

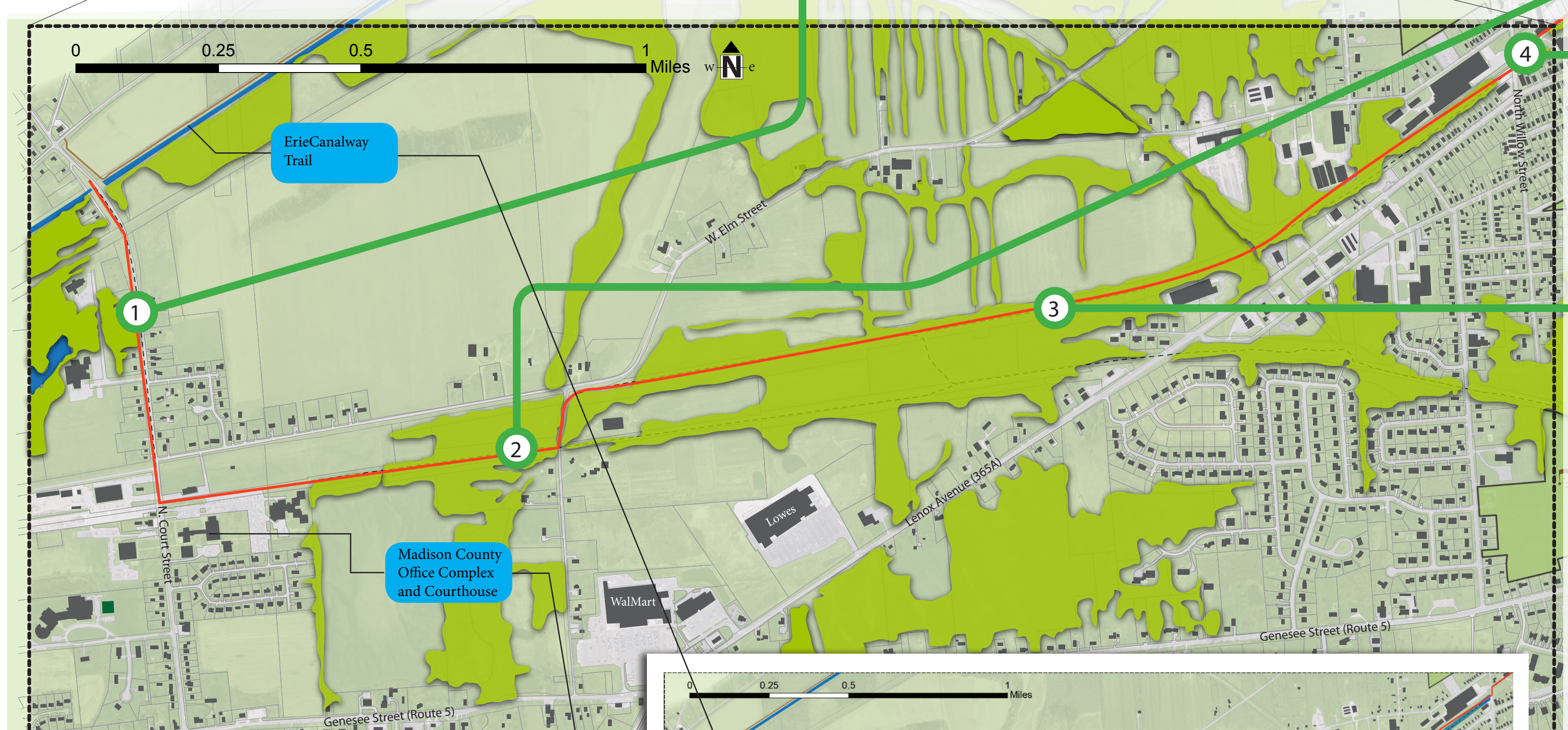
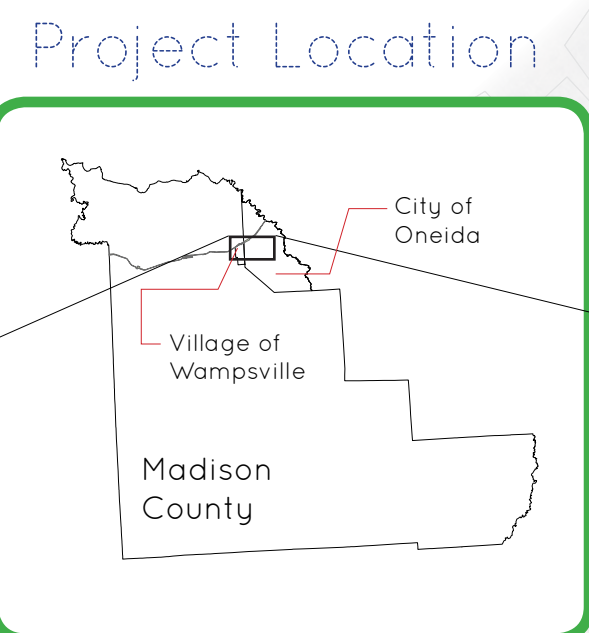
Oneida Rail Trail

Proposed Enhancements

The proposed 3.1 mile ADA accessible multi-modal trail segment of the Oneida Rail Trail (ORT) would connect the Village of Wampsville to the City of Oneida utilizing a portion of the West Shore Railbed and the New York Central Railbed.

The segment will link the New York State Old Erie Canal Towpath to the northwest of Wampsville along the rail corridor to North Willow Street in the City of Oneida. At the western terminus, trail users could continue on along the 36-mile Old Erie Canal Towpath Trail maintained by New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. At the eastern terminus located at N. Willow Street, trail users could continue on existing City of Oneida sidewalks and directly into the City's downtown.

Study Area Master Plan



- Legend**
- Proposed Trail Segment
 - Future Trail
 - Existing Building Footprint
 - Existing Parkland
 - Existing Woodland Area

Property Ownership

The proposed 3.1 mile segment of the ORT involves eleven parcels and four property owners: City of Oneida, Madison County, Oneida Indian Nation, and Village of Wampsville (sidewalk).

The majority of the existing railbed is presently maintained by the City of Oneida and is currently navigable. In fact, many people in the community currently use these railbeds as an unofficial trail. By formerly connecting these railbed properties and creating an official City trail, this project will permanently preserve this greenspace and enhance the cohesiveness and connectivity of the corridor.



- Existing Right-of-Way Property Ownership**
- Madison County
 - City of Oneida
 - Oneida Nation
 - National Grid

1. Old Erie Canal Towpath to the Madison County Office Complex

Sidewalk construction is necessary to link the ORT from the Village of Wampsville to the N. Court Street Bridge which connects to the Old Erie Canal Towpath. The current village sidewalk ends approximately 415 feet before the N. Court Street.

Court Street Bridge. New sidewalk will be installed and the entire sidewalk that connects to the ORT will be striped with paint for visibility and ease of navigation. Bike share arrows will also be used along N. Court Street.



2. West Shore Rail Bridge

The remaining West Shore Rail Bridge will be restored to bring hikers, bikers, cross country skiers and more over Cowaselon Creek. The 48 ft. long rail bridge will be redecked and railings will be added. This rail bridge dates back to the early 1900s and Oneida Railway Company markings can still be seen on the trestle.

An interpretative sign will be designed and installed on the bridge to reconnect trail users to this iconic structure and help bring to life the significance the railroad played in the area's history.



3. Trail Surface Enhancements

Overall surface enhancements of the trail include the placement of an 8 ft. wide stone dust trail along the former railbeds.

Amenities such as bike racks, benches, and picnic tables will be provided to enhance the trail user's experience and the convenience of choosing non-motorized transportation. Wayfinding signage will also be placed throughout.



4. Trailhead Development

The trail will be a highly visible and prominent destination with three trailheads proposed for this 3.1 mile segment as well as way-finding signage to make it easy to locate and navigate. Parking will be available in three different locations along the segment; 2 of these parking lots already exist with 1 parking lot left to develop. The rendering shows the trailhead and parking area to be developed near N. Willow Street. This trailhead will utilize two parcels formerly owned by Nutech Biosciences. NuTech donated the two parcels to the City of Oneida for the ORT project in February 2013.



Prepared on behalf of the Madison County Planning Department by:
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