



### Trail Improvements

Improving trail connections throughout the city of Avoca will not only create additional safe pedestrian routes, but also enhance opportunities for improved wellness, recreation, and sustainable modes of transportation to the community's parks, businesses, and other amenities. A cohesive trail system could take the existing trail fragments and develop them into a complete network of on-street and dedicated trails.

Creating an on-street trail system with pavement markings indicating sharrows—dedicated bicycle routes where vehicles must share the road with bicyclists—will connect to the existing off-street recreational trails as well as proposed expansions. In addition to pavement markings, sharrows would need to have associated pole-mounted way-finding signage, indicating the proposed roads as designated bicycle routes. All signs on trail routes and vehicular roadways should display reflective finishes to increase visibility during any time of day.

The former railroad corridor in southwest Avoca is a prime opportunity for expanded recreational trails. After clearing overhanging vegetation, the city can use the level route of the old railroad line for an asphalt trail. This route would connect the old grain elevator site and Mez Buttermilk Flat Park to the existing sidewalk at Union Street and Oak Street, leading to AHSTW Community Schools. This map shows the different designations of existing trails, proposed trail expansions, and designated bike routes. To complete safe and accessible loops, some easements or property acquisition may be required.



Recreation trail example



Sharrow example