



# TRAILS & GREENWAYS SUPPORTING UPSTATE ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

*An Appropriation Request from the Upstate Greenways and Trails Alliance*

In 2022, the **Upstate Greenways and Trails Alliance (UGATA)** received a \$500,000 appropriation from the State of South Carolina in support of its 2.1-mile Travelers Rest Greenway. UGATA has leveraged an additional \$1.3 million in matching funds with construction set to begin in early 2023.

Building on this success, UGATA is seeking a 2023 State Appropriation:

- ▶ State Appropriation Sought: **\$11 million**
- ▶ Anticipated matching funds leveraged: **\$8.5 – \$18 million**
- ▶ Outcomes: **more than 30 miles of trails & greenways built!**



**In a public-private partnership with Greenville County, UGATA built 6 miles of multi-use trails at Lakeside Park**

Trails and greenways present a unique opportunity to support economic development, affordable transportation, and healthy recreation. **Paved greenways in our region generate between \$800,000 – \$1.25 million per mile in annual economic benefit, and an 8 - 1 return of private investment for every public dollar spent.\***

## ABOUT UGATA

A nonprofit alliance representing more than 130 Upstate businesses, UGATA has built more than 10 miles of trails since 2021, with a goal of adding 100 miles to the Upstate by 2031. For more information, visit [www.ugata.org](http://www.ugata.org)

“UGATA is a true champion for expanding trails and greenways in the Upstate. From gaining land access to leveraging resources, they are an example of how public private partnerships can accelerate infrastructure projects.”

**Ty Houck:** Director of Greenways, Natural & Historic Resources, Greenville County



# PROPOSED PROJECTS

## Northern Swamp Rabbit Trail Expansion

*(House District 17; Senate Districts 5 & 6)*

2 – 3.5 miles of new paved greenway extending the Swamp Rabbit Trail from Travelers Rest to Slater-Marietta. This project would also include acquiring & making public an existing 1-mile hiking & mountain biking trail

## Travelers Rest Greenway Phase II

*(House District 17; Senate District 6)*

Expanding on UGATA's current TR Greenway project, a new 2.5 mile paved greenway linking downtown Travelers Rest, TR High School and the YMCA to a newly developed recreation area on the Saluda River.

## Orange Line of the Swamp Rabbit Trail

*(House Districts 22 & 23; Senate Districts 6 & 7)*

1 – 2 miles of new paved greenway connecting multiple neighborhoods to the Swamp Rabbit Trail, and also creating off-street pedestrian access to the Cherrydale shopping area.

## Conestee Connector Trail

*(House Districts 24 & 25; Senate District 7)*

3 – 4 miles of new paved greenway connecting the Swamp Rabbit Trail at CU-ICAR to the extensive trail network & recreational amenities at Conestee Nature Preserve.

## Southern Swamp Rabbit Trail Expansion

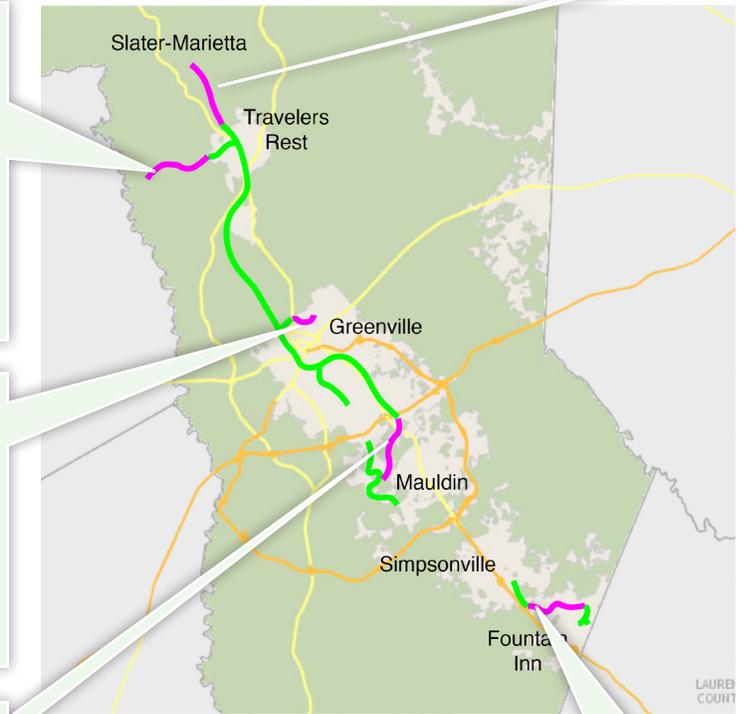
*(House Districts 16 & 27; Senate District 8)*

2.5 – 5 miles of new paved greenway connecting downtown Simpsonville and Fountain Inn.

## Upstate Trail Corps

*(Multiple Upstate Counties & Districts)*

Development of a UGATA-based AmeriCorps program engaging 10 full-time AmeriCorps members who will construct 20 miles of hiking & mountain biking trails, as well as support trail maintenance throughout the Upstate from 2024 – 2026. State funding would be used as a match for federal and private funding to support this new program.



**UGATA AmeriCorps members will construct 20 miles of hiking & mountain biking trails.**