



## **Blue Ribbon Commission**

**Recommendations on Pedestrian and Bicycle  
Infrastructure Improvements**

**Monday, July 24, 2017**

# Background Info



- **Sidewalk infrastructure and walkability was noted as a top priority during the development of the 2016-2021 Strategic Plan**
- **Citizen-led “Blue Ribbon Commission” appointed by the Mayor and Board.**
- **Made up of a cross section of the community: avid bikers, planners, experts, and engaged citizens.**
- **Committee met monthly to devise a plan for how to improve Gurnee to be more friendly to walkers, runners, and bikers.**

# Plan Development



- **The BRC analyzed the 1996 Pedestrian Master Plan, the 2016 Pedestrian Survey, and existing regional plans.**
- **Using GIS mapping, the group looked at existing infrastructure of trails and sidewalks.**
- **To identify criteria for recommending new or improved infrastructure, the group developed five Guiding Principles.**

# Guiding Principles

- 1. Connections to Regional Trails**
- 2. Connections to Parks and Schools**
- 3. Improve Connectivity Along Major Roadways**
- 4. Connections to Local Businesses**
- 5. Fill in Infrastructure Gaps**

# Recommendations

- **The Blue Ribbon Commission identified 30 projects that will improve accessibility and connectivity for pedestrian and bicyclists.**
- **It was recommended that wider, multi-use paths were preferred over standard sidewalks when feasible.**
- **The recommendations were divided in to “priority tiers”.**

# Priority Tiers

- **Priority 1: Critical to meeting the goals set forth in the Guiding Principles. Recommended completion within 3-5 years (subject to funding).**
- **Priority 2: Important to meeting the Guiding Principles. Recommended completion within 5-7 years (subject to funding).**
- **Priority 3: Would help meet the goals of the Guiding Principles, but may not be a higher priority due to minimal impact or existing infrastructure. Recommended completion within 15 years (subject to funding).**

# Priority 1: Example Projects

- **Hunt Club Road from Washington Street to West Orchard Valley Drive**
- **Gages Lake Road / Route 21 Installation of sidewalk and crosswalk across Route 21**
- **Dilley's Road from Grand Avenue to Stearns School**
- **University Avenue from Briar Avenue to Waveland Avenue**

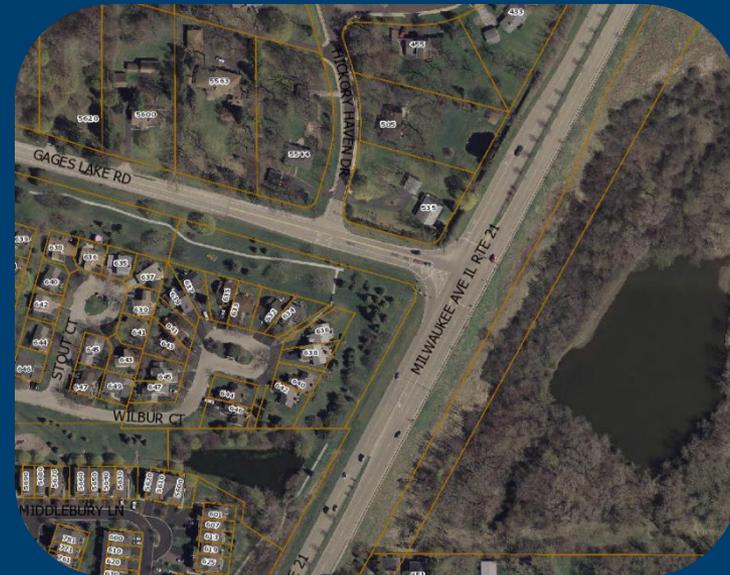
# Hunt Club Road

- **Project # 11: Provide an 8' path on the west side of Hunt Club Road to connect Washington Street trail to the Hunt Club Park Recreation Center**
- **Partners: Lake County Department of Transportation**



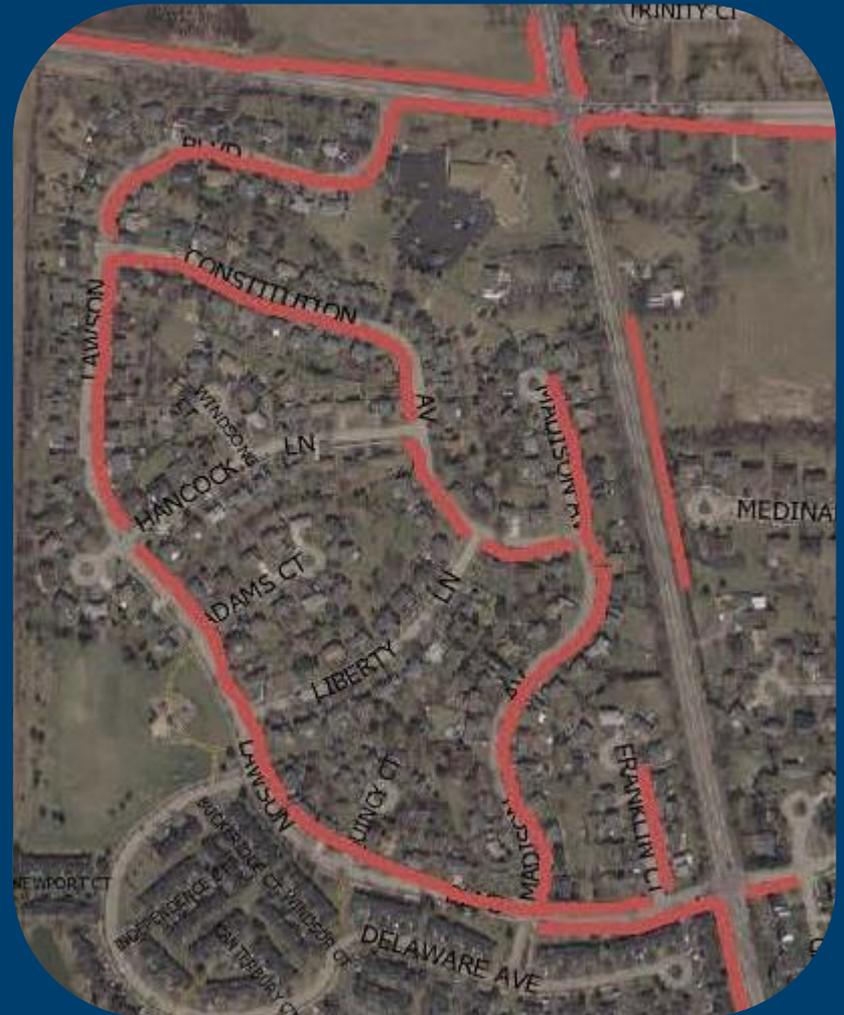
# Gages Lake Road / Route 21

- **Project #16/#17: Provide pedestrian crosswalk improvements to the south leg of the Route 21 intersection. Provides direct access to Lake Carina Forest Preserve and eventually to the Des Plaines River Trail.**
- **Partners: LCDOT and IDOT**



# Dilley's Road

- **Project #26: Provide 8' wide path on east side of Dilley's Road from Grand Ave to Stearns School Road. Connects to the existing Village bike path within ComEd right-of-way.**



# University Avenue

- **Project #27: Provide 8' wide path along one side of University Avenue between Briar Avenue and Waveland Avenue.**
- **Partners: Gurnee Park District**



# Priority 2: Example Projects

- **Grand Avenue from Route 41 to I-94**
- **Hunt Club from Washington Street to Andover Drive**

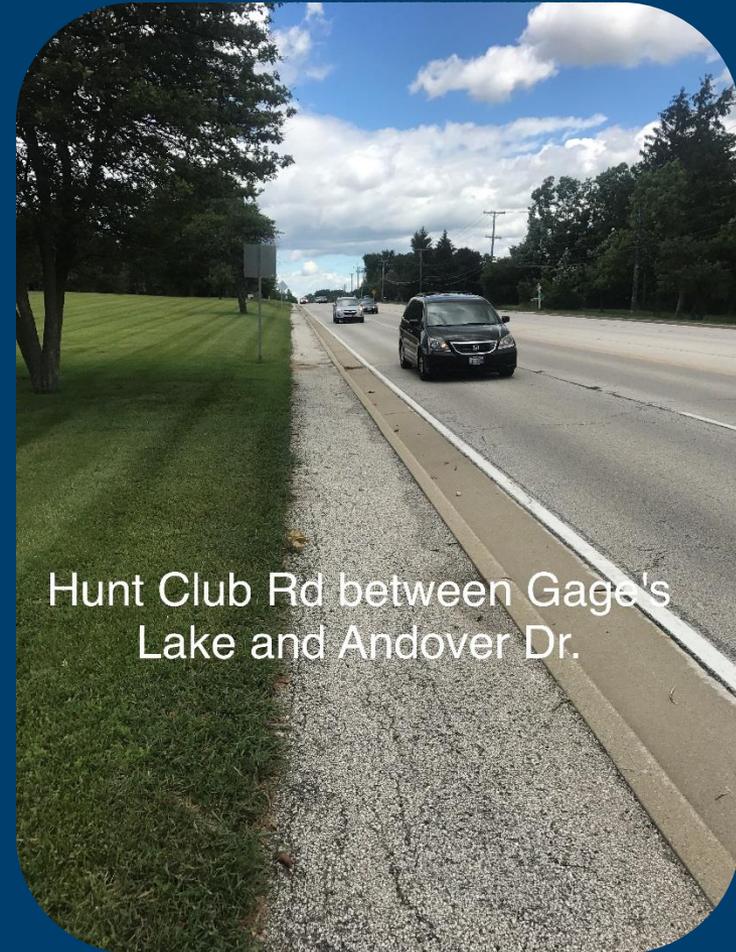
# Grand Avenue

- **Project #8: Provide 8' wide multi-use path on one side of Grand Avenue from Route 41 to I-94.**
- **Partners: IDOT**



# Hunt Club Road

- **Project #15: Provide 8' wide path on one side of Hunt Club Road from Washington Street south to Andover Drive.**
- **Partners: LCDOT**



Hunt Club Rd between Gage's Lake and Andover Dr.

# Priority 3: Example Projects

- **Grand Avenue from I-94 to Rollins Road**
- **Route 21 / Route 120 Access to Des Plaines River Trail**

# Grand Avenue

- **Project 10: Provide 8' wide path on one side of Grand Avenue from Rollins Road east to Interstate 94.**
- **Partners: IDOT**



# Route 21 / Route 120

- **Project 25: Provide 8' wide path to connect the existing path along Route 21 to the Des Plaines River Trail. Possibly route the path from Route 21 through the abandoned Route 120 on-ramp at the southeast corner of the intersection.**
- **Partners: IDOT**



# Final Recommendations

- **Communication:**
  - **Coordination of the improvement plan and updates should be shared universally with the Gurnee Park District, Lake County, transportation agencies, potential developers and neighboring villages.**
- **Accountability**
  - **Recommended frequent updates on progress of the plan as part of the Strategic Plan Progress Reports.**
- **Integration**
  - **Coordination with local transportation agencies and nearby projects to improve funding opportunities and a more unified regional pedestrian infrastructure system.**

# Partnership Opportunities

- **Gurnee Park District**
  - **Go Gurnee**
- **Lake County Forest Preserve District**
- **Lake County Department of Transportation**
- **Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)**
- **Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT)**
- **Nearby Communities**



**Thank You!**

**Questions?**