NJDEP is committed to deep, robust community engagement to learn how members of host communities want to use and interact with this new public open space, how it can best serve community needs, and other methods to ensure equitable distribution of the myriad environmental, public health, and economic benefits promised by this transformative project.
Overview

Vision

• Linear recreational and multi-modal transit corridor
• Seamless walking, biking, and transit opportunities
• Catalyst for economic development and environmental improvements
• Facilitating expanded public transportation linkages to meet the mobility needs of the larger region.
Phase 1

Phase 1a
• Seeking feedback from communities to identify the best opportunities for immediate development and public use of the Greenway to maximize value delivered to the public upon completion and prioritize initial investments in stormwater infrastructure, remediation, safety, and security.
• NJDEP and consultants to conduct a series of public listening session workshops, meetings, pop-ups/tabling at existing events, surveys, and trail tests.
• Complete Fall 2023.

Phase 1b
• Operationalize engagement, remediation, stormwater, and safety and security efforts into a coordinated design and construction plan.
• Begins Fall 2023.
• Complete by end of 2025.

NJDEP will continue engagement with stakeholders throughout Phase 1 to ensure consistent feedback and communication of outcomes.
Phase 2

Master Plan

- Develop Master Plan that builds upon Phase 1 efforts.
- Plan for how to complete full development of the Greenway, including further improvements, amenities, and complimentary transit features

NJDEP will coordinate the kickoff of Phase 2 in Fall 2023 with the completion of Phase 1a.
Phase 1a: Initial Investigation, Engagement & Design

Stormwater Infrastructure

- Evaluate stormwater issues. Determine what stormwater management infrastructure is appropriate for installation prior to and/or in conjunction with the phased development of the Greenway.
- Reduce combined sewer overflows (CSOs) and feasible green infrastructure techniques.
- Increase stormwater capture and manage discharge rates during major storm events.
- DEP anticipates additional stormwater management techniques will be later implemented during phased development in accordance with the Master Plan.

Deadline: September 15, 2023
Deliverable(s):
  • Stormwater Infrastructure Plan
Phase 1a: Initial Investigation, Engagement & Design

Remedial Investigation

- Determine what remedial actions are required to allow for safe public access to the Greenway.
- Protect the health and welfare of surrounding communities and the environment.
- DEP anticipates institutional controls, engineering controls, and additional monitoring may be necessary and ongoing during phased development in accordance with the Master Plan.

**Deadline:** September 29, 2023

**Deliverable(s):**
- Remediation Plan
Phase 1a: Initial Investigation, Engagement & Design

Safety & Security

• Assess the safety and security needs along the Greenway.
• Short-term, interim steps the Department should take to address public safety and security of the Greenway prior to the development of the Master Plan.
• Long-term safety and security recommendations.

Deadline: September 29, 2023
Deliverable(s):
• Security Needs Assessment & Recommendations Report
Phase 1a: Initial Investigation, Engagement & Design

Stakeholder Engagement

Consultant team is conducting initial community and stakeholder engagement, which will inform their recommendation(s) for the phased development of the Greenway. The Team will determine the best phased approach, be it the largest feasible contiguous portion of the Greenway appropriate for immediate development for public use with fewer amenities, or a smaller geographic area with greater amenity build out. The plan seeks to maximize value delivered to the public during development of the Master Plan.

It is yet to be determined what section of the Greenway – and to what degree of build out – will be constructed first:
1. **Focus on connectivity:** Longer contiguous area built out to a lesser degree (no amenities, only necessary capping, fencing, lighting, etc.),
2. **Focus on access:** Multiple non-contiguous areas built out to a lesser degree (no amenities, only necessary capping, fencing, lighting, etc.), or
3. **Focus on amenities:** One smaller area built out with amenities, which shows ultimate vision for Greenway.

**Deadline:** October 31, 2023

**Deliverable(s):**
- Engagement Plan
- Execution of Engagement Plan
  - Direct engagement with key stakeholders (ongoing)
  - Public Workshop #1 (7/27/23)
  - Public Workshop #2 (week of 8/28/23)
  - Public Workshop #3 (week of 10/2/23)
  - Pop-ups/table exercises at existing events; youth engagement (ongoing)
  - Community leader focus groups (ongoing)
  - Surveys (starting week of 7/17/23)
  - Trail tests (starting week of 9/11/23)
- Phased Development Assessment
- Final Recommendation Report (due 10/31/23)
Focus on Assets: Take an assets-based approach to framing engagement questions and activities, building on local strengths and aspirations for where investments should happen, rather than concentrating on barriers to implementation.

Share Decision-Making: Promote community understanding and influence to determine how and where the community wants to begin investment in the Greenway, what they want to build, and what the greenway should connect to (e.g., more amenities along a smaller stretch of greenway, or a longer, connected stretch with limited amenities).

Keep It Fun and Make the Plan Come Alive!: Make participation in the engagement process an enjoyable, interactive experience, engaging local businesses, places, and stories.

Reconnect to Previously Engaged Entities: Integrate and build on information shared in past studies, conversations with the stakeholders and municipalities, and with other state entities.

Connect to and Include Many (New) Voices: Focus efforts on closing historic gaps in outreach and engagement, especially with BIPOC residents, businesses, youth, and environmental, cultural organizations and welcome participation.

Be Transparent and Accountable: Value the contributions of community members, demonstrate the impact of community feedback on greenway investment and ensure community feedback drives and benefits from greenway investment outcomes.
Public Workshop #1 & #2
7/27/23

Dream Big & Identify Barriers

10am to 12pm: Newark North Library
6pm to 8pm: Branch Brook Park Roller Skating Rink

Focus on building plan awareness and having engaging map activities to get initial feedback about what to build, what to connect to, and where to build it.
Public Workshop #1 & #2 – Promotional Materials

Hi Neighbor! ¡Hola vecino!

Learn more about the New Jersey Greenway recreation and transportation corridor.

The Greenway is a nine-mile corridor that connects eight municipalities. The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) acquired this property from Norfork Southern on August 19, 2022. The NJDEP is conducting a planning process to understand how the Greenway can effectively support the diverse communities that surround it. We are eager to hear your ideas about how this project can best meet your needs and where we should start.

Podrás obtener más información sobre el New Jersey Greenway corredor de recreación y transporte.

El Greenway es un corredor de nueve millas que conecta ocho municipios. El Departamento de Protección Ambiental de Nueva Jersey (NJDEP) adquirió esta propiedad de Norfork Southern el 19 de agosto de 2022. El NJDEP está llevando a cabo un proceso de planificación para comprender cómo el Greenway puede apoyar de manera efectiva a las diversas comunidades que lo rodean. Queremos escuchar sus ideas sobre cómo este proyecto puede satisfacer mejor sus necesidades y dónde deberíamos comenzar.

Come to our first workshop Thursday, July 27, 2023
Ven a nuestro primer taller Jueves, 27 de Julio, 2023

Newark North Library
722 Summer Ave,
Newark, NJ 07104
(10am to 12pm)

Roller Skating Night!
¡Noche de Patinaje sobre ruedas!
Branch Brook Park | 7th Ave & Clifton Ave,
Newark, NJ 07104 (6pm to 8pm)

All ages and abilities are welcome. There will be free admission and free food at the Roller Skating Night!
¡Habrá entrada y comida gratuita en la Noche de Patinaje sobre Ruedas!

You can share your vision for the Greenway in your community and all along the greenway this summer. To find out more about ways to share your ideas, please visit our website or leave us a voicemail at 908-340-6611.

Puede compartir su visión del Greenway en su comunidad y a lo largo del Greenway este verano. Para obtener más información sobre las formas de compartir sus ideas, visite nuestro sitio web o deje un mensaje de voz al 908-340-6611.

Website: linktr.ee/theNJGreenway
For translation services or ADA accommodations, contact jas@amcnjynj.com.
Para programar servicios de traducción o adaptaciones de accesibilidad (ADA), comuníquese con jas@amcnjynj.com.
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Newark Greenway
The Greenway is a nine-mile corridor that connects eight municipalities.

The Greenway is an ocho millas que conecta ocho municipios.
Public Workshop #1 & #2 – Event Materials

The Greenway

What is the Greenway?

Overview

The Greenway is an approximately nine-mile, 100-foot-wide linear corridor going through Essex and Hudson Counties. The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) acquired the Greenway corridor for the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) for the purpose of expanding the Castleton Yard to accommodate traffic from Norfolk Southern on August 16, 2022. The Department of Environmental Protection’s vision is to convert this blighted corridor into a thriving recreation and transportation corridor traversing two of the most densely populated Counties in New Jersey – and in the nation. The corridor, once developed, will offer green space and alternative transportation opportunities to this heavily developed region. The Greenway is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to create a linear multi-modal recreational and transit corridor enabling seamless walking, biking and transit opportunities between Montclair and Jersey City, while serving as a catalyst for environmental improvements and economic development in the adjacent communities.

The Greenway passes through 8 municipalities and 2 counties.

The Greenway connects to approximately 1.5 million people. That is over 46% of New Jersey’s population!

What is the Plan?

What is your biggest dream for the future Greenway?

Let’s talk timeline!

This work will result in the development of a Phase 1 design, based on community feedback. In Fall 2023, with Phase 1 construction activities beginning shortly after and construction completed by the end of 2025.

The Phase 1 approach will ultimately proceed in parallel with the development of the comprehensive Master Plan, which includes the identification of future development phases. Further improvements and amenities will be subsequently incorporated into the Greenway in accordance with the Finalized Master Plan. NJDEP expects to begin the more comprehensive Master Planning Phase towards the end of 2023.

What is your biggest worry?

FUTURE PHASES

PLANNED START IN MARCH 2024

PLANNED COMPLETION IN SEPTEMBER 2025

PLANNED COMPLETION IN JUNE 2025

OCTOBER 2023

FUTURE PHASES

NJDEP

Norland

Community Advisors

Community Engagement

Community Awareness

Community Review

Community Review

TBD
The Greenway

Every segment of the Greenway is unique.

- 2 Million Years Ago
  The rocky path down the ravine through and around ever-warm forced by streams and rivers over the land. In the past, it became flooded, and rivers cut valleys into the land. The Knotty Car was viewed as a site for the development of industries. Workers removed a portion of the land to connect Northern New Jersey to the ports of New York.

- 1800s: Lenape-Lenape Communities
  Lenape-Lenape people, the ancestors of the Algonquian nation, inhabited small settlements across for centuries, cultivating the land and hunting. Many streams in the region, such as Passaic, Sensaun, Hackensack and Hoquah, derived from the branches of the nearby inhabitants.

- 1800s: Rail Origins in Iron and Ice
  The movement of raw goods and services to support manufacturing hubs was where our rail story began. It produced on New Jersey's development, which was critical to linking the state to major ports in Jersey City and New York City.

- 1876-1943: Many Rails Into One!
  The New York and Greenwood Lake Railway provided service through the Erie Railway, which connected New York and every major port in the country. By 1902, the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad was created over the Morris Heights, between the Morris Canal and River.
Public Workshop #1 & #2 – Event Materials

**GREENWAY CHARACTER ZONES**

**Forest Glen**

Tucked behind back yards in a shallow glen, this wooded stretch of the future greenway takes a tranquil course. Songbirds roost in the canopy while fox and deer forage below. Unique bridges mark each residential street that crosses overhead.

**Fun Fact:**
Cheaper by the Dozen is a 1946 semi-autobiographical novel by Frank Bunker Gilbreth, Jr. about his childhood in Montclair. It has received multiple stage and screen adaptations, most recently a movie written by senior Banks starring New Jersey icon, Zach Braff.

**GREENWAY CHARACTER ZONES**

**Elevated Ridge**

This segment glides above its residential surroundings along a raised bank. Historic bridges carry the future greenway above Belleville Park. Here, one might spot an occasional deer among the wildlife that utilize the segment to get to and fro.

**Fun Fact:**
In 1870, Belleville became the first municipality on the East Coast to establish a Chinatown when a group of Chinese workers settled there after completing the Central Pacific Railroad. This group of people also formed Chinatowns in Newark and New York City.
This segment runs at street level and is fully-integrated with the fabric of the surrounding neighborhood. Homes and businesses are directly connected to the future greenway. Here, two discontinued railways merge and the path opens up to 200 feet in width.

**FUN FACT:**
Newark once produced 40% of America’s gold and silver jewelry. The Tiffany & Co factory produced silver jewelry intended to compete with Georgian silver.

**COMMUNITY**
- Parking
- Schools
- Parks
- Libraries
- Shelters
- Libraries
- History

**INFRASTRUCTURE**
- Engineering
- Drainage

**WILDLIFE + VEGETATION**
- Trees
- Shrubs
- Grasses
- Wildflowers
- Native plants

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This segment slices through bedrock, exposing jagged rock faces and nestling the future greenway in a canyon-like landscape that is sheltered from the city above.

**FUN FACT:**
The discovery of copper in Kearny in the early 1900s led miners to secretly import the first steam engine to the United States. It was delivered by an engineer named Josiah Hemsley.

**COMMUNITY**
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**WILDLIFE + VEGETATION**
- Trees
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- Native plants
A panoramic marshland experience makes this segment stand out. On the horizon are dramatic views of Manhattan skyline, while up close trains cross-crop the landscape and birds gather in the water.

**FUN FACT:**
There are over 3,500 acres of protected wetland habitat in the New Jersey Meadowlands. That’s four times more land than Central Park.

The meadows meet Jersey City and Secaucus in the segment. Marshes give way to active industrial and rail infrastructure. The din of highway traffic and reversing trucks are reminders of the work that’s buzzing about.

**FUN FACT:**
Gorin Yard processes approximately 90,000 shipping containers every year. That’s enough to fill more than 60 cargo ships.
The Greenway

Setting the Greenway up for Success!

NJDEP's approach on the first phase of development (Phase 1A) will focus on the north-northeastern component portion of the Greenway for travel and public use. This will prioritize retail investments in stormwater infrastructure, remediation, safety and security, and provide supportive public amenities. Phase 1A will be funded immediately after this, which will kickstart the design and construction of the first open section of the Greenway.

This phased approach will work in parallel to the development of the comprehensive Greenway Master Plan with further improvements and amenities subsequently incorporated into the Greenway in accordance with the Greenway Master Plan.

Phase 1A is to open the first segment of the Greenway by the end of 2020.

Four components of Phase 1A:

STORMWATER
The Greenway will need to properly manage the water that falls onto its property. Effective stormwater management will prevent flooding and erosion. By utilizing a Low Impact Stormwater design, the Greenway can create a sustainable environment, support biodiversity, and perform stormwater management aspects that safeguard the long-term natural resilience of the Greenway.

REMEDIAITION
Some portions of the Greenway may be affected by pollution or contamination due to former industrial operations. By addressing these issues or other impacted elements, we can create a healthy and safe environment for plants, animals, and people. This component of the plan will study where the immediate needs to occur.

SAFETY + SECURITY
By prioritizing the study of safety and security, we can create a welcoming environment where everyone feels safe and secure. The project will appreciate the beauty of the future Greenway.

PHASED DEVELOPMENT
By focusing on the overall development of the Greenway, some sections can be built while other sections are being developed and phased. The goal is to achieve the plan's vision in a series of phases. The plan is to decide when to start the next phase and how future phases will be implemented.
Public Workshop #1 & #2 – Event Materials

GREENWAY ASSESSMENTS

Where Do We Begin?

Greenway Assessments

Greenway Assessments

How should New Jersey start? Place your vote along the slider!

I want lots of things to do in a smaller area
I want a little
of both
I want to be connected to my neighbors near and far
I want to see a balance of both

What is Stormwater?

Traditional Urban Stormwater Management

When rainwater falls on paved surfaces in the urban environment, it often runs off into drains and pipes which eventually outlet into freshwater systems. We don’t see the rainwater until the system gets overwhelmed and floods.

Integrated Stormwater Management

When stormwater management is integrated into landscape design, strategies like capturing water in rain gardens and rain tanks, allowing it to soak into the ground through permeable pavements and planted areas, and slowing down the flow of water into the stormwater system, make the rainwater more visible and keep each drop of rainwater closer to where it fell.

How do you want to manage water? Place your vote along the slider!

I want rainwater management to be out-of-sight and out-of-mind
I want the management of rainwater to be an integral part of the design of the Greenway
I want to be connected to my neighbors near and far
I want a little
of both
Public Workshop #1 & #2 – Event Materials

GREENWAY ASSESSMENTS
Make it Safe

Safety by Design
The greenway can be designed to deter crime and provide a sense of safety. Quality lighting, clear lines of sight, and frequent use are just a few potential design considerations that could create a safe environment for recreation.

Safety in Numbers
When people are around, there are fewer opportunities for illicit activity. People keep an eye out and stand ready to call if there is trouble. Park rangers and/or safety patrol officers can provide an additional layer of law enforcement.

How do you want to create safety? Place your vote along the slider!

- I want the physical design of the greenway to promote safety
- I want human presence and supervision to create a safe and secure environment
- I want to see a balance of both

GREENWAY ASSESSMENTS
Clean Up the Soils

Making Sure the Soil is Safe
Soil will be made safe for recreation along the entire length of the greenway. Scientists will take soil samples and test them in a lab—if any samples show signs of contamination, those areas will undergo "remediation.

Remediation means dealing with environmental damage. This may entail removing the contaminants from the soil, containing the contaminants with a protective barrier, and/or planting vegetation that will wrap up the contaminants.

Are you concerned about contamination? Place your vote along the slider!

- I am not concerned at all about contamination (i.e., "nasty" dirt) along the greenway
- I feel a little of both
- The issue of soil contamination is very top of mind for me – you’ll have to convince me that the soils are safe (or have been remediated) before the greenway opens

What’s in the Soil?
The contents of the soil won’t be known until soil samples are analyzed. But we know what to expect. In comparable sites, nearby industries have spilled oil-based products into the ground. Soil containing metals and other debris is necessary for railroads. These are the kinds of contaminants that might be encountered.
Phase 1b: Initial Greenway Development – Design & Construction Management

Design

Building from the Phase 1a deliverables, Consultant will work recommendations and next steps into Phase 1b design and manage direct engagement with construction contractors. Expect to utilize New Jersey Transit contractors to complete Phase 1b construction activities.

Deadline: December 31, 2023
Deliverable(s):
- Scope of Work to hand off to construction contractors

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Item</th>
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<tr>
<td>8/11/23</td>
<td>Issue Design Coordination &amp; Construction Management Mini-Bid</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/8/23</td>
<td>Award Design Coordination &amp; Construction Management Mini-Bid</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/31/23</td>
<td>Location recommendation from firm based on stakeholder engagement and phased development work order</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/1/23</td>
<td>Design Coordination &amp; Construction Management work order begins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/31/23</td>
<td>Design complete and ready for construction</td>
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Construction

Construction team will take Scope of Work provided by Design Coordination & Construction Management consultants to begin stormwater engineering construction and remediation/capping along portions of the Greenway.

Deadline: By Spring 2024

Deliverable(s):
• Phase 1b development completed by end of 2025

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<tr>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>Stormwater engineering construction begins</td>
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<td>Remediation and capping begins</td>
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<td>TBD</td>
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