

Proposed Trail Master Plan



Flenker Land Architecture Consultants, LLC

Landscape Architect: Meg K. Flenker, PLA, CPESC, CPSWQ Interns: Haoyue (Karma) Yang and Jue Jue (JJ) Wai Hin Thaw Iowa State University | Trees Forever | Iowa Department of Transportation

Trail Master Plan

The proposed trail system is composed of various types of trails in order meet the goals identified by the community during the TAB workshop and design workshop and reiterated by the steering committee members during the goal setting meeting (refer to TAB boards and the Goal Setting board). The different types of trails that are part of the system are as follows and are listed in order of preference for best user experience: 1) Separate trail; 2) Sharrows; 3) Shared Sidewalks; and 4) Bike Routes.

The trail routes shown on this map reflect the in-depth discussions held at the design workshop with residents. The goals for the trail is to provide connectivity to the school, parks, existing trail, downtown and the commercial and business corridor districts, as well connect into future regional trail systems.

In addition to gathering community input, another component of route selection is to consider the bioregional impact. Existing soils, water-table depths, drainage patterns, and flooding frequency can all have adverse impacts on developments, including trails. While some adverse impacts can be addressed through design, it is best to consider other potential routes or locations that have better conditions for development. For example, constructing in poor soil, in areas with high watertables, or in floodplains can result in delayed construction and required permitting; a project can also incur increased construction costs and/or additional costs associated with modifications to the project to meet permitting requirements and/ or mitigation needs.

Ignoring bioregional information can also lead to a decreased project life-cycle and higher than normal maintenance and repair costs. A project can also have an adverse impact on the bioregion.

When possible and feasible, the trail route shown on this board stays outside of the 100-year floodplain and areas that are identified as having potential high watertables. There were couple of areas by the mobile home park and Prairie View Park where it is within the 100-year floodplain.

As the design process progresses, field observations and more detailed investigations will need to be made in order to verify the preliminary findings and determine the most feasible route with the least amount of adverse impact to natural resources and landowners.

