

WELCOME TO THE

13TH ANNUAL PLACEMAKING CONFERENCE

TRAILS: NATURE'S PATHWAY TO HEALTHY, SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES



SUNY ORANGE

Orange County Community College



VISION HUDSON VALLEY IS A NON-PARTISAN, NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATION THAT SEEKS TO PRESERVE AND ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR RESIDENTS OF ORANGE COUNTY AND THE HUDSON VALLEY REGION. WE ARE ADVOCATES, WATCHDOGS, EDUCATORS AND CONNECTORS.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



JACKIE PEREZ
DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMMING





ORGANIZATIONS & PLACES SEEDED BY VHV











Orange County Arboretum Seligmann Center of the Arts

Heritage Trail D&H Canal





THANK YOU TO OUR EVENT SPONSORS













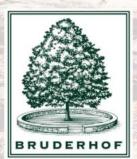




CATANIA, MAHON ATTORNEYS AT LAW











Engineering & Design











WHAT IS PLACEMAKING

PLACEMAKING IS THE PROCESS OF CREATING QUALITY PLACES IN WHICH PEOPLE WANT TO LIVE, WORK, PLAY, AND LEARN.









2022 PLACEMAKING GRANT WINNERS!

12th Annual Placemaking Conference

Adaptive Reuse: Making New PLACES
Out of Old Spaces

June 17, 2022 | Sugar Loaf Performing Arts Center

Thank you.





THANKS TO THE GENEROUS DONATION OF OUR 2022 PLACEMAKING GRANT SPONSOR, MEDLINE, VISION HUDSON VALLEY WAS ABLE TO AWARD THREE PLACEMAKING GRANTS TO DESERVING LOCAL PLACEMAKERS IN 2022.



CHESTER ARTS







TRI-MONTGOMERY TRIATHLON





VILLAGE OF CHESTER ARTS

Village of Chester Arts (VOCA) created a series of mini murals that will be located in unexpected places throughout the walkable downtown village area. The goal of the project is to encourage visitors to explore the Village of Chester beyond the Heritage Trail by creating a sort of scavenger hunt for art.

These tasty bites of graphic images will be symbols based on events and things important to the story of Chester. VOCA asked Chester artists of all ages to participate in designing and creating these pieces so that a variety of styles and sensibilities are represented.

A map designating the location of all the minimurals will be posted at the kiosk at the Heritage Trail by the Chester Historical Society allowing Rail Trail visitors to take their own self-guided tour.

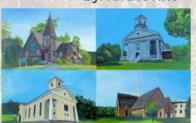








American House By: Kira Iovine



Churches of Chester NY By: Juliette Moccio



Black Dirt Farmlands By: Hannah Drillings



Hambletonian By: Kelly Rose



Black Dirt Mastodons By: Jennifer Moccio



Sugar Loaf Mountain By: Pauline Archer



Bodles Opera House By: Mary Altobelli



The Great Chain By: David Stevenson



Mrs Phebe Westlake By: Stacy Padilla



Yelverton Inn By: Lianna Vargas



Hamlet of Sugar Loaf By: Susan Garver



WM. A. Lawrence House By: Isabella Gonzalez





BOY SCOUT TROOP 63 - EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT BY JACK MORAN

For his Eagle Scout project, Jack Moran, a Senior at Goshen High school, restored the overgrown and dilapidated Meditation Trail on the Seligmann Center property in Sugar Loaf.

The project included widening the trail, installing new trail edge markers, installing a trailhead signpost and dedication signage, a new park bench, and repairing and staining an existing foot bridge.

As a final project capstone, the trail was dedicated to a longtime Orange County Citizen's Foundation/Vision Hudson Valley member, Jerome Spector on May 21, 2023.













BUSINESS COUNCIL OF GREATER MONTGOMERY TRI-MONTGOMERY TRIATHLON

BCGM hosted an inaugural Tri-Montgomery triathlon on October 15, 2022, which travelled through each of the three villages in the Town of Montgomery (Walden, Maybrook & Montgomery).

The race included a six-mile run along the picturesque Wallkill River into Bradley Park in Walden, a 20- mile bike ride that took participants through Veterans Memorial Park in both Maybrook and Montgomery and a two- mile kayak paddle on the Wallkill River that began and ended at Benedict Farm Park.

The goal of the event was to highlight the business districts within each Village, by promoting specials and events in conjunction with the triathlon in an inclusive "Eat, Play, Stay" try Montgomery weekend. The event was so well received and attended that plans for the 2nd Annual Tri-Montgomery are already underway.

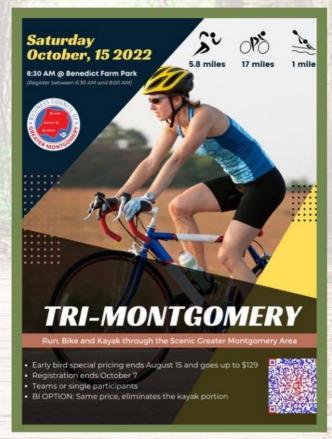


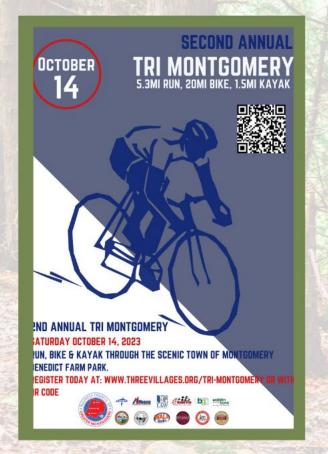
















Stuart Turner

Beloved VHV Trustee, Chair, Member & Friend





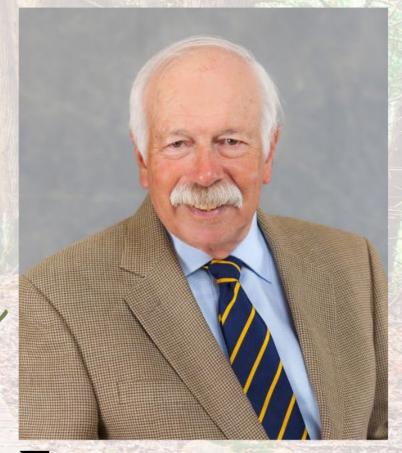
2023 STUART I. TURNER PLACEMAKING GRANTS

13th Annual Placemaking Conference

Trails: Nature's Pathway to Healthy,
Sustainable Communities

Applications are Open!

DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 29, 2023







KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Daul Steely Mhite

PARKS & TRAILS NEW YORK





PRESENTS THE

13TH ANNUAL PLACEMAKING CONFERENCE

TRAILS: NATURE'S PATHWAY TO HEALTHY. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

FRIDAY, JUNE 2, 2023 - 11 AM - 5 PM

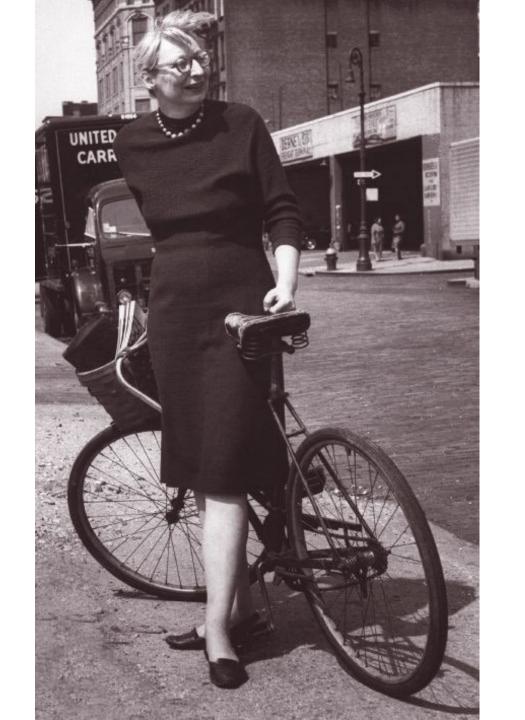
SUNY ORANGE MIDDLETOWN - ROWLEY CENTER FOR SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

Making Trails, Making Places

Paul Steely White

Executive Director Parks & Trails New York June 2,2023









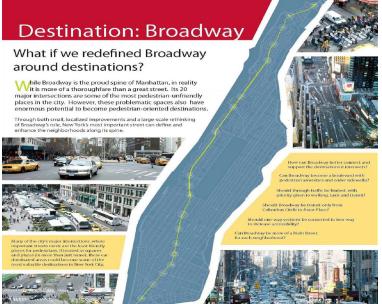


















The last decade has seen a burst of transportation and livable streets in the last decade has seen a burst of transportation and livable streets in the last decade has seen a burst of transportation and livable streets in the last decade has seen a burst of transportation and livable streets in the last decade has seen a burst of transportation and livable streets in the last decade has seen a burst of transportation and livable streets in the last decade has seen a burst of transportation and livable streets in the last decade has seen a burst of transportation and livable streets in the last decade has seen a burst of transportation and livable streets in the last decade has been a burst of transportation and livable streets in the last decade has been a burst of transportation and livable streets in the last decade has been also be





















Parks & Trails New York: 35 Years of Advocacy

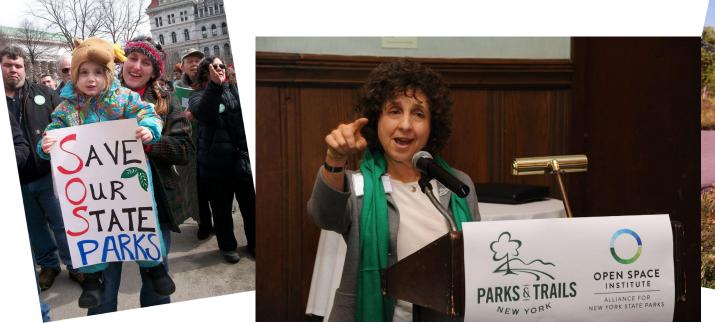








The state's leading advocate for parks and trails, working since 1985to expand, protect and promote a network of parks, trails and open spaces for use and enjoyment by all.













May 6,2023







Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

Department of Environmental Conservation









SALE EXTENDED! Only 25¢ for Unlimited Digital Access!

ACT NOW

HUDSON VALLEY // OUTDOORS

Bike tour of the Hudson Valley celebrates the region

A seven-day, 200-mile ride from Troy to NYC includes stops at historic sites and culinary gems

Michael Frank

June 1, 2023

The 27-acre parcel is owned by Ray Bradley and Iris Kimberg. They were incorporated as a rest stop for the ride precisely because current rail trail users have crowed about their farm-to-table meals, Kimberg said.

"I almost can't wait to see how this thing plays out," she said. "It's the newness. We already have campsites on our property and people love it because we're out in nature and whether you have a 2-year-old who's going to pet a goat or a 70-year-old grandmother who's going to pet a goat, we're providing something real."

White said educating riders about life at locations like Bradley Farm is one of the prime goals of the tour and part of why he hopes to engender more community support of the system.



Whylnvest in Greenway Trails?









"Passion shapes the politics, politics shapes the policy, policy shapes the plans and plans make the projects."

Dennis Doyle, Ulster County Planning
 Director



Whylnvest in Greenway Trails?











Health & Happiness



Economic Benefits



Environmental Benefits

Benefits of Trails (People Level of Service)









- Safety & Health
- Emotional Health & Joy
- Connection, Access & Equity
- Economic Benefits Foot traffic, Tourism
- Culture, Historic Preservation & Community Identity
- Environmental Benefits
- Open Space Preservation/Climate Change/Resiliency
- Safety
- Political

Health & Happiness









- Access to trails can **increase the number of people who exercise** 3x/week by 25%
- Lack of open space key
 contributor to obesity
 epidemic in US
- Greenways proved **critical to mental health** during the

 COVID-19 pandemic, with trail
 use doubling in some locations
- Erie Canalway Trail received an estimated **3.5 million** visits in 2022 alone



Economic Benefits









- Boost spending at local businesses
- Raise property values
 - Walking and biking paths are ranked as one of the most important features homebuyers seek
- Revitalize downtowns and neighborhoods
- Erie Canalway Trail generates
 approximately \$253 million in
 economic impact each year,
 supporting over 3,400 jobs and
 contributing \$28.5 million in taxes



Environmental Benefits









- Offer options for **sustainable alternative transportation**
- Transportation sector single largest emitter of greenhouse gases
 - 36% of the state's greenhouse gas emissions come from the transportation industry
- Trails are an essential part of decarbonizing our transportation networks



New York's Empire State Trail Investment









Investment: \$200 million state investment that leveraged \$97 million of additional federal, state, local and private funds

Existing Trails: 360 miles of trails existed

NewOff-Road Trails: 125 miles of trail constructed

On-road connections: 170 miles of improvements (265 miles total)

Amenities: Gateways, Trailheads, Signage, Resurfacing

Promotion: Launch of website (empiretrail.ny.gov) with trip planning resources, etc. and paper map

Management: Overseen by Hudson River Valley Greenway (Andy Beers), with on-call contracts from Alta Planning & GPI Engineering



The Empire State Trail Today









Multi-Agency Management:

- OPRHP: Day-to-day management, website, distributes paper maps, maintains ~40 miles (primarily Old Erie Canal SHP)
- Hudson River Valley Greenway: counts on N/S leg, grants to trail projects in coverage area, AHET Maintenance ~35 miles
- NYS Canal Corp: Maintenance responsibility for ~125miles
- NYSDOT: On-road stretches only
- Municipalities: Most of the maintenance (16 counties, 64 cities/towns/villages, 5 others state agencies, 4 private entities)



PTNY's Trailmaking Agenda

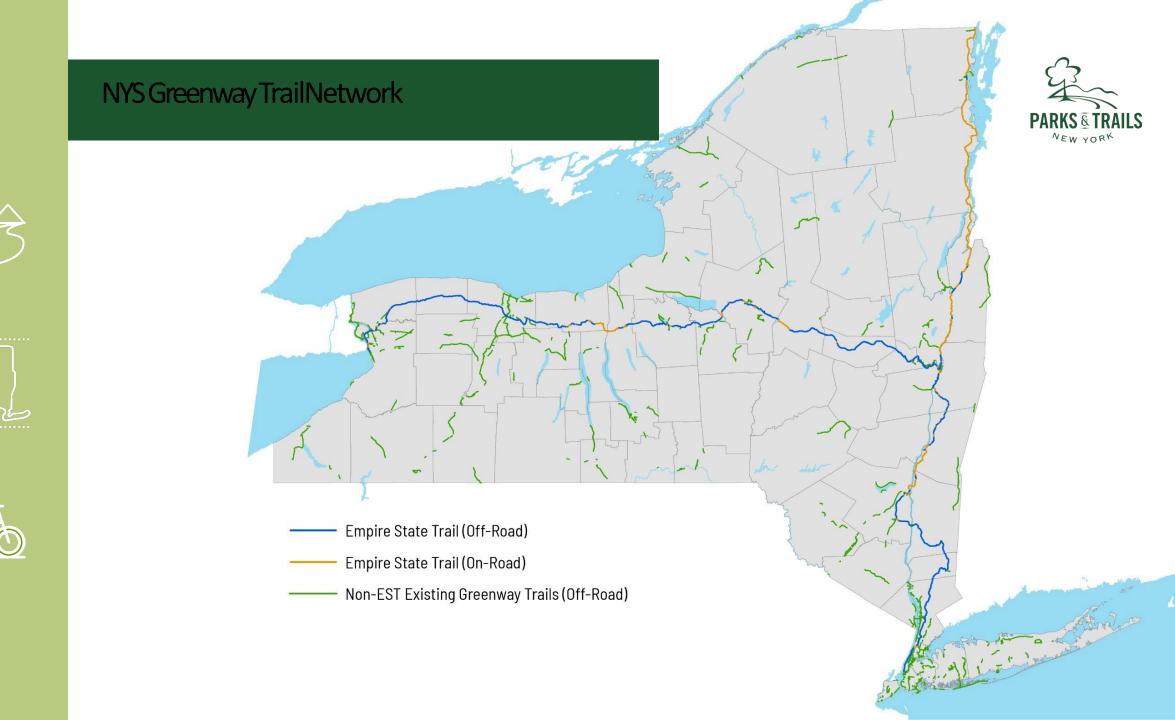


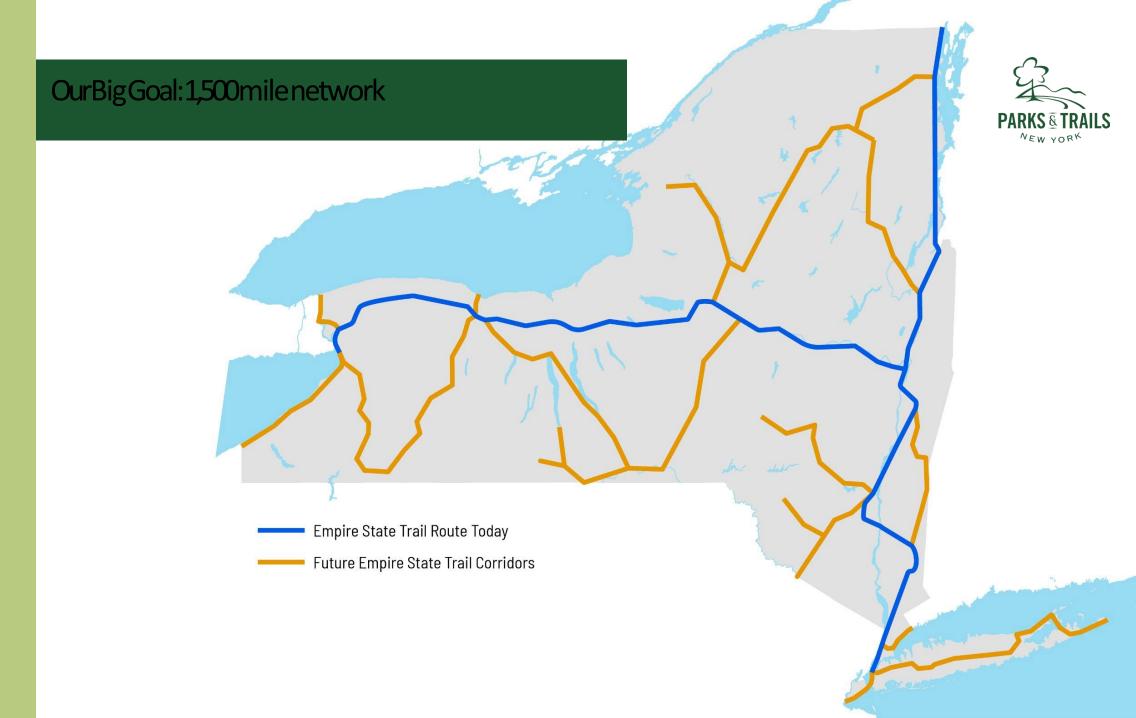






- Advocacy and Activation
- Research and Reports
- EST 2.0 Growing the Network
- Lobbying for Funding for Capital and Maintenance
- Call to Action

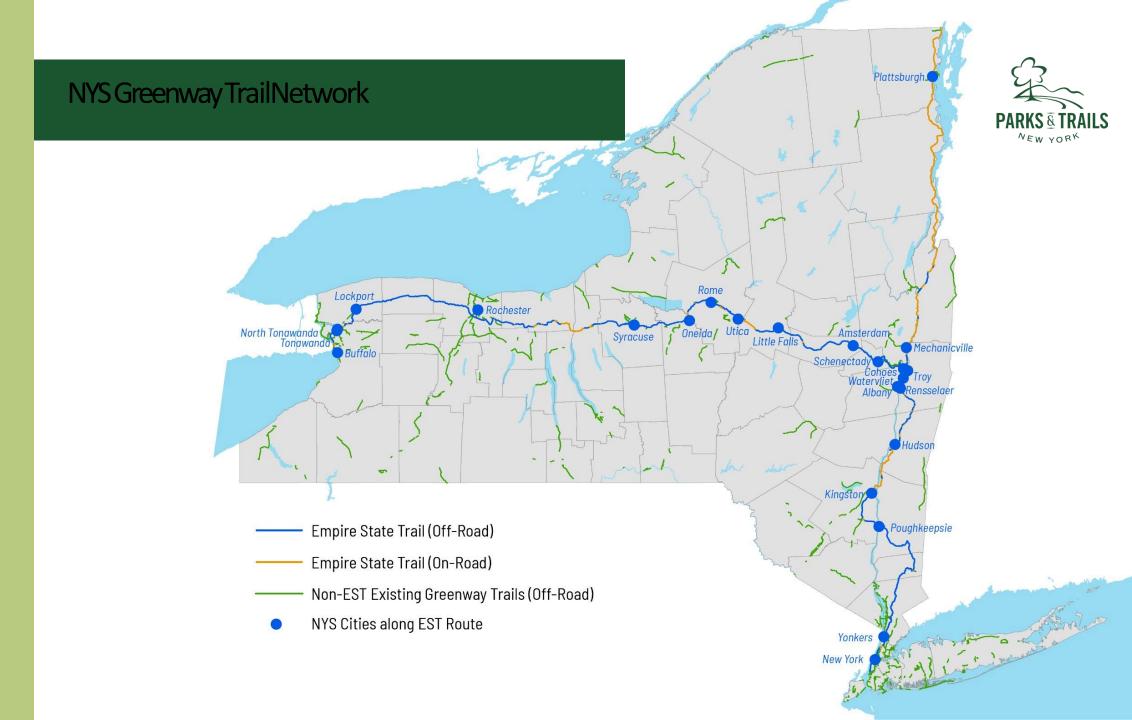








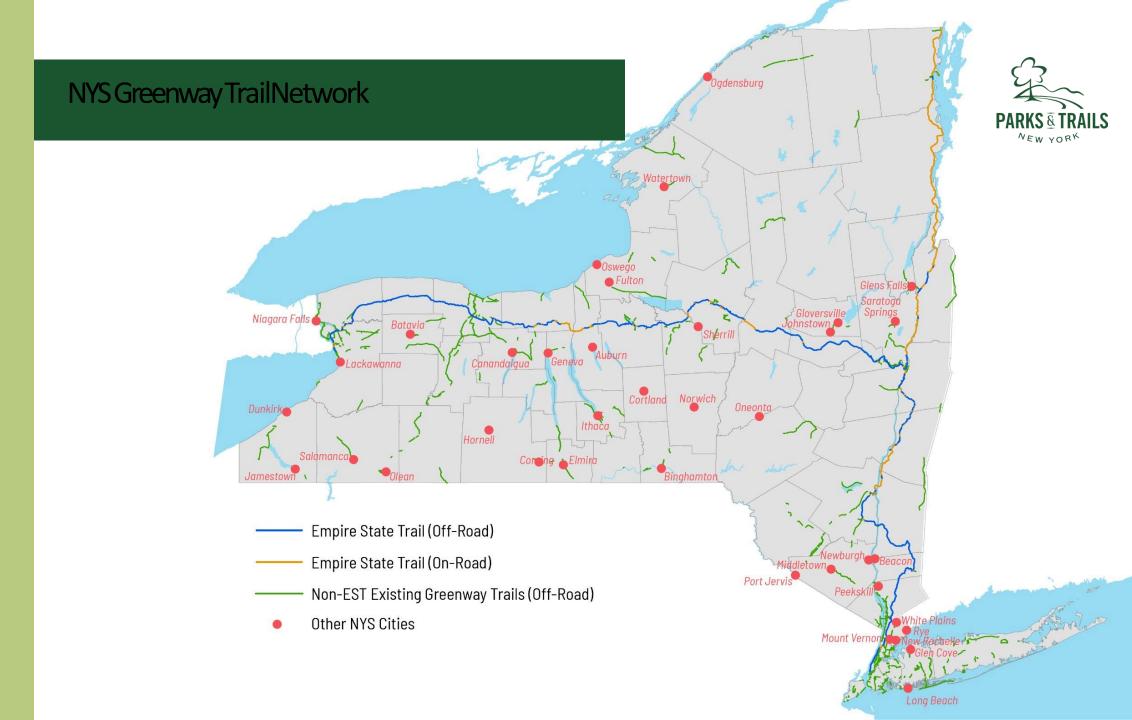


















GapsAnalysis









Where does the EST miss serving disadvantaged communities?

- Based in environmental justice & public health
- Urban areas NYC, others

Whatare key "trail deserts" where development should be prioritized?

- Long Island
- Southern Tier

Whatare other keydestinations?

- Colleges/Universities, Hospitals
- Bridges

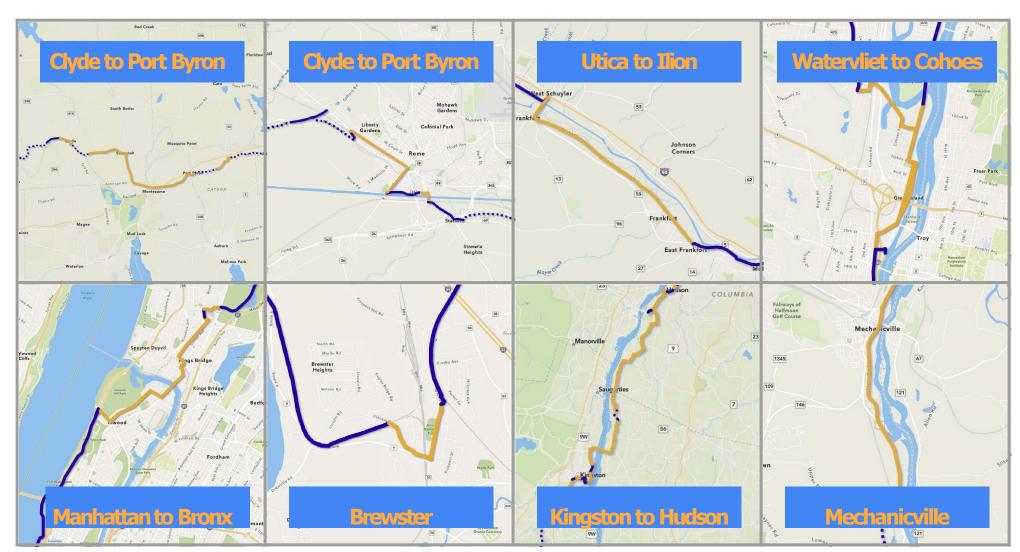
Close the Gaps











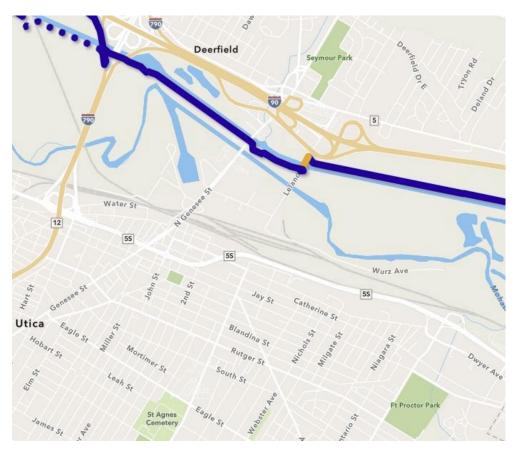
CommunityGaps

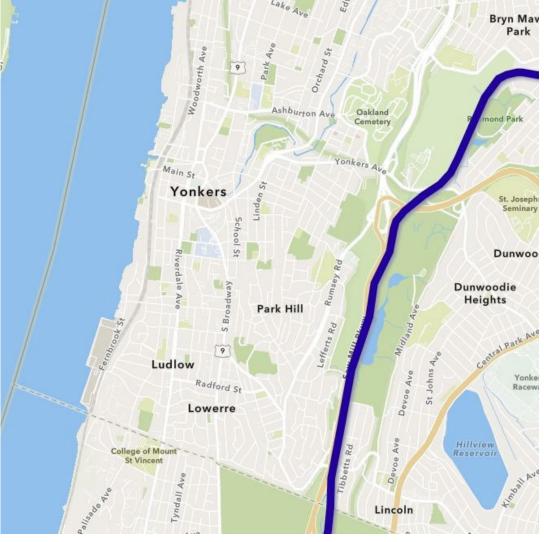












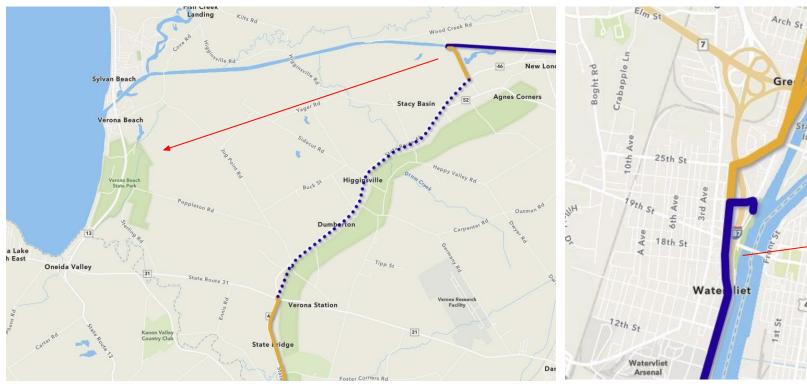
Gaps to parks and other key assets

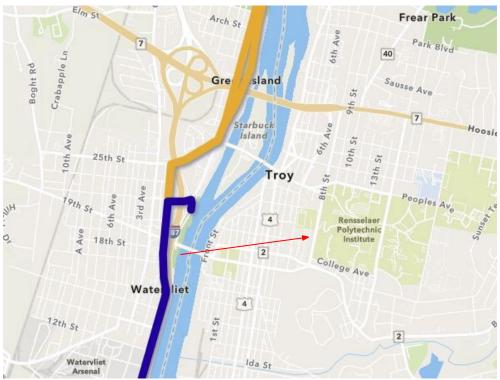


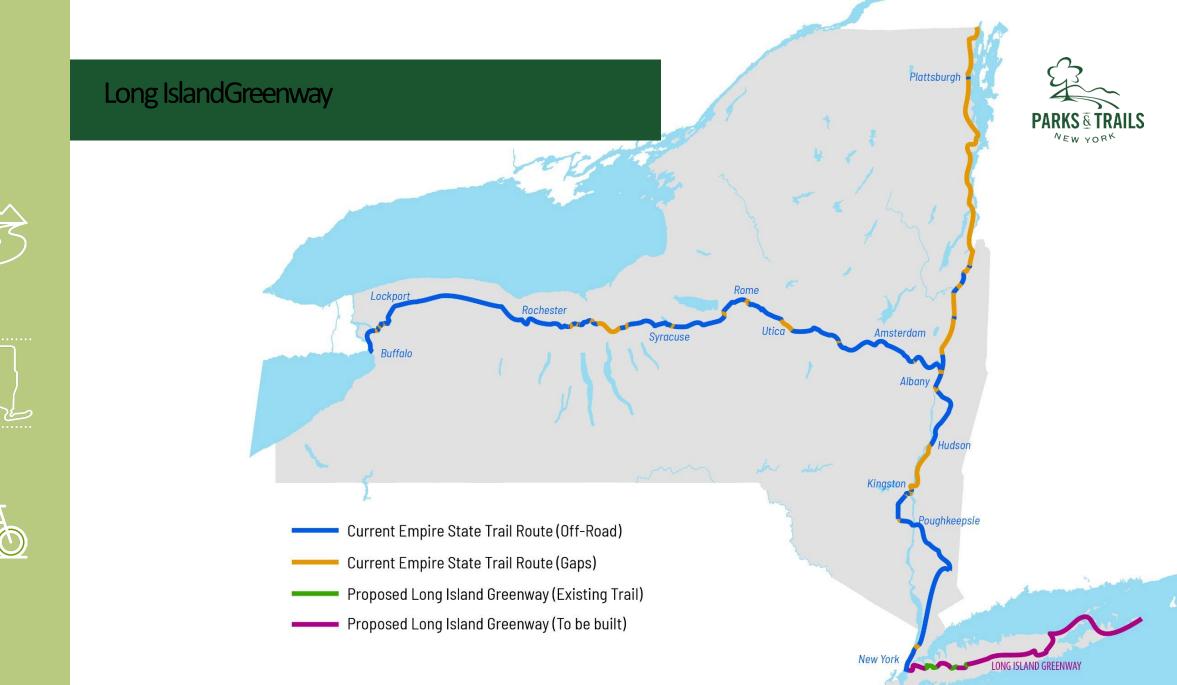












Advocacy: Growing Greenway Trails Vision Plan





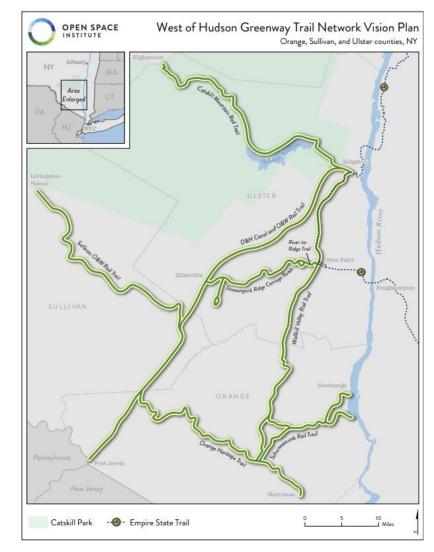




Open Space Institute report - 250+ mile network of greenways across 3 counties

Expand existing & build new trails:

- Wallkill Valley RailTrail
- O&W Rail Trail/D&H Canal Corridor
- Catskill Mountain RailCorridor
- Orange County Heritage Trail
- Schunnemunk Rail Trail
- Shawangunk Ridge Carriage Roads



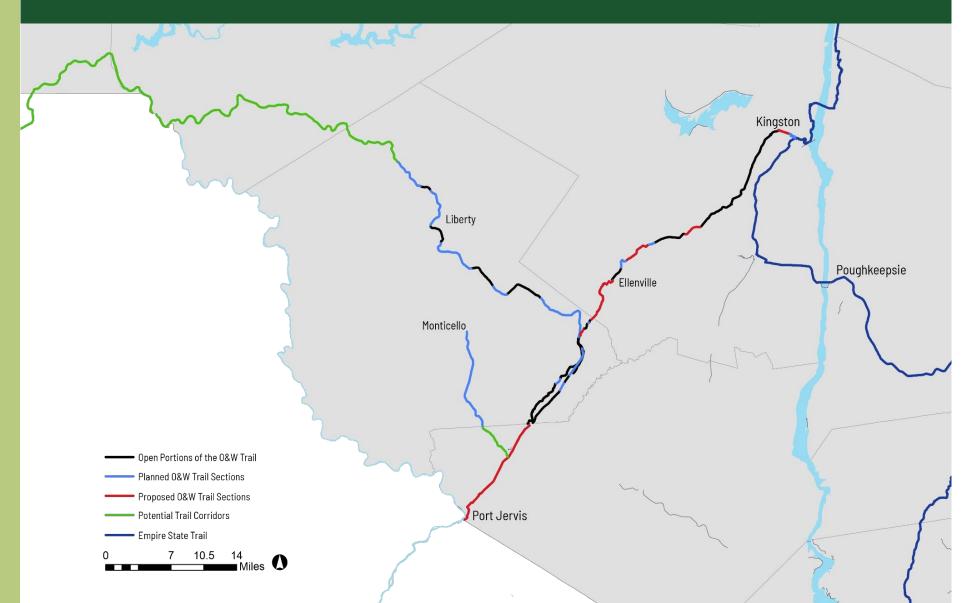
O&WRailTrail/D&H Canal Trail











Challenges for Funding Greenway Development



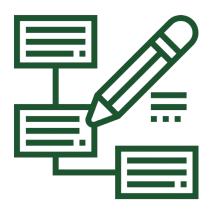








Much of trailfunding is capped



Limited funding available for planning & maintenance



No dedicated funding source in statebudget

Funding









Federal Funding

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act

- Transportation Alternatives
- Recreational Trails Program (via CFA, due end of July)
- Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment Program

American Rescue Plan Act - Coronavirus State and Local Recovery Funds

Congressionally Directed Spending (Earmarks)

State Funding

NYS OPRHP Capital Budget - \$250M

Environmental Protection Fund - \$400 M

- Open Space/Land Conservation (\$40M)
- State Land Stewardship(\$48.7M)
- Waterfront Revitalization (\$16.5M)
- Municipal Parks Program (\$26M)

Clean Water, Clean Air, and Green Jobs Environmental Bond Act - \$4.2 billion

SDOT/Federal Transportation Funding

FundingFuture







Bond Act: Use funding from the Environmental Bond Act to purchase land and support capital construction and grow network



Capital Support for Trail Construction: Advocate for a dedicated allocation for trails in the NYS budget (in Parks Capital or in EPF budgets)



Operations Funding: Ensure that OPRHP has funding for maintenance and operations, and provide support to localities

Local Advocates: Give trail champions the resources to advocate themselves for better maintenance along trails

Support for Orange County





2023: Palisades Parks Conservancy (\$150,000) to hire a Program Manager who will develop greater community connection and activation, improve marketing and branding, and implement DEIA initiatives in Palisades region state parks and trails.



2021: FORT MONTGOMERY BATTLE SITE ASSOCIATION \$33,300 to repair and make safe the trail in the western portion of Fort Montgomery State Historic Site--part two of a two-phase project.



2018: FORT MONTGOMERY BATTLE SITE ASSOCIATION \$50,000 to repair and restore Fort Montgomery State Historic Site's trail system, which provides access to the site's 35,000 annual visitors, including school groups, families, organizations, and individuals.





Activation: Getting More People to Use Trails





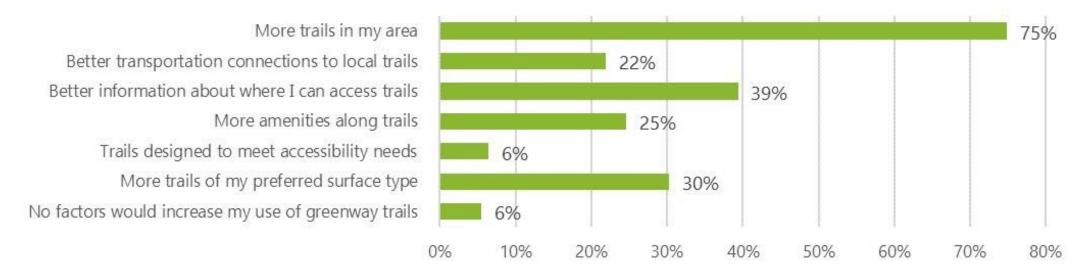




Proposition: How do we get more people to enjoy greenway trails?

- Use existing trails more
- Provide more trails to more people in more places

Q11 - What factors would increase your use of greenway trails?



Source: PTNY, Greenway Trail User Survey Results and Analysis, April 2021 - ptny.org/greenwaysplan

Activation: CycleTours













PARKS & TRAILS NEW YORK CYCLE ERIE CANAL

ONE TRAIL... ENDLESS ADVENTURES

JULY 9-16, 2023

CYCLE ## HUDSON VALLEY

AN EMPIRE STATE TRAIL ADVENTURE

JULY 30-AUGUST 5, 2023

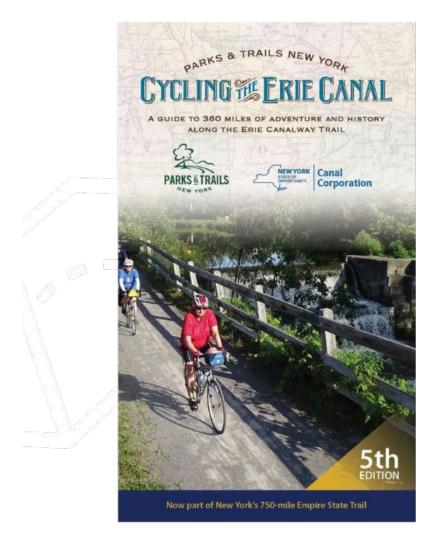
Activation: Guidebooks

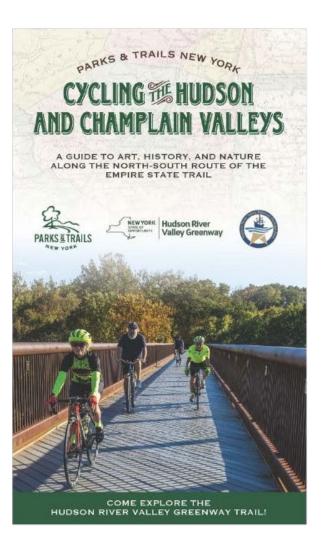












Activation: BBB and BFB













Activation: TrailTownPrograms









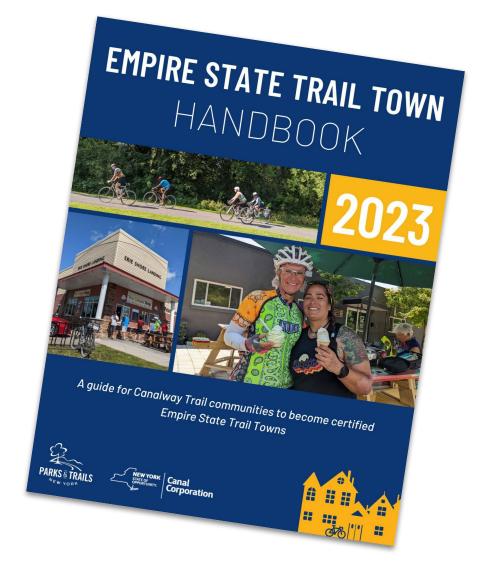
Genesee Valley Trail Town Initiative (grants for amenities, festivals, signage)



Empire State Trail Towns

Adirondack Rail Trail Towns

Sullivan O&W Trail TownProgram



Activation: TrailTownObjectives







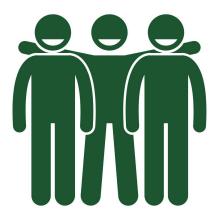




Improve connectivity between the trail and towns along its route



Improve services and amenities available in trail communities



Promote a culture of hospitality, stewardship and inclusivity in trail communities

Activation: Empire State Trail Towns









Technical assistance and promotional support to select communities along the Empire State Trail that offer high quality trail-based services and amenities and demonstrate a commitment to policies and programs geared toward cyclists, pedestrians and placemaking.

Not a grant program, but rather an opportunity to grow capacity, make cultural changes, and identify priorities for future funding opportunities.

EMPIRE STATE TRAIL TOWNS



















Activation: Brockport Trail Town

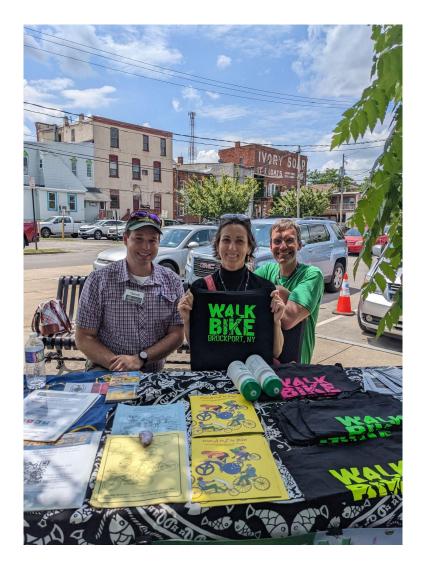












Resources









OPRHP Empire State Trail Website https://empiretrail.ny.gov/

https://www.ptny.org/publications/reports

- "Getting Started" guide to planning trails in New York State
- GWTP Development Guide (Coming Soon)
- Bicyclists Bring Business

Bond Act Talking Points: Fund Trails!

Reports: Greenway Trails Plan Development Guide









High and mid-level information on:

- Identifying potential trailcorridors.
- Working with landowners (railroads, utility companies, state agencies, etc.).
- Funding opportunities.
- Developing feasibility studies, planning, and design documents.
- Costs and considerations for trail construction and maintenance.
- Memoranda & cooperative agreements.



Callto Action / Upcoming Dates





Cycle the Erie Canal

July 9-16

Cycle the Hudson Valley Bond Act

July 30-Aug5

Listening Session 2024 CTHV Planning

Aug 15(1pm, Westchester Cty Ctr) Sept

Klatch Perkins Award

TBD

Park/Trails Advocacy Day

Oct 10 (Manhattan)

Feb (TBD)





ThankYou!









Paul Steely White Executive Director Parks & Trails New York psteelywhite@ptny.org 646 247 6734





PANEL #1 - HOW TO MAKE TRAILS A REALITY



KERRON BARNES GRANT CONSULTANT



JOHN FURST CATANIA, MAHON & RIDER



COLLEEN HARDCASTLE CATSKILL 3500 CLUB

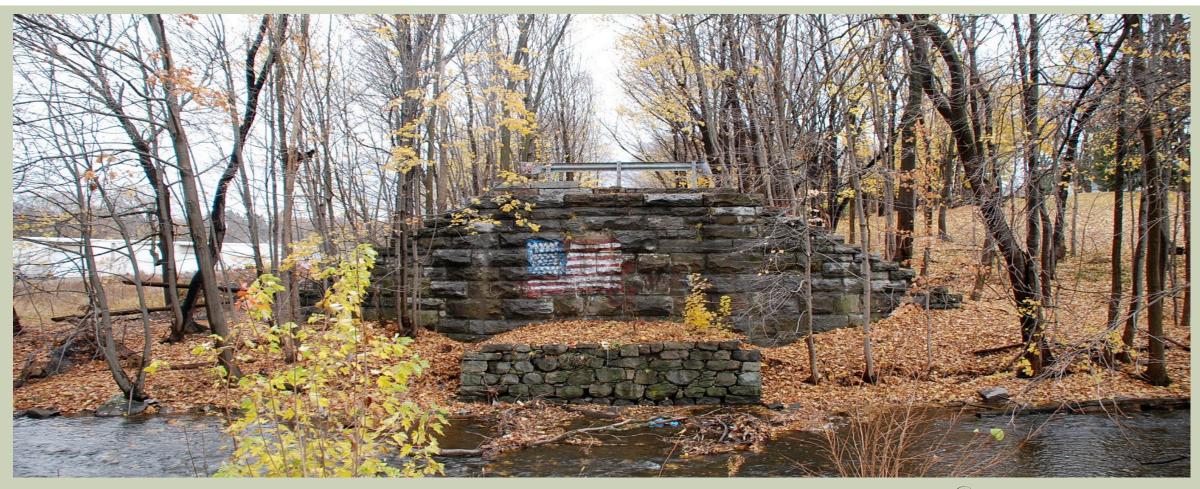


ALAN SORENSEN ORANGE COUNTY PLANNING



PETER KARIS OPEN SPACE INSTITUTE

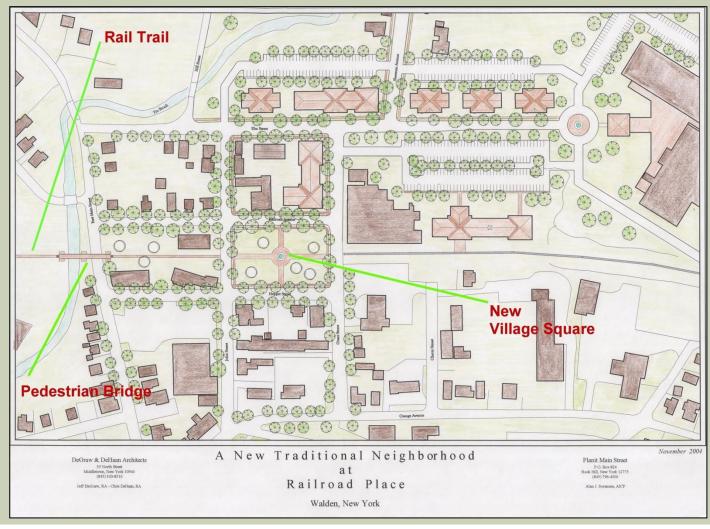
Village of Walden to the hamlet of Wallkill in the Town of Shawangunk







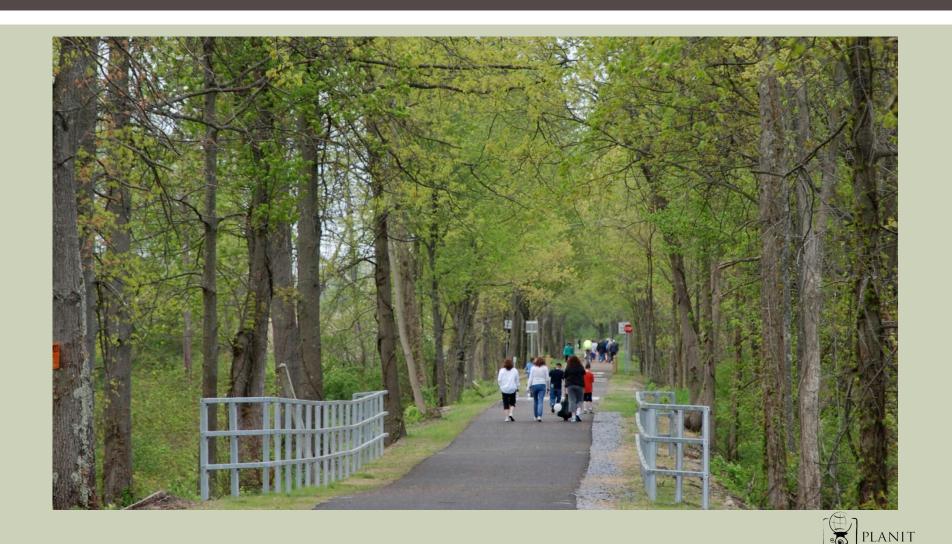














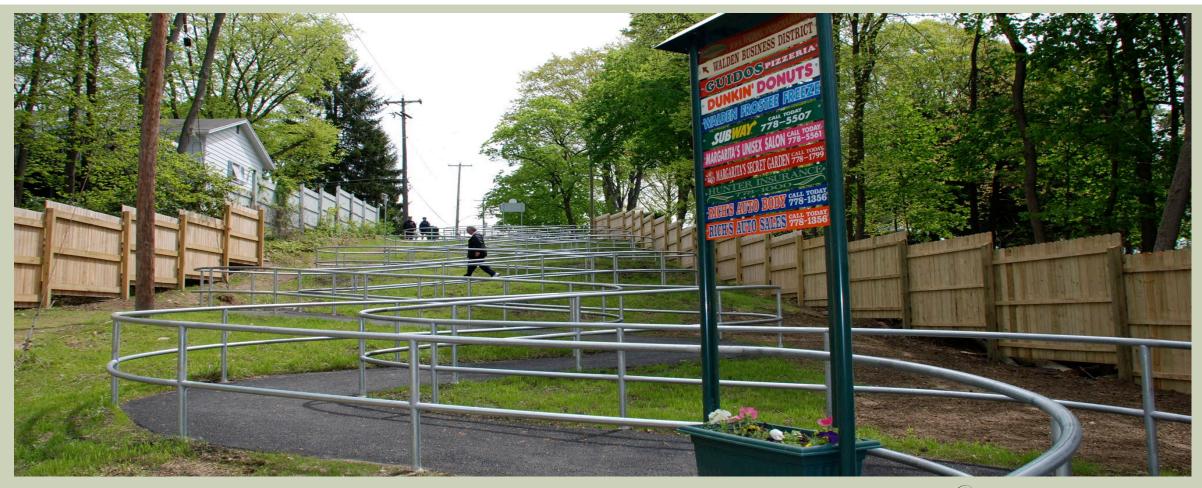










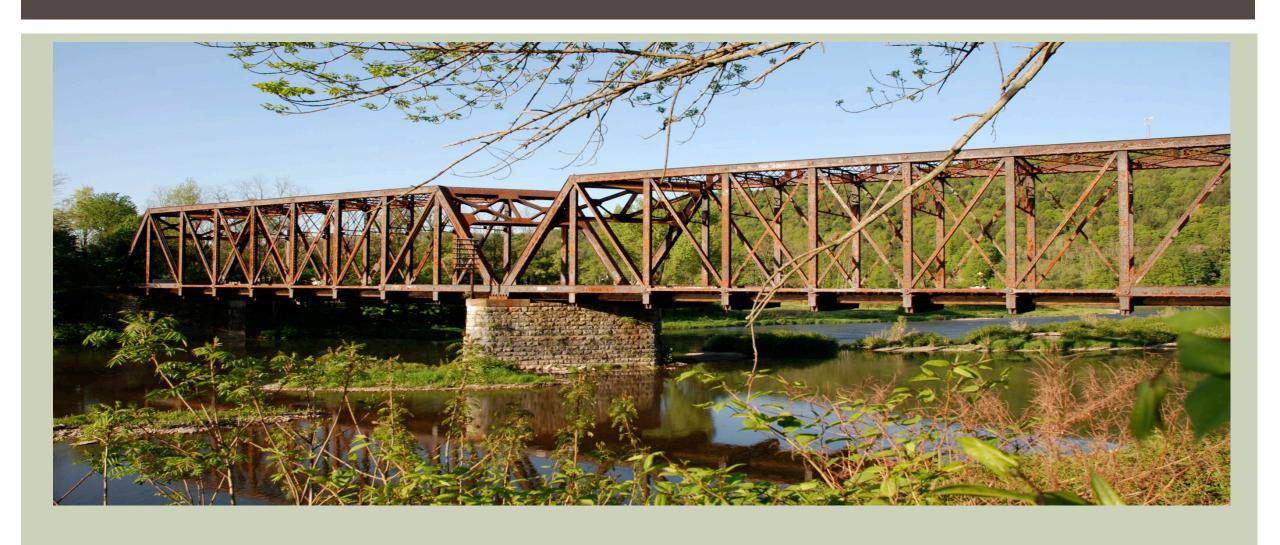


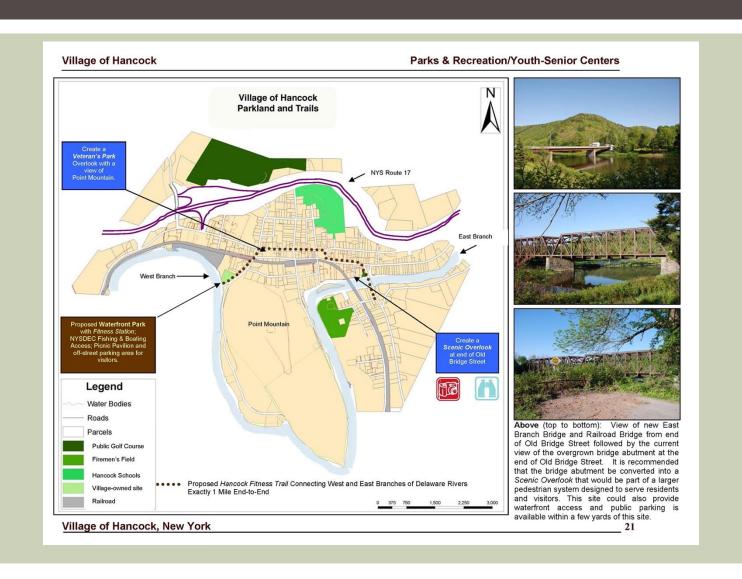


Village of Hancock, NY









Village of Hancock

Parks, Recreation and Civic Centers

The Village Square could take many forms. The conceptual "Village Square" illustrated below is meant as a starting point for further discussion. In this example, the Great American site is transformed into a multi-purpose year-round gathering space for a variety of community events and activities. It is anchored by a pavilion that will function as a band shell for concerts, includes areas with brick pavers (brown) intended to be used for farmers markets and a

circular stage seating area that will double as an ice skating rink in the winter. The crosswalks around the square will incorporate brick pavers to calm traffic. Wheeler Street would be designed so that it could be closed during street fairs to accommodate vendors and allow pedestrians to move freely. The Village Square would also include a large lawn, groves of trees and bushes and street trees to provide a lush green oasis in the heart of Downtown.



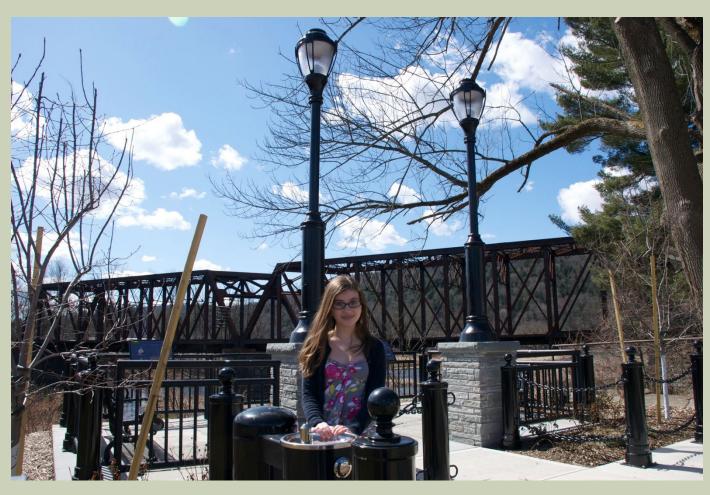




Above (top to bottom): Conceptual layout of Village Square on the Great American site with bandstand, ice skating rink and public gathering space; view of square looking from Wheeler Street to West Main Street; and view of square looking from West Main Street to Read Street. A new square would provide a focal point for the community and a green oasis in the bleak downtown.



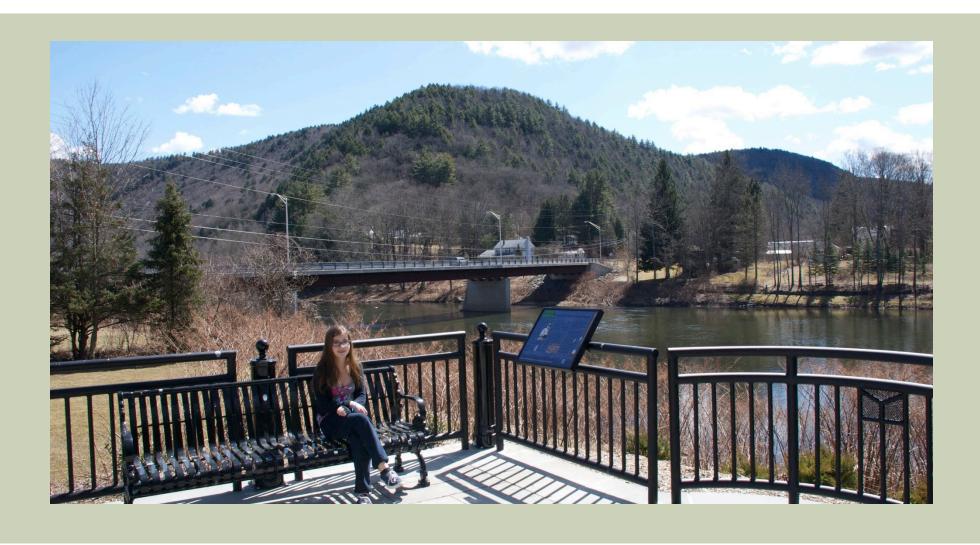
Village of Hancock, New York





















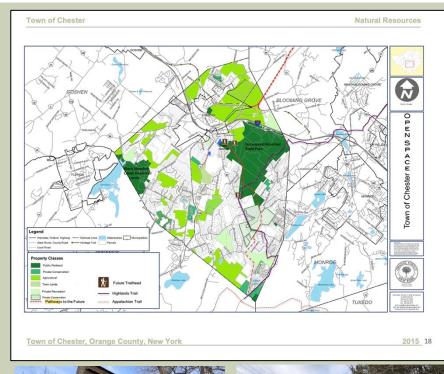


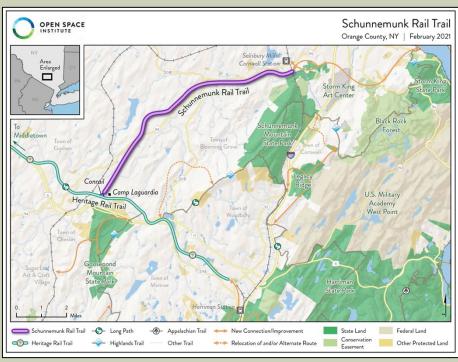


SCHUNNEMUNK RAIL TRAIL

Orange County New York

SCHUNNEMUNK RAIL TRAIL













SCHUNNEMUNK RAIL TRAIL

- The ten-mile stretch of the former Erie Railroad runs from the Moodna Trestle in Cornwall to Camp LaGuardia in Chester.
- Improve public transit use and services by providing pedestrian and bicyclist connections to transit facilities while opening opportunities to expand service in this area of Orange County.
- Grant application for Federal 5307 funds will include ROW Incidentals, Engineering & Design, Construction, Construction Review, Public Art, and maintenance.
- Timeline: 4 years
- Originally envisioned as <u>12-foot</u> shared-use rail trail.
- Proposed a <u>16-foot</u> split-use rail trail capable of safely accommodating bikes and e-bikes to facilitate commuting via biking:
 - A wider trail reduces bicycle-pedestrian conflicts creating a stress-free ride
 - Increase BMT, Reduce VMT, and reduce GHGI

JUNE 2, 2023 VISION **HUDSON VALLEY PLACEMAKING CONFERENCE** TRAILS: NATURE'S PATHWAY TO HEALTHY, **SUSTANIABLE COMMUNITIES**

• John W. Furst, Esq.



SUCCESSFUL SITE CONTROL

- YOU HAVE DEVELOPED A VISION & ENGAGED LOCAL LEADERS FOR THEIR SUPPORT
- WHATS THE NEXT STEP IN MAKING THAT VISION A REALITY?
- GET THE LAWYERS INVOLVED???
- THE DEVIL IS IN THE DETAILS





DIFFERENT TYPES OF SITE CONTOL

- FEE SIMPLE OWNERSHIP
- EASEMENT RIGHTS
- LICENSE AGREEMENT





FEE SIMPLE OWNERSHIP

Absolute ownership in the entire real property where the transfer in the real property is usually conveyed via a deed and recorded with County Clerk's Office

- Negotiate Terms/Letter of Intent (usually non-binding)
- Enter into Purchase Sale Agreement binding agreement that obligates both sides to transfer the land subject to the terms in the PSA
- Buyer Conducts Due Diligence while under Contract. Title (no mortgages, liens encumbrances), environmental (no contamination), survey (encroachments), Land Use, Inspections, Secure Financing (appraisal), etc.



EASEMENTS IN GENERAL

Permanent right authorizing one to do or maintain something on the land of another (Affirmative); or to restrain landowner from lawfully using land (Negative).

- Right to use or limit land of another-but do not own.
- Real property owner retains ownership rights, but can't interfere/be inconsistent with easement rights.
- Runs with the land in favor of easement right holder.
- Written agreement that sets forth the specific rights and obligations, including the specific purpose.
- Recorded in the County Clerk's Office.



TRAIL EASEMENTS: SPECIFIC PROVISIONS TO CONSIDER

- Type of Trail Useage
 - hiking, biking, horses, motorized
- Location of Easement Area
 - general location on property-map
- Description of Easement Area
 - how wide/metes and bounds
- Description of Trail itself
 - how wide, how constructed
- Any other Improvements
 - benches, signage, landscaping, bathrooms
- Hours of operation?
 - Reasonable limits on time, place and manner





TRAIL EASEMENTS: BASIC PROVISIONS TO CONSIDER

- Grants right of public access, but not directly to the public.
 - Rights given to the easement holder (nonprofit or government) to make trail available to the public.
- Contemplate relocation?
 - Allow both sides to relocate as long as reasonably acceptable. Party seeking relocation should pay. Should amend written agreement to reflect new location.
- Maintenance-
 - Right to access, includes right to maintain Trail.
- Federal Income Tax Deduction?
 - If freely donated (not part of fulfilling a condition of government approval or made is exchange for other goods/services then may be considered charitable donation.

CONSERVATION AND PUBLIC ACCESS

Does the trail easement include a conservation easement-permanently restrict development of land through which a trail is to pass

- Can be incorporated in same document-but mixing an Affirmative and Negative Easement in same document. Allocation of risk is not the same.
- Can use two separate documents and tie them together in one transaction with cross-references.



TRAIL EASEMENTS: LIABILITY

New York's Recreational Use Statute General Obligations Law Subsection 9-103

- Does offer a certain level of protection for landowners who voluntarily allow access to their land for certain recreational activities.
- Can't charge a fee and must not maliciously fail to guard against hazards.
- Indemnification/Insurance provisions within any Easement Agreement.





LICENSE IN REAL PROPERTY

- Permission/ Authority to do something on another's land.
- Does not grant possession of any interest in the land.
- Does not run with the land.
- Usually revocable.
- Should be a written Agreement, but can be an oral agreement.
 - Generally not recorded.
- First step into easing into a permanent Trail Easement.



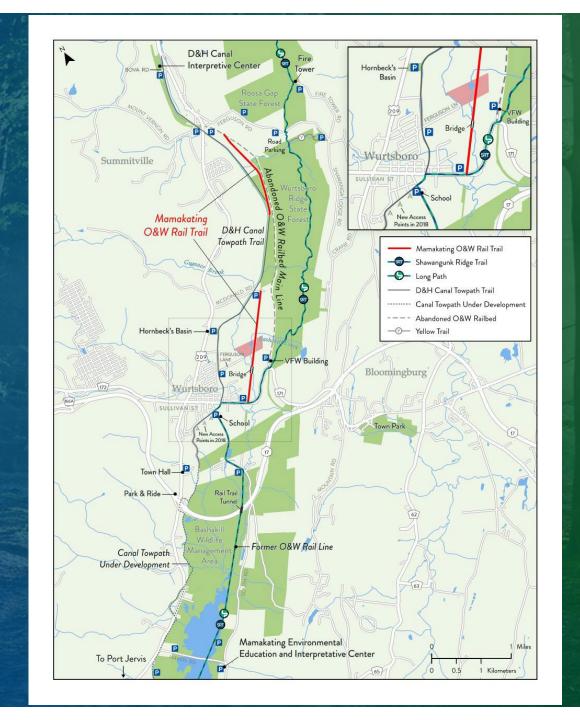
QUESTIONS/ COMMENTS







This map shows the five major trails that pass through Mamakating and converge on Sullivan Street in Wurtsboro: two rail trails, two ridge trails and a canal trail. All are long distance types, three are flat and two are rugged.



New 1,500-foot section of trail that connects the D&H Canal Towpath to the Mamakating Government Center and the Town's only supermarket complex.

Taken on October 12, 2021







The Catskill 3500 Club

The Catskill 3500 Club, founded in 1962, continues to uphold the following principles for its members:

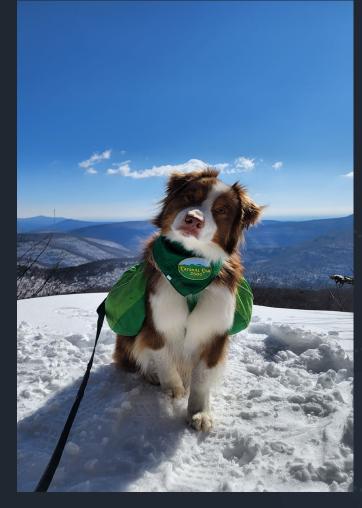
- Foster interest in hiking;
- Provide on-going education on outdoor skills; and
- Engage in public service, stewardship, and responsible conservation of our region's natural resources.





Hiking Catskill Mountains





We value and celebrate those who have ascended, on foot, the 33 highest peaks on public lands in the Catskill Park, as well as those who have additionally hiked these mountains in winter.



Recognition

Awards and Patches





















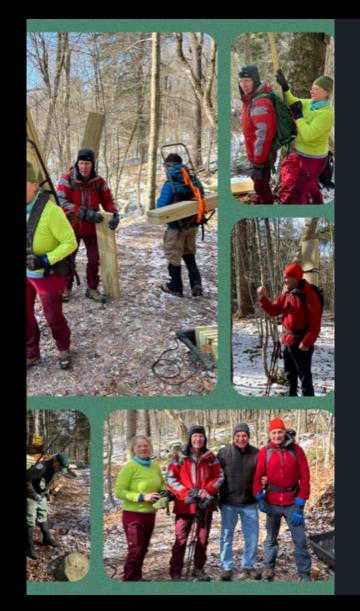




Organize Volunteers

- Identify Potential Volunteers
- Plan Volunteer Events
- Communicate with Volunteers
- Publicize
- Track





Engage Volunteers

- Thank volunteers
- Recognize volunteers
- Solicit feedback
- Invite sharing
- Recruit volunteers to recruit other volunteers



Coordinate Ongoing Trail Maintenance

- Govern
- Plan
- Coordinate
- Coordinate
- Schedule
- Communicate Report

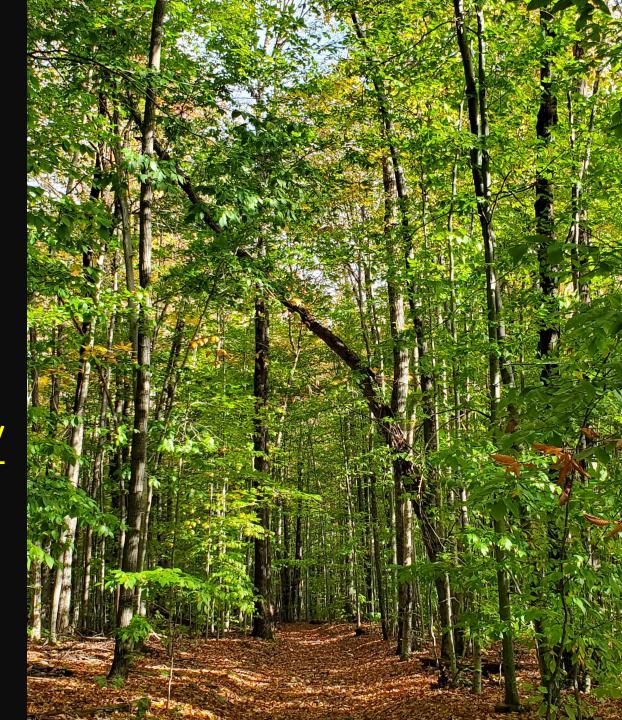
- Facilitate
- Listen
- Monitor
- Execute
- Document



<u>Learn More</u> Volunteer

https://www.catskill3500club.com/

https://www.facebook.com/groups/788457865669504





Trail Development & Design Standards
June 2, 2023



Rails-to-Trails Conservancy Resources Page





DONATE

RENEW

Meet RTC

Our Work

Experience Trails

Find Trails

Resources

Store

Ways To Give



Home > Build Trails > Trail-Building Toolbox > Basics > Trail-Building Basics

Trail-Building Basics



Photo by Britt Nelson

Want to know more about how rail-trails get built and maintained in America? Check out our trail-building 101 FAQ below.

What Is a Rail-Trail?

Rail-trails are multipurpose public paths created from former railroad corridors. These paths are flat or gently sloping, making them easily accessible and a great way to enjoy the outdoors. Rail-trails are ideal for many types of activities-depending on the rules established by the local community--including walking, bicycling, wheelchair use, inline skating, cross-country skiing and horseback riding.

Join Our Trail Expert Network

Join Our Trail Expert Network to get resources for trail professionals, plus relevant news and enhanced tools to help build and steward trails!

Sign U

Other Resources

Receive Early Warning Alerts

Search our Resource Library

Rails-with-Trails Report

AASHTO Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities 2012, 4th Edition

American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO)

Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities

2012 • Fourth Edition







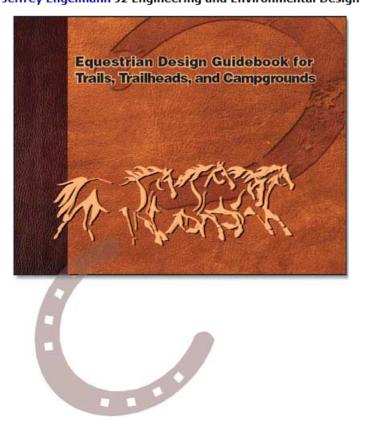


US Department of Agriculture Equestrian Design Guidebook for Trails, Trailheads, and Campgrounds,

December 2007	
2300 Recreation	
0723-2816-MTDC	•••

Equestrian Design Guidebook for Trails, Trailheads, and Campgrounds

Jan Hancock Hancock Resources LLC
Kim Jones Vander Hoek Forest Service, Tonto National Forest
Sunni Bradshaw Forest Service, Missoula Technology and Development Center
James D. Coffman Coffman Studios
Jeffrey Engelmann J2 Engineering and Environmental Design



US Forest Service Forest Service Trail Accessibility Guidelines, 2013



2013 Update

Forest Service Trail Accessibility Guidelines (FSTAG)

2013

All Trails and Constructed Features Addressed in the FSTAG and FSORAG that are constructed or altered within the National Forest System shall comply with the FSTAG and FSORAG.

Contents

FSTAG - Scoping Requirements and Technical Provisions:

Contains the scoping requirements, definitions and technical specifications

Appendices:

Overview of FSTAG Implementation Process: A flowchart on how to apply the FSTAG one step at a time. (Best if printed in color.)

Federal Trail Data Standards: Trail Fundamentals

Federal Trail Data Standards: Class Matrix

Forest Service Recreation Site Development Scale Definitions

FSORAG Technical Provisions Referenced in the FSTAG's Technical Provisions Provisions of the Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Standards that are referenced in the FSORAG Technical Provisions

NYS Parks Standards and Guidelines for Trails in NYS Parks, 2014

Trails Technical Document #1

Standards and Guidelines for Trails in NYS Parks

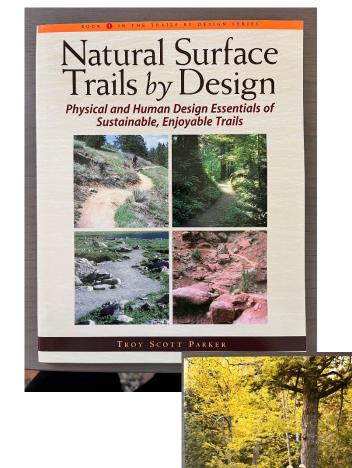
Prepared by
NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and
Historic Preservation
Planning Bureau
Albany, NY 12238

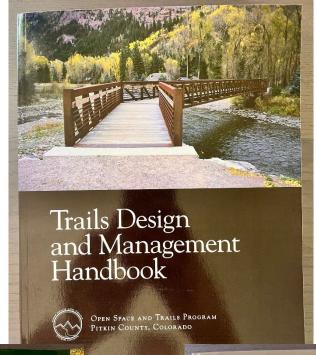
April 29, 2010



Revised 3-2014 Page 1

Other Worthy
Trail Design
Publications and
Stories

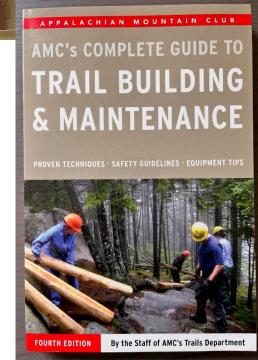




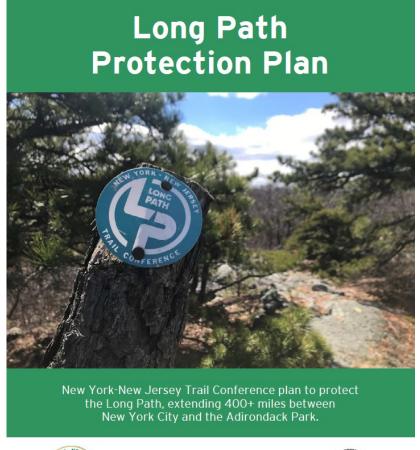
The Story Behind

ACADIA'S Carriage Roads

Rockefellers



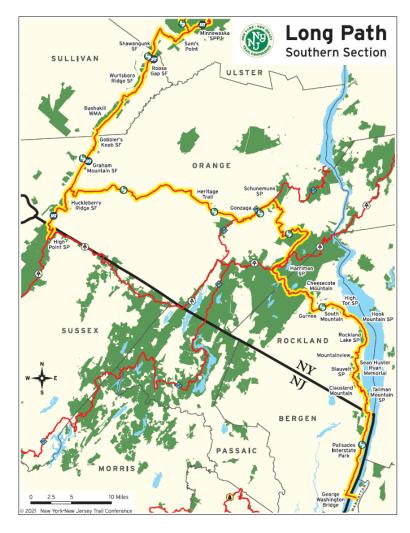
Regional Trail Plans











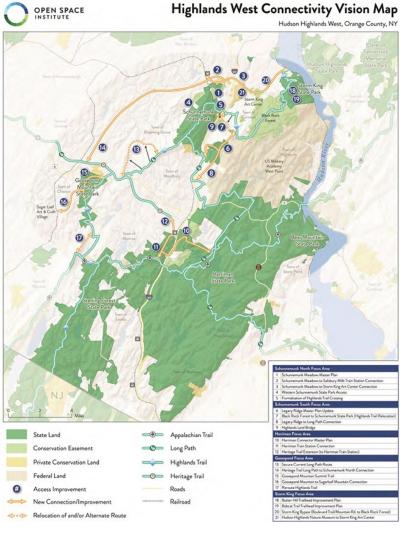
Regional Trail Plans









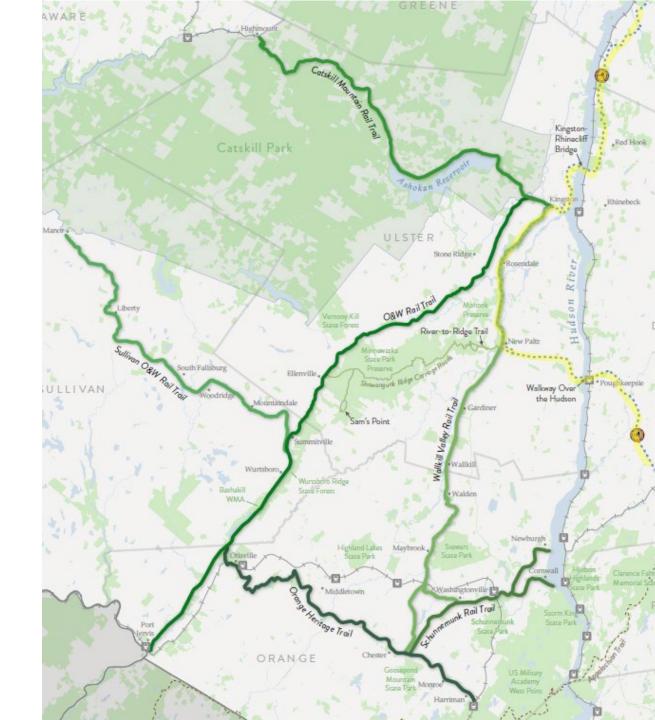


Growing Greenways

Our Vision for a Connected West of Hudson Greenway Trail Network

- A complete Greenway Trail network west of the Hudson River connecting communities in Ulster, Sullivan, and Orange Counties.
- Comprised of seven (7) major trail corridors including:
 - Wallkill Valley Rail Trail
 - O&W Rail Trail (inc. D&H Canal)
 - Catskill Mountain Rail Trail
 - Sullivan O&W Rail Trail
 - Orange Heritage Trail
 - Schunnemunk Rail Trail
 - Shawangunk Ridge Carriage Roads
- At over 250 miles, this Greenway Trail network of will be the largest feeder trail system of the Empire State Trail.







PANEL #2 - HEALTH + WELLNESS OF TRAILS



DR. MARY GILLIS
FREELANCE
HEALTH
REPORTER



DR. ANJANA POONTHOTA GARNET HEALTH MEDICAL CENTER



DON WEISE NEW YORK-NEW JERSEY TRAIL CONFERENCE



Tapping into the Healing Powers of Nature A Trail User's Perspective

Don Weise

New York-New Jersey Trail Conference

June 2, 2023



Qualifications & References

- Spend way too much time in the woods: Have led 700+hiking and trail running outings in last 26 years. Hiked extensively in US, Europe. Catskill 35er.
- Author of hiking guidebooks:
 <u>Circuit Hikes in Harriman</u>
 West Milford Baker's Dozen
- Tree hugger:
 Environmental Commissioner & Open Space Committee
 Chair, West Milford Environmental Commission.
 Environmental advocate.
- Role at the Trail Conference:
 Director of Donor Advising, Past Board Member,
 Volunteer Trail Maintainer















Who is the Trail Conference?

What do they do? Why should I care?

1. They're the reason we have so many trails. Build, maintain & protect 2,145 miles of trails + bridges, steps, walls & boardwalks – so we can access nature.

2. Preserve & protect the land for trails.

- Preserved and created thousands of acres of new park land.
- Lead 58 partner organizations in removing harmful invasives.
- Trail Conference Conservation Dogs aid citizen scientists by sniffing out invasives + rare, threatened & endangered species.

3. Train & support more than 2,500 volunteers! They donate 100,000 hours on average each year.

- Saving us taxpayer dollars.
- Giving us unparalleled access to nature in the Hudson Valley!













Where the Trails Are

25 counties: 327 miles in Orange County

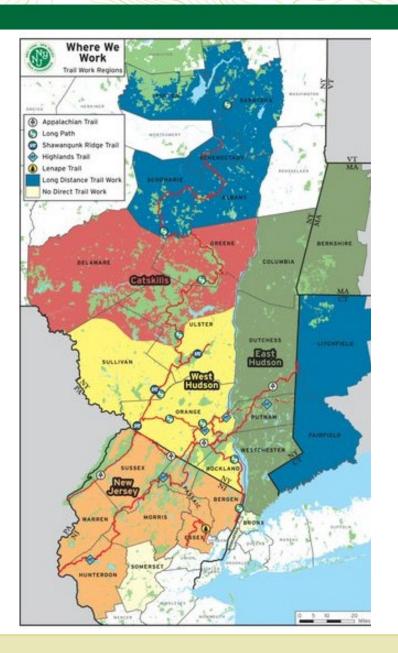
New York:

- Appalachian Trail, Long Path (Heritage Trail is part of Long Path), Highlands Trail, Shawangunk Ridge Trail
- Catskill Forest Preserve, East of Hudson
- Major Orange County parks:

Harriman-Bear Mtn, Sterling Forest, Goosepond Mtn, Schunemunk, Black Rock, Storm King, Schunemunk, Huckleberry Ridge, Graham Mtn, Gobblers Knob, Neversink Preserve

North Jersey:

- Appalachian Trail, Long Path, Highlands Trail, Lenape Trail
- Dozens of State Parks, 2 National Parks
- All major parks bordering Orange County





Why Access to Trails Matters

Trails are how we get to experience nature, and learn to value it

Trails help us:

- Tap into the healing powers of nature
- Benefit from outdoor exercise!
- Unplug from stress and technology
- Learn about flora and fauna
- Engage in volunteer service
- Bond with nature and each other



By interacting with nature, children discover their connection to Earth and the crucial role we play in protecting it.



Trails are for all Ages and Abilities















Growing Need for Accessible Trails According to the CDC:

- Adults unable to easily walk a quarter mile: **17.2 million**
- Adults with vision impairment: **20.6 million**
- Adults with any physical functioning disability: **35.2 million**
- Adults with at least one basic actions difficulty or complex activity



Trails Designed for Enhanced Accessibility

New York has 70 Trails Suitable for Wheelchairs

- Bear Mountain All Persons Trail (Orange & Rockland Co.)
- 2. Ashokan Rail Trail (Ulster)
- 3. Empire Trail (Spans 26 counties)
- 4. Heritage Trail (Orange. Part of Long Path)









Bear Mountain All Persons Trail

Total Time: 1:00 hour. Estimated Distance: 1 mile. Level of Difficulty: Very Easy. Level of Recommendation: Highly

Recommended. Points of Interest: Perkins Tower and view. Excellent Views

Info: https://www.nynjtc.org/hike/bear-mountain-state-park

Ashokan Rail Trail

The 11.5-mile recreational trail runs along Ashokan Reservoir between West Hurley and Boiceville. The ART trail surface is 12 feet in width and surfaced with highly compacted fine crushed stone. Both the trail and trailhead parking areas (including the portable restrooms) are ADA compliant and accessible for persons with disabilities.

Info: https://ashokanrailtrail.com

Empire State Trail

The 750-mile Empire State Trail showcases New York's special places, diverse history, and iconic landscapes. The Trail welcomes bicyclists and walkers of all abilities to experience the Empire State's urban centers, village main streets, rural communities, and diverse history, from New York City through the Hudson River Valley, west to Buffalo along the Erie Canal, and north to the Champlain Valley and Adirondacks.

Info: https://empiretrail.ny.gov

Heritage Trail: Accessible section of 360-mile Long Path

The Heritage Trail is a 10-foot wide trail on the right-of-way of the former Erie Railroad. The trail extends from the City of Middletown to the Village of Harriman. The trail features sections of both asphalt and limestone surface. The 19.5 mile trail winds through a bird/wildlife sanctuary, historic landmarks, murmuring streams, rolling meadows and friendly communities.

Info: https://www.orangecountygov.com/1475/Heritage-Trail



How Trails Changed my Life for the Better















Making Trails a Bigger Part of your Life

Find a Walking, Hiking, MTB, or Trail Running Group:

- Facebook Groups
- Meetup Groups
- Trail Conference website

Strike out on Your Own

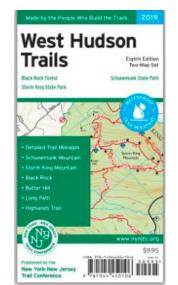
- Maps
- Guidebooks
- Trail Conference Hike Finder

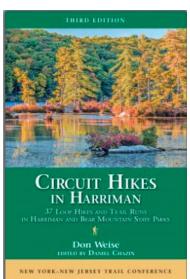
Volunteer: https://nynjtc.org/volunteer



West Milford 13ers Hiking Group









Let's Keep Trails Alive & Growing in 21st Century

Community Engagement & Support are the Keys

- Work made possible by volunteers and supporters
- Trail Conference must raise \$3.4 million/ year, to keep trails open
- Hudson Valley has one of finest, most extensive trail systems in US



Questions?

Email: dweise@nynjtc.org

Phone: (845) 545-1583



Health & Wellness Benefits of Trails

June 2nd, 2023

By Mary Gillis, D.Ed., M.Ed., M.S., M.S.

Introduction

"Despite research showing the health benefits of physical activity, most U.S. adults and children are not active enough. The CDC recommends that children and adolescents do 60 minutes (1 hour) or more of physical activity each day and adults do 150 minutes (2 and a half hours) of aerobic activity every week."

- U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Why Trails?

"Parks and trails are an important part of a community. In a well-designed community, homes, parks, stores and schools are connected by safe walking and biking routes. Such routes allow all members of the community a chance to enjoy the outdoors and get physical and mental health benefits."

- U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Why Trails?

"Having access to places for physical activity, such as parks and trails, encourages community residents to participate in physical activity and do so more often. The closer you live to a park, the more likely you are to walk or bike to those places and use the park for exercise."

<u>However</u>, only a small number of people in the U.S. live within half a mile of a park. People are also more likely to walk when they feel protected from traffic and safe from crime and hazards.

Evidence-Based Benefits

- Weight control
- Reduced risk of heart disease
- Reduced risk of diabetes
- Reduced risk for certain cancers
- Strengthens muscles & bones
- Improves mental health & mood
- Improves ADL
- Increases longevity

Evidence-Based Solutions

- Build parks and trails within walking distance of homes.
- Make sure that the routes to these places are safe.
- Build and maintain sidewalks, crosswalks and bike paths.

Demonstration + Activity



PANEL #3 - TRAILS AS A PLACEMAKING CATALYST



RACHEL CARR ORANGE COUNTY TOURISM



NIKKI CAVANAUGH RUSHING DUCK BREWERY



MAYOR JOSEPH M. DESTEFANO CITY OF MIDDLETOWN



MATT KIERSTEAD
MILESTONE HERITAGE
CONSULTING



RON SCHNELL ORANGE COUNTY SNOWBOARDS, SKI & BIKES

MEET OUR TEAM















Senior Clerk

ORANGE COUNTY TOURISM & FILM

IN NEW YORK'S HUDSON VALLEY





Why Tourism?

Tourism is an Economic Driver

Visitors

(definition) people that stay at overnight accommodations or those who travel a distance greater than 50 miles and deviate from their normal routine.

Visitor Spending

In 2021, visitors spent \$52 billion across the New York economy.

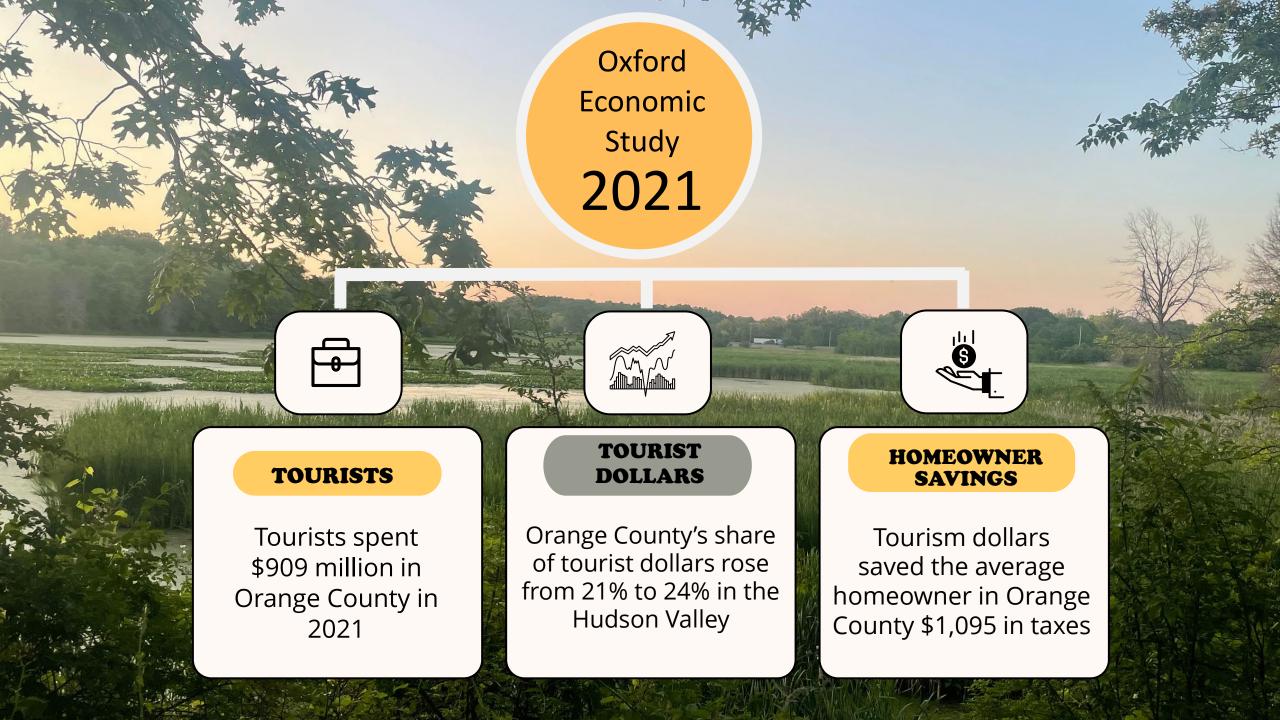


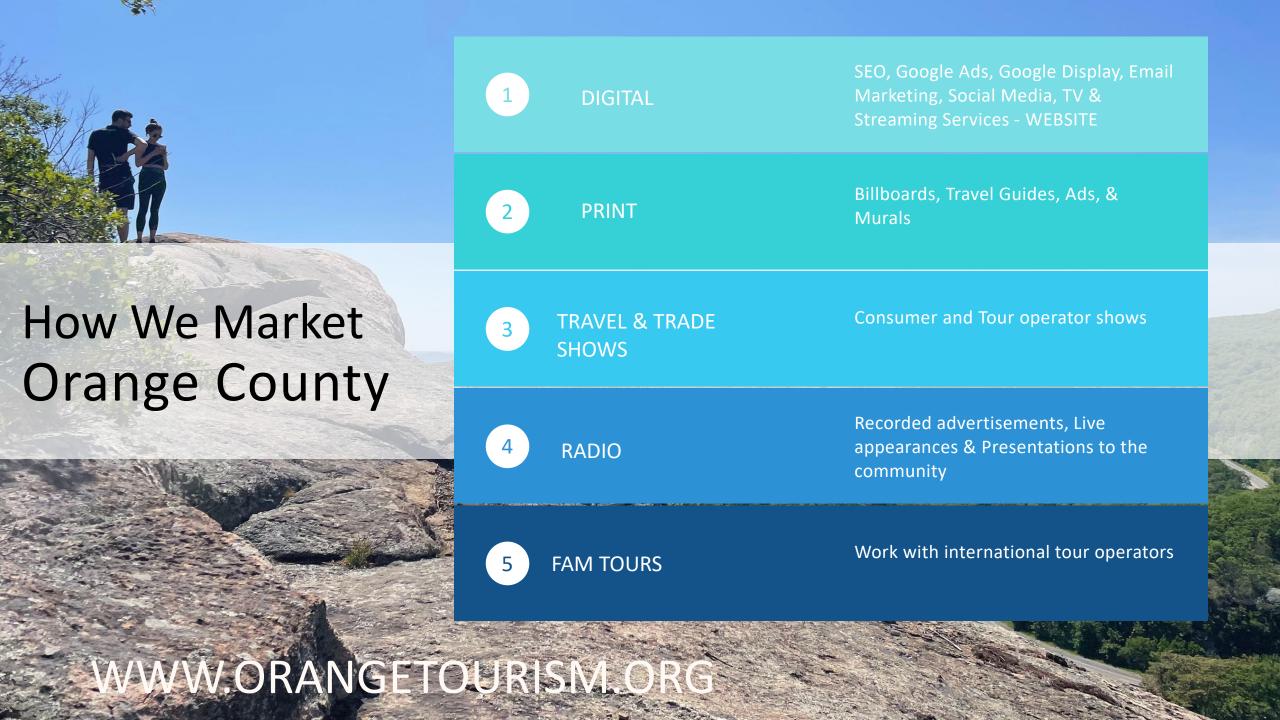
In 2021, tourism-supported jobs accounted for more than 6.5% of all jobs in the state.

Evaluation

Direct Visitor Spending (\$52 billion) generated a total economic impact of \$85.5 billion in New York in 2021, including indirect and induced impacts. This total economic impact generated \$7.5 billion in state and local tax revenues in 2021.









"I WISH I COULD WALK TO MORE PLACES FROM MY HOME"

Access to trails is an impactful factor when deciding to move to a new community

Every dollar spent on trails equates to \$3 in savings on healthcare

American Trails Organization

Attract New Businesses

Creates New Jobs

Increases Revenue

Trail visitors spend on Food - Travel - Lodging Equipment Rentals & Souvenirs

Multiuse Trails

Alternative Transportation Routes / Interconnectivity

TRAIL STATS





orangetourism.org/explore/outdoors/hiking-and-trails/

Plethora of case studies and economic impact statements that prove trails bring new business and economic life to American communities.

- People living close to trails believe they have positively impacted their quality of life and that their houses
- Due to the huge economic impact of the Annual Great Bicycle Ride Across Iowa (RAGBRAI), more than 200 rides in other states have been established
- Over two million people visit some part of the Appalachian Trail every year triggering a considerable economic impact in neighboring communities as these visitors spend between \$125 and \$168 million each year.



Scan the QR Code for more Stats

https://www.americantrails.org/resources/the-business-of-trails-a-compilation-of-economic-benefits

#OCNY Trails

Appalachian Trail

Orange Turnpike • Southfields 10975

Black Rock Forest

Route 9W • Cornwall 12518

Crows Nest

Cornwall 12518

Delaware River Heritage Trail

127 Main Street • Port Jervis 12771

Heritage Trail (Paved rail trail)

Goshen, Chester, Middletown & Monroe • Goshen

Highland Lakes State Park Trails

55-223 Tamms Road • Middletown 10941

Highlands Trail

Cornwall-on-Hudson 12520

Huckleberry Ridge State Forest

Hawthorn Boulevard • Greenville 12771

Middletown Reservoir Trails

435 Van Duzer Road • Middletown 10940

Newburgh Waterfront Trail

1 Washington Street• Newburgh 12550

Outdoor Discovery Center

100 Muser Drive • Cornwall 12518

Port Jervis Water Shed Trails and Park

1 Skyline Drive • Port Jervis 12771

Schunnemunk Mountain

Otterkill Road • Cornwall 12553

Sterling Forest State Park

116 Old Forge Road • Tuxedo 10987

Storm King State Park

Mountain Road • Cornwall-on-Hudson 12520

Walden-Wallkill Rail Trail

Wooster Memorial Park • Walden 12586

Wallkill Valley Loop

TOURISM knowledge & expertise are INSTRUMENTAL to make trails <u>sustainable</u>

- Attractive
- Well-known
- Identifiable
- Accessible

- One-day trips
- Overnight trips
- Multi-night trips



orangecountynytourism



Knowing our visitors:

• 500,000 people use our Heritage Trail annually

Understanding trends:

- Camping is a growing trend
- State Park visitation up
- Bicycling is popular



visitorangecountyny

AN OPPORTUNITY FOR ORANGE COUNTY:



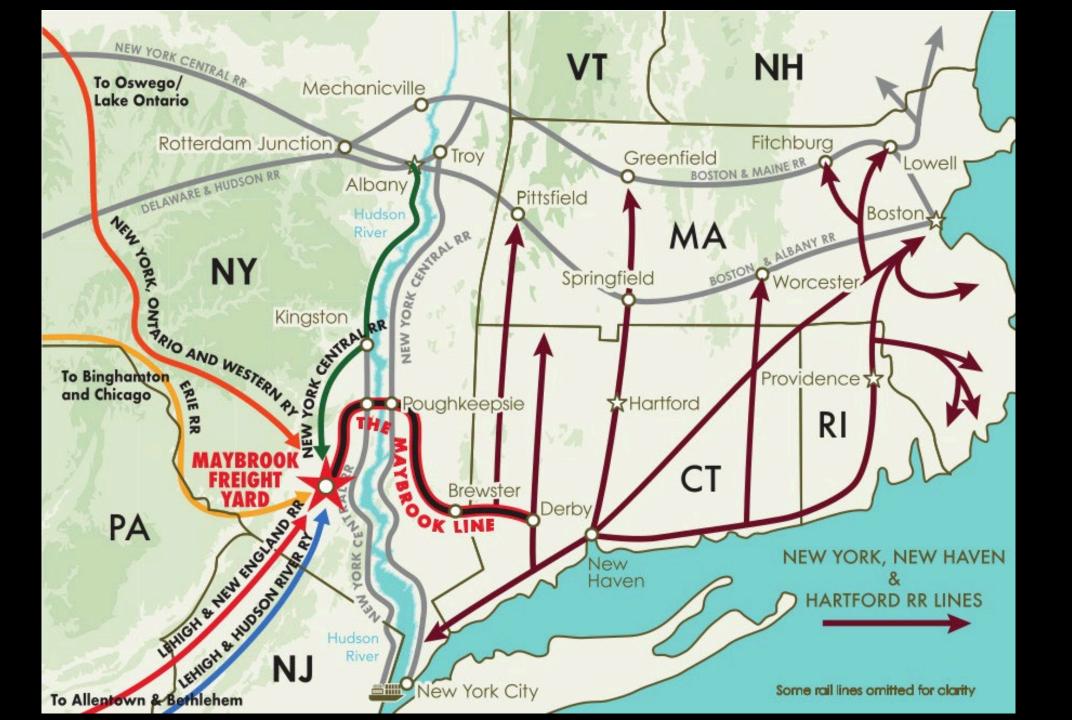
A remarkable network of historic railroad corridor trails that could become a major regional recreational and heritage tourism destination through coordinated and consistent branding, wayfinding, and rich interpretation of natural and human history.

PLACEMAKING:



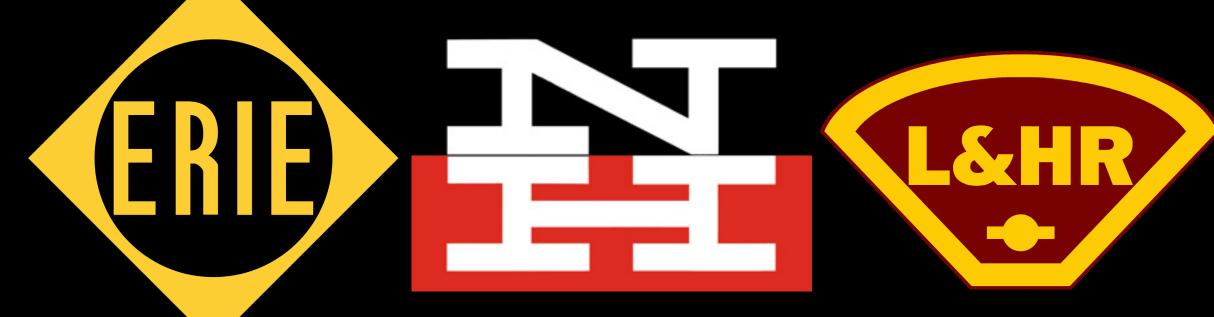
"Placemaking is the process of making quality places that people want to live, work, play, and learn in."

Congress for New Urbanism /
Public Square

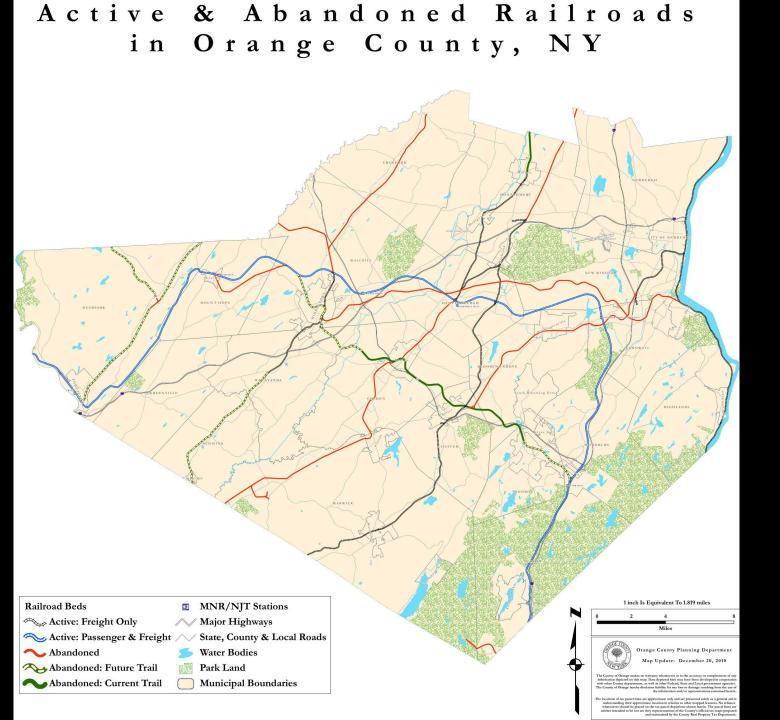








OC's RRS

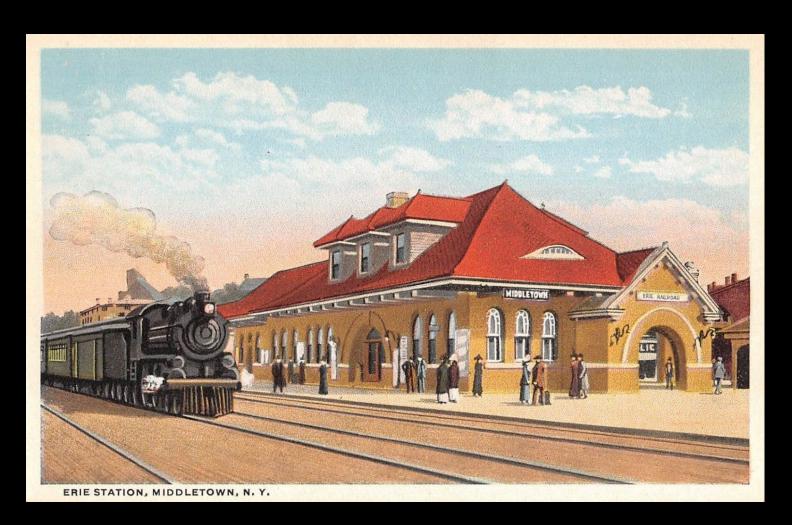


PLACEMAKING:



"The term came into use in the 1970s by landscape architects and urban planners to describe the process of creating squares, plazas, parks, streets, and waterfronts that will attract people because they are pleasurable or interesting."

PLACEMAKING:



"The key elements of making quality places today include...respecting community heritage"

Congress for New Urbanism / Public Square

TRAIL VISION & DECISION:

Is history important? Is heritage tourism a goal?

Are your rail trails just "local green recreation tunnels" or are they linear cultural and historical landscapes?





"TACTICAL PLACEMAKING"



"A phased approach that can start quickly, often at low cost. It targets public spaces and can be implemented continuously. Projects and activities include...self-guided historic walks..."

Congress for New Urbanism /
Public Square



Trail Branding, Operations & Maintenance



COLORS

Color is a primary means of visual identification. Below are the designated colors for the Sullivan O&W Rail Trail logo. Do not apply unapproved colors to the logo.

For accurate reproduction, please use the appropriate color system:

PMS (Pantone©Matching System) inks are the industry standard for color specification in offset printing with spot cc'

CMYK (Cyan, Magenta, Yellc closely as possible, the colo four-color (or full-color) comn

HEX (web code) color value web pages or digital docume

COLOR VERSIONS Badge Logo

Recommended for many print applications: report covers, letterhead, and collateral such as T-shirts, water bottles, caps, and buttons; also suitable for websites and apps.



PRINT PMS

173 C

123 C

7616 C

DILIVAN OF Z

FULL COLOR ON WHITE BACKGROUND

PAIL TRAIN

1-COLOR ON WHITE BACKGROUND





BLACK ON WHITE BACKGROUND



WHITE ON DARK BACKGROUND





IN IN INTERPOST

The Harlem Valley Rail Trail follows the route of the New York Central Railroad's Harlem Division, which connected New York City with Chatham, New York. The concrete sign nearby is a railroad milepost. Many US railroads installed milepost markers every 5,280 feet along their tracks, and many still use them today. The number indicates the distance in miles from the beginning of the route, and the letters denote the first station's location. On the former NYCRR Harlem Division, "NY" means New York City, where Grand Central Terminal on 42nd Street in Manhattan is milepost zero.

Communication is key for preventing accidents and collisions, and milepost markers have always been an important part of railroad safety. They tell conductors, engineers, and other railroaders where they are on each line. During the nineteenth century, station agents coordinated safetrain movements first by telegraph and later by telephone. By the mid-twentieth century, train dispatchers in centralized locations communicated directly with train crews by radio. In all these communications, station agents and dispatchers used—and still use—milepost numbers when instructing train crews to occupy track, run at reduced speeds, watch for hazards, and observe other operating rules on specified sections of railroad.

TRAIL
INTERPRETATION
CAIKE:

Baked-in layer?

...or frosting, maybe later...



THE RECIPIE: before the coordinated interpretation opportunity train leaves the station...develop an Interpretive Plan

- Make a conscious planning decision that your rail trails are historical landscapes and heritage tourism assets
- Promote and market your rail trails as both recreation and heritage tourism destinations
- Survey, identify, protect, preserve, enhance and interpret the historic industrial artifacts and infrastructure along your rail trail corridors
- Plan and develop sensible, authentic and *consistent* trail naming, branding and wayfinding schemes and graphic design standards to apply to the trails and their signage
- Plan for accurate and consistent trail public history interpretation content, design and infrastructure
- Generate historical contexts, locate historic images, and identify historic assets, sites, themes and stories for your trail railroads and trail host communities ahead of time
- Plan early for all this with trail agencies, owners, stakeholders, and stewards

Then as trail organizations obtain signage funding, there is a consistent PLAN to plug into!



Vision Hudson Valley Placemaking Conference



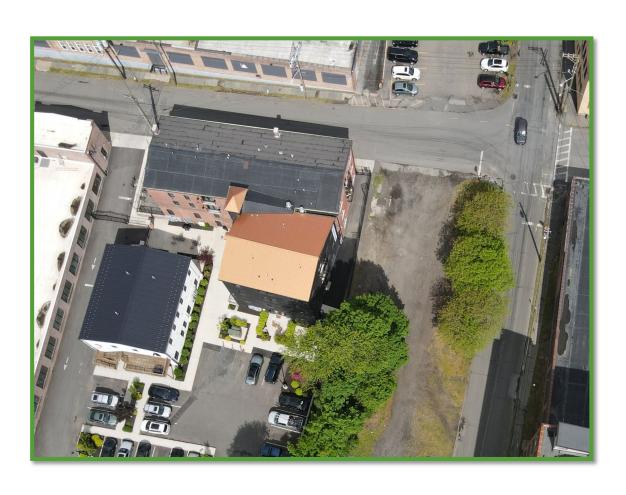
Mayor Joseph M. DeStefano

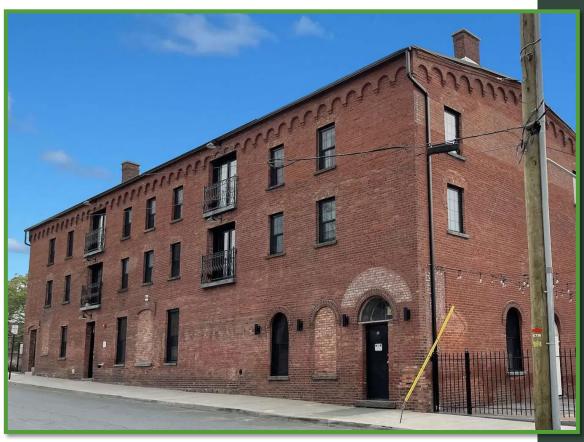
City of Middletown

Beginning of HT on East Main St.



Downtown Village on Railroad Ave





Clemson Brewery on Railroad Ave





Transportation Hub/Infill Project





Rail Trail Commons



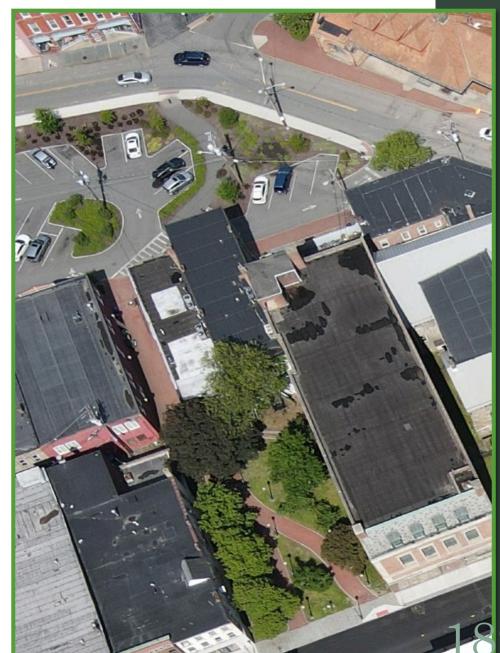


Electric Vehicle Charging Stations



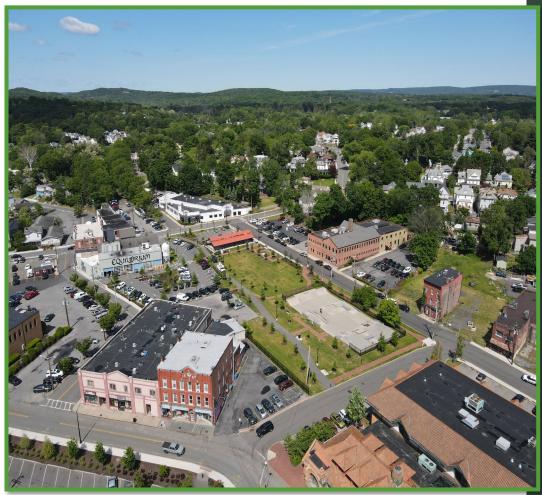
North St./Jerry's Park to James St.





Erie Way Park





Equilibrium Breweries 1 & 2







BikeWay Bicycle Shop





92

Run 4 Downtown







FEI TIAN COLLEGE MIDDLETOWN















PARTY BY THE TRAIL

Saturday, May 6th 1pm - 6pm

ORANGE COUNTY SNOWBOARD & BIKE



1778 RT 17M Goshen, NY

Beer & Beverages For Purchase

Food For Purchase

ORANGE COUNTY GRACE & FAITH BREWERY

WOOD SMOKED BBQ





LIVE MUSIC! ALL ARE WELCOME! **6TH ANNUAL OCS BUS TRIP TO**

INOUNTE SITOW BUSTERIP



Saturday December 29th 2014

Join OCS as we bus it to Mt.Snow, Vermont

- Round Trip Coach Bus Transportation
- Day Lift Ticket
- Morning Refreshments

Open to Skiers & Boarders Bus Leaves OCS 5AM Returns approx 8PM Sign Up Early to Save!

September - \$79.99

October - \$89.99

Novermber - \$99.99

December - \$109.99

Sign Up In Store or Online*

Orange County Snowboards
1717 Rt 17M Goshen, NY 10924 - 845,294,7433

www.0CSnowboard.com

facebook.com/ocsnowboards



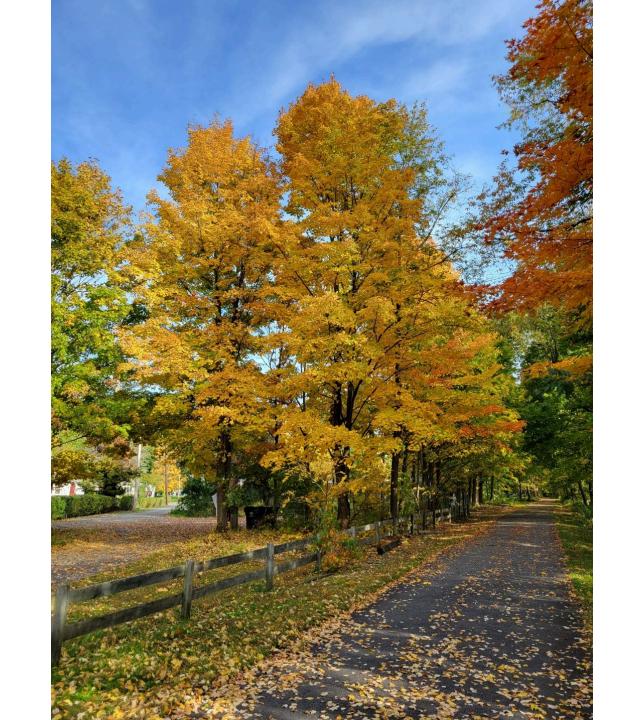














THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING THE 13TH ANNUAL PLACEMAKING CONFERENCE

TRAILS: NATURE'S PATHWAY TO HEALTHY, SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES





MEET US AT EQUILIBRIUM BREWERY FOR HAPPY HOUR FROM 4:30-5:30

