Project Background

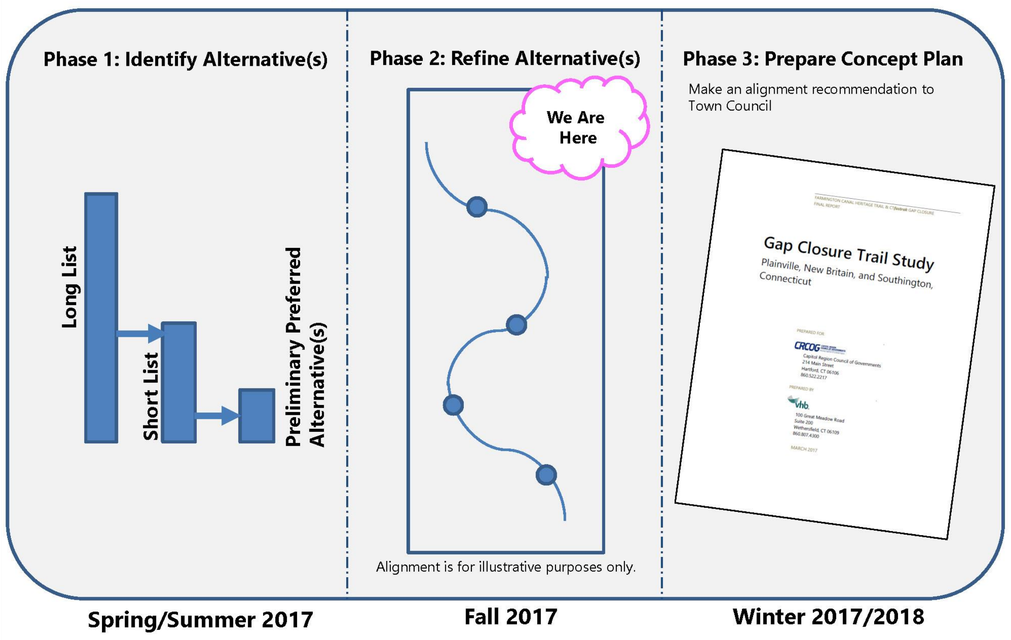
GAP CLOSURE TRAIL STUDY
Plainville • Southington • New Britain

Vision Statement

"The vision for the Farmington Canal Heritage Trail Gap Closure and CT***fastrak*** Connection Study is to connect the communities with a **world-class multi-use trail** that closes the gap in the Farmington Canal Heritage Trail (FCHT) through the towns of Southington and Plainville with a connection to the CT***fastrak*** station in downtown New Britain. These links will **prioritize safety, comfort, and mobility for all users**, **regardless of age or ability**, through cohesive and attractive trails that promote economic and community vitality."

1

Our Workplan



2

Alternatives Analysis

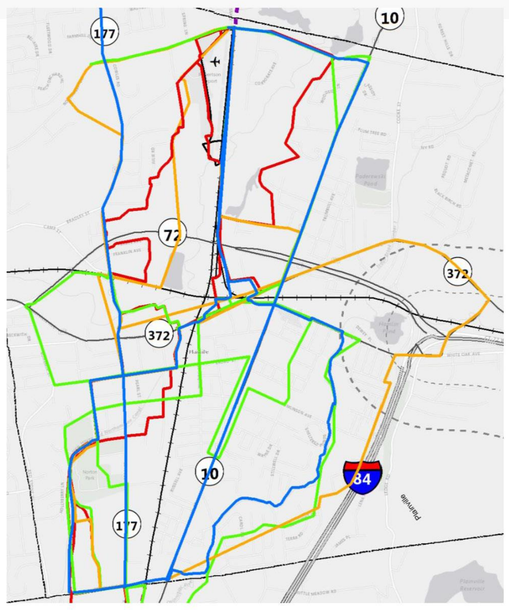
Long List of Potential Alternatives
(14 in Plainville, 5 in New Britain)

Short List of Practical and Feasible Alternatives
(4 in Plainville, 2 in New Britain)

Preliminary Preferred Alternative(s)
(1 in Plainville
1 in New Britain)

3

Long List of Potential Alternatives - FCHT



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Long List of Alternatives – *Ctfastrak* Connection

5

Screening Criteria

Screening Criteria	Threshold
Connection with FCHT (Plainville)	North West Drive to Town Line Road
Connection with CTfastrak (New Britain)	CTfastrak station (New Britain)
Connection with downtown Plainville	Connects with Main Street) somewhere between Woodford Avenue and Rte 177
Major off-road element	More than 75% off-road
Avoids significant ROW impacts	Fewer than 30
Avoids undue reliance on Rail ROW	Avoids permanent impacts to Waterbury Branch and rail yard Fewer than three at-grade crossings of the Waterbury Branch
Avoids being overly circuitous	Not more than double straight-line distance

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CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Project Background

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CLOSURE TRAIL STUDY
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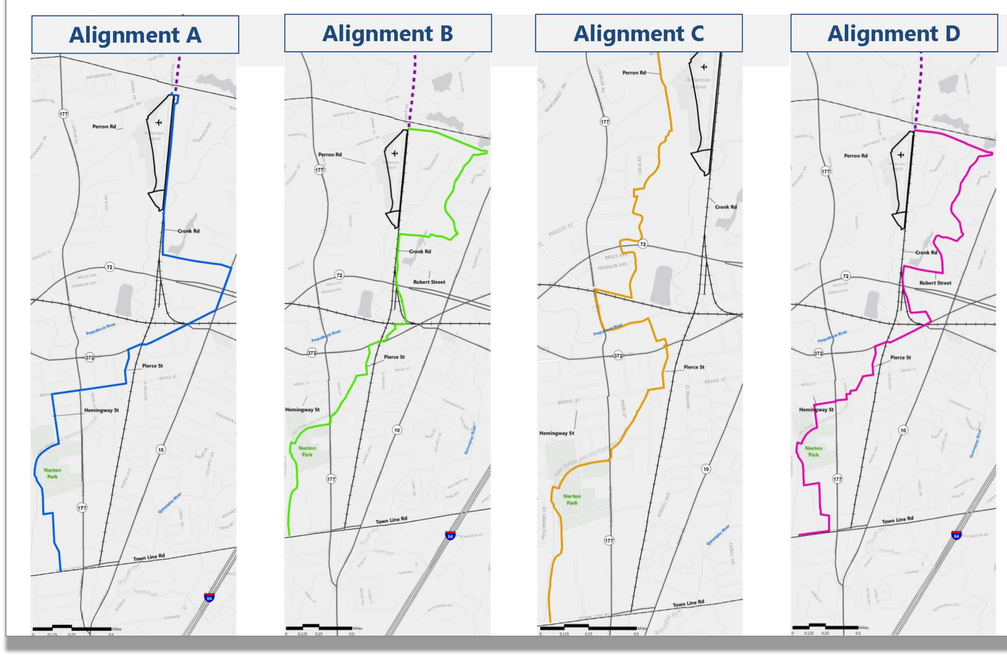
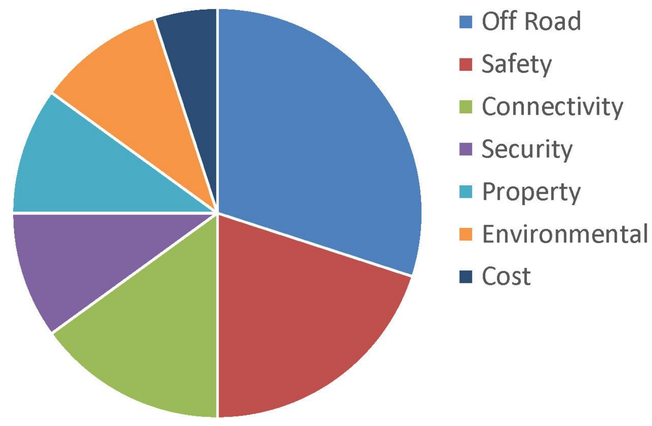
Shortlisted Alignments - FCHT



1

Weighting of Criteria



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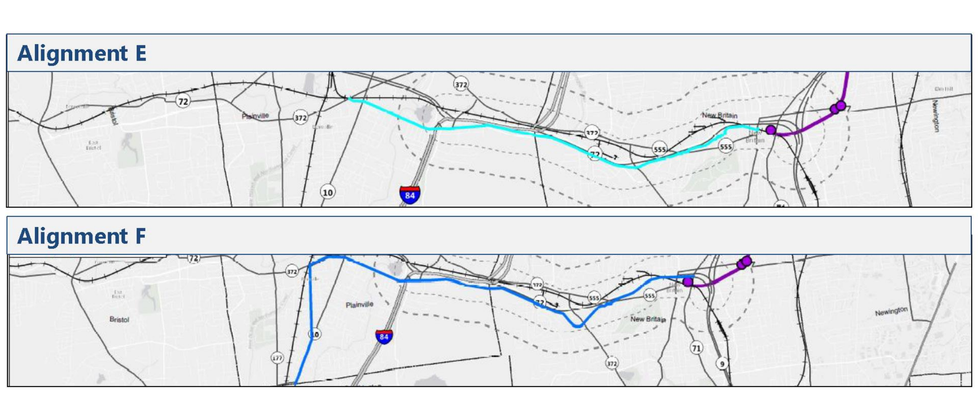
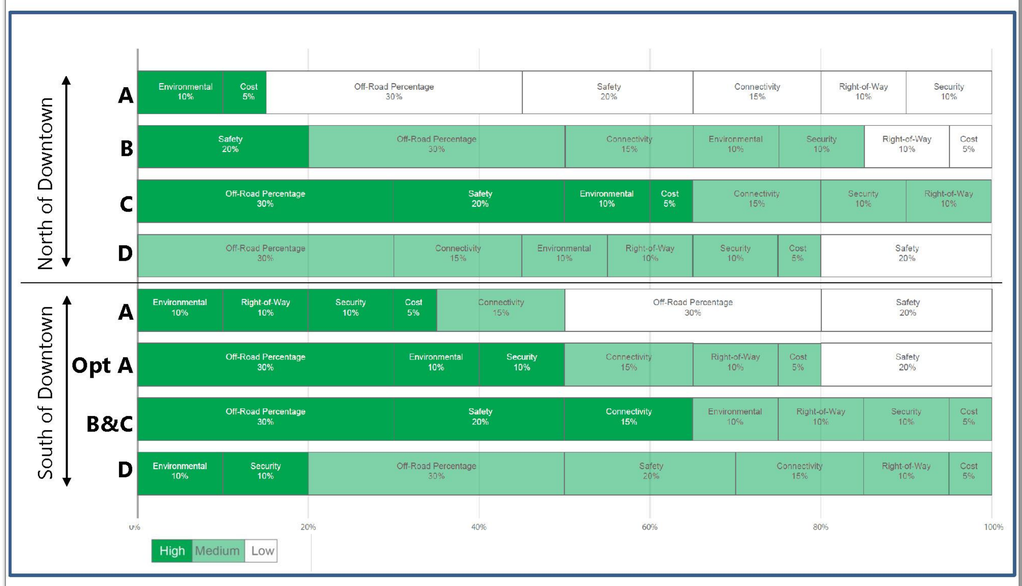
Shortlisted Alignments – *CTfastrak* Connection



Note: Alignments as shown at the May 22 public meeting – minor adjustments are made to design as better information becomes available.

2

Evaluation Results – FCHT Gap Alignments



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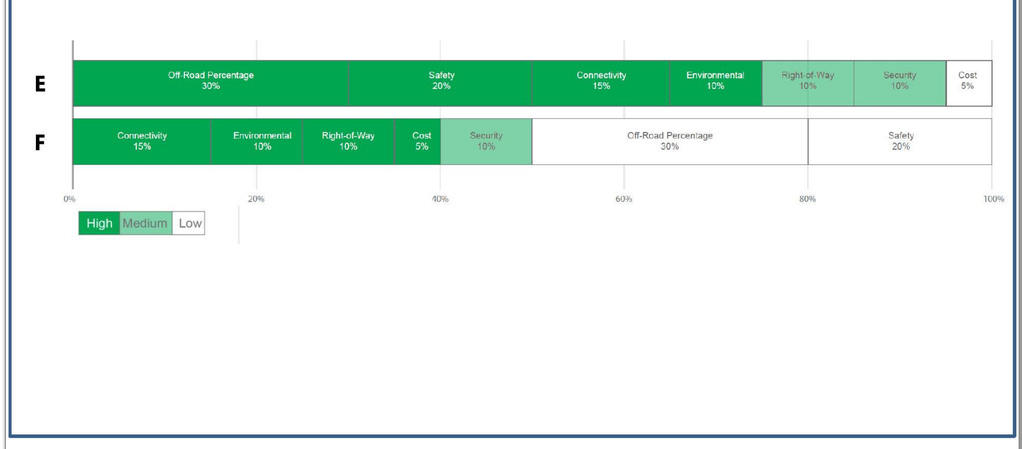
Evaluation Criteria

Evaluation Criteria	Factors Considered
Off Road	Potential for the trail to be separated from roads
Connectivity	Connections to people and recreational resources
Safety	Speeds, crash history, number of driveways, and traffic volumes
Security	"Eyes on the trail" and access/egress options
Potential Property Impacts	Easements needed, ease of construction
Potential Environmental Impacts	Floodplains, wildlife habitat, hazardous materials, historic/cultural, and section 4f
Estimated Costs	Order of magnitude lifecycle costs

3

Evaluation Results – CT*fastrak* Connection



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