

Arcade Multi-Use Trail Feasibility Study

Scope of Work

A. Objective

The Arcade Multi-Use Trail Feasibility Study will develop a cohesive set of concept-level plans and strategies, with defined priorities, to guide the Village in improving and expanding pedestrian and bicycle access within the Village of Arcade and region..

B. Background

Interest in walking, hiking, and bicycling is strong within the Village of Arcade. In 2019, a walking club was established at the Arcade Elementary School, and last spring the High School organized a Hiking Club. Local children walk to the Village Elementary School, often with their parents. More than 75 residents responded to a recent request for input on trails. Local government, volunteer committees, businesses and residents have worked together to improve pedestrian and bicyclist safety by replacing deteriorating sidewalks and downtown lighting, repairing the Arcade & Attica Railroad's tracks and Depot, and developing trails downtown and at the Village Park.

There are currently no regional trails in southwestern Wyoming County. Arcade, as the hub of a three-county region, is an ideal location for assessing trail feasibility. Potential exists to connect the village to the Genesee Valley Greenway Trail, Erie County Bureau of Forestry hiking trails in East Concord, Rushford Lake, and the Beaver Meadow Nature Center. Hiking enthusiasts report that if a path can be found from Arcade to the Finger Lakes Trail section of the North Country National Scenic Trail, hikers could connect to the Dakotas in the West and the Atlantic Trail in the east. Development of a multi-use trail connecting these resources would help create an extensive active transportation network. Genesee Transportation Council's (GTC) Regional Trails Initiative of 2016 identified a planned rail-with-trail project linking Arcade to the Beaver Meadow Audubon Center in Java, a potential 11.4 mile trail network link.

The Village has previously identified other issues related to the active transportation needs of the community. Currently, there is no cohesive plan in place to address non-motorized transportation. Facility repairs or improvements are made on a piecemeal basis as funding assistance is available. The community is split by two creeks, complicating continuous, safe pedestrian or bicycle travel between neighborhoods, local businesses, parks, and tourist attractions. Though interest in hiking and bicycling as a recreational activity is increasing, there is no connection between Arcade and regional trails. Local residents typically travel significant distances via automobile to access hiking and cycling trails. No relationships have been developed with neighboring communities to address trail needs.

C. Tasks

Project tasks include the following:

1. An RFP will be created and advertised publicly. Select members of the Project Advisory Committee (defined below) will review the submissions and engage the services of a consultant with expertise in active transportation planning.
2. After a public hearing, the Village Board will approve a resolution related to the provision of funds (the cash match) to GTC that complete the project budget used to compensate the consultant team.
3. The consultant team will be guided by a Project Advisory Committee, which shall include but are not limited to representatives from Village of Arcade, the Towns of Arcade, Java, Wethersfield, Eagle, and Freedom, Pioneer Hiking Club, Wyoming County Planning and Development, Wyoming County Tourism and Planning, Livingston County, GTC Staff, and affected state agencies such as NYSDOT, NYSDEC, and NYSOPRHP. These representatives will also assist by providing data and information needed to complete the study. The committee will review and comment on draft deliverables to ensure that public-facing products meet the project goals.
4. The chosen consultant will convene an initial meeting of the Project Advisory Committee submit a public engagement plan as well as to clarify roles, responsibilities, expectations, deliverables, and the project schedule.
5. The consultant will conduct an existing conditions and needs assessment for current and anticipated uses.
 - a. Research the project background, including historical context, applicable planning documents, and existing land use, ownership, and zoning.
 - b. Identify other key information as necessary related to potential trail corridors; including but not limited to issues related to federal and state designated wetlands, floodplains, highway rights-of-way, existing easements, highway safety concerns, topography, buildings, structures, utilities, creek crossings, and other man-made restrictions.
 - c. Conduct a mix of public meetings, surveys, stakeholder interviews (including interested landowners), and/or focus groups to refine the understanding of the needs of pedestrians and cyclists within the study area.
6. The consultant will identify opportunities to enhance safety and accessibility for pedestrians and bicyclists in Arcade and will recommend projects and strategies based on the determination of needs.

7. The consultant will develop and draft a Final Report including narrative, graphics, analysis, and other content describing the study process and conclusions. The Final Report should include tools for implementation that present a phased approach and the relative costs to implement recommendations and strategies.
8. The Village will hold a public hearing/informational meeting followed by Village Board approval of the Final Report.

D. Products

The following are products expected to be delivered as part of this study:

- Existing Conditions and Needs Assessment interim deliverable
- Draft Arcade Multi-Use Trail Feasibility Study (for committee review/comment)
- Final Arcade Multi-Use Trail Feasibility Study
- Executive Summary of final study
- Stakeholder outreach, Project Advisory Committee meeting, and public meeting materials

E. Public Participation Plan

Outreach efforts to reach the general public and stakeholders will include:

- Formation of a Project Steering Committee to include Village and County officials, GTC staff, residents and businesses to collaborate with the Consultant, ensuring that community knowledge will be correct and representative of all groups
- Public Meetings (minimum 2) to describe the project and ask for input/validation on existing conditions, issues, and opportunities as well as to assign preference and priority to potential recommendations; people and groups will be able to attend in person or virtually
- An online survey to solicit additional public input
- Publication of information, including project updates, on the Village website and via Social Media
- Stakeholder interviews, focus groups, and/or workshops with representatives from agencies with potential future involvement (GTC, DOT, DEC, NYSOPRHP), Pioneer Central High School (Hiking Club, Track Team, etc.), Arcade Elementary School (Phys Ed Dept and Running Club), Arcade Chamber of Commerce, County's Departments of Tourism and Planning.

F. Schedule

Task	Timeline
Scope of Work Approval	June 2022
Release of RFP	July 2022
Village of Arcade Resolution Approving Agreement with GTC	August 2022
Consultant Selected	September 2022
Contract Completed and Signed	October 2022
Initial Project Meeting	November 2022
Existing Conditions Analysis and Needs Assessment Finalized	February 2023
Concept Plans, Strategies and Recommendations Finalized	May 2023
Draft Final Report	August 2023
Study Completed	October 2023

G. Project Budget

Sources of Funds		Uses of Funds	
	<u>FY 2021-22</u>		<u>FY 2021-22</u>
<u>Federal Funds</u>		<u>GTC</u>	
FHWA	\$58,000	Staff	\$0
FTA	0	Contractual	0
Subtotal	\$0	Subtotal	\$0
<u>Matching Funds</u>		<u>Other Agency</u>	
State (In-kind)	\$0	Staff	\$0
Local (In-kind)	\$5,000	Contractual	\$65,000
Local (Cash)	\$7,000	In-kind Exp.	\$5,000
Subtotal	\$12,000	Subtotal	\$70,000
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$70,000</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>\$70,000</u>