



FLAGSTAFF  
TRAILS  
INITIATIVE



**project  
update**  
**winter 2019**

# FLAGSTAFF TRAILS INITIATIVE VISION



## PURPOSE

Develop and implement a collaborative, cross-jurisdictional **Flagstaff Regional Trail Strategy**. The strategy will improve the quality, connectivity and community support for a sustainable trail system that balances the demand for recreation with the community's vision for conservation, development, and health.

# WHO WE ARE

Flagstaff Trails Initiative Core Team

Agencies and Trail Providers

Trail Users and Advocates

Conservation Advocates

Service Orgs

Working Group Partners - the Flagstaff trail community



...and many more

Check out our [collaborative work plan](#) to learn about how FTI will craft recommendations

# WHAT WE'VE DONE SO FAR

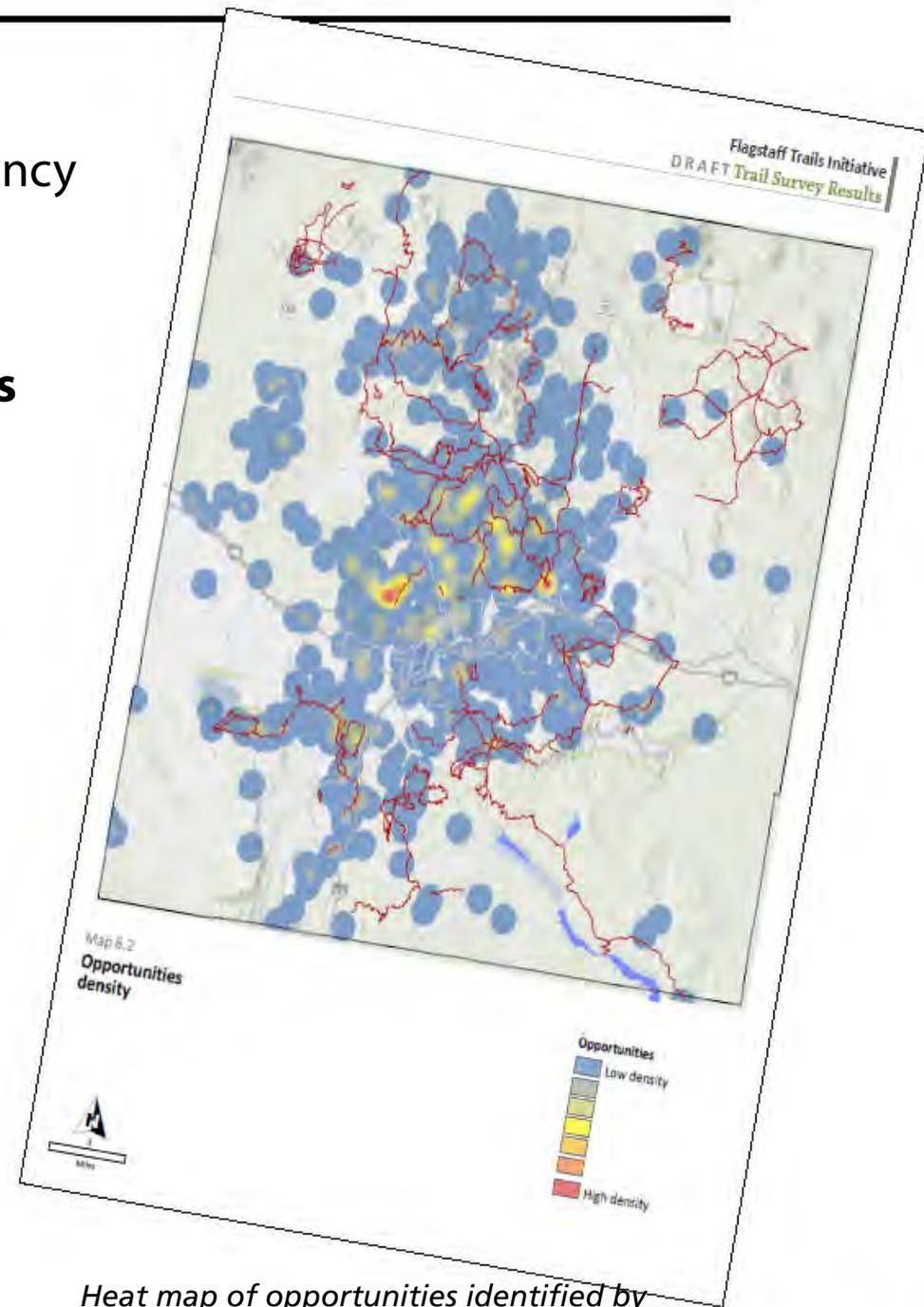
Secured support for [our goals](#) from agency leadership, elected officials and partners

Engaged over 40 community organizations who helped shape FTI and [identify trends](#)

Solicited 570 responses and over 2000 comments about what users value along with hundreds of tangible ideas for improving the system through the [FTI Trail Survey](#)

Created a [new regional, interactive trail map](#), the first-of-its kind in Flagstaff

Hosted over 125 at our October public [workshop](#)



Heat map of opportunities identified by FTI Trail Survey respondents, 2018

# WHAT WE ARE HEARING

Trail **use is on the rise and will continue** in a growing Flagstaff – requiring management and **care for the natural setting**

Different trail users - from backpackers to dirt bike riders - place value on **different aspects of the trail experience**

Flagstaff has the potential to raise its profile as a **national and international trail destination**

Access to trails out the back door is what draws many people to Flagstaff - nearly two thirds of survey respondents **use trails more than twice per week**

Many respondents have a desire for new trails, such as **purpose-built and/or advanced mountain biking trails and motorized trails**

Trail **maintenance and levels of use** were identified as the top concerns

Conflict between users (such as bikers and hikers) can be acute, **yet conflict and crowding weren't rated as major barriers** to ongoing trail use

There is room for improvement when it comes to **wayfinding, user education and reducing resource impacts**

Trail options for the **mobility impaired were rated the least adequate**, while hiking options were the most adequate

Observatory Mesa and Mount Elden/Dry Lakes were **comment hot spots**

[Read for yourself - take a look at the FTI survey results and meeting summaries](#)

# IDEAS FOR IMPROVING TRAIL QUALITY AND STEWARDSHIP

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So what do we do with all that? Well, we are looking at several promising ideas and programs:



## Flagstaff Trail Fund

cultivate funding and resources for trail maintenance, development and planning

## Education and Etiquette

improve safety and reduce conflict through an on-site and off-site campaign

## Trail Skills Training Program

equip citizen stewards and volunteers with the knowledge to build and steward great trails

## Flagstaff Trail Corps

enhance the system by pooling resources to field a skilled crew of Flagstaff youth, each and every year



Each of the FTI focus areas - Education & Outreach, Financial Sustainability, Conservation & Restoration and Trail System Planning - includes citizens passionate about trails working alongside agency staff. These teams will be exploring these and other ideas, seeing what's possible and fitting them into into a larger **Flagstaff Regional Trails Strategy**.



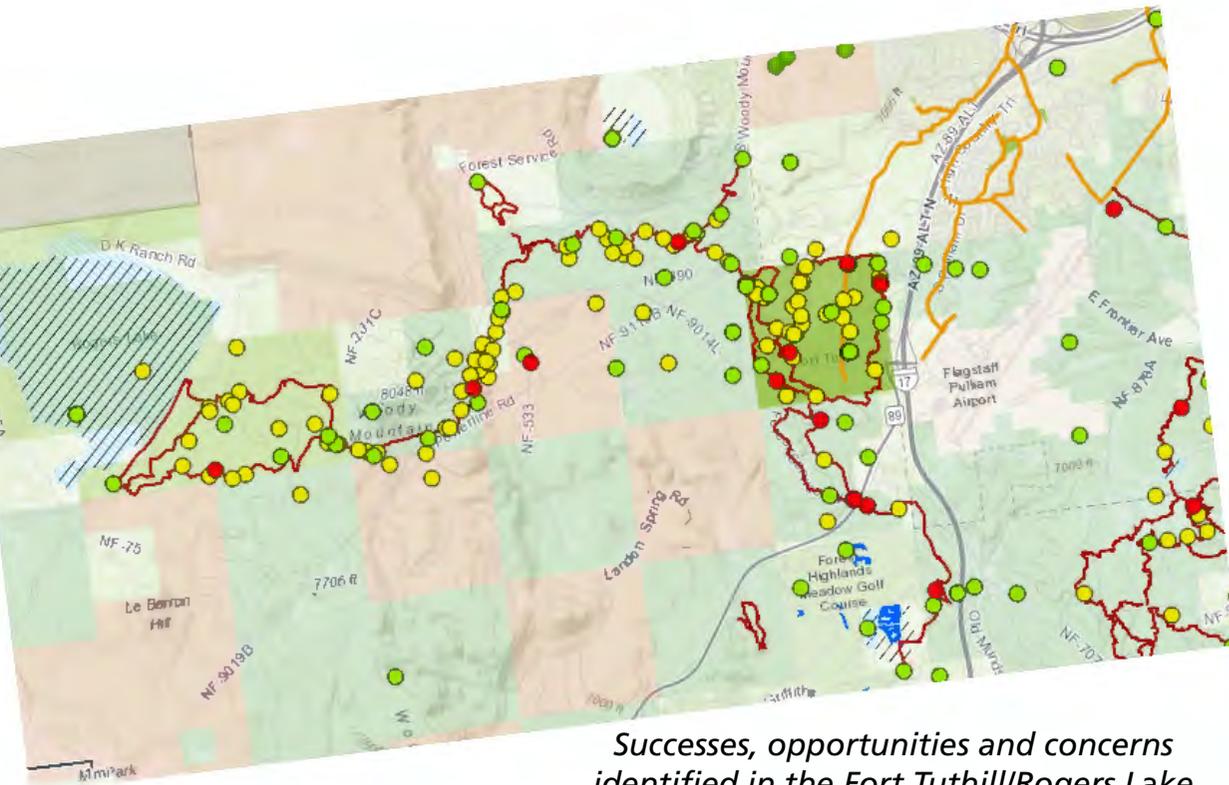
# CHARTING A PATH FOR THE FUTURE OF FLAGSTAFF'S TRAILS

What's the fun part of trail planning?  
Field trips and drawing lines on maps  
of course.

The Flagstaff Regional Trails Strategy  
will consolidate trail plans, proposals  
and concepts into a single regional  
document.

This regional vision will help:

- guide and prioritize future projects  
across jurisdictions
- ensure critical connections are  
preserved or developed
- envision a system that meets the  
growing demand for outdoor  
recreation



*Successes, opportunities and concerns  
identified in the Fort Tuthill/Rogers Lake  
area, as identified by the public*



# FLAGSTAFF TRAILS INITIATIVE



**We need your help!**  
**Join us and learn more at:**  
[flagstafftrailsinitiative.org](http://flagstafftrailsinitiative.org)