

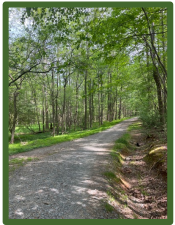
Community Health and Our Environment – Local Greenways and their Uses

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Background and Overview

The Bolin Creek Greenway

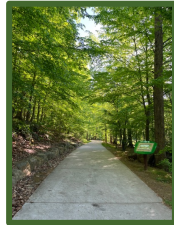
- Local trail network of both paved and unpaved trails
- Plans to continue pavement of trail



Unpaved – Tripp Farm Road



Unpaved – Tripp Farm Road

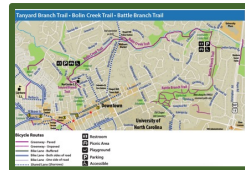


Paved – Umstead Park

Research Purpose

- Understanding community use and values surrounding the Bolin Creek Greenway as it awaits further development plans

Trail Map



Research Background

- Increasing trail and greenway access gives a wider population opportunities to reach daily physical activity recommendations.
- Safer bike infrastructure (apart from motor vehicle roads) provides alternative, environmentally friendly transportation.
- The Bolin Creek Greenway connects the community to businesses, schools, downtown, and other neighborhoods.

Research and Methods

Methods

1. SOPARC Observations
 - a) 30-minute period
 - b) Notes on demographics and activity levels
2. Intercept Interviews
 - a) Questions on use, activity, feelings of safety, etc.
 - b) Ask every trail user during 30-minute period

SOPARC: Anderson, T. and Cohen, D. (2004, January 20). SOPARC System for Observing Play and Recreation in Communities. Description and Procedures Manual. San Diego: San Diego State University.



Current Status

- 1 week of observations and interviews in April
- Collection on 4 days of the week – spread to note differences in weekday vs weekend use
- Collection throughout 4 times each day – notes differences in use by time of day

Limitations

SOPARC

- Subjectivity of observer
- Not comprehensive on all variables – race, gender, ...

Interviews

- Only one interview at a time
- Miss interviews with those moving fast or using listening devices
- Confounding variables:
 - Weather during measurement days

Results and Conclusions

To-Date Results

- All data collection is still in progress
- SOPARC results are awaiting digital upload as they continue. Results will be analyzed at the conclusion of research
- Intercept Interviews
 - Interviews will continue
 - A few key findings are shown below
- 71% response rate (n=40)
- 48% of respondents are active at a medium level
- 55% of respondents are interested in using the trail as transportation. 22% already do

Q101: Do you have your respondent participate?	Percentage
Yes	71%
No	29%

Q102: When would you use your activity level when using the trail?	Percentage
1. Light (leisurely walking, standing, stretching...)	12%
2. Medium (fast-paced walking...)	40%
3. High (jogging, hiking...)	30%
4. Strenuous (running, high-intensity biking...)	18%

Q103: How often do you use the trail as an alternative mode of transport (other than walking, running, or biking to work or school)?	Percentage
0. Not at all	22%
1. Somewhat interested	56%
2. Immediately serves transportation purposes for me	22%

Implications and Future Steps

- As more data is collected along the Bolin Creek Greenway, there will be a better understanding of what the community values in their trails and greenspaces.
- Alternative routes for safe walking/biking transit allows for a more sustainable, environmentally healthy community.
- Thoughtful and well-intentioned city planning should consider a variety of uses and viewpoints on trails and greenways.