Chester Valley Trail West
Feasibility Study and Master Plan

Public Meeting 2
March 1, 2018
Agenda

• Review project progress since last public meeting

• Brief project overview

• Findings from public survey

• Trail planning considerations- opportunities and constraints

• Overview of alignment alternatives

• Open House- feedback on alignment alternatives
Project Schedule

**KEY TASKS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2017</th>
<th>JULY</th>
<th>KICKOFF</th>
<th>RESEARCH &amp; ANALYSIS</th>
<th>FEASIBILITY &amp; MASTER PLANNING</th>
<th>FINAL PLAN</th>
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<td>• focus group- operations, safety and maintenance</td>
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**2018**

| JUNE   |         | Determine Recommended Alignment | • meetings with municipalities | • draft report | • steering committee |
|        |         | Complete Draft Report           | • public meeting #3            |               |                       |
| SEPT.  |         |                                  |                               |               |                       |
| DEC.   |         |                                  |                               |               | Plan Approval         |

*Chester Valley Trail WEST*
Development Process

PHASE 1
- Feasibility/Master Plan
- Secure ROW/Easements
- Design & Engineering
- Bidding & Construction
- Project Completion

PHASE 2
- Design & Engineering
- Bidding & Construction
- Project Completion

Chester Valley Trail WEST
Project Background

THE CIRCUIT TRAILS

100s OF MILES OF HAPPY

Chester Valley Trail WEST
Project Background
Project Background
Project Background

Chester Valley Trail Extension
Project Background

Chester Valley Trail WEST

375,000+ annual users

70,000+ users

150,000+ annual users
Trail Towns:

- Are walkable and bike-friendly
- Have amenities for trail users (bike shops, cafes & restaurants with outdoor seating, hotels/B&Bs, etc.)
- Have wayfinding systems for both trails and businesses
- Studies show that trails are good for business!

Critical to have buy-in from the community, elected officials and local businesses!
Public Engagement

• **Focus Groups**
  • Economic Development
  • Recreation, Fitness and Open Space

• **Meetings with Municipalities**

• **Steering Committee Meeting**

• **Outreach events**

• **Public Survey**
Public Survey Results

2,819 total responses

38.4% within study area
61.6% outside study area

Caln  266
Downingtown  252
Sadsbury  36
West Sadsbury  29
Valley  61
Coatesville  137
Parkesburg  122
Atglen  63
Other Chester Co. Municipality  1,403
Outside of Chester County  146
Public Survey Results

Of respondents who live in the study area...

- **89% support the extension of the Chester Valley Trail**
- **70%** believe a trail that provided access to employment centers would encourage commuting by bicycle or walking
- **14%** feel there are enough recreation options available
- **4%** of respondents indicated they are not current trail users, and of those, **80%** sited lack of trails and safety concerns as the reason.
- **Most popular CURRENT recreation destinations** are Struble Trail, Chester Valley Trail, and Hibernia Park.
Public Survey Results

Of ALL survey respondents:

- **89%** supportive of extending the Chester Valley Trail
- **92%** use the trail for recreation and fitness
- **78%** would be likely to stop at a small business along the trail
- **62%** would feel comfortable using a bike lane or sidewalk if a multiuse trail were not feasible
- Most popular recreation destinations are Chester Valley Trail, Struble Trail, and Schuylkill River Trail
Public Survey Results

Of respondents living OUTSIDE the study area:

- **90%** supportive of extending the Chester Valley Trail
- **81%** reported they’d be likely to use the CVT if it were extended westward to Lancaster Co.
- **79%** would be likely to stop at a small business along the trail
Public Survey Results

Destinations

- school
- library
- transit access
- park
- museum

Chester Valley Trail WEST
Public Survey Results

Most popular destinations/connections requested:

1. Train Stations
2. Shops / Local Businesses
3. Schools
4. Restaurants
5. Downingtown commercial district
6. Parks
7. Libraries
8. Coffee Shops/Cafes
Field Views

Chester Valley Trail WEST

[Images of field views along the Chester Valley Trail, including a tunnel with graffiti, a dirt path, a field with sculptures, and a road with an overpass.]
Trail Design Standards

Multiuse Trail

Cycle Track/Protected Bike Facility

Bike Lane

Shared Road
Alignment Evaluation Factors

• Safety

• Continuity

• Connectivity

• User experience

• Potentially affected privately-owned land

• Environmental and cultural impacts

• Economic development potential
Concepts to Keep in Mind

• Would I feel comfortable walking/cycling along each segment of the alignment alternatives presented?

• Does the trail pass through/near key destinations within my community?
Alignment Alternatives

- **Multiuse**
- **Split mode w/ dedicated bike facility**
- **Split mode**
- **Shared road (cycling only)**
Potential Alignment Highlights
Chester Valley Trail Extension Terminus

Multiuse
Split mode w/ dedicated bike facility
Split mode
Shared road (cycling only)
Potential Alignment Highlights

Beaver Creek Trail

- Multiuse
- Split mode with dedicated bike facility
- Split mode
- Shared road (cycling only)
Potential Alignment Highlights
Coatesville Cycle Track/Protected Bike Lane

- Multiuse
- Split mode w/ dedicated bike facility
- Split mode
- Shared road (cycling only)
Potential Alignment Highlights
Coatesville Cycle Track/Protected Bike Lane

Business Route 30 Existing condition (approximate)

<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>7'</th>
<th>5'</th>
<th>12'</th>
<th>12'</th>
<th>5'</th>
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Chester Valley Trail WEST
Potential Alignment Highlights
Coatesville Cycle Track/Protected Bike Lane

**Cycle Track**

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<td>11’</td>
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49’ roadway (approx.)

**Parking Protected Bike Lanes**

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1’ buffer
5’ parking protected bike lane

49’ roadway (approx.)
Potential Alignment
Lincoln Highway - Coatesville

Existing condition

Potential interim condition - Painted lane, buffer and signage

Parking protected “cycle track”
Or protected bike lane
Potential Alignment Highlights

Inactive Rail Siding, Coatesville

- Multiuse
- Split mode w/ dedicated bike facility
- Split mode
- Shared road (cycling only)
Potential Alignment Highlights

1st Ave./Main St., Parkesburg
Potential Alignment Highlights

1st Ave./Main St., Parkesburg

Existing condition (approximate)

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Potential future condition

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Potential Alignment Highlights
Enola Low Grade Corridor

Over 2 miles inactive rail corridor owned by SEPTA

- **Multiuse**
- **Split mode w/ dedicated bike facility**
- **Split mode**
- **Shared road (cycling only)**
Next Steps

**Chester Valley Trail WEST**

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**KICKOFF**
- steering committee

**RESEARCH & ANALYSIS**
- public meeting #1
- focus groups
- public survey
- existing conditions analysis
- develop alignment alternatives
- steering committee
- public meeting #2

**FEASIBILITY & MASTER PLANNING**
- focus group- operations, safety and maintenance
- meetings with municipalities
- draft report
- steering committee
- public meeting #3

**FINAL PLAN**
- Complete Draft Report
- public comment period
- Plan Approval
Keep in Touch!

Rachael Griffith  
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*Chester County Planning Commission*

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610.344.6285

**Project Website:**  
http://www.chescoplanning.org/transportation/cvtw.cfm