**Introduction**

Since the mid-1990’s, the City of Dover has been actively planning and acquiring right-of-ways for a Community Trail Project. The 2000 Dover Master Plan recommends a community trail to provide both recreation and alternative transportation opportunities for Dover’s citizens.

**Location**

The trail follows a former railroad bed through much of the City and provides public access to protected greenways along the Cochecho River. The in-town section of the trail provides a pedestrian and bicycle friendly connection between downtown, (with a trailhead at the City’s Transportation Center) the Dover Middle and High School campuses and Bellamy Park.

**Extension**

The in-town section of the trail provides a pedestrian and bicycle friendly connection between downtown, (with a trailhead at the City’s Transportation Center) the Dover Middle and High School campuses and Bellamy Park.

Rural extensions of the trail provide opportunities for bicycling, hiking, bird watching, and fishing where the trail follows the Cochecho River. The rural portion of the trail parallels Sixth Street providing an alternative transportation linkage to Liberty Mutual, Measured Progress, and other employment centers in the Enterprise Park area.

The trail reached a milestone in 2011 with the ribbon cutting at the trailhead kiosk at the Transportation Center. At that point the majority of the trail was completed. In late 2014 and early 2015 the City applied for a Transportation Alternative Program grant from the State of New Hampshire Department of Transportation. The goal of the grant was to complete the final portion of the trail, from Fisher Street to Central Avenue at the south end, and the connection between Downeast Energy to Beckwith park in the center portion. The City was awarded a $320,000 grant in mid-2015. Working with the Community Trail Advisory Committee, staff will be retaining an engineer to design the final elements and a contractor to construct them. In 2016.

**How Can I Get Involved?**

Dover’s Community Trail depends on volunteers for advocacy and promotion.

- The Trail Committee meets on the third Tuesday of the month
- The trail is available for your local road race, service club activity or adopt a spot location
- The trail is not just a summer amenity, the best way to get involved is to use the trail all year long.
- Take our survey: [http://survey.constantcontact.com/survey/a07ebmmykyf7i5u3y/start](http://survey.constantcontact.com/survey/a07ebmmykyf7i5u3y/start)