

Lebanon Valley Rail Trail Phase 10B Project

Project Description:

The proposed Lebanon Valley Rail Trail (LVRT) Phase 10B improvement project is an approximate two (2-mile) rural rail-trail extending through Union Township, Lebanon County. The project limits are completely contained within Union Township. The southern terminus of the project is located south of Interstate 78, east of Pine Tree Road. The trail continues north to the intersection of Pennsylvania Route 72 (PA 72) and Lickdale Road. The proposed trail represents a portion of the Lebanon Valley Rail Trail system which extends 25.7 miles from the border with Lancaster County near Bellaire, North to the Swatara Rail Trail at Lickdale Road in Lebanon County. The trail system promotes the use of bike, mountain biking, walking, and cross-country skiing.

The proposed trail improvement project will include converting an existing abandoned railbed to a shared use pedestrian trail. This conversion will consist of re-stabilizing the railbed, shoulder grading, and installation of subbase and asphalt trail surface. The project also includes the construction of various minor pipe crossings, two bridges (one superstructure replacement over Forge Creek and one complete crossing structure), and signing and pavement markings. The proposed project will follow the former rail line. Construction of the trail will require coordination with adjacent landowners. Construction activities are not anticipated to impact farmer's access in the project area.

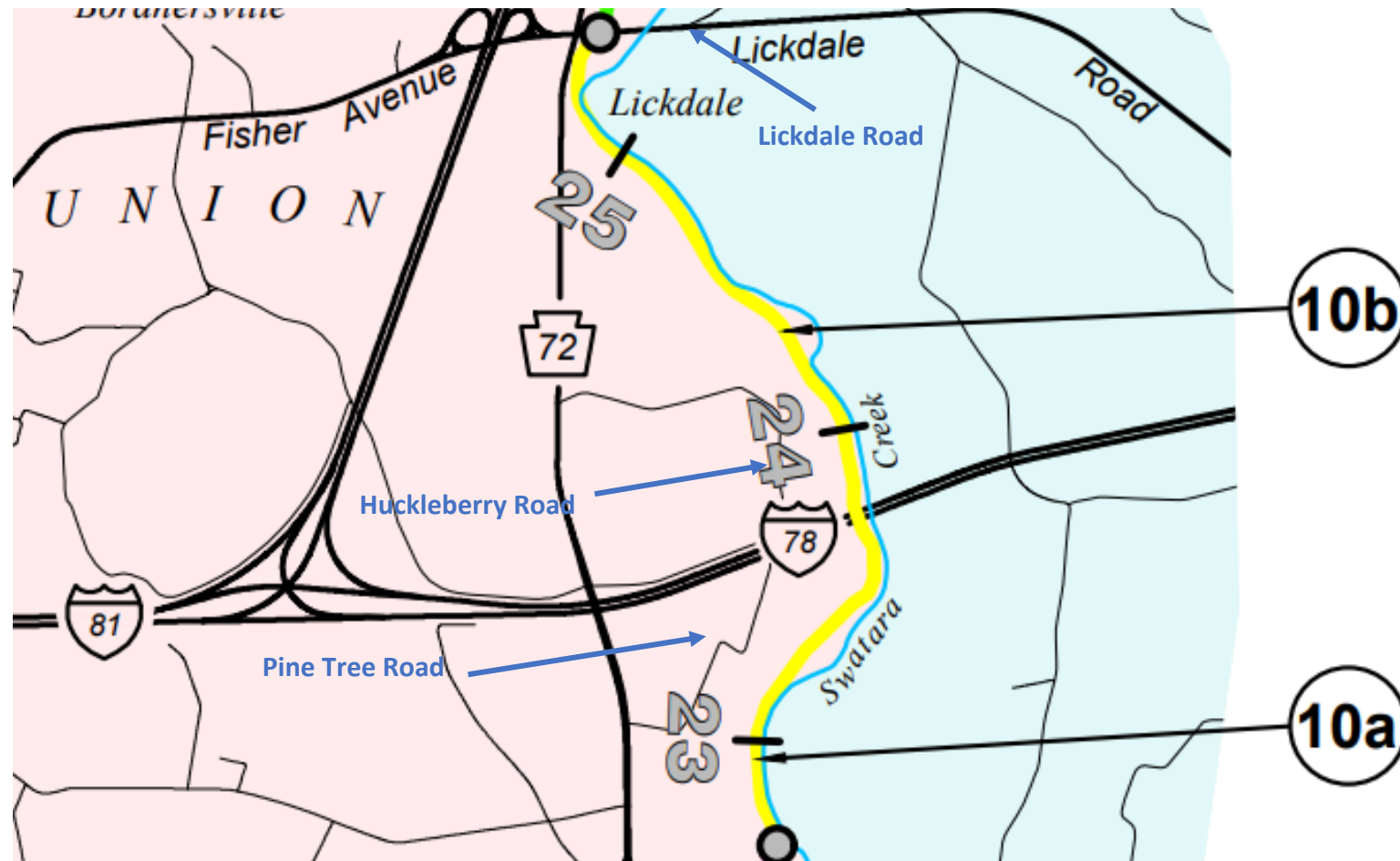
Publicly owned recreation resources are protected under Section 4(f) of the U.S. Department of Transportation Act of 1966 for all federally funded transportation projects. Section 4(f) also applies to historic resources that have been listed on or determined eligible for listing. The proposed trail follows the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad, which is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP); however, the tracks for the railroad have been removed and there are no standing structures related to the railroad within the project area. A No Effect to the NHRP eligible railroad and a Section 4(f) No Use documentation are anticipated.

Project Purpose:

The purpose of the project is to provide a non-motorized trail link/transportation corridor from the Lebanon Valley Rail Trail Section 10A (southern terminus) and continuing north to Lickdale Road (northern terminus).

Project Need:

This section of trail does not currently exist, and the area lacks a connection from the current end of the LVRT network into Lickdale. In addition, there is no structure currently allowing for pedestrian crossing over an Unnamed Tributary to the Swatara Creek in the northern quadrant of the project area; therefore, a pedestrian truss is proposed for this stream crossing. The existing structure allowing for pedestrian crossing over Forge Creek requires a superstructure replacement.



Project Schedule:

- June 2027** Construction Begins
- October 2028** Construction Completion

