



ANNUAL REPORT

20
22



Image Courtesy of Visit Erie



WHO WE ARE: An alliance of non-profit organizations, local municipalities, supporters, and advocates affiliated with the Erie to Pittsburgh Trail corridor.

OUR VISION: A system of non-motorized, multi-use trails, and local connectors linking Erie to Pittsburgh through the experience of small towns, rural landscapes, historic sites, and cultural areas, tied to regional trails and beyond.

OUR MISSION: The Alliance's Mission is to advocate for the development of the continuous trail; to assist our local partners by sharing expertise and resources; to promote the trail for its regional significance and encourage local and broader connections.

Dear Supporters,

Last year, 2022, resulted in many good things along the Erie to Pittsburgh Trail (EPT) corridor. The trails being weaved together to comprise the EPT had great successes in furthering the development of the trail network. We want to thank those spearheading the trail development for these trails; these people are the champions.

Thanks to funding from the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Partnership Program grant, we were able to contract with a consultant to work with trail groups along the EPT network, assisting with filling some of the trail gaps and providing education on building a sustainable trail with lower annual maintenance costs.

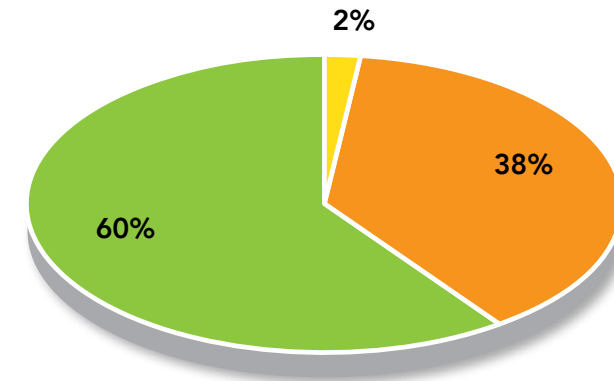
We expanded our outreach by hosting a trail summit in September, where we were able to learn and network. Over 3,000 EPT brochures were distributed and we continue to grow our digital presence through our website and social media.

The Connections Committee of the Alliance completed an assessment of our gaps, allowing us to outline a strategy towards completion. With only 30% left, the Alliance now has priorities set across the seven counties. This allows the EPT to continue advocacy at state and national levels while emphasizing the trail's importance to our communities' economics, health, and recreation.

As an all-volunteer organization, we could not do what we do without your support, and we thank you!

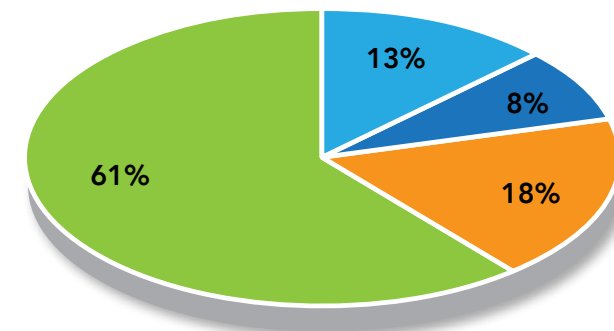
Here's to a prosperous 2023! Happy Trails,
The Erie to Pittsburgh Trail Directors

2022 FINANCIALS



■ Merchandise ■ Grants ■ Donations ■ Misc.

REVENUE: \$44,201.08



■ Professional ■ Administrative ■ Promotions ■ Educations ■ Merchandise

EXPENDITURES: \$44,201.08

ACCOMPLISHMENTS ALONG THE CORRIDOR

ALLEGHENY RIVER TRAIL

- Received \$59,000 from the PNC Foundation to complete the engineering and construction of a door for the southern portal of the Rockland Tunnel.
- Kicked off the Engineering for the Richey Run Bridge Rehab located at the southern boundary of Venango County on the corridor being developed into the trail.
- Received \$16,000 for rehabilitation of the porch area and new energy-efficient windows on the first floor of the visitor center along the trail across the Allegheny River from Franklin.

OIL CREEK STATE PARK TRAIL

- Continued engineering for the first mile of the trail from Petroleum Center South; the project is expected to be bid for construction spring of 2023.

EAST BRANCH TRAIL

- Constructed 2.4 miles of trail with volunteer equity and PA DCNR funding through a grant with the Northwest Commission, Greenways Block Grant, and the Trail Volunteer Fund of the Pittsburgh Foundation.
- Began engineering for approximately 3 miles of trail from Sportsman Bridge south, and for the Sportsman Bridge rehabilitation.

QUEEN CITY TRAIL

- A designated bike lane from South Martin Street to Fleming Park in Titusville was completed with funding from a PA DCNR Community Conservation Partnership Program grant.

CORRY TRAIL JUNCTION TRAIL

- Received private funds of \$22,000 to address water erosion issues and \$20,000 for signage and crosswalk improvements.

CORRY TRAIL

- Impact Corry received \$88,120 in private funds to complete 1,400' trail, pollinator garden, and monarch sanctuary
- Received \$87,000 continues in 2023

CHAUTAQUA RAIL TRAIL

- Received \$20,000 from County funds to address drainage issues/wet trail spots in various areas of the trail
- Received \$40,000 of private funding to resurface the one-mile section of trail called the Fincher Trail
- Started trail improvements of a 1.5-mile section of the trail in Mayville, NY and received permission from eight landowners permission to expand the trail south of Sherman, NY

ALLEGHENY RIVER TRAIL ON CLARION COUNTY

- Awarded \$533,000 DCNR Grant to Construct the first mile of trail in the gap north of Foxburg.
- Awarded \$27,000 DCED Greenways and Trails Grant to design a park master plan for a small park in Foxburg.
- Amassed over 1,000 hours of volunteer effort to clear the land in anticipation of early 2023 construction activities.
- Renewed efforts to acquire easements of the remaining 2.2 miles of landowners up to Emlenton.

ARMSTRONG TRAILS

- Brady Tunnel received \$ 4,941,700 in funding
- Brady Tunnel Phase 3A under construction (\$700,000)
- Kiski Junction Corridor & Bridge Acquisition completed, inclusive of 14-mile of trail. The Celebration for this acquisition was held on Oct 21, 2022 and was attended by 250 officials and trail users.
- Armstrong Trails signage plan funded.

REDBANK VALLEY TRAIL

- Received a \$34,468 grant from Northwest Commission Greenways Block Grant toward the Lawsonham Arch restoration project.
- Completed the gate, parking & drainage improvements with \$8,500 Ralph M. & Ella M. Eccles Foundation grant and received a \$9,050 Trail Volunteer Fund grant to purchase a blower to clear drainage ditches.
- Sponsored Lawsonham Eagle Scout shelter, a caboose & community shelter at Summerville & hosted ten community events.

ERIE COUNTY TRAILS

- Erie County Planning Department kicked off a trail feasibility study to see what the options might be for a more direct route from Corry to Erie. Funding is through Appalachian Regional Commission.

THREE RIVERS HERITAGE TRAIL

- Received \$1,141,250 from the Redevelopment of Allegheny County Trail Fund to complete design and engineering for 8 miles of trail in O'Hara Township, Harmar Township, Springdale Township, and East Deer Township.
- Received \$70,100 from the PA Department of Conservation & Natural Resources towards the development of a trailhead in Natrona (Harrison Township)
- Raised over \$30,000 to build a new 100-foot segment of trail in Natrona (Harrison Township).

7400 hrs. Volunteered = \$185,000

70% of EPT is Complete

38 Communities Engaged

Over \$12 Million Secured in 2022

Over 100 Partners

7 Connecting Trails



ERIE TO PITTSBURGH TRAIL ALLIANCE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President - Barney Scholl

Vice President - Courtney Mahronich Vita

Secretary - Kim Harris

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Kim Hawkes

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TRAIL ORGANIZATIONS

Allegheny Valley Trail Association

Allegheny River Trail in Clarion

Armstrong Trails Association

Butler Freeport Community Trail Council

Chautauqua Rails to Trails, Inc.

Clear Lake Authority

Cranberry Township in Venango County

City of Erie

Friends of the Riverfront

Mercer County Trails Association

Northwest PA Trails Association

Oil Creek State Park (PA DCNR)

City of Oil City

Oil Region Alliance of Business, Industry & Tourism

Redbank Valley Trails Association

Titusville Area Trail Association

Seaway Trail, Inc

Wynn and Clara Tredway River Trail