

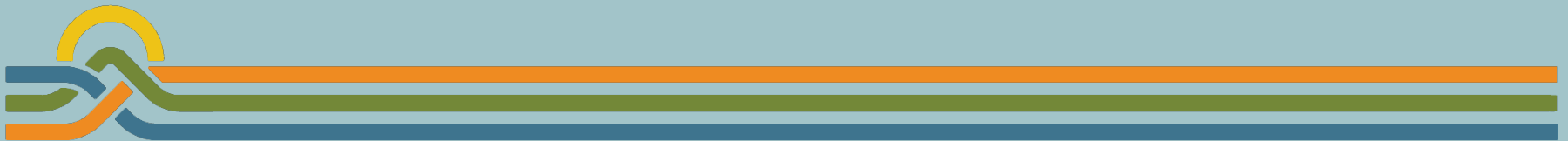
Interactive Mapping of Upstate Greenways & Trails

By Sam Davis & Asangwua Ikein



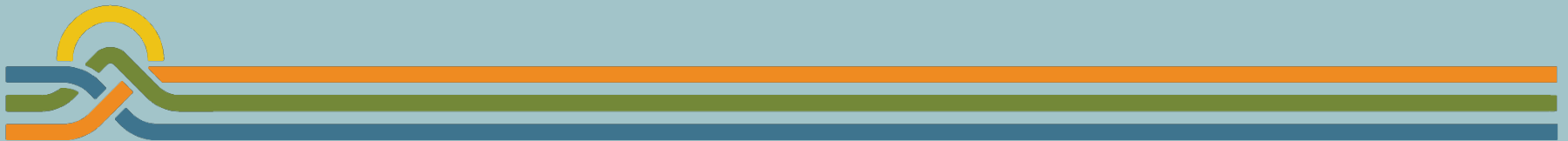
Background

- UGATA is a Greenville based 501(c)(3)
- Mission: to rapidly expand and improve the greenways and trails network of Upstate South Carolina through an alliance of partners and by using public-private partnerships
- “Packaging” greenways projects



Presentation Goals

- Outline the need for an interactive map
- Explain the methodology and process
- Explore the result
- Discuss community feedback/takeaways
- (23 slides)



Project Background

After conversations with people from all over the Upstate with so many jurisdictions and varying levels of engagement, it became clear that knowledge about trail history is a hindrance to trail expansion



Purpose

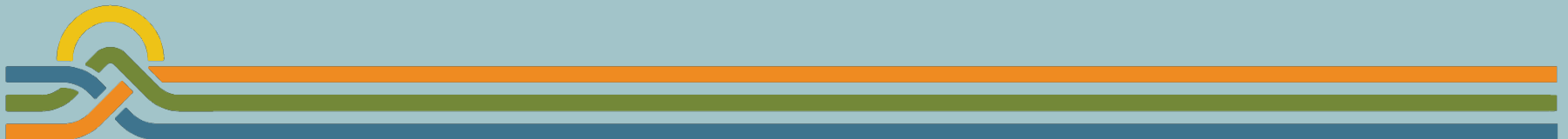
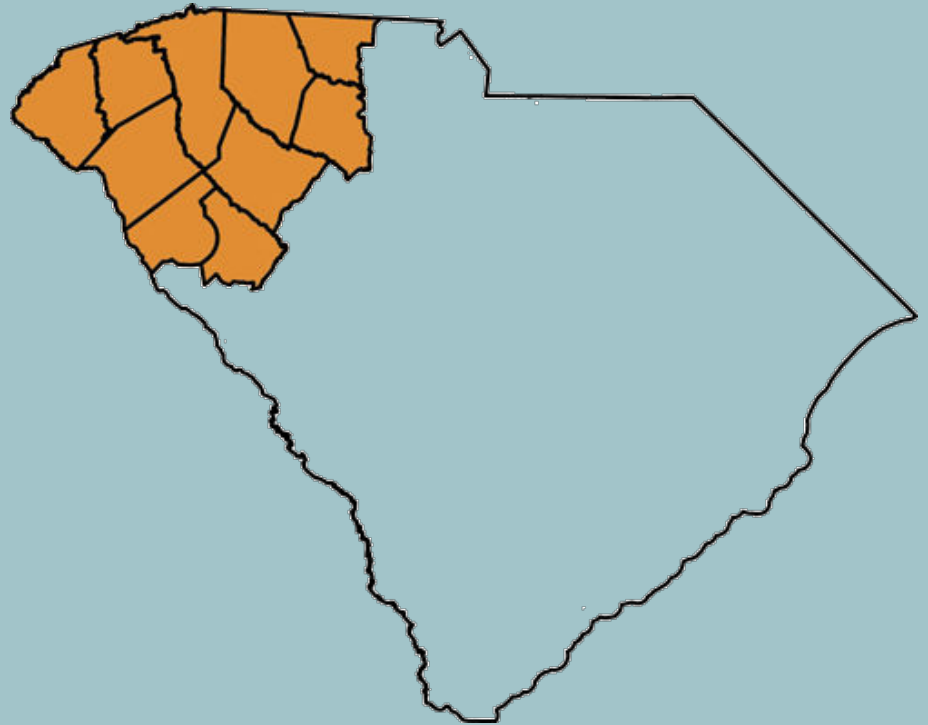
- Aggregate one singular shapefile of all greenways and trail plans in the Upstate.
- Organize information for
 - Existing Trails and Greenways
 - Trails and Greenways under construction
 - Planned Trails and Greenways
- To explain past planning efforts and inform new efforts



The Upstate

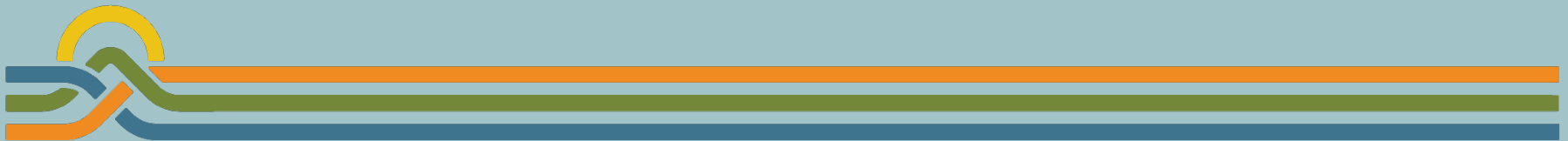
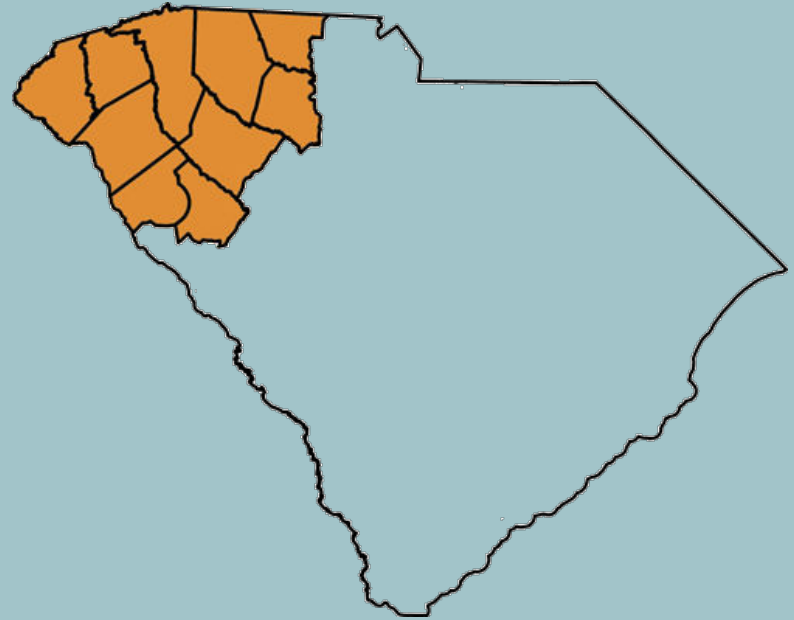
The Upstate is comprised of 10 counties with 70 total cities and towns within.

- Abbeville
- Anderson
- Cherokee
- Greenville
- Greenwood
- Laurens
- Oconee
- Pickens
- Spartanburg
- Union



Process: Research

Reviewed every plan that has been produced in the Upstate over the last 10 years in every county, city, and town.



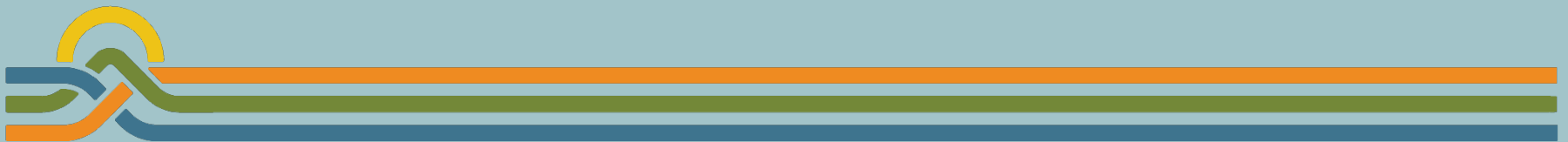
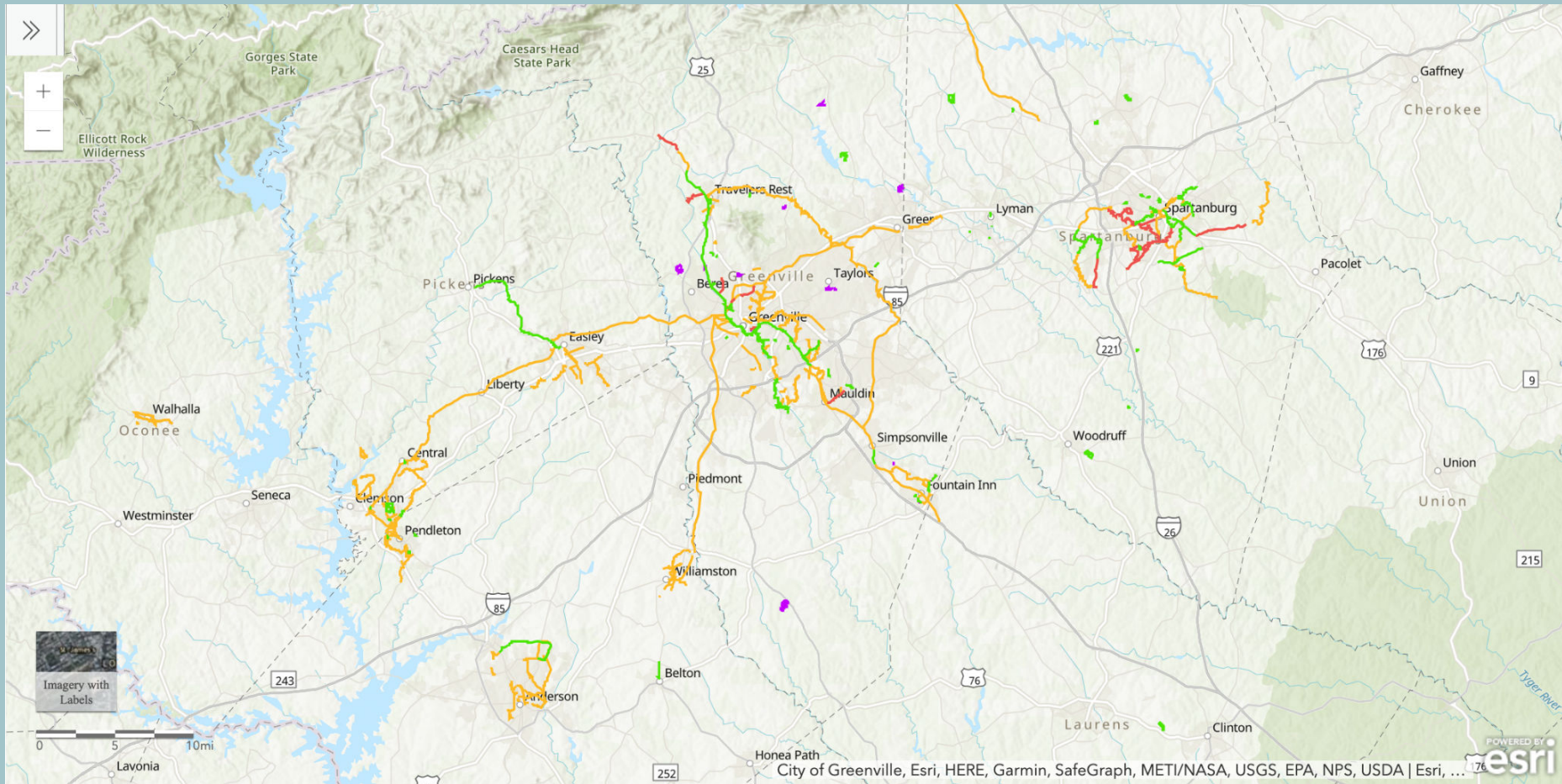
Process: Gathering Data

Contacted every jurisdiction with a regional plan to get shapefiles.

Combines all those shapefiles into one singular shapefile.



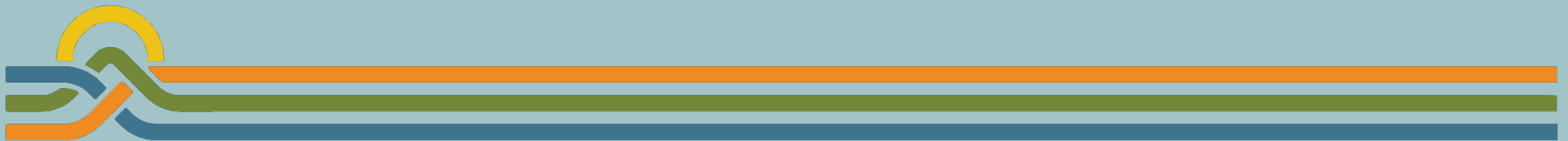
Results



Process: Criteria

Establish criteria for inclusion

- Separated/buffered
- Paved
- >8 feet



Process: Cleaning Data

Clean and organize data

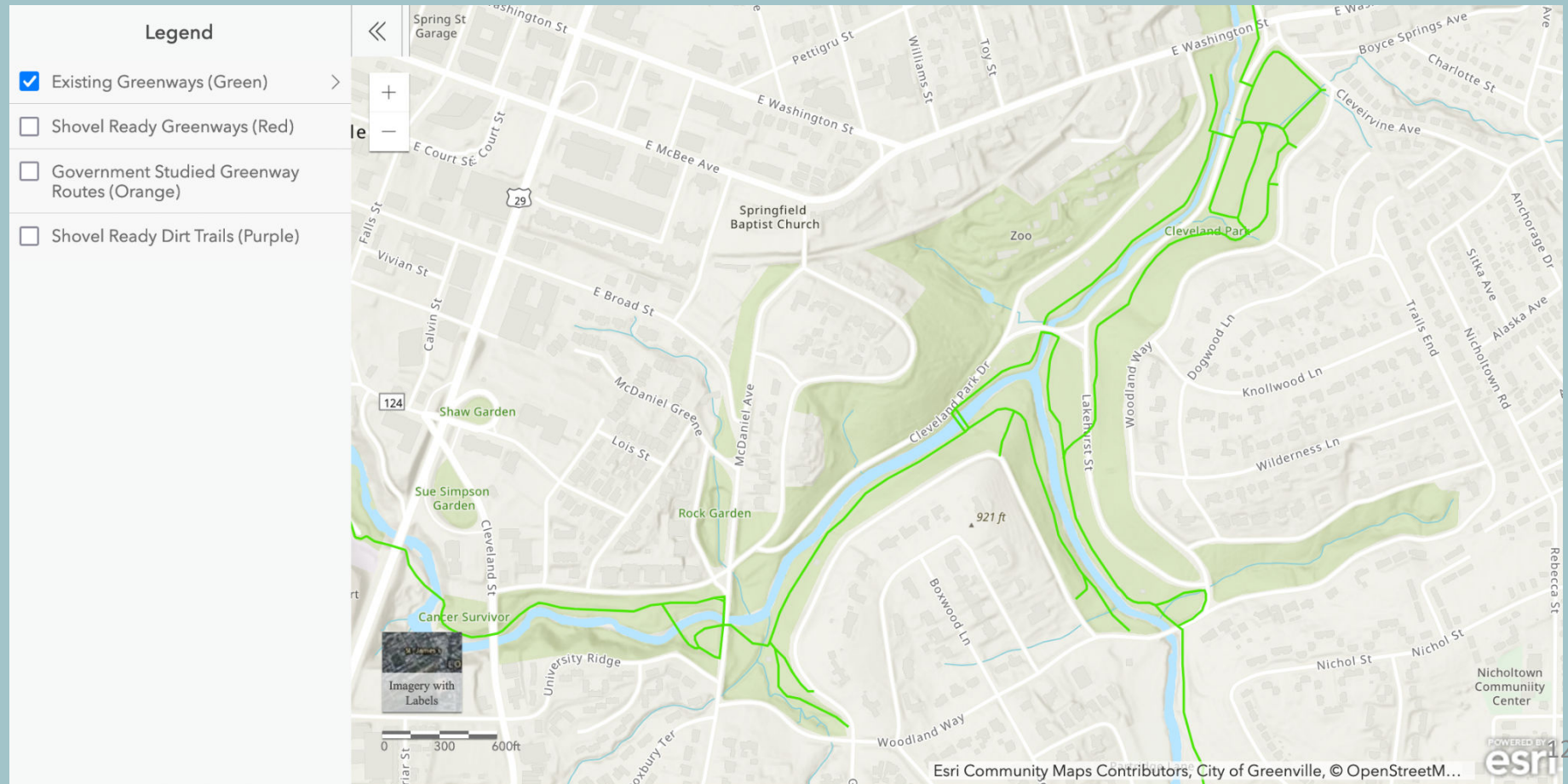
- Removing dirt trails
- Duplicates from overlapping plans
- Verifying that “Existing Trails” are on the ground



Process: Color Coding

Green: Existing Trail

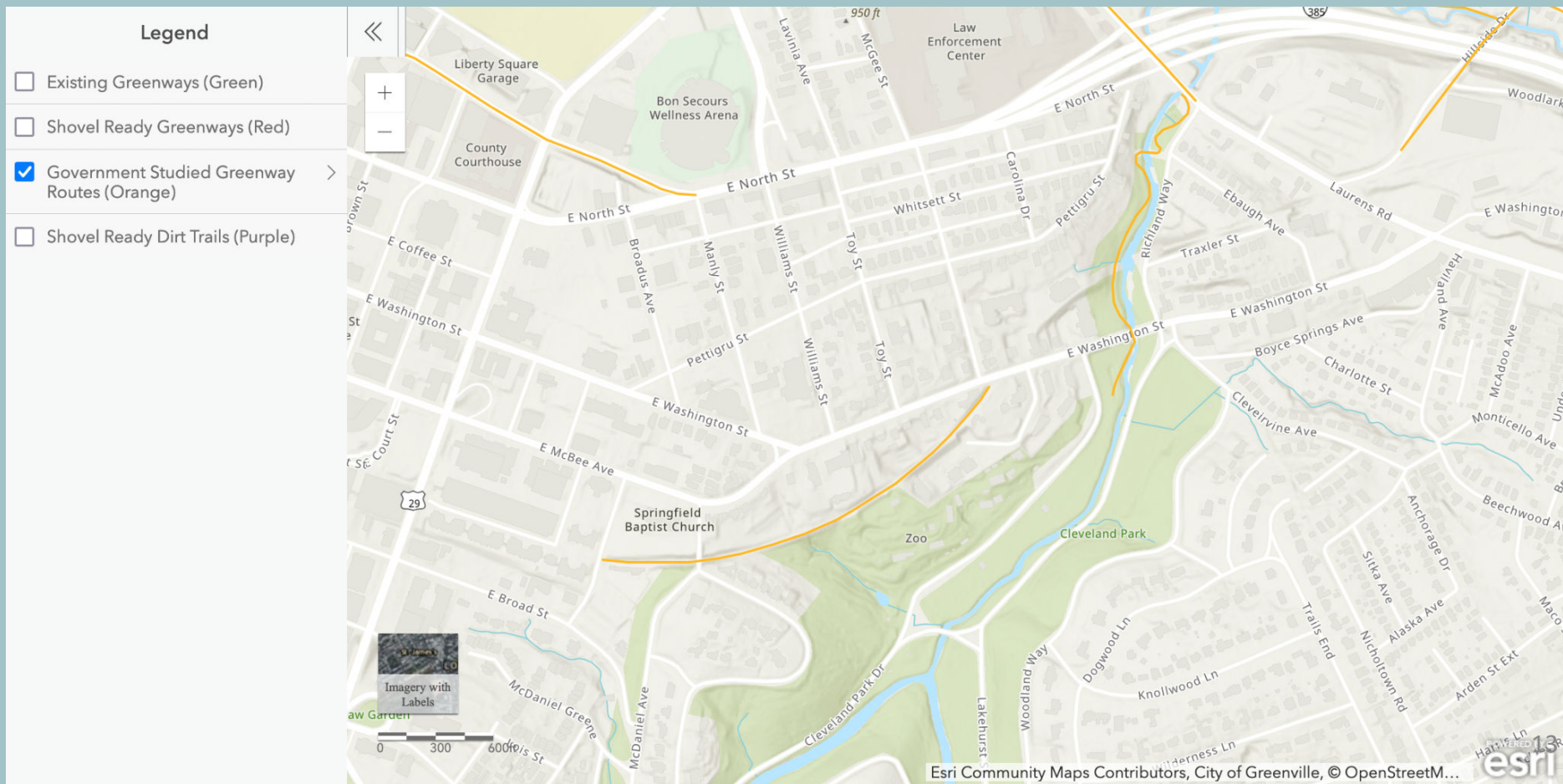
Example: Swamp Rabbit Trail



Process: Color Coding

Orange: Planned Trail

Example: Richland Creek Greenway



City of Greenville owned land but no political support

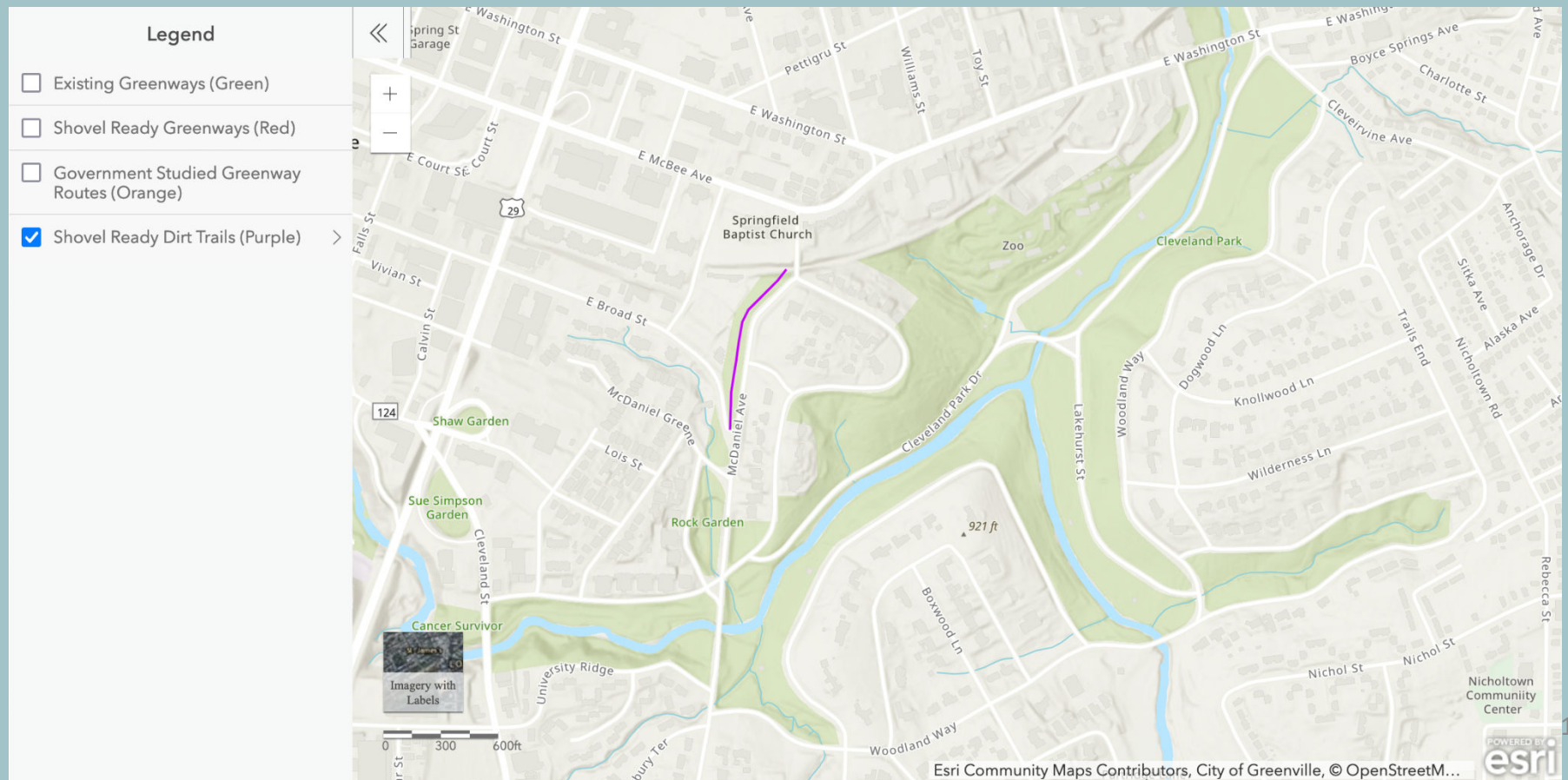


Process: Color Coding

Purple: “Shovel Ready” Dirt Trail

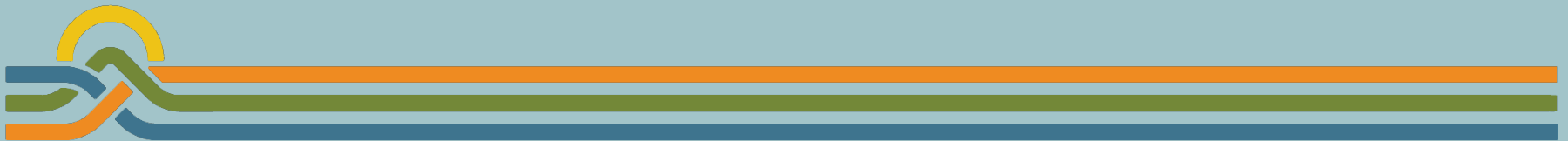
Example: McBee Rail Trail

UGATA specific dirt trail priorities



Process: Published

Published at ugata.org/interactive-map



Process: Maintenance/Updates

Help us improve it. Suggest edits to
sdavis@ugata.org

Help clean data

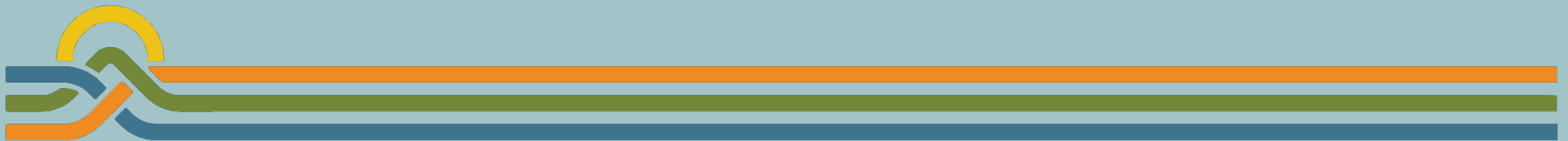
Update me if any new greenways plans are created



Community Feedback

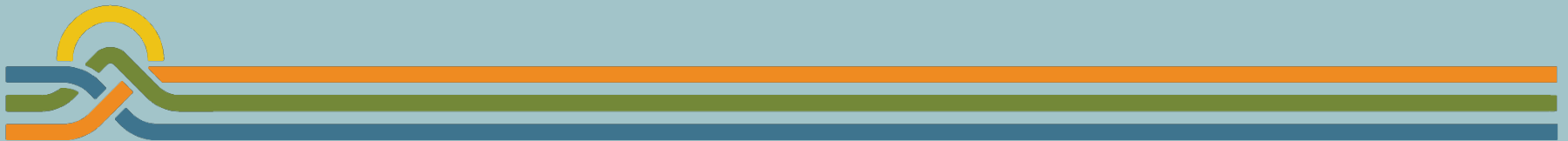
“I had no idea that was part of a plan!”

“When is the trail near my house going to built?”



UGATA Communication Takeaways

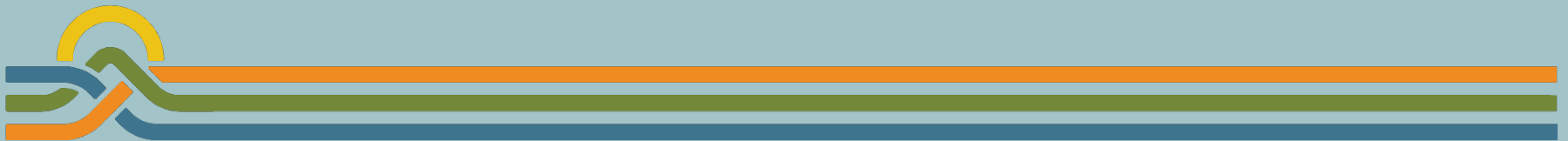
The difference between a trail being on a plan and a trail that a government plans to build is very hard to communicate



UGATA Communication Takeaways

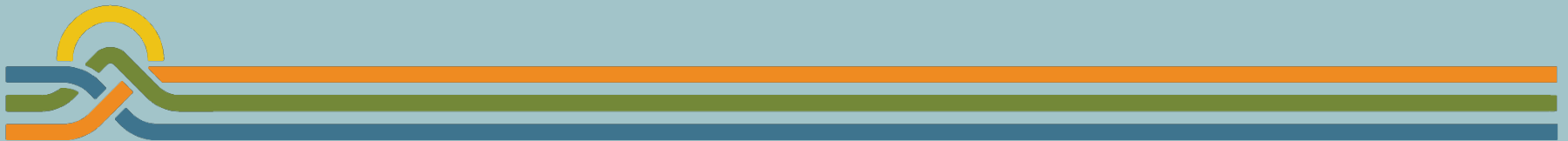
The public, politicians, and government plans do not factor in land access as the hurdle it is

In particular, plans that have unrealistic lines make building a feasible consensus harder for advocates



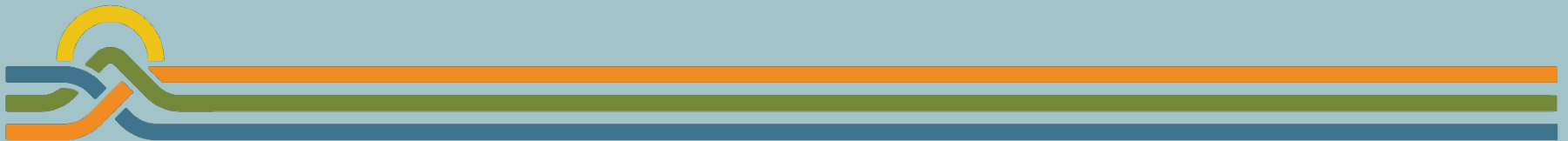
UGATA takeaways

Utility Easements and floodplains are often highlighted in plans as a way to make acquisition easier. We have found limited success with this strategy



UGATA takeaways

Elected officials are often overwhelmed with the number of options and focusing on specific trail projects helps maintain momentum



Asangwua takeaways

Building within the right of way

