

## Engineering Division

**To:** Mayor Stocks and Common Council Members  
**From:** Andrew Beyer, P.E., Director of Public Works/City Engineer  
**Date:** 3/12/2026  
**Subject:** Bicycle and Pedestrian Network Plan

### Background

The City of Watertown, with assistance from HKGi, Inc., has developed a city-wide Bicycle and Pedestrian Network Plan (Plan), funded in part with a Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Grant from Wisconsin Department of Transportation. The Bicycle and Pedestrian Path Planning Task Force members and partners served as the Advisory Committee for this plan and have reviewed and provided comments during the plan development. The Public Works Commission has weighed in on the plan and is forwarding the plan to the Common Council for review & adoption.

The city-wide Bicycle and Pedestrian Network Plan will guide future installations and connections of bicycle and/or pedestrian routes, initiatives and other measures to promote safe access and travel around the city and to connect Watertown to the larger region, via non-vehicular transportation modes. The plan is designed to be an important piece in future grant applications, project selection and budget discussions.

### Budget Goal

1. Create a community where all can feel safe and strive for economic success.
2. Maintain indoor and outdoor recreational facilities to enhance safety, overall health, and quality of life.
3. Involve those who are impacted before making decisions.
4. Encourage community growth by assessing opportunities, involving ALL stakeholders, environmental needs, modern code and policy priorities.

### Financial Impact

The city-wide Bicycle and Pedestrian Network Plan was funded in part with a TAP Grant through the Wisconsin Department of Transportation. Future implementation of the plan will be

considered as opportunities and funding allow, including but not limited to future grant opportunities, budget, program and policy updates and other location-specific route improvements that can be completed as standalone projects or as part of larger construction projects within the capital improvement program.

## **Recommendation**

The Bicycle and Pedestrian Path Planning Task Force has reviewed the draft plan and recommends adoption. Engineering Division staff and HKGi, Inc., presented and discussed the Bicycle and Pedestrian Network Plan with Public Works Commission on March 10, 2026. The plan has been revised to address comments from Public Works Commission, and is now ready for review & adoption by Common Council.