



November 18, 2008

Thank you for attending the public information open house for CSHPP-0007-00(561), P.I. No. 0007561, the proposed project will construct a multi-use path along an abandoned section of the CSX Railroad bed in downtown Athens. In this handout package you will find a project description, location map and comment card.

As you enter the room, you will notice displays of the proposed project. Officials from the Athens-Clarke Unified Government, project design firm and Department of Transportation (DOT) representatives, who can be identified by the nametags they are wearing, are available to discuss the project and answer your questions. Please take this opportunity to discuss the project with a representative. There will be no formal presentation.

A court reporter will be available for those persons who would like to make a verbal statement about the project. You may also complete a comment card and deposit it into the box provided here or send in written comments about the project until November 28, 2008. Written comments should be sent to Mr. Glenn Bowman, P.E., State Environmental/Location Engineer, Georgia Department of Transportation, 3993 Aviation Circle, Atlanta, Georgia 30336-1593. Comments can also be made via the web at www.dot.ga.gov. Click on **Public Outreach** from the **Information Center** dropdown menu at the top right side of the page. All comments will be made a part of the project record. We hope you will take advantage of one of these opportunities to let the Department know your view of the proposal.

The displays and plans will be available for review for ten days after the public information open house at the Athens-Clarke County City Hall located at 301 College Avenue, Room 101, Athens, Georgia 30601, the Georgia Department of Transportation, Gainesville District Office located at 2505 Athens Hwy, SE, Gainesville, GA 30507, and the Georgia Department of Transportation Athens Area Office located at 450 Old Hull Road, Athens, Georgia 30601. A copy of all comments received will be available for public review at the Georgia Department of Transportation Gainesville District Office, 2505 Athens Highway, Gainesville, GA 30507 and at the Office of Environment/Location, 3993 Aviation Circle, Atlanta, GA 30336-1593, as soon as compilation is completed.

Again, thank you for attending this public information open house and for giving us your comments. If you should have any questions or need additional information, feel free to contact the project manager, Billy Cantrell at 770-718-5530 or Kim Coley, District Environmentalist at 770-532-5582 of the Gainesville District Office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Russell McMurry".

Russell McMurry, P.E.
District Engineer
Gainesville District Office

RM/kc

Attachments

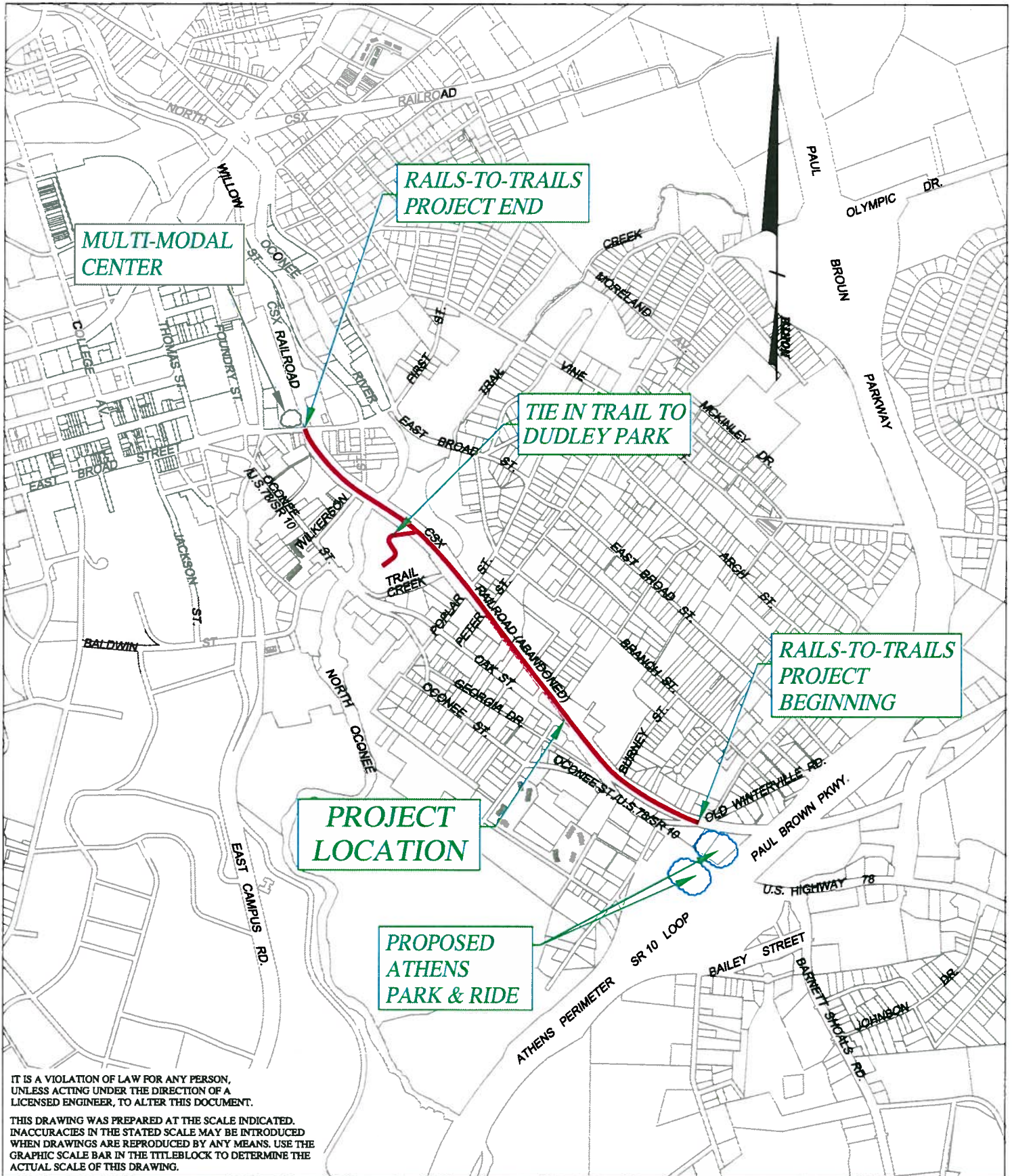
**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
STATE OF GEORGIA
Project Number: CSHPP-0007-00(561),
P. I. No. 0007561
Athens-Clarke County
Rails to Trails Project**

Description of Project

The project entails the design and construction of a 14-ft wide asphalt paved multi-use trail including three bridges. The project, located in Downtown Athens, encompasses the use of an abandoned railroad bed located from the intersection with Old Winterville Road and ultimately ending on East Broad Street. The proposed multi-use trail will be approximately one mile.

The trail will begin at grade from Old Winterville Road and follow along the abandoned railroad bed to Peter Street. A single span prefabricated pedestrian bridge structure will be used to cross Peter Street and then the trail follows a short distance at grade to another single span prefabricated pedestrian bridge over Poplar Street. The existing structure crossing Trail Creek is a wooden trestle better known locally as the Murmur Trestle which begins at Poplar Street (the trestle used to cross this street). The trestle will be inspected for structural soundness and will either be utilized for the foundation for the pedestrian trail decking to traverse over, or if found unsuitable a new bridge will be required to span the roadway and creek. The trail then returns to grade for a short distance to the North Oconee River crossing. This abandoned section of the railroad contains existing piers of a bridge over the North Oconee River and Wilkerson Street. The project will include the design and construction of a pedestrian bridge utilizing the existing piers to span the North Oconee River and Wilkerson Street, then the trail will come back on grade for a short section before the end of the project at East Broad Street.

The project beginning is at the location of the proposed Athens Park and Ride Lot (near SR 10/US 78/Oconee Street and the SR 10 Loop) and ends within walking distance of the Athens Multi-Modal Transportation Center. The project also includes the construction of a tie in point for Dudley Park (near the Poplar Street crossing).



O'BRIEN & GERE

Engineering and Project Delivery

2500 Atlanta Hwy., Suite 510
Athens, GA. 30606

SCALE: 1" = 1200'

CSHPP-0007-00(561)
ATHENS-CLARKE COUNTY
RAILS-TO-TRAILS PROJECT
LOCATION MAP

Georgia Department of Transportation

Public Information Open House Comment Card

Project CSHPP-0007-00(561), Athens-Clarke County, P.I. No. 0007561

Rails to Trails Project

Please print responses.

Name _____

Address _____

Do you support the project? ☐ For ☐ Against ☐ Conditional ☐ Uncommitted

Comments _____

How did you hear about this meeting? ☐ Radio ☐ Newspaper ☐ Signs ☐ Word of Mouth
☐ Other _____

Was the location of the meeting convenient for you to attend? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If no, please suggest a general location that is more convenient to your community.

Was the time of the meeting convenient for you to attend? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If no, please suggest a time frame that is more convenient for you. _____

Were your questions answered by the DOT personnel? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Do you understand the project after attending this meeting? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Please share your suggestions on improving the way Georgia DOT conducts public meetings.

Mail To:

Mr. Glenn Bowman, P.E., State Environmental/Location Engineer
Georgia Department of Transportation
3993 Aviation Circle
Atlanta, GA 30336-1593