



MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 28, 2022

TO: Brian Murphy, Village Administrator

FROM: Jeff Loster, Director of Public Works and Development Services

SUBJECT: Des Plaines River Trail – Bike Plan Update

Issue: Bike path plans are currently being designed/implemented along the east side of the Des Plaines River through several municipalities, including River Forest. River Forest has been asked to confirm its support of this project to enable it to proceed.

Analysis: Through the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP), Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd. (CBBEL) has been designing bike plan improvements and installations along the Des Plaines River through Rosemont, Schiller Park, Franklin Park, River Grove, Des Plaines, Park Ridge, Elmwood Park, River Forest and Forest Park. Originally, the plan stopped at North Avenue however, continuation through River Forest and Forest Park will allow the path to reach the Illinois Prairie Path as well as the Forest Park Transit Center.

The purpose of these improvements is both to avoid repeated flooding issues associated with the river as well as to create a more comprehensive network for bicyclists by addressing missing segments.

All Phase 1 Engineering has now been completed with the majority of construction planned to be completed in 2022. The River Forest and Elmwood Park sections are planned to undergo Phase 2 Engineering and construction at some time in 2022 or 2023, depending on funding. In order to continue to pursue funding opportunities to complete design/ construction and permitting through the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) the Village has been asked to re-affirm its support for this project to ensure that we remain an interested partner.

Recommendations: There is no need for a formal motion at this time. Staff is seeking consensus from the Board regarding support of this project.

Attachment
Site Exhibits



