

## NORTHWEST MUNICIPAL CONFERENCE

1600 East Golf Road, Suite 0700  
Des Plaines, Illinois 60016  
(847) 296-9200 • Fax (847) 296-9207  
[www.nwmc-cog.org](http://www.nwmc-cog.org)



*A Regional Association of Illinois  
Municipalities and Townships  
Representing a Population of Over One Million*

**Northwest Municipal Conference  
Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee  
Tuesday, January 22, 2019  
10:30 a.m.  
NWMC Offices**

### MEMBERS

Antioch  
Arlington Heights  
Bannockburn  
Barrington  
Bartlett  
Buffalo Grove  
Carpentersville  
Crystal Lake  
Deer Park  
Deerfield  
Des Plaines  
Elk Grove Village  
Evanston  
Fox Lake  
Glencoe  
Glenview  
Grayslake  
Hanover Park  
Highland Park  
Hoffman Estates  
Kenilworth  
Lake Bluff  
Lake Forest  
Lake Zurich  
Libertyville  
Lincolnshire  
Lincolnwood  
Morton Grove  
Mount Prospect  
Niles  
Northbrook  
Northfield  
Northfield Township  
Palatine  
Park Ridge  
Prospect Heights  
Rolling Meadows  
Schaumburg  
Skokie  
Streamwood  
Vernon Hills  
Wheeling  
Wilmette  
Winnetka

*President*  
Arlene Juracek  
Mount Prospect

*Vice-President*  
Daniel DiMaria  
Morton Grove

*Secretary*  
Kathleen O'Hara  
Lake Bluff

*Treasurer*  
Ghida Neukirch  
Highland Park

*Executive Director*  
Mark L. Fowler

- I. Call to Order/Introductions**
- II. Approval of December 18, 2019 Meeting Minutes (Attachment A)**  
*Action Requested: Approval of Minutes*
- III. NWMC Multimodal Plan Update**  
On January 9, the CMAP Board approved a contract with Sam Schwartz Engineering to conduct the NWMC Multimodal Transportation Plan update. Staff will discuss the selection process and review next steps.  
*Action requested: Information/Discussion*
- IV. Des Plaines River Trail Southern Segment Corridor Plan and Suburban Trail Advocacy (Attachment B)**  
Matt Gomez, Trail Advocacy Manager at Active Transportation Alliance, will discuss the recently-completed Des Plaines River Trail Southern Segment Corridor Plan. The plan examines potential improvements along the segment of the trail running from Touhy Avenue to North Avenue. Mr. Gomez will also provide an update on Active Transportation Alliance's trail advocacy work in the north and northwest suburbs.  
*Action Requested: Information/Discussion*
- V. Calls for Transportation Projects**  
CMAP opened the call for projects for the Surface Transportation Program (STP) Shared Fund, the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) program, and the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) on January 15. Additionally, the Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways released a call for projects for its Invest in Cook program on January 15. Staff will provide details on the application process for these programs.  
*Action Requested: Informational*
- VI. Local Project Updates**  
Municipalities and others will be asked to provide updates on bicycle and pedestrian related projects.  
*Action Requested: Information/Discussion*
- VII. Other Business**
- VIII. Adjourn**

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**Attachment A**

*A Regional Association of Illinois  
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**MEMBERS**

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Glenview  
Grayslake  
Hanover Park  
Highland Park  
Hoffman Estates  
Kenilworth  
Lake Bluff  
Lake Forest  
Lake Zurich  
Libertyville  
Lincolnshire  
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**Northwest Municipal Conference  
Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee  
Tuesday, December 18, 2018  
Draft Meeting Minutes  
10:30 a.m.  
NWMC Offices**

**Committee Members Present:**

Derek Peebles, Civil Engineer, City of Des Plaines (co-chair)  
A.C. Buehler, Trustee, Village of Northbrook (co-chair)  
Patrick Knapp, Transportation Planner, Village of Schaumburg  
Jim Baxa, Civil Project Engineer, Village of Northbrook  
Nellie Beckner, Assistant to the Village Manager, Village of Mount Prospect  
Adriana Webb, Capital Project Manager, Village of Glenview  
Andrew Jennings, Community Development Director, Village of Wheeling  
Andrew Binder, Planning and Zoning Coordinator, Village of Barrington

**Others Present:**

Matt Lawrie, Assistant Village Engineer, Village of Mount Prospect  
Steve Robles, Assistant Director of Community Development, Village of Wheeling  
Briget Schwab, Civil Engineer II, Village of Arlington Heights  
Alex Riegler, Civil Engineer, Village of Streamwood  
Mark Fowler, Executive Director, Northwest Municipal Conference  
Larry Bury, Deputy Executive Director, Northwest Municipal Conference  
Josh Klingenstein, Program Associate for Transportation, Northwest Municipal Conference  
Cole Jackson, Program Associate for Transportation, Northwest Municipal Conference

**I. Call to Order/Introductions**

Trustee Buehler called the meeting to order at 10:31 a.m. and asked those present to provide introductions.

**II. Approval of September 18, 2018 Meeting Minutes**

The minutes were approved on a motion by Mr. Baxa, seconded by Ms. Beckner.

**III. NWMC Multimodal Plan Update**

Mr. Jackson reported on the development of the NWMC Multimodal Plan Update. He said that the plan was a collaboration between NWMC and CMAP, and noted the previous regional and corridor-level bike plans that had been created in the conference area. He then reviewed the content of the plan, noting that it would contain analysis of the regional corridors proposed in the 2010 plan to determine if they remain the best options for implementation. Mr. Jackson also said that the plan will include analysis of pedestrian and transit connectivity, a summary of best practices that member communities can use on their own projects, and a prioritization analysis for proposals included in the plan. Finally, Mr. Jackson said that there will be multiple opportunities for both public and stakeholder engagement during the plan's development.

Trustee Buehler asked if there was a timeline for the plan's completion. Mr. Jackson responded that staff was unsure, but that plan development should begin in late January or early February. Mr. Klingenstein added that he believed 2010 plan took a little over one year to develop, and that he anticipated that this plan update would have a similar timeline. Mr. Jennings asked if the consultant had been selected yet and who participated in the selection process. Mr. Klingenstein responded that the consultant had been selected, and that the selection committee was made up of himself, Mr. Jackson, and CMAP staff.

#### **IV. Des Plaines River Trail UP Railroad Steering Committee**

Mr. Klingenstein gave an update on the work of the Des Plaines River Trail UP Railroad Crossing Steering Committee. Mr. Klingenstein noted recent progress that had been made, including the submission of an environmental study to IDOT and the completion of the alternatives review. He also provided information on the existing conditions at the at-grade crossing, noting that the crossing is technically illegal.

Mr. Klingenstein then reviewed the different solutions that had been proposed to address the crossing, noting the four alternatives that had been eliminated. He also said that a fifth alternative, a sidepath along Golf Rd. and College Dr., had not been entirely eliminated but was seen as a less desirable option than the preferred alternative. Mr. Klingenstein then reviewed the preferred alternative – a bridge crossing over the tracks and under the ComEd High Voltage lines. He noted that this alternative was considered more cost-effective than the other proposed solutions, and that no right-of-way acquisition would be required for the project. Mr. Klingenstein also said that the issue of equestrian accommodation was discussed, but that designing the bridge to accommodate equestrian activities would double its cost. Finally, Mr. Klingenstein reviewed the next steps for the project, including obtaining approval from the UP Railroad and ComEd, holding a public meeting in Des Plaines, obtaining environmental signoffs, and submitting a draft PDR. Mr. Jennings asked where the public meeting would be held. Mr. Peebles responded that possible locations included the Des Plaines Public Library and Oakton Community College.

#### **V. CMAQ and TAP Call for Projects**

Mr. Klingenstein and Mr. Jackson provided an overview of the January 2019 call for CMAQ and TAP-L projects. Mr. Klingenstein first gave a summary of each program, noting that, while CMAQ has a number of eligible project types, TAP-L funding is only available for bicycle facility projects. Mr. Klingenstein also reviewed additional eligibility requirements for each program and gave examples of past projects completed by NWMC member communities with CMAQ and TAP funding. Mr. Baxa asked if Phase I engineering needed to be completed by the time the application was submitted, or if it could be ongoing. Mr. Klingenstein replied that he was not sure, but that NWMC staff would look into the matter.

Mr. Jackson then reviewed the application timeline, noting that the call for projects would be released on January 15<sup>th</sup> and that applications were due on March 15<sup>th</sup>. He also said that the deadline for submitting applications to planning liaisons is March 1<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Jackson then noted that the cut-off for obtaining design approval or submitting PDR documents is June 1<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Knapp asked if PDR approval is needed by June 1, or if the PDR can be submitted in draft form. Mr. Klingenstein said he was unsure, but that NWMC staff would look into the matter and provide the committee with an answer.

Mr. Klingenstein reviewed the scoring of CMAQ projects, saying that the primary consideration for all projects is the cost-effectiveness of air emission reductions. He

also said that secondary considerations include Transportation Impact Criteria and how the project helps meet regional priorities. Mr. Klingenstein stressed that the scores are not the only determining factor, and that the project selection committee has leeway to consider other factors, such as geographic balance and project mix. Mr. Klingenstein then reviewed TAP-L scoring and noted the five categories that will be used to rank projects.

**VI. Local Project Updates**

Mr. Klingenstein provided updates from the City of Park Ridge, noting that the City's bike plan was adopted by the City Council on December 3<sup>rd</sup> and that the City continued to implement some recommendations from that plan. He also said that the City of Park Ridge was soliciting bids to perform a road diet feasibility study on Busse Highway, from Miner Street to Touhy Avenue. Mr. Klingenstein noted, however, that IDOT is planning a resurfacing for this stretch of Busse Highway that is scheduled for a March 2019 letting, and that it may be difficult to perform the study prior to that date. Mr. Peebles gave additional detail on the Des Plaines portion of the Busse Highway road diet, noting that it may be more feasible for them due to the ease of planning compared to Park Ridge's portion. Mr. Peebles also said that Des Plaines believes it may be able to perform the road diet study in time for inclusion into the IDOT project, and stated that the termini of the project were Miner St. and Belleau Lake.

Mr. Knapp updated the committee on the Roselle Rd. bike bridge over I-90 in Schaumburg, saying that construction would be continuing into 2019. Mr. Peebles suggested projecting maps of project locations at future meetings. Mr. Klingenstein concurred and said that NWMC staff would do so. Mr. Knapp also noted that the reconstruction of State and National Parkway would be let in January 2019. He said the project would involve taking away one lane in each direction, and adding on-street bike lanes to replace the current off-street path. He finally noted that an STP-funded sidepath along Woodfield Rd. would go to letting in March 2019. Trustee Buehler asked when the Roselle bike bridge would be completed. Mr. Knapp replied that construction should be completed in Fall 2019.

Mr. Peebles asked committee members what bicycle accommodations they provided during construction projects, and asked if NWMC staff or the committee could put together a survey about the topic. Mr. Klingenstein said that staff could work with committee members to put a survey together. Mr. Peebles then also noted that a handrail had to be installed in front of a property as part of the Ballard Rd. sidepath project, and that it was not as aesthetically pleasing as they had hoped. He also said that using saw-cut joints on the project made a big difference in the quality of the path.

**VII. 2019 NWMC Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee Proposed Meeting Dates**

Mr. Klingenstein presented the proposed meeting dates and noted that meetings in January, February, March, and August would be held on the fourth Tuesday of the month to avoid NWMC staff conflicts. Trustee Buehler requested that the committee schedule project field trips in the near future.

**VIII. Other Business**

There was no other business to report.

**IX. Adjourn**

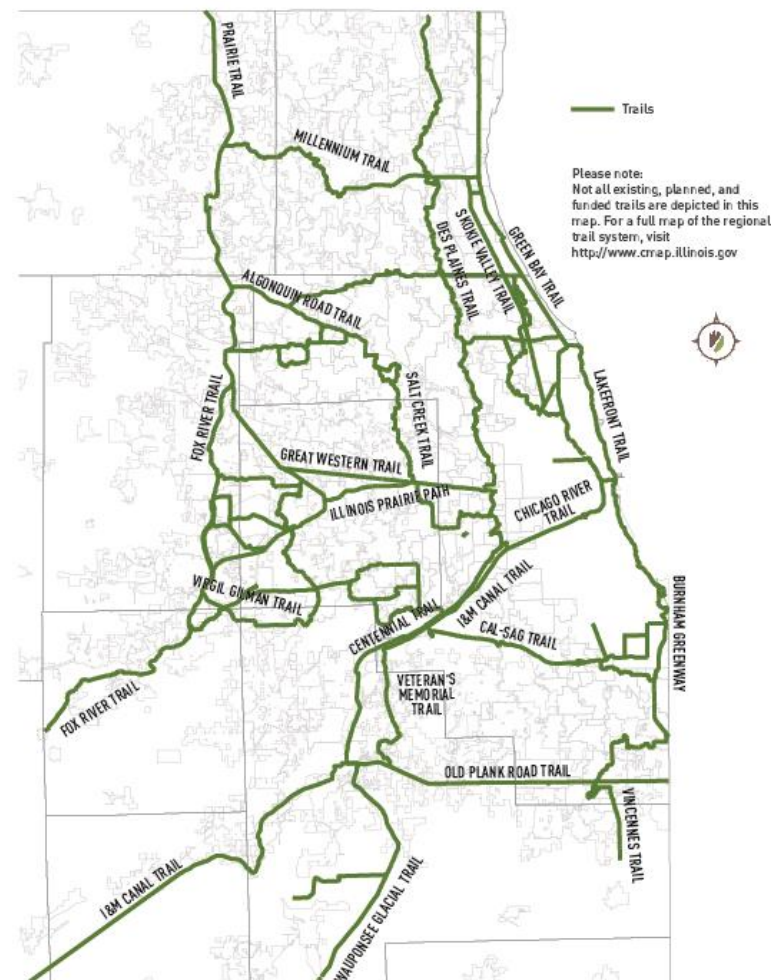
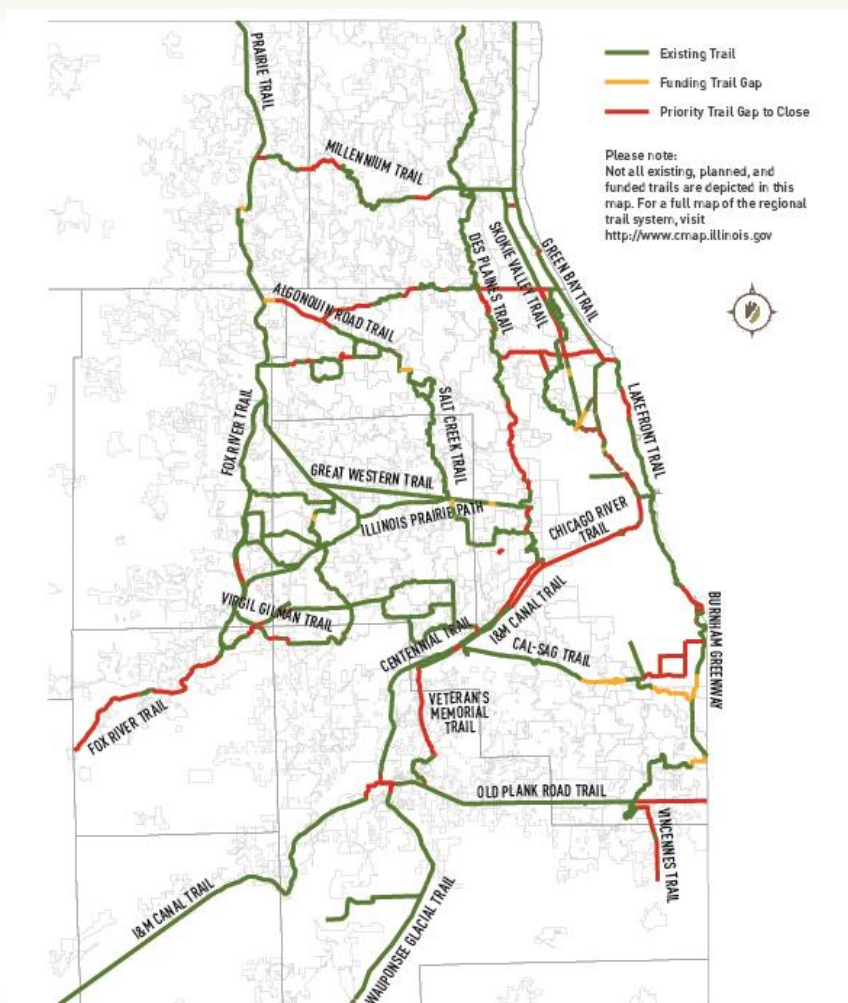
The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Ms. Beckner, seconded by Mr. Knapp.

ACTIVE  TRANS

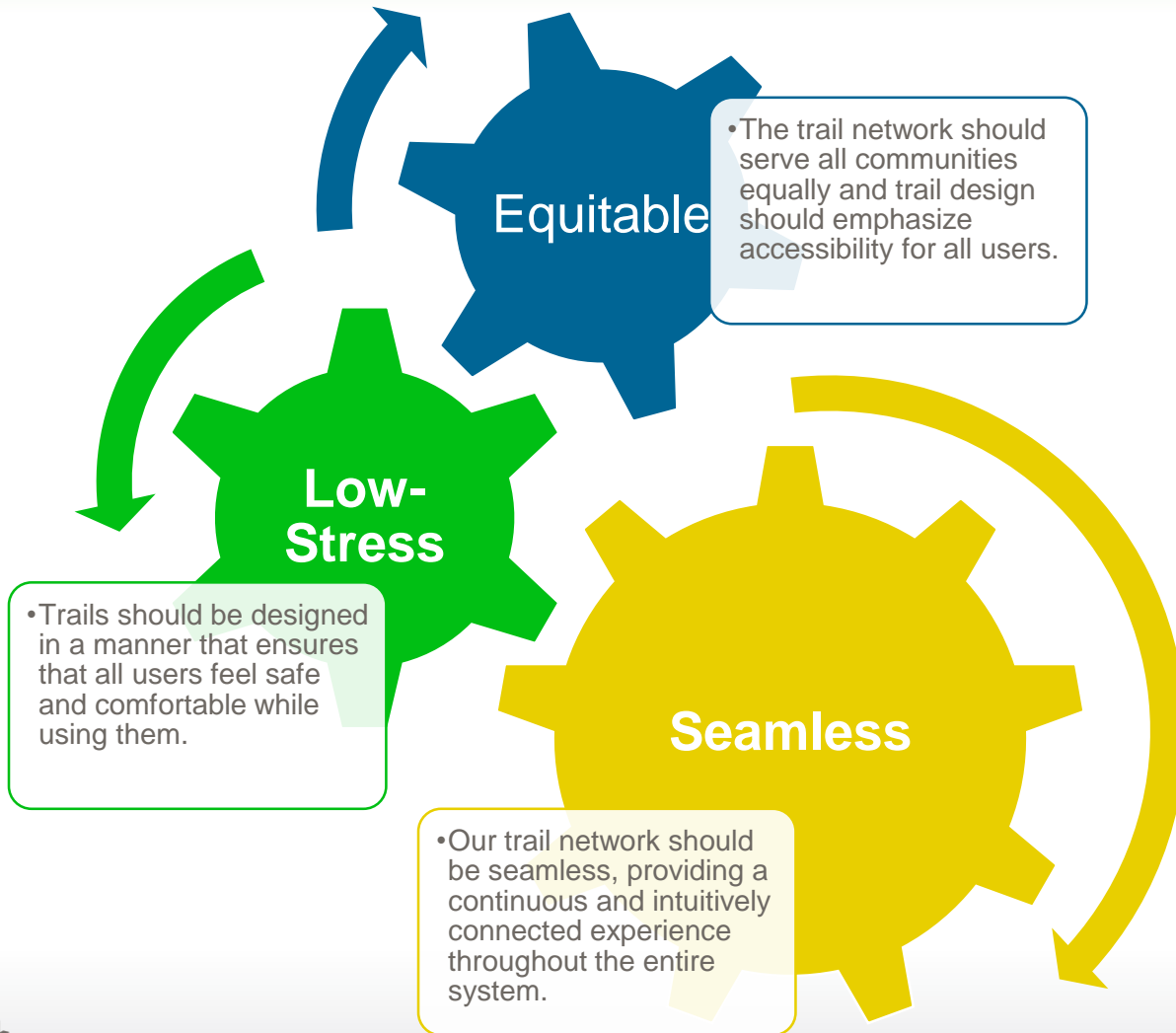
# Trail Connect Chicagoland

Our vision for a continuous trail network in Northeastern Illinois

# Trail Connect Chicagoland



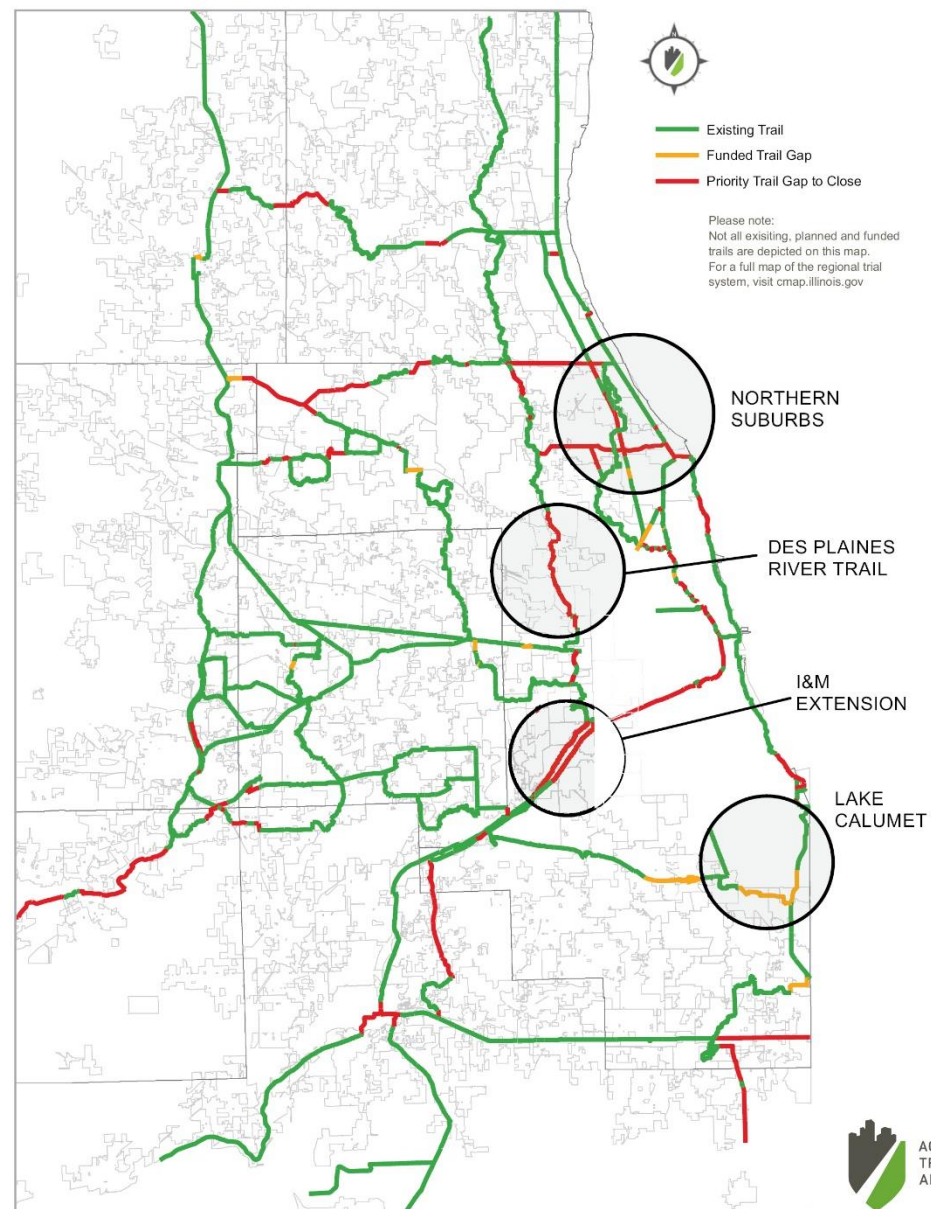
# Trail Connect Chicagoland Principles



# Advocacy Strategies

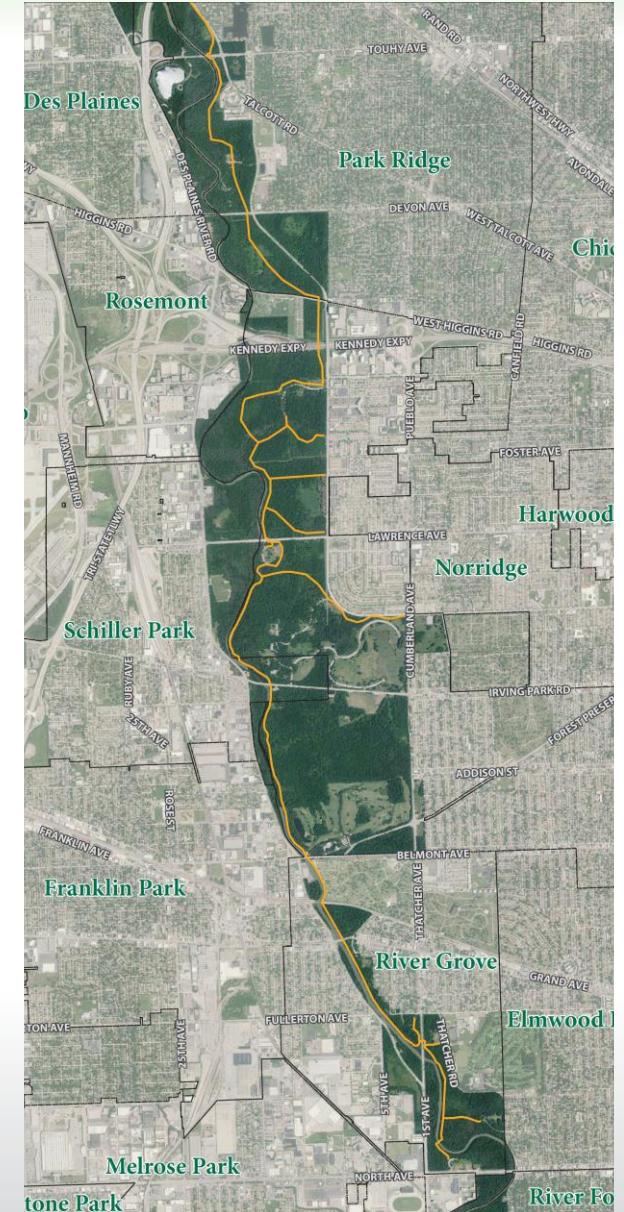
- Targeted Organizing on High Priority Gaps
- Regional Coalition Building
- Grassroots Mobilizing
- Decision Maker Engagement





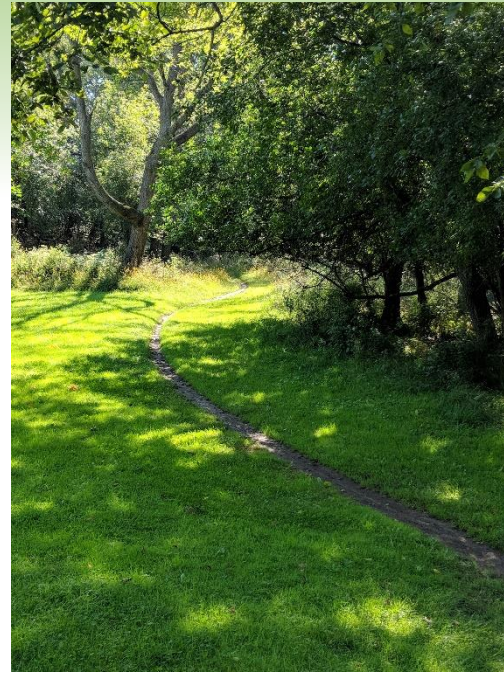
# DPRT Study Area and Recap of 2018

- Touhy Avenue to North Avenue
- Phase I engineering study
- Started the Intergovernmental Coalition and hosted 4 meetings
- Launched the Friends of the Des Plaines River & Trail group and hosted 2 meetings
- Drafted, reviewed, published and promoted the DPRT Southern Segment Corridor Plan



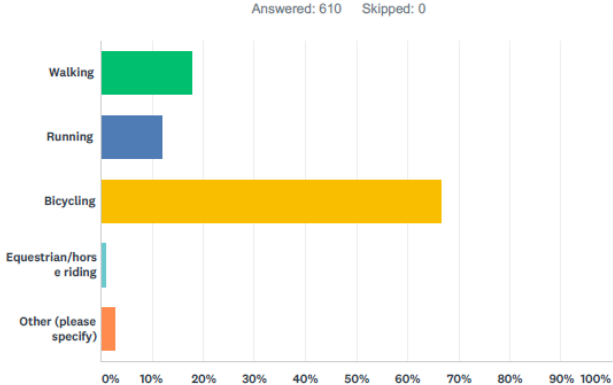
# Existing Conditions

- Connectivity (across arterials through mid-block crossing and tunnels)
- Access to the Trail
- Flooding
- Wayfinding

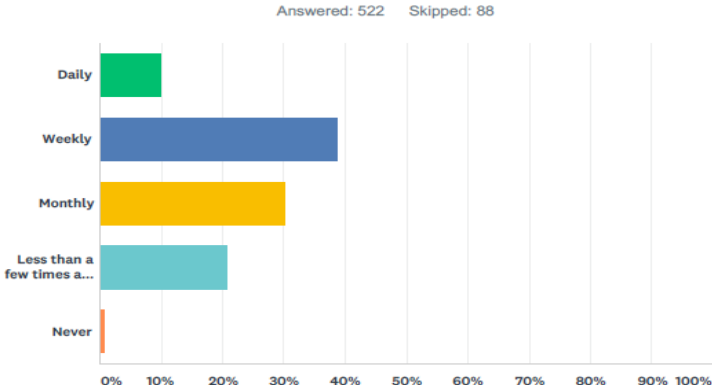


# Results of the DPRT Survey

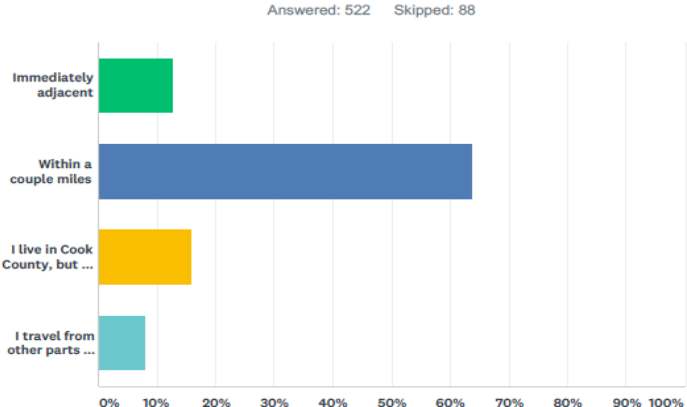
Q2 What do you primarily use the Des Plaines River Trail for?



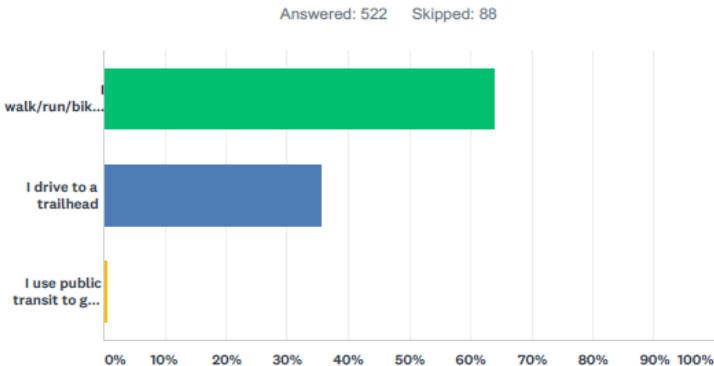
Q4 How often do you use the trail?



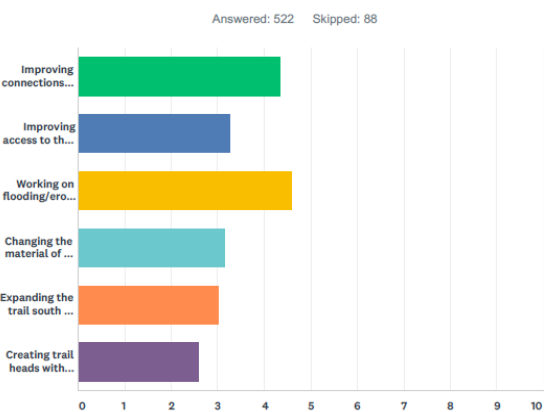
Q6 How close do you live to the trail?



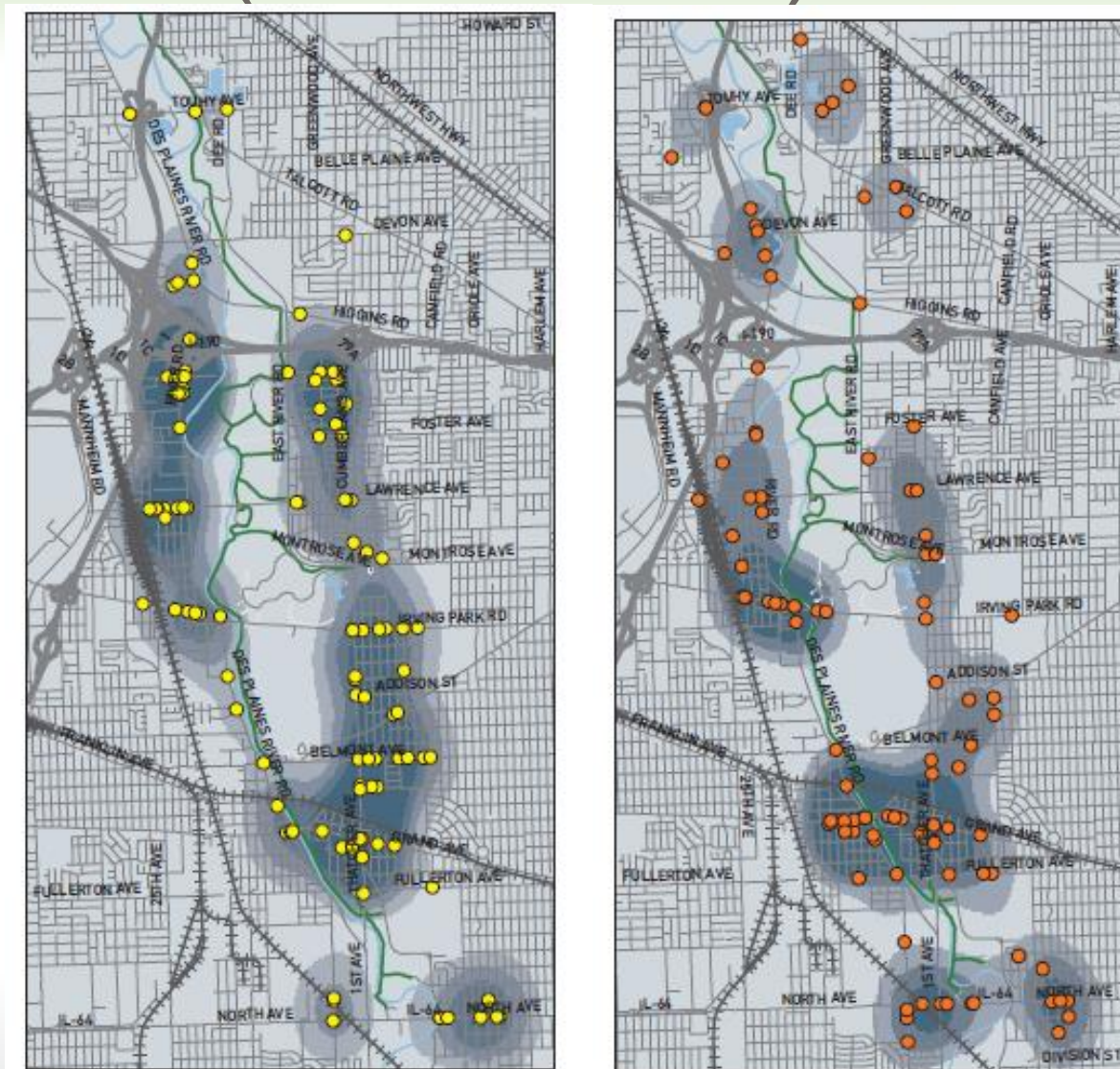
Q7 How do you primarily access the trail?



Q10 What trail improvements are most important (please rank your answers)?



# Crash Data (2011-2016) vs. Trail Entrances

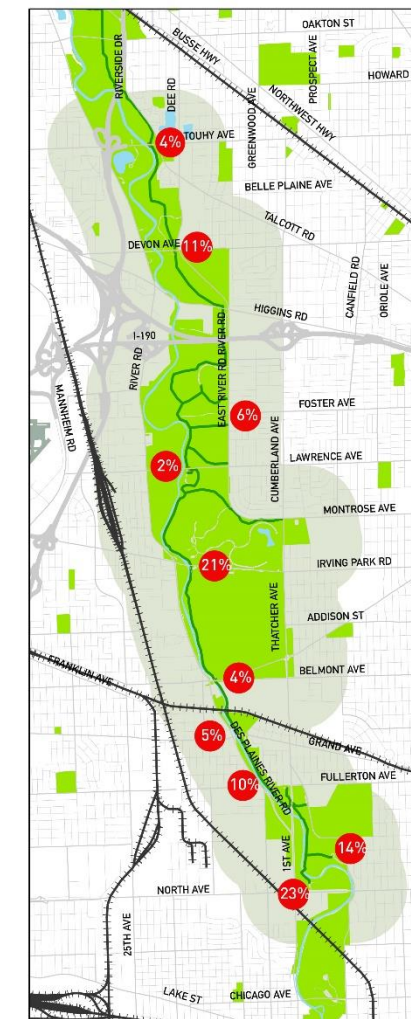


## DES PLAINES RIVER TRAIL

Where do people get on the trail?

0 1 2 Miles

Prepared By: Active Transportation Alliance 9/7/2018  
Data Source: IDOT, Active Transportation Alliance, Naveg, Cook County Forest Preserve District



# What can be done moving forward?

- Provide a more seamless trail
  - New or improved stripping at mid-block crossings
  - New or improved stripping at intersection crosswalks
  - Improved tunnels/underpasses at crossings
- Provide more low-stress access to the trail
  - Stripped or protected bike lanes or side path along streets to provide better access to trailheads
  - Reducing speed limits along some streets through the Forest Preserve
- Create economic development and funding plan
  - Provides data on potential job creation and annual revenue to adjacent municipalities and major employers
  - Create sign-on form to get major employers and nearby destinations to join coalition and commit to providing funding for trail improvements
- Create community and political engagement strategy
  - Host events on the trail every year to bring elected officials and community residents together to learn about the trail history, existing conditions, and necessary upgrades
  - Create sign-on form to get elected officials to commit to providing better access from their communities to the trail with sustained funding
  - Create sign-on form to get community groups to participate in community engagement opportunities

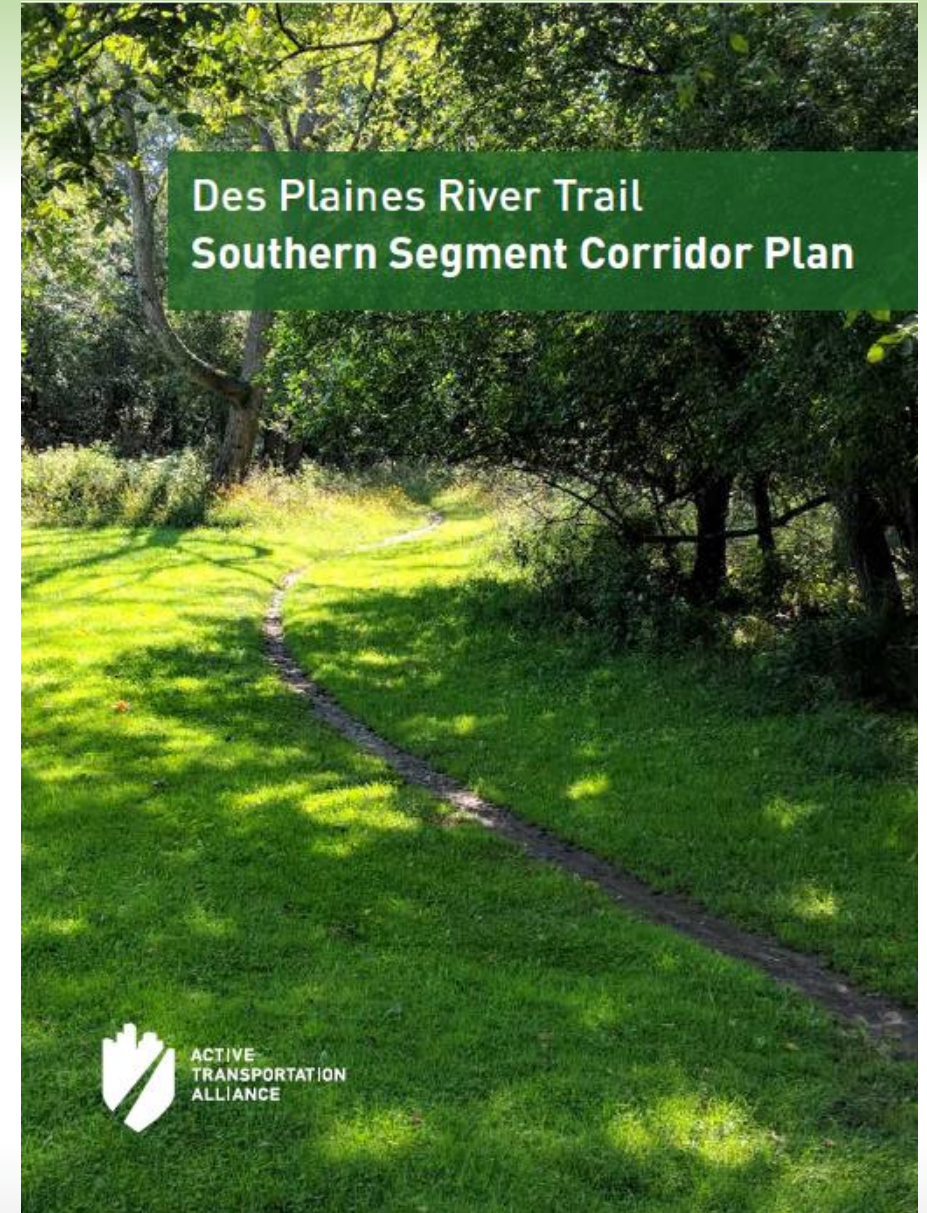
# Encourage Employers and Destinations

## Some of the larger employers and destinations near the DPRT:

- Dominican University
- Lincoln College of Technology
- Maywood Park Race Track
- Triton College
- Oak Park County Club
- Elmwood Park High School
- River Grove Public Library
- Elmwood Cemetery
- Brunswick Zone River Grove Lanes
- Indian Boundary Golf Course
- St. Joseph's Catholic Cemetery
- Dean Foods
- IRS
- ALDI
- Wilson Sporting Goods
- Rosemont Shopping Outlet
- Rosemont Theater
- Stephens Convention Center
- E-Loan
- McShane Construction
- US Foods
- Pricewater Coopers
- OMS National Insurance
- MB Bank Corporate
- Culligan
- Orthopedic Headquarters
- US Bank Corporate
- Rivers Casino
- Wintrust Corporate
- Maine South High School
- Valspar
- First American Title
- Elite Insurance
- First Midwest Bank
- Loyola Medicine
- Lawson Products
- Power Construction
- DePaul University Satellite Campus
- PCI
- True Value Corporate
- Sullair
- Aerotek
- Regus
- T-Mobile Corporate
- DeVry University
- Ardagh Group

# Active Trans' Corridor Plan

- Completed it last October/November
- Existing conditions assessment, review of data (on crashes, where people use the trail, and survey responses), and recommendations for improvements
- Blog post:  
<http://activetrans.org/blog/suburban-advocates-call-improvements-dprt>



# Contacting Me

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