

# PROJECT OVERVIEW

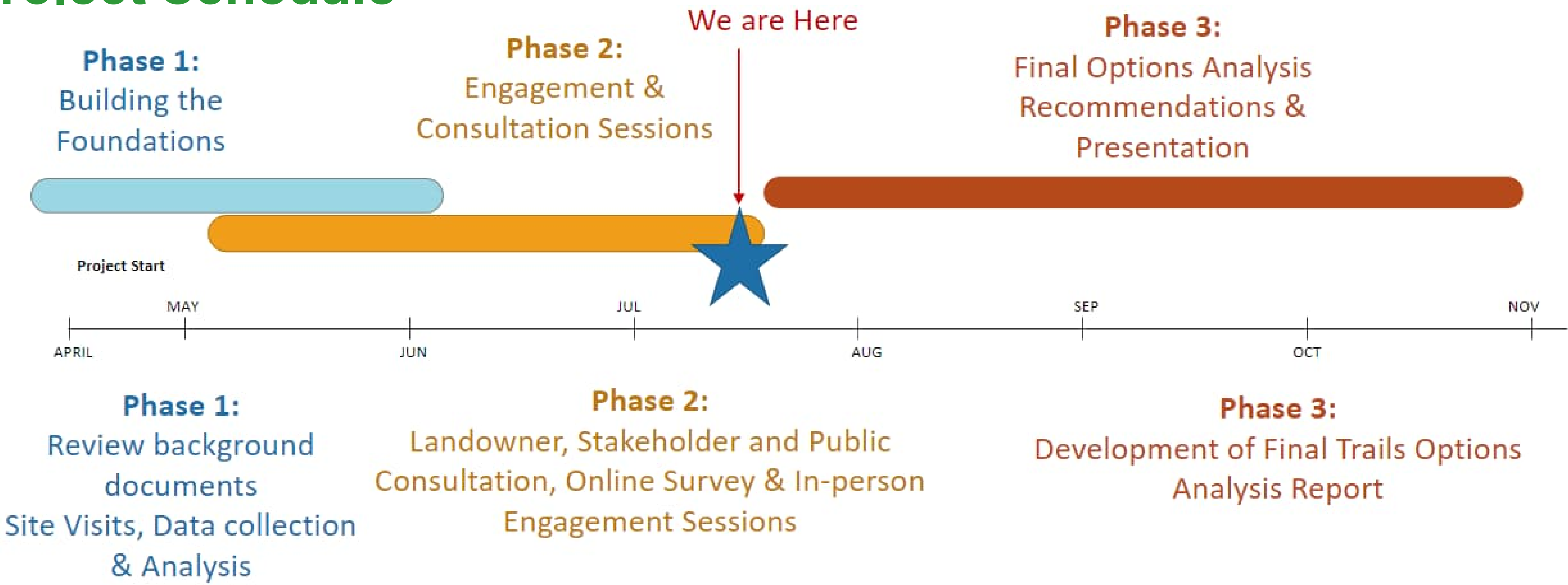
Project Purpose:

- Develop options for the future of the Peanut Line Trail informed through public engagement
- Provide design standards and precedents for operations & maintenance, land-use/ partnership agreements and road crossing typologies.
- Provide best practices, trail options, and recommendations for the future of the trail.

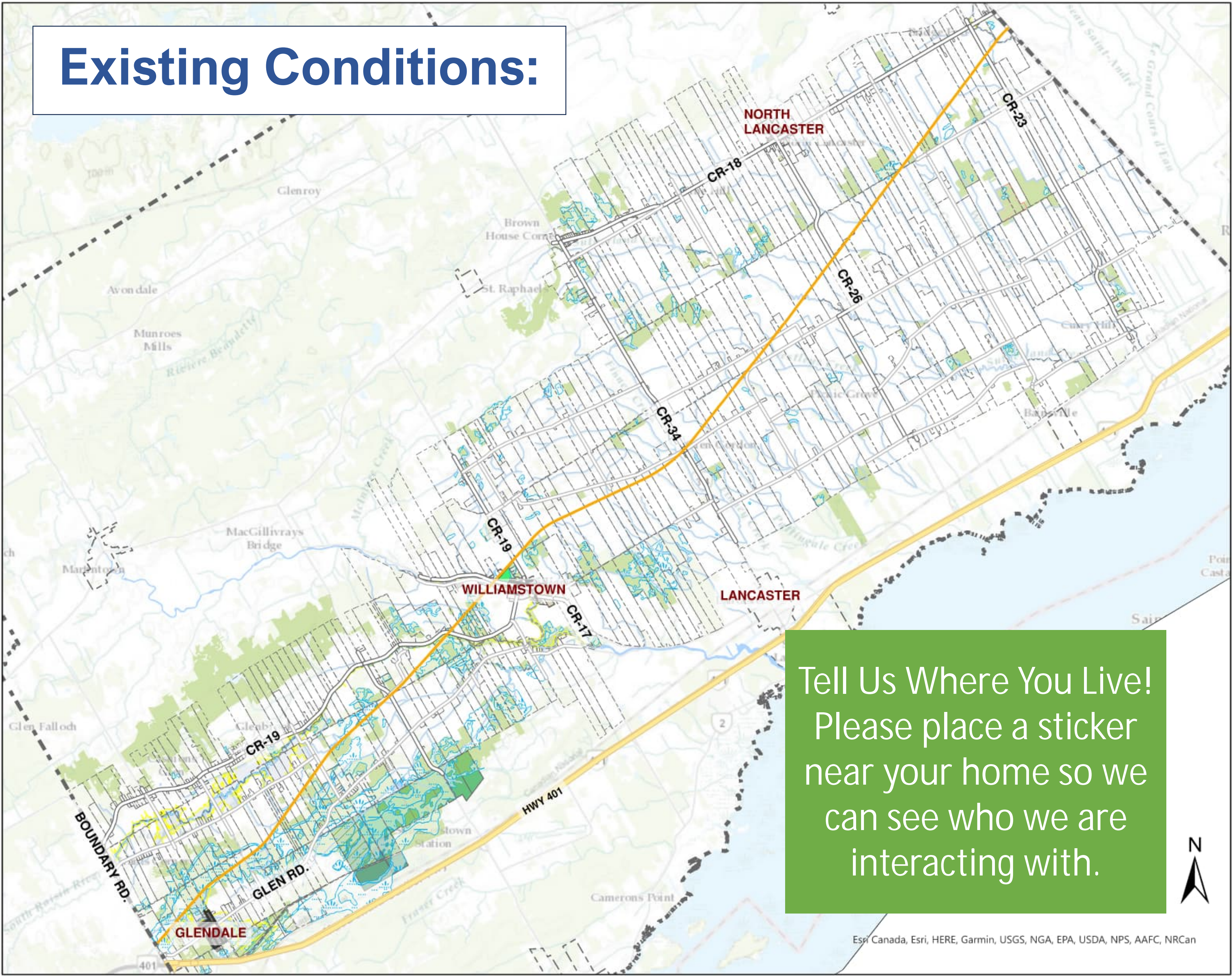
Key Findings to Date:

- 85% of trail users believe the Township should retain the ownership of the entire trail
- 15% of survey respondents were farmers.
- Demographic projections forecast a more senior age group vs. children/ youth thus passive recreation needs will be a trend.

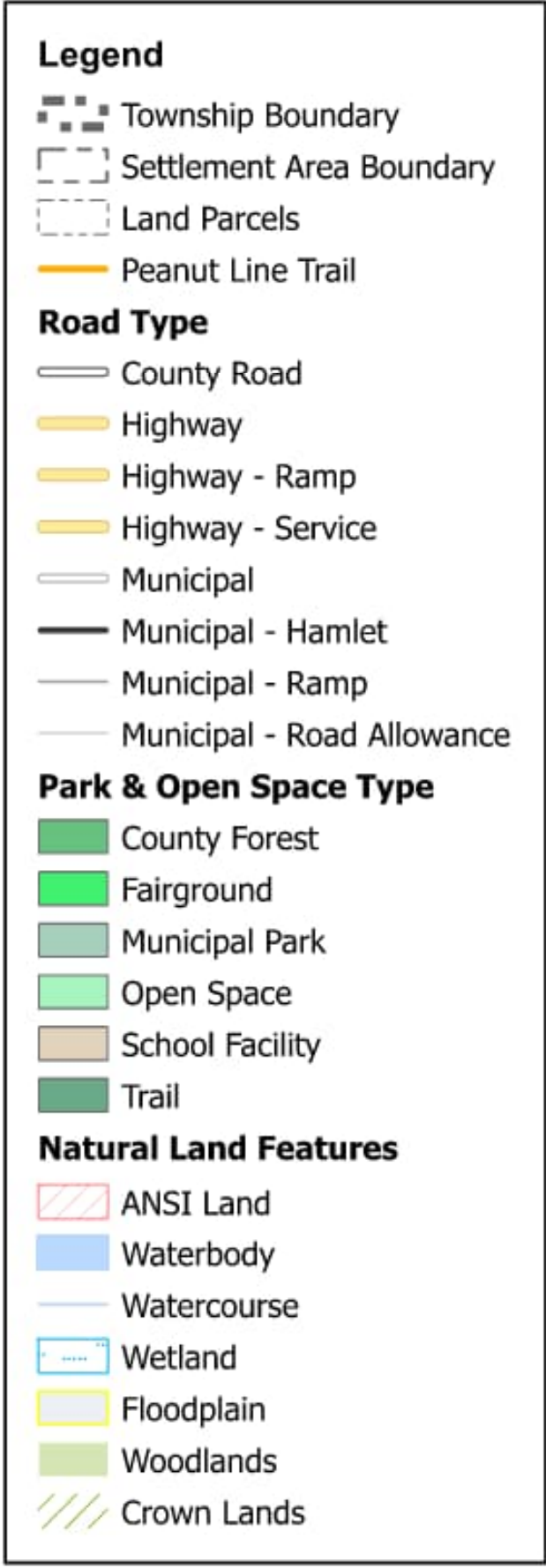
## Project Schedule



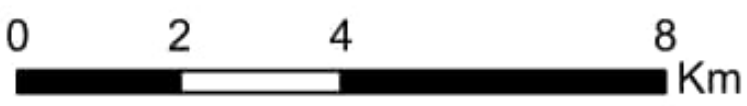
## Existing Conditions:



### TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH GLENGARRY PEANUT LINE OPTIONS ANALYSIS



Tell Us Where You Live!  
Please place a sticker  
near your home so we  
can see who we are  
interacting with.





# WHAT WE'VE HEARD!

## Engagements to date:

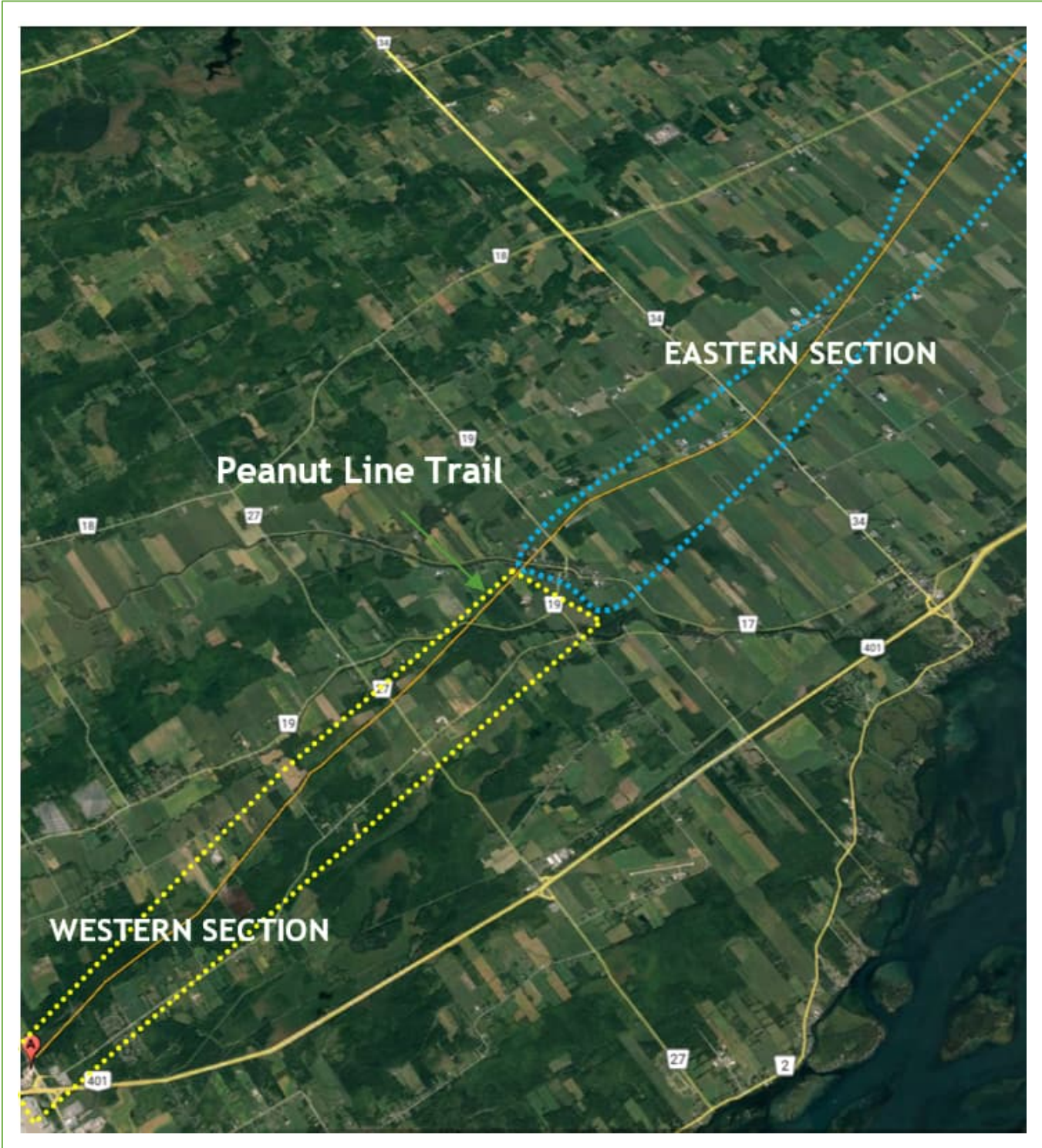
- Virtual Public Consultation took place on Wednesday, May 17 at 7:00 p.m. The intent of the session was to gather information from the public which will aid in the overall future of the Peanut Line Trail.
- Online survey took place from May 25 to June 15.

## Key Findings

The general public strongly agrees that the trail is a significant recreational resource and wish for it to:



- ✓ Remain as a trail, owned by the Township.
- ✓ Be multi-use, and open to a variety of users.
- ✓ Have ecological and environmental benefits included in the future of the trail for nature setting and habitat, etc.
- ✓ Improvements to amenities, specifically, washrooms and benches.
- ✓ Trail maintenance such as surface filling and leveling as well as tree pruning where necessary.
- ✗ Agricultural lands are bisected by the trail; farmers rely on the trail crossing to access lands. Concerns over trespassing, damage to fields & crops, littering/illegal dumping, liability.
- ✓ A total of 331 responses were received from the online survey.



Site Map

Top 3 suggestions for the management of the trail included the Glendaler’s ATV Club:



1. Be given the right to refusal to lease the trails during the winter months
2. Be allowed to continue to have year-round access to the trail with noise, etiquette, and a share-the-trail rules in place
3. Assist in the documentation of trail condition and status to serve as a benchmark to monitor further deterioration of the former track bed.

## Concerns Raised:

TRESPASSERS



PROPERTY DAMAGE



LIABILITY



ENCROACHMENT & LOSS OF NATURAL AREAS



## Recommendations:

- TSG will be recommended to create a public access policy, implement trail etiquette, rules and regulations, and post signage.
- TSG will be recommended to create natural or artificial buffers as well as signage to help eliminate trespassing. Trail users tend to stay on developed trails if they are well designed and maintained.

- Having established trails invites more people, thus more ‘eyes’ on the trail to monitor behaviour of users. As use increases, vandalism and other obnoxious behaviours decrease for lack of opportunity.
- TSG will be recommended to have a well-designed Management Plan, Operation and Maintenance Policy, and reporting system/ response system for complaints.
- Volunteer groups/ Glendaler’s Group will be encouraged to assist/ support the Township in these endeavours.

- TSG will be recommended to review liability insurance for public lands (including Peanut Line) to protect the liability of injuries associated with the trail
- Investment in visual buffers/ delineating the trail boundaries will define the public trail limits.
- TSG will be recommended to develop a risk management plan.

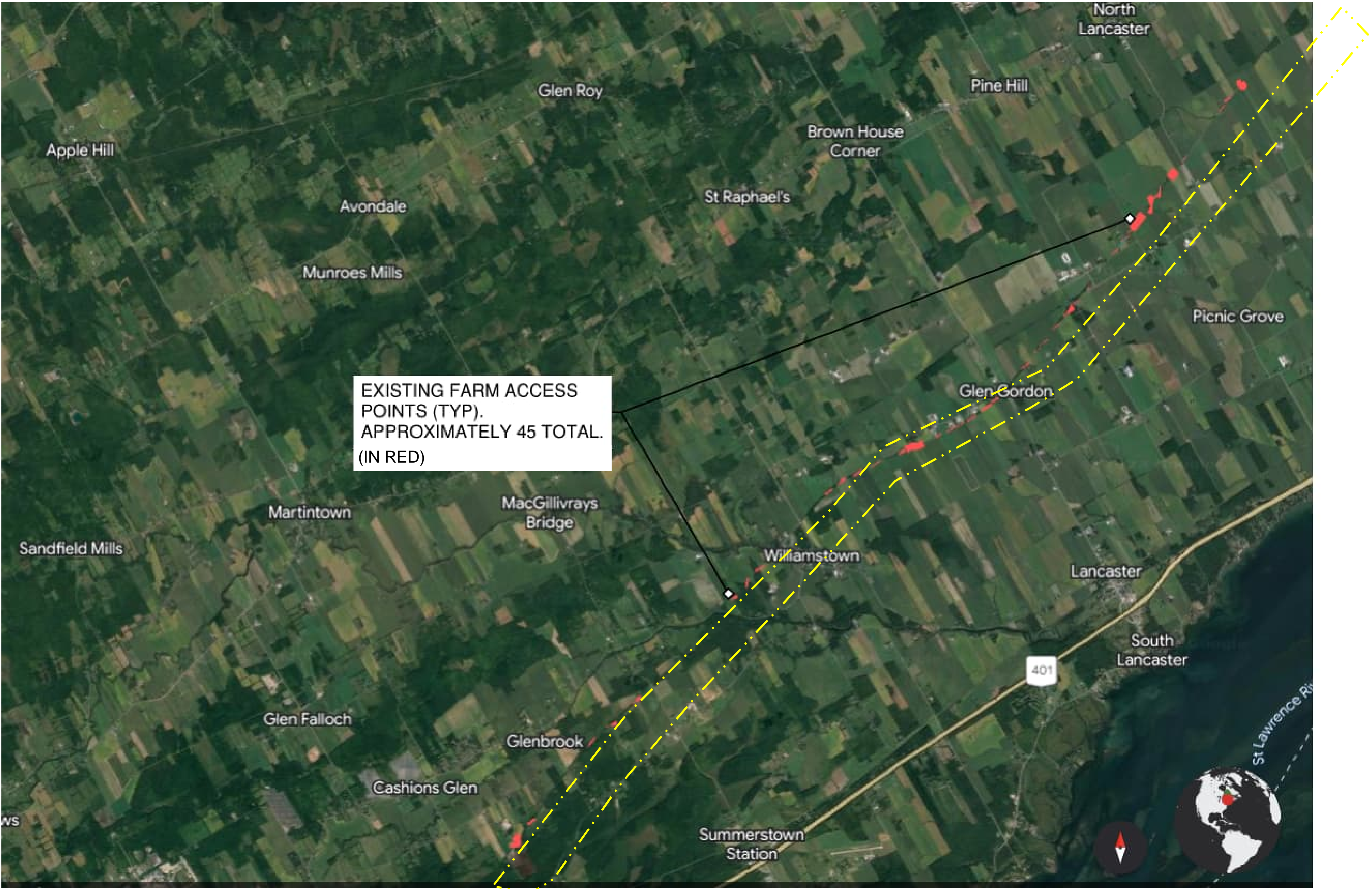
- Reinforcing the trail boundaries with visual buffers will delineate the public vs. private lands to decrease potential of encroachment in the future.



# 3

## Agricultural Considerations

- Trails in rural and urban areas are beginning to function more and more as an integral part of transportation and recreation systems.
- In many cases, existing and proposed trails go through agricultural lands. Trail use has implications on farming that are often not identified or addressed.
- Trail planning should involve a strong partnership between the agricultural community and trail proponents (from concept through long-term management)



EXISTING FARM ACCESS POINTS MAP

### CONSTRAINTS/ THREATS

- Trespassing and security
- Interference with farming operations and/or crop and field damage
- Liability and risk
- Mountain bike, motorbike and ATV use can quickly degrade open grassland areas causing erosion problems and reducing forage areas for livestock.
- Off-leash dogs can ruin crops, chase & harass livestock, and potentially contaminate food crops.
- Land locked parcels not accessible if trail crossing is removed.

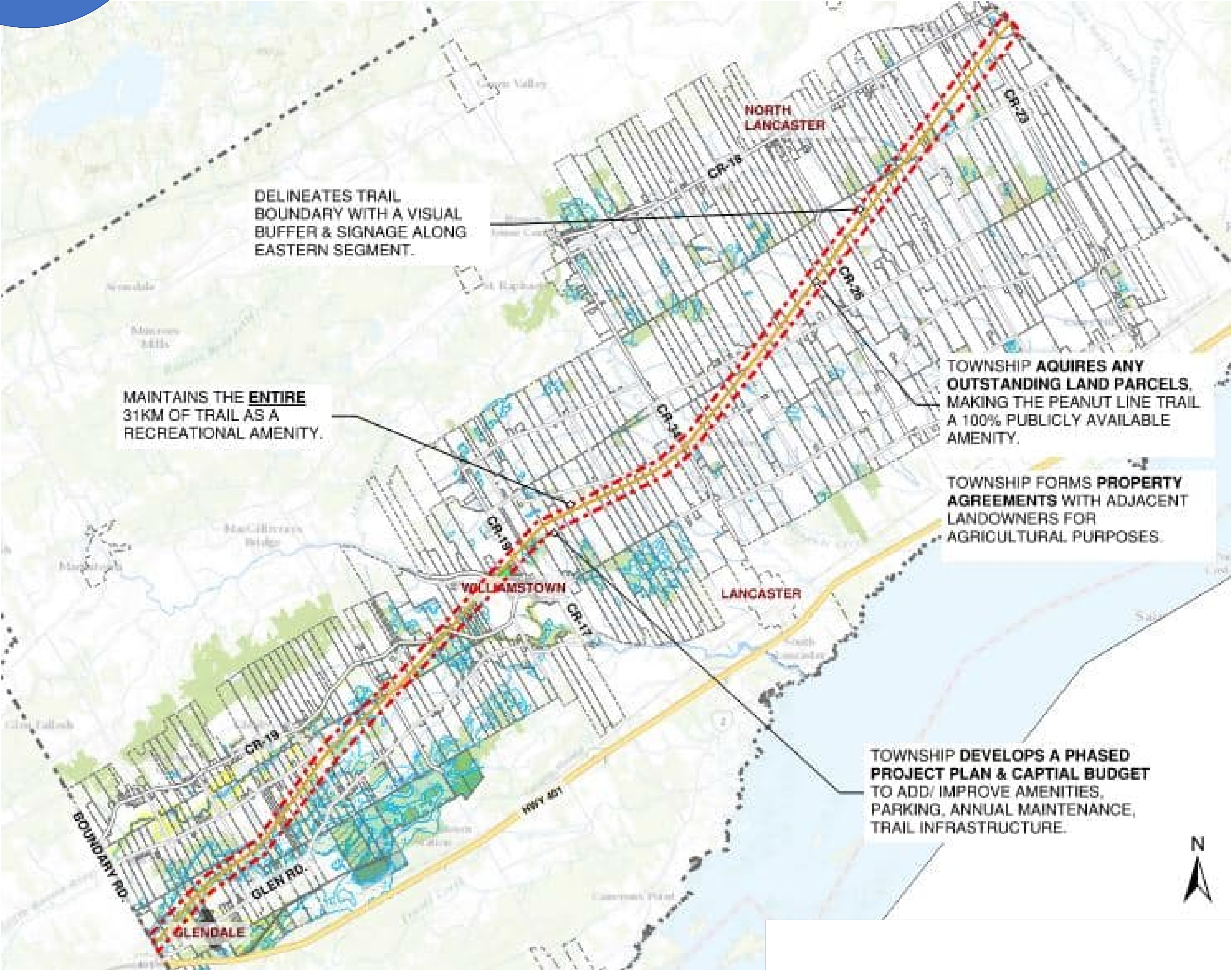
### OPPORTUNITIES

- Raising public awareness of agricultural processes and encouraging appreciation of our farmers can be enhanced with interpretive signage and brochures.
- Trail can serve as a conduit for agri-tourism and direct farm marketing
- Implementation of design solutions can address the above constraints (buffers, fencing, signage, trail/trail head closures during harvest time, long-term management & maintenance, etc.)





# Option 1: FORMALIZE TRAIL AS A TOWNSHIP-WIDE TRAIL SYSTEM



PROS

- Creates a unified trail system for multiple users to enjoy and access year-round.
- Provides a compromised solution delineating public vs. private lands.
- Allows adjoining agricultural lands to access their lands on either side of the trail corridor.
- Opportunity to create partnership agreements with passionail trail user groups/ agencies to share resources & expertise.



CONS

- Trespassing is a private property concern, and no solution is 100% feasible.
- Purchasing all outstanding land parcels may prove difficult or length process resulting in delayed trail access, and a fragmented trail system.
- Peanut Line Trail would not be 100% public lands until purchasing is complete or shared-use agreements are formalized.
- Will require additional resources to implement agreements and enhance trail
- High cost to maintain all infrastructure

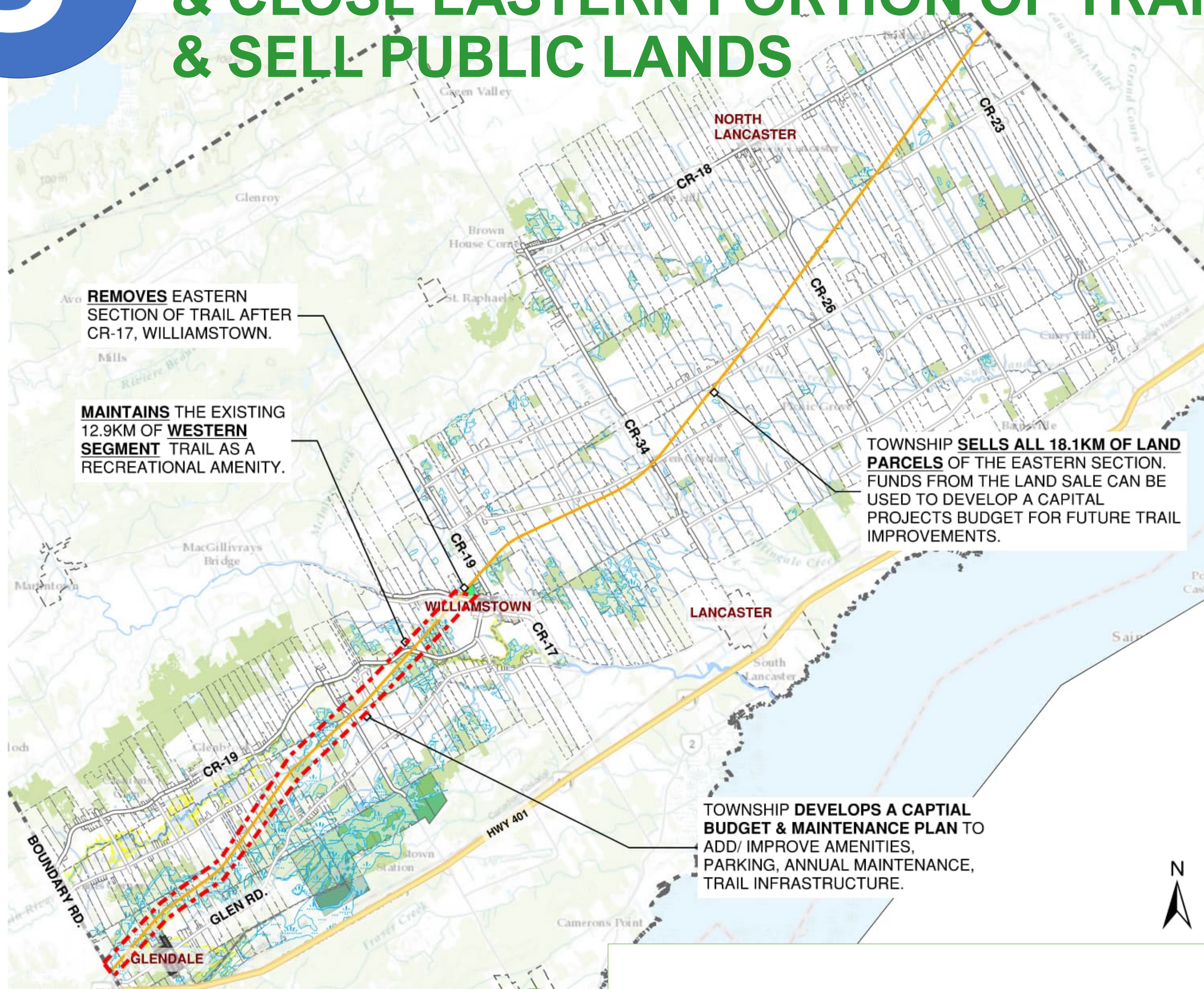


Stickers are labeled 1, 2 and 3.  
#1 = Top Choice, #2 = 2<sup>nd</sup> choice,  
#3 = Least Preferred, #4 = Not Preferred.



5

# Option 2: KEEP WESTERN PORTION & CLOSE EASTERN PORTION OF TRAIL & SELL PUBLIC LANDS



## PROS

- Decreases the extent of trail maintenance and infrastructure costs for the Township (limited funds & staffing).
- Decreases the safety & liability concerns of the eastern portion of the trail on the Township.
- Allows the Township to continue to enhance the trail, incorporate events, programming, and promotion including a branding strategy in a quicker timeframe.
- Township funding can be used for infrastructure and amenity improvements ("more bang for the buck").
- Decreases the cost to maintain infrastructure (13km vs. 31km).

## CONS

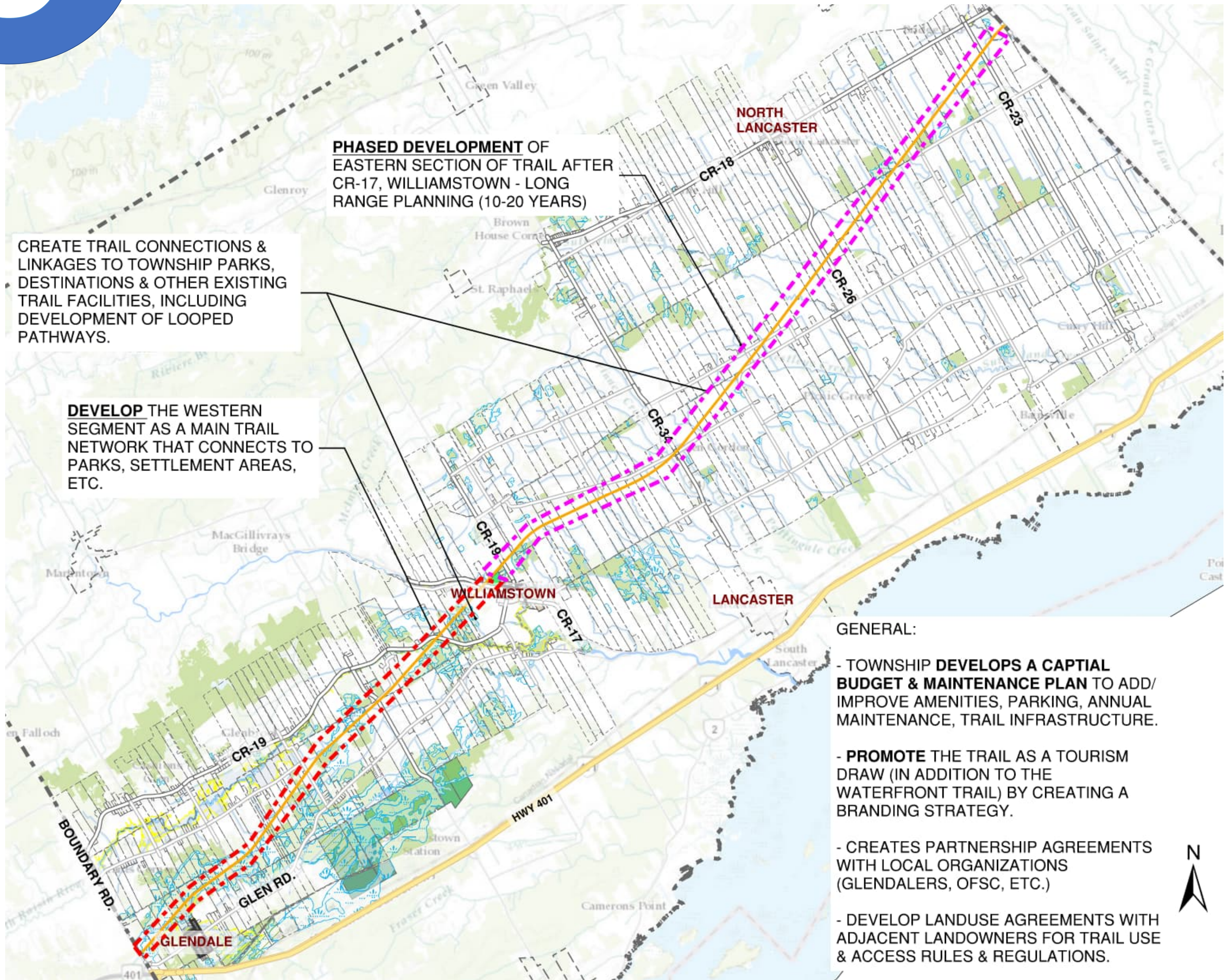
- Consensus with the public is to retain the entire trail corridor.
- Once the eastern land parcels are sold, it will be extremely difficult for the Township to repurchase at a later date, if ever. No true control over who the purchaser may be (trail organization vs. private person(s)).
- Potential loss to residents and visitors for having access to overall of the existing trail system.

Stickers are labeled 1, 2 and 3.  
#1 = Top Choice, #2 = 2<sup>nd</sup> choice,  
#3 = Least Preferred, #4 = Not Preferred.



# 6

## Option 3: HYBRIDIZE TRAIL & LAND USAGE APPROACH (10-20 YR. PLAN)



### PROS

- Incorporates both option 1 and 2.
- Allows time to develop a trails management plan and funding projections for a phased capital project implementation plan.
- Allows time for the Township to pursue purchasing outstanding private lands within the trail corridor.
- Cements this trail corridor as a publicly accessible recreational amenity and tourism destination.
- Supports and incorporates public engagement feedback and findings.
- Encourages a multi-party partnership approach through leveraging volunteers, resources and expertise of local municipalities, conservation authorities, etc.
- Creates opportunity for a long-term land use lease with adjacent landowners.

### CONS

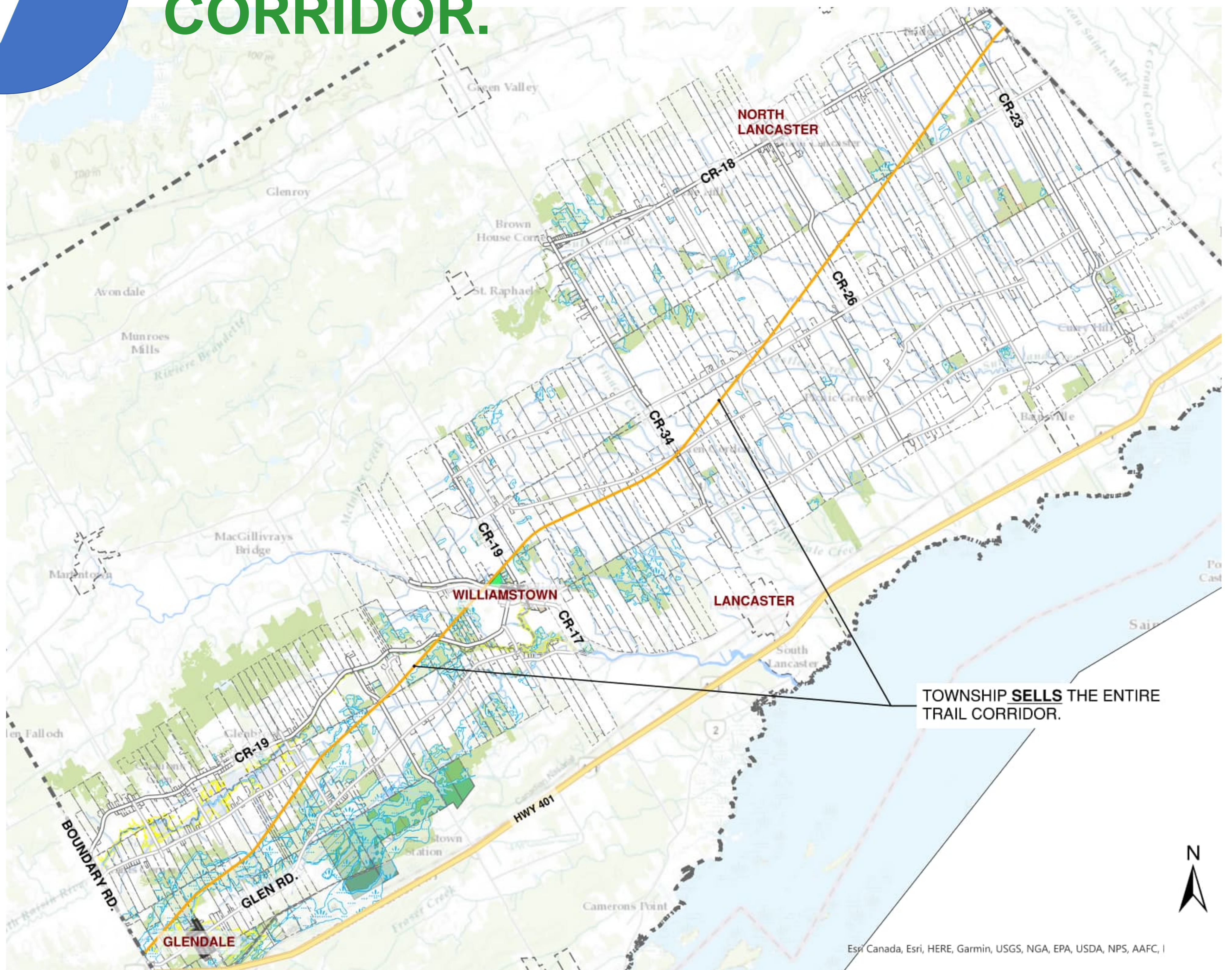
- This is a long-term, multi-year process with multiple phases.
- Will require additional studies to be conducted and additional funding.
- Will require additional resources to implement agreements and enhance trail infrastructure & amenities.
- High cost to maintain all infrastructure, even with partnership agreements, Township is still ultimately responsible for the trail conditions.

Stickers are labeled 1, 2 and 3.  
 #1 = Top Choice, #2 = 2<sup>nd</sup> choice,  
 #3 = Least Preferred, #4 = Not Preferred.



7

# Option 4: SELL ENTIRE TRAIL CORRIDOR.



## PROS

- Provides opportunity for a trail user group (passional stewards, community organization (such as the Glendaler's or OFSC), or agency to take over ownership, operation and maintenance of the trail.
- Relocates Township's resources (financial, staffing, etc.) to other strategic efforts/ departments with limited staffing and funds.
- Trail interests may be represented more adequately by a specialized agency compared to a public authority managing diverse departments.
- Private owner may have more resources for trail monitoring and improvements.

## CONS

- Once lands are sold, it will be difficult for the Township to acquire such an amenity in the future.
- The Township could remain as a partner with the new buyer however final decisions on the future of the trail rests with the new owner.
- Public feedback to date prefers keeping the trail lands as a public resource.
- If private owner decides to close or shorten the trail in the future, the public will have limited recourse for voicing their opinions or concerns.

Stickers are labeled 1, 2 and 3.  
#1 = Top Choice, #2 = 2<sup>nd</sup> choice,  
#3 = Least Preferred, #4 = Not Preferred.



# 8

# VISUAL BUFFERS

- Examples of visual buffer types as potential solutions to assist in:
- Formalizing the trail boundary in areas where the existing railway bed vegetation has been removed or thinned, and
  - Delineate a visual barrier for where the trail boundaries are.

## Fence



Place stickers here

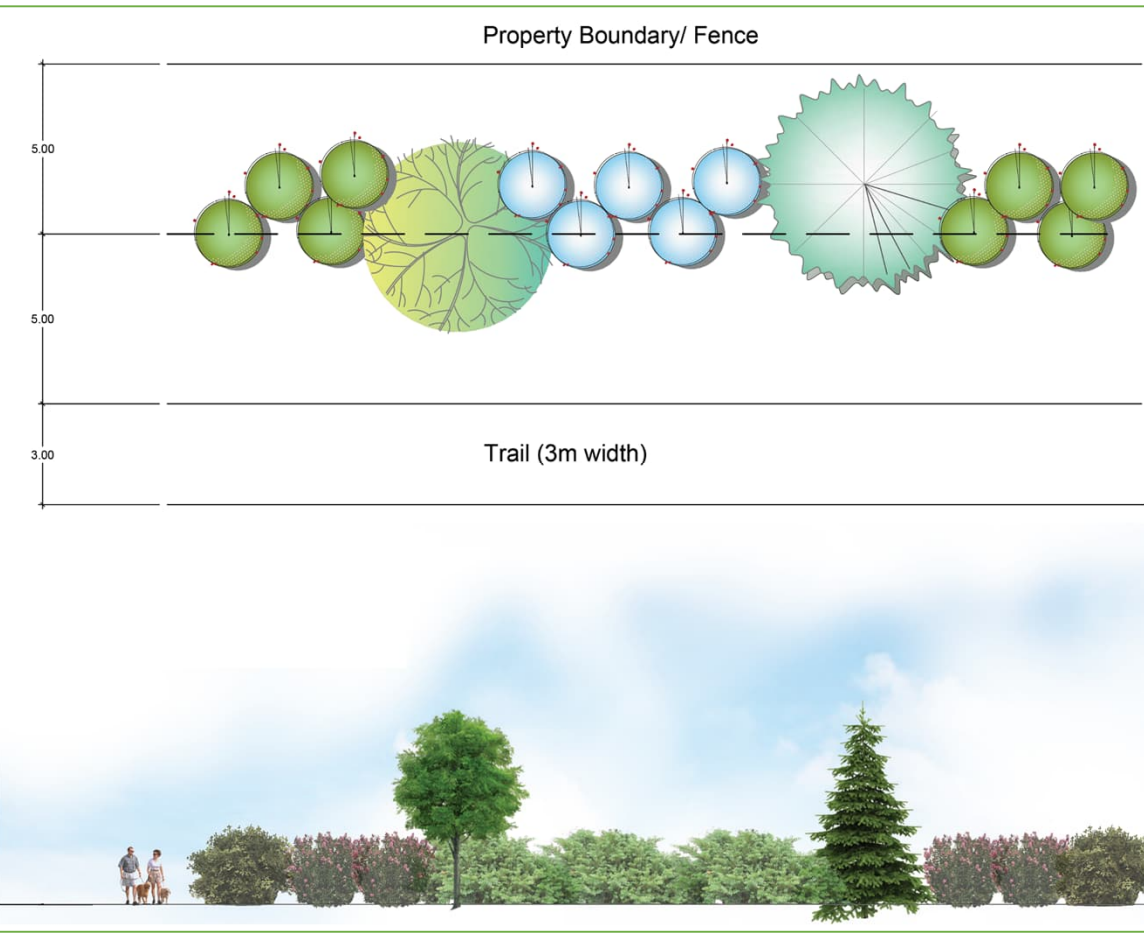
Please place a sticker in the box next to the example image you would like to see incorporated into the trail design guidelines.

## Amour stone



Place stickers here

## Vegetation Buffer Enhancement Planting:



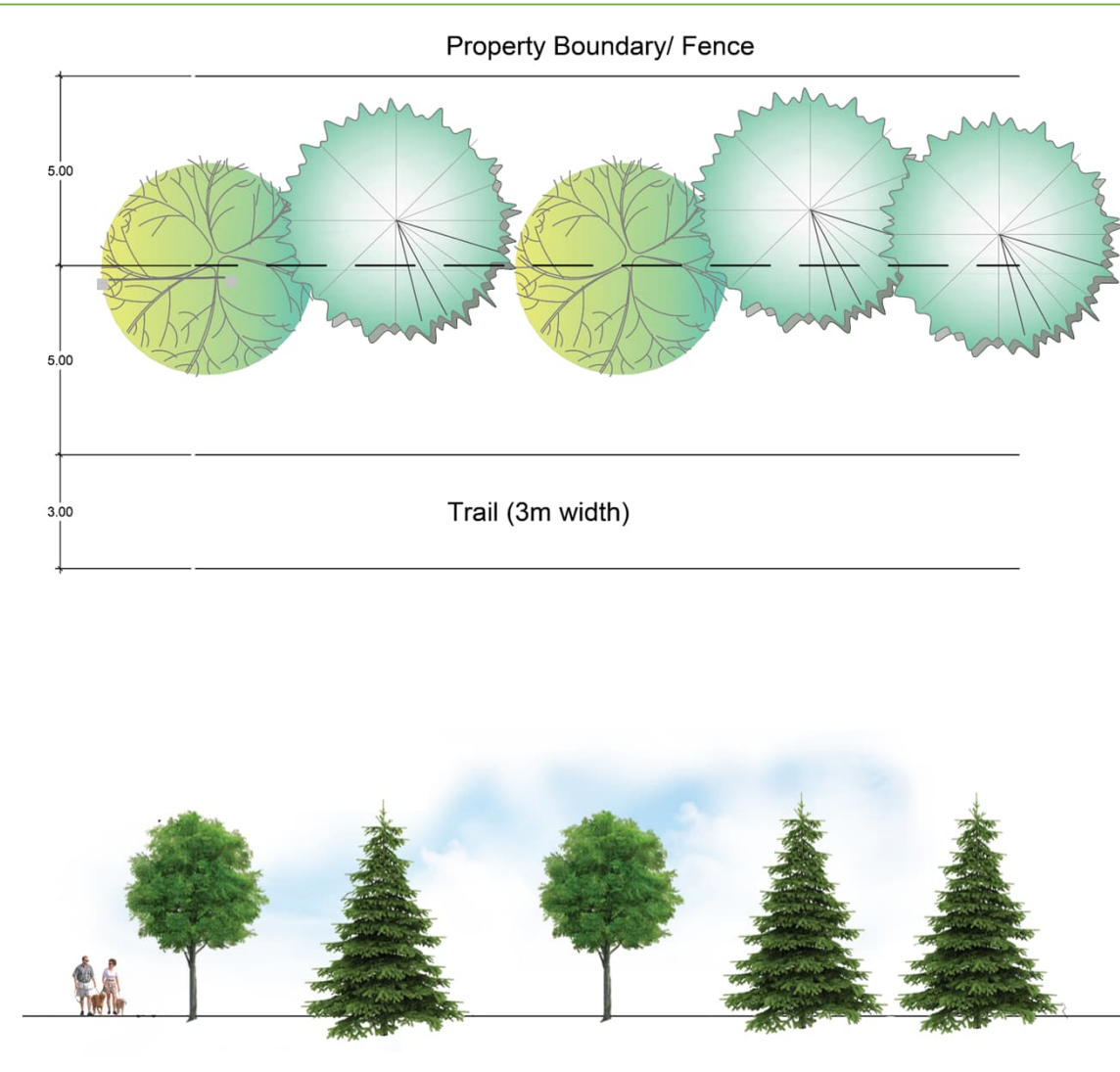
A mix between deciduous and evergreen tree species and understory shrubs.

The intent is to create a tall and dense ‘forest like’ visual barrier and to prevent users from straying off trail.

The robust buffer enhancement planting is designed for:

- Desire for maximum privacy
- Where sightlines are not a priority (minimal CPTED needs)
- Areas where an enhanced level of privacy is desired.
- To create a barrier between the trail and residential properties.

Place stickers here



A mix between deciduous and evergreen tree species (tall buffers 2 stories + in height) to provide a dappled view of the trail and surrounding landscape.

The light buffer enhancement planting is designed for:

- Where space is limited or where a light buffer is desired.
- Desire to maintaining the viewshed of the valley
- Desire to maintain stronger sightlines (support CPTED)

Place stickers here