

Where to Start With Wayfinding

Best Practices to
Starting from Scratch
or Improving Your Trail
Wayfinding System





Carolina Thread Trail
Conference / 2023



What is Wayfinding?

- » What Makes a Route Legible?
- » Wayfinding Benefits
- » Greenway Wayfinding Principles
- » Wayfinding Tools
- » Signing a Path
- » Wayfinding Standards
- » Wayfinding Examples



Why Wayfinding?

- » Cohesion
- » Creates Sense of Place
- » Welcomes New Users
- » Enhances Safetyand Aids EmergencyResponse

















What Makes a Route Legible?



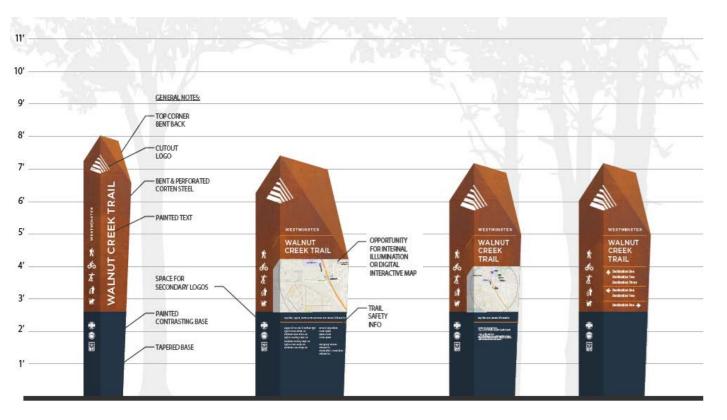
Wayfinding Benefits

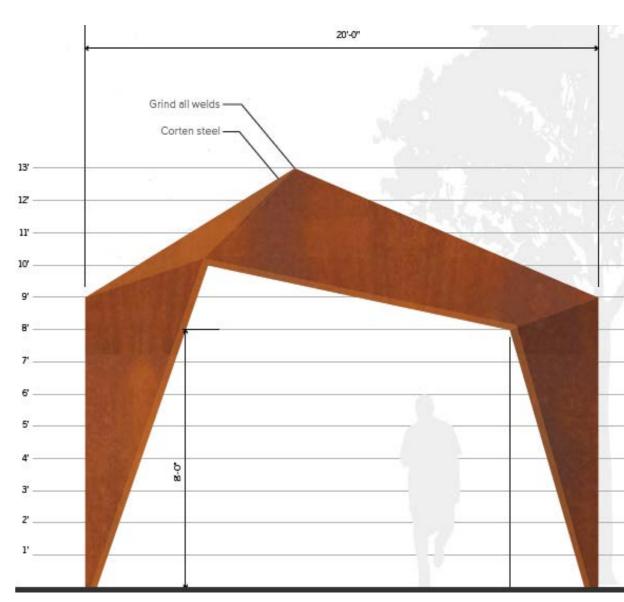




Celebrate Local Identity







Celebrate Local Identity

03

LET'S GO!

Clean, friendly, and approachable aesthetic.

Bright and colorful signage inspired by the LED lighting used on some of the City's landmarks.

Emphasis on metal signage with granite or brick bases.

Playful color palette to evoke movement and momentum.

























Celebrate Local Identity



Winston-Salem, NC

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Overview







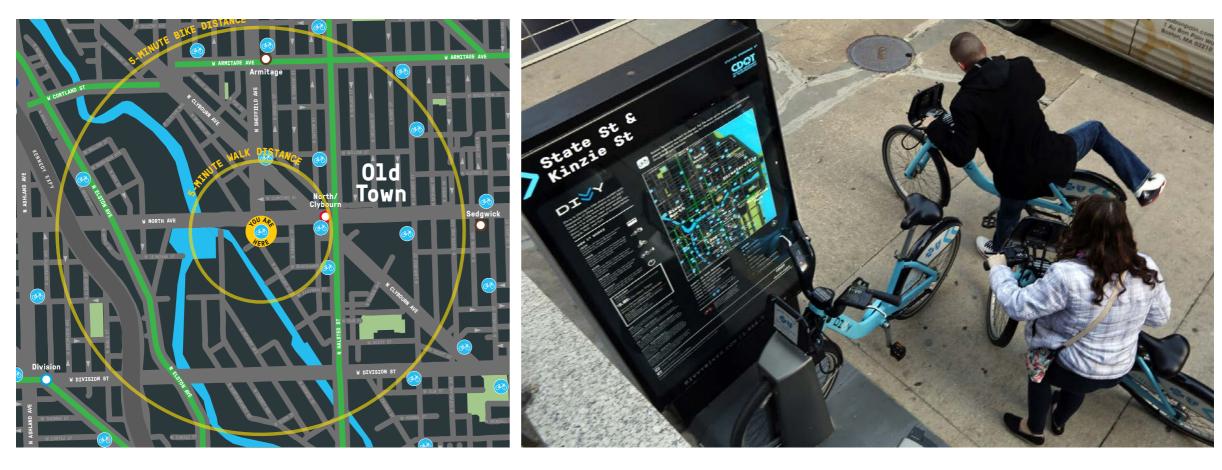






Promote Active Travel

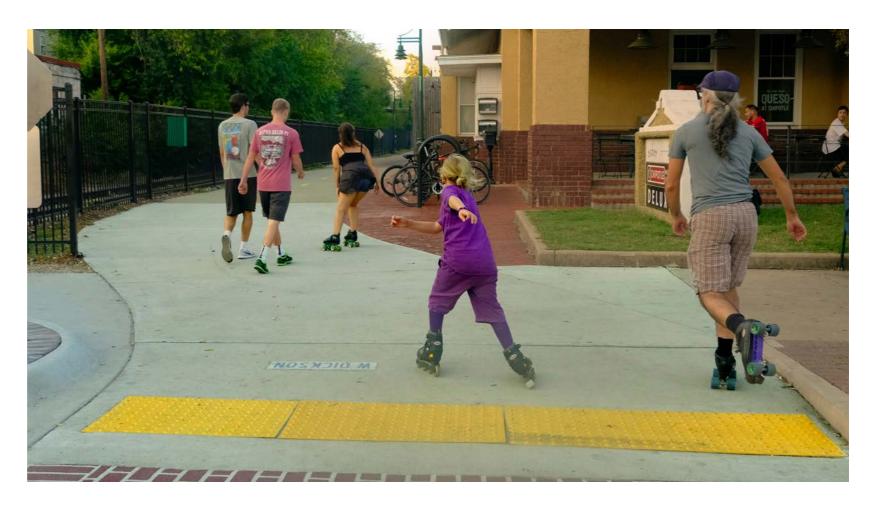




Chicago, IL

Maintain Motion



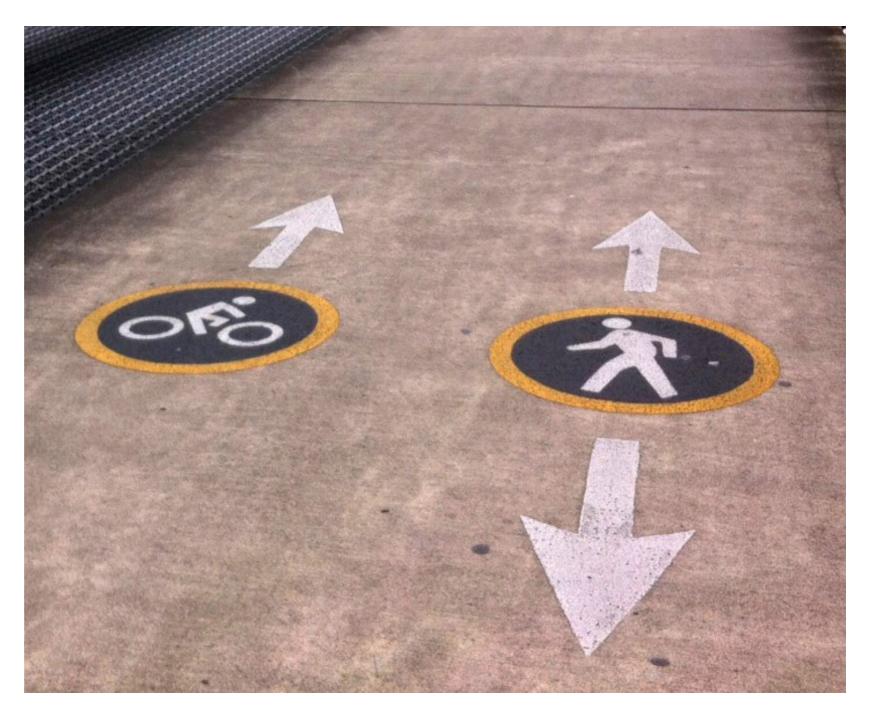




Northwest Arkansas

Keep it Simple





Portland, OR

Be Predictable









Runyon Canyon, CA

Be Inclusive





Sumter, SC

Wayfinding Tools

Wayfinding Entire Systems / On-Trail Systems

OFF-TRAIL



MOUNT HELENA TRAILHEAD







Vehicular Directional

Vehicular Monument

Gateway

Interpretive

Murals

ON-TRAIL



Map Kiosk



On-road Confirmation



Trail Directional



Confirmation

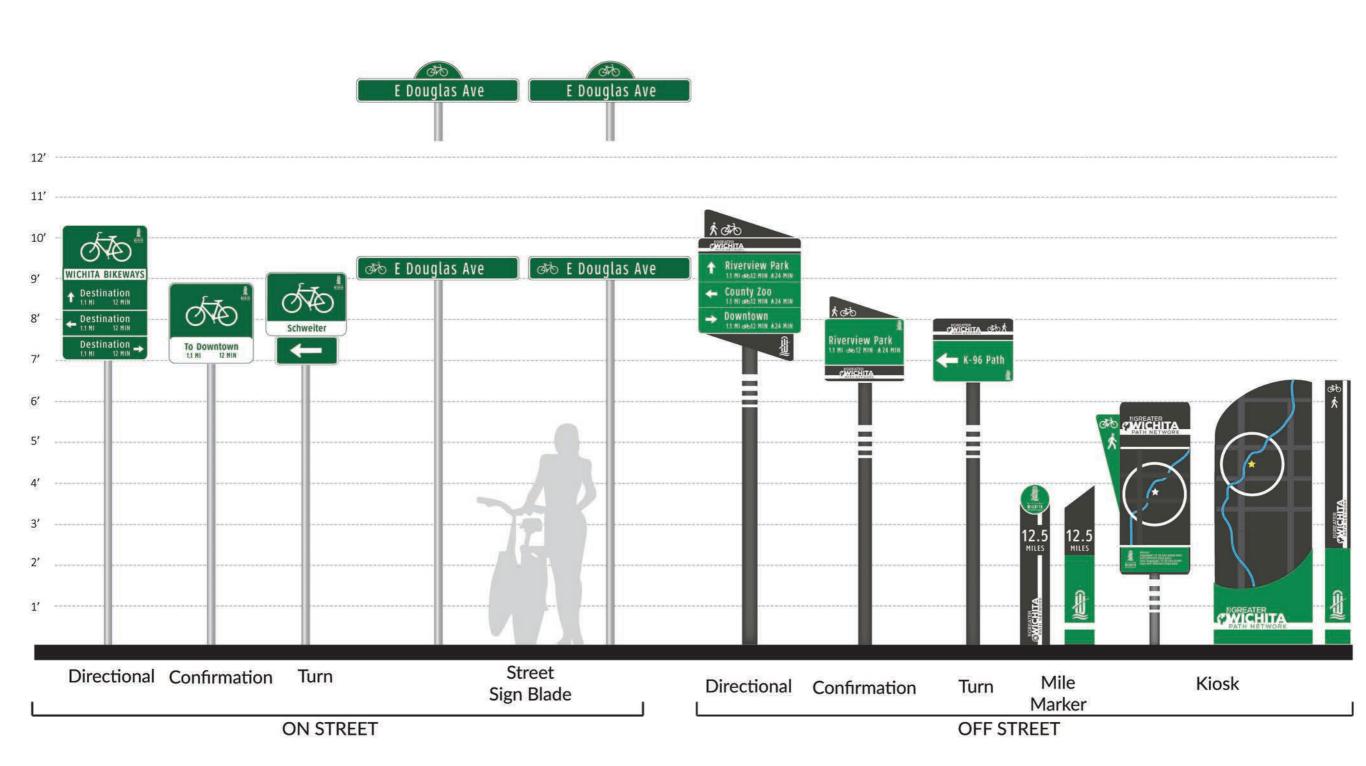


Pavement Marking

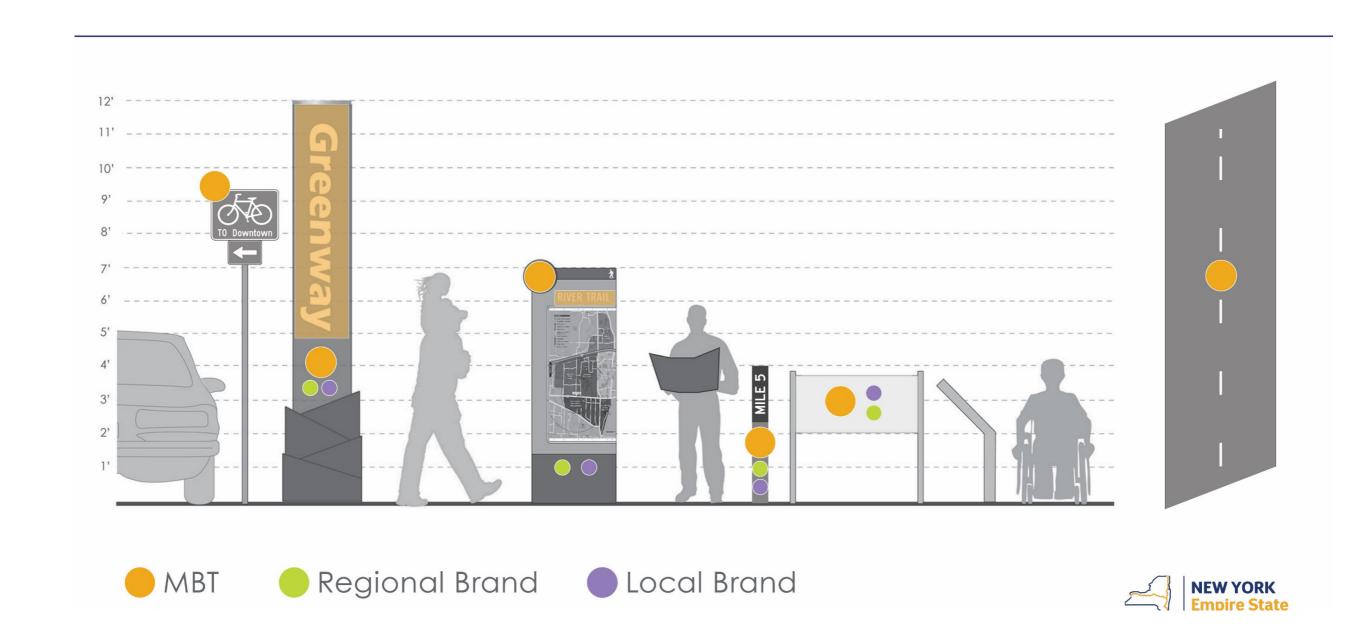


Mile Markers

Wayfinding Entire Systems / On-Trail Systems

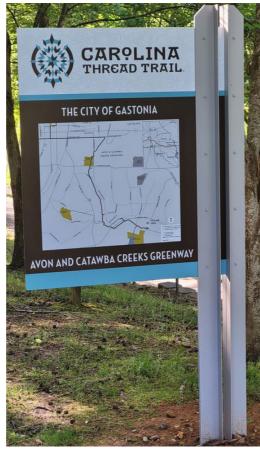


Implementing Regional Wayfinding/ Regional Trail Branding and Co-Branding



The Carolina Thread Trail & Co-branding









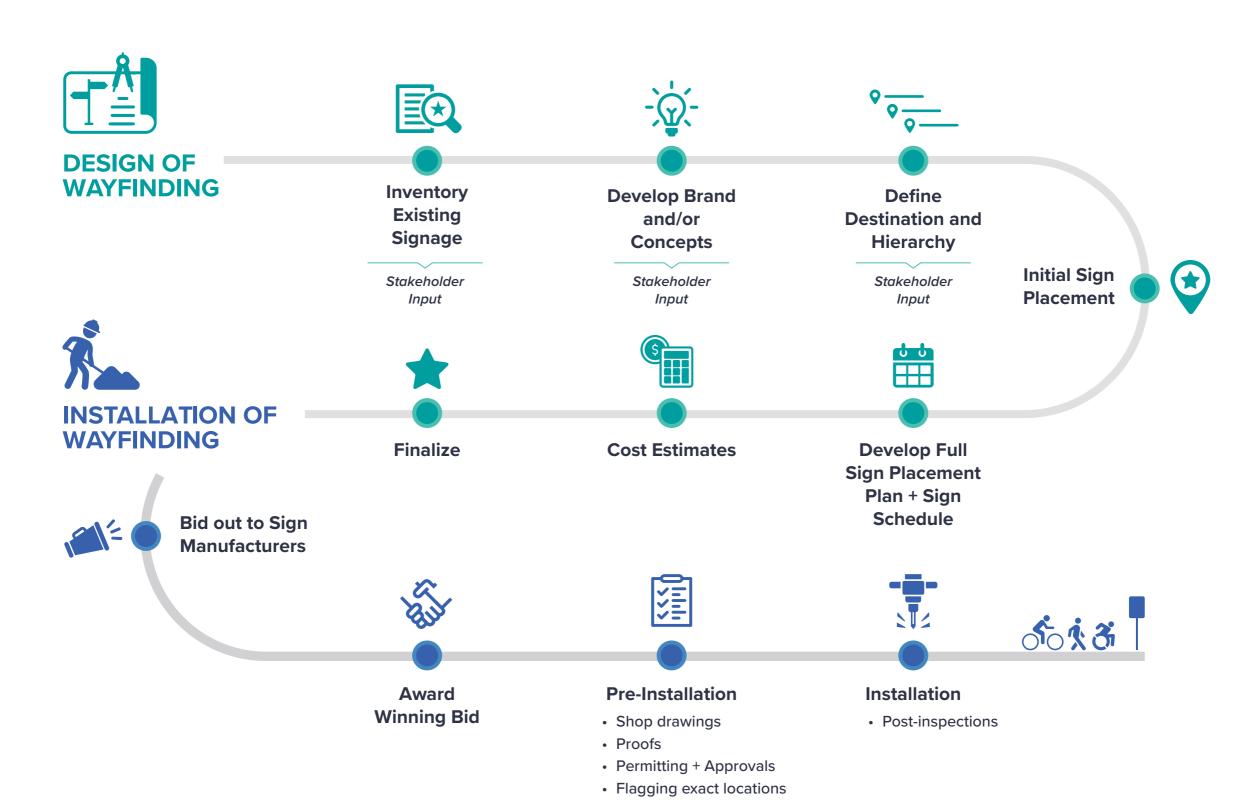






>>> Signing a Path

Steps to Implementing Greenway Wayfinding



Developing Concepts and/or Branding



Rose Lee House / Rustic Modern



Cook Museum / Modern



Limestone County



Monte Sano Lodge



Historic Courtland



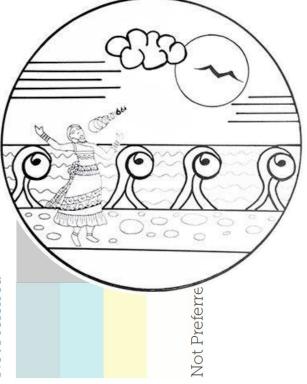
Stovehouse / Modern Reuse



Singing River Trail Branding



Lush Forest



Bright Tones



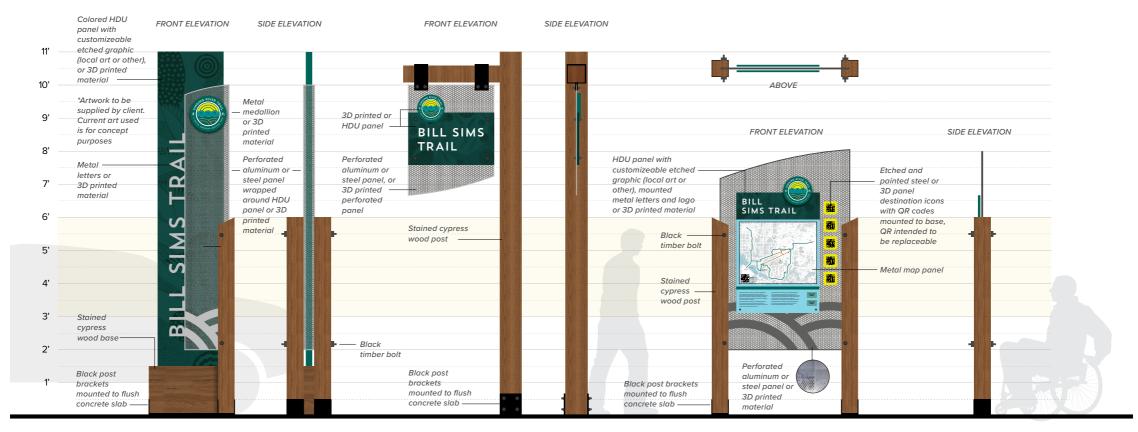
Neutral Earth Tones

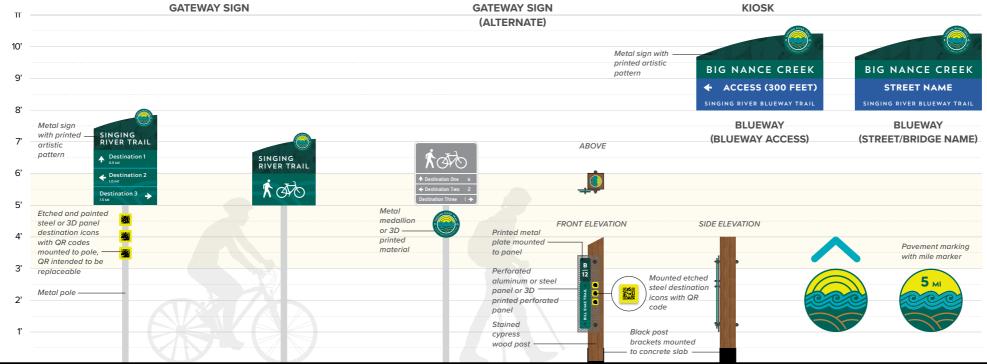


Cheerful Mid-Tones



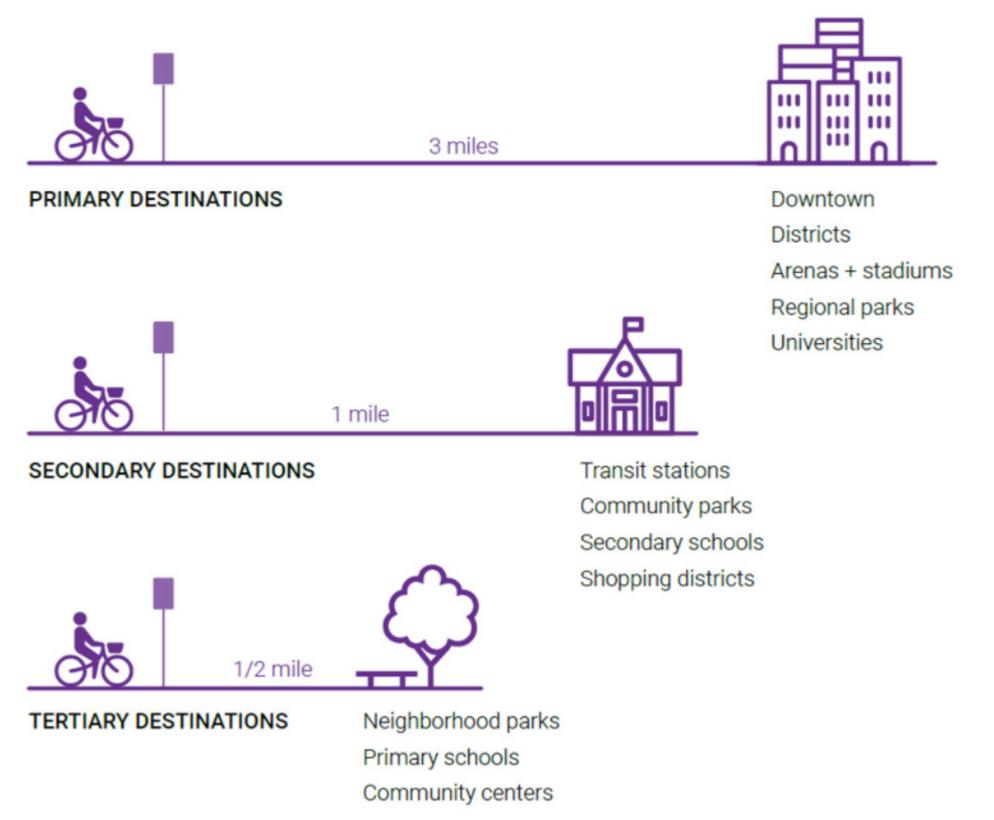
Developing Concepts and/or Branding

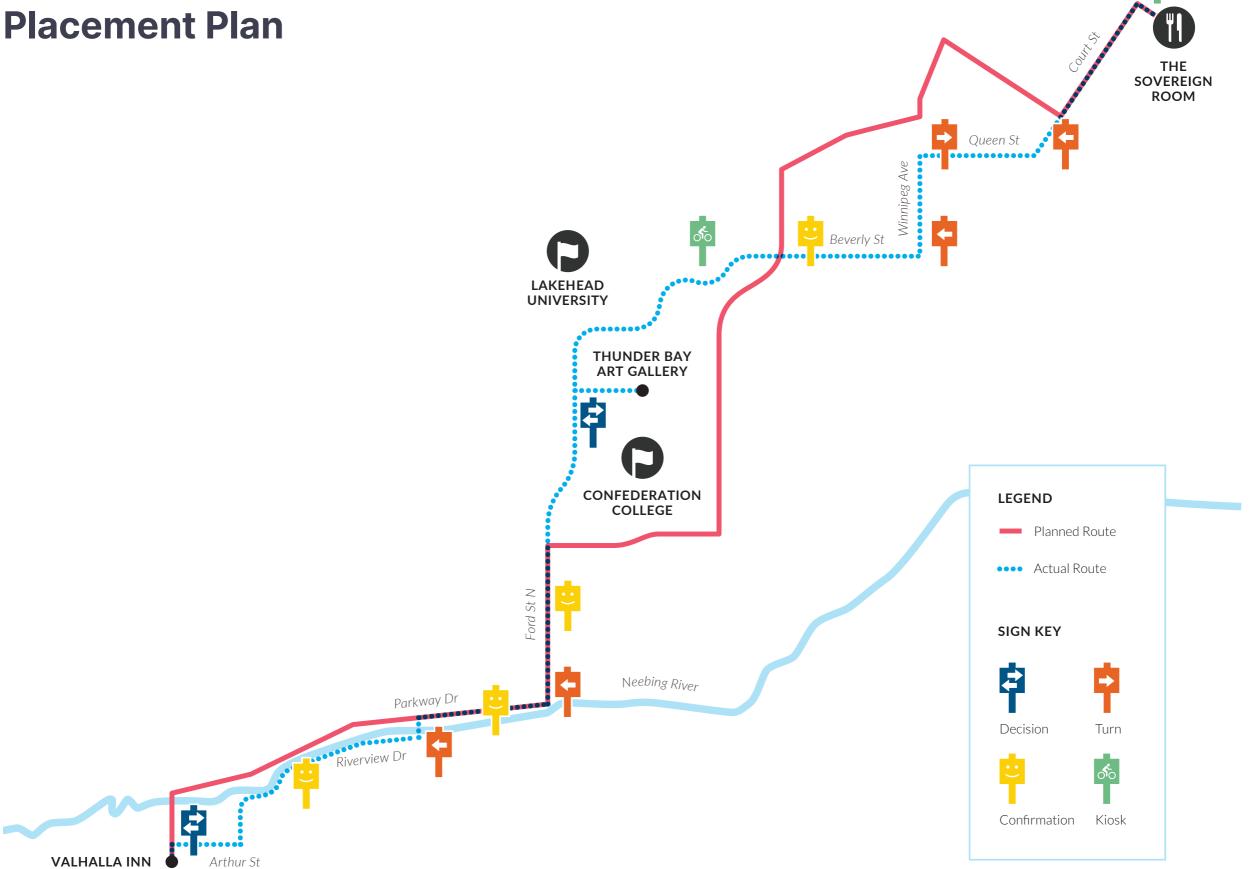




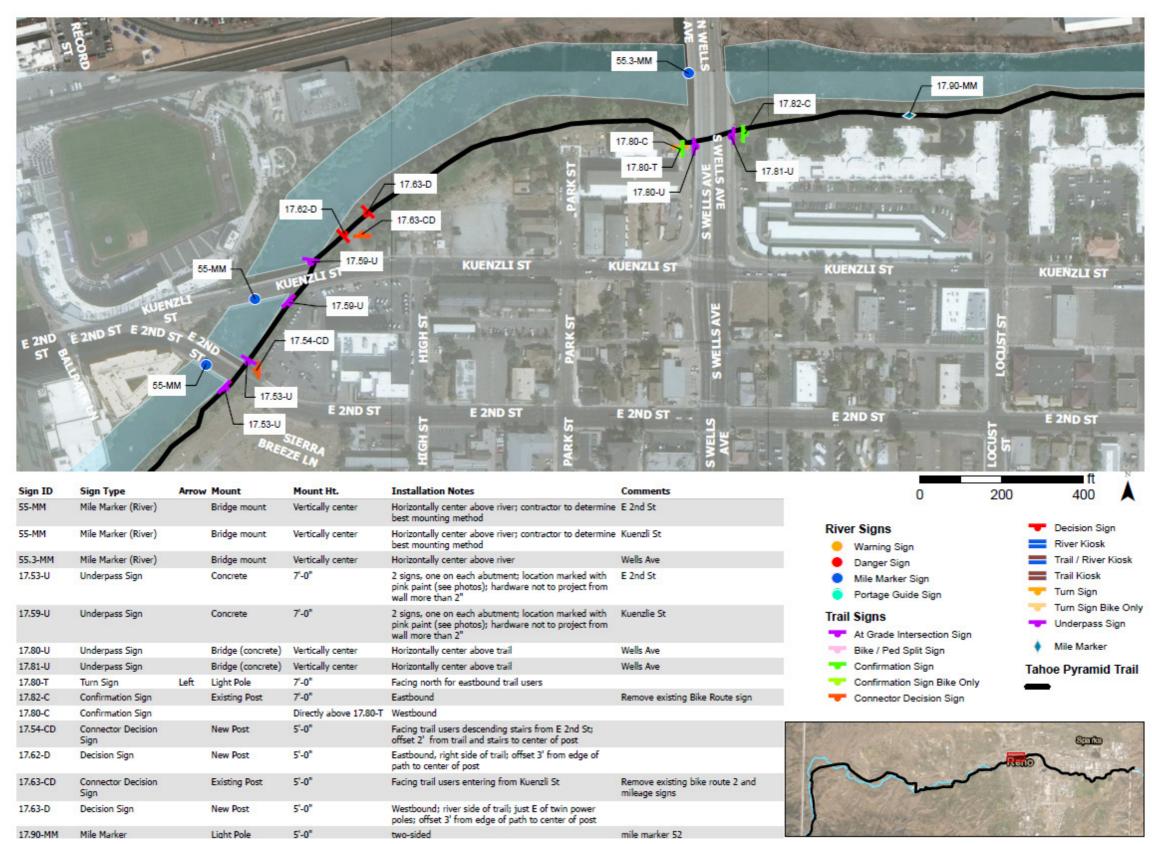
DIRECTIONAL CONFIRMATION CO-BRANDING TRAIL MARKER PAVEMENT MARKING Where to State With Wayfinding | Alta

Define Destinations

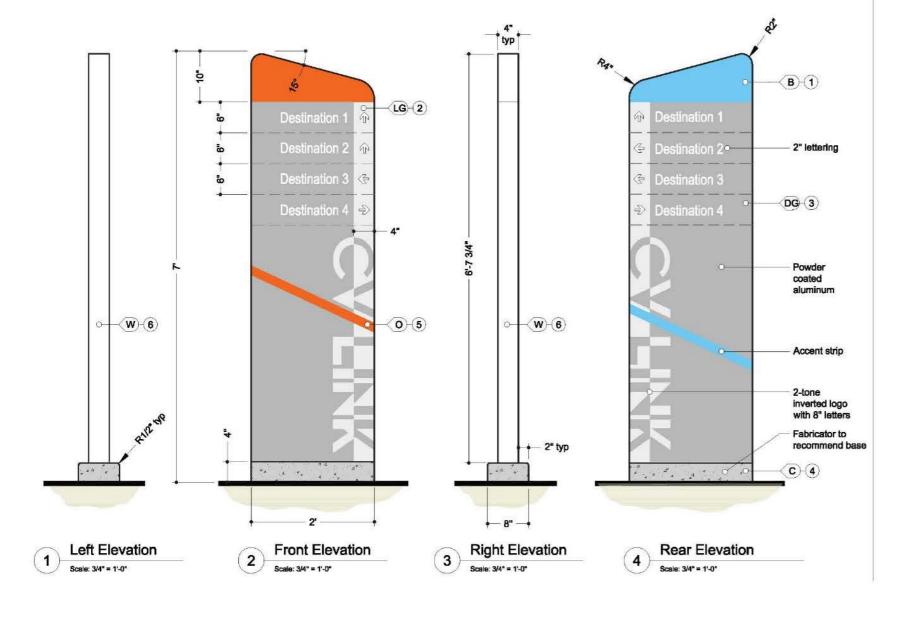


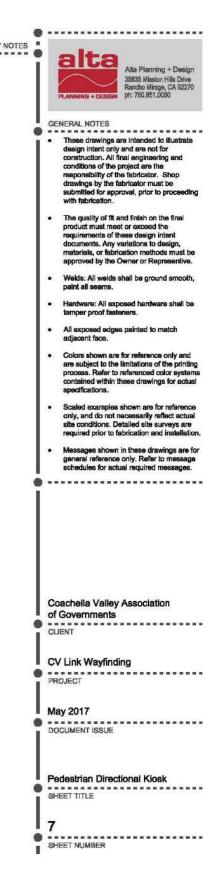


Placement Plan and Schedule



Design Intent Drawings vs. Full Construction Drawings





>>> Wayfinding Standards

MUTCD Standards (Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices) **Flexibility**

When to Follow MUTCD

- In DOT right-of-way
- Federal DOT funding is involved

» MUTCD section 2D.50 Community Wayfinding allows custom colors and enhancement markers (logos)

When Following Isn't Needed

- Not in DOT ROW
- Non-federally funded





MUTCD Standards - Color

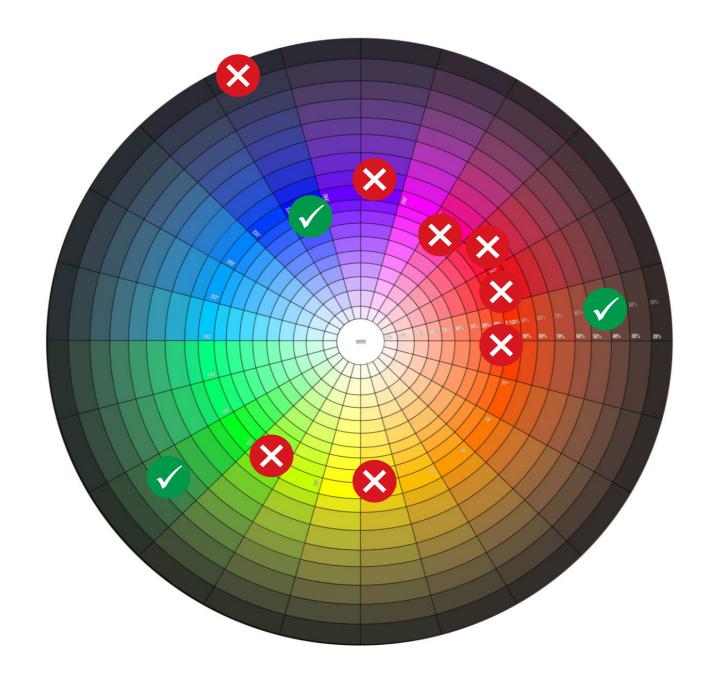






Restricted







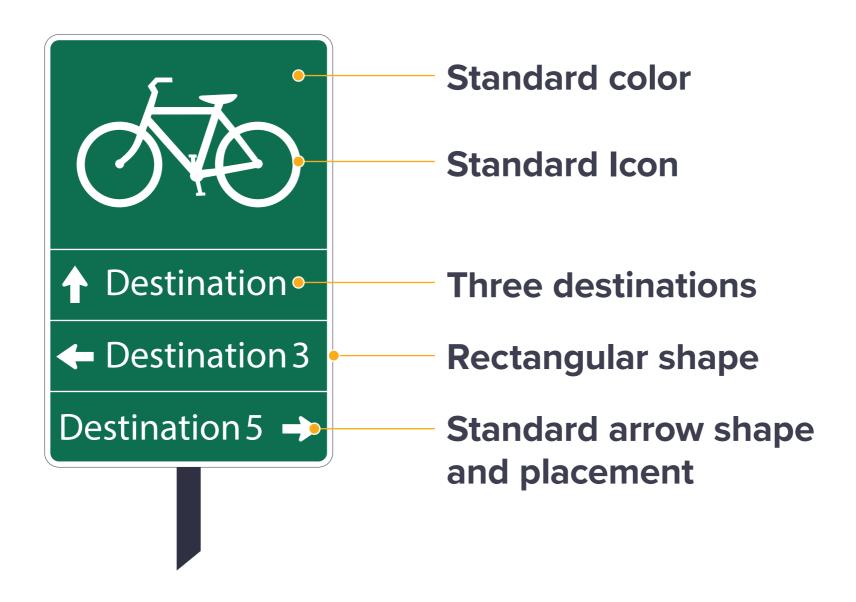




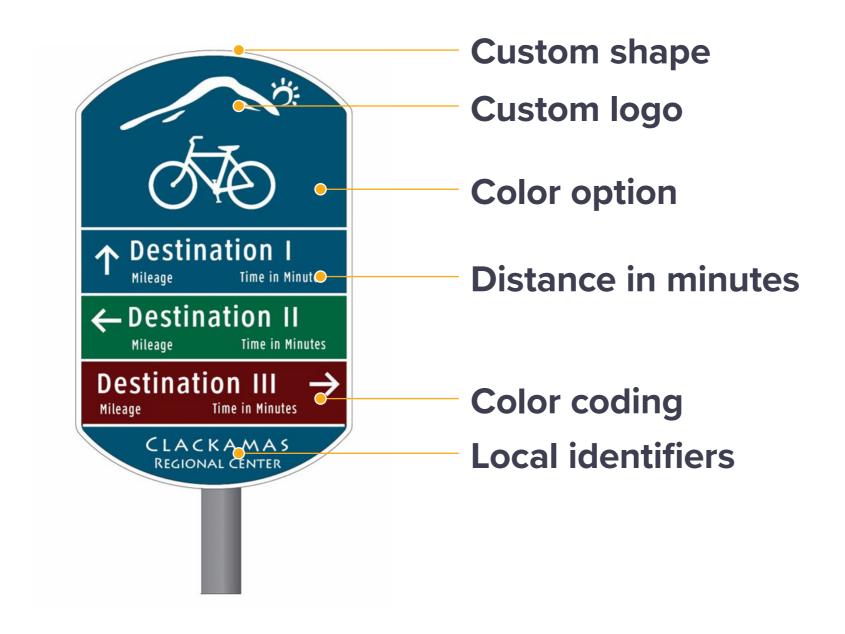
Allowed



MUTCD Standards - Sign Layout



Non-MUTCD Signage



Wayfinding Examples

Thunder Bay Wayfinding





















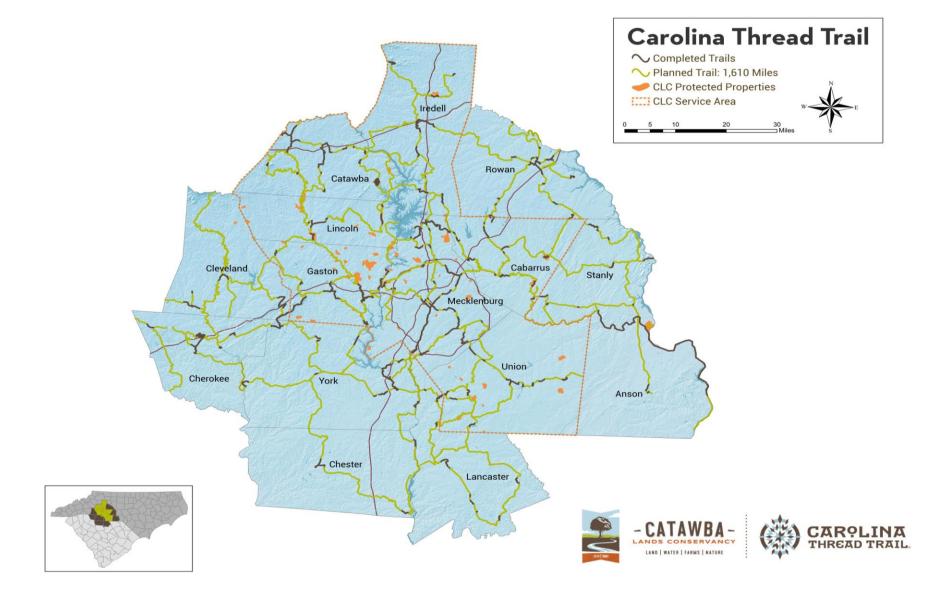
SIGNING THE THREAD TRAIL

AMBITIOUS GOALS

- 15 counties in North and South Carolina
- 88 municipalities
- 400 miles of trail as of 2023
- 100 miles of blueways
- Grow awareness of CTT name
- Improve user experience and access
- Make the Thread Trail a premiere outdoor recreation destination within the greater Charlotte region



CTT FOOTPRINT





AMBITIOUS GOALS WITH A NONPROFIT

BUDGET Miles to be Signed

Existing Miles	 409
New Miles	191
Total miles to be signed, next 5 years	600

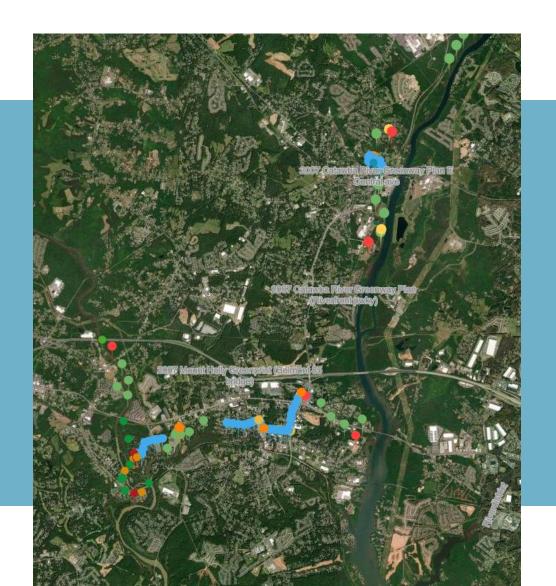
Miles County-by-County

	Existing	New	Paved	Unpaved		Total
	Miles	Miles	Miles	Miles	Sidewalk	Miles
Anson	1	1	2			2
Cabarrus	21	16	27	6	3	36
Catawba	35	18	7	26	20	53
Cherokee	16	9	3	15	7	24
Chester	7	18	1	21	3	25
Cleveland	19	17	2	31	3	36
Gaston	33	19	20	20	12	53
Iredell	22	4	12	5	9	26
Lancaster	13	3	5	7	5	16
Lincoln	10	3	2	8	3	13
Mecklenburg	55	56	86	3	22	111
Rowan	19	2	7	6	9	21
Stanly	10	5	2	10	3	15
Union	17	1	2	7	9	18
York	31	20	17	28	6	51
Blueway	100					100
	409	191	193	194	112	600



WHAT WE STARTED WITH









MAJOR CHANGES TO MASTER PLAN

- Year to year scope
- Timing with community partners
 - i.e. new trails being built later/ projects pushed back
- Budget
- Scope
 - Kayak launches, blueways, crosswalks, assurance marker placement





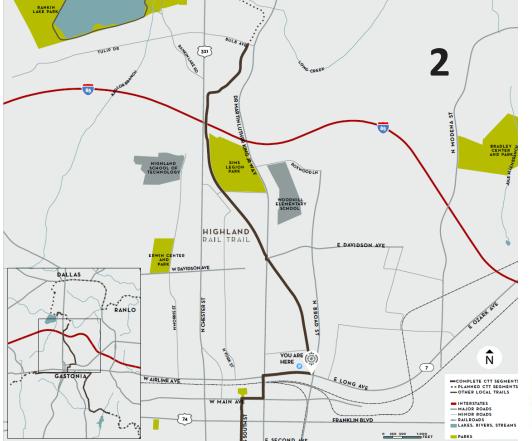




KEEP IT SIMPLE

What information to include

- Limit trail system display
- **Points of interest**
- Roads
- **Conserved lands**











REPETITION AND PATTERNS

- Same color scheme on CTT flags
- Assurance markers on greenways
 - Placement plans
- Blazes on natural surface trails
 - Logistical challenges
- Trailheads only in parking locations
- Information on signage





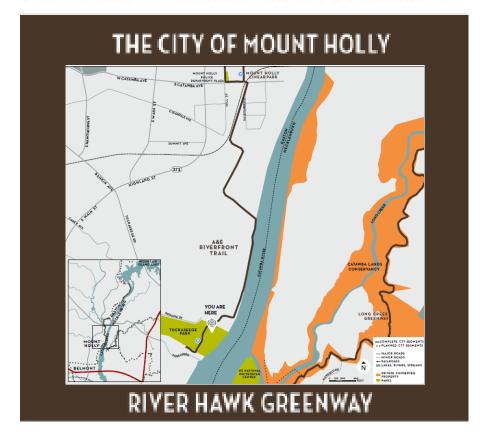




- ◀ Highland Rail Trail 1.6 mi

ENCOURAGING EXPLORATION







WHERE WE ARE



