

CITY OF COLUMBUS TRAIL ACCESS & CONNECTIVITY STUDY

Overview

The City of Columbus requested MORPC technical assistance to assess potential connections to or integration of the Mt. Vernon Avenue corridor into the Central Ohio Greenways (COG) regional trail network, as well as generally bicycling infrastructure connectivity in the Downtown and Near-East side neighborhoods. An assessment was conducted to identify potential options and overlapping opportunities with other planned improvements and initiatives in the Downtown and Near-East side areas, including LinkUS and the Downtown Strategic Plan Update.

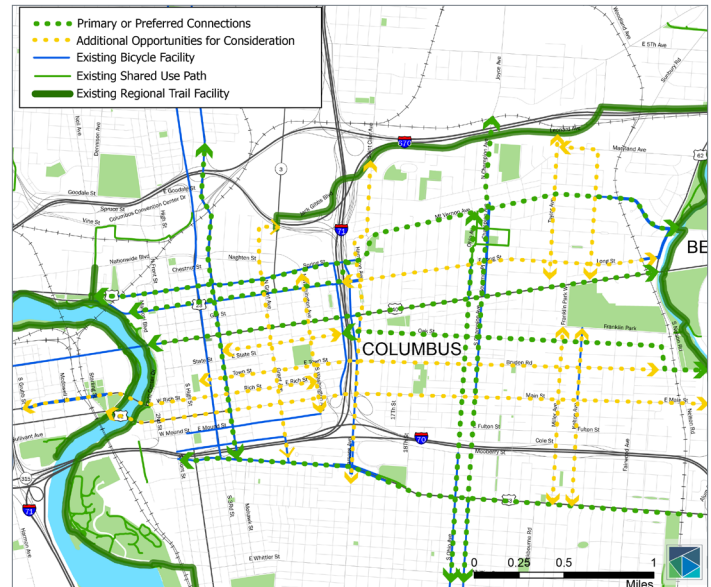
Services Provided

To identify priority routes for improving trail access and connectivity, MORPC worked with the City of Columbus to document existing conditions, compile all concurrent plans and activities, and identify opportunities for detailed assessment. Stakeholders were then engaged through a process comprised of two in-person workshops and two site visit bike rides.

Program Deliverables

In collaboration with City of Columbus staff, MORPC developed the following resources:

- » An *Alternatives Analysis Workbook* containing the detailed analysis of 29 potential connections including factors such as safety and comfort, demographics and equity, and connectivity to nearby destinations.
- » A *Documentation and Implementation Plan* summarizing priority connections to the COG regional trail network, as well as the Downtown and Near-East Side bike network. The plan also documents key information regarding each identified route, including any existing plans, results of the analysis, stakeholder input, and potential next steps.



Opportunities Identified for potential network connections

Community Implementation

The City of Columbus is proceeding with two initiatives to further assess recommendations resulting from this study as well as the Downtown Strategic Plan update: (1) the Downtown Columbus Multimodal Transportation Study will examine the feasibility of potential street reconfiguration alternatives, including traffic operations analysis, right-of-way impacts, parking and curbside management, and more; (2) the Columbus Bikeways and Active Mobility Plan will be a strategic action plan to implement a safe and connected bikeway system throughout the city.

Project Manager

Emma Kogge, AICP

City of Columbus | Department of Public Service

(614) 545-8571 | EAKogge@columbus.gov