



Marblehead Peninsula Trail Feasibility Study

Benefits of Active Transportation Trails

Economic

- Increased value of nearby properties
- Attractive to businesses & helps retain existing businesses
- Promotes job growth, especially for businesses that serve trail users (bicycle shops, canoe/kayak and outdoor shops, restaurants, ice cream parlors, breweries/wineries, lodgings, etc.)
- Increased sales tax and business patronage through tourism and travel
- Reduced medical costs for families and employers
- Reduced costs for road maintenance

Environmental

- Protect environmentally sensitive areas and wildlife habitat from development
- Connect people and nature, and provide opportunities for education
- Active transportation promotes improved air and water quality
- Greenways provide natural floodplains

Health, Wellness & Safety

- Increases level of physical activity and cardiovascular health
- Helps combat obesity, especially childhood obesity
- Promotes healthy living
- Trail use via exercise reduces stress and improves mental wellness
- Reduced crime through self-policing
- Provides safe route for walking and cycling

Quality of Life

- More opportunities for recreation
- Provides connections to nature and natural areas
- Communities with trails are more desirable for families and home-buyers

Cultural/Historical

- Can preserve historical monuments and celebrate historical legacy
- Connects people to heritage by protecting historic places and providing access to sites

Social

- Opportunities for interaction between users of all backgrounds
- Opportunities for events (charity races, walks, etc.)
- Community pride and identity

Transportation

- Provide viable transportation routes to employment centers, schools, recreation areas, stores/businesses, and other destinations
- Improved mobility in areas lacking public transportation options
- Reduced congestion on roadways
- Provide safe routes for pedestrians and cyclists into and inside park facilities

