Meeting agenda

• Welcome and Introductions
• CMAP & LTA Project overview
  • LTA application submitted by FPDCC in 2017
  • Project goals & objectives
  • Steering committee role
• Initial findings
  • Maps, field survey/bike tour
• Area-specific feedback from Steering Committee (small group activity)
• Next steps
About CMAP

• Regional planning agency created in 2005
• Serves the seven-county NE Illinois region, with a geographically representative Board
• Created the GO TO 2040 plan in 2010
• About to adopt update, ON TO 2050

Local Technical Assistance (LTA) Program

• Implements GO TO 2040 / ON TO 2050 by providing direct planning assistance to local communities
• CMAP has issued RFPs annually since 2011 (except 2016)
• To date, more than 144 completed, about 29 currently underway, and 36 have not started
Project Background

- Des Plaines River Trail runs ~55 miles from River Grove north to the Wisconsin border
- ~6 mile gap in trail exists between North Ave. and Ogden Ave.
- Gap includes connections to the Illinois Prairie Path and Salt Creek Greenway
- FPDCC submitted LTA application in June 2017 to study trail alignment between 26th St. and Ogden Ave.
- Project was approved by the CMAP Board in October 2017 (as part of 34 new LTA projects)
- Scope of work developed with feedback from FPDCC
- MOU signed in June, 2018
- Project aligns with broader efforts of CMAP (regional trail planning) and Active Transportation Alliance-led Trail Connect Chicagoland and Des Plaines River & Trail Coalition
What are the objectives of the Des Plaines River, South Extension Planning Study?

- **Identify** potential trail alignments
- **Evaluate** feasibility of identified alignments
- **Conduct outreach and engage** key stakeholders
- **Select a preferred alternative** to advance toward implementation
Role of the Steering Committee

• Guide and inform the study process
• Review and provide input on key deliverables:
  o Existing Conditions Report/Memo
  o Route evaluation criteria
  o Study Report
• Attend 4-5 Steering Committee meetings during the 18-month process
• Assist with community outreach
Project Study Area
Scope of Work

Phase 1: Project orientation (June – August)

• Meetings and discussions with FPDCC staff
• Formation of “Core Project Team” – FPDCC, CMAP, Brookfield, Riverside, North Riverside, Lyons (July 17)
• Project administration
• Project website:

https://www.cmap.illinois.gov/programs/LTA/des-plaines-river-trail-study
Scope of Work

Phase 2: Assess existing conditions (July – December)

• Core team bicycle tour of study area (Aug. 7)
• Initial Steering Committee meeting
• Data collection and analysis
• Key stakeholder interviews and other outreach (Sept.-Nov.)

**Deliverable:** An Existing Conditions report or memorandum which will include maps, charts, as well as discussion of key issues and opportunities.
Scope of Work

• Development and detailed analysis of potential routes
• Development of evaluation criteria
• Ongoing outreach and stakeholder input
  • Focus group meeting
  • Presence at community or stakeholder events, festivals, and meetings
  • Interactive online / intercept survey
  • Public meeting (March)

Deliverable: A presentation or memorandum identifying potential routes and listing proposed evaluation criteria.
Scope of Work


  *Deliverable:* The study report will be a summary of the planning process and evaluation methods and results, with support from graphics and maps. It also will include language concerning implementation.

• Phase 5: Final Report and Implementation Coordination
  - Public Open House (*Summer/Fall 2019*)
  - Coordination meetings re implementation (*Summer/Fall 2019*)

  *Deliverable:* Final plan document.
Project Timeline

- Five phases to be completed over 12-18 months

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Study Area Bike Tour

- Core Team members participated
- Goal was to get a “handlebar” view of study area and preliminarily assess some key locations and suspected issues.
Existing Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities
Bicycle and Pedestrian Crashes (7 Years of Data, 2010-16)
- 116 Total Bicycle and Pedestrian Crashes
  - 66 Bicycle Crashes
  - 50 Pedestrian Crashes
- 22 Incapacitating Injury Crashes
  - 12 Type A Bicycle Crashes
  - 10 Type A Pedestrian Crashes

Existing Bike-Ped Facilities
- Trail / Sidepath
- Conventional Bike Lanes
- Sidewalk (with Planted Buffer)
- Wide (6-7 ft.) Sidewalk
- Sidewalk (Back-of-Curb)
- Select Key Pedestrian Facilities

Miscellaneous
- Zoo Entrances
- Schools
- Metra Rail / Stations

Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning, 2018
PAVEMENT WIDTH (ROADWAY EDGE) VS. RIGHT-OF-WAY

Existing Bike-Ped Facilities
- Trail / Sidewalk
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Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning, 2018
Lyons - Detail

- Potential creation of trail behind parcels along Ogden Ave.
- Connects existing sidepath and Riverwalk pathway
- Avoids on-street signed route and 2 (out of 3) crossings of Ogden Ave.
1st Ave - Detail

- Potential extension of recently-constructed sidepath
- Questions/potential issues:
  - ROW
  - Topography
  - Flooding
Benefits of Trails

- Recreation
- Transportation
- Healthy Living
- Economics and Property Appreciation
- Environment and Conservation
- Safe and Livable Communities
Group Discussion

- Identify **issues and concerns**
- Identify important **destinations, as well as route opportunities**
- **Organizations or individuals** to engage
- **Events or locations** for outreach (tabling or on-trail intercept surveys)
Next Steps

• For Steering Committee
  o Help identify key stakeholders
  o Build agency and community awareness of the planning study
  o Alert planning team of any potential issues, challenges, or opportunities related to trail
  o Drive attendance at public meetings and community events

• For CMAP
  o Outreach to key stakeholders and stakeholder groups for one-on-one interviews
  o Continue data collection and gathering of information on study area
  o Continue existing conditions analysis and report creation
Thank you!

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