



Creating Opportunities Along the Nation's Trails

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Meyersdale Business Opportunities

As of August 2015

The Trail Town Program® aims to identify trail user needs and help fill service gaps in trail communities by providing market information, technical assistance, or financing to existing and potential businesses. This document identifies existing conditions related to trail services and what we see as opportunities. Those considering either an expansion or a new business should conduct their own market research and complete a business plan.

Existing Trail-Serving Businesses

Lodging and Camping

- There are three B&Bs located within easy walking distance from the trailhead.
- There is one motel located in the downtown area with diner attached.
- There is a vacation rental with two suites.
- A hotel is available in town with both hostel and suite-style accommodations.
- There is a newer campground is now open in Maple Festival Park.

Food and Drink

- The town has a wide variety of eateries available in the downtown area including a café with coffee, two diner style restaurants, ice cream stand, family restaurant, one bar & restaurant, taverns, and pizza shops.
- There is a grocery store and other restaurants located outside of town.

Retail:

- A Sheetz convenience store is located in town and is bike-friendly with outdoor seating.
- There are a drugstore and a dollar store to grab any quickly needed items.
- There are a few other stores that include antiques, state liquor store, floral, hardware, gifts, and accessories.
- There is a visitor center that sell trail merchandise, snacks, and local goods right beside the trail.

Amenities

- There are a few banks with ATMs in town.
- There is a laundromat a few blocks from the trail.

Nearby Attractions

- There are other attractions drawing visitors beyond the trail. Some of these nearby attractions include an Amish Farmers Market, Mount Davis, Somerset County Fairgrounds, Maple Festival, tunnels and bridges on the trail, and more.

Potential Opportunities

Lodging

- Meyersdale hosts several options, but there is need for additional lodging. **B&Bs** are often the most common visited by trail users.
- There are also opportunities for **guest/vacation houses or a hostel** that could accommodate larger groups or those with a limited budget.

Recreational

- There is a need for a **bicycle rental and/or repair shop**.
- There is a need for a **recreational outfitter**. Retail opportunities exist for selling sporting, athletic, and nature-related goods in addition to cycling goods, such as for jogging, camping, bird-watching, and non-motorized watersports.

Food and Drink:

- Trail users would likely frequent an eatery that had **outdoor seating**. Fresh and healthy menu items that include vegetarian options; packed lunches for trail-side consumption; and locally grown and raised food items would be of particular interest.
- The **farm-to-table** movement provides tremendous potential. Other informal but specialized foods might be a gourmet burger, hot dog, or even a **bike-themed or trail-oriented cafe**.
- A small grocery store or stand-alone **bakery** that carries specialty foods may be a good business opportunity in downtown.
- Many restaurants are closed during the evening, weekends, or have limited hours. There is an **opportunity to adjust hours** to accommodate visitor traffic or be open when many other restaurants are closed.

Retail

- Unique retail, such as **specialty, artisan, or gift shops**, could appeal to both trail users and locals alike.
- Many retail locations are closed or have limited hours during the weekends and evenings. There is an **opportunity to adjust hours** to accommodate visitor traffic or be open when many other shops are closed.

Other Amenities

- In the region there is a need for **shuttle service** for people, bike, luggage, and equipment.