

# Garrett County

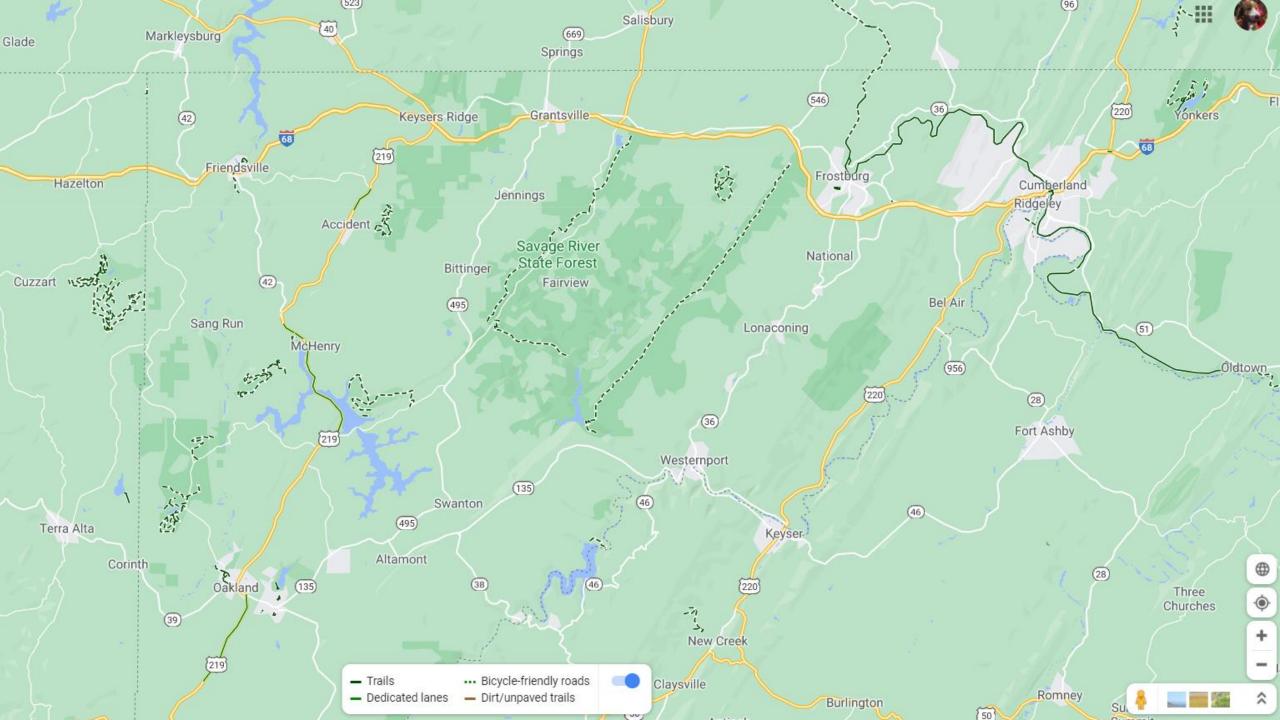
Steve Green High Mountain Sports/Garrett Trails

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### Garrett Trails

- MISSION
- Garrett Trails is a nonprofit, volunteer organization dedicated to the development of a well used network of high-quality, sustainable trails that provide access to Garrett County's historic, municipal, and environmental treasures. Garrett Trails believes outstanding trails are important to the economic development of the County and will promote good health and well being for County residents.





Visitors Center

# Fork Run

42

ver

Bridge

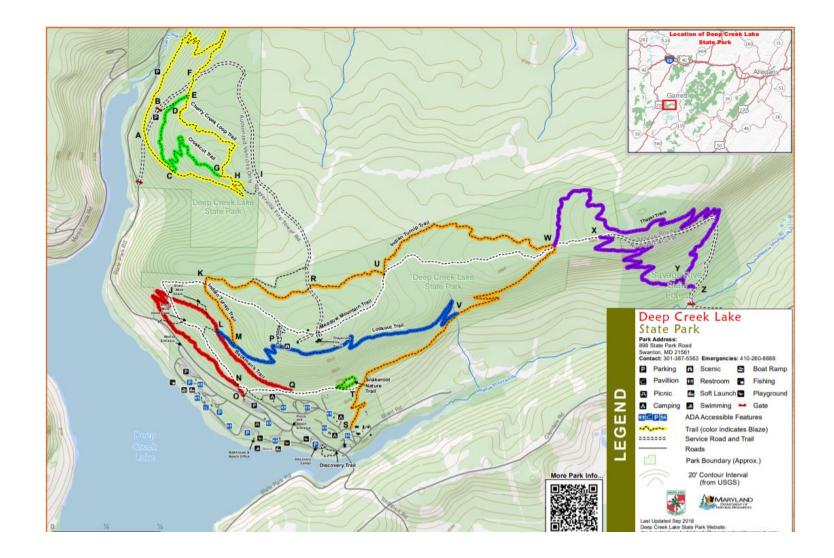
Fork Run

P

Fork Run Parking & Trail Head

×

Youghiogheny Rive



#### Deep Creek State Park



#### Meadow Mountain Trail – Eastern Continental Divide

00% Landsat / Copernicus Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO

Camera: 2,637 m 39\*32'04\*N 78\*57'45

#### Garrett County Gran Fondo

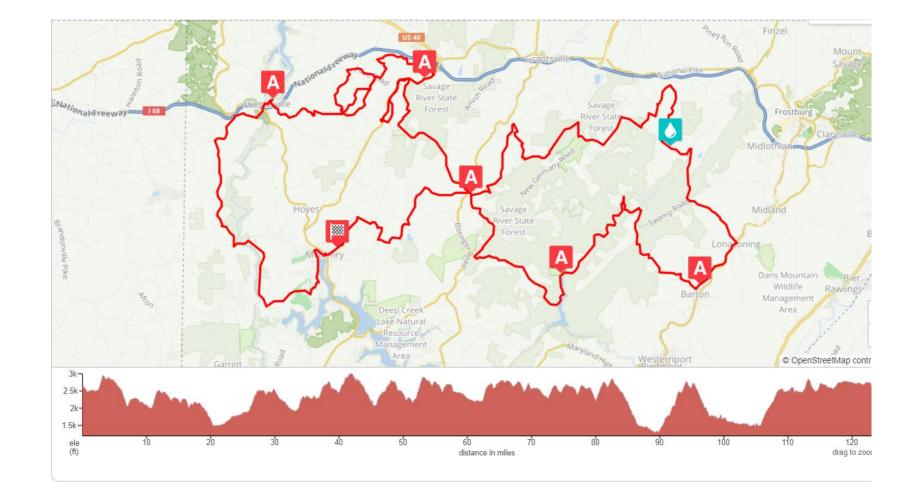
Garrett Trails Fundraiser

5 Rides

Diabolical Double

125 miles

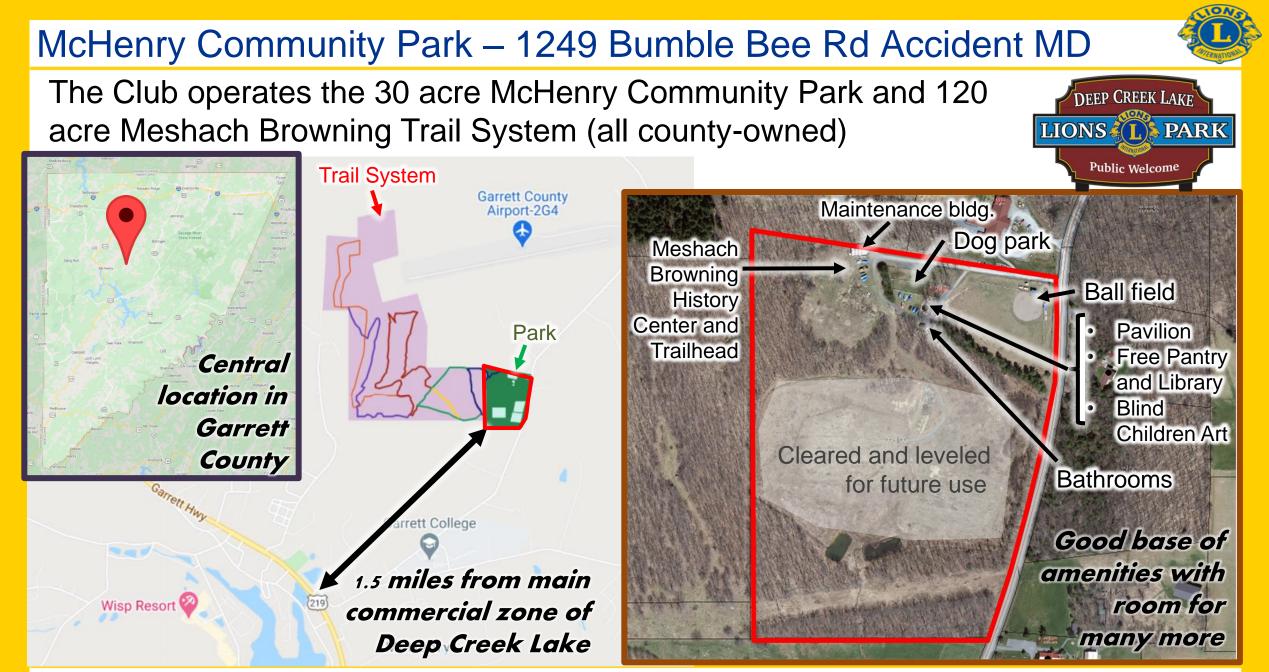
16,500 feet of climbing





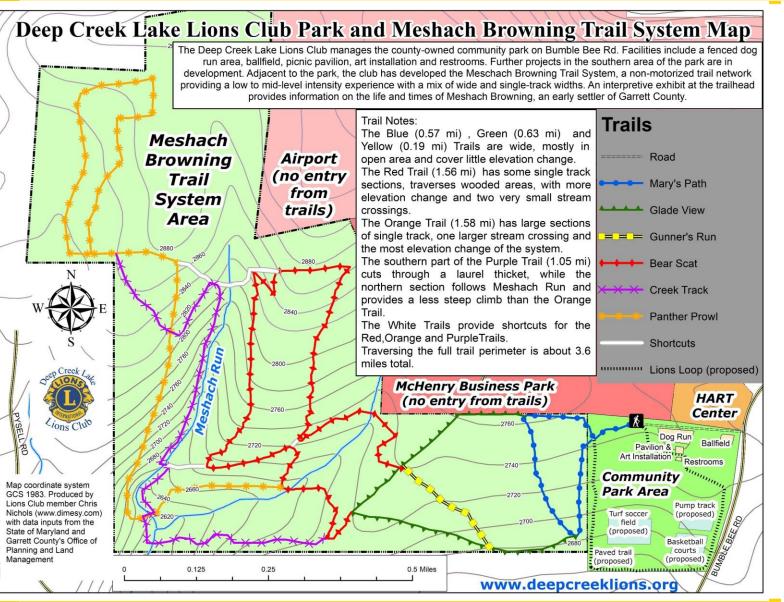
# McHenry Community Park and Meshach Browning Trail System Deep Creek Lake Lions Club





Deep Creek Lake Lions Club – www.deepcreeklions.org – DCLLIONS@gmail.com – 323 325 5466

#### Meshach Browning Trail System



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- Around 8 total miles of nonmotorized use only w/ mix of terrain and difficulty levels
- Some of the only wide and "flat" trail areas in the county
- Opened in 2019 by the Club, developed mostly by linking up existing ATV, tractor and game paths
- All county-owned property that would be difficult to develop for other uses due to airport restrictions and terrain
- Trailhead also has a history center and art installation themed around local historical figure
- Planning to install a Pump Track and paved trail at the park to complement the trail system



#### Deep Creek Lake Lions Club perspective

- What makes Western Maryland unique in terms of bike ped connectivity and successful projects?
  - Club operation of park (versus public entity) streamlines procurement and construction projects
  - County ownership of land that is difficult to do anything with has provided an opportunity for trail development
  - Since we are not a gov entity with dedicated funding for parks, we have gotten creative in developing partnerships and finding money to make projects happen
- What needs does Western MD have that are different from other parts of the state?
  - We are not in a municipality and can't apply for Parks and Playgrounds POS funds
  - No Parks Department or any official organization in County to coordinate funding or projects
  - Terrain will make it hard to entice casual bikers to ride on roads from commercial zone of the lake to our park
- More detail on the DCL Lions Club, the park, trails and proposed pump track in the rest of the presentation

# THE GREAT ALLEGHENY PASSAGE, 2021

MANDELA ECHEFU

MOUNTAIN MARYLAND TRAIL ASSOCIATION

WHEELZUP ADVENTURES (WWW.WHEELZUPADVENTURES.COM)

### **ABOUT THE TRAIL**

- 150 Miles long crushed limestone, built on an abandoned rail bed, grade < 1%</li>
- Cumberland, MD Pittsburgh, PA
- Skirts along 3 rivers (Casselman, Youghiogheny and Monongahela)
- Goes through or close to 3 states (Md, PA, WV) and Washington DC.
- Top 10 long trails Bicycling Magazine

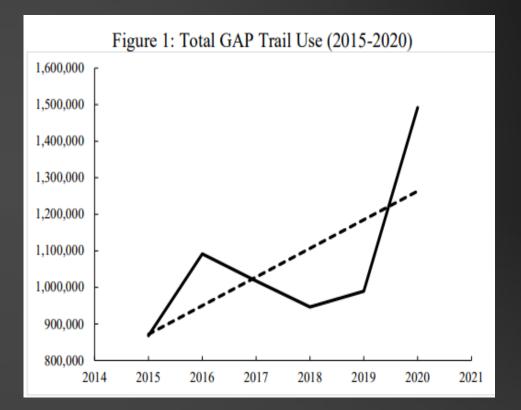
• Long Bike Trails - 10 of the Best Rail Trails in the U.S. (bicycling.com)



### **USAGE IN 2020**

- Estimate of 1.4 1.6 million visits (50.8% increase from 2019)
- Estimated through riders 117,500
- Visitors from all across the country and international riders
- 5 Countries from the Wheelzup shuttle service and many more from trail ambassadors

• <u>2020 Great Allegheny Passage Trail Count Final Report.pdf (gaptrail.org)</u>



#### ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDY

- 2008 study showed tourist spending totaled \$40 million between McKeesport, PA and Cumberland, MD
- On average, the amount spent overnight at a town on the trail was \$124
- Bed and Breakfast and shuttle services already at capacity

#### CHALLENGES/OPPORTUNITIES

- Maintenance
  - Volunteer organizations
  - Raising funds
- Younger Demographic now users of the trail
- New trails being linked to the GAP





#### Making Bicycling a Viable Transportation Alternative





City of Hagerstown, MD Rodney Tissue, P.E., City Engineer April 23, 2021



# Hagerstown has a rich history of cycling...









...some past events included:



- Hagerstown and Washington County hosted a League of American Wheelmen (now League of American Bicyclists) National Rally in July, 1889.
- Pope and Crawford bicycles were manufactured in Hagerstown in the late 1800's and early 1900's. Company later manufactured autos, then taken over by the M. P. Moller Pipe Organ Co.
- Tour Du Pont had Stage Start/Finishes in Hagerstown and Washington County in 1991 and 1992.







League of American Wheelmen National Rally, July 1889 Public Square, Hagerstown, MD





### ....but in Recent History

 2008: No bike routes, handful of bike racks that no one knew about





- Constructed Hamilton Run Trail (1/2 mile) that connects Pangborn park to Fairgrounds park
- One-way street "solution"
- Developed the Hub City Loop (10 miles mostly "on street")













#### **Development of Bicycle Master Plan**

- Solicited part-time help to draft in-house
- Public meeting
- Mayor & Council support & adoption



#### **Bicycle Master Plan**







Adopted by Mayor & City Council March 23, 2010

Prepared By The Department of Engineering and Code Administration & The Planning Department

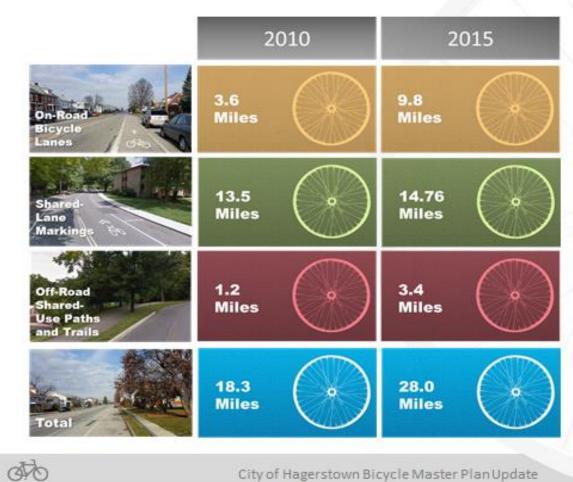
Hey Hagerstown....Take a Bike!



#### **Bicycle Master Plan**



#### The Existing Bicycle Network



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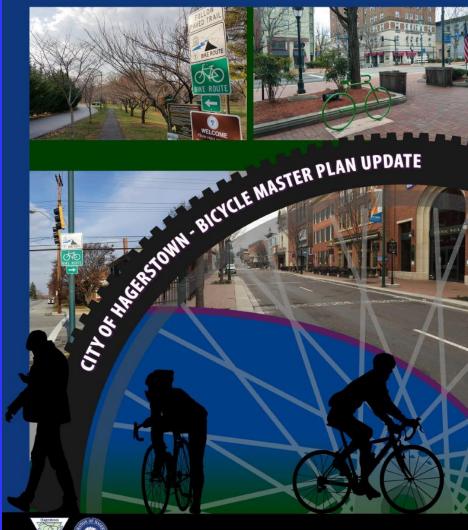


#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Bicycle Master Plan

- Prepapered by our MPO by consultant
- Public meetings and input
- Studied demands and comfort levels of cyclists



#### **Bicycle Master Plan**





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CORPORT

Submitted to : Hagerstown/Eastern Panhandle Metropolitan Planning Organization and the City of Hagerstown, Maryland Adopted by Mayor and City Council - May 24, 2016

Submitted by: Michael Baker International, Inc.



#### **Bicycle Master Plan**



#### Recommendations Safety (policy recommendations) Infrastructure (on-road, off-road) Amenities (bike racks) **Further Study** Events / Marketing Signage dło 17 City of Hagerstown Bicycle Master Plan Update



### Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC)



- Appointed by City Council (started June 2010)
- 6 citizen members
- Tasked with implementing the Master Plan
- Developed Route Map (copies available). Map has been printed three times, 8000 copies are "in circulation".
- Develop Bicycle-related Events (May)
- Met with various groups (safety, Board of Education, Bikes for the World, SHA, DNR)



#### **Bike Map Excerpt**









### **Bike Month Events**

- Poster
- Mural
- 'Ride of Silence'
- 'Ride with the Mayor'
- Designated Rides
- "Tour of Washington County Downtown Criterium Race"





## **Ride of Silence**









#### "Tour of Washington County Downtown Criterium Race"









#### Help the City get from... Fall 2014 2014-2018 LEAGUE THE LEAGUE THE BRONZE SILVER OF AMERICAN BICYCLISTS OF AMERICAN BICYCLISTS



#### **Current Statistics**



- 14.8 miles of on-street bike lanes
- 23.4 miles of designated bike routes
- 17.6 miles of SHA bike routes
- 3.5 miles on multi-use paths
- TOTAL of 59.3 miles





### ...24 bicycle racks Citywide



#### Bike Rack Locations

Bike racks come in all shapes, sizes, and colors. Look for racks at the locations listed below. The bike rack locations, represented by the "•" icon on the map are approximate.

#### City Center Locations:

- Lower level A&E Parking Deck near office
- Parking lot side at entrance to Elizabeth Hager Center
- SW quadrant of Public Square at Professional Arts Building
- NW quadrant of Public Square
- Front of County Courthouse
- University Plaza in alcove near HPD office entrance
- Rear of the Bus Transfer Center
- Library Entrance on Potomac
- Library Entrance rear lower level
- Alcove off N. Potomac at University District Parking Deck
- Front of United States Post Office
- Front of Department of Social Services
- Parking lot side of Farmers Market
- Front of the Robert W. Johnson Community Center
- Front of the Martin Luther King Community Center

#### City Park Locations:

- In front of Museum of Fine Arts
- Opposite end of parking lot from the 911 Memorial
- Near concession stand

#### Fairgrounds Park Locations:

- Front door of Ice and Sports Complex
- South end of outdoor hockey rink
- Near northern playground equipment
- Pangborn Park Location:

#### Near restroom

#### Potterfield Pool/Staley Park Location:

At rear of upper parking lot

#### Municipal Stadium Location:

In parking lot near Ticket Booth



Lessons Learned



# Master Plans are important Energetic and focused BAC is essential

Cyclists come in many types





## **Questions / Comments?**

**Contact Info:** 

Rodney Tissue, P.E. City Engineer Hagerstown, Maryland (301) 739-8577 ext. 128 rtissue@hagerstownmd.org

## **Coyotes in Garrett County**



### Garrett Composite MTB Team

Joined MICL 2018

MICL - <u>marylandmtb.org</u> NICA - <u>https://www.nationalmtb.org/</u>

Current team info:

14 coaches

30 riders 6th grade - 12th grade

We saw the need to have a beginner trail in Garrett County Mountains

to simply get more kids on bikes!



### **Broadford Park Trails**

Town owned property

Current Funding Raised : \$68,000

\$50,000 Maryland Bond Bill

\$12,000 Community Trust Foundation

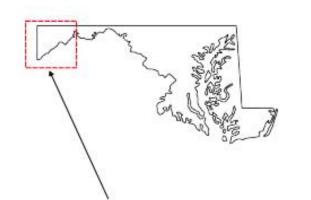
\$5,000 Town of Mountain Lake Park

\$1,000 Garrett Regional Medical Center

Goal: 3 miles of trail: \$160,000

Future Skills Bike Park: \$100,000





#### Broadford Park Trail System:

Conceptual Design



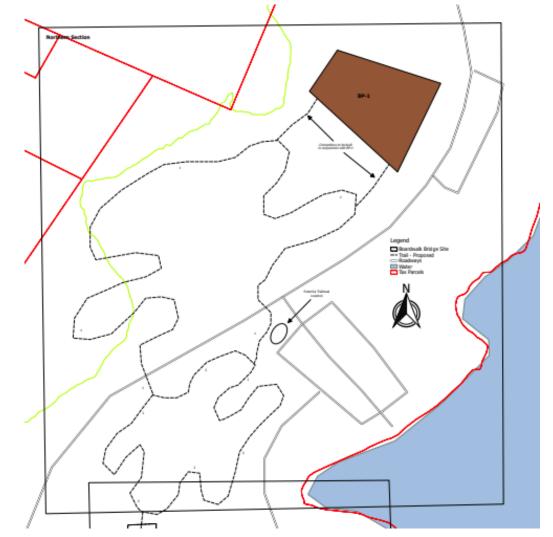
Broadford Park Trail System

3 miles beginner trail w/skill park



Phase 1 About 1 mile of stacked loops.

Projected completion: June 2021



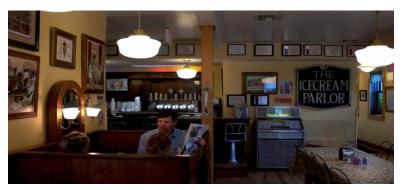


LIMIT

SOC

## **GAP** Average Spending

- 2008 Average Overnight Spending \$98
- 2010 Average Overnight Spending \$114
- 2015 Average Overnight Spending \$124
- 2008 Average Daily Spending \$13
- 2010 Average Daily Spending \$17
- 2015 Average Daily Spending \$18



## **GAP Trail User Demographics**

45-55 age largest group of users

35% earn a household income over \$100,000



# **Desired Lodging**

## Bed & Breakfasts Hotels Motels Resorts Country inns / lodges Primitive camping RV camping



### **Desired Services**

# Restaurants / cafes Bike sales / repair shops



Grocery stores Gift shops Train service Taverns / bars Local arts / crafts Galleries / antiques

# **Design Issues**

- Signs
- **Kiosks**
- Brochures
- **Bike racks**
- Sidewalks
- Crosswalks
- Public art
- Visitor centers



### Give them what they want and need!!!!



## **Get Creative**





## **Economic Research**

User surveys Business surveys Trail counts Business opportunities



## **Trail Town Stories**



# Crabby Pig Restaurant



## Harvey's Florist Shop



## **Cumberland Trail Connection**



#### Joe Rogers, Regional Planner, Western Maryland, Maryland Department of Planning Joseph.rogers@maryland.gov

