



Downtown Trail Study

March 8, 2023



Meeting Agenda

- Introduction
- Background and Existing Conditions
- Project Scope and Timeline
- Discussion

What is NVCOG?

- Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments
- Voluntary association of 19 municipalities
- Municipal CEOs - NVCOG Board
- Federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) - Transportation
- Transportation planning, land use planning, environmental planning, and more



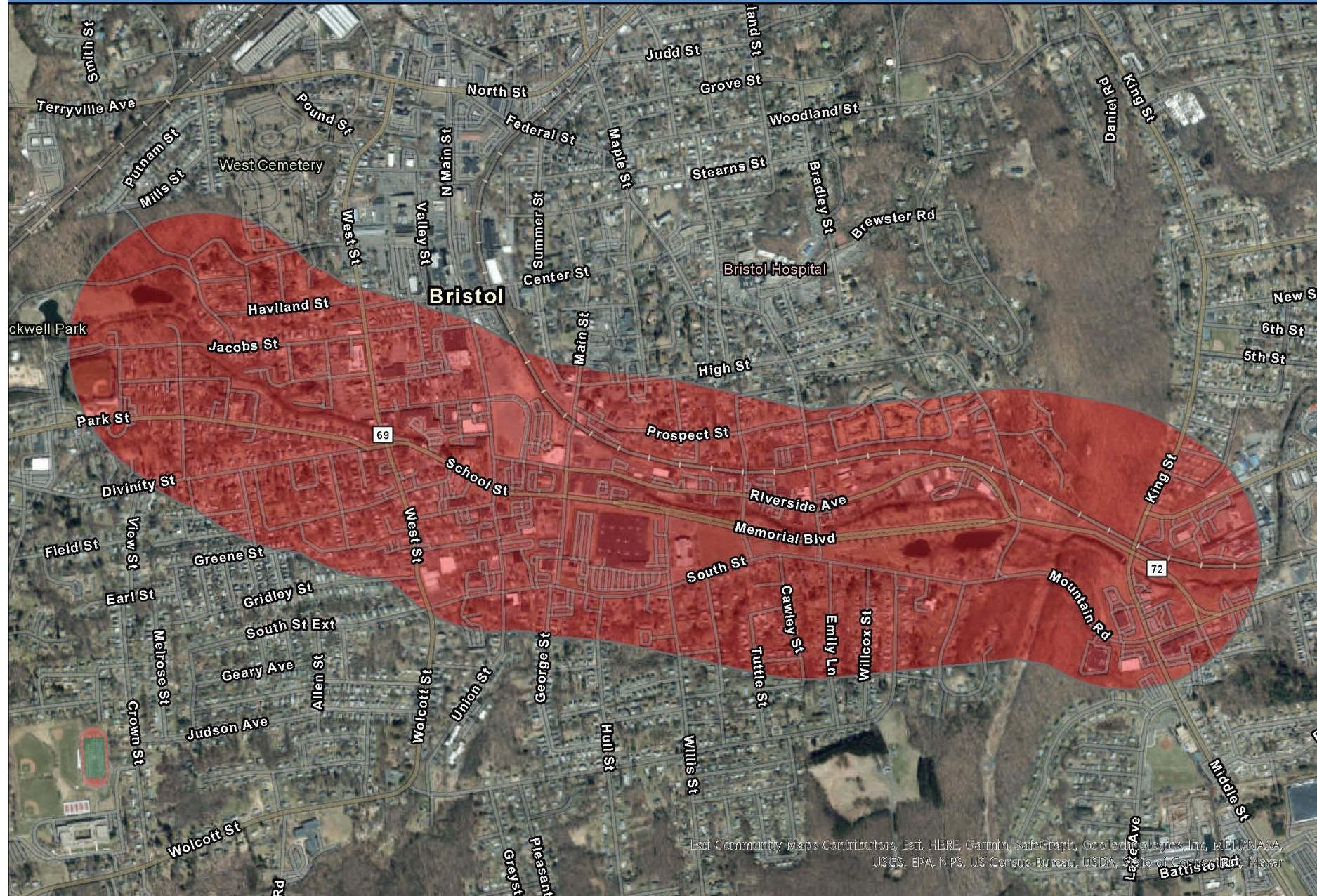
Why are we doing this?

- In support of City of Bristol's efforts to create a transformative recreational space/active transportation corridor
- Revitalize West End neighborhood/economic development
- Ensure safe + accessible way for non-motorized users to travel
- Reconnect residents to natural features – i.e. Pequabuck River
- This routing study will put the City in a strong position to apply for grants for future design and construction



Study Area

- Segment 1:
Rockwell Park to Bracket Park
- Segment 2:
Bracket Park to 229 (along Memorial Blvd)
- Segment 3 (future):
229 to FCHT



Map Community Maps Contributors, Esri, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnology, Inc., IGN, NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USDA, State of Connecticut, Maxar

Background

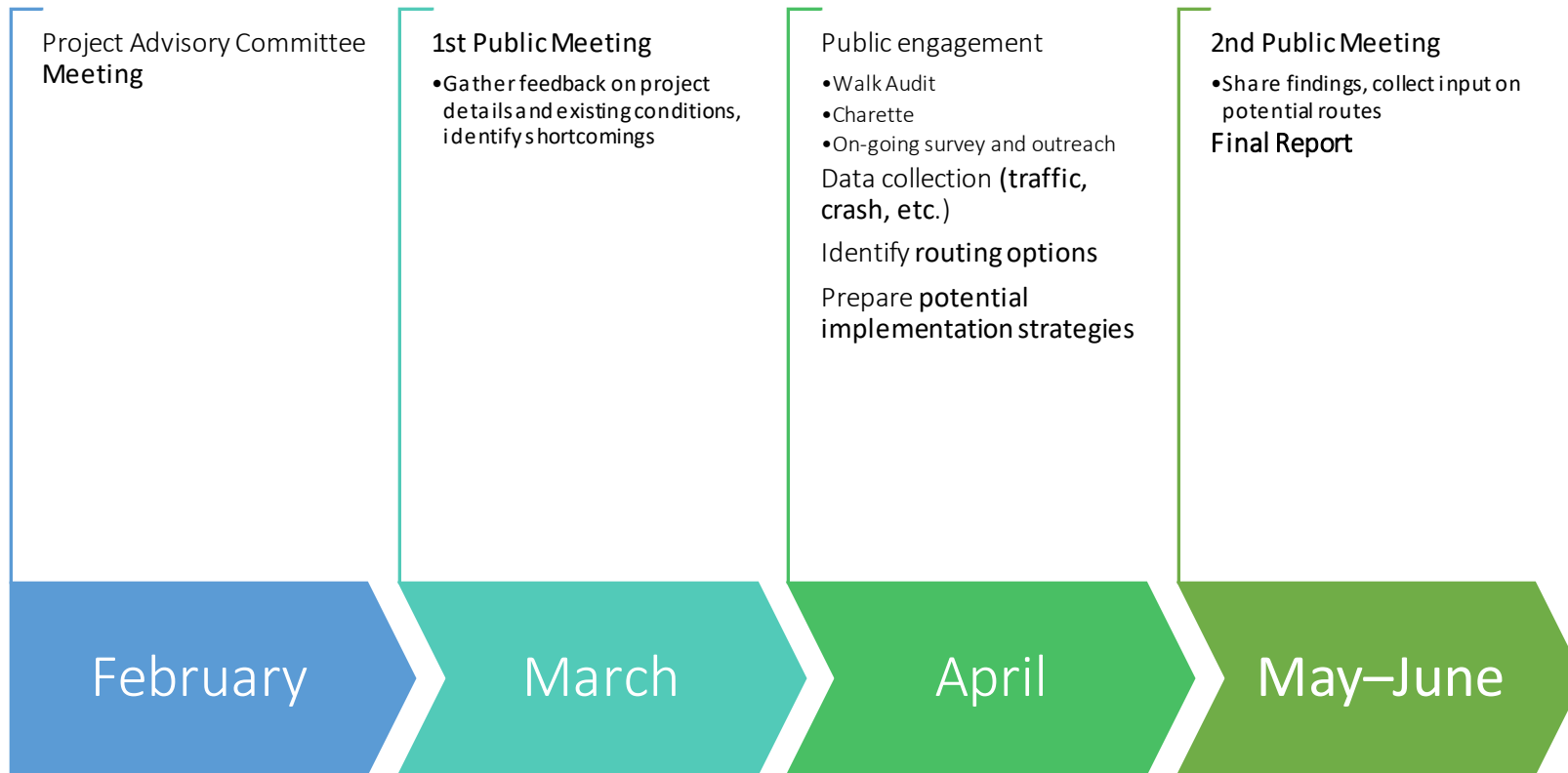
- Existing Conditions
 - Current limited pedestrian/bicycle access to downtown Bristol
 - Route 229 study – North/South
 - Memorial Blvd mobility lane
 - Route 72 Project
- Project concept + goals
 - Create **safe** and **continuous** east-west active transportation corridor in Bristol – from Rockwell Park to Route 229
 - To support future Rec Trails funding for Design of Segments 1 and 2



Figure 1 CT Route 229 Corridor Study Project Limits and Street Names

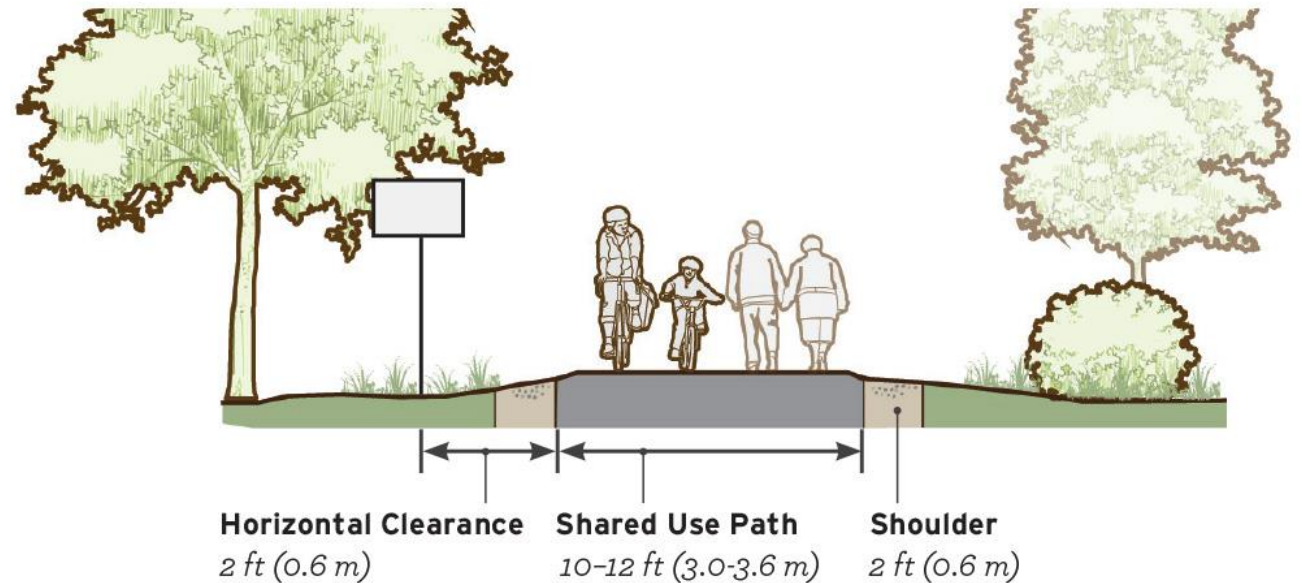


Project Scope and Timeline

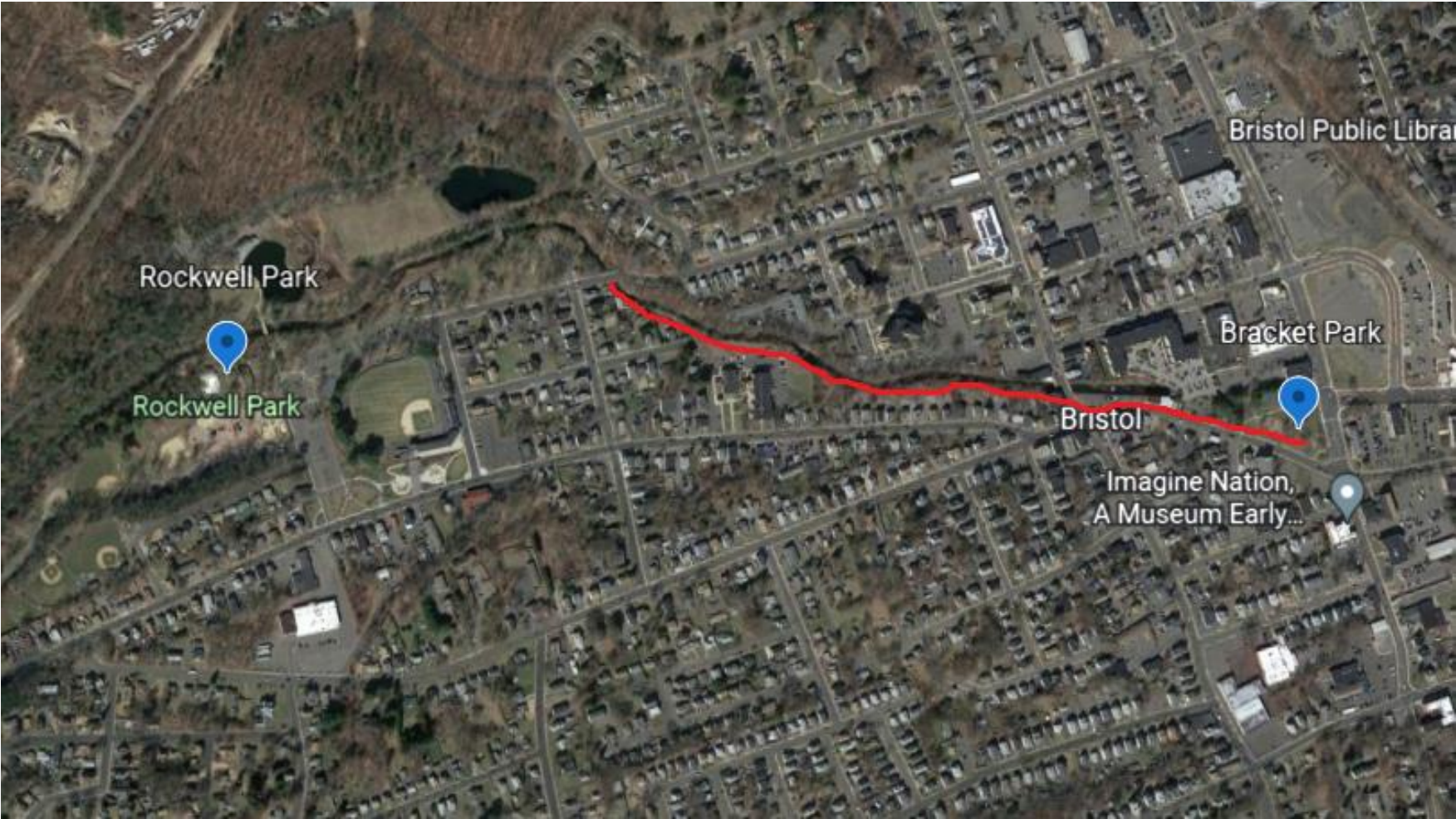


Design Standards

- The PAC is in favor of exceeding minimum design standards where feasible
 - Wider trail widths (12')
 - Shoulders where possible (3'-5')
 - Hard, all-weather pavement
 - Year-round access/maintenance, depending on DPW responsibilities
- Other elements and amenities – wayfinding signage, lighting, bike parking, benches, trash cans, public art
- Mirror design standards of other "flagship" trails nearby, such as the Farmington Canal Heritage Trail

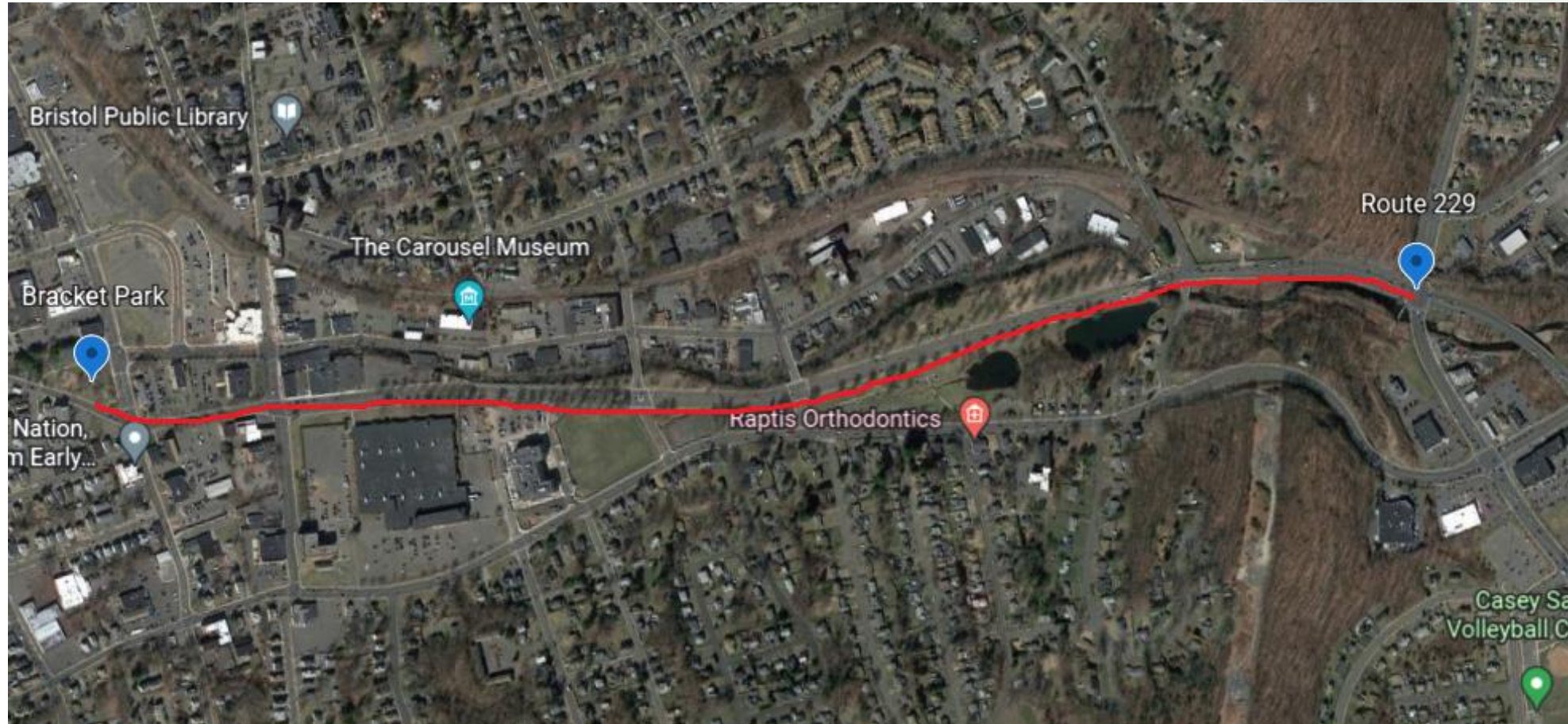


Preliminary Suggested Routing – Segment 1





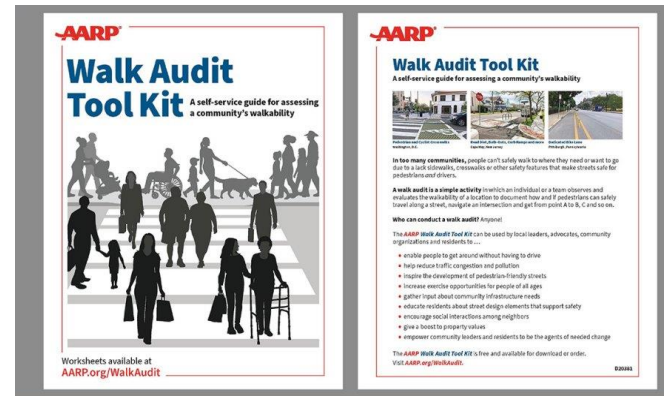
Preliminary Suggested Routing – Segment 2





Future Opportunities for Public Participation

- Walk Audit (with Watch for Me CT)
- Charette
- Online survey
- Website Page
 - Regularly update with project timelines, meeting materials, and findings
 - <https://nvcogct.gov/project/current-projects/transportation-planning-studies/bristol-downtown-trail-routing-study/>
- Social Media Outreach
 - Share project updates and meeting materials
 - Provide opportunity for comments and engagement
- Public Meeting #2 – date TBD



Bristol – Downtown Trail Routing Study

[Home](#) / [Projects](#) / [Current Projects](#) / [Transportation Planning Studies](#) / Bristol – Downtown Trail Routing Study

[Project Overview](#)

[Get Involved](#)

[Maps](#)

[Timeline](#)

[Documents](#)



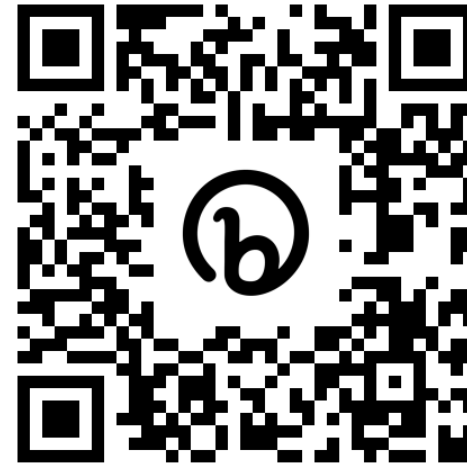
The NVCOG, in collaboration with the City of Bristol, is conducting a study of potential downtown routing options to provide a safe, continuous connection between Rockwell Park in the west to Downtown, continuing east to Route 229. Additional funding will be sought to route a connection from Route 229 to a meeting point with the Farmington Canal Heritage Trail in Plainville.

Discussion

- From where you live, how connected do you feel to economic and recreational opportunities?
- What destinations in or near the study area are important to you?
- Would you be likely to use a trail like this? What would make you more likely? Less likely?
- How would you see yourself using this trail? (e.g. biking, walking, etc.)
What time(s) of day or year would you most likely use the trail?
- What kinds of design elements or amenities are important to you?



Thank you!



- For additional questions or comments, please reach out to Elliot Wareham, ewareham@nvcogct.gov