



## TRAIL USAGE SUMMARY (2017)

Trails are built to be used, and one of the most important indicators of the utility of a trail system is the level of use it receives. Since 2014, the COG Board, with its partners, has dedicated resources towards developing a comprehensive monitoring program along the Central Ohio Greenways system. The goal of this monitoring program is to provide the data and information necessary to make informed decisions about trail expansion and maintenance, along with furthering the understanding of the impact of regional trail investments.

To this end, two important metrics are calculated on an annual basis: *Average Annual Daily Trail Traffic (AADTT)* and *Trail Miles Traveled (TMT)*. AADTT is a measure of the average usage an individual segment of the trail system receives daily (see map of segment AADTTs). TMT is a measure of overall trail and system usage; helping to answer the question of how much activity is occurring along the system throughout the year. This document is meant to provide a high level overview of the trail usage observed in 2017. For more information on the data collection and analysis methodology, visit the Central Ohio Greenways website at: [www.CentralOhioGreenways.com](http://www.CentralOhioGreenways.com).

### TRAIL MILES TRAVELED (TMT) BY TRAIL

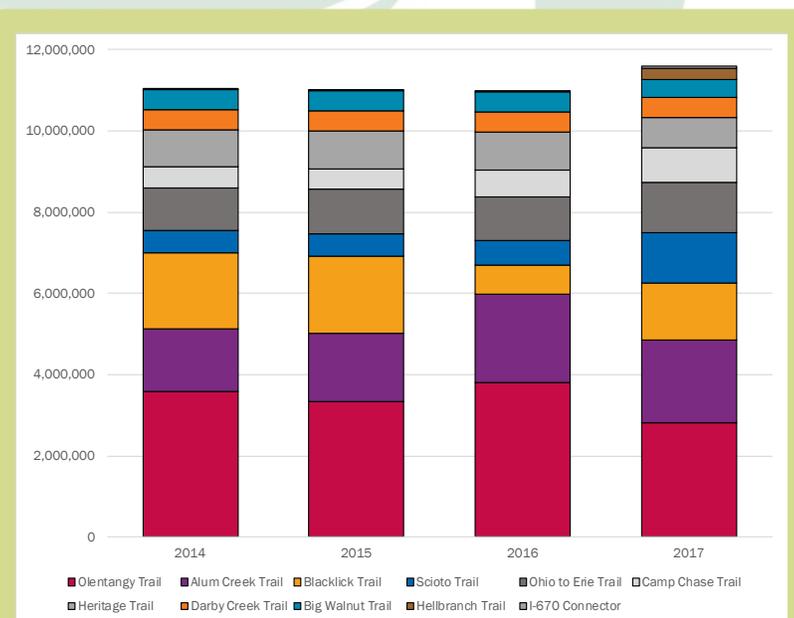
TRAIL	2014	2015	2016	2017	% CHANGE
Scioto Trail	541,531	562,459	599,371	1,254,213	131.6%
I-670 Connector	37,670	37,670	37,773	32,486	-13.8%
Alum Creek Trail	1,543,777	1,695,965	2,156,611	2,055,641	33.2%
Blacklick Trail	1,891,131	1,891,131	725,381	1,382,283	-26.9%
Olentangy Trail	3,578,009	3,329,940	3,813,568	2,805,601	-21.6%
Ohio to Erie Trail	1,044,304	1,086,712	1,087,740	1,225,938	17.4%
Big Walnut Trail	480,977	480,977	482,295	449,336	-6.6%
Heritage Trail	907,835	916,353	918,864	746,937	-17.7%
Darby Creek Trail	508,575	508,575	509,968	508,575	0.0%
Camp Chase Trail	512,201	512,201	658,787	853,094	66.6%
Hellbranch Trail	-	-	-	274,834	N/A
<b>Total TMT</b>	<b>11,046,010</b>	<b>11,021,984</b>	<b>10,990,358</b>	<b>11,588,937</b>	<b>4.9%</b>

**Notes**

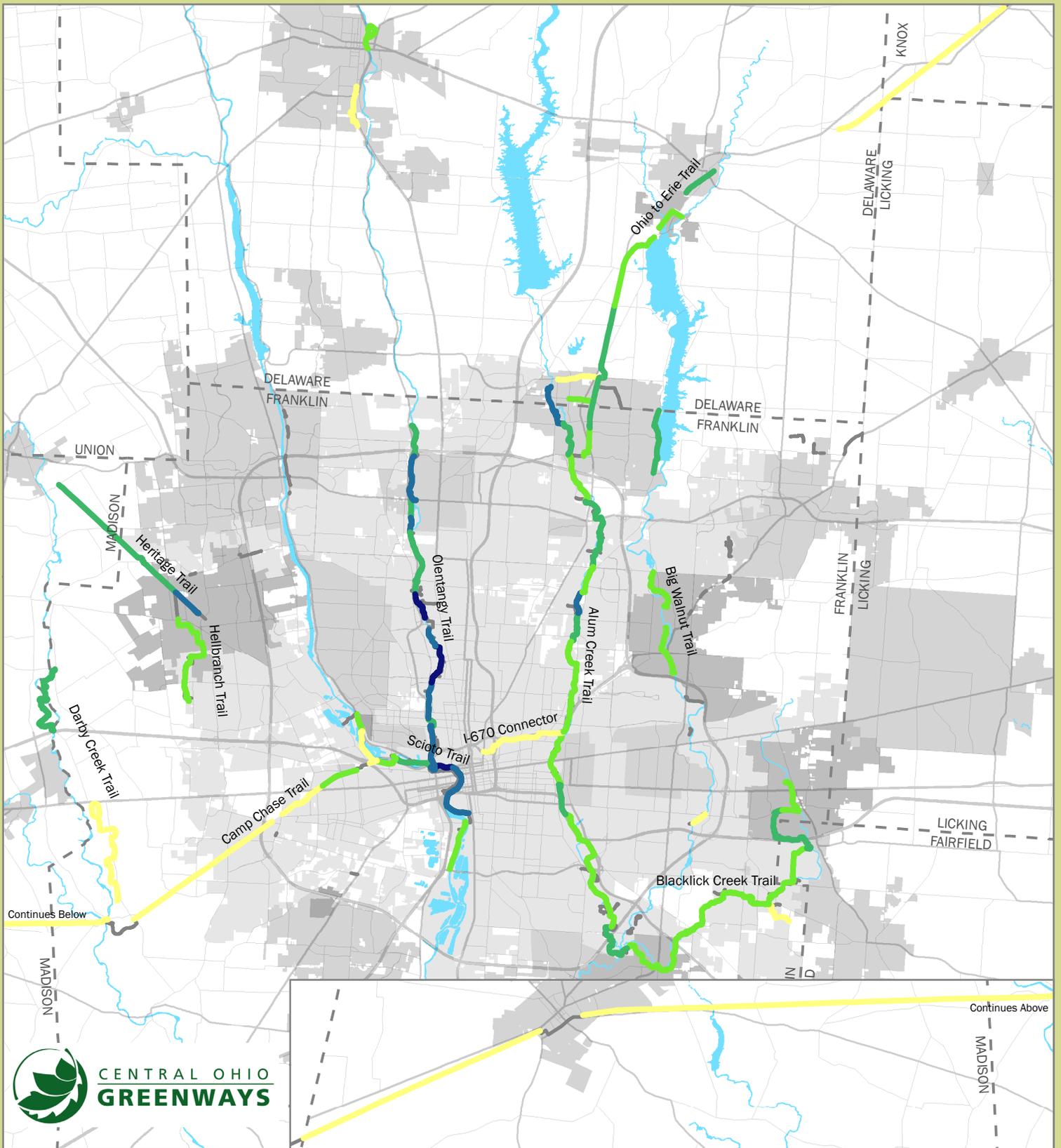
- % Change: Change in TMT between 2014-2017

### KEY FACTS:

- Between 2014 to 2017, there was a 4.9% increase in overall trail usage across the entire monitoring network.
- The Olentangy Trail was the most heavily utilized trail within the COG network, with over 2.8 million miles traveled along it in 2017.
- Across all segments in 2017, AADTT ranged from a low of 14 on a segment of the Ohio to Erie Trail to a high of nearly 1,000 on a segment on the Olentangy Trail.
- The mean and median AADTT across all trail segments were approximately 274 and 202, respectively.
- Trail usage was highest in the summer months of June, July, and August, with summertime usage being up to 2 times a segment's AADTT.
- Temporary trail closures, filling trail gaps, and trail expansions affect overall trail usage figures.



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Data Sources: MORPC, Metro Parks, Columbus Recreation & Parks, City of Hilliard, City of Westerville, Knox County Park District, Friends of Madison County Parks and Trails, ODOT