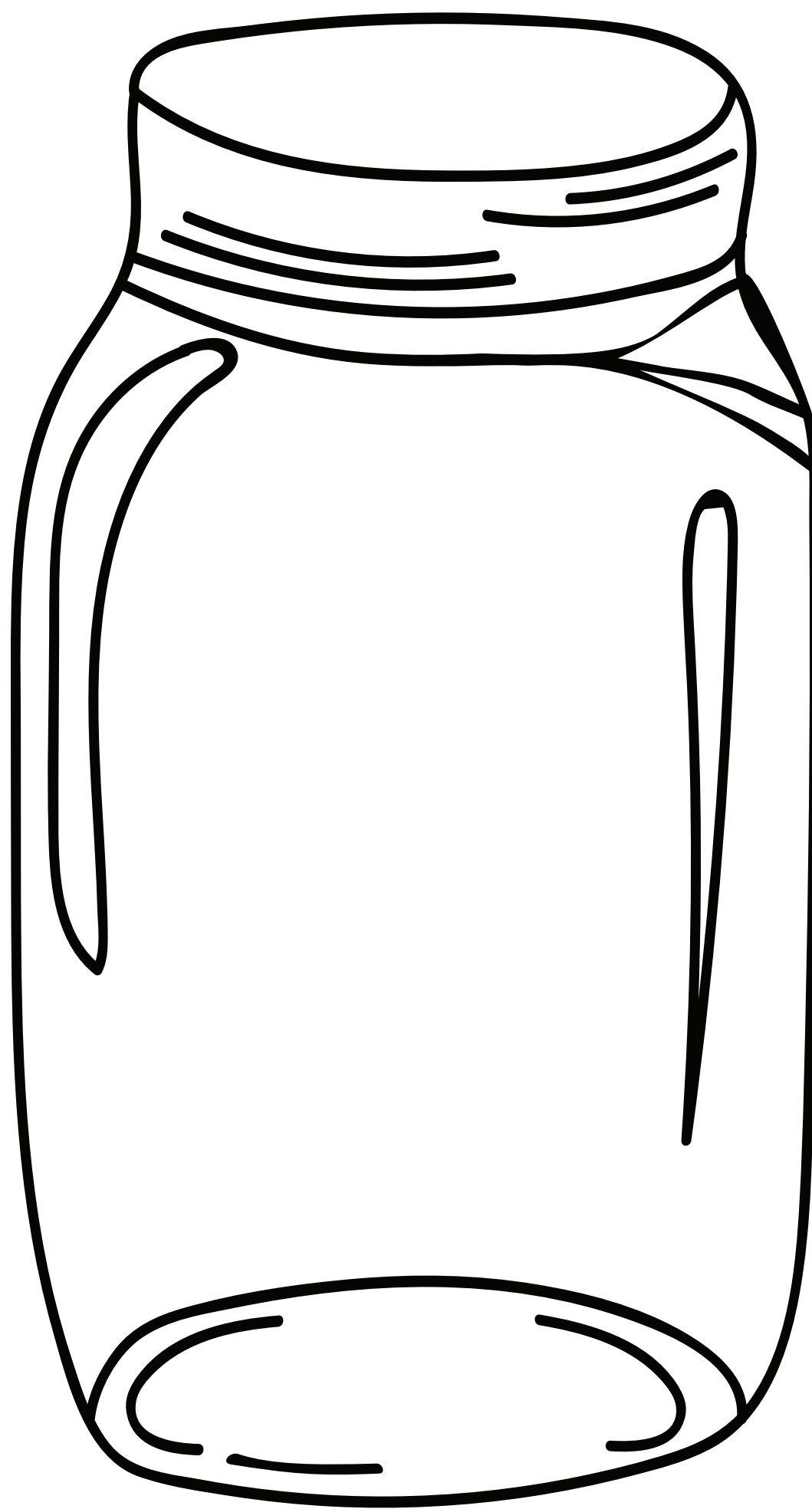
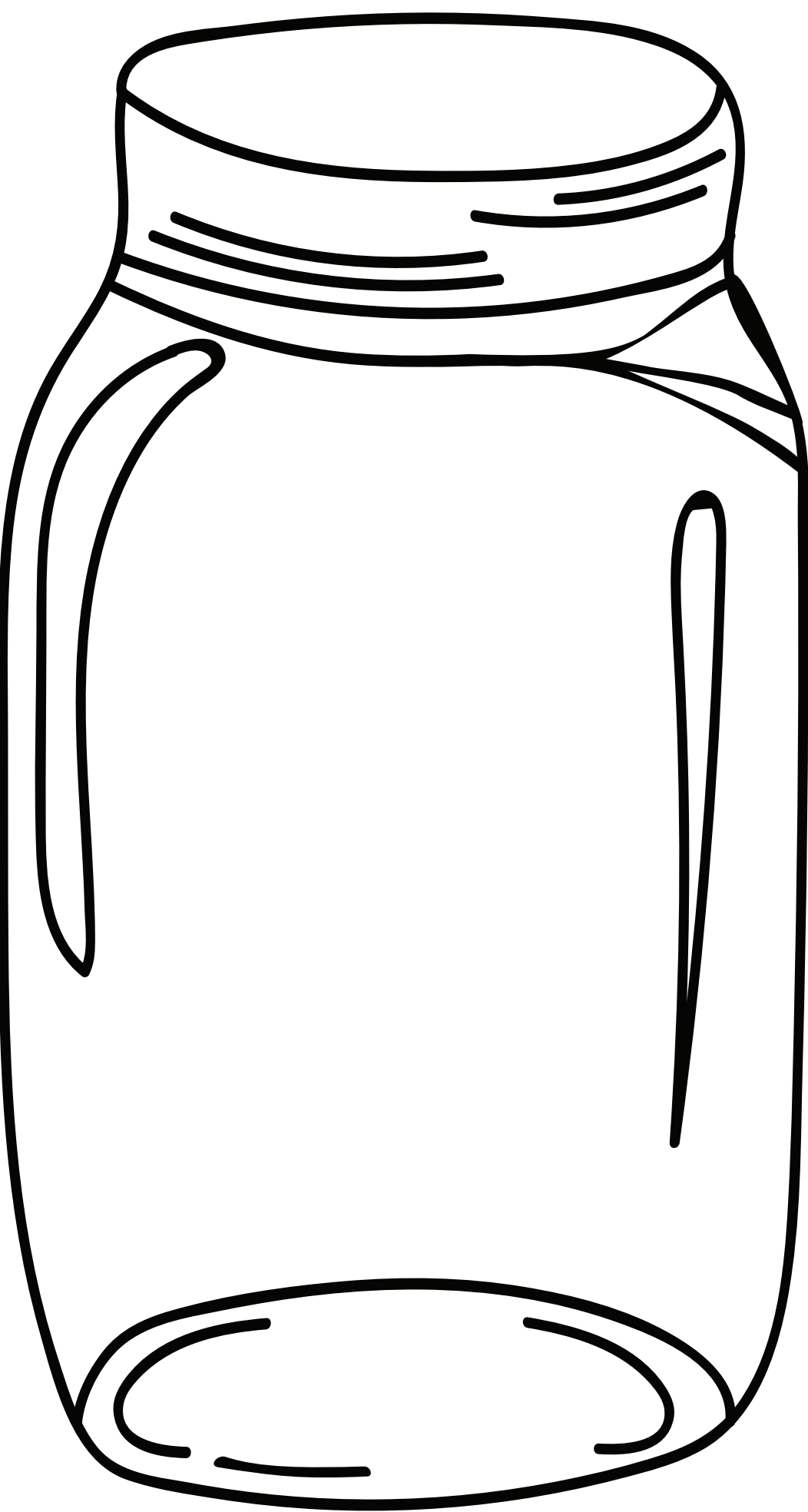
DIRECTIONS:

Place dots on the project opportunities that are most important to you. You get **FIVE** dots. Spread them out or put them all in one.

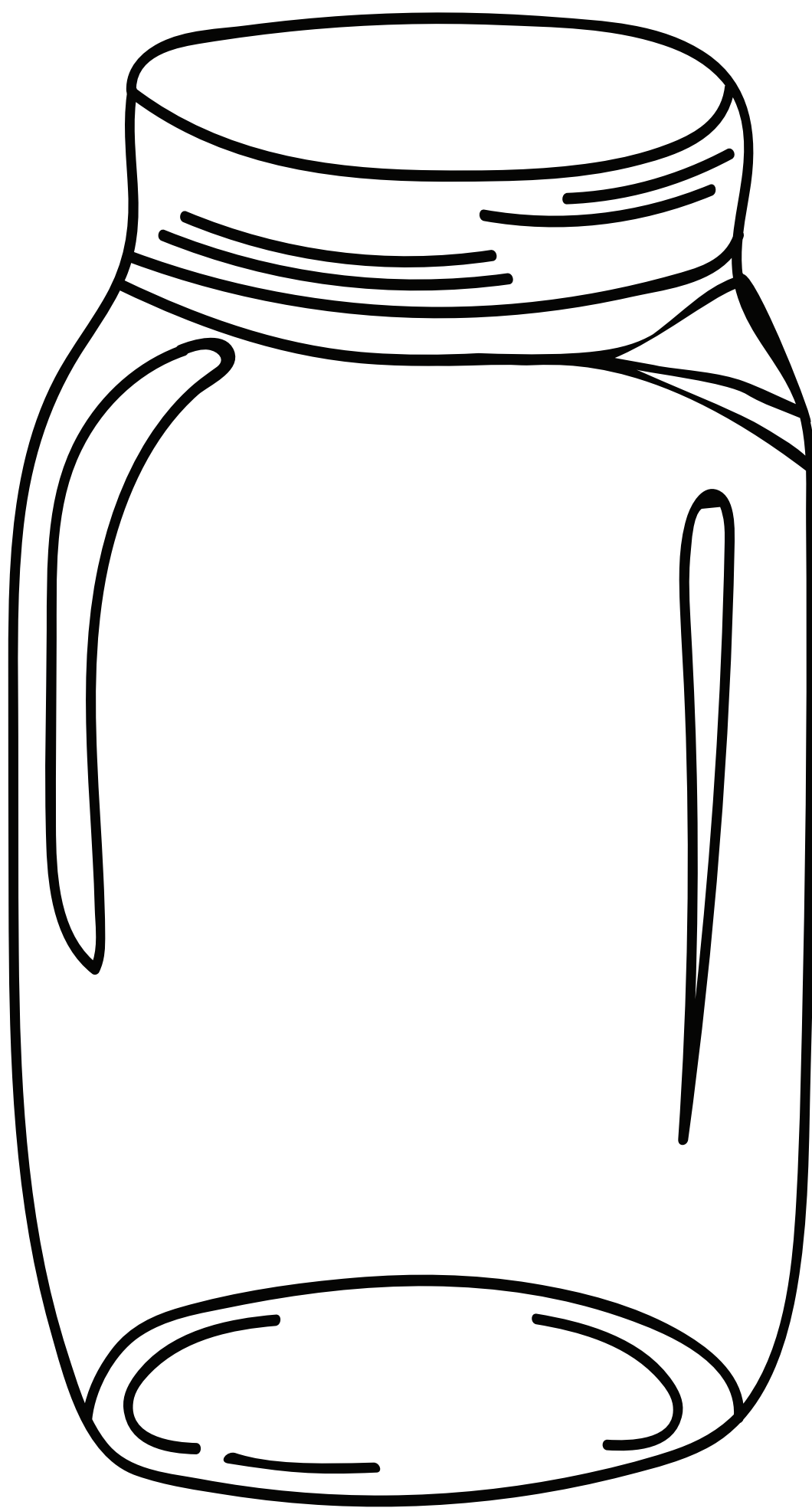
CREATE DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR:

New jobs

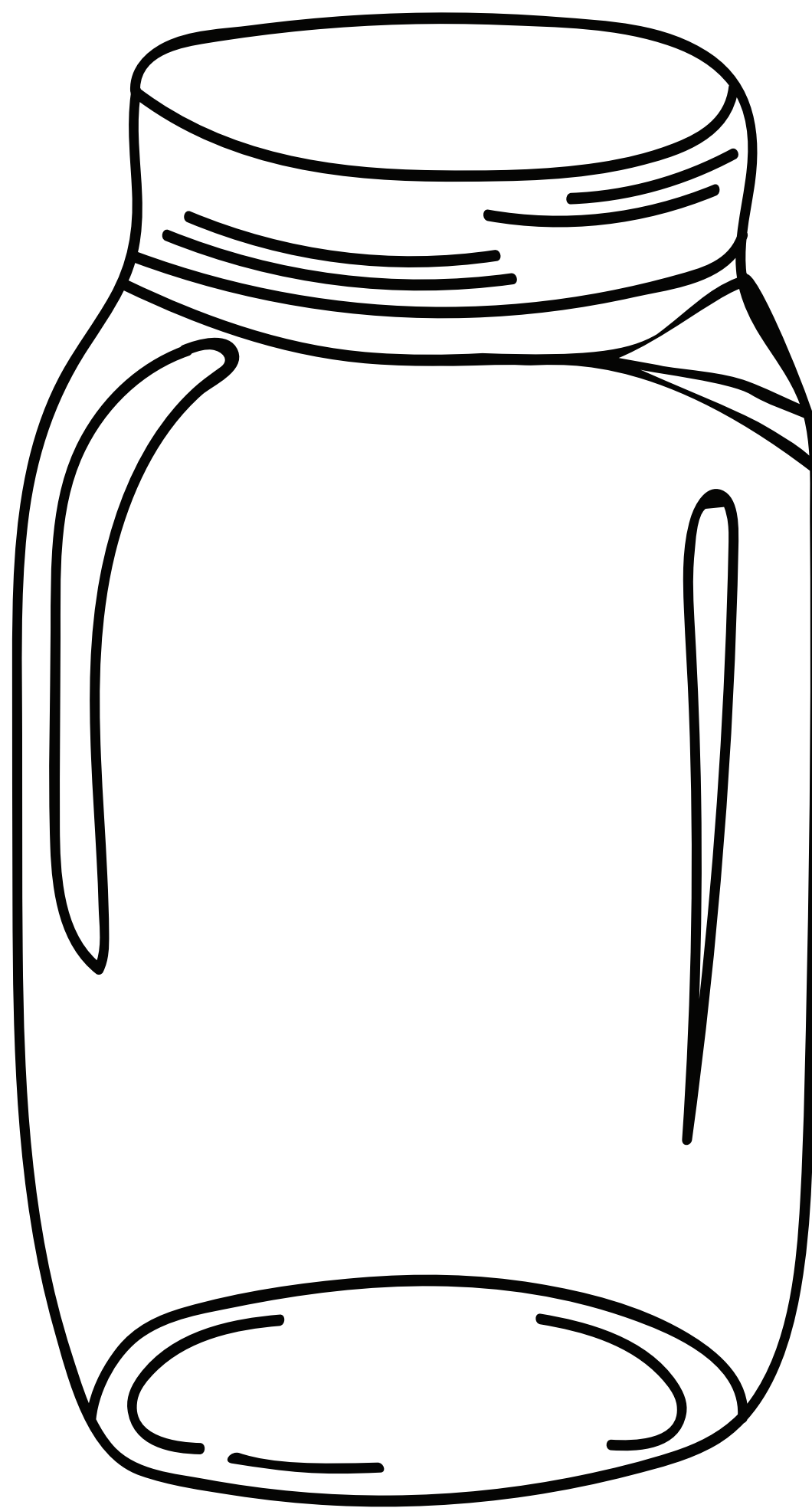
New affordable and market-rate housing



BROADEN THE TAX BASE

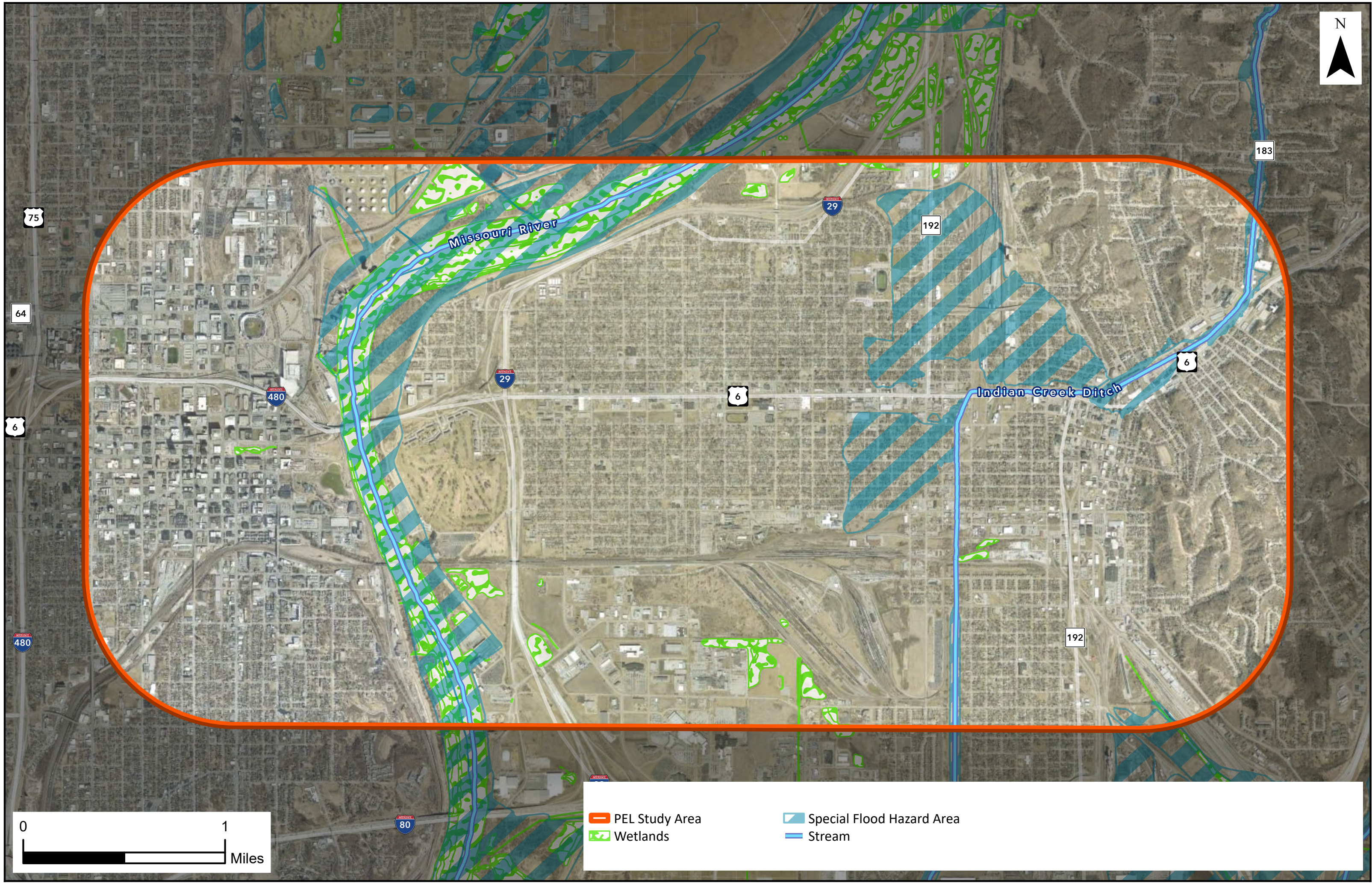


PROVIDE MORE TRANSIT OPTIONS

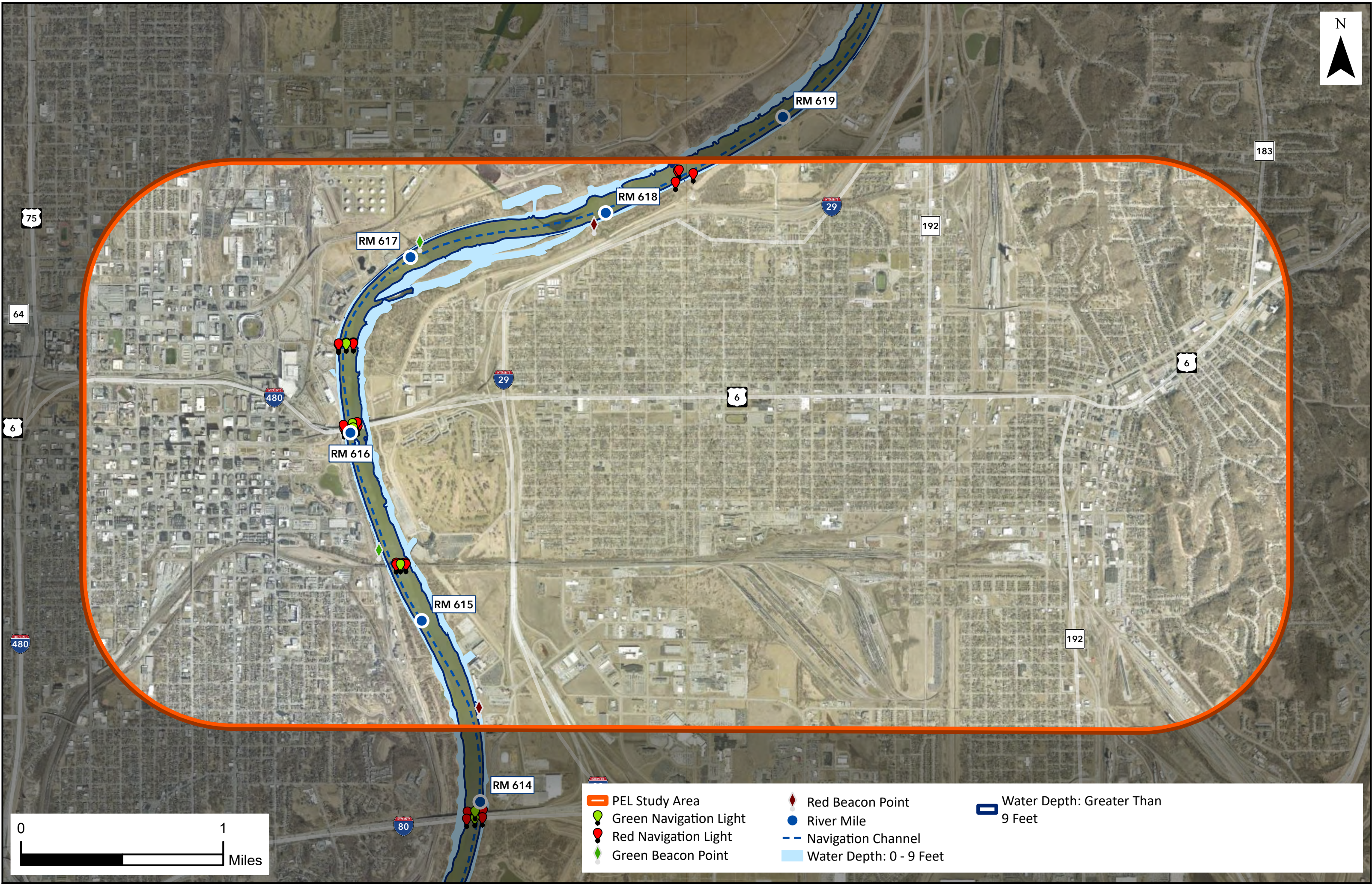


ENVIRONMENTAL FEATURES

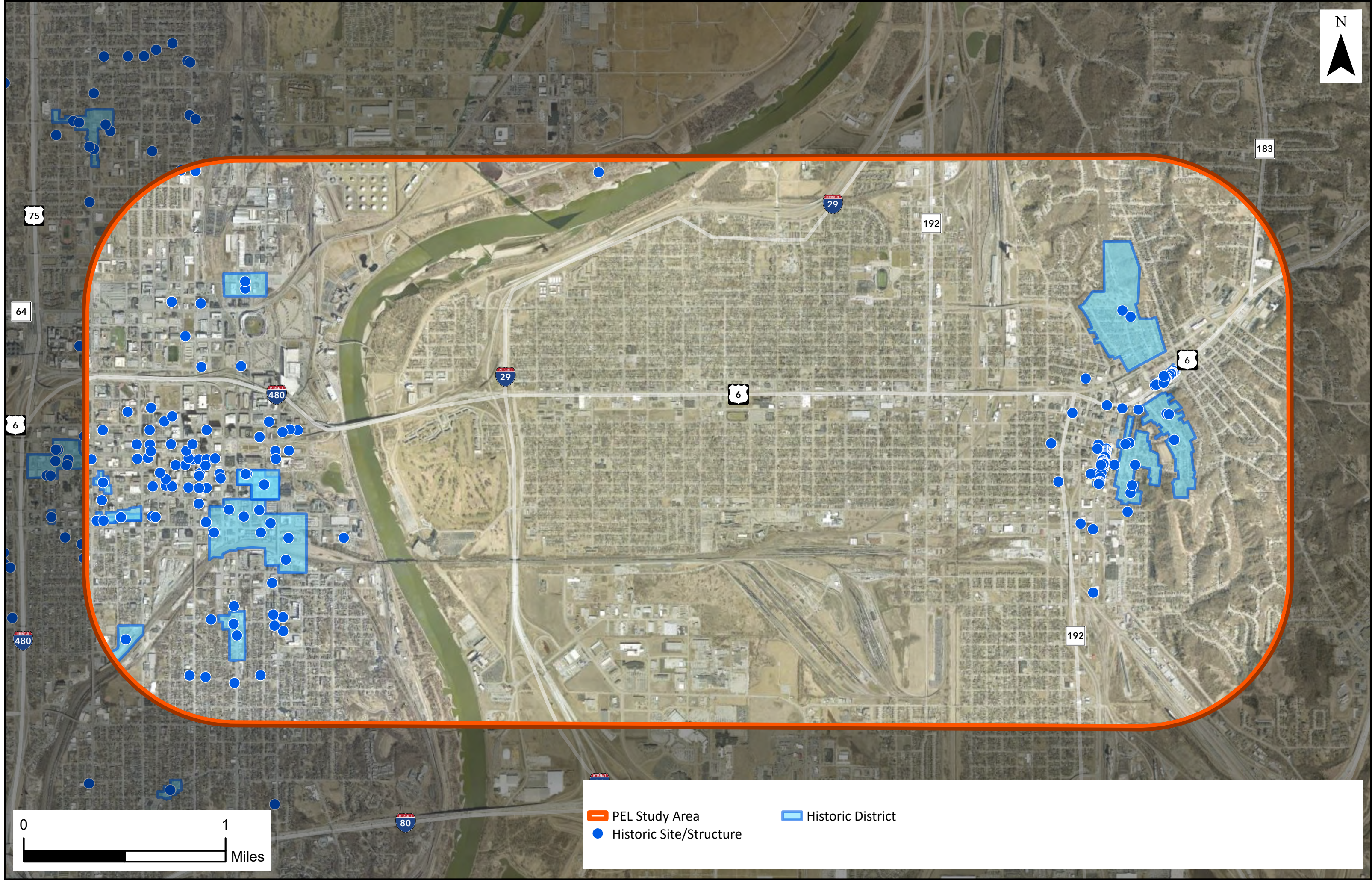
FLOODPLAIN AND WETLANDS



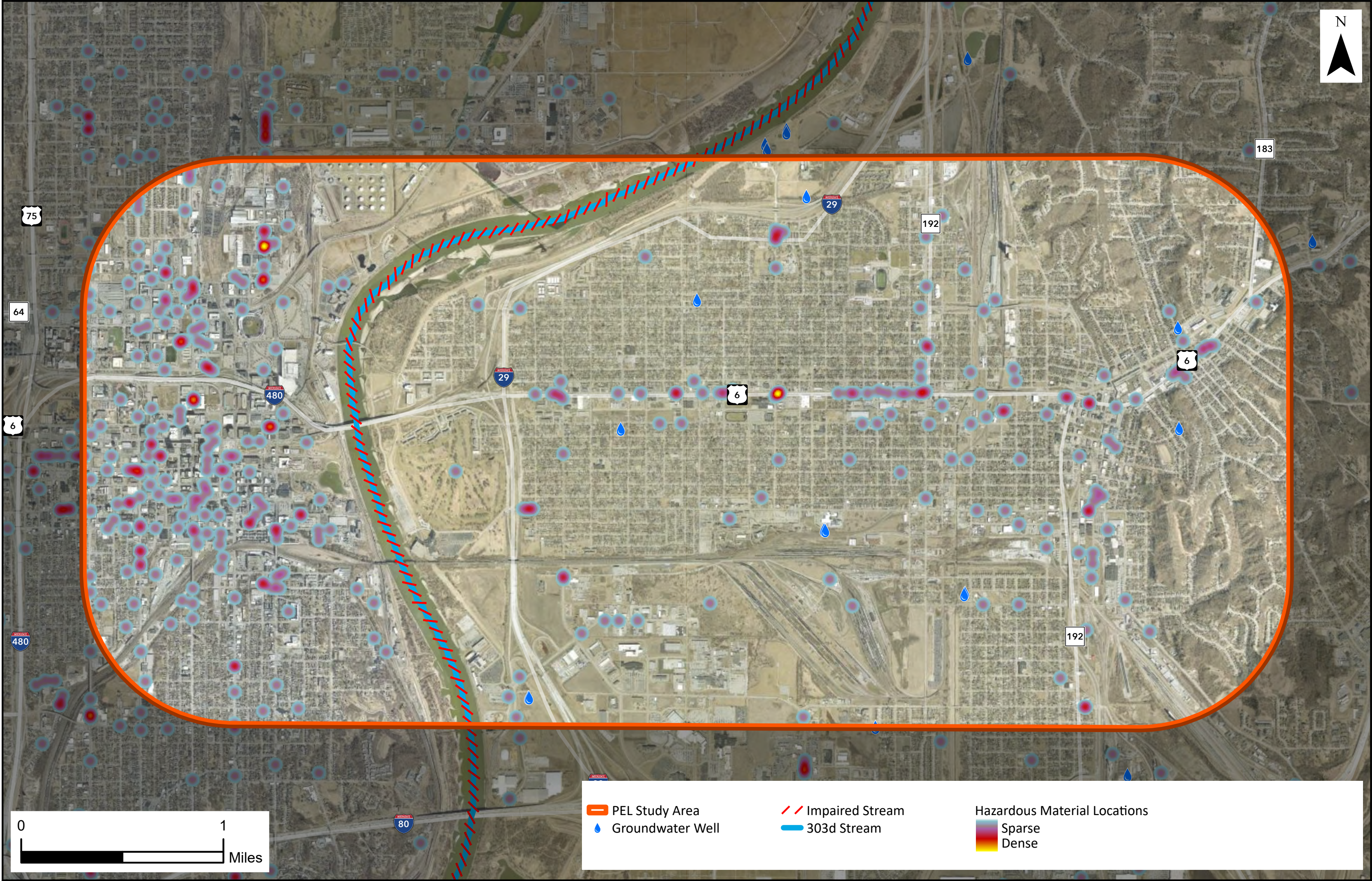
MISSOURI RIVER NAVIGATION



HISTORIC RESOURCES

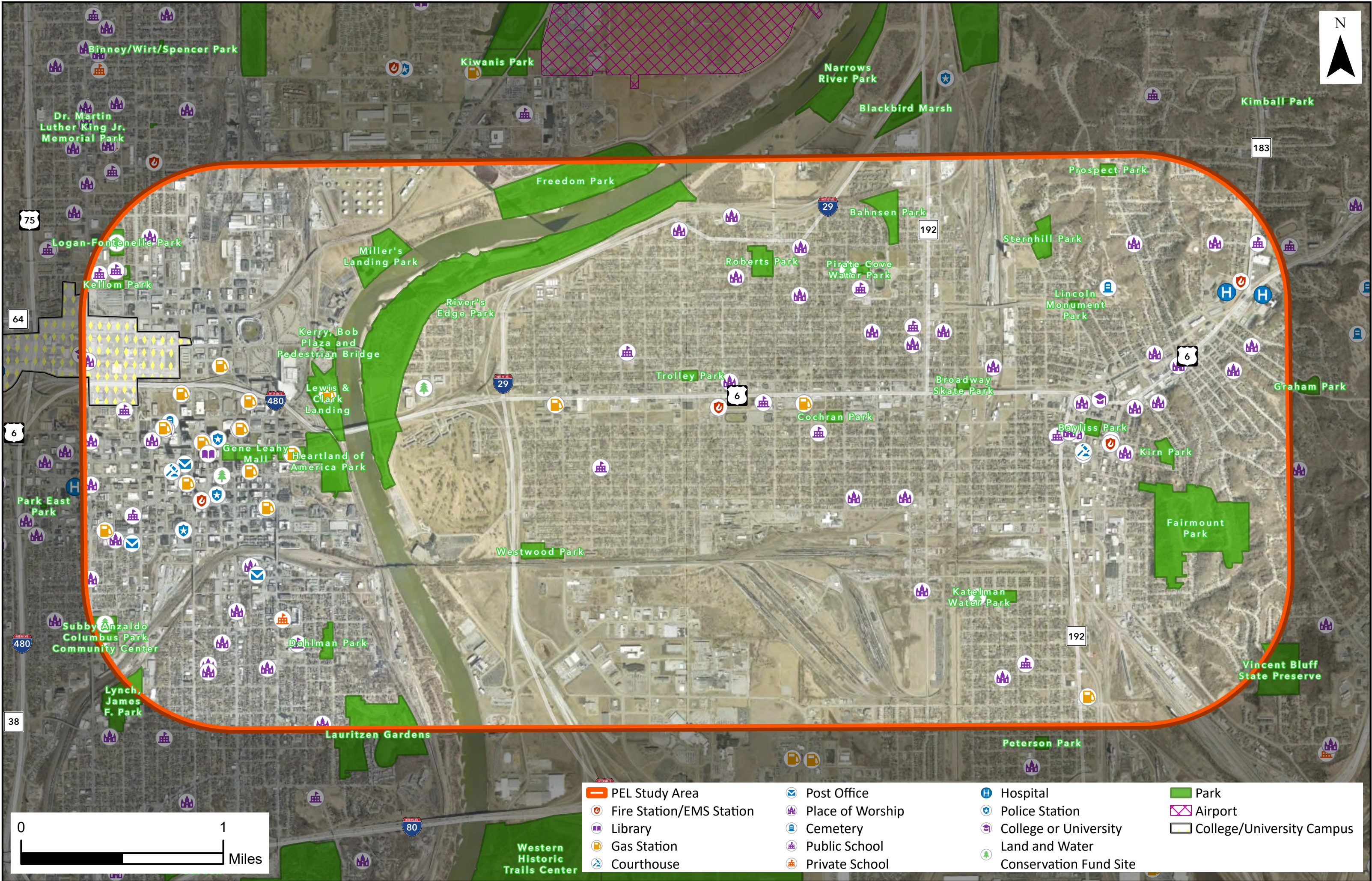


HAZARDOUS SITES

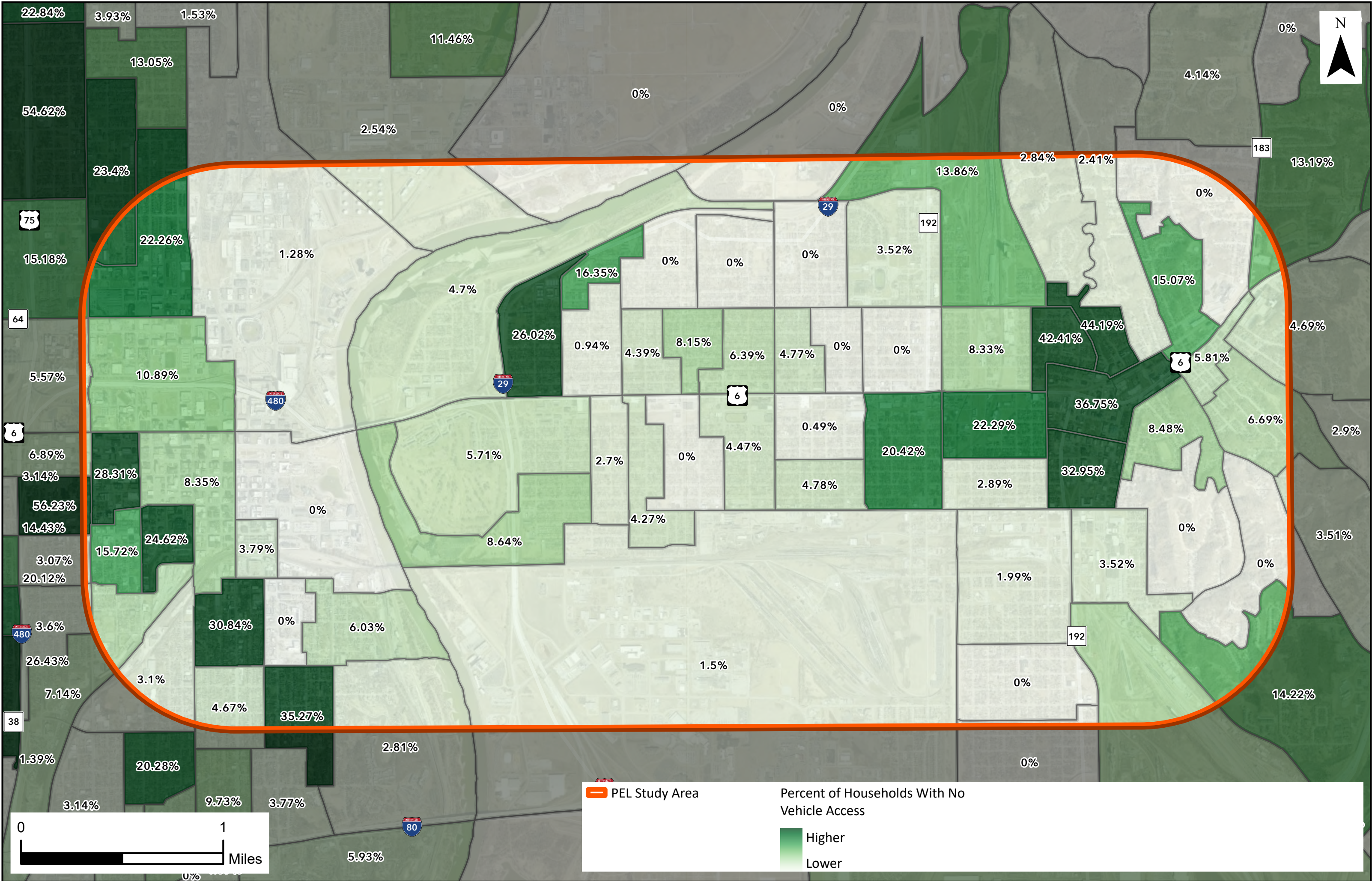


ENVIRONMENTAL FEATURES

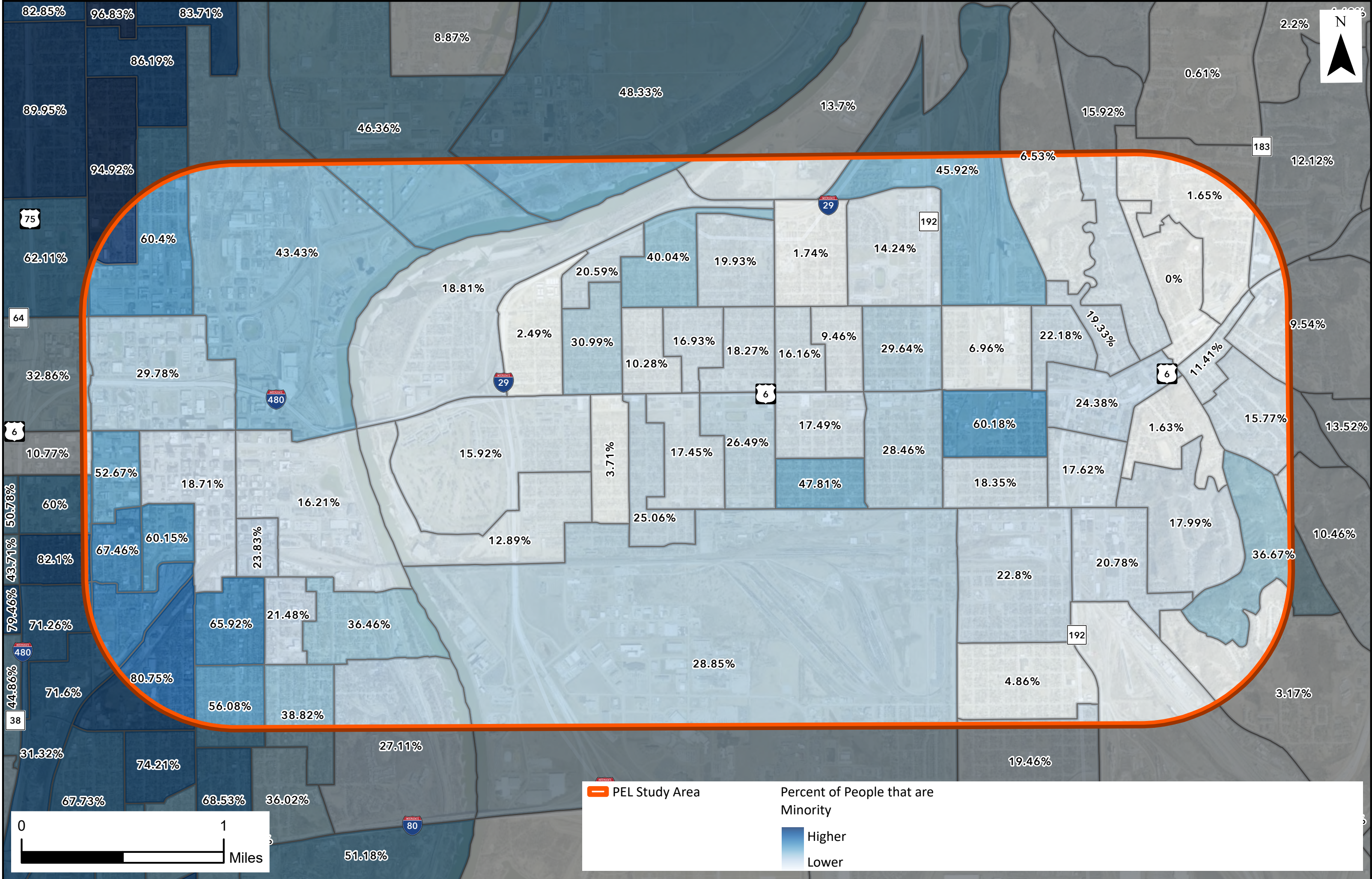
COMMUNITY RESOURCES



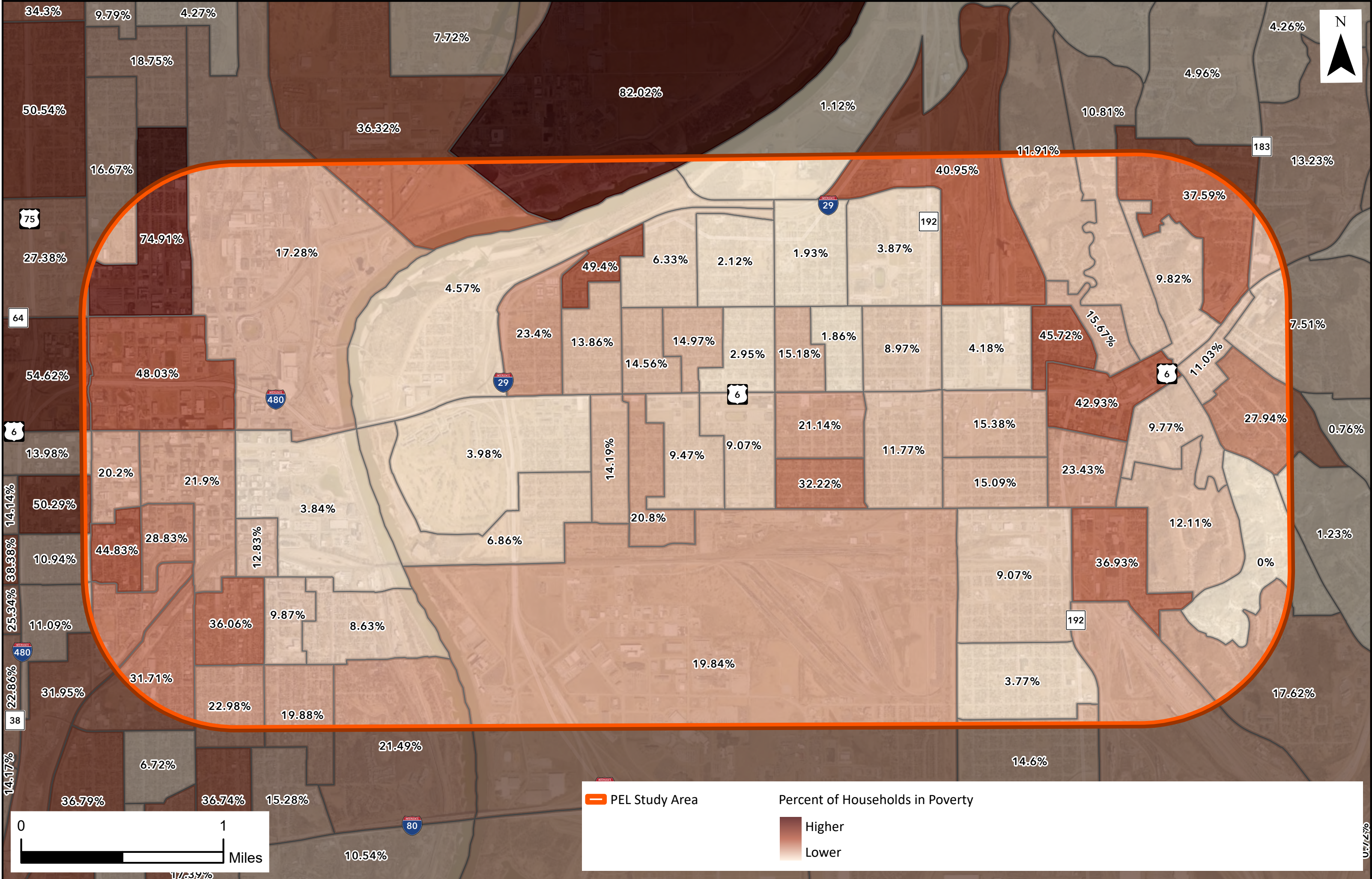
PERSONAL VEHICLE ACCESS



MINORITY POPULATIONS



LOW INCOME POPULATIONS



WHERE ARE WE HEADED?

PUBLIC INPUT

The public comment period is open until **October 25, 2024**.
Your input will help prioritize the study's "Purpose and Need" and inform the development and evaluation of alternatives.



<https://fhu.mysocialpinpoint.com/council-bluffs-linkages>

CONTACT US

Have questions or want to learn more about the project? Contact:
Kim Riebe, City of Council Bluffs Project Manager
email: kriebe@councilbluffs-ia.gov

**Next public workshop
will be SPRING 2025**