

2022



Southwest Thurston County
TRAIL FEASIBILITY STUDY

Survey Summary

THURSTON REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

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Introduction

Project Overview

Thurston County is looking into what it would take to establish a shared-use trail connecting Grand Mound, Rochester, and the Chehalis Reservation. This project builds on previous work in the area, including the 2007 Regional Trails Plan, Main Street Rochester, and the Grand Mound Transportation Study.

The Southwest Thurston County Trail Feasibility Study will look at:

- How a trail system could best serve community members in Grand Mound, Rochester, and the Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation
- Possible trail routes and connections to key community destinations
- Locations for trailheads – places for people to park and get on the trail
- Cost to construct possible trail routes, signage, benches, and trailheads as well as the cost to maintain the trail

Figure 1. Front of the postcard sent in advance of the November 4th virtual public meeting. Information on the back of the postcard invited members of the public to provide their feedback.



Outreach Methods

A postcard inviting members of the community to attend a virtual public meeting on November 4, 2021, opened the project's outreach to the greater Rochester-Grand Mound community. Through the link and

QR code on the postcard, people could access the project website and online open house where the survey was hosted. Throughout November, ads targeting the greater Rochester-Grand Mound area were posted on Facebook, again inviting comment through the online survey. During this time, an email was sent to those who provided their email addresses through the Main Street Rochester project and the Grand Mound Transportation Study. Finally, staff at the Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation shared a link to the survey with their employees and tribal members.

The project team also reached out to the Rochester School District to have students participate in an abbreviated student survey.

Community Survey

Between October 15, 2021 and January 3, 2022, the community survey was open and accessible to the public. During this time, 114 people provided their feedback. A copy of the survey can be found in Appendix A.

Eight out of ten community survey respondents live in or near the study area. Nearly half of respondents were parents or guardians with one or more children in their home.

Who responded to the Community survey?	
Life Stage...	Gender...
44% Parent or guardian with children in the home	69% female
1% Student in elementary, middle, or high school	30% male
54% Adult with no children at home, including retirees	1% non-binary
Live...	Household Income...
57% live in the study area – Rochester, Grand Mound, or the Chehalis Reservation	9% earned less than \$35,000
22% live near the study area – Oakville or elsewhere in the Rochester/Grand Mound area	43% earned \$35,000-\$74,999
22% live outside the Rochester/Grand Mound area	47% earned \$75,000 or more
81% have a Rochester, Grand Mound, or Oakville ZIP code	Race/Ethnicity*...
Age...	46% American Indian & Alaska Native
2% 24 or younger	2% Asian
59% 25-54	0% Black or African American
39% 55 or older	2% Hispanic or Latino
	1% Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander
	52% White
	0% Other

**Respondents could choose more than one answer*

Mapping Exercise

As part of the online open house and the virtual public meeting, members of the public were able to share what trail routes they wanted to see in the area. The community was also able to share their thoughts on specific locations for trailheads, where they had safety concerns, and other ideas and opportunities. Comments related to the mapping exercise can be found in Appendix B.

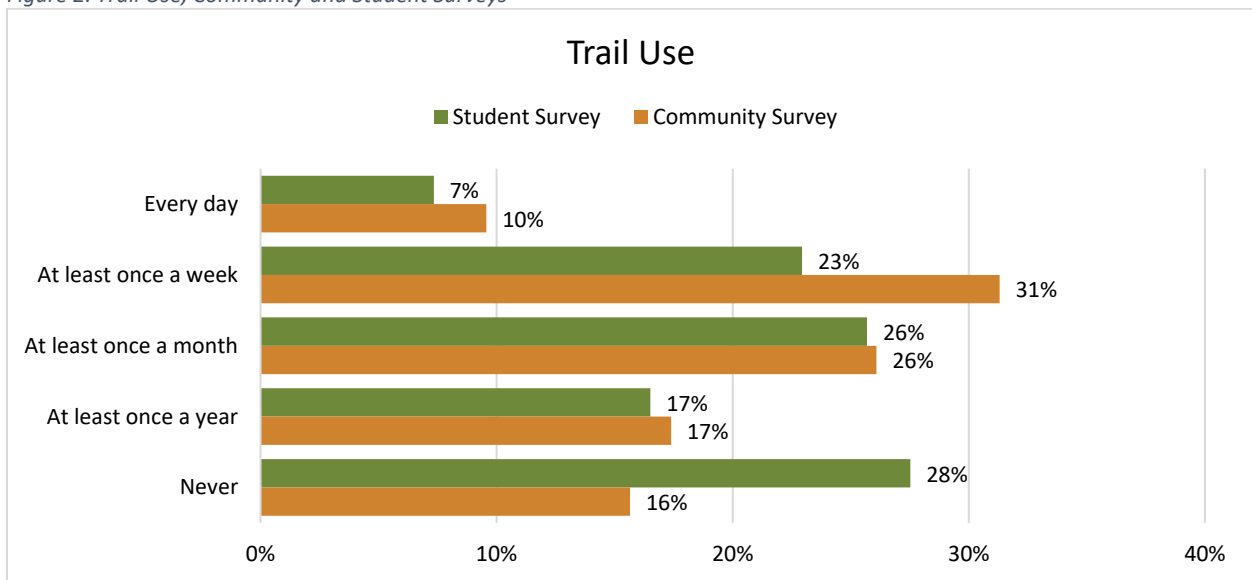
Student Survey

Between March 7th and March 16, 2022, 111 students provided their feedback on the abbreviated student survey. The survey was open to both middle and high school students; 109 responses came from high school students and two respondents indicated they were middle school students. A copy of the student survey can be found in Appendix C.

Trail Use

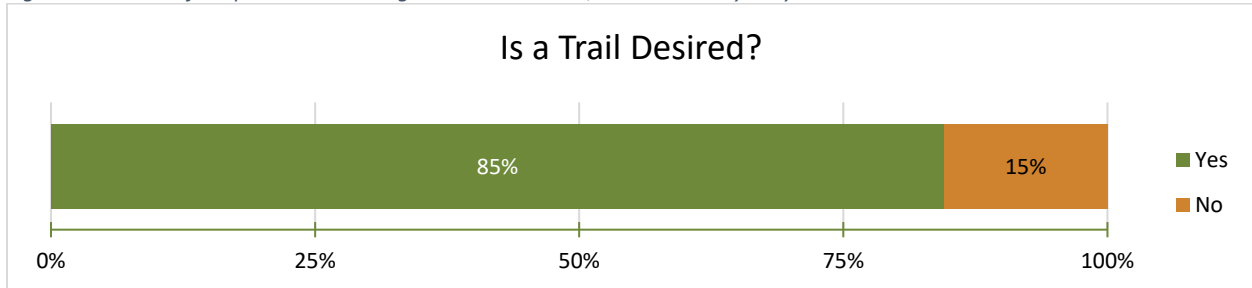
Both the student and community surveys asked respondents how often they would use a shared use trail if it were built in the area (Figure 2). Student survey respondents were more likely to indicate they would never use the trail. One in three (31 percent) community survey respondents indicated they would use the trail at least once a week, and 67 percent of respondents indicated they would use the trail once a month or more frequently.

Figure 2. Trail Use, Community and Student Surveys



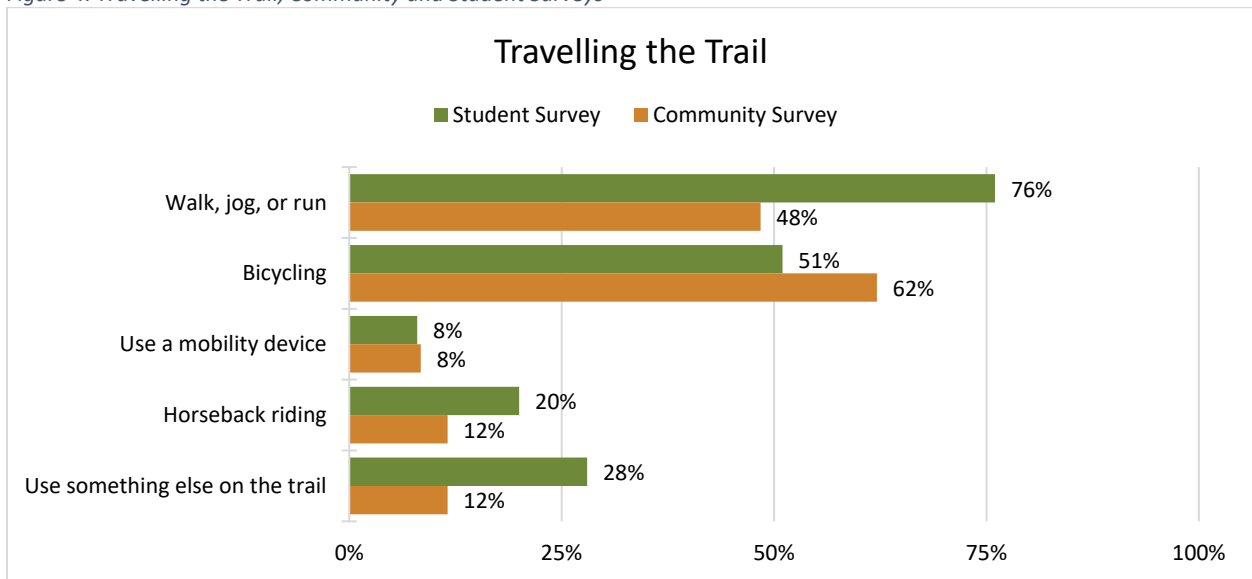
While only 73 percent of student survey respondents indicated they would use the trail at least once a year or more frequently, 85 percent indicated they wanted to see a shared use trail built in the area (Figure 3).

Figure 3. Percent of Respondents Desiring a Trail in the Area, Student Survey Only



Most respondents envision bicycling, walking, jogging, or running on a trail. Student survey respondents were more interested in horseback riding or using something else on the trail than their community survey counterparts. (Figure 4).

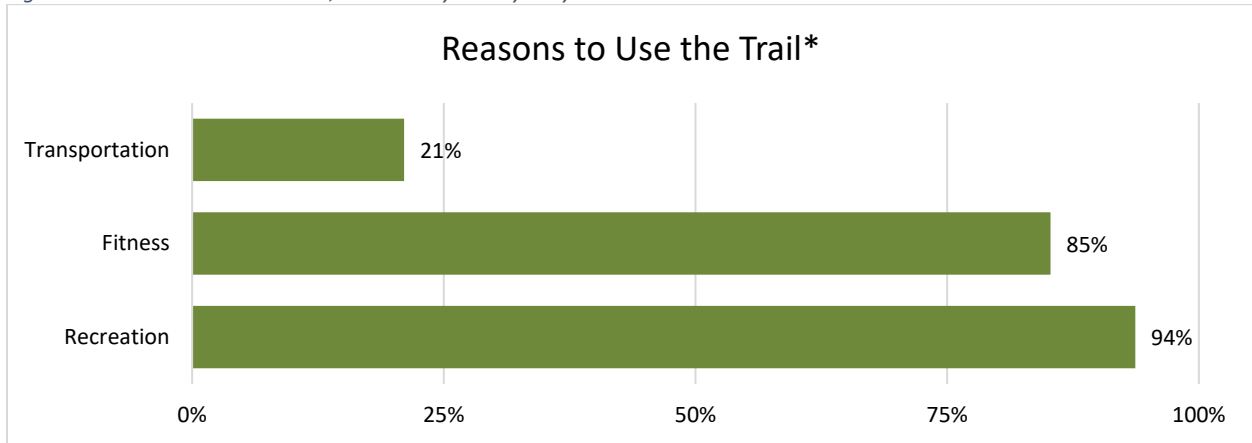
Figure 4. Travelling the Trail, Community and Student Surveys



*Respondents could choose more than one answer.

Community survey respondents were asked reasons they would use the trail and could provide more than one answer. While most respondents indicated they would use the trail for fitness or recreation purposes, about one in five respondents (21 percent) also indicated they would use the trail for transportation purposes – getting from here to there (Figure 5).

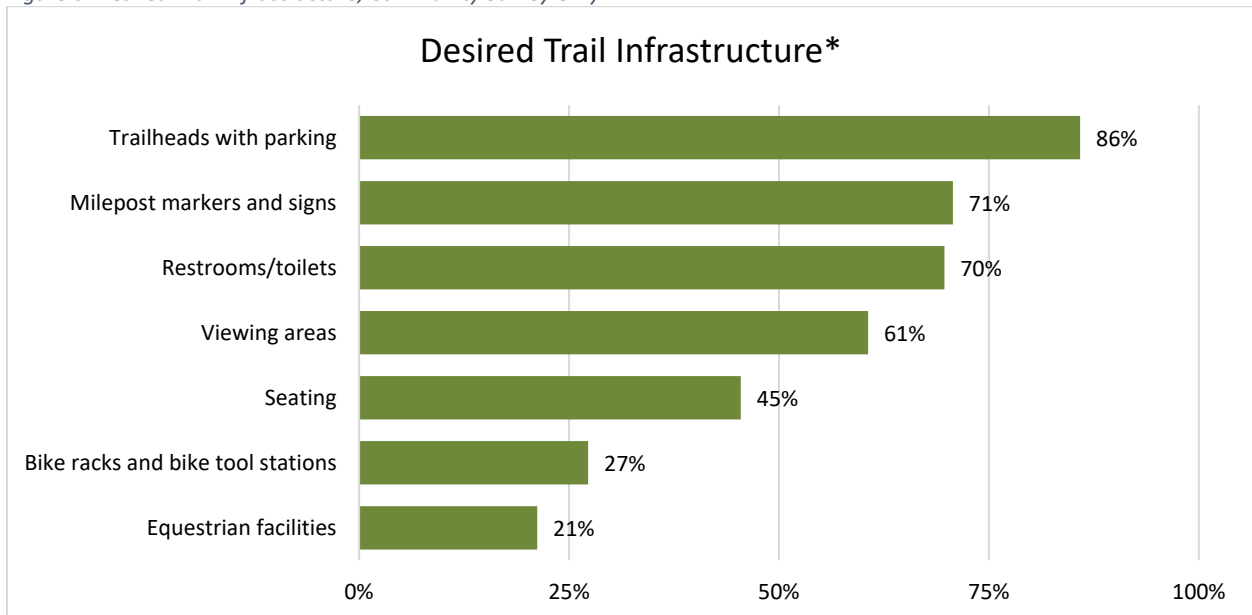
Figure 5. Reasons to Use the Trail, Community Survey Only



*Respondents could choose more than one answer.

Most respondents want to see four things considered as part of this feasibility study: trailheads with parking, milepost markers and signs, restrooms, and viewing areas. To a lesser extent, consideration for seating along the trail, bike stations, and equestrian facilities were also desired (Figure 6).

Figure 6. Desired Trail Infrastructure, Community Survey Only

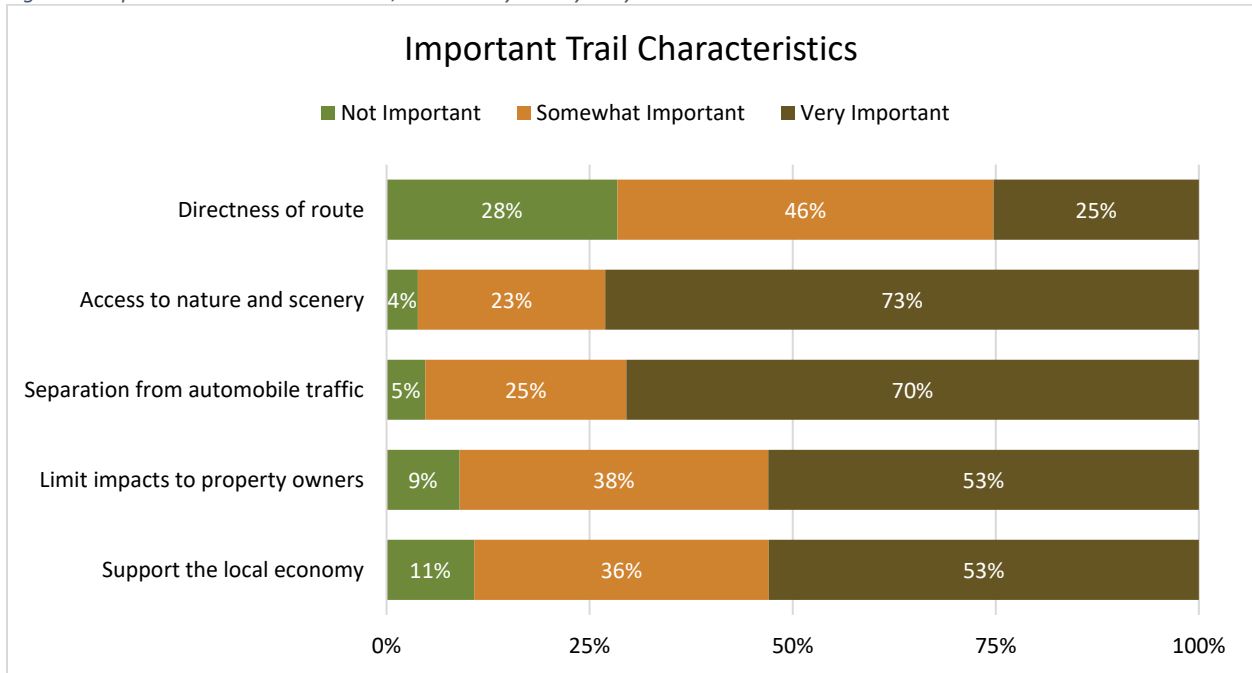


*Respondents could choose more than one answer.

Trail Characteristics & Destinations

Community survey respondents were asked about trail characteristics that were most important to them (Figure 7). Access to nature and separation from automobile traffic were the most important characteristics people identified while having a direct route was the least important characteristic.

Figure 7. Important Trail Characteristics, Community Survey Only

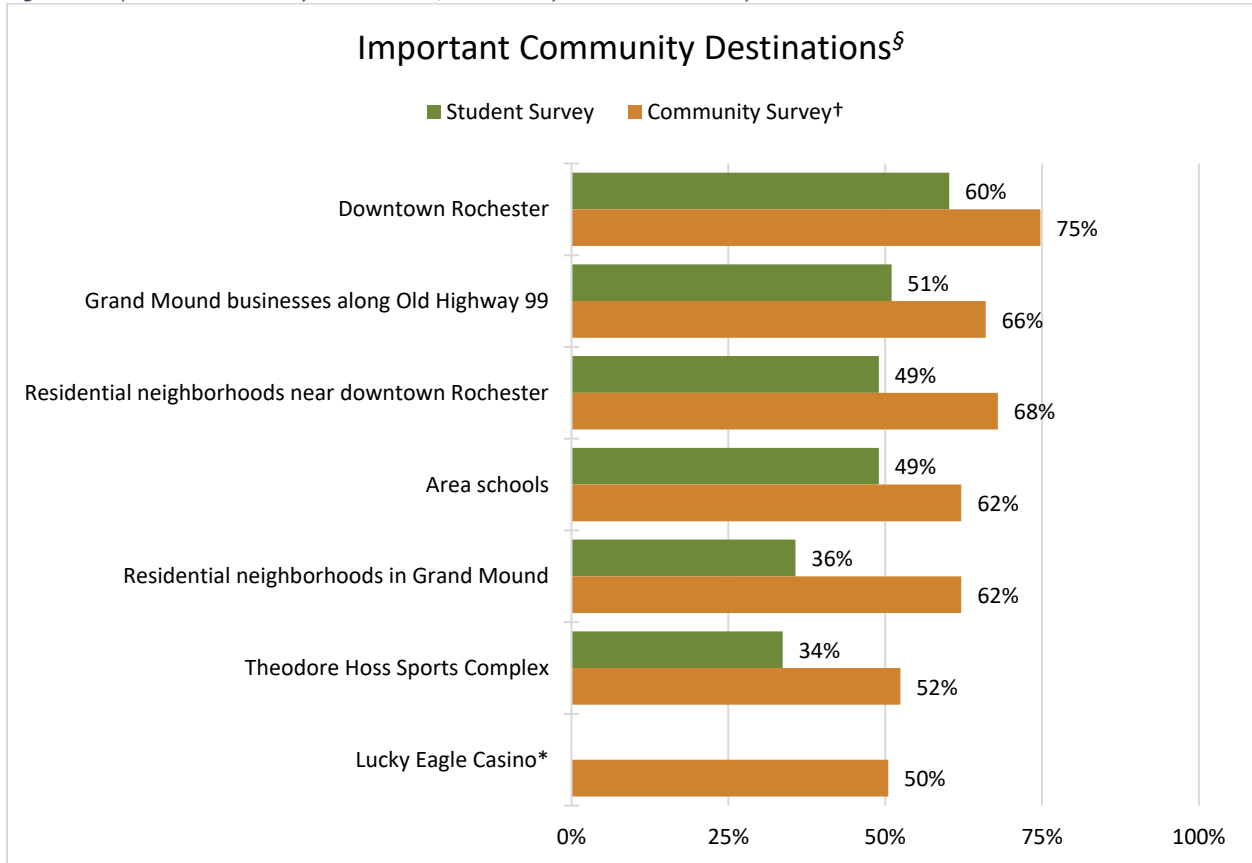


Twenty-one respondents also indicated some other trail characteristic was important or very important, including:

- Maintaining the privacy and sovereignty of the Chehalis Reservation
- Supporting personal security and user safety, including lighting on the trail
- Connecting schools and communities, including areas east of I-5
- Preventing the proliferation of homeless encampments through trail design and administration

Both student and community survey respondents were asked about community destinations they wanted to see connected to a future trail (Figure 8). Overall, the Lucky Eagle Casino was the least important community destination while downtown Rochester was the most important.

Figure 8. Important Community Destinations, Community and Student Surveys



[§]Respondents could choose more than one answer.

*Student survey respondents were not asked about connections to the Lucky Eagle Casino.

[†]The community survey asked respondents the importance of connecting community destinations to a future trail. The responses in this chart represent those who indicated a destination was “Somewhat Important” or “Very Important.”

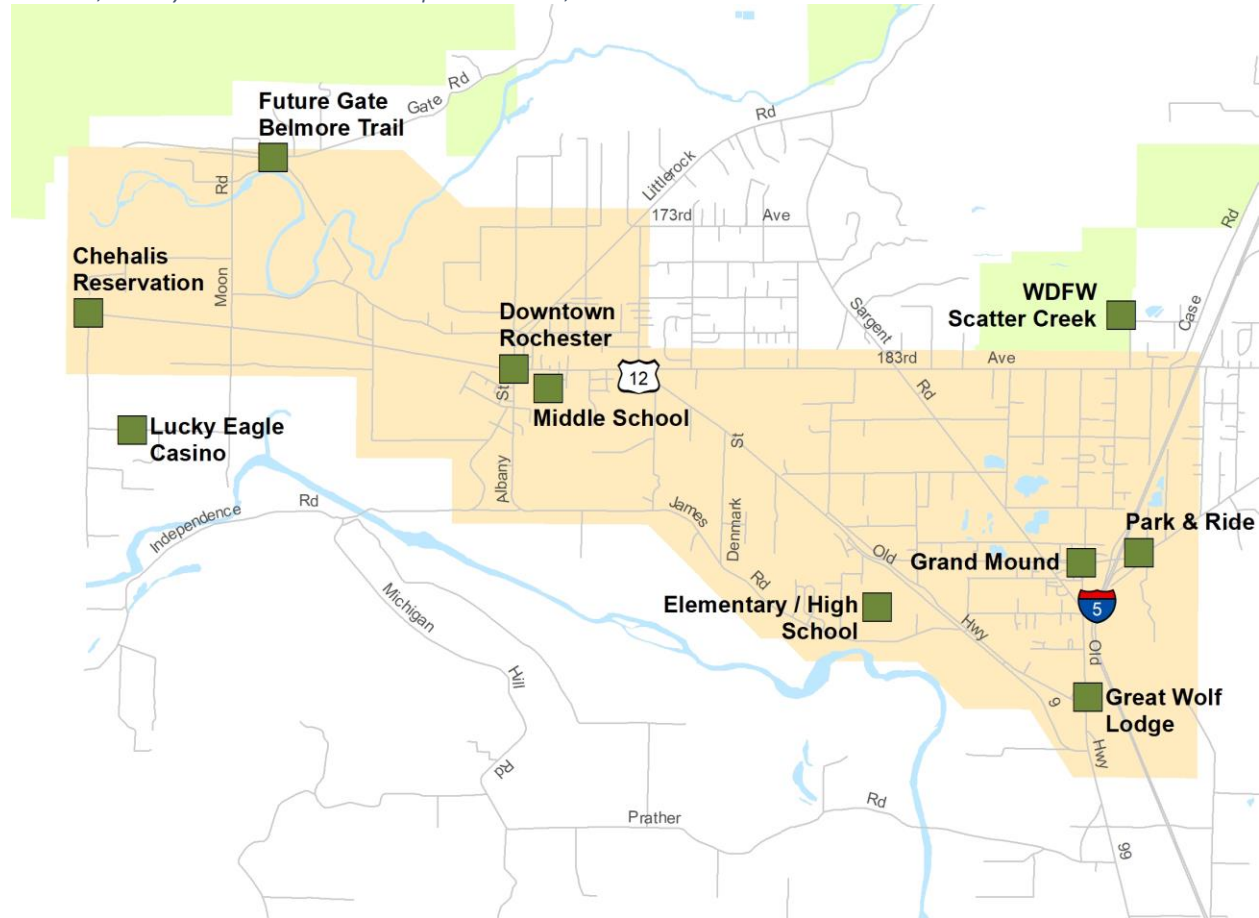
Both student and community survey respondents identified other community destinations they wanted to see connected to a future trail, including:

- Areas east of I-5
- Capitol Forest
- Great Wolf Lodge
- Historic sites in the area
- Scatter Creek Wildlife Area
- Southsound Speedway
- Boys and Girls Club (located in downtown Rochester)

- Independence Park (located in downtown Rochester)
- Cool views, forests, rivers, creeks, and places in nature
- Places to eat

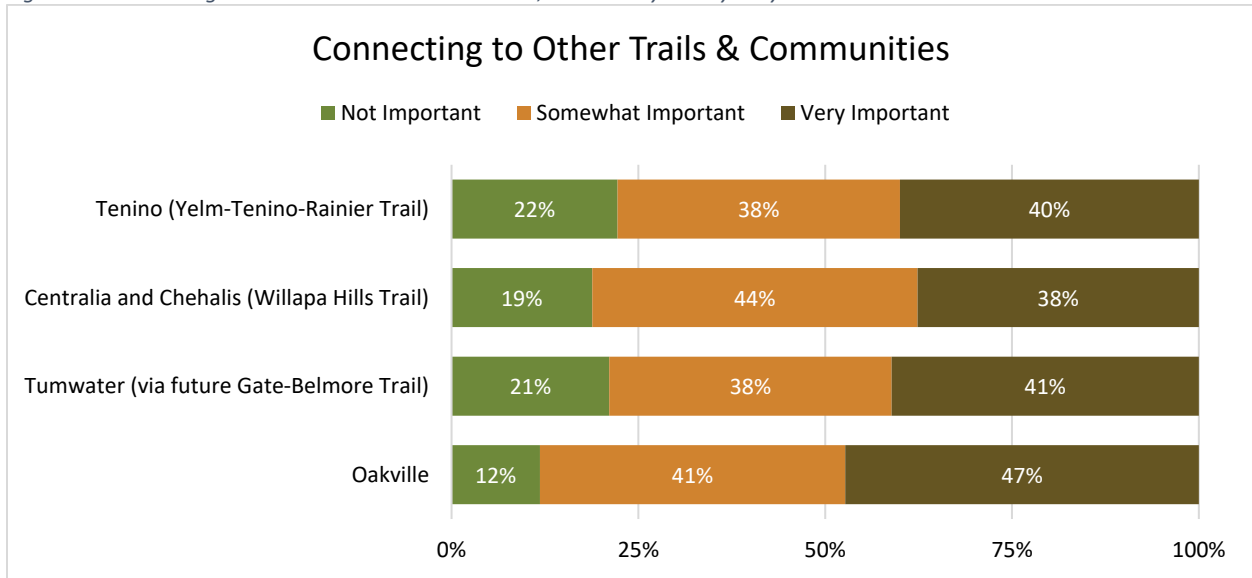
Important community destinations were frequently consistent with desired trailhead locations. Figure 9 shows the most popular trailhead locations community members identified in the online open house and at the November 4, 2021 public meeting.

Figure 9. Trailhead locations identified at the public meeting November 4, 2022 and through the online open house. Two locations, the Boys and Girls Club and Independence Park, are located in Downtown Rochester.



Regarding nearby communities and trails, 75 percent or more of the community survey respondents felt that connections to each destination identified were important or very important (Figure 10).

Figure 10. Connecting to Other Trails and Communities, Community Survey Only



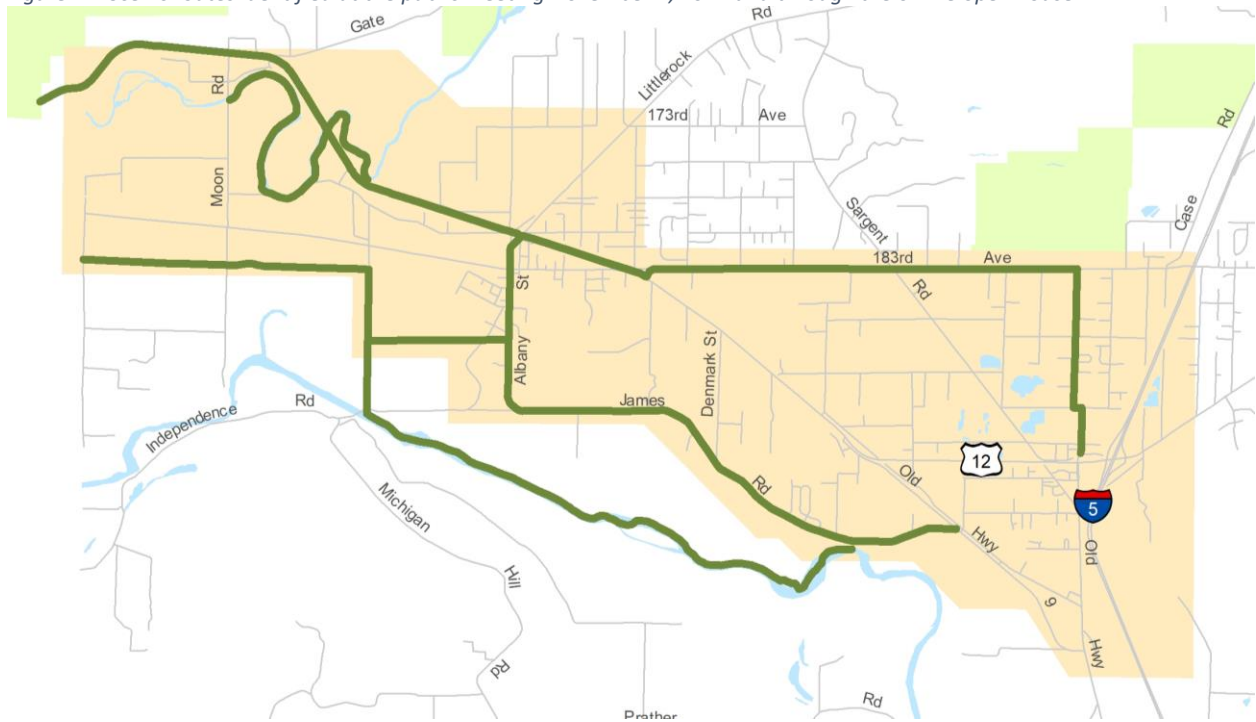
Trail Routes

Trail routes identified through the online open house and at the public meeting generally fell into two camps: direct routes and scenic routes. Direct routes follow US 12 and an existing railroad corridor (Figure 11) while scenic routes follow the Chehalis River, the Black River, and roads that are not as busy as US 12 (Figure 12).

Figure 11. Direct routes identified at the public meeting November 4, 2022 and through the online open house.



Figure 12. Scenic routes identified at the public meeting November 4, 2022 and through the online open house.



Other Comments and Concerns

Community survey respondents were given the opportunity to share anything else they thought about a possible trail in the Grand Mound-Rochester-Chehalis Reservation area (Appendix D). Thirty-three respondents provided additional information. Common themes included:

- Maintaining the privacy and sovereignty of the Chehalis people
- Recognizing the cultural relevance of the Chehalis people
- Excitement about the possibility of a trail in the area
- Not supportive of a trail in the area

Appendix A. Community Survey

Southwest Thurston County Trail Corridor Study

Community Survey

Help us understand what's important to you as Thurston County considers what it would take to establish a shared-use trail connecting Grand Mound, Rochester, and the Chehalis Reservation.

Everyone is invited to take this survey - including all members of a person's household.

1. If a shared use trail – like the Chehalis Western Trail – were built that connected Grand Mound, Rochester, and the Chehalis Reservation, how likely are you to use the trail?

- I would not use the trail
- I would use it every day
- I would use it at least once a week
- I would use it at least once a month
- I would use it at least once a year

Southwest Thurston County Trail Corridor Study

2. If a shared use trail were built, how would you travel the trail? (check all that apply)

- I would go walking, jogging, or running
- I would go horseback riding
- I would go bicycling
- I would use something else on the trail (roller blades, scooter, one-wheel, etc.)
- I would use a mobility device such as a wheelchair

3. What would be your reasons for using this trail? (check all that apply)

- Recreation** – to spend time outdoors, nature watch, socialize with family/friends/pets
- Fitness** – to exercise, improve health, or train for sports events
- Transportation** – to get around, run errands, or travel locally without having to use a car

Southwest Thurston County Trail Corridor Study

4. When considering possible trail routes, what route characteristics are most important to you?

	Not Important	Somewhat Important	Very Important	No Opinion
Directness of route	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Access to nature and scenery	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Separation from automobile traffic	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Limit impacts to property owners	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Support the local economy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

5. If you chose "other" in the previous question, please tell us what additional route characteristic is important to you. (limit 50 characters)

6. How important is it to you to connect the following community destinations to a future trail? (check all that apply)

	Not Important	Somewhat Important	Very Important	No Opinion
Lucky Eagle Casino	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Residential neighborhoods near downtown Rochester	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Downtown Rochester	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Area schools	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Theodore Hoss Sports Complex	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Residential neighborhoods in Grand Mound	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Grand Mound businesses along Old Highway 99	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other destination	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

7. If you chose "other destination" in the previous question, please tell us what the destination is. (limit 75 characters)

Southwest Thurston County Trail Corridor Study

8. What types of trail infrastructure should be considered as part of the feasibility study? (check all that apply)

- Trailheads with parking
- Restrooms/toilets
- Milepost markers and signs
- Seating
- Viewing areas
- Equestrian facilities (hitching posts, trailer parking, etc.)
- Bike racks and bike tool stations

9. As part of this feasibility study, how important is it for Thurston County to consider future connections to the following communities and trails outside the Grand Mound-Rochester-Chehalis Reservation area?

	Not Important	Somewhat Important	Very Important	No Opinion
Tenino (Yelm-Tenino-Rainier Trail)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Centralia and Chehalis (Willapa Hills Trail)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Tumwater (via future Gate-Belmore Trail)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Oakville	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

10. Is there anything else you would like to share with us about a possible trail in the Grand Mound-Rochester-Chehalis Reservation area?

11. How do you want to be involved in this trail feasibility study? (check all that apply)

- Not interested
- Keep me informed via email
- Keep me informed via social media
- Participate in virtual meetings
- Participate in in-person meetings when pandemic regulations allow
- Participate as a workgroup stakeholder (virtual meetings)

12. If you would like to be informed via email about this project, please provide your email address.

Southwest Thurston County Trail Corridor Study

Please share some information about yourself. Since we want to make sure we hear from people from all walks of life and all parts of the community, this will help use determine if we have reached a broad representation of the Grand Mound-Rochester-Chehalis Reservation community.

13. Which of the following best describes your life stage?

- I am a student in elementary, middle, or high school
- I am an adult with no children at home
- I am a parent or guardian with a child/children 18 or younger at home
- I am retired
- None of these apply to me
- Prefer not to answer

14. Which best describes the location of your primary residence?

- Rochester
- Chehalis Reservation
- Grand Mound
- Oakville
- Elsewhere in the Rochester/Grand Mound area
- Outside the Rochester/Grand Mound area
- Prefer not to answer

15. What is the zip code of your primary residence?

- 98579
- 98531
- 98568
- Other ZIP code
- Prefer not to answer

16. What is your age range?

- 14 or younger
- 15-24
- 25-39
- 40-54
- 55-69
- 70-84
- 85 or older
- Prefer not to answer

17. What is your gender?

- Female
- Male
- Non-binary
- Prefer not to answer

18. What is your race/ethnicity? (check all that apply)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaska Native | <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asian | <input type="checkbox"/> White |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African American | <input type="checkbox"/> Some other race |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic or Latino | <input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to answer |

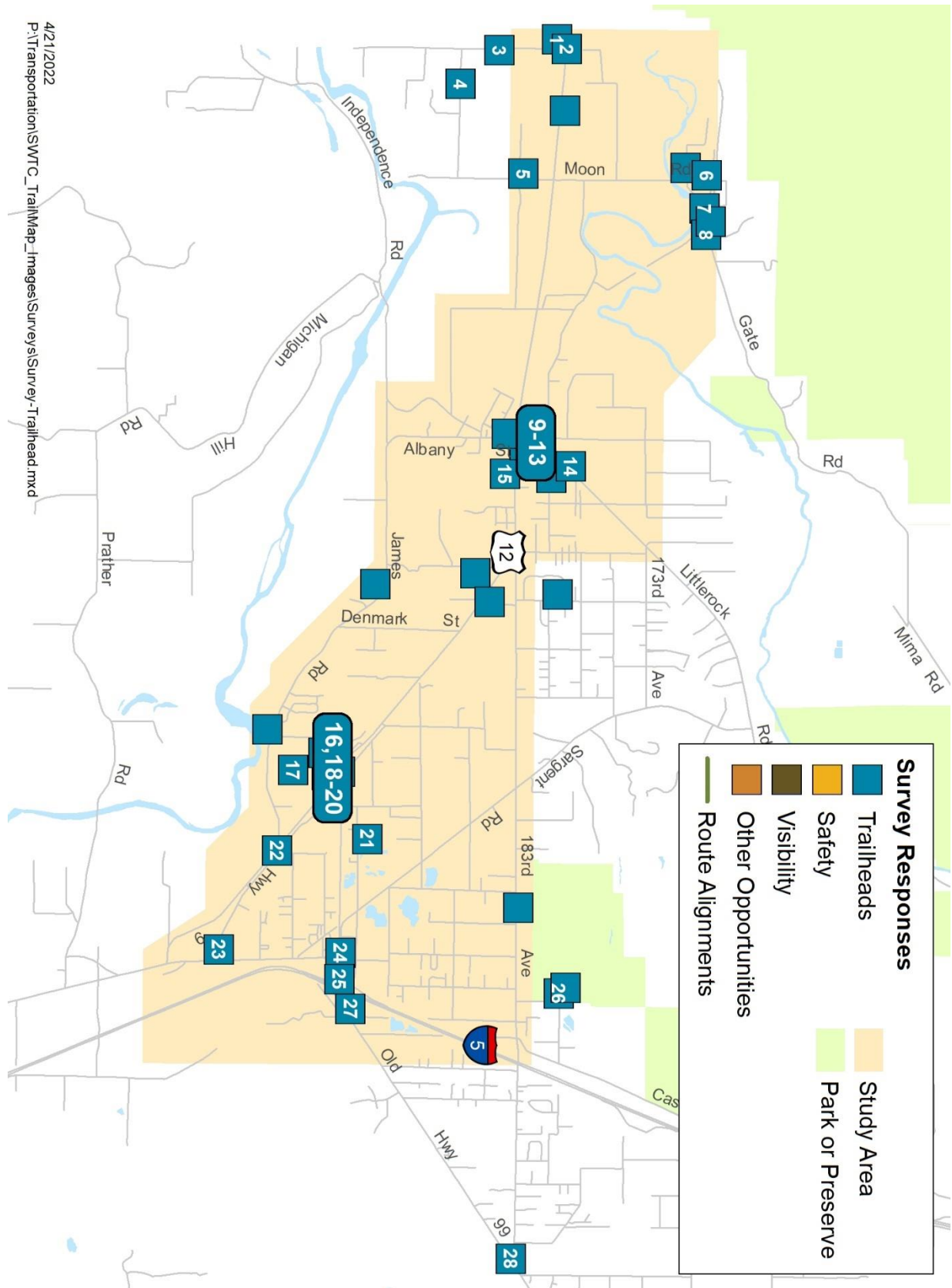
19. What is your annual household income?

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="radio"/> \$14,999 or less | <input type="radio"/> \$75,000 - \$99,999 |
| <input type="radio"/> \$15,000 - \$24,999 | <input type="radio"/> \$100,000 or more |
| <input type="radio"/> \$25,000 - \$34,999 | <input type="radio"/> I don't know |
| <input type="radio"/> \$35,000 - \$49,999 | <input type="radio"/> Prefer not to answer |
| <input type="radio"/> \$50,000 - \$74,999 | |

Appendix B. Maptionnaire Comments

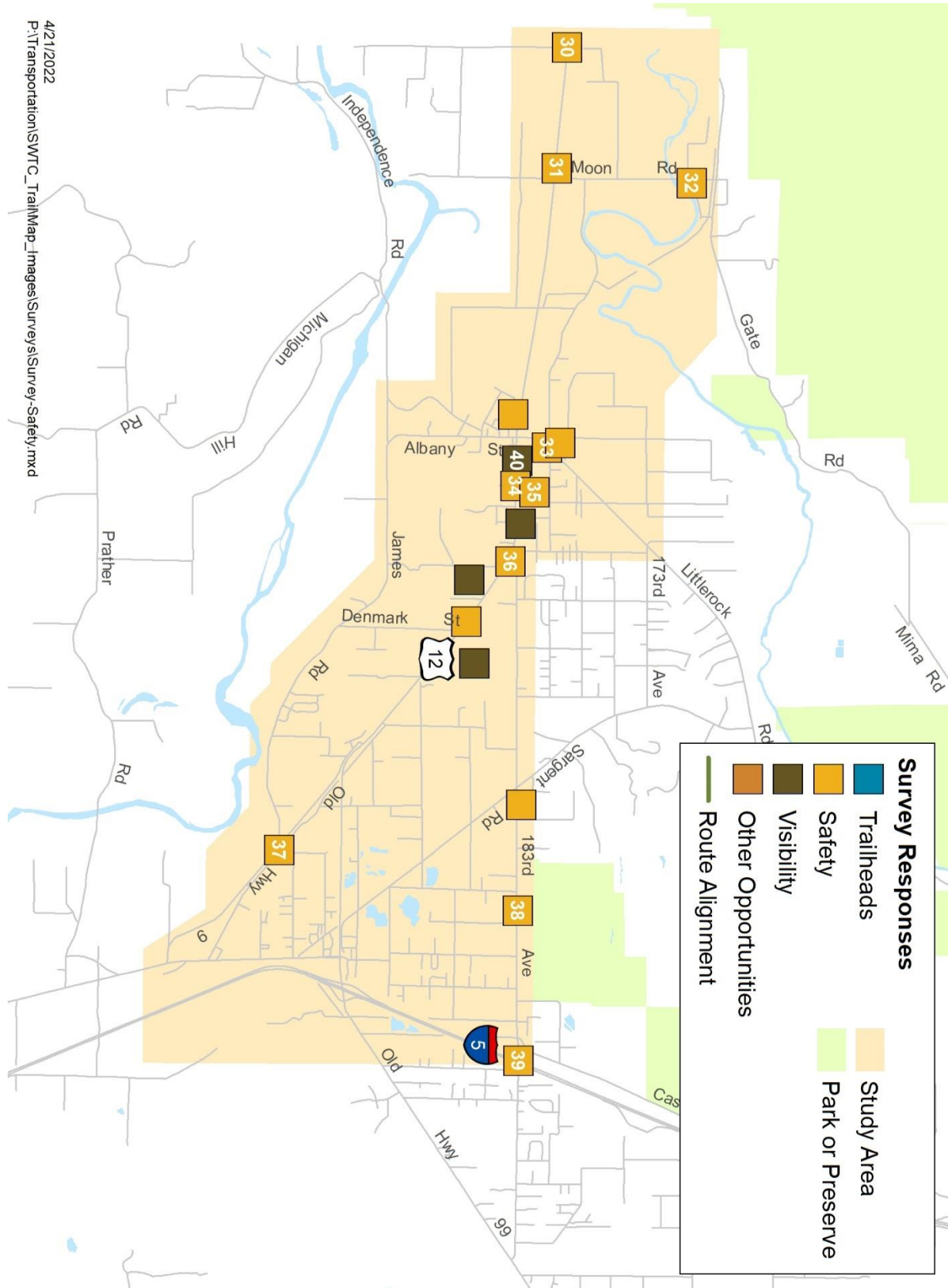
As part of the online open house and the virtual public meeting, members of the public were able to share their thoughts on trailheads, safety, visibility, other opportunities, and potential trail routes using Maptionnaire, an online interactive mapping platform. The following are maps accompanied by written comments from the mapping exercise respondents. All comments are unedited and may contain typos and grammatical errors.

Trailhead Comments



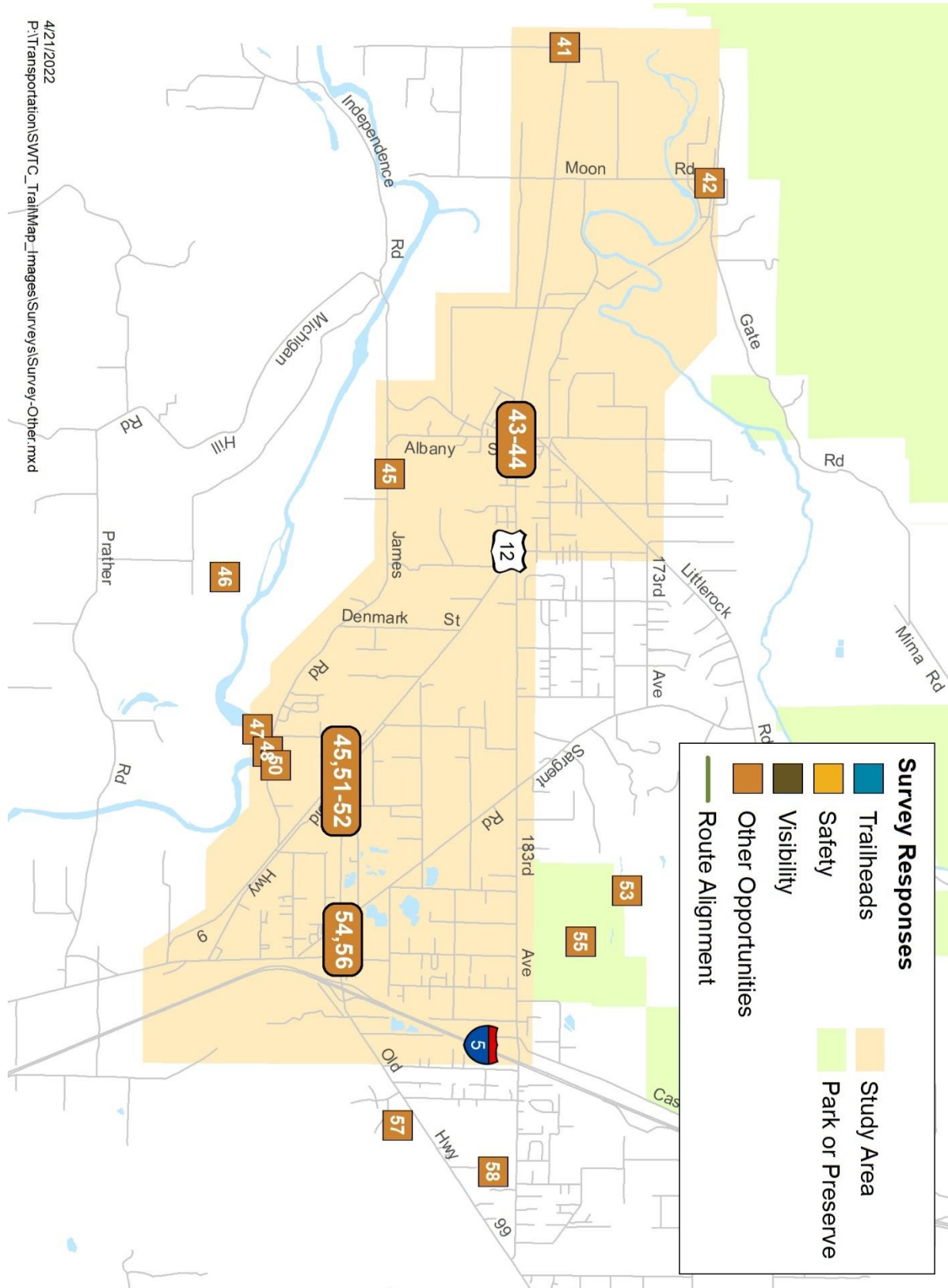
Map ID	Trailhead Comments
1	There appears to be existing parking room here
2	From Grand Mound follow Hwy 12 to Anderson Rd then turn onto Anderson Rd to the Chehalis Indian Reservation. This is a main route already mostly owned by the state or county and would not interfere with local farm and land owners as it would still be wi
3	Casino
4	Casino start/finish. plenty of parking
5	I would like to see the trail run along the sideroads south of Hwy 12, rather than ON Hwy 12 and this road is a logical connection.
6	Great spot for a trailhead. We want this trail to come into our neighborhood!
7	So would like the Gate/Belmore trail to actually be completed.
8	Suitable location for a Gate-Belmore Trailhead. Property owned by Thurston County.
9	This would make the trail visible to folks who use that park and extend walking possibilities. There is parking in the area, too.
10	Connectivity to the field here would be good
11	consider a trailhead or connection in this area....community boys and girls club, school....etc
12	This is close to downtown businesses and there is existing parking that could be used here.
13	Small area already owned by govt
14	Thuston Co. Owns property in this vicinity. Consider using for a trail parking area/trailhead
15	consider a trail connection
16	On school property, used by the cross country team, new trail built as an Eagle Scout project.
17	Trailhead parking in vicinity of Rochester HS / GM Elementary would be helpful
18	Good location for trailhead parking
19	Need safe connection to the schools to the south here.
20	Old hwy 9, from the intersection at tea street to the high school, is the route high schoolers use to walk or ride their bike to school. Currently they don't even have a bike lane when going down the highway
21	trail connection
22	Old hwy 9, from the intersection at tea street to the high school, is the route high schoolers use to walk or ride their bike to school. Currently they don't even have a bike lane when going down the highway
23	Great Wolf Lodge would be a good starting location.
24	This would be a logical place for the trail to start/end
25	Grand Mound major location
26	The parking area on Guava for the Wildlife Preserve requires the state parks pass. Maybe there could be a second option so folks could park here w/o the pass? They can park along Guava Road.
27	Expand existing park and ride to accomodate trailhead
28	There should be a trailhead by the Speedway
29	I'd like to see the trail connect to other existing trails in Thurston County

Safety & Visibility Comments



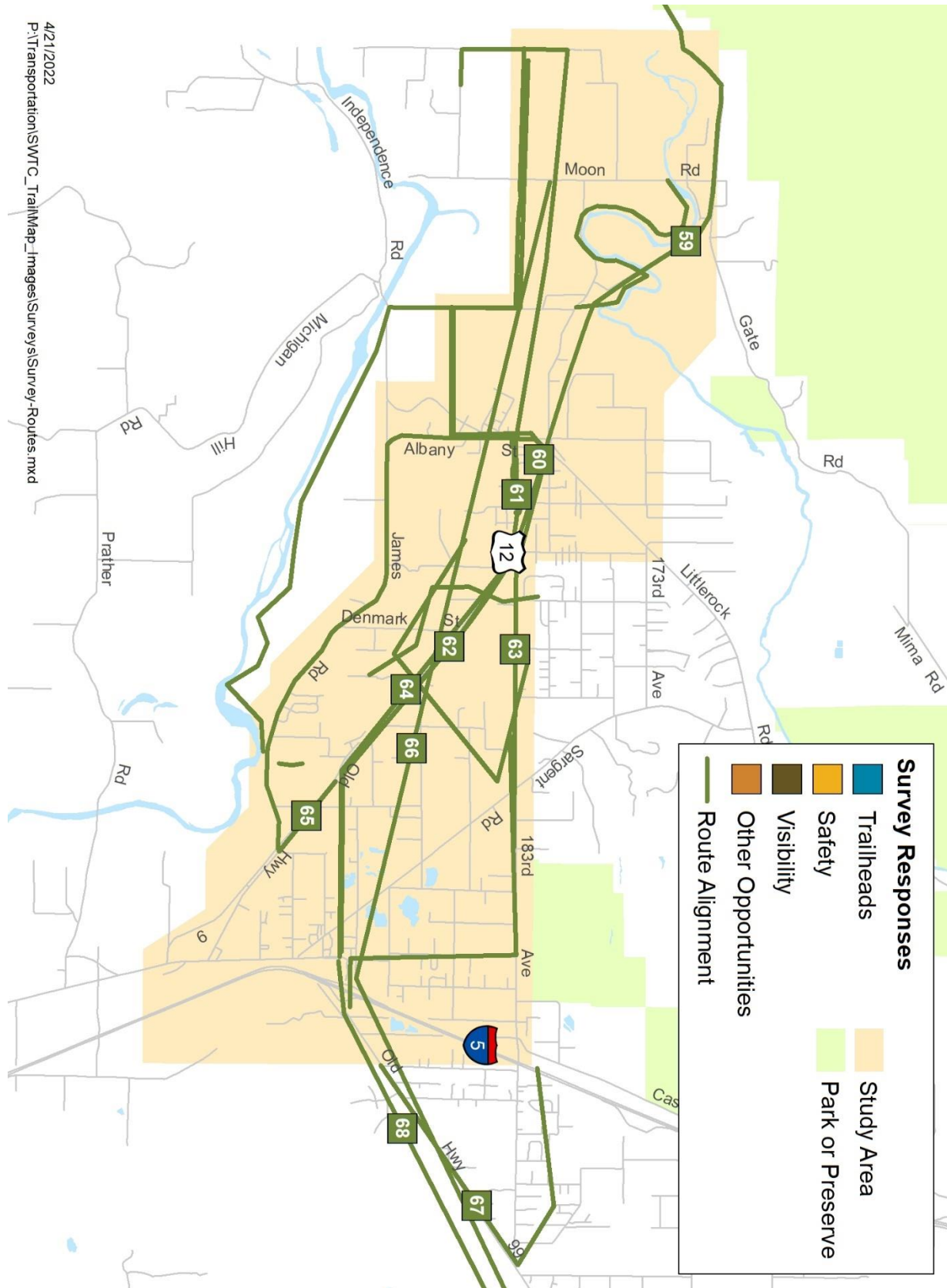
Map ID	Safety Comments
30	The round about here could pose a risk for pedestrians
31	Running the trail along HWY 12 poses a risk and a safety advantage. Risk: Cars running off the road at a high rate of speed, so the trail would have to sit off the road a bit. Safety advantage: Visibility for trail users to avoid attackers.
32	There should be a better signal for the train crossing here. There are no lights only signs, and the train passes here very frequently!
33	Watch for trains
34	Everyday there is a crash
35	low public visibility area for possible attackers
36	road crossing
37	Old hwy 9, from the intersection at tea street to the high school, is the route high schoolers use to walk or ride their bike to school. Currently they don't even have a bike lane when going down the highway
38	People park cars along 183rd to walk into the Scatter Creek preserve. Traffic is fast and the shoulder isn't wide enough
39	This bridge is very dangerous to cross on foot or bike, there are no safe options to cross I5 in the area
40	Hard to see bikers

Other Opportunities Comments



Map ID	Other Opportunities Comments
41	Add a real bus stop and real buses that run more frequently.
42	Need to really connect the Gate-Belmore to any route identified as part of this study.
43	Add a real bus stop
44	Consider trail connections with transit - keep this in mind in long range planning.
45	the more scenic, the better
46	look at the abandoned route south of the river
47	River access/trail would be great
48	James Rd should be considered as an alignment
49	Good place to use existing underpass of railroad corridor to get to the other side of highway US 12 to connection to south side (schools) without an at-grade crossing of high speed/high volume roadway.
50	Consider using already existing public facilities for trailheads.....i.e school parking lot on weekends
51	Would rather have a trail alignment away from US 12 or RR tracks. More of a local roadway....i.e. james
52	Grand Mound Way as a trail?
53	Capitol Land trust property in the area? It's beautiful and would be great to have a trail there, but isn't really open to the public.
54	Add distance markers on the trail for runners/bikers. People like to know how far they go and not everyone has the geo-tracking apps or pedometers
55	the only bits of Scatter Creek I get to see are along 183rd and Case Road.
56	Add a bus stop and get some real buses down here so poor people can get to work. Rural transit is a joke.
57	there are a lot of recreation opportunities in Tenino it would be great to be able to walk/bike to (museum, swimming, etc.)
58	This whole area seems to be greyed out and out of consideration. However, everything West of the Speedway has a Rochester address and should be considered part of this project.

Routes



Map ID	Route Comments
59	use the rr corridor in this area - scenic and more rural. a little bit more in nature out that way
60	This line connect the Casino to Rochester using land already owned by govt and then leaves rochester and goes to grand mound using open land next to the rail line without crossing the rails with the exception of the Rochester Little Rock Rd crossing.
61	Quickest route
62	A trail here would be awesome!
63	These roads are more scenic...I have ridden most of them on my bike. It would be nice to be able to access Scatter Creek Nature Preserve on 183rd. Maybe a second option would be to take the diagonal on Sargent Rd to Grand Mound.
64	direct route would be great, even if it's not the most scenic. would be great to access Rochester by foot - so combining with needed sidewalks in the area would be great.
65	Old hwy 9, from the intersection at tea street to the high school, is the route high schoolers use to walk or ride their bike to school. Currently they don't even have a bike lane when going down the highway
66	The Rochester area lacks any community locations that are easily accessed via trails such as this. I find it extremely important that this trail (if feasible) be connected to other trails that would make access to community areas easier for the resident
67	This area is part of Grand Mound and should be considered for part of the trail. There is no safe way to get from this area to the West side of I5, where all of the business in the area are.
68	would be great to connect to Tenino

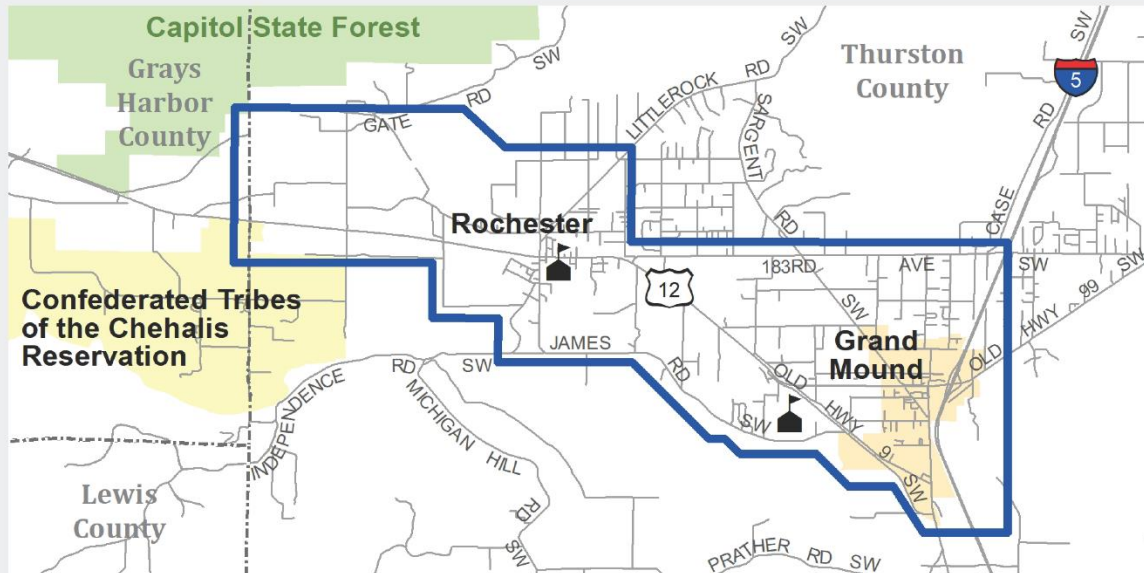
Appendix C. Student Survey



Student Survey - Southwest Thurston County Trail Corridor Study

Student Survey

Tell us what's important to you as Thurston County considers what it would take to establish a shared-use trail connecting Grand Mound, Rochester, and the Chehalis Reservation.





Student Survey - Southwest Thurston County Trail Corridor Study

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1. What school do you attend?

- Rochester Middle School
- Rochester High School
- HEART High School

2. Would you like to see a shared use trail - like the Chehalis Western Trail - built in the Grand Mound-Rochester-Chehalis Reservation area?

- Yes
- No

3. How often would you use a shared use trail if it were built in the area?

- I wouldn't use the trail
- I'd use it every day
- I'd use it at least once a week
- I'd use it at least once a month
- I'd use it at least once a year



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4. What community destinations do you want connected to a shared use trail? (check all that apply)

- Residential neighborhoods near downtown Rochester
- Downtown Rochester
- Area schools
- Theodore Hoss Sports Complex
- Residential neighborhoods in Grand Mound
- Businesses in Grand Mound
- Other destination

5. If you chose “other destination” in the previous question, please tell us what the destination is. (limit 75 characters)

6. If a shared use trail were built, how would you travel the trail? (check all that apply)

- I'd go walking, jogging, or running
- I'd go horseback riding
- I'd go bicycling
- I'd use something else on the trail (roller blades, scooter, one-wheel, etc.)
- I'd use a mobility device such as a wheelchair

Appendix D. Written Community Survey Comments

The following are written comments from community survey respondents. All comments are unedited and may contain typos and grammatical errors.

If you chose “other” in the previous question, please tell us what additional route characteristic is important to you. (limit 50 characters)¹

24 respondents provided additional comments.

Response (unedited)
Access to safe, clean bathroom facilities along route.
Am walking Willapa Hills trail. Very frustrating when no mile markers!!
Benches need build for resting
Connection with schools so students could access.
Cultural relevance of the Chehalis People
Don't remove the RR, it takes trucks off the road
I don't want non natives to have unlimited access to parts of the reservation where hunting and other outdoor activities occur. I want the rez to be open up top hunting no more concerns about shooting toward a trail.
Keep non natives away from the reservation. Stay away from our water and land. This is for personal gain and control. I'm not for it.
Maybe have some parking areas along the way for people from outlying areas to access or for seniors who may not want or be able to walk the full trail distance but just a smaller portion?
Not having homeless trying to move in.
Not interested in having a trail onto the Reservation
Pedestrian safety.
Personal security along a trail like this would be import, like appropriate lighting, open areas to deter suspicious activities, things like that
Police presence for personal security. No hidden or isolated areas to prevent rape, theft, assault, and drug use.
Privacy and hiden trails for relaxing and getting to let go of everything n cailm down
Properly link communities East of I5 with Grand Mound with out having to use a car
quality and safety of trail
Respect and tribute to Chehalis tribe
Safety
safety, as we have few wide shoulders on roads
Safety, Safety, Safety - an a spot to walk comfortably and with pets and spouse feeling SAFE!
The trail needs to benefit Thurston County businesses not tribal enterprises that do not pay taxes into our system
This is a main route already mostly owned by the state or county and would not interfere with local farm and land owners as it would still be within the 30 foot easement. A barrier could be erected to keep pedestrians safe.
Walking down HWY 12 is not safe, Trail needed

¹ The previous question: When considering possible trail routes, what route characteristics are most important to you?

If you chose “other destination” in the previous question, please tell us what the destination is. (limit 75 characters)²

20 respondents provided additional comments.

Response (unedited)
a picnic area or somewhere safe to rest along the trail
Again the lands should not be disrupted. Leave the Chehalis people and their land alone.
Again, I don't want non natives to have access to all areas of the reservation. They shouldn't have free will on our properties.
Capitol Forest
Connect to cross state trail in adjacent counties
Connect to other existing or planned trails or parks
Connection to Tenino
CONNECTION TO TENINO TRAIL
Great wolf
Historic sites
Main concern: pedestrians off of 12. We need a place to run/bike
Oakville
Other existing trails, such as Chehalis Western Trail
Please finish the Gate to Belmore trail that's been in the works for over 20 years. Lack of completion has us viewing the county as inept at completing anything.
Rural farmland and scenery is most important
Scatter Creek Wildlife Area
Southsound Speedway
Stay away from homes and neighborhoods. Protect people. Stay away from wildlife. Protect wildlife.
Unless Chehalis tribe and tribal enterprises are going to be paying for the maintenance on this trail they should not get the benefit of it. I am tired of Thurston County taxpayers foot in the bill for a sovereign nation.
With the Primary School, Elementary School and High School all on the same general location, a connection with them is a must.

² Previous question: How important is it to you to connect the following community destinations to a future trail? (check all that apply)

Is there anything else you would like to share with us about a possible trail in the Grand Mound-Rochester-Chehalis Reservation area?

33 respondents provided additional comments.

Response (unedited)
A trail is needed for public safety. Rochester/Grand mound has a lot of low income folks that don't have drivers licenses and cars. I see people on Hwy 12 all the time and it's just not safe. People who live and work in the area need safe passage from rochester and the reservation to grand mound.
Adequate night time lighting will probably be needed for any trails heading to the casino as people would probably be using that particular trail at all hours
Again, if we give access to non natives on trails to outdoor areas we will likely see increased drug use, heroine needles and other forms of litter on our reservation. Non natives do not treat reservation properties with respect.
Do not allow the homeless to move into this trail.
HOW WOULD THIS EFFECT THE HOMELESSNESS AND TRANSIENTS PASSING THROUGH? WILL THIS BE A POPULAR AREA FOR THEM TO POST UP AND TAKE OVER? HOW WOULD THIS BE MAINTAINED SO THIS DOES NOT BECOME AN ISSUE? MY CONCERN IS A NICE WALK TURNING INTO A SCARY INTERACTION WITH HOMELESS POPULATION AND DRUGS OR PARAPHENILIA ESPECIALLY WITH CHILDREN. THAT WOULD BE A HUGE IMPACT ON FAMILIES IN THE COMMUNITY AND A HUGE DETERENT FOR US THAT LIKE TO TAKE WALKS.
I am against this being built. This is the countryside. Save this for urban areas. Instead, use this money to provide for the homeless and poor.
I am an avid cyclist, run and walk on the existing roads in south Thurston County. We can't afford something like this without additional taxes and none of us need additional taxes. The capital costs for a trail system will include design, planning, and construction with prevailing wages. This is expensive. The usage levels will be very low. People will drive to Grand Mound or to the Lucky Eagle Casino from Rochester and not take a trail. Maintenance will be an ongoing expense to clear the trail of trees, noxious weeds, and to repair asphalt/concrete damaged by tree roots. The trails will also create additional concerns related to security of homeowners, safety for people using the trails, and potential for homeless encampments. The trails will also bring potential locations to dump garbage. We spend money to add fog lines and center lines to all of the county roads. No to trails and no to spending additional money and planning resources for trails. We already pay too much in taxes.
I am very excited about the possibility of trails in this area! We have been waiting a long time for this!
I am very interested in the gate-belmore trail
I like the idea, as long as it doesn't cost me more tax dollars. I'd rather pay a use fee. PLEASE, no more property tax! I'm drowning!
I think you had better reprioritize your assets. This project is more of a wish list item and not a priority. I would think fixing our roads (potholes, brush trimming, reduced speed limits for less fatalities, etc.), increasing the police and fireman, picking up the mass quantities of garbage, finding a solution to all the homeless camps - hint hint - end of Moon road - where it is so dangerous with drugs. I could go on and on....
I worry about homeless encampments springing up along the trail. I would prefer restrooms are not included in this project since they can become locations for drug use, etc.
I would love it if the trail would support interpretive signs about the Chehalis River and the values in the Chehalis Watershed.

Response (unedited)
If a trail like this were created, having a barrier between any close roadways and breaks for people to enter and exit the trail at different key points would be a good idea
Light posts in some of the areas near the roads or rivers/creeks
love that this is happening.
making it to the tribal center would be nice
Need to pay tribute to tribal lands
No trail should be made. Leave the Chehalis tribe and the people alone.
Plan to hire Chehalis Tribal youth to work on the trail
Please do not forget that Grand Mound/Rochester go East of I5
Possibility of going from Oakville out to Elma area. Then split 2 ways up to Olympia and down to Aberdeen. Possible extension to the Coast would be GREAT as well as a potential LOOP with WHT. THINK BIG!! Right?
Rochester H.S. & Elementary School
Surveillance. No homeless camps.
The Willapa Hills Trail is a great ex of a multiuser trail. I would like to see accommodations for equine use, including trailer parking at trailheads and all, or at least half the width of the trail gravel, not paved.
This is fantastic and much needed for the area. Thank you.
This trail should give the story of the Native People of the area
Trails in this area of the county would benefit people who live outside the planning area. We travel to trails throughout the state and would visit trails in the greater Rochester/Grand Mound area.
Until other trails have been made safer and criminals are held accountable the trail should not be built. Current trails in other communities have been taken over by homeless and criminals leaving trails unsafe for families. At this point trails are nothing more than another conduit for criminals and meth addicts to get into our community.
Weve been waiting a long time for this trail head to connect to us out in the S county! We are excited about it!
Who's going to provide security to make sure area residents are not impacted by the vagrant problems that we constantly see on these trails? We also need access for law enforcement to be able to patrol it We also need fencing that's at least 8 ft tall to make it so vagrants cannot disturb local residents.
Would like gravel or side trail for equestrian use.
Your survey is flawed, because the questions are formed in a way that assumes I would like the trail to exist. I do not want this trail to exist. But that isn't reflected in my answers because of your format. This method in no way reflects what the public may really think about this idea, because you've created a survey that biases toward those who would respond positively. Pfffft* fart. You stink.

