

New Hampshire Seacoast Greenway Project Background and Update

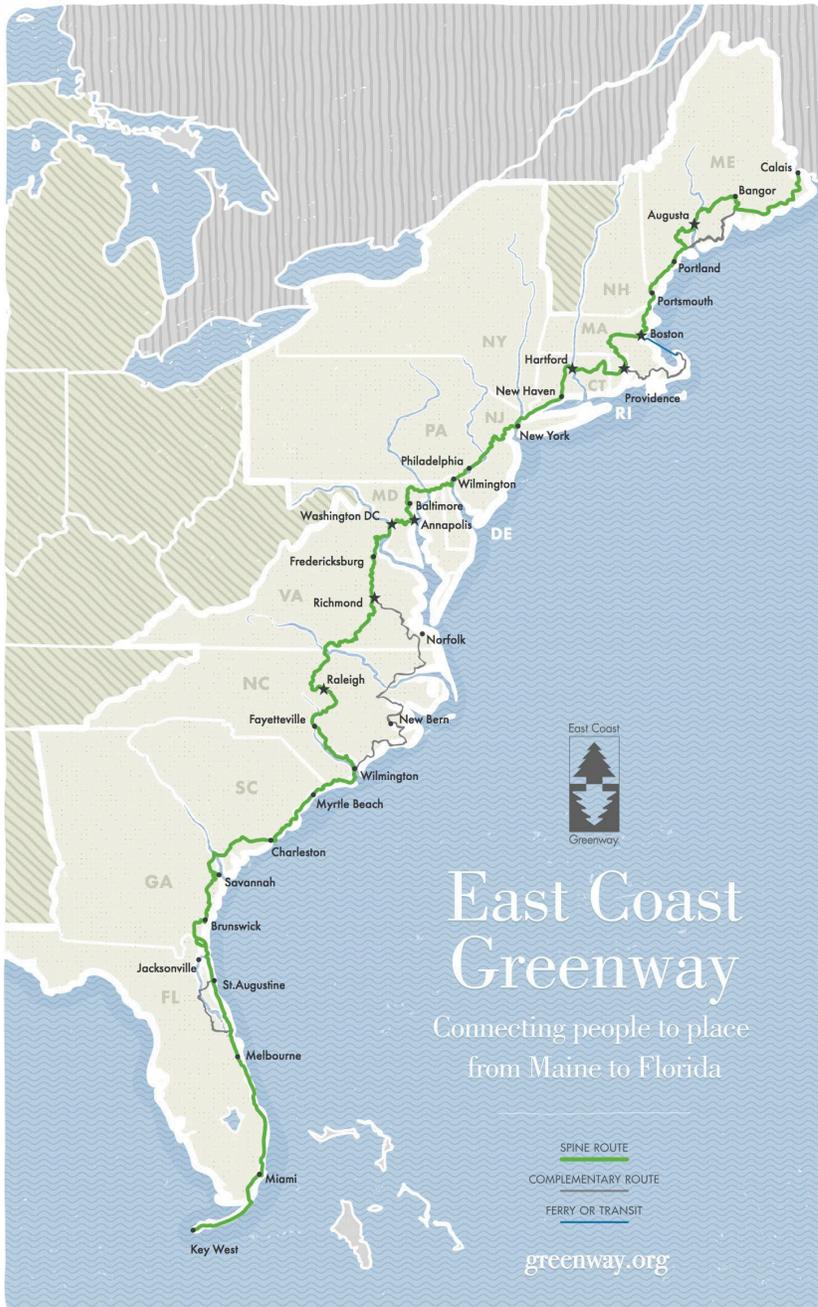


NH Rail Trail Conference
October 17, 2025



East Coast Greenway

The East Coast Greenway is envisioned as an urban Appalachian Trail, extending 3,000 miles from Calais, ME to Key West, FL, connecting major cities, small towns and natural areas along the East Coast.



**Down East
Sunrise Trail,
Maine**



**Florida Keys
Overseas
Heritage Trail,
Florida**





The Greenway Through New England

321 miles completed off-road

199 miles in pipeline

58 miles alignment identified

169 miles current gap (on-road for now)

Connects New York City, New Haven, Hartford, Providence, Worcester, Boston, Newburyport, Portsmouth, Portland





NH Seacoast Greenway Summary of Project Phases

- 
Phase IA – North Hampton - Ports (8 mi)
Opened September 2024
- 
Phase IB – Hampton (1.6 mi)
Construction in progress
- 
Phase II – Seabrook (2.4 mi)
In TYP for PE in 2027, Construction 2030
- 
Phase III – Hampton Falls/Hampton (2.3 mi)
*In TYP for PE in 2027, Construction 2032
RAISE grant to accelerate*

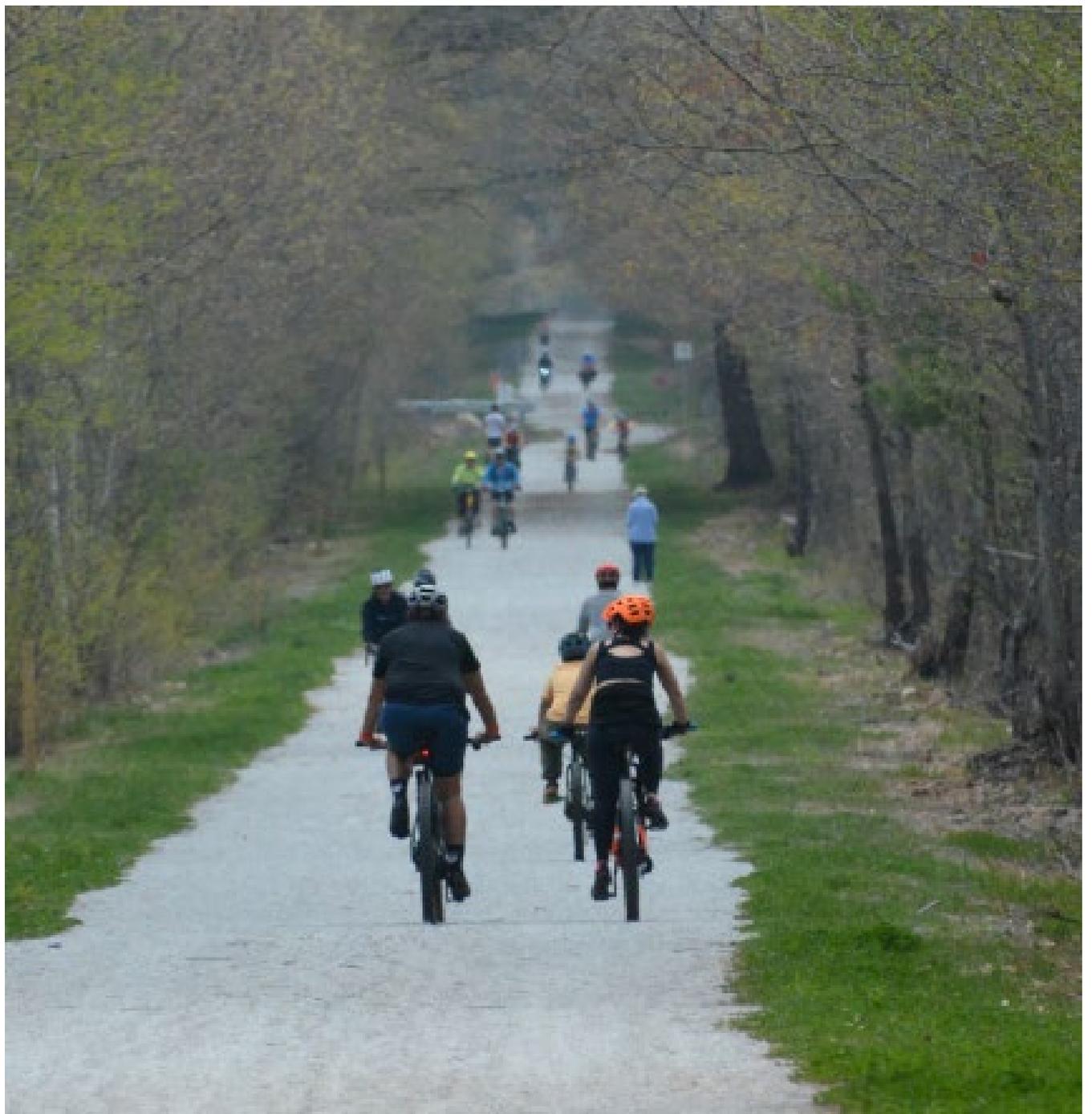
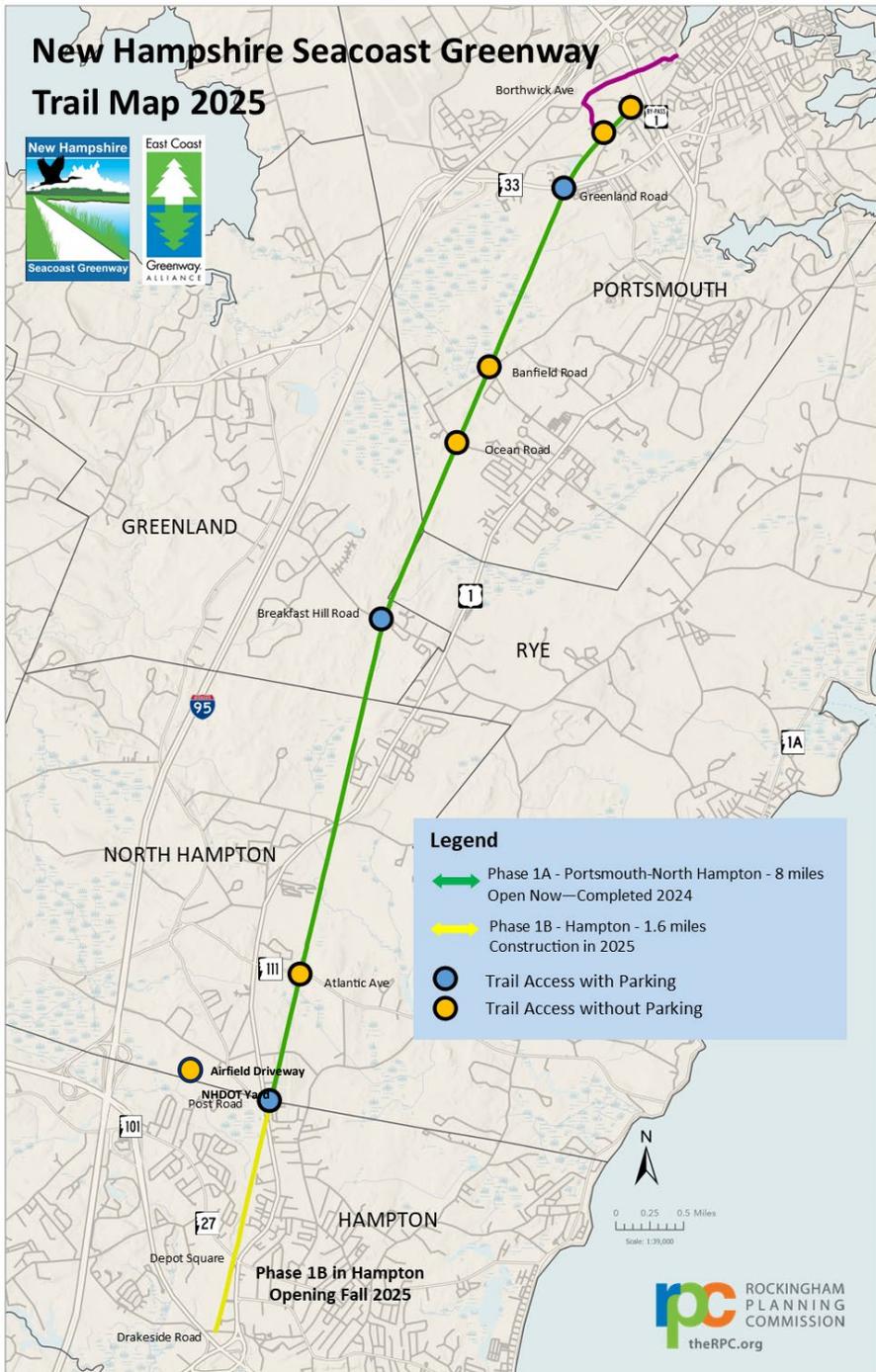
**Phase II & III construction
funding removed from Draft
2027-2036 Ten Year Plan**

Portsmouth to North Hampton Ribbon Cutting September 4th, 2024



New Hampshire Seacoast Greenway

Trail Map 2025





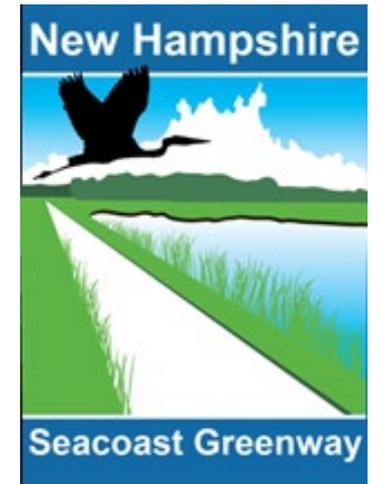
Average Daily Trail Use *South of Portsmouth Skate Park*

5/20/25-8/12/25

Weekdays: **376**

Weekend Days: **617**

Peak: **1,058** (Memorial Day)





Trail Signage



TRAIL RULES

1. Leash and control pets
2. Carry out all trash and waste (there's no poop fairy!)
3. Keep right, pass left; give an audible signal when passing
4. Be respectful of other trail users: cyclists yield to pedestrians and horses; pedestrians yield to horses
5. No motor vehicles except electric wheelchairs, Class 1 & Class 2 e-bikes
6. Cyclists under 16 must wear a helmet per state law

KEEP RIGHT
PASS LEFT

TRAIL COURTESY
YIELD TO

AUDIBLE SIGNAL BEFORE PASSING


Leash Dogs


Remove All Waste


Helmets for Kids


Motorized Assistive Devices


E-Bikes Allowed
Class 1 & 2 Only



See the full list of trail rules on the NHSG website



TOWN LINE

HAMPTON

CAUTION HUNTING SEASON

Hunting is legal on lands along the trail during state designated hunting seasons, unless lands are posted as No Trespassing by property owners.

TRAIL USERS

BE SEEN – Wear orange or other high visibility clothing for safety

HUNTERS

BE SAFE – Identify your target and what's beyond. Always shoot away from the trail.



For more information on New Hampshire hunting seasons and regulations visit the NH Fish & Game website



MILE

4.4



Breakfast Hill Rd



280 Canada

65 Portland

10 Kittery

8.8 Portsmouth

3.6 Greenland

2.2 North Hampton

➔

➔

1.3 Hampton Center

3.3 Hampton Falls

5 Seabrook

10 Newburyport

45 Boston

1800 Key West



←

North Hampton Town Center






➔

North Hampton State Beach








Kiosk Content

New Hampshire Seacoast Greenway Portsmouth Skate Park Trailhead



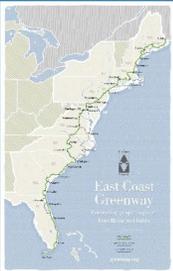
A Linear Park and Safe Transportation Route
The New Hampshire Seacoast Greenway is a linear park and safe active transportation route for biking and walking within and between the Seacoast communities of Portsmouth, Greenland, Rye, and North Hampton.



More Trail is Coming Soon!
By late 2025 the trail will extend south through downtown Hampton, and eventually connect all the way from Seabrook to Portsmouth and points north and south in Maine and Massachusetts.

The Whole East Coast

The NHSG is New Hampshire's segment of the East Coast Greenway (ECG), a non-motorized multi-use trail extending 3,000 miles from Calais, Maine to Key West, Florida; connecting major cities, small towns and natural areas along the Eastern Seaboard.



New Hampshire Seacoast Greenway Portsmouth Skate Park Trailhead



Visit Downtown!
The Greenway continues from here into downtown Portsmouth and across Memorial Bridge into Maine where it joins the Eastern Trail to Portland. Find a great meal, ice cream, coffee, tea, craft beer, shops and fascinating cultural and historic sites!

Notices

This kiosk was constructed as an Eagle Scout project by Simon Noel of BSA Troop 164, Daniel Webster Council.

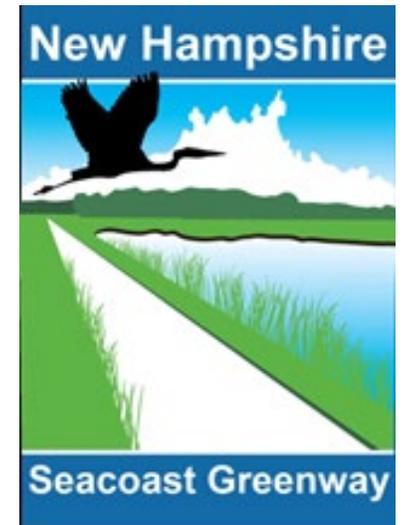
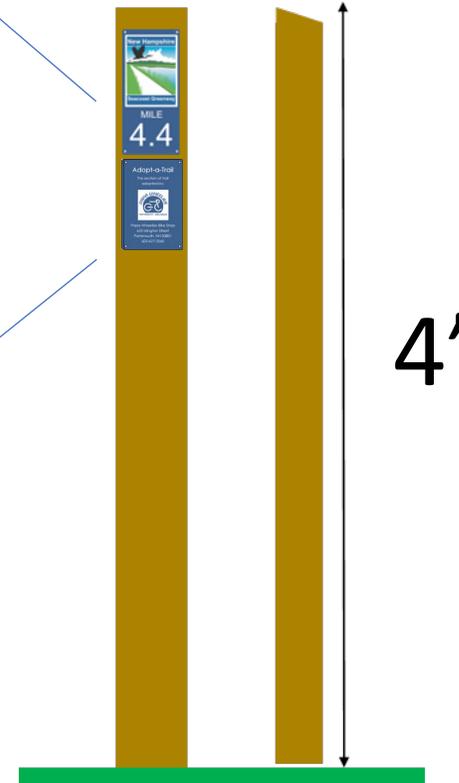


This kiosk was constructed as an Eagle Scout project by Simon Noel of BSA Troop 164, Daniel Webster Council.



Adopt a Trail Program

Sponsorship opportunity to support trail maintenance and amenities:
\$250/year per placard



Federal RAISE Grant \$1.45M for Engineering Phase 3 of NHSG

RAISE Project Purposes

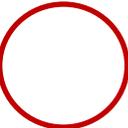
- **Create safe active transportation alternative to US1**
- **Improve nonmotorized access among SAU21 communities**
- **Rehabilitate state owned transportation facility**
- **Redesign causeway to improve tidal flow**
- **Accelerate completion of NHSG as linear park and economic catalyst**

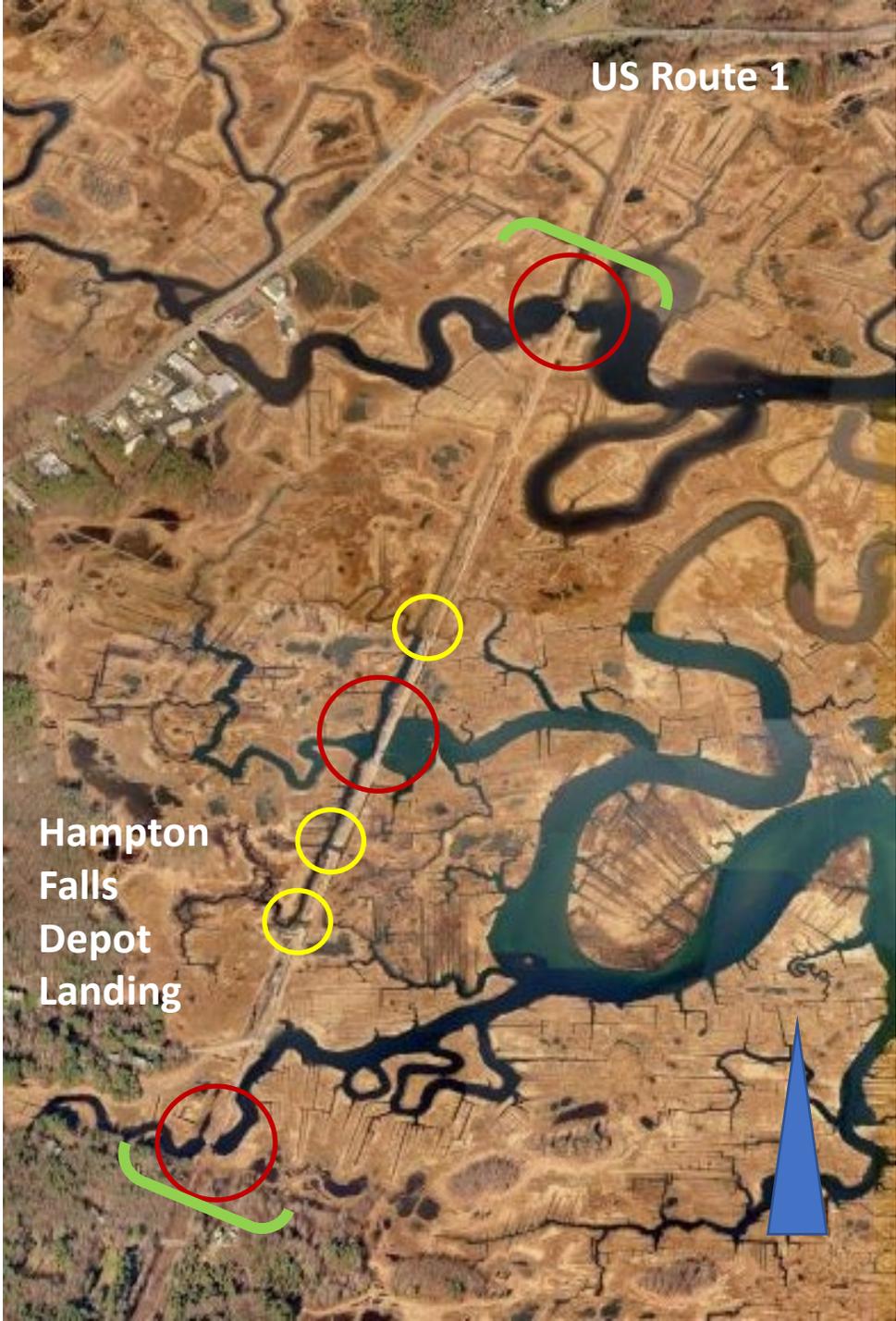


**UNH Engineering Dept.
Senior Capstone Project 2016**

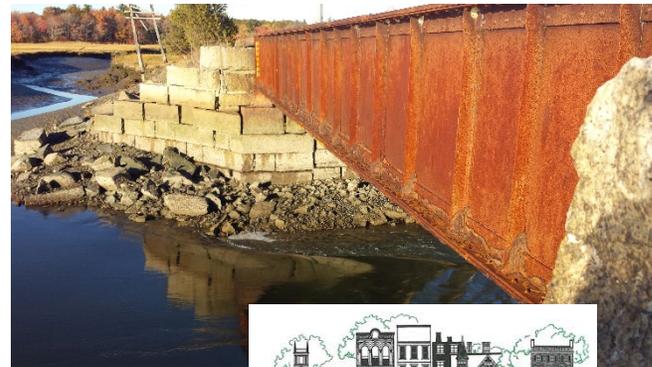
**Hampton Marsh Trail
Conceptual Design**

Project Study Area

-  **Bridges**
-  **Washout Areas**
-  **Study Area Limits**



Hampton Seabrook Estuary Multiple Resource Management Priorities





Federal RAISE Grant \$1.45M for Phase III Engineering

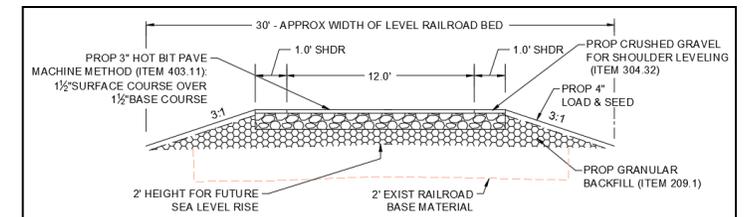
Open Causeway to Improve Tidal Flow

- Further open current washout zones to improve tidal flow
- Span expanded openings with boardwalk



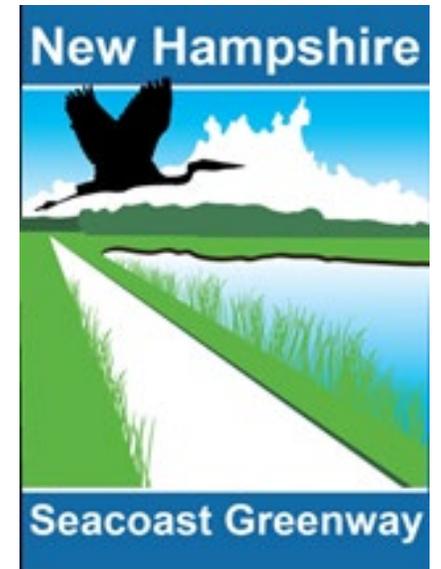
Elevate Remaining Causeway for Resiliency

- Elevate remaining causeway
- Minimize increase in causeway footprint



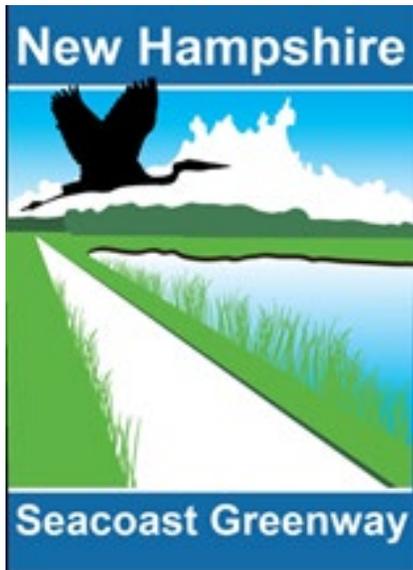
Next Steps for NHSG Alliance, Municipalities & RPC

- **Obligate RAISE grant for marsh causeway engineering**
- **Trail agreements for Seabrook and Hampton Falls**
- **Continue building volunteer program**
- **Finalize Adopt-a-Trail program**
- **Develop wayfinding signage**
- **Continue work on trailhead development**
- **Work to expedite remaining segments**



Questions?

Scott Bogle
Principal Transportation Planner
Rockingham Planning Commission
sbogle@therpc.org
603-658-0515



Reserve Slides for Q&A Use

ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS

9 NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE-OWNED RAIL TRAILS



TOTAL ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION

\$18,736,000

Annual Economic Contribution

\$2,744,000

Tax Revenue⁺

164

Jobs Supported

NH RESIDENT USERS



85%
of trail traffic



\$11,835,000

Estimated annual Economic Contribution



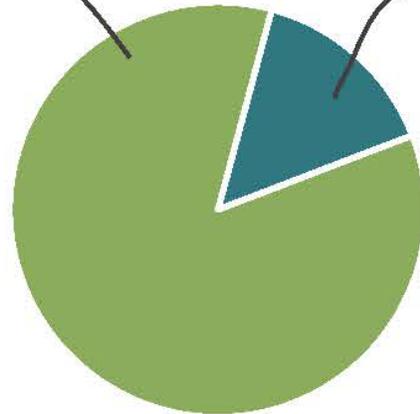
\$1,604,000

Tax Revenue⁺



108

Jobs Supported



■ Residents ■ Visitors

VISITOR USERS



15%
of trail traffic



\$6,901,000

Estimated annual Economic Contribution



\$1,140,000

Tax Revenue⁺



56

Jobs Supported



University of
New Hampshire
Extension

⁺ Taxes relevant to NH are property taxes, motor vehicle licenses, severance taxes, special assessments, excise taxes, rooms and meals, etc.

ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS

9 NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE-OWNED RAIL TRAILS

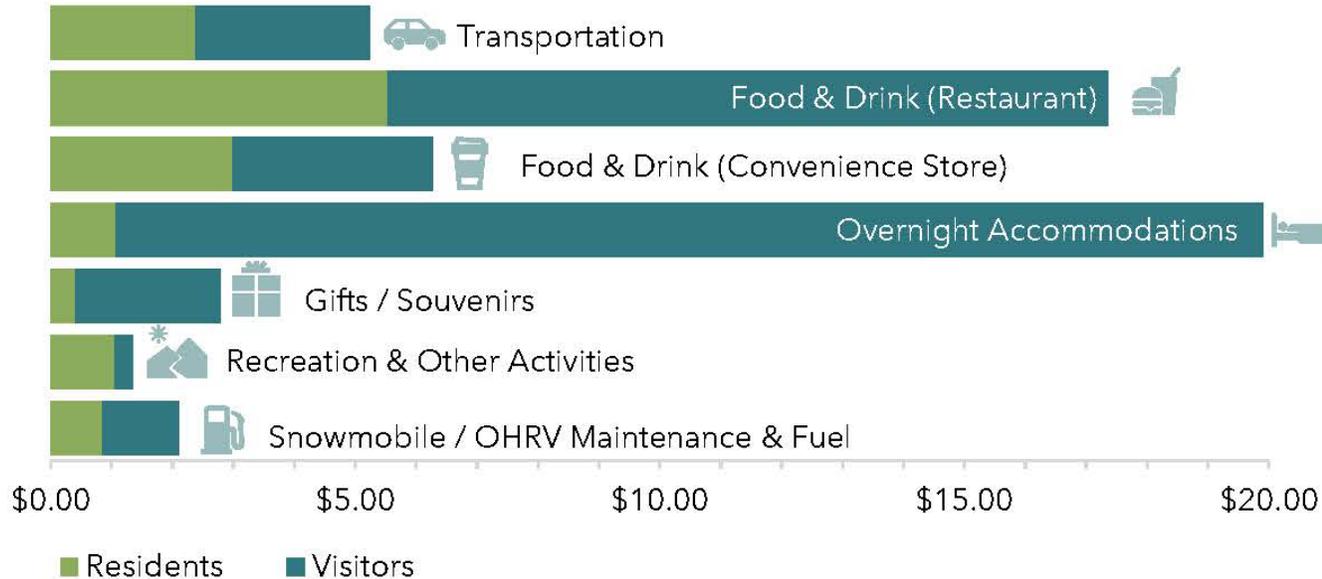


**AVERAGE SPEND
PER PERSON PER TRIP**

\$14.31
NH RESIDENT SPEND

vs.

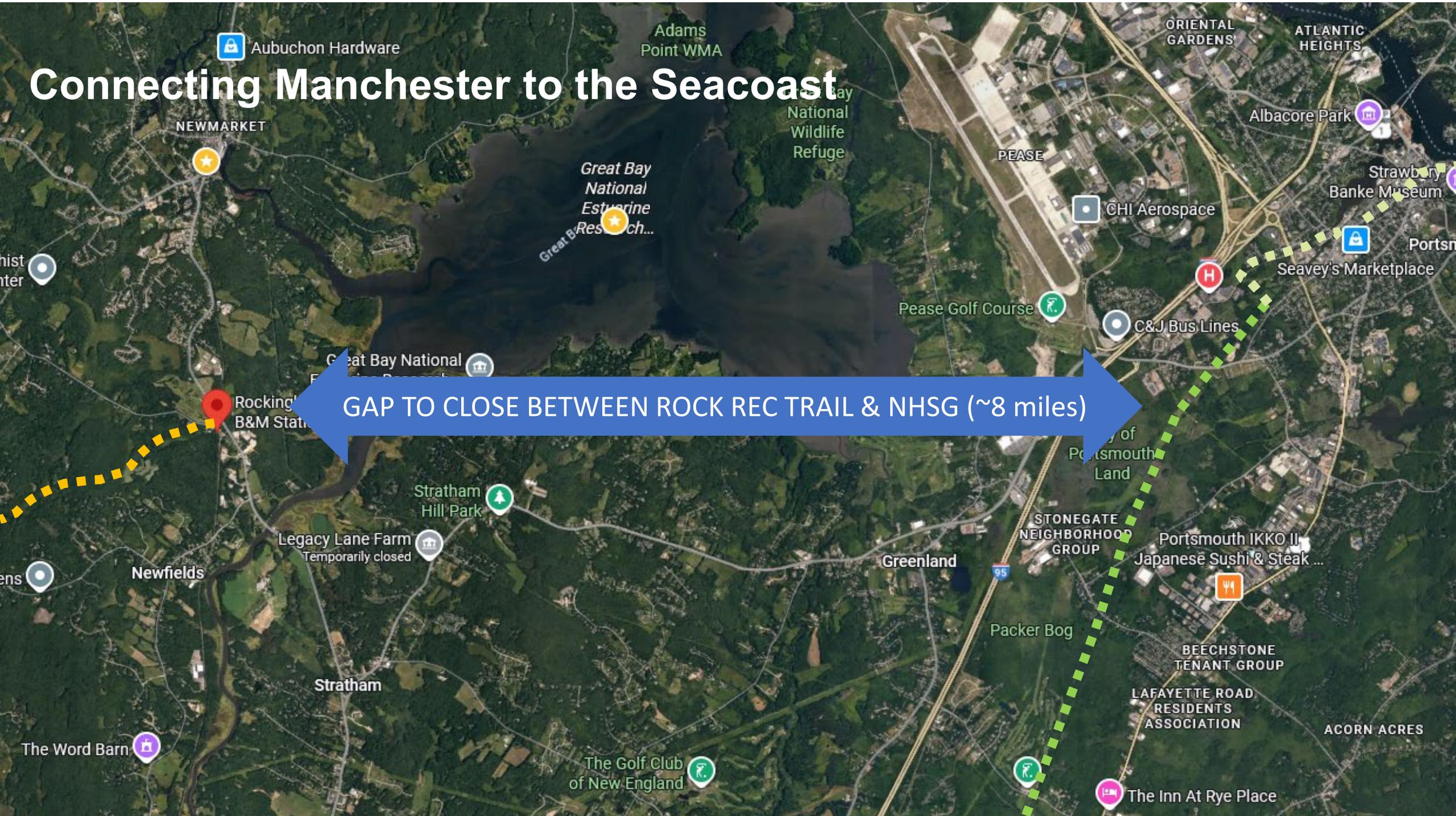
\$40.71
VISITOR SPEND



**VISITORS
SPEND 3X
AS MUCH AS
RESIDENTS
EACH TIME
THEY VISIT A
RAIL TRAIL**

This impact analysis focuses on nine trails and therefore represents only a limited portion of the total economic impact of state-owned rail trails on the State of New Hampshire economy.

Connecting Manchester to the Seacoast



GAP TO CLOSE BETWEEN ROCK REC TRAIL & NHSG (~8 miles)

Aubuchon Hardware

NEWMARKET

Adams Point WMA

Great Bay National Estuarine Res...

Great Bay National Wildlife Refuge

PEASE

ORIENTAL GARDENS

ATLANTIC HEIGHTS

Albacore Park

Strawberry Banke Museum

Portsmouth

Seavey's Marketplace

CHI Aerospace

Pease Golf Course

C&J Bus Lines

Rockingham B&M Station

Great Bay National Estuarine Reserve

Stratham Hill Park

Legacy Lane Farm Temporarily closed

Newfields

Stratham

Greenland

STONEGATE NEIGHBORHOOD GROUP

Portsmouth IKKO II Japanese Sushi & Steak ...

Packer Bog

BEECHSTONE TENANT GROUP

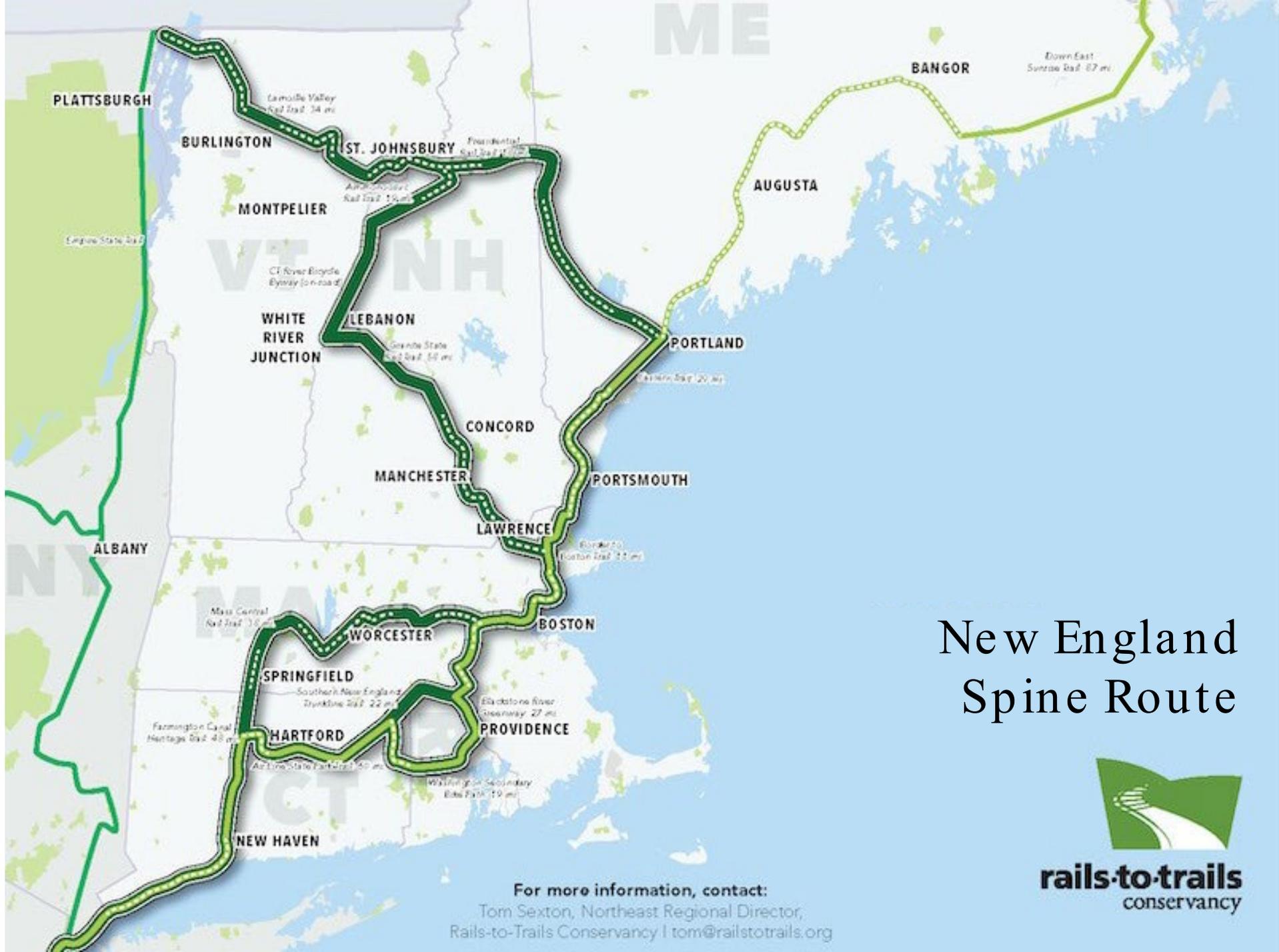
LAFAYETTE ROAD RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

ACORN ACRES

The Word Barn

The Golf Club of New England

The Inn At Rye Place



New England Spine Route



rails-to-trails
conservancy

For more information, contact:
Tom Sexton, Northeast Regional Director,
Rails-to-Trails Conservancy | tom@railstotrails.org

Trailhead Access Design Concept Borthwick Avenue & Foley Drive Portsmouth

Funding Secured & Planning Underway



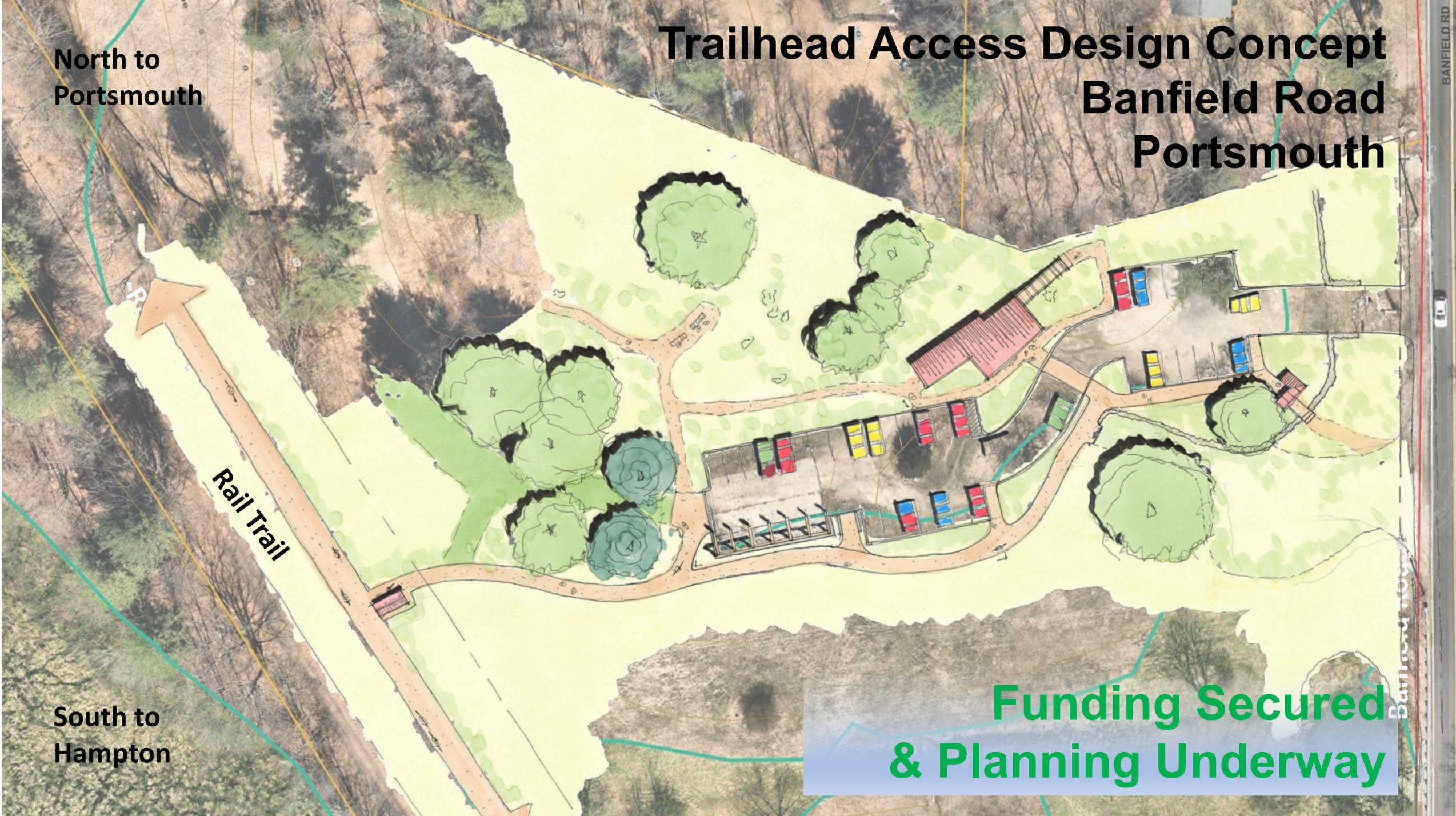
Trailhead Access Design Concept Banfield Road Portsmouth

North to
Portsmouth

South to
Hampton

Rail Trail

Funding Secured
& Planning Underway



NHSG Seacoast Greenway Portsmouth In-Town Connection Interim for 2025



Legend

- NHSG Rail Trail
- Sidepath (Traffic Separated)
- On-Road Route (North)
- On-Road Route (South)
- Trail Access with Parking
- Trail Access without Parking

