

# Fixing the Current Trail and Making it ADA-compliant

Yes, there are ways to make the current trail ADA compliant and fully accessible without conducting full excavation and without counting on capital money. The current budget, small grants such as those awarded to the Friends of VCP to fix the Kieran Trail, and volunteer labor can ensure that the problematic sections of the trail are fixed.

Permeability would be 50 to 100% depending on whether a binder is used to interlock aggregate. Cost estimate: **Under \$120,000.**

A binder reduces the permeability of the trail by locking the loose aggregate in a more or less rigid matrix. This makes the trail surface firmer. The drainage happens in a similar fashion as with loose aggregates – vertical absorption and infiltration to adjacent soils.

Estimates for fixing the trail are based on a 10' by 7,920' trail (approximate length of the Putnam Trail). Stone-dust and soil cost estimates compiled by an independent engineer.

Proposed here is a method of fixing the trail and installing proper drainage section by section, using the existing trail crew and volunteer labor without conducting a full excavation. The budget for this sort of work is much lower as it incorporates the labor force that already exists in the city structure and utilizes sustainable methods. The cost estimate is based on the reparation of the Bridle Trail in VCP in 2001 which involved very similar repairs – culverting, drainage, surfacing. That project was carried out with a \$33,250 grant. The Bridle Trail is 2,200 feet long, which is about 1/3 of the 7920' long Putnam. We estimate that about 2/3 of the Putnam Trail needs repairs – about a third of it drains very well and is compact and stays intact even after severe storms. Multiplying the Bridle Trail sum by 2 and adjusting by approximately 1.8% inflation rate between 2001 and 2015, we get a sum just under \$120,000.

-- M.E.