Philadelphia’s Mayor Nutter (center) and other leaders at the groundbreaking of the Baxter Trail, Fall 2014.

A key trail bridge over I-40 opened in 2014 in Durham, NC, creating 20 continuous miles of ECG that connect urban, suburban, and rural destinations. Photo: Dave Connelly
Dear Friends of the Greenway,

There are certain accomplishments that deserve attention and celebration. In 2014 we achieved one together: the East Coast Greenway reached 30% off-road from Calais, Maine, to Key West, Florida! Our trail staff, empowered by your support, pulled in an impressive 36 new trail segments last year to get us there.

A major milestone like this can help stakeholders throughout our corridor understand that this visionary project isn’t just a pipe dream, but rather a quickly developing reality.

We went from 0 to 30% these past two decades by pooling our passion, resources, and perseverance into a force strong enough to move almost a thousand miles of greenway forward through many of our nation’s largest cities and along the peaceful rivers and forests in between.

Let’s use this occasion as a lever to open the floodgates of progress and finish developing our 2,900-mile urban sister to the Appalachian Trail.

To a Healthy and Sustainable Future,

- Dennis Markatos-Soriano, ECGA Executive Director

Delaware Governor Jack Markell (2nd from right) met with riders on the East Coast Greenway’s Week a Year Tour, October, 2014. Photo courtesy of the Governor’s office.

**East Coast Greenway Alliance Staff & Boards 2014**

**Staff**

Dennis Markatos-Soriano, Executive Director
Eric Weis, Trail Program Coordinator
Niles Barnes, South Atlantic Coordinator
Andy Hamilton, Mid-Atlantic Coordinator
Molly Henry, New England Coordinator
Herb Hiller, Southeast Regional Consultant
Debbie West, Office Manager/Membership

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Judy Walton, Portland State Univ. - OR
We released our first ECG app for mobile devices in 2014!

Download it for free from iTunes or Google Play (search East Coast Greenway).

New Trail Sections Designated as East Coast Greenway in 2014

1. Lewiston Riverside Trail, Lewiston ME, 1.25 mi
2. Lisbon Trail, Lisbon ME, 1.8 mi
3. Beth Condon Memorial Pathway, Yarmouth, ME, 0.4 mi
4. Martin’s Point Bridge, Yarmouth - Portland, ME, 0.4 mi
5. Charles River Bikeway, Waltham MA, 0.55 mi
6. Air Line Trail, Pomfret CT, 0.45 mi
7. Hop River Trail, Andover CT, 1.6 mi
8. Phoenix Plaza, Hartford CT, 0.13 mi
9. Travelers Plaza, Hartford CT, 0.11 mi
10. Bushnell Park Path, Hartford CT, 0.5 mi
11. Bronx River Greenway, Bronx NY, 0.9 mi
12. Starlight Park Path, Bronx NY, 0.5 mi
13. Newark Riverfront Trail, Newark NJ, 0.6 mi
14. Roosevelt Park Path, Middlesex Co NJ, 0.3 mi
15. Merrill Park Path, Middlesex Co NJ, 0.3 mi
16. Donaldson Park Path, Middlesex Co NJ, 0.3 mi
17. D&R Canal Towpath, Hamilton-Bordentown NJ, 3.7 mi
18. Rt 291 Sidepath, Edystone PA, 0.15 mi
19. Northern Delaware Greenway, New Castle Co DE, 0.3 mi
20. Penn Farm Trail, New Castle Co DE, 1.1 mi
21. Churchmans Rd Sidepath, New Castle Co DE, 0.4 mi
22. South Shore Trail, Anne Arundel Co MD, 0.55 mi
23. Virginia Central Railway Trail, Fredericksburg VA, 1 mi
24. Virginia Capital Trail, Charles City Co VA, 13 mi
25. Tobacco Heritage Trail, Brunswick Co VA, 10 mi
26. American Tobacco Trail, Durham NC, 0.7 mi
27. Walnut Creek Trail, Raleigh NC, 4.5 mi
28. Buffalo Creek Greenway, Smithfield NC, 2.9 mi
29. Emerald Path, Emerald Isle NC, 8.7 mi
30. Cross-City Trail, Wilmington NC, 1.9 mi
31. Chief O.F. Love Trail & Canebake Rd sidepath, Chatham Co GA, 1.45 mi
32. Highlander Trail, Darien GA, 0.3 mi
33. St. Marys Tabby Trail, St. Marys GA, 0.5 mi
34. Eastern Central Regional Rail-Trail, Titusville FL, 1.4 mi
35 St. Lucie Co sidepaths, St. Lucie Co FL, 1.3 mi
36. Overseas Heritage Trail, Monroe Co FL, 7 mi
New England Region

Projected Final Distance: 752 Miles
(Current Travel Route: 833 Miles)

Complete Off-Road: 276 Miles
Trail in Development: 139 Miles
Trail Pending Development: 165 Miles
Trail Gap: 172 Miles

Route Markers Posted: 443 Miles (+64 from 2013)

Staff: Molly Henry, New England Trail Coordinator

Model Section: Lisbon Trail System along the beautiful Androscoggin River, connects Lisbon & Lisbon Falls, 3.3 miles.

Priority Section for 2014: Northern Strand Community Trail, half mile extension and crossing over the Mystic River from Everett, MA, to Draw 7 Park in Somerville, MA.

Regional Accomplishments:
- Hosted the 2014 Builders Ball in Providence, RI – the ECG’s largest event to date with 650 attendees.
- Established a new coastal route from Providence, RI, to Provincetown, MA, and launched it with the Yankee Roundabout, a 5 day bike tour exploring the cultural history and beautiful towns of Southern New England.
- Strengthened partnership with Maine’s Department of Transportation, resulting in agreement to install ECG trail markers from Calais to Kittery (over 300 miles) in 2015.

Mid-Atlantic Region

Projected Final Distance: 408 Miles
(Current Travel Route: 403 Miles)

Complete Off-Road: 170 Miles
Trail in Development: 71 Miles
Trail Pending Development: 62 Miles
Trail Gap: 105 Miles

Route Markers Posted: 238 Miles

Staff: Andy Hamilton, Mid-Atlantic Trail Coordinator

Model Section: Wilmington Riverwalk in Delaware connects downtown to the DuPont Environmental Education Center. Within the next few years, a trail extension (including a new bridge and boardwalk) will connect to historic New Castle, DE.

Priority Section for 2015: Spring Garden Street, connecting completed greenways from the Schuylkill River to the Delaware River.

Regional Accomplishments:
- Strong advocacy for bicyclist and pedestrian access over the Susquehanna River in MD. We developed the Susquehanna Safe Crossing Coalition and started a petition for the bridge which now has 9,000 signatures.
- The Schuylkill Banks Boardwalk (aka “The Boards”) completed. This signature trail for Philadelphia features unparalleled views of both the Schuylkill River and the city skyline.
- Further developing the state committees of Maryland and New Jersey by integrating agencies and advocates who will help lead the charge for the ECGA for years to come.
South Atlantic Region

Projected Final Distance: 935 Miles
(Current Travel Route: 915 Miles)
Complete Off-Road: 175 Miles
Trail in Development: 112 Miles
Trail Pending Development: 342 Miles
Trail Gap: 306 Miles
Route Markers Posted: 106 Miles (+75 from ‘13)
Staff: Niles Barnes, South Atlantic Trail Coordinator

Model Section: The 17-mile Tobacco Heritage Trail in VA, which includes beautiful woodlands and a dramatic crossing of the Meherrin River.

Priority Section for 2015: Completing a safe and accessible crossing of the Ashley River in Charleston, SC, via upgrades to the Legare Bridge.

Regional Accomplishments:
• Opening of the American Tobacco Trail bridge over I-40 in Durham, NC, connecting 20 miles of ECG.
• Of all metropolitan areas the East Coast Greenway route runs through, the Triangle region of NC has the most complete stretch (93% of 72 miles of ECG) of car-free, shared-use trails on the ECG route.
• Fall Summit in Charleston, SC, with strong media coverage and participation from key local and state leaders.

Southeast Region

Projected Final Distance: 753 Miles
(Current Travel Route: 766 Miles)
Complete Off-Road: 227 Miles
Trail in Development: 102 Miles
Trail Pending Development: 345 Miles
Trail Gap: 78 Miles
Route Markers Posted: 51 Miles
Staff: Herb Hiller, Southeast Region Consultant

Model Section: The 7.2 mile Amelia Island Trail in NE FL, which includes a fishing bridge.

Priority Section for 2015: Return of ferry service between Fernandina and St. Marys, GA.

Regional Accomplishments:
• Launched a key partnership with the Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor Commission to connect ECG users with the rich heritage of the region.
• The Florida Dept. of Transportation (FDOT) authorized a pilot signage project in St. Lucie County that could lead to signing Florida’s entire 577-mile long route.
• Miami Beach’s Atlantic Greenway Network, currently 4.5 miles long with outstanding views of ocean and Miami skyline, continues to grow northward.

Terminology:
- In Development: trail is in planning, design, or under construction.
- Pending Development: we know where the trail will be, but it is not yet in the planning stage.
- Gap: On-road section where trail route is not yet identified.
Thanks to generous people like you, 2014 was another record year! Continued income growth (14% in 2014) and a measured increase in expenses (6%) brought us to optimal financial health of six months of cash reserves. Dedicated members, donors, and partners – from foundations to the private sector – all increased their investment in the growing East Coast Greenway.

We now have the resources to invest in further trail development in 2015, starting by hiring a Communications Coordinator to raise the Greenway’s profile. As we find new partners in the year ahead and philanthropy increases due to continued economic recovery, new funds can go directly into increasing our impact from Maine to Florida.

The full audited financial report and Form 990 were completed by Johnson Lambert, LLP and are available on our website or upon request.
Thank You to our Generous Donors!

2014 Individual, Businesses & Foundation Donors

$25,000 and Above
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Sarah Hancock
James and Deborah Sharpe

$10,000-$24,999
Hurford Foundation
Al Nierenberg
Donald Passantino

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Pete and Judy Weis
Gail West

We placed over 100 miles of signs in 2014 thanks to major support from Sarah Hancock and the Quimby Family Foundation.

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2014 Annual Report
More Highlights of 2014

The 2014 Week a Year Tour on the newly opened Schuylkill Banks Boardwalk in Philadelphia. The tour rode from Philly to Fredericksburg, VA, in October. This was our most successful fundraiser yet! Participants raised or donated at least $600 each, totaling over $43,000. Huge thanks to everyone who participated in the tour.

Top fundraisers were Bob Spiegelman (NH), Bob Russo (NJ), Silvia Ascarelli (NJ), and Dan Rappoport (NJ) – together they raised over $15,000 for the ECG!

Thank you to our major corporate partners in 2014:

ECGA Board Chair David Read, Wendy Landman of WalkBoston, David Watson of MassBike, Najah Shakir of Boston Bikes, and Dennis Markatos-Soriano at our Spring Summit in Boston, MA. Photo: Robert Russo.

A new 10-mile section of the beautiful Tobacco Heritage Trail in Virginia opened in May. The ECG portion of the THT is now 17 miles between La Crosse and Lawrenceville, Virginia. Photo: Justin Kearns.

Equestrian users enjoying the ECG in North Carolina. Photo: Dave Connelly

NC Dept. of Transportation and NC State University installed permanent trail counters near our headquarters office in Durham, NC, in 2014.

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