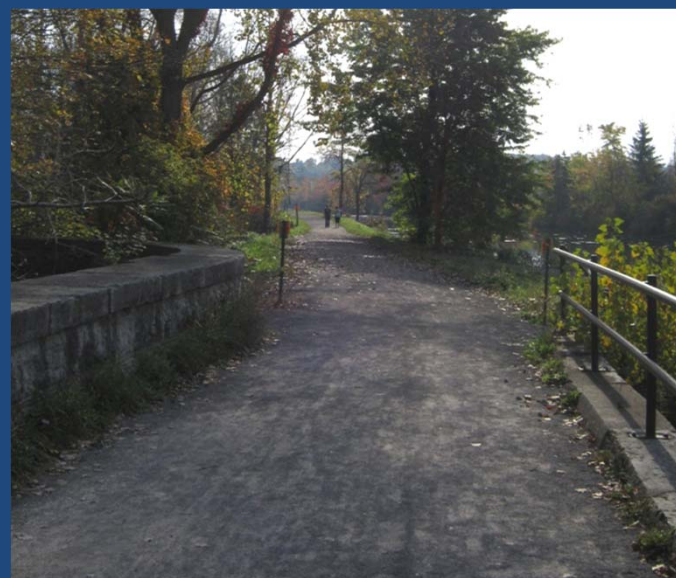
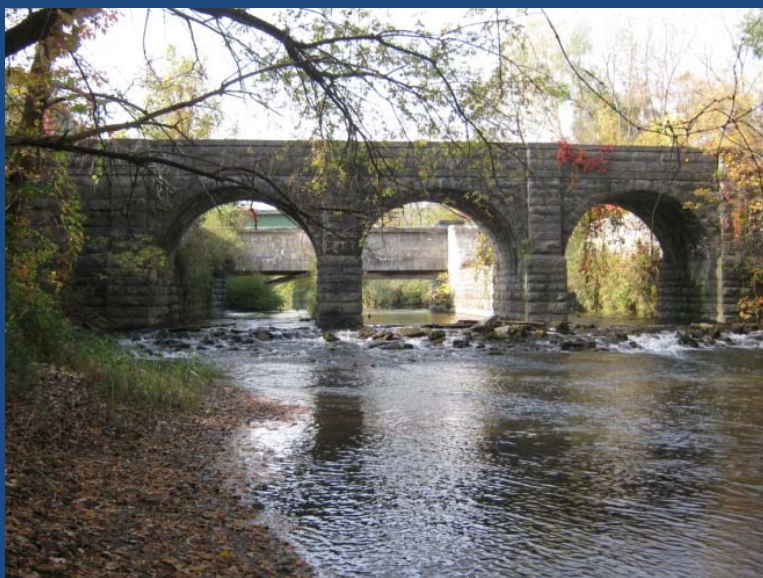


# ERIE CANALWAY TRAIL SYRACUSE CONNECTOR ROUTE

Onondaga County Planning Federation  
26<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium

March 13, 2014



# Erie Canalway Trail

SYRACUSE CONNECTOR ROUTE PROJECT

- Requested by City of Syracuse, SMTC
- Re-establish Working Group to discuss routing of Canalway Trail through Syr



*Old Erie Canal State Park, photo courtesy John Dimura (Canal Corporation)*



# Erie Canalway Trail Syracuse Connector Route Project

## **PURPOSE:**

Develop an Implementation Plan for completing the Erie Canalway Trail through Syracuse (connection between Camillus & DeWitt)



# Erie Canalway Trail

SYRACUSE CONNECTOR ROUTE PROJECT

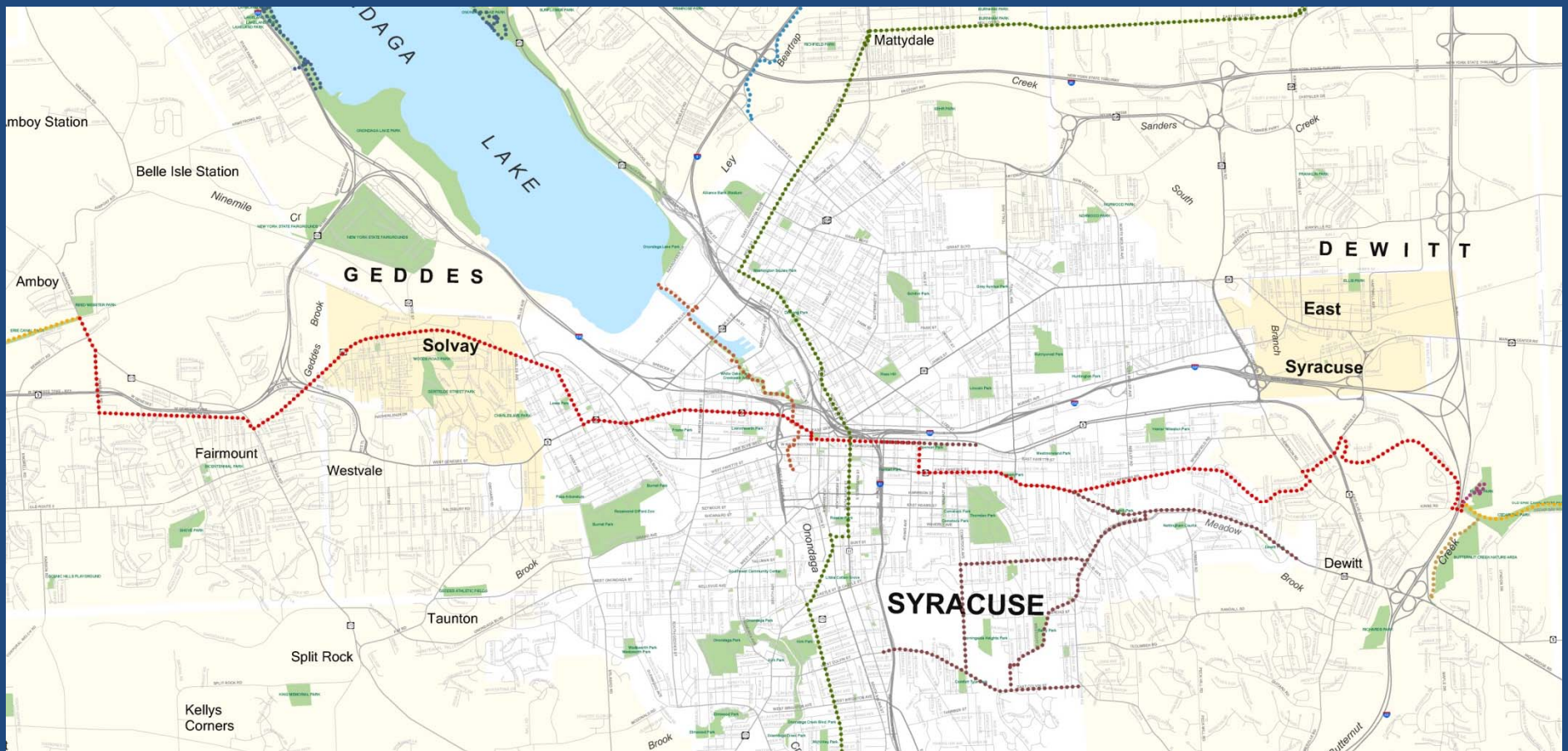
## MAJOR TASKS:

1. Develop short-term, on-road signed route (Part I)
2. Develop permanent route, off-road to the extent possible/desired (Part II)



*Old Erie Canal State Park, photo courtesy John Dimura (Canal Corporation)*





# Erie Canalway Gap

Between Camillus and DeWitt

- Erie Canal Trail
- Unsigned On-Road Erie Canal Trail
- Bear Trap Creek Bikeway
- Bike Lane
- Bike Route 11
- Bike Route 5
- Butternut Creek Trail
- Onondaga Lake Park Trail
- Eastern Shore Recreational Trail
- John Haley Memorial West Shore Trail
- Lakeland Nature Trail
- Shoreline Walking Trail
- Onondaga Creekwalk
- Ryder Trail

# Erie Canalway Trail

SYRACUSE CONNECTOR ROUTE PROJECT

## Study Advisory Committee:

- Centro
- CNYRPDB
- City of Syracuse: DPW, Planning & Sustainability, Engineering
- Downtown Committee of Syracuse
- Municipalities: Camillus, DeWitt, Geddes, Solvay
- New York State: DEC, DOT, Canal Corporation, Thruway Authority
- Onondaga County: DOT, SOCPA

# Public Involvement

ERIE CANALWAY TRAIL - SYRACUSE CONNECTOR ROUTE PROJECT

- SAC Meetings: 4 during Part I
- Public Meeting: July 2012
- Working Group Meeting: November 2012





# Background



## Previous Studies:

- Canalway Trail Gap Assessment Report (PTNY) November 1998
- Canalway Trail Through Syracuse (SMTC B/PAC) February 1999
- Closing the Gaps: A Progress Report on the Erie Canalway Trail (CTANY, PTNY) 2012, 2011, 2010
- Campaign to Close the Gaps (Senator Gillibrand) Fall 2010
- Cycling the Erie Canal Guidebook (PTNY) 2012, 2007
- Friends of the Onondaga Canalway Trail (FOCT) SMTC involvement 2001-2003



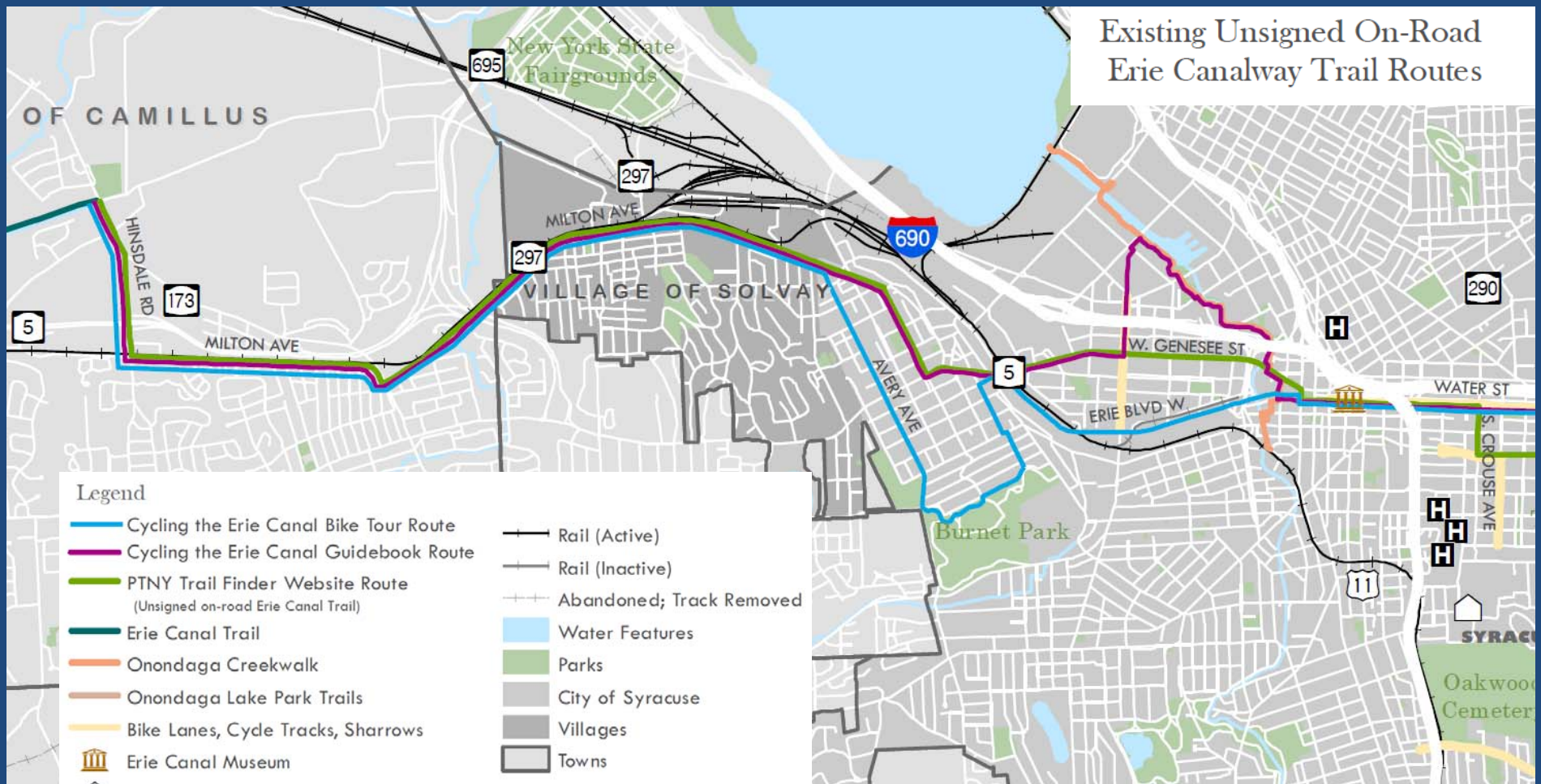
# Part I: Short-term Route

## Gap Inventory:

- GIS mapping
- Concurrent Projects
  - SMTC Bicycle Commuter Corridor Study
  - City/Syracuse Draft Bike Infrastructure Master Plan
- Cycling the Erie Canal 2011 – Feedback Survey
- SMTC Erie Canalway Trail Survey

# Part I: Short-term Route

Existing Unsigned On-Road Erie Canalway Trail Routes



- Legend**
- Cycling the Erie Canal Bike Tour Route
  - Cycling the Erie Canal Guidebook Route
  - PTNY Trail Finder Website Route (Unsigned on-road Erie Canal Trail)
  - Erie Canal Trail
  - Onondaga Creekwalk
  - Onondaga Lake Park Trails
  - Bike Lanes, Cycle Tracks, Sharrows
  - Erie Canal Museum
  - Universities
  - Hospitals
  - Rail (Active)
  - Rail (Inactive)
  - Abandoned; Track Removed
  - Water Features
  - Parks
  - City of Syracuse
  - Villages
  - Towns



# Part I: Short-term Route

## Gap Inventory:

- GIS mapping
- Concurrent Projects
  - SMTC Bicycle Commuter Corridor Study
  - City/Syracuse Draft Bike Infrastructure Master Plan
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- SMTC Erie Canalway Trail Survey





# Current Users



## Parks & Trails New York Annual Trail Ride Survey, 2011

### Positives:

- Museums
- Historic Sites
- Boat rides
- Zoo
- Dining
- Guided tours
- Cultural Events



Photo, <http://www.eriecanalcamillus.com/boat.htm>



# Current Users



## Parks & Trails New York Annual Trail Ride Survey, 2011

### Negatives:

- Unsigned Route
- Poor road markings
- Traffic congestion
- Hills
- "Salt Springs to Orrick to Towpath Rd the most dangerous route of the trip – Erie Blvd would have been better"



*Intersection of Erie Blvd, Orrick Rd, and Bridge St*

# Part I: Short-term Route

## Gap Inventory:

- GIS mapping
- Concurrent Projects
  - SMTC Bicycle Commuter Corridor Study
  - City/Syracuse Draft Bike Infrastructure Master Plan
- Cycling the Erie Canal 2011 – Feedback Survey
- **SMTC Erie Canalway Trail Survey**
  - Most important: OFF ROAD ROUTE & FOLLOW HISTORIC ROUTE





# Part I: Short-term Route

## Working Group Meeting (Nov '12):

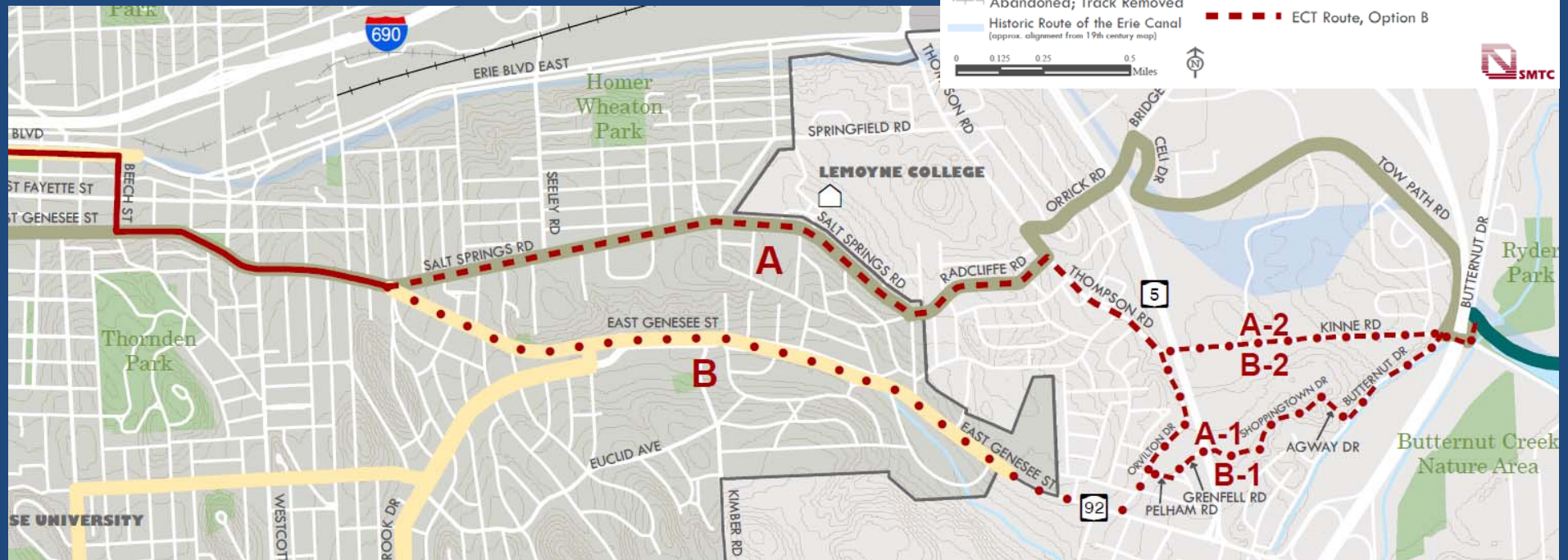
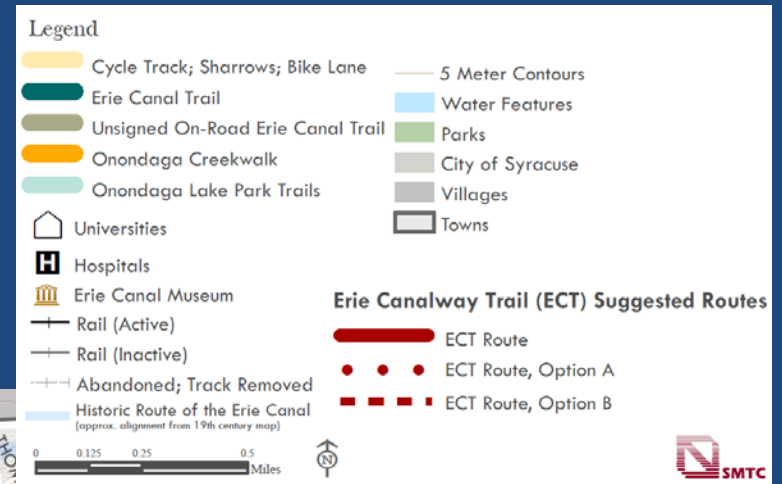
- Reviewed on-road suggestions from July 2012 public meeting
- Shared routes they used
- Accommodate pedestrians as much as possible
- "Easy to implement"



# Part I: Short-term Route

## SAC meeting (March 2013)

- Reviewed Working Group suggestions
- Again: Accommodate pedestrians & focus on “easy to implement” suggestions



# Part I: Short-term Route

**Table 5-1: Part I – On-Road Erie Canalway Trail Suggested Bike Treatments and Pedestrian Options**

ROAD NAME	FROM	TO	SUGGESTED BIKE TREATMENT	SUGGESTED PEDESTRIAN OPTION	ROAD OWNER	NOTES
Warners Road/Rt 173	Erie Canal Park entrance (on Warners Rd/Rt 173)	Milton Ave	Wide shoulders and/or bike lanes	Shoulders	OCDOT	
Milton Ave/Rt 297	Warners Rd/Onondaga Rd/Rt 173	Between Brooks St & Bailey St (V/Solvay)	Wide shoulders and/or bike lanes	Shoulders	OCDOT	
Milton Ave/Rt 297	Between Brooks St & Bailey St (V/Solvay)	Erie Blvd West	Shared lane markings (sharrows)	Sidewalks	Village of Solvay (to City Line); City of Syracuse (City line to Erie Blvd W)	
<b>OPTION A</b>						
Erie Blvd West	Milton Ave/Rt 297	Franklin St	Bike lanes	Sidewalks & shoulders (where feasible. Sections of Erie Blvd West have no shoulder and no sidewalk)	City of Syracuse	City has bike facility plans for Erie Blvd from City line into Clinton Sq
<b>OPTION B</b>						
Erie Blvd West	Milton Ave/Rt 297	W Hiawatha Blvd	Bike lanes	Sidewalks & shoulders	City of Syracuse	City has bike facility plans for Erie Blvd from City line into Clinton Sq
W Hiawatha Blvd	Erie Blvd West	State Fair Blvd	Sharrows	Sidewalks & foot paths	City of Syracuse	
State Fair Blvd	W Hiawatha Blvd	Park Ave	Sharrows; contra-flow bike lane (block between W Genesee St and Park Ave)	Sidewalks & shoulders	City of Syracuse	



# Part I: Short-term Route

## Potential on-road Treatments:

- Paved shoulders
- Bike lanes
- Sharrows
- Contra-flow bike lane



Olympia, Washington  
[www.pedbikeimages.org/Dan Burden](http://www.pedbikeimages.org/Dan_Burden)



# Part I: Short-term Route

## Signing:

- Canal Corporation to provide trailblazers
- Directional arrows with "TO"
- SMTC will help coordinate with road owners





# Erie Canalway Trail

SYRACUSE CONNECTOR ROUTE PROJECT

## MAJOR TASKS:

1. Develop short-term, on-road signed route (Part I)
2. Develop permanent route, off-road to the extent possible/desired (Part II)



*Old Erie Canal State Park, photo courtesy John Dimura (Canal Corporation)*



# Part 2: Permanent Route

## Things to Consider:

- Off-road to the extent possible/desired
- Variety of users
- Historic route
- Urban experience
  - Downtown Syracuse, Erie Canal Museum, MOST, Creekwalk, Connections to Onon. Lake trails



# Part 2: Permanent Route

## Challenges/Opportunities:

- Finding “champion(s)”
- Potential property issues & opportunities
- Funding sources
- Maintenance/upkeep



*Erie Canalway Trail, photo courtesy John Dimura (Canal Corporation)*

# Next Steps – Part 2

- Spring - Summer 2014
  - Work w/road owners to sign temporary on-road route
  - Mapping for Part II (SAC ideas, property ownership)
  - Bring in property owners as needed (Honeywell, National Grid, CSX, others?)
  - Public meeting for Part II
  - Draft final report
  - Report through SMTC Committee structure



# ERIE CANALWAY TRAIL SYRACUSE CONNECTOR ROUTE

[www.smtcmpo.org](http://www.smtcmpo.org)

(Final Reports/Show All)

## Thank You!

