Visions, goals, & recommendations/implementation strategies	Successful?

The role of Butler County in Parks and Recreation

Continue to develop and maintain Alameda Park as a superior facility for county residents and visitors

Rebuild the mountain bike trails

Renovate and expand the Alameda Park Swimming Pool to improve safety and function

Plan for the acquisition and development of additional County parks

Support the Glade Run Lake Conservancy in its efforts to restore the lake for use as a regional recreation facility

Evaluate the potential use of the Sunnyview Farm property as a county park

Explore opportunities for property in the County's Northeast Region to acquire as a future park

Before purchasing property, complete a study to determine the feasibility of using the property as a park

Support local municipalities in their efforts to provide local parks and recreation throughout the County

Assist local governments in applying/administering state grants and in understanding new changes to state grant funding

Hold annual grant workshops to inform municipalities of available funding and how to secure it

Provide technical assistance and funding to ensure park facilities are in compliance with ADA Standards

Continue to promote quality planning, design, and construction of local parks

Expand the annual County Grant program to support additional communities and/or provide larger grants for larger projects

Maintain a comprehensive listing of recreational facilities and programs available in the County

Provide municipalities with technical assistance related to parks and recreation

Support implementation of existing local parks and recreation plans

Facilitate semi-annual regional or county-wide parks and recreation meetings to support local municipalities

Funding Opportunities

Priorities from DCNR for community open space development

Sustainable and Green Park Development and planning

Major park and recreation rehabilitation projects that modernize facilities and bring them into compliance with current standards for safety, ADA, and the Universal Construction Code

Trail projects that close gaps in major statewide greenways and regionally significant trals and planning to help communities become bicycle and pedestrian friendly

Land conservation to protect critical habitat, forested watersheds, wetlands, and riparian corridors and lands that conserve connectors between public lands, or conserve urban green space

Rivers conservation projects that enhance water trails, improve public access and/or increase awareness of Pennsylvania rivers

Emerging trends include off-leash dog parks, splash/spray parks, skate parks and community parks that feature green amenities such as gardens and natural areas that connect children to nature, etc

Statewide and regional partnerships that build capacity to promote outdoor recreation and conservation of natural and heritage resource

Funding from Oil and Gas Drilling on Park Property

Recreational Program Grants

Countywide Priorities

Compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

Review the inventory provided to determine the level of compliance

Work with its municipal engineer or park planning consultant to determine how to bring facilities into compliance

Consult the County parks and Recreation Department or a parks and recreation consultant to develop a plan and identify potential funding sources for corrective action

Bring all facilities into compliance

Playground Safety

Contract with a Certified Playground Safety Inspector to complete inspection of all municipally owned playgrounds

Make the recommended modifications as identified by the Certified Playground Safety Inspector

Regional Facility Needs and Deficiencies

Region 1:

Pedestrian and bike trails

Regional assistance from the County

County provide guidebooks for native species plantings, habitat protection, best practices in parks, botanical upgrades for parks

North Country Trail completion

Region 3:

Alameda Park bike trails reconstruction and protection

Eliminate logging in parks

Develop inter-municipal partners for trail planning and development

Connect the Butler Freeport Trail and the North Country Trail

Region 4:

Disc Golf Course

Rectangular fields in the Adams Township/Mars area

Rail corridor trails

Region 5:

Retain Glade Run Lake as a major recreation facility in the region

Set aside and protect tracts of land with limited development

Feature Projects

Slippery Rock Parks and Recreation Development

Lay plans to meet the demands of anticipated growth

North Country Trail Extension

Complete the Feasibility Study that is currently underway

Implement its recommendations of the study

Alameda Park and Pool Upgrades

Mountain bike trails completely reconstructed to make them mre challenging and sustainable

Swimming pool upgraded to include additional play features and dual water slide

Swimming pool to include enhanced restroom facilities

Swimming pool to include improved filtration and sanitation for cleaner and more sanitary water

Easier access to swimming pool

Playground, road, and trail improvements

Enhancements to the Carousel and Pine Shelters

Development of the West Penn Trail

Improved walkways, restrooms, and shelters in the lower portion of the park

New sport court and parking area above the swimming pool

Development of a park lodge with new park offices at the entrance to the park

Construction of an environmental education center

Glade Run

Butler County Commissioners contribute $100,000 toward the reconstruction of the lake and recreation area

Offer encouragement and support of the project

Adams Township Park Expansion and Improvements

Adress sport field deficiencies

Develop in like with recommendations of the Adams Township Comprehensive Recreation, Park, and Opens Space Plan

Cranberry Township

Maintain and improve the quality of life in Cranberry Township, as it relates to open space, leisure, and recreation

Strengthen the position of Cranberry Township as a distinguished leader in the provision of a diverse and attractive park, recreation, and open space system

Cultivate an appreciation and education of the outdoors and our natural environment

PASHEK MTR

Butler County
Comprehensive Recreation, Parks, and Open Space Plan Update

Study Committee Meeting #3
October 20, 2026
12:00
Alameda Park Office
Agenda

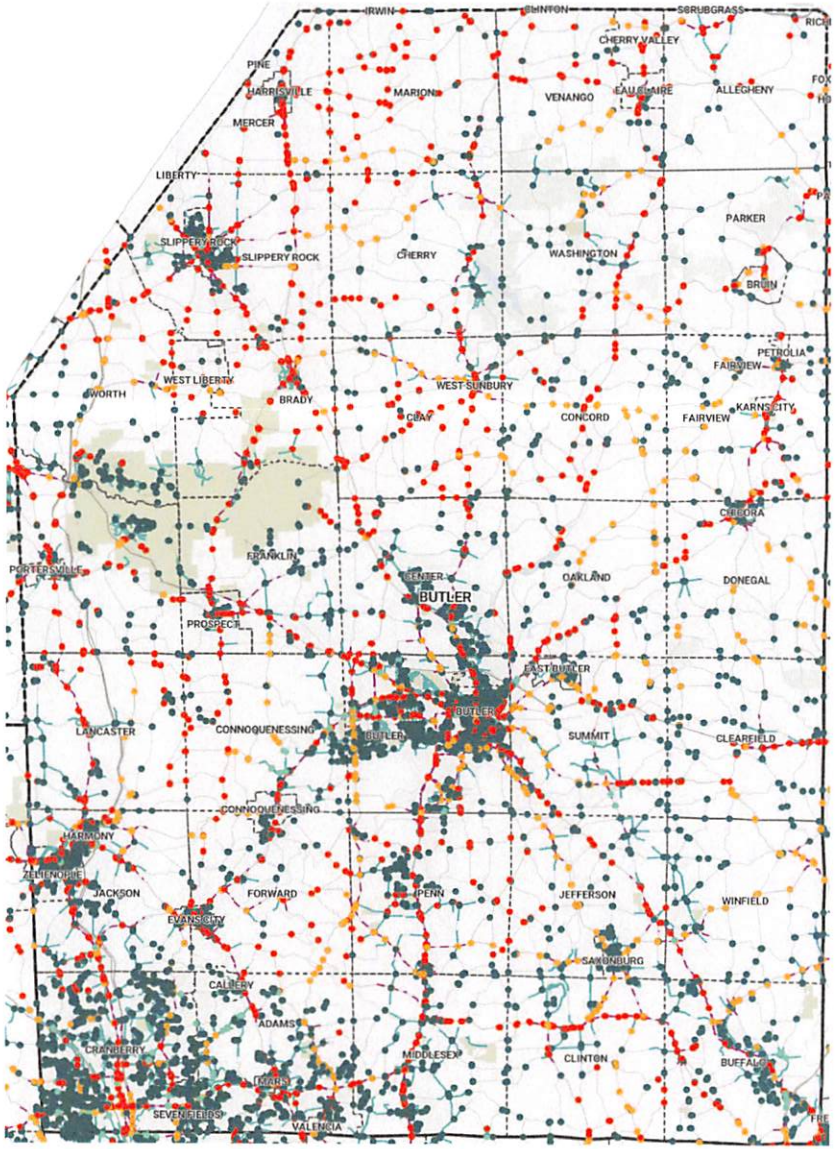
1. Questionnaire- Promotion! How can we reach the community? Senior Center?
2. Public Engagement in conjunction with a future community event, in each region?
3. Review of Recommendations from 2014 plan. What is the current priority?
4. Connectivity and trails, where are the gaps? Who maintains the existing trails?
5. PNDI Review

6. Planning next steps
   - Site Visits?
   - November Meeting?

Any Questions?
Heather Cuyler
hcuyler@pashekmtr.com
Cell phone 724-272-9144

Multi-modal Network Analysis in Butler County

WALKING ACCESS TO CRITICAL DESTINATIONS



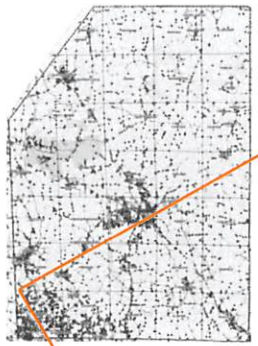
Crosswalk Comfort

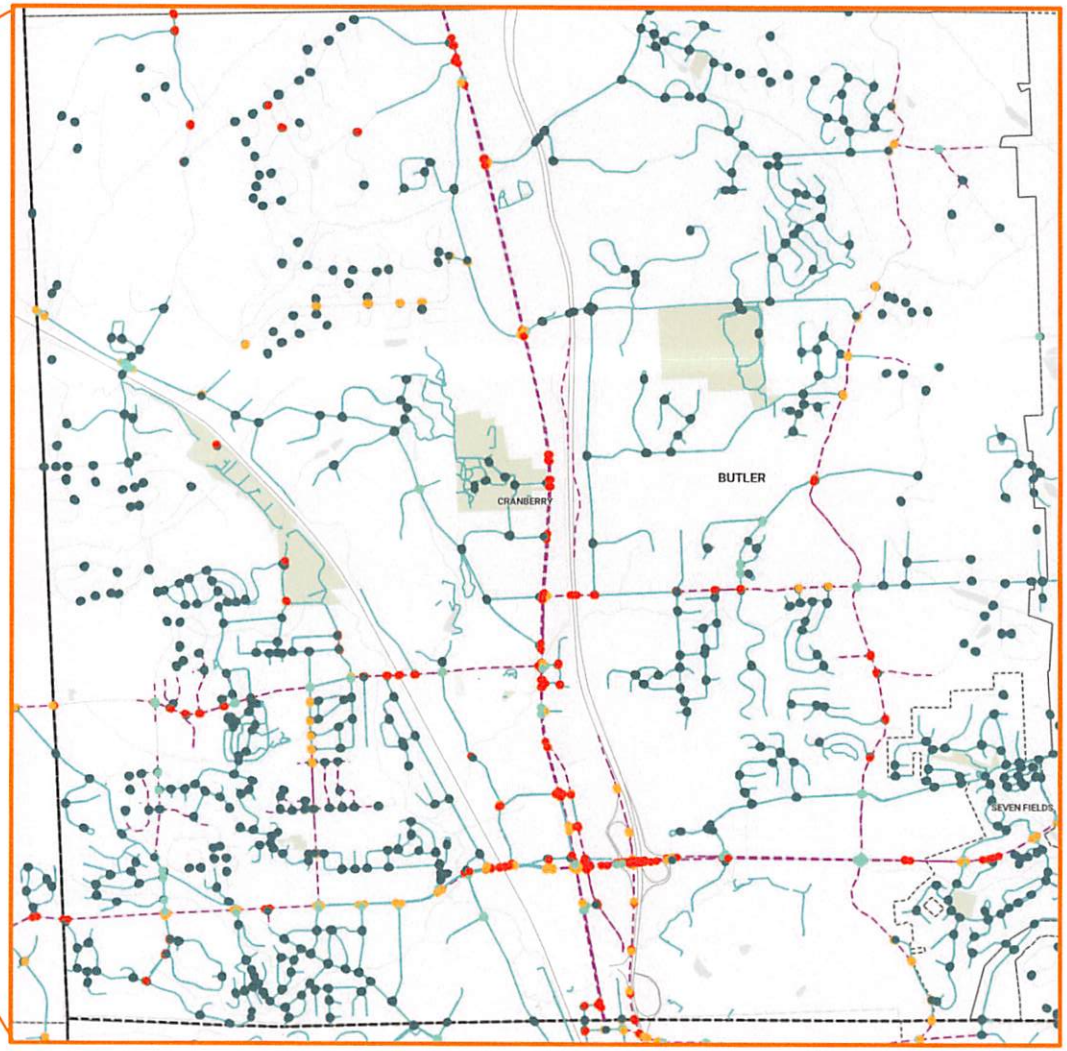
- Maximum Comfort
- Satisfactory Comfort
- Average Comfort
- Minimum Comfort

Current Access

Potential Access

Maximum comfort and access is mostly surrounding Cranberry, Zelienople and Harmony, and Butler Township. There are some potential for connections near Butler Community College and off PA-582 to connect to Moraine State Park.





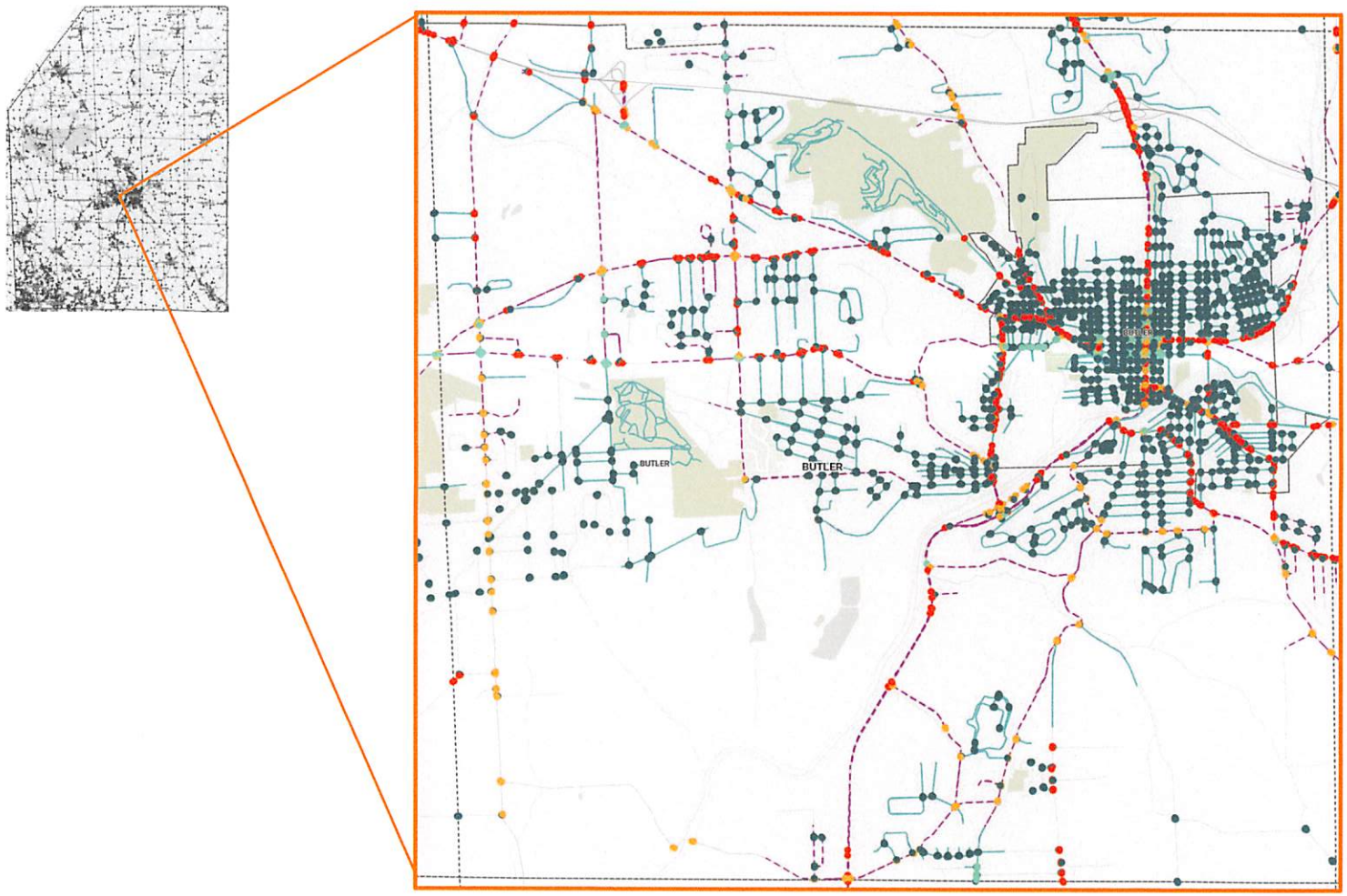
Cranberry Township

Crosswalk Comfort

- Maximum Comfort
- Satisfactory Comfort
- Average Comfort
- Minimum Comfort

Current Access

Potential Access



Butler Township

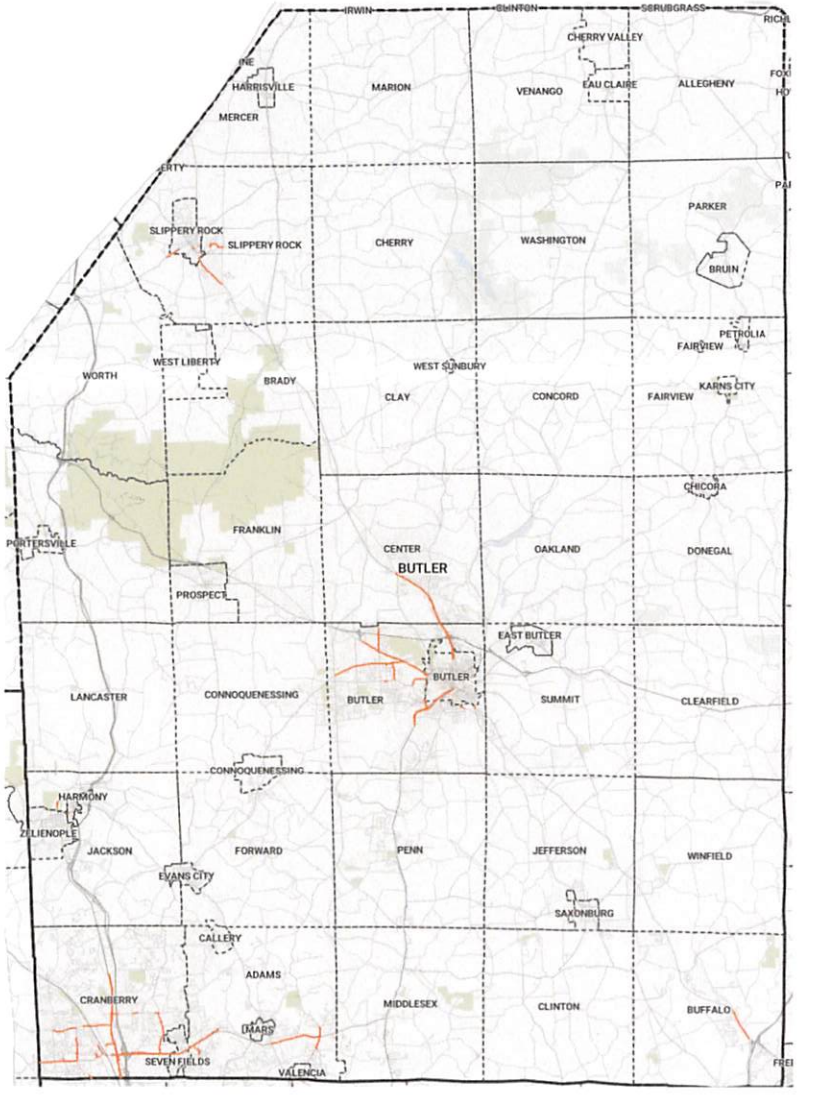
Crosswalk Comfort

- Maximum Comfort
- Satisfactory Comfort
- Average Comfort
- Minimum Comfort

Current Access

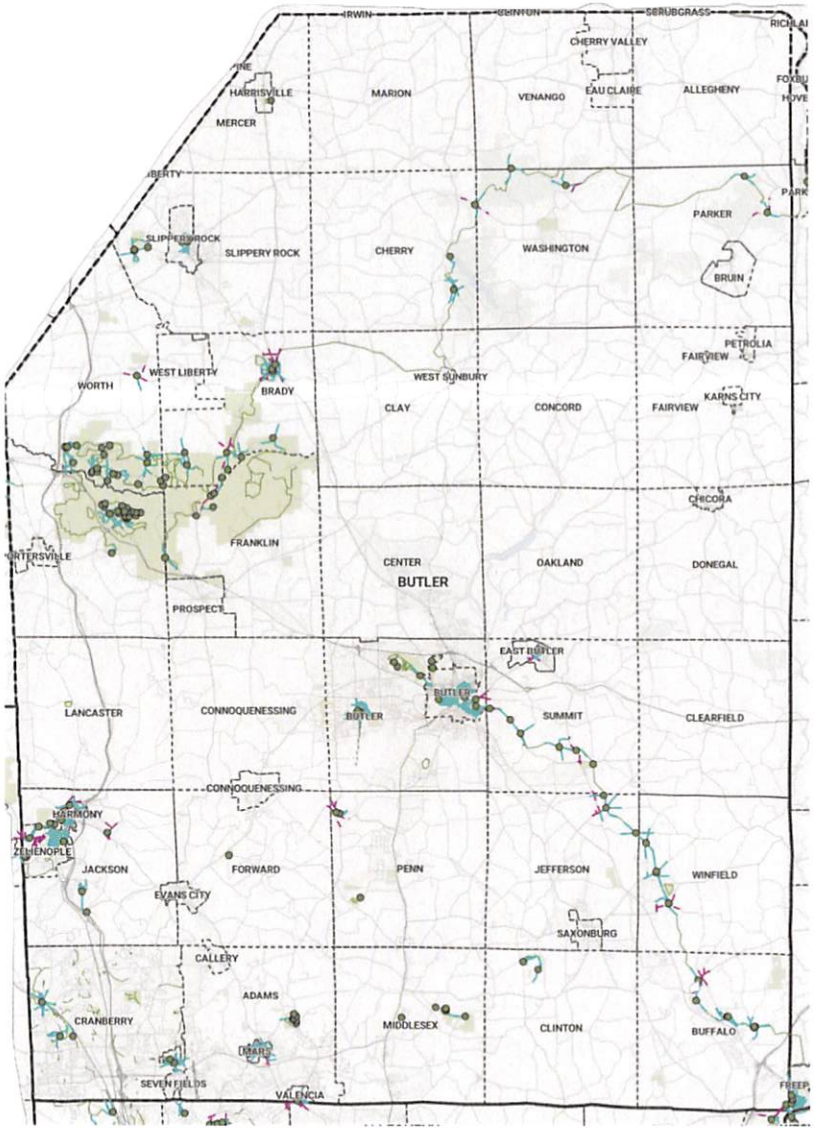
Potential Access

CRITICAL GAPS IN PEDESTRIAN NETWORK



Critical pedestrian gaps are concentrated in Cranberry and Seven Fields, near Slippery Rock, and along major transportation corridors in Butler Township.

WALKING ACCESS TO TRAILS



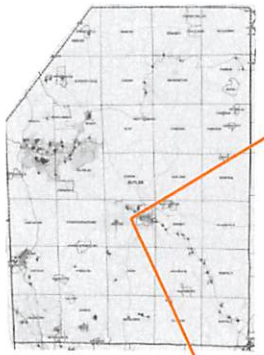
Trail Access Points

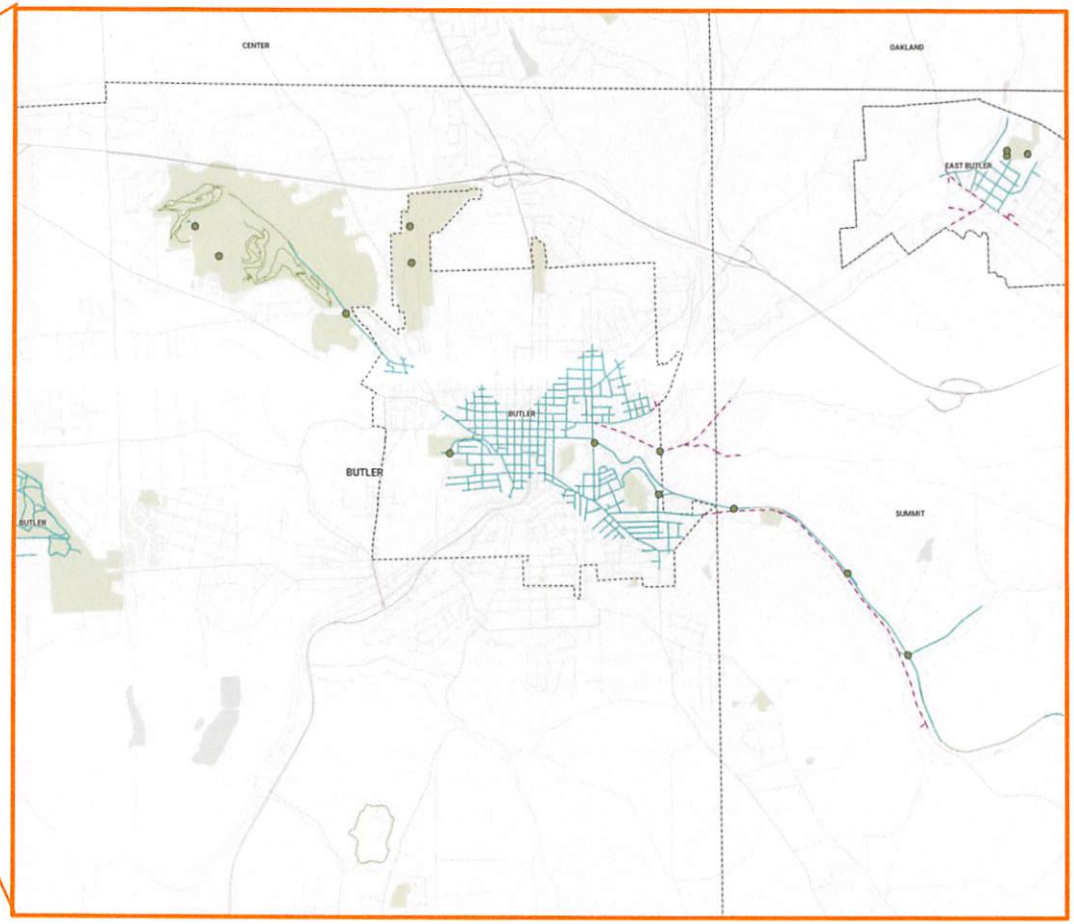
Current Access

Potential Access

Trail Network

There are several potential access areas in Zelienople, East Butler, and Brady.





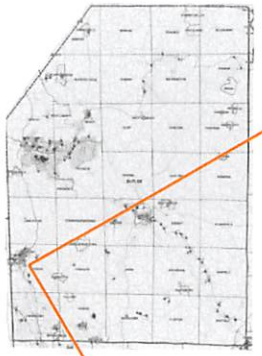
Butler Township

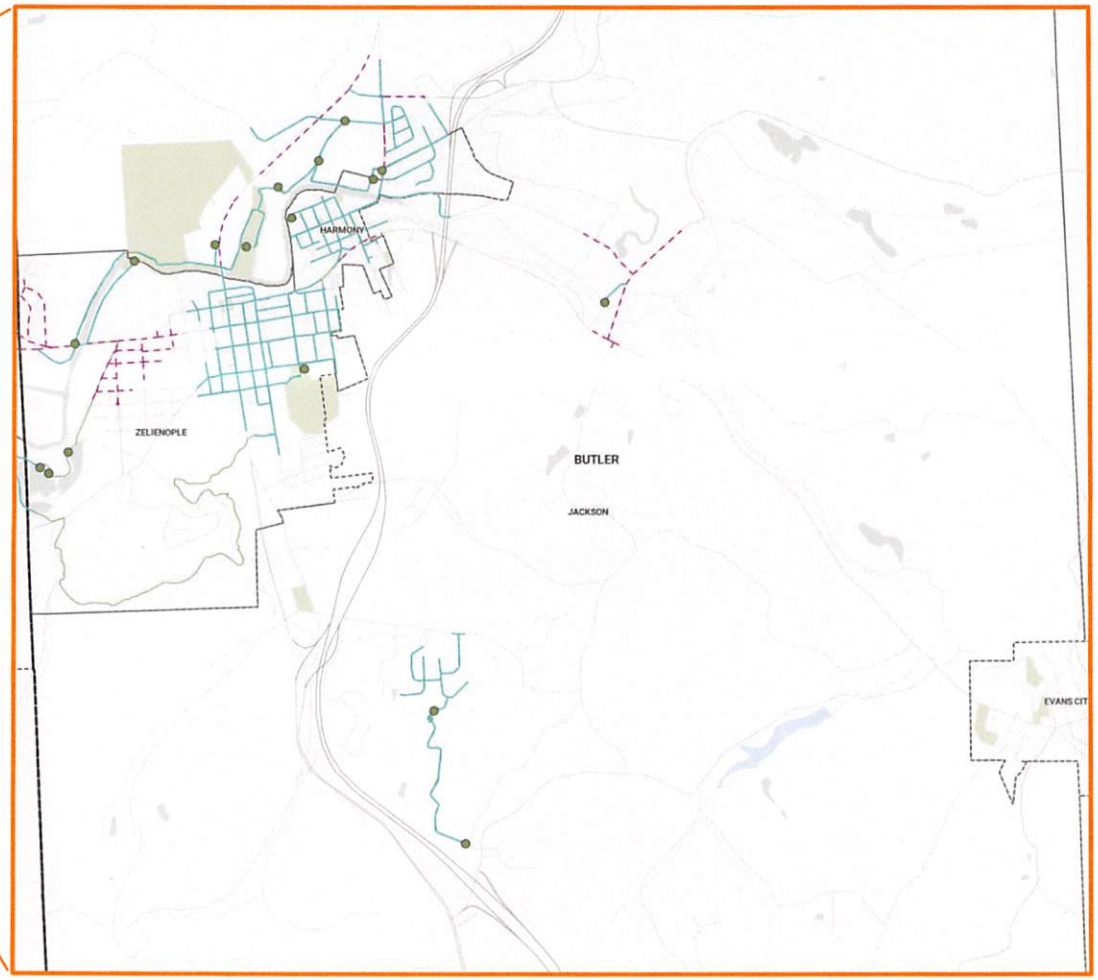
Trail Access Points

Current Access

Potential Access

Trail Network





Zelienople/ Harmony

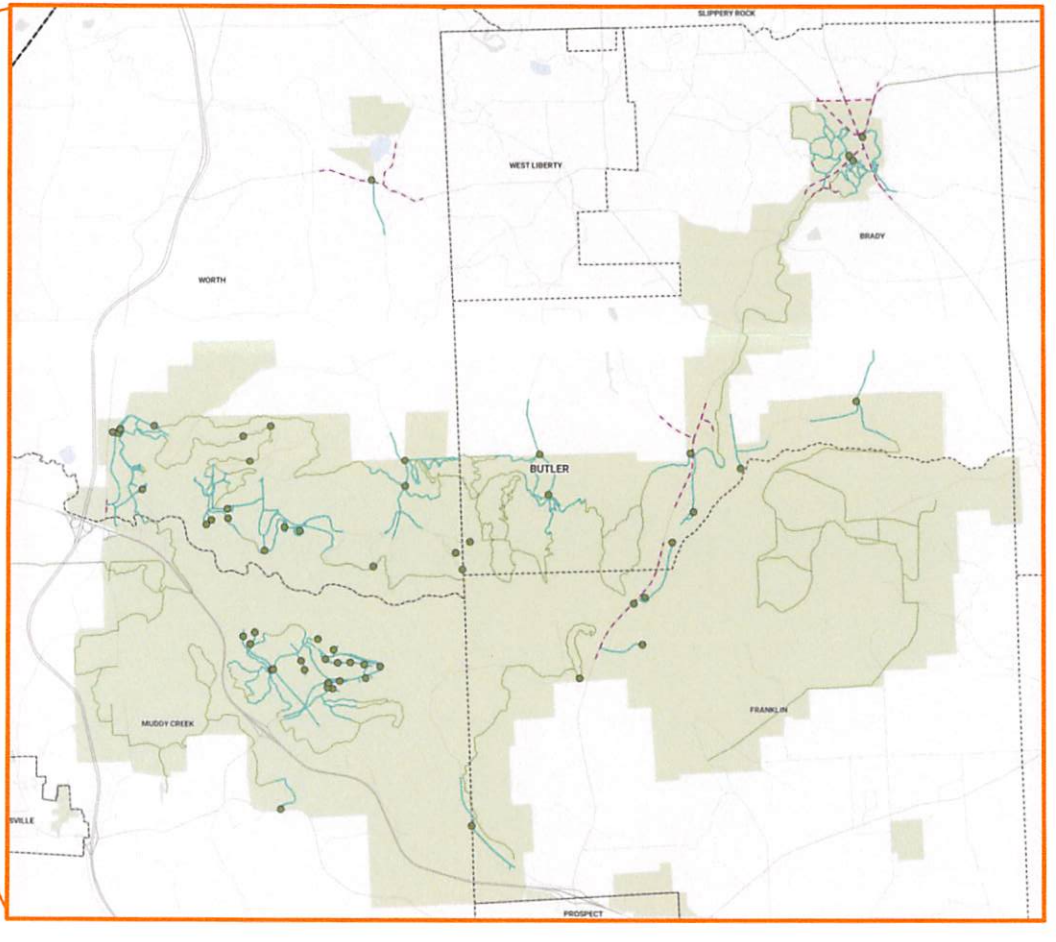
Trail Access Points

Current Access

Potential Access

Trail Network





Brady/Franklin/ Muddy Creek

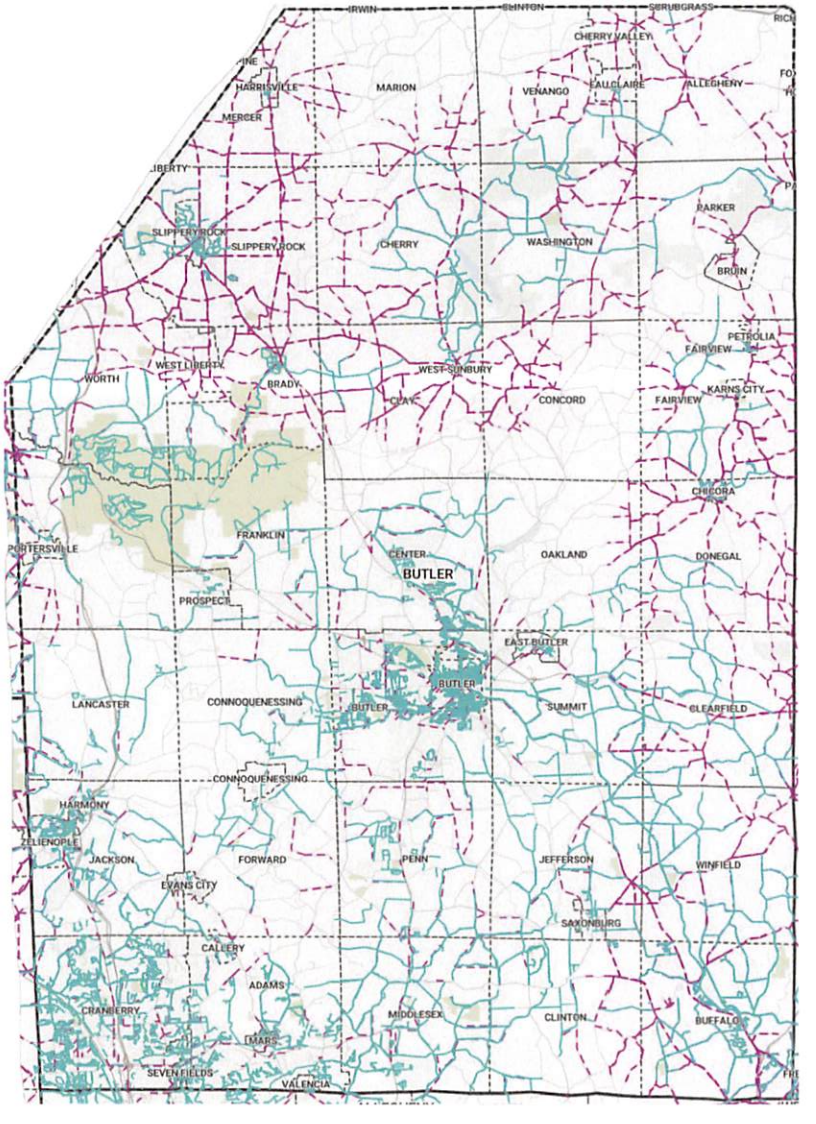
Trail Access Points

Current Access

Potential Access

Trail Network

POTENTIAL BIKING ACCESS TO KEY DESTINATIONS

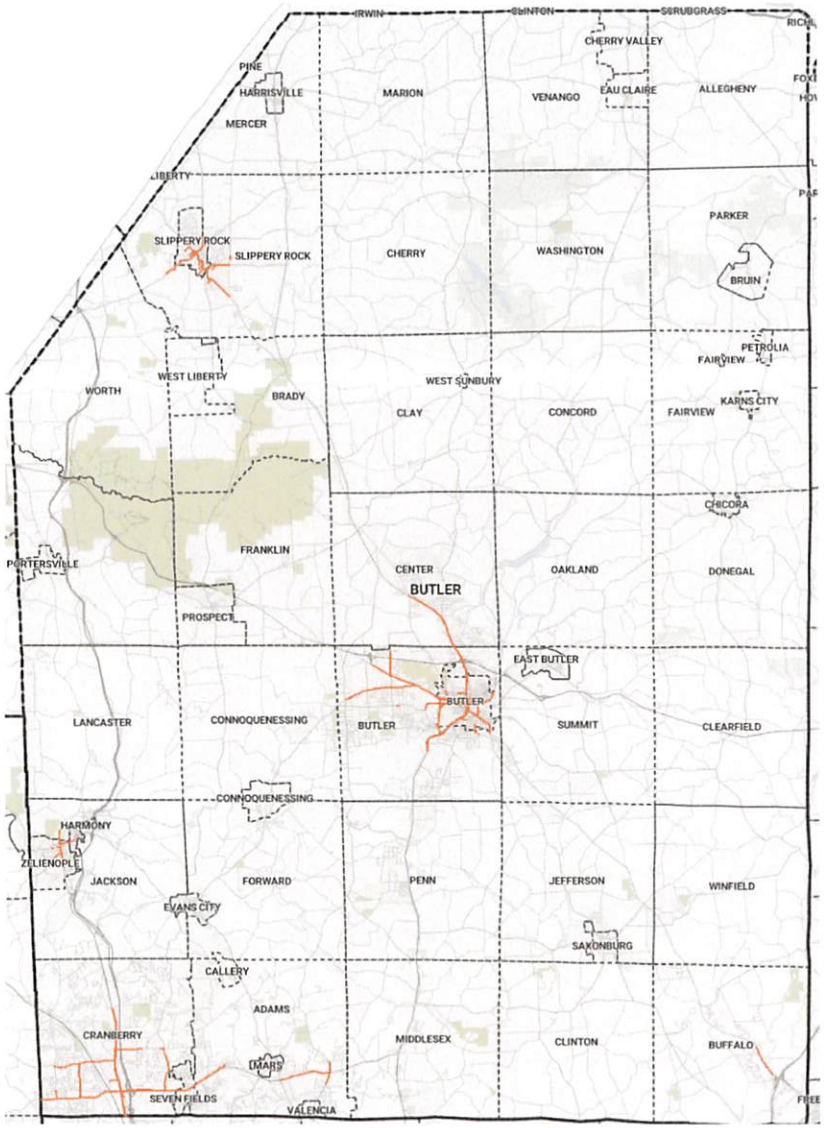


Current Access

Potential Access

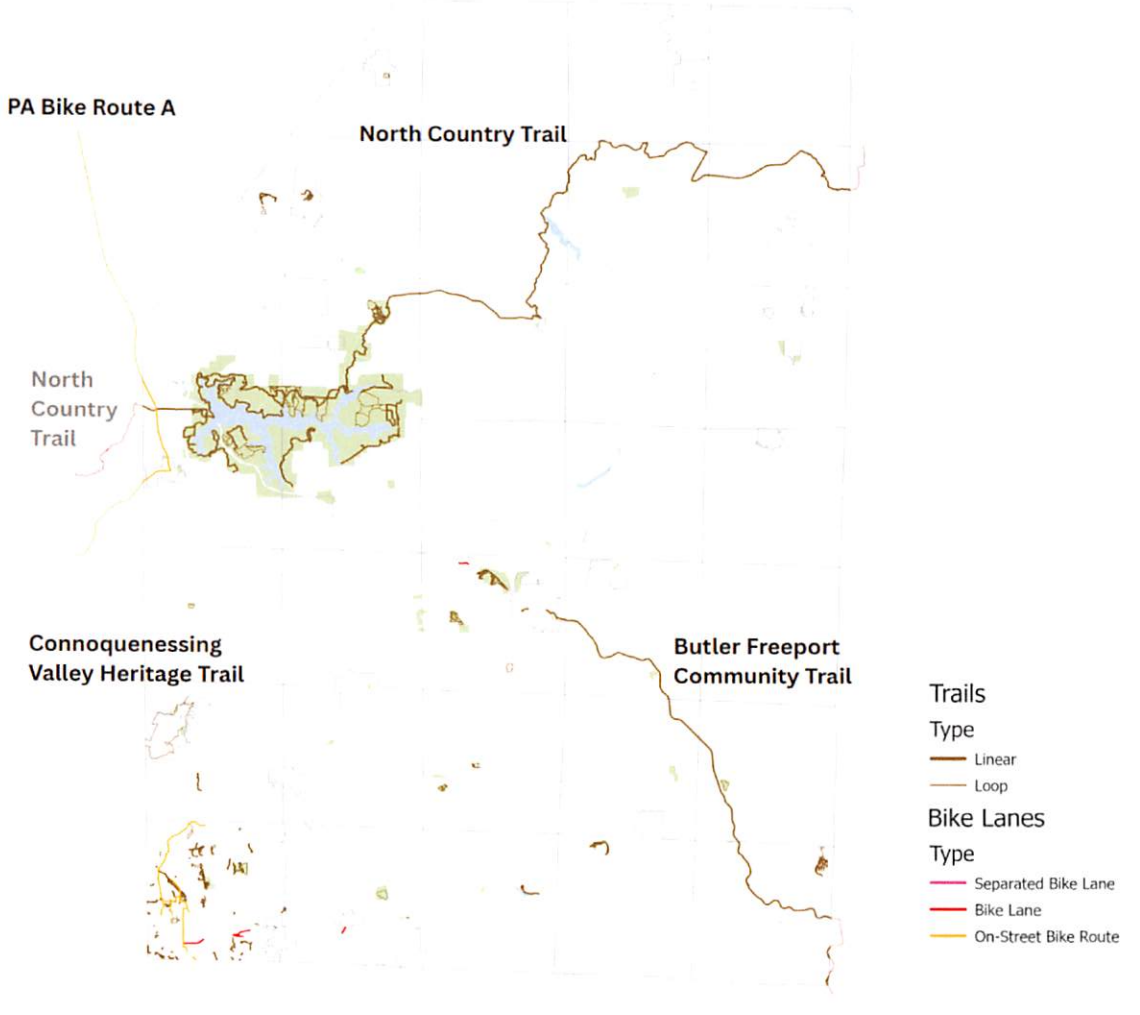
Potential biking access is mostly concentrated in the northern and eastern part of Butler County. Some areas of interest might be in West Liberty, Brady, and Slippery Rock to connect to Moraine State Park. Parts near Chicora, Karns City, and Clearfield will connect to existing access, making them higher priority access points as well.

CRITICAL GAPS IN BIKING NETWORK



Critical biking access gaps are concentrated around Butler Township, Cranberry, Zelienople, and Slippery Rock, where existing development and higher walkability and bike ability increase demand for bicycle connections.

Trails + Bike Routes



By the Numbers

135 miles
Trail (linear)

66 miles
Trail (loop)

3.5 miles
Bike Lane

14 miles
On-Street Bike Route

Facilities	2025
Miles of sidewalk	**549.7**
Miles of bike lanes	**3.5**
Miles of separated bike lanes	0.0
Miles of bike lanes	*3.5*
Miles of local bike routes (does not include PA/US Bike Routes)	**14.0**
Miles of trail	**200.7**
Miles of rail-trail or separated paths	*135.2*
Miles of trail in regional parks & recreation areas	*65.5*

Support Facilities	2025
Bike racks	71
Bike repair stations	5
Trail amenity (e.g., restrooms)	16
Trail access (with parking)	139
Trail access (no parking)	29

Trail Highlights

Trails	Functional Classification	Miles in Region	Miles in County
Butler Freeport Community Trail	Community Arterial	21.6	18.7
Connoquenessing Valley Heritage Trail	Neighborhood Collector	9	8.6
North Country Trail	Regional Arterial	94.8	48.3

Trail Organizations

Organization	County Focus
Butler Freeport Community Trail Council	Butler Freeport Community Trail
Harmony Borough, Butler County	Connoquenessing Valley Heritage Trail
North Country Trail Association, Butler Chapter	North Country Trail

Multi-State Trail Network

The **North Country Trail** stretches 4,800 miles across eight states, making it the longest National Scenic Trail in America. Nearly 250 miles of the North Country Trail traverses Northwestern Pennsylvania, with approximately 48 miles traveling through Butler County.