

Appalachian Transportation Institute (ATI) Research Project Description

Project Number: ATI TRP 99-29

Project Title: Development of a Plan for a Non-Motorized Transportation Corridor in Southern WV - Case Study for Alternate Sources of Transportation Between Huntington and Charleston

Primary Investigator Contact Information:

Name: Raymond Busbee

Institution: Nick J. Rahall II Appalachian Transportation Institute

Address: Marshall University, 400 Hal Greer Blvd., Huntington, WV 25755

Department: COE GH100D

Phone: 304-696-2922

Email address: busbee@marshall.edu

External Project Contact:

Name: Lucian N. Schrader

Institution: WV Trails Coalition

Address: 302 21st Street, Room 207, Nitro, WV 25143

Phone: 304-755-4878

Project Objective: The objective of this project is to explore the possibility of developing a "greenway" i.e. non motorized transportation corridor, between Charleston and Huntington WV. This greenway is proposed to contain natural open space, bikeways, and walking/jogging paths.

Abstract: Charleston and Huntington are the two largest cities in West Virginia while the area between is one of the most rapidly developing regions in the state. A greenway connecting these two cities will provide additional intra-city alternate transportation routes for bicycles, walking, and other non-motorized forms of transportation. The greenway can also serve as a feeder bicycle trail system serving other regions of the state. In developing the greenway, an attempt will be made to incorporate business areas, recreation areas, cultural locations, historic sites, and other high traffic areas. A number of communities throughout the country have successfully developed such greenways as alternate sources of transportation in populated areas. This project will suggest the route of the proposed greenway and suggest the potential economic impact.

Task Descriptions:

1. Identify and inventory potential high traffic location in the corridor.
2. Identify and inventory potential greenway traffic centers.
3. Develop a coalition of active supporters in the corridor.
4. Define a system of bicycle and walking trails including spines and connectors routes.
5. Conduct and assess the results of public meetings and written surveys from

selected communities within the corridor.
6. Assess the Potential Economic Impact.

Milestones, Dates, Schedule: Start Date: Sept. 1, 2000: End Date: Dec. 31, 2001

Budget: \$84,843.47

Student Involvement: The project will provide employment support for at least 1 undergraduate and 1 graduate student. The student workers will support the Principal Investigator as project assistants. This project is anticipated to lead to a Masters Thesis in Parks and Recreation Services.

Relationship to Other Research Projects: This project is related to ATI TRP 99-11.

Technology Transfer Activities: Final reports will be available on the ATI website. All, ATI Principal Investigators will present findings through the ATI Transportation Seminar Series to invited guests from WVDOT, USDOT, other ATI Principal Investigators, students and other invited guests. Other opportunities to present the project results will be explored including conferences and peer reviewed journals, etc.

Potential Benefits of this Project: Economic benefits for non-motorized transportation routes will be studied.

TRB Keywords: Trails, Greenway, Non-motorized transportation