

## **Planning and Parks Department**

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**Public Agency Center** 

## Press Release

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## Washington County Bikeway and Trail Network Plan Adoption

The Washington County Planning and Parks Department is excited to announce that on June 12, 2019 the County Board of Supervisors adopted the Washington County Bikeway and Trail Network Plan.

The Washington County Bikeway and Trail Network Plan was developed to help guide the County as it makes investments in bikeways and trails across the County to improve the quality of life for all residents - from school children to casual bicyclists to avid road cyclists. The centerpiece of the Plan are seven high-priority "all ages and abilities" bikeway and trail corridors that will connect all of the incorporated cities and villages in the County.

Plan implementation will be fulfilled over time in small, incremental steps. Successful implementation will depend on effective collaboration between County departments, and with local governments, advocacy and non-profit conservation organizations, businesses, and land owners. The next step for the County is to develop a Five-Year Strategic Action Plan to outline clear and achievable implementation tasks.

Washington County worked with Toole Design Group and the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC) to develop the Plan. To help guide and oversee the development of the Plan, the County Board authorized the creation of the Bike and Pedestrian Plan Advisory Committee, comprised of representatives from most towns and municipalities in the County, as well as important stakeholders with an interest in bicycle and pedestrian issues. In addition to the Advisory Committee oversight, there were numerous opportunities for public engagement throughout the planning process including two online interactive mapping exercises, traditional public meetings, as well as in-person "meeting in a box" outreach.

For more information and to download a copy of the adopted plan, visit the County website at <a href="https://www.co.washington.wi.us/bike">www.co.washington.wi.us/bike</a> or contact Debora Sielski at 262-335-4445.