The Heartland Trail Study

in Clay County



September 2024 | Phase 1 & 2 Engagement Summary

Community Engagement | Overview

April 2024

Online mapping activity opens

MSUM Earth Day Event
~150 conversations

May 2024

Trail experience survey opens

July 2024

Trail experience survey closes
Totaling 213 contributions!

Online route alternatives survey opens

Heartland Trail Open House
July 16th
~40 attendees



★ InForum Article Published

August 2024

Online mapping activity & route alternatives survey closes
Totaling 793 visitors
170 contributions!

Hawley Night to Unite
25 attendees

Glyndon Days
5 - 6 attendees

Moorhead Farmers Market
20 attendees

★ KVRR Local News Article/Video Published

Sept 2024

Event at M.B. Johnson Park
~12 conversations

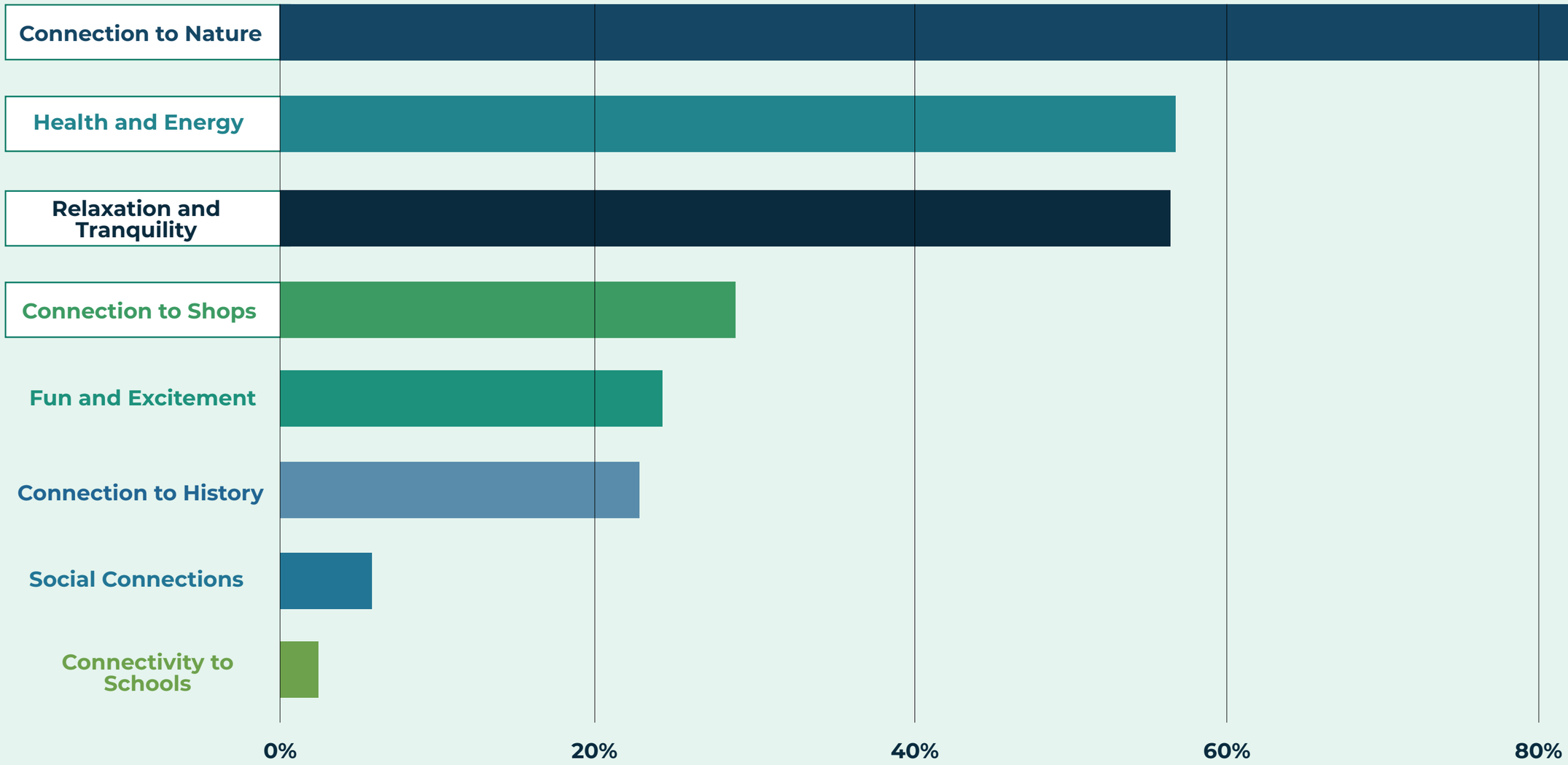
Deep Roots Festival
~30 conversations

Online Engagement Totals:

2,477 website visits
1,810 total visitors
436 Contributions
351 Contributors

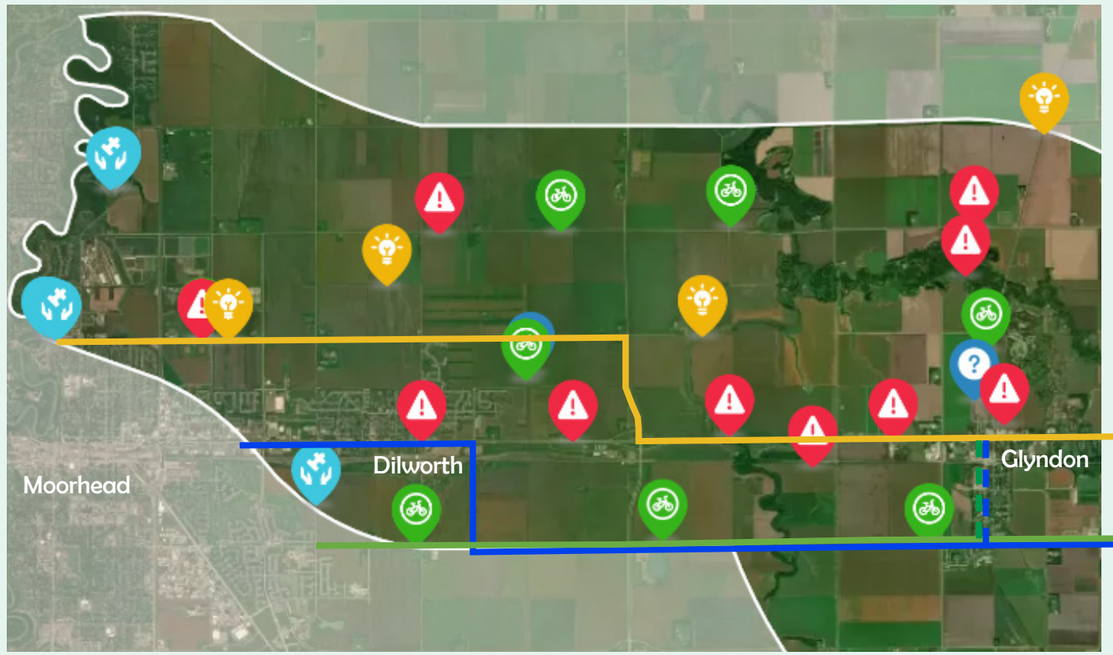
Community Engagement | Overview

Q: What would you like to experience when using the Heartland Trail? | 213 Contributions



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Western Segment Mapping | General Comments



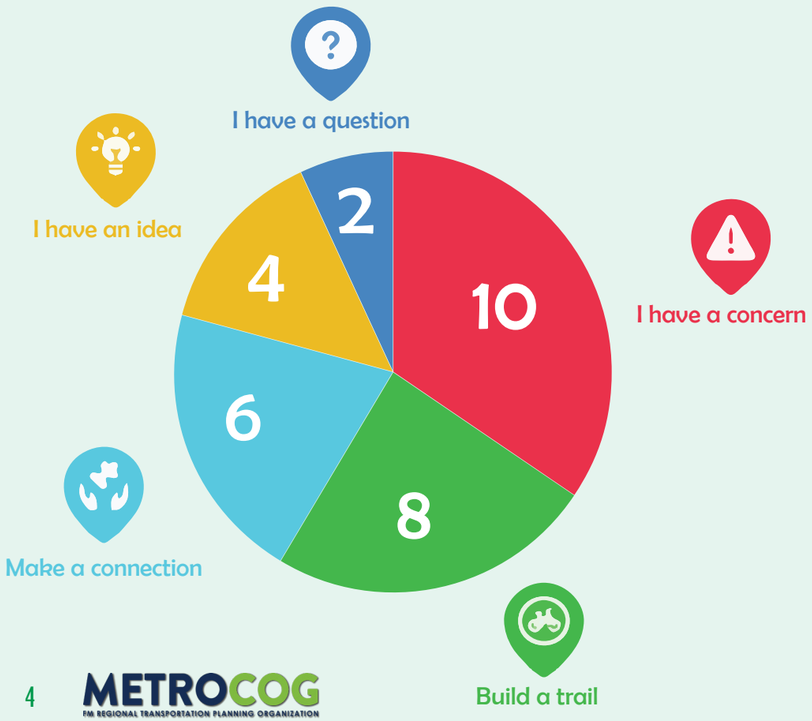
"Following Highway 10 is not ideal. The fewer cars I hear, the better." 18 upvotes

"...staying away from the highway would be preferred even if only on by a tree line..." 16 upvotes

The Straight Shot | 7%

The Rivers and Forest | 77%

The Town Connector | 16%



"Consider connecting to the center of Moorhead where the most people will be able to access [the trail]" 10 upvotes

"Moorhead's soon-to-be-revitalized downtown would be a great destination for people touring on this route...and the proposed northern route that ends at 15th Ave is a really good way to get there." 6 upvotes 2 downvotes

West Central Segment Mapping | General Comments



The Straight Shot | 5%

The Rivers and Forest | 85%

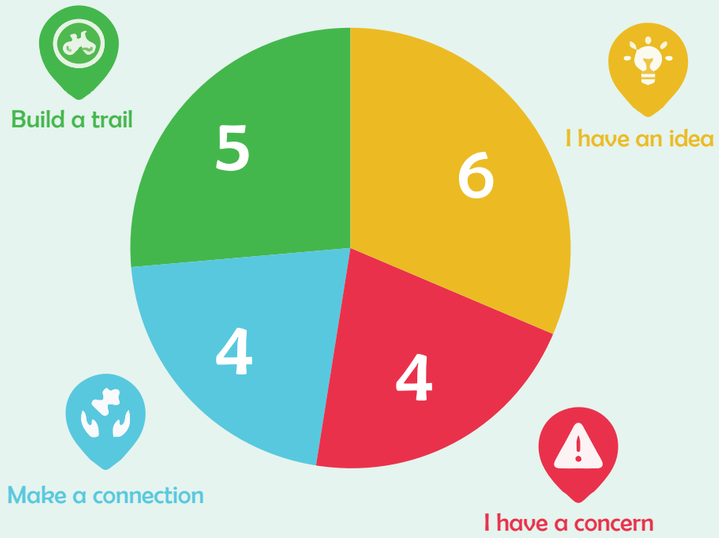
The Town Connector | 10%

"Having a trail from Moorhead to Buffalo State Park would be fantastic!!" 15 upvotes

"It would be amazing to have the trail connected to Buffalo State Park for bike and camping." 8 upvotes

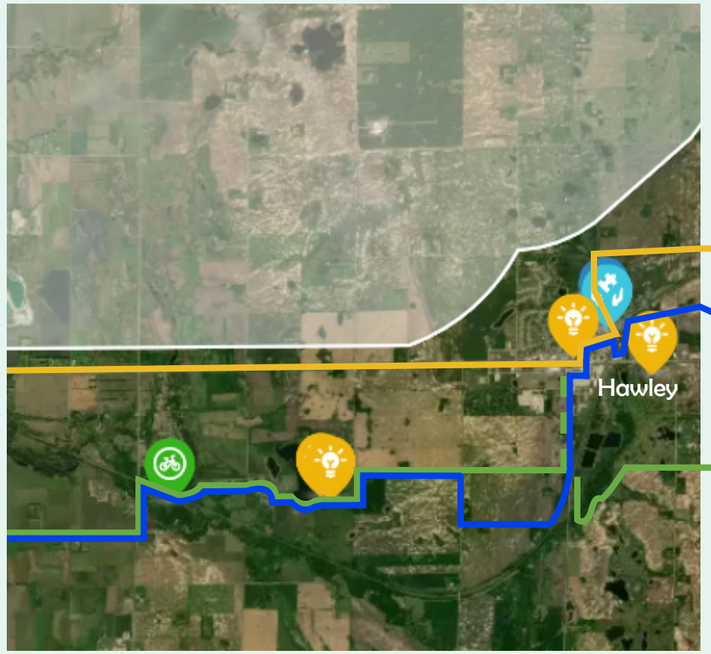
"Could a sister trail be built along the old railroad alignment to connect Glyndon to Downer & Barnesville?" 2 upvotes

There should be a clear distinction between hikers and bikers, especially since there are a lot of people who enjoy slowly exploring the park along those trails..." 7 upvotes



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East-Central Segment Mapping | General Comments





The Straight Shot | 5%

"Would be nice to have access to water fill stations in each city crossing." 5 upvotes

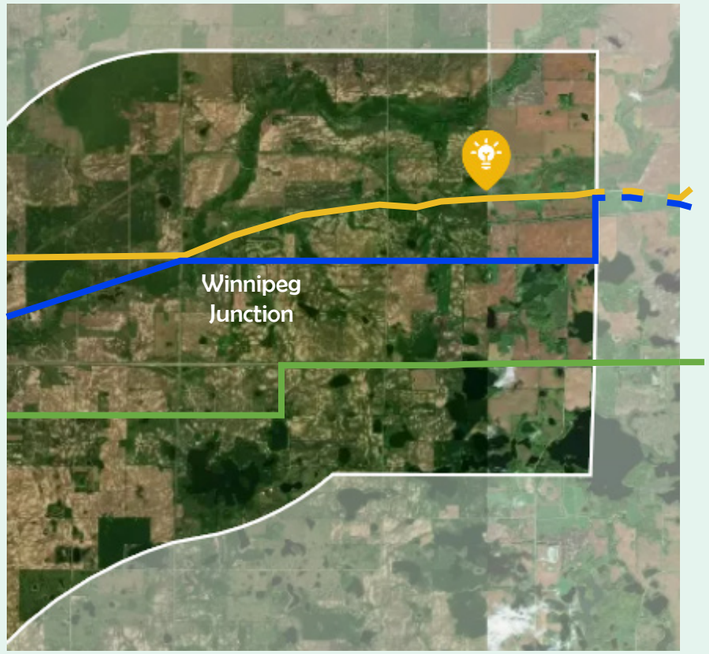
The Town Connector | 19%

The Rivers and Forest | 76%

"This lake has the potential to be a scenic, valuable entity for the Heartland trail. I love when trails cross by lakes and rivers; it makes the journey more enjoyable and less utilitarian." 11 upvotes

Nice to have [the trail] go along Main Street, but are you just routing people on the road? If so, are you going to add ways to slow down cars along this route..." 1 upvote

Eastern Segment Mapping | General Comments



The Straight Shot | 7%

The Town Connector | 35%

The Rivers and Forest | 58%

Based on conversations with community members at the July 16th open house, there is a desire to “flip” the green and blue lines to connect to Hawley and the scenic nature of the blue segment.

“How about a different name for the trail? “Heartland” could literally be any place in the United States, that’s very generic and doesn’t say anything unique about us.”

5 upvotes 3 downvotes

I have an idea



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Trail Type Preference

Generally, people really liked these types of trails:



Trail along a lakeshore



Trail along a wetland



Trail along a boardwalk



Trail along a county road

Generally, people do not like these types of trails:



Trail adjacent to HWY 10



Trail between HWY 10 & local street



Trail along a county road with curb



Trail along a highway

Trail Type Preference

Generally, people really like these trail amenities:



A rest stop



Trailhead parking



An overpass



An underpass