



# TRAILS ACROSS ← NEW YORK →

**Trails Across New York** aims to build off of the success of the Empire State Trail by furthering the development and promotion of the state’s multi-use trail network.

**W**hen the Empire State Trail is complete in 2020 New York will have the nation’s longest state trail – including a completed Erie Canalway Trail between Buffalo and Albany and a continuous trail from New York City to the Canadian border for a total of **750 miles of trails**.

However, **there is no plan in place for what comes next**. New York needs a coordinated statewide plan to guide investments in multi-use trails and dedicated state funding sources to support the economic boon trails bring.

## VISION

**More New Yorkers** of all ages, abilities and backgrounds enjoying multi-use trails.

**A world-class trail network** that connects communities across the state with healthy recreation and transportation options and boosts local economies by encouraging outdoor tourism.

**Sustainable support** for ongoing trail development and regular maintenance.

**Resources** that make getting on the trail easy.

- Accelerate trail network development through the completion of a statewide trails plan, including identifying opportunities for new trail development
- Identify sustainable maintenance funding to assist trail managers and communities in maintaining their portions of the trail network.
- Create a trails tourism campaign in conjunction with I Love NY and county tourism promotion agencies to market New York as a trail destination state.
- Adopt legislation that supports trails, such as expansion of the Complete Streets law to include maintenance projects, a 3-foot standard when passing on-road cyclists, and clarification of the legal status of e-Bikes.

GOALS

# PRIORITIES

1

**Planning:** Incorporate existing regional trails planning efforts into a single statewide trails plan, and identify dedicated funding for future projects and for ongoing trail maintenance.

2

**Expansion:** Continue to develop the state’s trail network by completing the Empire State Trail and future connections to all parts of the state, including an extension to Long Island.

3

**Promotion:** Promote trails and paths as healthy outdoor living and tourism destinations through state, regional and local marketing efforts, engaging diverse audiences, and minimizing obstacles to getting on the trail by creating free, easy-to-use resources and signage.

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Trails offer a wide range of benefits, including stimulating local economies. The Erie Canalway Trail alone has an estimated annual impact of more than **\$250 million**, and has created close to **3,500 jobs**. New York’s outdoor recreation economy annually generates **\$41.8 billion** in consumer spending and supports **313,000 jobs**

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For more information or to join this effort contact:  
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#TrailsAcrossNY