

UNITED CITY OF YORKVILLE CONNECTIONS

UPDATING THE COMMUNITY ON THE INTEGRATED TRANSPORTATION PLAN



YOU'LL FIND
ANSWERS
INSIDE:

THIS NEWSLETTER IS
THE FIRST IN A SERIES
DESIGNED TO INFORM
AND EDUCATE THE
COMMUNITY ON THE
INTEGRATED
TRANSPORTATION PLAN.

YOUR OPINION COUNTS!
FILL OUT A SURVEY
REGARDING THE ITP AT
WWW.YORKVILLE.IL.US

PLEASE DIRECT ANY AND
ALL COMMENTS OR
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Connecting the Community

What is Yorkville's Integrated Transportation Plan?

The United City of Yorkville is pleased to introduce the **Integrated Transportation Plan (ITP)**, an exciting project for the City. As the City continues to experience rapid growth and express interest in more trails, the ITP will focus on two key elements: an overall **Shared-Use Trail Plan** establishing Yorkville as a great place to ride your bike, jog and walk by planning an extensive network system and a **Downtown Streetscape Plan** which will build upon the Vision Plan originally established in 2005, focusing on Yorkville's downtown area. At the completion of the study an implementation plan will be designed to define future action steps.

What is the study area?

There are two areas of focus for the ITP:

1. **Shared-Use Trail Plan**

The Shared-Use Trail Plan will address the entire Yorkville planning area from Helmar Road to the south, US Route 30 to the north, Grove Road to the east and Eldamain Road to the west. Key transportation routes such as US Route 34, Illinois Routes 47, 71 and 126; Galena, Baseline, Caton Farm and Kennedy Roads will be analyzed as part of the Shared-Use Trail Plan.

2. **Downtown Streetscape Plan**

The Downtown Streetscape Plan addresses the core area of downtown along the Illinois Route 47 corridor and major east-west streets from Hydraulic Avenue to the north, to Orange Street to the south. The downtown analysis will also examine the outer perimeter of downtown Yorkville generally bounded by Somonauk Street



A RECENT SURVEY OF RESIDENTS LISTED TRAILS AS THE MOST DESIRED AMENITY. ABOVE: EXISTING TRAIL IN THE HEARTLAND CIRCLE COMMUNITY

to the north, Mill Street to the east, Illinois Route 126 to the south, and Morgan Street to the west.

What is the purpose of the Shared-Use Trail Plan?

The purpose is to improve and encourage bicycle and pedestrian transportation throughout Yorkville and provide connections within the region. The project is primarily funded by the Illinois Department of Transportation through the Illinois Tomorrow Corridor Planning Grant. The ITP will focus on the following overall issues:

- *Community-wide transportation issues*
- *Protect natural resources such as the Fox River and the overall watershed*
- *Improve public access and mobility throughout the region*
- *Economic opportunities of a cohesive trail network*

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These items are very important considerations and with the creation of a purposeful ITP and Shared-Use Trail System, bicycle and pedestrian travel should greatly improve in the Yorkville area. In order to achieve this goal, specific aspects will be considered such as:

- *Trail and greenway connections between neighborhoods, schools, parks, employment centers, etc.*
- *Connectivity and mobility within Yorkville's city limits to key nodes and destinations*
- *Guidelines, design standards and policies for various types of trails*
- *Pedestrian and bike friendly streets*
- *Safe walkways and trails for children to walk or bike to schools*
- *Protection of the Fox River and watershed*
- *Connections to adjacent municipalities and county trails and other destinations*

With the implementation of these key aspects, as Yorkville's population continues to grow, its citizens will reside in a livable community that offers a diversity of transportation alternatives including convenient, reliable, safe, efficient, and attractive bicycle and pedestrian facilities. Yorkville will be a place where people can travel easily and safely to locations in which they live, work, and play.

What is the purpose of the Downtown Streetscape Plan?

A Downtown Streetscape Plan will be created to include a Pedestrian Analysis and Design Standards for Streetscape Elements. The purpose of this part of the study is to address elements such as:

- *Pedestrian circulation and safety concerns in the core downtown area*
- *Aesthetic quality by implementing design standards and guidelines*
- *Traffic calming techniques on local streets*
- *Current and future parking needs*
- *Guidelines for streetscape elements such as signage, lighting, benches, planter boxes, banners, bike racks, bollards, trash receptacles, street trees and grates, and special paving patterns*

Upon implementation, the Downtown Streetscape Plan will provide guidelines for a successful



ABOVE: THE ITP WILL MAXIMIZE OPPORTUNITIES OF THE FOX RIVER



BELOW: THE DOWNTOWN STREETSCAPE PLAN WILL EXAMINE PEDESTRIAN & BICYCLE CONNECTIONS TO KEY DESTINATIONS



THE PLAN WILL EXAMINE CONNECTIONS TO KEY ELEMENTS LIKE THE HOOVER EDUCATION CENTER AND OTHER KEY PARKS, TRAILS & OPEN SPACES

pedestrian environment, recreating a vibrant downtown for years to come.

How can I get involved?

As a resident of Yorkville and the surrounding area you will have many opportunities to be informed and provide input throughout the coming year. The United City of Yorkville has posted a survey on its website (www.yorkville.il.us) for residents to voice their opinions and will conduct a series of public meetings, involving residents and citizens, property owners, businesses, local, county and state officials, land developers, and some local authorities such as the Kendall County Forest Preserve District. Information on the project's progress can also be found on www.yorkville.il.us. Watch for future public meeting dates and subsequent issues of this newsletter.