

SECTION

6

**Preliminary Greenway
Master Plan—
Public Input**

Preliminary Greenway Master Plan-Public Input

Greenways can provide pedestrian connections between community resources, including parks, schools, shopping, residences and historic sites. Therefore, the physical design of the trail system began with the identification of the most significant points of interest for each community. These areas were then pinpointed on a Preliminary Greenway Master Plan map (figure 6.1) and potential connecting routes were analyzed via field studies, aerial photographs, topographic maps and other two-dimensional resources. This activity occurred concurrently with greenway committee meetings and the agency interviews described in Section V of this document. The initial routes were adjusted throughout the process as additional opportunities and constraints were identified by agency representatives, greenway proponents and the project designers. On February 10, 2000, the Preliminary Greenway Plan was presented to the public at the Smyrna City Hall. The following week, the Plan was presented at the La Vergne City Hall. Both meetings consisted of an overview presentation describing the planning process followed by a description of the potential greenways, bike lanes, bike routes and trailheads. Meeting attendees were then invited to offer their comments on the plans. Complete lists of public input at the two community meetings are included in Appendix A.

Both of the public meetings were attended by a large contingency of individuals who use the Tennessee Wildlife Resource Agency's lands on J. Percy Priest Lake for hunting and field trials. These individuals expressed significant objections, particularly to greenways aligned on the Texas Eastern easement crossing TWRA Wildlife Management Unit I, trails along the West Fork of the Stones River, trails on Pistol Island, and trails shown north of the Hurricane Creek Recreation Area on Percy Priest Lake.

Hunting proponents stated that the proposed trails would disturb fragile natural areas and cause a loss of animal habitat. They also stated that hunters are paying for management of these lands through fees for licenses and additional federal excise taxes levied on hunting equipment. Members of the Middle Tennessee Retriever Club and the Old Hickory Kennel Club stated that trails on Unit I would cause a negative impact on their activities. A number of attendees pointed out that the public already has access to hiking trails on the TWRA lands and that the existing trails provide sufficient opportunities for pedestrians.

In addition to identified conflicts between hunting, field trials and greenways, several meeting attendees voiced concern over greenways and trails aligned on private lands. These people feared that they might be forced to give up portions of their farms or other private lands through condemnation. Others stated that greenways in residential areas would infringe on their privacy and might cause safety and security problems.

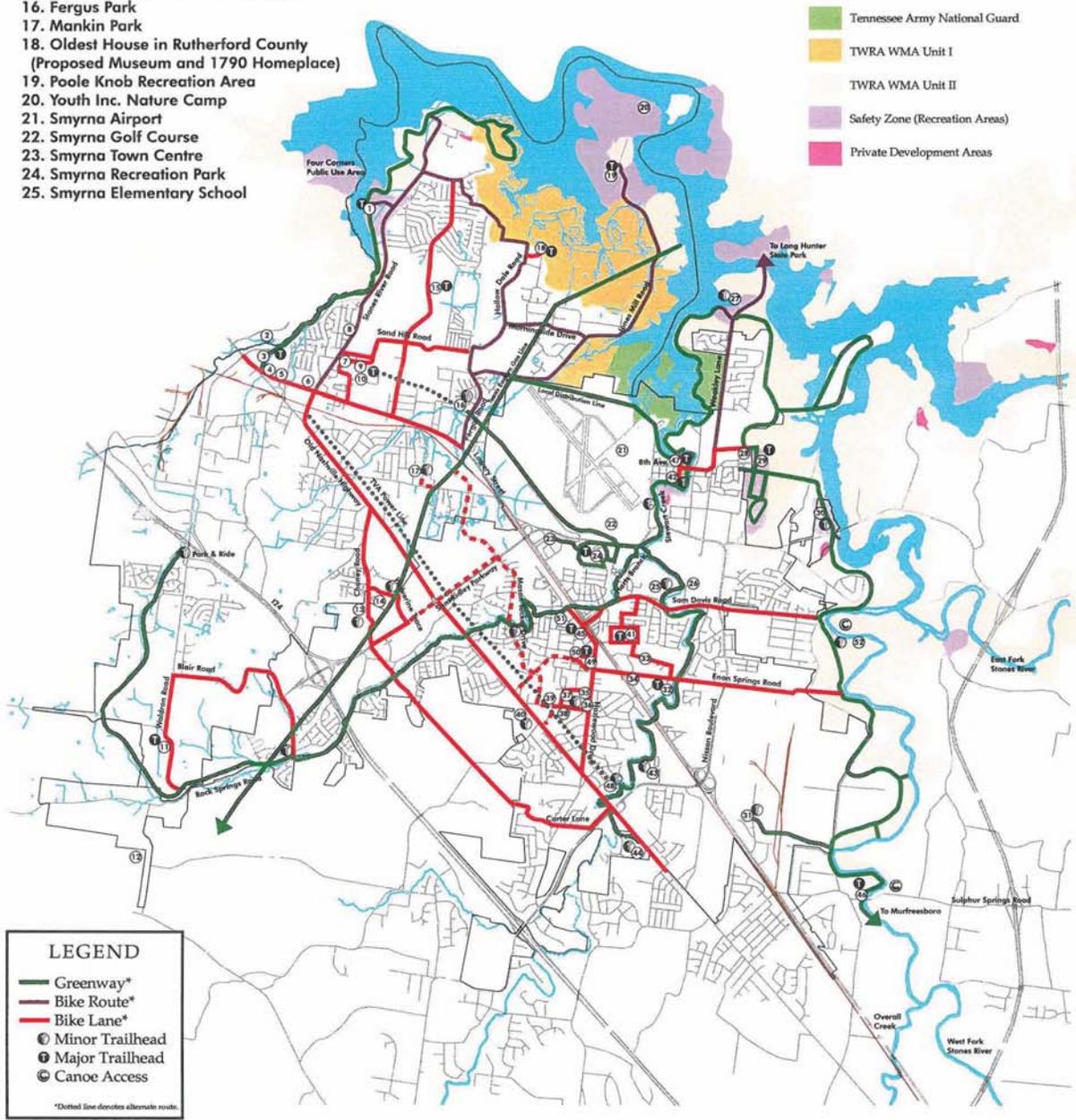
When asked to prioritize the trails and bike facilities shown on the preliminary plan, residents of both La Vergne and Smyrna stated emphatically that the primary focus should be on providing safe ways (bike lanes and sidewalks) for children to get to school.

Preliminary Master Plan La Vergne - Smyrna Greenway

1. Hurricane Creek Recreation Area
2. Les Trois Points Greenway
3. La Vergne Ball Fields
4. La Vergne Senior Citizens' Center
5. La Vergne Library
6. La Vergne City Hall
7. La Vergne Primary School
8. Driftwood Park
9. Roy Waldron Junior High School
10. Veteran's Memorial Park
11. Proposed New Middle School
12. Rock Springs School
13. Cedar Grove Elementary School
14. La Vergne High School
15. Proposed New Elementary School
16. Fergus Park
17. Mankin Park
18. Oldest House in Rutherford County
(Proposed Museum and 1790 Homeplace)
19. Poole Knob Recreation Area
20. Youth Inc. Nature Camp
21. Smyrna Airport
22. Smyrna Golf Course
23. Smyrna Town Centre
24. Smyrna Recreation Park
25. Smyrna Elementary School

26. Sam Davis Home
27. Stewart Creek Recreation Area
28. John Coleman Elementary School
29. Sharp Springs Park
30. Jefferson Springs Recreation Area
31. Nissan Recreation Facilities
32. Gregory Mill Dam Recreation Area
33. Post Office
34. Smyrna City Hall
35. Old Smyrna Library
36. Smyrna Middle School
37. Smyrna Primary School
38. Thurman Frances Elementary School
39. David Youree School

40. Smyrna West School
41. Rotary Soccer park
42. Tennessee Rehabilitation Center
43. Smyrna High School
44. Stewartsboro Elementary School
45. CSX Railroad Depot
46. Nice's Mill Recreation Area
47. Volunteer Park
48. Davis Park
49. Old Rock School Park
50. New Smyrna Library
51. Senior Living Center
52. West Fork Recreation Area



LEGEND

- Greenway*
- Bike Route*
- Bike Lane*
- ⊙ Minor Trailhead
- ⊙ Major Trailhead
- ⊙ Canoe Access

*Dotted line denotes alternate route.

- Tennessee Army National Guard
- TWRA WMA Unit I
- TWRA WMA Unit II
- Safety Zone (Recreation Areas)
- Private Development Areas

Figure 6.1