

Transportation Staff Meeting

January 6, 2010

2:00 PM

Location: 601

AGENDA

1. Carolina Thread Trail (Travis Morehead)

Description:

Carolina Thread Trail Staff is seeking input on the final draft route in Mecklenburg County. Additional information is attached.

2. I-85 Widening (I-3803B) LEDPA (Bob Cook)

Description:

This project is at concurrence point #3 and #4A in the Merger process: selection of the Least Environmentally Damaging Practicable Alternative (LEDPA) and Avoidance/Minimization. Adopted policy requires staff to seek input on the LEDPA before signing the concurrence document. Much of the project is located outside MUMPO's jurisdiction.

The Merger packet is posted on MUMPO's website:

http://www.mumpo.org/Roadway_Information.htm

3. Comprehensive Transportation Plan (Anil Panicker)

Description:

Work on the CTP has been on hold due to NCDOT's urban area coordinator position being vacant. With the position now filled, work will begin again on the project.

Access number: 1-888-776-3766

Meeting number: *4211498*

**Don't forget to dial the asterisk before
and after the number**

Mecklenburg County - Carolina Thread Trail

Draft 12/21/2009

Description of CTT Proposed Route by Segment:

A. Little Sugar Creek Corridor: Lancaster County Line to Cordelia Park

Route Profile:

- 17.6 miles in length, all along Little Sugar Creek corridor
- Includes 3.8 miles of existing greenway (2.2 miles currently under construction)

Access Opportunities

- Includes 3.8 miles of existing greenway
- Includes 8.1 miles through publicly owned land

Population within ½ mile of proposed segment:

- 44,624 residents
- 2,535 residents / greenway mile

Priority Destinations within walking distance (1/4 mi):

- James K. Polk Memorial
- Carolina Place Mall
- Downtown Pineville
- Carolina Pavilion
- Freedom Park and Nature Center
- Metropolitan Midtown
- Grady Cole Center Memorial Stadium
- CCCC Central Campus
- Downtown Charlotte

Other Destinations:

- Park Road Shopping Center
- CMC Hospital
- Seigle Point and Alexander Street Park
- Cordelia Park

Cross-County Connections:

- Lancaster County – Connection to Nations Ford Greenway in York County

Issues and Challenges:

- Several extensive and expensive bridge crossings
- Greenway through CMUD Wastewater Treatment Plant on Tyvola
- Connections and land acquisition between Park Road and Brandywine Road
- 10th to 7th Overland Connector Options (277 crossing)

B. Lakewood Corridor, Part 1-- Stewart Creek, Wesley Heights Greenway and Connectors: Downtown Charlotte to I85

Route Profile:

- 4.9 miles in length (1.4 miles river corridor, 1.8 miles overland connectors along E. Stonewall St., and 1.7 miles parkland/greenway)

- Includes 0.8 miles of existing greenway

Access Opportunities

- Includes 0.8 miles of existing greenway
- Includes 1.4 miles through publicly owned land

Population within ½ mile of proposed segment:

- 9,085 residents
- 1,854 residents / greenway mile

Priority Destinations within walking distance (1/4 mi):

- Little Sugar Creek Greenway
- Midtown
- Downtown Charlotte

Issues and Challenges:

- I85 Crossing
- Shared use of rail near stadium
- Railroad crossings near State Street
- Topography

- Access through Industrial areas
- Bike lanes/Sidewalk on Stonewall are part of NCDOT project plans

C. Lakewood Corridor, Part 2 -- Paw Creek Greenway and Connectors: I85 to Long Creek Greenway

Route Profile:

- 11.7 miles in length (9.7 miles river corridor and 1.8 miles along Moores Chapel Rd)

Access Opportunities

- Includes 1.4 miles through publicly owned land

Population within ½ mile of proposed segment:

- 16,695 residents
- 1,427 residents / greenway mile

Issues and Challenges:

- I485 Crossing
- Proposed Overland Connector routes through existing neighborhoods
- Access through industrial areas
- Topography

D. NE Blue Line Extension Corridor: Little Sugar Creek Greenway at Cordelia Park to Toby Creek Greenway at Arrowhead Road/N. Tryon St.

Route Profile:

- 3.1 miles in length (0.8 miles river corridor, 0.2 miles sidewalks, 2.1 miles along Hwy 29)

Population within ½ mile of proposed segment:

- 5,604 residents
- 1,807 residents / greenway mile

Priority Destinations within walking distance (1/4 mi):

- Little Sugar Creek Greenway
- NODA

Issues and Challenges:

- Working with NE Corridor Infrastructure Plan for shared use of rail/coordination of CIP Projects.
- Major railroad crossings
- Road crossings at Davidson Street, Brevard Street, 36th Street, Craighead Road, and Sugar Creek Road
- Major Intersection Improvements

E. Toby Creek Corridor: Arrowhead Rd at North Tryon Street to Mallard Creek

Route Profile:

- 4.6 miles in length, all along Toby Creek corridor

Access Opportunities

- Includes 2.5 miles through publicly owned land

Population within ½ mile of proposed segment:

- 10,217 residents
- 2,221 residents / greenway mile

Priority Destinations within walking distance (1/4 mi):

- UNC Charlotte

Issues and Challenges:

- Coordination with CATS on connections to Light Rail Transit Stations
- Highway 49/Harris Boulevard crossing
- Arrowhead/Highway 49 Intersection

F. McAlpine Creek Corridor: Lancaster County Line to Irvins Creek Greenway

Route Profile:

- 13.8 miles in length, all along McAlpine Creek corridor
- Includes 4.3 miles of existing greenway

Access Opportunities

- Includes 4.3 miles of existing greenway
- Includes 8.4 miles through publicly owned land

Population within ½ mile of proposed segment:

- 32,884 residents
- 2,383 residents / greenway mile

Priority Destinations within walking distance (1/4 mi):

- Ballantyne

Other Destinations:

- McAlpine Creek Park and 5K Course

Cross-County Connections:

- Lancaster County

- Issues and Challenges:

- Lancaster County CTT route connections
- Land Acquisition between Highway 51 and Rea Road
- Carmel Country Club

G. McAlpine-Four Mile-Matthews Corridor: Irvins Creek to Union County Line

Route Profile:

- 7.7 miles in length (4.8 miles river corridor, 2.9 miles of overland connectors along Campus Ridge Rd, CPCC Lane, Tank Town Rd, Matthews-Mint Hill Rd, and Trade Street)

Access Opportunities

- Includes 1.2 miles through publicly owned land

Population within ½ mile of proposed segment:

- 9,806 residents
- 1273 residents / greenway mile

Priority Destinations within walking distance (1/4 mi):

- Future Downtown Matthews
- Matthews Sports Complex
- CPCC Levine Campus

Cross-County Connections:

- Union County – Potential connection to sidewalk along Campus Ridge Rd as part of the Stallings Pedestrian Plan

Issues and Challenges:

- I485 Crossing
- Railroad (CSX) Crossing
- Industrial Land Uses

H. Irvins Creek Corridor: McAlpine Creek to Downtown Mint Hill

Route Profile:

- 6.2 miles in length, all along Irvin Creek corridor

Access Opportunities

- Includes 1.5 miles through publicly owned land

Population within ½ mile of proposed segment:

- 8,028 residents
- 1,294 residents / greenway mile

Priority Destinations within walking distance (1/4 mi):

- Downtown Mint Hill

Issues and Challenges:

- Hwy 74/Independence Blvd Crossing
- Land Acquisition

I. Lawyers Road, Goose Creek, and Stevens Creek Corridor: Downtown Mint Hill to Union County

Route Profile:

- 6.1 miles in length (3.6 miles river corridor – Goose Creek and Stevens Creek, 0.2 miles parkland/overland connectors, and 2.3 miles of road ROW along Lawyers Rd and short county connector on Stallings Rd.)

Access Opportunities

- Includes 1.2 miles through publicly owned land

Population within ½ mile of proposed segment:

- 3,578 residents
- 587 residents / greenway mile

Priority Destinations within walking distance (1/4 mi):

- Downtown Mint Hill
- Bridges at Mint Hill
- Future Stevens Creek Nature Preserve

Cross-County Connections:

- Union County – Potential connections at Stallings Rd. Stallings Pedestrian Plan shows a future sidewalk link on Stallings Road to the Town limit line and a proposed greenway that follows this town limit line and then picks up Crooked Creek and ties back into Stevens Mill Road.

Issues and Challenges:

- Carolina Hill Splitter habitat, and watershed/water quality restrictions
- Land Acquisition

J. Long Creek corridor: Whitewater Center to Dixon Branch

Route Profile:

- 12.9 miles in length, all along Long Creek corridor

Access Opportunities

- Includes 4.3 miles through publicly owned land
- Catawba Lands Conservancy work in this area

Population within ½ mile of proposed segment:

- 15,526 residents
- 1,203 residents / greenway mile

Priority Destinations within walking distance (1/4 mi):

- U.S. National Whitewater Center

Other Destinations

- Shuffletown Park

Cross-County Connections:

- Gaston County – Mount Holly Greenway

Issues and Challenges:

- Catawba River Crossing
- CSX Rail Crossing
- 1485 Crossings
- Golf course (Pine Island Country Club) crossing

K. Dixon Branch Corridor and Overland Connectors: Long Creek to North Commuter Rail Line

Route Profile:

- 5.8 miles in length (2.9 mi along Dixon Branch Greenway corridor, 2.9 mi of overland connector)

Access Opportunities

- Includes 0.3 miles through publicly owned lands

Population within ½ mile of proposed segment:

- 5,450 residents
- 939 residents / greenway mile

Issues and Challenges:

- Harris Blvd. crossing
- 177 Crossing
- Commuter Rail Crossing
- Land Acquisition

L. Clark and Mallard Creek Corridors: Commuter Rail Line to Cabarrus County

Route Profile:

- 10.7 miles in length, all along Clark and Mallard Creek corridors
- Includes 5.3 miles of existing greenway

Access Opportunities

- Includes 5.3 miles of existing greenway
- Includes 4.2 miles through publicly owned land

Population within ½ mile of proposed segment:

- 24,115 residents
- 2,554 residents / greenway mile

Priority Destinations within walking distance (1/4 mi):

- University Research Park
- UNC Charlotte
- Verizon Pavilion

Cross-County Connections:

- Cabarrus County – Mallard Creek Greenway

Issues and Challenges:

- I485 Crossing
- Land Acquisition

M. Commuter Rail Corridor: Dixon Branch to Downtown Huntersville and Downtown Cornelius to Iredell County Line

Route Profile:

- 5.2 miles in length, along proposed North Commuter Line

Access Opportunities

- Includes 1.1 miles through publicly owned land

Population within ½ mile of proposed segment:

- 6,198 residents
- 1,192 residents / greenway mile

Priority Destinations within walking distance (1/4 mi):

- CPCC North Campus
- Downtown Huntersville
- Downtown Cornelius/Antiquity
- Downtown Davidson/Davidson College

Cross-County Connections:

- Iredell County

Issues and Challenges:

- Shared rail corridor/Hwy. 115 (Old Statesville Road) Pedestrian Improvements
- Intersection improvements at Alexanderana Road, Hambright Road, Huntersville-Concord Road, and Catawba Avenue.

N. South Prong and West Branch Rocky River Corridor: Downtown Cornelius to Cabarrus County line

Route Profile:

- 6.7 miles in length (all along South Prong and West Branch Rocky River corridors)
- Includes 3.0 miles of existing greenway (Southeast Greenway)

Access Opportunities

- Includes 3.0 miles of existing greenway
- Includes 0.2 miles through publicly owned land

Population within ½ mile of proposed segment:

- 3,865 residents
- 586 residents / greenway mile

Priority Destinations within walking distance (1/4 mi):

- Downtown Cornelius/Antiquity
- West Branch Nature Preserve

Cross-County Connections:

- Cabarrus County – Connection to Rocky River corridor

Issues and Challenges:

- Railroad/Commuter Line crossing

- Main greenway within utility corridor at Antiquity
- Rocky River Crossing
- River Run Golf Course

O. Rocky River Corridor: South Prong Rocky River to Iredell County Line

Route Profile:

- 3.6 miles in length, all along Rocky River corridor

Access Opportunities

- Adjacent to 186 acres of Catawba Lands Conservancy property
- Includes 0.4 miles through publicly owned land

Population within ½ mile of proposed segment:

- 909 residents
- 253 residents / greenway mile

Priority Destinations within walking distance (1/4 mi):

- West Branch Nature Preserve

Cross-County Connections:

- Iredell County
- Cabarrus County – West side alternative to Rocky River Corridor

P. McDowell Creek Corridor, Part 1: Downtown Cornelius to Westmoreland Road

Route Profile:

- 4.8 miles in length, (0.6 miles along Catawba Ave., 1.3 miles along McDowell Creek to Westmoreland Road, 2.9 miles of overland connector along Westmoreland Road)

Access Opportunities

- Includes 0.8 miles through publicly owned land

Population within ½ mile of proposed segment:

- 8,265 residents
- 1,721 residents / greenway mile

Priority Destinations within walking distance (1/4 mi):

- Augustalee
- Downtown Cornelius/Antiquity

Other Destinations

- Ramsey Creek Park
- Future Robbins Park and Westmoreland Athletic Complex

Issues and Challenges:

- I77 crossing

Q. McDowell Creek Corridor, Part 2: Ramsey Creek Park to Beatties Ford Road

Route Profile:

- 5.1 miles in length (2.4 miles along McDowell Creek, and 1.8 miles along Birkdale Commons Parkway, and 0.9 miles overland connector)

Access Opportunities

- Includes 1.8 miles through publicly owned land

Population within ½ mile of proposed segment:

- 7,286 residents
- 1,429 residents / greenway mile

Priority Destinations within walking distance (1/4 mi):

- Birkdale Village

Other Destinations

- Ramsey Creek Park
- Future Robbins Park and Westmoreland Athletic Complex

R. Hwy 73 Bike Route: Birkdale Commons Parkway to Lincoln County and Catawba River

Route Profile:

- 3.8 miles in length (all along Hwy 73)

Access Opportunities

- Includes 0.6 miles through publicly owned land
- Access to Blythe Landing and Lake Norman Blueway

Population within ½ mile of proposed segment:

- 4,053 residents
- 1,066 residents / greenway mile

Priority Destinations within walking distance (1/4 mi):

- Lake Norman Bike Route

Other Destinations

- Blythe Landing
- Duke Energy Explorium

Cross-County Connections:

- Lincoln County

Issues and Challenges:

- 73 ROW needs upgrades to safely accommodate a multi-use sidepath
- Existing 73 road bridge into Lincoln County needs upgrades to accommodate pedestrians, or new pedestrian bridge needs to be constructed

S. Torrence Creek Greenway Corridor: Downtown Huntersville to McDowell Creek Greenway

Route Profile:

- 3.8 miles in length (3.4 miles along Torrence Creek corridor, and 0.4 miles overland connector through downtown Huntersville)

Access Opportunities

- Includes 0.9 miles of existing greenway
- Includes 2.4 miles through publicly owned land

Population within ½ mile of proposed segment:

- 6,428 residents
- 1,692 residents / greenway mile

Priority Destinations within walking distance (1/4 mi):

- Downtown Huntersville
- Rosedale Village

Other Destinations

- Huntersville Business Park

Issues and Challenges:

- I77 Crossing
- Land acquisition/route specifics between Statesville Road and Huntersville Elementary

T. McDowell Creek-Long Creek Connector Corridor: McDowell Creek Greenway at Beatties Ford Road to Latta Plantation and Long Creek Greenway

Route Profile:

- 7.8 miles in length (2.9 miles along McDowell Creek corridor, 2 miles of overland connectors, 2.1 miles along Latta Plantation trails, and 0.8 miles along Beatties Ford Rd and Mt Holly-Huntersville Rd)

Access Opportunities

- Includes 2.1 miles of existing greenway
- Includes 4.3 miles through publicly owned land
- Latta Plantation

Population within ½ mile of proposed segment:

- 4,470 residents
- 573 residents / greenway mile

Priority Destinations within walking distance (1/4 mile):

- Latta Plantation Nature Preserve and Carolina Raptor Center

Issues and Challenges

- Working within conservations easements inside the preserve to be able to add new hiking trails
- Finding an alternative route for bicycles that cannot enter the preserve (Beatties Ford Road)

U. Uptown – Matthews Connector

Route Profile:

- 10.9 miles in length (5.3 miles river corridor – Briar Creek, Edwards Branch, & Campbell Creek; and 5.6 miles overland connectors)

Access Opportunities

- Includes 4.1 miles through publicly owned land

Population within ½ mile of proposed segment:

- 34,526 residents
- 3,167 residents / greenway mile

Priority Destinations within walking distance (1/4 mi):

- Midtown

Other Destinations

- Grady Cole Center / Memorial Stadium
- Independence Park
- Owen’s Auditorium / Bojangles Coliseum
- Evergreen Nature Preserve
- Eastland Mall

V. Lake Norman Blueway Corridor: Beatties Ford Park (Lincoln County) to Blythe Landing and Ramsey Creek Park (Mecklenburg County)

Route Profile:

- 5.2 miles in length of water-based trail features

Access Opportunities:

- Beatties Ford Park
- Hwy 73 at Blythe Landing
- Ramsey Creek Park

W. Catawba River Blueway Corridor: Lake Norman Blueway to McDowell Nature Preserve at Lake Wylie

Route Profile:

- 40.3 miles in length of water-based trail features

Access Opportunities:

- Hwy 73 at Duke Energy site
- Neck Road
- Latta Plantation Nature Preserve
- Highway 16
- US National Whitewater Center
- Gateway Property
- McDowell Nature Preserve

Carolina Thread Trail - Proposed Connections

Mecklenburg County, NC

Draft
12/21/2009

Carolina Thread Trail Connections

- Proposed CTT Connections
- Adjoining County CTT Routes

Destinations

- Priority Destinations
- Library
- School
- Recreational Facility
- Boys and Girls Clubs
- YMCA's

Greenways and Trails

- Developed Greenways
- Planned Greenways
- Planned Overland Connectors
- Lake Norman Bike Routes
- Blueway Concept

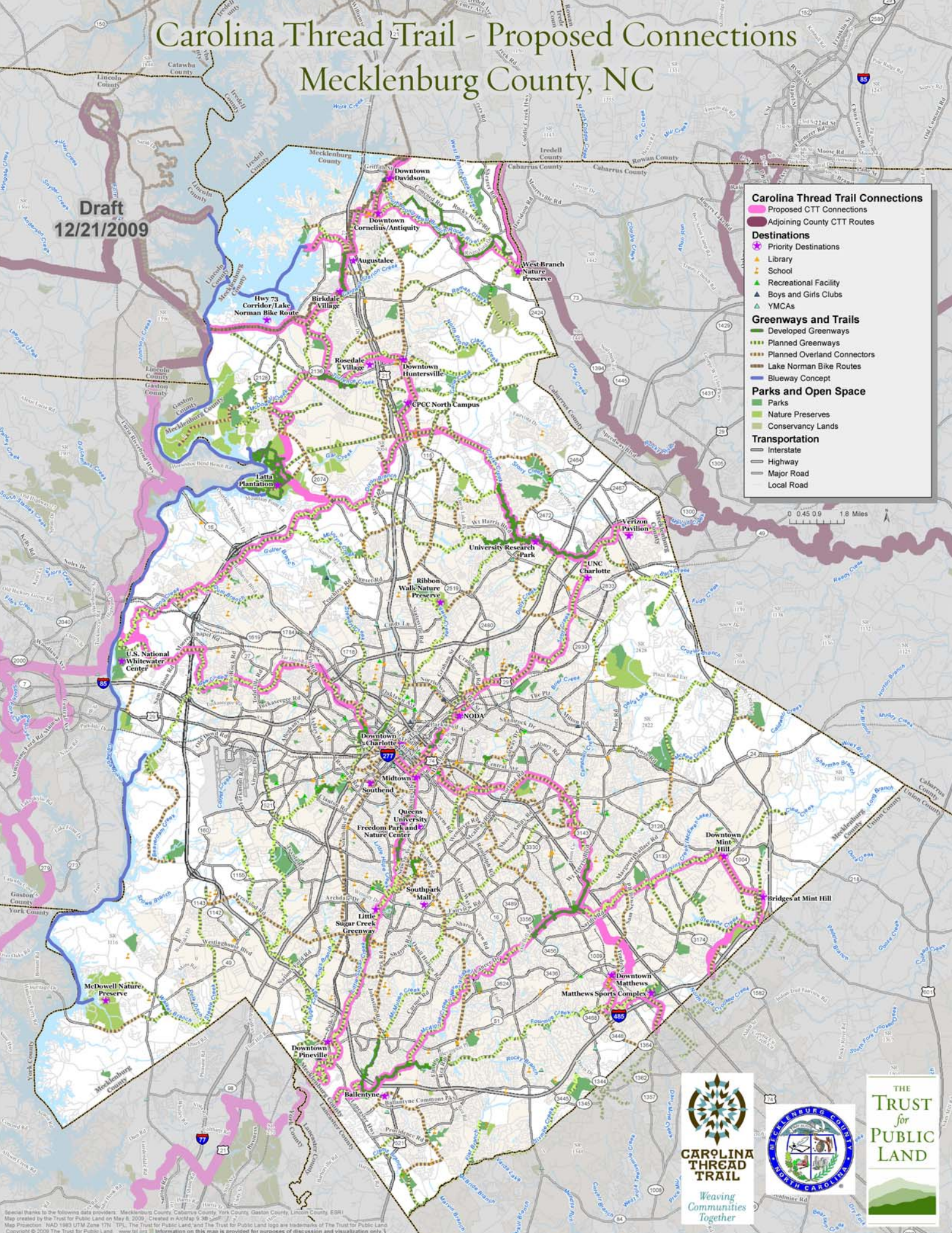
Parks and Open Space

- Parks
- Nature Preserves
- Conservancy Lands

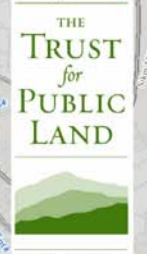
Transportation

- Interstate
- Highway
- Major Road
- Local Road

0 0.45 0.9 1.8 Miles



Special thanks to the following data providers: Mecklenburg County, Cabarrus County, York County, Gaston County, Lincoln County, EBRI. Map created by the Trust for Public Land on May 8, 2009. Created in ArcMap 9.38. Map Projection: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 17N. 179. The Trust for Public Land logo are trademarks of The Trust for Public Land. Copyright © 2009 The Trust for Public Land. www.tpl.org. Information on this map is provided for purposes of discussion and visualization only.



Mecklenburg County - Carolina Thread Trail Alternative Route Analysis

12/21/2009

	Scenario F 12/21 Recommendations to Steering Committee	
Route		
Total Length (mi)	156.2	
Existing Trails (mi)	22.1	14.1%
Newly Proposed Trails (mi)	134.2	85.9%
New Greenway: Stream/River Corridor (mi)	94.9	60.8%
New Greenway: Park/Utility Connector (mi)	11.6	7.4%
New Overland Connectors - On Road (mi)	24.1	15.4%
New Rail-Trail Corridor (mi)	3.6	2.3%
Routes using Planned Greenways (mi)	84.9	54.4%
Routes along Proposed Lake Norman Bike Route (mi)	6.8	4.4%
New Routes through Publicly Owned Land (mi)	51.5	33.0%
Proposed Blueway (mi)	45.5	N/A
Access		
Children within service area**	65355	30.0%
Seniors within service area**	23200	32.2%
Total Residents within service area**	260418	31.5%
Low Income Households within service area**	31192	33.7%
Connections and Destinations		
Priority Destinations within walking distance*	25	83.3%
Cross-County connections	10	142.9%
Schools within walking distance*	33	18.6%
Libraries within walking distance*	7	29.2%
Parks within walking distance*	105	31.6%
Recreation Centers within walking distance*	5	14.7%
YMCAs within walking distance*	4	25.0%
Boys and Girls Clubs within walking distance*	3	37.5%
Bus Stops within walking distance*	576	16.0%
LightRail Stations within walking distance*	24	36.9%
Lynx Stations within walking distance*	3	15.8%
Along Stream/River Corridor	108.7	69.6%
Regional Metrics		
Miles per 1000 residents	0.19	
Miles per 10 sq miles county area	2.86	

*Walking Distance assumed at ¼ mi

**Service Area assumed at ½ mi

***Based on 2007 census projections (Claritas)