

2019 ANNUAL REPORT

East Coast Greenway Alliance

East Coast



Greenway
ALLIANCE

A record year of Greenway investment

Funding to develop the East Coast Greenway reached a new high in 2019 with \$250 million awarded for planning, design and construction of segments from Maine to Florida. Leading the investments were two U.S. Department of Transportation BUILD (Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development) grants: \$18.1 million to Charleston, South Carolina, for a bike-pedestrian bridge over the Ashley River and \$22.4 million to Miami-Dade County, Florida, towards design and construction of The Underline, a 10-mile multimodal and recreation corridor beneath the elevated Miami Metrorail.

A third BUILD grant went to Greenville, North Carolina, funding in part some new and upgraded multi-

use paths to complete a trail network around the city's core. The new greenway will form part of the East Coast Greenway's complementary Historic Coastal Route as it travels from Wilmington, North Carolina, to Richmond, Virginia, further east from the ECG spine route. These BUILD grants to East Coast Greenway projects make up roughly 40 percent of overall BUILD funding for greenway and active transportation projects across the U.S.

Additional major investments in 2019 include:

- \$5 million from the State of New Hampshire to purchase nearly 10 miles of unused rail corridor
- \$100 million from the City of New York to build the East Midtown Greenway, an eight-block gap of the

East River Esplanade which forms part of East Coast Greenway's NYC East complementary route

- More than \$15 million from several State of Connecticut departments to fund new Greenway miles including key crossings and intersections

- More than \$4 million for several Greenway segments from Florida Department of Transportation in its 2020 work plan

"This is an exclamation point on a transformational decade," says Dennis Markatos-Soriano, executive director. "These funding investments make our ambitious goal of completing an equitable, safe and accessible Greenway by 2030 more realistic"

Pictured: A stunning 4.4-mile extension of the Atlantic Greenway Network in Miami Beach was the longest newly designated segment of the Greenway in 2019.

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2019 programming highlights

- Hosting a successful Mid-Atlantic Greenways & Trails Summit in Philadelphia (above) featuring 300 attendees and 28 dynamic sessions in April
- The release of [a report](#) on the impact of completing the East Coast Greenway in the Delaware River Watershed finding a \$3 billion return in health, economic and environment benefits for Greater Philadelphia
- The November completion of the Week-a-Year Tour in Key West, Florida, with nearly \$500,000 raised in support of the Greenway over 9 years
- Strong communications growth with 120,000 people in our network and a 149 percent increase in media exposure
- The creation of a map of the indigenous cultures throughout our corridor (above) produced by Haliwa-Saponi artist Karen Harley from North Carolina
- The September launch of a major new digital and print [Greenway Criteria and Design Guide](#) with a webinar
- The October opening of registration for the inaugural [New York City-to-Philadelphia Greenway Ride](#) that has attracted 300 registered riders to date
- East Coast Greenway signage was added to more than 150 miles, Maine to Florida

Connect with the
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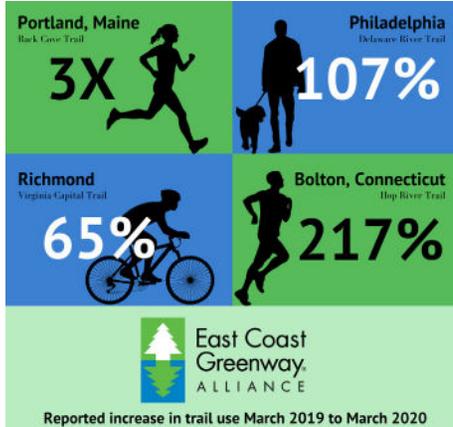


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Crisis response: Greenway Stimulus



There is one place that people have been flocking to more than ever in this challenging crisis: greenways and trails. East Coast Greenway segments from New England to the South are hosting record crowds of people walking, running and biking – often double and even triple numbers from last year. As New York City Parks Commissioner Mitchell Silver shared during a Greenway interview, “This is not just a ‘nice to have,’ but now an essential and vital part of our civic infrastructure.”

And greenway infrastructure investment to connect existing trails would be a great way to spur economic recovery and improve public health. A recent report, “Investing in Our Future: Quantifying the Impact of Completing the East Coast Greenway in the Delaware River Watershed,” describes a phenomenal return on investment. The report found that investing \$239

million to complete the Greenway in Greater Philadelphia would generate over \$3 billion in health, environmental and economic benefit – a more than tenfold return.

A path to health

In one of the biggest COVID-19 studies in the United States, NYU researchers concluded that obesity was a top chronic factor determining hospitalization and severe illness. A current lack of safe routes for people to bike and walk to work, school and play makes physical activity difficult for many. That’s a key reason why 40 percent of Americans now suffer from obesity. Greenways can solve this puzzle by providing safe, accessible networks for everyone to get the 20-plus minutes of daily exercise needed to maintain a healthy weight. Now is the time to invest in a path to health.

An investment in equity

Greenways are free to use and open to everyone, connecting people of all demographics and building community through shared safety. Safe biking and walking trails can reduce transportation and health costs, especially to help the 30 million Americans who lost their jobs. Benefits of greenways can be spread equitably through culturally inclusive planning and design, which leads to better transportation access and support.

A \$250 billion opportunity

A \$25 billion investment in greenways and trails would build many miles that close gaps in current systems, connecting homes to schools, workplaces and the destinations they need to reach. Using the Philadelphia study as a reference, such an investment could generate \$250+ billion in benefit for people in cities and towns throughout every corner of our nation, fostering a healthier and more prosperous future for all Americans.

More jobs than highway construction

The design and construction of these trails and greenways would support hundreds of thousands of jobs. In fact, research by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials found that work building greenways, bike lanes and sidewalks generates 50 percent more jobs per dollar invested than highways and other projects.

A \$25 billion investment in the resilience of our public health, our environment, and our economy would be just what the doctor ordered. Recent studies provide the clarity. It’s now up to us to act, showing that Republicans and Democrats are ready to come together to rebuild our health and our economy. Visit [greenway.org/stimulus](https://www.greenway.org/stimulus) for more information.



Newark Riverfront Park, New Jersey



2019 Designations 28 new Greenway segments totaling 30 miles



1. William C. Orr Bridge, ME, 0.15 miles
2. Beth Condon Pathway Extension, ME, 0.3 miles
3. Topsfield Linear Common, MA, 2.3 miles
4. Border to Boston Trail (Salem), MA, 2 miles
5. Mass Central Rail Trail, MA, 0.3 miles
6. Cape Cod Rail Trail Extension, MA, 3.6 miles
7. Blackstone River Bikeway Segment 8c, RI, 0.6 miles
8. Air Line State Park Trail, CT, 1.2 miles
9. Hop River Trail Phase 6, CT, 0.43 miles
10. Bloomfield Greenway Phase 1, CT, 1.8 miles
11. New Haven Long Wharf Cycle Track, CT, 0.73 miles
12. New Haven Cycle Track to Water Street, CT, 0.45 miles
13. Newark Riverfront Park, NJ, 0.1 miles
14. Rahway River Park Path, NJ, 0.92 miles
15. Thomas Edison Park Path, NJ, 0.57 miles
16. D&L Trail, PA, 0.3 miles
17. Southwest Washington, DC, 0.5 miles
18. Franklin Street Cycle Track, VA, 0.5 miles
19. Front Street Multi-Use Path, NC, 0.8 miles
20. South Tar Greenway, NC, 2.4 miles
21. White Lake Multi-Use Path, NC, 0.8 miles
22. Carolina Beach Island Greenway, NC, 1.2 miles
23. Billy Swails Boulevard Sidepath, SC, 0.95 miles
24. Gardens Corner Greenway Phase I, SC, 1.6 miles
25. Tabby Trail, GA, 0.4 miles
26. Timucuan Trail, FL, 0.57 miles
27. Jarboe Park, FL, 0.2 miles
28. Atlantic Greenway Network Extension, FL, 4.4 miles

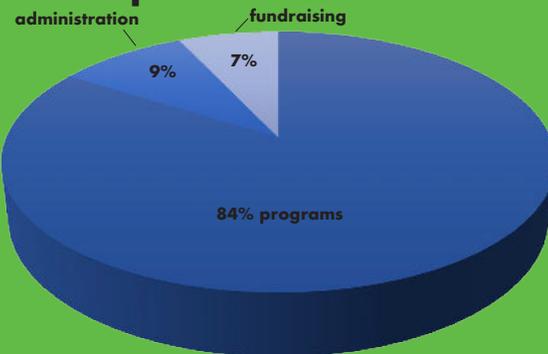
Financial report

Support for our organization reached a record high in 2019 thanks to generous donors like you. Our financial health remained strong, giving us the confidence to set our sights on even more impact in the years ahead.

2019 revenue



2019 expenses



2019 financial summary

Total revenue	\$1.29 million
Total expenses	\$1.34 million
Net assets, Dec. 31, 2019.....	\$806,000

Our full audited financial report and Form 990 was completed by Langdon & Company, LLP, and is available at greenway.org or on request.

Major foundation partners

- A. J. Fletcher Foundation
- Anderson-Rogers Foundation
- Community Foundation for Northeast Florida
- Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation
- Helen and William Mazer Foundation
- New Hampshire Charitable Foundation
- Onion Foundation
- Pennsylvania Environmental Council
- The Peter and Patricia Gruber Foundation
- William Penn Foundation
- Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation

Major corporate partners





Clockwise from upper left: Executive Director Dennis Markatos-Soriano and Trustee Lori Bush celebrate the March ribbon cutting for the White Oak Creek Greenway in Cary, N.C.; Deputy Director Niles Barnes at the United Nations Civil Society Conference with volunteer Laxmi Hummel; 8 80 Cities founder Guillermo Penalosa was announced as keynote speaker of the Southeast Greenways & Trails Summit; The East Coast Greenway Alliance staff in Durham, N.C.; November finale of the Week-A-Year Tour in Key West, Fla.; More than 150 miles of signs were added to the East Coast Greenway in 2019; New York City Parks and Recreation Commissioner Mitchell Silver delivers the keynote at the Mid-Atlantic Greenways & Trails Summit

