

Complete Connectivity: Impact and Implementation of Shared-Use Paths



Panelists:

Ty Houck, Greenville County

Neal Hamilton, SCPRT

Jim Hemphill, East Coast Greenway Alliance

Moderator:

Matt Moldenhauer, Charleston County Parks

SC COGS ANNUAL CONFERENCE | NOVEMBER 25, 2024

Agenda

The background of the slide features a scenic view of a body of water, possibly a marsh or estuary, with a wooden railing in the foreground. Two bicycles are leaning against the railing. The scene is bright and clear, suggesting a sunny day. The railing is made of light-colored wood, and the water is calm with some reeds visible in the distance.

- Introductions
- Pop Quiz
- Quality of Life Benefits
- Data-Driven Need
- Project Goals
- Discussion and Q&A

Introductions

Panelists:



Neal Hamilton
*RTP Grant Coordinator,
SCPRT*



Jim Hemphill
*SC and GA Manager,
East Coast Greenway*



Ty Houck
*Director of Greenways,
Greenville County PRT*



Matt Moldenhauer
*Senior Planner,
Charleston County Parks*

Moderator:



Show of Hands!



Raise your hand if...

- Your jurisdiction is currently developing or considering a bike/ped/shared-use path plan.
- You are pursuing or have secured funding for design or construction.
- You have any projects completed or currently under construction.

Shared-use paths are more than just trails...



**They provide for
active, equitable
transportation.**





**They're a gym, free
and open to all.**

**They're a community
center bringing
people together.**





**They're a tourism
attraction,
good for local
business.**

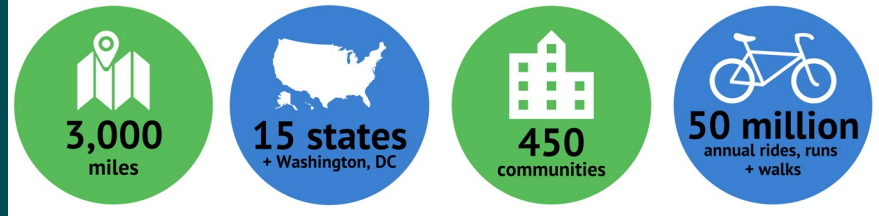
**They provide
access to nature
and mental
health.**





**They're resilient
infrastructure for
the future.**

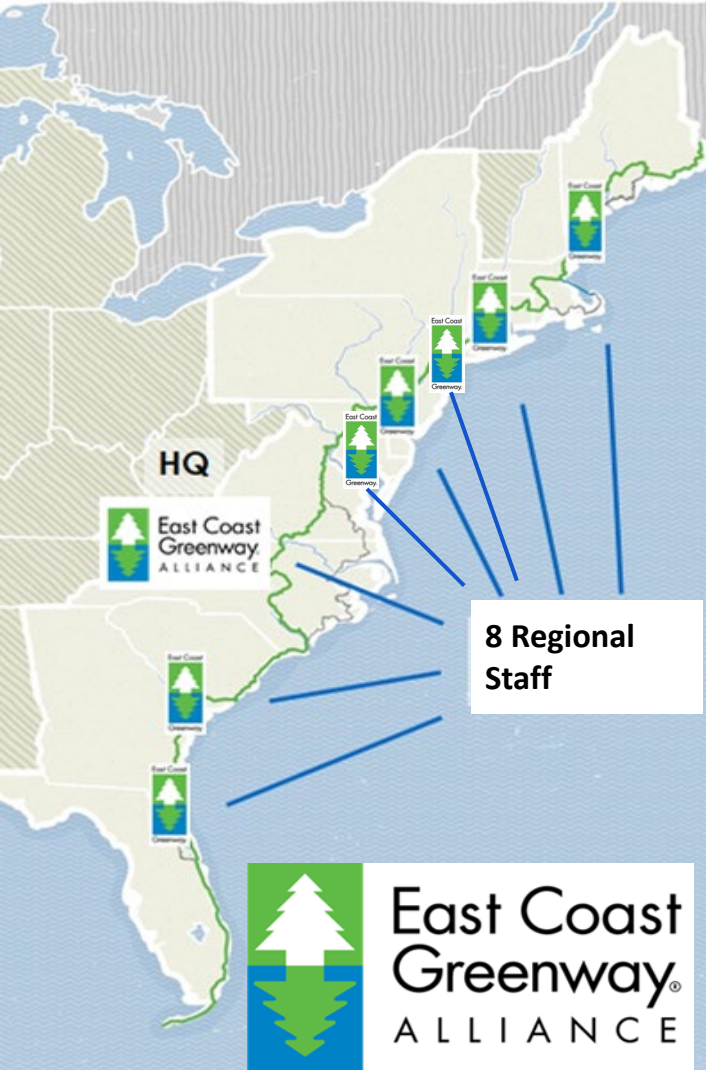
Connecting Maine to Florida:



Connects urban and rural areas along the most populated corridor of the United States.

Partners with local, state, and national agencies and organizations to...

Advocate, plan, and promote the development, stewardship, and public enjoyment of the East Coast Greenway.



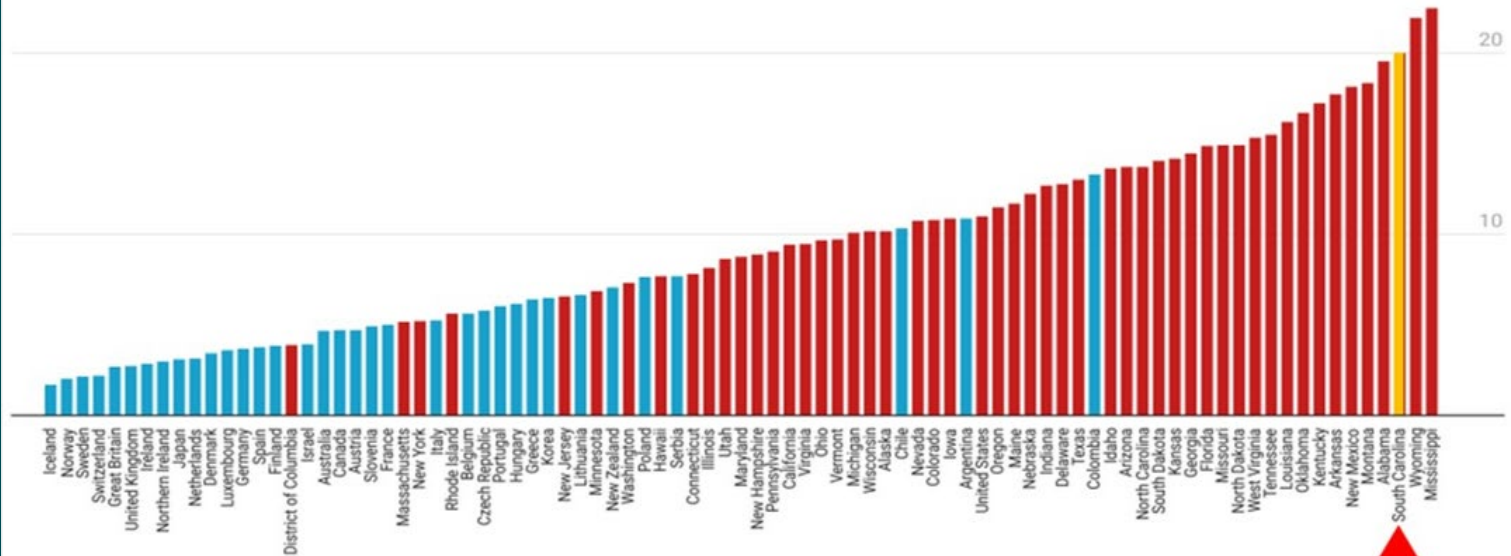
Closer to Home

- South Carolina has approximately 200+ miles of shared-use path. Several successful examples include:
 - Prisma Health Swamp Rabbit Trail (Greenville and Laurens Counties)
 - Shot Pouch Greenway (Sumter County)
 - Doodle Trail (Pickens County)
 - The Dan (Spartanburg County)
 - Carolina Thread Trail (NC/SC)
 - Grand Strand segment of East Coast Greenway (Horry County)
 - West Ashley Greenway and Bikeway (Charleston County)
 - Spanish Moss Trail (Beaufort County)
- There's always room for growth...

Traffic Deaths in South Carolina

Per Capita Traffic Fatalities in OECD and US States

The United States as a whole has a per capita traffic fatality rate of about twice the OECD average, and five times more deadly than leading countries. Data is traffic fatalities per 100,000 people.

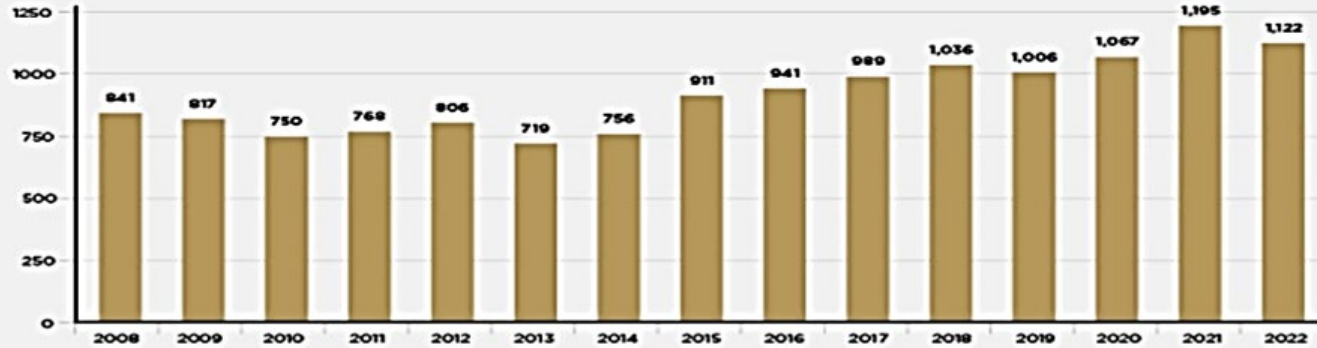


US states shown in Red. OECD countries in Blue. US traffic deaths per 100,000 created using 2015-2019 NHTSA data and 2019 B01003 5-year estimates from the American Community Survey.

Chart: The League of American Bicyclists • Source: IRTAD, NHTSA, and ACS • Created with Datawrapper

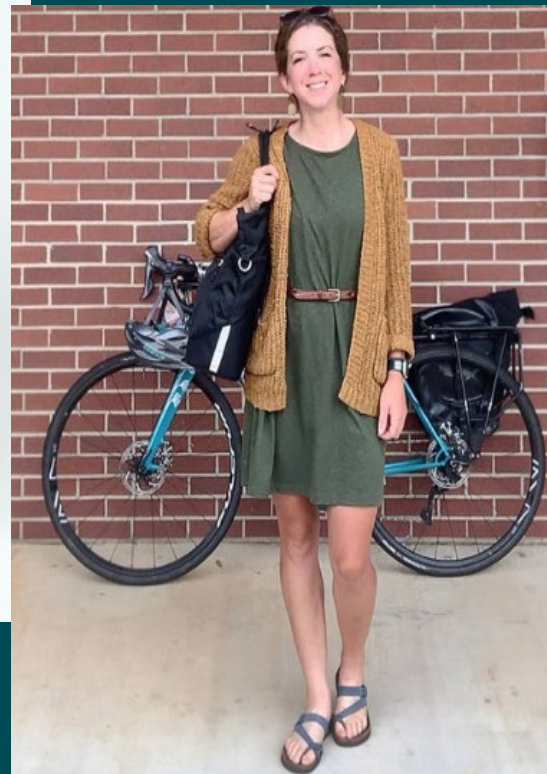
Traffic Deaths in South Carolina

South Carolina Traffic Fatalities by Year



2022 South Carolina Traffic Fatalities by County

Greenville	96	Spartanburg	54	Oconee	16
Horry	72	Lexington	42	Pickens	15
Richland	64	Anderson	41	Cherokee	14
Charleston	62	York	28	Union	9



So What is a
Swamp Rabbit?

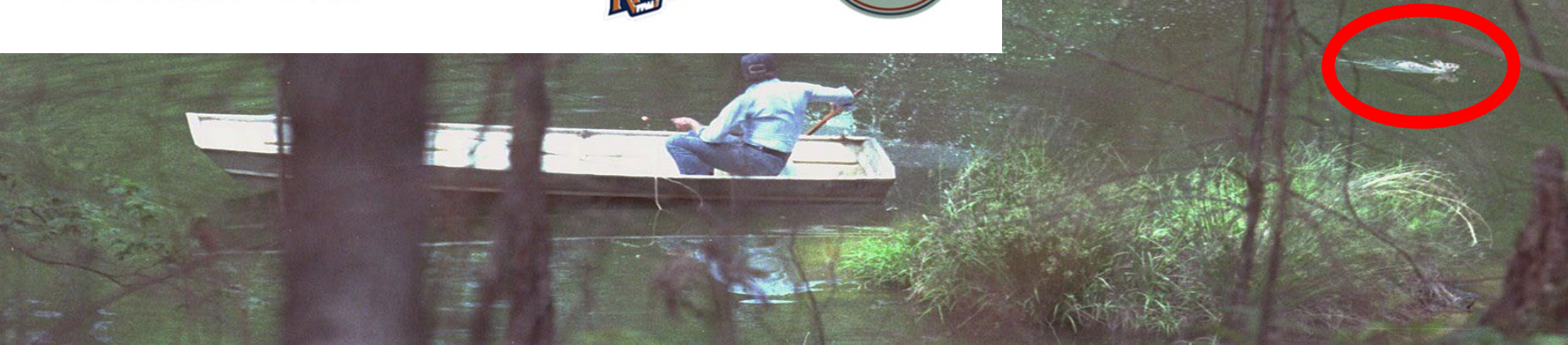
So What is a Swamp Rabbit?



So What is a Swamp Rabbit?



So What is a Swamp Rabbit?



So What is a Swamp Rabbit?



So What is a Swamp Rabbit?



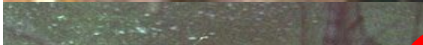
SWAMP RABBIT
CROSSFIT
GREENVILLE SC



So What is a Swamp Rabbit?



So What is a Swamp Rabbit?



So What is a Swamp Rabbit?



So What is a Swamp Rabbit?



So What is a Swamp Rabbit?



TRAILSIDE
Verdae



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the Greenville area's premier on-location bookshop.
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Your LOCAL choice for school book fairs!

COFFEE + BOOKS

BOOK FAIRS

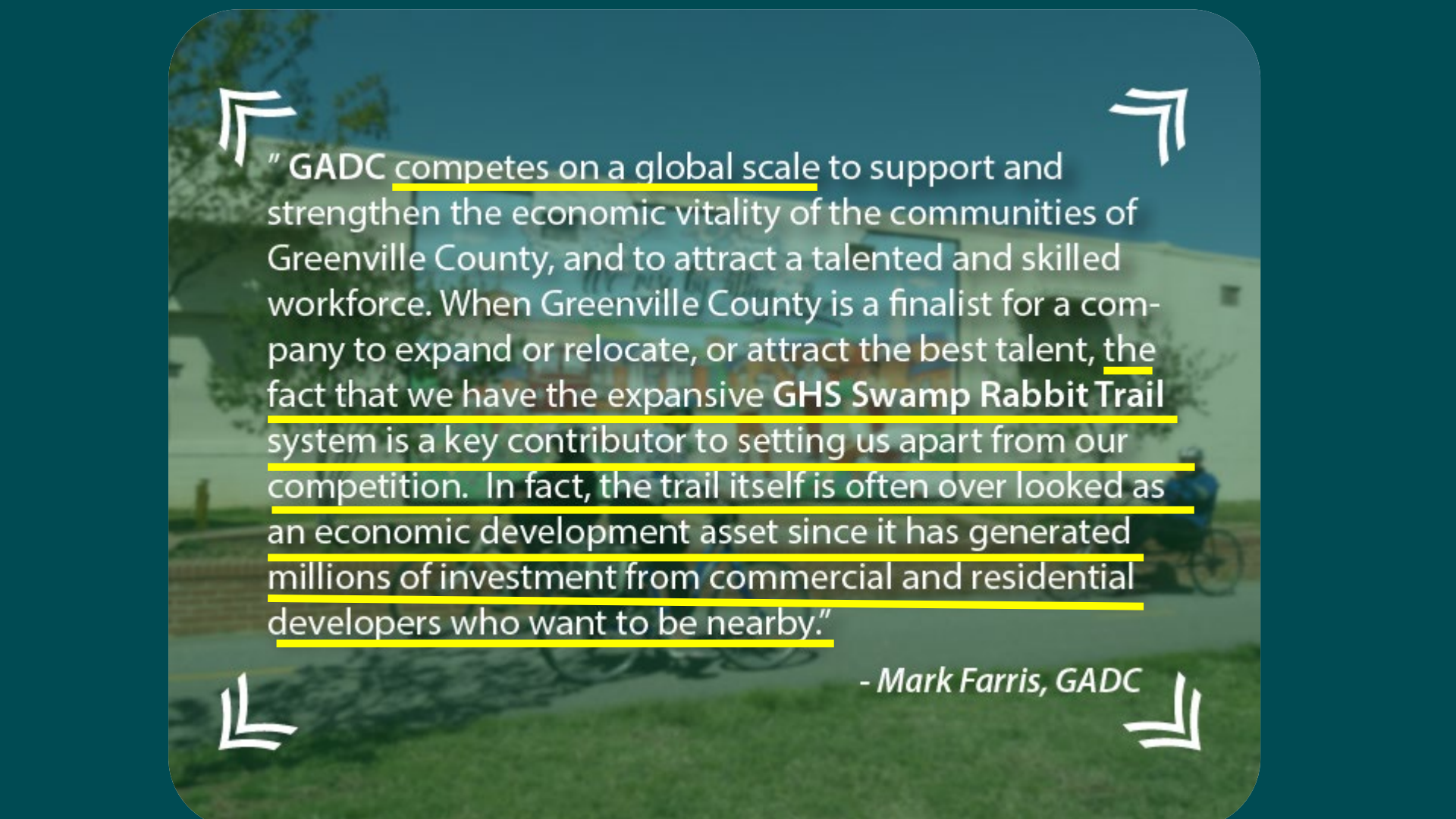


Prisma Health Swamp Rabbit Trail Network

Goals:

- To connect communities through inclusive active recreation.
- Develop a network of shared-use paths that encourage pedestrian-scale development.





" GADC competes on a global scale to support and strengthen the economic vitality of the communities of Greenville County, and to attract a talented and skilled workforce. When Greenville County is a finalist for a company to expand or relocate, or attract the best talent, the fact that we have the expansive GHS Swamp Rabbit Trail system is a key contributor to setting us apart from our competition. In fact, the trail itself is often over looked as an economic development asset since it has generated millions of investment from commercial and residential developers who want to be nearby."

- Mark Farris, GADC



DISCOVERING GREENVILLE

Positioned alongside the Reedy River and the Swamp Rabbit trail, our apartment community places your local Greenville favorites just a short walk or paddle away. Support local farmers and artisans or fuel up on cafe favorites at the Swamp Rabbit Cafe. Kickstart your steps from your front door. Or stroll in the other direction to explore the electrifying buzz of downtown. Grab a cold coffee from Our South, enjoy outdoor yoga and your fave ice cream at Sticky Fly South, or savor a taco at White Duck Tacos. Hit the trail for a two-mile ride into downtown, or adventure further by taking the foot path or trail through Greenville and into Traveler's Rest.



VIEW LOCATION

57+ acres complete, UC, or planned (13% total acres)

4 multi use/residential projects (1117 apts)

177k sf retail/commercial

ASM Q2 2025

Water Tower Q4 2024

Poe Q4 2026

What makes a greenway?

What makes a greenway?

“[Greenways]...are America’s new “main street,” where people can go on foot or by bicycle to meet each other, engage with friends, family, and even those they don’t know, and share the experience of being outdoors.

- Charles “Chuck” Flink, *The Greenway Imperative*

Shot Pouch Greenway

- The greenway provides a **safe and efficient route for cyclists and pedestrians** and **improved connections to neighborhoods, parks, goods, and services.**
- The Shot Pouch Greenway is an entirely paved trail that provides accessible outdoor recreation opportunities to people of all ages.
- The greenway also provides protected greenspace in the heart of the city and a natural buffer of land along the Shot Pouch Branch helping protect the quality of water and the abundant wildlife that lives in the area.



Shot Pouch Greenway

- Vision dates back to 2000, Mayor Joe McElveen.
- Added to MPO Long Range Transportation Plan and first segment established in 2007.
- Funds awarded for remaining portion 15 years later, via Penny Sales Tax.
- Intended termini were Dillon Park at North, and Swan Lake at South, intersecting downtown Sumter.
- Hope to establish a “Grand Loop”, as identified in their Long Range Transportation Plan.



Shot Pouch Greenway

- 3.1-mile path in Sumter, SC



SP SHOT POUCH GREENWAY



Shot Pouch Greenway Project Photos



Pedestrian Bridge: Dillon Park



Greenway Access: Dicks Street



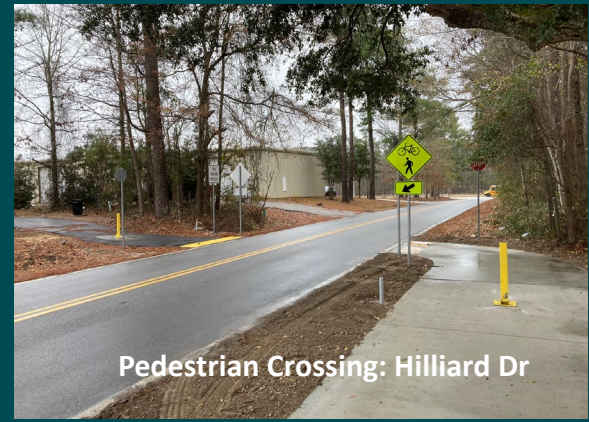
Bike Rack: Swan Lake



Pedestrian Hybrid Beacons: Broad Street



New Asphalt: YMCA



Pedestrian Crossing: Hilliard Dr

Lessons Learned from Shot Pouch Greenway

- Establish “logical termini”. Establish segments where you can, even if they seem isolated.
- Work to close gaps in the network.
- Document your ideas and incorporate into a comprehensive plan and your Long Range Transportation Plan.
- Invite community input early-on, and track public input and interest in the planning process.
- Identify creative funding sources for future project implementation.



Recreational Trails Program



RTP is a federally-funded grant program of the U.S. Dept. of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) that offers financial support to states for the development and upkeep of recreational trails and trail-related facilities.



Discussion / Q&A

Rethink Folly Road

- Corridor having parcels in City of Charleston, Town of James Island, and Charleston County
- Master plan adopted 2016
- Zoning overlays for adopted ~2017

2019

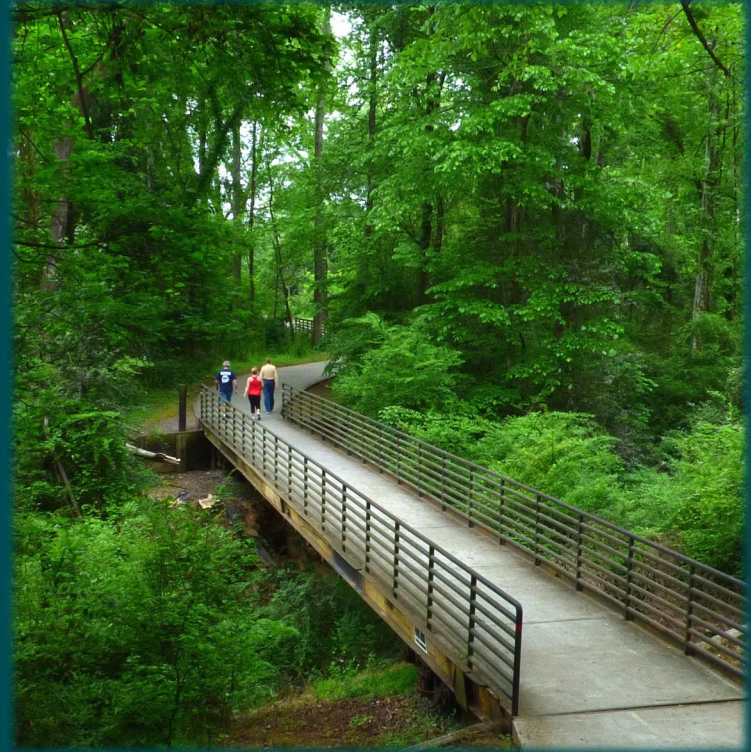


2024



Recreational Trails Program

- Local, State, and Federal agencies, as well as established 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations can apply
- The RTP project agreement period is 18 months
- 25-year project compliance term
- Project sponsors must follow the state procurement code and regulations
- RTP is a reimbursement grant that requires at least a 20% match — project sponsor pays 100% upfront — RTP reimburses up to 80% of total project cost
- For more information, contact Neal Hamilton at (803) 734-0735 or nhamilton@scprt.com



Tools in our Toolbox

- Accessibility
- Context-sensitive design
- Funding
- Facility details
- Connections
- Safety

Swamp Rabbit success, Spartanburg development drive grand Upstate trail vision

Jay King · November 21, 2024



GREENVILLE JOURNAL

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OBITUAR



The Rail Yard Community Park at 353 Forest Ave, Spartanburg. Photo by Jay King



Not so long ago, bike and pedestrian trails were regarded as nice to have but not a community necessity.

That's no longer the case. The transformative example of the Prisma Health Swamp Rabbit Trail Network in Greenville County has demonstrated both the public demand for such trails and the economic impact that demand has on surrounding communities.

facebook



City increases, more people can enjoy the pleasure and economic benefits of bike commuting.

