



Ulster County Midtown Linear Park

Public Information Meeting- March 20, 2019





Ulster County Midtown Linear Park

Public Information Meeting Agenda



Welcome and Introductions

Project Background & Overview

Design Considerations

Visual Tour of Trail Corridor

Discussion of Alternatives

Public Input & Feedback



Ulster County Midtown Linear Park

Welcome and Introductions

*Welcome from
Acting County Executive
Adele B. Reiter*

*Remarks from City of Kingston
Mayor Steve Noble*

Elected Officials and Partners

Introduction of Project Team



Interpretación disponible.



**Please Join Us For A
Public Information Meeting
To Discuss The
*Midtown Linear Park Project***

*Linking Cornell Street to Westbrook Lane
City of Kingston*

March 20, 2019- 7:00 PM

Restorative Justice and Community
Empowerment Center
733 Broadway, Kingston, NY



The Ulster County Midtown Linear Park Project (PIN 8761.82) is a federally-funded initiative to connect Midtown Kingston to the Kingston Plaza with a paved bicycle and pedestrian path.

The Public Information Meeting will provide an overview of the preliminary trail plans and include the opportunity for public feedback and comments.

*For more information, please contact
Chris White at Ulster County Planning—(845) 340-3338
<https://ulstercountyny.gov/planning/linearpark>*



Ulster County Midtown Linear Park

Project Background and Overview- Chris White

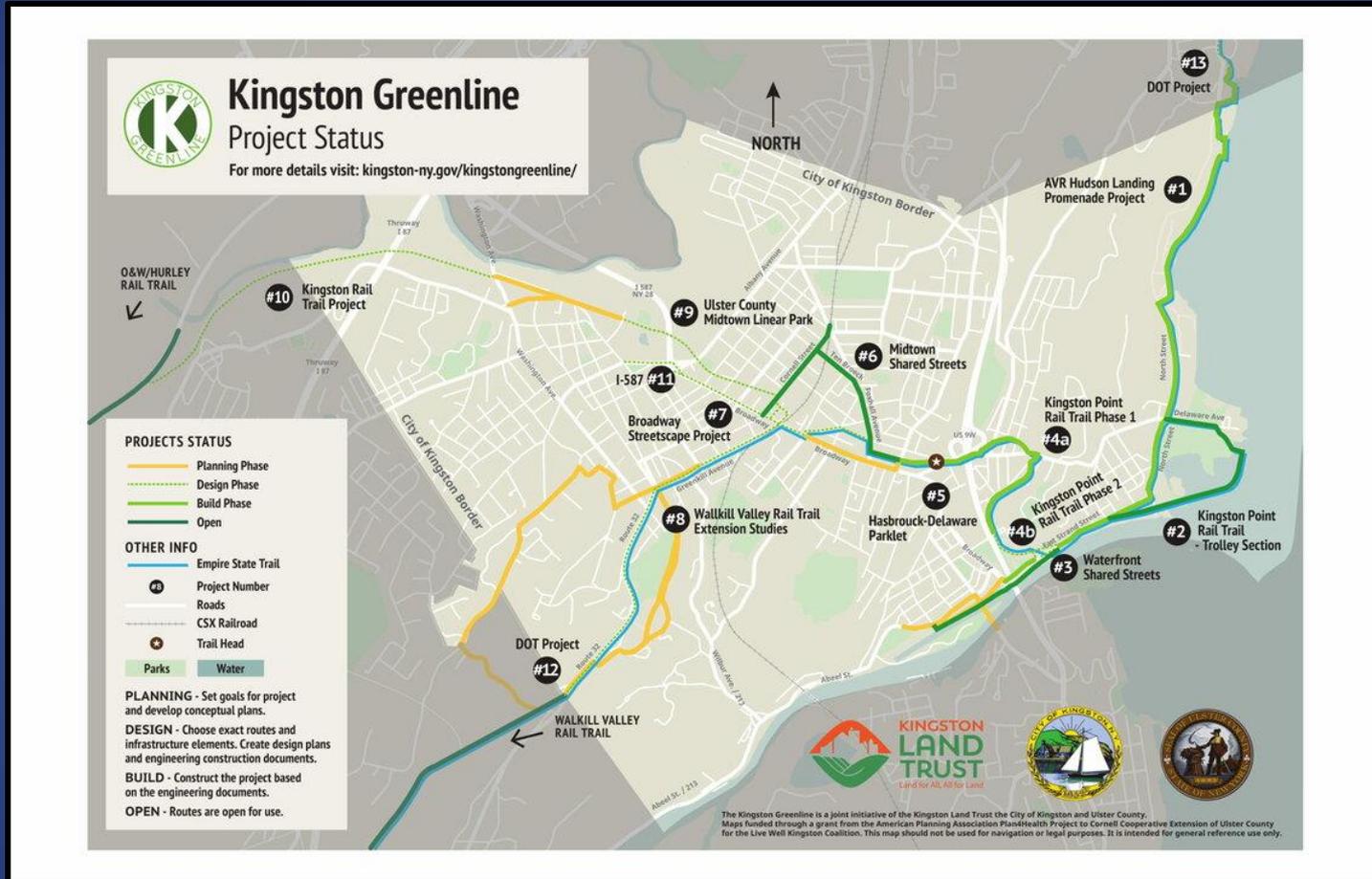


Shared-Use Path from Cornell Street to Westbrook Lane
Midtown Kingston to Kingston Plaza
Located Along Former U&D Railroad Corridor
0.8 Miles in Length



Ulster County Midtown Linear Park

Project Background and Overview



The Midtown Linear Park is part of the Kingston Greenline, a system of trails, linear parks, and complete streets.



Ulster County Midtown Linear Park

Project Background and Overview



Proposed by County Executive Mike Hein in 2013
Supported by Ulster County Legislature Resolution No. 488 of 2015
Awarded TAP Grant Funding (\$1.5 Million) in 2017



Ulster County Midtown Linear Park

Project Background and Overview



Phased Implementation:

Phase 1- Rail Trail Component
Federal Transportation Funding &
Community Foundations of the
Hudson Valley Grant
Completion in late 2020



Phase 2- Pocket Park Component
Cornell Street Rail Yard
Community Foundations of the
Hudson Valley Grant
Completion in 2021



Ulster County Midtown Linear Park

Project Background: Goals for Trail Component



✓ *Connecting Midtown Kingston to Kingston Plaza and Uptown for Bicyclists and Walkers*

✓ *Providing Improved Access to High Quality, Affordable Food and Other Shops/ Services*

✓ *Creating Much-Needed Park Space for Children and Families in Midtown Kingston*

✓ *Promoting Healthier Families and Stronger Communities / Improving Quality of Life*



Ulster County Midtown Linear Park

Active Transportation and Recreation





Ulster County Midtown Linear Park

Former Rail Yard Between Cornell and O'Neil Streets





Ulster County Midtown Linear Park

Former Rail Yard Between Cornell and O'Neil Streets





Ulster County Midtown Linear Park

Former Rail Yard Today





Ulster County Midtown Linear Park

Former Rail Yard- Future Community Park





Ulster County Midtown Linear Park

Former Rail Corridor Photos: Prior to Cleanup





Ulster County Midtown Linear Park

Former Rail Corridor Photos: Prior to Cleanup





Ulster County Midtown Linear Park

Former Rail Corridor Photos: Prior to Cleanup





Ulster County Midtown Linear Park

Former Rail Corridor Photos: Prior to Cleanup





Ulster County Midtown Linear Park

Former Rail Corridor Photos Today





Ulster County Midtown Linear Park

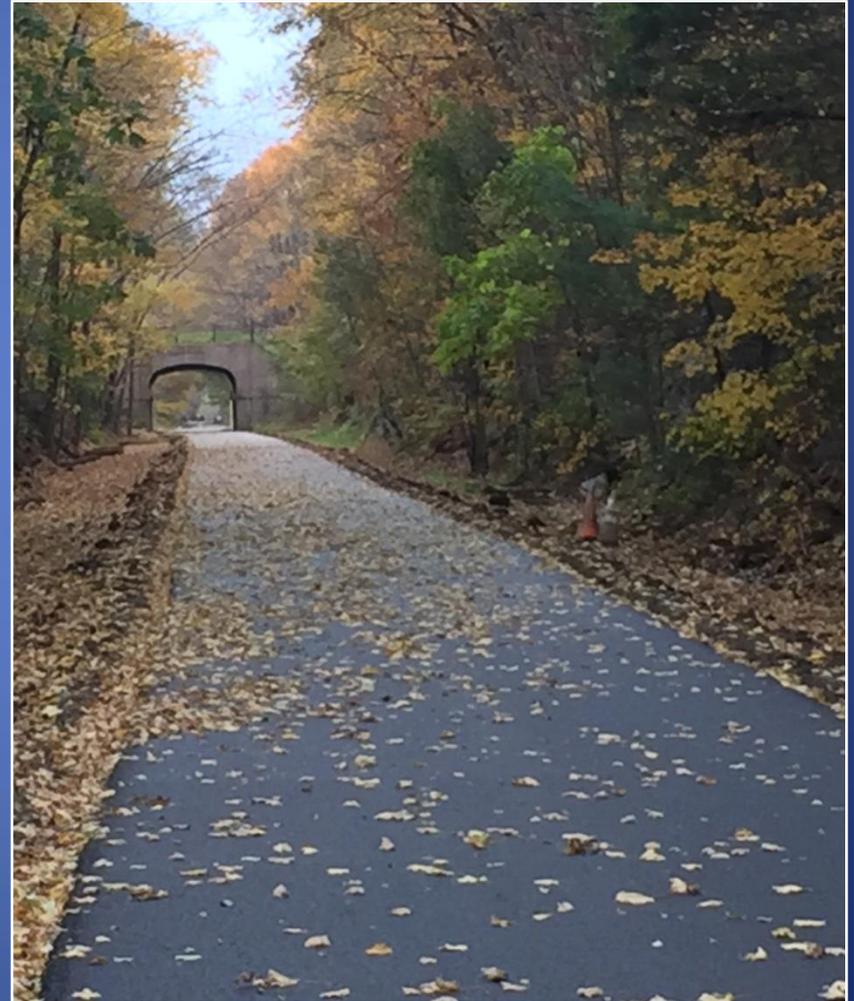
Project Sequencing and Schedule

*Preliminary Design Approval
Spring 2019*

*Right-of-Way Inc. & Acquisition
Mapping/Appraisals/Acquisition
Spring- Fall 2019*

*Final Design Approval & Plans
Winter 2019*

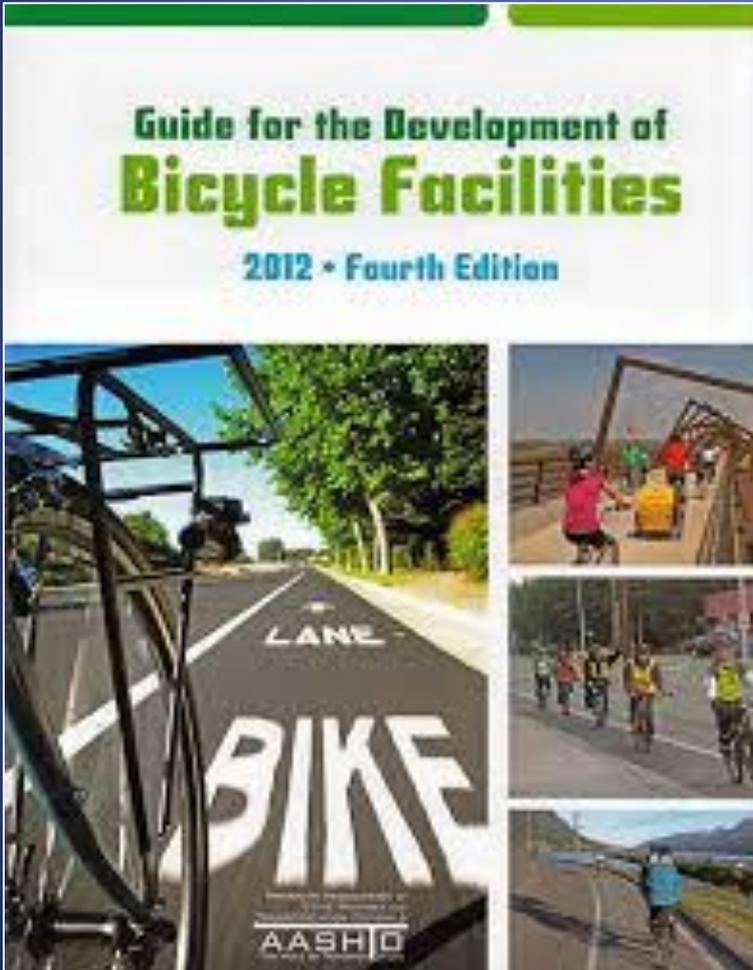
*Bidding and Advertisement
Construction
Spring-Fall 2020*





Ulster County Midtown Linear Park

Design Considerations: Jack Gorton (HVEA Engineers)



- ✓ *AASHTO and ADA Standards*

- ✓ *Trail Surface/ Rail Removal*

- ✓ *Public Safety: Lighting, CPTED, Street Crossings*

- ✓ *Drainage and Maintenance*

- ✓ *Rail Yard Contamination Cleanup*

 - ✓ *Relationship to Adjoining Properties: Fencing, Screening*

- ✓ *Design Consistency: Greenline*

- ✓ *Utilities: Gas and Electric*



Ulster County Midtown Linear Park

Design Considerations: Typical Trail Profile





Ulster County Midtown Linear Park

Design Considerations: Street Crossings/ Bump Outs





Ulster County Midtown Linear Park

Visual Tour and Alternatives Discussion

Cornell Street to O'Neil Street

- ✓ *Eastern Trail Terminus/
Connection to Public Parking*
- ✓ *Contamination Cleanup Issues
in Former Rail Yard*
- ✓ *Fencing, Lighting and
Screening*
- ✓ *Trail Alignment to Leave
Maximum Space for Pocket
Park*





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Visual Tour and Alternatives Discussion

Cornell Street Area

- ✓ *Create Attractive Trailhead/
“Green” Paved Entrance Area/
Shade Trees along Parking Lot*
- ✓ *Install Safe Ped/Bike Crossing/
Perpendicular Alignment*
- ✓ *Connect to Existing Sidewalk-
Potential “Bump Outs”*
- ✓ *Remove Old Fencing and
Replace Fencing and Screening*





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Visual Tour and Alternatives Discussion



Cornell Street Rail Yard

- ✓ *Create Park Entrance/ Restrict Vehicle Entry/ Allow Emergency and Maintenance Access*
- ✓ *Align Trail to Maximize Possible Pocket Park Additions in Future*
 - ✓ *Remove Track and Contaminated Soil*
 - ✓ *Design Appropriate Lighting and Trail Amenities Along Trail Portion*



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Visual Tour and Alternatives Discussion

*Former Rail Yard Contamination:
2016/2017 Phase II
Environmental Site Assessment
Conducted by CDM Smith
Commissioned by EPA
Targeted Brownfield Assessment*





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Visual Tour and Alternatives Discussion

O'Neil Street Area



- ✓ *Construct New Fence Along Boice Bros Dairy Property Boundary to Protect Trail Users*
- ✓ *Narrow the Crossing to Protect Trail Users/ Install Curbs/ Pavement Markings and Signage*
- ✓ *Install Landscaping To Break Up Wide Open Paved/Gravel Areas*
- ✓ *Assess Connections to Nearby Sidewalk Areas (Mostly Missing)*



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Visual Tour and Alternatives Discussion

O'Neil Street to Downs Street

- ✓ *Eastern Portion Has Encroachments and Debris*
- ✓ *Existing Fencing is Dilapidated and Inconsistent in Design*
- ✓ *Width Allows Some Future Pocket Park Elements*
- ✓ *Newly Installed Landscaping/ Recently Revealed Bluestone Wall*





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Visual Tour and Alternatives Discussion

O'Neil Street to Downs Street



- ✓ *Establish Boundary with Auto Body Shop/ Fencing, Screening*
- ✓ *Remove Debris and Brush/ Resolve Property Encroachments*
- ✓ *Install Lighting and Augment New Landscaping by Lite Brite Neon/ Remove Old Fencing*
- ✓ *Assess Connections to Nearby Sidewalk Areas (Mostly Missing)*
- ✓ *Set Aside Open Space for Possible Future Park Elements*



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Visual Tour and Alternatives Discussion



Downs Street Area

- ✓ *Build Upon Interim Linear Park/
Improved In Late 2018*
- ✓ *Re-establish Sidewalk
Connections/ Curbing/ Drainage*
- ✓ *Remove Tracks in Pavement and
Create Safe Ped/ Bike Crossing*
- ✓ *Assess Fencing/ Bollard
Alternatives*
- ✓ *Revise Adjacent Parking to Open
Sight Lines*

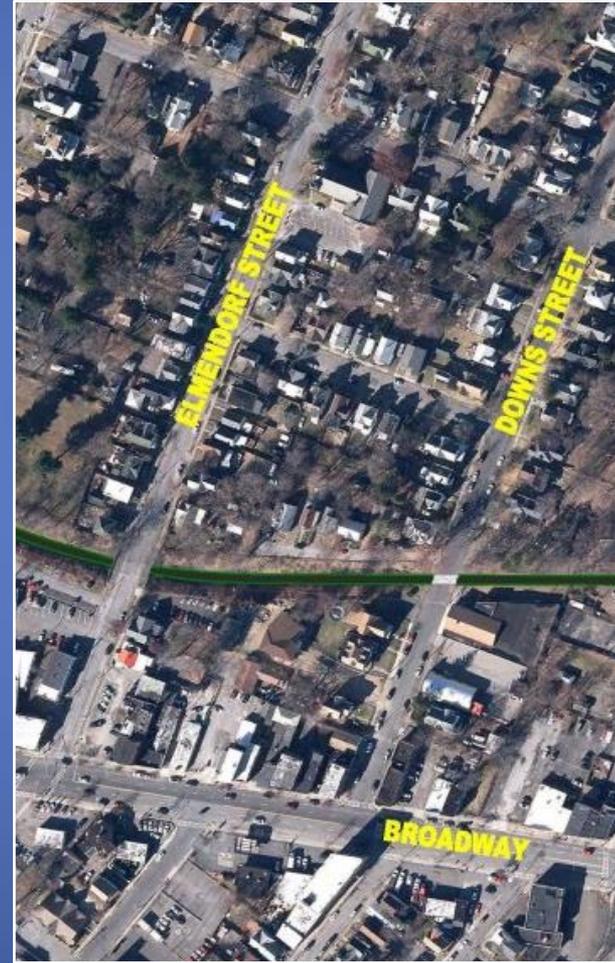


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Visual Tour and Alternatives Discussion

Downs Street To Elmendorf Street

- ✓ *Corridor Runs Into Cut Area With Increasingly Steep Slopes*
- ✓ *Trail Adjoins Numerous Residential Properties*
- ✓ *Section Includes Historic Stone Elmendorf Street Underpass*
- ✓ *Underground and Aerial Utilities Run Along Trail*
- ✓ *No Formalized Access to Elmendorf Street from Trail*





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Visual Tour and Alternatives Discussion

Downs Street to Elemendorf Street

- ✓ *Create a Crossing and Entrance that Invite Public Onto Trail*
- ✓ *Install Appropriate Lighting That Respects Neighbors & Public Safety*
 - ✓ *Add Some Fencing and/or Screening Along Private Properties*
- ✓ *Plan for More Difficult Drainage, Including Street Crossing*
- ✓ *Assess Landscaping Improvements, Such As Wildflower or Garden Areas*





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Visual Tour and Alternatives Discussion



Elmendorf Street Underpass Area

- ✓ *Create Pedestrian Access to Elmendorf Street/ Stairwell*
- ✓ *Install Appropriate Lighting In Underpass to Replace Existing Temporary Safety Lighting*
- ✓ *Clean Up Vegetation on Underpass*
- ✓ *Add Fencing to Minimize Areas that Allow Concealment*
- ✓ *Replace Collapsing Fencing at Top of Slope*



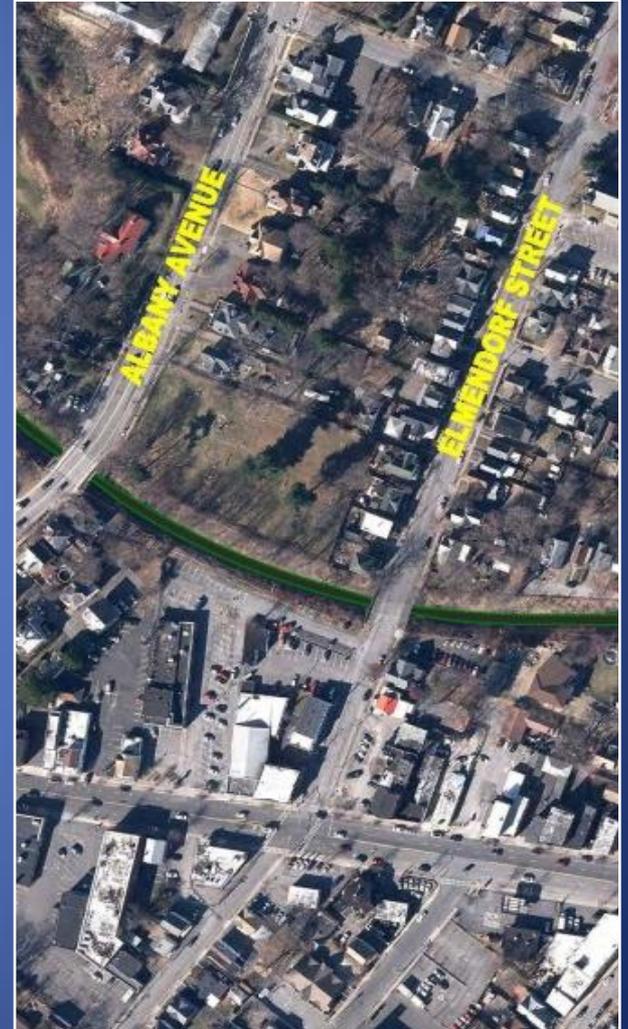


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Visual Tour and Alternatives Discussion

Elemendorf Street to Albany Avenue

- ✓ *Corridor Runs Through Deeper Cut*
 - ✓ *Trail Adjoins Residential Area*
 - ✓ *No Existing Access to Adjacent Streets*
- ✓ *Drainage Requires Improvements*
- ✓ *Public Safety Concerns from Past History of This Segment*
 - ✓ *Steep Slopes on Both Sides*





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Visual Tour and Alternatives Discussion

Elemendorf Street to Albany Avenue



- ✓ *Re-Establish Drainage*
- ✓ *Replace Collapsing and Deteriorated Fencing/ Add Landscaping*
- ✓ *Preserve Railroad “Tell-Tale” Feature for Interpretation*
- ✓ *Assess Landscaping Improvements, Such As Wildflower or Garden Areas*
- ✓ *Clean Up Adjacent Embankment Areas/ Community “Adopt-a-Garden” Areas?*



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Visual Tour and Alternatives Discussion

Albany Avenue Underpass Area

- ✓ *Install Stairwell for Pedestrian Connection to Albany Avenue*
- ✓ *Remove Collapsing “Wing Wall” and Stabilize Embankment*
- ✓ *Add Appropriate Lighting and Fencing to Improve Safety*
- ✓ *Ensure Adequate Drainage on Underpass Sides*
- ✓ *Highlight Bluestone Storm Drain and Stabilize Embankment*





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Visual Tour and Alternatives Discussion



Albany Avenue to I-587

- ✓ *Trail Runs through More Rustic Section with Pond View*
- ✓ *Corridor Has Experience Drainage and Erosion Issues*
- ✓ *Segment Requires Sufficient Lighting for Public Safety*
- ✓ *Some Slopes Might Require Safety Fencing*
- ✓ *Brush and Debris Needs Additional Clearing*



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Visual Tour and Alternatives Discussion

Albany Avenue to I-587

- ✓ *Restore Drainage Ditches and Repair Erosion*
- ✓ *Remove and/or Replace Deteriorated Boundary Fencing*
- ✓ *Install Bench Across from Scenic Pond Area?*
 - ✓ *Install Improved Lighting*
- ✓ *Erect Wooden Safety Fencing to Protect Bicyclists from Slope Areas/
Define Trail Edges*





Ulster County Midtown Linear Park

Visual Tour and Alternatives Discussion



I-587 Underpass Area

- ✓ *Ensure Vehicle Access for Maintenance Vehicles*
 - ✓ *Install Lighting*
 - ✓ *Improve Drainage*
- ✓ *Remove Unpermitted Stored Train Cars to Improve Site Lines and Remove Areas for Concealment*
- ✓ *Upgrade or Remove the Existing Temporary Bollards and Gate*
 - ✓ *Murals?*



Ulster County Midtown Linear Park

Visual Tour and Alternatives Discussion

I-587 to Westbrook Lane:

- ✓ *Trail Enters Commercial Area*
- ✓ *Rail Track Runs on Northern Boundary of Right-of-Way*
- ✓ *Aaron Court Pavement Covers Part of Southern Corridor Boundary*
- ✓ *Little or No Definition of Boundaries/ Train Storage*
- ✓ *No Landscaping/ Shade Trees*





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Visual Tour and Alternatives Discussion



I-587 to Westbrook Lane:

- ✓ *Consider Alignment Alternatives of Rail & Trail or Trail Only*
- ✓ *If Train Remains, Protect Trail with Appropriate Fencing/ Landscaping*
- ✓ *Add New Curbing/ Landscaping/ Shade Trees to Paved Right-of-Way*
- ✓ *Consider Park Amenities if Trail Only Provides Additional Right-of-Way Width (Picnic Benches, Etc.)*



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Visual Tour and Alternatives Discussion

Westbrook Lane Area:

- ✓ *Add Pedestrian/ Bike Safety Improvements to Westbrook Lane*
- ✓ *Narrow Entrance to Aaron Court and Install Curbing and Crosswalk*
- ✓ *Install Trail Signage and Entrance To Restrict Vehicles*
- ✓ *Consider Park Amenities if Trail Only Provides Additional Right-of-Way Width (Picnic Benches, Etc.)*
- ✓ *Create Crosswalk Into Plaza Area*





Ulster County Midtown Linear Park

Alternatives: I-587 to Westbrook Lane- Alt. A



- ✓ *Provides for Better Site Lines and Improved Pedestrian Connection Across Westbrook Lane*
- ✓ *Allows for Additional Trail Width for Landscaping and Park Amenities*
 - ✓ *Offers Cost Savings by Reducing Fencing*



Ulster County Midtown Linear Park

Alternatives: I-587 to Westbrook Lane- Alt. B



- ✓ *Requires Fence Installation- Approximately 800 Feet*
- ✓ *Creates Sight Line & Pedestrian Issues at Westbrook Lane*
- ✓ *Reduces Right-of-Way Available for Landscaping/ Amenities*



Ulster County Midtown Linear Park

Alternatives: Lighting Design and Location

Existing Lighting in Corridor





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Alternatives: Lighting Design and Location

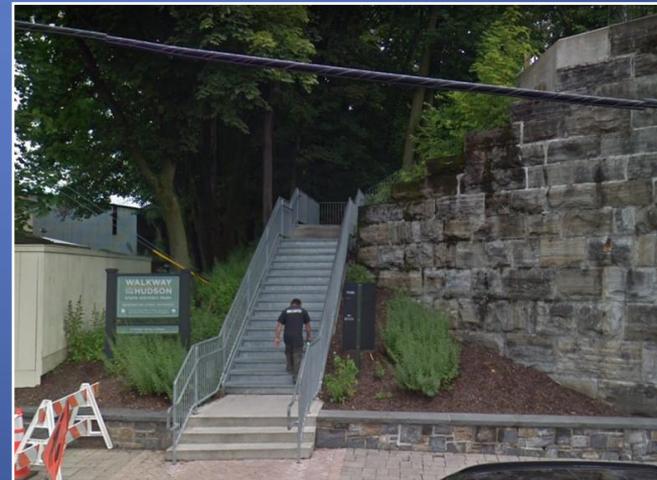
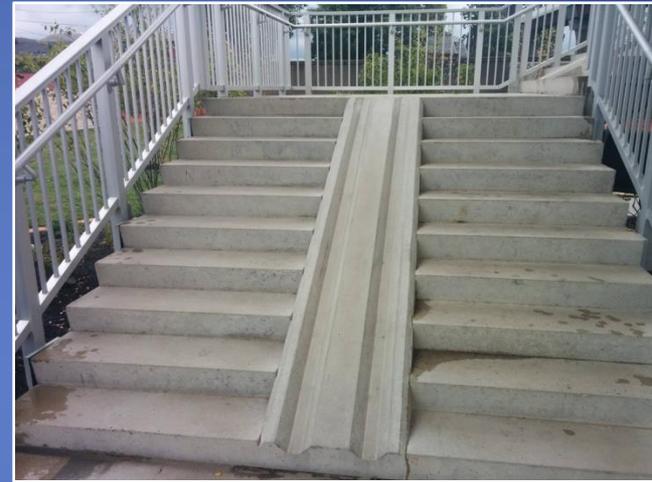
Possible Lighting Alternatives





Ulster County Midtown Linear Park

*Alternatives: Stairwells at Albany Avenue
And Elmendorf Street to Establish Street Access*





Ulster County Midtown Linear Park

Alternatives: Cornell Street Rail Yard Alignment- Alt. 1





Ulster County Midtown Linear Park

Alternatives: Cornell Street Rail Yard Alignment- Alt. 2





Ulster County Midtown Linear Park

Public Information Meeting- Thank You!



For More Information, Please Visit:
ulstercountyny.gov/planning/linearpark

Comments and Questions May Be Submitted To:
U.C. Planning Department
PO Box 1800
Kingston, NY 12402
(845) 340-3338