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Michael Baker  
INTERNATIONAL



# HEPMPO

## WV 9 Bike Path Connectivity Plan

May 7, 2026

Public Meeting



# Meeting Agenda

- 1 PROJECT OVERVIEW
- 2 OPPORTUNITIES & CHALLENGES
- 3 OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT
- 4 PANHANDLE REGIONAL CONNECTOR PATH
- 5 NEXT STEPS

Hagerstown  
Eastern Panhandle  
MPO

## WV Route 9 Bike Path Connectivity Plan

April 2026  
**Draft for Public Comment**

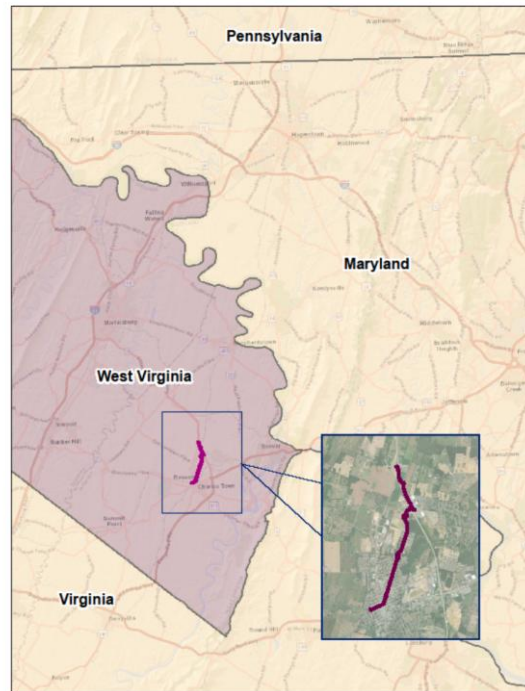
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# PROJECT OVERVIEW

# Study Area

- Portions of Ranson and Charles Town, WV
- Corridor formed by WV Route 9
- Links key activity centers
- Newer subdivisions
- Shared urban core



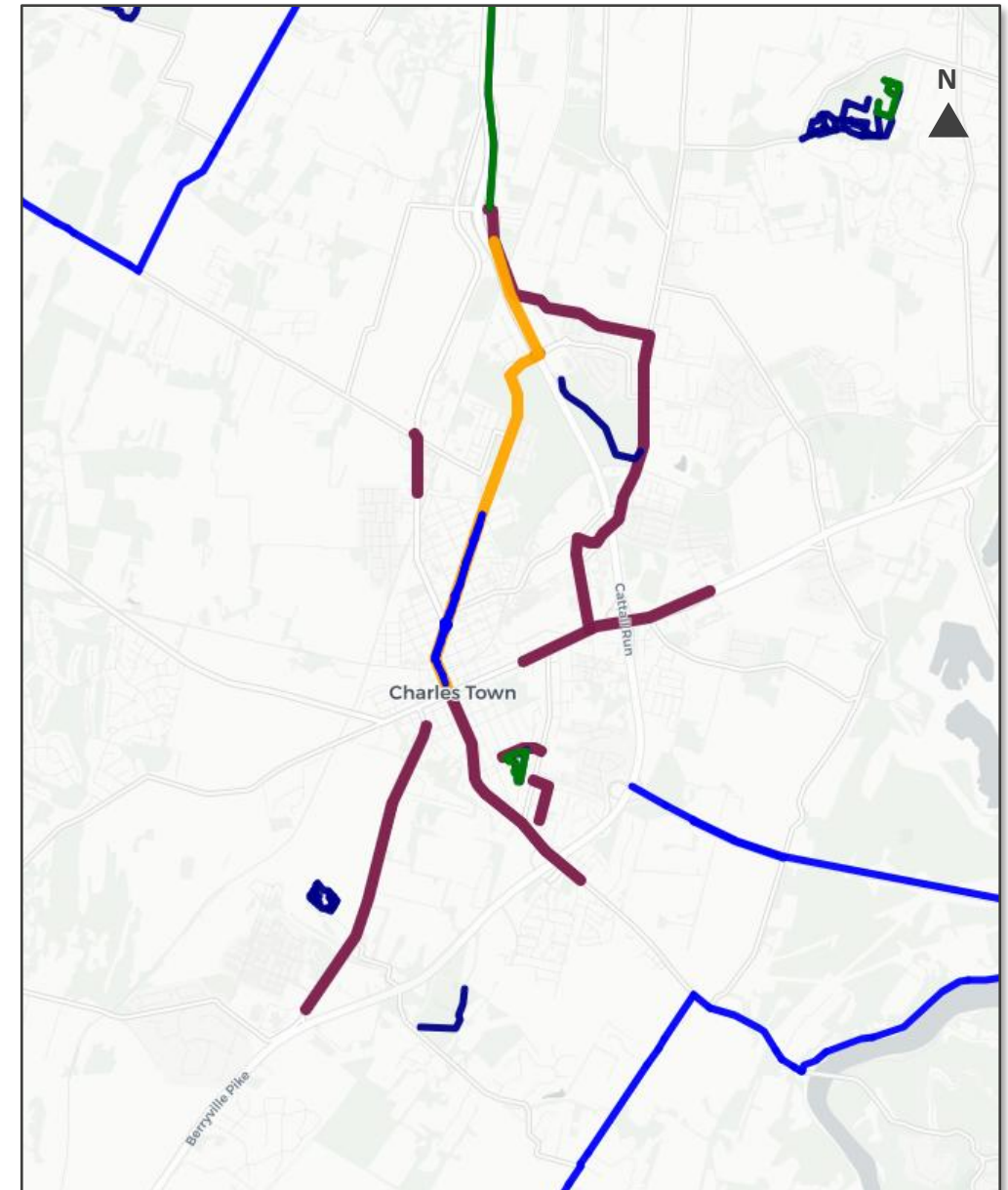
# Project Overview

- Builds upon HEPMPO Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Recommendation
  - Extend existing bike path through Ranson or along Flowing Springs Road to Washington Street in Charles Town
- Evaluate and propose solutions for extending the WV Route 9 Bike Path to Charles Town, WV.

## Goal:

- Enhance safety, accessibility, and connectivity
- Promote sustainable transportation
- Promote recreational opportunities

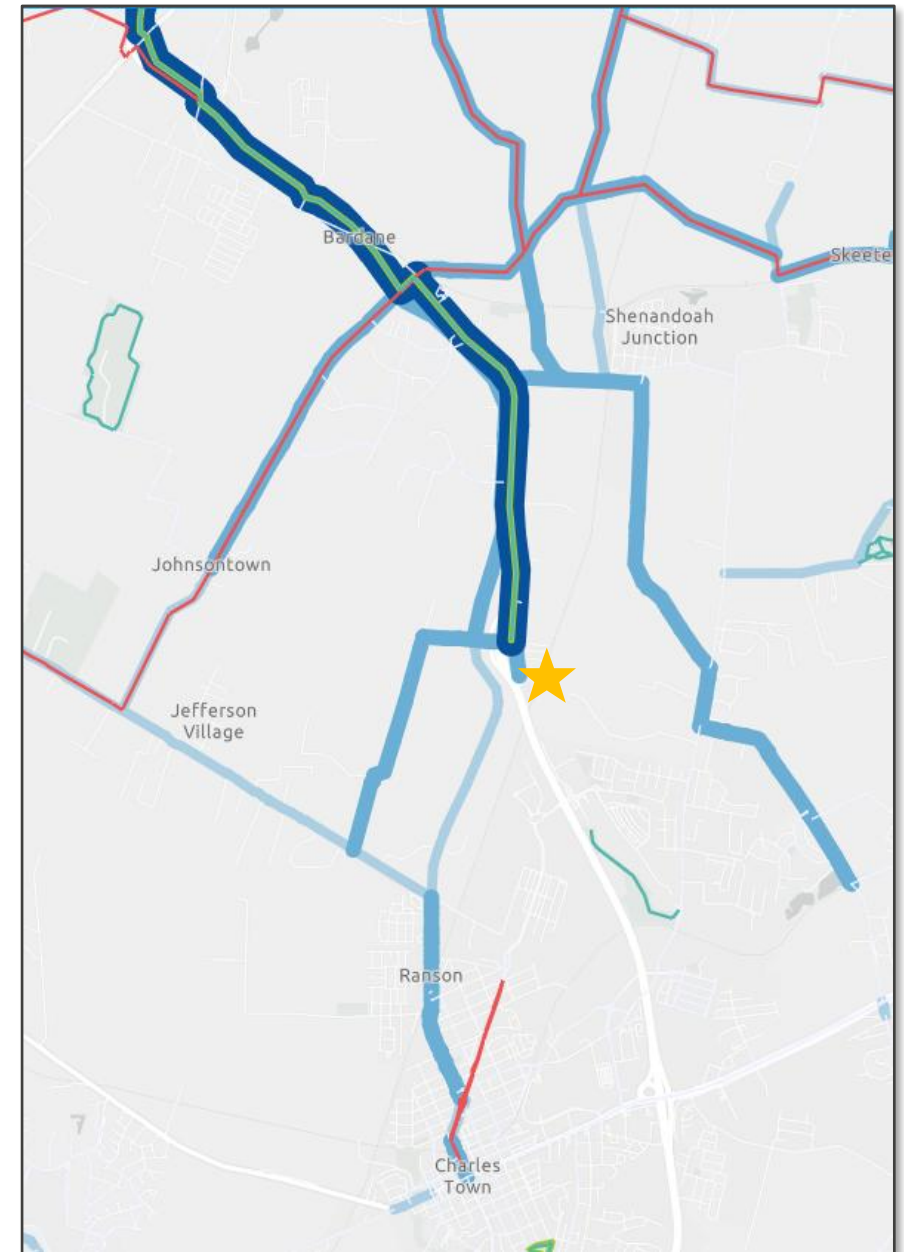
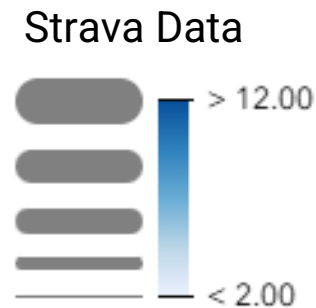
- HEPMPO Shared Lane or Bicycle Route
- HEPMPO Off Street Shared-Use Path
- HEPMPO Trails
- Fairfax Blvd Path Extension
- Draft Project Ideas



# Existing Path Overview

- WV 9 Route Bike Path
  - Approx. 10 miles long
  - Currie Road to Grapevine Road

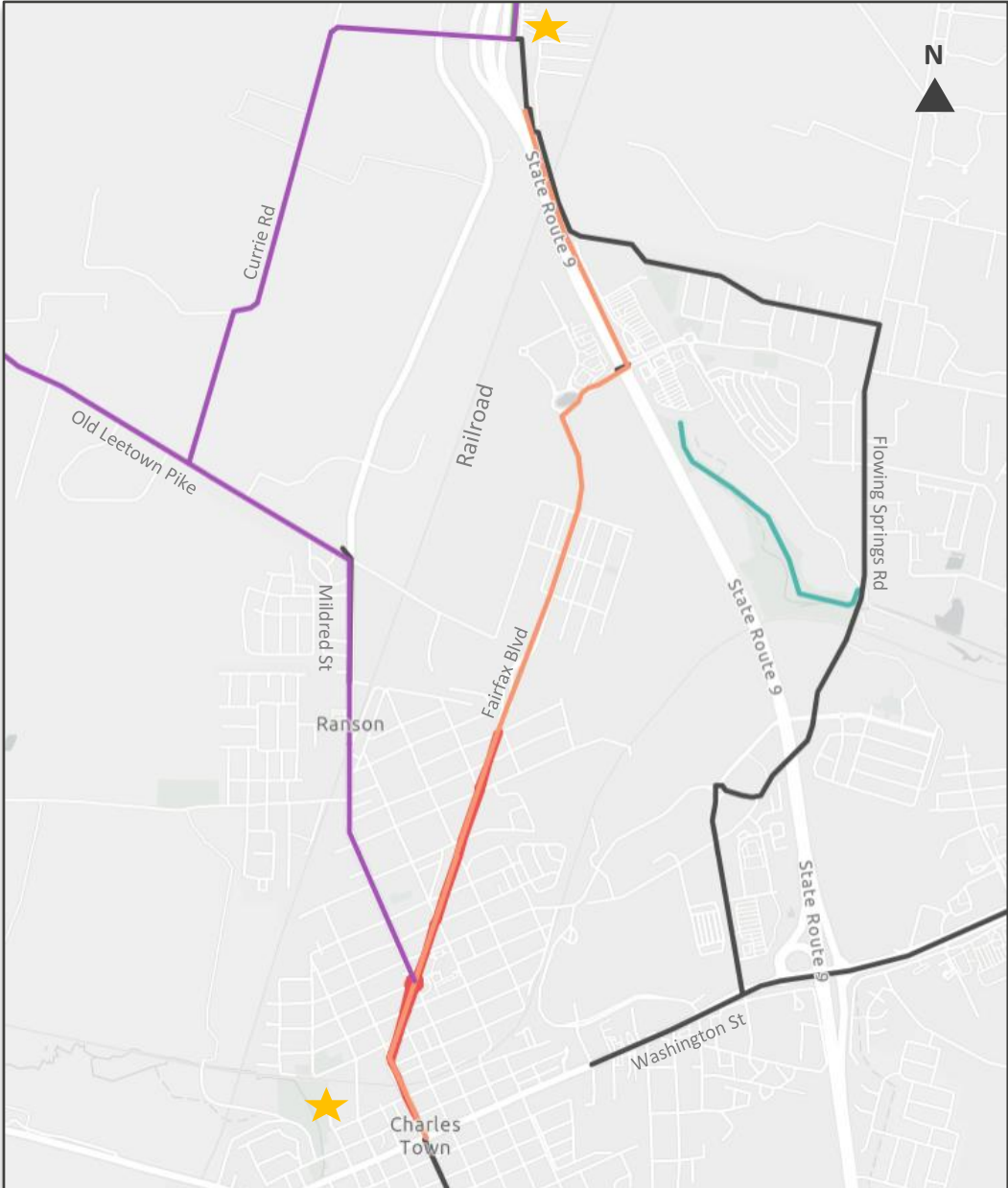
- HEPMPO Trails (Existing)
- HEPMPO Shared Lane or Bicycle Route (Existing)
- ★ Route End Point



# Bike Routes Identified in Previous Studies

## Legend

- Currie Rd Path Extension (Recommendation)
- Fairfax Blvd Path Extension (Recommendation)
- Draft Projects Idea (Recommendation)
- HEPMPO Trails (Existing)
- HEPMPO Shared Lane or Bicycle Route (Existing)
- ★ Route Start and End Points



# On-going Activities

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## Studies & Plans

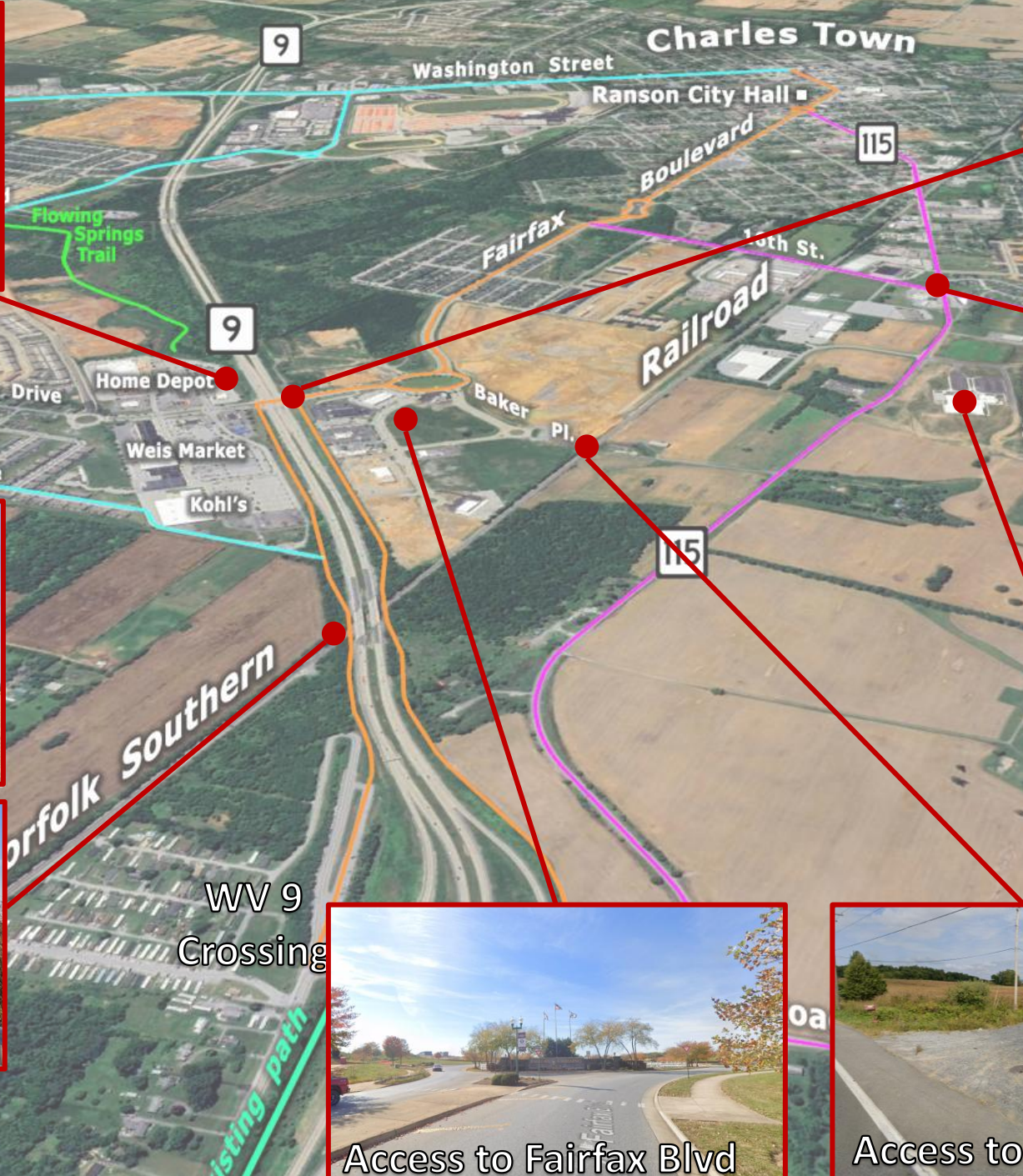
- HEPMPO Regional Safety Action Plan
- HEPMPO Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan
- HEPMPO LRTP
- City of Ranson Pedestrian & Bicycle Bridge Feasibility Study
- City of Ranson Comprehensive Plan
- Jefferson County Comprehensive Plan
- City of Charles Town Comprehensive Plan

## Developments

- Ranson Elementary School (Institutional)
- Wawa Convenience Store (Commercial)
- Potomac Towne Center (Commercial)
- President's Point (Residential)
- Strider Property (Residential)
- Huntwell (Residential)
- Shenandoah Springs (Residential)
- Briar Run (Residential)
- Ranson Heights (Residential)
- Lakeland Place (Residential)
- Red Clover Meadows (Residential)
- Kable Townhomes (Residential)
- West Branch Apartments (Residential)
- Madison Greens (Residential)

# **OPPORTUNITIES & CHALLENGES**





# OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT

# Study Steering Committee

- Provided input & feedback
  - Assess current bicycle network
- Identified issues, concerns, improvements & opportunities
  - Safety, connectivity, destinations
- Identified four bike path alternatives

## Comprised of key stakeholders

- State, local, regional government, community organizations, advocacy groups, businesses




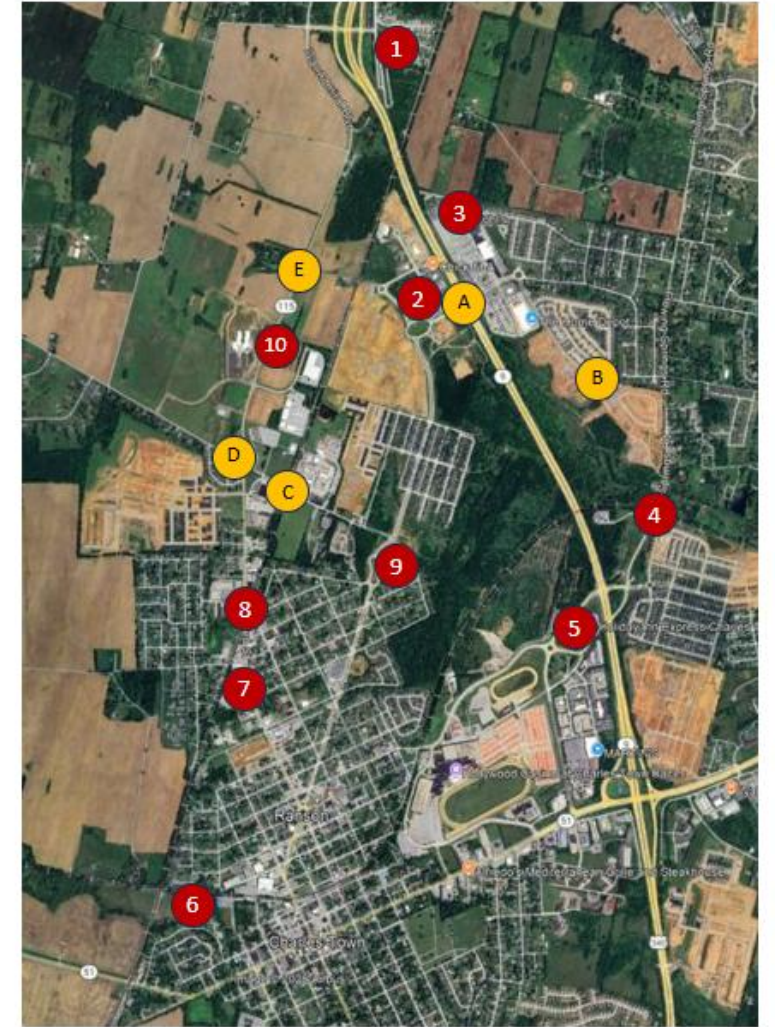
# SITE VISIT

## Stop Locations for Site Visit:





1. Park & Ride
2. Dollar Tree/Baker Place
  - A. WV 9 and Fairfax Blvd/Oak Lee Dr
3. Kohl's
  - B. Presidents Pointe Ave/Briar Run Dr
4. Flowing Spring Road
5. Holiday Inn
6. Evitts Run/Civic Center
7. Ranson Visitor Center
8. Mildred St & Railroad Crossing
9. Fairfax Blvd & Park Ave
  - C. 16<sup>th</sup> Street & Railroad Crossing
  - D. Old Leetown Pike & 115
10. Ranson Elementary School
  - E. Strider Property

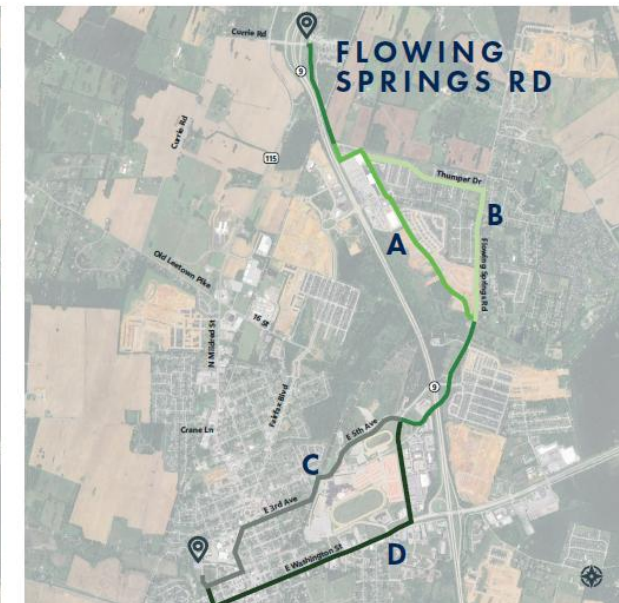
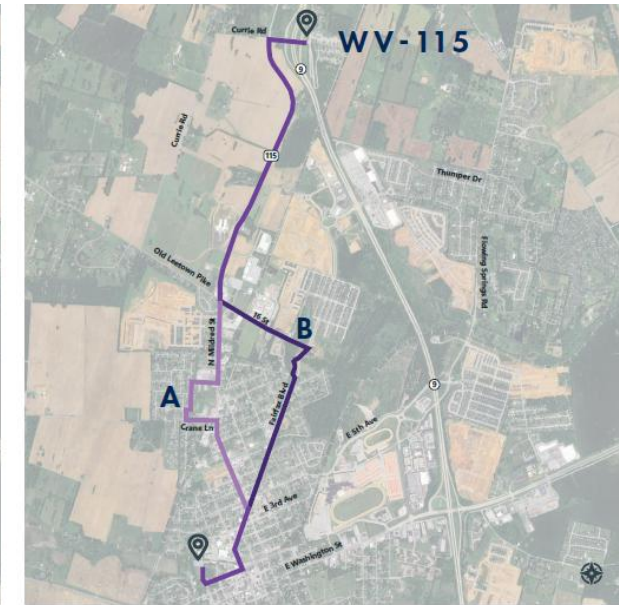
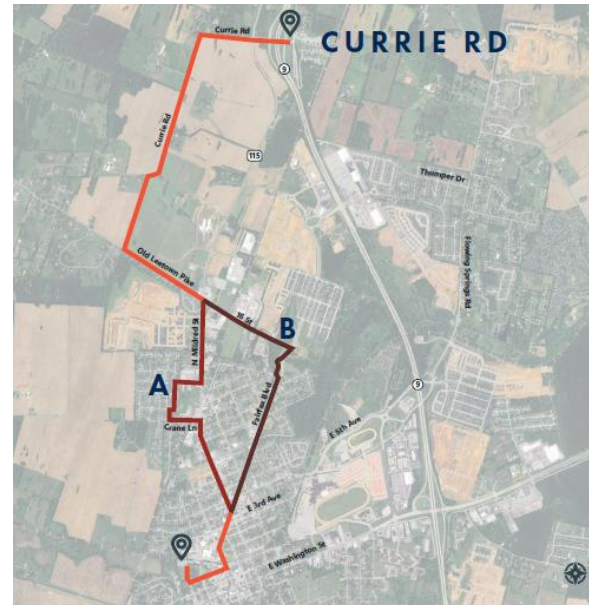
 Site Visit Stop

 Not a Stop but location of concern



# Route Alternatives

- Four Route Alignments
  - Currie Road 
  - WV 115 
  - WV 9 Crossing 
  - Flowing Springs Road 



Each Alignment consists of:

- Primary Alignment
- At least 2 Alternative Alignments

# Public Workshop

- Workshop - December 16, 2025
  - Project Overview
  - 10 Route Alternatives
- Public Comment Period
  - Interactive Online Mapping
  - December 15 – January 15

## Purpose:

- Provide feedback
- Suggest alternative alignments
- Vote for preferred alternative



# Public Feedback

ROUTE OPTION	ALIGNMENT OPTIONS	WORKSHOP VOTES	FIRST RANKING SURVEY RESULTS	TOTAL
Currie Road	Alternative A	4	4	8
Currie Road	Alternative B	-	1	1
WV 115	Alternative A	4	1	5
WV 115	Alternative B	1	3	4
WV 9 Crossing	Alternative A	1	6	7
<b>WV 9 Crossing</b>	<b>Alternative B</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>15</b>
Flowing Springs Road	Alternative A + Alternative C	2	3	5
Flowing Springs Road	Alternative A + Alternative D	-	-	-
Flowing Springs Road	Alternative B + Alternative C	-	1	1
Flowing Springs Road	Alternative B + Alternative D	-	1	1

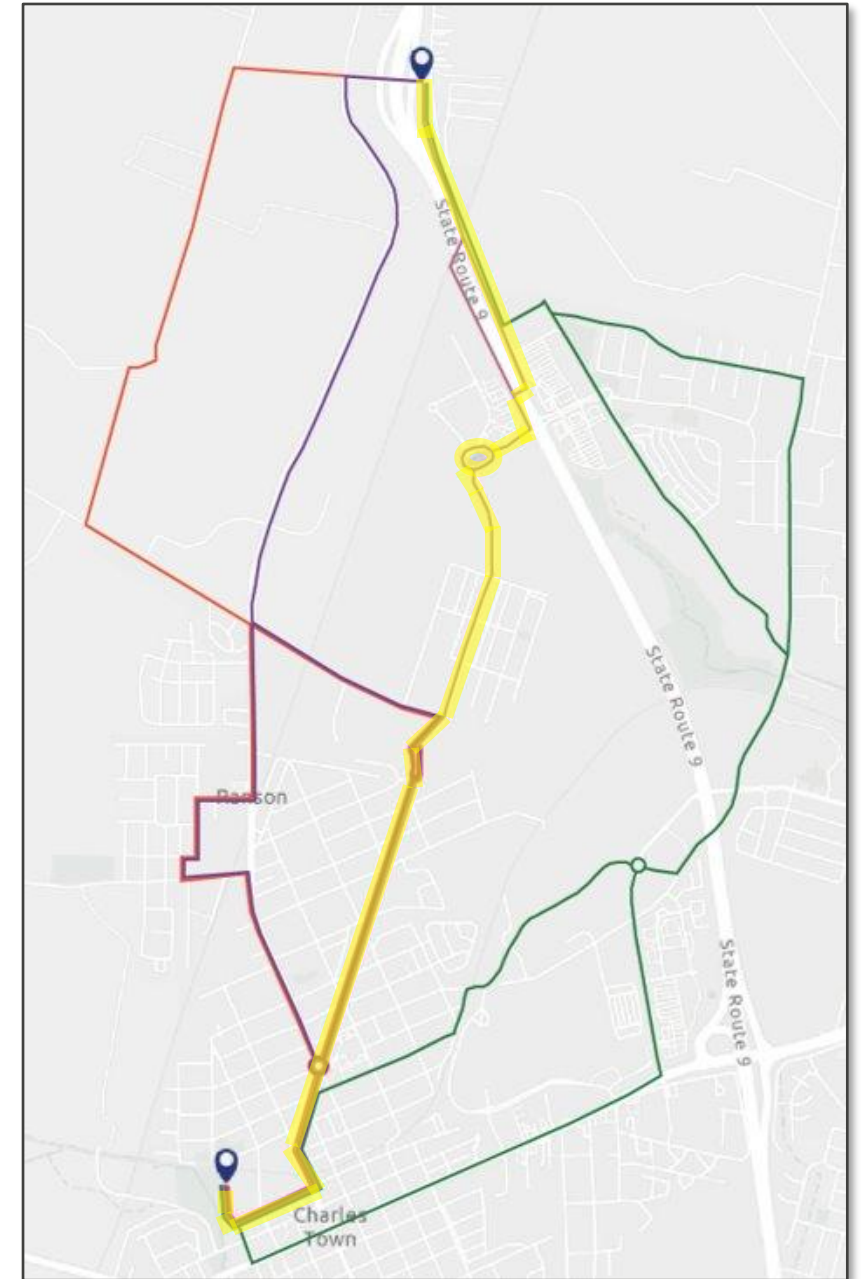
— Currie Road

— WV 115

— WV 9 Crossing

— WV 9 Crossing (Alt. B)

— Flowing Springs Road



# PANHANDLE REGIONAL CONNECTOR PATH

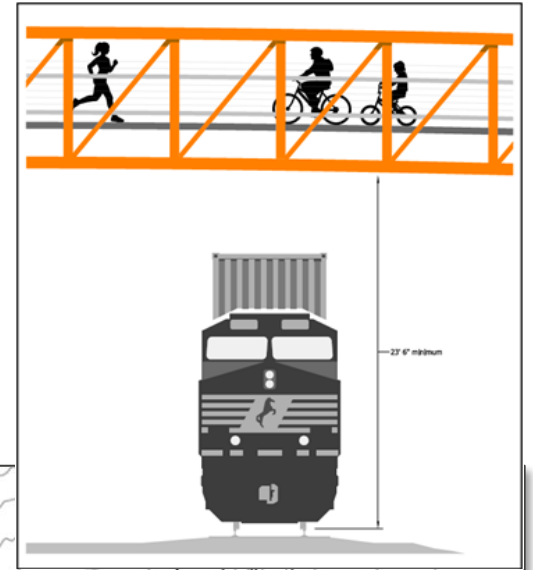
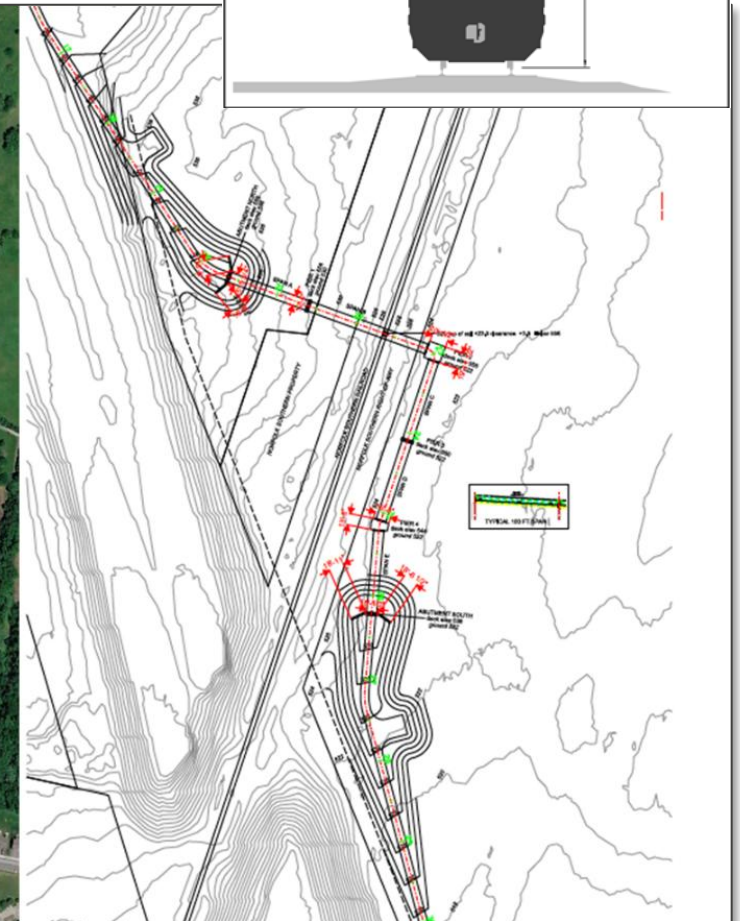
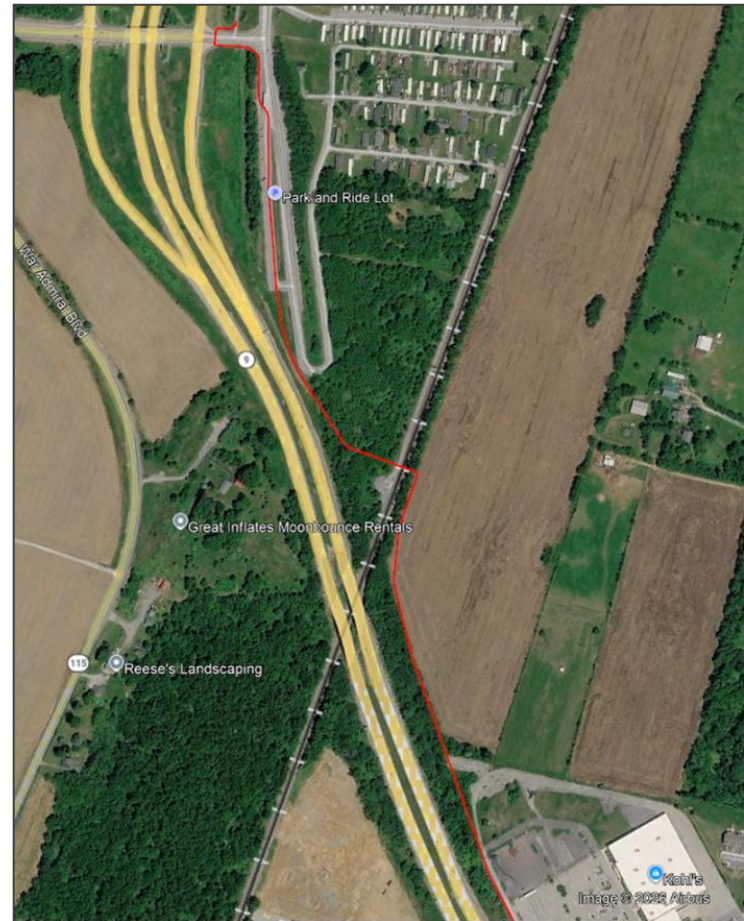
# Panhandle Regional Connector Path

- 3.33-Mile Pedestrian/Cycling Trail
  - Follows WV 9 Crossing Alternative B
  - 2 Bridge Crossings
- Northern Terminus:
  - 10.5-Mile WV Route 9 Bike Path (Existing)
- Southern Terminus:
  - 4.5-Mile Augustine Trail (Under Construction)



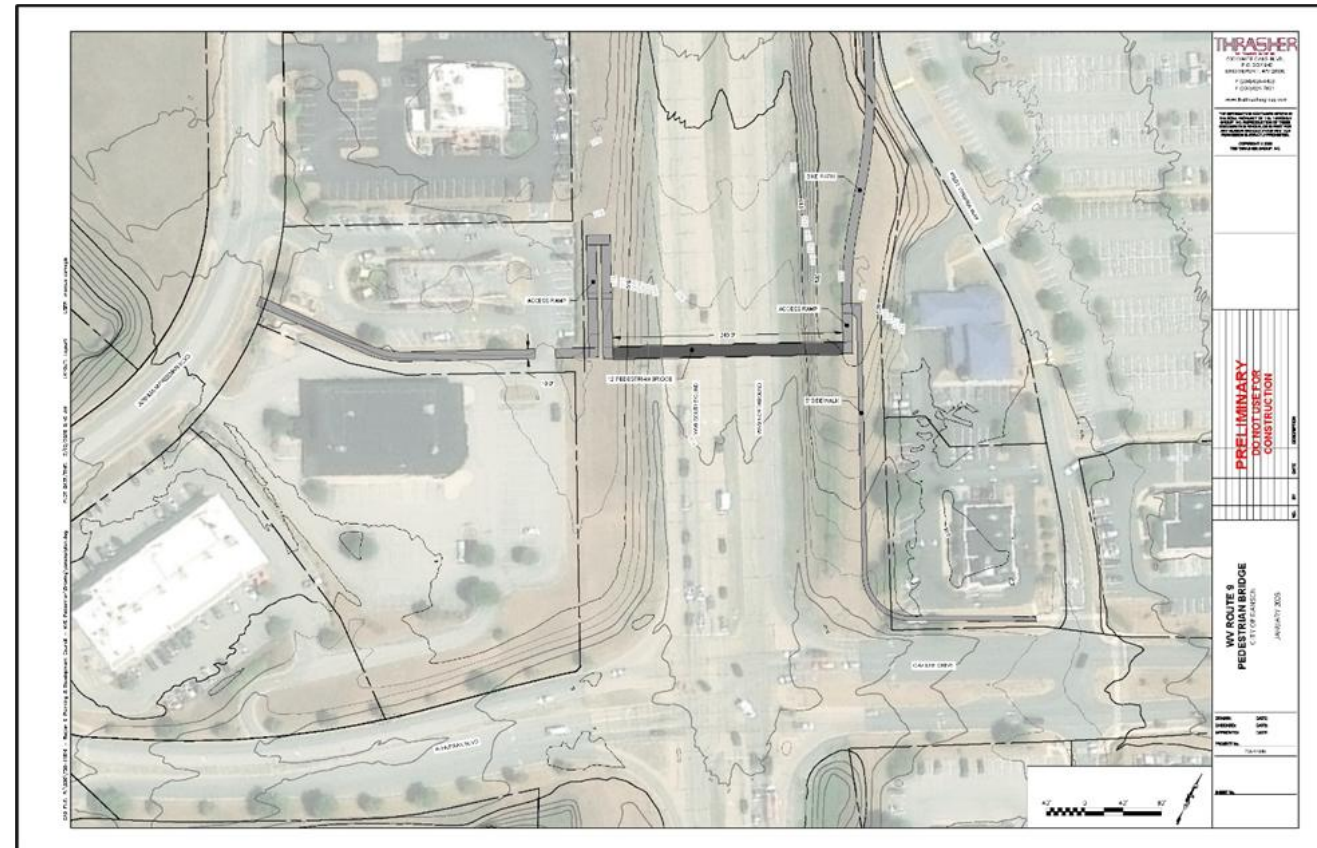
# Barrier 1 - N/S Railroad

- Railroad Bridge
  - Long ADA-compliant approach ramps
  - Vertical Clearance
  - ROW Acquisition



# Barrier 2 – WV Route 9 Intersection

- WV Route 9 Bridge
  - Long ADA-compliant approach ramps
  - Coordination with WVDOH



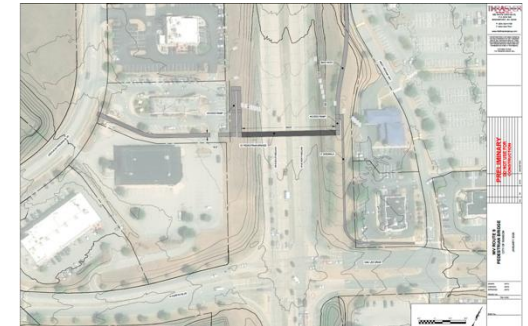
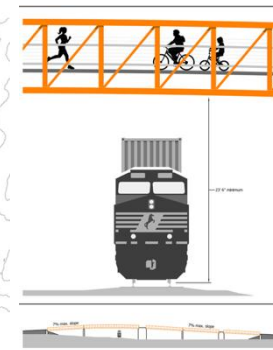
\*Prepared by The Thrasher Group

# USDOT BUILD Grant

- Funds projects that will have a significant local or regional impact and improve transportation infrastructure.
- Requested: \$1.27 million (100% federal-share) for engineering, design and environmental review.
- HEPMPO applicant of record; if awarded will be administered by WVDOT.
- Application unanimously supported by City Councils of both Ranson and of Charles Town.
- Submission: February 24, 2026
- Awards Announced:
  - No later than June 28, 2026



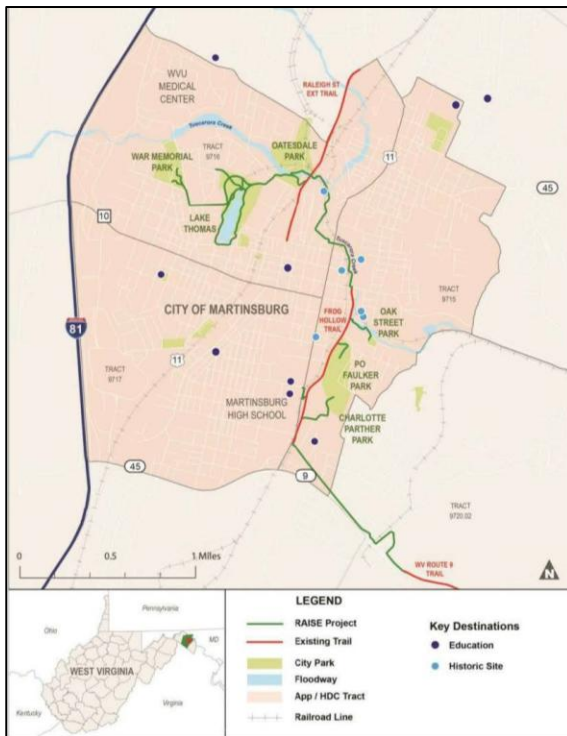
Rail Bridge Design Concept



# Connectivity in the Region

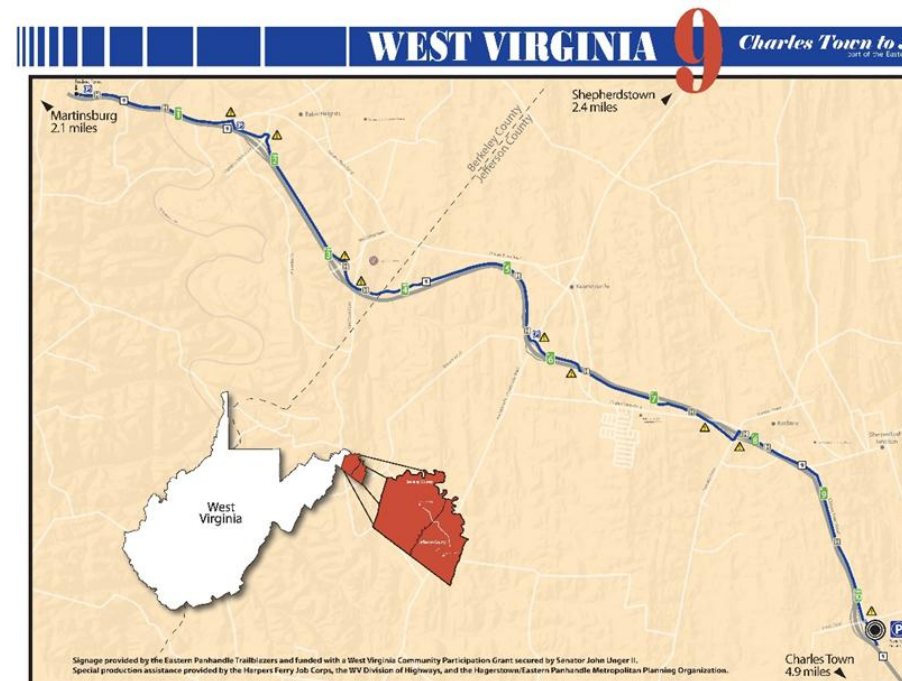
## 6.2-Mile Martinsburg Greenway Trail

- \$20.8M RAISE Grant
- Multi-use path from Grapevine Road to War Memorial Park



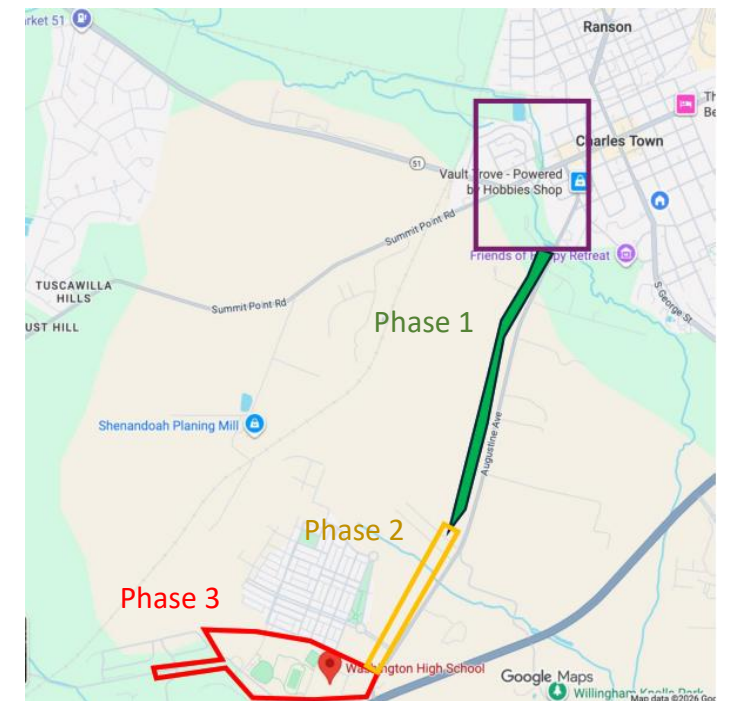
## 10.5-Mile WV Route 9 Bike Path

- Existing path built parallel to WV Route 9



## 4.5-Mile Augustine Trail

- CDSR Earmark Funding
- Phase 1 completed, Phase 2 under construction



WV 9 Bike Path Connectivity Plan

# Costing

- Panhandle REC trail will cost \$9.9 million to build
  - Over 80% is dedicated to the 2 bridges
- Cost includes:
  - pavements, engineering, signage and markings, structures, and contingencies
- Does not include:
  - ROW acquisition or utilities

Trail Element	Cost
Bike Trail	\$1,659,000
Railroad Truss Bridge	\$3,702,000
Pedestrian Bridge	\$4,544,228
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$9,905,228</b>

# Funding Opportunities

Program	Level	Best For
Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG)	Federal / State	Bicycle and pedestrian projects, planning studies, and trail connections
Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP)	Federal / State	Safety projects to achieve significant reductions in fatalities and serious injuries
Transportation Alternatives (TAP)	Federal / State	Sidewalks, bike lanes, shared-use paths
Recreational Trails Program (RTP)	Federal / State	Off-road trails
Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD)	Federal	Large, regional trail corridors
Safe Streets for All (SS4A)	Federal	Safety planning & improvements
Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC)	Federal / Regional	Trails + economic development
Congressional Directed Spending Request (CDSR)	Federal	Highway and bridge construction, planning, design, and right-of-way acquisition

# NEXT STEPS

# Next Steps

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- Public Comment period open April 15 – May 15
  - Email comments to: [mmullenax@hepmpo.net](mailto:mmullenax@hepmpo.net)
  - Submit comments online: <https://hepmpo.com/about-us/contact/>
- Online [StoryMap](#) published
- Incorporate Public Feedback
- Finalize Report
  - Comprehensive document of findings, data analysis, design alternatives, preferred alternative

# Contact Information



Visit the HEP MPO Website @  
[www.hepmo.com](http://www.hepmo.com)



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