

A meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Avon was held in Conference Room B of Village Hall, 74 Genesee Street, Avon, New York, on June 20, 2022.

Present: Thomas Freeman, Mayor  
 Bill Zhe, Trustee  
 Tim Batzel, Trustee  
 Amanda Hoffmann, Trustee  
 Patrick McCormick, Trustee

Staff: Ken Farrell, Supt. of Public Works  
 Joseph Geer, Police Chief  
 Christine Quinlan, Treasurer  
 Bill Davis, MRB

Visitors: see attached

Mayor Thomas Freeman called the meeting to order at 6:00pm and began with the pledge of Allegiance.

**VOUCHERS and MANUAL CHECKS:**

Upon a motion by Trustee Zhe, the vouchers and manual checks/electronic payments were approved for payment from the following funds:

#1-GENERAL FUND	\$85347.57
#4-SCHEDULE C	\$10891.9
#5-WATER	\$9965.94
#6-SEWER	\$23278.56
#TA00-TRUST & AGENCY	\$5424.21
TOTAL	\$134908.18

Electronic payments:

FED/NYS Taxes	p/r#22-12	\$18207.32
Nationwide Retirement	p/r#22-12	\$3162.32
<b>TOTAL:</b>		<b>\$21369.64</b>

The motion was seconded by Trustee McCormick and carried by the following vote:

Thomas Freeman, Mayor	Voting	Yes
William Zhe, Trustee	Voting	Yes
Tim Batzel, Trustee	Voting	Yes
Amanda Hoffmann, Trustee	Voting	Yes
Patrick McCormick, Trustee	Voting	Yes

**DPW UPDATE:**

Supt. Farrell provided the following update to the Board:

DPW Activity – past weeks

1. Brush pickup continues.
2. Finished topsoiling where trees ground.
3. Run sweeper.
4. Planted trees, still have more to plant.
5. Asphalted road cuts from water leaks.
6. Worked on catch basin on South Ave. (sink hole on side of catch basin in driveway)
7. Assisted TOA with skid steer and pavement grinder for Lake Rd. driveways.
8. Fixed sewer tap 200 Clinton St.
9. Working on manhole frame and cover at RT.39 & Spring St.
10. Bagged new trees planted in Village and watered.

WWTP

1. Running Sludge.
2. Maintenance around plant, priming & painting handrails around clarifiers.

Water

1. Met with National Grid Rep & CP Ward regarding Utility pole at Pebble Beach pump station. National Grid advised that they couldn't "hold" pole while excavation would be going on. Proposal provided for Board and given to MRB for review. No action taken.

Activity - next 2 weeks

1. Finish planting trees
2. Paint parking spots on Prospect St.
3. Trim back trees over street signs.

Supt. Farrell received a complaint about a tree that was replanted on Wadsworth Ave. Resident complained of the location of the tree, saying that it wasn't in the same location as the previous tree. Supt. Farrell explained that the location of the tree was determined by the other tree locations on the property and how they will grow into each other. Also considered was the placement of gas and water lines. (The new tree was planted approximately 12 feet from the original location). Supt. Farrell stated he will address the tree board to determine if there is somewhere else the tree can go.

Supt. Farrell also explained that this year, the tree project has had a huge impact on the work done around the Village. Normally, tree planting and pruning would be complete earlier in the spring, but with the late arrivals of trees and the amount that had been removed, the project took much longer than anticipated. The impact on the crew next year should be much lower.

Trustee Batzel discussed the condition of the horse barn at the downs. He is hopeful that it will be cleaned up by the time the horse show is held at the end of July.

**MRB UPDATE:**

Bill Davis attended the meeting to give the following update:

- WWTP Disinfection- Continuing with electrical/ structural design. Then will be sent to DEC for review. Comments are expected back within 2 months.
- Pebble Beach Pump Station- project moving along, but there has been no delivery date established for the building. MRB will reach out to the vendor. Mr. Davis discussed the provided National Grid proposal to move the pole and redo the electrical. He stated it is a high cost (almost \$22,000) but it would be a great improvement to the Village. According to Mr. Davis, the pole was discussed extensively and MRB is confident that they gave the general contractors who bid on the project plenty of notice of the pole and the possibility of needing to address it. Trustee Batzel will review with Mr. Davis to back up the discussion.
- County Wide Water Study- Mr. Davis will be meeting with Supt. Farrell, Lead Water Operator Vanderbilt, and Mayor Freeman to discuss the county's ideas and the effects on the Village.
- Valve Vault Project- hopes to have the cost estimates for the structure by Thursday 6/9.

### **TREASURER UPDATE:**

Treasurer Quinlan provided the following update to the Board:

#### ***Ongoing***

- 2017 GVBA grant has been approved. MWBE waiver approved for portable stalls, drainage, and water improvements. Request out for MWBE electric and paving quotes.
- 2021 GVBA letter of agreement (LOA) hasn't been executed. LOA doesn't require MWBE. Will purchase gazebo as soon as NYS Ag executes LOA.
- John Barrett is working on portable restroom quotes for 2019 GVBA grant project.
- NYS retirement deductions still need to be corrected.
- The Board needs to determine additional use(s) of the ARPA funds.
- Awaiting date/time from D. Brown's family for park bench recognition event.
- Awaiting date/time from Olie Olson for BOCES benches' recognition event.
- Committee is meeting regularly to plan Mural Festival event for July 9<sup>th</sup>. Sponsors are confirmed. Local artists, food and drink vendors have been contacted. See attached flyer for list of events.
- Pocket Park concrete to be poured the week after Corn Festival. Structure to be installed three weeks after the concrete is poured.
- National Grid submitted the completed Section 70 package to NYS Public Service Commission (PSC) for review and approval the week of April 25<sup>th</sup>. PSC review and approval has been taking 90-110 days. Closing date with National Grid to follow.

#### ***New***

- Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) Trail Town Grant for Livingston County awarded on 5/2.
- Success finally, filed the ARPA report to Treasury on 6/8.
- Meeting with Centrica on 6/8. John & Ken have provided Centrica with requested items. Centrica will be onsite for survey the week of 6/20.
- Avon's Bike-Around-Assessment with Letchworth Gateway Village (LGV) representative and Parks & Trails NY completed on 6/8. LGV completing Avon's insight report and action plan which will be shared with us.

- Genesee Transportation Council (GTC) installed a trail counter on Erie-Attica Trail, and Parks & Trails NY is completing a Genesee Valley Greenway (GVG) manual trail count w/volunteer (see attached flyer).
- Working on Bulletproof Vest Program (BVP) grant with Chief Geer.
- Working on NYS DEC tree grant progress report.
- Working on 2021-2022 fiscal year end closing.

**CLERK UPDATE:**

Clerk Randall provided the following information to the Board:

- Treasurer Quinlan requests the following year end transfers for approval:
  - General Fund (A9952.9)> Equipment Reserve- General \$32,000
  - Schedule C Fund (c9956.91)>Filtration Plant Reserve \$30,000

Upon a motion made by Trustee Zhe and seconded by Trustee Hoffmann, the Board approved the year end transfers as requested. The motion was carried by the following vote:

Thomas Freeman, Mayor	Voting	Yes
William Zhe, Trustee	Voting	Yes
Tim Batzel, Trustee	Voting	Yes
Amanda Hoffmann, Trustee	Voting	Yes
Patrick McCormick, Trustee	Voting	Yes

- Provided for the Board’s convenience were copies of violation notices sent to residents by Fire Marshal Anderson.
- Received notification from PMA Companies of a filed workman’s compensation claim by Fire Fighter Dick Neth, who injured his leg at the firehouse.
- Congratulations to Fire Chief Strozewski who will be awarded the Fire Service Award for 21-25 years of service at the Western NY Volunteer Fireman’s Association Convention held in Hammondsport on July 23<sup>rd</sup>
- Village Office will be closed on Monday July 4<sup>th</sup>.

**MINUTES:**

Upon a motion made by Trustee McCormick and seconded by Trustee Hoffmann, the minutes from the June 6, 2022, meeting, were approved as submitted. The motion was carried by the following vote:

Thomas Freeman, Mayor	Voting	Yes
William Zhe, Trustee	Voting	Yes
Tim Batzel, Trustee	Voting	Yes
Amanda Hoffmann, Trustee	Voting	Yes
Patrick McCormick, Trustee	Voting	Yes

**POLICE UPDATE:**

Chief Geer provided the following report to the Board:

- Reminder of the Police Night Out to be held on August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022, from 6pm until 8pm.

**TRUSTEE UPDATE:**

✚ Centrica Letter of Intent & Utility Authorization Letter- at the May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022, meeting, the Village Board approved the proposal from Centrica Business Solutions for the LED Streetlighting project. In order to continue to move forward, Centrica has provided the Board with a Letter of Intent (which covers Centrica for all project development if the project doesn't move forward, and the Utility Release Authorization which is needed in order to allow Centrica to request information from National Grid on our behalf.

Upon a motion made by Trustee Hoffmann and seconded by Trustee Batzel, the Board authorized the execution of the Letter of Intent and Utility Authorization Letter provided by Centrica Business Solutions in order to move forward with the streetlight project. The motion was carried by the following vote:

Thomas Freeman, Mayor	Voting	Yes
William Zhe, Trustee	Voting	Yes
Tim Batzel, Trustee	Voting	Yes
Amanda Hoffmann, Trustee	Voting	Yes
Patrick McCormick, Trustee	Voting	Yes

✚ The additional agenda items were tabled.

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

The Village Board opened the public hearing at 7pm by having Clerk Randall read the following notices:

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that a public hearing will be held before the Avon Village Board on Monday, June 20, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Hall, 74 Genesee Street, Avon, New York on the

following matter:

A local law to install stop signs at the three-way intersection of Genesee Street with Spring Street.

A copy of the Local Law is available for review at the Village Hall located at 74 Genesee Street, Avon, NY, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The Village Board will, at the aforesaid time and place hear all persons in support of this local law or objection thereto. Persons may appear in person or by agent or attorney.

Dated: May 23, 2022

By Order of the Avon Village Board  
Heather Randall, Village Clerk

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- ✚ Mayor Freeman opened the discussion to the public by explaining the proposed local laws, stating that having a starting point gives the Board and the public something to work with and revise. Public safety is, and always has been a priority for the Board and the addition of these two stop signs would also include crosswalks- which is incredibly important for pedestrian safety. Mayor Freeman referenced the CAP Study done by TY Lin several years ago in which the recommended the “calming of traffic” on Genesee Street as you enter the business district. Stop signs would do that. He also stated that there are no crosswalks along Genesee Street in order for anyone to cross safely to get to Spring Street and work their way to the Driving Park. This would solve that issue. Mayor Freeman asked the public for their comments.
- ✚ Jan Cole- not in favor of the stop sign. She would like to know more information including if there was a study done at the end of Genesee Street, tickets, speeds documented, and where exactly the signs would go. Chief Geer explained that there are on average 9 stops on Genesee Street per week. Not all speed related. There are 1.62 tickets written on average, again not all speed related. The highest speed has been 54 mph. Going into the summer, he feels it could be higher. Supt Farrell stated that the sign would be just north of Pine View Heights.
- ✚ Chief Geer has stated that higher speeds are noticed in the morning around school time and in the late afternoon between 3-7pm. Several residents expressed their concern for walkers, especially children on Genesee Street. There are many children who walk to and from school, during these peak times of speed that Chief Geer spoke of. One resident mentioned that he would like to teach his children about street safety and using crosswalks. Residents were very

accepting of additional crosswalks in order to provide safe crossing areas for children. Many residents stated that they would like to see more of a police presence on Genesee Street rather than a stop sign. Many people said that residents don't comply with the stop signs we have now, they just roll through them. However, many feel that there is a problem with speed on Genesee Street.

- ✚ Ms. Cole read an email from Bob Westfall who is not in favor of the signs.
- ✚ Marcia Veeder- does not feel signs are necessary and is worried it will create a bottleneck effect and slow traffic down too much.
- ✚ Tim Cole- didn't recall there ever being an issue with speed or any accidents on Genesee Street and feels signs will be more of a problem.
- ✚ Trustee Batzel discussed parking on Genesee Street and expressed that changing that, especially near the library could help with congestion.
- ✚ Another suggestion was a speed sign. Many stated that when they see a speed sign displaying how fast they are going, they always slow down. Perhaps this could be a better solution. Mayor Freeman explained that the Board has authorized a purchase of a new speed sign that will not only display speed but will collect additional data. However, the delivery time for that equipment is several months out at this point.
- ✚ Discussion continued with ideas as to how to help with the issue of speed. Many thought that further down on Genesee Street may be a better suggestion, and that education is necessary for all.
- ✚ George Brown prepared several comments for the Board, which he submitted electronically to Clerk Randall for inclusion in the minutes (attached).
- ✚ Many Board members stated that perhaps stop signs are not the solution. However, more data is needed to continue the discussion. Mayor Freeman suggested that we invite TY Lin back to do an analysis of Genesee Street and that the public hearing remain open for continued discussion.
- ✚ The public hearing will remain open at this time with no action taken on either of the Local Laws. The Board took a break at 8:15pm. Mayor Freeman excused the remaining staff and asked the Board to remain for a discussion in executive session.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Upon a motion made by Trustee McCormick and seconded by Trustee Hoffmann, the Board entered executive session at 8:32pm and exited at 9:10pm in order to discuss a legal matter. The motion was carried by the following vote:

Thomas Freeman, Mayor	Voting	Yes
William Zhe, Trustee	Voting	Yes
Tim Batzel, Trustee	Voting	Yes

Amanda Hoffmann, Trustee	Voting	Yes
Patrick McCormick, Trustee	Voting	Yes

Upon a motion made by Trustee Batzel and seconded by Trustee Hoffmann, the Board agreed to the amount of \$1500.00 to forward to the attorney of Mrs. D'Angelo for services rendered. The motion was carried by the following vote:

Thomas Freeman, Mayor	Voting	Yes
William Zhe, Trustee	Voting	Yes
Tim Batzel, Trustee	Voting	Yes
Amanda Hoffmann, Trustee	Voting	Yes
Patrick McCormick, Trustee	Voting	Yes

Upon a motion made by Trustee McCormick and seconded by Trustee Hoffmann, the Board adjourned at 9:31pm. The motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Randall  
Village Clerk

<u>VISITORS:</u>	George Brown	342 Genesee Street
	Cheri Frew	301 Ross Lane
	Edward Forsythe	164 Sackett Road
	Bob Duprez	320 Genesee Street
	Tim Stanton	194 Genesee Street
	Tim Cole	105 West Main Street
	Greg Deragon	319 Genesee Street
	Marcia Veeder	164 Genesee Street
	Eileen Cowie	177 Genesee Street
	M. Straight	151 Genesee Street
	Janis Cole	312 Genesee Street
	Kelly Cole	312 Genesee Street
	Tom Mairs	146 North Avenue
	David Westfall	246 Genesee Street
	Jon Jaros	277 Genesee Street
	Sally & Ted Sakshaug	437 Genesee Street
	Zack Clarry	475 Genesee Street
	Jermaine Marks	280 Genesee Street
	Natalie & Tom Wallin	400 Genesee Street
	Ron Kingsbury	337 Genesee Street
	Jim Harrington	157 East Main Street



Comments made at a Public Hearing on Local Law 1-2022 (Stop signs at Genesee St. and Spring St), and Local Law 2-2022 (Stop signs at Genesee St. and Clinton St.) on 6/20/2022.

I am opposed to these laws. These laws are the result of discussions that have been ongoing since September 2018 about perceived traffic safety issues on Genesee Street. Without a comprehensive traffic safety plan, which this village does not have, and which I have mentioned to this Board before, these laws are an ad hoc approach to these perceived issues. And so there is no misunderstanding, I am opposed to stop signs on Genesee St. relative to any of these perceived issues.

The intent of these laws is to improve safety on Genesee Street. But what is unsafe about Genesee Street? As I stated, these discussions started in September 2018. At the time, the discussion focused on Clinton St. as a main entrance to the schools, and on pedestrian safety at the intersection crosswalks. Over the last four years, the discussion has expanded to include parking and pedestrian traffic at the library, and a general concern about speeding on Genesee St. And to interject at this point in regard to Clinton St., there is an action that the Board can take to improve Clinton St. as an entrance way to the schools, and I'll discuss that in a moment.

Notwithstanding these discussions, there are no facts, data, or evidence that establish that Genesee St. is unsafe and needs to be made safer. For years, people have safely navigated all sections of Genesee St, and what problems have occurred? To find an answer to that, I inspected five years of Board minutes, from June 2017 to May 2, 2022, giving particular attention to the police updates reported to the Board. In those updates, Chief Geer has been diligent about reporting police department activities to this Board; the list of activities and incidents handled by the Avon Police Department is extensive. However, in those five years, Genesee Street has never been mentioned in those updates - not one time in five years, despite the ongoing discussions by the Board. In comparison, Polebridge Rd, Lake Rd., and Rochester Street have all been mentioned, primarily in regard to speeding. And although the Board has discussed speeding on Genesee St., when was the last time any person in this room has observed proactive traffic enforcement on Genesee St? For me personally, its been years. And again, in comparison, most of us have seen the radar details on West Main St. and Rochester St -but not on Genesee St. Taken as a whole, these facts lead to the reasonable conclusion that Genesee St. is a safe street in this village.

I mentioned earlier that the Board can take an action to improve Clinton St. as an entrance way to the schools, and that action is to remove the vehicles that use Clinton St. as a parking lot. Every day, schools buses and other motorists using Clinton St. have to navigate around the these vehicles, in particular the truck that is parked all day and all night just east of the Clinton St.-Genesee St. intersection. Paul Tilley brought this issue to the Board's attention at a public meeting in September 2019 when he suggested that the Board install no parking signs on Oak St. because of the parking on that street. Nothing has been done, and every morning 4-5 vehicles

are parked on Oak St. And to give you an idea on how prevalent this problem is, I did a survey of the streets in that area on Monday, 6/13 at 6:00A; these are the numbers:

Genesee St - 5 vehicles  
Clinton St - 4 vehicles  
Oak St - 4 vehicles  
Lacy St - 1 vehicle  
Hal-Bar St - 0 vehicles  
Temple St - 13 vehicles

I did another survey on Friday, 6/17 at 2:30P; these are the numbers:

Genesee St - 3  
Clinton - 6  
Oak - 3  
Temple - 6

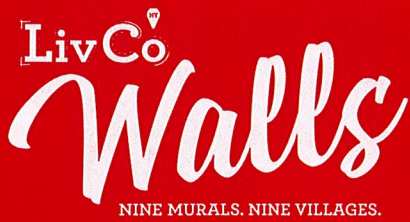
The point is, residents should not be using the village streets as parking lots.

Now, to conclude, I recommend two actions for the Board to consider:

Withdraw these stop sign laws; they are unnecessary, and if the signs are installed, they would unnecessarily restrict traffic, would adversely affect persons using Genesee St., and would not improve the safety of an already safe street.

And finally, there may be comments from some tonight asking if we have to wait before someone is injured or an accident happens before action is taken. Of course not. But too many times recently traffic safety concerns have been used to justify public policy, and later the logic of the safety arguments is shown to be specious. If the Board remains concerned about Genesee St., it is encouraged to take the time to do the necessary due diligence to create a comprehensive traffic safety plan, not just for Genesee St, but for the entire village. By doing this, the Board will insure that traffic safety in the Village of Avon has a firm public policy foundation.

*George B. Brown*  
342 Genesee Street, Avon, N. Y.



This July, celebrate nine world-class artists unveiling their awe-inspiring murals at festivals throughout the nine villages of Livingston County. Enjoy art activities, live music, food, craft beverages, and more.



## AVON EVENTS INCLUDE:

**SATURDAY, JULY 2ND – SATURDAY, JULY 9TH: PROFESSIONAL MURAL PAINTING | 79 GENESEE STREET**

Stop in throughout the week to watch muralist Ivan Roque create Avon's newest mural

**THURSDAY, JULY 7TH | 6:00PM – 7:00PM: ARTIST TALK | AVON PARK THEATER**

Meet artist Ivan Roque and hear about his inspiration and process for creating Avon's newest mural

**FRIDAY, JULY 8TH + SUNDAY, JULY 10TH | 7:30PM: LOVING VINCENT | AVON PARK THEATER**

Called a one-of-a-kind work of art, Loving Vincent is the world's first oil painted feature film, telling the story of Vincent Van Gogh and his tragic death

**SATURDAY, JULY 9TH | 2:00PM – 9:00PM: LIVCO WALLS MURAL FESTIVAL | GENESEE STREET, AVON**

Genesee Street will be closed to traffic and open to pedestrians to enjoy interactive art, live music and performances, family-friendly activities, food, local beer, shopping and the dedication of Avon's newest mural **(turn over for full festival schedule)**

## THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS:

Assemblywoman Marjorie Byrnes | Avon Park Theater  
Avon True Value + Auto | The Charlton Farm | The Fisher Family  
Genesee Valley Penny Saver + Penny Lane Printing | Grow LivCo + Visit LivCo  
Howlett Farms | Quality Painting and Staining | Village of Avon

# VILLAGE OF AVON

*Saturday, July 9th on Genesee Street*

Genesee Street will be closed to traffic and open to pedestrians to enjoy interactive art, live music and performances, family-friendly activities, food, local craft beverages, shopping and the dedication of Avon's newest mural



## INTERACTIVE ART ACTIVITIES BEGINNING AT 2:00PM

- **Community paint-by-number mural** with Avon High School Art Club
- **Poster mural** with Avon Free Library
- **Paint your own mural cookie** with The Cake Place
- **Pottery demo** with Studio Sales Pottery
- **Knitting lessons + knitting circle** with Knit One and Done
- **Wood craft** with Geek Chic Floral Boutique
- **Mini photo sessions** with Oak + Stone Photography
- **Watercolor painting** with East Avon Presbyterian Church
- **Rock painting** with Avon NY Rocks
- **Sidewalk Showcase scavenger hunt** with Visit LivCo
- Plus **sidewalk chalk art, face painting, henna designs**, and more!

## LIVE MUSIC AND PERFORMANCES

- **2:00PM** Music by DJ Bob D'Angelo
- **2:30PM** Avon Dance Emporium performance | Genesee Street
- **3:00PM** Shake on the Lake: comedy improv, music, and puppetry | Avon Park Theater
- **4:15PM** Avon Community Theater performance | Genesee Street
- **5:00PM** Mural dedication | 79 Genesee Street
- **5:30PM – 9:00PM** Bob's Brother's Band | Genesee Street (bring a lawn chair or blanket)

## FESTIVAL FOOD & DRINK

Avon Village Restaurant | Avondale Pub | Pizza Land | Mortalis Brewing Company

Rising Storm Brewing Company | Route & Roost Kitchen and Trading Post | Twister's Ice Cream

for more information and the most up to date schedule, visit: [inspirationstrail.com/avon](http://inspirationstrail.com/avon)



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SCAN TO EXPLORE

# WHY COLLECT DATA?



Trail-count data and trail-user surveys can help us understand and improve the Genesee Valley Greenway in several key ways:

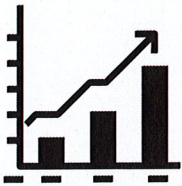


## FUNDING

Demonstrating the level of potential use is one of the critical pieces of information needed to make the case for a project, and it is frequently required for grant applications.

## DEMONSTRATE THE VALUE OF TRAILS

Assessing the value of trails is critical for ensuring that local public officials continue to steer public investment into the construction, operations and maintenance of trails.

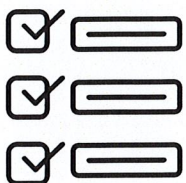
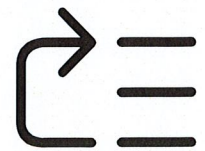


## PERFORMANCE METRICS

Trail-count data can help establish baseline trail-usage levels, demonstrate changes in usage patterns over time and enable jurisdictions to evaluate the effectiveness of their trail investments.

## PRIORITIZE PROJECTS

Local and regional bicycle and pedestrian plans rely on many factors to prioritize projects for implementation, but bicycle & pedestrian metrics provides data that can be used to push a trail project to the top.



## DEMONSTRATE EFFECTIVENESS OF GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Federal and state funding programs have established rigorous criteria for evaluating funded projects, with a growing reliance on quantitative data, like trail use metrics.