



Trail Updates from Partners in Linn County

01/09/2023

All information approved by each person named below.

A. Linn County Conservation Department (Randy Burke updated 1/4/23):

1. Cedar Valley Nature Trail:

- North of Center Point to Urbana paving is complete. Small sections will temporarily close for minor repairs. Tunnel underpass (under the Interstate) has been improved with lights. Warning flashers still need adjustments to register faster moving cyclists.
- Linn County and Black Hawk County have been awarded a Destination Iowa Grant and State Recreational Trails Grant to fund paving the remaining trail in Linn and Black Hawk counties. The 10 miles in Black Hawk County should bid this fall / winter 2022. The 6 miles in Linn County is 6 months behind this schedule. The paving is anticipated to be completed as early as the end of 2023 in Black Hawk/Buchanan Counties and the paving including bridges in Benton County will be completed by 2024. Linn County will be breaking the project into multiple pieces. The first project will be the replacement of the Bear Creek Bridge. This project will be let in February of 23, with an expected completion in the fall of this year.

2. Morgan Creek Trail formerly known as the Highway 100 Trail:

- Phase I of the Morgan Creek Trail located on the east side of the Cedar River from 42nd Street passed Xavier High School to the River will be bid on February 21st with completion expected in 2023.
- Phase III of the Morgan Creek Trail west of the Cedar River from Covington Road to Worcester Road, will also be let on February 21st with construction anticipated in 2023 and may carry into 24.
- A study has recently been completed regarding the Cedar River crossing and alignment for the Morgan Creek Trail. New information from the study has revealed that the old piers may be usable with some repairs. Further study and other considerations are still required. Funding has yet to be obtained for this portion.

3. Grant Wood Trail:

- Waldo's Rock Park to Oxley Rd trail paving, shouldering and backfill are complete. The project is complete.
- The section from Oxley Road to Creekside Drive has started. The "GAP section" is expected to be completed by fall of 2023.

- LCCD is currently working on a trail study for improvements from Creekside Drive to Paralta Road and on to Springville Rd. Staff is working with Springville and the Iowa DOT on trail improvements from Paralta Road with an overpass on Highway 151 into Springville. Completion of the last segment into Springville is likely at least 5 years or more from now. A public open house was held on October 18th with discussion on future trail improvements.
- Eventually the trail will extend further east to the Jones County line where it will meet up with a trail that Jones County will build west from Martelle. This portion is more than 5 years from now.

B. City of Marion (Kesha Billings update 1.5.23):

1. 10th Ave Sidepaths:

- Open. City will plow snow, but don't expect to use salt the first winter or two.

2. Grant Wood Trail (formerly known as the Lindale Trail):

- Open. City will plow snow, but don't expect to use salt the first winter or two.

3. CEMAR Trail:

- Phase 5 of the CEMAR trail from just east of 1st Avenue through the Faulkes Woods area to Highway 100 will start after completion of the Sanitary Sewer Project scheduled for construction in 2023. Would take 2 years. Remaining property acquisitions are a priority. Working through final easement exhibits to include with easement documents presented to the property owner.

4. Indian Creek Trail:

- Open. City will plow snow, but don't expect to use salt the first winter or two. Contractor will have minor work yet to finish in the spring. Please be respectful to workers and signs as they try to complete the project.

5. Lucore Road and Bridge Sidepaths:

- Work is fully funded through Corridor Metropolitan Planning Organization for 2025/2026. Construction could begin in 2026. Funding from LCTA will accelerate the design. WOO-HOO! Kesha still needs to discuss what meeting to present check to City Council, but hope to have that update by Monday!

C. Linn Area Mountain Bike Association (Robert McKillip): 1/5/23

- General
 - The city of Cedar Rapids has eliminated LAMBA's ability to use chainsaws on city property. That means we can no longer safely maintain the trails for users. It also brings into question our ability to build Birch along the Sac and Fox in 2023.
 - LAMBA is holding a GoFundMe to buy the snow groomer and new mower for the Sac and Fox. Strava data shows the groomed trails are extremely popular. Now we need more snow!
 - LAMBA membership social will be January 21st
- Sac and Fox Singletrack: LAMBA completed it's match for the Hall-Perrine \$65K grant. Aspen is already one of the most popular trails in town. Will scout and do as much on Birch as possible over the winter.
- Beverly Park: Depending on conditions might be rideable.
- Wanatee Park: Closed through January 10 for hunting. Major trail rebuild planned for 2023 and will be the focus for Backyard Trails.
- Confluence Trail (Boyson Park): Depending on conditions might be rideable.

D. City of Cedar Rapids (Ron Griffith updated 1/4/23):

- O Avenue NW Bikeway - The project is complete with new bike lanes from Edgewood Rd NW to Ellis Blvd NW.
- 12th Ave SE Bikeway - The project is complete with bike lanes added between 7th St SE and 19th St SE as part of a multi-phase roadway improvement project.
- 15th Ave SW Bikeway - A one-way (westbound) shared use lane was part of the reconstruction from C St SW to 4th Ave SW. The project was completed in 2022.
- 8th Ave SW Bikeway - Project includes bike lanes on some portions of the project from 15th St SW to 10th St SW. Expected to be completed in 2023.
- Cottage Grove Pkwy SE - Urban shoulders which can be used for biking, walking and running were part of the Paving for Progress improvement project from Forest Dr SE to 34th St SE. The project was completed in 2022.

- Oakland Rd NE/Old Marion Rd NE Bikeway - Bike lanes were added from Center St NE to Regent St NE. The final segment from Golf St NE to Regent St NE will be completed in 2023.
- Center Pt Rd NE Bikeway - The project involves the conversion of Center Pt Rd to two-way traffic with a southbound bike lane. The entire project from E Ave NE to J Ave NE will be completed in 2023.
- 1st St SW Bikeway - protected bike lanes are part of a rail/roadway improvement project along 1st St SW from 10th Ave SW to 8th Ave SW. Eventually these lanes will extend south to connect to the 12th Ave SW and the trail connection to the Cedar Valley Nature Trail that extends through Riverside Park. They will also connect north to the existing bike lanes on 1st St SW between 8th Ave SW and 2nd Ave SW.
- Grant Wood Trail (formerly Lindale Trail)
 - Phase I - A new 10' wide trail was constructed from Council St NE to the existing trail near the C Ave NE and Blairs Ferry Rd NE intersection. The trail includes an underpass of Blairs Ferry Road between C Ave NE and Oakwood Ave NE . The crossings of Rockwell Dr. NE includes a rapid rectangular flashing beacon (RRFB). There may be some minor work required to fix construction issues during 2023.
 - Phase II - The segment from the Cedar Valley Nature Trail to Council St NE is in the design phase. The final alignment has not been approved. The City is working with the Iowa DOT and the Canadian National Railroad on several alternatives. The preferred alignment is along the railroad right-of-way, which is still active from the Cedar Valley Nature Trail to about halfway between Center Pt Rd NE and Council St NE.
- 6th St. NW/SW Trail & Bikeway
 - Buffered bike lanes as part of the roadway improvement project from 33rd Ave SW to Wilson Ave SW is now complete and open. These connect to existing buffered bike lanes between Wilson Ave SW and 14th Ave SW.
 - Bike lanes will be built with the 6th St NW extension project from 1st Ave W to F Ave NW. The extension project is a continuation of Ellis Blvd NW, which has existing bike lanes from F Ave NW to Penn Ave NW. The project will be completed in 2023.
 - Approximately 0.3 miles of 10' wide trail was constructed on the east side of 6th St SW as part of a roundabout and $\frac{3}{4}$ access improvement project just south of 76th Ave SW. This is complete and open.

- Additional trail segments (approximately 0.6 miles total) will be completed in 2023 as part of two intersection improvements projects, including a roundabout installation at Commerce Dr SW and another roundabout at Innovation Dr SW/St Martins Blvd SW.
- Bowling St Trail
 - Design work will be completed in 2023 to rebuild the Bowling St Trail from 33rd Ave to Wilson Ave. The trail will be 10' wide and driveways will be modified to allow the trail to pass through at full width. New sidewalks, an uphill northbound bike lane and downhill southbound shared use lane are also part of the project from Wilson Ave SW to C St SW. The will complete the connection of the Bowling St Trail to the Cedar Valley Nature Trail. The project is expected to be bid in late 2023 and completed in 2024.
- Cherokee Trail
 - The new trailhead parking on Sharon Lane NW adjacent to Cherry Hill Park has been completed. Paving of the Bicycle Boulevard on Sharon Lane NW is complete in addition to the complete reconstruction of Gordon Ave NW from Sharon Lane NW to West Post Rd NW. Additional pavement work on Gordon Ave NW is scheduled for this year. Trail paving has been completed thru Jacolyn Park and Cherokee Park. Crossing improvements at Jacolyn Dr NW and Wiley Blvd NW and remaining work will be completed in 2023.
 - Design work for Phase III from Edgewood Rd NW to 13th St NW has started with construction expected in 2024 and 2025.
- Edgewood Trail
 - A project to build a 10' wide trail from Williams Blvd SW to 16th Ave SW along the west side of Wiley Blvd SW early this year and is expected to be completed in 2023. The trail will tie into existing bike lanes on Wiley Blvd that run from 16th Ave SW to Johnson Ave SW.
 - In 2023, bridge modifications will be made to the Edgewood Rd Bridge over the Cedar River to widen the sidewalk from 4' wide to 8' wide. New railings will be installed on both sides of the sidewalk as part of the project.
 - Design work has started to complete the remaining portions of the Edgewood Trail from the Cedar River Bridge to Blairs Ferry Rd. The design will include an enhanced crossing (warning signs with rapid rectangular flashing beacons and a refuge island) on 42nd St NE west of Edgewood Rd NE near Georgia Ave NE. Construction is expected to start in 2024.

- Tower Terrace Rd NE
 - Grading work has started on the section between C Ave NE and Alburnett Rd (Marion). The finished roadway includes a 10' wide trail on both sides of Tower Terrace Rd NE. The grading project is broken into two segments and will take at least two years to complete. Paving will occur as a separate project once the grading has been completed.
 - A new interchange with I-380 is under construction, led by the Iowa DOT. A trail will be continued through the interchange with connections to Miller Rd NE and Center Pt Rd NE along Tower Terrace Rd NE. The trail will be on one side only for this stretch.
- Cedar Valley Nature Trail south of Sokol Park (16th Ave SW)
 - Gravel section damaged by Derecho restoration work is complete and the trail is open.
- Downtown Flood Control (East)
 - Work along the Cedar Valley Nature Trail (CVNT) has begun between 16th Ave SE and the Crandic Railroad. The trail is closed with detour in place along 2nd St SE.
 - Shaver Rd NE to 10th St NE - Upon completion of the Shaver Rd bridge, work is expected to begin to rebuild the CVNT along this stretch including a new trail bridge over McCloud Run.
 - Cedar Lake - Levee construction along the west side of the lake includes a 15' wide paved trail on top of the levee and a non-paved aggregate walking trail between the base of the levee and the lake. Existing portions of the Cedar Lake Loop Trail that are being used by construction traffic will be rebuilt as part of the project.
- Downtown Flood Control (West)
 - 16th Ave SW to Riverside Park - In 2023, a trail will be constructed on the river side of the wall recently built between 16th Ave SW and the National Czech and Slovak Museum and Library. The trail will be extended through Riverside Park and tie into C St SW at approximately 13th Ave SW.
 - 2nd Ave SW to E Ave NW & F Ave NW bridge - the Cedar River Trail between 1st St W and the river will be closed and rebuilt due to Flood Control work. The bike lane between 2nd Ave SW and 1st Ave W will be eliminated with the project. Construction will start in Fall 2022 and be completed by the end of 2023.
 - Between 16th Ave SW and A St SW the existing trail along the top of the levee will be extended to connect to the existing trail along A St SW. Work is expected to be completed in 2023.

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