Springfield Township Trail Master Plan

Public Meeting / Open House

AGENDA

7:00 – 7:05 Opening Remarks

7:05 – 7:30 Background Information Presentation

7:30 – 9:00 Small Group Discussion

Goals of the Plan

1. Provide for the recreational needs of Township residents
2. Identify routes that maximize connectivity between key destinations, including parks, businesses and neighborhoods, in an equitable manner
3. Find routes that are safe, inviting, accessible and easy for users of all ages and abilities
4. Create list of clear, implementable projects for Township

Task Force Members

Township Commissioners

- Susanna Ratsavong
- Baird Standish
- Jonathan Cobb

Township Staff

- Brandon Ford, Assistant Twp Mgr
- Emily Baiada, Parks & Rec Director

Environmental Advisory Committee

- Patrick Hynes

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board

- Adrienne Smythe

Springfield School District

- Neil DiFranco
- Two youth representatives

Planning Commission

- Gerald Quill

Friends of Cresheim Trail

- Melissa Brookes

Plan Deliverables

Inventory of Existing Trails	• Includes analysis of usage patterns, based on public input • Trails in Springfield and adjacent municipalities, county trails
Gap Analysis	• Based on location of existing features, key destinations, demographics
List of Recommended Trail Improvements	• Locations where connections could be made to existing or planned trails
Future Trails Map	• Depicting the recommended improvements
Implementation Matrix	• Trail recommendations, project phasing, recommended strategies for development, order-of-magnitude cost estimates, potential funding sources

Inventory of Existing Conditions

Existing Pedestrian Network

Sidewalks, trails, greenways, bike lanes, low-stress streets, unofficial trails, crosswalks.

Environmental Features

Floodplains, water features, woodlands, preserved open space, steep slopes

Community Features

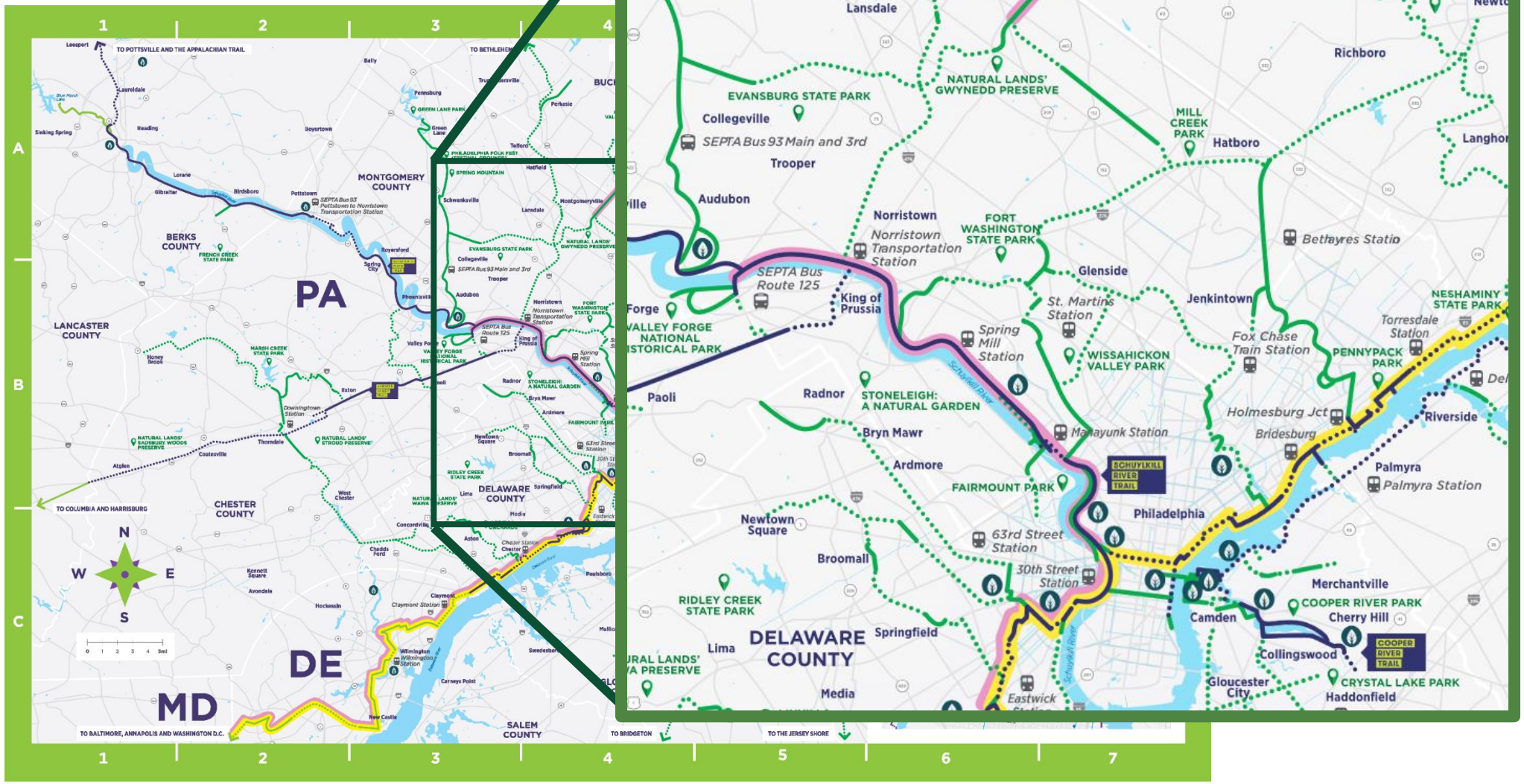
Schools, recreation center, parks, shopping centers, employment locations

Regional Context

The Circuit Trails is a TrailNation™ Project, Rails-to-Trails Conservancy's national trail-network-building initiative designed to prove what's possible when we connect people and places by trail.

This map was made possible with generous support from REI Co-op and the William Penn Foundation.

Regional



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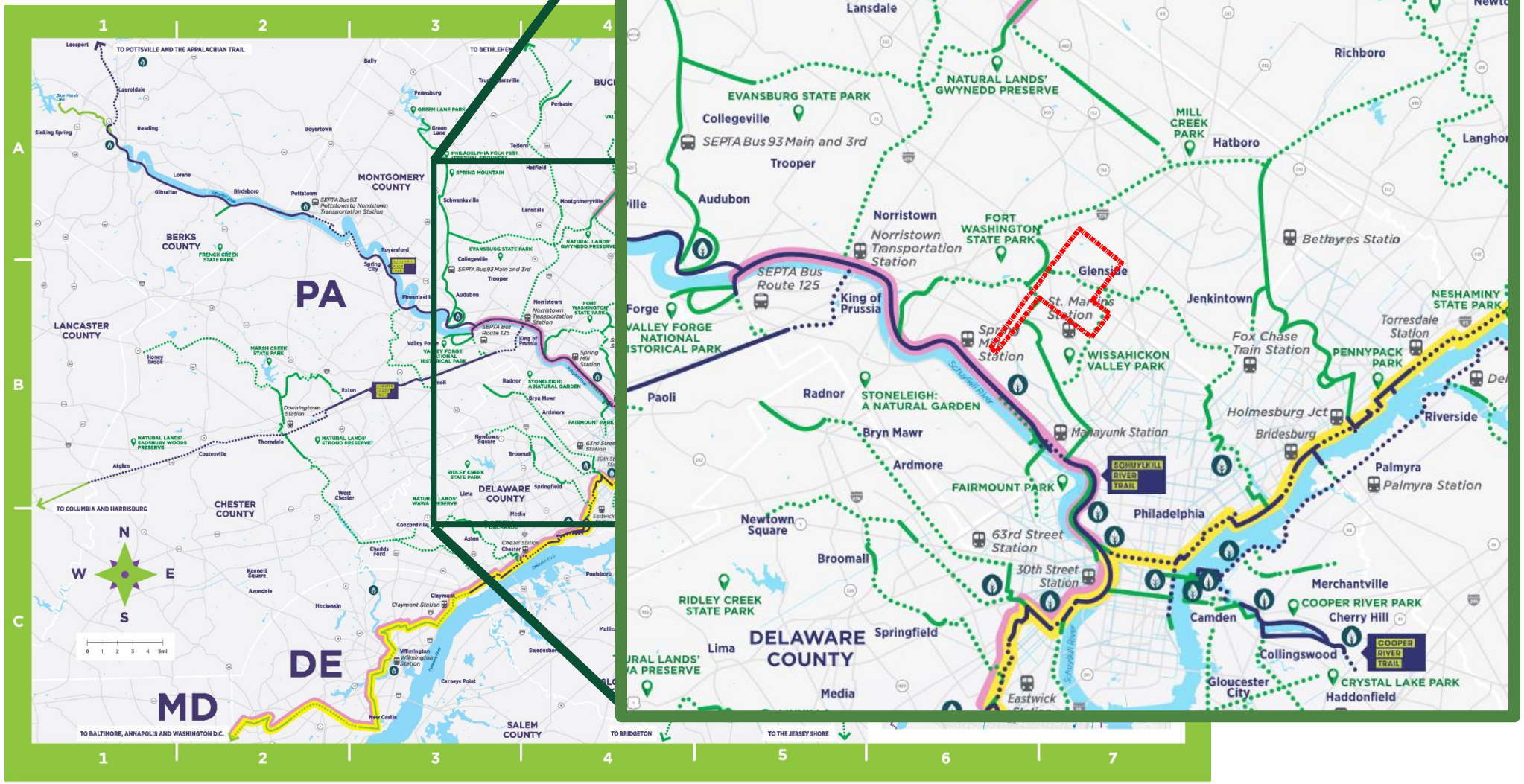

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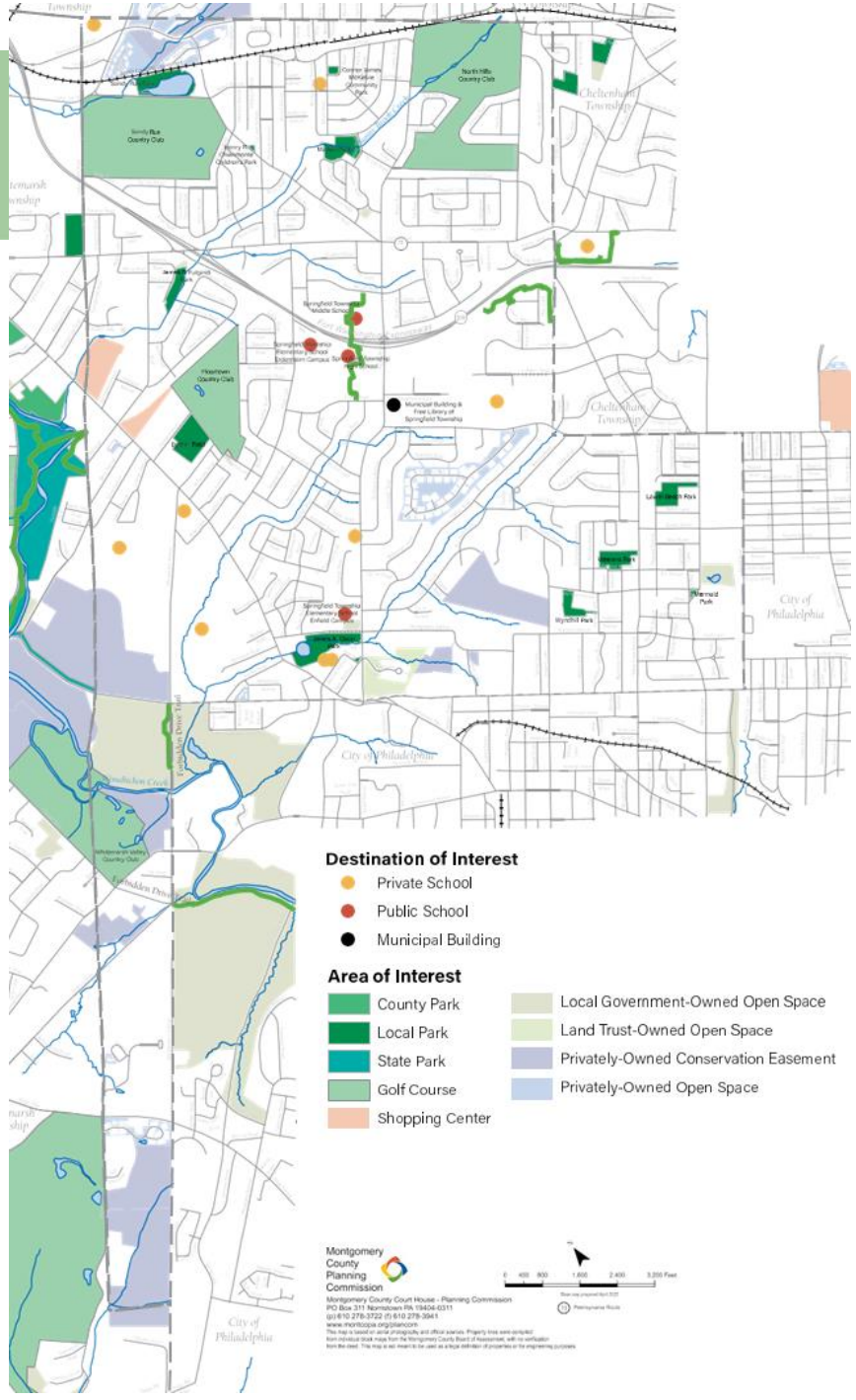
Existing Facilities

- Trails and Sidewalks
- Open Space and Greenways
- Employment Centers
- Shopping Centers
- Floodplains, Water Features, Woodlands



Public Outreach

Trail Usage Survey

Sept – Oct, 2022

- 728 respondents
- Approx. 9% of households

Wikimap

Sept - Oct, 2022

- 49 individuals

Open House

Sept 29, 2022

- 54 individuals

Middle School Presentation

March 2, 2023

- 31 students

High School Presentation

March 3, 2023

- 21 students

Key Challenges

Oreland and Wyndmoor

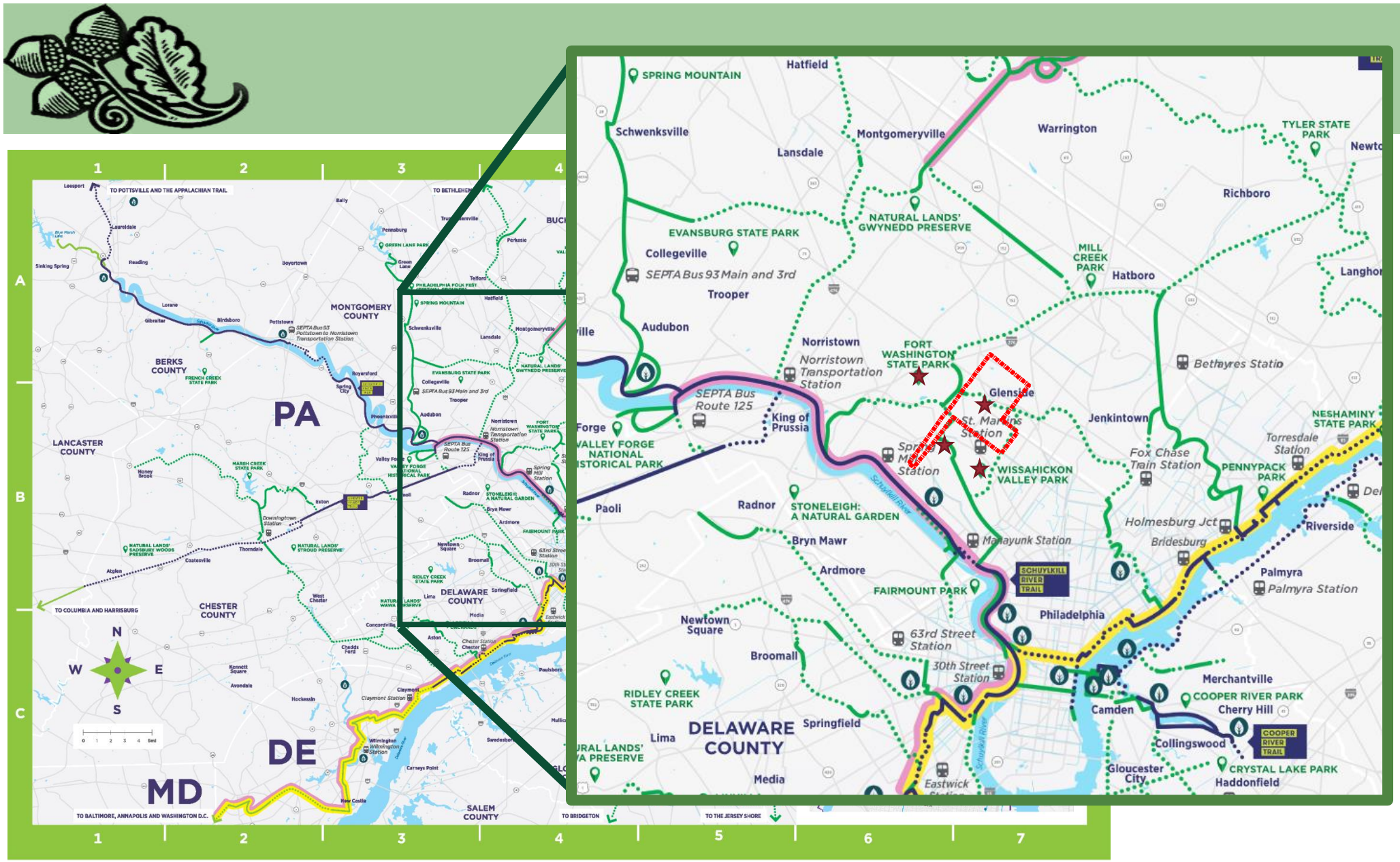
Residents cannot safely walk to other neighborhoods

Bethlehem Pike

Seen as the largest barrier by survey respondents

Cheltenham Avenue

Seen as the largest barrier by students



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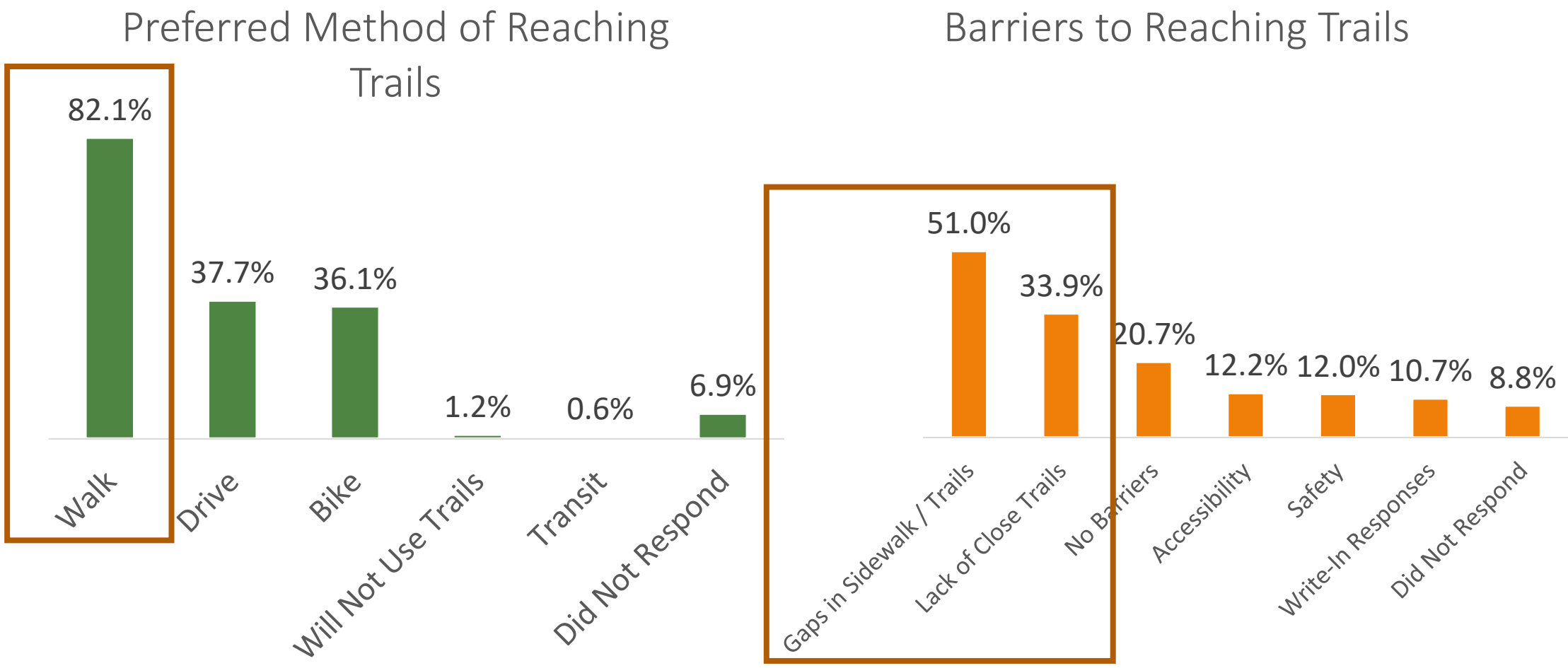
Key Findings



Proposed Network Uses

Leisure and Fitness

Safety Improvements

Functional Connections

Business Attraction

Proposed Network Feasibility

Right of Way	• Prioritizing use of public land and locally-owned roads • Ensure physical width and space available
User Experience	• Comfort, visual and scenic interest • Connecting desired destinations and routes • Ability to reach and use network easily
Cost	• Minimizing use of expensive structural alternatives (*e.g. bridges, boardwalks, etc.*) • Minimize acquisitions
Environmental Impact	• Avoidance and sensitivity to Floodplains, Wetlands, etc. • Minimize impervious surfaces
Safety	• Reduce number of conflicts and crossings required • Reduce speeding • Improve crossings, signals and awareness

Proposed Network Facilities