



For Immediate Release

August 7, 2026

Safety Closure Extended on GAP Trail Segment

Engineers Evaluating Prominent Rock Hazards Identified During Scaling

Allegheny County, PA – The Regional Trail Corporation (RTC) today announced an extension of the active safety closure along the Great Allegheny Passage (GAP) between the Whitaker flyover and the Port Perry flyover in West Mifflin through at least Thursday, August 20, 2026.

In late June, the RTC announced that the trail segment would be temporarily closed beginning on July 9 for approximately 28 days to allow contractors to remove loose or potentially unstable material that might dislodge or affect falling rock.

During those operations, two prominent rock hazards were identified in the critical slide areas that cannot be safely remediated through scaling alone. RTC has asked that an engineer validate those concerns and provide additional information to its board, including the current safety of the trail below for users and the timing for when remediation of the hazards must occur. For safety reasons, the segment will remain closed until the evaluation is done.

The licensed shuttle service arranged for by the Great Allegheny Passage Conservancy has also been extended through Thursday, August 20. The service can provide transportation for GAP travelers between Homestead and Duquesne, assisting those seeking to safely bypass the segment closure. The service runs from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, seven days a week. The cost is \$20/person (cash is preferred but credit cards are accepted). A one-way shuttle ride is approximately 15-20 minutes.

The RTC fully recognizes that this extended closure is occurring during the peak summer riding season, creating disruptions for long-distance cyclists, local trail users, and the small businesses across trail towns that depend on summer tourism.

Mark Place, RTC Board Chair explained this step: “Extending a trail closure is never a decision made lightly. As trail stewards, RTC must continuously evaluate the physical condition of the corridor, including where rock formation hazards exist overhead – regardless of how clear or rideable the surface below may appear. While we share the public's eagerness to keep every mile of the GAP open, our overarching obligation remains the physical safety of every cyclist and pedestrian who uses the trail.

The RTC appreciates the patience and understanding of its trail community as it balances immediate access with the essential work required to ensure a safe, sustainable corridor for years to come.

Media Inquiries:

rtcslideproject@gmail.com

###

About the Regional Trail Corporation:

The mission of the Regional Trail Corporation is to acquire, develop, manage and maintain appropriate trail and water corridors within southwestern PA in partnership with local trail chapters and councils to promote opportunities for recreation, volunteerism, education, tourism, economic development, and historic and environmental conservation.

The RTC manages sections of the [Great Allegheny Passage](#), the Five Star Trail, the Coal and Coke Trail, and the Westmoreland Heritage Trail. All are maintained, monitored and promoted by volunteers.