

## Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

### *Remote Meeting*

### Central Ohio Greenways Forum Meeting Notes

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March 20, 2024

#### **Linden Green Line**

Brad Westall, City of Columbus, reported that the project aims to transform a formerly abandoned rail corridor into a vibrant greenway stretching from 17th Avenue to Westerville. The corridor, now a linear park, will provide significant recreational and community space in densely populated neighborhoods, enhancing access to green spaces and connecting with the broader Central Ohio greenways network. Notable is the corridor's strategic integration with existing urban pathways and public transit, improving overall community connectivity and safety.

#### **Dublin Signature Trail**

J.M. Rayburn, City of Dublin reported that the Dublin Signature Trail is designed as a multi-faceted experience rather than just a trail. The project emphasizes creative placemaking with installations that narrate Dublin's historical and cultural evolution. The trail aims to be a catalyst for economic development in Dublin's Metro Center Office District, integrating environmental and aesthetic enhancements to create a unique recreational pathway.

#### **Columbus Outdoor Trails Pass**

Melinda Vonstein, MORPC, highlighted the Columbus Outdoor Trails Pass initiative, a recent addition to the regional trail offerings that promotes trail usage and outdoor engagement across various demographics. The Pass Program is part of a broader effort to integrate trail experiences with cultural and community activities, enhancing the recreational landscape of Central Ohio.

#### **General Updates:**

Melinda Vonstein also provided updates on several funding and collaborative initiatives aimed at expanding and connecting the trail network in Central Ohio. These include federal and local grant applications and community partnership efforts, underscoring the region's commitment to sustainable infrastructure and active transportation.



# Central Ohio Greenways Forum: Designing the Trail Experience

March 20, 2024



MID-OHIO REGIONAL  
**MORPC**  
PLANNING COMMISSION



# ABOUT LINKUS

## What is LinkUS?

Our 15-county region is on track to reach 3.15 million residents by 2050! That amounts to 726,000 more people in about 25 years. LinkUS is our region's proactive plan to bring rapid transit solutions and transportation options to accommodate major population growth, and it includes:

1. Faster, more reliable public transportation
2. Safe and expanded bike and pedestrian paths
3. Walkable communities with more affordable access to work, home and entertainment



# Innovative Trail Projects



MID-OHIO REGIONAL  
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# The Linden Green Line

COG Forum

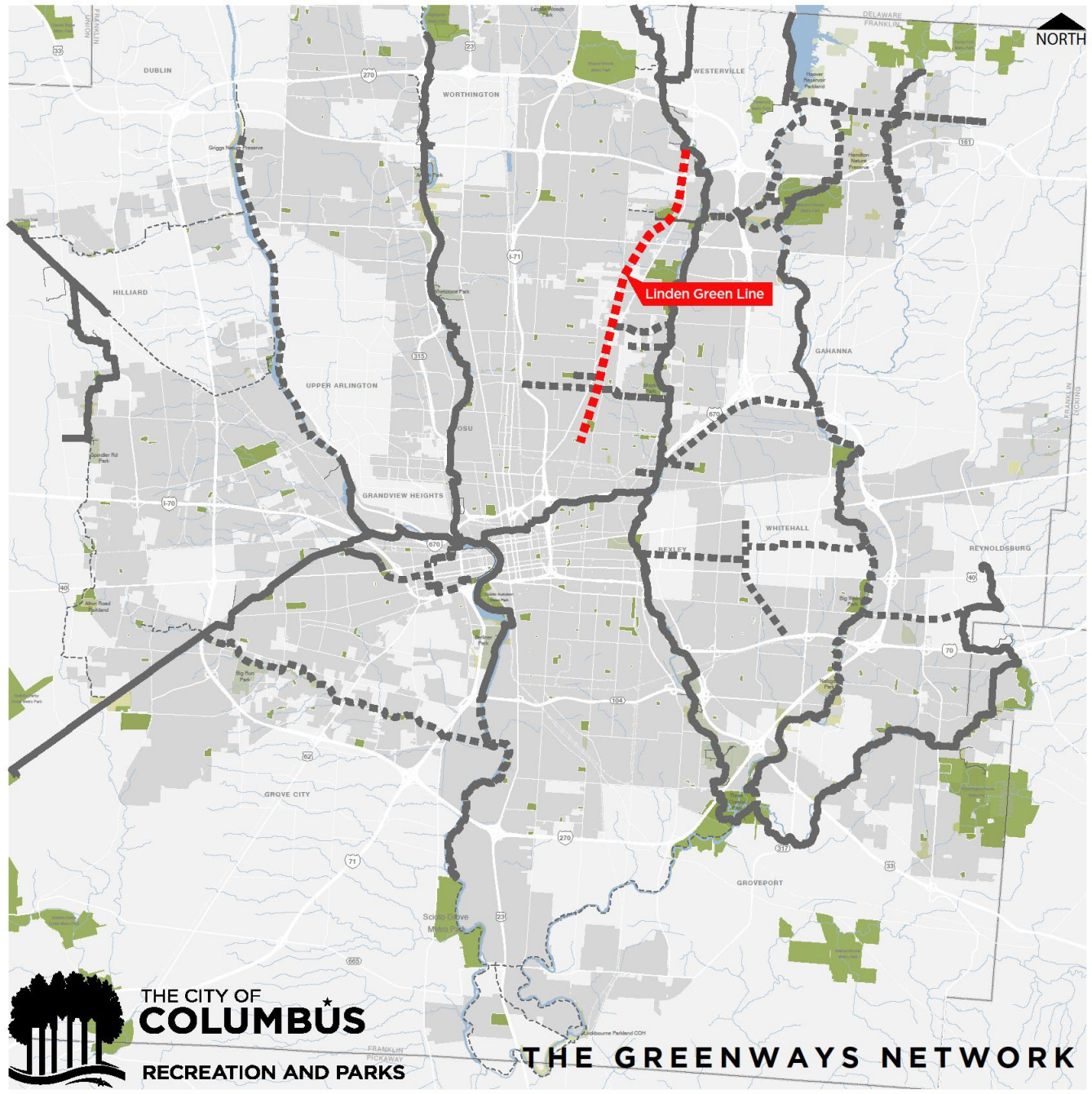
March 20, 2024





**THE CITY OF COLUMBUS**  
RECREATION AND PARKS

**THE LINDEN GREEN LINE**



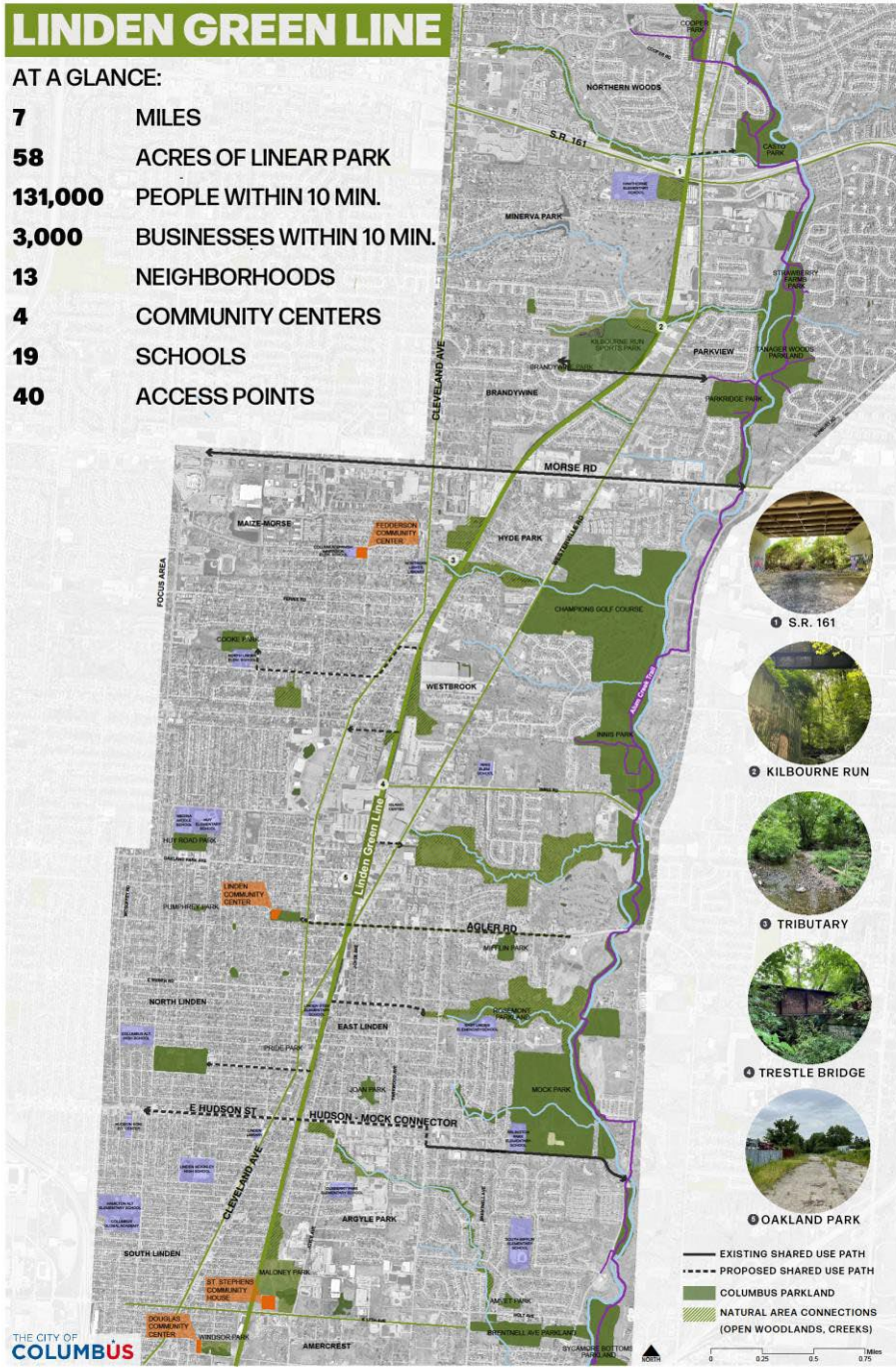
THE CITY OF  
**COLUMBUS**  
RECREATION AND PARKS

THE GREENWAYS NETWORK

# LINDEN GREEN LINE

## AT A GLANCE:

- 7** MILES
- 58** ACRES OF LINEAR PARK
- 131,000** PEOPLE WITHIN 10 MIN.
- 3,000** BUSINESSES WITHIN 10 MIN.
- 13** NEIGHBORHOODS
- 4** COMMUNITY CENTERS
- 19** SCHOOLS
- 40** ACCESS POINTS



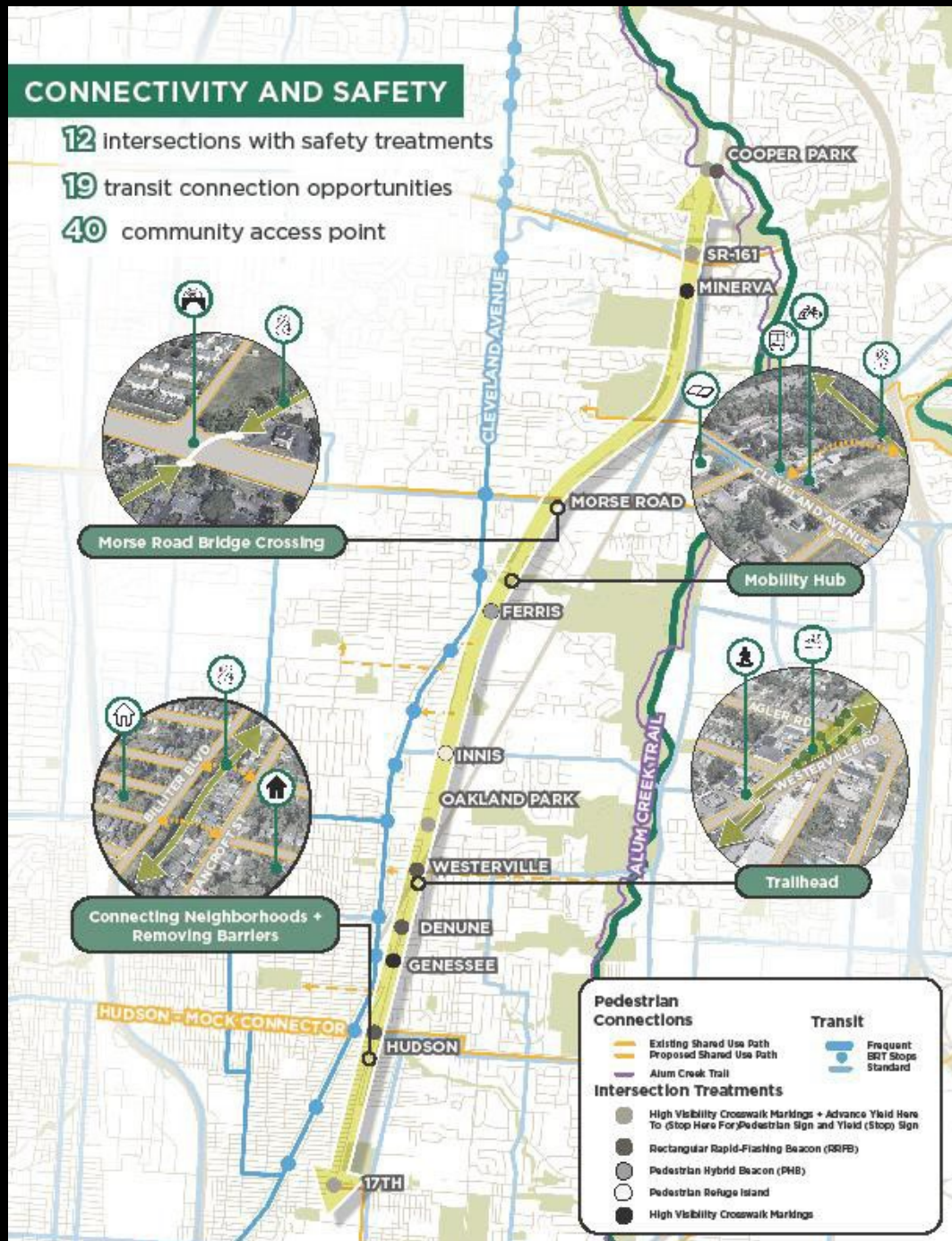
- 1 S.R. 161
- 2 KILBOURNE RUN
- 3 TRIBUTARY
- 4 TRESTLE BRIDGE
- 5 OAKLAND PARK

EXISTING SHARED USE PATH  
 PROPOSED SHARED USE PATH  
 COLUMBUS PARKLAND  
 NATURAL AREA CONNECTIONS (OPEN WOODLANDS, CREEKS)



## CONNECTIVITY AND SAFETY

- 12 intersections with safety treatments
- 19 transit connection opportunities
- 40 community access point

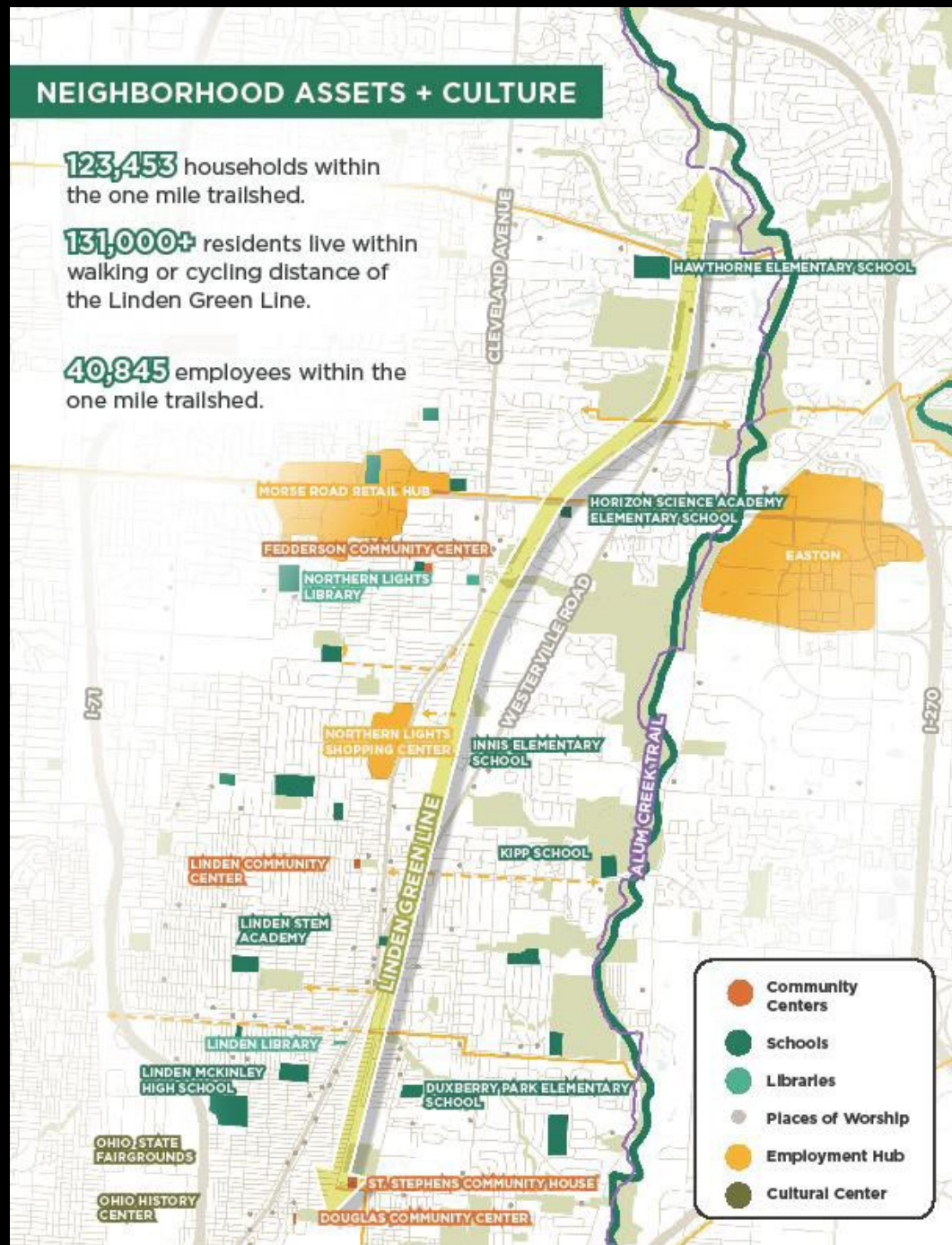


## NEIGHBORHOOD ASSETS + CULTURE

**123,453** households within the one mile trailshed.

**131,000+** residents live within walking or cycling distance of the Linden Green Line.

**40,845** employees within the one mile trailshed.





# KOHR PLACE PARKETTE NEAR THE LINDEN BRANCH LIBRARY



DOWNTOWN COLUMBUS

# The Capital Line



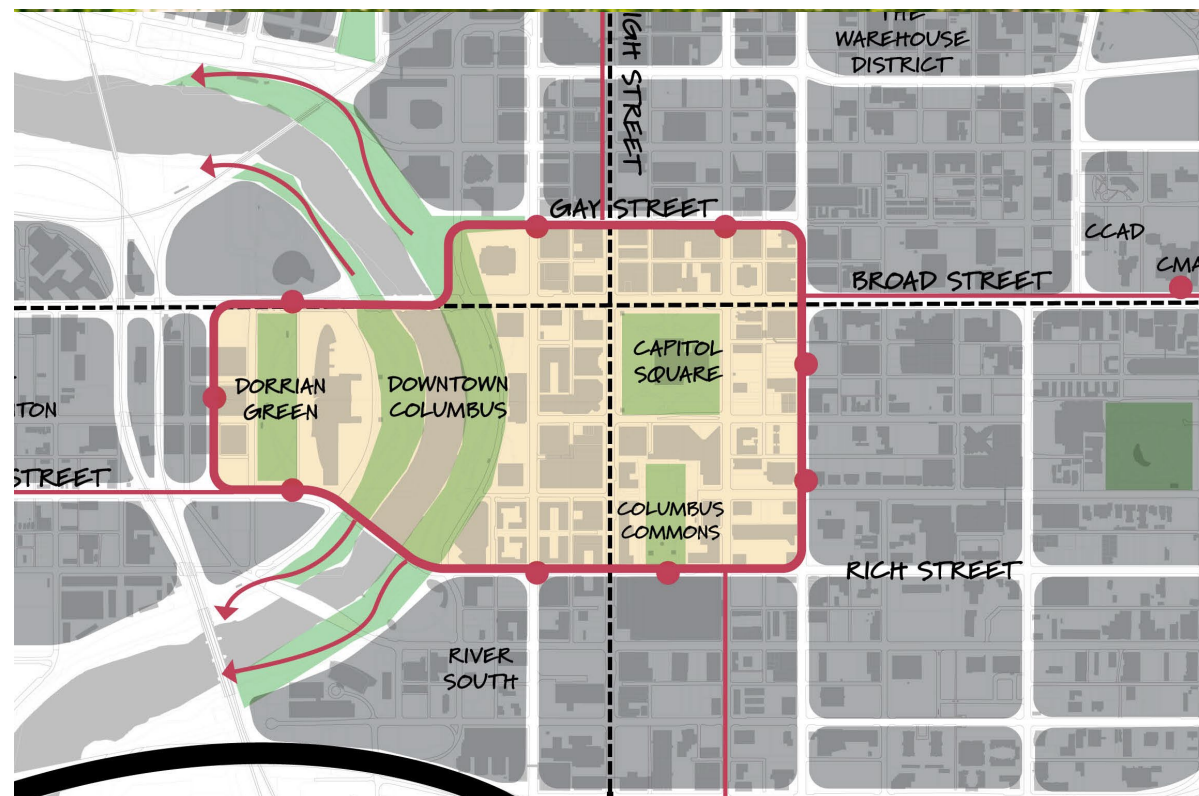


# THE CAPITAL LINE

AN URBAN PATHWAY THROUGH THE HEART OF COLUMBUS

## HIGHLIGHTS

- A two-mile pedestrian trail creating linkages to existing assets within Downtown Columbus
- Exclusive to pedestrians and cyclists creating a signature path
- Public art installations sprinkled throughout for an exceptional pedestrian experience



# GAY STREET LOOKING WEST FROM FOURTH



EXISTING CONDITIONS



POTENTIAL DESIGN

# GAY STREET AT THIRD STREET



EXISTING CONDITIONS



POTENTIAL DESIGN



GAY STREET LOOKING WEST TOWARD HIGH



EXISTING CONDITIONS



POTENTIAL DESIGN

# GAY STREET & HIGH STREET



EXISTING CONDITIONS



POTENTIAL DESIGN



# WHY START AT GAY STREET?

An opportunity to build on the 15-minute neighborhood concept

- **A Growing Residential Neighborhood**
  - 1,646 Residential Units Today
  - 757 Residential Units Under Construction
  - 3,000+ Residents Projected by 2025
  - 6000+ Residents Possible in the Next Decade
- **Intact Historic Architecture**
- **Public Investment**
  - Creative Campus / Neighborhood Launch Area
- **Proximity to Key Public Spaces**
  - Riverfront / City Hall / Ohio Statehouse
- **Successful Retail on Gay & High Street**
- **Opportunities for Pearl & Lynn Alley**
- **Private Investments**
  - Underutilized Buildings & Parking Lots
- **Strong Public Art Components**

# TIMELINE

2024  
DESIGN TEAM SELECTED



WINTER 2024/2025  
CONSTRUCTION TEAM SELECTED



SPRING 2025  
BEGIN CONSTRUCTION



# Broad Street Capital Trail

FEB 2023

## DOWNTOWN AND NEAR EAST SIDE TRAIL ACCESS AND CONNECTIVITY STUDY

Prepared for:  
**CITY OF COLUMBUS**

MID-OHIO REGIONAL  
**MORPC**  
PLANNING COMMISSION

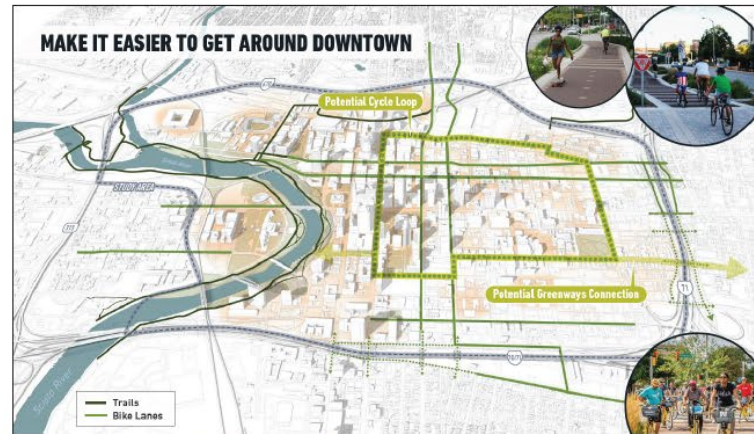
### COLUMBUS DOWNTOWN AND NEAR EAST SIDE TRAIL ACCESS AND CONNECTIVITY STUDY

#### DOWNTOWN STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

The update of the Columbus Downtown Strategic Plan has proceeded concurrently with this Technical Assistance activity, allowing for alignment of this activity with the recommendations emerging from the Plan's update. The next Downtown Strategic Plan lays out a bold and progressive vision for Downtown Columbus.

It re-imagines Downtown Streets as "Linear Green Parks" that can be manifested through streetscape enhancements and increasing tree canopy coverage, thus creating a more comfortable and connected network that links major activity centers and fills gaps within the park system in Downtown.

The second community workshop also discussed the potential for a downtown "Cycle Loop" comprised of Nationwide Blvd, Naghten St, Mt. Vernon Ave, Washington Ave, Town St, Rich St, and High St. This facility would connect many of downtown's major attractions and destinations, with opportunities to connect into the COG network as well.



2022 Downtown Strategic Plan Proposed Cycle Loop

### INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND

Furthermore, the Plan recommends establishing typologies for the downtown streets. These streets are sorted into 5 main categories:

<p><b>SIGNATURE STREET</b></p> <p>High St Broad St</p>	<p><b>NEIGHBORHOOD CONNECTOR STREET</b></p> <p>Front St Rich St Main St Livingston Ave Cleveland Ave</p>
<p><b>COMMUTER STREET</b></p> <p>3rd St 4th St</p>	<p><b>SPECIALTY STREET</b></p> <p>Nationwide-Naghten-Mt. Vernon Corridor Gay St, Town St Civic Center Dr Grant Ave Washington Ave</p>
<p><b>DISTRIBUTOR ST</b></p> <p>Spring St Long St Mound St Fulton St</p>	

In addition to establishing these typologies, the Plan also "re-categorizes" the major north-south Downtown arterials:

#### High Street

As the "Signature Street," enhancements will serve to generate a vibrant pedestrian environment and expand multimodal mobility via improved transit and active transportation.

#### 3rd Street

In line with LinkUS, installation of high-capacity rapid transit could make 3rd Street the "Premium Transit Corridor."

#### 4th Street

Expansion and enhancement of the existing bicycle lane to create a protected, two-way cycle track could re-define 4th Street as the "Bike Commuter Corridor."

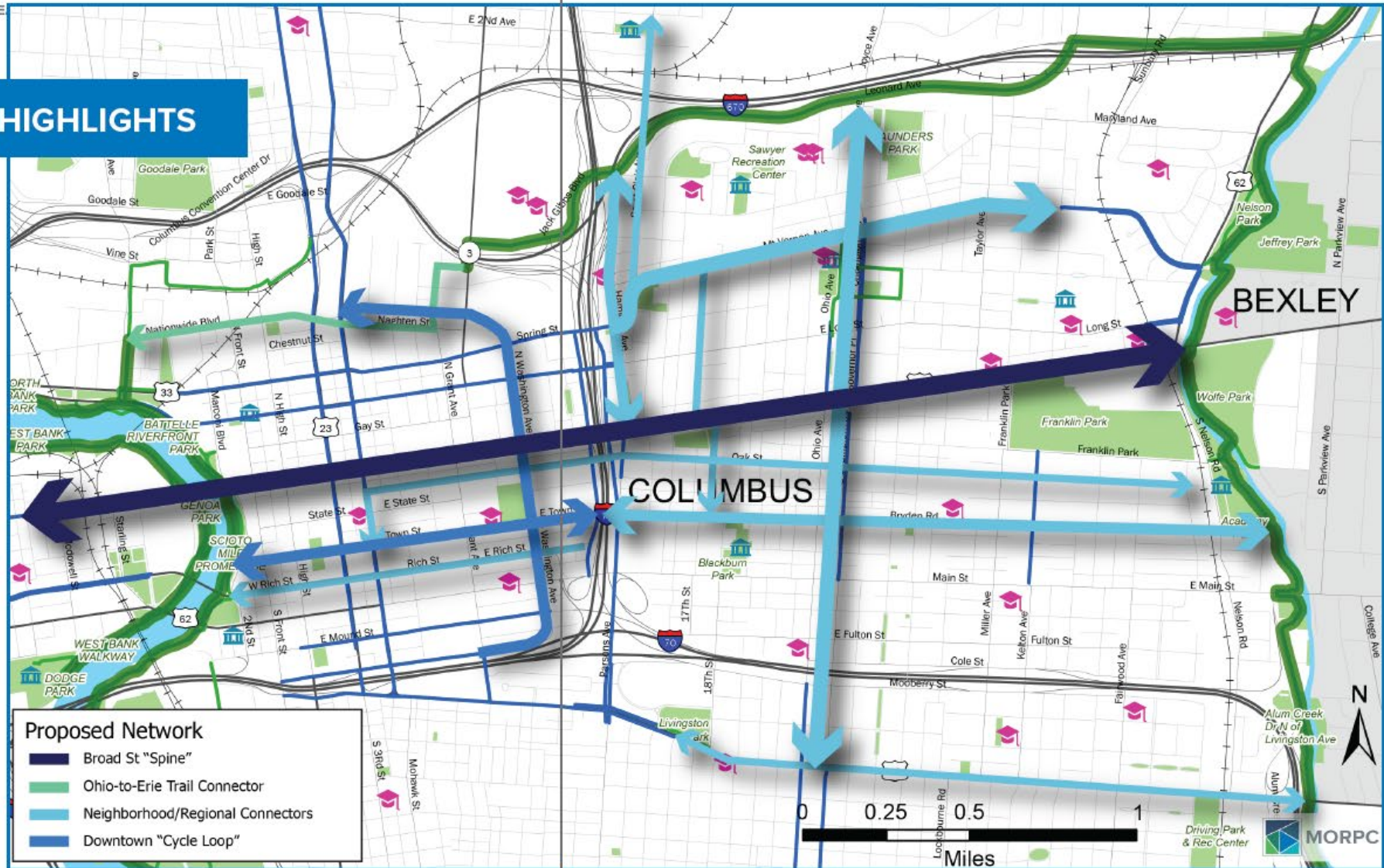
Finally, the Plan re-imagines **Broad Street** as both a "Signature Street" and a **cultural trail**, dubbed the "Capital Trail". The concept includes center-running BRT and a two-way, planter-protected, signalized cycle track.

The Downtown Strategic Plan's vision and recommendations informed the development of this Implementation Plan's proposals.

## WORKSHOP HIGHLIGHTS

The information provided in the first workshop was critical to providing a clearer understanding of ongoing projects and plans in Downtown and the Near East Side. It also helped to better inform the priorities and recommendations of the present activity. Finally, it directly contributed to the corridors selected for further study during engineer's bike rides.

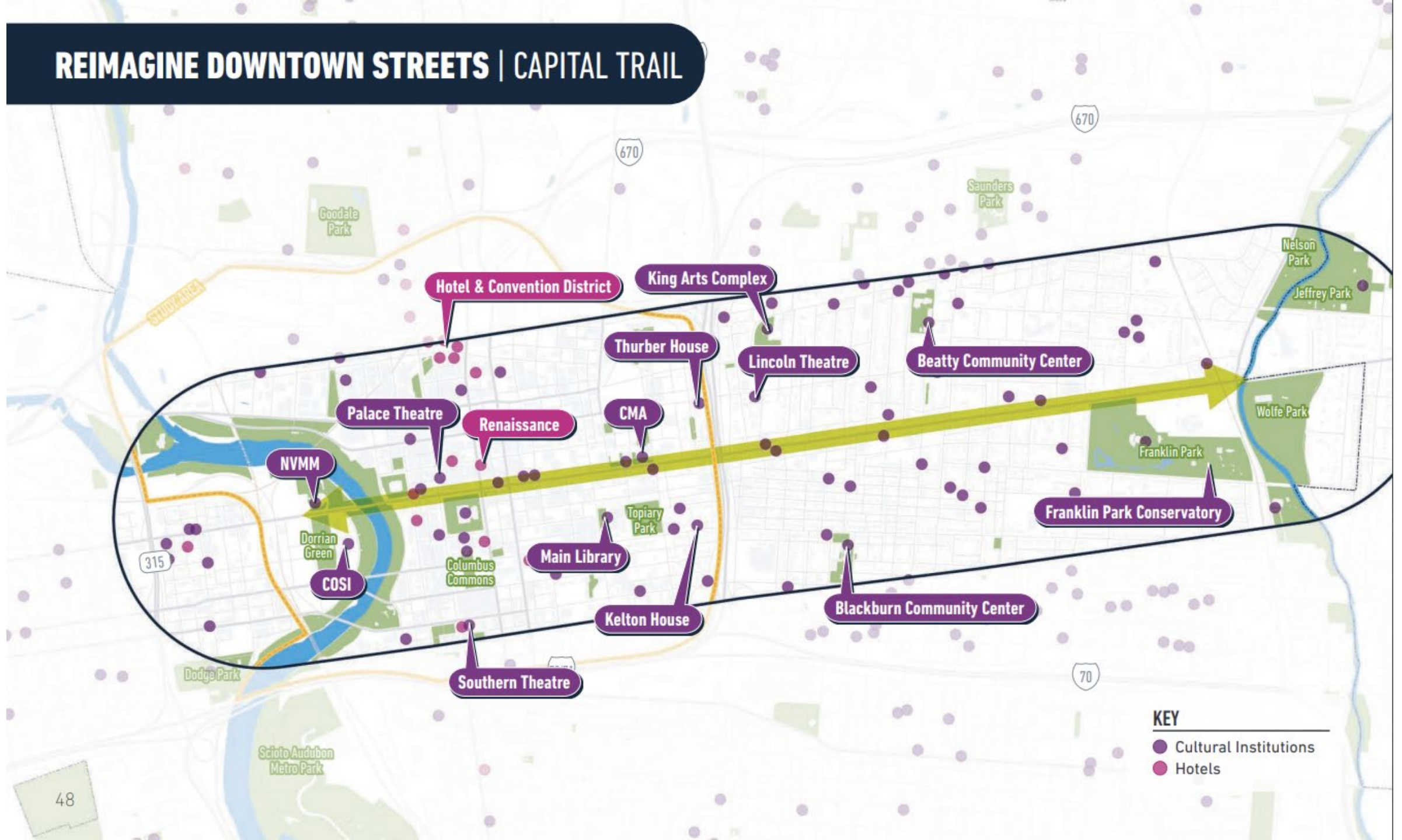
This map depicts the corridors identified by multiple stakeholder groups during the workshop. A corridor's line thickness corresponds to its popularity among the stakeholders.



# REIMAGINE DOWNTOWN STREETS | BROAD STREET



# REIMAGINE DOWNTOWN STREETS | CAPITAL TRAIL

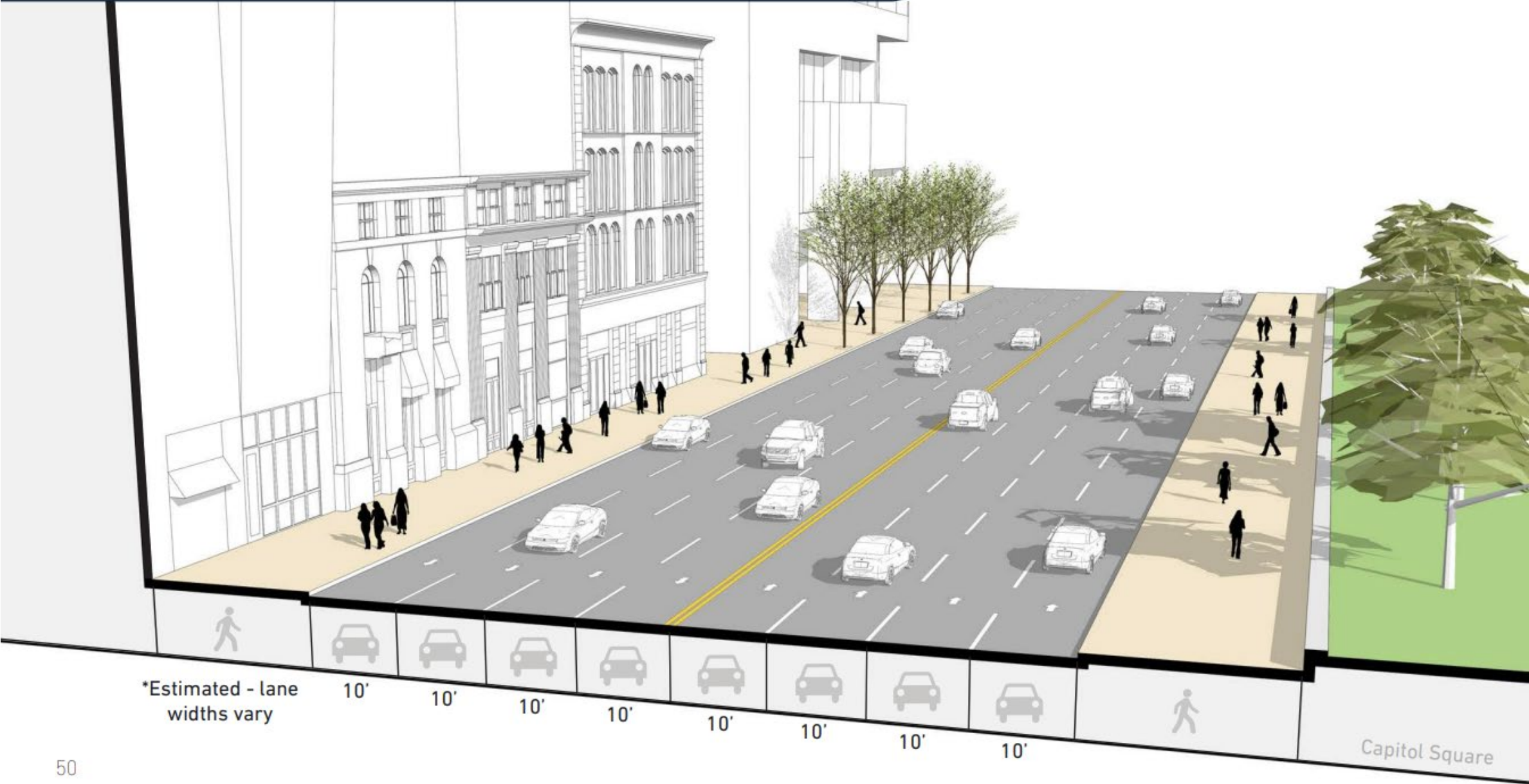




# REIMAGINE DOWNTOWN STREETS | CAPITAL TRAIL

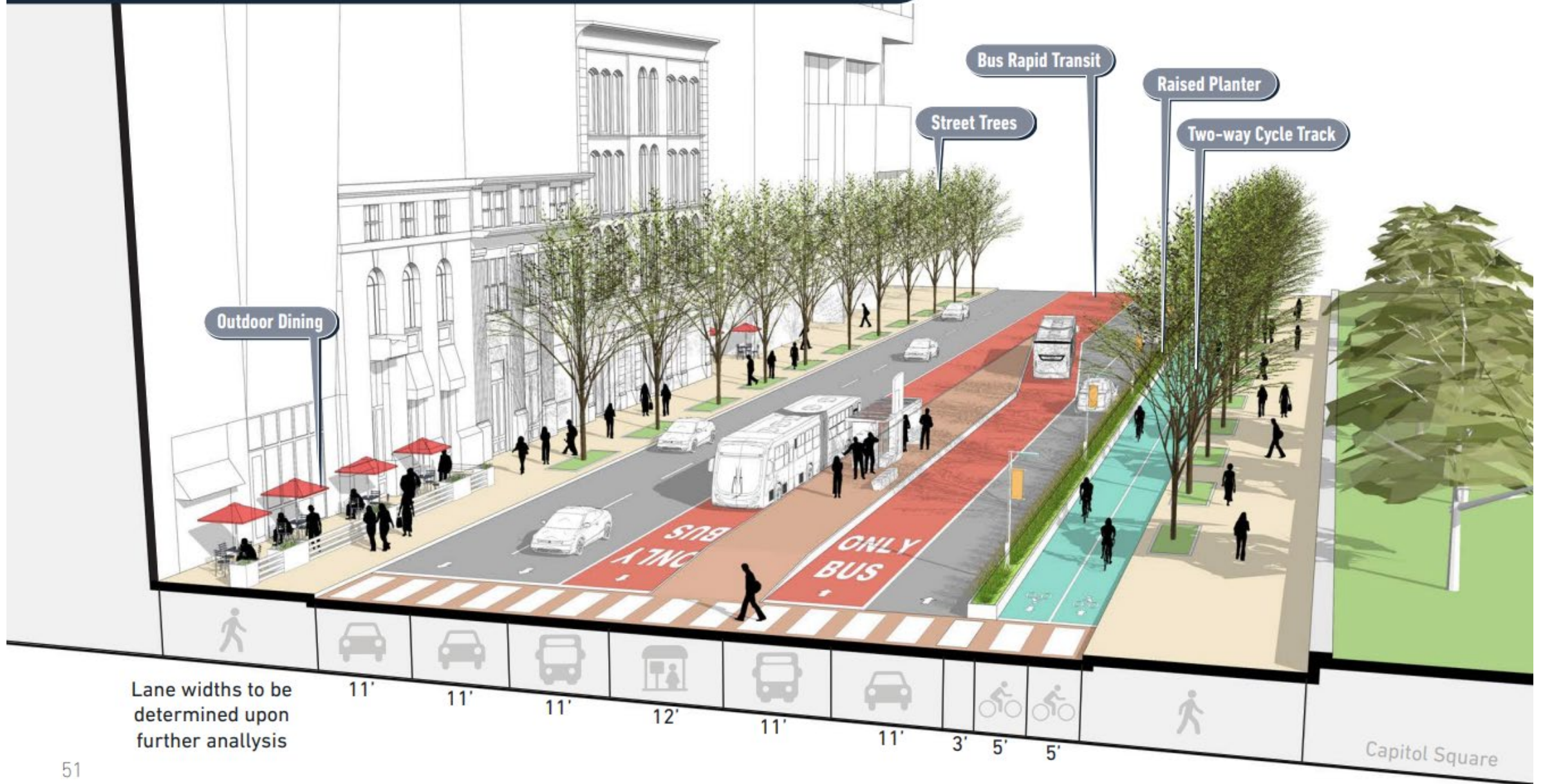


# REIMAGINE DOWNTOWN STREETS | BROAD STREET EXISTING



# REIMAGINE DOWNTOWN STREETS | BROAD STREET FUTURE

## ONE CONCEPT FOR BROAD STREET



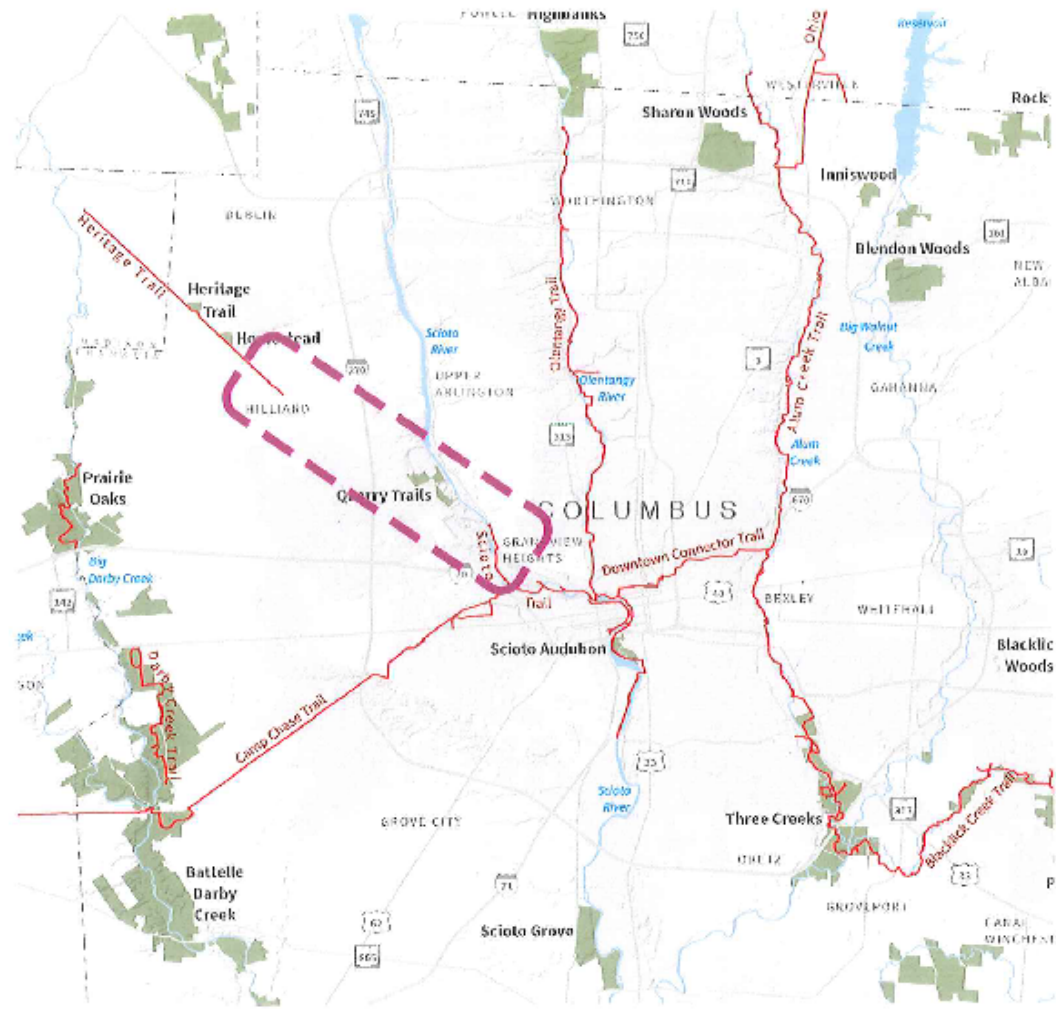
## What's happening now and Next Steps

- LinkUS W. Broad Street BRT Corridor in 60% Design
- Includes preliminary layout for a portion of the Broad Street Capital Trail (Downtown)
- COTA recently awarded \$42M for the corridor.
- Additional funding pending (LinkUS ballot initiative and other potential sources).
- City of Columbus was awarded \$375,000 Federal ***Safe Streets for All*** grant to pilot a demonstration project for a protected bike facility on the Near East Side
- Coordination with Gay Street/Capital Line design process to set design parameters for integrated system of facilities

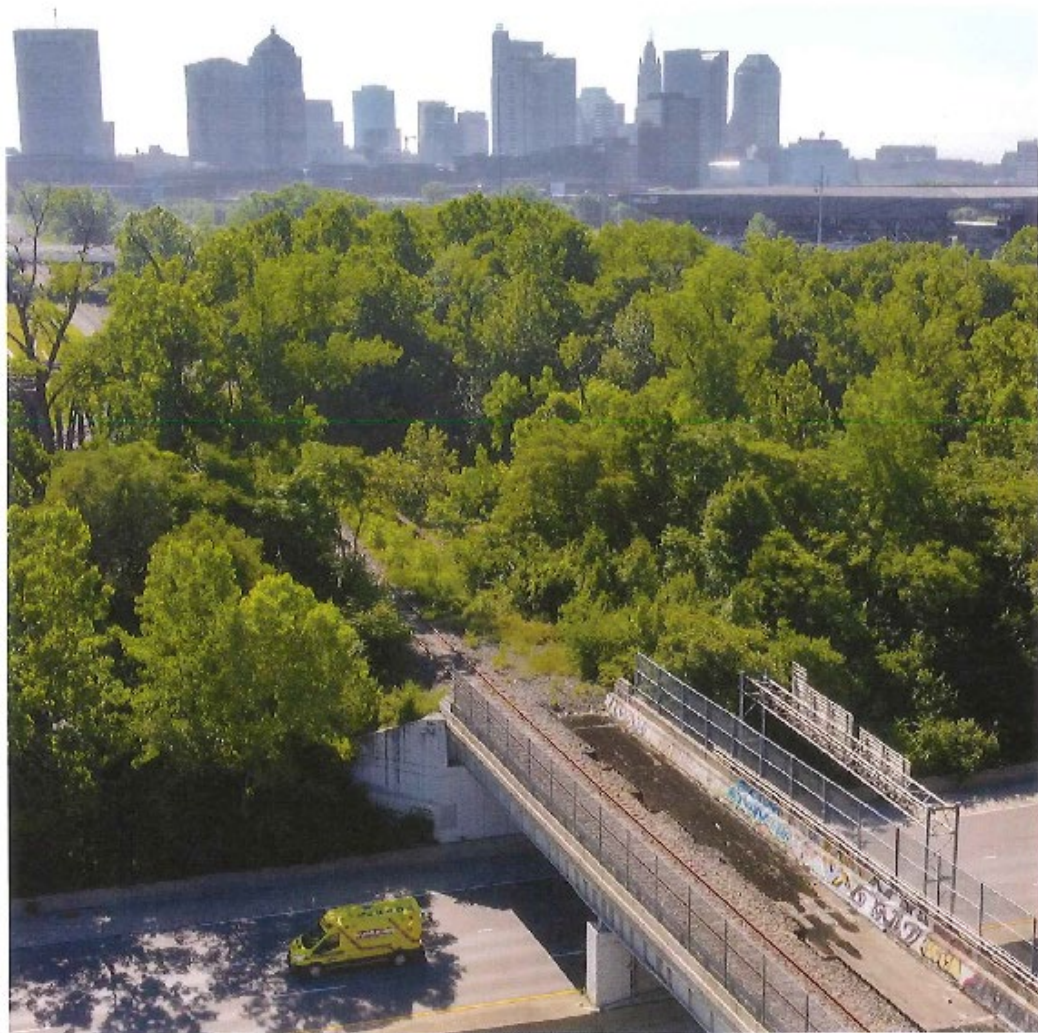
# Heritage Trail Extension

Hilliard ← → Arena District





Central Ohio Greenways **connects to a growing network of parks and neighborhoods** and offers recreational and commuting opportunities to a wide range of visitors and residents. This proposed expansion will connect the City of Hilliard and the existing Heritage Trail to Quarry Trails Metro Park, Upper Arlington, Marble Cliff, Grandview Heights, and Downtown Columbus.



**How does this get done?** Funding will be needed to acquire the existing rail bed, mainly through grant programs. This represents the largest hurdle for the project. After property acquisition, the likely **12' wide multi-use trail** would be constructed and connect with the Central Ohio Greenways network.



**500,000+**

Residents Within Five  
Miles of Proposed Trail

**200+**

Miles of Central Ohio  
Greenways Network

**1**

Improved Central  
Ohio Community

planning  
**NEXT**  
making communities forward



January 2023



# Dublin Signature Trail

## City of Dublin

March 20, 2024

J.M. Rayburn, AICP

Division of Transportation & Mobility



# Paradigm Shift

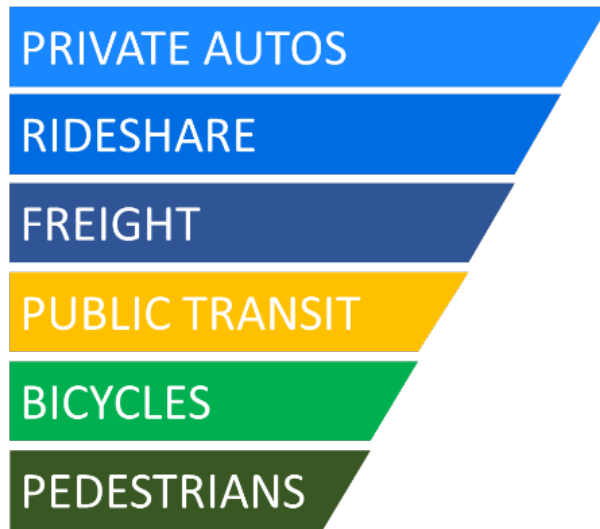


Figure 1: Traditional Transportation Mode Prioritization

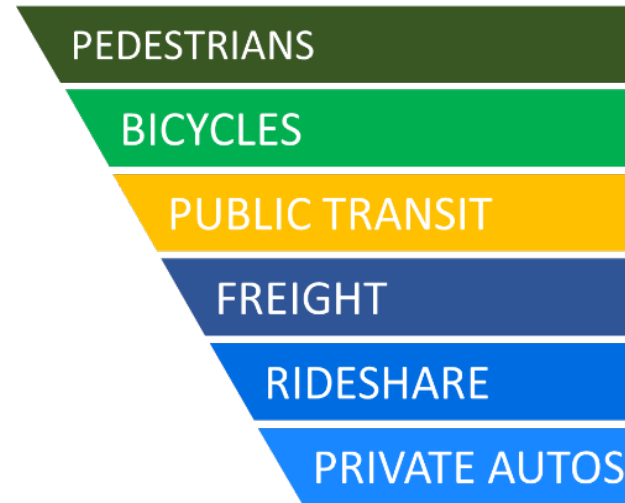


Figure 2: Reversed Transportation Mode Prioritization

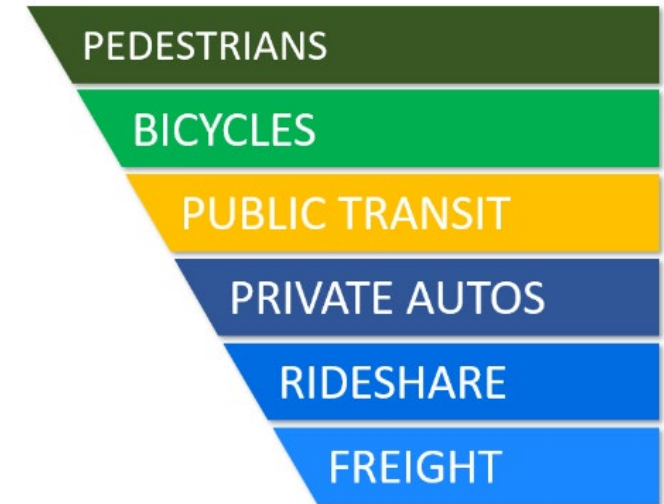
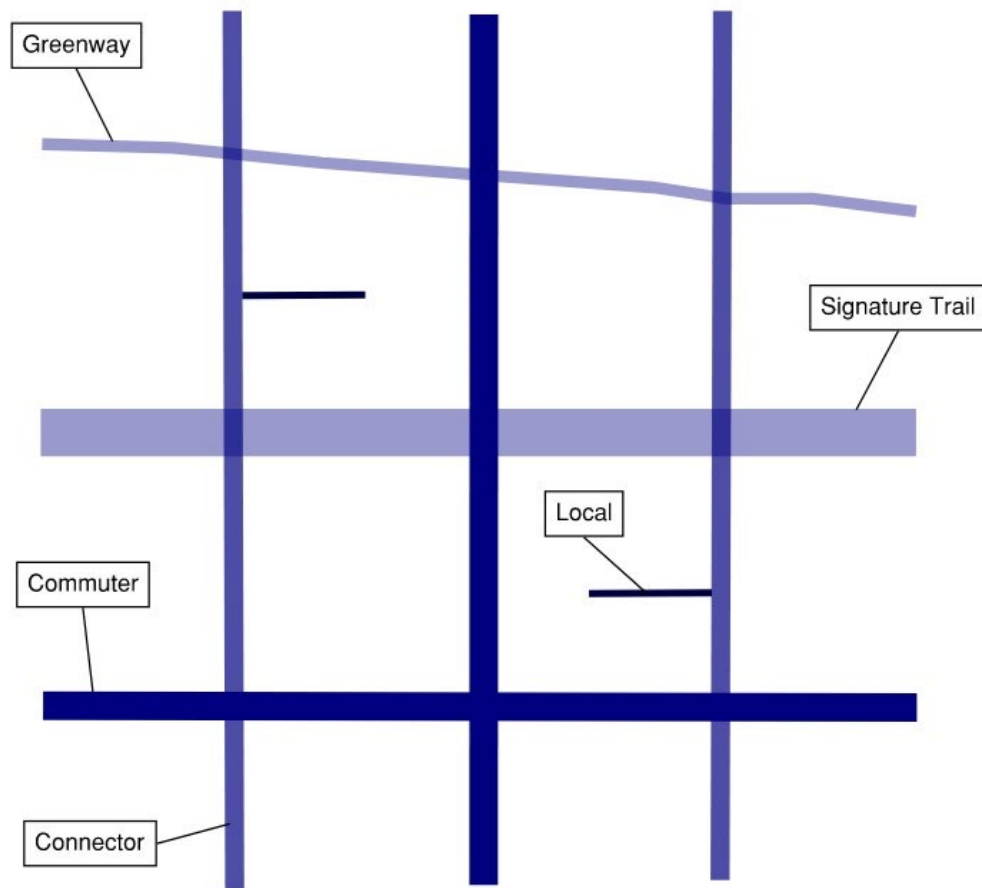


Figure 3: Steering Committee Recommended Mode Prioritization



# Potential Bicycle Network Hierarchy



**Tier 1** – Signature Trail

**Tier 2** – Commuter Routes

**Tier 3** – Connector Routes

**Tier 4** – Local Routes

**Tier 5** – Private Paths



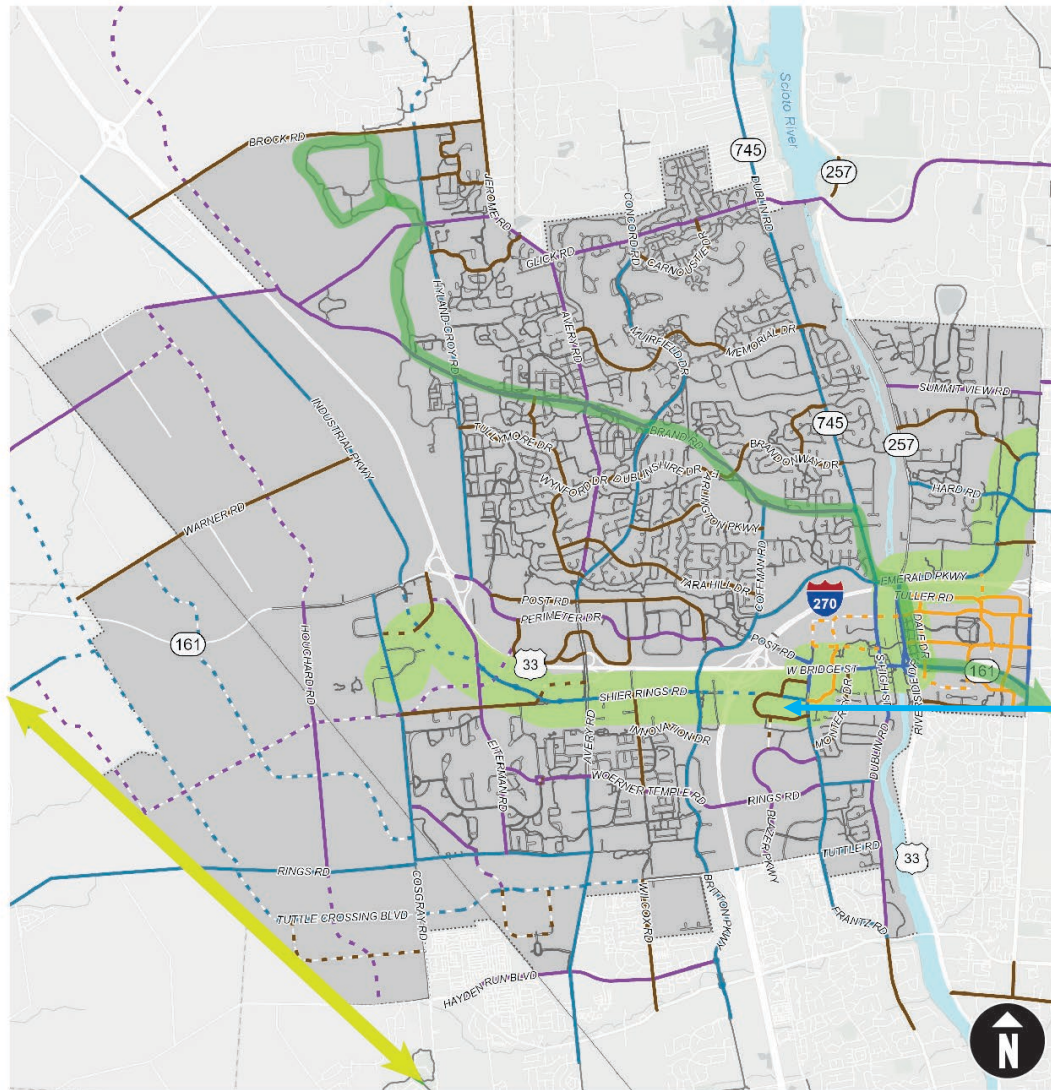


## Trail Alignment

- Avoid long segments of trail adjacent to roadways
- Preference for greenways, riparian corridors, naturally wooded areas, prairies and publically-owned parkland



# Signature Trail Study



## Study Area

- Oriented east-west
- Connecting Darree Fields to the Sawmill Road corridor
- Economic development catalyst for **Metro Center Office District**

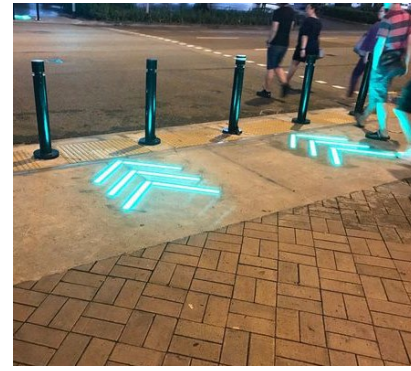




## Placemaking Segments

- Designed and sequenced in a way that tells the narrative of Dublin's past, present and future
- Underscoring that creativity and imagination are part of the City's identity





## Placemaking Segments

- Designed and sequenced in a way that tells the narrative of Dublin's past, present and future
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**Thank You!**



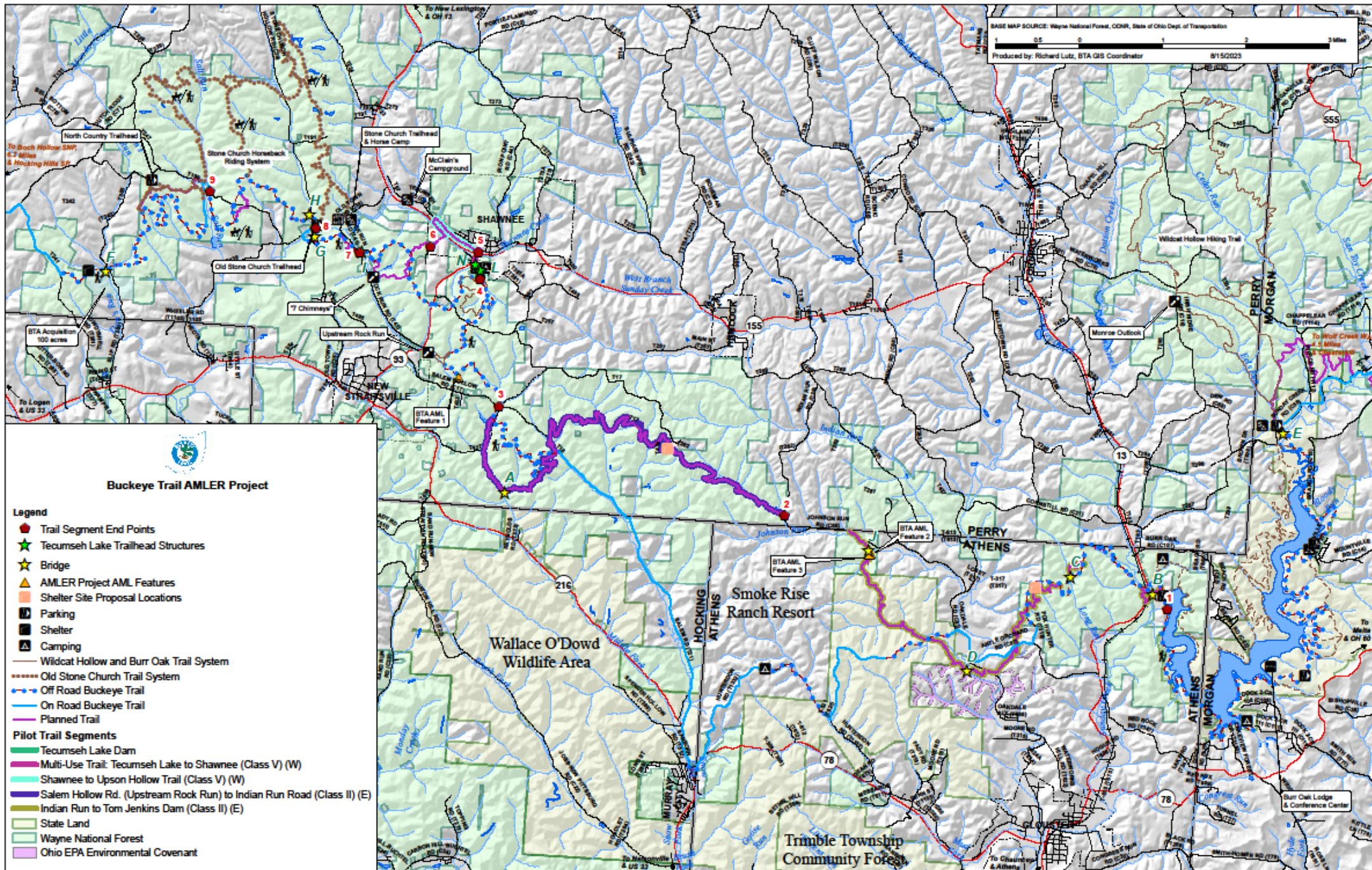




# Innovative Trail Networks



MID-OHIO REGIONAL  
**MORPC**  
PLANNING COMMISSION



**Buckeye Trail AMLER Project**

**Legend**

- Trail Segment End Points
- ★ Tecumseh Lake Trailhead Structures
- ★ Bridge
- ▲ AMLER Project AML Features
- Shelter Site Proposal Locations
- Ⓟ Parking
- Shelter
- ▲ Camping
- Wildcat Hollow and Burr Oak Trail System
- Old Stone Church Trail System
- Off Road Buckeye Trail
- On Road Buckeye Trail
- Planned Trail
- Pilot Trail Segments**
- Tecumseh Lake Dam
- Multi-Use Trail: Tecumseh Lake to Shawnee (Class V) (W)
- Shawnee to Upson Hollow Trail (Class V) (W)
- Salem Hollow Rd. (Upstream Rock Run) to Indian Run Road (Class II) (E)
- Indian Run to Tom Jenkins Dam (Class II) (E)
- State Land
- Wayne National Forest
- Ohio EPA Environmental Covenant

# Bike Buckeye Lake & BLRC Trails Committee



Terry Fischer  
President  
Bike Buckeye Lake



## Buckeye Lake Trail Update

03.20.2024

# Enjoy Beautiful Buckeye Lake!

Bike Buckeye Lake is a **501(c)3 non-profit** organization run by dedicated volunteers from the Buckeye Lake Region. Our mission is to enhance our community by **advocating for the creation and upkeep of multi-use trails, as well as promoting the various recreational activities these trails support.**

Through our efforts, **we strive to make the Buckeye Lake area a better place to live, work, and play.**

# Bike Buckeye Lake Key Milestones

**July 2015**

ODNR held a Public Meeting on the status of the BL Dam Project

**December 2015**

**BBL's 1st Christmas Bike event, gifting bikes to 40 children**

**November 2018**

The BL Dam Trail was dedicated.  
**BBL's trail 1st trail development success.**

**December 2023**

1,000th Christmas Bike gifted

**May 2024**

**First BBL Tri-County Children's Bike Safety Rodeo**

**August 2015**

**BBL was formed**

**March 2017**

BBL incorporated as a 501(c)3 non-profit

**July 2017**

**BBL held the first Tour de Buckeye Lake Fundraiser**

**March 2021**

**BLRC Trails Committee Established**

**January 2022**

**BBL's 1st Trails Endowment Funded**

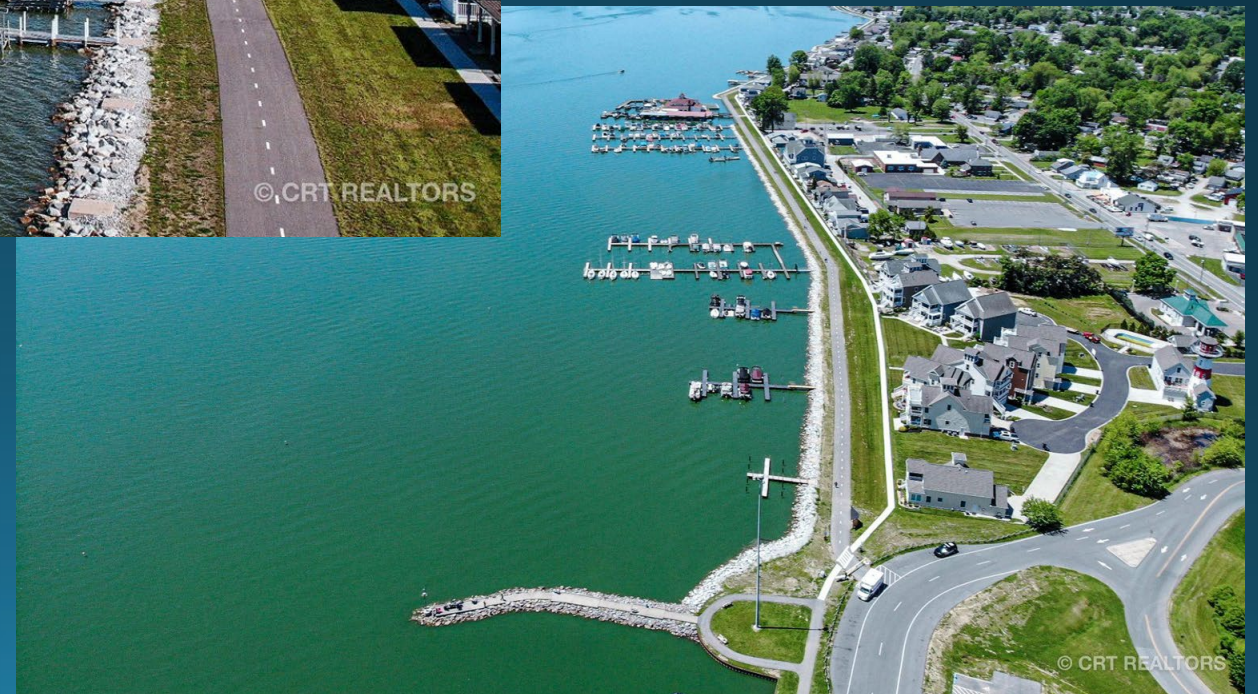
**Summer 2023**

**BLT route around the lake became a Designated Local Bike Trail**



Dedicated in  
November of  
2018

The Buckeye Lake Dam  
Trail, our 1st Success!  
4.1 miles of scenic  
multipurpose trail



Bike Buckeye Lake Key Initiatives

Fundraising & Giving Back

# Tour de Buckeye Lake

**GOALS:** Raise funds to support our mission & introduce people to Buckeye Lake & BBL

- Past events
  - 2017 - 26 mile ride - 200+ riders
  - 2018 - added 10 mile ride - 200+ riders
  - 2019 - 3 rides - 8, 26, 45 miles
    - Nearly 500 Riders & 1st time rides included BL dam
  - 2020 - open ride weekend in August
  - 2021 - added Metric Century & Festival with food & live music - 576 riders
  - 2022 & 2023 - 600+ riders
- Funds raised are used to pay for activities such as engineering studies & grant writing

**August 17, 2024**

**10 mi, 27 mi & Metric Century**

**Post Ride Festival:**

**Food, Music & Craft Beer = Camaraderie**





# Christmas Bike Giveaway

**GOAL:** Raise money and gift bicycles & helmets to children at Christmas.

To date, we have gifted over 1,000 bicycles and helmets to financial disadvantaged children in the three counties that surround Buckeye Lake. Our fundraising is a year round activity

Started in 2015 with 40  
bikes & helmets.

134 bikes & helmets gifted  
in December 2023



# Trash Pickup Days

**GOAL:** Help to clean up the BL region  
We try to organize at least 2 litter clean up events per year

COVID inspired  
group picture



# The 1st Tri-County Children's Bike Rodeo

- Scheduled for **May 11, 2024** in **Buckeye Lake Village**
- **FREE** & Designed to teach children bike safety and to be fun
- Created in 2024 and led by BBL
- **Co-sponsored by all 3 County Health Departments along with local schools, fire departments and law enforcement**



# That's a lot not related to Trail Building...

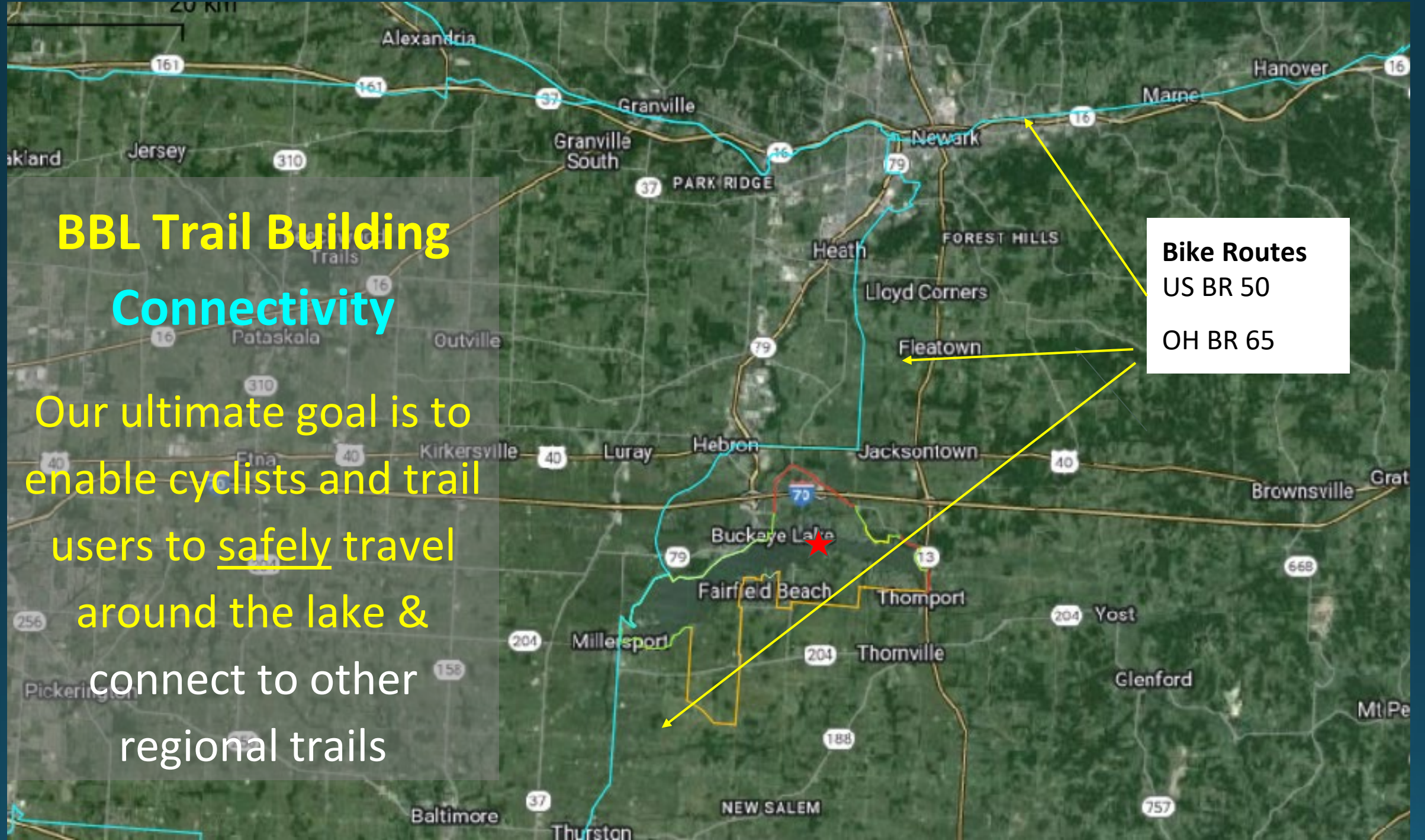
## Why do it?

1. Charitable works are part of our Charter
2. It feels good to give back to the community
3. We are helping the next generation of cyclists learn to ride
4. We feel that government agencies take us more seriously  
- we are not just asking for handouts for trail funding
5. We do the Tour; Promotion, Registration, Parking, Route Marking & Festival to raise “seed money” & promote awareness
6. In addition: fundraising & recruiting volunteers is easier

# BBL Trail Building Connectivity

Our ultimate goal is to enable cyclists and trail users to safely travel around the lake & connect to other regional trails

**Bike Routes**  
US BR 50  
OH BR 65

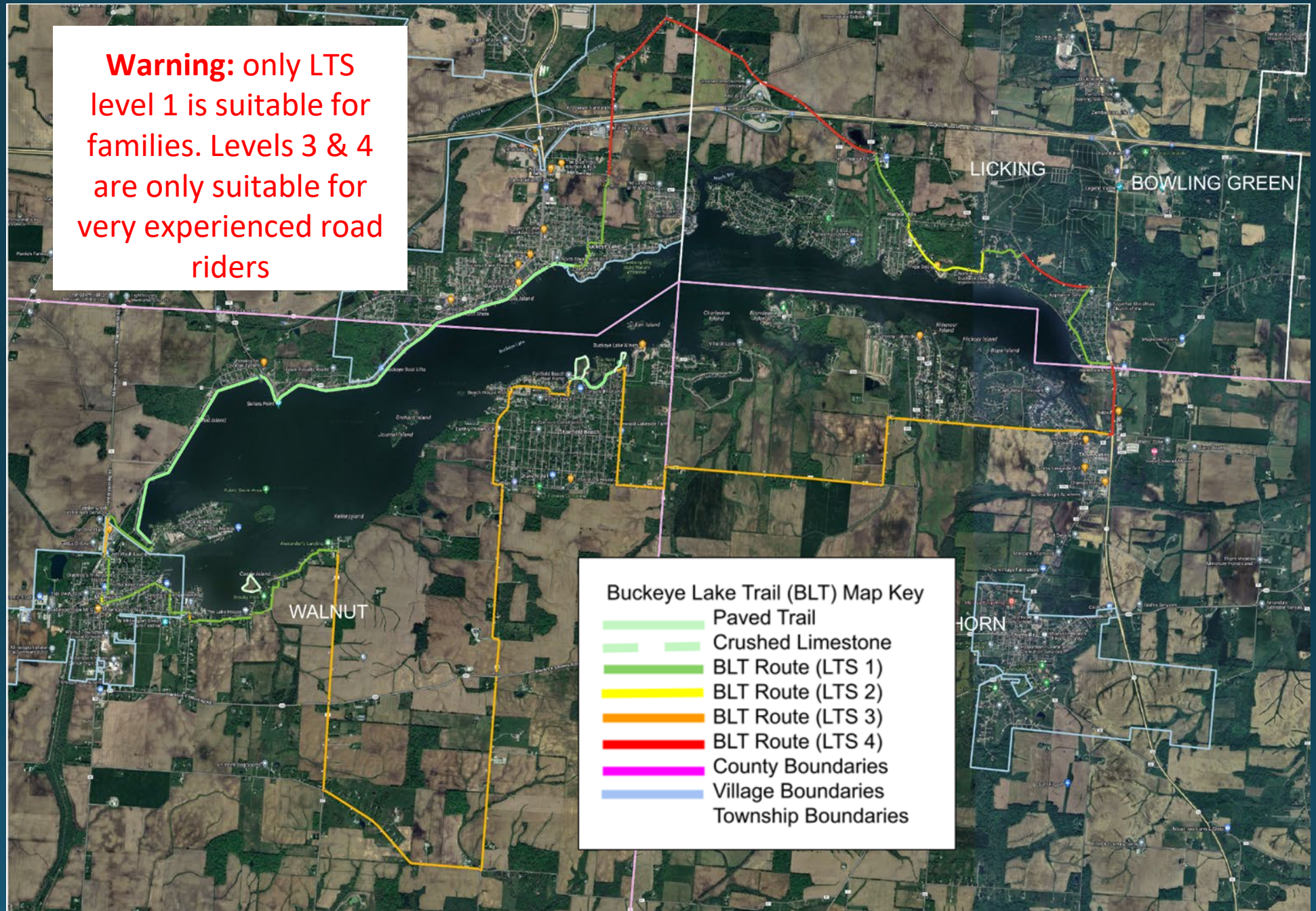


# BLT Shareholders - It's Complicated

- Commissioners, Parks, Engineers, Health, Trustees & Mayors
  - Fairfield County
  - Licking County
  - Perry County
  - Buckeye Lake
  - Buckeye Lake Village
  - Millersport Village
  - Walnut Township
  - Thorn Township
  - Licking Township
  - Thornville
- Regional Planning
  - MORPC
  - LCATS
  - CORPO
  - Buckeye Hills
- Ohio
  - ODNR
  - ODOT
  - Legislators
- Private
  - Developers
  - Individual Landowners
  - Clubs & Organizations

# The Buckeye Lake Trail Today

**Warning:** only LTS level 1 is suitable for families. Levels 3 & 4 are only suitable for very experienced road riders



# Regulatory & Wayfinding Signage for the BLT

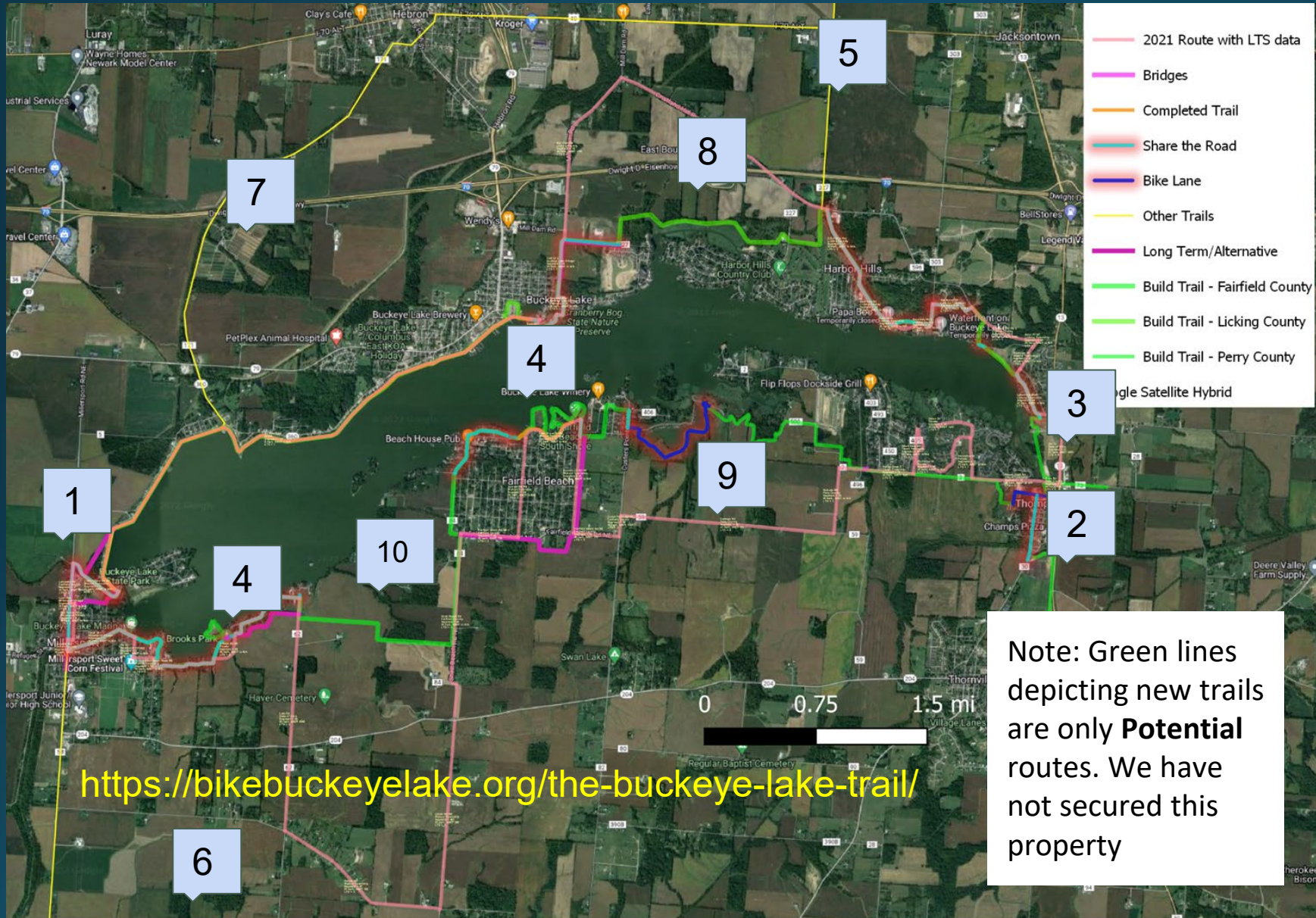




# Anatomy of the BLT Trail Signage Funding Project

1. BBL set up meetings with all of the Jurisdictions (10+), presented our proposal and followed up until gaining approval
  - a. Agreement, Letters of Support and/or Resolutions (Local Bike Route)
2. BBL created grant application documents, including a tailored request for each jurisdiction and Location of every sign on GIS map
  - a. BBL followed up with jurisdictions to submit by deadline
3. Grant awarded
  - a. Followed up with jurisdictions to submit acceptance of funding
4. Buy the signs posts and hardware
5. Coordinate Installation between contractor and the jurisdictions
6. Provide replacement wayfinding signs as necessary

# Active BBL focus & recent accomplishments



1- \$200k LCATS funding secured for Millersport trail engineering CMAQ

2 - TR 358 becoming a multi-use trail/trailhead TAP

3 - Kayak Launch, promenade and lateral road

4 - New BL State park peninsula trails ODNR OPS

5 - Lancer Road trail extension TAP

6 - Fairfield County ATP updated (2023) Perry & Licking in-process

7 - Canal Trail paving (ODOT funded 2023) TAP

8 - Maple Bay Trail

9 - Honey Creek / Roberts / Zartman Trail

10 - 204 Bypass Trail

Note: Green lines depicting new trails are only **Potential** routes. We have not secured this property

# Keys to Trail Building

Vision, Specific Plans & Advocacy +

Trail Connectivity +

Inclusion in Active Transportation Plans +

Local Support (government & citizens) +

Trail Custodian / Trail Maintenance Plan =

Funding (maybe)



# OHIO TO ERIE TRAIL GATEWAY COMMUNITIES

Enhancing the Trail Experience thru Gateways

Tom Bilcze – President, Ohio to Erie Trail Fund



# OHIO TRAILS & BICYCLE ROUTES

## THE SPINE OF A STATEWIDE NETWORK OF TRAILS

- ❑ 8 USBRS: US Bicycle Routes
- ❑ 20 OHBRs: Ohio Bicycle Routes
- ❑ 4 Regional Trail Networks
  - ❑ Tri-State Trails
  - ❑ Miami Valley Trails
  - ❑ Central Ohio Greenways
  - ❑ Northeast Ohio Trails
- ❑ 111 Rail Trails total 1,086 miles (not on map)



There are several local and regional trail networks in the state.

Check out these resources:

- **Cycling & Bike Paths:** [ohio.org/cycling](http://ohio.org/cycling)
- **Ohio to Erie Trail:** [ohioerietrail.org](http://ohioerietrail.org)
- **Tri-State Trails (Cincinnati):** [tristatetrails.org/](http://tristatetrails.org/)
- **Miami Valley Trails (Dayton):** [miamivalleytrails.org/](http://miamivalleytrails.org/)
- **Central Ohio Greenways (Columbus):** [centralohiogreenways.com/](http://centralohiogreenways.com/)
- **Northeast Ohio (Cleveland):** [cuyahogagreenways.org](http://cuyahogagreenways.org) or [noaca.org/bikemaps](http://noaca.org/bikemaps)
- **US Bike Route info and trip planning:** [adventurecycling.org](http://adventurecycling.org)



Ohio Department of Natural Resources  
Ohio Trails App

Ohio Department of Transportation



# VISITORS are ON BIKE OR FOOT BUT

THEY VENTURE BEYOND THE TRAIL FOR MANY REASONS

- Foodies with a taste of local food and drink
- Lovers of the arts, music, and crafts
- Festival, fair, and event enthusiasts
- History and architectural buffs
- Photographers of nature, people, and everyday life
- Relaxing and playing in the outdoors
- Seekers of quiet and adventurous times



# The Trail gateways experience

GATEWAYS ARE TRAIL TOWNS THAT LOOK BEYOND THE TOWN

- Invite visitors to get off the trail
- Highlight nearby opportunities for adventure
- Answer where locals go for adventure
- Tell where to find more adventures

A trail town is a community that embraces a nearby trail, offering services and welcoming outdoor enthusiasts with open arms.



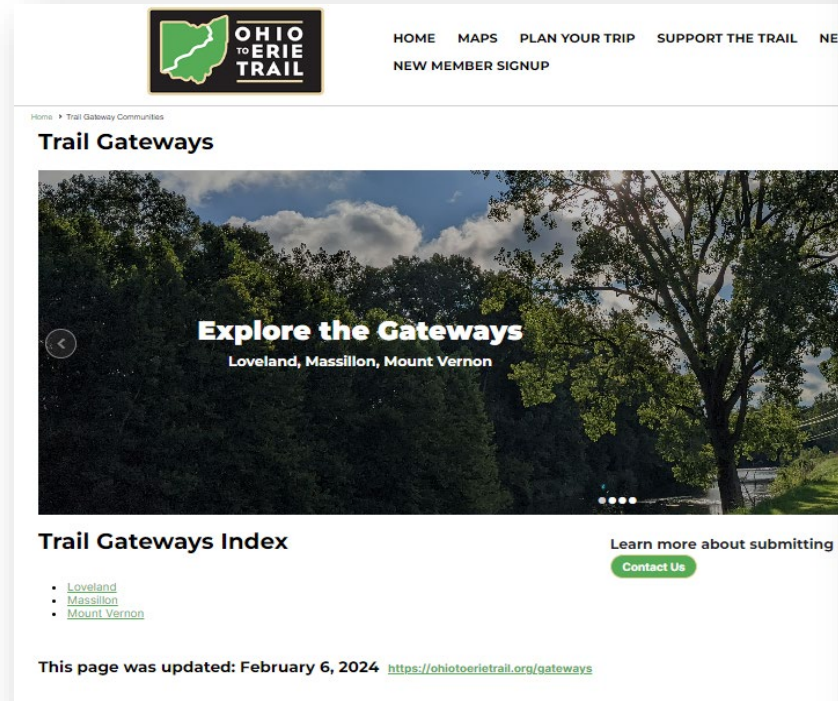
# Ohio to Erie Trail Gateways



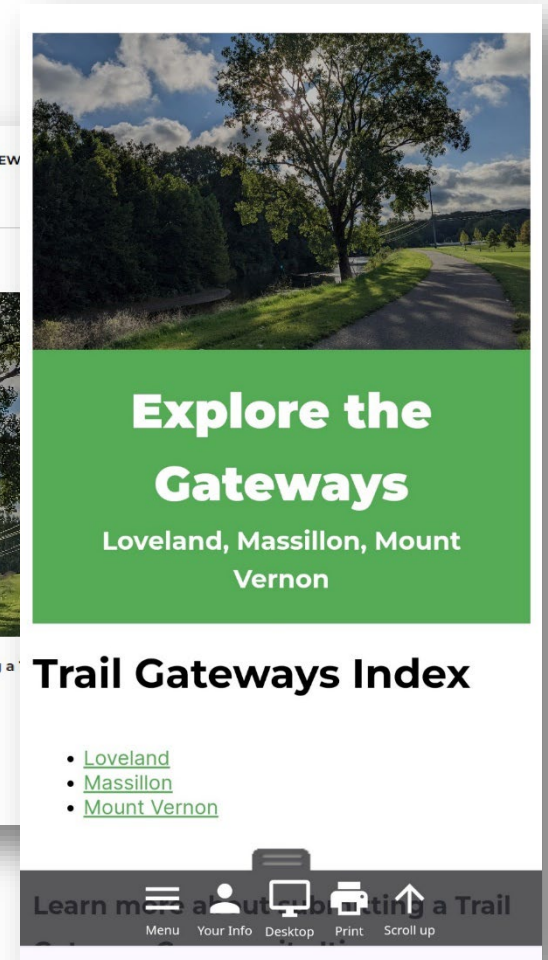
FEEL FREE TO EXPLORE  
[ohioerietrail.org/gateways](https://ohioerietrail.org/gateways)

- ❑ Desktop and mobile friendly
- ❑ Trail collaboration with local communities, and local cyclists
- ❑ Snapshot of gateway communities
- ❑ Encourage trail cyclists to visit
- ❑ Share local cyclists' favorite rides
- ❑ Supplements local visitor information
- ❑ Leads visitors to the local information
- ❑ Work in progress, evolving and growing

## DESKTOP



## MOBILE DEVICE





# Massillon

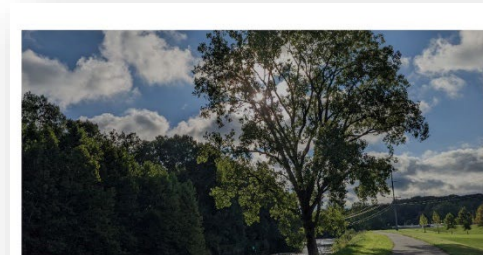
## MASSILLON AREA GREENWAYS AND OHIO AND ERIE CANAL TOWPATH

- Explore canal-era history via the towpath
- Stroll through historic Zoar Village
- Canoe or kayak the Tuscarawas River
- Explore the history of Massillon and football
- Ride the St. Helena III canal boat
- Shop at Ernie's Bike Shop
- Visit Revolutionary War Fort Laurens



# Ohio to Erie Trail Gateways on mobile devices

<http://ohioerietrail.org/gateways>



## Explore the Gateways

Loveland, Massillon, Mount Vernon

### Trail Gateways Index

- [Loveland](#)
- [Massillon](#)
- [Mount Vernon](#)

Learn more about us by clicking a

Menu Your Info Desktop Print Scroll up

Home > Trail Gateway Massillon



Welcome to Massillon!

## MASSILLON

### Explore More & Plan Your Visit

**Accommodations**  
[Hampton Inn Massillon](#) - Often accommodates cyclists and cycling groups. Bike rack available, also room bike storage. Very close to

### Dining

- [Blue Heron Café](#) - Right on the trail. Subs, salads, soup, ice cream.
- [Tremont Coffee](#) - Coffee roastery and cafe, frequent winner of local best-of awards.
- [Bison Street Burgers & Brews](#) - Right on the trail. Burgers, wings, beer. Outdoor seating.
- [Kozmo's Grille](#) - Seinfeld-themed. Pasta, salads, pizza, steak, full bar.

Top of the Viaduct - Loveland, Massillon

Menu Login Desktop Print Scroll up

9:42 80%

### Shopping

- [Ernie's Bicycle Shop](#) - Right on the trail. Sales, service, advice, OTET gear!
- [Second Sole Running Store](#) - Right on the trail, hosts regular running groups.
- [Erie St Vinyl](#) - Locally loved used vinyl shop.
- [Howard's Tiger Rags](#) - Good stop for Massillon Tigers football swag.

### Local's Favorite Rides:

Massillon Local Rides

### Local Events:

#### May 18, 9am-1pm: MAGI Poker Ride

135 Lake Ave NW, Massillon, OH 4464  
Held every May, this annual ride raises money for local trail development and maintenance. Not a race! Collect cards; you ride along the historic Towpath Trail, then play your hand against other ride for great prizes. Poker hands a \$5 each play as many hands as you like. 2024 Date: May 18, 9am-1pm Directly on the trail, No advance registration needed. Start anytime between 9am and 1pm. is around 16 miles, with an optional extended loop.

LINK

Every Saturday from August through August

Menu Your Info Desktop Print Scroll up

Home > Massillon Local Rides



### Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail south from Massillon to Zoar

Head south on the Towpath from Massillon for a lovely historical tour route that overlooks the Tuscarawas River. In Massillon you'll pass under the oldest iron bridge in Ohio. In Bolivar, you can visit Ohio's only Revolutionary War fort. The route ends in Zoar, where homes have been carefully preserved from the Zoar Village Separatist community founded there in 1817. Zoar is on the National Registry of Historical Places and has been designated a National Historic Landmark District.  
Route Terrain: The limestone trail is mostly flat. Distance from Massillon to Zoar is 20 miles.

LINK

Lake Avenue

Menu Login Desktop Print Scroll up

Ernie's Bicycle Shop, 135 La...

Zoar

28 min 7 hr 1 hr 45

1 hr 45 min (20 mi)

Heavy traffic

Steep hill

Preview More info

# Ohio to Erie Trail Gateways on A DESKTOP

<http://ohioerietrail.org/gateways>

OHIO TO ERIE TRAIL





# Innovative Trail Side Destinations

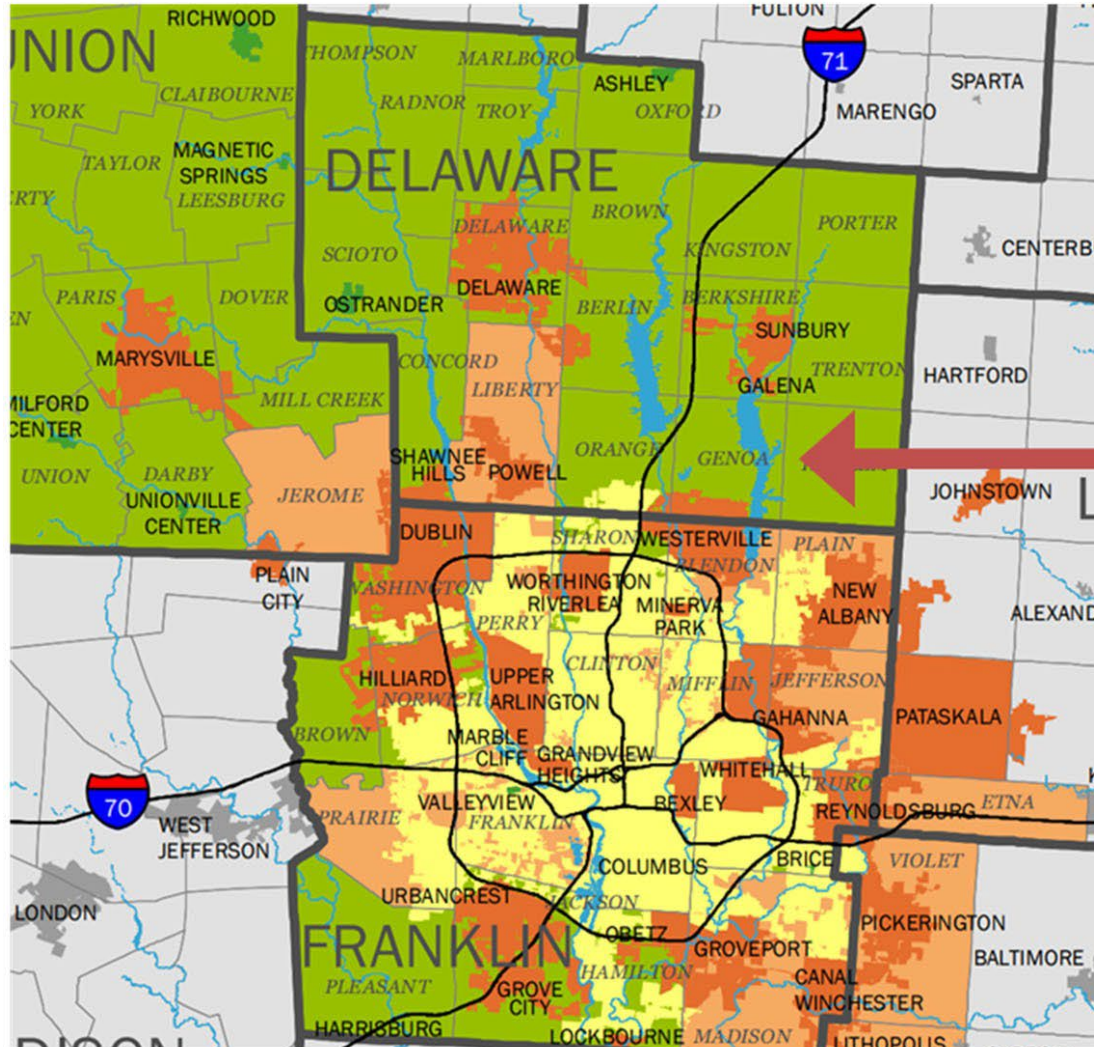


MID-OHIO REGIONAL  
**MORPC**  
PLANNING COMMISSION



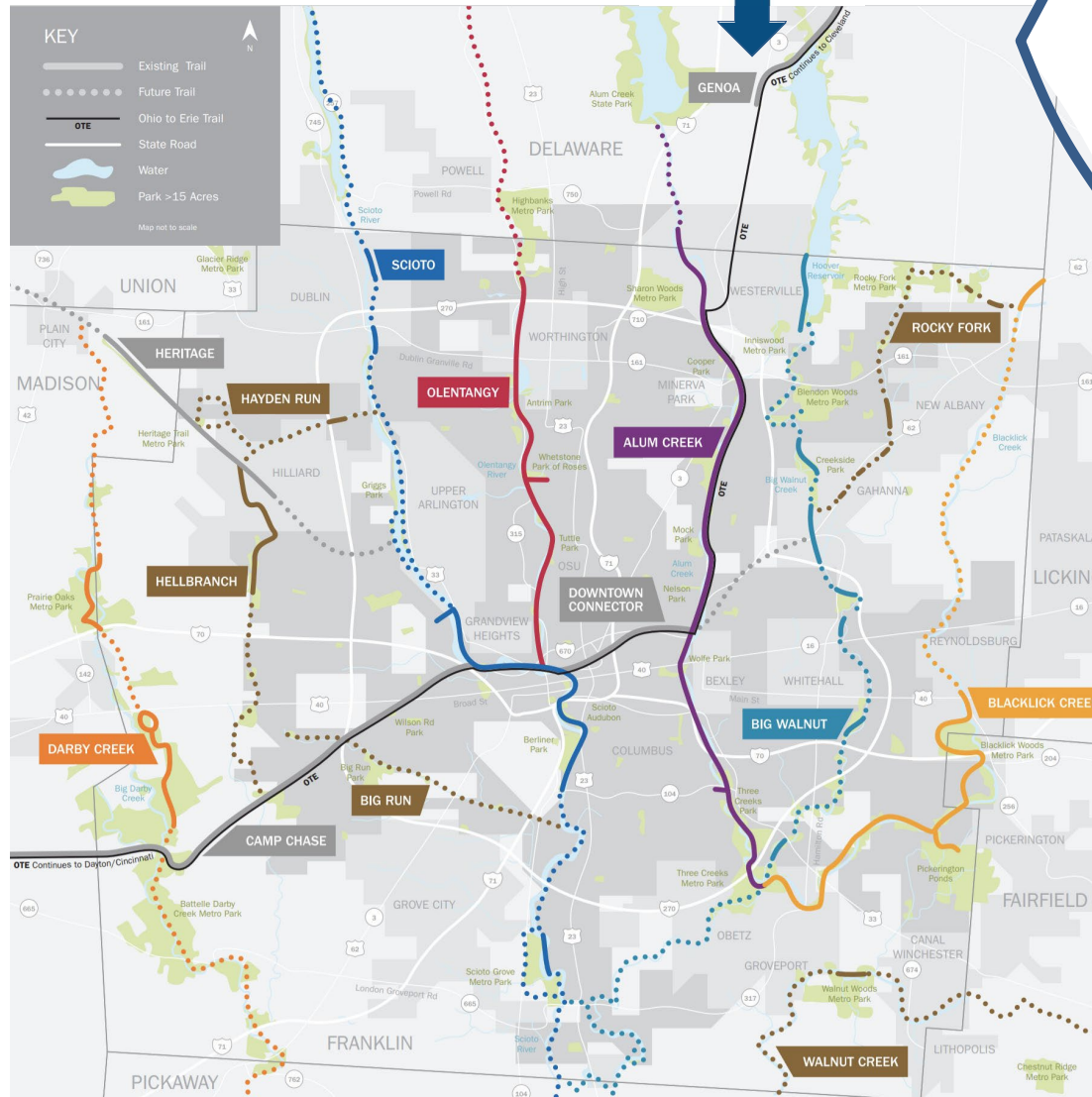
*Genoa*  
TOWNSHIP

# ABOUT US



- **Southeastern Delaware County**
- **Zip codes:  
43082 (Westerville)  
& 43021 (Galena)**
- **Population:  
Over 25,000**
- **Households:  
Over 8,000**
- **Median Home Value:  
\$325,825**
- **Learn more at  
[www.GenoaTwp.com](http://www.GenoaTwp.com)**

# LOCATION.



Genoa  
TOWNSHIP



Regional interest:

- Genoa Trail (4 miles)
- East-West Big Walnut/  
Alum Creek connection on  
Maxtown Road



# LOCATION.

State interest:

- Genoa Trail (4 miles) serving as portion of Ohio to Erie Trail
- Appx half-way



**OHIO TO  
ERIE TRAIL**



# LOCATION.

National interest:

- Genoa Trail (4 miles) serving as a portion of Great American Rail-Trail



## **MISSION:** Our core purpose and focus

To provide open spaces for gathering that serve as centerpoints of the community, fulfilling residents' aspirations for health and enrichment.

## **VISION:** Guiding words leading us to future successes

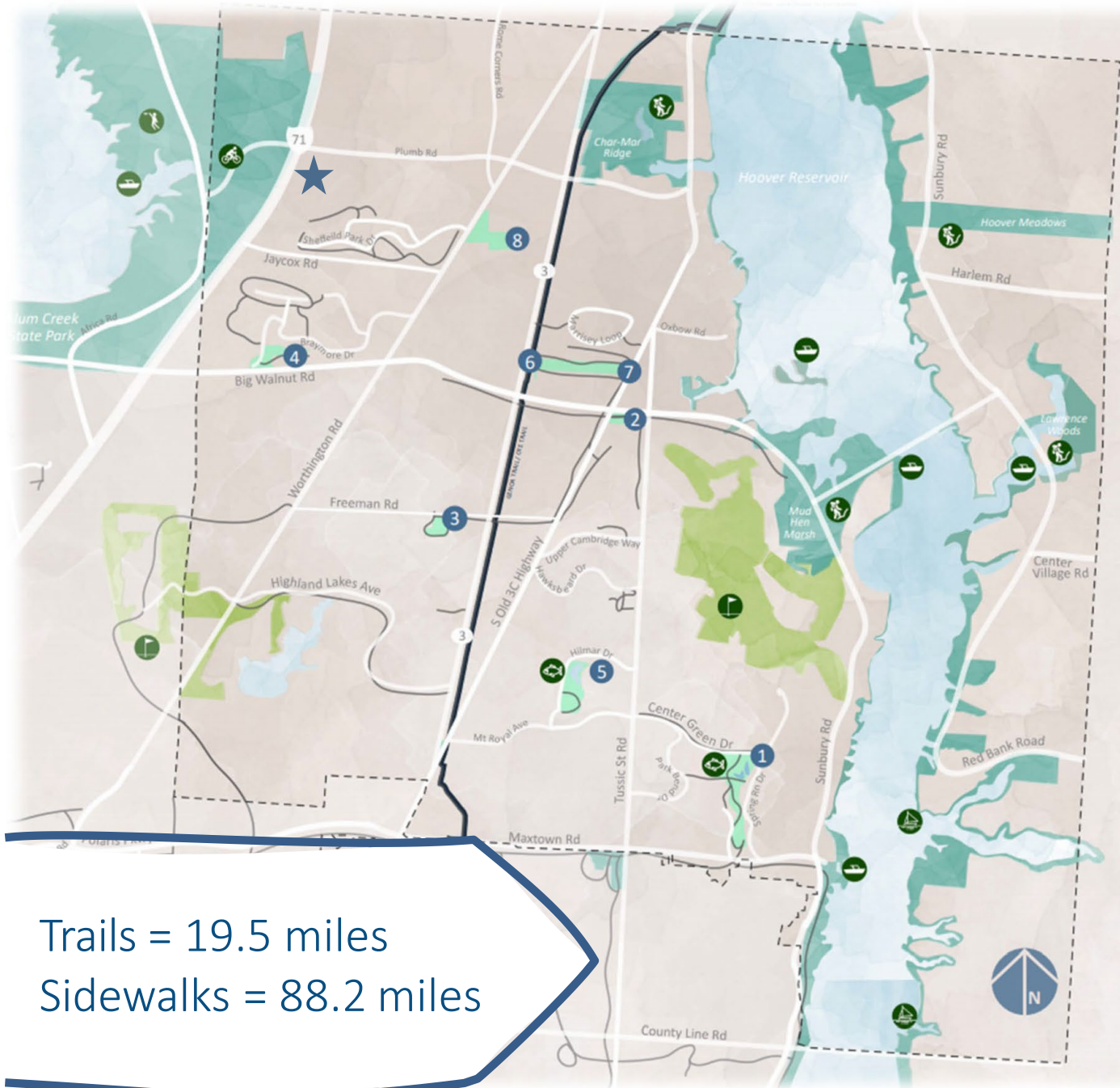
To create a strong sense of community through unique public spaces that reflect the history and natural landscape of Genoa Township.

## **GOVERNANCE:** Community leaders overseeing plan

In 2004, the Board of Trustees established a Parks Advisory Committee to make recommendations for Township parks. This committee was instrumental in writing the Township's first Park Master Plan in 2004 and updating it in 2010 and 2020.

The Parks Advisory Committee, Maintenance Director, Township Administrator, and Board of Trustees work together to ensure the Parks Master Plan is followed or revised to adapt to changing dynamics.





Trails = 19.5 miles  
Sidewalks = 88.2 miles

# Genoa

TOWNSHIP, OHIO

### ATTRACTIONS

- Hiking Trails
- Golf Course
- Boat Ramps
- Fish Pond
- Mountain Bike Course
- Frisbee Golf Course
- Boat Club

### LEGEND

- Genoa Township Parks
- Ohio To Erie Trail (OTE) & Genoa Trail
- Main Roadways
- Partner Facilities
- Existing Bikeways
- Genoa Township Boundary
- Golf Course Facilities

### CONTACT

Report suspicious activity:  
**740-833-2800**  
Maintenance concerns:  
**614-568-2080**  
Park Reservations:  
**614-895-1126**  
Garden plot rental:  
**614-568-2029**  
[WWW.GENOATWP.COM](http://WWW.GENOATWP.COM)

### GENOA TOWNSHIP PARKS

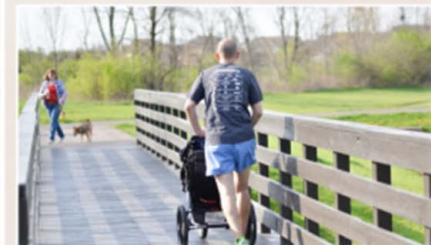
- Center Green Park
- Community Hall Park
- Freeman Road Park
- Grand Oak Park
- Hilmar Park
- McNamara Park
- McNamara Park East Entrance
- Worthington Park & Community Garden

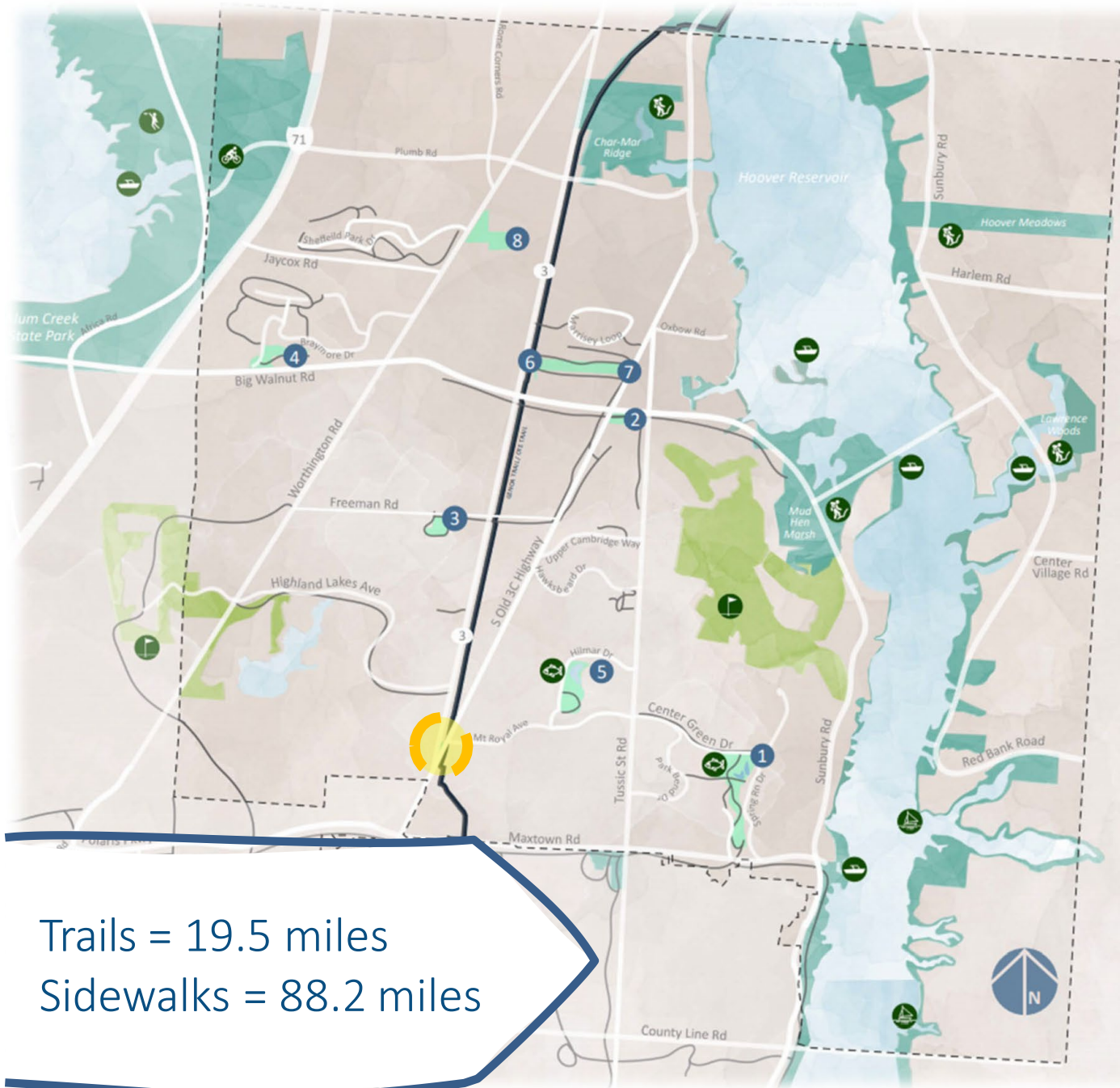
### PARK RULES

- No smoking - young lungs at play!
- Dispose of litter in waste receptacles.
- Pets must be kept under reasonable control.
- Dispose of pet waste in provided bags.
- No alcohol permitted on premises.
- Do not leave children unattended.
- Parks close at dusk.

### TRAIL ETIQUETTE

- Motorized vehicles are not permitted on trails (excluding wheelchairs).
- Be courteous and predictable to other trail users.
- When stopped, step off the trail.
- Keep right except to pass giving audible warning.
- Do not allow pet leashes to stretch across the trail causing hazard to other users.
- Bicyclists should maintain a safe speed, slowing down and traveling single file in congested areas.
- Stop at all road intersections. Watch for traffic.
- Keep headphone volume level low or off to stay alert to surroundings.
- Respect private property.





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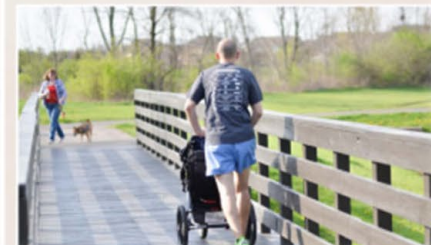
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# Trail-side Business























## Why Trails?

- Resident Satisfaction
- Identity/Sense of Community
- Business Opportunity





# Genoa Township Trails



Born Learning Trail  
Delaware Public Health District



Mountain Bike Courses  
COMBO & State of Ohio



Non-Profit events  
Pelotonia training ground



Story Trail  
Westerville Public Library



Nature Trail  
Preservation Parks



Winter activities



# Genoa

TOWNSHIP

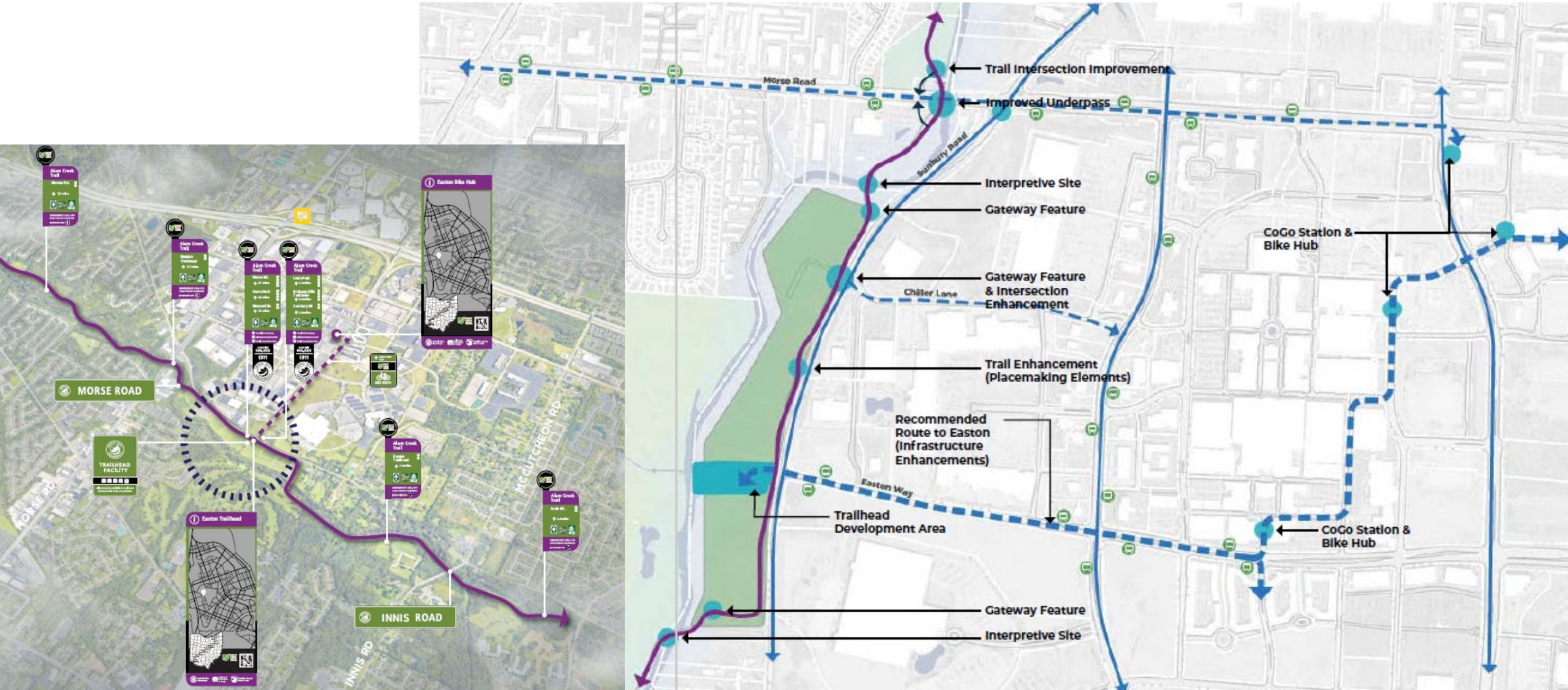
**Leslie Strader**

[LStrader@GenoaTwp.com](mailto:LStrader@GenoaTwp.com)

614-568-2020

[www.GenoaTwp.com](http://www.GenoaTwp.com)

# Beyond Maps and Signage: Easton Trail Head





MORPC

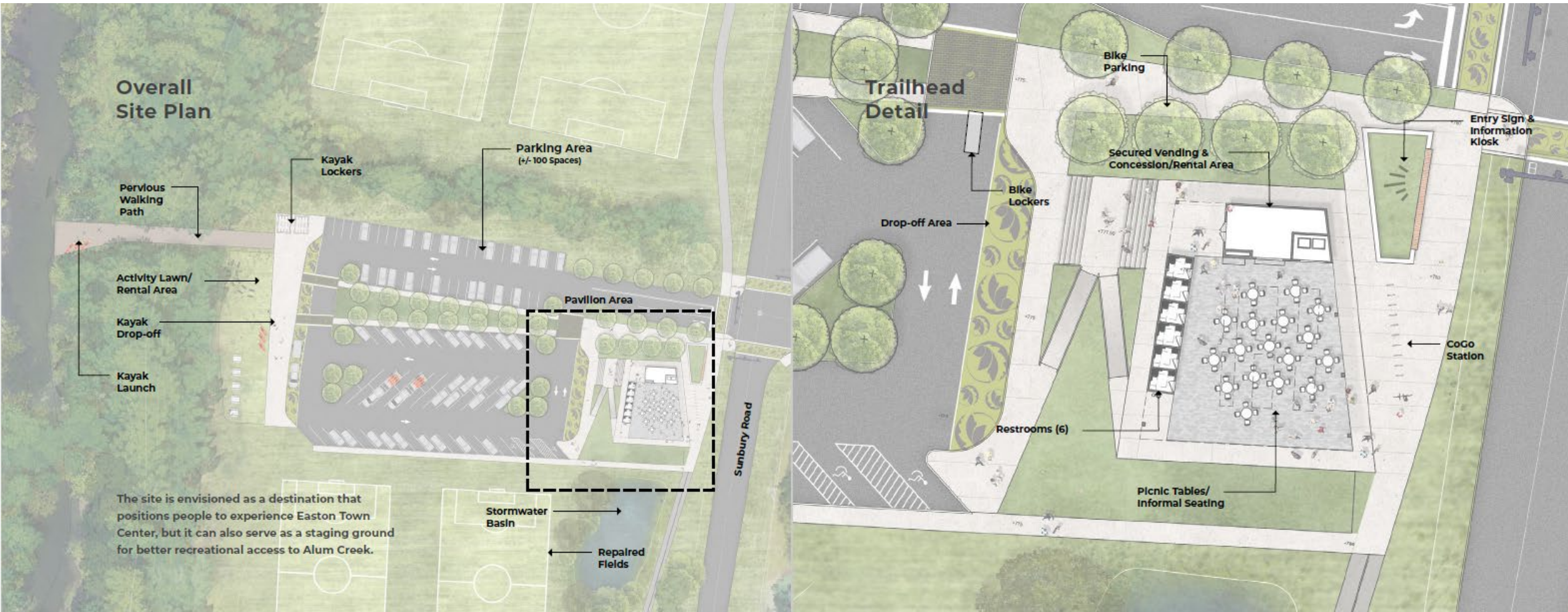
## Easton Town Center: A Premier Trailhead Experience

The Easton Trailhead would be unlike anything Central Ohio has ever seen — the first trailhead to bring outdoor recreation, retail, entertainment, public art, mobility options, community programming, and social interaction together in one destination, on a truly grand scale.





MORPC





MORPC





MORPC

## Easton Trailhead View From the Rear Parking Lot

Vibrant murals announce to guests entering from the parking lot that they are entering a unique place of fun, connection, and enrichment.

QR Codes posted on sign throughout the trailhead direct people to maps of Easton Town Center and show them how easy it is to take advantage of nearby amenities.



MORPC







MORPC

## An Excursion to Easton Town Center

The site has been transformed into a destination  
in its own right, but more fun is to be found just  
a short distance away, at Easton Town Center.





MORPC

## High-Comfort Route Along Easton Way (Condition 1)

Trail users bypass the narrow, high-traffic segment of Easton Way at Sunbury Road with a sidepath that takes them past the new policing station, on land owned by the City of Columbus. A separated path makes the ascent into Easton Town Center far less stressful and strenuous.

Sidepath at  
Police Substation →

## High-Comfort Route Along Easton Way (Condition 2)

At the driveway to adjacent property, Easton Way widens into an arterial road that would easily overwhelm most cyclists, if not for the new bidirectional cycle track that separates them from motor vehicle traffic.

Protected Cycle Track & Road  
Diet Beginning at Driveway →



# Innovative Trail Experiences



MID-OHIO REGIONAL  
**MORPC**  
PLANNING COMMISSION



# The Columbus Outdoor Trails Pass




MID-OHIO REGIONAL  
**MORPC**  
PLANNING COMMISSION

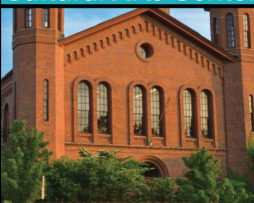
# What is the Columbus Outdoor Trails Pass

## Columbus Outdoor Trail Pass Destinations

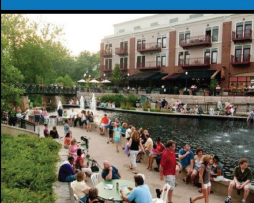
**Indian Run Falls**



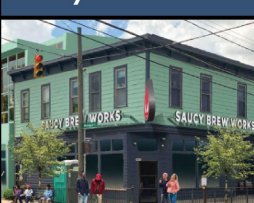
**Pricilla R. Tyson Cultural Arts Center**




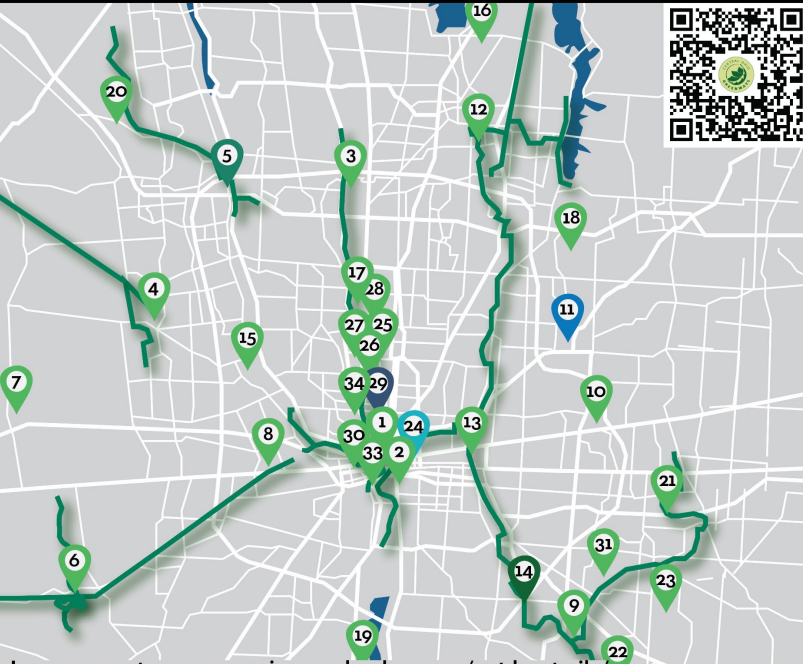
**Creekside District**



**Saucy Brew Works**

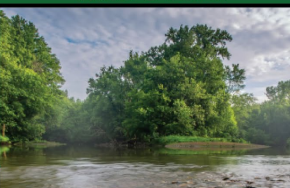






Learn more at: [www.experiencecolumbus.com/outdoortrails/](http://www.experiencecolumbus.com/outdoortrails/)

**Three Creeks Metro Park**



**Locations:**

1. Genoa Park
2. Bicentennial Park
3. Olentangy Parklands
4. Center Street Market
5. Indian Run Falls
6. Battelle Darby Creek Metro Park
7. Prairie Oaks Metro Park
8. Moovin and Groovin Mural
9. Blacklick Trail head (Cruiser Park)
10. Whitehall Community Park
11. Creekside District
12. Heritage Park
13. Wolfe Park
14. Three Creeks Metro Park
15. Quarry Trails Metro Park
16. Alum Creek State Park
17. Park of Roses
18. Blendon Woods Metro Park
19. Scioto Grove Metro Park
20. Glacier Ridge Metro Park
21. Blacklick Woods Metro Park
22. Walnut Woods Metro Park
23. Pickerington Ponds Metro Park
24. Pricilla R. Tyson Cultural Arts Center
25. Understory
26. Tuttle Park
27. Olentangy River Wetland Research Park
28. Clinton-Como Park
29. Saucy Brew Works
30. The Vanderelli Room
31. Portman Park
32. Strongwater Food & Spirits
33. The Slingshot
34. Tunnel Guardian Mural

**Locations Not Pictured:**  
 Richwood Lake Trail, Bald Eagles Nest, Heart of Ohio, Centurion Trail, London Iron, Sunbury Hoover Scenic Trail, Kokosing Gap trail, John Bright Covered Bridge, and Buckeye Lake

## Columbus Outdoor Trail Pass Update: New Itineraries for Bike Trips around Central Ohio!





*Fresh Air, Fine Art, and Fantastic Brews Itinerary*

### Central Ohio Scenic Park Tour

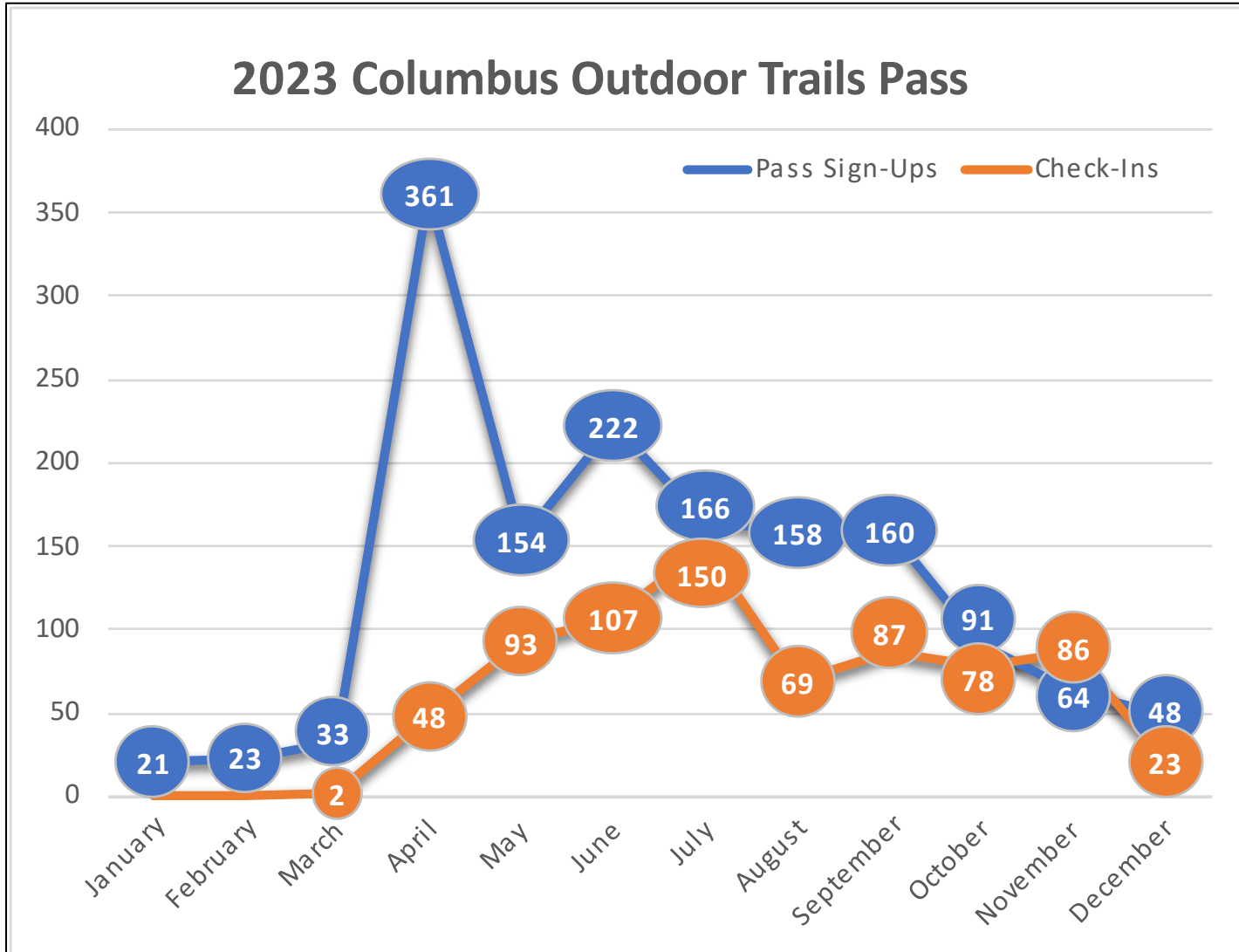


Learn more at:  
[www.experiencecolumbus.com/outdoortrails/](http://www.experiencecolumbus.com/outdoortrails/)



Special thanks to Kari Kauffman and everyone at Experience Columbus for your support of this program!

# 2023 Recap: Columbus Outdoor Trails Pass



In 2023, the Columbus Outdoor Trails Pass recorded **1,501 sign-ups** and **743 check-ins**, indicating significant engagement with the program!

While in 2022, the Columbus Outdoor Trails Pass recorded **840 sign-ups** and **125 check-ins**.



# Plans for 2024



MORPC

- New Community Driven Itineraries are in the process of being finalized for the 2024 Passport Relaunch on April 27th.
  - The participating communities include Gahanna, Grandview, and Worthington!
- So, for the 2024 relaunch we will have 4 itineraries and around 60 destinations.
- If you'd like your community featured in next years trail pass, either with destinations or an itinerary, reach out to me for more information on the process!

Draft Marketing Materials

## 2024 Columbus Outdoor Trail Pass Update

A partnership between Central Ohio Greenways and Experience Columbus

**This Years Update Will Include:**

- 18 New Destinations!
- 60 Total Destinations to Explore
- 3 New Itineraries Spotighting Gahanna, Grandview, and Worthington!
- 4 Total Itineraries to Experience the Finest Local Destinations
- Celebrate this Update and Other Bike/Ped Developments in the Region at Celebrate Trails Day!  
- Genoa Park, 4/27/25, 11 - 8 pm

Adventures and Rewards Await:  
Learn More at: [www.experiencecolumbus.com/outdoortrails/](http://www.experiencecolumbus.com/outdoortrails/)

## 2024 Columbus Outdoor Trail Pass Destinations

Learn more at: [www.experiencecolumbus.com/outdoortrails/](http://www.experiencecolumbus.com/outdoortrails/)

**Locations:**

1. Alum Creek State Park	20. House Wine	40. Tunnel Guardian Mural
2. Antrim Park	21. Indian Run Falls Park	41. Tuttle Park
3. A3 Workshop Worthington	22. Joys	42. Understory
4. Battelle Dorby Creek Metro Park	23. Killicks	43. Village Green Park
5. Bicentennial Park	24. La Chatelaine	44. Whitehall Community Park
6. Blacklick Woods Metro Park	25. Orlentangy Wetland Research Park	45. Winans Chocolates, Coffees + Wines
7. Columbus Park of Roses	26. Movie and Groovin Mural	46. Woodside Green Park
8. Brekkie Shack	27. Peggy & McConnell Arts Center	47. Wolfe Park
9. Cafe Creekside	28. Penn & Beech Candle Co	48. Worthington Historical Society and The Doll Museum
10. Center Street Market	29. Pierce Field	49. Worthington Tavern
11. Clinton-Como Park	30. Prairie Oaks Metro Park	50. Worthington Tavern
12. Columbus Park of Roses	31. Pricilla R. Tyson Cultural Arts Center	51. X-Golf Columbus
13. Creekside District	32. Quarry Falls Metro Parks	
14. Creekside Park & Arboretum	33. Ray E. DeGraw Park	
15. Genoa Park	34. Shady Grove Metro Park	
16. Glacier Ridge Metro Park	35. Scioto Grove Metro Park	
17. Hobaneros Teos Tequila Mezcal	36. St. John's Episcopal Church Cametary	
18. Heritage Park	37. The Singinist	
19. Hubdrichius Columbus	38. The Vanderell room	
	39. Three Creeks Metro Park	
	40. Tunnel Guardian Mural	
	41. Tuttle Park	
	42. Understory	
	43. Village Green Park	
	44. Whitehall Community Park	
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	46. Woodside Green Park	
	47. Wolfe Park	
	48. Worthington Historical Society and The Doll Museum	
	49. Worthington Tavern	
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	51. X-Golf Columbus	

**Not Pictured:**  
Buckeye Lake State Park, Community Mural Park, Heart of Ohio Trailhead Centerburg, Kokosing Gap Trail in Mount Vernon, London Iron at the Prairie Grass Trailhead, Richwood Lake, and Walnut Woods Metro Park

Brekkie Shack

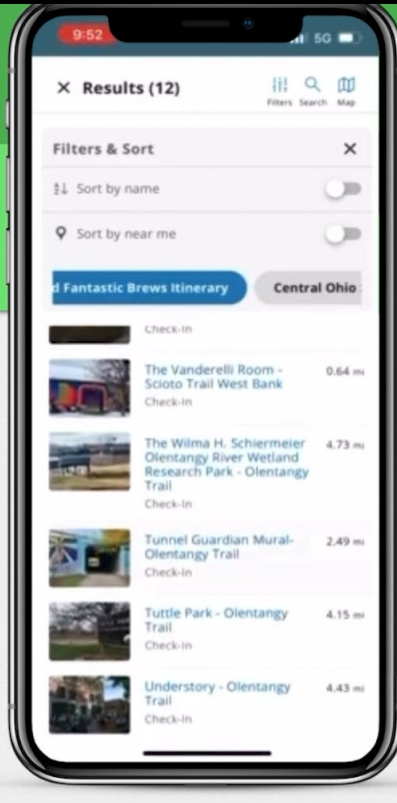
Cafe Creekside

Community Mural Park

Worthington Tavern

## How to Access the New Itineraries

- ✓ Use the filter and sort button to find destinations near you
- ✓ Or select one of the two itineraries



# THANK YOU!

## Jessie Sampson (He/Him)

*Central Ohio Greenways Intern*

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

**T:** 614.233.4140

[jsampson@morpc.org](mailto:jsampson@morpc.org)

111 Liberty Street, Suite 100

Columbus, OH 43215



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