



Chattahoochee River Trail Feasibility Study & Conceptual Master Plan

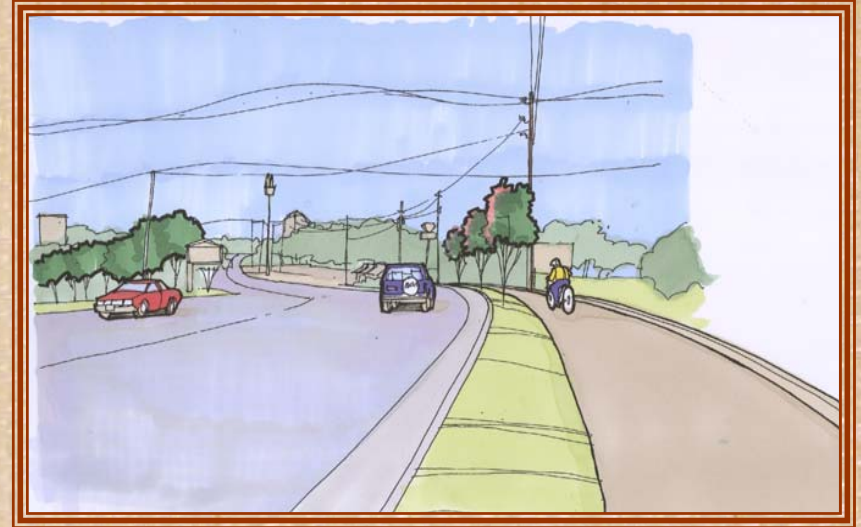
*Study Results and Recommendations
November 2004*

STUDY PURPOSE

- Explore the feasibility of creating a multi-use transportation oriented trail system parallel to the Chattahoochee River in Cobb County from Willeo Creek at the Cobb/Fulton border, to Cobb Parkway at the National Park Services - Paces Mill Unit.
- Investigate connections to existing and proposed local and regional trails, such as the Silver Comet, to provide a continuous trail system through Cobb County.
- Promote the development of alternative modes of transportation within Cobb County and improve quality of life for Cobb residents.

STUDY RESULTS

- A continuous trail paralleling the river was determined *unfeasible* at this time, mainly due to regulatory restrictions, site conditions, property boundaries and public sentiment.
- What are the *feasible* alternatives?
 - Two distinctive trail *systems* within the area are possible, including:
 - 1) A multi-use transportation oriented trail system
 - 2) A recreational trail system





CONCEPTUAL MULTI-USE TRANSPORTATION TRAIL SYSTEM RECOMMENDATIONS

- A transportation trail is a hard surface bicycle/pedestrian pathway or a combination of bike lanes and sidewalks that links users to transit and major destinations
- 10' wide concrete trail and 5' wide landscape buffer adjacent to existing roadways
- 4'-6' wide neighborhood connection sidewalks
- Connect to existing, proposed and programmed (funded) trails, such as the Rottenwood Creek Trail
- Provides access to several National Park Service Units including: Gold Branch, Sope Creek, Paces Mill, Johnson Ferry North and Johnson Ferry South
- Trails to be ADA accessible in most areas
- Approximate total trail system mileage, including connecting sections of trails: 21 miles
- Cobb DOT would be responsible for implementation
- Refer to attached map for trail system location
- Estimated Costs: \$19,297,400
- Implementation to be phased in sections over the next 20 years

CONCEPTUAL RECREATIONAL TRAIL SYSTEM RECOMMENDATIONS

- A recreation trail is a soft surface pathway that is primarily used by pedestrians for purposes of nature observation, exercise, education, or leisure
- New trail sections would be 4'-6' wide soft surface trails
- New trails would be limited to hiking/pedestrian uses only
- Provides connections to existing trails in National Park Service properties, such as Cochran Shoals, Sope Creek, Johnson Ferry North and Johnson Ferry South
- Connects to existing, proposed and programmed trails in the area
- Allowed uses along existing trails that are a part of the system would remain. (Cochran Shoals would continue to allow bicycles)
- Approximate total trail system mileage including connecting sections of trails: 10 miles
- Cobb Department of Parks & Recreation would be responsible for implementation
- Refer to map for trail system location
- Estimated Costs: \$2,691,500
- Implementation to be phased in sections over the next 20 years

FUNDING

- Funding for the trail systems could come from a number of different sources, including local, regional, Federal and private sources.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

- This Feasibility Study and Master Plan provides Cobb County with recommendations and tools that can be used in implementing a trail system. It is the first step in a long process of developing, fine tuning, and constructing the trail systems which will provide new opportunities and options for transportation and recreation facilities in Cobb County and the metro-Atlanta area.

For more information on the study, please contact:

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