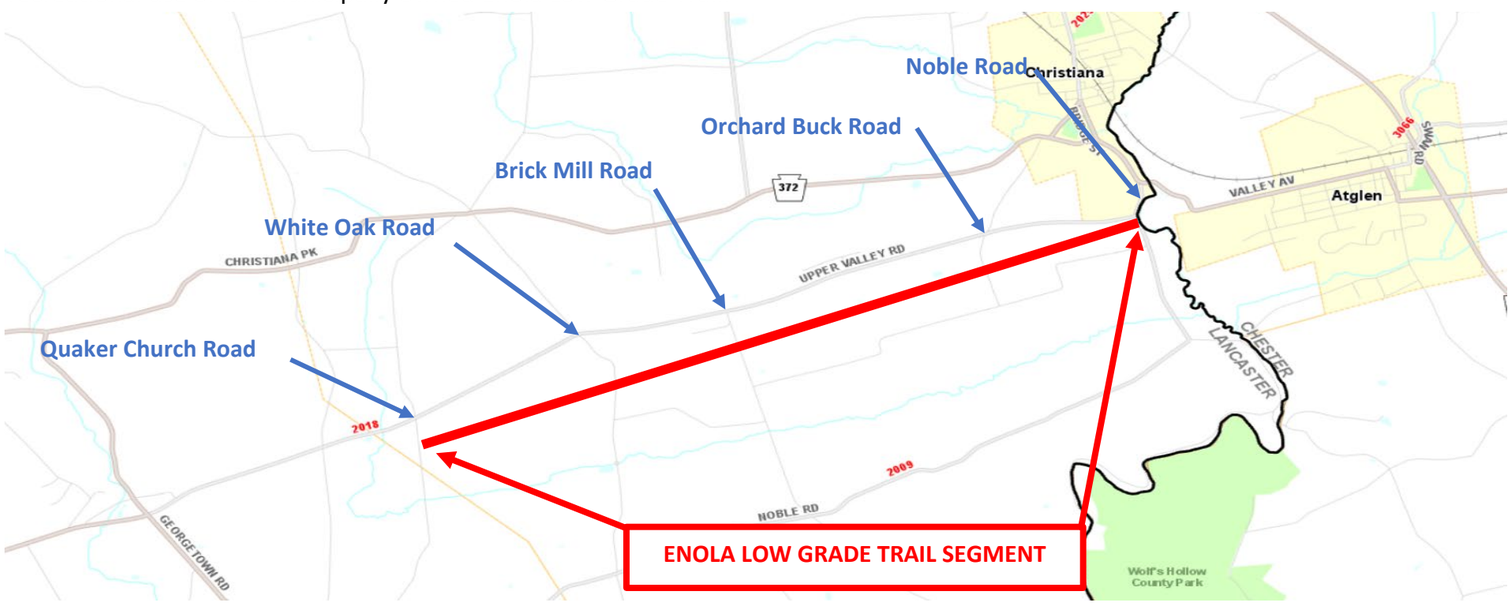
Enola Low-Grade Trail East 2 Section Improvement Project

Project Description:

The proposed Enola Low Grade Trail (ELGT) improvement project is an approximate three (3 mile) rural rail-trail extending through Sadsbury Township, Lancaster County. The project limits generally begin at the Bart and Sadsbury Township line located near Quaker Church Road and continue eastward, terminating prior to the Lancaster and Chester County Line and bridge structure. Importantly, the proposed trail represents a portion of the ELGT system which extends 29.15 miles through Lancaster and Chester Counties from the Safe Harbor Dam on the Susquehanna River east to Main Street in Atglen, Chester County, Pennsylvania. The trail system promotes the use of bike, mountain biking, walking, and cross-country skiing.

The proposed project will follow the former rail line. Surrounding improvements include three (3) at road grade crossings including from west to east, White Oak Rd. (T-413), Brick Milll Rd (T-970), and Orchard Buck Rd. (T-791). Additional improvements include field access crossings for neighboring agricultural parcels, drainage structures, and utilities. Utilities which parallel the alignment include high-tension electrical and buried water. The Noble Road (SR 2009) stone arch bridge structure and East Branch of the Octoraro Creek are located immediately beyond the eastern project limit. No work is currently proposed for this portion of the trail crossing shared between Lancaster and Chester County, but will be included in the next phase of improvement. Construction of the trail will require temporary closure of the trail between Quaker Church Road and Noble Road for the entire duration of construction (up to 9 months) due to safety concerns. Roadways will remain open throughout construction except for temporary short-term closures during the week, which will be signed, to allow for paving and placement of any cross piping. Farmers will be able to cross directly across the trail at designated farm crossings during and after construction in order to access their fields.

Publicly owned recreation resources are protected under Section 4(f) of the U.S. Department of Transportation Act of 1966 for all fed erally funded transportation projects. Section 4(f) also applies to historic resources that have been listed on or determined eligible for listing. This project will require completion of Section 4(f) Resource No-Use documentation for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)-eligible Pennsylvania Railroad Enola Branch Low-Grade Freight Line (Enola to Parkesburg) Historic District and recreational use of the municipally owned Enola Low Grade Trail.



Project Purpose:

The purpose of the proposed project is to improve bicycle and pedestrian facility deficiencies along this 3.13-mile section of the Enola Low Grade Trail and further complement improved conditions which exist in other sections of the trail located to the west of this project.

Project Need:

The segment of Enola Low Grade Trail East 2 from Bart Township in the west to Noble Road in the east, is an unimproved pathway that warrants improvement for safe bicycle and pedestrian travel. Facility deficiencies include:

- Pedestrian crosswalks are missing at various road crossings
- A formal parking lot (trailhead) is warranted due to insufficient parking facilities
- The needs for this trail were documented in the "Enola Low Grade Trail - Providence Township Section" master plan as prepared in coordination with the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

Project Schedule:

February 2026	Construction Begins
November 2026	Construction Completion