

Glossary of terms used in this report

Alternate

A substitute route that a trail might take.

Continuous

Providing an uninterrupted facility for both pedestrians and bicyclists.

Feasible

Possible, based on factors including constructability, budget, public support, and right-of-way availability.

Hard-surface

This term refers to an asphalt (also known as macadam) or concrete paved surface.

Infeasible

Not possible, based on factors including constructability, budget, public support, and right-of-way availability.

Multi-use

Accommodating more (non-motorized modes) than pedestrians or hikers. In the case of the Schuylkill River West Trail, the term *multi-use* means that bicycles are accommodated. No consideration was given for equestrians, as they generally require a separate parallel trail surface. Both *hard-surface* and *soft-surface* trails are multi-use; that is, both trail types can be used by pedestrians and bicyclists. However, narrow-tire, high-speed bicyclists and roller-bladers are discouraged by the soft-surface trail type.

Not readily feasible

Two segments of the proposed trail alignment traverse parcels, determination of the ownership of which is beyond the scope of this study. These sections are can be constructed from a purely engineering standpoint, and within a reasonable budget. Right-of-way availability, however, can only be determined by detailed title search and/or land survey. Until that happens, these parts of the trail are deemed *not readily feasible*.

Option

This study considers three different levels of improvement to Reaches 37, 38, 39 and 40 (including the Harry Olson Trail). These levels of improvement are:

- 1) adding footbridges but leaving the trail as is
- 2) establishing an 8-foot wide soft-surface trail
- 3) widening the width to 12 feet and paving with asphalt

This study calls these three levels of improvement *options*.

Reach

In this study, *reach* refers to a segment of trail, the length of which has common characteristics. The 15 mile long trail is divided into 42 consecutive *reaches*, beginning with Reach 1 at the north end, to Reach 42 at the south end.

Soft-surface

This term refers to a fine, compacted crushed-stone surface. *Soft-surface* trails are not suitable for use by cyclists riding narrow-tire, high-speed bicycles, nor by roller-bladers.

Trail head

Parking area where trail users may leave their automobiles. Signage and trail maps are typically provided to orient trail users. May or may not include restroom facilities.