

Link the Lakes Project



Frequently Asked Questions

What is the purpose of the Link the Lakes Project?

The broad purpose of the project is to create a safe space to walk, bike and run via a trail system linking the entire Rome community together. Providing safe and fun access to the outdoors enhances public health and quality of life.

Are there multiple phases to the Link the Lakes Project?

Yes, Phase One will include a tunnel/box culvert under Highway 13 and trail from the west end of the tunnel to the Rome Town Center with a pedestrian crossing over the 14 Mile Creek. Future phases of the project have not been fully detailed, but will focus on improved conditions of already paved routes as well as new segments of a more comprehensive trail system.

When will this project be started?

Phase One of the Link the Lakes Project is planned for spring/summer 2024 with future phases to be determined.

How will this project be funded?

Visit Rome has contracted with Jewell Associates Engineers, Inc and will be funding design aspects of the Link the Lakes Project, both for Phase One as well as the long-term comprehensive system. Grant applications will be submitted for actual construction of the project.

Where will the tunnel/box culvert be located?

The tunnel/box culvert will be located between West Queens Way and Apache Avenue.

Who will maintain the trail system?

The tunnel/box culvert and trail system will be maintained by the Town of Rome's Department of Public Works, likely with the support of trail stewards and/or community partners such as D.R.A.F.T.

Will the trails be cleared in the winter?

Yes, the intention is for year-round use of the main arteries of the trail system.

Will ATV/UTVs or Snowmobiles be able to utilize the tunnel/box culvert?

No, motorized equipment of any kind will not be able to utilize the tunnel/box culvert to cross Highway 13.

How can I get involved?

D.R.A.F.T. (Discover Rome Area Family Trails) is Rome's local community hiking and biking volunteer organization. Contact the organization at drafromewi@gmail.com to find out how you can get involved in the Link the Lakes Project.