



Woodland Design Associates, Inc.

Landscape Architects □ Site Planners □ Wetlands Specialists

Pike County – Trail Feasibility Study – Meeting Minutes STUDY COMMITTEE MEETING # 1

December 21, 2020, 11:00 am – ZOOM Meeting

AGENDA

ORIENTATION

INTRODUCTIONS

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Commissioner Matthew M. Osterberg
Commissioner Ronald R. Schmalzle
Commissioner Steve Guccini
Jessica Yoder, Pike County Planning
Lisa Champeau, Wayne Memorial Health System - ABESENT
Cody Hendrix, National Park Service – UPDE
Sarah Corcoran, NEA Sierra Club
Grant Genzlinger, Palmyra Township
Brad Kiesendahl, Woodloch
Allan Kowalczyk, Lackawaxen Township
Kraig Obermiller, Boy/Girl Scout Organization- ABSENT
Scott Savini, Blooming Grove Hunting & Fishing Club
Michael Silsby, Wallenpaupack Area School District
David Zeiler, Pike County Planning Commission
Bill Gibney, PA Fish & Boat Commission
TBD, Clergy Member
TBD, Pike County Historical Society
Ellen Enslin, Pike County Conservation District

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Guests

Christine Dettore, DCNR
Derek Williams, Wayne County Planning

cdettore@pa.gov
dwilliams@waynecountypa.gov

119 Lincoln Street, Honesdale, PA 18431-2151

Phone: 570-616-0600 □ Email: woodland@woodlanddesign.com Website: www.woodlanddesign.com

OPENING REMARKS (Commissioners/Planning Commission)

- Commissioner Osterberg: This is an important section of Pike County to enhance and make available to the public to experience.
- Commissioner Schmalzle: We are happy to have Woodland Design on board with the trail feasibility study.

BACKGROUND

- Wayne County Trail Feasibility Study 2018-2020 (Woodland)
 - Legal feasibility
 - Identifying obstacles and solutions
 - Public input
- Grant pursuit and success! (Jessica)
- RFP (Jessica)

REVIEW THE SCOPE OF WORK (Woodland)

- DCNR document
 - Executive Summary
 - Introduction

Note: Mike detailed what will be accomplished at the conclusion of the study and what is the finished product will be.

- Public Participation
 - Study Committee / Meetings
 - "will guide the planning consultant through the creation of the study".

Note: As part of the public participation, we are required to create a study committee, conduct two public meetings, five key person interviews, and conduct/create a public survey.

- Survey
 - Survey Monkey

Note: Emily detailed the use of an online survey platform to reach a broad range of residents within the community.

- Physical Inventory/Assessment

Note: Analyzing topography, land use, physical facilities, environmental hazards, existing trail, and public roads/railroads within the study corridor.

- Needs/Wants/Desires

Note: This portion of the scope allows us to identify connections to offline facilities and other interests that the communities desire.

- Legal Feasibility

Note: In this portion of the SOW, we will coordinate with other agencies (PennDOT, DEP) to investigate the limitations with proposed trail routes.

- Trail Conceptual Plan
- Trail Management, Operation, & Fiscal Feasibility
- Implementation Matrix
- Signage Plan

- Project Schedule

SPECIFICS (Woodland)

- Public Survey (public participation)

Note: Emily and Mike detailed the success of the charrette that Woodland Design conducted as part of the Wayne County Trail Feasibility study

- Physical Inventory

WHAT'S NEXT? (Woodland)

- Dropbox invitations to be sent out to allow access to agendas, meeting minutes, and study documents. Utilizing the drop box allows for a greater range of data to be distributed to the committee members.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS (all)

- Grant Genzlinger:
 - 1) Success of the survey was dependent on the committee members aiding in distribution to receive the broadest response possible
 - 2) The long-term goal of this trail system should ultimately connect to the Lackawanna Heritage Trail and National Park Service properties and trails.
- The next meeting will be held approximately 60 days from December 21, 2020. Woodland will coordinate with Pike County to arrange a time and date.

ADJORNMENT (Commissioners/ Planning Commission)



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I. WORK SCHEDULE

The following work schedule is a realistic schedule reflecting appropriate weather conditions, necessary review time for DCNR and normal time frames for public meetings. Based on experience it will require approximately 1 years' time from notice to proceed (based on the County taking the allotted 60 calendar days to review proposals submitted):

WORK ELEMENT	TARGET DATE
Meeting # 1 (County & Study Committee)	December 1, 2020
Base Map Preparation and Data Gathering	January 15, 2021
Meeting # 2 (County & Steering Committee)	January 30, 2021
Prepare Physical Inventory/ "Needs, Wants, and Desires" Assessment	March 15, 2021
1 st Public Meeting to gain public input	April 15, 2021
Prepare First draft Feasibility Plan	June 15, 2021
Meeting # 3 (with County & Study Committee)	July 1, 2021
Prepare Management, Operation, Maintenance, and fiscal feasibility component	August 1, 2021
Meeting #4 (County & Steering Committee)	August 15, 2021
Finalize draft Feasibility Study	September 15, 2021
2 nd Public meeting to review final draft study	October 1, 2021
Incorporate Public comments into final draft	October 15, 2021
Send final draft of Plan to DCNR for review	November 1, 2021
Incorporate DCNR comments into final draft Allow 30-day internal review for DCNR	December 1, 2021
Publish Final Feasibility Study/	December 15, 2021
Present completed project to County	January 1, 2022

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Pike County Trail Feasibility Study Committee

NAME	CONTACT INFO	REPRESENTING
Lisa Champeau, <i>Public Relations Manager</i> Wayne Memorial Health System	570-253-8631 (w) champeau@wmh.org Wayne Memorial Health System 601 Park Street Honesdale, PA 18431	Wayne Memorial Health System
Cody Hendrix	570-472-1230 Jessica_newbern@nps.gov Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River 274 River Road Beach Lake, PA 18405-4046	NPS – Upper Delaware Headquarters
Sarah Corcoran, <i>Forest Watch Coordinator NEA</i> Sierra Club	732-614-0697 (c) Sarah.corcoran@sierraclub.org 106 Falcon Drive Canadensis, PA 18425	Hiking Group
Grant Genzlinger, Wayne Pike Trails & Waterways Alliance	570-446-9604 (c) ggenz@me.com The Settler Inn 4 Main Avenue Hawley, PA 18428	Palmyra Township
Brad Kiesendahl, Woodloch Resort	570-335-4029 (c) bradk@woodloch.com Woodloch Resort 731 Welcome Lake Road Hawley, PA 18428	Visitors Center/Tourism Business
Allan Kowalczyk, <i>Lackawaxen Township</i> <i>Planning Commission Member</i>	570-226-5000 (h) Alko1@verizon.net 668 Towpath Road Hawley, PA 18428	Lackawaxen Township
Kraig Obermiller, <i>Committee Chair</i> Boy Scout Troop 158	570-470-1643 (c) obermiller@gmail.com 123 Hooper Lane Hawley, PA 18428	Boy/Girl Scout Organization
Scott Savini, <i>General Manager</i> Blooming Grove H & F Club	570-241-1188 (c) 570-775-7371 (w) scottsavini@bghfc.com 123 Old Field Road Blooming Grove, PA 18428	Hunting & Fishing Club
Michael Silsby, <i>Superintendent</i> Wallenpaupack Area SD	570-251-3000 (w) silsby@wallenpaupack.org Wallenpaupack Area School District 2552 US Route 6 Hawley, PA 18428	Wallenpaupack Area School District
David Zeiler, <i>Commission Member</i>	570-470-3641 dzeiler@ptd.net 119 Shore Road Tafton, PA 18464	Pike County Planning Commission

Bill Gibney, <i>Commissioner</i>	570-479-2495 (w) 570-251-5727 (c) billgibney@charter.net PA Fish & Boat Commission	PA Fish & Boat Commission
		Clergy Member
		Pike County Historical Society



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Pike County – Trail Feasibility Study STUDY COMMITTEE MEETING # 2

February 23, 2021, 10:00 am – ZOOM Meeting

AGENDA

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Commissioner Matthew M. Osterberg - ABSENT
Commissioner Ronald R. Schmalzle - ABSENT
Commissioner Steve Guccini
Jessica Yoder, Pike County Planning
Lisa Champeau, Wayne Memorial Health System
Cody Hendrix, National Park Service – UPDE
Sarah Corcoran, NEA Sierra Club
Grant Genzlinger, Palmyra Township
Brad Kiesendahl, Woodloch
Allan Kowalczyk, Lackawaxen Township
Kraig Obermiller, Boy/Girl Scout Organization
Scott Savini, Blooming Grove Hunting & Fishing Club
Michael Silsby, Wallenpaupack Area School District - ABSENT
David Zeiler, Pike County Planning Commission - ABSENT
Bill Gibney, PA Fish & Boat Commission
Ellen Enslin, Pike County Conservation District – ABSENT

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OPENING REMARKS (Commissioners/Planning Commission)

- No remarks

GENERAL UPDATE

- Distribution of meeting minutes
- Distribution of survey example for review
- Distribution of key person list example
- Check access to Dropbox- any issues?

OVERALL PROJECT AREA EVALUATION (HIGH LEVEL): ON GOING

Emily expressed the importance of creating a different product than the Wayne County feasibility study but stressed including enough similarities to allow Wayne and Pike Counties to work together for funding, grants, and promotional opportunities in the future.

- Map 1: Study Area
 - Emily and Nate discussed the study area map and its bounds on the north of the Towpath/State Route 590 and south of the railroad. The existing study area Woodland has demonstrated allows room for areas where tight access or narrow passage will be a hindrance, specifically along the railway corridor.
 - Note: Derek Williams noted that the study area was bumped out in the area near Hawley and inquired. Woodland concluded during a visit to the corridor that adjacent township roads may be useful to navigate some tight residential areas. This also creates a possible future connection to the planned "Gorge Trail" past the Hawley Silk Mill.
- Map 2: Roadways
 - Nate noted that the roadways map demonstrates a hierarchy of road classification (State roads, Township Roads, & Local Roads) allowing us to make connections to the surrounding communities (such as Woodloch). Analysis of these areas will allow for the creation of an inventory of possible locations where coordination with PennDOT will be necessary to permit roadway crossings.
 - Pennsylvania Bike Route Y follows along Towpath Road (State Route 4006) and Hamlin Highway (State Route 0590) – Steve Guccini noted that during the warmer months, the Tow Path sees heavy usage from bikers.
 - Note: It was a surprise to some in the group that the Towpath Road and SR 590 are part of State Bike Route even though it is narrow. Jessica noted that there are some safety concerns related to this existing narrow passage.
 - **Woodland will have a discussion with PennDOT (April Hannon) regarding future funding and design for adjacent bike lanes in areas where there are designated bike routes on state roads. Woodland was tasked with inquiring about future funding to expand the bike lane along this corridor to address safety concerns.**
- Map 3: Hydrology
 - The hydrology map allows Woodland to anticipate possible permitting locations that may be encountered during the site visit portion of the study. Making note of these locations will drive the location of the trail based on any found permitting obstacles that may be encountered.
 - The watersheds within the study area are primarily High Quality with the Lackawaxen River being a trout stocked stream. These two variables showcase the importance of having a solid plan for the trail route and incorporating access where possible to make use of these recreational opportunities.
 - The Lackawaxen River is a navigable stream (designated public highway within the riverbanks) so anyone is permitted passage up or down the river. This designation illustrates the importance of future access points for river use.
- Map 4: Land Use
 - What allowances are permitted in each district? – Kraig Obermiller inquired as to whether hiking and camping were permitted uses within the townships? Nate noted that this information will be part of the information acquired and included within the final report
 - Trailhead creation will be investigated within the limits of the municipal ordinances
 - **The study area is largely rural, served primarily by on lot systems. Trailheads, if planned, would function in a similar way and must be self-sufficient.**
 - Conditional uses and accepted uses are outlined within the Township ordinances for each zoning district and will be investigated as part of the report.
- Map 5: Conservation/Public Lands

- Connecting the trail to existing parks, state, and federal lands.
- Fieldwork Mapping (zoomed in) – Nate noted that within the detailed mapping, the railroad right-of-way has been replicated from the Railroad Valuation Maps that had been supplied to us by the Railroad owner. These maps illustrate the ROW that was negotiated at the creation of the railroad corridor. The ROW width throughout the corridor varies from 66' to 100' or more throughout the study area.
- PNDI
 - Three (3) Pennsylvania agencies and one (1) Federal
 - Potential impact for a species of concern
 - Follow up with DCNR and the PA Fish and Boat Commission

Note: Grant inquired about which map the Cultural/Historic features of the corridor would be located on. This map is being created and Woodland will contact Grant to ensure we have all the pertinent locations identified.

KEY PERSONNEL INTERVIEWS

- Documented suggestions from entire team- see list.
- Note - Woodland suggestions as additions to the interview list are: Member of Blooming Grove Hunting Club, Masthope Representative, Woodloch Representative, Store Owner at end of Lackawaxen.
 - The rest of the team suggested: Lynn Conrad and Owen Worozbyt, Zoning officers from the townships, emergency management (related to accessibility in cases of emergency), Alice's Wonderland, T.C. Crawford, Pike County Outdoors, Pocono Visitors Bureau

EXAMPLE SURVEY: REVIEW

- Reviewed example questions
 - Emily noted that the intent is for the primary survey to be online (Survey Monkey) but to reach more people, hardcopies may need to be distributed at strategic locations and collected at a designated time/date.
 - Brad Kiesendahl inquired about the scope of who the survey is intended to reach?
 - Emily responded that there is no limit or intended "target audience" for the survey but a portion of the survey allows us to differentiate where surveys come in from by asking where they are located. There will be an effort to get high response numbers from Lackawaxen and Palmyra townships, as the opinions of those residents are integral. Emily noted that we are aiming at getting approximately 10% of population to reply (roughly 1,200 responses)
 - Brad noted that this region does not have the population centers at each end like the Wayne County study did (Honesdale and Hawley) so marketing to get survey participants may need to be more intense.
 - Sarah asked if the Survey was primarily driven by Social Media
 - Emily noted that the majority of the survey respondents were via social media and online, but utilizing hard copies where necessary, can be accommodated.
 - Grant noted that the committee members of the Wayne County study did an excellent job of getting the word out about the survey to groups that they were involved in outside of the committee.
 - Jessica: A QR code can be created to allow and promote access the survey by phone. This code can be placed at strategic locations within the school district, senior centers etc. Additionally, information can be placed in local newsletters or at public doorways into municipal buildings and local businesses that would like to cooperate.
 - Bill Gibney suggested hardcopies with a drop box be utilized in select locations where access to the internet/service are less prominent.
 - Emily noted that as part of the Wayne County study, Woodland was able to work with Blue Ridge Cable and the local radio station to get information about the survey to a broader range of the public.
- Survey Questions Editing:
 - Question 1: Brad noted that "Municipality" can be confusing to some; Christine suggested the label of "Township/Borough" to make it less confusing.

- Question 2: The committee expressed interest in getting more detailed demographic information from the survey participants including family size.
 - Christine suggested and pointed out that this is a feasibility study. Demographics such as these are more useful in an “Open Space Plan and Inventory” and keeping the questionnaire as simple as possible will yield the most responses.
- Question 3: No comments.
- Question 4: Jessica suggested an addition of “Camping” to the list of options. Christin: An “Other” to allow people to insert suggestions is the easiest, all encompassing option.
- Question 5: Derek: While commuting may be a less prevalent use for the trail along this corridor, the residents nearest to Hawley may be able to use the trail for commuting to work, so this question should stay.
- Question 6: Ellen suggested adding “Never” as an option for how often you would use the site. Additionally, the group suggested adding other options for when the users will visit seasonally. These changes will create an all-encompassing idea about use year-round.
- Question 7: Kraig noted a suggestion that instead of calling out “educational groups” simply labeling it “Groups” would allow for broader inclusion of users.
- Question 8: Kraig asked whether any sections of the trail would be handicapped accessible. Woodland noted that trails of this nature are accessible throughout, with trailheads being accommodating to handicapped access. In most cases, the slope of the trail never exceeds 5% given that the trail follows the railroad corridor making it negotiable.
- Questions 9: No comments
- Question 10: Bill Gibney suggested adding a location for people willing to donate to the project.
- Suggestions for survey circulation:
 - Creating a QR code, work with school districts, newsletters, radio, hardcopy drop box
- Launch Date – March 1, 2021
- **QUESTIONS/COMMENTS (all)**

Action Items:

- **Woodland:**
 - Supply the Pike County Commissioners with a copy of the Railroad Val Maps
 - Woodland will have a discussion with PennDOT (April Hannon) regarding future funding and design for adjacent bike lanes in areas where there are designated bike routes on state roads. Woodland was tasked with inquiring about future funding to expand the bike lane along this corridor to address safety concerns.
 - Draft updated Survey and distribute to Committee for comment (**Note: Completed and ready for launch**)
- **Committee:**
 - Review & brainstorm additional people for the “Key Person Interviews” and relay suggestions to Woodland

Pike County – Trail Feasibility Study

Conducted by Woodland Design Associates, Inc.

Hello and thank you for participating in our survey. This survey is part of a PA - Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) Grant study for Pike County, Pennsylvania to determine if a multi-use trail is feasible in the Lackawaxen River corridor between Hawley & Lackawaxen. This survey is a critical part of the public participation process and your input is greatly appreciated.

1. Where do you live?

State:

County:

Township/Borough:

2. What is your age? Select one.

☐ Under 18

☐ 18-24

☐ 25-34

☐ 35-44

☐ 45-54

☐ 55-64

☐ 65+

3. Please indicate your general interest for the development of a multi-use trail along the Lackawaxen River corridor connecting Hawley & Lackawaxen.

☐ Yes, I think a multi-use trail would be a great addition.

☐ No, I do not think a multi-use trail would be appropriate.

☐ Maybe; I would like to know more.

Comments:

4. Of the following, what outdoor activities do you regularly participate in? (Choose all that apply)

☐ Walking/Hiking ☐ Running ☐ Bicycling ☐ XC Skiing/Snowshoeing ☐ Kayaking/Canoeing ☐ Fishing

☐ Wildlife Observation ☐ Photography ☐ Camping ☐ Other (please specify):

5. Please rank the following uses of multi-use trail to your preference 1 (most preferred) – 4 (least preferred).

____Recreation

____Health & Exercise

____Commuting

____Time with family & friends

6. If a multi-use trail were present along the Lackawaxen River corridor connecting Hawley & Lackawaxen, how often and when would you use it? (Choose all that apply)

How often: ☐ Never ☐ Less than 10 times a year ☐ 10-25 times a year (Monthly) ☐ 25+ times a year (Weekly)

When: ☐ Year-Round ☐ Spring ☐ Summer ☐ Fall ☐ Winter

7. Who do you believe would benefit from a multi-use trail along the Lackawaxen River Corridor connecting Hawley & Lackawaxen? (Choose all that apply)

☐ Families ☐ Children ☐ Young People ☐ Elderly ☐ Visitors ☐ Local Community ☐ Pet Owners

☐ Special Needs Groups ☐ Commuters ☐ Businesses ☐ Educational Groups

☐ Other Groups (please specify):

8. What general features / amenities do you believe a multi-use trail along the Lackawaxen River corridor connecting Hawley & Lackawaxen should include? (Choose all that apply)

☐ Directional and way-finding marker ☐ Interpretive signage at point of interest ☐ River Access

☐ Rest areas & seating ☐ Picnic Areas ☐ Access to drinking water ☐ Toilet facilities ☐ Parking

☐ Exercise stations ☐ Pet Areas ☐ ADA accessibility

9. Please provide any additional comments, questions, or concerns. (Continue on back if more space is required)

10. If you would like to be kept informed about the multi-use trail or would like to volunteer, please provide your contact information. (Name, Address, Email, Phone). Please note if you are interested in being added to a donation contact list.

Please return survey by mail to:

Woodland Design Associates, Inc. C/O Emily R. Wood, 119 Lincoln Street, Honesdale, PA 18431



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Pike County Trail Feasibility Study Key Person Interview List

As of: 3/10/21

Suggestions:

- Lackawaxen Township/ Palmyra Township
- Lackawaxen River Conservancy
- Historical society
- Brookfield Renewable
- PA Fish and Boat Commission
- The Nature Conservancy (trail systems)
- Lynn Conrad / Owen O.
- Emergency Management within the County
- Alice's Wonderland Owners
- Pike County Outfitters
- TC Crawford
- Rowland Cooperative (Lackawaxen)
- Delaware River Rescue Group
- Blooming Grove Hunting Club
- Pocono Visitors Bureau
- Lori Phillips (Mastope/ski big bear/costas) – lori@ski-bigbear.com
- Fred Knup / Marie Knup – Trustees of Rock Cut Farm

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Pike County – Trail Feasibility Study STUDY COMMITTEE MEETING # 3

June 8, 2021, 1:00 pm – ZOOM Meeting

AGENDA

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Commissioner Matthew M. Osterberg
Commissioner Ronald R. Schmalzle
Commissioner Steve Guccini
Jessica Yoder, Pike County Planning
Lisa Champeau, Wayne Memorial Health System
Cody Hendrix, National Park Service – UPDE
Sarah Corcoran, NEA Sierra Club
Grant Genzlinger, Palmyra Township
Brad Kiesendahl, Woodloch
Allan Kowalczyk, Lackawaxen Township
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Scott Savini, Blooming Grove Hunting & Fishing Club
Michael Silsby, Wallenpaupack Area School District
David Zeiler, Pike County Planning Commission
Bill Gibney, PA Fish & Boat Commission
Ellen Enslin, Pike County Conservation District

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GUESTS

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Derek Williams, Wayne County Planning

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1:00 – 1:10 OPENING REMARKS (Commissioners/Planning Commission)

1:10 – 2:00 PRESENTATION OF THE SURVEY RESULTS, SO FAR: REVIEW

- Distribution of survey results (850 responses)
- Trail line walkdown results
 - Pinch Points Identified – Possible alternative routes to be identified and discussed during charette.
 - Trail Gaps
 - Crossings
- River Trail
 - Public Highway - Identification of potential ingress/egress locations
 - Emergency Markers identified along corridor
- Towpath Bike Route
 - Need to address safety issues along roadway to create incentive for PennDOT to add improvements
 - Designated Bike Route Y (PA) USBR 36 (Federal)

2:00- 2:10 WHAT'S NEXT?

- Work on date, time, and location for 1st Public Meeting (in person or remote).
 - Agenda: provide the public with introduction, due diligence, survey results, and study area definition.
 - Ask for comment and encourage suggestions on route. Suggested date: July 12-16 evening at 7 pm. (up to 2 hours) should be attended by all Committee members and County Commissioners.
- Set Date for a Design Charrette (2-3 Hours) with Committee to plot potential trail routes, utilizing our due diligence, survey results, public input and focus area mapping. Break into 4 groups. Should allow about 2 hours, each group will look at the entire study area, then we will compare results and as a group finalize the route. May be necessary to have a second meeting.
 - We suggest during the week of July 26-30 or August 2-6.
 - Location to be determined by Commissioners.
 - This will be considered "Study Committee Meeting #4".
- Key Person Interviews: Continue

2:10 – 2:30 QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

ADJORNMENT



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Pike County – Trail Feasibility Study STUDY COMMITTEE MEETING # 3

June 8, 2021, 1:00 pm – ZOOM Meeting

AGENDA

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Commissioner Matthew M. Osterberg
Commissioner Ronald R. Schmalzle
Commissioner Steve Guccini
Jessica Yoder, Pike County Planning
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OPENING REMARKS (Commissioners/Planning Commission)

- No Remarks

PRESENTATION OF THE SURVEY RESULTS, SO FAR: REVIEW

- Emily reviewed the survey answers received and discussed the data.
- A total of 850 responses
- Majority of the votes were from Pike and Wayne Counties but did receive a few from different counties.

Trail Walkdown Results

- Mike- explains that one important factor of the feasibility study is to look at various routes for trail opportunities and if it can be accomplished legally and physically. We will have a hiking trail following the railroad, the Lackawaxen River, and the Towpath. The Towpath bike trail is a designated trail known as bike route Y and Bike Route 36. It has the opportunity in the ROW already, for bicycles and walking.
- Nate- We had a 2-day walkdown. We inventoried points of interest and marked those areas on our plans. We called out mile markers, areas of limitation, railroad, driveway and road crossings and cultural features. Having this information allows for us to pinpoint any obstacles and find ways to resolve them.
 - Example: Rock cut in Rowland. A trail will be unable to run along the side of the track. This is a location where a gap may be present in the trail route.
- Nate- We will have to negotiate with landowners where issues are present in the areas where pinch points are found
- Nate- There were permitted and non-permitted crossings. There were two utility crossings and cultural features that can be made part of the trail. This information will be part of the report in the end. There were areas where we would have room along the tracks, allowing for a walking bridge.
- Mike- We are very fortunate the rail line is not high speed and can work with the operator for trail use and other items. We have obstacles we must address, but ADA accessibility wise, the slope can be extremely advantageous as an ADA route. The culvert crossings have a standard design that we can work with, but we need to come up with solutions for other obstacles
- Nate- The Lackawaxen River is a public highway. There were red triangle markers along the river that are used for emergency services along the Lackawaxen. This will make it easier for creating access points and ingress and egress.
- Mike- The railroad operator has created points for emergency access that allows first responders to help on both the railroad and Lackawaxen.
- Nate- We are going to look at the towpath to find opportunities for a trail head or bike lanes. Its already a designated bike route that allows for more opportunities for funding.
- Mike- We recognized we need points of access to the river, and we need to have opportunities along the route for those to enter and exit safely and legally. We will identify those locations, such as the Rowland bridge and other opportunities. This will include conversation with property owners.
 - Grant- Just in relation to river access, as we identify those points it is important to give the emergency services to weigh in on those locations and additionally it allows us to see if there are any other types of funding.

WHAT'S NEXT?

- Emily- Maps will be updated along with an excel file that shows the latitude and longitude of the data collected form the trail walkdown.
- We would like to work on a date, time, and location for our first public meeting. Provide the public with introduction, due diligence, survey results, and study area.

- Emily asked how the commissioners and other committee members feel about an in-person meeting or remote.
 - Leaning towards remote, but also have an option for virtual
 - Can be held at the Lackawaxen Fire Hall or the Wayne County 911 Center
- Mike- The real goal is to receive public comments. We like to give the, the opportunity and buffer to collect their thoughts. We try to give two weeks for comments. A hybrid would work well, getting information in their own comfortable way.
- Design Charrette: It would be best done in person; we laminate the maps and use markers to draw all over them as a group and create great ideas. Want to make sure everyone feels comfortable
 - Emily- Suggestions for key person interviews are welcome

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

- None

ADJORNMENT

PIKE COUNTY TRAIL FEASIBILITY STUDY

STUDY COMMITTEE MEETING #3

June 8, 2021

1:00- 2:30 PM - Zoom Meeting



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INTRODUCTIONS

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Commissioner Matthew M. Osterberg
Commissioner Ronald R. Schmalzle
Commissioner Steve Guccini
Jessica Yoder, Pike County Planning
Lisa Champeau, Wayne Memorial Health System
Cody Hendrix, National Park Service - UPDE
Sarah Corcoran, NEA Sierra Club
Grant Genzlinger, Palmyra Township
Brad Kiesendahl, Woodloch
Allan Kowalczyk, Lackawaxen Township
Kraig Obermiller, Boy/Girl Scout Organization
Scott Savini, Blooming Grove Hunting & Fishing Club
Michael Silsby, Wallenpaupack Area School District
David Zeiler, Pike County Planning Commission
Bill Gibney, PA Fish & Boat Commission
Ellen Enslin, Pike County Conservation District
TBD, Clergy Member
TBD, Pike County Historical Society

WOODLAND DESIGN TEAM:

Mike Wood, RLA
Jayson Wood, RLA
Emily Wood, RLA
Nathan Ruckinger, RLA
Jessie DeGori

GUESTS:

Christine Dettore, DCNR
Derek Williams, Wayne County Planning



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Survey Results – Q1

State Data

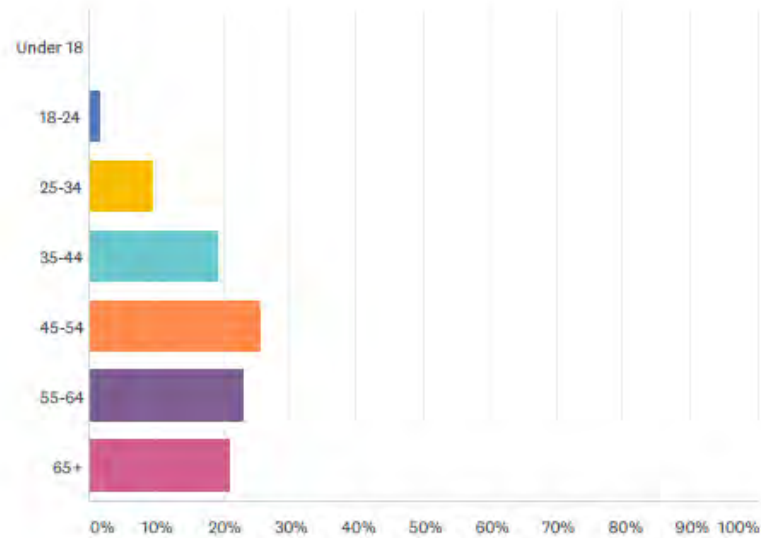
- Majority of the votes were in
- Pennsylvania

County Data

- Majority of the votes were in
- Pike and Wayne Counties



Survey Results – Q2

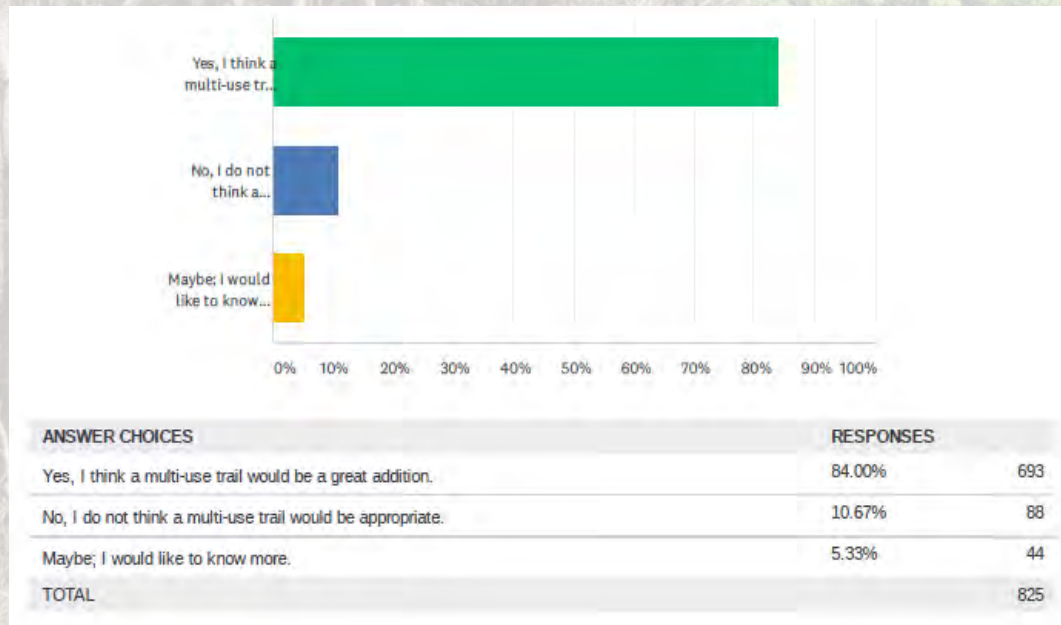


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Under 18	0.12%	1
18-24	1.46%	12
25-34	9.47%	78
35-44	19.30%	159
45-54	25.49%	210
55-64	23.06%	190
65+	21.12%	174
TOTAL		824



Survey Results – Q3

General Interest:

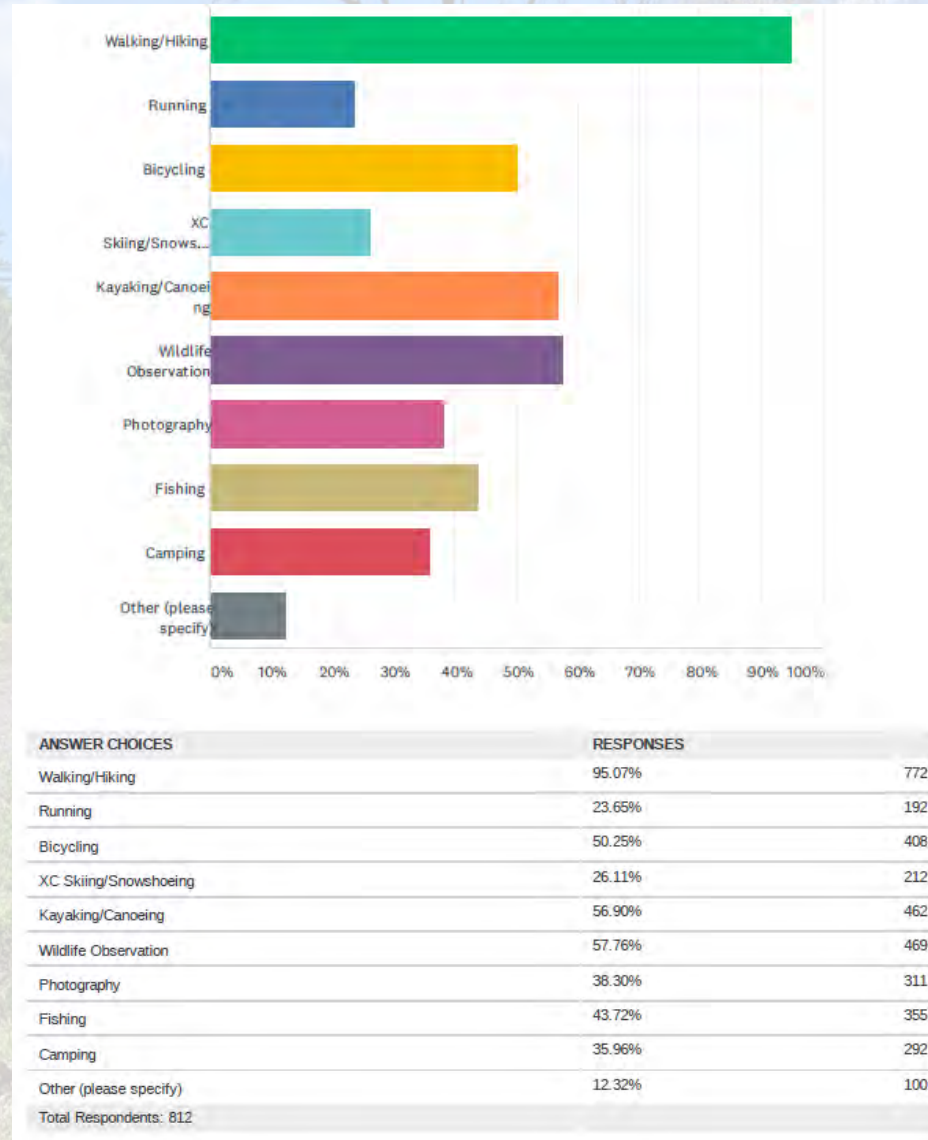


Comments:

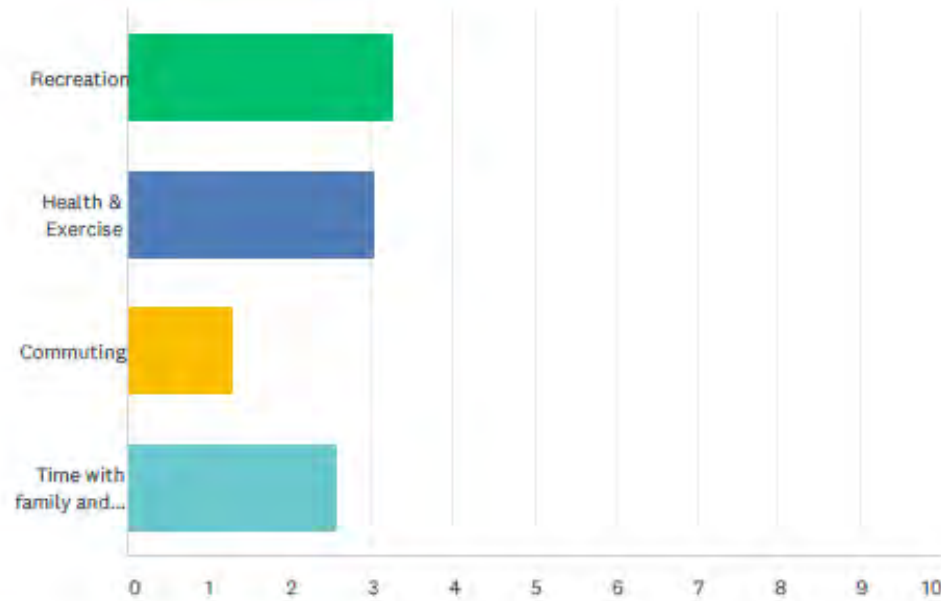
people along Lackawaxen River want Lackawaxen River go well Great idea tourism railroad
Taking along connect river much use idea needed love hiking live right
road local biking community area think trail away will family
property private property great walking wonderful land allowed
live miles many enjoy beautiful towpath access concerns use trail pike county also
good



Survey Results – Q4



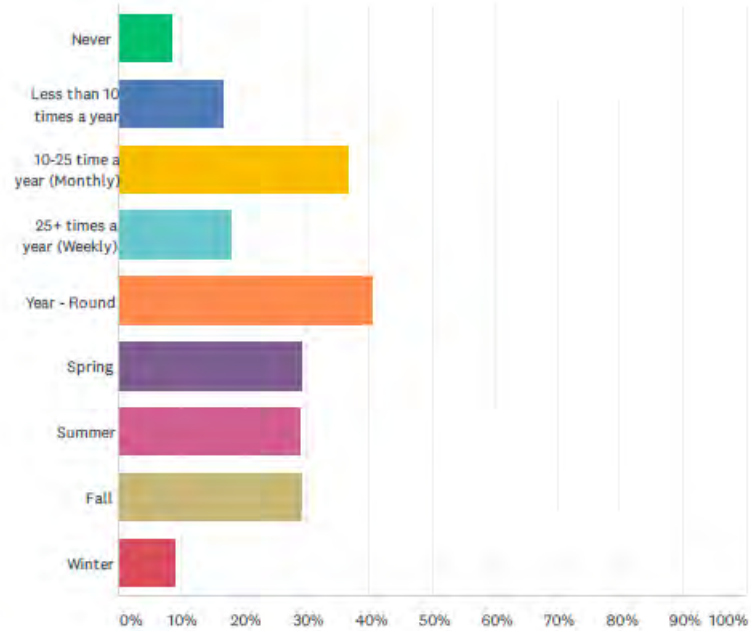
Survey Results – Q5



	1	2	3	4	TOTAL	SCORE
Recreation	50.65% 353	27.55% 192	18.79% 131	3.01% 21	697	3.26
Health & Exercise	33.61% 240	39.50% 282	23.67% 169	3.22% 23	714	3.04
Commuting	4.99% 36	2.35% 17	7.06% 51	85.60% 618	722	1.27
Time with family and friends	17.04% 128	29.03% 218	45.54% 342	8.39% 63	751	2.55



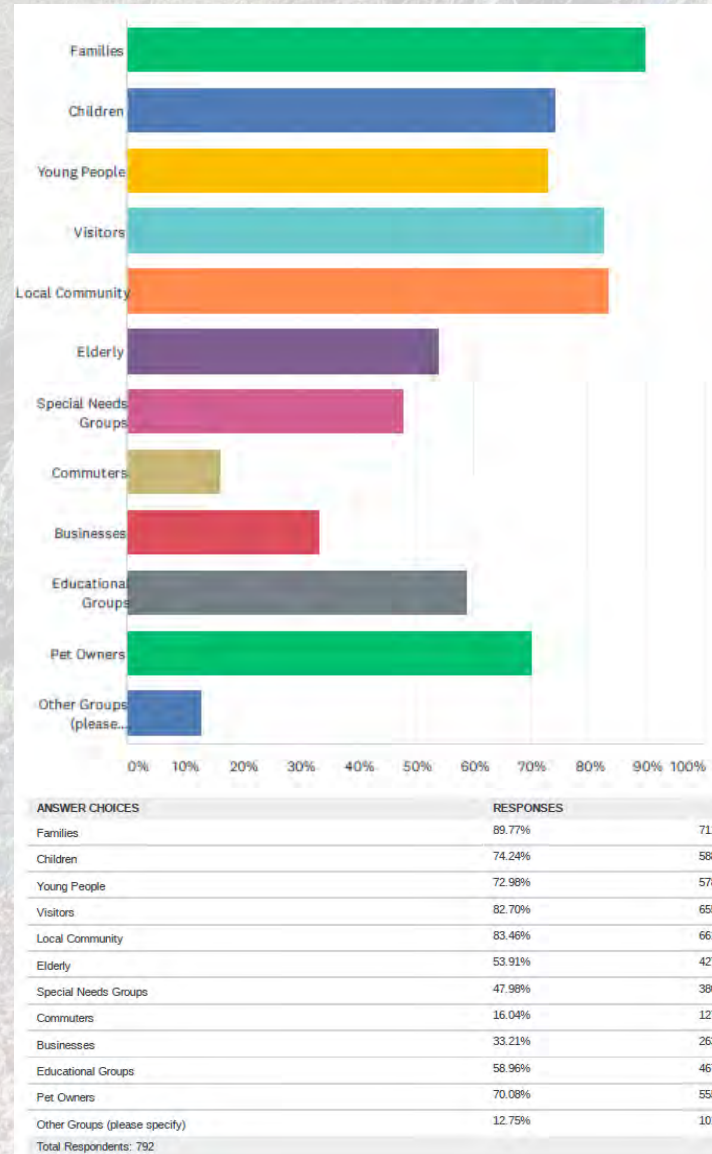
Survey Results – Q6



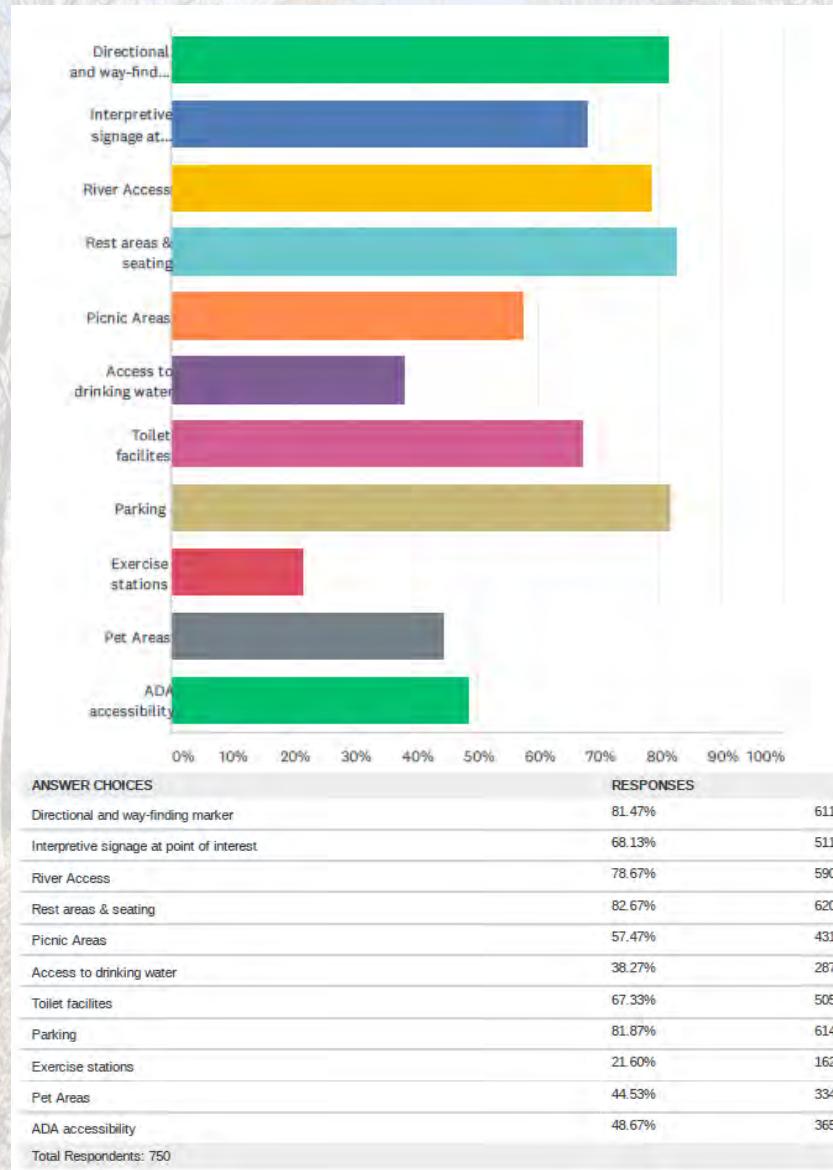
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Never	8.59%	70
Less than 10 times a year	16.69%	136
10-25 time a year (Monthly)	36.56%	298
25+ times a year (Weekly)	18.04%	147
Year - Round	40.37%	329
Spring	29.33%	239
Summer	28.96%	236
Fall	29.33%	239
Winter	8.96%	73
Total Respondents: 815		



Survey Results – Q7



Survey Results – Q8



Survey Results – Q9

people use add use trail side path encourage well already nice local everyone etc
family police way open river visit keep along river good property owners bring
parking areas love currently help know benefit plan clean ATV project live
hiking residents private property pay community always idea
users access road think stay will biking area wonderful
trail rights people support property great along
concern use feel walking provide land place S picnic areas needed
many want littering dogs Maybe go good idea park access points also river access
visitors land owners trash year much Long make prevent enough landowners one
leave trail system pet recreation amazing see recreational build lot don t Hawley



Survey Results – Q10

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Name	94.76%	434
Mailing Address	81.44%	373
Email	93.67%	429
Phone	65.72%	301
Would you like to be added to a donation contact list (Y/N)?	71.40%	327



Ongoing Project Evaluation

1. Study Area
2. Roadways
3. Hydrology
4. Land Use
5. Conservation/Public Lands
6. Cultural Resources Map
7. Project Area Maps



What's Next

- Set date, time, and location for 1st Public Meeting.
 - Agenda: provide the public with introduction, due diligence, survey results, and study area definition.
 - Ask for comment and encourage suggestions on route. Should be attended by all Committee members and County Commissioners.
- Set Date for a Design Charrette with Committee to plot potential track routes, utilizing our due diligence, survey results, public input and Focus area mapping. Break into 4 groups. Should allow about 2 hours, each group will look at the entire study area, then we'll compare results and as a group finalize the route. May be necessary to have a second meeting.
- Key Person Interviews: Continue



Questions and Comments



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Adjournment



Pike County Trail Study Charette

September 20, 2021

From Rowlands Bridge to Lackawaxen

Trailhead at Rowland bridge is necessary

Consider locating at Rowland Corners

Contact Coop to see if they have a way to work it there

Near post office, telephone property, or location of the old Rowland Inn

Reach out to both landowners, even though they voiced opposition (west they believe they own the rail) and East (concern for a daughter with special needs)

Research old ROW (PennDOT where old bridge crossed at this location.

Research PennDOT ROW at Rowland Bridge and SR 590 for river access from north side.

Gas transmission line crossing:

Research ability to use that area as a river trailhead

Research ability to put a pedestrian bridge across

Utilizing Beisel Road as part of trail

Have discussion with the Township about it

If Parking was a fire company, then it would encourage walking on Beisel Road

Trailhead location at current park or maybe Zane Grey

PAF&BC would frown on using their access parking for trailhead.

History of D & H canal at this location would be appropriate

Examine ability to use small towpath area along side of Beisel Road for history lesson

General comments:

Last mile along Biesel Road is high concentration of property owners apposed

Letter on file from 245 Biesel Road

Get Railroad's evacuation plan for entire route to include on plans

There are caves in the location of the gas line, could be a PNDI issue



Woodland Design Associates, Inc.

Landscape Architects □ Site Planners □ Wetlands Specialists

Pike County – Trail Feasibility Study STUDY COMMITTEE MEETING #5

January 10, 2022, 2:00-4:00 pm
Pike County Training Center
135 Pike County Boulevard
Hawley, PA 18428

AGENDA

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Commissioner Matthew M. Osterberg
Commissioner Ronald R. Schmalzle
Commissioner Anthony Waldron
Jessica Yoder, Pike County Planning
Lisa Champeau, Wayne Memorial Health System
Cody Hendrix, National Park Service – UPDE
Sarah Corcoran, NEA Sierra Club
Grant Genzlinger, Palmyra Township
Brad Kiesendahl, Woodloch
Allan Kowalczyk, Lackawaxen Township
Kraig Obermiller, Boy/Girl Scout Organization
Scott Savini, Blooming Grove Hunting & Fishing Club
Keith Gunuskey, Wallenpaupack Area School District
David Zeiler, Pike County Planning Commission
Bill Gibney, PA Fish & Boat Commission
Ellen Enslin, Pike County Conservation District

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Emily Wood, RLA
Nate Ruckinger, RLA
Jessie Rutledge

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Derek Williams, Wayne County Planning
Tom Shepstone, Shepstone Management Company

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2:00 – 2:10 OPENING REMARKS

- Commissioners
- Planning Commission (Jessica Yoder)

2:10 – 2:40 Public Meeting #1

- Attendance by study committee
- Public attendance & response
 - Public Questions & Review
 - Guest Tom Shepstone to review railroad history

2:40 – 2:55 KEY PERSON INTERVIEWS

- Forest Fire Company
- Lynn Conrad, Rail Trail Council (D&H Trail)
- Brookfield

2:55 – 3:20 CHARETTE RESULTS / PROPOSED TRAIL ROUTES

- Study Committee Meeting #4 – Design Charrette results
- Proposed trail routes
- Adjacent Landowner impacts (off railroad property)
- Review any outstanding pinch points

3:20 – 3:45 WHAT'S NEXT?

- Work on date, time, and location for 2nd Public Meeting (in person or remote).
 - Agenda: provide the public with update/draft study results: questions/answers from first public meeting, proposed trail routes
 - Suggested date: Mid-April, evening at 7 pm. (up to 2 hours) should be attended by all Committee members and County Commissioners.
- Set Date for 6th study committee meeting to present draft Feasibility Study, prior to Public Meeting #2
 - Suggest end of March
- Key Person Interviews: Continue

3:45 – 4:00 QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

4:00 - ADJORNMENT

PIKE COUNTY TRAIL FEASIBILITY STUDY

STUDY COMMITTEE MEETING #5

January 10, 2022

2:00-4:00PM - Pike County Training Center



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INTRODUCTIONS

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Commissioner Matthew M. Osterberg

Commissioner Ronald R. Schmalzle

Commissioner Anthony Waldron

Jessica Yoder, Pike County Planning

Lisa Champeau, Wayne Memorial Health System

Cody Hendrix, National Park Service - UPDE

Sarah Corcoran, NEA Sierra Club

Grant Genzlinger, Palmyra Township

Brad Kiesendahl, Woodloch

Allan Kowalczyk, Lackawaxen Township

Kraig Obermiller, Boy/Girl Scout Organization

Scott Savini, Blooming Grove Hunting & Fishing Club

Keith Gunuskey, Wallenpaupack Area School District

David Zeiler, Pike County Planning Commission

Bill Gibney, PA Fish & Boat Commission

Ellen Enslin, Pike County Conservation District

WOODLAND DESIGN TEAM:

Mike Wood, RLA

Jayson Wood, RLA

Emily Wood, RLA

Nathan Ruckinger, RLA

Jessie Rutledge

GUESTS:

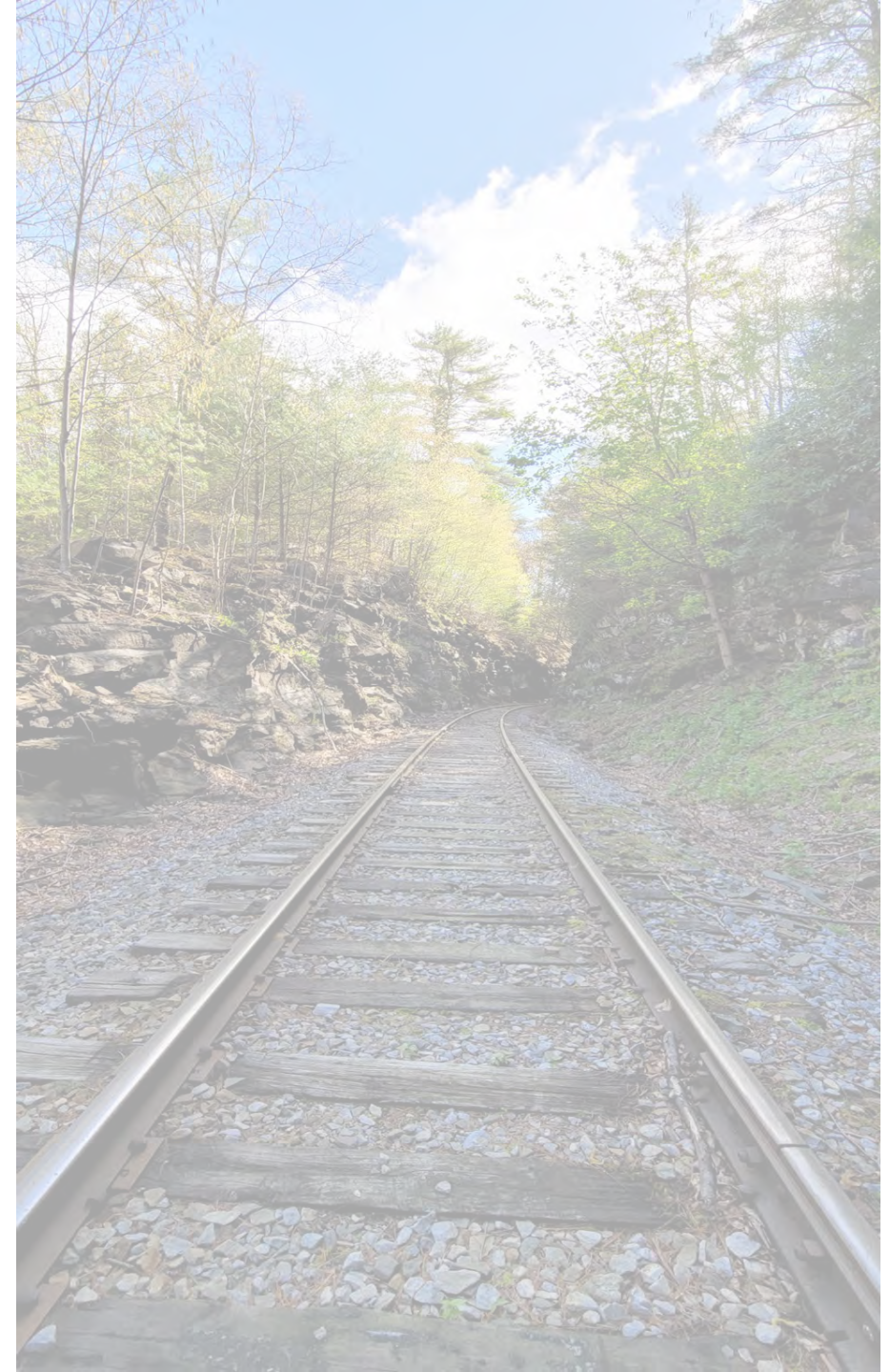
Christine Dettore, DCNR

Derek Williams, Wayne County Planning

Tom Shepstone, Stepstone Management Company



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Opening Remarks

WELCOME BACK!

- Commissioners
- Planning Commission (Jessica Yoder)



Public Meeting #1

Public Meeting #1 - July 12, 2021 @ 7 pm

- Approximately 70-80 attendees
- Open comment lasted 1 hour
- Over 60 comments/questions from the public.
- Review of Public Questions/Answers



Key Person Interviews

- Forest Fire Company Representative – Vito Manzione
- Lynn Conrad (D&H Trail)
- Brookfield Renewable



Charette Results / Proposed Trail Routes

- Study Committee Meeting #4 - Design Charette Results
- Proposed Trail Routes
- Adjacent landowner impacts/off railroad property
- Review remaining pinch points



Adjacent Landowners List

- BIF III HOLTWOOD LLC
- RRSAT GLOL COMMUNICATIONS
- BERNARD & GERTRUDE SKIBINSKI
- JAMES FIRESTINE
- SUN NG LACKAWAXEN RV LLC
- RUTH F. WIEDERHOLD
- FRANK PEDERSEN
- KENNETH W. CHRISTIANSON JR.
- GERALD WICKSNES
- LACKAWAXEN TOWNSHIP VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT.
- WALLENPAUPACK SCHOOL DISTRICT



Pinch Points

- 1) Railroad Bridge's (5 Total)
- 2) Rock Cuts (2 Total - avoidable with proposed routes)
- 3) Potential Bridge (To bypass Kimble's Power Plant)



What's Next

- Work on date, time, and location for 2nd Public Meeting
 - Agenda: provide the public with update/draft study results: questions/answers from first public meeting, proposed trail routes
 - Suggested date: Mid-April, evening at 7 pm. (up to 2 hours) should be attended by all Committee members and County Commissioners.
- Set Date for Study Committee Meeting #6 to present draft Feasibility Study, prior to Public Meeting #2
 - Suggested Date: mid/late March
- Key Person Interviews: Continue



Questions and Comments



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Adjournment





Woodland Design Associates, Inc.

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Pike County – Trail Feasibility Study

STUDY COMMITTEE MEETING #6

April 7, 2022, 1:00-3:00 pm

Pike County Training Center

135 Pike County Boulevard

Hawley, PA 18428

AGENDA

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Commissioner Matthew M. Osterberg
Commissioner Ronald R. Schmalzle
Commissioner Anthony Waldron
Jessica Yoder, Pike County Planning
Lisa Champeau, Wayne Memorial Health System
Cody Hendrix, National Park Service – UPDE
Sarah Corcoran, NEA Sierra Club
Grant Genzlinger, Palmyra Township
Brad Kiesendahl, Woodloch
Allan Kowalczyk, Lackawaxen Township
Kraig Obermiller, Boy/Girl Scout Organization
Scott Savini, Blooming Grove Hunting & Fishing Club
Keith Gunuskey, Wallenpaupack Area School District
David Zeiler, Pike County Planning Commission
Bill Gibney, PA Fish & Boat Commission
Ellen Enslin, Pike County Conservation District

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Jayson Wood, RLA
Emily Wood, RLA
Nate Ruckinger, RLA
Jessie Rutledge, Environmental Planner

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GUESTS

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Derek Williams, Wayne County Planning

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dwilliams@waynecountypa.gov

119 Lincoln Street, Honesdale, PA 18431-2151

Phone: 570-616-0600 □ Email: woodland@woodlanddesign.com Website: www.woodlanddesign.com

1:00 – 1:10 OPENING REMARKS

- Commissioners
- Planning Commission (Jessica Yoder)

1:10 – 1:25 Draft Feasibility Study

- Publish Date: (4/15/22)
- Publicly available for 1 month prior to Public Meeting #2
 - Where: County Website
 - When: April 15, 2022-May 15, 2022

1:25 – 2:00 PROPOSED TRAIL MAPS & RENDERINGS

- Over-all Trail Map
- Updated routes (zoomed in by section)
- Renderings

2:00 – 2:20 KEY PERSON INTERVIEWS

- April Hannon - PennDOT
- Phil Kasper – Pa Game Commission
- Chad Huber – PPL EU Right-of-Way Agent

2:20 – 2:35 Public Meeting #2

- Attendance by study committee
- Public attendance & response
 - Public Questions & Review
 - Draft Report
 - Key Person Interviews

2:35 – 2:45 WHAT'S NEXT?

- Publish Draft Feasibility Study
- Public Meeting #2
- Final Feasibility Study
- Submittal to DCNR for Final Review/Acceptance

2:45 – 3:00 QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

3:00 - ADJORNMENT