






ERIE TO PITTSBURGH TRAIL ALLIANCE

# ANNUAL REPORT 2019

A YEAR OF PROGRESS

-  217 Elm St, Oil City, PA 16301
-  [eriepittsburghtrail.org](http://eriepittsburghtrail.org)
-  [www.facebook.com/ErietoPittsburghTrailAlliance](https://www.facebook.com/ErietoPittsburghTrailAlliance)
-  [@erietopittsburghtrail](https://www.instagram.com/erietopittsburghtrail)

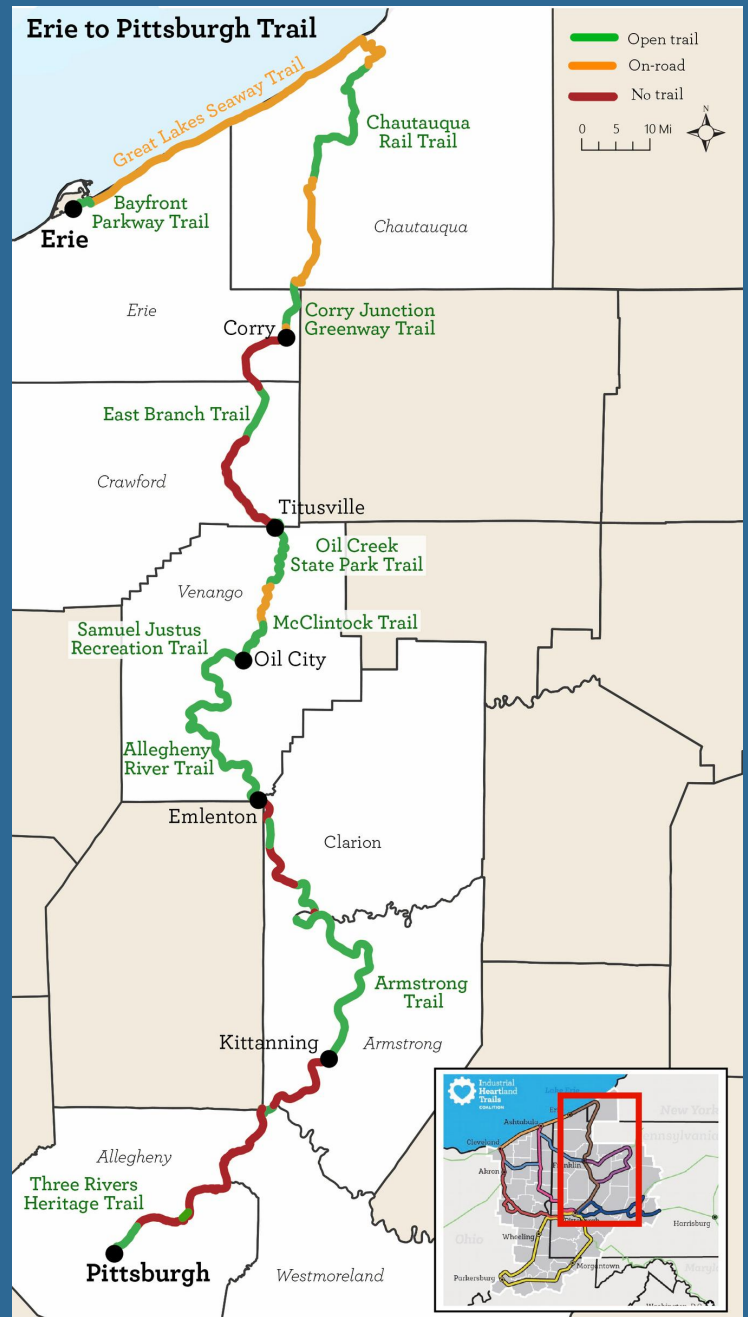


# LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Thank you for all the support shown to the Erie to Pittsburgh Trail Alliance in 2019. This has certainly been a busy year for the alliance. This past year our Connection Committee was able to help identify key missing sections and is now assisting in bringing resources and stakeholders together to assist local groups to move forward with the development. We are looking forward to a number of these projects reaching a stage where they can be announced to the public. This on the ground information was able to be used to assist the PA Environmental Council (PEC) for a gap report that will be released in 2020. We were also able to work with PEC to have resolutions passed in every county that the Erie to Pittsburgh Trail traverses in support of the completion of the trail. We were able to work with members of Erie County and the City of Erie to officially determine the endpoint in Erie, which is now Dobbin's Landing.

As we pursued our strategic plan to further collaboration between the trail groups and available resources, we've worked diligently to lay the groundwork for 2020. This is the result of the continuing expansion of the Strategic Planning committees with new members, expanded roles and collaboration with various funding sources. Twenty-twenty will bring a new website that will launch in March, a EPTA sponsored one-day trail Summit in August to continue to unite trail groups and communities, and possibly a funding opportunity that will allow the EPTA to expand the support we are able to provide for local trail groups and continue to sustain momentum toward the strategic plan goals.

Sincerely,  
Barney Scholl, President



## WHO ARE WE

**Who are we:** An alliance of non-profit organizations, local municipalities, supporters, and advocates affiliated with the Erie to Pittsburgh Trail corridor.

**Our Vision:** A system of non-motorized, multi-use trails, and local connectors linking Erie to Pittsburgh through the experience of small towns, rural landscapes, historic sites, and cultural areas, tied to regional trails and beyond.

**Our Mission:** The Alliance's Mission is to advocate for the development of the continuous trail; to assist our local partners by sharing expertise and resources; to promote the trail for its regional significance and encourage local and broader connections.



# 2019 TRAIL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## HIGHLIGHTS OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE TRAIL GROUPS ALONG THE CORRIDOR

### Allegheny River Trail

- Received \$136,000 in funding from the Commonwealth Finance Authority and \$24,000 from the Dr. Mrs. Arthur William Phillips Charitable Trust via the Oil Region Alliance for the engineering and rehabilitation of the Ritchey Run Bridge.

### Armstrong Trails

- Groundbreaking ceremony was held May 20, 2019 for Phase 1 of the Brady Tunnel, which included engineering/design of the tunnel and 52' of tunnel liner at the northern portal. Construction was completed by the end of 2019.
- Safety improvements were completed at Shady Shore with the installation of AASHTO 10 limestone surface from the East Brady municipal to the trail. Funds were provided by the Trail Volunteer Fund.
- Crooked Creek Bridge was rehabilitated, replacing the existing decking/railing with womanized wood deck, a new gate/bollard system and bump out to the Allegheny River.

### Erie County and the Erie-Western Pennsylvania Port Authority

- Representatives from Erie County, the Port Authority, The City of Erie, and DCNR Bureau of Parks (Presque Isle) determined the endpoint of the Erie to Pittsburgh Trail would be at the Bayfront in Erie due to many factors including the proximity to restaurants, overnight parking, and lodging. In the fall of 2019, representatives met to determine the exact location of where mile zero of the EPT will be located. Mile zero will be located at Dobbin's Landing and include amenities such as a mile marker, a formal marker, a bench and parking for bikes. There are several different photo opportunities at this location chosen. GPS coordinates the site are 42.137684, -80.090740. Please note that development of this site will also include the use of an existing parking space.

### Impact Corry

- Developed and installed a kiosk and bike fix-it station at the gateway into town.
- Opened up dialog with PennDOT and other on a potential share-the-road route the Corry Junction Trail through the downtown to the gateway to town where the eventual trail from Spartansburg will enter.

### Chautauqua Rails to Trails

- Completed an engineering survey on half of the culverts under the 28-mile long trail.
- Received state funding to replace a stone arch culvert under the trail to repair a major washout.

### Oil Region Alliance

- The Oil Region Alliance contracted with professional services to identify trail champions and prepared strategic plans for three trail gaps on the EPT.

### Queen City Trail

- Improvements were made along the Queen City Trail. In 2019, a picnic bench and trash were placed at the trail. A mural was added to the side of the railroad bridge enhancing the

### Redbank Valley Trail

- Celebrated trail surface improvements on all 51 miles.
- The 9-mile Sligo Spur was completed.
- A covered bridge was added at Mortimer Run (mile 1.02) and a kayak launch was added adjacent to the Depot Street through the partnership of Brookville Borough and the Western PA Conservancy Canoe Access Fund.

### Three Rivers Heritage Trail

- Brackenridge Borough received an additional \$16,545 to complete engineering, preparing them for construction of half a mile riverfront trail.
- On June 3rd a groundbreaking was held by Etna borough for the Etna Riverfront Park and extension of the Three Rivers Heritage Trail.

### Erie to Pittsburgh Trail Alliance

- Kicked-off the "90 by 90" Campaign, 90 percent of the trail completed off road by what would have EPTA's founding Presidents 90th birthday (2029).
- A membership campaign at the end of 2019 a very active membership campaign was kicked off 2019.
- The Alliance and PEC worked with Counties from along the trail corridor to pass resolutions supporting the completion of the EPT.





# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

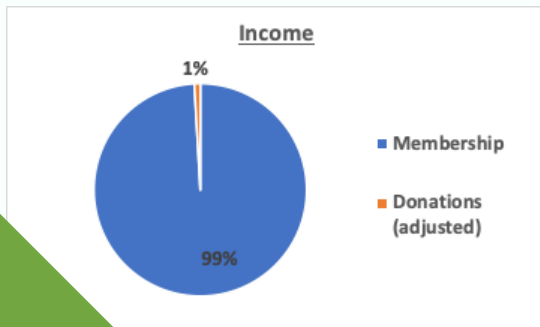
- President – Barney Scholl
- Vice President – Ron Steffey
- Secretary – Kim Harris
- Treasurer – Roy Weil
- Thomas Baxter IV
- Emily Beck
- Leah Carter
- Jim Fincher
- Joy Fronzoli
- Bob Jennings
- Courtney Mahronich Vita
- Sandy Mateer
- Renwick Steele
- Debbie Swettenam
- Marty Radock
- Bill Weller
- Chris Ziegler

# TRAIL ORGANIZATIONS

- Allegheny Valley Trail Association
- Allegheny River Trail in Clarion
- Armstrong Trails
- Butler Freeport Community Trail Council
- Chautauqua Rails to Trails, Inc.
- Clear Lake Authority
- Cranberry Township in Venango County
- City of Erie
- Erie -Western PA Port Authority
- Friends of the Riverfront
- Impact Corry
- Mercer County Trails Association
- Northwest PA Trails Association
- Oil Creek State Park (PA DCNR)
- City of Oil City
- Oil Region Alliance of Business, Industry & Tourism
- Redbank Valley Trails Association
- Titusville Area Trail Association
- Seaway Trail, Inc
- Wynn and Clara Tredway River Trail

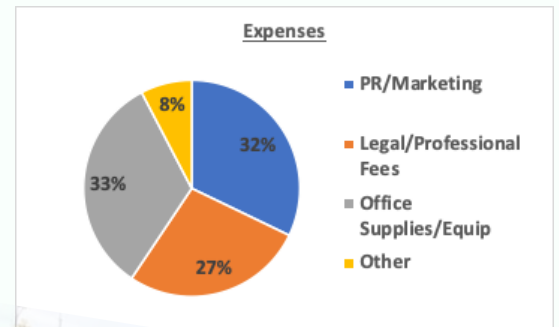
# FINANCIALS

## 2019 Revenue



*The Erie to Pittsburgh Trail Alliance is classified by the Internal Revenue Service as a 501 (c) (3) tax-exempt nonprofit corporation.*

## 2019 Expenses



Trail building and maintenance takes a lot of time, effort, and volunteers. We want to sincerely thank all of the volunteers who have continued to support the trails of the Erie to Pittsburgh Trail Alliance

