

# RECENT BIKE-PED PLANS AND PROJECTS

Village of Lincolnwood  
Village of Skokie

June 8, 2017

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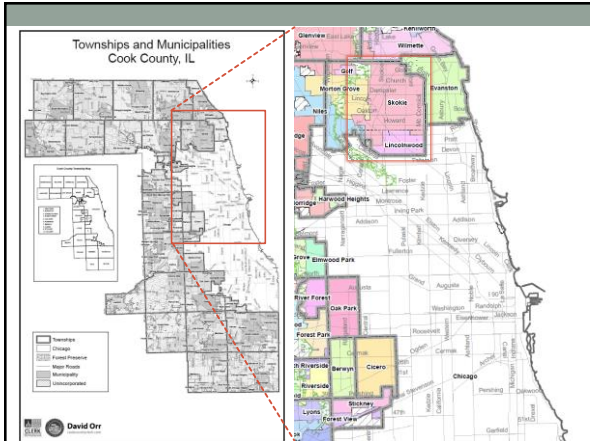
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## Lincolnwood's Recent Projects

- Valley Line Trail
  - Complete!
- UP Recreation Path
  - Complete!
- Touhy Avenue Overpass
  - Estimated Completion: Summer 2018
- Each project was awarded CMAQ funding

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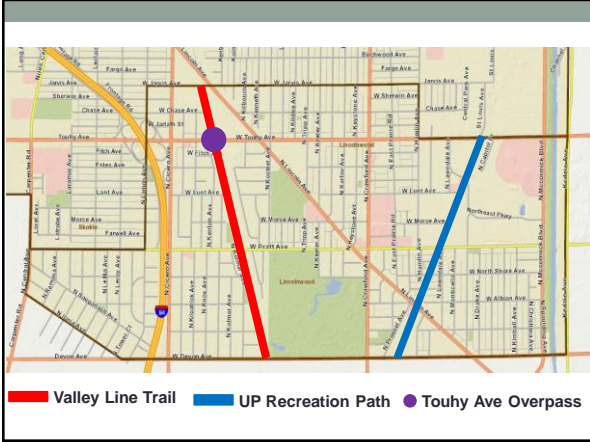
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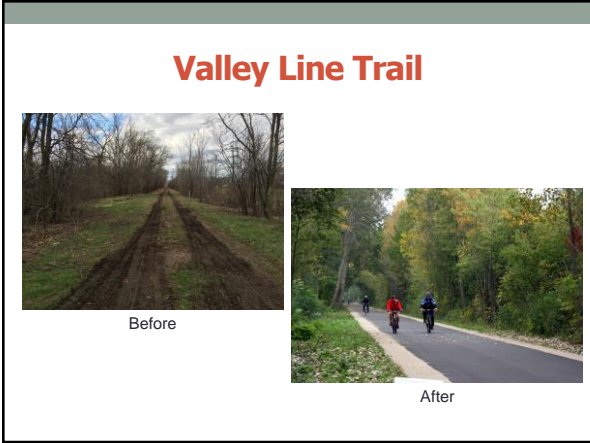
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## Valley Line Trail

- Length: 1.25 miles
- Construction Cost: \$1,040,000
- Land is leased from ComEd
- Connects the Sauganash Trail (Chicago) with the Skokie Valley Trail (Skokie)
  - Will eventually connect with Lake County Trail system and the Wisconsin border
- Issues
  - Line of sight into rear yards
    - Path is slightly elevated due to former railroad bed
    - Village Code was amended to allow 8-foot solid fences
  - Local wetland
    - Width of leased area is limited
    - ComEd has restricted our ability to do anything with the wetland

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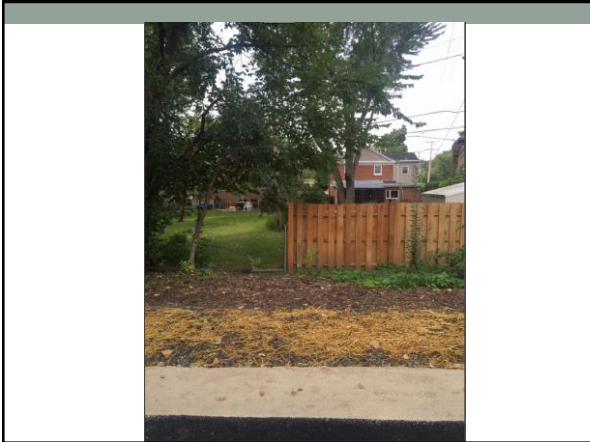
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### UP Recreation Path



Before



After

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### UP Recreation Path

- Length: 1.1 miles
- Construction Cost: \$930,000
- Land purchased from UPRR (\$4,600,000)
- Connects Touhy and Devon Avenues
  - Will eventually connect to planned Weber Spur Trail in Chicago
- Issues
  - Access Points
    - Six sidewalk connections were proposed – Two were constructed
    - Residents expressed concern over crime, volume of traffic, and cleanliness
  - Vehicular Access
    - Vehicles have been reported to be driving on the completed path
    - Police has spoken with neighboring businesses, fencing, and trees have been installed

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### Proposed Access Points



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### Purchase of Former UPRR ROW

- Purchase Price: \$4,600,000
  - 80% Federally Funded
- Lengthy Negotiation with the Union Pacific Railroad
  - Negotiation Began: February, 2014
  - Negotiation Concluded: April, 2016
- Appraisal Process
  - Initial Appraisal: \$1,855,000
    - Based on comparable corridor sales
  - "Across the Fence" Valuation: \$5,975,791
    - Based on the value of adjacent land
  - After much negotiation, the final purchase price was agreed upon generally using the "Across the Fence" valuation method

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### Touhy Avenue Overpass



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## Touhy Avenue Overpass

- Touhy Avenue – Approx. 40,000 ADT
- Overpass is intended to improve pedestrian/cyclist safety and serve as a community gateway feature
- Construction expected to start in fall
  - Estimated Cost: \$4,080,000
- Public Meetings
  - 3 – Parks and Recreation Board Meetings
    - Determine initial concept design and project location
  - 4 – Meetings with neighboring Condo Associations
    - Field meetings and presentations to the condo owners
  - 4 – Village Board Meetings
    - Finalize concept design and architectural elements
- Proximity to neighbors warranted working closely with neighboring associations
  - Initial opposition to the project
  - Recent meets have garnered little to no public comment

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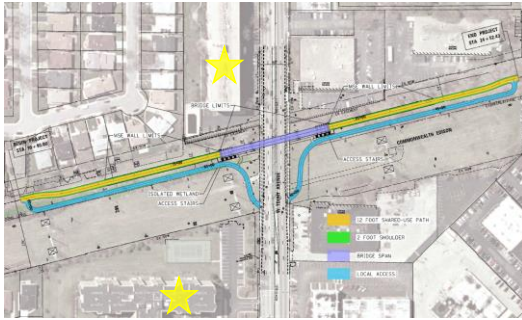
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## Touhy Avenue Overpass




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## Skokie's Recent Projects

- Skokie Valley Trail
  - Phase I from Dempster Street north to Golf Road
- Main Street Bike Lanes
  - 100% Complete
- Complete Streets
  - Resolution Approved in March 2016
  - Related Events
- Yellow Line Stations Bike Parking
  - Phase II this year
  - Phase III construction next year

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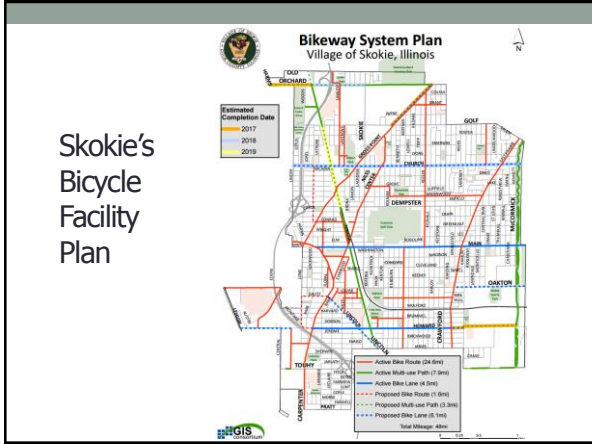
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# Skokie's Bicycle Facility Plan

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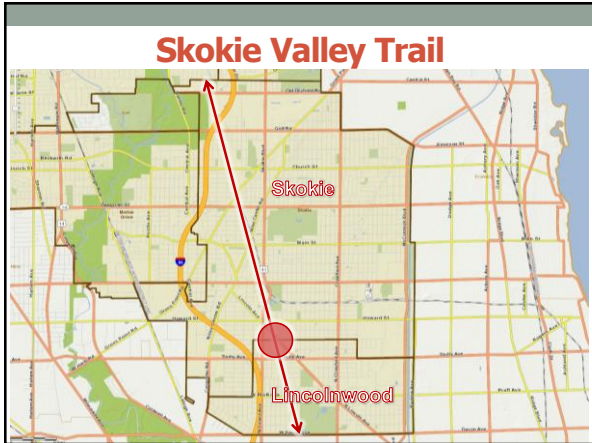
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### Skokie Valley Trail




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### Skokie Valley Trail




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### Skokie Valley Trail

- Length: 1.9 miles (2.5 miles complete)
- Construction Cost: \$1.9 million (Dempster south to Jarvis)
- Land is leased from ComEd, south of Oakton
- Connects to the Valley Line Trail (Lincolnwood)
  - Will eventually connect with Lake County Trail system and the Wisconsin border
- Issues
  - ROW Purchase – buy early
  - ComEd
  - Construction grants easier when Phase I is complete

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### Main Street Bike Lanes

Main Street at McCormick Boulevard



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### Main Street Bike Lanes



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### Complete Streets

Made possible by a Healthy HotSpot Technical Assistance Grant from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention via the Cook County Department of Public Health.

- Policy
- Niles North Pop-Up Event
- Walk Audit with Mark Fenton
- Active by Design Summit



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Complete Streets

## 10 Elements

1. Vision and Intent
2. All Users and Modes
3. All Projects and Phases
4. Exceptions
5. Network
6. Jurisdiction
7. Design
8. Context Sensitivity
9. Performance Standards
10. Implementation Steps

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Complete Streets – Skokie's Policy

## All Users and Modes

**Prioritizing** the needs of pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit users

**Adapting** to the needs of emergency responders and commercial vehicle drivers

**Acknowledging** vehicular use and safety

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## Niles North Pop-Up Event

- "Tactical Urbanism" Concept
- 1-day event (from 11:30 to 5:00)
- Closed 1/2-mile of Lawler Avenue for set-up and take-down
- Reopened street for school dismissal




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## Tools and Workers

### Tools

- Barricades and traffic cones
- Duct Tape
- Tar Paper
- Plants
- Chalk
- Message display boards



### Personnel

- Niles North Vikings (students, teacher, staff members)
- Public works employees
- Police officers
- Village engineering and planning staff
- Active Transportation Alliance staff

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## Demonstration/Pop-Up Event

### Landscaped Median



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## Demonstration/Pop-Up Event

### Crosswalk



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### Observations

*"You just solved all my problems."*



The median:

- Eliminated illegal left-turns
- Was no longer a by-pass lane
- Slowed traffic

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### Walk Audit with Mark Fenton

- Go Green Wilmette
- Consortium of North Shore Environmental Groups (CONSEG)
- Illinois Bone and Joint Institute Co-Sponsored
- Walk audit communities:
  - Skokie
  - Park Ridge
  - Highland Park
  - Wilmette
  - Glencoe

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### Walk Audit with Mark Fenton



Mark Fenton in Downtown Skokie

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### Walk Audit with Mark Fenton

*Observations ... on a scale of 1 to 10*




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### Walk Audit with Mark Fenton

*Things to Consider*



Remove right-turn lane/pork chop, change to no turn on red, and/or add a speed table/elevated crosswalk

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### (After) Walk Audit with Mark Fenton

*Things to Consider*



Remove painted median, shift lanes, and widen sidewalks

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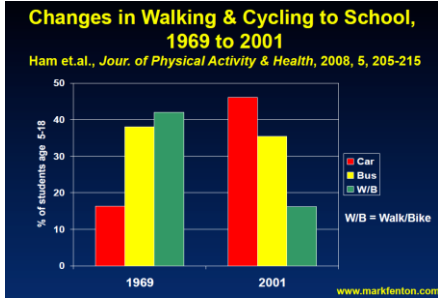
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### Active by Design Summit




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### Active by Design Summit

**The bad news in just three numbers:**

- 30 minutes** of daily physical activity recommended (**60 min.** for youth).
- < 20 %** of Americans actually meet these recommendations (thru LTPA).
- 365,000** estimated annual deaths in America due to physical inactivity & poor nutrition. (2<sup>nd</sup> only to tobacco.)

www.markfenton.com

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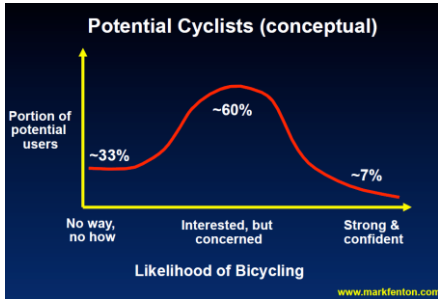
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### Active by Design Summit




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### Yellow Line Stations Bike Parking



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### Lessons Learned Summary

- Build "nowhere" to get started, makes connections easier in the future
- Prepare a Phase I study to increase chances of future construction funding
- Conduct a public process, formal and informal
- Bring people together, meet on-site
- Partner with other entities
- Allow extra time for negotiations
- Address on-street parking needs
- The sooner the better

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