

Orange Village Recreational Trails Project



- **Type:** Recreational Trail
- **Length:** 8.75 Miles
- **Cost:** \$5 Million
- **Funding Sources:** Pinecrest Development
- **Date:** started; Sept. 2018 and will be completed at the end of 2021
- **Project Leaders/Managers:** Mayor Kathy Mulcahy

County: Cuyahoga
District #9



PROJECTS = physical trail or on-road projects which have been completed in the last 5 years OR projects under construction which will be completed within the next year.

1. Use slide #1 to give the basic information for this project. Replace these instructions in this NOTES section with your story of how this project came to be, and any interesting best practices or lessons learned during design and/or construction.

The construction of the \$250 million mixed use Pinecrest Development created a wonderful opportunity for Orange Village. The Village negotiated the construction of recreational trails in the Pinecrest development agreement. The plans called for six foot wide meandering trails on one side of all the main roads throughout the village. The project is being paid for by the Pinecrest Development through a \$5,000,000 assessment over 20 years. Although this project came to be during the construction of the Pinecrest development, Mayor Mulcahy had been trying to install paths in the Village for decades.

In 2014, Orange Village sent out a survey to the residents. The survey asked residents their opinions on three infrastructure topics: all-purpose trails, street lighting, and well water. Respondents were overwhelmingly in favor of a plan to install all-purpose trails along the Village's main streets, with 81.9% of respondents saying they were in favor. Among those respondents whose properties would be crossed by the proposed all-purpose trails, 67.8% were in favor of their construction.

Residents affected by the trails were provided numerous opportunities to meet with Mayor Mulcahy and Village officials . A large percentage of residents opted to meet in person which garnered insight from residents and assisted with the design of the trails. Although meeting with the residents was time consuming we felt it was very important to meet/talk to the residents one on one about this project.

Project Leaders/Managers: List the individuals who helped champion the planning, funding, and implementation of the project.

Orange Village Mayor Kathy Mulcahy, Orange Village Council, Village Engineer Brian Mader and Service Director Bob Zugan

REQUIRED: Provide contact information in case we need to contact you about this project.

Name: Kathy Mulcahy

Phone #: 440-498-4400

E-mail address: mulcahyk@orangevillage.com

Recreational Trails Project





The Good Stuff

- **Amenities:** The trails link all major roadways in Orange Village to Pinecrest, Orange Village Park and Municipal Center.
- **Connections to other non- project assets:** The trails connect to neighboring community trails that connect to the Metroparks trails.

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DESIGN CONSULTANTS & ARCHITECTS, INC.



PINECREST



Use slide #2 to provide additional details regarding the other-than-trail or bikeway components of this project.

The recreational trails have clearly been popular for our residents especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. Residents are able to safely walk, run or bike throughout the Village. This helped enormously during the time where businesses were closed, people were working from home and everyone felt isolated. Residents could be outside, exercise, enjoy the weather, see neighbors they never met and increase the feeling of community.

Use this NOTES section to describe the features to which this trail connects and any enthusiasm, resistance or new relationships resulting from these connections.

The trails increased the feeling of community as well as increased safety for our residents. Prior to the installation of the trails, residents had to walk in the streets.

The Orange Village 6 foot-wide meandering, recreational trails allow users to connect to Orange Village Park and its state-of-the-art playground, sand volleyball court, soccer field, baseball fields, chipping/putting green, pickleball court, dog park and much more, to the Pinecrest Mixed-Use District where guests can shop, dine, work and live and to the Cleveland Metroparks via connections with neighboring communities.

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- **Unique:** Trails meander to avoid removal of existing trees and landscaping
- **Social Equity:** We are a “Community for All Generations” and our trails allows everyone to get out and enjoy nature.

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Use slide #3 to highlight any additional benefits to your community or unique elements, in case you ran out of room on slide #2.

Use this NOTES section to elaborate on these details and tell stories from this project. Who is using this trail/lane? What’s changed in the community?

We have seen so many residents and visitors enjoying the trails. Resident’s safety has increased with the use of the recreational trails. Prior to the installation of the trails, residents were walking in the street.

COVID-19 changed everything in 2020. Orange Village cancelled trick or treat for the children but we wanted to do something for the children. The recreational trails became the focal point of this adventure. Orange Village utilized the trails and delivered treat bags to every household in the Village. Police officers utilized golf carts on the trails and they went past every home that had a trail and delivered the treat bags. Other roads were delivered by a fire or service truck or a police car. This eased some of the disappointment for the children and everyone enjoyed their treats. We featured our recreational trails and incorporated a fun event during the pandemic.

Pictured above is the installation of the trail and a photo from our Halloween event.

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"I walk with my Dog, my elderly Mother and my grand children and this (the recreational trails) would make such a huge and positive difference."

"I rode my bike up and down Brainard Road between Emery and Miles (almost) and, for the first time, did not feel as if my life was in grave danger. The new trail running along the west side of Brainard is a wonderful gift to our community, and from what I have seen is already getting lots of use."

" I wanted to write to tell you how excited my wife and I are about the expansion of the recreational trail to Orangewood. "

"We support and welcome sidewalk/trails throughout our Orangewood community. Thank you for making this happen!"

"I have lived in Orangewood since 1976. The path must be made. For 44 years people and children have walked in the streets. It is not safe."

"I wanted to share our excitement...Thank you for all your efforts to make this happen."

Buzz on the Street

- Orange Village is a wonderful community with a beautiful park with over **53 acres** featuring a state of the art playground. The trails provide safe walkability to all of these amenities including shopping, dining and events at Pinecrest.

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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO



Use slide #4 to tell us what your people are saying. Share facebook posts, tweets, blogs – any form of social media or just general comments and messages. Tell us how much chatter is project is driving.

Use this NOTES section to elaborate.

We had a resident that was against the installation of the recreational trails because they were to be installed in front of her home. After completion of the trails, she contacted Mayor Mulcahy praising the trails. Mayor Mulcahy has received positive feedback concerning the trails from numerous residents and non-residents alike. The most rewarding are those that were opposed to the project who are now expressing their appreciation for the presence of the trails and realizing the positive impact it has had on the community.

The above quotes are just a few examples of messages that Mayor Mulcahy received concerning the trails.



Use this NOTES section of slide #5 to tell us anything else about this project which makes it stellar. Especially think of Best Practices and Lessons Learned worth sharing with other communities. Tell us:

- The setting: **urban, suburban or rural/ex-urban**
- Project Story: describe the year planning started and year construction completed, project goals, rationale, challenges, solutions, etc.

Orange Village created the meandering trails in order to preserve trees and landscape. Meeting and spending time with individual residents that were affected by the trails prior to the installation allowed us to speak with each resident and assure them they were being heard. The residents were very grateful.

- Any Future Steps: describe future plans for additional facilities or expanded uses. Keep the SLIDE #5 portion simple. Use photos and, if using words, just words or short phrases.

Orange Village Council recently approved the expenditure to extend the trails another 1.1 miles. This will allow residents from more than 200 homes access to the existing trails.

Woodmere Village Council (a neighboring community) voted to install a trail that will connect to our trail and which will give Orange Village residents safe access to Chagrin Boulevard.