



Cumberland Valley Rail Trail



nature
 North Middleton
 horseback riding West Pennsboro
 school field trips alternative transportation
 community events Southampton
 the great outdoors Civil War-history South Mountain
 Newville family-friendly activity
 races walking quality of life jogging
 sustainability wellness economic development
 equestrian running cross country skiing
 fitness biking agricultural heritage Carlisle
 fun runs beautiful scenery
 health dog walking Shippensburg
 North Mountain bird watching
 North Newton



Cumberland Valley Rails-to-Trails Council • P.O. Box 531 • Shippensburg, PA 17257
 (717) 860-0444 • www.cvrtc.org



Ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Oakville-to-Newville section of the Cumberland Valley Rail Trail, October 14, 2006.

**Cumberland Valley
Rails-to-Trails Council**

Jerry Angulo, President
Garret Stahlman, Vice President
Bob Schmidlein, Treasurer
Paul Taylor, Secretary
Linda Bunning
Mil Engles
Jim Freeman
Jim Hoefler
David LeRoy
Jim Mader

September 1, 2013

Dear Reader:

The picture above captures the ribbon-cutting ceremony that marked completion of the Oakville-to-Newville section of the Cumberland Valley Rail Trail on October 14, 2006. Several hundred thousand walkers, joggers, and bikers have enjoyed the trail since then.

The Cumberland Valley Rails-to-Trails Council (CVRTC) is proud of the trail we have built and are excited to share with you this prospectus which covers our plans for extending the trail south into Shippensburg and east into Carlisle.

The current trail provides safe, family-friendly, healthy opportunities for residents and visitors to enjoy:

- Picturesque farmland scenes;
- Spectacular views of the Appalachian Mountains to the north and south;
- Shady sections and trail-heads that provide ideal spots for picnicking and enjoying nature;
- Organized walks, runs, and rides throughout the year, and;
- Interpretive signs that recount the critical role the old Cumberland Valley Railroad played in the Civil War and explain the rich agricultural heritage of the valley.

The extensions to the trail we plan to build will give more residents of the area easy access to this wonderful community resource. A longer trail will also make it much more likely that visitors from outside the area make the Cumberland Valley a destination. Many of those visitors will eat here; some will spend the night here; and businesses catering to walkers and bicyclists are sure to see trail-related sales go up.

The Cumberland Valley Rail Trail will continue to grow and flourish only with the help of generous donors like you. I look forward to adding your names and organizations to our growing list of supporters and including you in upcoming ribbon-cutting ceremonies!

Sincerely,

Jerry Angulo, President
Cumberland Valley Rails-to-Trails Council

(717) 860-0444

OVERVIEW

The Cumberland Valley Rail Trail (CVRT)



One of the Cumberland Valley Railroad's early workhorses, named *Utility*. Image: *Project Gutenberg*.



This stone arch bridge carried the Cumberland Valley Railroad over Springview Rd. for over 100 years. It was removed in the 1970s.



The Cumberland Valley Rail Trail today as it passes south of Newville, PA.

The Cumberland Valley Rail Trail is built on the railbed of the old Cumberland Valley Railroad (CVRR), which operated freight and passenger service through the valley beginning in the 1830s. The CVRR played an important part in the Civil War, serving as a key source of resupply and troop transport for Union forces operating in the Shenandoah Valley, especially during the Battle of Antietam in 1862.

The Cumberland Valley Rails-to-Trails Council was formed in the 1990s and began plans for the current trail after Conrail donated the property in the rail corridor to the CVRTC in 1995. The CVRTC completed the first 4½-mile section from Shippensburg to Oakville in 2004 and finished the next 5-mile section from Oakville into Newville in 2006.

Today, over nine miles of beautifully scenic, handicapped-accessible trail have been built on this old and historic rail bed. There are three trailheads with parking, picnic areas, and bathrooms located at Shippensburg Township Park, in Oakville, and at the trailhead in Newville. The trail is mostly crushed limestone surface, with macadam on the steeper grades that lead to road crossings. There is also a grassy equestrian path that runs alongside the pedestrian path the entire length of the trail. Thirteen signs interpret the agricultural heritage of the valley and the historical significance of the railroad corridor that is now transformed into a beautiful linear park: the Cumberland Valley Rail Trail.

The Cumberland Valley Rails-to-Trails Council (CVRTC)



The Cumberland Valley Rail Trail was built and is maintained by a group of local volunteers, organized as the Cumberland Valley Rails-to-Trails Council (CVRTC). The CVRTC is a 501(c)3 charitable organization.

Nearly \$3 million in grants has been raised by the CVRTC from state, federal, and local sources to help plan, design, and build the existing trail. Several hundred thousand dollars more in grants has been raised to begin working on the planned extensions to the trail.

The CVRTC has liquid assets amounting to approximately \$160,000 (much of which is grant money earmarked for specific trail expansion projects) and total assets of approximately \$2.8 million. The CVRTC raises approximately \$6,000 per year from dues-paying members. These funds are used to help maintain the current trail.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Annual Income (average of 2010-2012 fiscal years, excluding major grant income)

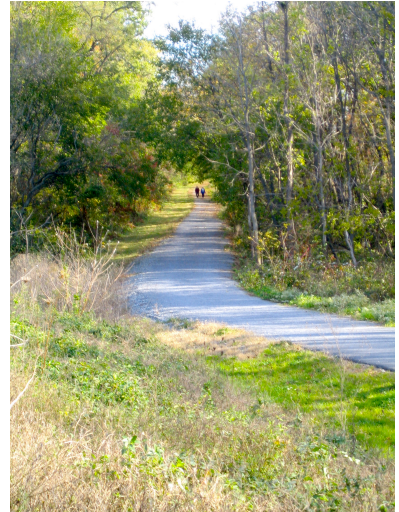
Donations	\$9,000
Dues	\$6,000
Race events	\$7,300
Total	\$22,300

Annual Expenses (average of 2010-2012 fiscal years)

Insurance	\$2,000
Management (membership dues, website, misc.)	\$1,000
Office supplies and postage	\$250
Advertising and promotion	\$500
Trail maintenance and equipment	\$2,350
Total	\$6,100

Current Assets (as of August 2013)

Land and land improvements	\$2,678,400
Machinery, equipment, storage shed	\$9,300
Cash on hand (including earmarked grant funds)	\$163,400
Total	\$2,851,100



ABOUT THE TRAIL

Usage

Approximately 41,000 visits were made to the trail in 2012. The Cumberland Valley Rails-to-Trails Council also sponsors three events on the trail each year. Event data below is an average for the past three years.

Event	When	What	Trail users
<i>Race, Ride, Run & Ramble</i>	April	5k run/walk, 15k run/hike, 30k bike ride	500
<i>ArtShip</i>	June	10k run	150
<i>Fall Down on the Trail</i>	October	5k run	100
Recreational use estimate	Annual	walking, jogging, biking, equestrian use	41,000
Total			41,750

Annual Economic Impact¹

	% trail users who made purchases	Average amount spent per trip	Estimated expenditures
Durable goods (e.g., bicycle equipment, footwear)	50%	\$3.58	\$72,800
Consumable goods (e.g., food and drink)	38%	\$11.92	\$186,800
Lodging	0.3%	\$80.91	\$9,900
Annual direct impact (before <i>economic multiplier effect</i>)			\$269,500
Estimated total impact (using <i>economic multiplier</i> of 1.175)		\$269,500 * 1.175 = \$458,150	

Supporters of the CVRT



Big Spring Economic Development Council	Friendship Hose Co. 47 (Newville)
Big Spring School District	Harrisburg Bicycle Club
Boy Scout Troop 121	Newville Borough
Carlisle Area Health & Wellness Foundation	North Newton Township
Carlisle Borough	North Middleton Township
Cumberland Conservation Collaborative	PA Rep. Stephen Bloom
Cumberland County Housing & Redevelopment Authorities	PA Sen. Pat Vance
Cumberland County Visitors Bureau	Presbyterian Homes (Green Ridge Village)
Dickinson College	Shippensburg University
	South Mountain Partnership
	The United Way

Value of Maintaining and Extending the CVRT

- ▷ Potential for Shippensburg, Newville, and Carlisle to become “trail towns”
- ▷ Potential to host an annual marathon on the trail between Carlisle and Shippensburg
- ▷ Health benefits of a trail in close proximity to over 10,000 school-age children
- ▷ Quality of life benefits for the nearly 100,000 residents who live within a few miles of the trail
- ▷ One of the longest stretches of publicly accessible equestrian trail in the region
- ▷ Enhanced Safe-Routes-to-School programs for children who live along the trail corridor

¹ Analysis was conducted by Paul Taylor, Assistant Professor, Department of Mathematics, Shippensburg University.

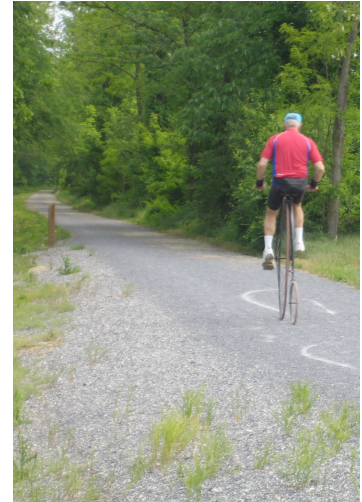
Trail Segments

Completed: Shippensburg Township Park to Newville

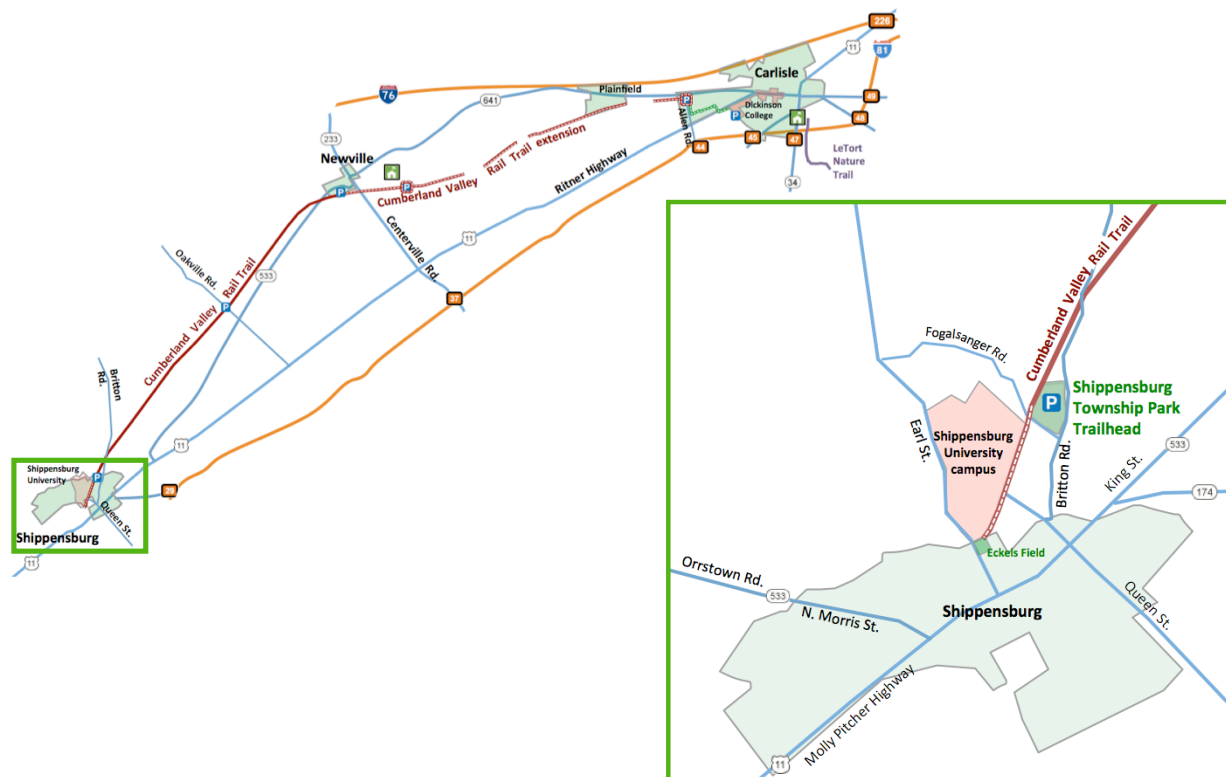
	Year opened	Segment mileage	Total length of CVRT
Shippensburg Township Park to Oakville, PA	2004	4.5	4.5
Oakville, PA to Newville, PA	2006	5.0	9.5
Shippensburg Township Park to Downtown Shippensburg (in design)	2014	0.8	10.3

CVRTC is in the design phase of the Shippensburg Extension. This fully funded project will include:

- Trail from Shippensburg Township Park south to Fogelsanger Rd.
- 120-foot bridge to be complete late 2014 or spring 2015.
- Trail along the eastern border of Shippensburg University's campus from Fogelsanger Rd. to Eckels Field in downtown Shippensburg.



Once complete, this 0.8-mile addition will bring the total length of the Cumberland Valley Rail Trail up to 10.1 miles. This project is fully funded and is expected to be completed late in 2014.



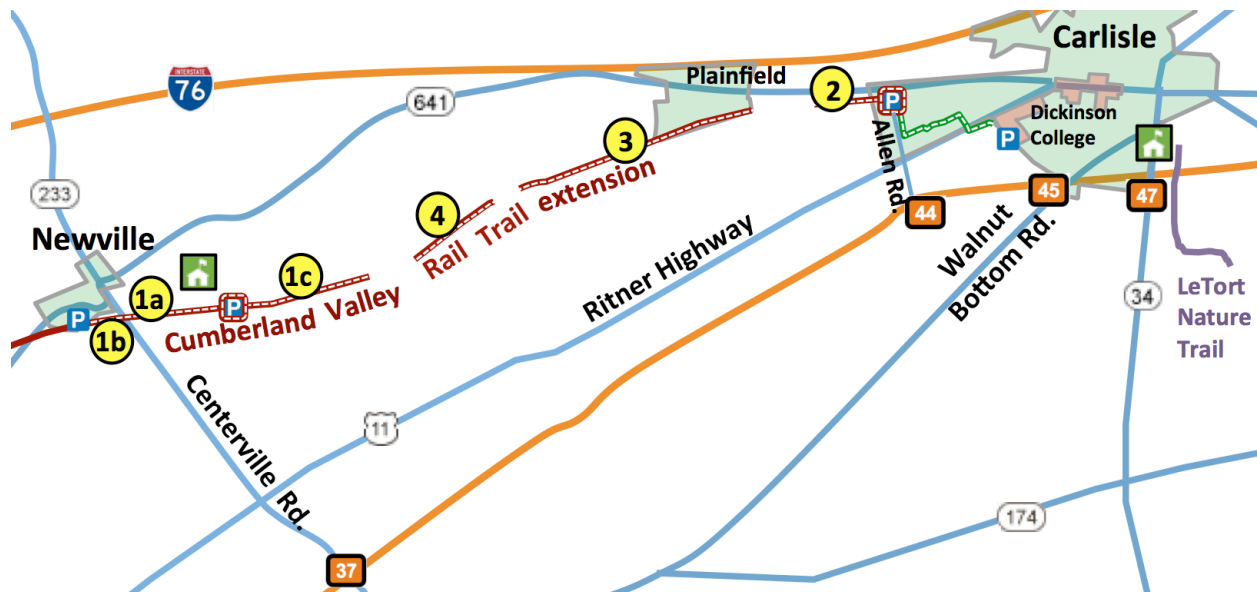
Future plans: Newville to Carlisle (currently unfunded)

	Phase	Estimated cost	Segment mileage	Total Length of CVRT
Centerville Rd. to Mount Rock Rd. (including underpass below Centerville Rd.)	1a	\$766,000	1.0	11.3
Newville Trailhead to Centerville Rd. (including bridge over Big Spring Rd.)	1b	\$390,000	0.5	11.8
Mount Rock Rd. to east of Greenhill Rd.	1c	\$419,000	1.5	13.3
Allen Rd. Segment	2	\$239,000	1.0	14.3
Springview Rd. to McAllister Church Rd.	3	\$867,000	2.2	16.5
East of Crossroad School Rd. to Kerrsville Rd.	4	\$524,000	1.0	17.5
Total costs & mileage for the CVRT Carlisle extension		\$3,205,000	7.2 miles	

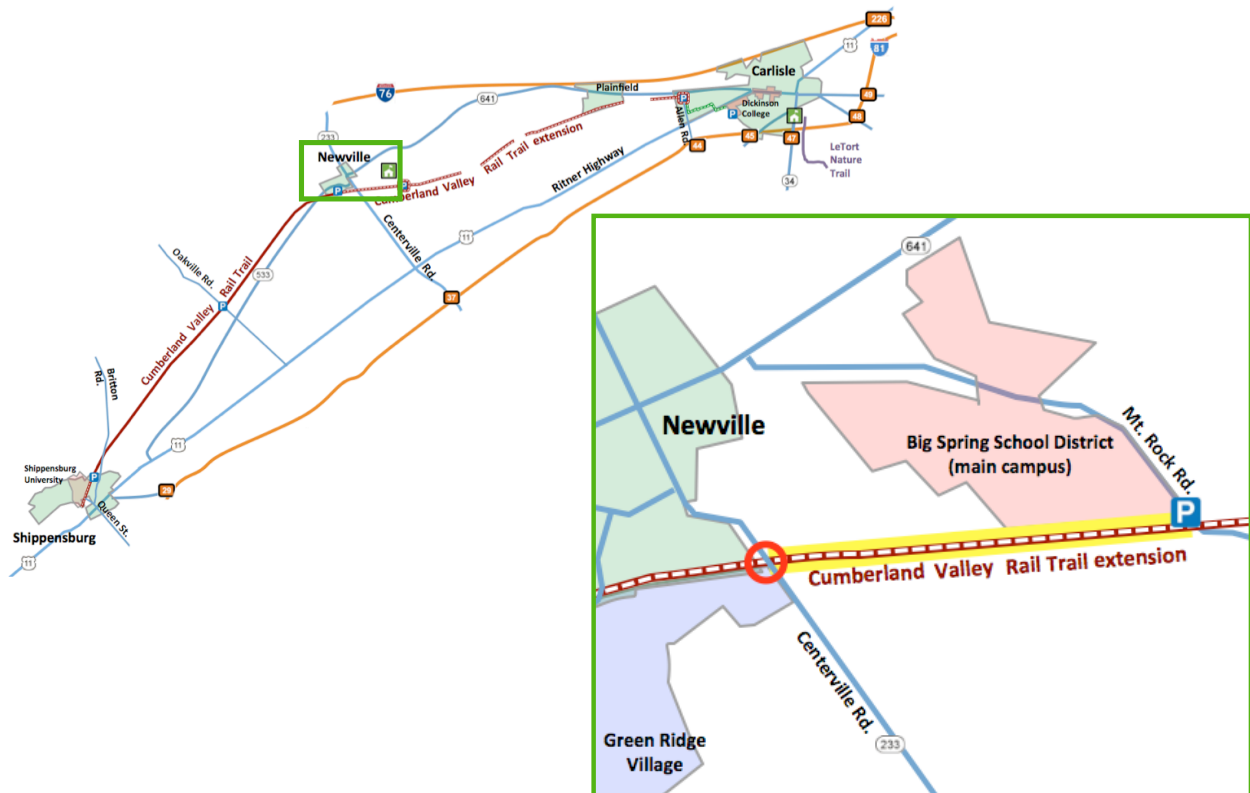
The CVRTC recently completed a Master Planning process that created a phased process for extending the CVRT from Newville to Carlisle, as noted in the table above and as indicated on the map, below. It is also important to note that while the CVRTC owns 86% of the trail corridor required to complete the trail from Newville to Carlisle, the corridor is interrupted by private property in three places.

Each private property owner has been contacted, but at present none is interested in working with the CVRTC to facilitate the trail extension project.

The CVRTC will continue to keep lines of communication with local property owners open while assessing possible work-around options to connect segments of the trail



Phase 1a: Centerville Rd. to Mount Rock Rd.



Phase 1a: CVRTC is planning to install a 70-ft. underpass below Centerville Rd. A grant request to the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to help fund this project is pending. In addition to the underpass, the project will include:

- A 1-mile segment of trail between Centerville Rd. and Mount Rock Rd.
- An improved trail connection to the Big Spring High School
- A small parking lot at Mount Rock Rd.
- An emergency vehicle access ramp from Centerville Rd. onto the trail for first responders.



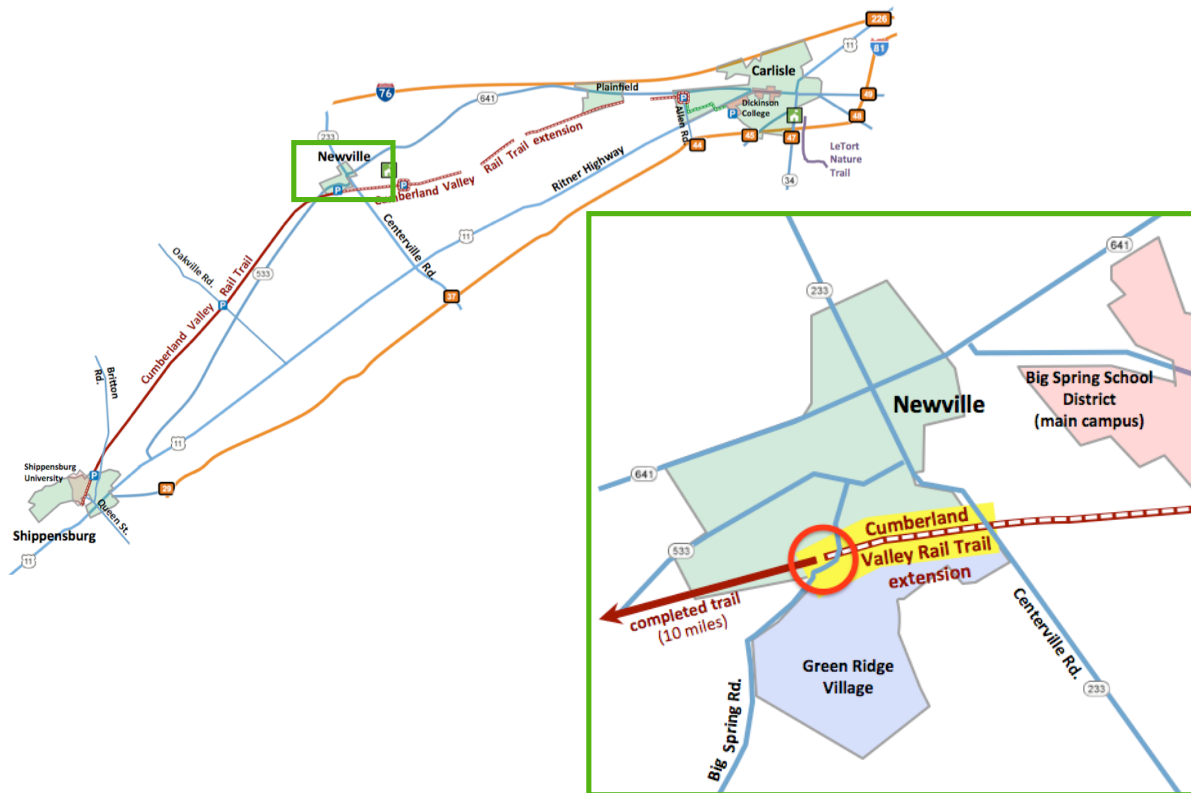
Artist's rendition of the proposed underpass as viewed from the CVRT corridor on the west side of Centerville Rd. looking east toward Carlisle.

Economic Impacts of York County's Heritage Rail Trail

Analysis of the data accumulated from the infrared counters and the completed surveys received from visitors indicates an estimated 281,145 annual visits to the Heritage Rail Trail County Park, resulting in a total economic impact in 2012 of over \$4.4 million into the local economy.

-- York County Parks

Phase 1b: Newville Trailhead to Centerville Rd.



Phase 1b: CVRTC is planning to install a 140-ft. bridge over Big Spring Rd. in Newville. This bridge will connect the trail, where it currently terminates at the Newville trailhead, with a segment of trail that runs east from Big Spring Rd. to Centerville Rd. (PA Rt. 233). A grant request to the PA Department of Commerce and Economic Development to help fund this project is pending.



Artist's rendition of the proposed Big Spring Rd. Bridge looking south, away from Newville. The current trailhead is to the right and the trail extension toward Centerville Rd. is to the left.

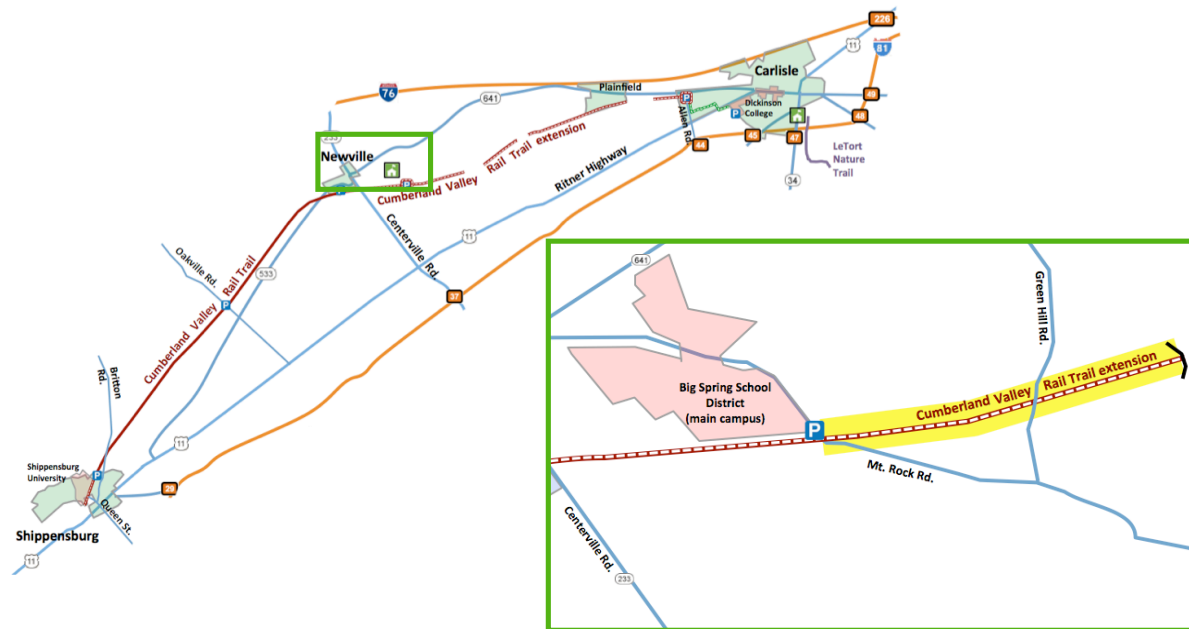
The western abutment for one of the two railroad bridges that used to carry Cumberland Valley Railroad cars over Big Spring Rd. can be seen under the proposed bridge on the right side of the road.

Economic Impacts of the Great Allegheny Passage Trail

The Great Allegheny Passage hosts over 800,000 trips a year and, in 2008, generated over \$40 million in direct annual spending and another \$7.5 million in wages, making the trail an important economic generator in the region.

-- Marlee Gallagher and Amy Camp, Trail Town Program

Phase 1c: Mount Rock Rd. to east of Greenhill Rd.



Phase 1c: Once the bridge at Big Spring Rd., the underpass at Centerville Rd., and the trail from the Newville trailhead to Mount Rock Rd. are in place, CVRTC will be ready to move ahead with the trail extension from Mount Rock Rd. to just east of Green Hill Rd. Once complete, this 1.5-mile addition will bring the total length of the Cumberland Valley Rail Trail to 13.1 miles.



View looking west, from Green Hill Rd. toward Newville.



View looking east, from Goodyear Rd. toward Carlisle.

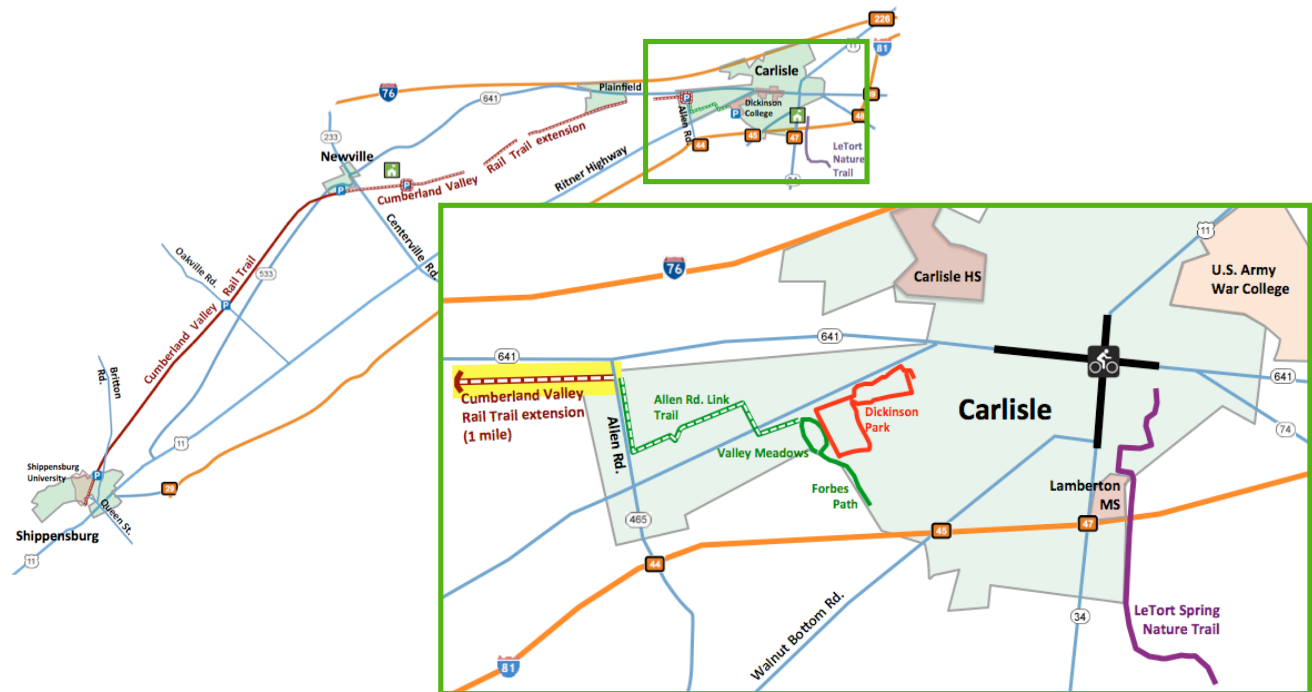
Benefits of Walking

Research has shown that walking and moderate physical activity for at least 30 minutes a day can help you:

- *Reduce the risk of heart disease, osteoporosis, breast and colon cancer, and Type 2 diabetes*
- *Improve blood pressure and blood sugar levels and blood lipid profile*
- *Maintain body weight and lower the risk of obesity*
- *Enhance mental well being*

--American Heart Association

Phase 2: Allen Rd.



Phase 2: The Allen Rd. segment of the CVRT extension will involve developing approximately one mile of trail that will be linked to the Carlisle Borough Trail Network's West End Trail at Allen Rd, including a small parking lot at Allen Rd. A beautiful stone arch bridge (below, right) carries the rail corridor over the Alexander Spring Creek about 1/3 mile west of Allen Rd. CVRTC has plans to develop a small rest area here with picnic tables and educational signs to help interpret the flora, fauna, aquatic life, and geology of the area.



View of the trail in winter near Allen Rd. looking west toward Newville.



Stone arch bridge that carries the trail corridor over Alexander Spring Creek just west of Allen Rd.

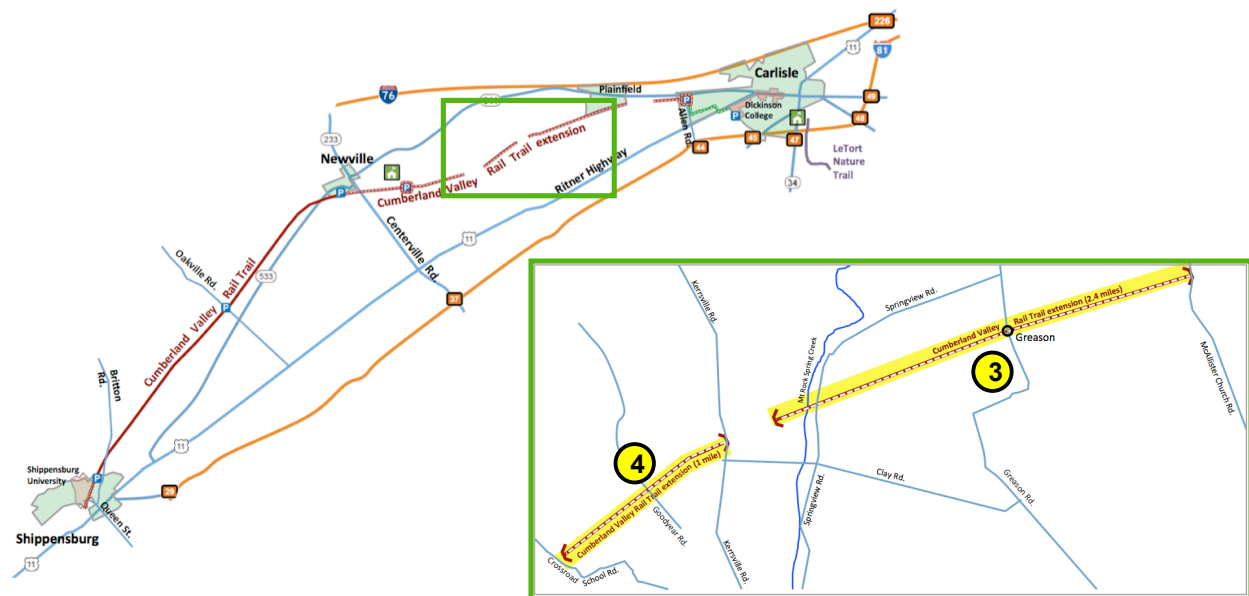
The Benefits of Trails

Trails stimulate business creation, influence corporate location decisions, boost spending at local businesses, increase property values, reduce medical costs by encouraging exercise, and generate tax dollars. They also of course provide low or no-cost recreational opportunities and transportation options to the public.

-- Pennsylvania Land Trust Association

Phase 3: Springview Rd. to McAllister Church Rd.

Phase 4: East of Crossroad School Rd. to Kerrsville Rd.



Phase 3: This phase of the extension involves developing approximately 2.4 miles of trail beginning just west of Springview Rd. and ending at McAllister Church Rd. A small parking lot is planned for the east side of Greason Rd.

Phase 4: This segment of the trail extension involves developing about one mile of trail beginning just east of Crossroad School Rd., crossing Greenhill Rd., and ending at Kerrsville Rd.



View from Greason Rd. looking west toward Newville.



View from Greenhill Rd. looking east toward Carlisle.

The Benefits of Trails

Trails and greenways positively impact individuals and improve communities by providing not only recreation and transportation opportunities, but also by influencing economic and community development.

-- Rails-to-Tails Conservancy

Expressions of support

I LOVE this trail! I've only been riding sections of it for a few weeks now, but this morning I did the round-trip from Ship to Newville and back. Thank you to the many volunteers who make this trail an enjoyable resource for our community!

-- Steven Sheets, trail user
Shippensburg, PA

Wow, what a find of a trail. Round-trip was the perfect length for a bike ride (about 18 flat miles). Cows, horses, chipmunks, and lots of birds. The trail is in terrific condition with no potholes or puddles. It does NOT parallel a busy road; only crosses a few roads with no traffic other than farm equipment. Very quiet and peaceful. Benches and even a few picnic tables along the trail; water too. Mostly dappled sunlight with one half-mile section of open meadow.

-- Brian Walker, trail user
Frederick, MD

The existing Cumberland Valley Rail Trail is a valuable and much-appreciated community asset. . . . Usable year round, the rail trail provides a safe, beautiful, pedestrian path on which our residents can enjoy the scenic views, wildlife, and outdoor experiences of the world-renowned Cumberland Valley.

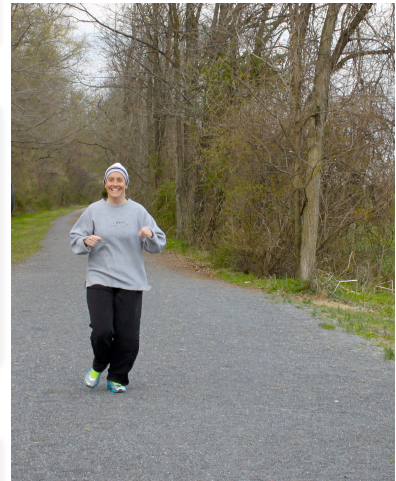
-- Catherine Kirkham, Executive Director
Green Ridge Village

The Cumberland Valley Rail Trail is a superb recreational and educational asset in the Cumberland Valley and is used extensively by residents and visitors. . . . Extension of the trail to Carlisle, essentially doubling its current length, will increase the trail's benefits to many additional residents and visitors.

-- Bill Durden, President
Dickinson College

The current nine-mile trail is used frequently by our members. Hiking or cycling on the rail trail is a scenic and educational way for our members to enjoy the central Cumberland Valley – to get outside, exercise, and enjoy the beautiful local landscape. We truly hope the Cumberland Valley Rail Trail Council will be successful in its efforts to extend the trail from Newville to Carlisle.

-- Matt Tuckey, Associate Executive Director
Carlisle YMCA





The Cumberland Valley Rail Trail is one of the premier outdoor assets of the Cumberland Valley. . . . The Cumberland Valley Visitors Bureau remains committed to this trail and the planned expansion that will allow for a critical town-to-town connection between the Shippensburg, Newville, and Carlisle Communities.

-- Shireen Farr, Director of Tourism
Cumberland Valley Visitors Bureau

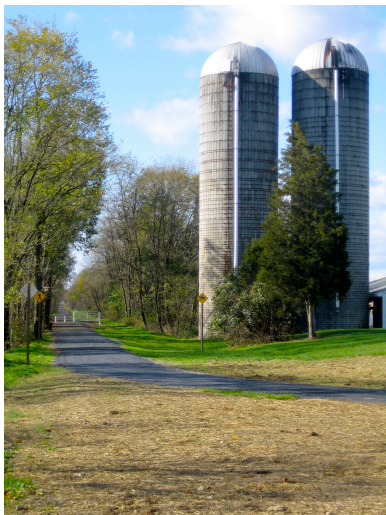
With all of the emphasis on fitness in our country, the Cumberland Valley Rail Trail offers a wonderful and safe opportunity for walkers, hikers, cyclists, and nature-lovers to enjoy the beautiful Cumberland Valley while improving their fitness. . . . I encourage you to support the Cumberland Valley Rail Trail Council so that the trail may be extended.

-- Barbara Kahutiak, Executive Director
Carlisle YWCA



The extension will provide an opportunity for the Big Spring School District to enhance our already diversified curricular offerings. We currently offer mountain biking as a health and physical education option; the extension would allow us to increase the number of students who take part in this activity during the school day. The trail extension will also provide us walking access to other natural resources in our school district in a way that can absolutely supplement our curriculum.

-- Richard W. Fry, Superintendent of Schools
Big Spring School District



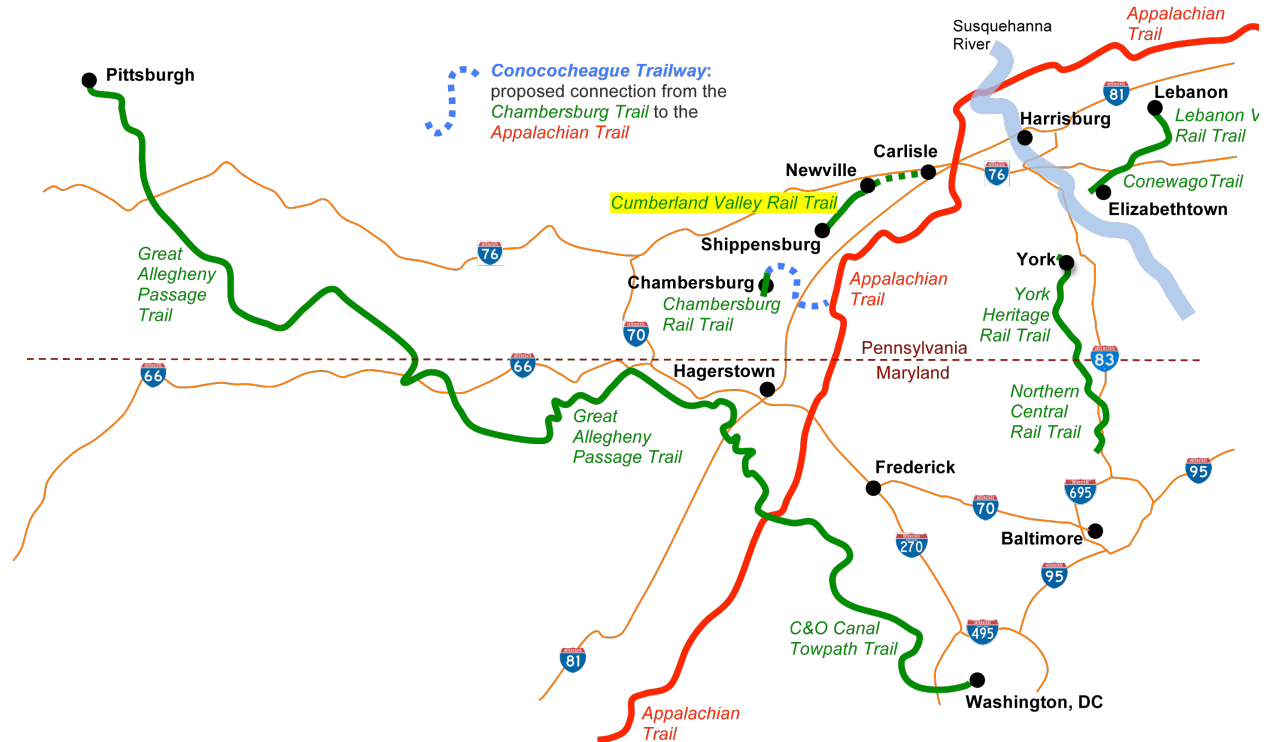
I take note of the recent economic impact study conducted by Paul Taylor, assistant professor in the Department of Mathematics at Shippensburg University. That study estimated the total positive impact of the current trail to be approximately \$450,000 a year. The proposed enhancements will only boost that number upward at a time when increased economic activity will be more than welcome.

-- Stephen Bloom, Member
199th PA State Legislative District

Our experience in both observing and speaking with trail users on any given day is that many come a great distance to enjoy the existing trail facilities. . . . We applaud the efforts of the Cumberland Valley Rails-to-Trails Council and their tireless work to enhance and lengthen the trail, making logical connections along the way.

-- Ben J. Laudermitch, Executive Director
Cumberland County Housing and Redevelopment Authorities

Regional Trail Map



Getting in Touch

Website for current CVRT	cvrtc.org
Website for CVRT Extension	cvrtx.org
Trail Hotline	(717) 860-0444
Contacts to discuss the CVRTC Extension	<div>Jim Mader (717) 385-6927 maderjim@yahoo.com</div> <div>Jim Hoefler (717) 385-4836 Hoefler@dickinson.edu</div>
On Facebook	facebook.com/CumberlandValleyRailTrail
By Mail	Cumberland Valley Rails-to-Trails Council P.O. Box 531 Shippensburg, PA 17257

*The best time to build this trail was 20 years ago. . .
The next best time is now!
Join us in the effort to build a trail
the residents of our beautiful valley can enjoy
for many generations to come!*



CVRT Trailheads

- P** Shippensburg Township Park on Britton Rd.
1 mile northeast of Shippensburg, PA
- P** Oakville, PA on Oakville Rd.
2 miles northwest of US Rt. 11
- P** Newville, PA at 23 McFarland St.
1 mile southwest of downtown Newville