



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
MORPC
PLANNING COMMISSION

111 Liberty St., Suite 100
Columbus, Ohio 43215
www.morpc.org

**NOTICE OF A MEETING
CENTRAL OHIO GREENWAYS BOARD
MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
111 Liberty St., Columbus, Ohio 43215**

HYBRID MEETING
January 15, 2025, 10:00 am – 10:45 am

AGENDA

1. Welcome & Introductions

- Chair Andrako congratulated Member Westall and the City of Columbus Parks and Recreation Department for their successful RAISE Grant award and for the Linden Green Line project.
- MORPC staff is working to update the Board roster for 2025, hoping to have a full roster before welcoming new members and discussing Working Group goals at the March meeting.

2. MORPC Updates

- Melinda Vonstein presented the 2024 Progress Summary, which was transmitted to Members via email. She requested feedback on the draft report within the next week.
[Major Accomplishments](#)
 - Funded for over a quarter of the COG Vision in Franklin County
 - Expanded the COG Vision to 15 counties
 - Launched the Trail Town Working Group, which received the Regional Collaborative Achievement Award at the 2024 Summit on Sustainability
 - Completion of three special projects: the COG Wayfinding Strategy, the Detours & Closures Guidelines, and the Mapping Natural Assets Project.
 - Launched the Greenways Planning Studio.

3. Regional Trail Vision Update Recommendations

- Melinda presented recommendations from the Trail Development Working Group and Greenway Planning Studio workshops for proposed trail vision updates, including new trail segments and realignments.
- Member Schamp moved to approve the modifications to the trail vision as presented, but tabling the Delaware County Trail, the Darby Creek to Broad St. Connector Trail, the Marion Trails, the Indian Lake to Bellefontaine Trail, and the Simon Kenton Trail. Member Rayburn seconded the motion, motion carried

4. Working Groups

5. Adjourn

Please notify Lynn Kaufman at 614-233-4189 or LKaufman@morpc.org to confirm your attendance for this meeting or if you require special assistance.

**The next Central Ohio Greenways Board Meeting
will be March 19, 2025, 10:00 am.**

William Murdock, AICP
Executive Director

Chris Amorose Groomes
Chair

Michelle Crandall
Vice Chair

Ben Kessler
Secretary

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission
Hybrid Meeting

Central Ohio Greenways Board

January 15, 2025, 10:00 am

Members Present

Chair Mike Andrako, Franklin County
Engineer's Office
Jody Dzurainin, Ohio to Erie Trail
Adrienne Joly, City of New Albany
Dan Kaderly, Metro Parks
Tamisha Matus, Union County Health Dept.
Eric Oberg, Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
Andrew Overbeck, MKSK
J.M. Rayburn, City of Dublin
Letty Schamp, City of Hilliard
Kelly Scocco, City of Columbus
Zachary Sunderland, COTA
Olivia Toth, Knox County Convention & Visitors
Bureau
Julie Walcoff, Toole Design
Brad Westall, City of Columbus

Staff Present

Morgan Fuller
Lynn Kaufman
Jessica Kuenzli
Sam Smith
Melinda Vonstein



Central Ohio Greenways

COG Board Meeting
January 15, 2025



MID-OHIO REGIONAL
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DATA DAY 2024 REGISTRATION OPEN

Wednesday, February 7th, 2024 | 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Ohio University Dublin Integrated Education Center | 6805 Bobcat Way | Dublin, OH 43016



TO REGISTER SCAN
QR CODE OR VISIT
morpc.org/event/data-day

PROPOSALS WILL BE ACCEPTED THROUGH DECEMBER 4TH, 2023

Those interested in presenting should contact Jonathan Miller | jmiller@morpc.org

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE

For more details about sponsorship opportunities, contact Amanda McEldowney | amceldowney@morpc.org



DATA DAY
VENTURING TOGETHER INTO THE UNKNOWN





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REGISTRATION OPEN

STATE OF THE REGION 2025

March 21, 2025 | 11AM - 1PM

HILTON COLUMBUS DOWNTOWN

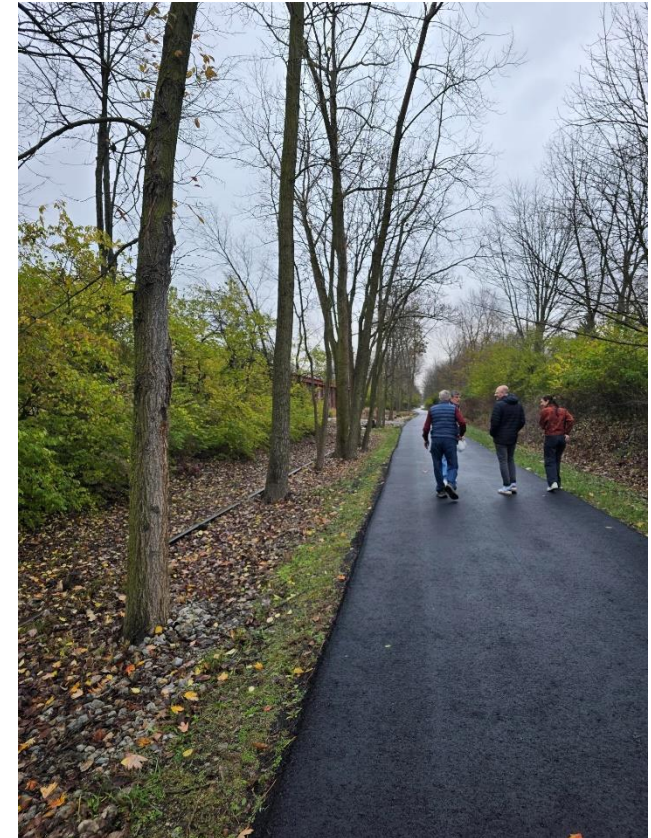
CENTRAL OHIO GREENWAY— REGIONAL TRAIL VISION

2024 Progress Summary

The region is entering an era of transformational trail building acceleration.

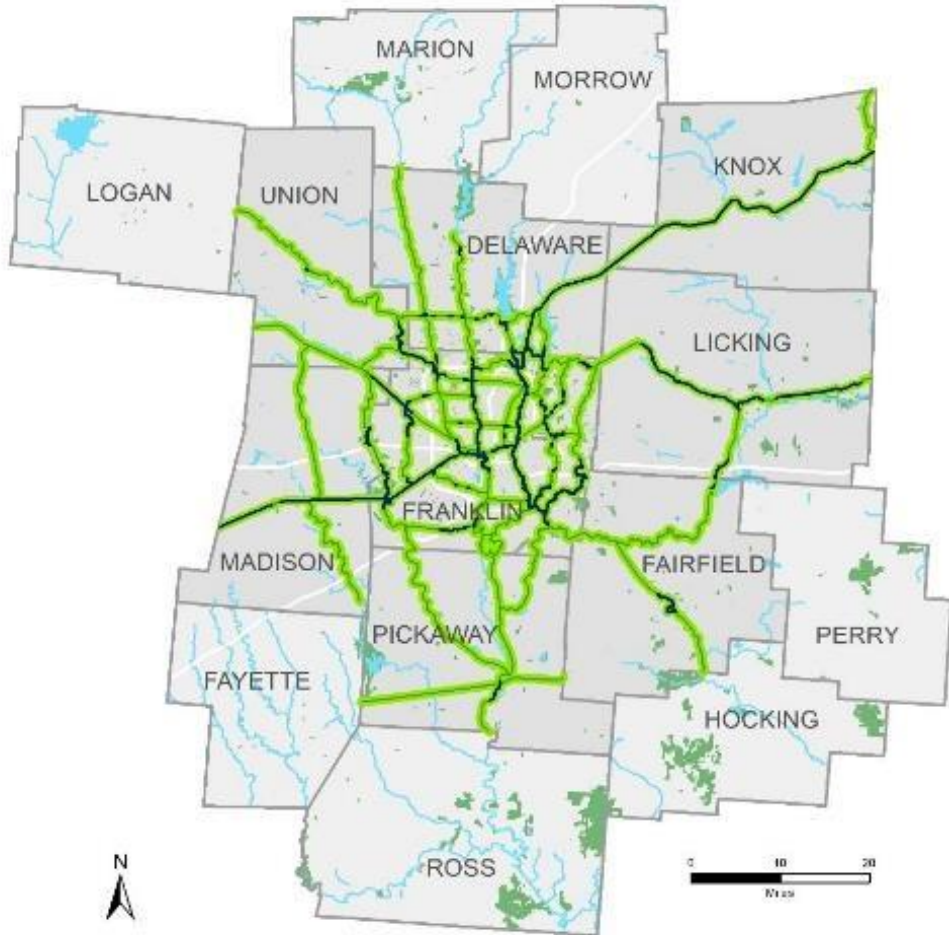
Major accomplishments in 2024 include:

- regional collaboration resulting in over a **quarter of the COG Vision** within Franklin County funded for construction by 2030;
- the **expansion of the COG Vision to 15 counties** and identifying over 300 more proposed miles of trails for Vision expansion consideration;
- the **launch of the Trail Town Working Group**, whose success was recognized with the 2024 Regional Collaborative Achievement in Sustainability Award at the MORPC Summit on Sustainability;
- the **completion three special projects** including the COG Wayfinding Strategy, Detours & Closures Guidelines, and Mapping Natural Assets; and
- the **launch of the Greenways Planning Studio (GPS)**, an effort to bring greenspace to the forefront of development in Central Ohio and identify pathways that bring innovative visions to reality.



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CENTRAL OHIO GREENWAY— REGIONAL TRAIL VISION



VISION

A world-class network of trails easily accessible to every Central Ohioan

MISSION

Increase Greenways trails mileage and usage for recreation and transportation needs



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CENTRAL OHIO GREENWAYS

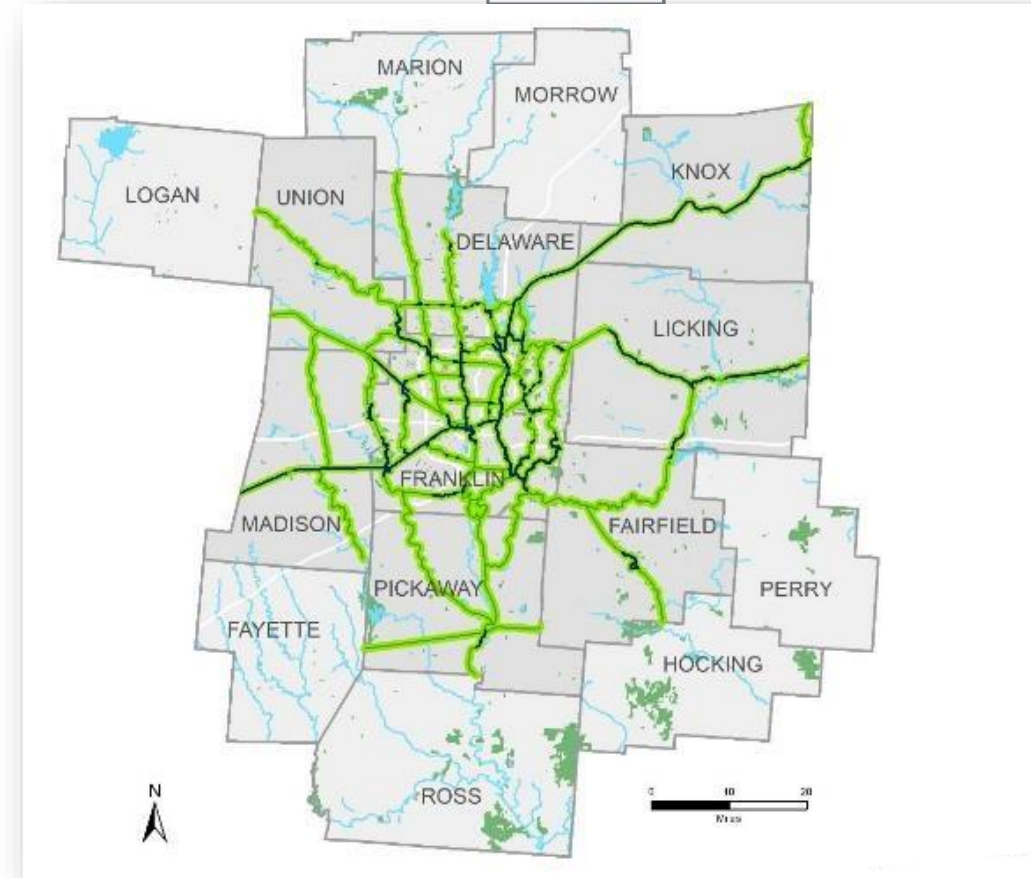
TRAIL OF REGIONAL SIGNIFICANCE



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- **A Trail of Regional Significance is a primary trail, predominantly off-street, multi-jurisdictional, and connects people to major destination points.**

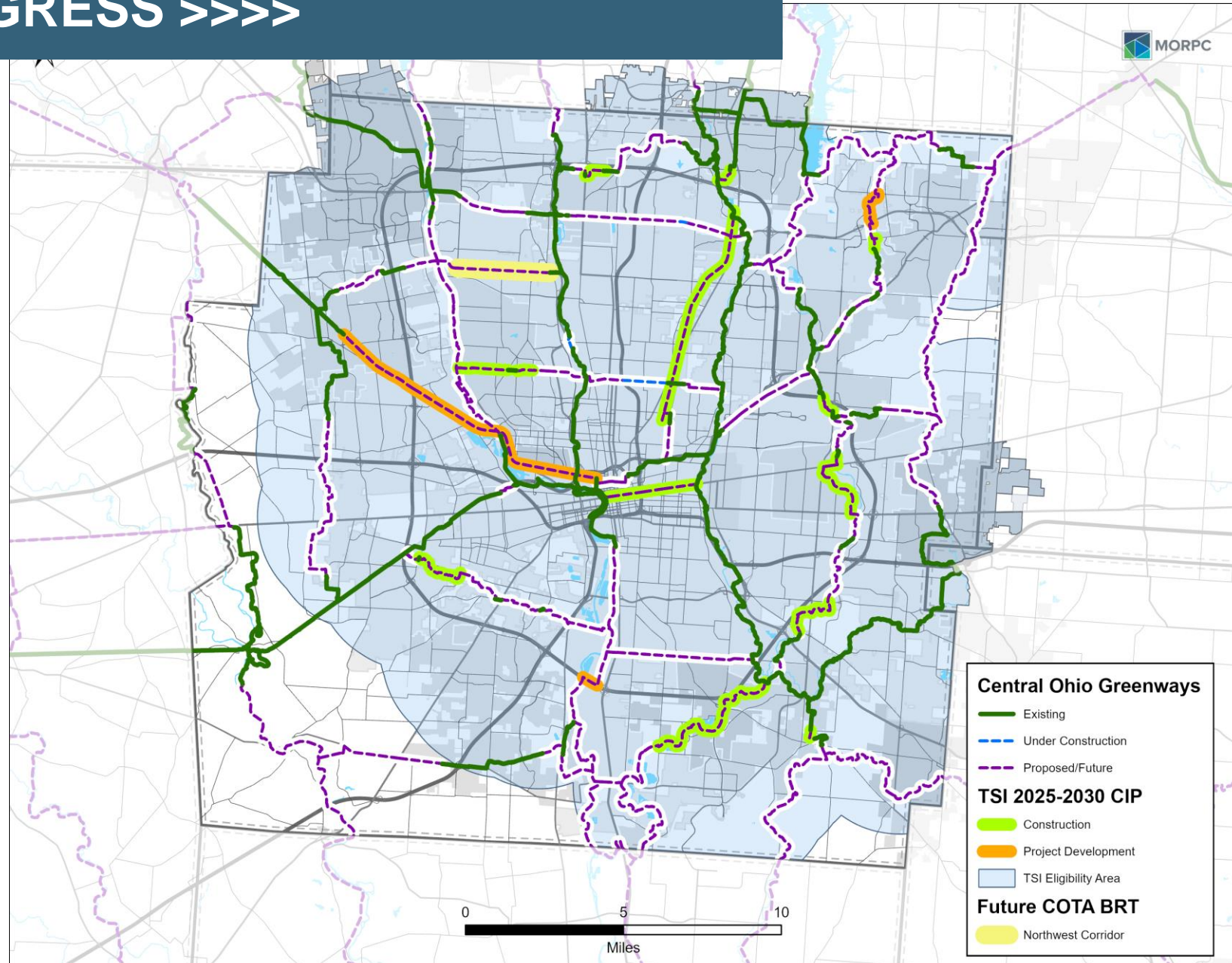
These trails have a well maintained, improved surface and should prioritize comfort and safety for trail users. In locations where Trails of Regional Significance intersect or conflict with vehicular traffic, the trail should be emphasized as highly as practicable. Landscaping and buffering should be incorporated into the design of these trails. Access to amenities, such as restrooms, drinking fountains, and parking should be provided periodically. Wayfinding, snow & ice removal, maintenance, and 24/7 access of Trails of Regional Significance are critical to ensure that reliable and equitable access is provided to all users



REGIONAL TRAIL VISION PROGRESS >>>>

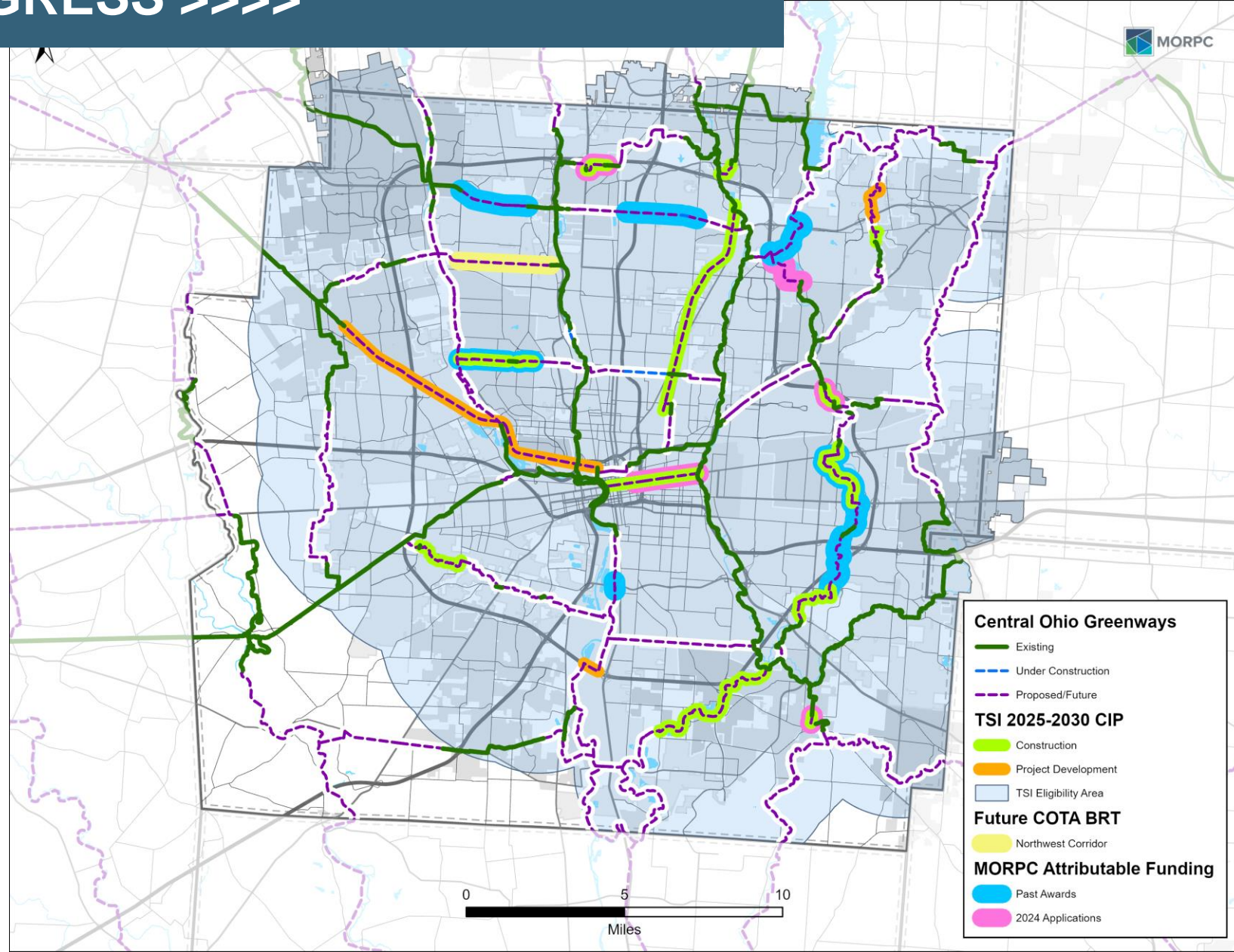
LINKUS advances COG

- 189 miles of proposed COG trails in the COTA Service Area (CSA)
- 175 of these are eligible for TSI funding (i.e., within 3-miles of a fixed-route transit stop)
- 37 miles (**20%**) are in the 2025-2030 TSI CIP
 - 27 (**15%**) of these are slated for construction by 2030
 - 10 (5%) of these (mostly Heritage Trail) have project development funding



REGIONAL TRAIL VISION PROGRESS >>>>

- 15 miles (8%) have received 2020 or 2022 Attributable Funding awards
 - 5 of these are also in the TSI CIP
- 5.3 miles are in outstanding 2024 applications (*3.7-mi. overlap w/TSI*)
- TSI and past AF awards have funded **50 miles, or 26%**, of the COG vision in the CSA for construction or project development by 2030.
 - 40 miles, or 21%, are specifically slated for construction by 2030



CENTRAL OHIO GREENWAYS

GATEWAY OF REGIONAL SIGNIFICANCE



A Gateway of Regional Significance is a premier trailhead located along a Trail of Regional Significance that provides and/or connects trail users to amenities, services, and information necessary to navigate the trail system.



Westerville

Hanby Park Westerville,
OH



Howard

Rotary Park, Howard OH



London

Prairie Grass Trailhead



Dublin

Riverside Crossing Park



Regional Trail Vision Update Recommendations

COG Board

January 15th, 2025

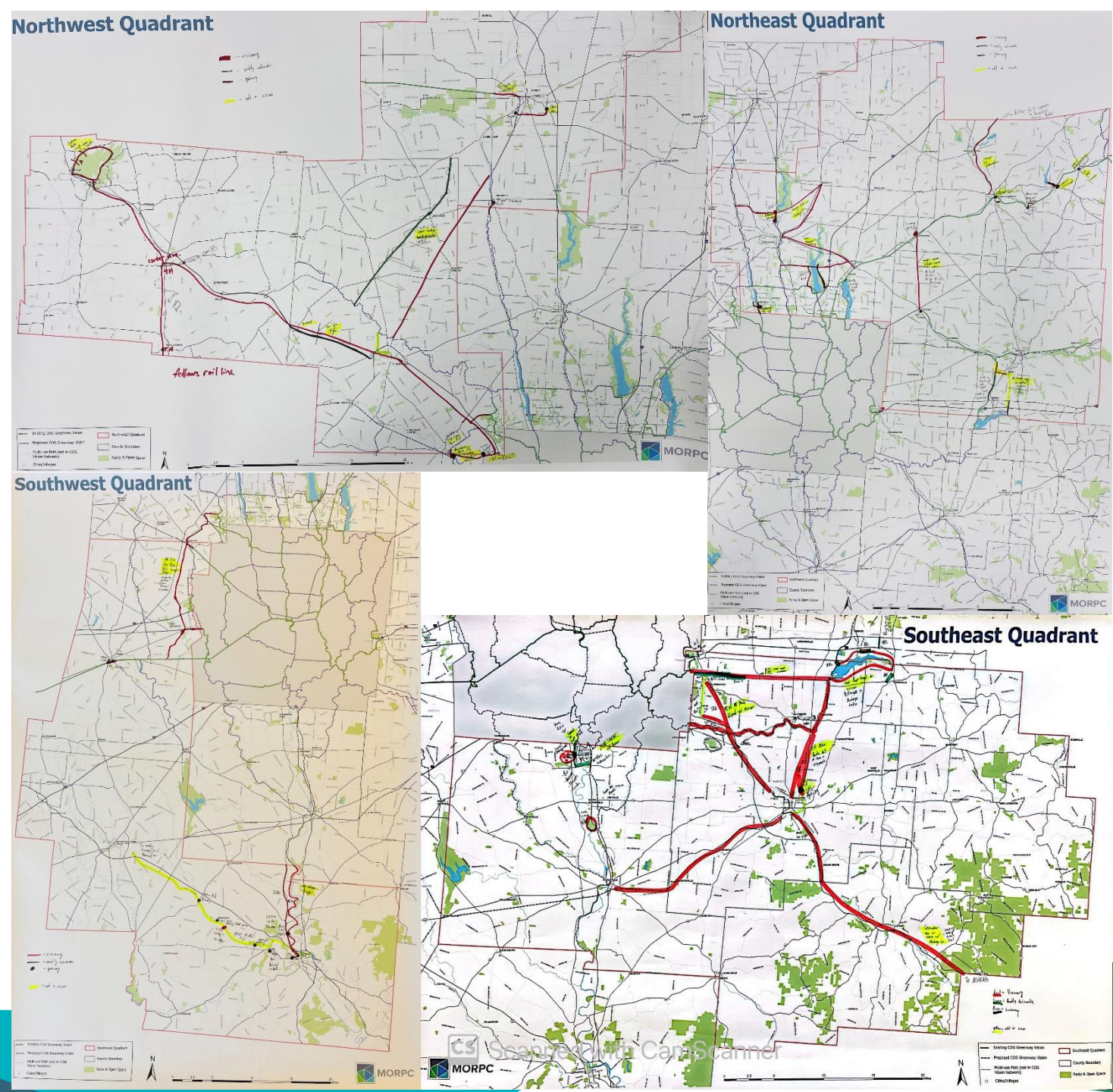


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REGIONAL QUADRANT MEETINGS

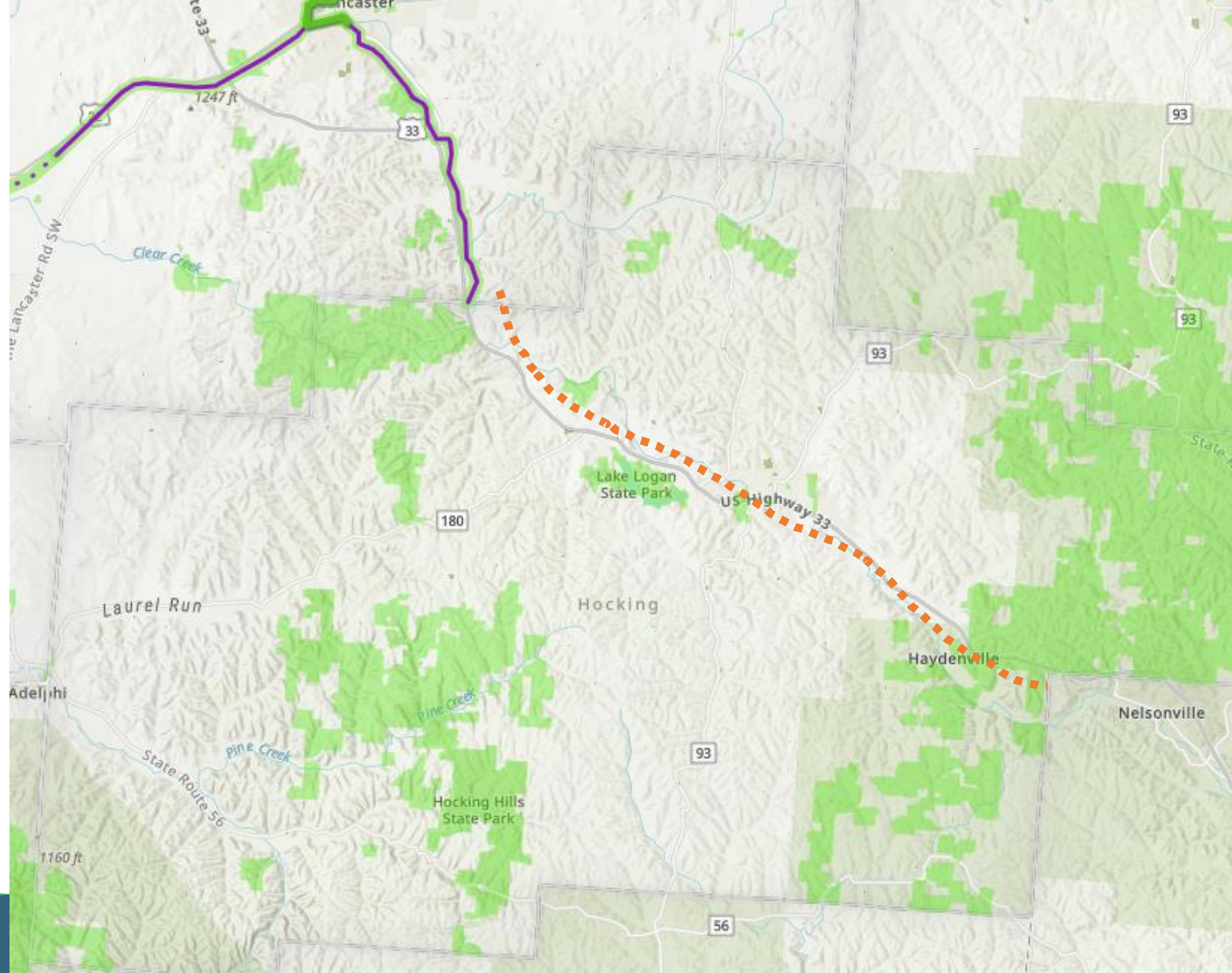
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GREENWAY PLANNING STUDIO WORKSHOPS



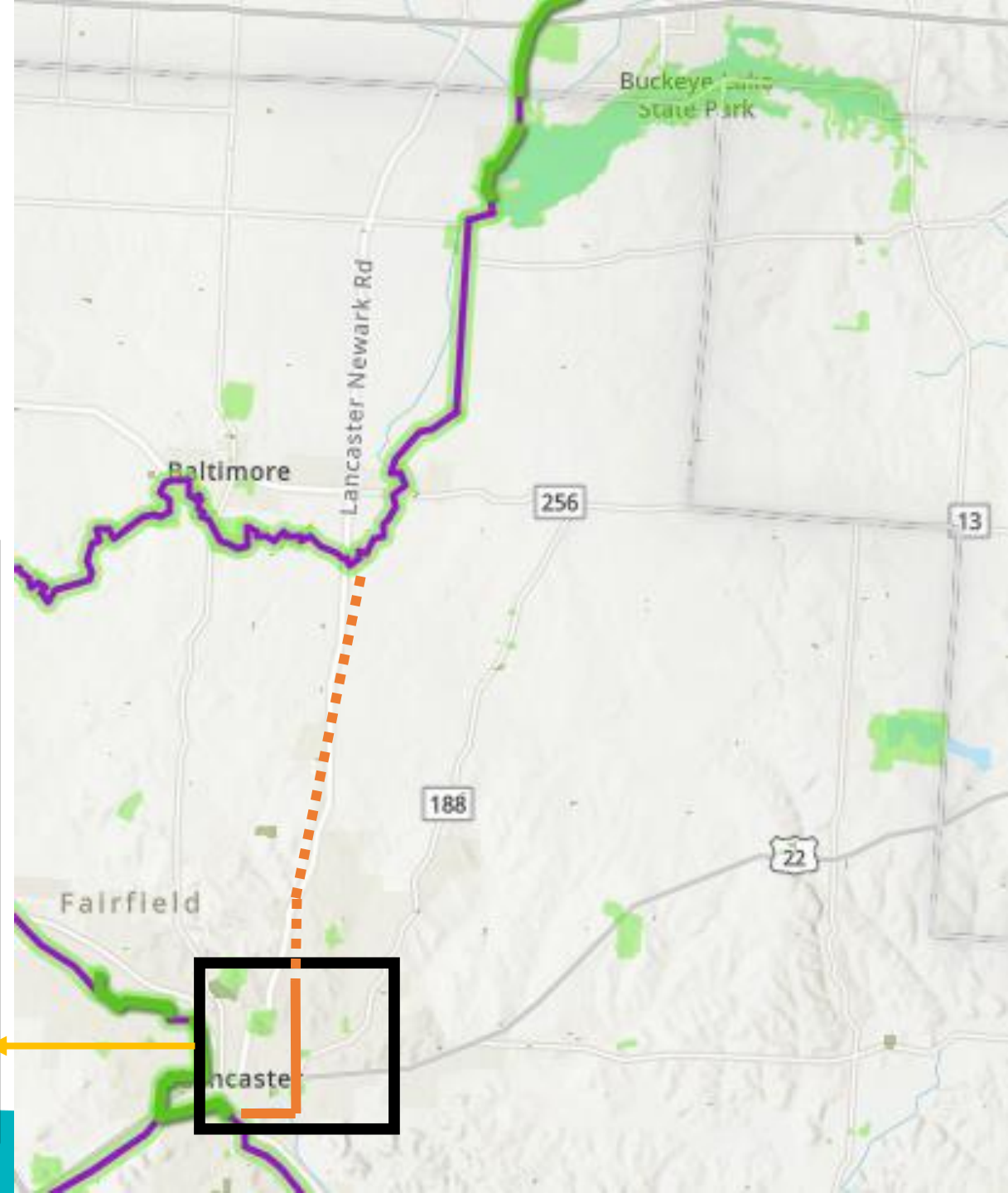
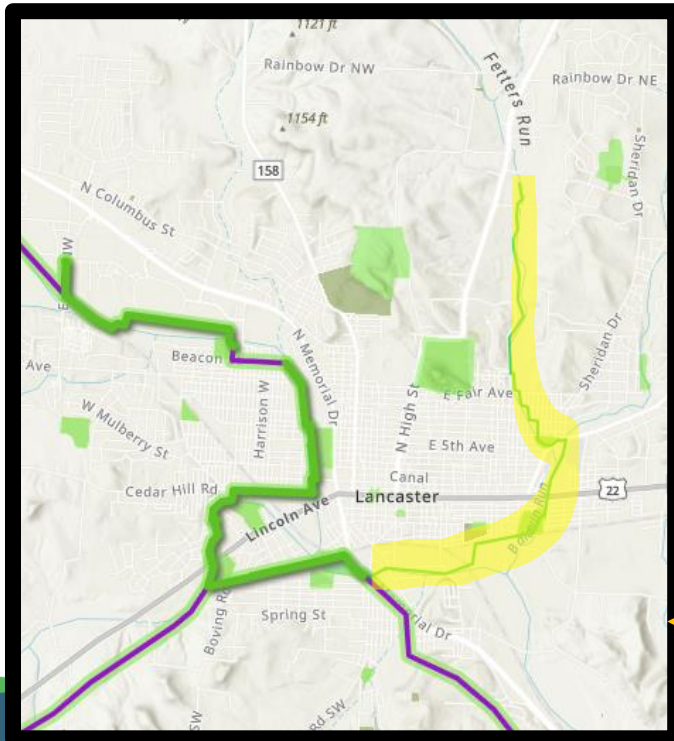
Hocking Adena Trail

- Extend vision for southeast connection parallel to US RT 33.
- Potential to connect to Hocking Hills State Park and Athens.
- No specific ROW identified.
- Approximately 20 miles of proposed trail.
- Recommended by: ODOT /Toole Design Hocking Adena Trail Extension...



Buckeye Lake & Lancaster (OU-L)

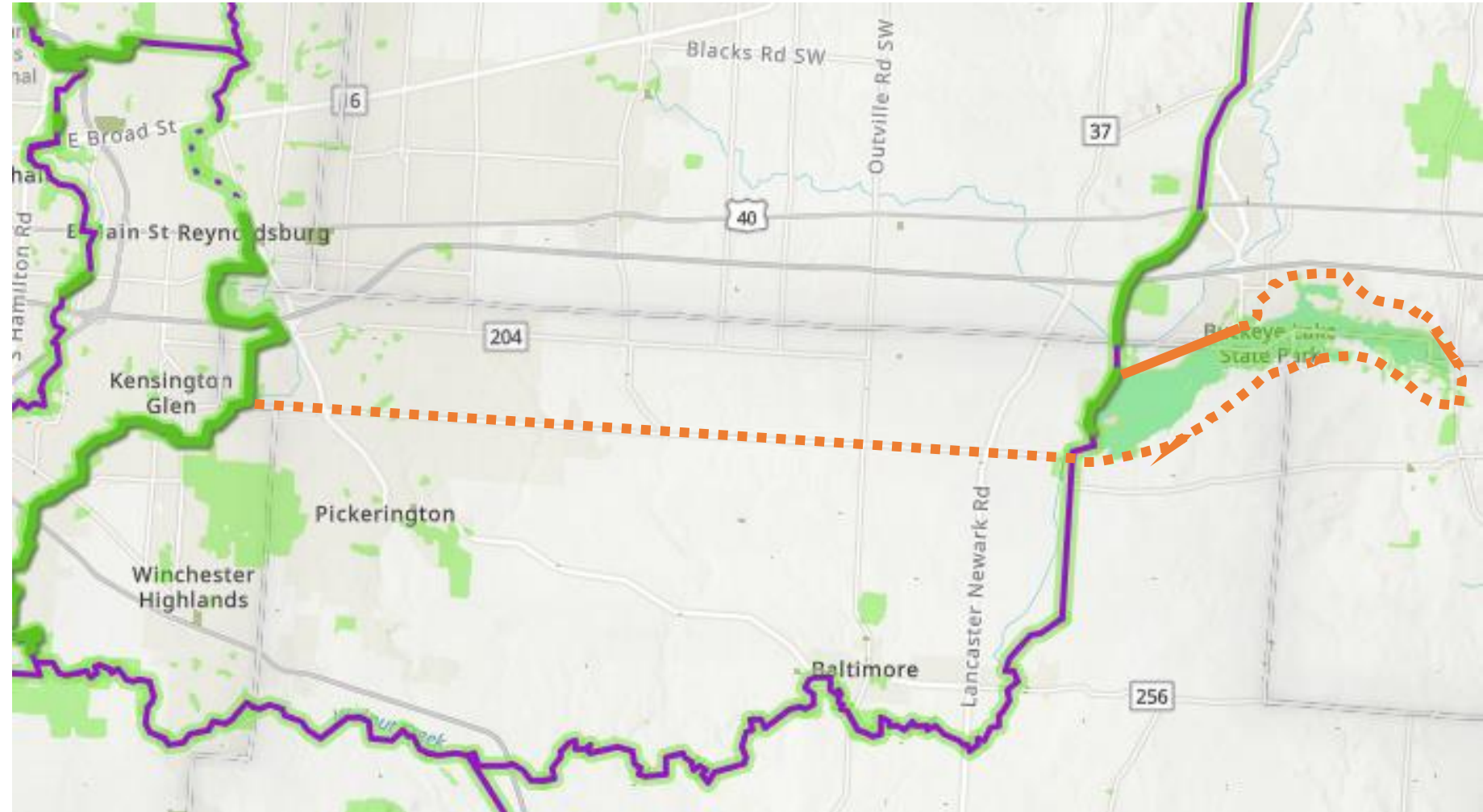
- North-south connection along SR 37.
- Ends at OU-Lancaster, which currently has an SUP connecting to the rest of Lancaster.
 - This SUP is not on the COG Vision.
- Approximately 6 miles of proposed trail and 4 miles of existing trail.
- Recommended by: Fairfield County & Bike Buckeye Lake
- Informed by: Fairfield County Active Transportation Plan



Buckeye Lake Loop to Pickerington (Terry's Dream)

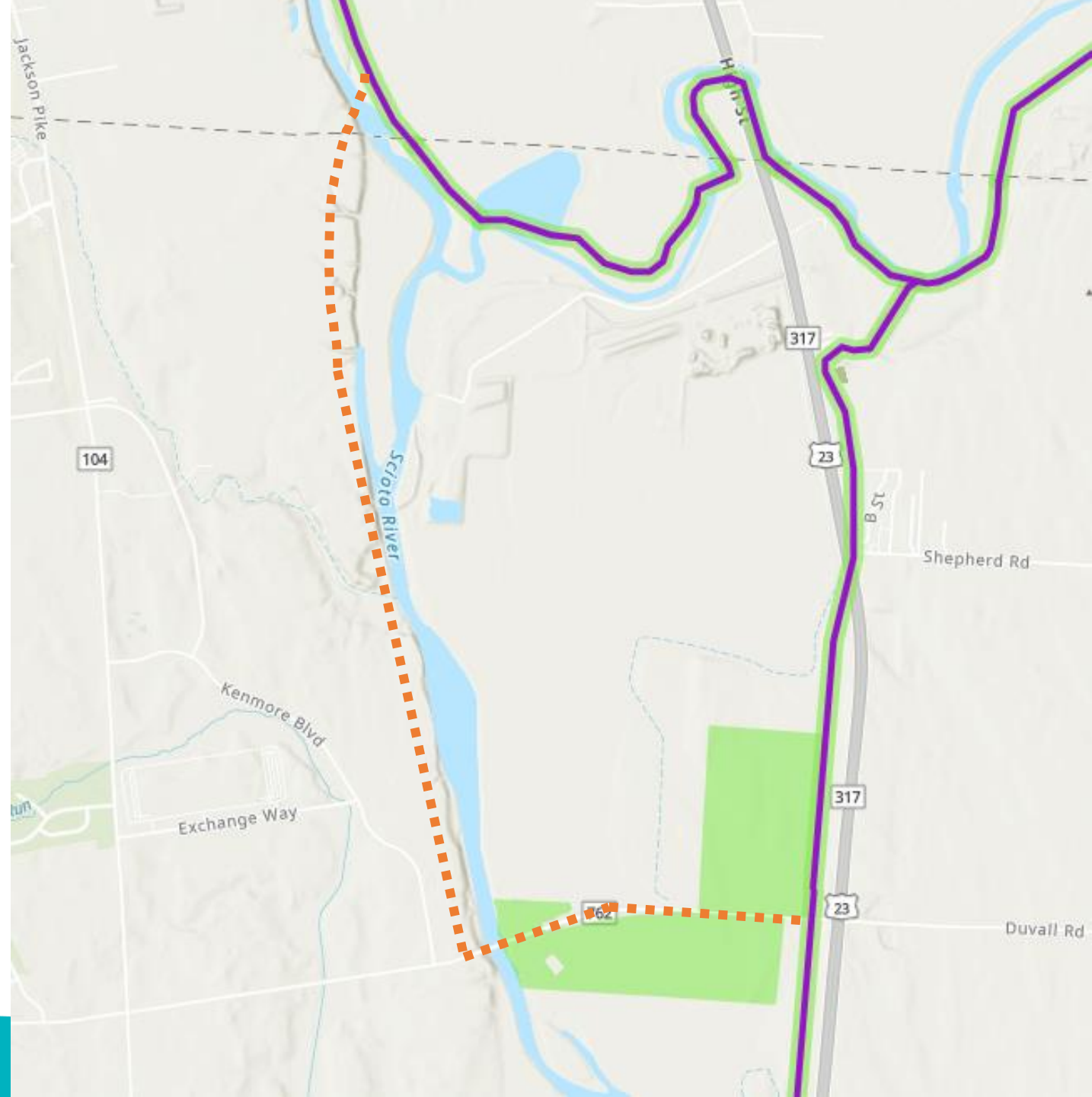


- This trail would connect Buckeye Lake to Pickerington and the Columbus area.
- It would also create a loop around Buckeye Lake.
- Some segments of the Loop are already complete.
- Approximately 30 miles of proposed trail and 5 miles of existing trail.
- Recommended by : Bike Buckeye Lake, Fairfield County



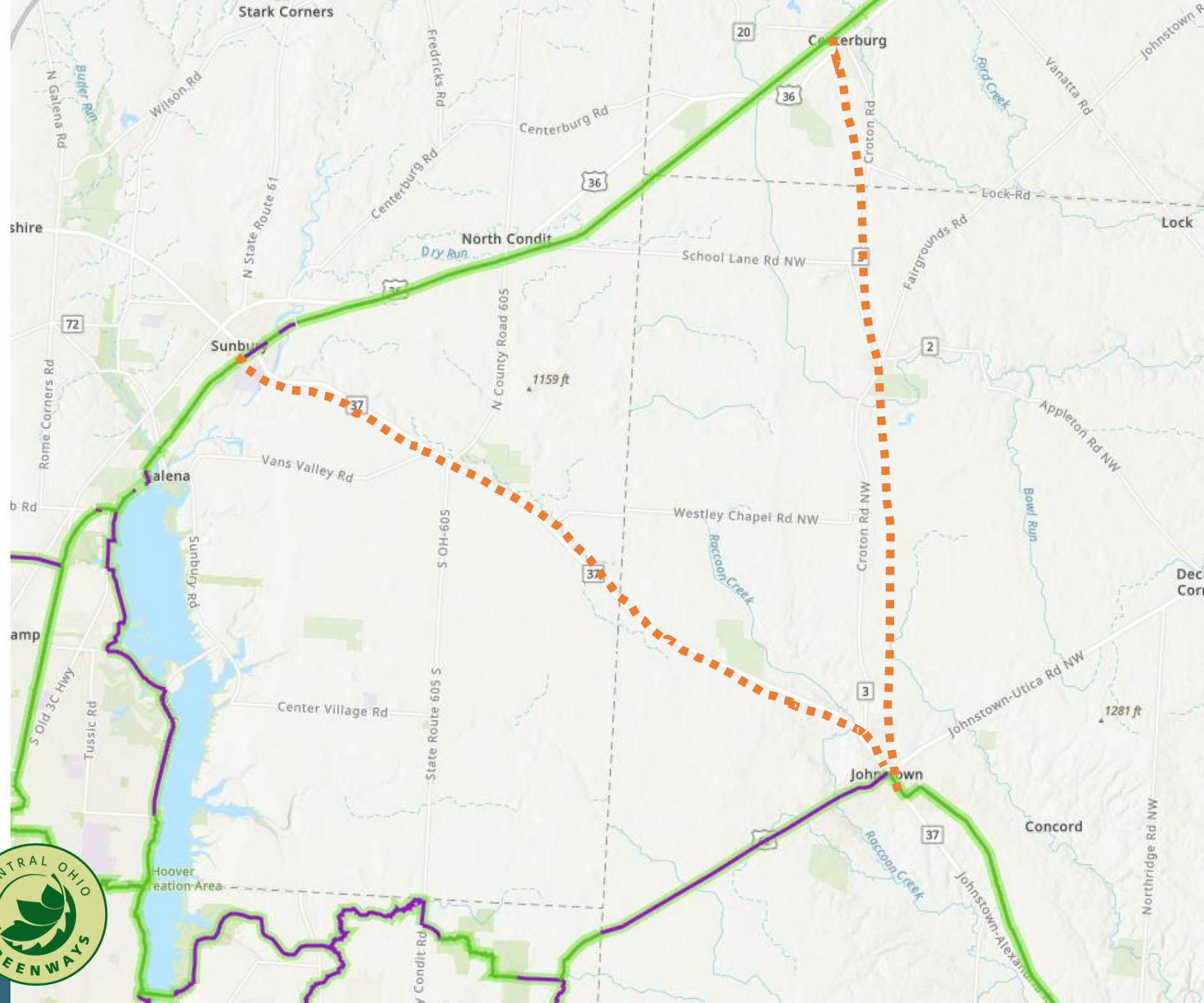
Scioto Trail Realignment to Commercial Point

- The Village of Commercial Point has some ROW/easement on the west side of the Scioto.
- A portion of the trail will be built as part of a new industrial development in a flood.
- ODOT projects along SR 762 could facilitate trail.
- Approximately 3.5 miles of proposed trail.
- Recommended by: Commercial Point



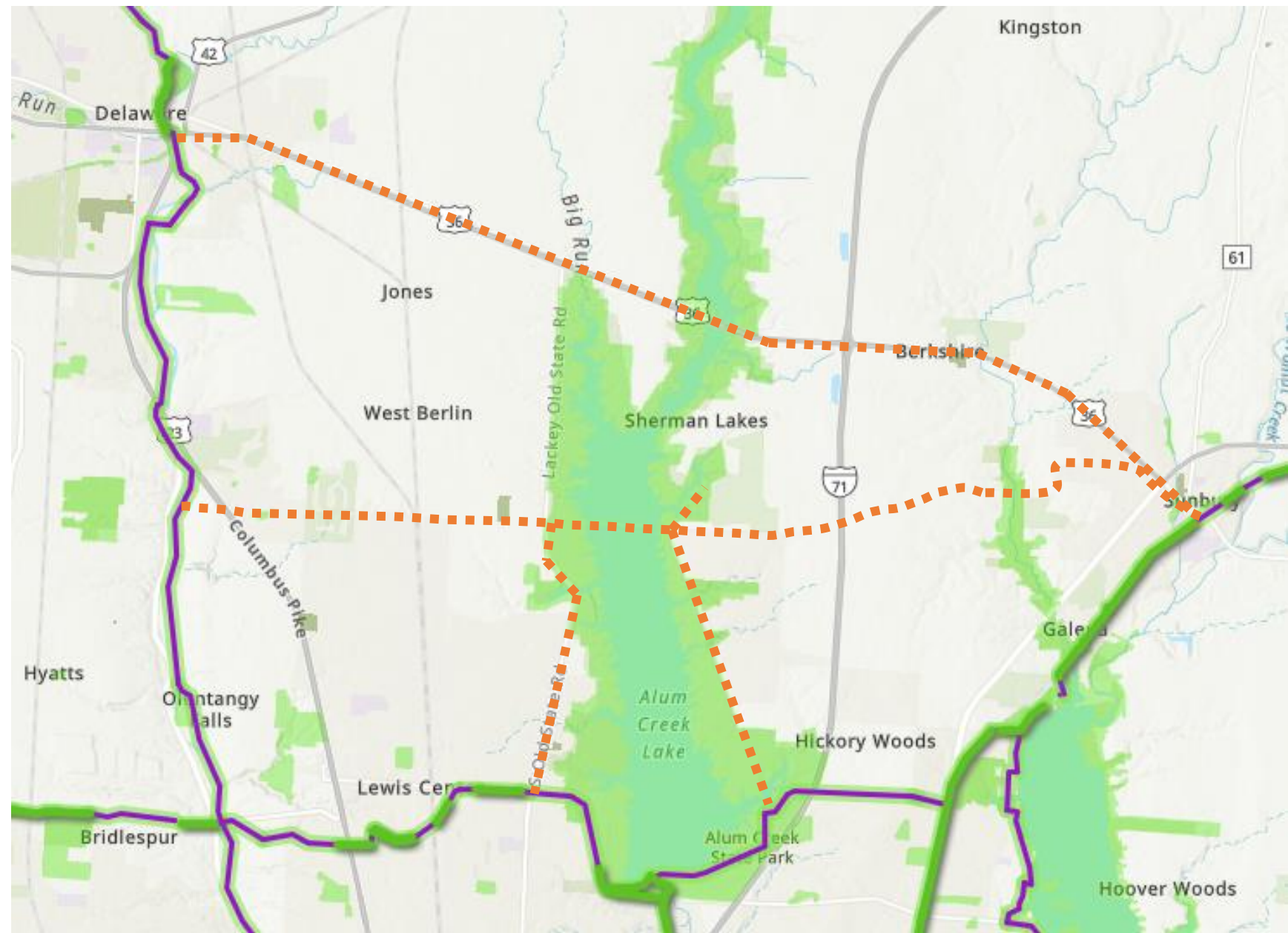
Johnstown-Sunbury-Centerburg Triangle (Silicon Heartland Trails)

- Potential rail-trail between Centerburg and Johnstown – connect through Hartford.
- Centerburg-Johnstown
 - Approximately 10 miles of proposed trail.
- Sunbury-Johnstown
 - Approximately 11 miles of proposed trail.
- Recommended by: “Trails in the Intel Region” meeting, Trail Town Working Group, Delaware County



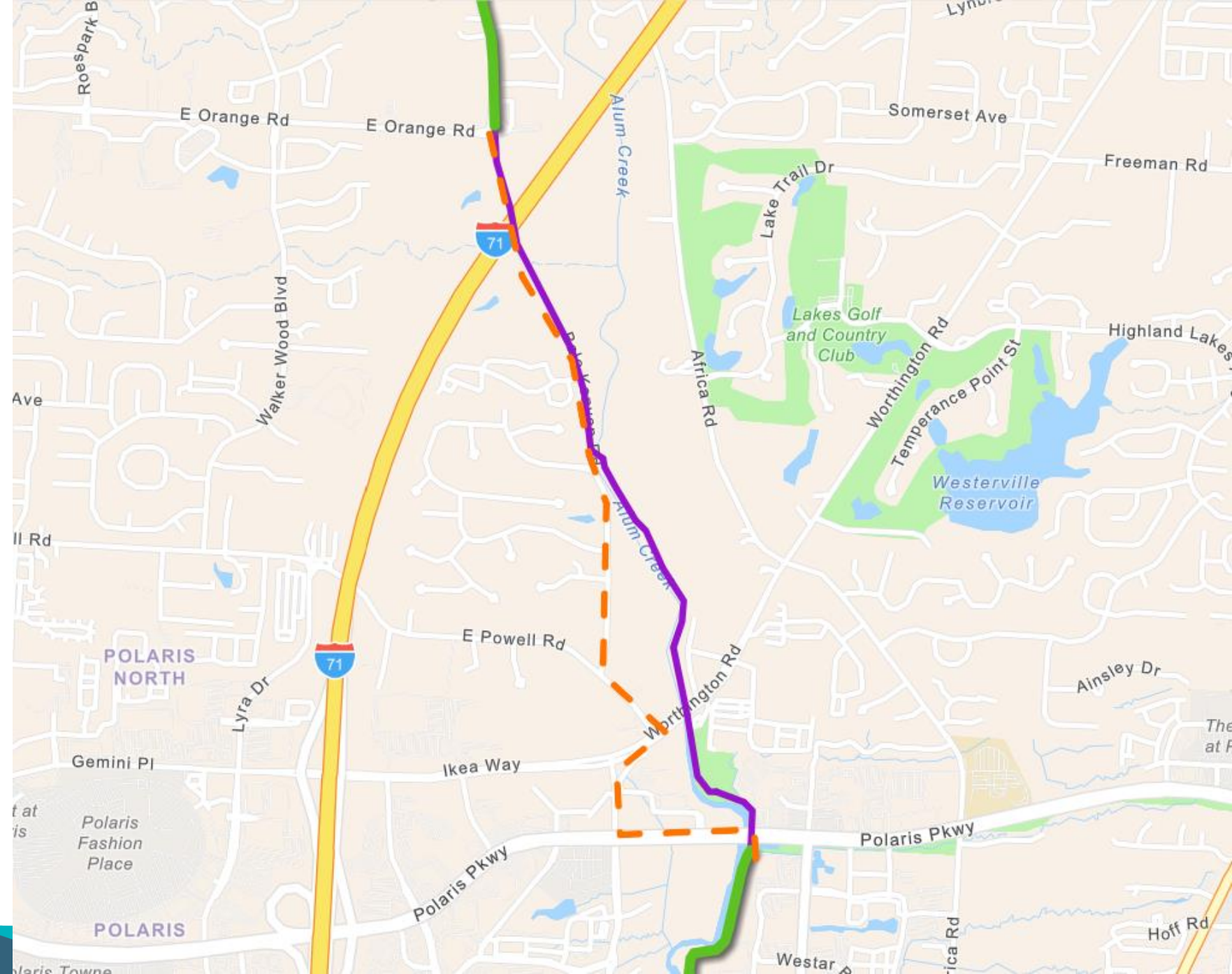
Delaware Run and/or Berlin Connector

- Could extend beyond Scioto Trail and O2E into neighboring counties/communities
- ODNR trail project in Alum Creek State Park
- Delaware Run
 - Approximately 12 miles of proposed trail
- Berlin Connector
 - Approximately 12 miles of proposed trail
- Alum Creek legs
 - Approximately 7 miles of proposed trail
- Recommended by: MORPC TA Program services with Berlin Township and City of Delaware.



Alum Creek Realignment

- Trail along Bale Kenyon has seen completion of the first phase, which goes under 71.
- Approximately 1.5 miles of trail
- Recommended by: Orange Township and DCEO
- Does this need any realignments?
 - Maybe a more feasible but less pretty alternative to current gap in Alum Creek Trail.

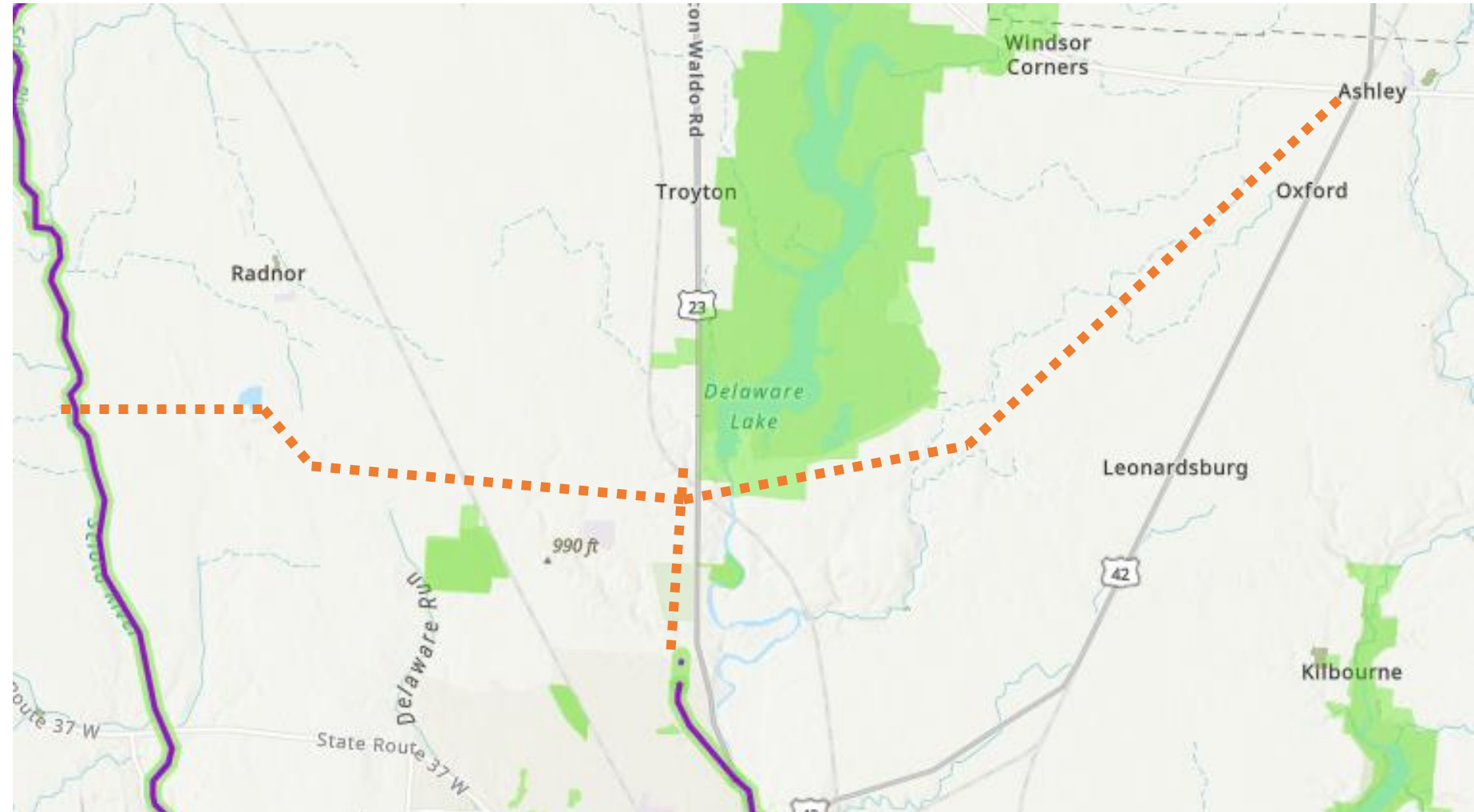


Delaware State Park Connections



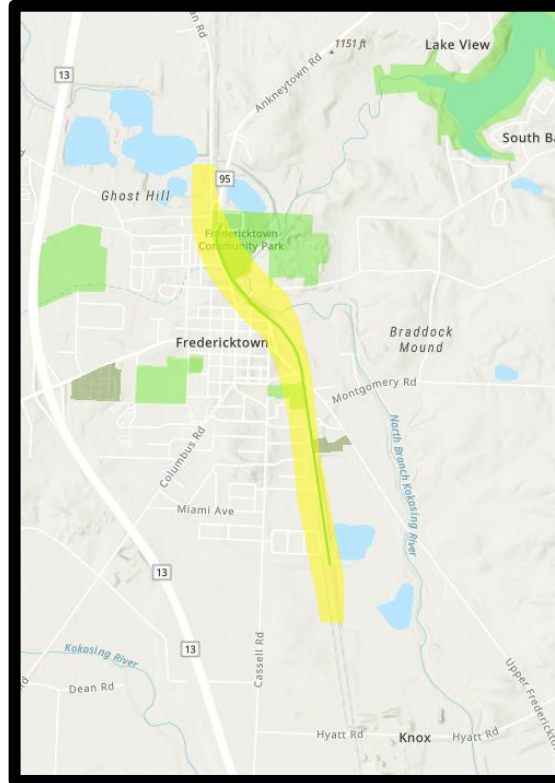
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- East-west connection.
- Could extend the Olentangy Trail north to Delaware State Park – ODNR involvement.
- School connection.
- Scioto Trail-Ashley
 - Approximately 15 miles of proposed trail.
- Olentangy Trail Extension
 - Approximately 2 miles of proposed trail.
- Recommended by: Delaware County Planning Commission



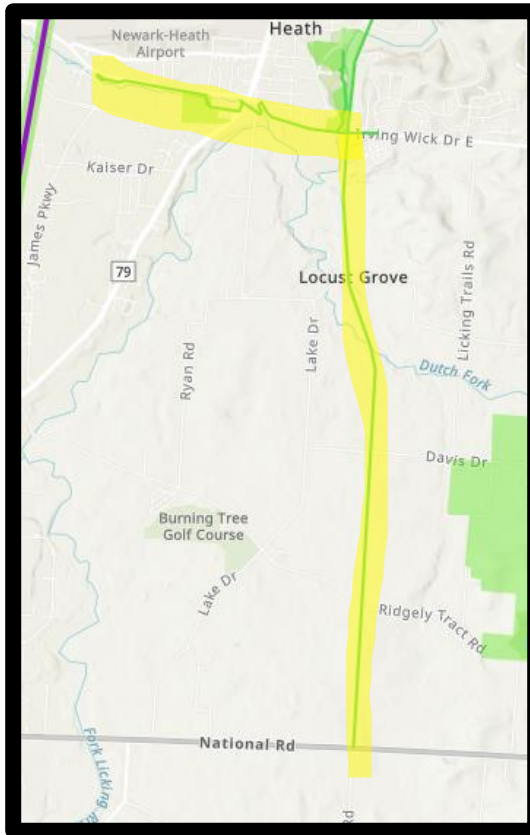
Owl Creek Trail Extension

- Potential new connection to OTET.
- Approximately 11 miles of proposed trail and 2.25 miles of existing trail.
- Recommended by: Mt Vernon and Knox County.



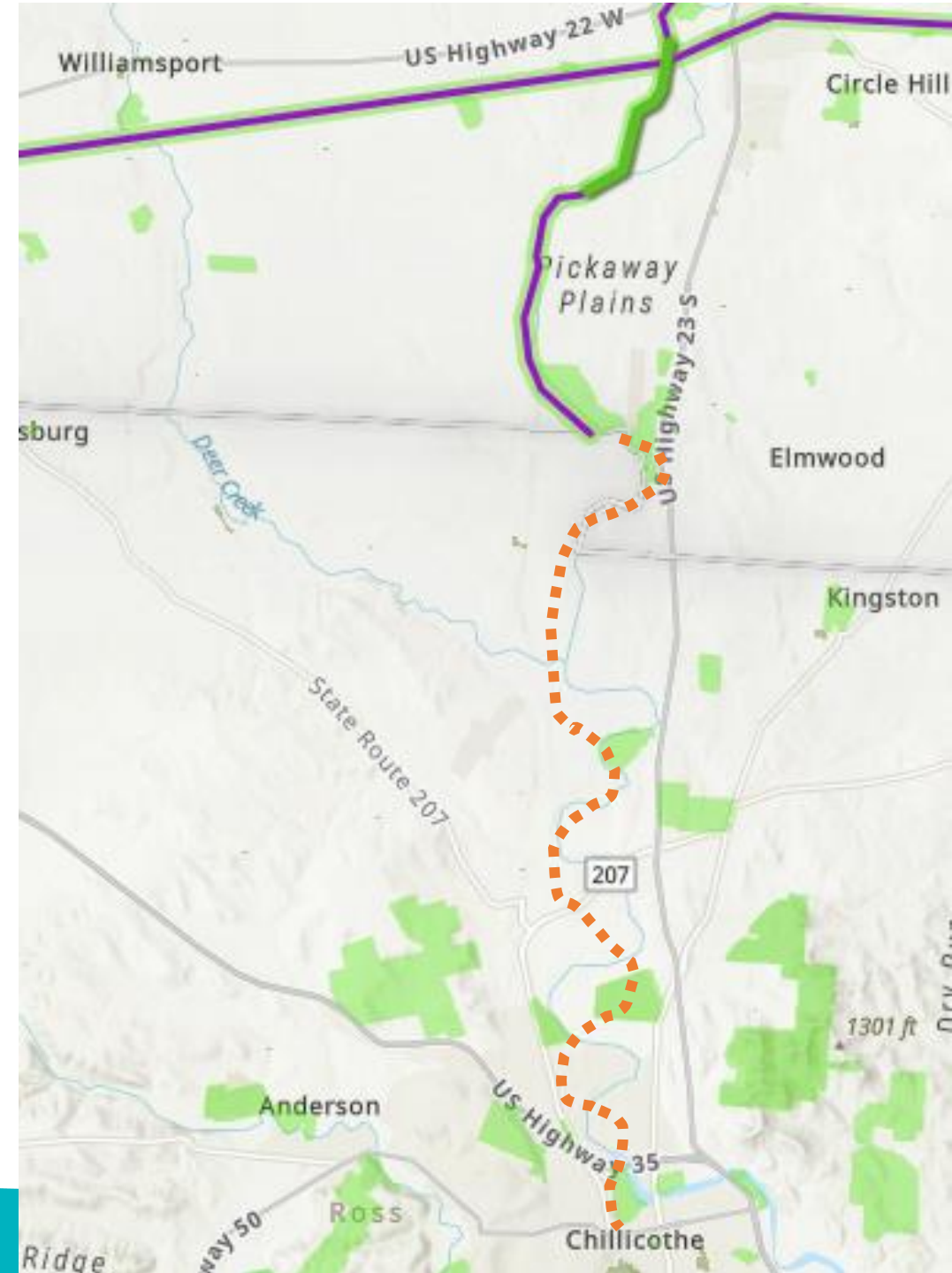
Newark & Heath to Buckeye Lake

- New north-south connection from Newark/Heath to Buckeye Lake.
- Existing MUPs along much of route.
- Approximately 2 miles of proposed trail and 5.5 miles of existing trail (Buckeye Scenic Trail).



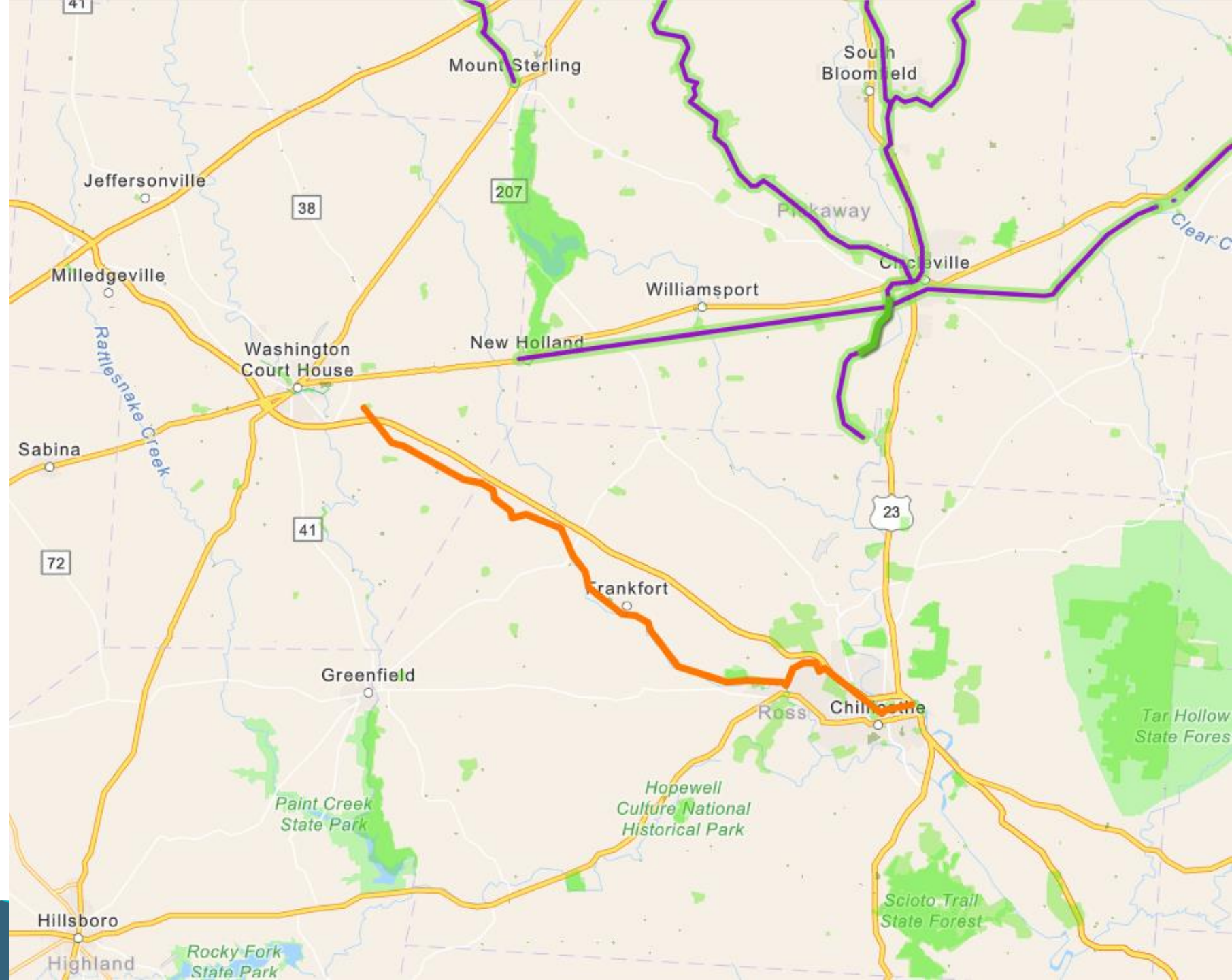
Scioto Trail Extension to Chillicothe

- Chillicothe has new UNESCO World Heritage site.
- TOSRV bike tour follows this route.
- Approximately 15 miles of proposed trail.
- Visionary Connection. Need a project sponsor. Consideration for future addition



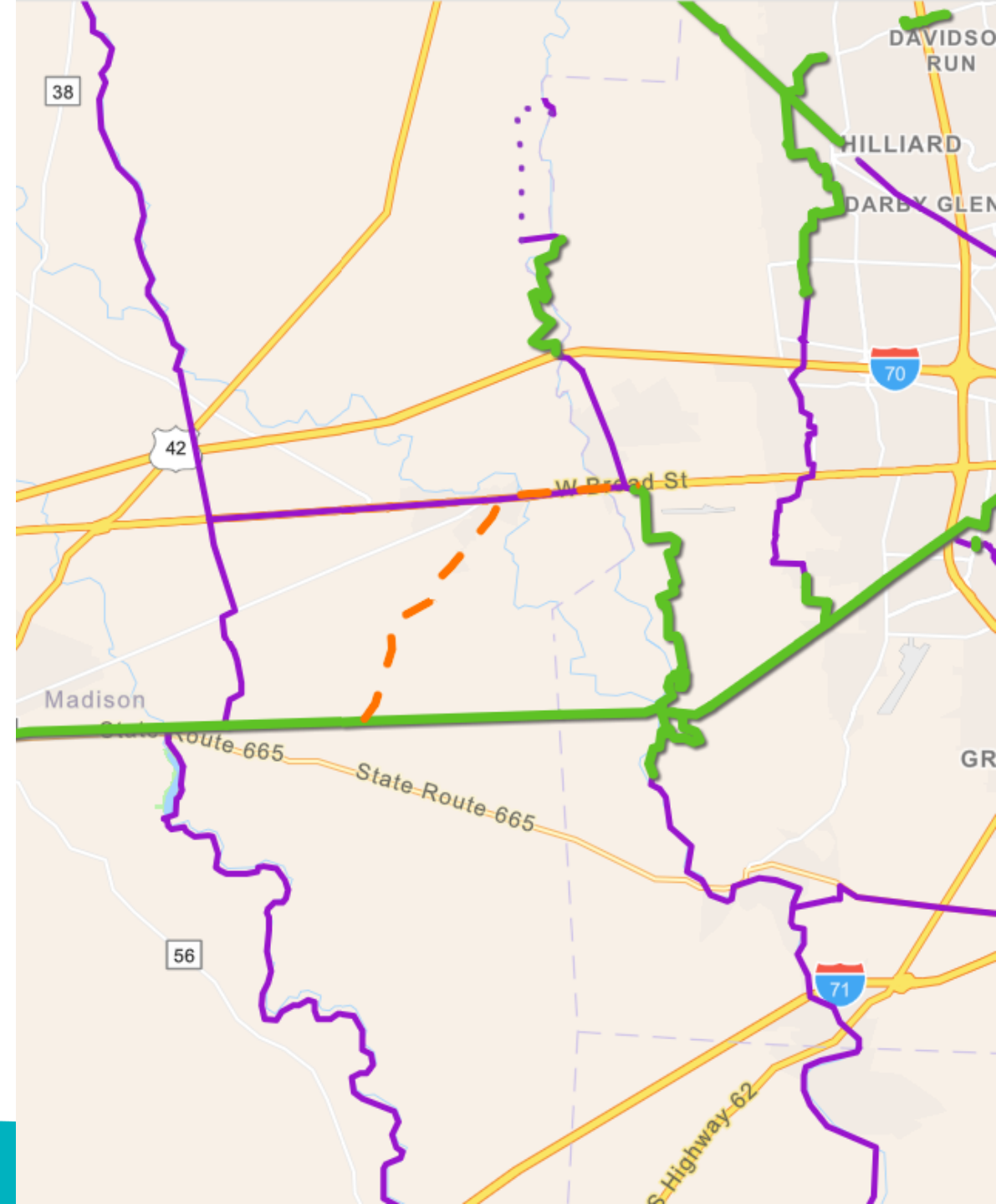
Paint Creek Recreational Trail

- ~30-mile existing MUP connecting Chillicothe and Washington Courthouse.
- Access to numerous cultural amenities, including UNESCO World Heritage Sites.
- Approximately 30 miles of existing trail.
- Recommended by: Ross County Parks District



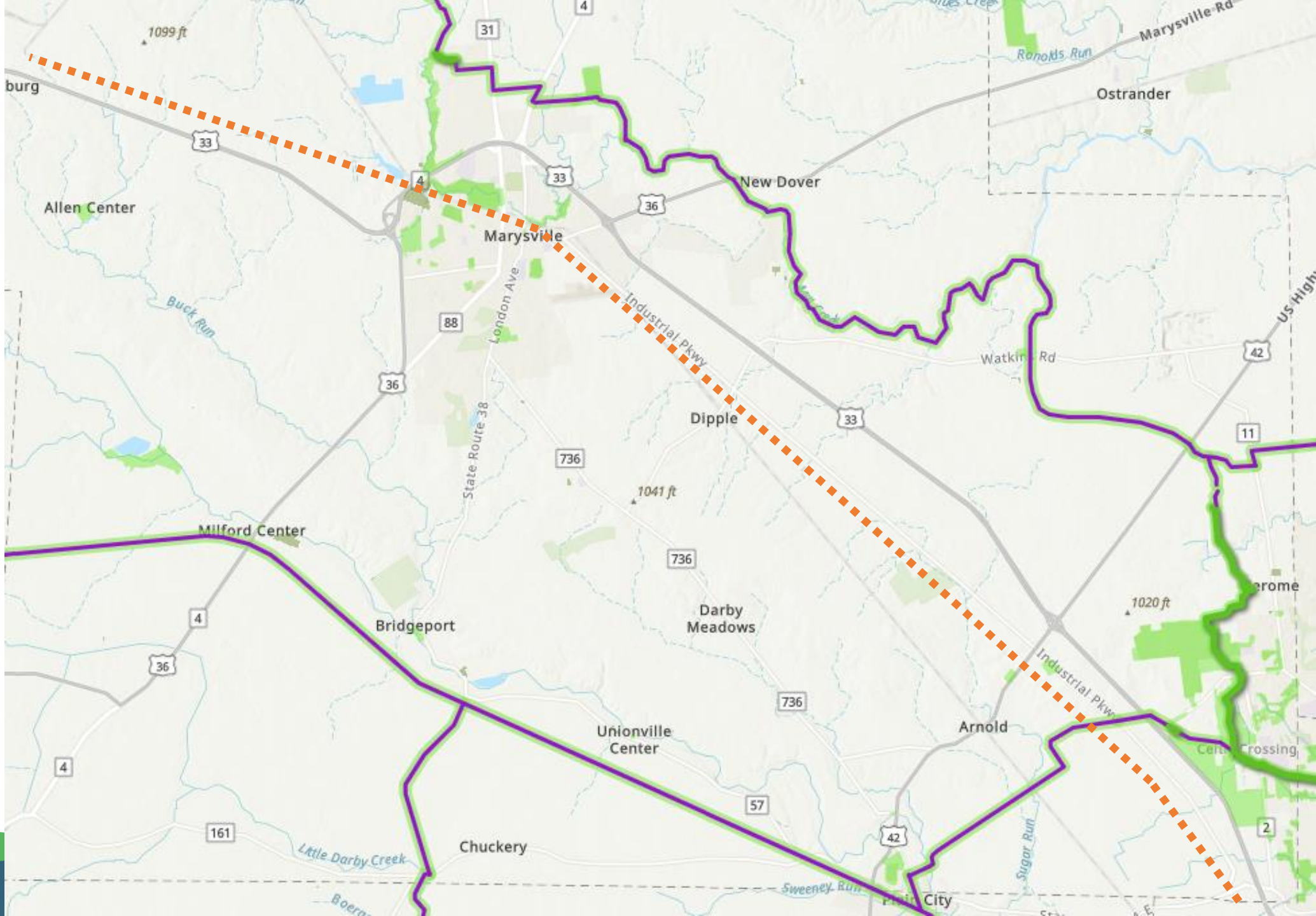
Darby Creek Realignment

- Proposed north-south alignment connecting OTET with NW Columbus area.
- Likely more feasible than current parallel vision given environmental and ROW concerns.
- Approximately 7 miles of proposed trail.
- Should this alignment be modified?



Innovation Route

- Following alignment of Industrial Parkway and Northwest Parkway, connecting Marysville and Honda.
- Approximately 20 miles of proposed trail.
- Recommended by: Union County Trails Plan

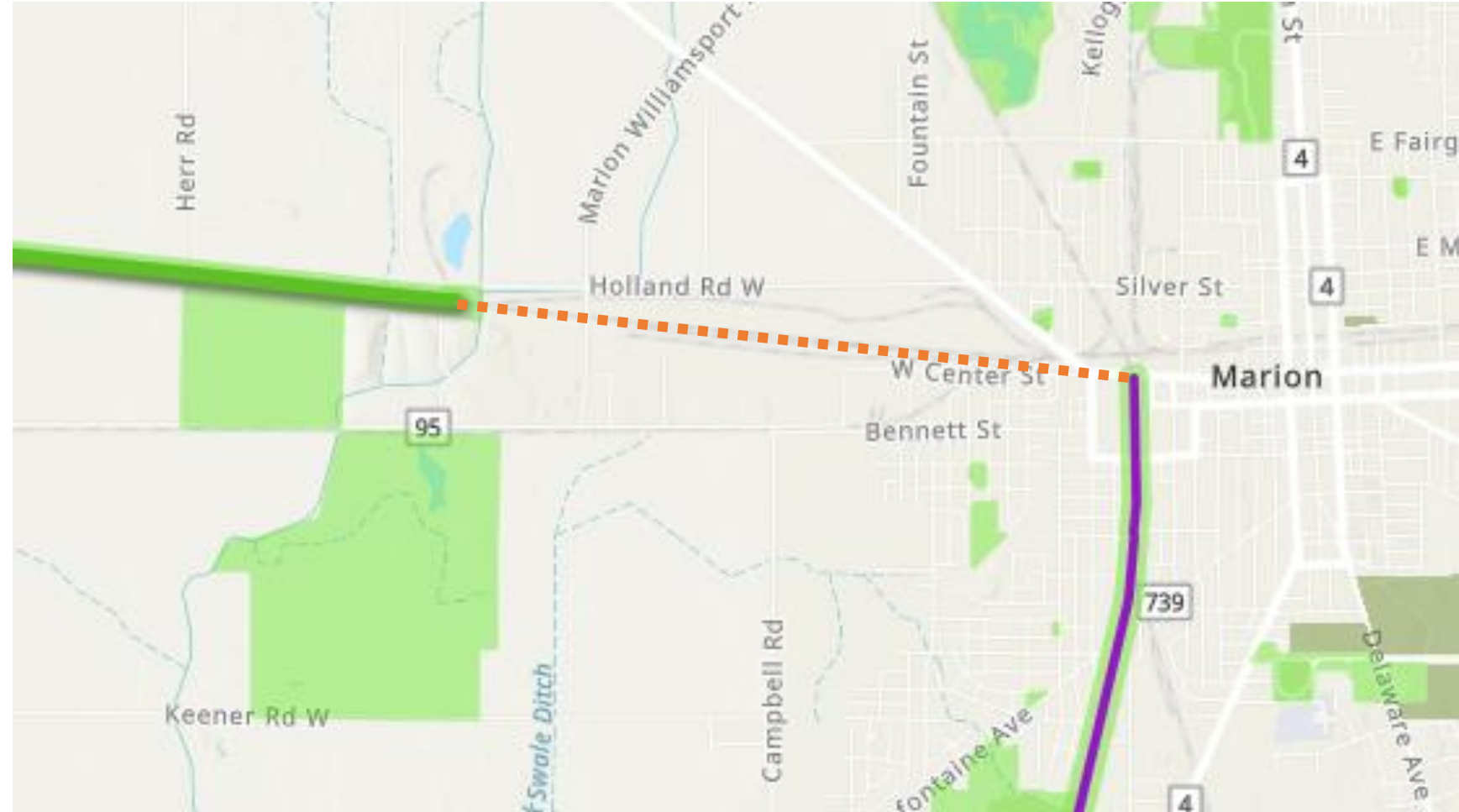


Tall Grass Trail Extension



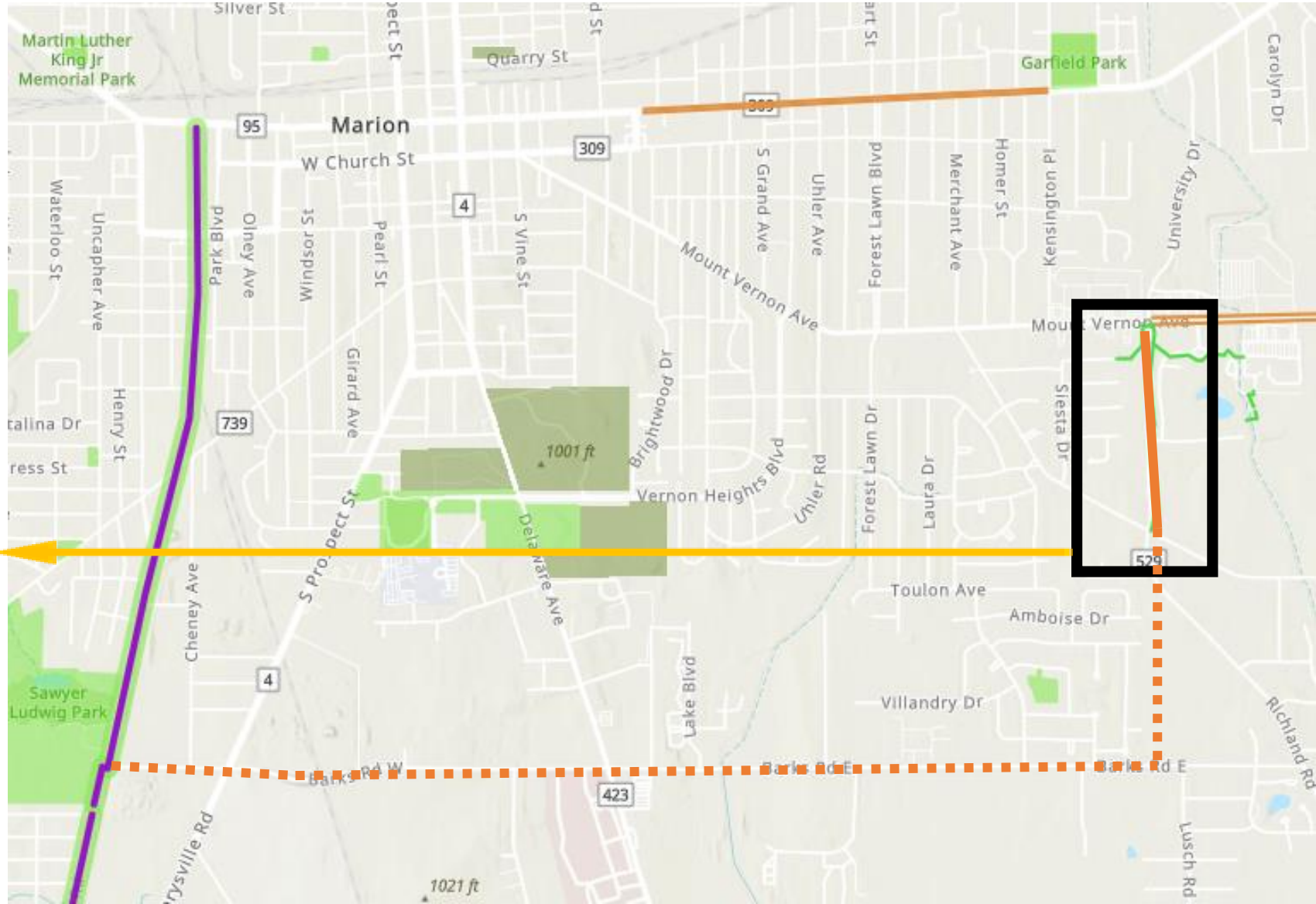
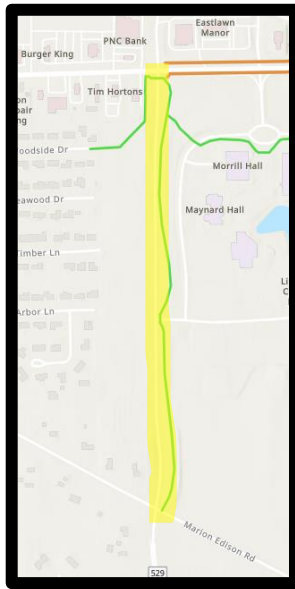
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- Would link Tall Grass Trail to rest of network.
- Approximately 2.5 miles of proposed trail.
- Recommended by: Marion County



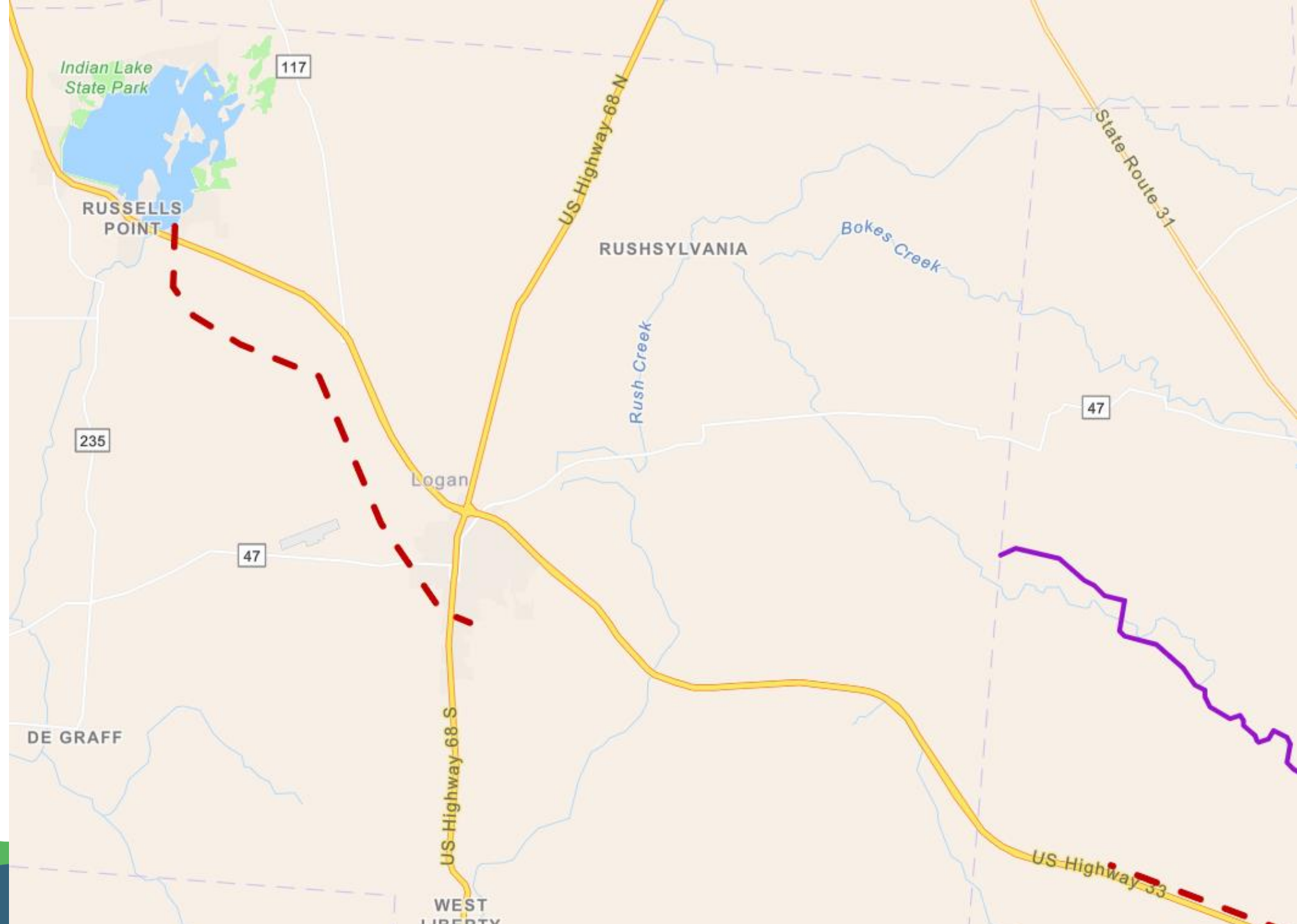
Marion Trails

- Some existing trail at OSU-M, which could be a gateway.
- Approximately 3.5 miles of proposed trail and 0.5 miles of existing trail.
- Should this be a Marion Loop?
- Is Marion a Trail Town?



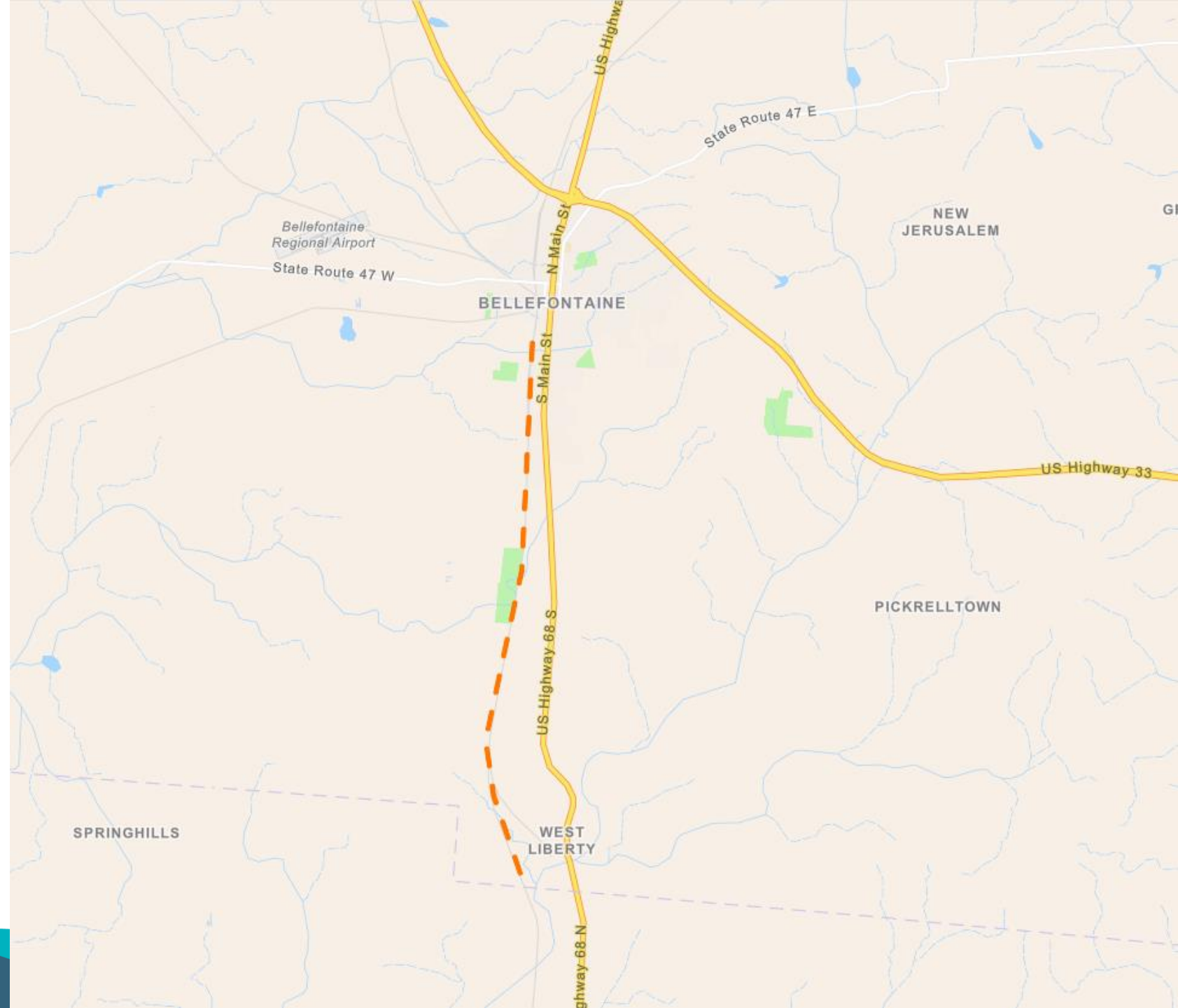
Indian Lake to Bellefontaine

- Connection from Indian Lake Loop through Bellefontaine.
- Would connect with Simon Kenton Trail.
- Approximately 11 miles of proposed trail.
- Recommended by: LUC



Simon Kenton Trail

- Existing path soon to be paved (possibly through ODOT Active Transportation Special Solicitation).
- Connects to Cincinnati.
- Approximately 8 miles of trail
- Recommended by: LUC



2024 COG WORKING GROUPS & STEERING COMMITTEES



Trail Development
Working Group

Trail Towns
Working Group

Hilliard Trail Town &
Wayfinding Technical
Assistance

TBD



MORPC

Thank You!

Melinda Vonstein, AICP

Greenway Planning Studio Lead

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

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