



**ALLEGHENY
LAND TRUST**

CHURCHILL VALLEY GREENWAY

*STEWARDSHIP AND
MANAGEMENT PLAN*

MARCH 2025

PASHEK  MTR

Acknowledgments



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Introduction

BACKGROUND

Churchill Valley Greenway, located off Beulah Road in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, is a vibrant 151-acre natural area that offers open space for recreation, conservation, and community connection. The property features trails, scenic meadow views, and Chalfant Run. Formerly a golf course and country club, the Greenway reverted into a habitat for local wildlife, including native birds, animals, and wildflowers, while providing an outdoor retreat for residents. Visitors currently enjoy activities such as walking, biking, birdwatching, and dog walking along 6.5 miles of trails, which include a mix of former golf cart paths and community forged trails.

The Greenway is divided into two sections by Beulah Road, each accessible via entrances with parking—one small lot on the south side and a larger lot left over from the country club on the north. Two pedestrian bridges over Beulah Road connect the trails between the two sections.

The Greenway spans two municipalities: Penn Hills and Churchill Borough. Both communities benefit from the Greenway as a shared resource for passive recreation, conservation, and environmental education. Penn Hills is a diverse suburban community and one of the largest municipalities in the Pittsburgh metropolitan area with a population of approximately 41,000 residents. Churchill Borough is a small suburban community with a population of approximately 3,000 residents. The Greenway is abutted by two parks, one in each municipality, Bullock Pens Park in Churchill Borough and Pat Seneca Memorial Field in Penn Hills. Additional surrounding community resources include the Blackridge Civic Association and Beulah Presbyterian Church.



**ALLEGHENY
LAND TRUST**

ABOUT ALLEGHENY LAND TRUST

Allegheny Land Trust (ALT), a nonprofit dedicated to conserving and protecting green spaces in the region, acquired Churchill Valley Greenway in 2021 after being abandoned for approximately a decade.

ALT's mission, vision, and values serve as the foundation of the vision and goals for Churchill Valley Greenway. They are outlined below:

MISSION is to conserve and care for local land for the health and well-being of current and future generations.

VISION charts a path for a resilient region with abundant green space that is easily accessible and recognized as essential to the quality of life for all.

OUR VALUES are part of our core existence and are practiced daily in our conservation efforts:

COLLABORATIVE We welcome unique and diverse partnerships to build stronger communities.

DIVERSE We vary the way we do business, who we work with, and who we hope to serve.

INNOVATIVE We adapt to changing environmental needs and develop creative solutions.

ACCESSIBLE We believe everyone should have close-to home access to green space.

EQUITABLE We serve everyone regardless of their location, demographics or resources.

ETHICAL We are transparent with our stakeholders and accountable to our communities.

QUALITY We strive for the highest standards of national accreditation excellence.

FLEXIBLE We respond to the ongoing and changing needs of our communities.

RESPONSIBLE We make evidence-based decisions and act with integrity.

CHURCHILL VALLEY GREENWAY

VISION AND GOALS

ALT sees Churchill Valley Greenway as a priority area for the preservation of the natural landscape and for the protection of biodiversity. Therefore, ALT adopted a vision and goals to protect the Greenway.

THE MANAGEMENT AND STEWARDSHIP PLAN

The Churchill Valley Greenway Management and Stewardship Plan outlined in this report is based on analysis, public input, research, and funding opportunities. The plan will:

- Enhance trails connectivity and accessibility.
- Create sustainable passive recreational opportunities.
- Foster environmental education.
- Increase habitat and biodiversity through ecological restoration.

Through these vision and goals, ALT is committed to ensuring that Churchill Valley Greenway remains a vital resource for recreation, conservation, and community engagement.

V i s i o n

TO ENHANCE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH, PROTECT AND ENHANCE BIODIVERSITY, AND PROMOTE PUBLIC ACCESS TO NATURE BY FOSTERING RECREATIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES, AND SUPPORTING COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS.

G o a l s

CREATE A WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT THAT ATTRACTS USERS FROM SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES.

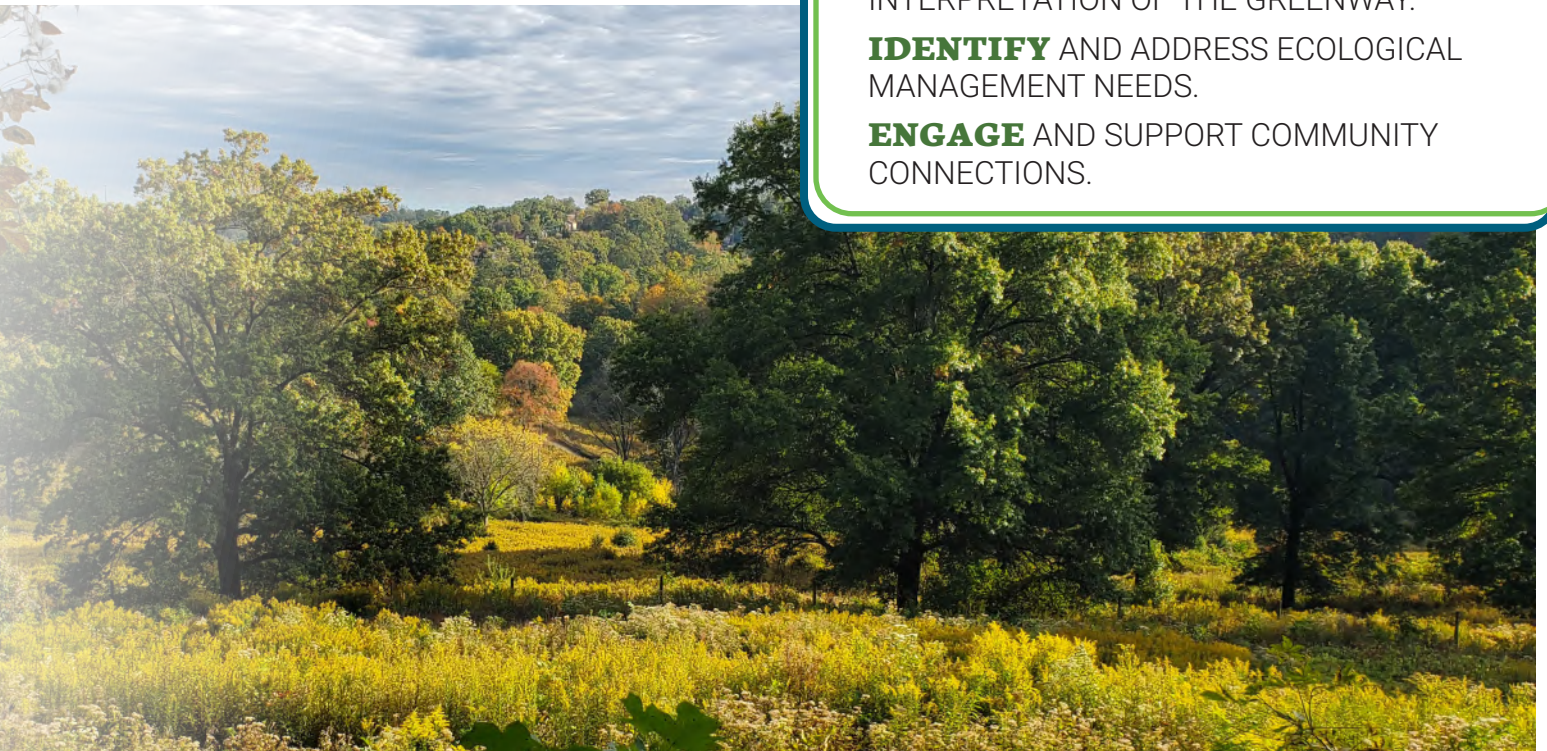
PROVIDE ONGOING STEWARDSHIP AND CONSERVATION FOR THE GREENWAY.

OFFER PASSIVE RECREATIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES UTILIZING EXISTING INFRASTRUCTURE.

INCREASE ACCESS AND INTERPRETATION OF THE GREENWAY.

IDENTIFY AND ADDRESS ECOLOGICAL MANAGEMENT NEEDS.

ENGAGE AND SUPPORT COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS.







**Where are we
now?**



DATA COLLECTION, INVENTORY, AND ANALYSIS:

EXISTING REPORTS

The reports, outlined below, were reviewed, analyzed, and applied to the new stewardship and management plan Churchill Valley Greenway. These sources provide critical guidance for ecological restoration and public use of this greenspace.

ALT STRATEGIC PLAN

Allegheny Land Trust's (ALT) strategic plan outlines its mission, goals, values, and strategic priorities, addressing the urgent issue of green space loss in Allegheny County with a goal of reversing this trend. The county is losing three square miles of green space per year, amounting to a projected loss of 30 square miles between 2020 and 2030 due to urban sprawl. ALT's strategic priorities focus on four key areas: land conservation, land stewardship, nature-based education, and community conservation.

The Churchill Valley Greenway Stewardship and Management Plan directly supports ALT's strategic priorities by preserving and restoring greenspace for community benefit and provides opportunities for educational opportunities and programming.

PHASE I ENVIRONMENTAL SITE ASSESSMENT

This assessment reviews the history of Churchill Valley Greenway site and identifies potential environmental liabilities.

The property was originally the Long family farm and was later developed into the Churchill Valley Country Club and Golf Course. In operation from 1931 to 2013, the country club included a golf course, clubhouse, restaurant, swimming pool, and tennis courts. Following the club's closure and the demolition of the clubhouse and pool in 2016, the property remained vacant until 2021 when ALT bought it.

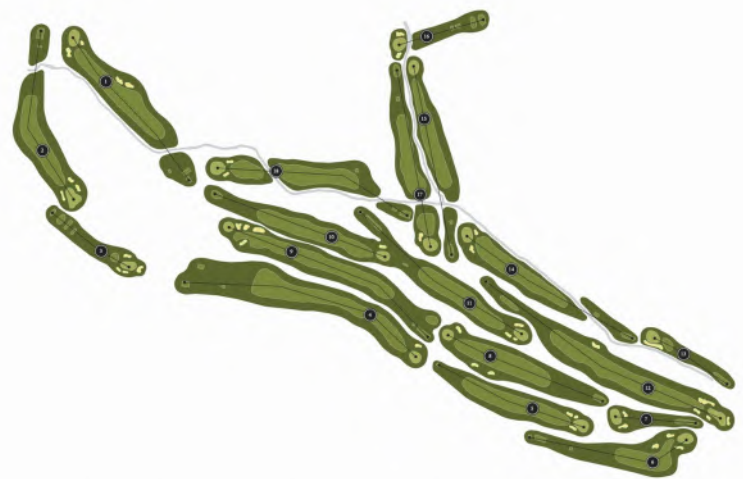
The assessment found no evidence of recognized environmental conditions (RECs) or controlled recognized environmental conditions (CRECs) in connection with the property.



1895 Site Map



1915 Site Map



CHURCHILL VALLEY COUNTRY CLUB

PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA, USA · PAR 71 · LENGTH 6,450 YARDS

Past use and storage of chemicals are considered "de minimis" conditions. Site reconnaissance confirmed the absence of any remaining tanks on the property. Any previous discharges or violations have been addressed by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) or no longer apply. As a result, the Aboveground Storage Tanks (ASTs) and Underground Storage

Tanks (USTs) that were once located on the property are classified as historical recognized environmental conditions (HRECs).

“KuResources” claims in this report that ALT does not need to specifically address any RECs of previous chemical use on the property, as these conditions have been resolved or are no longer applicable.

CHURCHILL VALLEY GREENWAY - CONCEPTUAL PLANNING REPORT

The Churchill Valley Greenway Conceptual Plan outlines a vision for conserving biodiversity and enabling low-impact public use of this urban greenspace. During a two-day workshop, stakeholders identified challenges and opportunities, focusing on integrating biodiversity, community access, and sustainable site management.

Distinguished from other Allegheny Land Trust (ALT) properties, Churchill Valley Greenway is characterized by its expansive meadows, urban location, and existing infrastructure. The site offers

opportunities for recreation, trails, viewsheds, reforestation, and stream restoration. The plan emphasizes preserving meadows while promoting reforestation to buffer noise, sequester carbon, and enhance wildlife habitat. It also includes strategies for abandoned mine drainage (AMD) treatment, stream and floodplain restoration, and recreational amenities designed with accessibility and sustainability in mind.



CONCEPT PLAN



Proposed recreational amenities include:

- Looping Trails (Walking, Running, Dog Walking, Biking, Cross-Country Skiing)
- Wayfinding and Interpretive Signage (ex: History of Site)
- Natural Playground / Sensory Trail / Story Walk
- Donor Areas (ex: Memorial Tree Grove)
- Sled Riding Slopes
- Drone Areas
- Site amenities: benches, trash cans, better parking, and reusing existing infrastructure

Implementation steps for the conceptual planning report are categorized into six projects. These projects include:

- **Project 1:** Repairing Pedestrian Bridges over Beulah Road
- **Project 2:** Preparing Master Management Plan
- **Project 3:** Abandoned Mine Drainage, Stream Restoration-Mitigation Banking, and Replace Trails and Bridges in Floodplain
- **Project 4:** Beulah Road Safety Improvements – Remove existing parking, install fence and native landscaping
- **Project 5:** Land Negotiations for Bullock Pens Park and inclusive accessible playground, Create McGrady Road, and new trail loops and signage including connections to BCA, Church and Bullocks Pens
- **Project 6:** Reforestation with yearly partnerships with allied groups.

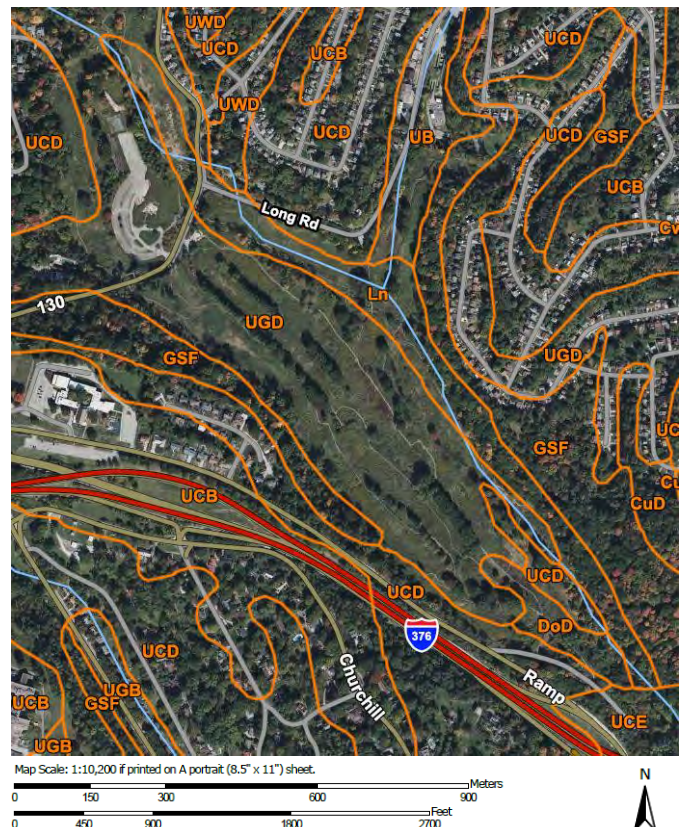
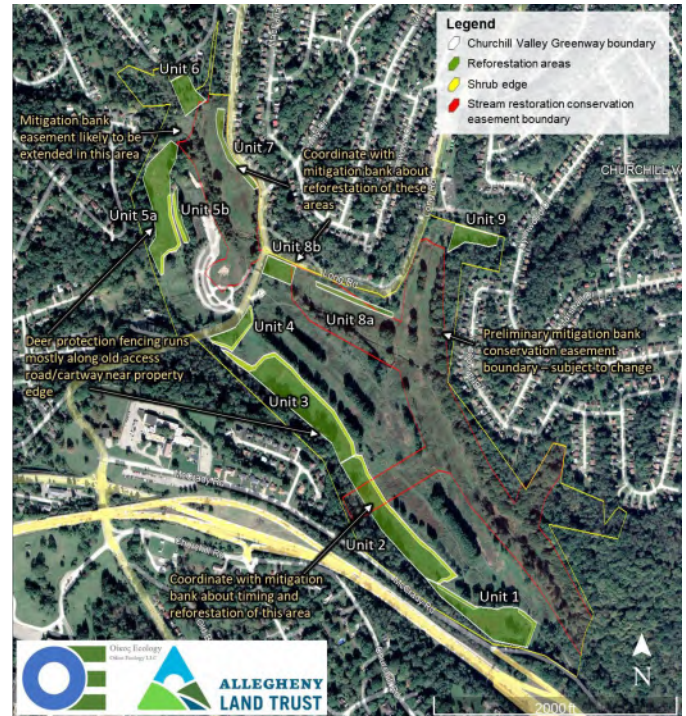
Using the analysis, public engagement, and proposed plan, the Churchill Greenway Stewardship and Management Plan refines the conceptual plan and provides detailed implementation and management strategies for projects 3 through 6, ensuring alignment with ALT's long-term goals.

CHURCHILL VALLEY GREENWAY - REFORESTATION PLAN

The Churchill Valley Greenway Reforestation Plan targets 20 acres for reforestation to enhance native biodiversity, expand forested areas, filter stormwater, and support ALT's climate action goals through carbon sequestration. The goal is to establish a sustainable, mixed hardwood forest

ecosystem that benefits both the environment and the community.

The identified 20-acre reforestation area is divided into nine management units, each approximately five acres. These units were delineated based on factors such as topography, property boundaries,



trails, existing tree lines, and existing or proposed conflicting uses. Each unit described in this report includes detailed descriptions of invasive and native species, site preparation requirements, deer protection measures, and provides the category of restoration planting to use.

A soil survey conducted using the NRCS Web Soil Survey identified two primary soil types—Urban Land-Guerney Complex and Culleoka Complex—with variable acidity (non-acidic to slightly acidic). These results guided the selection of appropriate tree and shrub species. The forest type will be red oak–mixed hardwood and dry oak–mixed hardwood ecosystems. The final plant list includes 16 canopy tree species, 6 understory species, and 8 shrub species chosen for their disease resistance, aesthetic value, and nursery availability.

The reforestation plan incorporates a lower-growing edge to provide a transition between habitats, discourage invasive species, and provide a cover for wildlife. Canopy and small tree species will be planted at a density of 500 trees per acre, assuming #2 containerized seedlings. Clump planting will be employed for specific species, and only small trees and shrubs will be planted along the low-growing edges.

Site preparation and management will involve removing invasive species, brush hog mowing, applying herbicide, and seeding low-growing meadow plants to suppress regrowth. To protect young trees, 8-10 ft deer fencing will be installed around each reforestation unit, set 3 feet away from trails, with gated access for maintenance. Tree tubes will be used in areas where fencing is impractical. Regular inspections and maintenance will ensure the effectiveness of these measures.

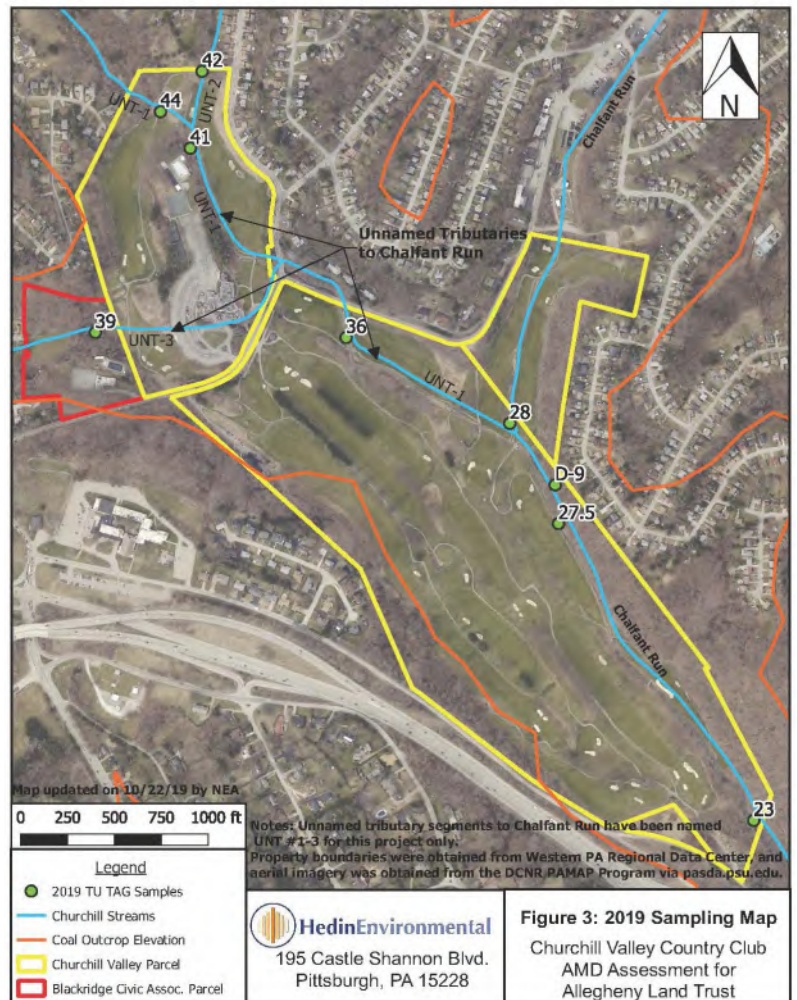
The implementation of the reforestation plan shows priority will be given to Units 1, 2, 4, 5, and 6, with Units 1 and 4 being grouped together. Unit 3 will be scheduled for planting following the completion of stream restoration. Units 7 and 8 fall within the preliminary stream restoration conservation easement and will require coordination with the mitigation bank sponsor for implementation. Unit 9, currently

undergoing natural reforestation, will be monitored to determine if additional planting is needed.

The Greenway Stewardship and Management Plan expands on the reforestation plan by adding additional reforestation areas based on site design and habitat implementation. Future reforestation efforts will adhere to the guidelines established in the reforestation plan report while adapting to evolving site needs and opportunities.

AMD ASSESSMENT AND DESIGN

The Churchill Valley Country Club site is traversed by Chalfant Run and unnamed tributaries (UNTs), which connect to Thompson Run, Turtle Creek, and the Monongahela River. Historically impacted by deep mining of the Pittsburgh Coal Seam in the 1900s and strip mining in the 1940s, Chalfant Run waters have been polluted by abandoned mine drainage (AMD). AMD is caused by water flowing through abandoned mines and reacting with minerals to create metal-laden, often acidic runoff.



Section 1: Where are we now?

Additional assessments, including the 1960s/70s Scarlift Report and a 2019 Mine Drainage Investigation by Hedin Environmental, confirmed the ongoing impacts of AMD, particularly from off-site discharges near Blackridge and Park Avenue.

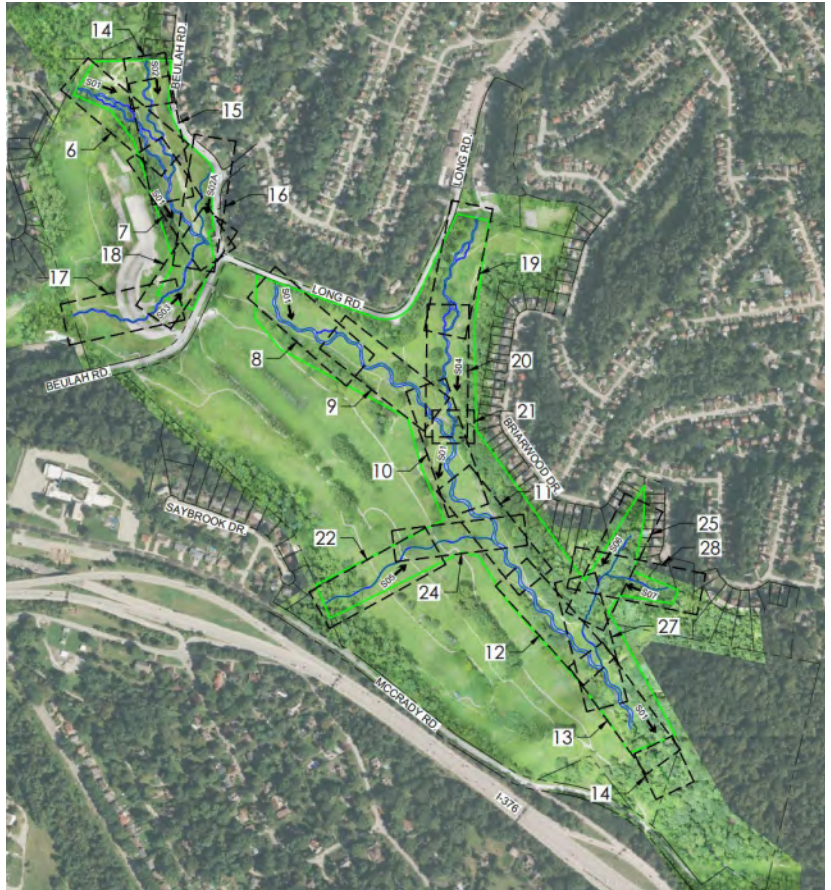
The results from the mine drainage investigation found no AMD discharges were found on the property, but the water quality is impacted from AMD discharges off-site. The major source of AMD impairments is UNT-3 (point 39) and UNT-1 (point 44). Treatment of acid mine water containing aluminum is accomplished by adding alkalinity and removing metals. Developing an AMD treatment and monitoring plan is recommended to address these issues and support long-term stream restoration.

The AMD treatment plan has been completed by Hedin Environmental and addresses the major impairments described in the assessment report.

The treatment facility will be focused on the northern side of Beulah Road, where it will replace much of the former country club parking lot. The design includes a new maintenance drive for the new facility and overflow parking for the Greenway. The Greenway Stewardship and Management Plan incorporates the AMD project, ensuring that it aligns with future Greenway improvements and potential access and connectivity.

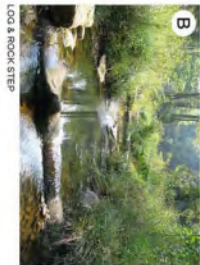
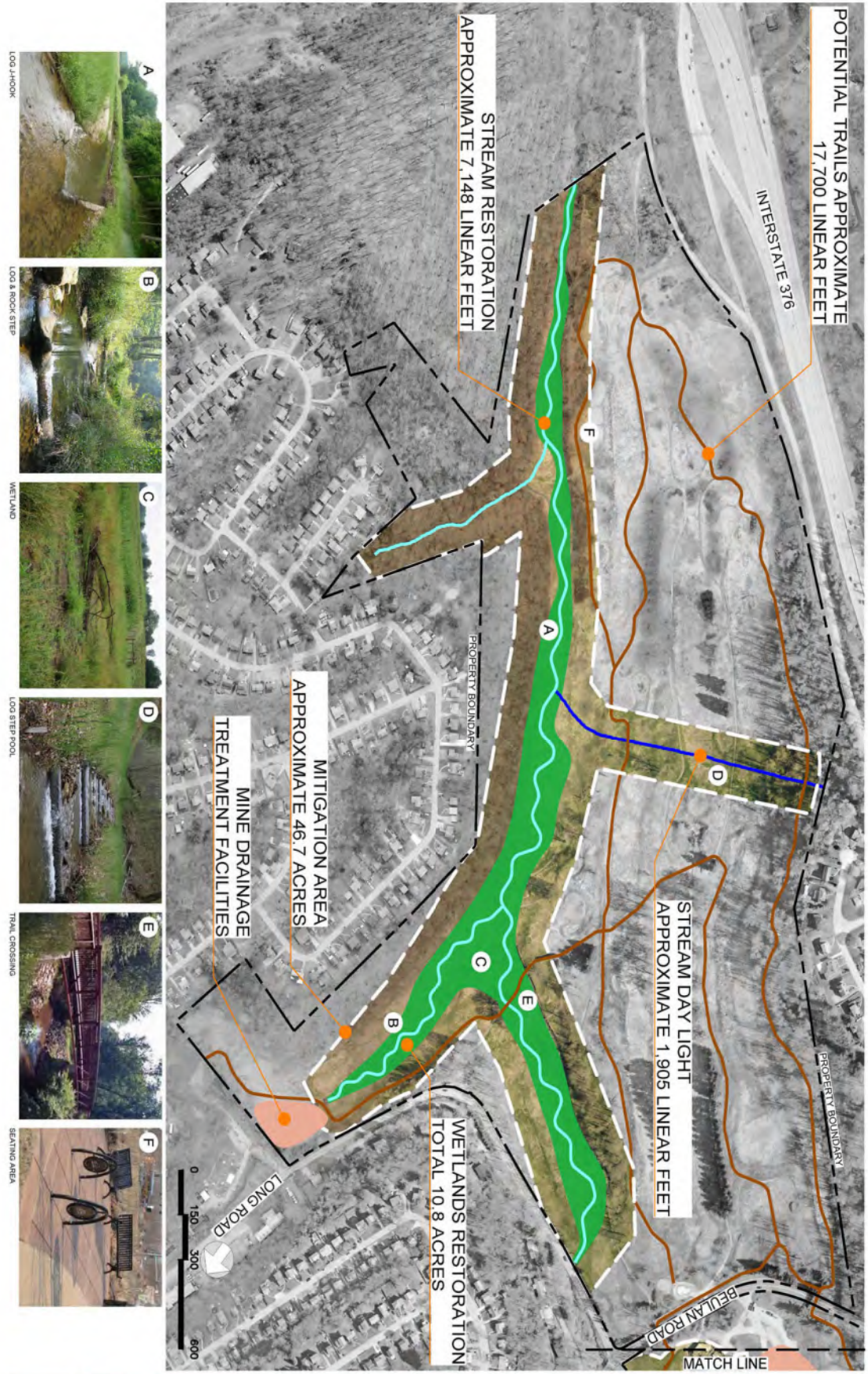
STREAM AND WETLAND RESTORATION PLAN

The stream restoration project, led by Water and Land Solutions, aims to improve water quality, reduce bank erosion, and enhance floodplain connectivity within Churchill Valley Greenway. By addressing impairments caused by AMD and sedimentation, the plan seeks to restore natural stream channels, support wetland habitats, and mitigate stormwater impacts. These efforts align with broader goals of fostering ecological health, increasing biodiversity, and providing long-term environmental benefits for both the surrounding community and watershed.



The plan reconfigures the existing stream, transforming it from a straight channel into a more natural, meandering flow. It incorporates a range of techniques to create a healthy stream ecosystem, such as toe wood with live brush layering, log step pools, and rock-constructed riffles. The restoration also includes a detailed planting plan, divided into several categories: stream bank planting, upland buffer restoration, re-establishment wetland planting, rehabilitation wetland planting, and wetland enhancement planting.

The Greenway Stewardship and Management Plan integrates the stream and wetland restoration plan and highlights the improvements to the site's ecosystem. The restoration work will involve removing much of the existing infrastructure and paths, providing an opportunity to reassess trail connections and promote nature-based education through the restored stream. Furthermore, the stewardship plan will coordinate with Water and Land Solutions on selecting appropriate plant species to enhance habitat quality and coordinate future earthwork with the installation of new paths, parking, and other infrastructure.

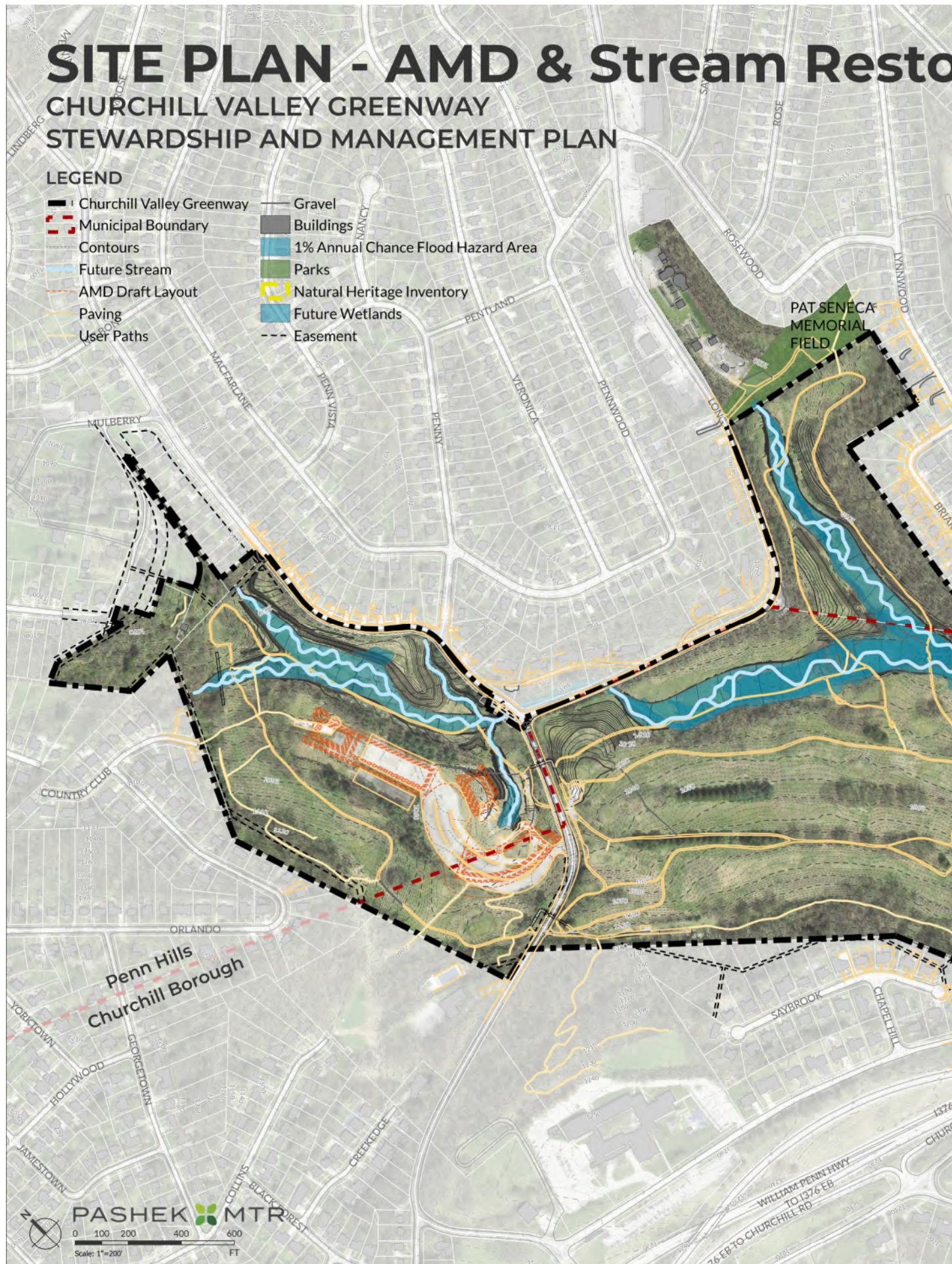


SITE PLAN - AMD & Stream Restoration

CHURCHILL VALLEY GREENWAY STEWARDSHIP AND MANAGEMENT PLAN

LEGEND

- Churchill Valley Greenway
- Municipal Boundary
- Contours
- Future Stream
- AMD Draft Layout
- Paving
- User Paths
- Gravel
- Buildings
- 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard Area
- Parks
- Natural Heritage Inventory
- Future Wetlands
- Easement



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INATURALIST SPECIES RECORDS

iNaturalist is a free, community-driven platform that allows users to document and share observations of plants, animals, fungi, and other organisms in nature. It combines social networking with citizen science, enabling people to identify species using input from experts and artificial intelligence. Users can upload photos or audio recordings of their observations, which are then geotagged and timestamped.

As of September 2023, Churchill Valley Greenway iNaturalist page has recorded 1,618 observations of 529 species from 84 observers. The species with the most recorded observations (over 10) include:

Churchill Valley Greenway

Explore 150 acres of rolling meadow hills and forest at the newly established greenway. Help ALT develop a baseline inventory of species.

[Read More >](#)

Members 6

Project Journal

Overview

2,062 OBSERVATIONS

602 SPECIES

488 IDENTIFIERS

109 OBSERVERS

Stats

Recent Observations

View All

Wild Teasel
Dipsacus fullonum
16 days ago

Field Maple
Acer campestre
2 months ago

Oriental Bittersweet
Celastrus orbiculatus
2 months ago

Privets
Genus *Ligustrum*
1 month ago

Map of Observations

Recent Observations

- Zabulon Skipper - *Lon zabulon* (20 observations)
- Sachem - *Atalopedes campestris* (18 observations)
- Tansy - *Tanacetum vulgare* (18 observations)
- Hemp Dogbane - *Apocynum cannabinum* (18 observations)
- Peck's Skipper - *Polites peckius* (16 observations)
- Isabella Tiger Moth - *Pyrrharctia Isabella* (15 observations)
- Monarch - *Danaus Plexippus* (13 observations)
- Japanese Snowball - *Viburnum plicatum* (13 observations)
- Mile-a-minute Weed - *Persicaria perfoliate* (12 observations)
- Common Milkweed - *Asclepias syriaca* 11 observations)
- Pearl Crescent - *Phyciodes tharos* 11 observations)
- Bitter Wintercress - *Barbarea vulgaris* (11 observations)
- Wild Carrot - *Daucus carota* (11 observations)
- Wingstem - *Verbesina alternifolia* (11 observations)
- Wild Teasel - *Dipsacus fullonum* (10 observations)
- Summer Azure - *Celastrina neglecta* (10 observations)
- Goldenrod Gall Fly - *Eurosta solidaginis* (10 observations)
- Eastern Tailed-Blue - *Cupido comyntas* (10 observations)

EBIRD SURVEY LIST

eBird is a free, online platform for bird enthusiasts to record and share bird sightings worldwide. Managed by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, it allows users to submit checklists of birds they've observed, contributing

to a massive global database of bird distribution, abundance, and migration.

The Churchill Valley Greenway site has recorded 102 bird species as being observed on site.

The species data from iNaturalist, eBird, and the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy was used to inform the creation of a habitat plan designed to meet the ecological needs of the area.

Bird Observations



SITE ANALYSIS

EXISTING SITE AND SURROUNDING PARCELS

The site spans approximately 151 acres, is located off Beulah Road, and crosses both Penn Hills and Churchill Borough. Historically, this property was farmland before becoming a golf course and country club from 1931 to 2013. Since then, it has reverted to a mix of meadow, shrubland, and forest, now serving as a habitat for various native flora and fauna.

The site is bisected by Beulah Road, with two pedestrian bridges connecting the north and south sections of the Greenway. These bridges have recently been updated based on “project 1” of the Conceptual Planning Report.

Important properties bordering the site include:

1. Bullock Pens Park:

- Includes existing trails, two covered shelters (in need of repairs), and parking.
- Currently gated off in the winter.

2. Pat Seneca Memorial Field:

- Includes an abandoned ball field, eroding parking lot (due to a partially collapsed storm line), and a small entrance path to the Greenway.
- Currently gated off.
- Shares its parcel with Penn Hills’ Long Road Equalization Facility.

3. Beulah Presbyterian Church:

- Has existing trail access into the Greenway and has plans for more trails on their property.
- Summer camps access the Greenway.
- Is open to others parking and accessing the Greenway through their property.

4. Blackridge Civic Association:

- Offers educational, social, and outreach activities for the Blackridge neighborhood and is open to all.
- Includes a clubhouse, pool, ball field, and playground.
- Includes informal trail access to the Greenway.





EXISTING ACCESS POINTS

There are four existing parking areas near or on the site. A large paved parking lot on the north side of Beulah Road and a smaller unpaved parking area with approximately 10 spaces on the south side of Beulah Road. These are the locations of the two primary existing trailheads for the Greenway. There are also existing parking lots and access trails at Pat Seneca Memorial Field and Bullock Pens Park.

There are additional existing pedestrian access routes around the Greenway. They are located at:

- Beulah Presbyterian Church
- Blackridge Civic Center
- At the eastern end of Country Club Drive
- Behind properties along Orlando Drive
- Through properties on Lynwood Road into Pat Seneca
- Off Purity Road following a gas line to Bullock Pens Park

SITE PLAN - Existing Conditions

CHURCHILL VALLEY GREENWAY STEWARDSHIP AND MANAGEMENT PLAN

LEGEND

- Churchill Valley Greenway
- Municipal Boundary
- Contours
- Streams
- Paving
- User Paths
- Gravel
- Buildings
- 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard Area
- Parks
- Natural Heritage Inventory
- Easement

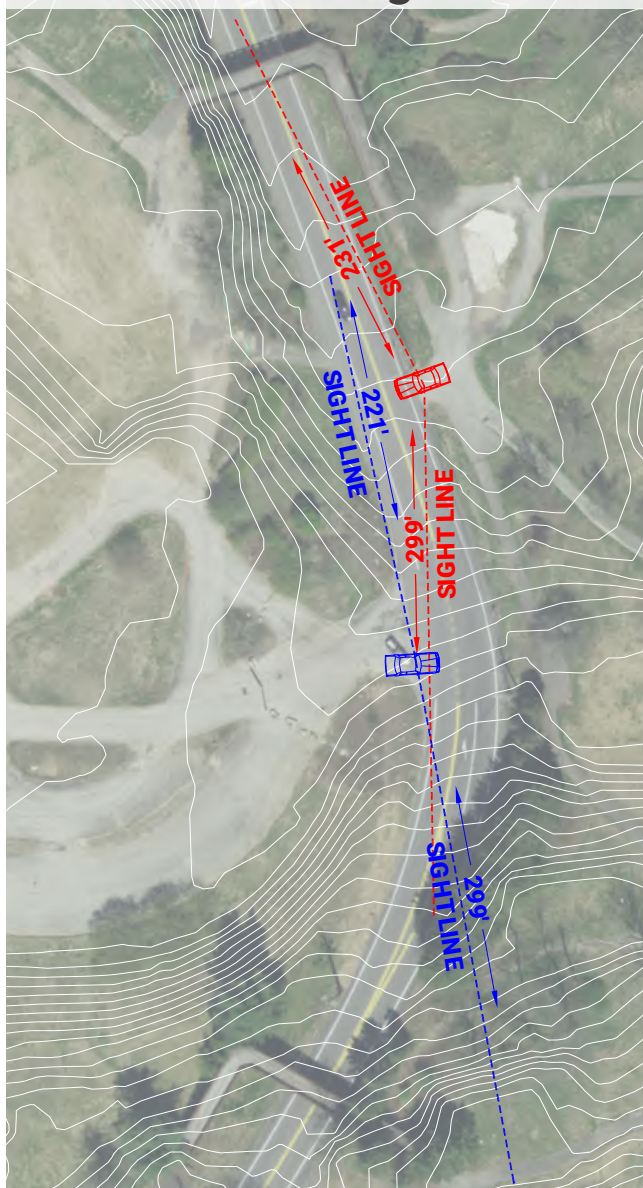




ON-SITE TRAILHEAD AND SITE DISTANCE ANALYSIS

While there are two existing trailhead parking areas located on site, the larger one will be mostly demolished for the AMD project and the other is informal and small. Driveway sight distance and trail access factors were used to determine the most suitable location for trailhead parking. The posted speed limit for Beulah Road is 20 MPH due to sharp turns and steep hills. However, according to PA Code 441.8 driveway design requirements, safe sight distances are calculated based on a standard speed of 25 MPH.

Site Distance Diagram



THE REQUIRED SAFE SIGHT DISTANCES FOR A 25 MPH ROAD ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Passenger Cars and Single-Unit Trucks

- Left: 250 feet
- Right: 195 feet

Buses

- Left: 400 feet
- Right: 300 feet

EXISTING SIGHT DISTANCES:

North Side Driveway (Large Parking Lot)

- Left: 221 feet
- Right: 299 feet

South Side Driveway (Smaller Parking Lot)

- Left: 299 feet
- Right: 321 feet

Based on the existing sight distance measurements, the south side driveway on Beulah Road is the safer option for access. It exceeds the required safe sight distances for passenger vehicles and single-unit trucks and comes closer to meeting the requirements for buses.

In addition, locating the main trailhead on the south side of Beulah will give better access to the majority of the trail system. Observations during the planning process confirmed that most visitors preferred using the southern access.

BUS STOPS AND ROUTES

There are four bus stops located near the Greenway:

1. Beulah and McCrady Road Stop

- **Distance:** 0.4 miles from the Beulah Road Greenway entrance and 0.3 miles from the church's Greenway entrance.
- **Routes:** Serviced by routes P16
- **Note:** There are no sidewalks along Beulah Road leading to the Greenway however, representatives from the church have expressed a willingness to allow the public to walk from the bus stop and use the trails on their property to access the Greenway.

2. McCrady Road at Beulah Church Park and Ride Stop

- **Distance:** 0.5 miles from the Beulah Road Greenway entrance and 0.3 miles from the church's Greenway entrance.
- **Routes:** Serviced by routes 67 and P67.
- **Note:** There are no sidewalks along Beulah Road leading to the Greenway.

3. William Penn Hwy and Churchill Borough Building Stop

- **Distance:** 0.6 miles from the Beulah Road Greenway entrance and 0.5 miles from the church's Greenway entrance.
- **Routes:** Serviced by routes 67, P12, P16, and P67.
- **Note:** There are no sidewalks along Beulah Road leading to the Greenway.

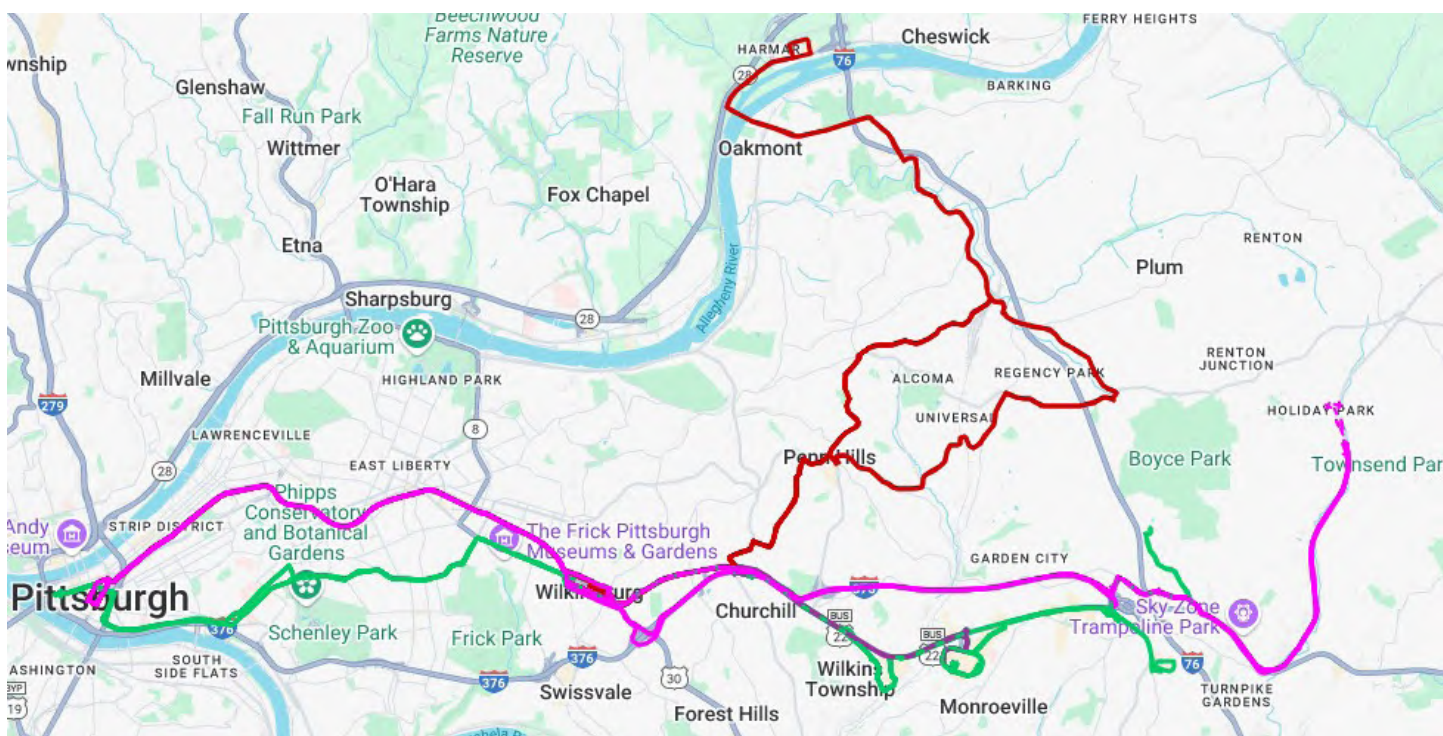
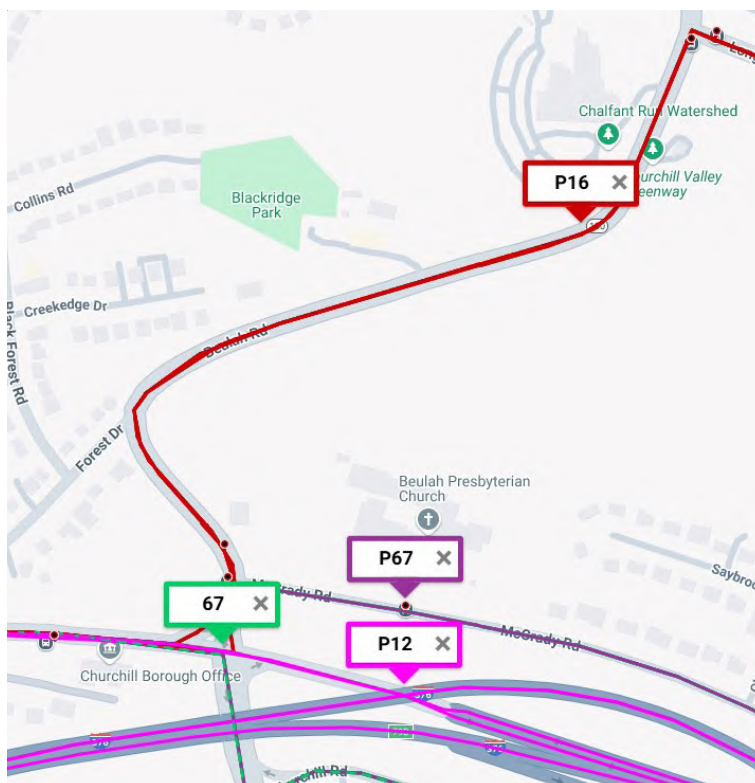
4. Beulah Road and Long Road Stop

- **Distance:** 0.1 miles to the Beulah Road Greenway entrance.
- **Route:** Serviced by route P16.
- **Note:** Pedestrians can use a berm along the road to access the Greenway. There is also potential for a new entrance to be added at the Beulah and Long Road intersection.

Bus Routes Overview:

- **Route P16:** Travels from Wilkinsburg to the Greenway, then continues north to Penn Hills to Oakmont and ends in Harmar.
- **Route P12:** Starts in downtown Pittsburgh (Mellon Square), then goes to Shadyside, Point Breeze North, Wilkinsburg, the Greenway, Monroeville, and ends in Holiday Park.

- **Route P67:** Connects Beulah Presbyterian Church to Wilkins Township and ends at Monroeville Mall.
- **Route 67:** Runs from Point State Park in downtown Pittsburgh to Uptown, Oakland, Squirrel Hill North, Point Breeze North, Wilkinsburg, and ends at the Beulah Presbyterian Church.



TRAIL SLOPE ANALYSIS

CHURCHILL VALLEY GREENWAY STEWARDSHIP AND MANAGEMENT PLAN

LEGEND

- Churchill Valley Greenway
- Buildings
- Contours
- Parcels
- Trail Slope
 - Under 5%
 - 5% - 8%
 - 8% - 15%
 - Over 15%



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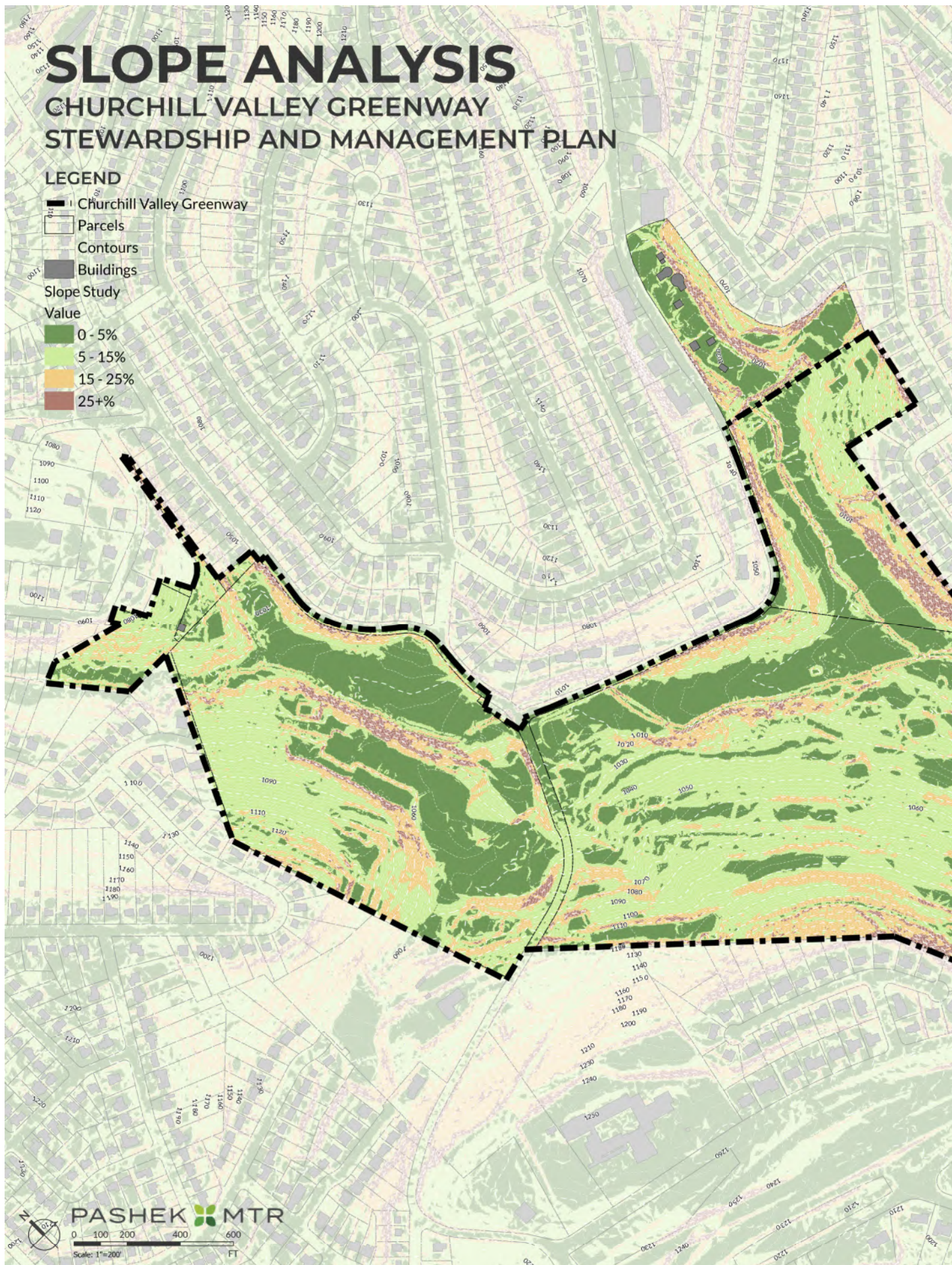
SLOPE ANALYSIS

CHURCHILL VALLEY GREENWAY

STEWARDSHIP AND MANAGEMENT PLAN

LEGEND

- Churchill Valley Greenway
- Parcels
- Contours
- Buildings
- Slope Study
- Value
 - 0 - 5%
 - 5 - 15%
 - 15 - 25%
 - 25+%



PASHEK MTR

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EXISTING TRAIL ANALYSIS

The Greenway has approximately 6.5 miles of existing trails, originally created as 8-foot-wide asphalt paths for the golf course. Over time, erosion and neglect have reduced some of these trails to narrow single-track paths or removed entirely.

Key challenges with the existing trails include:

- **Lack of Directional System:** Trails were designed to connect tee boxes and holes, making current navigation confusing for users.
- **Slope Challenges:**
 - Many paths are 8-15% slope and some exceed 15% slope, making them difficult to traverse.
 - Some trails follow “fall-line” paths, heading directly uphill/downhill rather than contouring the slope. This design contributes to erosion and increased maintenance needs.

The proposed plan will address these challenges to ensure a safe, logical, and sustainable trail system that allows better access for people of all abilities.

SLOPE ANALYSIS

The site’s topography is characterized by steep edges along the property line and lower, flatter areas along the stream. The slope begins high along the edges of the site and slopes downward towards the stream. Key slope zones include::

- **15–25% slopes:** Found along the edges of the site.
- **5–15% slopes:** Make up the majority of the property.
- **Under 5% slopes:** Found near the stream, the site of the old country club, and former tee boxes and greens.

SITE UTILITIES

Several types of utilities exist along streets surrounding the Greenway including storm, sanitary, electric, water, and gas lines. Some GIS data show storm lines within the former club parking area. Water valves are also shown within this area. However, it is unclear how many of the utilities that were once connected to the clubhouse still remain today. There are several inlets and manholes scattered throughout the Greenway that served the former golf course. It is unclear where these outlet.

Any new utilities will most likely have to connect into existing services located along Beulah Road.



ECOLOGICAL ANALYSIS

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Churchill Valley Greenway was visited by field biologists from the Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Program at the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy (WPC) as part of a larger project to assess habitat quality and needs to support birds, specifically species of greatest conservation need (SGCN) in Pennsylvania's Wildlife Action Plan. The larger project, which was undertaken by WPC and partners, was conducted to assess habitat conditions and develop recommendations for five properties in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, including Churchill Valley Greenway, owned by Allegheny Land Trust. The other properties were WPC's Tom's Run Nature Reserve, Deadman's Hollow, owned by Allegheny Land Trust, Frick Park, a large city park managed by the city of Pittsburgh and Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy, and Beechwood Farms Nature Center, managed by the Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania.

For Churchill Valley Greenway, WPC field biologists visited 15 monitoring points multiple times throughout spring migration (April – May) and nesting season (May – June) to capture the diversity of breeding birds, habitat characteristics and condition metrics to inform management needs. WPC developed a habitat map and summarized the habitat variables and condition metrics by habitat type. The following descriptions represent the dominant and characteristic vegetation within mapped habitat units, the birds observed, and the condition of the habitat.

Restoration of the stream channel and floodplain at Churchill Valley Greenway will alter the site considerably, especially the floodplain of the creek and adjacent area as wetland area is a re-configuration of the landscape. The following is a description of the existing plant communities present within each habitat management type and the mapped units are found in Figure 1. Restoration activities may alter the extent of these community types and change their composition, but the general types will remain the same.

Below, we provide the descriptions of each plant community type present at Churchill Valley Greenway. Each community type description,

organized by Habitat Type (Meadow, Shrubland, Forest), includes a list of existing plant species, the bird species, current condition of the habitat, and presence of ecological stressors.

HABITAT TYPE: MEADOW

Description and Current Conditions

The Meadow Habitat Type includes two community types. Both are composed largely of herbaceous plant species including grasses and forbs. Shrubs and small trees are often present, but make up less than 20% of the vegetative cover. Large overstory trees within Meadow Habitat patches are limited to a single tree or small grove of trees surrounded by shrubby vegetation and never make up more than 20% of the mapped community patch.

SUCCESSIONAL HERBACEOUS UPLAND MEADOW

This community represents successional upland meadows mapped at Churchill Valley Greenway, dominated by herbaceous species. The sites supporting this community include mid to upper slopes and flat areas within the central portion of the property that are currently in a state of succession/transition away from the maintained golf course fairways and greens of Churchill Valley golf course. Scattered trees are found within the area overall, but tend to fall outside of the meadow polygons, as groups of trees represent former breaks between fairways and greens and were described as separate community types.

Only a handful of trees were recorded among the six plots situated in the Successional Upland Meadow polygons. Trees make up less than 25% cover in both overstory and understory layers; species included black locust (*Robinia pseudoacacia*), black cherry (*Prunus serotina*), white mulberry (*Morus alba*), green ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*), bitternut hickory (*Carya cordiformis*), and yellow locust (*Gleditsia triacanthos*). Shrub cover ranged from 1%-25%; shrub species included yellow locust, Allegheny blackberry (*Rubus allegheniensis*), multiflora rose (*Rosa multiflora*), Callery pear (*Pyrus calleryana*), slippery elm (*Ulmus rubra*), amur honeysuckle (*Lonicera maackii*), fountain grass (*Miscanthus sinensis*), and common privet (*Ligustrum* sp.).

Herbaceous species include: mugwort (*Artemisia vulgaris*), beggars ticks (*Bidens frondosa*), Queen Ann's lace (*Daucus carota*), Japanese knotweed (*Reynoutria japonica*), wingstem (*Verbesina alternifolia*), late goldenrod (*Solidago canadensis*), tall goldenrod (*Solidago gigantea*), rough goldenrod (*Solidago rugosa*), joe-pye weed (*Eutrochium* spp.), spreading dogbane (*Apocynum cannabinum*), Kentucky blue grass (*Poa pratensis*), tall fescue (*Schedonorus arundinacea*), rag-weed (*Ambrosia artemisiifolia*), spotted jewelweed (*Impatiens capensis*), Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*), and tall bent grass (*Agrostis gigantea*).

Invasive plant species were the most commonly occurring threat to native biodiversity and any management and stewardship should address this. Five of the six points assessed included paved trails within the survey area, and pipeline right of ways were present at CVG-17 and CVG-21.

Proposed forest restoration plans will impact CVG-28, CVG-27, CVG-23, CVG-16 as these are currently planned for forest/woodland plantings. Points CVG-21 and CVG-17 will be managed as open pollinator meadow, most likely due to the pipeline right of ways in the area. Mowing will be required to keep Successional Herbaceous Upland Meadows clear of shrubs and trees and invasive plant control will be essential in these areas. Restoring these areas to native forest may be the easiest management strategy to implement. Planting and maintaining forest will sequester carbon and reduce the costs overall of mowing and management in the future and provide required habitat structure for forest birds.

Points surveyed:

CVG-28, CVG-27, CVG-23, CVG-21, CVG-17, CVG-16

Within the Successional Herbaceous Upland Meadow habitat type, we recorded 33 bird species during the breeding season (Table 1) and 42 bird species during spring migration, with 33 of those species being non-resident migrants. The species observed were primarily Edge Habitat and Generalist breeding bird species. This habitat type had the highest bird species richness among all documented habitat types at Churchill Valley Greenway. It was the most prevalent type documented, situated in a matrix of suburban residential and low-density development.

Table 1. Breeding bird species detected during 2022 WPC-PNHP surveys grouped by habitat guild association with relative abundance and conservation priority, SGCN = Species of Greatest Conservation Need (2015 PA Wildlife Action Plan).

Bird Species (Grouped by Habitat Guild)	Relative Abundance*	Conservation Priority
Early Successional	2.5	
Eastern Towhee	1.3	
Gray Catbird	1.0	
Willow Flycatcher	0.2	SGCN
Edge Habitat	17.2	
American Crow	0.5	
American Goldfinch	2.0	
American Robin	0.8	
Blue Jay	1.0	
Common Grackle	0.5	
European Starling	5.5	
Indigo Bunting	0.7	
Mourning Dove	1.7	
Song Sparrow	4.5	
Forest Generalist	4.0	
Carolina Chickadee	0.7	
Cedar Waxwing	0.2	
Downy Woodpecker	0.0	
Northern Flicker	0.3	
Red-bellied Woodpecker	0.3	
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	0.2	
Tufted Titmouse	0.3	
White-breasted Nuthatch	0.3	
Yellow Warbler	1.7	
Forest Interior	0.7	
Pileated Woodpecker	0.0	
Red-eyed Vireo	0.7	
Generalist	14.3	
Baltimore Oriole	0.5	
Chimney Swift	0.5	SGCN
House Finch	0.7	
Northern Cardinal	1.3	
Northern Mockingbird	0.3	
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	0.3	
Orchard Oriole	2.5	
Red-winged Blackbird	7.8	
Tree Swallow	0.3	
Shoreline	0.0	
Herring Gull	Flyover	

*Relative Abundance = mean maximum detections per point

Edge Habitat bird species are well-adapted to human presence and disturbance. They thrive where edges exist between land use types or habitat types (e.g. meadow and forest edge). Generalist birds are found in a variety of habitats including natural and anthropogenic. This group consists of species that can be associated with open meadow and sparsely wooded habitats. Forest Generalists and Forest Interior species were detected from within wooded edges or traversing the meadow en route to another wooded edge.

SUCCESSIONAL HERBACEOUS WET MEADOW

This community represents successional wet meadows, dominated by an assortment of native and non-native herbaceous species that are considered obligate or facultative wetland species. The sites include lower slope and riparian sites adjacent to streams that contain soils that are saturated for all or part of the growing season. Non-native plants, such as tall fescue may dominate in this type, but these wetlands, or wet-mesic areas, generally have a more diverse assortment of plants than the Successional Herbaceous Meadow on drier upland sites. These riparian meadow and herbaceous wetland sites that make up this community type contain substantial cover of invasive plant species – namely mile-a-minute (*Persicaria perfoliata*), mugwort (*Artemisia vulgaris*), Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*), Japanese knotweed (*Reynoutria japonica*), and Asian bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*).

Herbaceous species include: mugwort (*Artemisia vulgaris*), beggars ticks (*Bidens frondosa*), Queen Ann's lace (*Daucus carota*), Japanese knotweed (*Reynoutria japonica*), wingstem (*Verbesina alternifolia*), late goldenrod (*Solidago canadensis*), tall goldenrod (*Solidago gigantea*), rough goldenrod (*Solidago rugosa*), joe-pye weed (*Eutrochium* spp.), monkey-flower (*Mimulus ringens*), tear-thumb (*Persicaria sagittata*), Kentucky blue grass (*Poa pratensis*), tall fescue (*Schedonorus arundinacea*), Japanese stiltgrass (*Microstegium vimineum*), spotted jewelweed (*Impatiens capensis*), Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*), tall bent grass (*Agrostis gigantea*), mile-a-minute (*Persicaria perfoliata*), sensitive fern (*Onoclea sensibilis*). Shrubs and small trees include Allegheny blackberry (*Rubus allegheniensis*), Callery pear (*Pyrus calleryana*), slippery elm (*Ulmus rubra*), and common privet

(*Ligustrum* sp.). There are scattered trees throughout, often planted, including Acer rubrum (*Acer rubrum*), sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*), and pin oak (*Quercus palustris*).

Trees were uncommon within the areas surveyed with less than 10 ft²/acre of basal area within each of the survey points. Invasive plant species were the most commonly occurring threat to native biodiversity. All points assessed included paved trails within the survey area. A majority of these sites are in the lower slopes and current stream margins and riparian areas that will be drastically modified by site restoration. Control of the invasive plants should be incorporated into restoration planning and site management.

The points surveyed at Churchill Valley Greenway (CVG-22, CVG-25, CVG-26) categorized as Successional Herbaceous Wet Meadow, were all situated within the area where hydrological restoration activities will take place. Following restoration of a more natural hydrological pattern for this, the community should first be planted as a Wet Meadow or Riparian Shrub Thicket, and then allowed to naturally evolve into one of the riparian forest community types typically associated with smaller creeks and rivers in Pennsylvania. Specifically, the Red Maple - Elm - Willow Floodplain Forest, Sugar Maple – Mixed Hardwood Floodplain Forest, or Sycamore Floodplain Forest, identified in the Pennsylvania Community Classification <https://www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us/Wetlands.aspx> would serve as appropriate restoration targets with several shrub wetlands as intermediate successional states. Continuous inputs of groundwater resulting in saturated soils will favor wetland species.

Points surveyed: CVG-22, CVG-25, CVG-26

Within the Successional Herbaceous Wet Meadow habitat type we recorded 26 bird species during the breeding season (Table 2) and 33 bird species during spring migration, with 26 of those species being non-resident migrants. Nearly 70% of all breeding bird species were associated with Edge Habitat or were habitat Generalists, much like the Upland Meadow habitat.

Also like the Upland Meadow, this habitat was important for the lone bird SGCN, Willow Flycatcher

Section 1: Where are we now?

Table 2. Breeding bird species detected in Successional Herbaceous Wet Meadow during 2022 WPC-PNHP surveys grouped by habitat guild association with relative abundance and conservation priority, SGCN = Species of Greatest Conservation Need (2015 PA Wildlife Action Plan).

Bird Species (Grouped by Habitat Guild)	Relative Abundance*	Conservation Priority
Early Successional	1.7	
Eastern Towhee	0.3	
Gray Catbird	1.0	
Willow Flycatcher	0.3	SGCN
Edge Habitat	13.3	
American Crow	1.7	
American Goldfinch	0.7	
American Robin	3.3	
Blue Jay	1.0	
Brown-headed Cowbird	0.3	
Chipping Sparrow	0.0	
Common Grackle	0.3	
Eastern Phoebe	0.3	
European Starling	1.0	
Mourning Dove	1.0	
Song Sparrow	3.7	
Forest Generalist	3.7	
Downy Woodpecker	0.0	
Red-bellied Woodpecker	0.3	
Tufted Titmouse	1.7	
White-breasted Nuthatch	0.0	
Yellow Warbler	1.7	
Generalist	12.7	
Baltimore Oriole	0.0	
House Wren	0.3	
Mallard	1.7	
Northern Cardinal	1.0	
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	0.7	
Orchard Oriole	1.7	
Red-winged Blackbird	7.3	

*Relative Abundance = mean maximum detections per point

(Map 3). Native shrub plantings (e.g. *Salix* spp.) for creation of wet thickets will most benefit this species during the breeding season as well as other insectivores during migration stopover. Maintaining meadow habitat with native seed producing herbaceous plants stands to benefit Neotropical passage migrants found in this habitat including Palm Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, Blue-winged Warbler as well as breeding migrants like American Goldfinch.

Conclusions

Successional Herbaceous Meadow and Successional Herbaceous Wet Meadow are open habitats favored by two conservation priority breeding birds – Chimney Swift and Willow Flycatcher (Map 3). Both of these birds are Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) in Pennsylvania and have declining populations. Both Willow Flycatcher and Chimney Swift are aerial insectivores – species that forage for flying insects while on the wing. The extent of Successional Herbaceous Meadow and Successional Herbaceous Wet Meadow will be reduced considerably by the wetland restoration and afforestation activities undertaken by Allegheny Land Trust. While the open herbaceous habitat types are important for these birds and will be reduced in this area, another open habitat, Successional Shrubland also provides suitable habitat conditions for Willow Flycatcher and should be expanded in the Greenway. Chimney Swift may or may not benefit from more Successional Shrubland. If winged insect prey abundance is increased, then the shrubland will benefit the species.

HABITAT TYPE: SHRUBLAND

Description and Current Conditions

The Shrubland Habitat Type includes one community type composed largely of short <15 ft tall, multi-stemmed, woody plant species. Large overstory trees may be present within a Shrubland Habitat patch, but are usually limited to a single tree or small grove of trees surrounded by shrubby vegetation and do not make up more than 20% of the mapped community patch. Small patches of Meadow Habitat may be present, but only exist in patches of less than ¼ acre.

SUCCESSIONAL SHRUBLAND

This community type represents the successional semi-wooded areas at Churchill Valley Greenway, dominated by tall shrubs and short trees, below power lines or adjacent to roads where periodic maintenance results in an assortment of small trees and shrubs existing in a perpetual early successional state. These patches are often highly invaded because of their origin as waste areas or edges and frequent management to limit tree growth below powerlines or roadsides. The most abundant shrubs are staghorn sumac (*Rhus typhina*), Allegheny blackberry (*Rubus allegheniensis*), multiflora rose (*Rosa multiflora*), Callery pear (*Pyrus calleryana*), and amur honeysuckle (*Lonicera maackii*). Trees include red maple (*Acer rubrum*), slippery elm (*Ulmus rubra*), boxelder (*Acer negundo*), and bitternut hickory (*Carya cordiformis*). Herbaceous species are similar to the successional herbaceous areas at Churchill Valley Greenway. Mugwort (*Artemisia vulgaris*), Queen Ann's lace (*Daucus carota*), Japanese knotweed (*Reynoutria japonica*), wingstem (*Verbesina alternifolia*), late goldenrod (*Solidago canadensis*), tall goldenrod (*Solidago gigantea*), rough goldenrod (*Solidago rugosa*), joe-pye weed (*Eutrochium* spp.), Kentucky blue grass (*Poa pratensis*), tall fescue (*Schedonorus arundinacea*), rag-weed (*Ambrosia artemisiifolia*), spotted jewelweed (*Impatiens capensis*), and Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*), are common. Riverbank grape (*Vitis riparia*) is a common vine.

There is one plot within this type (CVG-24), which is situated in one of the three patches of Successional Shrubland identified at Churchill Valley Greenway. This site includes a gravel access path between former greens as well as a dumping area or grounds maintenance area. Invasive shrub and tall herbaceous species make up 80% of the total cover. The invasive species, such as multiflora rose, mugwort, Japanese knotweed are the most common, and should be targets for invasive plant control. This area is not a part of reforestation efforts, but perhaps should be, as planting low-growing native tree and shrub species may provide habitat for wildlife and provide a more sustainable form of plant cover beneath the power line and sites adjacent to the highway.

Points surveyed: CVG-24

Within the Successional Shrubland habitat type we recorded 15 bird species during the breeding season (Table 3) and 24 bird species during spring migration, with 19 of those species being non-resident migrants. Low diversity was not surprising given the small area of this habitat type and its highly invaded condition. There are no conservation priority bird species within this type at present, however; Willow Flycatcher an SGCN described above, stands to benefit from increased Successional Shrubland. Similarly, other Early Successional habitat associates like Gray Catbird and Eastern Towhee will benefit from increased native shrubland.

Table 3. Breeding bird species detected in Successional Shrubland during 2022 WPC-PNHP surveys grouped by habitat guild association with relative abundance and conservation priority, SGCN = Species of Greatest Conservation Need (2015 PA Wildlife Action Plan).

Bird Species (Grouped by Habitat Guild)	Relative Abundance*	Conservation Priority
Early Successional	1	
Eastern Towhee	1	
Edge Habitat	9	
American Goldfinch	5	
American Robin	2	
Brown-headed Cowbird	1	
Song Sparrow	1	
Forest Generalist	7	
Carolina Chickadee	1	
Carolina Wren	1	
Downy Woodpecker	2	
Red-bellied Woodpecker	1	
Tufted Titmouse	1	
Yellow Warbler	1	
Forest Interior	1	
Red-eyed Vireo	1	
Generalist	4	
Baltimore Oriole	1	
Northern Cardinal	2	
Red-tailed Hawk	1	

*Relative Abundance = mean maximum detections per po

Conclusions

Successional Shrublands are open habitats favored by two breeding SGCN – Chimney Swift and Willow Flycatcher (*Map 3*). Both of these birds are Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) in Pennsylvania and have declining populations. The extent of the Shrubland type will be increased considerably by the wetland restoration undertaken by Allegheny Land Trust. The Successional Shrubland provides the appropriate habitat conditions for the two species of SGCN birds: Chimney Swift and Willow Flycatcher. Successional Shrubland, which is expected to increase in area, also provides suitable habitat conditions for Willow Flycatcher. Chimney Swift may or may not benefit from more Successional Shrubland. If winged insect prey abundance is increased, then the shrubland will benefit the species.

HABITAT TYPE: FOREST

Description and Current Conditions

The Forest Habitat Type at CVG includes community types possessing a cover of canopy trees of at least 20% of the mapped unit. Small patches of Meadow or Shrub Habitat may be present, but only exist in patches of less than ¼ acre. Types of Forest Habitats described below are grouped into Woodlands and Forests. Woodlands are described as having between 20-60% cover of canopy (overstory) trees, whereas Forests have a much more complete canopy, with canopy cover greater than 60%.

SUCCESSIONAL WOODLAND

This type represents the vegetation of open park-like areas of planted trees, tree-rows between recovering golf course fairways, groves of trees, and open wooded edge areas of the property. The overstory includes native tree species including sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*), black locust (*Robinia pseudoacacia*), red maple (*Acer rubrum*), black walnut (*Juglans nigra*), black cherry (*Prunus serotina*), sweet gum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*), green ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*), tuliptree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*), and pin oak (*Quercus palustris*). Shrubs include Japanese barberry (*Berberis thunbergii*), multiflora rose (*Rosa multiflora*), and privet (*Ligustrum obtusifolium*). Herbaceous species include tall fescue

(*Schedonorus arundinacea*), which makes up 50% of the cover of some areas, Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*), mugwort (*Artemisia vulgaris*), Japanese stiltgrass (*Microstegium vimineum*), late goldenrod (*Solidago canadensis*), tall goldenrod (*Solidago gigantea*), joe pye weed (*Eutrochium* sp.), Queen Ann's lace (*Daucus carota*), wingstem (*Verbesina alternifolia*), mile-a-minute (*Persicaria perfoliata*). Vines include Virginia creeper (*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*), Asian bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*), and riverbank grape (*Vitis riparia*).

There are several patches of Successional Woodland at Churchill Valley Greenway that are located within the hydrological restoration zone and floodplain, such as point CVG-18. Other areas, outside the restoration area should be restored and managed as forest, preserving the large healthy trees and expanding the understory area and patch size. Many of these are already part of the forest restoration plan developed by Oikos Ecology. Ash in canopy have died and black cherry and other early successional species make up the canopy. Vines are prominent and may pose a problem for restoration if not controlled. Invasive species cover ranges from 15-50 percent in these patches and invasive plant control should be a focus of management at the property. It may be possible to erect fences to protect seedlings from deer.

Paved golf carts run through these areas and provide access.

Points surveyed:

CVG-29, CVG-20, CVG-19, CVG-18

Within the Successional Woodland habitat type we recorded 30 bird species during the breeding season (Table 4) and 38 bird species during spring migration, with 30 of those species being non-resident migrants. Next to herbaceous meadow, Successional Woodland comprised the second most area of current habitats at the site. The large proportion of the site in this habitat type together with the higher diversity in vegetation structure leads to an increased diversity of breeding bird species – the highest among any habitat type. This bird community is nearly completely comprised of generalist bird species and those adapted to anthropogenic conditions making up 87% of all bird species found here. Higher quantity (of bird species) does not directly correlate to higher quality of habitat.

Two conservation priority SGCN, Willow Flycatcher and Chimney Swift (see above), were observed in this habitat. However, this was not the core of the Willow Flycatcher habitat (Map 3) and Chimney Swifts will be primarily be utilized the air space above open habitats or native vegetation with high insect abundance.

SUCCESSIONAL FOREST

The Successional Forest documented at Churchill Valley Greenway is found on a severely eroded mid to lower slope of perennial stream valley on the northeastern side of the property. The understory and groundcover are bare and there is a significant accumulation of sediment in the stream. The tributary banks are eroded and unvegetated. Despite its unnatural appearance, the overstory is composed predominantly of native tree species. Sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*), black cherry (*Prunus serotina*), red maple (*Acer rubrum*), bitternut hickory (*Carya cordiformis*), black locust (*Robinia pseudoacacia*). The understory is sparse but quite invaded. Species include privet (*Ligustrum* sp.), spice bush (*Lindera benzoin*), green ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*), hawthorn (*Crataegus* sp.), Japanese barberry (*Berberis thunbergii*). Herbaceous species include Japanese knotweed (*Microstegium vimineum*), intermediate wood fern (*Dryopteris intermedia*), jumpseed (*Persicaria virginiana*), white snake-root (*Ageratina altissima*). Vines include riverbank grape (*Vitis riparia*), and Virginia creeper (*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*).

CVG-30

Within the Successional Forest habitat type we recorded 17 bird species during the breeding season (Table 5) and 19 bird species during spring migration, with 14 of those species being non-resident migrants. This bird assemblage was very similar to the Successional Shrubland. Scarlet Tanager was the lone SGCN found in this habitat. As such a degraded fragment of forest it was not surprising that just two forest interior birds were recorded here – the aforementioned Scarlet Tanager and Hairy Woodpecker. Most breeding birds were the same Forest Generalists and Edge Habitat species found throughout the Successional Woodland and Shrubland habitats. This breeding bird community is indicative of the highly degraded forest conditions.

NATIVE UPLAND FOREST

CVG contains some forested areas that can be described as “native upland forest,” meaning that the species present are representative of a natural forest community type described in the Pennsylvania Plant Community Classification. This type can be described as a Western Allegheny

Table 4. Breeding bird species detected in Successional Woodland during 2022 WPC-PNHP surveys grouped by habitat guild association with relative abundance and conservation priority, SGCN = Species of Greatest Conservation Need (2015 PA Wildlife Action Plan).

Bird Species (Grouped by Habitat Guild)	Relative Abundance*	Conservation Priority
Early Successional	1	
Eastern Towhee	0.5	
Gray Catbird	0.3	
Willow Flycatcher	0.3	SGCN
Edge Habitat	12	
American Crow	0.3	
American Goldfinch	1.8	
American Robin	2.3	
Blue Jay	0.3	
Chipping Sparrow	1.0	
Common Grackle	1.0	
European Starling	0.8	
Indigo Bunting	0.3	
Mourning Dove	0.8	
Song Sparrow	3.8	
Forest Generalist	4	
Carolina Chickadee	0.5	
Carolina Wren	0.3	
Northern Flicker	0.5	
Red-bellied Woodpecker	0.5	
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	0.3	
Tufted Titmouse	0.5	
White-breasted Nuthatch	0.8	
Yellow Warbler	1.0	
Forest Interior	1	
Hairy Woodpecker	0.3	
Red-eyed Vireo	0.3	
Generalist	12	
Baltimore Oriole	0.5	
Chimney Swift	0.8	SGCN
House Finch	0.5	
Northern Cardinal	1.0	
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	0.5	
Orchard Oriole	2.0	
Red-winged Blackbird	7.0	

*Relative Abundance = mean maximum detections per point

Plateau Mixed Oak Forest, identified as the Dry Oak – Mixed Hardwood Forest in the Pennsylvania Community Classification <https://www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us/factsheets/16060.pdf>, and should provide an example of a target restoration ecosystem for restoration planning.

This area was not identified for forest management by Oikos and is out of the restoration planning area. However, invasive plants should be controlled here and the forest canopy should be thinned to allow planted understory species to establish and grow. Additional plantings could improve habitat for forest birds. Opening the canopy and planting serviceberries (*Amelanchier* spp.), witch-hazel (*Hamamelis virginiana*), musclewood (*Carpinus caroliniana*), dogwoods (*Cornus* spp.), and redbud (*Cercis canadensis*) would increase native diversity in the understory and would enhance habitat structure for interior forest birds.

We must point out that while our assessment point was not in the restoration area and will not be directly impacted by construction activities, the proposed restoration activities may result in loss of forest area of stands adjacent to the assessment point. These forest patches are the highest quality forest on the property. Forest loss will negatively impact area-sensitive species of birds, such as the Scarlet Tanager, which favors large patches of contiguous forest. Allegheny Land Trust should evaluate development plans and limit the loss of forest habitat, especially the higher quality oak forest adjacent to assessment point CVG-30.

Points surveyed:
(near) CVG-30

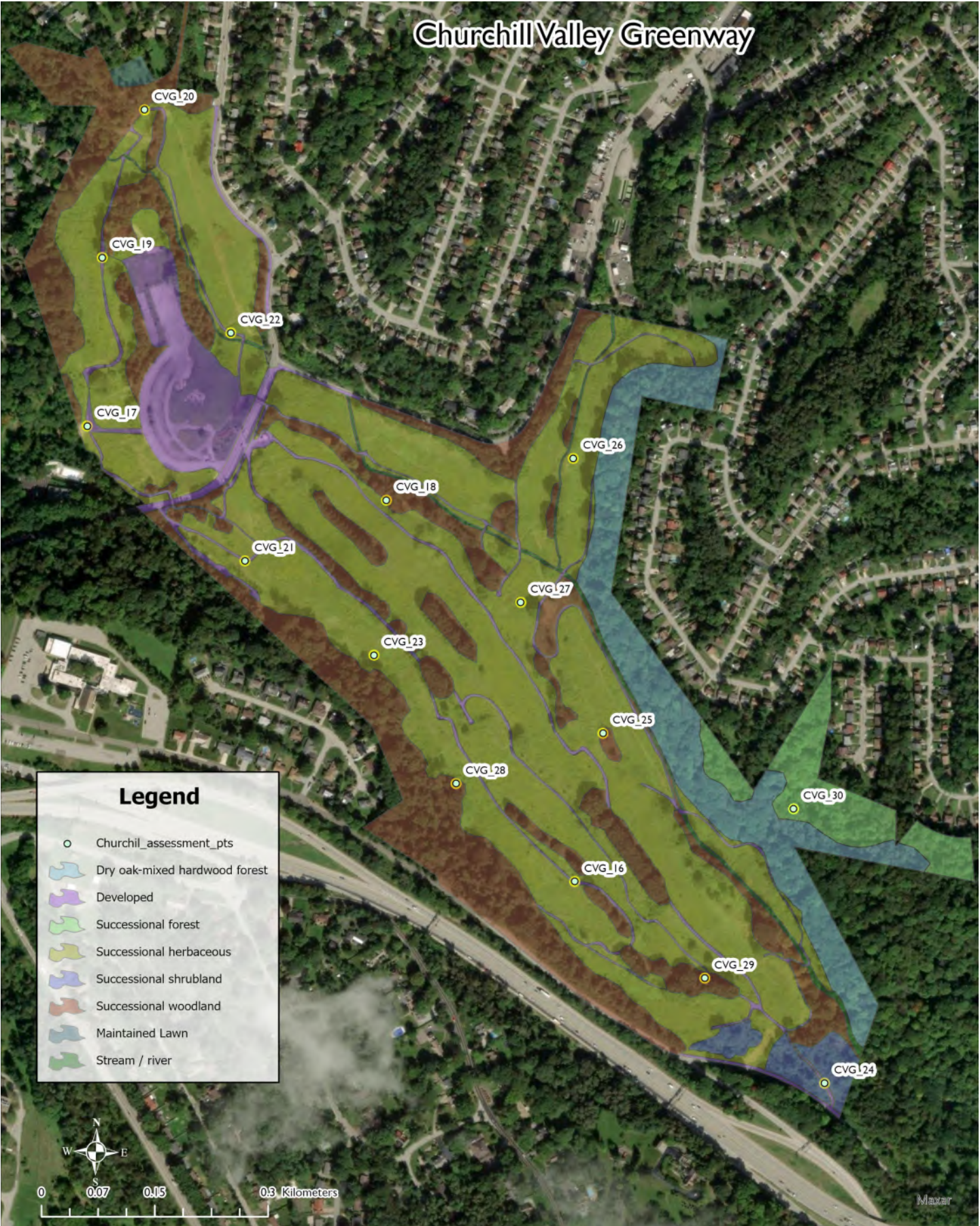
Conclusions

If the focus of restoration activities in the woodland and forest habitats at Churchill Valley Greenway is on forest birds, then actions should be directed toward increasing forest acreage and overall quality. Bird species of interest would include SGCN such as Scarlet Tanager and Wood Thrush (not found breeding at the site) and other Forest Interior birds like Red-eyed Vireo, Hairy Woodpecker, Pileated Woodpecker (all found at the site), as well as Hooded Warbler, Acadian Flycatcher or even Louisiana Waterthrush, if forested stream is created.

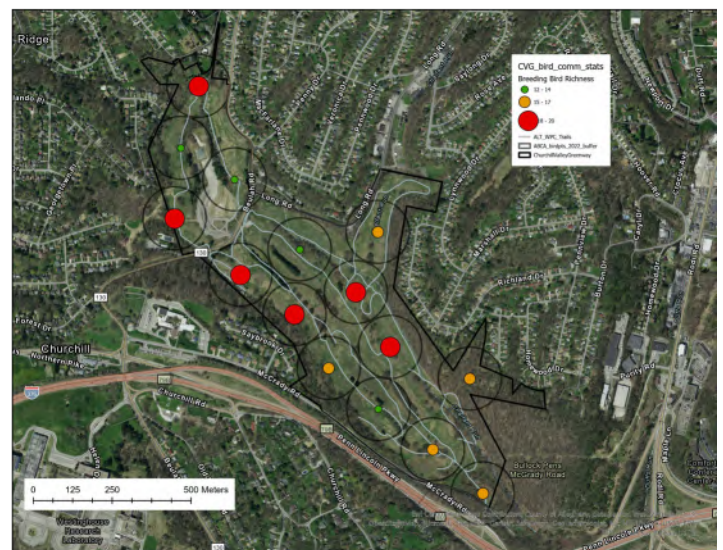
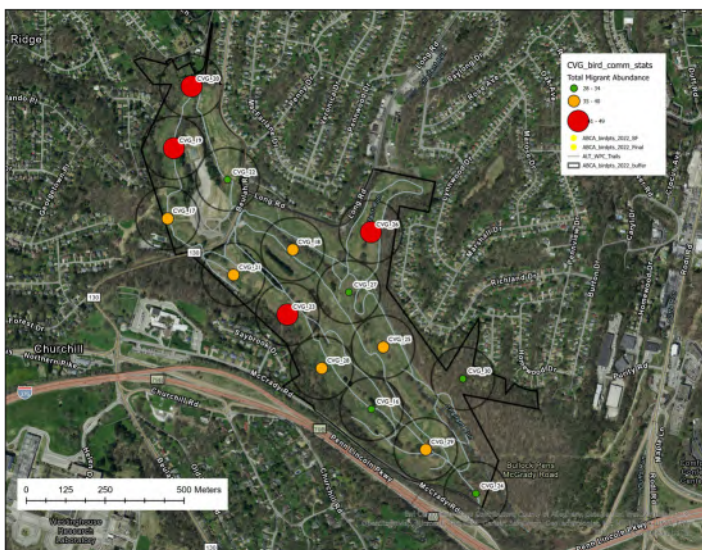
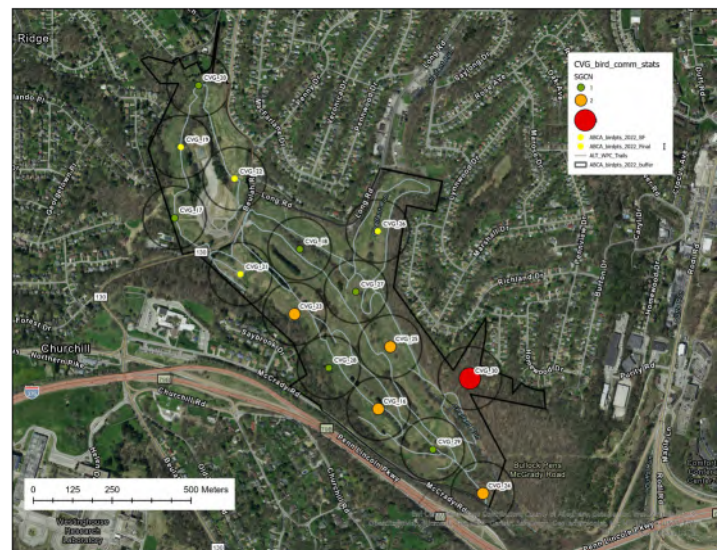
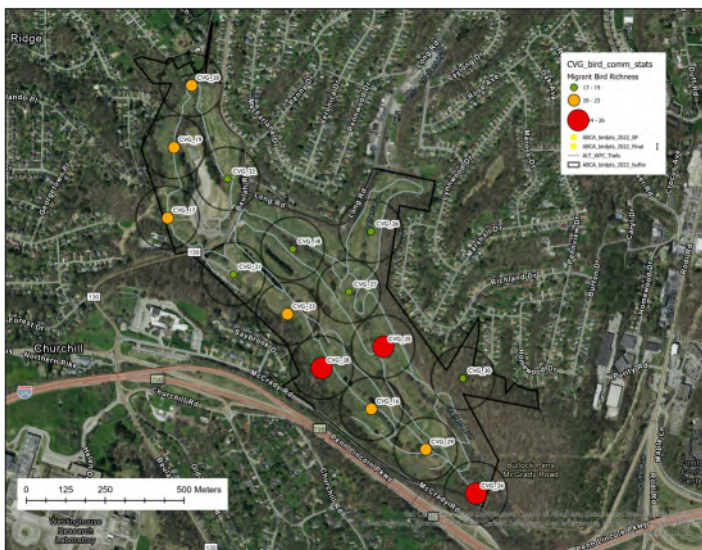
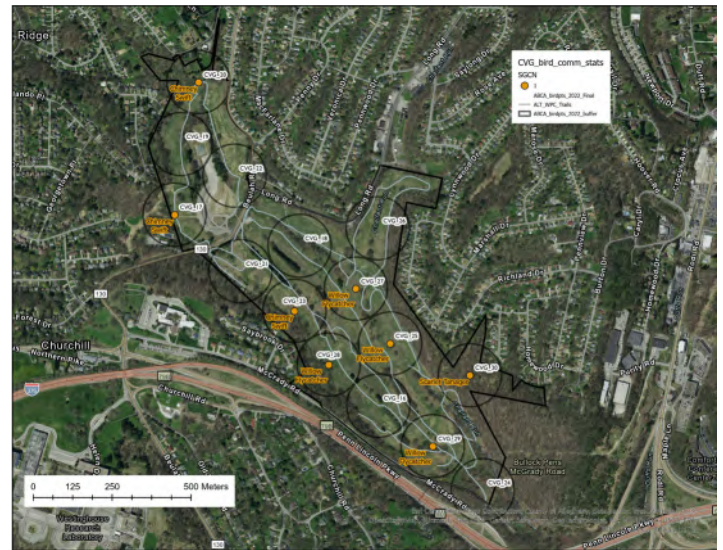
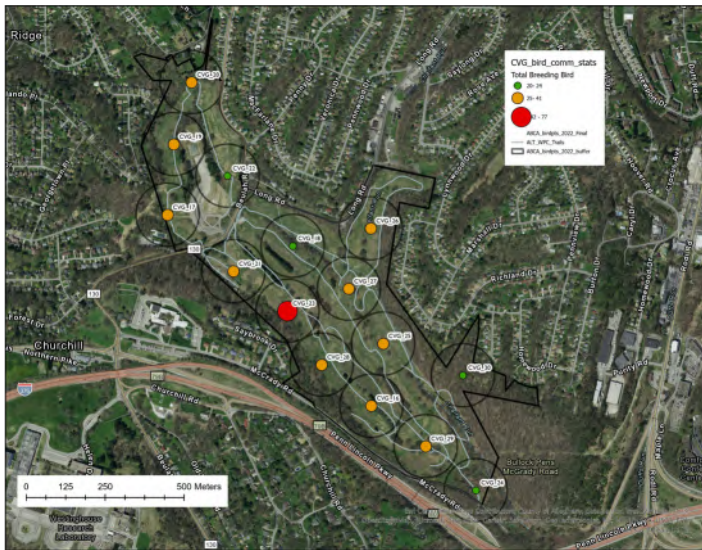
Table 5. Breeding bird species detected in Successional Forest during 2022 WPC-PNHP surveys grouped by habitat guild association with relative abundance and conservation priority, SGCN = Species of Greatest Conservation Need (2015 PA Wildlife Action Plan).

Bird Species (Grouped by Habitat Guild)	Relative Abundance*	Conservation Priority
Early Successional	2	
Eastern Towhee	2	
Edge Habitat	4	
American Goldfinch	1	
American Robin	2	
Song Sparrow	1	
Forest Generalist	10	
Carolina Chickadee	2	
Carolina Wren	1	
Downy Woodpecker	1	
Eastern Wood-Pewee	0	
Northern Flicker	2	
Red-bellied Woodpecker	1	
Tufted Titmouse	2	
Yellow Warbler	1	
Forest Interior	2	
Hairy Woodpecker	1	
Scarlet Tanager	1	SGCN
Generalist	6	
Baltimore Oriole	1	
Northern Cardinal	3	
Red-winged Blackbird	2	

*Relative Abundance = mean maximum detections per point



Section 1: Where are we now?



Map 3. Breeding season occurrence for bird Species of Greatest Conservation Need across 15 survey point locations at Churchill Valley Greenway during 2022 surveys by WPC-PNHP.



A photograph of a person walking away on a paved path through a field of tall, dry grass and wildflowers. In the background, there are trees with autumn foliage in shades of green, yellow, and orange. A large, semi-transparent white letter 'W' is overlaid on the left side of the image, serving as a background for the text.

**Where do we
want to be?**

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

The design team conducted multiple engagement events, surveys, and meetings to gather input and feedback during all stages of the design process. Stakeholders and community members were actively involved sharing their thoughts and vision for the Greenway project.

Below is a summary of input received. See the Appendix for detailed meeting minutes.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The advisory committee helped oversee the process, coordinate events, get in touch with helpful contacts, and give feedback on designs and management.

#1 – OCTOBER 3RD, 2023

The Study Committee convened to discuss the key goals of the plan including enhancing access, addressing ecological management needs, and fostering community engagement. The team also reviewed the scope of work, which encompasses public engagement, data collection, visitor experience and use designs, and ecological management. The team shared the current progress which included the completion of an Existing Conditions Plan and a slope analysis, which will inform potential development opportunities such as trails, gathering spaces, and parking. Additionally, the team discussed current planned projects including stream restoration and Acid Mine Drainage management strategies to enhance the ecological health of the area.

During the meeting, members emphasized the importance of community representation in planning efforts. They also highlighted challenges related to connection to surrounding communities, access, and parking. Discussions also touched on the need for clearer communication regarding greenspace usage, particularly as community members expressed confusion about permitted activities.

The committee shared some potential recreational uses for the Greenway:

- Trails for hiking/biking
- Drone Club / Racing

- Sled Riding
- Snow Shoeing
- Cross Country Skiing

Looking ahead, the team discussed with the committee plans to engage the public through key person interviews, surveys, and a public event scheduled for mid-November, aiming to introduce people to the project and gather input on desired features for the Greenway. Action items were assigned, including compiling contact information for outreach and identifying suitable venues for the public meeting.

#2 – APRIL 3RD, 2024

The meeting began with PMTR presenting the outcomes from two public meetings, key person interviews, and surveys regarding community preferences for amenities. The most requested amenities included:

- **Signage:** Proposed directional, regulatory, and educational signs.
- **Restrooms:** Options may include port-a-johns, restroom trailer, or more permanent restroom facilities, with maintenance and cost considerations influencing the decision.
- **Trash Cans:** Potential partnership with Churchill for waste management.

Additional amenities suggested were bird blinds, a natural play area, a place for yoga, and a pavilion shelter for educational programs. While several activities like sledding, mountain biking, and cross-country skiing could occur on the property, they would not be formally advertised. The community also requested a fenced dog area, fitness course, and a disc golf course. These were deemed incompatible with ALT's mission due to maintenance constraints.

PMTR also detailed the proposed trail plans, highlighting:

- **Trail Layout:** Designed to preserve many existing paths while adding approximately 1 mile of new trails, with a 0.75-mile fully accessible loop featuring sensory activity nodes and educational signage. New trails are laid out in a logical looping system and reduce erosion and long-term maintenance.

- **Trailhead Development:** A new main trailhead with improved parking, restrooms, and an enclosed classroom is proposed at the south side of Beulah to take advantage of better site lines and access to trails. The existing parking lot will be removed for AMD project grading but could still be used for overflow parking for events.
- **Habitat Management:** Recommendations were provided in collaboration with the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy to enhance bird habitats, particularly for species like the willow flycatcher and Scarlet Tanager.

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

- Consider adding boulders to activity nodes.
- Add examples of mile markers to the precedent images.
- Explore creating a trail connection along Rosewood Road and through Pat Seneca.
- Move the existing shed further back to improve trail access for the Beulah Presbyterian Church.
- Develop a trail implementation map detailing maintenance, type, and priority of trails.
- Parking areas should create a divide between path and drive and add a meadow at the center of the roundabout.

The team discussed with the committee the schedule for the next committee meeting as well as planning a volunteer meeting for late May or early June.

#3 - MAY 2ND, 2024

The meeting commenced with PMTR reviewing updates to the trails and trailheads based on previous feedback from the committee and ALT. A phasing plan was presented, outlining the sequential implementation of trail enhancements. The committee was invited to provide their opinions on the proposed phases.

DISCUSSION POINTS

- **Restroom Facilities:** There was a strong emphasis on ensuring year-round restroom access, with options for port-a-johns being considered. ALT and PMTR are exploring the best solution to balance cost and maintenance.

- **Trash Management:** Potential partnerships with Churchill Borough for trash services are being researched.
- **Charging Station:** The possibility of installing a charging station was raised, with PMTR agreeing to investigate grant opportunities through Duquesne.
- **Crosswalk Feasibility:** Discussion included the potential for a crosswalk at Beulah and Long Road. PennDOT might facilitate this, but the need for connecting sidewalks in Penn Hills was noted.
- **Art Installations:** Possibility to coordinate with local schools for projects.
- **Water Supply:** The need for a water source for dogs was mentioned.
- **Trail Connections:** Opportunity for a new trail connection at Rose and Rosewood Road through the vacant property was discussed. The Pat Seneca trailhead is proposed as a secondary access point in the future. Penn Hills is willing to subdivide the Long Road Equalization Facility to give to ALT for access.
- **Phasing Considerations:** The importance of a loop for Penn Hills residents connecting the Pat Seneca trail head in the first phase was highlighted. PMTR and ALT will investigate moving the sensory trail and classroom building to a later phase.
- **Habitat Management:** Reforestation efforts are planned for phase one, with stream restoration planting set for phase two. The feasibility of different planting methods for meadows will also be explored.

NEXT STEPS

- PMTR will create detailed implementation and maintenance plans.
- A volunteer meeting will be scheduled, with potential dates identified for late June.
- Penn Hills will investigate crosswalk and sidewalk options along Beulah and Long Road and the trail connection through the vacant property on Rosewood Drive.

#4 - NOVEMBER 14TH, 2024

This was the final committee meeting for the Churchill Valley Greenway Stewardship and Management Plan. The meeting started by reviewing the final public engagement meeting and the detailed cost estimates. PMTR notes that the cost estimates are divided into contractor projects, ALT in-house projects, and volunteer projects. The committee provided questions and comments on the final plan and cost estimates. The primary discussion points are as follows:

Primary Discussion Points:

- Storm Line
 - Penn Hills will repair the storm line at Pat Seneca Park in preparation for potential acquirement of the Pat Seneca parcel by ALT.
- Potential Partnership with BOB Project
- Trailhead and Parking
 - Project should outline parking options throughout the implementation process including utilization of Pat Seneca, Bullock Pens Park, and the AMD access drive for overflow parking.
- Trash Removal
 - ALT is working on a partnership with Churchill Borough on trash coordination
 - Or a possibility of dumpster/dumpster service to be coordinated with waste management services.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT EVENTS

NOVEMBER 15TH, 2023

This in-person meeting introduced the public to the Churchill Valley Greenway Stewardship and Management Plan. The design team shared ALT's goal for this project, what has been completed so far, and received public input for desired amenities.

Greenway Management Plan Goal: Conserve and promote biodiversity and ecosystem function and use existing Greenway infrastructure for low-impact use.

The planning process involves three main stages:

1. **Inventory and Analysis** - Understanding current conditions.
2. **Public Input and Recommendations** - Gathering community feedback on desired outcomes.
3. **Implementation Steps** - Developing a plan to achieve goals.

COMPLETED SO FAR

The meeting outlined several progress updates:

- A Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) was completed in 2021.
- Construction for Acid Mine Drainage design and Stream/Wetland Restoration to start soon.
- A Conceptual Planning Report was completed in 2022.
- Ongoing activities include forest restoration and volunteer initiatives.
- Habitat/bird inventories, expected to conclude by the end of 2023.
- A Stewardship and Management Plan is anticipated for completion in 2024.



COMMUNITY INPUT

Participants engaged in breakout discussions to explore:

- The special features of the Greenway.
- Desired connections for trails to surrounding communities.
- Low-impact amenities and activities they wish to see.
- Additional thoughts and concerns.

SUMMARY OF MOST DESIRED AMENITIES

The meeting generated a range of amenity suggestions, summarized as follows:

- Trails and Signage:
 - Connecting existing trails, creating loops, and ensuring accessibility.
 - Benches along trails.
 - Various types of signage including directional and educational.
 - New/repaired bridges.
- Dogs:
 - Possible designated spaces for dogs, garbage disposal options, and leash requirements.
- Programs and Amenities:
 - Suggestions included play areas, nature/bird walks, fitness courses, cross-country skiing, sledding, and observation decks.
- Natural Conservation:
 - Ideas to improve the area's natural beauty, such as removing invasive species, creating/maintaining views, adding bat houses or bee hives, and creating wildflower meadows.

FEBRUARY 8TH, 2024

This was a virtual public meeting that was a continuation of the November public engagement event. During the community input session, participants were divided into five virtual breakout rooms to discuss their current use and desires for the Greenway.

Poll Results

During the presentation, virtual polls were conducted:

- **POLL 1:** Frequency of visits to Churchill Valley Greenway (36 responses):
 - Daily: 1
 - Weekly: 6
 - Monthly: 9
 - Occasionally: 16
 - Never: 4
- **POLL 2:** Transportation methods to the Greenway (38 responses):
 - Driving: 32
 - Biking: 1
 - Walking: 8
 - Public Transportation: 1
 - Does not apply: 1
- **POLL 3:** Interest in volunteer opportunities (28 responses provided names and emails).

SUMMARY OF MOST DESIRED AMENITIES

Participants expressed a variety of desired amenities, which are summarized below:

- Amenities:
 - Highly desired: Bathrooms, pavilions/picnic areas, seating/benches, trash and recycling bins/dog waste stations, bird blinds, and biking infrastructure.
 - Other mentions: Sponsored art, memorial trees, disc golf, dog agility courses, sensory trails, and natural playgrounds.
- Signage:
 - Information on stream ecology, habitat, history, plant/tree identification, wayfinding, distance markers, and site work explanations.
- Dog Policies:
 - Varied opinions on off-leash areas and dog waste management.
- Access and Trails:
 - Natural surface hiking/walking/running trails with varying difficulty levels and biking trails
 - Create community connections (e.g., Pat Seneca, Long Rd., BCA), and increased parking on the south side of Beulah Rd.

Section 2: Where do we want to be?

- **Programming:**
 - Activities like bird watching, guided nature walks, orienteering, mountain biking, science programs, and cross-country skiing.
- **Natural Conservation:**
 - Efforts to preserve meadows, manage invasive species, restore habitats, and maintain waterways.
- **Additional Concerns:**
 - Suggestions for organized garbage pickup initiatives.
- **Potential Partnerships:**
 - Engagement with various organizations, including Trail Pittsburgh, Outdoor Inclusion Coalition, Venture Outdoors, local schools, and conservation clubs for collaboration on projects.

NEXT STEPS

The meeting concluded with plans to synthesize community input, develop implementation strategies, and schedule additional public meetings to review draft recommendations.

VOLUNTEER MEETING JUNE 27TH, 2024

The volunteer meeting provided an update on the ongoing project, including what has been accomplished so far, project maps, and the implementation strategy. The goal for the meeting was to coordinate volunteers, share a task list of needs for the Greenway based on groups, and gather contact information of those willing to help.

TASK LIST GROUPS

General Volunteers

- Report/monitor field conditions/illegal activity
- Maintain Signs and Kiosks
- Pick up garbage

Trail Building and Management

- Maintain existing trails and overlooks
- Build proposed trails and overlooks



Special Amenities

- Install and maintain Sensory Trail Activities
- Create a Land Art Committee

Conservation Management

- Plant trees, wildflowers, and shrubs
- Manage invasive species
- Misc. habitat management

TASK GROUP SUMMARIES

Volunteers self-selected into groups based on their interests: General Volunteers, Trail Building and Management, Special Amenities, and Conservation Management. Each group engaged in discussions led by an ALT or PMTR team member. Summary of the discussions are below.

- **General Volunteer Group**
 - Coverage area for general volunteer activities
 - Discussed best ways to connect volunteers
 - Suggested creating a card about volunteering



- **Trail Building and Management Group**
 - Reviewed project maps
 - Discussed order of operations
 - Identified skills within the group
 - Explored communication options to connect volunteers
 - Many expressed interest in habitat management tasks as well
- **Special Amenities Group**
 - Brainstormed ideas for sensory activity nodes
 - Discussed potential land art installations, including partnerships with local artists and institutions
 - Planned next steps for setting up sensory nodes and coordinating with local schools and universities
- **Conservation Management Group**
 - Interest in upcoming invasive species work day, including setting up a work day among volunteers that wouldn't be led by ALT staff
 - Interest in a plant ID walk so volunteers could confidently ID invasive species
 - Tree planting days to be scheduled in the future
 - Idea to collect native seeds during invasive species removal for new meadows and have a wildflower planting event

NEXT STEPS

An email list was created to share future volunteer events and workdays. Also to share information on opportunities for volunteers to complete tasks independently. Overall, the meeting fostered collaboration among volunteers and outlined actionable steps to enhance community engagement in the Greenway project.

FINAL PUBLIC MEETING AUGUST 28TH, 2024

The recent public meeting reviewed Allegheny Land Trust's goals, the completed inventory and analysis, a summary of community feedback, and current recommendations and implementation for the Churchill Valley Greenway Conservation and Management Plan. The agenda included a presentation, discussions, and breakout groups to gather feedback and ideas from attendees. The primary aim of the meeting was to address any questions and gather final input on the proposed plan.

BREAKOUT GROUP DISCUSSIONS

Group 1:

- Concerns about parking during construction and traffic safety on Beulah road.
- Ideas for an interpretive sign about country club history.
- Ideas for art installations including: chainsaw art from a contest and labyrinth from wood on site.
- Continued concern about waste management on site.

Group 2:

- Gave suggestions for potential partnerships with local organizations.
- Questions regarding a land swap between ALT and Churchill for Bullock Penns.
- Questions about possible future events at the Greenway.
- Concern about waste management.
- Make sure there is a connection to Beulah.
- Ideas to use goats to maintain meadows, add a little free library, add shade to the sensory trail, and create a field guide for flora/fauna.
- Overall, the group liked the recommendations.

Group 3:

- Continued dialogue with Churchill Borough and Penn Hills to open existing parking areas.
- Suggest creating newsletters outlining the construction process.
- Ideas for land art installation, QR code signs, and on-site activities.

Group 4:

- Concerns about parking during construction and plans for waste management.
- Suggestions for sponsorship possibilities with local businesses and universities.
- Long-term access considerations at Rodi and Nottingham and at Rose and Rosewood.
- Ideas for reusing materials from demolition, adding a swing, and providing recognition for volunteers.

CONCLUSION

The meeting fostered an open dialogue about the future of local green spaces, emphasizing community involvement and sustainable practices. Participants offered valuable insights and expressed a strong interest in enhancing the accessibility, aesthetics, and ecological health of the area. The feedback will be instrumental in shaping the Greenway Management Plan.

OTHER MEETINGS

BEULAH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Representatives from Beulah Presbyterian Church discussed the church's environmental initiatives and plans for a trail that connects to Churchill Valley Greenway. The first leg of the trail is completed and provides a gentle route for parishioners and summer campers to access nature, particularly in the older wooded areas. They emphasized the importance of the trail for educational purposes, aiming to engage the congregation and community in understanding local ecology, including invasive species and spring ephemerals. They are planning additional features such as more trails, benches, educational signage, and a labyrinth.

The church serves around 200 children through its preschool and summer camp programs, which incorporate nature-based activities like scavenger

hunts. They expressed openness to sharing parking and trail access with others, although funding challenges have hindered some plans, including the development of an outdoor classroom. Discussions about connectivity from local bus stops to the church trail are ongoing, with the church's Green Team considering potential solutions. They noted that while most church members drive, there are some who walk or bike, and the minister is particularly passionate about cycling. The church envisions the trail as not only a resource for its congregation but also as a public space for nature education and mindfulness activities.

Representatives also outlined several ideas aimed at enhancing the experience for church members and the broader community. One key proposal is the establishment of an outdoor classroom in a flat area near the church, which could support educational programs, especially for summer camps. They suggested that if the CVG develops a pavilion, it could serve as a venue for picnics and activities for the camp kids. They emphasized the importance of creating markers along trails to educate visitors about native species and environmental challenges, potentially using QR codes for more detailed information without cluttering the area.

The group also explored logistical considerations, including the need for directional signage and restrooms. Discussions extended to improving connections to local bus stops and the potential for better pedestrian infrastructure. Overall, the conversation highlighted a commitment to fostering community engagement through educational opportunities and improved access to nature while addressing practical challenges related to maintenance and safety.

CHURCHILL BOROUGH - APRIL 16TH, 2024

This meeting discussed the future plans for Bullock Pens Park. The Borough expressed a strong commitment to improving the park, with plans to reopen it after the last snowfall of the season. There are proposals to move the park gate to a new location just beyond the gravel parking lot, although this will require further internal discussions within the borough. Additionally, there are plans to remove the lower pavilion and renovate the upper one, along with a list of other planned improvements that will be coordinated with volunteers, including bridge repairs and trail signage.

Additionally, the design team shared that the plan proposes two new trails to connect Bullock Pens with the Greenway trails, creating a loop within the park. Collaboration with ALT was emphasized for funding and volunteer coordination related to trail development and signage installation, with all trail construction planned to occur in phases.

Lastly, the Borough plans to explore options for installing trash cans in Bullock Pens Park and potentially partner with public works for trash collection at both the Bullock Pens and Greenway trailheads. Additional discussions will be held to identify further collaboration opportunities with ALT concerning trash management.

KEY PERSON INTERVIEWS

The project team contacted various organizations around Churchill Valley Greenway to gather input on desired amenities and improvements for the Greenway, as well as potential activities, events, and educational opportunities that could be hosted there. A summary of responses is shown below.

DESIRED AMENITIES AND IMPROVEMENTS

- Educational Signage:
 - History of the site
 - Water and stream restoration
 - Plant identification
 - Habitat information
 - Importance of trees
 - Invasive species awareness
- Directional Signage and Maps
- Welcoming Atmosphere: The Greenway should be inviting.
- Natural Play Space
- Access Point to Stream: For educational opportunities.
- Looping Trail System: Continuous, safe, and accessible paths.
- Gathering and Picnic Areas: Outdoor spaces for community use.
- Ongoing Trail Maintenance: Ensuring trails remain in good condition.
- Waste Management Strategy: Including provisions for dog waste.
- Rest Areas: With benches.

- Reforestation, Habitat Improvement, and Invasive Species Removal
- Community Access: Easy access to the Greenway for nearby residents.
- Art and Education Spaces
- Viewpoints and Viewsheds

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES, EVENTS, AND ACTIVITIES

The Greenway serves as a valuable resource for the community, provides access to nature.

- Educational programs for 4th-6th grade students from Wilkinsburg.
- Native plant tours.
- Potential future 5K run through the Greenway.
- Events organized by Penn Hills Shade Tree Commission:
 - Front Yard Project: Utilize the Greenway to show importance of and how to plan trees.
 - Tree Adoption Event
 - Tree Pruning Events
 - Tree Tour: Interest in creating signage for a guided tour of the Greenway.

SURVEY

The survey results, detailed below, reveal insights about community demographics and current use of the Greenway. The survey was distributed via social media and email and had 246 responses.

The majority of respondents live in Penn Hills (80), followed by Blackridge (33) and Churchill (28). Most participants are aged 26 to 45 (115) and, predominantly female (145). Educationally, the largest group holds an undergraduate degree (104), while most households consist of two or more adults without children (140). Income levels vary, with the majority earning between \$50,000 and \$99,999 (86). Disability prevalence is low, with 197 respondents reporting none. Most visit Churchill Valley Greenway weekly (84), primarily driving (208), and engage mainly in hiking/walking (200) and dog walking (108). Desired trail connections include the Blackridge Civic Center (69) and Bullock Penns Park (66).

Additional questions in the survey determined what amenities and activities people would prefer.

Most desired amenities:

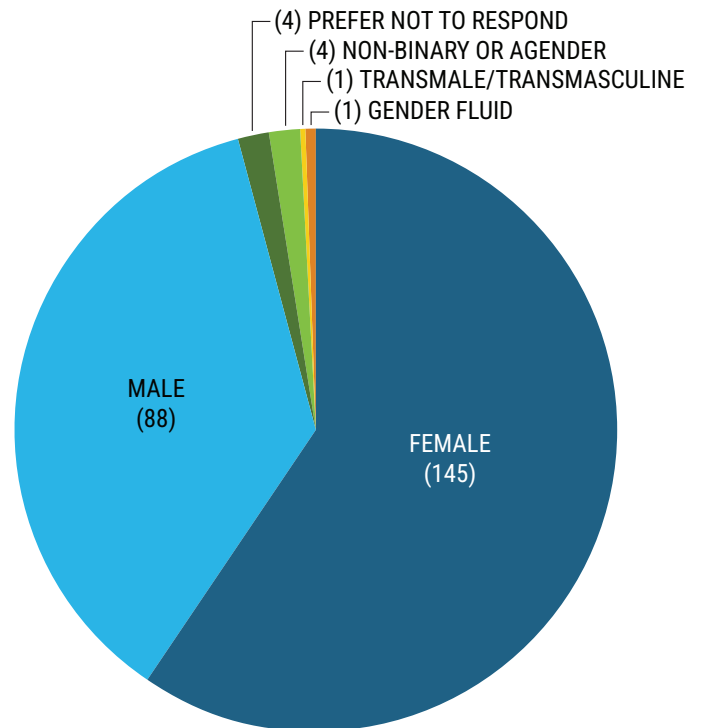
1. Trash and Recycling Receptacles / Dog Waste Stations
2. Educational Signage / Nature Education Activities and Programs
3. Bird Blind / Birding and Wildlife Observation Activity
4. Nature Play Area
5. Pavilion Shelter / Picnic Area
6. Fenced Dog Area / Designated Dog Trails / Off Leash Area
7. Yoga
8. Overlook Areas / Observation Decks
9. Sledding Hill
10. Bike Trails / Bike Meet-Ups
11. Disc Golf
12. Cross Country Skiing / Snow shoeing
13. Sensory Trail
14. Memorial Trees / Benches
15. Fitness Course

Some of the desired amenities, such as a fenced dog area, disc golf, and a fitness course, do not align with ALT's mission and available resources. While activities like yoga, sledding, and cross-country skiing are permitted, they will not be actively promoted.

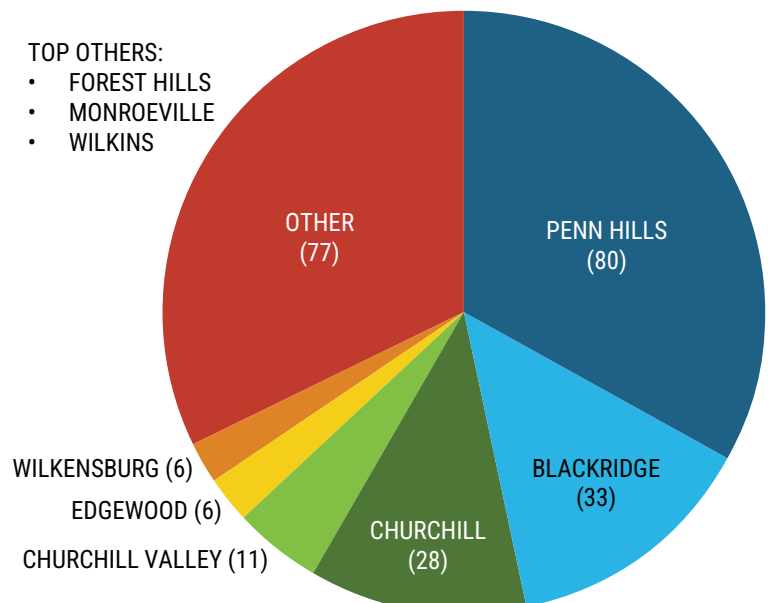
Participants also expressed a need for improved community connections, better parking, as well as clearer directional signage and a simplified the path system.

Concerns were raised about off-leash dogs and dog waste, with some advocating for more dog-friendly amenities while others prefer stricter leash regulations. Additionally, opinions were divided on bicycle infrastructure, with some patrons supporting it and others wanting to restrict bikes in the Greenway.

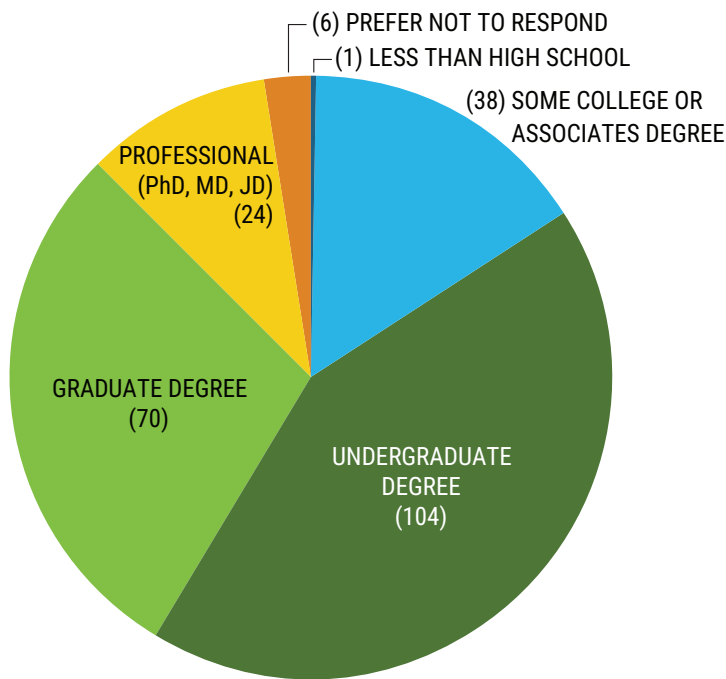
WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING BEST DESCRIBES HOW YOU THINK OF YOURSELF?



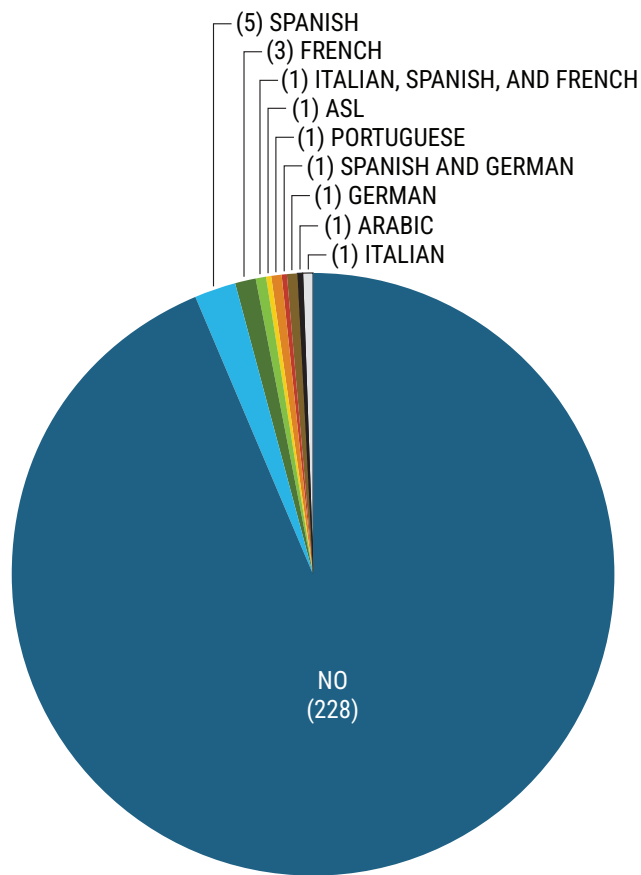
WHAT NEIGHBORHOOD OR COMMUNITY DO YOU LIVE IN?



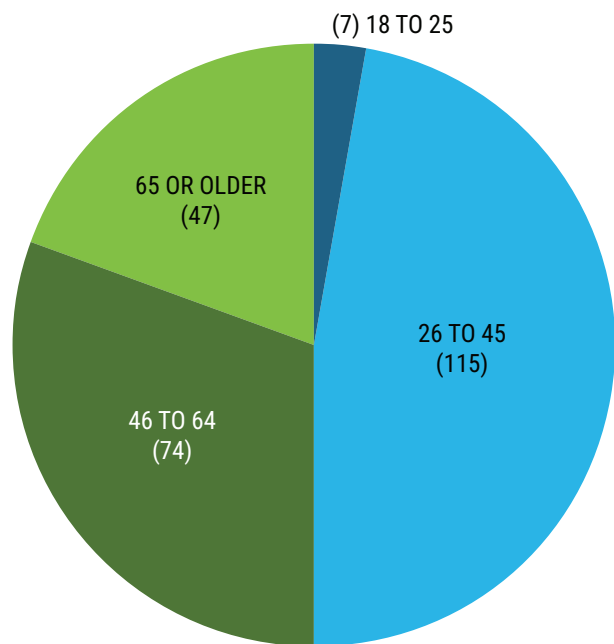
WHAT IS THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATION YOU HAVE RECEIVED?



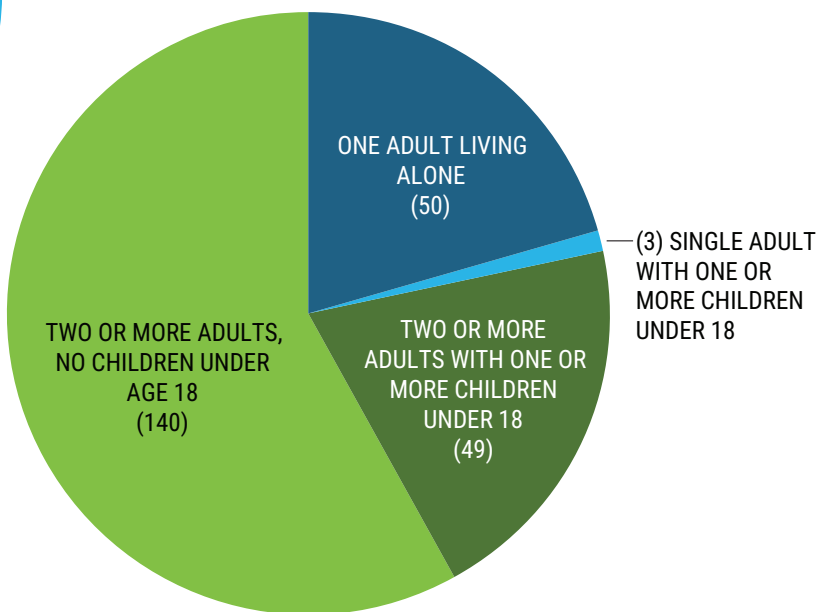
DOES ANYONE IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD SPEAK A LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH AT HOME?



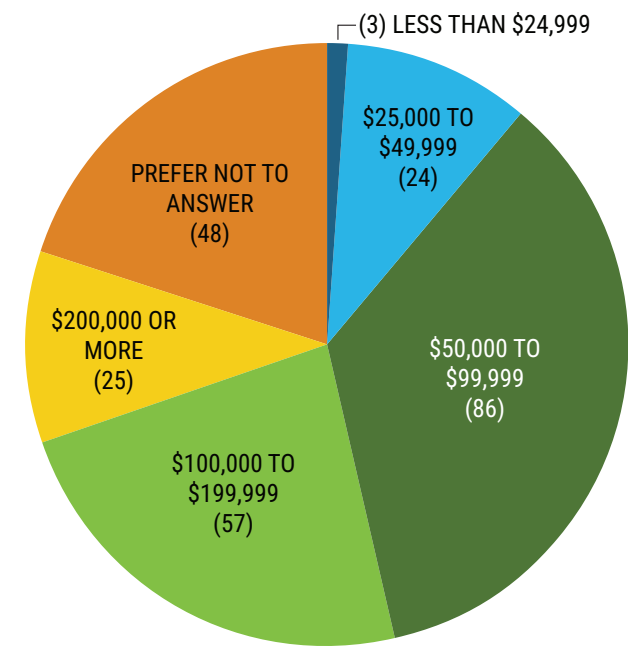
WHAT IS YOUR AGE?



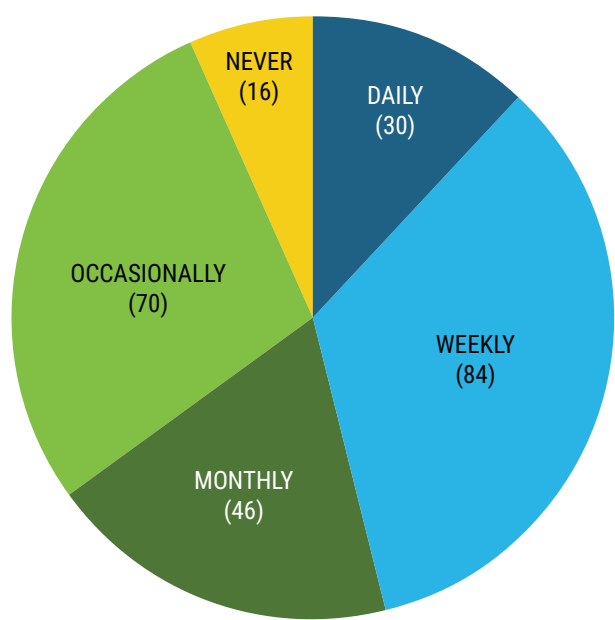
WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING BEST DESCRIBES YOUR HOUSEHOLD?



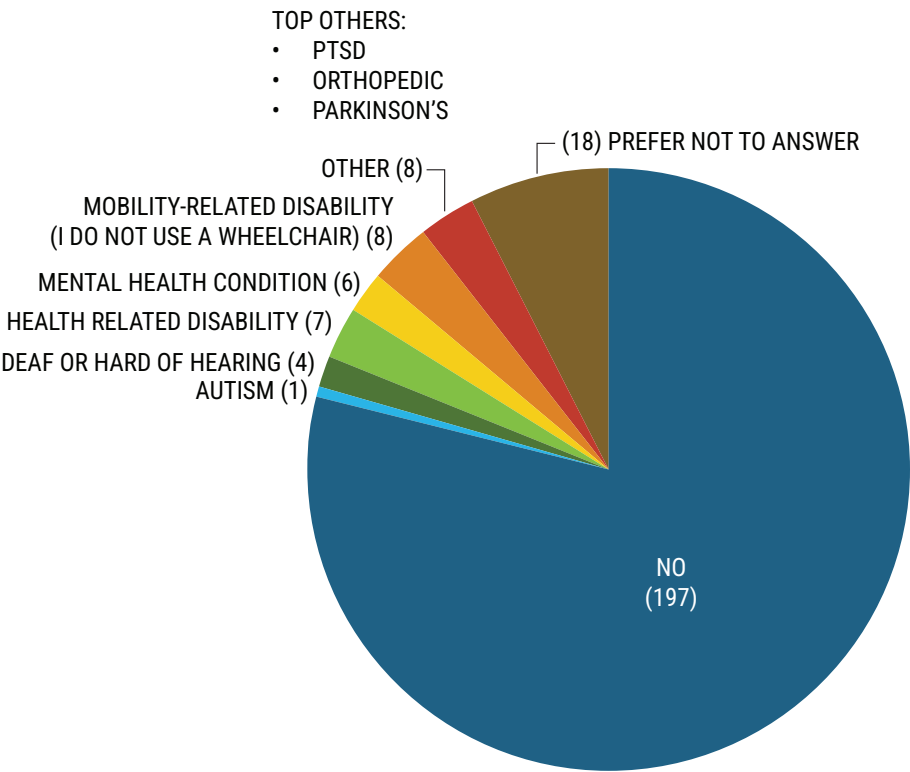
WHAT IS YOUR HOUSEHOLD’S ANNUAL INCOME?



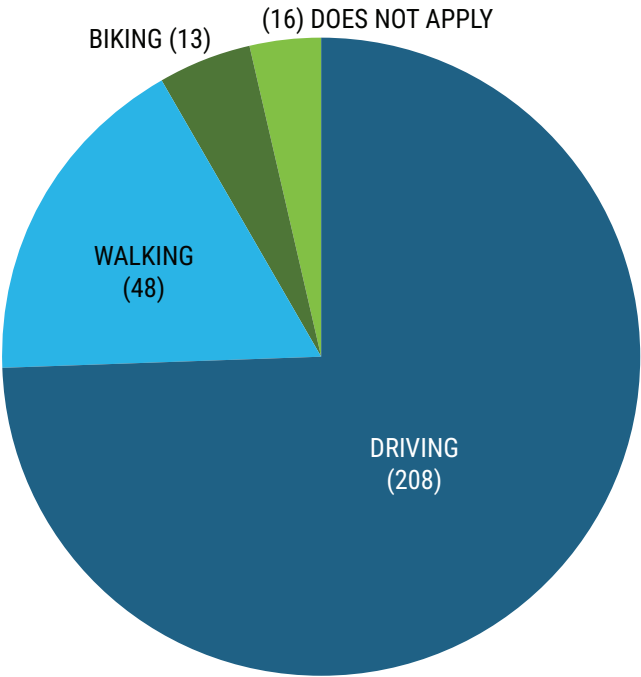
HOW OFTEN DO YOU VISIT CHURCHILL VALLEY GREENWAY?



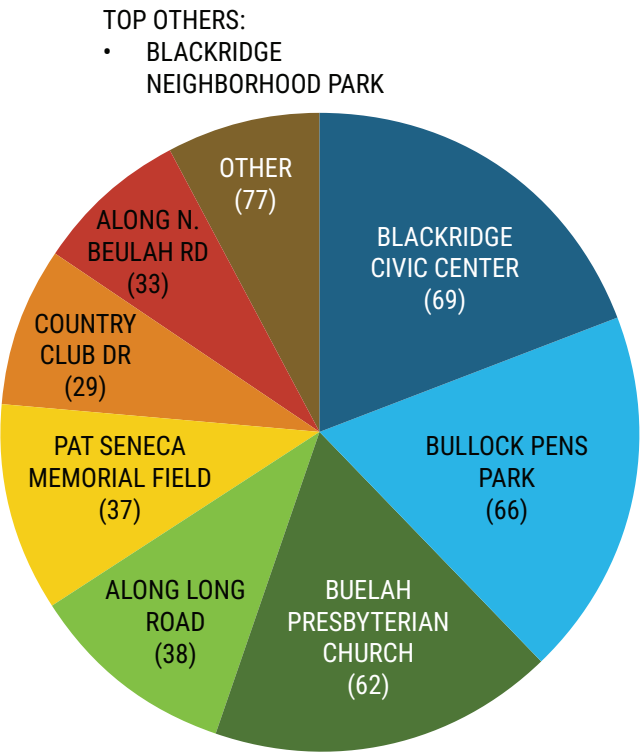
DO YOU HAVE A DISABILITY OR OTHER CHRONIC CONDITION?



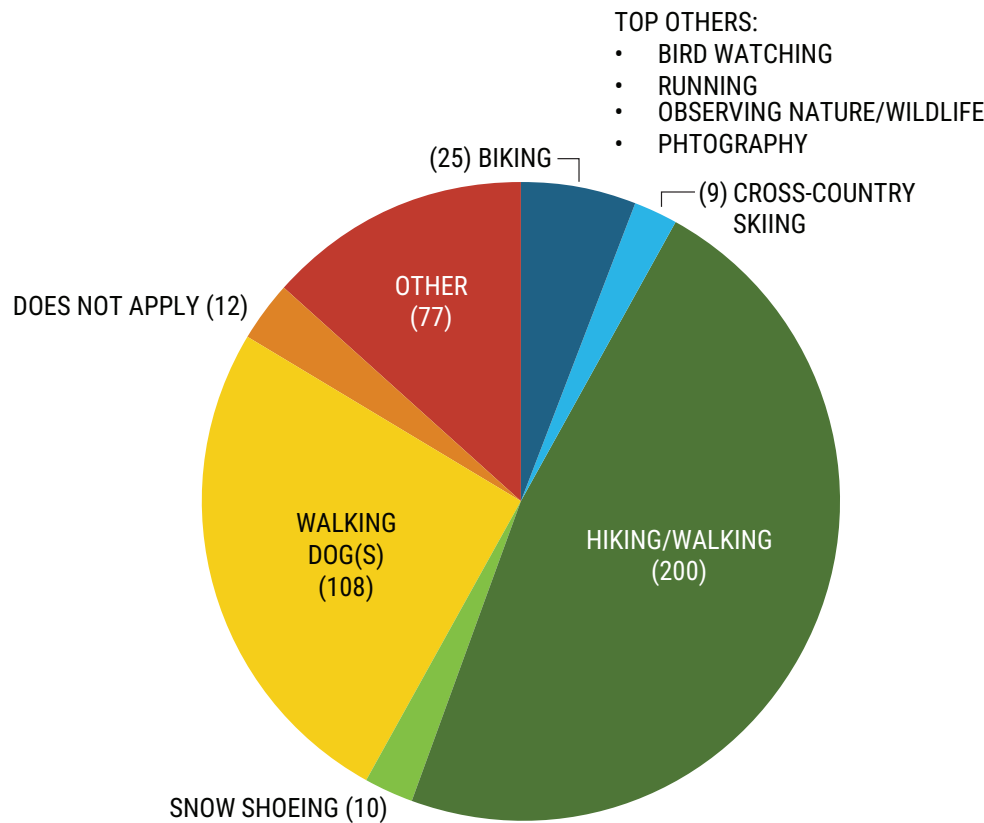
IF YOU VISIT CHURCHILL VALLEY GREENWAY, HOW DO YOU GET THERE?



WHERE WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE A TRAIL CONNECTION TO THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITY?



WHAT ACTIVITIES DO YOU USUALLY PARTICIPATE IN WHEN YOU VISIT?



DEVELOPMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

ACCESS AND TRAILHEADS

This comprehensive access plan ensures that the Greenway is welcoming, accessible, and connected to surrounding neighborhoods, while addressing current infrastructure challenges through strategic partnerships and thoughtful upgrades.

TRAILHEADS

The proposed plan builds upon the three existing trailhead access points:

1. Beulah Road Trailhead
2. Bullock Pens Park Trailhead
3. Pat Seneca Memorial Field Trailhead

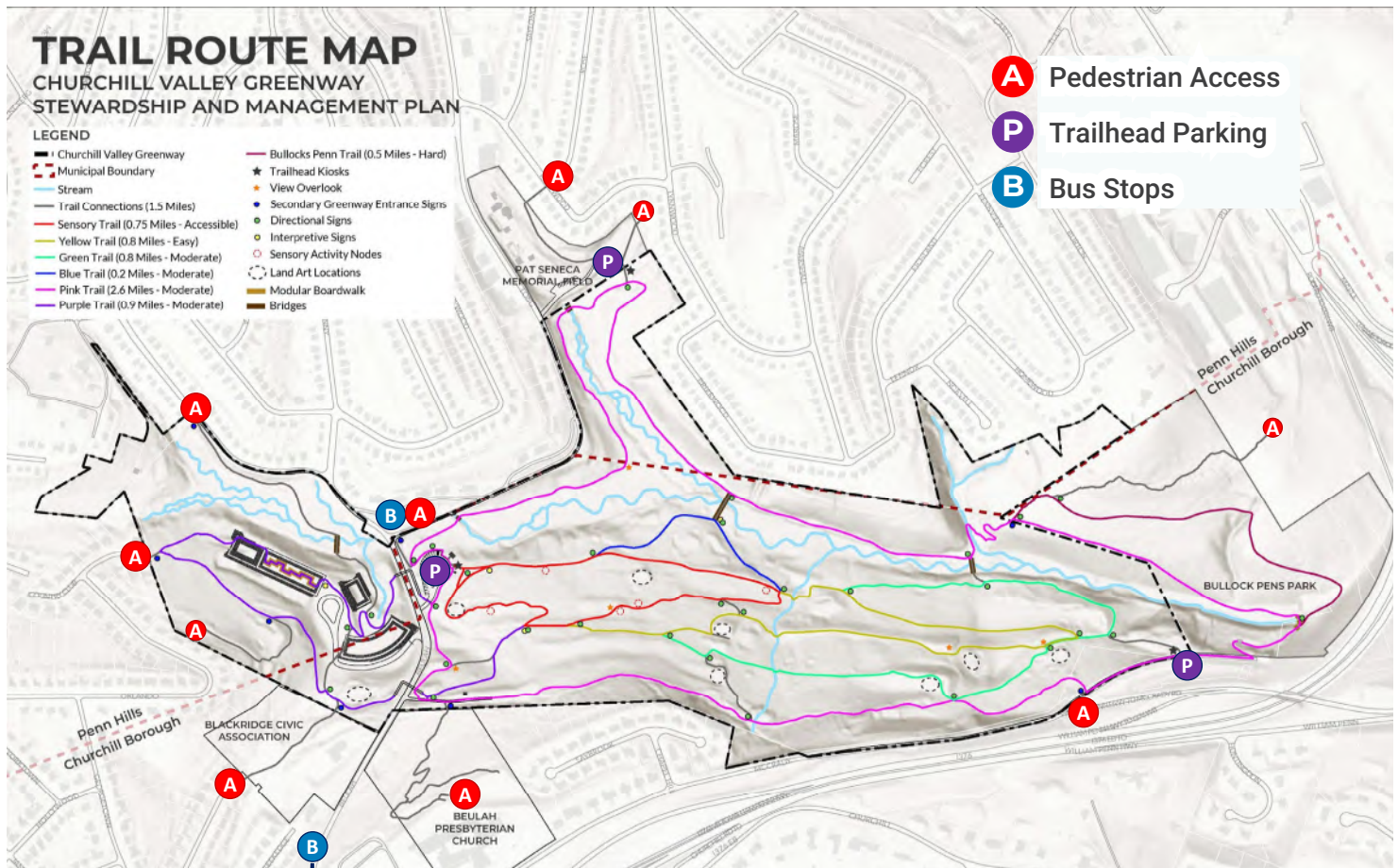
The proposed plan utilizes these existing trailheads and proposes upgrades to better serve users and align with the Greenway's goals. Partnerships with Churchill Borough (Bullock Pens Park) and Penn Hills (Pat Seneca Memorial Field) will be required to implement any changes to those trailheads.

Bullock Pens Park Trailhead

This trailhead, operated by Churchill Borough, features two trail entrances at the end of McCrady Road, parking, and a gate. The borough has expressed interest in upgrading the park's facilities, including shelters, paths, bridges, and parking. The Churchill Valley Greenway Stewardship and Management Plan proposes upgrades to this trailhead to enhance user accessibility.

Proposed Improvements:

- Relocating the Gate: Move the existing gate further down McCrady Road to allow Greenway users to access the parking lot even when Bullock Pens Park is closed.
- Trailhead Kiosk: Install a new kiosk at the western trail access point on McCrady Road.



Pat Seneca Memorial Field Trailhead

Penn Hills has expressed interest in deeding or gifting a section of this parcel—including the existing ball field, parking lot, and access point—to ALT. This parcel is currently shared with Penn Hills' Equalization Facility. The existing parking lot is in danger of eroding into the stream due to a partially collapsed storm line, which Penn Hills has committed to repairing before transferring the parcel to ALT. The Stewardship and Management Plan proposes upgrades to improve accessibility for local neighborhoods and create a more inviting entrance to the Greenway.

Proposed Improvements:

- **Trailhead Kiosk:** Install a kiosk at the existing trail access near the parking lot.
- **Neighborhood Connection:** Establish a pedestrian access path from the Rose and Rosewood Road intersection using an abandoned parcel. This trail connection would follow the edge of the water treatment plant fence and link to the new trailhead.
- **Line striping and wheel stops** are needed to prevent vehicles from driving beyond the parking area.

Beulah Road Trailhead

The Beulah Road Trailhead will see the most significant upgrades, becoming the centralized hub for the Greenway. Based on site analysis and public feedback, the new trailhead will be located on the southern side of Beulah Road, where most existing trails and Greenway features are concentrated.



Coordination will be needed with Water and Land Solutions to combine the stream restoration project grading with the grading for the new trailhead.

Proposed Improvements:

- **Entrance Signage:** Install a prominent entrance sign to improve visibility and wayfinding.
- **Parking Expansion:** Replace the existing parking area with a larger looped lot to accommodate buses and 33 parking spaces, including 2 ADA spaces.
- **Rain Garden:** An integrated rain garden in the parking lot to manage runoff.
- **Trailhead Amenities:** Add community-requested features, including:
 - ADA-accessible port-a-johns (with plans to secure funding to upgrade to vault restrooms in the future)
 - A gathering shelter
 - Bike racks
 - An informational kiosk

The trailhead will serve as a central meeting point and provides connections to the start of three trail loops, including the accessible Sensory Trail. It will also be near the existing pedestrian bridges crossing Beulah Road to the rest of the site.

SECONDARY ACCESS POINTS

In addition to the main trailheads, there are eight smaller pedestrian access points into the Greenway:

- McCrady Road Access
- Beulah Presbyterian Church Access
- Blackridge Civic Association Access
- Orlando Road Access
- Country Club Road Access
- North Beulah Road Access
- Beulah Road and Long Road Access
- Purity Road Access

These access points are a combination of existing access points as well as proposed access points of entryways desired by the community. Each will provide a secondary Greenway entrance sign where connection trails meet the property boundary.

BEULAH TRAILHEAD
CHURCHILL VALLEY GREENWAY
STEWARDSHIP AND MANAGEMENT PLAN





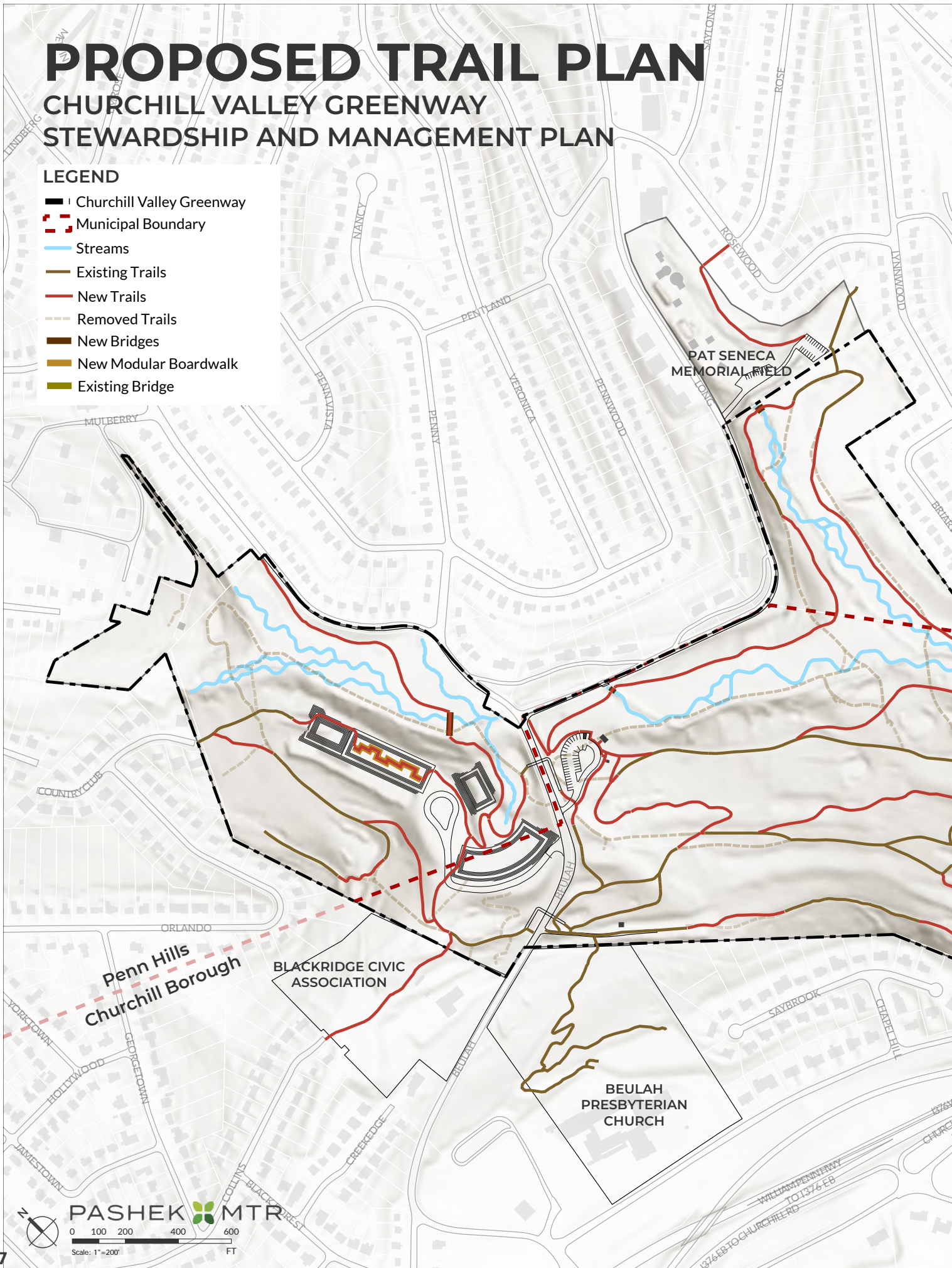
PROPOSED TRAIL PLAN

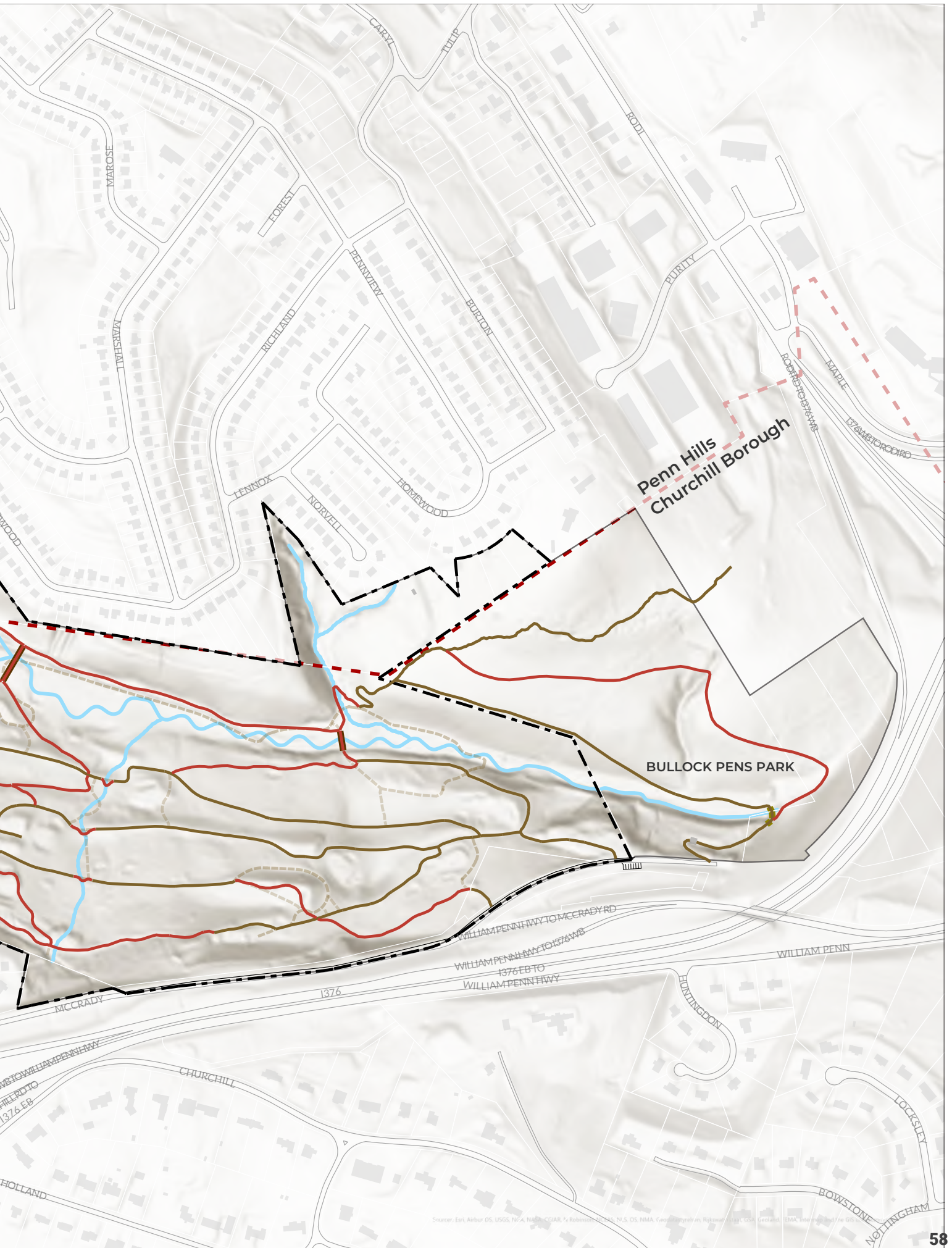
CHURCHILL VALLEY GREENWAY

STEWARDSHIP AND MANAGEMENT PLAN

LEGEND

- Churchill Valley Greenway
- Municipal Boundary
- Streams
- Existing Trails
- New Trails
- Removed Trails
- New Bridges
- New Modular Boardwalk
- Existing Bridge















Source: Esri, Airphoto, USGS, NOAA, NCEM, CIGAR, 7.5 Bottomographic, NOAA, N.S. OS, NMA, Canada, and other sources. Digitized by Esri. Contour interval: 10 feet. Contour lines are shown at 10-foot intervals. Contour lines are shown at 10-foot intervals. Contour lines are shown at 10-foot intervals.

TRAIL TYPE

CHURCHILL VALLEY GREENWAY

STEWARDSHIP AND MANAGEMENT PLAN

LEGEND

-  Churchill Valley Greenway
-  Municipal Boundary
-  Streams
-  Existing Paved Trails
-  Existing Single Track Trail
-  Existing Accessible Paved Trail - Repaved
-  New Accessible Paved Trail
-  New Single Track Trail
-  New Bridges
-  New Modular Boardwalk
-  Existing Bridge



PASHEK MTR

Scale: 1" = 200' FT

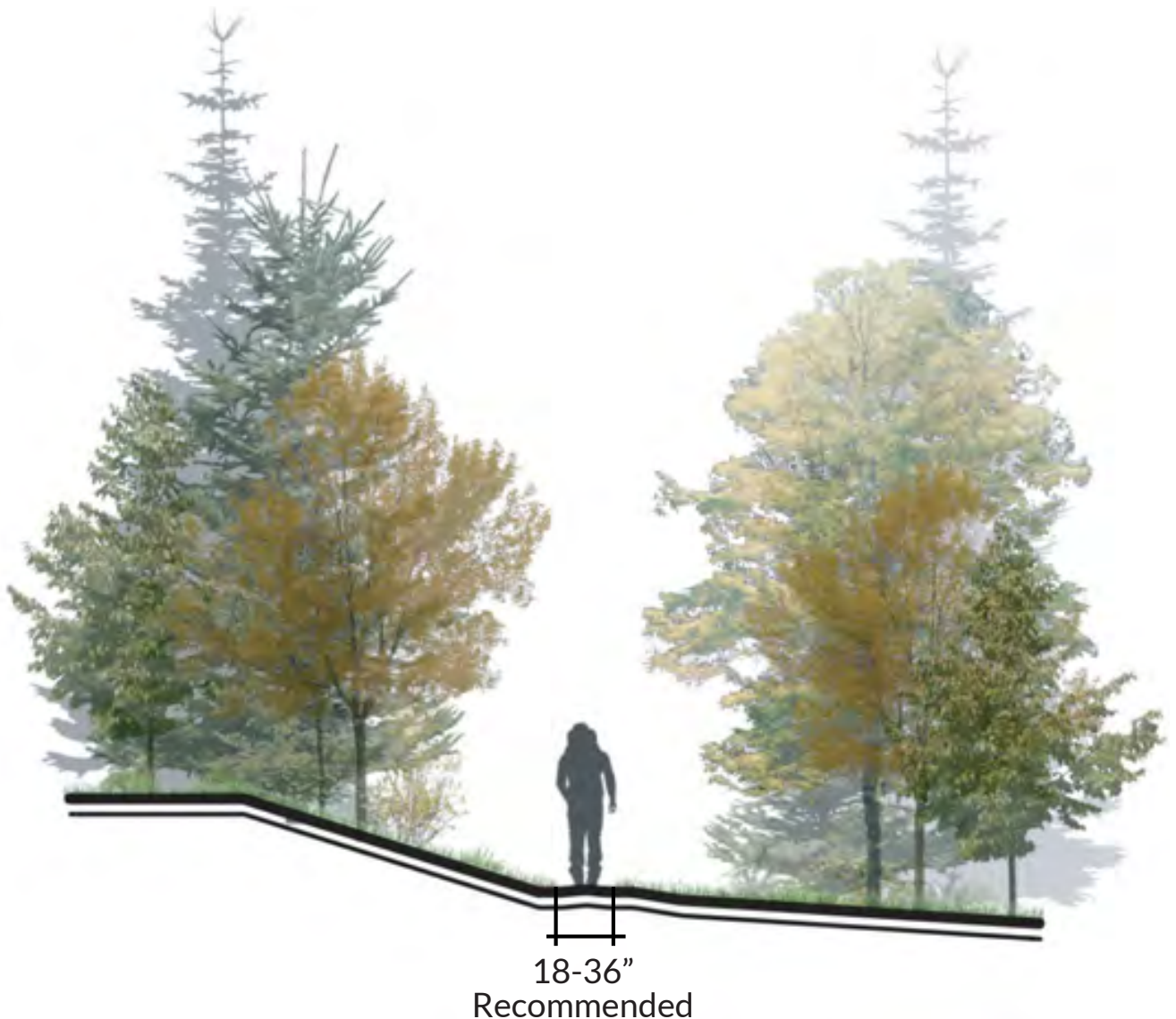
TRAILS

The proposed trail layout has been carefully designed to preserve as much of the existing paved trail system as possible while minimizing erosion and long-term maintenance. Although the AMD and Stream Restoration Projects will disturb some existing trails, the new layout will add approximately 1.5 miles of trails.

- Existing Trails: 6.5 miles
- Proposed Trails: 8.0 miles

The Proposed Trail Plan Map illustrates the existing trails, proposed new trails, and trails planned for removal. Removed trails include those affected by restoration projects, those causing erosion or maintenance issues, and redundant parallel routes.

NATURAL SURFACE TRAIL



TRAIL TYPES AND DESIGN

Trail Surfaces

The trail types are divided into new versus existing trails and paved versus single track trails. The existing trails will remain paved, the only additional paved trails will be around the Buelah Trailhead and the accessible sensory trail. Any other proposed new trails will be natural surface single track trails.

Trail Sections

The trail section diagrams show a cross section of both the natural surface trails and the paved trails. The paved trails will be 6-8ft wide and the natural surface trails will be 1.5-3ft wide.

ACCESSIBLE TRAIL/EXISTING PAVED TRAILS - Asphalt
























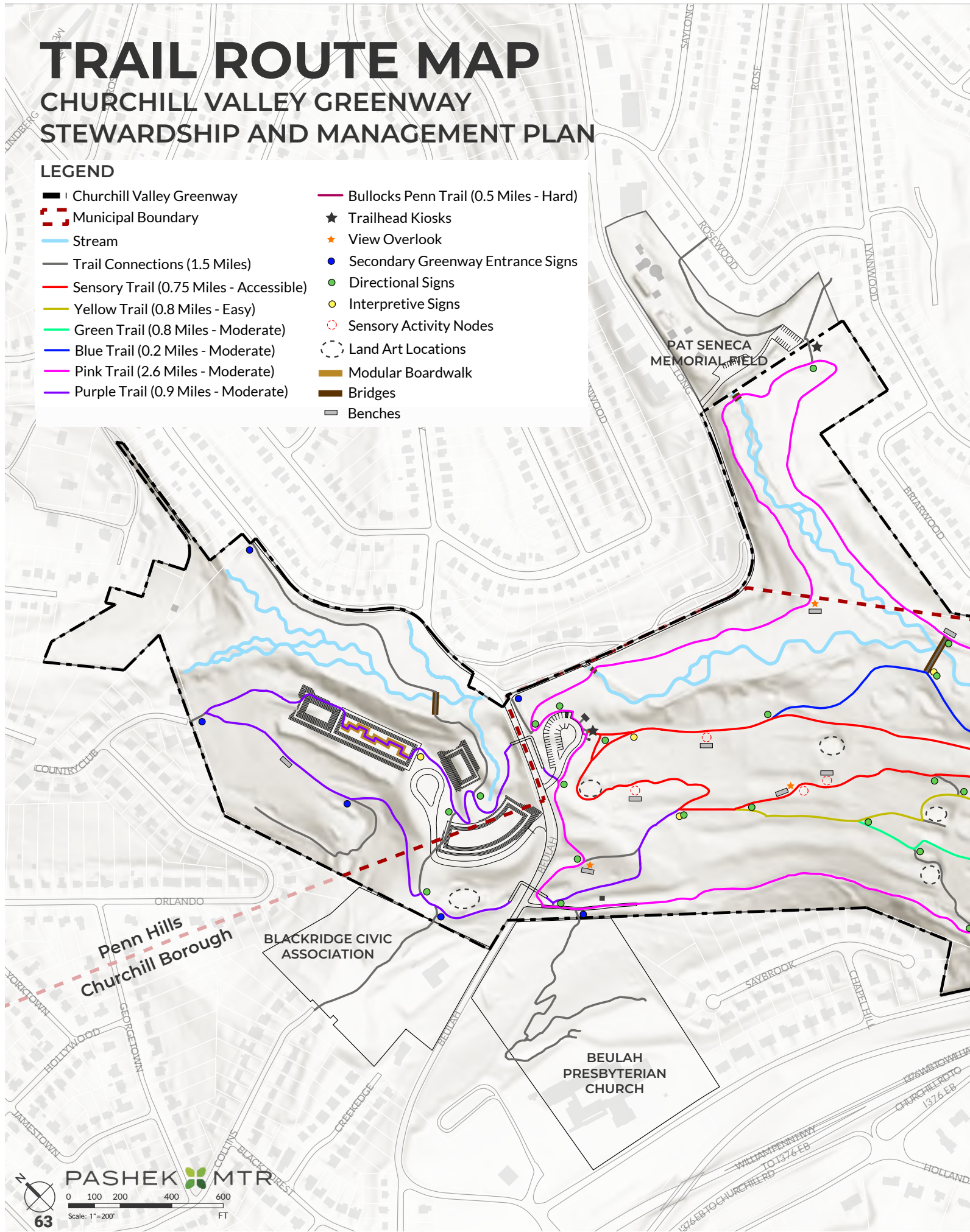
TRAIL ROUTE MAP

CHURCHILL VALLEY GREENWAY

STEWARDSHIP AND MANAGEMENT PLAN

LEGEND

-  Churchill Valley Greenway
-  Municipal Boundary
-  Stream
-  Trail Connections (1.5 Miles)
-  Sensory Trail (0.75 Miles - Accessible)
-  Yellow Trail (0.8 Miles - Easy)
-  Green Trail (0.8 Miles - Moderate)
-  Blue Trail (0.2 Miles - Moderate)
-  Pink Trail (2.6 Miles - Moderate)
-  Purple Trail (0.9 Miles - Moderate)
-  Bullocks Penn Trail (0.5 Miles - Hard)
-  Trailhead Kiosks
-  View Overlook
-  Secondary Greenway Entrance Signs
-  Directional Signs
-  Interpretive Signs
-  Sensory Activity Nodes
-  Land Art Locations
-  Modular Boardwalk
-  Bridges
-  Benches



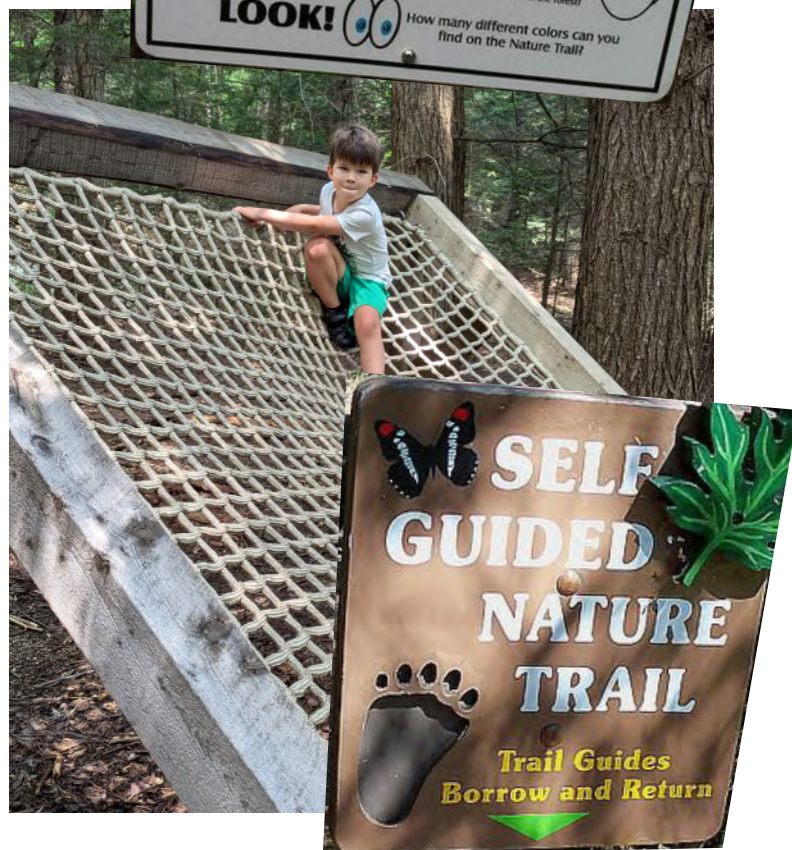
TRAIL SYSTEM

The new trails are designed to form logical loops, making navigation easier and offering a variety of routes with different lengths and difficulty levels. There will be seven designated trails, temporarily identified by colors until official names are decided through public engagement facilitated by ALT.

Trail Designations

1. Red Trail ("Sensory Trail")

- Length: 0.75 miles
- Difficulty: Easy - Fully accessible paved loop with slopes under 5%.
- Surface Type: Asphalt
- Features: Includes sensory activity nodes. These nodes are flat areas along the trail that will have a variety of sensory activities that will be set-up and maintained by volunteers. See example images. Add shade trees.
- Special Designation: A "short-leash trail" to accommodate visitors who prefer limited dog access.







2. Yellow Trail

- Length: 0.8 miles
- Difficulty: Easy – Relatively flat.
- Surface Type: Existing Asphalt (Stepping stones over stream inlet)
- Features: Extends the Red Trail and uses existing infrastructure.

3. Green Trail

- Length: 0.8 miles
- Difficulty: Moderate – Some steep sections.
- Surface Type: Asphalt and Natural Surface (Stepping stones over stream inlet)
- Features: Alternate Red Trail extension and connected to the Yellow Trail. Route is designed to eliminate existing dead ends and overly steep segments.

4. Blue Trail

- Length: 0.2 miles
- Difficulty: Moderate
- Surface Type: Natural Surface
- Features: Provides access to the stream and the new bridge crossing, as well as provides a cut-through from the Pink Trail to the trailhead and the Red Trail.

5. Pink Trail

- Length: 2.6 miles
- Difficulty: Moderate
- Surface Type: Natural Surface (Some Asphalt)
- Features: The outermost loop trail. Utilizes the existing Bullock Pens Park trail. Connects Bullock Pens Park, the Pat Seneca Memorial Trailhead, and other pedestrian access connections with other Greenway trails. Also provides a variety of cut-through connections.

6. Purple Trail

- Length: 0.9 miles
- Difficulty: Moderate
- Surface Type: Natural Surface, Asphalt, and Boardwalk
- Features: A looped trail utilizing sections of the Red and Pink Trails and crosses Beulah Road via existing pedestrian bridges. It weaves through the AMD system and links to existing trails and pedestrian access connections on the upper part of the site.

7. Bullock Pens Trail

- Length: 0.5 miles
- Difficulty: Hard
- Surface Type: Natural Surface
- Features: Adds to the existing Bullock Pens trail to create a challenging loop trail within the park. Requires coordination with Churchill Borough for implementation. ALT is willing to provide volunteers and signages for these trails.

8. Connector Trails

- Length: 1.5 miles
- Difficulty: Various
- Surface Type: Natural Surface
- Features: These trails make small connections between the main trails or connect the surrounding community to the trail system. Some of these trails may be named in the future.

ADDITIONAL TRAIL FEATURES

Overlooks

Along the trails there will be strategic points offering views, benches, picture taking stations, and educational signage. These points coordinate with the habitat plan and overlook low-growing meadow plants to preserve sightlines.

Land Art Locations

Former flat areas from old tee boxes and greens from the golf course will be repurposed for temporary or permanent installations. These areas would be organized and maintained by volunteers, potentially called the “Land Art Committee.” Current ideas from volunteers for these spaces include local artist projects, school collaborations, and active installations like body-weight exercise stations. Additional ideas are shown in the images below. All ideas for these locations will be submitted to ALT for approval and coordination of installation. Signs with QR codes should be installed at each location to provide information about the installations. QR codes can be easily changed as installations change.

Benches

Benches are strategically placed throughout the property at sensory nodes, overlooks, and along trails to provide opportunities for rest. These bench locations are marked on the trail route map. Additionally, there is an option to install benches at the new gathering shelter at the Beulah Road Trailhead or at land art locations if ALT determines they are necessary.



Section 2: Where do we want to be?



Bridges

The plan proposes three types of bridges:

1. **Fiberglass Bridges:** (3) bridges to be built by contractors to cross Chalfant Run and connect key trails. One connecting the Blue and Pink Trail, one connecting the Green and Pink Trail, and one at a trail connection on the north side of Beulah Road.
2. **Volunteer-Built Bridges:** (2) shorter bridges along the Prink Trail where the stream enters the site. Constructed by volunteers or as Eagle Scout projects.
3. **Modular Boardwalk:** A removable walkway, built by volunteers, over the AMD system, serving as a multipurpose space for yoga and other activities as desired from community engagement. The removable system will allow for routine maintenance of the AMD system.



Fiberglass Bridge Example



Volunteer Built Bridge Example



Modular Boardwalk Example

SIGNAGE

The Trail Route Map, shown previously, illustrates the proposed types and locations of signs for Churchill Valley Greenway. A well-integrated signage system is essential for providing consistent, clear, and engaging information to visitors. It also helps emergency responders identify specific locations on the property.

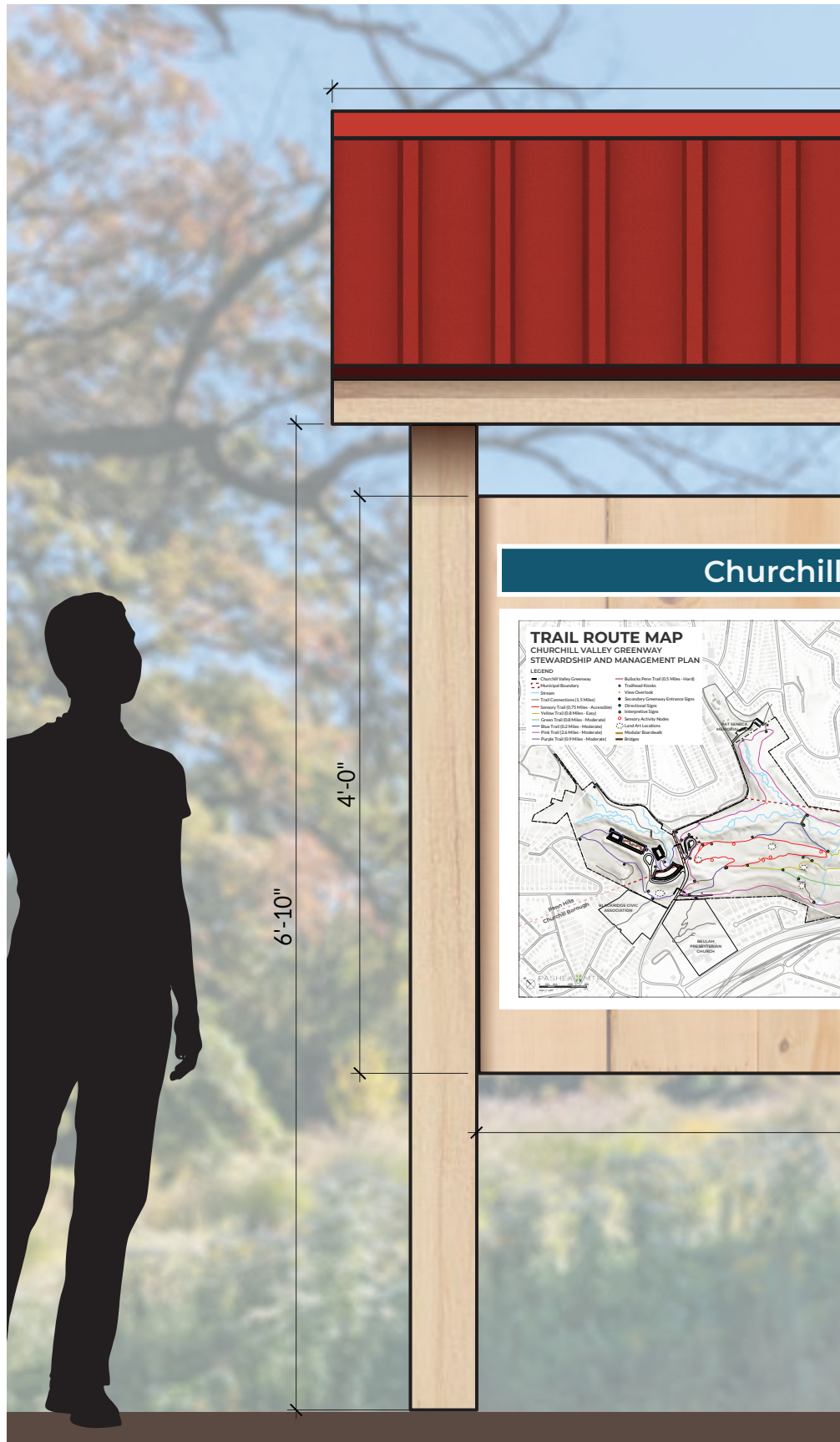
The proposed signage plan for Churchill Valley Greenway ensures that all signs deliver concise, useful, and visually cohesive information to improve navigation and enhance the visitor experience. By integrating trailhead kiosks, trail markers, mile markers, and interpretive signs, the Greenway will provide a welcoming and informative experience for all users.

TRAIL KIOSKS AND SECONDARY ENTRANCE SIGNS

Trail kiosks will be professionally designed and installed by signage contractors at the three trailhead parking areas to provide essential information. These signs will include:

- A detailed trail route map
- Hours of operation
- Rules and safety guidelines
- Additional information as determined by ALT

Secondary Entrance Signs are simpler signs custom-ordered and installed by ALT staff using the same design as the medium interpretive signs. They will be located at all pedestrian entrances and list hours of operation, rules, and safety guidelines.





TRAIL MARKERS

Trail markers will be placed at every trail entrance and intersection. These signs will include:

- Trail name
- Directional markers
- Permitted uses
- Accessibility information:
 - Trail length
 - Surface type
 - Running slope

Each trail marker will be color-coordinated with its associated trail loop for easy identification. These signs will be custom-ordered and installed by ALT staff.

MILE MARKERS

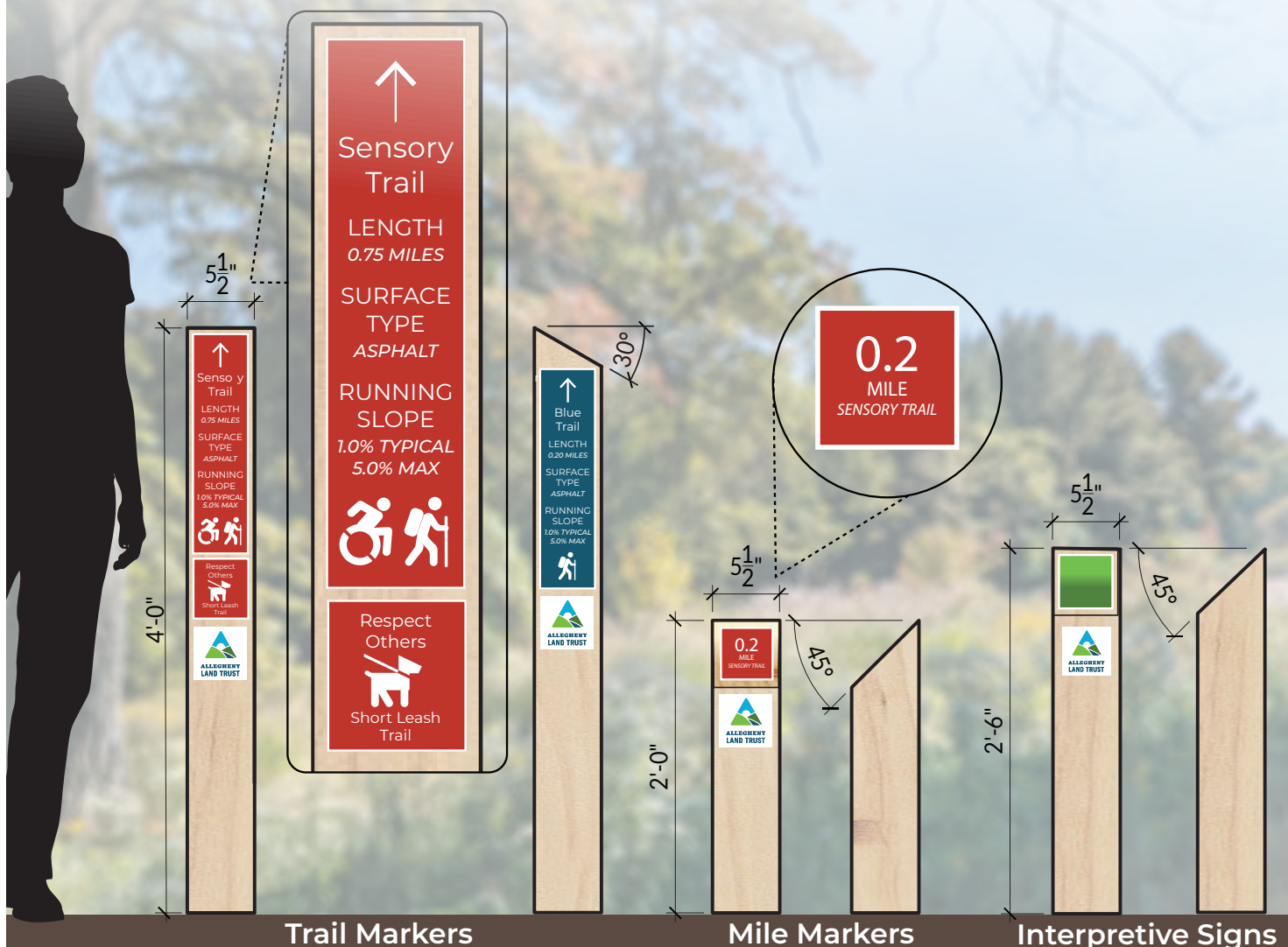
Mile markers will be placed along trails at 0.1-mile intervals to serve as location identifiers for visitors and emergency responders. These signs will:

- Include the trail name
- Match the color scheme of the corresponding trail markers

Like the trail markers, mile markers will be custom-ordered and installed by ALT staff.

INTERPRETIVE SIGNS

Three types of interpretive signs—large, medium, and small—are proposed for the Greenway. These signs will be professionally designed and installed by signage contractors.



Large and Medium Interpretive Signs

These signs will be placed at primary interpretive locations as indicated on the trail route map to provide in-depth information on the following topics as identified through public engagement:

- Abandoned Mine Drainage (AMD) systems
- Stream Restoration
- Meadow Planting
- Country Club History
- Possible replacement of the Reforestation Sign

Small Interpretive Signs

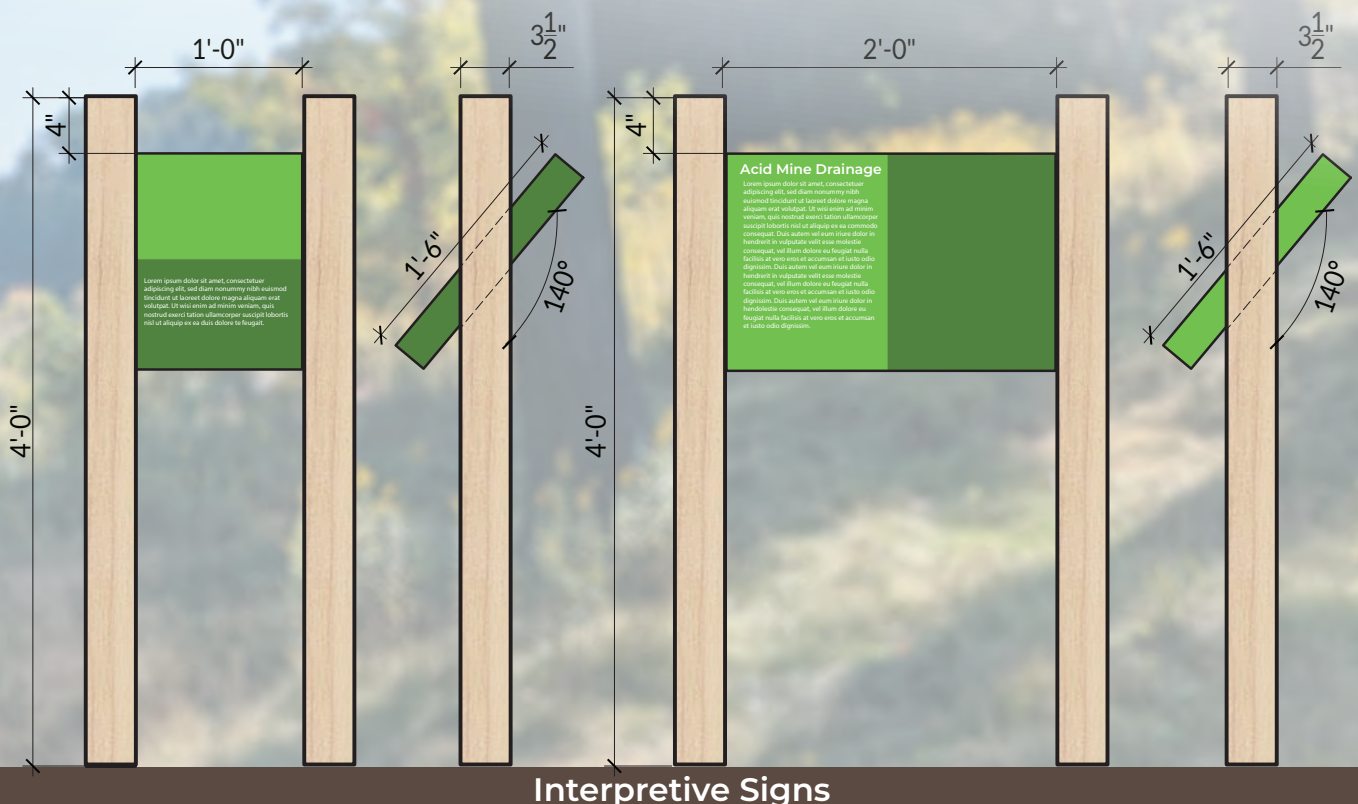
Smaller signs will provide simple and focused information on specific areas or features, such as:

- Overlooks
- Notable site features
- Plant identification
- Sensory nodes
- Land art installations

These small signs may also incorporate QR codes, which offer a versatile way to provide additional information. Quick Response (QR) codes are designed for quickly linking to internet resources. These can include:

- Videos
- Maps
- Photographs
- Guided tours
- Links to site specific ecology and historic information

QR codes are a cost-effective solution that allows content to be easily updated or replaced without modifying the physical signage. ALT will determine the locations and content for these small interpretive signs.



HABITAT MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the habitat inventory and public input, the goals of the habitat recommendations include the following:

- Increase habitat for species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) such as the Willow Flycatcher, Chimney Swift, Scarlet Tanager, and Wood Thrush.
- Preserve and enhance some of the existing meadows for views and overlooks.
- Expand and enhance forest habitat to increase carbon sequestration and storage.
- Restore the stream bed and surrounding habitat along Chalfant Run.
- Reduce maintenance.

In order to accomplish the above goals, we propose developing and/or enhancing habitat areas as shown on the Proposed Habitat plan and described below:

MEADOW

There are two main areas proposed to remain as upland meadows, a nine-acre front meadow near the Beulah Road Trailhead and a five-acre back meadow near the southeastern end of the property near Bullock Pens Park. A smaller meadow is located within the AMD access drive area in order to allow for overflow parking during large events.

Two small low management meadows are located in areas to preserve views of the restored stream from the new pavilion and an overlook along the pink trail. These meadows are intended to be managed every 4 years by volunteers cutting down larger trees and shrubs.

MEADOW MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

The focus should be on enhancing habitat for the two species of SGCN birds with the following considerations:

- Enhance or replant proposed meadow areas in one of the following ways:

- **Volunteer-Based Planting**

This approach will strengthen the existing meadow's habitat, as opposed to replacing it entirely. Divide the designated meadow areas into small, manageable sections, based on the number of participants and the time available. Volunteers can then plant meadow plugs in small groups. Regular maintenance of the existing meadow, including mowing once every two years and invasive species control, will be necessary to ensure the health and sustainability of the habitat.

- **Contractor-Based Planting**

If the meadow planting is carried out by a professional meadow contractor, the existing meadow will be removed and replanted with native species. To prepare the area, clear the site through mowing, followed by a no-till seeding approach to avoid the use of herbicides. This method relies on mechanical mowing to suppress existing vegetation while allowing the seeded native plants to establish. The specific seed mix composition will be determined in consultation with the meadow contractor and the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy to ensure compatibility with the site's ecological goals. Follow contractor's recommendations on establishment mowing.

- Mow established meadows about once every other year to clear out shrubs and trees. Alternate mowing of the front and back meadows.
- Avoid use of any pesticides within managed areas. This is likely one of the main causes of decline for both Chimney Swift and Willow Flycatcher.
- Maintain and monitor Chimney Swift nesting towers already on site and consider placement of additional towers.
- Avoid all invasive shrub removal, tree plantings, or other habitat alterations within the nesting season (May through August). If work needs to be completed within this period, seek assistance from a qualified bird biologist to survey areas of intended work for potential conflicts with breeding birds.

SUCCESIONAL HABITAT

Successional Habitat is located in areas that are currently meadows that will be allowed to turn into shrubland and eventually forest. These areas will be lightly managed to reduce volunteer time and costs.

SUCCESIONAL HABITAT MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

- Mechanically remove invasive species.

SHRUBLAND

Shrubland is proposed for areas just outside of the stream restoration disturbance boundary. The purpose is to expand and enhance the habitat of the Willow Flycatcher.

SHRUBLAND MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

- Avoid all invasive shrub removal, tree plantings, or other habitat alterations within the nesting season (May through August). If work needs to be completed within this period, seek assistance from a qualified bird biologist to survey areas of intended work for potential conflicts with breeding birds.
- Restore “wet thicket habitat” along streams. Willow Flycatcher nests in shrubland habitat along streams in broad valleys, like CVG. Best habitats include high stem density of shrub species such as willows (*Salix* spp.), hawthorns (*Crataegus* spp.), chokecherry (*Prunus virginiana*), and ninebark (*Physocarpus opulifolius*).
- Retain scattered taller willows or available native tree species for Willow Flycatcher foraging perches within their 1-4 acre breeding territories.

WETLAND FOREST MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

- Maintain as much native vegetation as possible and maintain/improve stream health to increase production of aerial insects (e.g. bees, wasps, flies, beetles, butterflies and moths).
- Mechanically remove invasive species as they occur.
- Avoid all invasive shrub removal, tree plantings, or other habitat alterations within the nesting season (May through August). If work needs to be completed within this period, seek assistance from a qualified bird biologist to survey areas of intended work for potential conflicts with breeding birds.
- Enhance the stream restoration planting with additional species to bolster habitat for Willow Flycatcher. Willow Flycatcher nests in shrubland habitat along streams in broad valleys, like CVG. Best habitats include high stem density of shrub species such as willows (*Salix* spp.), hawthorns (*Crataegus* spp.), chokecherry (*Prunus virginiana*), and ninebark (*Physocarpus opulifolius*).

WETLAND FOREST

Wetland Forest is located in areas where stream restoration will take place within the floodplain of Chalfant Run and some of its tributaries. These areas will be highly disturbed and replanted with native wetland trees, shrubs, and herbaceous seeding according to plans by Land and Water Solutions. The area will start off as shrubland before the trees mature into a forest.

UPLAND FOREST

The plan extends the proposed reforestation areas in the Oikos plan to further connect existing forests and enhance habitat for the Scarlet Tanager and Wood Thrush as well as other forest interior birds. These areas currently contain a combination of Native Upland Forest, Successional Woodlands, Successional Forest, and Herbaceous Meadows as described in the Habitat Inventory section of this report. Some of the area will be replanted as part of the stream restoration project by Land and Water Solutions.

UPLAND FOREST MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

- Reforestation of open herbaceous areas linking together the woodland islands to existing forest, aiming toward a native oak forest community described in the Inventory section.
- Removal and control of woody invasive shrubs like privet (*Ligustrum* sp.) and Japanese barberry (*Berberis thunbergii*) and replacing these with native understory trees and shrubs like spice bush (*Lindera benzoin*), serviceberries (*Amelanchier* spp.), witch-hazel (*Hamamelis virginiana*) will be essential. However, care should be taken on highly eroded slopes to prevent total loss of the soil to retain existing canopy trees. Consider adding native herbaceous plants appropriate for the oak forest community to further stabilize slopes.
- Forest canopy will need to have mix of tree species with high production of insect prey (e.g. moth caterpillars), particularly oaks (*Quercus alba*, *Q. rubra*, *Q. velutina*).
- Avoid all invasive shrub removal, tree plantings, or other habitat alterations within the bird nesting season (May through August). If work needs to be completed within this period, seek assistance from a qualified bird biologist to survey areas of intended work for potential conflicts with breeding birds.





PROPOSED HABITAT

CHURCHILL VALLEY GREENWAY

STEWARDSHIP AND MANAGEMENT PLAN

LEGEND

- Churchill Valley Greenway
- Municipal Boundary
- Stream
- Meadow - Yearly Management
- Meadow - 4 Year Management
- Successional Habitat
- Shrubland
- Wetland Forest
- Upland Forest
- Trails
- View Overlook



Penn Hills
Churchill Borough

BLACKRIDGE CIVIC
ASSOCIATION

BEULAH
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH



PASHEK MTR

0 100 200 400 600
Scale: 1"=200' FT



ADJACENT PROPERTY ACCESS AND OWNERSHIP

During the planning process, several adjacent properties were identified as key areas for improving access, providing protection, or potential ownership. ALT should engage with the respective municipalities or property owners to discuss access agreements or potential acquisition of these parcels.

ALT should prioritize discussions with Churchill Borough and the Municipality of Penn Hills to secure high-priority parcels through easements, leases, or agreements. Concurrently, ALT can explore opportunities for acquiring or securing access to lower-priority parcels to enhance connectivity and protection within the Greenway.

The following is a prioritized list of adjacent parcels, including their details and recommended ownership strategies:

CHURCHILL VALLEY GREENWAY

FUTURE PROPERTY ACCESS, PROTECTION, AND PARCEL OWNERSHIP

ADJACENT LANDS	PARCEL NUMBER(S)	SIZE (ACRES)	PARTNER	
BULLOCK PENS PARK	371-D-150	23.51	CHURCHILL BOROUGH	
BULLOCK PENS PARK	452-E-30	4.35	CHURCHILL BOROUGH	
BEULAH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH	370-J-70-0-1	13.4	BUELAH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH	
BEULAH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH	370-J-50-0-1	4.5	BUELAH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH	
BEULAH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH	370-J-10	7.2	BUELAH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH	
PAT SENECA MEMORIAL FIELD	370-C-112	5.65	MUNICIPALITY OF PENN HILLS	
ROSEWOOD PROPERTY	370-D-328	0.14	GERARD MICHAEL JR AND ANNETTE DEVINNEY	
BLACKRIDGE CIVIC CENTER	370-E-150	7.72	BLACKRIDGE CIVIC CENTER	
OFF OF PURITY ROAD	451-P-398	0.42	ASSOCIATED INVESTORS INC	
OFF OF PURITY ROAD	451-P-366	1.5	IRREVOCABLE TRUST FOR FAMILY OF AUGUST C DAMIAM AND CLEMA M DAMIAN	
OFF OF PURITY ROAD	451-N-375	13.61	IRREVOCABLE TRUST FOR FAMILY OF AUGUST C DAMIAM AND CLEMA M DAMIAN	

12/1/2024
PREPARED BY PASHEK + MTR

	ADDITIONAL PARTNER	OWNERSHIP TYPE	PRIORITY
		MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING	1
		MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING	1
		MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING	1
		MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING	1
		MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING	1
		PURCHASE AGREEMENT AND/OR EASEMENT	2
		PURCHASE AGREEMENT OR EASEMENT	2
		MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING OR EASEMENT	2
	PEOPLES GAS	JOINT EASEMENT	3
	PEOPLES GAS	JOINT EASEMENT	3
	PEOPLES GAS	JOINT EASEMENT	3

MAINTENANCE

TRAIL INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE

The frequency of trail maintenance varies depending on the type of maintenance activity being undertaken, and potentially by frequency of use.

Trail maintenance tasks should be documented in the trail management plan and should be adopted by the agency/organization responsible for the trail.

Maintenance requirements are dependent on the type of trail and amount of visitation it receives.

An excellent on-line reference resource for trail maintenance crews is the U.S. Forest Service's Trail Construction and Maintenance Notebook, available here:

www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/recreational_trails/publications/fs_publications/07232806/toc.cfm

SCHEDULED MAINTENANCE

Scheduled maintenance is the normal maintenance needed to restore a trail to its intended standard after prolonged wear and tear of normal use and exposure to the elements.

Develop an annual trail maintenance schedule using historical and known maintenance requirements from previous inspections or deferred maintenance. This living document should be adapted to the changing conditions of the trail.

The adjacent chart is a typical calendar for scheduled maintenance:

Typically, scheduled maintenance tasks is shown. This list can be altered as needed to meet the needs of the trail, its users and ALT:

- Trimming or removing vegetation, dead limbs, or standing dead trees
- Removing debris, deadfalls, or loose impediments
- Cleaning out ditches, swales and culverts
- Repairing and revegetating minor erosion on slopes or embankments
- Grooming the tread surface
- Mowing
- Trash removal
- Invasive plant removal
- Signs – inspect/repair/replace
- Fence – inspect/repair/replace
- Drainage structures – inspect/repair/replace
- Gates – inspect/repair/replace
- Bridges – inspect/repair/replace
- Maintain dips
- Grade ditches
- Storm damage
- Vandalism removal/repair
- Repair washouts
- Cleaning of restrooms at trailheads
- Maintaining and completing preventative maintenance on support facilities
- Inspecting trail-related structures to ensure they are in a safe condition
- Plowing trailhead parking lots in the winter

Maintenance Activity	Frequency of Scheduled Maintenance											
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
EXAMPLE- Mowing			•	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	•••		
Mowing												
Trimming												
Trash												
Pruning												
Weeding												
Invasive Removal												
Signs - inspect/repair/replace												
Fence - inspect/repair/replace												
Drainage Structures - inspect/repair/replace												
Gates - inspect/repair/replace												
Bridge - inspect/repair/replace												
Maintain Dips												
Trail Grooming												
Groom Trail Surface												
Landscaping												
Repair Storm Damage												
Repair Vandalism												

ROUTINE TRAIL ASSESSMENTS

Trails and use areas should be assessed for safety and maintenance deficiencies periodically during the peak season. Assessments should be conducted in such a way that safety hazards are corrected as soon as possible. Hazards or deficiencies can be corrected when they are found. If hazards or deficiencies cannot be corrected immediately, the location, date, time, and type of hazard should be recorded, reported and scheduled for repair.

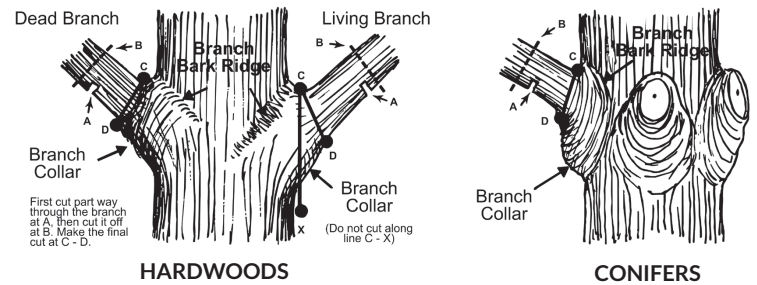
A record of assessments and corrective actions should be kept. This will allow staff to identify trends in types and locations of repairs and provide a written record of corrective actions made. Such records will provide an added level of protection in liability for accidents or injuries caused by trail deficiencies.

An example of a Trail Assessment Form is found in the appendix and can be adapted for use in Churchill Valley Greenway.

VEGETATION CLEARING FOR PAVED AND NATURAL SURFACE TRAILS

Clearing vegetation from trails is one of the most important maintenance activities that volunteers can do related to the trail system. Clearing vegetation enhances visibility and accessibility along trails. The following graphics were developed to show volunteers what to clear and how far.

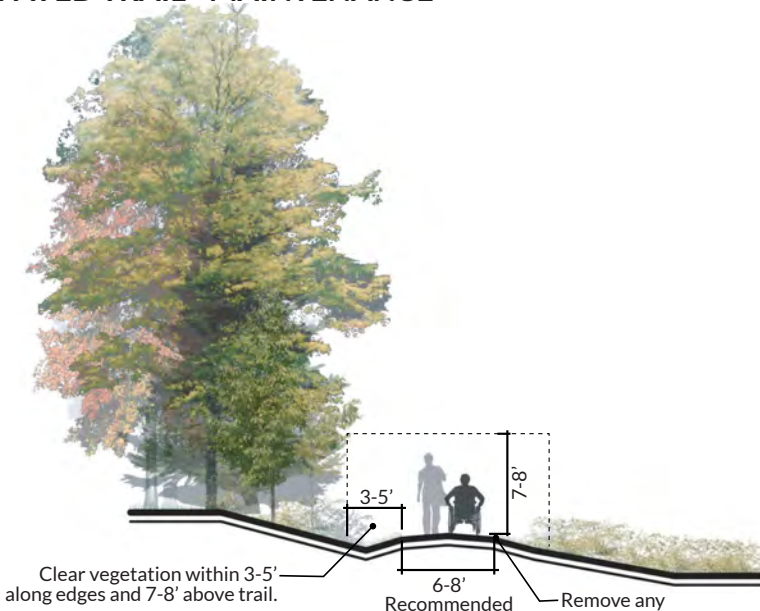
PROPER PRUNING PRINCIPLES



NOTES:

1. Only prune oak branches or remove oak saplings when leaves area off the trees to reduce the spread of oak wilt disease.
2. Do not cut in the middle of a branch. Cut it at an intersection with another branch or tree trunk.
3. See diagram for proper pruning principles especially for larger branches.

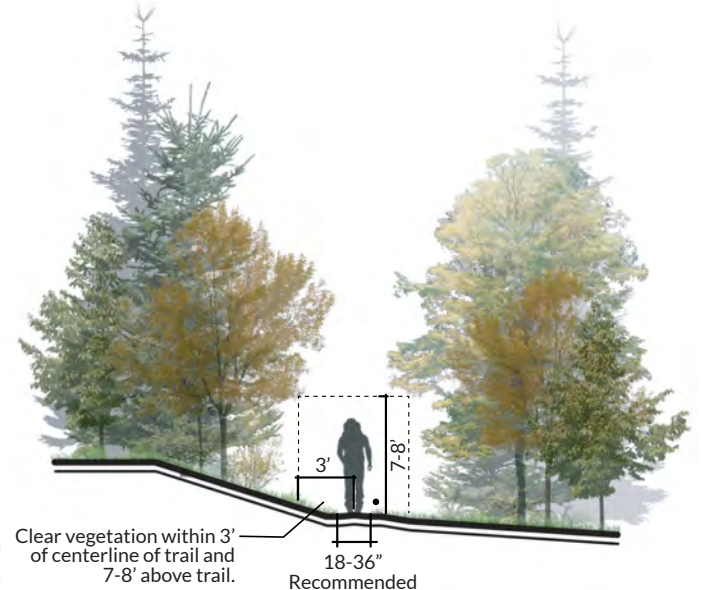
PAVED TRAIL - MAINTENANCE



Clear Vegetation Includes:

- Pruning Low Branches
- Mowing Herbaceous Trail Edges
- Removing All Saplings and Shrubs

NATURAL SURFACE TRAIL - MAINTENANCE



Clear Vegetation Includes:

- Pruning/Cutting any Branches or Saplings within the Defined Clearing Area.
- Do Not Remove Trees Larger than 3" in Diameter.

CORRECTIVE MAINTENANCE

Corrective maintenance is necessary for the restoration of areas or structures severely damaged or destroyed by overuse, inadequate scheduled maintenance, abuse, vandalism, or unexpected natural events. Corrective maintenance is usually unexpected and may require more planning or design than scheduled maintenance. Corrective maintenance includes:

- Grooming and maintenance of trail tread surface.
- Stabilization of erosion.
- Reconstruction of grade dips, or other water control features.
- Replacement or major repair of drainage structures or bridges.

Regardless of the level of planning and effectiveness of the scheduled maintenance program, the unexpected will occur. Address unexpected emergencies by establishing a contingency line item in the annual maintenance budget. Ideally, a long-term capital improvement budget should be in-place to repair/replace major structures.

HAZARD TREE IDENTIFICATION, INSPECTION AND CORRECTIVE ACTION

A tree is considered hazardous when structural defects are likely to cause failure of all or part of a tree within striking distance of an object. An object can be a vehicle, building, or an area where people or their equipment are likely to stop and congregate, such as park benches, campgrounds, picnic tables and environmental education areas. Identifying hazard trees is not an exact science. Many times trees will fail though they appear healthy. One cannot always accurately determine the hazard potential of every tree, but following a few basic inspection techniques can identify many hazard trees so corrective action can be taken.

Trees in poor condition should be inspected more closely for structural defects including cracks, cankers, decay, weak branch unions and root problems. Be sure to inspect trees carefully and systematically. Examine all parts of the tree, including the trunk flair, main stem, branches and

branch unions. A pair of binoculars or a spotting scope will allow for a more complete examination of the tree canopy.

Close inspection should occur in any public overnight and day use areas, along trails and roadways, and adjacent to buildings. Again, a hazard tree is defined as having a defect and an object it can damage. Tree inspections should be conducted using consistent procedures.

A widely accepted method of assessment is the USDA, USFS Risk Assessment Scale, which prioritizes hazard trees based on three criteria. The three assessment criteria are tree condition, failure potential, and probability of impacting an object. Tree condition considers the amount of deadwood, foliage and trunk decay. Failure potential is rated according to the severity of the defects. The probability of impacting a target is ranked based on frequency of use.

Trees determined to have low probability of failure and impact should be considered for their value as wildlife habitat.

Tree inspections should occur in the spring before leaf-on, in mid-summer, and after leaf-off in the fall. This inspection schedule allows trees to be observed in various states and provides ample time for corrective action to be taken. Areas more heavily used by the public should be inspected immediately after severe storms that cause blow downs, leaning trees, or large hanging branches.

Tree inspections should be documented. This documentation should include the date(s) of the inspections, the area(s) inspected, the person(s) conducting the inspection, and whether this inspection was a routine inspection or conducted because of a storm event. Using the USFS Risk Assessment Scale allows for easy and consistent documentation over a time. If necessary, trail maintainers can provide this document to the landowner as a recommendation for corrective action.

Following the identification and inspection of trees, if a tree is found to have a deficiency, the appropriate corrective action should be taken promptly.

Use the USFS Risk Assessment Scale to prioritize hazard trees that require corrective action. These

corrective actions could include moving the object, pruning the tree to remove the hazardous portion, or removing the entire tree. Landowners/managers can contact a professional arborist if they do not have sufficient equipment or properly trained people to carry out tree pruning or removal.

Only properly trained and certified personnel should work with trees, especially when it comes to felling trees and/or working with power equipment, such as chain saws. Additional information on hazardous trees and the USDA, USFS Risk Assessment scale can be

Found here: https://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/fseprd933384.pdf

MAINTENANCE OF SIGNS

Incorporate a regular maintenance program for signs into your trail management plan. Sign maintenance is important from a safety and liability perspective. Further, signs are highly visible and their maintenance or lack of maintenance leaves the visitor with a positive or negative impression about the trail and ALT. Well maintained signs convey a sense of pride and reduce vandalism, while poorly maintained signs may contribute to a diminished visitor experience, including disorientation of trail users.

The following guidelines are recommended:

- Maintain a record of all signage, including location, GPS coordinates, type of sign, and photo.
- Inspect signs regularly, especially after each winter season, for weathering and visibility.
- Repair or replace damaged or missing signs as soon as possible.
- Secure loose or tilting signs in an upright position.
- Clear vegetation from around signs to maintain visibility.
- For signs mounted on living trees, loosen fasteners as necessary to accommodate growth of the tree.
- Review signage content to ensure continued relevance and accuracy.

When signs have been weathered or otherwise damaged or destroyed, consider the reasons for the damage. If the sign was eaten by wildlife, consider less palatable materials. If weather or natural events damaged the sign, consider stronger materials, a different location, or a different system for mounting the signs. If the sign is damaged by water or decay, consider applying a sealer or preservative (assuring compatibility with color, aesthetics, and environmentally sustainable practices) or replacing the sign with a more water-resistant material. When signs are damaged due to vandalism, managers should consider a different location or temporary signage that is not expensive to replace.

Priorities for sign maintenance are:

- Signs required for user safety
- User restrictions and advisory signs
- Destination and identification signs, blazes, and trail logos
- Informative and interpretive signs

There is a fine balance between providing good information and diminishing the trail experience with too much signage. An abundance of signage can also be a burden on the trail managers and those responsible for maintaining the signs.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

SAFETY, PROTECTION OF LIFE & PROPERTY, AND SEARCH & RESCUE

The Greenway must be safe for visitors, provide for the preservation of life, protection on property (public and private) and allow emergency service responders to respond to incidents on the property as quickly as possible.

At the same time, safety must be balanced with the opportunity to explore the trails and the natural habitat. It is the responsibility of Allegheny Land Trust to determine where the fulcrum of balance falls between safety and the user's willingness to visit the Greenway. If the property is managed to eliminate every possible hazard or risk, the area will not offer challenges and subsequently not be very interesting and desirable to potential visitors. However, if it is not managed with reasonable safety measures, accidents, injuries, and catastrophe may eventually limit access by the public.

This section of the plan suggests considerations that need to be evaluated and recommendations that should be implemented to assure a facility that provides a high level of safety within an appealing, challenging and adventuresome natural environment

SAFETY POLICY

A written safety policy statement is essential to making safety a top priority for Churchill Valley Greenway. Safety and risk management can only be effective if it is known and supported at all levels of the agency. ALT board, staff and volunteers responsible for implementation of the safety efforts know and understand what is expected of them.

A written safety policy is an effective tool to communicate to staff, volunteers and to the general public the specific purposes of the safety program. It provides a general outline of what actions staff and volunteers must take to make the program successful.

The safety policy should include the following elements:

- A simple, clearly written description of the philosophies and objectives of the safety program.
- Adoption as official policy by Allegheny Land Trust.
- Strong support from Allegheny Land Trust Board and staff

SAFETY PLANNING TEAM

Establishing an emergency preparedness plan for Churchill Valley Greenway is best accomplished by those who have the greatest expertise and interest in such a plan. Therefore emergency service providers and law enforcement agencies should be integrally involved in the development of the safety management plan for the Greenway. They, along with ALT board members, staff and volunteers should be appointed to serve as the Churchill Valley Greenway Safety Planning Team. ALT will appoint the Team.

Safety Planning Team Responsibilities

- Develop emergency procedures.
- Develop safety training for staff, volunteers and visitors.
- Identify an emergency access to all areas of the property.
- Assist in identifying the locations of helipads.
- Create a Risk Management Plan.
- Develop emergency response plans for all potential situations.
- Establish a search and rescue plan.
- Develop a plan for regular mock accidents and drills to ensure emergency preparedness of all appropriate agencies.

DCNR Bureau of State Parks uses an emergency plan outline that is provided for each State Park to develop its own emergency plan. This outline could provide a good basis for the beginning of such a plan for the Greenway. Allegheny Land Trust should

contact DCNR to acquire a copy of the outline.

The Team should meet at least semi-annually to review the plan and analyze all accidents and incidents on the property and determine if adjustments need to be made in the response plan. They should also assure that scheduled training and response drills are being conducted as required or recommended.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE/SEARCH & RESCUE

The emergency response/search & rescue plan formalizes and documents standard operating procedures, roles and protocols of and between the various emergency service providers that respond to a given incident. The goal of a search and rescue plan is to provide as much information at the onset of an incident to allow responders to swiftly and efficiently respond and provide resources to the scene. Further, it provides resource checklists, contact information, resource locations, and other information that may be required during search and rescue operations so they are immediately in the hands of the search and rescue manager when an incident is reported.

Search and rescue plans are specific to site/location. We recommend the emergency services providers and representatives of Allegheny Land Trust develop a specific search and rescue plan for the Greenway.

The PA DCNR Bureaus of State Parks and Forestry have adopted a SAR (Search and Rescue) Resource Plan. It is a manual for developing and administering a search and rescue plan for each park location or complex. ALT can use this template in coordination with the police chief to develop a specific SAR plan for Churchill Valley Greenway.

LOCATION IDENTIFICATION AND ACCESS FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES

Two factors are central to any incident response: 1) Locating the scene of the incident, and, 2) Accessing the scene of the incident with personnel and equipment in a timely manner. In addition, location identification and access also shape operations and maintenance activities on the property.

The Emergency Response/Search and Rescue Plan for Churchill Valley Greenway should identify proposed locations for emergency response access on the property. They include:

- Public Trailhead Access Locations
 - Beulah Road Trailhead
 - Bullock Pens Park Trailhead
 - Pat Seneca Memorial Field Trailhead
 - AMD maintenance/overflow parking area
- Potential Air Evacuation Landing Zones
 - Beulah Road Trailhead
 - Pat Seneca Trailhead

In addition, the paved trails provide access from Beulah Road Trailhead for UTV rescue vehicles to enter further into the property.

A location identification system for the property is also needed. Features include:

- Trail Naming Convention
- Trail Distance Markers, 1/10 mile interval
- Trail Intersection Markers –The markers should be a bright color, or bright colored letters on a contrasting contrasting post
- Interpretive Sign Location Identification

When the markers and signs are placed on the property, a corresponding map of the property identifying the locations of each sign should be provided to and be on file with the emergency service providers. The map should be updated with final trail alignments and mile markers as trails are developed and signage is installed. With such a map, they can quickly locate the scene of the incident, based on information furnished in the report, and determine which access point will provide personnel and equipment with the nearest access to the scene of the incident.

With this location identification system in place, visitors to the property should be able to identify, accurately, their general and specific location on the property by referencing which trailhead they entered onto the property, which trail they are located on, and the marker/sign nearest to their location.

Section 2: Where do we want to be?

If/when marker and sign locations change updated maps must also be provided to emergency service providers.

EMERGENCY SERVICE PROVIDERS

The following Emergency Services Providers should be invited to participate in safety, emergency response, and search and rescue planning for Churchill Valley Greenway.

POLICE DEPARTMENTS:

Penn Hills Police Department

Government Center, 102 Duff Rd, Penn Hills, PA 15235
General Number: (412) 342-1188
Non-Emergency Number: (412) 473-3056

Churchill Borough Police Station

2300 William Penn Highway, Pittsburgh, PA 15235
(412) 241-7113 Option 1

Wilkins Township Police Department

110 Pepper Road, Turtle Creek, PA 15145
(412) 824-0032

Wilkinsburg Police Department/Pittsburgh Bureau of Fire - Engine 16

605 Ross Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15221
(412) 244-2913

FIRE DEPARTMENTS:

Churchill Volunteer Fire Company - Station 122

2298 William Penn Highway, Pittsburgh, PA 15235
(412) 241-3449

#225 - Penn Hills VFD Station 225 Thad Stevens VFD

2797 Robinson Blvd, Pittsburgh, PA 15235
(412) 731-2222

#227 - Penn Hills No.7 VFC

125 Universal Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15235
(412) 247-1892

Wilkins Township VFC #1

835 Railroad St, Turtle Creek, PA 15145
(412) 829-0530

Wilkins Township VFC #3

109 Powell St, East Pittsburgh, PA 15112
(412) 271-4000

Wilkinsburg Police Department/Pittsburgh Bureau of Fire - Engine 16

605 Ross Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15221
(412) 244-2913

EMERGENCY MEDICAL PROVIDERS:

Penn Hills EMS Services

(412) 798-2041
Diane Fitzhenry – EMS Supervisor
(412) 342-1570
dfitzhenry@pennhillspa.gov

Woodland Hills Emergency Medical Services (WHEMS) (For Wilkins and Churchill)

(412) 351-9111

Eastern Area Prehospital Services (For Wilkinsburg)

(412) 829-8155

NEAREST HOSPITALS:

UPMC East (5.8 miles)

2775 Mossdale Blvd
Monroeville, PA 15146
(412) 357-3000

UPMC Shadyside (6.0 miles)

5230 Centre Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15232
412-623-2121

UPMC St. Margaret (7.4 miles)

815 Freeport Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15215-3399
412-784-4000

West Penn Hospital (6.5 miles)

4800 Friendship Ave
Pittsburgh PA 15224
412 578 5000

Forbes Hospital (6.6 miles)

2570 Haymaker Road
Monroeville, PA 15146
412-858-2000

SECURITY

Allegheny Land Trust should maintain an appropriate plan for security of the property. The plan should address three primary areas of security: 1) prevention of undesired access; 2) protection of adjacent properties; and 3) safeguarding people and possessions.

PREVENTING UNDESIRE ACCESS

Fortunately, there has not been much evidence of ATV use on the property, most likely due to the fact that most trails are paved and they get a lot of

use. However, signs, boulders, bollards, and other barriers should be used at all access points to prevent future use by undesired motorized vehicles.

Allegheny Land Trust should work with local law enforcement agencies to get commitments to strictly enforce existing state and local laws concerning ATV and off-road motorcycle use of local roads and enforce trespassing laws against violators in Churchill Valley Greenway.

PREVENTING ACCESS TO ADJACENT PRIVATE PROPERTY

In addition to fencing to prevent unlawful access to Churchill Valley Greenway, visitors should be deterred from intentionally or unintentionally traveling onto private property from the Greenway. Signs should be posted at the perimeter where trails have been closed and indicating that visitors are approaching private property and that trespassing onto the property is prohibited. Such signs will allow local police departments to enforce this restriction.

These methods will not assure unlawful trespassing onto private property but will establish the fact that it is prohibited. Assistance will be needed from surrounding property owners to assure that their private properties are protected from unlawful use.

Education will also be of great benefit to protecting the property of surrounding land owners. Visitors to the property should be educated to understand the rights of private property owners and should be trained to be respectful and considerate. Users should be encouraged to obey all posted signs and rules including perimeter signs posted as "No Trespassing". This should be a part of all training programs provided at the property and should be included in a property safety and information guide.

PROTECTION OF LIFE AND PROPERTY

There will be many issues in protecting people, including staff, volunteers, visitors, and guests. Security concerns will include vandalism and theft. Such concerns include illegal activity, disobeying of property rules and regulations, vehicle, parking, and traffic issues, accidents and emergencies, and violence.

All staff and volunteers should be trained in matters related to security. This includes:

- An awareness of security issues.
- A clear understanding of property rules and regulations.
- An understanding of the differences between violating park rules and breaking laws.
- Methods of dealing with difficult people.
- Ways to defuse difficult situations.
- Knowing when to call law enforcement officials.
- Knowing and understanding the safety and security plan.
- Knowing the consequences of violations.

CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATING PROPERTY RULES AND REGULATION

Allegheny Land Trust should consider developing a policy that establishes consequences for violating rules and regulations that are not enforceable by local authorities under the criminal code.

Options to consider in the policy include:

- Verbal explanation of the rule and warning not to violate again.
- Written warning not to violate again.
- Short-term suspension of property privileges.
- Long-term suspension of property privileges.
- Permanent termination of privileges.
- Referring criminal and trespassing or other criminal violations to local police for investigation and legal follow through.

The Safety Planning Team should develop policies and procedures for monitoring parking areas, trails and use areas of the property to enhance security of all areas of the property. Staff and volunteers will need to watch for issues of security as they go about their routines and report any suspicious activity to local law enforcement. The rules for the property need to address security measures as well as safety.

Although enforcement begins with staff and volunteers, it will also be necessary to utilize law enforcement agencies to assist in addressing those incidents that violate the law. Allegheny Land Trust should meet with the local police department to discuss responding to incidents, accidents, and emergencies.

COMMUNICATION PROTOCOL

A communication protocol also needs developed to provide for quick response to incidents on the property. If a report is made to local authorities, staff or volunteers, there needs to be a communication protocol to allow contact with the appropriate person to respond to the incident. Cell phone service is generally adequate and available throughout most of the property. Many people carry cell phones for personal use. This provides an easy way for users to communicate when incidents occur. A phone number should be posted in a variety of locations including kiosks, signs, brochures, maps, and in an information guide telling visitors how to report an incident or accident.

INCIDENT REPORTS

Incident reporting is vital to understanding, responding to and planning for all types of incidents. Most incidents deal with safety or security of staff, volunteers or visitors. Criminal incidents reports will be completed by, and filed with, the local police department.

Incidents should be digitally tracked through the same or similar system as outlined earlier in this chapter. This will allow management to track locations and types of incidents to identify trends that need to be addressed. Recurring types of incidents may indicate the need for better education of visitors to the property, a change in rules or enforcement, or program adjustments. Incidents that continually occur in certain locations may suggest the need for additional security measures such as trail re-routes fencing or increased patrols.

Incident Reports also provide a written report that may be valuable to ALT in case of future litigation dealing with a particular incident. It is therefore essential that the reports provide correct and detailed information about each incident.

PA DCNR Incident Report Forms are located in the Appendix.

REPORTING HAZARDS

A system should be in place that will allow staff, volunteers and visitors to report hazards they discover. Each report should be responded to in a timely manner.

As a key component to reporting hazards, staff and volunteers should be trained and required to look for potential hazards when they visit the property. Similar reporting methods can be used for both staff and visitors.

A simple form can be developed to record the hazard location and description, date and time the hazard, and a description of the needed repairs. This report could be in the form of a small tablet that is carried by staff and volunteers. There should be a centralized location where the form is to be turned in. A staff person should be assigned to gather the reports at a specified frequency and to determine how the situation needs to be addressed. The same form should be available on-line where visitors can complete them on their own. It should be clearly described where the forms should be submitted. There could be return boxes located next to the forms or at the main office or security office. A schedule must be established for the collection of the forms. Once collected, the reports should be passed on to the appropriate staff person to determine how to handle the situation.

Signage at trailhead kiosks must encourage and explain to visitors how to report hazards. The signs should indicate that hazards can be reported to staff by completing the on-line Hazard Report Form.

RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN

A risk management plan for Churchill Valley Greenway is of the highest importance to assure the safety of the users and to minimize the liability exposure of Allegheny Land Trust staff and board members.

When property and programs are provided for public use, every precaution should be taken to ensure user safety. Documentation of all risk management procedures is essential, not only for good record keeping and maintenance scheduling, but also to provide evidence in case of legal action.

Every area and program provided within Churchill Valley Greenway should have its own risk analysis and management plan. This risk analysis should include:

1. Identification of the risk. Identify what it is about the program or area that provides a risk. Identify the anticipated frequency of injury or loss associated with the risk. Determine how frequently an incident is likely to occur. Is it likely to happen frequently, occasionally, or rarely?
2. Assessment of loss potential. Assess what type of injury is likely from the risk. Is it likely to cause fatal or severe injuries, major or minor injuries or simple injuries? The same questions should be asked about potential financial implications of the risk. Is the potential financial loss so critical that Churchill Valley Greenway may need to be closed to the public? Or would the loss be moderate or minimal?
3. Determination of the response. Determine what changes could be made to minimize the risk. Will there need to be major changes made in the program or use areas? Will minor modifications of the program or use area reduce the risk sufficiently? Is the risk so great that you should not provide the program or use area? Is the risk limited enough that no change is necessary?
4. Identify what can be done to minimize or limit the risk. Should signs be posted; should the ages be limited; should trail grades be changed? Should railings or fences be installed? There are dozens of possible adjustments that can be made to limit the risks of a facility.

The potential risk and impact of the risk should be analyzed against the policies of Allegheny Land Trust to determine its appropriateness at Churchill Valley Greenway. This type of assessment and comparison will strengthen the management of the risks associated with this type of area. This should not be a one-time analysis, it should be ongoing. As risk is observed within any use area or program, it should be assessed and tracked to determine if changes are needed. Additionally, ALT's response should be documented.

Staff, paid and volunteer, should be integrally involved in the ongoing risk management within Churchill Valley Greenway. Staff should be trained

in safety procedures and should be expected to be constantly aware of the condition of use areas. Staff should be trained to recognize and post unsafe conditions, prevent the use of unsafe equipment and facilities, and report safety hazards, in writing, so they can be remedied in a timely manner.

Regularly scheduled safety inspections should be conducted by trained staff, paid or volunteer at every use area and trail available for public use. Written work orders should be issued for needed repairs and completed work should be documented. Adequate liability insurance must be kept up-to-date. As new programs and use areas are developed, liability insurance coverage should be revised to reflect new conditions. Regular communication with the insurance carriers is necessary. Both risk to users and insurance costs may be reduced if all offerings can be brought into compliance with current safety standards and guidelines.

The risk management functions should be the responsibility of the Vice President of Stewardship. He or she should work closely with the safety committee of the Board to assure quick and effective responses to safety hazards. The committee and Land Protection Director should meet annually, at a minimum, to discuss and amend the Risk Management Plan as necessary.



A scenic view of a river flowing through a forest. The river is surrounded by lush green trees and foliage. In the foreground, there are large, dark rocks and some green plants. The background shows a dense forest with tall trees and a clear sky. Overlaid on the image are large, semi-transparent letters 'H' and 'P'. The text 'How do we get there?' is written in a bold, blue font across the middle of the image.



How do we get
Pthere?

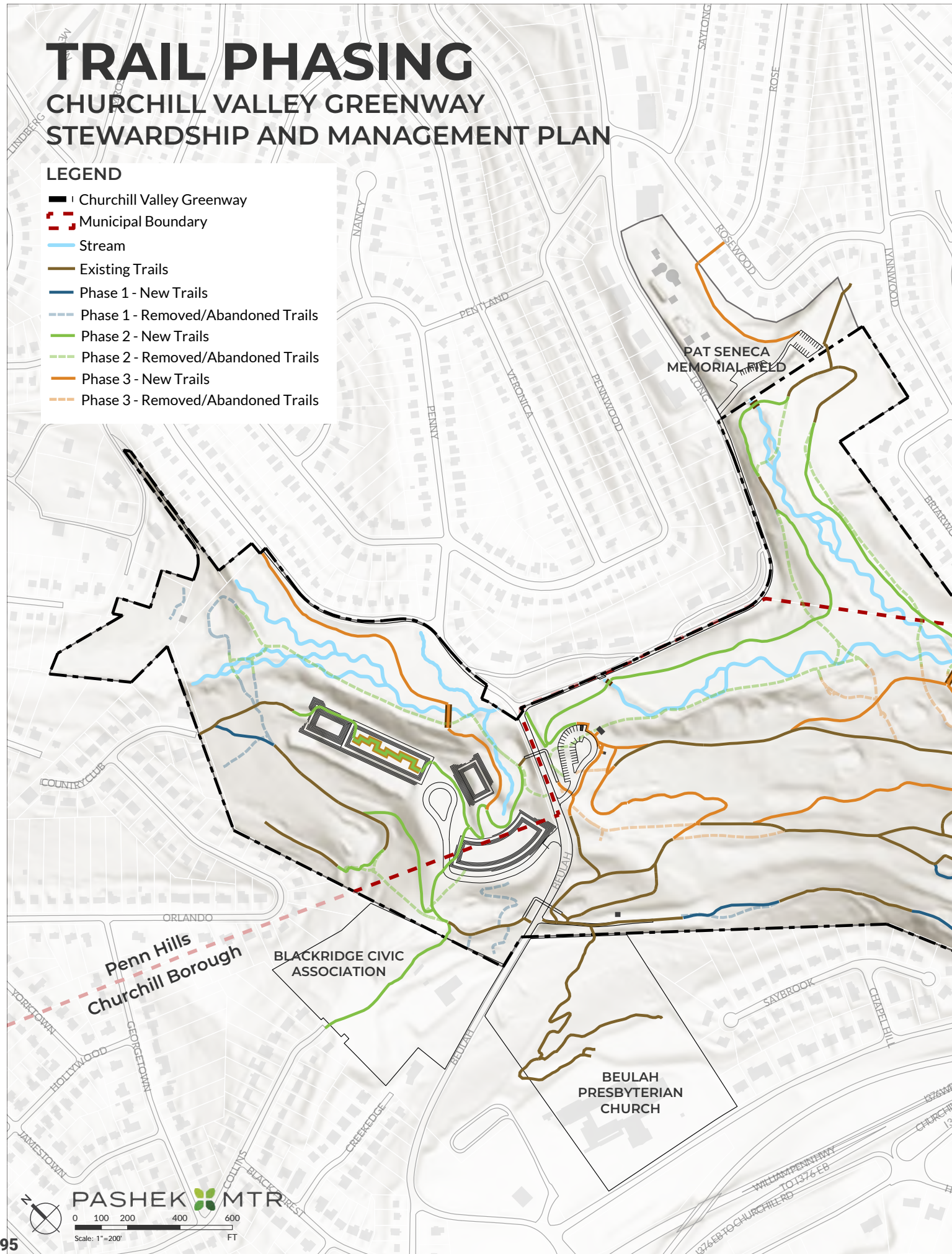
TRAIL PHASING

CHURCHILL VALLEY GREENWAY

STEWARDSHIP AND MANAGEMENT PLAN

LEGEND

-  Churchill Valley Greenway
-  Municipal Boundary
-  Stream
-  Existing Trails
-  Phase 1 - New Trails
-  Phase 1 - Removed/Abandoned Trails
-  Phase 2 - New Trails
-  Phase 2 - Removed/Abandoned Trails
-  Phase 3 - New Trails
-  Phase 3 - Removed/Abandoned Trails



IMPLEMENTATION**COST ESTIMATES**

Churchill Valley Greenway				11/15/2024
Opinion of Probable Construction Cost				Prepared by Pashek + MTR
Item Description				Total Item Cost
Trailhead (Bid Project)				
	TRAILHEAD			\$1,298,000
Accessible Trail (Bid Project)				
	ACCESSIBLE TRAIL			\$793,000
Miscellaneous Signs (Signage Contractor)				
	MISCELLANEOUS SIGNS			\$29,000
Northern Bridge - Connection to Beulah Rd (Bid Project)				
	NORTHERN BRIDGE			\$497,000
Middle Bridge (Bid Project)				
	MIDDLE BRIDGE			\$885,000
Southern Bridge - Connection to Bullock Pens (Bid Project)				
	SOUTHERN BRIDGE			\$439,000
Native Meadow Planting (Meadow Restoration Contractor)				
	NATIVE MEADOW PLANTING			\$40,000
In-House Staff Projects				
	IN-HOUSE STAFF PROJECTS			\$19,000
Volunteers Projects				
	VOLUNTEER PROJECTS			\$66,000
	TOTAL COST			\$4,066,000
Alternates				
Vault Restroom (Bid Project)				
	VAULT RESTROOM			\$305,000

Opinion of Probable Construction Costs is made based on the experience and qualifications of Pashek + MTR, Ltd and represents reasonable judgment based on familiarity with the industry. Pashek + MTR, Ltd. has no control over the cost, or availability of labor, materials or equipment, or over market conditions or the provider's method of pricing. Pashek + MTR, Ltd cannot and does not guarantee that the opinion of probable cost provided the Owner will not vary from the actual cost experienced by the Owner.

Construction costs are expressed in 2024 dollars. Costs include materials and labor, subcontractor overhead & profit (if applicable). **Not included:** escalation.

An opinion of probable construction cost was developed for the improvements to Churchill Valley Greenway as recommended in this plan. These costs were based on the assumption that the implementation of the facilities indicated will occur through a public bidding process, utilizing the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's 2024 Prevailing Wage Rates. To budget for inflation of costs for future improvements, we recommend a four and one-half percent (4.5%) annual increase be budgeted for all work occurring after 2024.

In Pennsylvania, all projects over \$25,000 are required to use the State's Prevailing Wage Rates for Construction. However, ALT may choose to construct some of the facilities using in-kind services, volunteer services and/or donated labor or materials, which may reduce construction costs. Additionally, alternate sources of funding, including grant opportunities, may assist in offsetting construction costs.

The estimate of probable construction costs to implement all of the improvements being proposed is broken down into phases and responsible parties. These costs are summarized in the table and detailed in the Opinion of Probable Construction Costs tables in the Appendix

TRAIL PHASING AND IMPLEMENTATION

We recommend the improvements to Churchill Valley Greenway be constructed in a series of logical phases. This phasing plan may be expedited, or lengthened, depending on the financial capabilities of ALT. By following this phased approach, ALT can efficiently implement the trail network while engaging volunteers and minimizing disruptions during construction projects.

PHASE 1

The first phase of trail implementation can begin immediately, prior to the AMD (Abandoned Mine Drainage) and stream restoration projects. This phase involves installing signage and constructing volunteer-built trails. The accompanying map outlines which trail sections will be removed or abandoned and which will be constructed. Tasks are organized in a suggested numerical order for completion but can be adjusted by ALT based on volunteer availability and other factors.

Additionally, some sensory activity nodes on the sensory trail can be constructed during this phase with volunteer assistance. Details about these nodes can be found in the recommendations section of this report.

Signage will be installed in phases as indicated on the phasing maps.

PHASE 1 SIGNAGE

- Interpretive signs:
 - Meadow planting
- Secondary entrance signs
- Permanent directional signs
- Temporary signage: To guide users around temporary trails and to indicate abandoned trails that are no longer in use. These signs can be printed yard signs and will be removed in the subsequent phases.

The volunteer tasks are described in the volunteer work section of the maps. These categories will help ALT choose volunteers best suited for the tasks at hand for each phase of development. Volunteer tasks will focus on the following categories.

PHASE 1 VOLUNTEER TASKS

- Clearing vegetation
- Blocking abandoned trails
- Grading new trails

PHASE 2

Phase 2 coincides with the stream restoration and AMD projects. The map highlights which existing trails will be removed for construction and the locations of replacement trails. ALT will coordinate with Land and Water Solutions for the contractors to grade in connecting trails as indicated within the projects' area of disturbance. Volunteers will assist in creating and removing the various connecting trails outside the construction zones.

STREAM CROSSINGS

Certain sections of the trails will cross small streams, requiring the installation of stepping stones by volunteers.

PARKING CONSIDERATIONS

During this phase, parking availability will be significantly reduced due to the AMD construction. ALT should coordinate with Churchill Borough and Beulah Presbyterian Church to direct visitors to the Bullock Pens Park parking area and at the Church. Additionally, the Pat Seneca Memorial Field entrance will be temporarily unusable due to construction.

PHASE 2 SIGNAGE

- Interpretive Signs:
 - Abandoned Mine Drainage (AMD) systems
 - Country club history
- Secondary Greenway entrance signs
- Directional signs
- Temporary Signage: Temporary trail route signs from phase 1 will be added, adjusted, or removed by ALT.

PHASE 2 VOLUNTEER TASKS

- Clearing vegetation
- Blocking abandoned trails
- Grading new trails
- Grading new trails – bench cutting
- Placing Stepping Stones at stream inlet crossings
- Building Bridges
- Building Modular Boardwalk

PHASE 3

Phase 3 focuses on completing trailheads and other contracted projects. Contractor priorities are shown on the plan, the order of priority is as follows:

1. Constructing the Beulah Road Trailhead and accessible sensory loop trail.
2. Building the three major bridges over Chalfant Run.
3. Installing trailhead kiosks at Pat Seneca Memorial Field and Bullock Pens Park.

Once contracted work is complete, volunteers will build trail connections as outlined in the plan. Coordination with local municipalities will be necessary for work at Pat Seneca Memorial Field and Bullock Pens Park.

Additionally, the other sensory activity nodes on the sensory trail can be constructed during this phase with volunteer assistance. Details about these nodes can be found in the recommendations section of this report.

PARKING CONSIDERATIONS

During this phase, the Beulah Trailhead will be closed for parking due to renovations. ALT should coordinate with Penn Hills, Churchill Borough, and Beulah Presbyterian Church for parking access at Pat Seneca, Bullock Pens Park, and at the Church. Parking will also be available in the proposed overflow parking along the access drive to the AMD system.

PHASE 3 SIGNAGE

- Interpretive Sign:
 - Stream Restoration
- All remaining directional signs, secondary Greenway entrance signs, and permanent mile markers will be added during this phase.
- Temporary signs from earlier phases will be removed.

PHASE 3 VOLUNTEER TASKS

- Clearing vegetation
- Grading new trails
- Grading new trails – bench cutting




TRAIL IMPLEMENTATION - PHASE

CHURCHILL VALLEY GREENWAY

STEWARDSHIP AND MANAGEMENT PLAN

LEGEND

 Churchill Valley Greenway

 Municipal Boundary

 Stream

 Existing Trails

VOLUNTEERS

 Removed/Abandoned Trails


 Trails


 Sensory Activity Nodes

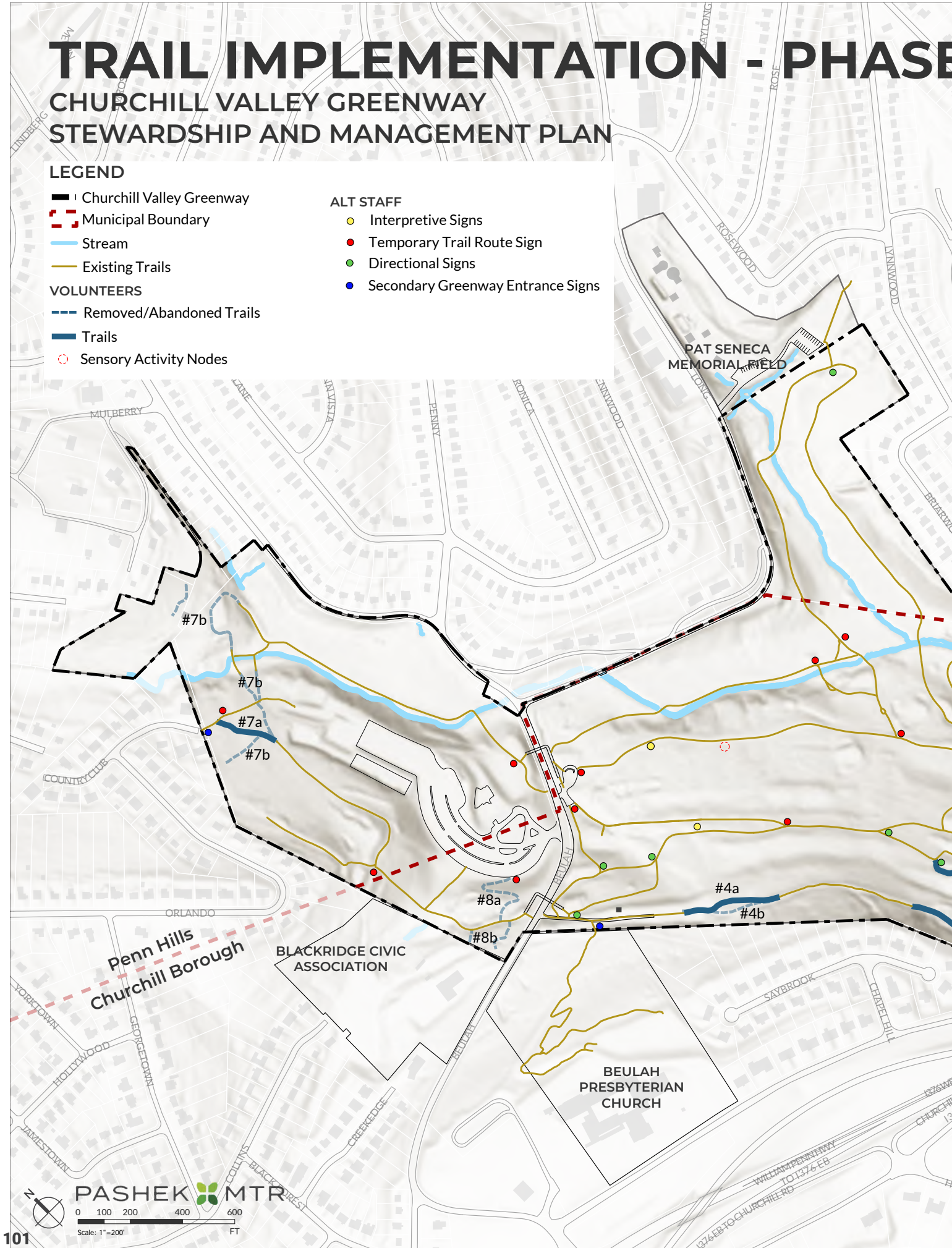
ALT STAFF

 Interpretive Signs

 Temporary Trail Route Sign

 Directional Signs

 Secondary Greenway Entrance Signs



PASHEK MTR

Scale: 1"=200' FT



VOLUNTEER WORK

- #1a Clear Vegetation.
- #1bc Block Abandoned Trails.
- #1de Block Abandoned Trails and Bridge.
- #2a Clear Vegetation.
- #2b Block Abandoned Trails.
- #3a Clear Vegetation, Grade Path.
- #3b Block Abandoned Trail.

- #4a Clear Vegetation
- #4b Block Abandoned Trail.
- #5 Clear Vegetation.
- #6 Clear Vegetation, Grade Path.
- #7a Clear Vegetation, Grade Path.
- #7b Block Abandoned Trails.
- #8ab Block Abandoned Trails.

TRAIL IMPLEMENTATION - PHASE

CHURCHILL VALLEY GREENWAY STEWARDSHIP AND MANAGEMENT PLAN

LEGEND

— Churchill Valley Greenway

- - - Municipal Boundary

— Stream

— Existing Trails

VOLUNTEERS

- - - Removed/Abandoned Trails

— Trails

AMD/STREAM RESTORATION

- - - Removed Trails

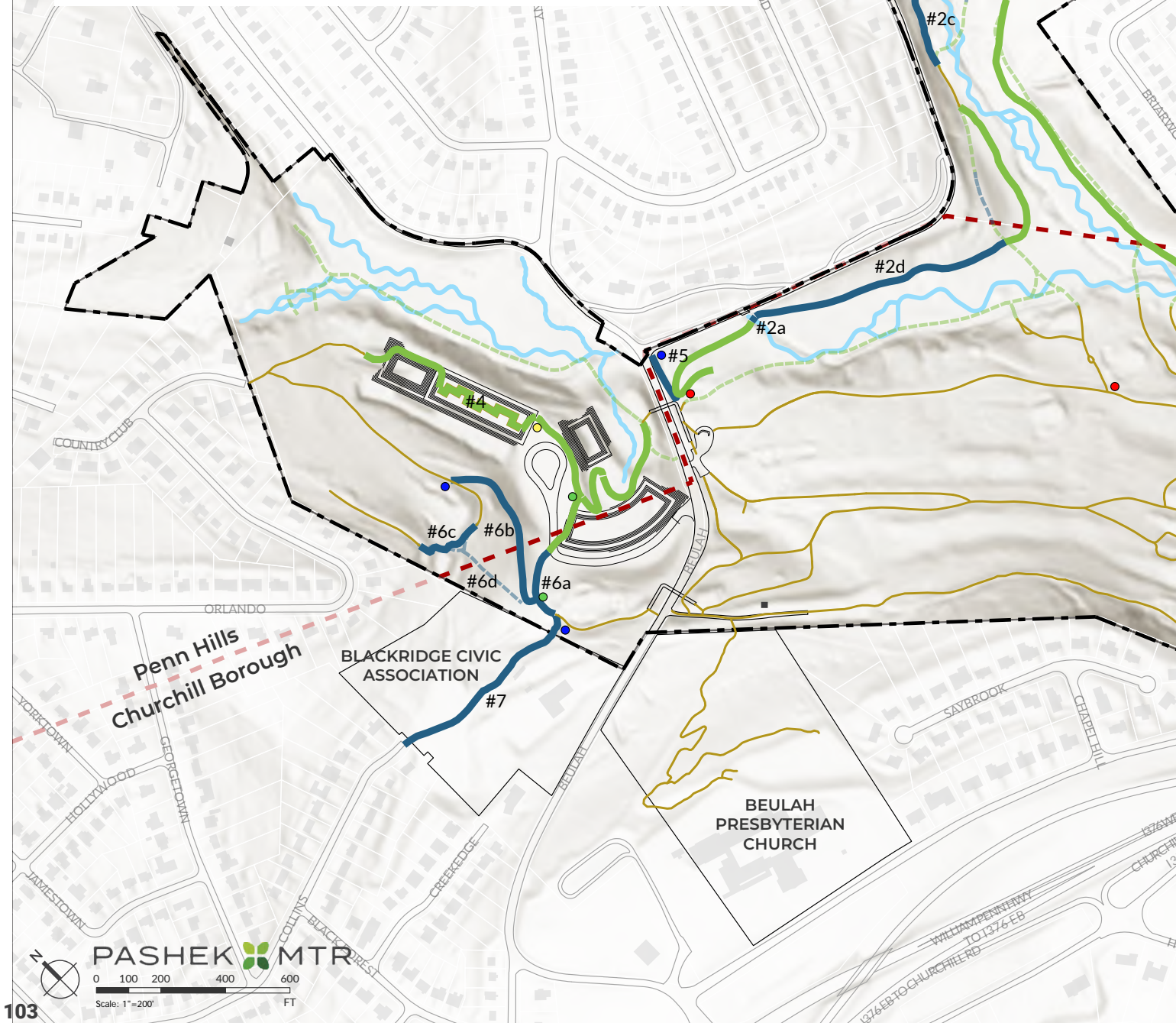
— Trails

ALT STAFF

● Temporary Trail Route Sign

● Directional Signs

● Secondary Greenway Entrance Signs



PASHEK MTR

Scale: 1"=200'



VOLUNTEER WORK

- #1abcd Clear Vegetation, Grade Path, Place Stepping Stones.
- #2ab Bridge
- #2cd Clear Vegetation, Grade Path (Bench Cut).
- #2e Block Abandoned Trail.
- #3a Clear Vegetation, Grade Path, Place Stepping Stones.
- #3b Block Abandoned Trails.
- #4 Modular Boardwalk.
- #5 Clear Vegetation, Grade Path (Bench Cut).







- #6a Clear Vegetation, Grade Path.
- #6b Clear Vegetation, Grade Path (Bench Cut).
- #6c Clear Vegetation, Grade Path.
- #6d Block Abandoned Trails
- #7 Coordination with Blackridge: Clear Vegetation, Grade Path (Bench Cut).

TRAIL IMPLEMENTATION - PHASE





CHURCHILL VALLEY GREENWAY

STEWARDSHIP AND MANAGEMENT PLAN




LEGEND

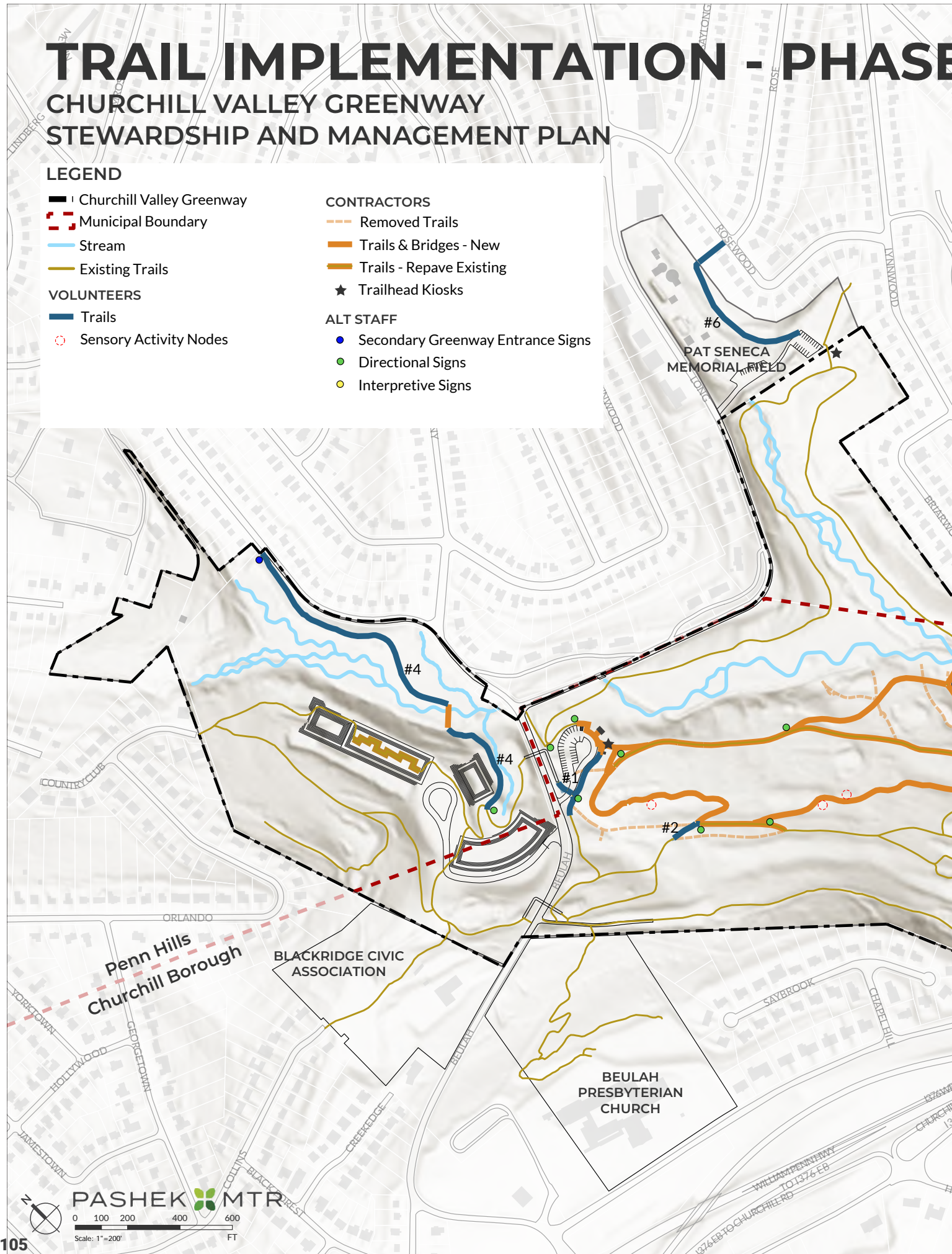
-  Churchill Valley Greenway
-  Municipal Boundary
-  Stream
-  Existing Trails
- VOLUNTEERS**
-  Trails
-  Sensory Activity Nodes

CONTRACTORS

-  Removed Trails
-  Trails & Bridges - New
-  Trails - Repave Existing
-  Trailhead Kiosks

ALT STAFF

-  Secondary Greenway Entrance Signs
-  Directional Signs
-  Interpretive Signs



PASHEK MTR

Scale: 1"=200'



VOLUNTEER WORK

- #1 Clear Excess Vegetation, Level Path
- #2 Clear Vegetation, Grade Path.
- #3 Clear Vegetation, Grade Path.
- #4 Clear Vegetation, Grade Path (Bench Cut).
- #5 Coordination with Churchill Borough: Clear Vegetation, Grade Path.
- #6 Coordination with Penn Hills: Clear Vegetation, Grade Path, Move Fence.

CONTRACTOR PRIORITY

- 1) Repave Lower Existing Trail.
- 2) Parking Lot, Connecting Paths to Existing Trail, and Main Trailhead Kiosk.
- 3) Complete Sensory Loop Trail and Repave Upper Existing Trail.
- 4) Main Bridge and Trails Down to Bridge.
- 5) Southern Bridge and Trail.
- 6) Northern Bridge
- 7) Pat Seneca and Bullock Pens Trailhead Kiosks

HABITAT PHASING AND IMPLEMENTATION

The habitat restoration and enhancement will be implemented in three phases, aligned with volunteer availability, project timelines, and coordination with other construction efforts. The accompanying Habitat Implementation map provides a visual guide to these phases. By following this phased approach, ALT ensures that habitat restoration aligns with project goals while fostering sustainable ecosystems and enriching visitor experiences.

PHASE 1: REFORESTATION

The first phase, currently underway, focuses on reforestation. This project proposes expanding the existing reforestation plan developed by Oikos Ecology (as summarized in the “Existing Reports” section).

By extending reforestation along pathways and connecting to existing forest areas, this phase enhances both the ecological habitat and the user experience. Visitors will enjoy a dynamic journey weaving through forested and meadow landscapes.

PHASE 2: STREAM RESTORATION PLANTING

The second phase involves habitat planting conducted by Land and Water Solutions as part of the Stream Restoration Project. Plantings are categorized into:

- Upland Reforestation
- Wetland Reforestation

This planting plan is described and illustrated by Land and Water Solutions.

The AMD project is also part of this phase. It will remove heavy metals from the stream and plant meadows in disturbed locations around the access drive.

PHASE 3: SUPPLEMENTAL PLANTING AND HABITAT ENHANCEMENT

The third phase builds upon the work of the first two phases, guided by habitat recommendations from the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy. This phase enhances and diversifies the habitat by supplementing existing vegetation and expanding ecological restoration efforts.

Key elements of this phase include:

- Shrubland Enhancement: Planting additional shrubs to support wildlife habitat and biodiversity along the stream restoration project.
- Successional Habitat: Allowing certain areas to grow naturally with minimal intervention, aside from the removal of invasive species.
- Meadow: Strategically located meadows will provide scenic views along the trails. The meadows can be enhanced with native plugs planted by volunteers or contracted to a meadow restoration specialist, as determined by ALT.
- Existing Forest Enhancement: Improving forest edges by removing invasive species and introducing understory plantings. These enhancements will improve both the ecological health and aesthetic appeal of the forest.



HABITAT IMPLEMENTATION

CHURCHILL VALLEY GREENWAY STEWARDSHIP AND MANAGEMENT PLAN

LEGEND

— Churchill Valley Greenway

--- Municipal Boundary

— Stream

— Trails

★ View Overlook

Existing Forest

PHASE 1

Reforestation

PHASE 2

Upland Reforestation (By Others)

Wetland Reforestation (By Others)

PHASE 3

Shrubland Enhancement

Successional Habitat

Meadow

Existing Forest Enhancement



Penn Hills
Churchill Borough

BLACKRIDGE CIVIC
ASSOCIATION

BEULAH
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

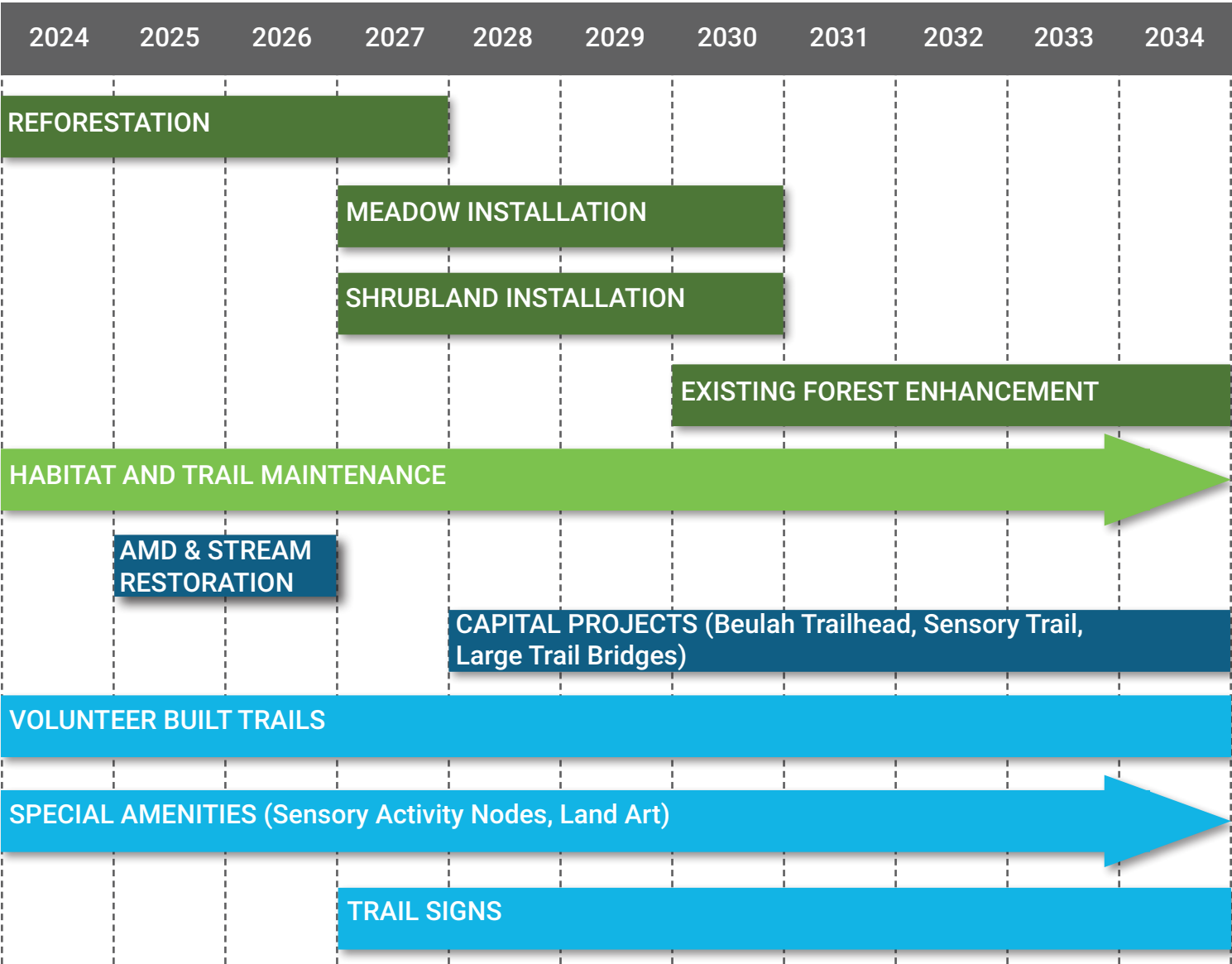


PASHEK MTR
Scale: 1" = 200'
FT

TIMELINE

The timeline for project implementation of the Greenway plan is shown below.

CHURCHILL VALLEY GREENWAY TIMELINE



POTENTIAL PARTNERS

During the planning process many potential partners were identified that may directly or indirectly be able to assist with implementing recommendations contained in this plan. The following table summarizes the potential partners that were identified and categories where they may be willing to offer assistance in:

CHURCHILL VALLEY GREENWAY

12/1/2024
Prepared by Pashek + MTR

Potential Partners	Organizing / Volunteers	Education / Programming	Adjacent Property	Research / Expertise / Monitoring	Resources	Notes
Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania		X		X		Bird walks.
Beulah Presbyterian Church	X	X	X			Help with trail connections from bus stops to the Greenway.
Blackridge Civic Association	X		X			
Blackridge Garden Club	X			X		
BOB Project	X				X	Help with Pat Seneca trail connection and benches.
Chalfant Run-Thompson Run Watershed Association	X	X		X		
Churchill Borough			X		X	
Churchill Garden Club	X			X		
Construction Junction					X	Partnership for loaning land art pieces.
Garden Club in Penn Hills	X			X		
Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council					X	Arts resources.
Land Force				X	X	
Local Groups (churches, boy scouts/girl scouts, etc.)	X				X	
Local High Schools (Woodland Hill, Penn Hills, ect.)	X				X	Potential land art installations. Service projects.
Meadville Land Services, Inc				X		Meadow and ecological restoration.
Outdoor Inclusion Coalition		X				
Pennsylvania natural Heritage Program				X		
Penn Hills Borough			X		X	
Penn Hills Shade Tree Commission	X	X			X	
Pittsburgh Water Collaboratory		X		X		Help with research, education, and community outreach.
Quail Forever / Pheasants Forever				X		
Steel Goat Market Place					X	Potential land art installations
Three Rivers Birding Club		X		X		Bird walks.
Trail Pittsburgh	X			X		
Tree Pittsburgh	X			X	X	
Universities (Carlow, Pitt, and Penn State Extension)	X	X		X	X	Potential and art installations.
Venture Outdoors		X				
Western Pennsylvania Conservancy		X		X		
Wild Ones	X			X	X	
Wilksburg Pollinator Garden Group		X				

Known Contact Information

Name	Association	Email	Phone Number	Notes
Patrick Shirey	Pittsburgh Water Collaboratory	p.shirey@pitt.edu	(724) 316-5167	Department of Geology and Environmental Science
Shaun O'Mahoney	BOB Project		(412) 708-6194	President of BOB Project. https://www.bobproject.org/
Faith Milazzo	Penn Hills Community Development Corporation (CDC)	tfmilazzo@yahoo.com	(412) 977-8897	
Monica Garcia	Wilkinsburg Community Development Corporation (WCDC)	info@wilkinsburgcdc.org	(412) 727-7855	
Rick Duncan	Penn Hills Shade Tree Commission	pennhillsstc@gmail.com	(412) 445-2679	
Renee Dolney	Chalfant Run-Thompson Run Watershed Association	renee@chalfantrun.org	(412) 901-1614	
	Wilkinsburg Pollinator Group	info@sustainablewilkinsburg.org		

VOLUNTEER COORDINATION

Volunteers are essential to the success of habitat restoration and trail implementation projects, providing critical support in tasks such as conservation management and trail building and management. Their involvement not only reduces project costs but also fosters a sense of community ownership and stewardship of the natural area.

To maximize their impact, it is important to organize volunteers effectively by clearly defining tasks based on skill levels and physical abilities, providing necessary tools and safety equipment, and offering proper training or instructions before work begins. Volunteer events should be scheduled well in advance, with clear communication about objectives, timelines, and expectations. Creating smaller, manageable groups led by experienced coordinators helps ensure efficiency and safety.

Recognizing and celebrating volunteer contributions through regular updates, social media, or appreciation events can also help maintain engagement and encourage long-term participation. By building a well-structured volunteer program, organizations can create a dedicated network of individuals committed to supporting conservation goals.

ALT should host an annual or bi-annual volunteer meeting to coordinate and plan for future volunteer tasks and events.

We have organized volunteer activities into four categories: General, Trail Building and Management, Special Amenities, and Conservation Management. The following is a detailed task list for each of those categories

VOLUNTEER DETAILED TASK LIST:

General

- Report and monitor field conditions or illegal activity
- Pick up garbage.
- Maintain signs and kiosks

Trail Building and Management

- Maintain existing trails.
 - Clear vegetation.
 - Remove debris.
 - Mow 3' shoulder (for paved paths).
 - Remove sediment from paved paths
- Build proposed trails.
 - Flag trail.
 - Clear vegetation.
 - Bench cut.
 - Install drainage crossing.
 - Build small bridge.
 - Build modular boardwalk.

Special Amenities

- Overlooks
 - Maintain/Install benches.
- Sensory Trail Activity Nodes
 - Clean, maintain, stock/update activities.
- Land Art
 - Create partnerships with schools, arts organizations, etc.
 - Per artist's instructions (could be mowing small areas, pruning back vegetation to keep area clear, checking for vandalism, etc).

Conservation Management

- Cut back woody plants in temporary meadows.
- Plant wildflowers in meadows.
- Plant trees in reforestation areas.
- Plant shrubland.
- Plant infill in Stream Restoration Area.
- Invasive species management.
- Miscellaneous management

TRAINING

Training is critical to the success of a trail. Management cannot assume trail users, volunteers, or staff have the knowledge and skills necessary to properly use the trails, and to perform their duties and functions in the manner required to maintain a safe, inviting, and well-maintained trail environment. Your trail management plan should incorporate a summary of the various training components to be offered, their intended audience and the intended frequency of the education/training program.

VOLUNTEER MONITORING PROGRAM

A volunteer monitoring program team should be established to assist with a variety of safety and security functions on the property. Many similar teams across the country require a nominal membership fee, as well as requiring members to commit to attending safety training courses, acquiring specific certifications in vehicle safety, first aid, CPR, and others.

Volunteer monitors should be trained and/or certified by attending a training class conducted by Allegheny Land Trust or a representative on their behalf.

Volunteers should be considered as unpaid staff and should be treated as such. They should agree to perform certain functions within the property and commit to the required certification processes.

They should be expected to perform all functions in an exemplary manner and should be held to a higher standard than visitors to the property. Volunteers should be held accountable for their actions.

Volunteers should be available to visitors to provide information and assistance. They should patrol the property looking for persons in need of assistance. They should be expected to identify safety hazards, enforce the rules of the property, report undesired behavior, and respond to accidents or injuries. Visitors should be made aware that the monitors are patrolling the property and serving in the capacity as a member of the volunteer monitoring program.

Team members should be identified by wearing a bright colored t-shirt marked volunteer patrol on the back. A visible presence on the property provides a good deterrent. Volunteers should have radios, cell phones, or other means of communication to report accidents, contact local authorities or summon emergency assistance.

Monitors should keep a record of their time, location(s) and distance monitored during each outing. They will report their monitoring times, locations and distances to their monitoring captain, who in turn will submit monthly reports to Allegheny Land Trust. Any incident of an urgent nature, such as a trail wash out or fallen tree should be reported to Allegheny Land Trust at once.

Monitors must be taught to be the eyes and ears for the property, but they should not attempt to undertake enforcement activities as they may escalate. Incidents that are criminal in nature must be reported to the local police department.

The Friends of the Washington & Old Dominion (W&OD) Trail have developed a volunteer patrol handbook. This handbook serves as a good example of a how to establish and document policies and procedures to train, establish, and manage volunteer trail patrols.

The handbook is available here: <https://www.trailink.com/resourcehandler.ashx?id=4582>



FUNDING

The majority of trail construction costs are attributed to labor. While materials are typically minimal, trail construction is labor-intensive, as trails are cleared, benched, and built using hand tools. However, material costs increase significantly when constructing trail access points and trailhead facilities. If ALT plans to partner with a nonprofit organization or volunteers to build the trails, we recommend developing a detailed action plan to leverage matching in-kind services alongside grant funding.

Most funding programs and grant opportunities require in-kind services to be performed after funding is secured. “Banking” in-kind services from previous efforts is generally not permitted for state grants. As a result, it is essential to coordinate trail construction with grant writing and funding timelines to maximize opportunities for matching cash funds with in-kind labor donations.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

A variety of funding sources are available to support land trusts and municipalities fund planning, acquisition, and development of greenways, conservation areas and trails. Additionally, numerous organizations and agencies offer grant funding for conservation, environmental, and recreational programming.

In Pennsylvania, several funding opportunities are available to land trusts and municipalities for conservation purposes. Some sources include sponsorships, grants, or other funding strategies.

SPONSORSHIPS

Sponsorship opportunities are an effective way to provide secure funding for special events and facilities.

Sponsorship could include:

- Logo on all event correspondence including print and digital promotional materials.
- Banner, posters and/or yard signs are displayed at the event.
- Social media recognition and tagging.
- Online presence including website logo with hyperlink and direct email blast hyperlink recognition.

- Attendance at an event on-site with a booth.
- Amenities naming opportunities.

Potential sponsors / funders:

- Dick’s Sporting Good / Public Lands
- Google and Other Tech Companies
- Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council
- Universities (Carlow, Pitt, and Penn State)
- UPMC / AHN

OTHER FUNDING STRATEGIES

It is wise to consider more than one grant source for multi-faceted projects. Different agencies may be willing to provide funding for different portions of your project. For example, if a project includes construction of trails and development of a neighborhood park, there are agencies that will fund trails and others who will fund parks. Applying to both types of agencies for funding that meets their specific criteria enhances the likelihood of receiving a grant.

- **Surrounding Municipalities** - In some cases, surrounding municipalities have a specific interest in park facilities located within the Township. In these cases, there may be interest in making a financial contribution toward the project.
- **County Agencies** - In some cases, the County itself may have grant opportunities. Or, countywide organizations such as conservation groups or trail agencies. They may provide established grants or be willing to work with a community on a particular project, especially ones that provide connections between communities within the county.
- **Local Organizations** - Often, local organizations are willing to raise funds to be used for upgrades to their facilities. These could include local conservation groups or a very active chamber of commerce. These funds could be considered as part of the local match for grant funding. For example, if a soccer organization is already investing annually to upgrade facilities, they may be willing to utilize several years’ worth of that investment toward a major renovation of the soccer facility. This could provide funds to be used as matching funds

Section 3: How do we get there?

for a grant. However, the organization itself may also be willing to create a matching grant or provide a set amount of funds towards the project.

- **Funds Already Planned for Use** - It is also helpful to consider funds that may already be allocated for use in or near a park that may be used as a source of matching funds. For instance, if a water or sewer line is being planned to run through a park, tapping into that line could make the money spent for its installation an eligible match for a park project. The same could be true of parking areas, roads, trails, trailheads, and other projects.
- **Creativity** - Creativity is key to finding and leveraging funding sources with one another. The intent is to reduce the local share as low as possible while accomplishing the goals of the project. Consider as many options as you can identify. Then contact the funding agencies to determine whether your plan meets their requirements.

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

DCNR FUNDING

PURPOSE: DCNR's Bureau of Recreation and Conservation provides a single point of contact for communities and nonprofit conservation agencies seeking state assistance in support of local recreation and conservation initiatives and those that implement Pennsylvania's Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan. This assistance can take the form of grants, technical assistance, information exchange, and training. All of DCNR's funding sources are combined into one annual application cycle and there is a single application format and process with one set of requirements and guidelines.

ELIGIBILITY: A wide range of grant and technical assistance programs are offered through DCNR to help communities, land conservancies, and non-profit organizations plan, acquire, and develop:

- Recreation, park and conservation facilities
- Watersheds and rivers corridors
- Greenways and trails
- Heritage areas and facilities
- Critical habitat, natural areas & open space

DEADLINE: Applications are typically accepted in the spring with the period opening the first Tuesday in January and closing the first Wednesday in April.

LOCAL MATCH REQUIREMENT: Generally, a 50% match by either cash or non-cash value is required.

WEBSITE: <https://www.dcnr.pa.gov/Communities/Grants/Pages/default.aspx>

DCED GREENWAYS, TRAILS AND RECREATION PROGRAM (GTRP)

PURPOSE: Funding for planning, acquisition, development, rehabilitation and repair of greenways, recreational trails, open space, parks and beautification projects. Projects can involve development, rehabilitation and improvements to public park recreation areas, greenways and trails, as well as river conservation.

ELIGIBILITY: Municipalities; Councils of Governments; Authorized Organizations; Institutions of Higher Education; Watershed Organizations; For-Profit Businesses

DEADLINE: Applications typically accepted February 1 - May 31 each year.

MATCH/FUNDING: 15% match of the total project cost; grants do not exceed \$250,000

WEBSITE: <https://dced.pa.gov/programs/greenways-trails-and-recreation-program-gtrp/>

DCED LOCAL SHARE ACCOUNT (LSA)

PURPOSE: Provides fund derived from Pennsylvania gaming revenue to support community and economic development projects. These projects can include planning and consulting services, acquisition of machinery and equipment, construction or rehabilitation, infrastructure improvements, demolition activities, real estate development, and vehicle purchases.

ELIGIBILITY: Non-profit aiming to launch or complete significant initiative such as counties, municipalities, municipal authorities, economic development agencies, redevelopment agencies, land banks, and councils of governments.

DEADLINE: Applications are accepted annually between September 1 and November 30. A \$100 non-refundable application fee is required upon submission.

LOCAL MATCH REQUIREMENT: a match is not required, but if the project includes other funding sources those must be disclosed upon application. Grants must be between \$25,000 and \$1 million.

WEBSITE: <https://dced.pa.gov/programs/local-share-account-lsa-statewide/>

AML/AMD GRANT PROGRAM

AGENCY: The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)

PROGRAM GOALS: The Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation (BAMR) is authorized through the United States Department of Interior's Office of Surface Mining Reclamations and Enforcement to issue grants to eligible applicants for the purpose of abandoned mine land reclamation and acid mine drainage treatment or abatement. The Bureau will be accepting applications for projects that reclaim abandoned coal mines or address mine drainage from abandoned coal mines.

WEBSITE: <https://www.pa.gov/agencies/dep/programs-and-services/mining/abandoned-mine-reclamation/aml.html>

GROWING GREENER PLUS GRANT

AGENCY: The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)

PROGRAM GOALS: Ninety-six percent of water quality impaired watersheds in Pennsylvania are polluted because of nonpoint source pollution, such as abandoned mine drainage, urban and agricultural runoff, atmospheric deposition, on-lot sewage systems, earthmoving, stream hydromodification and timber harvesting. The purpose of the Growing Greener program is to address nonpoint source pollution through local watershed-based planning, restoration and protection efforts for the projects funded by Watershed Planning. Restoration and Protection grants.

ELIGIBILITY: Incorporated watershed associated, country of municipality, county conservation district, council of government, educational institution, municipal authority, or other authorized organizations.

WEBSITE: <https://www.pa.gov/services/dep/dep-grants-pages/apply-for-a-department-of-environmental-protection-growing-greener-plus-grant.html>

COMMUNITY FOREST AND OPEN SPACE CONSERVATION PROGRAM

AGENCY: Department of Agriculture

PROGRAM GOALS: The purpose of the program is to establish community forests by protecting forestland from conversion to non-forest uses and provide community benefits including public recreation, environmental and economic benefits, and forest-based educational programs. Public access is required for all projects.

ELIGIBILITY: City or township governments
Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized)
Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education

WEBSITE: <https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/356124>

GRANTS FOR ARTS PROJECTS

AGENCY: National Endowment for the Arts

PROGRAM GOALS: Grants for Arts Projects (GAP) provides funding for public engagement with the arts and arts education, for the integration of the arts with strategies promoting the health and well-being of people and communities, and for the improvement of overall capacity and capabilities within the arts sector. We welcome applications from first-time and returning applicants; from organizations serving rural, urban, suburban, and tribal communities of all sizes; and from organizations with small, medium, or large operating budgets.

ELIGIBILITY: Nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3), U.S. organizations; Units of state or local government; or Federally recognized tribal communities or tribes.

WEBSITE: <https://www.arts.gov/grants/grants-for-arts-projects>

IMPLEMENTATION WORKBOOK

In this section you will find tables which will assist Allegheny Land Trust and potential partners in tracking progress implementing the recommendations contained in this plan. ALT staff should frequently review and update these tables as the recommendations are implemented. Further, we recommend Allegheny Land Trust meet annually with all active and potential partners to review, discuss, update, and revise the implementation strategies, as necessary, to respond to changes in management, operations, financial and economic development factors.

THE IMPLEMENTATION WORKBOOK INCLUDES:

- Management Guidelines and Policy Strategies
- Community and Volunteer Strategies
- Trail Development Strategies
- Habitat Management Strategies
- Safety and Security Strategies
- Adjacent Property Access and Ownership

Each table includes the following information:

- Description of the implementation strategy
- Priority
 - On-Going
 - Immediate... within 0 to 12 months
 - Short..... 1 to 3 years
 - Medium 3 to 5 years
 - Long 5 years plus
- Potential Partners - agencies or organizations responsible for/or potentially able to provide assistance with implementing the strategy

When costs are projected they are based on 2024 construction costs. For work completed in future years the costs need to be escalated accordingly. Further, projected costs should be refined and verified as various projects are being implemented.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES & POLICY STRATEGIES

Strategy	Description	Priority	Responsible/ Potential Partner(s)	Projected Cost	Funding	Date Completed
MGP-1	Adopt management plan as the tool to guide decision-making for Churchill Valley Greenway.	Immediate	ALT	\$0	n/a	
MGP-2	Meet with municipalities to review the plan.	Immediate	ALT, Municipalities	\$0	n/a	
MGP-3	Meet with all potential partners on an annual basis to determine potential for assistance in implementation.	On-Going	ALT, Partners	\$0	n/a	
MGP-4	Annually review management plan to determine progress and establish goals for upcoming year.	On-Going	ALT	\$0	n/a	
MGP-5	Annually review and establish calendar for submitting grant and foundation funding applications.	On-Going	ALT	\$0	n/a	
MGP-6	Apply for funding to implement recommendations of this management plan.	Immediate	ALT	Varies	Foundations, Grants	

COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTEER STRATEGIES

Strategy	Description	Priority	Responsible/ Potential Partner(s)	Projected Cost	Funding	Date Completed
CV-1	Conduct annual or bi-annual volunteer meetings to celebrate, organize, and plan volunteer activities.	On-going	ALT, Volunteers	\$250	Donations	
CV-2	Establish and meet bi-annually with a Land Art committee to help plan and develop land art.	On-going	ALT, Volunteers	\$0	n/a	
CV-3	Establish & implement a volunteer trail monitoring and maintenance program.	Immediate	ALT, Volunteers	\$0	n/a	
CV-4	Conduct bi-annual volunteer training programs: trail construction, trail maintenance, trail monitoring, and invasive species.	On-going	ALT, Volunteers	\$1,500	Donations	
CV-5	Attend community events like the Churchill Community Day to update the community and recruit volunteer membership.	On-going	ALT	\$0	n/a	
CV-6	Meet with educational partners to develop programming.	Immediate	ALT, Educational Partners	\$0	n/a	
CV-7	Update the website and facebook page with upcoming volunteer events, educational opportunities, and project details.	On-going	ALT	\$0	n/a	

TRAIL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES

Strategy	Description	Priority	Responsible/ Potential Partner(s)	Projected Cost	Funding	Date Completed
TD-1	Adopt trail standards for construction & signage.	Immediate	ALT	\$0	n/a	
TD-2	Buy and store trail building hand tools such as a hoe/pick, hoe/rack, and bench/hoe.	Immediate	ALT	\$1,000	Donations	
TD-3	Annually review trail improvements to determine progress and establish goals for upcoming year.	On-going	ALT	\$0	n/a	
TD-4	Annually update site mapping (GIS & media) to reflect progress of improvements.	On-going	ALT	\$0	n/a	
TD-5	Annually update trail map/brochure and make available at trailheads and on-line.	On-going	ALT	\$500	Foundation	
TD-6	Implement Phase 1 trail improvements and associated signage.	Immediate	ALT, Volunteers	\$6,000	Foundation, Donations	
TD-7	Implement Phase 1 Sensory Nodes.	Immediate	ALT, Volunteers	\$500	Donations	
TD-8	Continue discussions with Churchill Borough about trash pickup at Beulah Road trailhead and moving the gate behind the Bullock Pens Park Trailhead.	Short	ALT	TBD	Foundation, Donations	
TD-9	Implement Phase 2 trail improvements and associated signage including bridges and boardwalk.	Short	ALT, Volunteers, Boy Scouts of America, BOB Project	\$45,000	Foundation, Donations	
TD-10	Coordinate with AMD and Stream Restoration projects to grade in proposed trails and level future parking area.	Short	ALT, WLS, Hedin Engineering	\$0	n/a	
TD-11	Implement Blackridge Civic Association trail connection after reaching agreement with BCA.	Medium	ALT, Volunteers, Blackridge Civic Association	\$0	n/a	
TD-12	Implement Phase 3 Buelah Road Trailhead project.	Long	ALT, Designer, Contractor	\$1,300,000	DCED, DCNR, Foundation	
TD-13	Implement Phase 3 volunteer trail improvements and associated signage.	Long	ALT, Volunteers	\$5,000	Foundation, Donations	
TD-14	Implement Pat Seneca trailhead improvements and connection to Rosewood Road after reaching agreement with Penn Hills and Rosewood property owner.	Long	ALT, Volunteers	\$10,000	DCED, DCNR, Foundation	

TRAIL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES (cont.)

Strategy	Description	Priority	Responsible/ Potential Partner(s)	Projected Cost	Funding	Date Completed
TD-15	Implement Phase 3 Accessible/ Sensory Trail Project with Sensory Nodes.	Long	ALT, Designer, Contractor, Volunteers	\$800,000	DCED, DCNR, Foundation	
TD-16	Implement Phase 3 Middle Bridge Project.	Long	ALT, Designer, Contractor	\$900,000	DCED DCNR, Foundation	
TD-17	Implement Phase 3 Southern Bridge Project.	Long	ALT, Designer, Contractor	\$450,000	DCED, DCNR, Foundation	
TD-18	Implement Phase 3 Northern Bridge Project.	Long	ALT, Designer, Contractor	\$500,000	DCED, DCNR, Foundation	
TD-19	Implement Vault Restroom Project.	Future	ALT, Designer, Contractor	\$300,000	DCED, DCNR, Foundation	
TD-20	Implement Land Art	Short-Long	ALT, Volunteers, Universities, local school districts, Construction Junction, Steel Goat Market Place, Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council	Varies	NEA, Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council, Donations, Foundation	

HABITAT MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

Strategy	Description	Priority	Responsible/ Potential Partner(s)	Projected Cost	Funding	Date Completed
HM-1	Conduct Breeding Bird Survey.	Triannual	ALT, Volunteers, WPC, Three Rivers Birding Club, PNHP, Audubon	\$0	n/a	
HM-2	Map locations of invasive species on site.	Immediate	ALT, Volunteers	\$0	n/a	
HM-3	Develop and adopt invasive species management plan for the property.	Short	ALT, Volunteers	\$0	n/a	
HM-4	Conduct invasive species management.	On-going	ALT, Volunteers	Unknown	Foundation, DCED	
HM-5	Implement AMD and Stream Restoration projects.	Short	ALT, Hedin Engineering, WLS	AMD & Mitigation Funding	n/a	
HM-6	Implement Wetland Forest enhancement.	Short	ALT, Volunteers, WPC	Unknown	Foundation	
HM-7	Establish endowment specifically for this property dedicated to conservation management and ecosystem monitoring.	Short	ALT	TBD	Foundation	
HM-8	Develop stream monitoring program and collect baseline data including chemical analysis and biological data.	Short	ALT, Volunteers, PNHP, Pittsburgh Water Collaboratory, Watershed Association	\$0	n/a	
HM-9	Implement biannual stream monitoring data collection and analysis.	On-going	ALT, Volunteers, PNHP	\$0	n/a	
HM-10	Continue to implement Reforestation.	On-going-Short	ALT, Volunteers	Unknown	Foundation	
HM-11	Develop and adopt Meadow Enhancement and Management Plan.	Immediate	ALT, Volunteers, PNHP, WPC	\$0	n/a	
HM-12	Mow sections of the proposed meadow, alternating areas about every other year.	On-going	ALT, contractor	\$3,000 per year (covers about 6 acres)	Foundation, Donation	
HM-13	Implement Meadow enhancement (whether volunteer or contractor planting).	Medium	ALT, Volunteers and/or contractor	\$25,000-\$40,000	Foundation	

HABITAT MANAGEMENT (cont.)

Strategy	Description	Priority	Responsible/ Potential Partner(s)	Projected Cost	Funding	Date Completed
HM-14	Develop and adopt Shrubland enhancement and management plan.	Short	ALT, Volunteers, WPC	\$0	n/a	
HM-15	Implement Shrubland installation.	Medium	ALT, Volunteers	Unknown	Foundation	
HM-16	Develop and adopt Existing Forest enhancement and management plan.	Long	ALT, Volunteers, WPC	\$0	n/a	
HM-17	Implement Existing Forest enhancement.	Long	ALT, Volunteers	Unknown	Foundation	

SAFETY AND SECURITY STRATEGIES

Strategy	Description	Priority	Responsible/ Potential Partner(s)	Projected Cost	Funding	Date Completed
SS-1	Provide EMS responders with Emergency Response Map for access and location identification.	Immediate	ALT	\$0	n/a	
SS-2	Develop Emergency Response Plan following PA DCNR format.	Immediate	ALT with Churchill Borough and Penn Hills Police Chiefs, all EMS Providers	\$0	n/a	
SS-3	Update and provide EMS responders with Emergency Response Map as improvements to the property and trails are made.	Immediate	ALT with Churchill Borough and Penn Hills Police Chiefs, all EMS Providers	\$0	n/a	
SS-4	Meet annually with local police departments & EMS responders to discuss issues/concerns, incidents that have occurred on the property & improvements to aid EMS response.	On-going	ALT with Churchill Borough and Penn Hills Police Chiefs, all EMS Providers	\$0	n/a	
SS-5	Post all property boundaries as needed.	Short	ALT, Volunteers	TBD	Donations	

ADJACENT PROPERTY ACCESS AND OWNERSHIP

Strategy	Description	Priority	Responsible/ Potential Partner(s)	Projected Cost	Funding	Date Completed
PA-1	Discuss and develop potential MOU with Blackridge Civic Association regarding future trail connection.	Short	ALT, Blackridge Civic Association	\$0	n/a	
PA-2	Discuss and develop potential MOU with Beulah Presbyterian Church regarding use of parking lot and trail access for Greenway users.	Short	ALT, Beulah Presbyterian Church	\$0	n/a	
PA-3	Discuss potential purchase agreement with Penn Hills regarding Pat Seneca Memorial Field trailhead and trail access to Rosewood.	Short	ALT, Penn Hills	"Legal Fees \$5,000"	Donation	
PA-4	Discuss and develop potential MOU with Churchill Borough regarding protection of the forest, trailhead, and future trail development and signage at Bullock Pens Park.	Short	ALT, Churchill Borough	\$0	n/a	
PA-5	Discuss potential agreement with Rosewood Property Owner to gain trail access.	Medium	ALT, Rosewood Property Owner	TBD	DCNR, Foundation, Donation	
PA-6	Discuss potential trail easements with Purity Road property owners.	Long	ALT, Property Owners, Peoples Gas	TBD	DCNR, Foundation, Donation	
PA-7	Review and revise MOUs every 5-10 years	Long	ALT, Property Owners	\$0	n/a	





Appendix



Churchill Valley Greenway Stewardship & Management

October 3, 2023 at 9:00am via Teams

Attendees:

Project Team

Sara Thompson, Pashek+MTR

Alex Zwegat, Pashek+MTR

Committee Members

Alex Graziani, Churchill Borough Manager

Ian T. Cartwright, Penn Hills Resident and Active Member (Penn Hills Democratic Party Board Member)

Braden Meitar, Lead Park Ranger for Allegheny County Parks

Charlotte Geringer, Resident of Blackridge Community, Board Member of Blackridge Civic Association.

Caitlin Seiler, Allegheny Land Trust VP of Stewardship

Lee Borellis, Churchill Resident, Realtor

Scott Andrejchak, Manager for Penn Hills Municipality

Study Committee Meeting - Meeting Minutes

Discussion Items

1. Purpose of Plan / Scope of Work

- Went over purpose/goals from the proposal.
 - To develop a community driven management plan process and evaluation for the site that will clearly identify the conditions and recommendations for:
 - Access and interpretation of the greenway.
 - Ecological management needs not covered by current restoration planning.
 - Engaging and supporting community connections
- Reviewed scope of work
 - Public Engagement
 - Committee serves as a guide in best strategies/ ID key people to interview/ get out info for public meetings.
 - Data Collection and Analysis
 - Visitor Access, Experience, and Use Designs
 - Ecological Management
 - Community Development
- What we have done so far
 - Developed Existing Conditions Plan
 - Will need to continue field work to add data to the plan
 - Site analysis

- Have completed a slope analysis which allows us to evaluate the potential for certain types of development such as trails, gatherings spaces, parking, etc.
- Trails should go along the contours, if trails go straight up hills (fault trail lines) can cause erosion.
- Review existing data and reports
 - We will go into more detail than the previous conceptual design
 - Acid Mine Drainage design to include ponds and limestone gravel beds located in a lot of the flat areas stretching from the large parking lot to where the pool used to be.
 - Stream and wetland restoration plans will reroute the existing stream to enhance habitat and recreate a healthy stream channel.
 - WPC still finalizing data for habitat and invasive species – done by end of year.

2. Committee Goals, Opportunities, Constraints, etc.

- Caitlin
 - Access to property
 - Filling in gaps to existing planning work
 - Create a community space
 - Large moving parts in the project – have major impacts on landscape
 - Wetland restoration
 - Changes to the slope along the stream – slope analysis will change.
 - Long Rd. Corner used as a fill dump to prevent dumping possibly?
 - AMD ponds / restoration system
 - Planning process to focus on community use of space and help guide ALT how to manage the space for years to come.
 - Want diverse representation of input for this process in community engagement – a good representation of what people want.
 - Want to close smaller lower parking lot and have everyone park in the larger parking lot.
 - Garbage cans maintenance are also a challenge.
- Ian
 - Local connections into the park
 - Not great entrance on Penn Hills side – along Long Ave.
 - Patt Seneca Park closed, people have created a mowed path through the park next to the water treatment plant.
 - Drainage programs into the park from Rosewood
 - Surrounding houses have paths into the property
 - Status Meeting – Should Bullock Penns be incorporated into property?

- Connection between the two are unclear
 - Bullock Penns connection to larger greenway
 - Connect cycling routes.
 - Opportunity to have connection points – Oakmont to the future GAP connection by turtle creek.
 - Greenway is mixed use and open and friendly to everyone.
 - What is the purpose of this property? Community is confused on what a greenspace is? Can they use it?
 - Lee: Since the parking is rough, and not prominent signs, and chain gates - it feels like your trespassing/not supposed to be there.
- Scott
 - Patt Seneca Park is officially closed – maybe ALT interested in acquiring parcel?
 - Currently volunteers create the mowed path and empty trash cans
 - Residents and users haven't said much about the property
 - Public meetings will be important
 - Public access into the park is important – needs better access
 - Needs adequate parking for future use.
 - Long Rd. at the bend – dumping problem
 - Private paths west of Buelah and on the south side of the property
 - PMTR: Will analyze how to get public access without going through people's properties.
- Lee
 - Entrance to old country club off of Beulah – what is going there?
 - PMTR: AMD (Acid Mine Drainage) ponds will take over a good portion of the old parking areas.
 - Caitlin: Will have greenway parking, including bus turn around. There will be a large pond and two limestone beds. The limestone beds can be walked on – but will eventually need to be changed out every 15 years. There will be two overflow ponds down flow of pond – not pretty ponds but will be designed into the space.
 - Add picnic areas/gathering space near the current entrance on the southern part of the site.
 - Caitlin: Would need bollards/gate for maintenance access to that side of the site.
- Charlotte
 - Is this just a walking site? Or other recreational activities? (Tennis, etc.)
 - Caitlin: Limited flat area. Would mostly be passive creation. Possibly sled riding opportunities.
 - PMTR: Maintenance would be greater for ALT if courts and other sports

facilities were developed.

- Vegetation was very tall, couldn't see around winding paths – Did not feel safe walking around.
- Can dogs be off leash?
 - Deterrent for community if dogs can be off leash.
 - Ian: There are signs, but people do not follow. More signs possibly.
 - Caitlin: Dogs are not allowed off-leash. Will do what they can to deter it by communication, ticketing, and other deterrents.
 - Ian: Community is very dog oriented – should not ban dogs entirely from the park.
 - PMTR – signs should be more prominent in key areas for communication.
 - Ian: There were ALT signs at Patt Seneca park but were removed due to vandalism.
 - Braden: Have had lots of problems enforcing. Signage to encourage visitors for reporting issue. If there is police response it will help solve the problem. Could designate area for off leash dogs to help as well.
 - Caitlin: Sensitive areas can't have dogs off leash. In previous park, they designated a non-sensitive area for off leash, people still took their dogs off-leash all over the property. For this site, maybe create a fenced in park in Patt Seneca or Bullock Penns Park?
 - Charlotte: See if people would be interested in a fenced in dog park?
 - PMTR will figure out where the sensitive areas would be and figure out an appropriate way to handle dog access.
- PMTR asked about whether we should look into public trail access from surrounding neighborhoods
 - Off of Mulberry or Churchill Ave?
 - Caitlin – Have gotten calls from neighbors about cleaning up property. Do not know if the neighbors would be supportive of a trail entrance there.
- Recreational Uses for the Park
 - Trails (Hiking, Biking – not mountain)
 - Drone Club / Racing
 - Sled Riding
 - Snow Shoeing
 - Camping? This may require more intensive development for restrooms and other facilities and therefore may not be appropriate in this situation.
 - No Hunting
 - No Motorized Vehicles
 - Cross Country Skiing – if low maintenance

3. Next Steps

- Public Engagement
 - Key Person Interview: Committee to think of list of contacts we should reach out to (partner organizations, organizations interested in programming in the greenway, potential funders, volunteer organizations, etc.)
 - Provide Specific People Contact Information - if possible
 - PMTR to share shared excel sheet to fill in information.
 - Planning the next public meeting
 - Purpose of Public Meeting: Introducing people to the project, and gather information on what people would like to see in the greenway.
 - Want to provide multiple ways of reaching out to people
 - Survey
 - Public Events
 - How to Reach Out
 - Possible Existing Community Events to Join – Pass out our surveys and advertise future public event.
 - Put up yard signs at the Greenway
 - October 26th – Billboard Meeting at Churchill
 - October 29th – Jazz Fest of Civic Center
 - October 30th - Penn Hills Library, Candidate Forum?
 - November 7th - Advertise event at election voting spaces
 - Advertise on news letters.
 - Penn Hills CDC Meeting
 - Mid-November for public meeting.
 - Possible dates on the week of November 13th
 - Committee to check community calendars so there aren't competing events.
 - PMTR to check out the following for best location: Blackridge Civic Association, Beulah Presbyterian Church
 - Committee to provide list of people who we should reach out to spread the word about the event (organizations).

The information contained in these minutes was recorded by Pashek + MTR and represents our interpretation and understanding of the discussions that occurred during the meeting. Please notify Pashek + MTR within one week of distribution. Otherwise, minutes will be distributed as final, and assumed accurate as written.

Prepared by: Alexandria Zwega

Date Prepared: 10/3/2023

Distributed to: Meeting Participants

Churchill Valley Greenway

Stewardship and Management Plan

Public Meeting #1: November 15, 2023 at 6pm, Churchill Borough Building

Attendance: Approximately 60-70 people

Public Meeting Summary

1. Presentation
 - a. Why are We Here:
 - i. Grass roots effort to help ALT purchase a former golf course.
 - b. Planning Process:
 - i. Why are We Here (Inventory and Analysis)
 - ii. Where do We Want to Be (Public Input and Recommendations)
 - iii. How do We Get There (Implementation Steps)
 - c. Allegheny Land Trust's Goal
 - i. Conserve and promote biodiversity and ecosystem function.
 - ii. Use existing infrastructure for low-impact use.
 - d. Where are We Now?
 - i. Phase 1 ESA completed in 2021
 - ii. Acid Mine Drainage design to start construction in 2024
 - iii. Stream and Wetland Restoration to start construction in 2024
 - iv. Conceptual Planning Report completed in 2022
 - v. Forest Restoration is ongoing
 - vi. Volunteer Activities are ongoing
 - vii. Habitat and Bird Inventories to be completed by end of 2023
 - viii. Stewardship and Management Plan will be completed in 2024
 1. Completed Site Analysis
 2. Completed Trail Inventory and Assessment
 3. Completed Public Meeting #1 (will have additional throughout the process)
 - e. Where do We Want to Be?
 - i. Participants broke into 5 groups to discuss:
 1. What makes the Greenway special to you?
 2. Where should trails connect to surrounding communities?
 3. What types of low impact amenities would you like to see?
 4. What types of activities or programs would you like to see?
 5. What other thoughts, concerns, or ideas do you have?
2. Where do We Want to Be: Summary of Most Desired Amenities (Note that more detailed responses are in excel spreadsheet).
 - Benches along trails
 - "In memory..."

- Signage
 - Trailheads
 - Parking
 - Mileage
 - Trails and native plantings
 - Historical signage
 - Directions
 - Kiosks with maps
 - Digital and printable maps
 - Traffic coming in and out of park
- Bridges
 - Repair/restore
 - Signs warning “slippery when wet”
- Dogs
 - Keep open for dogs
 - Garbage barrels for poop bags
 - More signage to keep dogs on leashes and use poop bags
 - Dog park
- Trails
 - Connect dead end trails
 - Loop along perimeter
 - Connections to trails outside of area
 - Outside connections from Collins Road or Blackridge
 - Create accessible trails
- Amenities/Programs
 - Play area
 - Nature walks
 - Bird walks
 - Orienteering
 - Fitness course
 - Cross country
 - Sledding hill
 - Cross country skiing
 - Observation decks
- Natural beauty
 - Remove invasive species
 - Wildflower meadows
 - Pollinator garden
 - Maintain views
 - Clean up Long Road
 - Bat houses
 - Beehives

3. Next Steps

- a. Synthesize tonight's input and online survey with inventory and analysis
- b. Second Public Meeting in January with extended public input
- c. Develop sustainability plan recommendations and implementation strategies
- d. Phase 2 of Public engagement to review draft recommendations in the spring



Photo by Paul Gamrat



Photo by Paul Gamrat

Churchill Valley Greenway Stewardship and Management Plan

Public Meeting #2: February 8, 2026 at 6pm via Zoom

Attendance: Approximately 40-50 people

Public Meeting Summary

1. Presentation
 - a. Why are We Here:
 - i. Grass roots effort to help ALT purchase a former golf course.
 - b. Planning Process:
 - i. Why are We Here (Inventory and Analysis)
 - ii. Where do We Want to Be (Public Input and Recommendations)
 - iii. How do We Get There (Implementation Steps)
 - c. Allegheny Land Trust's Goal
 - i. Conserve and promote biodiversity and ecosystem function.
 - ii. Use existing infrastructure for low-impact use.
 - d. Where are We Now?
 - i. Phase 1 ESA completed in 2021
 - ii. Acid Mine Drainage design to start construction in 2024
 - iii. Stream and Wetland Restoration to start construction in 2024
 - iv. Conceptual Planning Report completed in 2022
 - v. Forest Restoration is ongoing
 - vi. Volunteer Activities are ongoing
 - vii. Habitat and Bird Inventories to be completed by end of 2023
 - viii. Stewardship and Management Plan will be completed in 2024
 1. Completed Site Analysis
 2. Completed Trail Inventory and Assessment
 3. Completed Public Meeting #1 (will have additional throughout the process)
 - e. Where do We Want to Be?
 - i. Participants broke into 5 virtual break out rooms to discuss:
 1. What makes the Greenway special to you?
 2. Where should trails connect to surrounding communities?
 3. What types of low impact amenities would you like to see?
 4. What types of activities or programs would you like to see?
 5. What other thoughts, concerns, or ideas do you have?

f. Poll results:

- i. Virtual polls were displayed during the presentation, the results are below.
- ii. Poll 1: How often do you visit the Churchill Valley Greenway? (Total responses = 36)
 - 1. Daily = 1
 - 2. Weekly = 6
 - 3. Monthly = 9
 - 4. Occasionally = 16
 - 5. Never = 4
- iii. Poll: 2 If you visit the Churchill Valley Greenway, how do you get there? (Total responses = 38)
 - 1. Driving = 32
 - 2. Biking = 1
 - 3. Walking = 8
 - 4. Public Transportation = 1
 - 5. Does not apply = 1
- iv. Poll 3: Please provide your name and email address if you would like to be notified of volunteer opportunities for the Greenway.
 - 1. Total Volunteers: = 28

2. Where do We Want to Be: Summary of Most Desired Amenities (Note that more detailed responses are in excel spreadsheet).

- Amenities
 - Highly desired
 - Bathrooms
 - Pavilions / Picnic areas
 - Seating / Benches
 - Trash and recycling cans / Dog waste stations
 - Bird blind / Overlook deck
 - Biking infrastructure
 - Other mentions
 - Sponsored art
 - Memorial trees
 - Disc golf
 - Dog agility course
 - Sensory trail
 - Natural playground
- Signage
 - Stream ecology, habitat, and history
 - Plant and tree ID
 - Wayfinding
 - Distance markers
 - Explaining site work

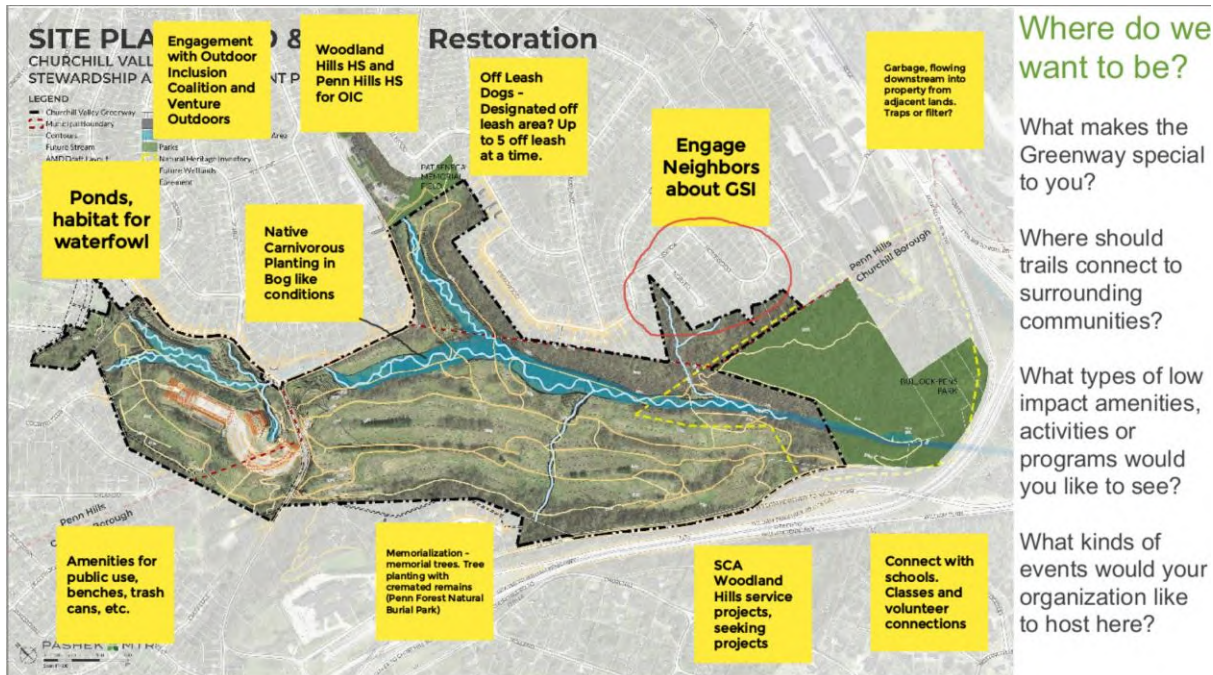
- Dogs
 - Differences of opinion
 - Designated areas for off leash
 - Dog poop issue
 - Dogs off leash issue
- Access and Trails
 - Walking / running trails
 - Natural surface hiking trails
 - Trail difficulty variability
 - Biking trails
 - Connect to the surrounding community
 - Pat Senica
 - Long Rd.
 - BCA
 - Bullock Pens Park
 - More Parking on south side of Beulah Rd.
- Programing
 - Bird walks / watching
 - Guided walks / nature walks
 - Orienteering
 - Mountain biking (north side of Buelah Rd.)
 - Science
 - Cross-country skiing
- Natural beauty
 - Preserve the meadow and habitat
 - Area for wildlife
 - Invasive management
 - Encourage restoration
 - Preserve waterway
- Other
 - Concerns about trash – create garbage pickup groups (Allegheny Cleanways)
- Organizations for Partnering
 - Trail Pittsburgh
 - Outdoor Inclusion coalition
 - Venture Outdoors
 - Woodland Hill and Pill Hills High school, and other schools.
 - SCA Woodland Hills (service projects)
 - Audubon CBC (Bird walks)
 - Volunteer Watershed Association
 - Garden Club in Penn Hills
 - Blackridge Garden Club
 - Wild Ones
 - Three Rivers Birding Club

3. Next Steps

- Synthesize tonight's input and online survey with inventory and analysis
- Develop sustainability plan recommendations and implementation strategies
- Phase 2 of Public engagement to review draft recommendations in the late spring



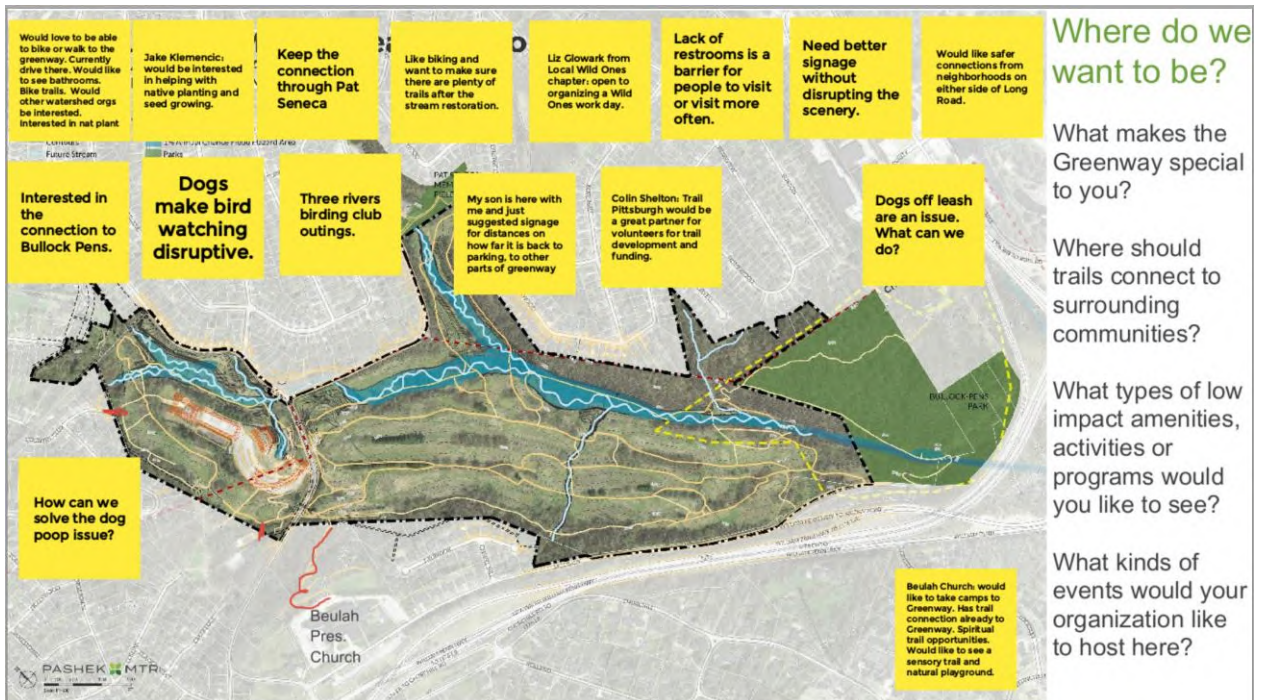
Group #1: Break out room board.



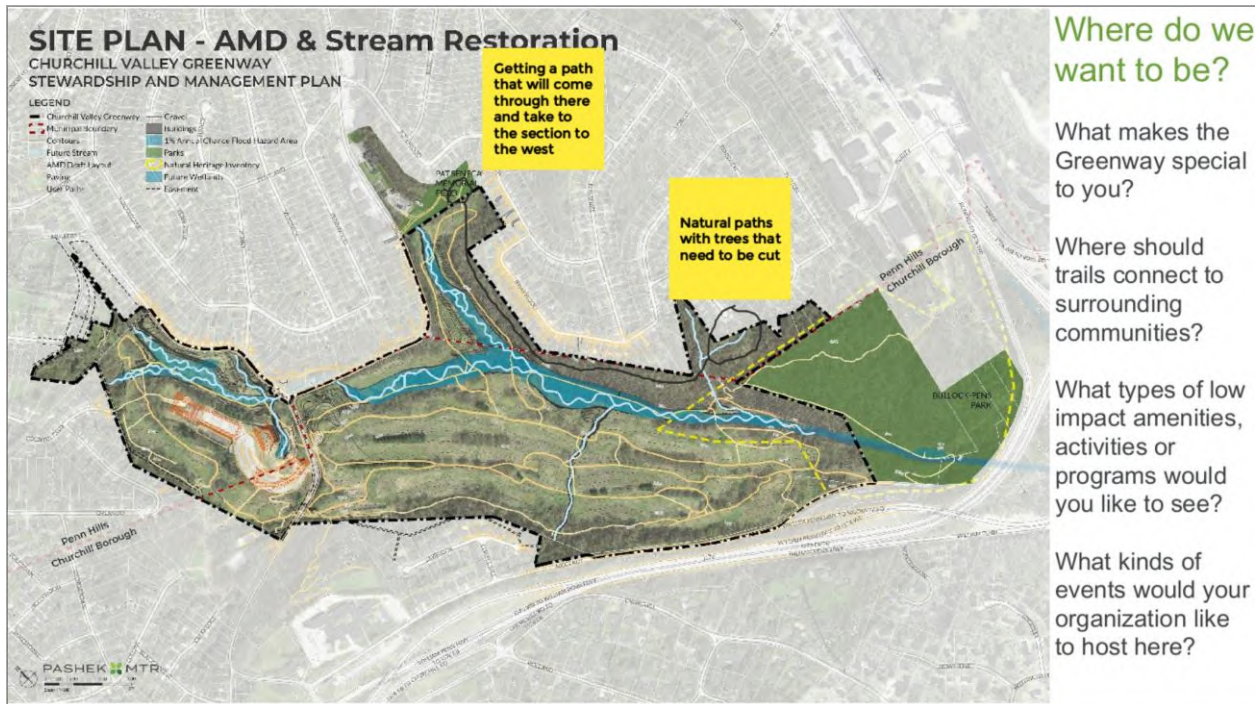
Group #2: Break out room board.



Group #3: Break out room board.



Group #4: Break out room board.



Group #5: Break out room board.

Churchill Valley Greenway Stewardship & Management

April 3, 2024 at 12:00pm at The Churchill Borough Building

Attendees:

Project Team

Sara Thompson, Pashek+MTR

Alex Zwegat, Pashek+MTR

Committee Members

Ian T. Cartwright, Penn Hills Resident and Active Member (Penn Hills Democratic Party Board Member)

Caitlin Seiler, Allegheny Land Trust VP of Stewardship

Study Committee Meeting - Meeting Minutes

Discussion Items

1. Review of Public Engagement Outcomes and Draft Plans

- PMTR reviewed outcomes of the 2 public meetings, key person interviews, and survey. The following amenities were asked for in order of most requested to least requested.
 - Signage, restrooms, and trash cans were the top amenities that people wanted.
 - We are proposing trail, regulatory, and educational signage.
 - Restrooms may be as simple as port-a-johns or could be restroom trailer or vault bathrooms. The more “built” the restrooms are, the more maintenance and cost.
 - Trash cans are a possibility, but ALT would like to see if there can be a partnership with Churchill.
 - Bird blinds: bird blinds tend to be most beneficial where there is standing water. However, there are opportunities to create approaches and viewpoints at higher elevations that allow users to have expansive views of meadows and birds.
 - We are proposing several overlooks of the meadows from higher elevations.
 - Natural Play Area: We are proposing to have several sensory activity nodes along the accessible trail loop.
 - Pavilion Shelter: this would also require trash cans which is TBD at this point. However, ALT would like to have an enclosed classroom building for their summer camps and educational programs that could potentially be rented out.
 - We have located an enclosed classroom building in the new trailhead area.
 - Yoga: There is an opportunity to use the proposed AMD area for yoga.
 - We are proposing a simple, module decking system in one of the AMD gravel beds that could be used for yoga.
 - Activities that could happen on the property but will not be advertised or maintained as such include:

- Sledding
 - Mountain Biking
 - Cross country skiing
- Items that the community would like but that don't fit with ALT's mission and vision for the property or maintenance capacity.
 - Fenced Dog Area: this does not really fit with the vision that ALT has set for the property. In addition, it would require large amounts of fencing and mowing that ALT does not have the capacity to maintain.
 - Disc Golf: However, this could be implemented in in and around Bullock Pens Park.
 - Fitness Course.
- PMTR then reviewed the proposed trail plans
 - The proposed trail layout and routes were carefully designed to preserve as much as the existing paved path system as possible. The AMD and Stream Restoration Projects will disturb some of the existing trails.
 - New trails were laid out to reduce erosion and long term maintenance as well as create a logical looping system that is easier to navigate.
 - A 0.75 mile fully accessible trail loop will have sensory activity nodes and educational signage (see precedent images). In addition, it will be designated as a dog free trail to increase access to additional users.
 - The amount of proposed trails is about 1 mile more than the existing trail system and is roughly 8 miles in length including Bullock Penns Park.
 - Primary trailheads, viewpoints/overlooks, and signage are also located on the plan. Mile markers are not shown but are recommended to be placed every tenth of a mile.
 - The main trailhead enlargement sketch shows a new parking lot located on the south side of Beulah with signage, restrooms, and nature education classroom building. Trash is TBD as mentioned above.
 - This location can take advantage of better site lines along Beulah, the excess fill material from the stream restoration project, and potentially use asphalt millings from the AMD project. It is also closest to most of the trails.
 - The existing large parking area on the north side will be removed for the AMD project grading. This side does not have good site lines and is adjacent to the least amount of trails.
- PMTR reviewed the Habitat Plan. We had several meetings with the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy to discuss habitat management on the property and in particular bird habitat.
 - They recommended enhancing bird habitat for the willow flycatcher, which likes willow and alder along waterways, and Scarlet Tanager, which likes high quality interior forest.
 - They did not find any important grassland species. The meadows would never be

large enough and the plant communities do not support rare grassland birds.

- Proposed recommendations include:
 - Create wider meadows (removing some non-native Norway spruce hedges) that are smaller and therefore more manageable for ALT to maintain for other species.
 - Expand the current recommended area for reforestation to enhance Scarlet Tanager habitat.
 - Enhance existing unhealthy forest by underplanting.
 - Plant shrubland buffer along proposed stream restoration work to include Alders and Willows for the Willow Flycatcher.
 - Allow the rest of the area to naturally develop into a successional shrubland and forest.

2. Meeting Participant Comments

- Create boulder area in “activity nodes”. Add to precedent images.
- Add examples of mile marker signs to precedent images.
- Meadow to be less than \$2000 for maintenance annually. Meadow will have to be sectioned off for maintenance.
- Trail connection along Rosewood Road.
 - Parcel across from Rose Road owned by city.
 - Make connection through Pat Senica.
- Move existing shed back into the site further so it does not block trail access.
- Create a trail implementation map.
 - Maintenance of trails
 - Paved vs. Natural trails
 - Order of importance
- Parking area
 - To be gravel with concrete handicap spaces.
 - Pull path away from parking and add stone bollards between path and drive.
 - Center of round-a-bout can be meadow.

3. Next Steps

- Committee Meeting at beginning of May
 - PMTR to send doodle poll for dates.
- Volunteer Meeting at the end of May or beginning of June.
 - Caitlin to coordinate with her staff to find dates.
 - PMTR to look up availability for Penn Hills library and the Garden Club Building
 - Garden club building is bigger
 - Caitlin to send volunteer list to PMTR and PMTR to add volunteers to list from survey and public meetings.

4. Boards and Graphics

The information contained in these minutes was recorded by Pashek + MTR and represents our interpretation and understanding of the discussions that occurred during the meeting. Please notify Pashek + MTR within one week of distribution. Otherwise, minutes will be distributed as final, and assumed accurate as written.

Prepared by: Sara Thompson and Alexzandria Zwega

Date Prepared: 4/5/2024

Distributed to: Committee

Churchill Valley Greenway Stewardship & Management

May 2, 2024 at 9:00pm Via Teams

Attendees:

Sara Thompson, Pashek+MTR
 Alex Zwegat, Pashek+MTR
 Scott Andrejchak
 Masoud Sayles
 Renee Dolney
 Ian T. Cartwright
 Caitlin Seiler

Study Committee Meeting - Meeting Minutes

Discussion Items

1. Review of Public Engagement Outcomes and Draft Plans

- PMTR reviewed changes to the trails and trail heads since the previous meeting based on committee and ALT feedback.
- PMTR presented a phasing plan indicating which trails to be implemented first, second, third, and fourth for committee opinion.

2. Meeting Participant Comments

- What will the bathrooms be? Since it's a year-round place, should be a year-round restroom. Should at least have a port-a-john there.
 - There will be a restroom facility in some capacity. ALT and PMTR are looking towards the best solution, balancing cost and maintenance requirements.
- What will the trash be?
 - A possible partnership with Churchill Borough is being researched / coordinated.
- Are you going to put a charging station at this location? There are grants through Duquesne.
 - PMTR to look into it.
- Potential to have a crosswalk at Beulah and Long Rd. But there are no sidewalks to connect to. Is this feasible?
 - Both are state roads. PennDOT might be able to put in piano key crosswalks.
 - Continuation of sidewalks from where they dead end. Penn Hills to look into it.
- Art installation
 - Low priority for funding.
 - Possibility to coordinate with schools to provide art installations.
- Water supply/ source? Fill up for dogs.
- Possible trail connection at Rose and Rosewood Road, through vacant property and Pat Seneca.
 - Volunteers can put in a trail with Penn Hills permission to create a trail

connection.

- Pat Seneca Trail Head. Proposed as a secondary trail head in the future.
 - Penn Hills would be willing to turn it over to ALT. Parcel would need to be subdivided from the Long Road Equalization Facility.
 - Penn Hills won't be able to put money into it, would be up to ALT.
- Funding
 - ALT Stewardship operates on a lean budget / amount of resources.
 - Can get grants for new construction, but hard to get funding for maintenance.
- Phasing
 - Having a loop for Penn Hills folks from the Pat Seneca trail head is important. Not just having a down and back.
 - Several of the bridges should be in first phase to better connect Pat Seneca. Small bridges can be completed by volunteers or as Eagle Scout Projects.
 - Can the sensory trail be paved at a later date? Still get DCNR funding if it is phase two? PMTR to investigate.
 - Can the classroom building be built later? Caitlin to see priorities.
- Implementation Phasing Plan
 - Once PMTR updates the phasing plan they will break out volunteer and contractor work.
 - Show what volunteers would have to do for each section of the trail.
- Maintenance volunteer work map (what is needed to maintain existing trails and eventually new trails).
 - Example: Removing vegetation away from existing trail, creating vegetative free buffer.
- Habitat Phasing and Management
 - Reforestation efforts in phase 1 – up until 2027.
 - After, expand the stream restoration planting in phase 2.
 - Meadow – PMTR to look into the difference of cost between meadow plugs vs. full drill seeding. But should be completed early in the phasing process.

3. Next Steps

- PMTR to create implementation plans and maintenance plans.
- Volunteer Meeting to be scheduled. PMTR to contact Felix at Penn Hebron.
 - Potential dates are June 20, 22, 23, 25, 26, or 27.
- Penn Hills to look into crosswalk and potential sidewalks along Beulah and Long Rd.
- Penn Hills and Ian to look into trail connection through vacant property from Rosewood Drive.

The information contained in these minutes was recorded by Pashek + MTR and represents our interpretation and understanding of the discussions that occurred during the meeting. Please notify Pashek + MTR within one week of distribution. Otherwise, minutes will be distributed as final, and assumed accurate as written.

Prepared by: Sara Thompson and Alexzandria Zwegat

Date Prepared: 5/2/2024

Distributed to: Committee

Churchill Valley Greenway Stewardship & Management

June 27, 2024 from 6:00pm-8:00pm at Penn Hebron Garden Club

Attendees:

Sara Thompson, Pashek+MTR
Alex Zwegat, Pashek+MTR
Caitlin Seiler, ALT
Dani Kramer, ALT
Pheobe Brown, ALT

Volunteer Meeting - Meeting Notes

Agenda

- Introduction and Overview of Project
 - What we have done so far
 - Project maps
 - Phasing maps / Implementation strategy
 - Questions?
- Volunteer Coordination
 - Volunteer Task List
 - Types of volunteers needed / Skills required
- Task Group Meeting
 - Volunteer questionnaire
 - Group discussion, questions, ideas

Task Group Summaries

The volunteers divided themselves according to the volunteer group they were most interested in: General Volunteers Group, Trail Building and Management, Special Amenities, and Conservation Management. The volunteers conducted a group discussion led by either an ALT or PMTR team member. The discussion items per group are as follows:

- General Volunteer Group Summary
 - Coverage area for general volunteers
 - Map of where folks are
 - Connecting Volunteers – Text Group?
 - Card to hand out about volunteering.
- Trail Building and Management Group Summary
 - Reviewed maps
 - Discussed order of operations (first I need to flag trails, then we can schedule workdays)

- Reviewed skills- we have at least one experienced sawyer, many hands-on learners
- Options for reaching out to each other- group email, possibly a page on Basecamp
- Many in the group interested in being involved in habitat mgmt. also. (invasive plant mgmt., relocating native tree volunteers from trails to better permanent locations, etc.)
- Special Amenities Group Summary
 - Ideas for Sensory Activity Nodes
 - Rock stacking area
 - Wildlife ID Stations
 - Invasive Species ID Stations. “If You See It Pull It”
 - “Look Up” Activity. Bring your own Hammock. Look at the shapes of clouds.
 - Rock Painting Partnership with Penn Hills School District. Can be used for: tic tac toe board, scavenger hunt, leave a rock / take a rock.
 - Scavenger Hunt. Find this type of lead, Find a flat rock, etc.
 - Compass at Trailhead
 - Marker with information to direct people to the Greenway Facebook page to post experience.
 - Science areas: Could get STEM funding. Boy scout project for a badge.
 - Like the post with a magnifying glass.
 - Like self-guided nature tours.
 - Like the idea of have sensory spaces that are signs showing different ways to use the space.
 - Ideas for Land Art Installations
 - Can it be functional? Like a bird blind or seating area?
 - Steel Goat Market Place – Possible artistic volunteers.
 - Contact for a woodworker. (Betty)
 - Contact for a pottery group that might be interested in doing a sculpture. (On Questionnaire)
 - Construction Junction partnership. Could loan a piece.
 - University of Pittsburgh connections. Sculpture class project or funding opportunities. (Sarah)
 - Next Steps
 - Caitlin to set up site visit with ALT team to locate two nodes along existing section of future Sensory Trail.
 - Dani to send follow up email.
 - Sarah and Betty to send plan description of Sensory Node.
 - Install Sensory Nodes on (2) locations on the existing trail to remain along the Sensory Trail path.
 - Tic Tac Toe board with painted rocks from the Penn Hills School District

and woodworking from contact.

- Contact University of Pittsburgh for possible Land Art Installations.

- Conservation Management Group Summary

- Invasive Species Management

- Good amount of interest around the upcoming invasive species work day at CVG, which will include both identification and management of invasive vines
 - There was interest expressed in a plant ID walk, either specifically for invasives or for both natives and invasives, so volunteers could confidently ID invasives and then work on their own time.
 - The person that seemed to be the most interested in ID found someone who could show them around, they exchanged contacts.
 - Interest in setting up work days among volunteers that wouldn't have to be led by ALT staff. Volunteers wanted to be connected to other volunteers that were interested in conservation management via email so they could then plan things themselves.

- Habitat management

- Not much planning around tree planting, I think we could reach out to this group when we have more concrete plans around when/where we're next going to be planting trees (fall?)
 - Idea: volunteers collecting seeds from native flowers to plant where invasives are removed.
 - Using what is already present would be good, but we could also bring in seed from flowers native to the area that aren't at the greenway and have a wildflower planting event (spring 2025)

Next Steps

- Greenway Stewardship and Management Plan:
 - Final public meeting
 - Final committee meeting
 - Final report
- Volunteers:
 - Added to email list for future volunteer events.
 - Sign-up for workdays with ALT staff.
 - Completing tasks on your own.

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Appendix

Prepared by: Alexzandria Zwegat, Dani Kramer, Pheobe Brown

Date Prepared: 7/11/2024

Distributed to: Team Members

Churchill Valley Greenway

Stewardship and Management Plan

Public Meeting #3: August 28, 2024 at 6pm at the Beulah Presbyterian Church

Attendance: Approximately 20-30 people

Public Meeting Summary

1. Presentation Outline
 - a. Agenda for the night
 - b. Allegheny Land Trust's Goal
 - i. Conserve and promote biodiversity and ecosystem function.
 - ii. Use existing infrastructure for low-impact use.
 - c. Greenway Management Plan's Goal
 - i. Develop a community driven management plan that will provide recommendations for:
 1. Access and interpretation of the greenway
 2. Trail recommendations
 3. Ecological management needs
 4. Engaging and supporting community connections
 - d. Inventory and Analysis
 - e. What we have heard so far
 - i. Summary of Community Input via: Public engagement events, committee meetings, key person interviews, online survey.
 - f. Recommendations
 - i. Trail plans:
 1. Proposed Trail Plan
 2. Trail Type: Asphalt Trails vs. Natural Surface Trails
 3. Trail Route Map
 - ii. Access and Parking Map:
 1. Beulah Trailhead Design Rendering
 - iii. Trail Signs: trail markers, mile markers, interpretive signs, kiosks
 - iv. Viewsheds Map
 - v. Sensory Activity Nodes and Land Art Locations
 - vi. Bridge Locations, Types, and Responsibility
 - vii. Proposed Habitat including habitat types
 - g. Implementation
 - i. Implementation Types
 1. Volunteer Tasks
 2. AMD and Stream Restoration
 3. Capital Projects
 4. ALT In-House Staff Projects

- ii. Trail phasing: Phase 1 – volunteers, Phase 2 – AMD and Stream restoration and volunteers, Phase 3 – Capital projects and volunteers
- iii. Habitat phasing: Phase 1 – reforestation, Phase 2 – stream restoration planting, Phase 3 – all other planting.
- iv. Timeline

2. Breakout Groups

- a. Questions asked in each group:
 - i. What do you like?
 - ii. Thoughts, comments, concerns?
 - iii. Are there local organizations/companies to partner with?
 - iv. Ideas for sponsors?
 - v. Area you interested in volunteering?
- b. Group 1 Comments:
 - i. Parking availability during AMD construction and stream restoration?
 - ii. Traffic safety on Beulah Road – PennDOT maintained.
 - iii. Interpretive sign featuring country club history
 - iv. Chainsaw art contest?
 - v. Labyrinth made with wood from site.
 - vi. Trash pick-up, trash can / dumpster, dog waste, loose dogs.
- c. Group 2 Comments:
 - i. Organizations:
 - 1. Quails forever and their sister org. pheasants forever
 - 2. Penn State extension
 - 3. Local watershed steward groups (CVG may fall under Turtle Creek)
 - 4. Local Native plant groups on social media
 - ii. Add a little free library (I don't recall if there is already one there) Nice idea!
 - iii. Recall trash pickup being mentioned and imagine it's quite the challenge with land that is open to the public. Will trash receptacles be provided on site? I expect not unless an arrangement is made with local govt to maintain.
 - iv. I read in one of the proposals for CVG that there was a possibility for a land swap with Churchill for Bullock Penns. Is there more info about this?
 - v. I also read of the idea to use it as event space for a farmers market, food trucks etc. Has this been furthered at all?
 - vi. Churchill Community Day 2nd Saturday of August? Connect with community update.
 - vii. Like accessibility
 - viii. Place close to home for kids that is natural.
 - ix. Like steam restoration
 - x. Like all of it
 - xi. Connection to Beulah

- xii. Use goats to maintain meadows
- xiii. Field guide to Flora/Fauna
- xiv. Add shade for sensory trail
- xv. Churchill Garden Club could help
- d. Group 3 Comments:
 - i. Continued discussion with Churchill and Penn Hills to open those parking areas.
 - ii. Newsletters on what will happen during construction (AMD and Stream Restoration especially) – Temporary signs.
 - iii. Land art installation ideas: rotating installation vs. permanent installation, nature theme, partner with local high schools, exercise stations.
 - iv. Existing tennis wall to be land art installation / graffiti wall.
 - v. Yoga and sledding good idea. Utilize the AMD location.
- e. Group 4 Comments:
 - i. Sponsorship ideas
 - 1. Dicks/public lands
 - 2. Universities: Carlow and Penn State Extension
 - 3. UPMC / AHN
 - 4. Google and other tech companies
 - 5. Local groups: churches, boy scouts/girl scouts
 - ii. Long-term looking access at Rodi and Nottingham or near it. (Note located on the Penn Lincoln Parkway by Bullock Pens Park)
 - iii. Recognition of contributors – a way to showcase volunteers.
 - iv. How do we feel about the big swing or more things like it? (Note located at a sensory activity node)
 - v. Re-use of demolition materials
 - 1. Rock cribs from stream banks could be repurposed into stormwater raingarden at parking lot. Similar to raingardens with native plants at CMU along Forbes Avenue.
 - vi. Pittsburgh Water Collaboratory: Can help with research, education, and community outreach. (water.pitt.edu)
 - 1. Patrick Shirey (Department of Geology and Environmental Science)
p.shirey@pitt.edu (724) 316-5167
 - vii. Where will parking access be during AMD/stream restoration construction?
 - viii. See if Churchill would help with/sponsor garbage pick-up OR would waste management do it after from the goodness of their heart / company.
 - ix. Are there plans to reuse any materials that remain on site from the demo to construct the community bridges?
 - x. Vacant home trail access?! (Note: located on the corner of Rose and Rosewood roads).

3. Next Steps
 - a. Final committee meeting
 - b. Final report
 - c. Implement!

Churchill Valley Greenway Stewardship & Management

November 14, 2024 at 12:00pm Via Teams

Attendees:

Sara Thompson, Pashek+MTR
Alex Zwegat, Pashek+MTR
Caitlin Seiler
Ian T. Cartwright
Lee Borellis
Scott Andrejchak

Study Committee Meeting - Meeting Minutes

Discussion Items

1. Review of Final Public Engagement Presentation and Summary of Public Engagement
 - PMTR summarized the last two public engagement events: the volunteer meeting and the final public engagement.
 - PMTR showed the final public engagement presentation and will share the PDF with the committee.
2. Reviewed Detailed Cost Estimates
 - Cost estimates are divided into contractor projects, ALT in-house projects, and Volunteer projects.
 - Contractor projects: trailhead, accessible trail, vault restroom, primary bridges, native meadow planting (option #1), and some signs
 - ALT in-house projects: signage
 - Volunteer projects: smaller bridges, modular boardwalk, and native meadow planting (option #2)
 - Vault restrooms to replace port-a-john is a future project that would happen after the rest of the projects when funds are available.
 - Comments: Divide up the cost estimates for the parking lot and accessible trail loop into two.
3. Other Discussion Items
 - Storm line at Pat Seneca Park will be fixed by Penn Hills, hopefully next year.
 - Storm line under the parking lot that discharges into stream and is partly collapsed (still works). It has to be rebuilt.
 - VP of land protection at ALT can talk to Scott about the potential for future acquirement of the Patt Seneca parcel for parking and trailhead access to the greenway. Penn Hills is interested in deeding/gifting the parcel to ALT after the storm line is fixed.

- BOB Project partnership.
 - BOB would most likely be willing to help with the Pat Seneca trail connection.
 - Bench given to the greenway by the BOB project
 - <https://www.bobproject.org/>
 - Contact Information:
Shaun O'Mahoney (President of BOB Project) 412-708-6194.
- Trailhead and Parking
 - Pat Seneca parking may be used when Buelah parking is closed for construction.
 - AMD project will remove the old parking lot. There will be a new access drive for AMD and can be utilized as overflow parking.
 - Change in design from classroom building to a 16x20 open air pavilion that can be used as an outdoor classroom and by the public.
- Trash removal
 - Working on a partnership with Churchill Borough on trash coordination.
 - Or will most likely have a dumpster/dumpster service to be contracted with a waste management service.

4. Next Steps

- PMTR to revise cost estimates
- PMTR to send trailhead topography to Water and Land Solutions for stream restoration grading coordination.
- PMTR to create the final report and send to the committee for review.

The information contained in these minutes was recorded by Pashek + MTR and represents our interpretation and understanding of the discussions that occurred during the meeting. Please notify Pashek + MTR within one week of distribution. Otherwise, minutes will be distributed as final, and assumed accurate as written.

Prepared by: Sara Thompson and Alexzandria Zwega

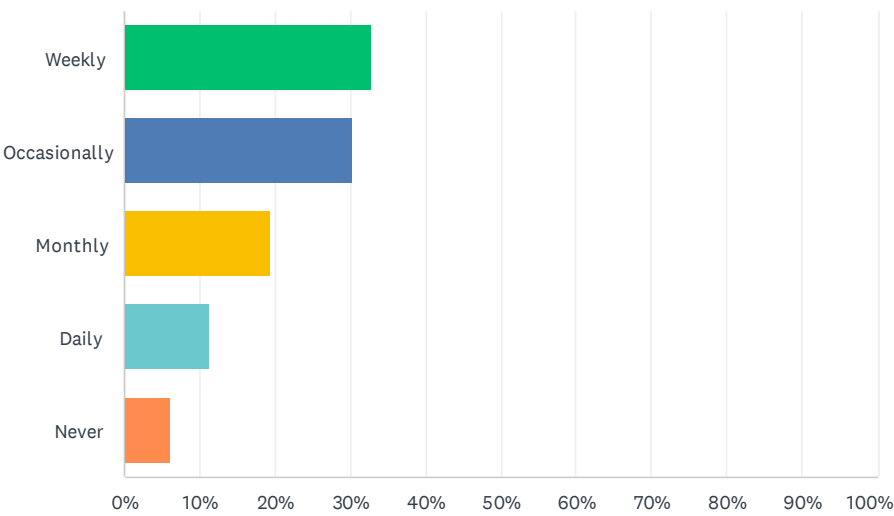
Date Prepared: 11/14/2024

Distributed to: Committee

Churchill Valley Greenway Survey

Q1 How often do you visit Churchill Valley Greenway?

Answered: 274 Skipped: 0

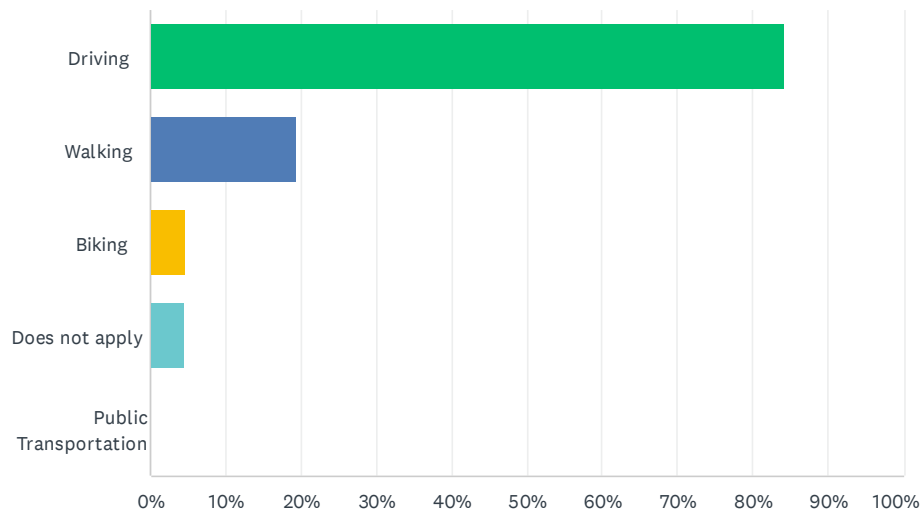


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Weekly	32.85%	90
Occasionally	30.29%	83
Monthly	19.34%	53
Daily	11.31%	31
Never	6.20%	17
TOTAL		274

Churchill Valley Greenway Survey

Q2 If you visit the Churchill Valley Greenway, how do you get there? (Select all that apply)

Answered: 273 Skipped: 1

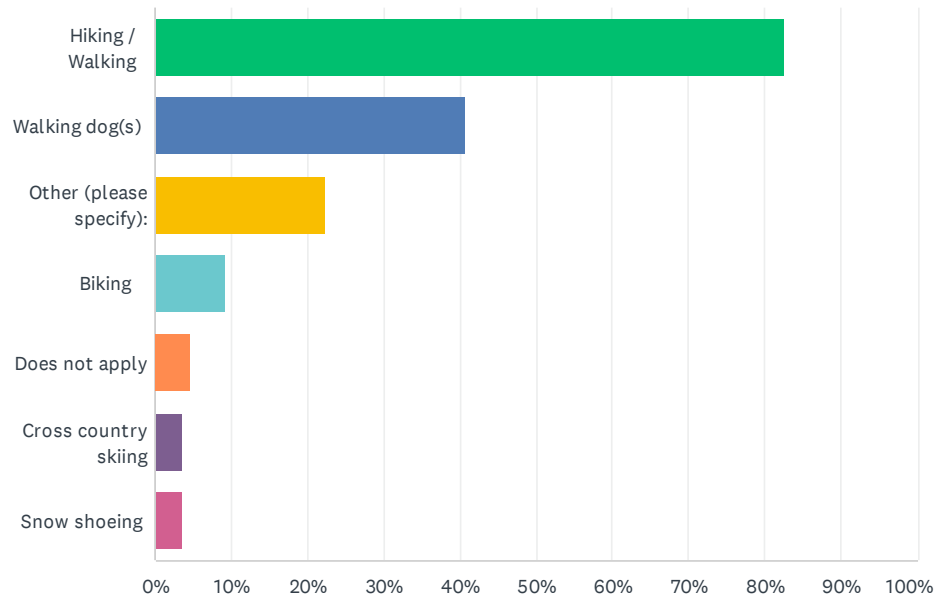


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Driving	84.25%	230
Walking	19.41%	53
Biking	4.76%	13
Does not apply	4.40%	12
Public Transportation	0.00%	0
Total Respondents: 273		

Churchill Valley Greenway Survey

Q3 What activities do you usually participate in when you visit? (Select all that apply)

Answered: 273 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Hiking / Walking	82.42% 225
Walking dog(s)	40.66% 111
Other (please specify):	22.34% 61
Biking	9.16% 25
Does not apply	4.76% 13
Cross country skiing	3.66% 10
Snow shoeing	3.66% 10
Total Respondents: 273	

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY):	DATE
1	bringing kids, birding	2/20/2024 9:23 PM
2	Very limited walking. Looks like there's a few white tail deer in there. Should open it to hunting. It's certainly big enough.	2/20/2024 12:19 PM
3	Bird watching Photography	2/20/2024 10:48 AM
4	recording species with iNaturalist	2/20/2024 10:13 AM
5	Bird photography	2/15/2024 11:49 AM

Churchill Valley Greenway Survey

6	wildlife and nature photography	2/9/2024 11:32 AM
7	Generally hanging out: exploring the creek, swinging on the tire swing, looking for unique things	2/9/2024 9:39 AM
8	I drive right by, what an eyesore. clean it up!	2/7/2024 8:26 PM
9	Would like to play disc golf there.	2/3/2024 10:11 PM
10	I live in the neighborhood but have never visited yet . Need to include space for elderly , handicapped accessibly.	2/3/2024 5:39 PM
11	Photography	2/2/2024 10:16 PM
12	Throwing frisbees	2/2/2024 9:05 PM
13	Birdwatching, identifying plants	2/1/2024 11:44 AM
14	Studying nature with my 5 children—observing the flora and fauna, picnicking , painting and drawing the landscape...	1/18/2024 2:16 PM
15	Birding Native species ID Entymology	1/18/2024 12:51 PM
16	Review of historical artwork (graffitti).	1/18/2024 12:05 PM
17	Birding	1/18/2024 11:05 AM
18	botany, looking for critters in the creek	1/18/2024 11:04 AM
19	Bird watching	11/21/2023 8:33 AM
20	Birdwatching Plant ID	11/19/2023 10:59 AM
21	Running	11/17/2023 8:34 AM
22	bird watching	11/17/2023 8:17 AM
23	Photography	11/17/2023 7:32 AM
24	running	11/16/2023 2:57 PM
25	I don't think it's safe enough to walk there unless you have a dog	11/16/2023 1:06 PM
26	running	11/16/2023 9:39 AM
27	Walking dog ON LEASH and picking up if needed!!	11/16/2023 6:49 AM
28	Foraging	11/15/2023 7:42 PM
29	Nature photography	11/15/2023 4:42 PM
30	Tree planting	11/14/2023 7:36 PM
31	Bird watching	11/14/2023 4:48 PM
32	We have sledded here in the winter and also bring our toddlers and younger children to wade in the stream.	11/14/2023 11:16 AM
33	running	11/14/2023 10:55 AM
34	Running	11/14/2023 10:14 AM
35	Bird watching	11/13/2023 2:21 PM
36	Used to live much closer, and used the property almost daily. It's longer drive now, so we only make it there every couple weeks. It may not be recognized as such, but it's a great place for snowshoing, and could be a great place for cross country skiing.	11/13/2023 10:40 AM
37	Running	11/12/2023 7:25 PM
38	Birding	11/11/2023 3:48 PM
39	Please no bicycles. Just foot traffic. Rather have a natural park with wildlife and not try to appease all the numerous sports that come into trend.	11/11/2023 11:38 AM
40	Birding	11/10/2023 12:35 PM

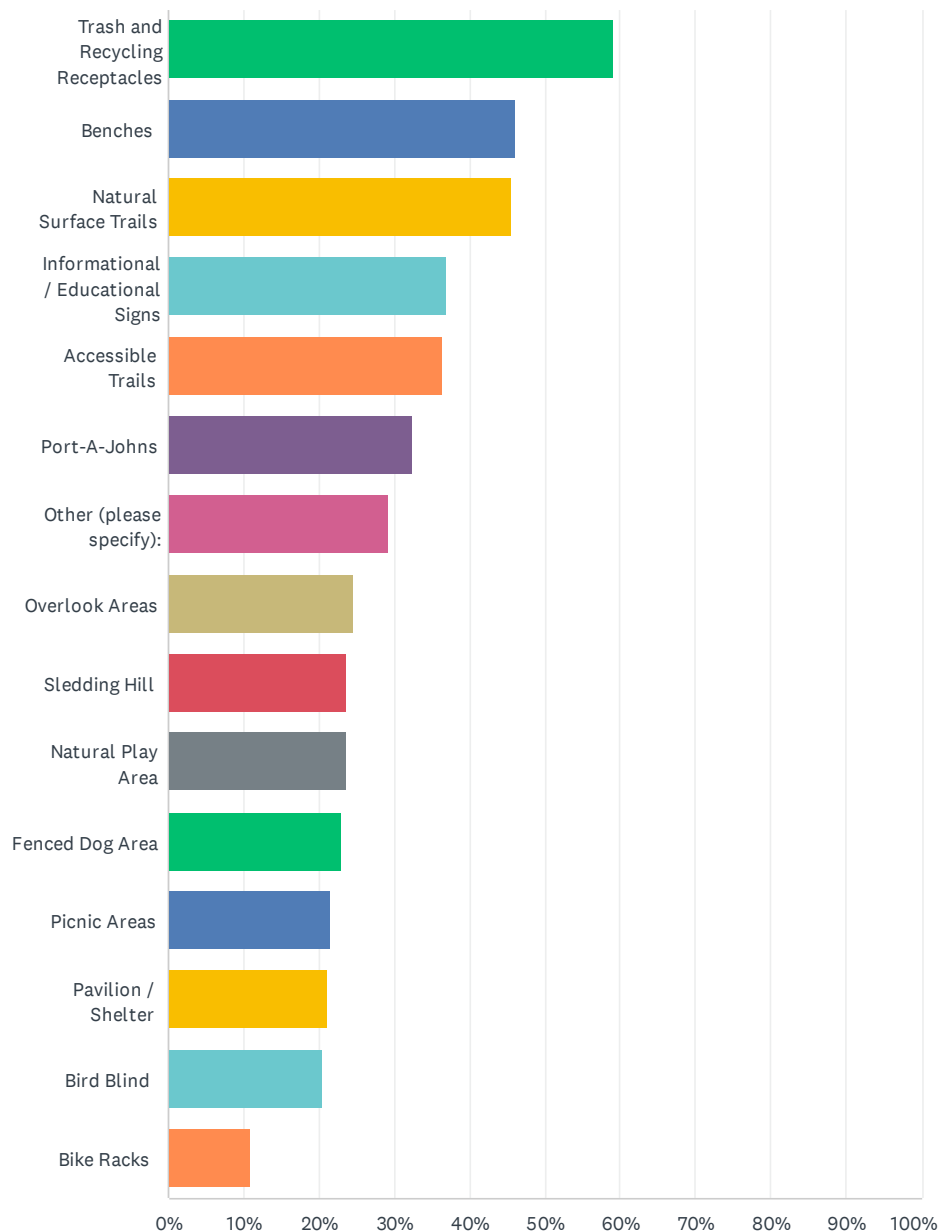
Churchill Valley Greenway Survey

41	Nature study Foraging	11/9/2023 11:49 PM
42	I already volunteer for planting and digging out invasive species.	11/9/2023 5:50 PM
43	Birding	11/9/2023 3:27 PM
44	Birding	11/9/2023 3:21 PM
45	Bird watching	11/7/2023 10:38 AM
46	Birding, observing nature	11/6/2023 1:16 PM
47	Running	11/6/2023 11:18 AM
48	Running	11/4/2023 4:20 PM
49	Running	11/2/2023 3:39 PM
50	Wading in creek, sledding	10/31/2023 4:13 PM
51	Running	10/31/2023 3:00 PM
52	Photography	10/31/2023 8:51 AM
53	Scientific research, stream water quality monitoring, fish community monitoring	10/30/2023 9:29 PM
54	trail running	10/26/2023 9:13 PM
55	Running	10/26/2023 4:27 PM
56	Running	10/25/2023 6:28 PM
57	Stroller walks	10/25/2023 6:14 PM
58	Running/jogging	10/25/2023 2:41 AM
59	Foraging	10/24/2023 10:05 PM
60	I use to walk my dog.. I don't anymore...also stopped financially supporting because of all the off leash dogs..	10/23/2023 11:29 AM
61	Birdwatching, wildlife observation	10/20/2023 2:03 PM

Churchill Valley Greenway Survey

Q4 What new amenities would you like to see at Churchill Valley Greenway? (Multiple selection)

Answered: 274 Skipped: 0



Churchill Valley Greenway Survey

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Trash and Recycling Receptacles	59.12%	162
Benches	45.99%	126
Natural Surface Trails	45.62%	125
Informational / Educational Signs	36.86%	101
Accessible Trails	36.50%	100
Port-A-Johns	32.48%	89
Other (please specify):	29.20%	80
Overlook Areas	24.45%	67
Sledding Hill	23.72%	65
Natural Play Area	23.72%	65
Fenced Dog Area	22.99%	63
Picnic Areas	21.53%	59
Pavilion / Shelter	21.17%	58
Bird Blind	20.44%	56
Bike Racks	10.95%	30
Total Respondents: 274		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY):	DATE
1	We live minutes from this facility And we're very excited as the beginning. We donated money, volunteered extensively, participated in meetings, however, we are very discouraged And now do not even use the area. The reason, dogs.! We're tired of having to dodge dog waste that people are leaving all over, it's disgusting, not to mention we're tired of being chased by dogs that are not on leashes. This is a profound problem in this area and people are completely turned off because of it. And may I add that we are dog owners, responsible ones though. I witnessed one dog unleashed, run right across Buenaventura Road in front of traffic. Imagine if someone had been injured in a car accident because of this negligence.	3/18/2024 4:26 PM
2	p.s I love the idea of a sledding hill but given the climate these days it might not be the best investment.	2/21/2024 2:26 PM
3	Trash and recycling containers only in parking lot areas	2/21/2024 6:20 AM
4	There's a need to restrict dogs to a specific area. Too many unleashed dogs running free, terrorizing walkers (especially small children).	2/20/2024 12:45 PM
5	pickle ball courts	2/20/2024 11:27 AM
6	Replacements for the two pedestrian bridges that used to cross Chalfant Run near the woods. They enabled people and dogs to walk the whole trail in one continual route and sadly were washed out during a bad storm a few years ago.	2/12/2024 8:35 PM
7	A playground!	2/9/2024 9:39 AM
8	Dog agility obstacles. (The wild animals might like them too!) And dog poop receptacles. People who don't pick up ruin it for everyone. Stretching or pull up/ push up areas for fitness breaks.	2/8/2024 7:21 PM
9	Wetland pond area	2/8/2024 7:18 PM
10	Clean and tidy it. Looks horrible entering Penn Hills	2/7/2024 8:26 PM

Churchill Valley Greenway Survey

11	Keep it as natural as possible with limited structures/ man made anything.	2/6/2024 7:33 PM
12	Disc Golf	2/3/2024 10:11 PM
13	Perhaps stations where elderly , handicapped could garden .	2/3/2024 5:39 PM
14	Disc golf course. I caddied at CVCC when I was young. There is plenty of room for a nice disc golf course and lots of trails too	2/3/2024 8:18 AM
15	Disc golf	2/2/2024 10:20 PM
16	Disc Golf Course	2/2/2024 9:16 PM
17	Disc Golf Course	2/2/2024 9:15 PM
18	Disc Golf Course!	2/2/2024 9:13 PM
19	DISC GOLF	2/2/2024 9:11 PM
20	Disc golf	2/2/2024 9:06 PM
21	What do you think about disc golf?	2/2/2024 9:05 PM
22	Parking lot	2/1/2024 5:41 PM
23	Area for mobility challenged persons. But it to be in the environment. I am not able to hike or walk hills. But love love nature. Many people want to be able to be in the heart of nature but can't because of their abilities to walk.	2/1/2024 12:55 PM
24	I would love to click Natural Play Area 1,000 times! My kids would love that.	1/18/2024 4:12 PM
25	Plant ID markers	1/18/2024 12:51 PM
26	Skate Park / Ramps for skating	1/18/2024 12:05 PM
27	Pump track / skate park.	12/23/2023 2:40 PM
28	Areas for humans to clean up after their dogs and throw their bags of poo	12/5/2023 3:32 PM
29	Way finding signage / notifications for dead ends	12/2/2023 5:18 PM
30	Existing trails could be widened to make them more accessible and/or to allow to more easily pass others on the trails as it gets more use would be nice.	11/27/2023 3:25 PM
31	Love it just as is. I wouldn't change anything and upset the habitat there already. Some bay houses would be awesome and maybe plant some fruiting trees apple pear cherry etc. just keep as is tho don't upset the wildlife already there. Thank you	11/24/2023 9:25 AM
32	Calisthenics trail	11/18/2023 1:46 PM
33	Just fixing what is already there (e.g. bridges). This greenway is one of the few places to go in the area that hasn't been overrun by amenities. Keep it natural!	11/17/2023 11:05 AM
34	Bridge repairs and added	11/17/2023 7:32 AM
35	Special needs/ASD adapted trail area.	11/16/2023 3:15 PM
36	You need trash containers there at least in the parking lot	11/16/2023 1:06 PM
37	I would love there to be off leash trails!	11/16/2023 10:39 AM
38	Bathroom facilities other than a port a john PA Native wildflower meadow that supports wildlife and pollinators.	11/16/2023 10:36 AM
39	Real toilettes; not Port-o-Johns	11/16/2023 10:27 AM
40	Stream side trails	11/16/2023 9:12 AM
41	Larger and more frequent signage telling all dog owners to leash their dogs	11/16/2023 8:37 AM
42	Keep it a natural area.	11/15/2023 9:07 PM
43	5K perimeter trail	11/15/2023 7:43 PM

Churchill Valley Greenway Survey

44	Pavilion	11/14/2023 7:36 PM
45	Disc golf course please 🙏	11/14/2023 4:40 PM
46	1) Leash-free dog trail or leash free dog side (preferably north side as it has less traffic). As an alternative, leash free hours could be established (mornings, MWF, etc.). 2) Add a dog poo bag station	11/14/2023 1:12 PM
47	Trail blazes/names	11/14/2023 11:55 AM
48	Off leash dog trail. Honestly, nothing else matters to our family than the ability to continue exercising our dogs as we have for the last 8yrs since moving into the area. If one side could be designated as an off leash side, that would be great. There is no need for a fenced dog area as Penn Hills and many other surrounding communities already have a dog park. This is an opportunity to provide a unique experience for dog lovers living in the area.	11/14/2023 11:16 AM
49	Disc golf course	11/14/2023 10:14 AM
50	A pavilion / gathering spot for the community to get together and maybe throw concerts there or hold movie nights	11/13/2023 7:21 PM
51	Native perennial plantings and wildlife habitat. I would like a fenced dog area if it can help prevent so many people from having their dogs off leash in the greenway.	11/13/2023 3:32 PM
52	Repair and replacement of bridges to connect trails	11/13/2023 2:21 PM
53	The main trail is almost accessible now. Keep it that way. Trash and portajohns in parking area a nice improvement. Absolutely no on a fenced dog area. Muni parks have those. If you put one in at Churchill, those of us who walk our dogs on the trails most suddenly be told that dogs belong somewhere else. Yes, I've seen it happen before. Plus, adding a fence dog area takes away the natural feel of the property..	11/13/2023 10:40 AM
54	off leash dog areas on trails	11/13/2023 9:58 AM
55	Fenced dog area that is divided to separate Small & Large dogs would be wonderful!	11/13/2023 9:33 AM
56	security	11/13/2023 7:52 AM
57	Trash cans for dog poop, people often just leave their dog bags around.	11/12/2023 12:53 PM
58	Please at least add garbage cans to the parking areas. I may be one of the few who pick up after their dog in this park but for those of us who do we have to carry the poop home with us in our cars which is far from ideal. That would encourage others to clean up after their dogs as well and make it more pleasant for those who already do.	11/12/2023 11:07 AM
59	And off leash side if trails	11/12/2023 9:31 AM
60	Please no bicycles. Just foot traffic. Rather have a natural park with wildlife and not try to appease all the numerous sports that come into trend.	11/11/2023 11:38 AM
61	Wetland development	11/10/2023 12:35 PM
62	Better crossings on the streams.	11/10/2023 10:37 AM
63	More mowed areas along the outer edges Periodic mowing to maintain some areas of meadow	11/9/2023 11:49 PM
64	I liked the swing that used to hang from one of the trees. Just the one — not an entire swingset!	11/9/2023 5:50 PM
65	I don't have a dog. There need to be dog waste bags and clear signage to inform dog owners to clean up dog waste and take it out. I have stepped in a large pile of dog waste recently when I stepped off the golf cart path into the grass along the creek. I did that so that a hiker could pass by me.	11/8/2023 3:23 PM
66	Directional signs to show where the trails lead and how to get back; dog waste receptacle	11/8/2023 12:41 PM
67	Open the gate at the east end near the Parkway for better parking	11/8/2023 9:38 AM
68	Off leash areas.	11/7/2023 2:25 PM
69	Dog waste receptacles (maybe with bags)	11/6/2023 2:00 PM

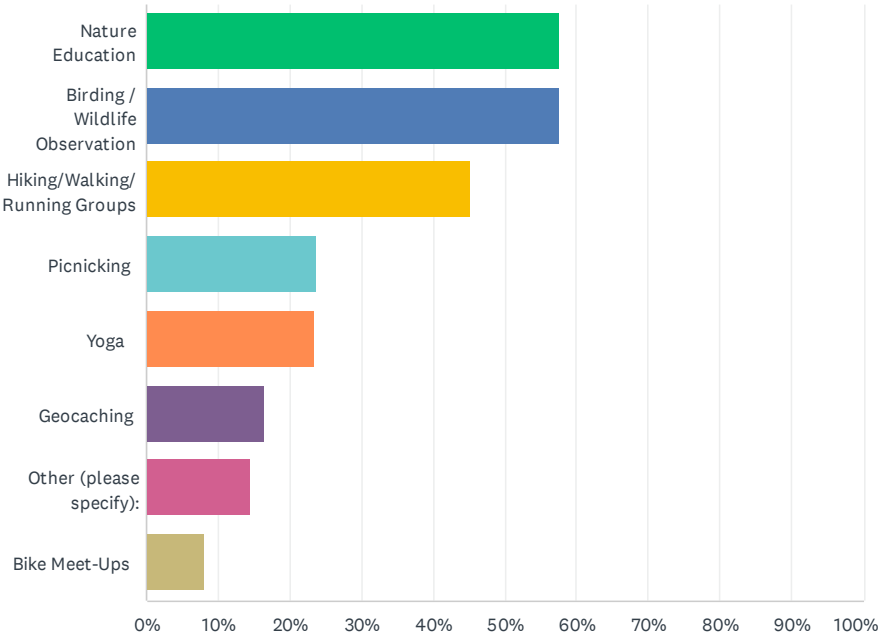
Churchill Valley Greenway Survey

70	Citizen science opportunities	11/6/2023 1:16 PM
71	Large signs telling people to leash their dogs and pick up their waste	11/4/2023 5:08 PM
72	Honestly, I rather like it as it is. It would be nice if some of the bridges could be restored that were wiped out in that flash flood a few years back. Maybe some fencing along Beulah at the curve to keep deer from getting hit there too. The charm of the space is that it's a natural green space for the most part though, adding picnic areas and play areas would ruin the aesthetic and appeal.	10/30/2023 10:45 PM
73	Create walking path from BCA/park to the bridge to access Greenway. This way residents don't have to walk on the street edge.	10/30/2023 9:24 PM
74	bridges, trail signs	10/26/2023 9:13 PM
75	I think the old club house area should be cleaned up for good parking and a nice play area. It's off by itself so the kids could play but not disrupt the natural areas.	10/26/2023 7:22 PM
76	Safer bridges over the streams	10/25/2023 5:50 PM
77	Off leash dog sites, days or times.	10/25/2023 12:25 PM
78	Edible park spaces/food forests	10/24/2023 10:05 PM
79	I stopped going because of all the off leash dogs.. did not feel safe walking my dog or going myself. These dog walkers do not clean up either!!	10/23/2023 11:29 AM
80	Improved parking using the existing lot. Improvements to Beulah and Long through the property ESPECIALLY for pedestrian safety.	10/20/2023 4:02 PM

Churchill Valley Greenway Survey

Q5 What type of activities/programs would interest you at Churchill Valley Greenway? (Multiple selection)

Answered: 274 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES	
Nature Education		57.66%	158
Birding / Wildlife Observation		57.66%	158
Hiking/Walking/Running Groups		45.26%	124
Picnicking		23.72%	65
Yoga		23.36%	64
Geocaching		16.42%	45
Other (please specify):		14.60%	40
Bike Meet-Ups		8.03%	22
Total Respondents: 274			

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY):	DATE
1	keep up the volunteer restoration/tree planting/stream work etc.	2/21/2024 2:26 PM
2	Hunting	2/20/2024 12:19 PM
3	pickleball courts	2/20/2024 11:27 AM

Churchill Valley Greenway Survey

4	None of these is appealing to Me	2/7/2024 8:26 PM
5	Disc Golf	2/3/2024 10:11 PM
6	Garden club - maybe growing food or other things that could assist handicapped, elderly population	2/3/2024 5:39 PM
7	Disc Golf! This area of Pittsburgh is underserved by disc golf due to limited areas. Being able to play casually, in leagues, or in tournaments would offer an opportunity for players and community members to be able to play locally, rather than having to travel. Disc golf is a geaat full family activity for all ages. Pittsburgh has multiple qualified course designers who could make a safe, fun, and rewarding to play course. Disc golf is cheap to install and maintain as community members voluntarily do most of the maintenance.	2/3/2024 9:31 AM
8	Disc golf	2/3/2024 8:18 AM
9	Disc golf	2/2/2024 10:20 PM
10	Disc Golf	2/2/2024 9:16 PM
11	Disc golf	2/2/2024 9:15 PM
12	Disc Golf Course!	2/2/2024 9:13 PM
13	DISC GOLF	2/2/2024 9:11 PM
14	Disc golf	2/2/2024 9:06 PM
15	Community Gardening	1/18/2024 12:05 PM
16	None	12/1/2023 12:08 PM
17	Native plant/animal support and education	11/19/2023 10:59 AM
18	None. Keep it as it is instead of trying to commercialize it.	11/17/2023 11:05 AM
19	volunteer days	11/16/2023 2:57 PM
20	Snowshoeing	11/16/2023 10:58 AM
21	Dog group social	11/16/2023 10:39 AM
22	Foraging walks	11/15/2023 7:42 PM
23	Art groups, like meet in the park and paint or do crafts. Taking pictures of the area while hiking. Looking for rocks and wildlife in the creek would be amazing if it was cleaned up	11/15/2023 8:42 AM
24	None	11/14/2023 7:38 PM
25	Disc golf leagues and tournaments please 🙏	11/14/2023 4:40 PM
26	Volunteer trail work (development, marking, etc.)	11/14/2023 1:12 PM
27	Off leash dog trail	11/14/2023 11:16 AM
28	Community Events outdoors. Would be nice to have some type of large pavilion for concerts / community events or a place to just gather together	11/13/2023 7:21 PM
29	NA	11/13/2023 6:34 PM
30	dog walks	11/13/2023 9:58 AM
31	I only go to walk my dogs	11/12/2023 9:31 AM
32	Please no bicycles. Just foot traffic. Rather have a natural park with wildlife and not try to appease all the numerous sports that come into trend.	11/11/2023 11:38 AM
33	N/a	11/10/2023 5:26 PM
34	What is Geocaching?	11/9/2023 4:59 PM
35	Orienteering	11/9/2023 3:19 PM
36	None. Keep it for dogs. Too many people w/too many activities going on is not a good mix.	11/7/2023 2:25 PM

Churchill Valley Greenway Survey

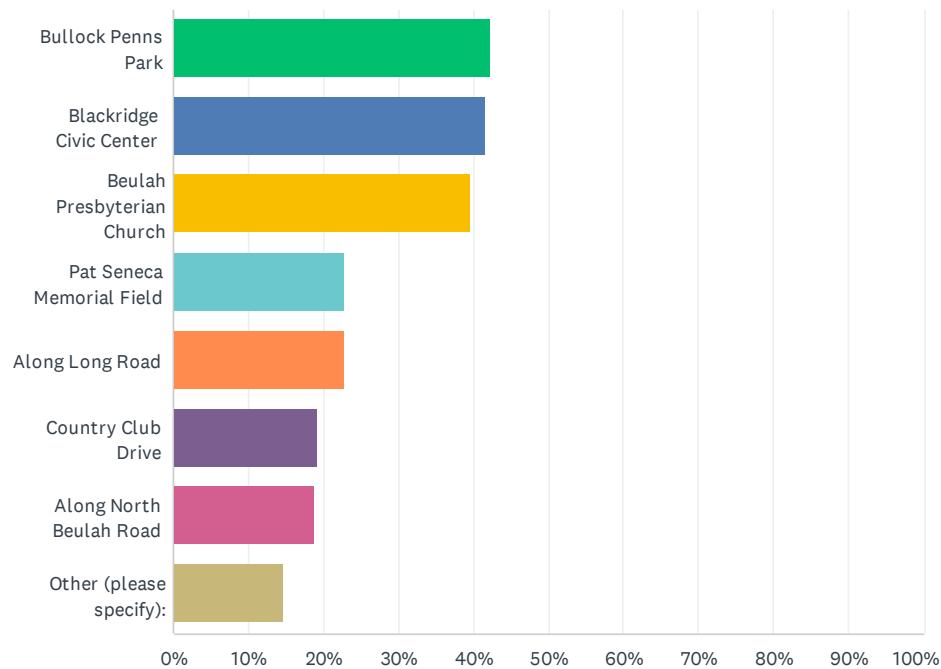
This past Sunday, parents brought their young children to the site & the kids were screaming & riding their bikes in front of dogs, causing a big disturbance.

37	None	11/4/2023 1:10 PM
38	More story walks!	10/31/2023 4:03 PM
39	I'm happy enjoying it as it is, though a dog park would be great	10/27/2023 1:24 PM
40	Forest gardening, creek cleanup and restoration of aquatic ecosystems	10/24/2023 10:05 PM

Churchill Valley Greenway Survey

Q6 Where would you like to see a trail connection to the surrounding community? (Multiple selection)

Answered: 197 Skipped: 77



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Bullock Penns Park	42.13% 83
Blackridge Civic Center	41.62% 82
Beulah Presbyterian Church	39.59% 78
Pat Seneca Memorial Field	22.84% 45
Along Long Road	22.84% 45
Country Club Drive	19.29% 38
Along North Beulah Road	18.78% 37
Other (please specify):	14.72% 29
Total Respondents: 197	

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY):	DATE
1	As many ways to walk to the greenway as possible	2/20/2024 9:23 PM
2	Blackridge neighborhood via Blackridge playground	2/8/2024 7:18 PM
3	Not familiar enough with the area	2/8/2024 7:16 PM

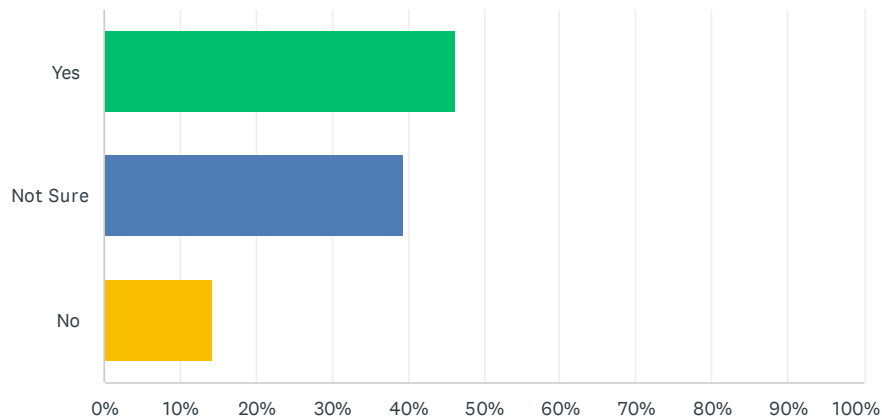
Churchill Valley Greenway Survey

4	Nowhere. This is Penn hills, dangerous to be out on trail	2/7/2024 8:26 PM
5	I Beulah road needs to be revised to be safer - this site is nice but dangerous with the current road set up	2/3/2024 5:39 PM
6	Through Blackridge park not just the civic association building	1/22/2024 12:10 PM
7	None	12/1/2023 12:08 PM
8	I drive so any of these are fine	11/24/2023 9:25 AM
9	There are already existing trail connections	11/18/2023 12:58 PM
10	I would like to be able to park right there so that I don't need to cross a highway to take a walk on the trail with my rollator/walker. People in wheelchairs or who use wheeled devices cannot feel safe otherwise. Often all the parking spaces on the side of the road where the trails are are already taken, or for some other reason the only parking is on the other side of the street. So, then, I just turn around and go home. I guess the suggestion is really to make the trails truly accessible, considering the entire process of visiting the greenway. Think through exactly what people have to do to use the trails. Try it out with a person in a wheelchair -- you can just try pushing someone in a wheelchair to test your plan and see if it really is workable.	11/17/2023 2:18 PM
11	There is a trail/path that connects to Pat Seneca (which Penn Hills stopped maintaining), so I would like that path to remain/be maintained since that is where I typically park.	11/16/2023 9:39 AM
12	Current access OK with me.	11/15/2023 9:07 PM
13	I'm not familiar with these places.	11/15/2023 1:06 PM
14	Anywhere with more parking that would be open to people using the Greenway.	11/15/2023 8:42 AM
15	None	11/14/2023 5:14 PM
16	Unsure. Would need to look at plans.	11/13/2023 7:21 PM
17	Bullock Penns Park a diamond in the rough. We need to use it or lose it (to disuse, disrepair. I also really mis the parking option off McCrary road.	11/13/2023 10:40 AM
18	Saybrook drive	11/12/2023 7:25 PM
19	I drive	11/12/2023 9:31 AM
20	Happy with any of these. BUT fewer is better to help maintain a natural feel.	11/11/2023 11:38 AM
21	To Penn Hills via Bullock Penns Park if possible.	11/9/2023 5:12 PM
22	Connected to the neighborhood bordering Rodi Road.	11/9/2023 2:38 PM
23	Not too many connections	11/9/2023 2:23 PM
24	Don't know too much about these except for Beulah Presbyterian church.	11/8/2023 3:23 PM
25	From Rodi to Bullock Penns would really connect the area	10/31/2023 4:03 PM
26	I use the makeshift trail from the BCA building but it's very steep on the one end. I'd love to be able to more reliably access the greenway from country club drive!	10/31/2023 11:39 AM
27	I rather like the existing trails. Just would like to see the parking lot opened up a bit.	10/30/2023 10:45 PM
28	Blakcridge Park	10/30/2023 9:24 PM
29	I largely chose these places so as to provide a safety solution for bikers and walkers who go up and down Beulah. I'm always afraid someone will get hurt!	10/25/2023 5:50 PM

Churchill Valley Greenway Survey

Q7 Would you be interested in volunteering at the Greenway like helping to maintain landscaped areas, plant trees, or cleanups?

Answered: 274 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	46.35%	127
Not Sure	39.42%	108
No	14.23%	39
TOTAL		274

#	IF YES, PLEASE PROVIDE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION (NAME AND EMAIL ADDRESS) SO WE CAN NOTIFY YOU OF VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES.	DATE
1	As mentioned, previously, we were longtime volunteers and donors... However, we've become disillusioned with the issues, especially The unleashed dogs.	3/18/2024 4:26 PM
2	Aaron Birdy aaron@upstreampgh.org	2/28/2024 8:20 PM
3	Ray Ramos daviramo@verizon.net	2/22/2024 8:51 AM
4	susanloucks@gmail.com I'm always interested, but getting there is an issue as I don't have a private vehicle. Maybe you can set up a carpooling request system! :)	2/21/2024 2:26 PM
5	Susan Kernick Sakernick@verizon.net	2/21/2024 8:45 AM
6	bruce amshel 1bamshel@gmail.com	2/21/2024 6:51 AM
7	Gamratpaul@gmail.com	2/21/2024 6:20 AM
8	Rayden Sorock raydensorock@gmail.dom	2/20/2024 9:23 PM
9	Patricia Gundrum gundrum2@gmail.com	2/20/2024 7:50 PM
10	bfgolonay@yahoo.com	2/20/2024 12:43 PM
11	Melody: mifarrin@gmail.com	2/20/2024 12:20 PM
12	Robbyn Snyder robbynsnyder@gmail.com	2/20/2024 10:48 AM
13	Patricia DeMarco 412-708-9277 Demarcop6@gmail.com	2/20/2024 10:48 AM

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14	Nancy DelPresto ndelpresto@aol.com	2/20/2024 10:38 AM
15	Alex Lake Alex.alexlake@gmail.com	2/20/2024 10:26 AM
16	already on the list and already helped with tree planting!	2/20/2024 10:13 AM
17	Patricia McEligott patmcell37@gmail.com	2/12/2024 8:35 PM
18	Patricia DeMarco demarcop6@gmail.com	2/9/2024 11:32 AM
19	Paige Strasbaugh - paige.strasbaugh@gmail.com	2/9/2024 9:39 AM
20	Grace Braxton, gbraxton14@gmail.com	2/8/2024 7:20 PM
21	tdg7701@gmail.com	2/8/2024 7:18 PM
22	Beth Ann Eberle <bee44@pitt.edu>	2/8/2024 7:17 PM
23	Savannah Denlinger - brown.savannah18@gmail.com	2/8/2024 1:58 PM
24	Linda Sweeney Marie42696@aol.com	2/4/2024 12:05 AM
25	jgarydropcho@gmail.com	2/3/2024 10:11 PM
26	markfed@yahoo.com	2/3/2024 9:31 AM
27	Silvia Bessonart sebasto27@gmail.com	2/1/2024 6:17 PM
28	Michelle Rutledge lmstillinarutt@yahoo.com	2/1/2024 5:41 PM
29	Linda McNair sevenofvelvet@gmail.com	2/1/2024 11:44 AM
30	Rebeccacarl@gmail.com	1/22/2024 12:10 PM
31	tricia.burmeister@gmail.com	1/18/2024 12:15 PM
32	Eric Steadle esteadle@yahoo.com	1/18/2024 12:05 PM
33	Mike Smith. skeetor72@yahoo.com	1/18/2024 11:05 AM
34	Robert Galvanek robert.galvanek@gmail.com	1/18/2024 10:42 AM
35	Eric steadle Esteadle@yahoo.com	12/23/2023 2:40 PM
36	Kelly k.wa322@gmail.com	12/2/2023 5:18 PM
37	Jimparsons81@gmail.com	12/1/2023 12:08 PM
38	Anne Hong samuel.anne@yahoo.com	11/27/2023 3:25 PM
39	nrossi0525@hotmail.com	11/24/2023 9:25 AM
40	Joseph Morrison morrjoe@gmail.com	11/21/2023 8:33 AM
41	Lindsay Woge lwoge@yahoo.com	11/19/2023 10:59 AM
42	Dan Foreman and Molly Knepper Msknepper@gmail.com and Dan.e.foreman@gmail.com	11/18/2023 1:46 PM
43	Isistarot10@gmail.com	11/18/2023 12:58 PM
44	Susan G Sterrett, susangsterrett@gmail.com	11/17/2023 2:18 PM
45	Dennis@grinberg.info	11/17/2023 11:05 AM
46	Nicole Houghton Ndengler30@gmail.com	11/17/2023 8:34 AM
47	limited physical strength, better at communications, organizing, etc.	11/17/2023 8:17 AM
48	Carolyn Leah cleah63@gmail.com	11/16/2023 3:15 PM
49	Deirdre Keller, deirdre.keller@ecspgh.org	11/16/2023 2:57 PM
50	Cathy Gates catgate6@yahoo.com	11/16/2023 1:06 PM
51	Nancy Steadle nsteadle@gmail.com	11/16/2023 11:05 AM

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52	Andy Collins andy.collins317@gmail.com	11/16/2023 10:58 AM
53	Suzanne Kovac snkovac@gmail.com	11/16/2023 10:36 AM
54	Philip Goldfinch philip.goldfinch@live.ca@live.ca	11/16/2023 10:27 AM
55	Faith Milazzo I would be willing to do it as time permits, not weekly, possible monthly but I am involved in a lot of other volunteer activities. I am more into cleanup.	11/16/2023 9:39 AM
56	Angela Palumbo awilson1112@yahoo.com	11/16/2023 9:26 AM
57	Tom Smith Thomas.smith4@comcast.net 412-841-6988	11/16/2023 9:12 AM
58	Bryanbmquaid@yahoo.com	11/16/2023 8:37 AM
59	Please make part of it on leash on trail for dogs. I could not walk my dog as other dogs would charge us with owners coming up several yards away shouting he/she is friendly.. well not when your dog scared myself or my dog!!	11/16/2023 6:49 AM
60	Claudia Gilmore eauviolet@yahoo.com	11/15/2023 9:07 PM
61	Skaras@chatham.edu	11/15/2023 8:41 PM
62	Bill Deemer Tdeemer227@gmail.com	11/15/2023 7:43 PM
63	Jordan Tony jordanmichaeltony@gmail.com	11/15/2023 7:42 PM
64	Tami Keller-Sheets ncc1127@gmail.com	11/15/2023 4:23 PM
65	Sam Weaver sweaver@trinitychristian.net	11/15/2023 3:55 PM
66	Already do	11/14/2023 7:36 PM
67	Elizabeth Fischer Efischer@fischerpost.com	11/14/2023 6:53 PM
68	David Fischer Churchill@fischyfi.net	11/14/2023 6:52 PM
69	Staceywaffensmith@gmail.com	11/14/2023 5:14 PM
70	Ellen Allston allstonellen@gmail.com	11/14/2023 4:48 PM
71	Andre Kuminkoski Andrekumi45@gmail.com Cell: 412-607-8718	11/14/2023 4:40 PM
72	Jill Daly jill.daly@comcast.net	11/14/2023 3:29 PM
73	steven.bottjer@gmail.com	11/14/2023 11:55 AM
74	My husband and older children would be willing to occasionally participate in volunteer work should the Greenway choose to support our ability to exercise our dogs in the manner described above.	11/14/2023 11:16 AM
75	Scott Ackman seackman6@gmail.com	11/14/2023 10:14 AM
76	Tanya Frederick beertana@hotmail.com	11/13/2023 11:23 PM
77	Silvan Goddin silvangoddin@gmail.com	11/13/2023 3:32 PM
78	Susan Wadsworth-Booth swb2314@verizon.net	11/13/2023 2:21 PM
79	Megan Holzer Bellushmb@gmail.com	11/13/2023 1:09 PM
80	Sarah Sleva Sarahjbrown18@gmail.com	11/13/2023 1:04 PM
81	I'm already committed to assisting with other properties for ALT, WPC, holt. I think you can find people who are closer to Churchill that would be able to be more responsive to your needs.	11/13/2023 10:40 AM
82	Mike Dawson Micdaw@gmail.com	11/13/2023 9:55 AM
83	ryan.hadbavny@gmail.com would be willing to clean up!	11/13/2023 9:33 AM
84	Jordan Gaston - jordanrgaston@gmail.com	11/11/2023 2:18 PM
85	Steve sfedele25@gmail.com	11/11/2023 2:18 PM
86	David Koenig crane-fly47@gmail.com	11/11/2023 11:38 AM

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87	dswoager@gmail.com	11/11/2023 11:07 AM
88	Kellymullen2012@yahoo.com Kelly Mullen	11/10/2023 10:29 PM
89	Nancy DelPresto Nancy.delpresto@gmail.com	11/10/2023 1:54 PM
90	Jean Carr jean.k.carr@gmail.com	11/10/2023 1:53 PM
91	Mike Smith. skeetor72@yahoo.com	11/10/2023 12:35 PM
92	Tammy Deemer Tdeemer227@gmail.com	11/9/2023 11:49 PM
93	Dan Wonders djwon48@gmail.com	11/9/2023 9:55 PM
94	John Reynolds — jsreynolds@gmail.com	11/9/2023 5:50 PM
95	Ray Ramos daviramo@verizon.net	11/9/2023 5:12 PM
96	I am 85 and unable to contribute physically.	11/9/2023 3:21 PM
97	Rayden Sorock raydensorock@gmail.com	11/9/2023 3:19 PM
98	Gail Evans-Potter gailepotter@gmail.com	11/8/2023 12:41 PM
99	Mosaicstevo@gmail.com	11/8/2023 9:38 AM
100	Liz Shelly ebshelly@gmail.com	11/7/2023 10:11 PM
101	Steven Smiley s.smiley@outlook.com	11/7/2023 8:19 PM
102	Amy Toland email- amarietoland@gmail.com	11/7/2023 2:41 PM
103	Ally Malys, peng1pete@gmail.com	11/6/2023 2:00 PM
104	Hayley Kile przolut@aol.com	11/6/2023 1:16 PM
105	Mytrailsaremany.com	11/6/2023 12:36 PM
106	Ahbates0804@gmail.com	11/6/2023 11:18 AM
107	Michael Pater mpater@gmail.com	11/5/2023 11:39 AM
108	Becky Altman;Rebecca.j.altman@gmail.com	11/4/2023 5:08 PM
109	Jolee3678@gmail.com	11/4/2023 4:20 PM
110	Tanya Pastor tanyapastor1@gmail.com	11/4/2023 12:34 PM
111	Courtney Stewart, stewart.anneke@gmail.com	10/31/2023 4:13 PM
112	Jerry Craven jerry.j.craven@gmail.com	10/31/2023 4:03 PM
113	I am on the list already, I think - Kate.porigow@gmail.com	10/31/2023 11:39 AM
114	I'd be interested in educating youth	10/31/2023 8:51 AM
115	Patrick Shirey, pds25@pitt.edu	10/30/2023 9:29 PM
116	Jeff Johns Jeff5472@msn.com	10/30/2023 6:51 PM
117	Lauren Isbilsky@gmail.com	10/26/2023 9:13 PM
118	Keir Santucci askaniblu@yahoo.com	10/26/2023 7:22 PM
119	Desirée Mullins desiree_burgess@yahoo.com	10/26/2023 4:47 PM
120	Alicia Kubiak atimmins112@gmail.com	10/26/2023 4:27 PM
121	Caroline McDevitt carolinefm35@gmail.com	10/25/2023 6:28 PM
122	Rebecca reb_ben@yahoo.com	10/25/2023 6:14 PM
123	Jill Mottorn, mottornj@gmail.com	10/25/2023 5:50 PM
124	Jeanmarie Jacob Jacobjmb@comcast.net	10/25/2023 1:34 PM

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125	Karen Havrilla khn74@aol.com	10/25/2023 12:25 PM
126	nicksirio@gmail.com	10/24/2023 10:05 PM
127	Cathy Bordner cathy.bordner@gmail.com	10/24/2023 3:01 PM
128	Tom Smith Thomas.smith4@comcast.net	10/21/2023 7:56 PM
129	ebreedon@gmail.com	10/20/2023 4:02 PM
130	Linda McNair sevenofvelvet@gmail.com	10/20/2023 2:03 PM
131	James Beck Beckjm@comcast.net	10/19/2023 8:46 PM
132	Olivia Nieser liv2022@icloud.com	10/19/2023 6:57 PM
133	Rsalac@comcast.net	10/19/2023 6:57 PM

Churchill Valley Greenway Survey

Q8 Do you have any other thoughts, concerns, or ideas related to improving Churchill Valley Greenway?

Answered: 149 Skipped: 125

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	This project could've been outstanding, however, the parking is a joke and the dangerous situation that has been unaddressed. Complain, soft and surface about the lack of adequate trash and recycling bins. Also, the danger of unleashed dogs and extensive dog waste, cannot go unaddressed any longer.	3/18/2024 4:26 PM
2	Acid mine drainage issues needs to be addressed.	2/28/2024 8:20 PM
3	It is a very pleasant and convenient place to relax, and get outdoors. I would not want to see it too " developed".	2/22/2024 3:47 PM
4	Some dog owners are letting their dogs walk off-leash and some are not cleaning up the dog poop. This is both a safety hazard and an environmental hazard.	2/22/2024 8:51 AM
5	Stream restoration feels top priority for me. When I was there, it was so obviously sick, no life in the creek or on the banks, smelling like dishwater - it was disturbing.	2/21/2024 2:26 PM
6	What a wonderful amenity for the community!	2/21/2024 11:33 AM
7	Redo parking area, continue cut back of weeds, etc. adjacent to current walkway	2/21/2024 8:45 AM
8	open trail that was prior maintenance road below beulah church/saybrook dr to link up with lower mc cready road parking area which should be enlarged/maintained	2/21/2024 6:51 AM
9	Enforce dog leash laws	2/21/2024 6:20 AM
10	It's essential that key access points to the Greenway be established to connect it to the Blackridge neighborhood.	2/20/2024 10:35 PM
11	As far as trash removal, I am concerned that a lot of dog poop bags would be thrown in the trash containers instead of people being responsible for disposal elsewhere. How often would trash be removed if it there was a trash can?	2/20/2024 7:50 PM
12	I AM HANDICAPED , SO ANYTHING FOR HANDICAPED.	2/20/2024 5:01 PM
13	No hunting signs	2/20/2024 1:17 PM
14	traffic sign to slow traffic to make easier for vehicles	2/20/2024 12:43 PM
15	It's a beautiful place. Would love to see it improve.	2/20/2024 12:20 PM
16	No	2/20/2024 12:19 PM
17	No, but we need fenced in dog parks because no one keeps their dogs on a leash & its quite unnerving to have dogs run up to you whenwalking!	2/20/2024 11:27 AM
18	I feel that the parking on the east side is haphazard and needs improvement. Is there a reason you all don't use that huge parking lot that was CVCC?	2/20/2024 10:38 AM
19	I grew up in a house that abutted the golf course. We contributed to the acquisition of the land and are thrilled that the needed funding was raised. We are just happy to see it revert to natural green space.	2/20/2024 10:21 AM
20	The greenway is so beautiful and I'm so grateful for it. Besides replacing the two pedestrian bridges mentioned above, I'd like to see the Beulah Road entrance area (where the country club was located) redesigned to be an organic part of the natural landscape that surrounds it. It would be aesthetic improvement too.	2/12/2024 8:35 PM
21	Coordinate with the Borough of Churchill and Penn Hills to address access issues and amenities such as park playground or other amenities that may be in their capital budget	2/9/2024 11:32 AM

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	scopes.	
22	Programming from the outdoor inclusion coalition and venture outdoors	2/8/2024 7:18 PM
23	I'd like to see it kept as a primarily quiet recreation area (no sport courts or disc golf type things that add noise or hazards to those hiking).	2/8/2024 1:58 PM
24	CLEAN IT UP	2/7/2024 8:26 PM
25	It's a beautiful area please keep it as natural as possible. It should be a safe haven for wildlife as well, no hunting!!!	2/6/2024 7:33 PM
26	Dogs are taking over all of our public parks. They poop and they bite. Keep dogs out. Bikes and walkers are incompatible. Walkers only.	2/3/2024 6:44 PM
27	We need retail stores in Churchill . Perhaps a wellness center on site would be nice .	2/3/2024 5:39 PM
28	Nope, glad to hear the greenway is seeking community engagement!	2/3/2024 9:31 AM
29	I would hate to see this property go to waste. A disc golf course would be fun and I'm sure the local Pittsburgh club would be willing to help make that a reality.	2/2/2024 10:20 PM
30	Pittsburgh has a lot of great Disc Golf Courses in the area. We are just one championship level course away from attracting regular visits from the Professional Disc Golf Pro Tour and other larger tournaments.	2/2/2024 9:16 PM
31	Disc golf course!	2/2/2024 9:13 PM
32	DISC GOLF COURSE	2/2/2024 9:11 PM
33	The amount of people not following the current pet policies is a concern. Too often dogs are not leashed and so many refuse to pick up their pets poop. Both have been problems when walking my lashed controlled dog. Also, stepping in poop should not be a problem, yet it is.	2/1/2024 5:41 PM
34	Please consider allowing managed deer hunts in subsequent autumn seasons, as the Game Commission has done in Frick and Riverview Parks. Whitetail are overpopulated in our area, to the detriment of everyone.	2/1/2024 11:44 AM
35	Please fix the broken bridge that cross the stream on the side where the swimming pool used to be. A lot of clean up needs to be done on that side. All the walkways need cleaned up and the bridge to cross replaced. As u can't cross now	1/31/2024 8:58 PM
36	Better social media page where people can connect, post pictures, leave concerns etc...	1/22/2024 12:10 PM
37	Worry about the overpasses being slippery with evergreen debris in the fall and snow and ice in the winter, could use anti skid on the incline and declines	1/19/2024 5:20 PM
38	I would love to see more dog waste receptacles/bags and signs about keeping your dogs on a leash. I'm often there with my young children and they frequently step in dog poop that's all over the trail, and we often meet unleashed dogs. We would also absolutely love some kind of playground or natural play area. There used to be a tree swing, which has fallen down in the last few years, and my kids are still sad about that.	1/18/2024 4:12 PM
39	My biggest concern is that almost every time we are there (which is almost weekly, even in 0° weather), we come across multiple dog owners with multiple off-leash dogs and there is an astronomical amount of dog feces on the paved paths. We have (on multiple occasions) had 3-4 enormous dogs run up to and all around my children with no owner in sight. i love dogs and animals but as a parent is terrifying; I don't know these animals or if they're friendly or not and trying to protect myself and my children and often the other children we bring to enjoy the Greenway is extremely frustrating and stress-inducing. I have on times kindly asked or reminded the owners when they finally arrive that the dogs are required to be on a leash in the park, and they are completely dismissive. I'm also very tired of the constant smell of dog feces and cleaning up my children's shoes/bikes/stroller wheels from it regularly as it is EVERYWHERE despite our best efforts to look around and avoid it. I'm not sure how to enforce these things other than volunteers/employees on the trails often fining folks. The swing area was/is a favorite spot for us to picnic and draw in our nature journals. We'd love to see benches/garbage disposal areas/and the simple tree swings etc up!	1/18/2024 2:16 PM
40	Unleashed dogs are a huge problem	1/18/2024 12:51 PM
41	In time, it would be great if all the bridges that cross the stream could be repaired so we could	1/18/2024 12:48 PM

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	bicycle over them. It would also be great to have the erosion along the edge of the stream on the old paved golf cart trail repaired.	
42	I like how wild it is, and wouldn't want there to be a lot of built structures. It's nice to be able to hike in a tiny piece of wilderness in the middle of a city area.	1/18/2024 12:15 PM
43	There are a couple of older bridges on paths that cross streams that are a bit difficult to navigate by foot. I'd like to offer to assist with rebuilding or repairing these if they are salvageable. I have a portable sawmill operation and I can produce and have access to low-cost hardwood lumber.	1/18/2024 12:05 PM
44	You guys are doing a fantastic job! Keep up the good work.	1/18/2024 11:04 AM
45	I don't like the parking situation. Why are people using the improvised parking on the east side of Beulah which is not paved and does not have clear spaces instead of the established paved parking area on the west (Blackridge) side? This needs to be improved. The parking as it is too chaotic.	1/18/2024 10:55 AM
46	Archery hunting	1/18/2024 10:42 AM
47	What is the plan for weed eradication? The old fairways are choked with them.	1/1/2024 3:17 PM
48	We love this place. The dog poop is out of control and it smells. I absolutely LOVE dogs and animals in general. But I feel the human needs to clean up after their furry friends. Maybe make a designated area. Thanks	12/5/2023 3:32 PM
49	A study on the natural succession of plant and animal or bird communities would be interesting and a good opportunity to get started sooner than later at this site!	11/27/2023 3:25 PM
50	Yes remove old tires hanging around.	11/24/2023 9:25 AM
51	VERY against a dog park as part of this	11/21/2023 8:33 AM
52	Please keep Churchill Valley Greenway humane and hunting-free.	11/19/2023 10:59 AM
53	Having a passive calisthenics gym / trail has been used in many other parks because of their low maintenance. This would encourage more running and exercise groups to use the space.	11/18/2023 1:46 PM
54	Keep it clean and rustic	11/18/2023 12:58 PM
55	Do historical research on who lived and/or used the lands. Or, if the Conservancy has already done so, share it. A booklet about that would enhance appreciation and understanding of the place. I would volunteer to help with that research if such help is desired.	11/17/2023 2:18 PM
56	Just what I wrote above. Keep it natural and wild. Don't make it into a "destination."	11/17/2023 11:05 AM
57	More support from Penn Hills is on the way	11/17/2023 8:17 AM
58	Set up donation center and ability to purchase novelty items like t-shirts etc	11/17/2023 7:32 AM
59	Larger parking area. Safer area to park	11/16/2023 7:27 PM
60	Trail designations (different loop names) with distances posted.	11/16/2023 4:09 PM
61	Cameras should be installed to deter litterbugs	11/16/2023 3:56 PM
62	I wonder a lot about any restoration that would improve water health in the creek and if there are any actions that visitors could take to help that. I also think it would be nice to have names for the trails and maybe some photos that show what it used to look like compared to now. Thanks for all you are doing for this space. It is a place that helps me feel hopeful and connected to a community of people working for land restoration.	11/16/2023 2:57 PM
63	Cameras for the two parking lots. Maybe someone driving around afternoon early evening on the trails.	11/16/2023 1:06 PM
64	The Greenway is such a wonderful community greenspace and resource. Thank you for all of your effort to fight for and preserve the land, creating a destination space to enjoy the outdoors. Grateful for the hard work of many involved in this project for years!	11/16/2023 11:20 AM
65	I think it would be good to put in a policy of requiring dogs to be on-leash unless they're in an enclosed "doggie park" area. This is not only for the comfort and safety of other park users,	11/16/2023 11:05 AM

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but also will help prevent dogs from running on to the very busy streets surrounding the park (especially Beulah Rd).

66	Have some type of surveillance for safety and security for all.	11/16/2023 10:39 AM
67	I'm very interested in the acid mine water cleanup that will be occurring. The streams that flow through the CVG look unwell. My children love being able to play and explore in various creeks, however it isn't safe to do so at the present at CVG.	11/16/2023 10:36 AM
68	A fenced Dog area which should have the same amenities as the dog parks as Boyce Dog Parks in Plum. Also, the Greenway needs to have wardens &/or police patrols.	11/16/2023 10:27 AM
69	I wish people would not let their dogs roam so much. Most are under control but some days, dogs jump on me when I run. Not good. I also come across dog feces, like from those dogs running loose. Not sure how you can enforce that. Also, I run where the CC facilities used to be, heading up the hill toward Frankstown, kind of parallel to Beulah. That path is kind of overgrown. I have ripped out some weeds but it would be great if that area could be maintained. Finally, I am torn about garbage cans. There is so little trash there now, and I am not sure if that is because people just don't throw their trash or volunteers are picking it up. I wonder if garbage cans would cause more trash, as odd as that sounds. Basically whatever is happening now is working.	11/16/2023 9:39 AM
70	Thank you for trying to improve the site	11/16/2023 9:26 AM
71	Very much in favor of stream remediation. Improving the water quality will put all the other natural plans in motion.	11/16/2023 9:12 AM
72	I don't want this to become a nuisance property... I don't feel safe walking there.	11/16/2023 6:49 AM
73	Keep paths along perimeter	11/15/2023 8:41 PM
74	A disc golf course.	11/15/2023 4:23 PM
75	If there is any way to better enforce the "dogs must be on a leash" rule, I would be in favor of it.	11/15/2023 3:55 PM
76	Thanks	11/14/2023 11:33 PM
77	Make people clean up all the dog crap...	11/14/2023 7:38 PM
78	Better parking. Make it more welcoming.	11/14/2023 7:36 PM
79	Trails should be well marked and a map should be available at trailhead/parking lot. A pavilion for community use (such as family get togethers) would be fantastic.	11/14/2023 6:52 PM
80	Please consider a disc golf course for the public to enjoy. It's a cheap family activity that incorporates the surrounding nature with minimal disruption and maintenance. Inexpensive to implement and it would bring tons of new people to enjoy the park.	11/14/2023 4:40 PM
81	I'd like it to stay as much nature-oriented as possible. Just bench or two for some walkers to rest briefly halfway down a trail.	11/14/2023 3:29 PM
82	Replace makeshift bridges with simple, safe structures.	11/14/2023 1:12 PM
83	At this time, I consider it an eyesore. Overgrown and abandoned looking. Any improvements would be better than what is currently there.	11/14/2023 12:31 PM
84	Access to the larger paved parking area and possible resurface of the current lot	11/14/2023 10:55 AM
85	I hope you will maintain a good chunk of the early successional habitats that make this property so unique and stunning. In my professional opinion, converting it all/letting it all progress to forest would be a big loss.	11/14/2023 10:37 AM
86	A disc golf course, even just 9 holes, would be a relatively inexpensive way to draw users to the Greenway without significant disruption to the natural habitat or other Greenway users (if designed correctly). The Greenway would be an excellent area for winter sports such as snowshoeing and XC skiing if a few of the trails were widened to accommodate these activities (at hills, sharp turns, etc).	11/14/2023 10:14 AM
87	It would be nice to have an outdoor space to gather together as a community. We always go over to Bakery Square to sit on the lawn out there and listen to live music and/or watch the	11/13/2023 7:21 PM

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	game or just relax and catch up on work outside. Would be nice to have something similar to that here where the community could gather together.	
88	The property needs trash cans. I've seen people leave trash because there are no cans. There needs to be improvements to slow traffic coming down the hill and at the intersection of Long Road. It's dangerous pulling out of the parking lot.	11/13/2023 6:34 PM
89	I love the greenway! I think it's a tremendous opportunity to provide the community accessible recreation alongside supporting habitat for native insects, birds and more. I also think allowing archery hunting on a permitted basis like in ALT's other properties would be beneficial to keeping the deer population in check and protecting the many native plant species already there.	11/13/2023 3:32 PM
90	I liked to see improvements of the walking trails on the west side of Beulah road around the old clubhouse. I'd like to see the bridge on that side over Chalfant run replaced. Would also like to see something done with the space that is still concrete but you cannot park on near the old clubhouse. If there were going to be shelters or a small amphitheater, that would be a good location.	11/13/2023 3:00 PM
91	Better parking areas	11/13/2023 2:21 PM
92	Not at this time	11/13/2023 2:03 PM
93	Sidewalks connecting black ridge to the greenway. Dog waste receptacles. Update pavilions and picnic area. Larger paved parking area. Salt path in winter.	11/13/2023 1:09 PM
94	First of all, thank you for stopping in to save this property. Second years ago we would start our walks at Blue oaks Penn Park and occasionally would follow the north side of the creek into the golf club property. That north side of the property is very nice. I really like that rise with the small bridge. Were those CCC or WPC projects?	11/13/2023 10:40 AM
95	Make the trails accurate on the trails map.	11/13/2023 9:58 AM
96	Parking gets congested quick and it is tricky to pull out and make a left up the hill. Parking on the same side as the Civic association would be nice.	11/13/2023 9:33 AM
97	just now learning about this. Thanks	11/13/2023 7:52 AM
98	Designated kids area to ride bikes, off leash side for dogs the place so great to have in the neighborhood!!!	11/12/2023 9:31 AM
99	I'm bothered by the number of people who walk their dogs off-leash in the Greenway. Maybe more reminders are needed.	11/11/2023 3:48 PM
100	1. Plans should be made to restore the stream to a more natural meandering flow, not the direct shot through the flood plain. This causes a higher rate of erosion and less habitat for wetland species. Of course funding would be required for this large project. 2. A core section of acreage should be determined and left alone without any trails through it. Perhaps a wetland created by the first suggestion could serve as this piece of land. Not all wildlife enjoys sharing their habitat with people. Trails could be rerouted around this land area. If you try this you may notice additional wildlife staying on the property.	11/11/2023 11:38 AM
101	Biggest issue with trail is people refusing to leash or pick up after dogs	11/11/2023 11:07 AM
102	Can some of the short bridges within the Greenway be repaired so bicyclists can cross them with ease?	11/11/2023 7:40 AM
103	I appreciate the quantity of trails there are now.	11/10/2023 10:29 PM
104	I'd like to be able to walk my dog off-leash on the Country Club side of the greenway	11/10/2023 5:26 PM
105	I currently worried about the parking. I think only one parking area/lot with parking spaces enough to accommodate however many slots you think is reasonable is fine. But parking on both sides is not needed and dangerous as people speed ALL THE TIME on Beulah Rd. In fact they run into the Blackridge/Forest Dr garden on Beulah Rd with regularity. IF you want to also have a parking lot at the dead end of road where Penn Bullock park is, then you have extra parking if needed. Hard to turn around there. I would not want to encourage people to park at the Blackridge Civic Assn building and lot as it is rented out with regularity and that could present a problem. SO if having a trail carved out for the BCA will lead to parking there then I rescind my vote for a distinct path/trail there.	11/10/2023 1:54 PM

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106	There was a swing that was hung from a tree that kids (and some adults) enjoyed. It was removed - why?	11/10/2023 1:53 PM
107	Allow archery hunting	11/10/2023 12:51 PM
108	What is being done to restore the footprint of the old country club building, tennis courts & swimming pool sites to a natural state? Those areas of the Greenway are still dominated by harsh concrete. A viable connection is also badly needed from Blackridge Park to the Greenway. Thank you@	11/9/2023 9:55 PM
109	More of a turning lane or 'slowdown' area along Beulah Road. It's more dangerous to pull in than to pull out. I also like the idea of parking spaces separated by green islands rather than one big grid of parking spaces. Parking closer to the lower bridge on the west side would be nice, or a staircase to the upper bridge on the west side. — Some trails high up on the hill are dead ends, so let's connect them. — Play areas and porta-johns, if created, ought to be on the west side where the abandoned asphalt is now. Much of that asphalt could be turned into meadow. — Lampposts near parking areas might help. Would rather not see bikes out there at all.	11/9/2023 5:50 PM
110	To me it is a relatively small area. One of the nicest components is the feeling of privacy. In order to preserve seeing wildlife and birds it is necessary to have quiet and natural surroundings. I am being selfish in not wanting to witness development. I want the area to be respected. A few years ago I witnessed a group of women cutting down evergreen saplings. I was shocked and proceeded to chastise them. I am sure they were being cut for Christmas decorations and then discarded. It made me very unhappy. At this time there are a few evergreen trees growing beneath the mature evergreens. May it always be so.	11/9/2023 3:21 PM
111	More direct outreach and partnership with neighboring communities and school districts	11/9/2023 3:19 PM
112	Rebuilding the lower trail down by the creek and slope stabilization along the river in that area.	11/9/2023 2:28 PM
113	I was interested to see scientists from the University of Pittsburgh working in the creek with a monitor they have installed to monitor the water quality. They spoke with me about their work there. It would be great to have someone come to inform users of the park about that. I walk there at least two or three times a week in good weather. I'm concerned about the invasive plant life there. It would be good to have volunteer groups come to help remove some of those. I don't go there on weekends when there are more folks using the park. I enjoy meeting other hikers but have liked being there without crowds.	11/8/2023 3:23 PM
114	More paths up & down the hill to join with the longer paths	11/8/2023 9:38 AM
115	We love the Greenway!	11/7/2023 10:11 PM
116	Have a designated off-leash area like Oakmont Black Hollow Trails.	11/7/2023 2:25 PM
117	Genuinely, my biggest wish is for trash cans to throw away dog waste and things to encourage other folks to scoop too	11/6/2023 2:00 PM
118	I think it is such a goldmine in our backyard... continue to engage community, keep it clean, protect it and promote it for others to follow suit in their communities	11/6/2023 1:16 PM
119	I love the Greenway and I am so thankful for all the work y'all have put into it!!	11/6/2023 12:36 PM
120	Keep the greenway as natural as possible with minimal manicuring. Bikes are not a good fit at this park due to the number of blind corners. Riding at any speed risks a head-on collision with people/dogs walking the opposite direction	11/6/2023 11:18 AM
121	Having holiday events or just events in general to get more people to come and enjoy	11/5/2023 11:39 AM
122	I walk my two dogs there several times a week, and try to run other days. Both with my (leashed) dogs and by myself, I have been approached by off leash dogs running towards me (and my dogs). I've tried nicely (and eventually not so nicely) to tell people to leash their dogs. A few people have screamed at me and said there's no sign. It makes me scared to use the Greenway if there's anyone else with dogs there. My boys are both rescues that have been attacked by other dogs in the past, and it's incredibly stressful for everyone when a dog is off lead. We love the Greenway so much, and we hate to avoid going there. Is there anyway leashing can be enforced? Also, can something be done about people not picking up their dog waste? Could there be garbage cans at the entrance? Thank you so much for your consideration!	11/4/2023 5:08 PM

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123	Please no soccer fields, playgrounds etc. While would love to see it maintained, we would prefer it not to be over developed. There are very few natural spaces in this area and it really is a beautiful habitat for birds, plants and other wildlife.	11/4/2023 4:20 PM
124	Keep it natural. Prefer less bikes speeding around. Trash and dog poop becoming an issue as park gets more visitors.	11/4/2023 1:10 PM
125	I love that the greenway provides a place to walk my dog where there aren't constantly bikes flying by. I also love the wildness of it. While I recognize that many of the trails aren't accessible to all, the wild/ natural feel is something you can't find anywhere else near the city and I think it's the tiny nature trails that help it feel that way. I'd love to see it maintain its wild feel. I would really like for there to be trash cans. It's started to get busier and there's a bit more garbage and pet waste than there used to be.	11/4/2023 12:54 PM
126	Mostly just trash cans and ports potty's but also a dog area would be awesome! We love coming here beautiful place!!	11/4/2023 12:34 PM
127	Definitely looking forward to the trails and pathways and bridges being repaired and becoming safer - first priority, I assume!	10/31/2023 4:13 PM
128	Thrilled to see this area become useful to the whole community again!	10/31/2023 4:03 PM
129	Maybe something could be done to improve the parking lots?	10/31/2023 4:01 PM
130	Trash is a problem because people leave it by the parking lot, but I also wouldn't want an overflowing garbage can there.. I love love love the improvements ALT has already made to the bridges, tree planting, mowing more trail connections, etc. So grateful to have this property at my doorstep.	10/31/2023 11:39 AM
131	I'd love to get the swing put back up for my kids.	10/31/2023 11:09 AM
132	Stream bank erosion needs to be addressed.	10/31/2023 8:13 AM
133	It's a great natural space for the most part. Other than opening up the bigger parking area, rebuilding the bridges and maybe adding some fencing, doesn't need a lot done. Our local community has greatly enjoyed walking the trails since the golf club closed and we're all thankful that ALT has bought the property and stopped it from being used for horrible purposes. However, hopefully you guys don't turn it into some kind of Frick Park wannabe with a bunch of stuff that ruins the natural space for the wild animals and those of us who have been walking there for years.	10/30/2023 10:45 PM
134	Churchill could improve Bullock Pens Park area access	10/30/2023 9:29 PM
135	Really would like a way for it to be accessible for blackridge residents without driving.	10/30/2023 9:24 PM
136	I would love some of the fallen bridges to be replaced and the tree that blocks the path along the water near the missing bridge cut or removed to allow passage	10/27/2023 1:24 PM
137	I like how wild it is. While benches and bridge improvements would be great, I don't want the park to get too polished and sanitized.	10/26/2023 7:22 PM
138	Please increase signage about the importance of keeping dogs leashed! I would love to walk my dog here more, but there are too many off-leash dogs for this to feel safe. Also please increase signage about cleaning up dog poop- availability of trash cans and bags may help. Also, widening of the trails would be beneficial- they are currently too narrow for two people walking dogs to pass each other without getting in very close proximity to each other which can create scary or even dangerous situations.	10/26/2023 4:27 PM
139	No but I would love to volunteer	10/25/2023 6:28 PM
140	Easier access into the parking area. Traffic along the road moves quickly	10/25/2023 6:14 PM
141	The parking lot can be chaotic, lack of concern or courtesy for others using the park, but that's probably not something you can address. 😊 Receptacles for dog waste would be good, but that will necessitate contracting a company to empty receptacles regularly, and some people would likely still leave poop behind. I'm a dog owner/walker, and the park is my dog's favorite place on earth, so we treat it with respect and love and take poop bags with us to dispose of at home.	10/25/2023 5:50 PM
142	There are still dog walkers that do not use a dog leash at the Greenway and most are not	10/25/2023 2:41 AM

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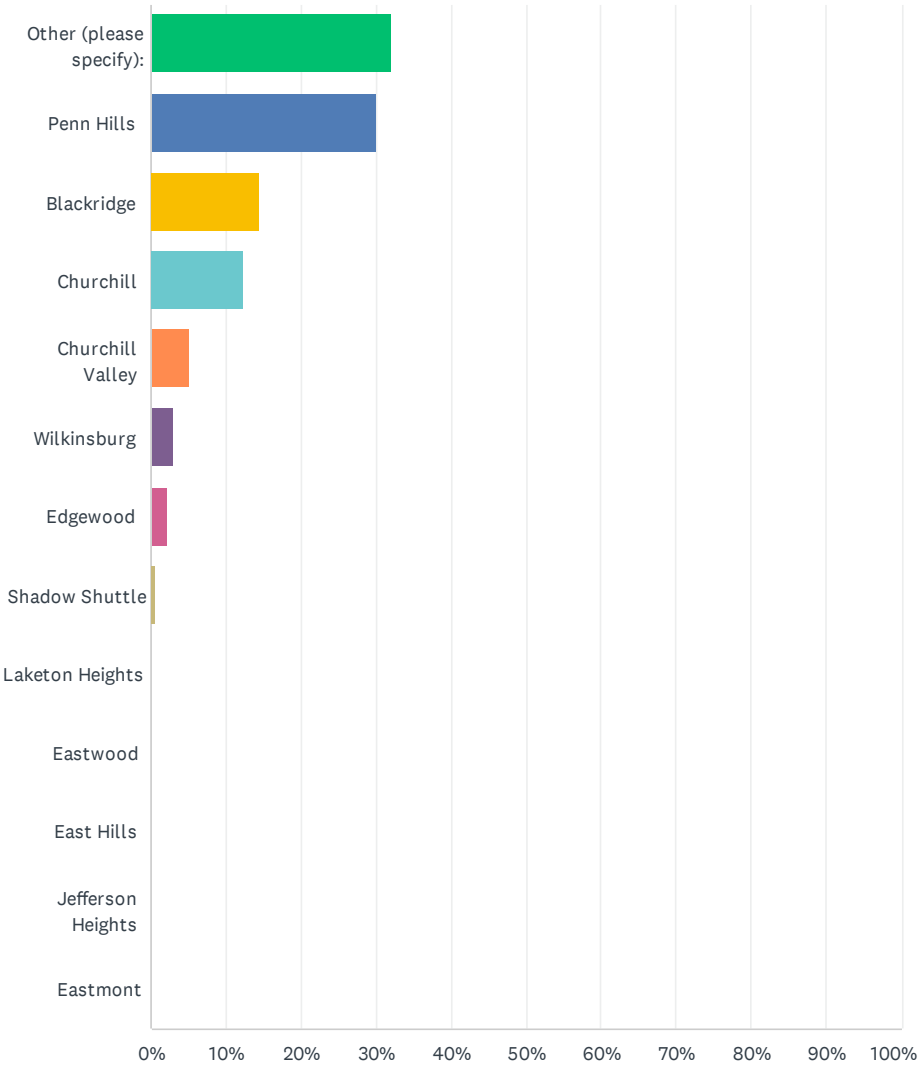
aware of the small signs regarding dog leashes at the main entrances. This I feel is a safety issue when an unleashed dog lunges toward my throat, yes this has happened more than once. I would like to be able to walk my three year old grandson in the Greenway but fear the unleashed dogs.

143	Remember that most of our forests were once agroforests full of chestnuts, walnuts, hickories, oaks, and so many fruits and berries. The greenway is an amazing opportunity to revitalize a reciprocal relationship between people and our non-human kin. I hope that we can avoid a whitewashed, voyeuristic fantasy of "nature" or "wilderness," and instead use the space to connect people to our planet :) On a related note, a sensible, sustainable hunting season like the Pgh Parks are piloting this year seems healthy to me.	10/24/2023 10:05 PM
144	It is becoming a convenient site for drug exchange. I do not feel safe going there alone.	10/23/2023 11:29 AM
145	Stream remediation	10/21/2023 7:56 PM
146	I've never visited there because it isn't currently very welcoming. Cars park haphazardly in a small turnout on the road.	10/20/2023 4:02 PM
147	I know that controlling invasive plants and restoring natives is a marathon, not a sprint, but I would love to see more of that work done more regularly.	10/20/2023 2:03 PM
148	I want to help make a difference in improving the Penn Hills area, any volunteering I would be happy to help with.	10/19/2023 6:57 PM
149	No	10/19/2023 6:57 PM

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Q9 What Neighborhood or Community do you live in?

Answered: 269 Skipped: 5



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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Other (please specify):	31.97%	86
Penn Hills	30.11%	81
Blackridge	14.50%	39
Churchill	12.27%	33
Churchill Valley	5.20%	14
Wilkinsburg	2.97%	8
Edgewood	2.23%	6
Shadow Shuttle	0.74%	2
Laketon Heights	0.00%	0
Eastwood	0.00%	0
East Hills	0.00%	0
Jefferson Heights	0.00%	0
Eastmont	0.00%	0
TOTAL		269

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY):	DATE
1	Morningside	2/28/2024 8:21 PM
2	Morningside	2/21/2024 2:27 PM
3	Braddock Hills	2/20/2024 12:22 PM
4	South Hills	2/20/2024 12:21 PM
5	Forest Hills	2/20/2024 10:49 AM
6	Forest Hills	2/20/2024 10:49 AM
7	East End	2/20/2024 10:27 AM
8	Sq Hill	2/20/2024 10:21 AM
9	Pittsburgh Point breeze	2/20/2024 10:14 AM
10	Forest Hills	2/9/2024 11:34 AM
11	Stanton Heights	2/9/2024 10:55 AM
12	Oakland	2/8/2024 7:18 PM
13	Pittsburgh	2/8/2024 7:17 PM
14	Wexford	2/3/2024 10:12 PM
15	Oakmont	2/3/2024 6:45 PM
16	North side	2/3/2024 9:32 AM
17	Monroeville now, moving closer	2/3/2024 8:20 AM
18	Monroeville	2/2/2024 10:21 PM
19	Conway	2/2/2024 9:16 PM
20	New Kensington	2/2/2024 9:15 PM

Churchill Valley Greenway Survey

21	Turtle Creek	2/1/2024 6:18 PM
22	North braddock	2/1/2024 12:56 PM
23	Martinsburg, WV	2/1/2024 12:17 PM
24	Forest Hills	1/18/2024 2:16 PM
25	Wilkins	1/18/2024 11:20 AM
26	Oakmont	1/18/2024 11:05 AM
27	Beechview	1/18/2024 10:43 AM
28	Monroeville	1/18/2024 10:33 AM
29	Oakmont	12/1/2023 12:09 PM
30	Forest hills	11/26/2023 10:45 PM
31	East liberty	11/25/2023 1:22 PM
32	Wilkins Two	11/21/2023 8:34 AM
33	Wilkins Twp.	11/19/2023 11:01 AM
34	Wilkins Township	11/19/2023 9:12 AM
35	Forest Hills (Edgewood Acres)	11/17/2023 2:20 PM
36	Swissvale	11/17/2023 11:06 AM
37	Forest hills	11/17/2023 8:35 AM
38	North hills	11/17/2023 7:33 AM
39	Plum	11/16/2023 7:28 PM
40	Wilkins	11/16/2023 4:11 PM
41	Forest Hills	11/16/2023 2:58 PM
42	Oakmont	11/16/2023 2:20 PM
43	Aspinwall	11/16/2023 10:59 AM
44	Monroeville	11/16/2023 10:37 AM
45	Universal	11/16/2023 10:18 AM
46	Jefferson Highlands	11/16/2023 9:10 AM
47	Forest hills	11/15/2023 8:42 PM
48	Wilkins Twp.	11/15/2023 7:47 PM
49	Swissvale	11/15/2023 1:07 PM
50	Ridgewood Manor	11/14/2023 5:10 PM
51	Wilkins Twp.	11/14/2023 5:02 PM
52	East Oakmont area of Plum, but I grew up in Blackridge	11/14/2023 4:50 PM
53	Monroeville	11/14/2023 10:55 AM
54	Forest Hills	11/13/2023 3:33 PM
55	North Hills	11/13/2023 1:05 PM
56	Pittsburgh	11/13/2023 10:41 AM
57	Forest Hills	11/13/2023 9:59 AM
58	Beacon hill Condo Association	11/13/2023 7:54 AM

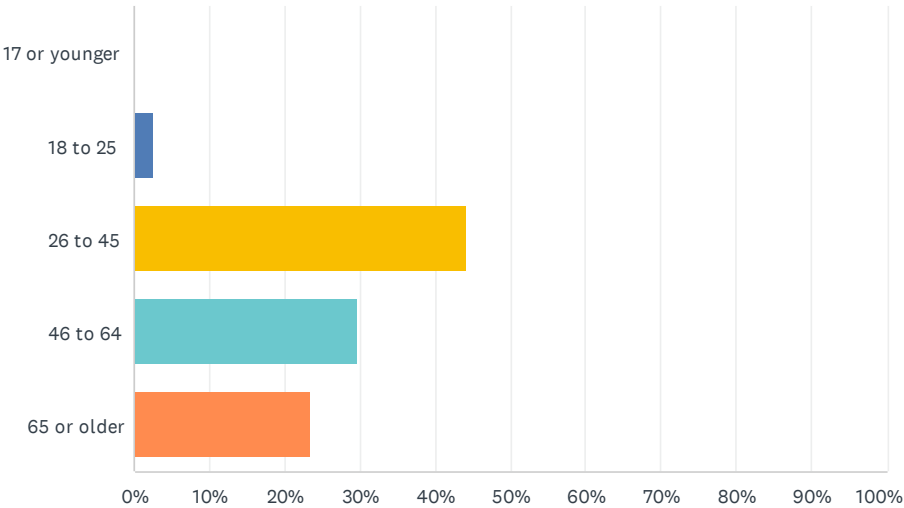
Churchill Valley Greenway Survey

59	Greenfield	11/12/2023 12:55 PM
60	Verona	11/12/2023 9:33 AM
61	North hills	11/11/2023 9:06 PM
62	Forest hills	11/11/2023 2:19 PM
63	Forest Hills	11/11/2023 2:19 PM
64	Forest Hills	11/10/2023 2:15 PM
65	Monroeville	11/10/2023 12:52 PM
66	Wilkins Township	11/9/2023 11:51 PM
67	Forest Hills	11/9/2023 5:51 PM
68	Forest Hills	11/9/2023 5:09 PM
69	Etna	11/9/2023 3:28 PM
70	Forest Hills	11/8/2023 3:24 PM
71	Forest Hills	11/8/2023 12:42 PM
72	Pittsburgh City (Swisshelm Park)	11/6/2023 2:01 PM
73	Frankstown Estates	11/5/2023 11:40 AM
74	Turtle Creek	11/4/2023 12:35 PM
75	Point Breeze	11/4/2023 9:55 AM
76	Point Breeze	11/2/2023 3:40 PM
77	North Hills	10/31/2023 8:52 AM
78	River town	10/31/2023 2:05 AM
79	Buffalo Township	10/30/2023 9:30 PM
80	Shadyside	10/26/2023 9:13 PM
81	Cheswick	10/26/2023 7:23 PM
82	Murrysville (yes, we live the Greenway so much we drive almost 20 mins each way at least 6 days a week year-round, regardless of weather)	10/25/2023 5:51 PM
83	Forest hills	10/25/2023 1:35 PM
84	Forest Hills	10/25/2023 12:26 PM
85	Monroeville	10/23/2023 8:07 PM
86	Eastvue	10/20/2023 4:03 PM

Churchill Valley Greenway Survey

Q10 What is your age?

Answered: 269 Skipped: 5

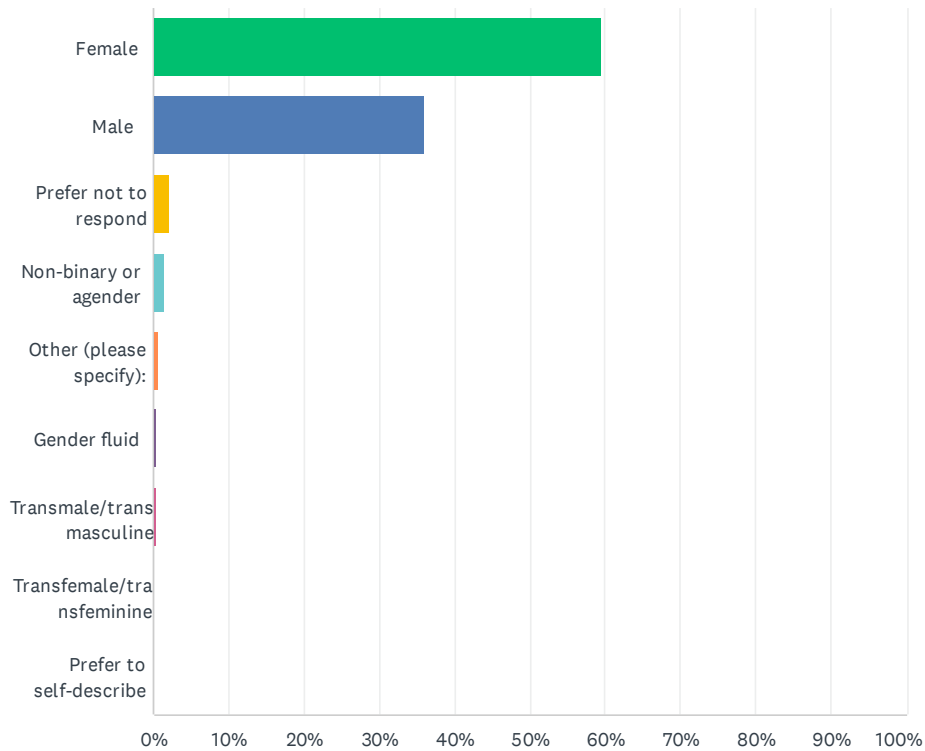


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
17 or younger	0.00%	0
18 to 25	2.60%	7
26 to 45	44.24%	119
46 to 64	29.74%	80
65 or older	23.42%	63
TOTAL		269

Churchill Valley Greenway Survey

Q11 Which of the following best describes how you think of yourself? (Check all that apply)

Answered: 269 Skipped: 5



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Female	59.48%	160
Male	36.06%	97
Prefer not to respond	2.23%	6
Non-binary or agender	1.49%	4
Other (please specify):	0.74%	2
Gender fluid	0.37%	1
Transmale/trans masculine	0.37%	1
Transfemale/trans feminine	0.00%	0
Prefer to self-describe	0.00%	0
Total Respondents: 269		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY):	DATE
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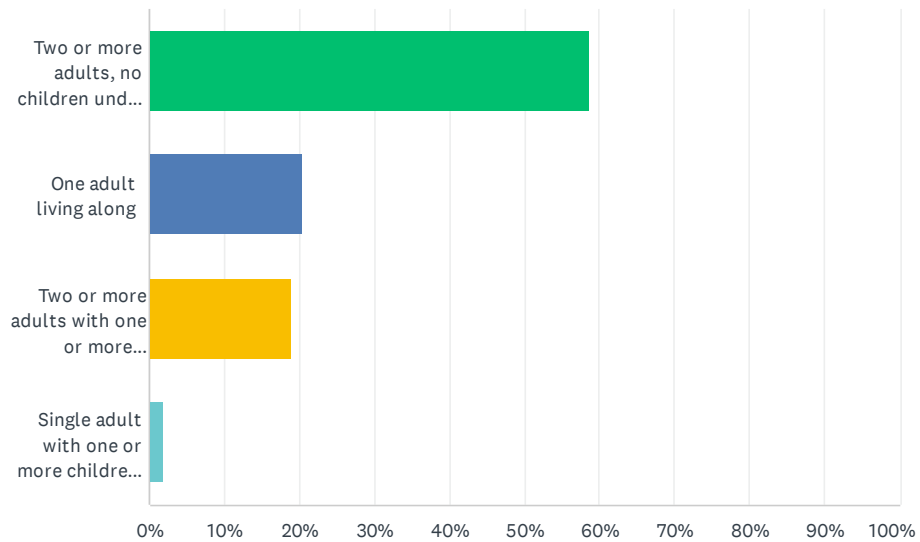
Churchill Valley Greenway Survey

1	There are two genders.	11/14/2023 11:20 AM
2	LOL why are there so many options	11/13/2023 6:35 PM

Churchill Valley Greenway Survey

Q12 Which of the following best describes your household?

Answered: 269 Skipped: 5

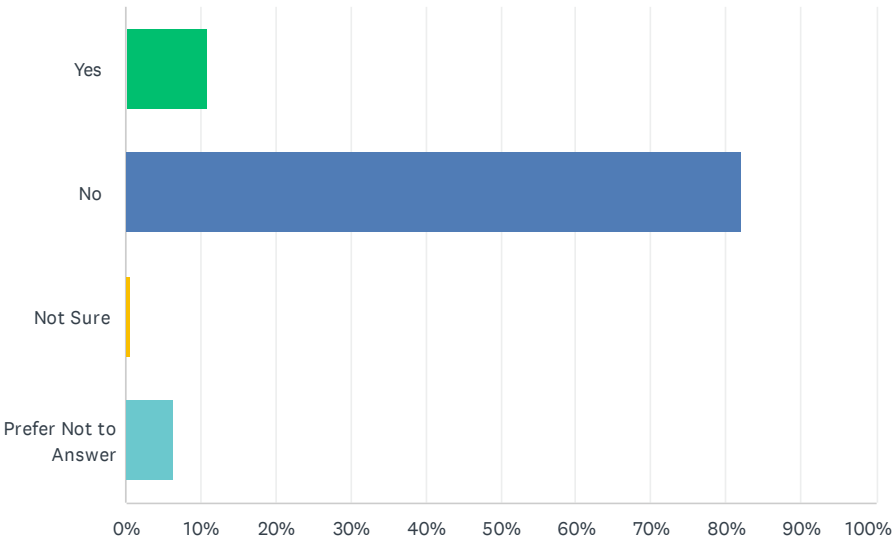


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Two or more adults, no children under age 18	58.74%	158
One adult living alone	20.45%	55
Two or more adults with one or more children under age 18	18.96%	51
Single adult with one or more children under age 18	1.86%	5
TOTAL		269

Churchill Valley Greenway Survey

Q13 Do you have a disability or other chronic condition?

Answered: 269 Skipped: 5

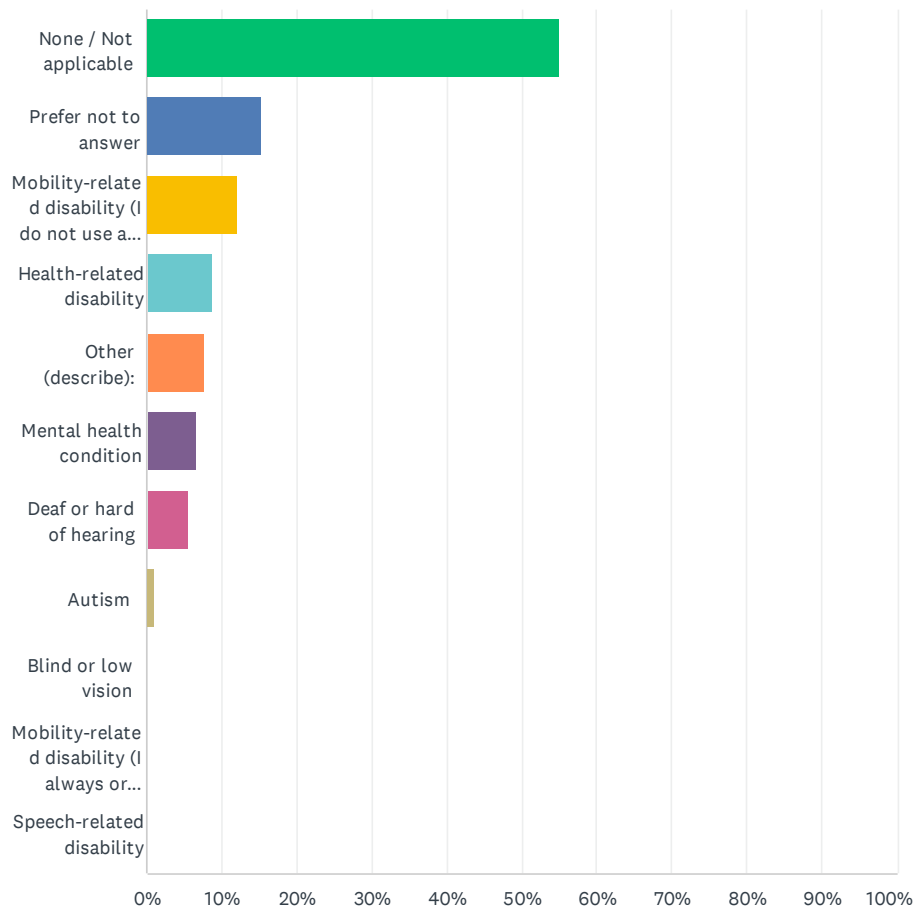


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	10.78%	29
No	82.16%	221
Not Sure	0.74%	2
Prefer Not to Answer	6.32%	17
TOTAL		269

Churchill Valley Greenway Survey

Q14 If yes, how would you describe your disability or chronic condition? (Select all that apply.)

Answered: 91 Skipped: 183



Churchill Valley Greenway Survey

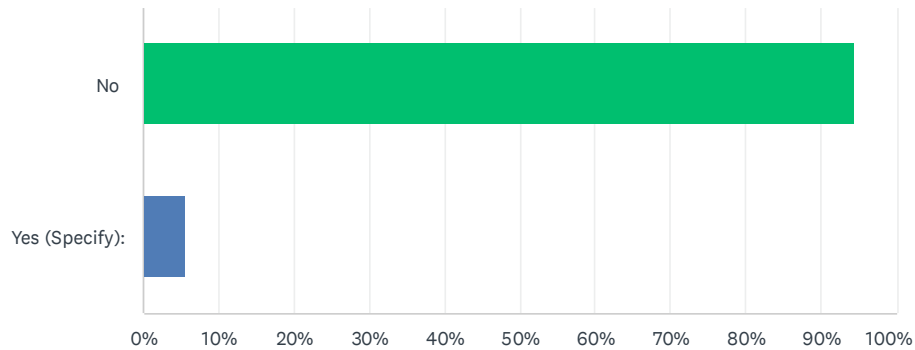
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
None / Not applicable	54.95%	50
Prefer not to answer	15.38%	14
Mobility-related disability (I do not use a wheelchair)	12.09%	11
Health-related disability	8.79%	8
Other (describe):	7.69%	7
Mental health condition	6.59%	6
Deaf or hard of hearing	5.49%	5
Autism	1.10%	1
Blind or low vision	0.00%	0
Mobility-related disability (I always or something use a wheelchair)	0.00%	0
Speech-related disability	0.00%	0
Total Respondents: 91		

#	OTHER (DESCRIBE):	DATE
1	NEED A ROLLATOR	2/20/2024 5:09 PM
2	Combat related PTSD	11/18/2023 1:46 PM
3	Orthopedic	11/16/2023 6:50 AM
4	Bad knees	11/15/2023 9:09 PM
5	Balance issues	11/10/2023 10:38 AM
6	Parkinson's. Mild, but sometimes i wish there was a bench to take a rest. I wish there was a portajohn because I frequently need one.	11/8/2023 10:47 AM
7	PTSD	10/31/2023 8:52 AM

Churchill Valley Greenway Survey

Q15 Does anyone in your household speak a language other than English at home?

Answered: 269 Skipped: 5



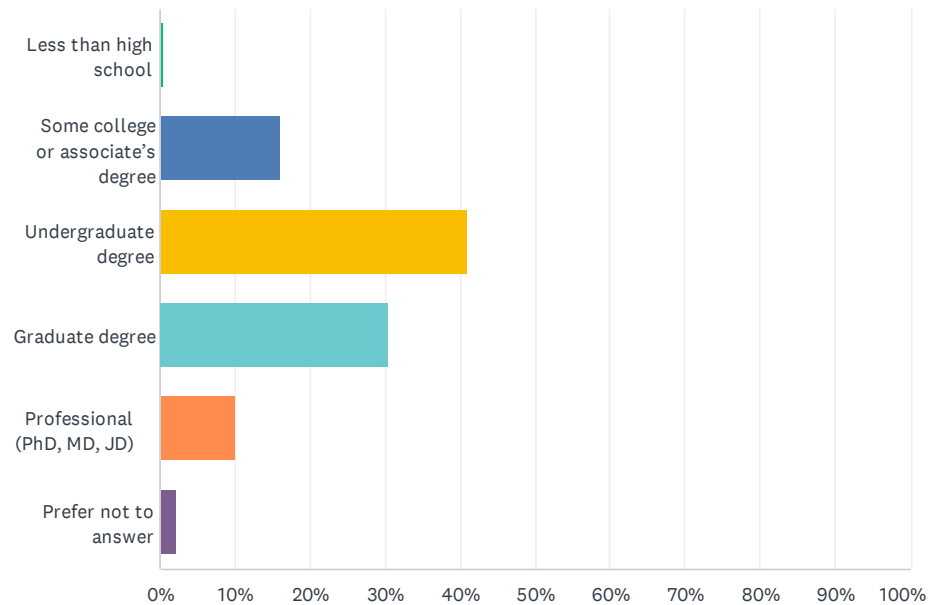
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
No	94.42% 254
Yes (Specify):	5.58% 15
TOTAL	269

#	YES (SPECIFY):	DATE
1	Spanish	2/2/2024 9:13 PM
2	American Sign Language	2/2/2024 9:06 PM
3	Spanish	2/1/2024 6:18 PM
4	Arabic	1/22/2024 12:11 PM
5	Italian	11/17/2023 9:32 AM
6	French	11/16/2023 10:29 AM
7	Portuguese	11/15/2023 4:25 PM
8	German	11/14/2023 4:50 PM
9	French	11/14/2023 11:20 AM
10	Spanish	11/13/2023 10:41 AM
11	Spanish	11/10/2023 5:26 PM
12	Italian, Spanish, French	11/8/2023 9:40 AM
13	Spanish, German	11/7/2023 10:39 AM
14	French	10/30/2023 10:46 PM
15	Spanish	10/19/2023 8:48 PM

Churchill Valley Greenway Survey

Q16 What is the highest level of education you have received?

Answered: 269 Skipped: 5

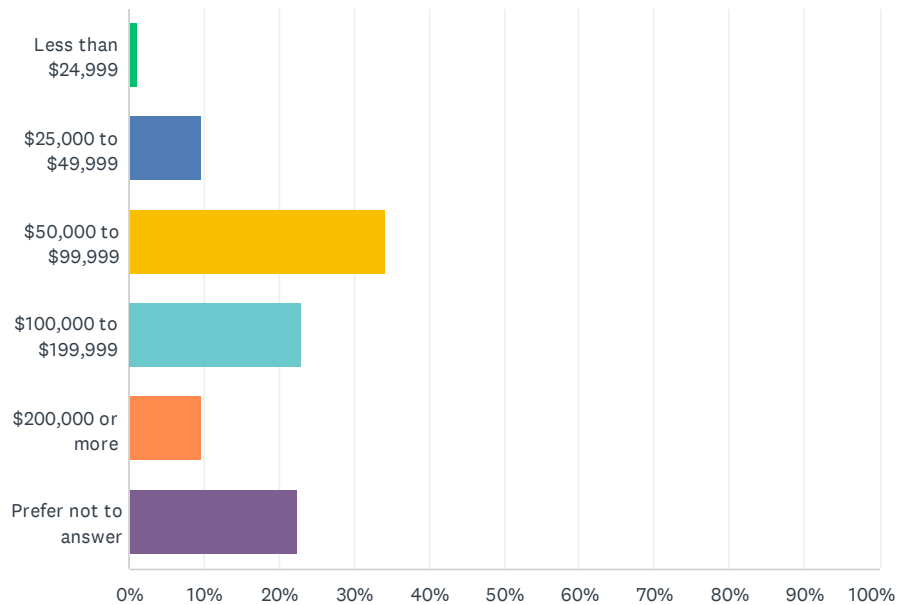


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Less than high school	0.37%	1
Some college or associate's degree	15.99%	43
Undergraduate degree	40.89%	110
Graduate degree	30.48%	82
Professional (PhD, MD, JD)	10.04%	27
Prefer not to answer	2.23%	6
TOTAL		269

Churchill Valley Greenway Survey

Q17 What is your household’s annual income?

Answered: 269 Skipped: 5

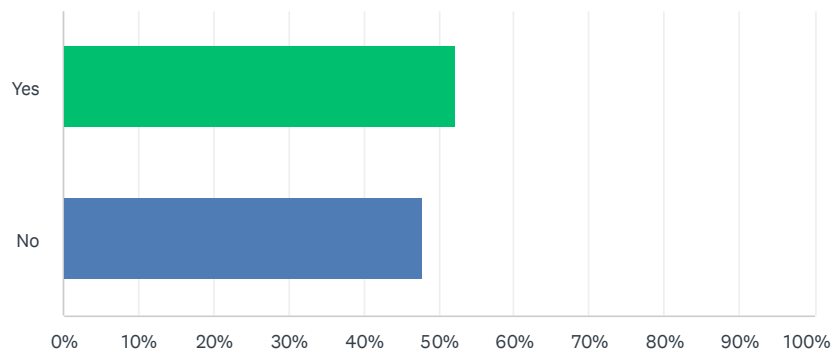


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Less than \$24,999	1.12%	3
\$25,000 to \$49,999	9.67%	26
\$50,000 to \$99,999	34.20%	92
\$100,000 to \$199,999	23.05%	62
\$200,000 or more	9.67%	26
Prefer not to answer	22.30%	60
TOTAL		269

Churchill Valley Greenway Volunteer Meeting

Q2 Have you volunteered with ALT before?

Answered: 23 Skipped: 0

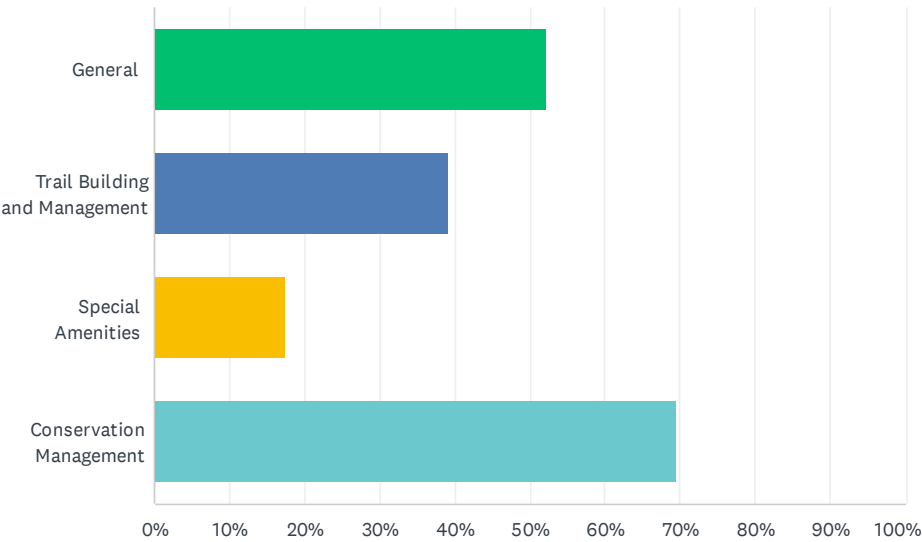


ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES	
Yes		52.17%	12
No		47.83%	11
TOTAL			23

Churchill Valley Greenway Volunteer Meeting

Q3 Which volunteer tasks are you interested in? (Select all that apply)

Answered: 23 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
General	52.17%	12
Trail Building and Management	39.13%	9
Special Amenities	17.39%	4
Conservation Management	69.57%	16
Total Respondents: 23		

Churchill Valley Greenway Volunteer Meeting

Q4 Do you have any special skills / relevant experience? (building bridges, trail building, horticulture/plants, etc.)

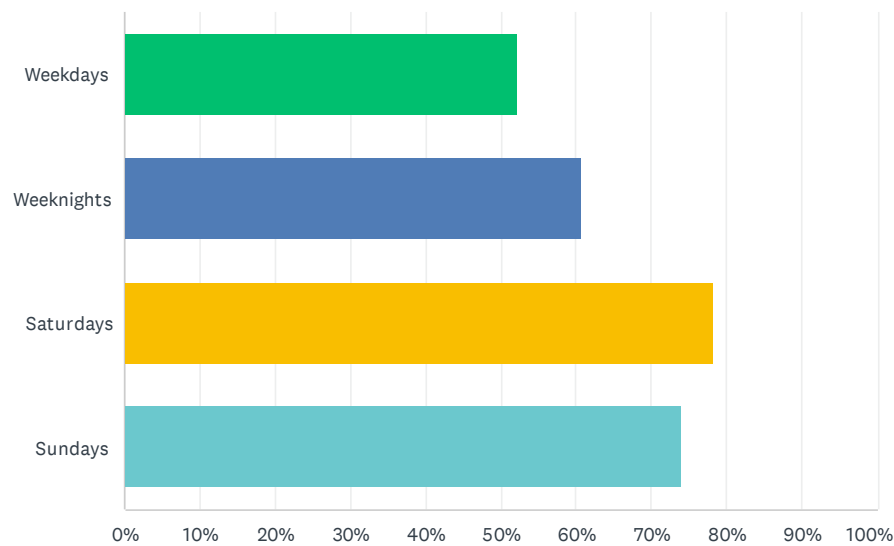
Answered: 20 Skipped: 3

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	I am a project manager by trade - basically useless :) But I'm happy to learn.	7/1/2024 12:54 PM
2	Community organizing	7/1/2024 12:52 PM
3	Mapped, planned marked community trails in Grove City, generally excited about gardening and plants, computer and information systems, general building/ handyman experience	7/1/2024 12:49 PM
4	Lumber construction, log rolling, bridge building, trail building	7/1/2024 12:46 PM
5	I'm a birder and nature photographer	7/1/2024 12:42 PM
6	Land Art, Horticulture	7/1/2024 12:40 PM
7	Yes to all.	6/28/2024 7:33 AM
8	Filmmaker and instructor at Pitt. Know some artists. Know how to do some manual labor things. Happy to learn.	6/27/2024 8:08 PM
9	I'm somewhat familiar with plants. And a member of the Penn Hills Shea tree commission,	6/27/2024 8:06 PM
10	No	6/27/2024 7:39 PM
11	Plants, orienting signage	6/27/2024 7:30 PM
12	No	6/27/2024 7:28 PM
13	Trail building (mtb trails)	6/27/2024 7:27 PM
14	Not really, but I can pull weeds and I am also an instructional designer and can help with presentations	6/27/2024 7:12 PM
15	Some horticulture/plants	6/27/2024 7:10 PM
16	Yes	6/27/2024 7:09 PM
17	Plants	6/27/2024 7:09 PM
18	Horticulture, invasive species,	6/27/2024 7:09 PM
19	No but I'd like to gain some	6/27/2024 7:08 PM
20	Project management	6/27/2024 7:07 PM

Churchill Valley Greenway Volunteer Meeting

Q5 What's your availability for volunteering? (Select all that apply)

Answered: 23 Skipped: 0

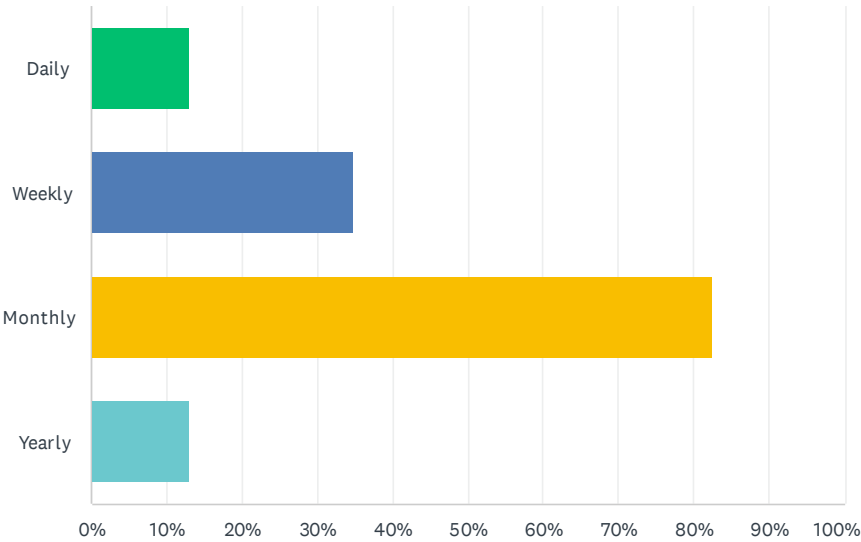


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Weekdays	52.17%	12
Weeknights	60.87%	14
Saturdays	78.26%	18
Sundays	73.91%	17
Total Respondents: 23		

Churchill Valley Greenway Volunteer Meeting

Q6 How often would you be interested in volunteering? (Select all that apply)

Answered: 23 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Daily	13.04%	3
Weekly	34.78%	8
Monthly	82.61%	19
Yearly	13.04%	3
Total Respondents: 23		

Churchill Valley Greenway Volunteer Meeting

Q7 What organization(s) do you represent, if any?

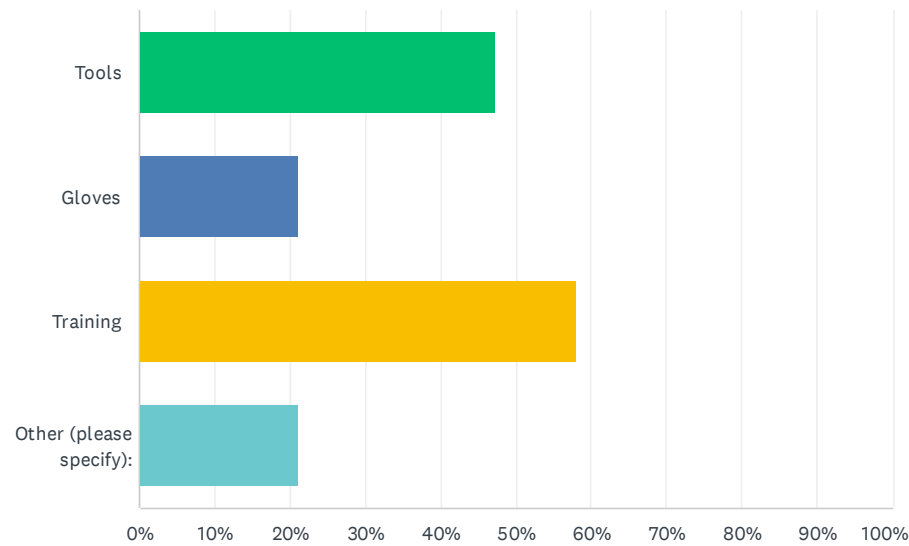
Answered: 13 Skipped: 10

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	n/a	7/1/2024 12:49 PM
2	PA Forest Stewards	7/1/2024 12:46 PM
3	Penn Hills Shade Tree Commission member	7/1/2024 12:42 PM
4	Penn Hills Shade Tree Commission and Allegheny River Blvd Preservation Association	6/28/2024 7:33 AM
5	Beulah Church	6/27/2024 8:06 PM
6	N/A	6/27/2024 7:39 PM
7	N/A	6/27/2024 7:30 PM
8	Blackridge civic association	6/27/2024 7:28 PM
9	None	6/27/2024 7:27 PM
10	No	6/27/2024 7:10 PM
11	The Earth	6/27/2024 7:09 PM
12	None	6/27/2024 7:09 PM
13	None, work for Pitt though	6/27/2024 7:08 PM

Churchill Valley Greenway Volunteer Meeting

Q8 What resources do you need to be able to volunteer? (Multiple selection)

Answered: 19 Skipped: 4



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Tools	47.37% 9
Gloves	21.05% 4
Training	57.89% 11
Other (please specify):	21.05% 4
Total Respondents: 19	

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY):	DATE
1	Notification	7/1/2024 12:46 PM
2	Time	6/28/2024 7:33 AM
3	Depends on the project probably!	6/27/2024 8:08 PM
4	Coordination with other volunteers	6/27/2024 7:27 PM



CHURCHILL VALLEY GREENWAY

Key Person Interviews

Contact Information

Organization: Chalfant Run-Thompson Run Watershed Association

Name: Renee Dolney

Phone Number: 412-901-1614

Email: renee@chalfantrun.org

Introduction

I am with Pashek+MTR and we are working on a plan for the Churchill Valley Greenway, formerly the country club and golf course. We are calling to get input from key stakeholders on what amenities in this park would be beneficial to local organizations like yourselves.

Questions

1. What amenities/improvements in this park would be beneficial for your organization or the local community?
 - *Signage and Educational Amenities*
 - *Interpretive story telling: Telling the story about the history of the site and the restoration project.*
 - *Years of abuse on the land with mining and rechanneling of water and we are beginning to fix it through the restoration projects and the AMD project. It's very exciting and the story should be available on site for the public to experience.*
 - *Stream used to be dead in 1909 from industrial degradation. This is a positive environmental process, and we should share that.*
 - *Education about the water, where it is draining from (people's yards), where it goes, and why it's important.*
 - *Nature play spaces for children*
 - *Park should appeal to people that don't regularly go outside. There is adversity to nature in the surrounding communities. Should create a really welcoming space to draw people in, get them to visit the park. If they are drawn in with a play space, they will hopefully feel safe and secure enough to explore the rest of the park and nature.*

- *There are approximately 100,000 people in 3 miles and in an environmental justice area.*
 - *The park provides an opportunity to change the local community's opinion on nature.*

2. Would your organization be interested in using this park for activities or learning opportunities? If so, are there any activities, events, or classes your organization currently has that can be hosted in this park?

- *Educational Programs*
 - *4th, 5th, and 6th grade students from Wilkensburg visit the park for educational programs.*
 - *All the kids want to get to the stream, but there currently are no good access points.*
 - *Should create places where the stream is accessible. Can't be a teaching tool is you can't get to it. That's how you pull kids into nature.*
 - *Create a place for gathering and picnicking.*

CHURCHILL VALLEY GREENWAY

Key Person Interviews

Contact Information

Organization: Community Development Corporation (CDC)

Name: Faith Milazzo

Phone Number: (412) 977-8897

Email: tfmilazzo@yahoo.com

Introduction

I am with Pashek+MTR and we are working on a plan for the Churchill Valley Greenway, formerly the country club and golf course. We are calling to get input from key stakeholders on what amenities in this park would be beneficial to local organizations like yourselves.

Questions

1. What amenities/improvements in this park would be beneficial for your organization or the local community?

The park is an asset to the community. People have bought homes because of the park, and we want people to come to Penn Hills.

Improvements:

- *Trail maintenance*
 - *One of the more important things.*
 - *Parts are decaying and people want to feel safe.*
 - *Litter is well maintained.*
 - *Studies show that people will take the trash with them if there are no trash cans. And the place is not overrun with trash, so it is working.*
- *Picnic areas*
 - *places where people could enjoy the outdoor space.*

Suggestions from the Board:

- *Benches*
- *Signage for plant/flower identification*

- *More trail connections*
- *Receptacle for dog waste; my understanding is ALT has no plans for garbage cans but people do leave doggie waste bags along the trail and someone brought it up*

2. Would your organization be interested in using this park for activities or learning opportunities? If so, are there any activities, events, or classes your organization currently has that can be hosted in this park?

Off the top of our head, we could not think of any event our group would have, but the CDC is supportive of educational programs, some of which are already happening and would be great to continue and have more.

CHURCHILL VALLEY GREENWAY

Key Person Interviews

Contact Information

Organization: Civically, Inc and Blackridge resident. Former Mayor of Wilkinsburg

Name: Marita Garrett

Phone Number: 412-916-4552

Introduction

I am with Pashek+MTR and we are working on a plan for the Churchill Valley Greenway, formerly the country club and golf course. We are calling to get input from key stakeholders on what amenities in this park would be beneficial to local organizations like yourselves.

Interview

CIVICALLY is a non-profit (501c3) that focuses on furthering development within the community by offering financial and basic literacy skills, promoting civic and community engagement to instill self-reliance, while addressing the immediate needs of the economically disadvantaged in the greater Wilkinsburg and East End region. Free Store and Fresh Market are two initiatives.

- *Prefers off leash for walking dog. Goes to Penn Hills dog park is off leash. It is 7 minutes away. Has never been to the Greenway because it does not allow off leash.*
- *Interested in environmental justice. Access to nature. Is interested in promoted the Greenway as an amenity for those who are historically disadvantaged.*
- *Would be interested in 5K at the Greenway. She hosted a 5k in Wilkinsburg when she was mayor.*
- *She will post the flyer to the February 8th public meeting to her social media and network.*

CHURCHILL VALLEY GREENWAY

Key Person Interviews

Contact Information

Organization: Summit Metro Parks

Name: Micheal Johnson

Phone Number: 330-472-7013

Introduction

I am with Pashek+MTR and we are working on a plan for the Churchill Valley Greenway, formerly the country club and golf course. We are calling to get input from key stakeholders on what amenities in this park would be beneficial to local organizations like yourselves.

Interview

About Valley View Area of Cascade Metro Park

- *Restoration ecologist planned for plant communities that used to be there.*
- *6-7 different forest types.*
- *60 acres of new flood plain*
- *33 acres of wetland*
- *20 acres set aside for recreation*
- *Recreation: river access for kayak, trails, paved multiuse paths.*
 - *iNaturalist Bio-blitz*
 - *Volunteer led programs*
 - *Interpretive department does programing*
 - *Barn was converted into wedding venue*
 - *Apiary*
 - *Fishing program*
- *Herbicides the entire golf course. Took 2 years. Took out all the non-native trees.*
- *Created a pristine native meadow.*
- *Pre and post wetland delineation.*
- *100 species pre restoration to over 700 species after restoration*
- *WWF to almost exceptional stream.*
- *18 fish to 26 fish species*
- *90 fish per K to over 300 fish per K*
- *Funding by NOAA (they considered*
- *Golf Courses have historically used mercury at the turn of the century to control fungus at tees and greens.*
- *Words of Wisdom*
 - *Girdle the Norway Spruce*
 - *Soil and Water conservation districts sometimes have equipment you can borrow.*

- *Certified Fire managers (certified burn boss). Cardinal JF New?*
- *Volunteers gathered nuts, employees sorted them, volunteers planted them.*
- *Voies eat the samplings.*

<https://www.glc.org/work/aocs/cuyahoga>

<https://www.epa.gov/great-lakes-aocs/cuyahoga-river-aoc>

CHURCHILL VALLEY GREENWAY

Key Person Interviews

Contact Information

Organization: Penn Hills Shade Tree Commission

Name: Rick Duncan

Phone Number: (412) 445-2679

Email: pennhillsstc@gmail.com

Introduction

I am with Pashek+MTR and we are working on a plan for the Churchill Valley Greenway, formerly the country club and golf course. We are calling to get input from key stakeholders on what amenities in this park would be beneficial to local organizations like yourselves.

Questions

1. What amenities/improvements in this park would be beneficial for your organization or the local community?
 - *Background:*
 - *Local politicians in Penn Hills wanted to develop the land for tax space. Convinced them that keeping green space would increase property values and provide additional community benefits. Local politicians are now on board.*
 - *PHSTC is happy that ALT took it over.*
 - *PHSTC wants a role in helping with the Greenway. This space is good for the community, Churchill, and ALT.*
 - *Currently they are trying to plant more trees there and maintain existing trees and keep them healthy.*
 - *In the future they will be primarily interested in areas of reforestation and helping with increasing habitat and decreasing invasive species.*
 - *Amenities that would be beneficial include*
 - *Information signs on habitat, importance of trees, how to plant a tree (what tree and in the right place), and invasive species.*

2. Would your organization be interested in using this park for activities or learning opportunities? If so, are there any activities, events, or classes your organization currently has that can be hosted in this park?
 - *Front Yard Project*
 - *Add trees to people's yards to provide shade and beautify the neighborhood. The city won't let them plant in the right of way.*
 - *Some people resist trees in their home (falling limbs, leaves, trees too close to house). They don't want a free tree.*
 - *This project demonstrates why they want to teach people the benefits of planting the right tree in the right place.*
 - *Greenway should include signs about benefits and limitations of trees.*
 - *Could utilize the Greenway to teach people how to plant trees.*
 - *Future Tree Adoption Event*
 - *PHSTC gets trees from Tree Pittsburgh for Front Yard Project.*
 - *In 2024 they are helping Tree Pittsburgh with Tree Adoption Event at Penn Hills Community Park.*
 - *Want to learn how to do a tree adoption event so they can do it themselves.*
 - *They would like to use the Greenway for the future adoption event.*
 - *Tree pruning events:*
 - *Show people how to correctly prune a tree.*
 - *Use the Greenway for tree care and maintenance.*
 - *Use the greenway for a tree tour.*
 - *Sandy Feather, an arborist that works for PHSTC, would give the tour.*
 - *Would like:*
 - *Informational signage about the trees they could follow for a tour.*
 - *Pathways that pass by different types of trees and environments.*
 - *PMTR suggested sending a species list to make sure pathways go by certain types of trees they want to talk about or are able to plant those trees along the existing paths.*
 - *Invasive species concerns*
 - *Concerned about knotweed that's there. If they do the stream restoration project, they could spread the knotweed that's there.*
 - *If the roots are dug up and distributed somewhere else the knotweed will spread.*

CHURCHILL VALLEY GREENWAY

Key Person Interviews

Contact Information

Organization: Film Faculty at Pitt

Name: Sarah Moore

Phone Number: (401) 474-8177

Email: SKM60@pitt.edu

Introduction

I am with Pashek+MTR and we are working on a plan for the Churchill Valley Greenway, formerly the country club and golf course. We are calling to get input from key stakeholders on what amenities in this park would be beneficial to local organizations like yourselves.

Questions

1. What amenities/improvements in this park would be beneficial for your organization or the local community?

Live by Pat Senica Park on Long Road. Go there every day with dogs. Bought house in 2021, because of the greenway and the access to it.

Improvements:

- *Access*
 - *Keep entrance off of Pat Senica Park.*
 - *Add more access points to the surrounding community. If there is direct access more people would use it.*
 - *The hardest part for the students is getting there, need a more accessible bus stop.*
 - *Buelah and Long bus stop seems like a dangerous intersection.*
 - *The church bus stop does not have an easily identifiable access point down into the park.*
- *Paths*
 - *Continuous paved loop for access, accessibility, or maybe even biking.*
 - *Pavement could help with wheeled bags of equipment for art and education.*

- *Maintaining trails that exist and fixing the bridges over the streams.*
- *Seating*
 - *Benches that fit well into the landscape.*
- *Art and Education*
 - *This nature space looks so much different than the other parks in the area. It provides a great opportunity for education and art.*
 - *Brings students out there to film or research. Want to continue to document science in the area.*
 - *Create viewpoints for people that paint, photograph, or bird viewing. Like an overlook area.*

CHURCHILL VALLEY GREENWAY

Key Person Interviews

Contact Information

Organization: Wilkinsburg Community Development Corporation (WCDC)

Name: Monica Garcia

Phone Number: 412-730-4047

Email: Monica@wilkinsburgcdc.org

Introduction

I am with Pashek+MTR and we are working on a plan for the Churchill Valley Greenway, formerly the country club and golf course. We are calling to get input from key stakeholders on what amenities in this park would be beneficial to local organizations like yourselves.

Questions

1. What amenities/improvements in this park would be beneficial for your organization or the local community?

- *The park is a nice asset for the community.*
- *Access*
 - *Make it easier and safer to access the park from the surrounding community, especially for people that walk there and not just drive there.*
 - *Road is dangerous to walk down.*
 - *More trail heads around the edges of the park.*
 - *It feels like you are cutting through people's back yards in the Blackridge Area.*
 - *Needs safe, and more, parking.*
 - *Make sure bridges are safe to cross over. Not easy to get to the bridges.*
- *Paths and Signs*
 - *Make the path safer. They are steep and some are tripping hazards.*
 - *Paths are long and confusing. Cannot cut back at mid points, make smaller loops.*
 - *Create spots where you can step off the trail.*
 - *To rest (existing tree swing is a good example) (provide clearings with benches, picnic tables, swings, etc.)*

- *To pass (dogs along trail cannot move aside to allow passage of other dogs or people)*
 - *Directional signs needed along the paths.*
 - *Dog disposal areas and trash areas.*
2. Would your organization be interested in using this park for activities or learning opportunities? If so, are there any activities, events, or classes your organization currently has that can be hosted in this park?
- *WCDC does not have any activities or events themselves. But the Wilkinsburg Community could utilize the park.*
 - *The school board uses spaces for student field trips and other activities. Would be beneficial to provide outdoor learning experiences and gathering spaces.*
 - *Wilkinsburg residents don't really know about the space – if it is programed then more people will be exposed to the park. Especially if the activities involved the parents of the school children.*

CHURCHILL VALLEY GREENWAY

Key Person Interviews

Contact Information

Organization: Wilkinsburg Pollinator Garden Group

Name: Cliff McGill

Phone Number: 412-242-6022

Email: info@sustainablewilkinsburg.org

Introduction

I am with Pashek+MTR and we are working on a plan for the Churchill Valley Greenway, formerly the country club and golf course. We are calling to get input from key stakeholders on what amenities in this park would be beneficial to local organizations like yourselves.

Questions

1. What amenities/improvements in this park would be beneficial for your organization or the local community?

Goal of the WPGG is to educate public on nature elements.

Design should:

- *Have an informed understanding of the history of the site and its habitat and the types of habitats that are currently there.*
 - *Make sure you have botanical consultants on staff.*
 - *Conserve areas. Want important habitats to be maintained and enhanced.*
 - *Restore what was lost.*
- *Provide an outdoor classroom space.*

2. Would your organization be interested in using this park for activities or learning opportunities? If so, are there any activities, events, or classes your organization currently has that can be hosted in this park?

Currently have not done any events outside of the community.

We have conducted tours of gardens surrounding gardens to show people native plants.

Have updated existing wastelands to pollinator gardens to display ideas in those gardens.

Churchill Valley Greenway				11/15/2024
Opinion of Probable Construction Cost				Prepared by Pashek + MTR
Trailhead (Bid Project)				
Item Description	Quantity	Unit	Unit Cost	Total Item Cost
<i>Removals, Site Preparation, Earthmoving</i>				
Tree protection fence (4' orange fencing)	1	LS	\$2,000	\$ 2,000
Construction / perimeter fencing (6' portable chain link)	500	LF	\$9	\$ 4,500
Clearing and Grubbing	1.5	ACRE	\$9,000	\$ 13,500
Erosion & sedimentation controls	1.5	ACRE	\$6,000	\$ 9,000
Earthwork	3,000	CY	\$25	\$ 75,000
Pavement removal	7,200	SF	\$4	\$ 28,800
Misc. removals (signs, etc.)	1	LS	\$5,000	\$ 5,000
<i>Removals, Site Preparation, Earthmoving</i>				\$137,800
<i>Hardscapes</i>				
Bituminous paving Accessible Trail (8'wide)	150	SY	\$80	\$ 12,000
Concrete Accessible Parking Pad	90	SY	\$250	\$ 22,500
Concrete Walks	300	SY	\$200	\$ 60,000
Concrete Curb	150	LF	\$95	\$ 14,250
Curb Ramp	2	EA	\$3,500	\$ 7,000
Bituminous Parking	2,180	SY	\$95	\$ 207,100
<i>Hardscapes</i>				\$322,850
<i>Site Improvements and Amenities</i>				
Trailhead Sign Kiosk	1	EA	\$6,000	\$ 6,000
Pavilion 16x20 (with concrete pad)	1	EA	\$80,000	\$ 80,000
Dumpster Pad and Fencing	1	LS	\$4,000	\$ 4,000
Wheel Stops	33	EA	\$300	\$ 9,900
Bike Racks	4	EA	\$500	\$ 2,000
<i>Site Improvements and Amenities</i>				\$102,166
<i>Restrooms</i>				
Port-A-John Decorative Fence	20	LF	\$100	\$ 2,000
Port-A-John - Rented By Owner	1	ALLOW	\$500	\$ 500
<i>Restrooms</i>				\$2,500
<i>Site Utilities</i>				
Utility pole with light and camera	1	LS	\$4,000	\$ 4,000
Electric wiring and conduit	250	LF	\$35	\$ 8,750
Misc electrical/power supply cabinet	1	LS	\$10,000	\$ 10,000
24" HDPE pipe	90	LF	\$135	\$ 12,150
Outlet control structure, end wall & riprap	1	EA	\$7,500	\$ 7,500
Inlet in Rain Garden	1	EA	\$5,500	\$ 5,500
<i>Site Utilities</i>				\$47,900
<i>Plantings</i>				
Tree 2" cal.	35	EA	\$900	\$ 31,500
Topsoil	1,001	CY	\$85	\$ 85,088
Rain Garden Soil	222	CY	\$200	\$ 44,444
Rain Garden Seeding	4,000	SF	\$1.00	\$ 4,000
Seeding - Lawn	8,000	SF	\$0.25	\$ 2,000
Native Meadow Seeding	32,340	SF	\$0.50	\$ 16,170
<i>Plantings</i>				\$183,202
Subtotal				\$796,418
General Conditions			15%	\$ 119,463
GC Overhead & Profit			15%	\$ 137,382
Contingency			10%	\$ 105,326
Construction Cost				\$ 1,158,589
Design Fees (survey, NPDES permitting, design, interpretive design, etc)			12%	\$ 139,031
TOTAL				\$1,297,620
ROUNDED COST				\$1,298,000

Accessible Trail (Bid Project)				
Item Description	Quantity	Unit	Unit Cost	Total Item Cost
<i>Removals, Site Preparation, Earthmoving</i>				
Tree protection fence (4' orange fencing)	1,500	LF	\$4	\$ 6,000
Construction / perimeter fencing (6' portable chain link)	325	LF	\$9	\$ 2,925
Clearing and Grubbing	1.0	ACRE	\$9,000	\$ 9,000
Erosion & sedimentation controls	1.5	ACRE	\$6,000	\$ 9,000
Earthwork	1,200	CY	\$25	\$ 30,000
Pavement removal	20,000	SF	\$4	\$ 80,000
<i>Removals, Site Preparation, Earthmoving</i>				\$136,925
<i>Hardscapes</i>				
Bituminous paving Accessible Trail (8' wide)	2,100	SY	\$80	\$ 168,000
Milling and Overlay Accessible Trail Section (8' wide)	1,850	SY	\$65	\$ 120,250
Natural Surface Trail (3' wide)	1,130	LF	\$15	\$ 16,950
<i>Hardscapes</i>				\$305,200
<i>Site Improvements and Amenities</i>				
Interpretive Signs (large)	5	ALLOW	\$2,500	\$ 12,500
Benches	4	EA	\$3,500	\$ 14,000
<i>Site Improvements and Amenities</i>				\$26,500
<i>Plantings</i>				
Tree 2" cal.	10	EA	\$900	\$ 9,000
Seeding along Trail	17,500	SF	\$0.50	\$ 8,750
<i>Plantings</i>				\$17,750
Subtotal				\$486,375
General Conditions			15%	\$ 72,956
GC Overhead & Profit			15%	\$ 83,900
Contingency			10%	\$ 64,323
Construction Cost				\$ 707,554
Design Fees (survey, NPDES permitting, design, interpretive design, etc)			12%	\$ 84,906
TOTAL				\$792,461
ROUNDED COST				\$793,000

Vault Restroom (Bid Project)				
Item Description	Quantity	Unit	Unit Cost	Total Item Cost
<i>Restrooms</i>				
Romtec - Single Family Vault Restroom (including installation)	1	ALLOW	\$175,000	\$ 175,000
Misc site improvements (electrical connection, restore existing, etc)	1	LS	\$30,000	\$ 30,000
Subtotal				\$205,000
General Conditions			5%	\$ 10,250
GC Overhead & Profit			15%	\$ 32,288
Contingency			10%	\$ 24,754
Construction Cost				\$ 272,291
Design Fees (permitting, design)			12%	\$ 32,675
TOTAL CONTRACT				\$304,966
ROUNDED COST				\$305,000

Opinion of Probable Construction Costs is made based on the experience and qualifications of Pashek + MTR, Ltd and represents reasonable judgment based on familiarity with the industry. Pashek + MTR, Ltd. has no control over the cost, or availability of labor, materials or equipment, or over market conditions or the provider's method of pricing. Pashek + MTR, Ltd cannot and does not guarantee that the opinion of probable cost provided the Owner will not vary from the actual cost experienced by the Owner.

Construction costs are expressed in 2024 dollars. Costs include materials and labor, subcontractor overhead & profit (if applicable). **Not included:** escalation.

Churchill Valley Greenway				11/15/2024
Opinion of Probable Construction Cost				Prepared by Pashek + MTR
Miscellaneous Signs (Signage Contractor)				
Item Description	Quantity	Unit	Unit Cost	Total Item Cost
Trailhead Sign Kiosk (@ Pat Seneca and Bullock Pens)	2	EA	\$6,000	\$ 12,000
Interpretive Signs (small signs)	3	ALLOW	\$3,000	\$ 9,000
Subtotal				\$21,000
Contingency			10%	\$2,100
Design Fees (sign graphics)			25%	\$ 5,775
TOTAL CONTRACT				\$28,875
ROUNDED COST				\$29,000
Northern Bridge - Connection to Beulah Rd (Bid Project)				
Item Description	Quantity	Unit	Unit Cost	Total Item Cost
Bridge - 90' (including installation and footings)	1	LS	\$300,000	\$ 300,000
Miscellaneous (construction fencing, restoration, etc)	1	ALLOW	\$25,000	\$ 25,000
Subtotal				\$325,000
General Conditions			5%	\$ 16,250
GC Overhead & Profit			15%	\$ 51,188
Contingency			10%	\$ 39,244
Subtotal				\$ 431,681
Design Fees (permitting, design)			15%	\$ 64,752
TOTAL CONTRACT				\$496,433
ROUNDED COST				\$497,000
Middle Bridge (Bid Project)				
Item Description	Quantity	Unit	Unit Cost	Total Item Cost
Bridge - 150' (including installation and footings)	1	LS	\$525,000	\$ 525,000
Miscellaneous (construction fencing, restoration, grading, etc)	1	ALLOW	\$75,000	\$ 75,000
Subtotal				\$600,000
General Conditions			6%	\$ 36,000
GC Overhead & Profit			10%	\$ 63,600
Contingency			10%	\$ 69,960
Subtotal				\$ 769,560
Design Fees (permitting, design)			15%	\$ 115,434
TOTAL CONTRACT				\$884,994
ROUNDED COST				\$885,000
Southern Bridge - Connection to Bullock Pens (Bid Project)				
Item Description	Quantity	Unit	Unit Cost	Total Item Cost
Bridge - 80' (including installation and footings)	1	LS	\$275,000	\$ 275,000
Miscellaneous (construction fencing, restoration, etc)	1	ALLOW	\$25,000	\$ 25,000
Subtotal				\$300,000
General Conditions			5%	\$ 15,000
GC Overhead & Profit			10%	\$ 31,500
Contingency			10%	\$ 34,650
Subtotal				\$ 381,150
Design Fees (permitting, design)			15%	\$ 57,173
TOTAL CONTRACT				\$438,323
ROUNDED COST				\$439,000

Native Meadow Planting (Meadow Restoration Contractor)				
Item Description	Quantity	Unit	Unit Cost	Total Item Cost
Native Meadow Planting (remove existing and new installation)	14	ACRE	\$2,830	\$ 39,620
TOTAL CONTRACT				\$39,620
ROUNDED COST				\$40,000

In-House Staff Projects				
Item Description	Quantity	Unit	Unit Cost	Total Item Cost
Secondary Entrance Signs	8	EA	\$500	\$ 4,000
Mile Marker Signs (4x4 sign on 6x6 post)	80	EA	\$75	\$ 6,000
Directional Signs (4x18 and 4x4 signs on 4 sides of 6x6 post)	32	EA	\$200	\$ 6,400
Total Materials Cost				\$16,400
Contingency			10%	\$1,640
TOTAL ESTIMATE				\$18,040
ROUNDED COST				\$19,000

Volunteers Projects				
Item Description	Quantity	Unit	Unit Cost	Total Item Cost
Bridge near Long Road - 30' long x 6' wide	1	LS	\$15,000	\$ 15,000
Bridge near Pat Seneca - 30' long x 6 wide	1	LS	\$15,000	\$ 15,000
Modular Boardwalk - 400' long x 4' wide	1	LS	\$10,000	\$ 10,000
Native Meadow Planting (900 Plugs per Acre)	14	ACRE	\$1,800	\$ 25,200
TOTAL CONTRACT				\$65,200
ROUNDED COST				\$66,000

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Construction costs are expressed in 2024 dollars. Costs include materials and labor, subcontractor overhead & profit (if applicable). **Not included:** design and engineering fees, permitting fees, escalation.

When planning for sustainable trails, minimizing impacts on natural and cultural resources is critical. Trail layout and design must take into account these resources of the site. The highest quality habitats and sensitive cultural sites should be avoided. Sustainable trail planning objectives include:

- **Physical Sustainability:** Designing trails to retain their structure and form over years of use and under forces of humans and nature is a key factor in sustainability. Trail use promotes change, so trails must be designed in anticipation of change to ensure that they remain physically stable with appropriate maintenance and management.
- **Ecological Sustainability:** Minimizing the ecological impacts of trails and protecting sensitive natural and cultural resources is fundamental in sustainable trail design and development.
- **Economic Sustainability:** For any trail to be sustainable, the implementing agency or advocacy group must have the capacity to economically support it over its life cycle. Developing and committing to a long-term maintenance strategy is a critical aspect of a successful trail program.

TRAIL SUSTAINABILITY

One of the most important considerations when preparing a trail master plan is erosion. Erosion is the natural process by which soil and other material is transported primarily by water, but also by users and wind. If left unchecked, erosion can quickly cause serious damage to trails, diminish user experience, and harm the very resources we are charged to protect. Trail erosion can be accelerated by seasonal conditions, weather patterns, trail use, use volume, use type, terrain, vegetative cover, and gravity to name a few. Depending on the combination of the listed conditions above, tread material susceptibility will vary. However, one can only mitigate trail erosion through the utilization of sustainable trail principles.

Trails lie on the land in three ways:

1. **Fall Line Trail** - along a fall-line, parallel with the direction of the slope

2. **Flat Trail** - on flat ground with little slope or cross slope, and
3. **Contour Trail** - along the contour with subtle elevation changes.

Of these types of trails, only the contour trail easily sheds water. If running slopes along contour trails are reasonable, they are typically the only sustainable type of trail.

Further, when users leave the trail tread, they tend to widen it, creating braided trails, and 'social' trails. These can cause environmental damage and raise maintenance costs. Users leave the trail when it becomes eroded or wet, or when the trail does not meet their needs or expectations. Ultimately, a sustainable trail design will most often be a contour trail that connects desired control points by contouring along the sides of slopes while making subtle changes in grade.

Important considerations in sustainable trail design include:

- Trail Corridor
- Tread Design
- Tread Drainage
- Changes in Trail Grade
- Drainage Solutions
- Tread Reinforcement & Trail Structures

The principles of sustainable trail design, as described in PA DCNR's publication ***Pennsylvania Trail Design & Development Principles: Guidelines for Sustainable, Non-motorized Trails*** were utilized to guide the preparation of a sustainable trail plan for Churchill Valley Greenway.

We recommend this document and the principles presented in it be followed when implementing the recommendations contained in this plan.

Regardless of trail type, your trail can be sustainably designed by following the International Mountain Bicycling Association's (IMBA) five essential elements of sustainable trails:

1. **The Half Rule:** A trail's grade should not exceed the half grade of the hillside or side slope that the trail traverses. If grade does exceed half of the side slope, consider it a fall line trail that may be susceptible to erosion.

2. **The Ten Percent Average Grade Guideline:** Generally, a trail with an average grade of 10 percent or less is most sustainable. This does not mean you need to keep all grades less than 10 percent. Many sections of a trail will have short steep sections greater than 10 percent, and some unique situations will require average grades of more than 10 percent.
3. **Maximum Sustainable Grade Trails:** Maximum sustainable grade equals the steepest section of trail that is more than 10 feet in length. When designing a trail, it is essential to determine early in the process the maximum grades the trail will be able to sustain given local conditions. Variables that impact the maximum sustainable grade include: soil type, rock, annual rainfall amount, grade reversals, type of users, number of users, planned level of difficulty, etc.
4. **Grade Reversals:** A grade reversal occurs at a spot where a climbing trail levels out and then changes direction, dropping subtly for about 10 to 50 linear feet before rising again. This change in grade forces water to exit the trail at the low point before it can gain volume, velocity, and erosive power. Other names for grade reversals include dips, grade breaks, drainage dips, or rolling dips.
5. **Outslope:** As the trail contours across a hillside, the downhill or outer edge of the trail tread should tilt slightly down and away from the high side. This encourages water to flow across and off the trail.

When you are designing sustainable trails, consider the level of trail development required based upon the location, use, and other factors. Some trails may consist of a natural surface, while others may consist of more developed surfaces.

Additional considerations include:

1. Designing an experience into your trail.
2. Controlling access to wet areas, steep slopes, critical habitats and other culturally or environmentally sensitive areas. Design periphery routes with access points.
3. Managing stormwater through natural infiltration practices to keep water off and away from the trail by using porous surfacing, water

bars, cross vanes, swales, etc.

4. Considering sustainable trailhead improvements such as: pervious paving for the parking lot, solar lighting, certified lumber for structures, native landscaping, etc.
5. Enhancing riparian areas between the trail and the rivers, streams, lakes and wetlands.
6. Managing invasive plants along the trail, replanting these areas with natives.

TRAIL USES

In addition to designing sustainable trails, it is also important to consider the user, their needs, and the trail design requirements for their type of trail use. The predominate use of trails within Churchill Valley Greenway is hiking.

Hikers typically:

- Seek out trails for a desired experience such as solitude, whether near home or at some travel distance
- Prefer looped systems over out-and-back trails to vary the experience
- Seek out trails of varying difficulty
- Stop along the trail to rest, observe, and socialize if hiking in a group

ACCESSIBILITY

Another important aspect of trail design is ensuring access to all facilities to not only accommodate those with disabilities, but to also make it easier for the general public to use the facilities.

Accessibility, in design terms, is described by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), which guarantees equal opportunity for individuals with disabilities to participate in the mainstream of public life. To do so, the ADA sets requirements for facilities to prevent physical barriers that keep people with disabilities from participating. When recreational facilities are built or altered, they must comply with the ADA standards by providing an accessible route to the area of use and spectator areas. With regards to complying with ADA, the following standards and guidelines must be taken into consideration:

- Access Board: www.access-board.gov
- Access Board Information on Recreation Facilities:
<https://www.access-board.gov/aba/chapter/ch10/>
- 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design:
<http://www.ada.gov/regs2010/2010ADASTandards/2010ADASTandards.htm>
- Draft Final Guidelines for Outdoor Developed Areas:
<https://www.access-board.gov/files/aba/guides/outdoor-guide.pdf>
- Forest Service Accessibility Guidebook for Outdoor Recreation and Trails
<https://www.fs.usda.gov/sites/default/files/Accessibility-Guide-Book.pdf>

Requirements:

- Less than 2% cross slope.
- Less than 5% grade running slope, unless ramped.
- If running slope grade exceeds 5%, must be ramped. Vertical changes in level can be no more than ¼". Stairs do not meet this requirement and cannot be part of an accessible route.
- Surface must be Firm, Stable, and Slip-resistant.
- Width: DCNR requires a 5'- 0" minimum accessible route width to allow for two-way travel and passing. This is wider than the width required under the 2010 Standards

ACCESSIBLE ROUTES

All accessible features must be connected by an Accessible Route.

Difficulty Standards for Hiking Trails, as defined by the Pennsylvania DCNR

Trail Type	Easiest	More Difficult	Most Difficult
Clearing Height	8-10 feet	8 feet	8 feet
Clearing Width*	4 feet	3-4 feet	3 feet
Treadway Width**	1.5 to 2+ feet	1-1 ½'	1-2 feet
Treadway Slope***	Less than: 5%	Less than: 12%	Less than: 18%
	Maximum: 20% up to 100 feet	Maximum: 30% up to 300 feet	Maximum: 30+% up to 500 feet
Treadway Cross Slope	0-3%	0-5%	0-8%
Turning Radius	NA	NA	NA
Sight Distance	NA	NA	NA
Surface Materials	Uniform, firm and stable surface. Smooth tread with no obstacles. Pavement may be appropriate in highly developed settings.	Native surface with some imported material. Sidehill trail is constructed. Generally clear of obstacles, steps to 10 inches.	Native surface with constructed sidehill trail. Obstacles, roots, rocks, and steps to 24 inches.

* Curve alignment to avoid cutting large trees.

** Increase tread width six inches on switchbacks or where side slopes exceed 60%.

*** Upper limit of treadway slope and distance depends on soil type, amount of rock, vegetation type, and other conditions affecting trail surface stability.

Note: Some features on this chart are not considered sustainable for most situations and may be existing trails or trails in an unusual circumstance like the Appalachian Trail.

ACCESSIBLE PARKING

Accessible Parking spots must be adjacent to an Accessible Route. All accessible elements must be connected to accessible parking by an accessible route.

- Paving required in parks, not at trailheads.
- Clearly marked with correct signage.
- Car spaces should be at least 96" wide.
- Van spaces should be at least 132" wide and next to a 60" wide access aisle.
- Access aisle should adjoin an Accessible Route.
- Required number of accessible spots depends on the total number of spaces in the facility.
- Fine amounts should be posted under the accessible parking sign.

ACCESSIBILITY GUIDELINES FOR OUTDOOR DEVELOPED AREAS

Where the 2010 Standards are not applicable, the Outdoor Guidelines provides guidance on achieving accessibility.

TRAIL ACCESSIBILITY

Distinctions between Trails, Outdoor Recreation Access Routes, and Accessible Routes

- A trail is used primarily for recreational purposes.
- Accessible Routes and ORARs are used primarily to connect elements, spaces or facilities within a site.
- Trails are held to a less stringent standard than Accessible Routes. See the table below for allowable running slopes for trails.

Allowable Running Slopes for Accessible Trails

<i>Steeper Than</i>	<i>But Not Steeper Than</i>	<i>Maximum Length of Segment</i>
1:20	1:12	200 feet
1:12	1:10	30 feet
1:10	1:08	10 feet

VIEWING AREA GUIDELINES

- Clear ground space on Outdoor Recreation Access Route.
- Unobstructed view between 32 and 48 inches above clear ground space.
- Slope no steeper than 1:33 or 1:48 for asphalt, concrete and boards.
- Firm and stable surface.
- Turning space.

CONDITIONS FOR DEPARTURE AND EXCEPTIONS FROM THE ACCESSIBILITY GUIDELINES FOR OUTDOOR DEVELOPED AREAS

Compliance will not always result in facilities accessible to all persons with disabilities. Therefore the guidelines recognize this by providing four conditions for departures from the required technical provisions. The Access Board permits departures from certain technical provisions where at least one of four conditions is present for trails, picnic and camping facilities, and beaches:

1. Where compliance would cause substantial harm to cultural, historic, religious, or significant natural features or characteristics.
2. Where compliance would substantially alter the nature of the setting, the purpose of the facility, or portion of the facility.
3. Where compliance would require construction methods or materials that are prohibited by federal, state, or local regulations or statutes.
4. Where compliance would not be feasible due to terrain or prevailing construction practices.

TRAIL CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS:

We recommend the following construction details be adopted for trails in Churchill Valley Greenway. These details are located in the appendix.

Details include:

- Trail Clearing Limits
- Typical Trail Cross Sections
- Trailbed Slope and Finish
- Grade Dip
- Rolling Dip
- Insloped Climbing Turn
- Switchback Type I
- Switchback Type II
- Switchback Type III
- Drainage Lens
- Stone Steps
- Stepping Stones
- Shallow Stream Ford Crossing
- Culvert with Stone Headwall
- Trail Obliteration
- Trail Restoration

They are based on the U.S. Forest Service's National Trail Drawings and Specifications, available here:

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/managing-land/trails/trail-management-tools/trailplans>

The locations of these items should be documented on a Trail Construction Work Log during the final flagging and design of the trails. The work log will then serve as the construction documents that volunteers and others will follow to build the trails.

TRAIL CONSTRUCTION WORK LOGS

As the proposed trail re-routes and proposed trails are flagged and final design is completed in the field, Trail Construction Work Logs should be prepared to indicate the location and work required along each segment. The work log is typically prepared in a spreadsheet format, as follows:

Trail Construction Work Log

Trail Name/Segment	Location	Comments/Reference	Work Required	Detail No.	Built By
	N				
	E				
	N				
	E				
	N				
	E				
	N				
	E				
	N				
	E				
	N				

BATHROOM OPTIONS:

(Research and pricing from August 2024)

Restroom Trailer

Company: Comforts of Home Services, Inc.

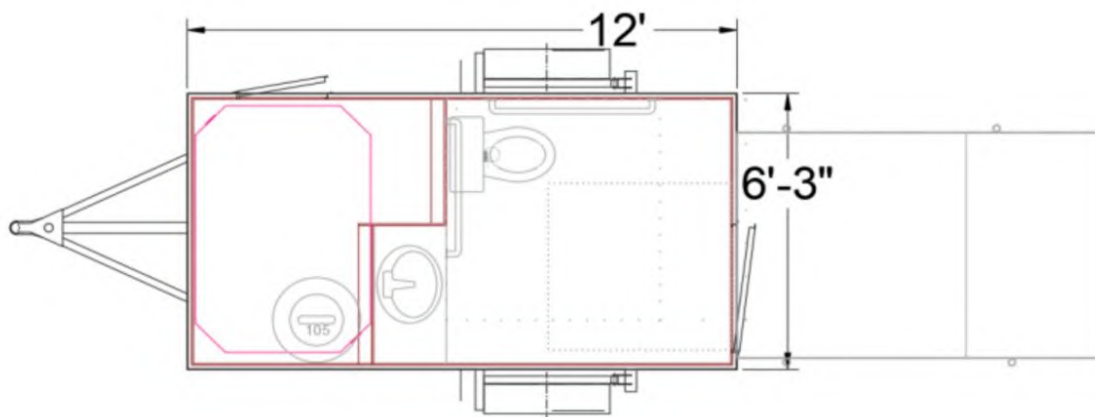
Website: <https://www.cohsi.com/>

Cost: \$41,515.00 (includes delivery cost)

Contact: Laura Dunklau - laura@cohsi.com

About:

- No AC (Can be added)
- Generator box mounted on tongue of trailer with vinyl cover. 5500 Watt.
- Lowering trailer with fold up ramp and railing.
- Powered vent / skylight with vent cover.
- Water tank / pump, 105 gallons.
- Includes restrooms trailer maintenance products kit.
- Can be moved around the area and moved off site to be maintained.



Restroom “Drop Box” Trailer

Company: Comforts of Home Services, Inc.

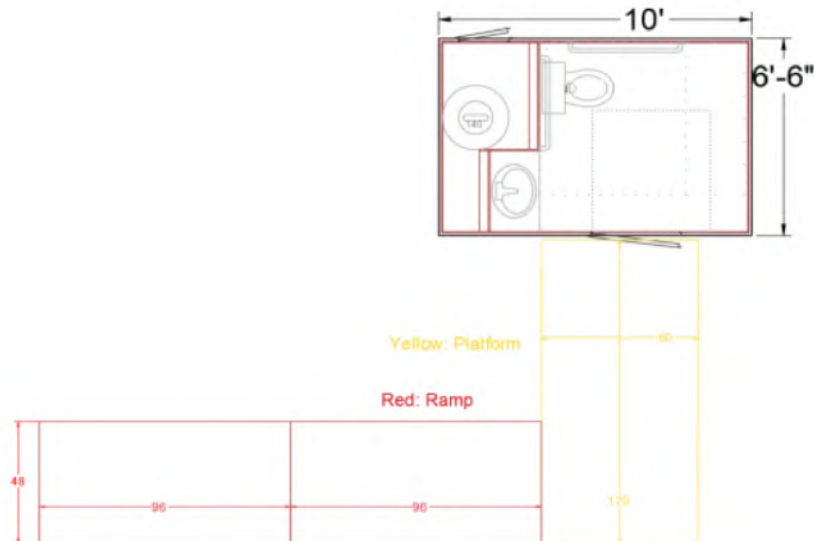
Website: <https://www.cohsi.com/>

Contact: Laura Dunklau - laura@cohsi.com

Cost: \$35,959.00 (includes delivery cost)

About:

- No AC (can be added)
- Aluminum sectional ramp with 5' platform and railing.
- Powered vent / skylight with vent cover.
- Water tank / pump, 140 gallons.
- Includes restrooms trailer maintenance products kit.
- Sits on ground so ramp is much less steep.
- Cannot have a generator, needs hard line electrical.
- Forklift rental needed to place it. Flatbed to deliver.
- More permanent.



Smart Restroom

Company: MRC

Website: <https://mrcrec.com/smart-bathrooms>

Webinar About Smart Restrooms: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dpy0mJcUFYU>

Contact: Abbey Mich - amich@mrcrec.com

Cost: \$234,000+\$18,000 = \$252,000

Included:

- Product with concrete slab
- Project management fee for install supervision
- Pressure washing machine.
- 5-year warranty and support package. (\$18,000 extra, mandatory)

Not included:

- Taxes, customs
- Shipping, Crane & Delivery
- Site Prep, stone to spec.
- Connections to water, sewer, electric

About:

- Single bathroom unit self-cleaning.
- Dimensions = 8'11" x 14'2"
- Includes baby changing table.
- Optional water fountain with bottle refiller (extra \$13,000)
- Optional AC Cooling system (extra \$13,000)
- Four-sided aluminum finish package (\$10,000 extra)
- An automatic cleaning cycle occurs after every use, in which the door locks and the external LED display indicates the toilet's status. The toilet bowl is cleaned, disinfected, and dried. A second cleaning cycle is performed on the floor using high-pressure water sprinklers. The frequency of this cycle is programmable and can be controlled remotely.
- The surfaces are also coated with anti-graffiti protection that allows vandalism to be wiped off after 48 hours. After 48 hours the surface can be power-washed.



Vault Restroom

Company: ROMTEC

Website: <https://romtec.com/standard-waterless-restrooms/>

Contact: Cody Dooley - cdooley@romtec.com

Cost: Range of \$80,000 - \$125,000 (Cost changes based on materials/design chosen)

About:

- Single, family, vault restroom building.
- The pricing is for the “Design & Supply” of the packaged buildings delivered to the site to be “Installed by Others”. Note: Installation of the building is not included in the above estimate and will be determined by the installing contractor. This price will vary based on site conditions, site access, etc.
- Romtec buildings are pre-engineered packaged building kits that are designed to meet all state and local codes for a site-built permanent structure.



Port-A-John with Decorative Fence

Company: To Be Determined

Cost: \$2,000 for the decorative fence. \$500 for port-a-john rental.



6000-FM-SP0008 Rev. 12/2003

INCIDENT REPORT



PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES – BUREAU OF STATE PARKS					1. Report Number	
2. Region		3. Park #	4. Park Name		5. Location of Incident	
6. UCR Code		7. Incident (List)		8. Date Occurred (MM/DD/YY) / /		9. Time Occurred
10. Day		11. I.R.S. Code <input type="checkbox"/> V.C. <input type="checkbox"/> C.C. <input type="checkbox"/> P.R. <input type="checkbox"/> Game <input type="checkbox"/> Fish <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____		12. Section #		
13. In the box before each name, enter the appropriate letter. V – Victim, W – Witness, A – Accused, S – Suspect, C – Complainant, O – Other (explain below). Place additional name(s) in the narrative.						
	13. Name		14. Date of Birth (MM/DD/YY) / /		15. Phone () -	
	16. Sex (choose one)		17. Address		18. City	
	19. State		20. Zip -		21. Race	
	13. Name		14. Date of Birth (MM/DD/YY) / /		15. Phone () -	
	16. Sex (choose one)		17. Address		18. City	
	19. State		20. Zip -		21. Race	
22. Received By ---- Name			23. Date (MM/DD/YY) / /		24. Time	
25. How Received? <input type="checkbox"/> Person <input type="checkbox"/> Phone <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____			26. Attachments <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Type: _____ Number _____			
27. Investigation Complete? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			28. Investigated By: (Signature and Date)			
29. Approval (Signature and Date)			30. Narrative: Refer to Management Manual Section 1200.390 Instructions.			

6000-FM-SP0353

INCIDENT MISSING PERSON QUESTIONNAIRE

Incident Form Page 1 of 5

Incident Name:		Name of Interviewer:		Date/Time Prepared:	
I N T E R V I E W	Source(s) of information (names and relationships): (check one): (Use back page if needed)				
	()				<input type="checkbox"/> phone in person
S U B J E C T	Name of missing person: _____				
	Age: _____ Birthday: _____ Other: _____				
	Local address: _____				
	Home Address, if different: _____				
	Nicknames / Aliases: _____				
I. D.	Height: _____ Weight: _____ Build: _____ Hair Color: _____ Hair Length: _____				
D E S C R I P T I O N	Sideburns? Beard? Moustache? Balding: _____				
	Facial Features/Shape: _____				
	Distinguishing Marks (scars, etc.): _____				
	Race/Skin Color and Complexion: _____				
	General Appearance: _____				
O T H E R	Other important information: _____				

INCIDENT MISSING PERSON QUESTIONNAIRE cont'd.

C L O T H I N G	Hat? Color/Style?:	
	Shirt Color/Style?:	
	Sweater? Jacket? Style/Color?:	
	Pants/Skirt?:	
	Raingear? Gloves or Mitten?:	
	Sunglasses? Prescription Glasses?:	
	Shoes: Style, Color, Sole Type?:	
	Other Clothing?:	
Scent Articles Available? Where?:		
E Q U I P M E N T	Pack? Brand, Style, Color?:	
	Tent? Color, Type, Brand?:	
	Sleeping Bag? Color, Type, Brand?:	
	Water Bottle/Canteen? Color/Type?	
	Food? Brands, Amount?:	
	Flashlight? Brand, Color, Battery Type?:	
	Matches? Wooden? Paper? Describe:	
	Knife? Compass?:	
	Fishing Equipment?:	
	Money? Camera/Film/Accessories?:	
	Firearms? Gauge? Ammunition?:	
	Ice Axe/Skis/Snowshoes/Poles?:	
	Other Equipment?:	
T R I P P L A N S	Trip Destination and Purpose?:	
	Planned Route and Alternate?:	
	Planned Date/Time for Return?:	
	Group Affiliation? Transportation?:	
	Trip Starting Point and Time?:	
	Car Description and Location?:	
	Alternate Car or Alt. Pickup Plans?:	

INCIDENT MISSING PERSON QUESTIONNAIRE cont'd.

L A S T S E E N D E T A I L S	When? Where?:	
	By Whom? (Name, Location, Phone):	
	Going Which Way?:	
	Weather?:	
	Special Reason for Leaving?:	
	Any Unusual Comments on Leaving?:	
E X P E R I E N C E	Familiar with the Area?:	
	Outdoor Experience Level?:	
	First Aid/Scout/Military?:	
	Hunting/Backpacking/Climbing?:	
	Ever been lost before? Where? When?	
	Actions when lost before?	
	Ever go out alone?:	
	Stay on trails or go cross-country?:	
	On reaching civilization?:	
	(Name, Address, Phone):	
	Include friends, relatives:	
H E A L T H	Habitual bars or restaurants:	
	General condition?:	
	Any physical handicaps or limitations?:	
	Psychological or psychiatric problems?:	
	Any medications? Amount carried?:	
	Consequences of loss?:	
	Eyesight without glasses/contacts?:	
	Carry spares?:	
Physician/psychiatrist/counselor:		

INCIDENT MISSING PERSON QUESTIONNAIRE cont'd.

P E R S O N A L I T Y	Recreational Drugs?:	_____
	What type/brand? How much?:	_____
	Consequences of withdrawal? (include tobacco, alcohol, marijuana, cocaine, narcotics, prescription drugs):	_____ _____ _____
	Particular outdoor interests? (e.g., "likes to follow-streams because he's a fisherman"):	_____ _____
	Job history?:	_____
	Recent problems at work or school? (confirm with co-workers or teachers):	_____ _____
	Relationship with spouse, family, or significant other(s)?:	_____
	Any recent changes?:	_____
	Closest relative?:	_____
	Closest other friend/confidant?:	_____
	Who had last significant conversation with subject? What about? When?:	_____ _____
	Any recent mail that might be relevant?:	_____
	Religious preference and beliefs?:	_____
	Priest, minister, or other religious leader who might provide information?:	_____ _____
	History of problems with law? When?:	_____
	Locations where born/raised?	_____ _____
	History of depression?:	_____
	Ever run away from home?:	_____
	Leader or follower? Give up easily?:	_____
	Hole up and wait, or keep going?:	_____
	Outgoing or quiet?:	_____
	Like to be alone?:	_____
	Likely response to searchers?:	_____
	Hitch-hike often?:	_____

INCIDENT MISSING PERSON QUESTIONNAIRE cont'd.

FOR C H I L D R E N	Fears?:	
	Dogs? Horses? Farm animals?:	
	Wild animals? Darkness? Being alone?:	
	Training for what to do if lost?:	
	Actions when hurt? Cry?:	
	Quiet and withdrawn?:	
	Temper tantrums?	
	Talk to strangers?:	
Accept rides?:		
Active or passive?:		
FOR G R O U P S	Personality clashes?:	
	Any leader-types other than designated leader?:	
	How strong were group goals (making summit, getting to next shelter, Etc.)?:	
	What actions would members take if separated?	
	Name, contact info., and experience of other members (indicate if need for separate Missing Person Questionnaire (MPQ) for any other members)?	

**INCIDENT MISSING PERSON QUESTIONNAIRE cont'd.**[illegible]

CLEARING LIMITS

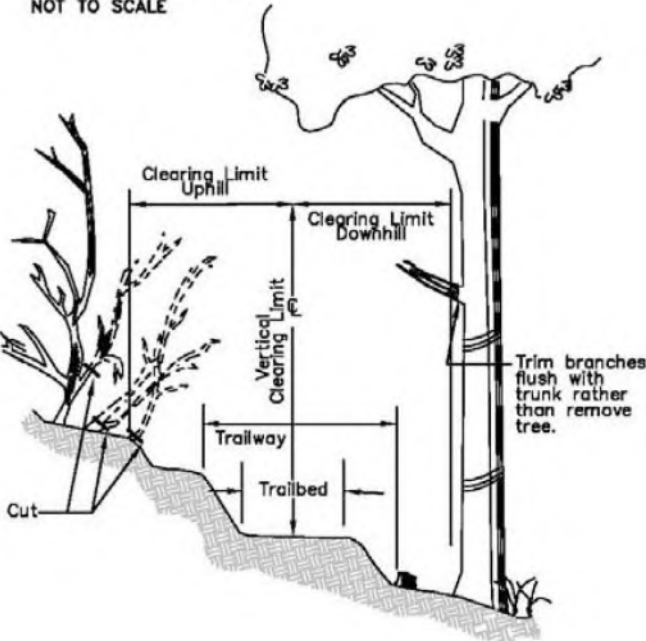
NOT TO SCALE

Clearing Limits (mm)

Location	Uphill	Downhill	Height

Do not remove trees over ____ mm diameter if they are over ____ m from the centerline (both sides).

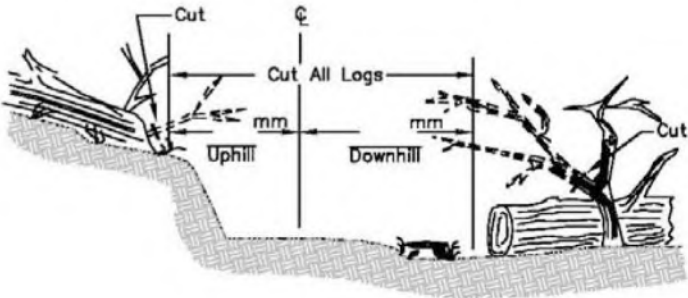
Remove all trees ____ mm or less in diameter if they are within ____ m of centerline (both sides).



Stump Height Requirements* (mm)

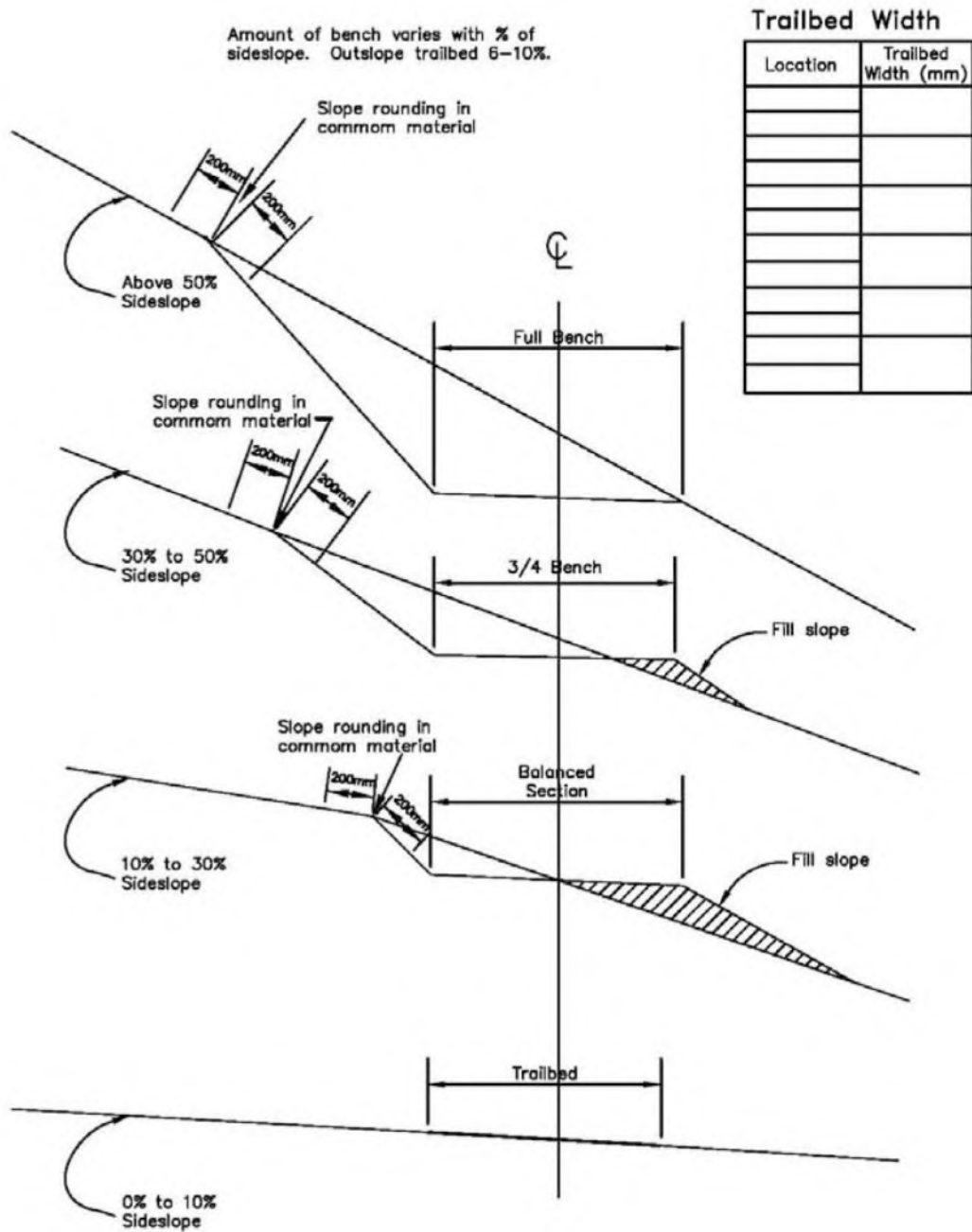
Stump Position	Side Slope	Uphill	Downhill
Stumps between the trailway and clearing limits.	Side slope less than or=to 10%		
	Side slope over 10%		
Stumps outside the clearing limits	Side slope less than or=to 10%		
	Side slope over 10%		

*All heights measured on uphill side of stumps.



Trail Clearing Limits

Churchill Valley Greenway Trail Standards



Typical Trail Cross Sections

Churchill Valley Greenway Trail Standards

PASHEK  MTR

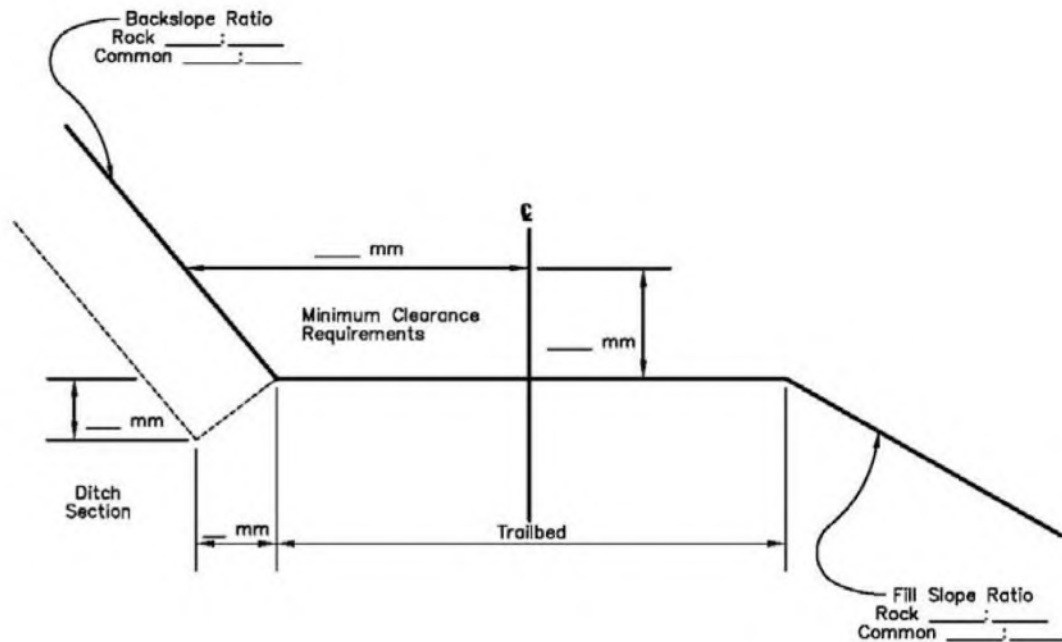
Slope Finish

Remove roots over ____ mm in diameter that protrude from the backslope.

Trailbed Finish

Remove loose rock on the trailbed surface over ____ mm in the smallest dimension.

Remove or reduce embedded rock that protrudes more than ____ mm above the trailbed.



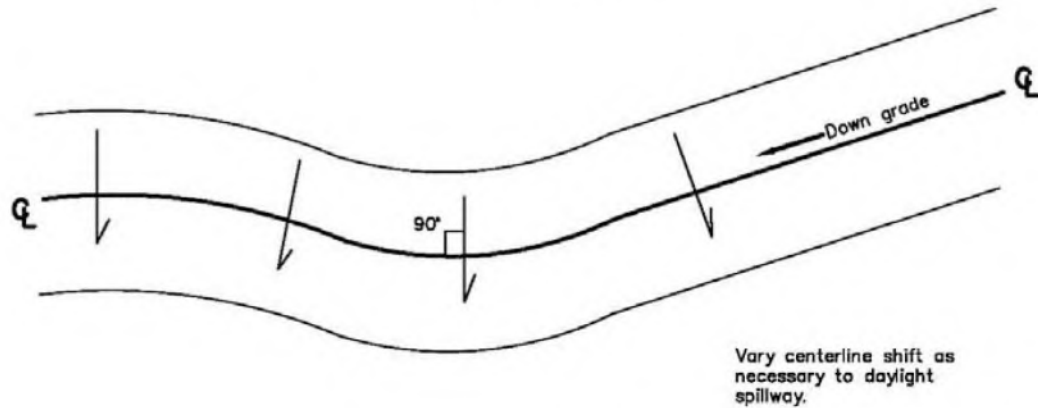
Trailbed Slope & Finish

Churchill Valley Greenway Trail Standards

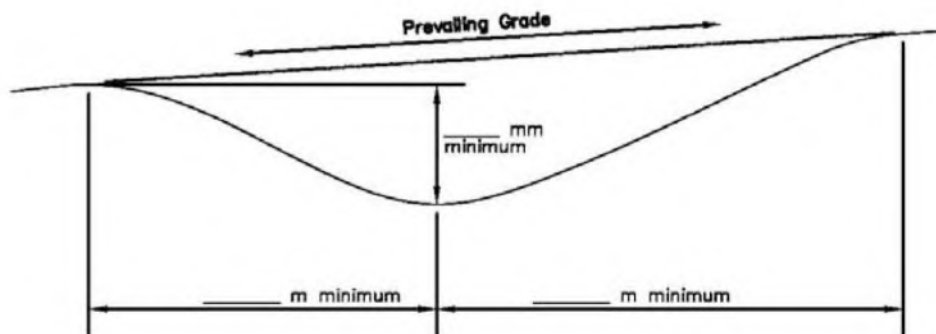
PASHEK  MTR

GRADE DIP

NOT TO SCALE



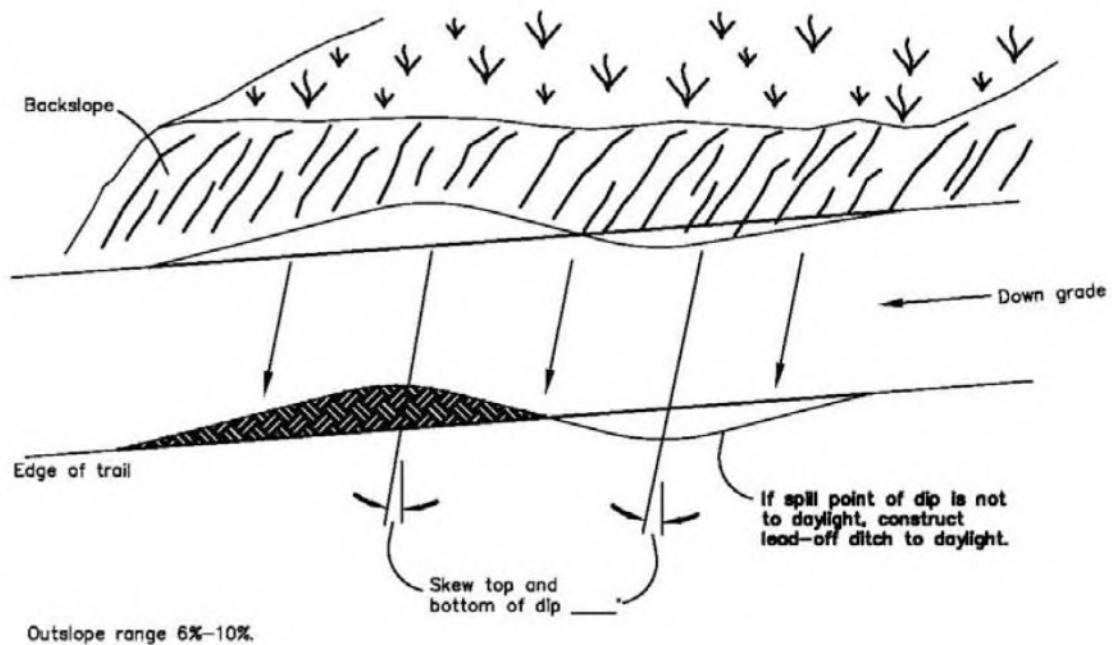
Maintain outslope
and trailbed width.

PLAN VIEWPROFILE

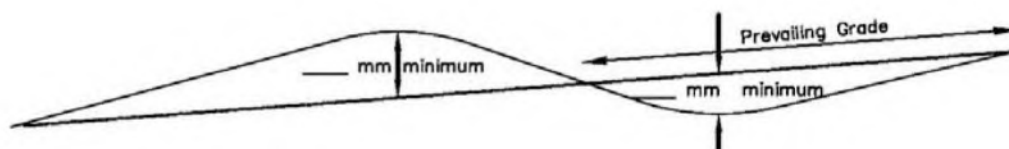
Grade Dip

PASHEK  MTR

Churchill Valley Greenway Trail Standards



PLAN VIEW

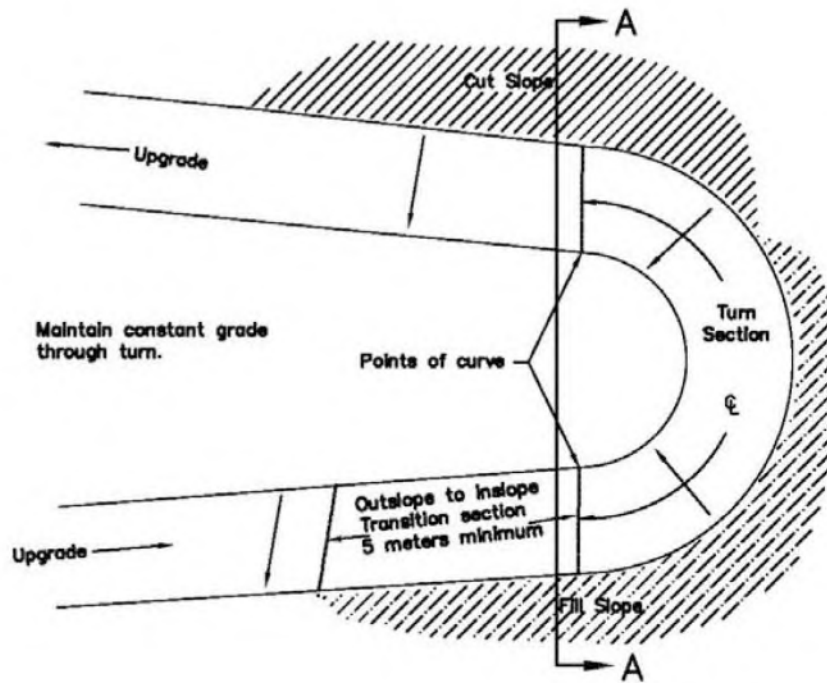


PROFILE

Rolling Dip

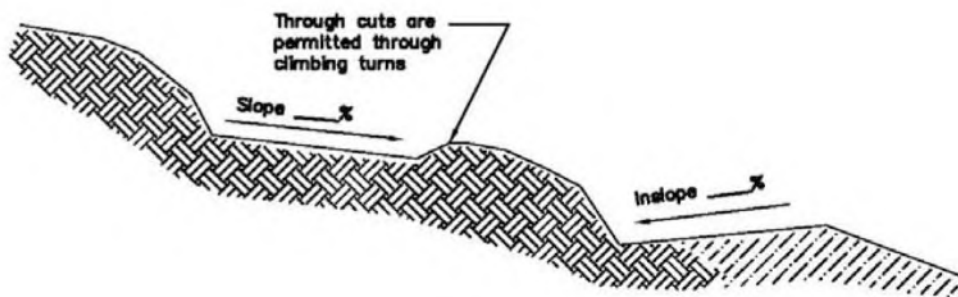
Churchill Valley Greenway Trail Standards

PASHEK  MTR



Centerline of climbing turn
will be FLAGGED or STAKED
ON THE GROUND.

PLAN VIEW

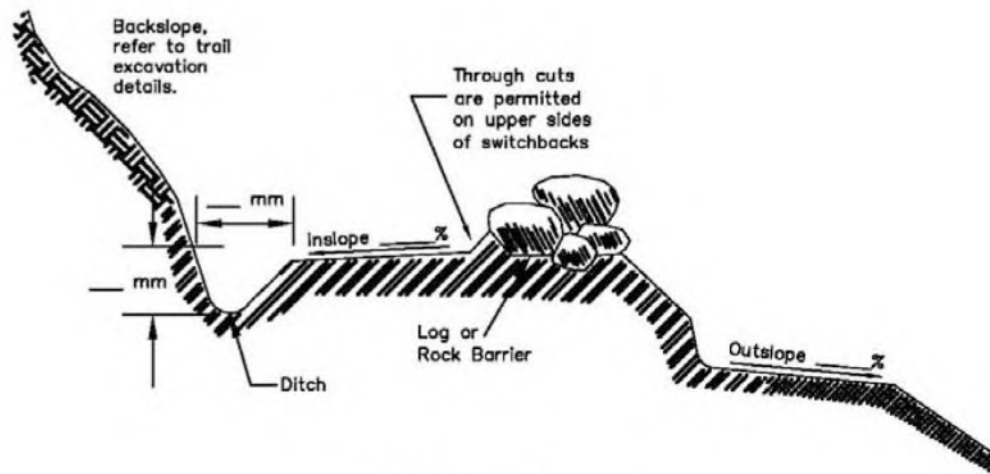


SECTION A-A

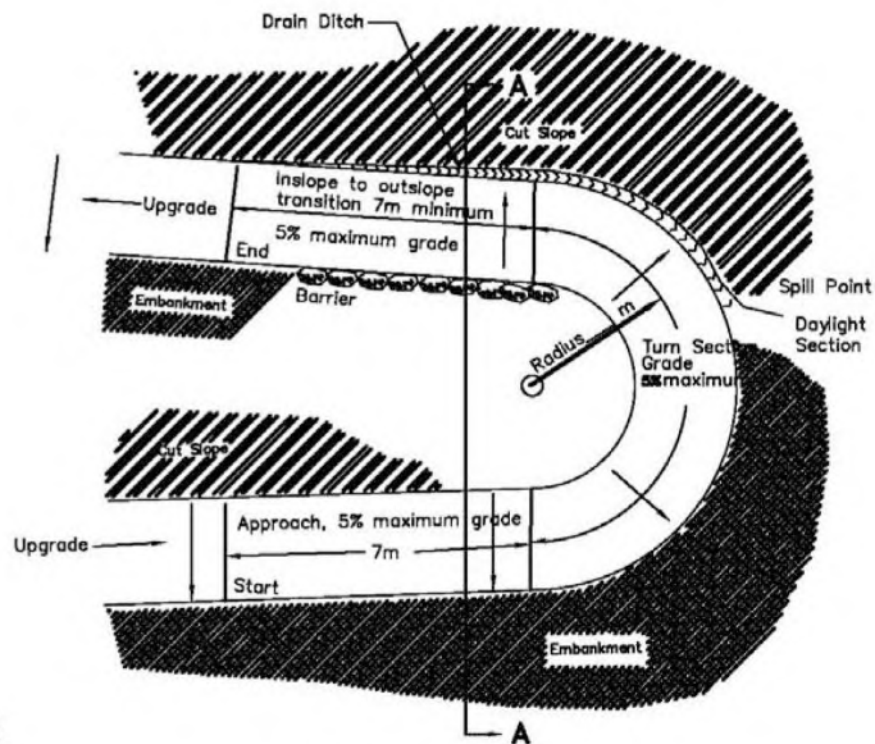
Insloped Climbing Turn

Churchill Valley Greenway Trail Standards

PASHEK  MTR



SECTION A-A



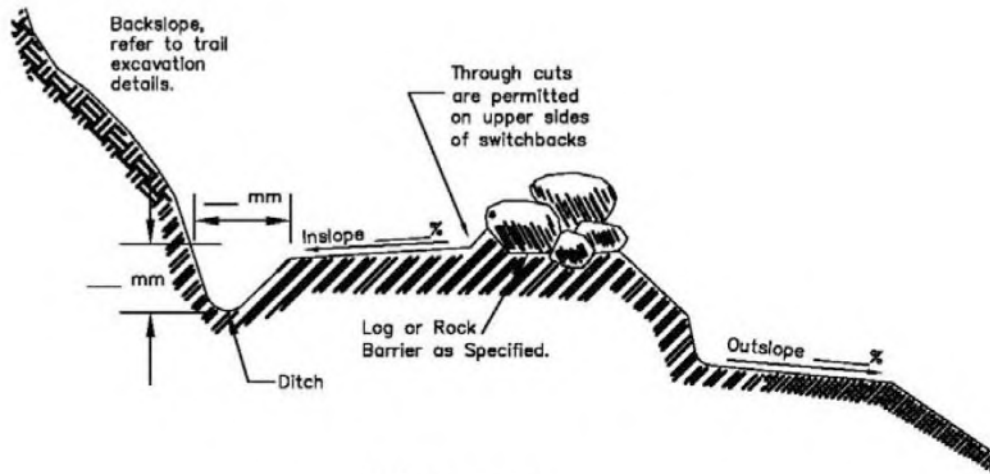
Radius point is staked at each individual site.

PLAN VIEW

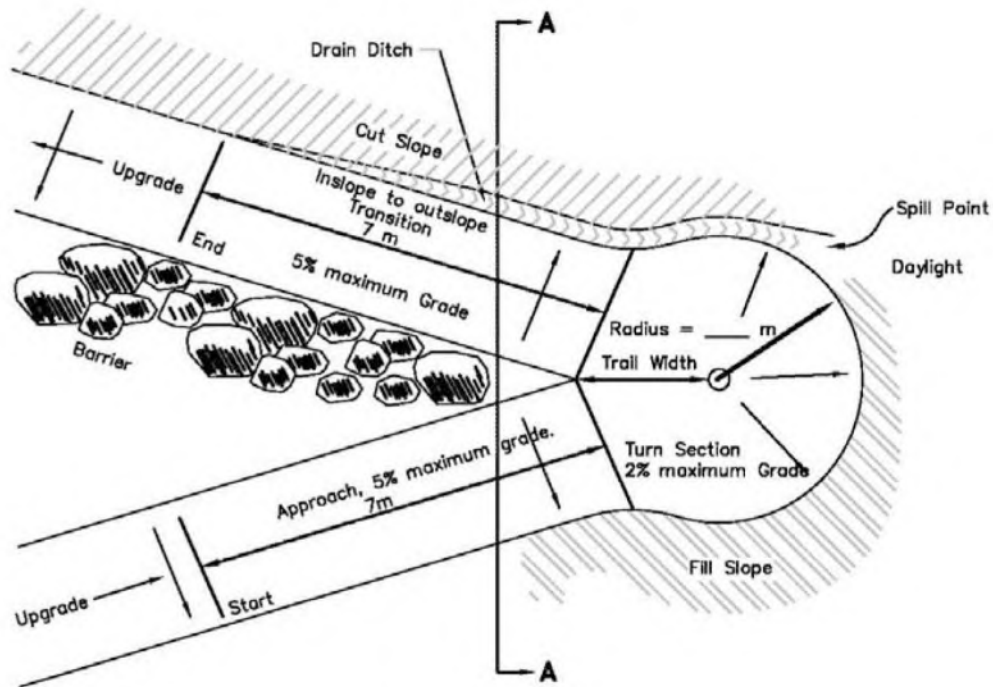
Switchback - Type I

PASHEK  MTR

Churchill Valley Greenway Trail Standards



SECTION A-A



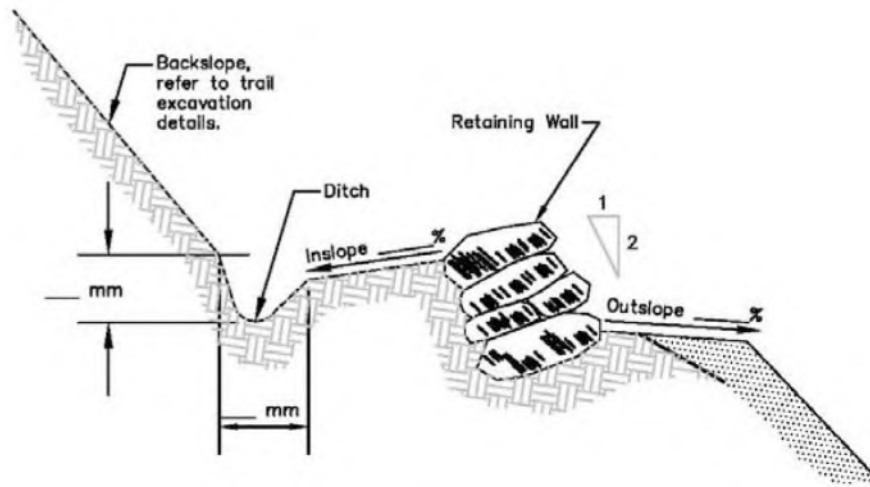
Radius point is
staked at each
individual site.

PLAN VIEW

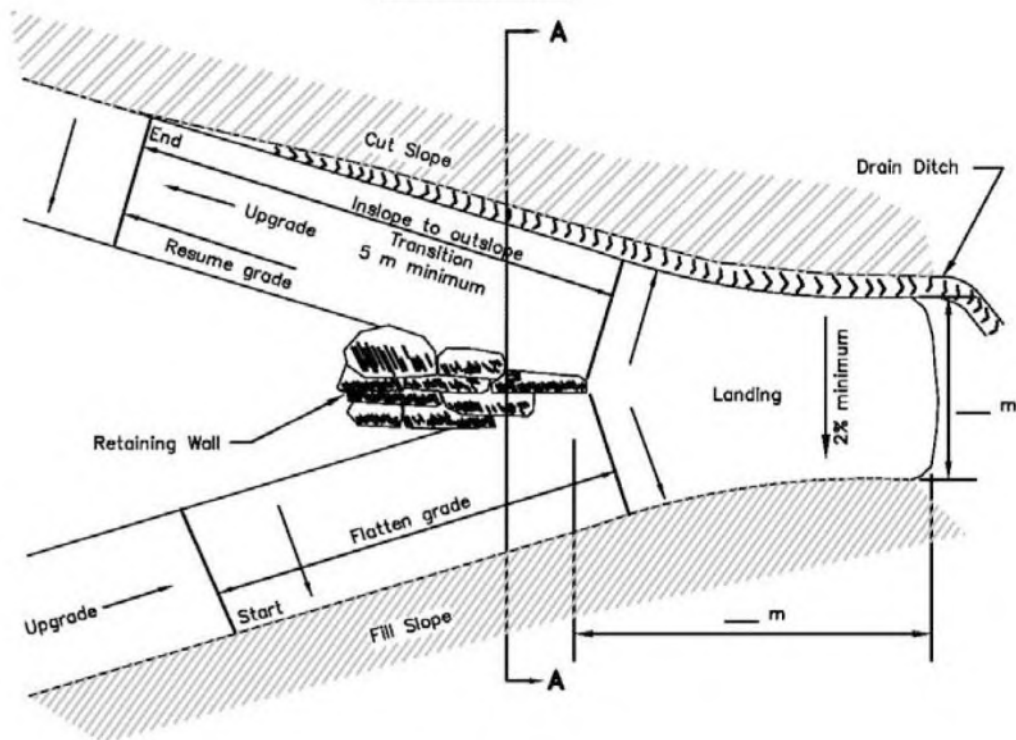
Switchback - Type II

PASHEK  MTR

Churchill Valley Greenway Trail Standards



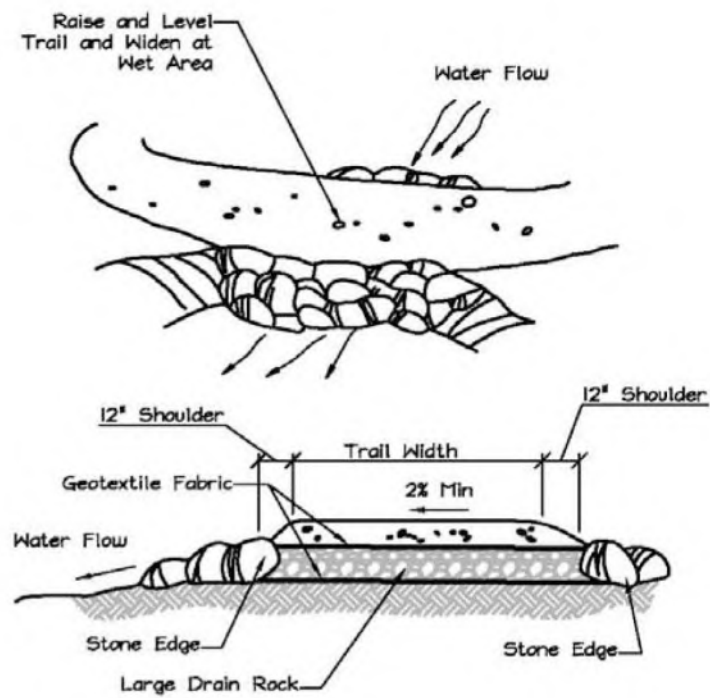
SECTION A-A



PLAN VIEW

Switchback - Type III

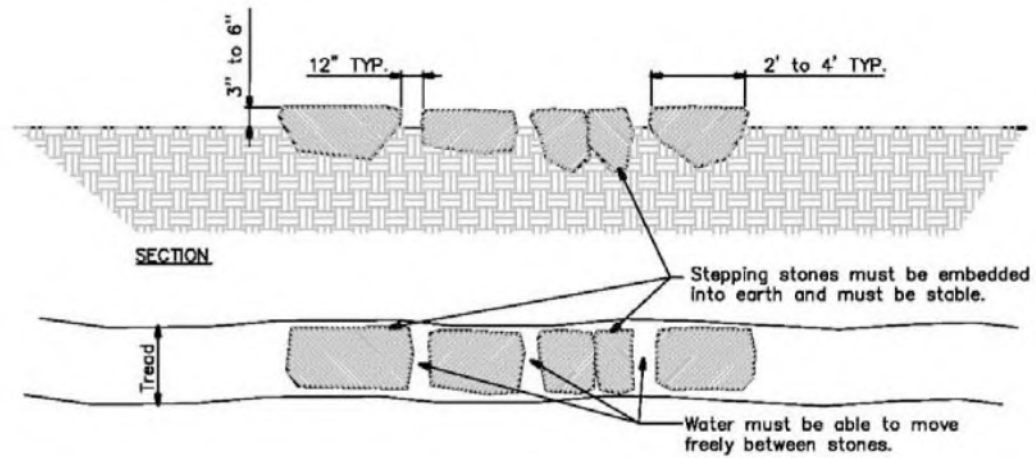
Churchill Valley Greenway Trail Standards



Drainage Lens

PASHEK  MTR

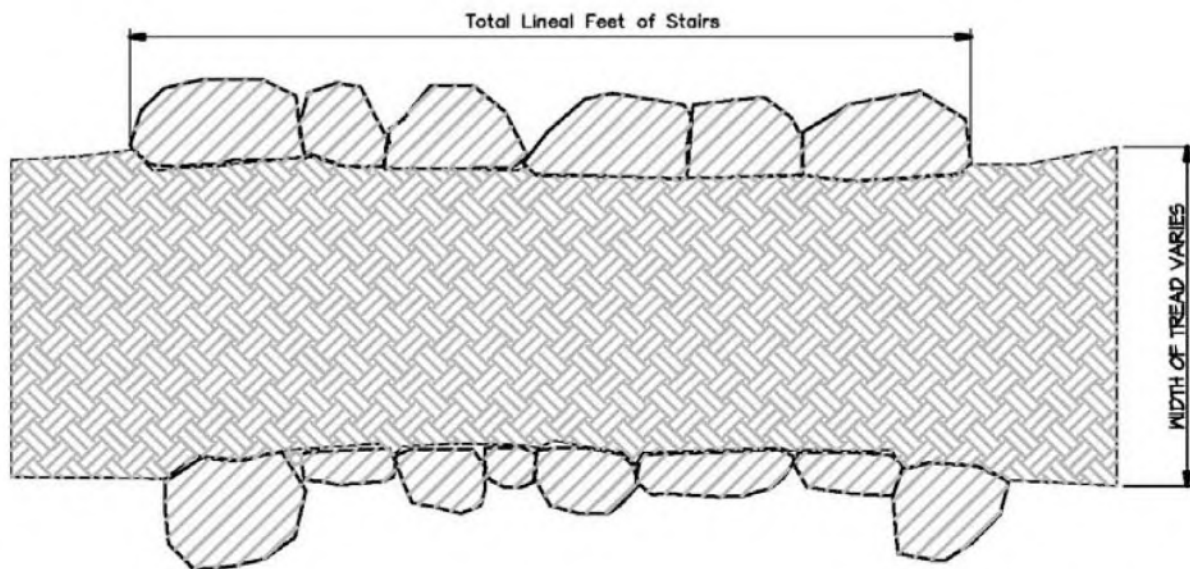
Churchill Valley Greenway Trail Standards



Stepping Stones

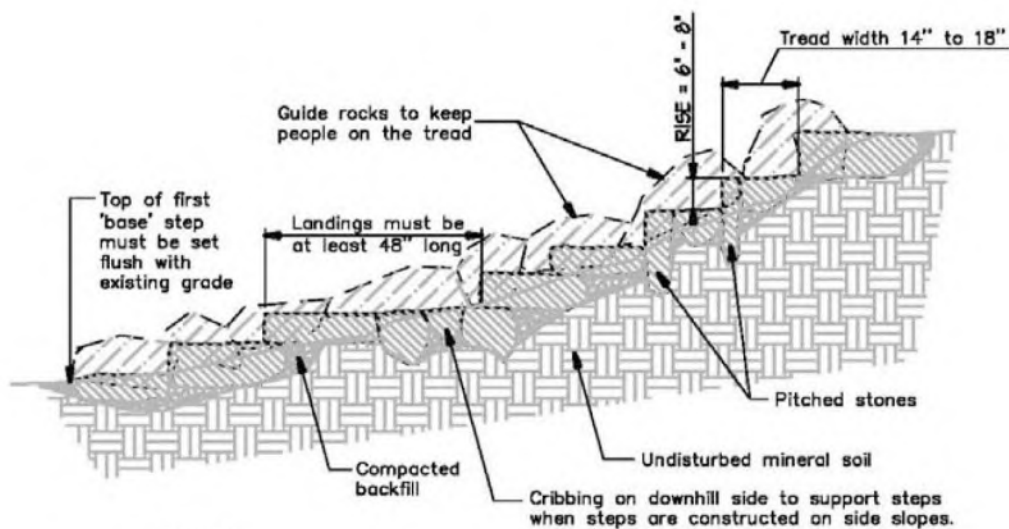
Churchill Valley Greenway Trail Standards

PASHEK  MTR



PLAN

Note:
Retention stones must be
200 Lbs or larger and set
to be stable.

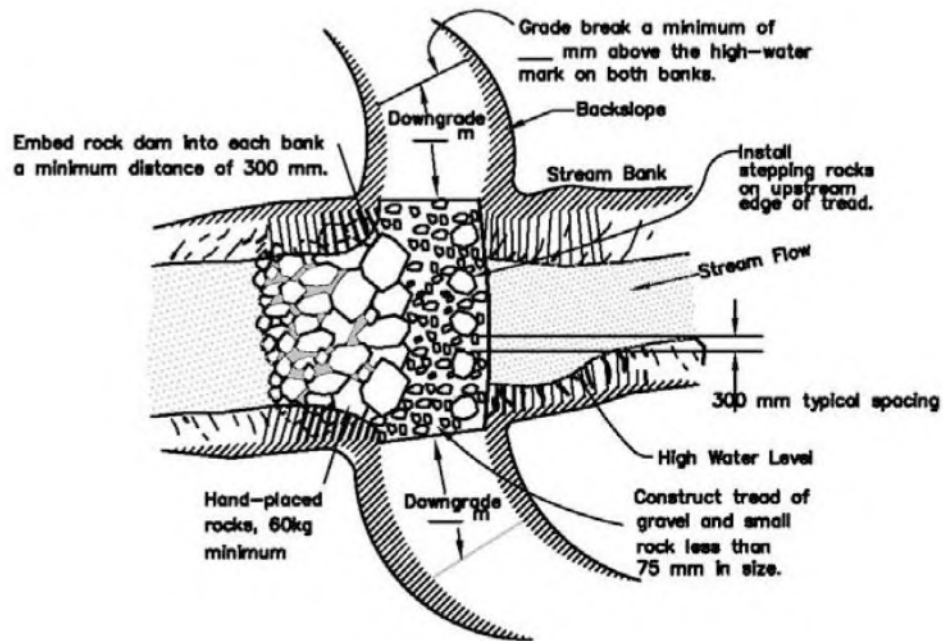


SECTION

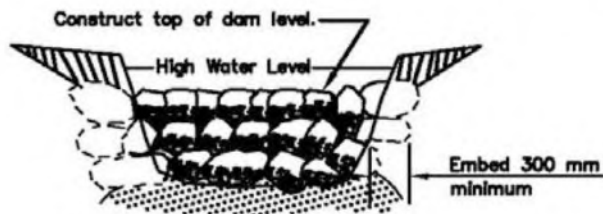
Stone Steps

PASHEK  MTR

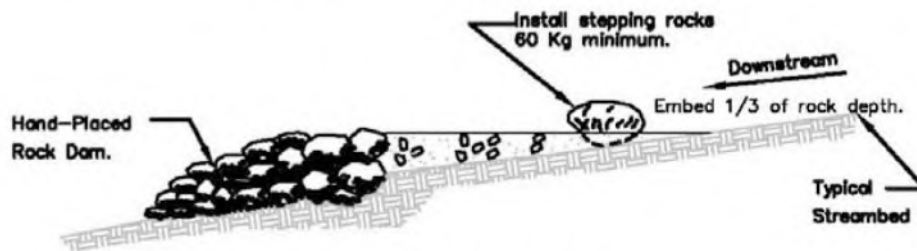
Churchill Valley Greenway Trail Standards



PLAN VIEW



PROFILE - ROCK DAM

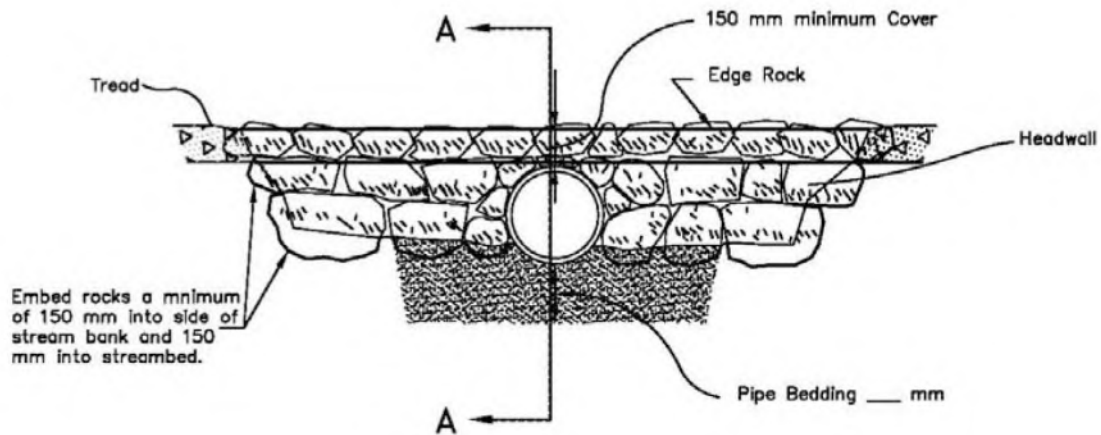


CROSS SECTION

Shallow Stream Ford Crossing

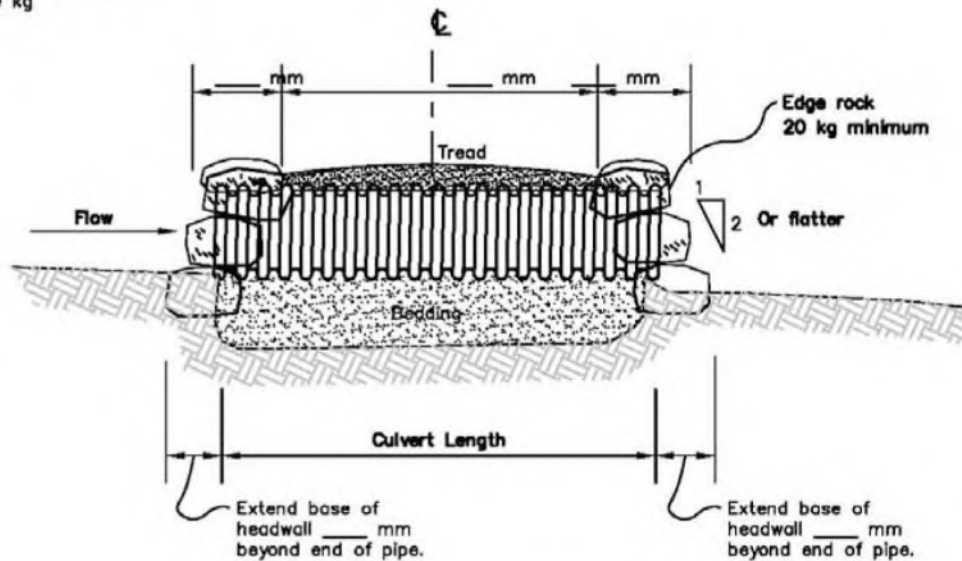
Churchill Valley Greenway Trail Standards

PASHEK  MTR



END VIEW

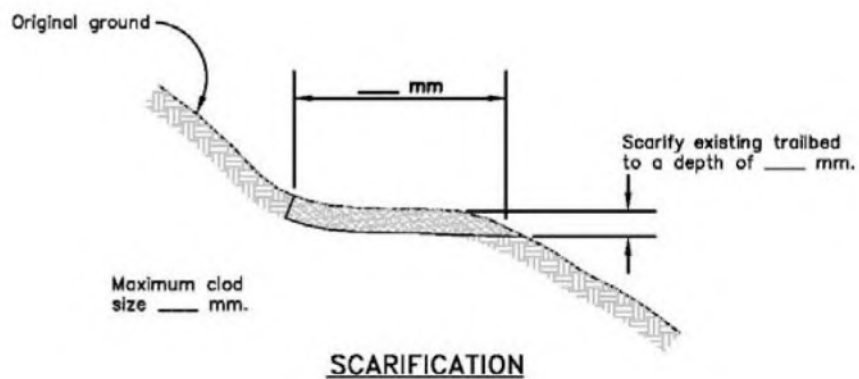
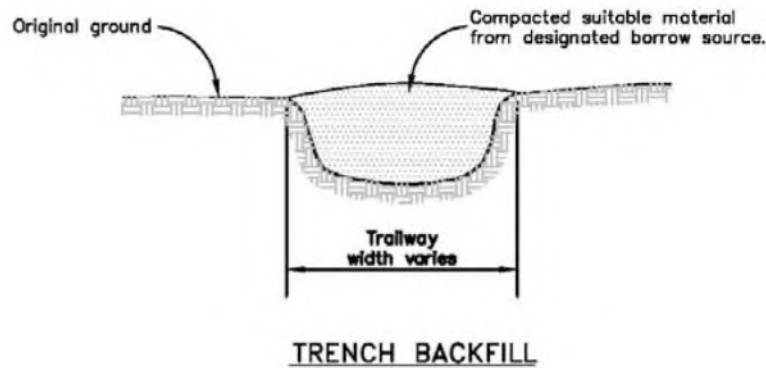
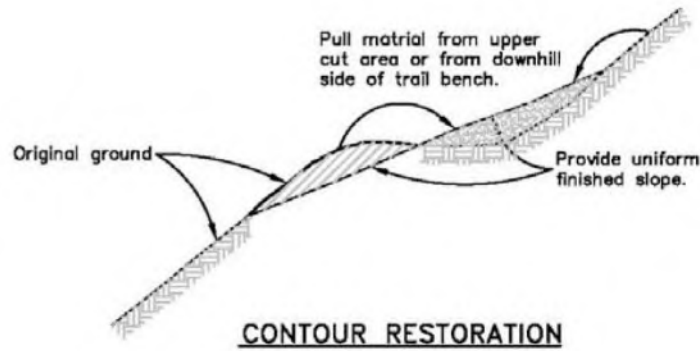
Headwall rocks:
20 kg minimum,
50% larger than
30 kg



Culvert with Headwalls

PASHEK  MTR

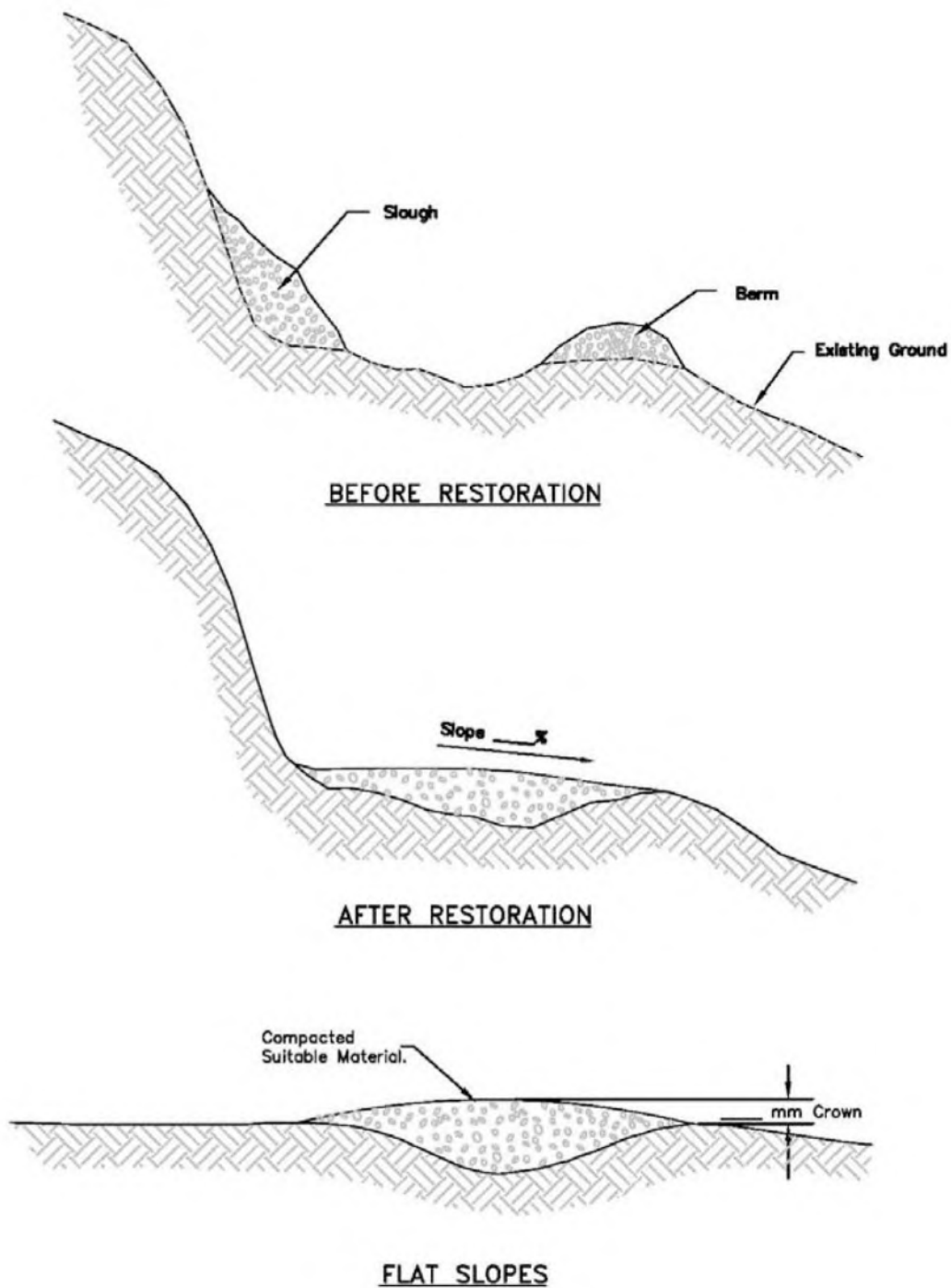
Churchill Valley Greenway Trail Standards



Trail Obliteration

PASHEK  MTR

Churchill Valley Greenway Trail Standards



Trail Restoration

Churchill Valley Greenway Trail Standards

PASHEK  MTR



**ALLEGHENY
LAND TRUST**

PASHEK  MTR

