



7. PUTNAM COUNTY TRAILWAY

7.1 Problem Statement

The Putnam County Trailway is an excellent multi-use facility, spanning 12 miles through the Towns of Carmel and Southeast. While this facility is regularly used, it has little relationship to the main street areas it passes through.

Much of the trail is surrounded by wooded areas, and it frequently crosses major roads, some of which are commercial corridors. Way finding and interpretive kiosks will be placed at key locations in order to guide users from the trail to surrounding areas and sites of interest. The key goals are to foster understanding of the natural and historical resources along the trail and to promote tourism and economic development within the corridor.

7.2 Study Area

The study area is defined as the Putnam County Trailway from Baldwin Place to Brewster Village. This paved path was built primarily on the abandoned right-of-way of the Putnam Division of the New York Central Railroad. It runs northeast and roughly parallels Route 6 through Mahopac, Carmel and Brewster Village.

7.3 Existing Conditions

The Putnam County Trailway is complete from Baldwin Place to Seminary Hill Road in Carmel Hamlet. The remaining segment from the Town of Carmel to Brewster Village is currently under construction. The completed section is very pleasant and well used. The pavement is in good condition overall, with crosswalks at all road crossings. The sections under construction are in the early stages, with two sites simultaneously under construction. The unused New York Central Railroad right-of-way has been adapted to accommodate the Trailway. A number of commercial centers, historic sites, community facilities and natural areas are located on or adjacent to the trail.

7.4 Analysis

A number of sites adjacent to the Trailway are listed on the National Register of Historic Places or are locally important historic sites or buildings such as the Old Southeast Town Hall, Tilly Foster Farm Conservation Area, Historic Putnam County Courthouse. Putnam County was once home to numerous summer resorts for wealthy New Yorkers, served by the New York Central Railroad, which had many station stops along the route including Brewster, Tilly Foster, Carmel, Crafts, Mahopac, Lake Mahopac and Baldwin Place.

The existing section of the trail intersects several roads, but there are key locations that offer a combination of access to the trail, retail centers and cultural destinations. Similarly, the section under construction will intersect with roads or access trails. The County provided detailed drawings for the section that will be built in the upcoming year, along with right-of-way delineation, which is important for the placement of feasible locations. The kiosks will require sufficient clearance between the trail and the edge of the trail's right-of-way.

Consideration was given to two different types of kiosk opportunities:

Wayfinding Kiosks provide direction and area maps to guide trail users to points of interest in the surrounding communities. Destinations include local restaurants, historic sites, parks and community facilities, among others.

Interpretive Kiosks provide appealing views and historic information, but do not direct trail users to any specific points of interest. These are often locations, which have a nearby parking or access area.

7.5 Recommendations

7.5.1 Proposed Kiosk Locations

Below is a description of the points of interest that could be highlighted at each of the proposed kiosk locations. See Figures 7.1 and 7.2 for a map of proposed kiosk locations.

Way finding Kiosks

- **Putnam County Trailway Begins:** This is at the border of Westchester County, where the trail continues south as the North County Trailway. Here, a kiosk could provide general route information including a map with points of interest found along the entire Putnam County section of the trail.
- **Lake Mahopac and Mahopac Hamlet Center:** This location is the most dense of the areas the trail crosses. There is a parking area and access point here, as well. A map and directions to Mahopac Library, Lake Mahopac and Mahopac Marina, Carmel Town Hall, Chamber Park and Town of Carmel Historical Society. This is also the highest concentration of restaurants that the trail encounters.
- **Lake Gleneida/Carmel Phase I Trailhead:** This is the current trailhead, which will soon be connected to the section under construction. A map should provide directions to Lake Gleneida, the Putnam County Courthouse and Jail, the Statue of Historic Sybil Ludington Ride in downtown Carmel and area restaurants, which are in high concentration.
- **Fred Dill Wildlife Sanctuary and Education Center:** Fred Dill was a local philanthropist, who donated much of this land to the County. This kiosk should provide a history of his life, as well as information about the attractions at the Wildlife Sanctuary and Education Center.
- **Tilly Foster Farm and Conservation Area:** This kiosk should include a history of the Tilly Foster Mine, which was once a driving economic force in the area. A map of and information about the Tilly Farm and Conservation Area should be included, as well.
- **Historic Brewster Village:** The terminus of the section under construction will be approximately one mile from downtown Brewster. At this location, a map should indicate the proximity to Brewster's commercial center, the Southeast Museum, Walter Brewster House, the Brewster Public Library and the Metro-North Station. The kiosk should also have a history of the Village, as well as historic facts about the Town of Southeast.

Interpretive Kiosks

- **Middle Branch Reservoir:** The location of the old rail causeway through the reservoir is a unique place for bicycle and pedestrian access only. From the north end of this

causeway, the reservoir emerges from along the shore, exposing a view of the long, narrow body of water. Here there could be a kiosk explaining history of the New York City Water Supply, which the reservoir still serves.

- New York Central Railroad Display: Interpretive history and display of original railroad tracks from the Old Putnam Division of the New York Central Railroad.
- Lake Casse Stopping Area: At Lake Casse, Route 6 and the Trailway parallel one another. While Lake Casse is not open to public access, there is a seating area adjacent to a clearing in the brush that leads to the access point, which provides a glimpse of the lake from inside the trail right-of-way.

7.6 Phasing and Cost Estimate

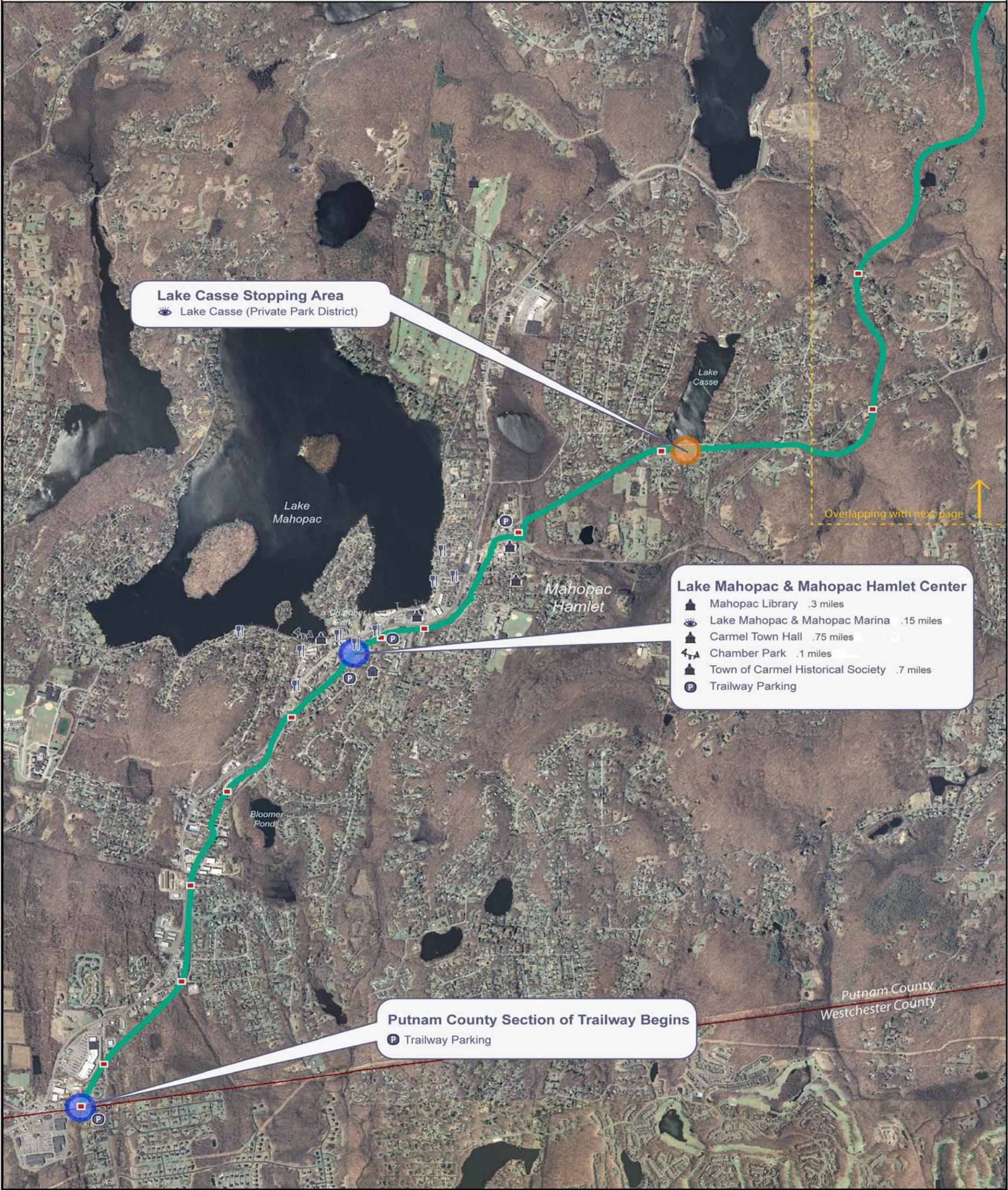
The Wayfinding kiosks should be given priority over the Interpretive kiosks, if all are not implemented at the same time. Each kiosk, including materials and labor to build the kiosk paving around the kiosk, lawn restoration, some shrubbery and mulch (no irrigation), would cost \$6,000. See Figures 7.3 and 7.4 for kiosk renderings, and Figure 7.5 for a sample kiosk plan, including construction specifications.

Baldwin Place to Carmel Hamlet



LEGEND

- Wayfinding Kiosk: Directs cyclists to nearby destinations
- Interpretive Kiosk: Provides local history and/or scenic views
- Existing Bikeway: PHASE I
- Proposed Bikeway: PHASE II - Under Construction
- Proposed Bikeway: PHASE II - Under Design
- Trailway Access
- Scenic View Restaurants Park/Recreation
- Historic Site Municipal Office Trailway Parking



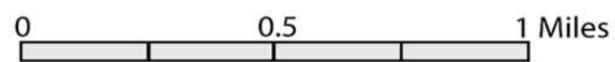
Lake Casse Stopping Area
 Lake Casse (Private Park District)

Lake Mahopac & Mahopac Hamlet Center

- Mahopac Library .3 miles
- Lake Mahopac & Mahopac Marina .15 miles
- Carmel Town Hall .75 miles
- Chamber Park .1 miles
- Town of Carmel Historical Society .7 miles
- Trailway Parking

Putnam County Section of Trailway Begins
 Trailway Parking

Putnam County
Westchester County



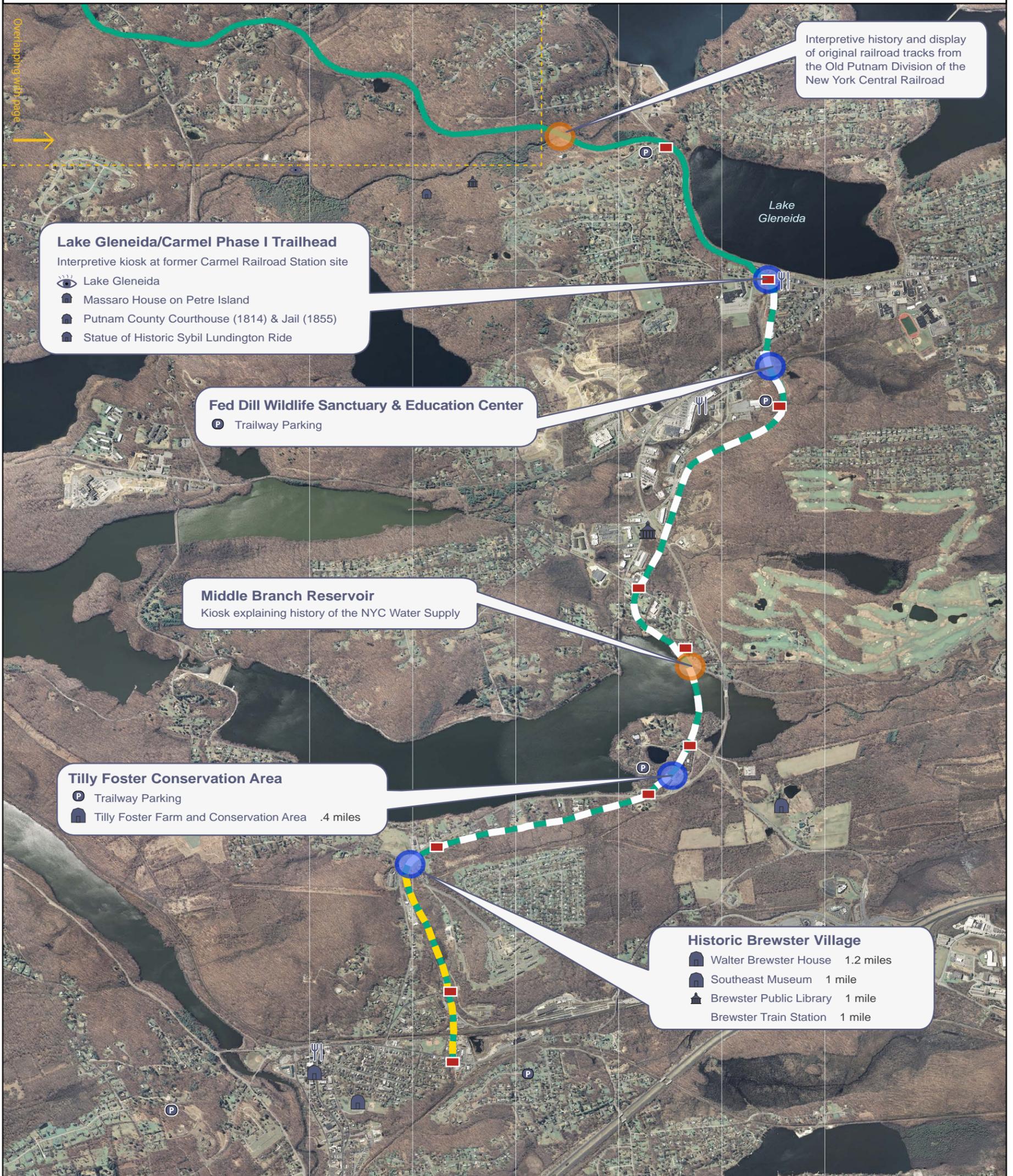
Putnam County Main Street Partnership Planning Study
 Figure 7.1: Putnam County Bicycle Trail Kiosk Location Map 1

Carmel Hamlet to Brewster Village



LEGEND

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Interpretive history and display of original railroad tracks from the Old Putnam Division of the New York Central Railroad

Lake Gleneida/Carmel Phase I Trailhead
 Interpretive kiosk at former Carmel Railroad Station site

- Lake Gleneida
- Massaro House on Petre Island
- Putnam County Courthouse (1814) & Jail (1855)
- Statue of Historic Sybil Lundington Ride

Fed Dill Wildlife Sanctuary & Education Center
 Trailway Parking

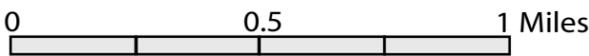
Middle Branch Reservoir
 Kiosk explaining history of the NYC Water Supply

Tilly Foster Conservation Area

- Trailway Parking
- Tilly Foster Farm and Conservation Area .4 miles

Historic Brewster Village

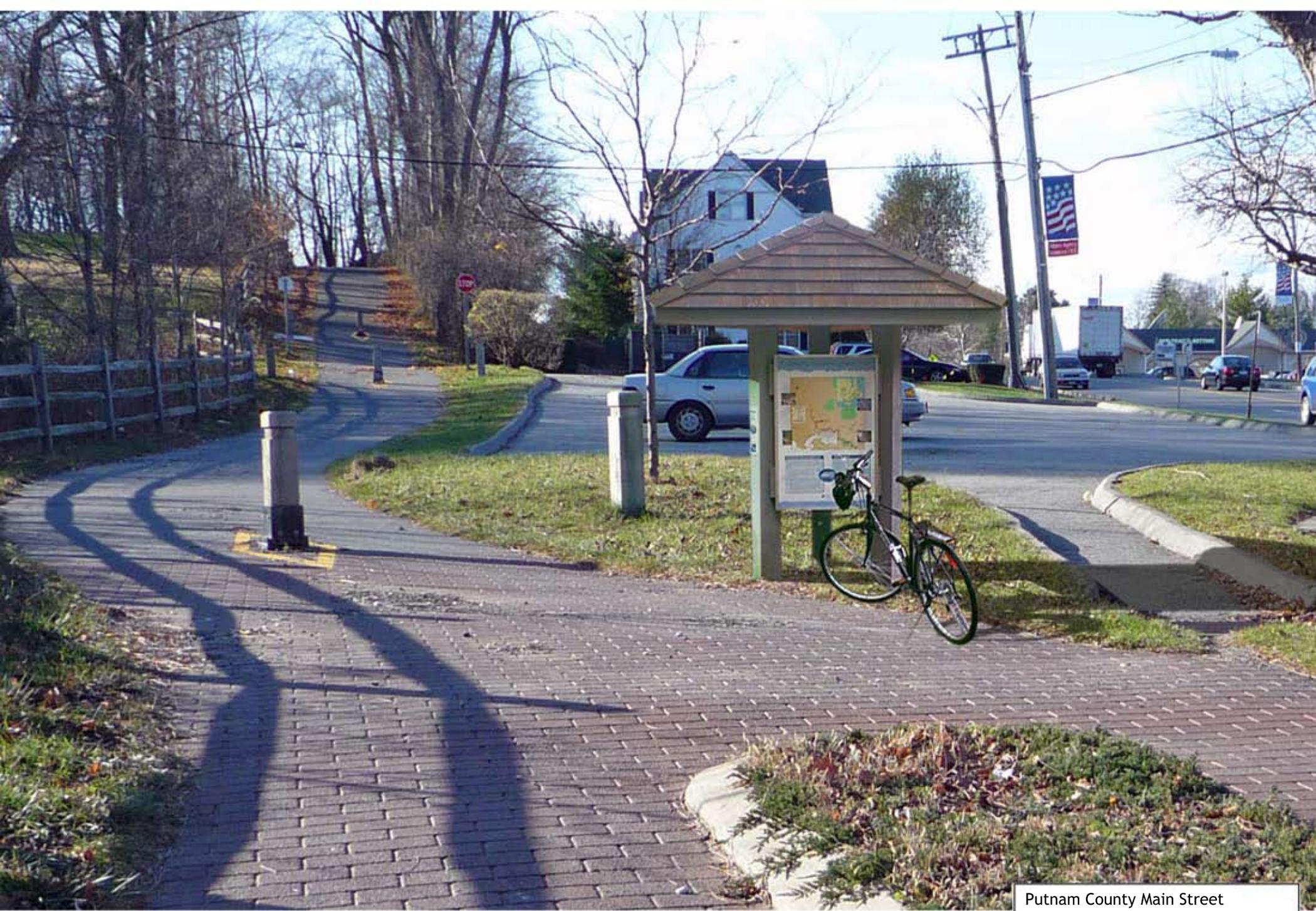
- Walter Brewster House 1.2 miles
- Southeast Museum 1 mile
- Brewster Public Library 1 mile
- Brewster Train Station 1 mile



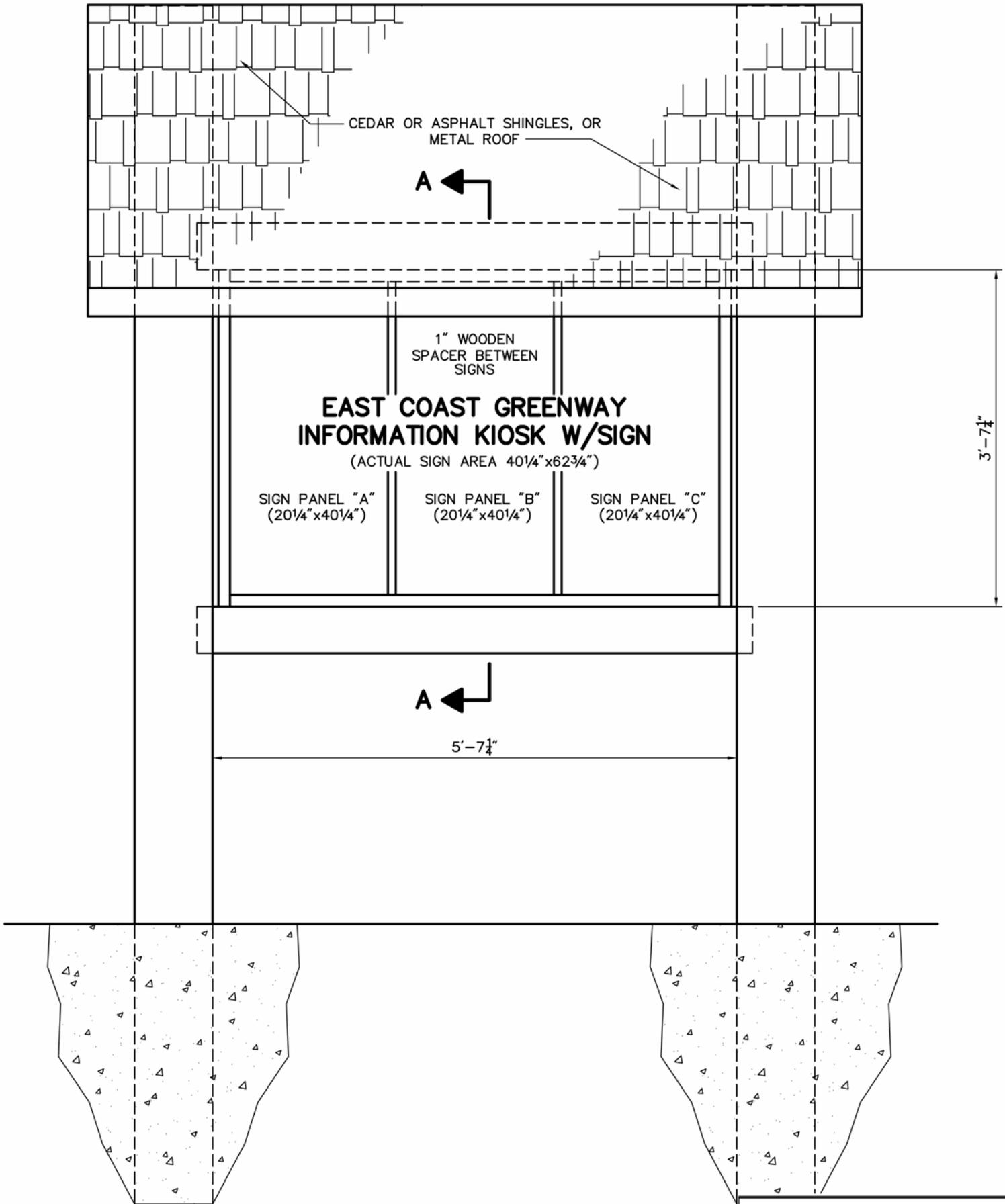
Putnam County Main Street Partnership Planning Study
 Figure 7.2: Putnam County Bicycle Trail Kiosk Location Map 2



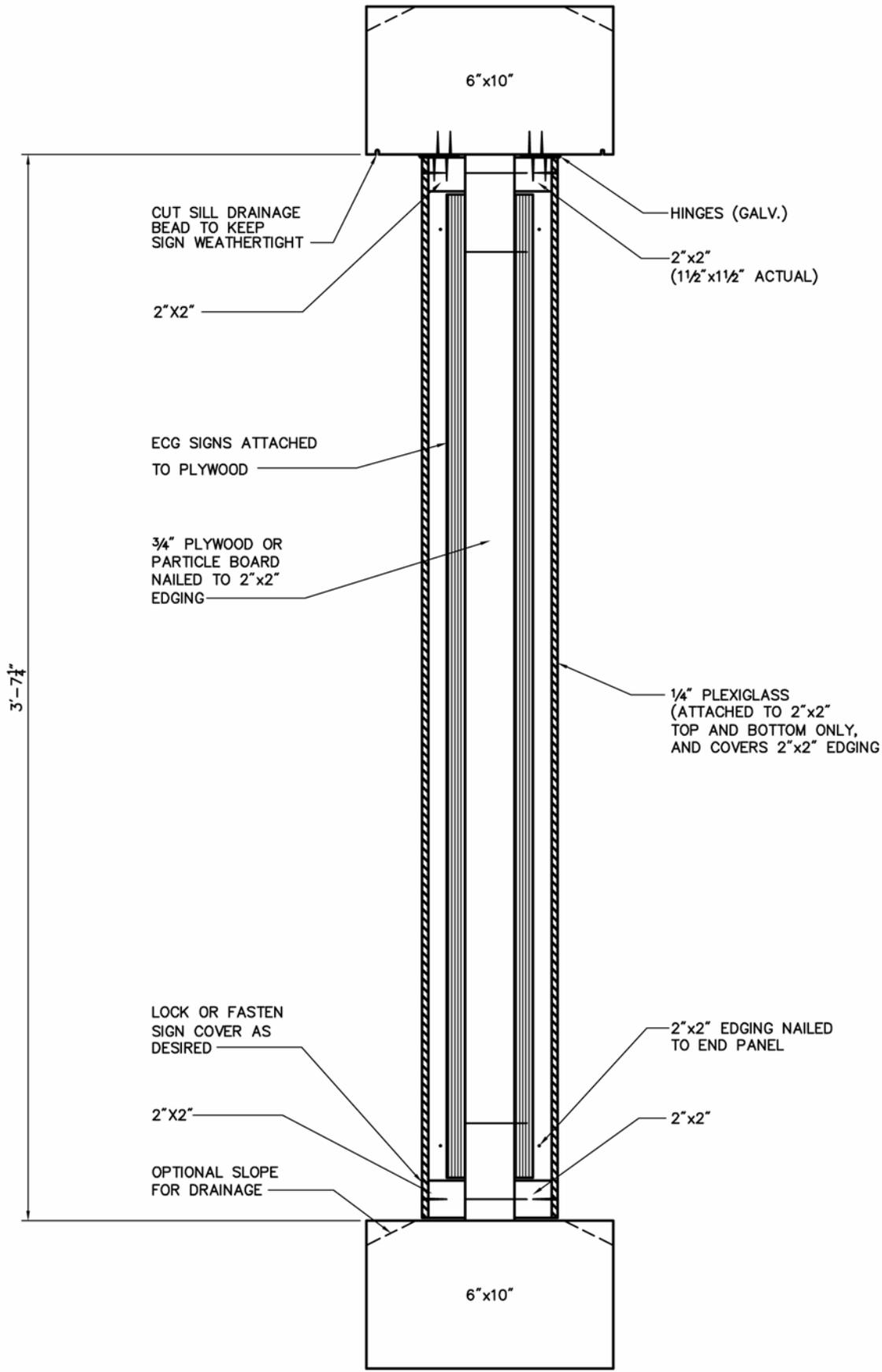
Putnam County Main Street Partnership Planning Study
Figure 7.3: Interpretive Kiosk Rendering at Lake Casse



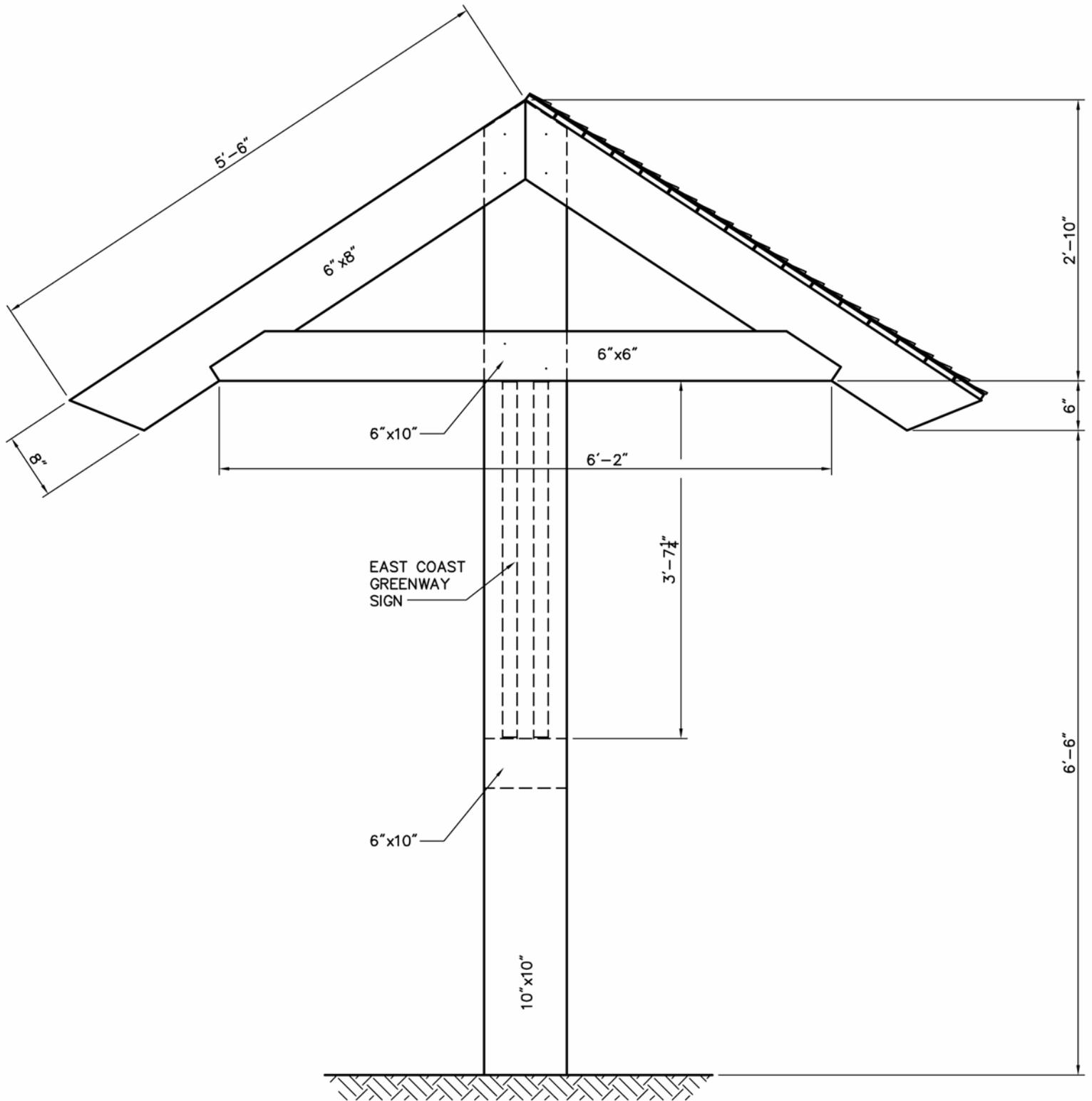
Putnam County Main Street
Partnership Planning Study
Figure 7.4: Wayfinding Kiosk
Rendering at Mahopac Hamlet
Center



FRONT VIEW



SECTION A-A



SIDE VIEW

East Coast Greenway Kiosk: materials & costs

<u>Item</u>	<u>quantity</u>	<u>Cost per (approx.)</u>	<u>Cost</u>
10" x 10" x 14'	2	\$149	\$298
6" x 8" x 12'	2	56	112
6" x 10" x 12'	1	75	75
6" x 6" x 14'	1	36	36
5/4" x 6" x 8'	20	4	80
bundle, cedar shingles (clear)	3	27	81
4' x 8' x 1/4" Plexiglas	2	283	566
48 linear ft 2" x 2" perimeter of sign			19
3/4" x 4' x 8' pt plywood	1	31	31
misc hardware (bolts, screws, lag screws, hinges)			200
		<u>TOTAL (approx)</u>	<u>\$1498</u>