

Preliminary Planning and Design Goals

Maximize Transportation and Recreational Utility

The design of the multimodal trail connections to the Putnam Bridge walkway should promote year-round use as a transportation and recreational facility by maximizing the following:

- **Accessibility.** Incorporate design standards and features that: accommodate a variety of users (bicyclists, pedestrians, joggers, skaters, etc.); provide ease of maintenance; and facilitate reliable passage throughout the year.
- **Connectivity.** Link the multimodal trail to existing bicycle, pedestrian, and transit facilities; provide opportunities for future connectivity; and enhance access to other nearby community and recreational facilities.
- **Comfort and Security.** Create a comfortable user experience by mitigating the impacts of adjacent highways (traffic noise, road spray, headlight glare, etc.) and by providing measures to enhance user safety along the trail and at its termini.

Minimize Impacts

The design of the multimodal trail connections should be sensitive to the context of the surrounding area by minimizing or avoiding negative effects on the following:

- **Environmental Resources.** Minimize the direct and indirect impacts of the planned trail on wetlands, floodplains, natural habitats, and other resources in the area.
- **Private Property.** Minimize the need to acquire rights or land from private property owners.
- **Existing Infrastructure.** Avoid costly impacts to existing roadways, bridges, and utilities.

Facilitate Implementation

The planning and design processes for the multimodal trail connections should build community and agency support for the project, ultimately leading to its implementation, by addressing the following:

- **Community Needs and Priorities.** Respond to community input on the design and long-term functional aspects of the trail.
- **Fiscal Constraints.** Provide cost-effective design solutions that reasonably satisfy the other project goals of maximizing utility and minimizing impacts. Consider a variety of funding and implementation mechanisms for project components.
- **Agency Requirements.** Respond to regulatory agency input on the design and permitting requirements of the trail to facilitate subsequent approval processes.