

1 **RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE GREENWAY TRAIL MASTERPLAN FOR**
2 **UNINCORPORATED SOUTH FULTON COUNTY, GEORGIA**

3
4 **WHEREAS**, the Georgia General Assembly created the Georgia Greenspace
5 Program during the 2000 legislative session by enacting Senate Bill 399 (codified as
6 Official Code of Georgia Annotated Sec. 36-22-1 et seq.) said Act being repealed by
7 subsequent legislative action in 2007; and

8 **WHEREAS**, the former Georgia Greenspace Program provided state
9 appropriated grant funds to the County to assist in the purchase of greenspace so that
10 said greenspace could be permanently protected and utilized by the public; and

11 **WHEREAS**, Fulton County utilized these state grant funds as well as other
12 monies and preservation tools to acquire two hundred and fifty (257) acres of
13 permanently protected greenspace in South Fulton County; and

14 **WHEREAS**, Fulton County through meetings with the Community and Citizens in
15 South Fulton County established a Community Greenspace Program which program
16 included plans and goals to include the incorporation of permanently protected
17 greenspace in South Fulton County for use as greenway trails; and

18 **WHEREAS**, the Greenway Trail Master Plan (hereinafter referred to as "South
19 Fulton TrailNet") is the result of a collaborative planning process involving county
20 citizens, Fulton County staff and other community stakeholders; and

21 **WHEREAS**, South Fulton TrailNet represents unincorporated South Fulton's
22 community vision for the future greenway trails and off-road trails in unincorporated
23 South Fulton County; and

24 **WHEREAS**, the South Fulton TrailNet Plan provides recommendations for an
25 integrated system of greenway trails and off-road trails that will provide recreational and
26 transportation needs for citizens in unincorporated South Fulton County; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of

Fulton County, Georgia, hereby adopts the Greenway Master Plan for unincorporated South Fulton County, Georgia; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall become effective upon its adoption and that all resolutions and parts of resolutions in conflict with this Resolution are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

SO RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Fulton County, Georgia, this ____ day of September, 2009.

FULTON COUNTY, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia

By: John H. Eaves / ems
John H. Eaves, Chair
Fulton County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Mark Massey
Mark Massey, Clerk to the Commission

R. David Ware
R. David Ware, County Attorney

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ITEM # 09-0914 RCS 9.16.09
RECESS MEETING

EXHIBIT 2

South Fulton TrailNet Map



South Fulton TrailNet



Areas of Interest

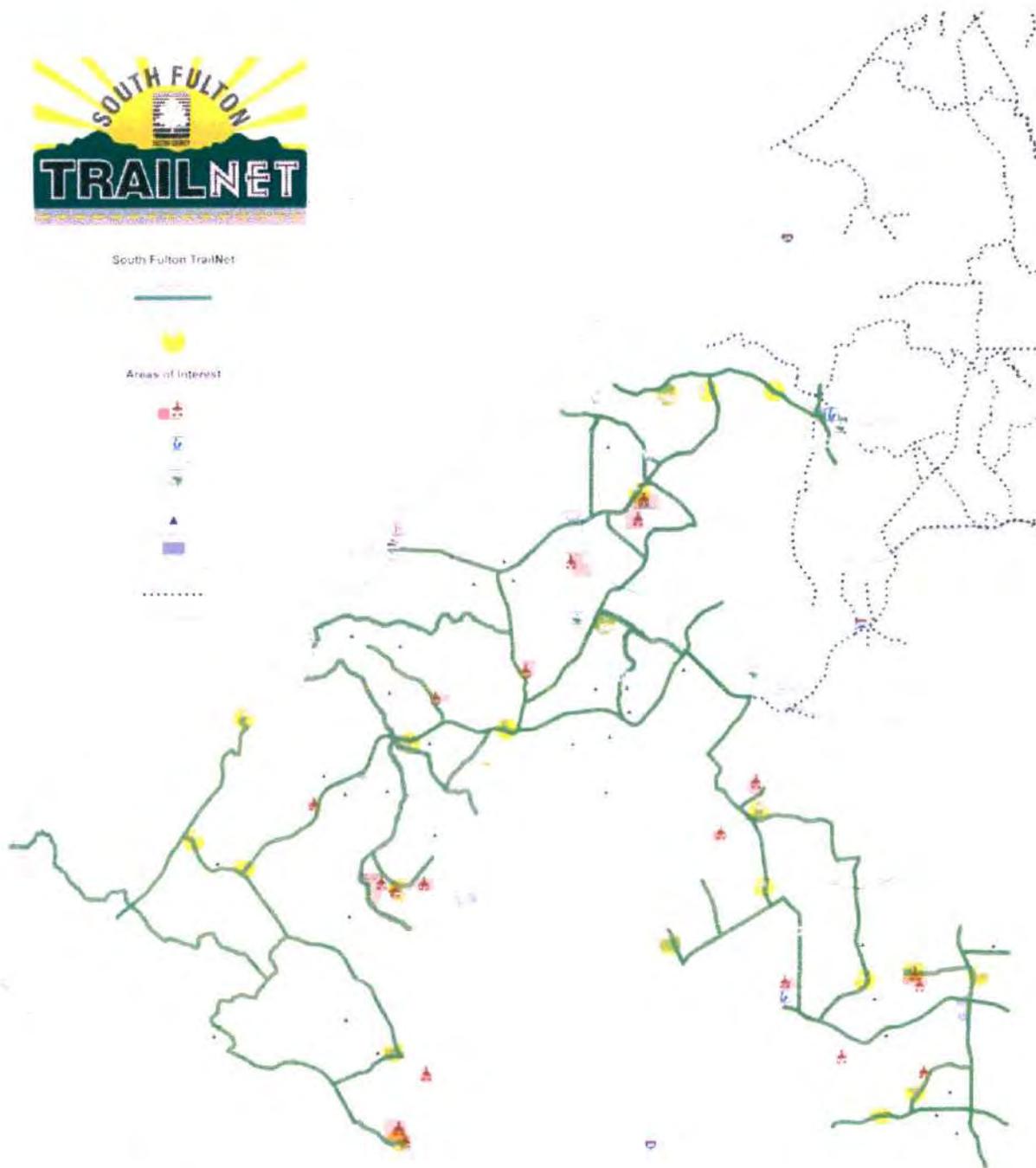


EXHIBIT 3

**A Greenway Trail Master Plan
Unincorporated South Fulton County, Georgia**

Prepared for: The Fulton County Government Board of Commissioners
141 Pryor Street, SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Prepared by: Fulton County Department of Environment and Community Development

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Executive Summary

Access, connectivity and mobility are essential to an area's appeal and livability. One of the most difficult challenges to Fulton County's continued sustainability is the ability to travel freely within and throughout the County. It is essential that transportation – automobile, public, pedestrian and bicycle transportation be efficient, timely and keep pace with growth and development. Transportation options should encourage the safety of pedestrian and bike travel while also accommodating roadways that connect places to live with places to work, shop, learn and play. Fulton County will seek to incorporate developments that blend opportunities to live, work, and play in close proximity of each other in order to encourage the development of walkable communities. These communities, as they are built, will decrease dependence on automobile travel, should aid in decreasing congestion on roadways and improve the region's air quality.

Moving in a direction to provide and promote connectivity, eight years ago Fulton County participated in Georgia's Greenspace Program and was able to acquire 257 acres of permanently protected greenspace. A few years later the County responded to citizen requests to develop community-established vision growth plans that offer a wide range of recreation and transportation alternatives such as bicycling and walking. The Community Plans were adopted by the Board of Commissioners in 2003 and incorporated in the County's 2025 Comprehensive Plan in 2005. One of the recommendations in the Comprehensive Plan was to create a long range vision greenway trail system for unincorporated Fulton County.

Unincorporated South Fulton faces many challenges and opportunities for creating community connectivity. Development and recent city annexations and incorporations have impacted Fulton County citizens' ability to connect to South Fulton's community facilities and commercial nodes. Motorized vehicle transportation is required for travel to parks, schools, shopping centers and nearby neighborhoods. However, unincorporated South Fulton has an amazing opportunity to stay green and connected with an estimated population of 117,538 citizens located within 68,405 acres of developed and undeveloped land.

Currently, Fulton County is in the planning stages to create a South Fulton Greenways and Trails Plan. This plan is a proposed network of greenways and off-road trails that will ultimately serve transportation and recreation needs, enhance quality of life, increase property values along the trails, reduce crime and encourage sustainable economic growth. When implemented, the greenways and off-road trails will provide a variety of benefits that will ultimately enhance the sustainability of unincorporated South Fulton County's economic, environmental and social health. These benefits include:

- Connecting neighborhoods, schools, public spaces and shopping districts
- Creating value and generating economic activity
- Improving bicycle and pedestrian transportation
- Improving health through active living
- Reducing air pollution by preserving trees that produce oxygen
- Enhancing cultural awareness and community identity

Terms, Definitions and Acronyms (As used in this document)

ADA - American with Disabilities Act, a guide for creating accessible facilities for disabled persons.

Bollards - Bollards are structures that restrict access to parts of the pavement or roads at particular times or permanently.

Corridor - A strip of land that forms a passageway between destinations.

Easement - Legal agreement pertaining to land which grants any specified rights or privileges to a party other than the owner (often without payment).

GDOT - Georgia Department of Transportation

GIS - Geographical Information System. A computerized system, which combines, analyzes, and displays layers of geographic data to produce interpretable information.

Greenway - A natural or landscaped corridor, often of relatively long distance, along creeks, utility easements, abandoned rail beds, and publicly owned property.

Greenway Trail - A recreational trail located within a Greenway intended for the use of non-motorized alternative forms of transportations such as walking, running, bicycles, in-line skating, and equestrians.

MARTA - Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority.

Multi-use Trail – Same as Greenway Trail

Off-Road Trail – A Multi-use Trail that lies adjacent to a public roadway.

PATH Foundation - The PATH Foundation, a non-profit corporation which plans, designs, builds, and maintains greenway trails in Georgia.

Right-of-Way - Land, property or interest therein, often in a linear configuration, acquired for or devoted to transportation or utilities transmission purposes.

Sidewalk - Paved pedestrian facility adjacent to a roadway.

Trailhead - Access points along a multi-use trail that provide restrooms, parking, water fountains, and other amenities for the trail user.

Trail Segment - A length of trail, often defined between two destinations or trail junctions or combination thereof.

Trail System - An organized system of trail segments, which provides numerous connections through and around an area, including numerous destination points.

I. Introduction

A. Project Purpose

The purpose of the South Fulton Greenway Trail Master Plan (South Fulton TrailNet) is to develop an integrated system of greenway and off-road trails that will provide recreational and transportation needs for unincorporated South Fulton citizens. The future network will provide citizens with access to schools, libraries, parks, neighborhoods and commercial nodes.

B. Benefits of Trails

The proposed South Fulton TrailNet will yield a wealth of benefits to the trail user and South Fulton County. Those benefits are:

- **Create an Alternative Transportation System**

The South Fulton TrailNet will offer safe and enjoyable transportation alternatives connecting people to parks, schools, libraries, shopping centers, and neighborhood facilities. Two-thirds of all trips made by citizens are for distances of five miles or less. Using trails to bicycle or walk for short-distance trips would reduce air pollution and increase the mobility of those who chose not to drive.

- **Improve Quality of Life and Health**

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), “chronic disease accounted for 5 of the 6 leading causes of death in 2002 in the United States. The prolonged illness and disability associated with many chronic diseases also decreases the quality of life for millions of Americans. Regular physical activity reduces risk and provides therapeutic health benefits for individuals.” The CDC, determined that by creating and improving places in our communities to be physically active, there could be a 25 percent increase in the number of people who exercise at least three times a week. An improved quality of life and healthy population, attracts individuals and corporations desiring to locate and invest in a community which in turn will improve the local economy.

- **Increase Property Value**

Greenway trails will bring economic benefits to South Fulton County, including an increase in the real estate value of adjacent and nearby properties. Numerous studies have shown that there is a positive connection between trails, greenspace and property values. According to a 1995 study of an urban trail in the Denver metro area, 57% of residents surveyed felt that the trail would make their home easier to sell (The Effects of Greenways on Property Values and Public Safety).

- **Protect and Preserve the Natural Environment**

Greenway trails reduce air pollution by preserving trees that produce oxygen and offering non-motorized connectivity opportunities. Greenways improve water quality by creating a natural buffer that protects streams, rivers and lakes, preventing soil erosion and filtering pollution caused by agricultural and storm water runoff. In addition, greenways can serve as educational

classrooms for citizens of all ages, furthering environmental awareness and stewardship. Access to historic and cultural resources is also provided. Greenway trails also increase the visual aesthetics of the area hence better quality of life.

C. Visions and Goals

South Fulton TrailNet is a vision to make unincorporated South Fulton County a pedestrian and bicycle friendly environment by creating a greenway and off-road trail system that connects citizens to the County's most popular destinations such as schools, parks, libraries and commercial nodes.

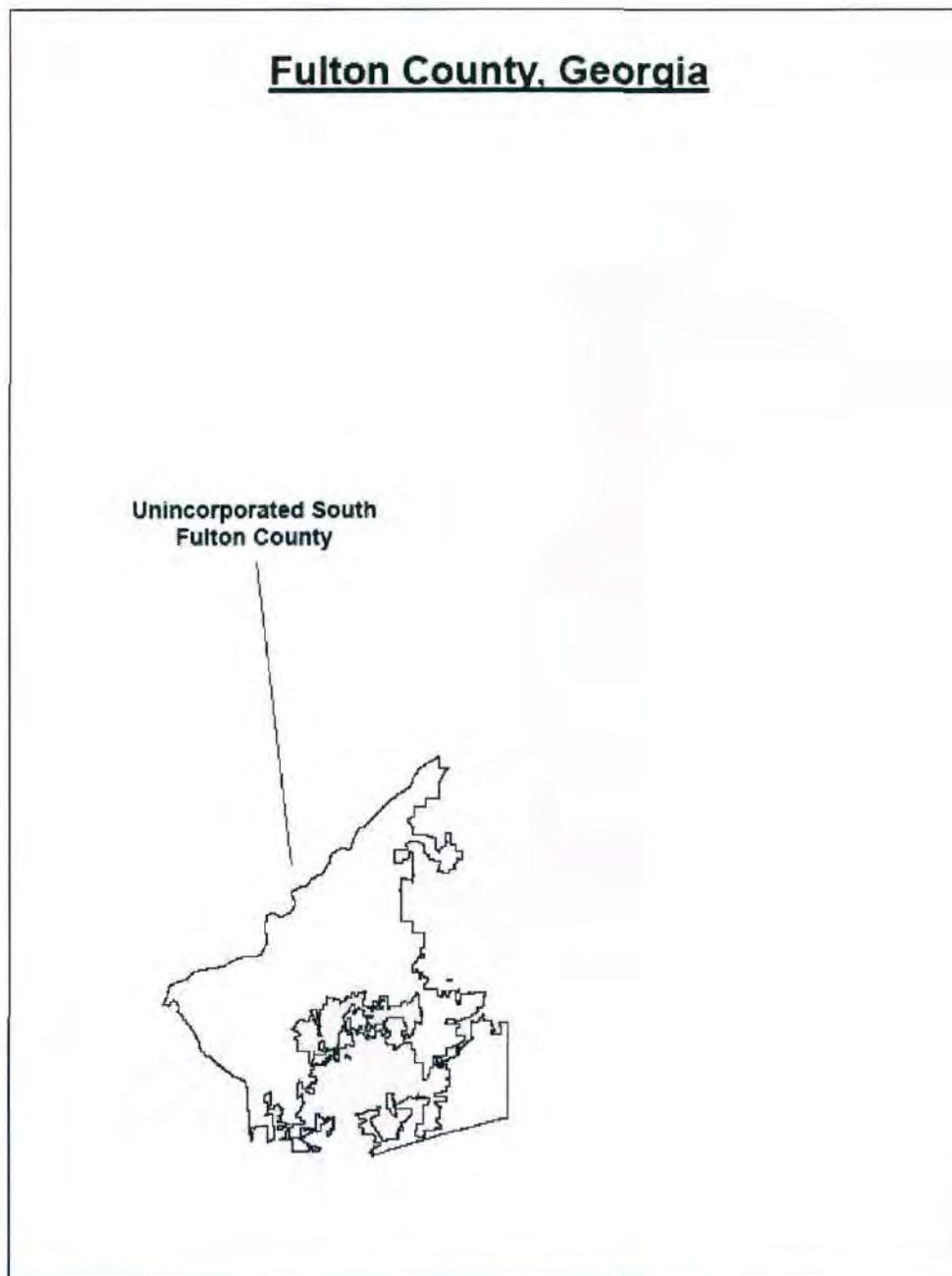
South Fulton TrailNet goals are to:

- Improve the quality of life and health of South Fulton County citizens by developing a trail network that is designed to encourage active recreation, community identity, and alternative modes of transportation.
- Stimulate economic growth through increases in real property value
- Protect the environment and natural resources

II. Existing Environment

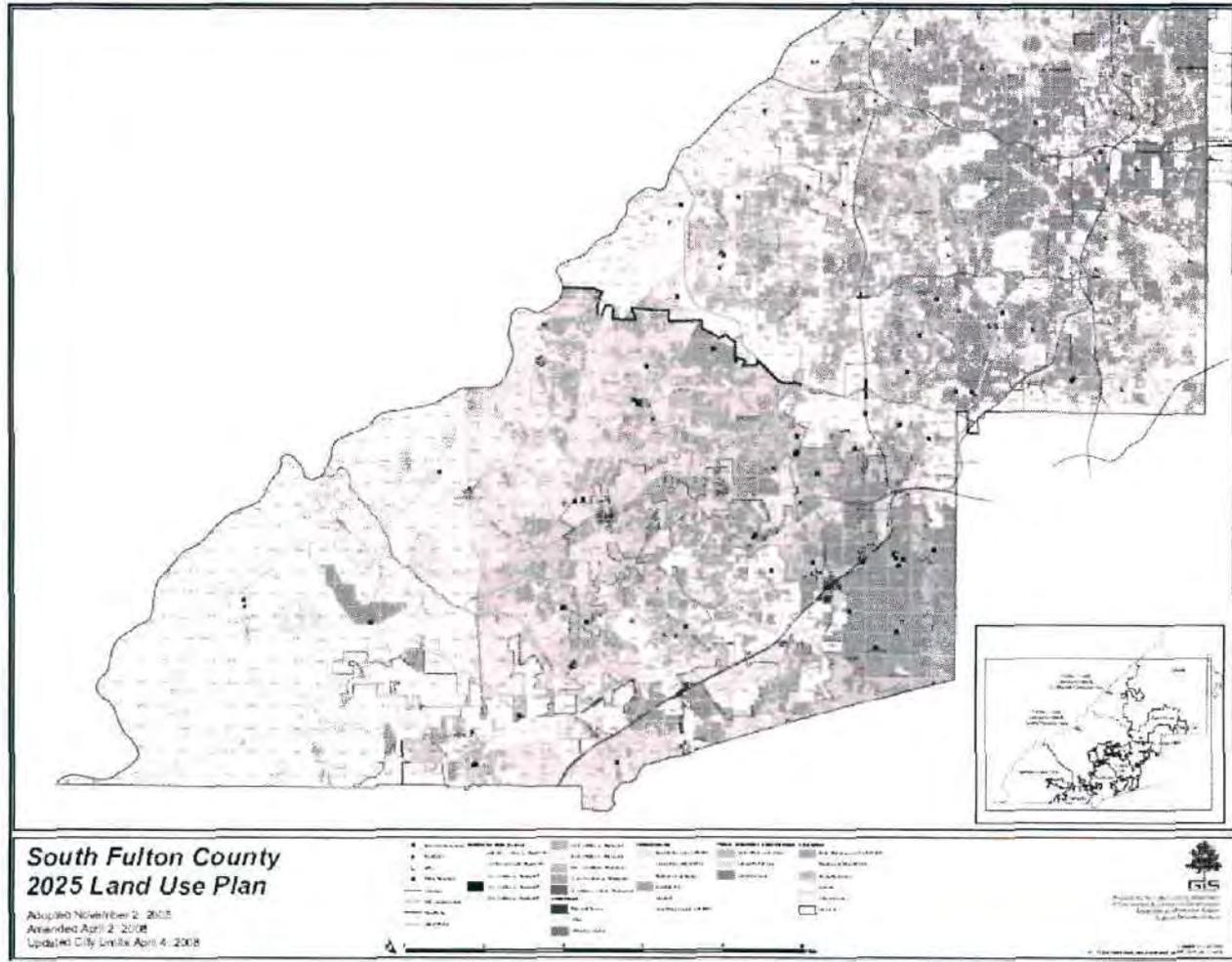
A. Study Area

South Fulton County is the last remaining unincorporated region of Fulton County. Unincorporated South Fulton County is approximately 68,405 acres. The 2000 Census Bureau population for unincorporated South Fulton County was 45,515 and the estimated 2008 population is 117,538.



B. Land Use

The following 2025 Comprehensive Land Use Map shows the vision for future land use throughout unincorporated South Fulton County.



C. Planning Efforts

Several Fulton County Plans such as the Community Plans (Cedar Grove, Cliftondale, Cedar Grove, and Sandtown), Comprehensive Plan, and Livable Centers Initiative Study have made suggestions for new parks, greenspace, multi-use trails and other facilities. All of these documents provided valuable insight and background, and have influenced the development of this master plan.

III. Proposed Network

A. Trail Type

The proposed trail network consists of greenway trails. Greenway trails are typically located along creeks, utility easements, abandoned rail beds, and publicly owned property. This trail type is intended for the use of non-motorized alternative forms of transportations such as walking, running, bicycles, in-line skating, and equestrians. There are approximately 21.1 miles of greenway trails located along creeks:

- Bear Creek (1.0 miles)
- Camp Creek (5.7 miles)
- Deep Creek (4.4 miles)
- Line Creek (3.9 miles)
- Pea Creek (6.1 miles)

Off-road trails are greenway trails located adjacent to public roadways. The proposed unincorporated South Fulton TrailNet has approximately 89.0 miles of off-road trails.

B. Proposed Trail Network

The trail network will create community connections by providing access to destinations within unincorporated South Fulton County such as parks, shopping centers, community facilities and schools.

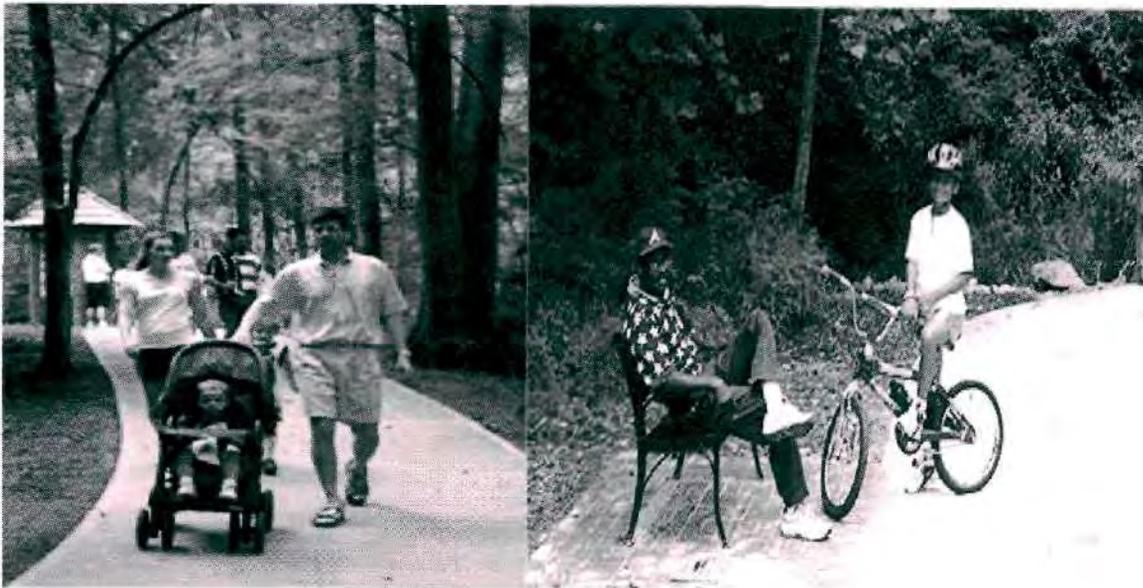
The South Fulton TrailNet provides connectivity to the Chattahoochee Hill Country Regional 98-mile Trail system at four (4) locations:

- Highway 166 (Campbellton Road)
- Camp Creek
- Deep Creek
- Pea Creek

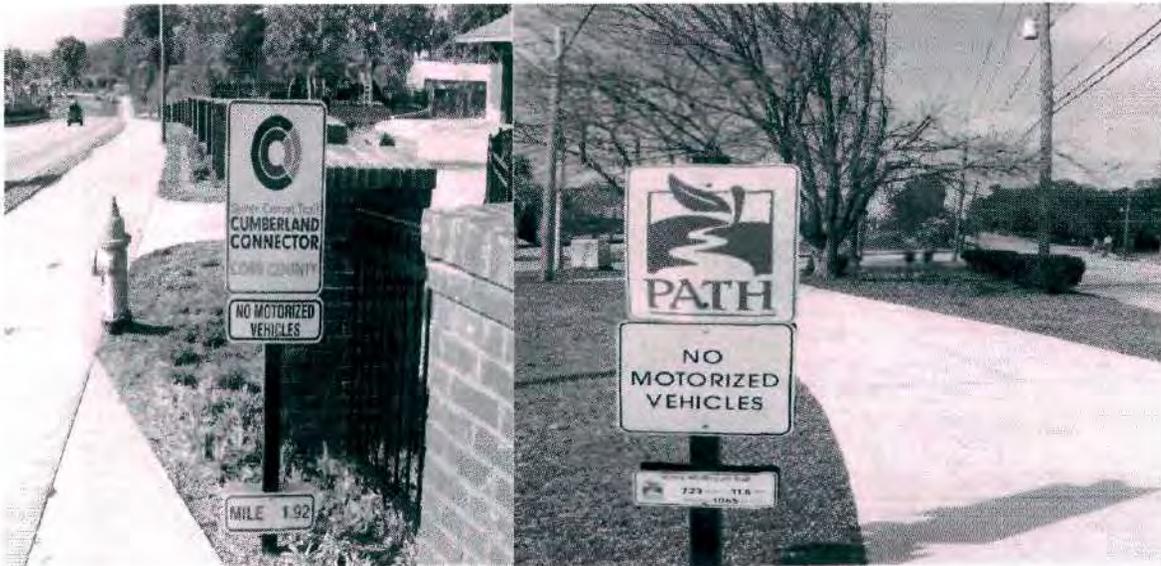
The proposed trail network also provides connectivity to the City of Atlanta's Multi-use and Greenway Trail system at the intersection of Camp Creek Parkway and Old Fairburn Road.

C. Photo Montage

Vision: The images below illustrate the vision of South Fulton TrailNet.



Potential: Greenway Trails



Potential: Off-road Trails



Potential: Trailhead amenities

IV. Methodology for Creating a Master Plan

A. Data Collection

Data collection for the South Fulton TrailNet Master Plan began with reviewing the 2003 Community Vision Plans, 2025 Comprehensive Plan, Livable Centers Initiative Study, Greenspace Plan and quarterly Public Works Transportation Program reports. An assessment of existing conditions, citizen support and potential opportunities for a greenway trail system was provided in the documents. Meetings were held with Fulton County staff (Environment and Community Development, Public Works and Parks and Recreation) to obtain their ideas and knowledge regarding the design and implementation of the greenway trail system. County staff also attended quarterly Chattahoochee Hill Country Regional Greenway Trail meetings to discuss the County's connectivity to a regional system. The City of Atlanta was also contacted to obtain trail system Geographic Information System (GIS) data for potential connectivity to the County's proposed greenway trail system.

A base (GIS) map was developed and mappings were used as a reference to identify natural and man-made features such as rivers, creeks, floodplain areas, development patterns, open space, sewer easements and railroads. The maps also helped identify potential trailhead locations and existing neighborhoods with internal trails and destination points.

B. Public Involvement

The South Fulton TrailNet conceptual map was created by Fulton County Staff (Environment and Community Development) prior to the public meetings. At the public input meetings, Fulton County staff presented the vision, goals, benefits and preliminary map of the network trail system. The citizens and stakeholders were asked to provide input and complete a public participation questionnaire. The results are presented in appendix A. Public participation input sessions were held with citizens and stakeholders as follows:

- **Fulton County Public Works Comprehensive Transportation Plan Meetings:**
 - A. Philip Randolph Elementary on October 14, 2008
 - Burdett Park Community Center on October 16, 2008
 - Community Club Center Clifftondale Park on October 20, 2008
 - South Fulton Annex on October 21, 2008
- **Citizen Commissions**
 - Fulton County Citizens Commission on the Environment on October 14, 2008
 - Commission District 7 Citizens Council on November 3, 2008
- **Community and Business Associations**
 - Sandtown Community Association on November 6, 2008
 - Clifftondale Community Club on November 10, 2008
 - Old National Merchants Associations on March 26, 2009
 - Association of West Cascade Communities on March 31, 2009

- South Fulton Parkway Alliance on April 2, 2009
- Cedar Grove Community Association on April 6, 2009
- Old National Community Alliance on April 23, 2009
- Chippewa Oswego Owatonna Camp Valley Homeowners Association on May 18, 2009

C. Field Work

Fulton County staff conducted field evaluations of each proposed trail segment to identify the location and reasonable feasibility of a greenway trail system. The base map was modified based on site visits and input from stakeholders, residents and staff. Information gathered such as topography, right-of-way and accessibility was used to produce the trail routes and connectivity opportunities. Field trips were also made to surrounding counties to view segments of trails such as Cobb County's Silver Comet Trail, DeKalb County multi-use trails, and Douglas County's Trail.

V. Unincorporated South Fulton County's Greenway Trail System

A. Description of Trails

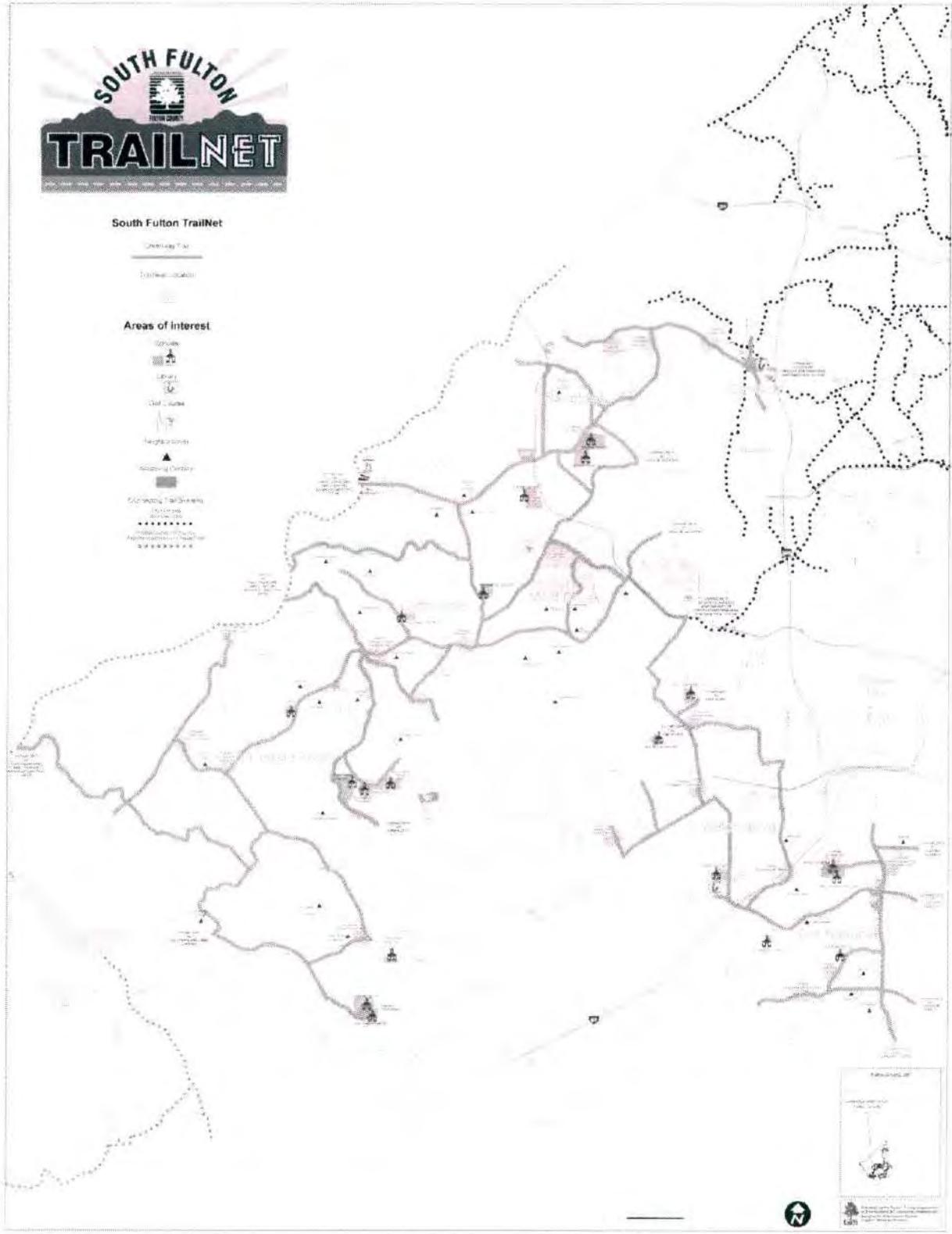
The proposed South Fulton TrailNet is comprised of seven (7) trail segments with a total of 110.1 miles of greenway trails throughout unincorporated South Fulton County. In addition, there are twenty-one (21) proposed trailheads along the trail network. Additional trailheads may be required during the design phase.

B. Cost Analysis

Request for proposals are required to determine an actual cost for the greenway and off-road trails network. However, estimated costs for concrete type surface multi-use trails from the PATH Foundation and City of Alpharetta ranged from \$500,000 to \$1,800,000 per mile. Recent cost estimates in nearby jurisdictions for asphalt ranged from \$100,000 to \$1,000,000 per mile. The actual cost is dependent on many variables such as:

- Topography
- Soils
- Right-of-way costs
- Material costs
- Labor costs
- Design costs

C. South Fulton TrailNet Map



D. Trail Segment Descriptions and Maps

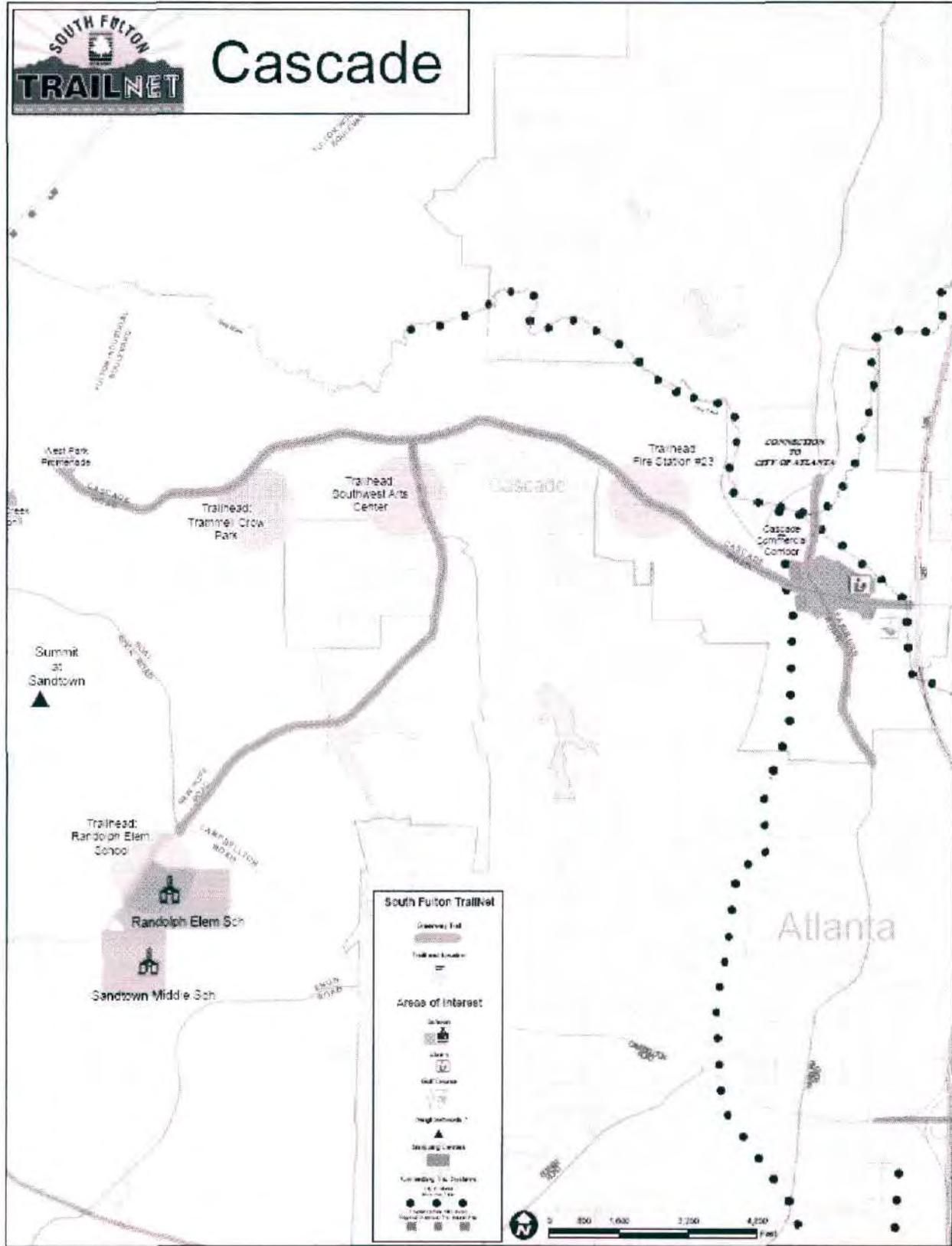
Cascade Trail

The Cascade Trail is an off-road trail that starts at Cascade Road adjacent to the I-285 ramp and connects pedestrians and cyclists to parks, shopping centers, community facilities, and a MARTA bus route. The trail continues to its intersection with Fulton Industrial Boulevard. Sidewalks along Cascade Road are presently used by pedestrians as access to the Cascade commercial corridor. The portion of Fairburn Road located within unincorporated Fulton County provides access to the commercial corridor located at the intersection of Cascade Road and Fairburn Road. New Hope Road provides connectivity from the Cascade Trail to the Sandtown Trail. The Cascade Trail would provide a safe alternative for pedestrians and cyclist to access the shops, restaurants and parks within the corridor.

The four trailheads proposed along the Cascade Trail are the Southwest Branch Library, Fire Station No. 23, Trammell Crow Park and the Southwest Arts Center.

Cascade Trail
Trail Segment Connections: Sandtown Trail
Points of Interest along the Trail: Southwest Branch Library, Trammell Crow Park, South Fulton Art Center, Cascade Commercial Corridor, West Park Promenade and Cascade Driving Range
Approximate Length: 7.9 miles
Recommended Width: 8-10 feet
Opportunities Utilized: County owned roads, GDOT plans and funds
Potential Obstacles: Acquiring right-of-way, funding
Comments: Community support appears strong.

SOUTH FULTON
TRAILNET
Cascade



Cedar Grove Trail

The Cedar Grove Trail consists of greenway and off-road trails. There are approximately 7 miles of greenway trails located within the Cedar Grove Trail system. The first greenway trail starts at Pea Creek from its intersection with the Chattahoochee River and connection to the Chattahoochee Hills regional greenway trail system. It continues throughout portions of the future Friendship Village residential and commercial development located in Southwest unincorporated Fulton County. The second greenway trail starts at Bear Creek between Creekside High School and Bear Creek Middle School and continues to its intersection with Hobgood Road. The Ridge Road portion of the trail starts at its intersection with Cedar Grove Road and provides connectivity to the Clifondale Trail at the intersection of Deep Creek and Butner Road.

The Cedar Grove Trail will be an asset to future development, provide connectivity between existing development, and improve the quality of life in unincorporated South Fulton County. The large tracts of undeveloped land in the Cedar Grove area will provide a wealth of opportunity for the development of this trail system. The Cedar Grove Trail provides an opportunity to experience the natural habitat of the area and allow for an alternative access system to points-of-interest within the area.

There are five proposed trailheads along the Cedar Grove Trail which are the historic Beavers House, Cedar Grove Community House, Fire Station No.17-Cedar Grove, Cedar Grove Park, and Bear Creek Middle School.

Cedar Grove Trail
Trail Segment Connections: Clifondale and Chattahoochee Hill County 98 miles Regional Trails
Points of Interest along the Trail: Historic Beavers House, Cedar Grove Community House, Cedar Grove Park, Friendship Village Shopping, Arlington Christian School, Shops at Hampton Oak, Creekside Middle School and Bear Creek Middle School.
Approximate Length: 26.8 miles
Recommended Width (w/o R.O.W.): 8-10 feet
Opportunities Utilized: Use of Fulton County owned roads
Potential Obstacles: Acquiring right-of-way, approval by adjacent property owners, funding, crossing Campbellton Fairburn Road and South Fulton Parkway
Comments: There is community support and a desire for the Cedar Grove Trail to be consistent with Cedar Grove Overlay District standards.

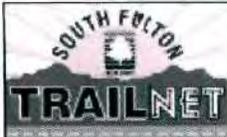
Cliftondale Trail

The Cliftondale Trail consists of greenway and off-road trails. There are approximately 12.3 miles of greenway trails located throughout the Cliftondale Trail system which will provide miles of natural and wildlife scenic views. The first greenway trail starts at Camp Creek at its intersection with the Chattahoochee River and its connection to the Chattahoochee Hills regional greenway trail system and ends at its intersection with Stonewall Tell Road. The second greenway trail starts at Deep Creek at the intersection of the Chattahoochee River and the Chattahoochee Hills regional greenway trail system and ends at its intersection with Jones Road. It provides access to Cliftondale Passive Recreation Park and at its intersection with Demooney Road connectivity to Demooney Fishing Pond. The third greenway starts at Line Creek at its intersection with Deep Creek south of Butner Road and terminates at its intersection with South Fulton Parkway. Its connection with Hall Road and Jones Road provides connectivity to South Fulton High, Renaissance Middle and Renaissance Elementary schools. The West Stubbs Road portion of the trail provides connectivity to West Stubbs Elementary and through its intersection with Butner Road access to Cliftondale Park and Stonewall Tell Elementary. Highway 166 (Campbellton Road) provides connectivity to the Sandtown Trail at its intersection with Camp Creek Parkway. Access to the Wolf Creek Trail is provided at Butner Road and Enon Road through their intersection with Stonewall Tell Road. The Cliftondale Trail will connect surrounding neighborhoods to the Chattahoochee River, West Atlanta Sports Complex and the Chattahoochee Hill Country Regional Greenway Trail.

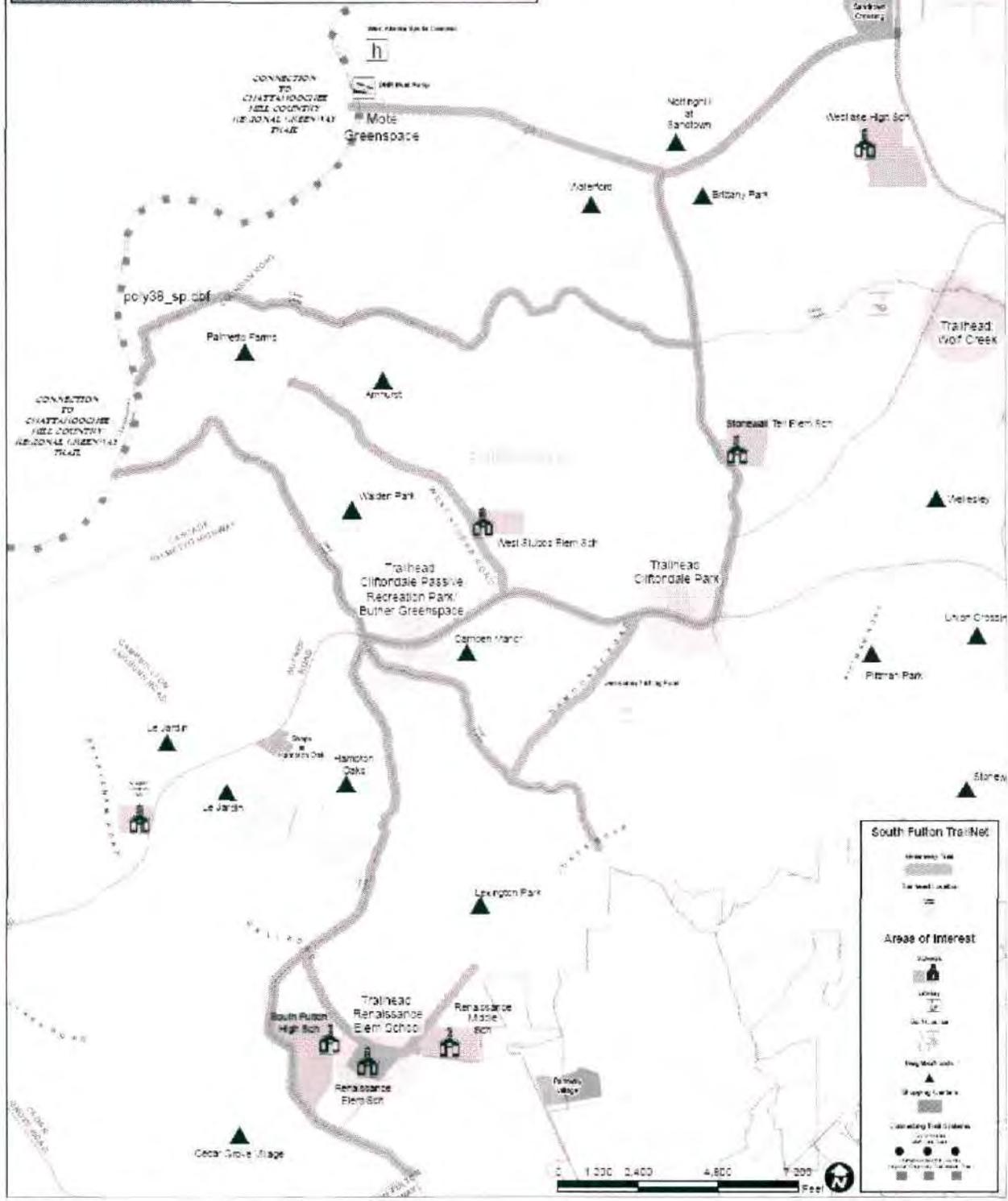
The three trailheads proposed for the Cliftondale Trail are Cliftondale Park, Cliftondale Passive Recreation Park/Greenspace, and Renaissance Elementary School.

Cliftondale Trail
Trail Segment Connections: Sandtown, Wolf Creek and Cedar Grove Trails
Points of Interest along the Trail: Cliftondale Park, Stonewall Tell Elementary School, DeMooney Fishing Pay Lake, West Stubbs Road Elementary School, Chattahoochee Hill Country Regional 98 mile Greenway Trail, Metro Atlanta Softball Complex, Department of Natural Resources Public Boat Ramp, Mote Greenspace, Chattahoochee River, Cliftondale Passive Recreation Park/Greenspace, Renaissance Elementary School, and South Fulton High School
Approximate Length: 25.1 miles
Recommended Width (w/o R.O.W.): 8-10 feet
Opportunities Utilized: Fulton County owned roads, sewer easements and Mote greenspace
Potential Obstacles: Acquiring right-of-way and right-of-use, lack of support from adjacent property owners, crossing at Cascade Palmetto Highway, environmental concerns

Comments: This trail utilizes existing sewer easements along Deep Creek and Line Creek. In addition, this trail is adjacent to numerous property owners. Community support and approval will be critical to the development of this trail. This is one of the most important segments of the South Fulton TrailNet because it will connect citizens to a 98-mile regional greenway system of preserved greenspace, parks, historic sites and miles of scenic river vistas.



Cliftondale



South Fulton TrailNet

- Trailhead
- Trail

Areas of Interest

- School
- Library
- City Hall
- Post Office
- Fire Station
- Shopping Center
- Community Center
- Religious Center
- Health Center
- Senior Center

Old National Trail

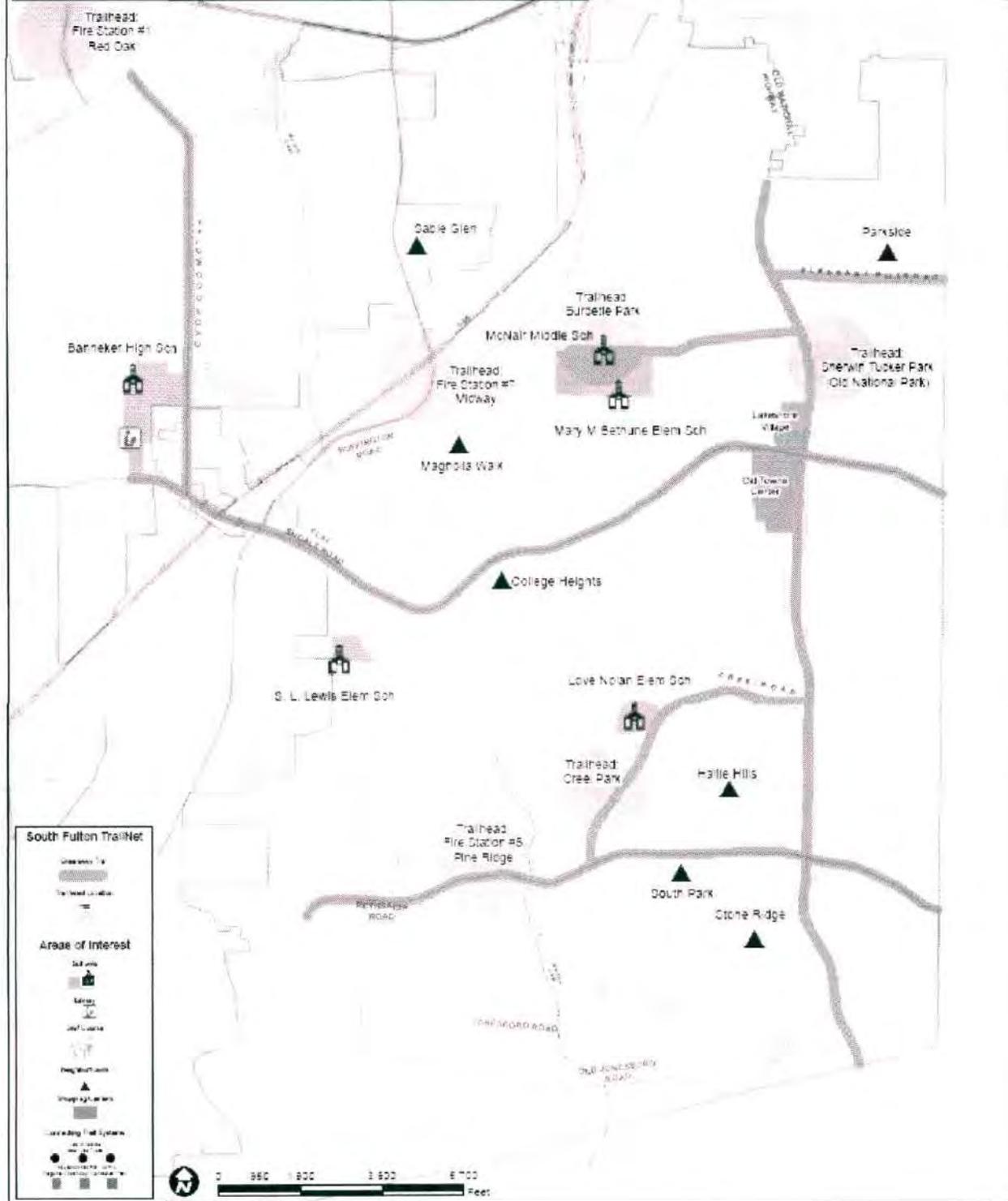
The Old National Trail consists of approximately 14 miles of off-road trails that will provide connectivity to many area destinations. The trail starts at the Old National Highway intersection with Surrey Trail and will connect citizens to Sherwin Tucker Park (Old National Park), Lakeshore Village, Old Towne Center and businesses throughout the commercial corridor as it continues to its intersection with Jonesboro Road. The trail will also connect neighborhoods to the MARTA bus route within the Old National Highway corridor. Burdette Road, Flat Shoals Road, Creel Road, and Bethsaida Road will also provide safe access for pedestrians and cyclists to Old National shopping areas, restaurants, parks and schools. The Flat Shoals Road portion of the trail provides access to the Welcome All Trail at its intersection with Feldwood Road.

The four proposed trailheads along the Old National Trail are Burdette Park, Sherwin Tucker Park (Old National Park), Creel Park, and Fire Station No. 5 – Pine Ridge.

Old National Trail
Trail Segment Connections: Welcome All Trail
Points of Interest along the Trail: Creel Park, Sherwin Tucker Park (Old National Park), Old Town Center Shopping, Lakeshore Village Shopping, Love T. Nolan Elementary School, S.L. Lewis Elementary School, and Lake Shore Village
Approximate Length: 14.0 miles
Recommended Width (w/o R.O.W.): 8-10 feet
Opportunities Utilized: Fulton County owned roads
Potential Obstacles: Acquiring right-of-way, funding
Comments: Opportunity for future trail connection into Fayette and Clayton Counties. There is community and business associations support.



Old National



Sandtown Trail

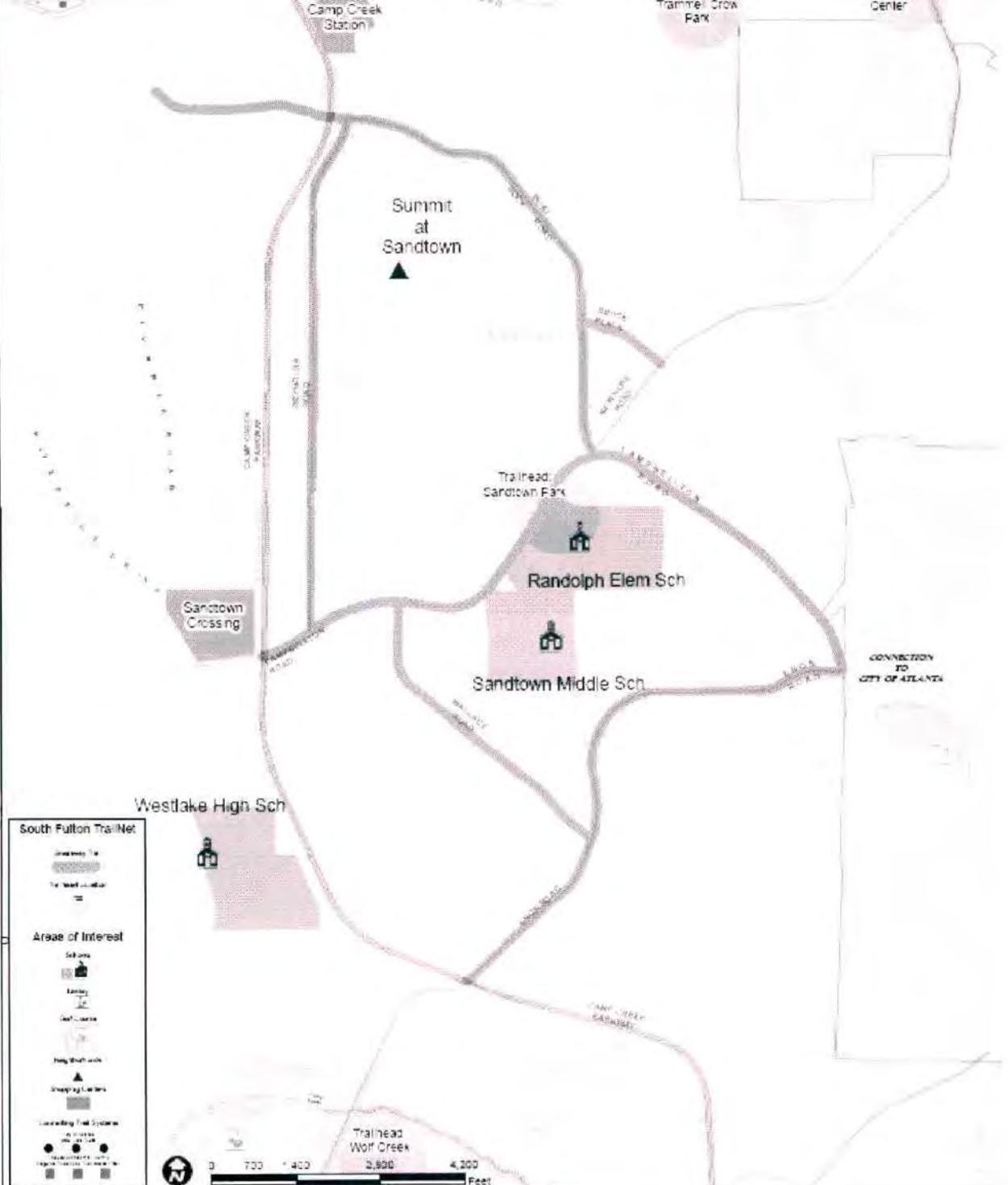
The Sandtown Trail consists of approximately 9.3 miles of off-road trails. The trail starts at Boat Rock Road at its intersection with Fulton Industrial Boulevard and continues to its intersection with Enon Road. It continues along Enon Road and terminates at Camp Creek Parkway. Access to Sandtown Park, A. Phillip Randolph Elementary school, Sandtown Middle school and Sandtown Shopping center is provided along Campbellton Road. New Hope Road provides connectivity to the Cascade Trail at its intersection with Bruce Road and Campbellton Road. Enon Road provides connectivity to the Wolf Creek Trail at its intersection with Camp Creek Parkway. Connectivity to the Clifondale Trail is provided by the Campbellton Road intersection with Camp Creek Parkway. The Sandtown Trail will encourage pedestrian activities and establish better overall connectivity to parks, schools and shopping centers as well as improve access to MARTA’s bus route within the area.

Sandtown Park is the proposed trailhead.

Sandtown Trail
Trail Segment Connections: Cascade, Clifondale, and Welcome All Trails
Points of Interest along the Trail: Sandtown Park, A. Phillip Randolph Elementary School, Sandtown Middle School, and Sandtown Crossing Retail Center
Approximate Length: 9.3 miles
Recommended Width: 8-10 feet
Opportunities Utilized: County owned roads, GDOT planned and funded projects
Potential Obstacles: Acquiring right-of-way, funding
Comments: There is community and business associations support.



Sandtown



Welcome All Trail

The Welcome All Trail consists of 12.9 miles of off-road trails. The trail starts at Welcome All Road at its intersection with Jailette Road near Camp Creek Middle School and Welcome All Park. The trail continues to its intersection with Roosevelt Highway providing access to trailheads located on Welcome All Road and Stonewall Tell Road. Welcome All Road provides connectivity to the Wolf Creek Trail system at its intersection with Jailette Road heading north towards Thaxton Road. Connectivity to the Old National Trail is provided by Buffington Road and Feldwood Road through their intersection with Flat Shoals Road. The Welcome All Trail will provide a safe alternative for pedestrians and cyclists to access MARTA, schools, Welcome All Park and the South Fulton Tennis and Service Center.

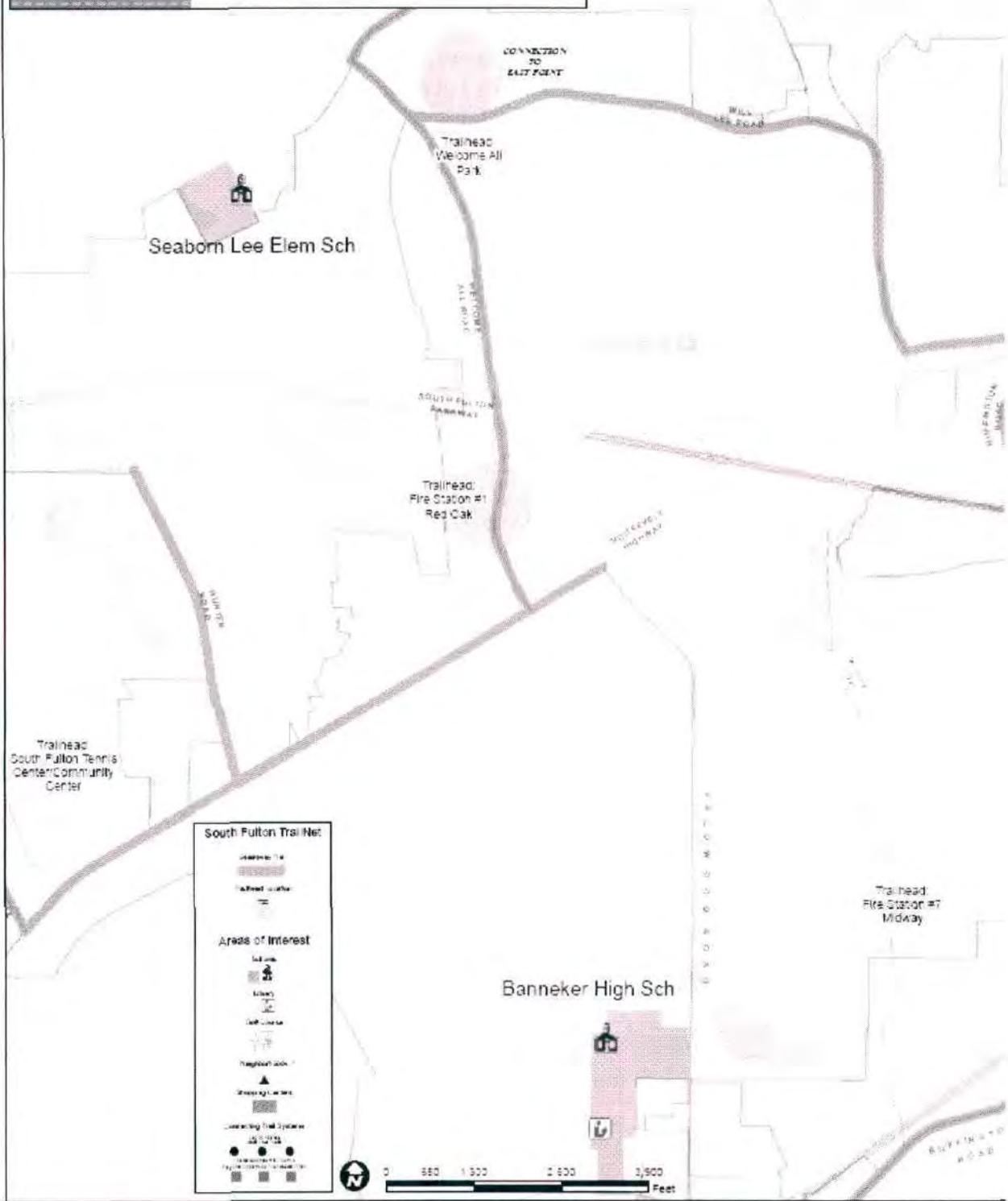
The four proposed trailheads along the Welcome All Trail are Welcome All Park, Fire Station #1-Red Oak, Fire Station #7-Midway, South Fulton Service Center and South Fulton Tennis Center.

Welcome All Trail
Trail Segment Connections: Old National and Wolf Creek Trails
Points of Interest along the Trail: Banneker High School, South Fulton Regional Library Welcome All Park, Camp Creek Middle School, and South Fulton Service Center and South Fulton Tennis Center
Approximate Length: 12.9
Recommended Width: 8-10 feet
Opportunities Utilized: County owned roads
Potential Obstacles: Acquiring right-of-use, funding, bridge crossing over I-85, approval of property owners
Comments: Georgia Department of Transportation funding will be used for constructing the trail and pedestrian bridge over Valley Brook Creek along the north side of Will Lee Road. Fulton County is awaiting the notice to proceed from GDOT to start advertising the Invitation to Bid.



Welcome All

Middle Sch



Wolf Creek Trail

The Wolf Creek Trail consists of greenway and off-road trails. The approximate 1.7 miles of greenway trails start at Camp Creek at its intersection with Butner Road, Merk Road and Enon Road. The Camp Creek greenway provides access to the Wolf Creek Amphitheater and Tom Lowe Shooting Range. The proposed Walton Lakes Community greenway trail is located north of Camp Creek Parkway between Old Fairburn Road and Butner Road.

Access to the Wolf Creek Trail from the Welcome All Trail is provided by Jaillette Road at its intersection with Welcome All Road. The Sandtown Trail connects to the Wolf Creek Trail on Enon Road at its intersection with Camp Creek Parkway. The Clifftondale Trail connects to the Wolf Creek Trail on Stonewall Tell Road at its intersection with Enon Road and Butner Road.

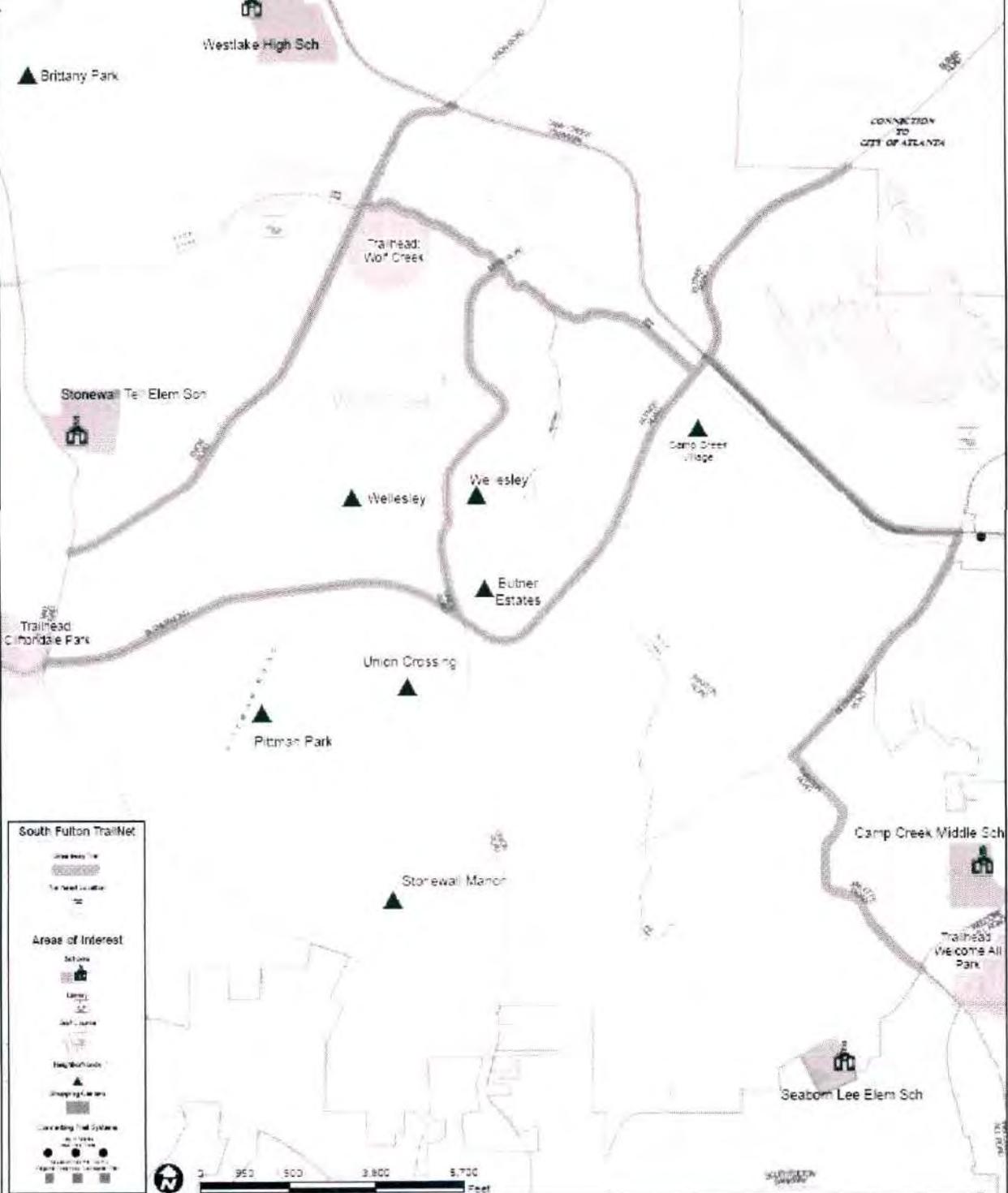
The Wolf Creek Trail will provide a safe pedestrian friendly route for citizens to commute to the Wolf Creek Amphitheater for concerts, festivals, and family-friendly events, as well as shopping at area shopping centers.

The trailhead proposed for the Wolf Creek Trail is the Wolf Creek Public Safety and Training Complex.

Wolf Creek Trail
Trail Segment Connections: Sandtown and Clifftondale Trails
Points of Interest along the Trail: Piedmont Driving Club, Wolf Creek Amphitheater, Camp Creek Village Shopping Center, Wolf Creek Public Safety Training Center, and Wolf Creek Golf Club
Approximate Length: 14.07 miles
Recommended Width (w/o R.O.W.): 8-10 feet
Opportunities Utilized: Fulton County owned roads and sewer easements
Potential Obstacles: Acquiring right-of-way and right-of-use, lack of support from adjacent property owners, bridge crossing over Camp Creek, addressing environmental concerns along Camp Creek and funding
Comments: The developer for Walton Lakes Community has submitted plans to Fulton County for a greenway trail on the property that will be accessible to citizens. According to the County's Department of Public Works Transportation Program Status Report (December 2008) a bridge replacement project (Butner Road over Camp Creek) will be designed to make provisions for bike lanes and sidewalks as applicable and intersection improvements.

SOUTH FULTON TRAILNET

Wolf Creek



E. Trail Description Charts

Cascade Trail		
Segment Name	Trail Description	Approximate Length (Miles)
Fairburn	Fairburn Road from Utoy Creek to Village Drive	1.3
New Hope	New Hope from Cascade Road to Campbellton Road	2.4
Cascade	Cascade Road from I-285 to Fulton Industrial Blvd	4.2

Cedar Grove Trail		
Segment Name	Trail Description	Approximate Length (Miles)
Hobgood	Along Hobgood Road from its intersection with Rivertown Road to its intersection with Bear Creek	0.7
Bear Creek	Along Bear Creek from its intersection with Hobgood Road to Bear Creek Middle School	1.0
Parks	Along Cedar Grove Road from its intersection with Rivertown Road its intersection with South Fulton Parkway	1.7
Friendship Village	Along Rivertown Road from its intersection with South Fulton Parkway to its intersection with Cedar Grove Road	3.0
Friendship Village North	Along Northcutt Road from its intersection with Cedar Grove Road to its intersection with Petersburg Road. Along Petersburg Road to its intersection with Porter Terry Road. Along Porter Terry Road to its intersection with Rivertown Road.	3.0
Cochran Mill	Along Cochran Mill Road from its intersection with Brazell Road to its intersection with Cascade Palmetto Highway. Along Cascade Palmetto from its intersection with Church Street. Along Church Street to its intersection with Cochran Road. Along Cochran Road to Beaver's House	4.1
Ridge	Along Butner Road from its intersection with Deep Creek to Ridge Road intersection with Cedar Grove Road	3.5
Oaks	Along Cedar Grove Road from its intersection with South Fulton Parkway to its intersection with Cochran Mill Road	3.8
Pea Creek	Along Pea Creek from Cascade Palmetto Highway to the Chattahoochee River	6.1

Cliftondale		
Segment Name	Trail Description	Approximate Length (Miles)
Palmetto Farm South	Along Deep Creek from its intersection with the Chattahoochee River to its intersection with Cascade Palmetto Highway	1.0
Demooney	Along Demooney Road from its intersection with Butner Road to its intersection with Deep Creek	1.2
Walden Park	Along Deep Creek from its intersection with Cascade Palmetto Highway to its intersection with Butner Road	1.3
Hampton Oaks	Along Line Creek from its intersection with Butner Road to its intersection with Campbellton Fairburn Road	1.4
Hall Road	Along Hall Road from its intersection with Line Creek to its intersection with Campbellton-Fairburn Road	1.5
Palmetto Farms North	Along Camp Creek from its intersection with the Chattahoochee River to its intersection with Cascade Palmetto Highway	1.6
West Stubbs	Along West Stubbs Road from its intersection with Cascade Palmetto Highway to its intersection with Butner Road	1.8
Cooks Landing	Along Deep Creek from its intersection with Butner Road to its intersection with Jones Road	2.1
Cliftondale Park	Along Butner Road from its intersection with Stonewall Tell Road to its intersection with Deep Creek	2.1
Cascading Creek	Along Camp Creek from its intersection with Stonewall Tell Road to its intersection with Cascading Palmetto Highway	2.4
Renaissance	Along Line Creek from Campbellton-Fairburn Road to its intersection with South Fulton Parkway	2.6
Stonewall	Along Stonewall Tell Road from its intersection with Campbellton Road to its intersection with Butner Road	2.7
Highway 166	Along Highway 166 from its intersection with Camp Creek Parkway to its intersection with the Chattahoochee River	3.4

Old National		
Segment Name	Trail Description	Approximate Length (Miles)
Pleasant Hill	Along Pleasant Hill Road from its intersection with Old National Highway to its intersection with the Clayton County line	0.8
Burdette Road	Along Burdette Road from its intersection with Old National Highway to its intersection with	1.0
Creel Park	Along Creel Road from its intersection with Old National Highway to its intersection with Bethsaida Road	1.4
Bethsaida	Along Bethsaida Road from its intersection with Jonesboro Road to its intersection with Clayton County line	2.9
Flat Shoals	Along Flat Shoals from the South Fulton Branch Library to Clayton County line	3.9
Old National	Along Old National Highway from Surrey Trail to Fayette County line	4.0

Sandtown		
Segment Name	Trail Description	Approximate Length (Miles)
Bruce	Along Bruce Place its intersection with Boat Rock Road to its intersection with New Hope Road	0.3
Wallace	Along Wallace Road from its intersection with Enon Road to its intersection with Campbellton Road	1.0
Reynolds	Along Reynolds Road from its intersection with Boat Rock to its intersection with Campbellton Road	1.7
Enon Sand	Along Enon Road from its intersection with Camp Creek Parkway to its intersection with Campbellton Road	1.8
Campbellton	Along Campbellton Road from its intersection with Enon Road to its intersection with Camp Creek Parkway	2.4
Boat Rock	Along Boat Rock Road from Fulton Industrial Blvd to Campbellton Road	2.1

Welcome All		
Segment Name	Trail Description	Approximate Length (Miles)
Lake Francis	Along Hunter Road from its intersection with Roosevelt Highway to its intersection with Industrial Drive	0.9
Ben Hill Connector	Along Ben Hill Road from its intersection with Ridge Road to its intersection with Roosevelt Highway; and from the intersection of Ben Hill Road and Roosevelt Highway to the intersection of Buffington Road and Roosevelt Highway	1.0
Will Lee	Along Will Lee from its intersection with Welcome All Road to its intersection with Ridge Road	1.3
Feldwood	Along Feldwood Road from its intersection with Flat Shoals Road to its intersection with Roosevelt Highway	1.9
Welcome All	Along Welcome All Road from its intersection with Roosevelt Highway to its northern most intersection with Jailette Road near Camp Creek Middle School	2.2
Roosevelt Connector	Along Roosevelt Highway from its intersection with Feldwood Road to its intersection with Stonewall Tell Road; and along Stonewall Tell Road to its intersection with Wexford Road	2.5
Buffington Road	Along Buffington Road from its intersection with Roosevelt Highway to its intersection with Flat Shoals Road	3.1

Wolf Creek		
Segment Name	Trail Description	Approximate Length (Miles)
Walton Lakes	North of Camp Creek Parkway on Walton Lakes Community from Fairburn Road to Butner Road	1.3
Merk	Along Merk Road from its intersection with Camp Creek to its intersection with Butner Road	1.7
Camp Creek	Along Camp Creek from its intersection with Butner Road to its intersection with Enon Road	1.7
Wolf Creek Connector	Along Old Fairburn Road from its intersection with Camp Creek Pkwy to its intersection with Thaxton Road; along Thaxton Road from its intersection with Old Fairburn Road to its intersection with Jailette Road; and along Jailette Road from its intersection with Thaxton Road to its intersection with Welcome All Road	2.3
Enon - Wolf Creek	Along Enon Road from its intersection with Camp Creek Parkway to its intersection with Stonewall Tell Road	2.5
Butner	Along Butner Road from its intersection with Tell Road to its intersection with Stonewall Tell Road	4.5

F. Trail Summary Chart

Trail Name	Trail Connection	Approximate Length (Miles)
Cascade	Sandtown	7.9
Cedar Grove	Cliftdale	26.9
Cliftdale	Wolf Creek & Cedar Grove	25.1
Old National	Welcome All	14.0
Sandtown	Cascade, Wolf Creek & Cliftdale	9.3
Welcome All	Old National & Wolf Creek	12.9
Wolf Creek	Sandtown & Cliftdale	14.0
Total Miles		110.1

VI. Design Standards

A. Standard Trail Details

In order for the trail network to be a successful community amenity, the trail should appeal to a wide variety of users and be accessible to persons with varying motor skills and abilities. To

achieve this, the trail network should be designed to provide a high level of user conveniences. The design of each off-road and greenway trail is unique and shall be flexible to comply with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements and meet Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials standards. Trailhead features shall include restrooms and water fountains that meet ADA requirements. Each segment will be evaluated by a qualified engineer and landscape architect to recommend the best design.

- **Trail Width**
Off-road and greenway trails should be 8-10 feet wide. However, each trail segment will be evaluated to determine the best width. The determination will be based on topography, existing environmental conditions, regulatory requirements and cost.
- **Trail Surface**
The preferred surface material for the greenway and off-road trails is concrete. Concrete is the most practical choice for trail construction due to low maintenance requirements. The greenway and off-road trails should be marked with a dashed, centerline stripe and stop-bar at intersections. Also, bollards should be placed at street intersections to alert and limit vehicular access. Red concrete is proposed within twenty feet of street intersections to alert trail users to crossing vehicles. A rumble strip should be formed into the concrete at vehicular crossings to assist the visually impaired.

B. Signage

Signage for the South Fulton TrailNet should be consistent with Part 9 of the Municipal Uniform Traffic Code Division (MUTCD) for bicycle and facilities. In addition, mile/kilo/elevation designation marker signage will be posted on all greenway and off-road trails. Other signage recommendations include trail maps and trail etiquette and rules signage to be located at all trailheads and rest areas. In addition, kiosks are recommended for appropriate areas to provide information on environmental features, historical facts and health tips.

C. Trail Facilities and Amenities (Trailheads)

Trailheads are access points to a trail segment. Currently, there are 20 proposed trailheads along the trail network which are Fulton County schools, fire stations, community centers, libraries, and parks. Additional trailheads should be included along the trail network during the design phases of the trails.

Recommended trail amenities are benches, bike racks, signs, lighting, trash receptacles, water fountains and dog waste pick-up stations. The trail amenities should be constructed of recycled plastic lumber similar to the amenities on the Silver Comet Trail. These plastic products do not warp, rot, burn, or accept graffiti.

D. Highways, Bridges and Other Crossings

Fulton Industrial Boulevard, Camp Creek Parkway, Roosevelt Highway, and South Fulton Parkway create potential obstacles for bicycle and pedestrian flow. Bridges and traffic calming

measures may be needed at major intersections to create a transportation system for walkers and cyclists. The traffic calming measures may include restriping of crossings and the provision of warning and informational signs to enhance safety for trail users.

E. Trail Development and the Environment

Greenway trails located adjacent to rivers and streams play an important ecological role in protecting and enhancing water quality. The protection of open spaces associated with trail development protects natural floodplain along creeks and streams. Also, greenways preserve critical open space that provides natural buffer zones to protect streams, rivers and lakes from storm water and pollution run-off caused by fertilizer and pesticide use on yards. Greenway trails built along rivers and streams should be designed to endure periodic flooding.

VII. Maintenance and Security

A. Maintenance

Maintenance refers to specific day-to-day tasks and programs performed to assure that the trails are kept in good usable conditions. A comprehensive maintenance management plan should be developed at the beginning of the trails implementation process. The following principles will help assure the upkeep and preservation of a trail system:

- Promote and maintain a quality outdoor recreation and transportation system
- Develop a management plan that is reviewed and updated annually with tasks, operational policies, standards, and routine and remedial maintenance goals
- Maintain quality control and conduct regular inspections
- Maintain an effective, responsive public feedback system and promote public participation
- Protect life, property and the environment

Fulton County will be responsible for maintaining the trail system. Therefore, the creation of a Trail Maintenance Division (coordinated through the Parks and Recreation and Public Works Departments) is highly recommended.

Trails require maintenance similar to that of County parks such as:

- Trash and debris removal
- Weed and dust control
- Sweeping/blowing trails
- Tree and shrub trimming and pruning
- Mowing of vegetation
- Mulching and edging
- Invasive species control
- Minor repairs and replacements

It is also recommended that an Adopt-a-Trail/Greenway program be established. This program will assist with maintenance and preservation of the greenway and off-road trails by conducting regular trail clean-up projects and monitoring and reporting conditions of the trail to the Trail Maintenance Division. It will also encourage environmental stewardship among the community.

B. Security

The South Fulton TrailNet will require minimal security due the large percent of off-road trails in the system. These off-road trails comprise approximately 89.0 of the total 110.1 trail miles and are located adjacent to public roadways, which are protected by public safety resources. However, additional public safety resources will be required to monitor the greenway trail portion of the network. It is recommended for added safety and security that emergency call boxes be placed along this portion of the trail. In addition, trail users will be encouraged to use the buddy system. This will provide more security to citizens and promote the use of the trail system.

VIII. Implementing the Master Plan

A. Action Steps

The South Fulton County Greenway Trail Master Plan is a blueprint for the development of a bicycle and pedestrian friendly trail system throughout unincorporated South Fulton County. This proposed master plan is intended to provide citizens, elected and appointed officials, County staff, and stakeholders with information about the trail system, and to aid in efforts to launch support for the trail network.

The steps listed below will illustrate how Fulton County will turn the vision of a connected greenway trail network into a reality.

- 1) **Adopt the Plan.** The Greenway Trail Master Plan shall be approved and adopted by the Board of Commissioners. In addition, the plan should also be adopted as an element of the Comprehensive Plan Update and the Comprehensive Transportation Plan.
- 2) **Amend existing County policy.** Amend existing subdivision and floodplain management regulations to allow for greenway and off-road trails. In addition, adopt an ordinance to enforce trail rules.
- 3) **Designate a Greenway and Trail Coordinator.** This person should be responsible for overseeing and championing the implementation of the plan. The coordinator will be responsible for the functions and duties required to successfully implement and maintain the trail network.
- 4) **Secure and commit funding.** Funding for the greenway and off-road trails development will come from a variety of private, local, state, and federal sources.

B. Prioritization and Phasing of Trail System

The South Fulton TrailNet will be developed in phases. Trail segment construction will be prioritized by several determining factors such as:

- Improving safety in areas of concern
- Elected officials and neighborhoods championing for the project
- Funding sources identify specific areas
- Opportunities to provide connectivity to existing trails
- Coordinating new development with trail plans

IX. Appendices

APPENDIX A – PUBLIC PARTICIPATION QUESTIONNAIRE

The following questionnaire was distributed during the public meetings. The number of citizens responding to the questions is shown to the right of the question in bold with written comments shown on the next page.

1. I use existing trails in the County and around the region...

- Several times a week **7**
- Several times a month **4**
- Several times a year **14**
- Never **38**

2. My suggestions on how to improve future trails built in Fulton County are...
(See #2 on next page)

3. If I could travel on a greenway trail from my home to my job, I would...

- Bike or walk to work most of the time **11**
- Bike or walk to work frequently **11**
- Bike or walk to work occasionally **15**
- Not use the rail to get to work **25**

4. If an off-street greenway trail connected me to my destination, I would likely ride a bike or walk to (check all applicable):

- School **10**
- Church **19**
- Shopping **44**
- Park **43**
- Second Job **5**
- MARTA **15**
- Gym **30**
- Visit friends **25**
- Other **6**

5. I have ideas regarding future trail corridors in the County that may be useful. Please contact me. **(Names on file with Environment and Community Development)**

Name

Daytime Phone #

APPENDIX A CONT'D - PUBLIC PARTICIPATION QUESTIONNAIRE COMMENTS

#2 My suggestion on how to improve future trails built in Fulton County are....

We do not have trails in South Fulton. My suggestion is to have local trails in neighborhoods to walk and bike.

First have more of them – we really enjoy the Silver Comet.

Make trails more connected to existing communities. Currently, I would have to drive to a trail. If one were close to Reynolds Rd. I would use it.

Build around subdivision

They are not in my area of town.

I don't know where the trails are so that I can use them. I live at Koweta Rd. and Chatterson Rd. in South Fulton County. I would imagine accessibility and proper lighting along with pedestrian signs and reduced speed limits would be helpful in improvement

If they're built, I believe they'll be used. In the mornings and throughout the early evening hours you see a number of people walking, running, and exercising their dogs on the edges of existing roads. If they'll brave these small curvy roads without sidewalks, they'll definitely use a trail or sidewalk.

There needs to be more trails connecting public places e.g. shopping, schools, and parks and recreation. Not only places, but Marta. These trails I believe will cut down on driving, traffic, and improve health in those who will use it. South Fulton's growing population can benefit by not being forced to drive in our community.

Improve the sidewalks on Burdett Road and the trees and landscape surrounding this area. More street light around the Burdett Gym and baseball field.

I do not use trails enough to suggest improvements

Make sure that public safety aspect is a priority.

Make more of them in highly populated areas. I realize space is an issue, but in a perfect world....

Connecting between trail systems extend connectivity.

Marta rail connection and engage the Path Foundation

Emphasize connections to cities

Trails should be built from each street to the gym, schools and parks. The one trail I know about goes from the upper baseball field to north Campbellton Rd. I live south of the park.

Increase funding, expand program and increase the number of trails

Need green trails

Mark trail near parks

No bonds, please

Solar lighting, better signage

Need no bond for trail system

Good lighting, security phones along path. Foot patrols for police officers. No additional taxes for the trail. Nothing pushed onto taxpayers of Fulton County.

Canvas community and provide visual information – emphasize security. Seek State, Federal, private funding.

Add greenspace...it's important

Not aware of location – need more access.

Create more greenspace

I would like to see bike lanes on Cedar Grove Road and South Fulton Highway

APPENDIX A CONT'D - PUBLIC PARTICIPATION QUESTIONNAIRE COMMENTS

Be sure to include the unincorporated area of South Fulton. Get the information out to the citizen's FCO website, Channel 22, newspaper

Make sure they are interconnected to allow for more convenient and practical use by all citizens

Create a trail map that has the stops and key points that are sent to each home or online.

Collect data from homeowners in the area to supply needs of patrons

Usage of annual or perennials that would give a nice aesthetic appearance to users of trail

Provide some

Get them built and connect businesses to homes

Safety buffer of 10 feet or more. Lighting. Multiple trail formats – bike, cart, walk. Use areas that can be monitored.

I haven't given much thoughts to improvement and I will. I will be retired soon so I will like to be able to walk the trail to access amenities including shopping, eating, etc

My primary concern is safety and preserving the natural environment. Well lighted facilities and frequently patrolled

Market the trails to the public, as to benefits and costs. Fitness areas/equipment. Walking only trails.

Publicize them more to increase public use which should lead to increase public support.

Make them accessible to neighborhood. Provide green areas that will be assigned to a company to keep clean.

Not sure how this project would benefit the population it is design to serve

Provide information on proposed schedule for design, construction, opening date for project

Make them wide enough for walking/biking

APPENDIX B: RESOURCES

- The PATH Foundation – www.pathfoundation.org
- Chattahoochee Hill Country Regional Greenway Plan - Prepared by: The PATH Foundation
- DeKalb's Greenway Trails – Prepared by: The PATH Foundation, MDG, Inc.
- Rockdale River Trail Master Plan - Prepared by: The PATH Foundation, Ecos Environmental Design, Inc.
- Georgia Department of Transportation – www.dot.state.ga.us
- Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Parks, Recreation and Historic Sites Division – www.gastateparks.org
- American Trails – <https://www.americantrails.org>
- Greenway Incorporated – <https://www.greenways.com>
- Trails and Greenways Clearinghouse – www.trailsandgreenways.org