



## **Pewaukee to Brookfield Connector Trail Project** (WisDOT Project ID #2718-14-01) **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **Fast Facts About the Project**

Waukesha County's proposed project will convert an abandoned railway into a 10-foot wide paved multi-use trail. The trail is approximately three and one-half miles in length, and it will cross through scenic woodlands and wetlands with three total bridge crossings of the Fox River. The City of Brookfield has a concurrent project underway that involves the relocation and renovation of an old railroad depot building, which will be converted into a trailhead facility near the intersection of Brookfield Road and River Road.

### **Why is the County developing this trail?**

The proposed project is part of the County's Adopted Comprehensive Bike-Ped Plan and the City of Brookfield's Greenway Trail System Plan. The project is also supported in the State's Regional Bicycle Facilities System Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin: 2010 by the Southeast Regional Planning Commission. The trail segment is the first phase of a trail connection between the City of Brookfield and the City of Waukesha. When future phases are completed, a gap in the overall regional bicycle/pedestrian system will be addressed, improved connections will ultimately exist to the Fox River Trail, the New Berlin Trail, and the Glacial Drumlin Trail in Waukesha County, and to the Oak Leaf Trail, the Deer Creek Trail and the Hank Aaron Trail in Milwaukee County.

### **What are the benefits to this trail connection?**

- The project is anticipated to generate 15,000 to 20,000 bike trips per year in the initial years, with potential to reach 40,000 to 50,000 bike trips per year.
- It is anticipated that 10,000-15,000 walking trips per year will occur on portions of this facility, where 1-2 mile trips connect residential areas to destinations.
- It is anticipated that up to 30% of the estimated trips may be for work or utilitarian activities (shopping, transportation to activity destinations, and workplace).
- The project will create a safer transportation facility alternative for non-motorists by offering a separated bicycle/pedestrian trail with few street intersections.

### **What facilities/destinations will be easily accessible from the trail?**

The following locations are within ½ mile of the proposed trail corridor:

- Brookfield Elementary School
- Brookfield Village Area
- City of Brookfield Greenway Trail System
- Mitchell Park
- Fox Brook Park
- Residential Neighborhoods in Brookfield and Pewaukee
- Sharon Lynne Wilson Center
- McCoy Park

### **How much does this project cost and who is paying for it?**

The project is included in the 2018 to 2022 Waukesha County Capital Improvement Project Plan. The cost estimate is approximately \$2.1 million, with 80% of the funds awarded through the WisDOT Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), and the remaining 20% of the costs to be shared between Waukesha County and the City of Brookfield.

**Will trees and other vegetation be removed within the existing corridor?**

It is Waukesha County's goal to preserve the significant natural resource features throughout the trail corridor, so the design process will follow an approach that is sensitive to adjacent waterways, woodlands and wetlands, and any impacts will be minimized. Tree removal will be limited to diseased trees and those that are within the trail footprint or are necessary to establish safety clearances along the trail shoulders.

**What is the project timeframe?**

The project is currently in the initial stages of design. Construction is anticipated to begin in the spring of 2021, and be complete by fall of 2021.

**How can I provide input on the project?**

Multiple public informational meetings will be held during the design phase of the project, and residents, stakeholders and other interested members of the public will be invited to provide feedback. Further comments or questions can be addressed to the Project Designer, Lynda Fink from KL Engineering, Inc., at [lfink@klengineering.com](mailto:lfink@klengineering.com).

**Are there other trails like this in Waukesha County?**

Waukesha County Park System Division has three multi-use trails within the Park System: the New Berlin Trail, the Lake Country Trail and the Bugline Trail.



Example of Bugline Trail Improvement Project

**Where can I find more information about this project?**

Project updates will be posted on the Waukesha County Parks and Land Use website at [waukeshacountyparks.com](http://waukeshacountyparks.com)