



# Farmington Canal Heritage Trail Gap Closure and CT *fastrak* Study

CRCOG, Plainville, Southington and New Britain

Workshop Reporting Meeting  
October 6, 2016



CONCORDIS GROEP



# Purpose of Meeting

- Welcome and Introductions
- Review What We Heard
- Next steps
- Your Feedback







# Plainville







# New Britain







# Shared Community Values



Convenience  
Freedom  
Home  
Access  
Location  
**Safety**  
**Proximity**  
**Connectivity**  
Green Space  
Open Space  
**Environment**  
Recreation  
Clean Air  
Climate  
Weather  
Seasons  
**Nature**  
Trees  
Opportunity  
Work  
Employment  
Back Roads  
Bike Trails  
**Schools**  
**Character**  
Rural  
Small Town  
Urban  
Active Lifestyle  
Walkability  
Colleges  
Museum  
Health  
People  
History  
Diversity  
Culture  
**Community**  
Friends  
Good neighbors  
**Family**





# Focus Group Meetings











# New Britain

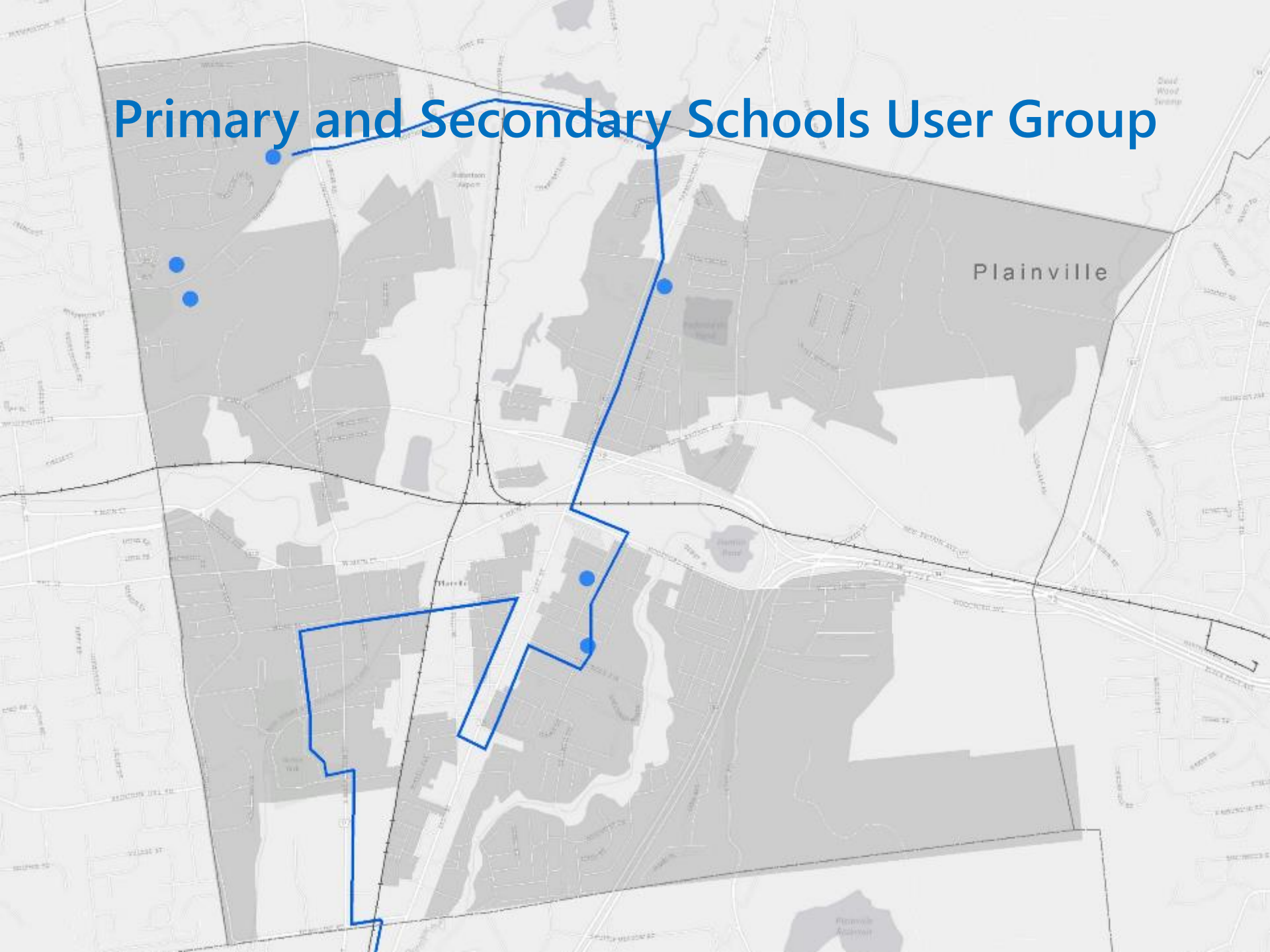




**PLAINVILLE**

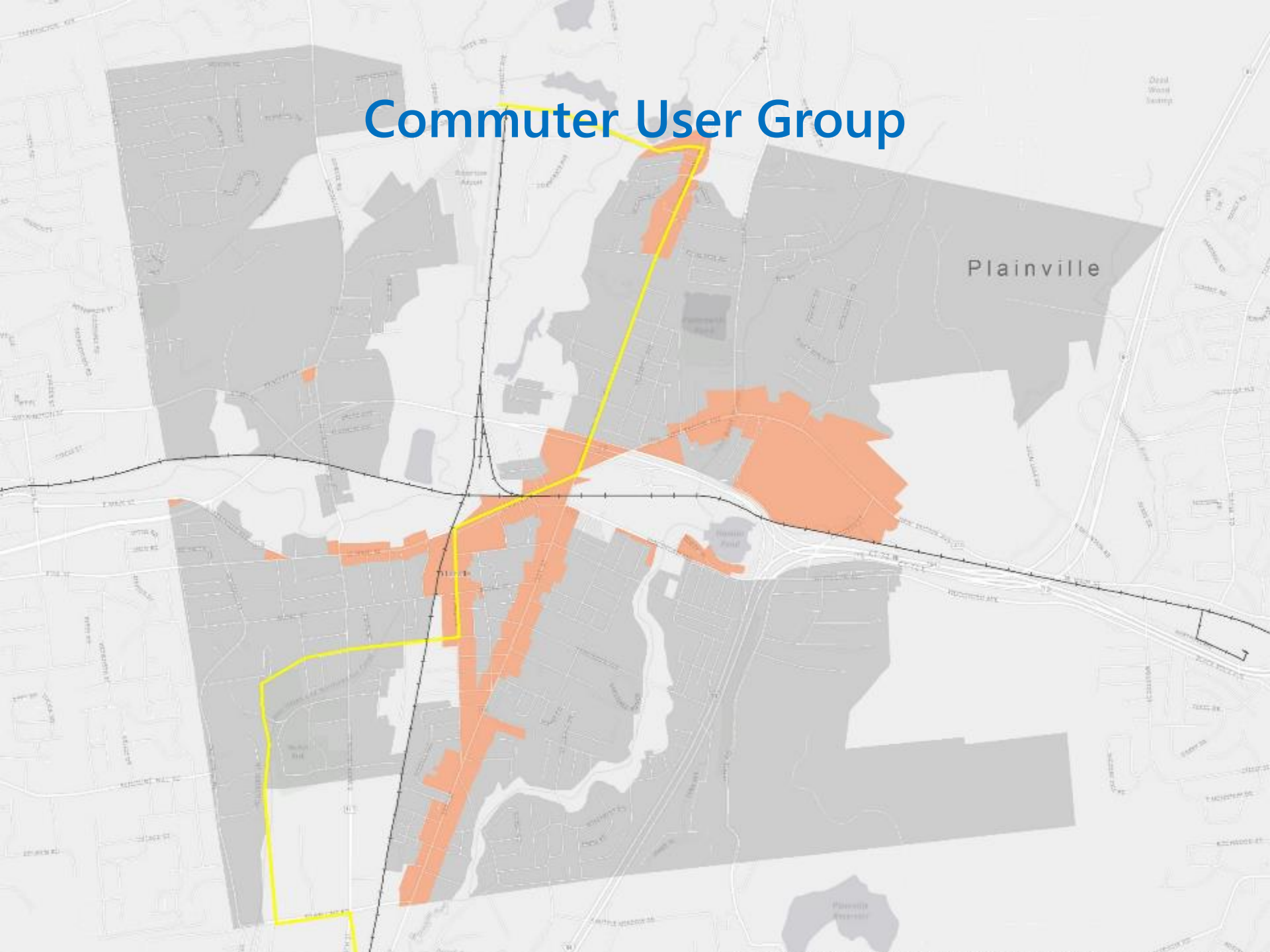


# Primary and Secondary Schools User Group





# Commuter User Group

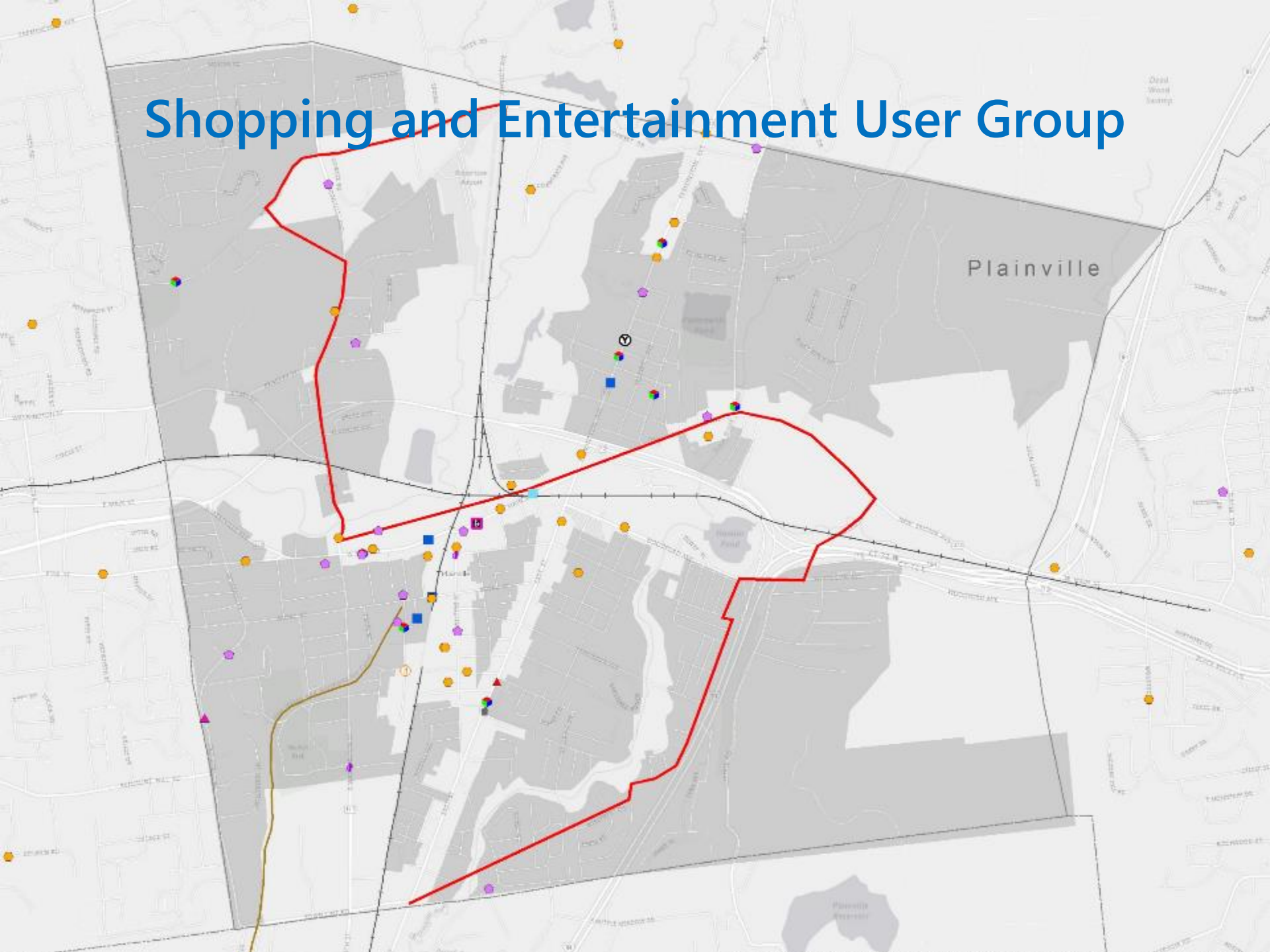


# Parks and Recreation User Group

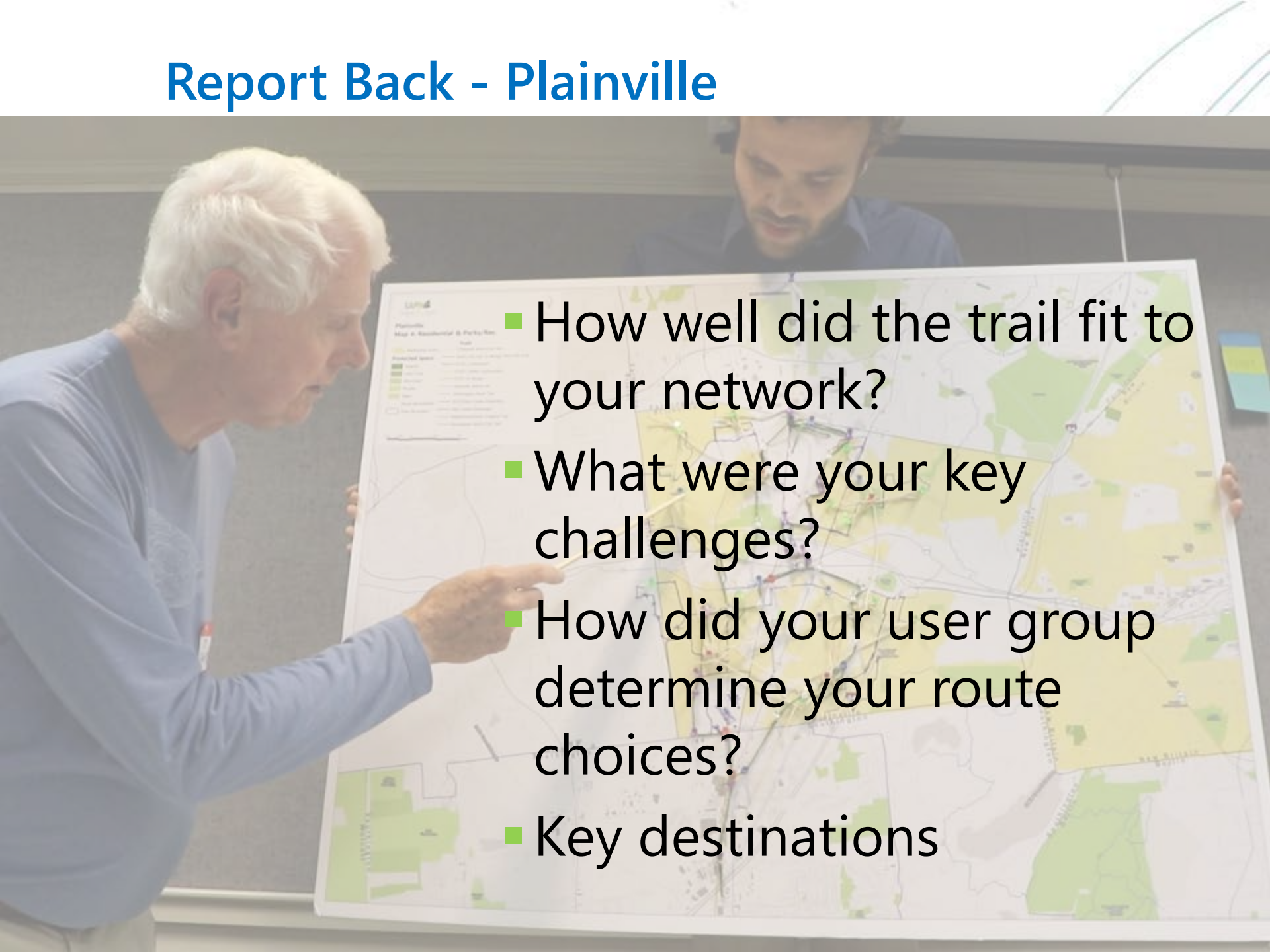




# Shopping and Entertainment User Group



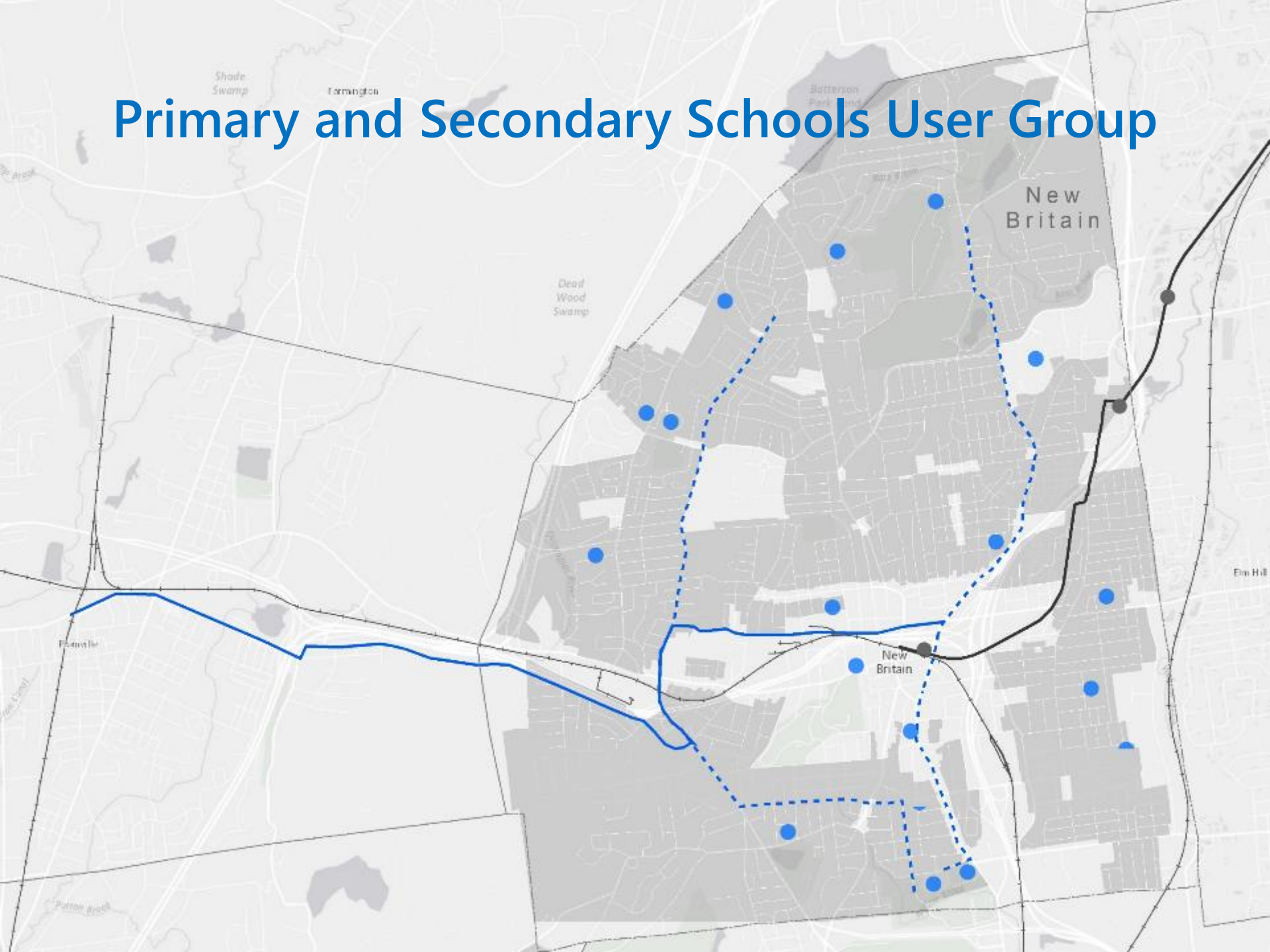
# Report Back - Plainville

- 
- How well did the trail fit to your network?
  - What were your key challenges?
  - How did your user group determine your route choices?
  - Key destinations



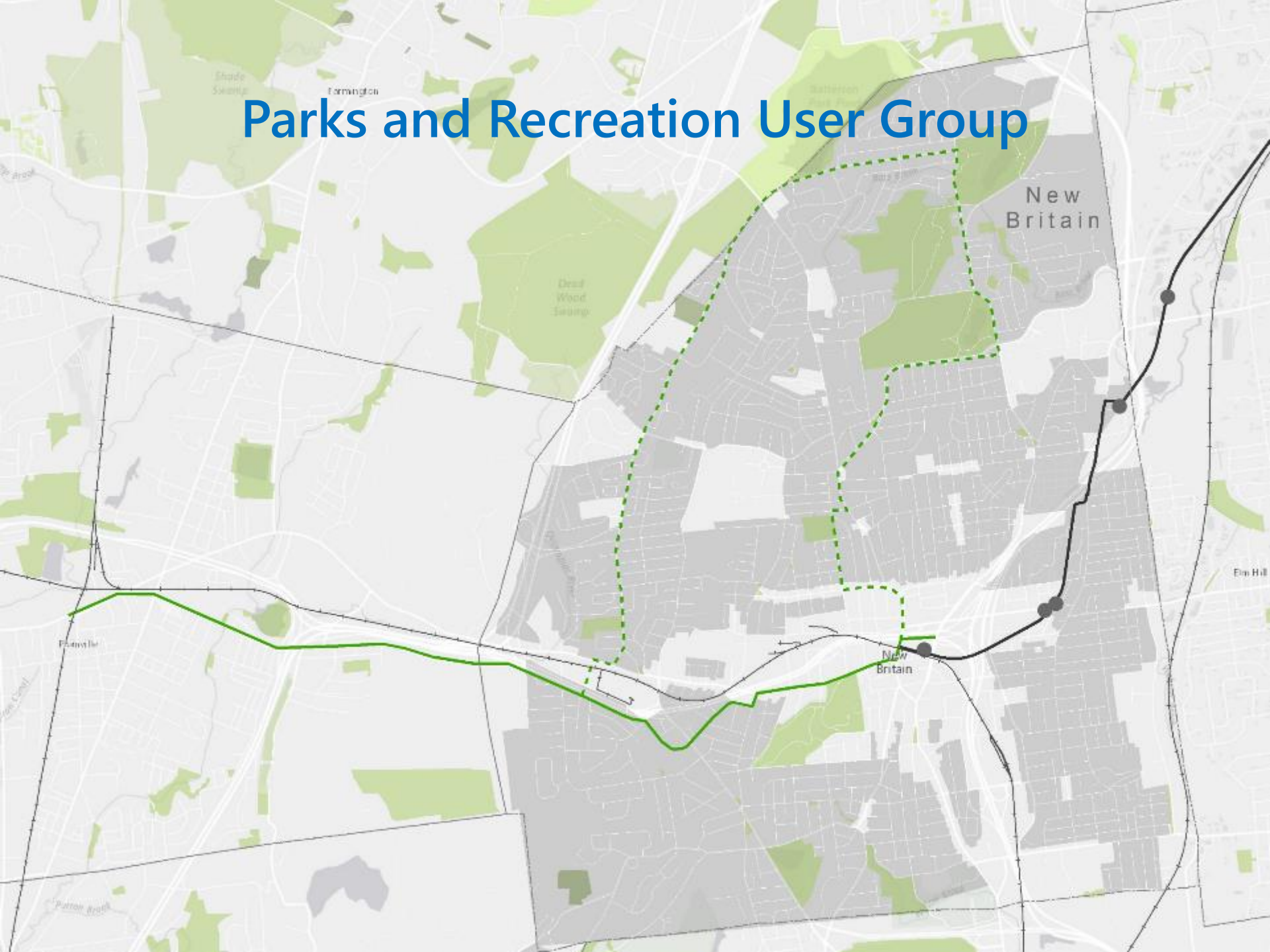
**New Britain**

# Primary and Secondary Schools User Group



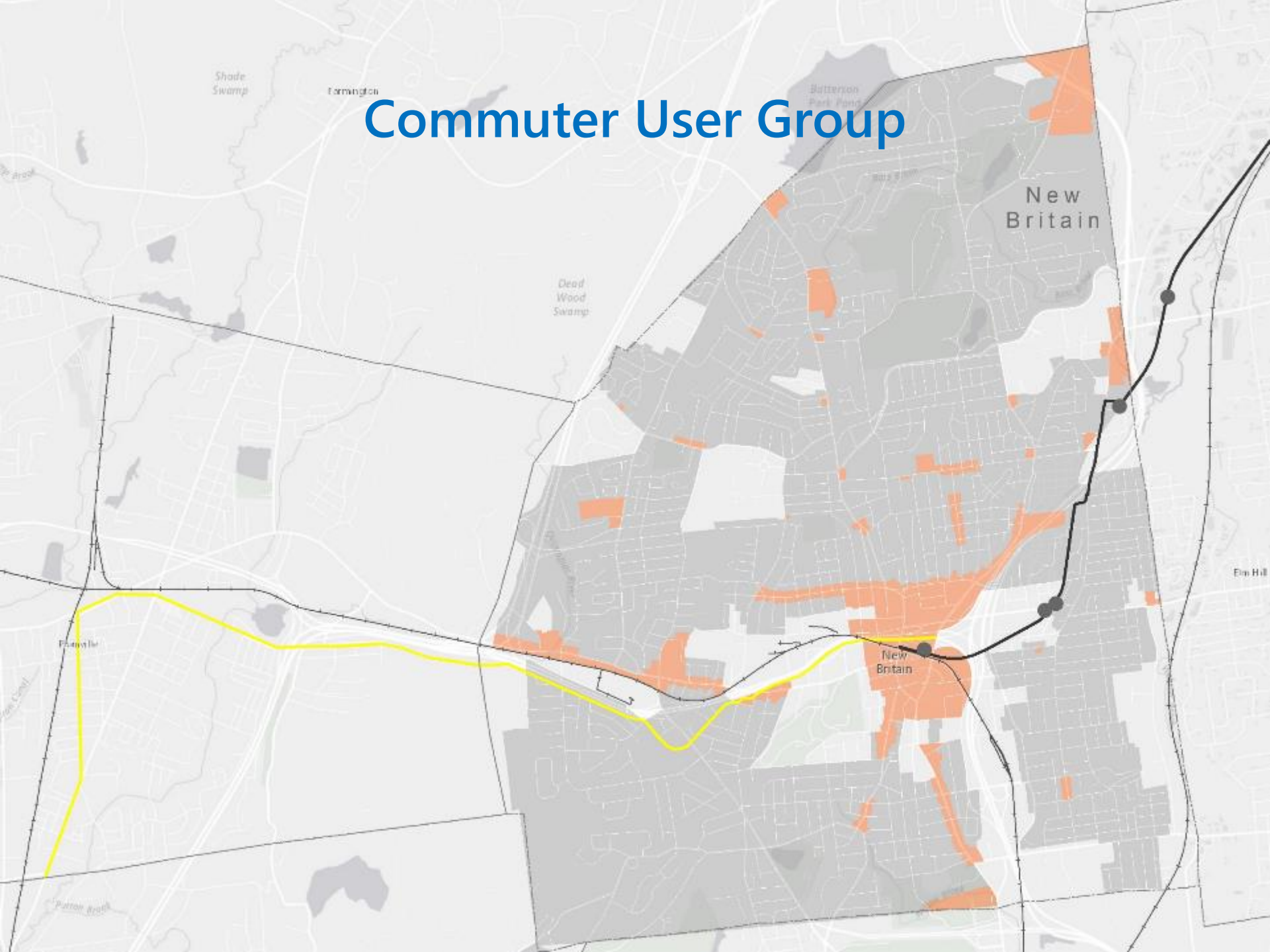


# Parks and Recreation User Group

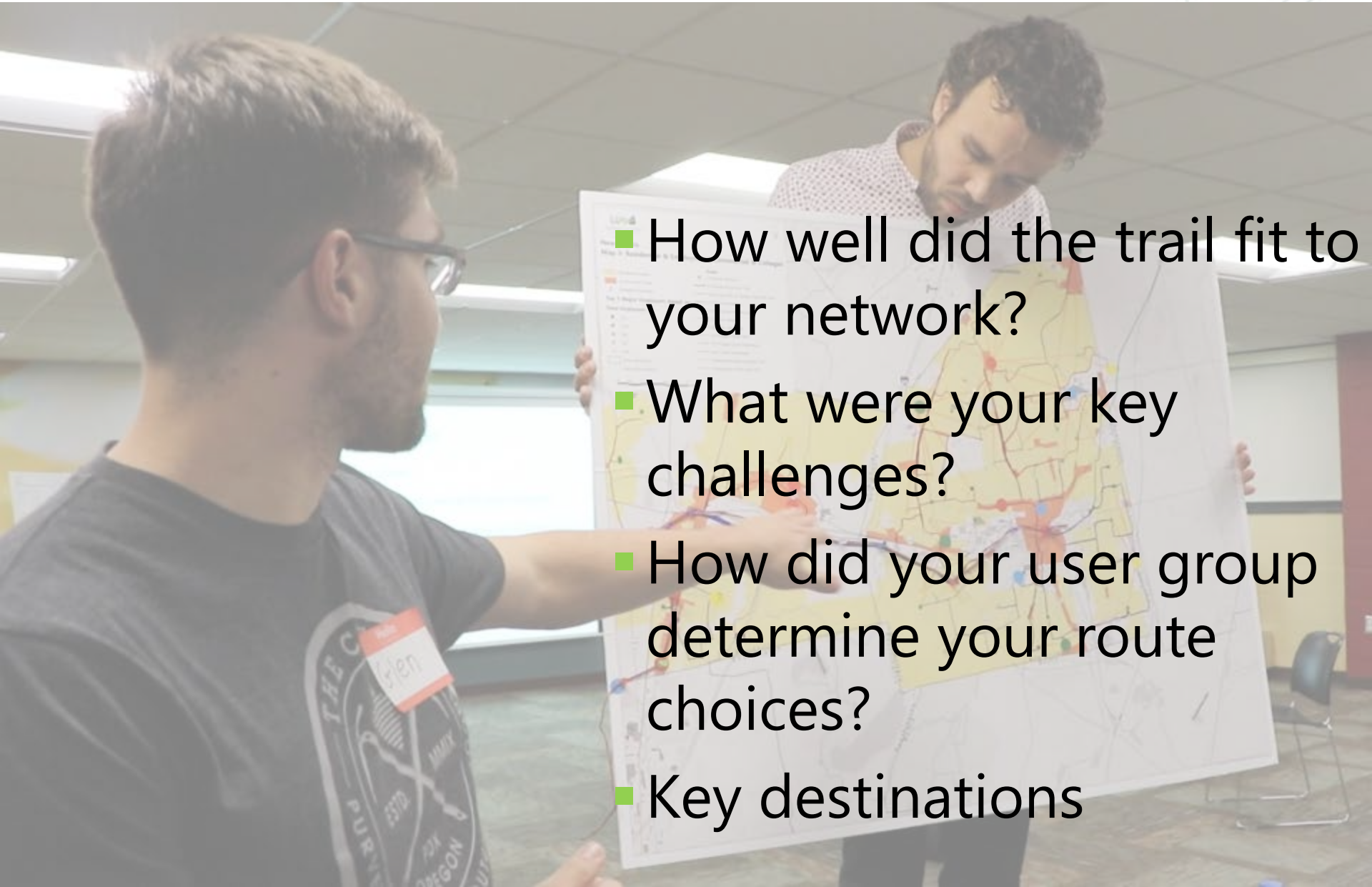




# Commuter User Group



# Report Back – New Britain



- How well did the trail fit to your network?
- What were your key challenges?
- How did your user group determine your route choices?
- Key destinations





**NEW BRITAIN**



# Plainville

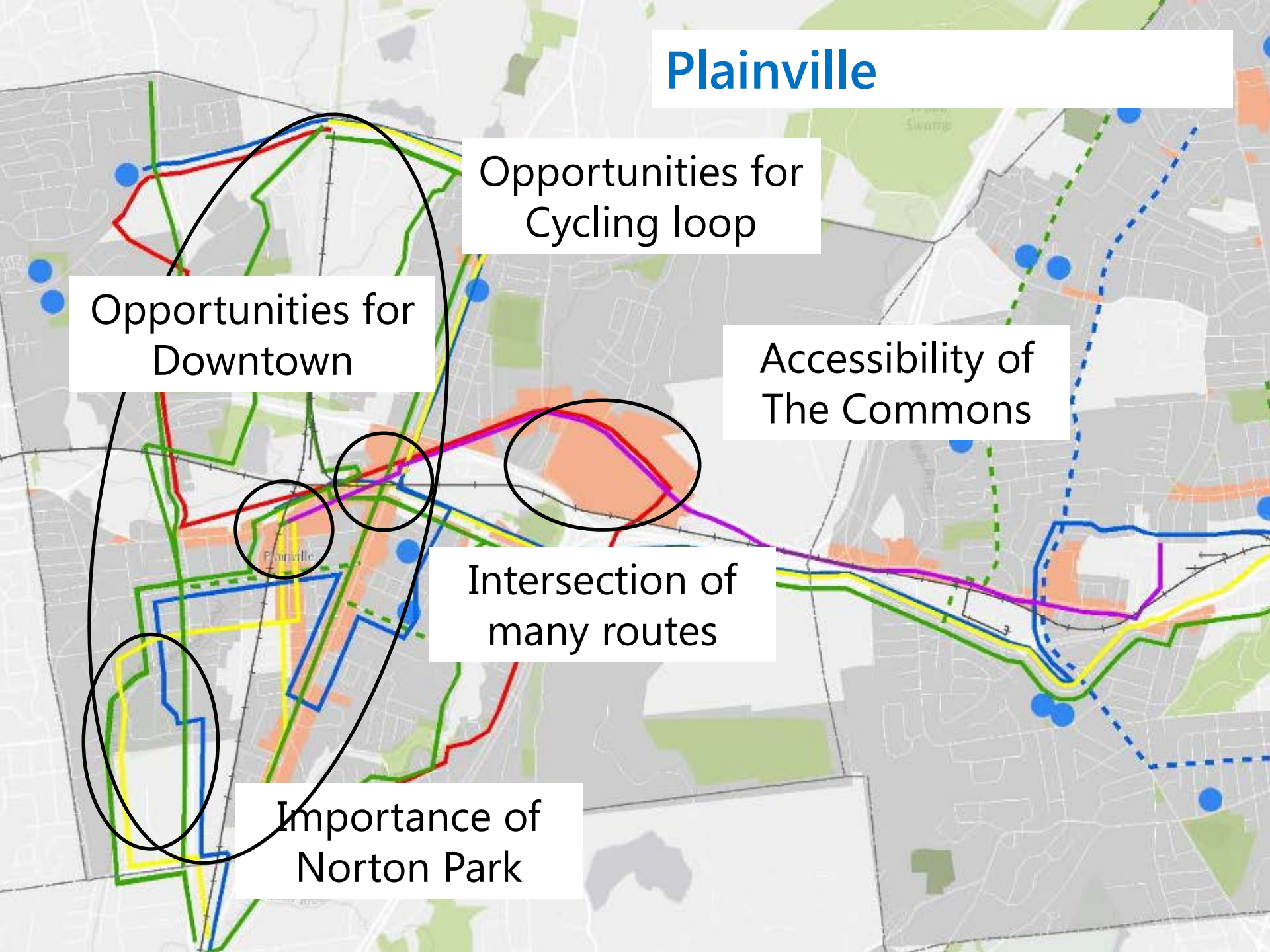
Opportunities for  
Cycling loop

Opportunities for  
Downtown

Accessibility of  
The Commons

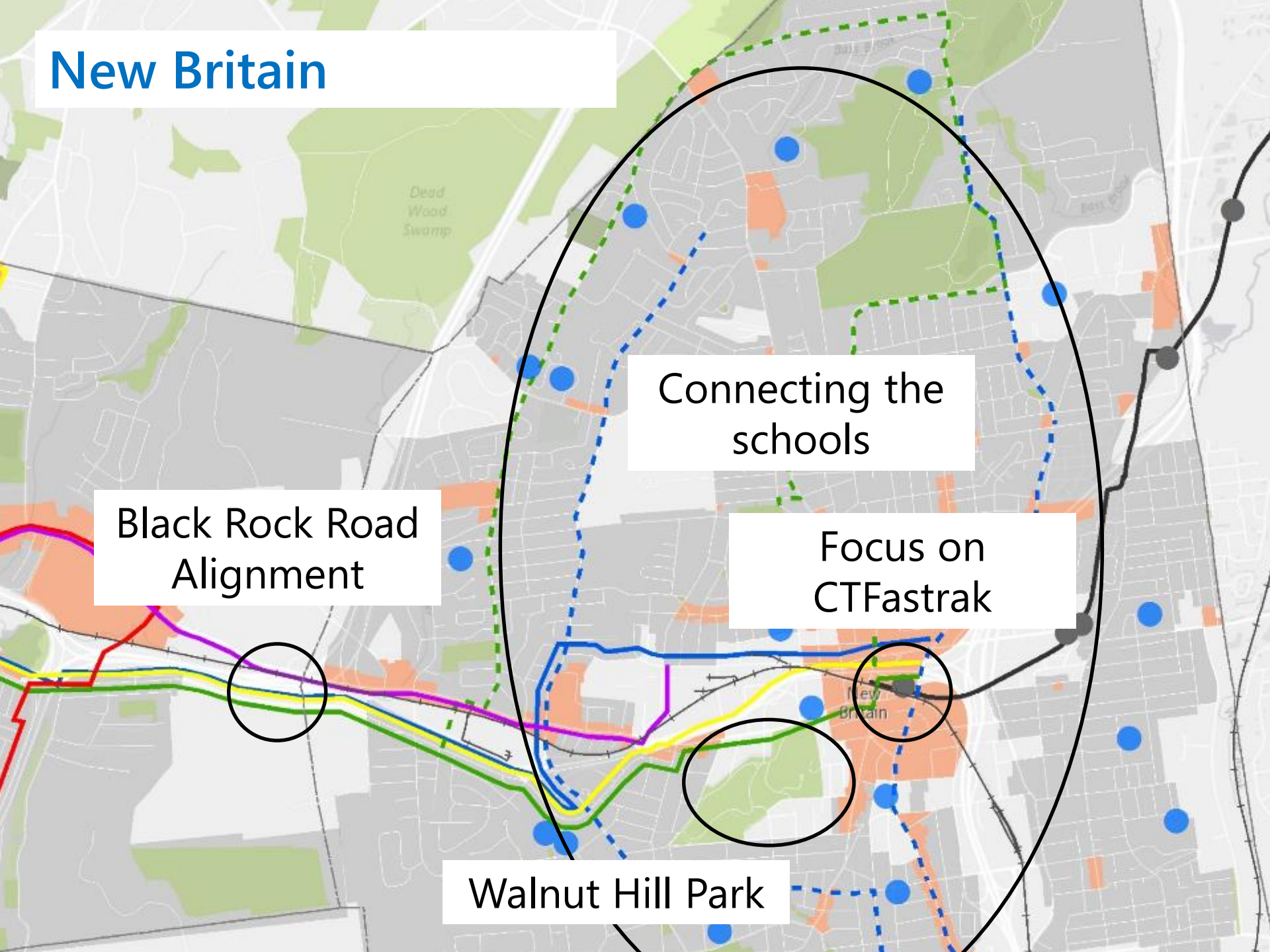
Intersection of  
many routes

Importance of  
Norton Park





# New Britain



Black Rock Road  
Alignment

Connecting the  
schools

Focus on  
CTfastrak

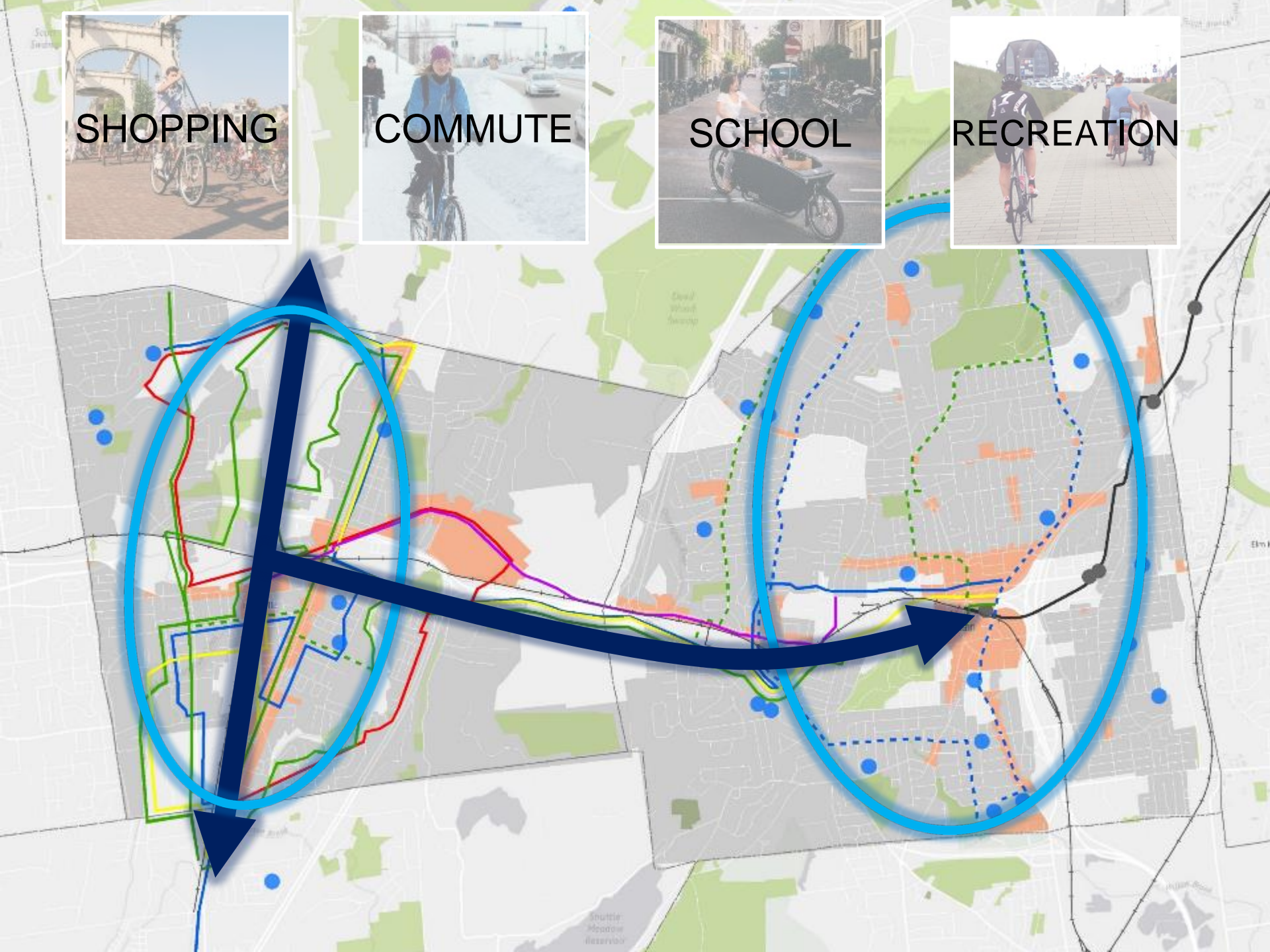
Walnut Hill Park

SHOPPING

COMMUTE

SCHOOL

RECREATION



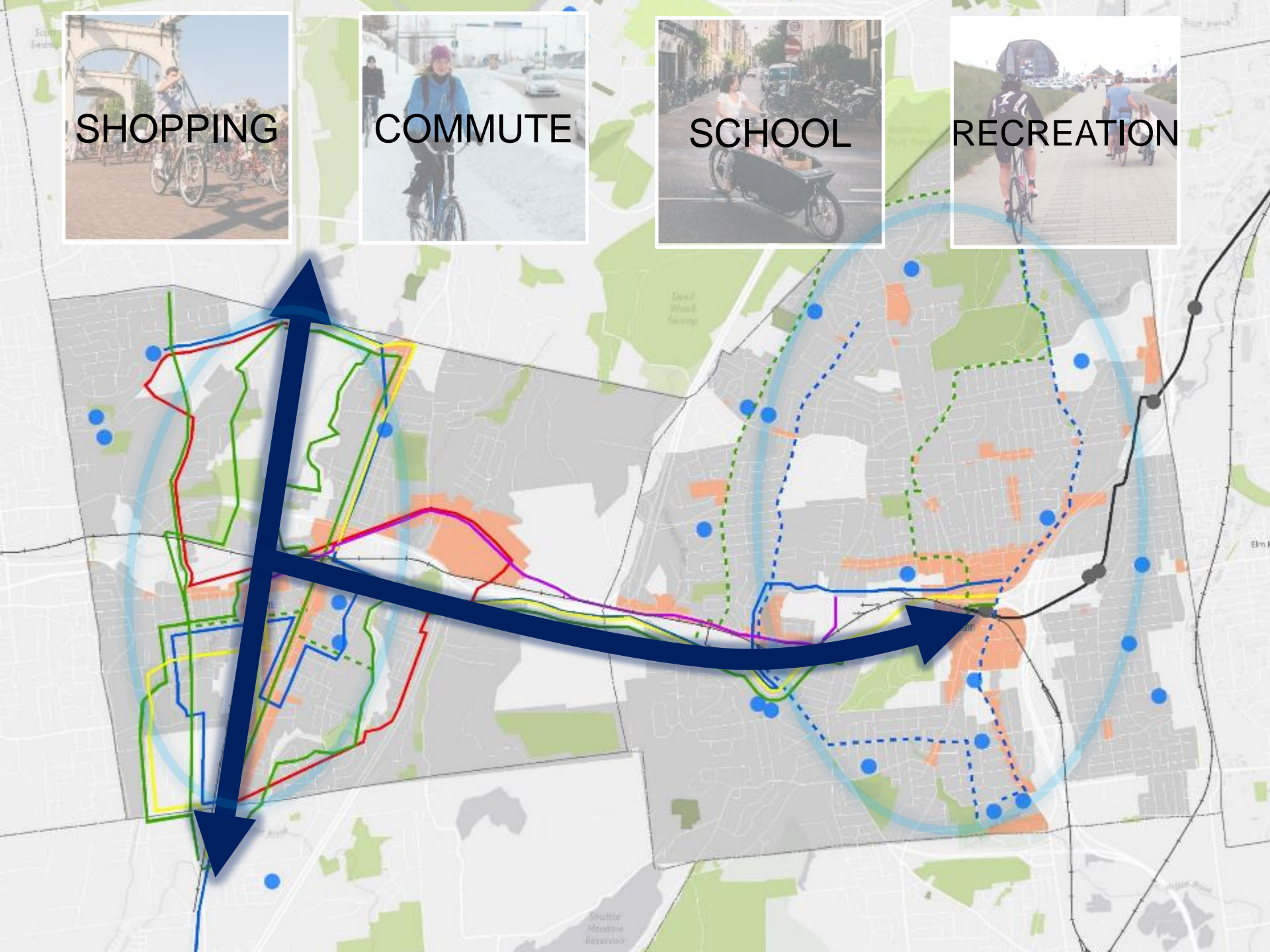


SHOPPING

COMMUTE

SCHOOL

RECREATION



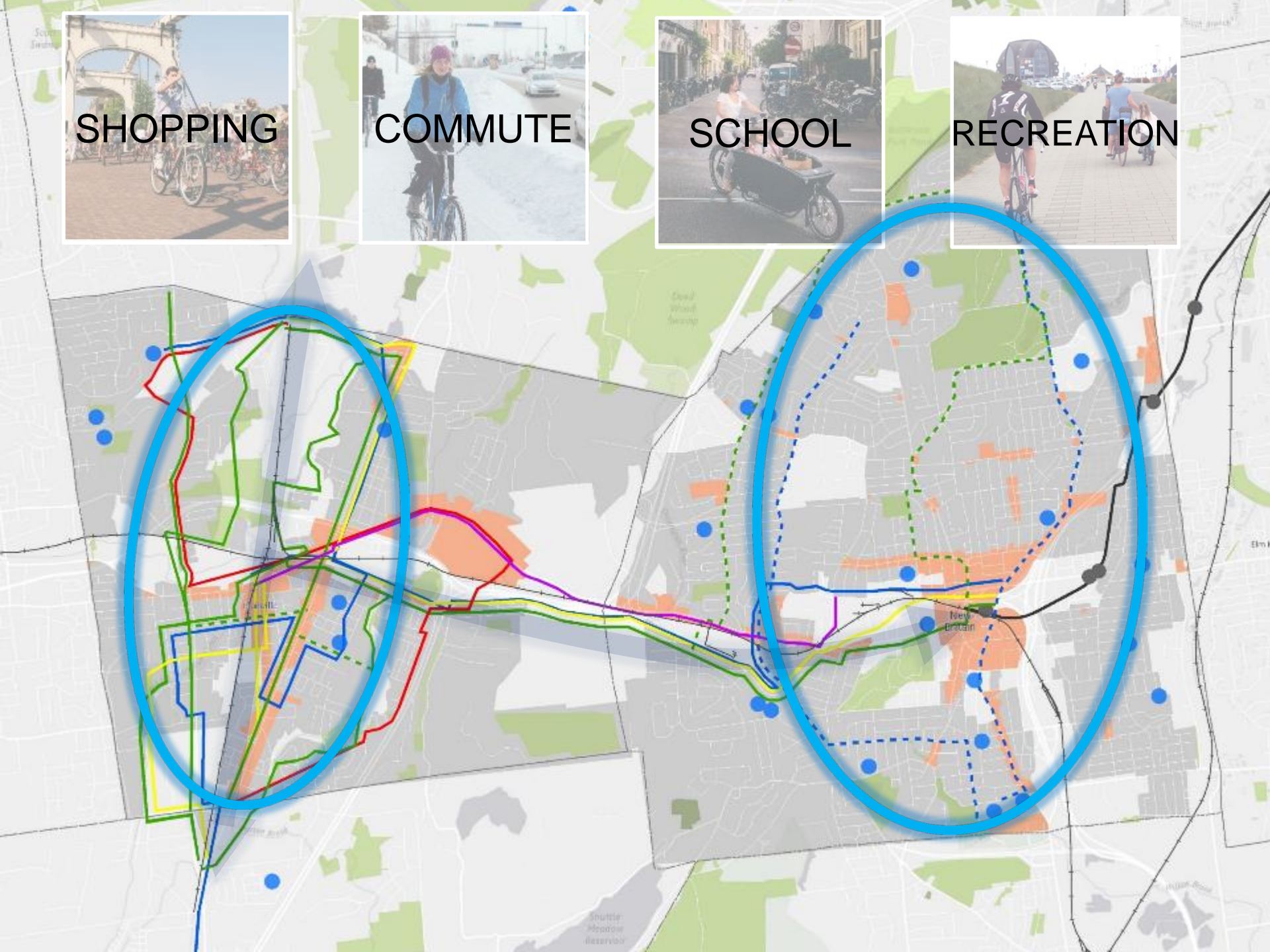


SHOPPING

COMMUTE

SCHOOL

RECREATION

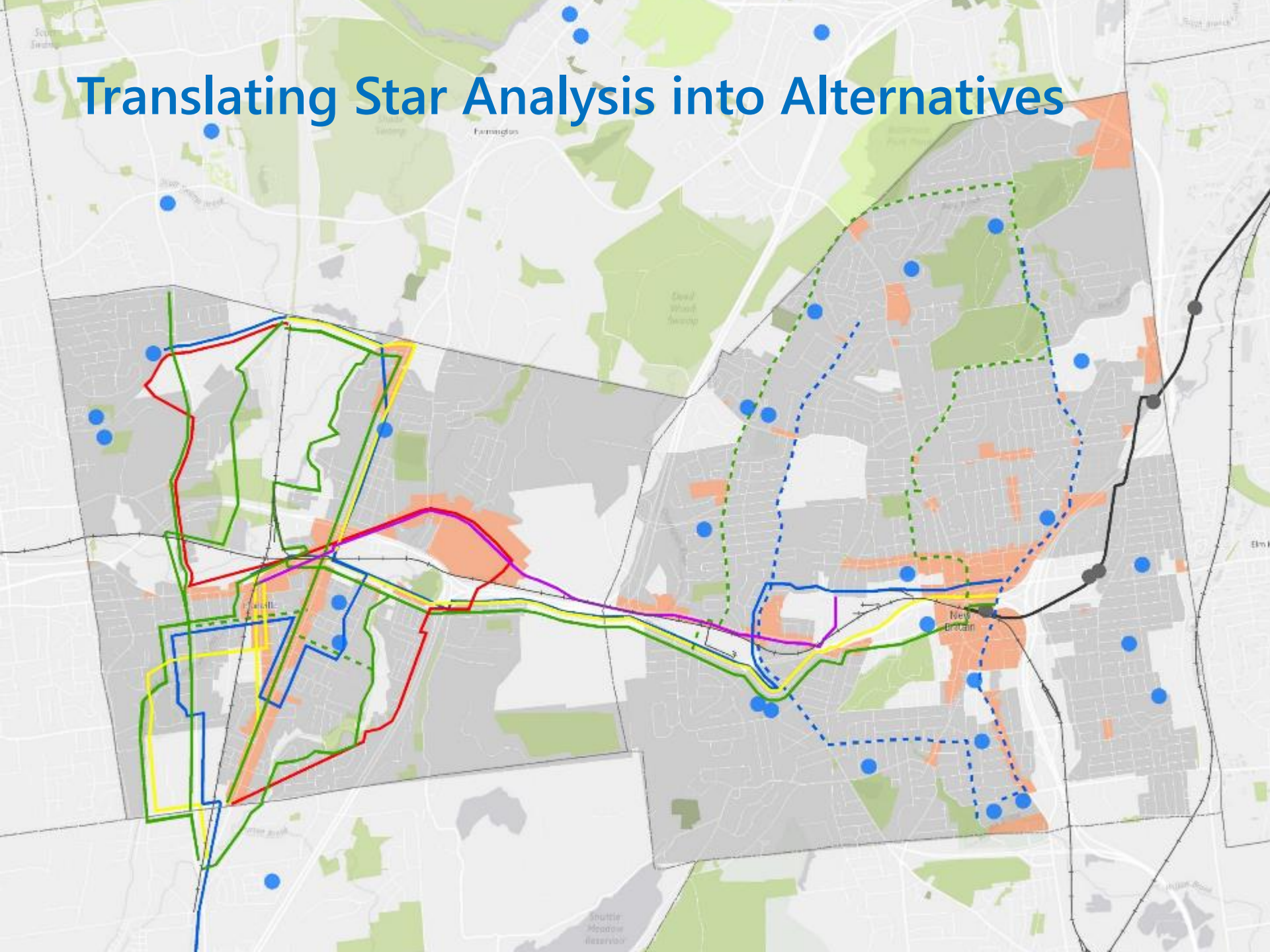




# Next Steps



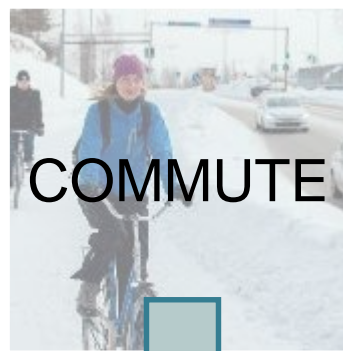
# Translating Star Analysis into Alternatives



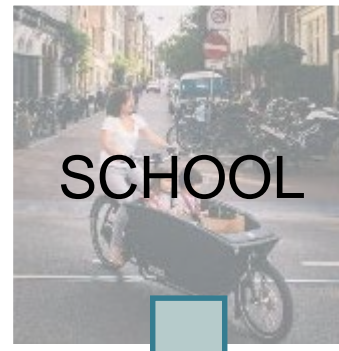




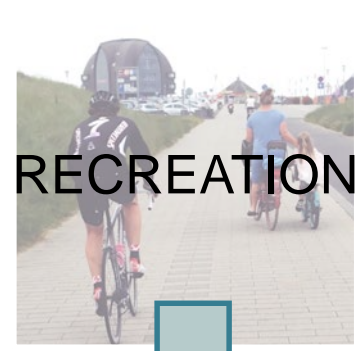
SHOPPING



COMMUTE



SCHOOL



RECREATION

TECHNICAL ANALYSIS

DECISION MATRIX

ALTERNATIVES

# Technical Evaluation Process

- Alignments will be evaluated to determine which facility type is appropriate for each part of the alignment.
- Once the facility type is determined, alignments will be evaluated using the decision matrix.
- Evaluation will include:
  - Connectivity
  - Traffic Safety
  - On vs. Off Road
  - Personal Security
  - Environmental Impacts
  - Right-of-way impacts
  - Cost



# Decision Matrix by Engineers



# Evaluation Process

Inputs: Alignments



Outputs: Top Four Preferred Alignments



# Decision Matrix Criteria

- Connectivity – To trails, destinations, schools, etc.
- Safety of Trail – From Traffic and Personal Safety
- Environmental Impacts
- Cost
- On Road / Off Road
- Right-of-way/Property Impacts

Variable	Connectivity
Schools	0
Recreation Facilities	9
Commercial Locations	396
Cultural Resources	32
Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plainville: 4,087</li> <li>• Southington: 320</li> <li>• Farmington: 55</li> </ul>
	Environmental
Wetland Impact	4.51
Floodplain Impact	25.6%
Natural Diversity Database	No
Historic Cultural Resources	3
Hazardous Materials	4
Impervious Surface	6.18
	Potential Property Impacts
Private Property	72
Town-Owned Property	6

# Facility Types



**Separated Bike Lane**



**Buffered Bike Lane**



**Active Rail with Trail**



**Bike Lane**



# Facility Types



**Multi-use Trail**



**Bike Shoulder**



**Marked Shared Lane (Sharrow)**



**Sidepath**

# We Want to Hear From You!

## Public Information Meeting Early Winter





# Website - Best way to get Information



Select Language ▼

Home About Participate Study Team Resources FAQ



The Capitol Region Council of Governments (CROC), the Connecticut Department of Transportation (Department), the Town of Plainville (Plainville), the Town of Southington (Southington), the City of New Britain (City) and the Plainville Greenway Alliance (PGA) have initiated this study to evaluate the feasibility of potential alignments and infrastructure needs for the Farmington Canal Heritage Trail (FCHT) through Plainville and into Southington and a connection to New Britain's bicycle network and CTfastrak station.

This study will have two distinct objectives:

1. Close the Gap in the FCHT through Southington and Plainville and
2. Identify a connection to the CTfastrak station in New Britain.

The FCHT runs from New Haven, CT to Northampton, MA, covering approximately 84 miles. Of these 84 miles, the only Gap in the trail is through the Town of Plainville and into Southington, all other sections are either completed, or in design or construction. The Plainville section has not been completed due largely to an active rail line being present within the FCHT corridor.

The recent opening of CTfastrak in Connecticut includes a new multi-use trail for central Connecticut. The next logical step is to connect the FCHT to the CTfastrak station in New Britain and its adjacent multi-use trail to further enhance the bicycle and pedestrian amenities in the region. Since all CTfastrak buses are equipped with bicycle racks, this connection can greatly extend the distance a cyclist can travel to get to

## UPCOMING EVENTS

October 3, 2016

**Plainville Planning Workshop**

5:00 - 8:00 PM

Plainville Public Library

October 4, 2016

**New Britain Planning Workshop**

5:30 - 8:00 PM

New Britain Public Library





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