



**FFLAG Pathway Study
2nd Public Meeting
August 11, 2016**

MEETING NOTES

The second public meeting to discuss the Grant County Trail Corridor was held on August 11, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. at the Williamstown High School Cafeteria. Approximately forty residents participated in the session. Mayor Rick Skinner, mayor of Williamstown, provided the welcome and introductions. Tad Long, consultant with the Kentucky League of Cities, introduced the team members who are preparing the study and provided an overview of the presentation.

The meeting was divided into two parts. Steve Austin presented the team's initial findings, i.e. constructing a thirty-mile linear park/trail system is feasible from a design standpoint. His presentation gave preliminary details about the potential routes of the trail as well as the multiple uses of the route.

Steve recommended that trailheads be established about every two miles, on average, along the route to allow ease-of-access for patrons. He shared examples of the wide variety of amenities that could be included, from very primitive to full-blown welcome stations. The idea is to create a diverse trail "spine" that roughly follows I-75 north to south in Grant County and that connects points of interest throughout the county. In addition, the spine of the trail will provide "stubs" so that other trail spurs can be developed off the main trail for special interest users. Steve stated that the routes are not set in stone and that some aspects of it would certainly change as cost estimates were completed and rights-of-way are pursued.

At the conclusion of the presentation, Steve asked for questions or concerns from the audience. He elaborated on the types of trails, the compatibility of trail uses and discussed the alternative routes in more detail.

The second part of the meeting was called "walk and talk." Large maps of the proposed trail routes were displayed throughout the cafeteria. Participants were asked to examine the maps and provide any critical information that the consultants needed or suggestions to make the trail better. The consultants and members of FFLAG made notes of the suggestions and posted them on the maps.

Walk and Talk Comments

- Contact Kentucky Transportation Cabinet regarding tunnels under I-75 that may be accessible to cross over the highway. Node 20, 21, 44 and others.
- Hikers like hiking loops. Identify more potential hiking loops to attract this demographic group.
- At node 15 – if that is a bike only crossing, where will pedestrians cross?
- Is it possible to designate primitive hiking and camping around Boltz Lake? Node 21
- Noticed a lot of visitors with bikes at the Ark Encounter Park. Is it possible to making that a trailhead for bikes and take the trail north to Dry Ridge?
- Science Museum – solar system along the Lansing River Trail in Michigan is a great example of a bigger connection than just walking a trail. Activities along the trail that interest people are big draws to these destinations. Please take this idea into consideration while developing the trail system.
- Is it possible to create a horse riding trail along the route at nodes 41 to 49?
- Identify possible horseback trails in the southern end of the county.
- Hikers enjoy long trails with a lot of loops. Consider designating more areas along the interstate as places for primitive camping and hiking. If Grant County is going to attract regional hikers, the trail system has to be longer than just a few miles in one section.
- Horseback riders and the Saddle Club will commit time and resources to develop trail stubs if they are included in the plan.

The next public meeting will be held on Thursday, October 6, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. tentatively at Williamstown High School. The consultants will update the community about the trail route and present preliminary cost estimates of the trail.