



Agenda Item IV

DATE: October 17, 2019
TO: Plan for Ashuelot Rail Trail Project Advisory Committee
FROM: SWRPC Staff
RE: Draft Plan and Implementation Plan

Background

SWRPC staff have completed a draft Plan for Ashuelot Rail Trail. The Plan's contents include information about the planning process, findings, and recommendations. The Plan was intentionally designed to be brief, in part to emphasize the vision, goals, objectives, and implementation steps that will lead to positive change over the course of the next 10 years. The background information and data used to develop the Plan was placed in the appendix.

The draft Plan is attached for review. When reviewing the Plan, consider the following:

- The time period of the Plan is 10 years and includes both ongoing efforts and short-term goals. Therefore, progress towards a goal should be able to be observed and measured during that time.
- The audience of the Plan will include a wide variety of individuals and groups, including trail owners and managers, host municipalities, stakeholders representing trails and/or specific users, landowners, legislators, grantors/granting agencies, planners, and the general public.
- Improving the trail will always require coordination and collaboration from multiple parties. The Plan does not guarantee implementation funding, but offers ideas on funding sources.
- Is there anything missing? Should something be changed?

Following feedback from the Project Advisory Committee, SWRPC recommends the following steps and timeline:

- Set a 1-week deadline for any additional feedback from Project Advisory Committee members.
- Incorporate changes in the draft document by 11/1/19 and publicize 30-day comment period via, SWRPC newsletters, SWRPC Facebook page and project website and database.
- Collect comments via online survey tool.

- Compile comments and share them with the Project Advisory Committee at a meeting in December 2019 (date to be determined).

Recommendation

Review the draft Plan and provide feedback to SWRPC staff by October 24, 2019.