



DATE: March 10, 2026
TO: Ted Henry, City Manger
FROM: Bel Aire City Council
SUBJECT: WAMPO Grant Multi-Use Path Project – Design Direction

Summary

The City of Bel Aire was awarded a grant through the Wichita Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (WAMPO) Transportation Alternatives Program to assist with the development of a multi-use path system within the community. The originally proposed Phase 1 alignment generally followed the concept identified in the 2019 City’s Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. The total estimated project cost is \$1,000,000, with \$700,000 covered by grant funds.

Following community outreach and a public workshop held on February 17, 2026, staff received a significant amount of public feedback regarding the Phase 1 alignment. While many residents expressed general support for expanding bicycle and pedestrian connectivity throughout the City, concerns were raised about the proposed path location behind residential properties, including issues related to privacy, access to backyards, property impacts, and potential maintenance concerns.

Residents also suggested that future pathways should prioritize connections along arterial streets and between major community destinations such as parks, schools, and the Recreation Center.

Based on this feedback, staff developed an alternative concept that would provide connectivity while reducing potential impacts to adjacent residential properties. Regardless of which alignment is ultimately pursued, the next step in the process would require preparation of a concept design to determine feasibility, costs, right-of-way needs, and compliance with WAMPO grant requirements.

The City Council may provide direction to proceed with concept design for the original Phase 1 alignment, the alternate alignment, or choose not to move forward with the project at this time.

Motion to direct staff to proceed with preparation of a concept design for Multi-use path design.

Option 1 – Proceed with Original Phase 1 Alignment

Motion to direct staff to proceed with preparation of a concept design for the original Phase 1 multi-use path alignment as identified in the City’s Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan.

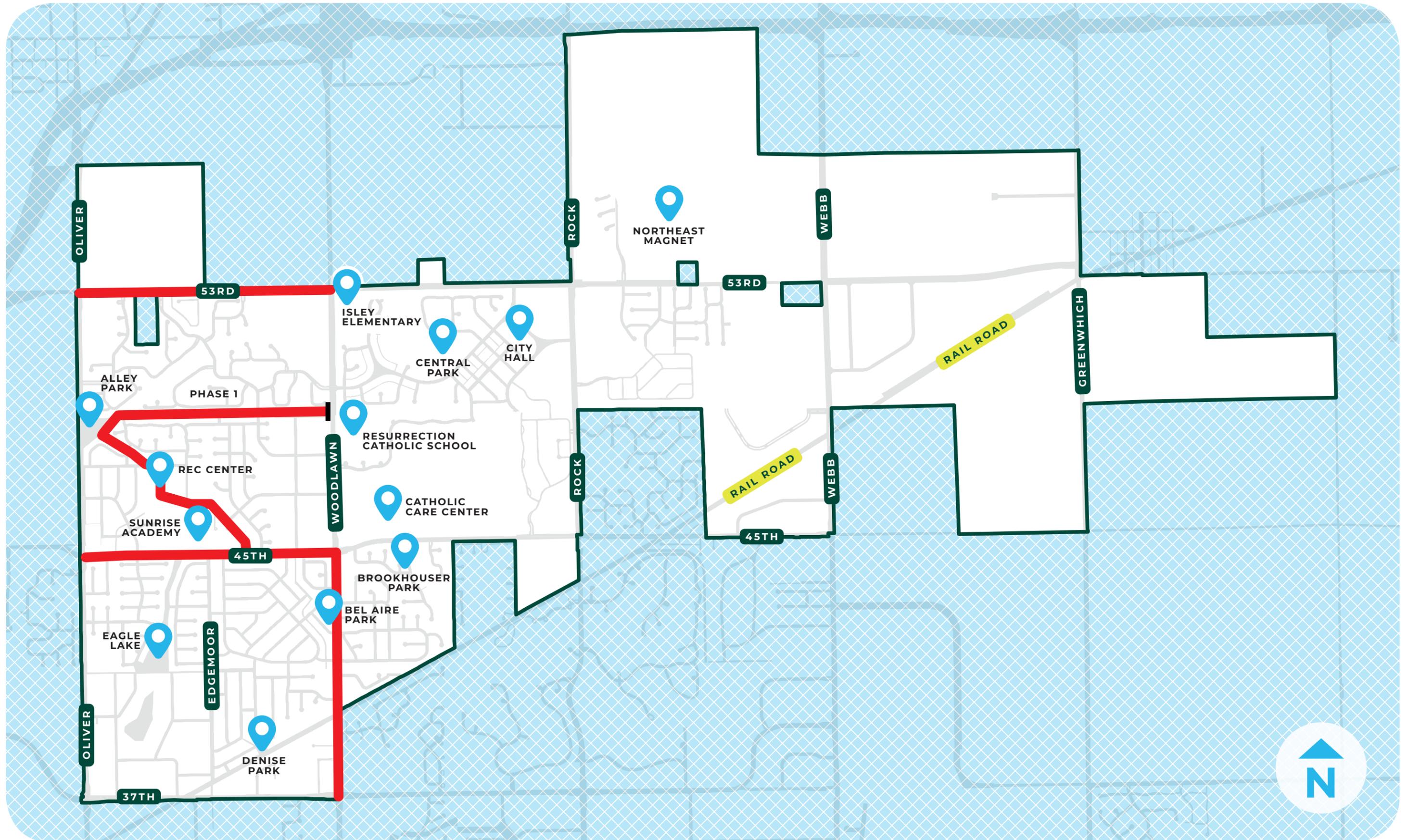
Option 2 – Proceed with Alternate Alignment

Motion to direct staff to proceed with preparation of a concept design for the alternate multi-use path alignment and to coordinate with WAMPO to confirm eligibility of the revised alignment under the existing grant award.

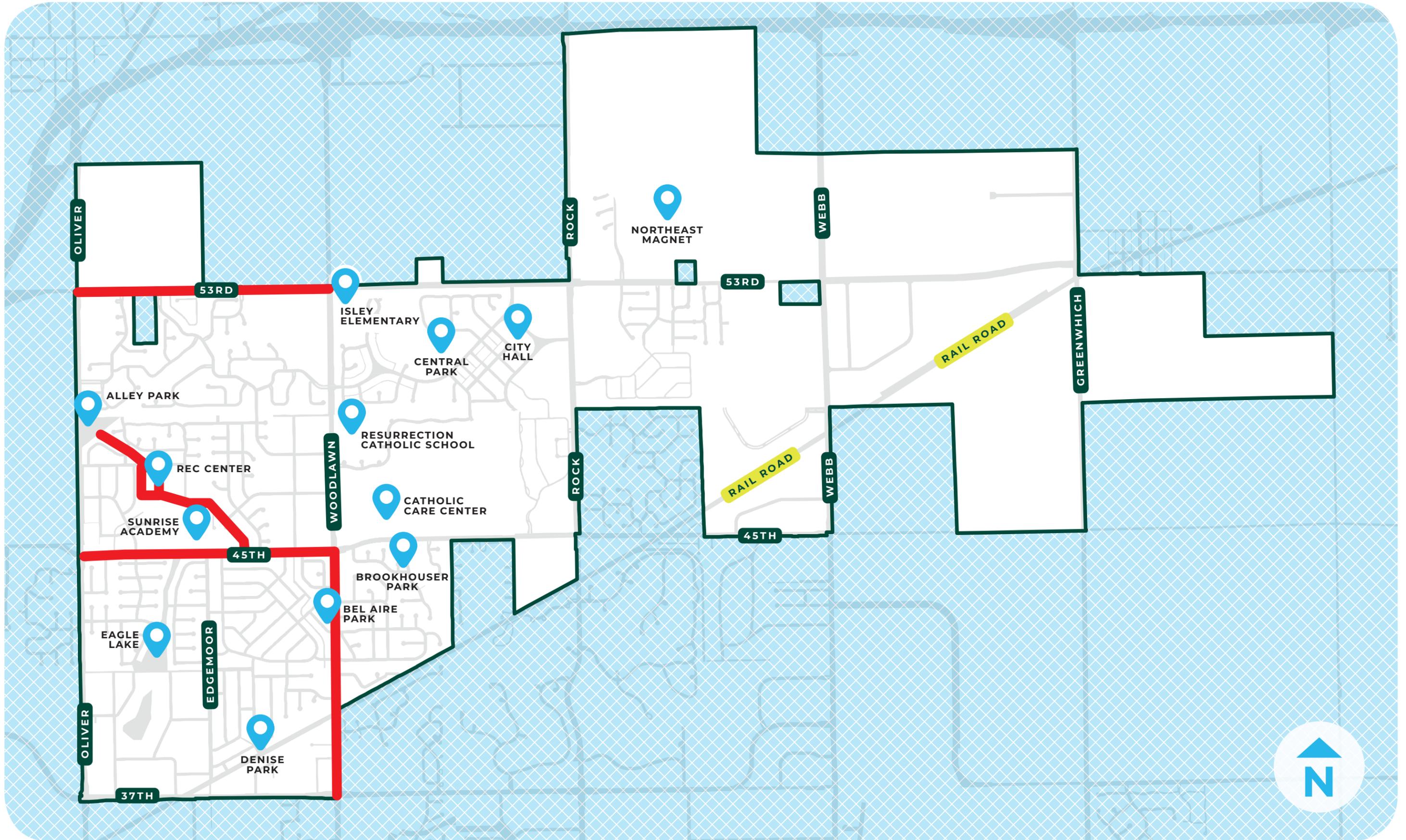
Option 3 – Do Not Proceed with the Project

Motion to take no action on the proposed multi-use path project at this time.

Option 1: Original Phase 1 Alignment



Option 2: Alternate Alignment



Option 3: Do Not Proceed with the Project

