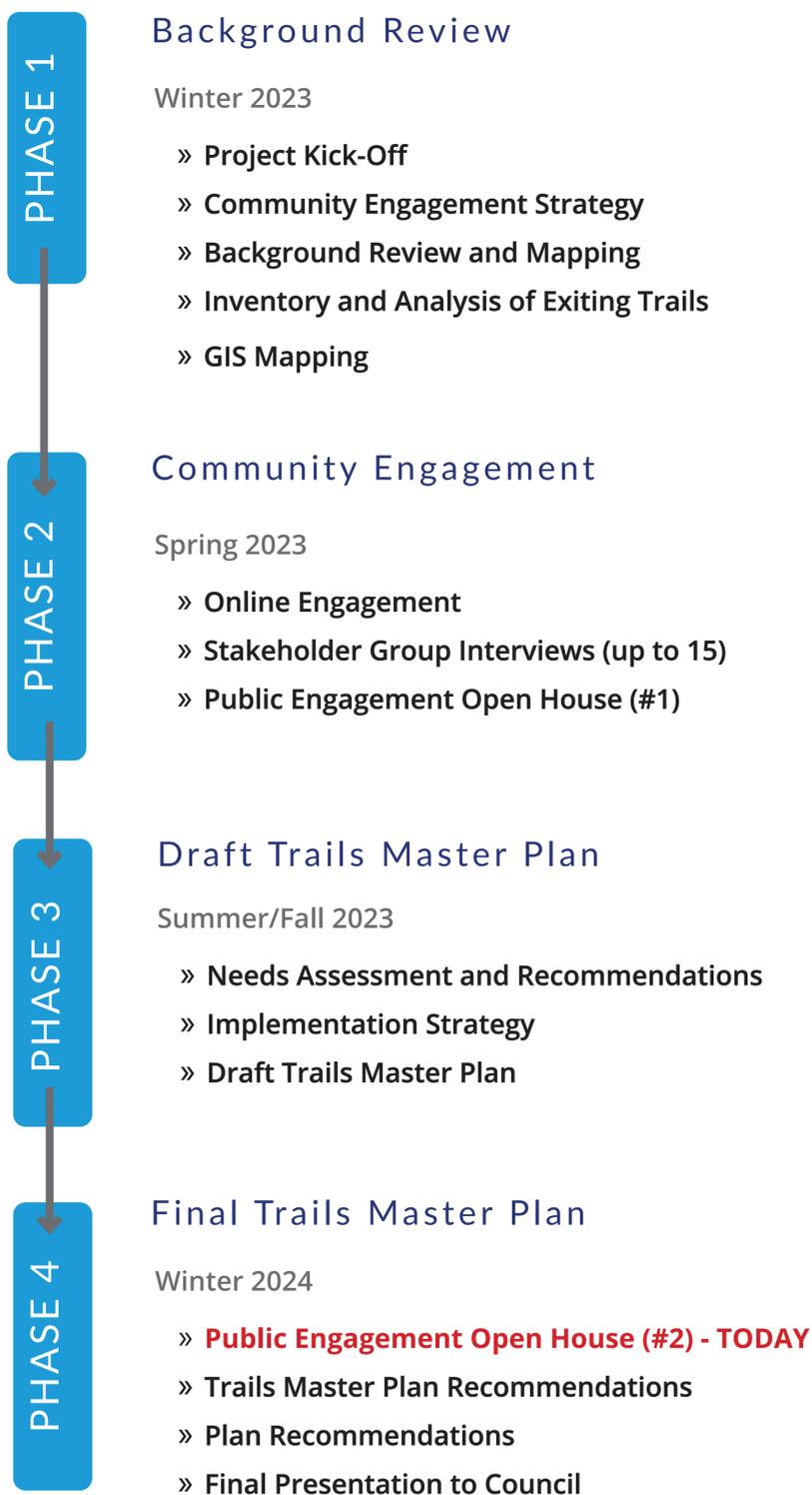# Township of Springwater
TRAILS MASTER PLAN UPDATE

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Township of Springwater understands the importance of multiuse, motorized and non-motorized trails and linkages for its community members. The Recreation, Parks & Facilities Department is excited to update its 2008 Trails Master Plan to outline the enhancement and development of trails over the next 10 years. This open house is the final in-person opportunity for the public to comment on the draft trails master plan recommendations. Following this open house, comments can be sent to Briana Dean (Briana.Dean@springwater.ca).

PROJECT TIMELINE

PHASE 1

Background Review

Winter 2023

- » Project Kick-Off
- » Community Engagement Strategy
- » Background Review and Mapping
- » Inventory and Analysis of Exiting Trails
- » GIS Mapping

PHASE 2

Community Engagement

Spring 2023

- » Online Engagement
- » Stakeholder Group Interviews (up to 15)
- » Public Engagement Open House (#1)

PHASE 3

Draft Trails Master Plan

Summer/Fall 2023

- » Needs Assessment and Recommendations
- » Implementation Strategy
- » Draft Trails Master Plan

PHASE 4

Final Trails Master Plan

Winter 2024

- » **Public Engagement Open House (#2) - TODAY**
- » Trails Master Plan Recommendations
- » Plan Recommendations
- » Final Presentation to Council

RECOMMENDATIONS ARE ILLUSTRATED ON THE PANELS AROUND THE ROOM. THESE WERE DEVELOPED BASED ON:

- » Interviews with staff, councilors, and stakeholders
- » Input from Open House #1
- » Input from the Public Survey
- » Study team's review of the trail network, and professional experience
- » Best Practices from other trails master plans
- » Other existing master plans and studies at both the County and Township level

PLEASE PROVIDE INPUT USING ONE OR ALL OF THE FOLLOWING METHODS:

- » Speak with one of the study team members
- » Attach post-it-note comments
- » Voice your choice (Dotmocracy - see instructions below)

INDICATE YOUR PRIORITIES FOR SPRINGWATER TRAILS USING DOTS:

- » Each participant has 6 dots
- » Place dots on the recommendations you feel are of the highest priority
- » Please use only one dot per recommendation
- » Dots will be tallied at the end of the evening
- » Please voice any additional thoughts on the post-it-notes provided

ADMINISTRATIVE AND POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

#	RECOMMENDATION	DESCRIPTION	PLACE DOTS ON YOUR FAVOURITE RECOMMENDATIONS HERE:
A1	Trails Committee	Create a trails committee made up of key stakeholders	
A2	Trails Coordinator	Create position and hire a trails coordinator to ensure a dedicated trails staff member at the municipality	
A3.1	Trails GIS Database	Develop a Municipal GIS database	
A3.2	GIS Specialist	Hire a GIS Specialist to manage Township map data including trails	
A4	Online Trails Portal	Create an online trails portal to share information and market trails in Springwater	
A5	Invasive Plant Species Management	Install boot brushes and invasive species signage. Partner with SSEA to educate users	
A6	Poison Ivy Educational Signage	Provide poison ivy educational signage at trailheads of trail segments where the plant is well established, and/or directly alongside a trail beside a poison ivy patch	
A7	Transportation Master Plan Coordination	Ensure integration of transportation master plan with trails developments	
A8	Land transfer to the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority	Transfer ownership of unopened road allowances located within the Minesing Wetlands to the NVCA	
A9	Trails Communication Strategy	Trails Coordinator to create a Trails Communication Strategy, In order to better communicate information about trails in Springwater	
A10	E-Bike Policy	Establish an e-bike policy, to provide clear direction on e-bike use on municipal trails	
A11	Trail Signage Strategy	Work with a design consultant to develop a Trail Signage strategy	
A12	Comprehensive Land Access Strategy	Township to adopt a comprehensive land access strategy to ensure the tools are in place to expand trails when opportunities arise	
A13	Trails Marketing Strategy	Work with a consultant to develop a tourism strategy for the Township which focuses in part on marketing trails tourism	
A14	Hydro Corridors	Investigate the feasibility of using hydro corridors for trails in Springwater. Reach out to local hydro one representative to determine which, if any hydro corridors are compatible with official trails use	
A15	Dog Off Leash Policy Review	Internal staff to review and/or develop Dog Off Leash Policy and to clearly communicate where dogs are permitted off leash	

Proposed Trail Network

Existing Conditions

- —— Municipal Boundary
- ▭ Green Space
- ▭ Municipally Owned Properties
- ▭ Waterbodies
- ▭ New and Future Development
- ▭ Crownland
- ▭ Conservation Authority
- —— Roads
- —— Existing Trails
- —·—· Rail Line
- ----- Utility Line

Proposed Features

- ⊙ Major Trailhead
- ···· Long Term Trail Route
- —— Immediate Trail Route
- —— NVCA Land Transfer (A7)
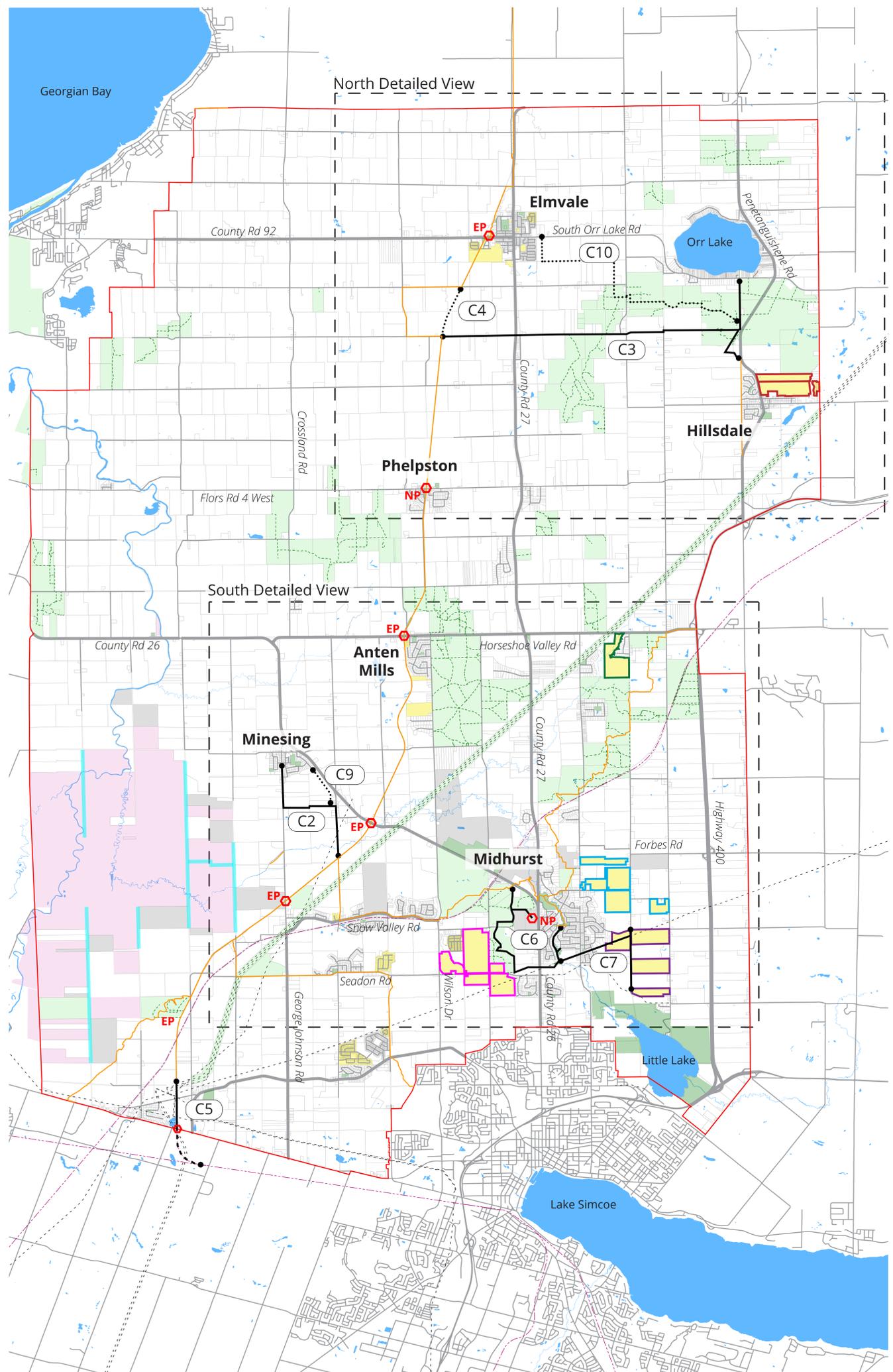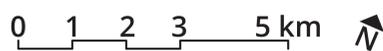- **NP** New Parking Lot
- **EP** Existing Parking Lot

Proposed Trails

- C2 Minesing Connection
- C3 Hillsdale Connection
- C4 North Simcoe Rail Trail Off Road Section
- C5 Connection to Barrie-Collingwood Rail Trail
- C6 Midhurst Loop
- C7 Midhurst East-West Connection
- C9 Off Road Minesing Connection
- C10 Off Road Hillsdale Connection

Proposed Development Trail Clusters (C1)

- ▭ Cluster 1
- ▭ Cluster 2
- ▭ Cluster 3
- ▭ Cluster 4
- ▭ Cluster 5

Note: Development Clusters are associated with recommendation C1. They are a way of breaking down the general recommendation into smaller chunks. Rather then viewing each development on its own the clusters group developments that share common trails and connection needs into one area for planning purposes.

0 1 2 3 5 km

FIGURE 1: PROPOSED TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS

Map labels: Georgian Bay, North Detailed View, Elmvale, South Orr Lake Rd, Orr Lake, County Rd 92, C10, C4, County Rd 27, C3, Hillsdale, Penetanguishene Rd, Crossland Rd, Phelpston, NP, Flors Rd 4 West, South Detailed View, County Rd 26, Anten Mills, EP, Horseshoe Valley Rd, Minesing, C9, C2, EP, Midhurst, Forbes Rd, County Rd 27, NP, C6, C7, Snow Valley Rd, Wilson Dr, George Johnson Rd, Seadon Rd, County Rd 26, Little Lake, Highway 400, EP, C5, Lake Simcoe

TRAIL MANAGEMENT AND IMPROVEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

#	RECOMMENDATION	DESCRIPTION	PLACE DOTS ON YOUR FAVOURITE RECOMMENDATIONS HERE:
T1	Trails Workshops	Host a trial building and maintenance workshops for Township Staff and the proposed Trail Committee	
T2	Trails Maintenance and Development Best Practices	Prepare a summary document of best practices for designing and developing trails	
T3	Improve Trail Crossings	Work with a traffic engineer to design safe and accessible trail crossings at priority locations along the North Simcoe Rail Trail and Nine Mile Portage Trail	
T4	Interpretive Signage	Replace and update existing interpretive signage and provide new signage in select locations	
T5	Trailheads	Adapt and implement trailhead hierarchy at designated location. Major trailheads to include parking, signage, seating, etc. Minor trailheads to only include signage and mapping	
T6	Trails Classification Hierarchy	Will continue to implement trail hierarchy outlined in 2008 plan	
T7	9 Mile Portage - Seadon Road Improvements	Improve the section of 9 Mile Portage that goes along Seadon Road. Widened the shoulder and update existing signage with new larger signs	
T8	Township Trail Repair Fund	Continue to improve, repair and maintain the North Simcoe Rail Trail and other Township owned trails to a high standard	

DEVELOPMENT CLUSTERS

#	DEVELOPMENTS	TRAIL OBJECTIVE		ASSOCIATED RECOMMENDATION
Group 1	- Sarjeant Lands - Hillsdale Heritage Village - Scarlett Line	Connection to County Forest Connection to existing community/other developments	Multi-Use Trails, Hiking Trails	C1, C3
Group 2	- A&R Hickling - Rome - D Hickling - Thompson Land	Connection to County Forest Connection to existing community/other developments	Multi-Use Trails, Hiking Trails	C1, C6
Group 3	- Johns - Frankcom - Midhurst Heights - Bell/Rusdor/Coutts - Wright	Connection to existing community/other developments Hydro corridor trail	Multi-Use Trails, Hiking Trails	
Group 4	- Midves II - Coutts-Jones - Walton - Old Second South	Connection to County Forest Connection to existing community/other developments		C1, C7, A14
Group 5	- Springlakes Adult Lifestyle Community	Adapt and implement trailhead hierarchy at designated location	Hiking Trails	

Note: Development Clusters are associated with recommendation C1. They are a way of breaking down the general recommendation into smaller chunks. Rather then viewing each development on its own the clusters group developments that share common trails and connection needs into one area for planning purposes.

OFF ROAD VEHICLE RECOMMENDATIONS

#	RECOMMENDATION	DESCRIPTION	PLACE DOTS ON YOUR FAVOURITE RECOMMENDATIONS HERE:
O1	Legal Advice	Consult a lawyer to workshop possible enforcement solutions regarding prohibited ORV use in Springwater	
O2	Trails Safety and Enforcement Education	Proposed Trails Committee to create a strategy to communicate rules, etiquette and protocol for ORVs	
O3	Continue and Expand Education Events	Continue to host and expand ORV education days	
O4	Off Road Vehicle Recreation Management Campaign	Increase enforcement of ORV laws in Springwater using hired services of paid duty OPP	
O5	Gate Design	Fix issues with existing gates, create a better design for future gates	
O6	ORVs on Municipal Roads	Re-evaluate which roads permit ORV use. Focus on maintaining key connections to ORV permitted County forest tracts	
O7	Local use only ORV in Communities	In concert with O1, explore suitability of adopting a "local traffic only" ORV policy in select communities	

DO YOU FEEL THAT THESE RECOMMENDATIONS ADDRESS YOUR NEEDS AND CONCERNS REGARDING OFF ROAD VEHICLES IN SPRINGWATER? (USE POST-IT NOTES TO SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS)
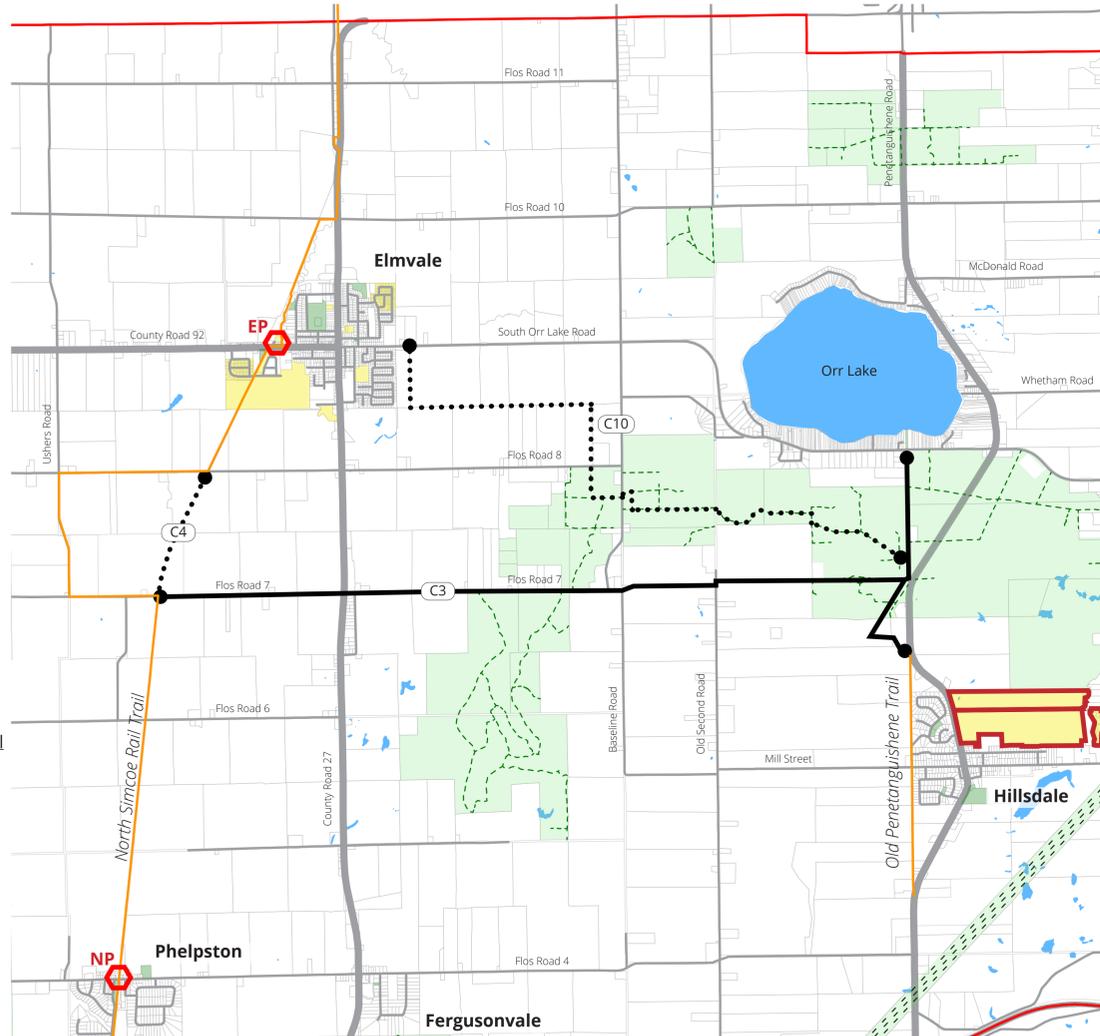
Proposed Trail Network

Existing Conditions
- Municipal Boundary
- Green Space
- Municipally Owned Properties
- Waterbodies
- New and Future Development
- Crownland
- Conservation Authority
- Roads
- Existing Trails
- Rail Line
- Utility Line

Proposed Features
- ○ Major Trailhead
- Long Term Trail Route
- Immediate Trail Route
- NVCA Land Transfer (A7)
- NP New Parking Lot
- EP Existing Parking Lot

Proposed Trails
- C3 Hillsdale Connection
- C10 Off Road Hillsdale Connection

Proposed Development Trail Clusters (C1)
- Cluster 1

FIGURE 2: NORTH DETAILED VIEW

Proposed Trail Network

Existing Conditions
- Municipal Boundary
- Green Space
- Municipally Owned Properties
- Waterbodies
- New and Future Development
- Crownland
- Conservation Authority
- Roads
- Existing Trails
- Rail Line
- Utility Line

Proposed Features
- ○ Major Trailhead
- Long Term Trail Route
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Proposed Trails
- C2 Minesing Connection
- C6 Midhurst Loop
- C7 Midhurst East-West Connection
- C9 Off Road Minesing Connection

Proposed Development Trail Clusters (C1)
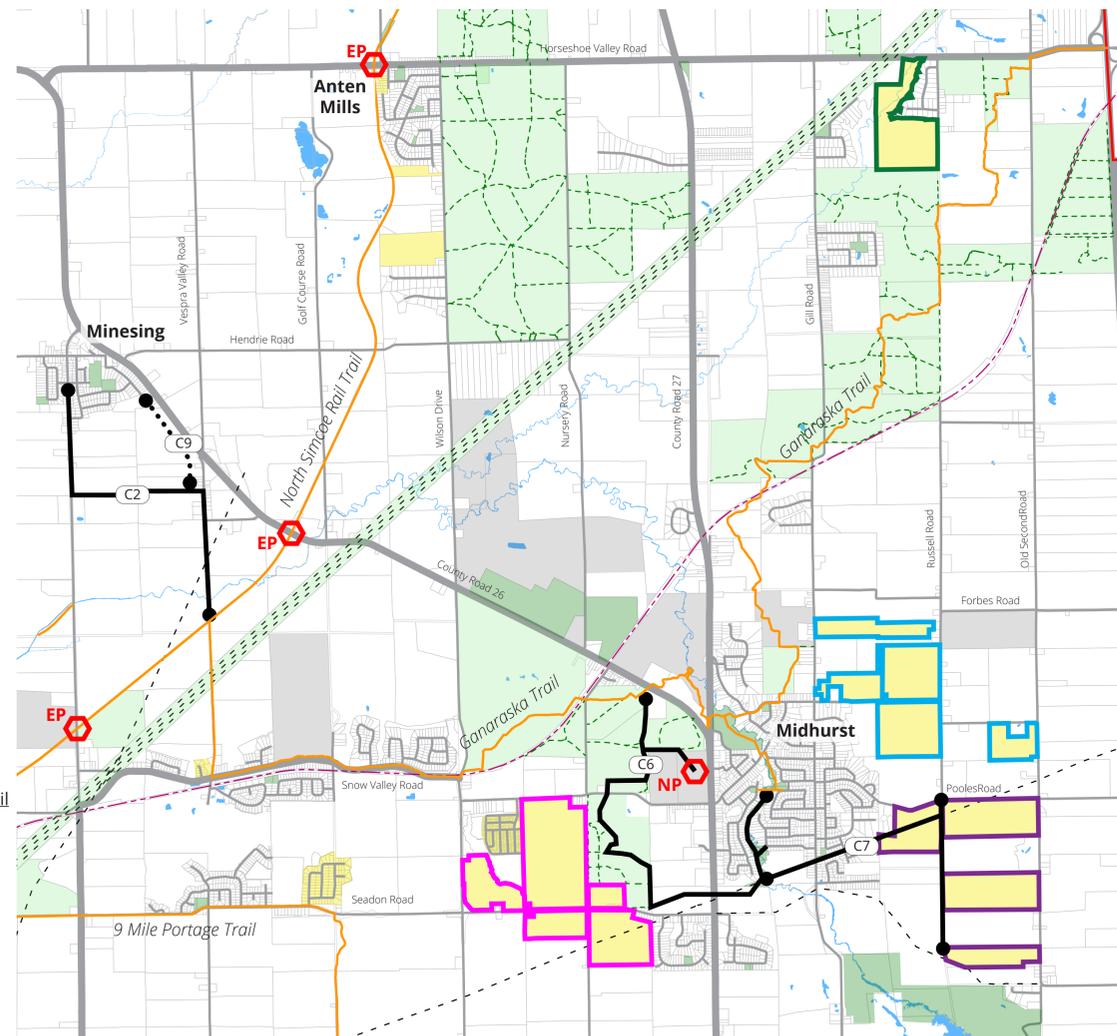- Cluster 2
- Cluster 3
- Cluster 4
- Cluster 5

FIGURE 3: SOUTH DETAILED VIEW

TRAIL CONNECTIONS

#	RECOMMENDATION	DESCRIPTION	PLACE DOTS ON YOUR FAVOURITE RECOMMENDATIONS HERE:
C1	New Development Trails	Work with developers to ensure the outlined trails are considered in future residential developments (see development clusters)	
C2	Minesing Connection	Connect the community of Minesing to the NSRT with an on-road route (See Figure 1&3)	
C3	Trail Connection to Hillsdale	Connect Hillsdale to Elmvale and the NSRT using County Forests, existing trails and on road routes. Signage, and eventually a widened/paved shoulder should be considered for Flos Road 7 (See Figure 1&2)	
C4	North Simcoe Rail Trail Between the 7th and 8th Concession	Secure off road route for on road section of North Simcoe Rail Trail between Flos Road 7 and Flos Road 8 (See Figure 1&2)	
C5	North Simcoe Rail Trail Extension to Essa Township	Work with the township of Essa and Simcoe County to extend the North Simcoe Rail trail to connect to future Barrie-Collingwood Rail Trail (See Figure 1)	
C6	Midhurst Trail Loop	Work towards completing the southern gap of the Midhurst trail loop through use of suitable landscape access strategies (See Figure 1&3)	
C7	Midhurst East-West Connection	Create linkage to further subdivisions using the existing hydro corridor and road allowance (See Figure 1&3)	
C8	Develop Trails in Conjunction with the Proposed Community Hub Project	Ensure trails are a main consideration in the community hub project. At minimum, provide a 2 km paved accessible multi-use trail as part of this development	
C9	Off Road Minesing Connection	When possible work towards creating a fully off-road connection from the North Simcoe Rail Trail to Minesing (See Figure 1&3)	
C10	Off Road Hillsdale Connection	When possible work towards creating a fully off-road connection from Elmville and the North Simcoe Rail Trail to Hillsdale (See Figure 1&2)	

PLEASE LEAVE ANY OTHER COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS ON A POST-IT NOTE HERE: