SEJ Mini-Tour
Biking the Circuit: Trail Networks As a Green and Healthier Option?
April 6, 2024

During the mini-tour, a range of issues were discussed that represent the momentum behind trail networks as part of the climate solution nationally, as well as specific examples within the Circuit Trails network, which will connect over 850 miles of trail across nine counties in Greater Philadelphia and southern New Jersey (411 miles are complete; a map that outlines the status of segments throughout the network is available via the Circuit Trails website).

Links to related resources are below:

- Trail Networks in the U.S.: [www.railstotrails.org/trailnation#map](http://www.railstotrails.org/trailnation#map)
- Funding to accelerate trail and trail network projects, including the Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment Program: [www.railstotrails.org/funding](http://www.railstotrails.org/funding)
- Benefits of active transportation networks, including a chapter on the climate impacts of making it safer and easier to walk and bike: [www.railstotrails.org/atta](http://www.railstotrails.org/atta)
- Background on the Pennsylvania Environmental Council’s program to further support equitable access to trails: [https://pecpa.org/news/circuit-trails-grant-program-expands/](https://pecpa.org/news/circuit-trails-grant-program-expands/)
- PEC’s gap analysis of the Circuit Trails, which highlights areas for priority investment because of the environmental and equity impacts of creating trail connections: [https://pecpa.org/circuit-trails/gap-analysis/](https://pecpa.org/circuit-trails/gap-analysis/)
- Context for the significance of the Washington Ave Pier, which we visited during the tour: [https://www.delawareriverwaterfront.com/places/washington-avenue-pier](https://www.delawareriverwaterfront.com/places/washington-avenue-pier)
- The East Coast Greenway, which is a developing trail between Maine and Key West, Florida: [www.greenway.org](http://www.greenway.org)