



MEMORANDUM

To: Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force
From: CMAP staff
Date: June 2014
Re: FPDCC Project Updates

The following project updates were received from Task Force member, Pamela Sielski, of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County:

North Branch Southern Extension-

Phase I and II Engineering services are complete and the project has been on two IDOT construction lettings: the first was in March 2015 with zero bids received and the second was in April 2015 with three bidders. The low bid came in almost \$2m over the amount of federal funding available. If accepted with the funding currently available, the local agency share would increase from \$1.3m to \$3.1m – an increase that the Forest Preserve District is not able to absorb.

This project was one of eight CMAQ projects that came in significantly over the engineer's budget at April's letting.

Due to the increased cost, the Forest Preserve District has submitted a request to CMAP for consideration of a **re-scope of the project with revised project limits using the current funding at their June meeting**. The revised limits would be from Devon and Caldwell (the location of the existing trail) to Forest Glen Avenue where the Forest Preserve District has a parking lot, restrooms, and a picnic shelter. Forest Glen Avenue also provides access to the City of Chicago's signed street bicycle route. If approved, new plans would be submitted to IDOT for the September letting which historically results in lower estimates.

Cal Sag Trail-

Ribbon Cutting was June 6th for 13 miles of trail from the Centennial Trail to Cicero Avenue in Alsip.

From Sag Quarries to 86th Street the trail is open but not complete, there are finishing items such as grading & seeding of grass shoulders, installation of drop gates, split rail fence and handrails on underpasses & retaining walls.

From Sag Quarries to the Centennial Trail (west side of Archer) the trail will not be open until handrail rails are installed. The trail should be fully opened by September 2015.

Also, IDOT has future plans to improve the intersection of Archer Ave (RT171) & Calumet-Sag Road (RT 83) so IDOT removed crossing improvements at Archer Ave from this project. The FPDCC hopes that IDOT can move this project to the top of the to-be-funded project list in order to complete the connection.

Thorn Creek Trail-

Stage 1 - from the Old Plank Road north to Sweet Woods minus signage is complete. This section includes 3 bridges and one underpass modification.

Stage 2 - from the Old Plank Road Trail south to Sauk Trail has started with tree removal. Once the contractor obtains insurance from the (unresponsive) Wisconsin Central Railroad construction can begin. Anticipated completion date September 2015.

North Branch Lake Cook Road Extension-

Working on a new at-grade trail crossing of the Union Pacific Railroad on the south side of Lake Cook Road in order to provide a direct connection to the Greenbay Trail.

Orland Grassland-

3 out of 5.5 miles has been paved, the trail should be complete/ open by end of August.

Oak Forest-

A combination of 2 miles of paved and gravel loop trails should be complete by September 2015