



Monmouth County Park System Henry Hudson Trail Extension and Pedestrian Safety Improvements

PROJECT INFORMATION

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The recent acquisition of property in downtown Freehold provides an opportunity to extend the Henry Hudson Trail from Route 537 into the center of Freehold. An additional area of trail between Route 79 and Route 520 in Marlboro Township has never been fully developed. The Park System wishes to extend the trail, complete the undeveloped area, and make other pedestrian related improvements throughout the trail to improve safety. The County of Monmouth has received a \$1.2 million dollar Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside grant from the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (administered by NJDOT) to construct the project.

REASON FOR PROJECT:

The Henry Hudson Trail (HHT) is the County's longest and most heavily used multi-use regional trail. Developed on a former railroad right-of-way, the paved trail is 24 miles long and ten feet (10') wide. The northern terminus of the Henry Hudson Trail begins at Popamora Point in Atlantic Highlands in northeastern Monmouth County and proceeds west along the Raritan Bay through the Bayshore communities of Middletown, Keansburg, Hazlet, Union Beach, Keyport, and Aberdeen before turning south toward Freehold, the county seat of Monmouth County. The trail currently ends at Route 537 just outside of downtown Freehold. The Henry Hudson Trail has been designated part of the National Rail-Trail Network. Trails are the most used recreational element of the Park System.

DESIGN APPROACH:

An engineering firm will be hired to prepare plans for construction. The plans will have to meet Federal guidelines and NJDOT design standards.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS:

The project will require NJDEP permits for the trail development.

PROJECT STATUS:

A request for proposal (RFP) was advertised to solicit proposals from engineering firms for the preparation of construction documents and obtaining all required permits for the proposed improvements. The contract was awarded to French & Parrello Associates of Wall Township, NJ.

Maps: See attached.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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Map of the Extension of the Henry Hudson Trail into Freehold Borough

