

# TENNESSEE RIVER TOWNS



a program of the



**Tennessee RiverLine Partnership**



# A Framework for Collaboration



stage 1:

## Celebrate

**2 years**

vision awareness  
local leadership  
programming  
advocacy



stage 2:

## Connect

**varies, est. 2-4 years**

local vision discovery  
planning + design  
water trail investment  
recruitment  
designation earned



stage 3:

## Catalyze

**indefinite**

promote, manage &  
enhance water trail  
invest in connecting  
systems + supporting  
services  
designation maintenance

# TENNESSEE RIVERLINE

a vision for north america's next great regional trail system

TENNESSEE  
**RIVER TOWNS**

**20**

**Communities**  
Five New Enrollees  
in 2022 Program Cohort

**46** **1.01M**

TOTAL CITIES  
& COUNTIES

COMMUNITY RESIDENTS



the Tennessee RiverLine is a partnership of

in collaboration with





official

# LAUNCH

May 21, 2021





South Pittsburg, TN



Bridgeport, AL



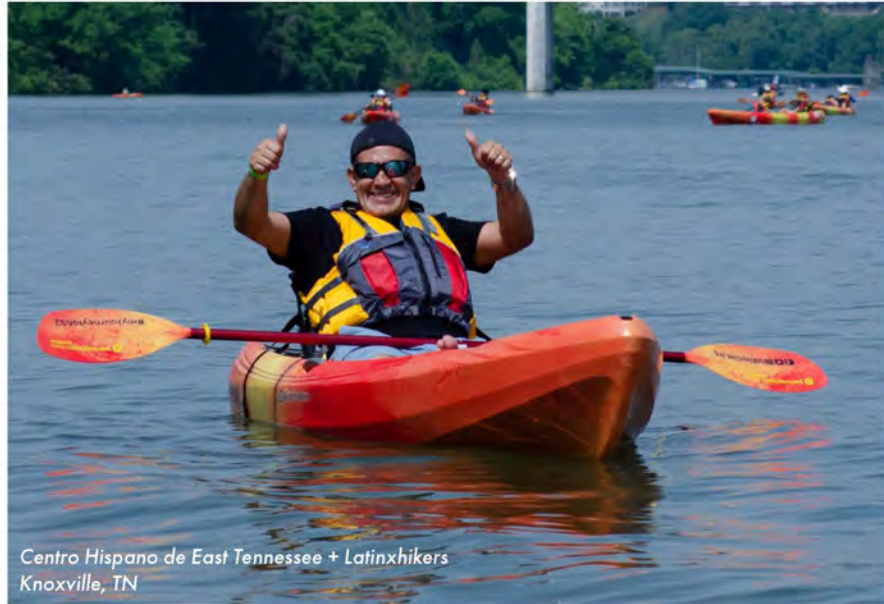
Calvert City, KY



The Shoals, AL



Keep the Tennessee River Beautiful  
Clifton, TN



Centro Hispano de East Tennessee + Latinxhikers  
Knoxville, TN



Boys and Girls Club of Paducah, KY



Knoxville, TN



The Shoals, AL



Bridgeport, AL



The Shoals, AL



Clifton, TN



Hardin County, TN



Decatur, AL



# Community Planning Initiative

the Tennessee RiverLine is a partnership of

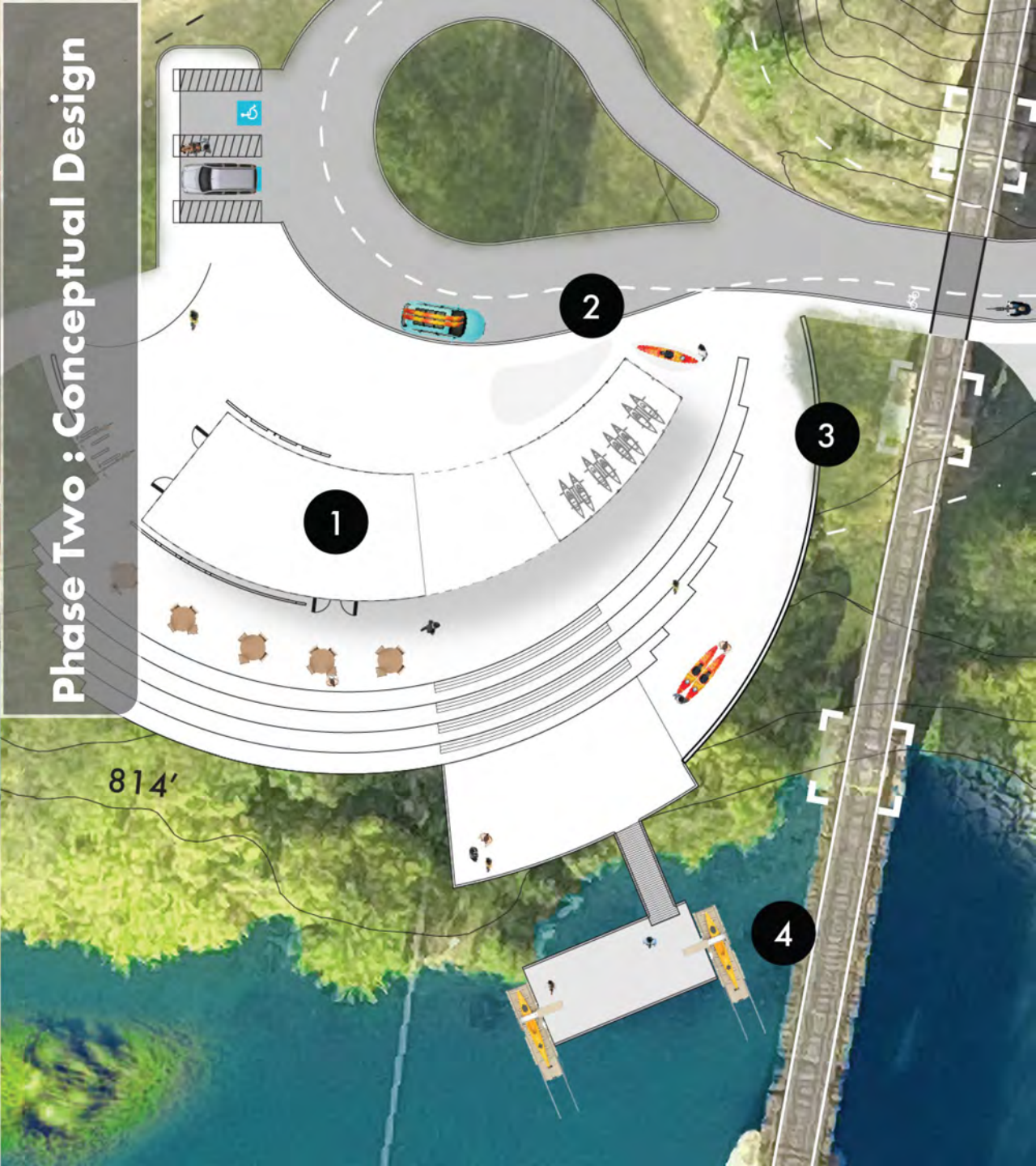
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## Phase One : 652 to YOU



## Phase Two : Conceptual Design



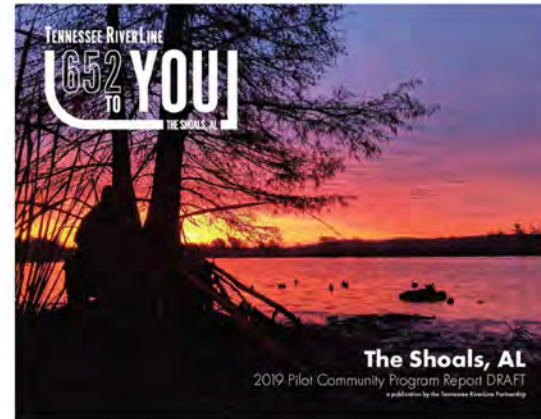
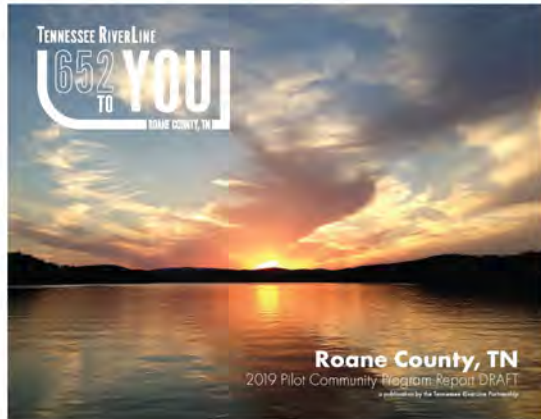


# TENNESSEE RIVERLINE 652 TO YOU



TENNESSEE RIVERLINE  
652 TO YOU





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## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENT: What If?

What If? was developed as a scenario testing activity to open a discussion around Tennessee RiverLine System Elements (below) in Roane County. The activity's primary goal was to encourage imaginative thought around needs and opportunities for amenities and other infrastructures that promote an enhanced relationship with the Tennessee River and supports the local RiverLine vision.

The What If? activity presented eight Tennessee RiverLine System Elements and asked event participants to share their thoughts about how each would benefit their community as well as any impediments they foresee to the implementation of each. Participants were also asked to identify up to three system elements that they considered future investment priorities for Roane County.

**By the Numbers:** Roane County 652 to YOU event participants identified the Trails, Paths, and Routes element as their highest investment priority with 17.8% of total priority votes. Trails were closely followed by the Overnight Lodging and Camping element with 16.5% of all votes, and the On-River Events and Activities element with 14.6% of total votes.

**Trails, Paths, and Routes (27 votes):** particular emphasis was placed on the health benefits of trails for families and the community. Mapped routes and well-marked trails were indicated as highly important for developing a user-friendly trail system.

**Overnight Lodging and Camping (25 votes):** Comments to this element indicate the community's desire to develop its hospitality industry in conjunction with trail programs and the RiverLine. Overnight accommodation of a range of types were recognized as a critical infrastructure to attracting and retaining recreational tourists.

**On-River Events and Activities (22 votes):** The comments in this category showed enthusiasm for the variety of unique events possible on the river. Fishing tournaments, personal watercraft rentals, outfitter excursions, and concerts on the water were suggested as potential event opportunities. The community recognizes liability, planning capacity, access to the river, safety, local perception, and alcohol regulations as challenges for hosting such events.

**Outside of the Top Three:** While the categories of Educational and Interpretive Sites, River Pavilions, and Waterfront parks did not land in the top three, each element garnered comments suggesting that they may also be value-added and priority investments. Comments indicate that educational sites would be an opportunity to teach stewardship and conservation of natural resources, particularly at Fort Southwest Point. While River Pavilions raised questions of cost and ecological impact, there was recognition of the economic and social benefits of infrastructures that provide space for outfitters, gear rental and storage, and hospitality amenities like showers and restrooms. The community likewise recognized how Waterfront Parks improve quality of life and provide safe and healthy recreational spaces for children and families.

**What Else?:** A blank What If? board was provided to capture investment ideas and opportunities that fell outside of standard RiverLine Elements. Participants' responses to this prompt emphasized the importance of infrastructure to support tourism: restaurants, hotels and stores of convenience are seen as vital components of a healthy recreation and river tourism economy.



### RiverLine Element Investment Priorities in Roane County

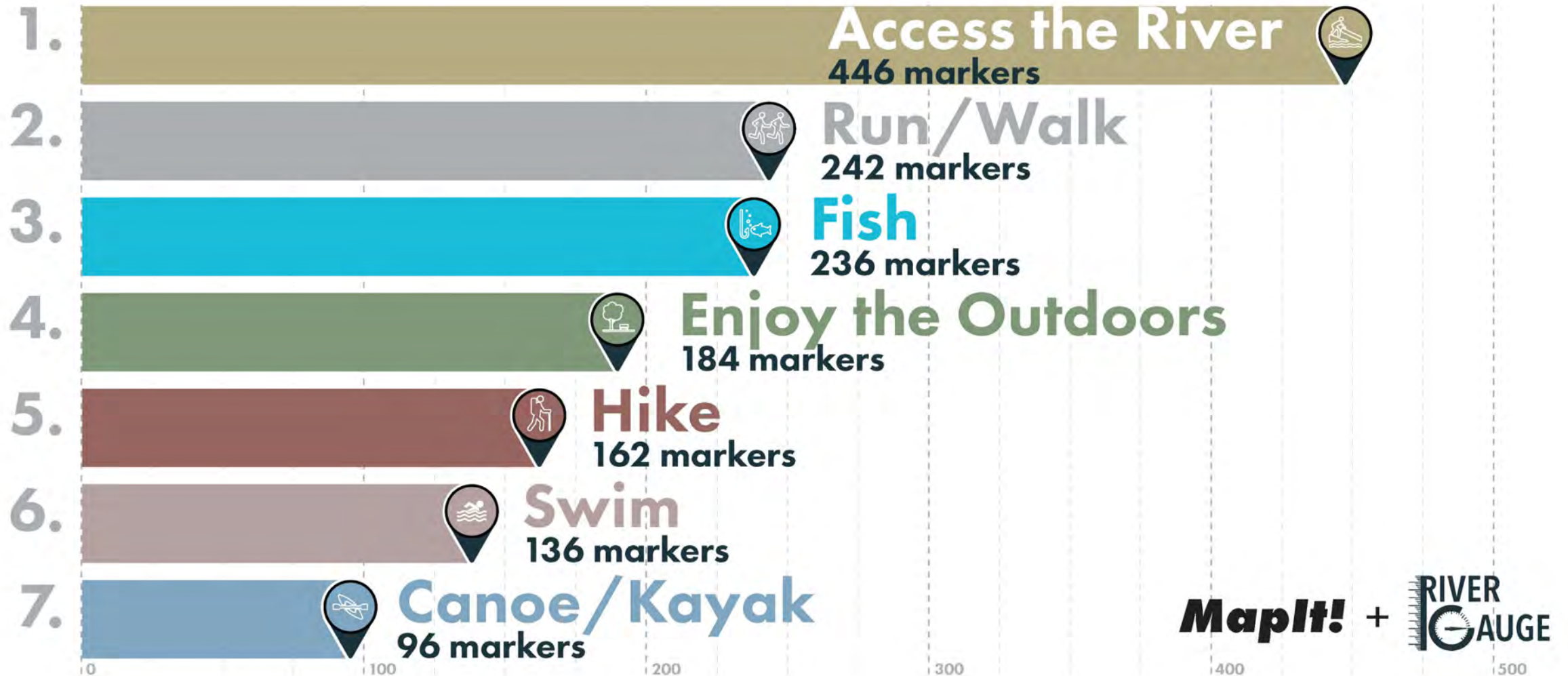


### Around the Region



# Where on or along the Tennessee River do you currently...?

1,913 markers (67% of all markers)



# How do you see yourself using the Tennessee RiverLine? (check all that apply)

520 total respondents

All the way! I want to paddle all 652 miles in one trip!



I'd spend a week or two on the river in one trip, covering 50-100 miles



I'd spend a weekend on the river, covering 15-25 miles



I'd like to get out on the river for a day or an afternoon in my own community



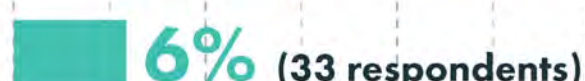
I'd like to hike or bike trails along the Tennessee River



I don't think I'd use the Tennessee RiverLine, but I support the vision



I don't know enough about the RiverLine to answer, but I want to know more



0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80%



TENNESSEE RIVERLINE TRAILHEAD  
BOATHOUSE & VISITOR CENTER

SHORELINE RECONSTRUCTION  
& HABITAT ESTABLISHMENT

ADA-ACCESSIBLE KAYAK LAUNCH

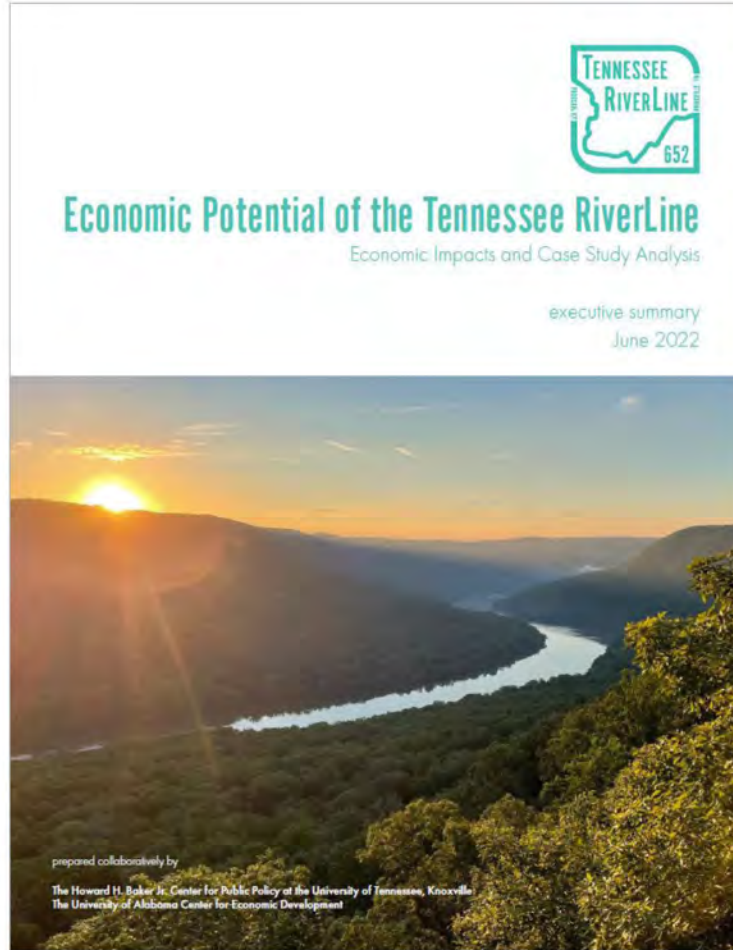
INTERPRETIVE GREENWAY

# Singing River Trail Partnership

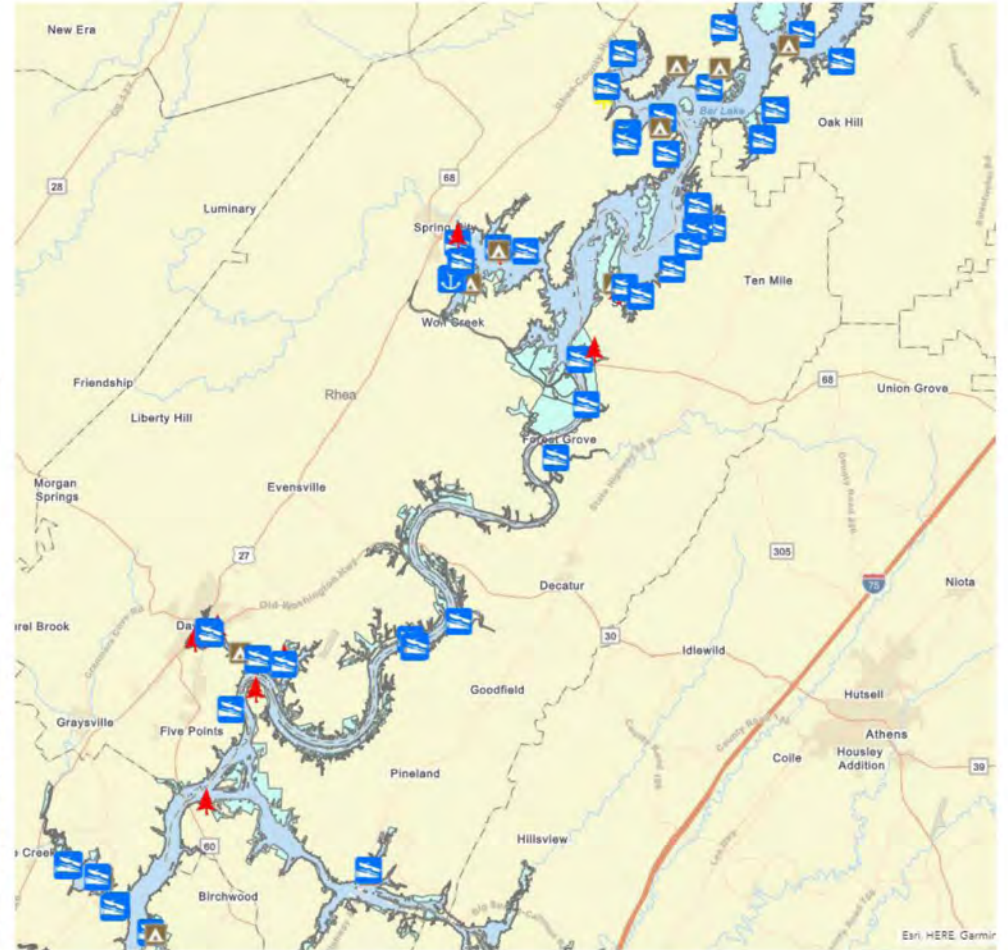
May 7, Decatur, AL



# RESEARCH INITIATIVES



**2022 Economic Impact Study**  
University of Tennessee Baker Center  
+ University of Alabama Center for Economic Development



**2022 Comprehensive Gap Analysis**  
University of Tennessee, Chattanooga Inter-spatial Geotechnology Lab



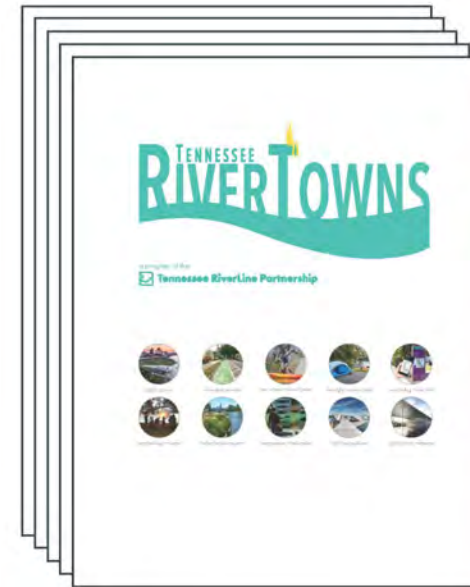
# PRIORITY PROJECTS



**WEBSITE  
REDEVELOPMENT**



**MOBILE  
APPLICATION**



**PLANNING STANDARDS  
+ DESIGN GUIDELINES**



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*for all who seek to experience the Tennessee River for generations to come*