



# Carlisle Case Study: The Urban Greenway Plan

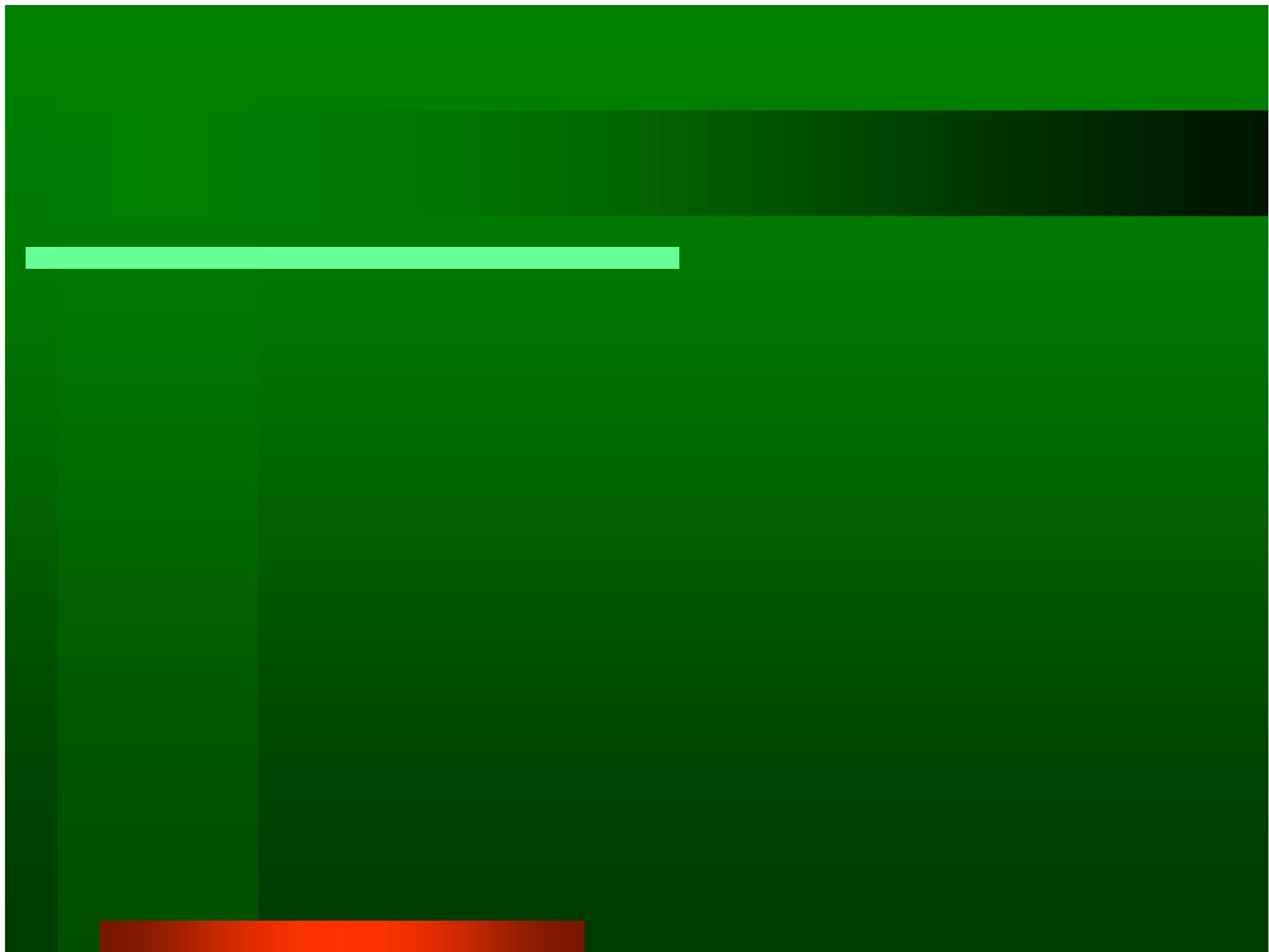
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**Chris Houston, Chairman, Letort Regional Authority**



Chris currently serves as the Assistant Director of the Cumberland/Perry Housing and Community Partnership. He is a frequent lecturer on housing and redevelopment topics. He is active in his community, having served in leadership roles on the boards of various non-profit organizations, including organizations that have provided housing for senior citizens and primary health care to the uninsured.

He currently serves as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the LeTort Regional Authority. Mr. Houston received his juris doctorate from The Penn State Dickinson School of Law, and his B.A. from George Washington University.



# Project Goals

- **Study the feasibility of creating a Trail/Urban Greenway linking the communities of Middlesex Township, North Middleton Township, Borough of Carlisle and South Middleton Township**
- **Create a master Trail/Urban Greenway plan**
- **Inform stakeholders and the public about the Trail/Urban Greenway plan**

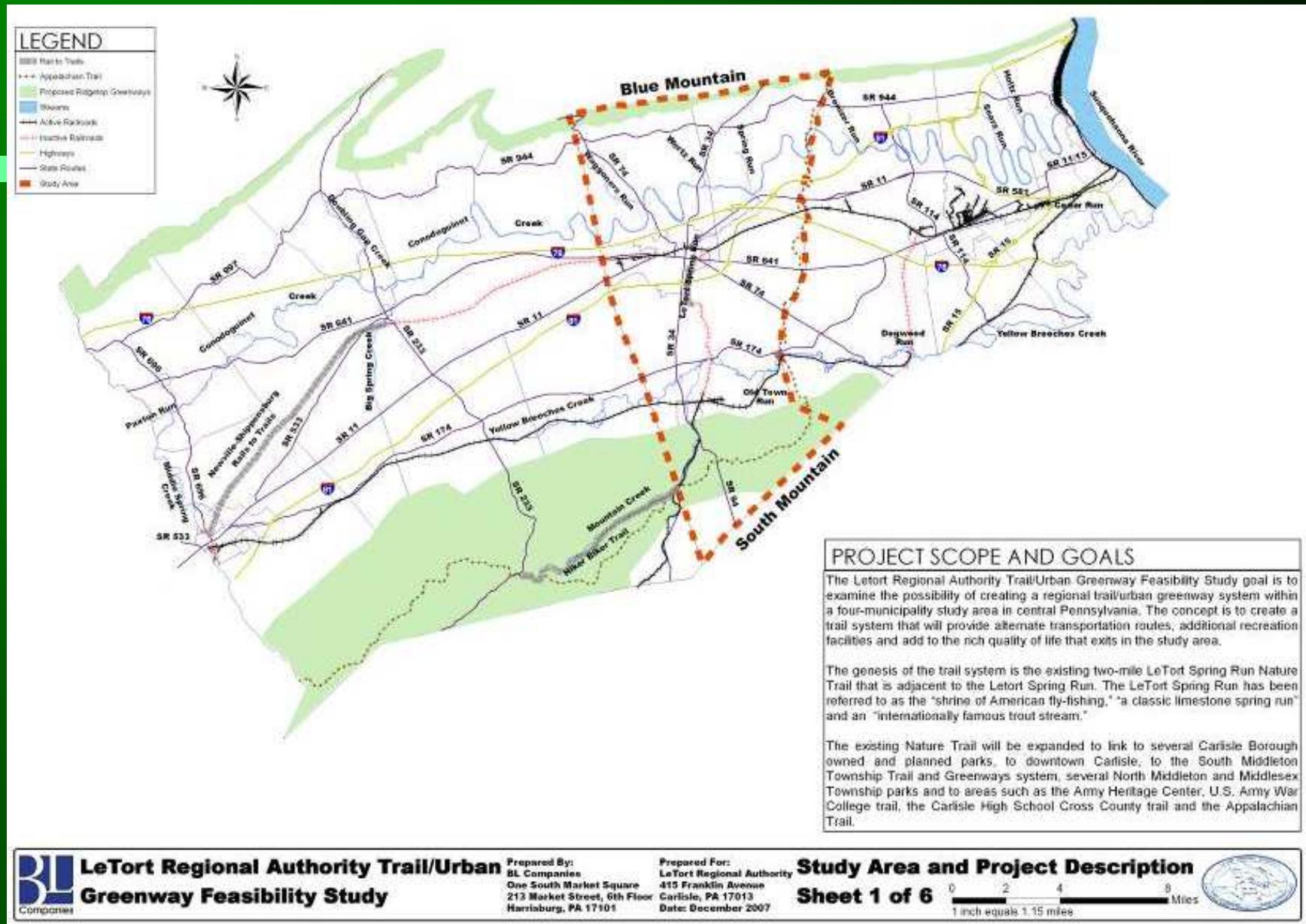
# Project History

- LeTort Regional Authority (LRA) identified an expanded trail project in its 2005 Strategic Plan  
[www.letort.org](http://www.letort.org)
- Countywide Greenway and Trail System Identified in the Cumberland County Open Space Preservation Plan – April 2006
- LRA received funding from the Cumberland County Land Partnerships Grant Program for Feasibility Study
- LRA issued Request for Proposals – December 2006.
-  BL Companies selected as consultant in March 2007

# Primary Partners

- LeTort Regional Authority
- Cumberland County
- South Middleton, North Middleton,  
Middlesex Townships
- Borough of Carlisle

# Study Area in Cumberland County



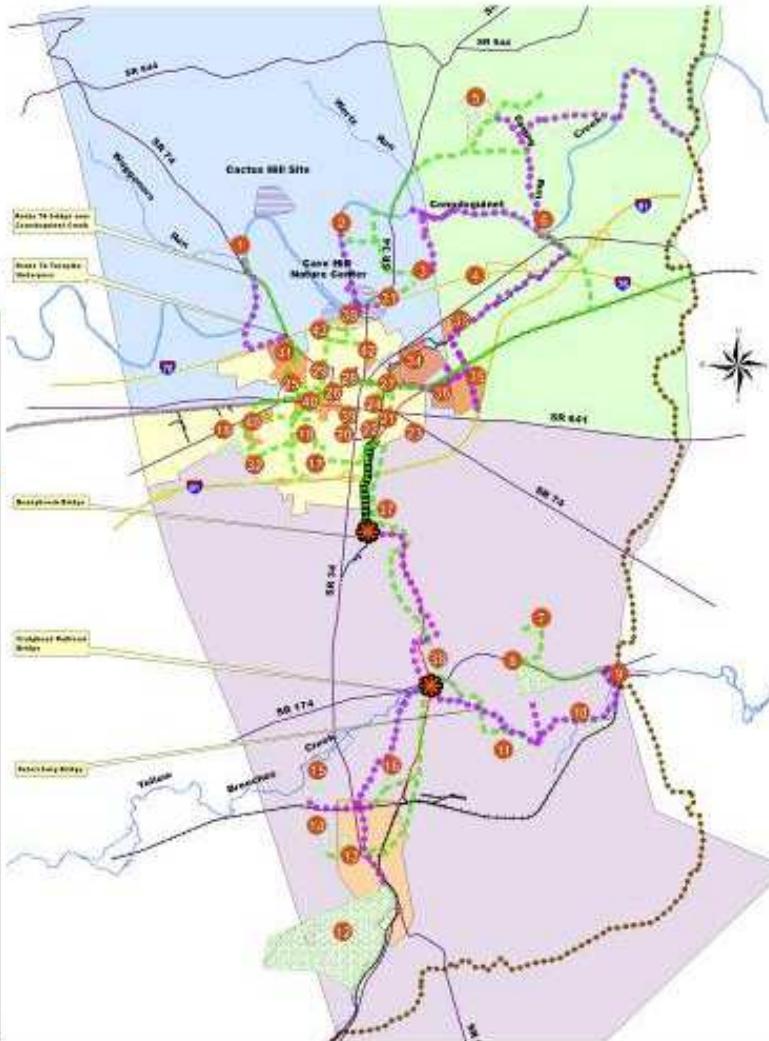
# Study Area



## LEGEND

NOTE: Orange text indicates Points of Interest identified in Project Scope

South Middleton Twp	01 North Middleton Park
Borough of Mt. Holly Springs	02 Creekview Park
North Middleton Twp	03 Village Park
Middlesex Twp	04 Anderson Park
Carlisle Borough	05 Middleton Township Park
Points of Interest	06 LeTort Falls Park
Points of Interest	07 Indian Hills Park
Proposed Trail-Public Roads	08 Spring Meadows Park
Proposed Trail-Private Access	09 Historic Iron Works Park
LeTort Nature Trail	10 Duncol Pittinger Nature Preserve
Proposed Rails to Trails	11 South Middleton Municipal Park
Appalachian Trail	12 Mount Holly Marsh Preserve
Municipal Parks	13 Butler Street Park
Natural Area Inventory Sites	14 Trine Park
LeTort Spring Run	15 South View Park
Streams	16 Holy Woodcarvers Park
Railroads	17 Thomsburg Park
Inactive railroads	18 Valley Meadow Park
Highways	19 Mowland Athletic Area
State Roads	20 Butcher Hill Lot
	21 Goodyear Park
	22 LeTort Park
	23 Seven Gates Park
	24 Alpine Hill Lot
	25 Lander Park
	26 Habenking Tott Lot
	27 Eddie Mellon Park
	28 Memorial Park
	29 Shert Community Center
	30 Cave Hill Nature Center
	31 Shert Park
	32 Linear Park
	33 Keystone Arms
	34 US Army War College
	35 US Army Heritage Center
	36 Carlisle Backroads Golf Course
	37 LeTort Trail parking at Bongimak Ridge
	38 Craighead Railroad Crossing
	39 Carlisle Borough Hall
	40 Dickinson College
	41 Carlisle High School
	42 Carlisle Fairgrounds
	43 Community Pool



Signage located at Thornwald Park,  
Borough of Carlisle



US Army Heritage center off I-81,  
Middlesex and North Middleton Townships



Craighead Railroad Bridge over Yellow Breeches Creek, South Middleton Township



LeTort Nature Trail along LeTort Spring Run,  
Borough of Carlisle



## LeTort Regional Authority Trail/Urban Greenway Feasibility Study

Prepared By:  
BL Companies  
One South Market Square  
213 Market Street, 6th Floor  
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Prepared For:  
LeTort Regional Authority  
415 Franklin Avenue  
Carlisle, PA 17013  
Date: December 2007

**Study Area  
Sheet 2 of 6**

0 0.5 1 2 Miles  
1 inch equals 0.5 miles



# Additional Feasibility Report Content

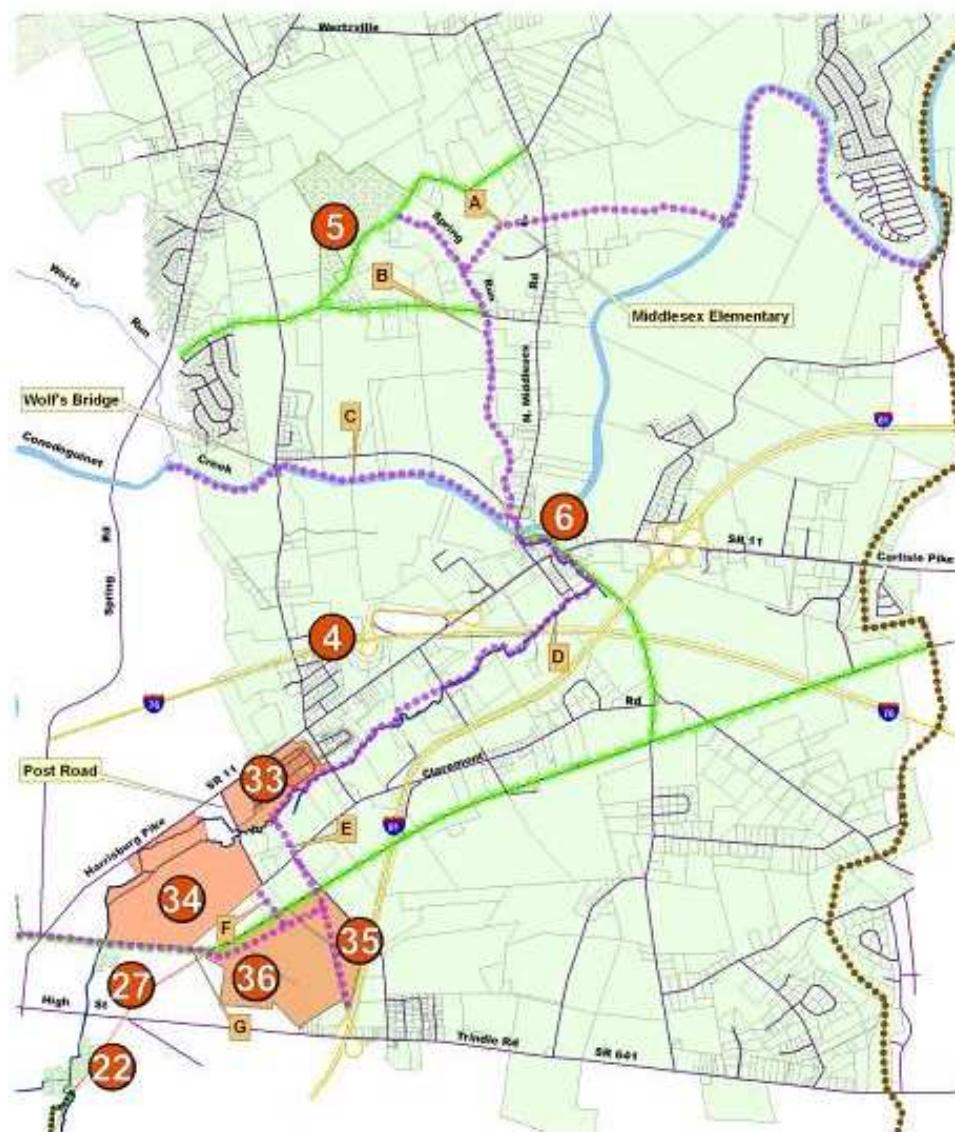
- **Analysis of proposed parks, schools and trails for trail connection suitability.**
  - ADA Issues
  - Parking
  - Signage
  - Grades
- **Create a phasing plan for Trail/Urban Greenway Development**
  - Easement Acquisition
  - Construction Sequencing
  - Municipal and County Budgets
  - Trail Hierarchy
- **Identify Grant and Funding Sources**
- **Cost Estimate**

# Middlesex Township



# Connection Points

- Primary Connection Points
  - Keystone Arms Subdivision Trail Easement
  - U.S. Army Heritage Center
  - Carlisle Barracks Golf Course
- Secondary Connection Points
  - Middlesex Park
  - LeTort Falls Park
  - Middlesex Elementary
  - Appalachian Trail



## BL LeTort Regional Authority Trail/Urban Greenway Feasibility Study

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**Middlesex Township**  
**Sheet 3 of 6**

0 0.25 0.5  
1 Miles  
1 inch equals 0.2 miles



# North Middleton Township

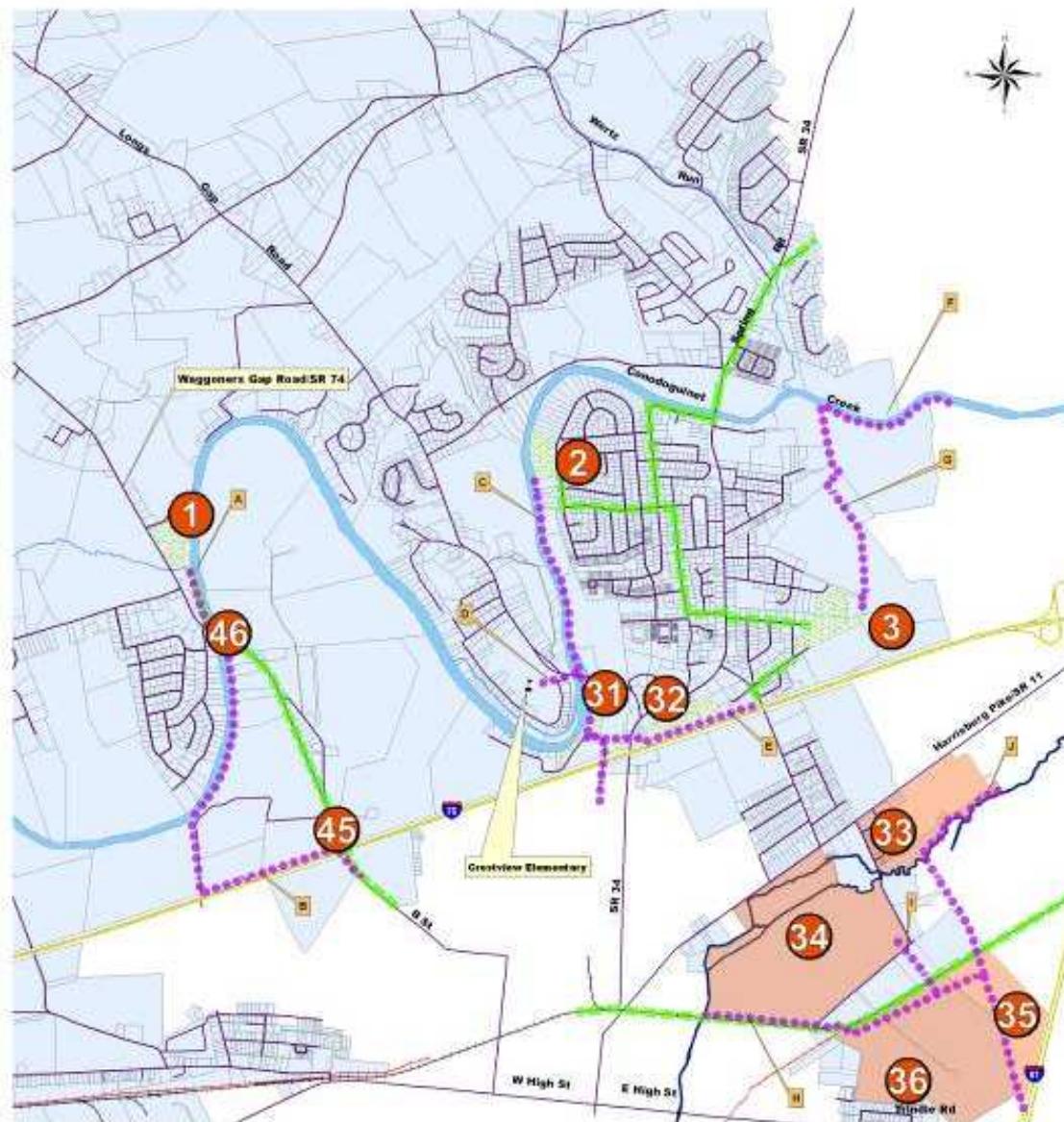


# Connection Points

- **Primary Connection Points**
  - Keystone Arms Subdivision Trail Easement
  - US Army War College
  - US Army Heritage Center
  - Carlisle Barracks Golf Course Trail
- **Secondary Connection Points**
  - North Middleton Park
  - Creekview Park
  - Village Park
  - Creekview Elementary



Location Map: North Middleton Township



Bridge over Waggoners Run



Existing pedestrian trail leading to Village Park Pavilion



Rt. 74 PENNDOT bridge over Conodoguinet Creek



Existing pedestrian trail at Creekview Park



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**North Middleton Township**  
**Sheet 4 of 6**

0 0.2 0.4 0.8 Miles  
1 inch equals 0.2 miles



# Letort Spring Run Nature Trail



# Connection Points

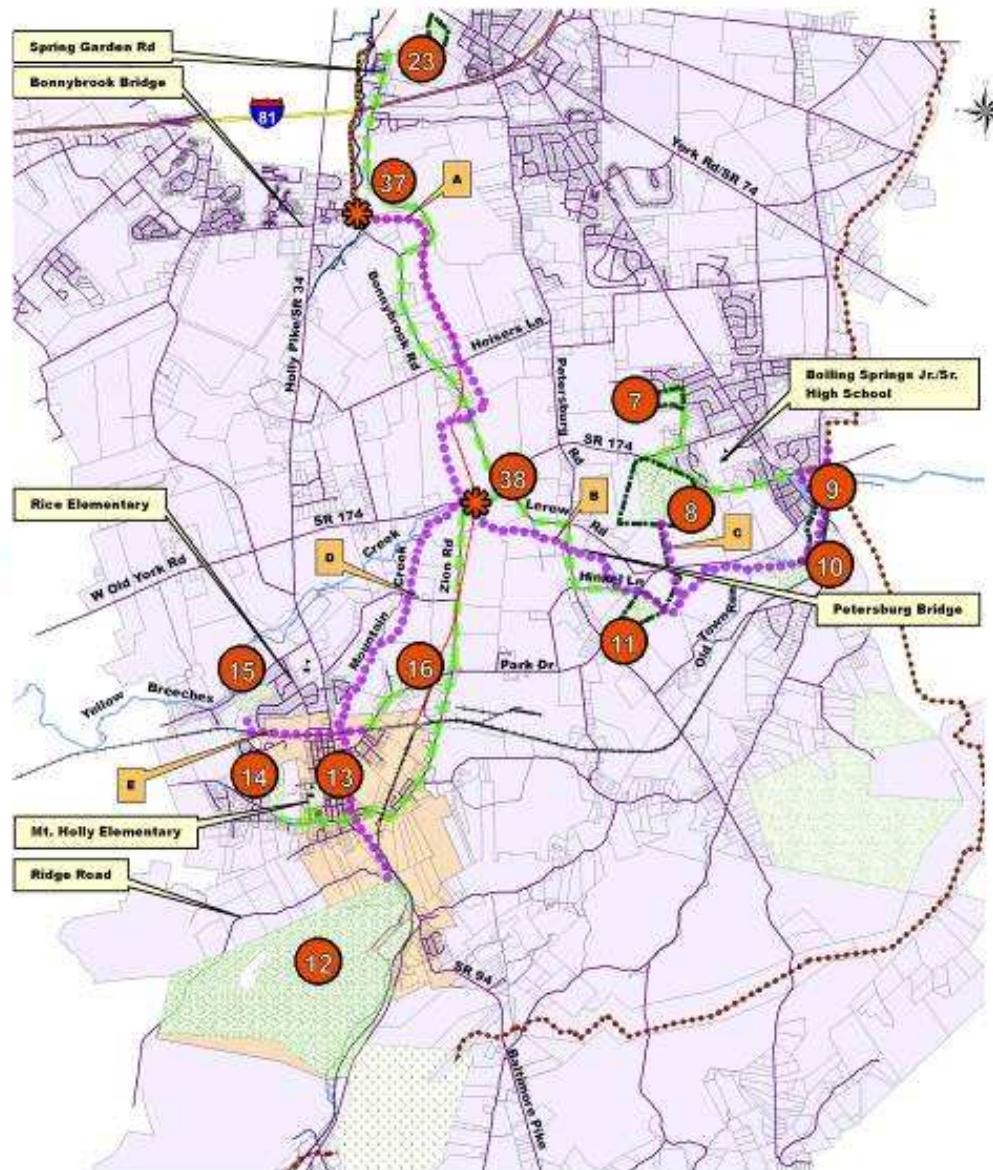
- Borough of Carlisle
- South Middleton Township Trail and Park System

# South Middleton Township



# Connection Points

- **Primary Connection Points**
  - Letort Spring Run Trail Head at Bonnybrook
  - South Middleton Park Trail System
  - Spring Meadows
  - Indian Hills Subdivision Park
  - Appalachian Trail
- **Secondary Connection Points**
  - Mt. Holly Marsh Preserve
  - Boiling Springs High School
  - Rice Elementary
  - Borough of Boiling Springs
  - Borough of Mt. Holly Springs



## LeTort Regional Authority Trail/Urban Greenway Feasibility Study

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**South Middleton Township**  
**Sheet 6 of 6**

0 0.375 0.75 1.5 Miles  
1 inch equals 0.3 miles



# Borough of Carlisle

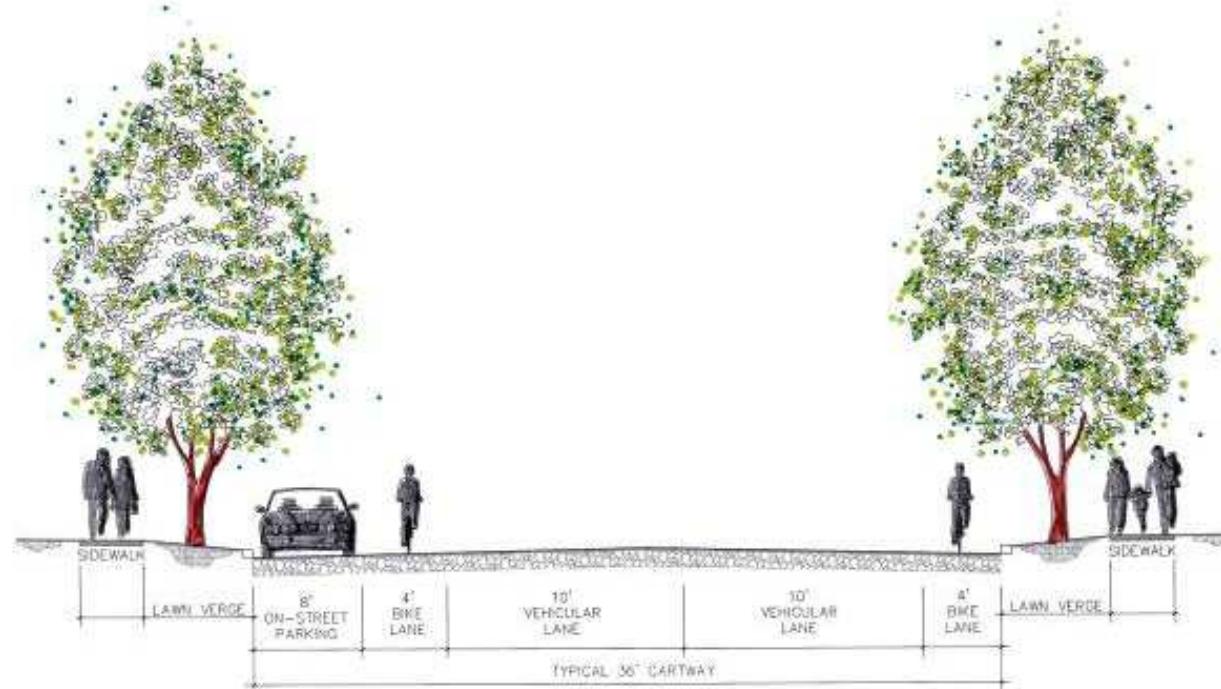


# Connection Points

- Parks
- Schools
- Other
  - Dickinson College and Athletic Fields
  - Carlisle Fairgrounds
  - Downtown
  - Proposed Cumberland Valley Rails to Trails Connection: Carlisle to Newville
  - LeTort Spring Run Nature Trail

# Proposed Corridors – Streets and Alley





**SECTION ELEVATION- TYPICAL 36' STREET CARTWAY WITH 4' BICYCLE LANES**

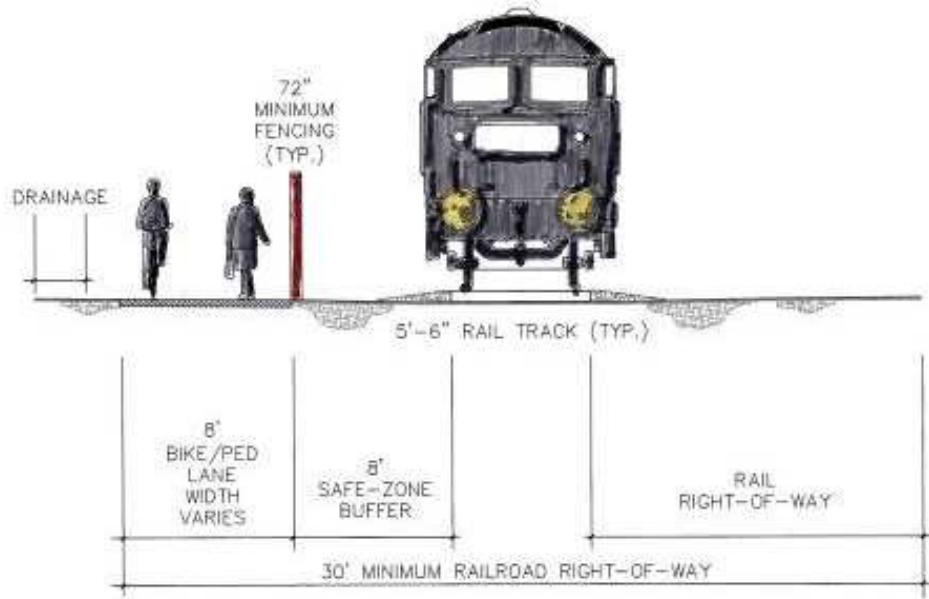
1'- 5'-0"



# Proposed Corridor – Rails With Trails



Existing Rail Corridor  
Within The Borough



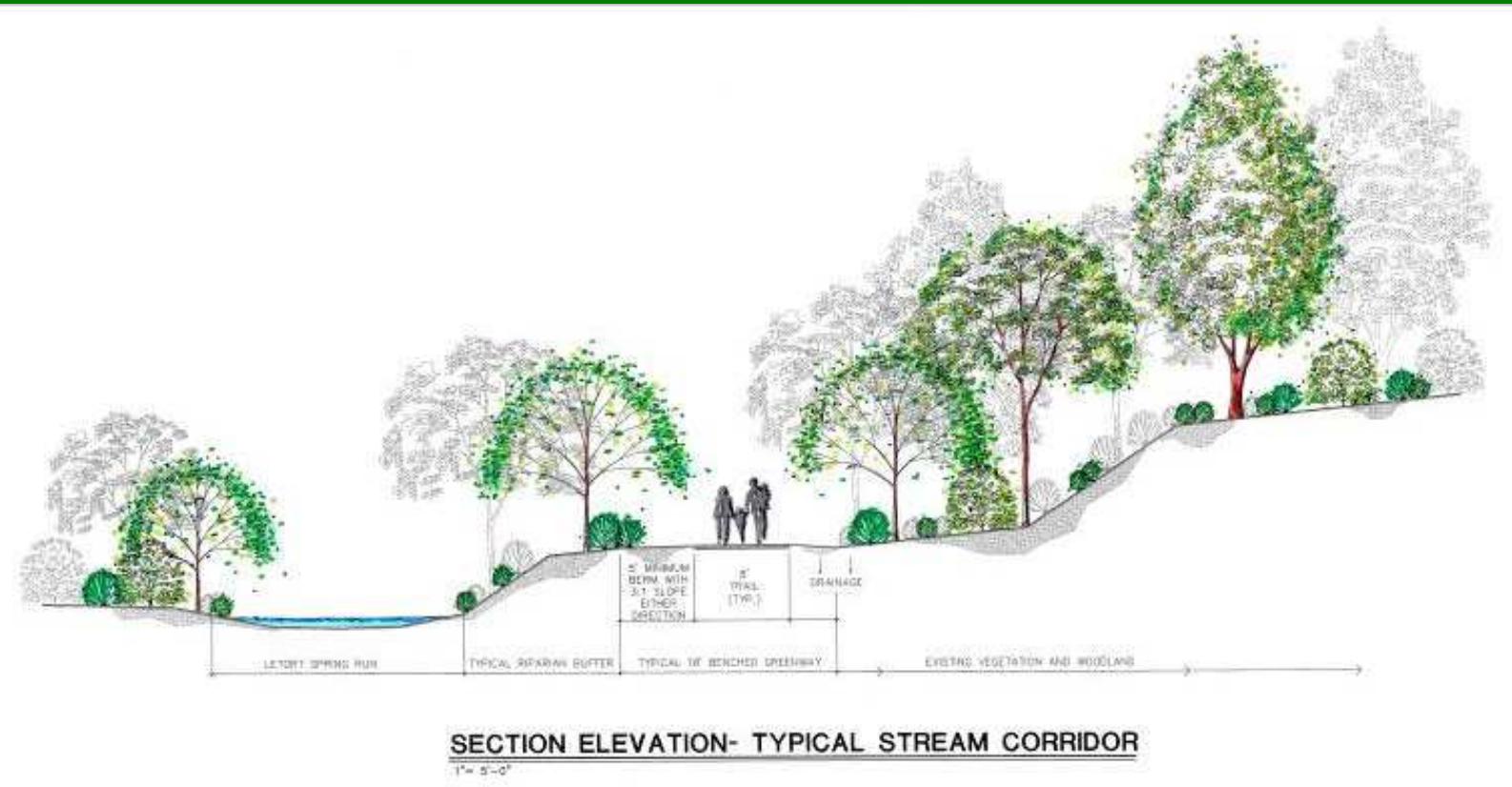
## SECTION ELEVATION- TYPICAL RAILBED RIGHT-OF-WAY

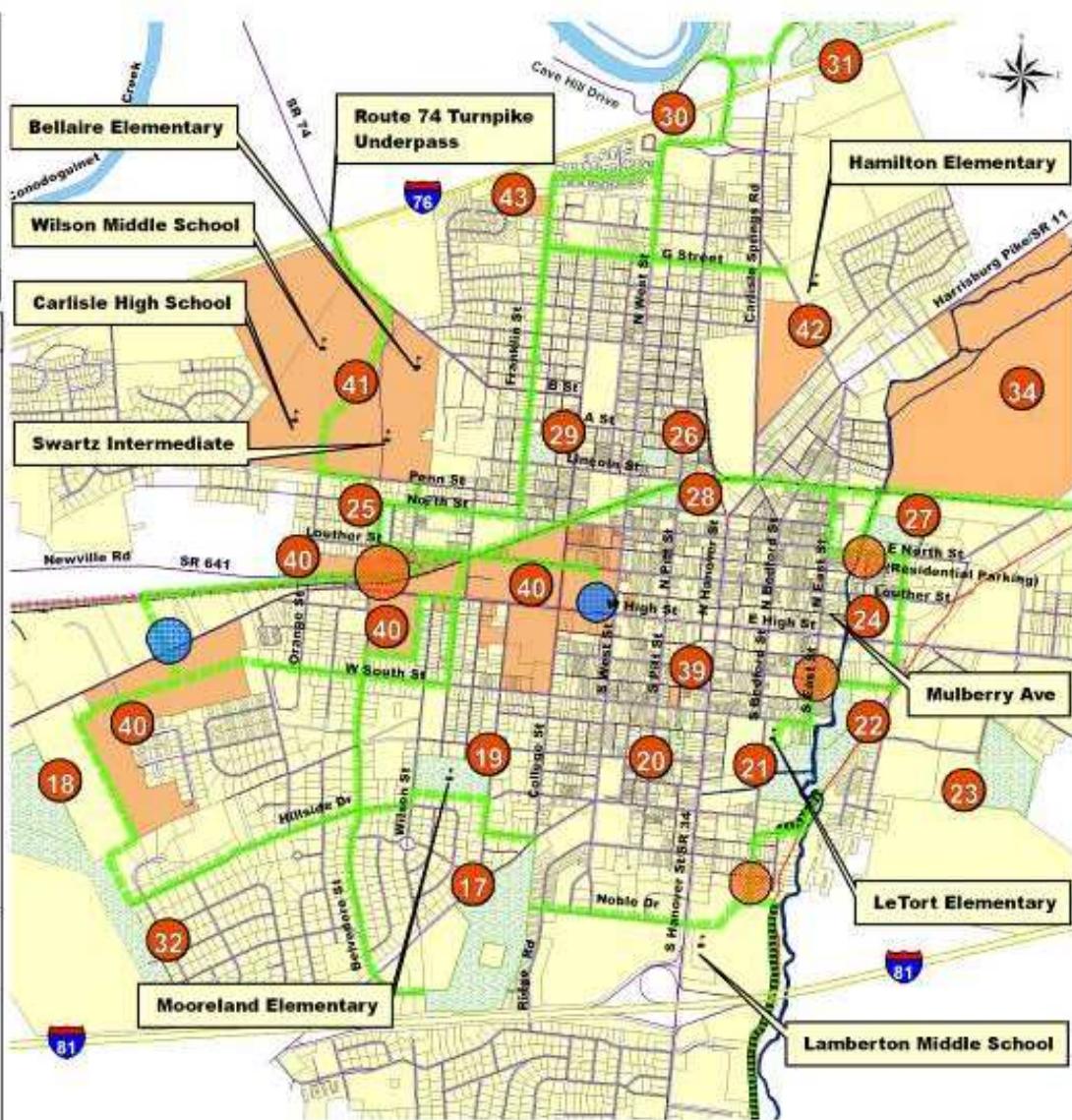
1" = 5'-0"



# Proposed Corridor – Letort Spring Run







Dickinson College Connection Closeup



LeTort Nature Trail Connection Closeup



### Railroad corridor through Dickinson College



Typical cartway along Belvedere Road  
facing north



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Carlisle Borough  
Sheet 5 of 6

0    0.125    0.25    0.5  
  
 Miles  
 1 inch equals 0.1 miles



# Land Acquisition Tools

- Fee Simple Purchase
- Option/ First Right of Refusal
- Conservation Easements
- Transfer/Purchase of Development Rights
- Open Space Zoning/Conservation Design
- Overlay Zoning Districts
- Buffer Zones in Zoning
- Mandatory Dedication and Fee-in-Lieu Ordinances

# Funding

<b>Source/Agency</b>	<b>Program</b>	<b>Description of Program</b>
Department of Conservation and Natural Resources ( <b>DCNR</b> )	Community Conservation Partnership Program (C2P2)	<p>Grant monies are available to <b>municipal governments</b> and well-established <b>non-profit land trusts</b> to support greenway and park planning, design and development. A 50% match is required from the local project sponsor. This program includes the following specified grants:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <b>Planning</b> Grant Projects           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greenways and trails Plans; Rivers Conservation Plans</li> </ul> </li> <li>2) <b>Acquisition</b> Grant Projects           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Park and Recreation Areas; Rails-to-Trails; Rivers Conservation</li> </ul> </li> <li>3) <b>Development</b> Grant Projects           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Park Rehab. and Development; Greenways and Trails</li> <li>• Rails-to-Trails; Rivers Conservation</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
<b>DCNR</b>	PA Recreational Trails Program	Grants range from \$2,500 to \$100,000. Provides funds to <b>develop and maintain recreation trails</b> for motorized and non-motorized recreation trail use. The program requires a 20% match from the local sponsor. Acquisition projects require a 50% match.
Department of Environmental Protection ( <b>DEP</b> )	Growing Greener Program	These funds can be used for farmland-preservation projects; <b>preserving open space</b> ; cleanup of abandoned mines, watershed planning; <b>recreational trails and parks</b> and other land use projects. Eligible applicants include <b>non-profit groups, counties, and municipalities</b> . A local match is encouraged, but not required.
Pennsylvania Department of Transportation ( <b>PENNDOT</b> )	Transportation Enhancements, Home Town Streets & Safe Routes to Schools Program	This cost reimbursement program funds projects within twelve categories including pedestrian and bicycle trails and bike lanes; purchase of scenic easements or scenic sites; and preservation of abandoned railway corridors. Any federal or state agency, county or municipal government, school district or non-profit can apply.
<b>Private Developers</b>	"Fee in Lieu of" Incentive Program	<b>Developers may pay</b> the Trail organization a <b>fee</b> to be used for <b>acquisition, construction, maintenance</b> of planned trail segments. Fee is in lieu of developer providing actual construction services or material costs.
<b>Municipalities or County</b>	Partnership	<b>In-kind donation</b> of construction <b>materials, labor or services</b> for the construction and maintenance of planned trail segments.

# Trail Management

- County Management
  - Cumberland County creates new position to manage trail system
- Trail Commission
  - Full or Part time Executive Director
  - Representative from each Municipality
  - Non-Profit
  - Executive Director and staff

# Implementation

- Plan was approved by all 4 municipalities – 2008
- Funding approved for bicycle lanes in the Borough of Carlisle and connector to the LeTort Nature Trail - 2009
  - Borough of Carlisle PennDOT Smart Transportation funded project
- Funding approved for improvements to LeTort Nature Trail – 2010
  - LeTort Regional Authority DCNR C2P2 funded project
- Application submitted by Borough of Carlisle for PCTI PennDOT funding for build out of bicycle lanes throughout the Borough - 2010