

Engineering Division of the Public Works Department

To: Chair Arnett & Public Works Commission Members

From: Andrew Beyer, P.E., Director of Public Works/City Engineer

Date: 12/4/2025

Subject: Draft Bicycle and Pedestrian Network Plan Recommendations

Background

Review and discussion: Draft Recommendations for the City-wide Bicycle and Pedestrian Network Plan

Background:

The City previously competed successfully for a Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Grant for the development of a City-wide Bicycle and Pedestrian Network Plan. The selected consultant, HKGi, has been working on the plan since early in 2025, and is now presenting draft recommendations to stakeholders prior to inclusion in the draft plan.

The Community Engagement portion of this project provided many opportunities and mechanisms for the public to provide comments and suggestions to improve biking, walking and rolling in the City and to routes that lead to and from the City. The Bicycle and Pedestrian Path Task Force, with the addition of representatives from Jefferson County and Dodge County, has served as the Community Advisory Group for this project. Information received from the public and the advisory group has been considered and evaluated along with professional and technical recommendations on the following general topics:

- New and connecting routes within the City and to regional routes that lead to and from the City
- Improvement of existing routes
- Future maintenance needs
- Future sidewalk installations
- E-Bike considerations
- Intersection improvements/Curb extensions
- Bridge and railroad crossings
- Wayfinding

The project team is now sharing the draft recommendations with stakeholder groups including, schools, Chamber of Commerce, the Bicycle and Pedestrian Path Task Force/Advisory Group, and Public Works Commission to solicit comments, refinements and other suggestions prior to inclusion in the draft City-wide Bicycle and Pedestrian Network Plan. The Draft Network Plan showing the proposed types and locations of routes is included in this meeting packet.

Budget Goal

1. Proactively maintains and improves our parks and infrastructure in an effort to ensure quality, safety and compliance
2. Promotes and fosters innovative approaches for community development and growth
3. Maintains a safe and healthy community, and expands community education on safety and health

Financial Impact

The WisDOT TAP Grant provides 80% of the cost to develop the City-wide Bicycle and Pedestrian Network Plan, up to a maximum grant award of \$80,000. The plan is intended to help prioritize future bicycle and pedestrian path installations and improvements, either as stand-alone projects or as they are added to adjacent infrastructure improvement projects. The plan is also a supporting document for future grant applications seeking funding for recommended construction and maintenance projects.

Recommendation

The City-wide Bicycle and Pedestrian Network Plan project team seeks comments and suggestions from the Public Works Commission for consideration as the draft plan is completed. The final plan is anticipated to be presented to the Public Works Commission in 2026.

2025 Operational Goals

1. Proactively maintains and improves our parks and infrastructure in an effort to ensure quality, safety and compliance
2. Promotes and fosters innovative approaches for community development and growth
3. Maintains a safe and healthy community, and expands community education on safety and health