



LAFAYETTE COLLEGE EASTON-PALMER-FORKS REGIONAL MULTIMODAL TRAIL

**OPEN HOUSE (MEETING 2)
POTENTIAL TRAIL OPPORTUNITIES (ALTERNATIVES)**

APRIL 27, 2026

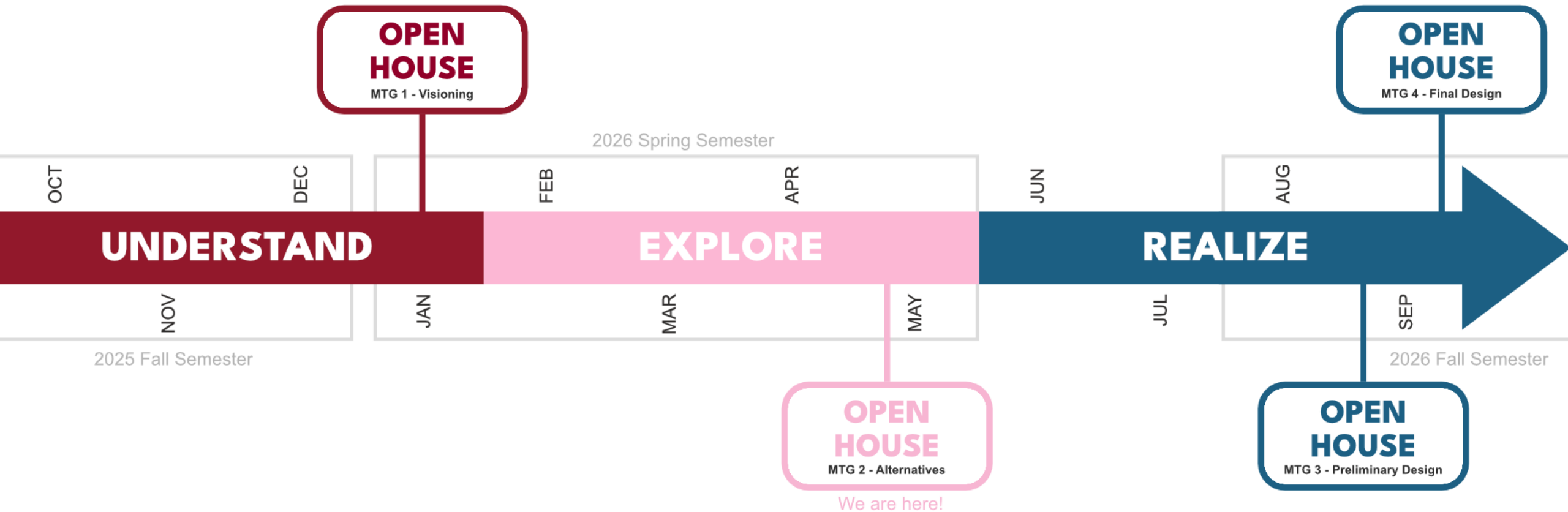
AGENDA

OPEN HOUSE MEETING 2



- **Campus & Community Engagement Updates**
- **Open House Summary**
- **Analysis Recap & Site Exploration**
- **Goals & Objectives**
- **Next Steps**
- **Today's Discussion**

SCHEDULE



ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES



Public Community Meetings & Activities

- Online Survey (Survey Closed 02.20.2026)
- Open House #1: Visioning Workshop (01.28.2026)
 - Goal: Understand vision and goals for the Trail
- **Open House #2: Concept Alternatives Presentation (04.27.2026)**
 - **Goal: Define design direction by receiving feedback on preliminary options**
- **Open House #3: Preliminary Trail Segment Review / Feedback**
 - Goal: Receive feedback on Trail design to inform final plan
- **Open House #4: Final Trail / Implementation Plan Presentation**
 - Goal: Inform students and community about final design

A group of people, including students and community members, are gathered in a room with large windows. They are seated at tables covered with white cloths, engaged in various activities like looking at materials, talking, and working on projects. Some people are standing and looking at a table in the background. The room has a drop ceiling with recessed lighting and wooden trim around the windows. The overall atmosphere is collaborative and focused.

CAMPUS / COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

ENGAGEMENT

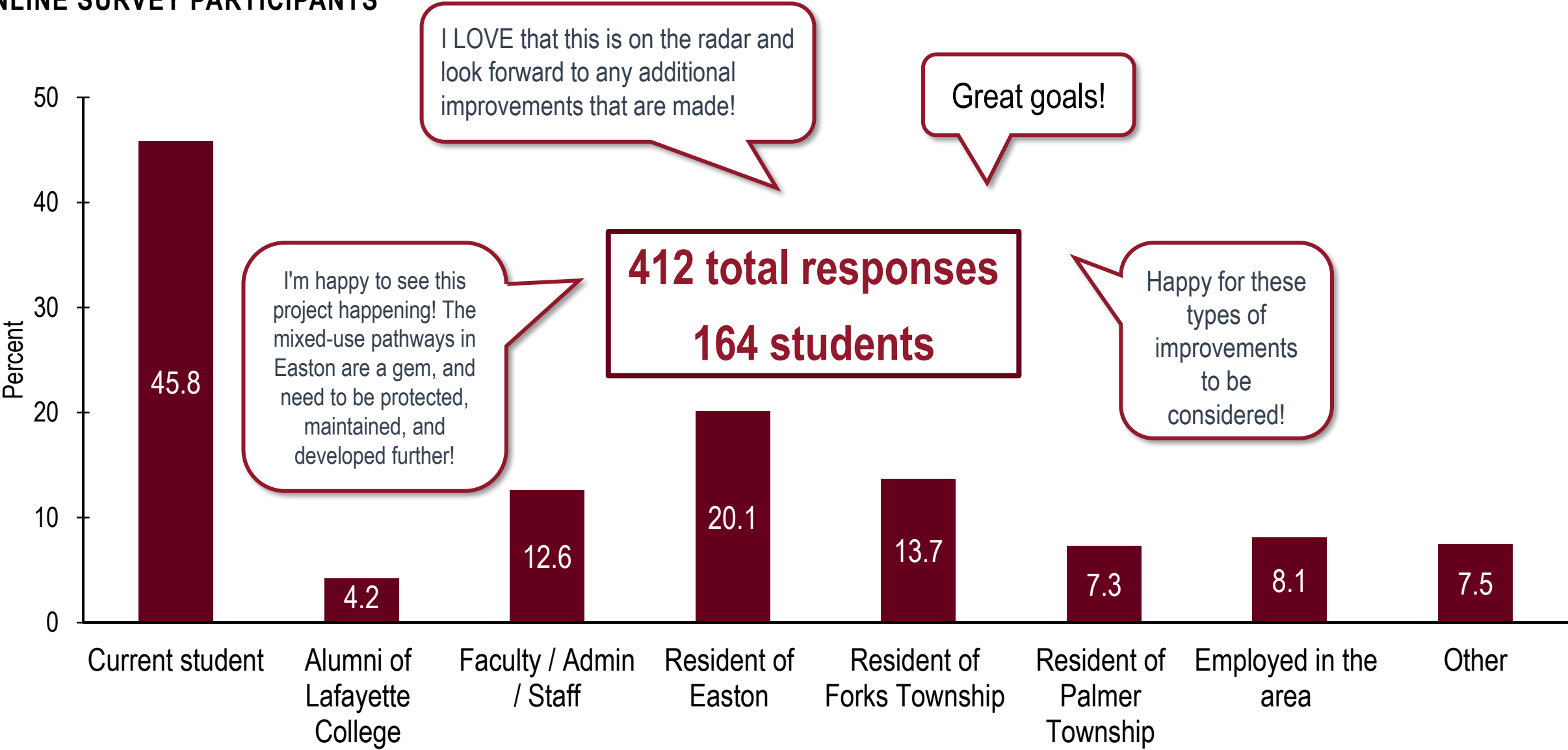
WHO WE MET WITH TO DATE



- Lafayette College
- City of Easton
- Palmer Township
- Forks Township
- Lehigh Valley Planning Commission
- Wildlands Conservancy
- Crayola
- Open House Meeting #1
- Online Survey (closed 02.20)
- Civil Engineering Capstone team
- Lehigh Valley CAT (Coalition for Appropriate Transportation)
- Northampton County Parks Recreation
- Borough of Tatamy
- Lafayette College CE Capstone Class
- Bushkill Creek Greenway Master Plan Team

ENGAGEMENT FEEDBACK

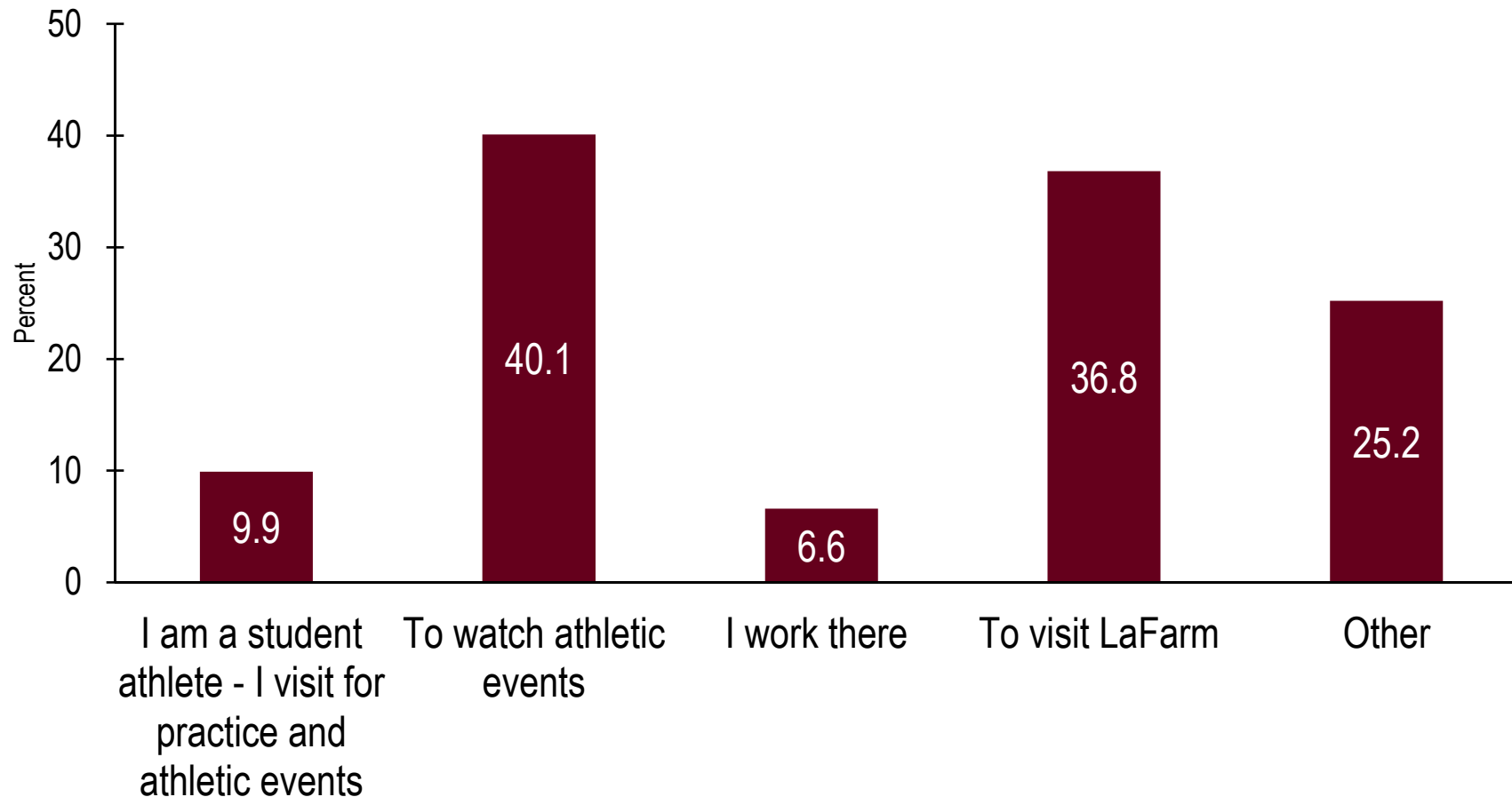
ONLINE SURVEY PARTICIPANTS



ENGAGEMENT FEEDBACK

GETTING AROUND

Why they visit Metzgar Campus:

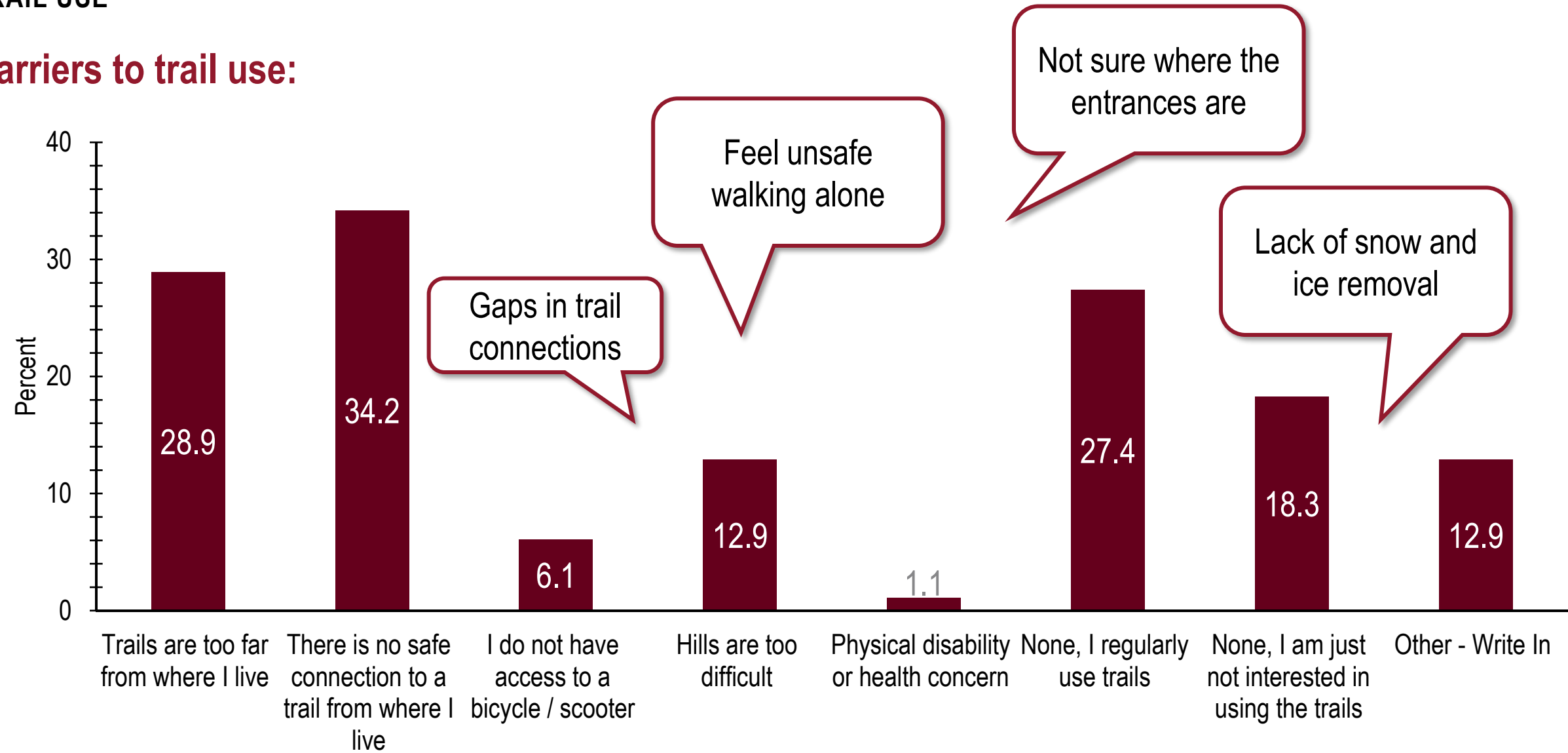


- Of just students, 37% drive their own car and 54% carpool = **91% are depending on a car to get to Metzgar Campus**
- 16 students report taking the bus
- 22 students reported walking or biking

ONLINE SURVEY

TRAIL USE

Barriers to trail use:



ONLINE SURVEY

PRIORITIES

Destinations all users would like to access via trials:

Item	Overall Rank	Rank Distribution	Score
Parks and recreation areas	1		1,196
College Hill	2		1,090
Grocery stores / pharmacies	3		1,026
Shopping / dining / entertainment	4		910
Metzgar Campus	5		679
Medical appointments	6		483
Other - Write In	7		114

Lowest RankHighest Rank

■ Filtered for students only, the results are similar, but grocery stores are the top priority

ONLINE SURVEY

PRIORITIES

Comfort on different types of paths:

	Not at all	Somewhat, I'll use it if I need to	Very comfortable	Responses
Shared lane Count Row %	119 47.6%	105 42.0%	26 10.4%	250
Conventional bike lane Count Row %	48 19.3%	131 52.6%	70 28.1%	249
Buffered bike lane Count Row %	33 13.4%	102 41.3%	112 45.3%	247
Side path along a road Count Row %	19 7.7%	65 26.4%	162 65.9%	246
Shared-use trails completely off roads Count Row %	18 7.2%	34 13.7%	197 79.1%	249

ONLINE SURVEY

TRAIL USE

How often do you use the trails in the area?

	Daily	A few times a day	A few times a week	A few times a month	A few times a year	Rarely or never	I don't know this trail	Responses
Forks Township Trail System Count Row %	15 5.2%	0 0.0%	24 8.3%	42 14.6%	54 18.8%	56 19.4%	97 33.7%	288
Two Rivers Trailway Count Row %	6 2.1%	1 0.4%	31 11.1%	56 20.0%	45 16.1%	54 19.3%	87 31.1%	280
D&L Trail Count Row %	1 0.4%	0 0.0%	31 11.1%	48 17.1%	61 21.8%	67 23.9%	72 25.7%	280
D&L Trail - Delaware Canal Towpath Count Row %	1 0.4%	0 0.0%	21 7.5%	44 15.7%	75 26.8%	67 23.9%	72 25.7%	280
Forks Township Recreation Trail Count Row %	6 2.2%	2 0.7%	17 6.2%	27 9.9%	55 20.1%	67 24.5%	100 36.5%	274
Karl Stirner Arts Trail Count Row %	6 2.1%	2 0.7%	51 18.0%	74 26.1%	88 31.1%	38 13.4%	24 8.5%	283
Tatamy Trail Count Row %	5 1.8%	1 0.4%	31 11.2%	41 14.7%	44 15.8%	62 22.3%	94 33.8%	278

ONLINE SURVEY

THEMES

SAFETY

- **Narrow roads** with no shoulders; challenging experience for non-drivers
- **High vehicle speeds** in certain areas
- Pedestrian/bike/vehicular conflicts including **unsafe crossings**
- **Missing connections**
- **Access/distance to trails**
- **Challenging transitions** between on-road/off-road trails
- **Weather/maintenance issues**
- **Lack of lighting/clear signage** including consistency

ACCESS/CONNECTIVITY

- **Lack of connections to retail areas/** community assets
- **Lack of safe walking/bike infrastructure**
- Disconnected trails/dangerous crossings
- **Limited/confusing bus service**
- Safe connections between neighborhoods/trail network
- **Lack of consistent connections** limits use for non-motorized transportation
- Lack of consistency or connections between municipalities

WAYFINDING, SIGNAGE, OUTREACH

- **Need greater awareness for trail system**
- **Need for consistent signage** and mapping
- **Disconnected trails** cause confusion
- **Lack of trail signage**
- **Uncertainty/awareness regarding trail etiquette/policies** (e-bikes)
- Safety concerns given **lack of lighting**
- Navigation issues at crossings
- Wayfinding, signage, lighting improvement required for increased use/enhance safety concerns

ONLINE SURVEY

DESIRES

SAFETY	ACCESS/CONNECTIVITY	WAYFINDING, SIGNAGE, OUTREACH
• Safe crossings/signalization improvements at intersections • Lighting improvement on trails (including parts of Karl Stirner) • Separate trails for pedestrians/bikes • Remove non-pedal assist e-bikes • Ensure access from populated areas without traveling along busy roadways • Provide safe connections to College Hill • Maintenance of trails; year-round access • Paved path for easy access and usage (improvement and maintenance along some of the existing paths)	• Desire to reduce dependency on vehicles and support recreation/daily life needs • Close gaps in trail system • Accessible for all ranges of users/experience levels • Provide connections to key destinations (grocery stores, pharmacies, shopping, dining, Forks Township Community Center, College Hill, the Metzgar Campus, Easton, Wilson, and neighborhoods) • Easy access to and from on/off-campus student housing • Easy access to the Easton Middle school and Forks Elementary school	• Consistent unified signage strategy for regulatory, directional, educational signage • Aggressive signage/smart crossings • Trail markings including distances • Consistent trail naming strategy • Biking education/safety communication • Coordination between municipalities • Rental bikes/increased bike racks on campus • Trail heads with parking for 10-15 cars • Consistent year-round lighting enhancements along trails • Public transportation access

A photograph of an open house event in a community room. Several people are seated at round tables with white tablecloths, engaged in conversation. A man in a dark vest and plaid shirt stands with his back to the camera, facing a group of people. In the background, a man in a maroon sweater stands near a table. The room has a drop ceiling with recessed lights and two red exit signs above a set of double doors. A microphone on a stand is positioned near a table in the background. The overall atmosphere is casual and social.

OPEN HOUSE SUMMARY

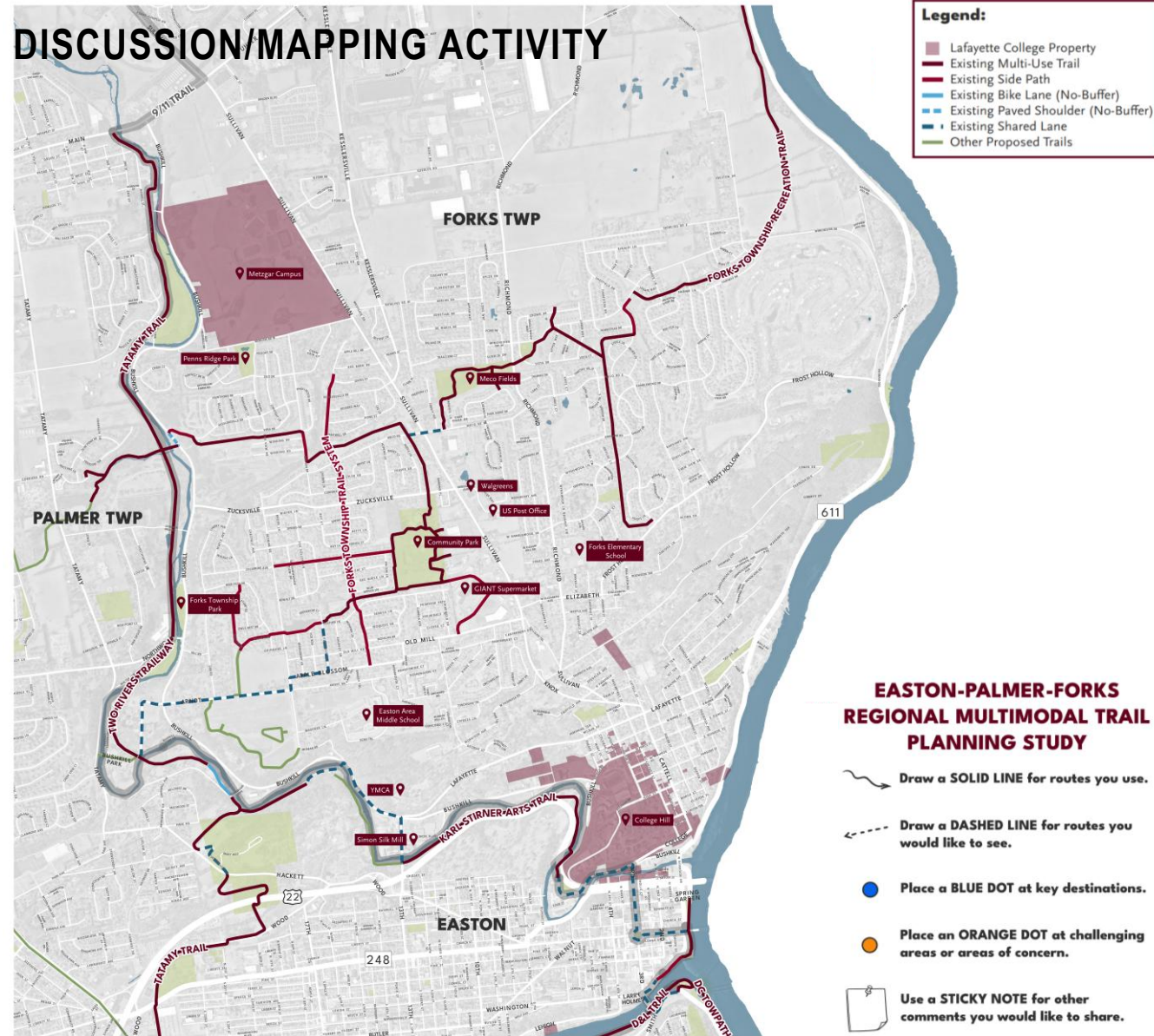
OPEN HOUSE MTG #1 (01.28.2026)

50+ PARTICIPANTS
114 RSVP RESPONSES



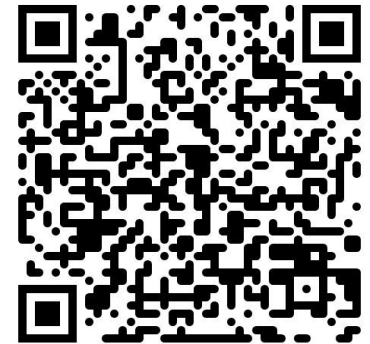
OPEN HOUSE MTG #1 (01.28.2026)

DISCUSSION/MAPPING ACTIVITY



We want to hear from you...

- How do you get around? Do you use the trails today?
- How would you like to use the trails?
- What would make this a successful project?
- Participate in the survey (link to QR code below)



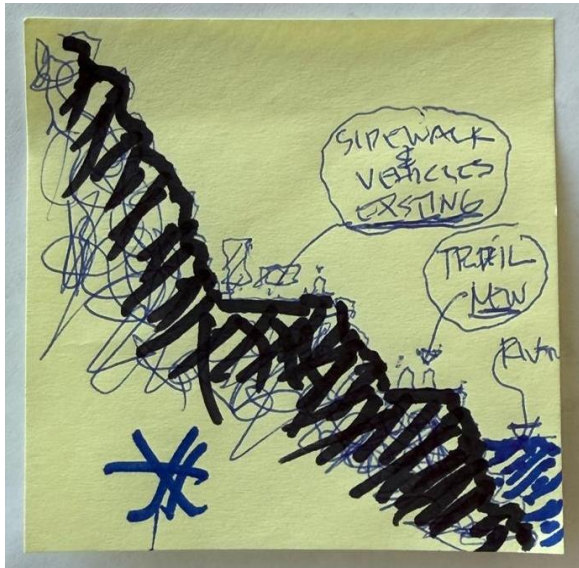
01.28.2026 OPEN HOUSE COMMENTS – TRAIL ROUTES AND DESTINATIONS

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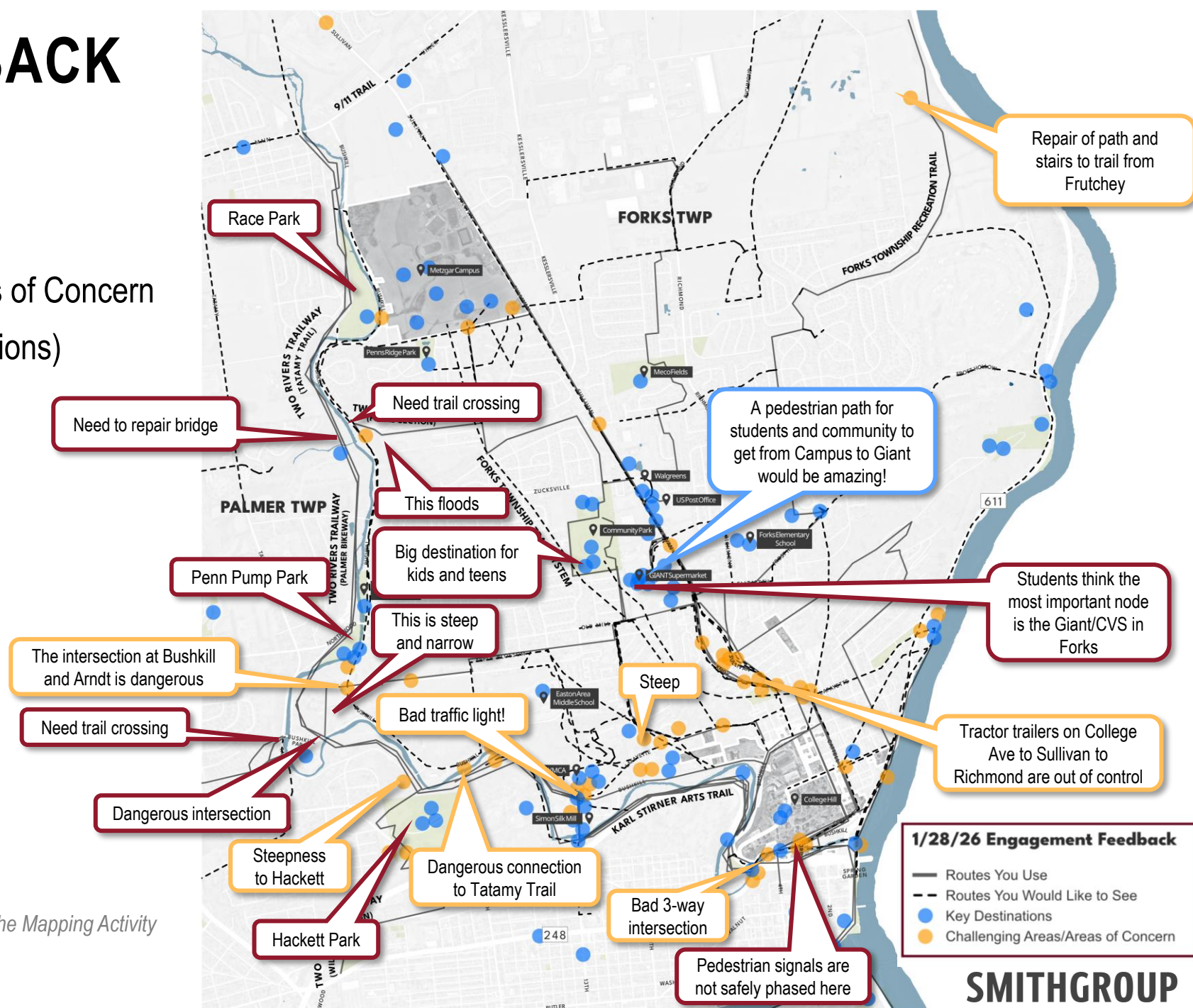
- Comments for Key Destinations
- Comments for Challenging Areas/Areas of Concern
- General Comments (related to Destinations)

-  Comments for Challenging Areas/Areas of Concern

- ## General Comments (related to Destinations)



Summary of comments provided from the various groups as part of the Mapping Activity



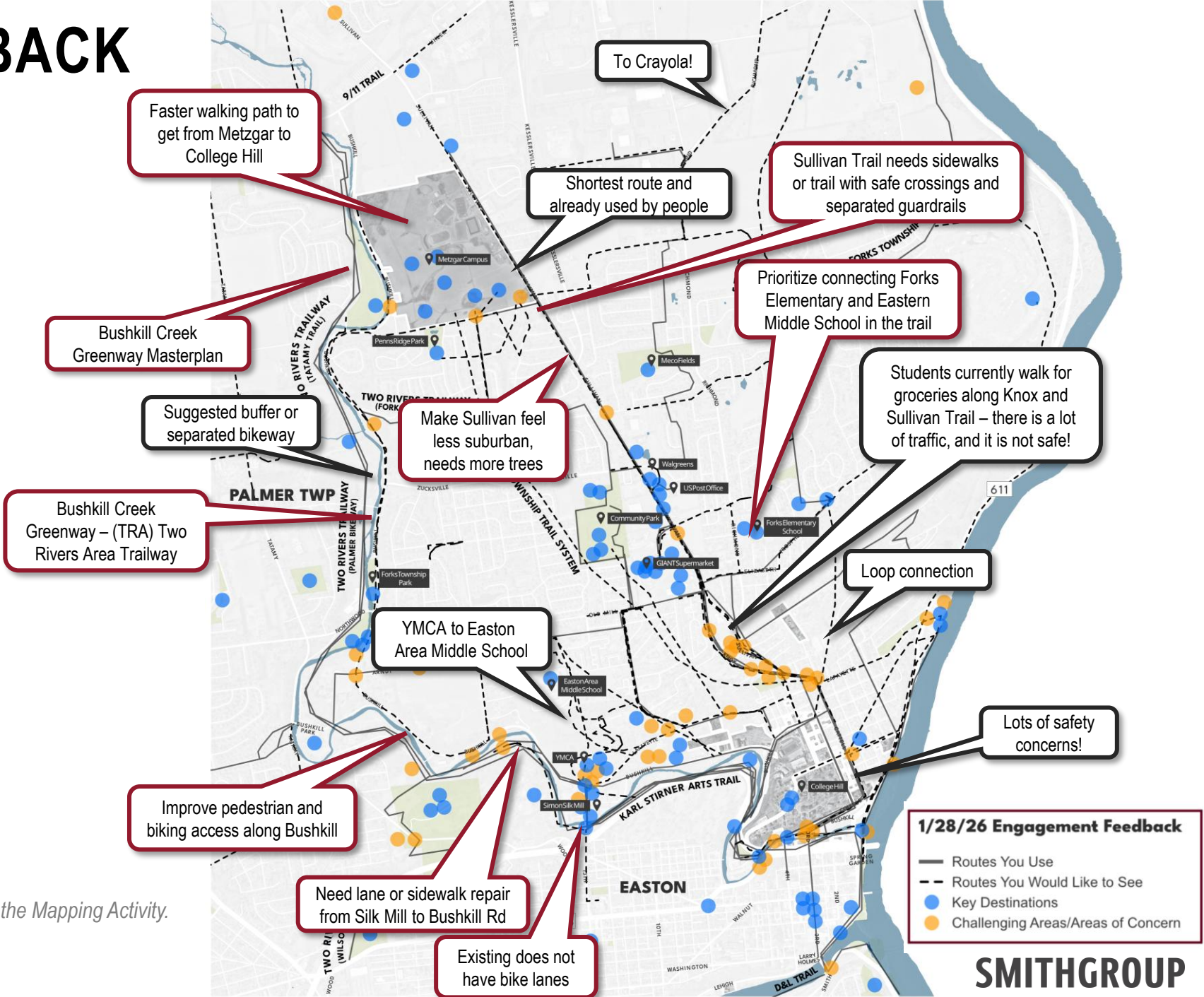
ENGAGEMENT FEEDBACK

01.28.2026 OPEN HOUSE COMMENTS – TRAIL ROUTES AND DESTINATIONS

- Comments for Routes
- General Comments (related to Routes)

- Connections to neighborhoods, schools, and parks
- Signage – wayfinding, courtesy parking
- Where are the sidewalks? Would be helpful to know.
- Safety of Pedestrians! Bike vs. Pedestrians
- Opportunities for sidewalk connections?

Summary of comments provided from the various groups as part of the Mapping Activity. General comments are indicated to left of plan.



A lush green forest scene with a stone wall and a body of water in the background. The text "ANALYSIS RECAP & SITE EXPLORATION" is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font.

ANALYSIS RECAP & SITE EXPLORATION

INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS



■ **Assets and Destinations**

- Cultural destinations
- Community resources
- Campus areas and schools
- Land ownership
- Natural systems
- Recreation areas

■ **Physical Conditions**

- Landcover, trees / vegetation,
- Slope, floodplain, soils
- Utilities
- Stormwater management
- Land Use / Zoning

■ **Circulation Connectivity**

- Transportation infrastructure
- Roadway / Right-Of-Way
- Traffic volumes / speed
- Intersection treatments
- Existing trails, greenways, non-motorized connections
- Access points to neighborhood connections and trailheads
- Transit connections and access to public transit
- Bus Stops
- Existing/planned projects

DRAFT

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

SMITHGROUP

INITIAL PROJECT GOALS



- Enhance connectivity to surrounding regional trails and assets including grocery, other retail, and community resources
- Create a connection between the College Hill and the Metzgar Campus
- Leverage the Metzgar Campus as a resource for the entire campus community and surrounding community
- Foster a greater sense of community with local partners
- Enhance Environmental Sustainability
- Promote both Campus and Community Wellness
- Identify opportunities to expand the “Campus as a Living Lab”
- Decrease vehicular dependency

INITIAL PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- Create a safe engaging mobility experience for pedestrians/bikes
- Build consensus and engage the campus and community stakeholders in planning the multimodal trail
- Strengthen local and regional partnerships through the development (or as a result) of the multimodal trail
- Enhance campus wayfinding and lighting
- Create a thoughtful and accessible route for users (campus and community)
- Incorporate considerations for long-term maintenance



NEXT STEPS

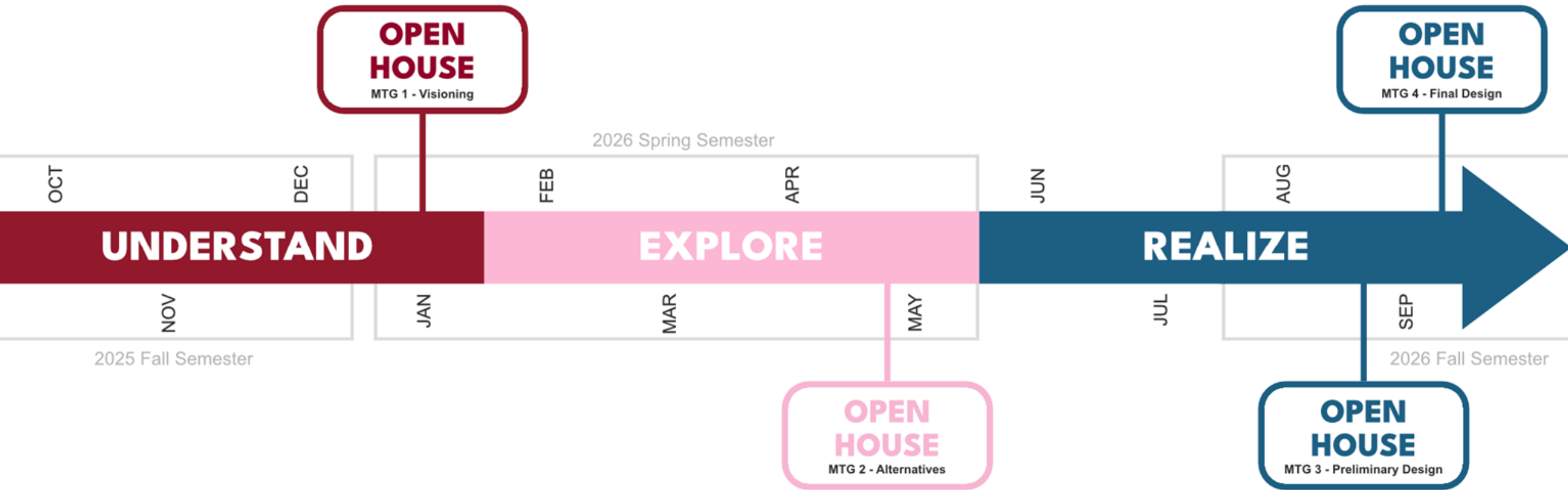


ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

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SCHEDULE



A cyclist wearing a helmet and a dark shirt is riding a bicycle on a paved path. The path is lined with trees and a white line runs along its edge. In the background, another cyclist is visible, and a signpost with several signs stands near a road. A silver SUV is parked on the right side of the road. The scene is set in a park-like area with lush green trees and a clear sky. The text "TODAY'S DISCUSSION" is overlaid in large, white, bold letters across the center of the image.

TODAY'S DISCUSSION

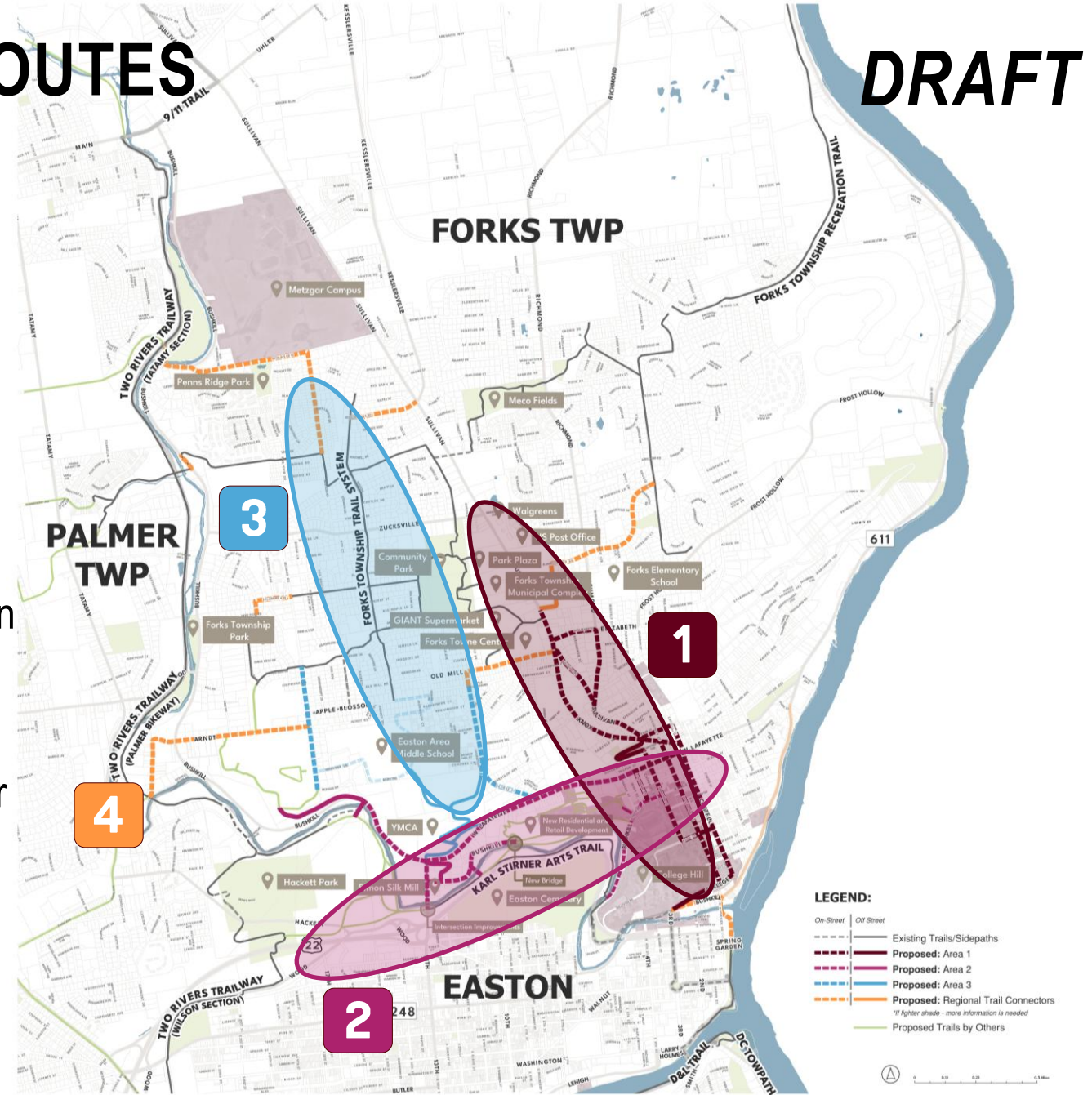
OPPORTUNITIES FOR TRAIL ROUTES

EASTON/PALMER TOWNSHIP/FORKS TOWNSHIP

DRAFT

Areas of focus based on comments gathered through the Survey, Open House, Stakeholder Engagement Meetings, and Site Visits

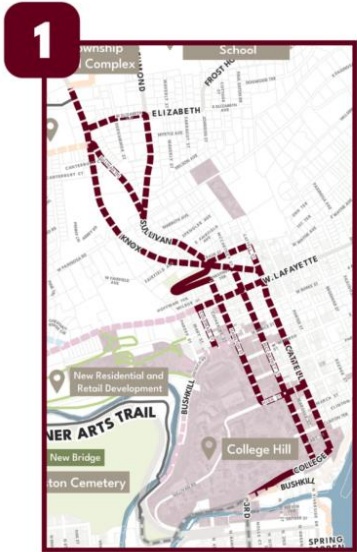
- 1** Interconnecting trails along the valley and overcoming steep slope barriers. Requires coordination with future development and property owners.
- 2** Enhancing connectivity to retail centers and parks/open space for the campus community (and broader community)
- 3** Connection north to the neighborhood and the Metzgar Campus
- 4** Regional Trail Connections (Improving overall connectivity and experience) including Easton and area to south/east of College Hill



OPPORTUNITIES FOR TRAIL ROUTES

DRAFT

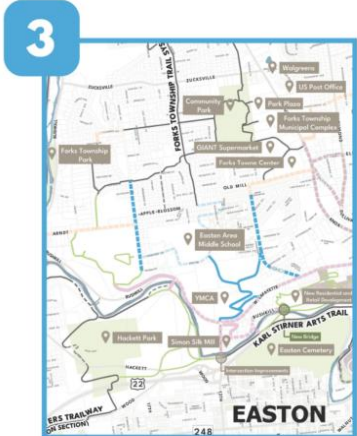
EASTON/PALMER TOWNSHIP/FORKS TOWNSHIP



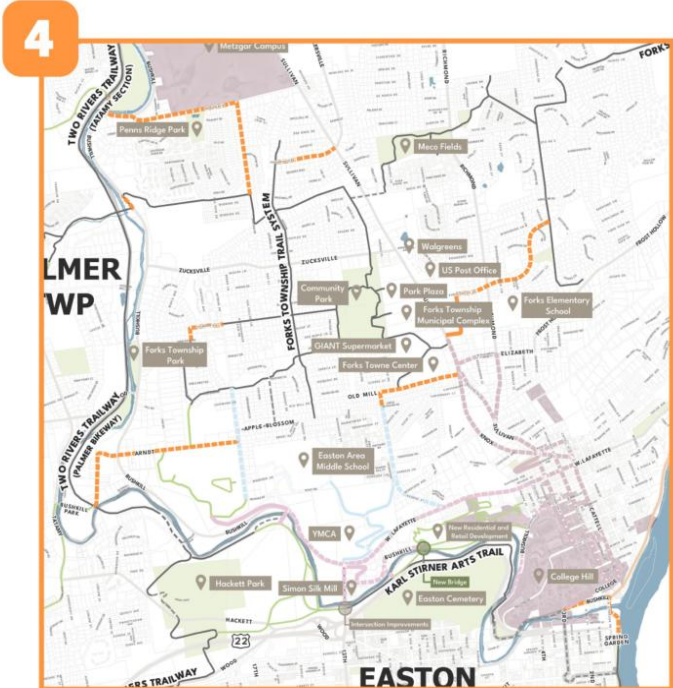
Campus to Retail Connectors



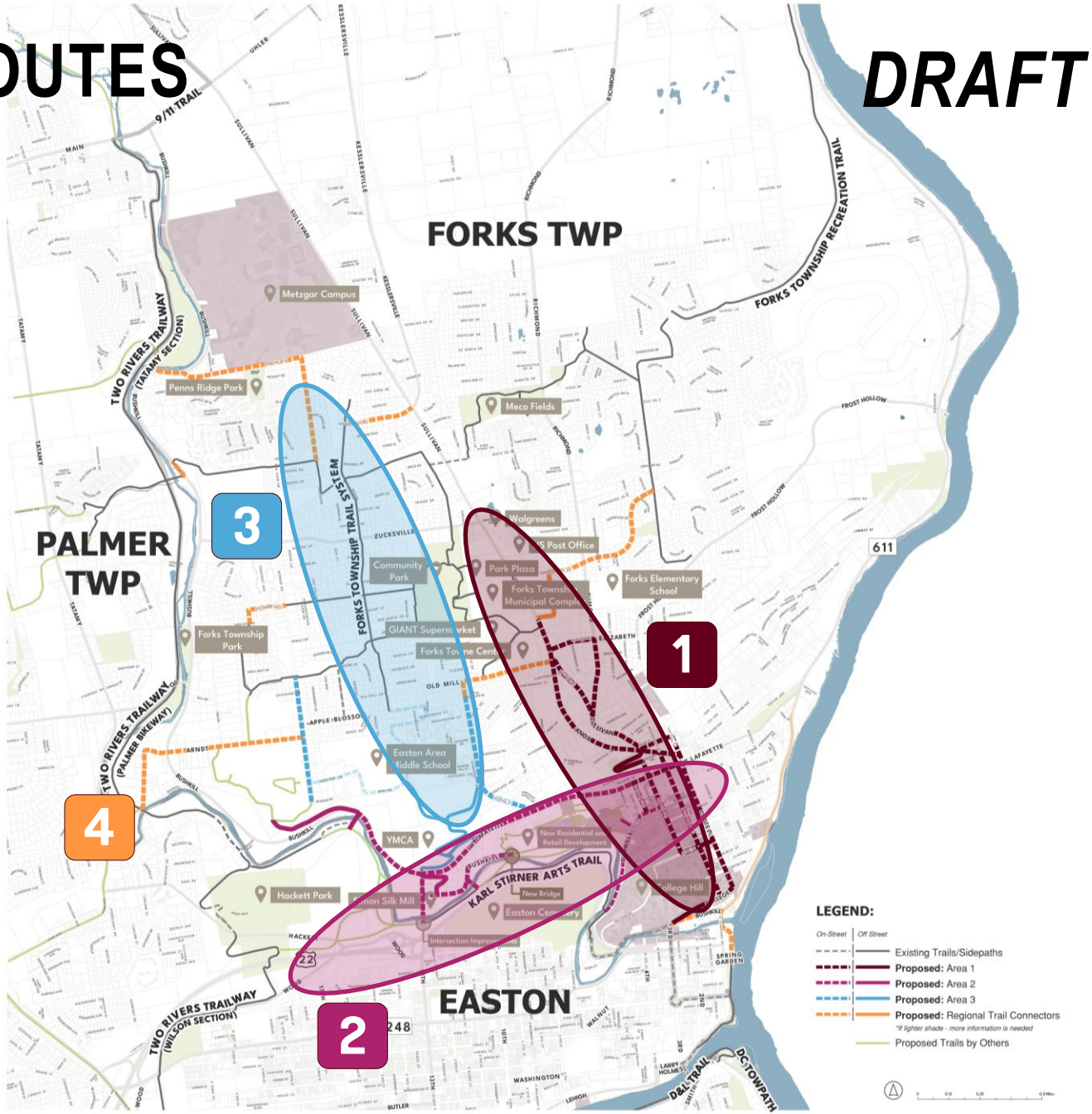
Campus to Greenway Connectors



North Connectors

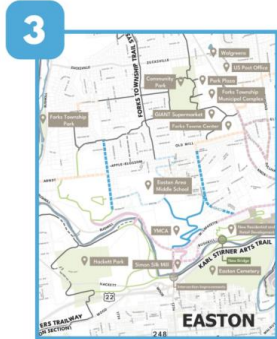


Regional Trail Connectors





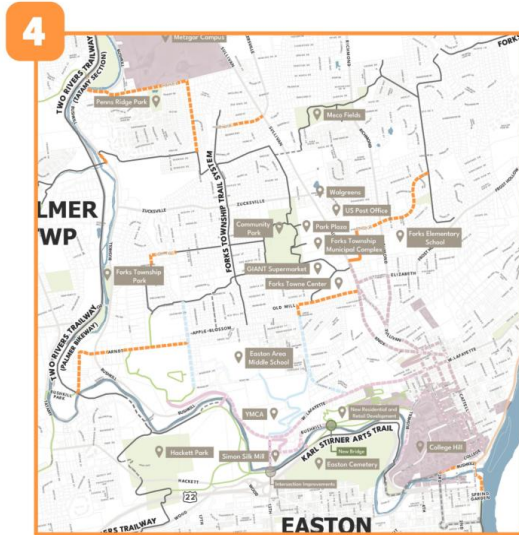
Campus to Retail Connectors



North Connectors



Campus to Greenway Connectors



Regional Trail Connectors

Visit tables for Areas 1-4 to provide feedback on route alternatives

A. KNOX AVE

EXISTING



CURRENT ISSUES:

- Challenging access given vehicular speeds
- Lack of sidewalks, dedicated bike trail, signage, and lighting
- Inconsistent access throughout the year
- Coordination required between Townships for maintenance and consistency

PROPOSED



OPPORTUNITIES:

- Most direct route to retail, Giant, Forks Park, and the Community Center from College Hill

*Proposing retaining wall where needed

B. SULLIVAN TRAIL

EXISTING



CURRENT ISSUES:

- Challenging access given vehicular speeds
- Lack of sidewalks, dedicated bike trail, signage, and lighting
- Inconsistent access throughout the year
- Coordination required between Townships for maintenance and consistency

EXISTING



OPPORTUNITIES:

- Provides a multi-use trail and enhanced access through the Forks YMCA Education Center to Knox Ave

*Requires coordination with property owners and easements in order to provide a multi-use trail

Place a dot in the space below your preferred route.

- Discuss options with facilitators and ask questions
- Place dots next to your preferences where asked
- Share notes on what works, what doesn't, or anything we missed!

THANK YOU....

This Project was financed in part by grants from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Community and Economic Development and the Commonwealth Financing Authority. Funding assistance has also been provided by Northampton County and the Northampton County Livable Landscapes Grant Program.



Pennsylvania
**Department of Community
& Economic Development**

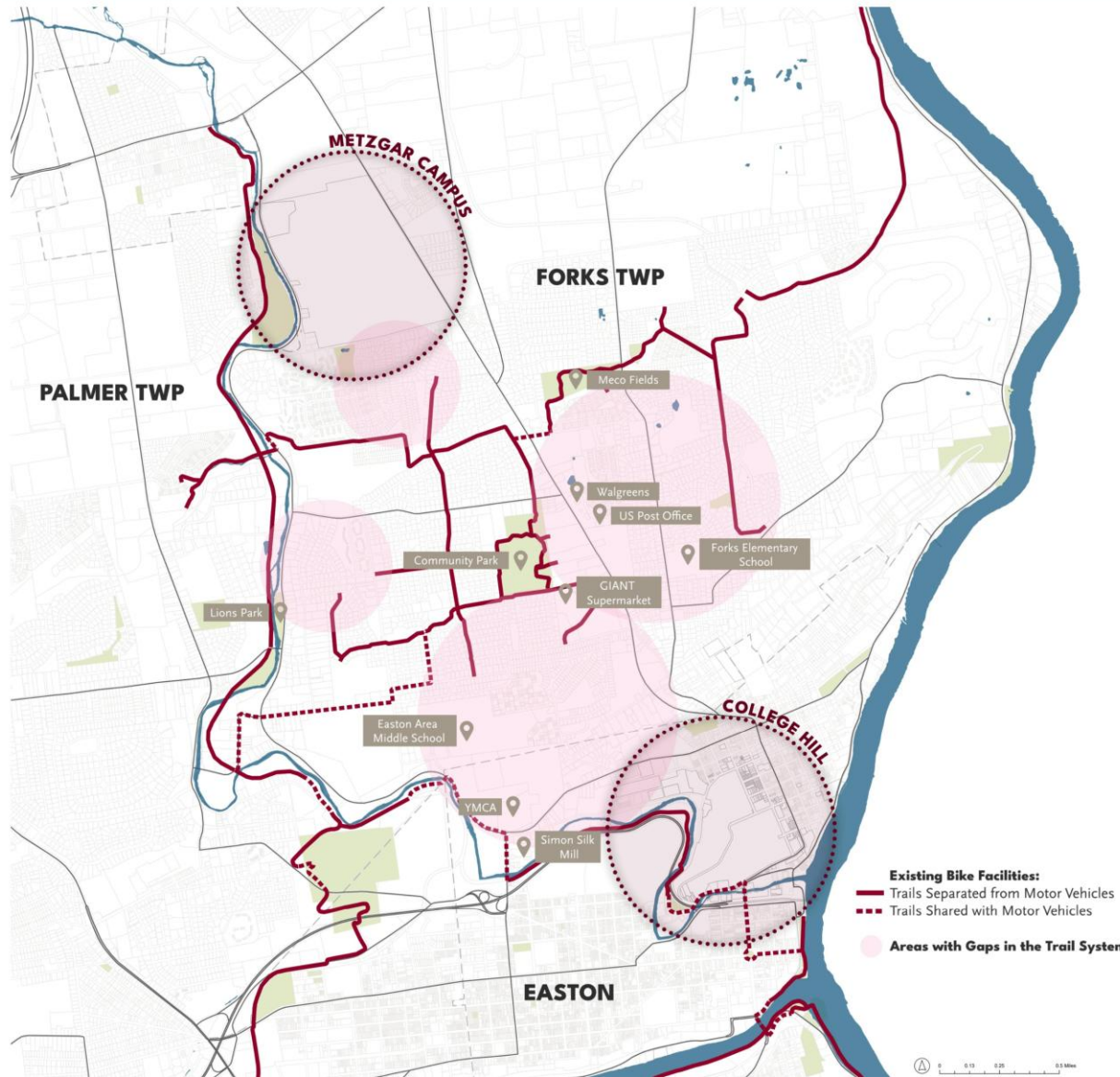
A photograph of a blue bridge entrance, likely a park or zoo. The bridge has blue metal railings and a concrete walkway. In the background, there are dense green trees. A large white text overlay 'THANK YOU' is centered in the image. On the left, there is a white sign with black text that reads 'WEIGHT LIMIT 33 TONS'. Below it is a smaller sign with red text that reads 'NOTICE' and lists rules: 'No Grilling', 'No Camping', 'No Amplified Music', 'No Coolers', 'No Alcohol', 'No Beverages', and 'City of Easton'. Two white bollards with red stripes are in the foreground. The sky is overcast.

THANK YOU

A photograph of a stone gate in a park. The gate is made of large, dark grey stones and has a pointed top. To the left of the gate is a large, gnarled tree trunk. To the right is a paved path that leads into a wooded area. The trees are green and leafy. The sky is blue. The text "APPENDIX BOARDS & ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITY" is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font in the center of the image.

APPENDIX BOARDS & ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITY

WELCOME!



Lafayette College is embarking on the Easton-Palmer-Forks Regional Multimodal Trail Planning Study

The study provides an opportunity for:



Enhance connectivity to surrounding regional trails and assets including grocery, other retail, and community resources



Create a connection between the College Hill and the Metzgar Campus



Leverage the Metzgar Campus as a resource for the entire campus community and surrounding community



Foster a greater sense of community with local partners



Enhance environmental sustainability



Promote both campus and community wellness

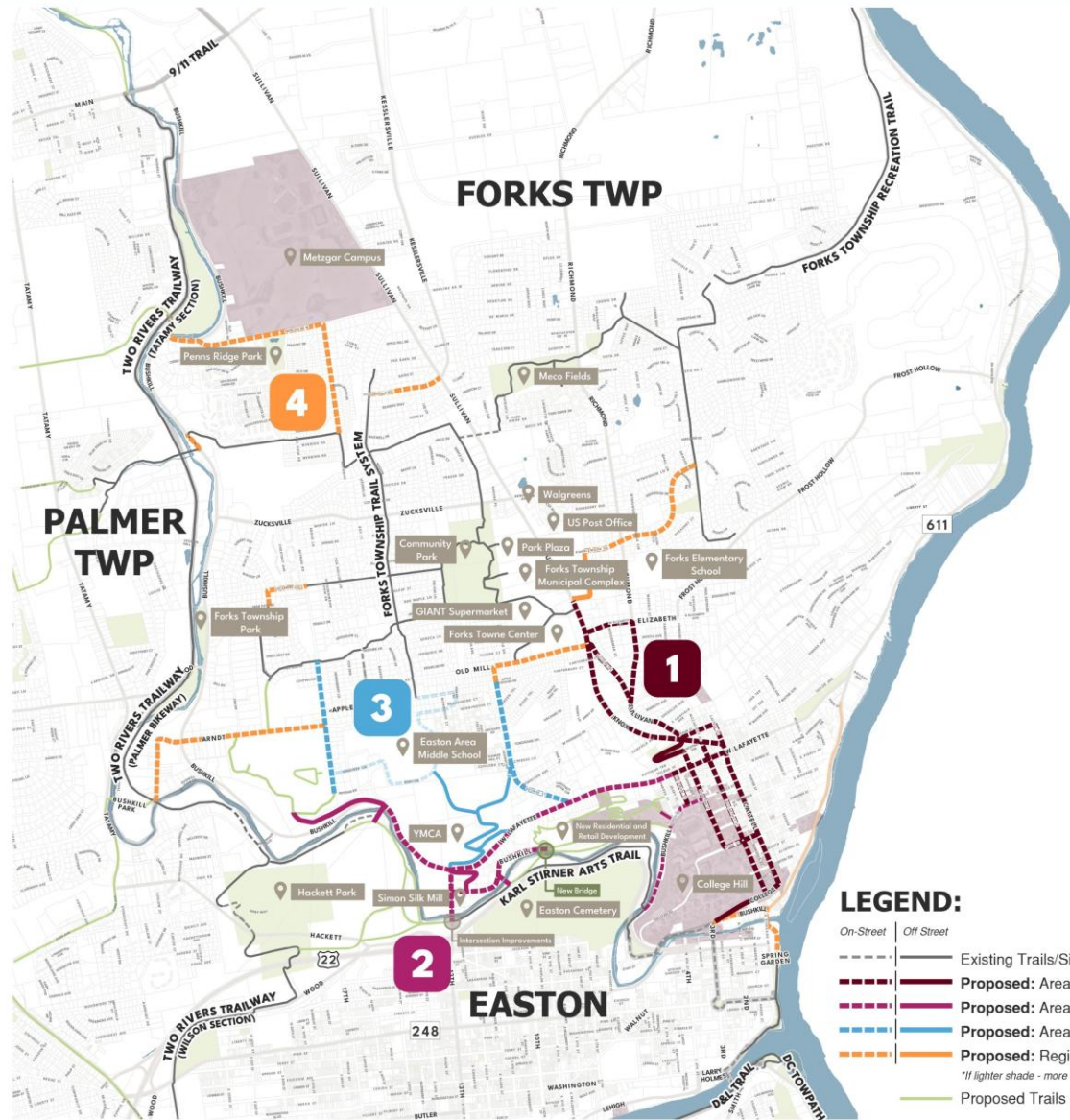


Identify opportunities to expand the "Campus as a Living Lab"



Decrease vehicular dependency

POTENTIAL TRAILS



AREAS OF FOCUS



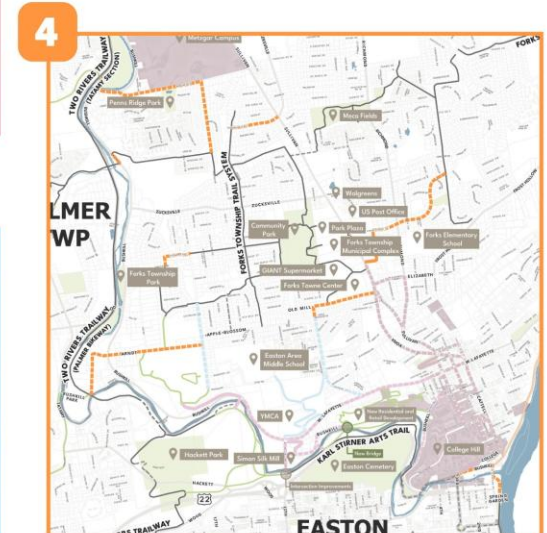
Campus to Retail Connectors



Campus to Greenway Connectors



North Connectors



Regional Trail Connectors

LEGEND:

- | | | |
|-----------|------------|---|
| On-Street | Off Street | Existing Trails/Sidepaths |
| --- | --- | Proposed: Area 1 |
| --- | --- | Proposed: Area 2 |
| --- | --- | Proposed: Area 3 |
| --- | --- | Proposed: Regional Trail Connectors |
| | | <i>*If lighter shade - more information is needed</i> |
| | | Proposed Trails by Others |

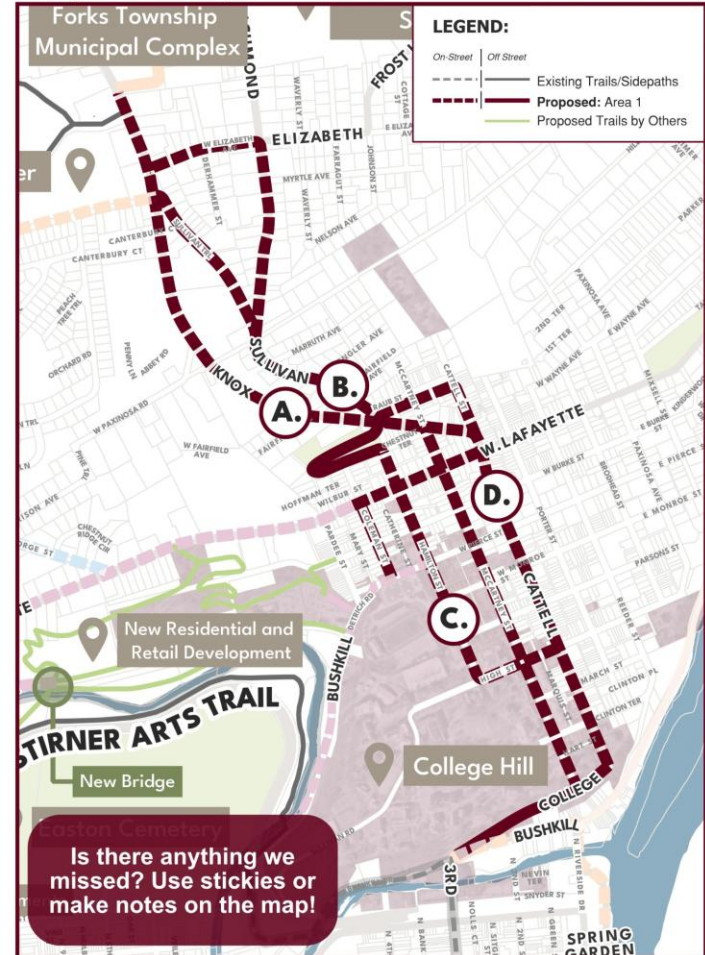
AREA 1: CAMPUS TO RETAIL CONNECTORS

WHAT WE'VE HEARD:

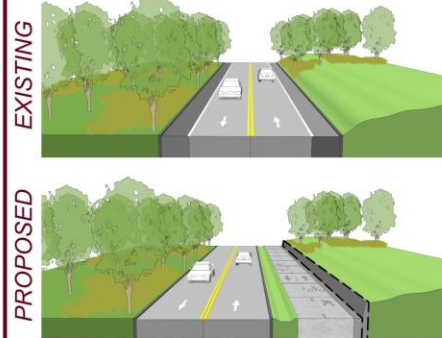
- Desire for a connection to retail and Forks Park from Campus
- Inconsistent access throughout the year
- Lack of sidewalks, dedicated bike trail, signage, and lighting

GOALS:

- Provide a safe connection for bicycles and pedestrians to the retail and Forks Park from Campus
- Create a trail connection that supports daily life needs for the campus community



A. KNOX AVE



*Proposing retaining wall where needed

CURRENT ISSUES:

- Challenging access given vehicular speeds
- Lack of sidewalks, dedicated bike trail, signage, and lighting
- Inconsistent access throughout the year
- Coordination required between Townships for maintenance and consistency

OPPORTUNITIES:

- Most direct route to retail, Giant, Forks Park, and the Community Center from College Hill

B. SULLIVAN TRAIL



CURRENT ISSUES:

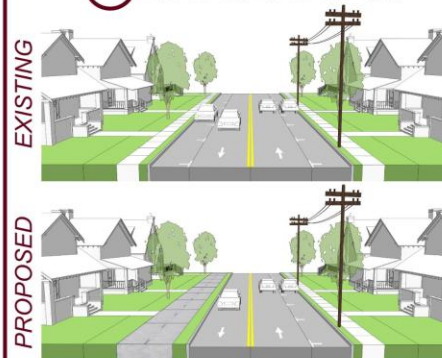
- Challenging access given vehicular speeds
- Lack of sidewalks, dedicated bike trail, signage, and lighting
- Inconsistent access throughout the year
- Coordination required between Townships for maintenance and consistency

OPPORTUNITIES:

- Provides a multi-use trail and enhanced access through the Forks YMCA Education Center to Knox Ave

Place a dot in the space below your preferred route.

C. HAMILTON ST



CURRENT ISSUES:

- Inconsistent access
- Coordination required for maintenance and consistency
- Lack of continuous sidewalks in addition to a dedicated bike trail, signage, lighting, and dedicated crossings

OPPORTUNITIES:

- Enhanced connectivity to quad, main area of College Hill, and residence halls
- Creates an enhanced connection/access to Sullivan Park
- Less traffic and parkign demand than Cattell Street

D. CATTELL ST



CURRENT ISSUES:

- Heavily used parking on both sides of the street
- Higher vehicular speeds and travel compared to Hamilton Street
- Greater distance to quad/residence halls

OPPORTUNITIES:

- Connects directly to the bike lane on College Ave

Place a dot in the space below your preferred route.

AREA 2: CAMPUS TO GREENWAY CONNECTORS

WHAT WE'VE HEARD:

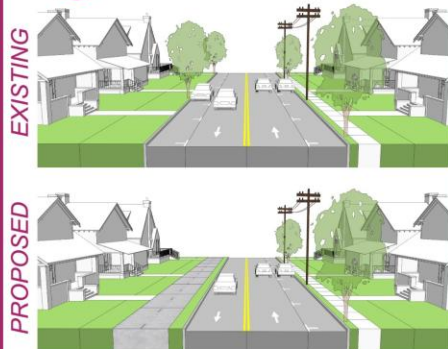
- Desire for improved wayfinding/signage and lighting along Karl Stirner
- Need for safe connections to College Hill
- Desire for efficient/improved access to parks/regional trails

GOALS:

- Efficient/improved access to parks and regional trails
- Provide improvements for intersection to enhance overall pedestrian/bike safety
- Provide consistent wayfinding, signage, and lighting including along the Karl Stirner Trail near/to College Hill



E. W LAFAYETTE ST



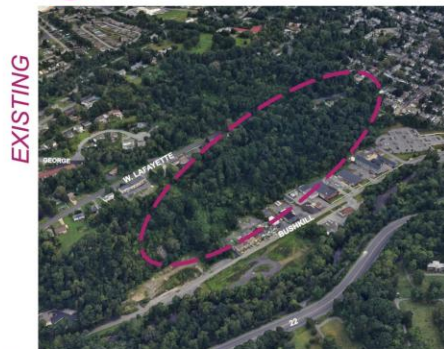
CURRENT ISSUES:

- Varying conditions
- Intermittent sidewalk
- Challenging access
- No dedicated trail
- Vehicular speed and traffic
- Lack of consistent signage/lighting

OPPORTUNITIES:

- Connection to the YMCA site and north for Area 3
- Enhanced connection to the Silk Mill/N 13th St/ proposed trails from Bushkill Creek Greenway Master Plan

F. CAPSTONE TRAIL



CURRENT ISSUES:

- Challenging access
- No dedicated trail
- Lack of sidewalk
- Lack of consistent signage/lighting
- Vehicular speed and traffic
- Future phase/ coordination with developer

OPPORTUNITIES:

- Creates an off road multiuse trail that provides a connection to the College Hill, the Silk Mill, and Karl Stirner Trail

Place a dot in the space below your preferred route.

Area for placing a dot in the space below your preferred route.

Area for placing a dot in the space below your preferred route.

A. ALTERNATE: W. LAFAYETTE ST



Would you be comfortable using bike lanes on W. Lafayette Street as a near-term solution?

Very Safe Would Prefer Sidepath Not at all Safe

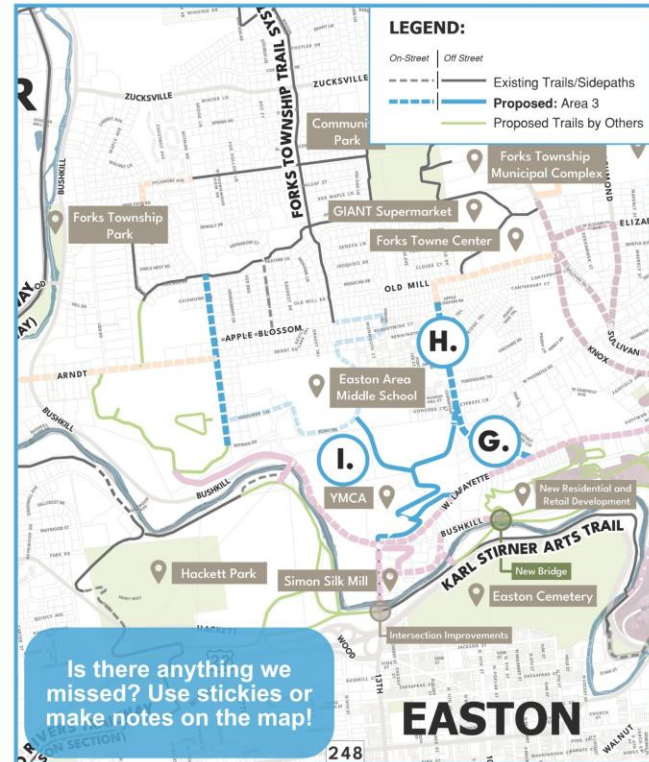
AREA 3: NORTH CONNECTORS

WHAT WE'VE HEARD:

- Lack of safe connections to regional trails
- Inconsistent lighting and signage
- Limited and confusing bus service
- Lack of safe connections to Easton, College Hill, and Metzgar Campus

GOALS:

- Separate trails for pedestrians/bikes
- Ensure improved/safe connections to neighborhoods, Easton, College Hill, and Metzgar Campus
- Provide maintenance/consistent wayfinding/signage/lighting
- Provide improvements for intersections to enhance pedestrian/bike safety



G. GEORGE ST (SOUTH)



If this is possible, do you see this as a valuable connection?



H. GEORGE ST (NORTH)



Would you be comfortable using bike lanes on George?



I. YMCA



If this is possible, do you see these paths as valuable connections?



Knowing off street connections may be implemented in the longer term, are there any near term bike lanes that should be implemented? Please indicate on map.

- 1 Bushkill Drive to YMCA
- 2 W. Lafayette Street to YMCA
- 3 YMCA Connector

- 4 YMCA to School Connector
- 5 YMCA to George Street Connector

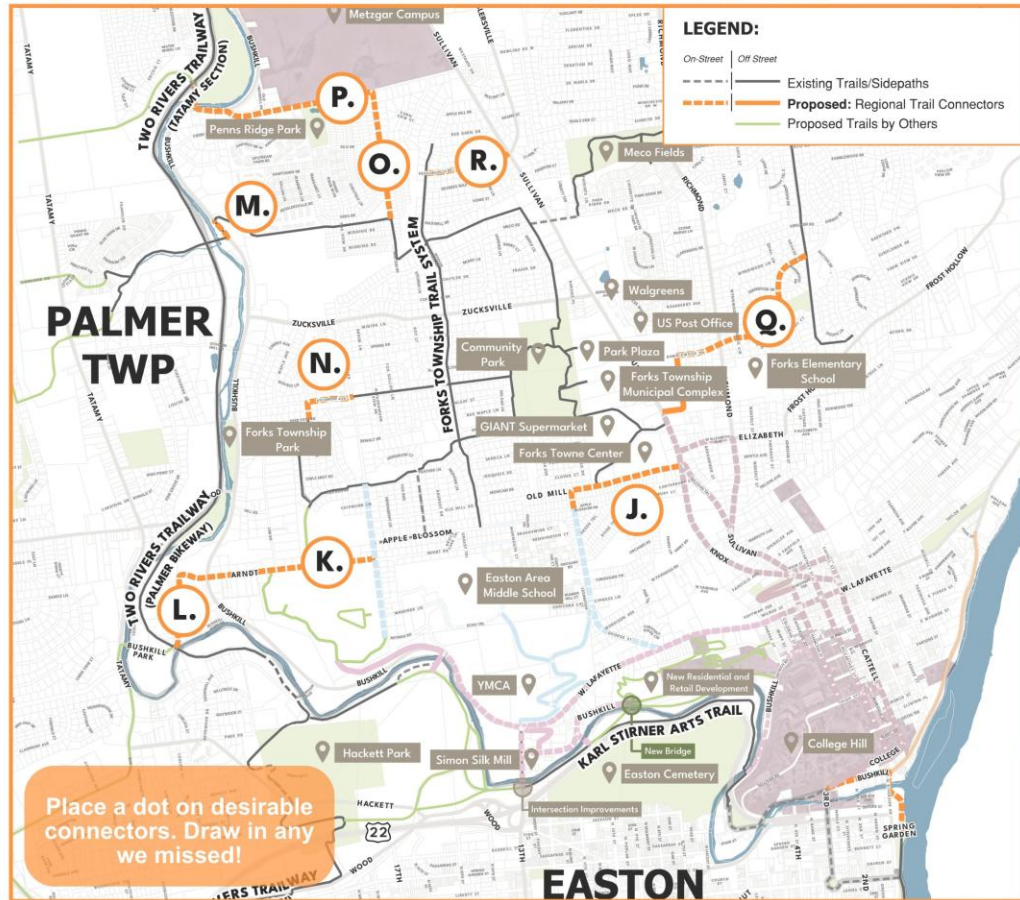
AREA 4: REGIONAL TRAIL CONNECTORS

WHAT WE'VE HEARD:

- Lack of safe connections to regional trails from neighborhoods
- Desire for improved maintenance, lighting, wayfinding/signage
- Access to populated areas without travel on busy roads

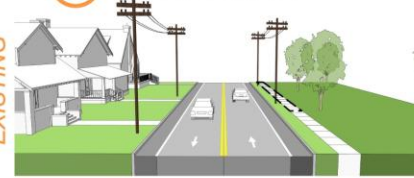
GOALS:

- Connect segments of existing regional trail system with separate trails for pedestrians/ bikes
- Provide access to populated areas without travel on busy roads
- Create connections to regional trails from campus/neighborhoods
- Improve maintenance, lighting, wayfinding, and signage
- Provide improvements for intersection to enhance pedestrian/bike safety



J. OLD MILL

EXISTING



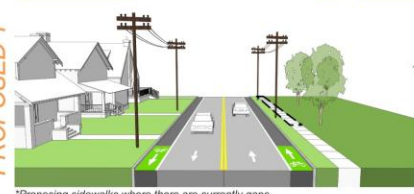
CURRENT ISSUES:

- Challenging grades near retail area at east end of Old Mill Street
- May require coordination/easements in some locations
- Existing utility poles on both sides in some locations

OPPORTUNITIES:

- Connection to retail areas on Sullivan Drive
- Connection from W. Lafayette St. to Sullivan Drive via George Street
- Regional trails (including Bushkill) and regional parks
- Forks Community Park
- Increased connection to neighborhoods

PROPOSED 1



PROPOSED 2

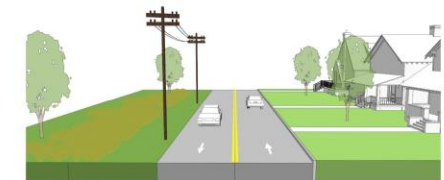


Place a dot in the space for your preferred connection.

1

2

TYPICAL EXISTING



K. ARNDT RD
Install Sidepath



O. BEN JON RD
Install Sidepath



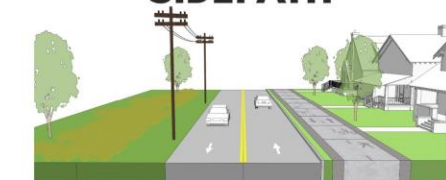
L. CHURCH HILL RD
Install Sidepath



P. NEWLINS RD
Install Sidepath



TYPICAL PROPOSED SIDEPATH



M. BUSHKILL DR
Extend existing sidepath



Q. RAMBLEWOOD DR
Install Sidepath



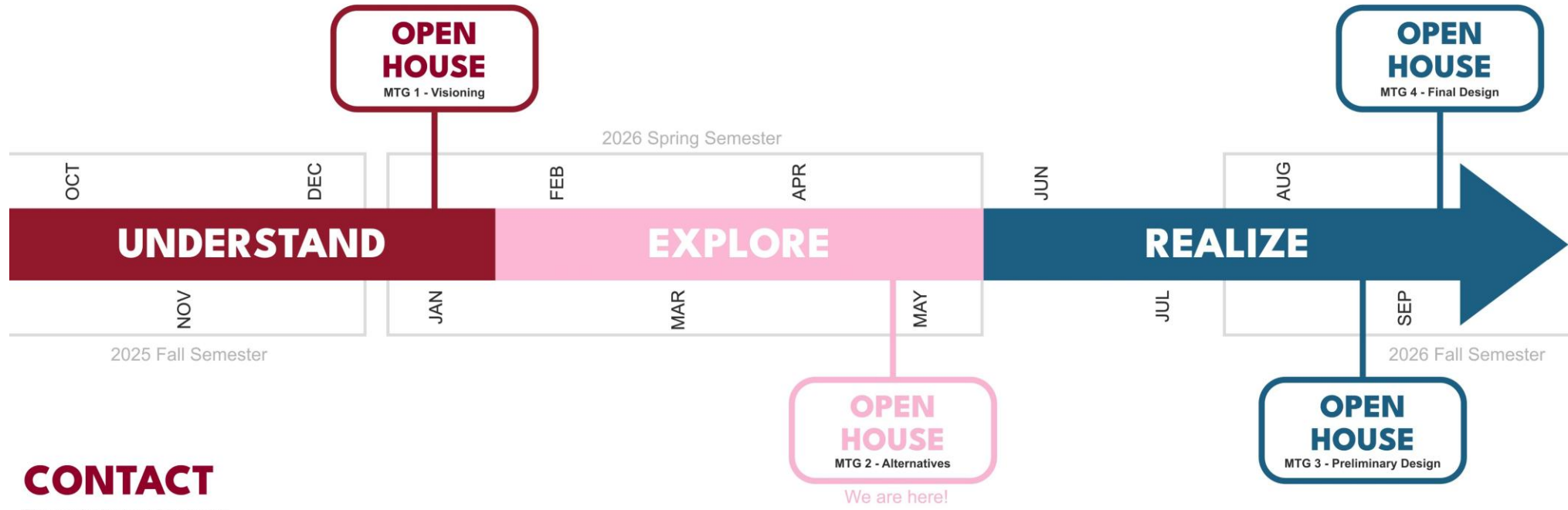
N. SYCAMORE RD
Install Sidepath



R. KESSLERVILLE
Install Sidepath



NEXT STEPS



CONTACT

Please email any requests to:

danielsl@lafayette.edu

