

# AGENDA ITEM MEMORANDUM

DATE: 2/20/2025

TO: Public Works Committee

FROM: Joe Kerlin, Superintendent of Parks

SUBJECT: Resolution 156-24-25 – Evergreen Park Trail Concept Plan

## <u>ISSUE</u>

Should the Public Works Committee recommend approval of the Evergreen Trail Concept Plan?

## STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of Evergreen Trail Concept Plan.

### BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

Evergreen Park has a deep history of bike trail use dating back to the 1990s. Fatkats, a local trail association of the time, hosted WORS races for many years hosting hundreds of racers per event. The single tracks existing in the park today were hand-built by volunteers for those races and local riders to enjoy.

In 2019 Carl Martens, original owner Aventuron in Sheboygan contributed \$8,000 and raised another \$1,000 to bring in IMBA to do an initial trail inventory of the Evergreen, Maywood and Jaycee Parks. The trail assessment/inventory shows all the trails in the three parks.

Sheboygan County Cycling (SCC) has picked up where Carl left off, contracting with IMBA to provide a conceptual plan for future improvements and the complete inventory of the trails and conditions. Without a trail association, the trails in the park turned into a spider web of trails from riders riding wherever they want to go. SCC has a great website; they are educators for trail riders, and they hold workdays for the improvement of the trails and the park.

SCC's report will involve trail assessment, Community input, what they have to offer to improve the trails in the park, how trails coexist with the environment, and how biking is used as another way for people to become more active and enjoy nature.

The concept provided will only include Evergreen Park and offer an idea of what can be done. This resolution is only for the approval of the concept plan. The group will need to ask for approval before making any changes that would be outside of normal trail maintenance and improved signage.

### FUNDING IMPACT

At this time there has been little funding provided by the City. The City has put in their fiveyear plan that it would look for grant money to support the project up to \$50,000 in 2025 and 2026. There are no funds provided by the City for ongoing maintenance. This would be provided by SCC.

### IF APPROVED, NEXT STEPS:

Upon approval of the concept plan, SCC and I would meet with the City's purchasing agent to discuss the next steps of design-bid for portions of the concept.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

2026 NEW JERSEY AVE. SHEBOYGAN, WI 53081

920/459-3440 sheboyganwi.gov