
**VILLAGE OF SUGAR GROVE
BOARD REPORT**

TO: VILLAGE PRESIDENT & BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FROM: WALTER MAGDZIARZ, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR
SUBJECT: DISCUSSION: BICYCLE TRANSPORTATION PLAN
AGENDA: FEBRUARY 6, 2024 VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
DATE: JANUARY 29, 2024

ISSUE

Shall the Village Board discuss the current Village Bicycle Transportation Plan.

DISCUSSION

During the discussion of prioritizing and selecting Comprehensive Plan action items to pursue in the upcoming budget year (FY25) at the January 16, 2024 Village Board meeting there was much discussion about preparing a bicycle transportation plan. Since the Village has such a plan prepared in 2010, "*The Sugar Grove Community Bicycle and Pedestrian Short-term Connectivity Plan*," the Village Board asked for a presentation of the current plan.

In 2009, the Village formed an *ad hoc* Bicycle Transportation Committee composed of Village staff, the Park District, Township, regional agencies, and interested residents to develop a plan for implementing bicycle transportation improvements in the Village. Ostensibly, the committee focused on connecting existing bicycle facilities throughout the Village. The Committee prepared a report which was never formally adopted. Many of the recommendations in the Plan have been codified or implemented in practice.

The Committee recommendations are incorporated in the Kane County Bicycle Transportation Plan. The Blackberry Creek bridge crossing project and the location is a specific recommendation from the Committee.

The Committee recommendations used the Virgil Gilman and forest preserve paths as the backbone of a bicycle trail network. There are a number of existing trails on private property (HOA common area) that are included in the community network and these segments can provide useful links in the community. Much of the network relies on the existing and future thoroughfare network to expand the bicycle trail network relying on paths alongside thoroughfares (side paths) or marked on-street routes (bike lanes). The Committee also made recommendations for identification of bike routes, bicycle furniture and other improvements. While the Committee's recommendations are tilted towards recreational use of bicycles, the plan recognizes the local transportation benefits of bicycle use in the community.

Is the current plan still valid after all this time? The current plan is sound but much has changed in bicycle transportation planning and design since the current plan was drafted. The current plan can be updated to reflect current bicycle transportation trends. Funding opportunities are more plentiful today than in 2010.

More diverse implementation strategies are available today. We have new and more information that can better inform bicycle transportation planning in the Village. Some bicycle design matters can be addressed in the complete streets ordinance update being drafted by Village staff.

If the Village Board is interested in completing an update of the 2010 Short-Term Connectivity Plan, Village staff is capable of performing much of the work. A small budget (\$7,000) should be identified for the effort to engage a qualified expert to assist with technical matters in the plan update.

ATTACHMENTS

- Sugar Grove Bicycle Paths map

RECOMMENDATION

The Village Board discuss whether the current Bike Plan should be updated and whether there is support to include a small amount in the FY25 budget to prepare the update.

Sugar Grove Bike Paths

