Sharpsburg Rail Trail and The Community Portal are projects that capture the historical and cultural essence of Etna and Sharpsburg. The designs contribute to each community’s goals and aspirations for future development. These goals include improving safety and connectivity, minimize flooding impacts, encourage the installation of art, and support the vibrant identity and culture of the river towns.
The Allegheny River impacts the Sharpsburg community in numerous ways. From providing scenic pleasure, recreation, and economic gain, to its destructive and immense power, the community’s relationship with the river will always exist. In this century, new development is necessary to establish close relationship communities and their local rivers. With the decrease in industrial development and an increase in environmental advocacy, river towns like Sharpsburg can once again connect with the river.
The Community Portal
Elliott Kline

Goals and Accomplishments:
- Easy and safe access betweenSharpsburg, Etna, and the River Trail.
- Incorporate historical and cultural art.
- Improve stormwater management.

Pedestrian and Bike Circulation

Vehicle Circulation

Vegetation and Stormwater

Turf Grass
Multi-use Paved Space
Rain Garden
Pedestrian Crossing
Sharpsburg Grocery
Parking Lot
“Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT). AADT is the typical daily traffic on a road segment for all the days in a week over a one-year period.” - PennDOT

https://www.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=32c041c6b12d4f54a454152ca37356c6
Identity Through Art

Dedication to Stormwater Management

Allegheny River Town

Historical Wooden Bridge
Mitigating Pine Creek Pollution

Aesthetic Drainage

Steel Support Beam

Drain Pipe

Main Rain Garden

Secondary Rain Garden

Main Rain Garden

Trees
1. *Quercus rubra*, Red oak

Grasses
2. *Andropogon glomeratus*, Bushy bluestem
3. *Elymus virginicus*, Virginia wild rye

Forbs
4. *Echinacea purpurea*, Purple coneflower
5. *Symphyotrichum novae-angliae*, New england aster
6. *Vernonia noveboracensis*, New york ironweed

Shrubs
7. *Amelanchier arborea*, Serviceberry
8. *Aronia arbutifolia*, Chokeberry
9. *Kalmia latifolia*, Mountain laurel
10. *Lindera benzoin*, Spice bush
11. *Vaccinium corymbosum*, Highbush blueberry
The design uses materials to help residents find their way from the boroughs of Etna and Sharpsburg to the River Trail. Some of the materials used are orange paint for the bike path, brick pavers, and railroad lines. Although the materials add an aesthetic element to the design, they also invoke the region's history and culture.
Under the Flyovers

Pine Creek
Vegetation to Prevent Erosion
Bridge St  Pedestrian/ Bike Path
Shade Tolerant Vegetation
N Main Street